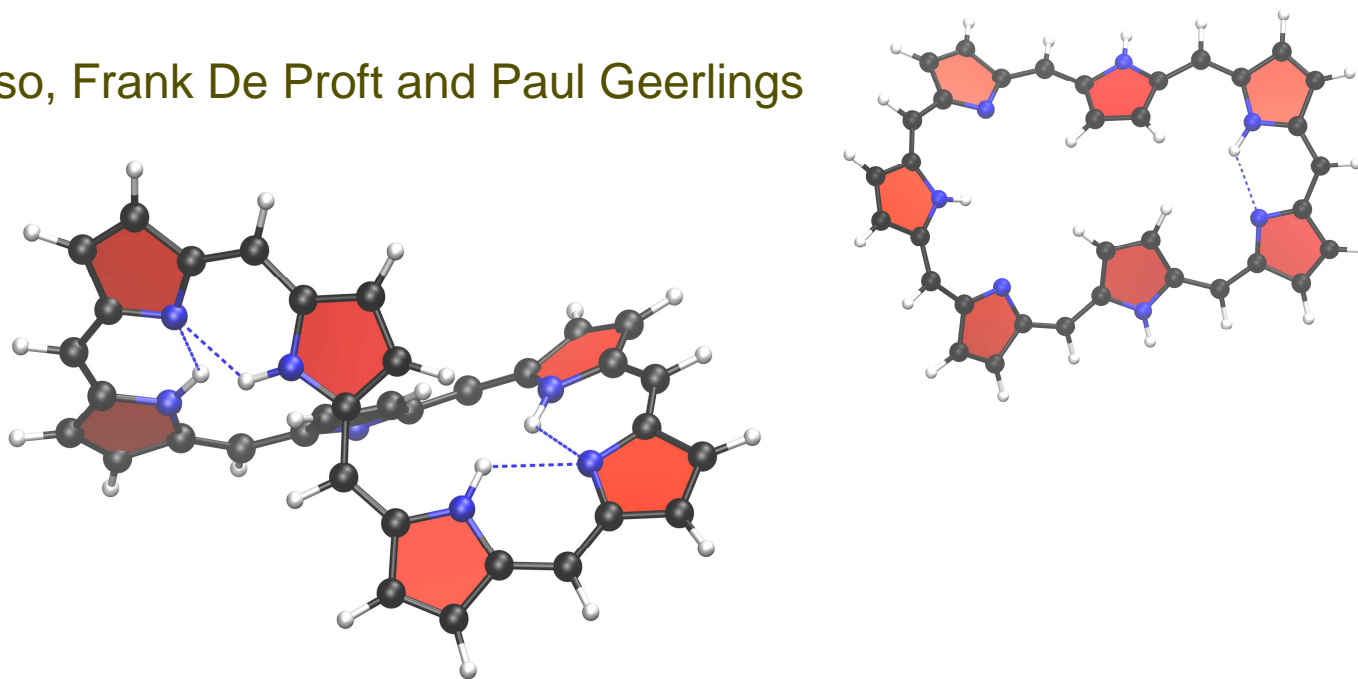


# Fine-tuning of the conformation of expanded porphyrins using conceptual DFT descriptors and non-covalent index

Mercedes Alonso, Frank De Proft and Paul Geerlings



Topological Approaches to Intermolecular Interactions, Paris 2013

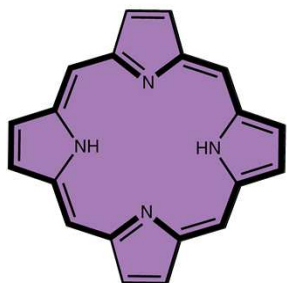
# Overview

- Introduction
- Computational approach
- Results and discussion
- Conclusions

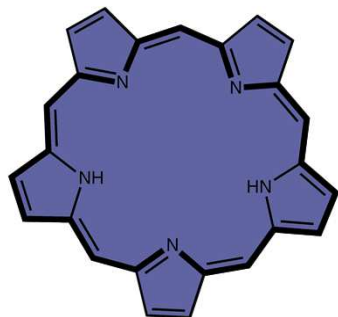


# Expanded Porphyrins

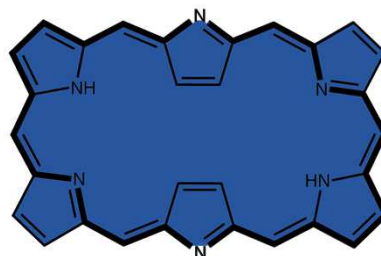
porphyrin ( $N = 4$ )



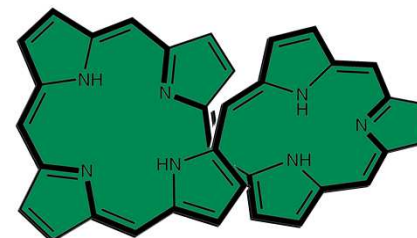
pentaphyrins ( $N = 5$ )



hexaphyrins ( $N = 6$ )

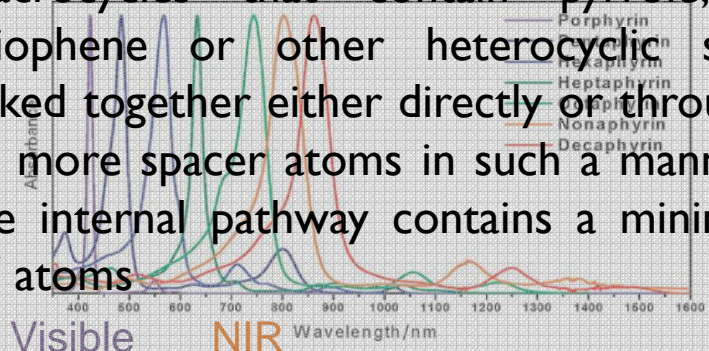


heptaphyrins ( $N = 7$ )



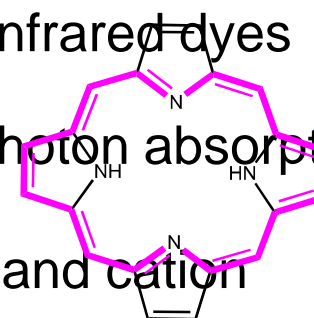
expansion

Macrocycles that contain pyrrole, furan, thiophene or other heterocyclic subunits linked together either directly or through one or more spacer atoms in such a manner that the internal pathway contains a minimum of 17 atoms



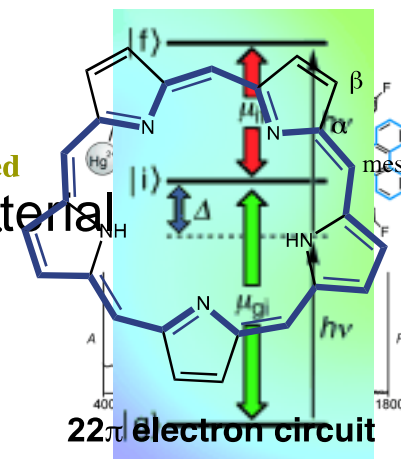
J. L. Sessler, D. Seidel, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2003, 42, 5134

Near-infrared dyes  
Two-photon absorption material  
Anion and cation sensors



18 $\pi$  electron circuit

Expanded

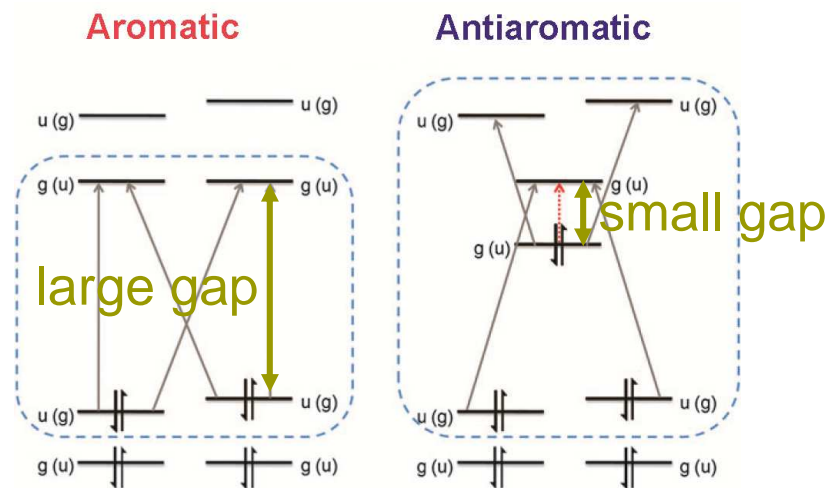
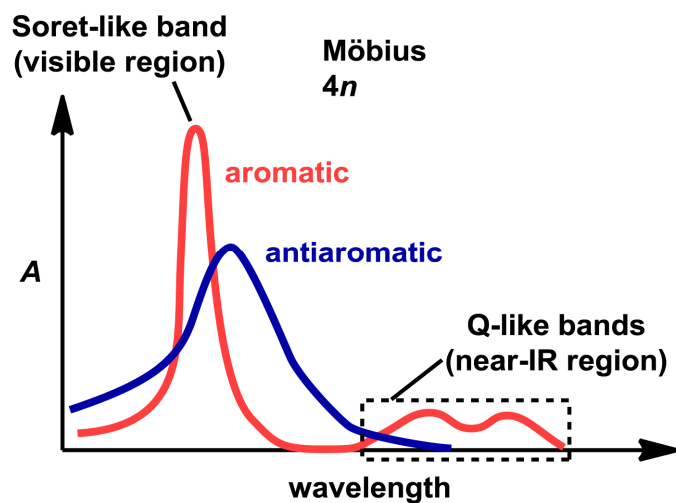
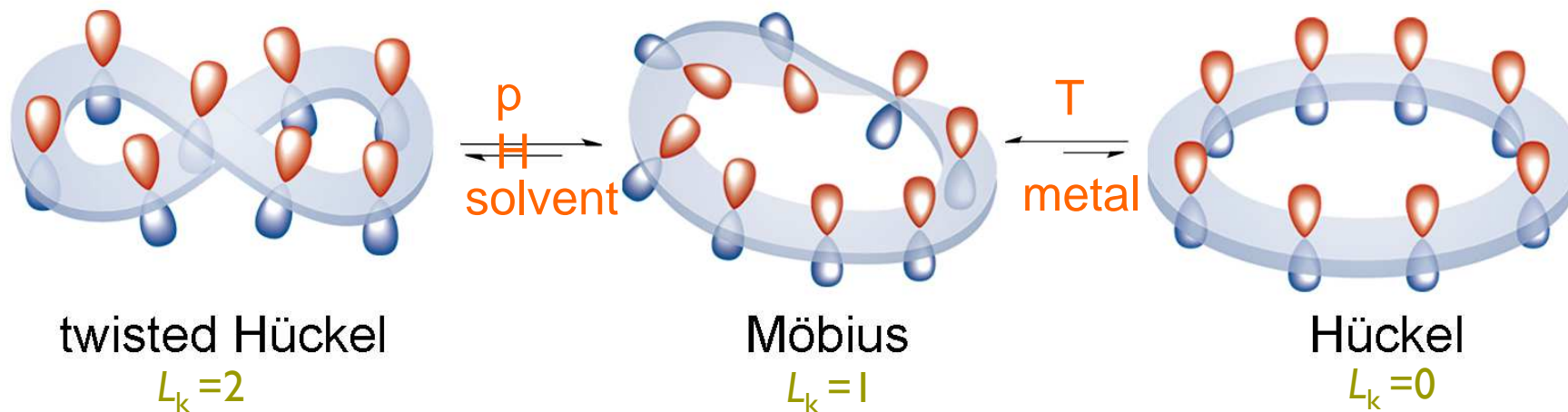


