Computational Screening of MOFs for Carbon Capture



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Develop computational methods for accurately screening CO₂ sorption in MOF materials.

□The desired products of this task are identification of MOFs with high CO₂ loading at low pressure





Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

- Crystalline, porous materials
- Good for gas storage/separation applications
- Large, diverse class of molecules
 - >100,000 synthesized
 - >500,000 predicted













don't move





Past large scale screening studies have modeled MOFs as rigid - MOF atoms don't move

Rigid Force Field

- Electrostatic + dispersion
- low computational cost
- Good for rigid materials but most of the MOFs are flexible
- Easy to obtain





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• Electrostatic + dispersion + bond + angle + torsion



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- Electrostatic + dispersion + bond + angle + torsion
- High computational cost



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- Electrostatic + dispersion + bond + angle + torsion
- High computational cost
- Accounts for MOF flexibility



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- **Flexible Force Field**
- Electrostatic + dispersion + bond + angle + torsion
- High computational cost
- Accounts for MOF flexibility
- Very hard to obtain for a large set of materials



We take account of the MOF flexibility

Recent studies have shown that both subtle flexible modes and large framework volume changes can influence MOF performance regarding adsorption-based applications

Mason et. al., Nature **2015**, 527, 357-361 Simon et. al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. **2017**, 114, E287-E296 Witman et. al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2017**, 139, 5547-5557 Gladysiak et. al., ACS Appl. Matter. Interfaces **2018**, 10, 36144-36156 Heinen et. al., Wiley Interdiscip. Rev. Comput. Mol. Sci. **2018**, 8, e1363 Jawahery et. al., J. Chem. Theory Comput **2019**, 15, 3666-3677







Motivation for Machine Learning

- ML is faster + easier than traditional methods for evaluating material properties
- Computational simulation
 - long computation times
 - high level of theory
- Lab experimentation
 - long experiments
 - unavailable equipment/reagents



To Screen 500,000 MOFs



Project Approach





Rosen et. al., Matter **2021**, 4, 1-20 Vanduyfhuys et. al., J Comput Chem **2018**, 39(16), 999-1011











Classical molecular simulation code



zeoplusplus



Flexible Force Field Accuracy Validation







Comparison with Experiment



CO₂ adsorption in MAF-2 (BOGXIF) at 298 K





Zhang, J. P.; Chen, X-M.; J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 15, 5516-5521



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CO₂ Adsorption at Direct Air Capture Conditions



- Flexible forcefield yield CO₂ adsorption in MOFs with small pore sizes
- Rigid forcefield yield no CO₂ adsorption for MOFs with pore size less than 3 Å in most of the cases
- For some MOFs with pore size greater than 3 Å, rigid forcefield overestimate the CO₂ adsorption



Flexibility Changes Pore Size





- Presence of CO₂ expands pore
- Distribution of pore size (LCD) is observed for flexible model
- Expansion and contraction of pore play critical roles in CO₂ adsorption

Top 10 CO₂ adsorbing MOFs: Flexible vs Rigid MOF Models



Rank	Flexible	Rigid
1	OF	WA
2	EZ	DI
3	DI	DU
4	DU	DI
5	ME	LA
6	HO	PI
7	DI	EP
8	UJ	PI
9	ME	NE
10	PE	DI

Different Answers!



Machine Learning model for MOF classification







MOF Featurization

Feature: n-dimensional numerical vector that represents each MOF

- 1. Stoichiometric-45¹
 - 45 statistical attributes of elemental properties

2. Stoichiometric-120¹

- 103 attributes describing elemental fractions
- 7 statistical attributes of elemental properties
- 3. Sine Coulomb Matrix¹
 - pairwise electrostatic interactions between nuclei

4. Orbital Field Matrix¹

- distribution of valence electrons
- interaction of valence subshells between atoms

5. Smooth Overlap of Atomic Positions (SOAP)¹

• similarity between a pair of local atomic environments

6. Revised Autocorrelation (RAC) values + Custom features

• molecular revised autocorrelation (RAC) values, surface area, volume, density, pore-limiting diameter (PLD), charge difference, epsilon



jakevdp.github.io

¹ Matter **2021**, *4* (5), 1578–1597.





MOF Features







Results: ML Classifiers validation results



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Train size : 80 % Test size: 20% Results are averaged from 10 cv folds

- 11 different classification ML models
- All the features were customized (denoted by '_cf' in plot) with geometric features such as surface area, pore size, electrostatics and dispersion term.
- Light Gradient Boosting algorithm performed the best

```
True Positive + True Negative
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True Positive+False Positive₊True Negative+False Negative



= 76%



Results: Light Gradient Boosting Classification



Results: LightGBM Classification



Feature Importance: Top 10 out of 173 Features





Results: Predictions on rest of QMOF Database







Summary and Conclusions

- D_{2} sorption for MOFs with pore size < 3 Å
- Flexible force fields yielded CO_2 sorption for MOFs with pore size < 3 Å
- Ranking of MOFs based on CO₂ sorption was different for flexible model and rigid models.
- Light Gradient Boosting classification Machine Learning (LGBM) yielded about 75% Accuracy
- MOF geometric features (pore size, density, surface area) along with electrostatic and dispersion terms were found to be the important features for ML model
- ML classification model has been used to screen the rest of the 14K QMOF database and can be used to screen other MOF collections.







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