# Basics of MOFs and Related Organic Synthetic Applications



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Literature Talk

April 11th, 2025



what are mofs

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MOF - 1001

MOF - 101-2













Timeline



JACS 1995, 117, 10401–10402.



Timeline



*JACS* **1995**, *117*, 10401–10402.







### Timeline



Nature 1999, 402, 276–279.











Gas storage

Photoluminscence

Sensing

Magnetism

Catalysis

Diverse applications related to MOFs











**Optoelectronics** 

Drug delivery

Bio imaging

Conductivity

Energy storage











Catalysis

Diverse applications related to MOFs



Outline

What are MOFs?

*How to synthesize MOFs?* 

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

Outline

What are MOFs?

How to synthesize MOFs?

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

**MOF:** Metal-organic framework

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### **MOF:** Metal-organic framework



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### **MOF:** Metal-organic framework



Metal ions



Metal ions: metal clusters

Metal ions: metal clusters



MOF - 5

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(\textbf{CO}_2)_6$ 

Metal ions: metal clusters



Zn<sub>4</sub>**O**(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>

Metal ions: metal clusters



**Zn**<sub>4</sub>O(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>



Tetrahedral

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



 $M_2(CO_2)_4$ M = Cu, Zn, Fe, Mo, Cr, Co, Ru

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



#### M = Cu, Zn, Fe, Mo, Cr, Co, Ru

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



 $M_{2}(CO_{2})_{4} \label{eq:M2}$  M = Cu, Zn, Fe, Mo, Cr, Co, Ru



Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



$$\label{eq:m2} \begin{split} M_2(CO_2)_4\\ M = Cu,\,Zn,\,Fe,\,Mo,\,Cr,\,Co,\,Ru \end{split}$$



 $M_3O(CO_2)_6$ M = Zn, Cr, In, Ga





Cu<sub>2</sub>(**CNS**)<sub>4</sub>
Metal ions

Metal ions: metal clusters



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



$$\label{eq:M2} \begin{split} M_2(CO_2)_4\\ M = Cu,\,Zn,\,Fe,\,Mo,\,Cr,\,Co,\,Ru \end{split}$$



 $Ni_4(C_3H_3N_2)_8$ 







 $M_3O(CO_2)_6$ M = Zn, Cr, In, Ga

Cu<sub>2</sub>(CNS)<sub>4</sub>

 $Zr_2O_8(CO_2)_8$ 

# Metal ions

Metal ions: metal clusters (secondary building units)



 $Zn_4O(CO_2)_6$ 



 $M_2(CO_2)_4$ M = Cu, Zn, Fe, Mo, Cr, Co, Ru



 $Ni_4(C_3H_3N_2)_8$ 







 $M_3O(CO_2)_6$ M = Zn, Cr, In, Ga

Cu<sub>2</sub>(CNS)<sub>4</sub>

 $Zr_2O_8(CO_2)_8$ 

What are MOFs?

#### **MOF:** Metal-organic framework

class of crystalline materials with ultrahigh porosity



Organic linkers: contain heteroatom

Organic linkers: contain heteroatom



BDC

Organic linkers: contain heteroatom



BDC



ATC

Organic linkers: contain heteroatom





ATC

Organic linkers: contain heteroatom



What are MOFs?

#### **MOF:** Metal-organic framework

class of crystalline materials with ultrahigh porosity



What are MOFs?

#### **MOF:** Metal-organic framework

class of crystalline materials with ultrahigh porosity



Outline

What are MOFs?

*How to synthesize MOFs?* 

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

Reticular synthesis





Reticular synthesis



Reticular synthesis



Reticular synthesis



Reticular synthesis



#### *Retrosynthesis:* within the building blocks, bonds break and form

Reticular synthesis



*Retrosynthesis:* within the building blocks, bonds break and form

Supramolecular assembly: building blocks are linked by non-covalent interactions

## How to synthesize MOFs with experimental procedures?



## How to synthesize MOFs with experimental procedures?



## How to synthesize MOFs with experimental procedures?



Howarth, A. J.; Peters, A. W.; Vermeulen, N. A.; Wang, T. C.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Chemistry of Materials 2016, 29 (1), 26-39.

