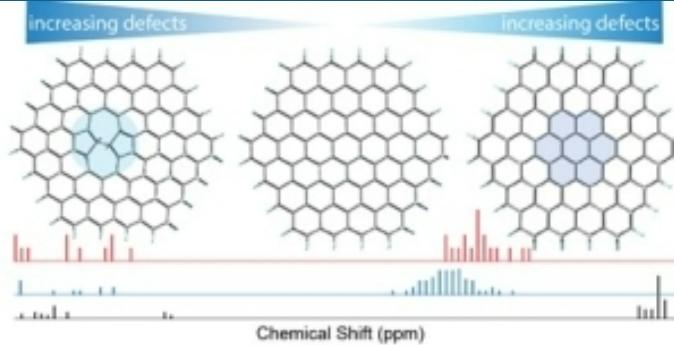


# Characterizing Disorder and Defect Structures in Fluorinated Graphite Using NMR



*Innovative Chemistry & Materials for Electrochemical Energy Storage,  
Fall 2021 American Chemical Society National Meeting  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

PRESENTED BY

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SAND2020-11940 PE

# Energy Research at Sandia



## Energy Research

ARPAe, BES Chem Sciences, ASCR, CINT, Geo Bio Science, BES Material Science

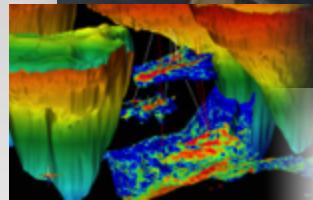
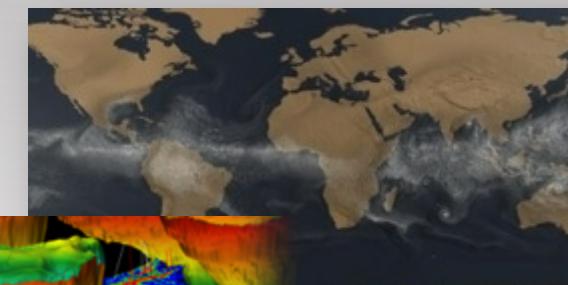
## Renewable Systems & Energy Infrastructure

Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Grid and Storage Systems



## Nuclear Energy & Fuel Cycle

Commercial Nuclear Power & Fuel, Nuclear Energy Safety & Security, DOE Managed Nuclear Waste Disposal

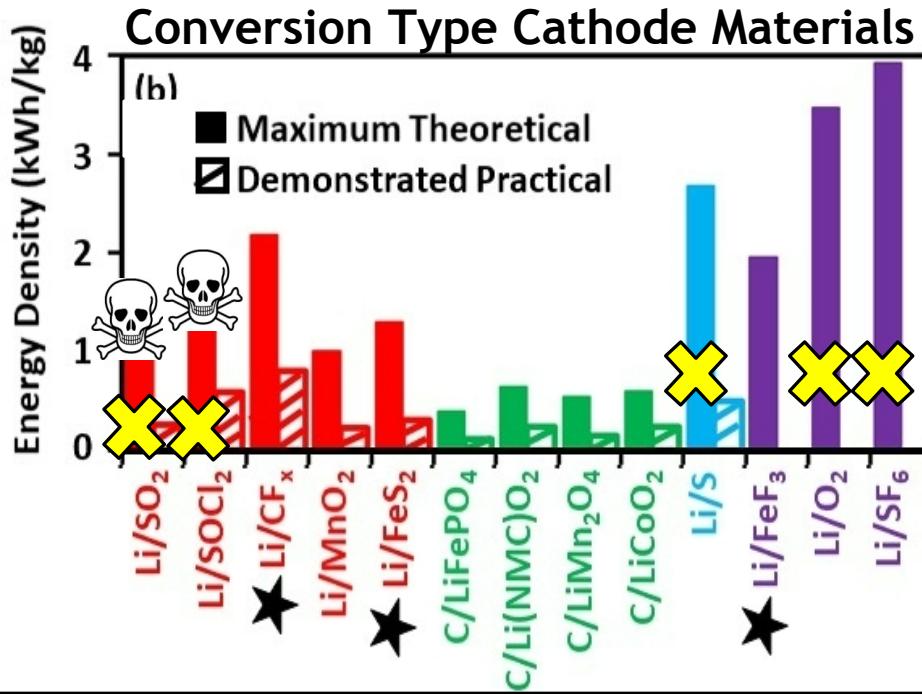


## Transportation Energy & Systems

Vehicle Technologies, Biomass, Fuel Cells & Hydrogen Technology



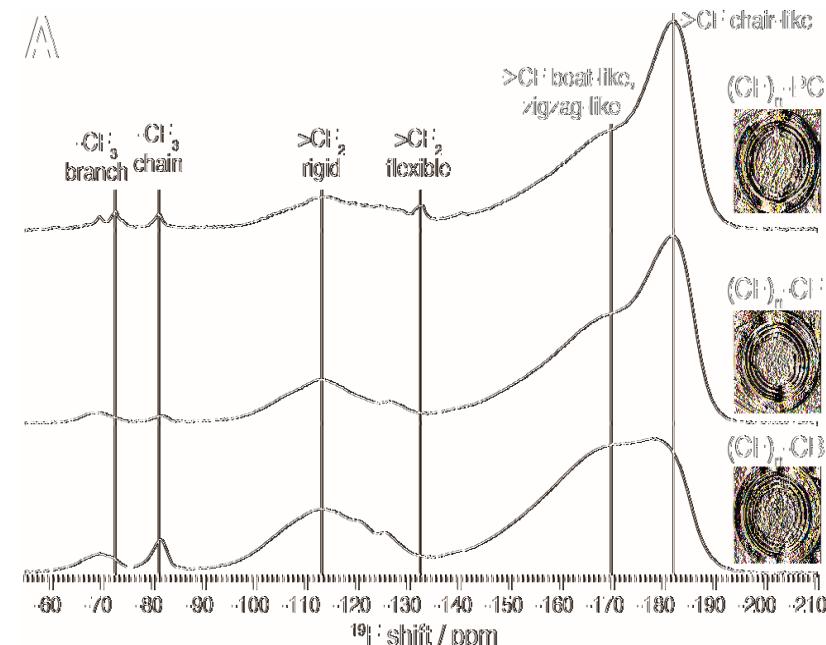
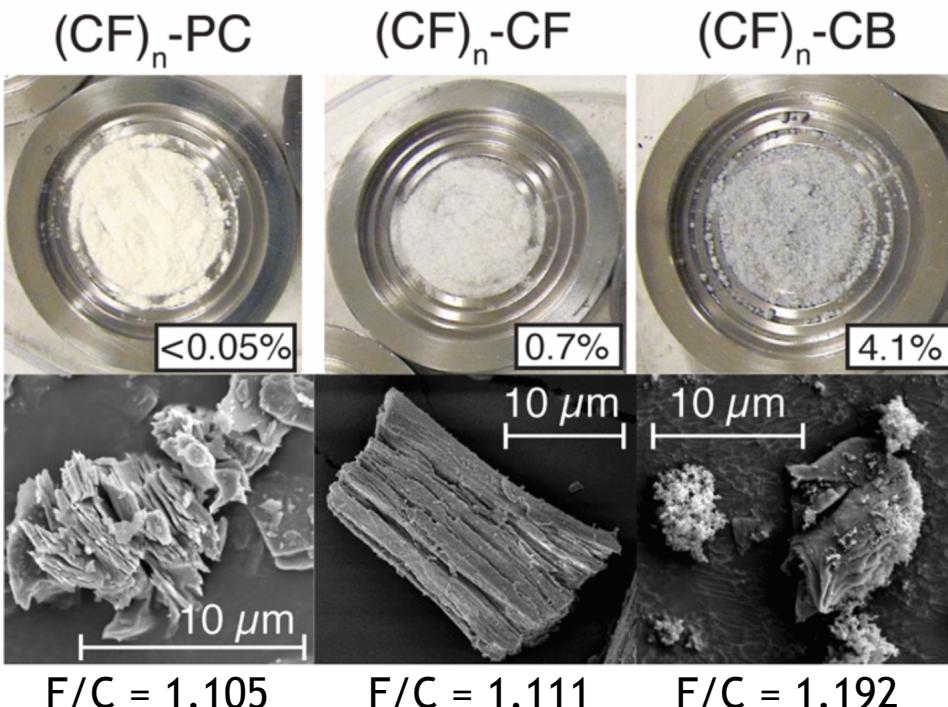
# Li Batteries: $CF_x$ Larger Theoretical Capacities



