

Supporting information

Label-free visualization of heterogeneities and defects in metal-organic frameworks using nonlinear optics

*Mathias Wolf,^a Kenji Hirai,^{*b} Shuichi Toyouchi,^a Eduard Fron,^a Wannes Peeters,^a Steven De Feyter^a and Hiroshi Uji-i^{*a,b}*

a. Department of Chemistry, KU Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200F, 3001 Heverlee, Belgium.

b. Research Institute for Electronic Science (RIES), Hokkaido University, N20W10, Kita ward, Sapporo, 001-0020 Hokkaido, Japan

Corresponding Author * E-mail: hirai@es.hokudai.ac.jp, hiroshi.ujii@kuleuven.be

1. Experimental:

Synthesis of metal organic frameworks (MOFs): Microcrystals of CD-MOF (**1**) was synthesized according to the literature (Nanoscale, 2017,9, 7454-7463). Microcrystals of MOF-177 (**2**) was synthesized according to the literature (J. Mater. Chem., 2007, 17, 3197–3204). Microcrystals of $[(\text{Co}(\text{SCN})_2)_3(\text{TPT})_4]_n$ (**3**) was synthesized according to the literature (TPT: 2,4,6-tris(4-pyridyl)-1,3,5-triazine, Nat. Chem., 2010, 2, 780–783). Space groups for the MOFs are **1**: $R\bar{3}2$, **2**: $P\bar{3}1c$, **3**: $Fm\bar{3}m$.

Introduction of C_{60} into MOFs: As-synthesized crystals of **1**, **2** and **3** were immersed into a saturated toluene solution of fullerene C_{60} (10 mL) at room temperature. The suspension was heated to 60°C in an oven. After 1 day, the supernatant was removed by decantation, another 10 mL of saturated fullerene solution was added to the residue, and the resulting suspension was again allowed to stand at 60 °C. After 1 week with six solution-replacement cycles, the inclusion complex was obtained (Nat. Chem., 2010, 2, 780–783). MOFs accommodating C_{60} fullerene are denoted as **1**⊃ C_{60} , **2**⊃ C_{60} and **3**⊃ C_{60} . Characterization: X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements were carried out with SmartLab, Rigaku. The microcrystals of **1**, **2** and **3** were observed by a desktop scanning electron microscope (SEM, Phenom Pro, Phenom-World).

Confocal Microscopy: Nonlinear optics (NLO) and Raman measurements were carried out using an inverted optical microscope (Ti-U, Nikon) equipped with a piezoelectric stage (P517.3CL, Physik Instrument).

For NLO experiments, two laser wavelengths were used at 820 nm (Mai Tai HP, Spectra-Physics, 120 fs, 80 MHz) and 1164 nm (Inspire HF 100, Spectra-Physics). The four-wave mixing (FWM) in this study is so-called degenerate-four-wave-mixing (DFWM) meaning two of the three in-going wavelengths are the same. Radiation is generated at:

$$\omega = \omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_2 \quad (1)$$

Raman spectra were recorded using a 785 nm solid-state laser (Excelsior 785, Spectra-Physics). For both measurements, the excitation beams were focused 2 μm above the glass-MOF interface using an objective lens (60x PlanApo, air, NA 0.95, Nikon). The backscattered NLO and Raman signals were corrected by the same objective, and spectra were recorded using a charge-coupled device (CCD) camera (DU920P, Andor) with a spectrograph (iHR320, Horiba). In order to block excitation light, a 750 short-pass (ET750sp, Chroma) and 800 nm long-pass filter (HQ800LP, Chroma) were used for FWM and

Raman, respectively. NLO and Raman signals from out of focus were removed by a pinhole (diameter $100\ \mu\text{m}$).

Maps were obtained by using AIST software (AIST-NT) for piezo-controlled movement together with Labspec software (Horiba) to collect spectra at every point. For all MOFs, maps were obtained with a pixel size of $200 \times 200\ \text{nm}^2$. Accumulation time at every point was 1 second for NLO maps and 4 seconds for Raman maps. All maps are x,y-slices obtained by focusing the two laser beams $2\ \mu\text{m}$ above the glass-MOF interface. Integration time at every point was 1 s and 4 s for NLO and Raman mapping, respectively.

