

Novel theoretical and experimental approaches for understanding and optimizing hydrogen-sorbent interactions in metal organic framework materials

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University of Texas – Dallas

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Our Research Team



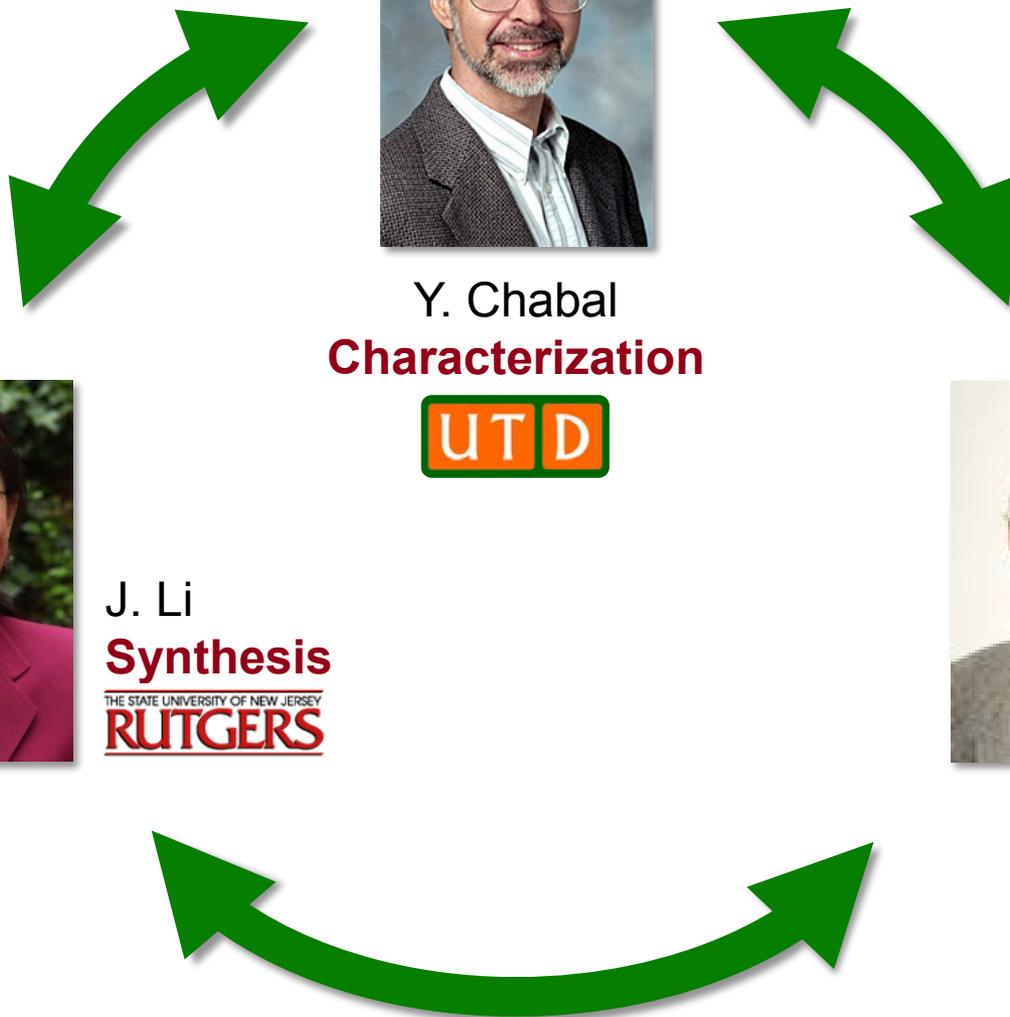
Y. Chabal

Characterization



J. Li

Synthesis



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Characterization



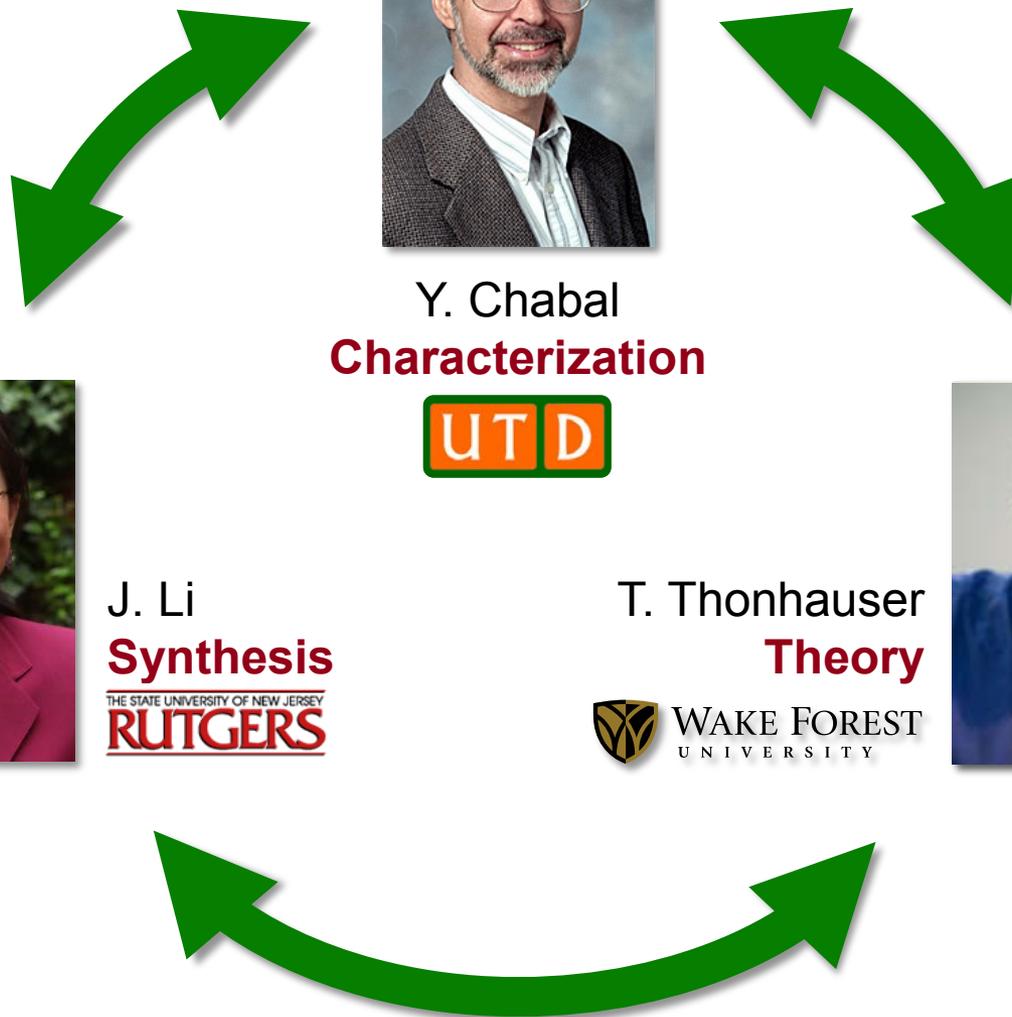
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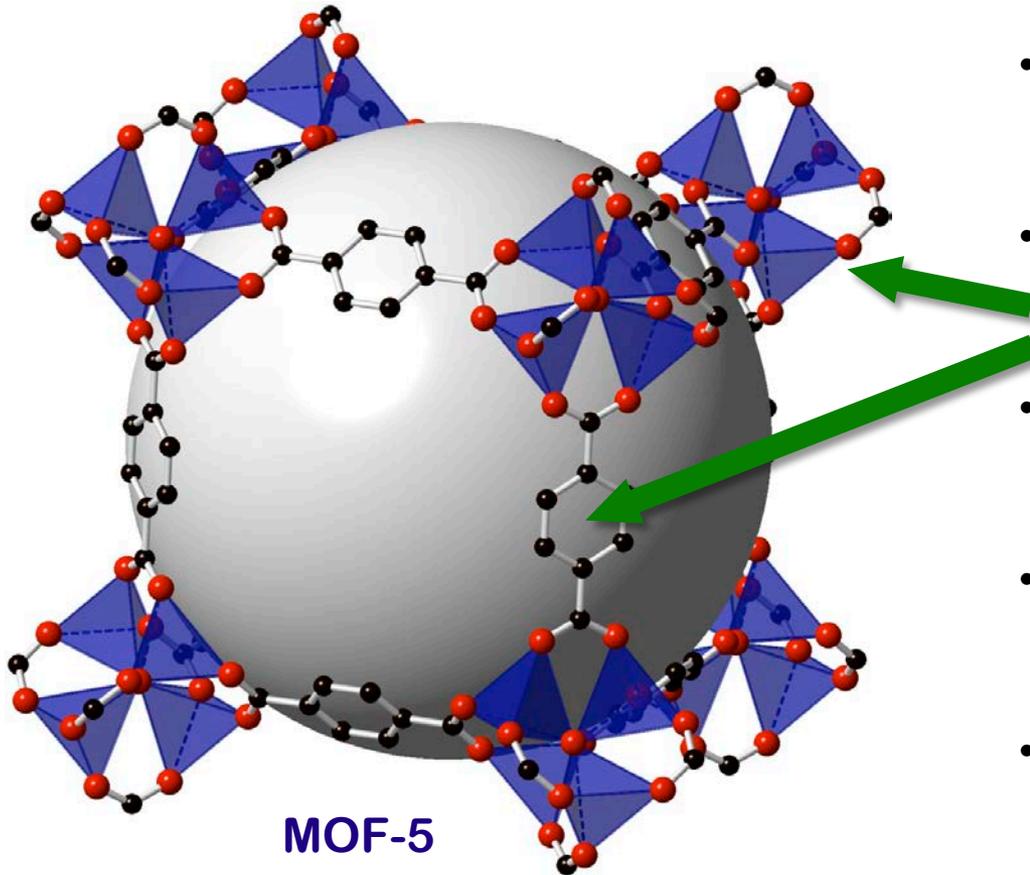


