

Hydrogen Adsorbents with High Volumetric Density:

New Materials and System Projections

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University of Michigan

³Ford Motor Company



Timeline and Budget

Project Start Date: August 1st, 2015

Project End Date: July 31st, 2018

Total Project Budget: \$1,040,000

Federal Share:

UM: \$800,000

Ford: \$192,000

Total: \$992,000

Cost Share: \$48,000 (Ford)

Total Funds Spent:* \$150,000

*Estimated as of 3/31/16

Barriers

Barriers addressed

- Volumetric Density
- Gravimetric Density

Partners

Interactions/collaborations:

Ford Motor Company, Hydrogen Storage Engineering Center of Excellence (HSECoE)

Project lead:

D. Siegel, University of Michigan

- A high-capacity, low-cost method for storing hydrogen remains one of the primary barriers to the widespread commercialization of fuel cell vehicles
- Storage via adsorption is a promising approach due to its fast kinetics, facile reversibility, and high gravimetric densities
- An unfortunate characteristic of adsorptive storage is that high gravimetric densities typically come at the expense of volumetric density
- HSECoE developed a 100 bar MOF-5-based storage system that approached competitiveness with 700 bar compressed. Our work in the HSECoE identified additional MOFs that may out-perform MOF-5, potentially resulting in a low-pressure system that could surpass 700 bar

Project goal: Demonstrate best-in-class MOFs that achieve high volumetric and gravimetric H₂ densities *simultaneously*, while maintaining reversibility and fast kinetics

Objective 1: Demonstrate MOFs with high volumetric and gravimetric hydrogen densities, exceeding those of MOF-5

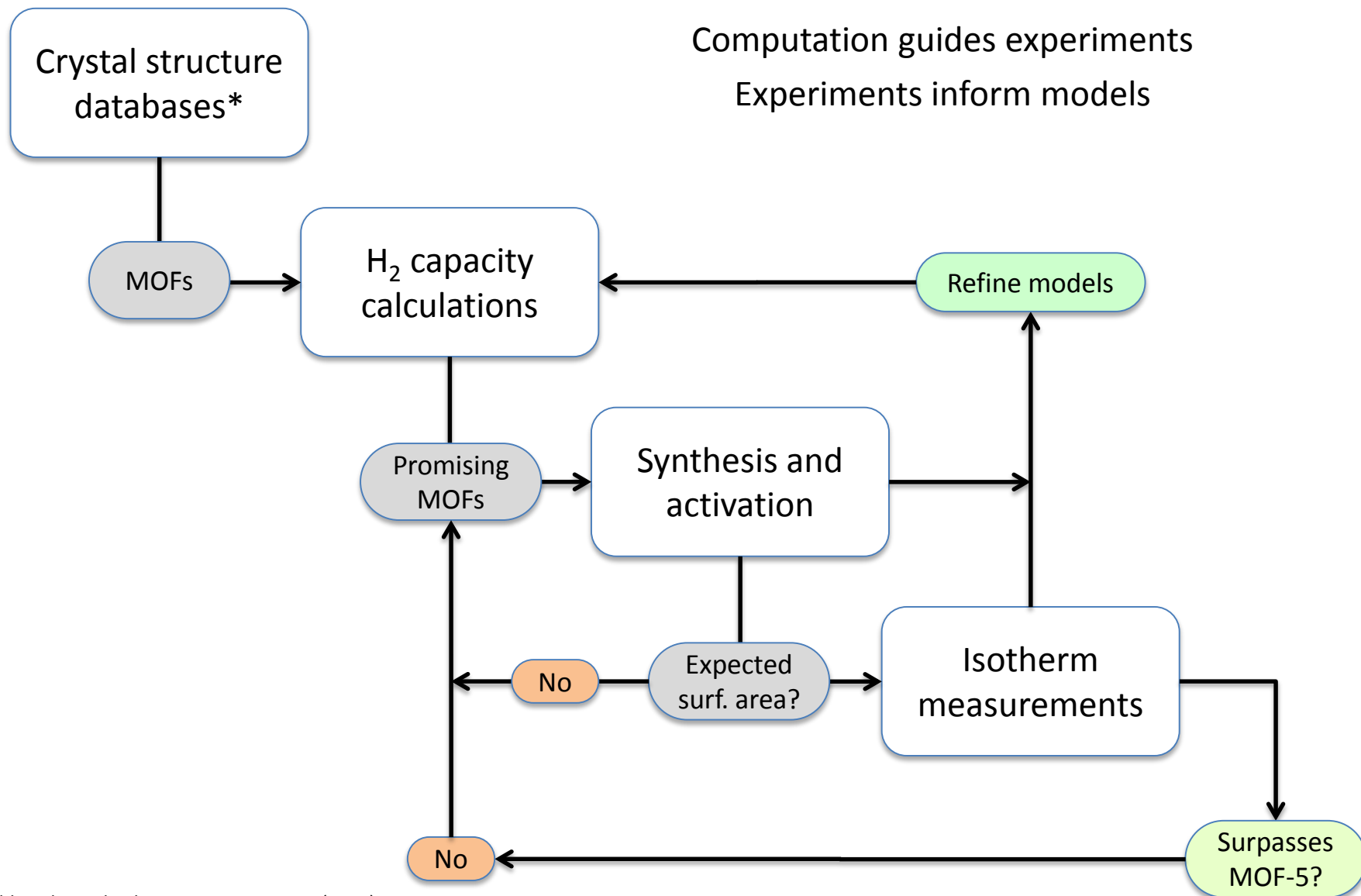
- Prior studies typically focus on maximizing gravimetric density alone
- Synthetic efforts guided by high-throughput screening (**Year 1 emphasis**)
- If successful, these compounds will **set a new high-water mark** for H₂ density in adsorbents at cryogenic conditions
- ✓ **Screened 2,000+ MOFs using GCMC & empirical methods**
- ✓ **Identified IRMOF-20: exceeds the performance of MOF-5 benchmark**

Objective 2: System-level projections

- Project performance of most promising compounds to the system level by parameterizing models developed by the HSECoE
- Clarify how materials properties impact system performance

Approach

Note: All volumetric hydrogen densities reported herein assume single-crystal MOF densities



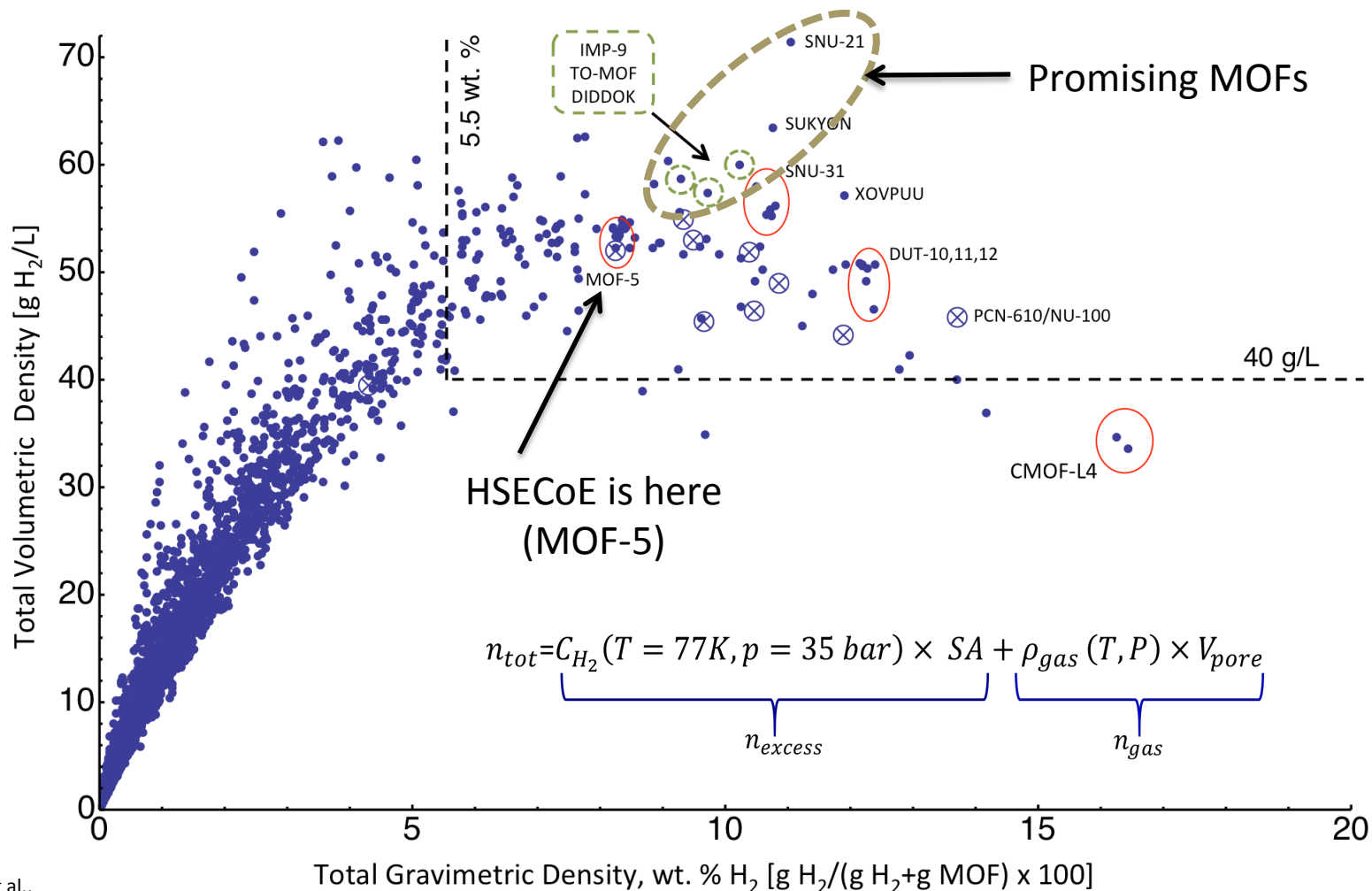
*Goldsmith, et al., *Chem. Mater.* **25**, 3373 (2013)

