Metal-Orga-nic Framework Nanosheets (MONs): A Review On Interfacial Syntheses And Applications Of Coordination Nanosheets

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Abstract: Two-dimensional (2D) nanomaterials such as metal-organic nanosheets (MONs) are exceptionally fascinating for electronics, photonics, optoelectronics, spintronics, and magnetism due to their enticing properties such as tunable structures of ligands and metal complexes, intensify porosity and conductivity as well as successful facile fabrication of larger domains of the 2D materials. Owing to their unique qualities, such as intrinsic electronics and optical attributes, 2D materials have achieved tremendous breakthroughs in the direct applications of MONs. Based on recent research findings, MONs have been regarded as promising materials for surface functioning. At the same time, the intrinsic band structure and electronic properties may be rationally regulated via structural change, which can be the focal point of advanced materials design, processing, and progress. In this context, the potential to utilize different ligands and a vast number of coordinative atoms become important in designing 2D materials to address the tremendous needs of industry players. This review focuses on coordination nanosheets, a type of molecule-based nanosheets. The examples of coordination nanosheets are discussed in Section 1. In Section 2, surveys research on bottom-up coordination nanosheets synthesized through the liquid/liquid and gas/liquid interfacial reactions are discussed. Section 3 discusses the potential applications of coordination nanosheets in nanomaterial science. Overall, this review provides a useful source of information for researchers working on advancing 2D nanomaterials, particularly coordination nanosheets.

Keywords: two-dimensional; metal-organic nanosheets; coordination nanosheets

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1. Introduction

Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are three-dimensional (3D) crystalline materials in general, although it is being incorporated with laminar 2D nanosheet motifs to produce 3D crystals [1]. To form supramolecular frameworks, MOFs typically require a number of strong and reversible organic–metal bonds [2]. The most prominent form factor of metalorganic material is 2D MONs. MOFs nanosheets [3], metal-organic surfaces (MOSs) [4], metal-organic
layers (MOLs) [5], metal-organic flakes [6], metal-organic graphene analogs (MOGs) [7,8], organometallic sheets [9], two-dimensional MOFs [10], coordination nanosheets [10], two-dimensional coordination polymers [11], single-layered MOFs based materials (MOFenes) [12] and hybrid organic-inorganic [13] nanosheets have all been used to describe MONs.

Even though there are significant differences between some of the terminologies used in these descriptions, they are grouped under a common name to highlight the similarities in the fundamental chemistry, synthesis method, characterization techniques, and attribution. In this context, a broader term was used in this review, including materials that exhibit ‘nanosheet’-like structure and its characteristics.

MONs are made of coordination between ligands and metal ions or clusters having 2D continuous connectivity but merely non-covalent engagements in a 3D form. Moreover, MONs must be able to be in the form of free-standing sheets or as layers in a bulk material that is detachable from a surface or other scaffolds. The primary idea in constructing 2D nanosheets is to create materials that have weak interactions across the layers in the bulk material but retain robust directional interactions within a plane. One of the examples is Graphene which possesses covalently bonded carbon-carbon atoms forming a hexagonal lattice, the layers of which are bound together by comparatively moderate dispersion interactions [14]. Interestingly, within-layer connectivity of MONs can be established via coordination between organic ligands and metal ions or inorganic clusters, or a combination of the two [15]. Any 3D connection is usually a combination of ionic interactions, hydrogen bonding, or dispersion, which allows for the separation and isolation of particular layers. Due to their intriguing physics, 2D materials have been of interest in the last two decades, of which the most prominent is graphene [16,17]. Nevertheless, due to its zero bandgap, graphene is unfit to be employed in semiconductor-based devices [18]. This constraint opens the door to a wide range of studies into the development of alternative 2D-layered structures [19–27], such as transition metal chalcogenides [28], hydroxides [29], carbides [30], graphdiynes [31], boron nitride [32], black phosphorus nanosheets [33] and MXenes [34]. Other compounds namely Germanene [35] compound from the graphene family is also used for the application in electronics [36], photonics [37], optoelectronics [38], spintronics [39], magnetism [40] and others [41]. To enhance the physical properties of the 2D materials, materials science research was conducted to functionalize and flexibly adjust the electronic band structure of these materials [18,42,43].

Coordination nanosheets, the family of MONs, display interesting characteristics and functional groups that enable chemical functionalization and subsequently aid in developing molecular superstructures. Metal complex motifs have unique magnetic, redox, and photo properties that may be used to express desired functions in coordination nanosheets. The most obvious feature of coordination nanosheets is their wide range of diversity and the unlimited combinations of metal atoms or ions and organic molecules that could be used to fabricate molecule-based nanosheets [44,45]. Even though molecule-based nanosheets are more diversified than inorganic nanosheets, their synthesis and characterization have proved to be challenging hence impeding commercialization. Although molecule-based nanosheets have been considered theoretically for many years [46], they did not become a reality until the early 2000s.

This is a review of the coordination nanosheets, a type of molecule-based nanosheet. Metal ions/atoms/clusters and organic ligand molecules make up a coordination nanosheet, whereas the coordination bonds between them create a 2D polymeric framework. This review starts with a discussion on several examples of nanosheets before introducing the typical
synthetic strategies for interfacial synthesis. Finally, the applications of coordination nanosheets are summarized.

1.1. Examples of coordination nanosheets.

Varaksa, Magnera, and Michl reported the first example of a coordination nanosheet on a Hg surface [47] using 1,3,5-tris[10-(3-ethylthiopropyl) dimethylsilyl-1,10-dicarba-closo-decaboran-1-yl]benzene as the starting material in a Langmuir-Blodgett (LB) fitted with a potentiostat. Even though the 2D coordination network structure was not observed, the hypothesized hexagonal network bound by Hg ions was shown with Austin Model 1 (AM1) optimized structure. The bridging links between the sulfide molecules were S–Hg$^{2+}$–S or S–Hg$^{2+}$–S and the hexagon motif with a length of 1.89 nm, which is similar to the predicted Langmuir isotherm. According to the author, the difference between the observed and calculated values may be due to the misrepresentation of the hexagon's relative size related to defects and grain boundaries. Although there is no further characterization and isolation of discrete structures of the nanosheets, this work paved the way for the development of coordination nanosheets.

