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Plenary PL7

# Elucidating Design Principles of Type 3 Porous Liquids for Selective Carbon Capture

Tina M. Nenoff, Jessica Rimsza, Matthew J.  
Hurlock, Matthew S. Christian, Dennis Robinson  
Brown

ZMPC2024

International Symposium on Zeolites and Microporous Crystals 2024, Osaka, Japan

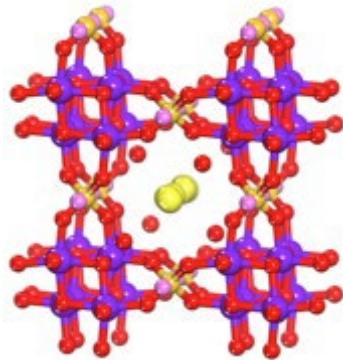
July 24, 2024

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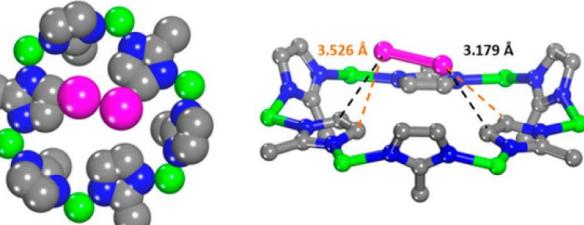


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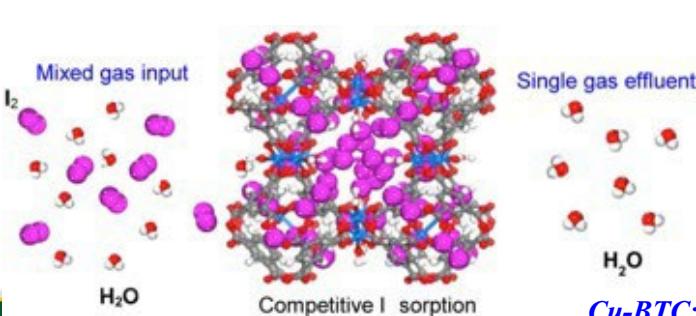
# Background: Nanoscale Materials for bulk scale applications



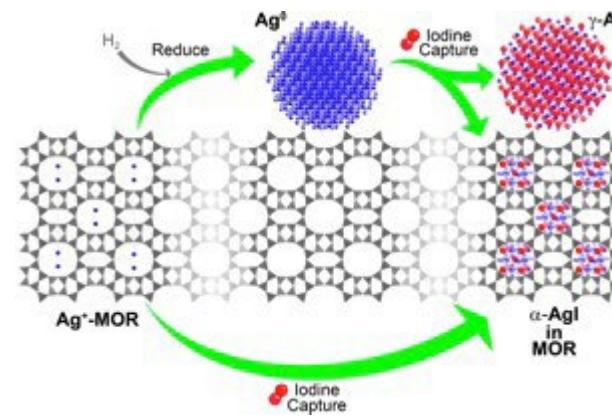
R&D100 1996  
*JACerS*, 2009, 92(9), 2144  
*JACerS*, 2011, 94(9), 3053  
*Solvent Extr. & Ion Exch.*, 2012, 30, 33  
  
*CST, Cs<sup>+</sup> removal from water to Pollucite Waste Form*  
US Patents 6,479,427; 6,110,378



I<sub>2</sub>/ZIF-8, Isolation to Waste Form  
*JACS*, 2011, 133(32), 12398  
US Patent 9,117,560; 2015  
*JACS* 2013, 135, 16256

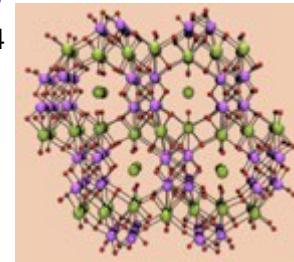


Cu-BTC: I<sub>2</sub> from Humid Gas Stream  
*Chem. Mater.* 2013, 25(13), 2591



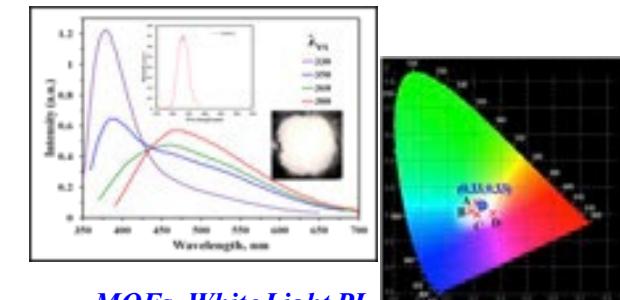
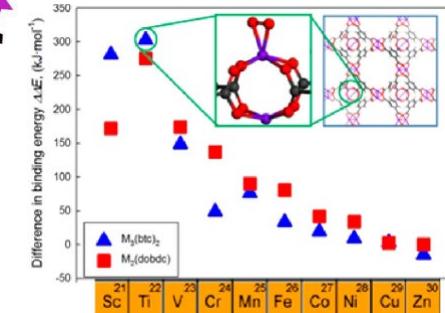
*Ag-MOR I<sub>2</sub>(g) capture & mechanisms*  
*JACS*, 2010, 132(26), 8897  
*J Phys Chem Lett*, 2011, 2,2742  
*I&ECR* 2017, 56(8), 2331

*SOMS, Sr<sup>2+</sup> getter, 1-step to Perovskite WF*  
*JACS*, 2002, 124(3), 1704  
US Patent 7,122,164; 2006

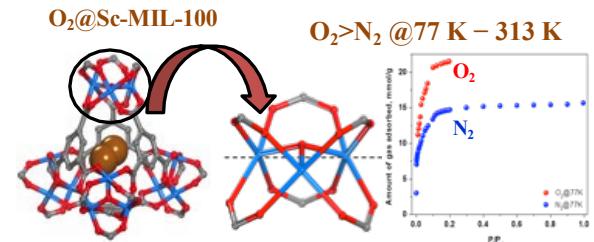


**Design on the nanoscale of the Separation Material to optimize on the bulk scale**

*O<sub>2</sub> Separations with MOFs for Energy Efficient Oxyfuel Combustion*  
*Chem. Mater.* 2016, 28(10), 3327-3336  
*Chemical Science* 2016, 18, 11528  
*J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2015, 119, 6556  
*Chem. Mater.* 2015, 27(6), 2018  
US Patent 10,549,261; 2020



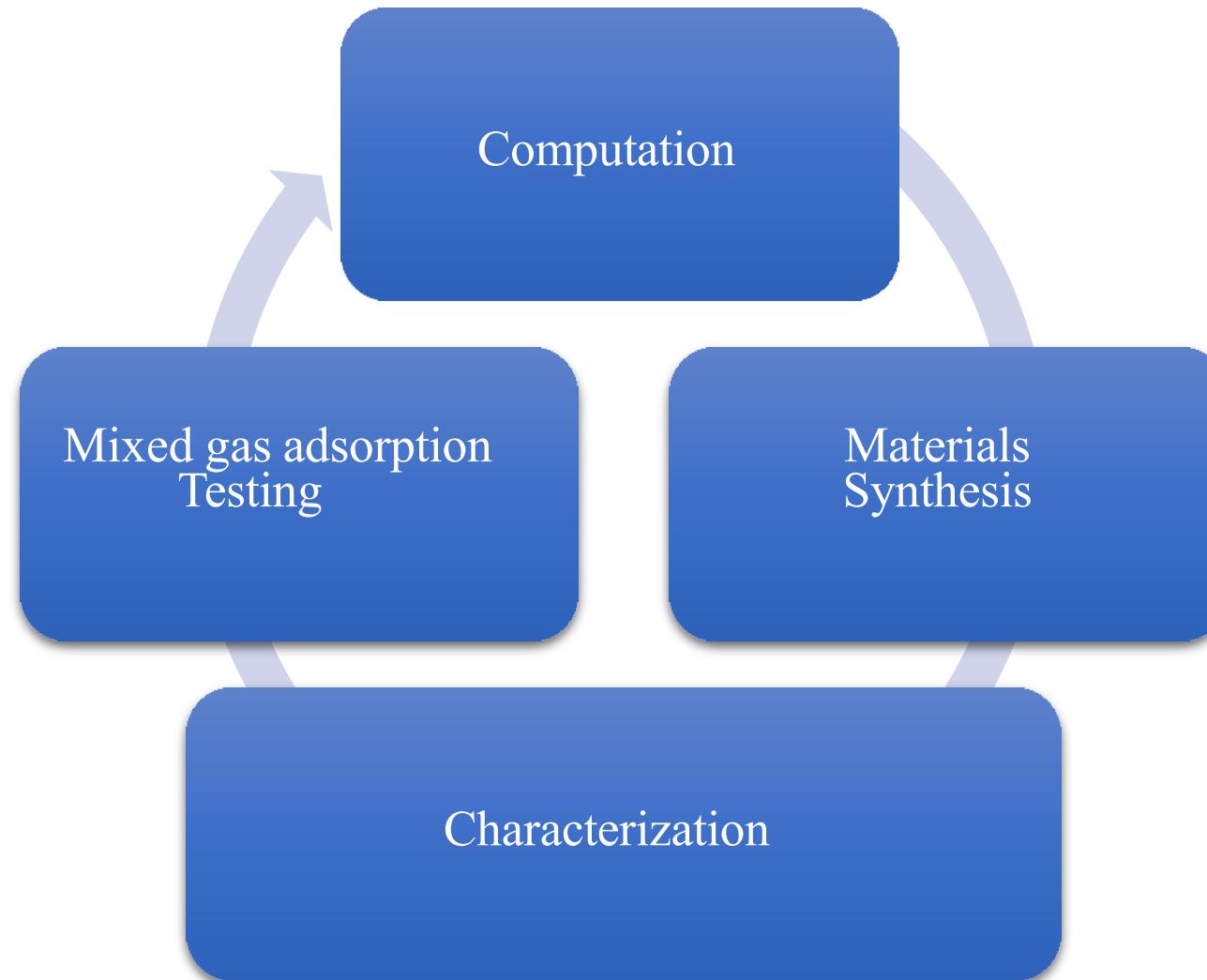
*MOFs, White Light PL*  
*JACS*, 2012, 134(9), 3983  
*Chem Mater*, 2014, 26 (9), 2943  
*Adv. Opt. Mater.*, 2022, 202200058



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# Multidisciplinary approach enables Rapid Materials Discovery

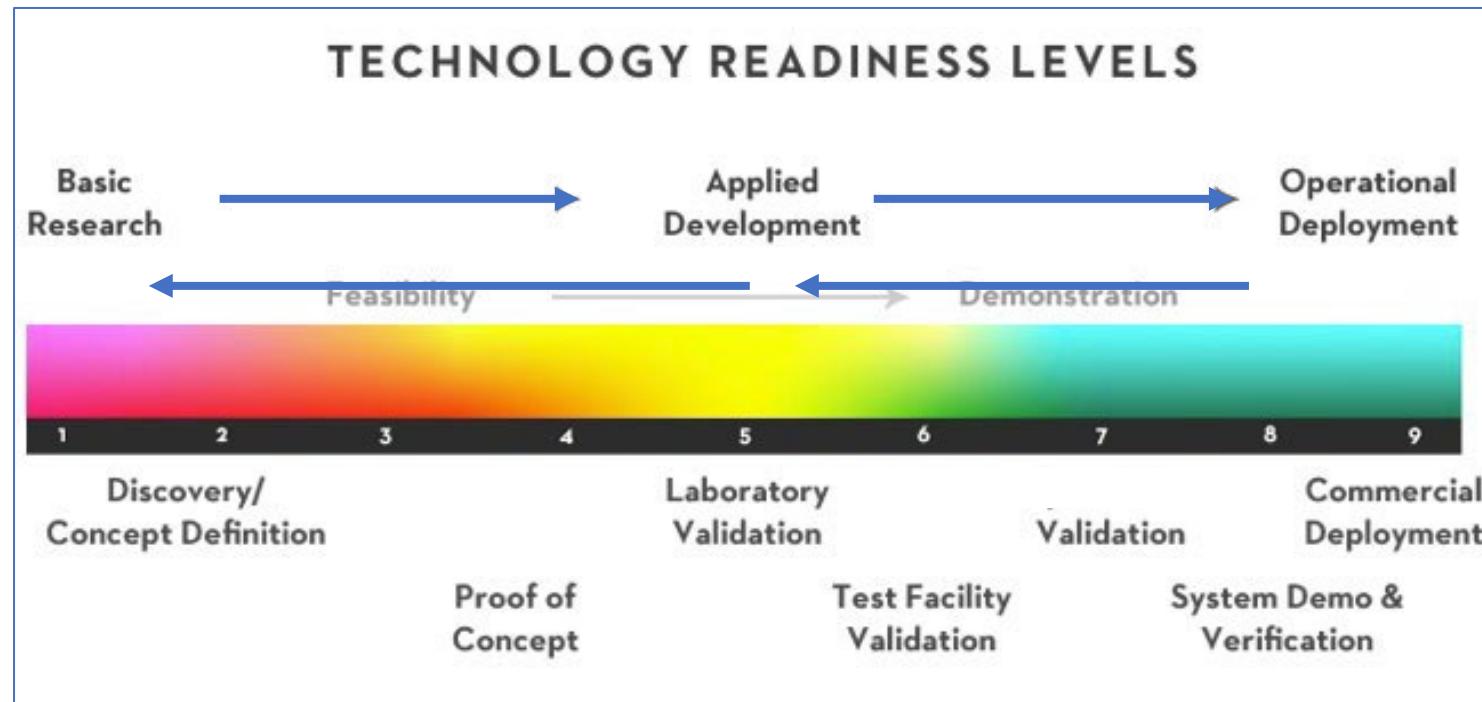


# Current engagement with the Technical Community

## Basic to Applied to Commercialization: fundamental research with an eye to application *Use-Inspired*

My research moves **up and down** the TRL scale when opportunity arises

*Enables excellent collaborations inside SNL and outside with the world*



Edited from:

<https://snmrec.fau.edu/ocean-energy/ocean-energy-industry.html>

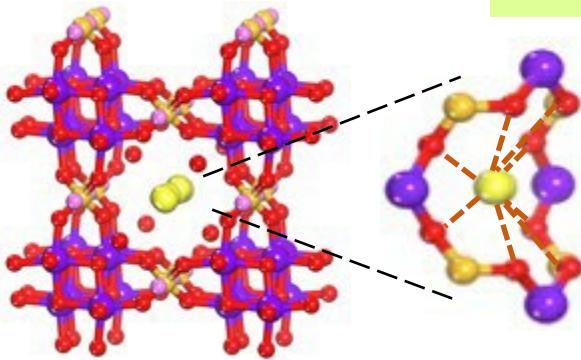


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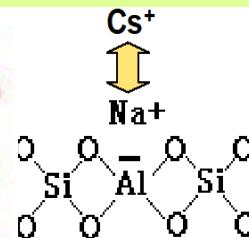
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# 1990-2000s Geo-Inspired: Rad Ion, Highly Selective Separations & Capture TRL 1 (LDRD) - 5 (DOE/EM) - 9 (UOP LLC)

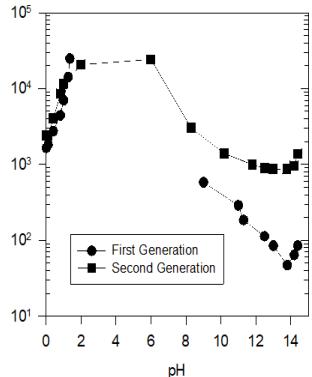
## CSTs: Crystalline Silico-titanates



Research (1993): Sandia LDRD project – gram reactors  
 Development: DOE/EM – 1-5 gallon reactors  
 Commercialization: CRADA with UOP Corp.,  
**IONSIV™ IE-910 & IE-911 (Dec 1995)**  
**1800 lb lots produced**



$^{137}\text{Cs}$  30.7 y  
 $^{135}\text{Cs}$   $2.3 \times 10^6$  y



Sandia: Distribution  
Coefficient of Cs on CST

## UOP IONSIV™ IE-911



## Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident, March 2011

- 2011 SNL re-licensed CST IP to (Honeywell) UOP LLC who coordinated with Toshiba for implementation in the SARRY™ Process at Fukushima

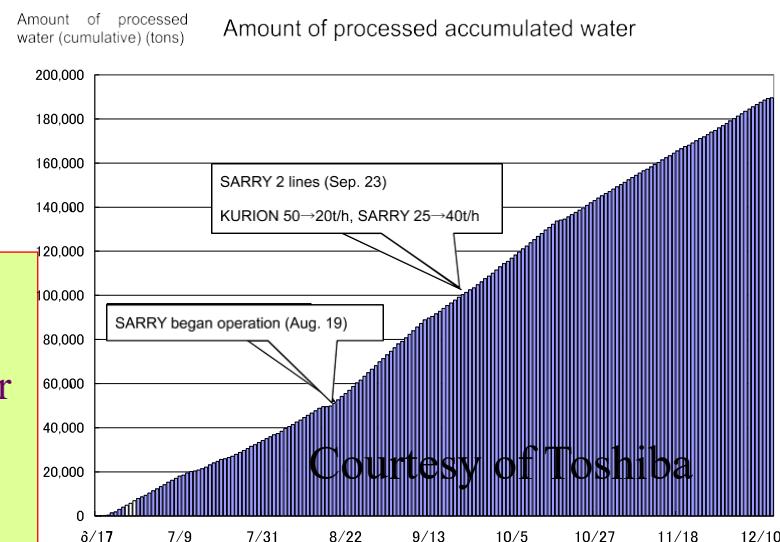
**SARRY™: Simplified Active Water Retrieve and Recovery System  
augmentation of Accumulated Water processing Facility**



2011: UOP re-licensed CST IP, in production of 40K+ lots within 2 months of Fukushima accident

SARRY was installed August 2011, decontamination factors of Cs SARRY process is  $5 \times 10^5$

By December 2015,  
160+ million gallons of  
Cs<sup>+</sup> contaminated seawater  
were cleaned with the  
**SARRY™ Process.**  
**Decon work completed.**



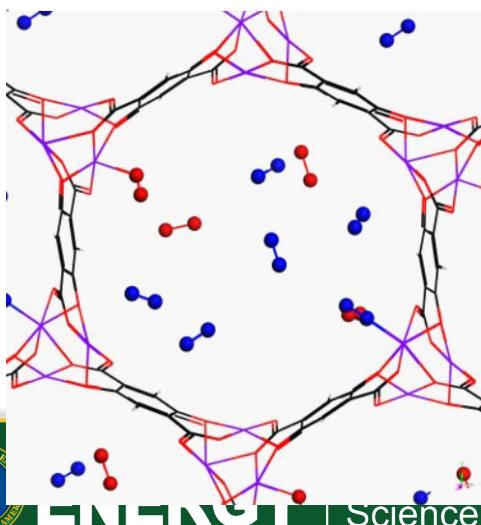
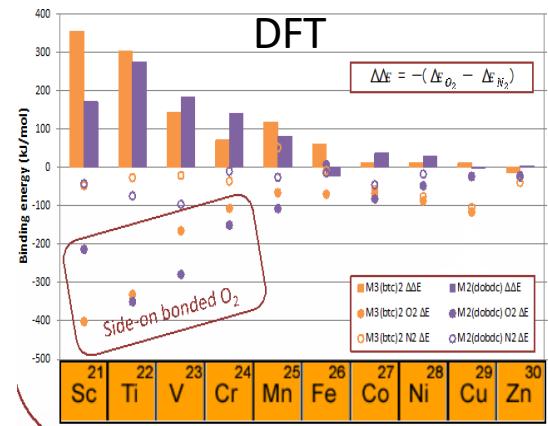
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# 2010s, Computationally Designed: MOF for Ambient Oxygen Separations from Air. TRL 1 (LDRD) - 8 (DOE/SBIR I & II)

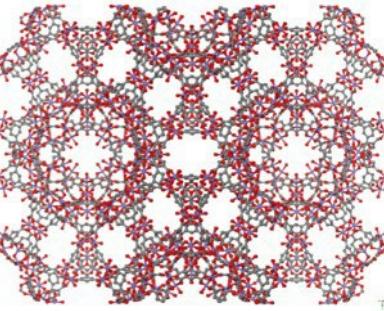
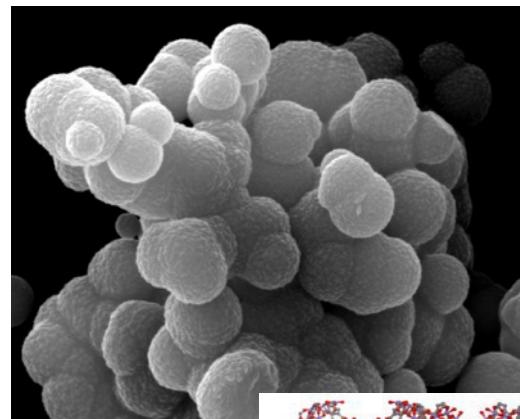
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## Computationally Designed Materials



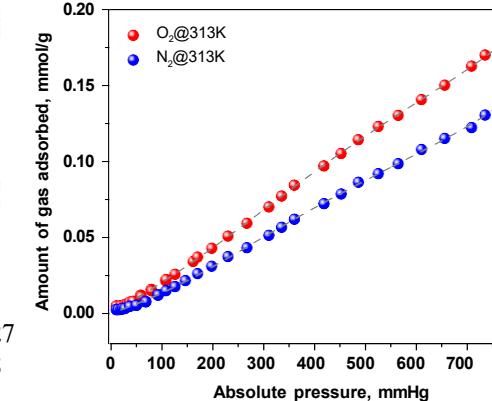
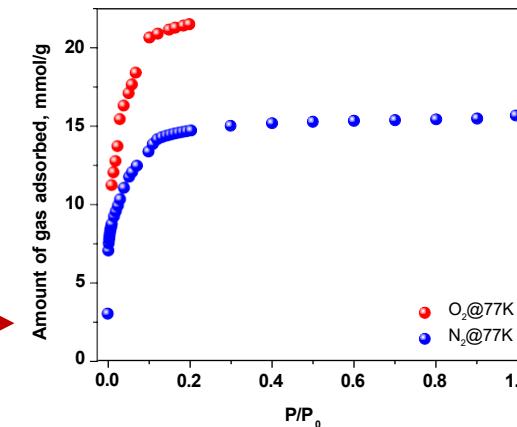
High Performance Computing (4000 processor hrs, 6000 processor days (Redsky, Skybridge)) to *design* materials, *guide synthesis*, and *validated* design via *testing*.

