## NEW HOMOMETALLIC OCTANUCLEAR CHROMIUM(III) RINGS

Grigore Timco<sup>®</sup><sup>\*</sup>, Robin Pritchard<sup>®</sup>, George Whitehead<sup>®</sup>, Richard Winpenny<sup>®</sup><sup>\*</sup>

Department of Chemistry, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom \*e-mail: grigore.timco@manchester.ac.uk; Richard.winpenny@manchester.ac.uk

**Abstract.** Four new { $Cr_8$ } rings have been synthesized and characterized; they are all based on the classic [ $CrF(O_2C'Bu)_2$ ]<sub>8</sub> ring **1**. Three routes have been studied. The first is direct synthesis, by reacting hydrated chromium(III) fluorides with the acid; this has been used to produce [ $CrF(O_2CEt)_2$ ]<sub>8</sub> **3**. The second route uses **3** as a precursor and substitute with an incoming carboxylate. This has been used to make [ $CrF(O_2CCCl_3)_2$ ]<sub>8</sub> **4** and [ $CrF(O_2CC_6F_5)_2$ ]<sub>8</sub> **5**. The third route uses *N*-ethyl-*D*-glucamine (H<sub>5</sub>Etglu) as a template and produces chiral rings [ $Cr_8F_4(Etglu)(O_2C'Bu)_{15}$ ] **6**. The single crystal X-ray structures of these new compounds are reported.

Keywords: chromium, carboxylate, polymetallic ring, crystallography.

Received: 18 February 2022