



National Institute for Nano Engineering

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Stress-Induced Chemical Detection Using Flexible Coordination Polymers

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MOFs: "Molecular Tinker Toys" lead to record-breaking materials

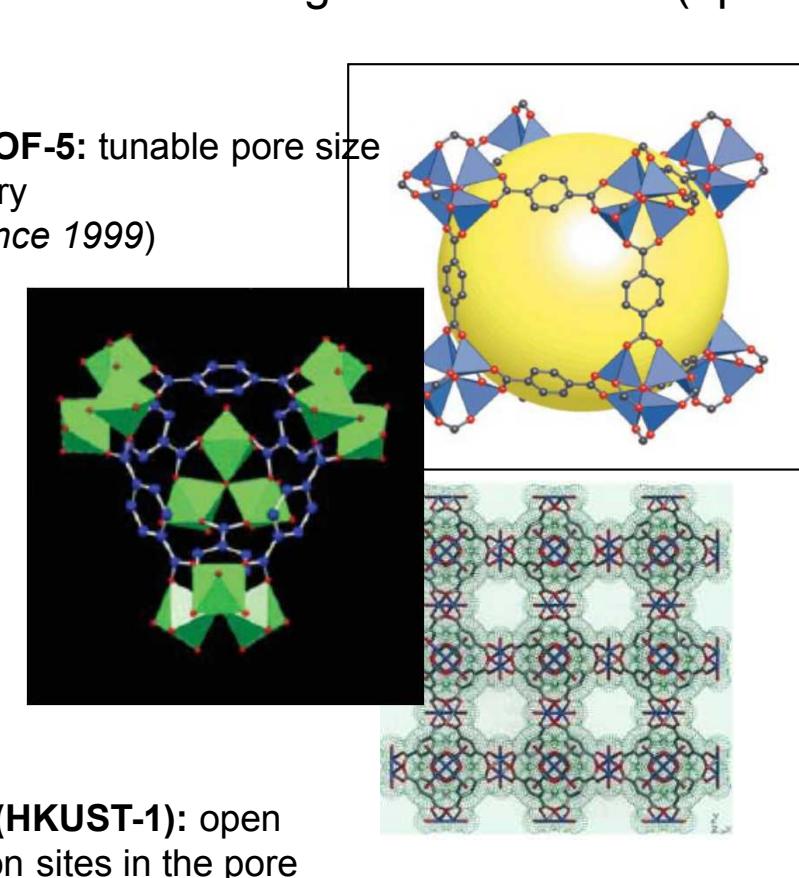
Issues with nanoporous materials:

- Distribution of pore sizes, properties
- Surface chemistry is difficult to control
- Synthetic templates may be required
- Growth on surfaces is problematic

Many potential applications:

- Chemical sensors
- Decontamination
- Water purification
- H_2 and CO_2 storage
- Nanoscale templates
- Drug delivery
- Catalysts
- Separations/chromatography

"Isoreticular" MOF-5: tunable pore size and pore chemistry (Yaghi et al. *Science* 1999)



$Cr MIL: 6000 m^2/g$ (Férey et al., *Science* 2005)

A Solution: Metal-organic frameworks

- Metal cations bridged by organic ligands
- Rigid structures, permanent porosity
- Tunable pore size (1-5 nm), chemistry
- Ultrahigh surface areas (up to 6,000 m^2/g)

Approach: Define canonical MOFs, Leverage Sandia capabilities, Collaborate to accelerate startup

Define

Task 1: Synthesis & Properties

Properties

Data for model validation

Identify MOF suites for SNL missions:

- Chem/bio/radiation detection
- Water purification
- Enhanced surveillance
- Efficient separations

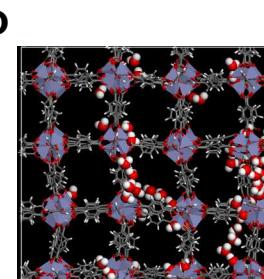
Leverage

- Nanopore models (6316)
- Chemical synthesis (8700)
- Materials integration (8300)