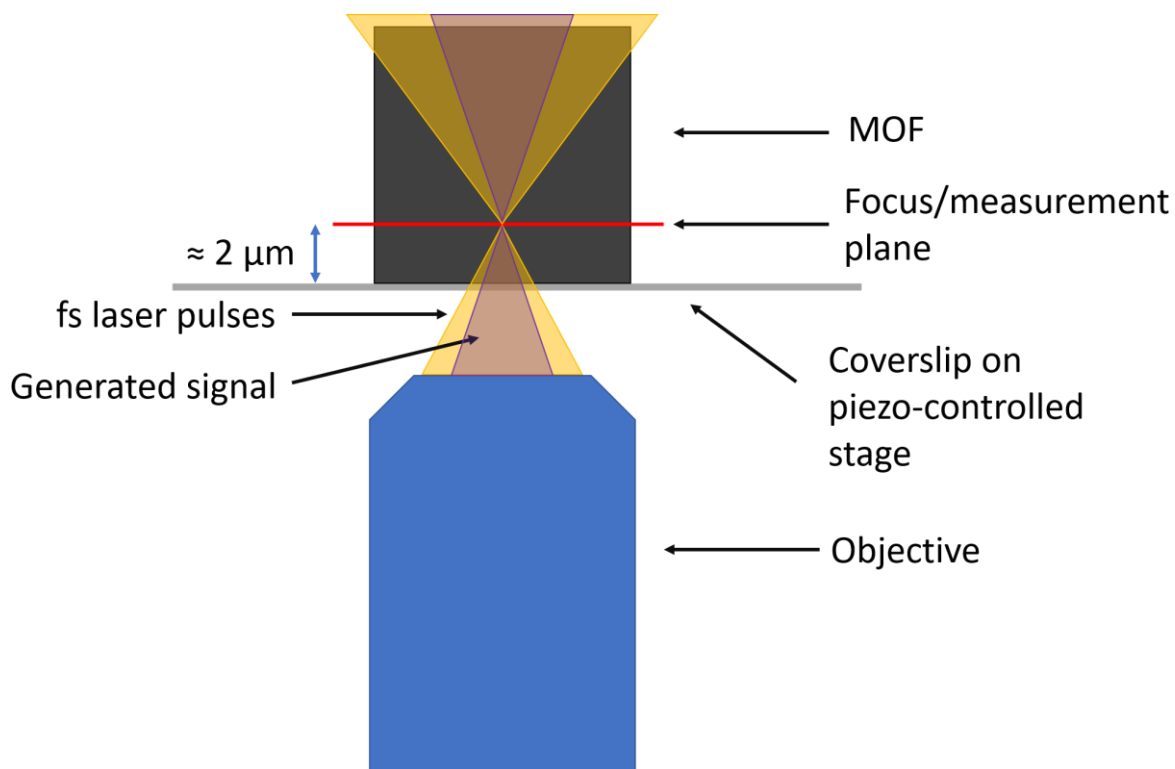


Fig. S1 Schematic of experimental setup. MOFs were put on top of a coverslip which is placed on top of a piezo-controlled stage. The pump beams are focused by an objective below the sample. The generated signal is collected via the same objective. Maps were obtained roughly $2\ \mu\text{m}$ above the coverslip by moving the sample over the objective.

Data analysis was performed using a self-written Python routine. The raw data spectra were smoothed using Savitzky-Golay-filter. The regions of interest were cut out from the spectra. Afterwards a linear background correction was applied. The maximum intensity of peaks was used for mapping.

