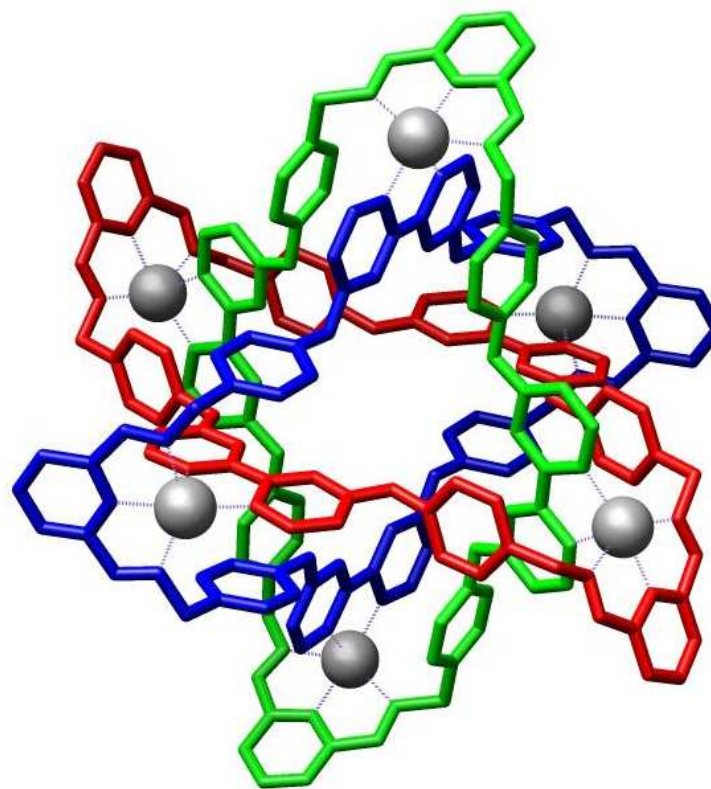
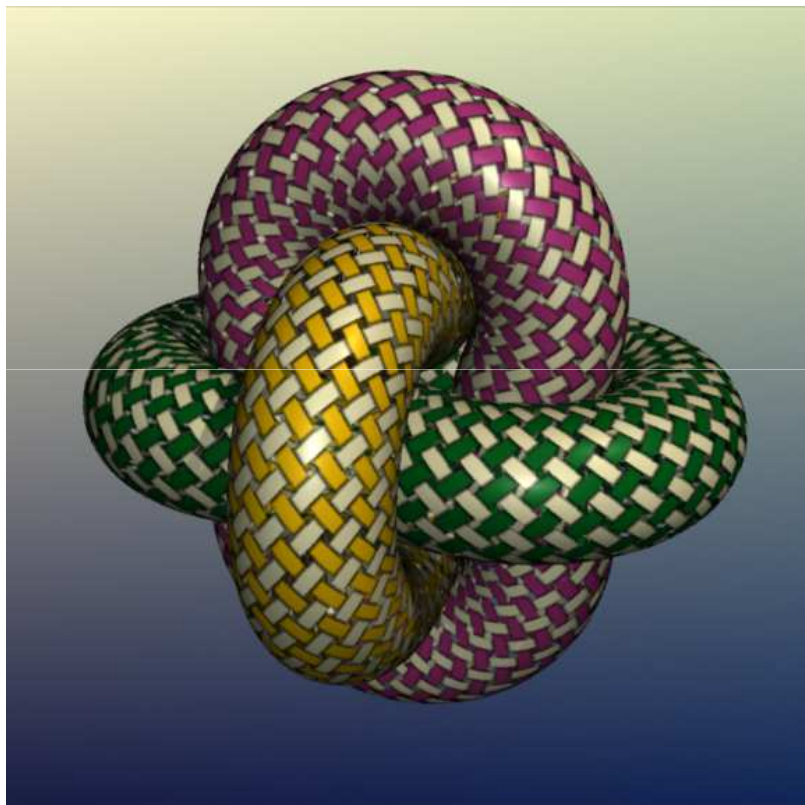
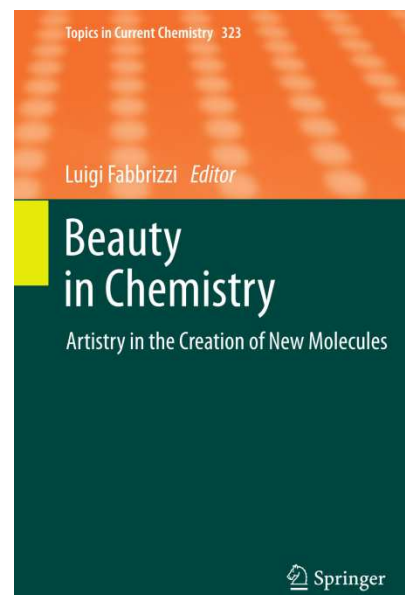
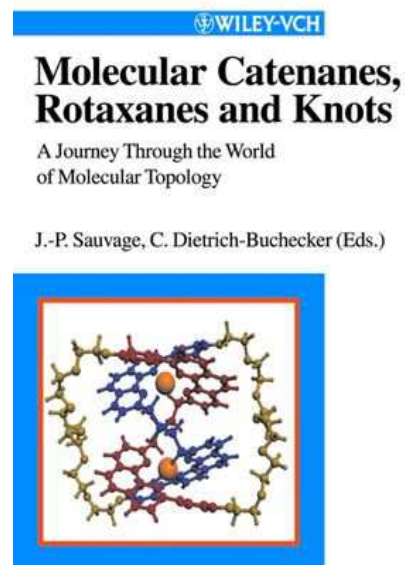


An introduction to topological chemistry





**CHEMICAL
REVIEWS**

2011, 111, 5434-5464

REVIEW

pubs.acs.org/CR

Chemical Topology: Complex Molecular Knots, Links,
and Entanglements

Ross S. Forgan, Jean-Pierre Sauvage,* and J. Fraser Stoddart*

Strategies and Tactics for the Metal-Directed Synthesis of Rotaxanes, Knots, Catenanes, and Higher Order Links

Jonathon E. Beves, Barry A. Blight, Christopher J. Campbell, David A. Leigh,
and Roy T. McBurney Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., 2011, 50, 9260-9327*

Chem Soc Rev 2013, 42, 1700

RSC Publishing

TUTORIAL REVIEW

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Template synthesis of molecular knots†

Cite this: Chem. Soc. Rev., 2013,
42, 1700

Jean-François Ayme,^{ab} Jonathon E. Beves,^a Christopher J. Campbell^a and
David A. Leigh^{†ab}

**Angewandte
Reviews**

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., 2015, 54, 6110

D. A. Leigh et al.

Catenanes

International Edition: DOI: 10.1002/anie.201411619

German Edition: DOI: 10.1002/ange.201411619

Catenanes: Fifty Years of Molecular Links

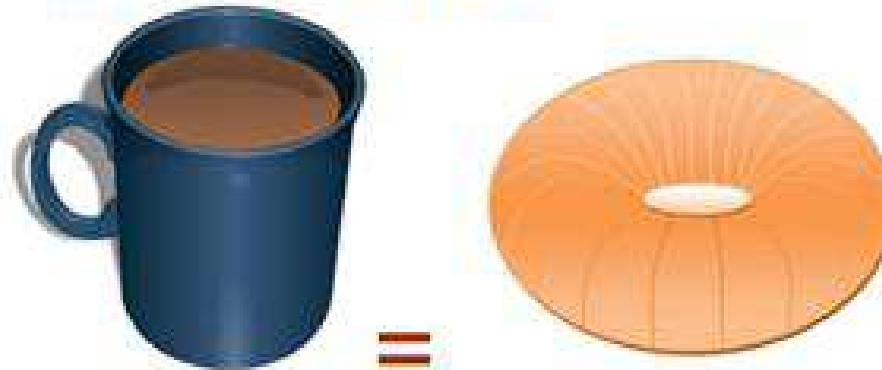
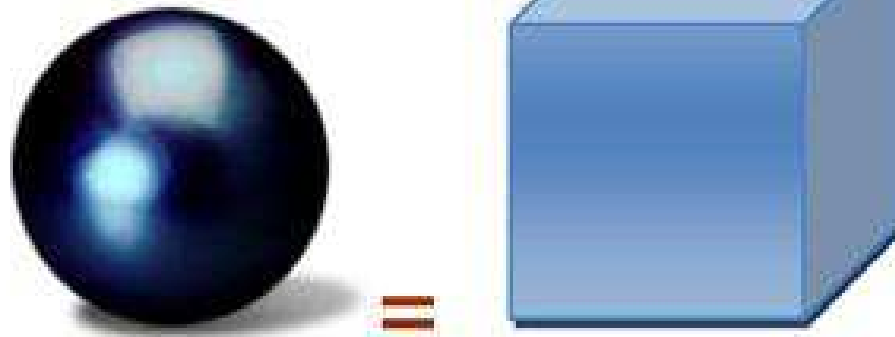
Guzmán Gil-Ramírez, David A. Leigh, and Alexander J. Stephens*

Many illustrations present in the slides are taken from these reviews

- 1- Molecular graph and topological chemistry
- 2- Synthesis of [2]catenanes
 - a) Historical background
 - b) Sauvage's template synthesis
- 3- Sauvage's strategy for more complex structures
 - a) Molecular knots
 - b) Limits and contributions from other groups
- 4- Borromean rings
- 5- (Very) short introduction to topological stereochemistry
- 6- Molecular machines and motors

Topology

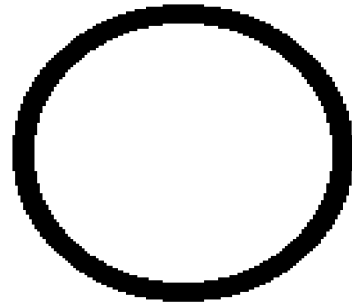
In topology, angles, distances or shapes have no meaning
But the object cannot be cut



Molecular graph

Representation of the bonds between atoms with no interest in their chemical nature

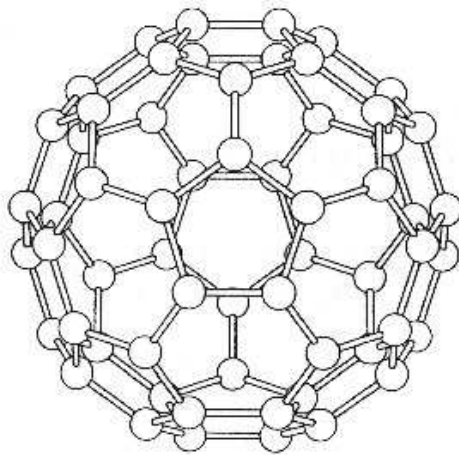
(a)



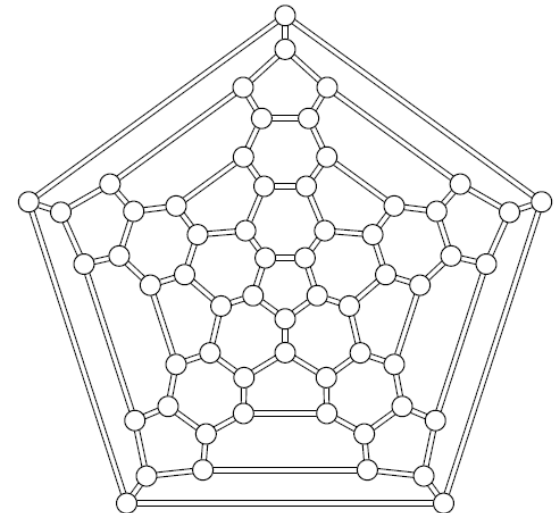
 planar graph

One possible conformation with no crossing in 2D representation

C_{60} has a planar graph:



 topologically equivalent 



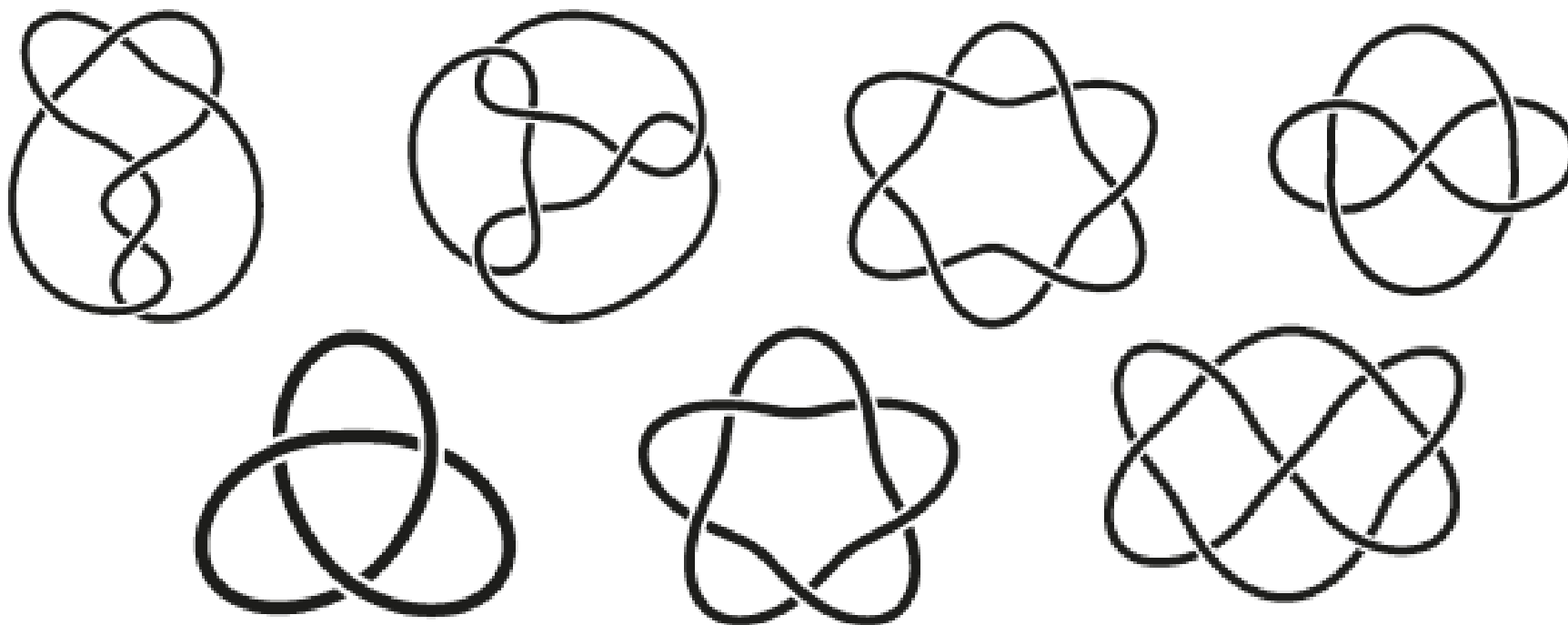
Molecular graph



 non-planar graph

No possible conformation with no crossing in 2D representation

topological chemistry is the chemistry of molecules having a non planar graph



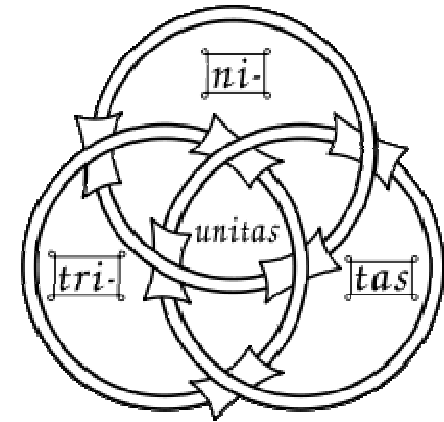
Topology in art



Aquilea, Italy

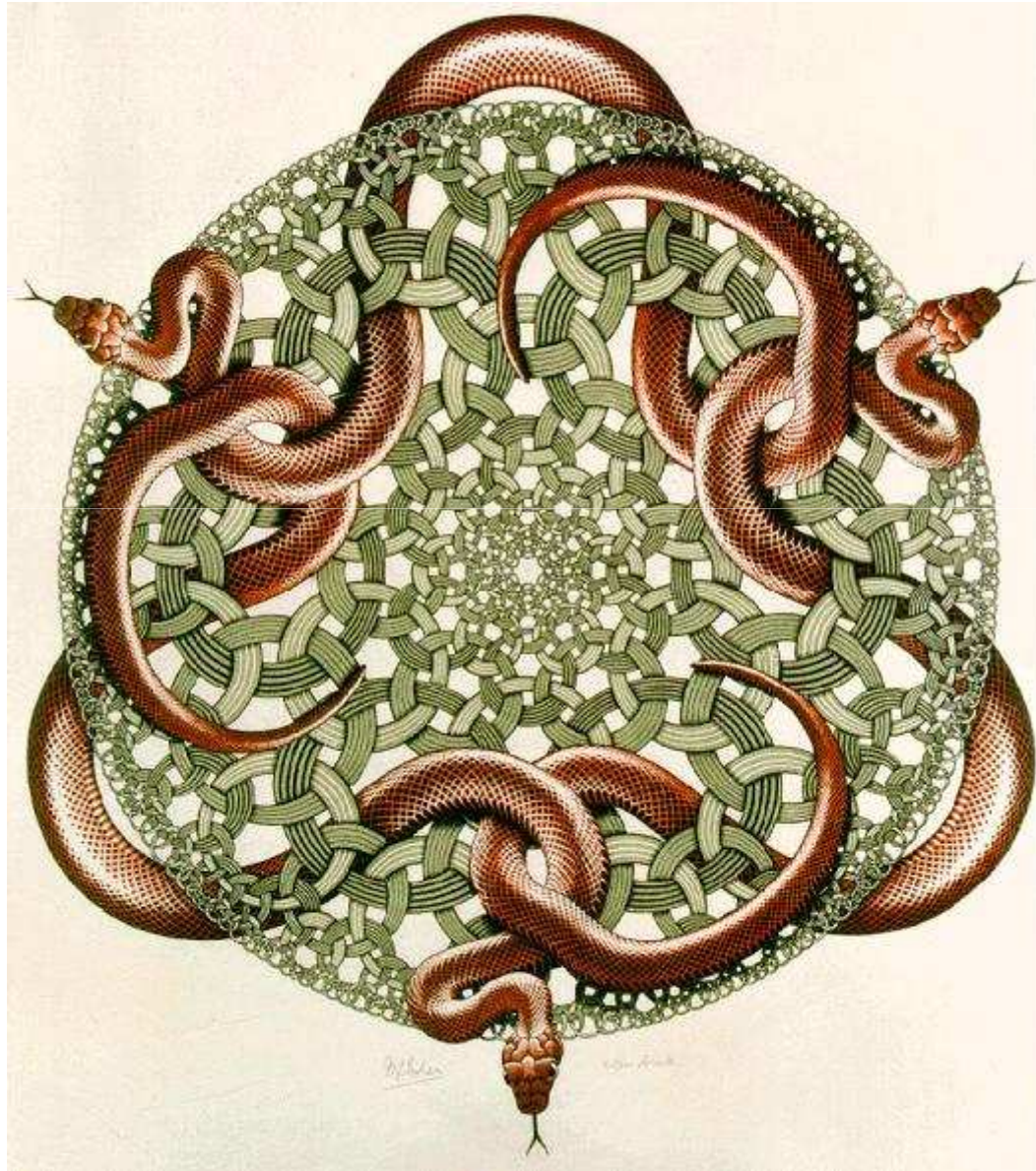


Book of Kells



Topology in art

Snakes
M.C. Escher

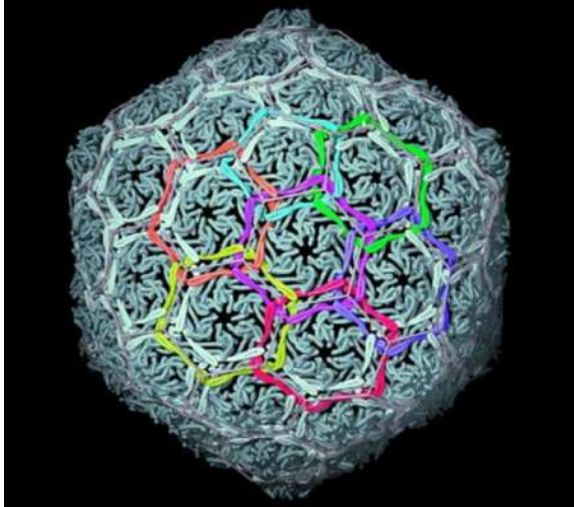


Topology in art



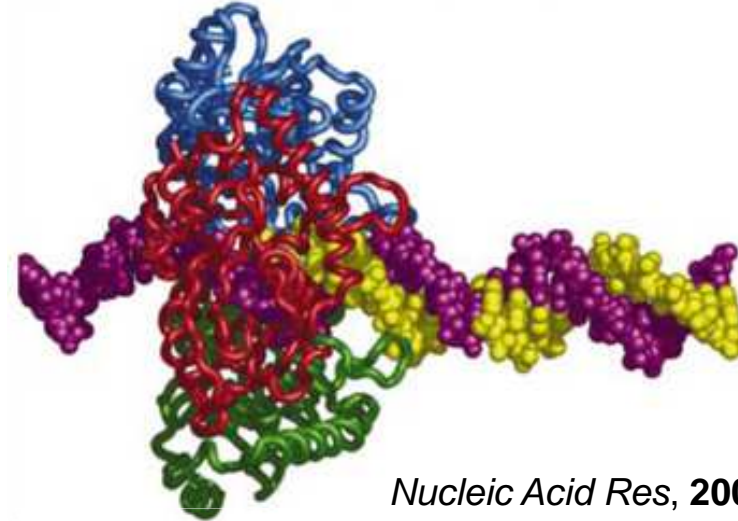
Topology in nature

Protein chainmail for a virus capsid



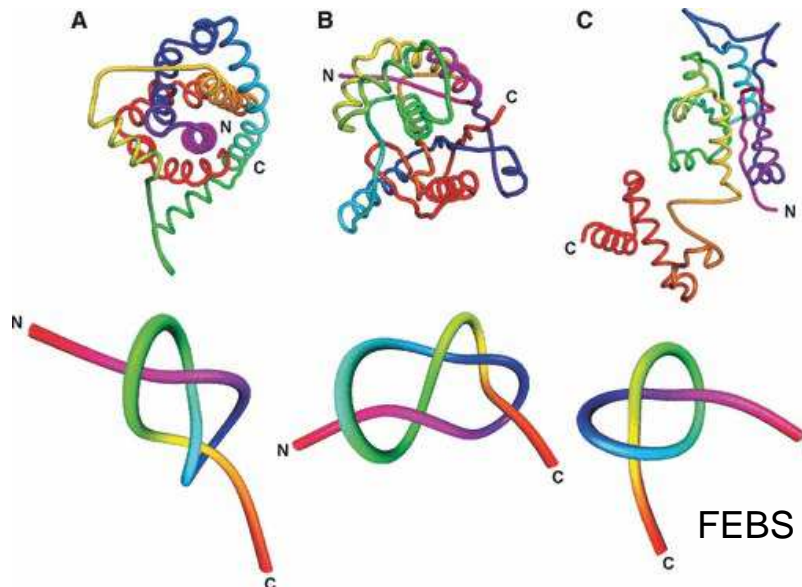
Science **2000**, 289, 2129

Exonuclease-DNA complex



Nucleic Acid Res, **2003**, 31, 1585

Knotted proteins



FEBS Journal, **2009**, 276, 365

Topological chemistry

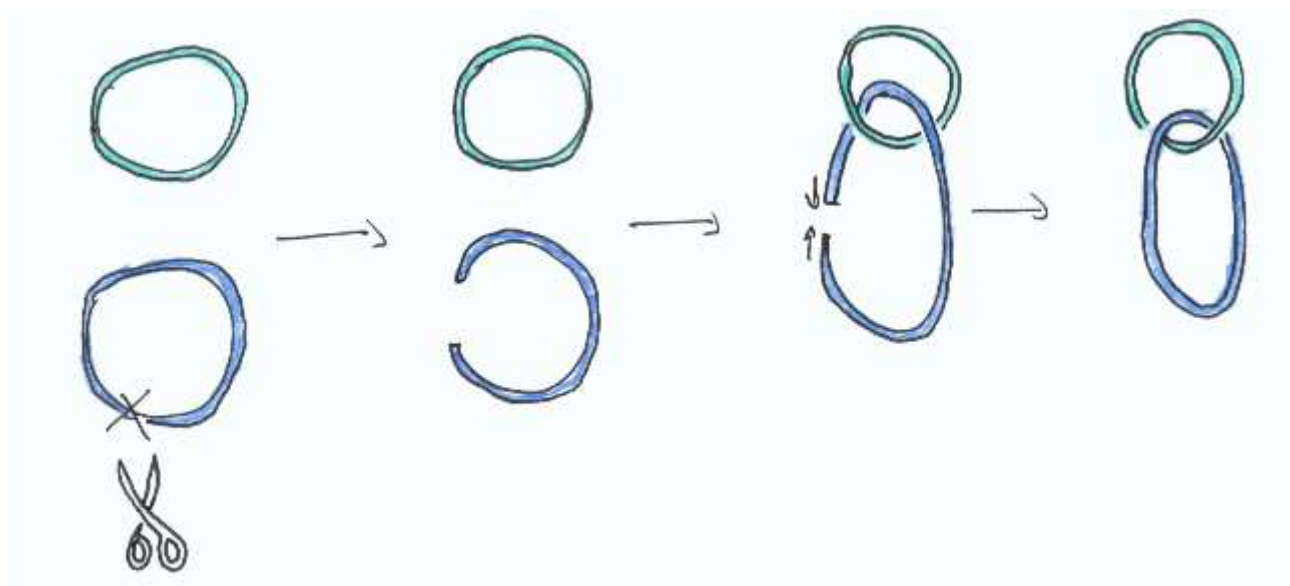
- If two molecules are different only for their graphs, they are **topological isomers**



a is an isomer of **b** and **c**.
b and **c** are topological enantiomers.

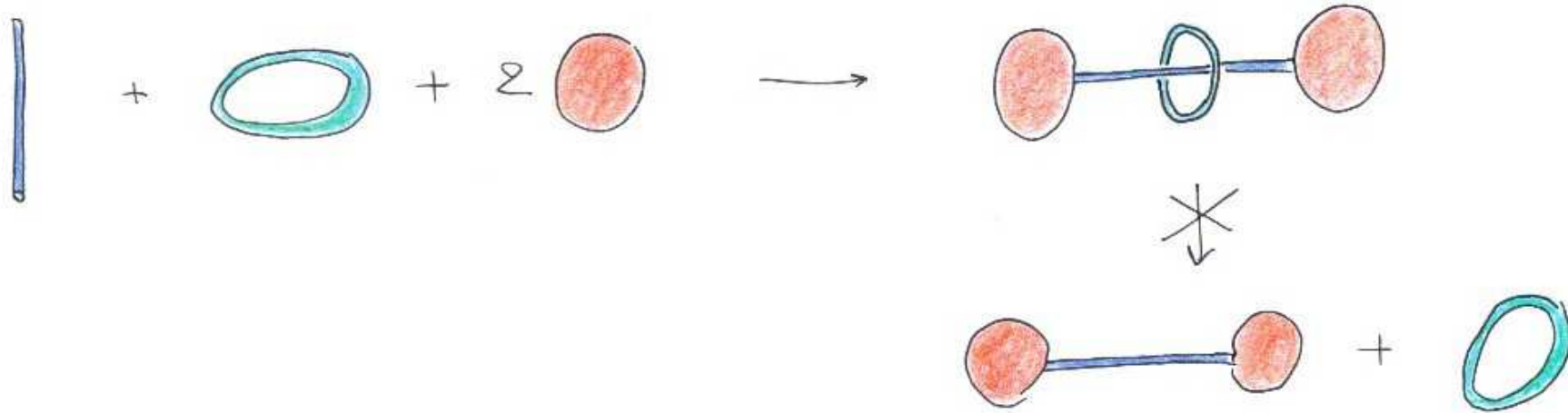
- Most popular classes of topological molecules are **catenanes** and **rotaxanes**

catenane:

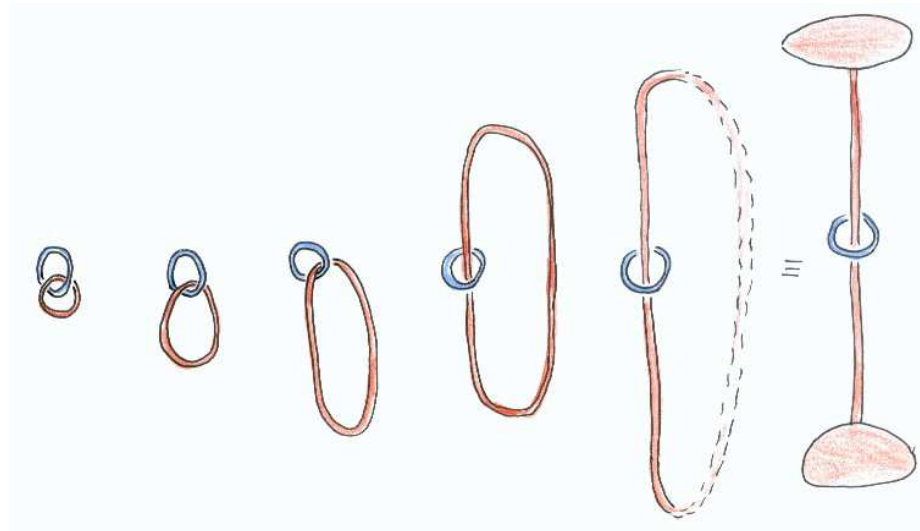


Topological chemistry

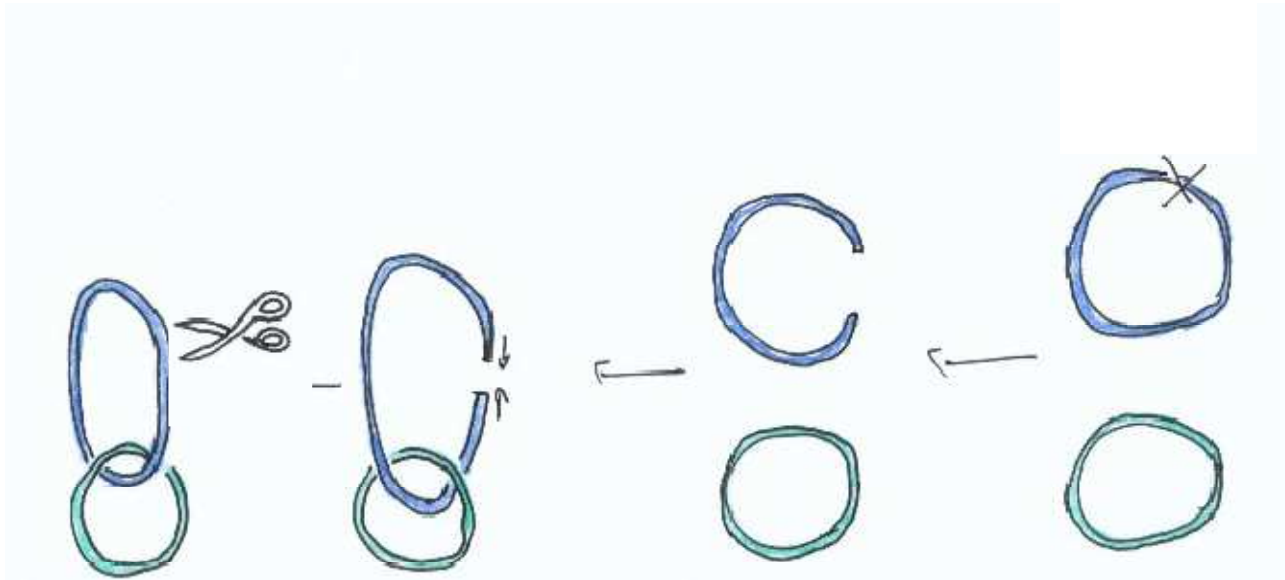
rotaxane:



rotaxane is not strictly speaking a topological object
but, in chemistry, there is a good reason to say so:



Topological chemistry



Loss of the structure by breaking a covalent bond
= interaction is strong: not supramolecular chemistry?

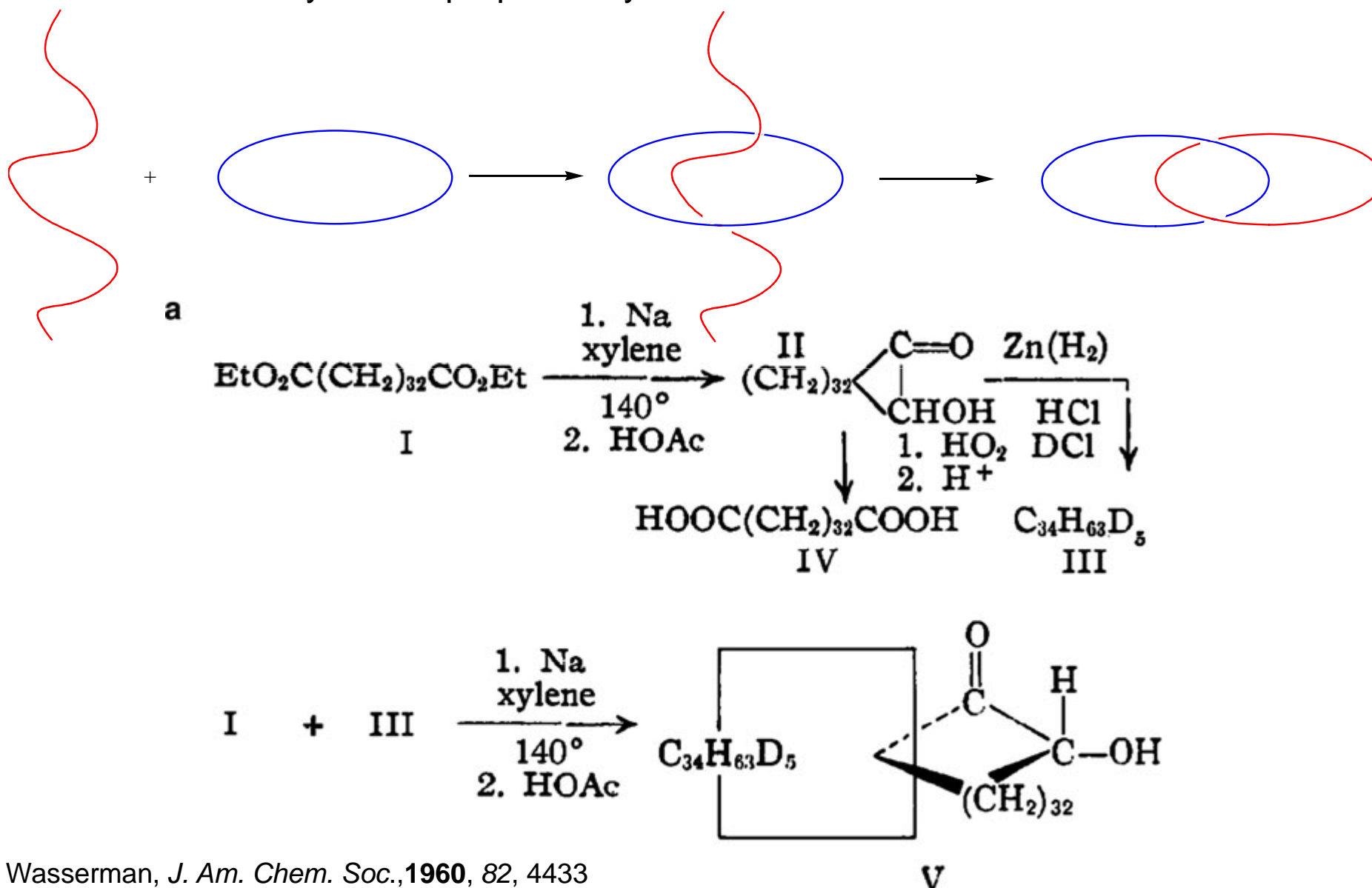
BUT: no covalent bond between the two rings!
= interaction is weak

mechanical bond

How can this kind of molecules be made?

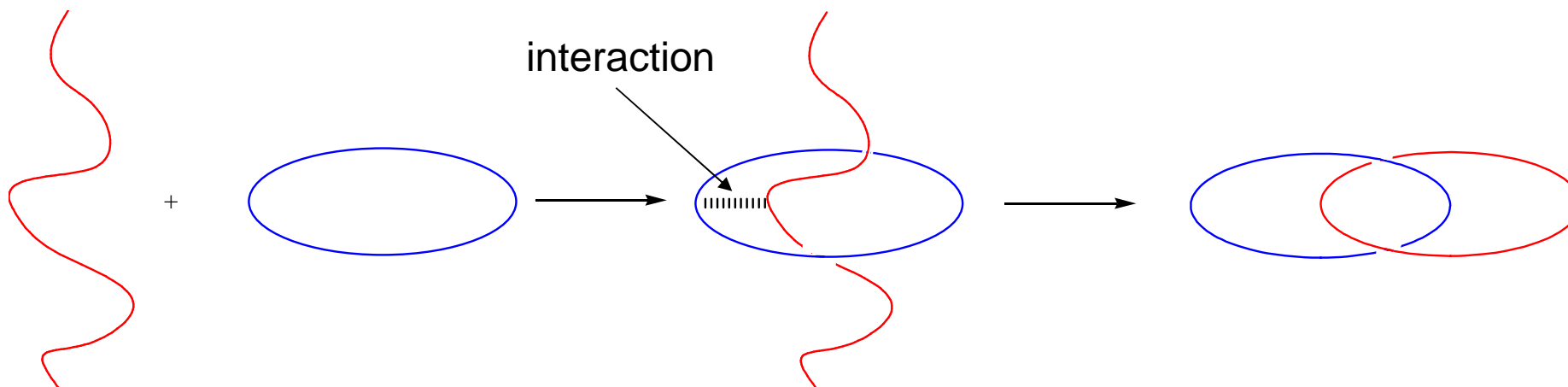
Catenane by statistical method

- 1960: statistical synthesis proposed by Wasserman. unsuccessful.

