

## Supplementary Information

### 'Eye' Of The Molecule — A Viewpoint

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### **Synthesis of MOF-711.**

Zirconyl chloride octahydrate,  $\text{ZrOCl}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (purity, 98 %), 1,4-dicarboxylic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{BDC}$ ), and N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) (purity  $\geq 99.9$  %), were purchased from Sigma Aldrich Co. All chemicals obtained were used without further purification. Scintillation vials (20 mL) and polypropylene cabs with foil liner were purchased from Wheaton.

In a 20 mL scintillation vial, a mixture solution of  $\text{ZrOCl}_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (8.0 mg, 0.045 mmol) and  $\text{H}_2\text{BDC}$  (12.0 mg, 0.060 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) was prepared. The solution was sonicated for 1 min and formic acid (1 mL) was added to the solution. The vial was capped and placed in a preheated 90 °C oven. After 2 days, truncated octahedral shape single crystals, UiO-66, with size range from 50 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  were obtained on the wall of the vial. We also observed about 1% of rod-shaped crystals ( $50 \times 20 \times 20 \mu\text{m}^3$ ), MOF-711, in the batch. We tried multiple times to reproduce MOF-711. However, since then we only obtained UiO-66 from the synthesis condition. The crystallization condition of MOF-711 seems very narrow and sensitive to temperature. We believe that a subtle temperature difference can affect the formation of the crystals. It is recommended that several vials containing the solution be set together and placed in different locations in the oven. Also, the amount of formic acid might be critical to obtain crystals.



**Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for MOF-711.**

Identification code	MOF-711
Empirical formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>16</sub> Zr <sub>3</sub>
Formula weight	729.88
Temperature/K	273.15
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	<i>Pnmm</i>
a/Å	13.4687(15)
b/Å	14.8959(17)
c/Å	21.264(2)
α/°	90
β/°	90
γ/°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	4266.2(8)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.136
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.969
F(000)	1408.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.050 × 0.04 × 0.05
Radiation	synchrotron (λ = 0.7749)
2θ range for data collection/°	3.64 to 59.554
Index ranges	-17 ≤ h ≤ 16, -19 ≤ k ≤ 19, -26 ≤ l ≤ 27
Reflections collected	49328
Independent reflections	4839 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0907, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0462]
Data/restraints/parameters	4839/0/178
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.057
Final R indexes [I >= 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0442, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1284
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0565, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1387
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	1.38/-0.87

**Table 2. Fractional Atomic Coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for MOF-711.  $U_{eq}$  is defined as  $1/3$  of the trace of the orthogonalised UIJ tensor.**

Atom	x	y	z	$U_{eq}$
Zr1	5000	5000	3849.8(2)	14.88(13)
Zr2	6133.6(4)	6327.4(3)	5000	24.92(15)
Zr3	6464.8(4)	3968.1(3)	5000	24.50(14)
O1	6125(5)	5117(5)	4506(3)	23.2(11)
O2	6525(6)	5183(6)	4364(4)	23.2(11)
O3	5138(5)	4008(4)	4508(3)	23.6(9)
O4	5193(5)	3643(4)	4363(3)	23.6(9)
O5	6522(4)	2517(3)	5000	55(2)
O6	8075(3)	4236(4)	5000	68.5(17)
O7	7755(4)	6454(4)	5000	69.6(17)
O8	5828(7)	7736(3)	5000	103(3)
O9	4163.3(19)	3996.4(16)	3317.2(11)	26.0(5)
O10	3414(3)	3138(2)	4050.0(13)	57.7(10)
O11	2054(2)	1452(2)	951.2(12)	49.2(9)
O12	1111.7(19)	761.6(16)	1680.1(11)	27.0(5)
C1	3612(3)	3360(3)	3491.5(17)	37.1(10)
C2	3167(4)	2791(3)	2978.0(18)	43.9(11)
C3	3416(4)	2957(4)	2362(2)	59.4(15)
C4	2512(4)	2116(3)	3122.6(19)	62.4(17)
C5	2979(4)	2469(4)	1884.8(19)	60.4(16)
C6	2075(4)	1623(3)	2639(2)	60.5(15)
C7	2297(3)	1803(3)	2023.0(18)	42.8(11)
C8	1783(3)	1300(3)	1508.2(17)	37(1)

