## High Pressure Synthesis of Metal Ion-Sensing Molecules Hiroshi Tsukube, <sup>1</sup> Kiyoshi Matsumoto, <sup>2</sup> and Ken Hirotsu<sup>3</sup>

- 1 Department of Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts & Science, Okayama University
- 2 Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies, Kyoto University
- 3 Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Osaka City University

High pressure SNAr reaction was successfully applied to the synthesis of a new crown ether family (Eq.1), which incorporated various heteroaromatics as potential cation binding sites in a unique fashion. In a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> liquid membrane transport experiment, several azacrown ethers having thiazole, oxazole, and pyridazine rings exhibited a perfect Ag+ ion selectivity. <sup>13</sup>C NMR binding studies suggested that attachment of characteristic heteroaromatics to the aza-crown ring significantly offered excellent Ag+ ion specificity. Since the binding and transport selectivities of these armed crown ethers were apparently higher than those with conventional crown ethers, the high pressure technique provided a useful method for synthesis of a new specific host molecule.<sup>1)-3)</sup>

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