



Characterizing Hydrogen Storage Materials Using Neutron Scattering Techniques

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Hydrogen Materials Advanced Research Consortium (HyMARC)
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NIST Center for Neutron Research

About Me

Bachelors Degrees Chemistry Environmental Science

- Polypeptide complexes for advanced drug deliver systems

Postdoc Researcher X-ray and Neutron Scattering

- Dynamic materials for hydrogen storage
- Tuning H₂ enthalpies of adsorption
- Stationary and mobile storage applications

Northwestern University
2014 – 2019



University of Chicago
2010 – 2014



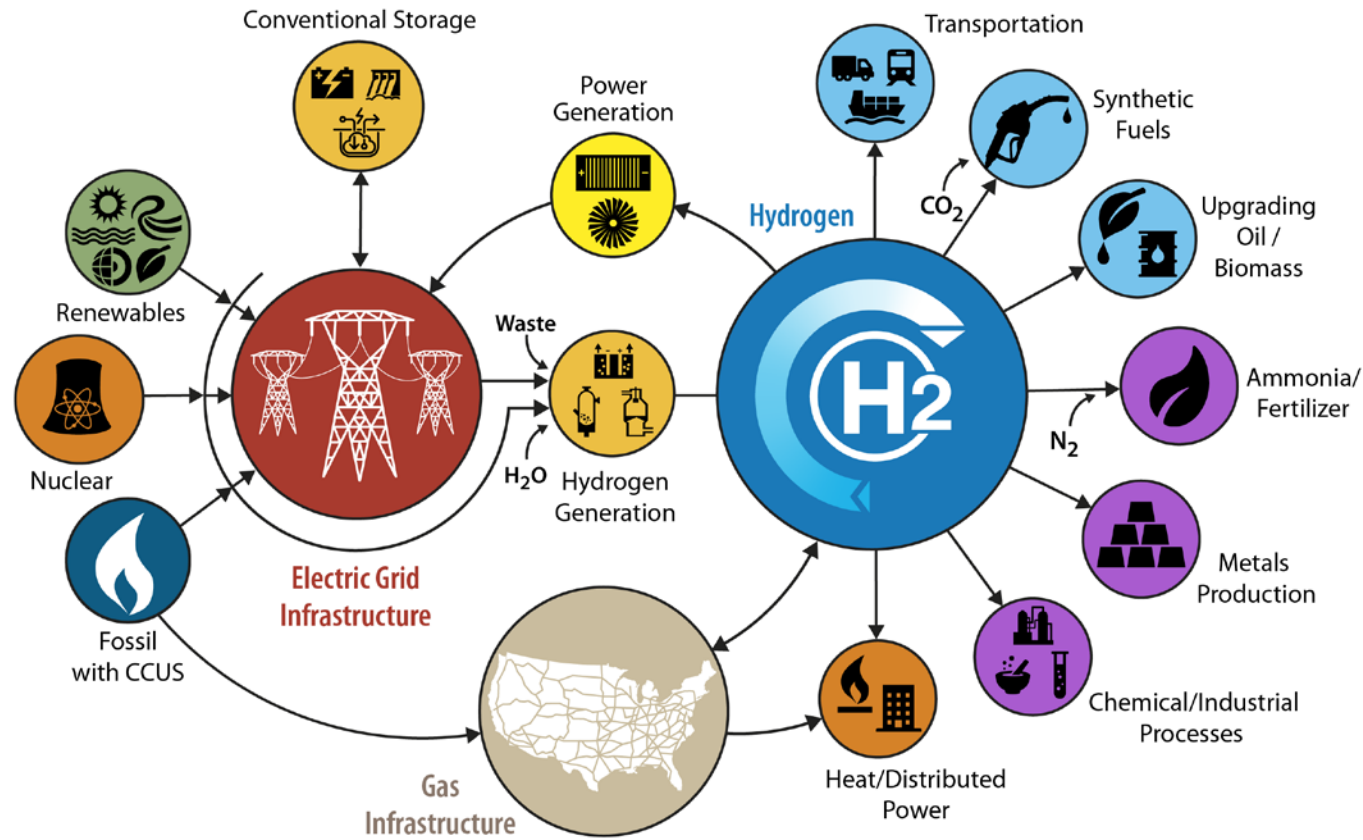
Ph.D. Inorganic Chemistry

- Emergent magnetism at high pressure
- Synthesis of new metastable perovskite materials using high pressure synthetic techniques