T. Thonhauser

Theory

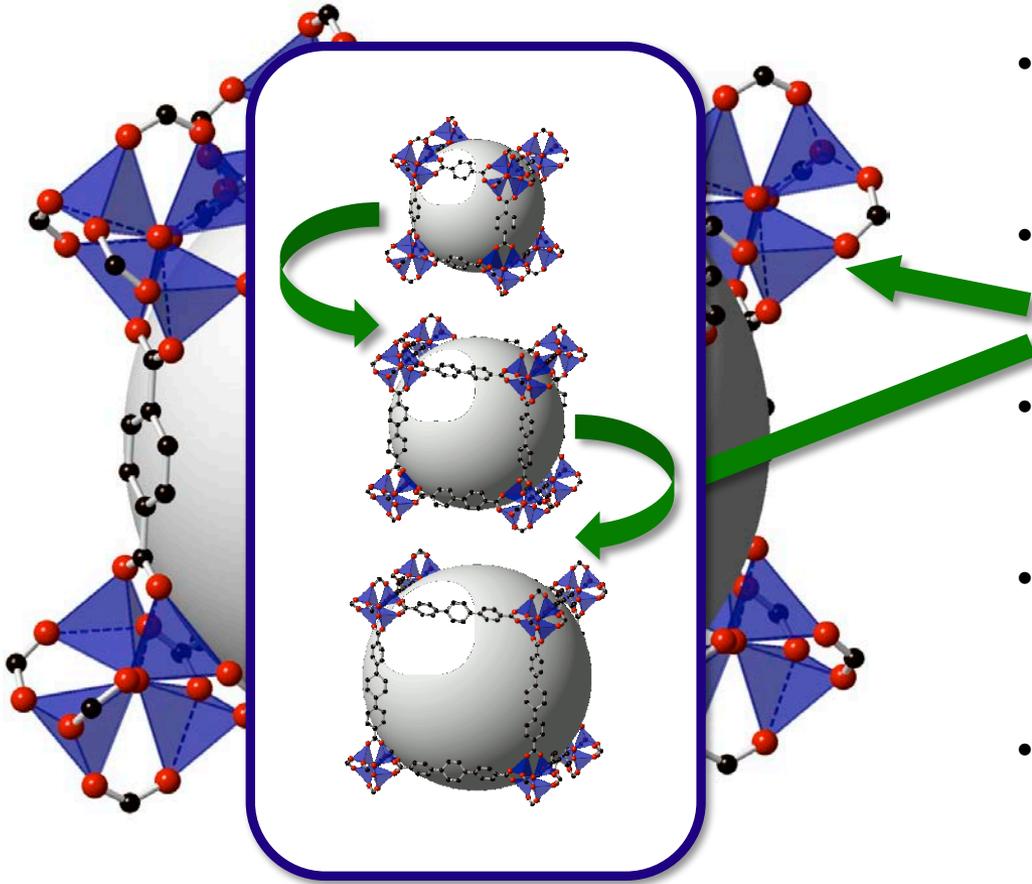


Metal Organic Framework Materials



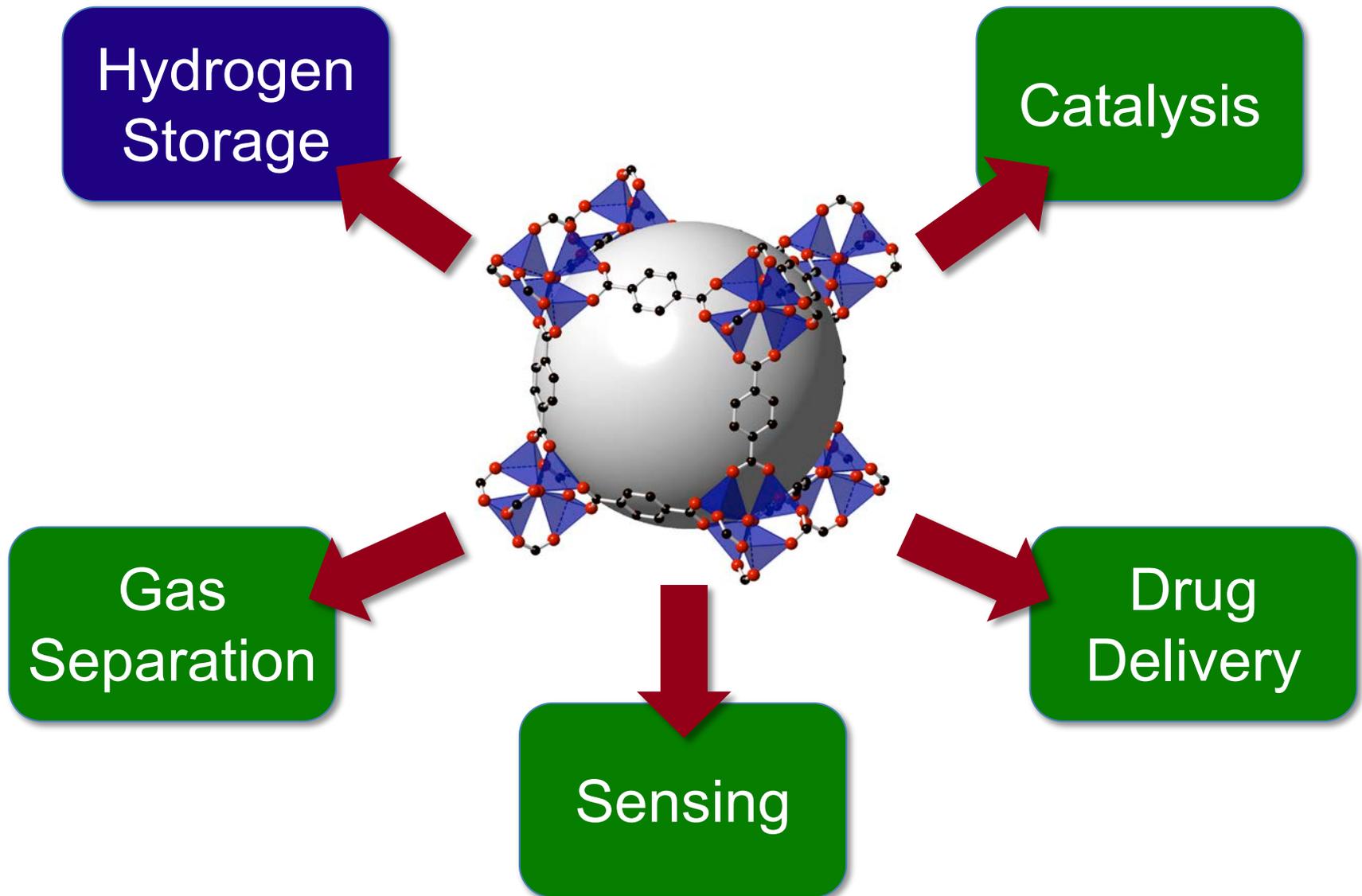
- MOFs have porous crystalline structures that can be tailored
- $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ corners connected by phenylene linkers
- High surface areas, e.g. MOF-210 BET SA 6240 m²/g
- Fast adsorption/desorption kinetics through channels
- Building blocks can be changed