Streamline of organic synthesis

Streamline of organic synthesis



**Reaction setup** 

Streamline of organic synthesis





**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Solvothermal synthesis

Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Solvothermal synthesis

Solvothermal synthesis











 $Zr_6O_4(OH)_4$ 

BPDC

UiO-67





#### $Zr_6O_4(OH)_4$







 $Zr_6O_4(OH)_4$ 







 $Zr_6O_4(OH)_4$ 







#### BPDC

4 4'-biphenyldicarboxylic acid


 $ZrCl_4$ 





 $ZrCl_4$ 























ZrCl<sub>4</sub>



Too fast crystalline growth with relatively amorphous structures



Organic linker Two sides for crystal growth



ZrCl<sub>4</sub>



4 4'-biphenyldicarboxylic acid

Too fast crystalline growth with relatively amorphous structures

O HO O HO O

*Organic linker* Two sides for crystal growth



Modulator

Nonstructural, monotopic linker

# **Illustrative Synthesis:**

# UiO-67

# Using benzoic acid as modulator

Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Solvothermal synthesis









Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Solvothermal synthesis

Crystalline identification

Crystalline properties

Purity check

Crystalline identification

Crystalline properties

**Purity check** 

**Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD)** 

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determine bulk crystallinity of MOF samples by comparing with simulated structures

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#### **Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD)**

determine bulk crystallinity of MOF samples by comparing with simulated structures



obtain direct crystal structure of MOFs



Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD)

determine bulk crystallinity of MOF samples by comparing with simulated structures



Single crystal X-ray diffraction

obtain direct crystal structure of MOFs



Dobdc = 2,5-dioxido1,4-benzenedicarboxylate

Crystalline identification

Crystalline properties

Purity check

Thermogravimetric analysis

#### Thermogravimetric analysis

determine thermal stability of the MOFs

#### **Thermogravimetric analysis**

determine thermal stability of the MOFs



#### Thermogravimetric analysis

Aqueous stability testing

determine thermal stability of the MOFs



#### Thermogravimetric analysis

determine thermal stability of the MOFs



#### Aqueous stability testing

determine aqueous (pH) stability of the MOFs



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$$\frac{\text{mass}_{\text{recovered}}}{\text{mass}_{\text{initial}}} \times 100 = \text{yield \%}$$



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#### Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms



#### Aqueous stability testing

determine aqueous (pH) stability of the MOFs

$$\frac{\text{mass}_{\text{recovered}}}{\text{mass}_{\text{initial}}} \times 100 = \text{yield \%}$$

#### Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms

determine surface areas and pore volumes

Crystalline identification

Crystalline properties

Purity check

#### NMR spectroscopy

Confirm the absence of organic linkers, modulators and solvent molecules

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Confirm the absence of organic linkers, modulators and solvent molecules



Solvothermal synthesis process

Streamline of organic synthesis







**Reaction setup** 

Purification

Structure analysis

Solvothermal synthesis process

Streamline of organic synthesis



Purification

Metal ion precursors

**Reaction setup** 

Organic linkers

Solvents and heat

Solvent wash

Aqueous wash

Dry



Structure analysis

Crystal structures

Properties

Purity check
Outline

What are MOFs?

How to synthesize MOFs?

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

Organic synthetic applications of MOFs

What are possible organic synthetic applications of MOFs?

**Case study 1: Enhanced reactivity** 

Case study 2: Novel reagents based on MOFs

Organic synthetic applications of MOFs

What are possible organic synthetic applications of MOFs?

**Case study 1: Enhanced reactivity** 

**Case study 2: Novel reagents based on MOFs** 

Enzyme: multiple active sites



Enzyme: multiple active sites

MOF: multiple catalytic centers



#### Ngai, *JACS*, 2017



Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>(PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1 mol%) La(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (20 mol%) bpy (40 mol%)

Hantzsch ester (2 equiv) MeCN (0.1 M), 23 °C, 18 hr 30 W Blue light



Up to 86% yield >20 examples

#### Ngai, *JACS*, 2017









#### Jiang, *JACS*, 2019



DPZ (0.5 mol%) LA (20 mol%) Hantzsch ester (1.5 equiv)

35 mg MS  $CHCl_3/C_6F_5H=4:1$  -50 °C, 3 W Blue light, 60 hr



Up to 93% yield, 90% ee >30 examples

#### Jiang, *JACS*, 2019



LA (20 mol%) Hantzsch ester (1.5 equiv)

DPZ (0.5 mol%)

35 mg MS CHCl<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>H = 4:1 -50 °C, 3 W Blue light, 60 hr



Up to 93% yield, 90% ee >30 examples







#### $Ar = 2,4,6-iPr_3C_6H_2$



Two key components: PC + Lewis acid

Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir

Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir

 $AI(NO_3)_3 \bullet H_2O$ 

0.14 mmol

Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir







Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



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Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



MOF 1-OTf-Ir: Al(OH)(dcbpy)<sub>0.7</sub> [lr(dcbpy)(ppy)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>0.1</sub>(OTf)<sub>4</sub>