22 $\pi$  electron circuit

Large  $\sigma_{TPA}$



# Molecular switches



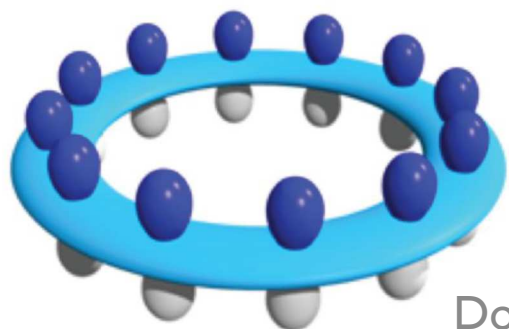
S. Saito, A. Osuka *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 4342





# Hückel and Möbius aromaticity

## Hückel



Doubled-sided

$[4n + 2] \pi$  : aromatic

$[4n] \pi$  : antiaromatic

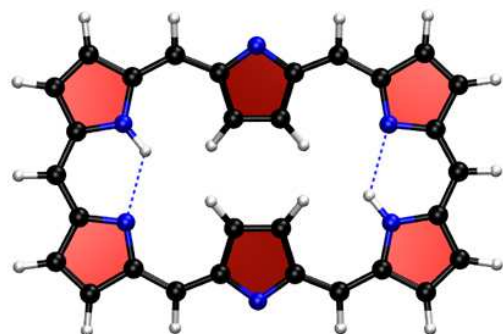
## Möbius



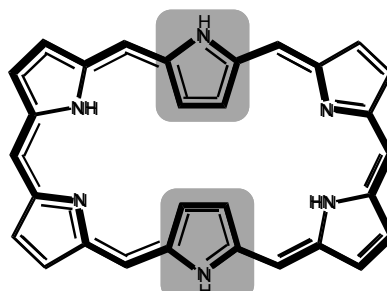
Single-sided

$[4n] \pi$  : aromatic

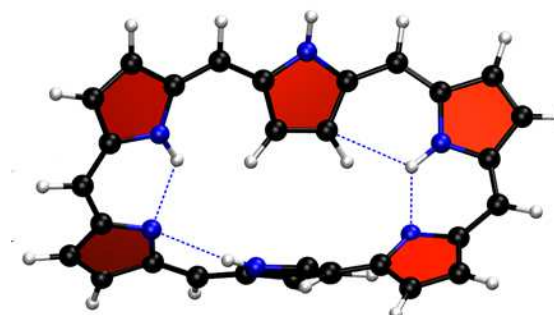
$[4n + 2] \pi$  : antiaromatic



aromatic



$26\pi$



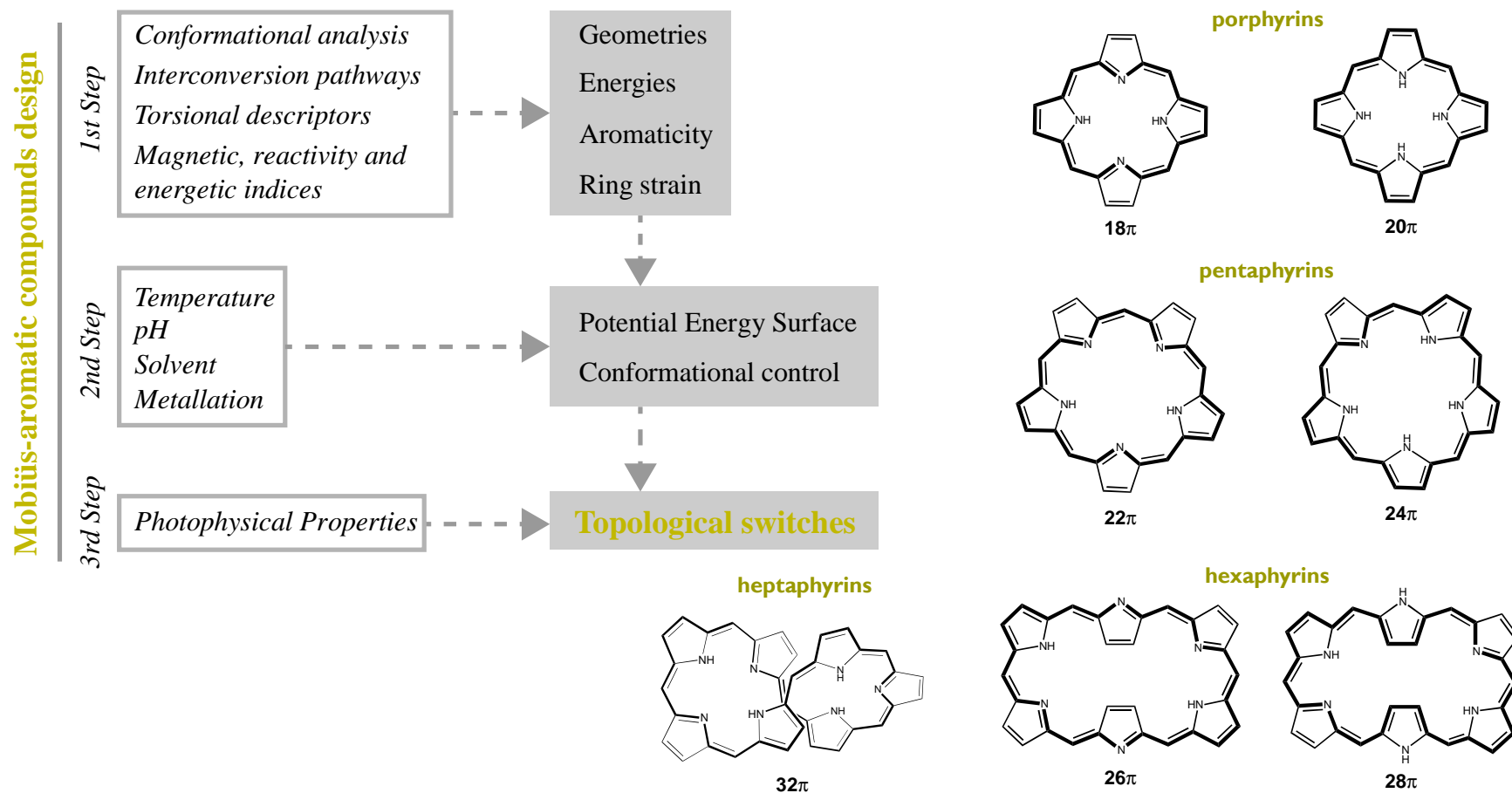
aromatic

E. Heilbronner, *Chem. Ber.* **1964**, *97*, 1923



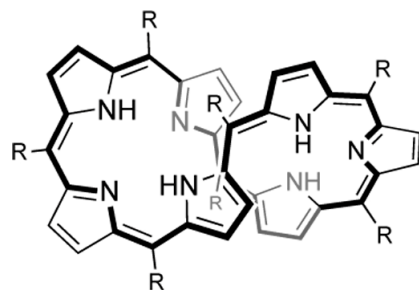
# APPROACH

Optimum conditions for **Möbius aromatic compounds** and **topological switches** with unique magnetic properties using DFT



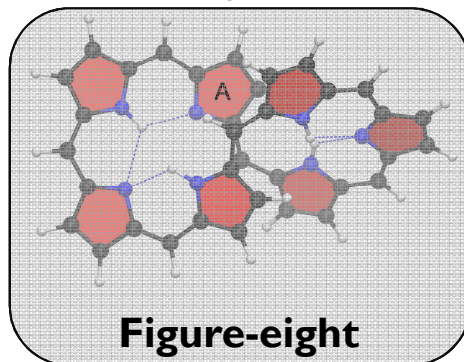
# Conformational stability

B3LYP/6-31++G\*\*

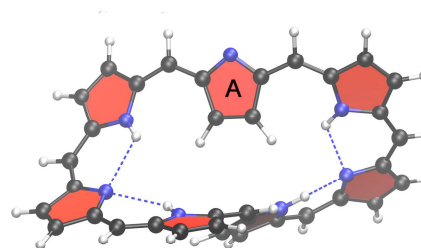


R = CF<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>, H, Phe, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>