Metal Organic Framework Materials

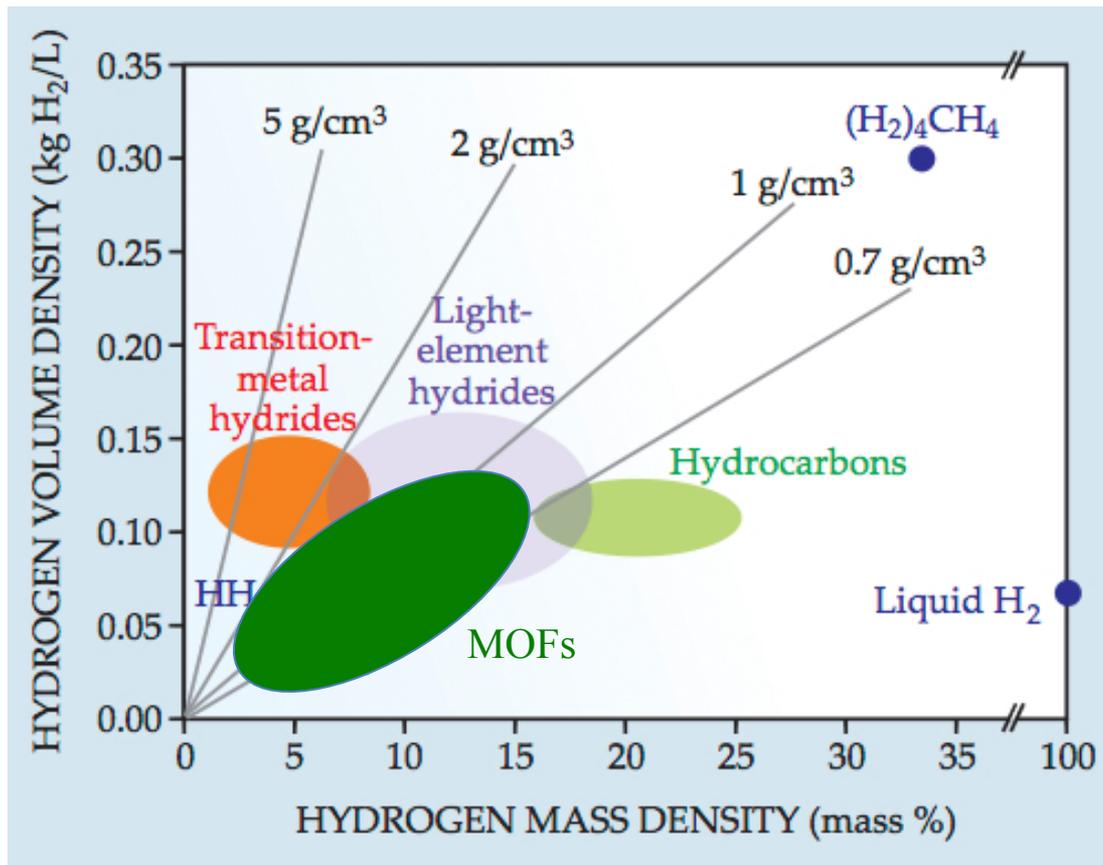


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MOF Applications



Hydrogen Storage in MOFs



W. L. Mao et al., Phys. Today **60**, 42 (2007)

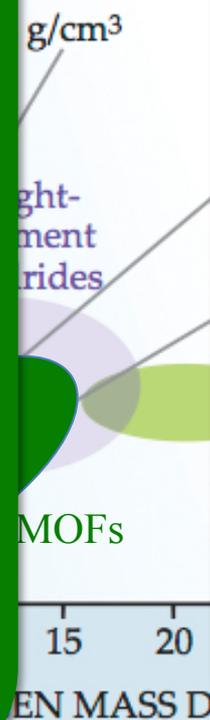
Hydrogen Storage in MOFs

Advantages

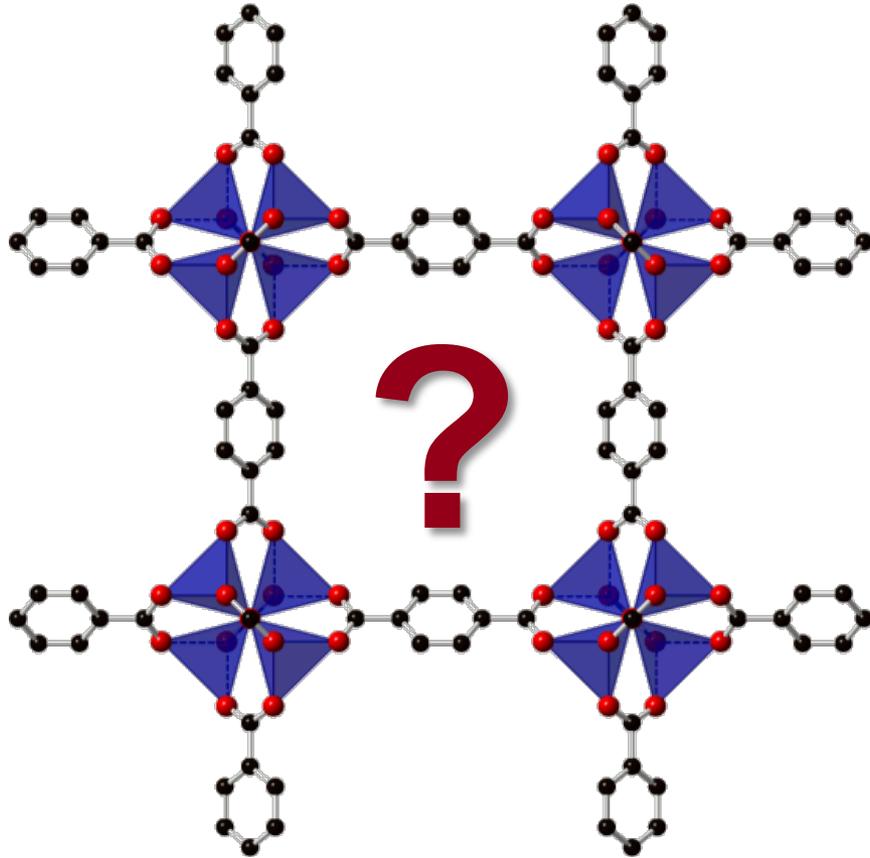
- Physisorption (little heat)
- Stores molecular hydrogen
- (Fairly) easy to synthesize
- Inexpensive
- Uses only industrial metals
- Fast adsorption/desorption
- Can be easily tailored

Disadvantages

- Physisorption (low temp.)
- Low binding energy
- MOF-210: Gravimetric adsorption of H₂ 176 mg/g at 77K



Approach



To design new MOFs, we need to understand the **H₂ / MOF interaction**

- Where does it bind?
- How strong does it bind?
- How much can bind?
- What are the barriers?

- High-pressure and low-temp IR
- Raman
- Adsorption isotherms
- Isothermic heat
- First-principles DFT (vdW-DF)

Approach

To design new MOFs, we need to understand the **H₂ / MOF interaction**

Do IR shifts correlate to binding energies of adsorbed H₂ ?

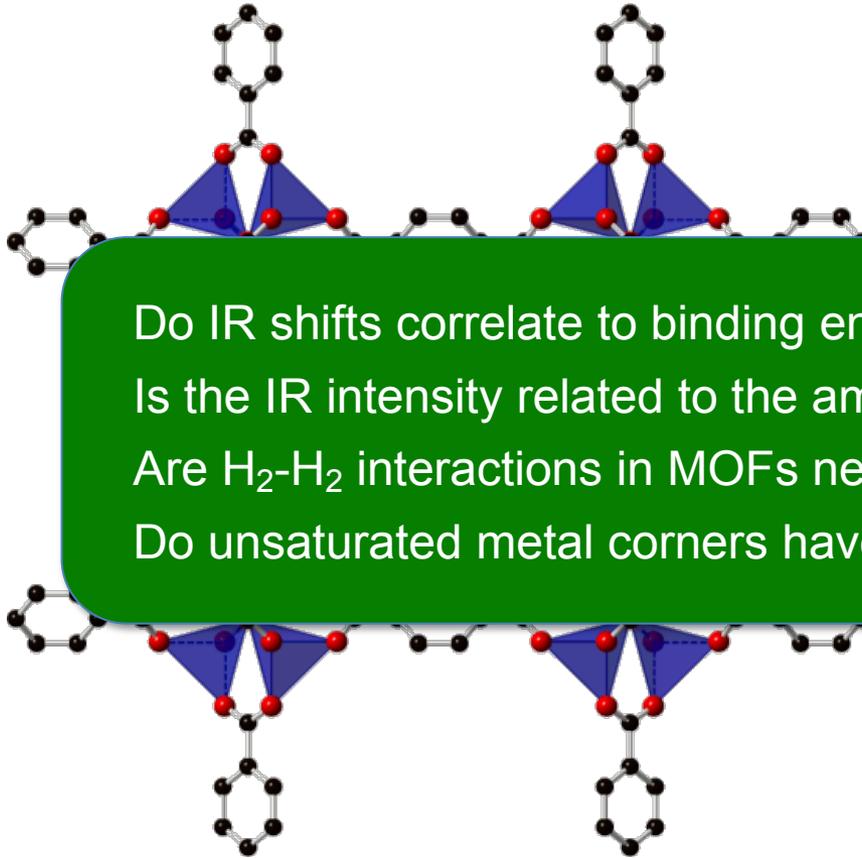
Is the IR intensity related to the amount of adsorbed H₂ ?

Are H₂-H₂ interactions in MOFs negligible?

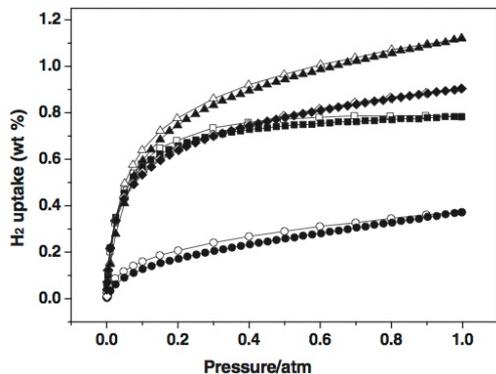
Do unsaturated metal corners have benefits over saturated ones?

- Raman
- Adsorption isotherms
- Isosteric heat
- First-principles DFT (vdW-DF)

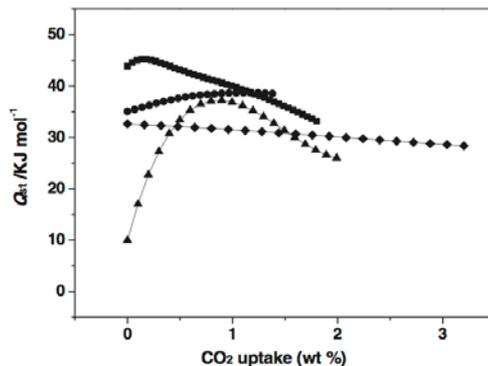
up IR



Experiments



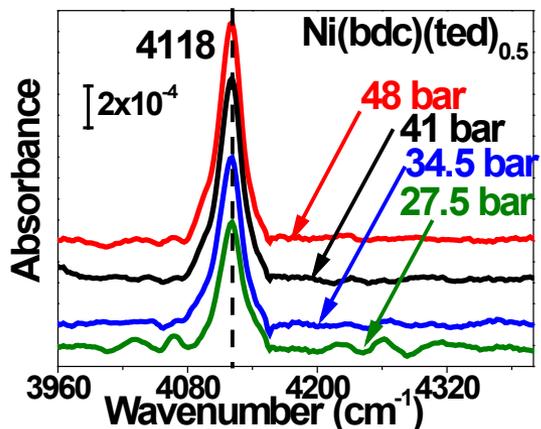
H. Liu et al., Adv. Funct. Mater. **21**, 4754 (2011)



Isotherm measurements:
information about H₂ uptake

Average effects: no specific
guest-host interaction

Need to understand effects at
the molecular level: Spectroscopy

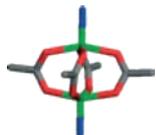


Induced IR activity because of an interaction
induced-dipole moment between H₂
and the framework atoms

Shift of H₂ vibrational modes from the free
H₂ (para at 4161 cm⁻¹ and ortho at 4155 cm⁻¹)
upon adsorption

Nijem et al., JACS **132**, 1654 (2010)

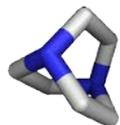
Synthesis of New Functionalized Ligands



$\text{Zn}_2(\text{COO})_4(\text{ted})_2$ Paddle-Wheel (SBU)

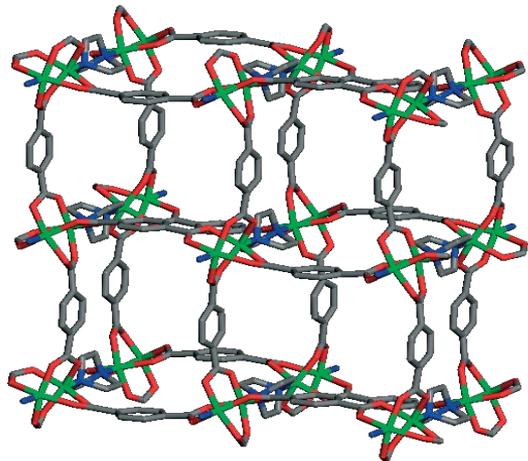


1,4-benzene-dicarboxylic acid (BDC)