*Chung et al., *Chem. Mater.* **26**, 6185 (2014)

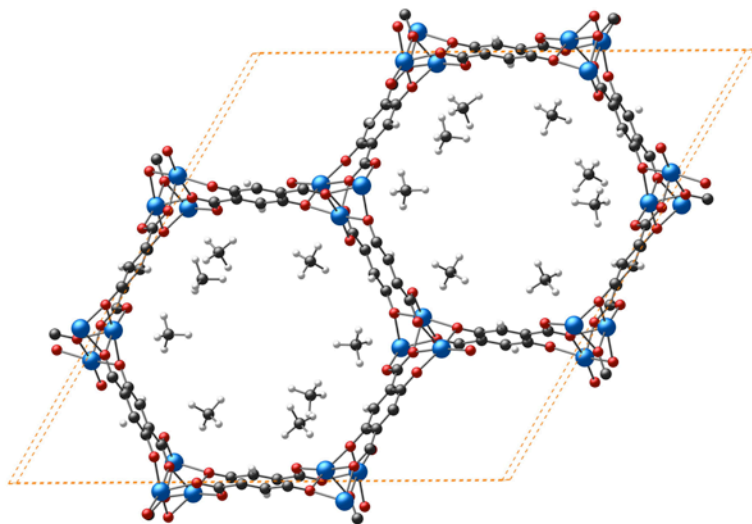
Our approach links atomic scale computation, experimental synthesis & characterization, and system level modeling

Year	Milestone or Go/No-Go	Due	Description	Status
1	Update and validate computational methods	10/31/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update screening method to account for impact of adsorbed hydrogen on total volumetric hydrogen density Validate against experimental capacities for MOF-5 baseline 	Complete. Added GCMC to screening protocol
1	MOF synthesis	1/31/16	Synthesize at least 3 MOFs with potential to surpass the hydrogen storage capacity of MOF-5 by 15%	Complete. 7 MOFs synthesized
1	Extend computational predictions	4/30/16	Extend screening to examine 50,000 new compounds from the Cambridge Structure Database	Partially complete
1	Go/No-Go	7/31/16	Demonstrate at least 1 MOF with >90% projected SA, >3,000 m ² /g, and H ₂ capacity matching MOF-5 baseline	IRMOF-20 demonstrated
2	Go/No-Go	7/31/17	Demonstrate at least 1 MOF with hydrogen capacities exceeding baseline MOF-5 by 15%	

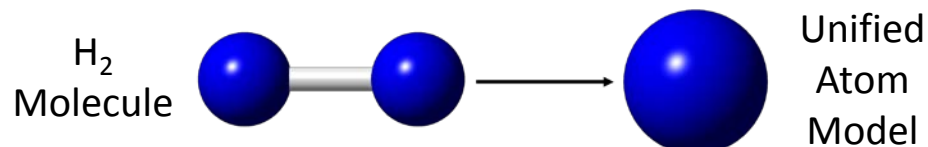
Prior work: developed a database of MOFs by mining the CSD. Chahine rule and crystal structure were used to predict H₂ capacity in thousands of compounds



- GCMC = atomistic method that calculates the total amount of H₂ (adsorbed + gas phase) contained within the pore space of a MOF at given T, P
- Does not rely on empirical correlations such as the Chahine-rule
- Calculations employ the MGS* and the Pseudo-FH** unified atom models for H₂-MOF interactions
- MOF atoms are fixed



Example GCMC simulation of CH₄ adsorption in Ni-DOBDC at 298 K and 35 bar



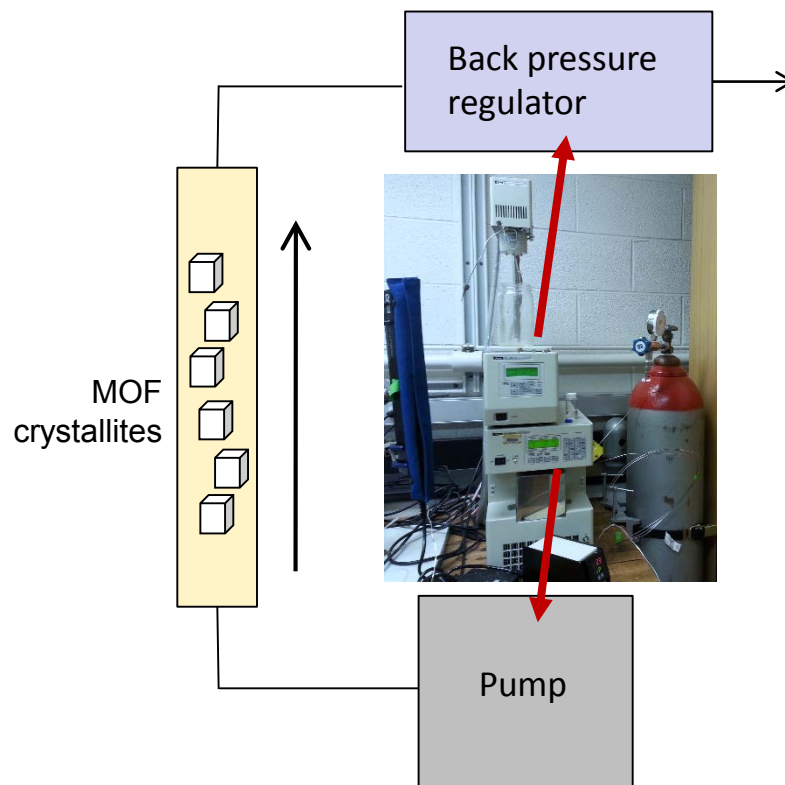
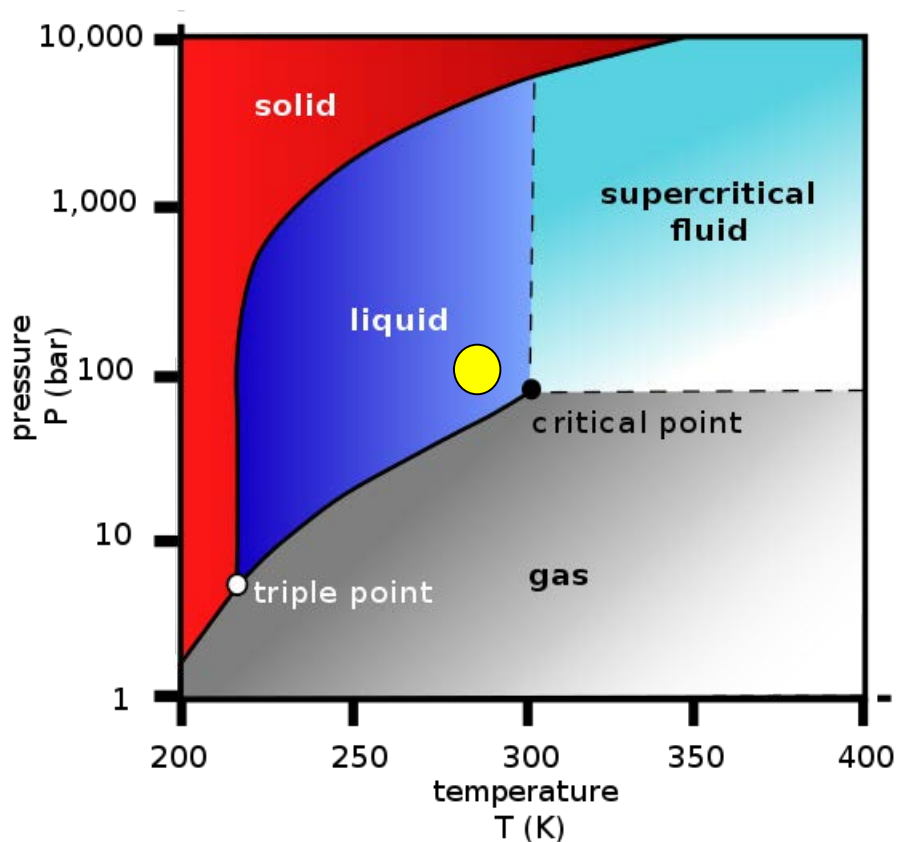
$$U_{ij}(r_{ij}) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

Force Field	Sigma (Å)	Epsilon/k _B (K)
MGS	2.958	36.7
Pseudo-FH	3.064	30.1

*Michels, de Graaff and Seldam, *Physica*, **1960**, 26, 393; Ryan, Broadbelt, and Snurr, *Chem. Comm.* 2008, 4134

Fischer, Hoffmann, Fröba, *ChemPhysChem*, **2009, 10, 2647.

Flowing supercritical CO₂ activation is milder than vacuum activation
 → minimizes pore collapse and maximizes surface area



Batch activation: Nelson, A. P.; Farha, O. K.; Mulfort, K; Hupp, J. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 458.

Flow activation: Liu, B.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J. *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 1419.

MOFs activated with flowing sc-CO₂ generally exhibit superior properties

Material	Surface area (flow Sc-CO ₂ activation)	Surface area (vacuum/batch Sc-CO ₂ activation)
UMCM-9	5357 m ² /g	1330 m ² /g (vac)
FJI	4813 m ² /g	4043 m ² /g (batch)
MOF-74 (Zn/DOBDC)	1108 m ² /g	750-950 m ² /g (vac)
UMCM-10	4001 m ² /g	Structure collapses under vacuum activation
UMCM-12	4849 m ² /g	Structure collapses under vacuum activation
IRMOF-8 (non-interpenetrated)	4461 m ² /g	Structure collapses under vacuum activation
A series of functionalized IRMOF-8 (non-interpenetrated)	~4000 m ² /g	-
HKUST-1	1710-1770 m ² /g (heating required)	682-1944 m ² /g (vac)

Liu, B.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J. *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, 49, 1419.