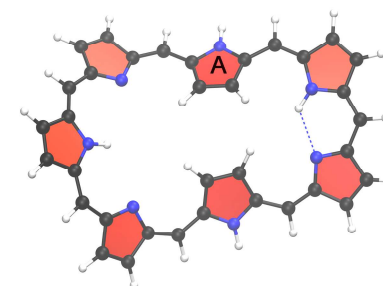
two half twists



one half twist



no twist



Ring strain →  $\Phi_p$

19.0

28.0

24.3

Hydrogen bonding →  $N_H$

3.5

3.0

1.0

Effective p overlap →  $\Pi$

0.72

-0.57

0.59

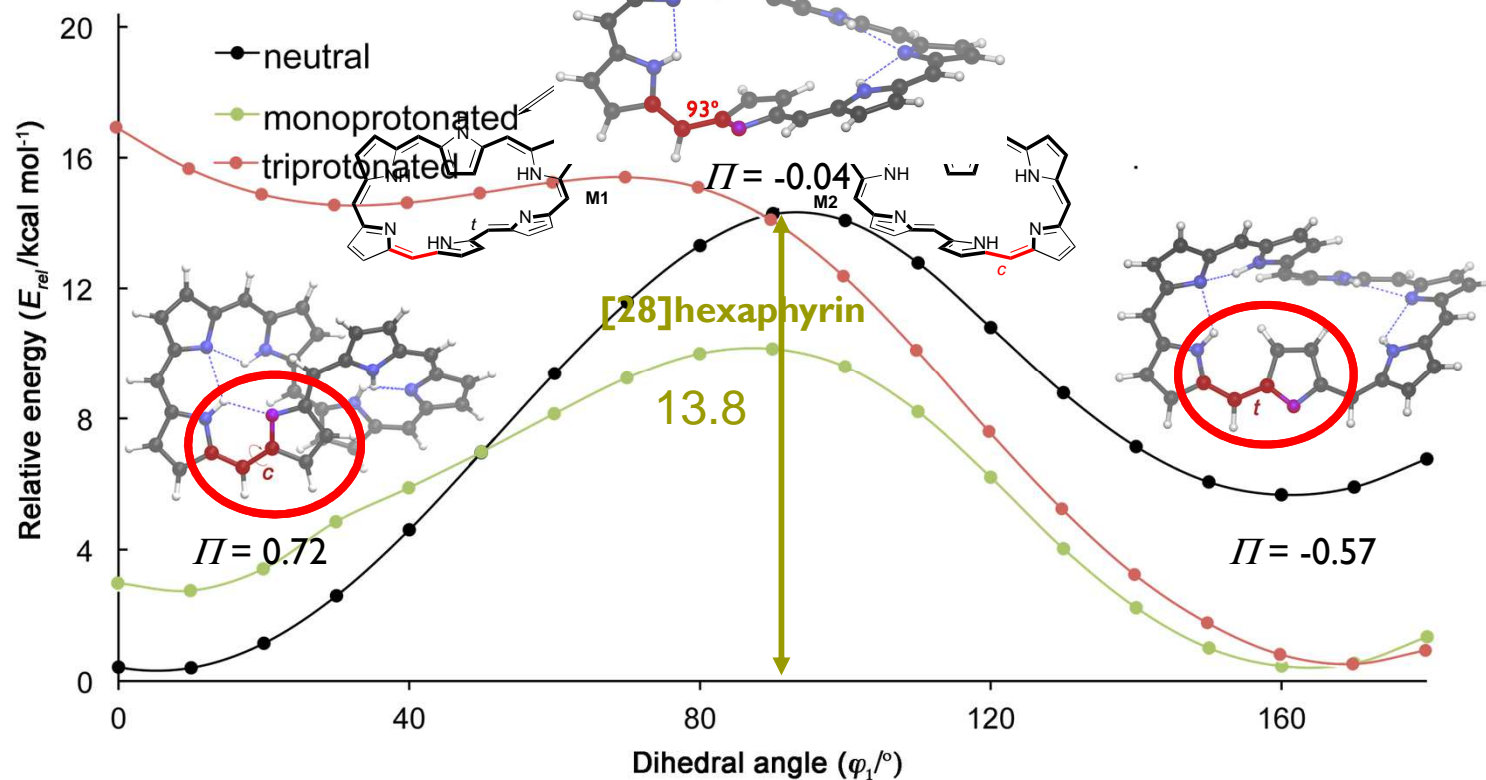
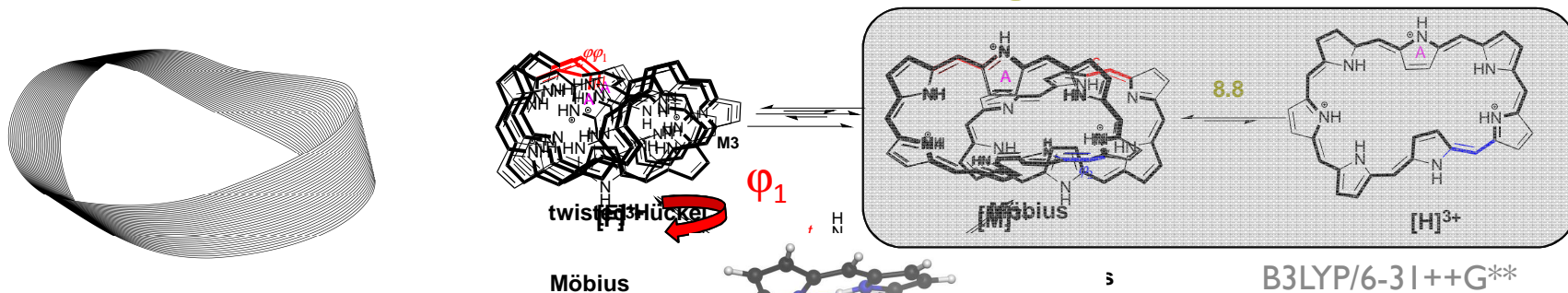
Aromaticity → ASE,  $\Delta$ , NICS, HOMA,  $\Delta\eta$

$$\Pi = \prod_i \cos \varphi_i$$

Steric effects of *meso*-substituents → NCI index



# Hückel-Möbius topology switch



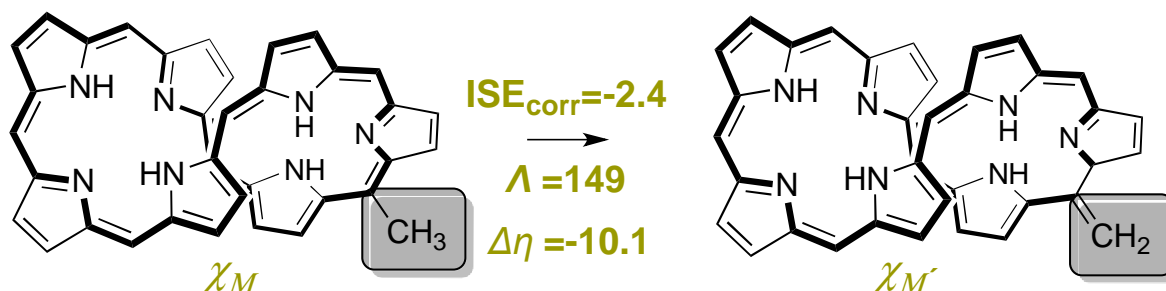
Protonation is an effective way for controlling the conformation!

Paris 2013

# Aromaticity descriptors

Aromaticity is a **multidimensional** property cannot be quantified with a single-index

## ENERGETIC



ISE > 0 : aromatic  
ISE < 0 : antiaromatic

syn/anti corrections

P. v. R. Schleyer *et al.* *Org. Lett.* 2002, 4, 2873

## MAGNETIC

$\Lambda$  : Diamagnetic Susceptibility Exaltation  $\Lambda = \chi_M - \chi_{M'}$

$\Lambda < 0$  : aromatic  
 $\Lambda > 0$  : antiaromatic

H. J. Dauben *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1988, 90, 811

## REACTIVITY

$\Delta\eta$  : Relative hardness  $\eta = I - A \approx \epsilon_{LUMO} - \epsilon_{HOMO}$

$\Delta\eta > 0$  : aromatic  
 $\Delta\eta < 0$  : antiaromatic

F. De Proft, P. Geerlings, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 2004, 6, 242.



Donoso *et al.* *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 2010, 12, 1305; *J. Comput. Chem.* 2010, 31, 917.  
P. v. R. Schleyer *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2013, 135, 315

First time that these descriptors are computed for expanded porphyrins!

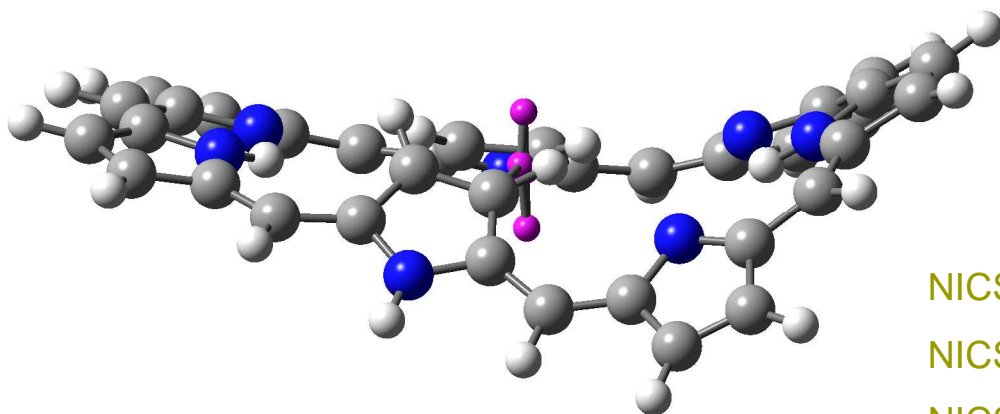
Paris 2013

# Aromaticity descriptors

## MAGNETIC

**NICS: Nucleus-independent chemical shift**

GIAO/B3LYP/6-311+G\*\*



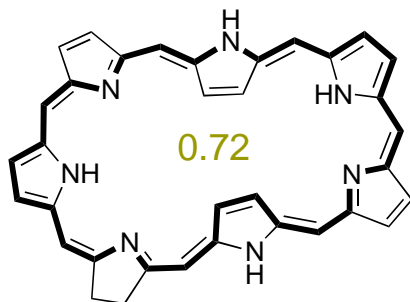
NICS < 0 : aromatic  
NICS > 0 : antiaromatic

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NICS}(0) &= 19.1 \\ \text{NICS}(\pm 1) &= 17.3 \\ \text{NICS}_{zz}(\pm 1) &= 57.3 \end{aligned}$$

P. v. R. Schleyer *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1996, 118, 6317

## ESTRUCTURAL

**HOMA**



$$\text{HOMA} = 1 - \frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (R_{opt} - R_i)^2$$

