SPOTLIGHTS …

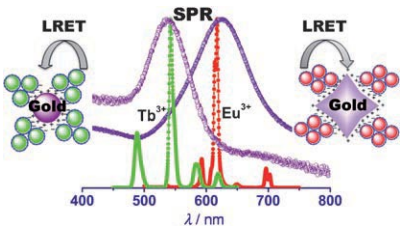
Energy Transfer

J.-Q. Gu, L.-D. Sun,* Z.-G. Yan, C.-H. Yan*

Luminescence Resonance Energy Transfer Sensors Based on the Assemblies of Oppositely Charged Lanthanide/Gold Nanoparticles in Aqueous Solution

Chem. Asian J.
DOI: **10.1002/asia.200800230**

Opposites attract: This work demonstrates luminescence resonance energy transfer sensors based on YVO_4:Eu/$LaPO_4$:Ce,Tb nanoparticles as donors and differently shaped gold nanoparticles as acceptors, combined through the electrostatic interactions between the oppositely charged nanoparticles.



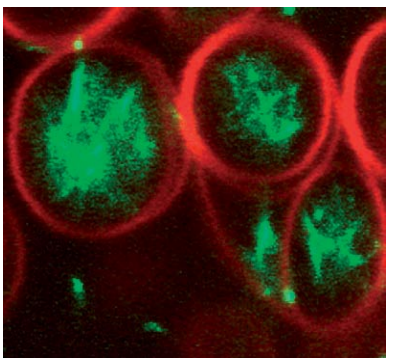
Artificial Cells

D. Merkle,* N. Kahya, P. Schwille*

Reconstitution and Anchoring of Cytoskeleton inside Giant Unilamellar Vesicles

ChemBioChem
DOI: **10.1002/cbic.200800340**

An artificial anchor? A critical step in achieving artificial cell replication would be to construct and encapsulate machinery that constrict and divide a cell-like compartment. By extracting integral membrane proteins and lipids from porcine brain, we grew giant unilamellar vesicles (GUVs) that encapsulate polymerised actin and spectrin/ankyrin. In the presence of spectrin/ankyrin, the actin filaments formed tight bundles that often localized and immobilized to the interior walls of the GUVs.



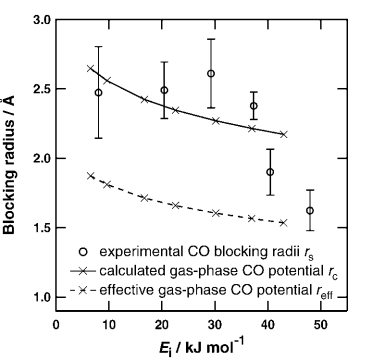
Surface Chemistry

H. Ueta, I. M. N. Groot, M. A. Gleeson, S. Stolte, G. C. McBane, L. B. F. Juurlink, A. W. Kleyn*

CO Blocking of D_2 Dissociative Adsorption on Ru(0001)

ChemPhysChem
DOI: **10.1002/cphc.200800294**

CO poisons surface reactivity: Dissociative adsorption of D_2 on Ru(0001) is blocked by pre-adsorption of CO molecules. The dependence of CO blocking radius on D_2 kinetic energy (see picture) shows a behaviour that differs markedly from that of a simple steric model. The results suggest that a CO-induced barrier for D_2 dissociation exists in the vicinity of CO molecules, and at high CO coverage all D_2 dissociation occurs via this barrier.



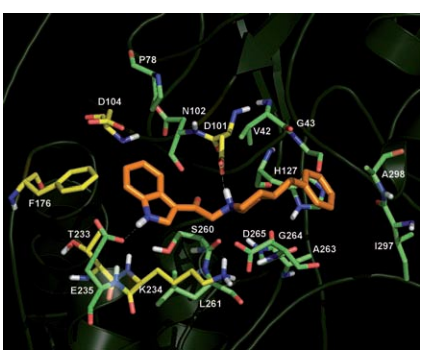
Molecular Modeling

R. Gitto, L. De Luca, S. Ferro, F. Occhiuto, S. Samperi, G. De Sarro, E. Russo, L. Ciranna, L. Costa, A. Chimirri*

Computational Studies to Discover a New NR2B/NMDA Receptor Antagonist and Evaluation of Pharmacological Profile

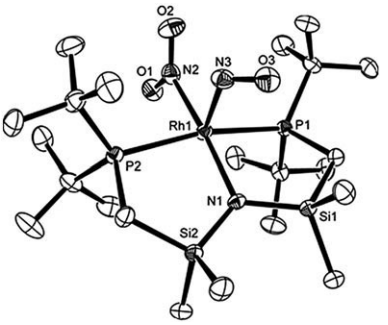
ChemMedChem
DOI: **10.1002/cmdc.200800124**

Theory and practice: A ligand-based and target-based approach was combined for the discovery of new ligands for the ionotropic glutamate NMDA/NR2B receptor. The identification of hits and evaluation of their neuroprotective effects in in vivo and in vitro experiments is reported.



