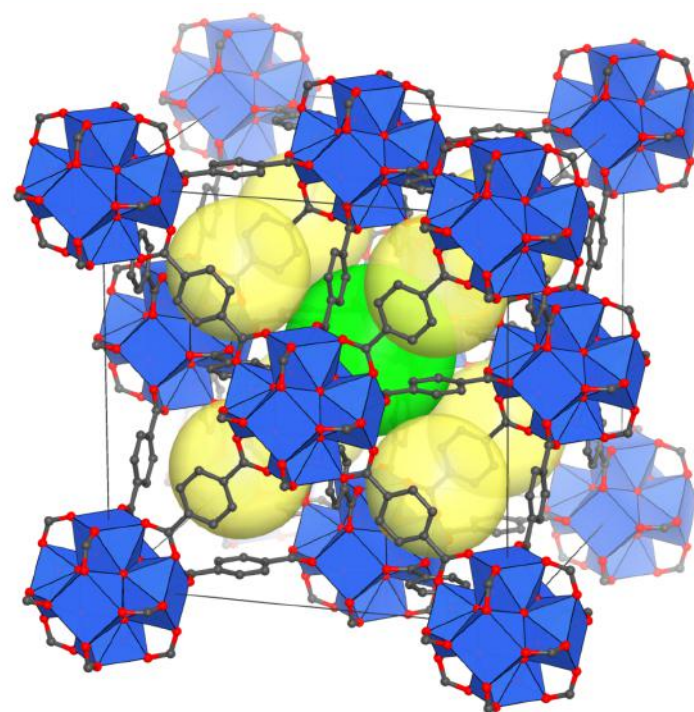


# The Synthesis of Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) and Recent Advances in MOF Catalysis



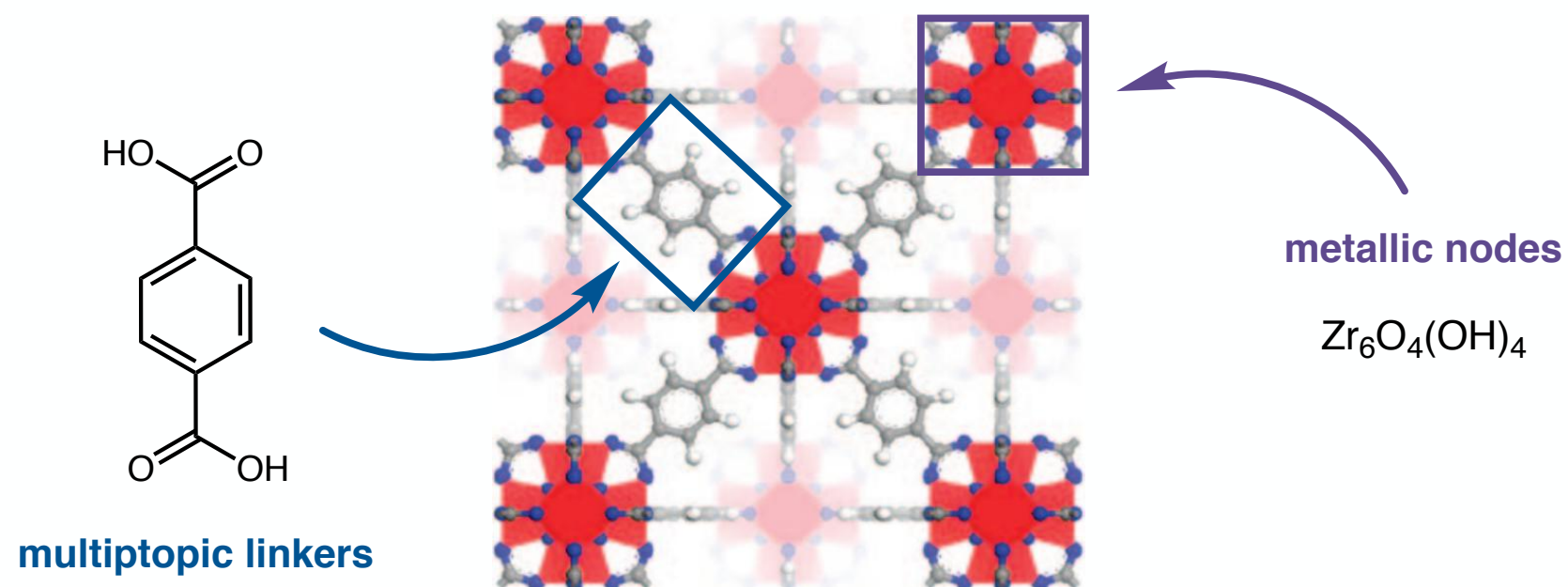
Marissa Lavagnino

MacMillan Group Meeting

25 April 2019

# What are Metal-Organic Frameworks?

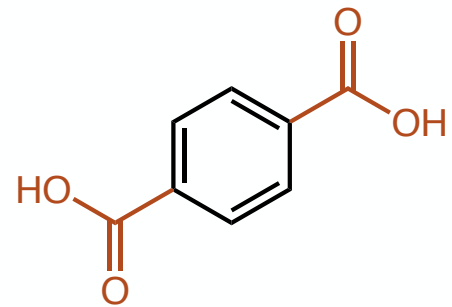
**Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs)** are crystalline, periodic, highly porous (up to 94% empty space) frameworks



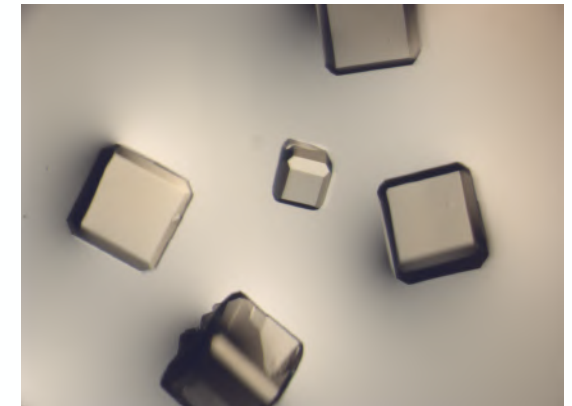
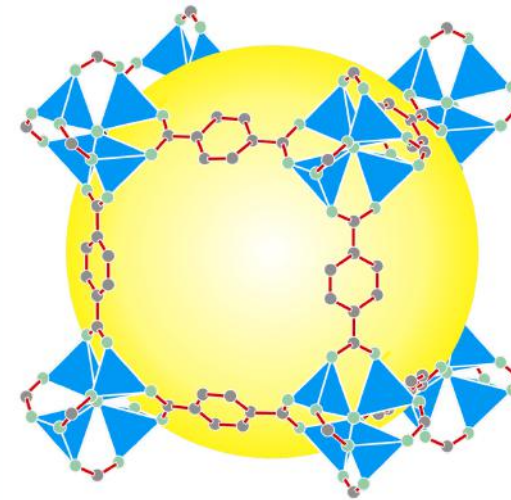
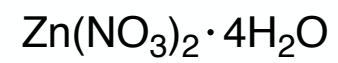
Framework **self-assemble** to form **coordination bonds** between  
transition metal cations and carboxylate anions

# Examples of MOF Structures

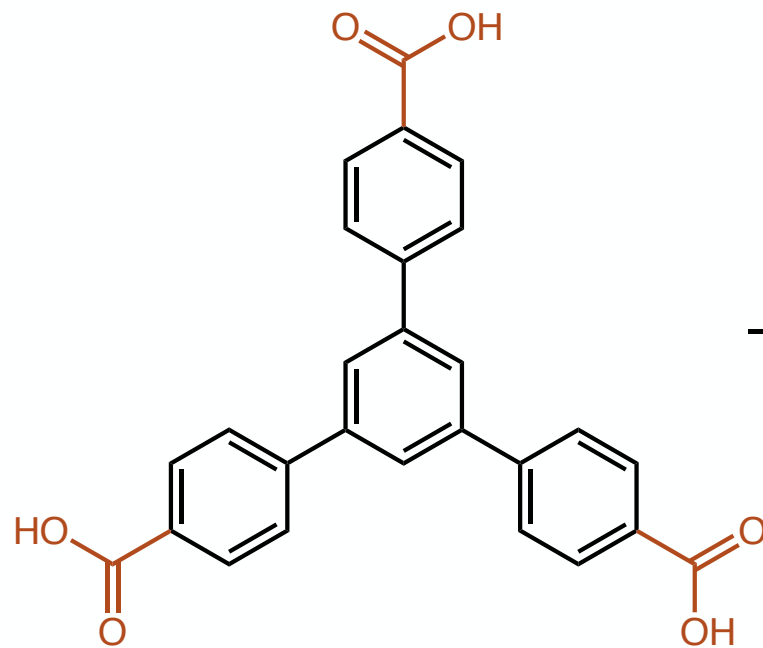
## MOF-5



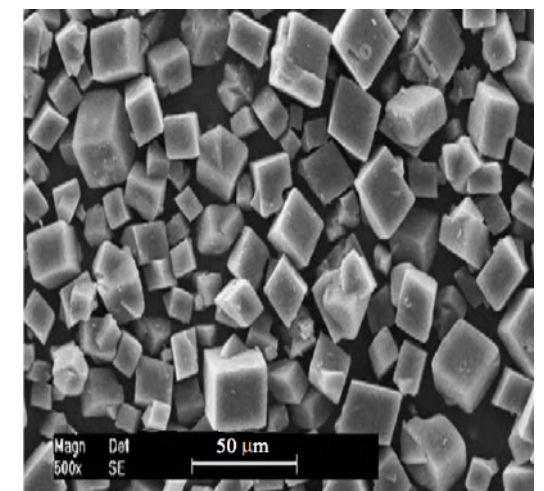
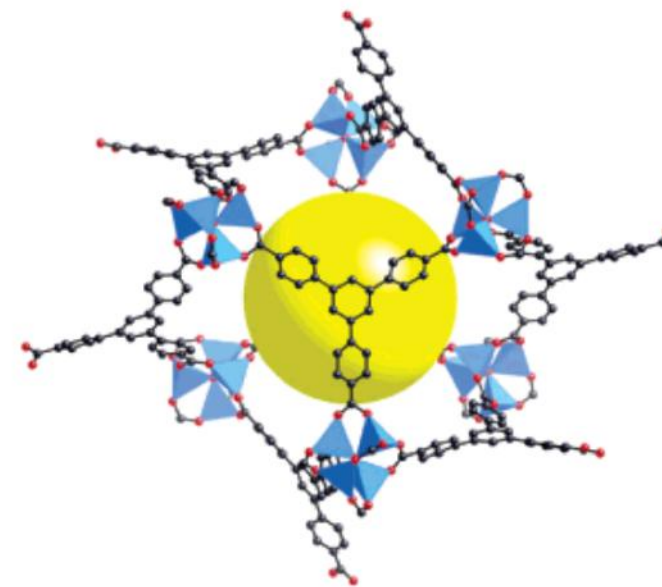
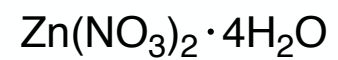
ditopic linker



## MOF-177



tritopic linker

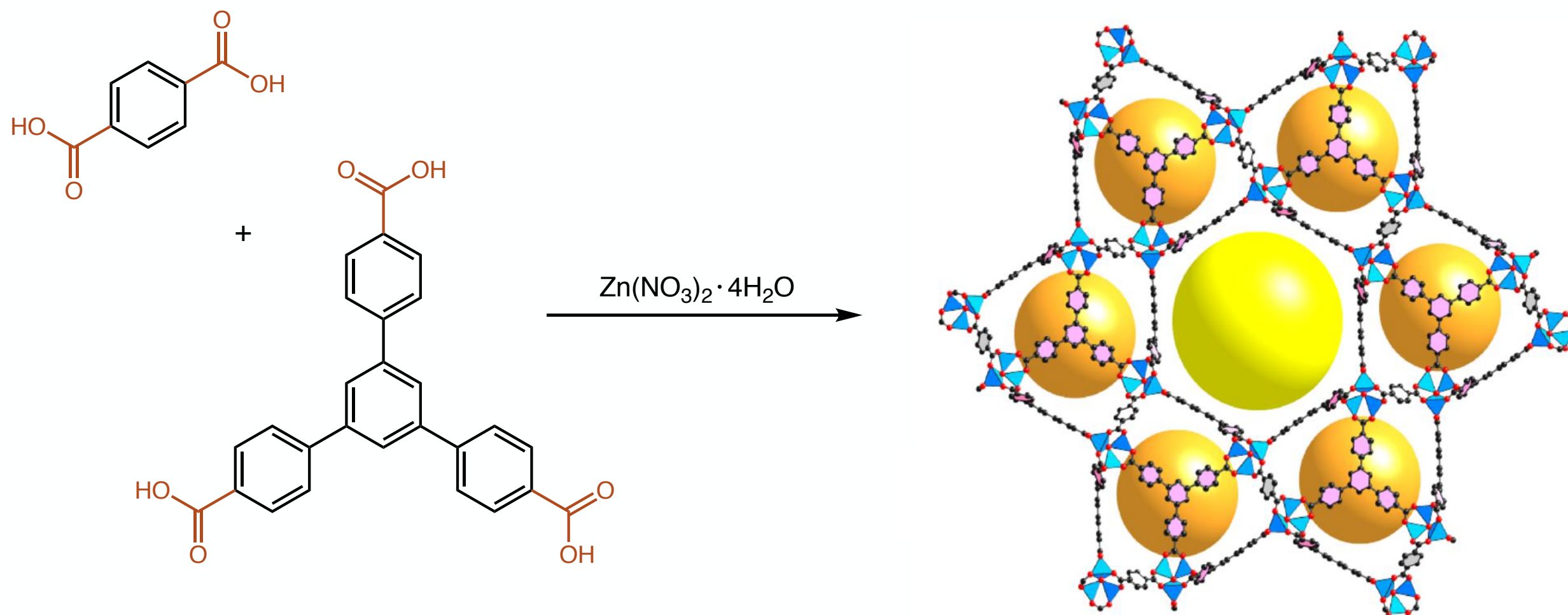


Li, H.; Eddaoudi, M.; O'Keeffe, M.; Yaghi, O. M. *Nature* **1999**, *402*, 276-279.

Chae, H. K.; Siberio-Perez, D. Y.; Kim, J.; Go, Y.; Eddaoudi, M.; Matzger, A. J.; O'Keeffe, M.; Yaghi, O. M. *Nature* **2004**, *427*, 523-527.

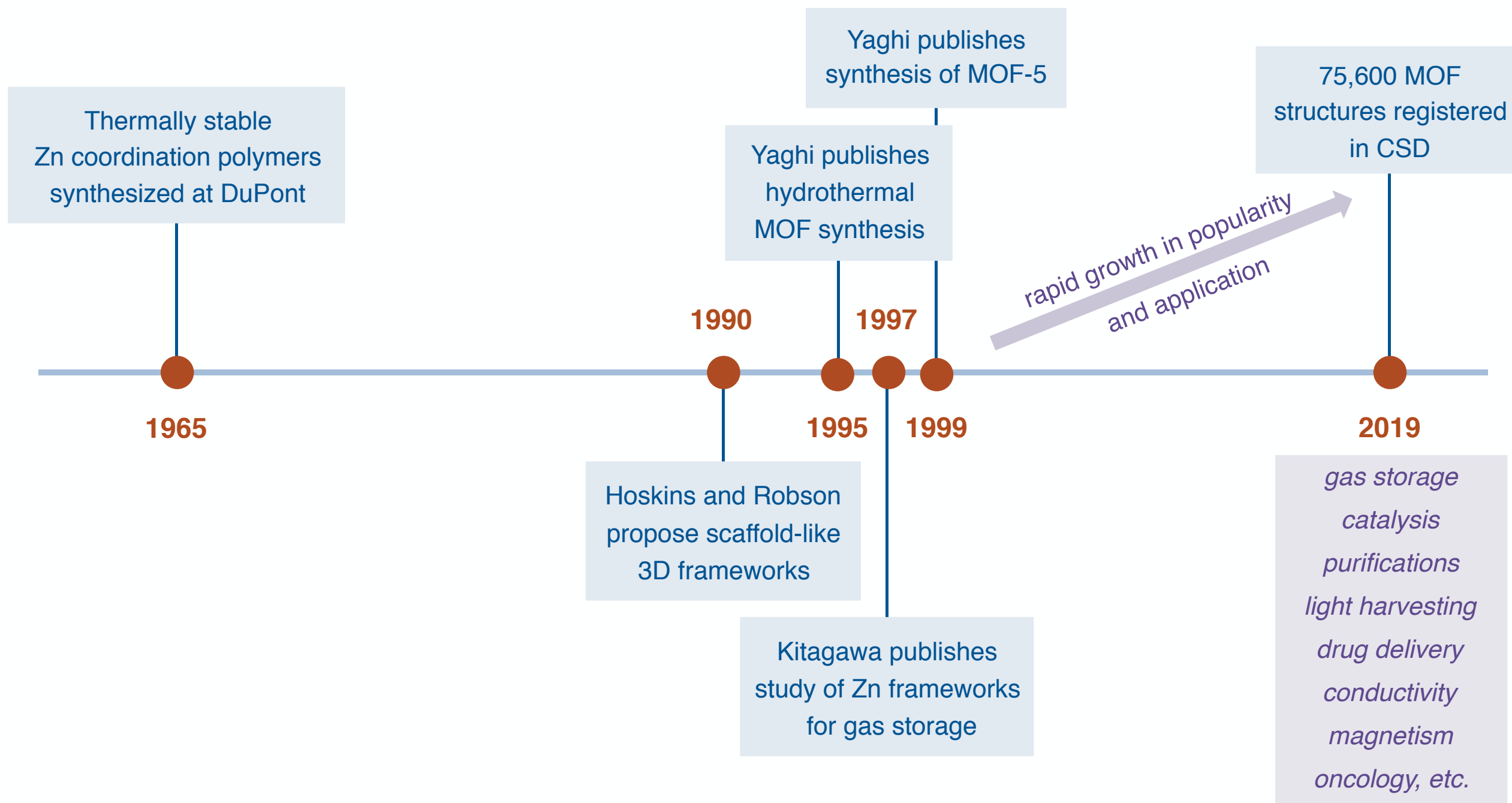
## Example of a Mixed-Linker MOF Structure

UMCM-1



Due to the modularity of MOF design, a nearly infinite number of topographies can be imagined.

# A Brief History of Metal-Organic Frameworks



Tomic, E. A. *J. Appl. Polym. Sci.* **1965**, *9*, 3745-3752.

Hoskins, B. F.; Robson, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 1546-1554.

Yaghi, O. M.; Li, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 10401-10402.

Kondo, M.; Yoshitomi, T.; Seki, K.; Matsuzaka, H.; Kitagawa, S. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1997**, *36*, 1725-1727

Li, H.; Eddaoudi, M.; O'Keeffe, M.; Yaghi, O. M. *Nature* **1999**, *402*, 276-279.

The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. How Many MOFs are there in the CSD? <https://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/> (Accessed Apr 20, 2019).