**National Renewable Energy
Laboratory**
Hydrogen Materials Advanced
Research Consortium
2019 – present



Developing next generation hydrogen storage materials to help realize the hydrogen energy economy



Research Focuses in HyMARC:

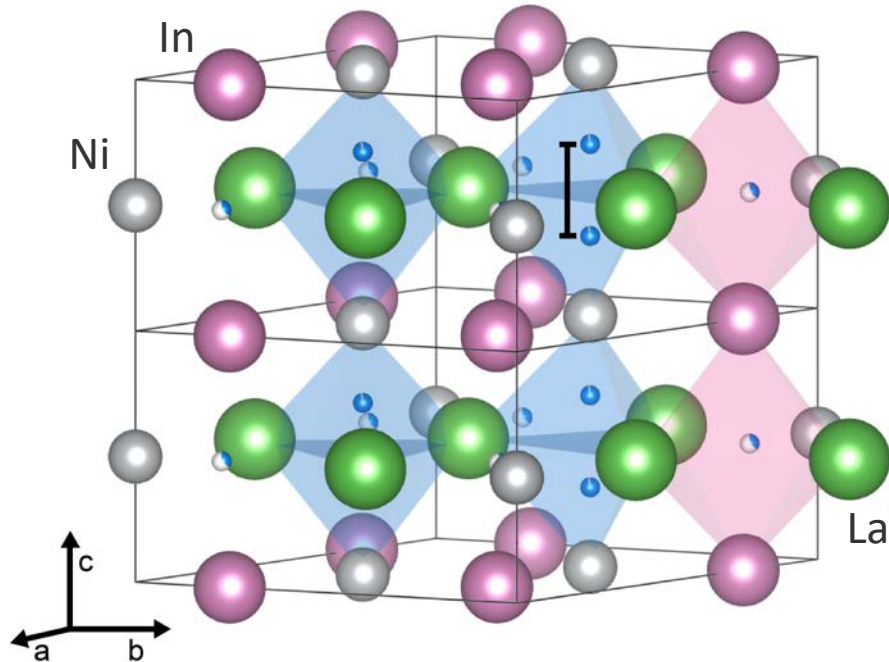
- Tuning H₂ enthalpy of adsorption
- Dynamic materials
- Boosting storage capacities



First neutron vibrational spectroscopic investigation of anomalously close H-H contacts in $RNiInH_x$

