

### Supramolecular Chemistry and Molecular Self-Assembly

M2 – Ecole polytechnique – Université Paris-Saclay France

Grids, Catenanes, Rotaxanes and Molecular engines





#### **Molecular Grids: the beginning**



Ziessel, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 1993, 32, 877.

#### **Molecular Grids: (2 x 2) grids**





Lehn, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 1997, 36, 1842.

#### Molecular Grids: (3 x 3) grids











Figure 1. Structural representation of the cation  $[Cu_9(2poap-H)_6]^{12+}$  in **2** (hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity). Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: Cu5-N14 1.941(10), Cu5-N41 1.912(11), Cu5-O3 2.163(7), Cu5-O4 2.197(7), Cu5-O9 2.210(10), Cu5-O10 2.199(9), Cu1-Cu2 4.148(8), Cu2-Cu3 4.198(7), Cu3-Cu6 4.169(8), Cu6-Cu9 4.085(9), Cu9-Cu8 4.2187, Cu8-Cu7 4.106(7), Cu7-Cu4 4.116(8), Cu4-Cu1 4.227(8), Cu2-Cu5 4.069(7), Cu6-Cu5 4.048(8), Cu8-Cu5 4.065(8), Cu4-Cu5 4.032(6); Cu-O-Cu 136.5 – 143.6.



Figure 3. Variable-temperature magnetism for **2** plotted as magnetic moment ( $\mu_B$ ) per mole versus temperature (0.1 T field).



Fig. 16 Structural representation of the cation in  $[Cu(\pi)_9(HL23j^-)_4-(L23j^2-)_2](ClO_4)_{10}$  (15).

Thompson, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2000 39, 3114.

#### **Molecular Grids: (4 x 4) grids**





1d

1b, 1c, 1d R=SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>



Figure 4. 400 MHz  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of a CD<sub>3</sub>CN solution of the hexadecanuclear grid-type complex **4** as obtained by self-assembly from ligand **1d** and lead(n) triflate; for signal assignment, see Experimental Section.



Lehn, Chem. Eur. J. 1999 5, 1803.

#### **Molecular Grids: (5 x 5) grids**



H<sub>2</sub>L26a (X=CH,R=NH<sub>2</sub>), H<sub>2</sub>L26b (X=CH,R=H), H<sub>2</sub>L26c (X=N,R=NH<sub>2</sub>)





Fig. 25 CITS image of  $[Mn_{25}]$  [5 × 5] grid core on HOPG.

Thompson, Chem. Soc. Rev. 2009 38, 2334.

#### **Molecular Grids: Self assemblies and mixtures**



Scheme 1 Self-assembly of an equilibrating mixture of the double-helical 1, triangular 2 and square  $[2 \times 2]$  grid 3 complexes from L and Cu<sup>I</sup>. Complexes 2 and 3 can in principle exist in different interwoven structures; only one structure is shown here.

Lehn, Chem. Commun. 1997, 1323.



**Figure 2.** (a) ORTEP drawing of the molecular structure of the  $[1]^{10+}$  ion. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and (b) space-filling diagram of the molecular cation with the encapsulated  $[SbF_6]^-$  ion.

Dunbar, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 1999, 3477, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2001, 123, 773

#### **Molecular Grids: Magnetism**



H = 2J(S1S2 + S2S3 + S3S4 + S1S4 + S1S5 + S2S6 + S3S7 + S4S8)

#### **Molecular Grids: Spin States**

۵	R <sup>1</sup> -H	в <sup>2</sup> - н
B	B <sup>1</sup> =H	P <sup>2</sup> _S <sup>n</sup> Pr
c	$B^1 = OH$	R <sup>2</sup> -H
D	B <sup>1</sup> = Me	R <sup>2</sup> =H
E	$B^1 = Ph$	B <sup>2</sup> =H
F	R <sup>1</sup> = p-Ph-NMe <sub>2</sub>	B <sup>2</sup> =H
G	R <sup>1</sup> =Ph	R <sup>2</sup> =S <sup>n</sup> Pr
N H₂N		