## Novel Materials Synthesis



Chem. Mater. 2016, 28(10), 3327  
Chem. Mater. 2015, 27(6), 2018

## Exp Gas Testing



## Industrial Scale Up To Commercialization

IP: US Patent #  
10,549,261  
Awarded Feb 4, 2020

DOE/SBIR Phase I  
FY19 (IP licensed),  
two industrial partners

DOE/SBIR Phase II  
FY21 (IP re-licensed),  
1+ industrial partners

DOE/SBIR Phase IIB  
FY22-24 (scale up)  
1 industrial partner

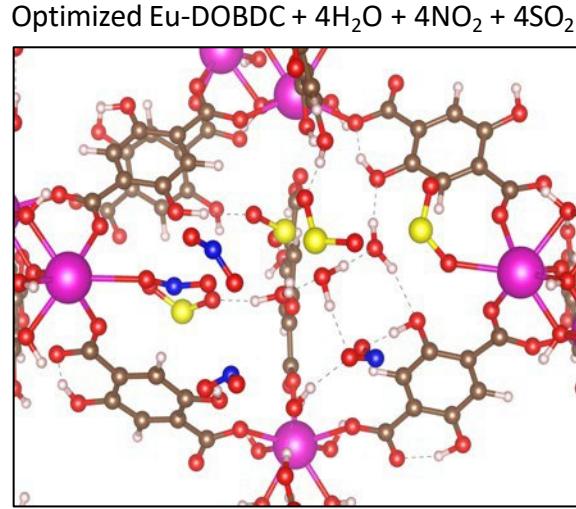


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# 2020s Computationally Driven, Experimentally Validated, Rapid <sup>14</sup>Materials Discovery

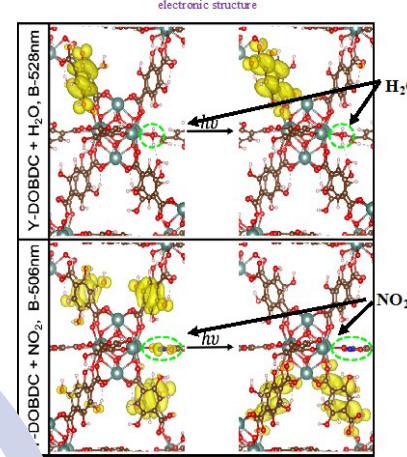
TRL 1: Materials design & realization of adsorbents to selectively adsorb industrial caustic acid gases



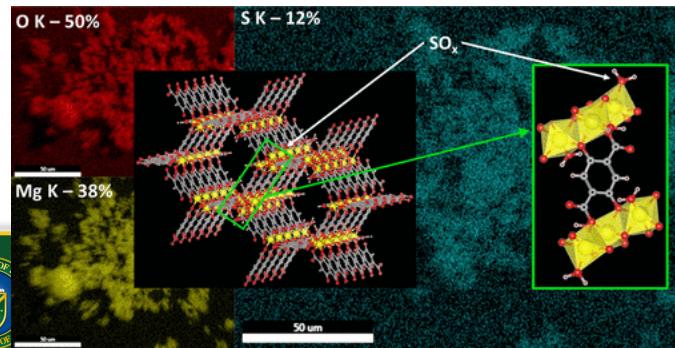
*DFT & AIMD for mixed Gas competitive binding*  
PCCP, 2019, 21, 23085  
ACS AMI, 2020, 12, 4, 4531  
Angew Chem., 2021, 60(20), 11514  
Chem-Eur. J., 2022, 28(58) e202201926

Computation

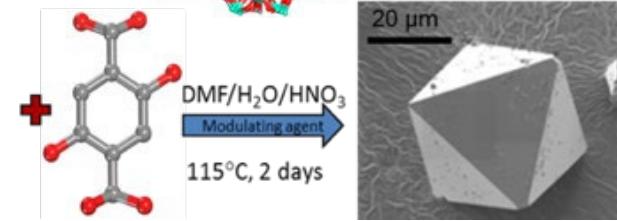
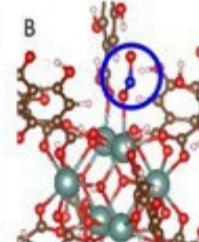
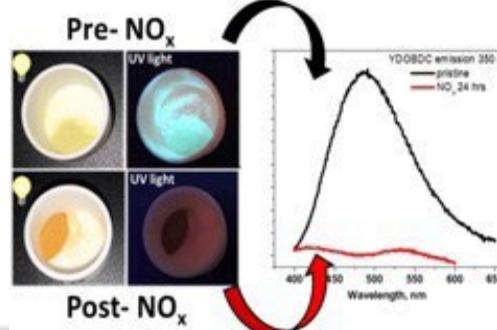
Mixed gas adsorption Testing



Materials Synthesis

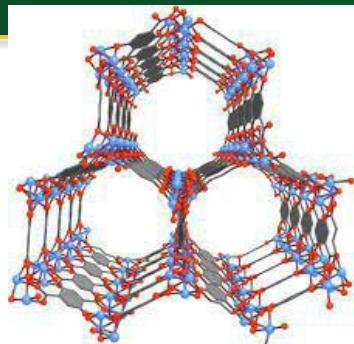
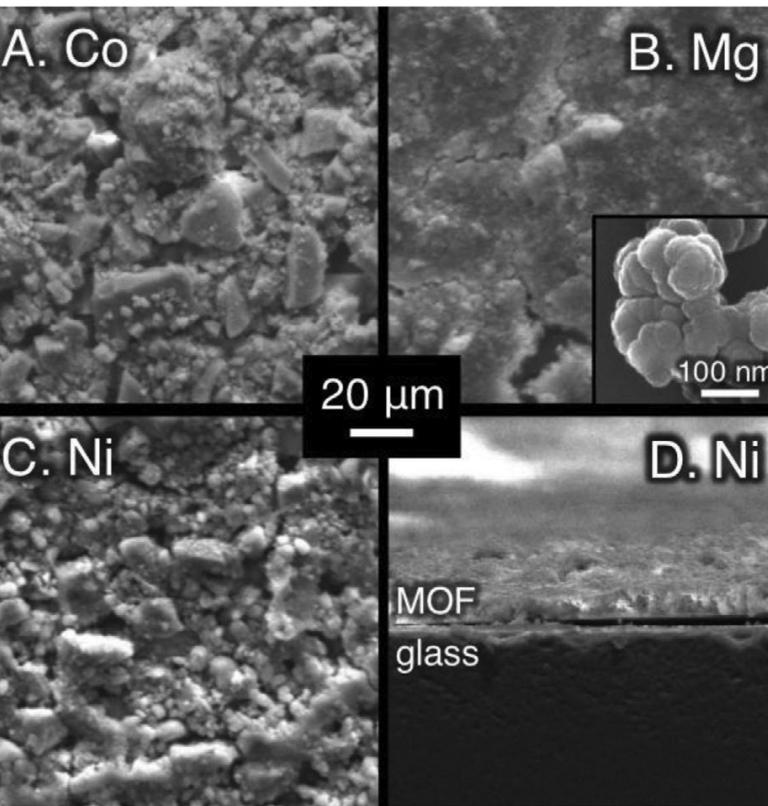
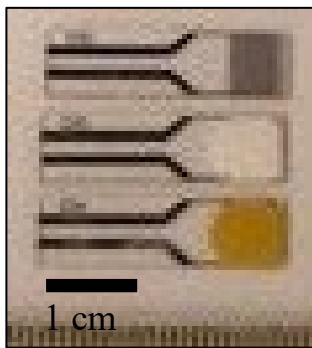


Characterization



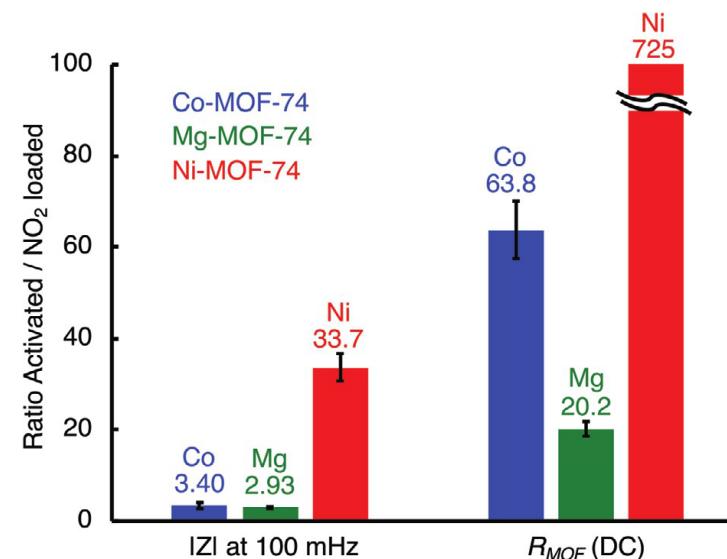
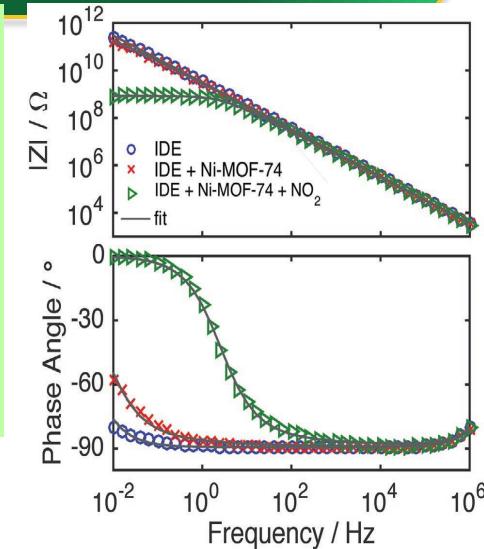
**Industrial Acid Gas Adsorbents: RE-DOBDC MOFs**  
ACS AMI 2019, 11, 46, 43270  
ACS AMI, 2020, 12, 17, 19504  
ACS AMI, 2020 12, 20, 22845  
ACS AMI, 2021, 13, 47, 56337  
JACS Au, 2022, 2, 8, 1889

## NA-115 (A&amp;L) Sensor Development

M-DOBDC MOF;  
MOF-74; M= Co, Mg, Ni

Supported by **BES/EFRC fundamental studies** including DFT, MOF synthesis, gas adsorption testing, & materials characterization, we produced a **near-zero power, highly selective direct electrical readout gas sensors\*** (NA-115, A&L)

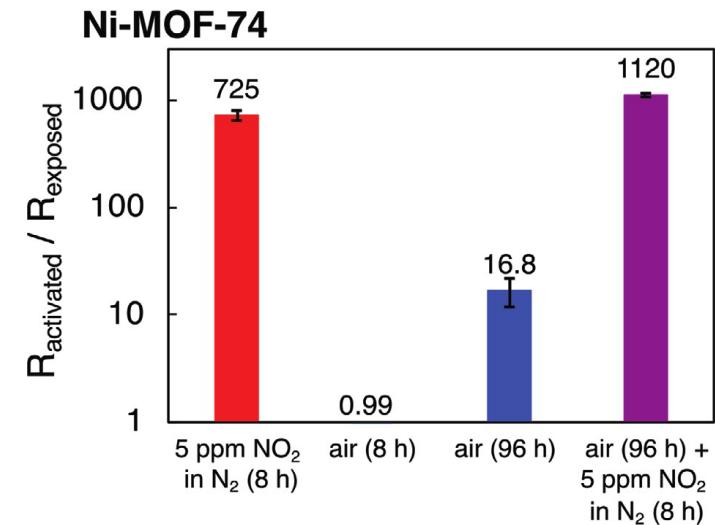
- Leveraged to new FY21-25 DOE/DoD *JMP* project
- Leveraged to new FY22-24 *KCNSC* project, widget build
- Leveraged to Energy I-Corps National Winner 2022 DOD contractors, licensing negotiations **FY22-23**



*ACS AMI*, 2017, 9, 44649  
*Micro. Meso. Mater.* 2019, 280, 82  
*ACS AMI*, 2019, 11, 27982  
*\*Adv. Func. Mater.* 2020, 1407, 2006598

*Membranes* 2021, 11, 176  
*I&ECR* 2021, 60, 21, 7998  
*I&ECR*, 2021, 60, 40, 14371

*Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2022, 51, 324  
*I&ECR*, 2023, 62 (5), 2336  
*ACS AMI*, 2023, 15, 31, 37675

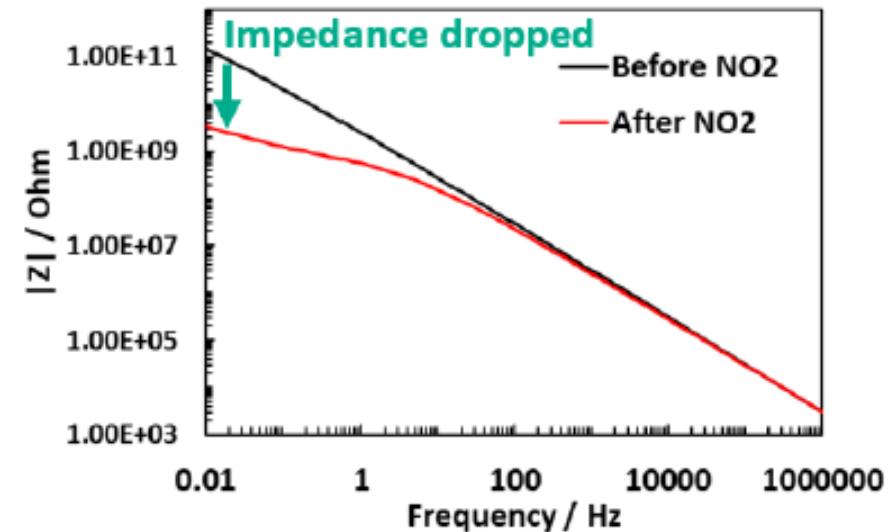
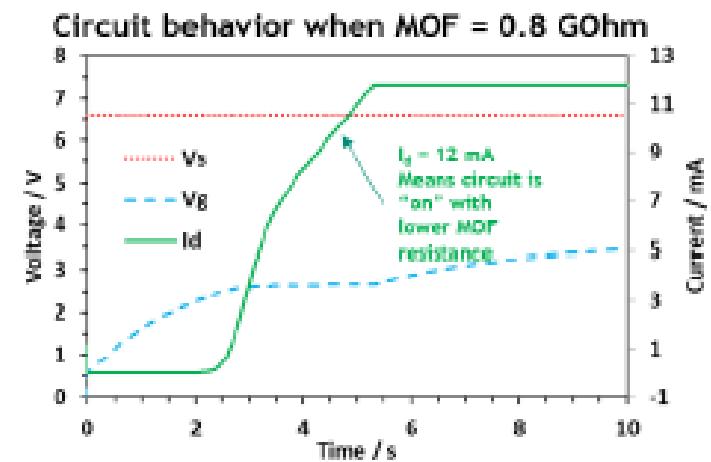
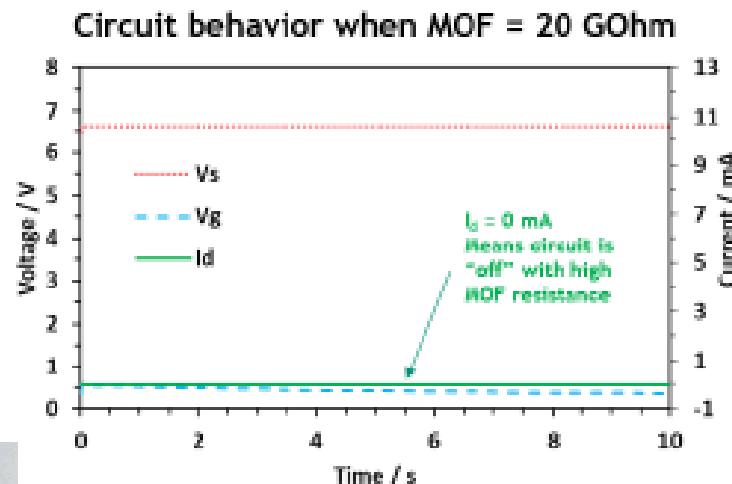
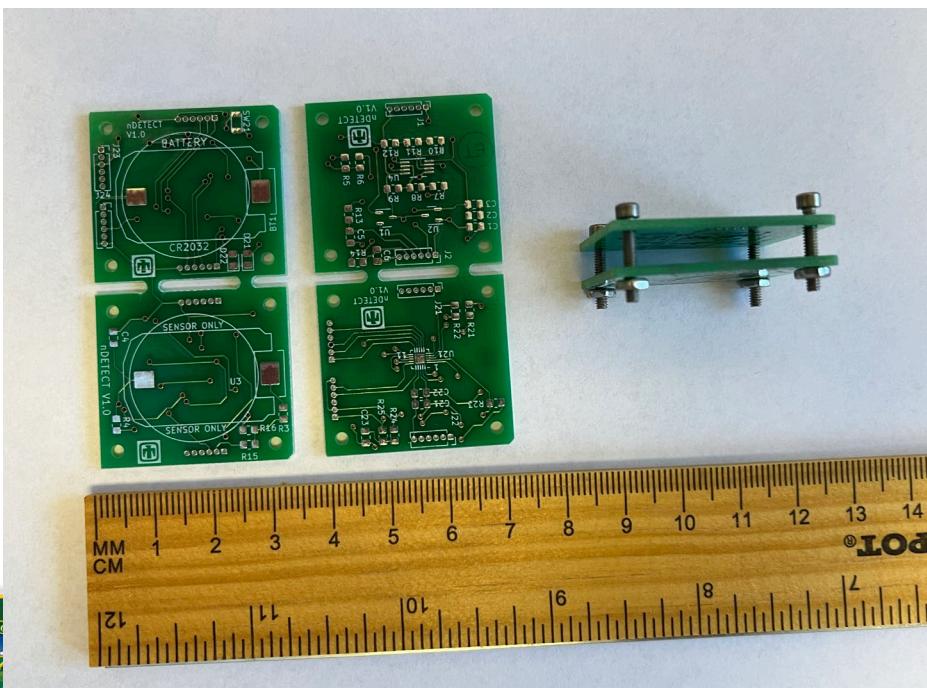


# Low power MOF-based sensor with Simple, Passive Detection Gas System

It is comprised on a

- MOF resistance changes upon exposure to a target gas;
- an electrical circuit,
- a user interface indicator configured to signal exposure to the target gas
- a field-effect transistor (FET).

