



# Structure-property Relationships in acid gas stable RE-MOFs and Zeolite supported nanoparticle catalysts

Tina M. Nenoff

Senior Scientist

Material, Physical, and Chemical Sciences Center

Sandia National Laboratories

Albuquerque, NM USA

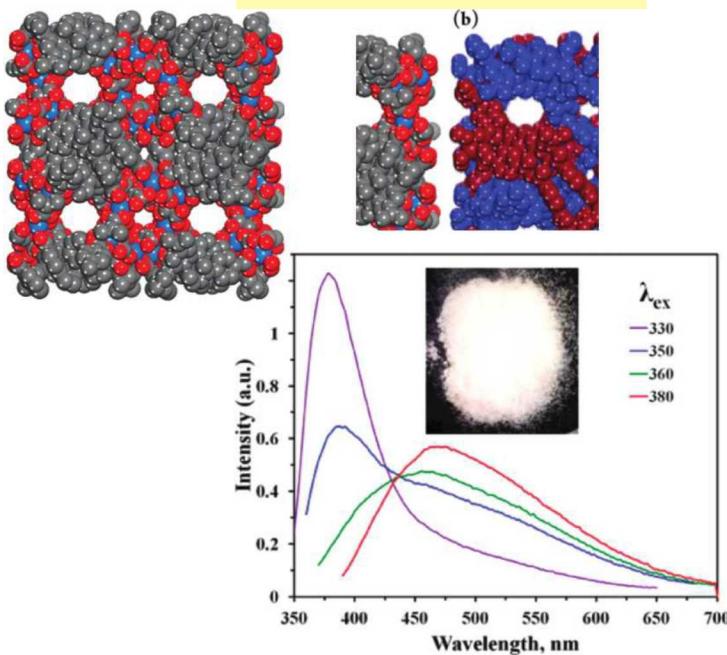
[tmnenof@sandia.gov](mailto:tmnenof@sandia.gov)

This work was supported as part of the Center for Understanding and Control of Acid Gas-Induced Evolution of Materials for Energy (UNCAGE-ME), an Energy Frontier Research Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) under Award DE-SC0012577.

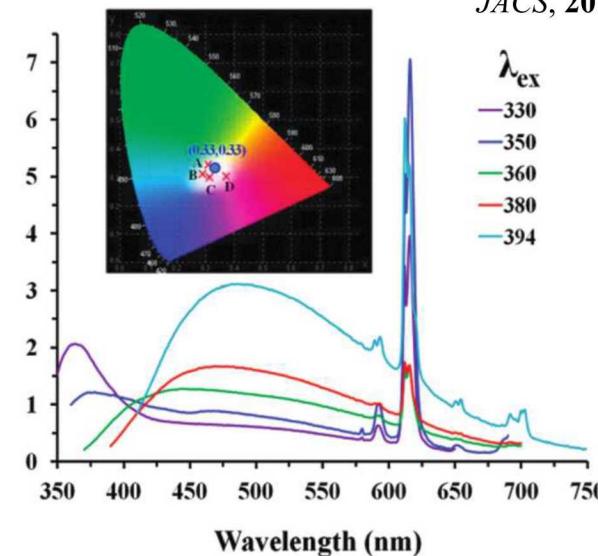
Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA-0003525.

# RE-MOFs: Structure-Property relationships for Stability to acid gases

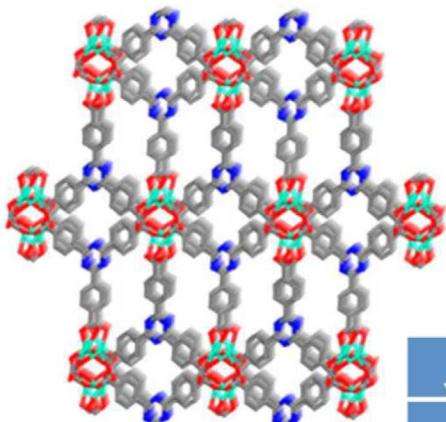
SMOF-1: white light emitter



MOF tuned to  
“warm” white light



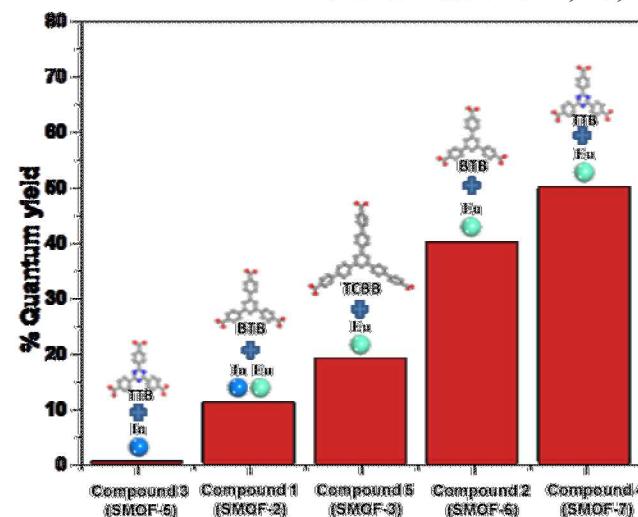
JACS, 2012, 134, 3983



SMOF-7: red light emitter,  
high quantum yield with  
thermal stability for OLED  
applications

Excitation wavelength, nm	25°C	100°C	150°C
340	46%	50%	48%
394	22%	22.3%	19%

Chem. Mater. 2014, 26, 2943



# Rare Earth – MOFs

## PL & Acid Gas Durability

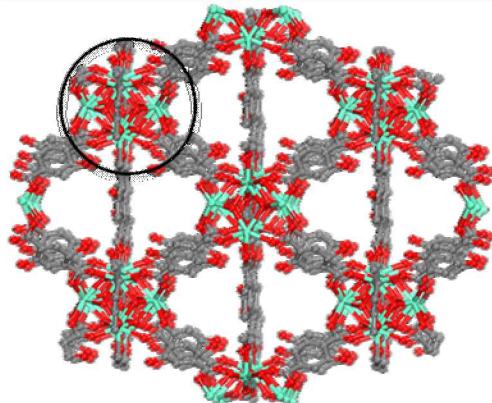
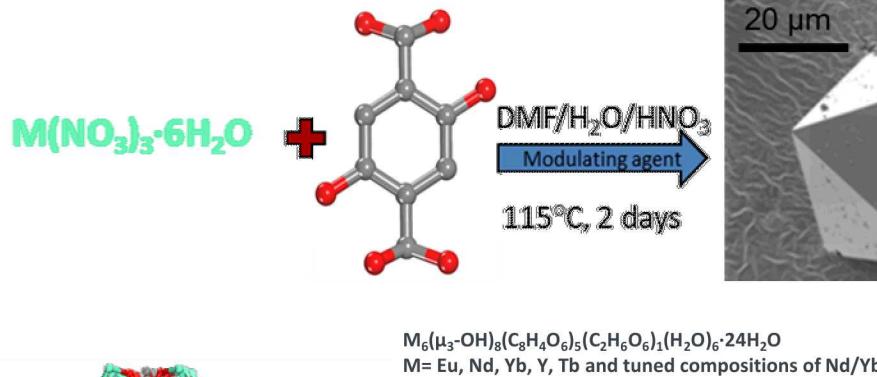
**Team of modelers, synthesis and characterization of zeolites and MOFs with caustic gases**

Goal: Investigate the structure-property relationship in a series of isostructural rare-earth MOF materials platform for NOx adsorption

- Probe the effect of metal ion identity in the adsorption/selectivity for NOx (Dorina Sava Gallis, **Grace Vincent, UNM undergrad (SNL)**)
- Preliminary testing in house at SNL; Complementary modeling work for **Jon Vogel (SNL postdoc)**
- **Team with Ryan Lively (GeorgiaTech) for mixed gas testing and Katharine Page (ORNL) for characterization**

### Activities/Findings

- Preliminary tests indicate that the materials remain crystalline upon NOx exposure for 24 hrs
- XRD studies reveal noticeable peak shifts to the right in the higher two-theta region indicative of host-guest interactions
- Correlated and complimentary VASP modeling to describe MOF strength and acid gas binding energies.
- Refs for RE-MOFs:  
Dalton Trans., 2016, 45, 928  
Anal.Chem, 2013, 85, 22, 11020  
ACS Appl Mater Inter. 2017, 9, 22268



**Rare Earth (RE) metals**  
8 Fold coordination, but unsaturated  
enables energetically favorable bonding  
of acid gases to metal center