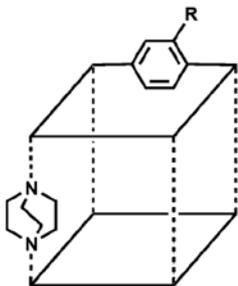
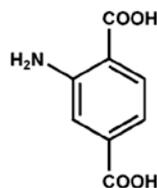
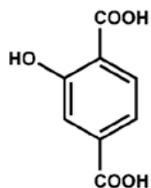
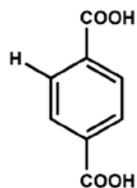
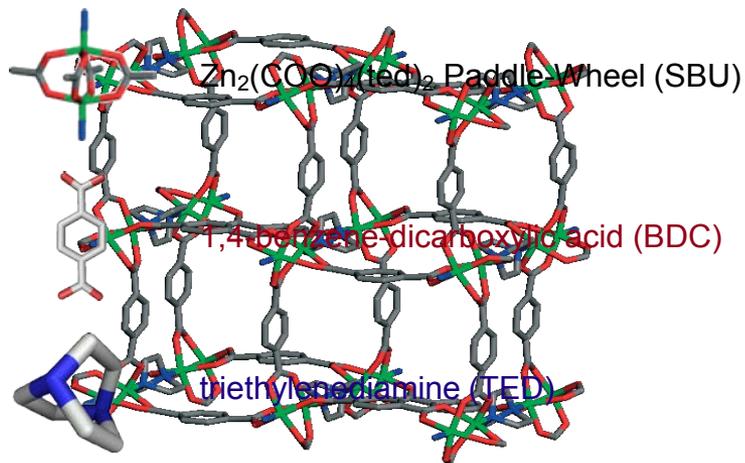


triethylenediamine (TED)

Synthesis of New Functionalized Ligands

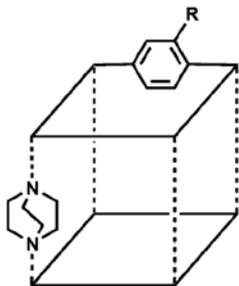
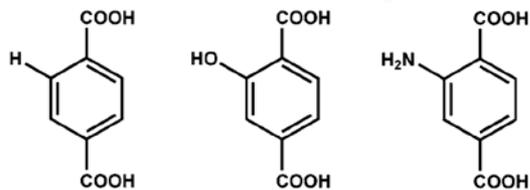
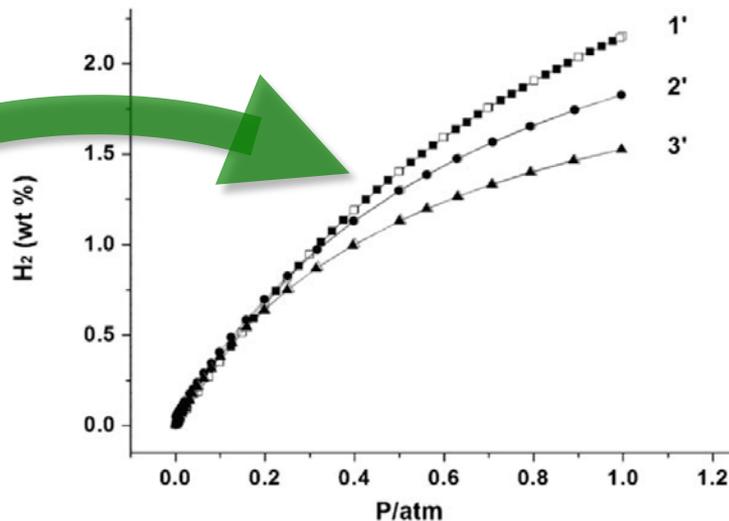
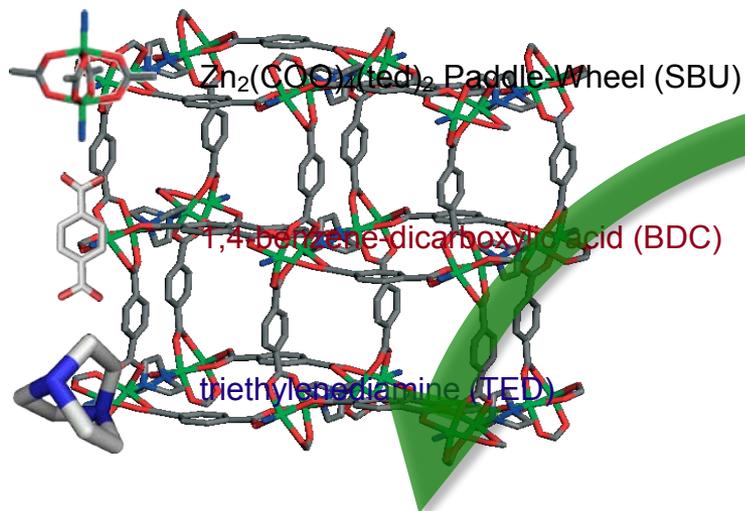


Synthesis of New Functionalized Ligands



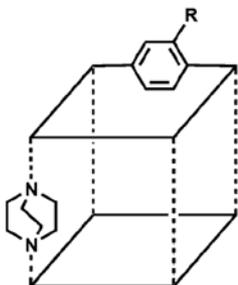
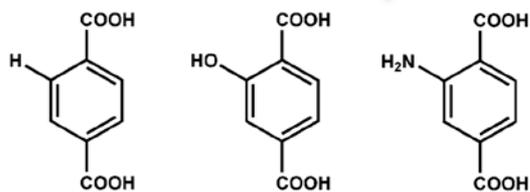
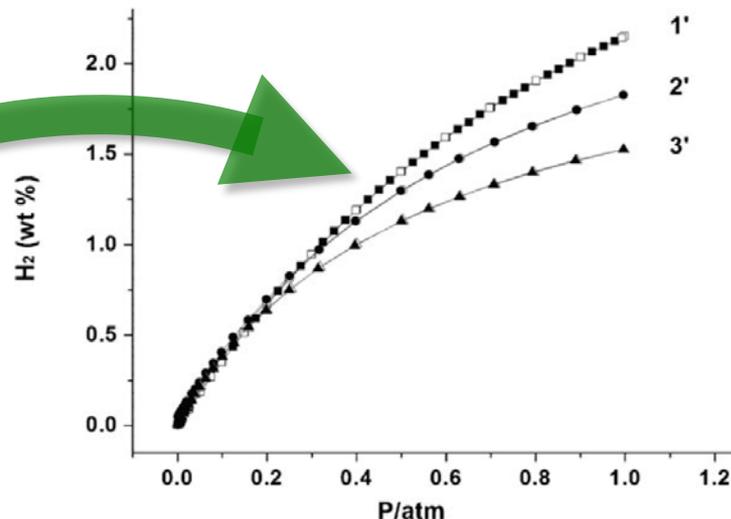
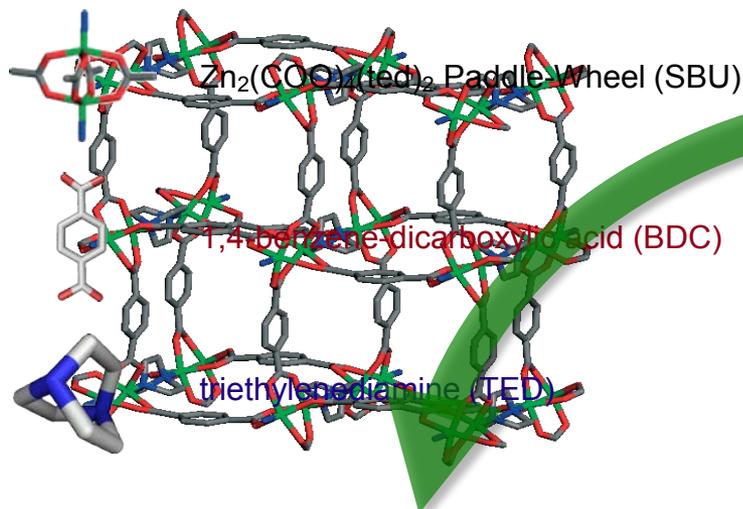
- 1: R = H
- 2: R = OH
- 3: R = NH₂

Synthesis of New Functionalized Ligands

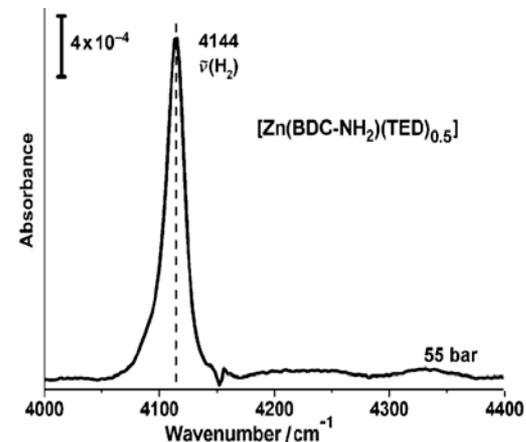
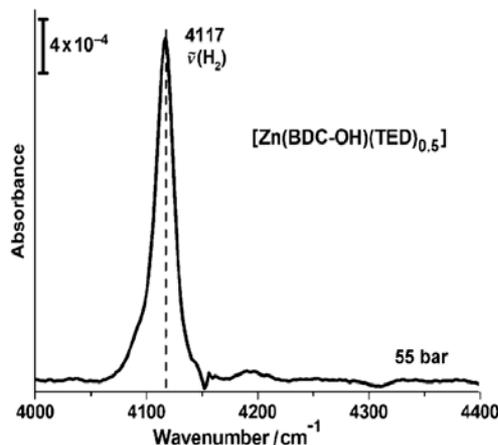