# *A Roadmap for Metal-Organic Framework Synthesis*

***Synthesis through self-assembly***

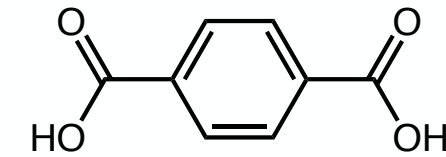
***Activation by removal of solvent***

***Characterization to assess purity and crystallinity***

# The Conventional Route: Solvothermal Synthesis



simple metal salt



organic linker

1. sonicate in high boiling solvent (e.g. DMF)
2. heat without stirring for hours/days
3. centrifuge and filter

## Optimization:

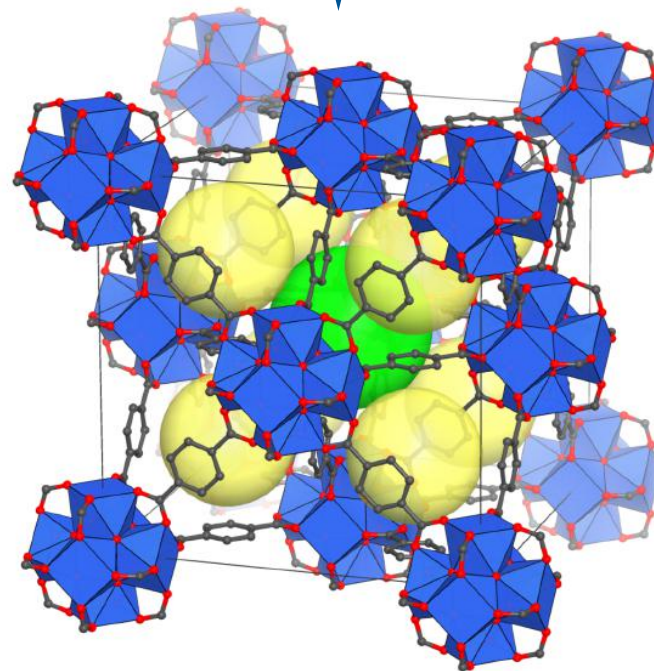
few reaction variables to *manipulate*

*temperature*  
*order of addition*  
*metal source*

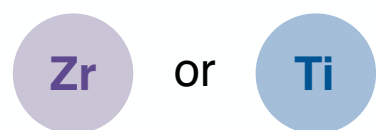
## Reproducibility:

many environmental factors to *control*

*humidity*  
*suspension quality*  
*purity of metal salt*  
*speed of assembly*

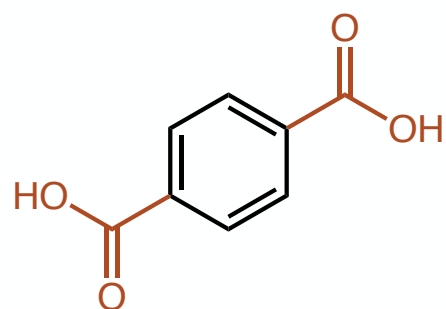


# Pitfalls of Uncontrolled Self-Assembly



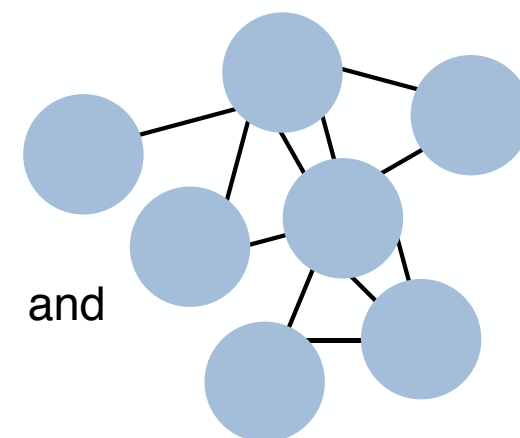
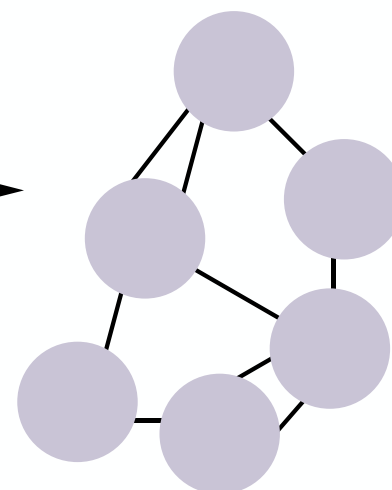
highly oxophilic  
early metals

+



ditopic chelating  
oxygen ligands

rapid assembly



small, disordered  
aggregates

How do we slow down self-assembly and control lattice quality?

**Modulators** promote order in MOF self-assembly

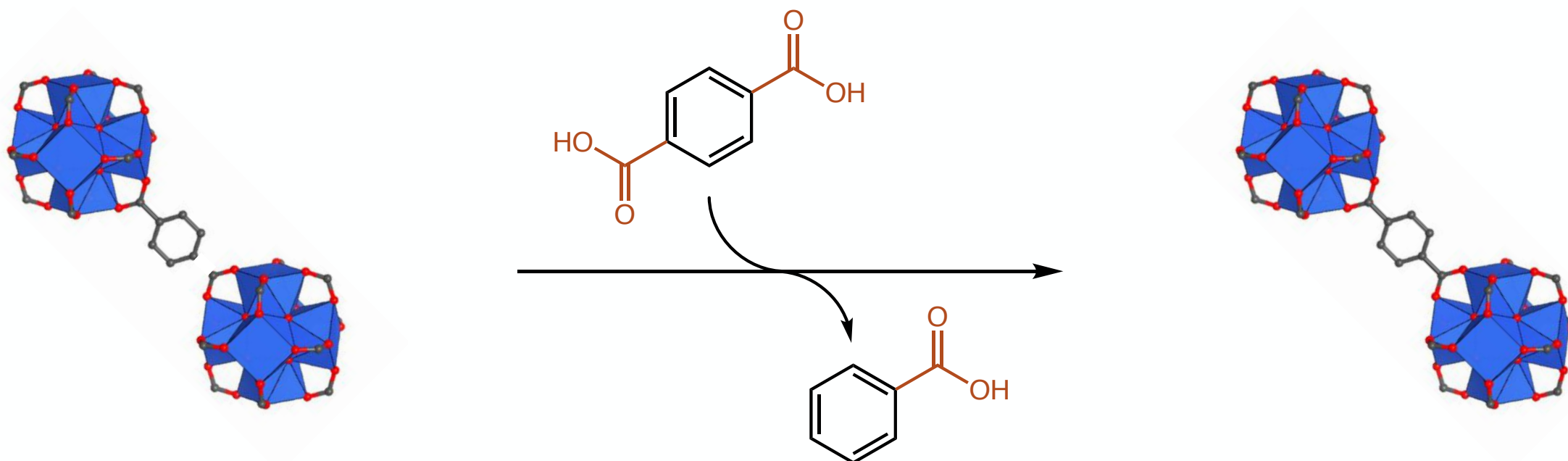


# Modulators as Small Molecule Regulators of MOF Growth

## Mechanisms of Action

1. Reversibly occupying coordination sites on metal clusters
2. Accelerating metal cluster formation

### Case 1: Benzoic and acetic acids



*Monotopic coordination to metal clusters  
slows nucleation rate*

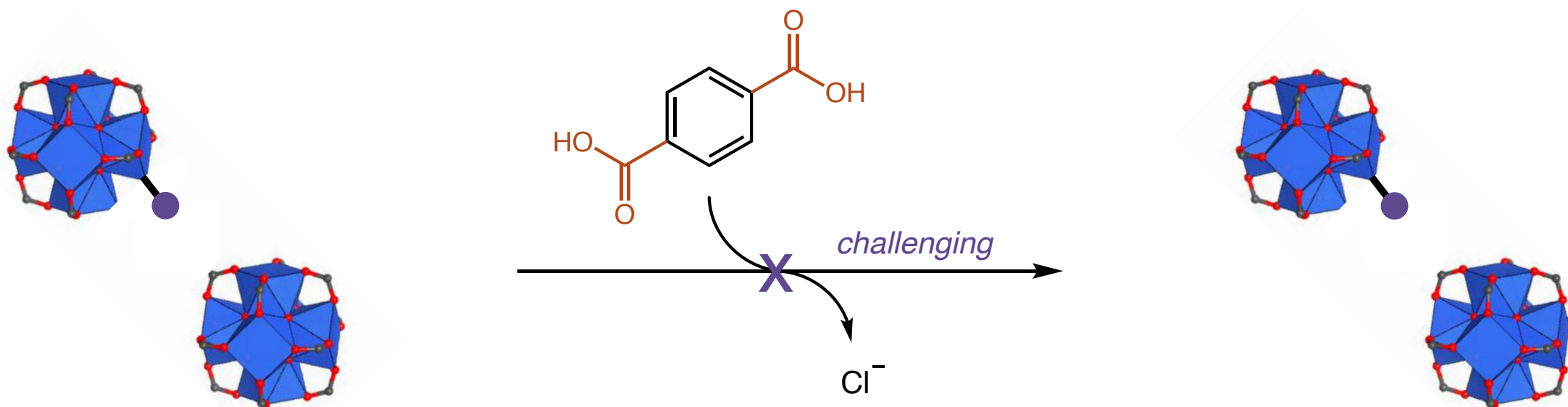
**Promotes ideal framework assembly**

# Modulators as Small Molecule Regulators of MOF Growth

## Mechanisms of Action

1. Reversibly occupying coordination sites on metal clusters
2. Accelerating metal cluster formation

### Case 2: Hydrochloric Acid

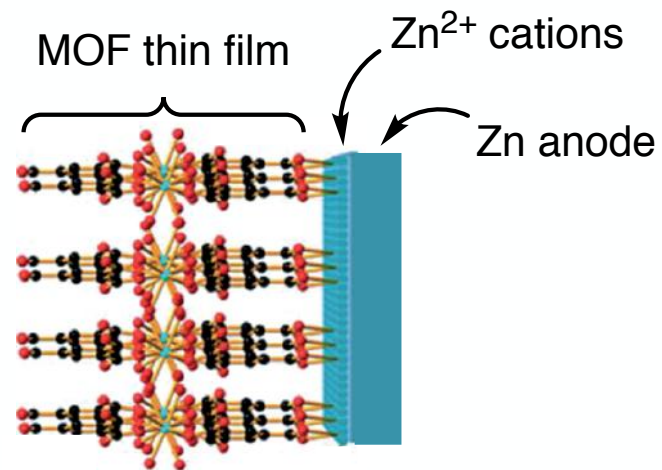


*Neutralizes solvent (DMF) and promotes metal cluster formation*

**Creates missing linker defect sites**  
(not necessarily a bad outcome)

# Alternatives to Solvothermal MOF Synthesis

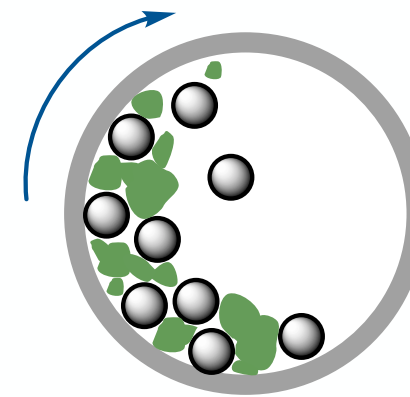
## Electrochemical



- metal cations generated on electrode
- application to membranes, sensors, electronics

*ChemElectroChem* **2015**, *2*, 462-474.

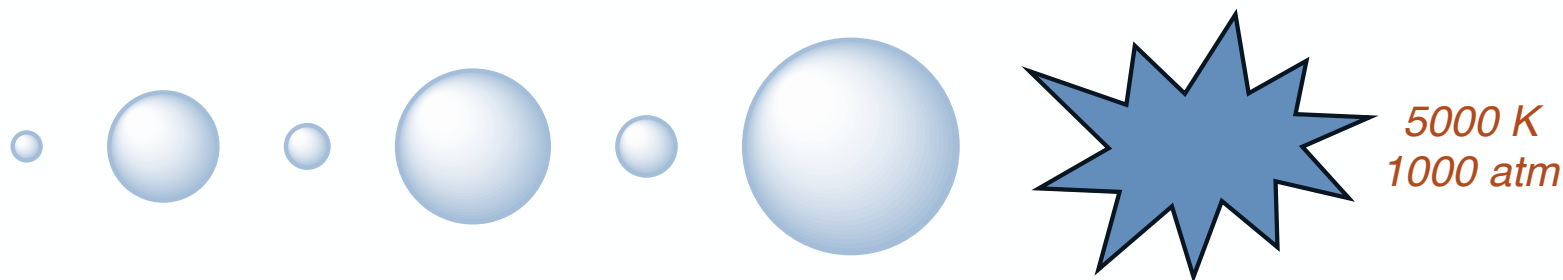
## Mechanochemical



- minimal solvent simplifies activation steps
- green synthesis, larger scales, control size

*Chem. Mater.* **2010**, *22*, 5216-5221.

## Sonochemical and Microwave-Assisted



- rapid superheating dissolves metal salts and linkers evenly in solution
- reproducible MOF synthesis

*Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2015**, *285*, 11-23.

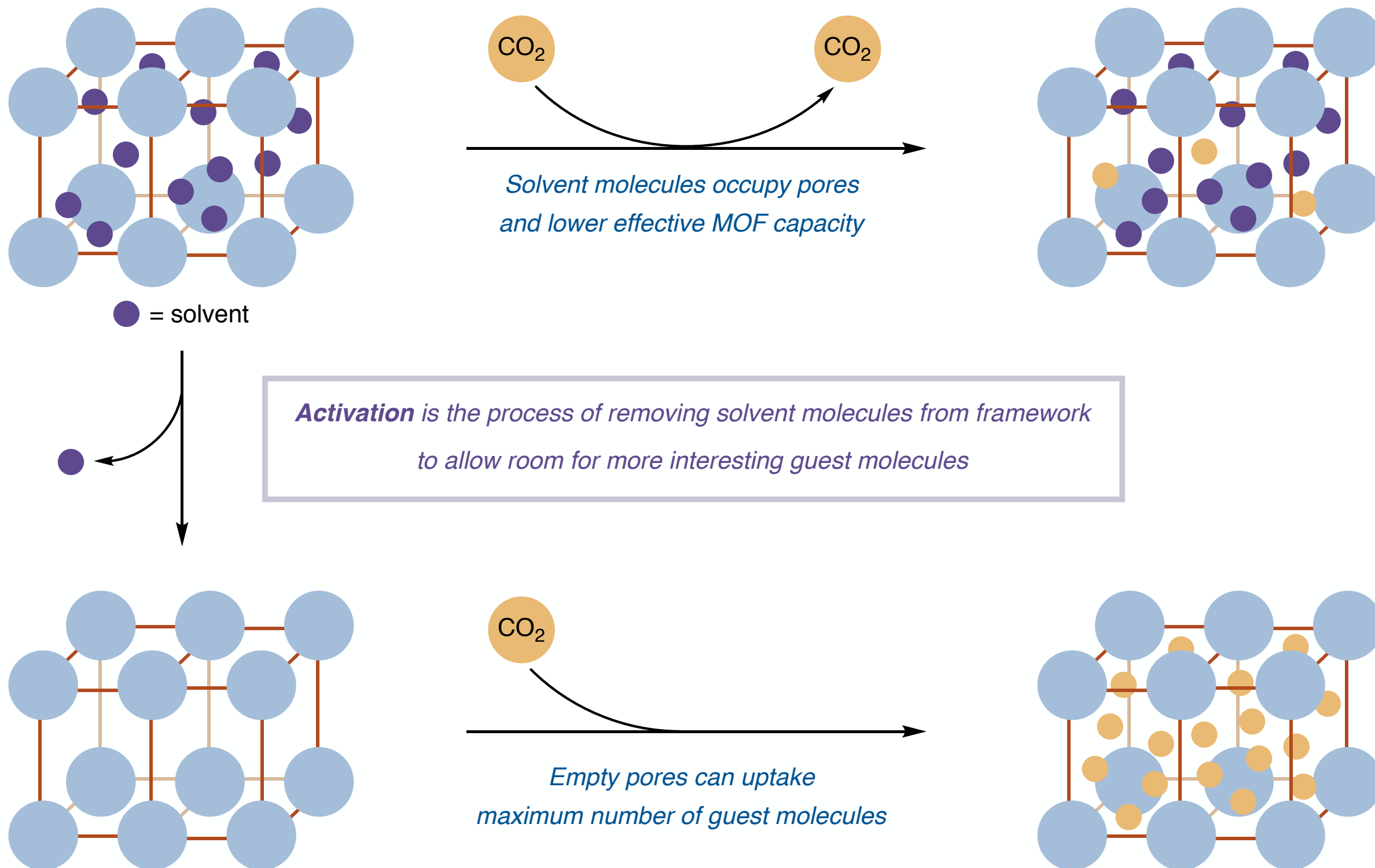
# *A Roadmap for Metal-Organic Framework Synthesis*

*Synthesis through self-assembly*

***Activation*** by removal of solvent

*Characterization to assess purity and crystallinity*

## Activation as the Key to Unlocking a MOF's Potential



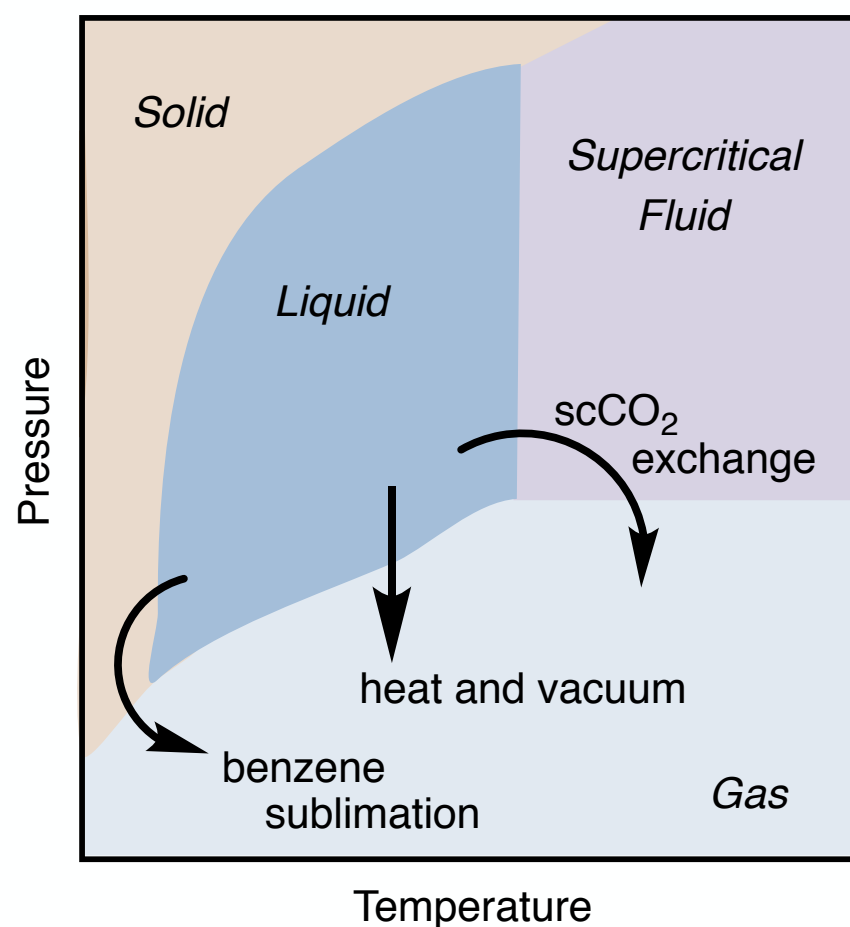
# MOF Activation and Solvent Exchange

Activation can be performed by simply heating and applying vacuum

Removing high boiling, high surface tension solvents (like DMF and DMSO)  
can cause **framework collapse** due to capillary forces

## Alternative Strategy #1

Soak MOF in lower boiling solvent  
then heat under vacuum



## Alternative Strategy #2

Avoid the liquid-gas phase transition

- “green” activation method
- easily scalable



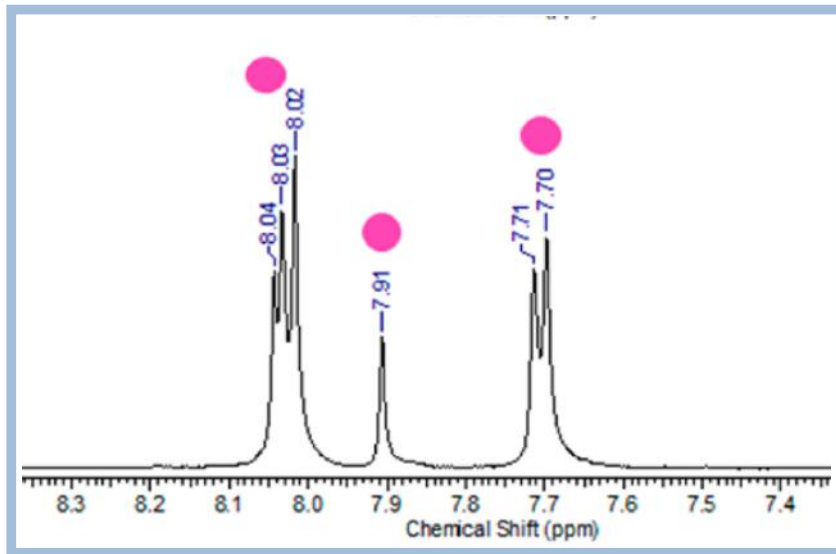
# *A Roadmap for Metal-Organic Framework Synthesis*