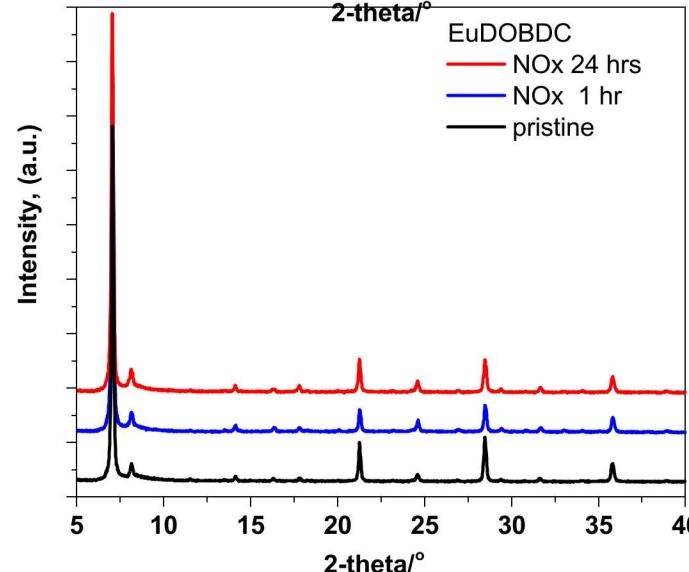
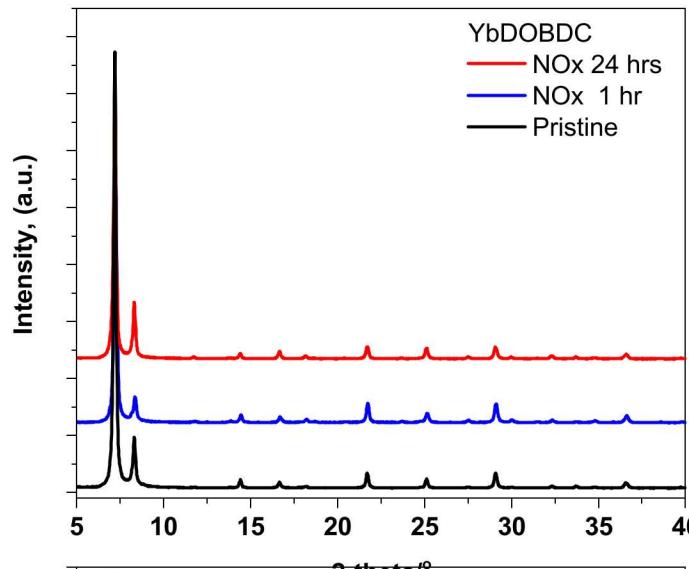
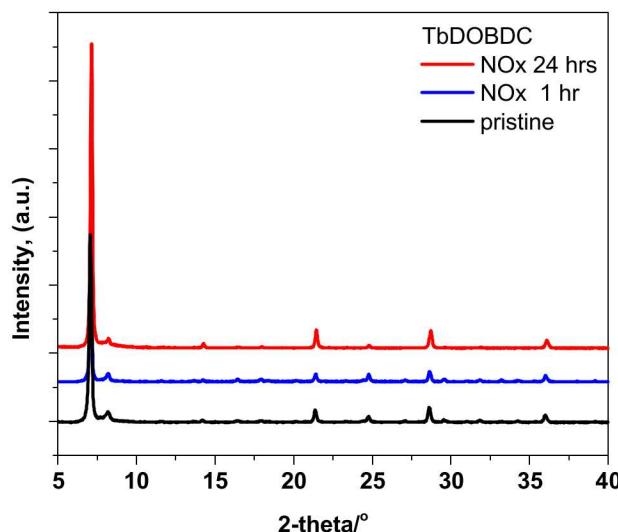
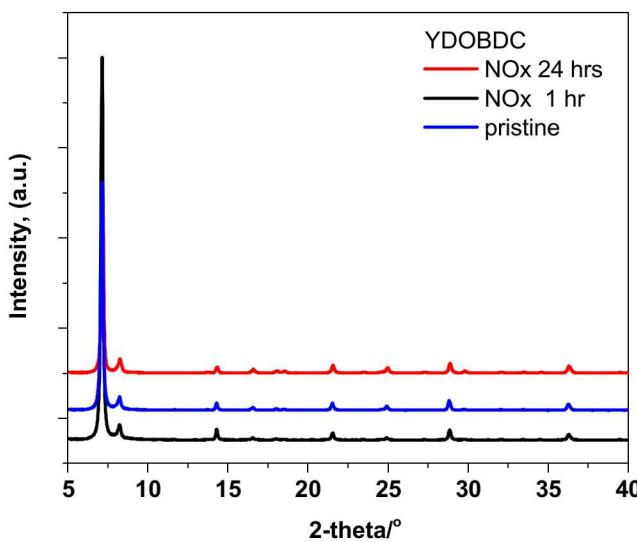
# XRD pre- and post- $\text{NO}_x$ exposure in M-DOBDC

## M=Y, Yb, Tb, Eu

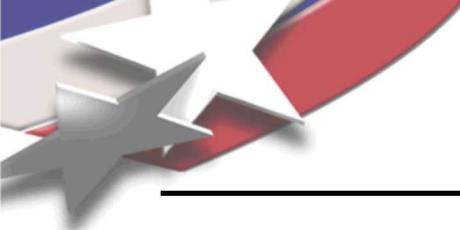
The  $\text{NO}_x$  was generated in an adsorption chamber at room temperature

**1<sup>st</sup> step:** Generation of nitrous acid via acidification with  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$   
 $2 \text{ NaNO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow 2 \text{ HNO}_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$

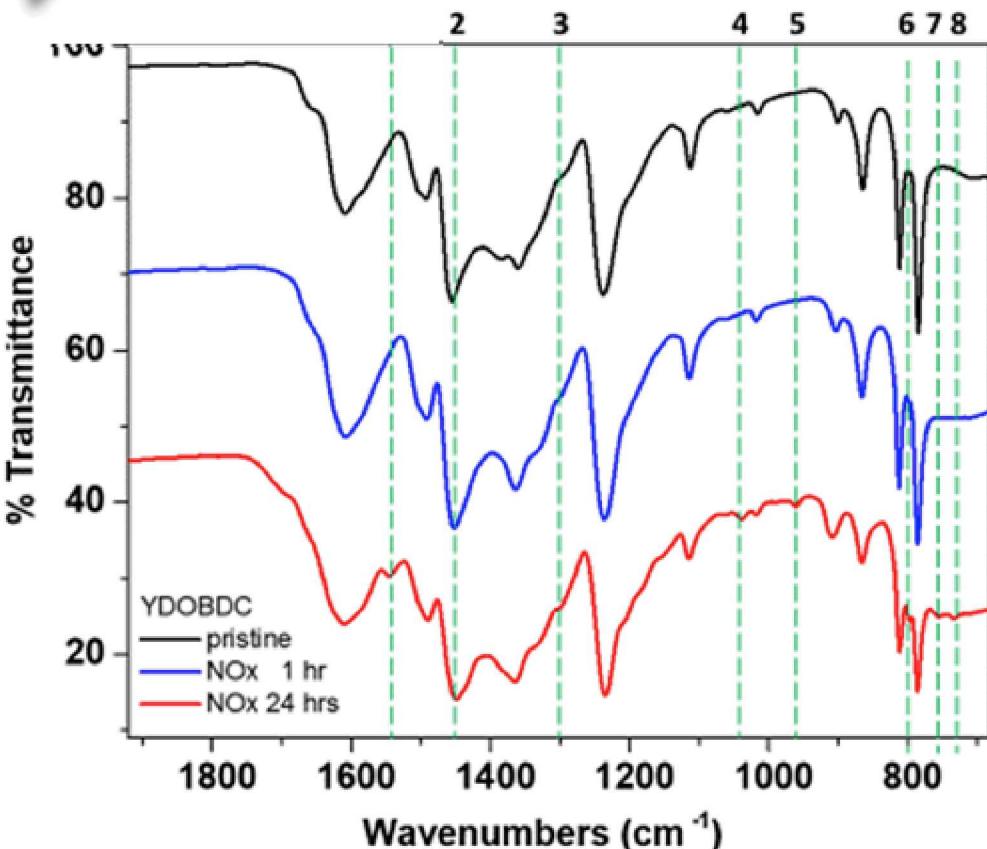
**2<sup>nd</sup> step:** Nitrous acid decomposition  
 $2 \text{ HNO}_2 \rightarrow \text{NO}_2 + \text{NO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$



No change in XRD patterns after 24 hr exposure



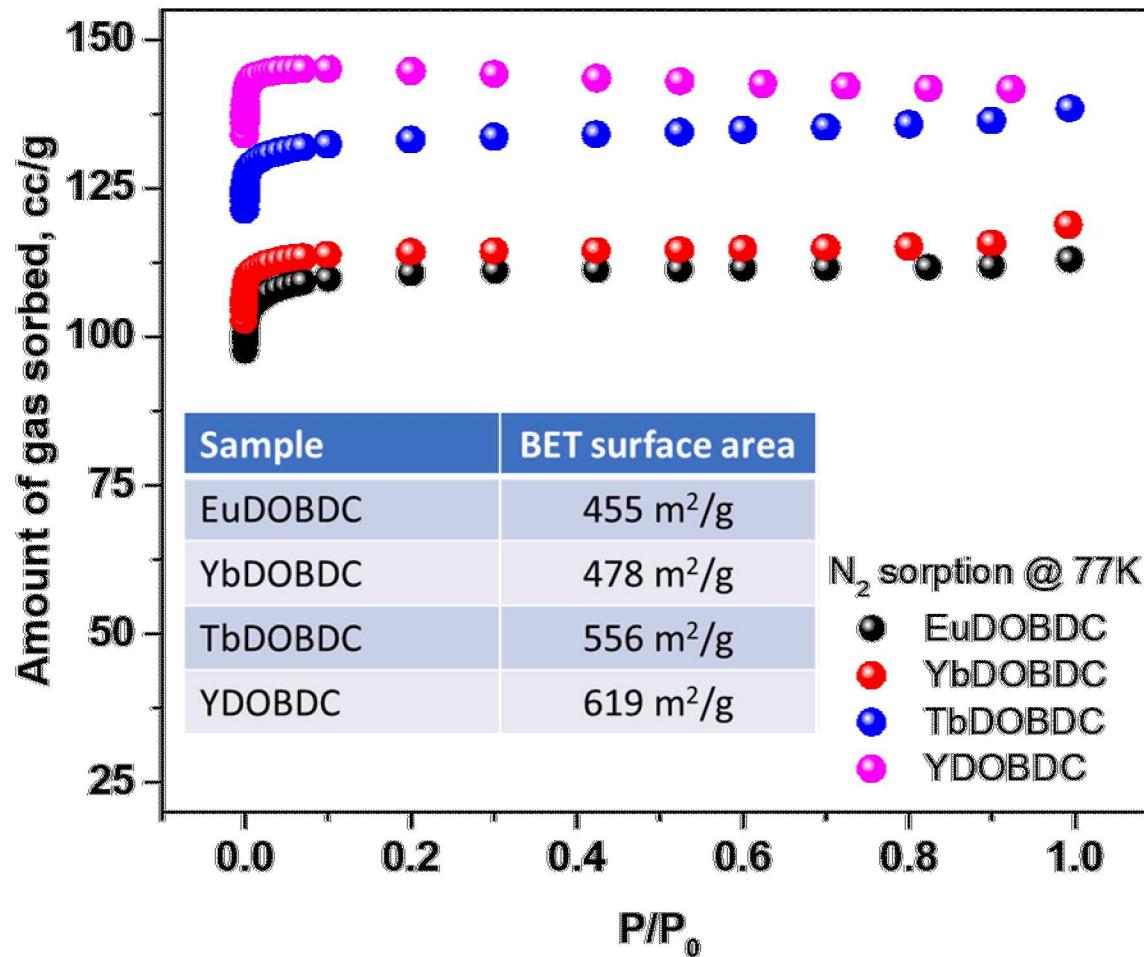
# IR data showing NOx species (new peaks, broader peaks, etc)

