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## Chromism of spiropyrans

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## Stellingen

Behorende bij het proefschrift

# CHROMISM OF SPIROPYRANS

door

**Luuk Kortekaas**

1. Where there is a well-documented consensus on something in the literature, one shouldn't claim that one has discovered something just because one has gathered more evidence to confirm the consensus (in *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2010**, 132, 16510-16519, 2<sup>nd</sup> page "although sketched in most spiropyran reaction schemes in the literature, there is no direct proof that the completely relaxed ring-open form can be switched back photochemically at all").
2. It is remarkable that a report including a spiropyran synthesis in which the use of 2,5-dihydroxybenzaldehyde is mentioned and shown in the synthetic scheme but all the graphical representations of the spiropyran product show the 2,4-isomer, can pass by the editor's office and the reviewers to publication (in *Dyes and Pigments*, **2011**, 88, 235-239).
3. If your advisor tells you for your first paper that the table of contents graphic doesn't have to be completely scientifically accurate and you then overestimate the artistic license that that implies, you can still get it published albeit several years later as the front cover of your thesis.
4. Although it would make spiropyrans even more interesting than they already are, despite being repeatedly shown in a certain review they are not yet able to make pentavalent carbons possible (in *Ref. J. Chem.*, **2017**, 7, 334-371, page 335, 337, 344).
5. It is more important to be correct and accurate than to uphold established terminology (e.g., ZZZ/EEZ versus CCC/TTC).
6. Peer-review is the best way to ensure quality in submitted papers, but perhaps the review itself should be double-blind in order to avoid bias as well, instead of only securing the safeguarding of opinion.
7. Although the 6'-nitro-1,3,3-trimethylbenzoindolinopyrlospiropyran bears for a large part the 'spiropyran' name (closely followed by 1,3,3-trimethylbenzoindolinopyrlospiropyran and 6',8'-dinitro-1,3,3-trimethylbenzoindolinopyrlospiropyran), one should still define the 'spiropyran' structure in use clearly and a priori rather than proceeding in exacting detail with four intervening pages of experimental details prior to actually mentioning and the defining of the spiropyran structure of immediate concern to the aforementioned experimental details (in *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2015**, 54, 11368 –11386). Assuming everyone knows what is meant by 'spiropyran' is somewhat analogous to asking for the airspeed velocity of an unladen swallow at 50 m into a headwind of 6 nautical miles per hour and an airpressure at ground level of 1008 mbar without first specifying whether or not the swallow in question is of African or European genus; a point that is most pertinent to the question at hand.
8. The discovery and advancement of the spiropyran motif is like the Rubik's cube, whose inventor, Ernő Rubik, took over a month to solve it, yet the current world record (44 years later) is set at 4.22 seconds, as developed strategies to utilize it have emerged since.
9. People should always be aware that different opinions (or results) potentially arise from different points of view that each prove correct. If one were to have been born on Mars, for example, he or she could claim that sunsets should in fact be blue.