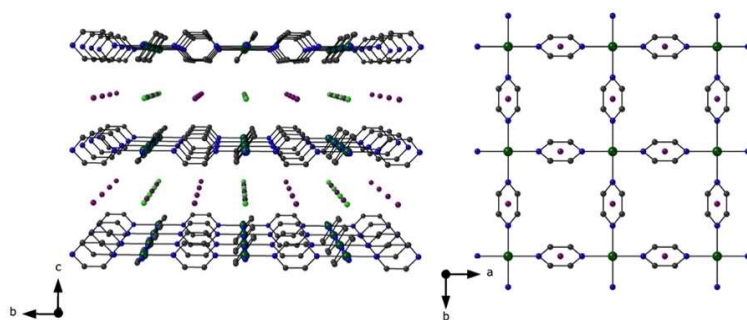


New Metal-Organic Magnets

Rodolphe Clérac,^a Panagiota Perlepe,^a Itziar Oyarzabal,^a Corine Mathonière,^a Kasper Pedersen,^{a,b} Andrei Rogalev^c and All authors in references [1-3].

^aUniv. Bordeaux, CNRS, Centre de Recherche Paul Pascal, Pessac France. ^b Department of Chemistry, Technical University of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark. ^c ESRF-The European Synchrotron, Grenoble France. Email: clerac@crpp-bordeaux.cnrs.fr

Magnets derived from inorganic materials (e.g., oxides, rare earth and intermetallic compounds) are key components of modern technological applications. Despite extensive success in a broad range of applications, these inorganic magnets suffer several drawbacks, such as energetically expensive fabrication, limited availability of certain constituent elements, high density, and poor scope for chemical tunability. A promising design strategy for next-generation magnets relies on the versatile coordination chemistry of abundant metal ions and inexpensive organic ligands. Following this approach, this lecture will present a general, simple and efficient synthesis of lightweight molecule-based magnets by post-synthetic reduction of pre-assembled coordination networks, Cr(pyrazine)₂X₂ (X = Cl or methylsulfonate) incorporating chromium metal ions (in +2 or +3 oxidation states) and pyrazine ligands [1,2]. The resulting metal-organic ferrimagnets feature critical temperatures up to 515 K, and unprecedented 7500-Oersted room-temperature coercivity (see figure below illustrating the structure of Li_{0.7}[Cr(py_z)₂]Cl_{0.7}) [3].



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