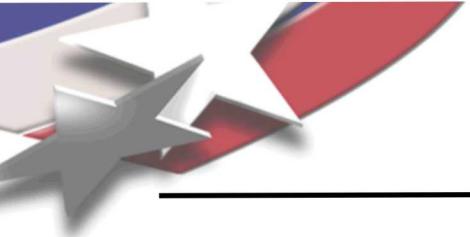


Peak number	Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Peak assignment
1	1544	Asym. NO <sub>2</sub> stretching
2	1489	N=O stretching
3	1297	Asym. NO <sub>2</sub> stretching
4	1037	Sym. stretching NO <sub>2</sub>
5	959	TBD
6	796	N-O stretching
7	755	NO <sub>2</sub> bending
8	732	NO <sub>2</sub> bending

Peak assessments gathered from *Chem. Mater.* 2017, 29, 4227

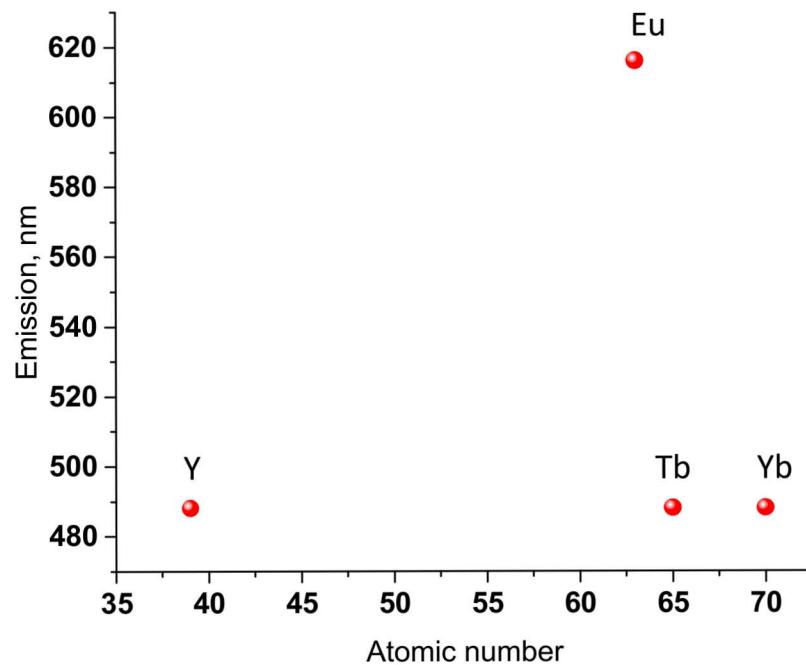
# BET adsorption data confirming open porosity





## Element atomic number vs. emission

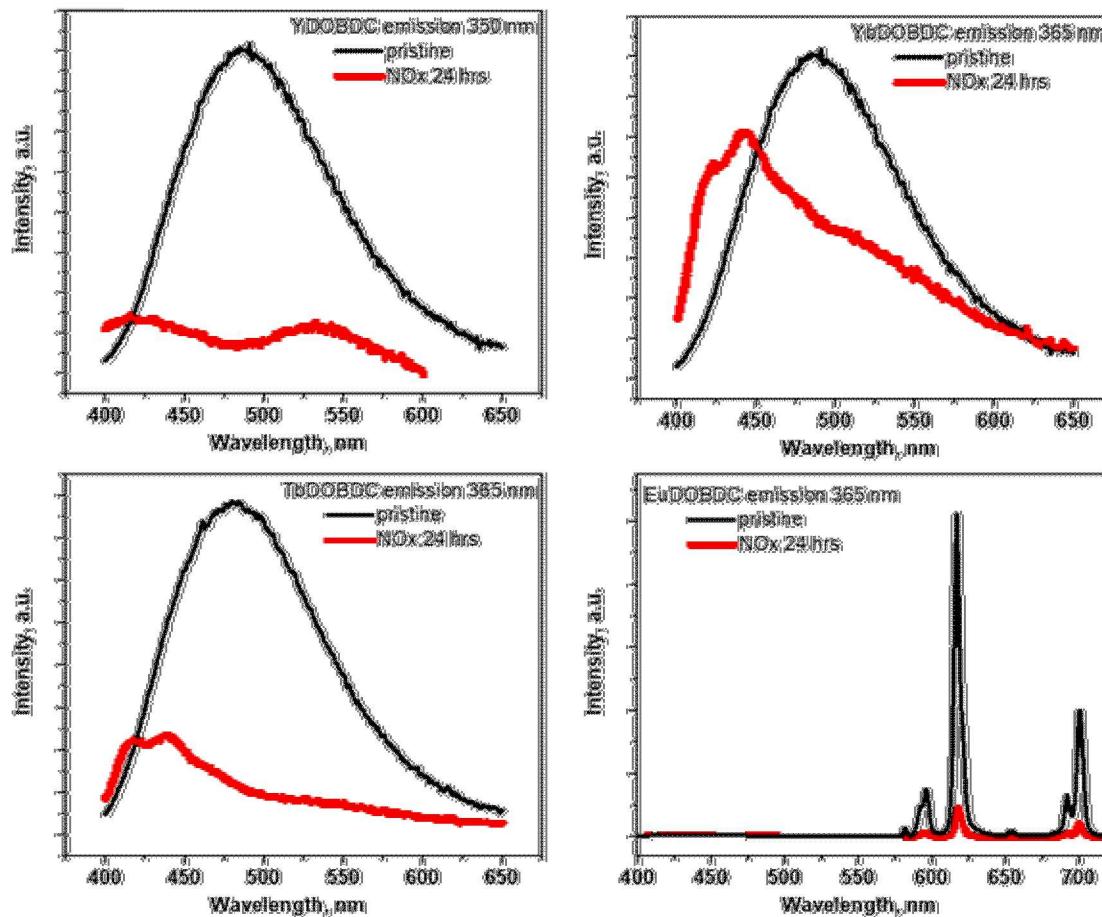
---





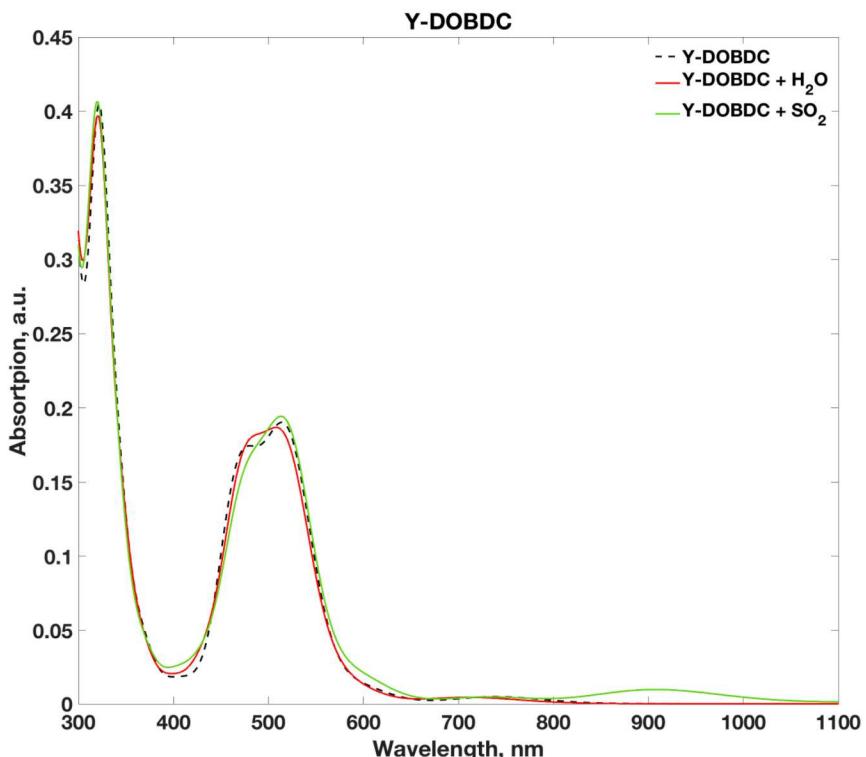
# Emission data per unique metal centers, only Eu has metal emission transitions

---

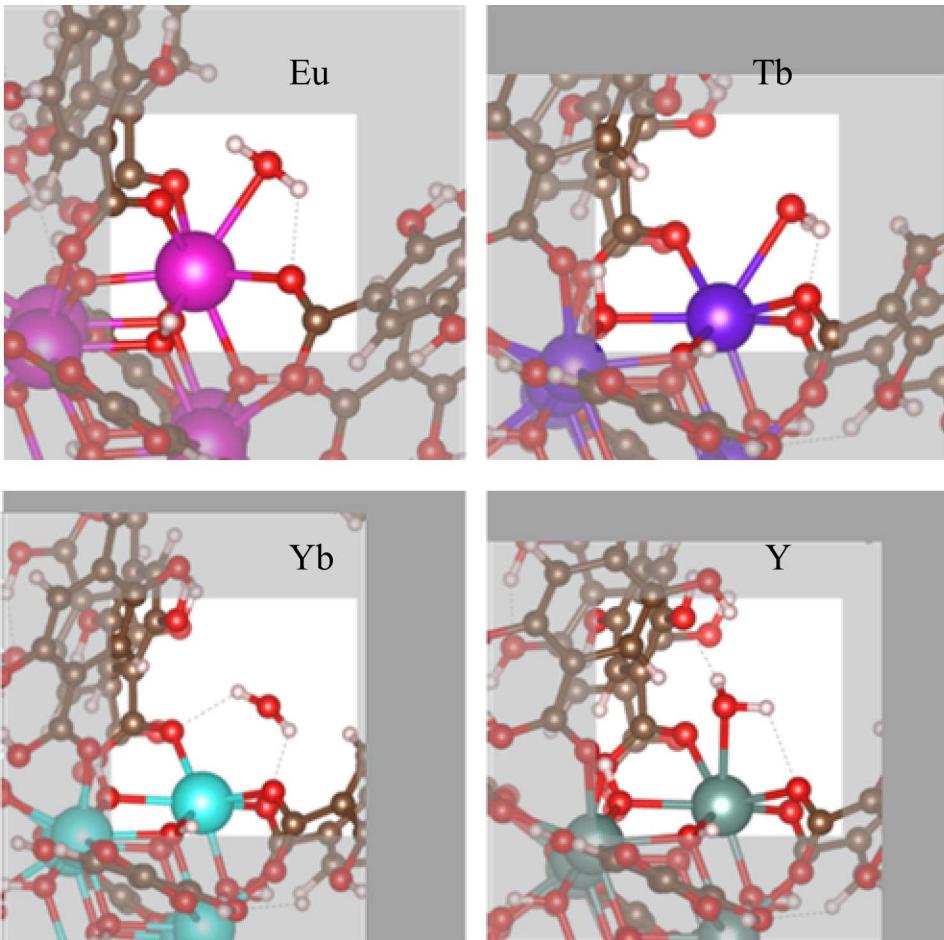


# Preliminary modeled emissions for M-DOBDC with $\text{SO}_2$ adsorbed, with $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ adsorbed

