

Supplementary Material (ESI) for *PCCP*

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**Electronic supplementary information**

**Structural characterization of metal-metal bonded polymer  
[Ru(L)(CO)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub> (L= 2,2'-bipyridine ) in the solid state using high-  
resolution NMR and DFT chemical shift calculations**

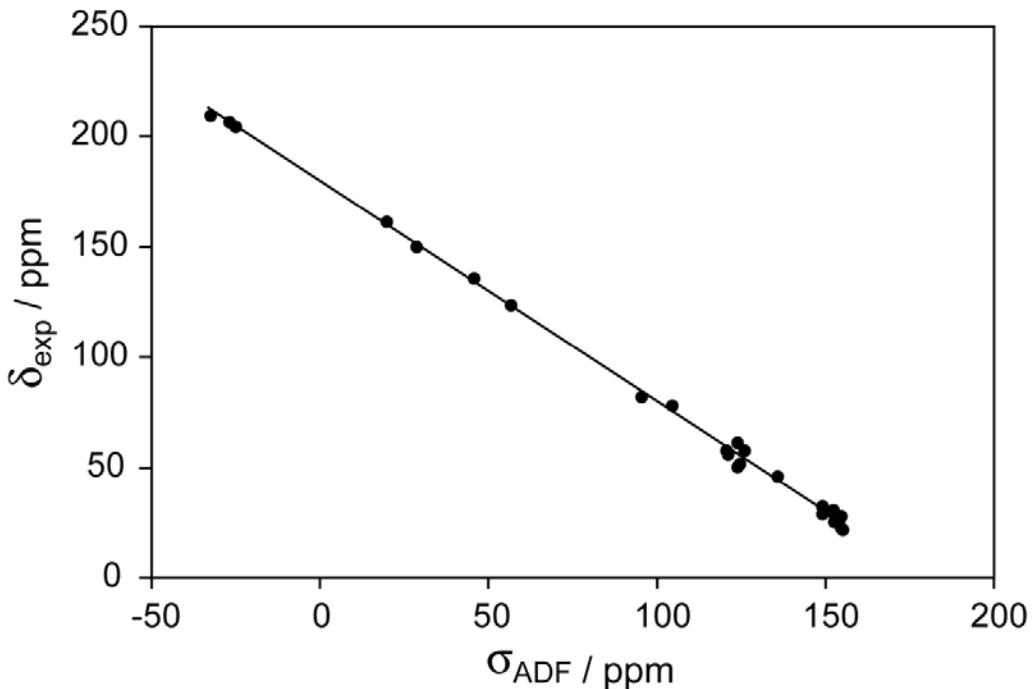
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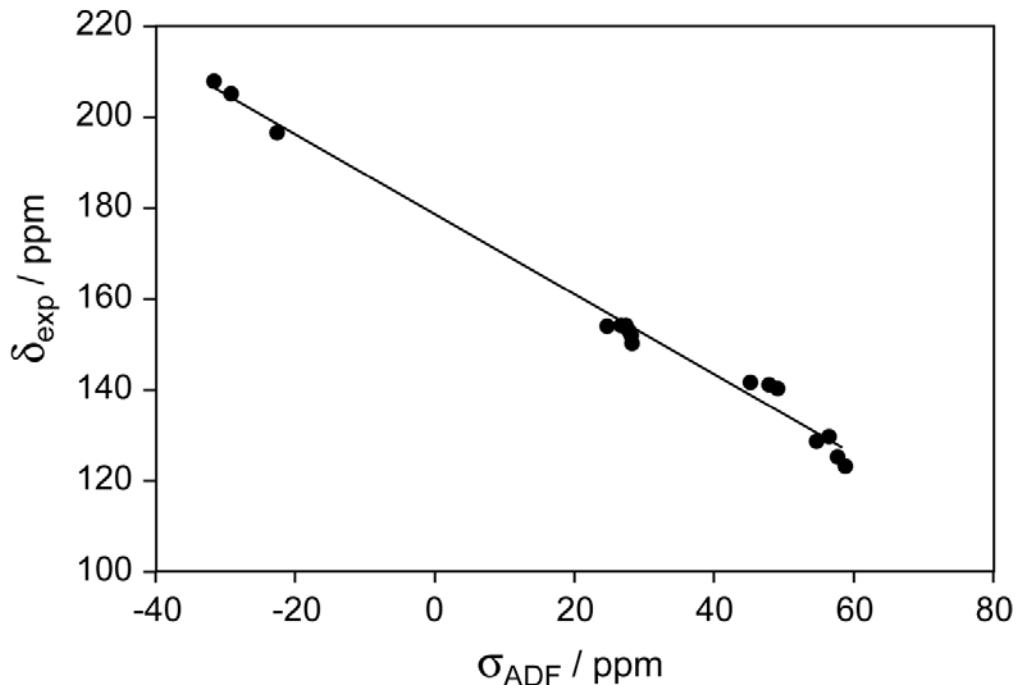
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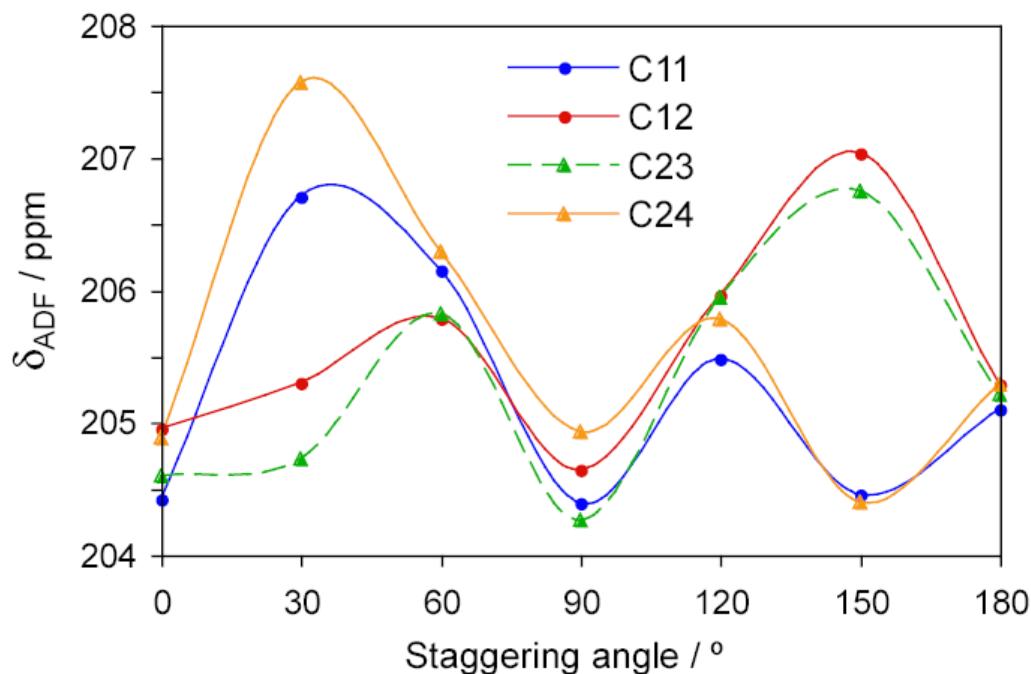