н



anion

х

 $PF_6$ 

 $PF_6$ 

 $BF_4$ 

CIO4

CIO<sub>4</sub>

CIO<sub>4</sub>

CIO4

BF4

L=A

L=B

L=C

L = D

L=E

L=F

L = G

cation

0 Fell

Fell

Fell

Fe

Fell 5

Fell

Fell 7

8 Fe<sup>ll</sup>

1

2

3



#### **Molecular Grids: Redox**



lox			
G	cation	anion X	<b>&gt;</b>
1	Co <sup>II</sup>	$BF_4$	L = <b>A</b>
2	Co <sup>II</sup>	$BF_4$	L = B
3	Co <sup>II</sup>	$BF_4$	L = C
4	Co <sup>II</sup>	$BF_4$	L = D
5	Co <sup>II</sup>	$BF_4$	L = E
6	Fe <sup>ll</sup>	$BF_4$	$L = \mathbf{B}$
7	Zn <sup>II</sup>	CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>	L = <b>B</b>

Mn<sup>II</sup>

8

 $CIO_4$ 

L = **B** 





M. Ruben, E. Breuning, M. Barboiu, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, J.-M. Lehn, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2003**, *9*, 291

Α	$R^1 = H$	$R^2 = H$
в	$R^1 = Ph$	$R^2 = H$
С	$R^1 = H$	R <sup>2</sup> =COOMe
D	$R^1 = Ph$	R <sup>2</sup> =COOMe
Е	$R^1 = Ph$	R²=S <i>n</i> Pr



#### **Molecular Grids: Optical properties**



Lehn, Chem. Commun., 2003, 1338

**Fig. 3** Colour change of  $[Co_4^{II}A_4](BF_4)_8$  **1** at different pH.

#### **Rotaxanes and Catenanes**

#### **Interlocking of Molecular Threads**





Figure 1.

(2)-Catenane B is a topological isomers of A and B



If the rings are directed, chiral catenanes



Figure 6. Increasing topological complexity of molecular graphs as defined by their crossing number (CN).

Sauvage, Chem. Rev., 1987

#### **Rotaxanes and Catenanes**







In other words, the beauty of some molecules might be independent of shape and rest only in its topological properties. We find this especially true for interlocked rings and knots.

#### **Catenanes: synthesis**

#### **Synthesis of Catenanes by Statistical Threading**

A molecular thread A-B, functionalized on both ends, may enter into a macrocycle of adequate size: subsequent cyclization of A-B leads necessarily to two interlocked rings. But since the probability that cyclization occurs while the linear molecule a A-B is threaded through the macrocycle is very small, one can only expect poor yields in this kind of synthesis.



Agam, G.; Graiver, D.; Zilkha, A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 5206.

The rotaxane **5**, obtained with 18.5% yield by statistical threading of a "crown" polyether by poly(ethylene glycol) 400, leads to the catenane **6** after cyclization in high-dilution conditions (14% yield).

#### Catenanes: synthesis Möbius Strip Approach

This approach, already considered by Wasserman and Schill is based on a ladder-shaped molecule in which the ends are able to twist prior to bimacrocyclization.



Figure 12. Principle of a catenane synthesis by preliminary construction of a Möbius strip.

Walba, D. M.; Richards, R. M.; Haltiwanger, R. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1982**, 104, 3219.

The statistical probability that the ends of a molecular ladder twist twice before cyclization, leading thus to the required single- full-twisted Mobius strip, remains quite small.

#### **Catenanes: synthesis**

#### Schill-Lüttringhaus Synthesis Directed Catenane (1964)



Schill, G.; Luttringhaus, A. *Angew. Chem.* **1964**, 76, 567.

Whatever the precursor used, **17** or **22**, the pathways followed in the above-described syntheses ensure the formation of interlocked rings. Nevertheless, because of the numerous steps involved, large-scale preparation of catenanes via the Schill-Luttringhaus strategy remains a highly difficult task.





#### **Catenanes: synthesis**

#### **Template Synthesis**



**Figure 22.** Synthetic strategies based on a three-dimensional template effect induced by a transition metal. Functions f and g react to form the links. The molecular fragment f-f interacts with a transition metal (m) bearing or not bearing auxiliary ligands. This metal disposes fragments f-f (linear or already included in a cycle) perpendicular to one another.