*See Jon Vogel's poster*



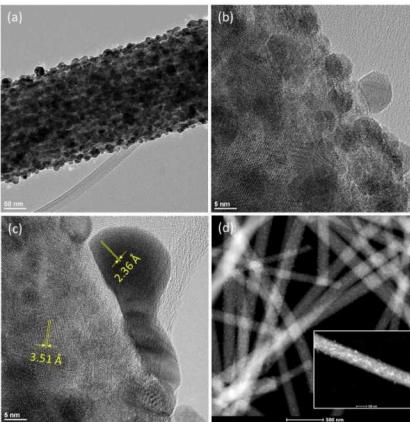
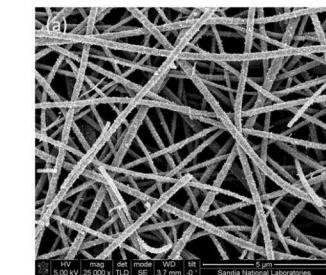
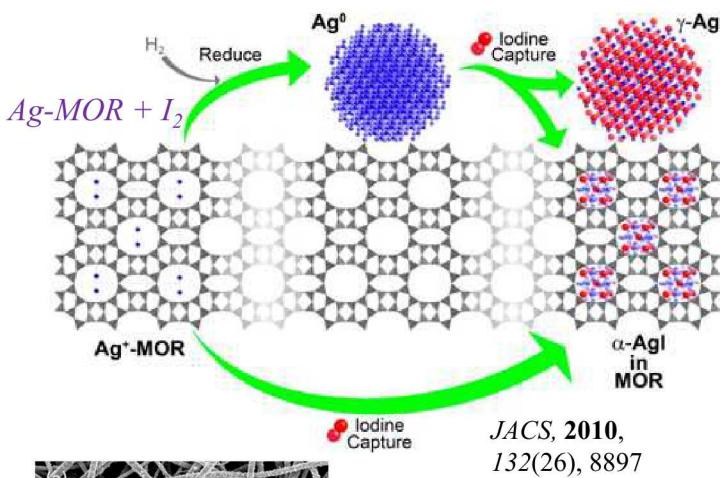
Optical emissions modeled  
Pre- and post adsorption of  $\text{SO}_2$



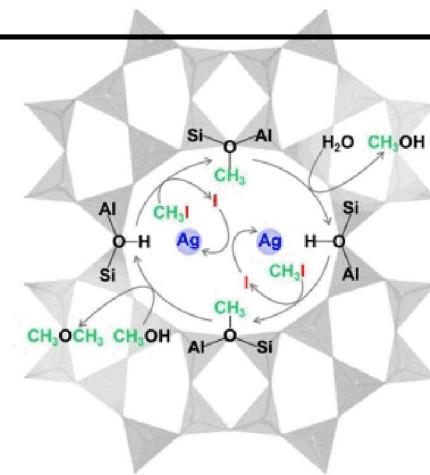
Ligand reorganization:  
Optimized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  gas interactions with  
metal centers

# Supported Nanoparticle Catalysts: Formation and Characterization

## I. Chemical loading, reduction and activity

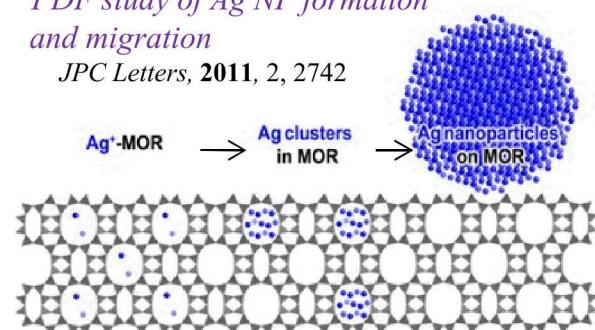


**II. Electrospun**  
**nonwoven  $TiO_2$**   
**crystalline mesoscale**  
**fibers & Ag,  $Ag^+$  spun,**  
**NPs reduced both in**  
**nanopores and on**  
**nanofibers. Also  $AgI$ ,**  
**and ZIF-8 NPs.**  
**Patent pending, 2019**  
**SAND2012-8025**



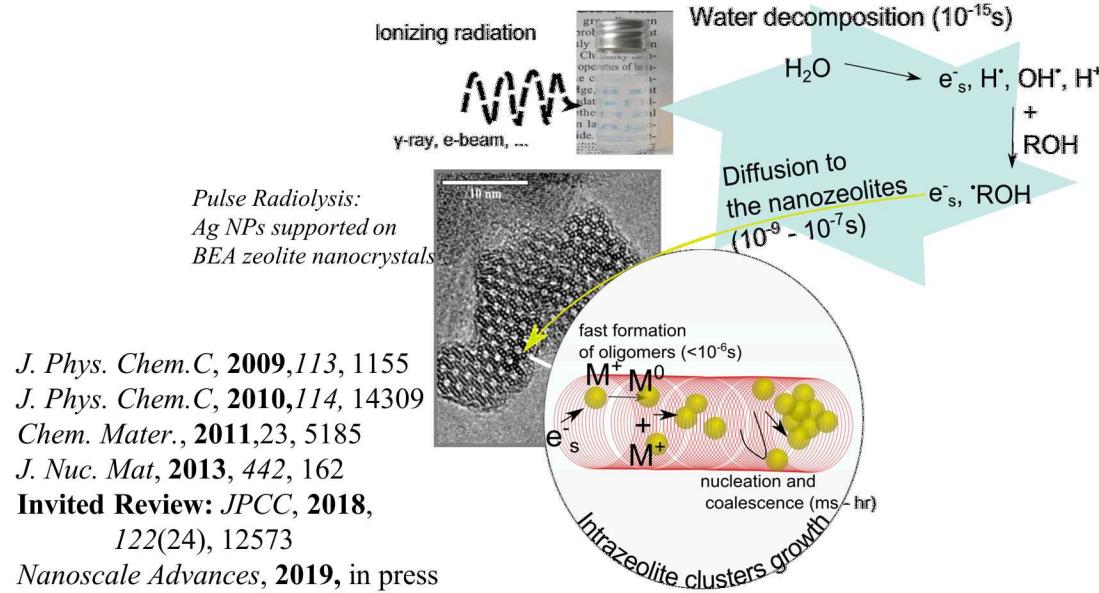
*PDF study of Ag NP formation and migration*

*JPC Letters, 2011, 2, 2742*



## III. Radiolysis for the generation of $e^-_{aq}$

*Chem reduction of metal salts NPs, free standing or supported*



# Materials Thrust 1 Project: In-situ PDF/IR studies of the formation of zeolite-supported nanoparticle catalysts. Tina Nenoff, SNL, Monthly Report

March 11, 2019

**Summary of Activities: Zeolite supported Ag nanoparticles: synthesis & characterization. Leveraged with GENESIS EFRC (K. W. Chapman) for in-situ simultaneous PDF/IR structural studies of mechanism and kinetics of NP formation.**