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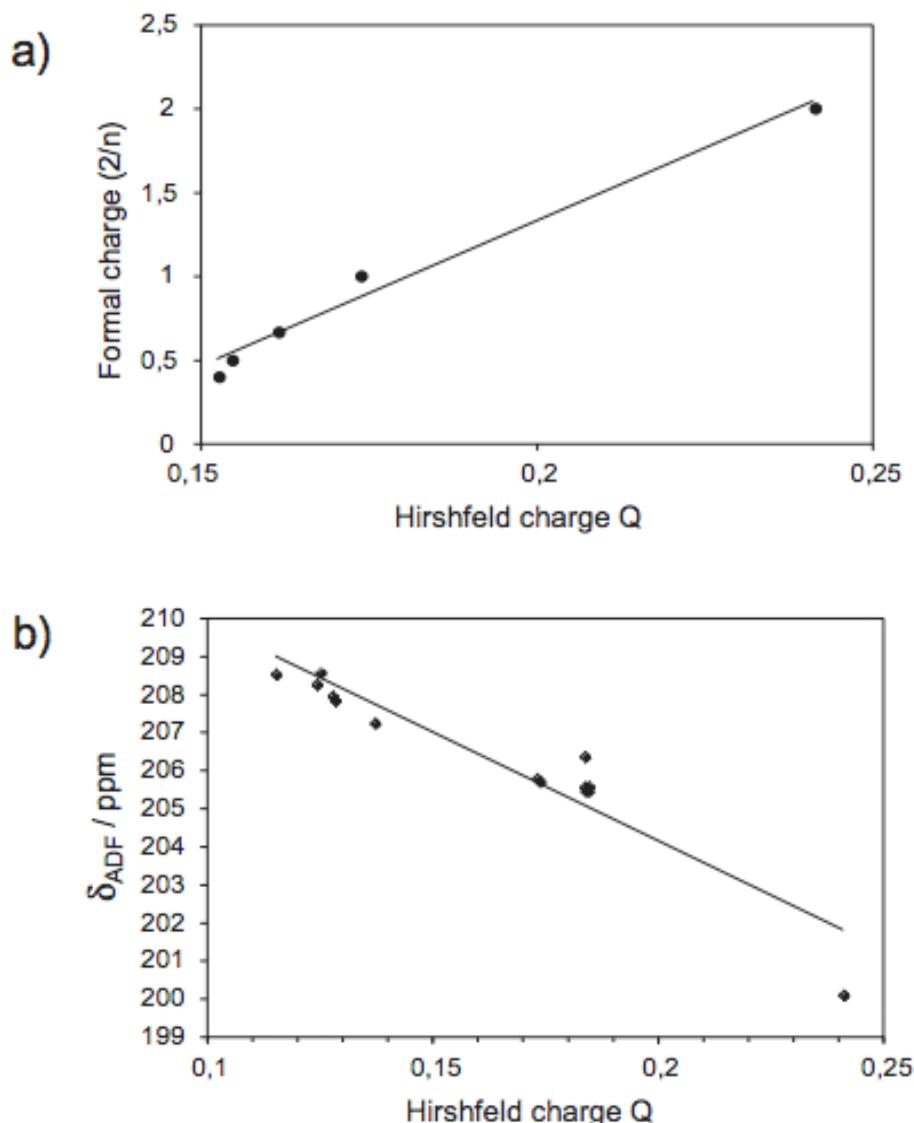
**Figure S1.** Plot of the experimental chemical shifts  $\{\delta_{\text{exp}}\}$  as a function of computed screening constants  $\{\sigma_{\text{ADF}}\}$  for a series of organic compounds (see Table S1 for a precise list). The best linear correlation between both quantities is found to be  $\delta_{\text{exp}} \approx -0.9975 \times \sigma_{\text{ADF}} + 179.4$  ( $R^2 = 0.9982$  and rms = 2.2 ppm). The rms value is defined as  $(\sum_i^n (\delta_{\text{ADF}(i)} - \delta_{\text{exp}(i)})^2/n)^{1/2}$ .



**Figure S2.** Common plot of the experimental NMR chemical shifts as a function of the corresponding computed (relativistic) shielding constants for both monomer  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_2(\text{Cl})_2]$  and dimer  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{I}}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_2(\text{Cl})]_2$ . The best linear correlation is found to be  $\delta_{\text{exp}} \approx -0.8790 \times \sigma_{\text{ADF}} + 178.29$  ( $R^2 = 0.9899$  and rms = 2.5 ppm). The rms value is defined as  $(\sum_i^n (\delta_{\text{ADF}(i)} - \delta_{\text{exp}(i)})^2/n)^{1/2}$ .



**Figure S3.** Predicted (ADF) chemical shifts for the four carbonyl nuclei of the dimer as a function of the (bipyridine-bipyridine) staggering angle. The corresponding computed data are reported in Table S3.



**Figure S4.** a) Formal charges ( $2/n$ ) as a function of Hirshfeld charges (averaged over all Ru atoms within each of the five systems). For a wire ( $2/n \rightarrow 0$ ), one would expect a (average) Hirshfeld charge of  $2.1553 / 17.348 = 0.124$ .

b) Computed carbonyl chemical shifts  $\{\delta_{\text{ADF}}\}$  as a function of the Ru Hirshfeld charge for the whole series of model systems, from the monomer to the pentamer ( $n=1-5$ ). For each Ru site both carbonyl chemical shifts have been averaged. Best linear correlation gives a  $R^2$  of 0.8985.