EurJOC European Journal of Organic Chemistry

Fate of Radicals



This work establishes the fate of binding one radical (NO) to an even-electron rhodium, and shows the primary product of a 1:1 collision to be a member of the growing class of "half-bent" MNO complexes.

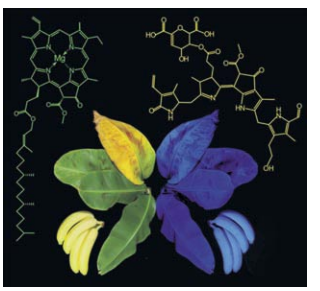
A. Y. Verat, M. Pink, H. Fan, B. C. Fullmer, J. Telser, K. G. Caulton*

Reactivity of the Radical NO with a Masked Form of 14 Valence Electron (PNP)Rh: Forming Rh(0, I or II)?

Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.
DOI: **10.1002/ejic.200800256**

Tetrapyrrole Pigments

Yes, we have blue bananas! Ripening bananas exhibit intense blue luminescence under UV light. Their luminescence arises from fluorescent chlorophyll catabolites which accumulate in the banana peels during ripening; their natural further conversion to nonfluorescent catabolites is specifically inhibited by a previously unrecognized chemical modification.

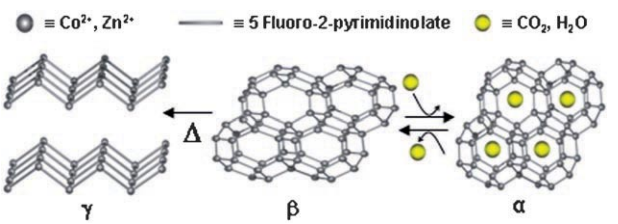


S. Moser, T. Müller, M.-O. Ebert, S. Jockusch, N. J. Turro, B. Kräutler*

Blue Luminescence of Ripening Bananas

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.
DOI: **10.1002/anie.200803189**

Coordination Chemistry



Flexible MOFs! Application of high-pressure CO_2 or exposure to moisture of a zeomimetic coordination network induces a reversible structural change from a non-porous β-phase to a porous α-phase (see figure). An additional structural transformation into a layered γ-phase is promoted by thermal treatment implying a concomitant modification of the physicochemical properties.

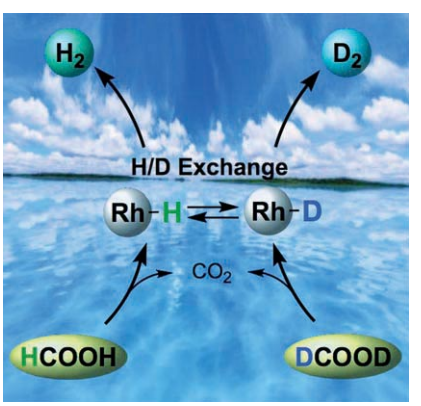
S. Galli,* N. Masciocchi, G. Tagliabue, A. Sironi, J. A. R. Navarro, J. M. Salas, L. Mendez-Liñan, M. Domingo, M. Perez-Mendoza, E. Barea*

Polymorphic Coordination Networks Responsive to CO_2, Moisture, and Thermal Stimuli: Porous Cobalt(II) and Zinc(II) Fluoropyrimidinolates

Chem. Eur. J.
DOI: **10.1002/chem.200801048**

Hydrogen Generation

Forming formate and generating gas: The water-soluble rhodium aqua complex $[Rh^{III}(Cp^*)(bpy)(H_2O)]^{2+}$ efficiently and selectively catalyzes the decomposition of formic acid to H_2 and CO_2 in aqueous solution at 298 K. Hydrogen evolution occurs through formation of the formate complex, $[Rh^{III}(Cp^*)\{OC(O)H\}(bpy)]^+$, followed by a rate-determining β-hydrogen elimination to afford the hydride complex, $[Rh^{III}(Cp^*)(H)(bpy)]^+$, the catalytic active species.



S. Fukuzumi,* T. Kobayashi, T. Suenobu

Efficient Catalytic Decomposition of Formic Acid for the Selective Generation of H_2 and H/D Exchange with a Water-Soluble Rhodium Complex in Aqueous Solution

ChemSusChem
DOI: **10.1002/cssc.200800147**

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