

# Design and Synthesis of Novel Porous Materials for Energy and Environmental Applications

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Greathouse, Karena W. Chapman\*

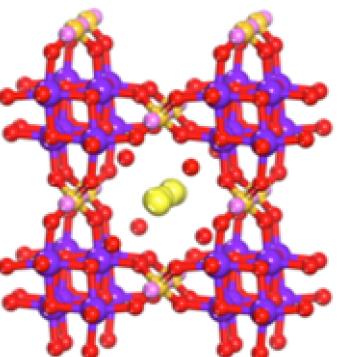
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# Novel SNL Separations and Waste Forms: Technologies for Environment and Energy Applications



R&D100 1996

JACerS, 2009, 92(9), 2144

JACerS, 2011, 94(9), 3053

Solvent Extr. & Ion Exch, 2012, 30, 33

*CST, Cs<sup>+</sup> removal from water to Pollucite Waste Form*

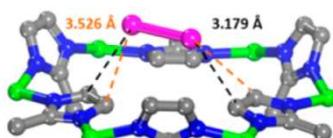
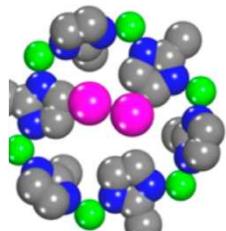
US Patents 6,479,427; 6,110,378

I<sub>2</sub>/ZIF-8, Isolation to Waste Form

JACS, 2011, 133(32), 12398

US Patent filed 2012

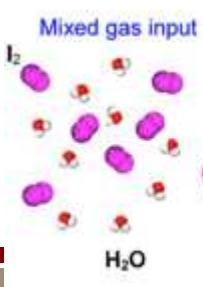
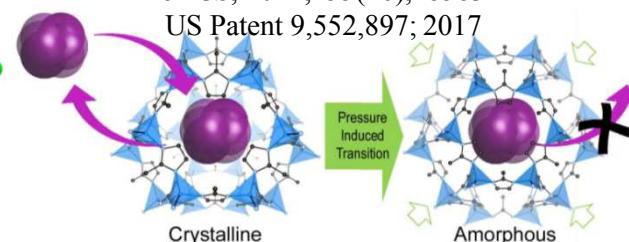
JACS 2013, 135, 16256



*MOF Amorphization for Gas Storage*

JACS, 2011, 133(46), 18583

US Patent 9,552,897; 2017

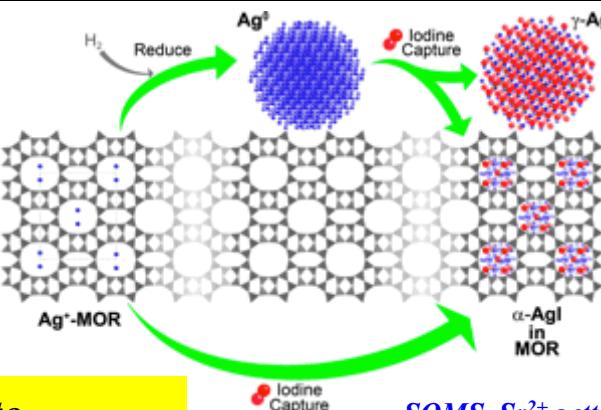


Single gas effluent

*Cu-BTC: I<sub>2</sub> from Humid Gas Stream*

Chem. Mater. 2013, 25(13), 2591

Competitive I<sub>2</sub> sorption

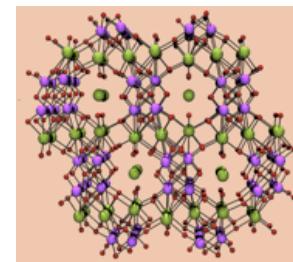


*Ag-MOR  
I<sub>2</sub>(g) capture & mechanisms*

JACS, 2010, 132(26), 8897

J Phys Chem Lett, 2011, 2,2742

I&ECR 2017, 56(8), 2331



*SOMS, Sr<sup>2+</sup> getter,  
1-step to Perovskite WF*

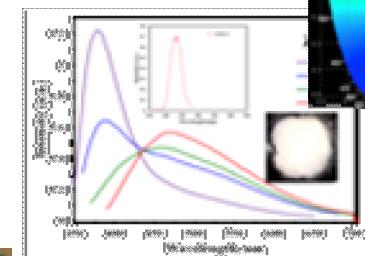
JACS, 2002, 124(3), 1704

US Patent 7,122,164

*MOFs, White Light PL*

JACS, 2012, 134(9), 3983

Chem Mater, 2014, 26 (9)



*Binder Free MOF  
Pelletization*

US Patent 2015

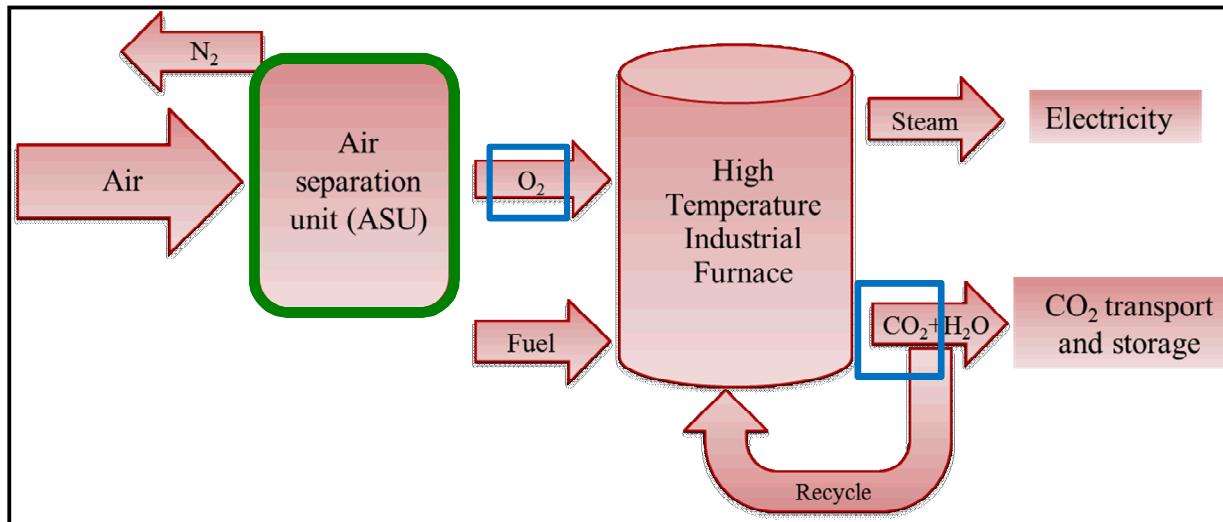
9,117,560

*Universal Core-Shell Iodine Glass Waste Form & Getter*

JACerS, 2011, 94(8), 2412

US Patent 8,262,950; 2012

# $O_2/N_2$ air separations with MOFs to Increase the Efficiency of the *ASU*



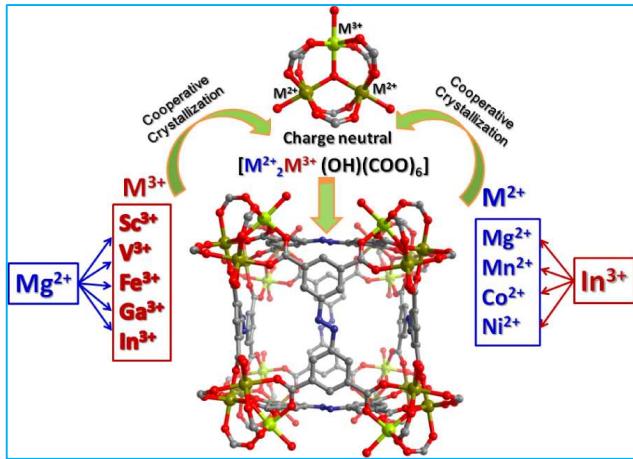
- Oxygen-enriched (oxy-fuel) combustion: burning the fossil fuel in an O<sub>2</sub> rich atmosphere results in a flue gas composed mainly of CO<sub>2</sub> and water (little or no SO<sub>X</sub> and NO<sub>X</sub> emissions)
- The limiting factor of this technology is the efficiency of the cryogenic ASU, a costly and energy intensive process (primarily compression)
- Our study is focused on new highly selective materials to increase the efficiency of this separation process

Goal: determine the O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> uptake dependency with temperature in MOFs with coordinatively unsaturated metal sites

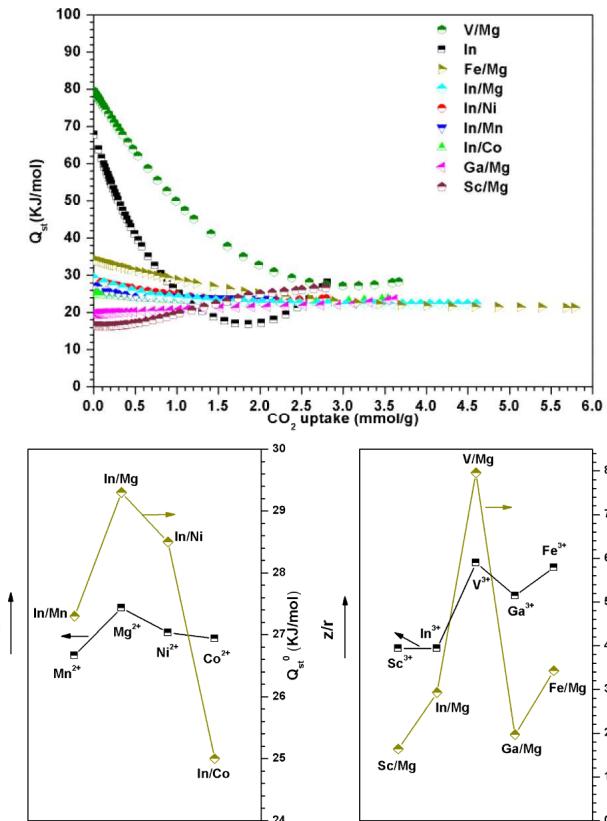
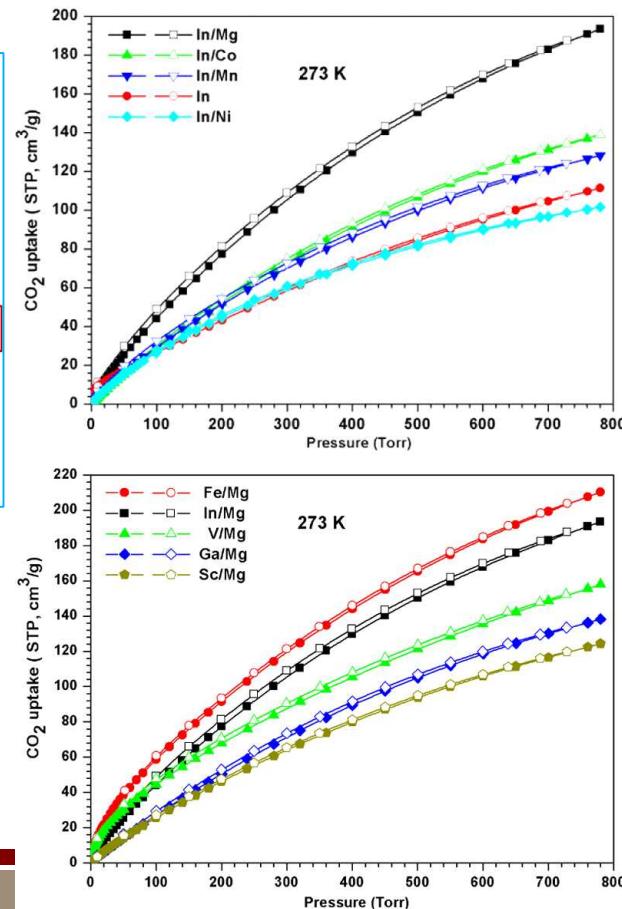
Up to 207.6 cm<sup>3</sup>/g  
@ 273K, 1 bar