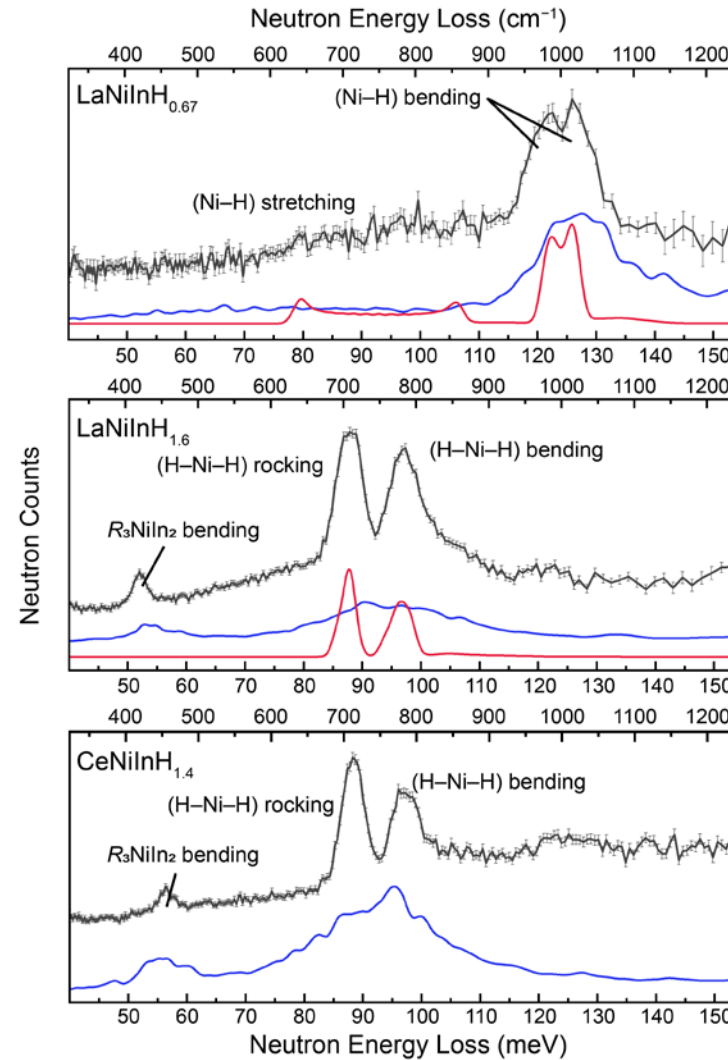


Stationary Storage



$LaNiInH_{1.6}$

V. A. Yartys, V. A. et al. *J. Alloys Compd.* **2002**, 330, 132–140.
Denys, R. V. et al. *J. Alloys Compd.* **2003**, 356, 65–68.



Inelastic scattering data
Lattice dynamics simulation
Molecular dynamics simulation

Possible Application: storing excess seasonal/variable renewable energy, large scale backup

Goal: understand how these compounds host anomalously close packed hydride ions

Method: inelastic neutron scattering + first principles calculations-based analysis

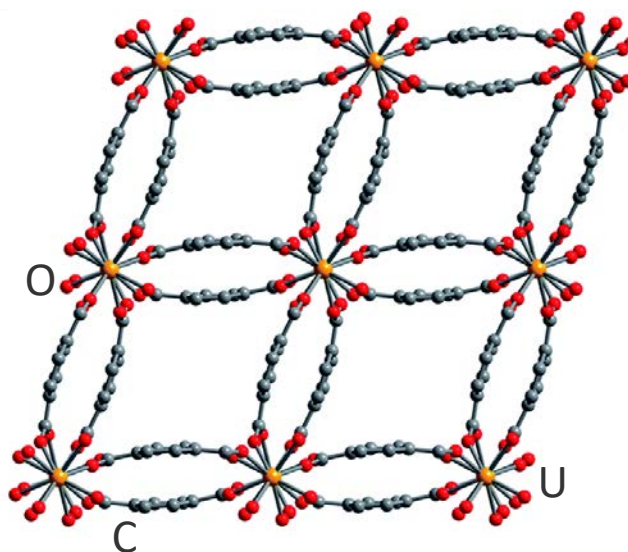
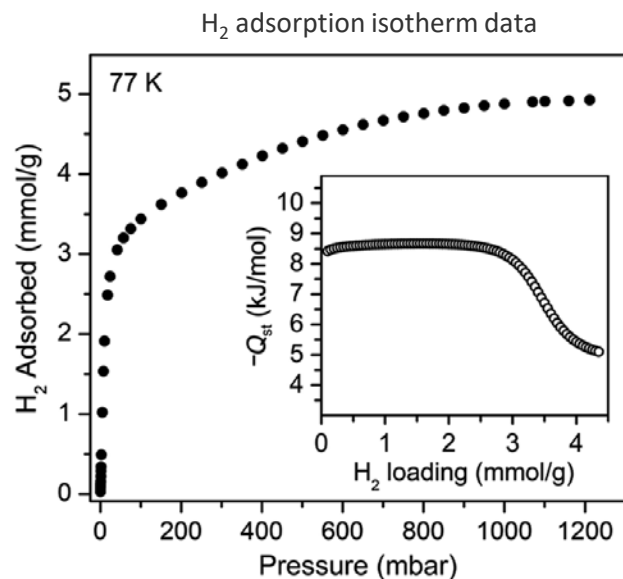
Takeaway: possible route for boosting volumetric capacity determined—screen H^- charges

Klein, R. A.; Balderas-Xicohtencatl, R.; Petter Maehlen, J.; Udovic, T. J.; Brown, C. M.; Delaplane, R.; Cheng, Y.; Denys, R. V.; Ramirez-Cuesta, A. J.; Yartys, V. A. *JALCOM* **2022**, 894, 162381.