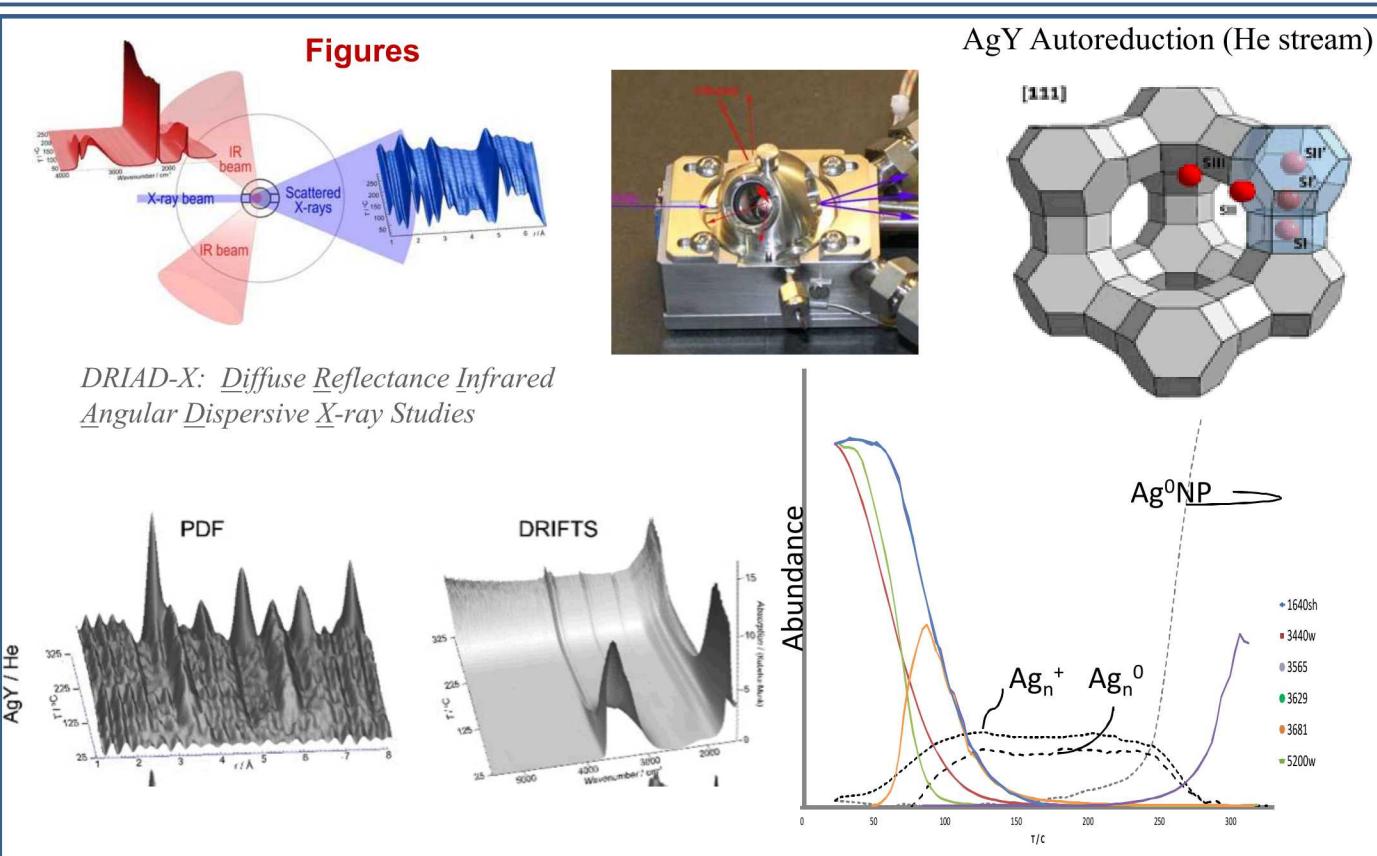
- Controlling the size and shape of nanoparticles is key to controlling their functional behavior. Functionality can deviate significantly from bulk materials properties such as in catalytic, optical, electronic behaviors.
- Understanding how the size and structure of NPs evolve during synthesis and how they are influenced by a support is critically important for optimization of their activity.
- Determining the mechanisms of NP formation with respect to occluded water & temperature. Plus transport properties of the NPs in pores.

## Activities- On going

- (FAU/Y, MOR, A) zeolites of varying:
  - Pore size
  - Pore topology
  - Si/Al ratio
- NP formation either in reforming stream ( $H_2/He$ ) or autocatalytic (He)
- Monitor Ag nanoparticles

**Formation:** address the

- role of water and dehydration of occluded pore waters on NP phase ( $AgO$  vs  $Ag$ )
- transport/location in zeolite,
- mechanism from ion to cluster to NP

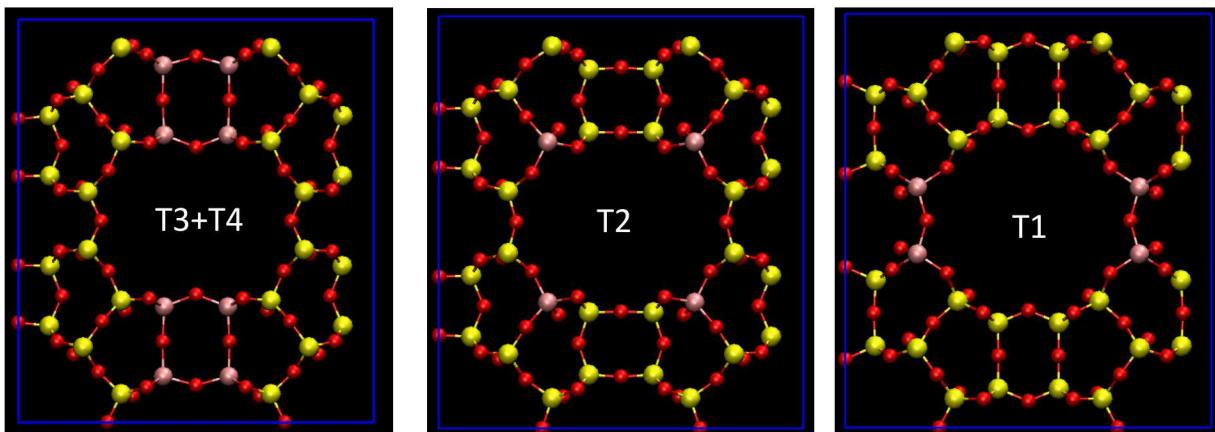


# Modeling of $\text{Ag}^+$ nanoparticles in zeolites to support experimental findings

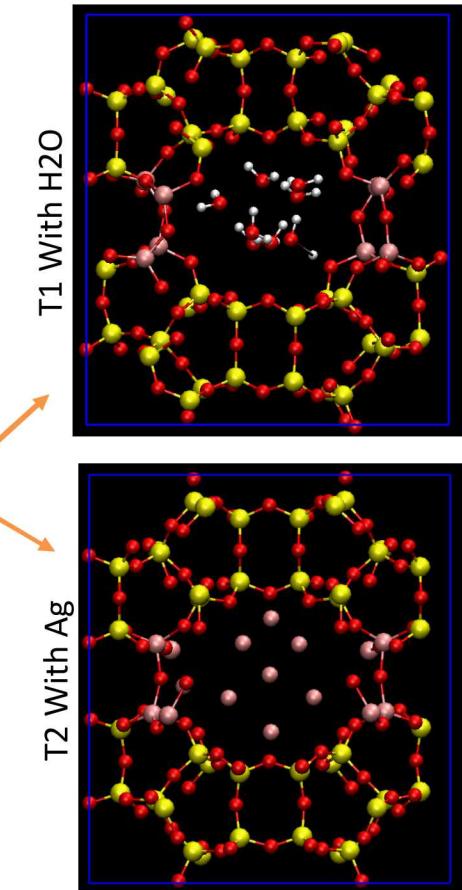
Jessica Rimsza, SNL

## Structure:

- Mordenite (MOR) framework
- Si/Al ratio = 5
- Energetics of  $\text{Ag}^+$  formation in main channel and side pocket

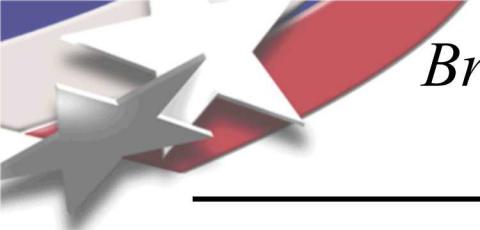


Snapshots of MOR framework structures with Al in four different tetrahedral locations (T1, T2, and T3+T4). Colors: silicon (yellow), oxygen (red), and aluminum (pink)



## Computational Methods:

- Vienna *ab initio* Simulation Program (VASP)
- Periodic electronic structure calculations
- Methfessel-Paxton scheme with smearing of 0.1eV
- Gamma k-point sampling, 500eV energy cut-off



# Broader Question: Does Dehydration play a role in Ag-Zeolite nanoparticle formation?

---

## **PDF + DRIFTS provides both complimentary methods**

X-ray see heavy species well (Ag) but not the surface molecules (H<sub>2</sub>O, OH, etc) that control the surface chemistries of the zeolites:



## **Ag nanoparticle formation induced by: Reduction or Dehydration?**

### **Experiment:**

#### **Variable temperature PDF + DRIFTS studies in reducing & inert atmosphere**

- Three zeolites of differing framework and pores structure, and Si/Al ratio
- Heat 25 - 330°C while collecting data
- Monitor NP formation with transitions in water/hydroxides bonding & presence in zeolite
- Determine most important parameters & mechanisms



T. M. Nenoff, [tmnenof@sandia.gov](mailto:tmnenof@sandia.gov)

Office of  
Science

Georgia Institute  
of Technology

OAK RIDGE  
National Laboratory

Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
ALABAMA

PENNSTATE  
1855

LEHIGH  
UNIVERSITY

Washington  
University in St. Louis

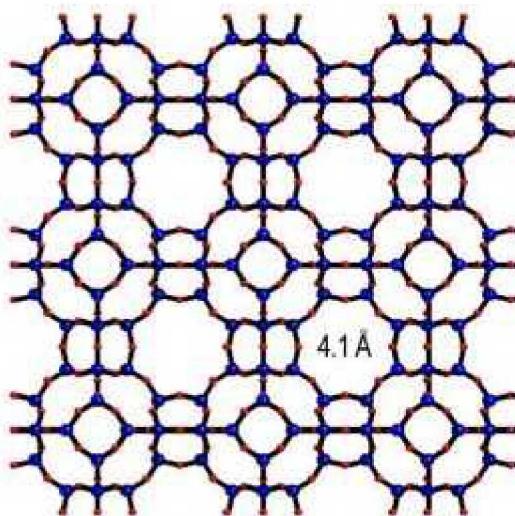
WISCONSIN  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

UNCAGE ME



## Tuning the reaction environment in other zeolites

---

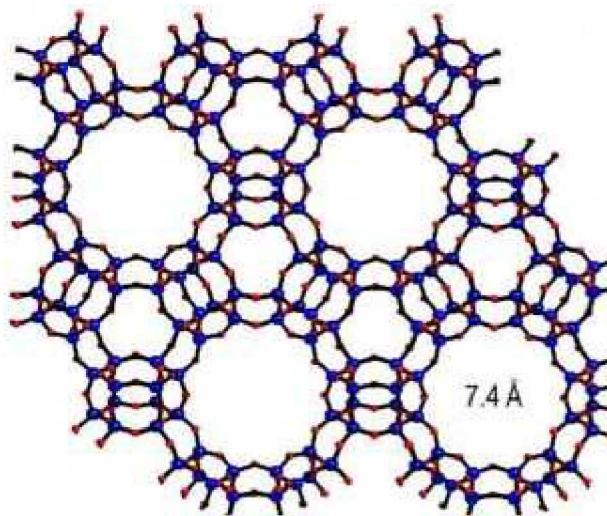


LTA (A)

