Supplementary Information (SI) for Digital Discovery. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2025

Supporting information

for

Comparison of LLMs in Extracting Synthesis Conditions and Generating Q&A Datasets for Metal-Organic Frameworks

Yuang Shi^{1,2,‡}, Nakul Rampal^{1,2,3,‡}, Chengbin Zhao^{1,2}, Dongrong Joe Fu³, Christian Borgs^{3,4}, Jennifer T. Chayes^{3,4,5,6}, Omar M. Yaghi^{1,2,3,7,*}

¹ Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

² Kavli Energy Nanoscience Institute, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

³ Bakar Institute of Digital Materials for the Planet, College of Computing, Data Science, and Society, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

⁴ Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

⁵ Department of Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

⁶ Department of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

⁷ KACST–UC Berkeley Center of Excellence for Nanomaterials for Clean Energy Applications, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology, Riyadh 11442, Saudi Arabia

[‡]indicates equal contribution

(a) Synthesis conditions Prompt You are a synthesis condition classification agent. You are required to go through the given text and identify the synthesis conditions for each and every material given in the paper (both MS and SI, if available). There may be information about the synthesis condition of more than one material. Please make sure to separate these materials when generating the .json file. For each material try to classify the conditions under different labels such as temperature, solvents, the amount of each solvent (this is important), equipment, chemicals used, time, washing method, drying method, yield, etc. This is not at an exhaustive list of labels, please feel free to add more labels as required. Some synthesis conditions may involve multiple steps, please take that into account. Please do not include any experimental characterization data such as those from Powder X-Ray Diffraction (PXRD), Infrared (IR) spectra, , adsorption isotherms, thermogravimetric analysis (TGA), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) experiments etc (this is not an exhaustive list and there may be other characterization techniques) including information about its properties. I reiterate, please do not include any experimental characterization data. Generate a machine readable .json file containing the synthesis conditions for the following text: {combined_text}.

(b) Single-hop Q&A

Prompt

You are a single hop Question and Answering (Q&A) dataset generation agent. A single hop question and answer set is one that requires a single step of reasoning. You are required to go through the given text and identify the synthesis conditions and based on those synthesis conditions develop a set of 20 Q&As. There may be information about the synthesis conditions of more than one material in the text. For example, you may come across a series of different materials such as ZIF-1, ZIF-2, ..., ZIF-12. Please try to diversify the types of questions that you include. Please also try to include a question for each material you come across in the paper. Please feel free to include labels that are also used in some of the most widely used Q&A datasets e.g., the question, the answer, the difficulty level, and the type of question. the different types of questions are factual, reasoning (single step reasoning), and True or False. Please generate a 'ingle hop .json file for the following text. Please include questions of different types including factual (6 questions), single-step reasoning (7 questions), and True or False (7 questions); {combined_text}.

(c) Multi-hop Q&A

Prompt

You are a multi-hop Ouestion and Answering (O&A) dataset generation agent. A multi-hop Q&A is one that requires multi step reasoning to come to an answer (this information can come from any part of the paper, both MS and SI). To give you more details: A multi-hop Q&A will always involve going through multiple parts of the paper to come to an answer. This may include different paragraphs, different pages, and also different documents (i.e. the manuscript and the supplementary information). You are required to go through the given text and identify the synthesis conditions and based on those synthesis conditions develop a set of multi-hop (questions that require multiple steps of reasoning) 20 Q&As for each DOI. There may be information about the synthesis conditions of more than one material in the text. For example, you may come across a series of different materials such as ZIF-1, ZIF-2, ZIF-12. Please diversify the type of questions to encompass different ideas and materials. Please feel free to include labels that are also used in some of the most widely used Q&A dataset for e.g., the question, the answer, the difficulty level, and the type of question. the different types of questions are factual, reasoning (single step reasoning), and True or False. Please generate 6 'factual' type questions, 7 'reasoning' type questions, and 7 True or False type questions. For factual questions, please try to be creative with the questions as it should require information from different parts of the text to answer: {combined_text}.

Figure S1. Prompts for (a) synthesis conditions extraction, (b) single-hop and (c) multi-hop Q&A generation tasks.



Figure S2. Evaluation flowchart for each product in the synthesis condition dataset. For a product from a DOI, we firstly check if the LLM has successfully extracted the corresponding information. If not, all three criteria will be marked as "\". Otherwise, we check whether the response has met three criteria and choose "Y" or "N" for each criterion. Then we move to the next product, or the next DOI when synthesis conditions of every product in the paper have been evaluated.