**Tables S1.** Experimental chemical shifts and corresponding computed shielding constants in ppm for a series of organic molecules : pyridine C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N (#1), 2,2'-bipyridine (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N)<sub>2</sub> (#2), 4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>N)<sub>2</sub> (#3), acetone CH<sub>3</sub>(C=O)CH<sub>3</sub> (#4), ketones CH<sub>3</sub>(C=O)C≡CH (#5), C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>(C=O)CH<sub>3</sub> (#6) and aldehyde C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>(C=O)H (#7).

Notice that, for molecule #3, the *trans* configuration (methyl groups on opposite positions) is found to be more stable than the *syn* configuration by 31.9 kJ/mol. We therefore report computed data only for the *trans* dimethyl molecule.

The experimental data for #1, #4-7 are extracted from E. Pretsch *et al.*<sup>1</sup> Those of #2-3 have been measured for this paper (present work). Computed chemical shifts { $\delta_i$ } are derived from  $\delta_i = -0.9975 \times \sigma_{\text{ADF}} + 179.4$  (see main text and Figure S1).

<b>Pyridine</b>			
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b><math>\delta_{\text{exp}}</math></b>	<b><math>\sigma_i</math></b>	<b><math>\delta_i</math></b>
<b>2</b>	149.8	28.66	150.8
<b>3</b>	123.6	56.58	123.0
<b>4</b>	135.7	45.77	133.8

<b>2,2'-bipyridine</b>			
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b><math>\delta_{\text{exp}}</math></b>	<b><math>\sigma_i</math></b>	<b><math>\delta_i</math></b>
<b>2</b>	154.7	22.40	157.0
<b>3</b>	124.0*	61.21	118.4
<b>4</b>	135.7	45.80	133.7
<b>5</b>	120.6*	57.85	121.7
<b>6</b>	149.0	28.69	150.8

(\*)We chose the best match between theory and experiment in case of ambiguous experimental assignments (positions 3 and 5).

**Tables S1 continued.**

#3	<b>4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine</b>		
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>exp</sub></b>	<b>σ<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>i</sub></b>
<b>2</b>	155.1	21.80	157.6
<b>3</b>	126.0*	57.75	123.7
<b>4</b>	149.2	31.96	147.5
<b>5</b>	121.0*	55.90	121.8
<b>6</b>	149.2	32.27	147.2
<b>CH<sub>3</sub></b>	19.8	161.36	18.7

(\*)We chose the best match between theory and experiment in case of ambiguous experimental assignments (positions 3 and 5).

#4	<b>Acetone CH<sub>3</sub>(C=O)CH<sub>3</sub></b>		
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>exp</sub></b>	<b>σ<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>i</sub></b>
<b>1 (C=O)</b>	206.7	-26.88	206.1
<b>2</b>	30.7	152.30	27.7

#5	<b>Ketone CH<sub>3</sub>(C=O)C≡CH</b>		
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>exp</sub></b>	<b>σ<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>i</sub></b>
<b>2</b>	81.9	95.42	84.3
<b>3</b>	78.1	104.56	75.2

#6	<b>Ketone C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>(C=O)CH<sub>3</sub></b>		
<b>C<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>exp</sub></b>	<b>σ<sub>i</sub></b>	<b>δ<sub>i</sub></b>
<b>1 (C=O)</b>	209.4	-32.42	211.6
<b>2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)</b>	27.6	154.70	25.3
<b>3</b>	51.5	124.59	55.3
<b>4</b>	29.0	152.62	27.4

<b>5</b>	26.6	153.07	26.9
<b>6</b>	26.3	152.91	27.1

**Tables S1 continued.**

#7	Aldehyde C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> (C=O)H		
C <sub>i</sub>	δ <sub>exp</sub>	σ <sub>i</sub>	δ <sub>i</sub>
<b>1 (C=0)</b>	204.5	-24.92	204.2
<b>2</b>	50.1	123.99	55.9
<b>3</b>	26.1	154.08	25.9
<b>4</b>	25.2	153.43	26.5
<b>5</b>	25.2	152.54	27.4

**Table S2.** Bonding energies (eV) and relative energies (kJ/mol) for the  $[\text{Ru}^{\text{I}}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_2(\text{Cl})]_2$  dimer. Energies are reported relative to the minimum bonding energy: -351.611 eV (for 139°). A higher local minimum has been found at 46° (relative energy: 12.1 kJ/mol).