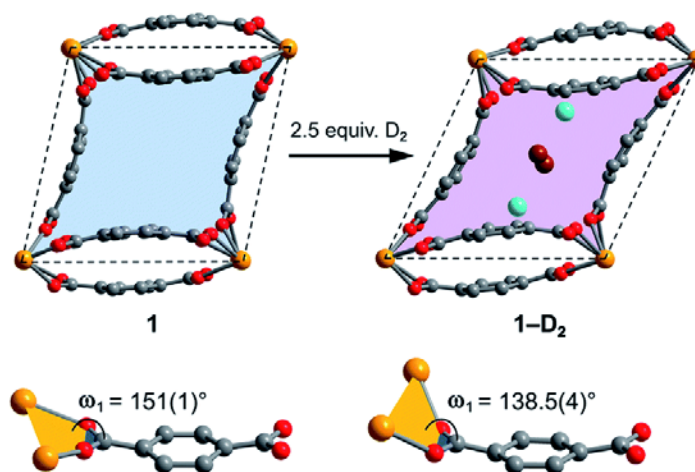
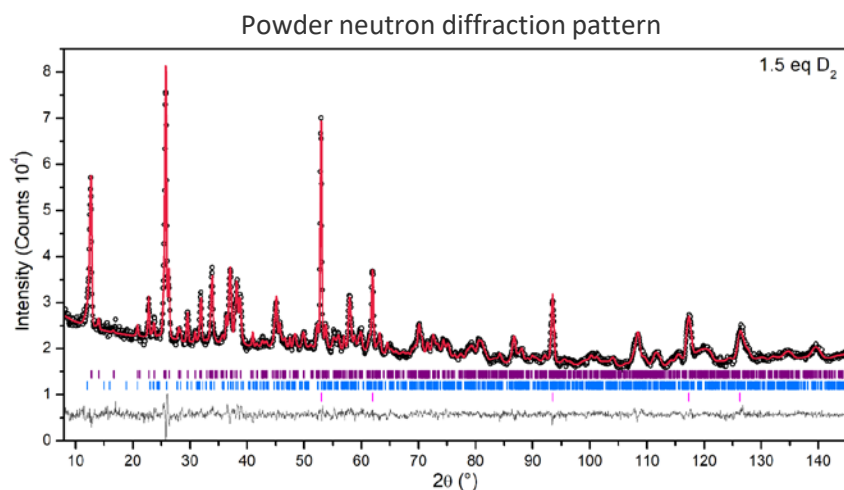
Unconventional tuning of hydrogen enthalpy of adsorption in a metal–organic framework



