SPOTLIGHTS ...



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Process Optimization -

F. E. Valera, M. Quaranta, A. Moran, J. Blacker,* A. Armstrong,* J. T. Cabral,* D. G. Blackmond*

The Flow's the Thing...Or Is It? Assessing the Merits of Homogeneous Reactions in Flask and Flow

Against the flow?! What factors dictate the relative merits of microflow reactors versus batch-reaction flasks for homogeneous catalytic reactions? The optimal reaction protocol must be decided on a case-by-case basis. Flask reactors equipped with in situ detection devices provide a concise and information-rich means of obtaining the intrinsic kinetic information required to make this decision.





Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. DOI: 10.1002/anie.200906095

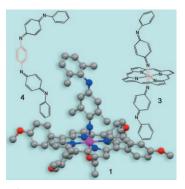


Metalloporphyrins -

W.-M. Tsui, J.-S. Huang, G. S. M. Tong, S. C. F. Kui, C.-M. Che,* N. Zhu

Quinoneimido Complexes of a Metalloporphyrin: Isolation, X-ray Crystal Structures, and DFT Calculations

Terminal quinoneimido complexes [Ru^{IV}(por)(NQu)(X)] (X=OEt: **1**, OH: **2**) were formed from the reaction of [Ru^{VI}-(por)O₂] with 2,6-dimethylaniline. The X-ray crystal structures of **1** feature Ru–N(quinoneimido) bond lengths of 1.787(7)–1.80(2) Å. Reaction of **2** with *N*-phenyl-benzene-1,4-diamine afforded bis(quinoneimido) complex [Ru(por)(NQu)(NQu')]. DFT calculations on **3** and **4** revealed a significant effect of 'Ru doping' on the oligoaniline structure.



Chem. Asian J. DOI: 10.1002/asia.200900666

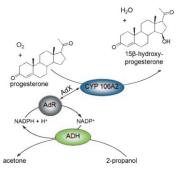


Biocatalysis -

D. Zehentgruber, F. Hannemann, S. Bleif, R. Bernhardt, S. Lütz*

Towards Preparative Scale Steroid Hydroxylation with Cytochrome P450 Monooxygenase CYP106A2

Four proteins join forces: CYP106A2-catalyzed 15 β -hydroxylation of progesterone and testosterone could be improved towards higher productivities through the identification of reaction-limiting steps.

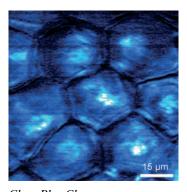


ChemBioChem

DOI: 10.1002/cbic.200900706



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ChemPhysChem DOI: **10.1002/cphc.200900979**

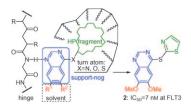
Non-Linear Optics

G. Haran*

Targeting Non-Fluorescent Molecules by Nonlinear Optical Imaging

Nonlinear optics to the rescue: Fluorescence-based methods provide powerful means for imaging biological samples (see picture) with molecular specificity. But what if the molecule-of-choice, such as hemoglobin, is non-fluorescent? Novel applications of nonlinear optics provide solutions.





ChemMedChem
DOI: 10.1002/cmdc.200900537

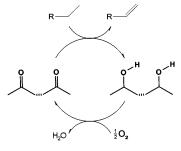
De Novo Design -

W.-W. Li, J.-J. Chen, R.-L. Zheng, W.-Q. Zhang, Z.-X. Cao, L.-L. Yang, X.-Y. Qing, L.-X. Zhou, L. Yang, L.-D. Yu, L.-J. Chen, Y.-Q. Wei, S.-Y. Yang*

Taking Quinazoline as a General Support-Nog to Design Potent and Selective Kinase Inhibitors: Application to FMS-like Tyrosine Kinase 3

Molecular joinery: Herein we propose a concept for the design of selective kinase inhibitors. This de novo design method involves restricted fragment growth by using quinazoline as a general molecular support-nog. Application of this concept to the design of FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3 (FLT3) inhibitors led to a potent ($IC_{50} = 7$ nm) and selective FLT3 inhibitor.





ChemSusChem

DOI: 10.1002/cssc.200900180

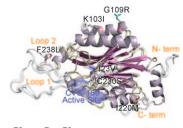
Metal-Free Catalysis

D. S. Su,* J. Zhang, B. Frank, A. Thomas,* X. Wang, J. Paraknowitsch, R. Schlögl

Metal-Free Heterogeneous Catalysis for Sustainable Chemistry

No heavy metal: This Review highlights recent promising activities and developments in heterogeneous catalysis using only carbon and carbon nitride as catalysts. Carbon and carbon nitride combine environmental acceptability with inexhaustible resources and allow a favorable management of energy with good thermal conductivity.





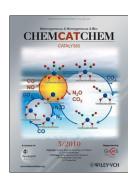
ChemCatChem
DOI: 10.1002/cctc.200900212

Enzymes

U. Schreiner, G. Steinkellner, J. D. Rozzell, A. Glieder, M. Winkler*

Improved Fitness of Arabidopsis thaliana Nitrilase 2

A matter of fitness: An *Arabidopsis thaliana* nitrilase 2 (NIT2) variant with improved specific activity is generated by error prone PCR followed by recombination of advantageous mutations. The improvement is shown not only for the test substrate phenylacetonitrile but also for a diverse set of aromatic nitriles, dicyanides, and other functionalized nitriles.



SPOTLIGHTS

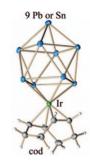


Bimetallic Clusters

D. O. Downing, P. Zavalij, B. W. Eichhorn*

The closo- $[Sn_9Ir(cod)]^{3-}$ and $[Pb_9Ir(cod)]^{3-}$ Zintl Ions: Isostructural Ir^I Derivatives of the nido- E_9^{4-} Anions (E = Sn, Pb)

The ions $[Sn_9Ir(cod)]^{3-}$ and $[Pb_9Ir(cod)]^{3-}$ (cod = 1,5-cyclooctadiene) were synthesized and the reactions of the labile Ir complexes with Sn_9^{4-} and Pb_9^{4-} studied. Both clusters possess a $C_{4\nu}$ -type *closo*-deltahedral structure with 22 electrons and are diamagnetic. The clusters described are the first Ir–Sn and Ir–Pb bimetallic clusters and are examples of homologous Sn-Pb transition-metal derivatives.



Eur. J. Inorg. Chem. DOI: 10.1002/ejic.200900983

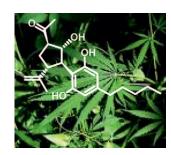


Natural Products -

O. Taglialatela-Scafati,* A. Pagani, F. Scala, L. De Petrocellis, V. Di Marzo, G. Grassi, G. Appendino*

Cannabimovone, a Cannabinoid with a Rearranged Terpenoid Skeleton from Hemp

A nonpsychotropic variety of *Cannabis sativa* L. afforded cannabimovone, a new type of cannabinoid characterized by a rearrranged terpenoid skeleton and a biological profile similar to that of cannabidiol. Attempts to prepare cannabimovone from cannabidiol gave only the intramolecular oxy-Michael adduct of the crotonized natural product, a compound with a biological profile similar to that of THC.



Eur. J. Org. Chem. DOI: **10.1002/ejoc.200901464**

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