**Li-primary    Li-ion    Next-generation    R&D systems**

System	Overall Reaction	Theoretic al Voltage (V)	Capacity (mAh/g)	Energy Density kWh/kg	Energy Density kWh/L
$Li/CF_x$	$xLi + CF_x \rightarrow xLiF + C$ , $x=1$	3.1	703	2.18	3.26

# Understanding $\text{CF}_x$ Material Lot-Lot Variations



- Carbon source plays an important role in material performance.

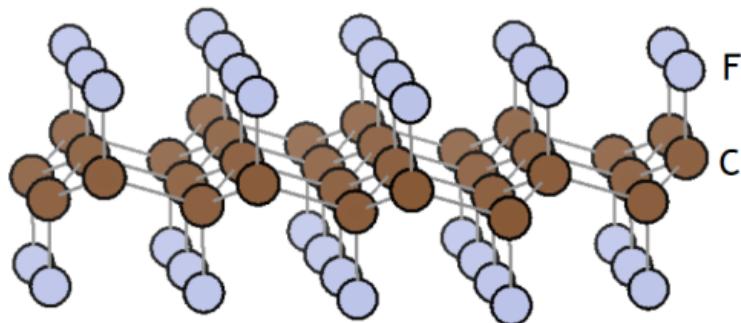
PC = petroleum coke; CF = carbon fiber; CB = carbon black

Advance Research Chemicals, Inc. (Catoosa, OK)

# Do we really understand the $(CF)_n$ structures?



**Ideal**

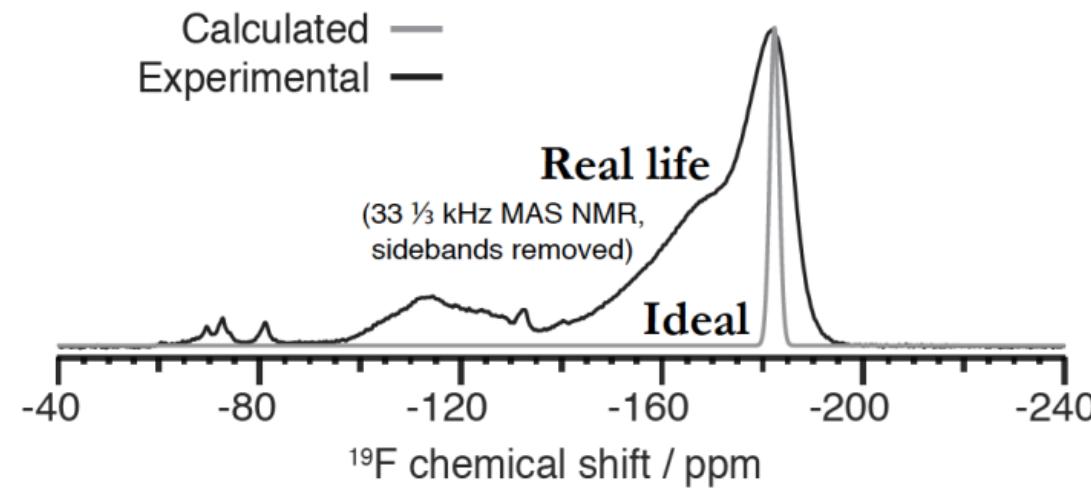
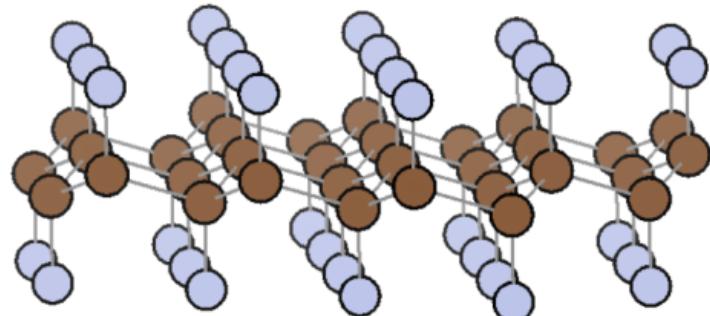


**vs.**



**Real life**

poly(carbon monofluoride)  
from petroleum coke  
“ $(CF)_n$ -PC”



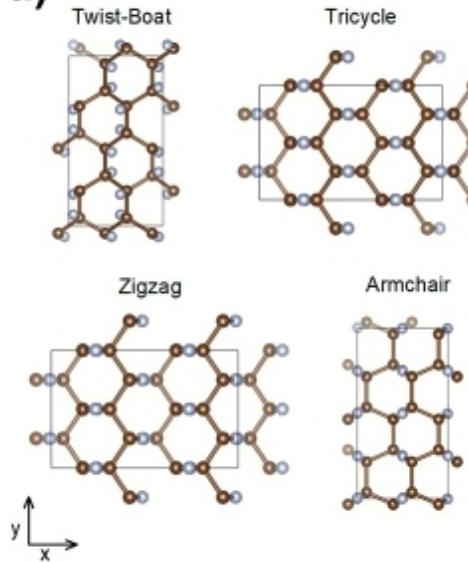
Rüdorff, W., Rüdorff, G. *Z. Anorg. Chem.* 253 281–296 (1944)  
Hagiwara R., Sato Y. *Prog. Fluor. Sci.* 2 283–303 (2017)

- Need to understand what is the actual structural motif in these different materials.