Angle (°)	Energies (eV)	Relative energies (kJ/mol)(a)
0	-351.294	30.6
30	-351.409	19.5
46	-351.485	12.1
60	-351.483	12.4
90	-351.395	20.8
120	-351.543	6.6
139	-351.611	0.0
150	-351.589	2.1
180	-351.516	9.2

**Table S3.** Predicted (ADF) NMR chemical shifts in ppm for the four carbonyl nuclei of the dimer as a function of the (bipyridine-bipyridine) staggering angle. Theoretical NMR chemical shifts  $\{\delta_{\text{ADF}}\}$  were computed from  $\delta_{\text{ADF}} = -0.7618 \times \sigma_{\text{ADF}} + 173.59$  (obtained from both monomer and dimer data).

Dimer	C11		C12		C23		C24	
Angle	$\sigma_{\text{ADF}}$	$\delta_{\text{ADF}}$	$\sigma_{\text{ADF}}$	$\delta_{\text{ADF}}$	$\sigma_{\text{ADF}}$	$\delta_{\text{ADF}}$	$\sigma_{\text{ADF}}$	$\delta_{\text{ADF}}$
0°	-40.59	204.4	-41.16	204.9	-40.69	204.6	-41.07	204.9
30°	-43.59	206.7	-41.61	205.3	-40.86	204.7	-44.59	207.6
60°	-42.86	206.2	-42.25	205.8	-42.30	205.8	-42.91	206.3
90°	-40.55	204.4	-40.75	204.6	-40.25	204.3	-41.13	204.9
120°	-41.98	205.5	-42.48	206.0	-42.46	205.9	-42.24	205.8
150°	-40.64	204.5	-43.89	207.0	-43.51	206.7	-40.43	204.4
180°	-41.48	205.1	-41.60	205.3	-41.50	205.2	-41.60	205.3

**Table S4.** Formal charges ( $2/n$ ) and computed Hirshfeld ( $Q_{\text{Hirs}}$ ) charges for the whole series  $n=1-5$  (from monomer to pentamer).

n=	1		2		3		4		5	
C=O	(2/n)	$Q_{\text{Hirs}}$								
C11/12	2	0.2415	1	0.1736	0.667	0.1842	0.5	0.1841	0.4	0.1848
C23/24	n/a	1	0.1742	0.667	0.1156	0.5	0.1246	0.4	0.1287	
C35/36				0.667	0.1850	0.5	0.1255	0.4	0.1375	
C47/48		n/a				0.5	0.1845	0.4	0.1282	
C59/60				n/a				n/a	0.4	0.1843
average	0.2415		0.1739		0.1616		0.1547		0.1527	

**Table S5.** Computed (non relativist) screening constants  $\{\sigma_{\text{ADF}}\}$  and predicted chemical shifts  $\{\delta_{\text{ADF}}\}$  in ppm for carbonyls for the whole series n=1-5 (from monomer to pentamer). To estimate the chemical shifts, we relied on the following (non relativistic) correlation:  $\delta_{\text{ADF}} = -0.7618 \times \sigma_{\text{ADF}} + 173.59$  ( $R^2 = 0.9884$ ) (obtained from both monomer and dimer data).

n=	1		2		3		4		5	
C=O	$\sigma_{\text{ADF}}$	$\delta_{\text{ADF}}$								
C11	-34.78	200.1	-40.84	204.7	-42.97	206.3	-40.60	204.5	-40.39	204.4
C12	-34.71	200.0	-43.60	206.8	-42.97	206.3	-43.24	206.5	-43.17	206.5
C23			-43.37	206.6	-45.56	208.3	-45.24	208.1	-44.96	207.9
C24			-40.86	204.7	-46.07	208.7	-45.67	208.4	-44.83	207.8
C35		n/a			-43.13	206.4	-45.97	208.6	-44.10	207.2
C36					-40.74	204.6	-45.76	208.5	-44.13	207.2
C47			n/a			-43.34	206.6	-44.87	207.8	
C48						-40.62	204.5	-45.21	208.0	
C59					n/a		-43.25	206.5		
C60							-40.29	204.3		

## REFERENCES.

- (1) E. Pretsch, T. Clerc, J. Seible, W. Simon, "Tabellen zur Strukturaufklärung organischer Verbindungen mit spektroskopischen Methoden", 3rd edition, Berlin; Heidelberg; New York; Tokyo : Springer, 1986. (Anleitung für die chemische Laboratoriumspraxis; vol. 15) ISBN 3-540-15895-2 (Berlin) ISBN 0-387-15895-2 (New York)