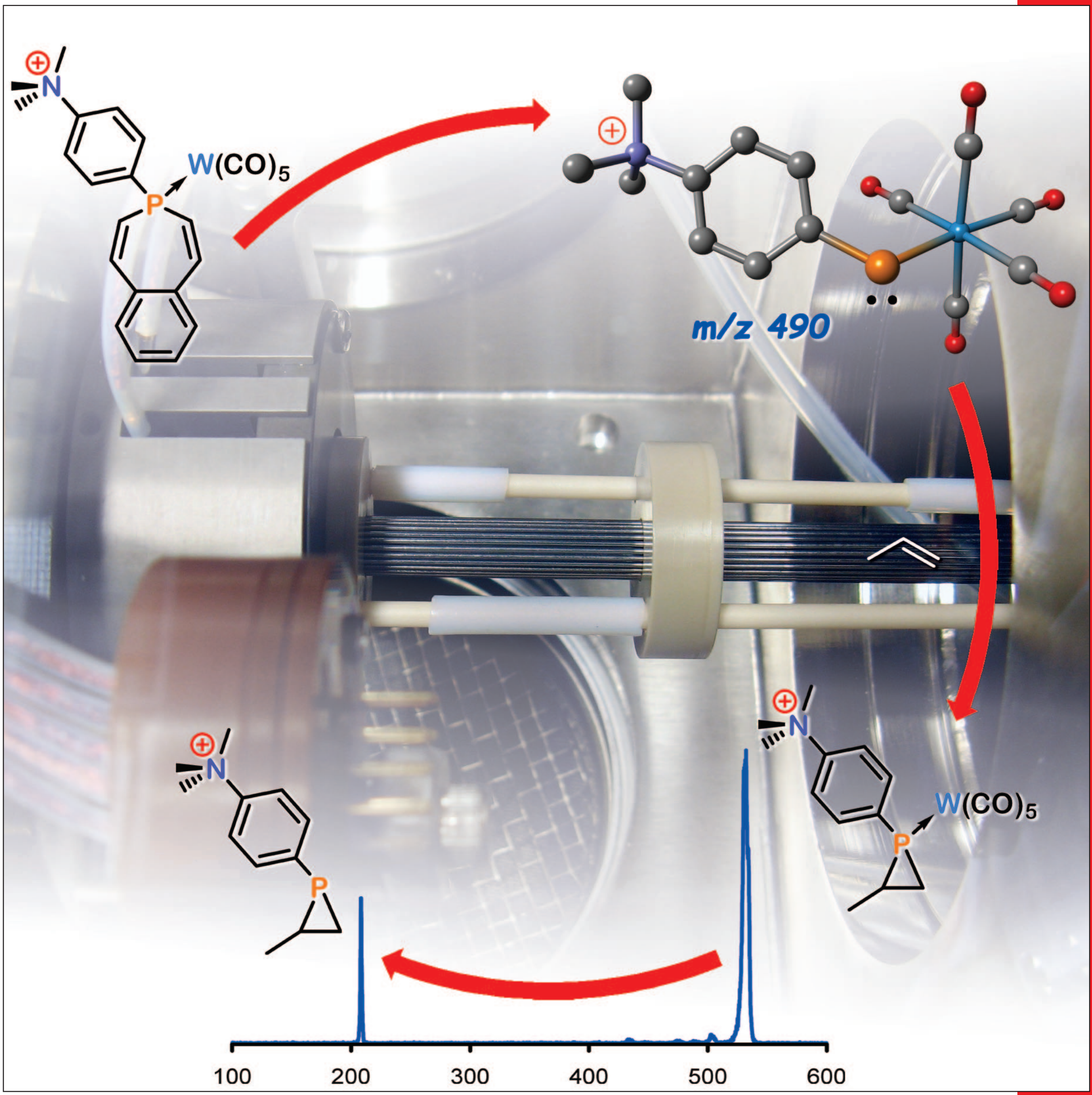
CHEMISTRY
A EUROPEAN JOURNAL

16/5 2010



A Journal of
ChemPubSoc Europe

Concept
A Singularity Model for Chemical Reactivity
F. M. Menger and R. Karaman

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CEUJED 16 (5) 1403–1710 (2010) · ISSN 0947-6539 · Vol. 16 · No. 5 · 2010

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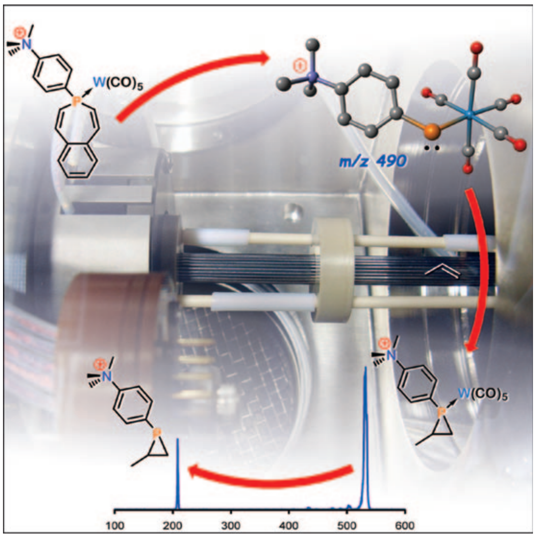
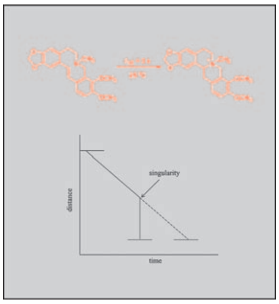
Phosphinidene complex…

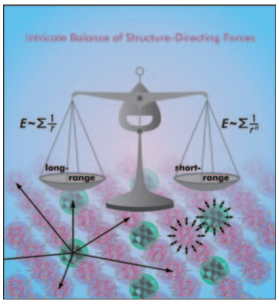
… $[Me_3NC_6H_4{-}P{=}W(CO)_5]^+$ was observed by tandem mass spectrometry and its identity was confirmed by the addition to alkenes in the instrument's ion guide that is shown in the background of the cover picture. The gas-phase experiments are consistent with solution-phase and computational studies as reported by K. Lammertsma, P. Chen et al. in their Communication on page 1454 ff.

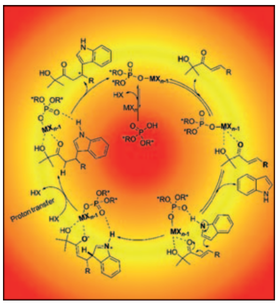




Singularity Model
In their Concept article on page 1420 ff., F. M. Menger and R. Karaman introduce a singularity model in which a fresh perspective on chemical reactivity is proposed.

Intercluster Compounds
In their Full Paper on page 1464 ff., M. Jansen et al. report on a new family of intercluster compounds. As evidenced by the topologies obtained during crystallizing charged, nanometer-sized building blocks, a subtle interplay of long-range Coulomb and short-range (dispersive) bonding constitutes the basic structure-determining principle. Dispersive forces may even outweigh repulsive Coulomb interactions, resulting in agglomerates of equally charged cluster units, that is, phase separation reminiscent of lyotropic systems.





Asymmetric Catalysis
In their Full Paper on page 1638 ff., C. Xia, H. Huang et al. describe a cooperative catalytic system from a combination of an iron salt and a chiral phosphoric acid, taking advantage of the fact that the free proton source could promote the catalytic turnover for the Friedel–Crafts reaction. This system has proven to be effective in the enantioselective Friedel–Crafts alkylation of indoles with β-aryl α′-hydroxy enones.

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