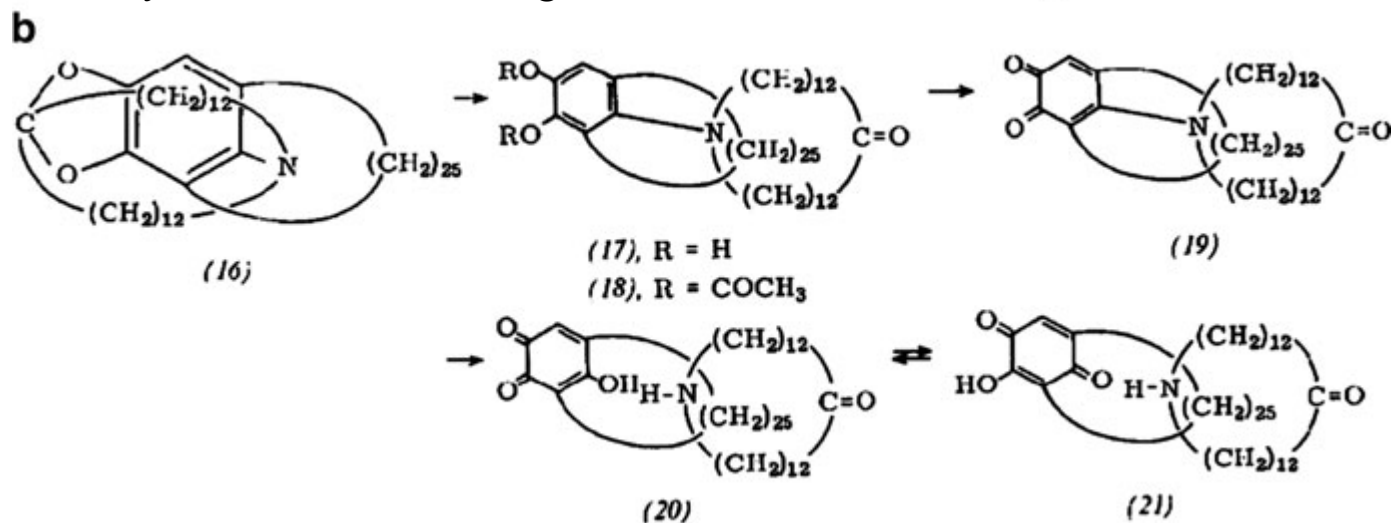


Catenane by template synthesis

- Template synthesis:

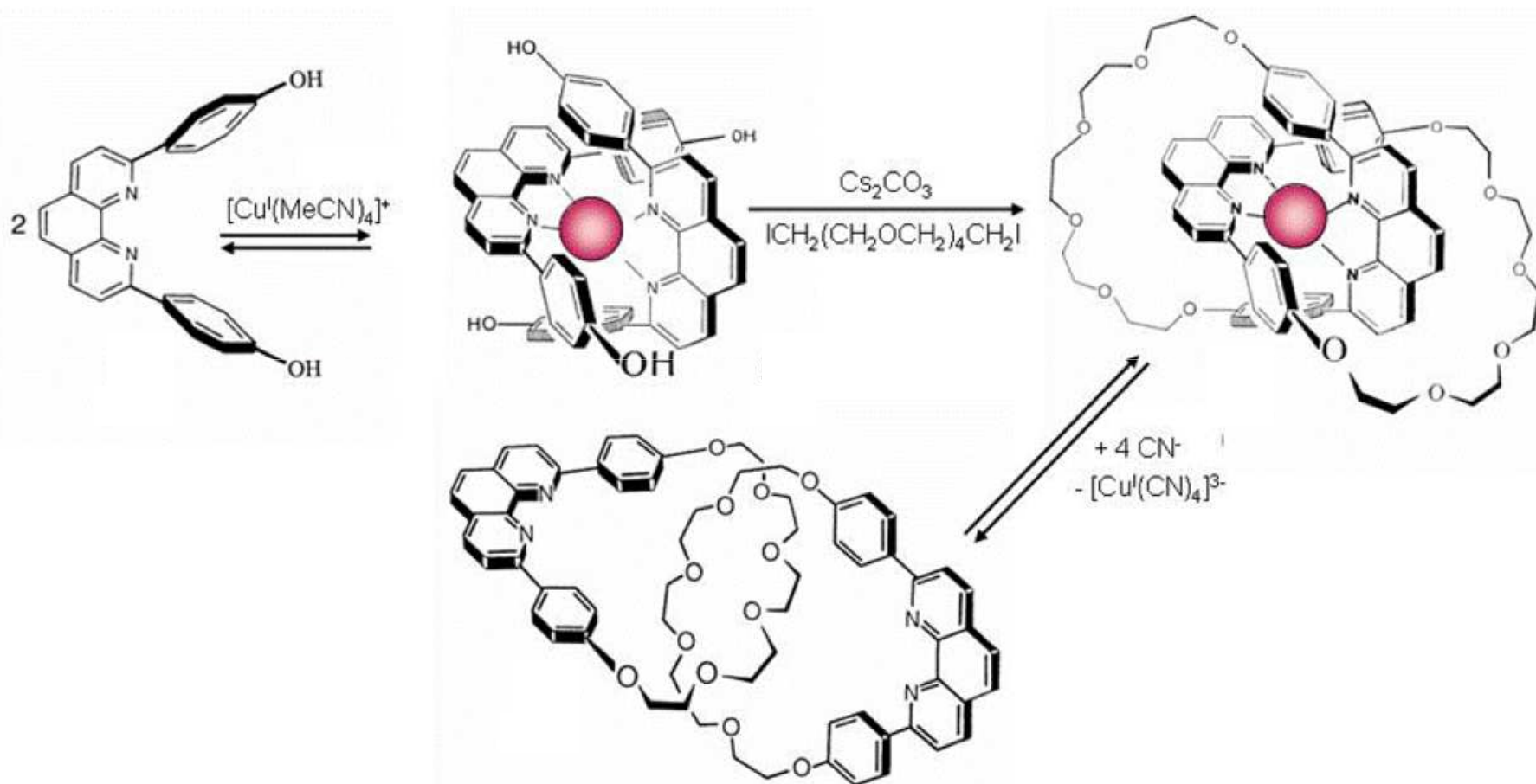


- First work by Schill and Lüttringhaus



Catenane: copper-template reaction

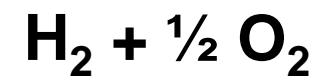
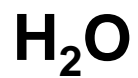
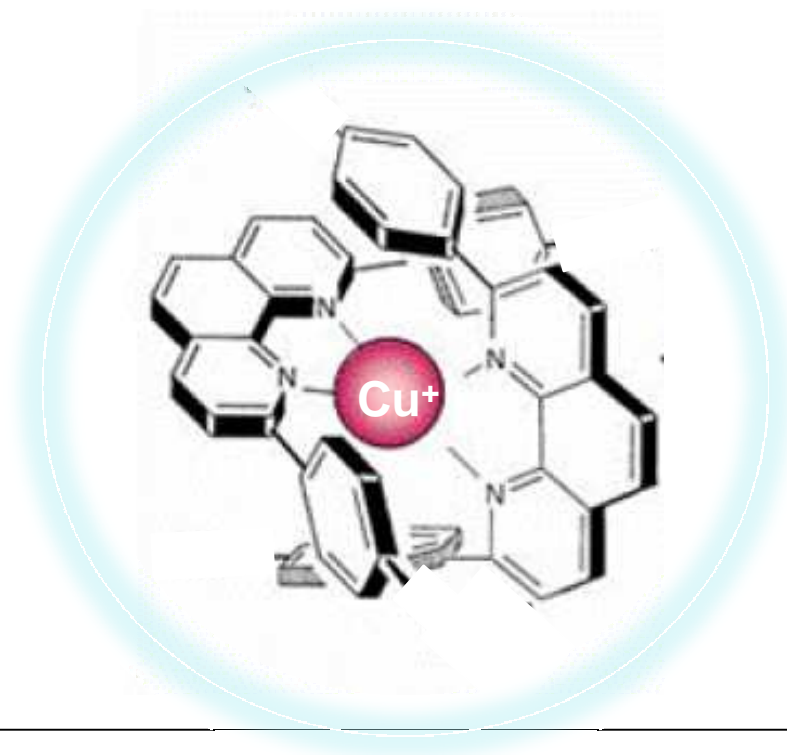
Sauvage's contribution: 1983



Origin of the strategy

Water splitting project with McMillin

Copper photocatalyst instead of expensive Ruthenium



Catenane: copper-template reaction

Sauvage's contribution: 1983, copper template synthesis.

Figure 1.

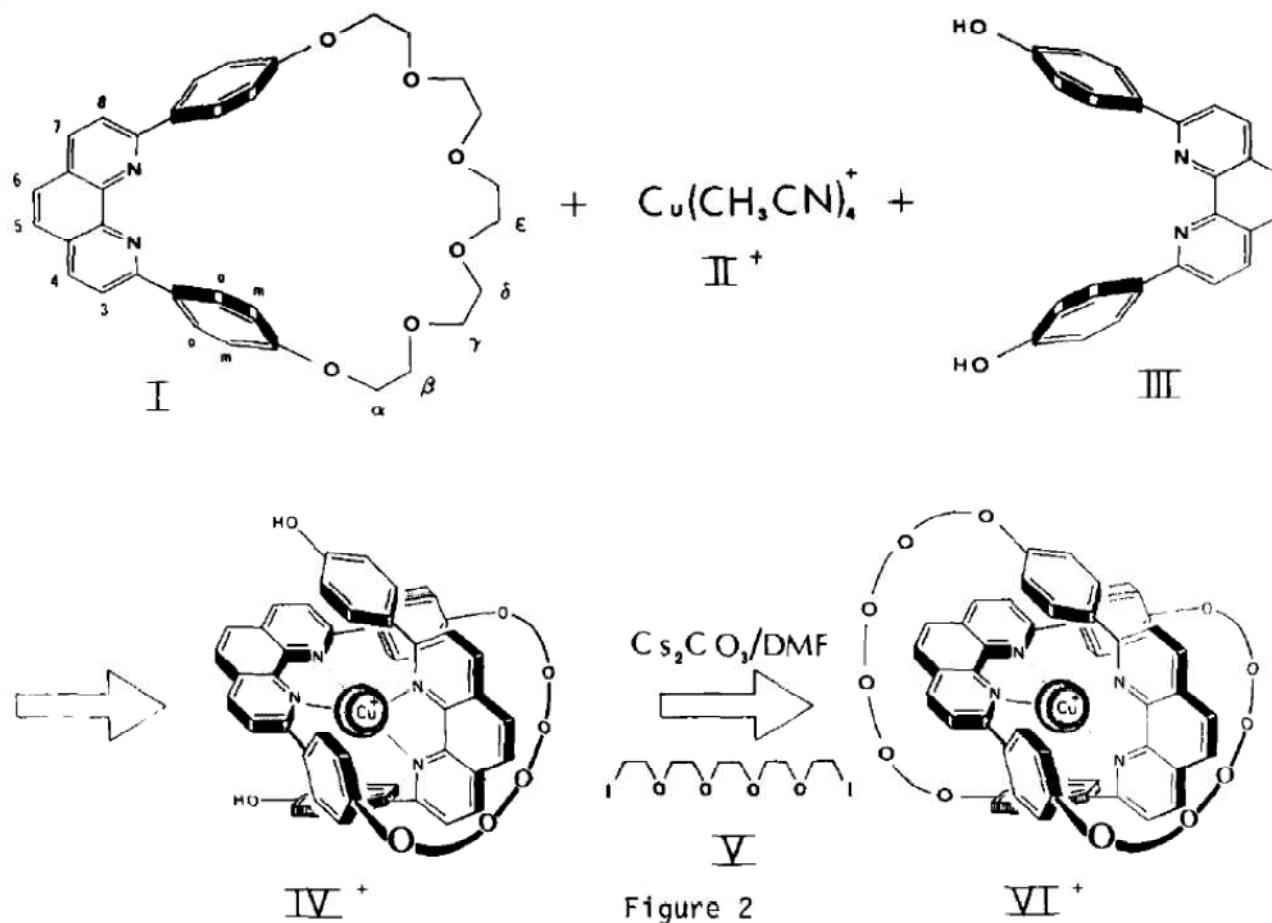
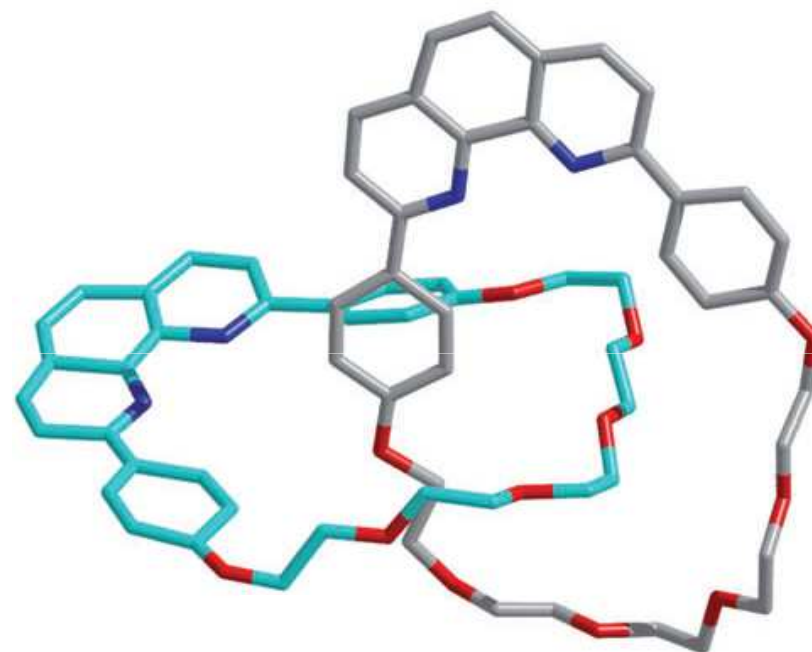
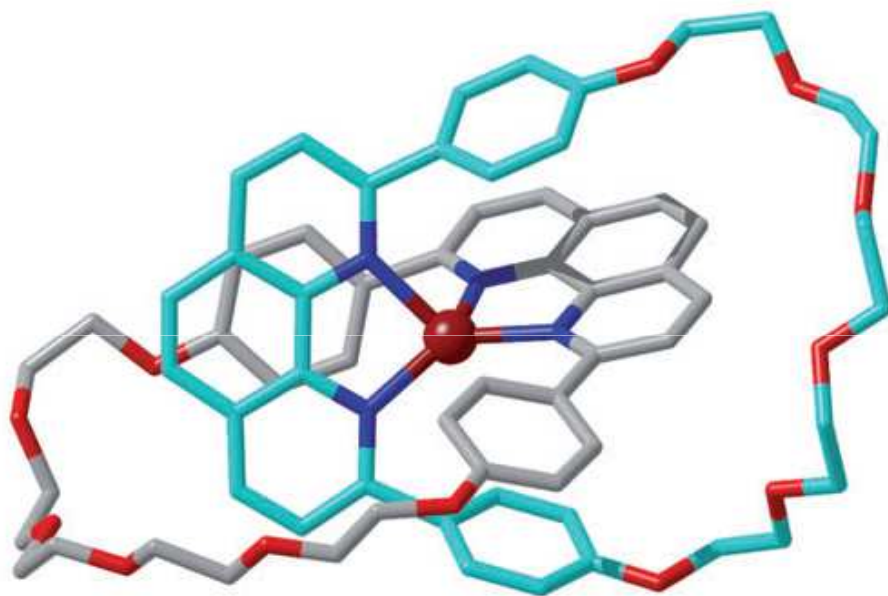


Figure 2

(maximum site occupancy rule)

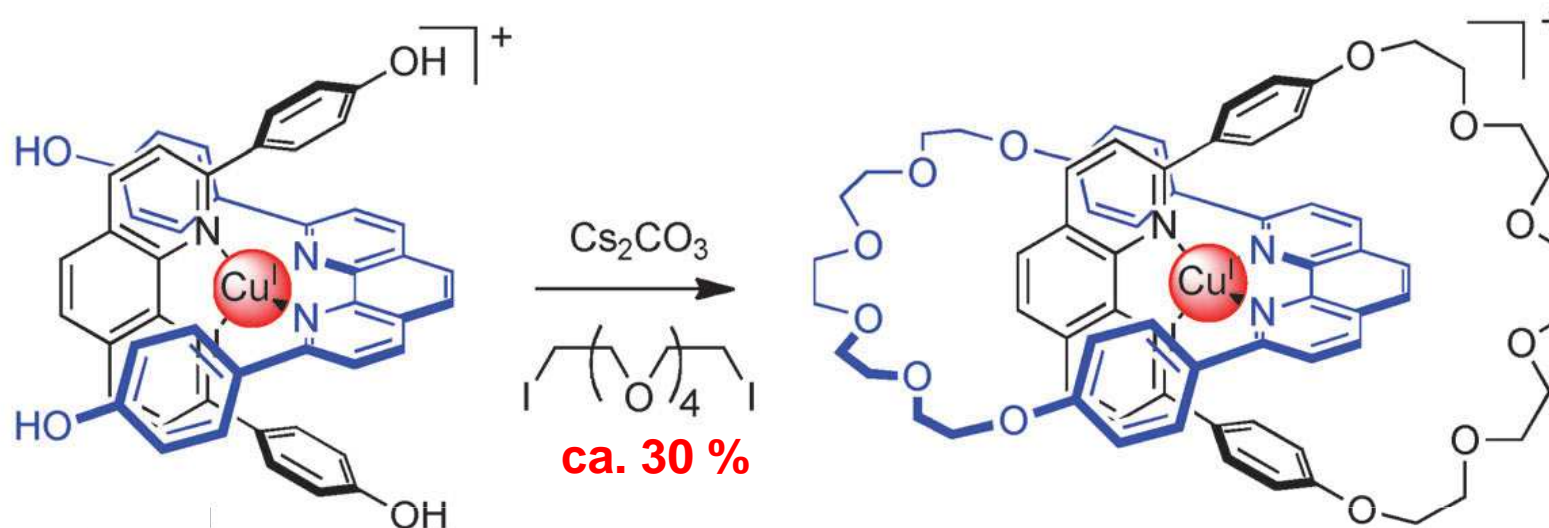
Sauvage et al. *Tet. Lett.*, **1983**, 24, 5095

Catenane: X-ray structure

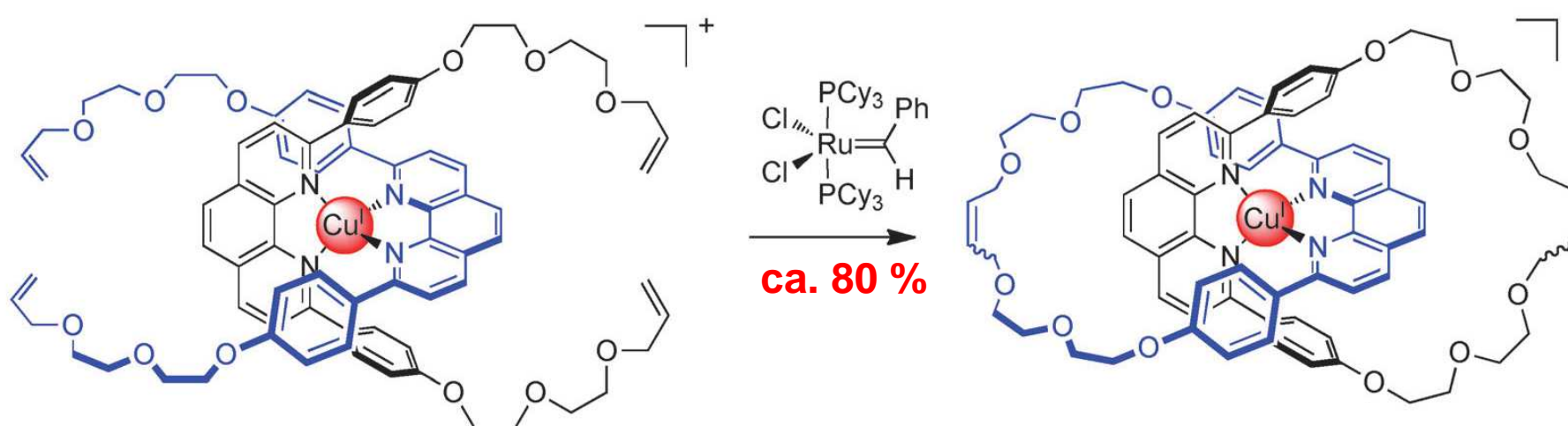


Template synthesis: importance of the closing reaction

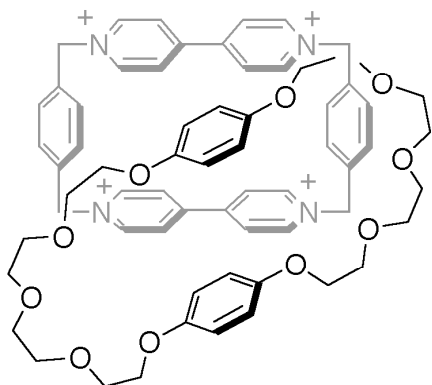
a) Williamson ether synthesis: $R-OH + X-R' \rightarrow R-O-R'$



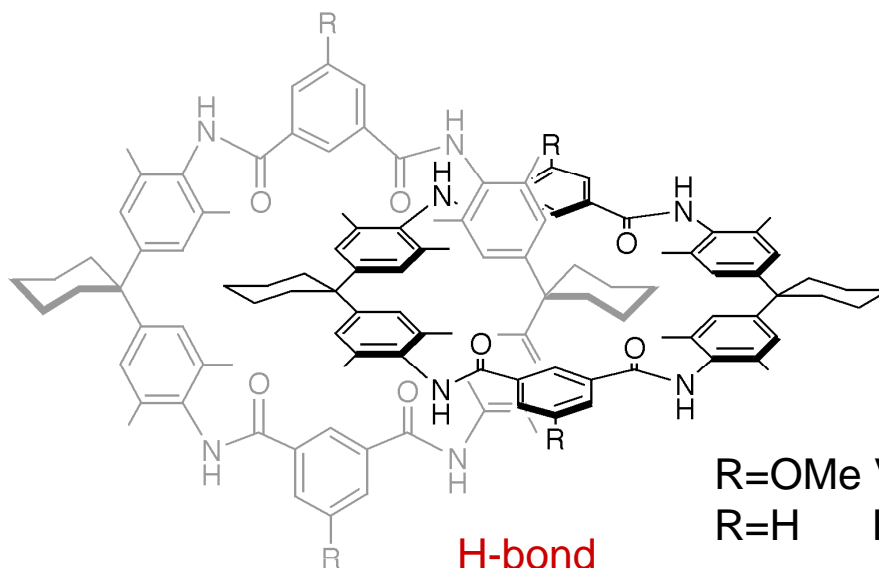
b) Ring closing metathesis (RCM): $2 \times R-CH=CH_2 \rightarrow R-CH=CH-R$