2. MOF structures

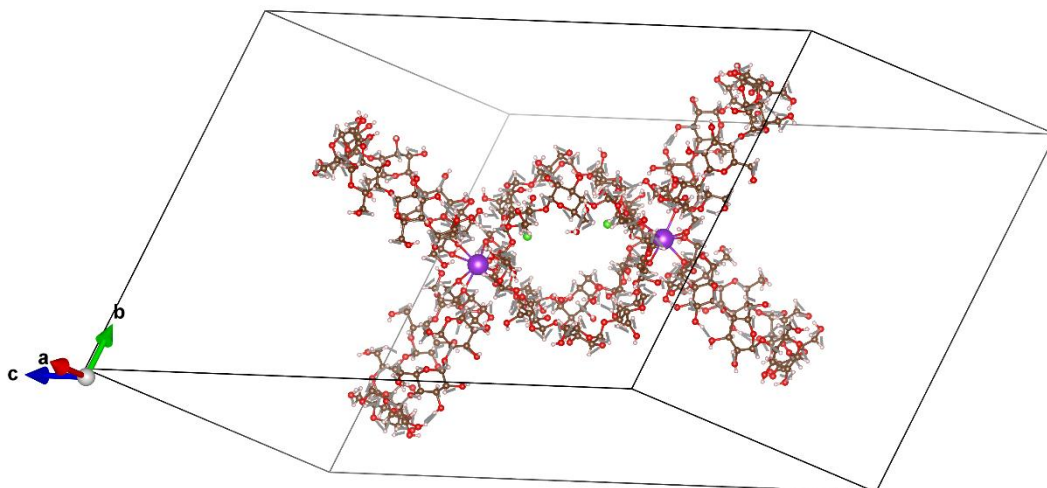


Fig. S2 Structure of **1**. The space group is $R\bar{3}2$.^{1,2}

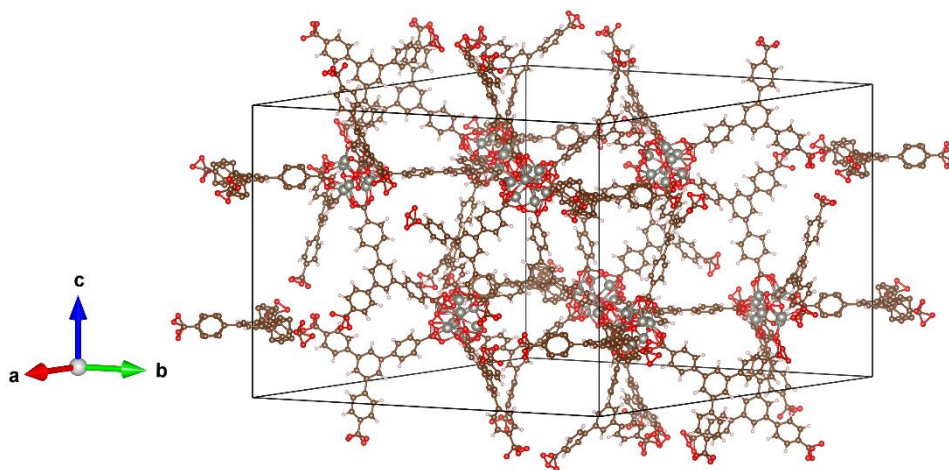


Fig. S3 Structure of **2**. The space group is $P\bar{3}1c$.^{1,3}

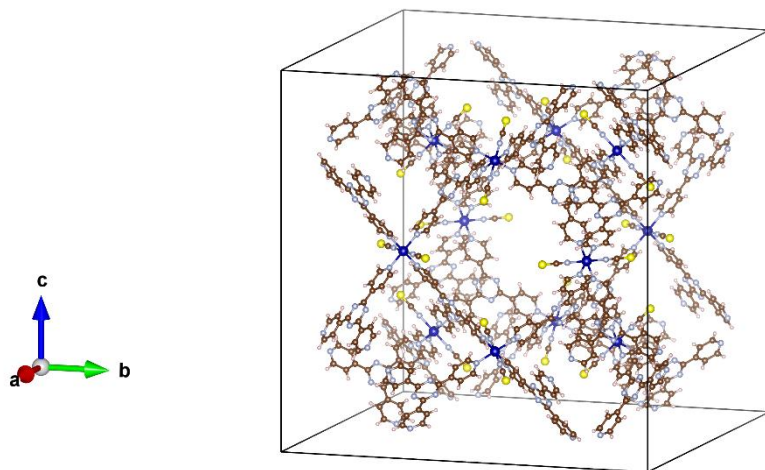


Fig. S4 Structure of **3**. The space group is $Fm\bar{3}m$.¹⁴

3. SEM

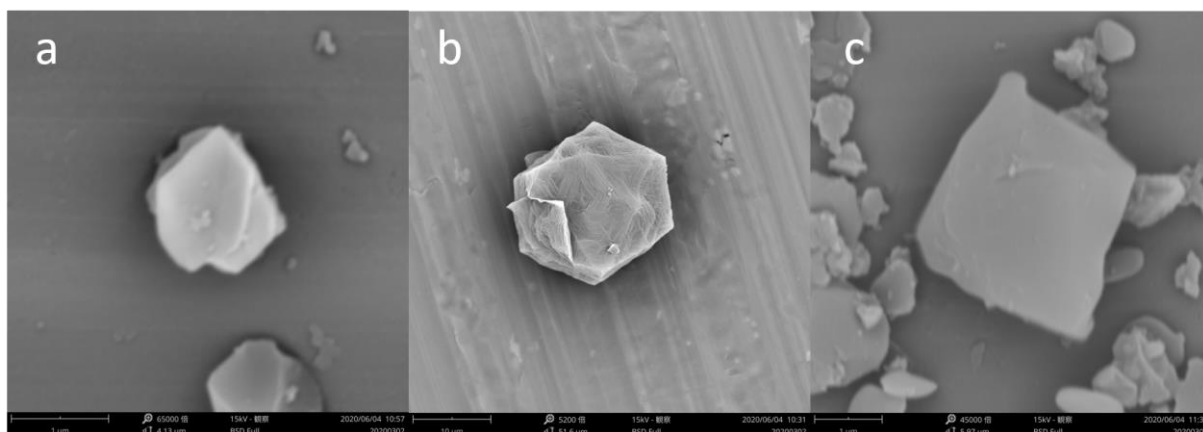


Fig. S5 SEM images from **1** (a), **2** (b) and **3** (c).