**Table 3. Bond Lengths for MOF-711.**

<b>Atom</b>	<b>Atom</b>	<b>Length/Å</b>	<b>Atom</b>	<b>Atom</b>	<b>Length/Å</b>
Zr1	O12 <sup>1</sup>	2.190(2)	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	2.255(3)
Zr1	O12 <sup>2</sup>	2.190(2)	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	2.255(3)
Zr1	O9	2.188(2)	Zr2	O7	2.192(5)
Zr1	O9 <sup>3</sup>	2.188(2)	Zr2	O8	2.138(5)
Zr1	O4 <sup>3</sup>	2.312(6)	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	2.243(7)
Zr1	O4	2.312(6)	Zr2	O4 <sup>3</sup>	2.243(7)
Zr1	O3 <sup>3</sup>	2.044(6)	Zr2	O3 <sup>3</sup>	2.068(7)
Zr1	O3	2.044(6)	Zr2	O3 <sup>6</sup>	2.068(7)
Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	2.343(8)	Zr2	O2	2.239(8)
Zr1	O2	2.343(8)	Zr2	O2 <sup>5</sup>	2.239(8)
Zr1	O1 <sup>3</sup>	2.067(7)	Zr2	O1 <sup>5</sup>	2.087(7)
Zr1	O1	2.067(7)	Zr2	O1	2.087(7)
Zr3	O11 <sup>1</sup>	2.261(3)	O12	C8	1.262(5)
Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	2.261(3)	O9	C1	1.260(5)
Zr3	O6	2.205(5)	O11	C8	1.260(5)
Zr3	O5	2.163(4)	O10	C1	1.261(5)
Zr3	O4 <sup>5</sup>	2.236(7)	C7	C8	1.497(5)
Zr3	O4	2.236(7)	C7	C6	1.371(6)
Zr3	O3	2.072(7)	C7	C5	1.384(6)
Zr3	O3 <sup>5</sup>	2.072(7)	C2	C1	1.507(5)
Zr3	O2	2.260(8)	C2	C4	1.372(6)
Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	2.260(8)	C2	C3	1.375(6)
Zr3	O1	2.060(7)	C4	C6	1.393(6)
Zr3	O1 <sup>5</sup>	2.060(7)	C5	C3	1.380(6)

<sup>1</sup>1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2-Z; <sup>2</sup>1/2-X,1/2+Y,1/2-Z; <sup>3</sup>1-X,1-Y,+Z; <sup>4</sup>1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2+Z; <sup>5</sup>+X,+Y,1-Z; <sup>6</sup>1-X,1-Y,1-Z.

**Table 4. Bond Angles for MOF-711.**

Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°	Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°
O12 <sup>1</sup>	Zr1	O12 <sup>2</sup>	118.10(12)	O10 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	127.21(14)
O12 <sup>1</sup>	Zr1	O4	140.6(2)	O7	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	72.58(11)
O12 <sup>1</sup>	Zr1	O4 <sup>3</sup>	73.33(18)	O7	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	72.58(11)
O12 <sup>2</sup>	Zr1	O4	73.33(18)	O7	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	142.41(18)
O12 <sup>2</sup>	Zr1	O4 <sup>3</sup>	140.6(2)	O7	Zr2	O4 <sup>3</sup>	142.41(18)
O12 <sup>2</sup>	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	141.2(2)	O7	Zr2	O2 <sup>5</sup>	80.3(3)
O12 <sup>2</sup>	Zr1	O2	72.6(2)	O7	Zr2	O2	80.3(3)
O12 <sup>1</sup>	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	72.6(2)	O8	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	72.87(13)
O12 <sup>1</sup>	Zr1	O2	141.2(2)	O8	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	72.87(13)
O9	Zr1	O12 <sup>1</sup>	74.67(10)	O8	Zr2	O7	96.2(3)
O9	Zr1	O12 <sup>2</sup>	74.46(10)	O8	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	80.1(3)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O12 <sup>2</sup>	74.67(10)	O8	Zr2	O4 <sup>3</sup>	80.1(3)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O12 <sup>1</sup>	74.46(10)	O8	Zr2	O2	142.4(2)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O9	117.66(12)	O8	Zr2	O2 <sup>5</sup>	142.4(2)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O4	141.60(19)	O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	138.5(2)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O4 <sup>3</sup>	72.86(19)	O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	70.6(2)
O9	Zr1	O4 <sup>3</sup>	141.60(19)	O4 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	138.5(2)
O9	Zr1	O4	72.86(19)	O4 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	70.6(2)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	140.6(2)	O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	74.3(4)
O9	Zr1	O2	140.6(2)	O3 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O7	147.75(19)
O9	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	73.2(2)	O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O7	147.75(19)
O9 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O2	73.2(2)	O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O8	94.5(3)
O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O4	123.6(3)	O3 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O8	94.5(3)
O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O2	77.1(3)	O3 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O1	92.4(3)
O4	Zr1	O2	77.4(3)	O3 <sup>6</sup>	Zr2	O1 <sup>5</sup>	62.1(3)
O4 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	77.4(3)	O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O1	62.1(3)
O4	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	77.1(3)	O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr2	O1 <sup>5</sup>	92.4(3)
O3	Zr1	O9	84.7(2)	O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	70.4(2)
O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O9	143.3(2)	O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	138.3(2)
O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O3	93.5(4)	O2	Zr2	O10 <sup>6</sup>	138.3(2)
O3	Zr1	O1	62.1(3)	O2	Zr2	O10 <sup>3</sup>	70.4(2)
O3 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O1	62.8(3)	O2	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	124.5(3)
O2	Zr1	O2 <sup>3</sup>	124.3(4)	O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O4 <sup>3</sup>	124.5(3)
O1	Zr1	O9	141.7(2)	O2	Zr2	O4 <sup>3</sup>	80.7(3)
O1 <sup>3</sup>	Zr1	O9	85.1(2)	O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O4 <sup>6</sup>	80.7(3)
O11 <sup>4</sup>	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	126.92(14)	O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O2	74.3(4)
O6	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	72.83(11)	O1	Zr2	O7	94.6(3)
O6	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	72.83(11)	O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O7	94.6(3)
O6	Zr3	O4	142.41(18)	O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr2	O8	147.9(2)
O6	Zr3	O4 <sup>5</sup>	142.41(18)	O1	Zr2	O8	147.9(2)

