Simulating excited states in metal organic frameworks: From light-absorption to photochemical CO₂ reduction: Supplementary Information

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S1 Computational details

The relaxed (KS-DFT/PBE-D3BJ) unit cell of QMOF-d29cec2 was obtained from the QMOF database. We performed single-point periodic DFT calculations using the PBE, PBE0, B3LYP, and HSE06 functionals as implemented in VASP6.4.0, to determine the fundamental band gap, E_g .¹ The PBE projector augmented wave (PAW) potentials were used, with a plane-wave energy cut-off of 520 eV. The Brillouin zone was sampled using a 2 × 2 × 2 Monkhorst-Pack *k*-point grid. Subsequently, the Sumo program² was used to generate a suitable *k*-point path ($\Gamma \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow V \rightarrow R \rightarrow U$) for which an electronic band structure calculation was carried out with a cut-off of 520 eV at the HSE06-level.

From the relaxed unit cell, we constructed six cluster models of increasing size (Fig. S1). The smallest model (Model 1) consists of just of a Zn_4O node bonded to the terminal $-CO_2$ - groups of the organic linker, whereas the largest model (Model 6) includes the full coordination sphere. Models 2 to 4 contain two of each linker type, and Model 5 includes a one of each linker type. For each cluster model, we selected bond cuts at the C-C adjacent to the M-L boundary, instead of the Zn-O itself, to avoid cutting dative bonds. We terminated the dangling bonds with hydrogen link atoms along the vector of the bond cuts.³ We then relaxed the link atoms (KS-DFT/PBE-D3BJ/TZVP) whilst keeping the positions of all other atoms in the cluster fixed. Additionally, for the ONIOM calculations, we constructed a large *real* region consisting of seven nodes and 40 linkers capped with hydrogen link atoms (Fig. S2). All geometries are visualised using Mercury.⁴

On each of these cluster models, the first five excited states of each model were calculated using the PBE, PBE0, B3LYP, HSE06, and ω B97X-D functionals: 1) TDDFT/TZVP calculations, with Gaussian16;⁵ 2) ONIOM(TDDFT/TZVP:PM6)-EE, as implemented in Gaussian09;⁶ 3) BSE/RI-evGW/DFT/def2-TZVP calculations, as implemented in Turbomole7.6.⁷ We used Gaussian09 for the ONIOM calculations to allow electronic embedding at the QM/QM' level. We did not perform calculations for the HSE06 functional for the GW calculations. E_g and E_{opt} were determined from each. Finally, RI-evGW/DFT/def2-TZVP calculations were used to determine the quasiparticle gap for each DFT molecular orbital, as implemented in Turbomole7.6, followed by BSE/evGW/DFT to calculate the first five excited states. For the isolated TDDFT calculations, frontier orbital (HOMO and LUMO) were obtained using the cubegen program in Gaussian16, and were visualised using VMD.⁸ Finally, we used the cubman program in Gaussian16 to generate density differences between the ground and first three excited states, visualised using VMD.

S2 Cluster models

These models were used for the isolated cluster calculations. For the ONIOM-EE calculations, the clusters (without link atoms) were used as the *model* region.



Figure S2: ONIOM-EE real region

S3 Excited-state energies and oscillator strengths

S3.1 Isolated cluster model calculations

Table S1: TDDFT/TZVP excitation energies and oscillator strengths for the first three excited-states, calculated using Gaussian16 $\,$

