RSC Advances

An international journal to further the chemical sciences www.rsc.org/advances

RSC Publishing is a not-for-profit publisher and a division of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Any surplus made is used to support charitable activities aimed at advancing the chemical sciences. Full details are available from www.rsc.org

IN THIS ISSUE

ISSN 2046-2069 CODEN RSCACL 2(15) 6103-6364 (2012)



REVIEW

6117

Recent advances in asymmetric organocatalytic conjugate addition of arenes and hetero-arenes

Pankaj Chauhan and Swapandeep Singh Chimni*

This *review* describes the recent development in organocatalytic conjugate addition of arenes and hetero-arenes to unsaturated Michael acceptors.

COMMUNICATIONS

6135

A new environmentally friendly method for the Baeyer–Villiger oxidation of cyclobutanones catalyzed by thioureas using H_2O_2 as an oxidant

Niiha Sasakura, Keiji Nakano, Yoshiyasu Ichikawa and Hiyoshizo Kotsuki*

A new environmentally friendly method for the Baeyer-Villiger oxidation of cyclobutanones has been developed.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor

Sarah Ruthven

Deputy editor

Kathleen Too

Senior publishing editor

Sophia Anderton

Publishing editors

Catherine Bacon, Amaya Camara-Campos, lan Coates, Lucy Gilbert, Charles Quigg

Publishing assistants

Rachel Blakeburn, Natalie Ford, Paul Gibb, Peter Moorby

Publisher

Emma Wilson

For queries about submitted papers, please contact Sophia Anderton, Senior publishing editor, in the first instance. E-mail: advances@rsc.org

For pre-submission queries please contact Sarah Ruthven, Editor. E-mail: advances-rsc@rsc.org

RSC Advances (ISSN 2046-2069) is published by the Royal Society of Chemistry, Thomas Graham House, Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, UK CB4 0WF.

The Royal Society of Chemistry takes reasonable care in the preparation of this publication but does not accept liability for the consequences of any errors or omissions. Inclusion of an item in this publication does not imply endorsement by The Royal Society of Chemistry of the content of the original documents to which that item refers.

Advertisement sales: Tel +44 (0) 1223 432246; Fax +44 (0) 1223 426017; E-mail advertising@rsc.org

For marketing opportunities relating to this journal, contact marketing@rsc.org

RSC Advances

An international journal to further the chemical sciences www.rsc.org/advances

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chair

Mike D. Ward, University of Sheffield, UK

Associate editors

James D. Batteas, Texas A&M University, USA Russell J. Cox, University of Bristol, UK Marcos N. Eberlin, University of Campinas, Brazil Matthias Epple, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany Changming Li, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore T. N. Guru Row, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India Suning Wang, Queen's University, Canada Urs Welz-Biermann, Evonik Degussa Taiwan Ltd., China

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Full details on how to submit material for publication in RSC Advances are given in the Instructions for Authors (available from http://www.rsc.org/authors).
Submissions should be made via the journal's homepage: http://www.rsc.org/advances.

Submissions: The journal welcomes submissions of manuscripts for publication as Communications, Full papers and Reviews. Communications must report preliminary research findings that are original and of immediate interest. Full papers must describe science that will be of benefit to the community and are judged according to originality, quality of scientific content and contribution to existing knowledge. For Reviews, potential writers should contact the Editorial Office before embarking on their work (advances-rsc@rsc.org).

Authors may reproduce/republish portions of their published contribution without seeking permission from the RSC, provided that any such republication is accompanied by an acknowledgement in the form: (Original Citation)–Reproduced by permission of The Royal Society of Chemistry.

This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2012. Apart from fair dealing for the purposes of research or private study for non-commercial purposes, or criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and the Copyright and Related Rights Regulation 2003, this publication may only be reproduced, stored or transmitted, in any form or by any means, with the prior permission in writing of the Publishers or in the case of reprographic reproduction in accordance with the terms of licences issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency in the UK. US copyright law is applicable to users in the USA.