## Systematic and Dramatic Tuning on Gas Sorption Performance in Heterometallic Metal–Organic Frameworks

Quan-Guo Zhai,<sup>†</sup> Xianhui Bu,<sup>\*,†</sup> Chengyu Mao,<sup>†</sup> Xiang Zhao,<sup>†</sup> and Pingyun Feng<sup>\*,†</sup>



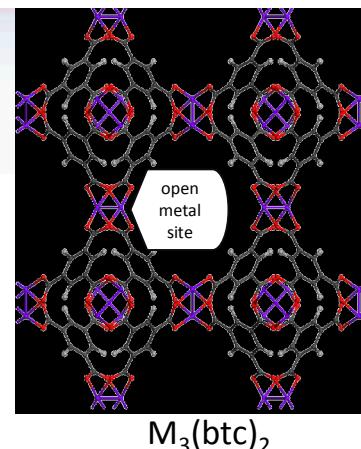
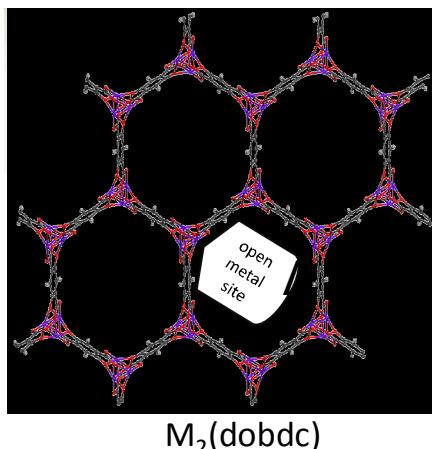
M<sup>2+</sup> and M<sup>3+</sup> combinations for CPM-200s



Correlation between isosteric heat at zero loading of CO<sub>2</sub> and charge-to-radius ratio of metal ions

*MOFs with coordinatively unsaturated metal centers are promising materials for O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> separations*

- Two prototypical MOFs from this category, Cr<sub>2</sub>(BTC)<sub>3</sub><sup>1</sup>, Fe<sub>2</sub>(DOBDC)<sup>2</sup> both show preferential adsorption O<sub>2</sub> vs N<sub>2</sub>
- Plane wave DFT calculations on periodic structures: [Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package \(VASP\)](#)
  - Binding geometries for side-on and bent O<sub>2</sub> and bent and linear geometries for N<sub>2</sub> were evaluated
  - Static binding energies for O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> at 0 K
- Use of DFT to determine M-O<sub>2</sub> vs M-N<sub>2</sub> binding energies



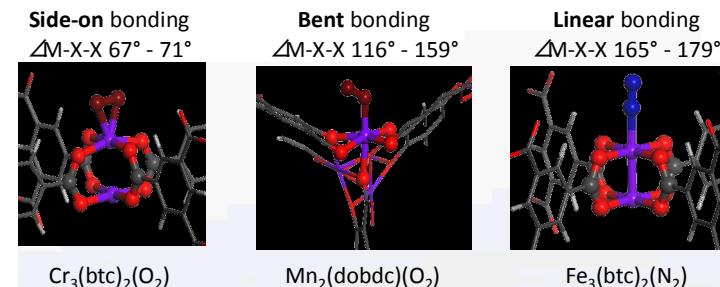
MOF metal sites = separate O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> by differences in bonding & electronic properties

**Plane wave density functional theory (DFT) calculations** were performed on periodic structures of each MOF in the Vienna ab initio simulation package (**VASP**) with the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (**PBE**) functional including dispersion corrections (**DFT-D2**). Geometries were optimized and **static binding energies** ( $\Delta E_{O_2}$ ,  $\Delta E_{N_2}$ ) were calculated by

$$\Delta E_{O_2} = E_{MOF+O_2} - E_{MOF} - E_{O_2}$$

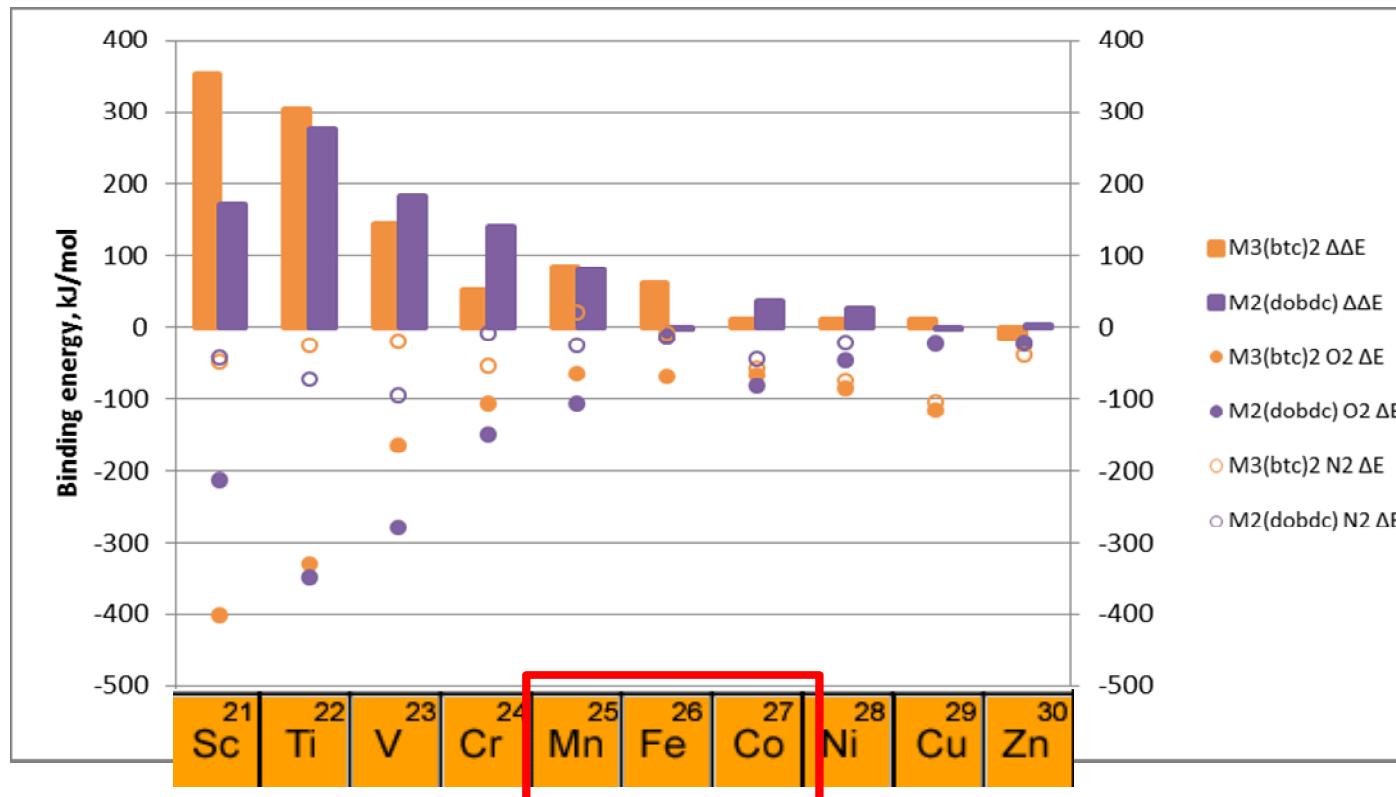
The **differences in binding energies** ( $\Delta\Delta E$ ) for oxygen and nitrogen were calculated by

$$\Delta\Delta E = -(\Delta E_{O_2} - \Delta E_{N_2})$$



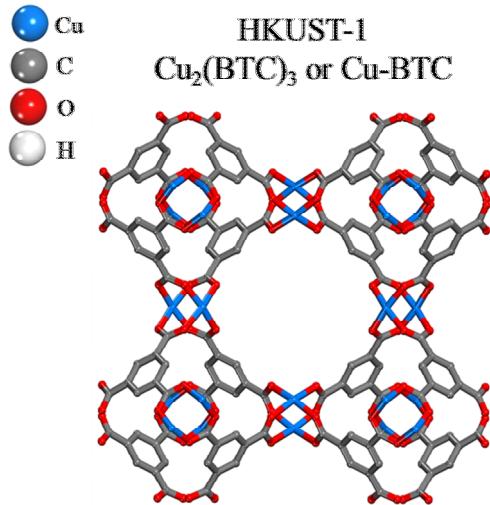
Attention Paid to Bonding Geometries

# $O_2$ and $N_2$ Binding Energies Trends Across the First Row Transition Metal Series



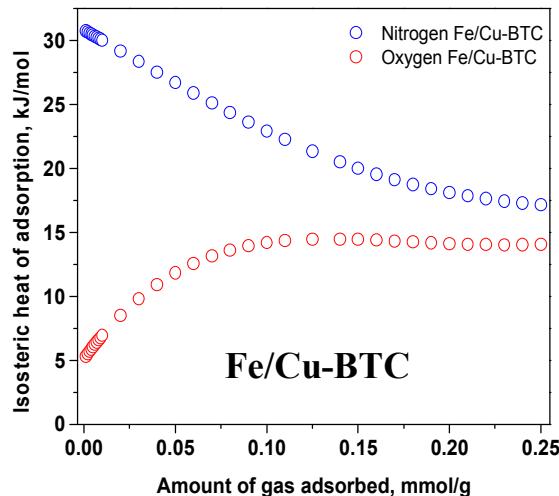
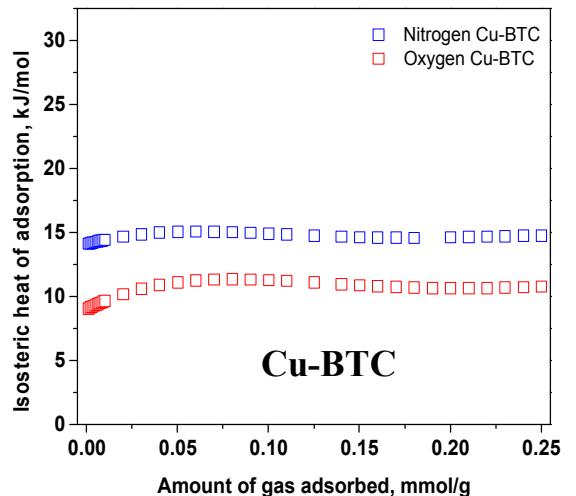
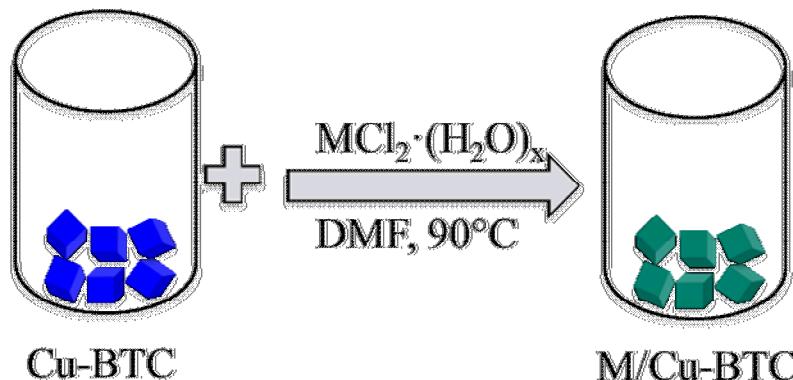
DFT predicts similar  $O_2$  and  $N_2$  binding to Mn, Fe, Co but with consistent stronger binding for  $O_2$  to the metals

# Postsynthetic Metal Ion Exchange to form Porous Mn-, Fe- and Co- Analogues of Cu-BTC



Chui, S. S. Y et.al Science 1999, 283, 1148.

