



TCIMAIL



Contents

Research Article 2
Development of typical-element-doped functional
π -systems consisting of naphthalene monoimide units
Keita Tajima
Dr. Norihito Fukui
Prof. Hiroshi Shinokubo
Department of Molecular and Macromolecular Chemistry,
Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University
Chemistry Chat 13
Difficulties in Senior High School
Chemistry Experiments
Hiroyuki Onuki
Toyo University Keihoku Senior High School

New Products Information 16



SpiroBpy-BPin: Ligand for *meta*-Selective Catalytic C-H Borylation





Xanthine Oxidase Inhibitor - Febuxostat



OCT4 Activators

Research Article



Keywords: Naphthalene monoimide, Typical element, Functionalized π -system, n-Type semiconductor

1. Introduction

 π -Conjugated molecules are key components of advanced materials such as organic-based electronics. The function of these compounds is closely related to their delocalized π -electrons, which can be precisely modulated by introducing functional groups on the periphery of the compound. The characteristics of such designed molecules strongly rely on the inherent electronic nature of the parent skeleton, highlighting the importance of selecting an appropriate motif molecule. Such π -conjugated molecules should satisfy two criteria: (1) they intrinsically exhibit desirable electronic properties and (2) their structures are readily transformable via well-established organic transformations.

 π -Conjugated molecules are intrinsically electrondonors because the π -electrons are loosely bound to the core. Electron-accepting π -systems are thus relatively rare, underlining the need to develop novel electronaccepting π -systems. Furthermore, electron-accepting π -systems are attractive because high electron affinity leads to excellent atmospheric stability, electrontransporting properties, and short molecular contacts, all useful features for the construction of nextgeneration materials such as organic-based electronics and supramolecular assemblies.



Figure 1. Syntheses of peripherally functionalized NMIs.

Our research has focused on naphthalene monoimide (NMI) as a motif to create novel electron-accepting π -systems, due to its several advantageous features. First, various synthetic strategies to peripherally functionalized NMIs have been developed (Figure 1). The electrophilic aromatic substitution of NMI selectively affords the 3,6-functionalized derivative, with the transitionmetal-catalyzed direct C-H functionalization reaction proceeding at the ortho-positions of the carbonyl group (2,7-positions).¹ The 4,5-functionalized NMIs are accessible via two-step transformations from acenaphthene: electrophilic substitution followed by imidation. The second feature of NMI is the high electron affinity derived from the imide group, with π -extended analogues such as pervlene bisimide (PBI) exhibiting excellent electron transporting properties in the solid state.² Donor-functionalized NMI derivatives exhibit solvatochromism in response to solvent polarity, which is useful for designing environment-responsive bioimaging luminophores.³ The third attractive feature of NMI is that its solid-state arrangement can be controlled precisely by changing the imide-substituents. This strategy has been frequently utilized in the development of highperformance organic semiconductors and functional supramolecular assemblies.⁴

Given the above, we selected NMI as the starting compound and applied our original molecular design guidelines for creating novel functional π -conjugated molecules. Herein, we introduce two strategies for generating useful high electron affinity compounds (**Figure 2**). In the first strategy, two NMI units are linked by a reactive moiety at the 4-positions, and then the linked complex is subjected to annulation at the 5-position to provide element-inserted PBIs as new nonplanar PBI derivatives. In the second strategy, we extended the π -system of NMI by introducing electronegative iminetype nitrogen atoms, allowing the dual incorporation of imide groups and imine-type nitrogen atoms to provide extremely high electron affinity.



Figure 2. Molecular designs using NMI as a building block.

2. Element-inserted PBIs

PBI adopts a rigid, planar structure with attractive photophysical properties and high electron affinity, but the planar structure and high electron-deficiency enhance intermolecular interactions, resulting in low solubility in common organic solvents. In contrast, twisted PBI derivatives have a nonplanar structure due to steric repulsion at the bay area, and exhibit high solubility.^{5–8} Such nonplanar PBIs function as solution-processable

n-type organic semiconductors and non-fullerene electrontransporting materials for use in organic solar cells. We therefore proposed a new strategy for designing nonplanar PBI derivatives by inserting various elements at the linkage site. This section describes the synthesis and properties of nitrogen-, sulfur-, oxygen-, and carboninserted PBIs.

2-1. Insertion of nitrogen

The introduction of an electron-rich amine-type nitrogen atom on highly electron-accepting PBI cores confers intramolecular charge transfer (ICT) properties, providing molecules that undergo large conformational changes in the photoexcited state and a large dipole moment, two features important for stimuli-responsive molecules.⁹ The NH group also acts as a hydrogenbonding donor. The substituent on the nitrogen atom controls the solid-state arrangement, essential for the design of effective electron transport materials for organic solar cells.^{10,11} Then, we have designed a nitrogen-inserted PBI derivative.¹²

Figure 3a shows the synthesis of nitrogen-inserted PBIs. An intermolecular C-I/C-I homo coupling reaction of 4-bromo-5-iodo-NMI 1 using copper(I) 2-thiophenecarboxylate provided the corresponding dimers 2. Buchwald-Hartwig amination of 2 with octylamine, aniline, and 4-methoxybenzylamine afforded the corresponding nitrogen-inserted compounds 3a, 3b, and 3c, respectively. Treatment of 3c with an excess of anisole and trifluoroacetic acid deprotected the 4-methoxybenzyl group to provide NHinserted compound 3d.



