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Synthesis of M_XO_Y and Related Rings

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By the hydrothermal reaction of lead (II) acetate with 2-benzonylbenzoic acid, colourless crystals of a hexanuclear lead carboxylate with bridging oxide ligands was obtained. The structure of the molecule could be described as being like a tennis ball of lead atoms at the centre of a soccer ball of carboxylate ligands. For clarity the carboxylate and oxide ligands have been omitted.

Crystal structures of other lead (II) carboxylates, which are polymeric, have been obtained.

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The hydrothermal reaction of cadmium acetate and 1,3,5-benzene tricarboxylic acid, formed a polymer which consists of layers of Cd₃C₁₅O₆ rings. This hydrothermal synthesis like the other reactions forming polymeric carboxylates was done inside a PTFE Parr bomb.

The hydrothermal reactions of zinc, manganese and cobalt acetates with 1,3,5-benzene tricarboxylic acid and 2,2'-bipy forms polymeric compounds which contain M_2O_2 rings. These compounds contain layers of carboxylates separated by layers of bipy ligands. This layered structure can be thought of as a stack of iam sandwiches.

In our more recent work, Mn₂O₂ rings have been formed in solids where the bipy has been replaced with pyridyl pyrazoles.

The hydrothermal reaction of zinc or manganese (II) acetate, 2,2'-bipy and 5-hydroxyisophthalic acid forms polymeric materials containing $M_2C_2O_4$ rings.

When the synthesis is repeated with 1,10-phenanthroline instead of 2,2'-bipy, similar compounds, which also contain $M_2C_2O_4$ rings, were obtained.

The room temperature reaction of zinc nitrate with 2 equivalents of 1,3-bis-(4-pyridyl) propane, formed crystals of a polymeric compound, with the formula $[Zn(OH)(Py_2C_3H_6).NO_3]_n$ which contains Zn_3O_3 rings. Attempts to form this compound using one equivalent of $Py_2C_3H_6$ only formed traces of a fine powder.

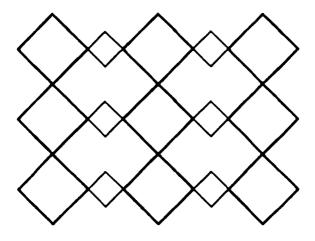
$$Py_{2}C_{3}H_{6} \xrightarrow{Zn(NO_{3})_{2}} \underbrace{LOH/H_{2}O} \xrightarrow{Zn} \underbrace{LOH/H_{2}O} \xrightarrow{LOH/H_{2}O} \underbrace{LOH/H_{2}O} \xrightarrow{LOH/H_{2}$$

The reaction of manganese (II) chloride, 1,3-bis-(4-pyridyl) propane and potassium thiocyanate forms colourless crystals of a polymer, which consists of parallel layers of two interpenetrated grids, made of $Mn_4C_{28}N_8$ rings. Above and below each layer are the thiocyanate ligands.

The reaction of cadmium nitrate, 1,3-bis-(4-pyridyl) propane and potassium thiocyanate forms a mixture of at least two solids. The crystal structure of one of these solids has been obtained. $Cd_2N_2C_2S_2$ rings are linked at the cadmiums into infinite chains. These chains are crosslinked by the 1,3-bis-(4-pyridyl) propane ligands that bind to cadmium atoms in different chains.

By means of a Wittig reaction followed by hydrogenation (H₂ 1 Atm at room temperature using 5% Palladium on Carbon) 1,2-bis-(2-(4-pyridyl) ethyl) benzene was obtained in good yield. The Wittig reaction is conducted in a conical flask using sodium ethoxide in ethanol as the base.

The reaction of cadmium nitrate with 1,2-bis-(2-(4-pyridyl) ethyl) benzene formed crystals of a polymeric compound with the formula [Cd(NO₃)₂(C₂₀H₂₀N₂)₂]_n. This compound contains Cd₂C₂₄N₄ and Cd₄C₄₈N₈ rings which are interlinked at the cadmium atoms. In the following diagram the larger rings are show in bold.



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