Catenane: other template syntheses

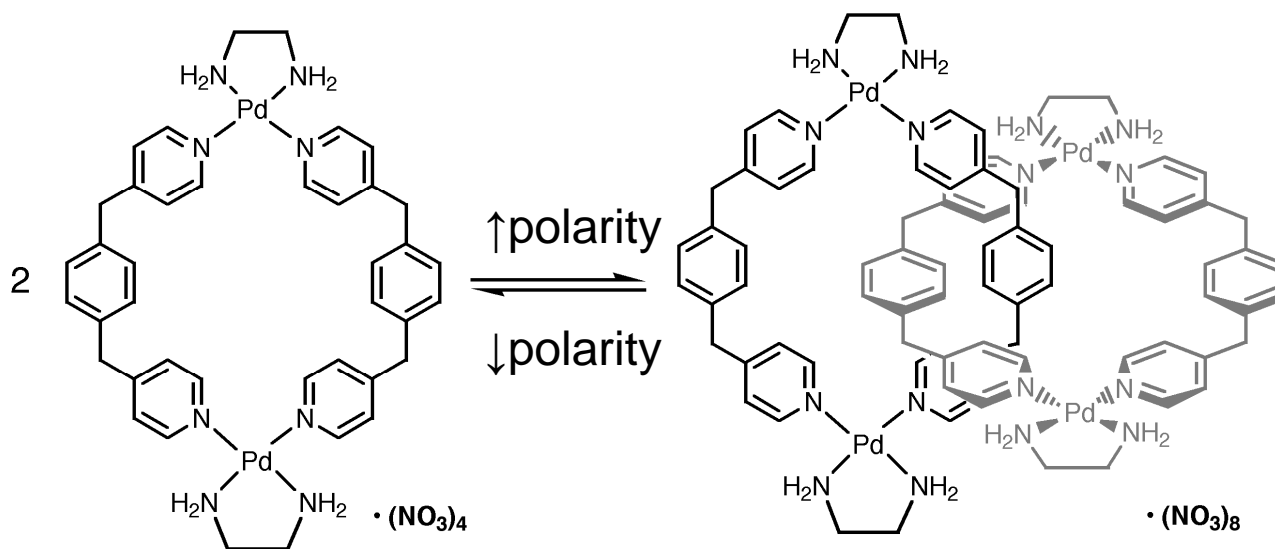


Π -stacking, Stoddart, 1989



H-bond

R=OMe Vögtle, 1992
R=H Hunter, 1992



Hydrophobic effect, Fujita, 1994

Catenane: other template syntheses

Sauvage's strategy transposed to an anion template:

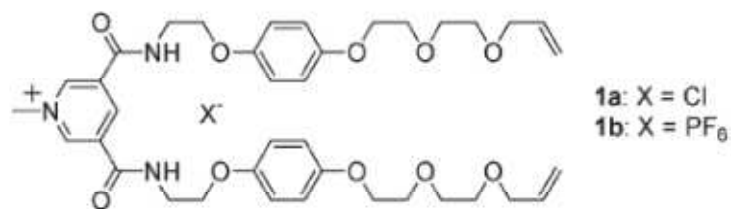
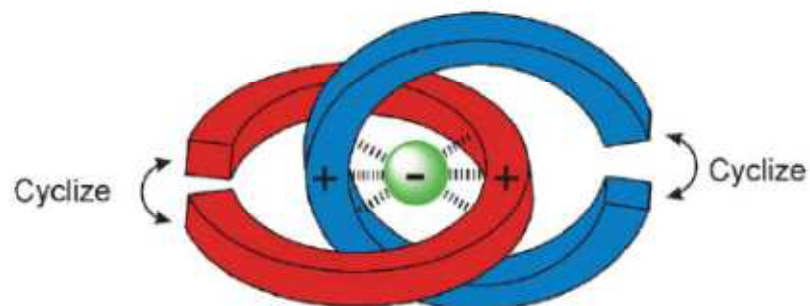


Fig. 2 Structure of the catenane precursor.

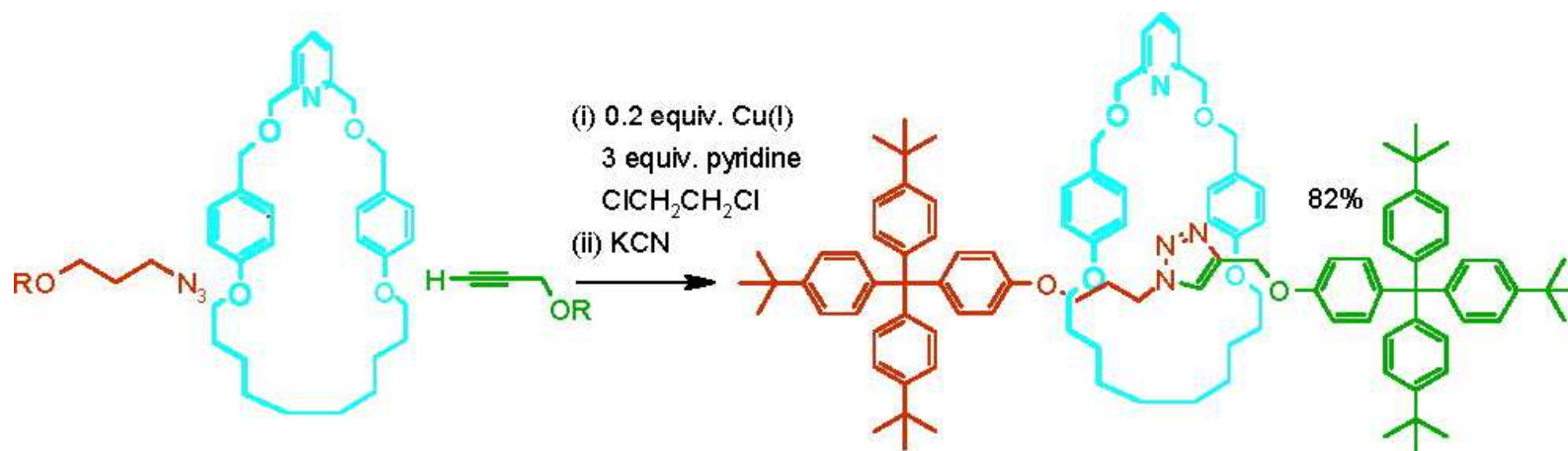


Fig. 3 Structure of the [2]catenane 2²⁺(Cl⁻)(PF₆⁻).

Rotaxane: active template synthesis

A new template reaction under kinetic control: *active template synthesis*.

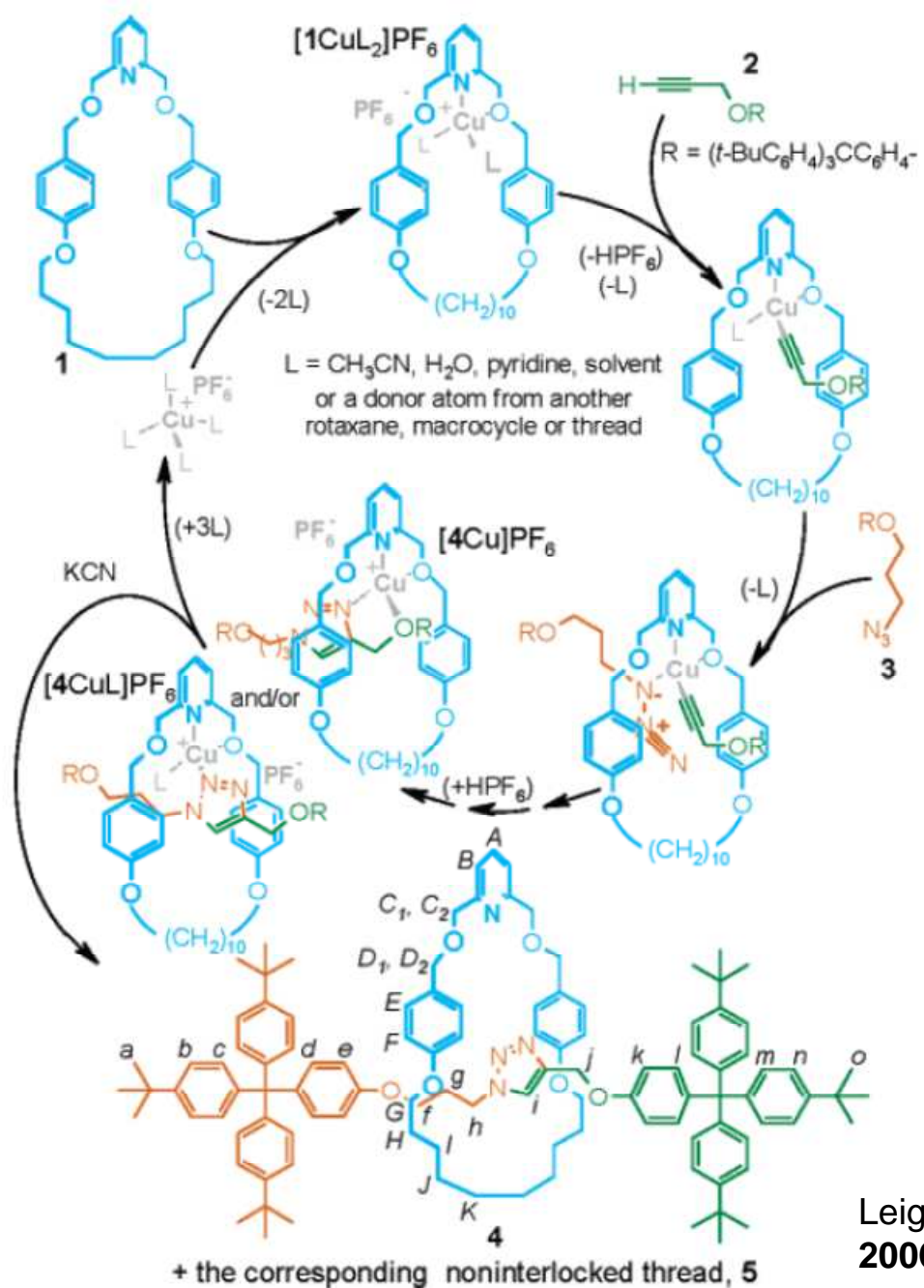
The template is not only used for thermodynamic stabilization of a transient species but also for its role in bond formation.



Leigh et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2006**, 128, 2186

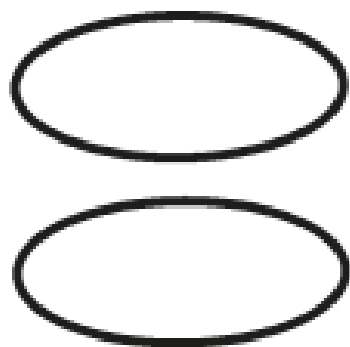
- Many other metal-catalyzed reactions have been employed (Pd(II), Ni(II)...)
- This strategy can also be used for the synthesis of catenane

Scheme 1. Proposed Catalytic Cycle for the Cu(I)-Template Synthesis of [2]Rotaxane 4 from 1, 2, and 3 (ref 9)

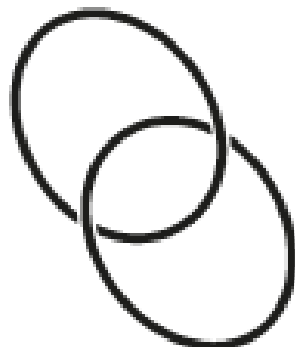


Leigh et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*,
2006, 128, 2186

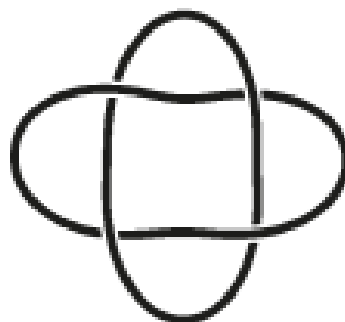
Beyond the simplest catenane


 0_1^2

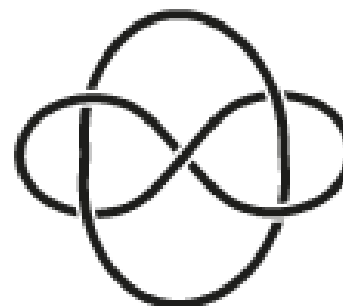
Two component
Trivial Link


 2_1^2

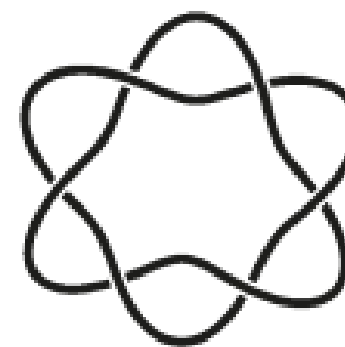
Hopf Link
[2]Catenane


 4_1^2

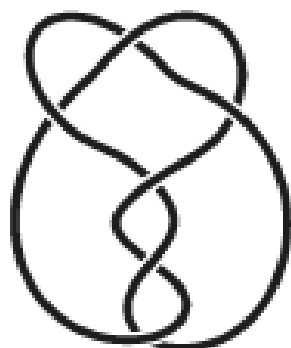
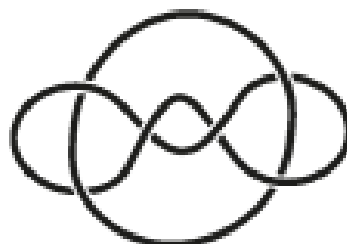
Solomon Link