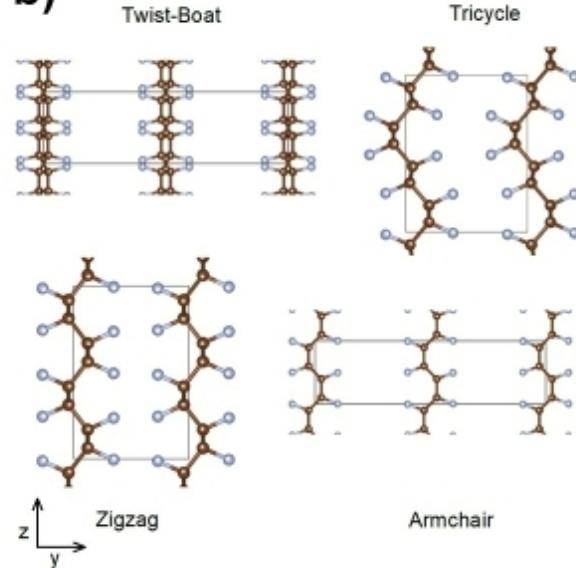
# $(CF)_n$ Crystal Polymorphs



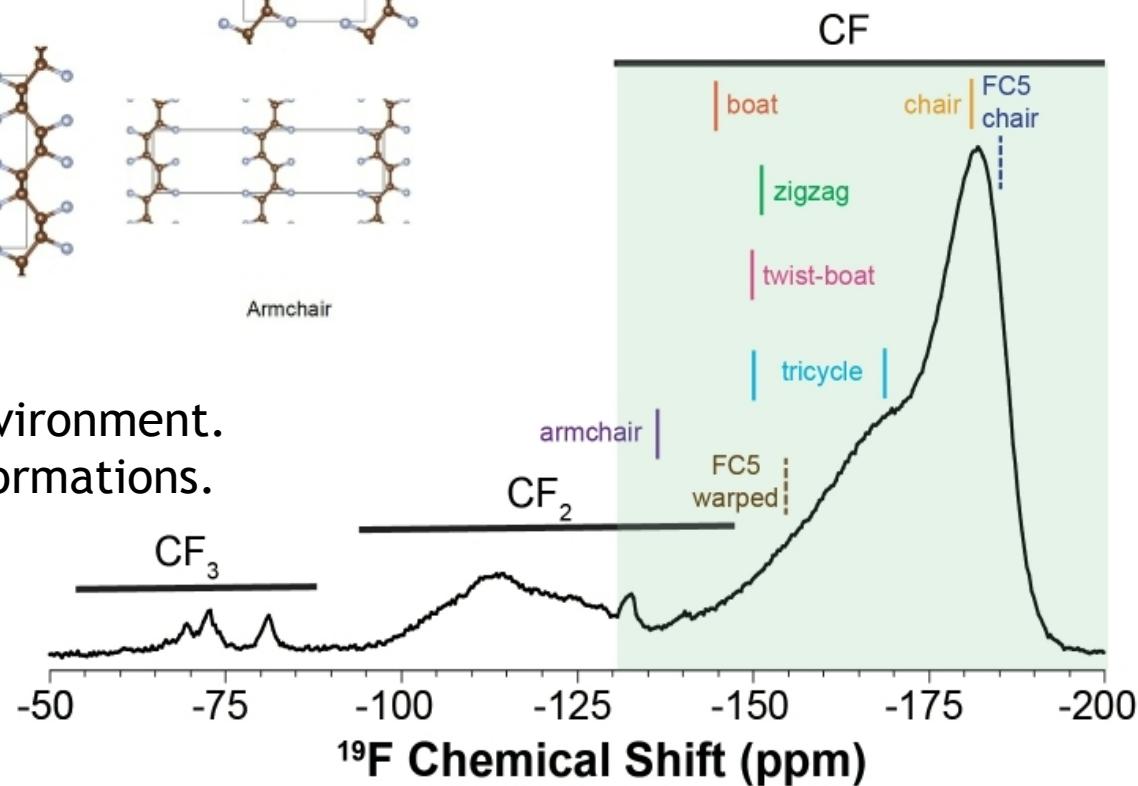
a)



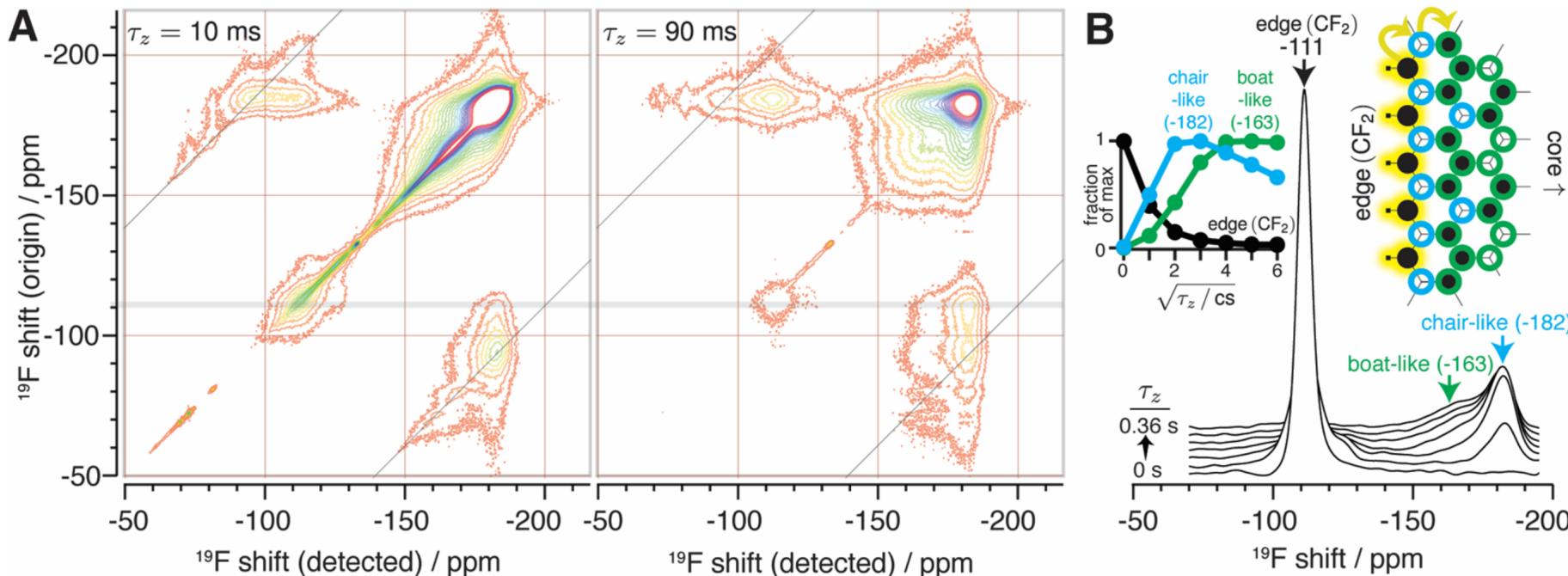
b)



- $^{19}\text{F}$  MAS NMR reveals rich F environment.
- Mixture of different ring conformations.

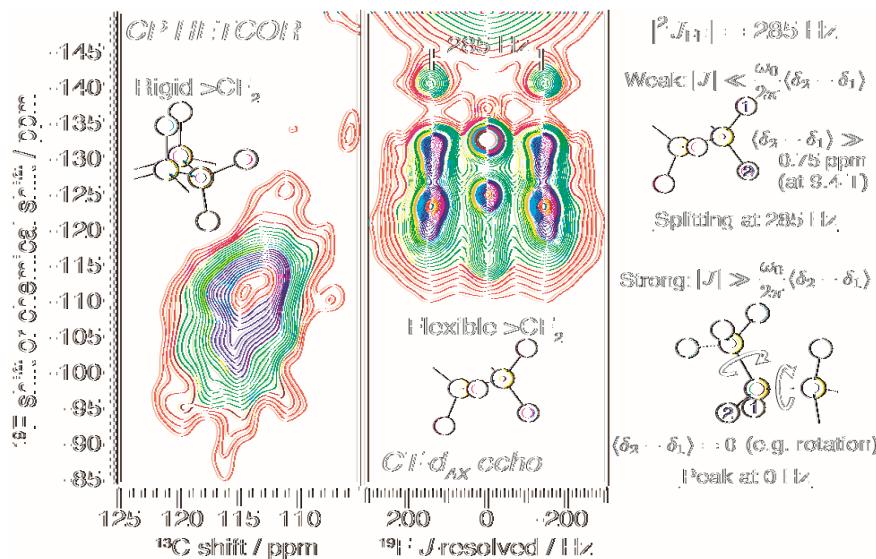
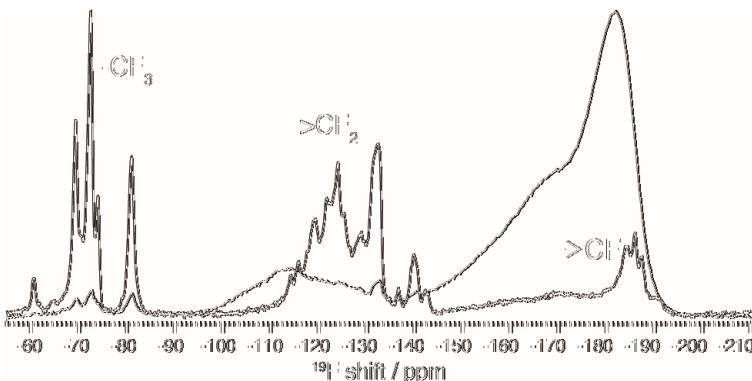