4. XRD

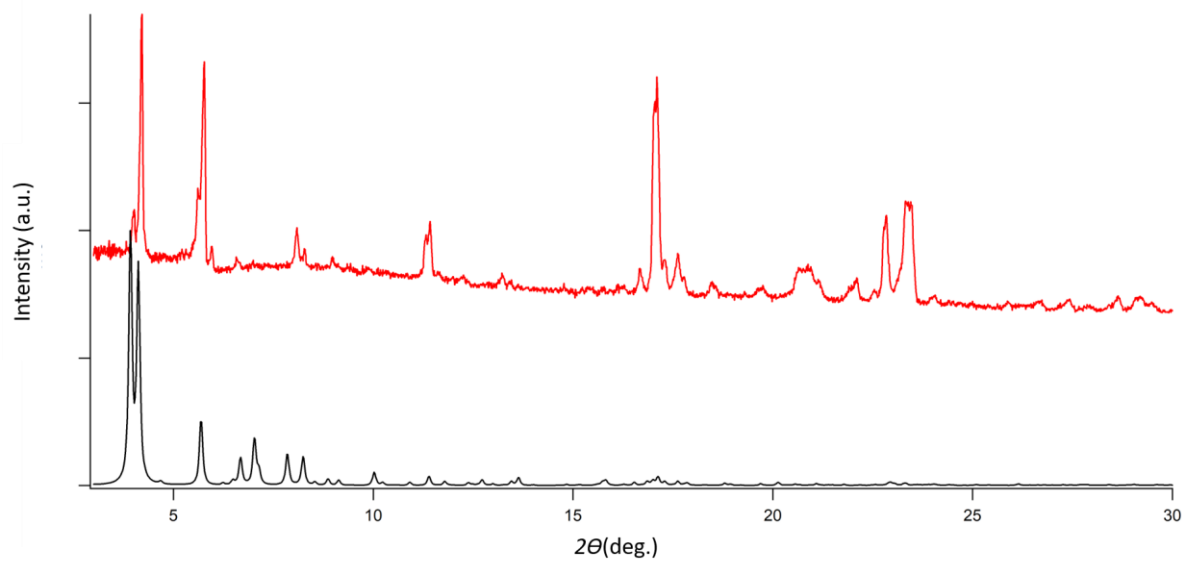


Fig. S6 XRD data obtained from **1** (red) and simulation^{2,5} (black).