Construction of MOF: Lewis acid (AI) + Ir



[lr(dcbpy)(ppy)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>0.1</sub>(OTf)<sub>4</sub>

Catalytic reactivity

Catalytic reactivity



1 equiv

2 equiv





2 equiv







Catalytic reactivity



2 equiv



1 equiv



Catalytic reactivity



2 equiv



1 equiv



90% yield



variations from standard conditions	1c (%)
without light	none



variations from standard conditions	1c (%)
without light	none
without MOF 1-OTf-Ir	trace



MOF 1-OH-Ir

[lr]



MOF 1-OH-Ir

[lr]


MOF 1-OTf



MOF 1-OTf

Catalytic reactivity



2 equiv



1 equiv



90% yield





1 equiv

2 equiv





90% yield







2 equiv



1 equiv



90% yield







2 equiv



1 equiv





90% yield



#### *Recycle of the 1-OTf-Ir*

Centrifugation and MeCN wash

Catalytic reactivity



2 equiv



1 equiv



90% yield













90% yield



Boc

70% yield

51% yield









78% yield

53% yield

Organic synthetic applications of MOFs

What are possible organic synthetic applications of MOFs?

**Case study 1: Enhanced reactivity** 

Case study 2: Novel reagents based on MOFs



Fluoxetine antidepressant Fleroxacin analog antibacterial

Seletracetam anticonvulsant

О





#### Well-established fluorination reagents

Keasler, K. T.; Zick, M. E.; Stacy, E. E.; Kim, J.; Lee, J. H.; Aeindartehran, L.; Runcevski, T.; Milner, P. J. Science 2023, 381 (6665), 1455-1461.



Keasler, K. T.; Zick, M. E.; Stacy, E. E.; Kim, J.; Lee, J. H.; Aeindartehran, L.; Runcevski, T.; Milner, P. J. Science 2023, 381 (6665), 1455-1461.



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Underexplored gaseous fluorination reagents







**Underexplored gaseous fluorination reagents** 

со



Keasler, K. T.; Zick, M. E.; Stacy, E. E.; Kim, J.; Lee, J. H.; Aeindartehran, L.; Runcevski, T.; Milner, P. J. Science 2023, 381 (6665), 1455-1461.











Thermal and chemical stability

Maximum pore volume

Favorable and reversible adsorption of fluorinated gases









M = Mg, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn



Which metal ion should be employed?

Quantitative evaluation

Quantitative evaluation

enthalpy of adsorption (- $\Delta H$ ): large value indicates favorable adsorption
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enthalpy of adsorption (- $\Delta$ H ): large value indicates favorable adsorption



Activation of

Mg<sub>2</sub>(dobdc) at 300 °C











powder







powder









solid-addition

funnel

powder









solid-addition

funnel

powder

direct addition



(sonicate)





solid-addition

funnel

direct addition

(sonicate)



powder















Pł





Pł

Duration	Freezer	Freezer	
1 d	83%		
3 d	88%		
7 d	82%		
14 d	60%		
2 mos	_		



Pł

Storage Duration	Glovebox Freezer	Lab Freezer	Desiccator	Wax Capsule
1 d	83%	89%		
3 d	88%	83%		
7 d	82%	80%		
14 d	60%	64%		
2 mos	—	—		



#### VDF-Mg<sub>2</sub>(dobdc) stability study

Storage Duration	Glovebox Freezer	Lab Freezer	Desiccator	Wax Capsule
1 d	83%	89%	82%	
3 d	88%	83%	72%	
7 d	82%	80%	47%	
14 d	60%	64%	0%	
2 mos	_	_	—	





#### VDF-Mg<sub>2</sub>(dobdc) stability study

Storage Duration	Glovebox Freezer	Lab Freezer	Desiccator	Wax Capsule
1 d	83%	89%	82%	80%, 82%*
3 d	88%	83%	72%	77%
7 d	82%	80%	47%	81%
14 d	60%	64%	0%	82%
2 mos	—	—	—	77%, 81%*










Organic synthetic applications of MOFs

# What are possible organic synthetic applications of MOFs?

Case study 1: Enhanced reactivity





Case study 2: Novel reagents based on MOFs

Conclusions

What are MOFs?

*How to synthesize MOFs?* 

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

Conclusions

What are MOFs?

*How to synthesize MOFs?* 

Organic synthetic applications MOFs

"addressing currently unmet needs in catalysis instead of trying to outcompete homogeneous catalysts in areas where they excel"

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