COMMUNICATIONS

6140

Catalytic conversion of lactide to optically pure heterocycles

Shinji Tsunoi, Hiroki Takahashi, Yugo Takano, Aritomo Okamura and Ikuya Shibata*

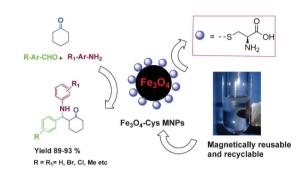
The catalytic preparation of heterocycles was developed *via* cycloaddition using lactide catalyzed by tin alkoxide to give optically pure compounds.

6144

A facile synthesis of cysteine-ferrite magnetic nanoparticles for application in multicomponent reactions—a sustainable protocol

Manoj B. Gawande,* Alexandre Velhinho, Isabel D. Nogueira, C. A. A. Ghumman, O. M. N. D. Teodoro and Paula S. Branco*

Cysteine was easily immobilized on a Fe₃O₄ surface and the catalyst successfully applied for the synthesis of β -amino carbonyls and hydroquinoline compounds.

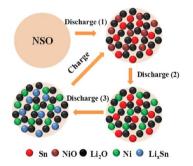


6150

Significantly increased cycling performance of novel "self-matrix" NiSnO₃ anode in lithium ion battery application

Xifei Li* and Chunlei Wang*

A novel NiSnO₃ anode significantly improves battery performance due to the nature of the self-matrix from the discharge process.



6155

A novel potential adsorbent for ultra deep desulfurization of jet fuels at room temperature

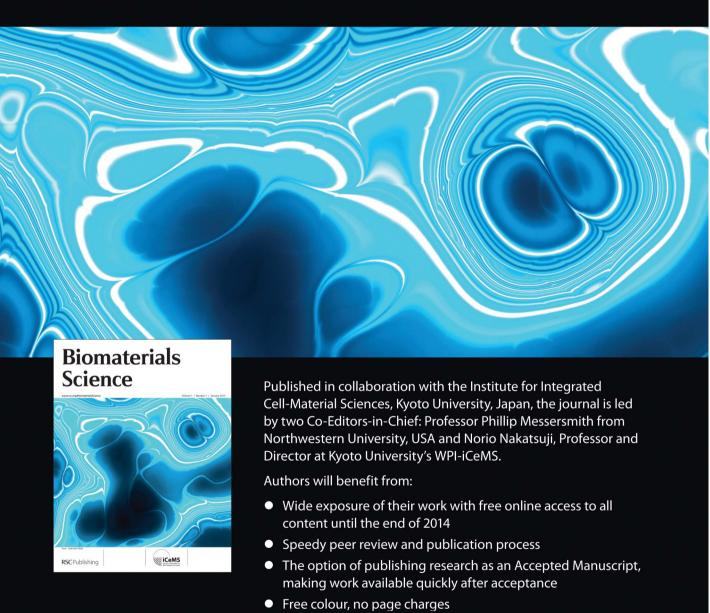
Yuesong Shen, Xinhai Xu and Peiwen Li*

In the present work, starting from current SARS mechanisms and material structure of adsorbents, we developed a novel adsorbent for room temperature ultra deep desulfurization of jet fuels to be applied in SOFCs for the first time.



Biomaterials Science

An international, high impact journal bringing together the molecular and mesoscopic interactions of biomaterials and their potential applications



Submit your work now!

RSCPublishing

www.rsc.org/BiomaterialsScience

COMMUNICATIONS

6161

Cu(OTf)₂-catalysed Ritter reaction: efficient synthesis of amides from nitriles and halohydrocarbons in water

Gui-Rong Qu,* Yan-Wei Song, Hong-Ying Niu, Hai-Ming Guo* and John S. Fossey

An efficient and green protocol for the synthesis of amides through the Ritter reaction of nitriles and halohydrocarbons was developed. Cu(OTf)₂ economically efficiently catalysed the Ritter reaction in water. A range of halohydrocarbons (benzyl, *tert*-butyl, *sec*-alkyl and primary alkyl halohydrocarbons) were coupled with nitriles, providing the corresponding amides.