Transportation



U(benzenedicarboxylate)₂



Possible Application: heavy duty vehicles, rail

Goal: determine source of high enthalpy of adsorption

Method: powder neutron diffraction-based structure-function analysis

Takeaway: Self-adjusting behavior enhances enthalpy of adsorption

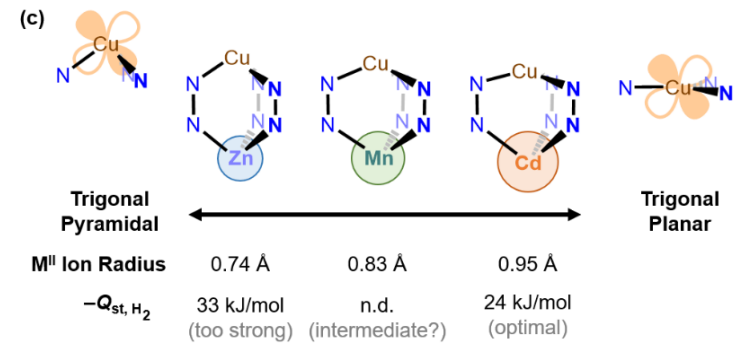
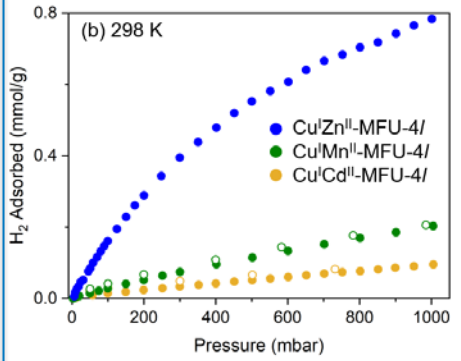
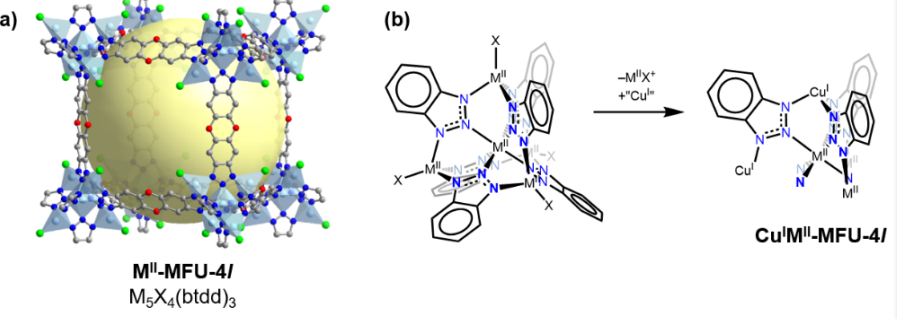
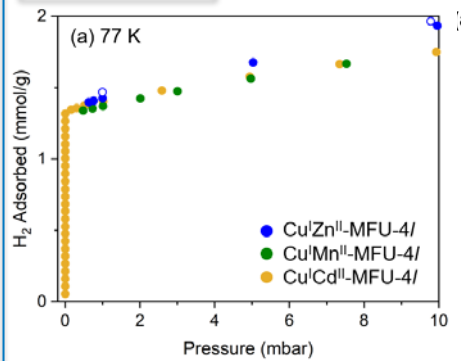
Halter, D. P.; Klein, R. A.; Boreen, M. A.; Trump, B. A.; Brown, C. M.; Long, J. R. *Chem. Sci.* **2020**, *11*, 6709–6716.

Future direction: tune enthalpy of adsorption in metal–organic frameworks into ideal range for room temperature storage applications

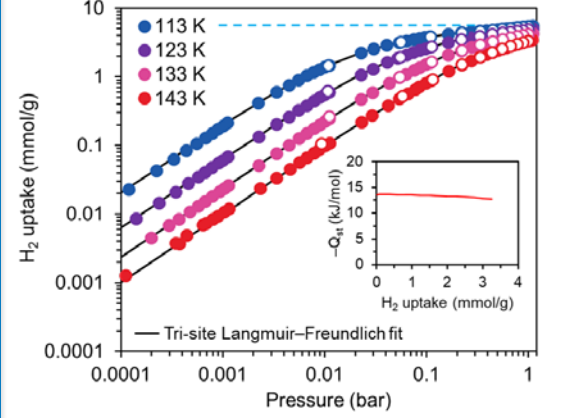
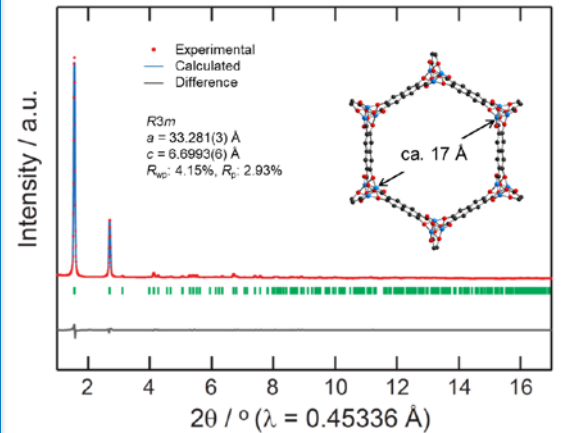