Figure 3. (a) Synthesis of nitrogen-inserted PBIs.
(b) X-ray crystal structure of 3a and 3b. Alkyl groups on the nitrogen atom are partially omitted.
(c) UV/vis absorption spectra of PBI and nitrogen-inserted PBIs.
(d) Chirality induction of NH-inserted 3d with optically active hydrogen-bonding acceptor 5.

X-ray structural analysis revealed that octylamineinserted **3a** and aniline-inserted **3b** adopt different nonplanar structures (Figure 3b). Compound **3a** has a folded structure in which the two NMI units are not equivalent, whereas compound **3b** adopts a symmetrically twisted structure. The structural difference between these two molecules was evident in their absorption spectra: octylamine-inserted **3a** exhibited a red-shifted absorption spectrum compared to aniline-inserted **3b** (Figure 3c).

Interestingly, the structure of the nitrogen-inserted PBI can be controlled by external stimuli, such as by

applying an electric field or adding hydrogen-bonding acceptors. Octylamine-inserted **3a** has a dipole moment because the two NMI moieties are not equivalent due to its folded structure. The application of an external electric field modulated the structural dynamics of **3a**. NH-inserted derivative **3d** functioned as a hydrogenbonding donor toward chiral iminophosphorane **5**,¹³ a compound developed by Prof. Ooi and Prof. Uraguchi. Treatment of **3d** with **5** provided a complex in toluene whose CD spectrum exhibited a Cotton effect (Figure **3d**), indicating that complex formation with a chiral hydrogen-bonding acceptor controls the direction of helicity in NH-inserted PBI 3d.

During the above study, we also synthesized a nitrogen-bridged NMI dimer 8, which exhibits aggregation-induced emission (AIE) (Figure 4).¹⁴ The key to generating AIE is the suppression of nonradiative deactivation via a twisted ICT (TICT) structure in the solid. Selective functionalization at the *ortho*-position of the carbonyl groups of **8** enabled tuning of the emission color to provide red-emission. Recently, Prof. Xia and co-workers revealed that photoexcitation of **8** induces symmetry-breaking charge transfer.¹⁵



Figure 4. (a) Synthesis of nitrogen-bridged NM. (b) Photographs of THF/water solutions under photoirradiation.

2-2. Insertion of sulfur

Several organosulfur compounds undergo sulfurextrusion reactions upon photoirradiation and/or heating. For example, thiepine undergoes a thermally induced pericyclic reaction to provide benzene following intermolecular collision.^{16,17} Photoirradiation of a 9-to-9' sulfoxide-bridged anthracene dimer gives 9,9'-bianthracene (Figure 5).¹⁸ We found that sulfurinserted PBIs undergo sulfur extrusion reactions to give PBIs.¹⁹ This unique reaction strategy enables fabrication of thin films of PBI by solution processing.



Figure 5. Sulfur extrusion reactions.

The synthetic strategies for sulfur-inserted PBI and the corresponding sulfoxide and sulfone are shown in Figure 6a. The nucleophilic aromatic substitution of 5,5'-bridged-4,4'-dibromo-NMI dimer 2 with sodium sulfide afforded sulfur-inserted PBI 11. The sulfur unit of 11 was oxidized with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (*m*CPBA) to afford the corresponding sulfoxide 12, whereas the tungsten-catalyzed oxidation²⁰ of **11** with hydrogen peroxide provided sulfone **13**.

We have also developed a gram-scale synthetic strategy to access sulfur-inserted PBIs for the efficient synthesis of analogues with different substituents at the imide positions for imidization in the final step.²¹



Figure 6. (a) Synthesis of sulfur-inserted PBIs. (b) Fabrication of a thin film of PBI using sulfur-inserted PBI as a soluble precursor. (c) Synthesis of doubly sulfur-inserted PBI.

Single-crystal X-ray analysis revealed that sulfur-inserted PBI adopts a nonplanar structure and accordingly sulfur-inserted PBI showed high solubility in common organic solvents. For example, the solubilities of sulfide-, sulfoxide-, and sulfone-inserted PBIs in dichloromethane are 2.9 g/L, 0.51 g/L, and 5.4 g/L, respectively, which are 150–1700 times higher than that of PBI (0.0033 g/L). Furthermore, subjecting sulfur-inserted PBI to photoirradiation, heating, and electron injection resulted in sulfur-extrusion reactions to afford PBI almost quantitatively. Finally, we examined the use of sulfur-inserted PBIs as a soluble precursor for PBI in collaboration with Prof. Yamada and Dr. Matsuo (Figure 6b). Sulfoxide-inserted PBI was spin-coated onto a silicon substrate, and the obtained thin film was heated to induce the sulfur-extrusion reaction. The devices acted as n-type semiconductors with a maximum electron mobility value of $\mu_e = 0.41$ cm² V⁻¹ s⁻¹, comparable to that obtained by vacuum deposition ($\mu_e = 0.6$ cm² V⁻¹ s⁻¹).