6164

A highly active organocatalyst for the asymmetric α -aminoxylation of aldehydes and α -hydroxylation of ketones

Xinyuan Fan, Esther Alza and Miquel A. Pericàs*

Enantiopure *trans*-3-trifluoromethylsulfonylamino-4-silyloxypyrrolidines, available in both enantiomeric forms by desymmetrisation, efficiently catalyse the asymmetric α -aminoxylation of aldehydes and the α -hydroxylation of ketones at low catalyst loadings.

6167

Palladium-catalyzed cyanide metathesis: utilization of benzyl cyanide as an operator-benign reagent for aryl halide cyanations

Qiaodong Wen, Jisong Jin, Binbin Hu, Ping Lu* and Yanguang Wang*

Benzyl cyanide is a safe, effective cyanation reagent for palladium-catalyzed cyanation of haloarenes, which prevents palladium catalyst poisoning.

$$Ar - X + PhCH2CN \xrightarrow{Pd(OAc)2 (5 mol %)} Ar - CN$$

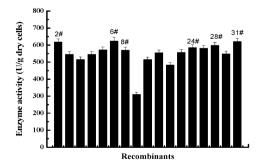
$$X = I, Br \qquad DMF, 90 °C \qquad up to 94% yield$$

6170

A synergetic whole-cell biocatalyst for biodiesel production

Yunjun Yan,* Li Xu and Min Dai

A novel whole-cell biocatalyst co-displaying two synergetic lipases, *C. antarctica* lipase B and *T. lanuginosus* lipase, on the surface of *P. pastoris* cells was developed for the first time for biodiesel production.



RSC e-membership

Chemical science at your fingertips





RSC e-membership enables you to...

- ACCESS expert knowledge and keep current with 12 digital editions of the award-winning Chemistry World magazine
- **INTERACT** with specialists in your field and discuss the science that matters to you by joining an **RSC Interest Group**
- ENGAGE with tens of thousands of users worldwide on MyRSC, the online professional community for chemical scientists

Join today and connect with the global scientific community through the RSC, the central hub for chemical science www.rsc.org/emembership

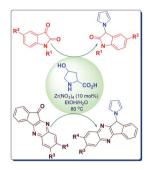


6174

Zirconium nitrate: a reusable water tolerant Lewis acid catalyst for the synthesis of N-substituted pyrroles in aqueous media

Alireza Hasaninejad,* Mohsen Shekouhy, Mohammad Reza Mohammadizadeh and Abdolkarim Zare

Zr(NO₃)₄, a water tolerant Lewis acid catalyst, efficiently catalyzes the synthesis of N-substituted pyrroles in aqueous media.

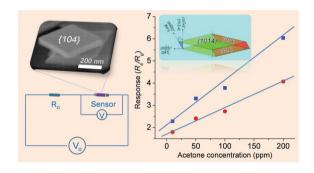


6178

Single crystal α -Fe₂O₃ with exposed {104} facets for high performance gas sensor applications

Xianghong Liu, Jun Zhang, Shihua Wu, Dongjiang Yang, Porun Liu, Haimin Zhang, Shurong Wang,* Xiangdong Yao, Guangshan Zhu and Huijun Zhao*

Single-crystalline α -Fe₂O₃ rhombohedral crystals bound by six {104} high-index facets are synthesized by a facile hydrothermal method. They exhibit a significantly enhanced gas sensor performance due to their unique morphology and 100% exposed {104} facets with more absorbed oxygen species.

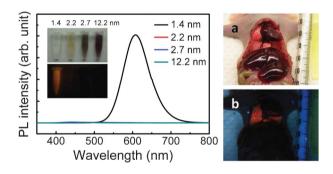


6185

Size control of gold nanoparticles by intense X-ray irradiation: the relevant parameters and imaging applications

Sheng-Feng Lai, Chia-Chi Chien, Wen-Chang Chen,* Yi-Yun Chen, Chang-Hai Wang, Y. Hwu,* C. S. Yang and G. Margaritondo

Size control by X-ray synthesis and MUA (11-mercaptoundecanoic acid) coating make photoluminescent Au nanoparticles very effective in biomedical imaging.