Task 2: Validated confined-space models

Link nanoscale environment to observable properties

- Ab initio calculations
- Force-field development
- Transport models



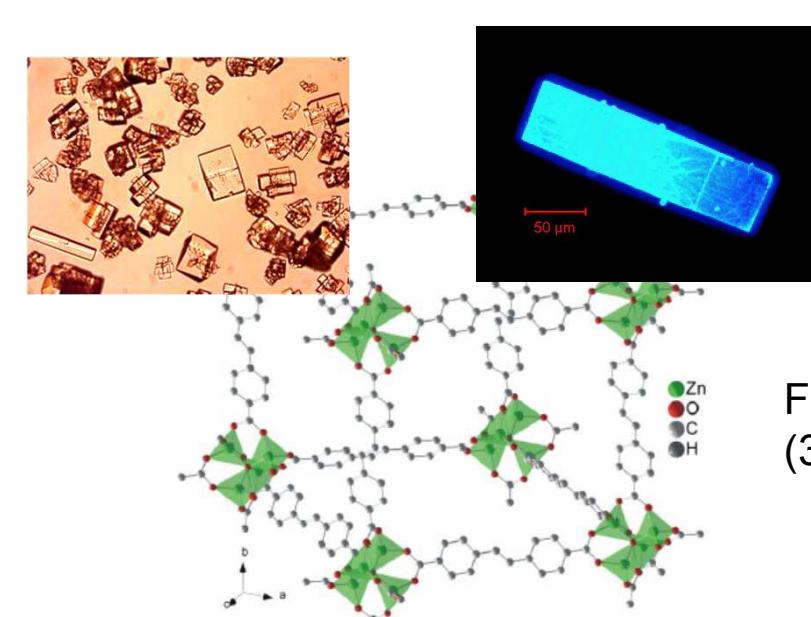
Collaborate

NMHU

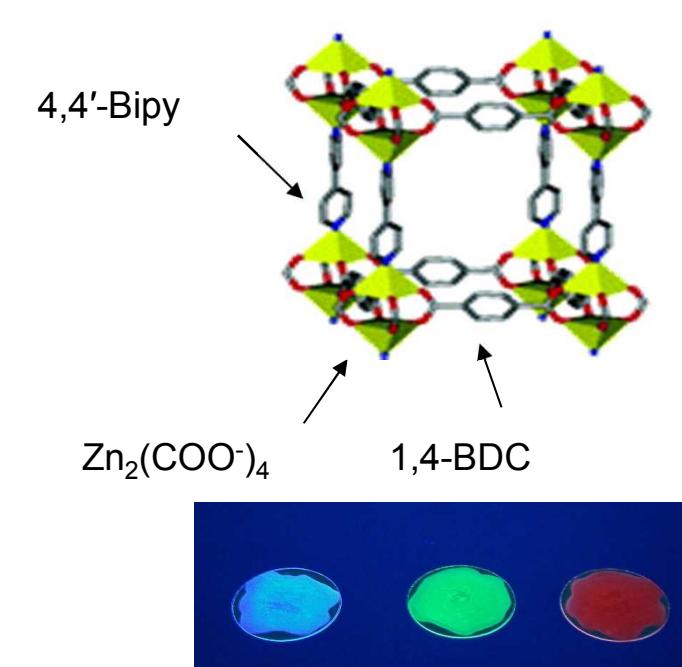
Georgia Institute of Technology

COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY

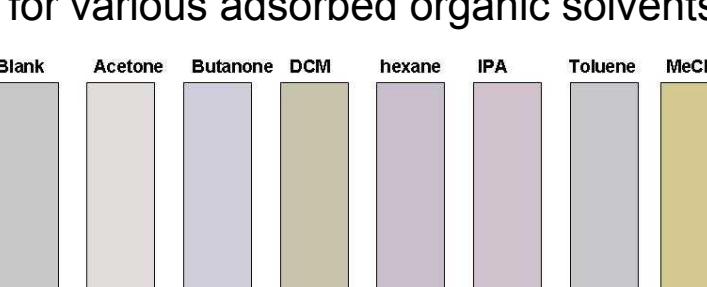
New fluorescent MOFs: nanoporous materials for selective chemical detection