We also synthesized a doubly sulfur-inserted PBI derivative that adopts a V-shaped structure (Figure 6c).²² The activation energy for inversion of the V-shaped structure is 30 kcal mol⁻¹. Disulfide-bridged NMI **15** was obtained as a by-product. Prof Xia and co-workers revealed that compound **15** undergoes ultrafast internal conversion by stretching the S–S bond.²³

2-3. Insertion of oxygen

The synthetic procedure for oxygen-inserted PBI is shown in Figure 7. The reaction of 5,5'-bridged-4,4'dichloronaphthalene dicarboxylic anhydride dimer **17** with 2,4,6-trimethylaniline afforded imide-substituted compound **18**. Subsequently, oxygen-inserted PBI was synthesized by reaction with α -benzaldoxyme²⁴ under basic conditions.²⁵ Interestingly, oxygen-inserted PBI **19** underwent an oxygen-extrusion reaction upon electron injection with decamethylcobaltocene, affording the radical anion of PBI. The crude mixture was treated with *p*-chloranil, giving PBI **20** in 63% yield. The dissociation energy of a C–O bond is quite high, and the Lewis basicity of the oxygen atom in diaryl ethers is low. Consequently, cleavage of a C–O bond is challenging.^{26,27} Our results provide fundamental insights into the development of a rational method for C–O bond transformation.



Figure 7. (a) Synthesis of oxygen-inserted PBI. (b) Oxygen-extrusion reaction via electron injection into oxygen-inserted PBI.

2-4. Insertion of carbon

Figure 8 shows the synthesis of carbon-inserted PBI. Treating 5,6-dibromoacenaphthene **21** with 1.0 equivalent of *n*-butyllithium afforded the corresponding mono-lithiated intermediate, which was coupled with 5-bromo-6-formylacenaphthene **22** to furnish bis(6-bromoacenaphthen-5-yl)methanol **23**. After oxidation of all the benzylic carbons in **23** with sodium dichromate, the reaction mixture was directly treated

with 2,4,6-trimethylaniline to furnish the corresponding carbonyl-bridged NMI dimer. Intramolecular Yamamoto coupling of **24** with bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)nickel(0) provided carbonyl-inserted PBI **25**.²⁸ The carbonyl group was converted to a methylene group via Luche reduction, followed by treatment of triethylsilane and trifluoromethanesulfonic acid to provide methylene-inserted PBI **27**.



Figure 8. (a) Synthesis of carbon-inserted PBIs. (b) Reactivity of methylene-inserted PBI. (c) X-ray crystal structure of dimer 28.

X-ray structural analysis revealed that both carbonyl- and methylene-inserted PBIs adopt nonplanar structures. Methylene-inserted PBI showed fluorescence with a quantum yield of 31%, whereas carbonyl-inserted PBI exhibited weak fluorescence with a quantum yield of 0.8%. Transient absorption spectroscopy suggested that photoirradiation of carbonyl-inserted **25** provided the excited triplet species. Interestingly, the deprotonation of methyleneinserted PBI **27** followed by aerobic oxidation furnished dimer **28**, whose central methylene carbons are connected. This dimer **28** exhibited reversible C–C bond formation under electrochemical redox conditions (a *dyrex* reaction).

3. Dual incorporation of imine-type nitrogen atoms and imide substituents

There are two general approaches for designing highly electron-accepting π -systems. One is the introduction of electron-withdrawing peripheral substituents such as an imide group, as seen in PBI, and the second is the introduction of electronegative sp²-nitrogen atoms into the π -cores, as observed for an imine-doped pentacene that works as an n-type semiconductor.²⁹ The two strategies have generally been applied independently, although

there are several reports of the incorporation of both an electron-withdrawing group and an imine-type nitrogen atom.^{30,31} The latter resulting molecules show remarkably high electron affinity and work as an effective and airstable n-type organic semiconductor. These findings prompted us to incorporate both an electron withdrawing group and an imine-type nitrogen atom into anthanthrene and zethrene.



Figure 9. Guidelines for designing electron-accepting π -systems. (a) Incorporation of imide substituents and imine-type nitrogen atoms. (b) Previously reported molecules incorporating both an imide substituent and imine-type nitrogen atoms.

3-1. Acridino[2,1,9,8-klmna]acridine bisimide

Anthanthrene is a nanographene with a zig-zag edge structure³² and exhibits excellent photophysical properties and charge-transport behavior derived from its large π -system, leading to anthanthrene derivatives being studied as hole-transporting materials in organic solar cells.³³ Anthanthrene is thus potentially attractive as a building block for organic electronic materials. We previously designed acridino[2,1,9,8-*klmna*]acridine bisimide (AABI), which represents an anthanthrene derivative that incorporates both imide groups and imine-type nitrogen atoms.³⁴

The synthesis of AABI is shown in Figure 10. Nickel-catalyzed homo-coupling of 4-bromo-5amino NMI **29** provided the corresponding dimer **30**. Subsequent oxidation with 2,3-dichloro-5,6dicyanobenzoquinone and Sc(OTf)₃ afforded AABI **31**. Electrochemical analysis showed that AABI exhibits a first reduction potential at -0.72 V (vs. Fc/Fc⁺). In the solid state, *N*-alkyl derivatives adopt brickworktype packing. Organic field-effect transistor (OFET) devices comprising AABI were fabricated by vacuum deposition. Phenethyl derivatives **31c** afforded a maximum electron mobility μ_{max} of 0.34 cm² V⁻¹ s⁻¹, and single-crystal OFET devices showed a high electron mobility μ_e of 0.90 cm² V⁻¹ s⁻¹. Thus, the incorporation of imide groups and imine-type nitrogen atoms is conducive to the formation of robust n-type semiconductor molecules.



