



# CHEMISTRY SEMINAR 291

## Computational Design of Functionalized Metal–Organic Framework for Catalysis

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### ABSTRACT

We employ computational modeling<sup>1</sup> to understand the activity of metal catalysts supported on Zr<sub>6</sub> nodes in metal–organic frameworks (MOFs) for reactions related to natural gas conversion, like catalytic oligomerization of abundant C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, and C<sub>3</sub> hydrocarbons to longer congeners or selective oxidation to alcohols or other fuel molecules, while avoiding overoxidation to water and carbon dioxide. For Ni and Co,<sup>2</sup> computational studies provide important insights with respect to the catalytic mechanism(s) for observed ethylene dimerization after metal-decoration of the MOF NU-1000. A library of transition metals (TMs), ranging from first row TMs to noble metals, is now being screened computationally to search for optimal catalysts, and structure-function relationships are beginning to emerge from this theory-driven approach.<sup>3</sup>

1 V. Bernales, M. A. Ortuño, D. G. Truhlar, C. J. Cramer, and L. Gagliardi, Computational Design of Functionalized Metal–Organic Framework Nodes for Catalysis, *ACS Cent. Sci.*, 4, 5-19 (2018)

2 J. Ye, L. Gagliardi, C. J. Cramer, D. G. Truhlar, Single Ni atoms and Ni<sub>4</sub> clusters have similar catalytic activity for ethylene dimerization *J. of Catalysis*, 354, 278-286 (2017)

3 M. C. Simons, M. A. Ortuño, V. Bernales, C. J. Cramer, A. Bhan, and L. Gagliardi, C–H Bond activation on bimetallic two-atom Co–M oxide clusters deposited on Zr-based MOF nodes: Effects of doping at the molecular level *ACS Cat.* 8, 2864–2869 (2018)