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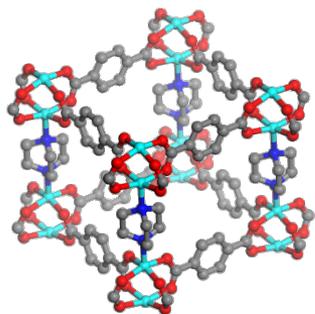
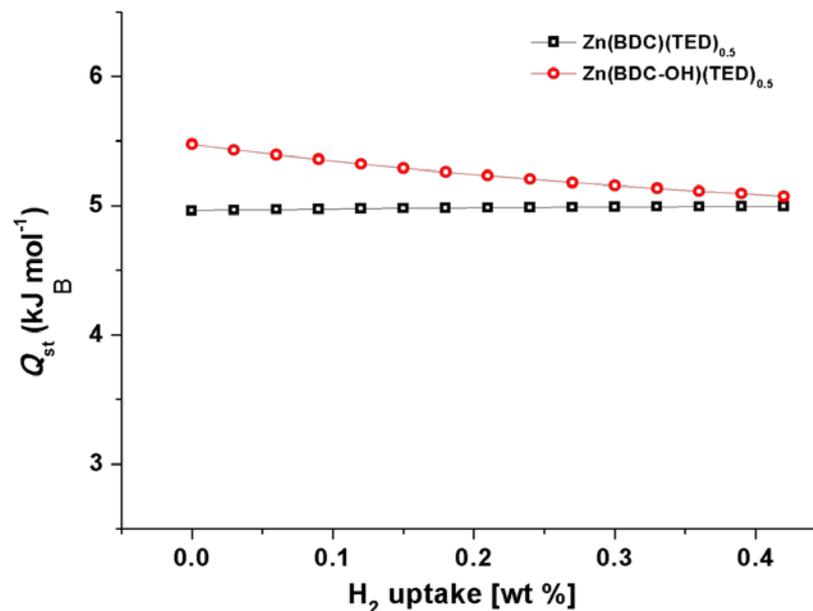
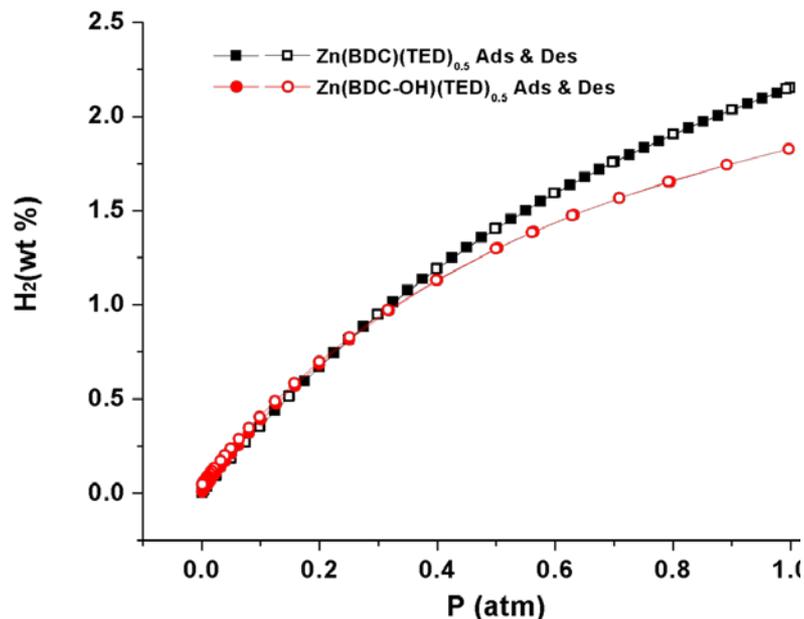
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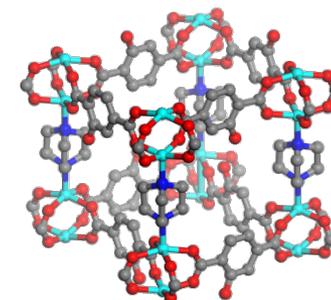
H₂ Uptake at 77K and Qst



Zn(bdc)(ted)_{0.5}

	Zn(bdc)(ted) _{0.5}	Zn(bdc-OH)(ted) _{0.5}
Pore Size, Å	7.5	5
Langmuir (BET), m ² /g	2057 (1937)	1111 (1023)
Pore Volume, cc/g ¹	0.75	0.56
H ₂ Uptake, wt% ²	2.1	1.8
Qst (H ₂), kJ/Mol	4.9 - 5.0	4.9 - 5.5

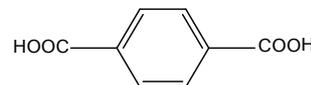
¹ N₂ data; ² 77K, 1 atm



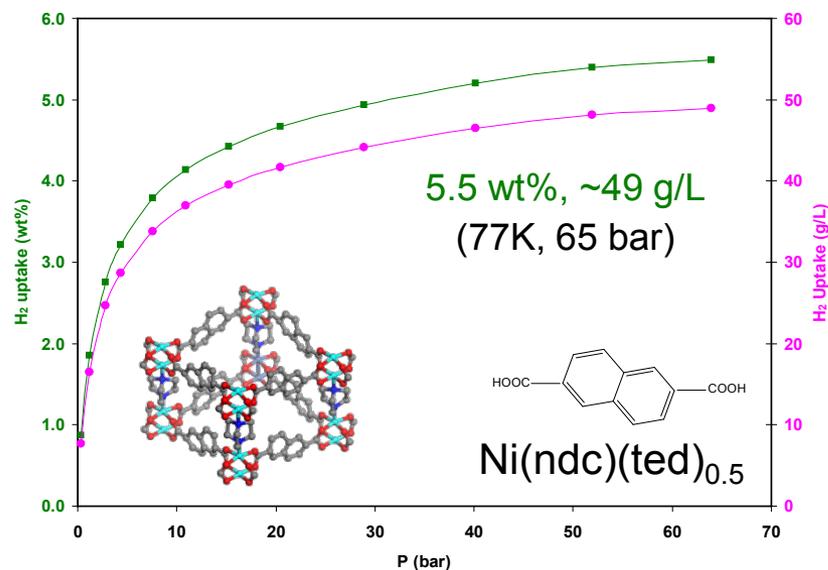
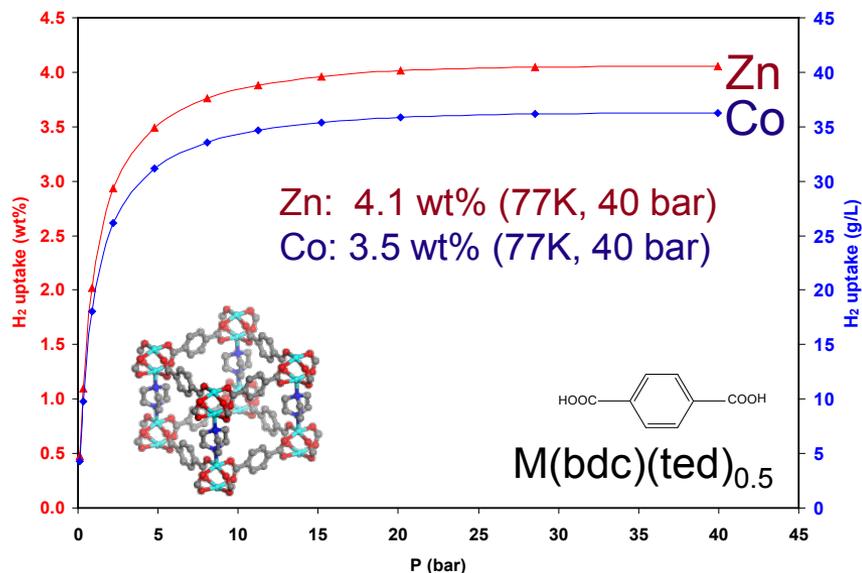
Zn(bdc-OH)(ted)_{0.5}

H₂ Uptake at High Pressure

Zn(L)(TED)0.5

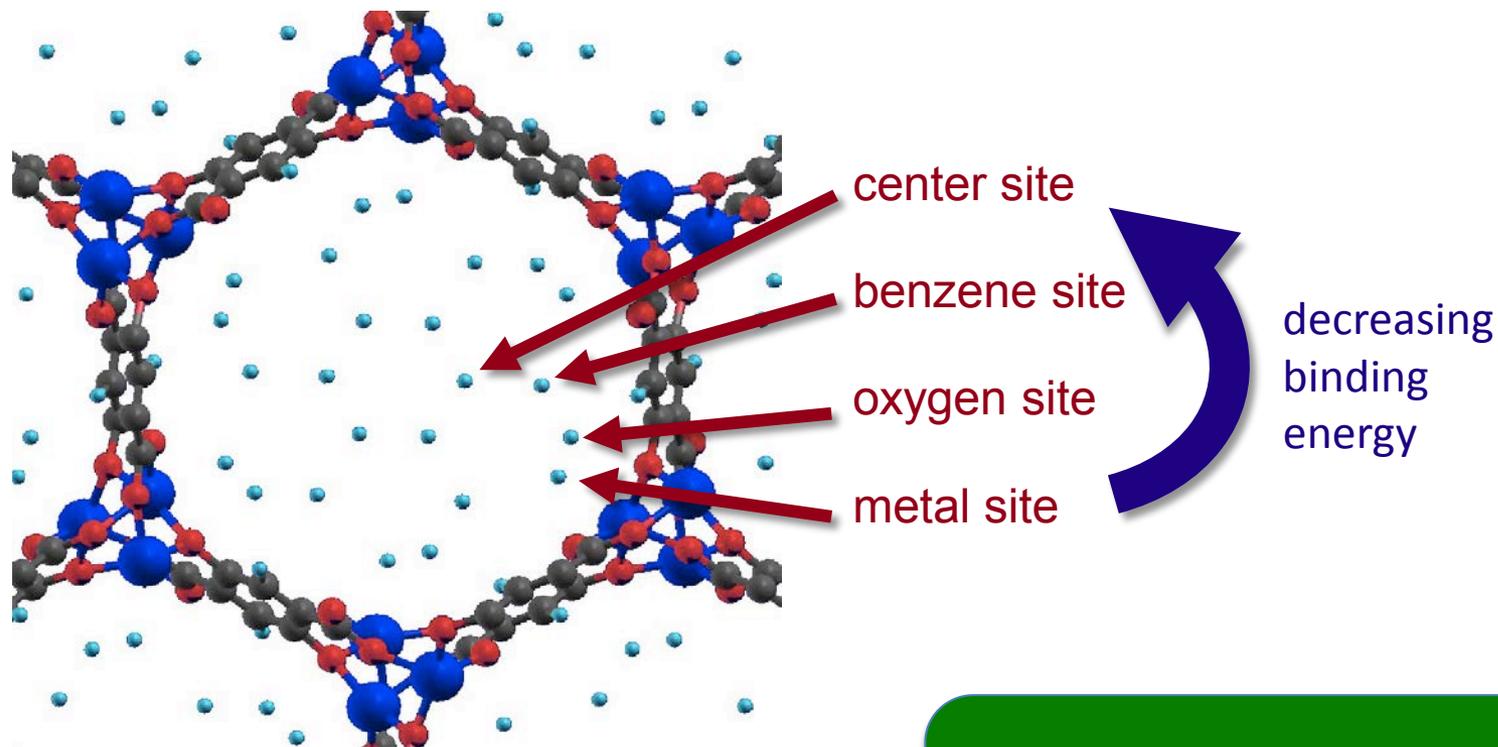


Solvent Accessible Volume (%)	57	61	67
H-K Pore Distribution (Å)	5.0	7.5	9.2
Pore Volume (cc/g, P/P ⁰ = 0.99)	0.47	0.73	1.05
Surf Area (BET/Langmuir, m ² /g)	958/1244	1888/2174	2090/2919
H ₂ Uptake (wt%, 77K, 40 bar)	2.7	4.1	5.2



