

# Selectivity and Stability of RE-DOBDC MOFs, and their use in the Optical and Magnetic Detection of Acid Gases



Susan E. Henkelis<sup>†</sup>, D. J. Vogel, J. Rimsza, D. Huber, T. M. Nenoff

sehenke@sandia.gov

<sup>†</sup>Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM, USA



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

## Introduction

AIM: Design and synthesize a RE-containing MOF for the selective adsorption of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{SO}_x$  from flue streams

UNCAGE-ME Center exemplar "Complex Mixtures":

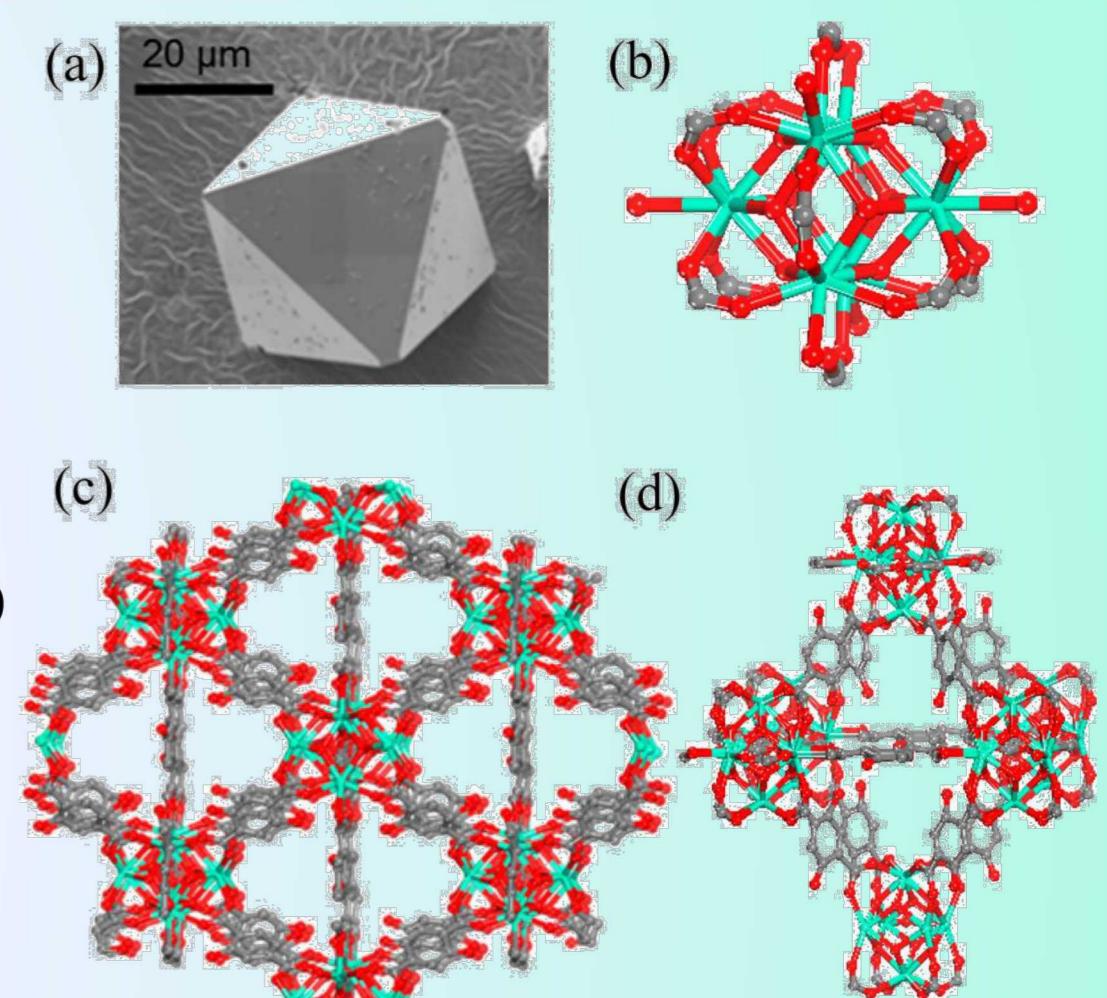
• Coal-fired power plant flue gas (13%  $\text{CO}_2$ , 6%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , ~4%  $\text{O}_2$ , 50 ppm  $\text{CO}$ , 420 ppm  $\text{NO}_2$ , 420 ppm  $\text{SO}_2$ , 76%  $\text{N}_2$ )