$M = \text{Mn, Fe, Co}$



**0 K DFT binding energy:**  
Excellent prediction for 77K experiments,  
Do not correlate as well with experimental data 273-298 K  
-  $\text{N}_2$  is preferred over  $\text{O}_2$

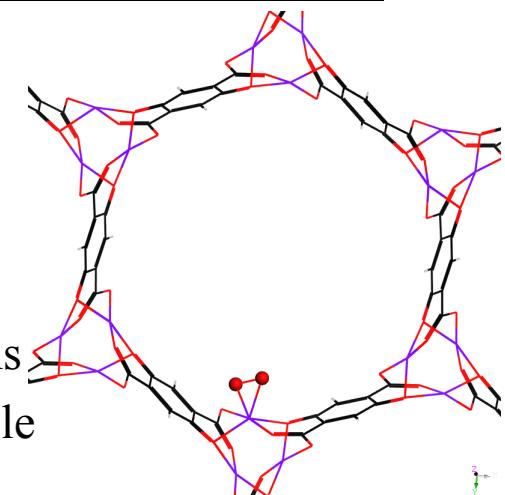
## Vienna *ab initio* simulation package (VASP)

- MOF
  - $M_2(\text{dobdc})$  analogs
- Metals

$^{21}\text{Sc}$	$^{22}\text{Ti}$	$^{23}\text{V}$	$^{24}\text{Cr}$	$^{25}\text{Mn}$	$^{26}\text{Fe}$	$^{27}\text{Co}$	$^{28}\text{Ni}$	$^{29}\text{Cu}$	$^{30}\text{Zn}$
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- Effect of Temperature
  - 201 K
  - 258 K
  - 298 K

- AIMD simulations
  - NVT ensemble
  - 27.5 ps
  - 0.5 fs timestep
- PBE density functional with dispersion correction (PBE-D2), PAW potentials for core electrons, spin polarization

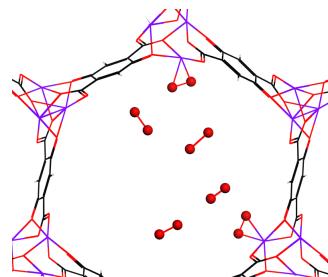


# Initial Gas Positions From Static DFT

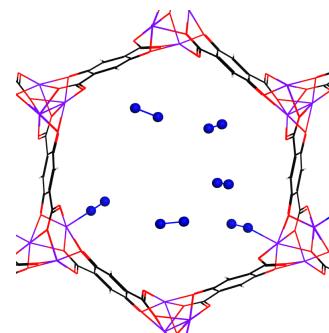
Guests

Single component

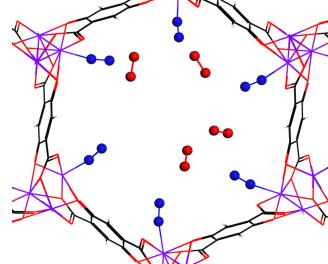
2 O<sub>2</sub> bound  
4 O<sub>2</sub> unbound



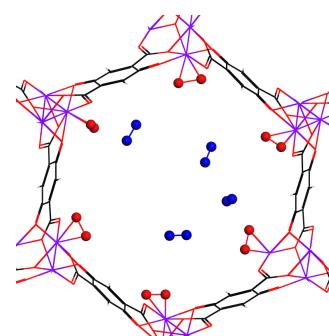
2 N<sub>2</sub> bound  
4 N<sub>2</sub> unbound