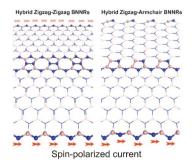


6192

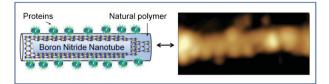
Electronic and magnetic properties of boron nitride nanoribbons with topological line defects

Peizhe Tang, Xiaolong Zou, Shanying Wang, Jian Wu, Haitao Liu and Wenhui Duan*

With no need for selective functionalization or high external electric fields, hybrid BNNRs can exhibit half-metallicity and half-semi-metallicity, dependent on the type of edge and line defect.



6200



Efficient disentanglement of boron nitride nanotubes using water-soluble polysaccharides for protein immobilization

Zhenghong Gao, Chunyi Zhi, Yoshio Bando, Dmitri Golberg, Makoto Komiyama and Takeshi Serizawa*

We report that efficiently disentangled boron nitride nanotubes (BNNTs) can be obtained by functionalization in an aqueous solution with a natural water-soluble polysaccharide, gum arabic (GA). Subsequently, several functional proteins were successfully immobilized onto the surfaces of GA-functionalized BNNTs via strong electrostatic interactions under suitable pH conditions.

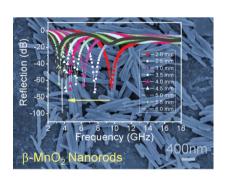
6209

Bistriphenylamine-based organic sensitizers with high molar extinction coefficients for dye-sensitized solar cells

Dong Wook Chang, Hoi Nok Tsao, Paolo Salvatori, Filippo De Angelis, Michael Grätzel, Su-Moon Park, Liming Dai, Hyo Joong Lee,* Jong-Beom Baek* and Mohammad K. Nazeeruddin*

A series of novel bistriphenylamine-based organic sensitizers (coded as RC-dyes) with high molar extinction coefficients ($>5.0 \times 10^4 \, \mathrm{M}^{-1} \, \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$) have been synthesized for dyesensitized solar cells (DSSCs).

6216

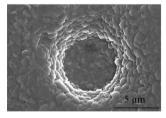


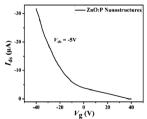
Tunable wave absorption properties of β -MnO₂ nanorods and their application in dielectric composites

Guang-Sheng Wang, Li-Zhou Nie and Shu-Hong Yu*

Absorbers filled with β -MnO₂ NRs possess excellent microwave absorption properties, and the minimum reflection loss (RL) can be adjusted to different frequencies.

6222





p-type Phosphorus doped ZnO nanostructures: an electrical, optical, and magnetic properties study

Bharati Panigrahy and D. Bahadur*

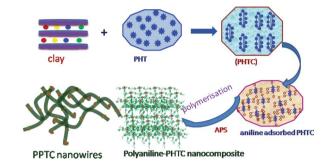
Highly magnified SEM images of ZnO:P nanostructures showing p-type conductivity.

6228

Nanostructured polyaniline-polytitanate-clay composite for photocatalytic applications: preparation and properties

Rajaraman Ramakrishnan, Janardhanan D. Sudha* and Viswan L. Reena

Nanostructured photocatalytic polyaniline-polytitanate-clay composite was prepared by the polymerization of anilinium hydrochloride in a dispersion of polytitanate functionalized clay at room temperature.

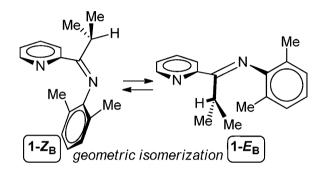


6237

Conformational analysis *via* calculations and NMR spectroscopy for isomers of the mono(imino)pyridine ligand, 2-{(2,6-Me₂-C₆H₃)NC(*i*-Pr)}C₅H₄N

Timothy J. Dudley,* Jennifer E. Beck, Earl E. P. Santos, Kathryn A. Johnston, William S. Kassel, William G. Dougherty, Walter J. Boyko and Deanna L. Zubris*

Structural analysis, NMR chemical shifts, and NOE experiments demonstrate that the (imino)pyridine ligand 2-{(2,6-Me₂- C_6H_3)NC(i-Pr)} C_5H_4 N exists as equilibrating geometric isomers in solution.