# 2D $^{19}\text{F}$ - $^{19}\text{F}$ Exchange Spectroscopy (EXSY)

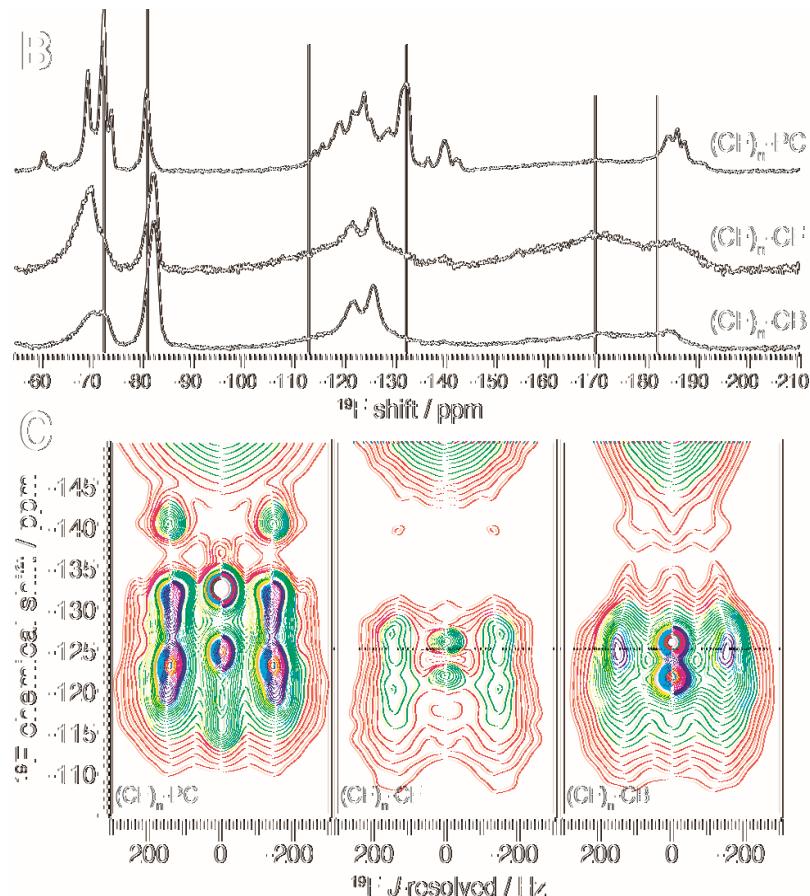


- Magnetization exchange between F environments through F-F dipolar coupling.
- Allows spatial structure to be determined.
- Different ring conformations (i.e. structures) inter-mixed.
- Very disordered structure - not a single  $\text{CF}_n$  polymorph.
- Also reveals  $\text{CF}_2$  edge effects with evolution of structure across platelet.

## 1D $^{19}\text{F}$ MAS NMR versus CT-d<sub>Ax</sub> echo



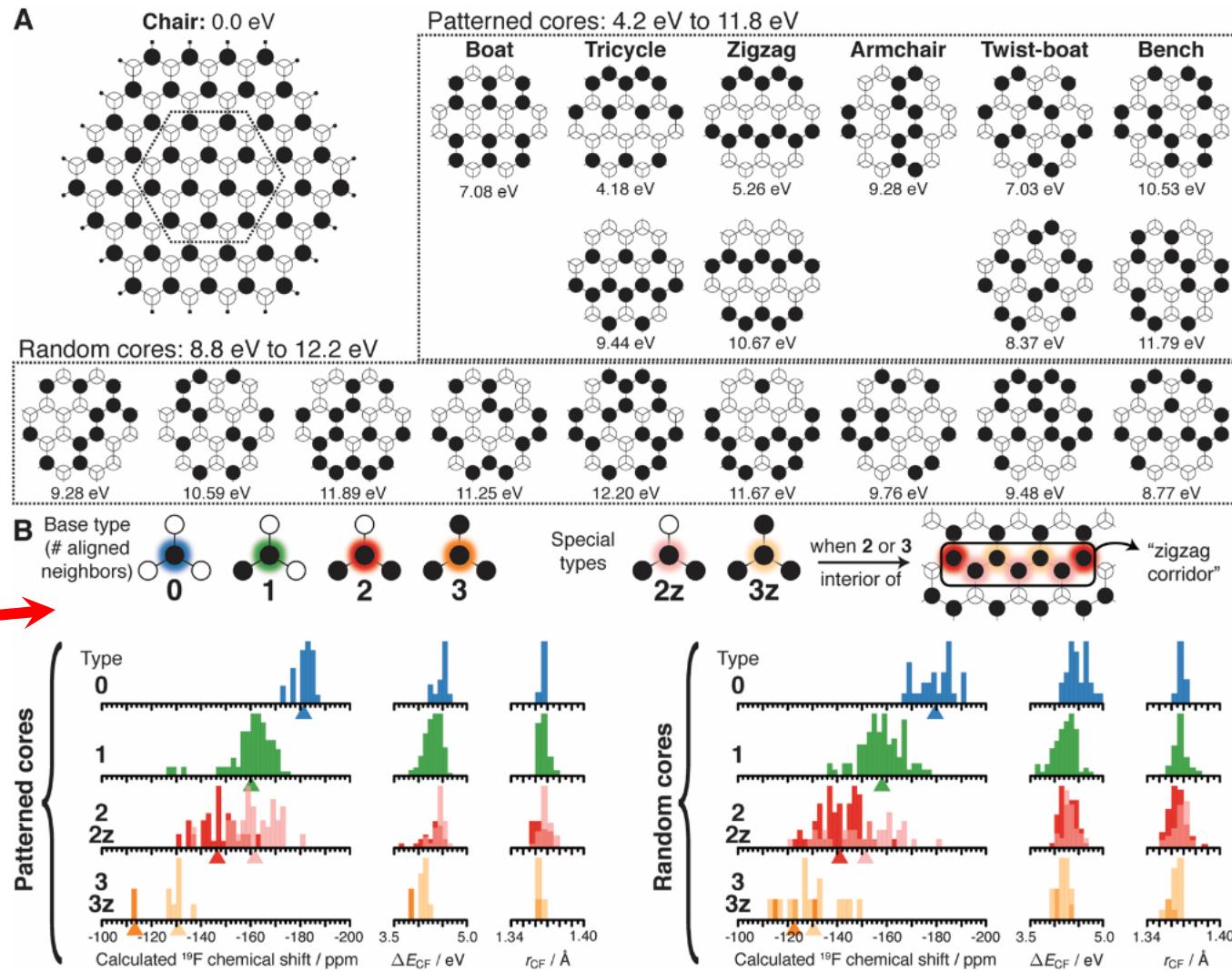
*Each sample has different ring flexibility*