Mixed gas  
Competitive  
binding



6 N<sub>2</sub> bound  
4 O<sub>2</sub> unbound



6 O<sub>2</sub> bound  
4 N<sub>2</sub> unbound

Temperatures

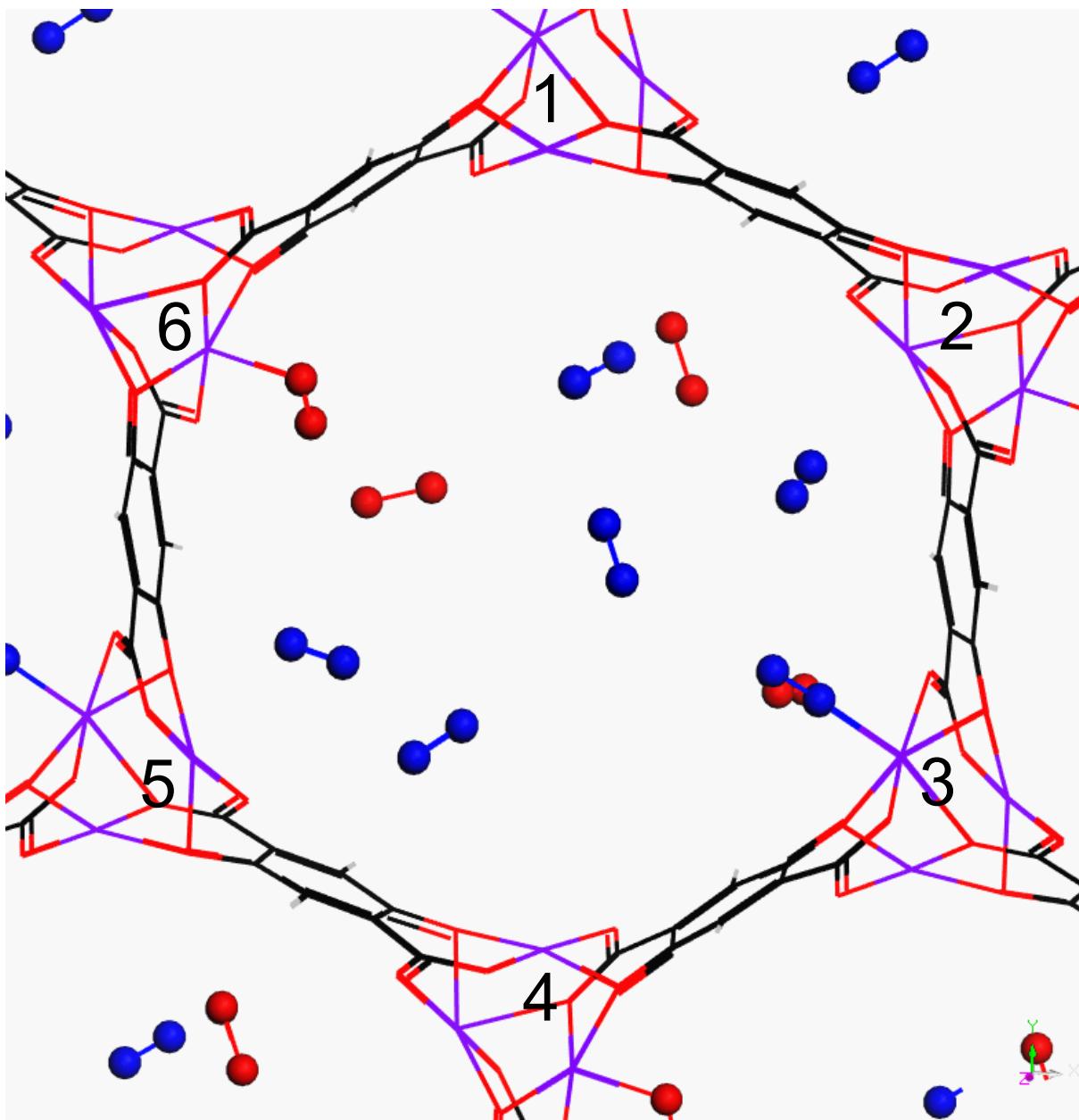
201 K  
258 K  
298 K

Metals



Red Sky Supercomputer  
36 Simulations

3,800 processor-days each  
<http://hpc.sandia.gov/>

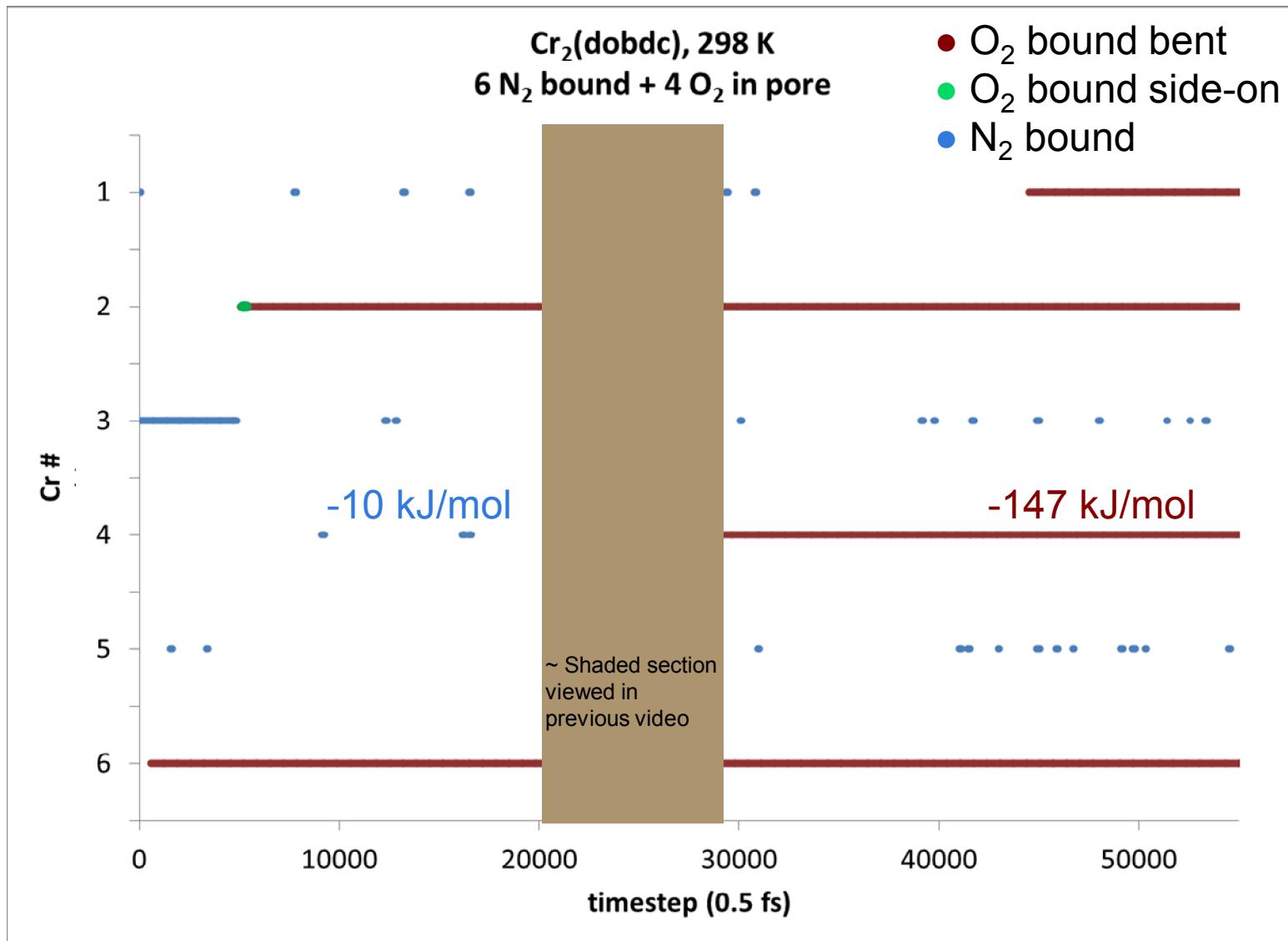


Cr<sub>2</sub>(dobdc)  
6 N<sub>2</sub> + 4 O<sub>2</sub>  
298 K

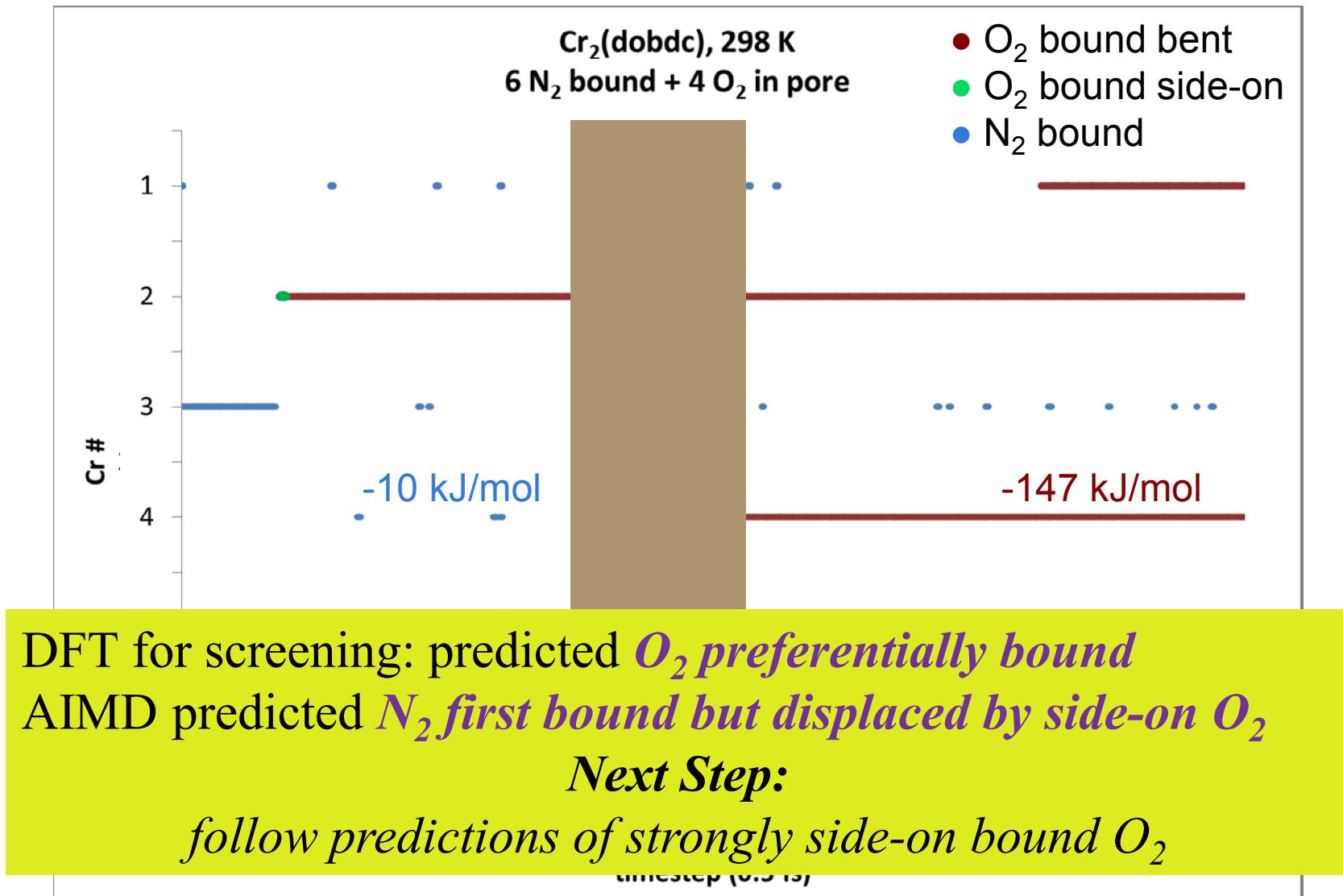
NVT  
Time 2 ps – 15 ps  
1 frame = 25 fs

- O<sub>2</sub> slow to bind, but once on metal center, binding holds
- N<sub>2</sub> rapid bind and release from metal centers
- O<sub>2</sub> long term binding is consistently 'bent'
- Selective for O<sub>2</sub>

# Gas Occupancy at Each Metal Site

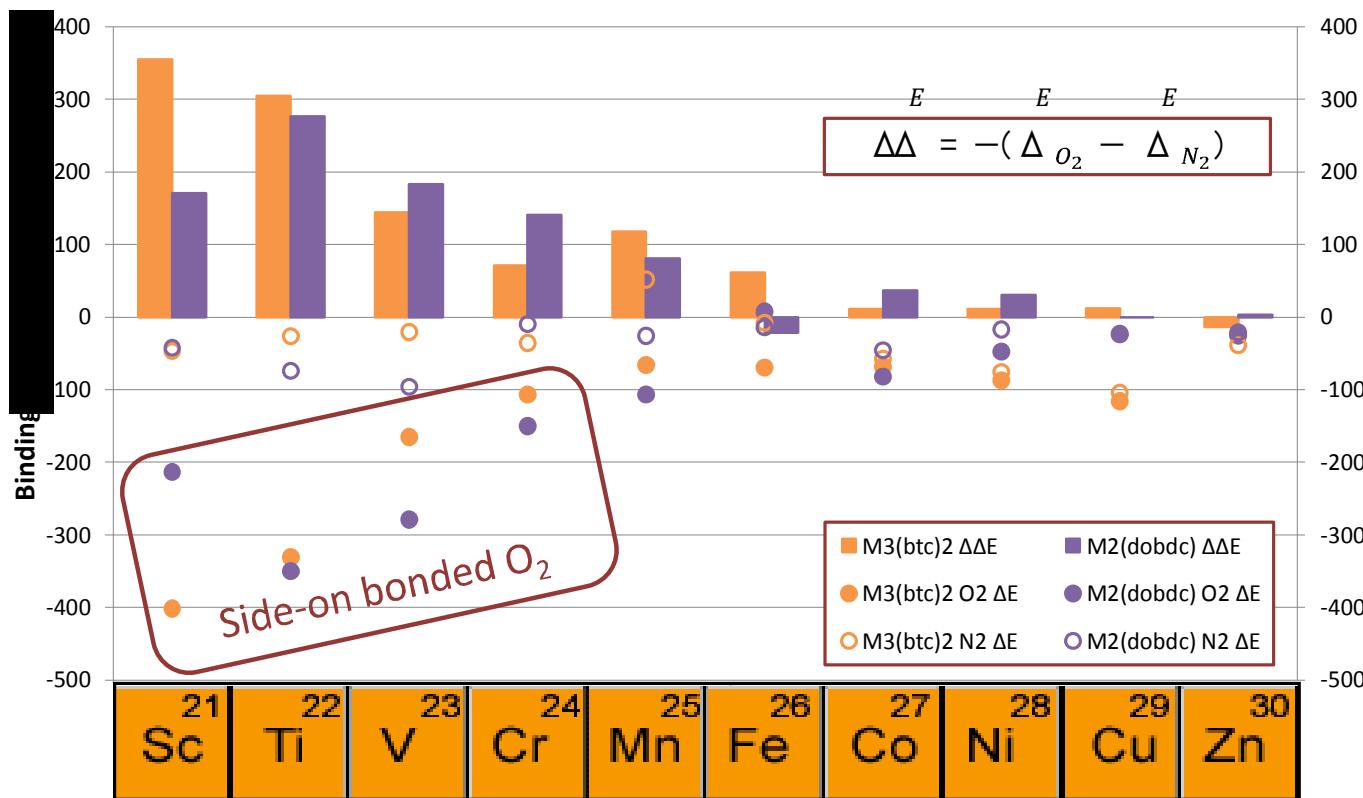


## Gas Occupancy at Each Metal Site



# Use of Strongest *Side-On Binding* Predictions

Binding Energy Calculated as a Function of Metal Site



# MD Simulation Inspired MOF Synthesis: Sc/BTC/DMF/HCl

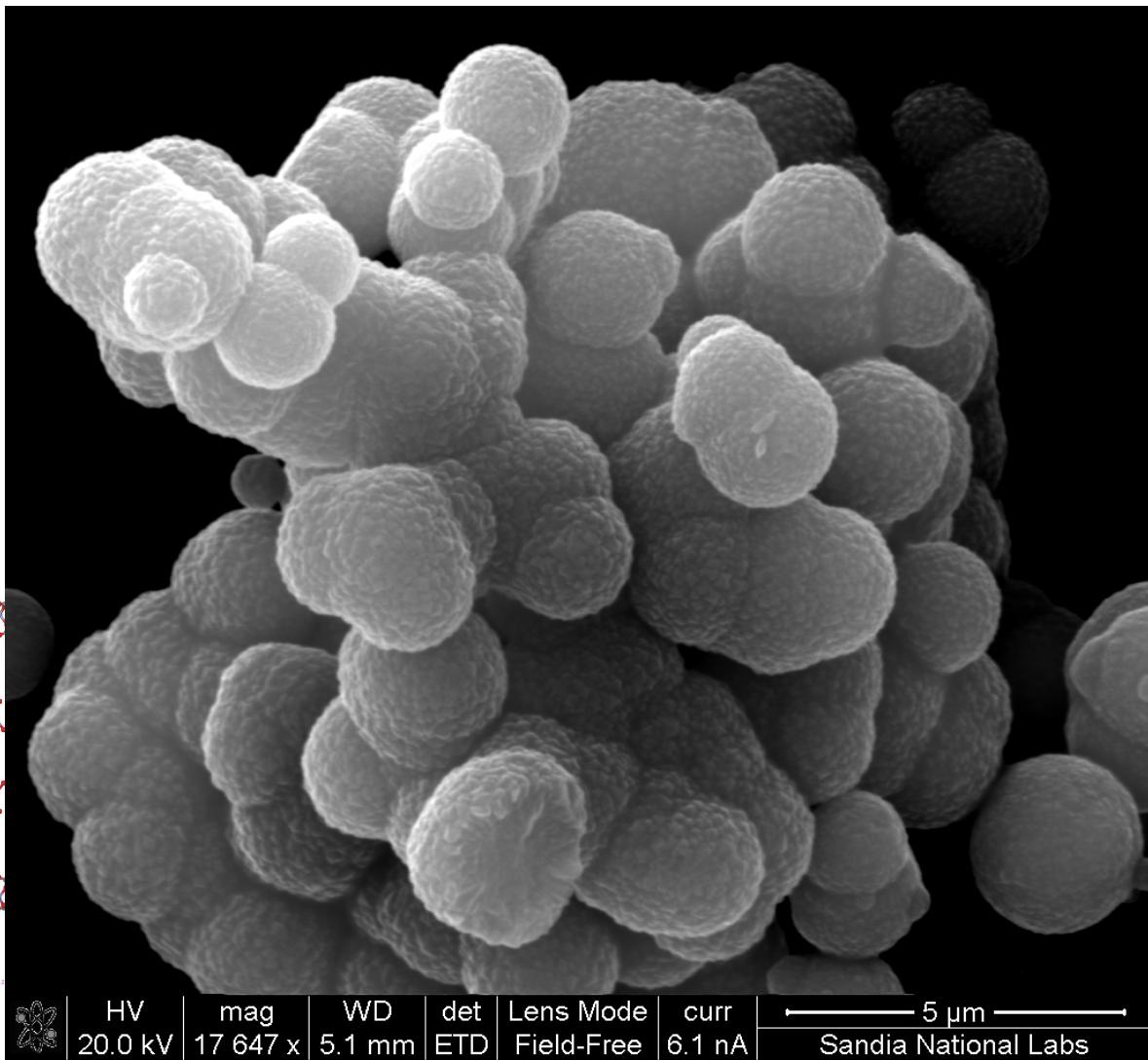
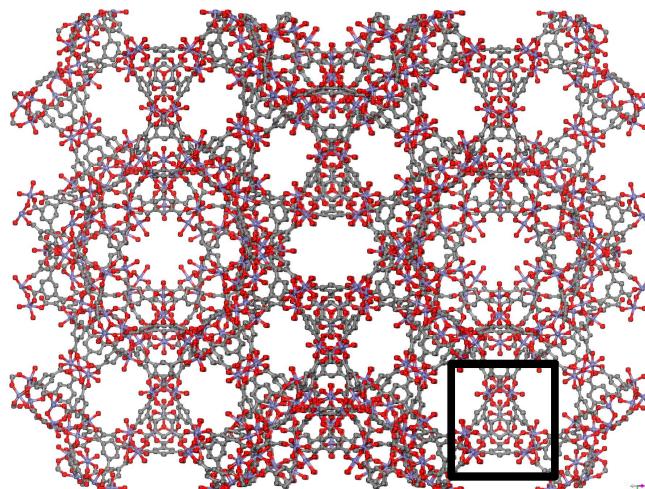