 5_1^2

Whitehead Link

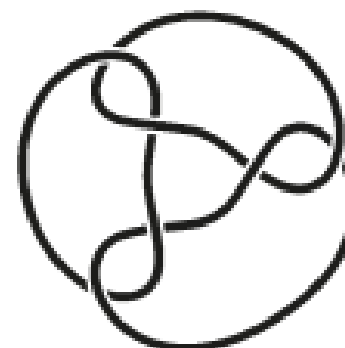

 6_1^2

Star of David
Catenane

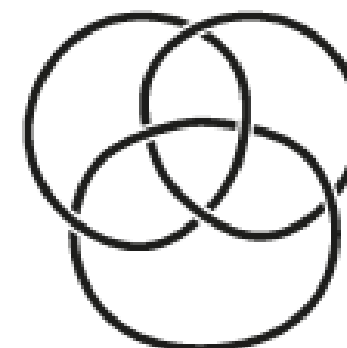

 6_2^2

 6_3^2

 0_1^3

Three component
Trivial Link


 6_1^3

Cyclic
[3]Catenane

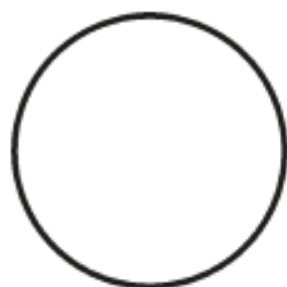

 6_2^3

Borromean
Rings

X_y^z : Alexander-Briggs notation

X = minimum crossing points; y = number of components; z = order of the knot

Molecular knots



0_1
Trivial Knot
Unknot



3_1
Trefoil Knot



4_1
Figure-of-Eight
Knot



5_1
Pentafoil Knot
Cinquefoil Knot



5_2



6_1



6_2



6_3



7_1



7_2



7_3



7_4



7_5

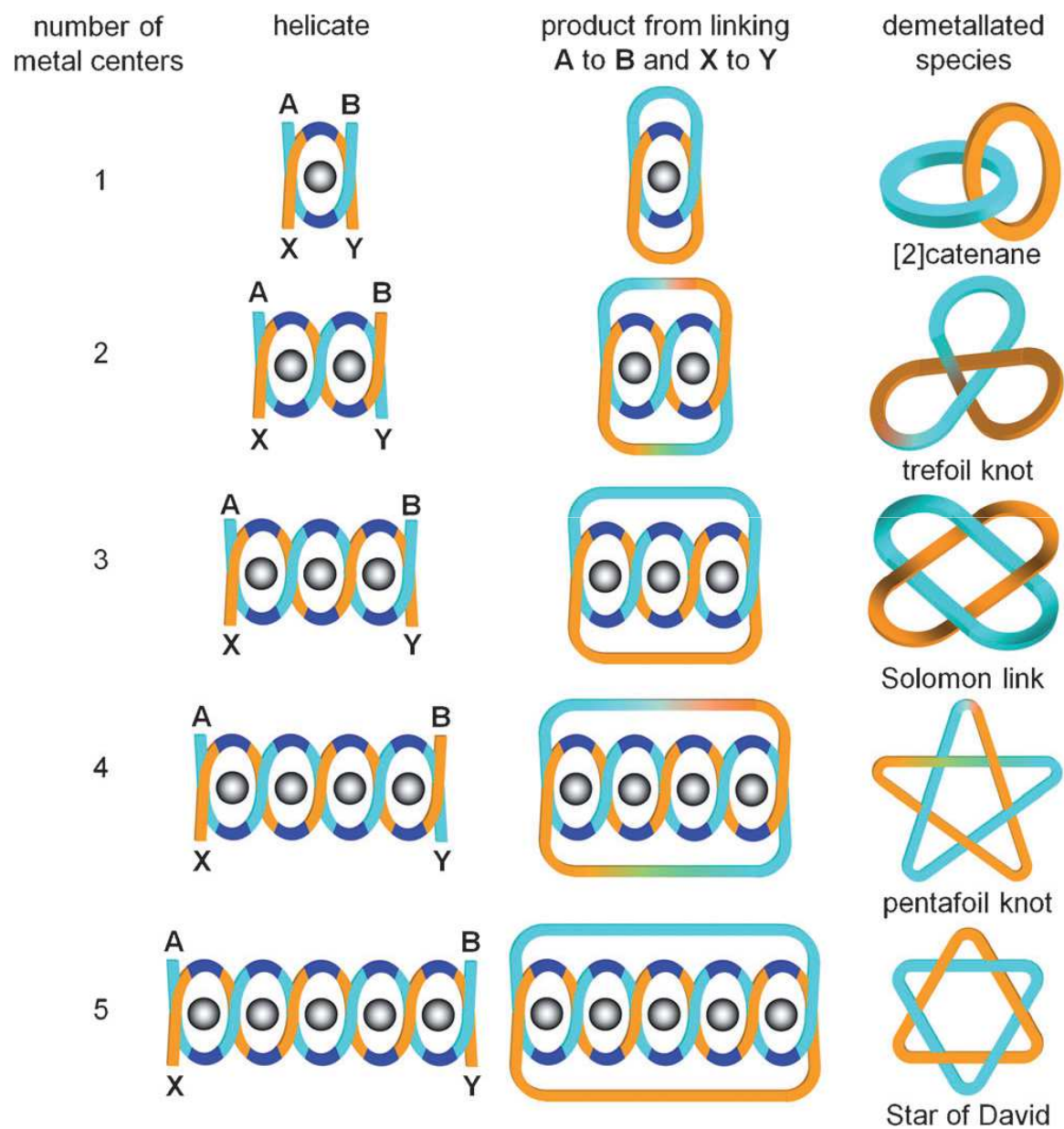


7_6

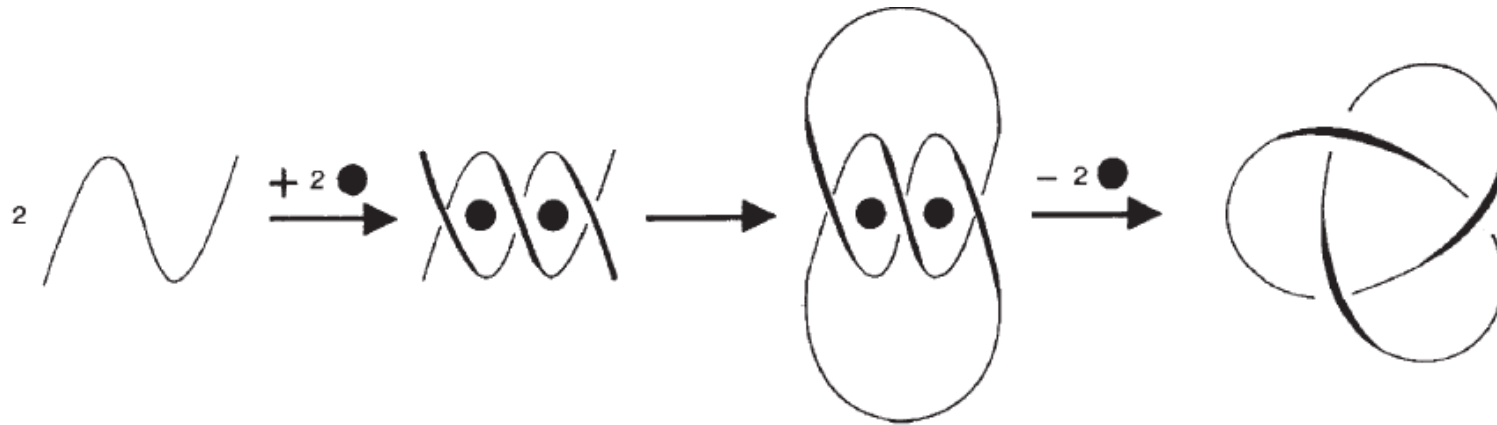


7_7

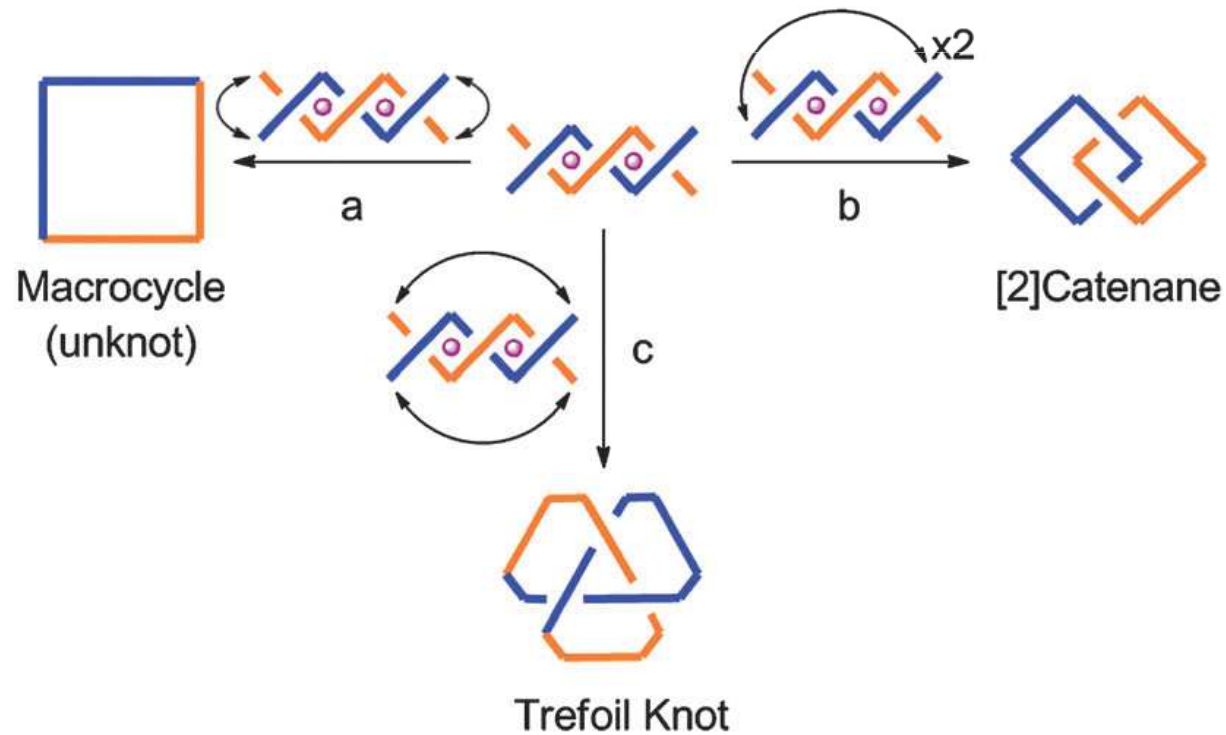
Sauvage's strategy



Molecular trefoil knot

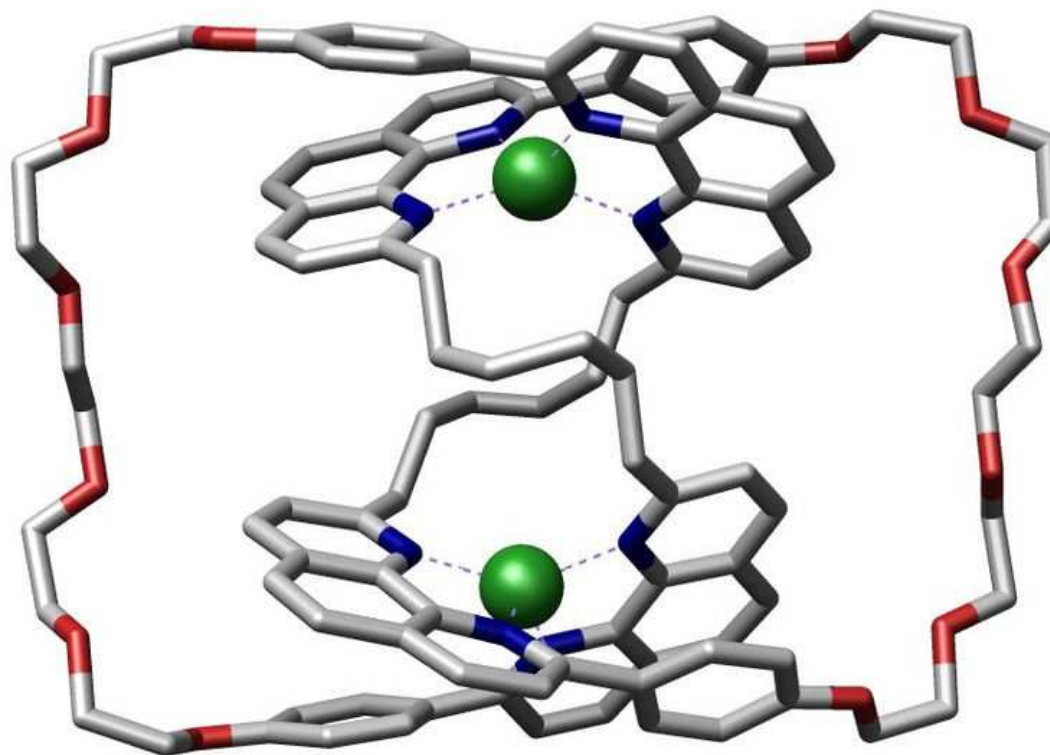
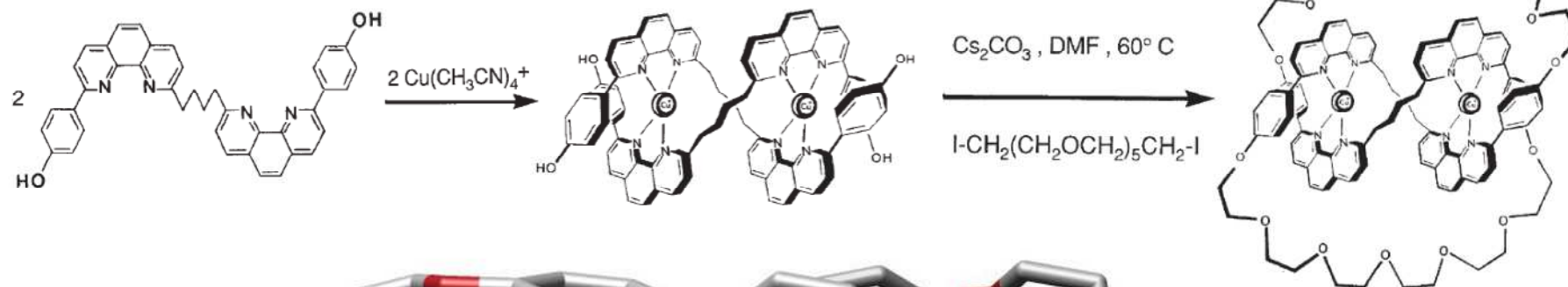


-Design: find the good connection



Molecular trefoil knot

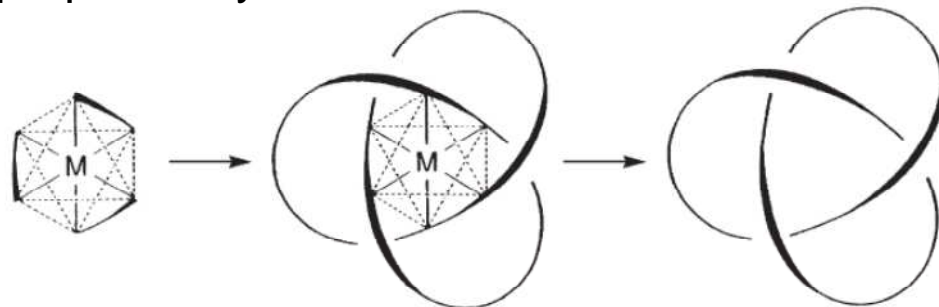
First synthesis achieved by Sauvage et al. in 1989:



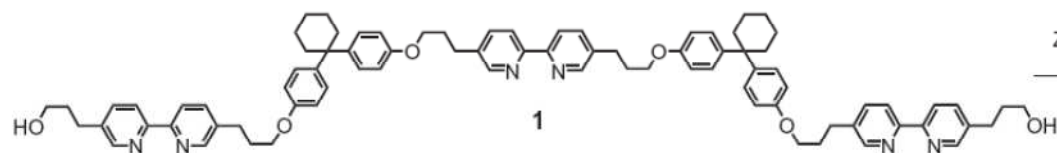
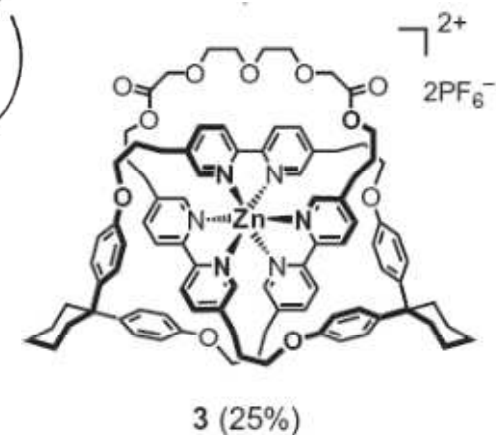
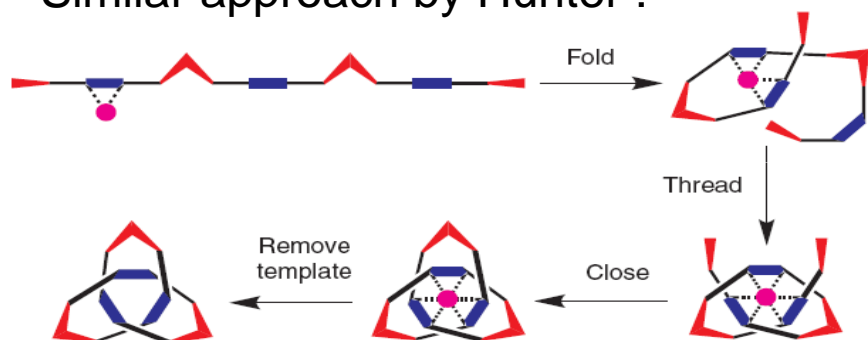
X-ray structure

Molecular Knot

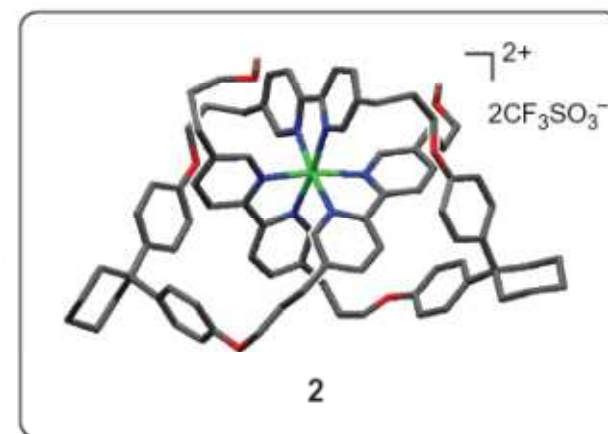
- Another strategy proposed by Sokolov in 1973:



- Similar approach by Hunter :

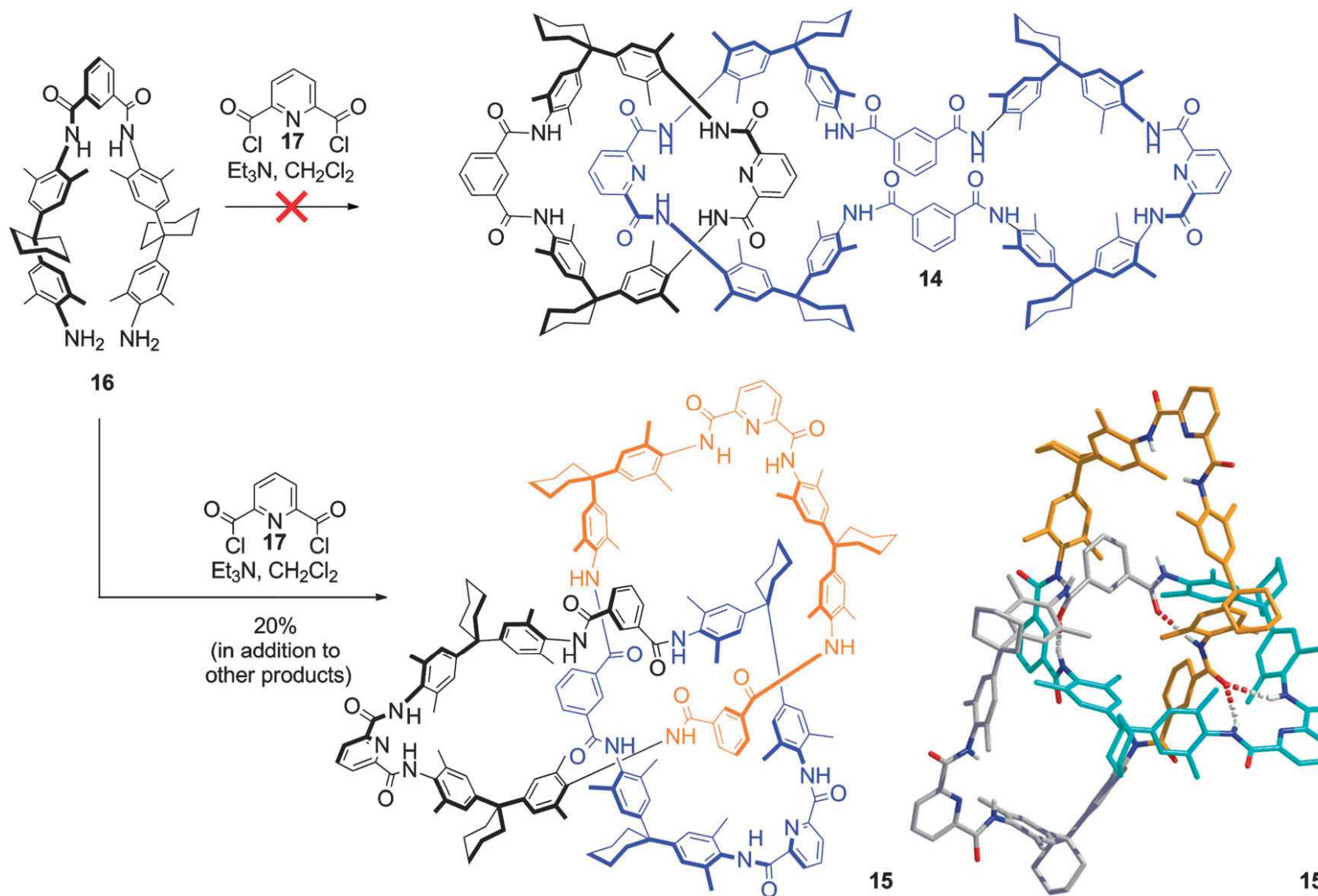


$\text{Zn}(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3)_2$

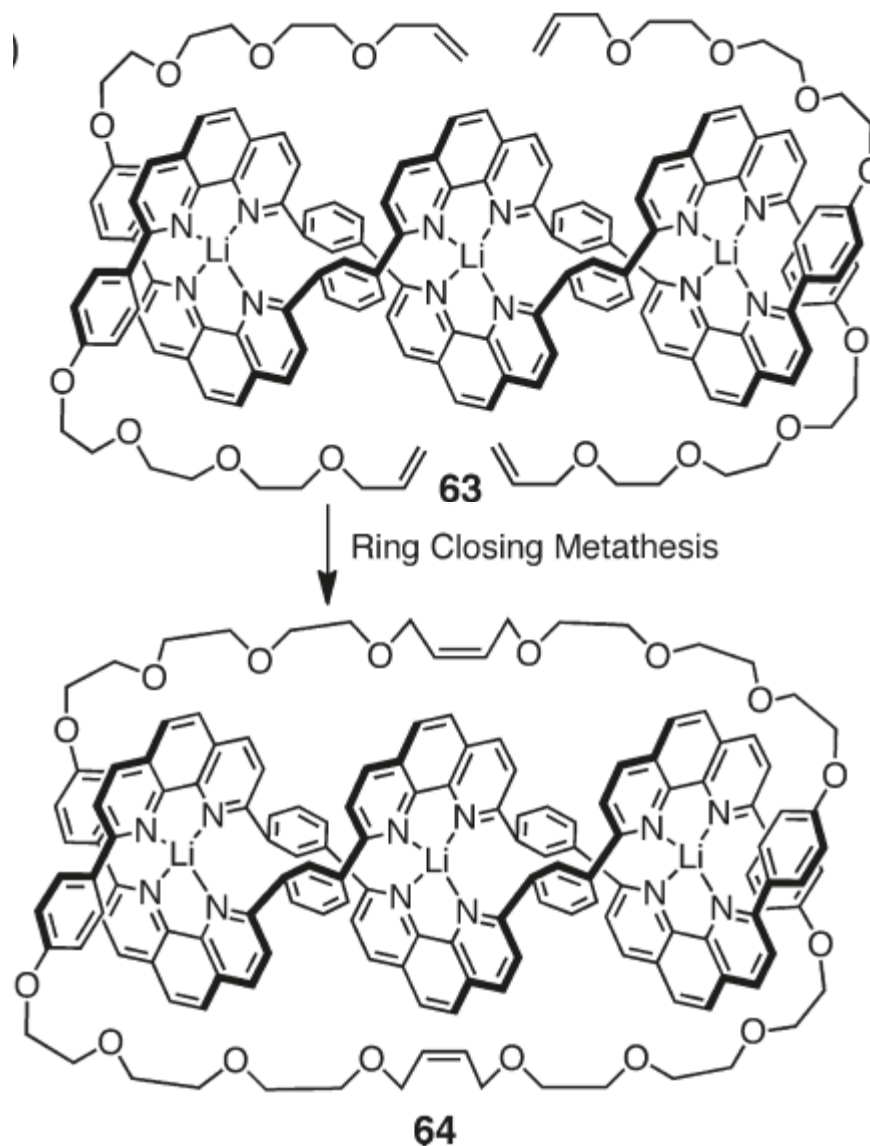
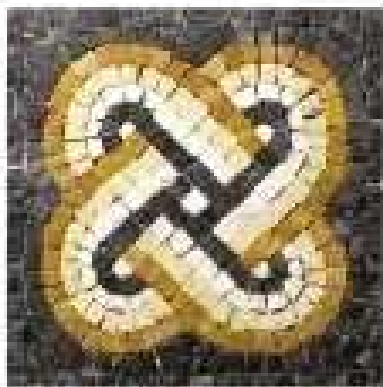


