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Synthesis, structural characterization and DFT studies of coordination polymers with nitrogen based ligands

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Coordination polymer or Metal-Organic Frameworks (CP/MOFs), which are generally obtained by (self)-assembling of Coligonuclear metal clusters (the so-called Secondary Building Units or SBUs), are the subjects of an increasing number of studies due to their interesting properties and promising applications in numerous important fields, such as gas storage, molecular recognition and catalysis.[1] An interesting class of polynucleating appropriate ligands able to drive the self-assembly of MOFs is represented by N-donor units containing two moieties interconnected by various spacers. Such ligand can afford different lengths, present linear or non-linear geometries and exhibit conformationally rigid or flexible molecular skeletons with infinite one-(1D), two-(2D) or three-(3D) dimensional framework or periodic nets.[2] Yaghiet al. have successfully developed porous materials (such as metal carboxylate) with controllable shape and size of the cavities.[3] Some of these metal carboxylates appeared to have unusual magnetic properties [4a] while others exhibited high efficiency for gas absorption such as dihydrogen and dinitrogen.

In this context, we have designed, synthesized and characterized new CP/MOFs by treatment of the trinuclear core $[\text{Cu}_3(\mu\text{-C}_3\text{H}_3\text{N}_2)_3(\mu_3\text{-OH})(\text{H}_3\text{CCOO})_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)]$ (A) [4b] with different either rigid or flexible N-donor containing ligands. One of the targeted species, the supramolecule $[\text{Cu}_3(4,4'\text{-bipy})(\text{HCOO})(\text{HO})(\mu\text{-}4,4'\text{-bipy})_2(\mu_3\text{-OH})(\mu\text{-pz})_3]_\infty \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (C), obtained by reaction of SBU with 4,4'-bipyridine (B), consists of a 3D supramolecular material, in which the monomeric units are connected by non-covalent bonds such as $\pi\text{-}\pi$ stacking intermolecular interactions and/or C-H... π and C-H...O weak contacts.

In this contribution, we will present the fascinating waved channel structural architecture exhibited by these compounds, which are CP/MOFs or supramolecular self-assembly. The aptitude of the dinitrogen ligand take-up of these Metal-Organic Frameworks will be discussed

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