Si/Al = 1

Most Ag<sup>+</sup>  
/surface -OH

Small pores only

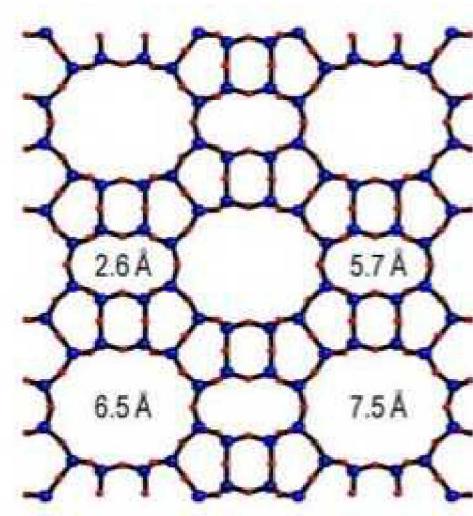


FAU (Y)

Si/Al = 2.4

Intermediate Ag<sup>+</sup>  
/surface -OH

Large pores



MOR

Si/Al = 5

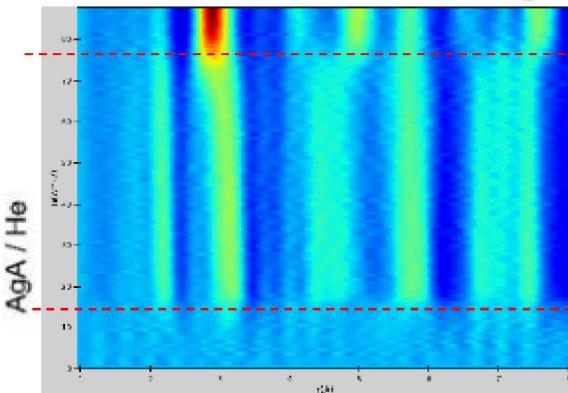
Least Ag<sup>+</sup>  
/surface -OH

Large & small pores

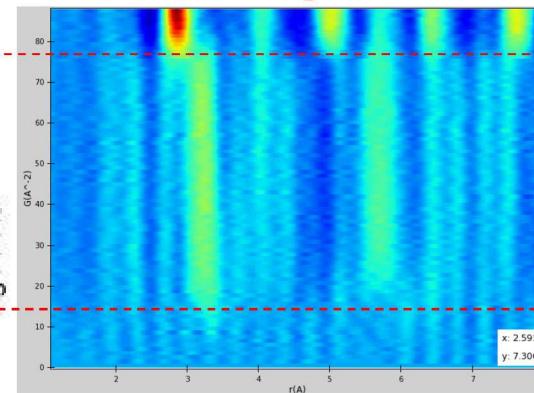
# Nanoparticle formation pathway varies widely

Different onset temperatures, stability window for Ag clusters, final NP size

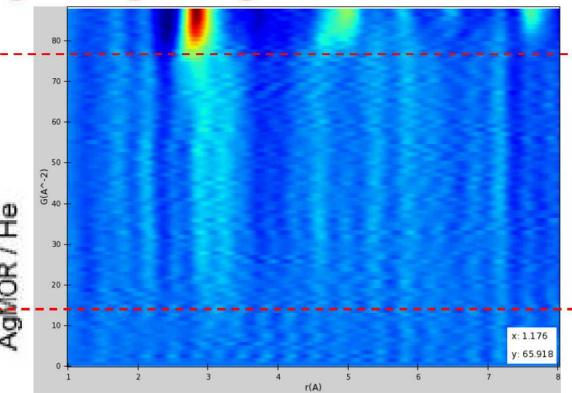
*Inert atmosphere: Small clusters persist over large temp range*



LTA (A)

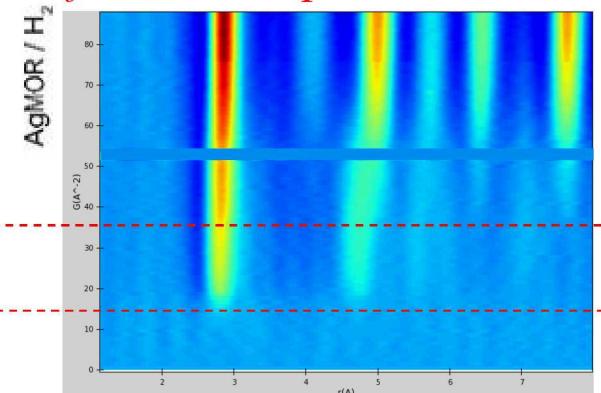
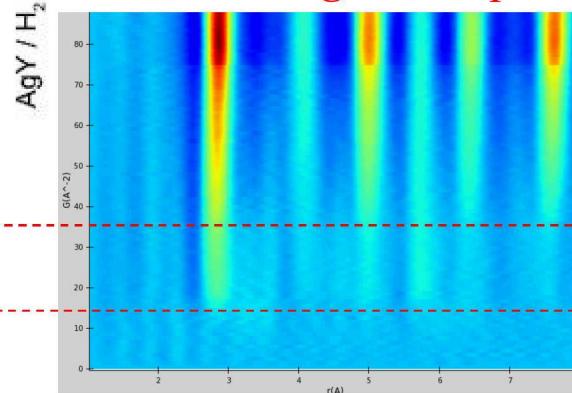
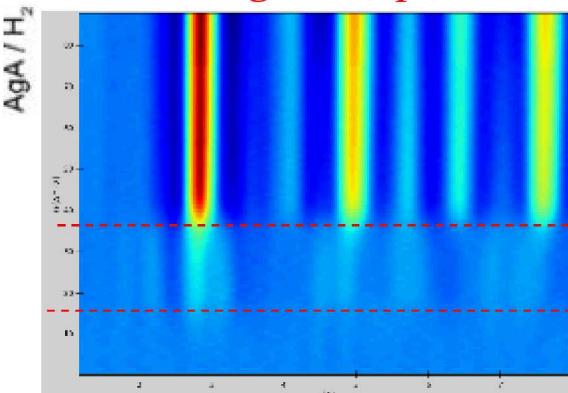


FAU (Y)



MOR

*Reducing atmosphere: Small clusters & larger nanoparticles form  $\sim$  in rapid succession*



# Filling in the missing pieces - PDF<sup>+</sup>

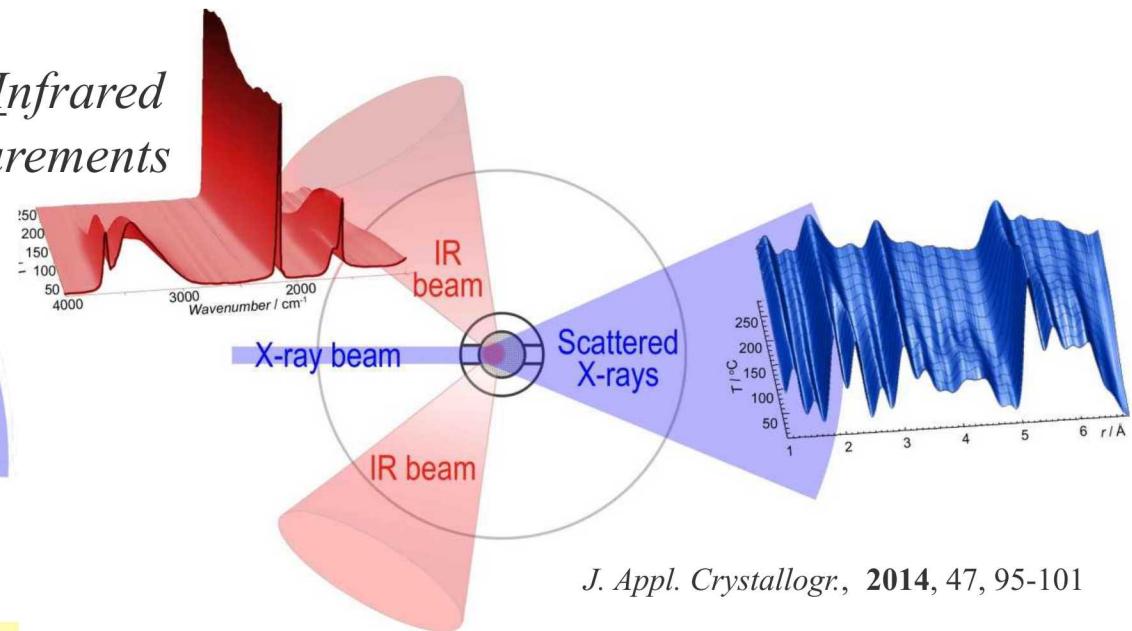
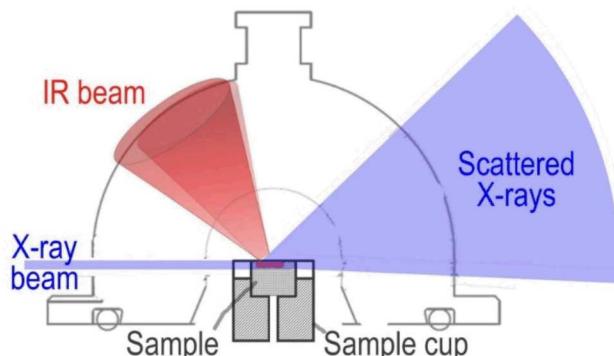
## *Complementary insights from multimodal measurements*

*What role does dehydration play in the Ag nanoparticle formation?*



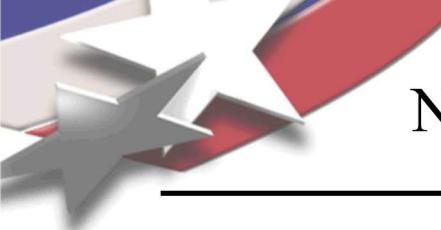
- The PDF signal is dominated by high Z species
- Complementary, compatible infra-red spectroscopy is sensitive surface species (H<sub>2</sub>O/OH)

