Category

Synthesis of Materials and Unnatural Products

Key words

diquinone-based cavitands molecular machines resorcin[4]arenes I. POCHOROVSKI, M.-O. EBERT, J.-P. GISSELBRECHT, C. BOUDON, W. B. SCHWEIZER, F. DIEDERICH* (ETH ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND AND UNIVERSITÉ DE STRASBOURG, FRANCE)

Redox-Switchable Resorcin[4]arene Cavitands: Molecular Grippers

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Redox-Switchable Cavitands: Molecular Grippers

Small molecule guests:

Significance: Here, a diquinone-based resorcin[4] arene cavitand goes from a kite to a vase form when reduced. The vase forms via hydrogen bonding between the central diols and the oxygens of the amides. This vase is stable even at $-80~^{\circ}\text{C}$ and can be used to capture the small molecule guests shown above. The molecules are shown in order of increasing association constant K_a . The vase cavitand releases the guests upon oxidation.

Comment: Both the kite and vase form are stable in deuterated chloroform, tetrahydrofuran, and mesitylene. After two to four days, the reduced form reverts into the oxidized form. A crystal structure of the reduced form has a 7.3° cavity, which allows it to encapsulate the solvent molecule mesitylene, as well as the larger guest molecules.

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