1.1.1. Carboxylate-based coordination nanosheets.

The most often used organic ligand for fabricating coordination nanosheets is polycarboxylates, which are well-liked for their stable, directed coordination chemistry and a broad range of commercially available ligands. Isostructural coordination nanosheets have been shaped employing an assortment of metal ions (Cu, Zn, Co), longer direct diacid chains [48], 1,3-benzene dicarboxylate derivatives [49,50], and 1,4-benzene dicarboxylate [51–53]. Cao et al. established an infinite 3,6-connected 2D network with a kagome dual (kgd) topology by integrating 3-connected carboxylate ligands, originally benzene-1,3,5-tribenzoate (BTB) moieties, with the Hf$^{4+}$ cluster [Hf$_{6}$(μ$_{3}$-0)$_{4}$(μ$_{3}$-0H$_{4}$ (carboxylate)$_{12}$] [5]. Coordination nanosheets based on the tetrakis (4-carboxyphenyl)porphyrin (TCPP) structure have been synthesized using a variety of metal paddlewheels [54–56]. The paddlewheel motif comprises four carboxylate ligands arranged in a plane around two metal cations capped with axial ligands, is an excellent secondary building block to generate coordination nanosheets. This motif also facilitates the fabrication of bimetallic coordination nanosheets by coordinating numerous metal ions at the paddlewheel and porphyrin units [57].

1.1.2. N-donor-based coordination nanosheets.

4,4-bipyridine (bpy), a neutral N-donor system, was utilized to construct a layered framework of Cu(bpyh(OTf)$_{2}$) while the trifluoromethanesulfonate (OTf) counterions bound weakly at the interacting layers [58]. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and atomic force microscopy (AFM) revealed the single and few layers of nanosheets with crumpling and rolling to create nanoscrolls. This thus emphasizes the system's flexibility. Several different tri- and hexadentate terpyridine (tpy) building blocks have also been utilized to self-assemble monolayers at interfaces through coordination to various metal ions [59–63]. These multidentate building units offer strong coordinating interactions with a high degree of connectivity through their multidentate binding. The single-layered nanosheets produced via interfacial assembly are mechanically robust and may have lateral dimensions up to several cm. However, the degree of crystallinity is probably low [64]. A structurally similar family of
coordination nanosheets has also been fabricated by using coordination between tri- or tetra-
dipyrinato ligands and tetrahedral zinc ions [65,66].

1.1.3. Diamine/dithiolene-based coordination nanosheets.

A series of coordination nanosheets, which were constructed between aromatic bis(dithiolenes) and square-planar metal ions, have garnered a great deal of attention due to their remarkable electrical properties. For example, the reaction between benzenehexathiol (BHT) and d8 metal ions such as Ni(II) [67] and Pd(II) [68,69] created six-fold symmetry planar nanosheets with the Ni(II) bis(dithiolene) motif. These complexes show a significant charge delocalization across the three metalladithiolene units in mixed-valent states through the phenylene linker. Triphenylene hexathiolate with nickel [70] and cobalt [71] have synthesized expanded variants of these systems besides the amino analogs. In acetylacetonate, the interfacial reaction between hexaminobenzene and metal ions such as Ni2+, Cu2+, and Co2+ resulted in several microns wide of slightly conducting thin sheets. Although individual sheets of these materials have not been separated, expanded counterparts of these layered materials have been produced to establish semi-conducting frameworks by reacting hexaminotriphenylene with Ni and Cu ions [72–74]. Mixed amine/thiolene coordination nanosheets with similar structures have also been synthesized by combining triphenylene hexathiolate and hexaminotriphenylene with Ni2+ or Co2+ ions [75].

2. Interfacial Synthesis of Coordination Nanosheets

There are two different approaches to the synthesis of coordination nanosheets, which are known as "bottom-up" and "top-down". In the "bottom-up" method, the nanosheets are fabricated directly as discrete entities through numerous approaches to induce the crystallization process. While for the "top-down" method, the nanosheets are dissociated from the bulk layered materials such as graphene sheets by mechanical isolation from graphite. However, the coordination bonding between the layers of coordination nanosheets is more versatile than in graphene or other inorganic materials. Therefore, this paves the way for fabricating coordination nanosheets from solution and alleviates some of the difficulties related to irreversible bond formation. This also implies that gentler treatments may be needed, and the structures may need to be rearranged. The "bottom-up" method will be discussed, specifically the interfacial synthesis. In interfacial synthesis, the use of phase interfaces such as air-liquid [61,66,76–82] or liquid-liquid [65,83–86] is the alternate technique for steering the crystal development into two dimensions. These techniques operate in ambient circumstances in general. Langmuir-Blodgett troughs have been used to show liquid-gas interfacial growth in which a ligand solution in a volatile organic solvent is placed on top of an aqueous phase of metal ions [81,82,87]. Surface compression may induce huge extended nanosheets with sub-mm scale domains with an unknown crystallinity of the vast sheets. Furthermore, films may also be constructed using layer-by-layer deposition of these larger nanosheets. Nishihara and the team have reported more comprehensive techniques, and several nanosheets were generated using these methods [88,89]. The interface-assisted techniques were often applied in the initial stages of the bottom-up methods by assembling the organic ligands and metal ions at different interfaces [90]. The area of the reaction interface hugely affects the size of the nanosheets. Creating an interface with a significant reaction area and appropriate metal ions-ligand molecular diffusion ability is the key to constructing extended nanosheets.
The interfacial synthesis may be conducted at room temperature without the need for a controlled environment. Generally, the interfacial synthesis is divided into two groups based on the interface position, whether liquid/liquid interface or gas/liquid interface synthesis.

2.1. Liquid/liquid interfacial synthesis.

The coordination interaction between metal ions in an aqueous solution and organic ligands in organic solvents produces coordination nanosheets at the interfacial of two immiscible solvents. This technique has been used to fabricate a number of multilayers and ultrathin coordination nanosheets, either non-conjugated or \( \pi \)-conjugated nanosheets. Bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) complex is the example of a none-conjugated nanosheet that was synthesized at the \( \text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{dichloromethane} (\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2) \) interface where the top layer is zinc(II) aqueous acetate solution. In contrast, the bottom layer is the three-way dipyrrin ligand (L1) in \( \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \) [66]. An orange transparent film (N1) was observed at the \( \text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \) interfacial region with 700 nm thickness, equivalent to 580 layers of single-layer N1. The liquid/liquid interface technique may also be used to synthesize non-conjugated nanosheets based on non-coplanar organic linkers such as dipyrrin and terpyridine. The coordination process between Fe\(^{2+}\) ions and terpyridine ligand [86] yielded 180-nm-thick bis(terpyridine)Fe(II) complex \( \pi \)-conjugated nanosheets at the \( \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O} \) interface. The coordination interaction between transition metal ions and planar organic ligands at the liquid/liquid interface may produce ultrathin \( \pi \)-conjugated nanosheets with hexagonal layered architectures such as metal bis(dithiolene) complexes [71,83,92,93], metal hexaaminobenzene [94], bis(aminothiolato)nickel [69] and cobalt dithiolene framework [95]. For example, multilayered bis(aminothiolato)nickel \( \pi \)-conjugated coordination nanosheets with a size of over 10 \( \mu \)m were synthesized at the liquid/liquid interface via a coordination interaction between 1,3,5-triaminobenzene-2,4,6-trithiol aqueous solution and bis(2,4-pentanedionato)nickel(II) (Ni(acac)\(_2\)) in \( \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \) resulting in a semiconducting nanosheet [75]. In liquid/liquid interfacial synthesis, an aqueous solution of the metal ions is gently placed on top of the organic ligand solution to create a liquid/liquid interface, as shown in Figure 1.

![Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the liquid/liquid interfacial synthesis.](https://biointerfaceresearch.com/)

The solution was gently removed once the nanosheet had formed. If the organic solvent has a lower density than water, it will rise to the top of the layering system. Although the domain size may reach 10 cm, there is space for debate regarding the quality and crystallinity of the coordination nanosheets generated using this method. Sakamoto et al. reported a novel bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) complex (N2) micro-and nanosheets, which was formed by the coordination between zinc ions and a 4-fold symmetry porphyrin–dipyrrin hybrid ligand [66]. The N2 was then utilized as the active material in a photoelectric conversion system by leveraging the existence of porphyrin and bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) complex units that has a wide
range of visible-light spectrum absorption bands [65]. The coordination process at the liquid/liquid interface often results in multilayer nanosheets. Some modifications to the method may produce single-layer nanosheets. The formation of ultrathin nanosheets can be induced by controlling horizontal and vertical growth [96–102].

An in-situ interfacial chemical reaction occurs at the liquid/liquid interface resulting in the production of nanosheets obtained at the liquid/liquid contact. The case of a generic reaction is represented by (1), as shown in Figure 1.

\[
A(\text{solvent 1}) + B(\text{solvent 2}) \rightarrow AB(s) \tag{1}
\]

The groundbreaking study by Amellot et al., who produced thin films using a water/1-octanol biphasic solution, has synthesized several MOFs structures in-situ at liquid/liquid interfaces using many methods [103]. By using a biphasic water/chloroform system, thin films were formed on the inner or outer side of the polymeric hollow fiber membranes resulting in membranes with excellent performance in gas separation operations [104]. Joshi et al. synthesized various organometallic polymers of catechol–metal by in-situ reaction of a catechol derivative in toluene or dichloromethane with Fe\(^{2+}\) or Cu\(^{2+}\) precursors in an aqueous solution. Testing for oil/water combinations demonstrated superhydrophobic films with excellent separation efficiency [105]. The liquid-liquid interface synthesis technique is restricted to immiscible solvents and may also be used in organic solvents with a variety of densities. A novel method for the fabrication of free-standing thin films based on miscible liquid/liquid interfaces (MLLI) at room temperature has been developed by Bai et al. In order to prepare the nanosheets, a solution of Cu\(^{3+}\) ions in N,N-dimethylformamide/acetonitrile (DMF/ACN) was sprayed onto the surface of a DMF/ACN solution containing the ligand. This resulted in a freestanding film at the liquid interface [106]. In addition, coordination nanosheet capsules made of 2D coordination polymers were successfully synthesized using a spherical liquid/liquid interface of DCM droplets in water [107]. For the first time, an electrochromic (EC) hyperbranched coordination nanosheet containing an iron(II) ion and a three-arm terpyridine (3tpy)-based ligand has been created on a liquid-liquid interface [108]. From the microscopic examination of the coordination nanosheets film deposited on ITO, the formation of a homogenous nanosheet layer with 350 nm thickness was observed. Upon switching on the fabricated solid-state electrochemical device (ECD), it undergoes a reversible redox reaction (Fe\(^{2+}\) to Fe\(^{3+}\)) accompanied by a color change over several cycles. Besides fabricating the metal-oxide framework nanosheets, the liquid-liquid interface synthesis method can fabricate covalent framework nanosheets via polymerization of organic molecules at the interface of two-layered solvents [109–112]. The production of covalent framework nanosheets is highly dependent on the order of the added solvents. Dey et al. mentioned that an interfacial crystallization approach might be used to fabricate ultra-thin covalent framework nanosheets with 50 to 90 nm thicknesses [113].

2.2. Liquid/liquid interfacial route (LLIR).

Some of the most significant accomplishments of a new method known as the Liquid/Liquid Interfacial Route (LLIR) is the ability to synthesize various types of materials as thin films and deposit the thin films as single- or multi-component materials over any substrate, including flexible substrates. Moreover, the deposited thin films' thickness, homogeneity, and transparency can be controlled. The well-known deposition techniques such as chemical vapor deposition (CVD) have some disadvantages whereby numerous novel and complex materials are unable to be deposited due to insolubility, infusibility, and dispersibility.
of the material. Methods requiring high temperatures are not suitable for polymers deposition onto plastisol. Therefore, LLIR is particularly intriguing because it directly enables the in-situ synthesis of multi-component materials as thin films stabilize at the liquid/liquid interface. This could solve the issues relating to the preparation and processing in a single pot and single-step procedure [114].

In LLIR, two immiscible liquids are brought into contact with one another. In the first option, the solid to be deposited as a thin film has been previously dispersed in one of the liquids. Then, the L/L system is stirred or placed in an ultrasonic bath to produce droplets of one liquid phase spread across the other liquid phase that is similar to a macro-emulsion. After some time, the stirring is stopped, and spontaneous self-organization of the scattered solid at the interface between the two liquids is seen. This results in a linked film resembling a flexible skin. Once the material has been stabilized as a film at the interface, it can be easily removed and deposited over suitable substrates by immersing the substrate in a bottom-phase liquid below the film and lifting the substrate in the film direction in a controlled manner. The most important alternative in LLIR is a hybrid of the two preceding processes, which are a chemical reaction in the presence of one or two dispersed materials and a hybrid of the two preceding techniques. The resulting solid, a thin film at the liquid/liquid contact, will be a nanocomposite between the previously dispersed solid and the solid formed by the chemical reaction. The particle size, shape, chemical composition, surface composition, and roughness are important in this process. The transfer process from the liquid/liquid interface to the solid substrate directly affects the quality of the deposited film. It is possible to utilize a variety of various sizes and shapes of substrates.