Fluorescence emission (325 nm excitation)



Above: Empty MOF (blue); infused with Tb (green) and Eu (red) immobilized in a polymer film under 254-nm light. Below: color signatures for various adsorbed organic solvents



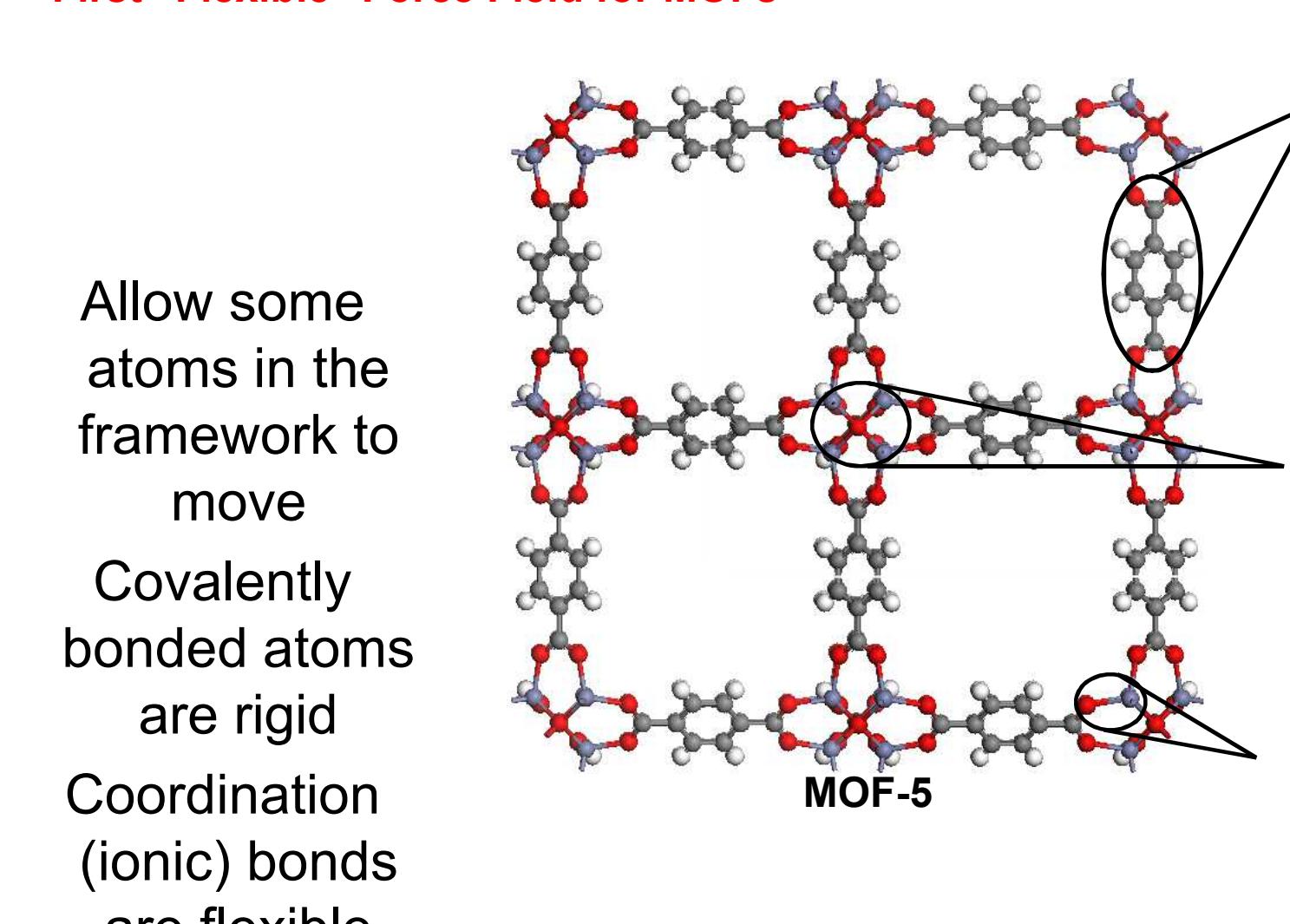
IRMOF-S1: An isotropic, nanoporous cage with a high-efficiency fluorophore