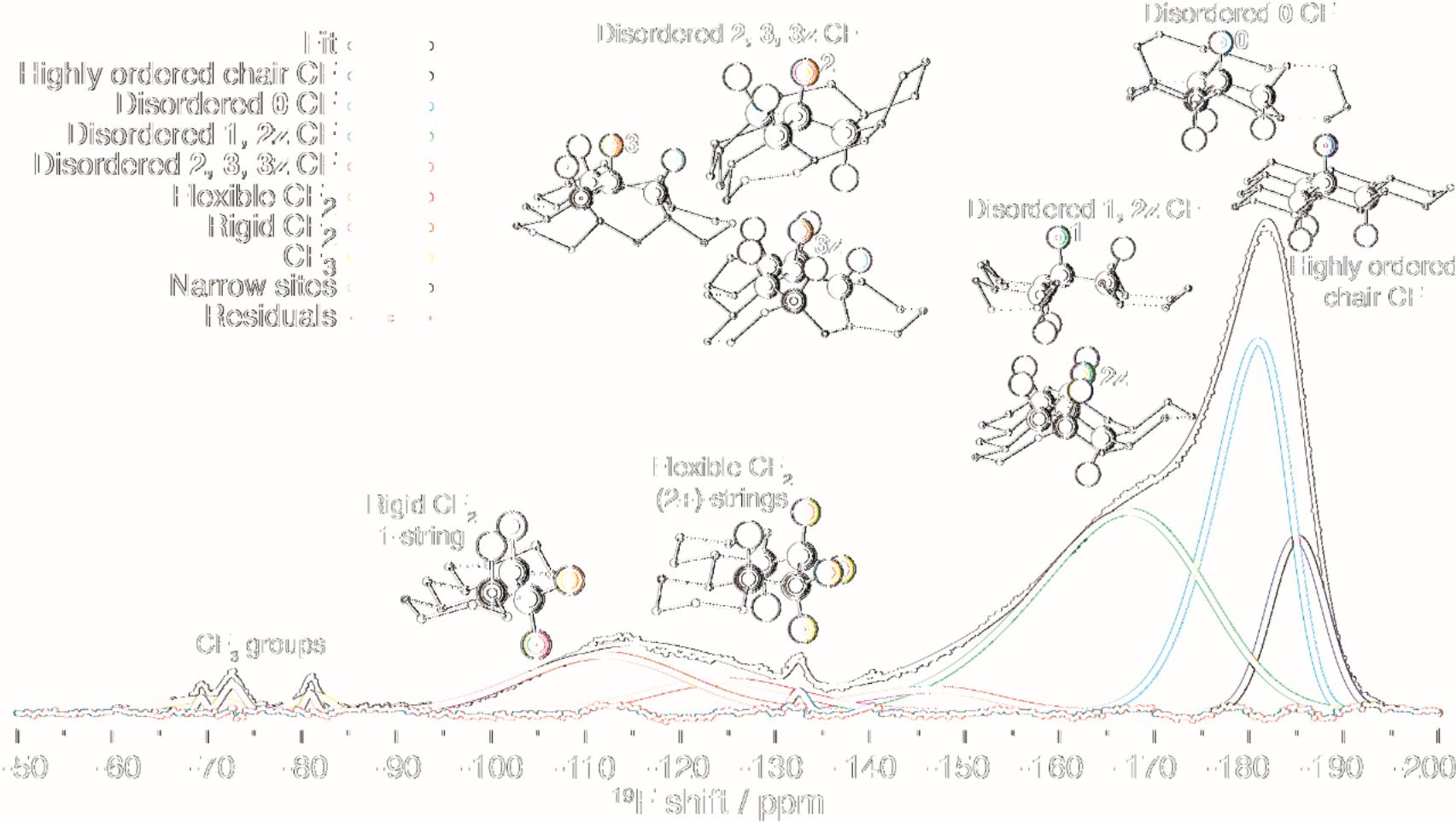
# Disordered Structures – Chemical Shift Predictions



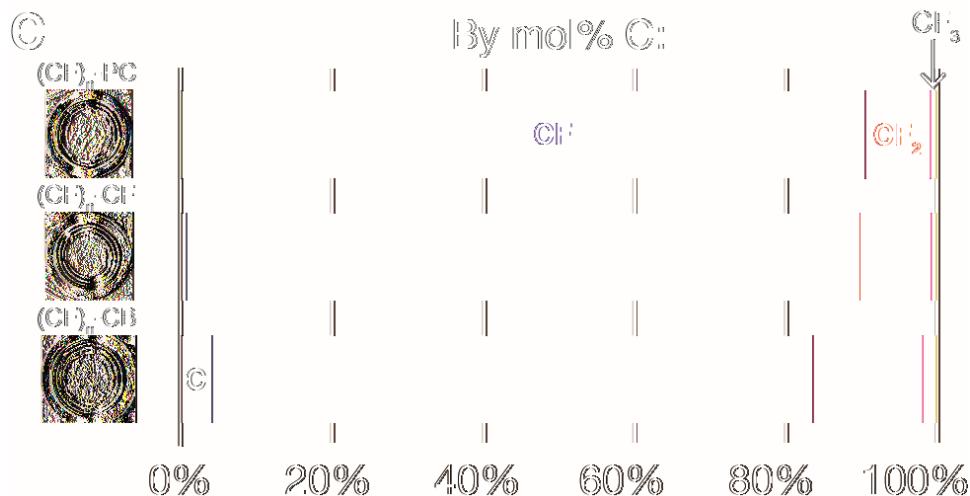
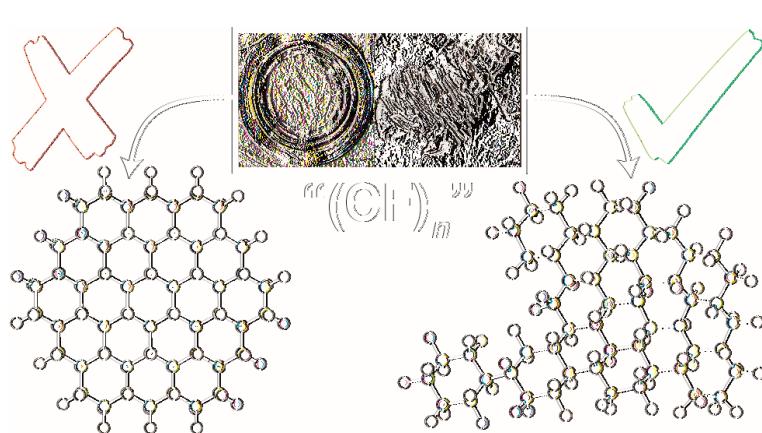
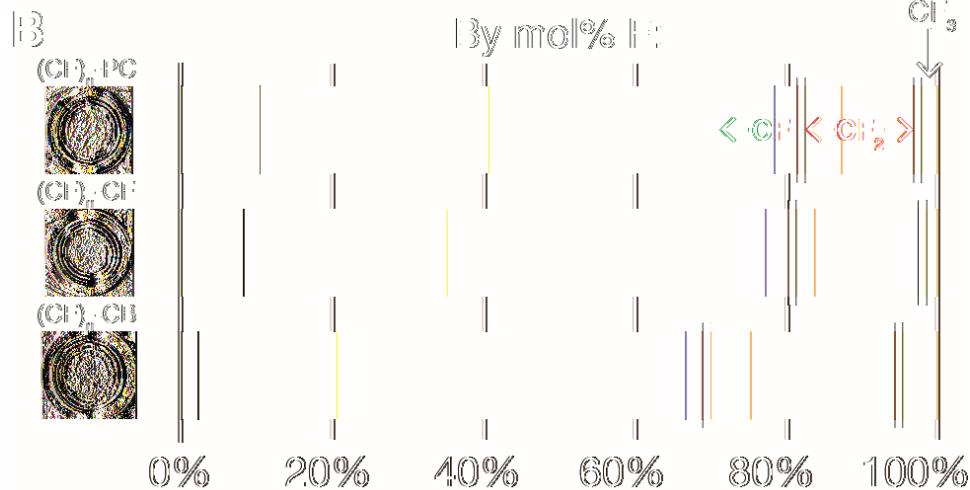
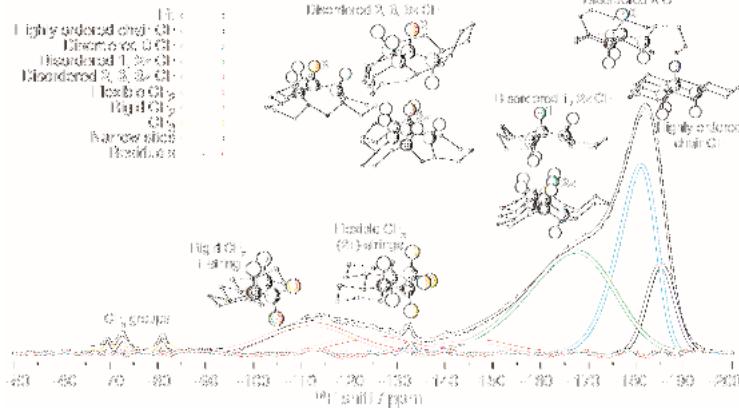
*ID  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR environments based on nearest  $\text{F}$  neighbor orientation.*