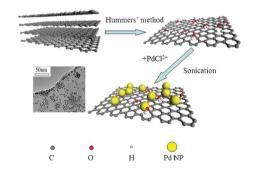


6245

Well-dispersed palladium nanoparticles on graphene oxide as a non-enzymatic glucose sensor

Qiyu Wang, Xiaoqiang Cui,* Jianli Chen, Xianliang Zheng, Chang Liu, Tianyu Xue, Haitao Wang, Zhao Jin, Liang Qiao and Weitao Zheng*

Palladium nanoparticles with excellent uniform size and distribution on graphene oxide were synthesized ultrasonically for use as a non-enzymatic glucose sensor.

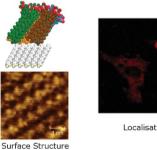


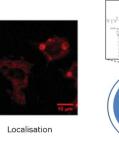
6250

Composite fluorescent vesicles based on ionic and cationic amphiphilic calix[4]arenes

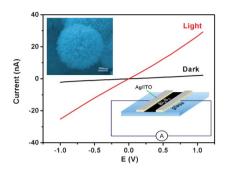
Paul K. Eggers, Thomas Becker, Marissa K. Melvin, Ramiz A. Boulos, Eliza James, Natalie Morellini, Alan R. Harvey, Sarah A. Dunlop, Melinda Fitzgerald, Keith A. Stubbs and Colin L. Raston*

Amphiphilic calixarenes that self-assemble into vesicles have a high uptake in PC-12 cells, and can be wrapped in a peptide—glycol coat for enhanced stability.





6258

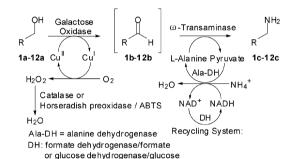


Facile synthesis of hierarchical Bi_2S_3 nanostructures for photodetector and gas sensor

Haohua Li,* Juan Yang, Jianying Zhang and Ming Zhou*

The fabrication of a photodetector and gas sensor based on hierarchical Bi₂S₃ nanostructures is reported.

6262

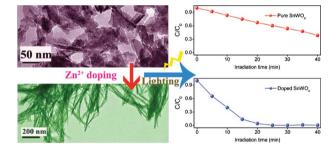


Amination of benzylic and cinnamic alcohols *via* a biocatalytic, aerobic, oxidation–transamination cascade

Michael Fuchs, Katharina Tauber, Johann Sattler, Horst Lechner, Jan Pfeffer, Wolfgang Kroutil and Kurt Faber*

The amination of benzylic and cinnamic alcohols was achieved *via* a biocatalytic, one-pot oxidation-transamination cascade in an aqueous medium at physiological conditions.

6266

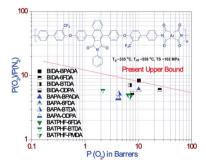


Rapid synthesis of Zn²⁺ doped SnWO₄ nanowires with the aim of exploring doping effects on highly enhanced visible photocatalytic activities

Yiguo Su, Lichun Hou, Chunfang Du, Liman Peng, Kai Guan and Xiaojing Wang*

In this work, we report on the rapid synthesis of $Sn_{1-x}Zn_xWO_4$ nanocrystals with the aim of tailoring their structural, electronic, and photocatalytic properties.

6274



High $T_{\rm g}$, processable fluorinated polyimides containing benzoisoindoledione unit and evaluation of their gas transport properties

Suman Kumar Sen and Susanta Banerjee*

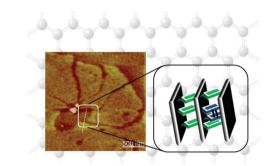
Effect of benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione on the glass transition temperatures and gas transport properties for polyimides have been described. 6FDA based polyimide exhibited the highest permeability coefficient for all the gases whereas BPADA based polyimides exhibited the highest permselectivity, staying closer the latest upper boundary limit drawn by L. M. Robeson.

6290

A covalently linked graphene-oligo(phenylenevinylene) adduct: self-organization and photo-physical properties

H. S. S. Ramakrishna Matte, Ankit Jain and Subi J. George*

Oligo(phenylenevinylene) molecules are covalently attached to graphene using simple chemistry and their assembly and photophysical properties studied for possible applications in optoelectronics.