## Sc-MIL-100

### Unique synthesis:

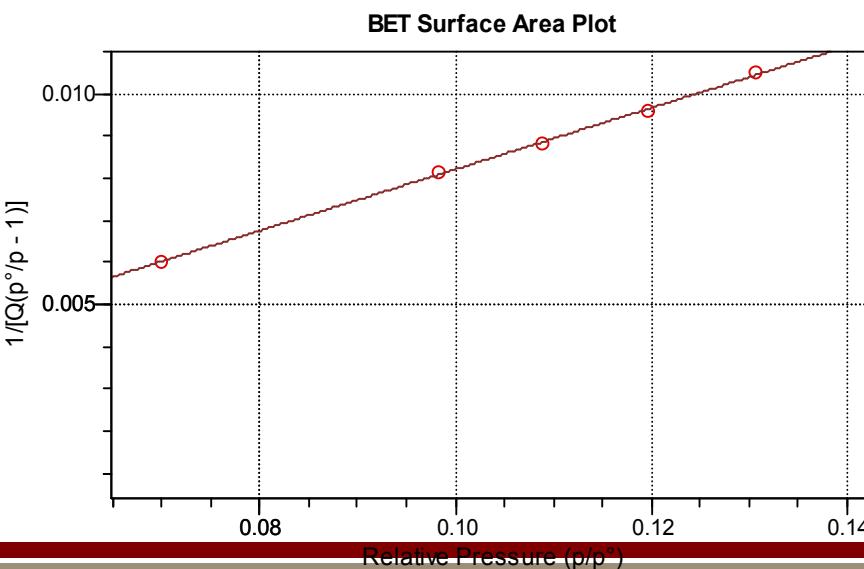
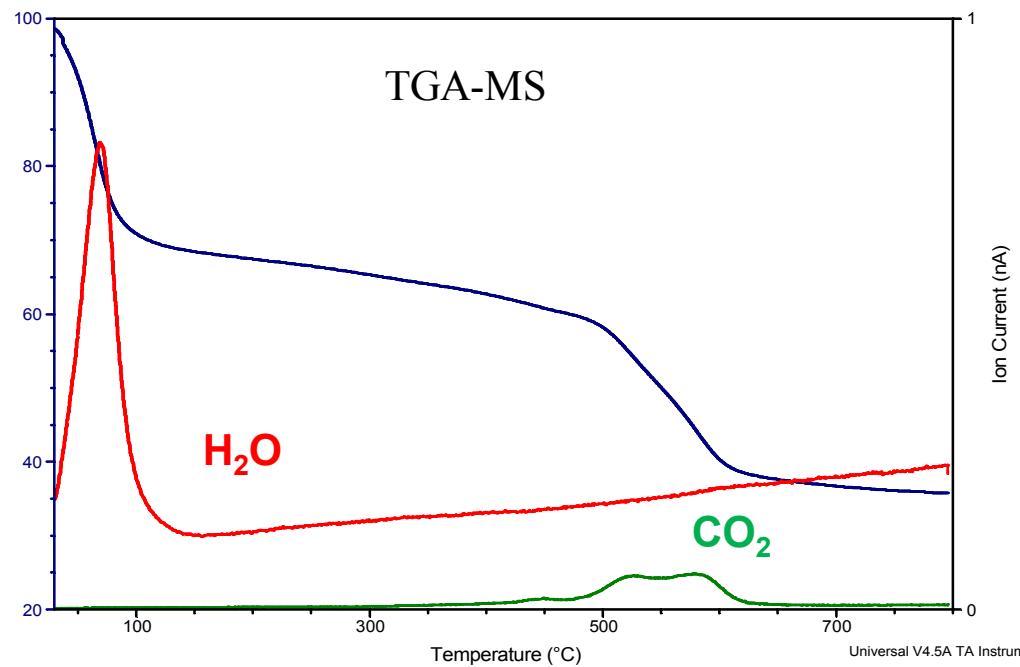
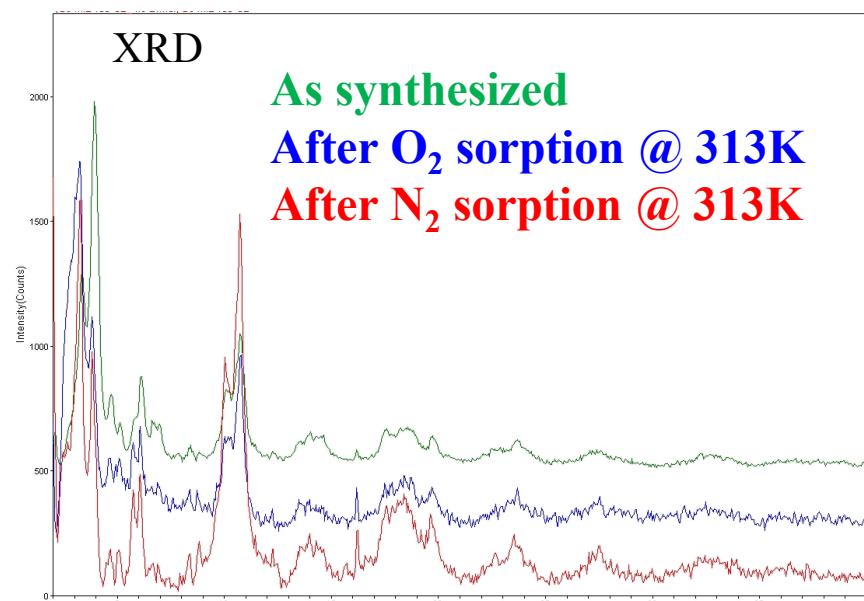
Mixed  $\text{Sc}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and 1,3,5-benzetricarboxylic acid in  $\text{N},\text{N}'$ -dimethylformamide and HCl.

Heated to 373K overnight



14

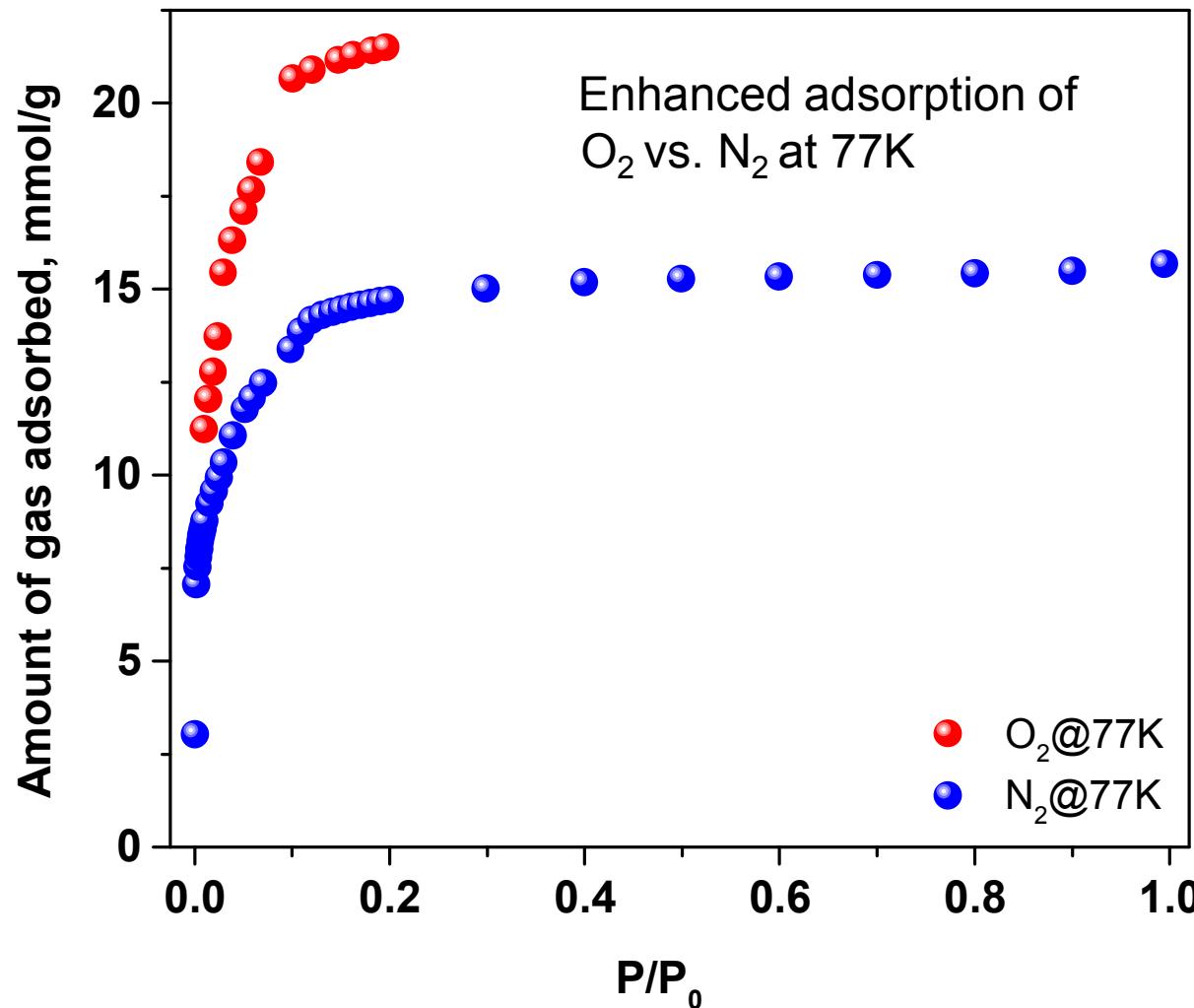
# Sc-MIL-100: Stable MOF framework over Wide Temp Range and Exposure to Variety of Gases



BET surface area:  
 $1321.7194 \pm 24.4623 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$