- Metal-Organic frameworks (MOFs) are inorganic-organic hybrid materials characterized by their extremely high surface area, 3D structure and ability to form coordinatively unsaturated sites
- Rare earth (RE) elements are known to selectively and preferentially bind to acid gases ( $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{SO}_x$ )<sup>1</sup>
- RE-DOBDC (RE – Eu, Y, Tb, Yb) MOFs have recently been shown to selectively adsorb acid gases from a humid gas stream whereby adsorption of  $\text{NO}_x$  produced a quenching of photoluminescence<sup>1</sup> and  $\text{SO}_x$  did not<sup>2</sup> – In collab. with GA Tech
- Retention of structure by PXRD after exposure to acid gases. Investigations ongoing with neutron PDF – In collab. with ORNL
- RE-DOBDC shows a reduction in paramagnetism with adsorption of  $\text{NO}_x$ <sup>3</sup> – In collab. with CINT

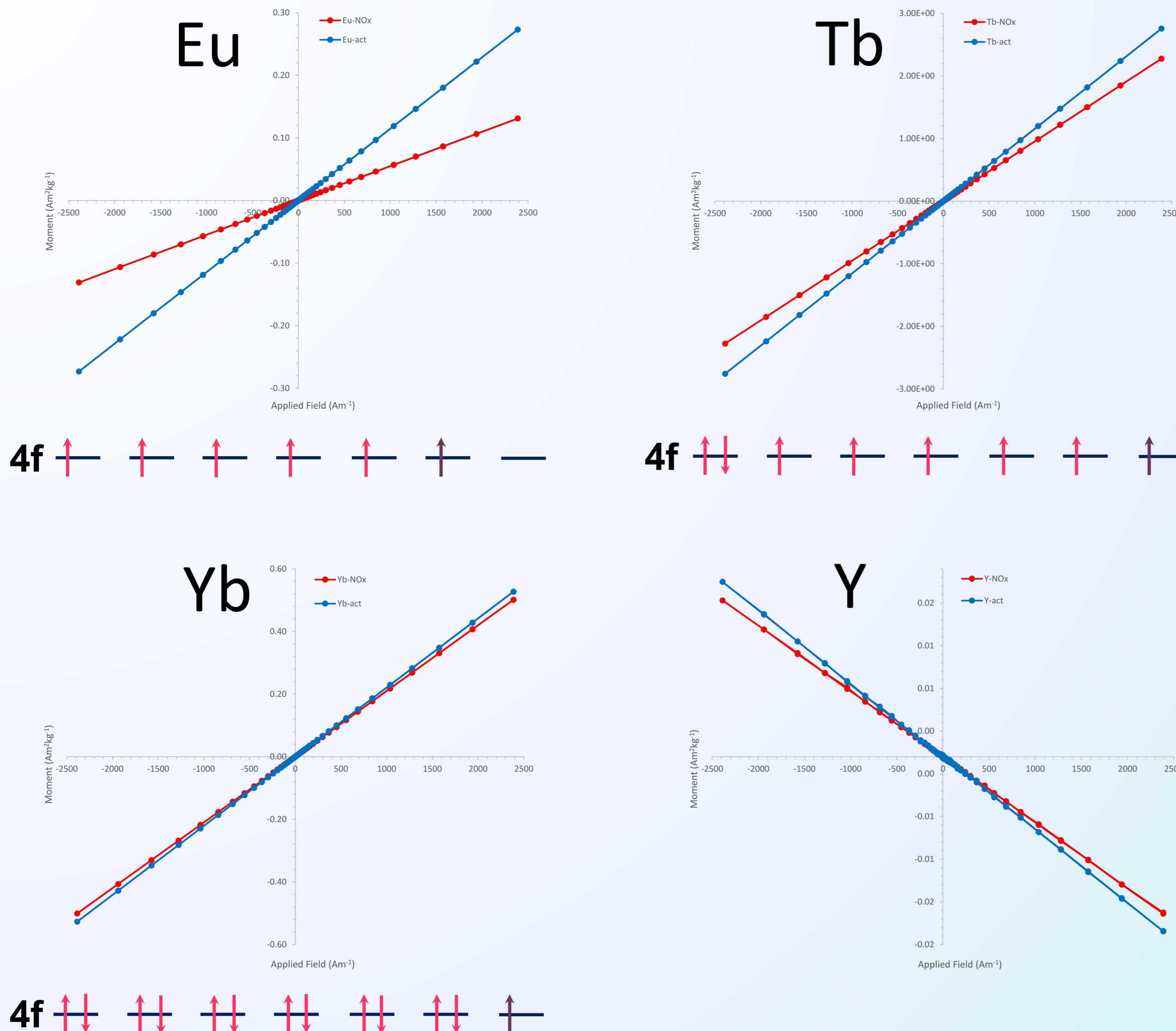
$\text{SO}_x$  – *Chem. Mater.* 2018, 30, 4089-4101