Current from the power source to flow in the electrical circuit and causing the user interface indicator to signal exposure to the target gas.



# Wall Street Journal Profile: Nanoporous Sensors Research

## These Tiny Ultra-Porous Crystals Could Transform Cancer Treatments and More

By Dominique Mosbergen

Oct. 15, 2022 9:47 am ET

[https://www.wsj.com/articles/these-tiny-ultra-porous-crystals-could-transform-cancer-treatments-and-more-11665841634?mod=life\\_work\\_featured\\_strip\\_pos1](https://www.wsj.com/articles/these-tiny-ultra-porous-crystals-could-transform-cancer-treatments-and-more-11665841634?mod=life_work_featured_strip_pos1)



Tina Nenoff, a senior scientist at Sandia National Laboratories: MOFs could be used as sensors to detect toxic gases or to separate gases.

PHOTO: STEPHANIE BLACKWELL/SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

► “Tina Nenoff, a senior scientist at Sandia National Laboratories, a federally funded research laboratory that specializes in national security, said MOFs can be expensive to make, particularly when they include costly metals like zinc or gold. As technology improves and more MOFs are created, she said she expected costs to drop. Dr. Nenoff is exploring how MOFs could be used as sensors to detect toxic gases or to separate one gas from another. The Department of Energy and Department of Defense have funded research into these sensors, Dr. Nenoff said, which she noted could one day be used by the U.S. military to detect the chemicals that aging munitions emit into the environment, among other uses. “Depending on how you design them, how you decorate them, you can make MOFs very selective for almost any application,” said Dr. Nenoff.”



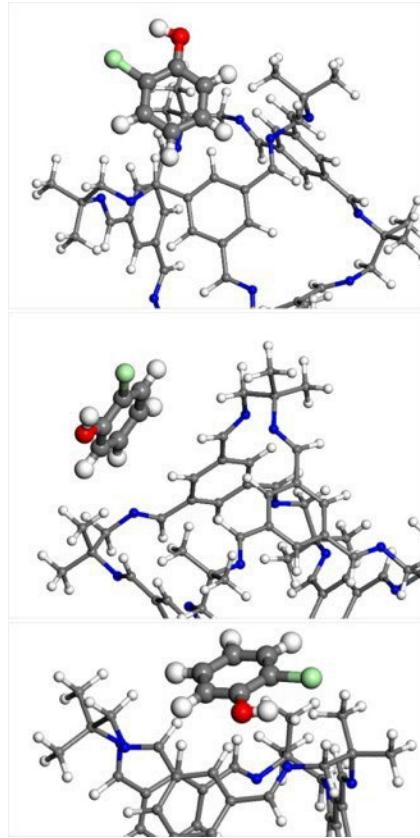
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# 2020s Computationally Driven, Experimentally Validated, Rapid Materials Discovery

25

TRL 1: Materials design & realization of adsorbents to selectively adsorb industrial caustic acid gases



## DFT & AIMD for mixed Gas competitive binding

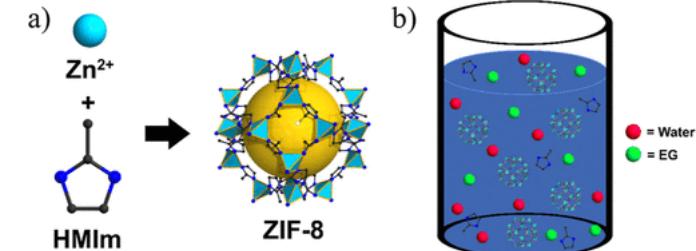
- ACS Appl. Mater. & Interfaces, 2022, 14(16), 18005
- J. Mol. Liq., 2023, 377, 1, 121536
- J. Phys. Chem. A, 2023, 127, 13, 2881

Computation

Mixed gas adsorption Testing

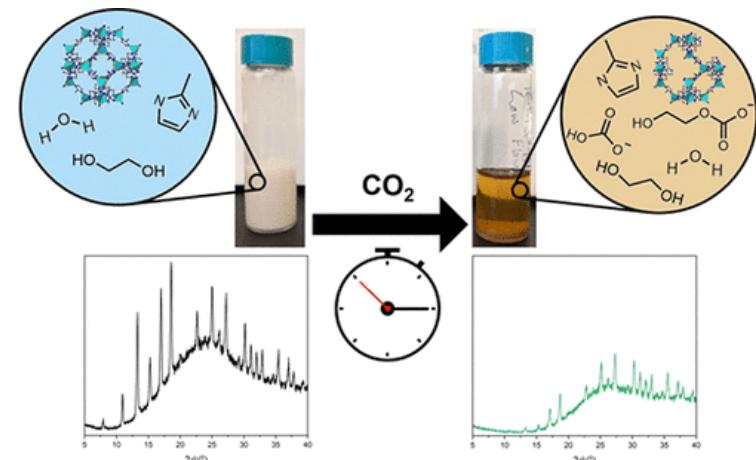
Materials Synthesis

Characterization



## Green House Gases Adsorption: Porous Liquids

- "Pore Space: Solvent Exclusion Limits of ZIF-based Type 23 Porous Liquids" ACS Mater. Au, 2023, in prep.



## CO<sub>2</sub> DAC adsorption and stability testing

- ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces 2023, 15 (27), 32792
- "Deformation of ZIF-8 cages via CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption in Type 3 Porous Liquid", J. Phys. Chem. C. 2023, in preparation



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# DOE/BES/EFRC: “UNCAGE-ME” Complex, Multidisciplinary Team

**UNCAGE-ME Mission Statement:** Develop a deep knowledge base in the characterization, prediction, control of materials evolution in the presence of realistic contaminants, processes & mixtures **to accelerate materials discovery for sustainable production and utilization of H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>**

**Phase 1 2014-2018**

**Phase 2 2018-2022**

**Phase 3 2022-2026:**

4 years

\$13.2M total

**8 partner institutions:**

GA Tech Univ

Oak Ridge National Lab

Sandia National Labs

University of AL

USC

Lehigh University

University of MI

University of FL

[www.efrc.chbe.gatech.edu](http://www.efrc.chbe.gatech.edu)

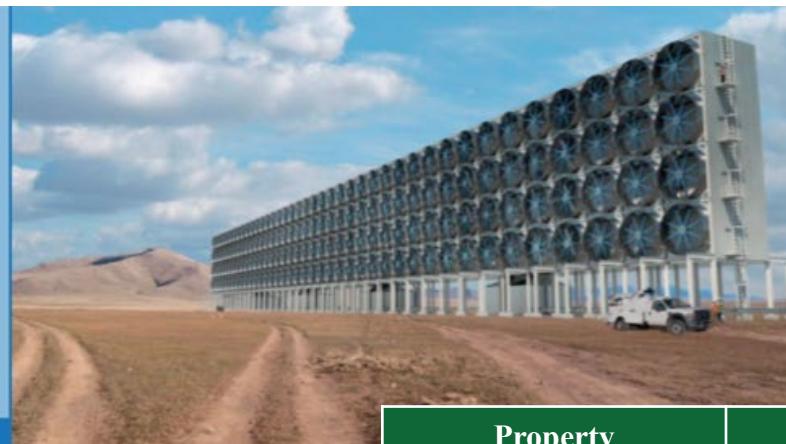
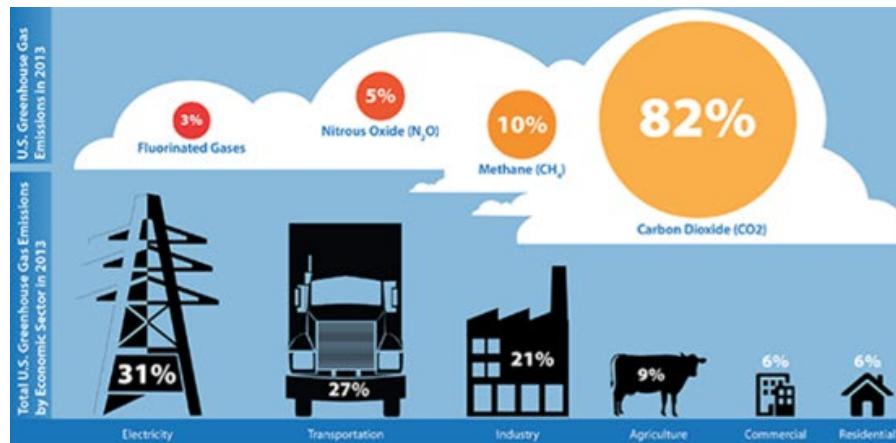


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- International action is required to limit greenhouse gas emissions, primarily CO<sub>2</sub>, to limit global warming to 2°C
- Direct air capture (DAC) is an emerging technology that allows for flexibility technology placement, but is technologically demanding with unique requirements compared with capture from post-combustion streams
- DAC is identified as a critical technology for global carbon management in the *US DOE Report on Basic Research Needs for Carbon Capture: Beyond 2020* and the *US National Academies Report on Negative Emission Technologies and Reliable Sequestration: A Research Agenda*

**The ability to selectively capture CO<sub>2</sub> from dilute gases will enable *low cost, energy efficient* carbon capture that can be performed anywhere, without requiring technologies to be co-located with carbon sources.**



CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in ambient air is ~400 ppm, requiring a CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> selectivity of ~2000 and a CO<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> selectivity of ~50 for DAC, far beyond current technological capabilities

Property	Ambient Air	Post-Combustion Streams
Amount of CO <sub>2</sub>	3 Tt	20 Gt/year
Concentration	~400 ppm, infinite, uniform	5-15%, high flow
Temperature	10-30°C,	45-75°C
Contaminants	Low	SO <sub>x</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> , Hg, particulates
Humidity	~49% RH	~80% RH

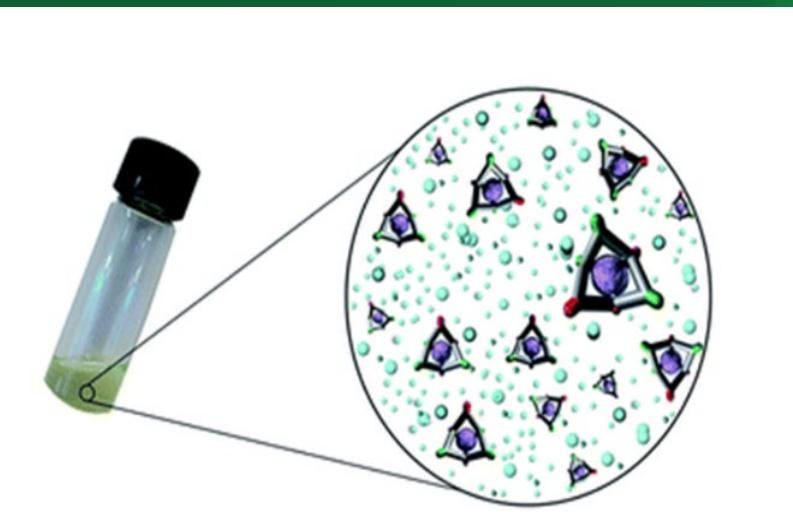
Pacala et al. Negative emissions technologies and reliable sequestration: a research agenda. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press: 2018. Jones Annual review of chemical and biomolecular engineering 2011, 2, 31-52.

# Greenhouse Gas capture – Amine technologies

- ▶ Efficient and sustainable technologies to separate carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from other gases is important for a number of processes, including post-combustion carbon capture, natural gas sweetening and biogas upgrading
- ▶ Current technologies for separating CO<sub>2</sub> from methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) are based on CO<sub>2</sub>-selective solvents such as aqueous amines or polyethylene glycol ethers (PEGEs)
- ▶ The high regeneration energy requirement of aqueous amines, and the relatively low selectivity and CO<sub>2</sub> capture capacity of PEGEs compared to aqueous amines
- ▶ Solvents that perform better in reversibly dissolving large amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> selectively in the presence of other gases are of high interest
- ▶ Porous liquids (PLs), are an emerging type of solvents that combine the advantages of the well-defined porosity of microporous solids with the fluidity of liquid

# Porous Liquids (PLs)

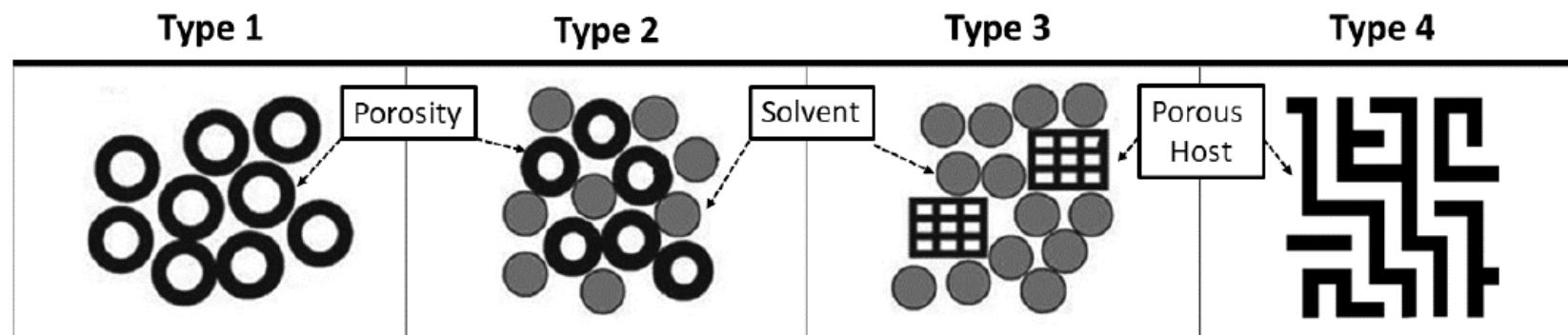
- **Porous liquids (PLs)** = stable combination of solvent and porous cages that create a liquid with *permanent porosity*.
- Intrinsic porosity exists inside the porous hosts, which is stable due to steric exclusion of the solvent.
- Neat liquids have extrinsic and *transient porosity* due to cavity formation and does not provide stable adsorption sites.
- PLs are not simply mixtures of a solvent and a solid. The structural and chemical ordering governed by the interactions between the different components and molecules to form a stable, complex liquid with tunable adsorption properties.



**Figure 2: Schematic of Type 2 porous liquid with dissolved gases (purple)**

Giri, Nicola, et al. *Nature* 527.7577 (2015): 216-220.

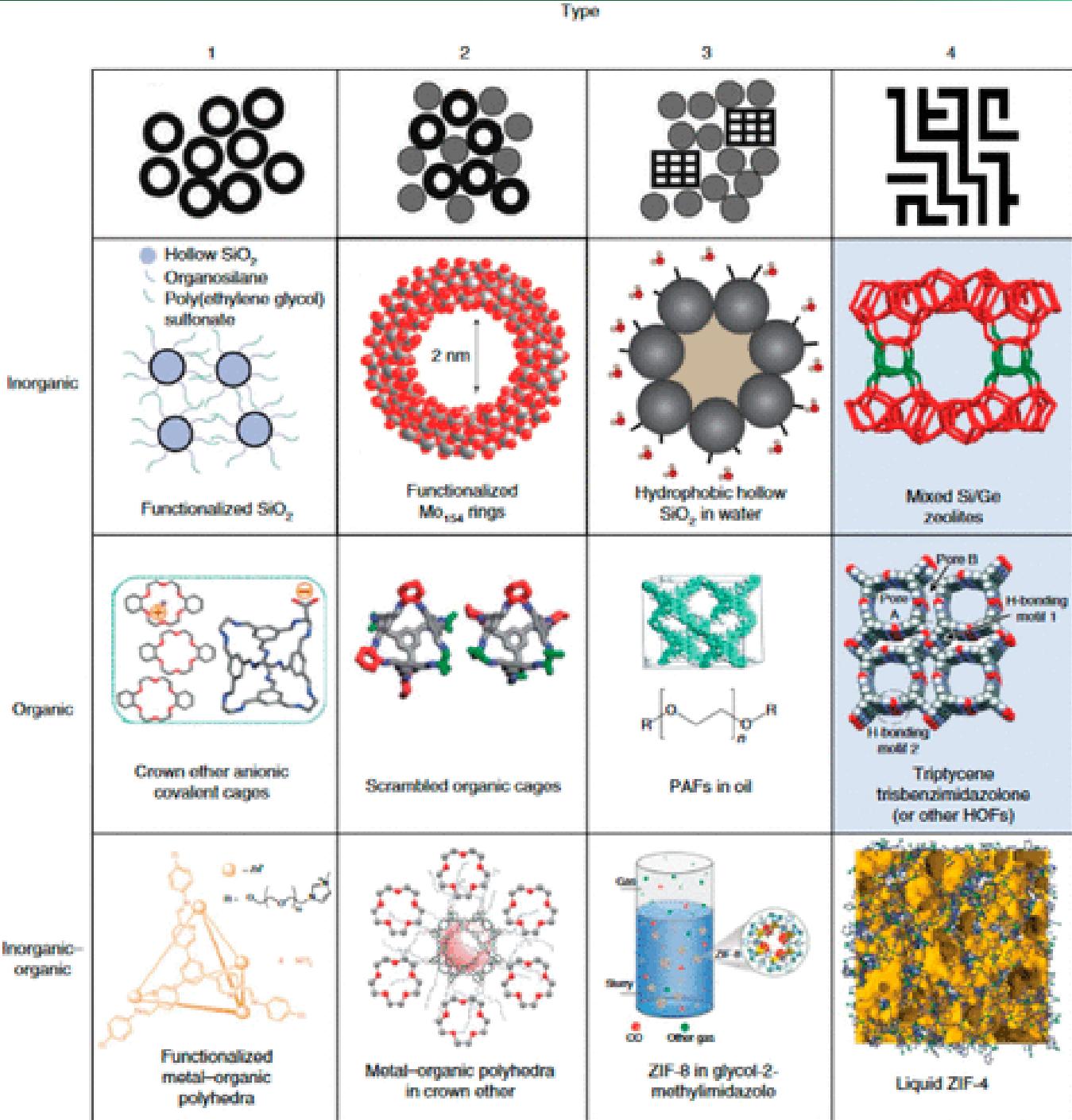
**Four types of PLs have been reported since their discovery in 2015**