HOMA = 1 : fully aromatic  
HOMA = 0 : nonaromatic

T. M. Krygowski *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1972, 13, 3

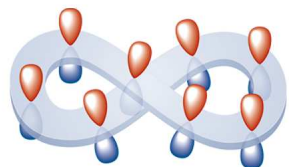
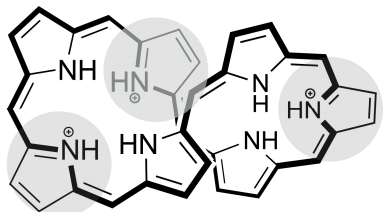


Performance of these indices to describe Möbius aromaticity?? Paris 2013



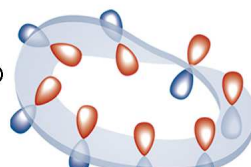
# Aromaticity of [32]heptaphyrin

triprotonated



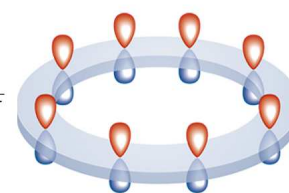
twisted Hückel

$H^+$ , DMSO

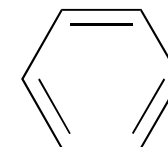


Möbius

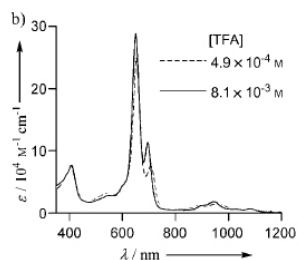
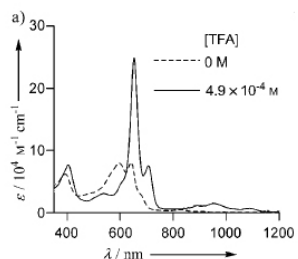
$3H^+$



Hückel



benzene



UV/VIS spectra upon TFA addition

$ISE_{corr}$	-2.4	-11.0	5.8	3.1	-3.4	-4.4	34.3
$\Delta$	149	408	-219	-315	584	1176	-17.8
NICS(0)	9.8	16.1	-11.0	-12.7	19.1	28.2	-8.0
NICS <sub>zz</sub> (1)	23.8	57.9	-24.1	-30.2	57.3	93.9	-29.2
HOMA	0.71	0.74	0.84	0.81	0.72	0.74	0.98
$\Delta\eta$	-10.1	-9.7	4.9	4.1	-5.9	-9.2	55.3

weakly  
antiaromatic

$\sigma_{TPA} = 1800 \text{ GM}$

aromatic

$\sigma_{TPA} = 5600 \text{ GM}$

antiaromatic

aromatic

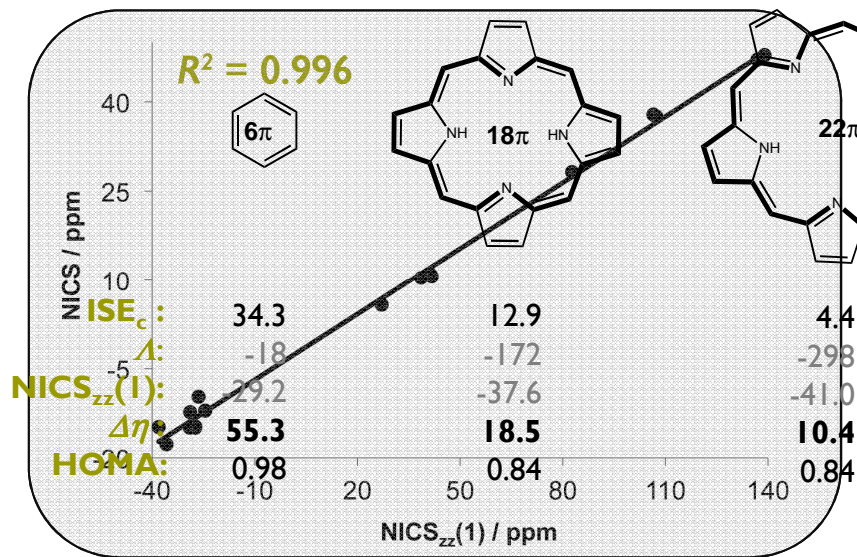
$ISE_{corr}$  and  $\Delta$  are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>,  $\Delta\eta$  in ppm cgs and NICS indices in ppm



A. Cecka, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 969

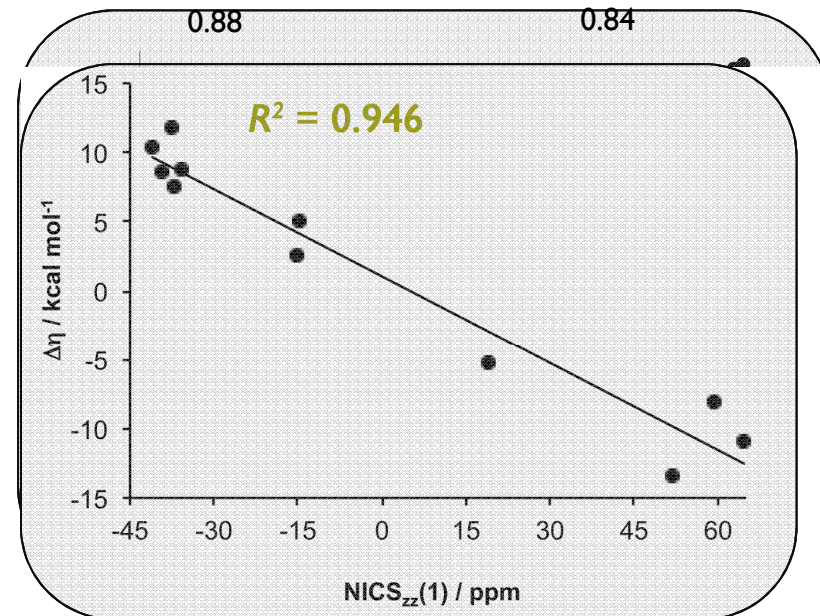
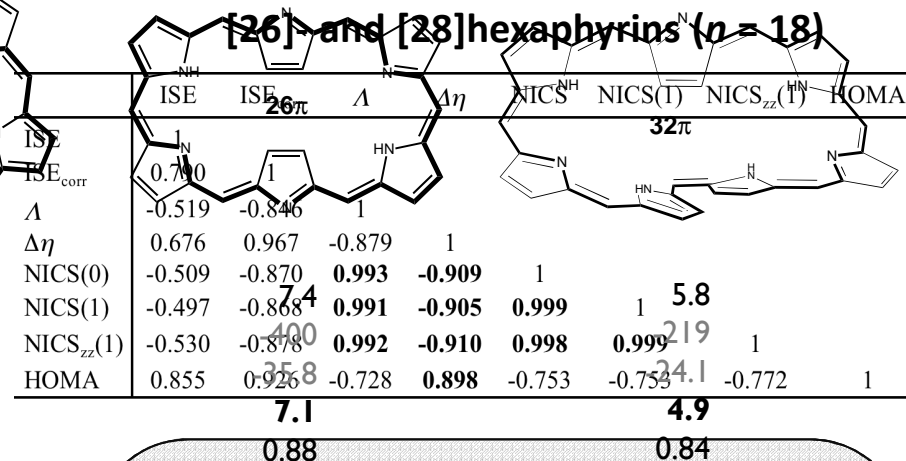
Paris 2013

# Correlation between aromaticity indices



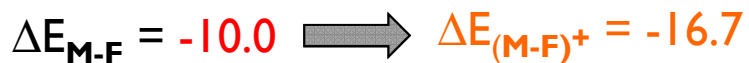
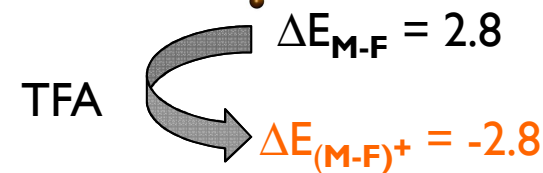
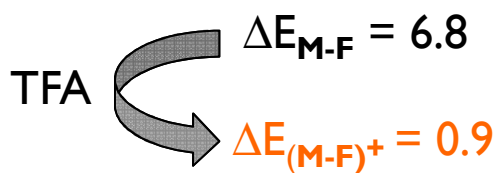
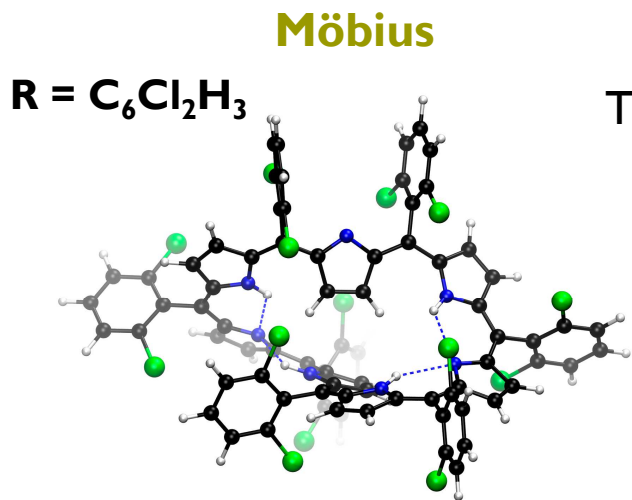
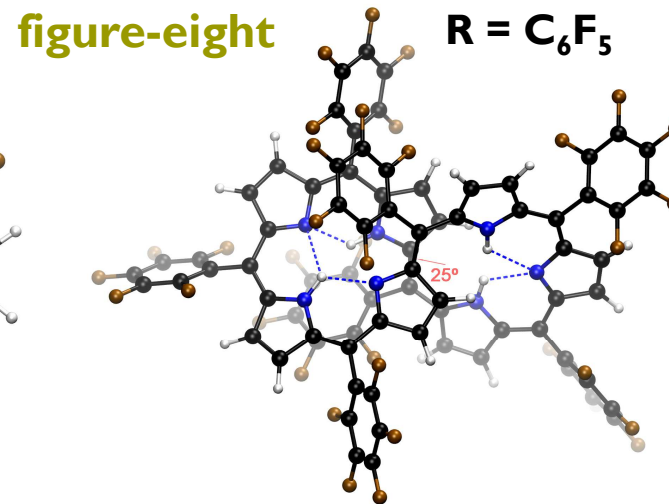
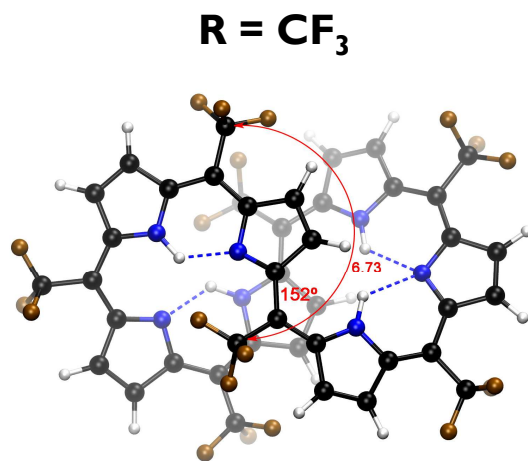
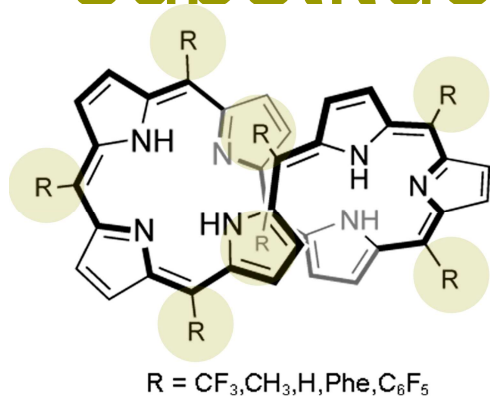
[22]- and [24]pentaphyrins ( $n = 11$ )