Figure 10. Synthesis and single-crystal OFET device comprising AABI.

3-2. Diazazethrene bisimide

Zethrene is a nanographene with a high reduction potential of -1.76 V,³⁵ which is more positive than that of anthanthrene (-2.11 V).³² We formed an extremely electron-accepting π -system by functionalizing zethrene with imide groups and imine-type nitrogen atoms.³⁶

The synthetic procedure is shown in Figure 11. Migita-Kosugi-Stille cross-coupling of 4-amino-5bromo NMI 29 with bis(trimethylstannyl)acetylene afforded alkyne-bridged dimer 32. Pd-catalyzed intramolecular hydroamination of 32 gave enamineform 33. Treatment of 33 with bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodobenzene provided diazazethrene bisimide 34. Interestingly, subjecting compound 33 to oxidation with DDQ provided not only compound 34 but also dimer 35. Electrochemical measurements showed that diazazethrene bisimide and its dimer exhibit first reduction potentials at -0.49 V and -0.36 V, respectively. Electron injection into diazazethrene bisimide 34 using cobaltocene afforded the dianion 36, which is remarkably stable under ambient conditions. Treatment of diazazethrene bisimide 34 with bis(trimethylsilyl)dihydropyrazine afforded dihydroform 37. Interestingly, this hydrogenation could be induced using L-ascorbic acid, a weak reductant. Dihydro-form 37 and dianion 36 were reversibly transformed by the addition of acid and base. A vacuum-deposited field-effect transistor comprising 34b was fabricated and exhibited a maximum electron mobility μ_e of 6.7 × 10⁻³ cm² V⁻¹ s⁻¹ in vacuum and $\mu_{e} = 5.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{2} \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ in air. The observed excellent mobility under air is likely due to the high electron affinity of diazazethrene bisimide.



Figure 11. (a) Synthesis of diazazethrene bisimides and their dimers. (b) Reduction of diazazethrene bisimides.

Summary

This account summarized our developmental studies of novel functionalized π -systems using NMI as a building block. Section 2 presented element-inserted PBI derivatives with nitrogen, sulfur, carbon, and oxygen atoms. These compounds exhibit unique functions due to cooperation between the inserted elements and the compound's nonplanarity. Sulfur-inserted PBI functioned as a soluble precursor for PBI,

Acknowledgement

The experiments in the development of elementinserted PBI were carried out by Ms. Sakiho Hayakawa, Ms. Mai Odajima, and Mr. Yuki Tanaka. Fabrication and evaluation of organic field-effect transistors were assisted by Prof. Hiroko Yamada and Dr. Kyohei Matsuo (Kyoto University). Time-resolved microwave conductivity was performed by Prof. Shu Seki (Kyoto University). Dielectric measurements were conducted by Prof. Tomoyuki Akutagawa and Dr. Ayumi Kawasaki (Tohoku University). Chiral iminophosphorane was provided by Prof. Takashi Ooi (Nagoya University) and Prof. Daisuke Uraguchi (Hokkaido University). Time-resolved transient enabling the fabrication of an n-type semiconductor film using a solution process. In Section 3, we described the incorporation of imide- and imine-type nitrogen atoms into two nanographenes: anthanthrene and zethrene. The resulting compounds exhibit excellent electron affinity and thus function as effective n-type semiconductor materials.

spectrometry was carried out by Prof. Andong Xia (Chinese Academy of Science) and Prof. Dongho Kim (Yonsei University). These researches were financially supported by JSPS, Tatematsu Foundation, Iketani Science and Technology Foundation, The Murata Science Foundation, TOBE MAKI Scholarship Foundation, The Mazda Foundation, CASIO Science Promotion Foundation, Shorai Foundation for Science and Technology, ENEOS Tonen General Scholarship Foundation, TCI Foundation, and Research Foundation for the Electrotechnology of Chubu. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the collaborators and funding agencies.