# PL Types

## Schematics of PL types.

- Type 1 PLs consist of intrinsically porous hosts (open circles); RARE
- Type 2 PLs contain dissolved porous hosts in sterically hindered solvents (filled circles); true thermodynamic solutions; TUNABLE COMPOSITIONS.
- Type 3 PLs consist of microporous hosts (square grids) within a sterically hindered solvent; form suspensions and slurries and require control over particle size and solid-liquid interactions; ***MOST TUNABILITY IN COMPOSITIONS.***
- Type 4 PLs are neat microporous hosts that form transient, strongly associated liquids; RARE



## Invited Perspective:

Rimsza & Nenoff, "Porous Liquids: Computational Design for Targeted Gas Adsorption" *ACS AMI 2022*, 14, 18005-18015

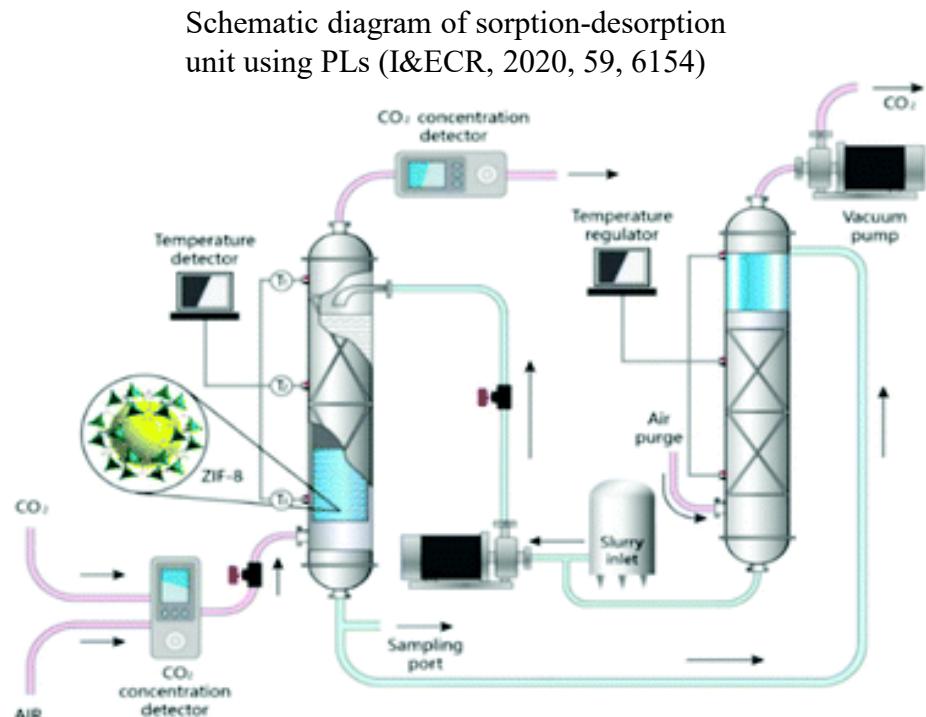


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# Porous Liquids (PLs)

- ▶ Utilization of industrial infrastructure with enhanced selectivity tuned to greenhouse gases of interest
- ▶ For Example: S. James team (Tsang, et.al, *Materials Today*, 2022, 60, 9-16)
  - ▶ Dispersing ca. 12.5 wt% CO<sub>2</sub>-selective zeolite rho solid into the commercial CO<sub>2</sub> capture solvent Genosorb converts it into a porous liquid with at least 2.5 times greater CO<sub>2</sub> capacity and CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> selectivity compared to Genosorb itself.
  - ▶ This is predicted to result in more economical separation processes, particularly for biogas upgrading.
- ▶ PLs performs as adsorption for selective separation
- ▶ PLs possess high adsorption capacity and efficiency compared to the solvent
- ▶ Can be engineered into continuous cyclic separations processes
- ▶ Translation from absorption to adsorption means the high required regeneration aspect compared to solvents decreases
- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub> captured by amine solutions is a traditional industrial process for CO<sub>2</sub> removal, possible to upgrade system to PLs instead of amines



Func. Org. Liq. 2019, 39; Angew. Chem. 2018, 57, 11909; ACS AMI 2021, 13, 932; Nat. Comm. 214, 5, 5147

# 1) Materials & Performance Design by Modeling: Computational design for targeted gas adsorption

**Invited Perspective:** Rimsza & Nenoff, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2022**, *14*, 18005

The unique gas adsorption capabilities of porous liquids (PLs) and the

Binding comes from

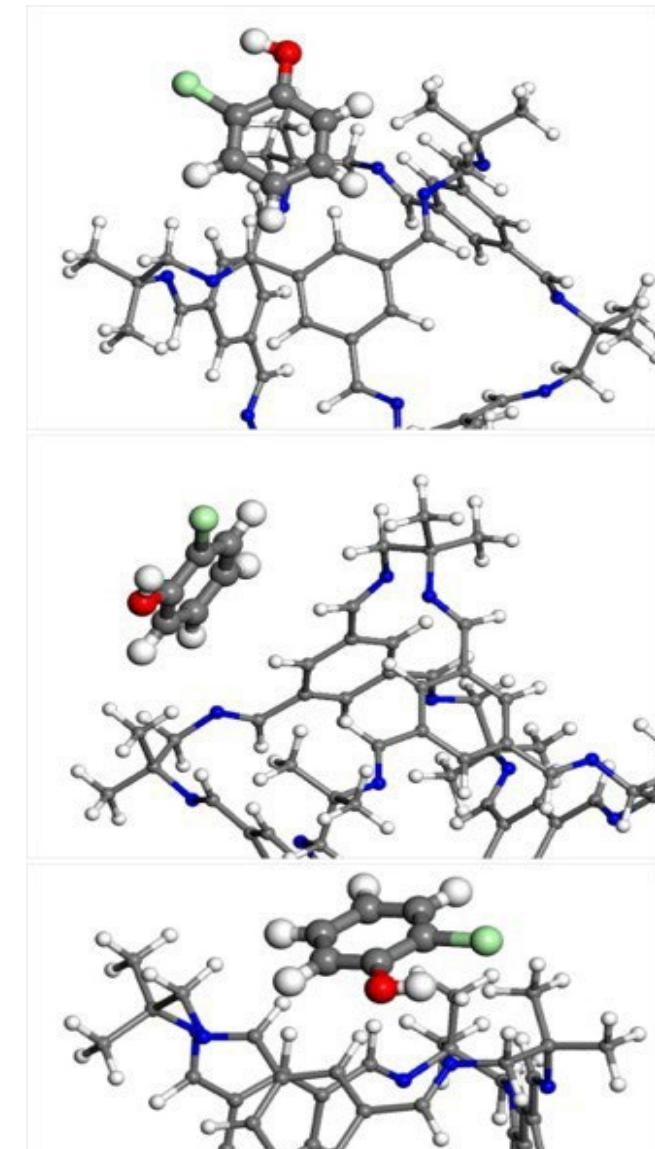
- the structure (multiple gas binding sites in the pore and on the cage surface)
- varying binding mechanisms (hydrogen-bonding and  $\pi$ – $\pi$  interactions)
- selective diffusion in the solvent

Tunable PL compositions will require fundamental investigations of

- competitive gas binding mechanisms,
- thermal effects on binding site stability, and the
- role of nanoconfinement on gas and solvent diffusion

that can be accelerated through molecular modeling

Modeling of structure-property relationships can also help predict possible mechanical based regeneration

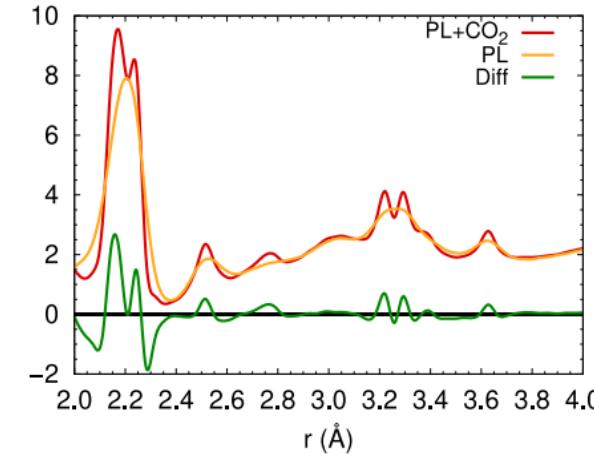
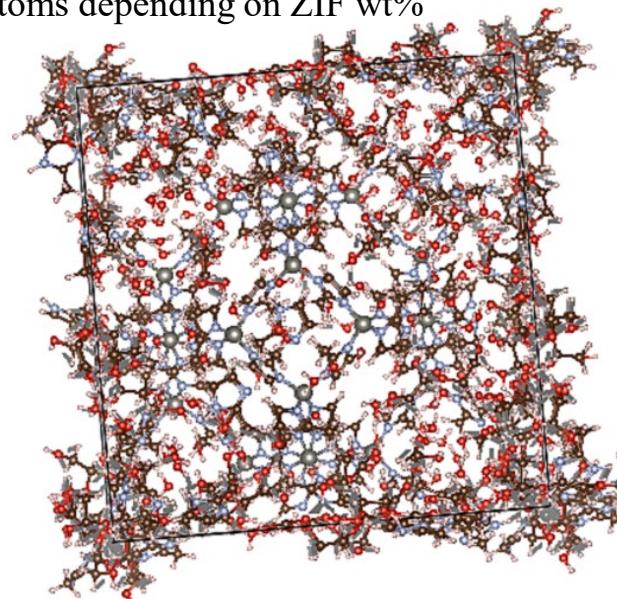


# Predicting CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption mechanisms at the ZIF-9 interface in Type 3 PLs

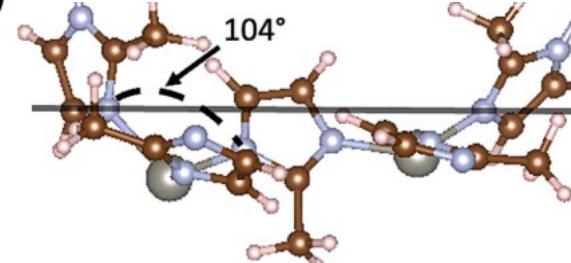
- ▶ PLs great interest due to their permanent porosity and high adsorption capacity
- ▶ Use of ZIF MOFs require exclusion of solvents from pores for gas diffusion
- ▶ Gas adsorption sites in/ ZIF PLs has been unknown, possibly in the ZIF pore or at the MOF-solvent interface
- ▶ DFT + ab initio molecular dynamics (AIMD) was used to predict CO<sub>2</sub> binding sites in a PL composed of a ZIF-8 particle solvated in a 17:33:128 ratio water, ethylene glycol, and 2-methylimidazole solvent system\*

Christian, et.al., *J. Mole. Liq.*  
2024, 395, 123913

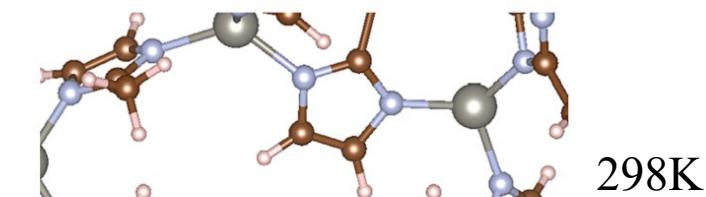
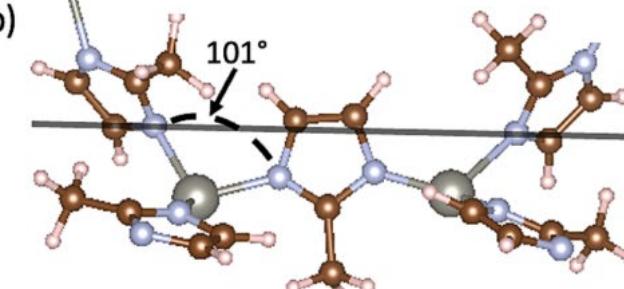
~2000 atoms depending on ZIF wt%



a)



b)



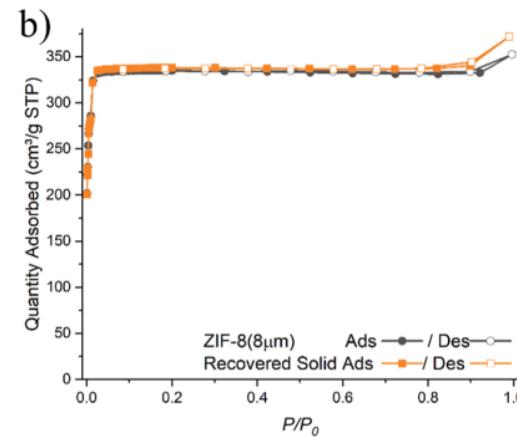
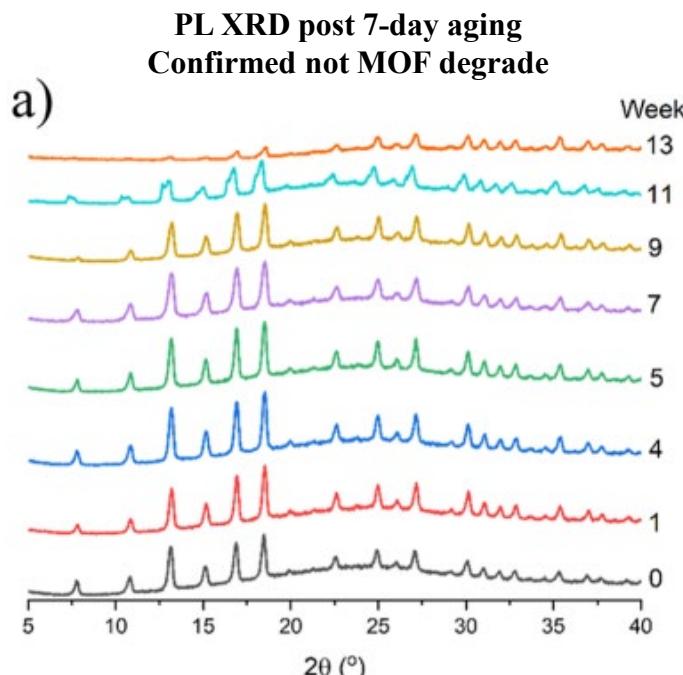
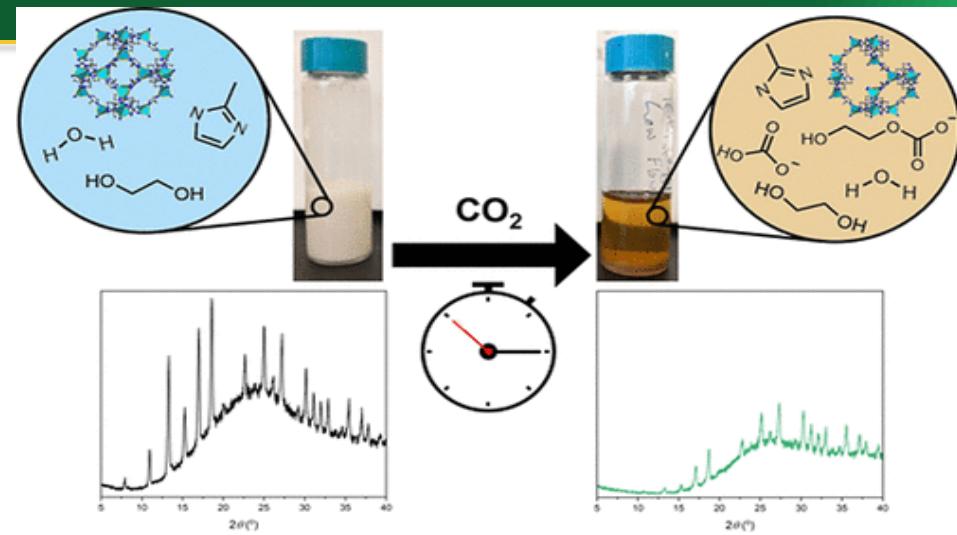
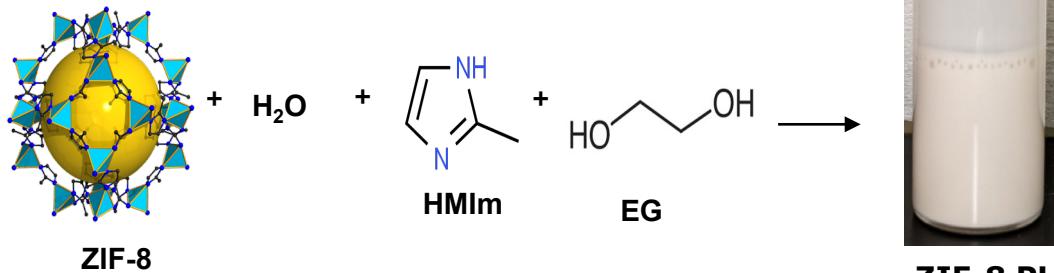
298K

# Nanoparticle of MOF dictating CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption

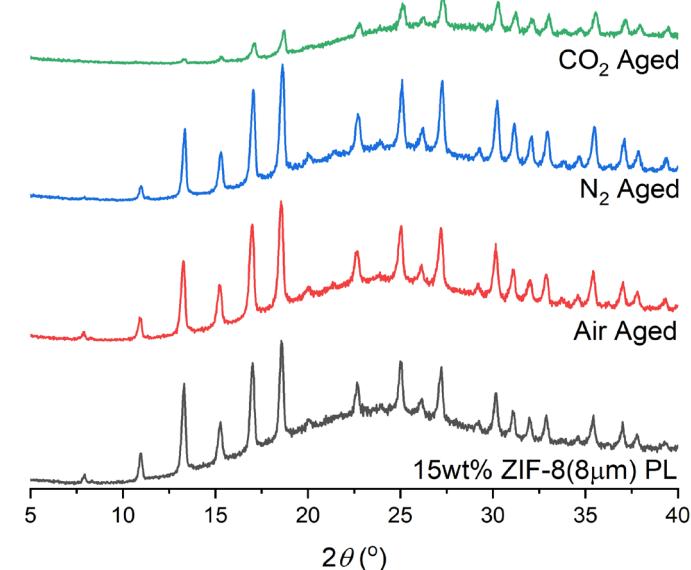
- ▶ The results show that CO<sub>2</sub> energetically prefers to reside inside the ZIF-8 pore aperture due to strong van der Waals interactions with the terminal imidazoles.
- ▶ However, the CO<sub>2</sub> binding site can be blocked by larger solvent molecules that have greater adsorption interactions.
- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub> molecules were unable to diffuse into the ZIF-8 pore, with CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption occurring due to binding with the ZIF-8 surface.
- ▶ the presence of solvent-nanoporous host interface in the PL is a driving force for the improved CO<sub>2</sub> capture in these Type 3 PLs.
- ▶ *Modeling predicts that future design of ZIF-based PLs for enhanced CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption should be based on the strength of gas binding at the solvated particle surface.*
- ▶ ***Guide for synthesis experimentation***

## 2) Type 3 PL aging mechanism under $\text{CO}_2$ adsorption: Modeling, Synthesis, NMR

**Synthesis:** Exemplar ZIF-8 PL was formed with a solvent mixture of water, ethylene glycol (EG), and 2-methylimidazole (HMIm) at 40, 35, and 25 wt% respectively



Hurlock, M. J.; et. al. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* 2023, 15 (27), 32792  
Christian, M.S., Hurlock M.J., Nenoff, T.M., Rimsza, J.M. *J. Mole. Liquids*, 2023, 395, 123913.