Hunter et al. *Nature. Chem.*, **2010**, 2, 218

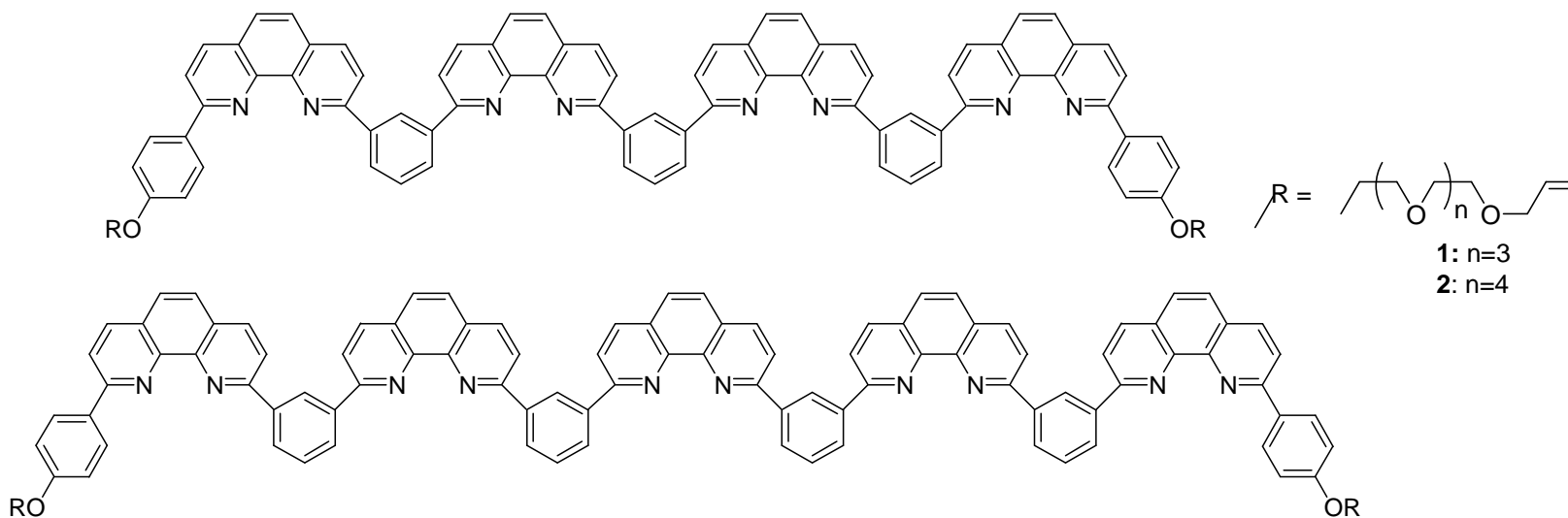
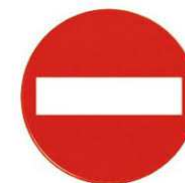
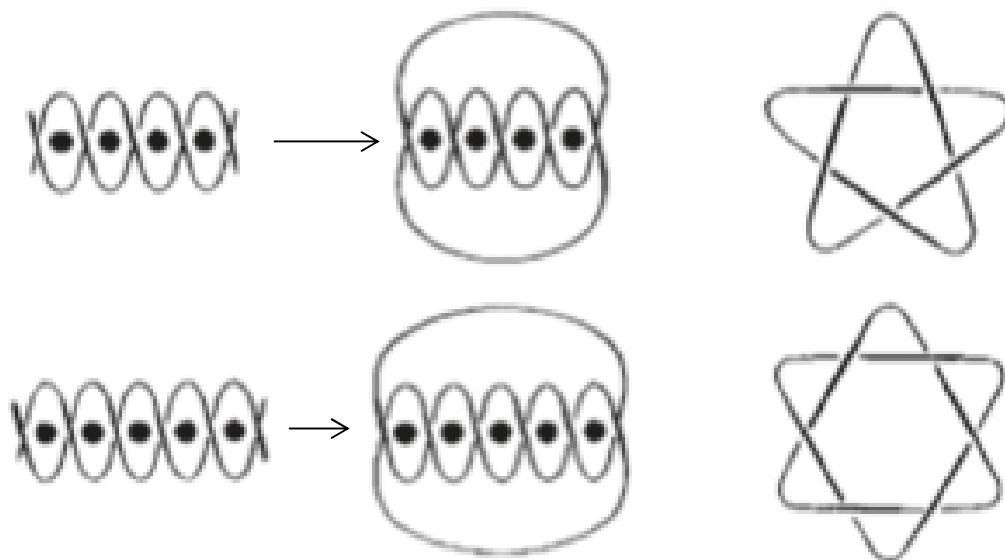
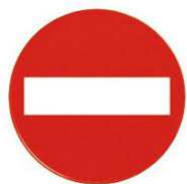
H-bonding template synthesis of a molecular trefoil knot



Doubly interlocked [2]catenane – Solomon link

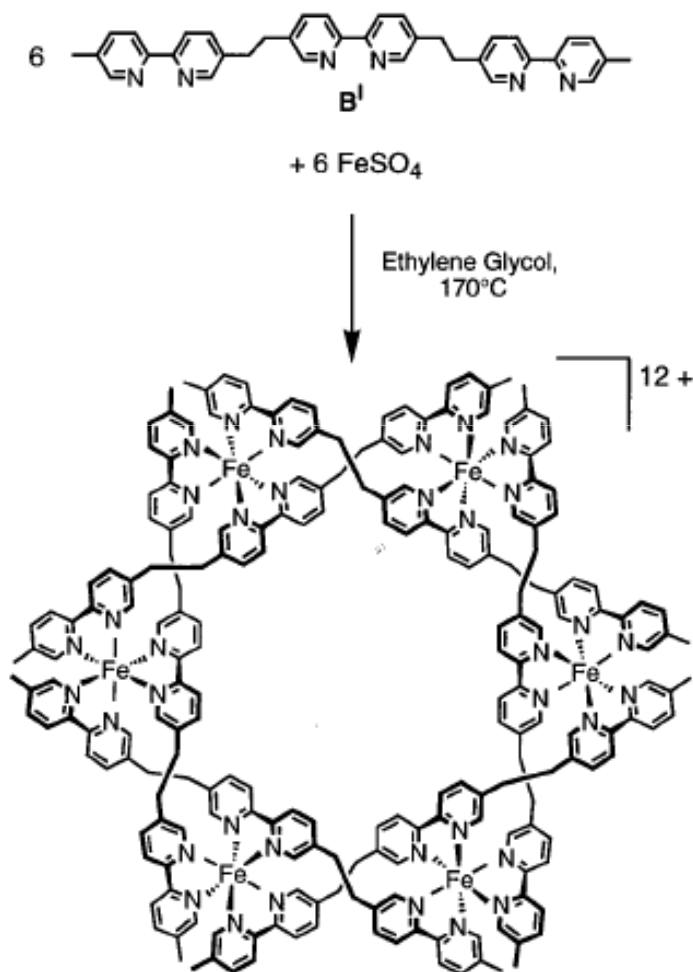
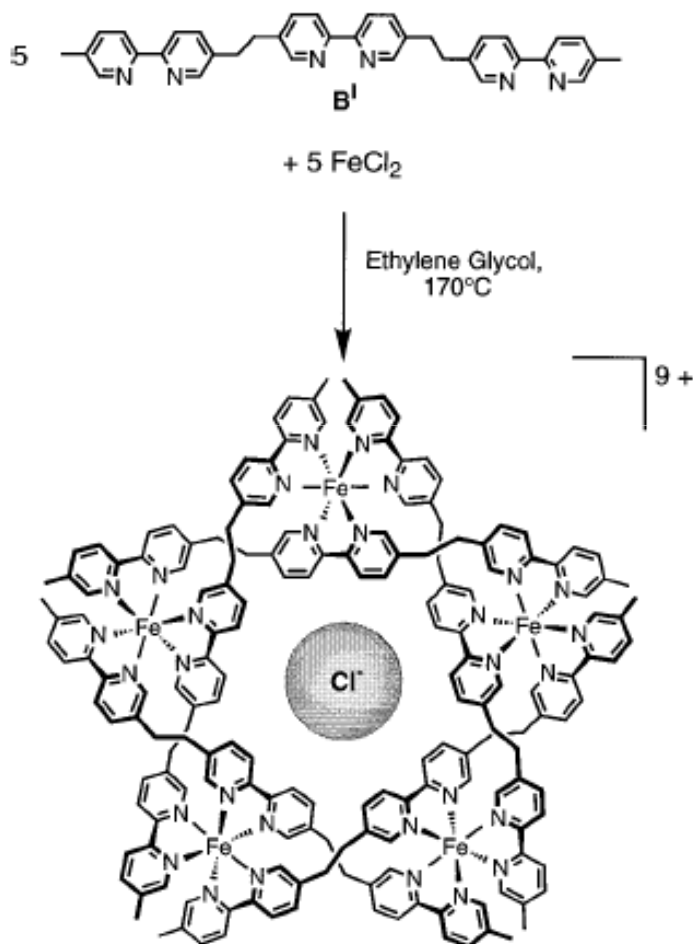


Limit to the strategy based on linear double helices

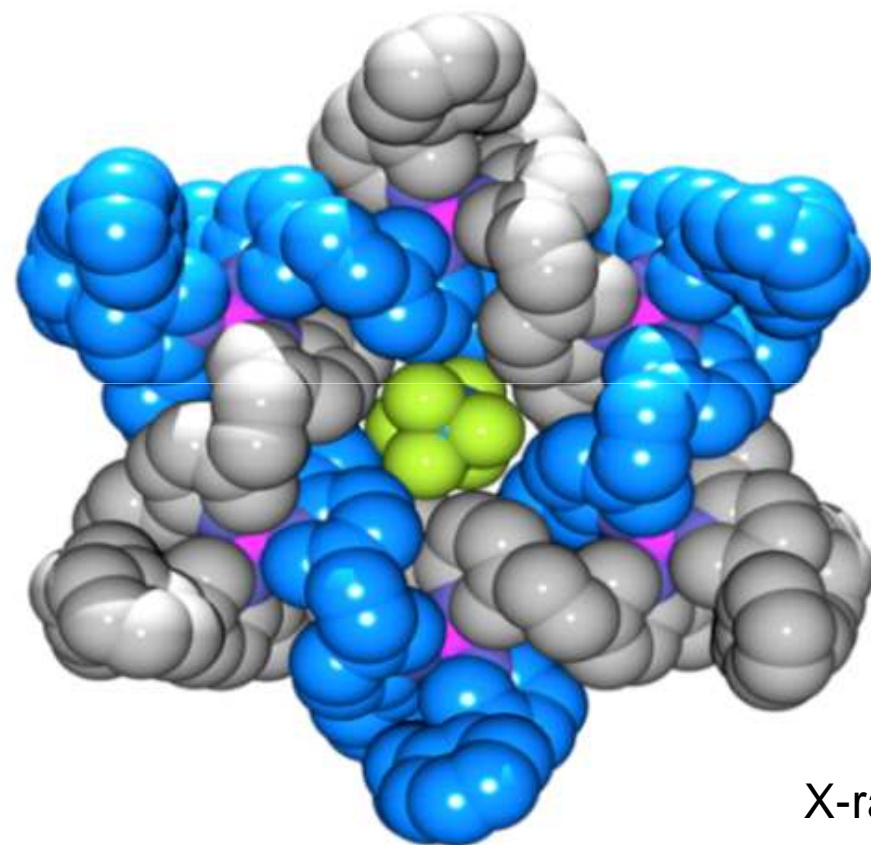
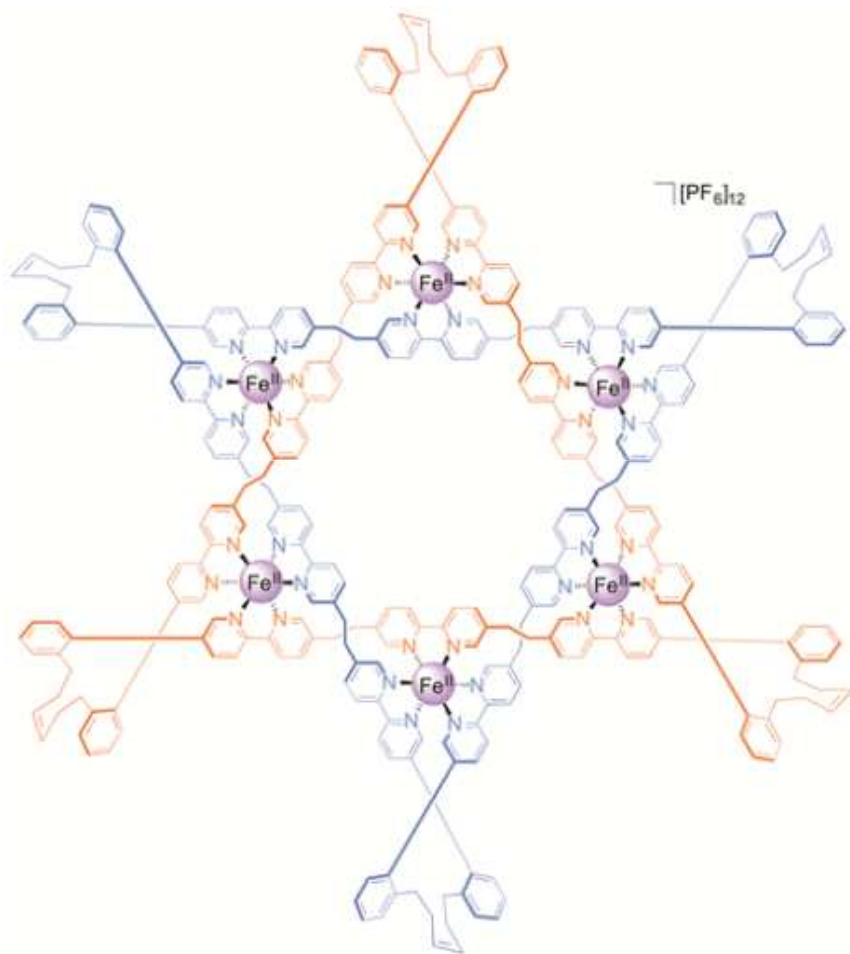


Circular helix strategy

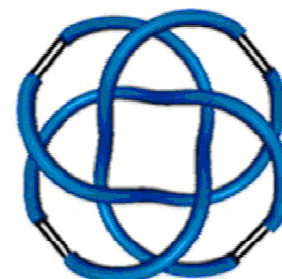
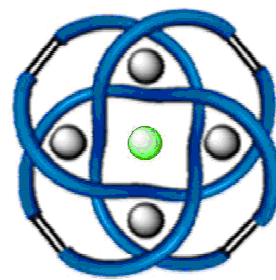
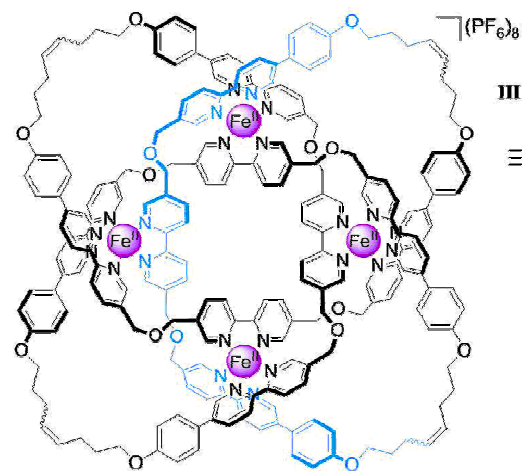
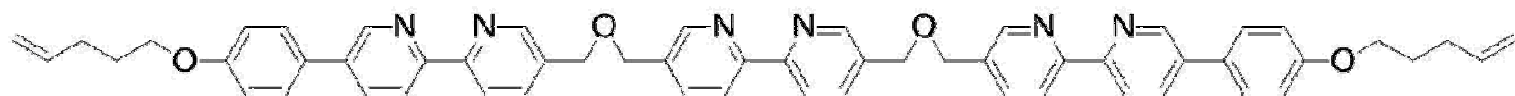
Inspiration from Lehn's work



Leigh's triply interlocked [2]catenane - star of David

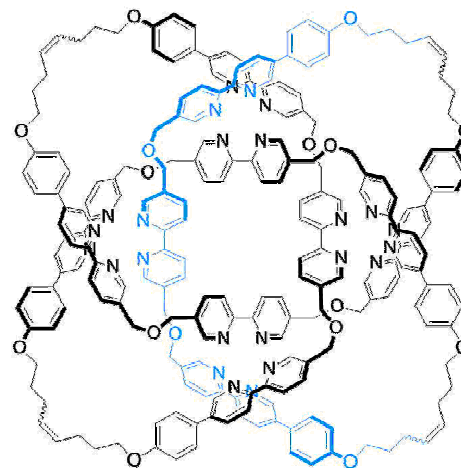
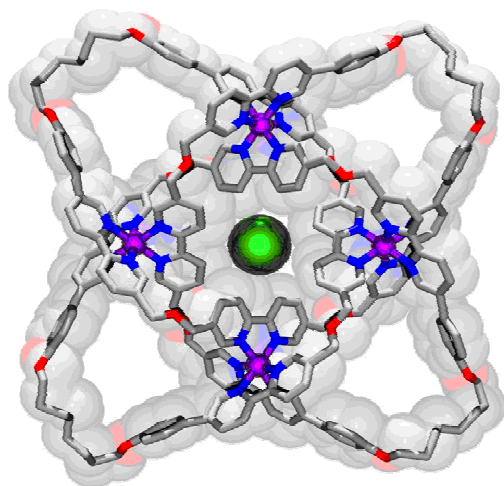