*Synthesis through self-assembly*

*Activation by removal of solvent*

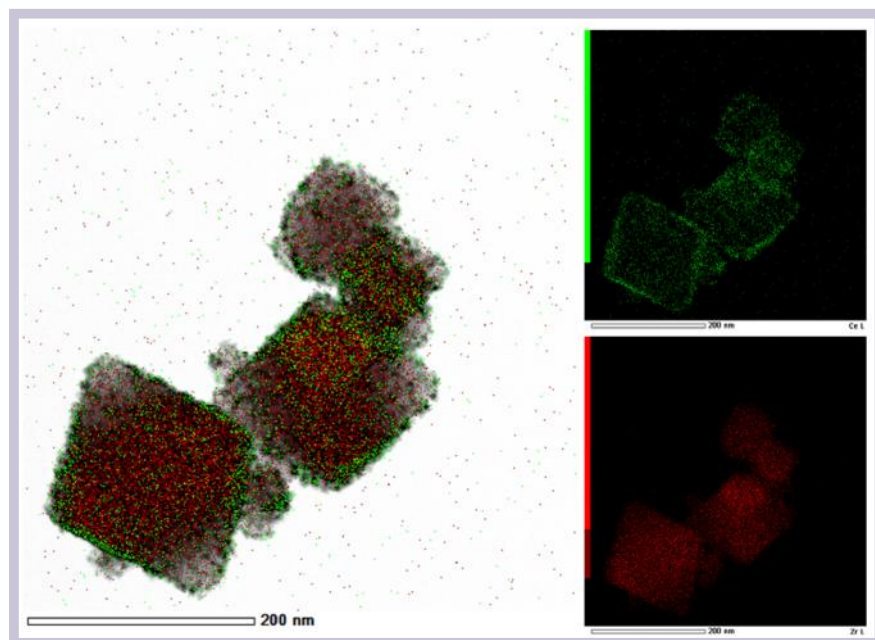
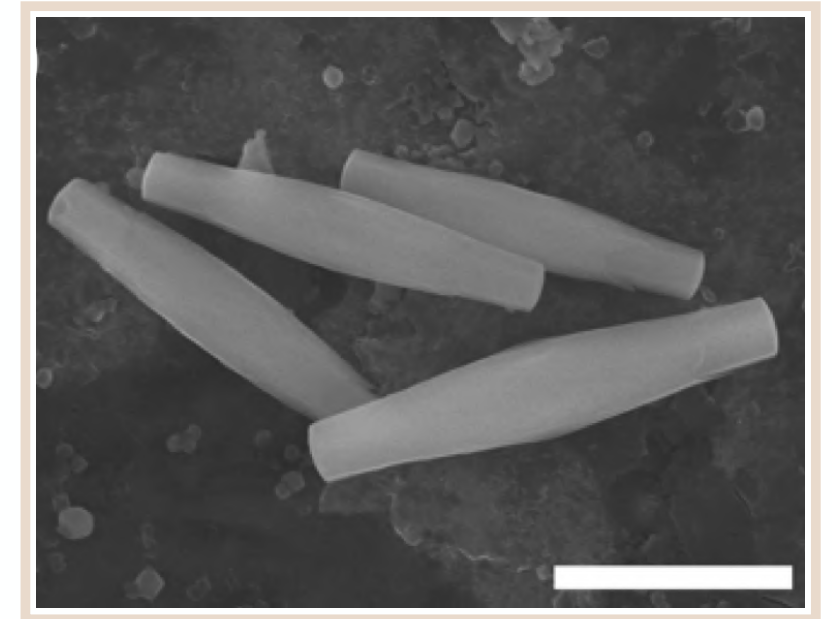
*Characterization to assess purity and crystallinity*

# MOF Characterization Techniques



*$^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectroscopy assays the bulk purity of the sample by quantifying the relative amounts of incorporated and free organic linker*

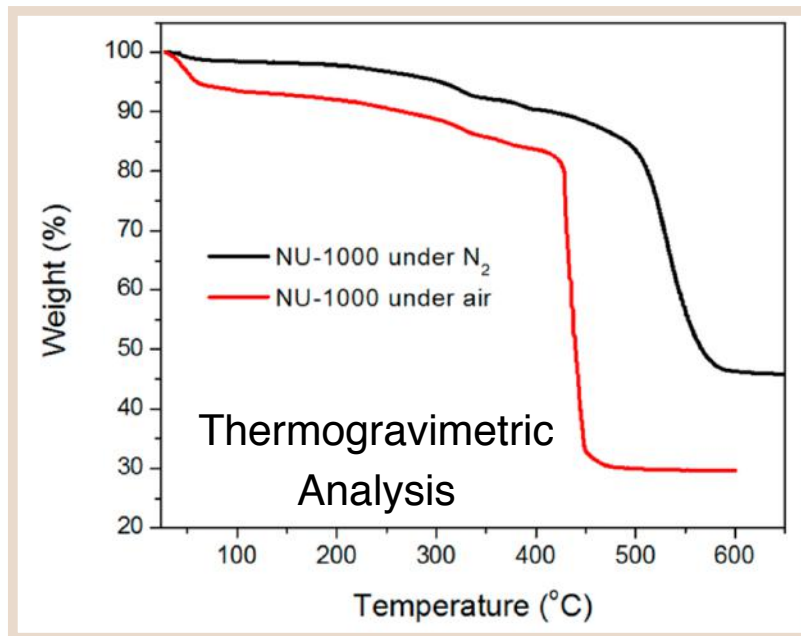
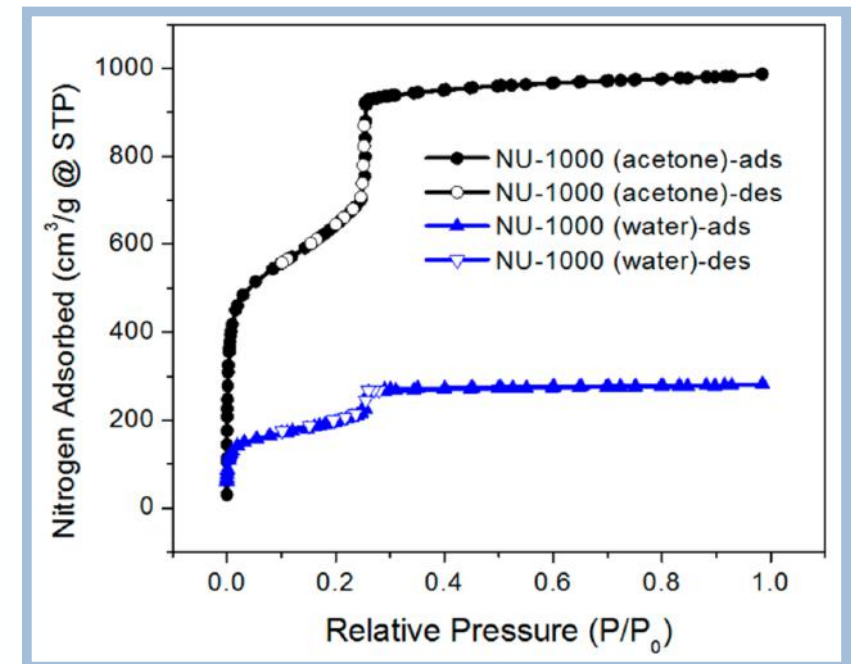
*Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) allows the chemist to observe crystal size, morphology, and uniformity*



*SEM in conjunction with Electron Diffraction X-Ray (EDX) Spectroscopy maps the elemental composition throughout the framework*

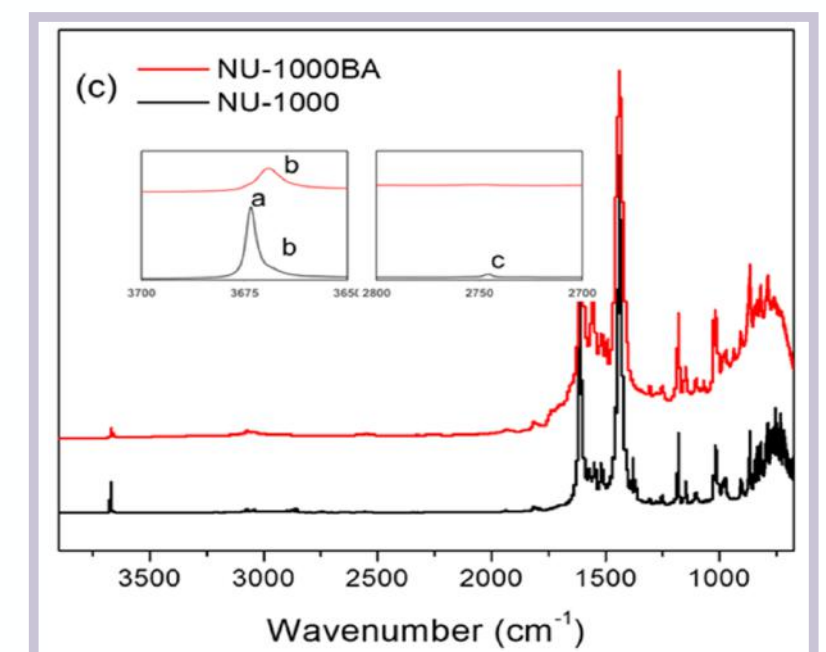
# MOF Characterization Techniques

***N<sub>2</sub> Adsorption/Desorption Isotherms*** measure the apparent surface area of the MOF (i.e., the capacity of the MOF to store guest molecules)

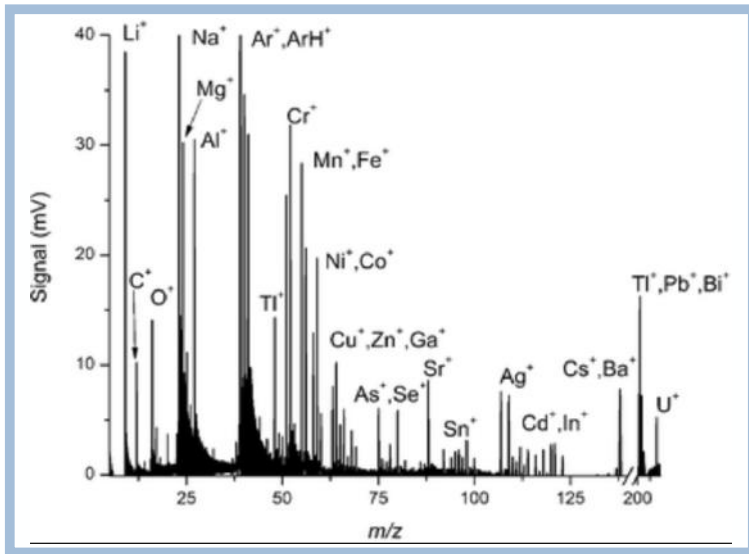


***Stability tests*** assess the framework under relevant conditions (e.g.; aqueous, pH, photochemical, and ***thermal stability***)

***Diffuse Reflectance Infrared Fourier Transform Spectroscopy (DRIFTS)*** can show the interaction of the framework with guest molecules

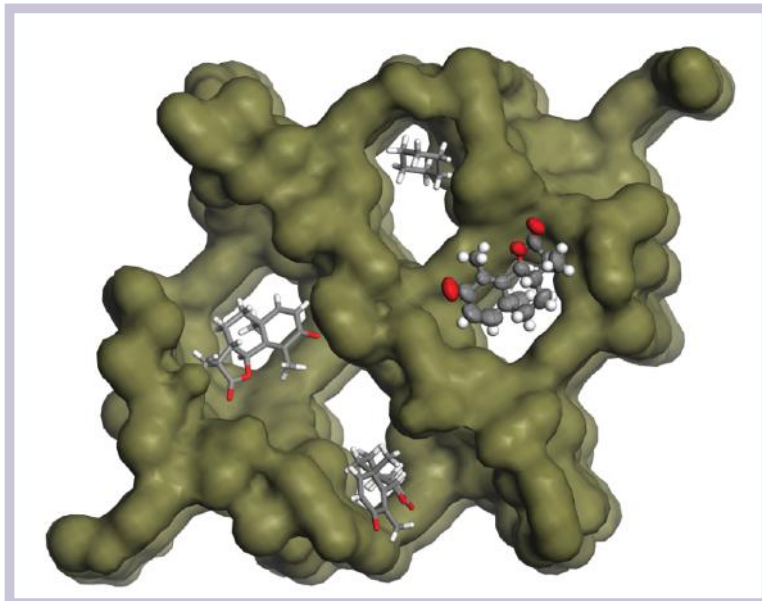
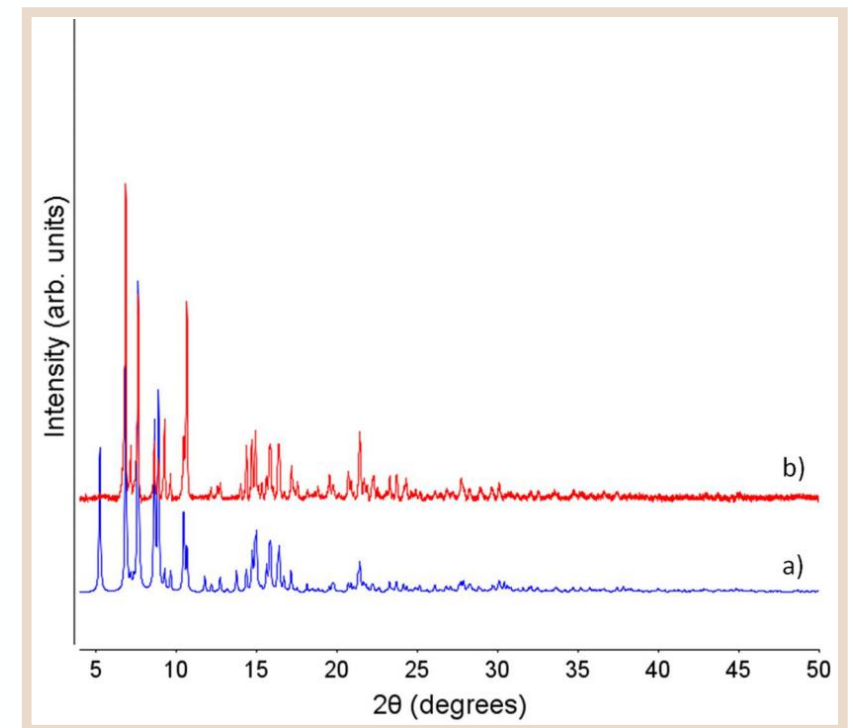


# MOF Characterization Techniques



**Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES) and Mass Spectroscopy (ICP-MS) can confirm elemental ratios at ppb or ppt levels**

**Powder X-Ray Diffraction (PXRD) confirms bulk crystallinity of the sample and unit cell size can also be extrapolated**



**Single Crystal X-Ray Diffraction gives absolute structural information but is limited by the ability to grow single crystals of sufficient size (5-10 μm)**

# *A Roadmap for Metal-Organic Framework Synthesis*

***Synthesis*** through self-assembly

***Activation*** by removal of solvent

***Characterization*** to assess purity and crystallinity

## Catalysis in Metal-Organic Frameworks

*unique steric environment*

*site-isolation protects catalysts*

*access reactivities and selectivities not seen in solution*



*Biomimetic Catalysis*

*Asymmetric Catalysis*

*Organocatalysis*

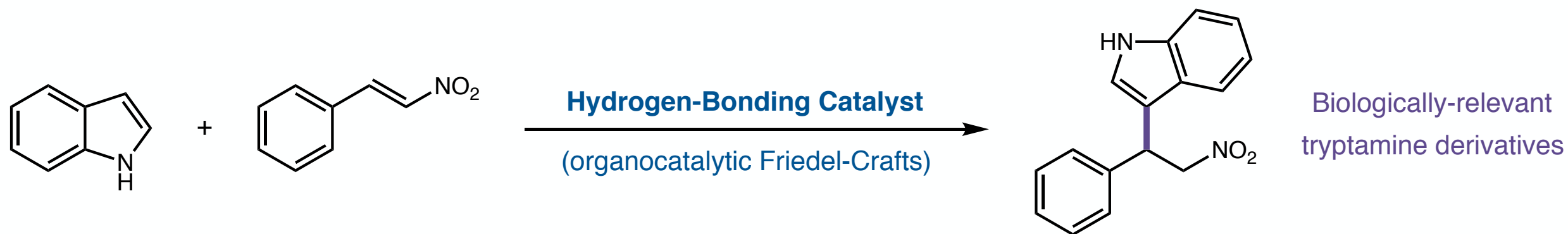
**Catalysis in Metal-Organic Frameworks**

*Olefin Metathesis*

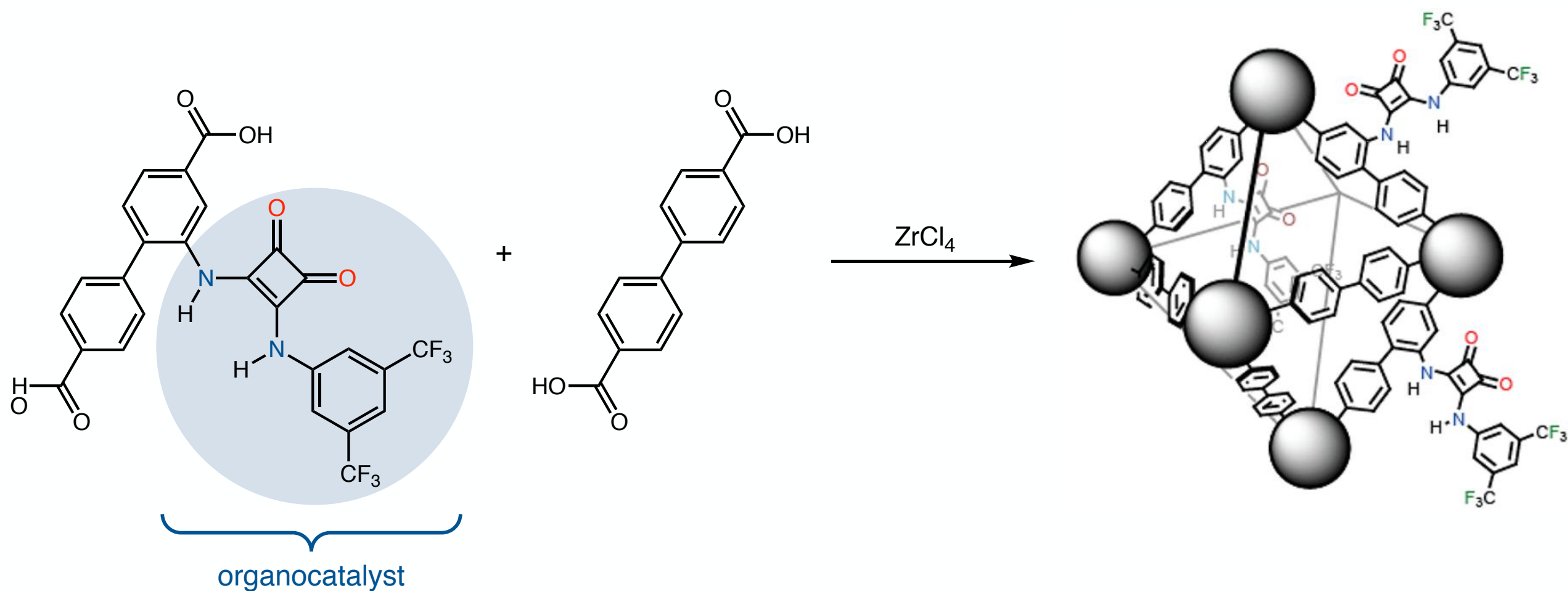
*Photocatalysis and  
Metallaphotoredox*