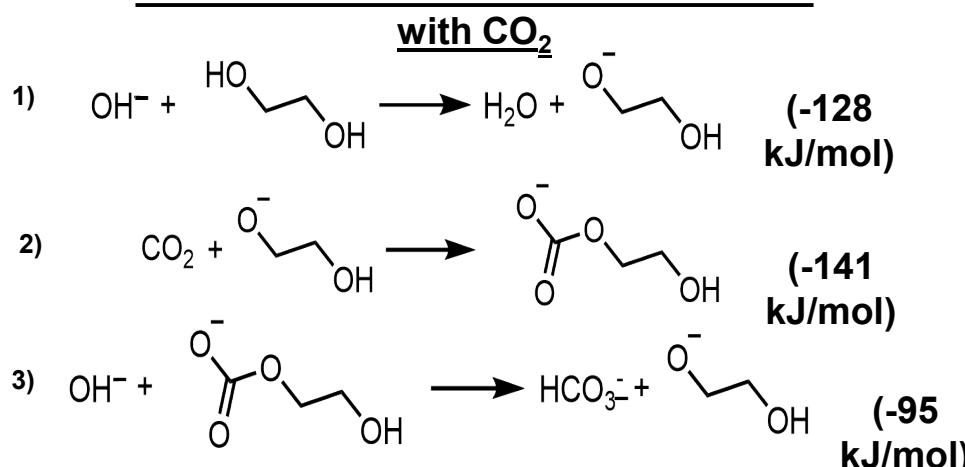
# Type 3 PL aging mechanism under CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption: Modeling, Synthesis, NMR

## Computational Data:

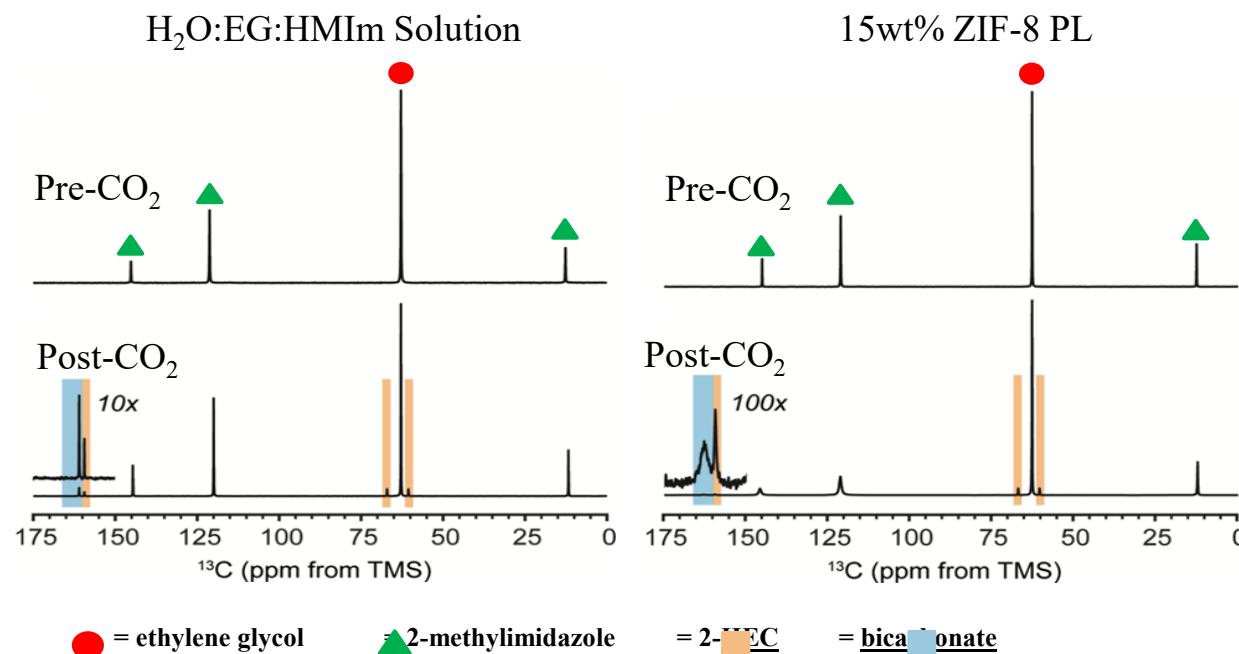
Density functional theory (DFT) FHI-AIMS was used to calculate formation enthalpies of possible CO<sub>2</sub> speciation in PLs

- Deprotonated EG reacts with CO<sub>2</sub> most energetically favorable reaction
- EG deprotonation via OH<sup>-</sup> species
- Modeling verified by NMR: new presence of carbonate species

## Calculated Reaction Mechanism of EG



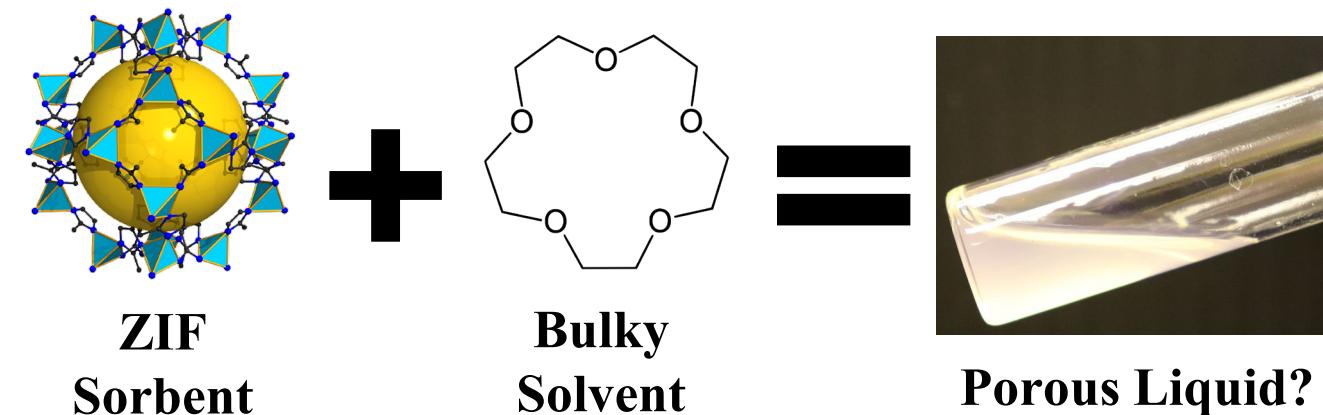
## NMR Verification:



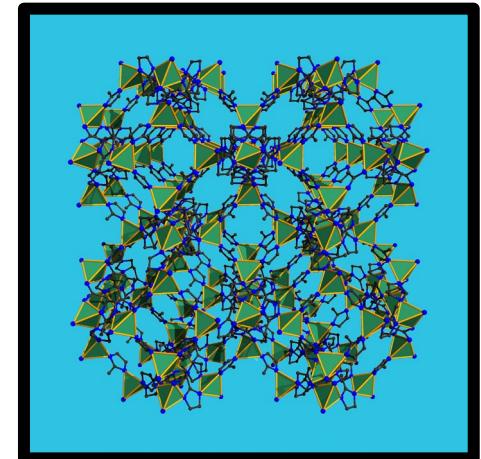
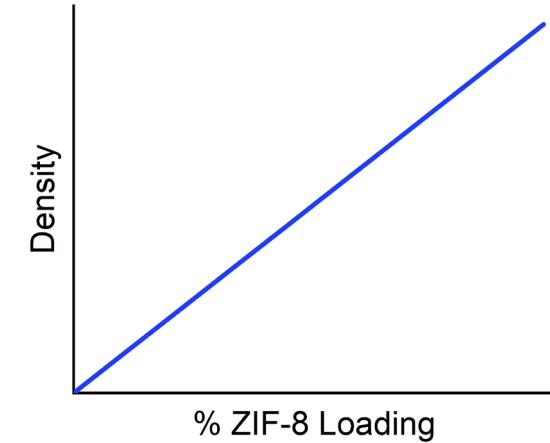
Solvent-CO<sub>2</sub> reactions cause degradation of PL.

**Modeling:** identify/predict solvent reactivity and speciation, particularly with complex mixed solvent systems

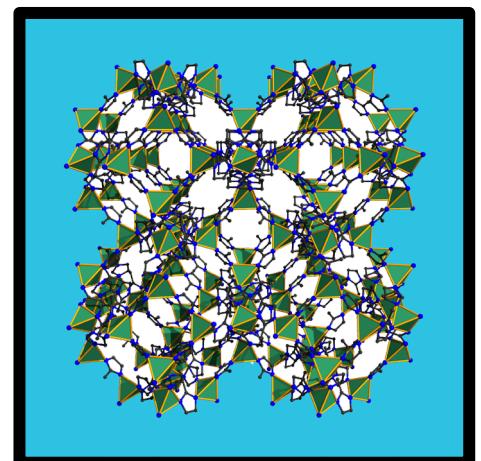
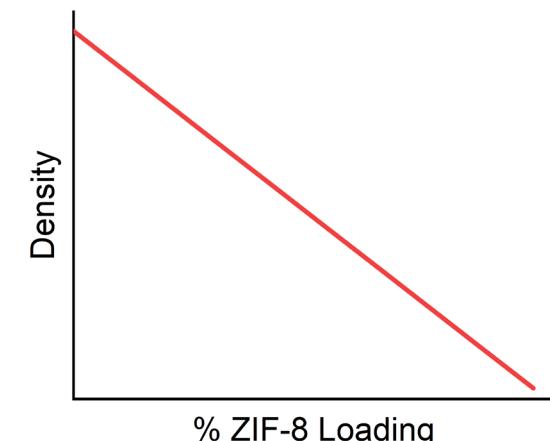
### 3) Ensuring Nanoporosity in PLs via Solvent Size-Exclusion within ZIF-Based PLs: Synthesis/Characterization, Modeling



Increasing Density = Solvent Adsorbed



Decreasing Density = Solvent Excluded

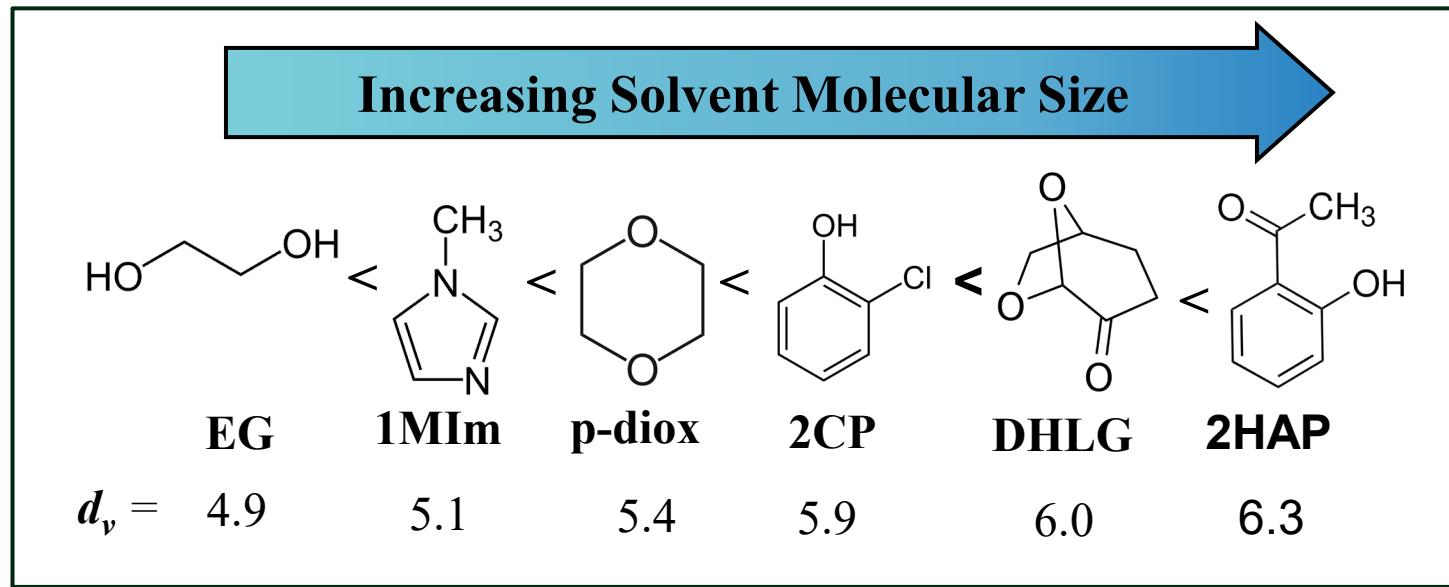


- PL formation requires a size-excluded solvent
- Solvent adsorption in Type 3 PLs is not well characterized in reported systems
- Density measurements are a simple method to evaluate sorbent porosity in Type 2 and 3 PLs

*Nature*, 2022, 608, 712; *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 2023, 63 (29), 11689-11696

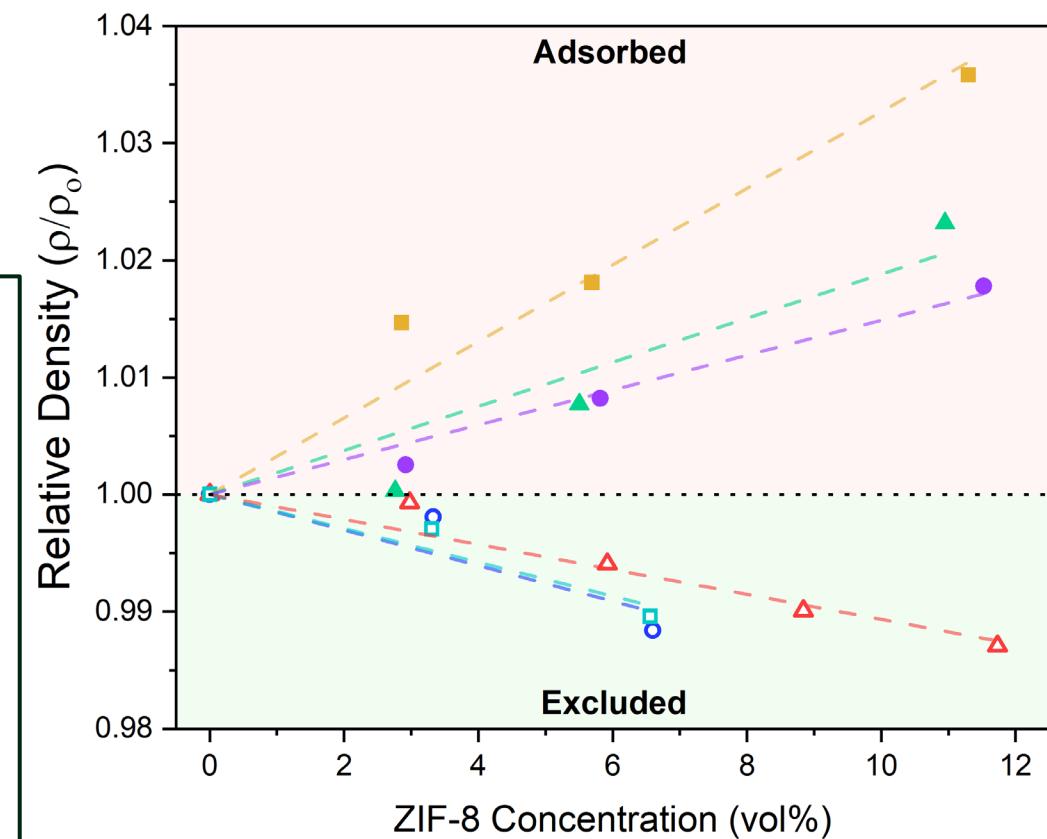
# Pore Aperture Expansion of ZIF-8 Influences Solvent Adsorption

- ▶ Solvents selected over a range of molecular sizes
- ▶ Molecular diameters ( $d_v$ ) were calculated from van der Waal volumes *J. Org. Chem.* 2003, 68, 19, 7368



- ▶ Density analysis was performed on ZIF+solvent combinations at varying ZIF loadings

**Adsorbed solvent diameters 60% larger than ZIF-8 pore aperture**

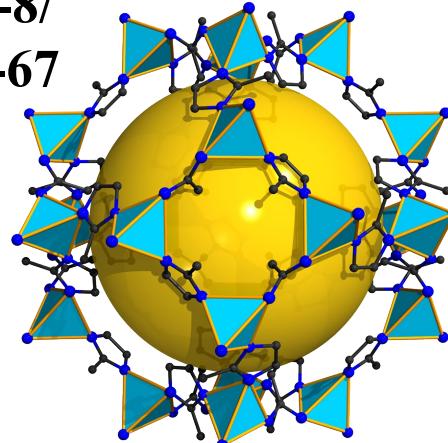


<u>Adsorbed Solvents</u>	<u>Excluded Solvents</u>
● EG	○ 2CP
▲ 1MIm	△ 2HAP
■ p-diox	□ DHLC

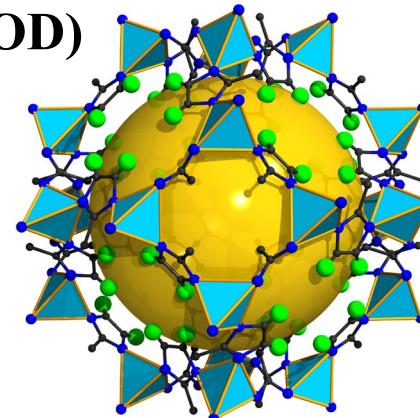
# ZIFs Used to Examine Structure-Property Relationships

**ZIF properties can be controlled through variation of the metal center, topology, pore aperture size, and linker functionalization**

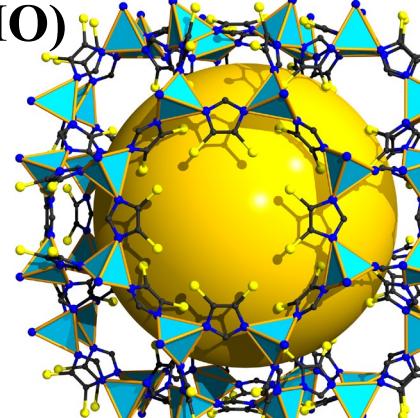
(Zn)ZIF-8/  
(Co)ZIF-67



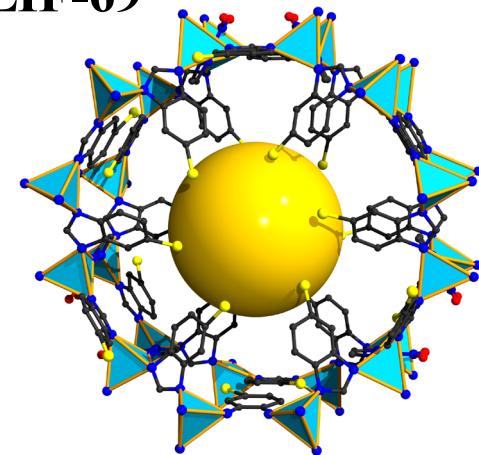
ZIF-71  
(SOD)



ZIF-71  
(RHO)