Additionally, deposition may be performed on both sides of the substrate by drawing the substrate perpendicular to the liquid/liquid film. Multiple successive depositions in a layer-by-layer method over the same substrate are also possible. The thickness of the film has an impact on both transparency and conductivity. Therefore, achieving consistent control over the thickness and homogeneity of the thin films is one of the most important aspects to be considered in any synthesis method. One of the most intriguing aspects of the LLIR is that these parameters may be adjusted by simply controlling the quantity of the material prior to the deposition process. Another method of controlling the film thickness is changing the reaction flask's size or changing the temperature. The planar interfacial area between the two immiscible liquids will increase by approximately two. In this approach, the dispersed solid is evenly distributed across the liquid/liquid contact resulting in the thinnest layer interface [115]. The LLIR has shown exceptional efficiency in synthesizing thin films of organic, inorganic, or metallorganic bidimensional films such as COFs, TMDs, metal-organic frameworks, or metalloporphyrins. LLIR is able to produce thin films with a number of distinct attributes compared to the conventional deposition routes. For example, the deposited film could originate from existing material or be synthesized in-situ using the one-pot method. This simple, inexpensive procedure does not require expensive or complex equipment, and can be carried out in an uncontrolled environment. In contrast to other techniques, the LLIR does not require high temperatures. Thus, avoiding substrate restrictions in which deposition over plastic substrates is not possible for some techniques. In the era of cutting-edge technology requiring flexibility, conductivity, and transparency such as flexible organic solar cells, stretchable sensors, flexible and transparent electrodes, LLIR is suitable to be engaged in industrial-scale production. Although the roll-to-roll continuous deposition method was the first large-scale thin-film manufacturing [116], researchers may create many alternative ways in the near future.
2.3. Gas/liquid interfacial synthesis.

The LB thin film has been studied extensively since it was first discovered by Langmuir and Katherine Blodgett. The researcher found that the organic layer was evenly formed on a solid substrate by inserting the solid substrate vertically into the water subphase. The term "Langmuir film" refers to a monolayer that floats on the liquid surface, while the "LB film" term refers to a multi-layered film [117,118]. Fabrication of relatively few- or single-layer thick coordination nanosheets in a short time is possible by conducting the synthesis in a Langmuir–Blodgett (LB) trough. When the organic solvent evaporates, a coordination nanosheet is formed dispersedly at the gas/liquid interface. In order to collect the pieces, the surface area in the LB trough must be reduced to increase the density per unit area. The domain size may reach a sub-millimeter scale. Benzene [67,92,119], carboxyl [82,87,120], terpyridine [61,77] and cyanide groups [121,122] have all been used to fabricate coordination nanosheets. Following the discovery of the LB method, components are no longer limited to basic surfactants of both hydrophobic and hydrophilic portions. Various other kinds of molecules have been used to create functional thin films at the air/liquid interface. For example, when functional molecules lacking alkyl chains are employed in some cases, the molecules pack together at the interface through weak interactions such as π-π* and van der Waals interactions. In contrast, other stronger interactions such as coordination, covalent, and multiple hydrogen bonds may increase the stability of the film, and the application of direct guided interactions possibly control the molecular arrangements. Makiura and colleagues synthesized a series of Cu-based coordination nanosheets at the gas/liquid interface [78,79,82,87,120] by adding a small quantity of organic precursor into the metal ions solution. In addition, Ashworth and Foster also reported a series of coordination nanosheets utilizing this method, including the use of Ni^{2+}, Cu^{2+}, and Co^{2+} [123], while Lahiri et al. successfully fabricated a series of hexamino benzene-based coordination nanosheets with hexagonal honeycomb crystal structure [94]. A single layer with high dimensions could not be produced due to significant π–stacking interactions between the layers. To accelerate the evaporation of the organic solvent, a small quantity of a liquid with a low surface tension was often added to allow for a high extension on the water surface [75]. In contrast to the liquid/liquid interfacial method, gas/liquid interfacial synthesis is suitable for fabricating single- or thick-layer coordination nanosheets [124,125]. Nishihara and his co-workers fabricated single-layer coordination nanosheets by gently spreading the ligand in an organic solvent on a metal ion solution [66]. The coordination reaction between the ligands and metal ions created single-layer nanosheets at the interface after fast evaporation of the organic solvent. Bao et al. reported have successfully synthesized large-area films with 2-nm-thick [126] under Schiff base condensation reaction at the gas/liquid interface for 2 days. Interestingly, the thickness of the film can be easily controlled by manipulating the reaction times. In addition, another single-layer nanosheet, Ni-benzenehexathiol π-conjugated nanosheet with 0.6-nm-thick, was also successfully obtained using this method [92,127]. Porphyrin and metalloporphyrin are very stable macrocyclic π-conjugated molecules with a square-planar structure holding excellent building blocks in fabricating two-dimensional supramolecular structures. The combination of peripheral polar substituents in porphyrins and a hydrophobic macrocyclic core [128–130] is ideal for producing functional nanosheets. Qian et al. successfully fabricated porphyrin-based nanosheets by using 5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-pyridyl)-21H,23H-porphyrin (H2TPyP) and its metal-ion derivatives (MTPyP, M= Zn(II), Mn(III), Ti(IV)O) on palladium salt aqueous solutions [131].
3. Nanosheets Applications

In general, bottom-up coordination nanosheets can be categorized into two different groups [132]. The first group is conjugated coordination nanosheets such as cobalt–hexaaminobenzene metal–organic coordination polymer nanosheets (Co–HAB-NSs) as published by Li et al. [21], the Co–DABDT (DABDT = 2,5-diamino-1,4-benzenedithiol dihydrochloride) [133], the copper–benzenehexathiol (Cu–BHT) complex-based coordination nanosheet reported by Zhu et al. [134] and others. These coordination nanosheets are promising next-generation molecular electronics because of their high electrical conductivity that is derived from the $\pi - d$ coupling interactions. The other group is the nonconjugated coordination nanosheet such as In$_2$Se$_3$ reported by Shi et al. [135] and tri(terpyridine)-based building block and iron atoms (TpPB-Fe-MSC) synthesized by Wang et al. [136] and others. Since some of the ligands employed in the fabrication are low-conjugated, the conductivity of the coordination nanosheets might be low due to a lack of planarity. In addition to that, the electronic structures with confined molecular orbitals and low band dispersion restricted the conductivity and applicability in electronics. The nonconjugated coordination nanosheets have also gained a new dimension in different applications such as photoactivity [137,138], transmetalation [80], electrocatalysis [139,140], electrochromism [63,86,141] and others since Schlüter et al. obtained the monolayer bottom-up organometallic sheets at the gas/liquid interface [45].