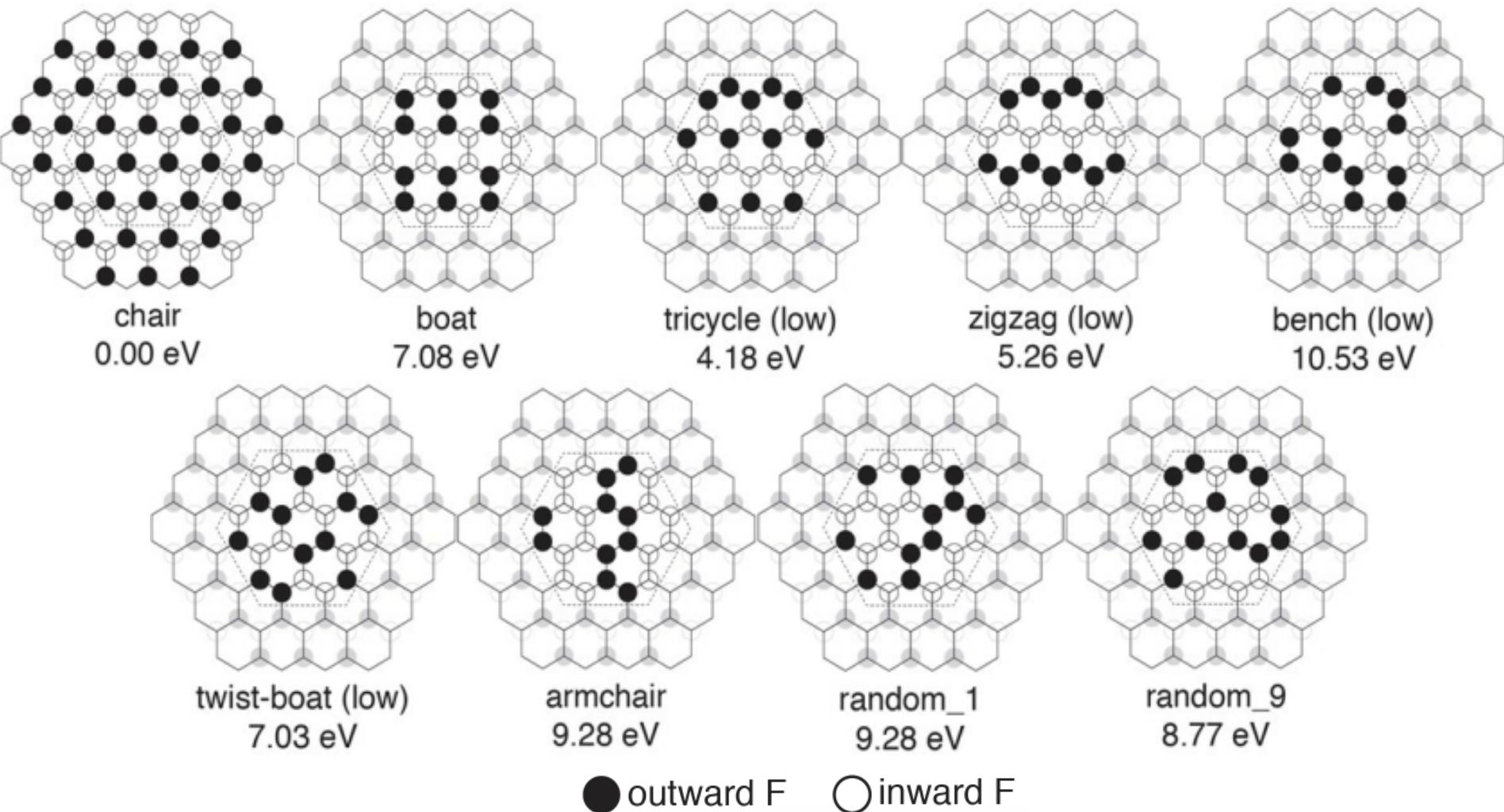
# (CF)<sub>x</sub> Structures Reveal High Structural Disorder