| Model | Functional | | S1 | | S2 | | S3 |
|---------|-----------------|------|----------|------|------------|------|----------|
| Model 1 | PBE | 5.10 | f=0.0002 | 5.13 | f = 0.0003 | 5.18 | f=0.0005 |
| | PBE0 | 6.19 | f=0.0000 | 6.25 | f=0.0000 | 6.28 | f=0.0000 |
| | HSE06 | 6.18 | f=0.0000 | 6.23 | f=0.0001 | 6.27 | f=0.0000 |
| | B3LYP | 6.08 | f=0.0000 | 6.14 | f=0.0001 | 6.17 | f=0.0000 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 6.27 | f=0.0000 | 6.32 | f=0.0000 | 6.36 | f=0.0000 |
| Model 2 | PBE | 2.61 | f=0.0005 | 3.42 | f = 0.0003 | 3.44 | f=0.0005 |
| | PBE0 | 4.07 | f=0.0058 | 4.08 | f=0.0000 | 4.13 | f=0.0027 |
| | HSE06 | 3.65 | f=0.0004 | 4.01 | f=0.0000 | 4.04 | f=0.0054 |
| | B3LYP | 3.81 | f=0.0007 | 3.94 | f=0.0000 | 3.97 | f=0.0049 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 4.31 | f=0.0218 | 4.41 | f=1.1085 | 4.42 | f=0.0005 |
| Model 3 | PBE | 2.27 | f=0.0001 | 2.28 | f=0.0000 | 2.32 | f=0.0002 |
| | PBE0 | 2.92 | f=0.0002 | 3.13 | f=0.0002 | 3.86 | f=0.0826 |
| | HSE06 | 2.90 | f=0.0002 | 3.11 | f=0.0002 | 3.35 | f=0.0002 |
| | B3LYP | 2.86 | f=0.0001 | 3.08 | f=0.0002 | 3.54 | f=0.0006 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 3.17 | f=0.0002 | 3.34 | f=0.0002 | 4.07 | f=1.1630 |
| | PBE | 1.89 | f=0.0000 | 2.18 | f=0.0000 | 2.22 | f=0.0953 |
| | PBE0 | 2.97 | f=0.2352 | 3.04 | f=0.1751 | 3.20 | f=0.0054 |
| Model 4 | HSE06 | 2.89 | f=0.2175 | 2.90 | f=0.0023 | 3.00 | f=0.1977 |
| | B3LYP | 2.85 | f=0.2176 | 2.95 | f=0.1998 | 3.08 | f=0.0139 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 3.29 | f=0.1490 | 3.31 | f=0.0794 | 3.67 | f=0.1476 |
| Model 5 | PBE | 1.65 | f=0.0000 | 1.94 | f=0.0000 | 2.18 | f=0.0004 |
| | PBE0 | 2.97 | f=0.1899 | 3.09 | f=0.0001 | 3.13 | f=0.0002 |
| | HSE06 | 2.62 | f=0.0001 | 2.89 | f=0.1820 | 3.05 | f=0.0001 |
| | B3LYP | 2.79 | f=0.0013 | 2.85 | f=0.1770 | 3.08 | f=0.0152 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 3.29 | f=0.1057 | 3.34 | f=0.0003 | 3.67 | f=0.0990 |
| Model 6 | PBE | 1.54 | f=0.0000 | 1.68 | f=0.0001 | 1.82 | f=0.0000 |
| | PBE0 | 2.93 | f=0.0002 | 2.98 | f=0.2264 | 3.01 | f=0.0046 |
| | HSE06 | 2.50 | f=0.0001 | 2.65 | f=0.0001 | 2.82 | f=0.0003 |
| | B3LYP | 2.71 | f=0.0002 | 2.82 | f=0.0027 | 2.86 | f=0.2104 |
| | ω B97x-D | 3.18 | f=0.0002 | 3.29 | f=0.1474 | 3.30 | f=0.0813 |