Dutta, A.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J. *Chem. Sci.* **2014**, 5, 3729.

Feldblyum, J. I.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J. *Chem. Commun.* **2012**, 48, 9838.

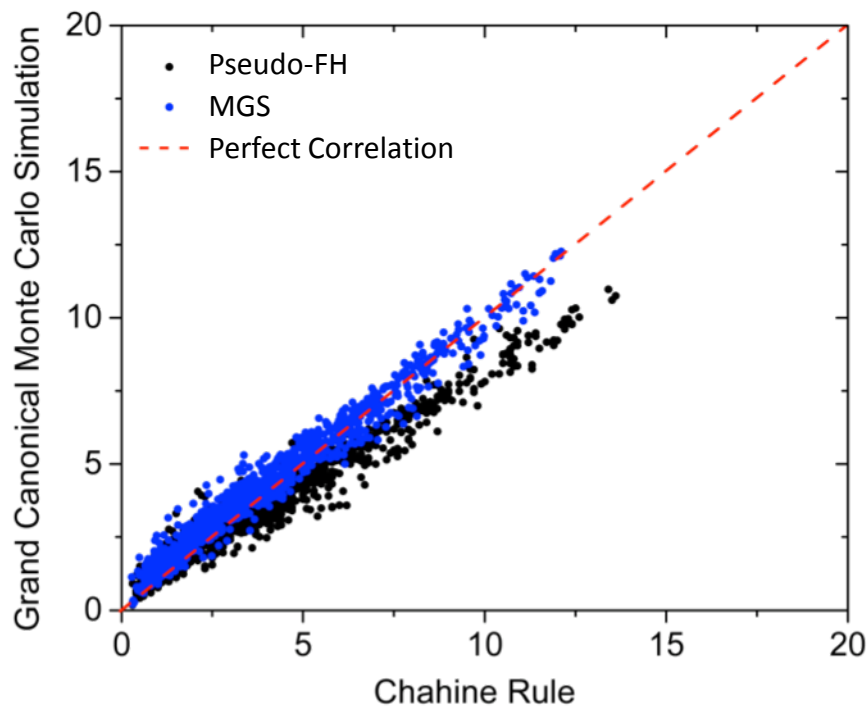
Tran, L. D.; Feldblyum, J. I.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J. *Langmuir* **2015**, 31, 2211.



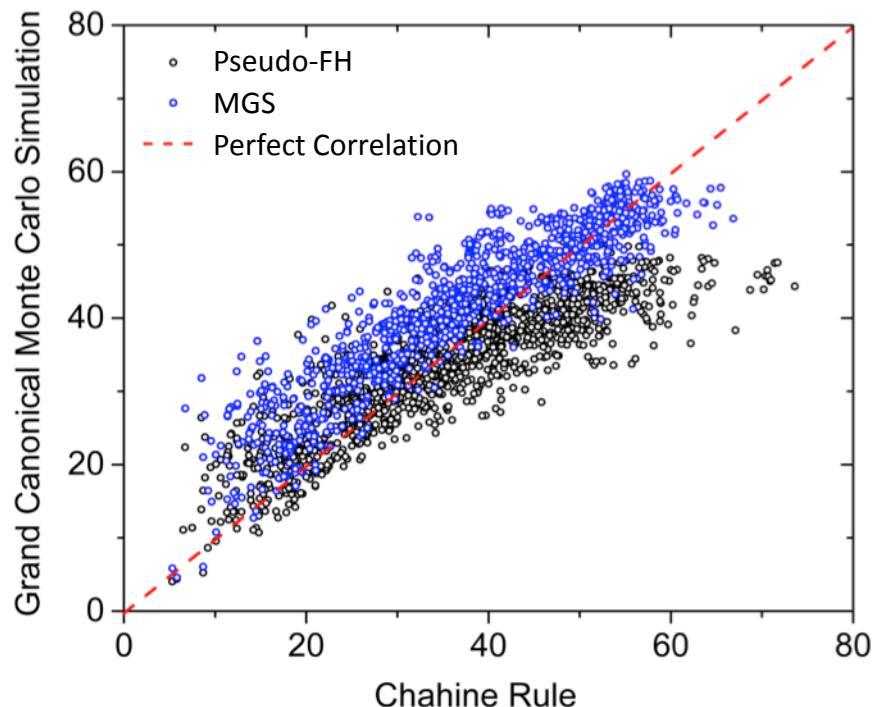
Accomplishments

“Quick and dirty” Chahine-rule predictions of H₂ uptake in MOFs correlate strongly with GCMC calculations

Total gravimetric H₂ (wt.%)

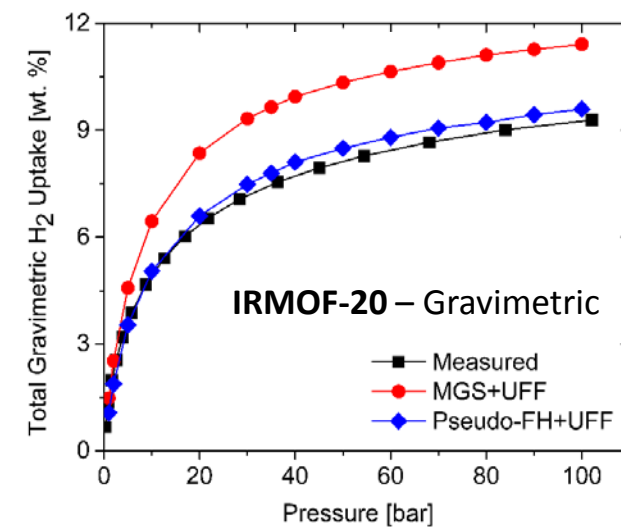
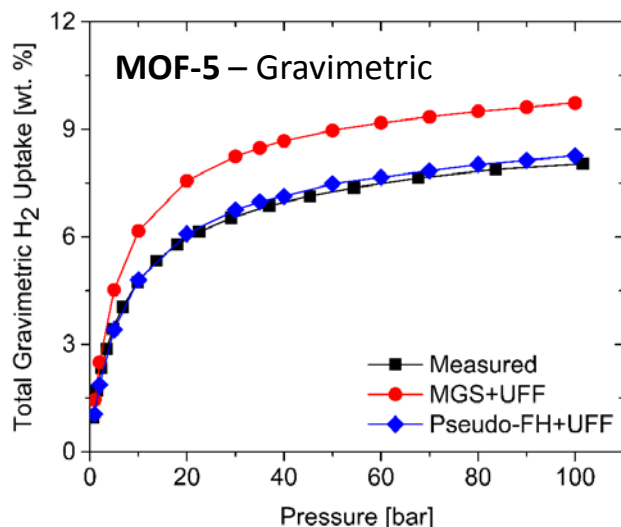
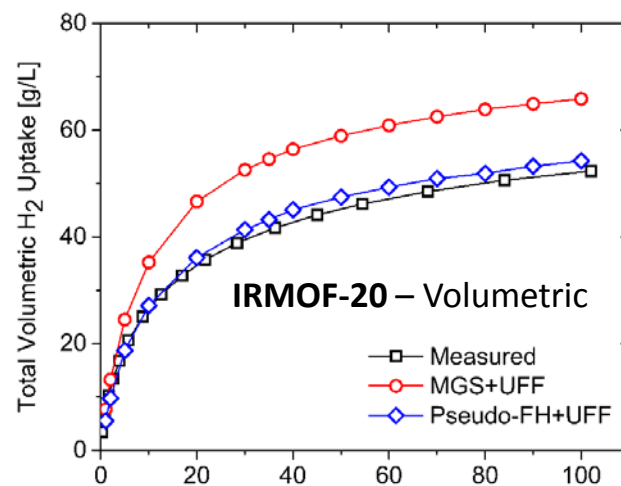
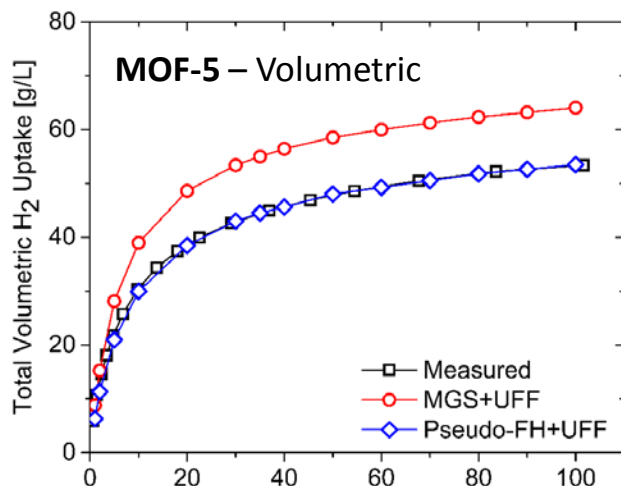


Total volumetric H₂ (g H₂/L MOF)



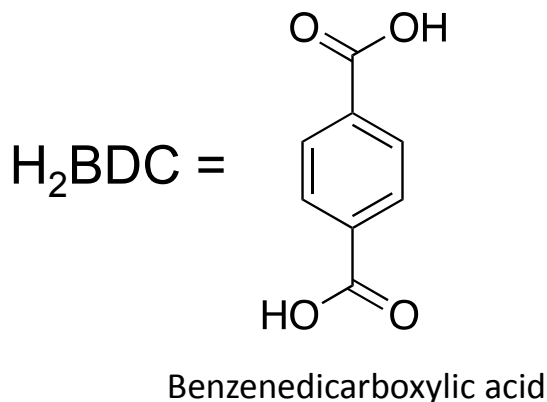
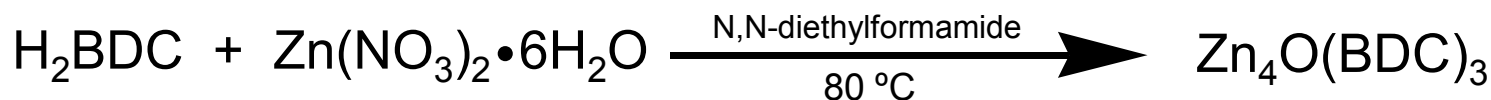
Although GCMC is more expensive, it provides access to full isotherm and allows estimation of usable capacities

