Cover Picture

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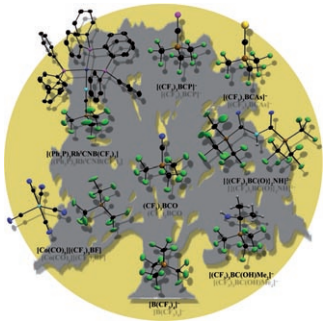
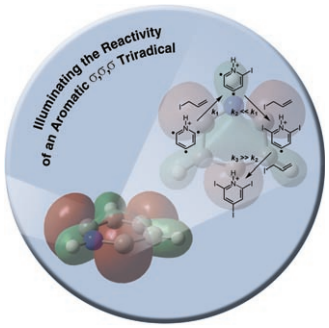
Ultrafast electron microscopy has been used to view the reversible expansion and contraction of a single crystal of [Cu(TCNQ)] (see film strip; TCNQ = 7,7,8,8-tetracyanoquinodimethane), induced with near-infrared laser pulses, as well as the photoinduced reduction of copper ions to form discrete metal clusters (see picture, top right), as described by A. H. Zewail et al. in their Communication on Page 9206 ff. The crystal expands along the π-stacking axis of the TCNQ molecules upon exposure to light, but rapidly returns to its original state in the absence of laser light.



Trifluormethylboranes and -borates
The new possibilities opened up in the field of B-CF_3 chemistry by the synthesis of the $[B(CF_3)_4]^-$ ion by fluorination of the $[B(CN)_4]^-$ ion are summarized in the Review by M. Finze et al. on page 9180 ff.

History of Chemistry
E. Vaupel introduces in his Essay on Page 9154 ff. the biography of the Nobel Prize winner Heinrich Wieland, whose life and work was influenced by the dramatic upheavals in society and the radical value shifts that occurred during the first half of the 20th Century.



Tridehydrobenzenes
The triradical 2,4,6-tridehydropyridinium has a doublet ground state and undergoes radical reactions at three positions, as described by H. I. Kenttämaa et al. in their Communication on Page 9198 ff. The reactivity more closely resembles related monoradicals than diradicals.