*Mechanistic Study*

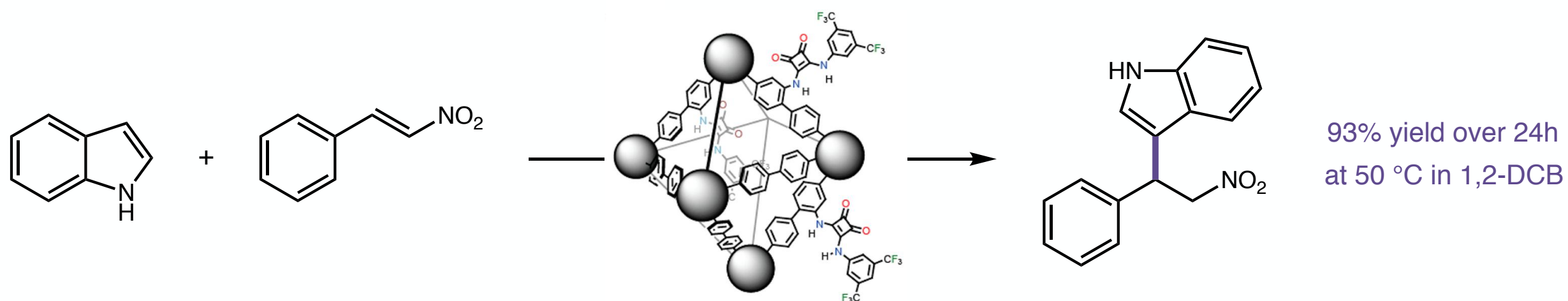
## "Turning on" a Novel Organocatalyst through Site Isolation



### mixed-linker MOF organocatalyst synthesis

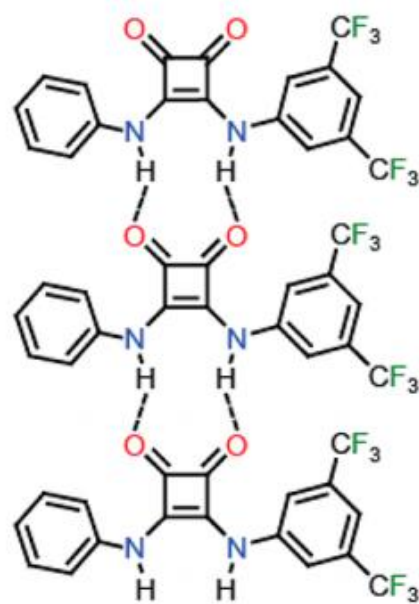


## “Turning on” a Novel Organocatalyst in MOF

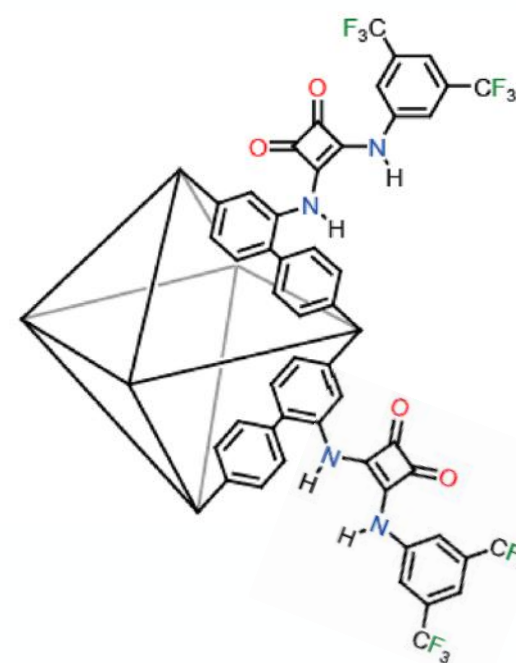


**Unbound squaramide**

**Ratio of functionalized:unfunctionalized linker**



low yield (7%) attributed to self-association in solution



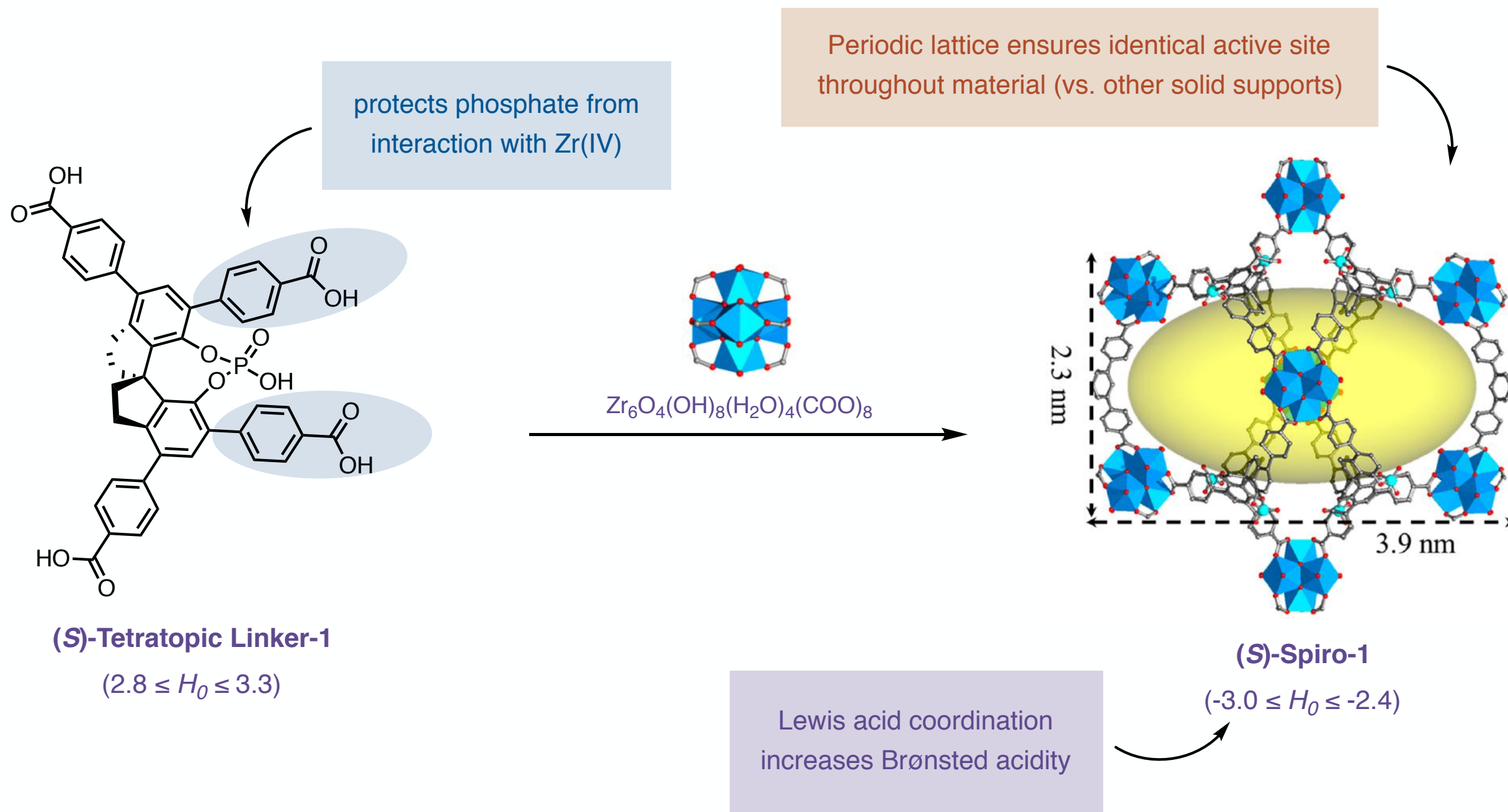
diminished pore volume prevents substrate diffusion (22% yield)

**Possible to design and use organocatalysts that would be inactive in solution**

# Chiral MOF Catalysis

**MOFs constructed from chiral organic linkers can be used in enantioselective organic transformations**

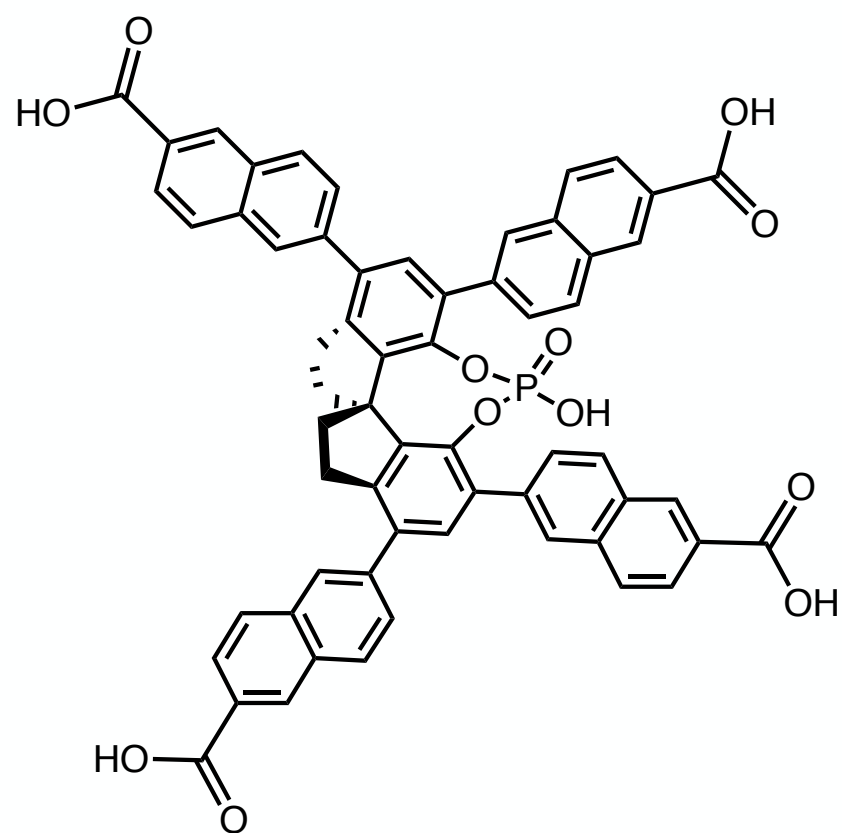
Chiral pore environment reinforces enantioselectivity of chiral phosphoric acid



# Chiral MOF Catalysis

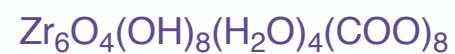
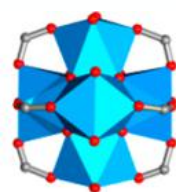
**MOFs constructed from chiral organic linkers can be used in enantioselective organic transformations**

Chiral pore environment reinforces enantioselectivity of chiral phosphoric acid

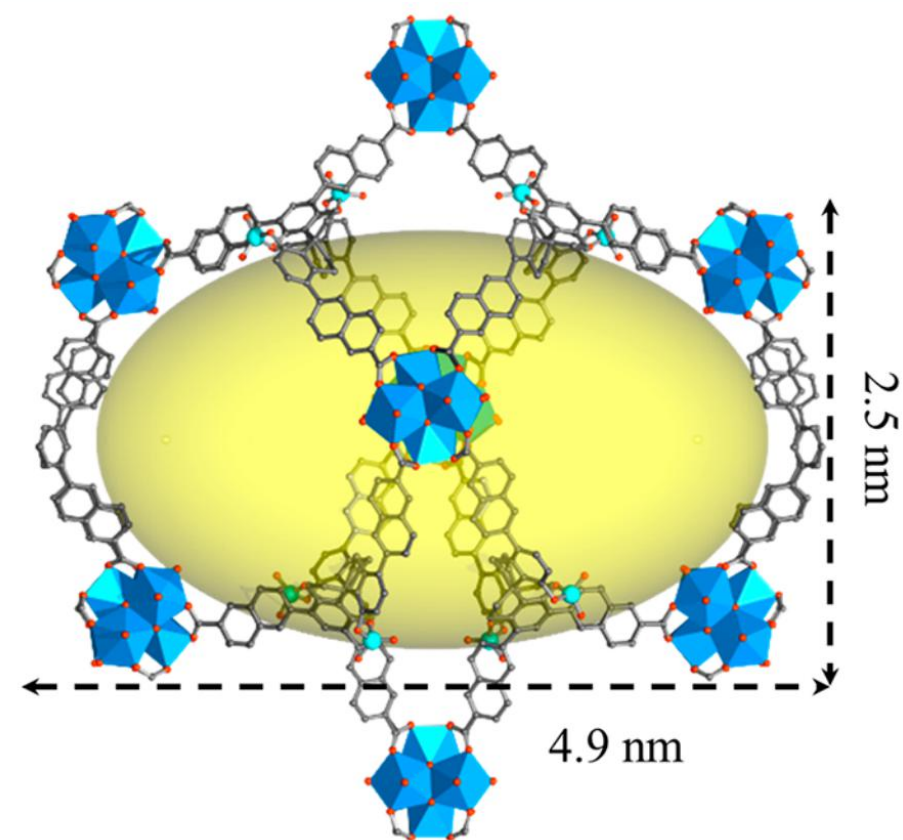


**(S)-Tetratopic Linker-2**

$(2.8 \leq H_0 \leq 3.3)$



MOF synthesis is amenable  
to variable linker lengths

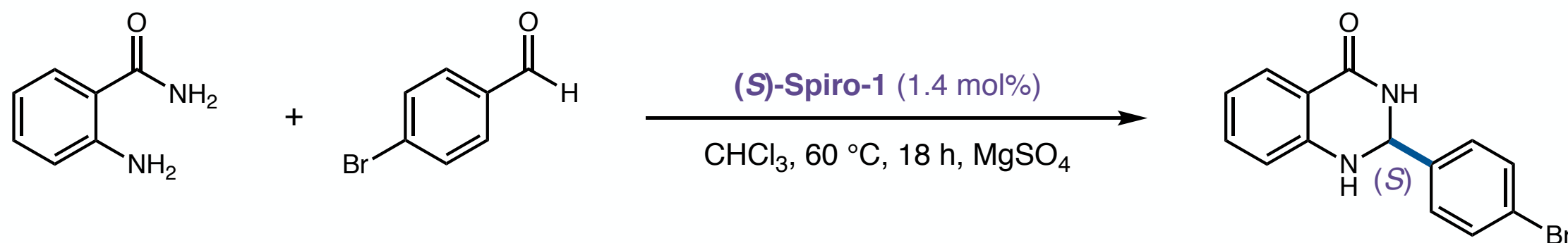


**(S)-Spiro-2**

$(-2.4 \leq H_0 \leq -0.2)$

## MOF Structure Contributes to Enantioselectivity

### Condensation-Cyclization of 2-Aminobenzamides and Aldehydes



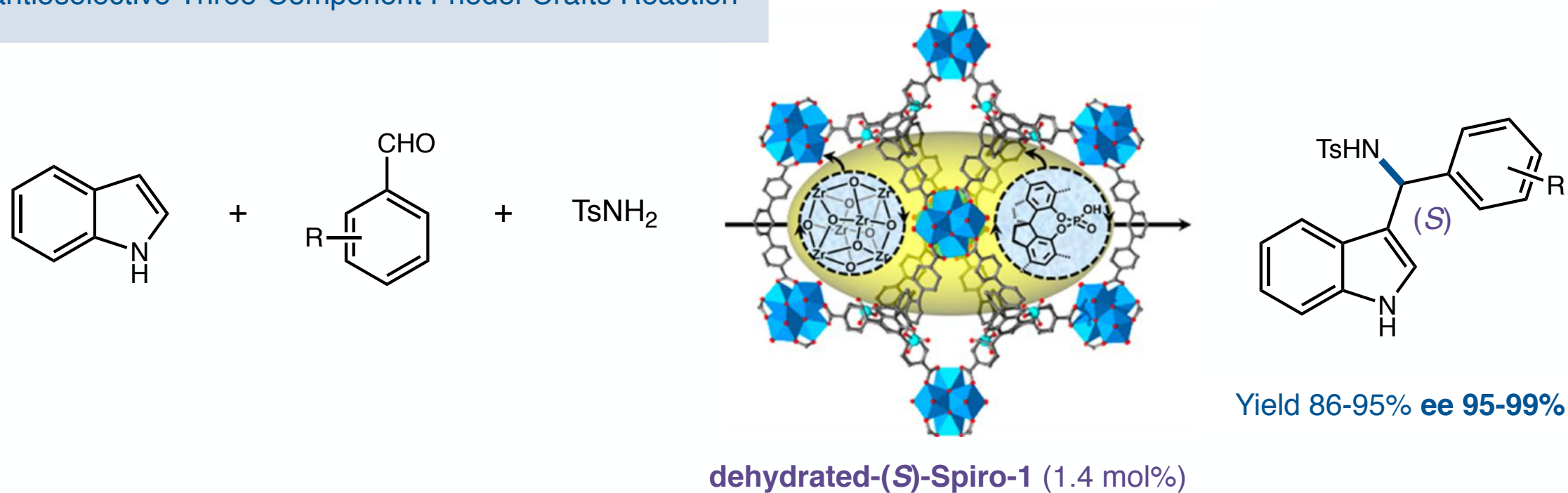
Catalyst	product yield (%)	product stereochemistry	product ee (%)
(S)-Spiro-1	99	(S)	96
(R)-Spiro-1	99	(R)	96
(S)-free phosphoric acid	99	(S)	76
(S)-Spiro-2	99*	(S)	87