Leigh's 8_{19} knot



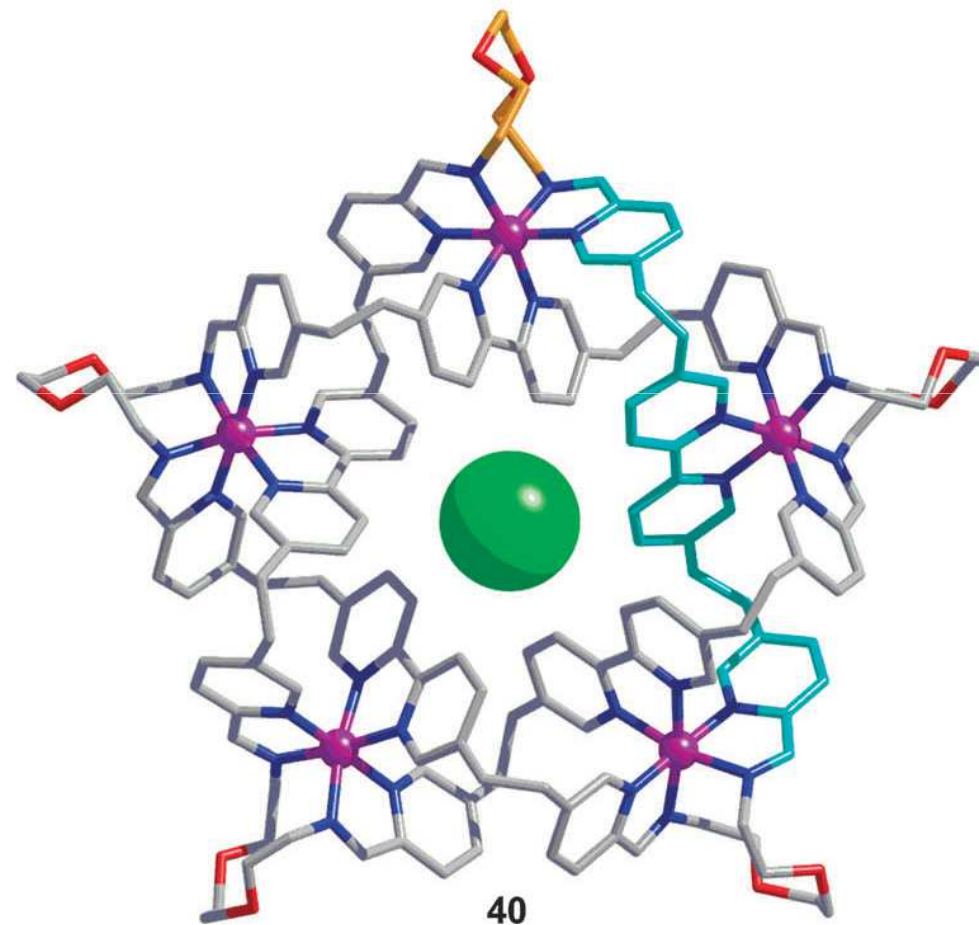
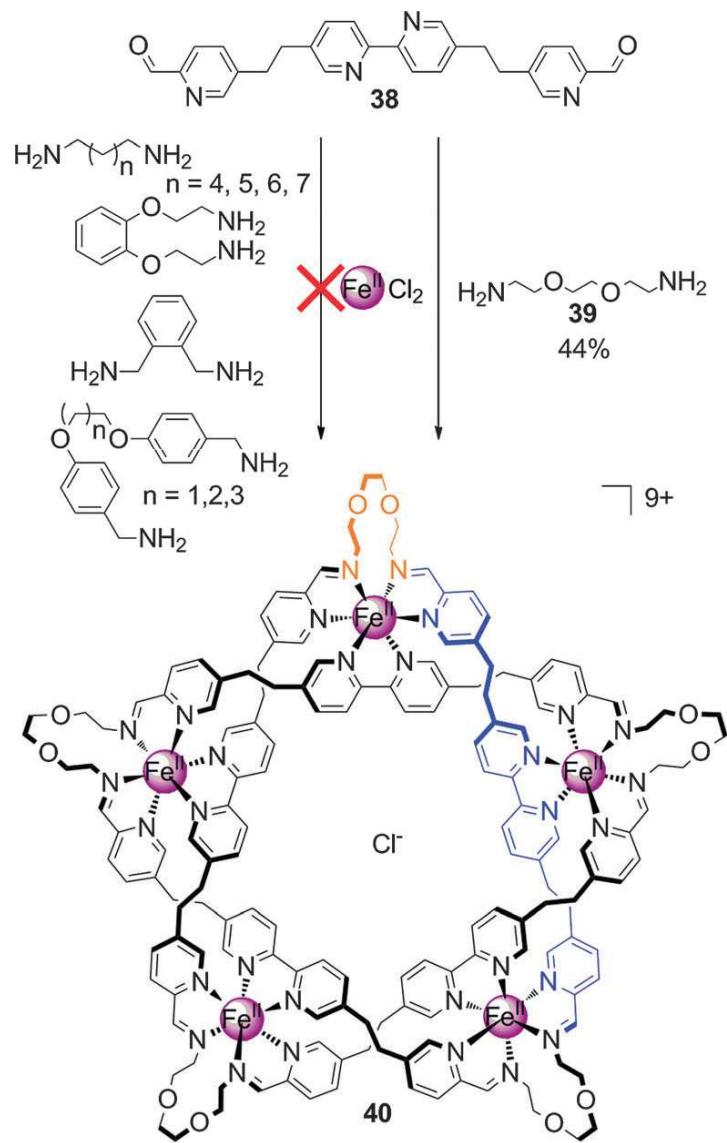
Step 3

NaOH



Leigh's pentafoil knot

Dynamic covalent bond-metal template and anion template

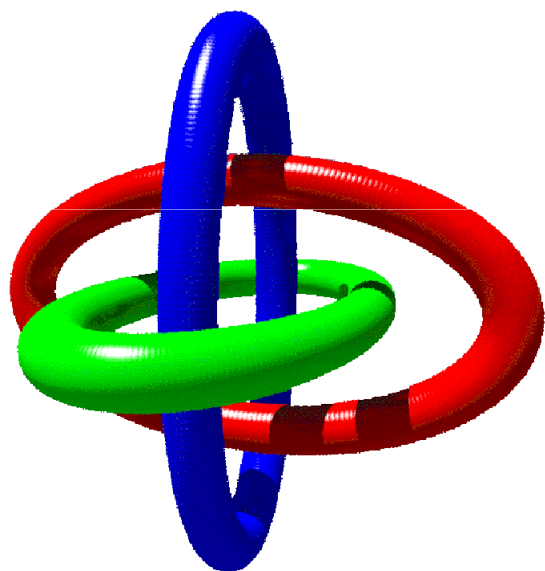


X-ray

Leigh et al., *Nature Chem*, 2012, 4, 15

Borromean Rings

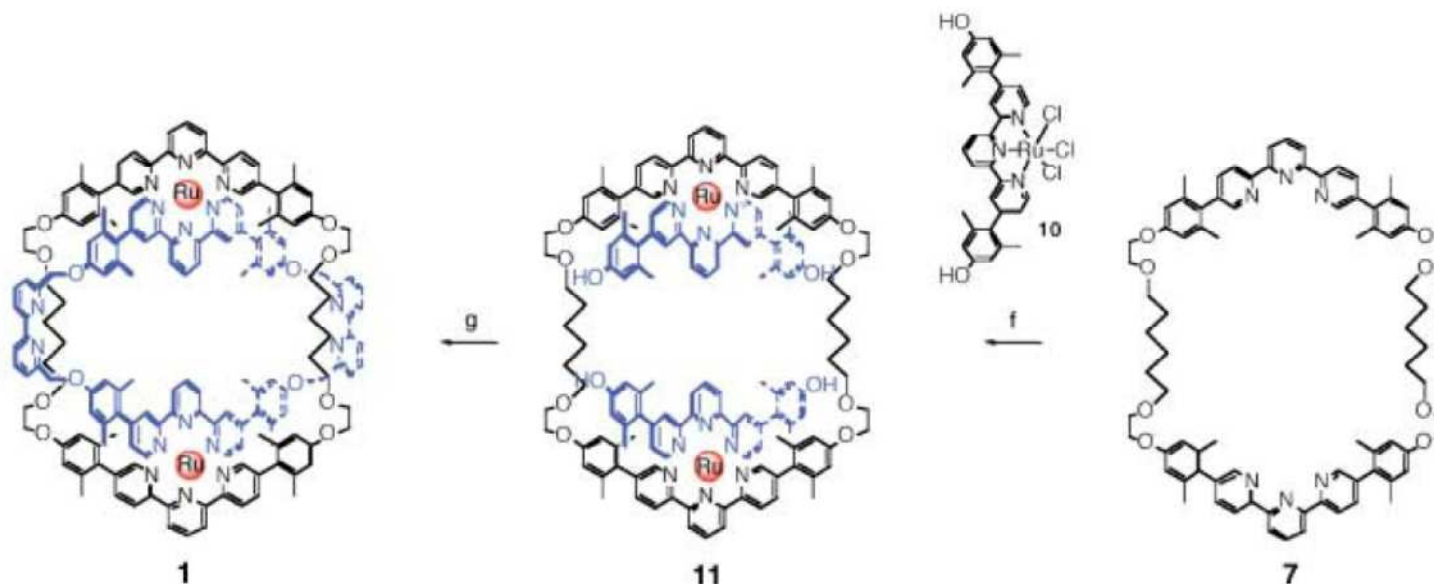
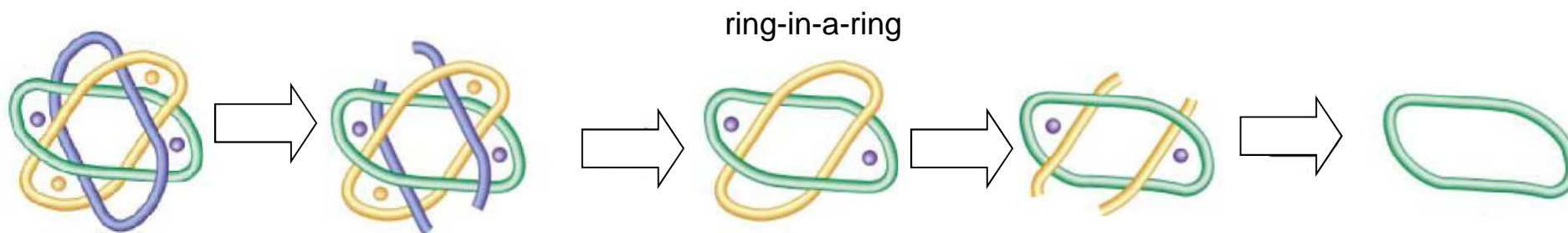
One of the most impressive achievement in topological chemistry



Three identical rings. Each ring is inside a second one and outside the third one. No catenation.

Borromean Rings

Ring-by-ring synthesis :



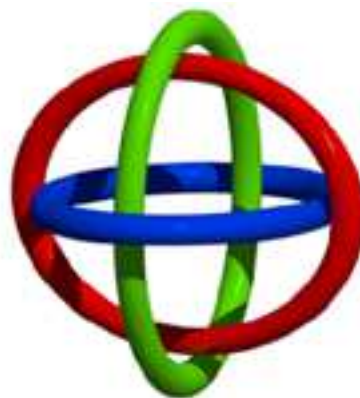
- long synthesis
- Borromean rings were not obtained...

Borromean Rings

- One-step synthesis!!!

control of the synthesis :

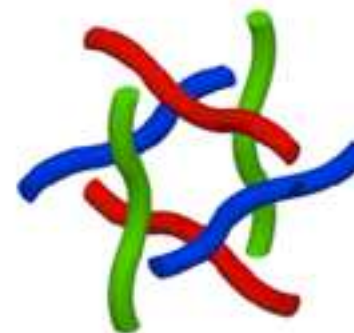
- metal-templated
- imine bond formation
- π -stacking
- geometry and size of the ligand



+



+

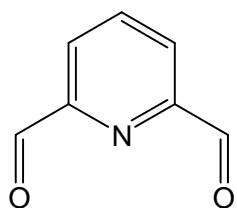


Endo-Tridentate

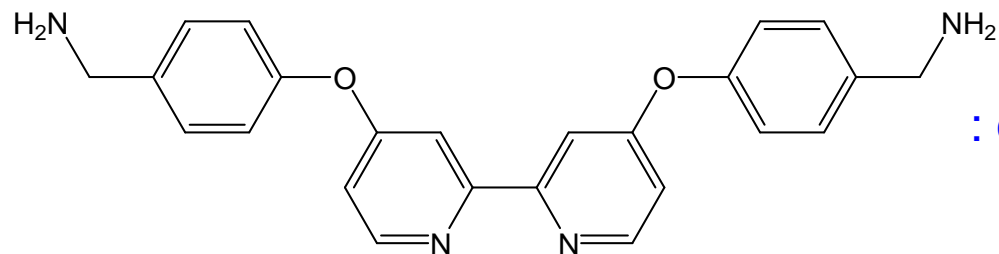
Transition Metals

Exo-Bidentate

Borromean Rings

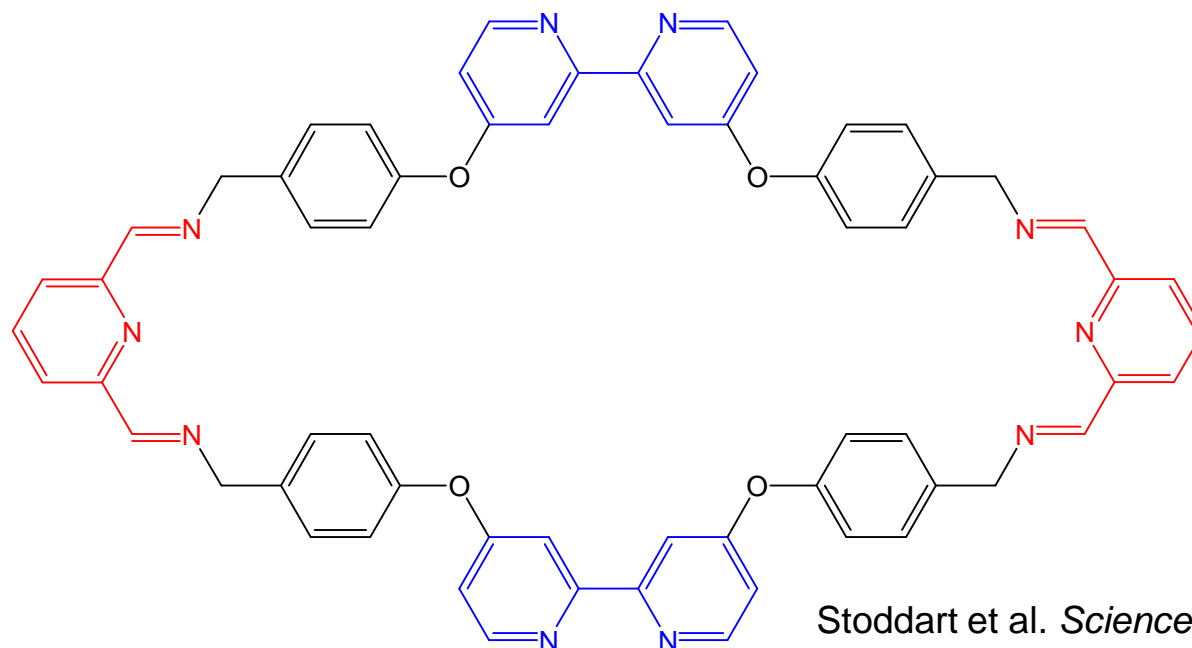


: endo-tridentate



: exo-bidentate

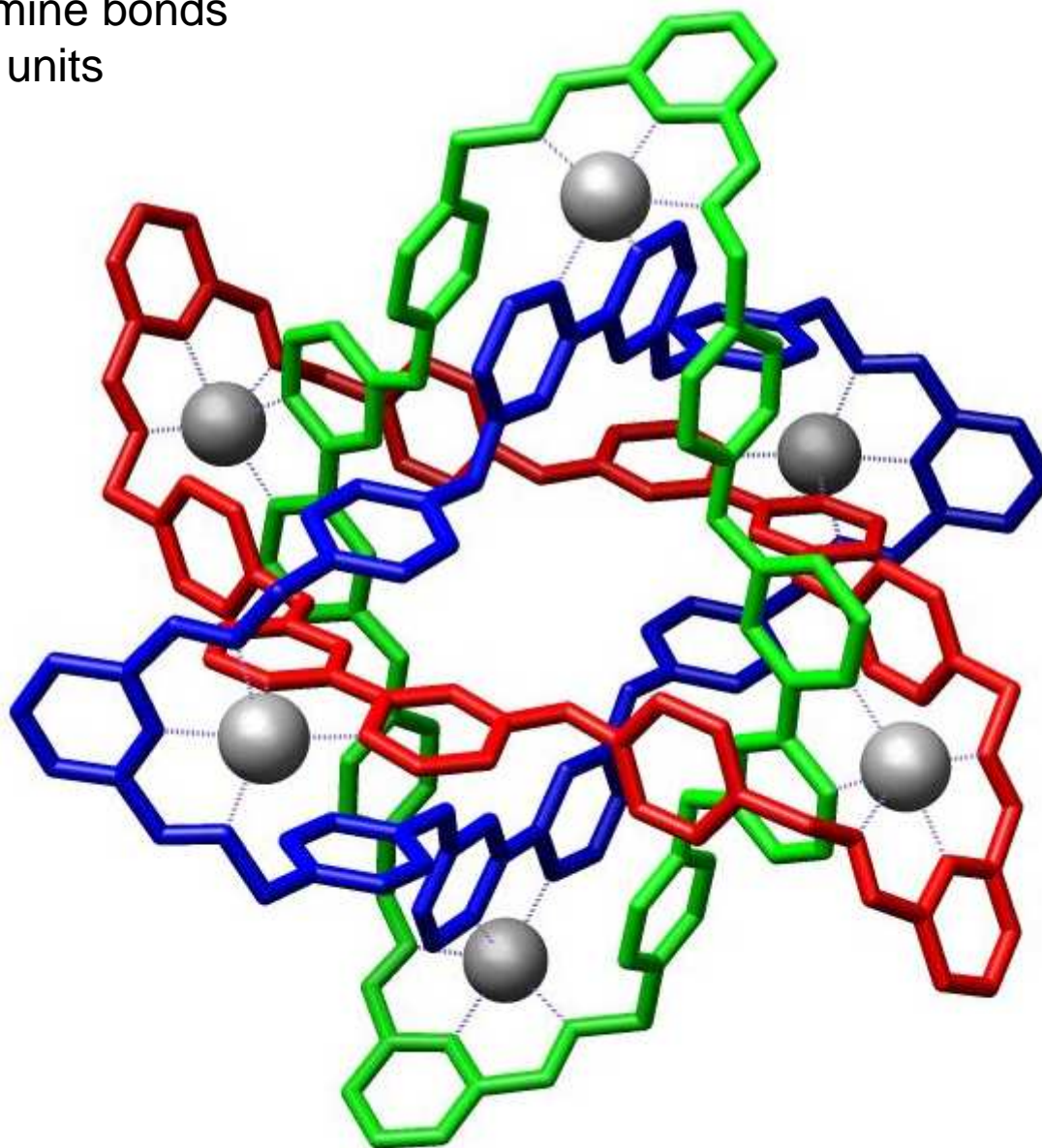
5-coordinated metal
Zn(II)



Stoddart et al. *Science*, **2004**, 304, 1308

Borromean Rings

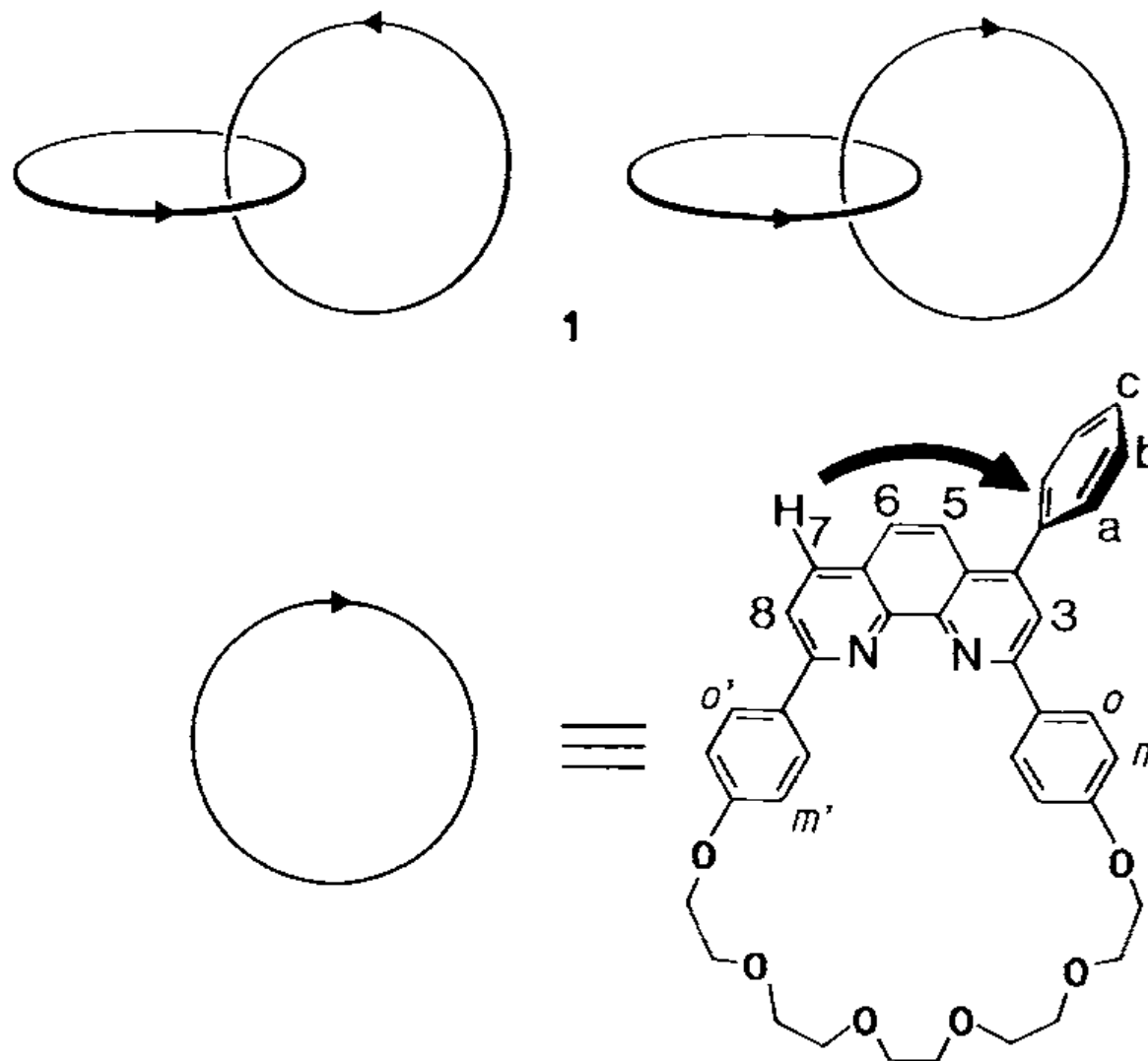
Formation of 12 imine bonds
Association of 18 units



