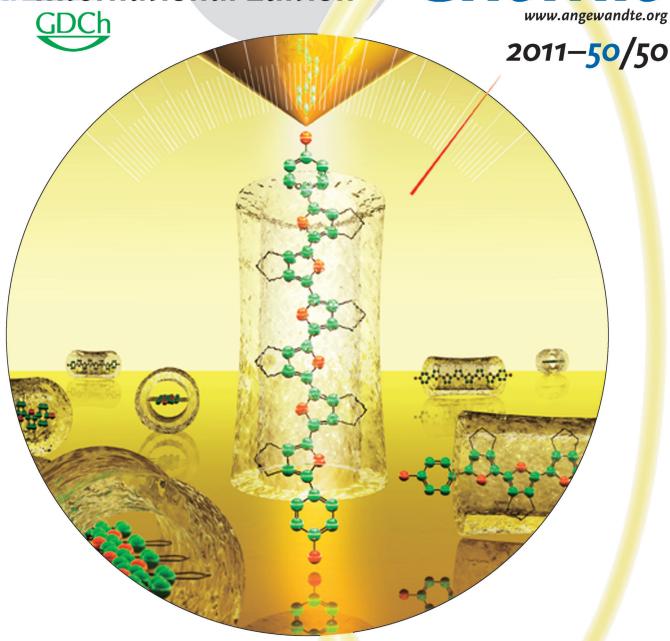
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## Encapsulated $\pi$ -conjugated systems ...

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## **Inside Cover**

Yutaka Ie, Masaru Endou, See Kei Lee, Ryo Yamada, Hirokazu Tada,\* and Yoshio Aso\*

**Encapsulated**  $\pi$ -conjugated systems are central building blocks in single-molecular devices. In their Communication on page 11980 ff., Y. Aso, H. Tada et al. report a series of oligothiophenes having homogeneously substituted encapsulating units that maintain the efficient conjugation of the  $\pi$  systems. Owing to the absence of intermolecular interactions between  $\pi$ -conjugated backbones, the electrical conductance of the single molecule determines the real decay constant of the oligothiophenes.