Pseudo-FH force field appears to more accurately reproduce our measurements



At present our GCMC calculations employ both the p-FH and MGS force fields

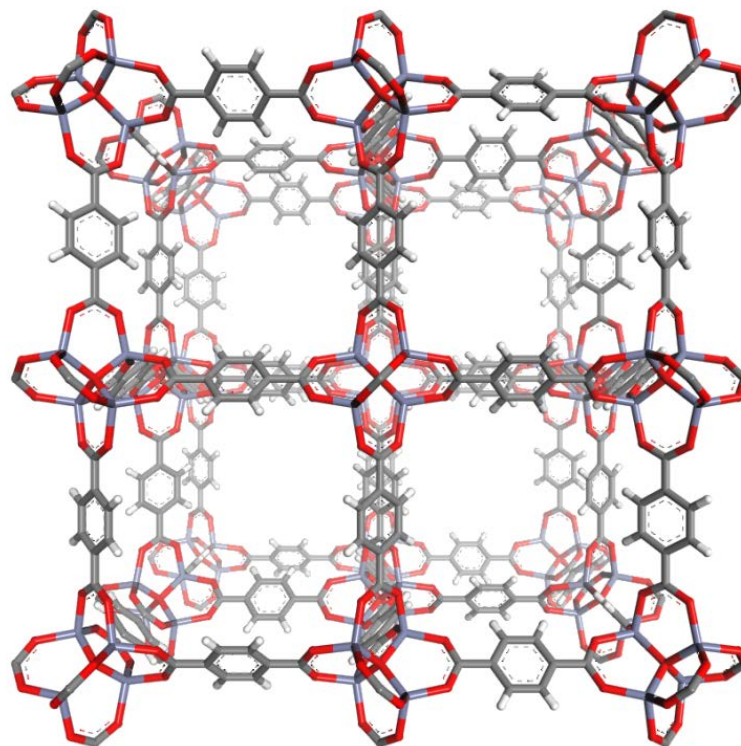
Performed air-free synthesis¹ of the benchmark compound MOF-5



Activated by:

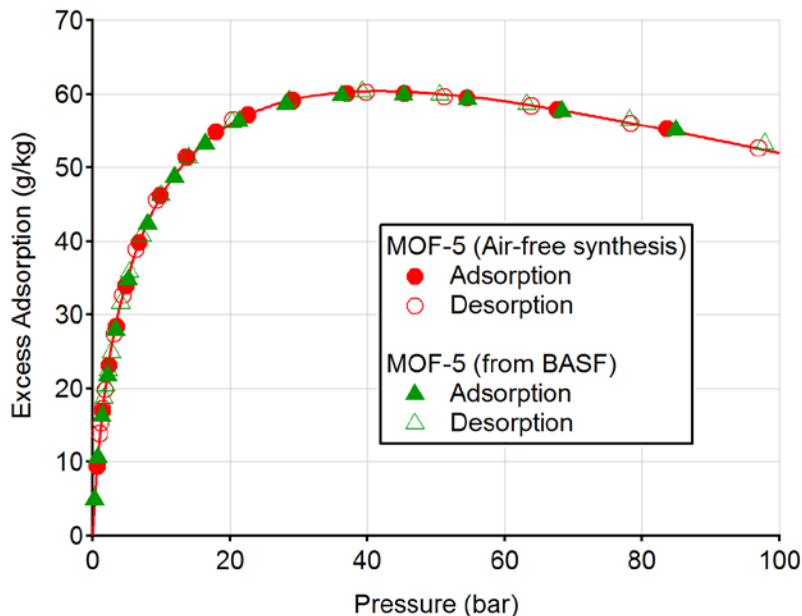
- 1) Multiple solvent exchanges
- 2) RT vacuum drying

BET S.A. = 3512 m²/g
 Calculated = 3563 m²/g
 Literature = 3800 m²/g [1]



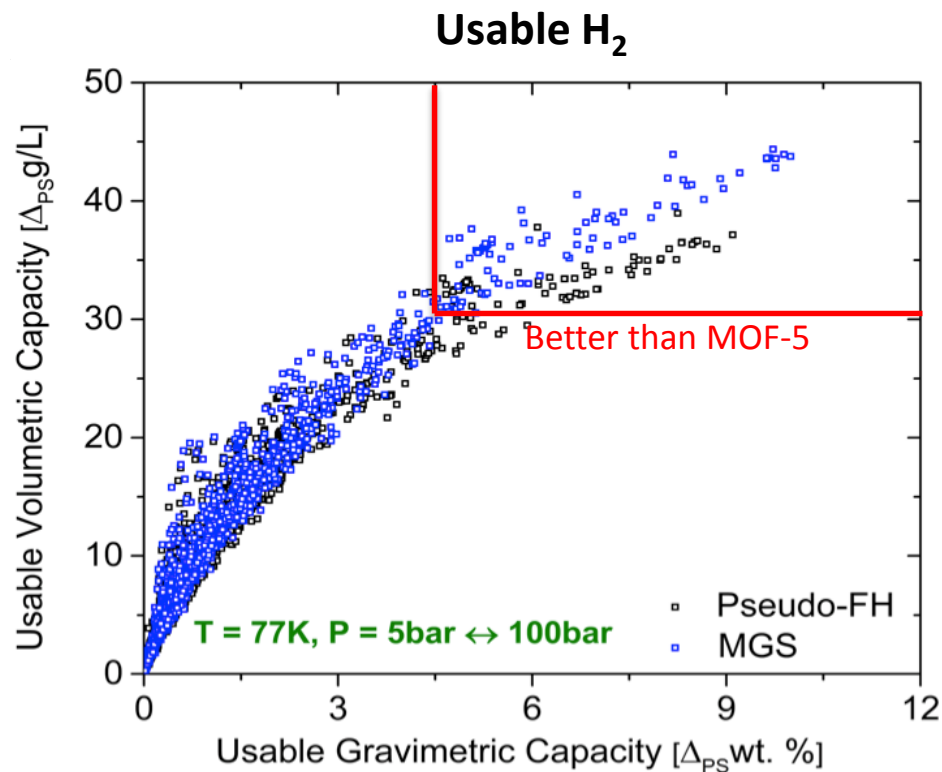
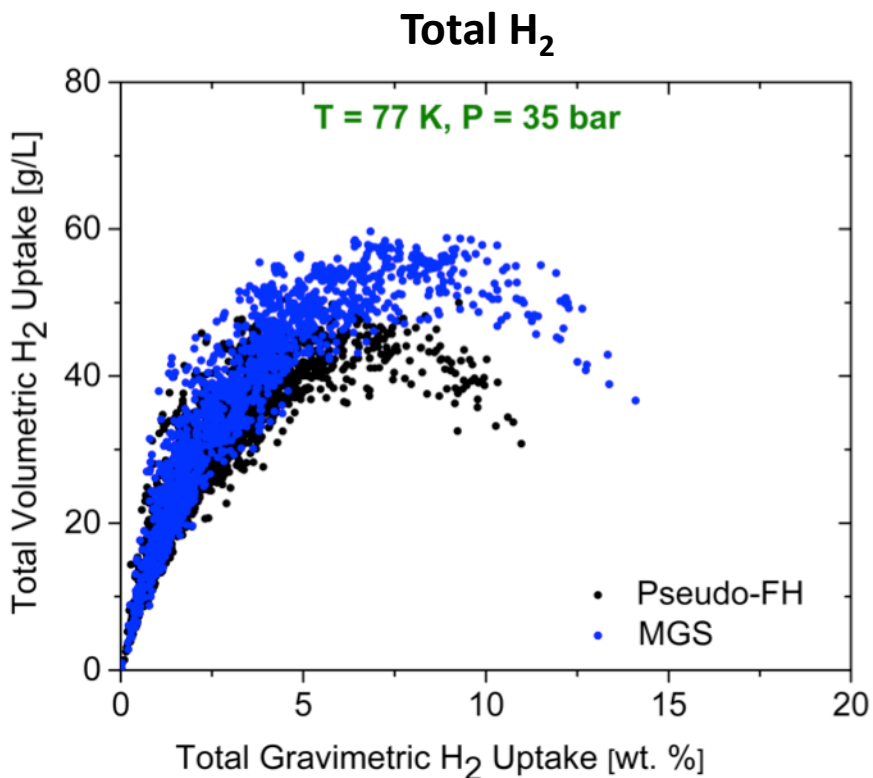
- Measured performance of in-house MOF-5
 - H₂ uptake & BET surface area essentially identical to BASF-supplied MOF-5 (HSECoE)
- Usable capacity (pressure swing to 5 bar) adopted as benchmark

T = 77 K



p (bar)	Total		Usable (P-swing)	
	Volumetric (g/L)	Gravimetric (wt.%)	Volumetric (g/L)	Gravimetric (wt.%)
5	22.2	3.5		
35	44.4	6.8	22.2	3.3
50	47.8	7.3	25.6	3.8
100	53.3	8.0	31.1	4.5