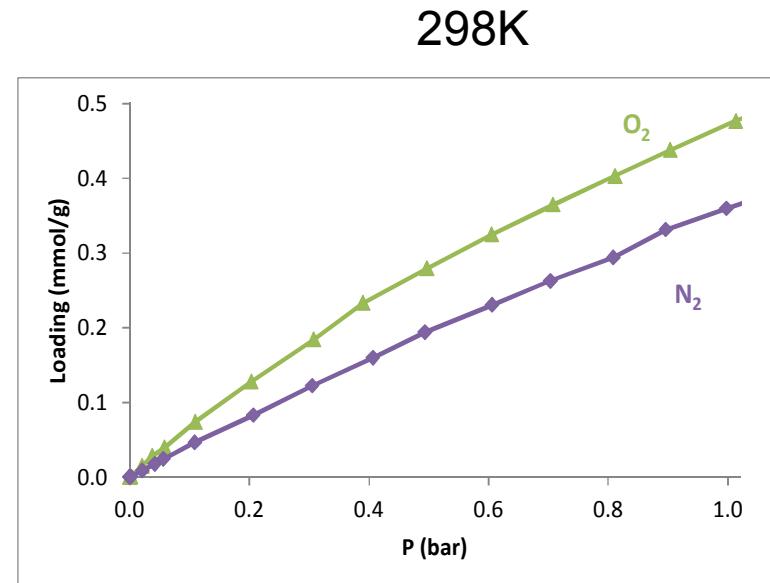
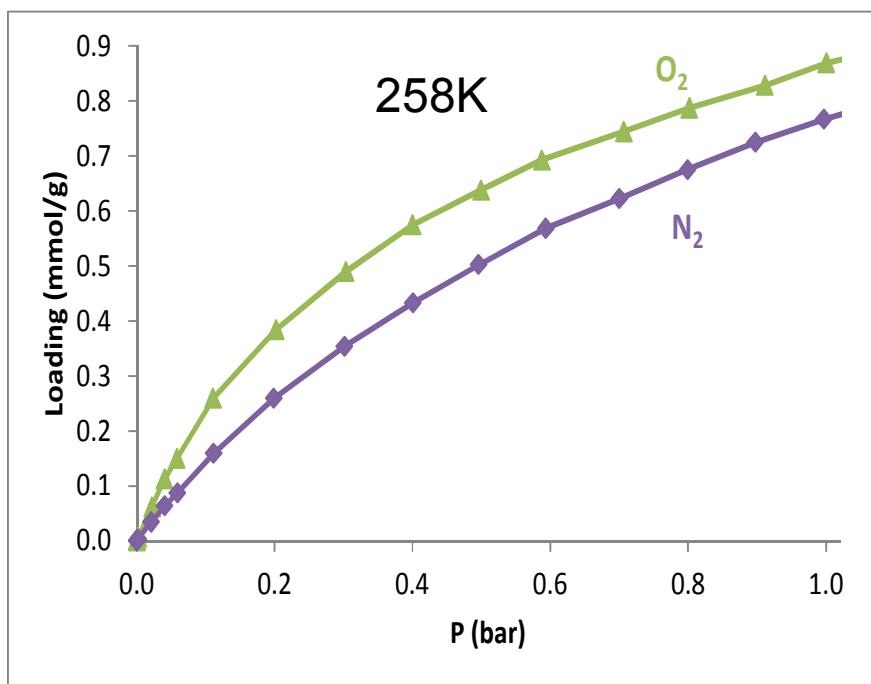
High Surface Area with Accessible Metal Centers

# Sc-MIL-100: Metal-Center has a role at 77K



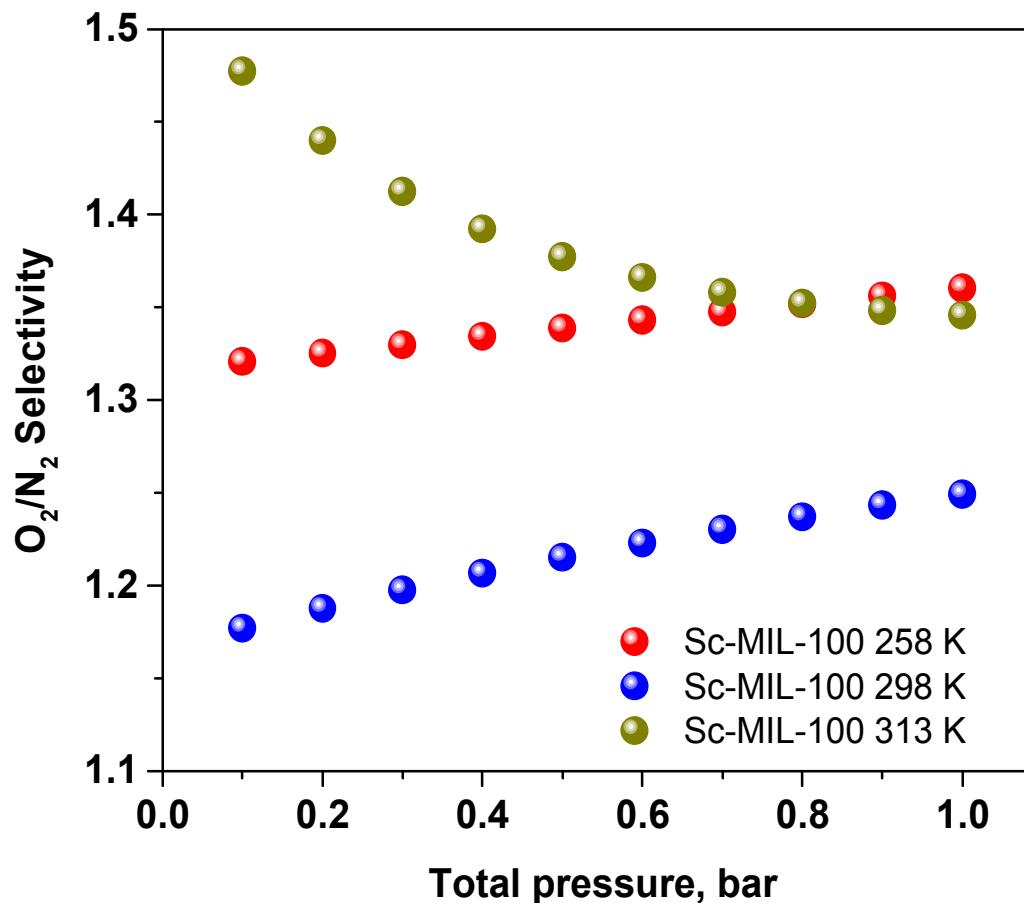
How does Sc-MIL-100 behave at more realistic operational temperatures?

- **Grand Canonical Monte Carlo (GCMC) Simulations**
- Pure gas ( $N_2$  or  $O_2$ ) adsorption over pressure range 0 - 1 bar.
- Temperature range matched with experiment: 258 K, 298 K, 313 K.
- Grand canonical ensemble (constant chemical potential, temperature, volume) using the Towhee code (Martin, *Mol. Sim.* **2013**, *39*, 1212).
- Gas-gas and MOF-gas interaction energies include van der Waals and electrostatic interactions.
- Framework atoms kept at their crystallographic coordinates.



Preferred  $O_2$  uptake but  $O_2/N_2$  selectivity increases between 258K and 298K

# Simulations of Competitive Gas Adsorption: based on GCMC data, 298K

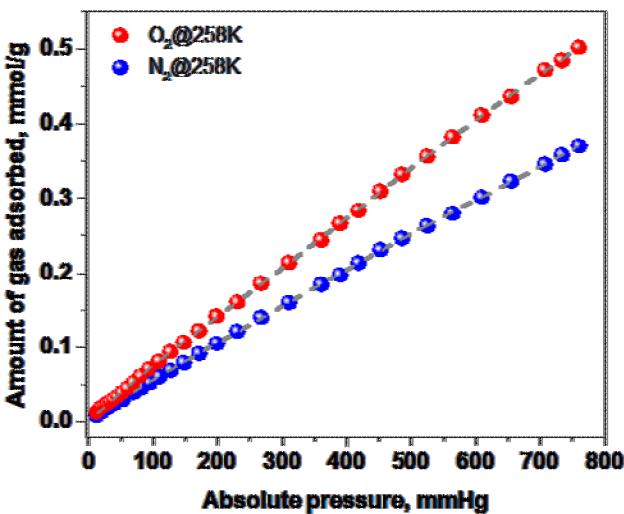


Ideal Adsorbed Solution Theory (IAST) used to calculate mixture adsorption and  $O_2/N_2$  selectivity for **20:80 mixture ( $O_2:N_2$ )**.

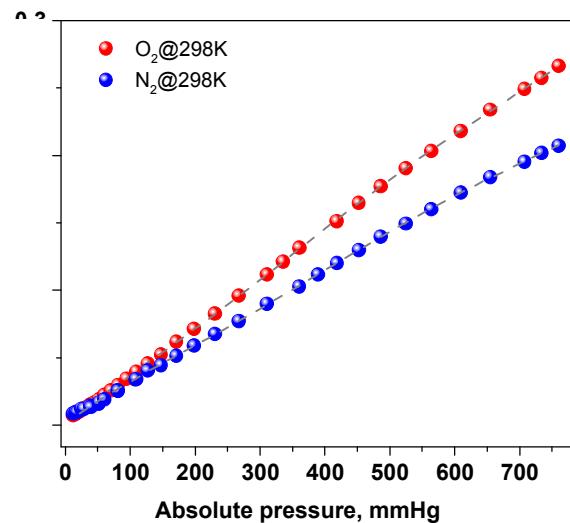
# Sc-MIL-100: Enhanced Quantity of $O_2$ vs $N_2$ Adsorbed over Wide Temperature Range (at least to 313K)

— Fit using the virial eq.