Spring 2024 | No. 195 TCIMAIL

References

- A. I. Wright, B. M. Kariuki, Y.-L. Wu, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2021, 2021, 4647.
- Z. Liu, G. Zhang, Z. Cai, X. Chen, H. Luo, Y. Li, J. Wang, D. Zhang, *Adv. Mater.* 2014, *26*, 6965.
- H.-Q. Dong, T.-B. Wei, X.-Q. Ma, Q.-Y. Yang, Y.-F. Zhang, Y.-J. Sun, B.-B. Shi, H. Yao, Y.-M. Zhang, Q. Lin, *J. Mater. Chem. C* 2020, *8*, 13501.
- Q. Lin, X.-W. Guan, S.-S. Song, H. Fan, H. Yao, Y.-M. Zhang, T.-B. Wei, *Polym. Chem.* 2019, 10, 253.
- 5) F. Würthner, Pure Appl. Chem. 2006, 78, 2341.
- H. Qian, Z. Wang, W. Yue, D. Zhu, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 10664.
- H. Qian, F. Negri, C. Wang, Z. Wang, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 17970.
- W. Jiang, L. Ye, X. Li, C. Xiao, F. Tan, W. Zhao, J. Hou, Z. Wang, *Chem. Commun.* 2014, 50, 1024.
- M. Hirai, N. Tanaka, M. Sakai, S. Yamaguchi, *Chem. Rev.* 2019, 119, 8291.
- 10) H. Langhals, S. Kirner, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2000, 2000, 365.
- A. D. Hendsbee, J.-P. Sun, W. K. Law, H. Yan, I. G. Hill, D. M. Spasyuk, G. C. Welch, *Chem. Mater.* 2016, 28, 7098.
- S. Hayakawa, A. Kawasaki, Y. Hong, D. Uraguchi, T. Ooi, D. Kim, T. Akutagawa, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 19807.
- 13) D. Uraguchi, Y. Ueki, T. Ooi, Science 2009, 326, 120.
- K. Tajima, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, Org. Lett. 2019, 21, 9516.
- 15) X. Niu, K. Tajima, J. Kong, M. Tao, N. Fukui, Z. Kuang, H. Shinokubo, A. Xia, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2022**, *24*, 14007.
- 16) J. M. Hoffman Jr., R. H. Schlessinger, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1970, 92, 5263.
- 17) R. Gleiter, G. Krennrich, D. Cremer, K. Yamamoto, I. Murata, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 6874.
- 18) P. R. Christensen, B. O. Patrick, E. Caron, M. O. Wolf, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 12946.
- 19) S. Hayakawa, K. Matsuo, H. Yamada, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2020, 142, 11663.
- K. Sato, M. Hyodo, M. Aoki, X.-Q. Zheng, R. Noyori, *Tetrahedron* 2001, 57, 2469.
- 21) Y. Tanaka, K. Matsuo, H. Yamada, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2022, e202200770.
- 22) Y. Tanaka, K. Tajima, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, Asian J. Org. Chem. 2021, 10, 541.
- 23) Z. Wang, R. Jing, Y. Li, D. Song, Y. Wan, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, Z. Kuang, A. Xia, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 2023, 14, 8485.
- 24) A. Nishiyama, M. Fukuda, S. Mori, K. Furukawa, H. Fliegl, H. Furuta, S. Shimizu, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* 2018, 57, 9728.
- 25) M. Odajima, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, Org. Lett. 2023, 25, 282.
- 26) H. Xu, B. Yu, H. Zhang, Y. Zhao, Z. Yang, J. Xu, B. Han, Z. Liu, Chem. Commun. 2015, 51, 12212.
- 27) N. Haga, H. Takayanagi, J. Org. Chem. 1996, 61, 735.
- 28) T. Yamamoto, S. Wakabayashi, K. Osakada, J. Organomet. Chem. 1992, 428, 223.
- 29) Q. Miao, Synlett 2012, 23, 326.
- 30) H. Li, F. S. Kim, G. Ren, E. C. Hollenbeck, S. Subramaniyan, S. A. Jenekhe, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2013, 52, 5513.

- 31) T. Okamoto, S. Kumagai, E. Fukuzaki, H. Ishii, G. Watanabe, N. Niitsu, T. Annaka, M. Yamagishi, Y. Tani, H. Sugiura, T. Watanabe, S. Watanabe, J. Takeya, *Sci. Adv.* 2020, *6*, eaaz0632.
- 32) Y. Gu, X. Wu, T. Y. Gopalakrishna, H. Phan, J. Wu, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *57*, 6541.
- 33) L. Zhang, B. Walker, F. Liu, N. S. Colella, S. C. B. Mannsfeld, J. J. Watkins, T.-Q. Nguyen, A. L. Briseno, J. Mater. Chem. 2012, 22, 4266.
- 34) K. Tajima, K. Matsuo, H. Yamada, S. Seki, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2021**, *60*, 14060.
- 35) L. Shan, Z. Liang, X. Xu, Q. Tang, Q. Miao, Chem. Sci. 2013, 4, 3294.
- 36) K. Tajima, K. Matsuo, H. Yamada, N. Fukui, H. Shinokubo, *Chem. Sci.* **2023**, *14*, 635.

Author Information

TAJIMA, Keita

[CV] M.S. in Department of Molecular and Macromolecular Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University, March 2021. Currently, he is in the Ph.D. course in the same department.

[Awards] Tokai Branch Director Award, The Chemical Society of Japan (2021) [Research fields] Structural organic chemistry, Organic synthesis.

FUKUI, Norihito

[CV] Degree: Kyoto University (Ph.D., 2018). Previous position: Assistant Professor, Nagoya University (2018–2022). Current position: Associate Professor (Lecturer), Nagoya University (2022–). [Awards] Inoue Research Award for Young Scientists (2018), Early Career Award on the Chemical Society of Japan, Tokai Branch (2021), Akasaki Award, Nagoya University (2022), Young Scholar Lecture, CSJ Annual Meeting (2022)

[Research fields] Structural organic chemistry, Organic synthesis.

[E-mail] fukui@chembio.nagoya-u.ac.jp

SHINOKUBO, Hiroshi

[CV] Degree: Kyoto University (Ph.D., 1998). Previous position: Assistant Professor, Kyoto University (1995–2003), Associate Professor, Kyoto University (2003–2008). Current position: Professor, Nagoya University (2008–).