Predicted total and usable H₂ capacity for more than 2,000 compounds using GCMC



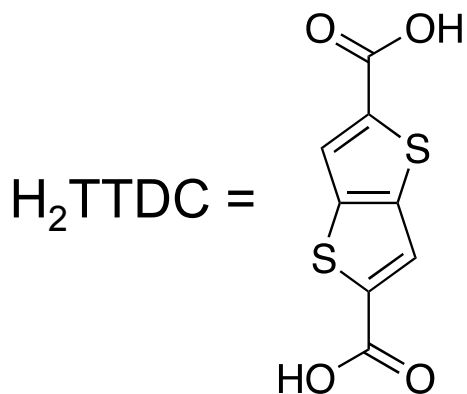
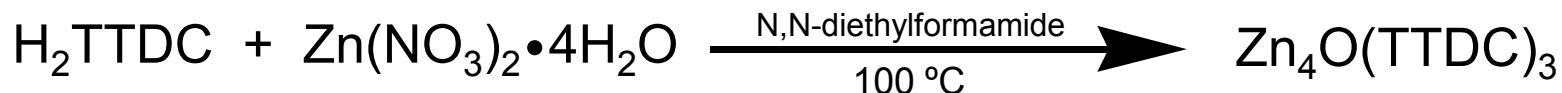
- MOFs extracted from UM database, CoRE database, and intuition
- Identified dozens of candidates that exceed MOF-5 on usable (pressure swing) basis

Computation has identified ~70 MOFs that are projected to surpass MOF-5 in H₂ capacity

MOF	SA _{Accessible} [m ² /g]	ρ _{crystal} [g/cm ³]	PV _{Accessible} [cm ³ /g]	Tot. Grav. 35 bar [wt. %]	Tot. Vol. 35 bar [g/L]	Tot. Grav. 100 bar [wt. %]	Tot. Vol. 100 bar [g/L]	Usable Grav. 35 → 5 bar [wt. %]	Usable Vol. 35 → 5 bar [g/L]	Usable Grav. 100 → 5 bar [wt. %]	Usable Vol. 100 → 5 bar [g/L]
1	4124	0.50	1.61	10.3	57.8	11.6	66.2	4.0	23.8	5.3	32.2
2	3469	0.57	1.45	9.1	57.2	10.6	67.7	4.3	28.8	5.8	39.2
3	4040	0.54	1.46	9.4	56.6	10.6	64.4	3.9	24.6	5.0	32.4
4	4614	0.50	1.63	10.0	55.6	11.5	65.1	4.7	27.6	6.2	37.1
5	3801	0.57	1.42	8.9	55.6	10.2	64.4	4.1	26.6	5.3	35.5
6	3648	0.59	1.36	8.5	55.4	9.8	64.2	3.9	26.8	5.2	35.7
7	3564	0.61	1.32	8.3	55.4	9.5	64.2	3.7	25.8	4.9	34.6
8	4902	0.42	1.92	11.5	55.1	13.2	64.5	5.2	26.6	6.9	35.9
9	3644	0.60	1.35	8.4	55.1	9.6	64.1	3.9	26.8	5.1	35.8
10	4623	0.45	1.77	10.8	55.0	12.3	63.4	4.7	25.3	6.1	33.7
11	4687	0.46	1.75	10.6	54.8	12.2	64.8	5.3	29.1	7.0	39.0
12	3636	0.59	1.37	8.4	54.7	9.7	64.0	4.0	27.1	5.3	36.4
13	3636	0.59	1.37	8.5	54.6	9.7	63.7	4.1	27.6	5.4	36.8
14	3810	0.54	1.50	9.1	54.5	10.5	64.0	4.2	26.7	5.7	36.2
15	4676	0.47	1.76	10.5	54.4	12.1	64.2	5.2	28.4	6.8	38.2
16	4434	0.52	1.54	9.4	54.1	10.7	62.3	4.1	25.2	5.4	33.4
17	5769	0.40	2.06	11.9	54.0	13.8	63.8	6.0	28.8	7.8	38.6
18	3575	0.61	1.32	8.1	53.7	9.4	62.7	3.8	26.2	5.0	35.2
19	3374	0.58	1.35	8.4	53.2	9.6	61.7	3.7	24.3	4.9	32.8
20	5159	0.43	1.88	10.8	52.7	12.6	62.5	5.5	28.4	7.3	38.2
MOF-5	3512	0.60	1.14	6.8	44.4	8.0	53.3	3.3	22.2	4.5	31.1

These compounds surpass MOF-5 in total, usable PS, and usable T+PS

Synthesis of IRMOF-20 was attempted after computation identified it as a promising compound

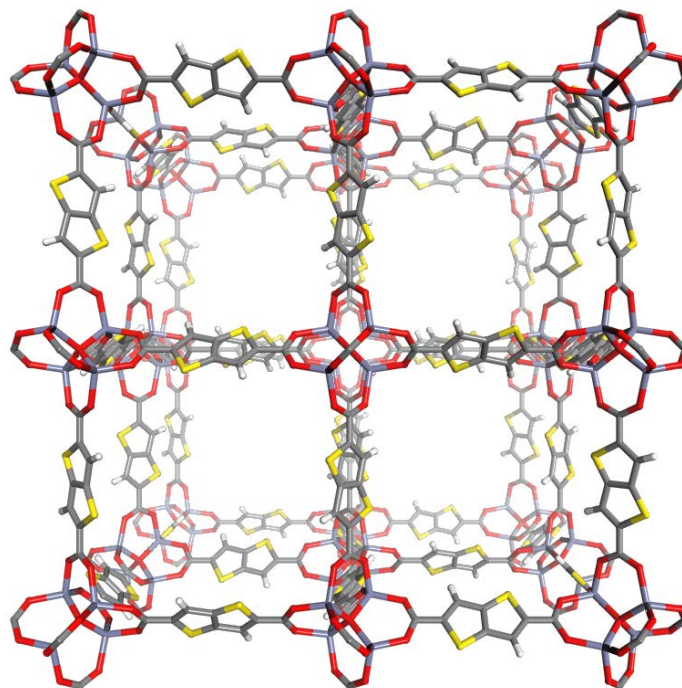


Thieno[3,2-*b*]thiophene-2,5-dicarboxylic acid

Activated by:

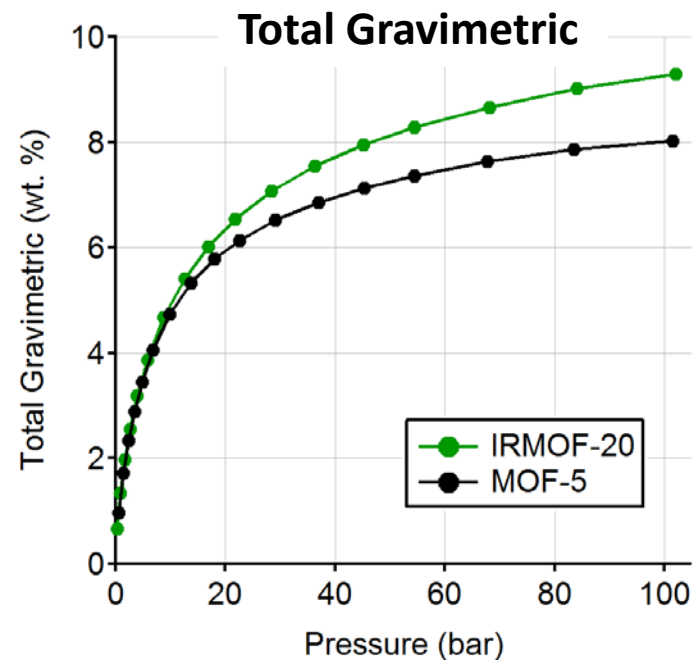
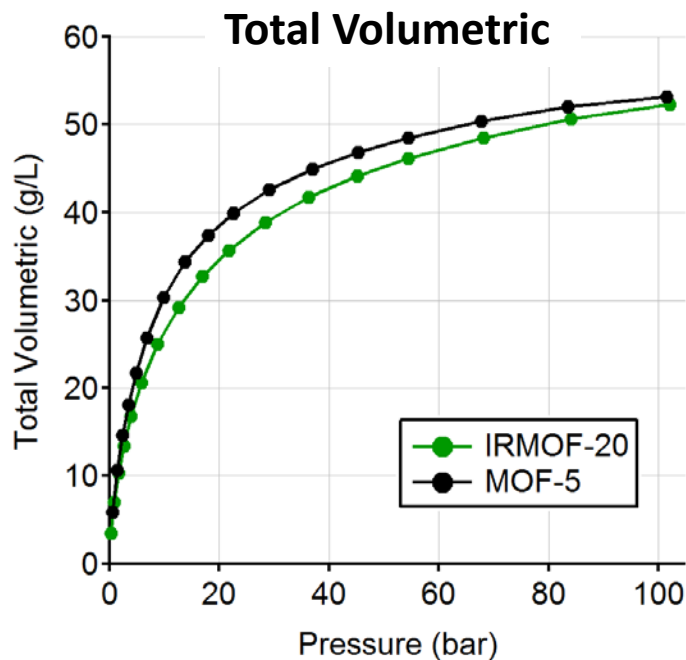
- 1) Multiple solvent exchanges
- 2) RT vacuum drying

BET S.A. = 4073 m²/g (94% of calc'd)
 Calculated = 4324 m²/g
 Literature = 3409 m²/g



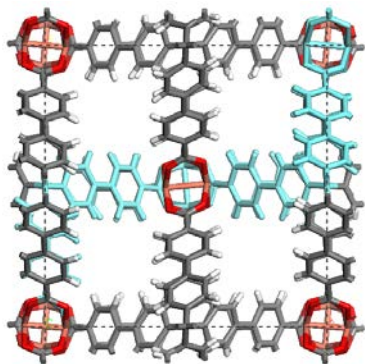
Rowsell, J. L. C.; Yaghi, O.M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 1304.