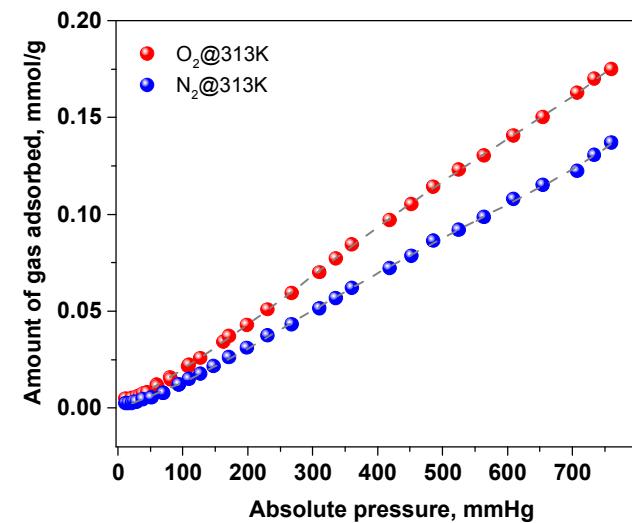
$O_2$  vs.  $N_2$  @258K



$O_2$  vs.  $N_2$  @298K



$O_2$  vs.  $N_2$  @313K

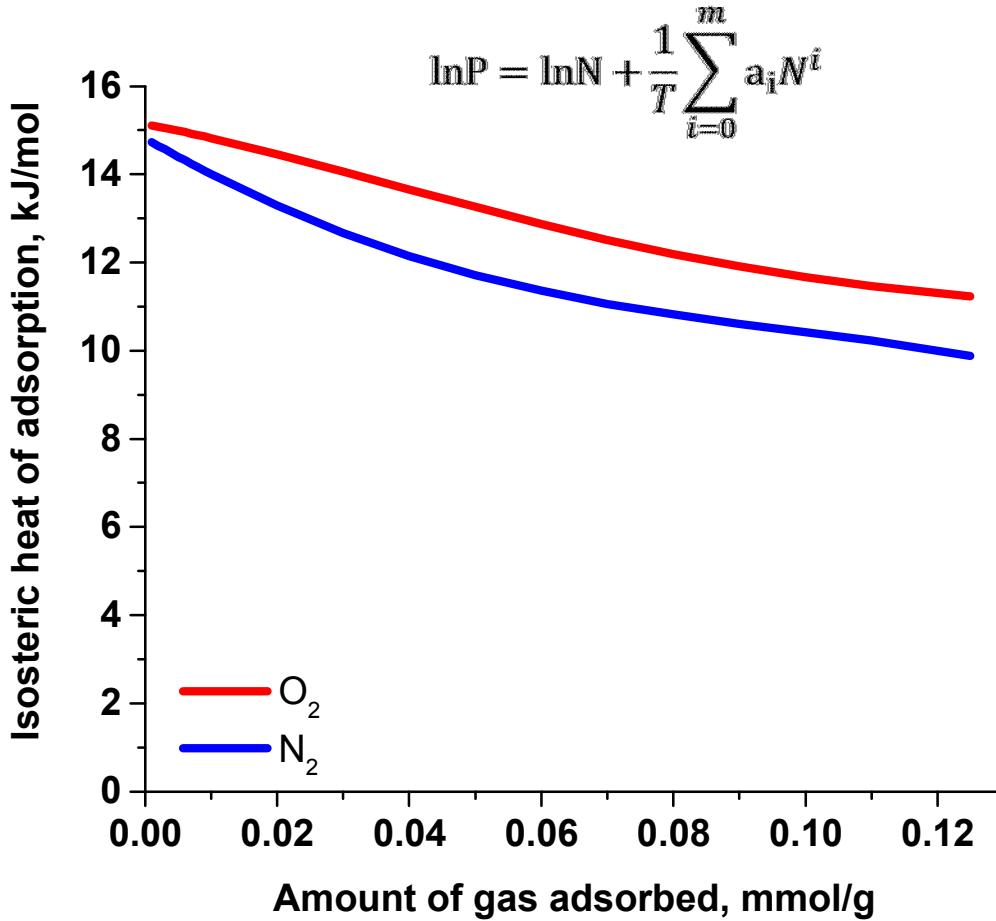


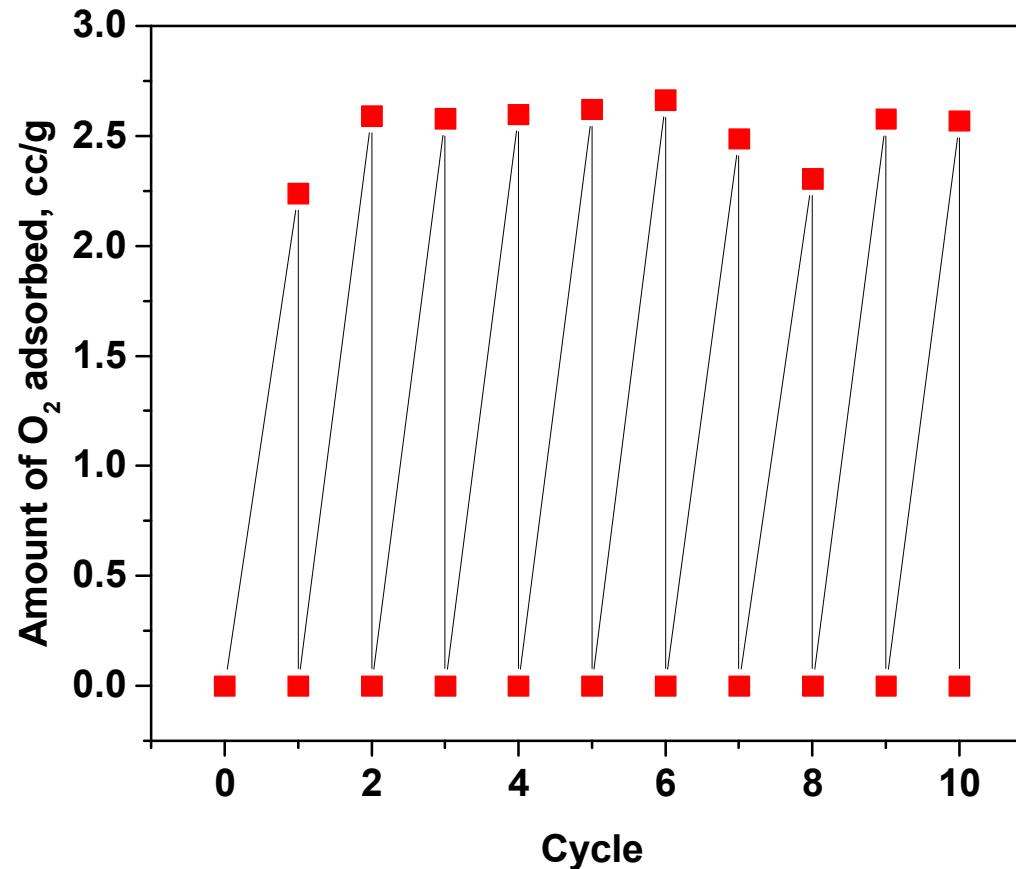
Isotherm trends mimic those predicted by GCMC

Higher Binding Energy for O<sub>2</sub> vs N<sub>2</sub>

Qst derived from 258K, 298K and 313 K

Independent Virial Fit HOA

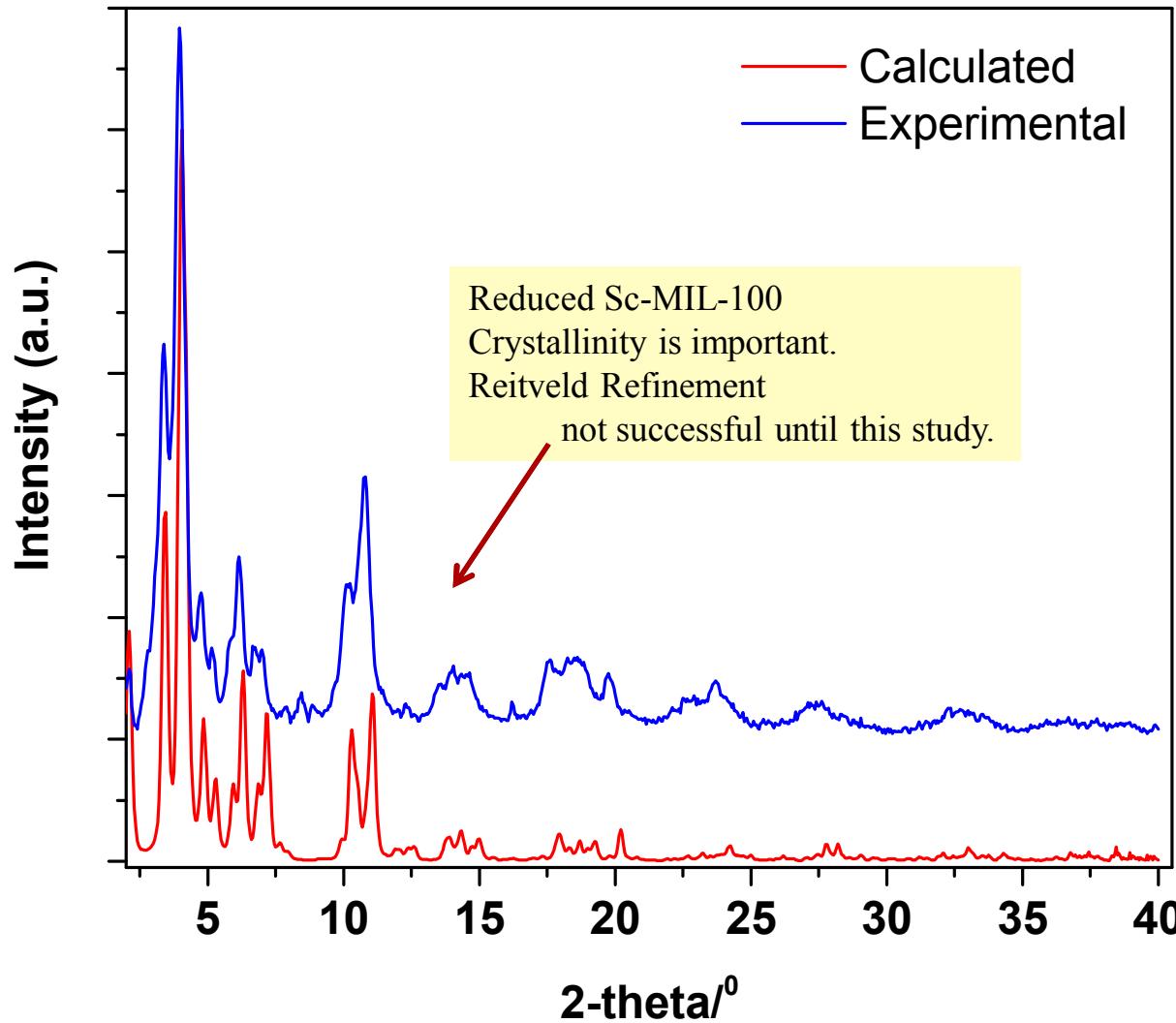




What about the structure is making Sc-MIL-100 O<sub>2</sub> strongly sorbing?

# Structure-Property Relationship Understanding of Sc-MIL-100 Oxygen Selectivity

High Energy Synchrotron X-ray, APS/ANL



# Structure-Property Analysis: *Pair Distribution Function (PDF) Analysis*



The PDF,  $G(r)$ , is related to the *probability* of finding an atom at a distance  $r$  from a reference atom. It is the Fourier transform of the total structure factor,  $S(Q)$ .

$$G(r) = 4\pi r \rho_0 [g(r) - 1] = (2/\pi) \int Q [S(Q) - 1] \sin(Qr) dQ$$

$\overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 probability
 

 $\overbrace{\quad\quad\quad}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 structure factor

The structure factor,  $S(Q)$ , is related to coherent part of the diffraction intensity

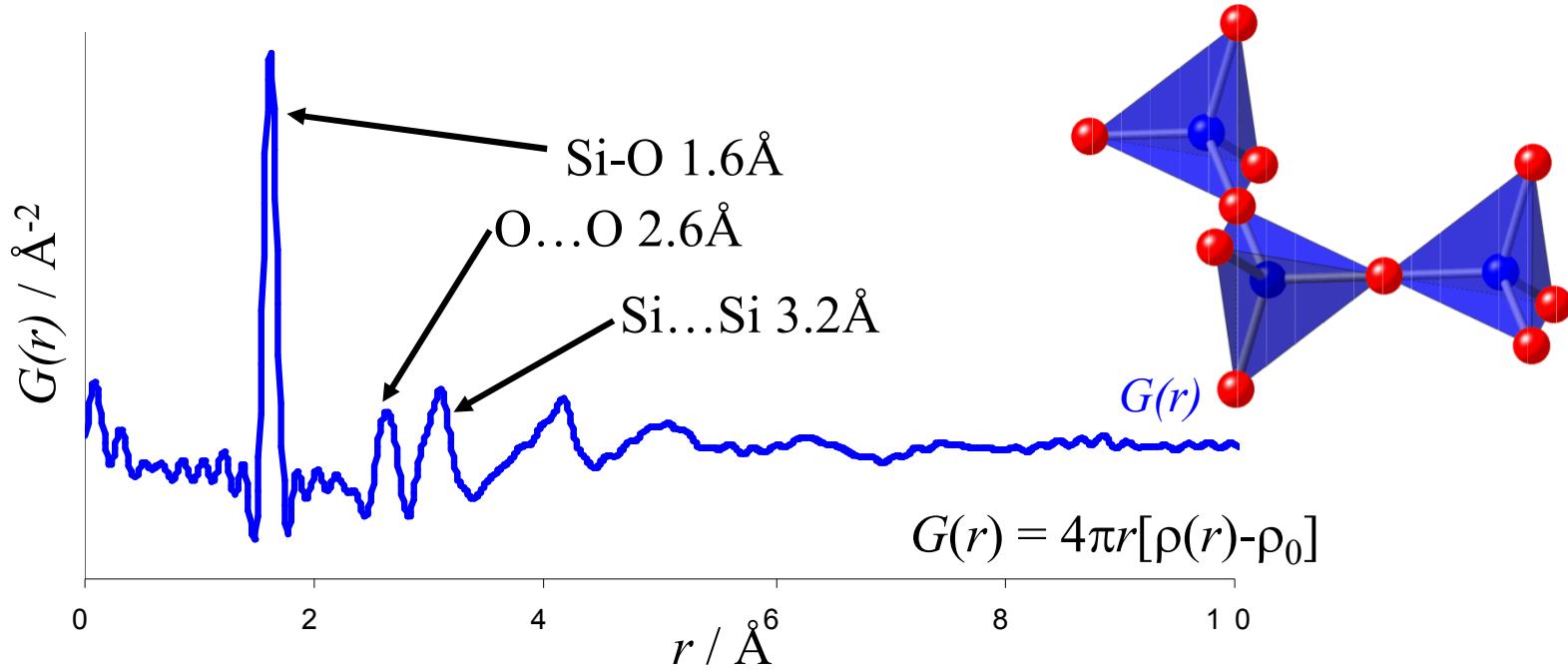
$$S(Q) = 1 + \underbrace{[I^{coh}(Q) - \sum c_i |f_i(Q)|^2]}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{diffraction intensity} \\ (\text{corrected})}} / \sum c_i |f_i(Q)|^2$$