Bauer, Allendorf et al. *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* 129 (2007), 7136

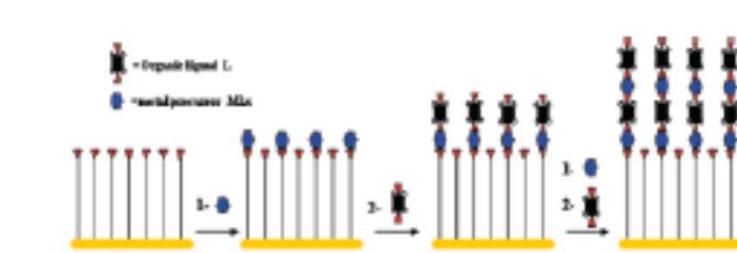
Infiltration with Lanthoid elements: adsorbed molecules generate unique color signatures Allendorf and Houk, *TA* filed, 2008

Structural non-rigidity in MOFs requires a radically different approach to atomistic modeling

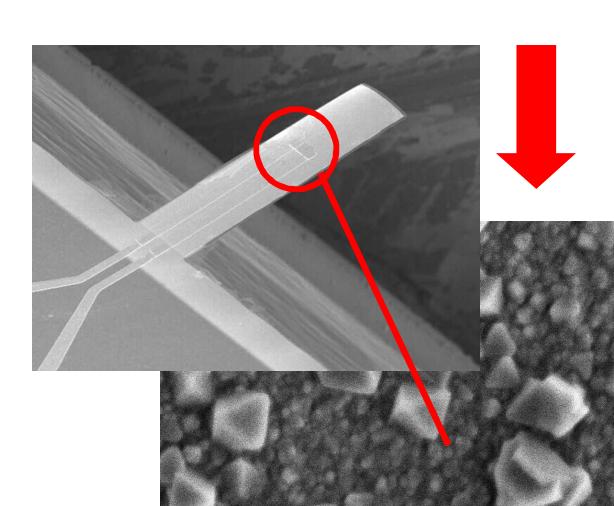
First "Flexible" Force Field for MOFs



Integrating MOFs with surfaces is essential to incorporate MOFs into sensors and electronic devices



Step-by-step growth method implemented to adapt MOFs to MEMS and other devices



Bahr, Allendorf, et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 2007, 76, 184106

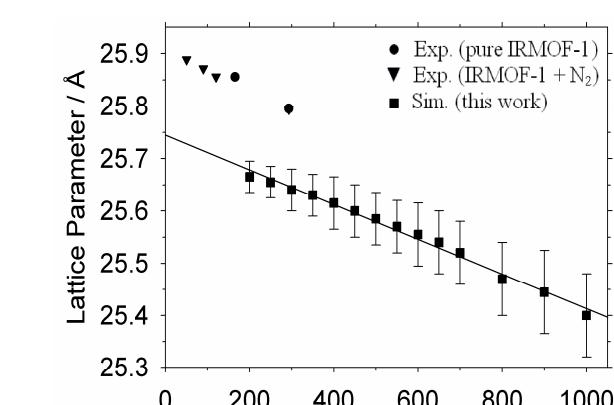
Rigid Bonding

Nonbonded Interactions

Zn and Inorganic Oxygen

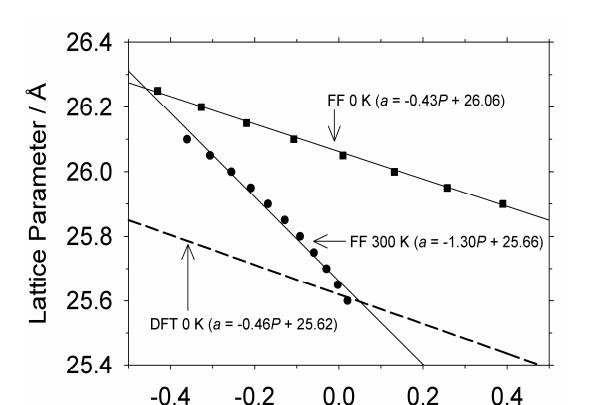
Zn and O_{BDC}

Flexible force field proves to be a robust tool for simulating a wide spectrum of MOF properties