X-Ray structure

Topological stereochemistry

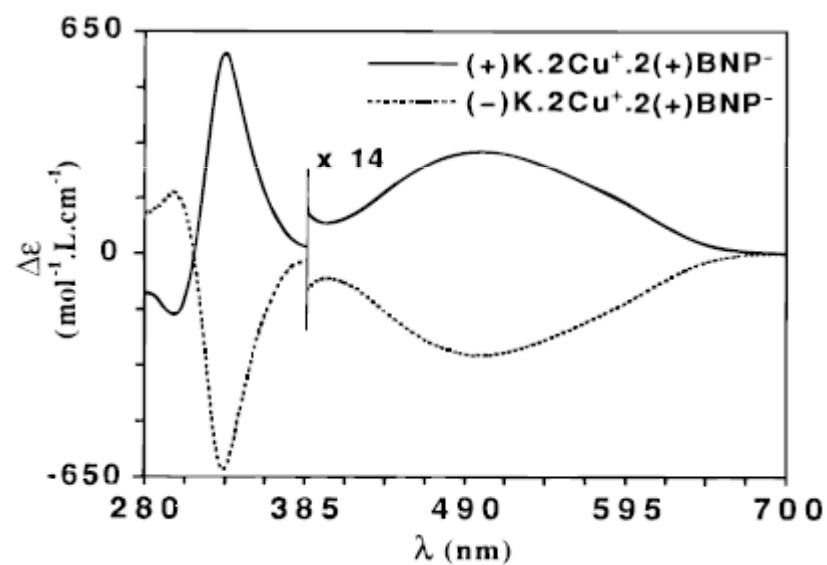
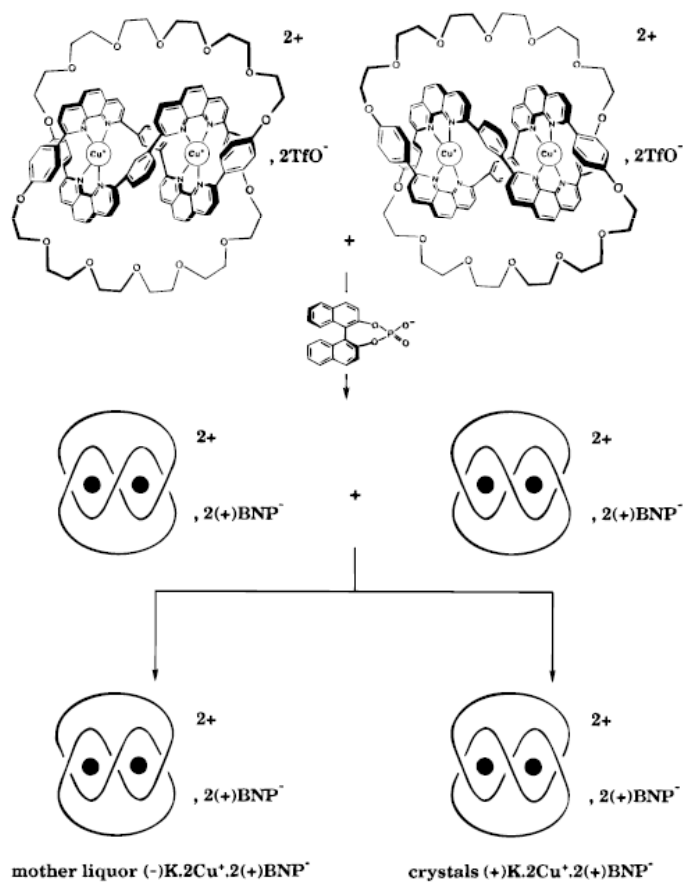
Catenanes with oriented rings are chiral



Topological stereochemistry



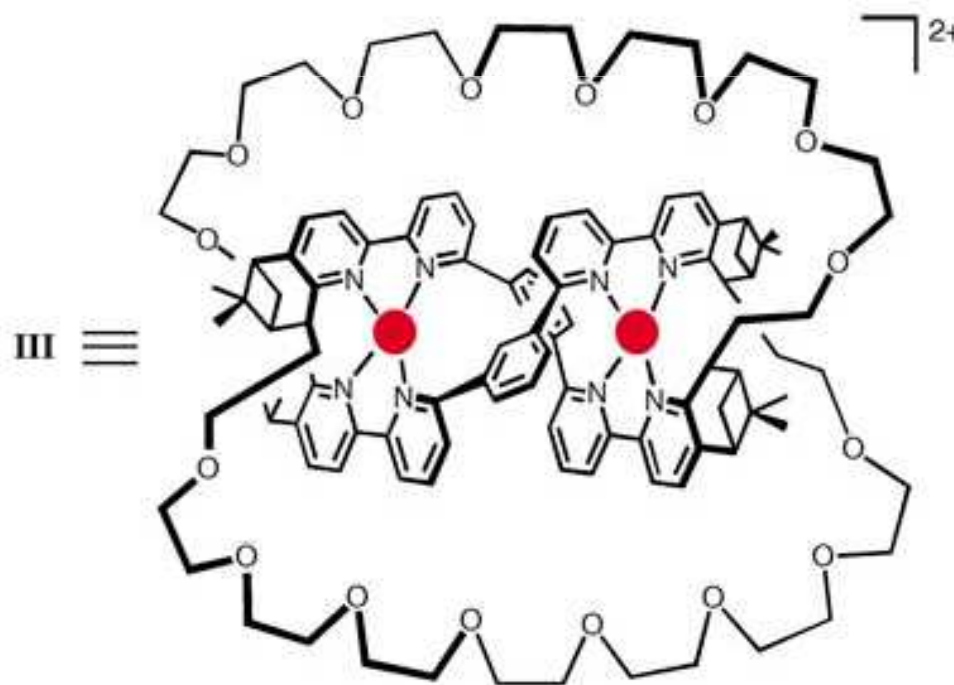
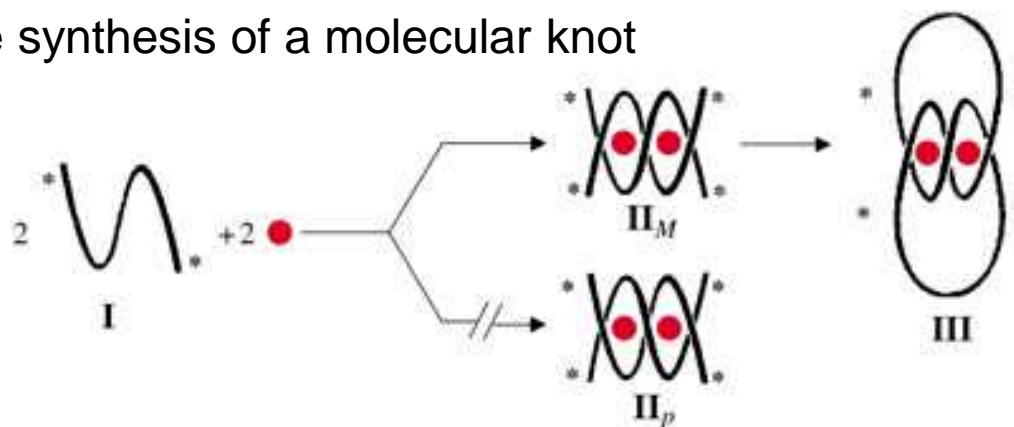
A knot is chiral and can be resolved



Sauvage et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1996**, *118*, 10932

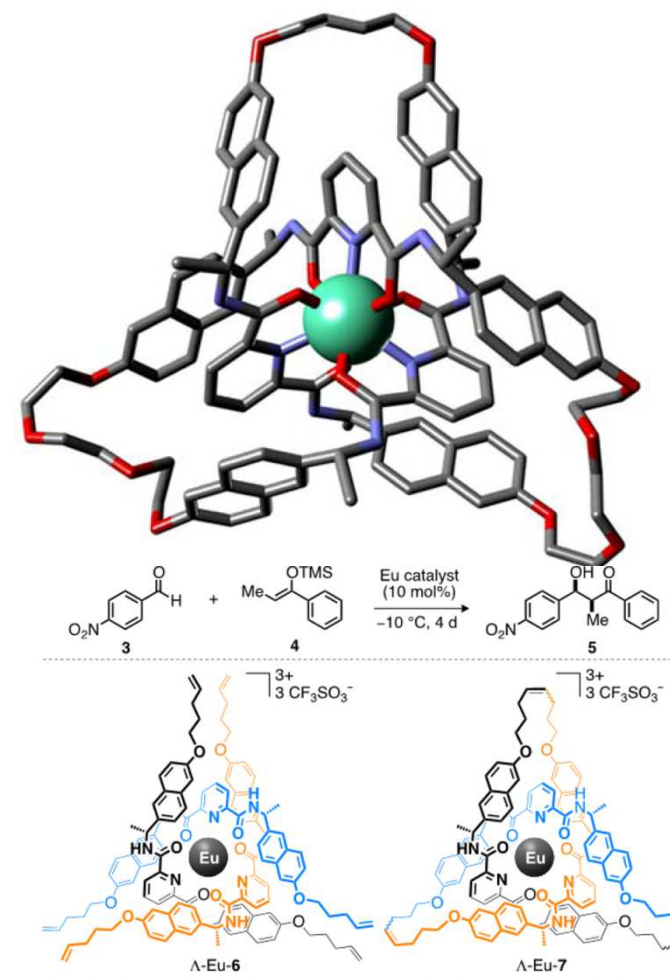
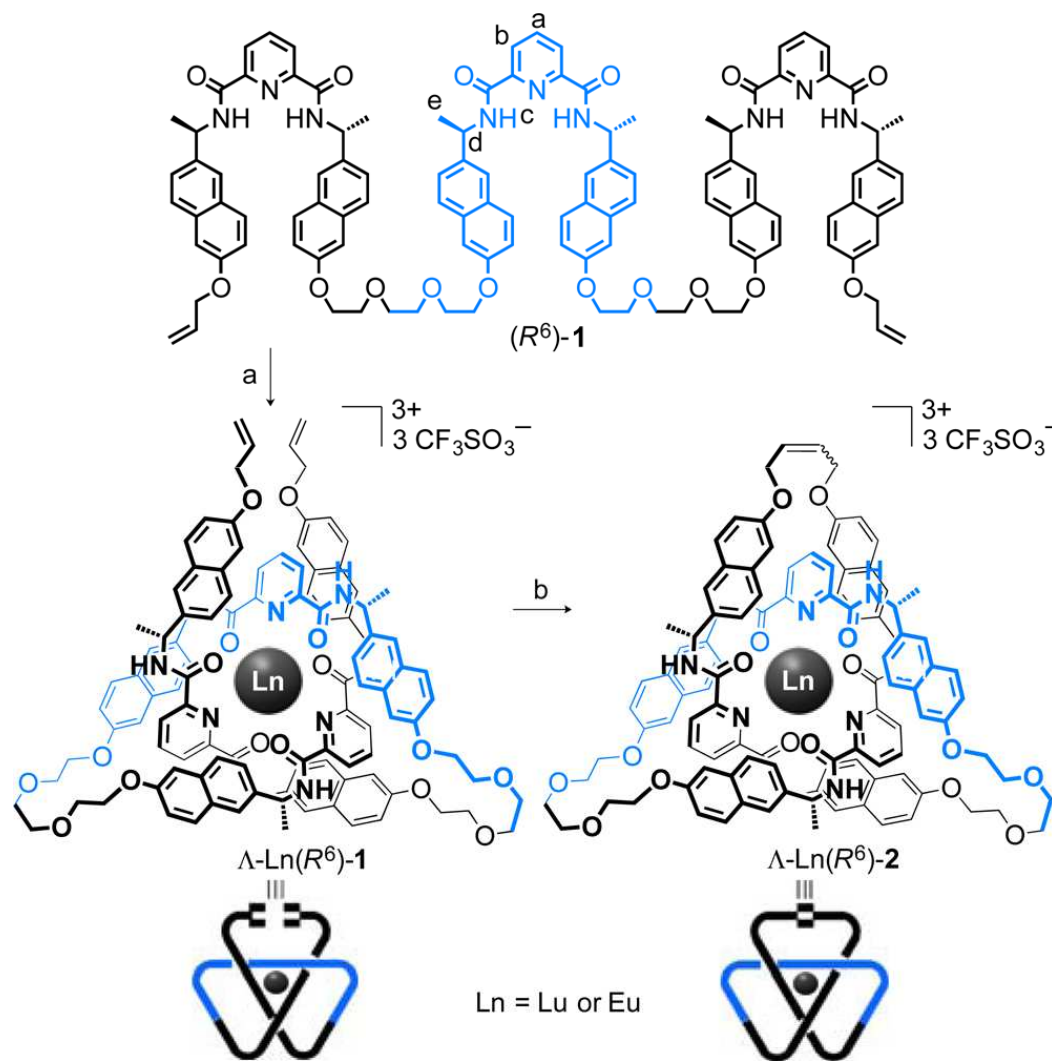
Topological stereochemistry

Diastereoselective synthesis of a molecular knot



Topological stereochemistry

Diastereoselective synthesis of a molecular knot



Entry	Catalyst	Solvent	Conv. (%) ^a	syn:anti ^a	syn-er (%) ^b
1	$\Lambda-Eu(R^6)-2$	MeOH/CH ₃ CN	61	1 : 1	65:35
2	$\Lambda-Eu-6$	MeOH/CH ₃ CN	61	1 : 1	58:42
3	$\Lambda-Eu-7$	MeOH/CH ₃ CN	65	1 : 1.4	54:46
4	-	MeOH/CH ₃ CN	17	1 : 1	-

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016



Ill: N. Elmehed. © Nobel
Media 2016
Jean-Pierre Sauvage
Prize share: 1/3



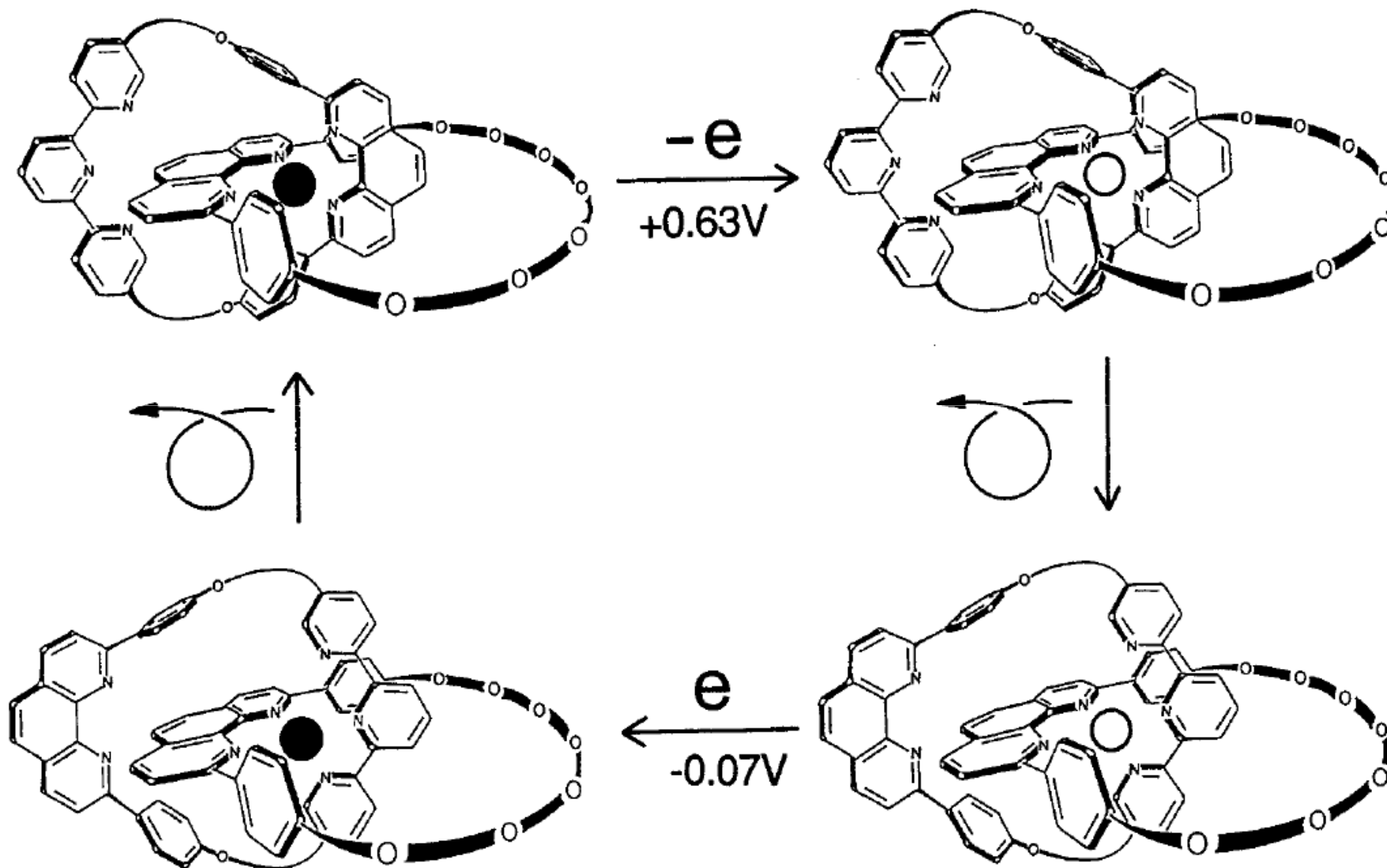
Photo: Northwestern
University
Sir J. Fraser Stoddart
Prize share: 1/3



Ill: N. Elmehed. © Nobel
Media 2016
Bernard L. Feringa
Prize share: 1/3

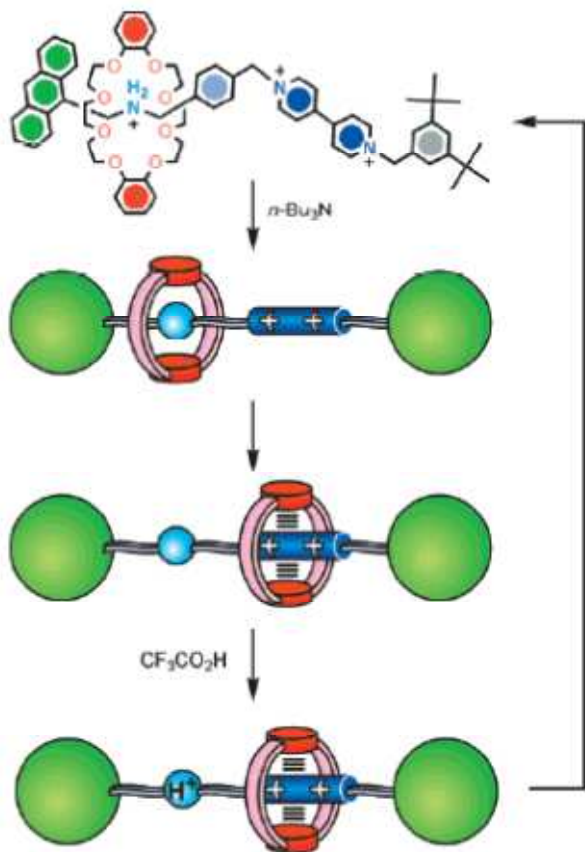
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 was awarded jointly to
Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Sir J. Fraser Stoddart and Bernard L. Feringa
"for the design and synthesis of molecular machines".

Molecular machine powered by an electrochemical fuel



Molecular machine powered by a chemical fuel

Acid-base powered molecular translation of a ring along a thread :



- rotaxane based molecular shuttle
- intramolecular process
- bistable molecule (1 or 0)
- possibility for high density information storage

High complexity of the molecule:

- interlocked system
- two orthogonal binding sites on the thread

From switches to motors: toward dissipative systems