Apply corrections for background, absorption, Compton & multiple scattering

## Use of high energy X-rays and large area detectors key to structure resolution Beamline 11-ID-B

# PDF: Insight Into Short Range Structural Order eg., Amorphous SiO<sub>2</sub> (Glass)

- a weighted histogram of ALL atom-atom distances

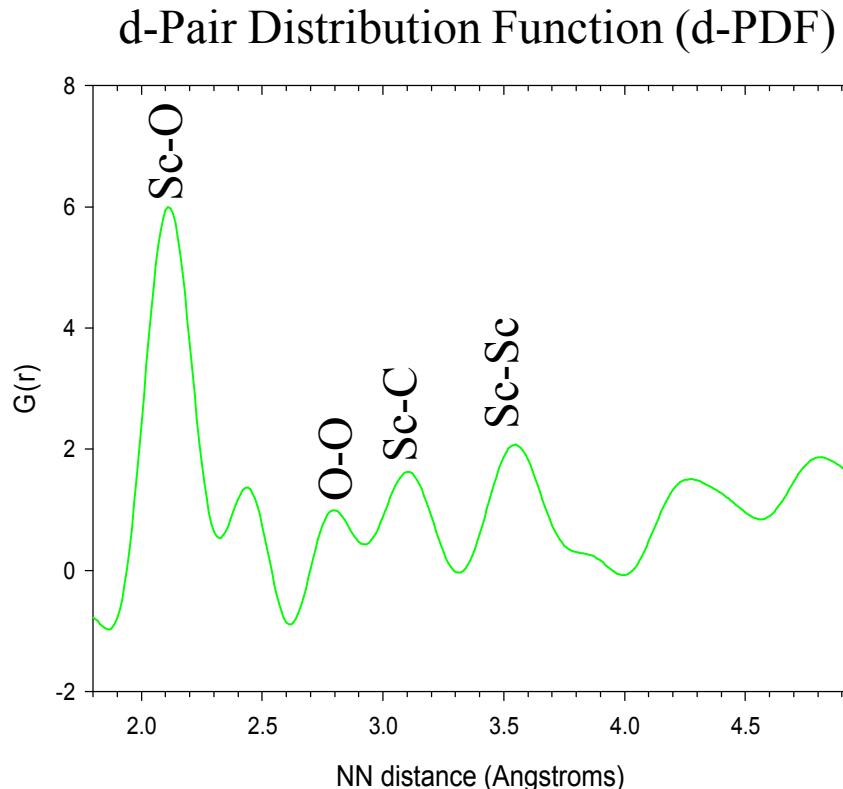


- Peak position  $\longleftrightarrow$  Bond length / distance
- Peak area  $\longleftrightarrow$  Coordination #, scattering intensity
- Peak width  $\longleftrightarrow$  Disorder, bond angle distribution
- Peak  $r_{max}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  Particle size, coherence

**Structural Modeling**

*Application to Nanoporous Materials to Examine Short Range Interactions*

# Sc-MIL-100: Structure-Property relationship evaluated using Differential (d)- PDF



Peaks shifted to longer distances  
Consistent with larger Sc incorporation  
(vs. Cr-MIL-100)

### d-PDF peak analysis

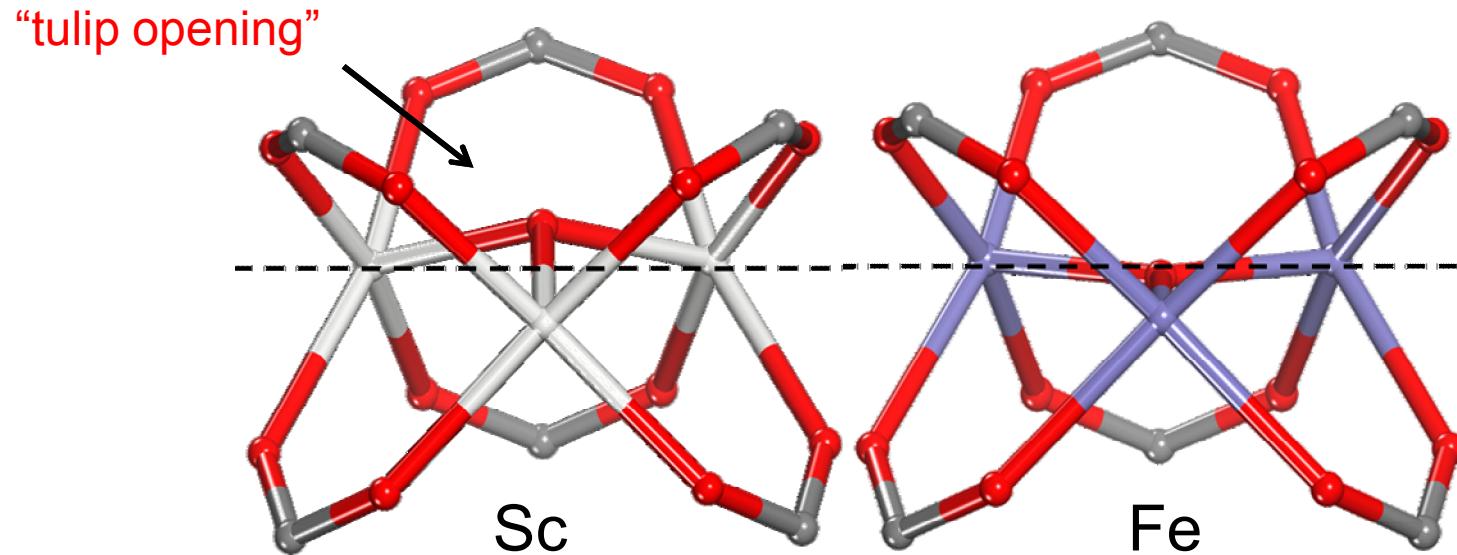
Bond	NN distance (Å)	Area	FWHM (Å)
Sc-O	2.11	1.5	0.19
O-O	2.81	0.3	0.22
Sc-C	3.08	0.8	0.26
Sc-Sc	3.53	0.5	0.24

- Oxo-centered trimers at nodes of MIL-100 framework inferred from M-O and M...M distances
- Narrow Sc-O peak = narrow Distribution of bond lengths
- Single M-O bond length ( $M-O(\mu_3)$  or  $M-O$  (carboxylate)), suggests **M-O-M angle of  $113^\circ$**   
 $\ll 120^\circ$  of a planer trimer

## Preferred O<sub>2</sub> sorption – Large Sc Distorts Cluster

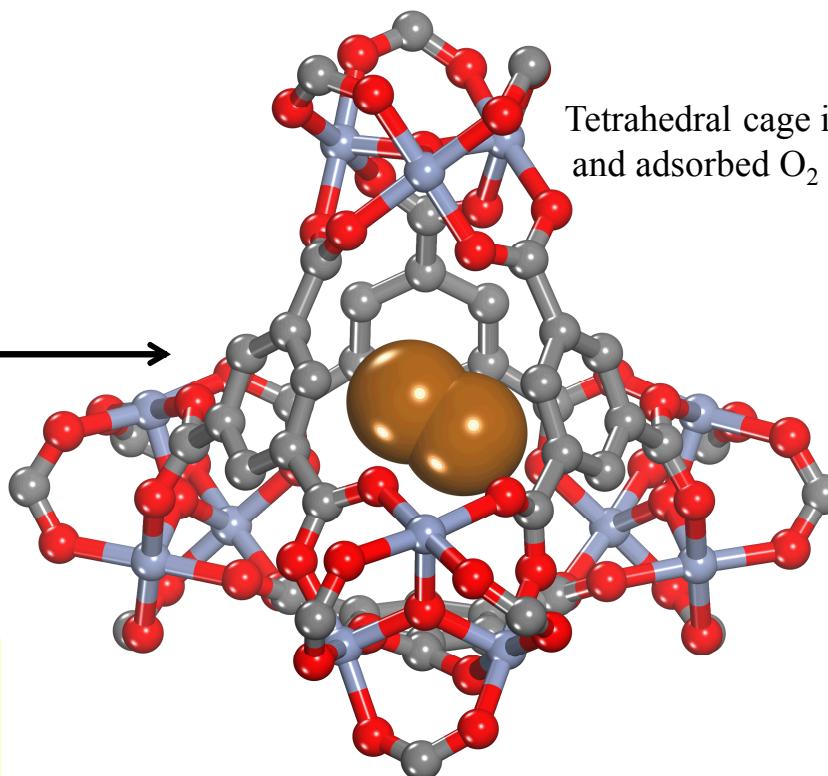
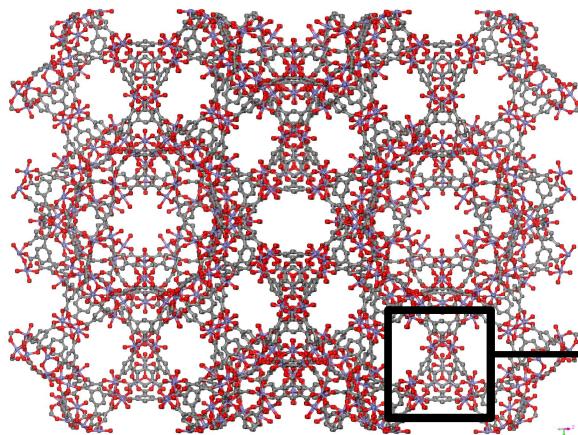
Large size of Sc atom requires **out of plane distortion** in the ozo trimer of the O( $\mu$ 3) atom.

Resultant “**puckering**” of trimer and “bending” of ligand is  
probable route for enhanced O<sub>2</sub> sorption / insertion in Sc-MIL-100



Rietveld refinement unit cell for Sc-MIL-100:  $a = 74.518(31)$  Å,  $R = 10.7\%$

# Sc-MIL-100: Probable Sc-O binding sites



Tetrahedral cage in the MIL-100 framework and adsorbed O<sub>2</sub> molecule (large spheres).

GCMC-equilibrated configurations:

Cage and pore occupancy  
as determined at 298K and 1 bar

P (bar)	Gas	# in Cage	# in Pore	Total
1	N <sub>2</sub>	21	27	48
1	O <sub>2</sub>	47	20	67

# Conclusions

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- Multidisciplinary teaming allows for in-depth understanding of materials structure-properties
- The collaborative use of DFT and AIMD enabled the prediction and understanding of metals needed in MOFs for selective gas binding
- **Sc-MIL-100**: Early transition metal MOFs show **preference for O<sub>2</sub> vs N<sub>2</sub>** over wide temperature range (up to at least 313K), as confirmed by isosteric heats of adsorption.
- Modeling pointed us toward Sc based MOFs for O<sub>2</sub> preferential adsorption, chemistry, crystallography, & gas testing explained why the material worked well.
- **On-going Research**:  
*Techno-economic Analysis Model* for ion exchange resins in silica removal from Industrial Water Recycle and  
*Burner Design* to Oxyfuel combustion applications  
*Novel MOFs* designed for Fission Gas Separations

# Questions? / Thank you

## Sandia National Laboratories' Sites



**Albuquerque, New Mexico**



**Yucca Mountain  
Nevada**



**WIPP,  
New Mexico**



**Pantex, Texas**



**Kauai Test Facility  
Hawaii**



**Tonopah Test  
Range,  
Nevada**



**Livermore, California**