Hydrogen Storage Materials with Binding Intermediate Between Chemisorption and Physisorption

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Can this type of material be designed to strongly bind a large amount of hydrogen ?

Nanoporous Nickel Phosphates

- VSB-1:
 - $Ni_{18}(HPO_4)_{14}(OH)_3F_9(H_3O^+, NH_4^+)_4$
 - $\cdot 12 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$

VSB-5

- Synthesized under acidic conditions with F⁻
 - ¹ Guillou, N., Gao, Q. M., Nogues, M., Morris, R. E., Hervieu, M., Férey, G. and Cheetham, A. K. *C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris*, **2**, 387 (1999).
- $Ni_{20}[(OH)_{12}(H_2O)_6][(HPO_4)_8(PO_4)_4] \cdot 12$ $H_2O.$
- Synthesized under basic conditions without F⁻







Porosity of VSB-5

Guillou et al, Angew. Chemie, 40, 2831 (2001)



P/Po

Hydrogen Adsorption Isotherms VSB-5 vs Other Porous Materials Forster et al. J. Amer. Chem. Soc. 125, 1309 (2003)



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Adsorption of Molecular Hydrogen in microporous Ni(II) phosphate VSB* materials



Removal of water in VSB-5 creates unsaturated metal binding sites





INS/TPD: weakly chemisorbed H₂ at Ni site ?

 H_2 rotational tunneling transition at ~ 1.5 meV - 1/10 of that in carbons!!!!

* Guillou et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2001, 40, 2831.

Rotational Tunneling Spectra by Inelastic Neutron Scattering - VSB-5 at 10 K



0.0 5.0 10.0 15.0 Energy Transfer/ meV

Hydrogen Adsorption in VSB-5

- All the evidence points to molecular chemisorption of H₂ at low loadings, followed by physisorption at higher ones
- Hydrogen probably binds to pentacoordinated nickel sites that are exposed following dehydration
- Can we make systems that contain more of these sites?



Hydrogen Storage for Mobile Applications: lower operating pressures?

Can we tune the guest-host interaction of the hydrogen molecule into the range between physisorption and (dissociative) chemisorption -i.e. that of the molecular hydrogen complexes ? (: 10-20 kJ/mol) - AND make materials with enough of these sites ??

- (1) Create highly porous material with many (unsaturated) metal binding sites (Cheetham et al. : Ni-5sulfoisophthalate, below right)
- (2) Support metal-(multiple-)dihydrogen complexes in porous material (Kubas)



L. Gagliardi and P. Pyykko, JACS 126, 15014 (2004)

 $NaNi_3(SIPA)_2(OH)(H_2O)_5.H_2O$



MOLECULAR HYDROGEN BINDING FOR H₂ STORAGE

Objectives:

- Primary goal is to synthesize and characterize new lightweight materials for storage of hydrogen as *molecular* hydrogen (H₂) at the interface of physisorption and chemisorption, i. e. where H₂ binds moderately strongly yet *reversibly*.
- The ability to sorb and desorb H₂ rapidly and reversibly using only moderate pressure and/or temperature swings without accompanying chemical reactions is a critical factor in the design and application of these materials.



X, Y, Z = light main-group atoms: e.g. Li, Be, B, C, N, O, F

X could also be transition metal such as iron embedded in framework and capable of *binding multiple* H_2

H₂ gas rapidly diffuses in and out; dissociation pressure ~1-100 atm



Reversible molecular hydrogen binding in $W(CO)_3(P-i-Pr_3)_2(H_2)$ discovered by Kubas and coworkers. Over 500 metal-H₂ complexes are now known.



Molecular Chemisorption of Hydrogen ?

ZSM-5: largest surface area among zeolites (\sim 500 m²/g)

Hydrogen (1/Fe) adsorbed (at 70K) in "over-exchanged" Fe-ZSM-5 INS data collected on NEAT at Hahn-Meitner Institut, Berlin, Germany (B. Mojet, J. Eckert, R. van Santen, A. Albinati and R. Lechner, J. Am. Chem. Soc. **123**, 8147 2001)



Observation:

Two pairs of peaks, (+/-) 4, 8 cm⁻¹ Much lower energy than (e.g.) NaA Comparable with H₂ bound in Fe complexes Example: $FeH_2(\eta^2-H_2)(PEtPh_2)_3$



Figure 4. Rotational tunneling spectrum of the H_2 ligand in Fe(H)₂-(H₂)(PEtPh₂)₃ obtained at 1.5 K on the INS spectrometer at the ILL.



Challenges and Technical Approach

- Weight% H₂ too low in M–H₂ complexes; need to increase
- Temperature/pressure ranges and limits to reversibly adsorb H₂ need to be studied
- New supramolecular materials as well as molecular metal compounds binding multiple H₂ will be synthesized and tested for H₂ adsorption.
- "Naked" transition metal cations are capable of binding up to six H₂ molecules in the gas-phase, e.g. [Fe(H₂)_n]⁺. We will investigate synthesizing such hydrogen-rich species in the condensed phase, e.g. in ionic liquids, and embed in MOF structures.



• Sieverts apparatus designed at LANL will be used to measure H₂ adsorption and desorption on gram amounts of solids at pressures of 0-27 atm at 4-700 K.

A Thermally Stable Nickel 5-Sulfoisophthalate



5-Sulfoisophthalate







Rotational tunneling spectra of H₂ in Nickel 5-Sulfoisophthalate

(QENS, IPNS(ANL), April 2005)

Spectra (shown as a function of H₂ loading) reveal several well-defined binding sities with strong guest-host interaction (>> than carbons or MOF-5)



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