S3.2 ONIOM calculations

| | DDE | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|------|------------|------|------------|------|------------|
| Model 1 | PBE | 5.09 | f=0.0006 | 5.12 | f=0.0008 | 5.16 | f=0.0011 |
| | PBE0 | 6.18 | f=0.0000 | 6.24 | f=0.0001 | 6.25 | f=0.0000 |
| | HSE06 | 6.16 | f=0.0001 | 6.22 | f=0.0001 | 6.24 | f=0.0000 |
| | B3LYP | 6.06 | f=0.0001 | 6.12 | f=0.0002 | 6.14 | f=0.0000 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 6.26 | f=0.0000 | 6.31 | f=0.0000 | 6.33 | f=0.0000 |
| Model 2 | PBE | 2.45 | f=0.0005 | 3.31 | f=0.0002 | 3.39 | f=0.0006 |
| | PBE0 | 3.92 | f=0.0024 | 3.93 | f=0.0014 | 3.96 | f=0.0000 |
| | HSE06 | 3.45 | f=0.0004 | 3.89 | f=0.0023 | 3.89 | f=0.0000 |
| | B3LYP | 3.62 | f=0.0006 | 3.83 | f=0.0022 | 3.83 | f=0.0000 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 4.16 | f=0.0094 | 4.28 | f=0.0037 | 4.28 | f=1.1449 |
| Model 3 | PBE | 2.09 | f=0.0001 | 2.09 | f=0.0000 | 2.18 | f = 0.0003 |
| | PBE0 | 2.73 | f=0.0002 | 2.97 | f=0.0002 | 3.68 | f=0.0030 |
| | HSE06 | 2.71 | f=0.0002 | 2.95 | f=0.0002 | 3.17 | f=0.0002 |
| | B3LYP | 2.67 | f=0.0001 | 2.92 | f=0.0002 | 3.36 | f=0.0005 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 2.98 | f=0.0002 | 3.17 | f=0.0002 | 3.95 | f=1.1949 |
| Model 4 | PBE | 1.82 | f=0.0000 | 2.06 | f=0.0000 | 2.21 | f = 0.1274 |
| | PBE0 | 2.90 | f = 0.2207 | 2.94 | f = 0.1239 | 3.12 | f=0.0295 |
| | HSE06 | 2.84 | f=0.0002 | 2.84 | f = 0.2289 | 2.90 | f=0.1499 |
| | B3LYP | 2.80 | f = 0.2315 | 2.87 | f=0.1656 | 2.99 | f = 0.0036 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 3.17 | f=0.1405 | 3.17 | f = 0.0508 | 3.57 | f=0.1089 |
| Model 5 | PBE | 1.75 | f=0.0001 | 1.89 | f = 0.0012 | 1.95 | f=0.0000 |
| | PBE0 | 2.74 | f = 0.0002 | 2.93 | f=0.1465 | 3.14 | f=0.0117 |
| | HSE06 | 2.72 | f=0.0001 | 2.74 | f = 0.0002 | 2.88 | f=0.0007 |
| | B3LYP | 2.68 | f=0.0002 | 2.86 | f=0.1590 | 2.87 | f=0.0211 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 2.98 | f=0.0002 | 3.17 | f = 0.0856 | 3.59 | f=0.1083 |
| Model 6 | PBE | 1.44 | f=0.0000 | 1.62 | f=0.0001 | 1.68 | f=0.0000 |
| | PBE0 | 2.74 | f=0.0002 | 2.90 | f=0.1208 | 2.91 | f=0.0932 |
| | HSE06 | 2.40 | f=0.0000 | 2.59 | f=0.0001 | 2.71 | f=0.0001 |
| | B3LYP | 2.61 | f=0.0001 | 2.68 | f=0.0001 | 2.76 | f=0.0017 |
| | $\omega B97x-D$ | 2.98 | f = 0.0002 | 3.17 | f = 0.1508 | 3.17 | f = 0.0407 |

Table S2: ONIOM(TDDFT/TZVP:PM6) excitation energies and oscillator strengths for the first three excited states, calculating using Gaussian09.

S4 Frontier orbital visualisations



Figure S3: Model 1: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.



Figure S4: Model 2: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.



Figure S5: Model 3: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.



Figure S6: Model 4: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.



Figure S7: Model 5: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.



Figure S8: Model 6: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP electron density (contour value of 0.02) of the HOMO and LUMO for each functional.

S5 Density differences



Figure S9: Model 1: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.



Figure S10: Model 2: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.



Figure S11: Model 3: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.



Figure S12: Model 4: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.



Figure S13: Model 5: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.



Figure S14: Model 6: Visualisation of the TDDFT/TZVP density difference (contour value of 0.0015) between the first (S_1) , second (S_2) , and third (S_3) excited states, and the ground (S_0) state for each functional.

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