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New Directions for Organic Spintronics: Novel Materials and Emergent Phenomena¹

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Organic and organic-based materials are attractive candidates for applications in magnetoelectronics and spintronics due to their low cost, ease of fabrication, and low spin-orbit coupling (and consequently long spin lifetimes). However, in comparison to the case for inorganic systems, robust intrinsic magnetic ordering in this class of materials is exceedingly rare and as a result the potential of these materials has yet to be fully realized. Here we present a series of recent breakthroughs in the synthesis, encapsulation, and measurement of organic-based magnets that lay the foundation for all organic magnetoelectronic and spintronic devices. We will discuss advances in encapsulation strategies that allow lifetimes of up to 1 month in air for functional magnetoelectronic devices, the use of ligand substitution to generate a library of related magnetic materials, the growth of all-organic and hybrid organic/inorganic magnetic heterostructures, and measurements of the magnetization dynamics that reveal ferromagnetic resonance (FMR) linewidths of ~ 1 G, comparable to or narrower than corresponding measurements in yttrium iron garnet (YIG). These results establish the validity of organic-based magnets for applications in next-generation magnetoelectronics and provide unique leverage on long-standing challenges in the field of organic spintronics. For example, organic magnetic heterostructures promise to provide an exciting opportunity to explore exchange, dynamic spin injection, and spin transport in all-organic spintronic devices.

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