3.1. Electrochromic nanosheets.

Electrochromism is a term that refers to materials or devices with altered optical characteristics reversibly and continuously when exposed to an alternating electric field [142]. Generally, photoelectrochemical measurements are used to characterize the electrochromic performance [143]. Optical modulation, switching speed, coloring efficiency, cycle stability, and optical memory are the primary characteristics used to assess electrochromic materials or devices [144]. Electrochromic materials are often utilized [145] in commercial display device applications such as flat panel displays [146], smart windows [147], biosensors [148], and others due to the distinct color variations. However, drawbacks such as low coloring efficiency, sluggish switching speed, and poor cycle stability hinder their further improvement. Advanced research in electrochromic material was initially started when Debra S. K. and colleagues published the first report on the electrochromic tungsten trioxide (WO$_3$) in 1969. Under the stimulation of negative voltage, the color of the WO$_3$ film shifted from colorless to blue in a reversible manner [149]. Moreover, most ion storage materials such as nickel oxide [150] and Prussian blue [151] exhibit superior electrochromic performances. Coordination nanosheets often exhibit metal center electronic transitions such as d-d$^*$ transitions for transition metal-based coordination nanosheets and d-f$^*$ transitions for lanthanide metal-based coordination nanosheets. In addition, the coordination nanosheets also often exhibit both metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT) and ligand-to-metal charge transfer (LMCT) absorption, in which the MLCT plays an important role for the electrochromic behavior. This is because the color responsible for the MLCT may be changed in response to changes in redox states of the metal ions [152,153]. When it comes to charging transfer processes, the MLCT refers to the charge transfer from a metal d orbital to an organic ligand $\pi^*$ orbital within the coordination nanosheets molecule. In contrast, LMCT refers to the charge transfer from an organic ligand $\pi^*$ orbital to a metal d orbital within the coordination
Electrochromism occurs when the $M^{2+}/M^{3+}$ pair undergoes redox reactions under the applied alternating potential causing coordination polymer color to change in a reversible manner. For example, coordination nanosheets consisting of Fe(II) ions and terpyridine-based ligands typically show wide light absorption in a visible range that is originated from MLCT transition [59,155,156] Xing et al. in a study had fabricated three novel Fe(II) coordination nanosheets in which two terpyridine moieties are linked by nonconjugated alkyl chain linkers [157]. Electrochromic materials are primarily classified into organic or inorganic groups. For example, transition metal oxides such as tungsten oxide, nickel oxide, and other similar compounds are used in inorganic electrochromic materials [158,159].

Conjugated conducting polymers and coordination polymers such as polyaniline, viologen, poly (3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene): poly (styrene sulfonate) (PEDOT: PSS), and pyridyl-based coordination nanosheets are examples of organic materials [160]. The coordination nanosheets are among the organic polymers that have received increased interest as a result of their intriguing characteristics in chemistry, physics, optoelectronics, and other fields of study. Particularly, hyperbranched coordination nanosheets show rapid electrochromic switching and better coloring efficiency than other types of organic materials [62]. However, the primary disadvantage of this class of polymers is their insolubility in the common low boiling organic solvent for spray/spin coating films. Therefore, bottom-up hyperbranched coordination nanosheets provide a method for fabricating thin films for electrochromic devices with almost limitless lateral dimension and thickness. This is done by forming a network of interconnected nanosheets as well as readily deposited onto any chosen substrate with little or no modification. Nishihara et al. were the first to demonstrate electrochromism in multilayer hyperbranched coordination nanosheets of Fe$^{2+}$ and Co$^{2+}$ featuring bis(terpyridine)metal(II) complex motifs [86]. Higuchi then managed to synthesize coordination nanosheets based on the tris(2,2′-bipyridine) iron(II) complex exhibiting electrochromism [141]. In addition, Zhang et al. also successfully synthesized multi-colored coordination nanosheets based on the terpyridine-Fe(II) complex with excellent electrochromic properties [63]. The electrochromic switching times are less than 3s, and the electrochromic cycle stabilities are excellent. However, the optical memory in coordination nanosheets-based electrochromic devices was not investigated, although it is a critical parameter in developing power-efficient electrochromic devices. Because of its high electron affinity, 2,2′:6′,2″-terpyridine has been extensively studied as a ligand for transition metal ions. This moiety has the potential to be employed in preparing highly stable supramolecular coordination compounds and coordination polymers such as coordination nanosheets with fascinating magnetic, electronic, and optical properties [84,141]. Terpyridine-based coordination nanosheets display different multicolor electrochromic performances attributed to both parts of triphenylamine and [M(terpyridyl)]$_2$ that have their electrochromic characteristics. The electrochromic coordination nanosheets displayed a feature of a conjugated terpyridine ligand-based framework that allows facile redox conduction throughout the system. The porous hyperbranched structure, on the other hand, facilitate a rapid counter ion transport resulting in short switching times. Roy and Chakraborty successfully developed and synthesized one hyperbranched bottom-up coordination nanosheet composed of a three-arm nonconjugated flexible terpyridine (3tpy)-based ligand and Fe(II) via liquid-liquid interfacial synthesis method [108]. The 3tpy–Fe nanosheet was insoluble in all solvents, indicating that the network was hyperbranched. The free-standing film at the liquid-liquid interface is transferable to various substrates, including indium tin oxide (ITO). This electrochromic material exhibited color change at a low switching time, high coloration
efficiency, and cycle durability. Besides terpyridine-based ligand, Dong et al. described a star-shaped thiophene derivative with a central triphenylamine core and three arms of bithiophene. This derivative demonstrates multi-color electrochromism derived from the oxidative states of the triphenylamine and quaterthiophene groups [63,161]. The liquid-liquid interfacial synthesis was employed to fabricate the terpyridine-Fe(II) complex nanosheets. The color and thickness of these nanosheets increased with the extension of the standing period. Regardless of the thickness, all nanosheets exhibited comparable features with two typical absorption bands at 400 nm and 580 nm and a single absorption band at 480 nm. These findings were similar to the previously published Fe$^{2+}$-terpyridyl coordination compounds suggesting that the nanosheets have been successfully fabricated. Despite the lack of visual contrast, the metal complex's rapid switching time and good electrochromic stability make it a viable candidate material system for electrochromic displays.