H₂ Adsorption in MOF-74-Mg

8-13 kJ/mol H₂ binding energy; ~10 Å 1D channels; aromatic ligand;
M-H₂ range (~2.1-2.8 Å) depending on the metal (M=Zn, Mg, Ni)



Neutron diffraction at 4K (D₂)

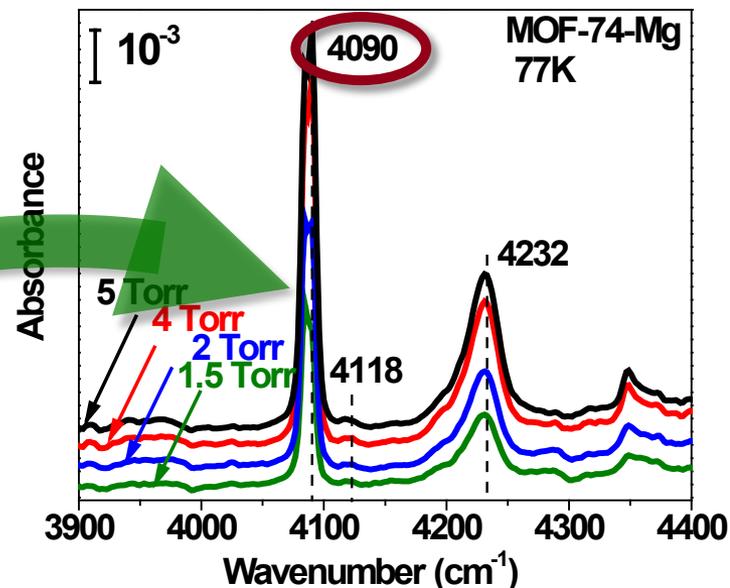
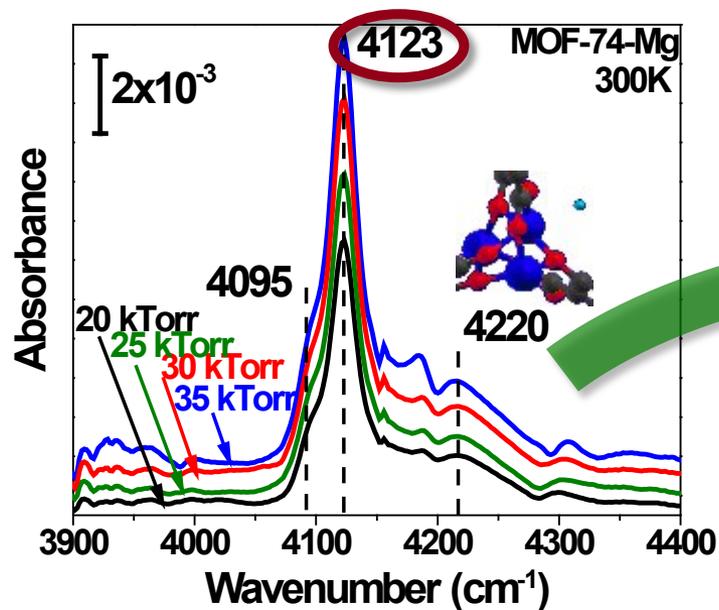
Y. Liu et al., Langmuir **24**, 4772 (2008)

Close distance between metal and oxygen site ~2.9 Å: H₂-H₂ interactions possible!

H₂ Adsorption in MOF-74-Mg

RT: $\Delta\nu(\text{H}_2) = -32 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

77K: $\Delta\nu(\text{H}_2) = -71 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

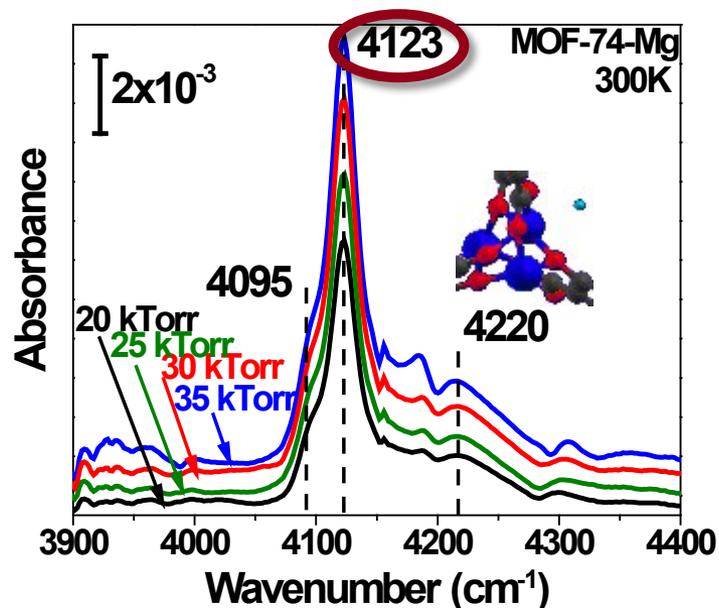


Uptake ~1 wt%
Isolated H₂ at the metal site
Lower H₂ shifts than Zn(bdc)(ted)_{0.5}

Higher H₂ loading → larger IR shift
change in $\Delta\nu = -39 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

H₂ Adsorption in MOF-74-Mg

RT: $\Delta\nu(\text{H}_2) = -32 \text{ cm}^{-1}$



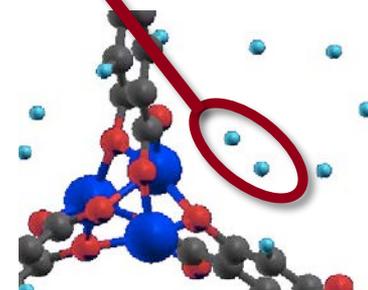
Nijem et al., JACS **132**, 14834 (2010)

Decrease in dipole moment H₂^M due to H₂-H₂ interactions + activation energy to form the H₂-H₂ dimer

vdW-DF IR shifts for different loadings for MOF-74-Mg (in cm⁻¹)

	$\Delta\nu(\text{H}_2) \text{ Mg}$	$\Delta\nu(\text{H}_2) \text{ O}$
1H ₂ /unit cell	-51	NA
12H ₂ /unit cell	-67	-41

H₂ "pairing" interaction

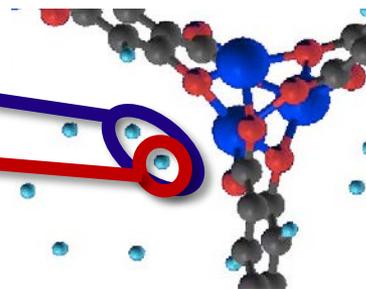
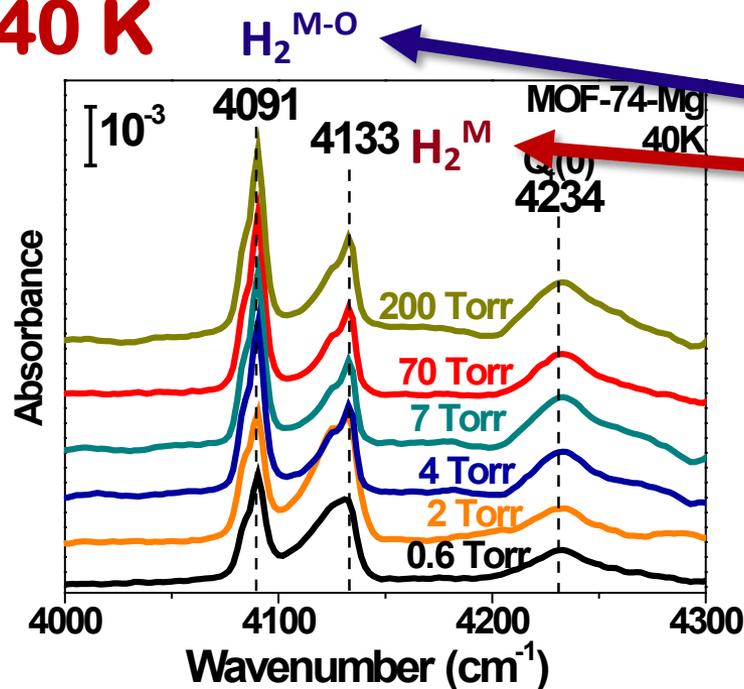


vdW-DF dipole moment of H₂

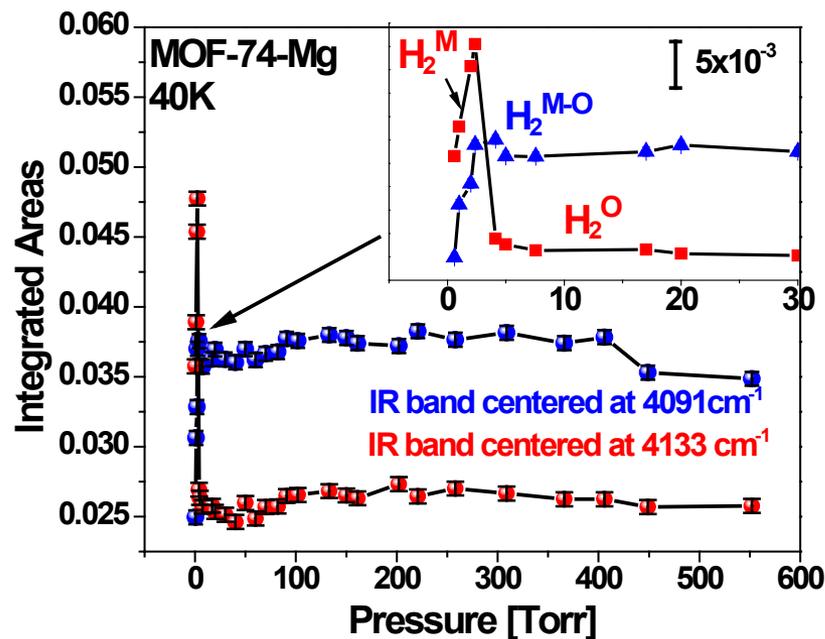
	Mg	O
1H ₂ /unit cell	4.1	NA
12H ₂ /unit cell	3	4.8