	ISE	ISE <sub>corr</sub>	Δ	Δη	NICS	NICS(1)	NICS <sub>zz</sub> (1)	HOMA
ISE	1							
ISE <sub>corr</sub>	<b>0.919</b>	1						
Δ	-0.743	-0.885	1					
Δη	0.746	0.884	<b>-0.992</b>	1				
NICS(0)	-0.733	-0.883	<b>0.985</b>	<b>-0.973</b>	1			
NICS(1)	-0.734	-0.885	<b>0.986</b>	<b>-0.973</b>	<b>1.000</b>	1		
NICS <sub>zz</sub> (1)	-0.719	-0.875	<b>0.989</b>	<b>-0.973</b>	<b>0.998</b>	<b>0.998</b>	1	
HOMA	0.772	0.834	<b>-0.948</b>	<b>0.931</b>	<b>-0.908</b>	<b>-0.910</b>	<b>-0.913</b>	1

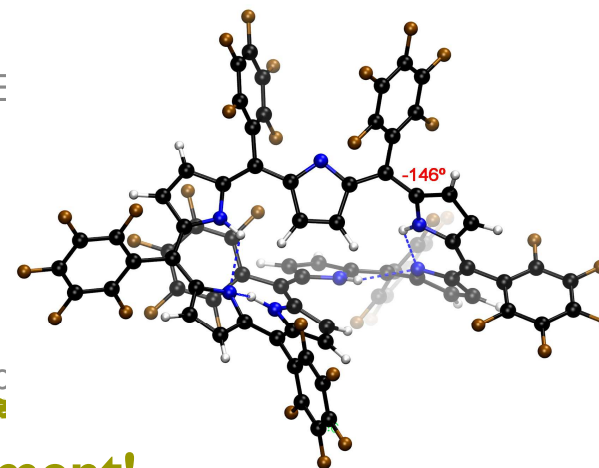


Correlation between aromaticity indices and reactivity implies!

# Conformational control by substituents



A. Osuka, *Angew. Chem. Int. E* 2006, 12, 9095

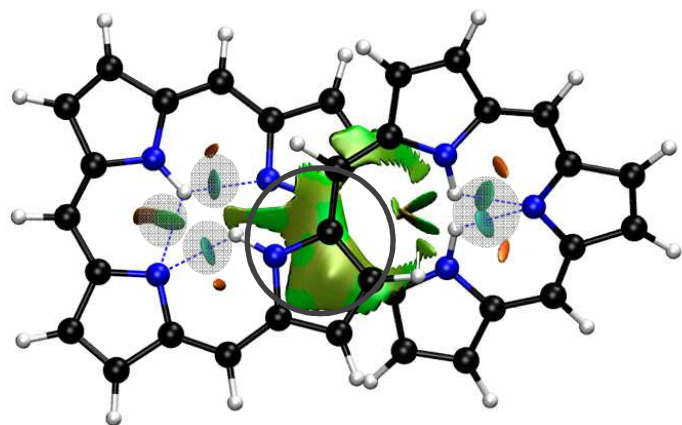
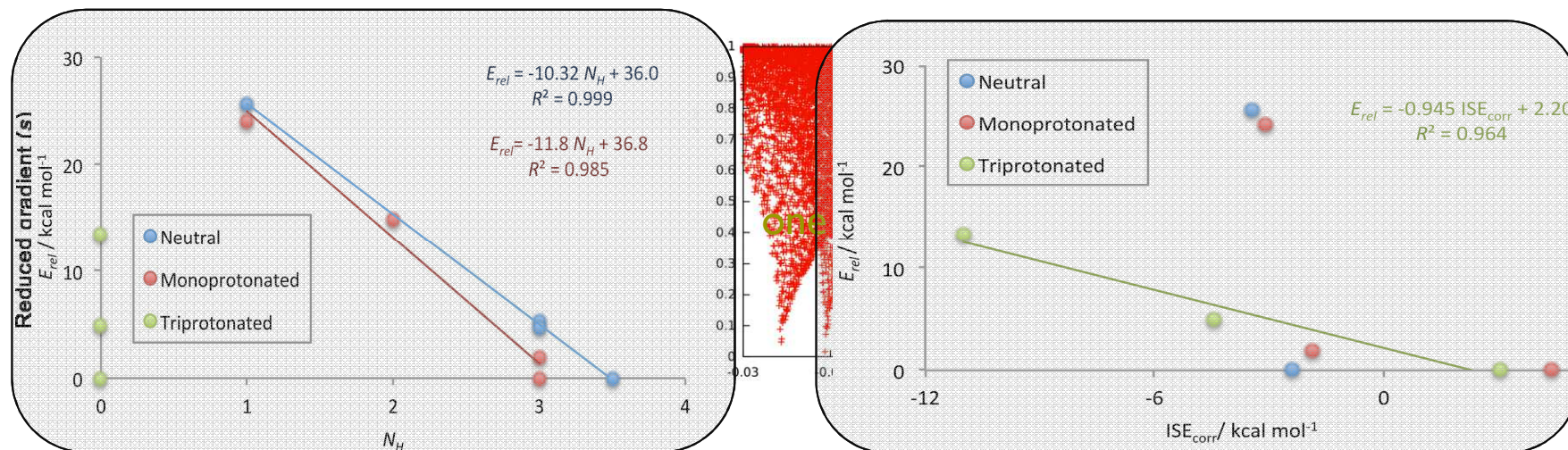


$\Delta E_{M-F}$  is the energy difference between the Möb

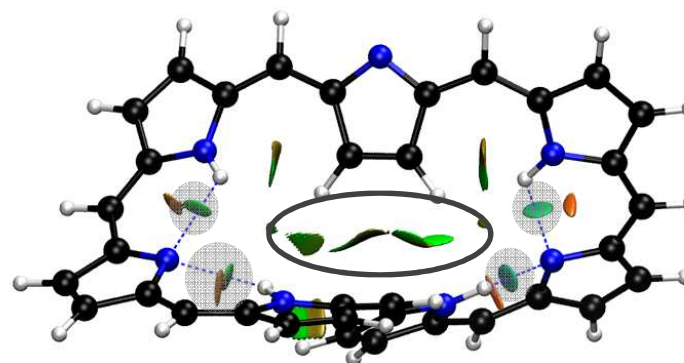
Excellent agreement with the experiment!



# NCI index in heptaphyrins



$N_H = 3.5$   $ISE_c = -2.4$



$N_H = 3.0$   $ISE_{corr} = 5.8$

**Aromaticity bonding accounts for the  $E_{rel}$  of triprotonated [30]heptaphyrin!**

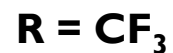
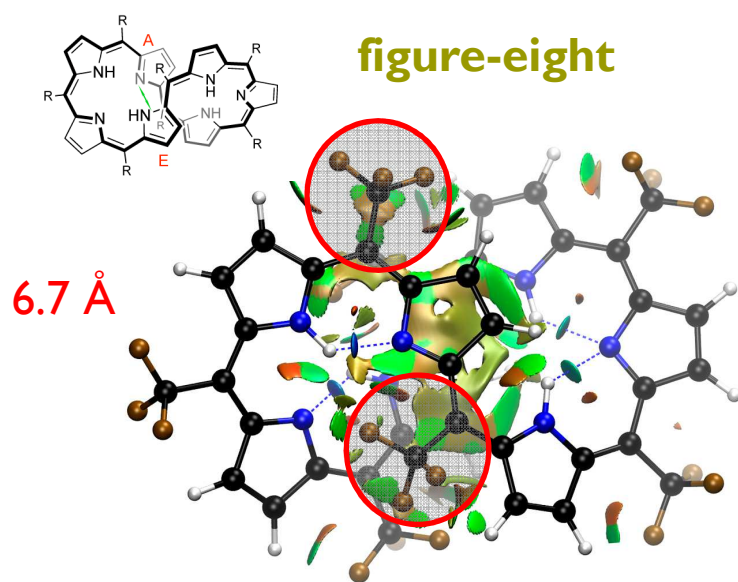


W. Yang *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2010, 132, 6498  
 J. Contreras-García *et al.* *Chem. Theory Comput.* 2011, 7, 625