ZIF-69



Pore aperture



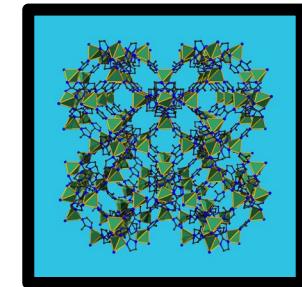
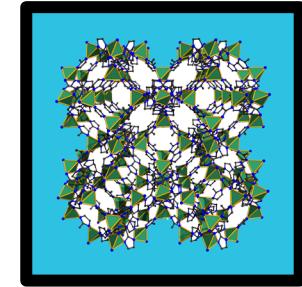
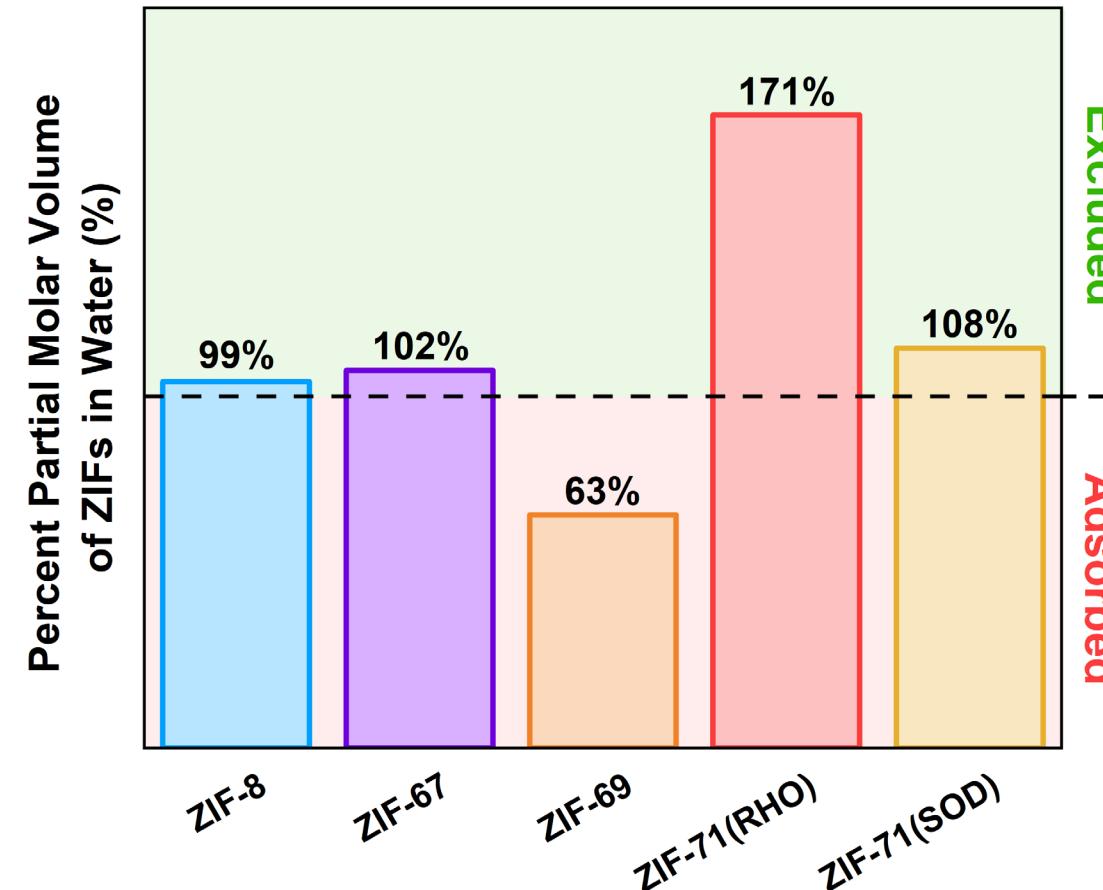
ZIF	Metal	Topology	Pore Aperture (Å)	Density (g/mL)
ZIF-8	Zn	SOD	3.4	0.94
ZIF-67	Co	SOD	3.4	0.90
ZIF-71	Zn	SOD	3.8	1.41
ZIF-71	Zn	RHO	4.2	1.16
ZIF-69	Zn	GME	4.4	0.99

*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2015, 137 (38), 12304-12311  
*Science* 2008, 319 (5865), 939-943  
*CrystEngComm*, 2016, 18, 2477-2489

# Exclusion of Water from ZIF Pores is Influenced by Framework Hydrophobicity

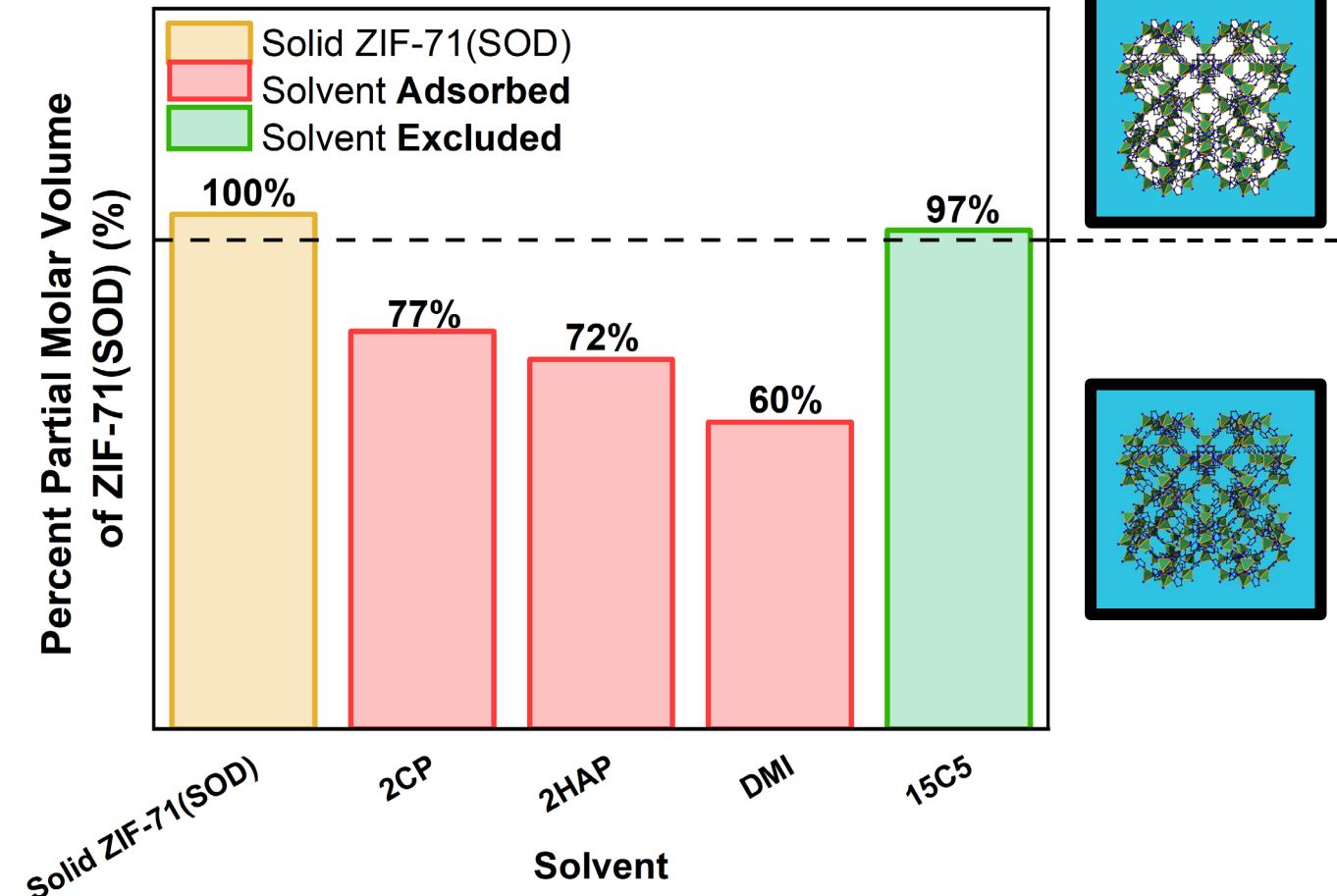
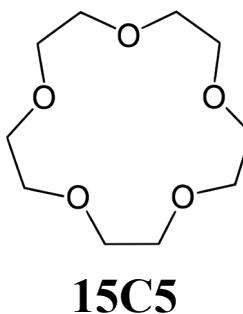
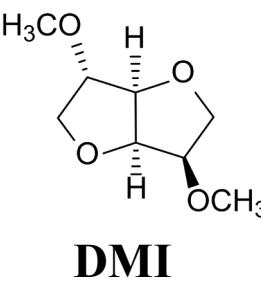
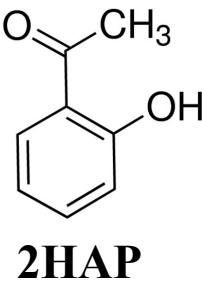
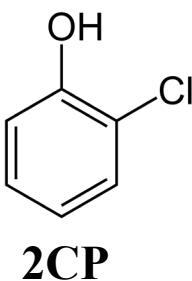
- ▶ Different systems compared through the change in partial molar volumes
- ▶ Partial molar volume changes were calculated from density measurements
  - ▶ **Decreased** partial molar volumes indicate solvent adsorbed
  - ▶ **Unchanged/Increased** partial molar volumes indicate solvent excluded
- ▶ Highly *hydrophobic* ZIFs showed increased partial molar volumes
- ▶ *Hydrophilic* ZIFs showed decreased partial molar volumes

Polar linker functionalization led to water adsorption by ZIF-69

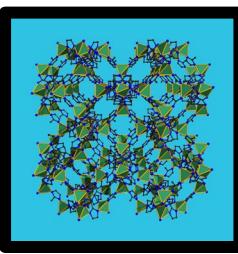
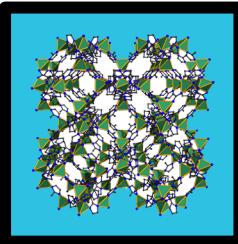


# Pore Aperture Expansion Controls Solvent Size-Exclusion in ZIF-based PLs

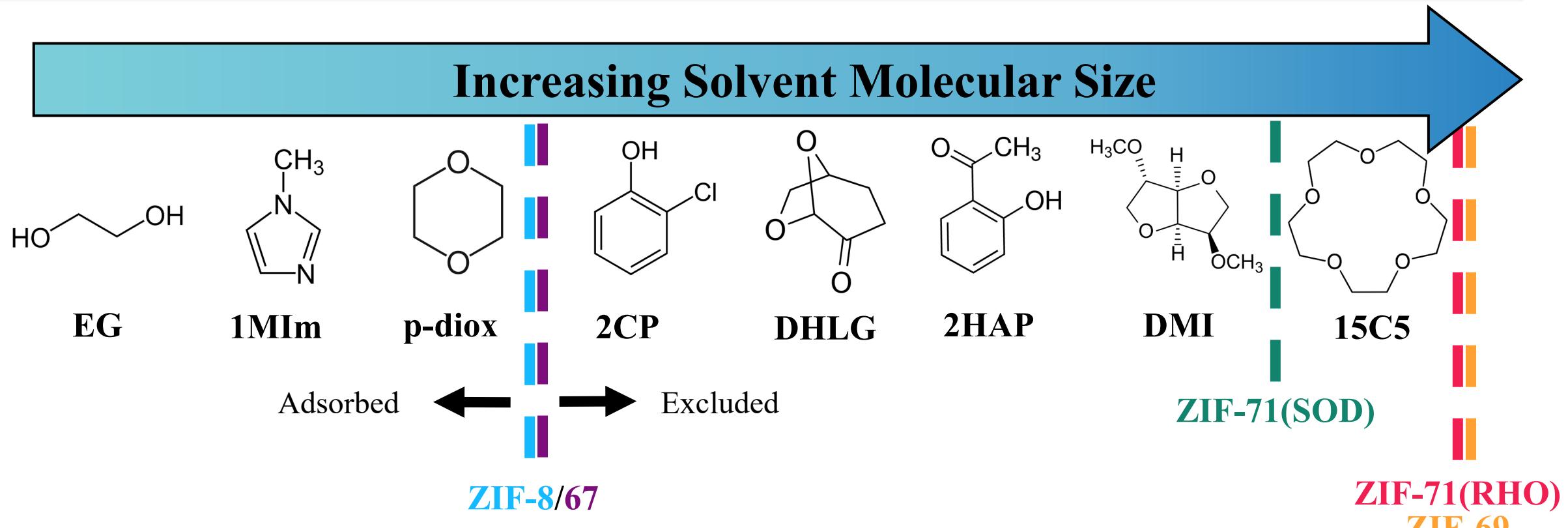
- ▶ Density analysis applied to different ZIFs in solvents of varying molecular size
- ▶ Partial molar volume changes <5% indicated solvent exclusion
- ▶ Large pore aperture ZIFs showed larger aperture expansion >70%
- ▶ Identified eight new ZIF+solvent PL combinations



**Size-excluded solvents were always larger than the ZIF pore apertures**



# Pore Aperture Expansion Controls Solvent Size-Exclusion in ZIF-based PLs



**Solvents 1.8x the size of the crystallographic pore aperture are size-excluded from pores in ZIF-based PLs**

## 4) Solvent Size and Pore Aperture Effects on CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption

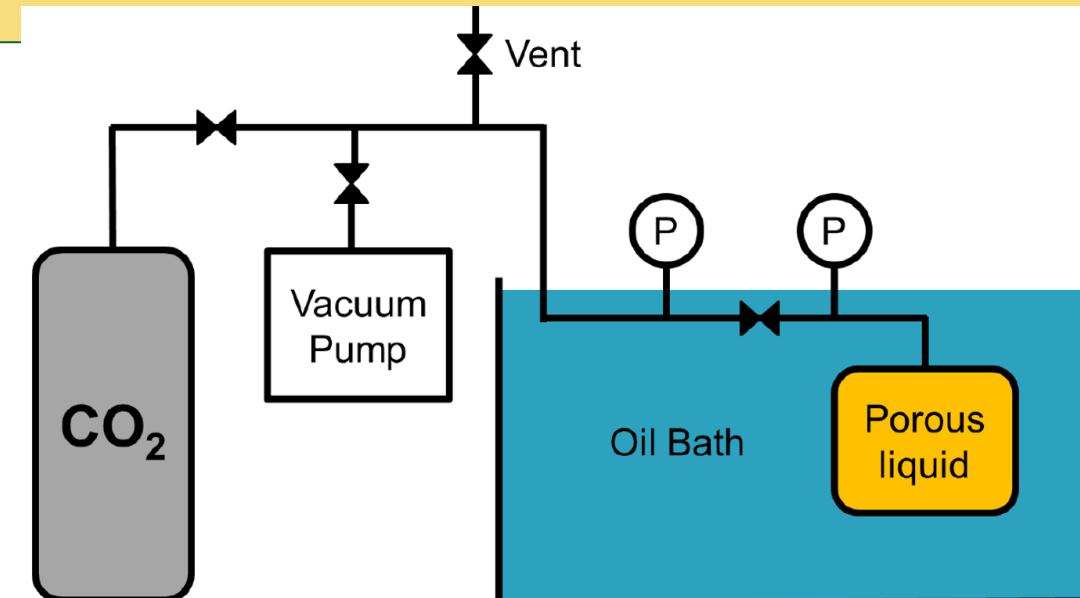
**Synthesis:** Three variations of MOF studied, porous ZIF-8, 2D ZIF-L, no pore a<sub>m</sub>ZIF-8

**Modeling:** Computational simulations identified 2HAP as selective for CO<sub>2</sub>, and was chosen as size-excluded solvent

**Testing:** Gas adsorption isotherms of ZIF+solvent combinations performed using GA Tech's unique pressure decay system

**Verification:** Experiment validated computational predictions on selectivity of CO<sub>2</sub> vs N<sub>2</sub> under pressure and validated force fields used

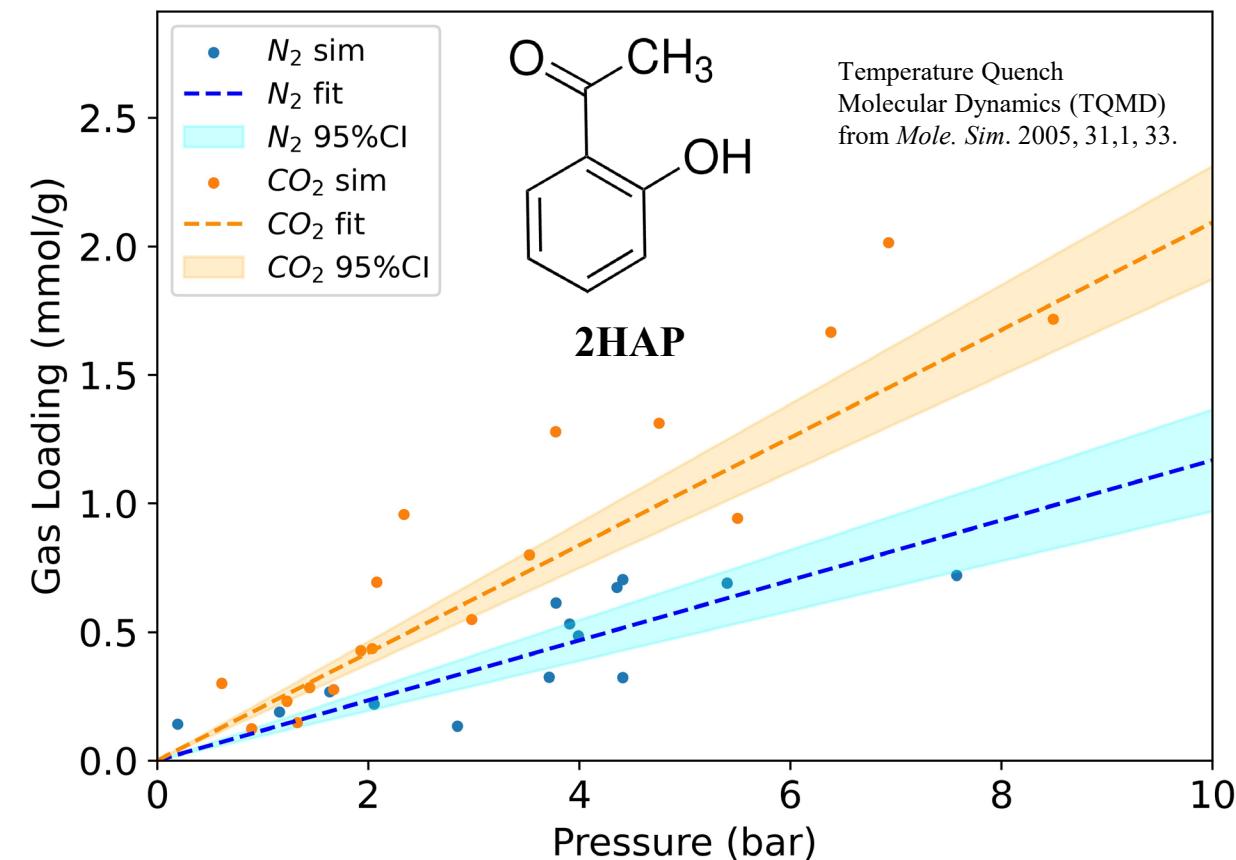
CO<sub>2</sub> Gas adsorption isotherms collected using house-built apparatus at GA Tech.



Hurlock, M. J.; Lu, L.; Sarswat, A.; Chang, C-W.; Rimsza, J.M.; Sholl, D.; Lively, R. Nenoff, T.M. "Exploitation of Pore Aperture Environment for Increased CO<sub>2</sub> Uptake in Type 3 Porous Liquids" *ACS AMI*, 2024, submitted.