Usable capacity of IRMOF-20 surpasses that of MOF-5



p (bar)	Usable Volumetric (g H ₂ /L)		Usable Gravimetric (wt. %)	
	MOF-5	IRMOF-20	MOF-5	IRMOF-20
35	22.2	22.2	3.3	3.9
50	25.6	26.1	3.8	4.5
100	31.1	33.1	4.5	5.7

Several promising MOFs could not be synthesized with high surface area

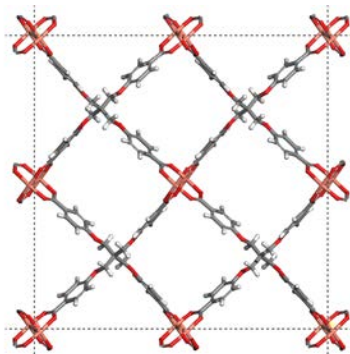


SUKYON

Ma, L. et al., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 9905.

BET S.A. = 2152 m²/g (fresh)
 [= 2081 m²/g (6 days under N₂)]
 Calculated = 4965 m²/g
 Literature = 1020 m²/g

Chahine rule capacities:
 Total grav. = 11.2 wt. %
 Total vol. = 61 g/L

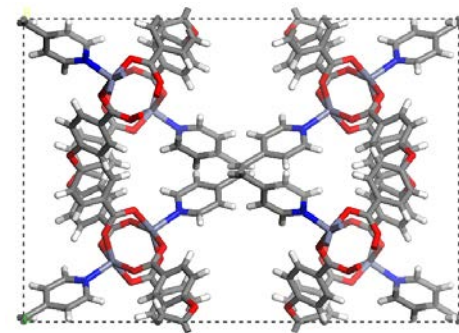


EPOTAF (SNU-21)

Kim, T. K. et al., *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, 47, 4258.

BET S.A. = 27 m²/g
 Calculated = 5208 m²/g
 Literature = 905 m²/g

Chahine rule capacities:
 Total grav. = 11 wt. %
 Total vol. = 71 g/L

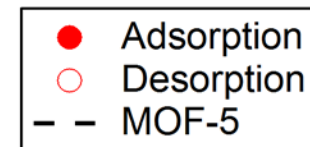
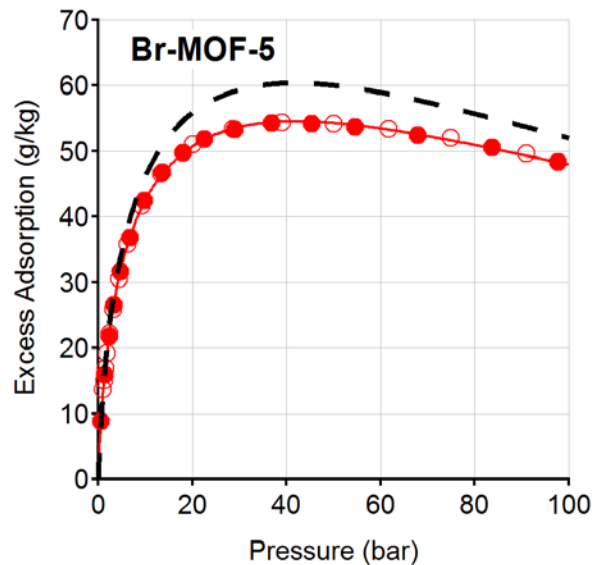
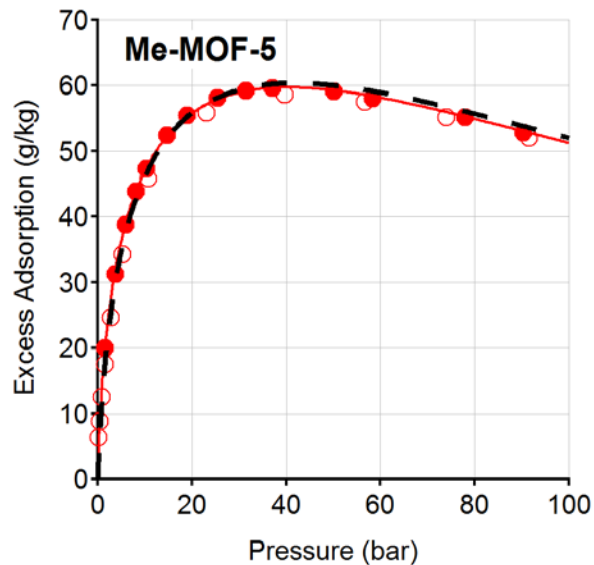
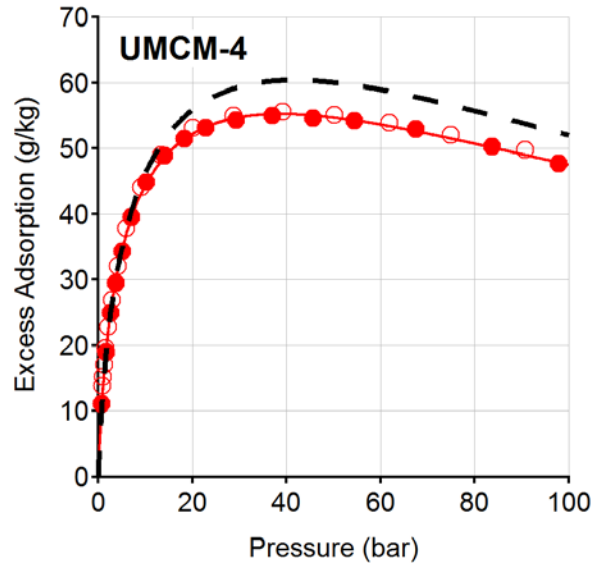
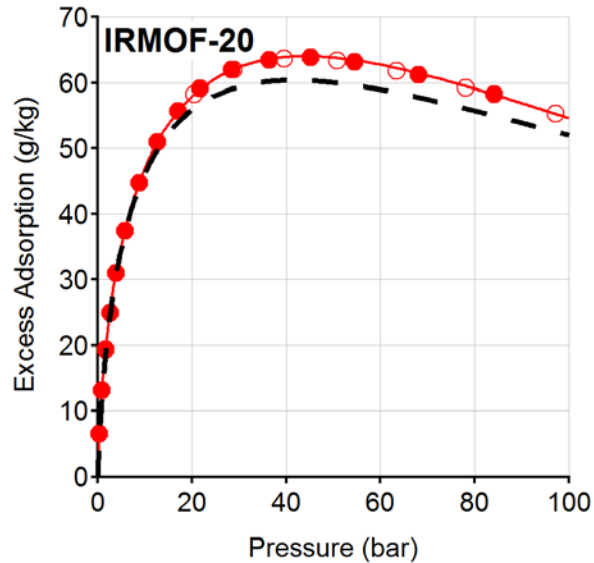


DIDDOK

Kondo, M. et al., *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2007**, 692, 136.

BET S.A. = 578 m²/g
 Calculated = 4652 m²/g
 Literature = not reported

Chahine rule capacities:
 Total grav. = 10.2 wt. %
 Total vol. = 60 g/L



We have developed a database to track promising compounds and share data

Experimental Data

- CIF File
- Measured Isotherm
- Microscopic Image
- BET data
- Protocol
- Powder Pattern

Analytical Predictions

- Chahine Rule Predictions
- Accessible Surface Area
- Pore Geometry

Analytical Predictions

Experimental Data

Simulation Data

MOF Dashboard

Summary Database

Summary Database

- Correlations
- Statistics
- Data Validation
- Modelling
- Documentation
- Data Analyses

Simulation Data

- Helium Void Fraction
- Simulation Protocol
- Designer MOFs
- Isotherm
- Thermodynamics
- Visualization



University of Michigan, Mechanical Engineering

- Atomistic simulation and project management



University of Michigan, Dept. of Chemistry

- Synthesis and characterization of targeted MOFs



Ford Motor Company (sub-contractor)

- PCT measurements
- Materials augmentation, characterization, scale-up, and system modeling



HSECoE (unfunded collaborator)

- Assistance with system models

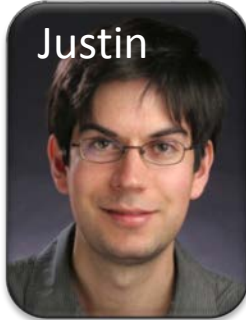
- Incorrect, incomplete, or disordered crystal structure data
 - Garbage in, garbage out
 - False positives in screening
- Structure collapse or incomplete solvent removal during activation
 - “Can it be made?”
 - Failure to achieve expected surface area and porosity
 - Which features control “pristineness?”
- Achieving absolute accuracy from computed isotherms
 - Trends and surface area appear to be reliable
 - Pseudo-FH force field appears to more accurately reproduce experimental isotherms than does MGS model

- Expand screening to additional compounds
- Explore influence of interatomic potential on accuracy of computed isotherms
- Explore strategies for maximizing *volumetric* surface area
- Optimize synthesis/activation of UMCM-4
 - Replicate predicted surface area
- Focus on 2nd go/no-go milestone
 - Identify MOFs with 15% improvement in H₂ capacity over MOF-5

- **New project:** underway for 8 months
- **Goal:** demonstrate MOFs that achieve high volumetric *and* gravimetric H₂ densities simultaneously (at cryogenic conditions)
 - Establish new high-water mark for H₂ storage in adsorbents
- **Approach:** High-throughput screening coupled to experimental synthesis, activation, and characterization
- **Accomplishments:**
 - Replicated performance of BASF-supplied MOF-5 with home-made MOF-5
 - 2,000+ MOF capacities screened computationally; several promising compounds identified
 - 7 candidate MOFs synthesized and characterized
 - Demonstrated IRMOF-20: surpasses usable capacity of MOF-5