### *DRIAD-X: Diffuse Reflectance Infrared Angular Dispersive X-ray Measurements*



*J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, 2014, 47, 95-101

In collaboration with  
Prof. Karena Chapman, Stonybrook  
GENESIS EFRC



# New approaches to quantify chemical reactivity

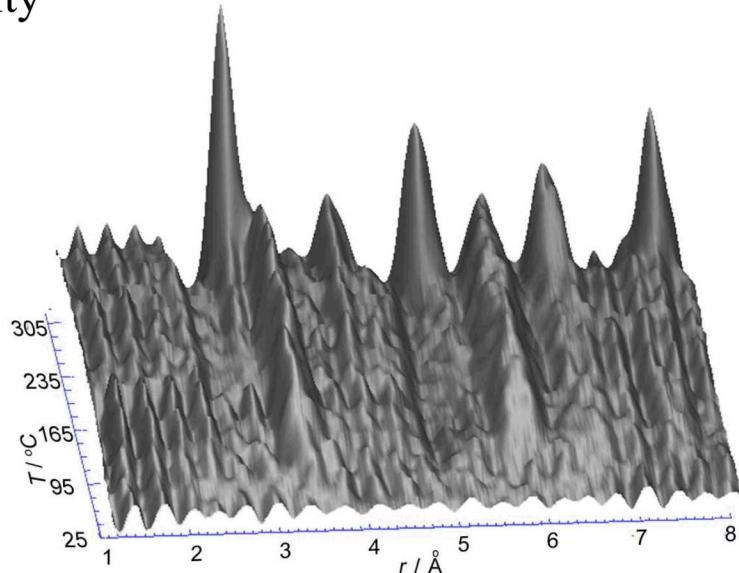
---

## *Operando PDF*

- Captures entire reaction
- Provides detailed structure mechanism and quantitative kinetics

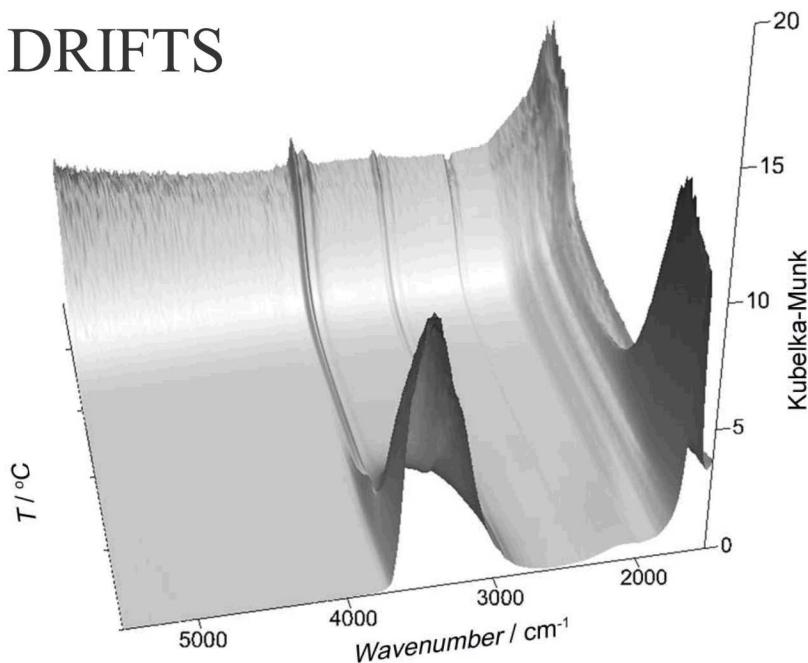
## *Multimodal measurements (PDF+IR)*

- Provides enhanced chemical insight & sensitivity
- Because a singular sample is being probed simultaneously, data can be compared directly without offsets associated with different sample environments

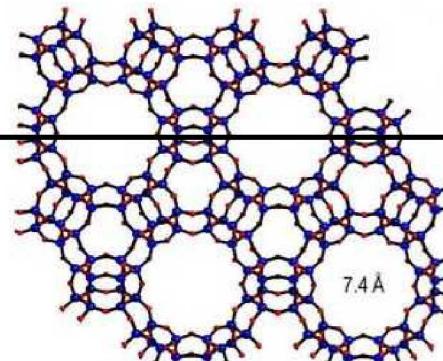
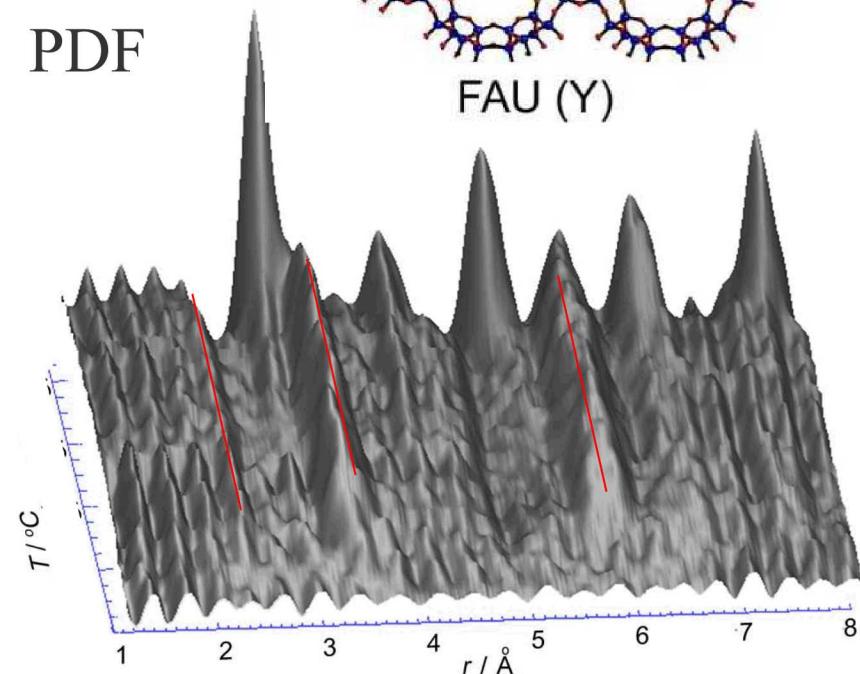


# Example of AgY Autoreduction

DRIFTS



PDF



FAU (Y)

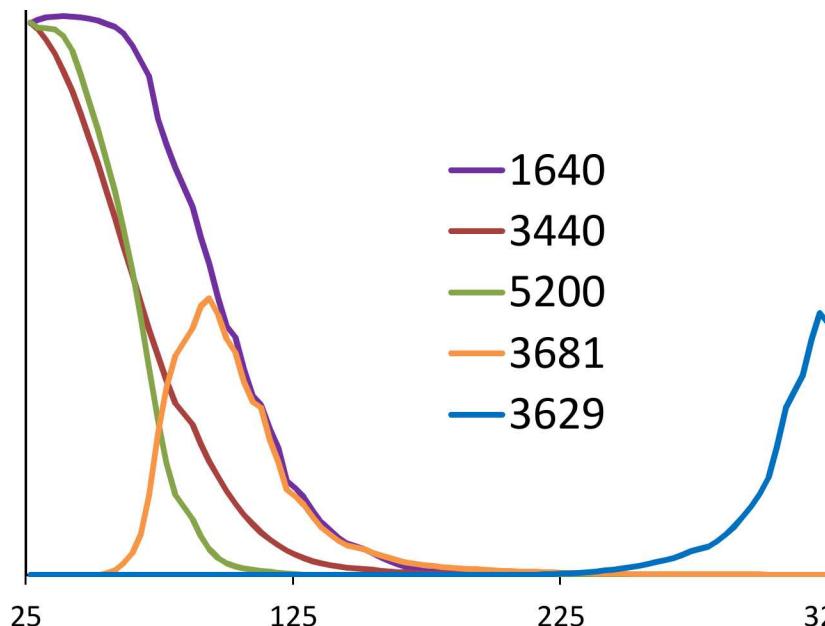
- 1)  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , OH stretches eliminated, then
- 2) Reflectivity decreases

- 1) nm scale  $\text{Ag}_2\text{O}$  nanoparticle intermediate
- 2) Larger Ag nanoparticles

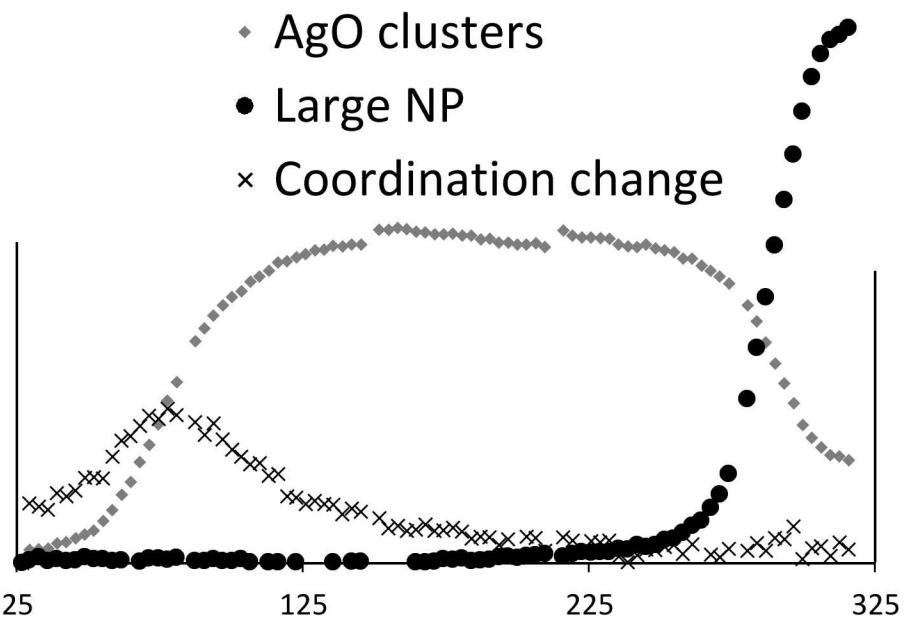
# Correlating surface chemistry & NP formation