Transportation

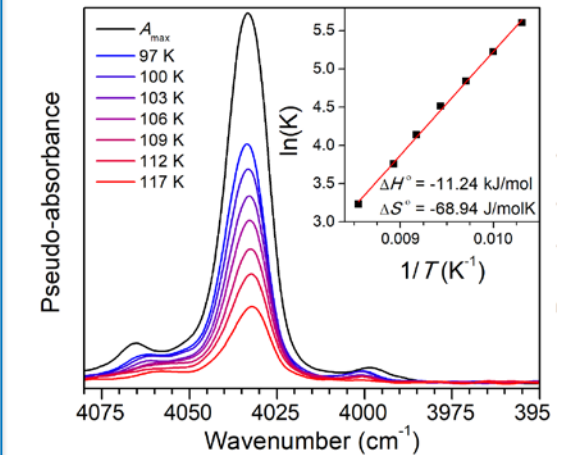
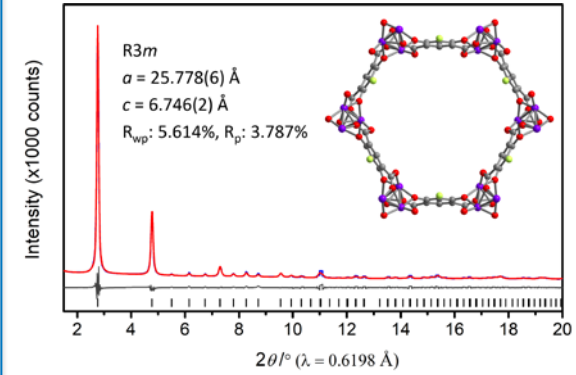
Project 1 M^{II} -MFU-4l compounds



Project 2 $M_2(dondc)$ MOFs



Project 3 $M_2(F-m-dobdc)$ MOFs



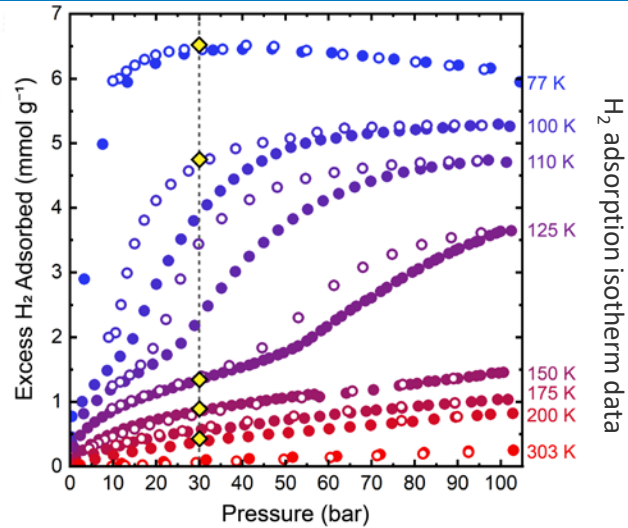
These compounds display nearly ideal enthalpies of adsorption for room temperature hydrogen storage

I will conduct additional measurements at the APS, ORNL, NIST to investigate the storage properties of these materials

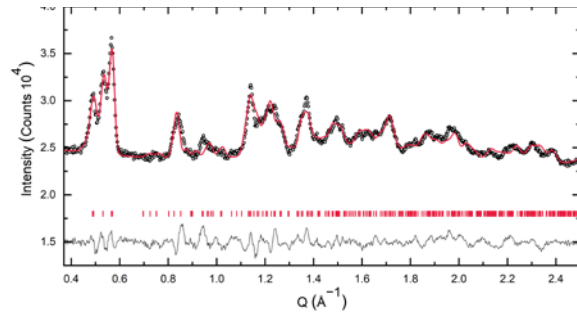
Dynamic materials enable access to large useable capacity of stored gas given a small energetic input, provide intrinsic thermal management