[Awards] The CSJ Award for Young Chemists (2004), The Commendation for Science and Technology by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, The Young Scientists' Prize (2009), JSPS Prize (2012), Inoue Prize for Science (2018), The Yazaki Academic Research Award (2018)

[Research fields] Structural organic chemistry, Organic synthesis, Organometallic chemistry [E-mail] hshino@chembio.nagoya-u.ac.jp



(left: Prof. Shinokubo, center: Mr. Tajima, right: Dr. Fukui)

Copper(I) 2-Thiophenecarboxylate (= CuTC)			1g	5g	C2312
Dicyclohexyl(2',4',6'-triisopropyl-3,6-dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)phosphine (= BrettPhos)				250mg	D5664
[1,3-Bis(2,6-Diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene]-					
(3-chloropyridyl)palladium(II) Dichloride (= Pd-PEPPSI-iPr)		1g	5g	5g	B6199
Bis(pinacolato)diboron (= B ₂ pin ₂)	1g	5g	25g	100g	B1964
(1,5-Cyclooctadiene)(methoxy)iridium(I) Dimer (= [Ir(OMe)cod] ₂)			200mg	1g	C2662
Tris(pentafluorophenyl)phosphine (= $P(C_6F_5)_3$)			1g	5g	T2484
α-Benzaldoxime		25g	100g	500g	B0011
Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)nickel(0)				5g	B6553
2,2'-Bipyridyl		25g	100g	500g	B0468
Triethylsilane			25mL	250mL	T0662
Scandium(III) Triflate			1g	5g	T1663
Palladium(II) Chloride			1g	5g	P1489
[Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene		5g	25g	100g	B1175

Chemistry Chat

Difficulties in Senior High School Chemistry Experiments

Toyo University Keihoku Senior High School Hiroyuki Onuki

1. Introduction

Senior high school chemistry textbooks in Japan contain procedures and tips for student experiments. It is quite natural for teachers and students to expect that the experiments proceed as anticipated, since chemical experts supervise the textbooks. However, when we try the experiments, we sometimes encounter results that do not meet our expectations and thus we do not reach a proper understanding of the subject. In addition, experiment time is limited because the time required for preparation and cleanup cannot be ignored. I would like to discuss these difficulties in senior high school chemistry.

2. Sublimation of Iodine

In senior high school "Basic Chemistry" course, students learn that sublimation is one of the methods for the separation of mixtures. Sublimation is a phenomenon in which a solid directly becomes a gas. For example, iodine and carbon dioxide, which are molecular crystals, easily sublimate. However, if you put pieces of iodine in the bottom of a test tube or a beaker and heat it with a burner, you can observe not only purple vapor from solid iodine but also purple liquid of iodine. Heated iodine does not only become a gas directly from a solid, but also via a liquid. The melting point and boiling point of iodine are 114 °C and 184 °C, respectively. You can find solid iodine melts and sublimes. In this experiment, students observe not only sublimation but also melting. Students who have preconceptions that melting and sublimation occur separately are confused.

In the actual experiment, the sublimation technique is demonstrated to separate pure iodine from a mixture of sand and iodine.¹ It would be difficult to observe the liquid iodine in the sand. How ingenious the experiment is!



Figure 1. Sublimation of iodine



Figure 2. Phase diagram of iodine (modified from Reference 2)

3. Unit Lattice Models of Metal Crystals

In "Basic Chemistry" or advanced "Chemistry" courses, students learn two basic models of unit cells of metal crystals: body-centered cubic (bcc) and face-centered cubic lattice (fcc). The topic of this section is aimed at understanding the filling factor and coordination number. To aid student understanding, we use Styrofoam models. However, it is difficult to cut a Styrofoam sphere manually and precisely with a cutter knife into 1/2, 1/4, and 1/8 pieces. Using a conventional cutter knife, a

Styrofoam cutter that heats and melts by a nichrome wire, the cross section usually becomes uneven. The textbook also introduces a method of using a cutter knife to cut the sphere in one stroke.³ In many cases based on my experience, these activities fail to achieve the objectives to understand the arrangement of atoms in the unit lattice. Our school purchased commercially available Styrofoam models (**Figure 3**) for students to observe.



Figure 3. Commercial models of bcc and fcc lattices (Courtesy of NaRiKa Co.)

Recently, a conventional method has emerged for cutting Styrofoam accurately and easily.⁴ As a jig, a plaster mold is manually prepared to fit half of the sphere of Styrofoam. The plaster surface is then smoothed by sandpaper. Simply sliding a cutter along the surface gives one-half of a sphere with a smooth cut surface. The cut spheres fit closely into a cubic acrylic box that is available at a 100-yen store. The benefits of this method are that it is reproducible and inexpensive. However, the teacher's working time to prepare the experiment is considerable.

4. Is NaCl Aqueous Solution Basic?

A normal salt is a salt in which neither H (acidic) nor OH (basic) remains in the substance. There is an experiment to determine rules of pH of salts based on the strength of the original acid and base. Three types of salts are used in combination with the acid-base strength, such as sodium chloride, ammonium chloride, and sodium acetate.

