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X-ray radiation-induced amorphization of metal-organic frameworks

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Supplementary information

Synthesis

1.2 g $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ (4.03 mmol), and 0.9 g imidazole (13.2 mmol) (**ZIF-4**), and 1.515 g $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ (8 mmol), 7.35 g imidazole (108 mmol), and 1.418 g benzimidazole (12 mmol) (**ZIF-62**) were dissolved in 75 ml of dimethylformamide (DMF) and transferred into a 100 ml glass jar. The jars were sealed tightly and heated to 140 °C for 48 h in an oven. The precipitated crystalline ZIF powders were filtered off and soaked in dichloromethane for solvent exchange during 24 hours. Finally, the solvent exchanged powders were desolvated in a vacuum oven at 10⁻³ mbar and 150 °C. Raman spectra of the assynthesized and solvent-exchanged, and desolvated phases are shown in

Supplementary Figure 1. The resulting compositions are $Zn(Im)_{1.8}(bIm)_{0.2}$ for ZIF-62, and $Zn(Im)_2$ for ZIF-4 as determined by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). **ZIF**-*zni* was recrystallized by heating a capillary loaded with ZIF-4 for 1 h to 400 °C in air.

Structural Refinements

Sequential Rietveld refinements were performed using TOPAS-Academic Version 6. The instrumental contribution to peak shapes was determined separately using a NAC (Na₂Al₂Ca₃F₁₄) standard. Structural models of ZIF-4, ZIF-62 and ZIF-zni were taken from the CSD database. An initial refinement against the first measurement of each sequence was performed to refine an aberration correction stemming from the MYTHEN detector, and a spherical harmonic preferred-orientation correction to match observed peak intensities as close as possible. These parameters were from then on held fixed, and only a 5th order Chebyshev polynomial, the unit cell dimensions, and a Lorentzian contribution to strain-related peak broadening were refined over the 2*O*-range from 3° to 9° for ZIF-4 and ZIF-62, and from 2° to 8° for ZIF-*zni*.



Supplementary Figure 1. Raman spectra of ZIF-62 at various stages of preparation. a) ZIF-62, as synthesised, DMF occupied. b) ZIF-62 after solvent exchange (DCM for DMF). c) desolvated ZIF-62, as used for XRD experiments. d) desolvated ZIF-4, as used for XRD experiments. Tick marks underneath a) and c) indicate reference positions of Raman modes of DCM and DMF, respectively.



Supplementary Figure 2. Image of the capillary used for synchrotron experiments at the SLS MS-beamline. White material is pristine ZIF-4, while darkened section is where the beam hit the capillary and the X-ray induced amorphisation occurred.



Supplementary Figure 3. Avrami plot of the amorphisation of ZIF-4, ZIF-62, and ZIF-zni.



Supplementary Figure 4. a) Avrami plots of the amorphisation process of ZIF-4 at various temperatures and linear fits to segments in colour b) r² values of linear fit.

ZIF-62



Supplementary Figure 5. a) Avrami plots of the amorphisation process of ZIF-62 at various temperatures and linear fits to segments in colour b) r^2 values of linear fits.



Supplementary Figure 6. a) Avrami plots of the amorphisation process of ZIF-zni at ambient temperature and linear fits to segments in colour b) r^2 values of linear fits.



Supplementary Figure 7. Slopes of plots of the Avrami exponent n versus transformed fraction x, as a function of temperature in ZIF-4.



Supplementary Figure 8. Representative Rietveld fits and unit cell dimensions of progressively amorphised ZIF-62 (a), ZIF-4 (b), and ZIF-zni (c). For each phase, the observed (black), calculated (red), and difference (grey) patterns are given for the initial measurement (top), the measurement at 50 % remaining crystallinity (centre), and the close-to-final measurement (bottom), respectively. The resulting unit cell dimensions are given on the right in the same order, including the estimated standard deviations (e.s.d.'s). All measurements were performed at ambient temperature.