\*faster reaction due to larger pores, faster substrate diffusion

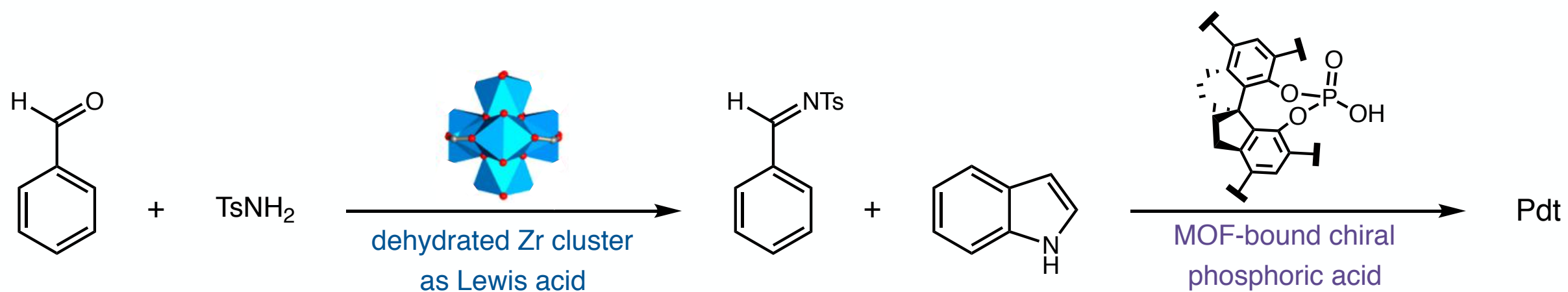


# MOF Functions as a Brønsted Acid and a Lewis Acid

## Enantioselective Three-Component Friedel-Crafts Reaction

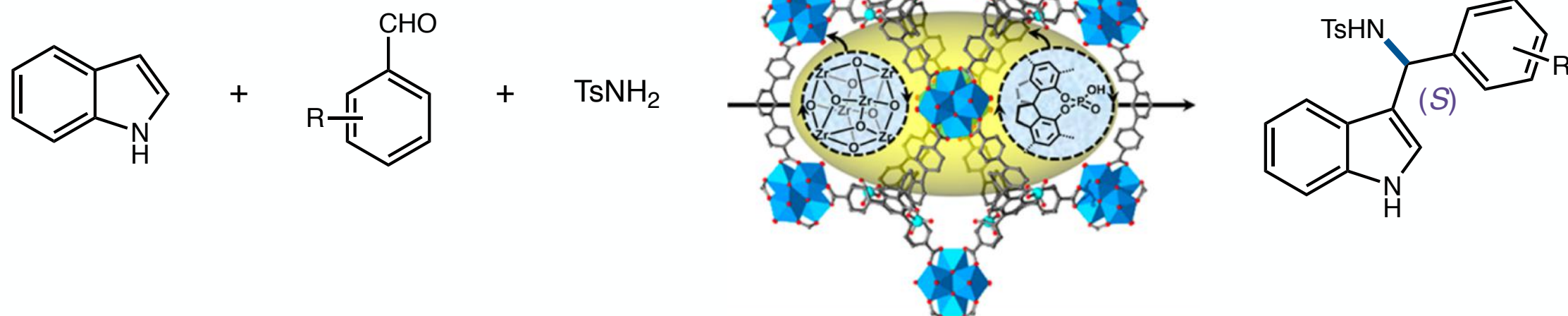


## Dual Brønsted and Lewis Acid Catalysis

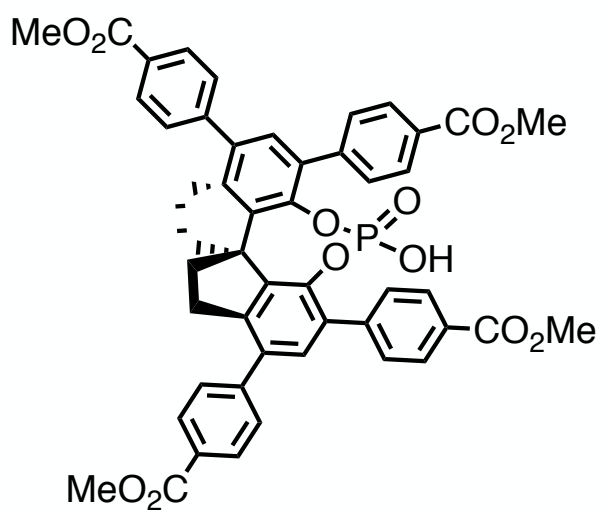


# Control Reactions

## Enantioselective Three-Component Friedel-Crafts Reaction

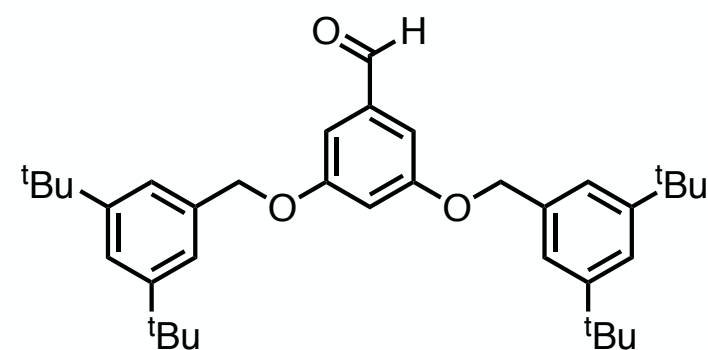


*Free phosphoric acid*



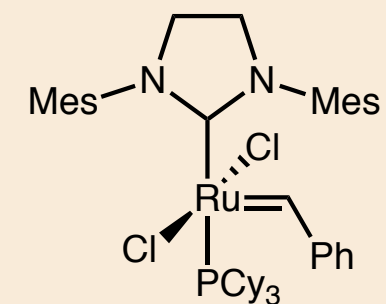
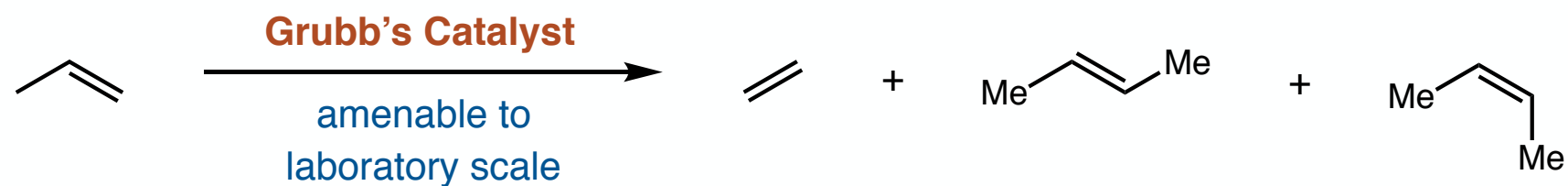
no reaction,  
Lewis acid also required

*Sterically hindered aldehydes*



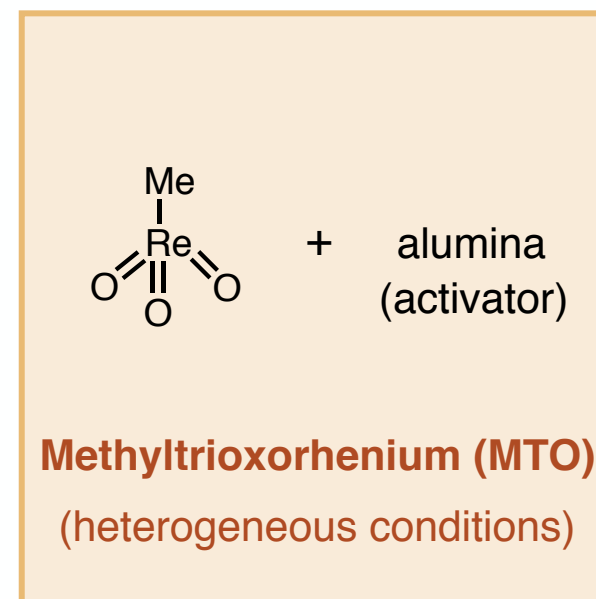
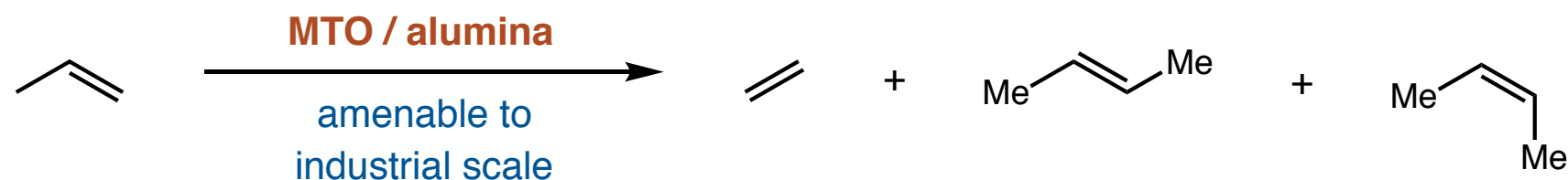
no reaction,  
suggests reactivity is in MOF pore

## Activation of an Olefin Metathesis Catalyst by Lewis Acidic Metal Clusters



**Grubb's Catalyst 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen**  
(homogeneous conditions)

## Activation of an Olefin Metathesis Catalyst by Lewis Acidic Metal Clusters



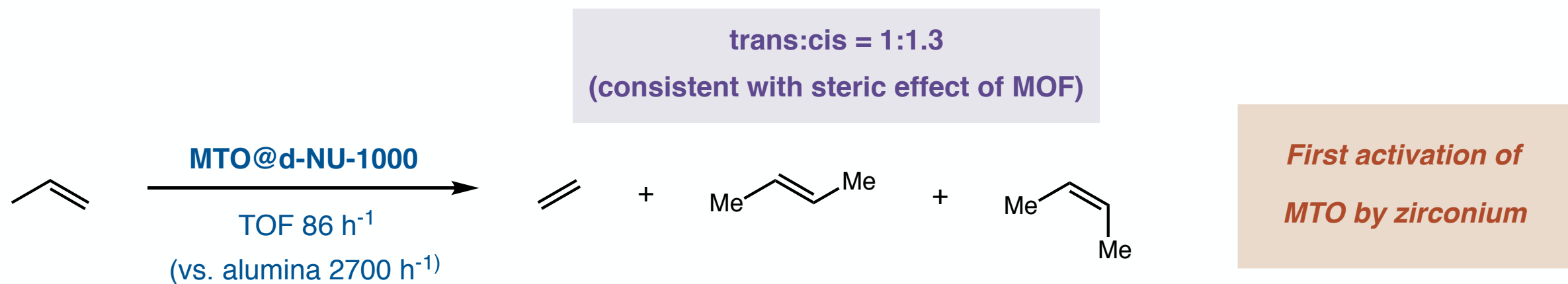
Would the metal clusters of a Zr MOF be Lewis acidic enough to activate MTO?

Defined active sites of a single type (unlike other supports)

Highly tunable local environment

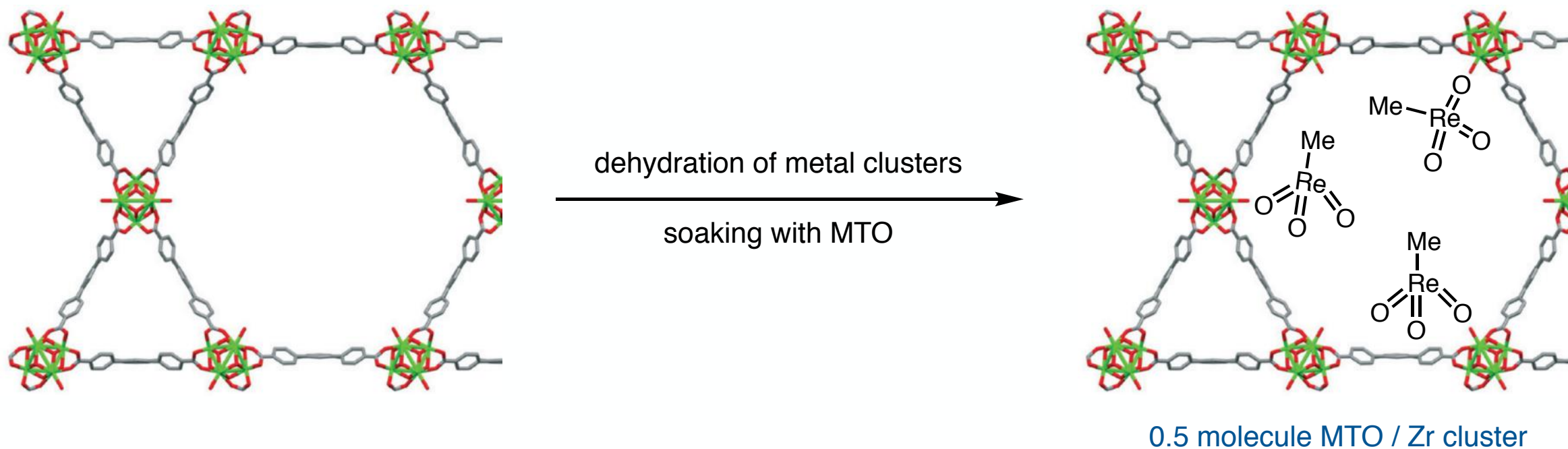
Possibility of mechanistic study via x-ray diffraction and other spectroscopic tools

# Activation of an Olefin Metathesis Catalyst by Lewis Acidic Metal Clusters

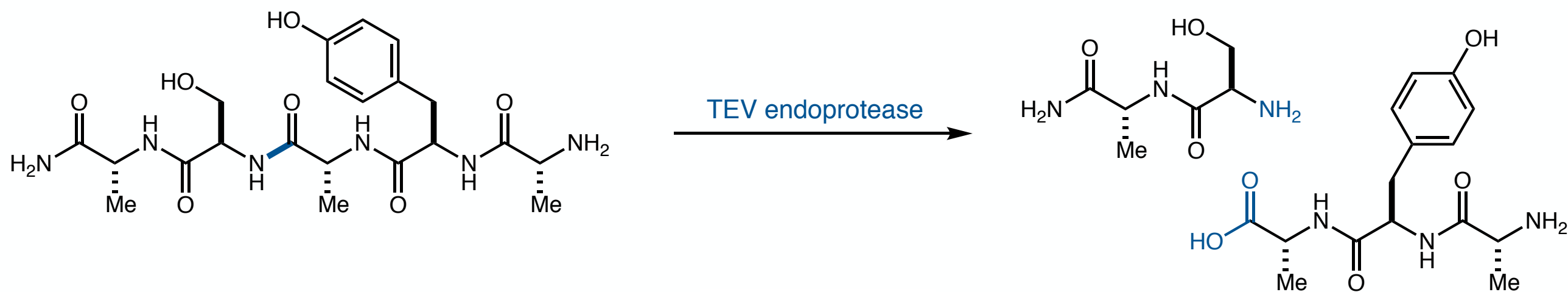


NU-1000

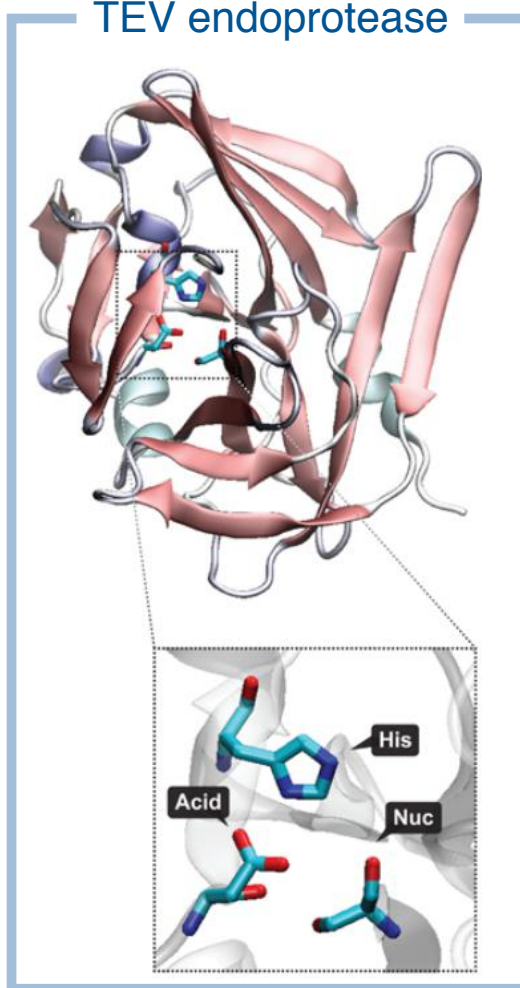
MTO@d-NU-1000



## Enzyme-Like Complexity in a MOF Pore



TEV endoprotease

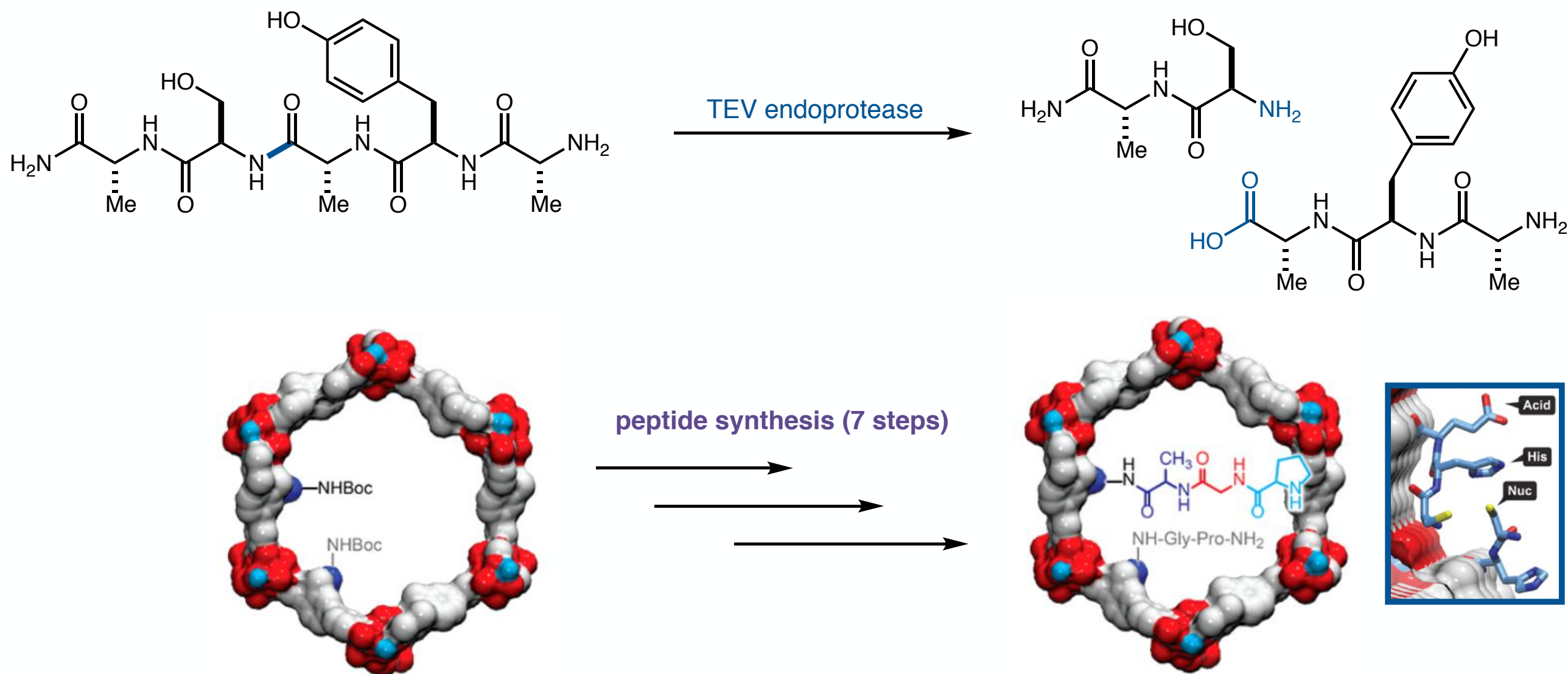


*Recognizes serine in a peptide  
and cleaves the next amide bond*

*proposed cooperative catalysis between  
Asp (Acid), His, and Cys/Ser (Nuc)*



## Enzyme-Like Complexity in a MOF Pore



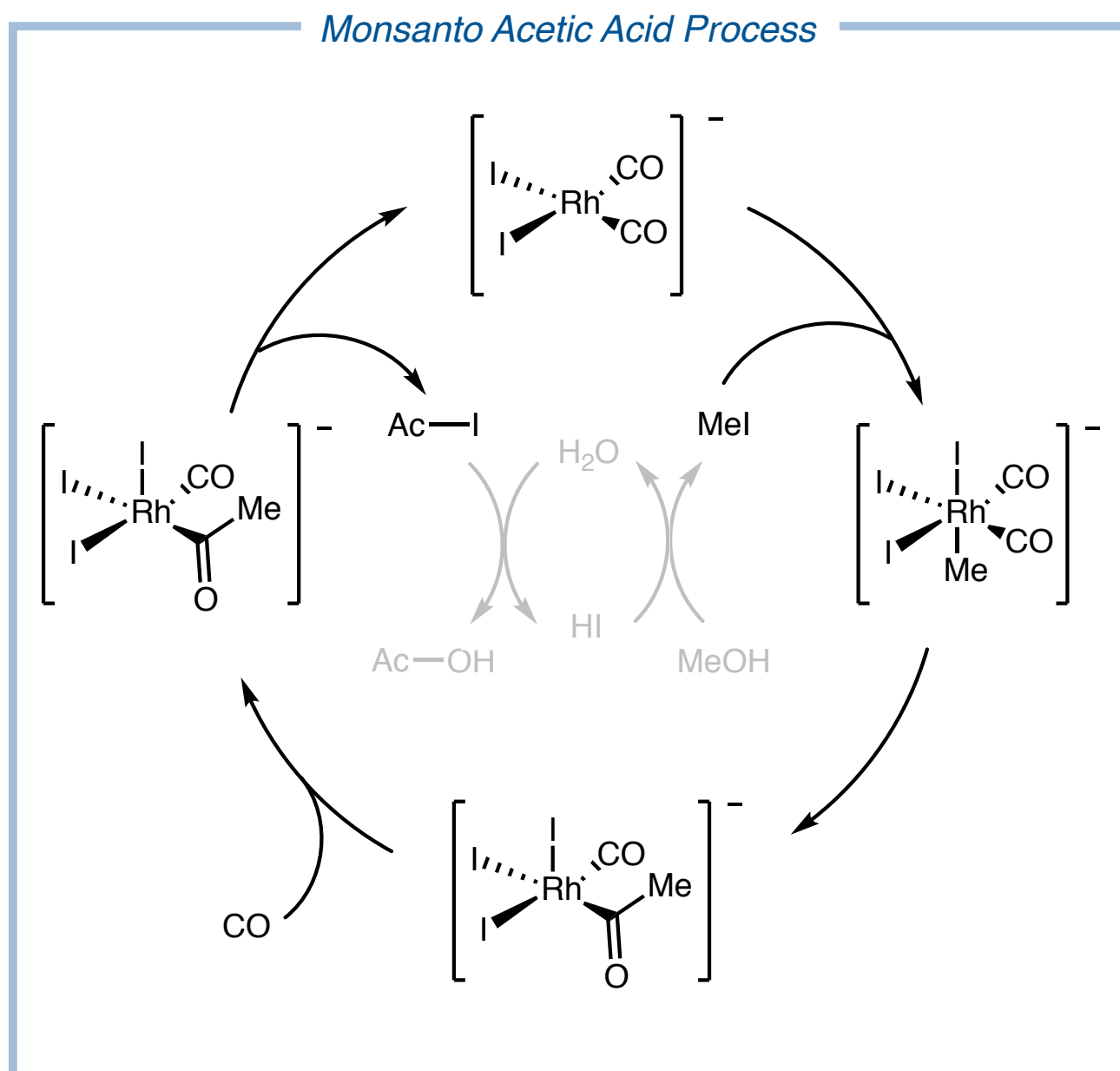
### Results

1. **Selective conversion** to cleaved product was observed (5% over 24 hours)