O6	Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	79.6(3)	O1	Zr2	O1 <sup>5</sup>	60.5(4)
O6	Zr3	O2	79.6(3)	C8	O12	Zr1 <sup>7</sup>	132.0(2)
O5	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	73.21(10)	C1	O9	Zr1	131.7(2)
O5	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	73.21(10)	C8	O11	Zr3 <sup>8</sup>	133.6(2)
O5	Zr3	O6	98.4(2)	C1	O10	Zr2 <sup>6</sup>	133.9(2)
O5	Zr3	O4 <sup>5</sup>	79.1(2)	C6	C7	C8	120.0(4)
O5	Zr3	O4	79.1(2)	C6	C7	C5	119.2(4)
O5	Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	143.0(2)	C5	C7	C8	120.7(3)
O5	Zr3	O2	143.0(2)	O12	C8	C7	116.0(3)
O4 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	138.64(19)	O11	C8	O12	126.4(3)
O4	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	70.6(2)	O11	C8	C7	117.6(3)
O4 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	70.6(2)	C4	C2	C1	120.4(4)
O4	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	138.64(19)	C4	C2	C3	120.2(4)
O4	Zr3	O4 <sup>5</sup>	74.5(3)	C3	C2	C1	119.5(4)
O4 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O2	124.3(3)	O9	C1	O10	126.8(3)
O4 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	80.7(3)	O9	C1	C2	116.4(3)
O4	Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	124.3(3)	O10	C1	C2	116.8(3)
O4	Zr3	O2	80.7(3)	C2	C4	C6	119.5(4)
O3 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O6	147.49(18)	C7	C6	C4	120.7(4)
O3	Zr3	O6	147.49(18)	C3	C5	C7	120.3(4)
O3 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O5	93.4(2)	C2	C3	C5	120.1(4)
O3	Zr3	O5	93.4(2)	Zr3	O4	Zr1	100.5(3)
O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	138.1(2)	Zr3	O4	Zr2 <sup>6</sup>	103.9(3)
O2	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	138.1(2)	Zr2 <sup>6</sup>	O4	Zr1	100.3(3)
O2	Zr3	O11 <sup>2</sup>	71.0(2)	Zr1	O3	Zr3	116.4(3)
O2 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O11 <sup>4</sup>	71.0(2)	Zr1	O3	Zr2 <sup>6</sup>	116.5(3)
O2	Zr3	O2 <sup>5</sup>	73.5(4)	Zr2 <sup>6</sup>	O3	Zr3	116.9(3)
O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O6	93.9(3)	Zr3	O2	Zr1	98.9(3)
O1	Zr3	O6	93.9(3)	Zr2	O2	Zr1	99.4(3)
O1	Zr3	O5	146.96(19)	Zr2	O2	Zr3	103.9(3)
O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O5	146.96(19)	Zr1	O1	Zr2	114.6(3)
O1	Zr3	O3	61.7(3)	Zr3	O1	Zr1	115.9(3)
O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O3	92.4(3)	Zr3	O1	Zr2	117.4(3)
O1 <sup>5</sup>	Zr3	O1	61.3(4)				

<sup>1</sup>1/2-X,1/2+Y,1/2-Z; <sup>2</sup>1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2-Z; <sup>3</sup>1-X,1-Y,+Z; <sup>4</sup>1/2+X,1/2-Y,1/2+Z; <sup>5</sup>+X,+Y,1-Z; <sup>6</sup>1-X,1-Y,1-Z; <sup>7</sup>1/2-X,-1/2+Y,1/2-Z; <sup>8</sup>-1/2+X,1/2-Y,-1/2+Z.