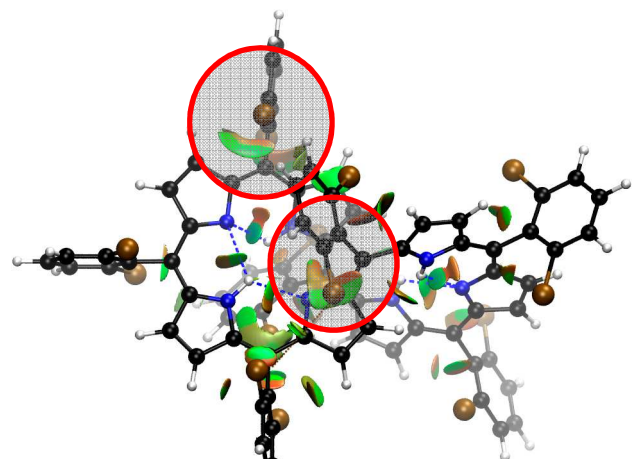
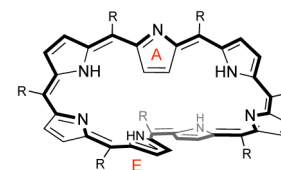
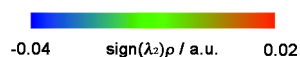
Paris 2013



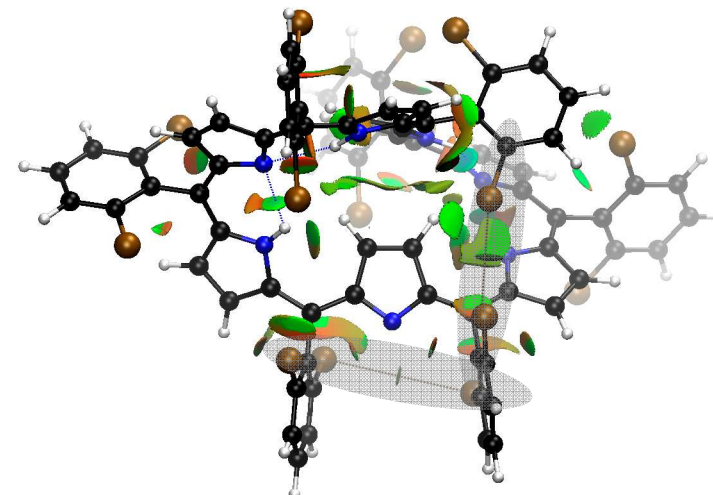
# NCI of meso-substituted heptaphyrins



hydrogen bonds  
 $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions  
 CF...X (X=N, H)  
 steric clashes



$E_{rel} = -10.0$   $\Phi_p = 25^\circ$   $\Pi = 0.47$

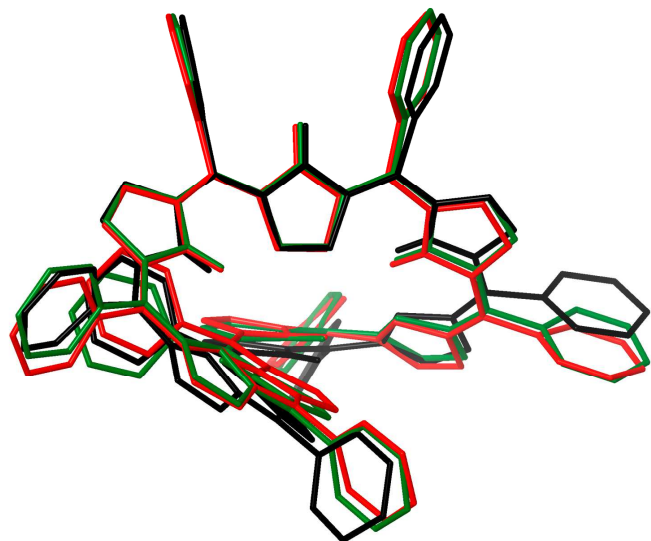


$E_{rel} = 0.0$   $\Phi_p = 30^\circ$   $\Pi = -0.50$



# Performance of density functionals

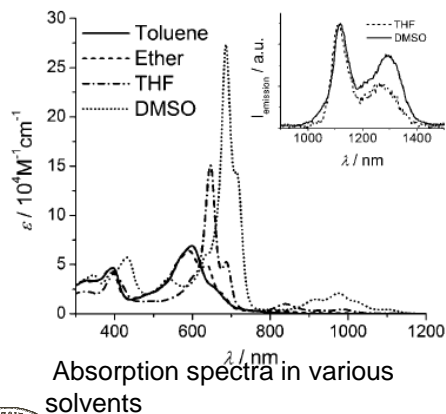
**B3LYP** → lack of medium and long-range dispersion → **M06-2X** and **DFT-D**



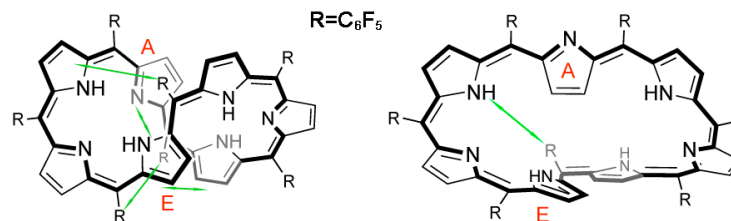
RX	RMSDs	HOMA	$R_{A-E}$	$R_{G-Ar}$
B3LYP	0.69	0.78	4.65	4.15
M06-2X	0.89	0.74	3.88	3.52
B3LYP-D	0.77	0.80	3.91	3.50

Overestimate  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions!

n



**[Zn]tetrapyrrolyns**



neutral  
(monoprotonated)

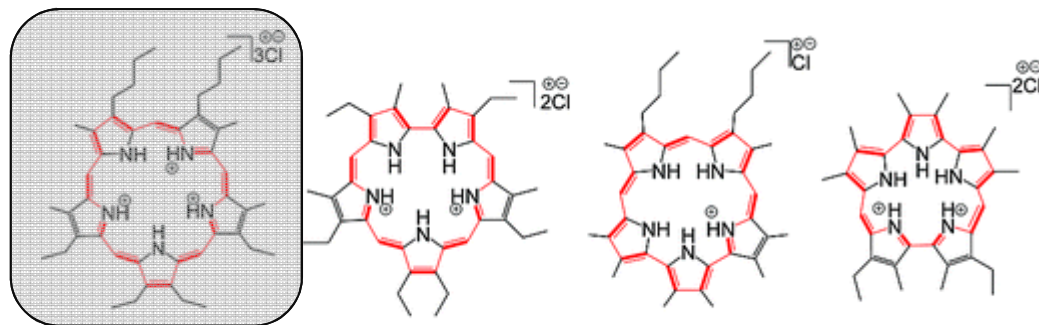
B3LYP	0.0	(2.8)	2.8	(0.0)
M06-2X	0.0	(0.0)	16.2	(6.0)
B3LYP-D	0.0	(0.0)	13.5	(6.0)

Relative energies in kcal/mol





# [22]- and [24]pentaphyrins



➔ Photodynamic therapy

1 Pentaphyrin

2 Sapphyrin

3 Isosmaragdyrin

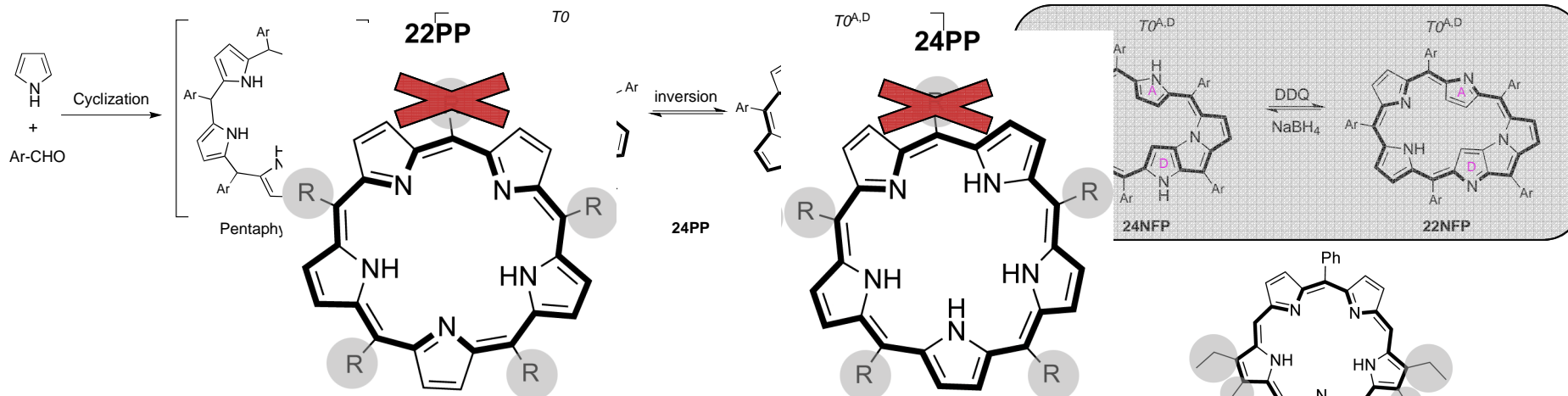
4 Orangarin

$\sigma_{TPA}$  (GM) : 3300

2900

2700

1200

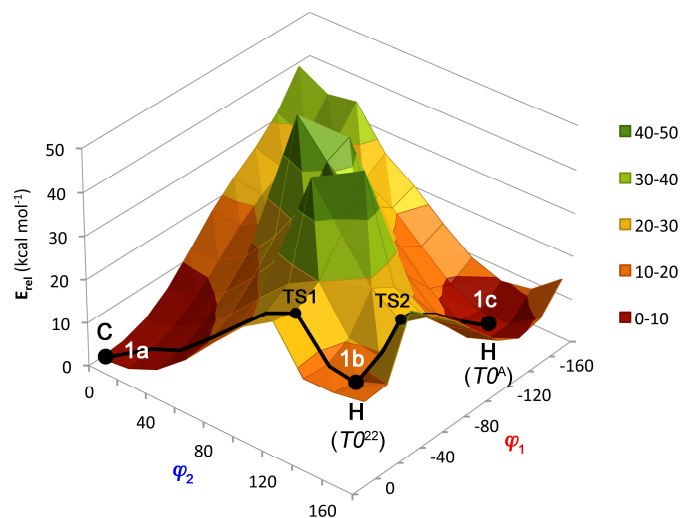


R = H, CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>

**Removing one meso-substituent provides non-fused pentaphyrins**

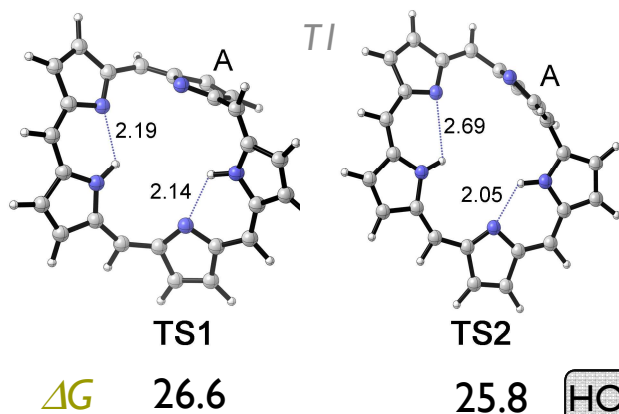


# Conformations of [22]pentaphyrins

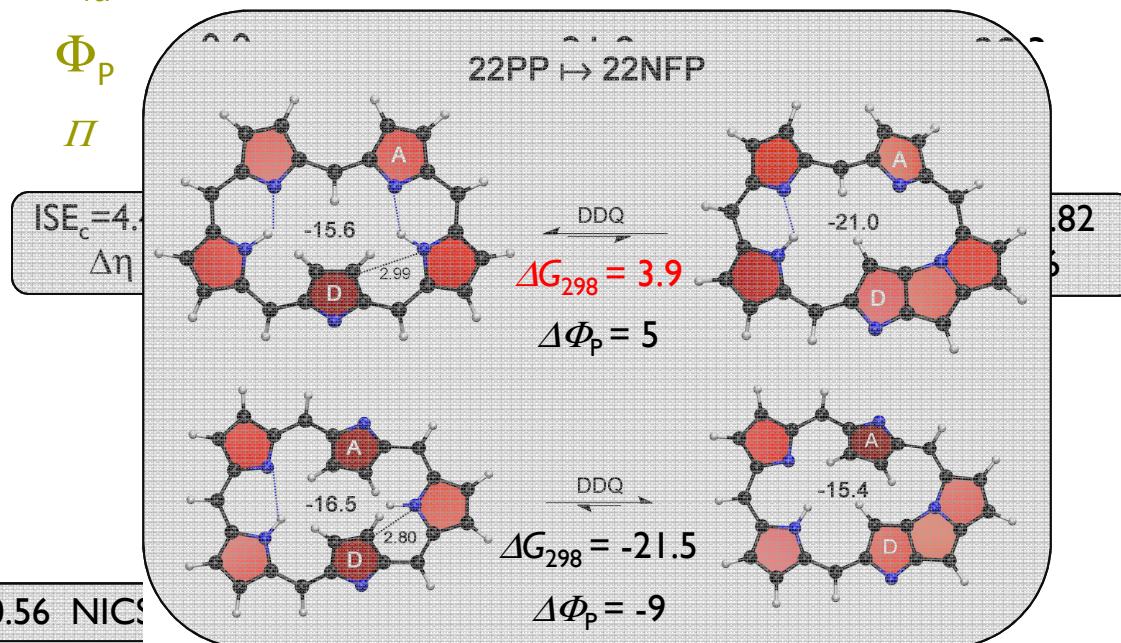
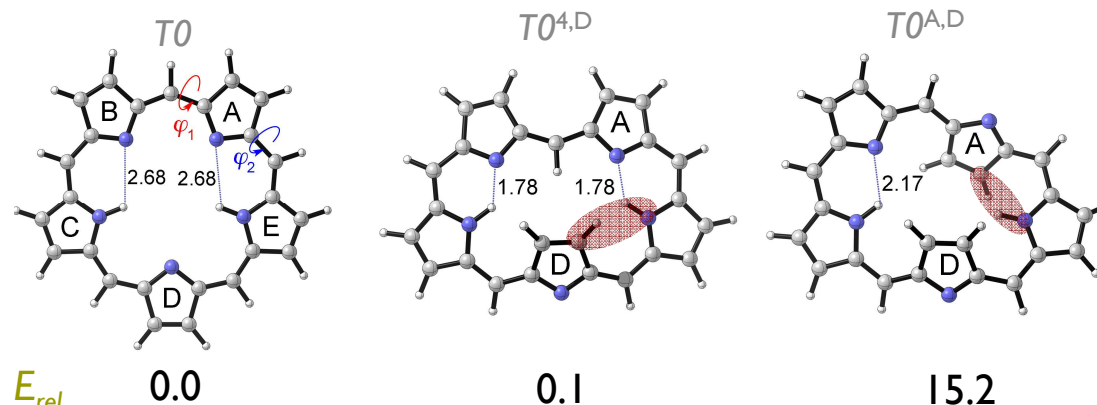


B3LYP/6-31++G(d,p) potential energy surface

**Möbius**

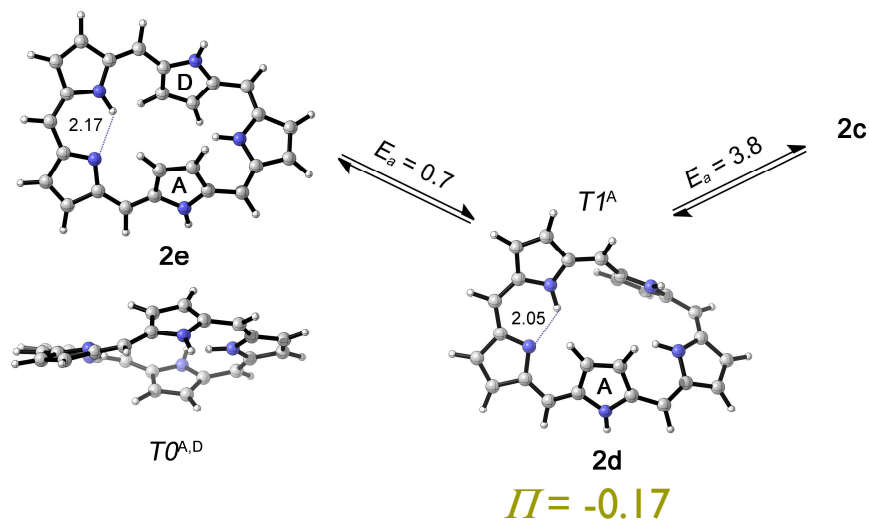
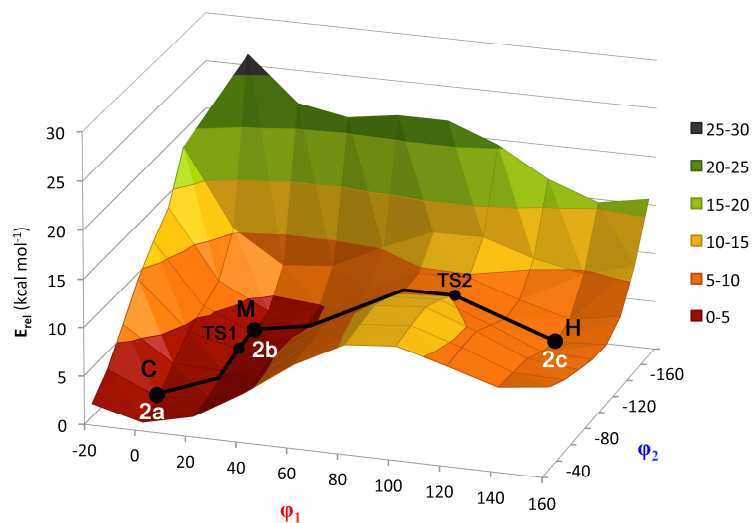


**Hückel**



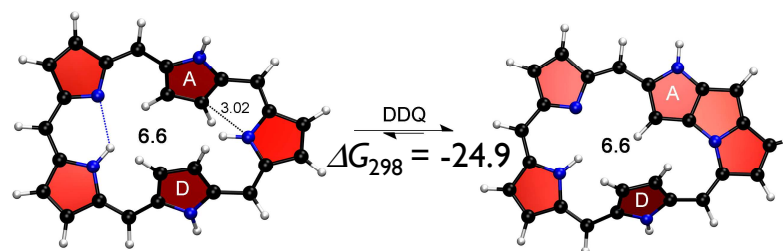
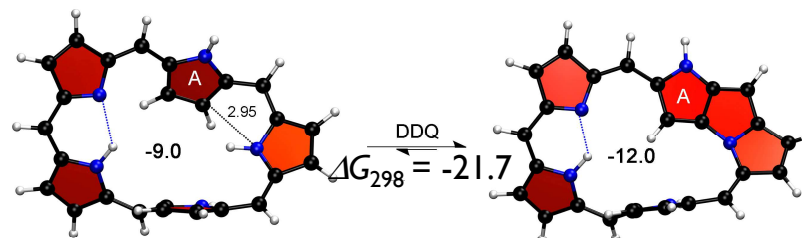
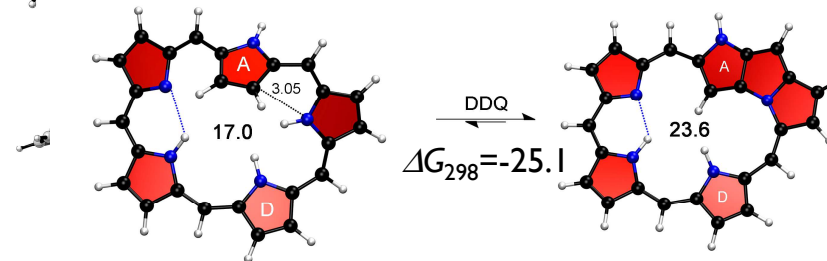
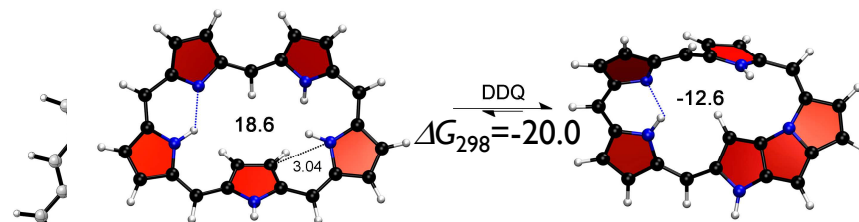
**$T0^{4,D}$  conformer does not undergo the N-fusion reaction** Paris 2013