2. Unsupported tripeptide showed **no catalytic activity**

# Single-Crystal X-Ray Crystallography to Map a Catalytic Process

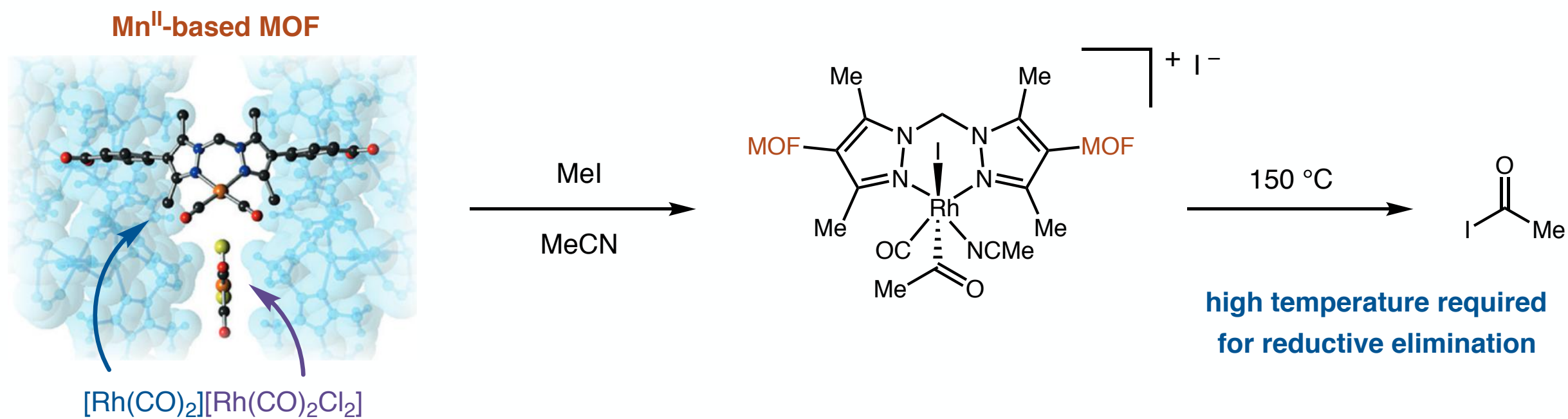
Crystalline, sterically encumbered MOFs allow for study of catalytically relevant organometallic intermediates



Single-Crystal X-Ray Diffraction (SCXRD) was used to elucidate the mechanism when the catalyst is supported in a MOF

# A Change in Mechanism Upon Site Isolation

Catalytic cycle does not turnover in MOF with methyl iodide

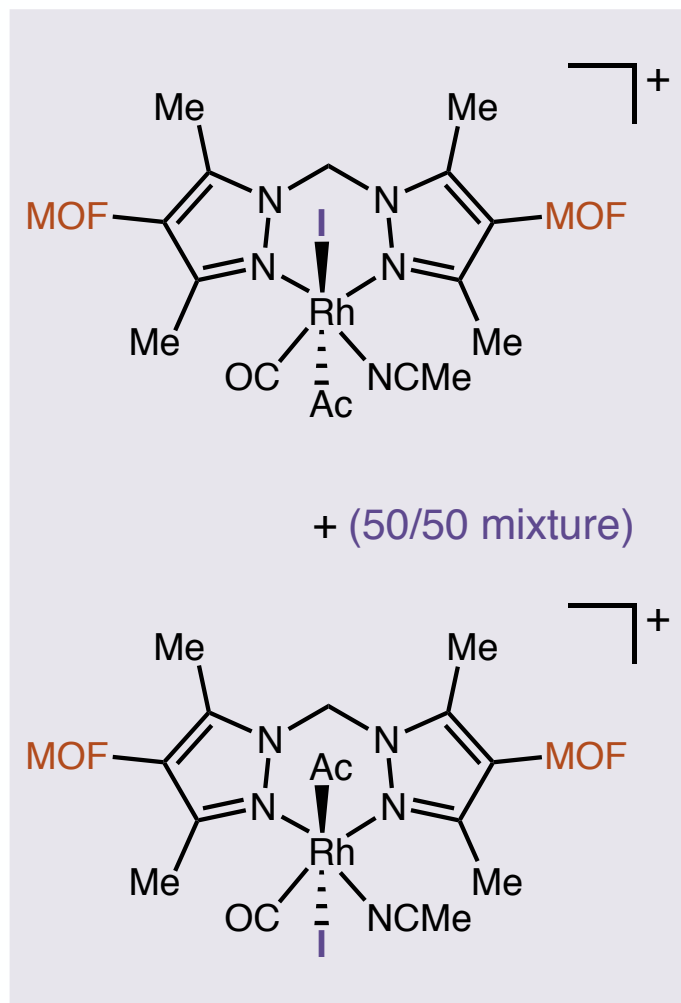


## Why?

1. Reductive elimination requires **cis** substituents
2. Oxidative addition (S<sub>N</sub>2 mechanism) results in **trans** substituents
3. Large halide presents a **kinetic barrier to isomerization** in congested MOF pore

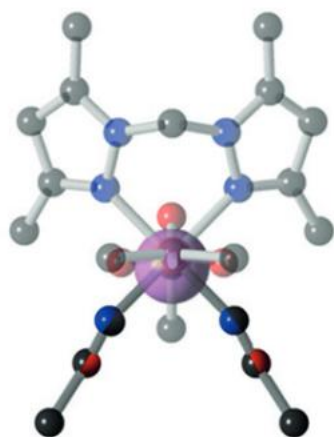
# Evidence for High Barrier to Cis-Trans Isomerization with MeI

Crystal structures show no isomerization to thermodynamic product



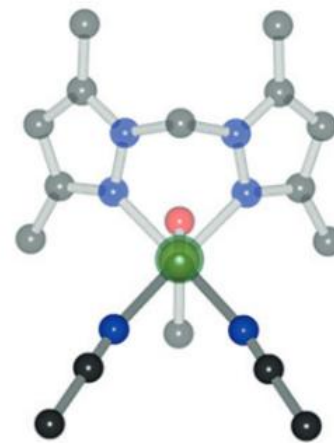
+ (50/50 mixture)

X-Ray

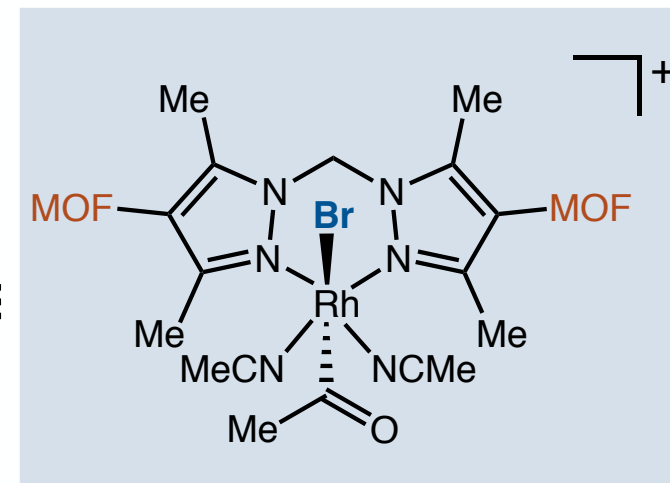


side view

X-Ray



side view



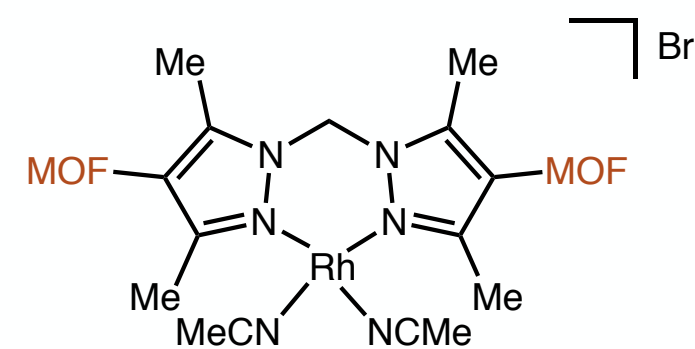
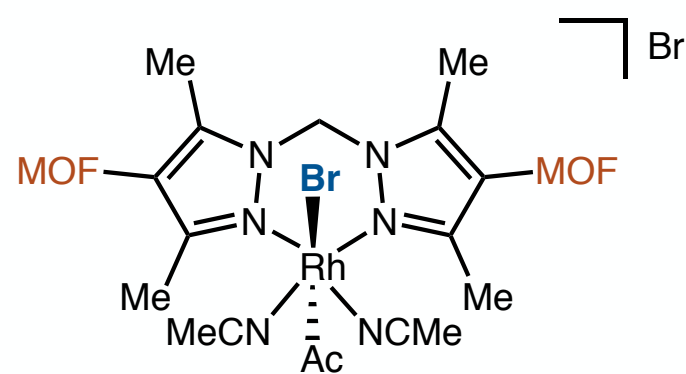
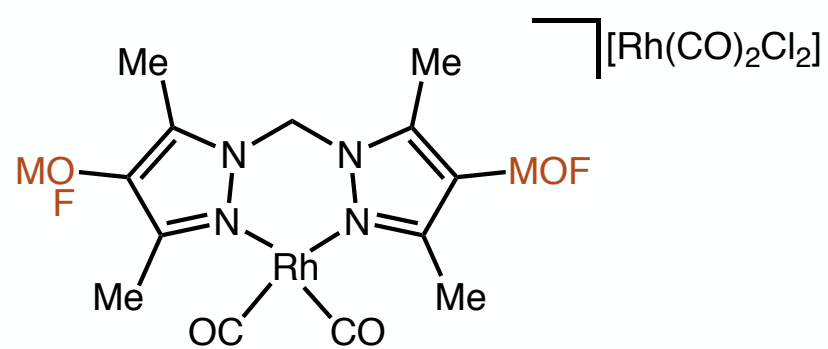
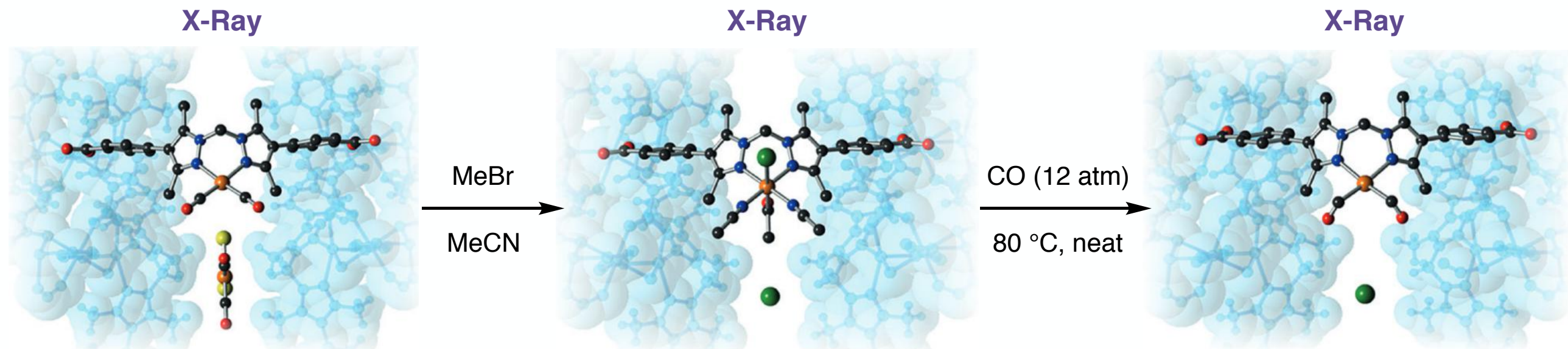
Single oxidative addition product,  
indicating isomerization

Other isomer unstable in MOF  
pocket by 4.5 kcal/mol

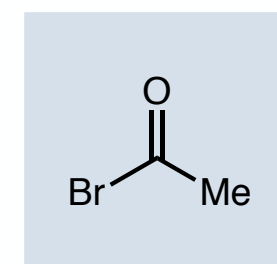
Kinetic product of S<sub>N</sub>2 oxidative addition observed  
(1:1 mixture of *trans* isomers)

**Observation of unfavored oxidative addition product  
suggests a high barrier to isomerization**

# Methyl Bromide as an Alternative Substrate



+

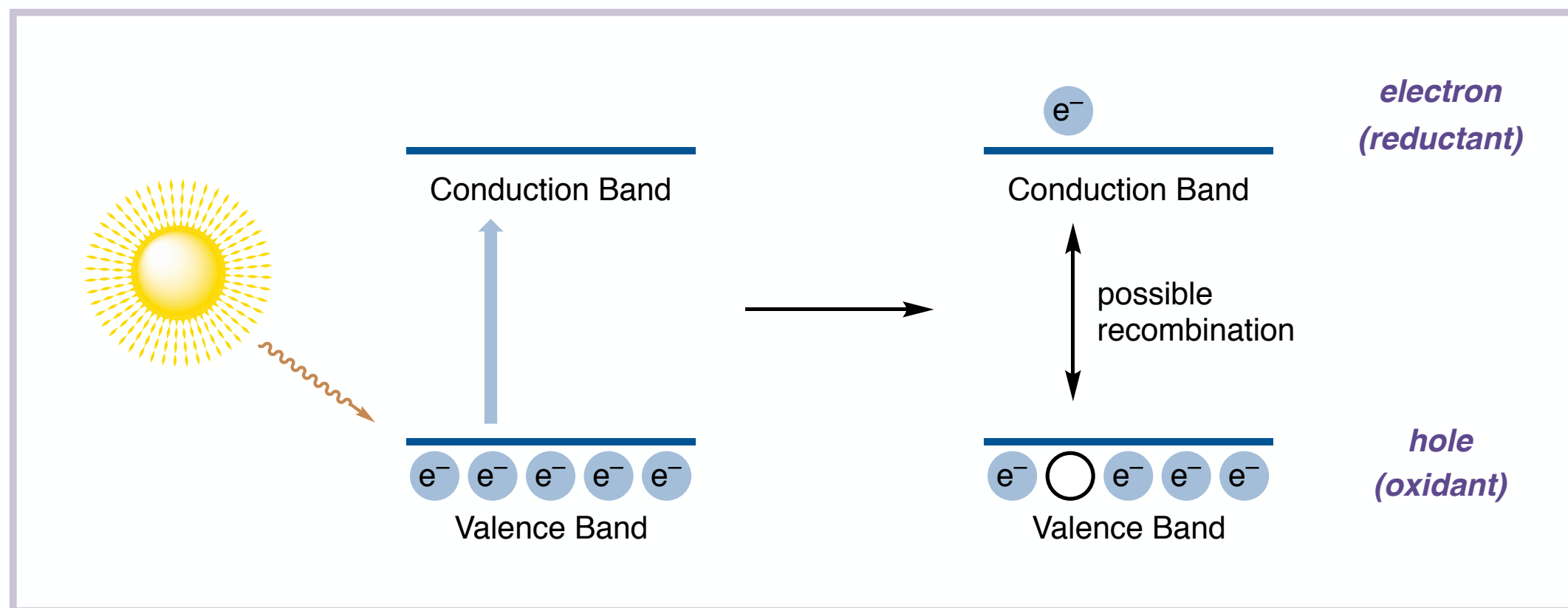


**11 turnovers in 10 hours**

slow rate attributed to slower oxidative addition for MeBr and isomerization rates in MOF



# Metal-Organic Frameworks as Photocatalysts



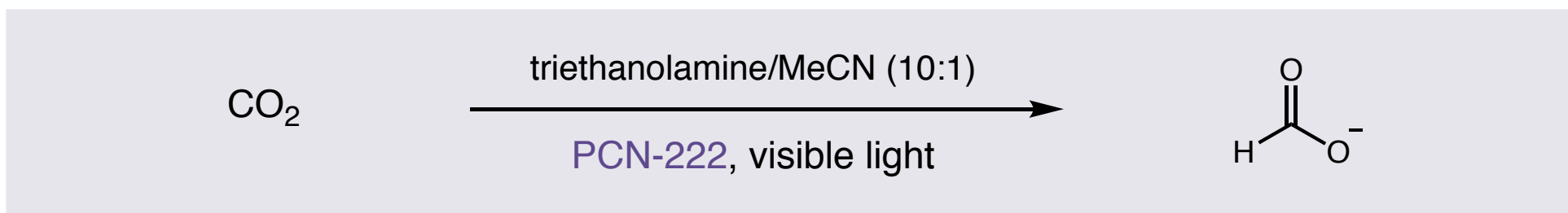
## A good light harvesting photocatalyst can:

1. Absorb the abundant light in the solar spectrum (visible and near IR)
2. Maintain a charge-separated state long enough to perform productive chemistry

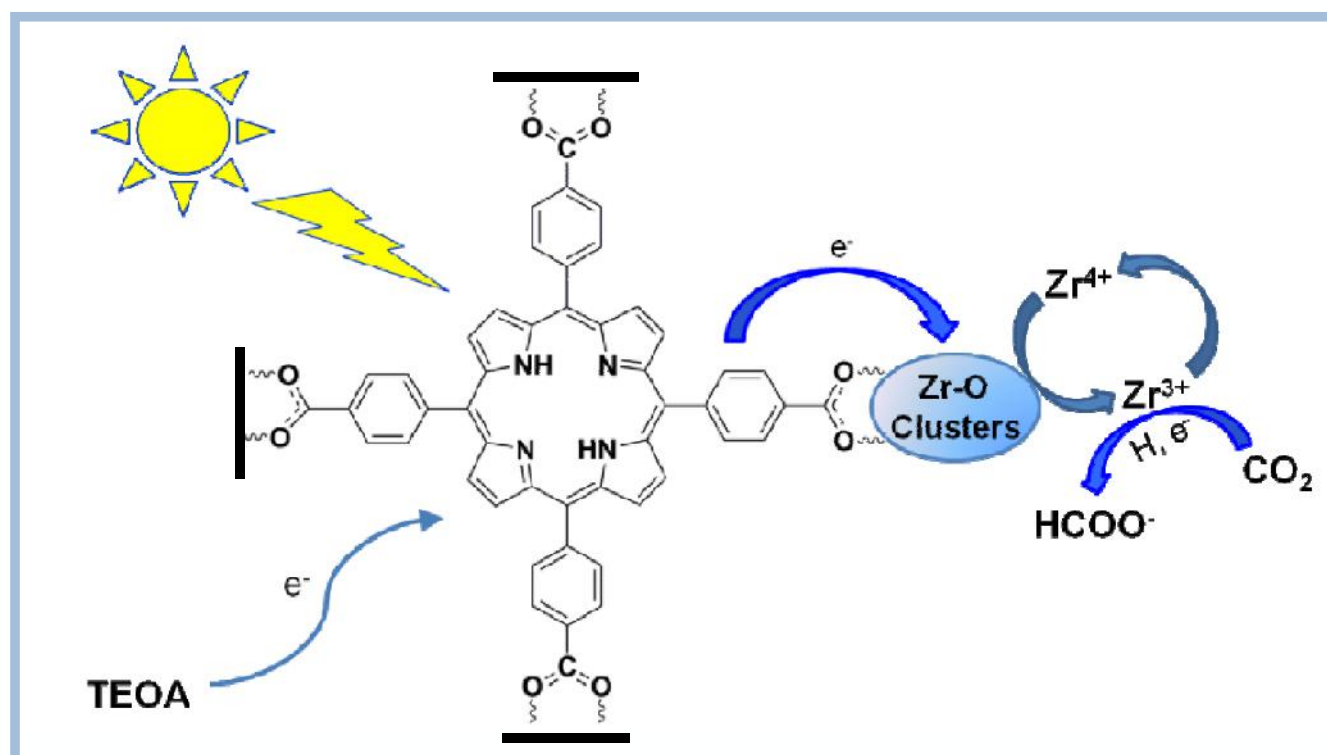
*MOF structures are well-defined and infinitely tunable,  
making them ideal for systematic photocatalyst development*