$\text{NO}_x$  – *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2019, 123, 2336

[1] Sava Gallis et al., *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2017, 9, 22268; *CrystEngComm.*, 2018, 20, 5919; *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2019, 11, 43270-43277; [2] Henkelis et al., Selective adsorption of  $\text{SO}_x$  from humid gas streams by DOBDC-containing MOFs, 2019, *In Preparation*; [3] Henkelis et al., Selectivity and Stability of RE-DOBDC MOFs, and their use in the Optical and Magnetic Detection of Acid Gases, 2019, *In Preparation*



## Magnetic Susceptibility with $\text{NO}_x$



- RE-DOBDC MOFs were produced under solvothermal methods in DMF at 120 °C for 3 days
- Each MOF was activated (blue) and then subsequently loaded with humid  $\text{NO}_x$  (red)
- Each MOF was investigated upon using a VersaLab VSM as a function of metal center.

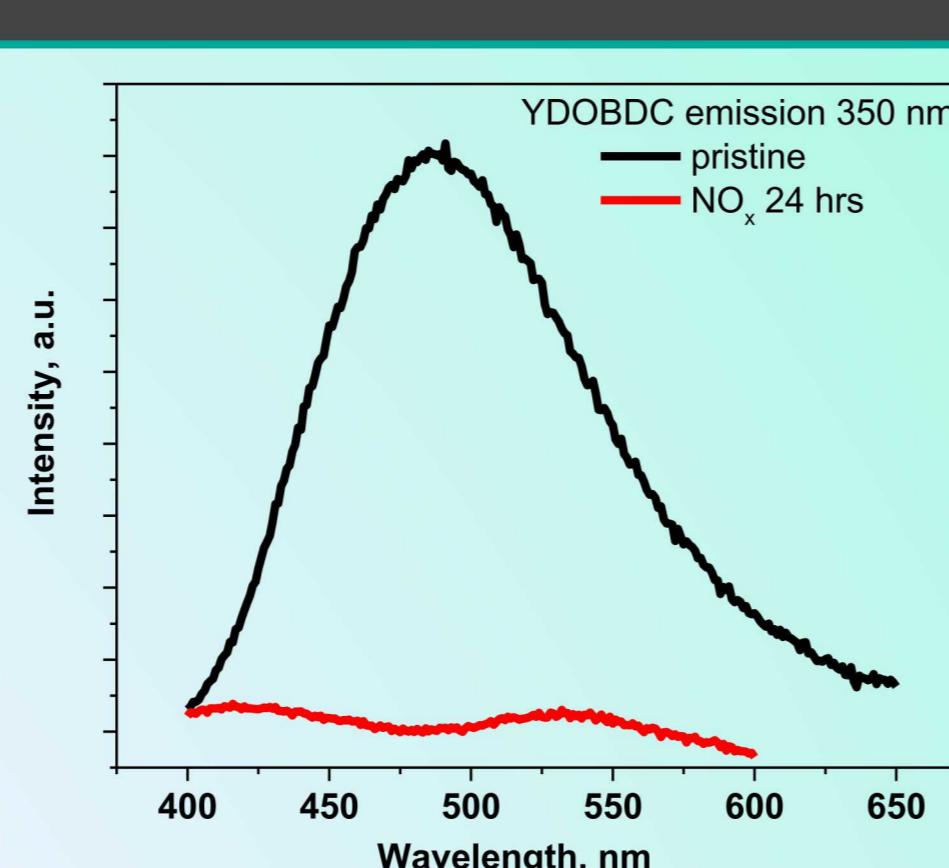
- Eu, Tb, Yb-DOBDC highlight a classic paramagnetic susceptibility with the susceptibility reduced upon addition of  $\text{NO}_x$
- $\text{Eu} > \text{Tb} > \text{Yb} \Delta\chi$  with addition of  $\text{NO}_x$  (EW group)
- $\Delta\chi$  increases with increase in amount of unpaired electrons
- Charge transfer of 1 unpaired electron (purple) from: metal  $\rightarrow$  ring  $\rightarrow$  EW group  $\therefore$  reducing magnetism

