# Supramolecular Photochemistry Introduction and Photophysics

#### Reference books

MODERN MOLECULAR PHOTOCHEMISTRY OF ORGANIC MOLECULES



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2010 Chapter 13 PHOTOCHEMISTRY ORGANIZED CONSTRAINED MEDIA

# V. Ramamurthy

1991

#### Supramolecular Photochemistry

Controlling Photochemical Processes



WILEY

2011



How do biological media enforce selectivity?

#### Highly selective geometric isomerization occurs within a protein medium









Bacteriorhodopsin

Photoactive yellow protein



Green fluorescent protein

How do a biological media enforce selectivity?

- \* by restricting the rotational and translational motions
- \* by pre-organizing the reactants
- \* by controlling the extent and the location of free space within a reaction cavity

#### The beginnings of supramolecular organic chemistry: Cram, Lehn, Pedersen



# The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1987

"for their development and use of molecules with structure-specific interactions of high selectivity"



Donald .



| Donald J. Cram                                   | Jean-Marie Lehn   |
|--|---|
| I/3 of the prize                                 | <sup>(1)</sup> 1/3 of the prize   |
| USA  | France  |
| University of California<br>Los Angeles, CA, USA | Université Louis Pasteur<br>Strasbourg, France;<br>Collège de France<br>Paris, France |
| b. 1919<br>d. 2001                               | b. 1939   |



Charles J. Pedersen O 1/3 of the prize USA Du Pont Wilmington, DE, USA b. 1904

(in Fusan, Korea) d. 1989

SCN





Crown ether complex according to Pedersen cryptand complex = cryptate according to Lehn host-guest complex according to Cram

# Supramolecular Photochemistry



R. Breslow



J. M. Lehn



N. J. Turro

## Supramolecular Hosts



Cyclodextrins



Cucurbiturils



Octa acid(OA)



Calixarenes









**Micelles** 

Crystals

Dendrimers

Zeolites

#### The guest@host paradigm



We'll be using this paradigm to discuss supramolecular systems

#### Cartoons of micelle structure



Gouy-Chapman Layer (up to several hundred A)





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#### Why do micelles form at all?



Cartoon of the hydrophobic effect: (1) water is more ordered about the surfactant monomer (left) than ordinary water causing an relative increase in water organization and a decrease;

(2) Water is less ordered about the hydrophobic skin of the micelle causing a relative increase in entropy.

#### Surfactants gather at interfaces: the air/ water interface and the water/solid interface



# Structures formed from surfactants in aqueous solution



The critical micelle concentration phenomenon: Sudden break in properties near a certain concentration of surfactant



Concentration / mmol·kg<sup>-1</sup>

#### Dendrimers: covalent micelles



A dendrimer: a hyperbranched polymer

#### Generation increasing →



#### Generations of dendrimers

|            |                | JAK K           |  |                |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|--|----------------|
| generation | surface groups | diameter<br>(Å) | separation of the<br>surface groups<br>(Å) | surface groups |
| 0.5        | 6              | 27.9            | 12.4                                       | 8              |
| 1.5        | 12             | 36.2            | 12.8                                       | 16             |
| 25         | 24             | 48.3            | 12.7                                       | 32             |
| 3.5        | 48             | 66.1            | 12.6                                       | 64             |
| 4.5        | 96             | 87.9            | 11.5                                       | 128            |
| 5.5        | 192            | 103.9           | 10.3                                       | 256            |
| 6.5        | 384            | 126.8           | 9.8  | 512            |
| 7.5        | 768            | 147.3           | 7.7  | 1024           |







#### Water soluble organic hosts: Cyclodextrins



~9 Å\*











#### Water soluble organic hosts: Cucurbiturils



> Easily prepared by the condensation of glycoluril in acidic medium.

Hexamer [CB6] known since early 1900's, first characterized in 1981.

> Kim and coworkers pioneered the synthesis and isolation of the higher CBs [n = 7, 8, 10] in 2000.







#### Water soluble inorganic host: Fujita's Pd host





#### Porous Solids: Zeolites



#### Zeolites: Sythetic

More than 65% of the earth's crust consists of 3D crystalline polyaluminosilicates (3D-CPAS): feldspar, zeolite, and ultramarine. Zeolite is a class of 3D-CPAS having nanochannels and nanocavities.





#### The crystal as a supramolecular entity







24

# **Common Containers**





#### **Role of Weak Interactions**





Cation  $--\pi$ 

 $\pi - - \pi$ 





С-Н---л

Hydrogen bond





van der Waals

Charge transfer

# Supramolecular Photophysics

- Manipulating photophysics of organic molecules through weak interactions and confinement
- Use of organic photophysics in understanding supramolecular structures
- Supramolecular organic photohysics: Sensors, molecular motors, etc.