Output
1. **Question:** What is the role of the central aromatic core in the octacarboxylate
linkers used in the synthesis of MFM materials?
* **Answer:** The central aromatic core dictates the distance (l2) between the
metal-organic cages (B and C) and thus influences the overall porosity of the
resulting MFM material.
* **Difficulty:** Hard
2. **Question:** What alternative activation method was employed for MFM-183a and MFM-
185a compared to MFM-180a and MFM-181a?
* **ANSWEF: ** MMM-1833 and MMM-1833 Were activated using supercritical CO2 orying
denote undergoing heating under dynamic vacuum, while MFM-180a and MFM-181a were
arrectly subjected to heating under vacuum.
* **DIFILUTE: Which analytical technique revealed the pare size distribution for
the activated MEM materials?
* **Answer:** No adsorption isotherms at 77 K, analyzed using a non-local density-
functional theory (NLDFT) model, revealed the pore size distribution.
* **Difficultv:** Medium
4. **Question:** What type of nodes are formed by the combination of the
octacarboxylate linkers and copper ions in the MFM frameworks?
* **Answer:** The combination forms square planar $[Cu_2(0_2CR)_4]$ nodes bridged by the
octacarboxylate linkers.
* **Difficulty:** Medium
5. **Question:** What specific structural feature allows MFM-185a to achieve a higher
gravimetric CO ₂ uptake at 20 bar compared to MFM-180a?
★ ★★Answer:★★ The larger pore volume of MFM-185a, due to its extended linker
structure, enables a higher gravimetric ${\sf CO}_2$ uptake at 20 bar compared to the less
porous MFM-180a.
* **Difficulty:** Hard
6. **Question:** What is the highest volumetric CO ₂ uptake achieved among the studied
MFM materials at 20 bar and 298 K, and which MOF exhibits it?
* **Answer:** The highest volumetric CO ₂ uptake is 292.4 vol/vol, achieved by MFM-
is a due to its large surface area and moderately low density.
* **DITICULUY:** Medium
Factual
A question for which the answer is a stated fact.

Figure S3. Formatted Gemini response of multi-hop Q&A generation - six factual questions.

Out	put

1. **Question:** Why does increasing the length of the linker (l2) not always lead to an increase in porosity in octacarboxylate MOFs? * **Answer:** Simply increasing the length in all directions can lead to flexibility issues, highly strained frameworks, and/or interpenetration, which can reduce porosity. * **Difficulty:** Hard **Question:** Why was the synthesis of MFM-185 conducted with different solvents and copper salt compared to the other MFM materials? * **Answer:** H8L5, the linker used for MFM-185, showed poor solubility in the N,N'-diethylformamide/ethanol/aqueous HCl mixture used for other MOFs. Therefore, a different solvent system (N,N'-dimethylformamide/DMSO/aqueous HCl) and copper salt $(Cu(NO_3)_2 \cdot 2.5H_2O)$ were employed. * **Difficulty:** Medium 3. **Question:** Based on the reported BET surface areas and pore volumes, how does the structural design strategy of selective cage elongation impact the porosity of the MFM series? * **Answer:** The increasing BET surface areas and pore volumes from MFM-180a to MFM-185a demonstrate that selectively extending the metal-organic cages along one direction effectively increases the porosity of the MFM materials. * **Difficulty:** Medium 4. **Question:** How does the high connectivity of the MFM frameworks contribute to their CH₄ storage properties? * **Answer:** The high connectivity leads to relatively high crystal density. This minimizes the trade-off between gravimetric and volumetric capacity, allowing for simultaneously high values of both. * **Difficulty:** Hard 5. **Question:** Considering the CO2 adsorption behavior at 1 bar, what is the significance of a high density of open metal sites in these MOFs? * **Answer:** The higher CO, uptake at 1 bar for the less porous MOFs with a higher density of open metal sites suggests that these sites are crucial for strong hostguest interactions with CO_2 at low pressure. * **Difficulty:** Medium 6. **Question:** Explain the rationale behind choosing to deuterate the aromatic rings of the linkers for 2H NMR studies. * **Answer:** Deuterating the aromatic rings provides a sensitive probe to investigate the molecular dynamics of these rings within the MOF structure. The 2H NMR spectra provide information about their rotational freedom and dynamic behavior. * **Difficulty:** