Supramolecular Photochemistry

Objective: To conduct product selective photoreactions in water or in solid state

To alter the photophysical properties of molecules

- Problem: Organic compounds generally are either poorly soluble or insoluble in water and not all molecules are crystalline.
- Solution: Use water soluble hosts to solubilize organic molecules Use confining hosts to achieve product selectivity Use weak interactions to manipulate molecules



Supramolecular Containers



Role of Weak Interactions







Cation - - π

 $\pi - - \pi$





C-H---π

Hydrogen bond





van der Waals

Charge transfer



Supramolecular Containers

Reaction cavity



The Grow and the Pitcher



Controlling the free space

Heavy Cations Enhance S_1 to T_1 Crossing





Induced Intersystem Crossing Depends on the SOC of the Alkali Ion

Atom	Ionic Radius of the Cation (Å)	Spin-Orbit Coupling ζ cm ⁻¹	
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	

Emission Spectra of Naphthalene Included in MY Zeolites



Phosphorescence from Diphenyl Polyenes



Supramolecular Containers

Reaction cavity





Controlling the free space

- $\mathsf{X}=\mathsf{CH}_2\mathsf{CH}_3$
- $X = (CH_2)_2 CH_3$
- $\mathsf{X}=(\mathsf{CH}_2)_3\mathsf{CH}_3$
- $X = (CH_2)_4 CH_3$



- $X = CH_3 \qquad \qquad X = (CH_2)_4 CH_3$
- $X = CH_2CH_3 \qquad X = (CH_2)_5CH_3$
- $\mathsf{X} = (\mathsf{CH}_2)_2 \mathsf{CH}_3 \qquad \mathsf{X} = (\mathsf{CH}_2)_6 \mathsf{CH}_3$
- $X = (CH_2)_3CH_3 \qquad X = (CH_2)_7CH_3$







C. L. D. Gibb, and B. C. Gibb, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2004, 126, 11408-11409.



The primary radical pair prefers to rotate than decarbonylate



o-RP

p-RP

Relative product distribution				
Medium	RAA1+RAA2	AA	<i>p</i> -RP	
Hexane		>99		
Octa acid	10	34	56	















Role of Free Space: Product Must Fit the Reaction Cavity



Photochemistry and Photophysics of Anthracene



OA-anthracene complex



Photophysics of OA-anthracene complex

600



---- Anthracene in water

---- Anthracene in octa acid

Sandwich pair emission- slow addition of host to the guest in borate buffer



Sandwich excimer – τ 210 – 225 ns

Isotropic solution



OA complex





Product too large to fit in











Conformational Control and Rotational Restriction



Role of Free Space Conformational Control and Rotational Restriction



Amplified Chiral Induction in a Supramoecular Assembly



Importance of phenyl group and methyl substitution













21%

92%

56%

Conformational Control and Rotational Restriction



Asymmetric Photoreactions Within Zeolites











85 % de (NaY)

,0,____, N H

45 % de (NaY)

Importance of Cation-Chiral Auxiliary Binding: Phenyl vs Cyclohexyl

Gaussian 98 HF/ 3-21G *



B.E (Na⁺ complex) = -96.89 kcal/mol



B.E (Na⁺ complex) = -75.49 kcal/mol





Pre-organization Through Weak Interactions



Overview of templated dimerization of olefins in solid-state



Thiourea as a possible template (Cambridge Structural Database)



Photodimerization of 4,4'-bispyridyl ethylene and 4-stilbazole templated by thiourea





Thiourea templated photodimerization of stilbazoles – A general trend



An overview of photochemistry of stilbazoles in thiourea co-crystals



protons in dimer products

Anomalous orientation of 4-cyanostilbazole in thiourea co-crystals













Dynamic Capsule



The opening-closing time may vary with the guest.

Controlling Reactions with Supramolecular Containers

Reaction cavity



Thanks for financial support



National Science Foundation

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