Sauvage, Chem. Rev., 1987

#### Catenanes: synthesis Template Synthesis



CH,





CH<sub>3</sub>

`сн,





Figure 28. One-pot template synthesis of 33<sup>+</sup> (strategy A).

#### Catenanes: synthesis Template Synthesis



Sauvage, J. P.; Weiss, J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 6108.

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**Figure 5.** Topographic (a,c) and phase (b,d) AFM images of polymeric Trefoil Knots prepared by the cyclization of triblock copolymers. Note that images (c) and (d) are left- and right-handed versions of the Trefoil Knot, respectively. Reproduced with permission from ref115. Copyright 2009 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA.



Adams, H.; Ashworth, E.; Breault, G. A.; Guo, J.; Hunter, C. A.; Mayers, P. C. *Nature* **2001**, 411, 763. Guo, J.; Mayers, P. C.; Breault, G. A.; Hunter, C. A. *Nature Chem.* **2010**, 2, 218.



Safarowsky, O.; Nieger, M.; Frohlich, R.; Vogtle, F. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 1616.



Lukin,O.;Kubota,T.;Okamoto,Y.;Kaufmann,A.;Vogtle,F. Chem.-Eur. J. 2004, 10, 2804.



**Figure 28.** Molecular Borromean Rings.<sup>300</sup> (a) Schematic diagram to illustrate the synthesis in *i*PrOH of the Zn(II)-templated assembly **84** from  $Zn(OAc)_{2}$ , diformylpyridine (**DFP**, **82**), and the diaminobipyridine compound (**DAB**, **83**), which is generated in situ from its Boc-protected precursor (Boc-**DAB**) by deprotection with trifluoroacetic acid. (b) Tubular representation of the solid-state structure of **84** with each individual ring colored red, blue, and green and the Zn(II) cations depicted as silver spheres. Hydrogen atoms, solvents, and counterions are removed for clarity, generated from CCDC deposition 231701.





#### A Star of David catenane

nature

chemistry

David A. Leigh\*, Robin G. Pritchard and Alexander J. Stephens





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#### **Molecular Machines: Controlling movement**



Kern, J.-M.; Raehm, L.; Sauvage, J.-P.; Divisia-Blohorn, B.; Vidal, P.-L. *Inorg. Chem.* **2000**, *39*, 1555-1560.

#### **Molecular Machines: Examples**

#### Propeller





Akkerman, O. S.; Coops, J. *Rec. Trav. Chim. Pays-Bas* **1967**, *86*, 755-761; *ibid.* **1970**, *89*, 673-679.









Cozzi, F.; Guenzi, A.; Johnson, C. A.; Mislow, K.; Hounshell, W. D.; Blount, J. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1981**, *103*, 957-958.

Bedard, T. C.; Moore, J. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1995**, 117, 10662-10671.

#### **Molecular Machines: Controlling rotation**



Takeuchi, M.; Imada, I.; Shinkai, S, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 1998, 37, 2096



Wang, X. B.; Dai, B.; Woo, H. K.; Wang, L. S. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 6022

#### **Molecular Machines: Controlling movement**



Qu, D.-H.; Feringa, B. L. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2010, 49, 1107-1110.



Jimenez, M. C.; Dietrich-Buchecker, C.; Sauvage, J.-P. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2000**, *39*, 3284-3287. Jimenez-Molero, M. C.; Dietrich-Buchecker, C.; Sauvage, J.-P. *Chem. Commun.* **2003**, 1613-1616.

#### **Molecular Machines: Controlling movement, a molecular crank**



Okuno, E.; Hiraoka, S.; Shionoya, M. A, Dalton Trans. 2010, 39, 4107-4116.