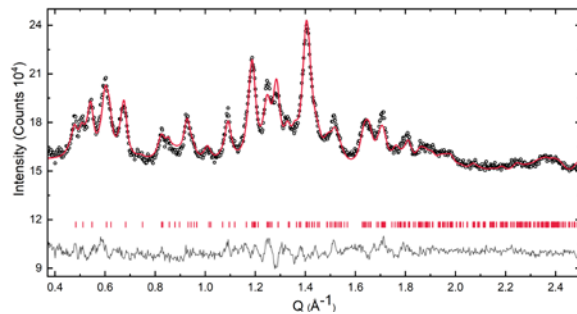
Transportation



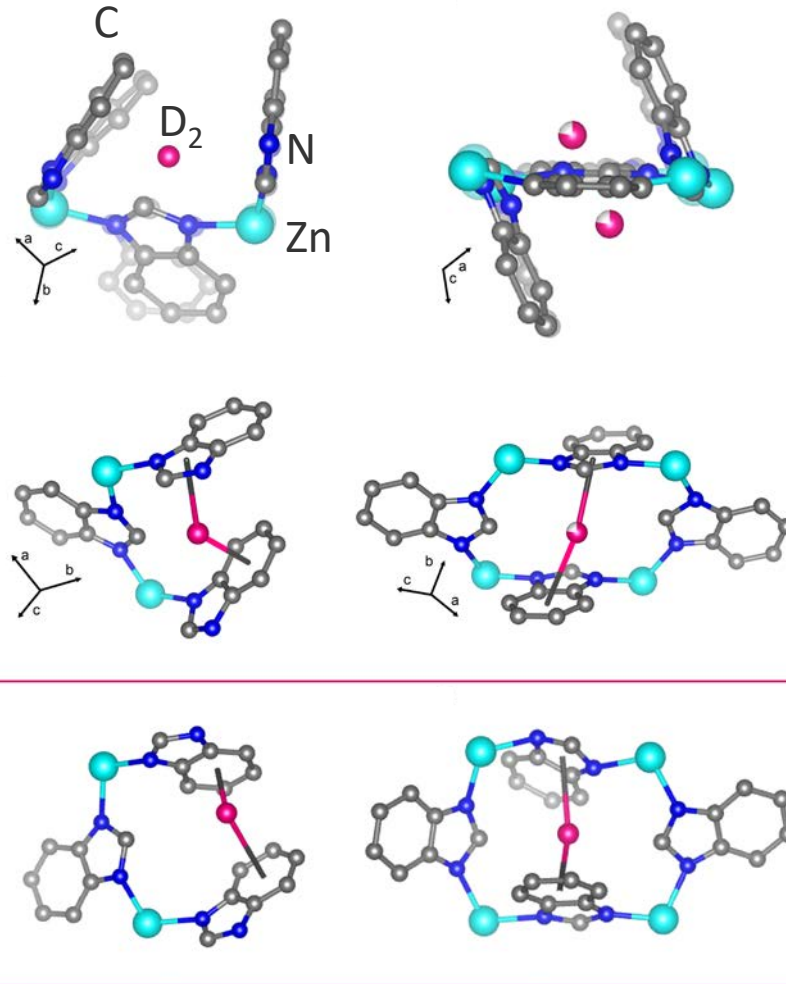
H₂ adsorption isotherm data



Powder neutron diffraction patterns



Zn(benzenedicarboxylate)₂ (ZIF-7)



Possible Application: light duty vehicles, marine

Goal: investigate phase transition and find out how to control phase transition conditions