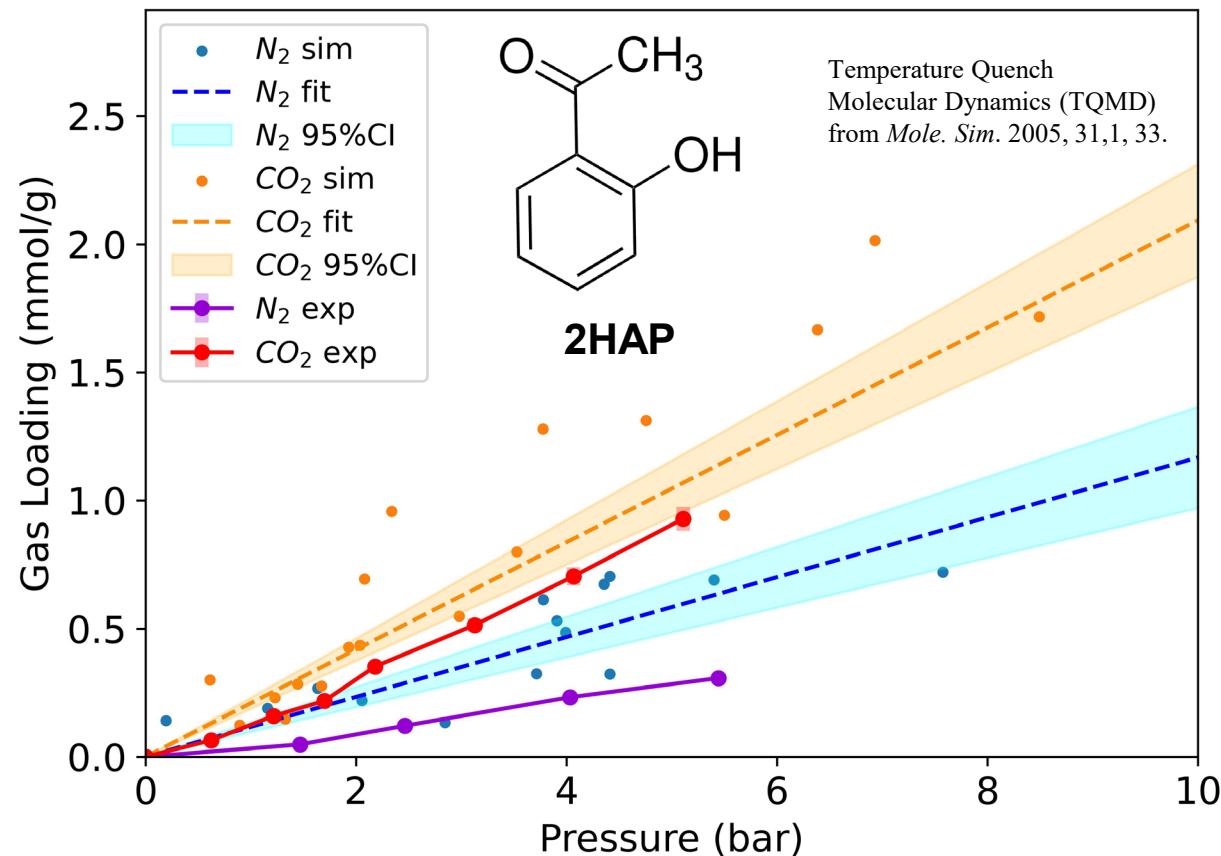
# Prediction of CO<sub>2</sub> Selective Size-Excluded Solvents for ZIF-8-based PLs

- ▶ 2HAP solvent verified to be size-excluded from ZIF-8 using density measurements
- ▶ Temperature Quench Molecular Dynamics (TQMD) used to simulate CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> gas solubilities in 2HAP
  - ▶ Simulations performed by Sholl Lab at GA Tech.
- ▶ Simulations predict higher CO<sub>2</sub> solubilities compared to N<sub>2</sub> in 2HAP
- ▶ Experimental results align with trends predicted by simulations



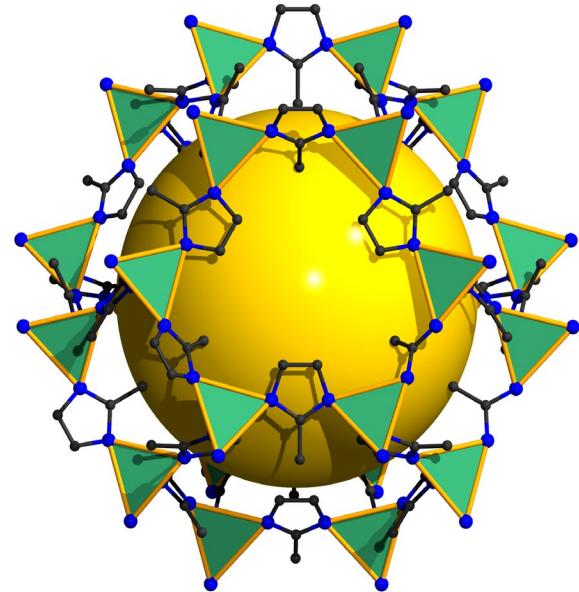
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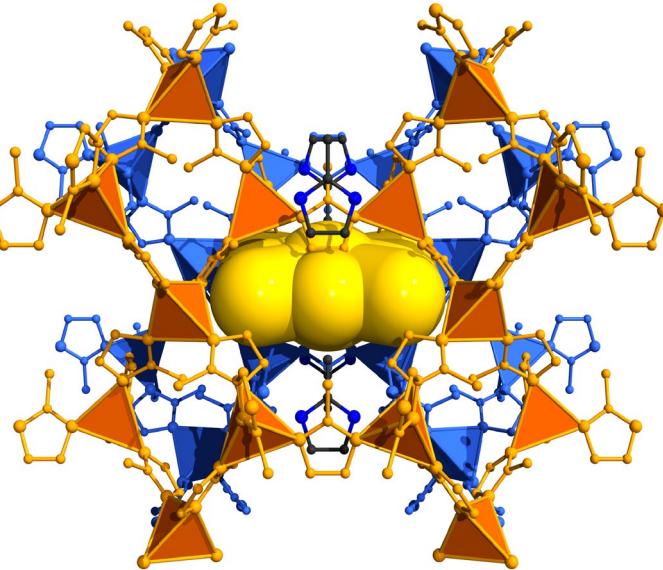


**2HAP computationally predicted and experimentally confirmed to be selective for CO<sub>2</sub>**

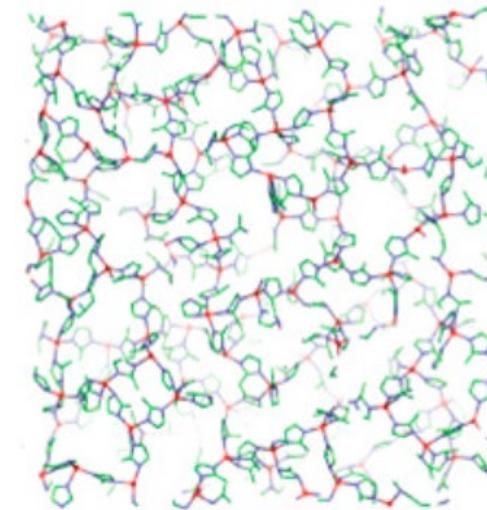
# Solvent Size and Pore Aperture Effects on CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption



3D ZIF-8 pore



2D ZIF-L surface "pore"

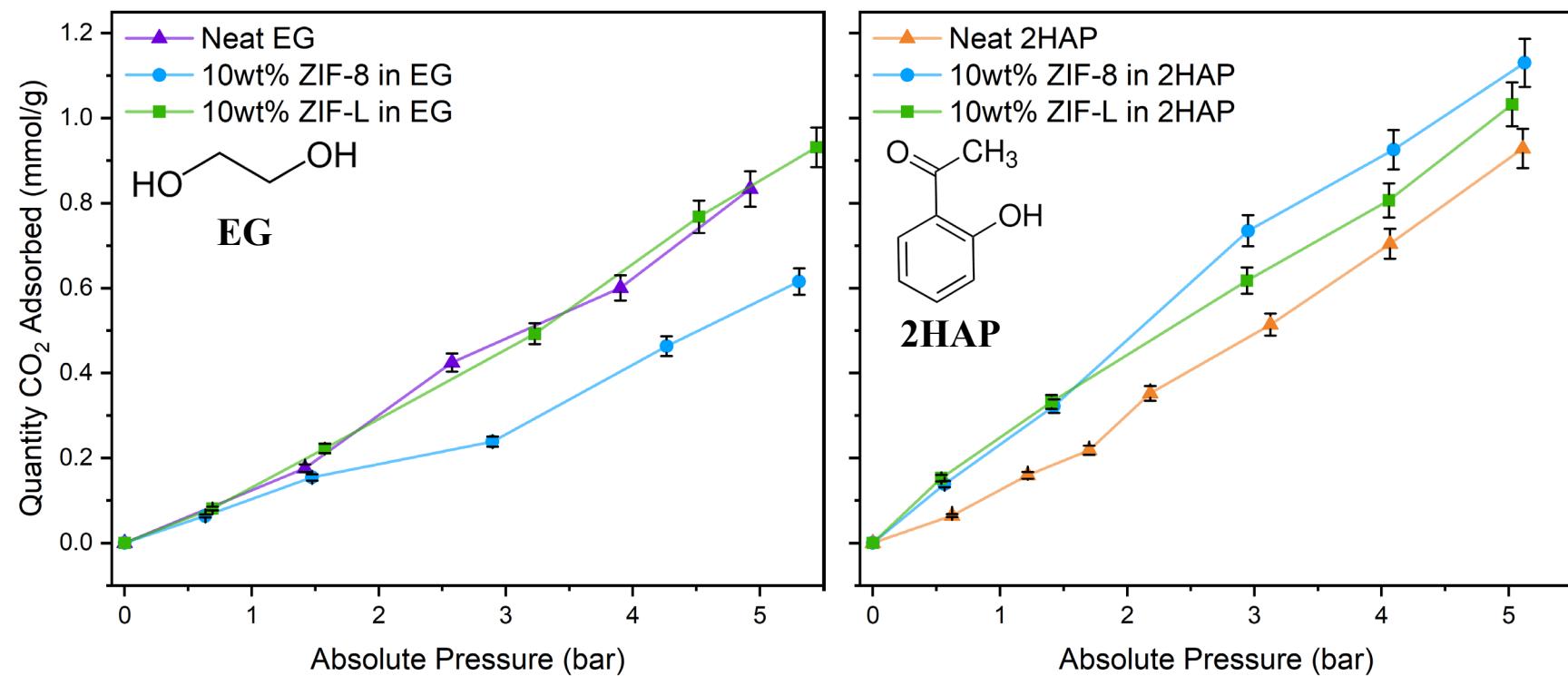


$a_m$ ZIF-8 (amorphous)

Is the internal pore or the MOF-solvent interface controlling the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption in the PLs?

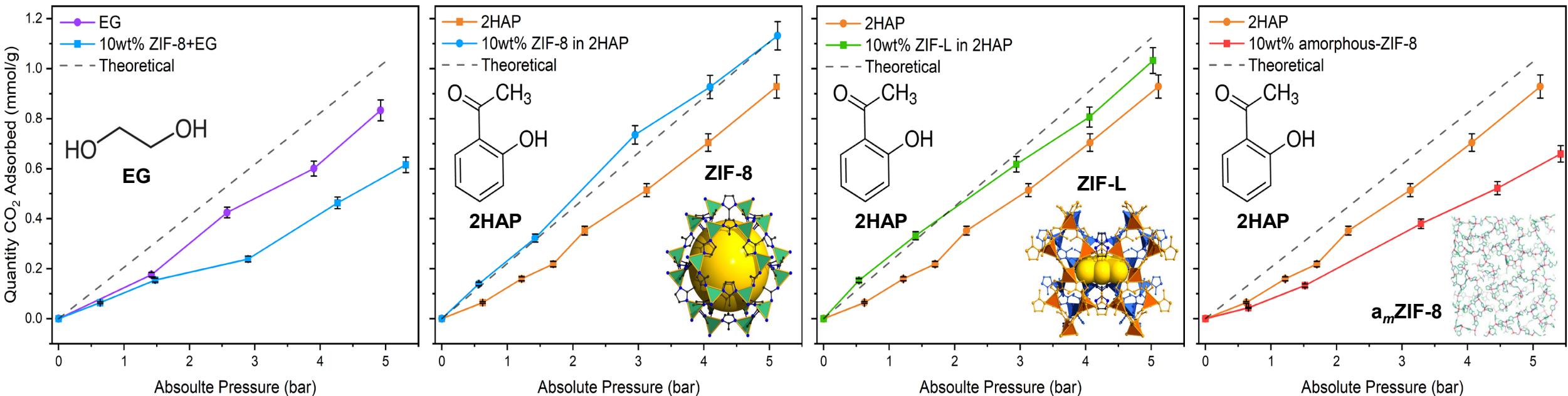
# CO<sub>2</sub> Gas Adsorption Measurements Confirmed 2HAP Exclusion from ZIF-8 and ZIF-L

- ZIFs+EG showed **no** increase in CO<sub>2</sub> uptake compared to EG
- Confirmed EG **adsorbed**
- ZIFs+2HAP **increased** in CO<sub>2</sub> compared to neat 2HAP
- Confirmed 2HAP **size-excluded**
- ZIF-L+2HAP PL is the first example of a Type 3 PL formed using a 2D material



Gas sorption studies confirmed the formation of ZIF-8 and ZIF-L PLs with 2HAP

# Solvent Size and Pore Aperture Effects on CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption



Adsorbed solvents negatively impact CO<sub>2</sub> uptake

ZIF-8+2HAP formed PL w/ CO<sub>2</sub> uptake

Low-surface area ZIF-L formed PL due to pore aperture

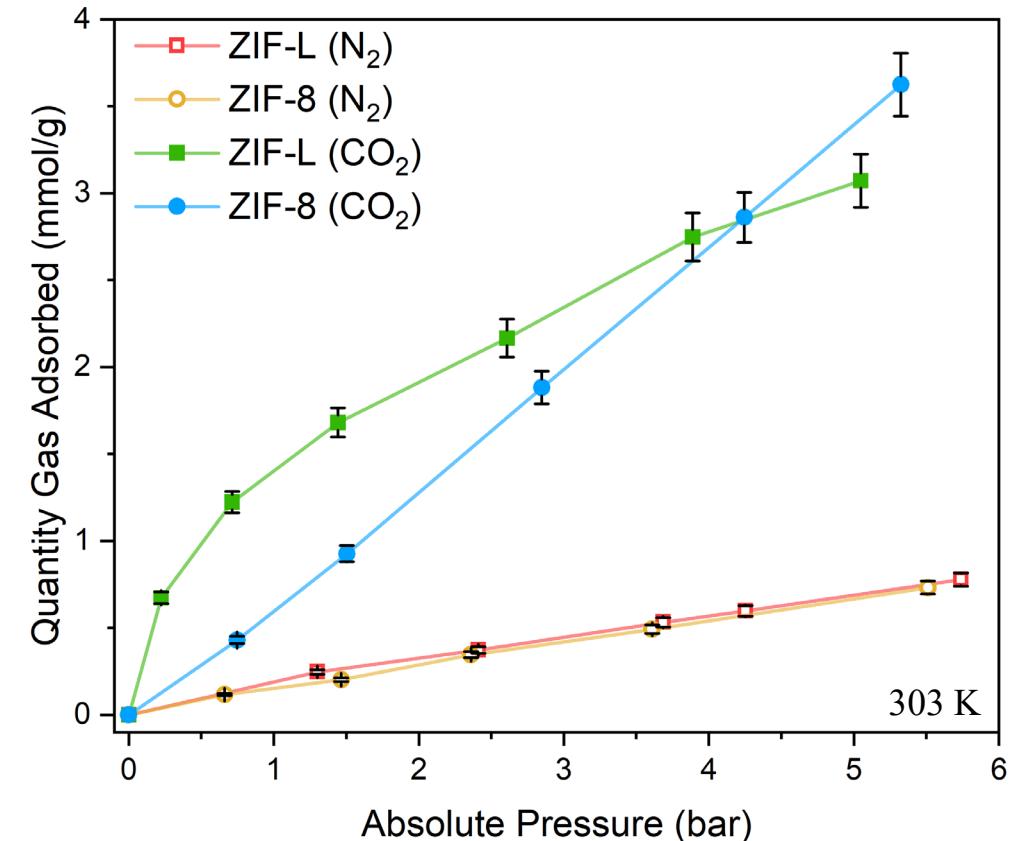
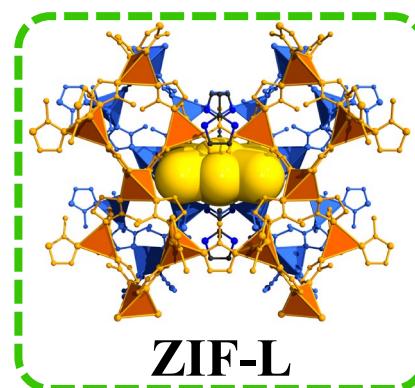
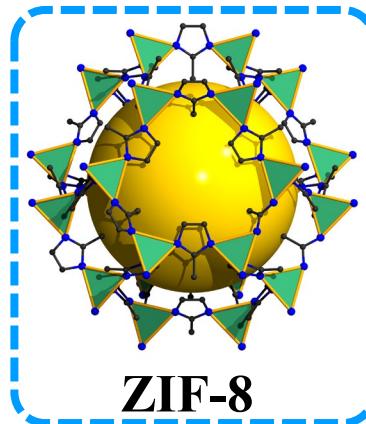
Lack of pore aperture decreased CO<sub>2</sub> uptake

ZIF-L+2HAP system is the first example of PL formed using a 2D sorbent material

Hurlock, M. J.; Lu, L.; Sarswat, A.; Chang, C-W.; Rimsza, J.M.; Sholl, D.; Lively, R. Nenoff, T.M. "Exploitation of Pore Aperture Environment for Increased CO<sub>2</sub> Uptake in Type 3 Porous Liquids" *ACS AMI*, 2024, *in preparation*

# Controlling ZIF Pore Aperture Structure Will Allow the Formation of CO<sub>2</sub> Selective PLs

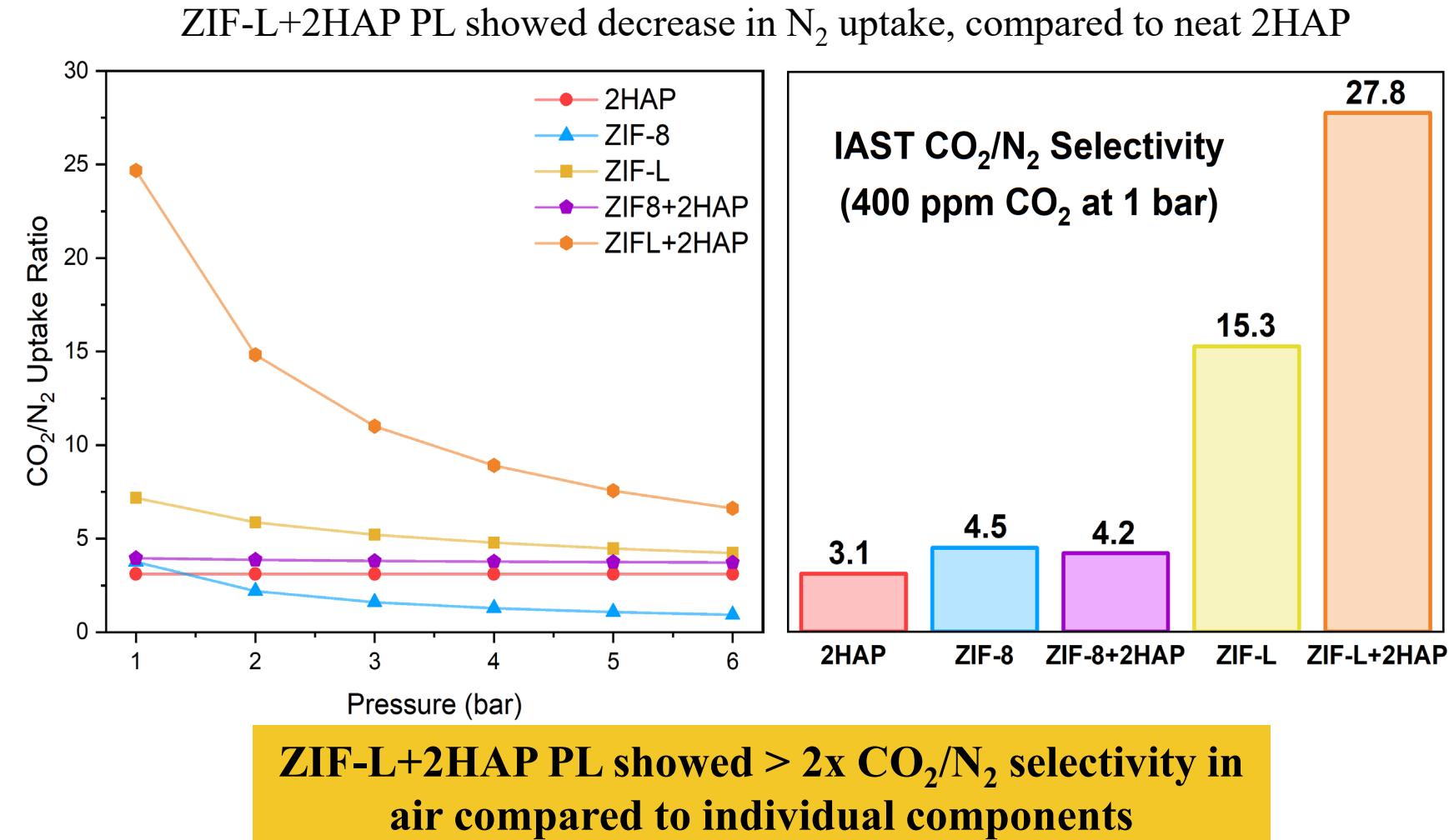
- ▶ Computational simulations have shown the pore aperture as a key CO<sub>2</sub>-ZIF interaction site in ZIF-based PLs
- Christian, M. S.; et. al. *J. Mol. Liq.* 2024, 395, 123913
- ▶ All ZIFs expected to show similar guest interactions and solvent size-exclusion behavior
- ▶ ZIF-L is an isolatable 2D intermediate of ZIF-8 with similar pore aperture
- ▶ ZIF-L showed higher CO<sub>2</sub> uptake compared to ZIF-8