# Tuning of Organic Linker to Absorb Visible Light

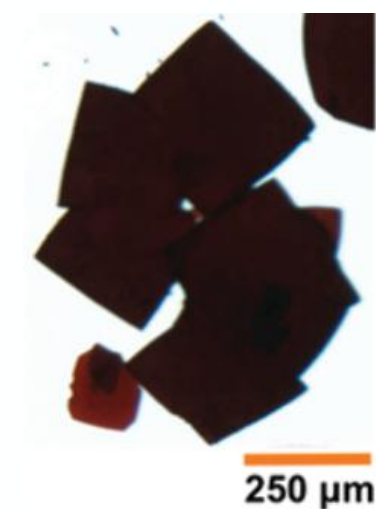
## Desirable chemical transformation



Converts greenhouse gas to useful chemical feedstock



Porphyrin linkers enable harvest of abundant visible light to perform chemistry

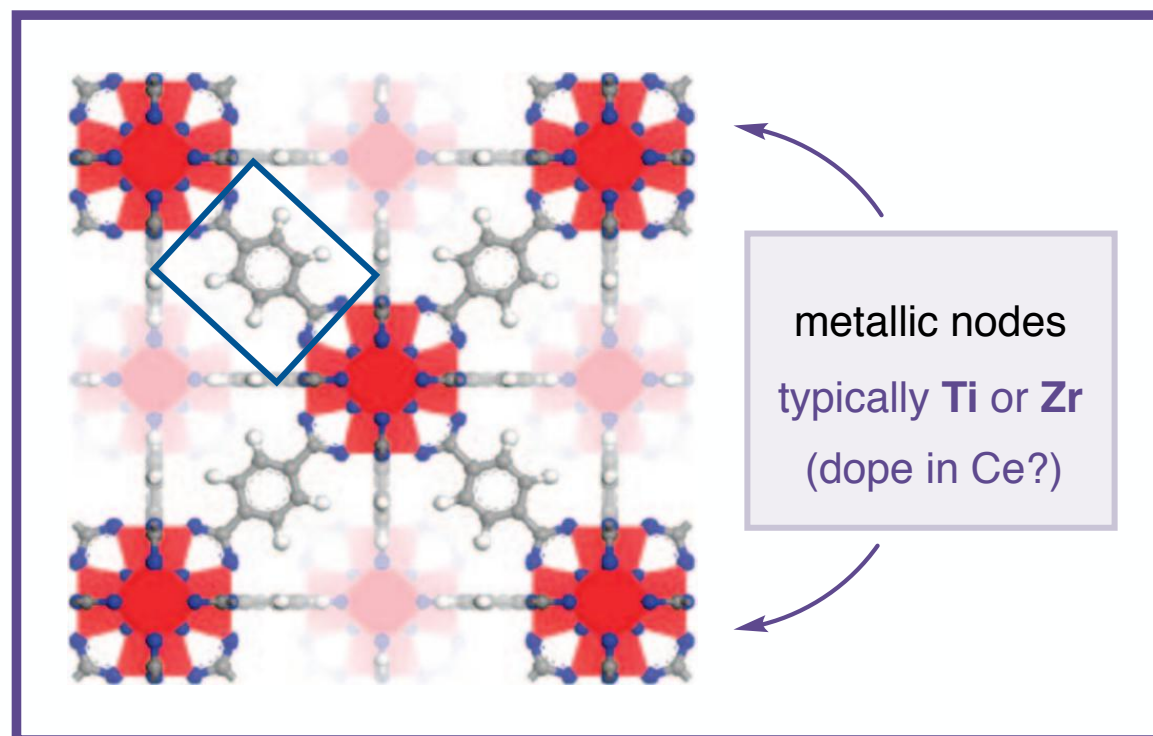


Lee, C. Y.; Farha, O. M.; Hong, B. J. Sarjeant, A. A.; Nguyen, S. B. T.; Hupp, J. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 15858-15861.

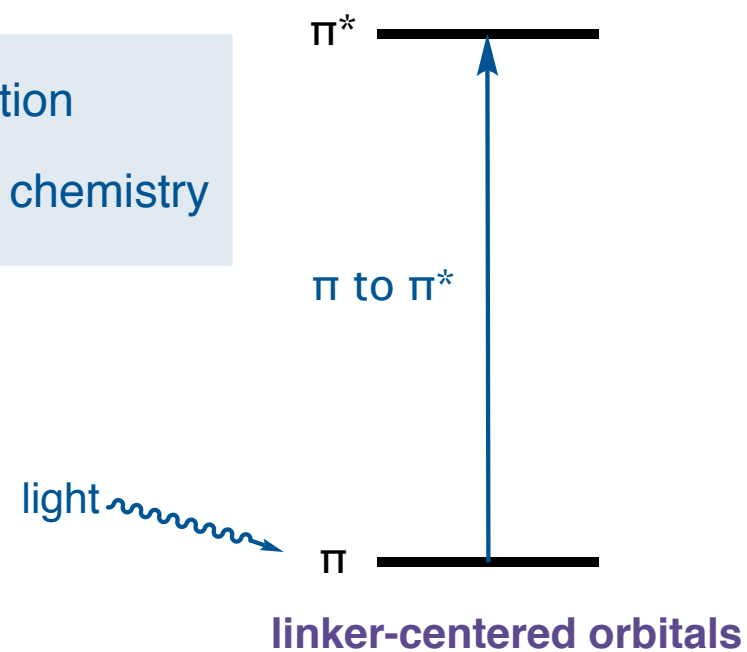
Xu, H.-Q.; Hu J.; Wang, D.; Li, Z.; Zhang, Q.; Luo, Y.; Yu, S.-H.; Jiang, H.-L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 13440-13443.



## Lanthanide Doping to Promote Electron-Hole Separation



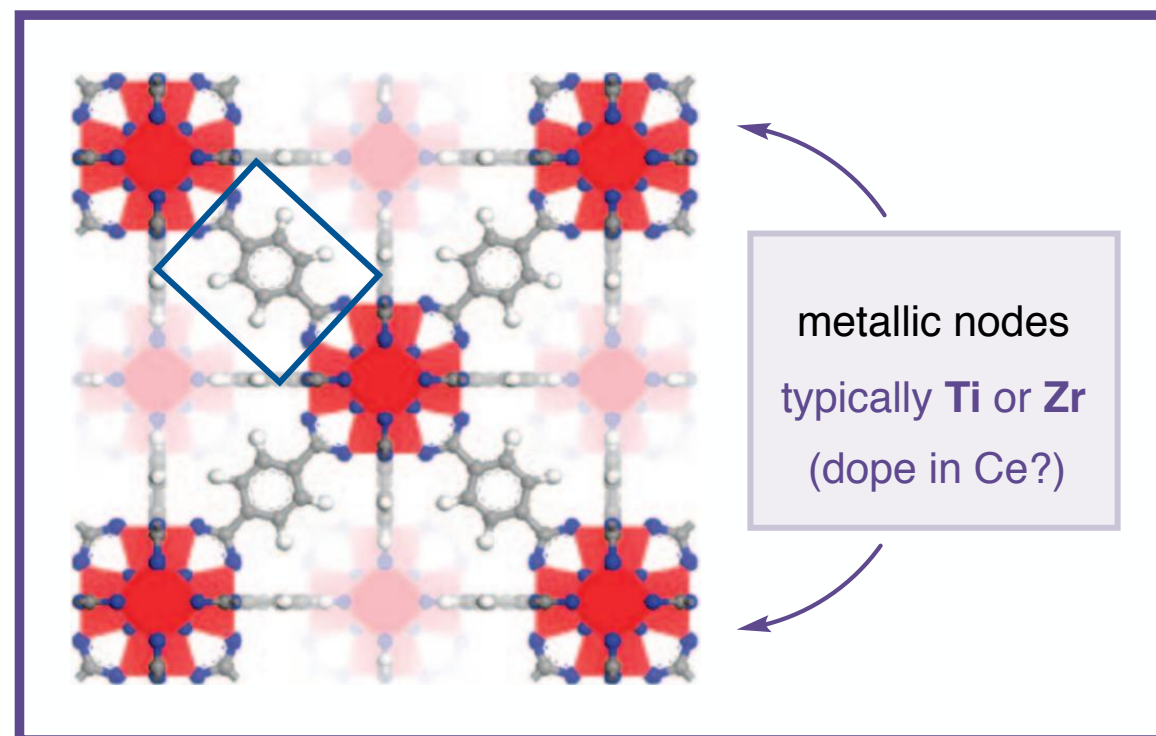
Minimal electron-hole separation  
**recombination** occurs before other chemistry



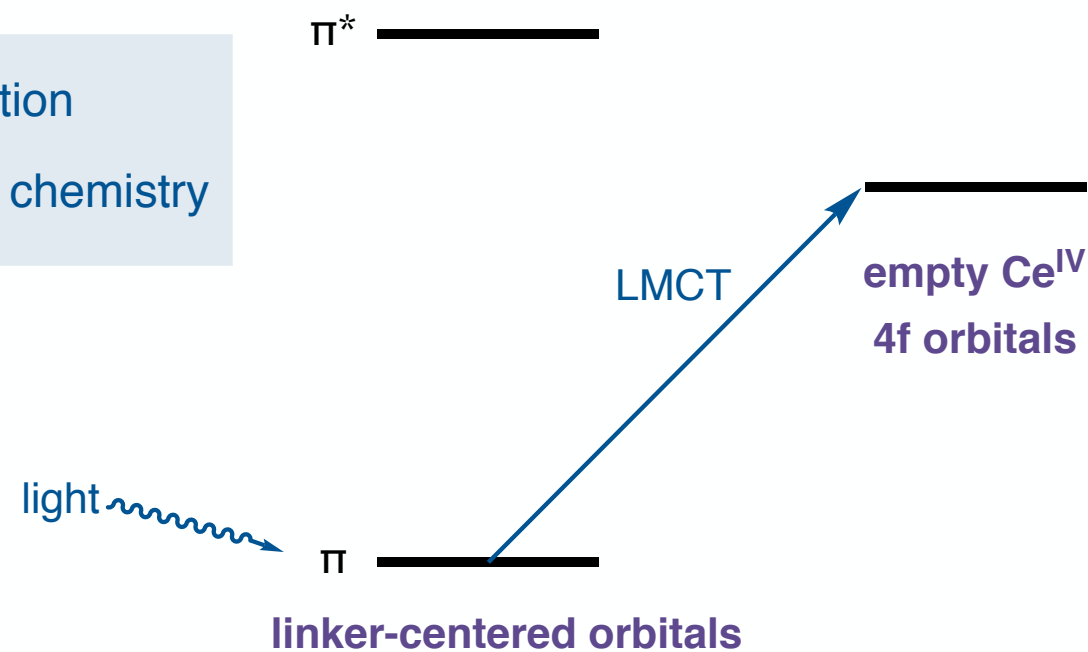
Wu, X.-P.; Gagliardi, L.; Truhlar, D. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 7904-7912.

Wu, X.-P.; Gagliardi, L.; Truhlar, D. G. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2019**, *150*, 041701.

## Lanthanide Doping to Promote Electron-Hole Separation



Minimal electron-hole separation  
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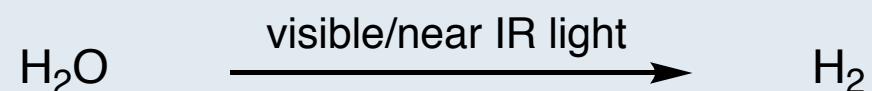
Charges are separated and  
recombination is delayed

Wu, X.-P.; Gagliardi, L.; Truhlar, D. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 7904-7912.

Wu, X.-P.; Gagliardi, L.; Truhlar, D. G. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2019**, *150*, 041701.

# Upconversion to Access Whole-Spectrum Hydrogen Evolution

## Ideal Hydrogen Evolution Reaction (HER):

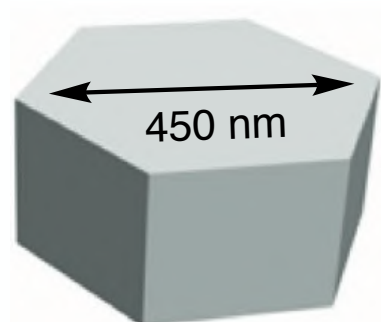


Near IR and visible light compose ~95% of the solar spectrum

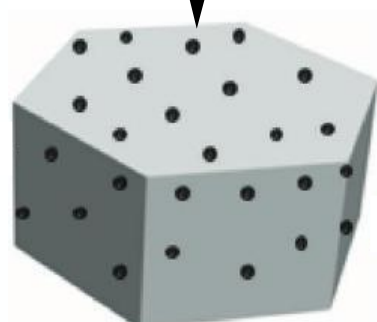
Few photocatalysts can utilize low energy light

## Composite Material Synthesis

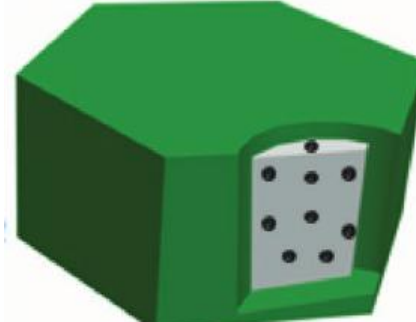
Upconversion NPs  
(Yb, Tm, Er)



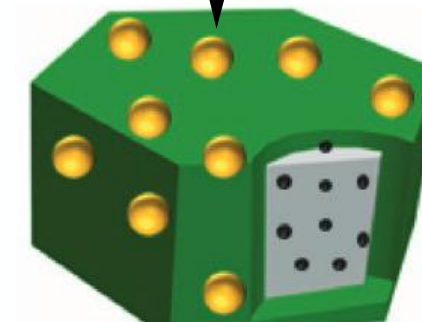
Pt NPs  
(3 nm)



Layered MOF growth  
(40 nm thick, porous)



Au NPs  
(10 nm)

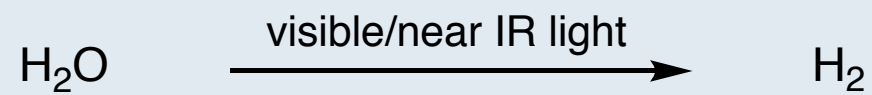


**UCNPs-Pt@MOF/Au**

**Multiple mechanistic pathways allow use of entire solar spectrum for hydrogen evolution reaction**

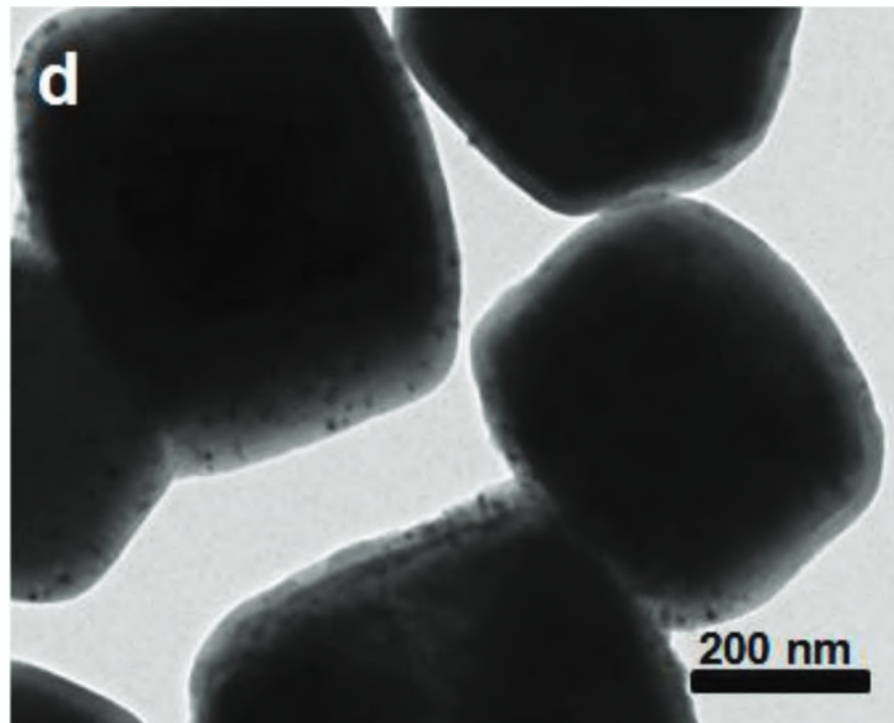
# Upconversion to Access Whole-Spectrum Hydrogen Evolution