H₂-H₂ Interactions in MOF-74-Mg

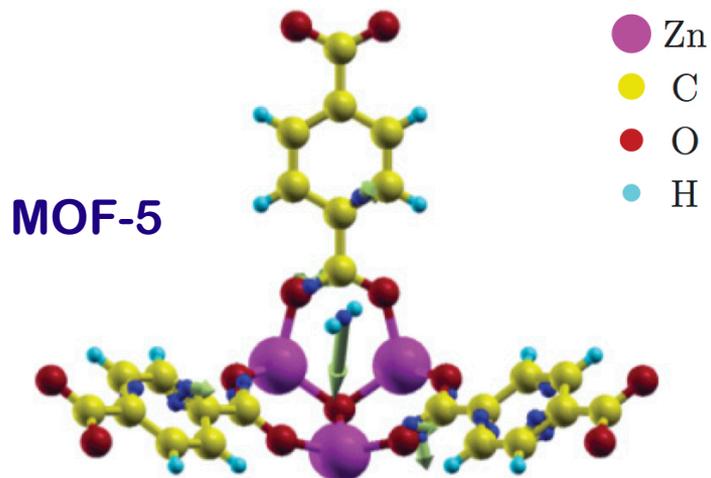
40 K



Slower kinetics
Contribution from both bands
Decrease in dipole moment of H₂^M
due to H₂-H₂ interactions



Accurately Calculating IR Intensities

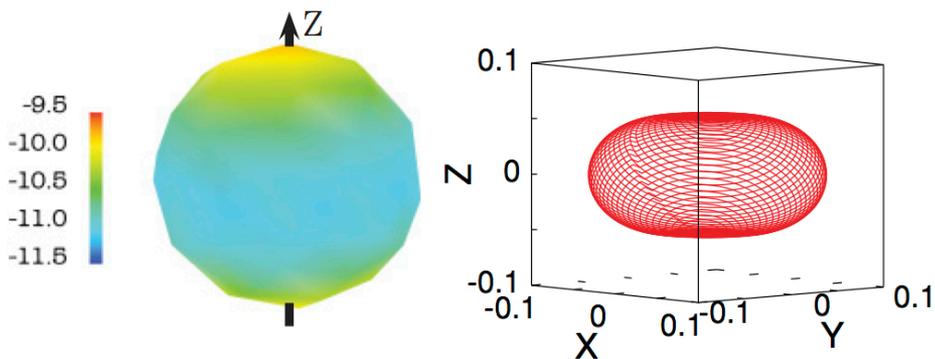


Stretch frequency shift of adsorbed H₂

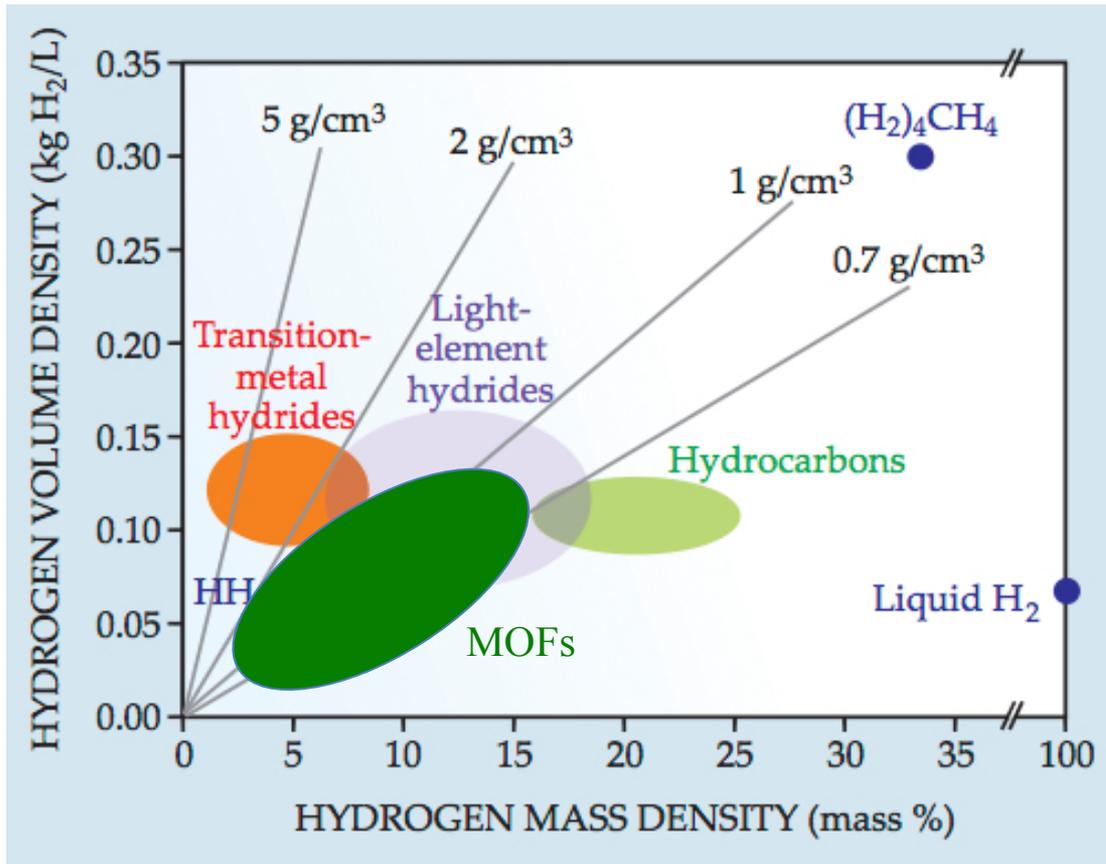
Site	Theory (cm ⁻¹)	Expt. (cm ⁻¹)	Calculated E_B (kJ/mol)
cup	-23	-27.5	-11.1
O2	-22	-19.0	-7.9
O3	-13	-17	-7.8
benzene	-15	—	-5.4

Theory vs experiment for RV transitions

	m_i	m_f	Theory		Experiment	
			Δv	Int.	Δv	Int.
$Q(0)$	0	0	-23	2		abs
$Q(1)$	± 1	± 1	-23	97	-27.5	str
	0	0				
$Q^*(1)$	± 1	0	22	9	39	wk
$S(0)$	0	± 2	-44	58	-49.3	str
		± 1	-12	5	-6.8	wk
		0	-1	2		abs
$S(1)$	± 1	± 3	-34	100	-36.8	str
		± 2	-9	6	-0.8	wk
		± 1	6	9	21.6	wk
		0	11	3		abs
	0	± 3	-78	0		abs
		± 2	-53	3	-61	wk
		± 1	-50	~ 0		abs
		0	-33	~ 0		abs

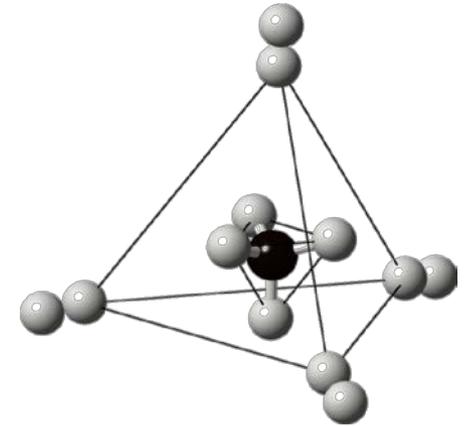
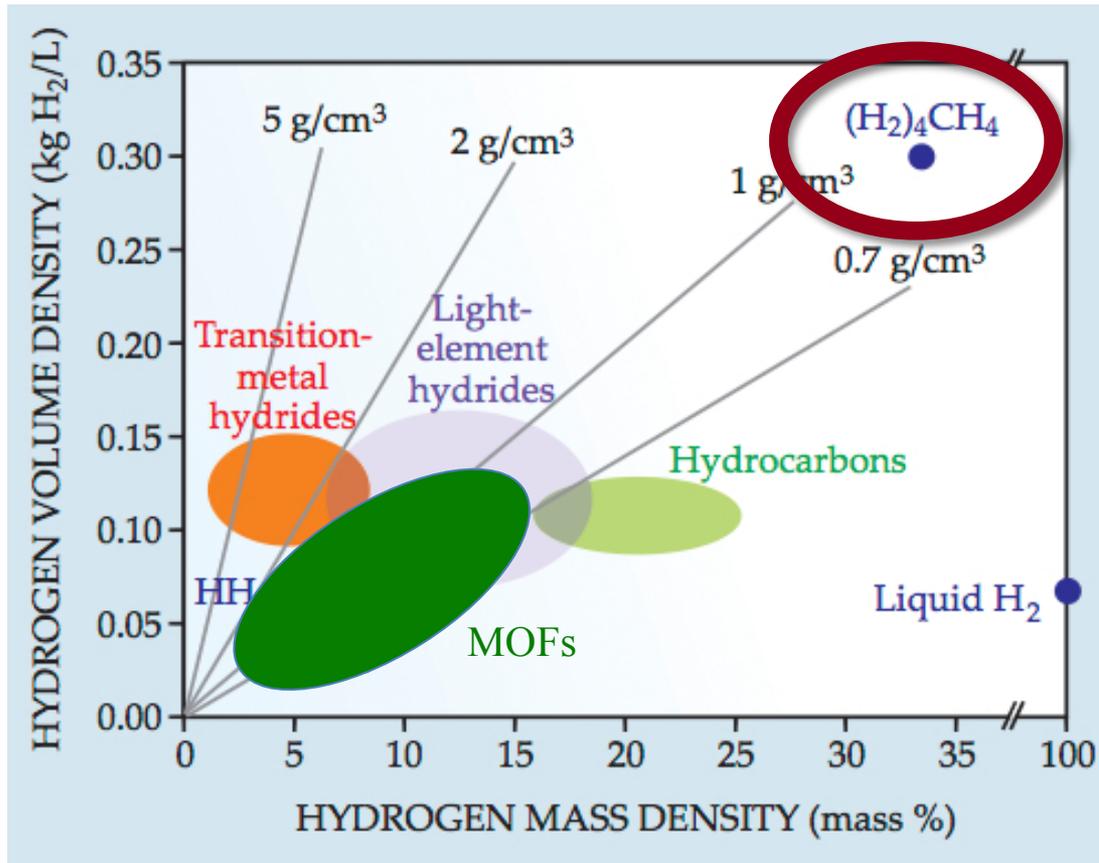


