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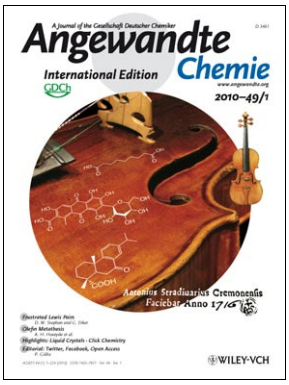
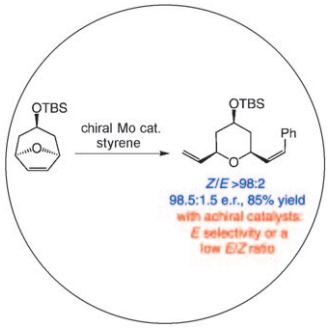
Cover Picture

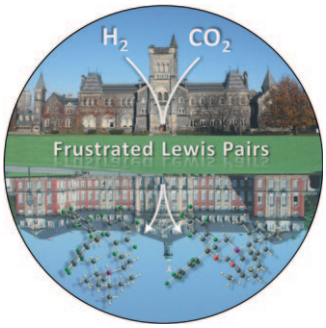


Jean-Philippe Echard,* Loïc Bertrand,* Alex von Bohlen, Anne-Solenn Le Hô, Céline Paris, Ludovic Bellot-Gurlet, Balthazar Soulier, Agnès Lattuati-Derieux, Sylvie Thao, Laurianne Robinet, Bertrand Lavédrine, and Stéphane Vaiedelich

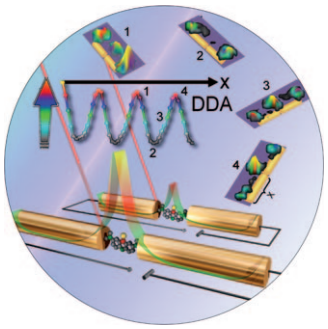
The composition of Stradivari's varnish has raised numerous hypotheses and controversies for the past two centuries, although a clear understanding of the materials could not be reached. In their Communication on page 197 ff., J.-P. Echard, L. Bertrand et al. describe the chemical stratigraphy of the varnishes from five representative Stradivari instruments by using a wide array of analytical techniques. In particular, Stradivari used several red pigments, and may have sought a variety of tints to give his instruments their beautiful appearance.



Olefin Metathesis
A. H. Hoveyda et al. examine chiral olefin metathesis catalysts in their Minireview on page 34 ff. and emphasize the advantages of such catalysts beyond asymmetric induction.



Frustrated Lewis Pairs
The Lewis acidity and basicity of the two components of frustrated Lewis pairs are available for reactions, such as metal-free hydrogenation. The potential of these reagents is explored by D. W. Stephan and G. Erker in their Review on page 46 ff.



Surface Plasmon Polaritons
In their Communication on page 78 ff., G. C. Schatz, C. A. Mirkin et al. observed a periodic dependence on the gold segment length for the SERS intensity at the nanogap of long-segment gold nanostructures, which allows the simultaneous measurement of molecular transport and vibrational spectra for molecules in the nanogap.