## Ideal Hydrogen Evolution Reaction (HER):

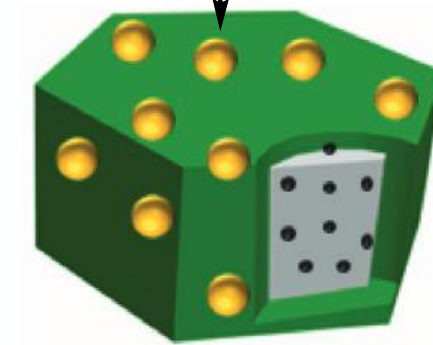


Near IR and visible light compose ~95% of the solar spectrum

Few photocatalysts can utilize low energy light



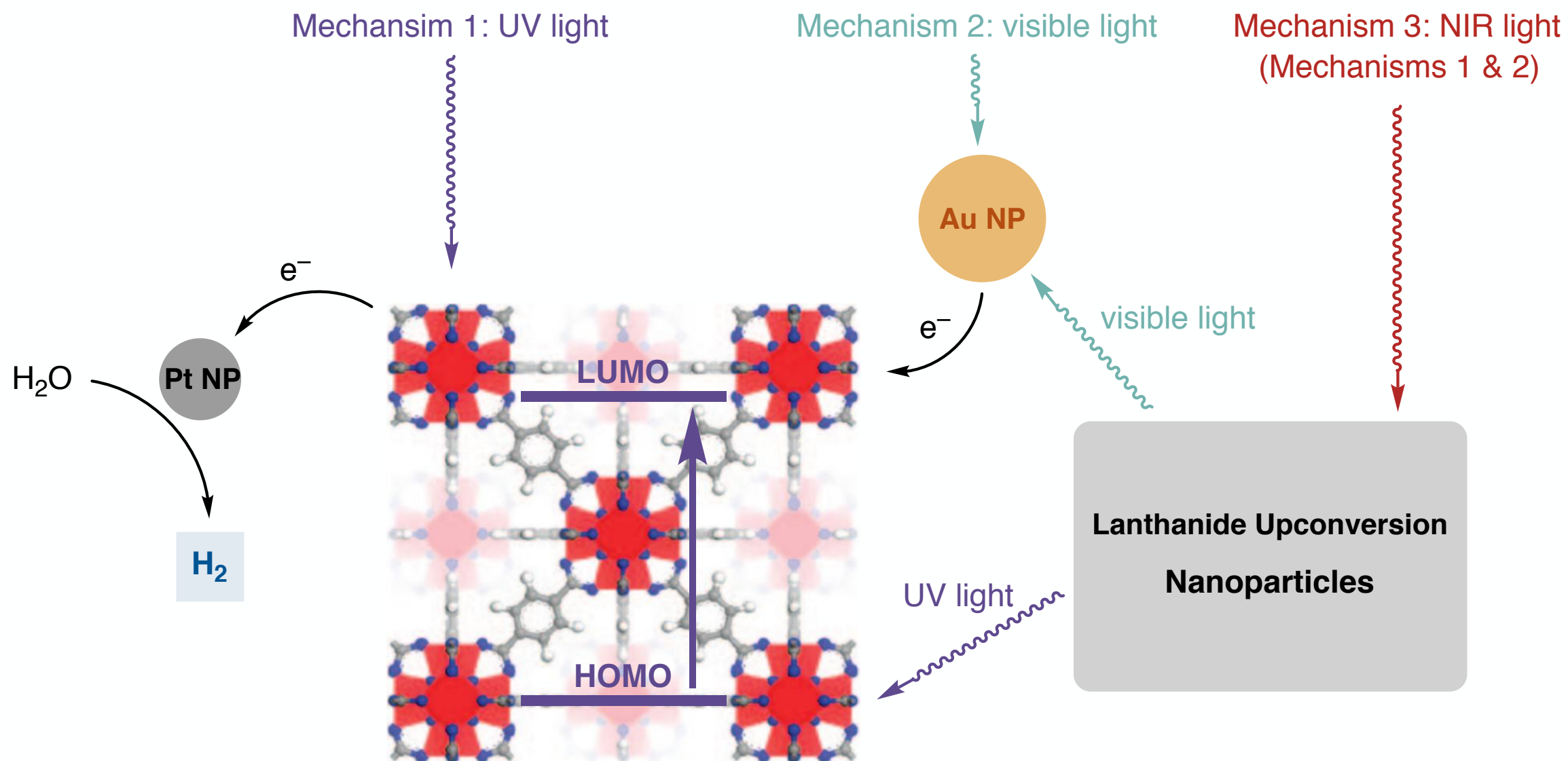
Au NPs  
(10 nm)



**UCNPs-Pt@MOF/Au**

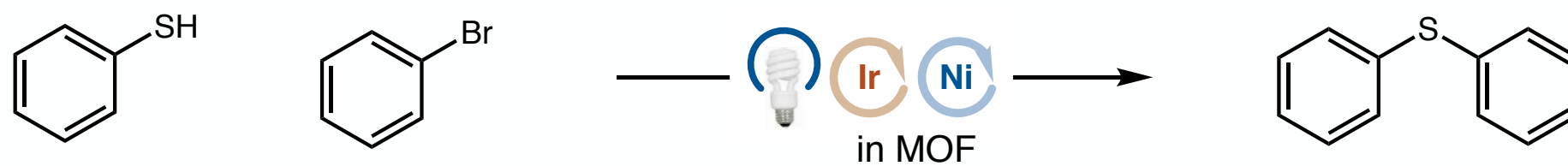
**Multiple mechanistic pathways allow use of entire solar spectrum for hydrogen evolution reaction**

# Upconversion to Access Whole-Spectrum Hydrogen Evolution



*Mechanistic redundancy allows for highly efficient H<sub>2</sub> evolution (280 μmol g<sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) under solar spectrum*

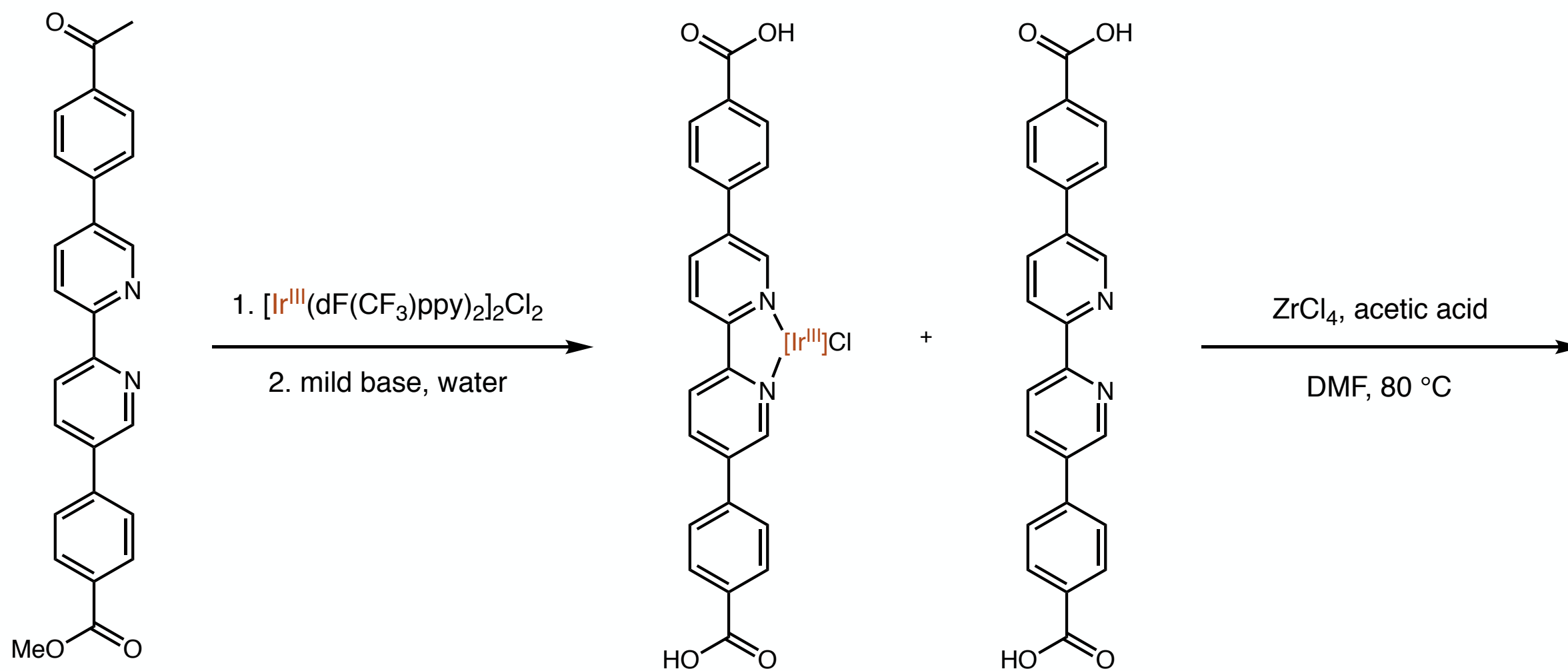
## Metallaphotoredox in MOFs (MetallaPhotoMOFs)



For a more complete review of post-synthetic modifications of MOFs: Cohen, S. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 2855-2863.

Zu, Y.-Y.; Lan, G.; Fan, Y.; Veroneau, S. S.; Song, Y.; Micheroni, D.; Lin, W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *130*, 14286–14290.

## Dual-Functionalized MOF Synthesis

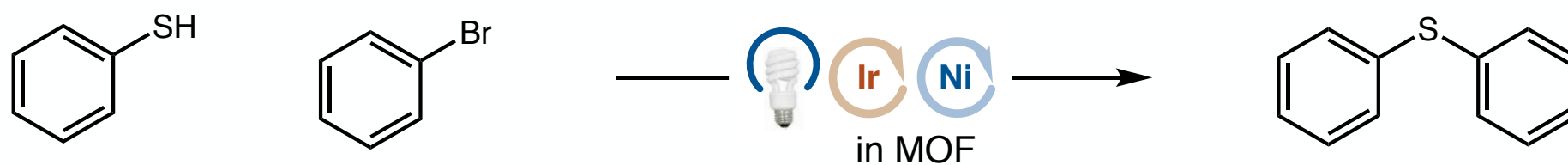


For a more complete review of post-synthetic modifications of MOFs: Cohen, S. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 2855-2863.

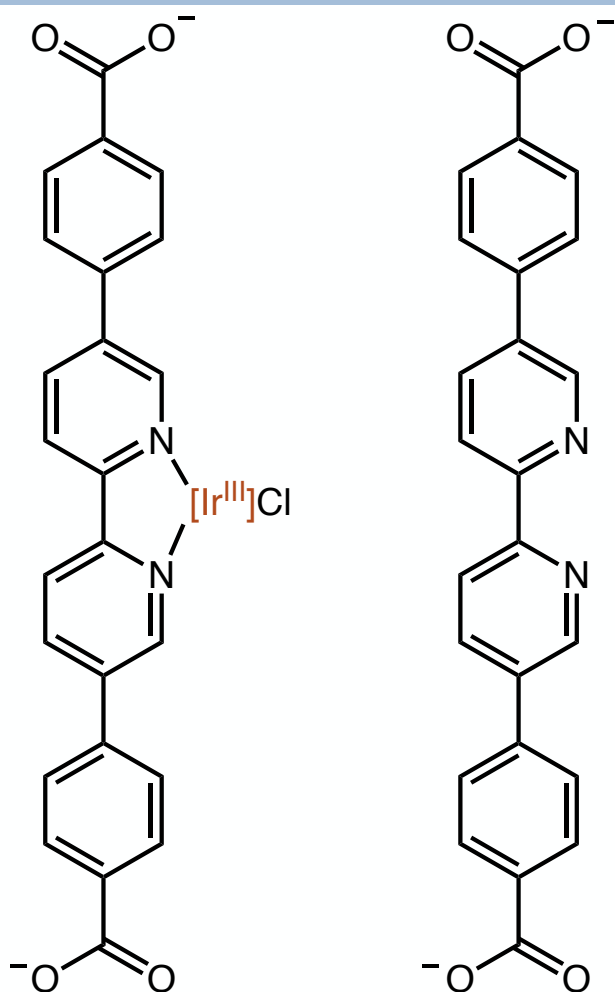
Zu, Y.-Y.; Lan, G.; Fan, Y.; Veroneau, S. S.; Song, Y.; Micheroni, D.; Lin, W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *130*, 14286–14290.



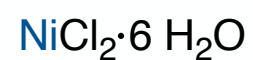
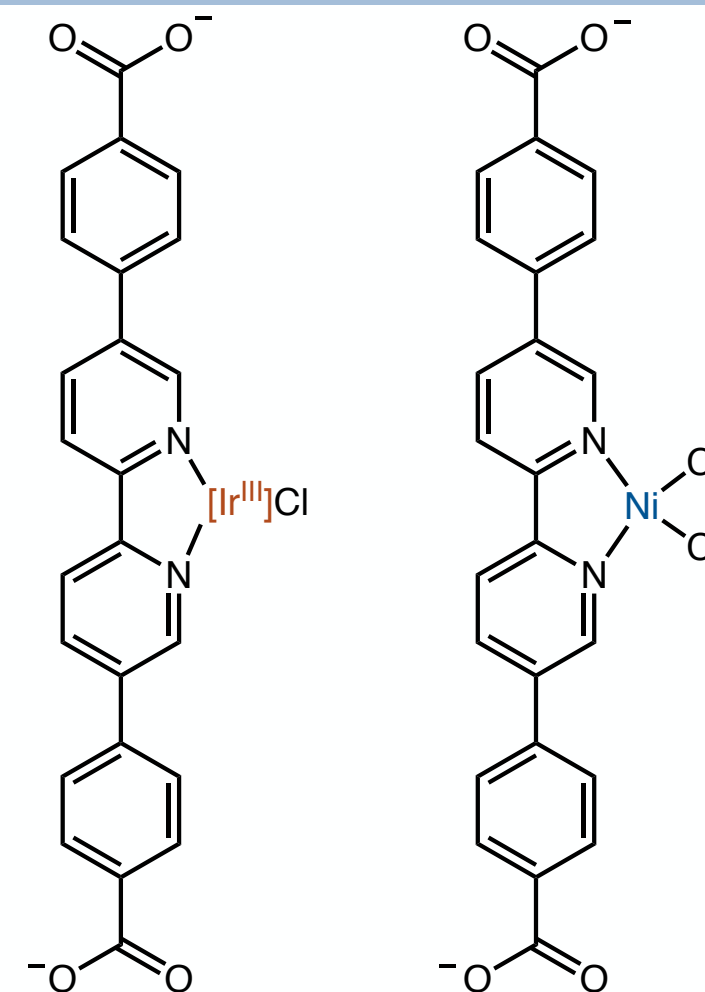
## Dual-Functionalized MOF Synthesis



modified UiO-67 MOF



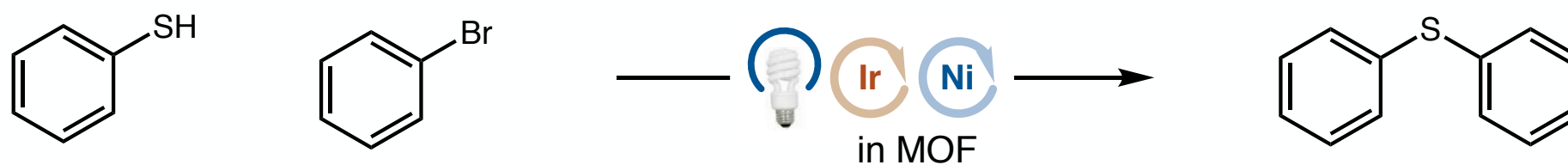
completed MOF catalyst



For a more complete review of post-synthetic modifications of MOFs: Cohen, S. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 2855-2863.

Zu, Y.-Y.; Lan, G.; Fan, Y.; Veroneau, S. S.; Song, Y.; Micheroni, D.; Lin, W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *130*, 14286-14290.

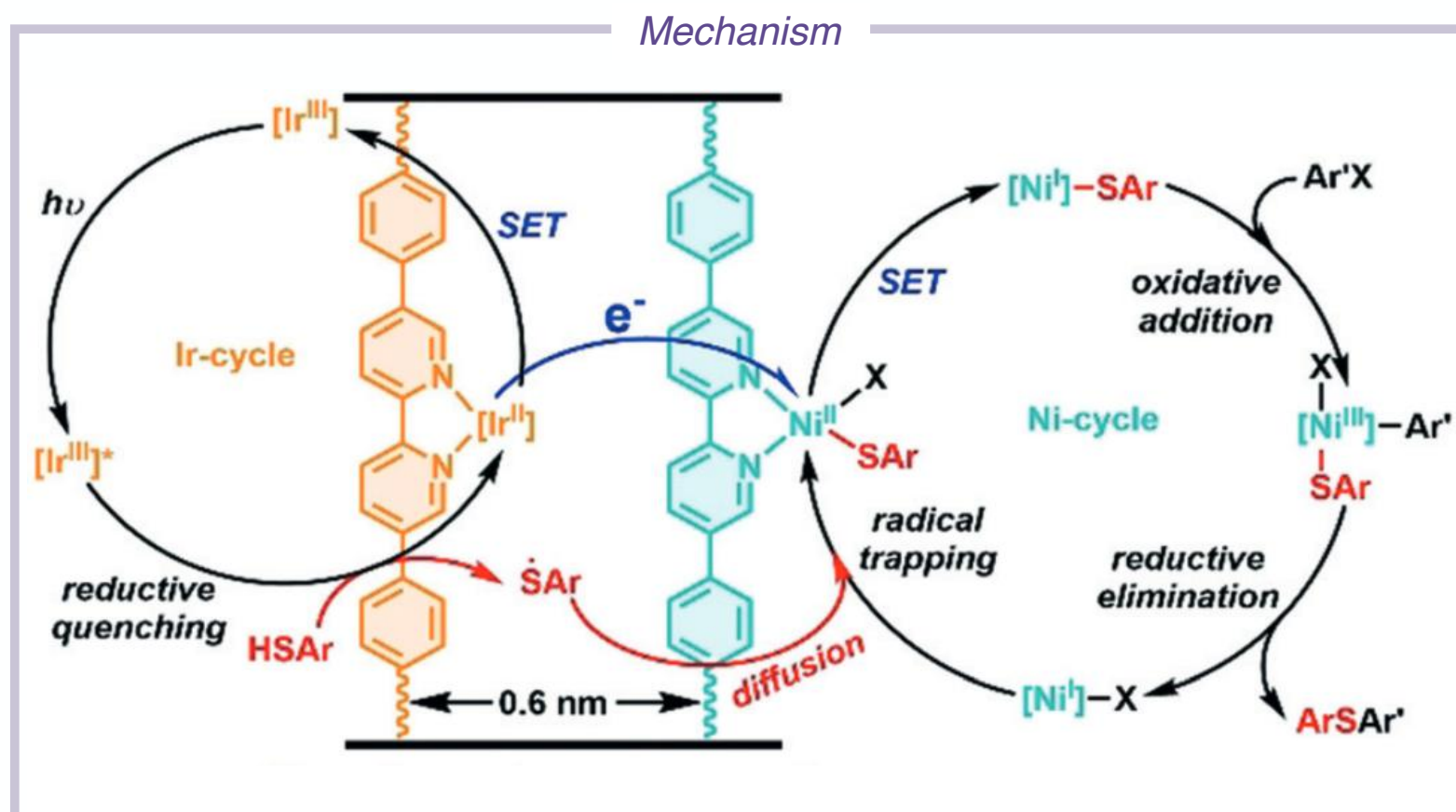
## Metallaphotoredox in MOFs (MetallaPhotoMOFs)



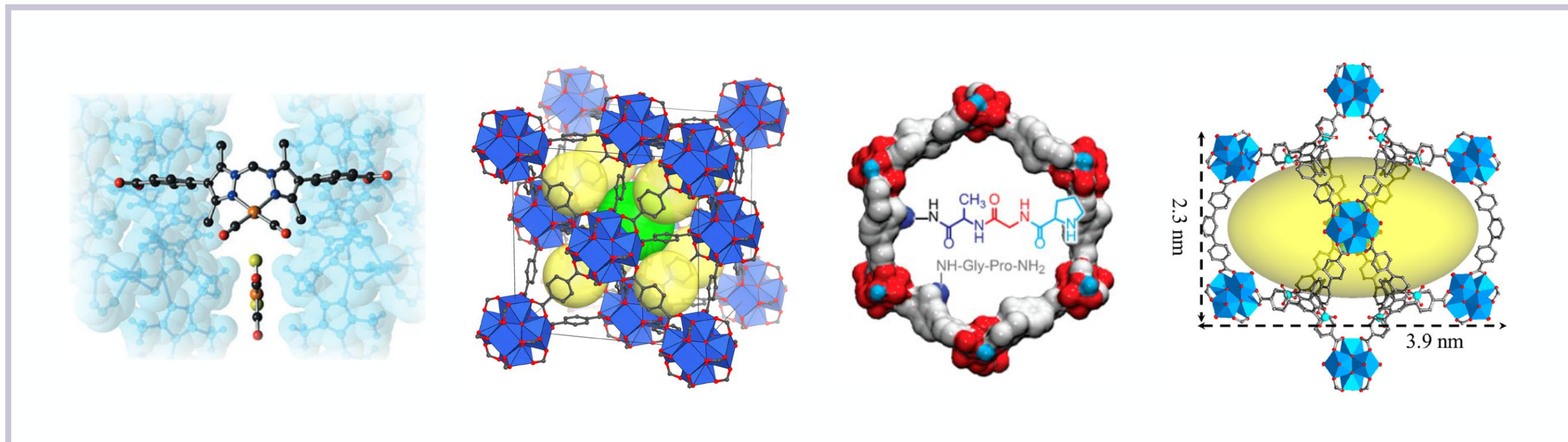
Lower loadings (0.002 mol%), higher TON (38,500) than homogeneous system

Proximity facilitates electron transfer between catalysts

**Only application of MOFs to metallaphotoredox catalysis**



## Outlook



**MOFs rationally designed for catalysis, not structural aesthetics**

**Identification of robust MOF classes amenable to structural modification**

**Participation of a greater number of organic-focused research groups**