Surface chemistry governs cluster mobility and aggregation

DRIFTS



PDF



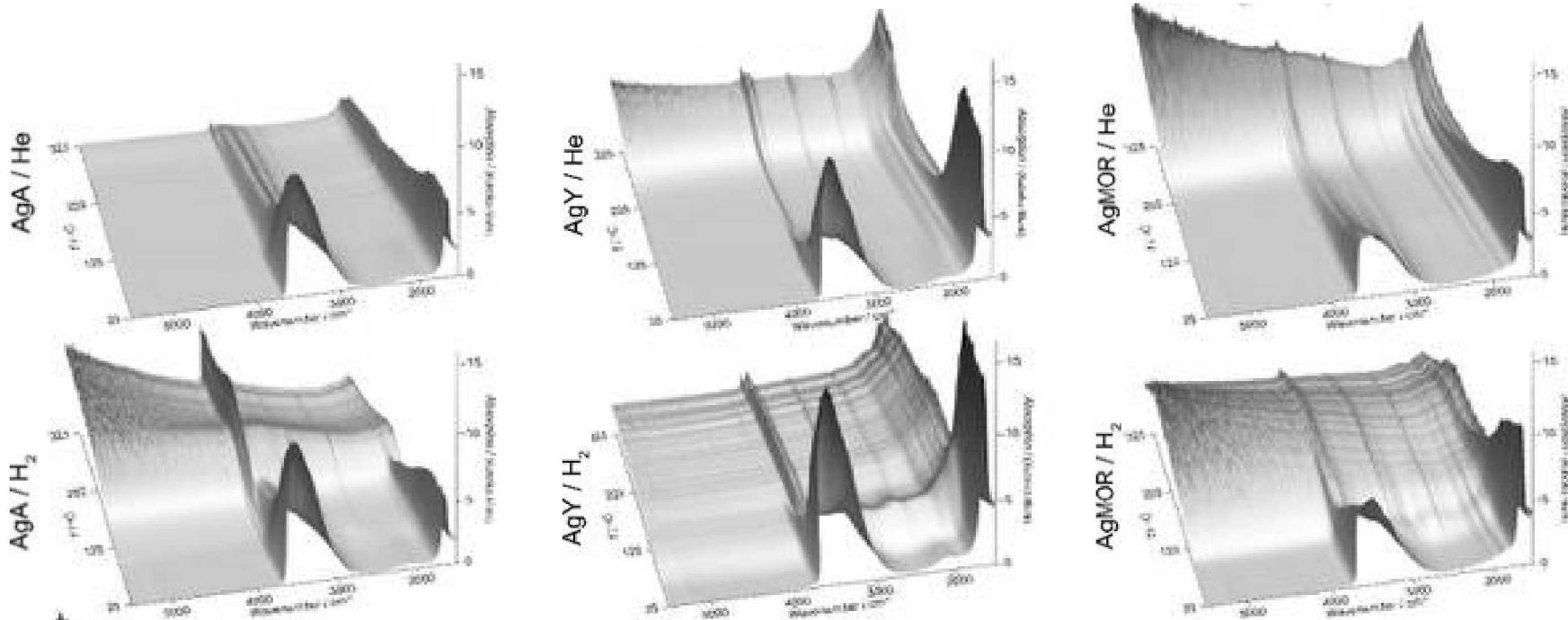
Thermal formation of small clusters (coinciding with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  loss)  
In a reducing environmental, no formation of oxide

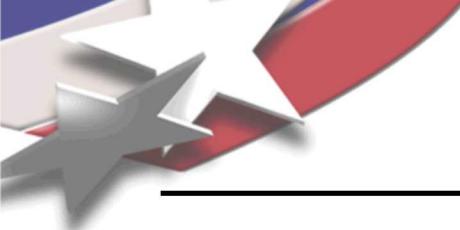


# DRIFTS shows water and surface OH species

---

Loss of water and hydroxyl species evident in DRIFTS. Increasing baseline





# Highlights and Goals

---

## Highlights from first 6 months:

- 1) New start in EFRC, hired 1 postdoc (modeling) and 1 undergrad (synthesis) who have already started on project, offer out and accepted for another postdoc (synthesis/characterization of zeolites and MOFs)
- 2) Proof of structural stability of Sandia La-DOBDC MOFs to NO<sub>x</sub> acid gas, supported by materials characterization (PXRD, IR, TGA-MS)
- 3) Collected structural and IR data at APS/ANL on catalytic Ag-zeolites (Fau(Y), Mordenite (MOR), Zeolite A) over temp range of RT-500K, analysis underway of correlations of dehydration of occluded pore water molecules and cluster/nanoparticle formation

## Future Goals (Next 12 months):

- 1) Mixed caustic gas studies of RE-MOF series, adsorption (at GA Tech) and structural analysis (at SNS/ORNL), publish 2 papers
- 2) Successfully establish relationships between zeolites, temperature, nanoparticle formation mechanisms & mobility kinetics, publish 1 paper
- 3) Design next generation caustic gas stable RE-MOFs from DFT/AIMD modeling predictions, associated synthesis, characterization and testing (1-2 papers)



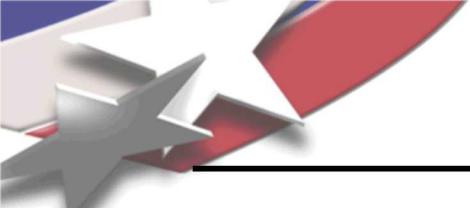
# Publications & Presentations FY19, to date

Pubs

Title	Journal	Author(s)	Vol.	Iss.	Pub. Date	Page #'s	DOI	Status
Iodine detection on Ag-Mordenite based sensors: Charge Conduction pathway determinations	Micro. Meso. Mater.	Small, L.; Krumhansl, J.L.; Rademacher, D.X.; Nenoff, T.M.	280		2019	82-87	10.1016/j.micromeso.2019.01.051	
Synthesis of Rare Earth Nanostructures using In-situ Liquid Cell Transmission Electron Microscopy	Nanoscale Advances	Taylor, C.A.; Nenoff, T. M.; Pratt, S.H.; Hattar, K.						Submitted
Uncovering the structural properties of catalytic silver clusters and nanoparticles confined in zeolites		Chapman, K. W.; Nenoff, T. M.						In Preparation
Adsortive Capture of Caustic Gases in Robust Metal-organic Framework Materials		Zhang, X.; Nenoff, T.M.; Yang, S.; Schröder						In preparation

Pres

Title	Conference Name	Author(s)	Date	Location	Comment (keynote, session chair, etc)
Nanoparticles and Zeolites for Energy and Environmental Applications	Univ. FL, Material science and Nuclear Engineering Dept	Tina M. Nenoff, Leo J. Small,* Karena W. Chapman, Peter J. Chupas	10/02/18	Gainesville, FL	Invited Speaker
Direct Electrical Detection of Target Gases by a Novel Metal Organic Framework (MOF) Based Sensor	MOF2018	Tina M. Nenoff, Leo J. Small, Sihai Yang, Martin Schröder	12/11/18	Auckland, New Zealand	Keynote lecture
Structure-property Relationships in Nanoporous Inorganic Frameworks: How the Pore Determines the Bulk Scale Energy & Environmental Applications	SNS/ORNL Seminar Series	Tina M. Nenoff,* Dorina Sava Gallis, Grace Vincent, Karena W. Chapman, Luke Daemon	3/12/19	Oak Ridge, TN, USA	Invited Speaker
Nanoscale manipulation of metal organic frameworks for tuned energy and environmental applications	Aminoff Symposium, Swedish Academy of Sciences	Tina M. Nenoff, Dorina Sava Gallis, Grace Vincent, D. Jon Vogel, Jessica Rimsza, Karena W. Chapman	4/1/19	Stockholm, Sweden	Invited Speaker



# Acknowledgements

---

## For Projects Highlighted herein

### Sandia National Labs:

Dorina Sava Gallis

Grace Vincent

Mark A. Rodriguez

Jon Vogel

David X. Rademacher

Lauren Rohwer

### Stonybrook University:

Karena W. Chapman

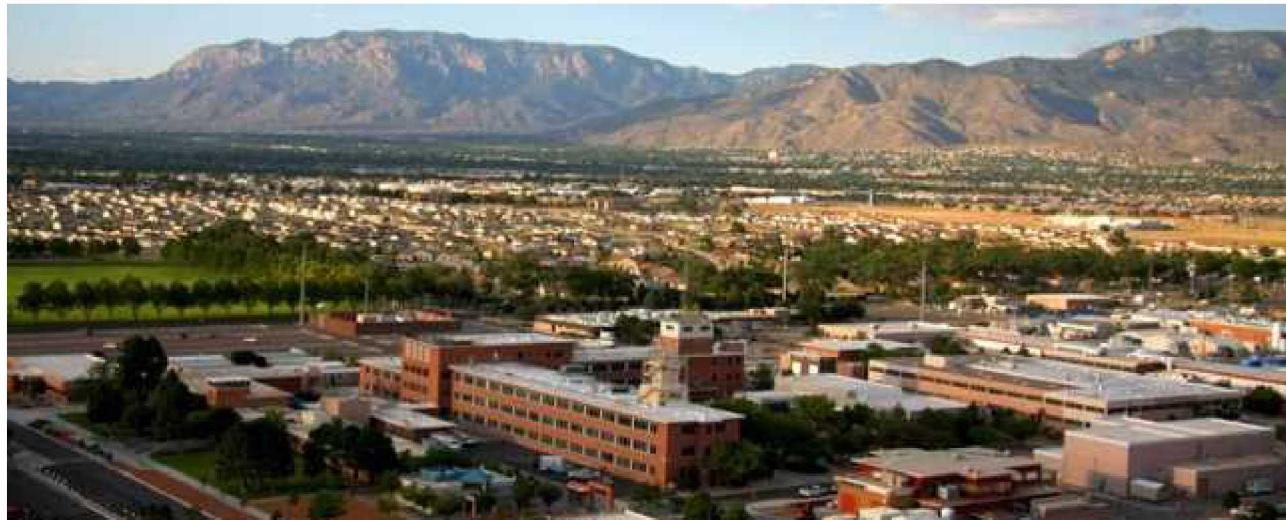
### ORNL/SNS:

Katharine Page

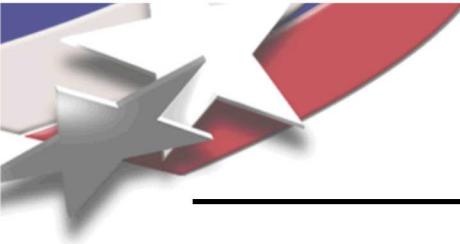
Luke L. Daemon

## Funding Agencies:

DOE/BES/EFRC- *UNCAGE-ME*



**Sandia National Labs  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**



---

# Questions? / Thank you