3.2. Conductive nanosheets.

$\pi$-conjugated coordination nanosheets have many potential applications and are comparable to graphene and molybdenum disulfide, which are semiconductors with high carrier mobilities. These conjugated coordination nanosheets have a high electrical conductivity due to $\pi$–d conjugation between the metal centers and a planar conjugated ligand. However, the fabrication of this coordination nanosheet has proven to be challenging for many reasons. Nonconjugated coordination nanosheets have poor conductivity due to a lack of planarity in their structure [60]. These materials' restricted conductivity and applicability in electronics were due to the localized molecular orbitals and low band dispersion in their intrinsic electronic structures. Nishihara and colleagues discovered trinuclear dithiolene metal complexes fused with a phenylene bridge in which the valences were highly delocalized between the three dithiolene rings [162]. They successfully fabricated a $\pi$ -conjugated bis(dithiolene)nickel complex nanosheet (4-Ni) in a mixed-valence state [67,85] with high electrical conductivity via liquid/liquid interfacial synthesis. This nanosheet exhibited high conductivity values, and the value changes depending on the oxidation state. Liu suggested single layer bis(dithiolene)nickel complex nanosheets as the ideal first organic 2D topological insulator [127]. The topological insulator is a novel state of matter with an insulating bulk portion but metallic-phase edges (surfaces or sides). As a result, topological insulators have the potential to be used in spintronics and quantum computing devices. Generally, most topological insulators have been based on inorganic materials [163–168]. Theories anticipated the possibility of the presence of an organic topological insulator in 2D organometallic frameworks. Nevertheless, the experimental synthesis of these theoretically suggested structures has not been established [167,168] despite the discovery of the bis(dithiolene)metal complex motif consisting of two quasi-aromatic five-membered rings with excellent electrical communication [169].

3.3. Photofunctional nanosheets.

Gölzhäuser and colleagues reported the discovery of the world's first photo-functional nanosheet [170]. This was done by the self-assembled (SAM) 4'-'nitro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-thiol (NBPT) on a gold surface in which SAM was then subjected to electrons to crosslink it into an approximately 1 nm thick sheet with amino and thiol sides. Various possible combinations of inorganic cations and organic anions allow the coordination of nanosheets properties to be
tailored via bottom-up self-assembly. Bis(dipyrrinato)metal(II) and tris(dipyrrinato)metal(III) complexes exhibit significant light absorption and fluorescence in the visible range of the light spectrum [171–174] that is suitable for the fabrication of supramolecular structures and coordination polymers [175,176]. By engaging the bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) complex motif, Sakamoto and Nishihara fabricated photo functional coordination nanosheets via interfacial techniques [66,177] comprised of a three-way dipyrrin ligand and Zn$^{2+}$ ions. It was the first attempt that a bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) coordination nanosheet was used as a photo absorber in a liquid electrolyte-filled photoelectrochemical cell and successfully generated a quantum yield ($\varphi$) of 0.86 percent for photoelectric conversion. Later, Sakamoto et al. fabricated porphyrin-hybridized bis(dipyrrinato)zinc(II) complex nanosheets by substituting the dipyrrin ligand with a porphyrin-dipyrrin hybrid ligand. With the enhanced photoresponse nature of the porphyrin unit, the absorption band broadened from 450-550 nm to 400-650 nm and the photoresponse efficiency increased by 2.02 percent [65]. Due to the lack of vacant d-orbitals in zinc(II) ions, zinc(II)-based coordination nanosheets are considered as electrical insulators because of the overlap between the $\pi$-orbitals of ligands and the d-orbitals of zinc(II) ions is minimal. To overcome this issue, iron(II) ions are the most promising alternative to zinc(II) ions because of the presence of vacant d-orbitals, and more significantly, iron(II) ions are abundant in the surface crust of the Earth. Kambe et al. discovered that the use of a Fe$_3$(THT)$_2$(NH$_4$)$_3$ (THT = 2,3,6,7,10,11- triphenylenehexathiol) film in solid-state photodetectors exhibited a maximum spectral responsivity (R) as high as 4 mA W$^{-1}$ [119]. However, large ligands in the coordination nanosheets, such as nonplanar soft ligands and THT, obstruct the charge carrier transport paths. This results in longer distances between the metal centers [119] or unevenness of the coordination nanosheets [178,179], thereby affecting the photoelectric conversion efficiencies of the nanosheets. The nanosheets are deposited onto a transparent semiconductive metal oxide electrode such as ITO or tin oxide (SnO$_2$) to engage as a photoanode in a photoelectric conversion system. The decorated photoanode is installed in a photoelectric conversion cell with a suitable electrolyte solution containing a sacrificial electron donor (triethanolamine (TEOA) [180]. Since liquid electrolytes are used in these photoelectrochemical cells, some durability problems such as electrolyte leakage, corrosion of the coordination nanosheets, and electrode destruction need to be resolved before the practical application of coordination nanosheets-based photoelectric conversion systems [181]. The practical approach will comprise solid-state designs to overcome the limitations of liquid electrolyte technology. When incorporating light harvesters into solid-state electronic devices, the electrical conductivity should be taken into consideration rather than the ionic conductivity. In response to the foregoing requirements, Wang et al. designed a $\pi$ -conjugated coordination nanosheets composed of a bis(dithiolene)iron(II) complex [FeBHT] to serve as the photoactive layer in a liquid-free photodetector by replacing the liquid electrolytes with a Spiro-OMeTAD solid-state layer known to be an efficient hole transporter [182,183]. FeBHT was fabricated via coordination reactions between benzenehexathiol (BHT) and iron(II) ammonium sulfate [Fe(NH$_4$)$_2$(SO$_4$)$_2$]. BHT is a rigid, small planar ligand. Many coordination nanosheets containing the BHT ligand have shown to be an outstanding electrical conductivity owing to their high coplanarities and the distance-shortening effect between the metals [134,184]. The combination of these materials improved the photoresponses of FeBHT photodetectors with a $\varphi$ value of 5.94%. After 60 days of exposure to air, 94 percent of the photocurrent is still maintained, indicating that the nanosheets employed in the laboratory study are suitable for real-world optoelectronic applications [185].
4. Outlooks and Conclusions