The Team

Justin



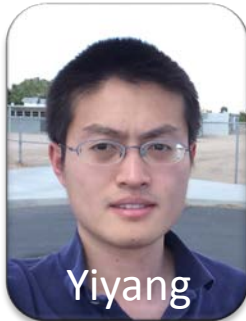
Mike



Antek



Yiyang



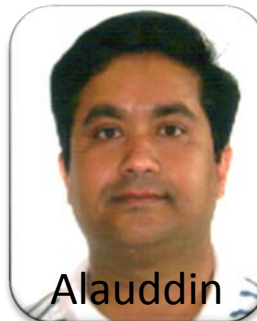
Adam



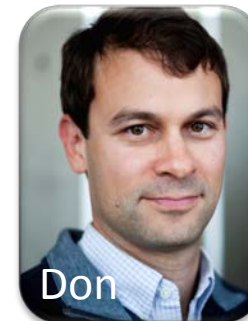
Anuska



Alauddin



Don





Technical Backup Slides

$$C_{tot} = C_{exc} + \frac{100 \times d_g V_{pore}}{1 + d_g V_{pore}}$$

$$V_{pore} = \frac{d_{sk} - d_{bulk}}{d_{sk} d_{bulk}}$$

*Recommended Best Practices
for the Characterization of
Storage Properties of
Hydrogen Storage Materials,
V3.34, p.223*

C_{tot} = total adsorption capacity in wt.%
 C_{exc} = excess adsorption in wt.%
 V_{pore} = specific pore volume

d_g = density of H₂ gas at T,P
 d_{sk} = skeletal density
 d_{bulk} = bulk density

“Material” Hydrogen Capacity Definitions



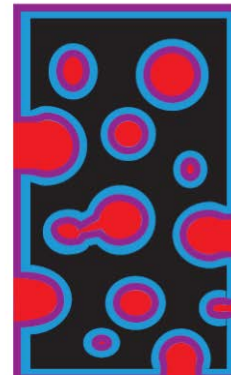
Porous
Material



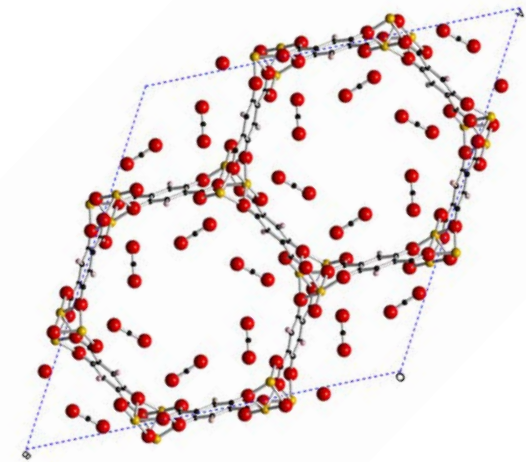
Excess H₂
Capacity



Absolute H₂
Capacity

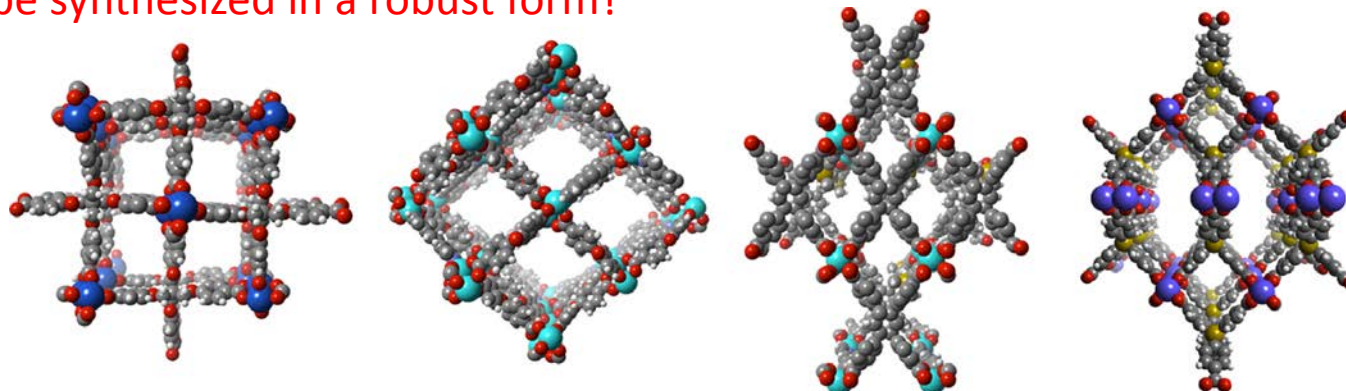


Total H₂
Capacity

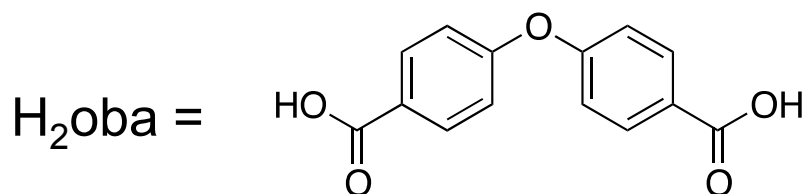
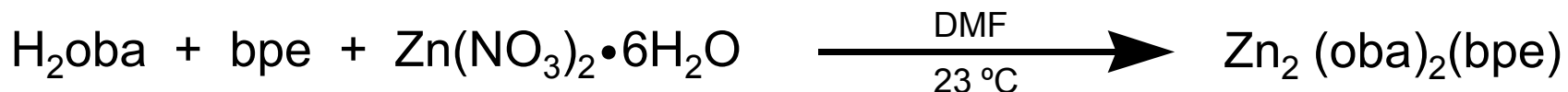


Several MOF “Targets of Opportunity” were identified

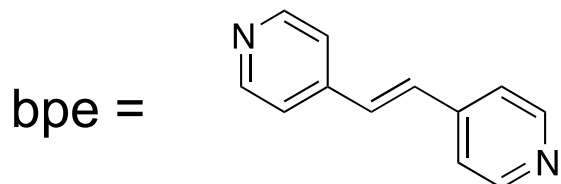
- Combine high gravimetric and volumetric densities
- Overlooked: no/limited experimental evaluation
- Can these be synthesized in a robust form?



	EPOTAF (SNU-21)	DIDDOK	LURGEL (TO-MOF)	ENITAX (IMP-9)
Total Grav. (wt. %)	11	10.2	9.7	9.3
Total Volumetric (g/L)	71	60	57	59
Crystal Density (g/cm³)	0.58	0.53	0.53	0.57
Calc'd/Meas. SA (m²/g)	5208/700-900	4651	4386/680	4162
Notes	Best combination of grav. & vol. density. H ₂ uptake measured previously: 5 wt %	No measurements	CO ₂ uptake measured.	No measurements



4,4'-Oxybis(benzoic) acid



trans-1,2-Bis(4-pyridyl)ethylene

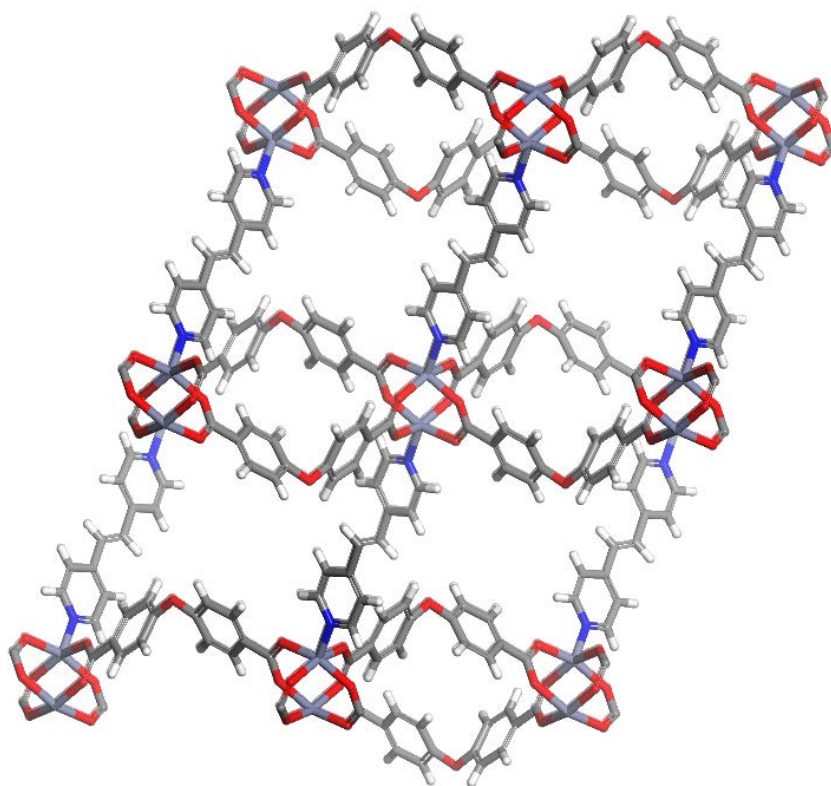
Activated by:

- 1) Multiple solvent exchanges
- 2) Flowing scCO_2

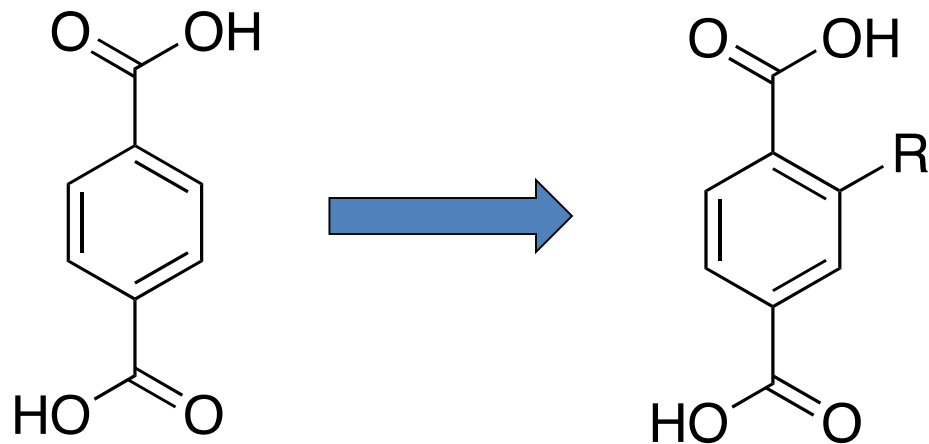
BET S.A. = 578 m^2/g

Calculated = 4652 m^2/g

Literature = not reported

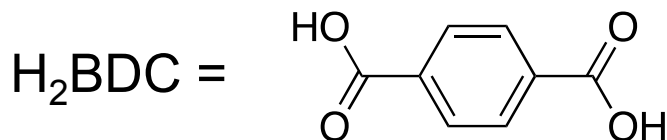
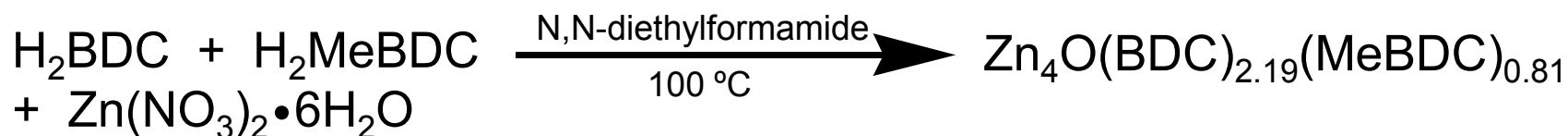


Kondo, M.; Irie, Y.; Miyazawa, M.; Kawaguchi, H.; Yasue, S.; Maeda, K.; Uchida, F.
J. Organomet. Chem. **2007**, 692, 136.

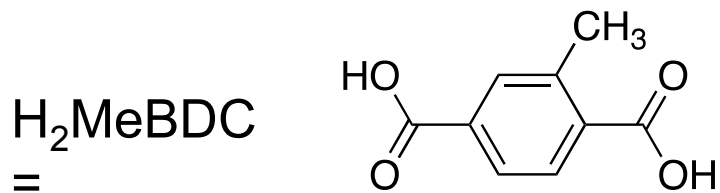


Idea:

- 1) Partially fill the pores of MOF-5 to increase surface area per volume
- 2) Maintain the same unit cell size, increase crystal density
- 3) Aim to increase H₂ volumetric density while keeping gravimetric density



Benzenedicarboxylic acid

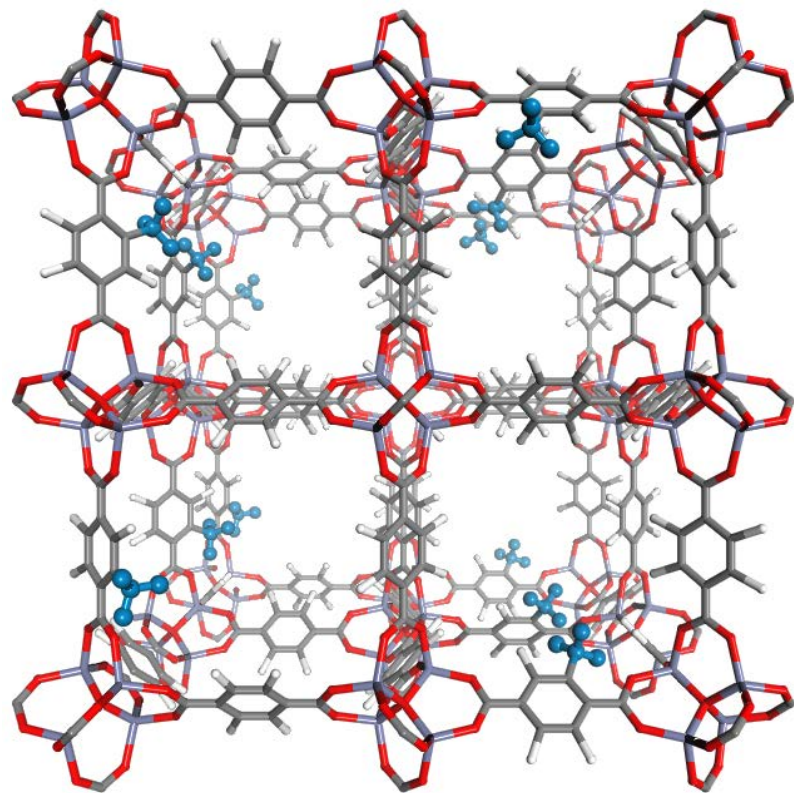


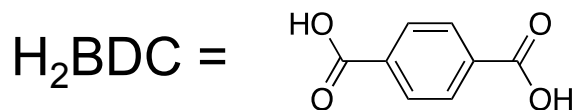
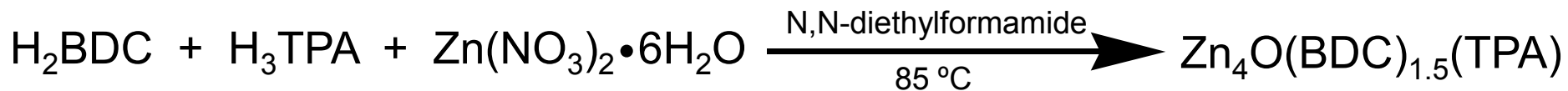
Methylbenzenedicarboxylic acid

Activated by:

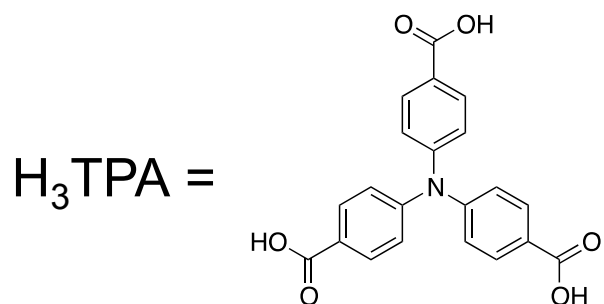
- 1) Multiple solvent exchanges
- 2) RT vacuum drying

BET S.A. = 3171 m²/g





Benzenedicarboxylic acid



Triphenylaminetricarboxylic acid

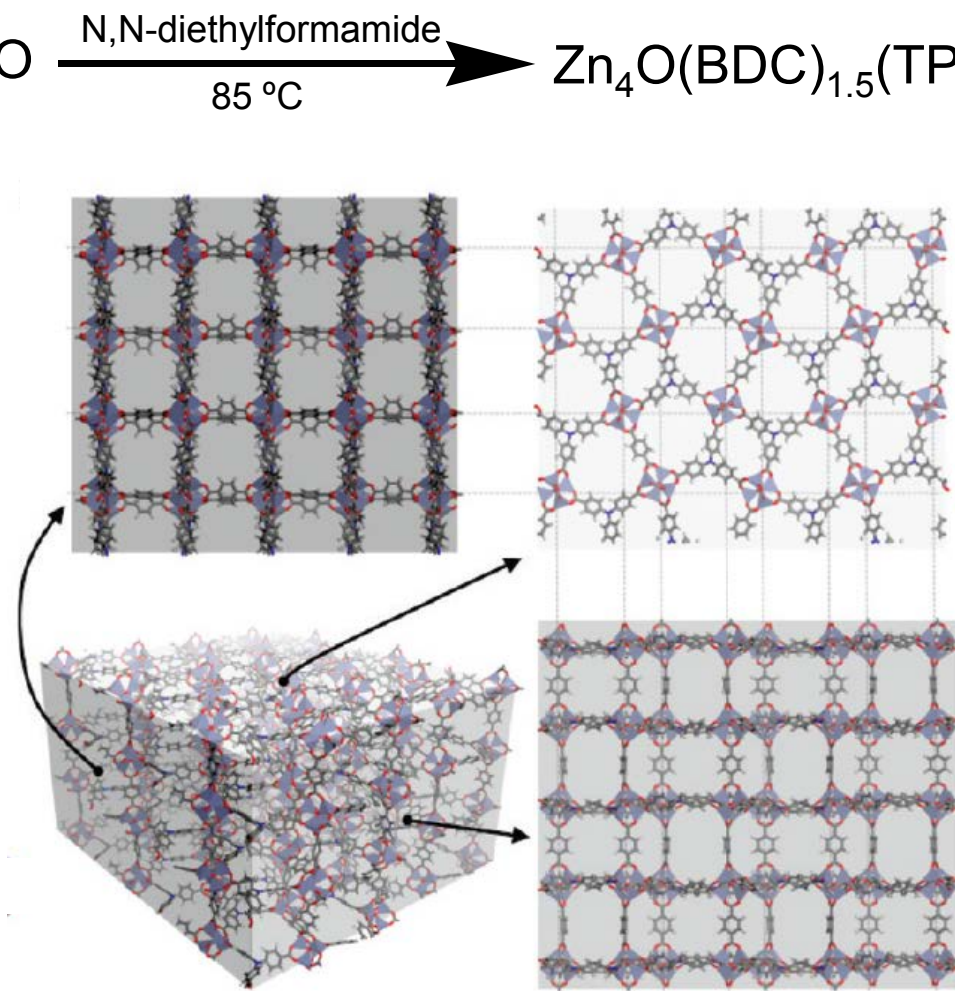
Activated by:

- 1) Multiple solvent exchanges
- 2) RT vacuum drying

BET S.A. = 3000 m²/g

Calculated = 3810 m²/g

Literature = 3500 m²/g



Koh, K.; Wong-Foy, A. G.; Matzger, A. J.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2010**, *132*, 15005.