

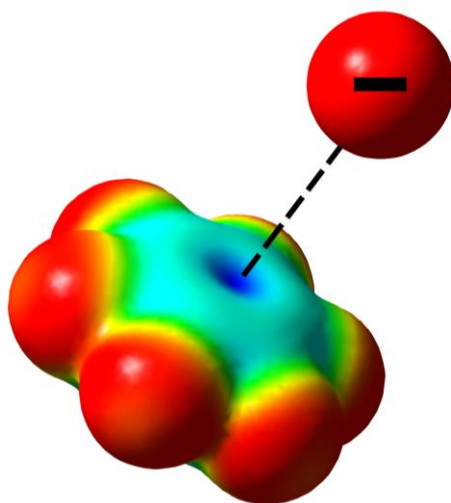
## Anion- $\pi$ interactions: insights from theory and experiment

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Nowadays anion- $\pi$  interactions are accepted and well established in the chemical community. However, the first studies were controversial and started mainly as a scientific curiosity. The initial experimental results by Hiraoka *et al.* in 1987;<sup>[1]</sup> Schneider *et al.* in 1993;<sup>[2]</sup> and Woollins *et al.* in 1996<sup>[3]</sup> already indicated the existence of an attractive interaction between anions and electron-deficient arenes experimentally. Unfortunately, they were ignored for a long time. Later, the simultaneous publication of the works by Mascal,<sup>[4]</sup> Alkorta<sup>[5]</sup> and Deyà<sup>[6]</sup> was decisive to rise the scientific interest on this intermolecular force. These reports in 2002 were the origin of a plethora of scientific publications and initiated a debate about the real existence and relevance of this new interaction.<sup>[7,8]</sup>

In this faculty seminar I would like to emphasize different aspects of the anion- $\pi$  interaction, starting from the initial investigations, its physical insights and some pioneering works. Moreover, some relevant applications and future perspectives of anion- $\pi$  interactions are also discussed.



### References

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