MONs are highly engaging polymeric materials that have gained significant interest in materials science in current decades. Beginning with studies on graphene nanosheets, researchers have expanded their interest into this area by exploring others nanosheets with burgeoning potential in electronics, photonics, optoelectronics, spintronics, magnetism, and others. This review summarizes studies on bottom-up coordination nanosheets synthesized by coordinating organic bridging ligands and metal atoms or ions. The different ligands, metal ions, and the application of each coordination nanosheet synthesized by using either gas-liquid or liquid-liquid techniques have been reviewed in Table 1. Top-down nanosheets derived from lamellar 3D crystals such as TMDs and graphene are the subject of an ongoing study in 2D materials. In contrast, bottom-up nanosheets such as coordination nanosheets are gaining tremendous attraction because of the variety and tunability of their chemical structures as well as physical and chemical characteristics [76,119]. This is because coordination nanosheets are easily fabricated through coordination reactions at liquid/liquid or gas/liquid interfaces [186,187]. Although most of the studies on coordination nanosheets focused on creating 2D crystalline structures, some recent work has defined the material's distinctive physical characteristics, including metallic conductivity, electrochromism, and photoelectric conversion. These novel findings should open the path for fast advancements in coordination nanosheets' fundamental science and engineering and their practical applications. The design of coordination nanosheets is simple, but it relies on complex techniques to create a 2D framework. Due to the many potential combinations between the organic ligand molecules and metal ions or atoms, a wide range of coordination nanosheets can be synthesized. Some have been described in this review. To date, molecule-based nanosheets, including coordination nanosheets, lack practical functioning than inorganic nanosheets [188,189]. We are certain that this promising area of study will get more attention since a recent study has shown the potential for many applications in the future. Great progress has been achieved in the fabrication and application of various coordination nanosheets in diverse functional electronic devices. However, significant challenges remain in gaining profound insights into the structural optimization of the coordination nanosheets, elucidating underlying mechanisms, and optimizing the device performance. Coordination nanosheets, especially the ultrathin coordination nanosheets, exhibit unique properties such as high specific surface areas, an organized 1D porous channel for ion transport, and an abundance of accessible active sites exposed on the surface suitable modes in functional electronic devices. To match the demand for electronic device applications, synthetic methods for fabricating ultrathin coordination nanosheets with notable properties such as high yield, high uniformity, good dispersion, and outstanding structural stability are still highly sought. In addition, the basic constituents such as organic linkers or guest molecules, width, and thickness of nanosheets also significantly affect the physical and chemical properties such as charge mobility, surface area, and conductivity [190,191]. Therefore, it is necessary to identify additional agents to control the crystal growth, such as surfactants or other small molecules that have only weak interactions with the exposed binding sites on the surface of the nanosheets and are readily washed away from the coordination nanosheets products. An accurate prediction of nanosheets’ electronic properties remains a challenge. Theoretical calculation methods are greatly needed in this aspect to guide a precise design and synthesis of new coordination nanosheets prior to their
assembly in electrical devices to ensure the performance meets the requirements for actual devices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Techniques</th>
<th>Solvent</th>
<th>Ligand</th>
<th>Metal</th>
<th>Waiting period</th>
<th>λ (nm)</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Ref</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>chloroform</td>
<td>Hexafunctional terpyridine (tpy)-based monomer</td>
<td>Fe, Co, Ni, Zn and Pb</td>
<td>14-18h</td>
<td>λ = 287 nm and λ = 578 nm</td>
<td>Catalytic and magnetic</td>
<td>[61]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>dichloromethane</td>
<td>three-way dipyrrin ligand</td>
<td>zinc(II) acetate</td>
<td>96 h</td>
<td>Orange 500 nm</td>
<td>Photoconversion</td>
<td>[66]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid and Liquid/liquid</td>
<td>chloroform/water/chloroform</td>
<td>5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-aminophenyl)-21H,23H-porphine (monomer 1) or 5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-aminophenyl)-21H,23H-porphyrin-Co(II) (monomer 2) and 2,5-dihydroxyterephthalaldehyde (monomer 3)</td>
<td>Co</td>
<td>4 h</td>
<td>Soret (S) band at 442 nm and Q bands at 526, 571 and 656 nm</td>
<td>electronics and energy-related applications</td>
<td>[76]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>a mixed solvent of chloroform and methanol</td>
<td>trans-5,15-diphenyl-10,20-di(4-carboxyphenyl)porphine (trans-H2DCPP) and 5,10,15,20-tetrakis[4-(4-carboxyphenylethynyl)phenyl]porphine (H2TCEPP)</td>
<td>Cu(I)</td>
<td>Langmuir trough</td>
<td>500–700 nm</td>
<td>molecular filters and traps</td>
<td>[78]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>chloroform/methanol</td>
<td>CoTCPP and pyridine (py)</td>
<td>copper(I) ions</td>
<td>Langmuir trough</td>
<td>450 nm</td>
<td>Nanomaterials</td>
<td>[79]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>chloroform/methanol</td>
<td>(metalloporphyrin, 5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-carboxyphenyl)-porphyrinate-palladium(II) (PdTCP, 1)</td>
<td>Cu(II)</td>
<td>Langmuir trough</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>[82]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>toluene/ethanol/aqueous solution</td>
<td>H2TCPP</td>
<td>Cu(II)</td>
<td>Langmuir trough</td>
<td>430 nm</td>
<td>nanodevices</td>
<td>[87]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>dichloromethane/pyridine and metal aqueous solution</td>
<td>porphyrin–dipyrrin hybrid ligand with 4-fold symmetry</td>
<td>Zn(II)</td>
<td>48 h</td>
<td>450–550 nm</td>
<td>Photoconversion</td>
<td>[65]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas/Liquid</td>
<td>DMF/chloroform/aqueous solution</td>
<td>2,3,6,7,10,11-tri phenylhexathiol (THT) and 2,3,6,7,10,11-tri phenylhexamine (THA)</td>
<td>Co, Ni</td>
<td>4 h</td>
<td>320 nm</td>
<td>Electrocatalytic H2 Production</td>
<td>[83]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>dichloromethane and metal</td>
<td>1,3,5-tris(4-(2,2′-6′,2″-)</td>
<td>Zn(BF4)2; ZnSO4</td>
<td>120 h</td>
<td>340 nm</td>
<td>photofunctional nanomaterials</td>
<td>[84]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Techniques</td>
<td>Solvent</td>
<td>Ligand</td>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>Waiting period</td>
<td>λ (nm)</td>
<td>Application</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution</td>
<td>terpyridyl[phenyl]benzene</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>dichloromethane and metal aqueous solution</td>
<td>1,3,5-tris(4- (2,2′:6′:2″-terpyridyl)phenyl)benzene</td>
<td>Fe2+ or Co2+</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>578 nm</td>
<td>color displays and electric paper</td>
<td>[86]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>dichloromethane</td>