Normal Salt	Acid	Base	Property
NaCl	HCI (strong acid)	NaOH (strong base)	?
NH₄CI	HCI (strong acid)	NH ₃ (weak base)	Acidic
CH₃COONa	CH ₃ COOH (weak acid)	NaOH (strong base)	Basic

Table 1. Properties of aqueous solutions of normal salts

When we use reagent-grade sodium chloride, its solution is neutral (green by addition of the indicator BTB (bromothymol blue) solution). However, if "table salt" is used instead, its aqueous solution becomes basic (blue by BTB solution). The reason is because table salt contains basic magnesium carbonate as an anti-sticking agent.

This experiment shows the importance of preliminary experiments and the use of appropriate substances.

5. Conclusion

We use various kinds of reagents and equipment in chemical experiments in senior high school. Experimental techniques should be easy for students to understand. However, it is difficult for instructors to find the technical

SciFinder® is a registered trademark of American Chemical Society.

information suitable for their classes in authorized databases such as SciFinder[®]. Teachers/instructors should catch up with innovative experimental techniques not only from the literature but from other sources.

References

- 1. K. Tatsumi, *et al.* "Basic Chemistry, Revised Edition" published by Suken Shuppan, Tokyo, 2021, p. 23 (Japanese senior high school official textbook).
- 2. M. P. Jansen, Chem. 13 News Magazine 2015, 10.
- 3. K. Tatsumi, et al. (2012), "Chemistry, Revised Edition", Suken Shuppan, 2021, p. 26 (Japanese senior high school

official textbook).

- T. Yoshida, "Crystal Models Using 100-Yen Shop Clear Cases," 8th Workshop for Teaching Science (Chemistry) in Junior and Senior High School, Toho University. 2022.
- H. Fujii, N. Noda, Bull. Soc. Sea Water Sci. Japan 2017, 71, 39. (Japanese)

Author Information



Hiroyuki Onuki

He graduated the University of Tokyo in 1989 and received his Ph.D. degree from Graduate School of the University of Tokyo in 1994. He has worked in Nippon Suisan Kaisha, Ltd., RIKEN, Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. and Junten Junior and Senior High School. He has concurrently served as an adjunct lecturer in Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Tokyo Denki University, Graduate School of Yokohama City University, Rikkyo University, and Nihon University. In 2020, he was appointed as a science teacher in Toyo University Keihoku Senior High School.

His research interests are organic natural product chemistry, instrumental analyses, and chemical education.

New Products Information

SpiroBpy-BPin: Ligand for *meta*-Selective Catalytic C-H Borylation

SpiroBpy-Bpin (1)

Product Number: B6552 100mg 500mg



Since the development of the C-H borylation reaction, which allows the introduction of a boron functional group directly onto the C-H of an arene, the variety of available borylated arenes has increased dramatically. In the early C-H borylation reactions, boron was introduced at sterically vacant positions of substituted arenes. *ortho*-Selective C-H borylation reactions using arenes having directing substituents, and *para*-selective borylation reactions using high sterically hindered ligands have been developed. However, it has not been easy to discriminate *meta*- and *para*-positions in the C-H borylation reaction for simple substituted arenes. Therefore, there is a need to develop ligands that exhibit *meta*-selectivity for a wide range of arenes.

SpiroBpy-Bpin (1) is a catalytic C-H borylation ligand that exhibits excellent *meta*-selectivity.^{1,2)} The Bpin substituent on the spirobipyridine moiety of 1 plays the role of a roof, and the *meta*-position of hydrogen of the substrate preferentially approaches the metal center, resulting in *meta*-selectivity. For example, in the C-H borylation of *tert*-butylbenzene using HBpin, [IrOMe(cod)]₂ and 1, the *meta*-selectivity reaches *m*:*p* = 23:1. A *meta*-selectivity of *m*:*p* = 5.0:1 is achieved even when the substrate is toluene. Thus, 1 shows excellent *meta*-selectivity for various substituted arenes, and the application of *meta*-borylated arenes is expected in the future.

References

1) B. Ramadoss, Y. Jin, S. Asako, L. Ilies, *Science* **2022**, *375*, 658. 2) B. Ramadoss, Y. Jin, S. Asako, L. Ilies, *Synform* **2022**, *06*, A92.

(1,5-Cyclooctadiene)(methoxy)iridium(I) Dimer (= [IrOMe(cod)] ₂)	200mg	1g	C2662
Pinacol Borane	5g	25g	T2572
2,2'-Bis[bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-biphenyl	100mg	500mg	B5957

Anti-Non-human Glycoform Antibodies for Flow Cytometry Anti-a Gal Polyclonal Antibody R-PE Conjugate (1) Product Number: A3354 **1VIAL** Anti-NeuGc Polyclonal Antibody R-PE Conjugate (2) Product Number: A3360 **1VIAL** Non-human glycoforms are known to trigger immune reactions in humans.^{1,2)} At TCI, we have developed a plethora of chicken polyclonal antobodies against such glycoforms, including the aGal epitope (Gala1-3Gal) and N-glycolylneuraminic acid (Neu5Gc), in order to aid in their rapid, detection. 1 and 2 are anti-non-human glycoform antibodies conjugated with R-Phycoerythrin (R-PE) for use in flow cytometry, enabling the specific detection of such non-human glycoforms on the cell surface. 500 1.0K Isotype control Isotype control 400 800 (2) (1) 300 Count Count 600 200 400 100 200



Figure. Detection of non-human glycoforms in porcine peripheral blood granulocytes Peripheral blood cells were collected from miniature pig blood. 1, 2 and an isotype control were prepared at a concentration of 0.01 mg/mL and incubated with cells for 20 min at 4 °C. Subsequent analysis of samples was performed on a flow cytometer.