#### **Molecular Machines: Molecular Gate**



Nguyen, T. D.; Tseng, H.-R.; Celestre, P. C.; Flood, A. H.; Liu, Y.; Stoddart, J. F.; Zink, J. I. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **2005**, 102, 10029

#### **Molecular Machines: A Molecular Elevator**



Badjic, J. D.; Balzani, V.; Credi, A.; Silvi, S.; Stoddart, J. F., *Science* **2004**, 303, 1845. Stoddart. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2006** 128, 1489

#### **Molecular Machines: Molecular Valves**



A light-actuated nanovalve based on a mechanosensitive channel protein modified with spiropyran photoswitches. When ultraviolet light is shone on the protein, the molecular switch is converted from its neutral, hydrophobic, form to a charged polar form. The change in hydrophobicity in the channel results in the channel opening. Visible light reverses the process and closes the channel again.

B. Photochemical allosteric control of a glutamate- sensitive protein channel based on the azobenzene molecular switch. In this example, the switching unit is not incorporated in the channel itself but instead is located on the outside of the channel protein. When light is shone on the azobenzene switch, the glutamate is brought into contact with a receptor site on the outside of the protein. The binding of glutamate to this site results in opening of the protein valve. Again, the process is reversed by shining light of a different colour on the protein, which moves the glutamate away from the control site.



Koçer, A., Walko, M., Meijberg, W. & Feringa B. L. *Science*, **2005**, 309, 75 Volgraf, M. et al. *Nature Chem. Biol.* **2006**, 2, 47

#### **Molecular Machines: Triggering Catalysts**



Blanco, V.; Carlone, A.; Hanni, K. D.; Leigh, D. A.; Lewandowski, B. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 5166





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#### A synthetic small molecule that can walk down a track

Max von Delius, Edzard M. Geertsema and David A. Leigh\*



## Macroscopic transport by synthetic molecular machines

#### JOSÉ BERNÁ<sup>1</sup>, DAVID A. LEIGH<sup>1</sup>\*, MONIKA LUBOMSKA<sup>2</sup>, SANDRA M. MENDOZA<sup>2</sup>, EMILIO M. PÉREZ<sup>1</sup>, PETRA RUDOLF<sup>2</sup>\*, GILBERTO TEOBALDI<sup>3</sup> AND FRANCESCO ZERBETTO<sup>3</sup>\*





Figure 7 Lateral photographs of light-driven transport of a 1.25 μl diiodomethane drop on a *E*-1.11-MUA.Au(111) substrate on mica up a 12° incline. For clarity, on photographs b–d a yellow line is used to indicate the surface of the substrate. a, Before irradiation (pristine *E*-1). b, After 160 s of irradiation (just

# Unidirectional rotation in a mechanically interlocked molecular rotor

David A. Leigh\*, Jenny K. Y. Wong\*, François Dehez† & Francesco Zerbetto†





**Figure 2** Ring-closing reactions to form macrocycle *E*,*E*-**2**, [2]catenane *E*,*E*-**1** and [3]catenane *E*,*E*-**3**. Closure of the large macrocycle, *E*,*E*-**2**, proceeds via ring-closing metathesis with the first-generation Grubbs catalyst PhCH =  $\text{Ru}(\text{PCy}_3)_2\text{Cl}_2$  (ref. 19). The

remarkable yield (59%) for the formation of the 63-membered ring is probably a result of intramolecular hydrogen bonding folding the open-chain precursor. The coloured letters indicate <sup>1</sup>H assignments in Figs 3B and 4.

# Unidirectional rotation in a mechanically interlocked molecular rotor

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**Figure 5** Stimuli-induced unidirectional rotation in a four-station [3]catenane, **3**. (1) 350 nm, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 5 min, 67%; (2) 254 nm, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 20 min, 50%; (3) heat, 100 °C, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 24 h, ~100%; catalytic ethylenediamine, 50 °C, 48 h, 65%; or catalytic Br<sub>2</sub>, 400–670 nm, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C, 10 min, ~100%.

### A molecular information ratchet

Viviana Serreli<sup>1</sup>, Chin-Fa Lee<sup>1</sup>, Euan R. Kay<sup>1</sup> & David A. Leigh<sup>1</sup>



#### **Molecular Machines: Toward Artificial Muscles**







Stoddart, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2005, 127, 9745

#### **Molecular Machines: Toward Artificial Muscles**



Time (min)