**ZIF-L pore aperture structure will form CO<sub>2</sub> selective PLs**

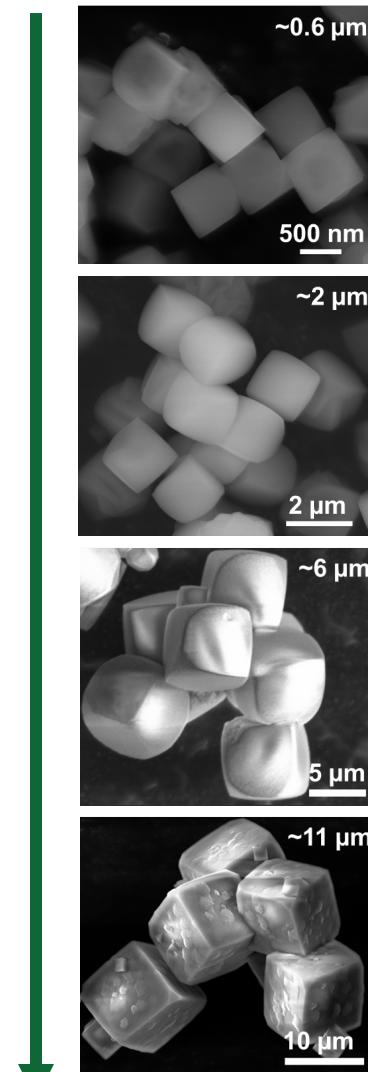
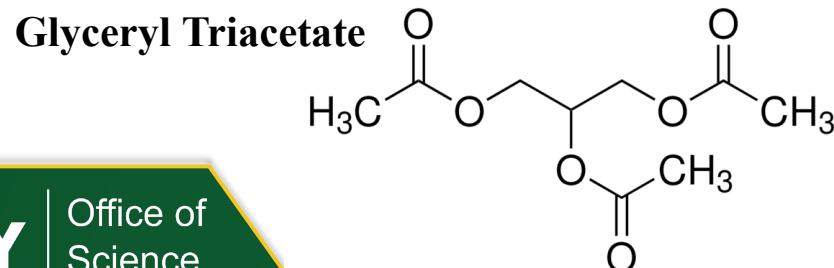
# ZIF-L + 2HAP PL Revealed *Emergent Behavior* in CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption, Not Predicted from Individual Components

- ▶ Single component N<sub>2</sub> adsorptions collected on ZIF+2HAP PLs
- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio of ZIF+2HAP PLs increased compared to 2HAP
- ▶ IAST CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity calculated for PLs and individual components
  - ▶ Both ZIF+2HAP PLs showed increased selectivity compared to neat 2HAP
  - ▶ ZIF-8+2HAP PL revealed lower CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity than ZIF-8

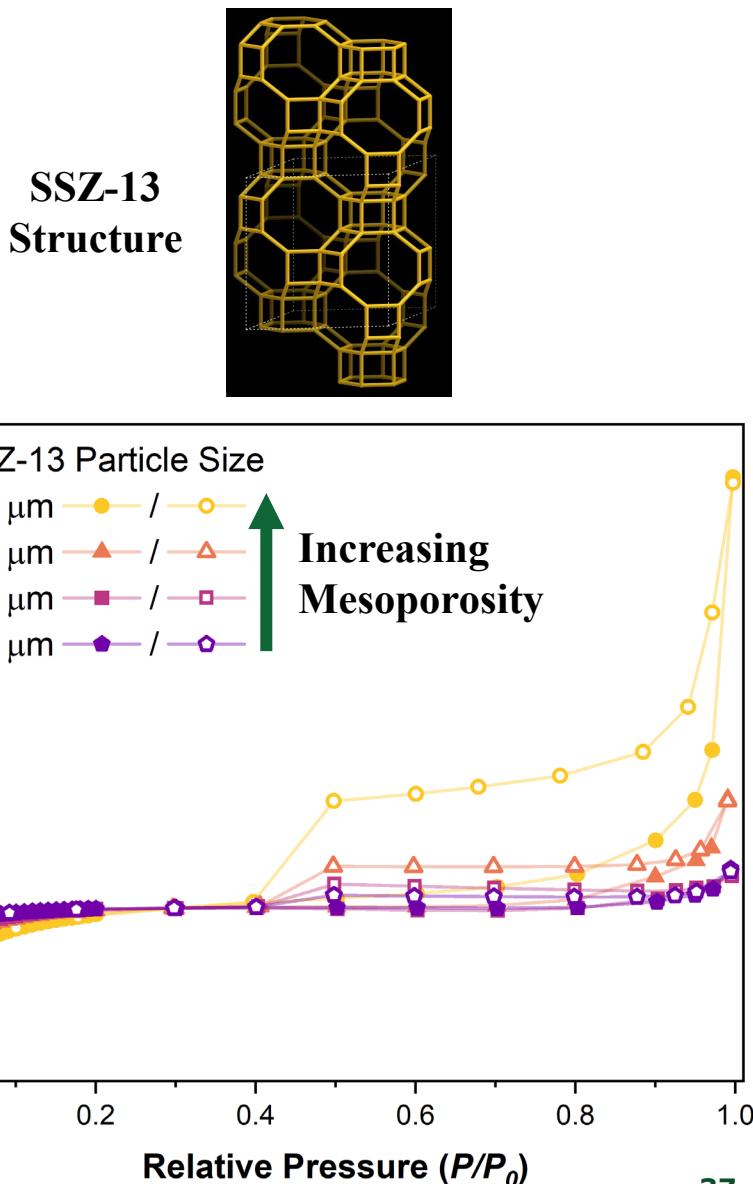


# 5) Type 3 Porous Liquids with Nanozeolites

- Zeolite-based Type 3 PLs are potential economical  $\text{CO}_2$  sorbents (*Mater. Today*, 2022, 60, 9-16)
- Nanozeolites in Porous Liquids to study effects of zeolite particle size and porosity on PL  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption
- In collaboration with Rimer Lab at the University of Houston
  - SSZ-13 of various nanoparticle sizes (0.6, 2, 6, and 11  $\mu\text{m}$ )
  - $\text{N}_2$  gas adsorption showed mesoporosity due to interparticle cavities caused by particle aggregation (*Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2013, 42, 3689-3707)
  - Mesoporosity increased with decreasing zeolite particle size
  - Glyceryl triacetate (GT) is predicted to be size excluded and possesses desirable properties

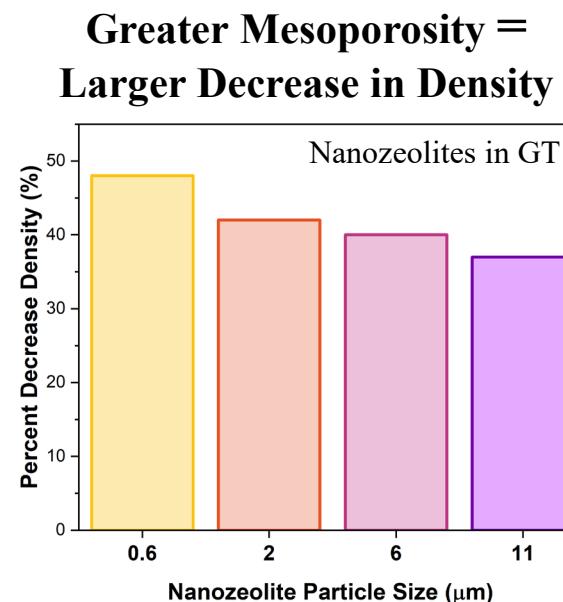
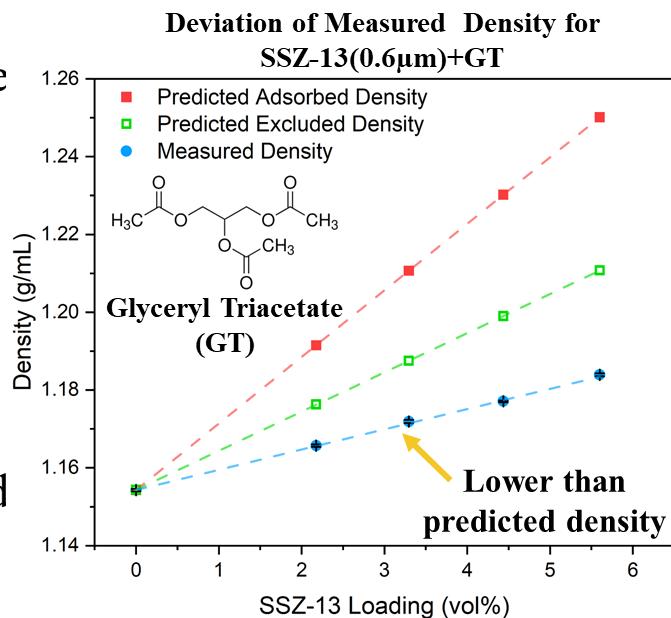
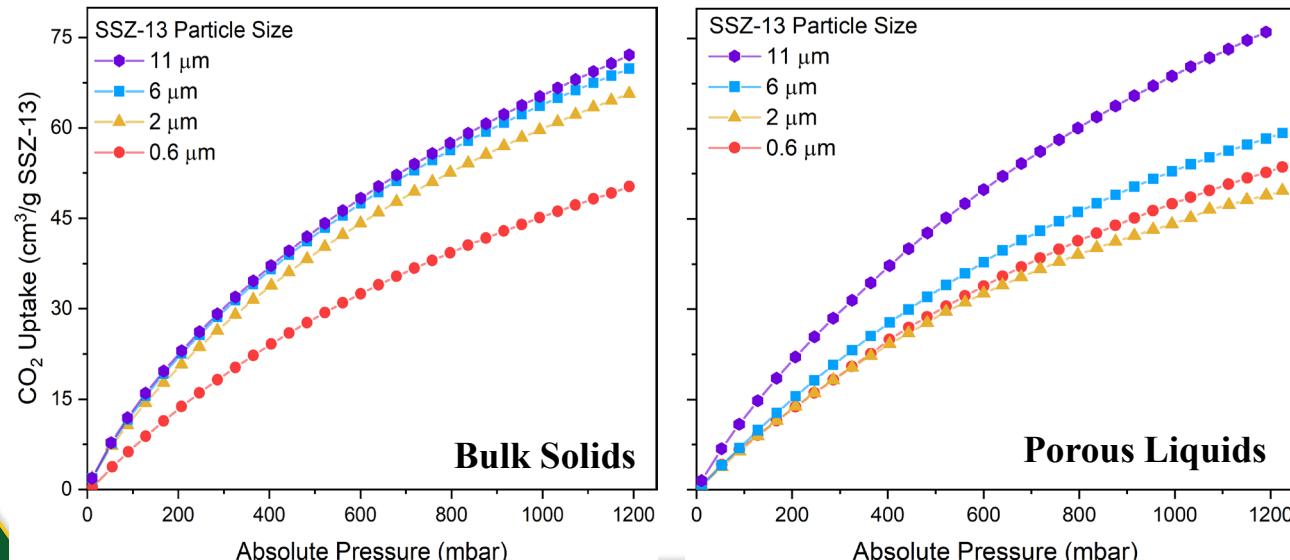
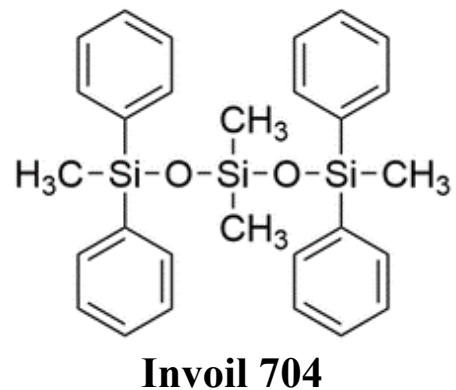


Increasing  
Particle Size



# Initial Porous Liquids studies

- Density measurement simple method for verifying Type 3 PL formation ([ACS Mater. Au 2024, 4, 2, 224-237](#))
- Density analysis of SSZ-13+GT dispersions showed lower than predicted values
  - Low measured densities caused by trapped air pockets in interparticle cavities
- Due to vapor pressure of GT, Invoil 704 was substituted as size-excluded solvent for  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption of PLs



- Physical property changes will effect PL handling in applications
- $\text{CO}_2$  uptake of solids increased with particle size
- 0.6 and 11  $\mu\text{m}$  zeolites  $\text{CO}_2$  uptake slightly increase in PL

**Results suggest:**  
Interparticle cavities do not have direct impact on  $\text{CO}_2$  uptake of PLs in Invoil

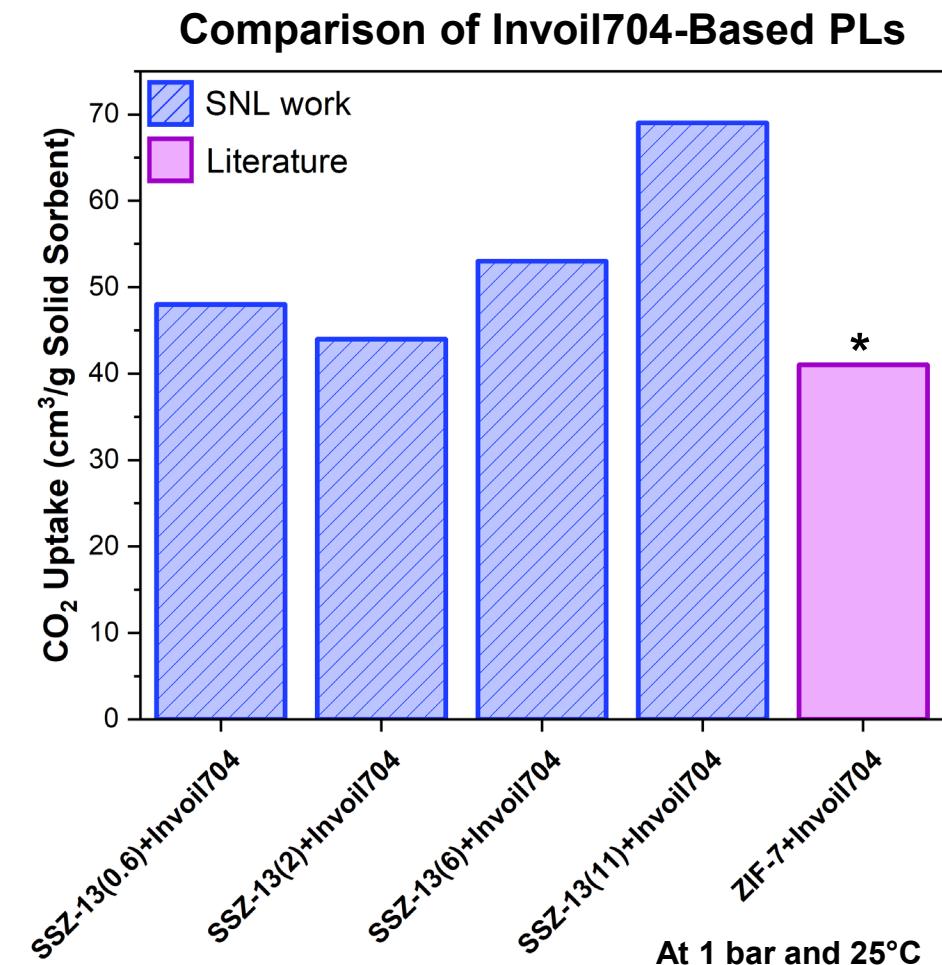


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# Next Steps with Nanozeolites PLs, on-going experiments...

- Analyze CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption trends and structure-property relationships of nanozeolite PLs in application relevant solvents (e.g. GT)
  - In collaboration with the Ryan Lively lab at Georgia Tech. using house-built PL gas adsorption apparatus
- Analyze both single and mixed CO<sub>2</sub> gas adsorption of formed PLs to elucidate CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity
- Development of methodology for the comparison of PL sorbents using instrumentation available to average research lab
  - Standardization of solvent to Invoil 704, allows use of commercially available gas adsorption analyzer (e.g. ASAP2020Plus)
  - Standardization of data reporting for direct comparisons, gas uptake *per gram of solid sorbent in PL* at 1 bar and 25°C
  - Result validation with house-built apparatuses
- Utilized this methodology to identify design principles for zeolite-based Type 3 PLs



\* [Nat. Commun. 2023, 14, 4200](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38100-0)

# Conclusions and Ongoing/Future Work

- **Porous liquids (PLs), solvent-based systems containing permanent porosity through the incorporation of a porous host, increase the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption capacity.**
- Rapid materials design enabled by combined multidisciplinary modeling, synthesis, characterization and testing.
- Aging studies of known type 3 PLs identify that the nanoporous ZIF MOF maintains its integrity, but solvent breakdown hinders the overall system
- Solvent exclusion necessary for gas diffusion and selective CO<sub>2</sub> capture, solvents must be **1.8x** the ZIF pore aperture size
- TQMD simulations allow high throughput identification of CO<sub>2</sub> selective solvents
- Pore aperture structure controls CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> selectivity of ZIF-based Type 3 PLs
- **Porous Liquids are a combination of CO<sub>2</sub> capture materials. Data herein identify that there are enhancing mechanisms that result in an optimized PL composition results in an *Emergent Behavior* of the PL** (higher CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity for the PL than any of the individual components)

## Ongoing and Future Work:

- Examination of sorbent particle size effects on CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption of Type 3 PLs
- Identification of exemplar Type 3 sorbent-solvent combinations for DAC and electrochemical conversion of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Variable temp. and pressure effects on solvent size-exclusion of ZIF-8 based PLs

### *Strong Advocate for Mentoring and Supporting Young People throughout their Careers*

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