Method: Powder neutron diffraction + isotherm-based structure function analysis

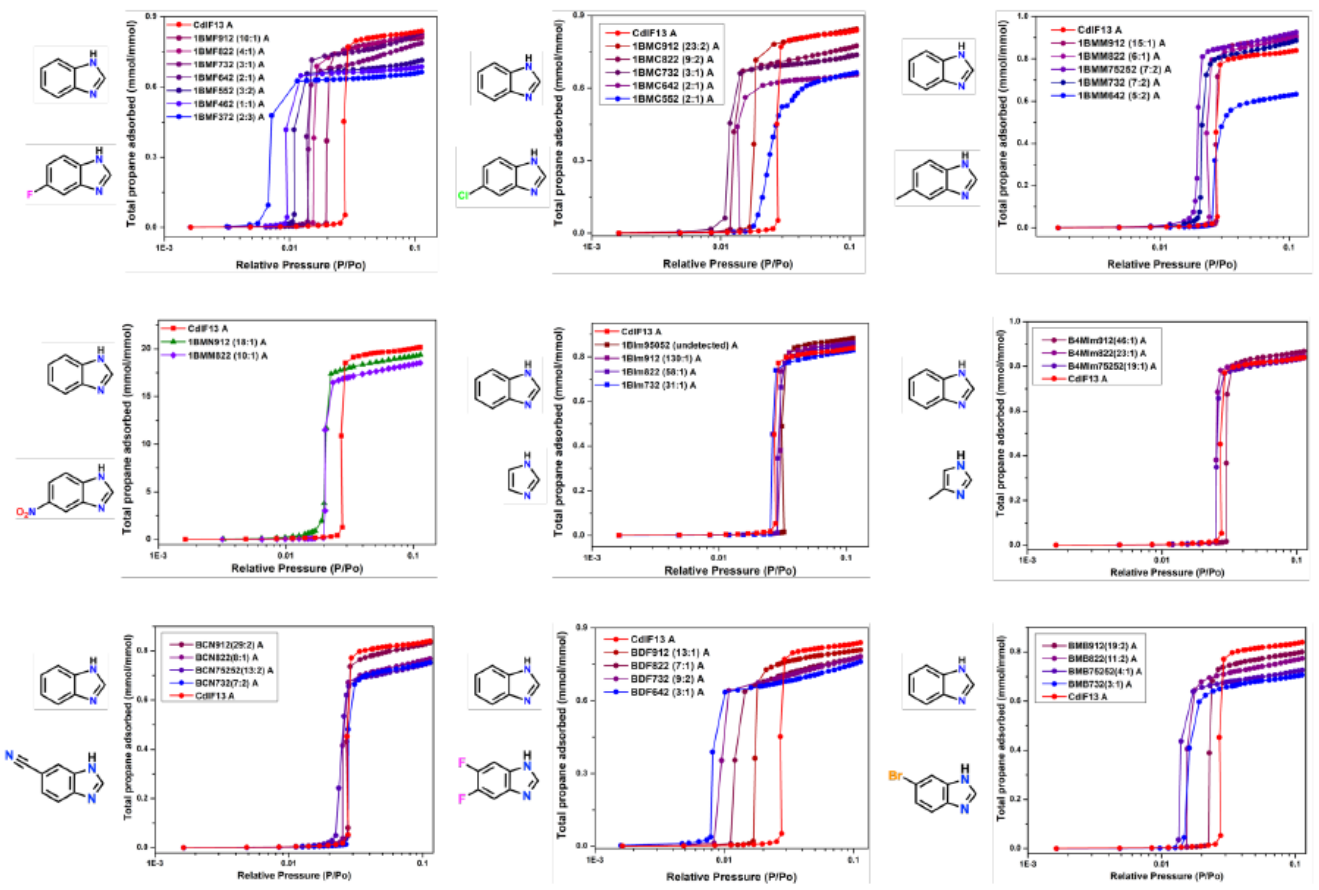
Takeaway: Synthetic route to tuning phase transition conditions determined—functionalize the benzene ring backbone

Klein, R. A.; Shulda, S.; Parilla, P. A.; Morris, W.; Brown, C. M.; Gennett, T.; McGuirk, C. M. *Chem. Sci.* **2021**, *12*, 1562–15631.

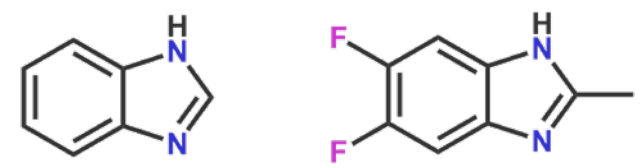
Future direction: Synthetically tune step pressure conditions



Transportation



As hypothesized, functionalizing the backbone provides fine synthetic control of phase transition conditions



Measurements conducted by Dr. Arijit Halder, Prof. Mike McGuirk for seedling project number DE-EE0008823

Neutron scattering studies of materials for hydrogen storage

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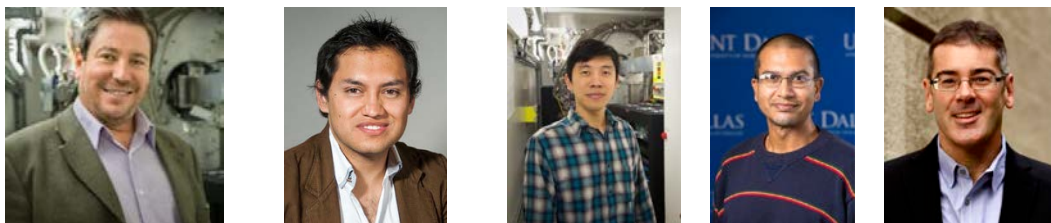
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Thank you!



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Thank you!

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