$(\text{H}_2)_4\text{CH}_4$ in MOFs and CNT



W. L. Mao et al., Physics Today **60**, 42 (2007)

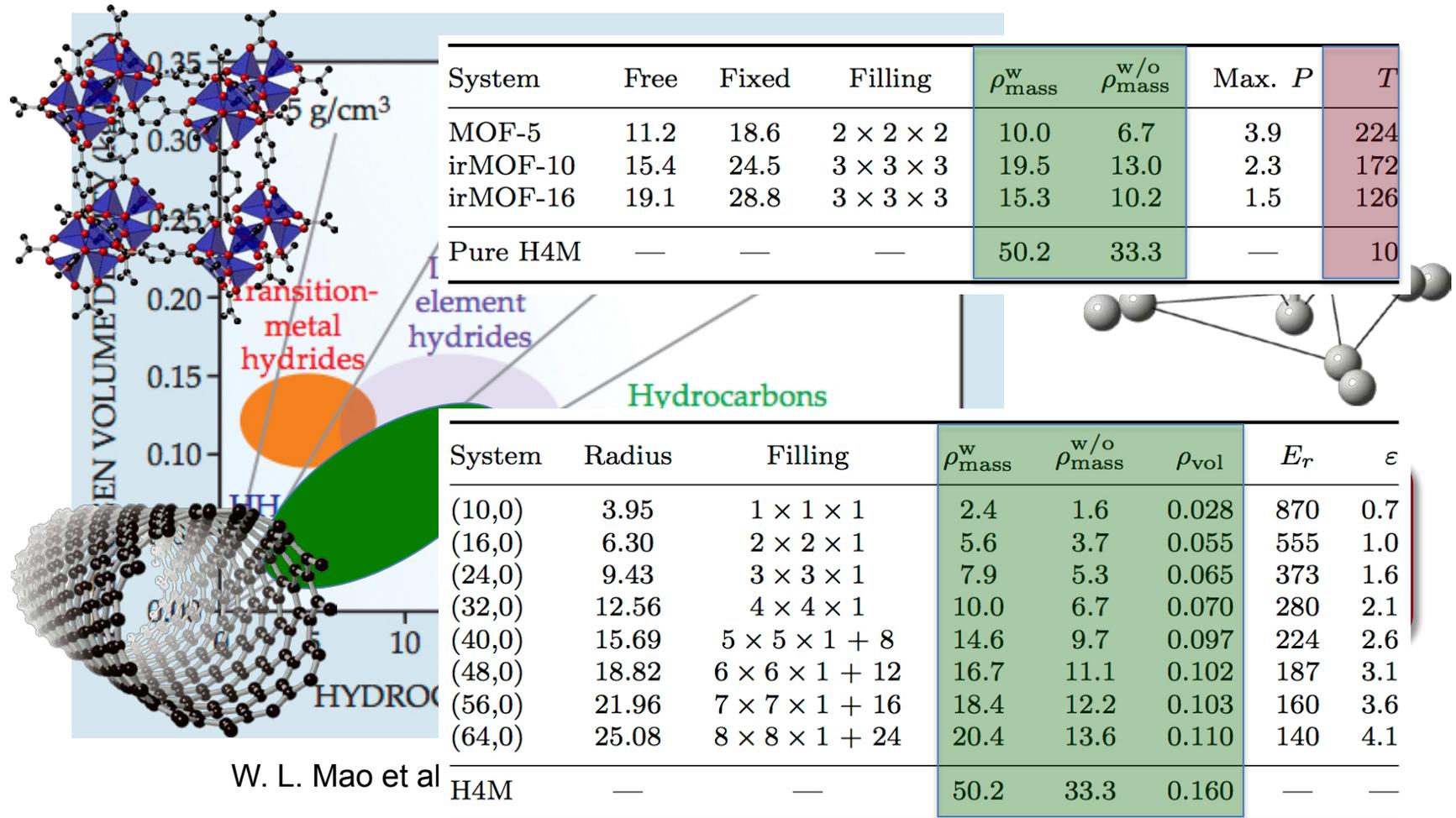
$(\text{H}_2)_4\text{CH}_4$ in MOFs and CNT



Requires
5 - 6 GPa
at RT

W. L. Mao et al., Physics Today **60**, 42 (2007)

(H₂)₄CH₄ in MOFs and CNT

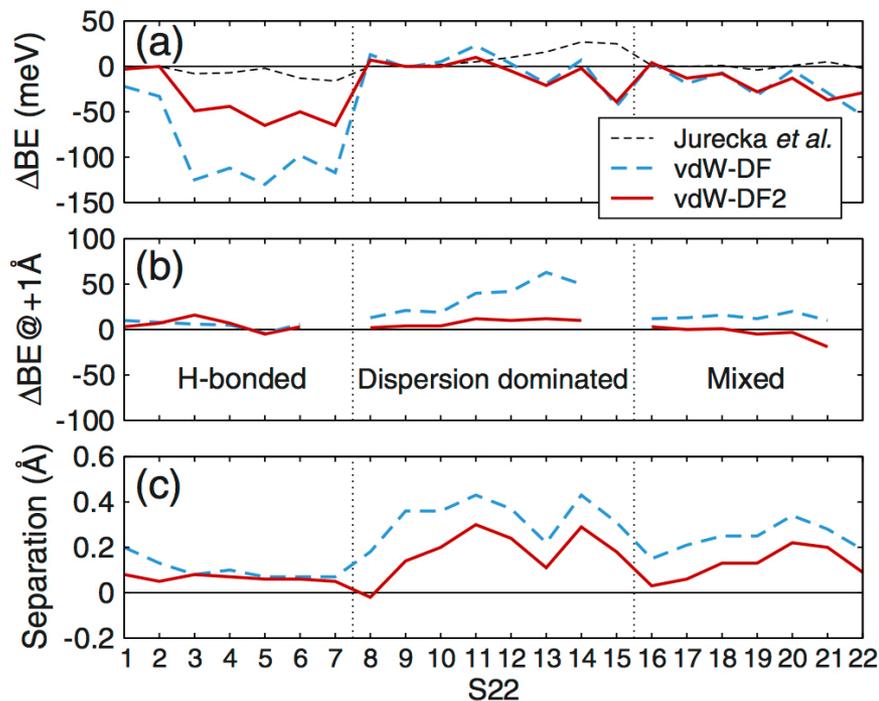


Q. Li and T. Thonhauser, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter, in press (2012)

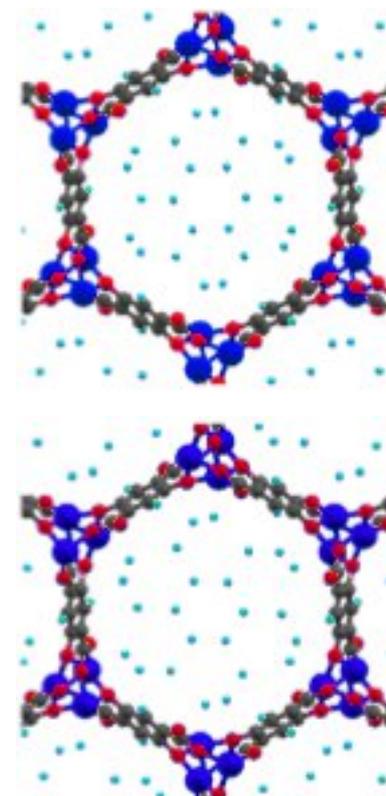
Computational Improvements

Improved description of van der Waals interactions within DFT through a better exchange-correlation functional:

vdW-DF \rightarrow vdW-DF2



K. Lee *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **82**, 081101R (2010)



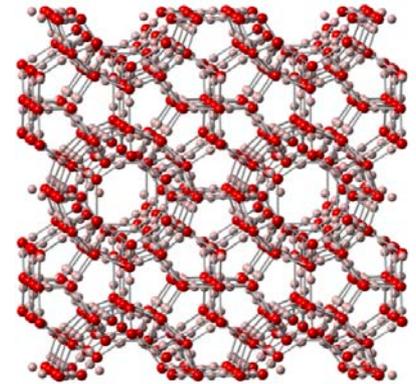
vdW-DF2

neutron diffraction

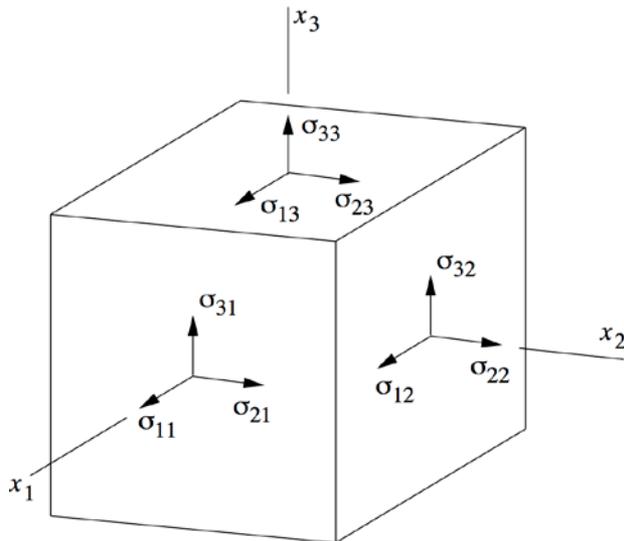
MOF74-Zn

Computational Improvements

We implemented vdW-DF and vdW-DF2 in the computer code **PWscf** (part of the open-source **QUANTUM-ESPRESSO package**), which shows a speed up of approximately a factor of 2 – 3, compared to our original implementation in ABINIT.



H₂ in SII clathrate:
408 atoms/unit cell



We have also derived a formalism that allows us to calculate the **vdW-DF stress tensor**, allowing for a much more efficient structural optimization.

Future Directions

Spin-polarized calculations are not yet possible and interesting cases such as MOF containing Fe, Co, Ni are excluded. **Future: spin-polarized vdW-DF.**

Dynamical and temperature effects are excluded at the moment. **Future: implement vdW-DF in molecular dynamics code.**

Framework is in place for adsorption of a variety of small molecules (CO, CO₂, N₂, H₂O, CH₄, ...). **Future: apply Framework to study co-adsorption and gas separation.**

Conclusions

A combination of vdW-DF calculations and spectroscopic data gives a mechanistic understanding of molecular adsorption in MOFs.

Knowledge of this interaction is important to design and test MOF structures with desired functionality.

Tools and methodology are in place to address more complex systems, such as co-adsorption of several gases and gas separation.



Project ID: BES003
Entirely funded by DOE BES
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