References

1) S. P. Commins, S. M. Satinover, J. Hosen, J. Mozena, L. Borish, B. D. Lewis, J. A. Woodfolk, T. A. E. Platts-Mills, J. Allergy Clin. Immunol. 2009, 123, 426.

2) C. Yu, K. Gao, L. Zhu, W. Wang, L. Wang, F. Zhang, C. Liu, M. Li, M. R. Wormald, P. M. Rudd, J. Wang, Sci. Rep. 2016, 6, 20029.

Anti-α Gal Polyclonal Antibody (Chicken)	1VIAL	A3123
Anti-α Gal Polyclonal Antibody HRP Conjugate	1VIAL	A3195
Anti-NeuGc Chicken Polyclonal Antibody	1VIAL	A3240
Anti-NeuGc Polyclonal Antibody HRP Conjugate	1VIAL	A3397

Xanthine Oxidase Inhibitor - Febuxostat

Febuxostat (1)

Product Number: F0847 1g 5g

Febuxostat (1) is known as an inhibitor of xanthine oxidase. Xanthine oxidase is involved in the conversion of xanthine to uric acid. By inhibiting this enzyme, 1 reduces the production of uric acid.¹⁾

Recently, **1** has been reported to suppress NLR family pyrin domain-containing protein 3 (NLRP3) inflammasomemediated IL-1 β secretion and may be applied in related research studies.²⁾



References

1) L. G. Sánchez-Lozada, E. Tapia, P. Bautista-García, V. Soto, C. Ávila-Casado, I. P. Vega-Campos, T. Nakagawa, L. Zhao, M. Franco, R. J. Johnson, *Am. J. Physiol. Renal Physiol.* **2008**, 294, F710.

2) J. Nomura, T. Kobayashi, A. So, N. Busso, Sci. Rep. 2019, 9, 17314.

Xanthine			25g	X0004
Uric Acid	25g	100g	500g	U0018

and the second



OCT4 is a master regulator of the induction and maintenance of cellular pluripotency, and has crucial roles in early stages of cell differentiation.¹) OAC-2 (**1**) and OAC-3 (**2**) activate expression of OCT4.²) These OCT4-activating compounds were identified using high-throughput screening by Li *et al.* and were found to enhance reprogramming efficiency from embryonic fibroblasts to induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs).

OAC-3

(2)

References

OCT4 Activators

1) T. Okuyama, R. Yamagishi, J. Shimada, M. Ikeda, Y. Maruoka, H. Kaneko, J. Biomol. Struct. Dyn. 2018, 36, 767.

OAC-2

(1)

2) W. Li, E Tian, Z.-X. Chen, G. Sun, P. Ye, S. Yang, D. Lu, J. Xie, T.-V. Ho, W. M. Tsark, C. Wang, D. A. Horne, A. D. Riggs, M. L. R. Yip, Y. Shi, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **2012** *109*, 20853.

Related Product

OAC-1

10mg 50mg 00490

TCIMAIL SPRING 2024 | No. 195

New! TCI SpectraViewer

A convenient tool for visualizing the excitation/emmision spectra of our and other common fluorescent reagents



Select your fluorophore of interest or search for a fluorophore that matches your instrument setup to display its emission and excitation spectra in-graph. Add filters and lasers to help design experiments.

www.TCIchemicals.com



Tokyo Chemical Industry (India) Pvt. Ltd. : 1800 425 7889 / 044-2262 0909 Tel E-mail : Sales-IN@TCIchemicals.com

TCI AMERICA

Ordering and

Customer Service

Tel :800-423-8616 / 503-283-1681 :888-520-1075 / 503-283-1987 Fax E-mail : Sales-US@TCIchemicals.com

TCI EUROPE N.V. : +32 (0)3 735 07 00 Tel : +32 (0)3 735 07 01 Fax E-mail : Sales-EU@TCIchemicals.com

TCI Deutschland GmbH Tel : +49 (0)6196 64053-00 Fax

:+49 (0)6196 64053-01 E-mail : Sales-DE@TCIchemicals.com E-mail : Sales-CN@TCIchemicals.com

Tokyo Chemical Industry UK Ltd. : +44 (0)1865 78 45 60 Tel E-mail : Sales-UK@TCIchemicals.com

梯希爱(上海)化成工业发展有限公司 Tel : 800-988-0390 / 021-67121386 : 021-6712-1385 Fax

TOKYO CHEMICAL INDUSTRY CO., LTD. Tel :+81 (0)3-5640-8878 E-mail : globalbusiness@TCIchemicals.com

• Chemicals itemized in this brochure are for research and testing use only. Please avoid use other than by chemically knowledgeable professionals. • Information such as listed products and its specifications and so on are subject to change without prior notice. • The contents may not be reproduced or duplicated in whole or in part without permission of Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