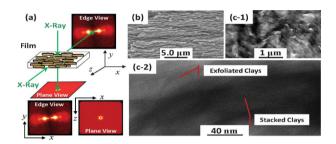


6295

Supramolecular ionic strength-modulating microstructures and properties of nacre-like biomimetic nanocomposites containing high loading clay

Weijun Zhu, Chu-Hua Lu, Feng-Chih Chang and Shiao-Wei Kuo*

A nacre-like polymer clay nanocomposite film by a simple solution casting method as ideal building blocks with intrinsic hard/soft character.

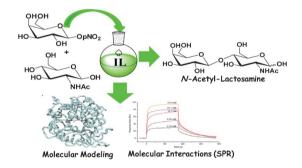


6306

Efficient and selective enzymatic synthesis of N-acetyllactosamine in ionic liquid: a rational explanation

Manuel Sandoval, Álvaro Cortés, Concepción Civera, Juan Treviño, Eloy Ferreras, Michel Vaultier, José Berenguer, Pedro Lozano and María J. Hernáiz*

A rational explanation of the interaction between ionic liquids and enzymes in the efficient and selective synthesis of *N*-acetyl-lactosamine.

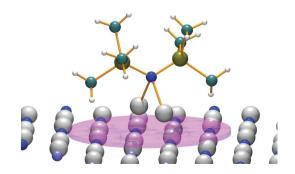


6315

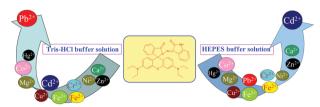
Atomic layer deposition of lithium nitride and carbonate using lithium silylamide

Erik Østreng,* Ponniah Vajeeston, Ola Nilsen and Helmer Fjellvåg

Lithium nitride has been deposited by ALD using lithium silylamide as precursor and lithium carbonate grown with this same precursor as a model system.



6323

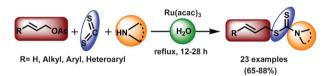


Modulating the selectivity by switching sensing media: a bifunctional chemosensor selectivity for Cd^{2+} and Pb^{2+} in different aqueous solutions

Lin Xu, Yufang Xu, Weiping Zhu, Xiaolong Sun, Zheng Xu and Xuhong Qian*

A new bifunctional rhodamine-based fluorescent probe, **RI**, was designed and synthesized; **RI** can selectively recognize both Cd²⁺ and Pb²⁺ by judicious choice of sensing media. Fluorescence imaging of Cd²⁺ in living cells was also obtained.

6329

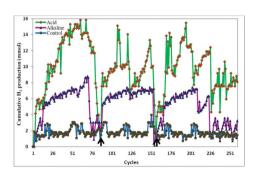


Ruthenium catalysed one-pot synthesis of S-allyl and cinnamyl dithiocarbamates using allyl and cinnamyl acetates in water

Sabir Ahammed, Amit Saha and Brindaban C. Ranu*

A convenient and efficient procedure for the synthesis of S-allyl/cinnamyl dithiocarbamates has been developed by a one-pot reaction of allyl/cinnamyl acetate, carbon disulfide and amine in presence of Ru(acac)₃ in water.

6336



Acidic and alkaline shock pretreatment to enrich acidogenic biohydrogen producing mixed culture: long term synergetic evaluation of microbial inventory, dehydrogenase activity and bio-electro kinetics

R. Kannaiah Goud and S. Venkata Mohan*

Selective enrichment of acidogenic consortia by acid-shock and alkaline-shock methods for enhanced biohydrogen production in association with wastewater treatment was evaluated in anaerobic sequencing batch reactor (AnSBR) for 520 days.

6354



Enantiomeric recognition of chiral L- and D- penicillamine Zinc(II) complexes: DNA binding behavior and cleavage studies

Farukh Arjmand* and Shazia Parveen

Molecular docked model of complex 1a with DNA dodecamer duplex of sequence d(CGCGAATTCGCG)₂ (PDB ID: 1BNA).