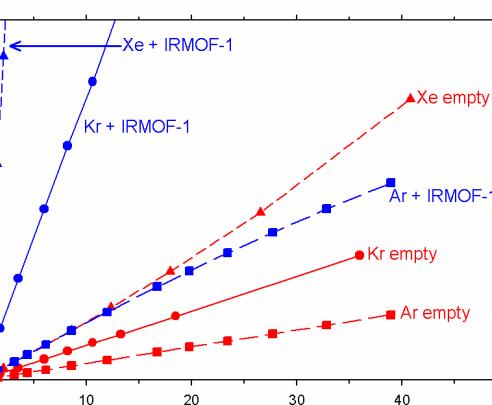
Thermal properties

Greathouse and Allendorf *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2008, 112, 5795

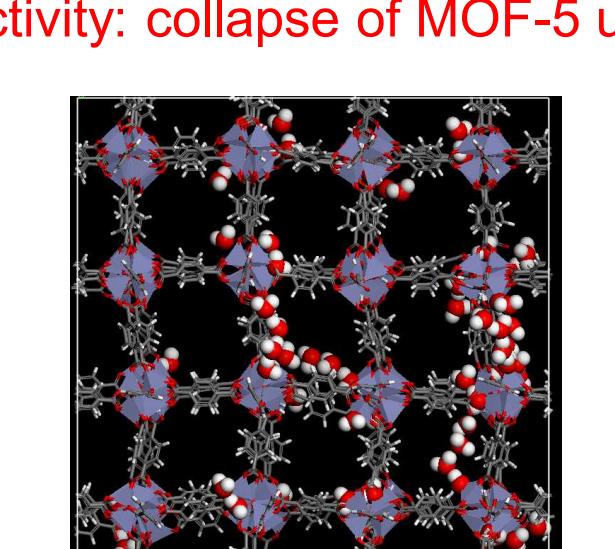
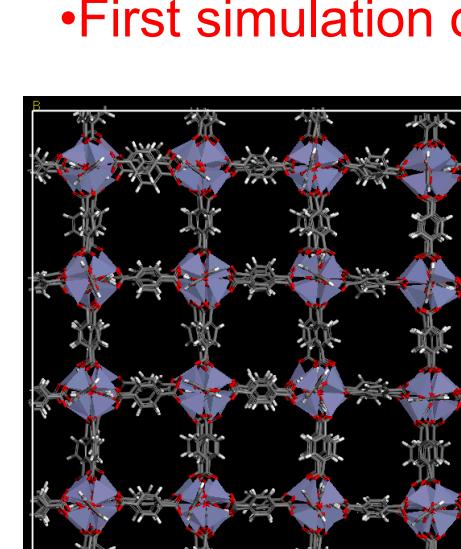


Mechanical properties

Greathouse and Allendorf *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2008, 112, 5795



Gas adsorption



Greathouse and Allendorf *JACS* 2006, 128, 10678

• Example: IRMOF-1 (also known as MOF-5):

• $a = 25.6690 \text{ \AA}$ post synthesis (8 DMF + 1 C_6H_5Cl /pore)

• $a = 25.8849 \text{ \AA}$ evacuated $\rightarrow 0.8\%$ change

• Adsorption induces stress if MOF layer is mechanically coupled to microcantilever

• Calculated sensitivity

• Known response function of microcantilever (0.04 mN/m)

• $40 \mu\text{m} \times 450 \mu\text{m} \times 1 \mu\text{m}$ CP layer

• Assume 10X S/N

Result: Calculated sensitivity = $\sim 17 - 50$ fmole

• General problem: elastic constants for MOFs must be known