# Quantification of Structure in Different $CF_n$ Lots

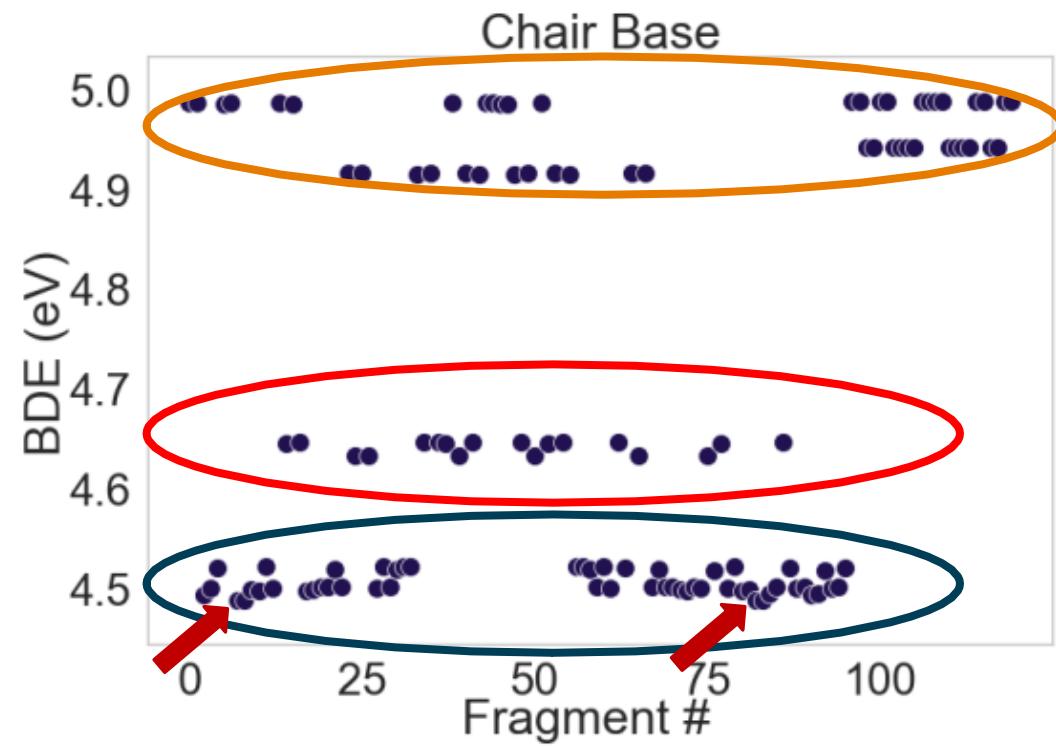


# Understanding Disordered C-F Chemistry

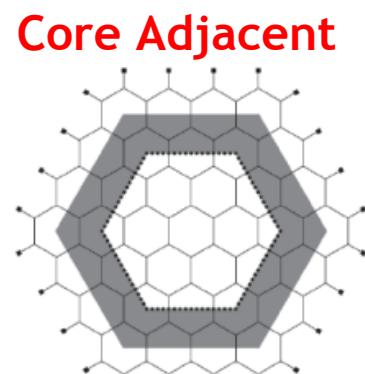
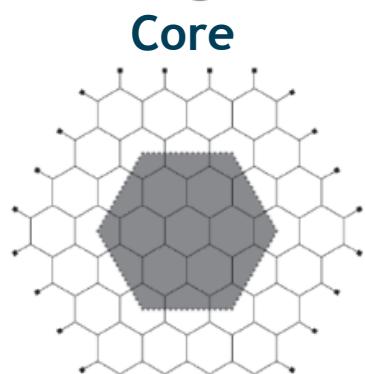
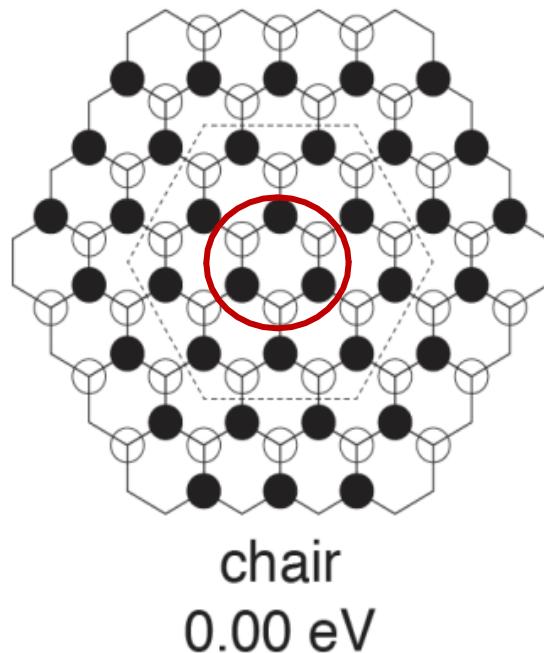


*How does disorder impact C-F bond energies?*

# Distribution of BDEs in the Chair Structure



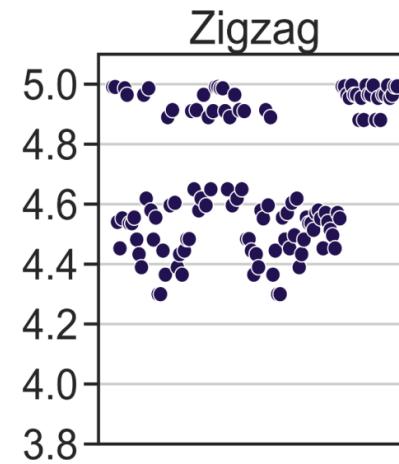
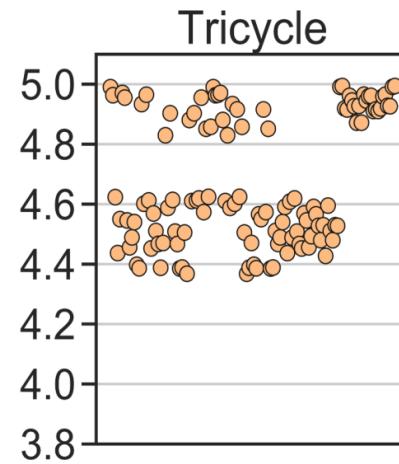
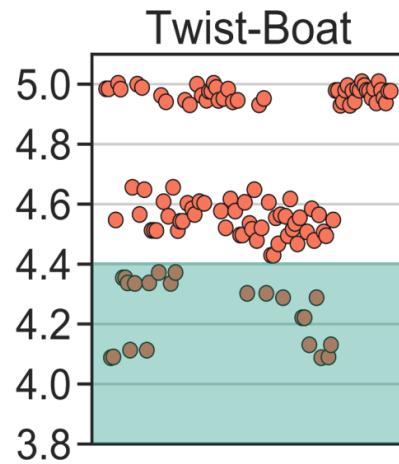
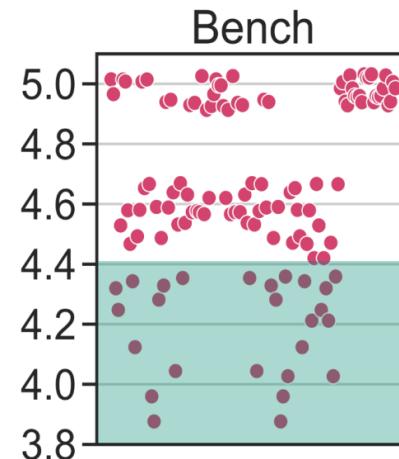
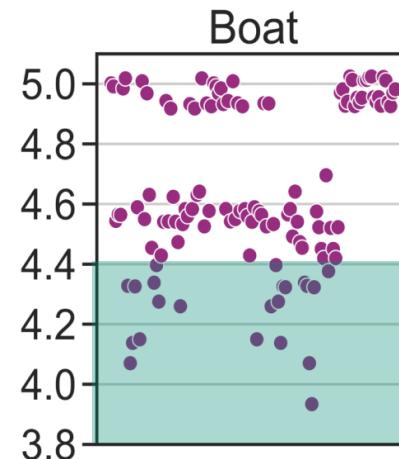
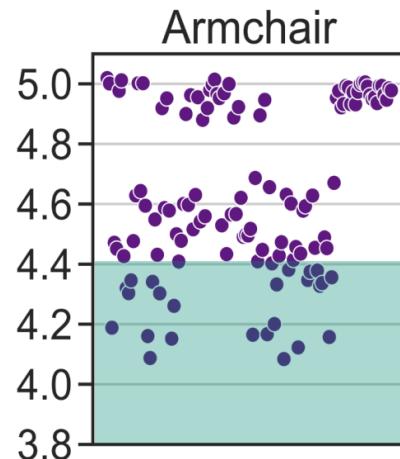
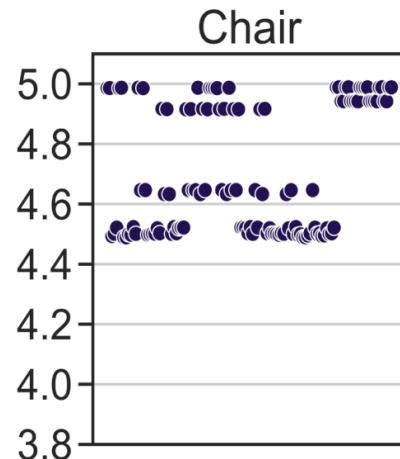
BDE = bond dissociation energy