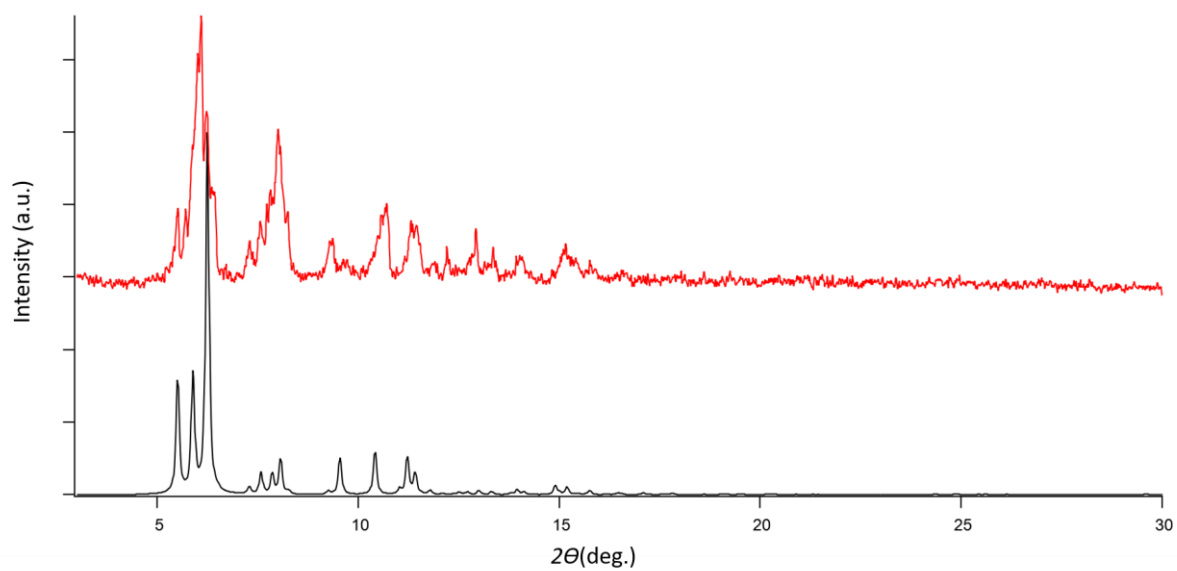


Fig. S7 XRD data obtained from **2** (red) and simulation^{3,5} (black).

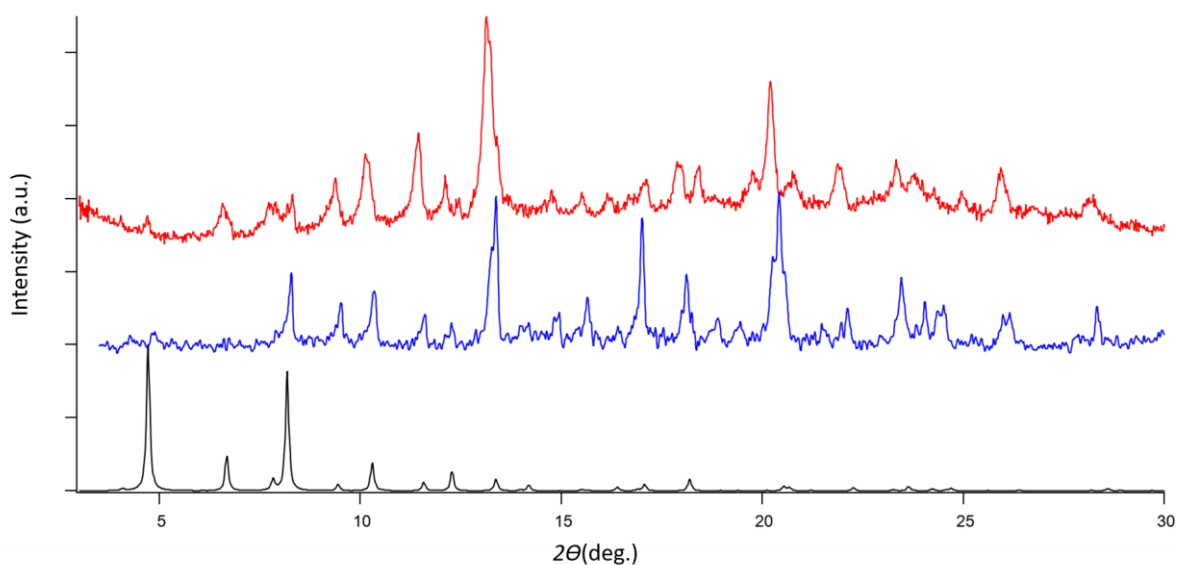


Fig. S8 XRD data obtained from **3** (red), **3** \supset C₆₀ (blue) and simulation^{4,5} (black).

Fig. S8 shows XRD obtained from **3** and **3** \supset C₆₀. The semi-amorphous state can be seen in red and is characterized by a relatively strong peak at 13° and weak low-angle peaks. After accommodation of C₆₀ into the MOF, the data shown in blue is obtained. Compared to the before-mentioned data, it shows stronger low-angle peaks typical for a crystalline structure.

References

- 1 K. Momma and F. Izumi, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, 2011, **44**, 1272
- 2 K.J. Hartlieb, D.P. Ferris, J.M. Holcroft, I. Kandela, C.L. Stern, M.S. Nassar, Y.Y. Botros and J.F. Stoddart, *Mol. Pharm.*, 2017, **14**, 1831
- 3 H.K. Chae, D.Y. Siberio-Pérez, J. Kim, Y. Go, M. Eddaoudi, A.J. Matzger, M. O’Keeffe and O.M. Yaghi, *Nature*, 2004, **427**, 523
- 4 Y. Inokuma, T. Arai and M. Fujita, *Nat. Chem.*, 2010, **2**, 780
- 5 C.F. Macrae, I. Sovago, S.J. Cottrell, P.T.A. Galek, P. McCabe, E. Pidcock, M. Platings, G.P. Shields, J.S. Stevens, M. Towler and P.A. Wood, *J. Appl. Cryst.*, 2020, **53**, 226