- Y-DOBDC – diamagnetic due to no f electrons, with a decrease in diamagnetic susceptibility with  $\text{NO}_x$
- $\text{NO}_x$  is a paramagnetic molecule and therefore reduces diamagnetism

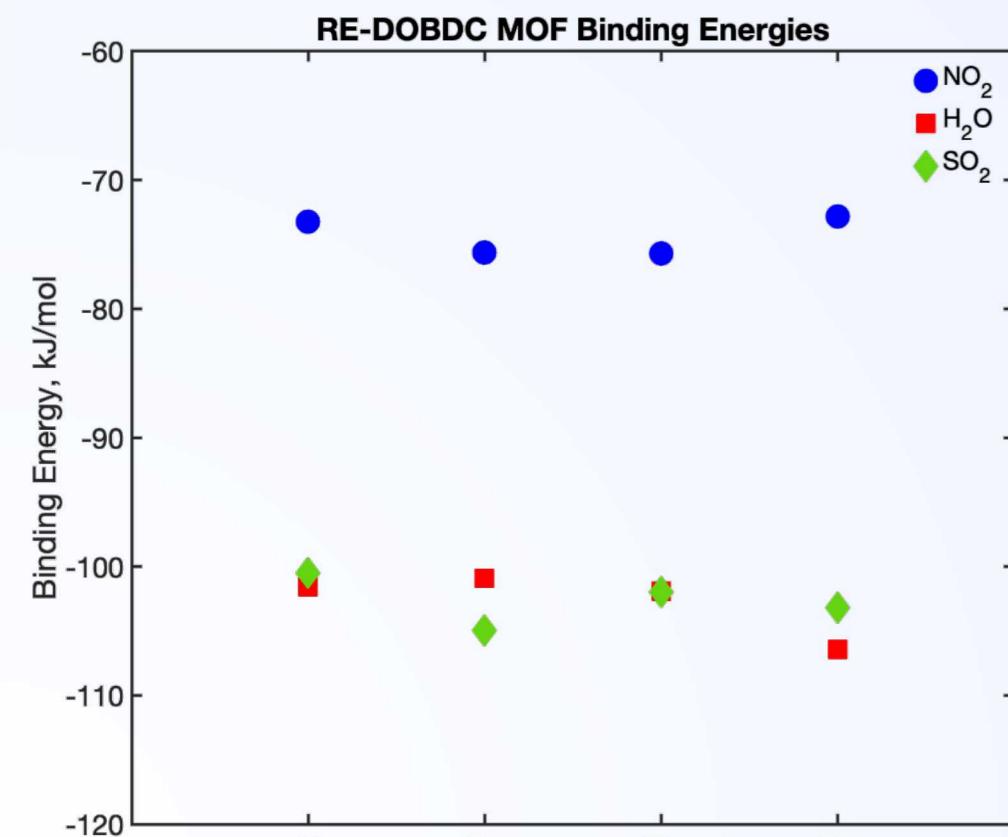
## Photoluminescence



As made RE-MOFs under UV  
- Obvious color changes  
from visible light powder



- Competitive binding to metal site between  $\text{SO}_x$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- $\text{NO}_x$  has a much lower binding energy and will bind to the linker with the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  binding to the metal site



- As-made samples fluoresce under UV light
- Fluorescence arises from the inker
- $\text{NO}_x$  binds to the open hydroxyls on the linker – quenching emission
- $\text{SO}_x$  binds to CUS metal sites – no quenching of fluorescence

## Conclusions

- Eu 4f**  $\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow$  (one orbital is circled in red)
- $\text{NO}_x$  reduces overall magnetism of RE-DOBDC
    - Eu, Tb, Yb – paramagnetic susceptibility
    - $\text{Eu} > \text{Tb} > \text{Yb} \Delta\chi$  with addition of  $\text{NO}_x$
    - Y – diamagnetic susceptibility
  - Quenching of photoluminescence with adsorption of  $\text{NO}_x$  – ligand binding
  - No quenching with adsorption of  $\text{SO}_x$  – metal binding

**On-going research – Investigation into competitive  $\text{NO}_x/\text{SO}_x$  binding in DOBDC containing MOFs (RE-DOBDC, MOF-74) for selective removal of acid gases from flue streams**

Away on travel – please see Jon Vogel  
Or email at [sehenke@sandia.gov](mailto:sehenke@sandia.gov)