# Base Disordered Structures Show BDE Differences



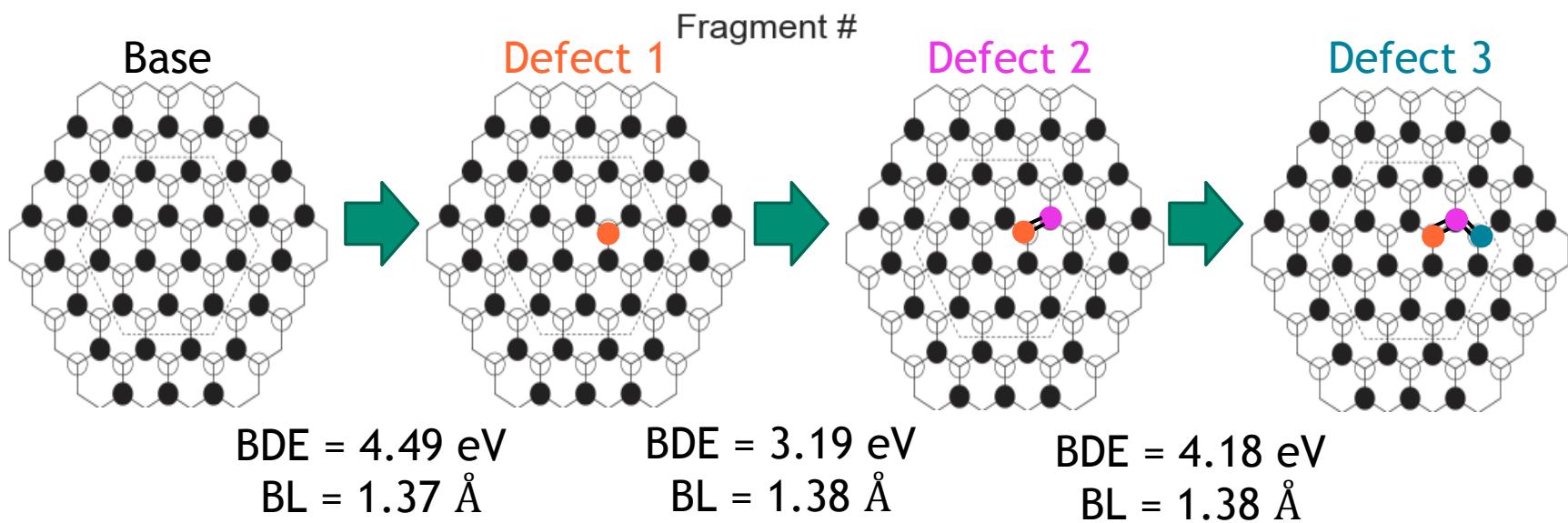
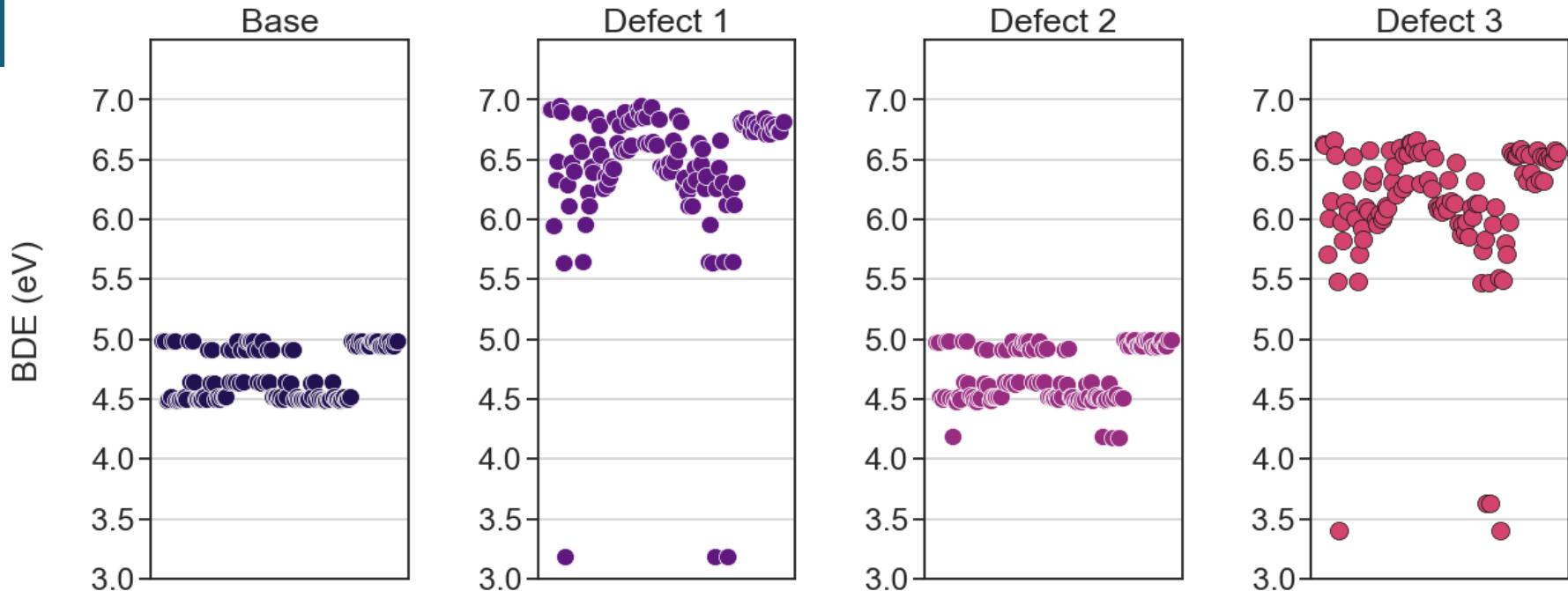
BDE (eV)



Fragment #

*Disorder can reduce C-F bond energy up to 0.6 eV*

# Defluorination Pathway of $\text{CF}_n$ Chair Structure





# Conclusions

- $^{19}\text{F}$  MAS NMR provides unparallel information on  $\text{CF}_n$  disordered structure.
- Quantified C and F speciation.
- Structure dependent on carbon source and preparation methods.
- Simple picture of perfect chair structure *misguided*.
- Disorder impacts CF bond energetics - lowered by  $\sim 0.5$  eV.
- F defects further lowers CF bond energetics.
- $^{19}\text{F}$  MAS NMR provides an excellent tool to follow defluorination.

# Acknowledgements



**Dr. Brennan Walder (SNL)**



**Kelly Nieto, EERE summer intern (CSU)**



*Thank you for your time....*

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# Backup Slides