<td>terpyridyl)phenyl]benzene</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>1,3,5-tris((2,2′:6′:2″-terpyridyl)ethynyl)benzene</td>
<td>Ni(acac)₂</td>
<td></td>
<td>192 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>electrocatalyst for the hydrogen evolution reaction</td>
<td>[88]</td>
</tr>
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<td>Gas/liquid</td>
<td>chloroform and metal aqueous solution</td>
<td>benzenehexathiol</td>
<td>Cu</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Topological insulator</td>
<td>[91]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>toluene/metal aqueous solution</td>
<td>benzenehexathiol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>benzenehexathiolate</td>
<td>Ni²⁺, Cu²⁺ and Co²⁺</td>
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<td>4 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Electronic devices</td>
<td>[94]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>bis(dithiolene)</td>
<td>Pd(II)</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>electronics</td>
<td>[69]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>ethyl acetate/ethyl alcohol</td>
<td>1,3,5-tris-(4- (2,2′:6′:2″-terpyridyl)phenyl)benzene (BTB)</td>
<td>None (organic nanosheet)</td>
<td>120 h</td>
<td>310 nm</td>
<td>energy conversion and storage.</td>
<td>[92]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>hexamethyldiamine</td>
<td>Ni²⁺</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Electrochemical sensors, catalysis</td>
<td>[93]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>bis(dithiolene)</td>
<td>Pd(II)</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Electrochemical sensors, catalysis</td>
<td>[94]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>2,3,6,7,10,11-triphenylenethiol</td>
<td>Co</td>
<td></td>
<td>120 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Catalysts</td>
<td>[95]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Ammonia solution</td>
<td>1,3,5-triaminobenzene2,4,6-trithiol</td>
<td>Ni²⁺</td>
<td>1 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Topological insulator</td>
<td>[75]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>DMF/H2O</td>
<td>paddle-wheel building blocks</td>
<td>Cu(II)</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>CO₂ separation applications</td>
<td>[96]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>DMF/ aqueous solution</td>
<td>(ndc = 1,4-naphthalene dicarboxylate; dabco = 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]-octane)</td>
<td>Cu(II)</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>drug delivery, biomedical imaging, sensing and gas adsorption</td>
<td>[97]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Hexanol/aqueous solution</td>
<td>benzimidazole-acetate</td>
<td>Zn(II)</td>
<td>16 h – 120 h</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>gas storage, separations and catalysis</td>
<td>[100]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>DMF/ethanol</td>
<td>tetrakis(4-carboxyphenyl)porphyrin</td>
<td>Zn, Co, Cd, Cu</td>
<td>6 h -24 h</td>
<td>588 nm</td>
<td>fluorescent sensor</td>
<td>[101]</td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Dichloromethane</td>
<td>4,4′-(p-Tolylenylene)bis(benzene-1,2-diol),</td>
<td>Fe²⁺, Cu²⁺</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>430-680 nm</td>
<td>sensing, filtration membranes, and novel catalysts</td>
<td>[105]</td>
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https://biointerfaceresearch.com/
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Techniques</th>
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<th>Metal</th>
<th>Waiting period</th>
<th>λ (nm)</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Ref</th>
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<td>4,4′-(Dodecane-1,1-diyl)bis(benzene-1,2-diol), Synthesis of 4,4′-(Heptane-1,1-diyl)bis(benzene-1,2-diol).</td>
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<td>Dimethylformamide/</td>
<td>1,4-benzenedicarboxylate</td>
<td>Cu(^{2+})</td>
<td>30 s</td>
<td>400 nm</td>
<td>Nanodevices</td>
<td>[106]</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>acetonitrile</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Dichloromethane / aqueous</td>
<td>(4',4''-((2-(((2,2':6',2''-terpyridin)-4'-yloxy)methyl)-2-methylpropane-1,3-diyl)bis(oxy)di-2,2':6',2''-terpyridine)</td>
<td>Fe(^{2+})</td>
<td>48 h</td>
<td>556 nm</td>
<td>display device</td>
<td>[108]</td>
</tr>
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<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Aqueous solution/toluene</td>
<td>Tetrakis(diethylidithiocarbamate) Molybdenum (IV)</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>330 -590 nm</td>
<td>energy storage devices and electronics</td>
<td>[109]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>chloroform/methanol</td>
<td>anthracene-based ligands</td>
<td></td>
<td>Langmuir troughs</td>
<td>365 nm</td>
<td>optoelectronic devices</td>
<td>[117]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/Dichloromethane</td>
<td>benzenehexathiol</td>
<td>Ni(II)</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td></td>
<td>molecular electronics</td>
<td>[119]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>Chloroform/DMF</td>
<td>1,3,5-triformylphloroglucinol</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 h, LB trough</td>
<td></td>
<td>sensing, catalysis</td>
<td>[124]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous/organic solvent</td>
<td>1,3,5-triformylphloroglucinol and ethidium bromide</td>
<td></td>
<td>48 h</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gas separation</td>
<td>[125]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution</td>
<td>hexaaminobenzene</td>
<td>Co(II)</td>
<td>4.8,12 h</td>
<td></td>
<td>oxygen evolution</td>
<td>[21]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/chloroform</td>
<td>2,5-diamino-1,4-benzenedithiol dihydrochloride</td>
<td>Co(II)</td>
<td>12 h</td>
<td>280 to 1500 nm</td>
<td>smart skin devices, human–machine interfaces, and wearable electronic devices</td>
<td>[133]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>Dichloromethane/</td>
<td>benzenehexathiol</td>
<td>Cu(II)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>field-effect transistor</td>
<td>[134]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>aqueous solution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/Dichloromethane</td>
<td>1,3,5-tri(4-((2,20:60,2''-terpyridine)phenyl)benzene</td>
<td>Fe(II)</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>317 and 581 nm</td>
<td>energy storage and optoelectronic</td>
<td>[136]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/Dichloromethane</td>
<td>(trans)-1,2-bis(4'-methyl-[2,2'-bipyridin]-4-yl)ethene (BP1) and 1,4-bis((trans)-2-(4'-methyl-[2,2'-'bipyridin]-4-yl)vinyl)benzene</td>
<td>Fe(II)</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>590 nm</td>
<td>electrochromic materials</td>
<td>[141]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/Dichloromethane</td>
<td>1,3,5-tris(1,10-phenanthrolyl)benzene</td>
<td>Fe(II)</td>
<td>6 h</td>
<td>518 nm</td>
<td>electrochromic materials</td>
<td>[156]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid/Liquid</td>
<td>aqueous solution/Dichloromethane</td>
<td>benzenehexathiol</td>
<td>Ni(II)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>&lt;450 nm</td>
<td>OLED</td>
<td>[184]</td>
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</table>

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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