#### Fluorescence:

- High radiative rate constant, 10<sup>-10</sup> to 10<sup>-8</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>
- $\cdot$  Precursor state (S<sub>1</sub>) has a short lifetime
- · Not susceptible to quenching

#### Phosphorescence:

- Low radiative rate constant, 10<sup>-6</sup> to 10 s<sup>-1</sup>
- Precursor state  $(T_1)$  has long lifetime
- Very much susceptible to quenching
- $\cdot$  Emission quantum yield depends on S<sub>1</sub> to T<sub>1</sub> crossing



#### The heavy atom effect on spin transitions

The "heavy atom" effect is an "atomic number" effect that is related to the coupling of the electron spin and electron orbit motions (spin-orbit coupling, SOC).

Most commonly, the HAE refers to the rate enhancement of a spin forbidden photophysical radiative or radiationless transition that is due to the presence of an atom of high atomic number, Z.

The heavy atom may be either internal to a molecule (molecular) or external (supramolecular).

#### Strategy to record phosphorescence at room temperature through supramolecular approach

#### Stage 1





k<sub>ST</sub>

Heavy atom effect mainly on  $k_{ST}$  so that  $k_{ST} > k_1$ 

#### Make more triplets through the heavy atom effect

#### Stage 2

Make triplets emit faster in competition with quenching processes

## Cyclodextrins as hosts

#### Phenanthrene@Cyclodextrin: effect of CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as co-guest



#### Induced Intersystem Crossing Depends on the SOC: Cations as the heavy atom pertuber

| Atom | Ionic<br>Radius of<br>the Cation (Å) | Spin-Orbit<br>Coupling ζ cm <sup>-1</sup> |  |
|------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Li   | 0.86 (+)                             | 0.23                                      |  |
| Na   | 1.12                                 | 11.5                                      |  |
| K    | 1.44                                 | 38  |  |
| Rb   | 1.58                                 | 160                                       |  |
| Cs   | 1.84                                 | 370                                       |  |
| ΤΙ   | 1.40                                 | 3410                                      |  |
| Pb   | 1.33 (2+)                            | 5089                                      |  |
|      |                                      |   |  |

# Crown ethers, micelles and zeolites contain cations





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#### External heavy atom effect: Crown ether approach

**Table II.** Estimates<sup>*a,b*</sup> of Rate Constants for Excited-State Processes of 1,5-Naphtho-22-crown-6 (1) in Alcohol Glass<sup>*c*</sup> at 77 K with Alkali Metal Chloride Salts Added in 5:1 Molar Excess (Crown at  $1.00 \times 10^{-4} F$ )

| Salt<br>added | $10^{-6}k_{\rm f}$ | $10^{-6}k_{\rm nr}$ | $10^2 k_p^d$ | $k_{dt}^{d}$ |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| None          | 3.1                | 25                  | 8.7          | 0.37         |
| NaCl          | 2.6                | 32                  | 6.7          | 0.41         |
| KCl           | 2.3                | 35                  | 5.8          | 0.39         |
| RbCl          | 1 e                | 52                  | 12.          | 0.50         |
| CsCl          | 1 e                | 670                 | 81.          | 1.57         |



<sup>*a*</sup> All rate constants in s<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>*b*</sup>  $k_f = \phi_f \tau_f^{-1}$ ;  $k_{nf} = (1 - \phi_f) \tau_f^{-1}$ ;  $k_p = \phi_p (1 - \phi_f)^{-1} \tau_p^{-1}$ ;  $k_{dt} = \tau_p^{-1} - k_p$ . <sup>*c*</sup> See note 4. <sup>*d*</sup> With  $\phi_f + \phi_{isc} = 1.0$  assumed. <sup>*e*</sup> Estimated from 77 K UV absorption spectra.

#### Micelles as hosts

# Naphthalene@SDS micelle: effect of heavy atom counterions



Heavy atom produces more triplets and the triplets produced phosphoresce at a faster rate

#### Emission Spectra of Naphthalene Included in MY Zeolites



#### Room temperature phosphorescence



#### Phosphorescence from Diphenyl Polyenes



Diffusion controlled self-quenching and oxygen-quenching in solution





#### Prevention of self quenching and oxygen quenching with the help of containers





#### Room temperature phosphorescence from thioketones in solution





Me, Me





Camphorthione

Fenchthione

Adamantanethione



- No phosphorescence in spite of good binding within CB[7] (K= 4.85X 10<sup>4</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>)
- Exposure of C=S to water leads to this anomaly





(Py)<sub>2</sub>@Cyclodextrin: Enhanced excimer formation due to preorganization of two pyrenes in a cyclodextrin cavity



#### Zeolites as hosts

#### Anthracene@NaX: Cation controlled aggregation



#### Photophysics of OA-Anthracene Complex



---- Anthracene in water

---- Anthracene in octa acid

Sandwich pair emissionslow addition of host to the guest in borate buffer





#### Fluorescence Response to Solvent Polarities



#### Pyrene as a polarity probe



JUALL

# Octa acid's interior micropolarity probed ,CHO H<sub>3</sub> H<sub>3</sub>CO

All above probes form 2:1 host-guest complexes.

#### Interior of octa acid is benzene-like



#### 'Dry' and 'Non-polar'

Hydrogen

Oxygen