# Conformations of [24]pentaphyrins



24PP  $\leftrightarrow$  24NFP

0.65  
6

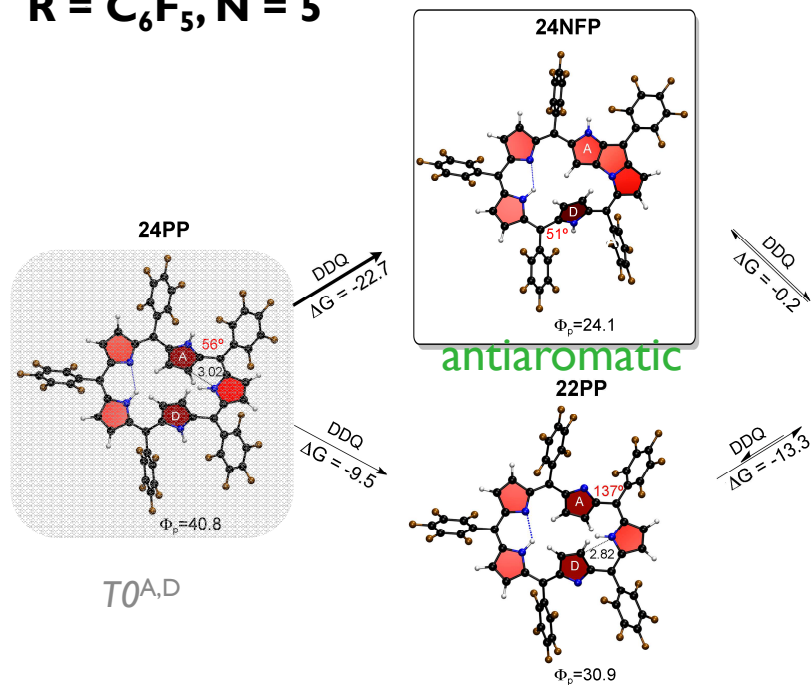


Möbius conf[24]PP undergoes N-fosfitylcarboxylation

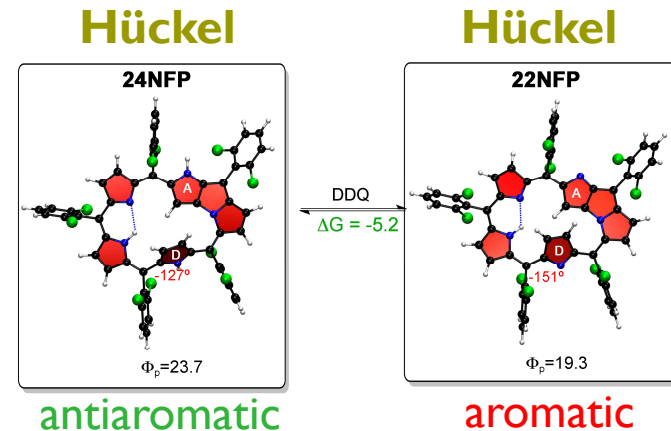
Paris 2013

# Conformation controlled by substituents

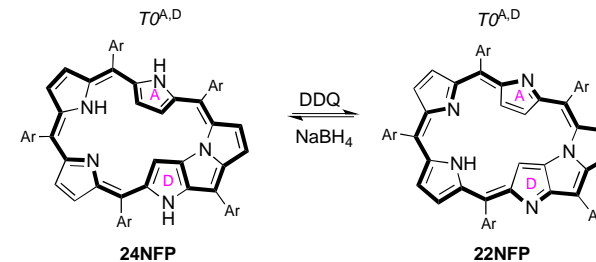
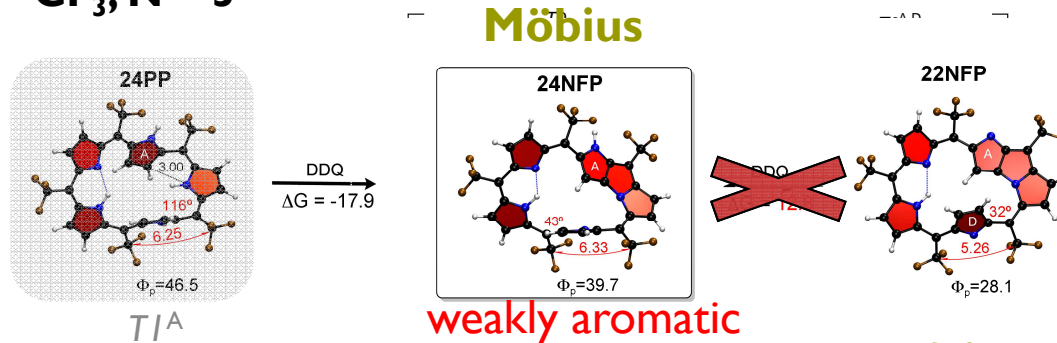
**R = C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>, N = 5**



**R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, N = 5**



**R = CF<sub>3</sub>, N = 5**

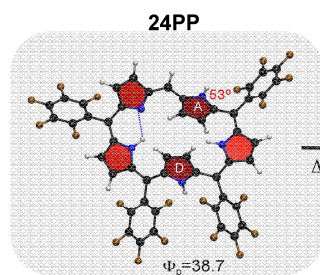


Five substituents → N-fused pentaphyrins

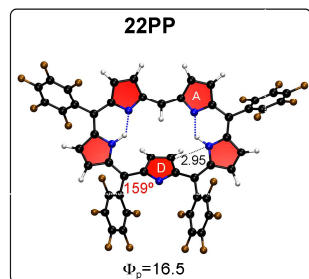
Paris 2013

# Conformation controlled by substituents

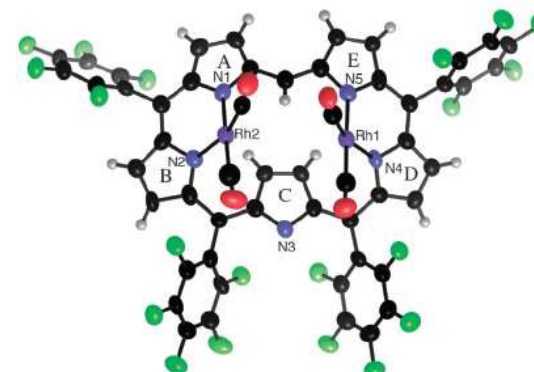
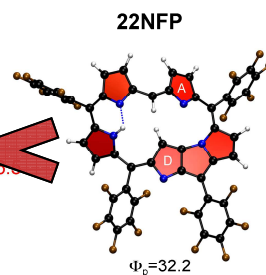
$R = C_6F_5, N = 4$



DDQ  
 $\Delta G = -21.9$

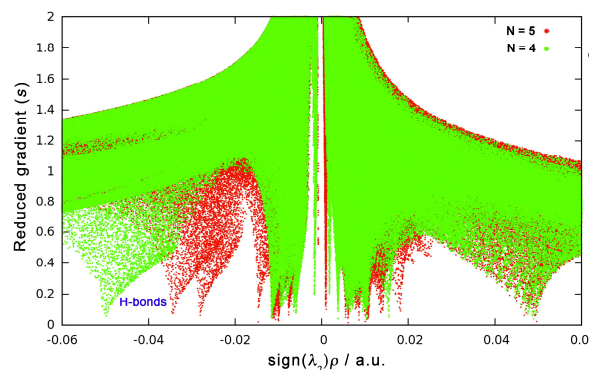


~~DDQ~~  
 $\Delta G = 0.6$

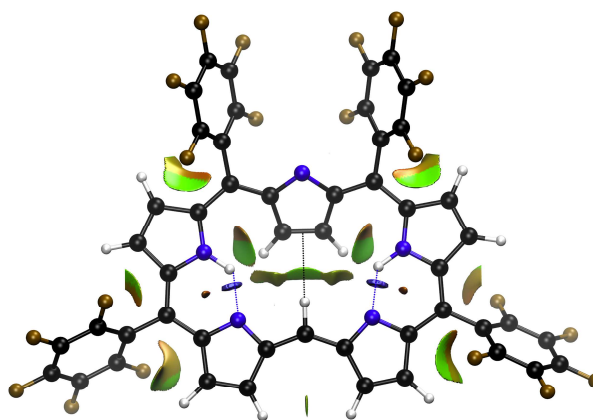


X-Ray structure

(A. Osuka *et al.* *Chem. Commun.* 2012, 48, 6785)

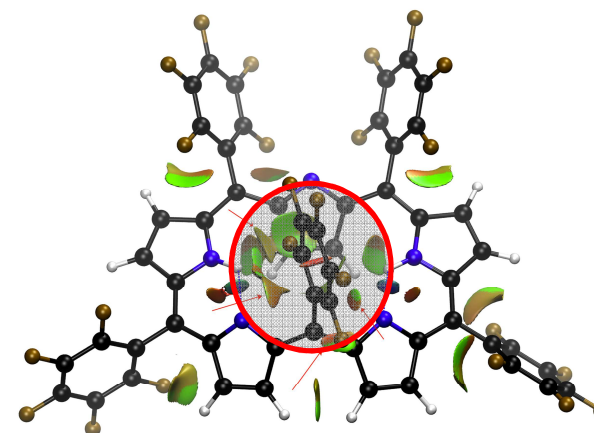


**N = 4**



$\Phi_p = 16.5$

**N = 5**



$\Phi_p = 34.1$



Four aryl groups  $\rightarrow$  Non-fused [22]pentaphyrins

Paris 2013



# Conclusions

Conformation strongly depends on the oxidation state and *meso*-substituents

[32]heptaphyrin is a promising molecular switch, that can be induced by protonation

A close relationship exist between molecular topology and aromaticity

Magnetic descriptors and  $\Delta\eta$  are the best indices to quantify Möbius and Hückel aromaticity

B3LYP shows the best overall performance for geometries and thermochemistry of expanded porphyrins

NCI is a powerful tool to analyze the steric effects

Aromatic Möbius structures are easily achievable by [32]heptaphyrin and [28]hexaphyrin

M. Alonso, P. Geerlings, F. De Proft *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 10916-10928.

M. Alonso, P. Geerlings, F. De Proft *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 1617-1628.

M. Alonso, P. Geerlings, F. De Proft. *J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *78*, 4419-443.





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**Thank you very much for your attention!**

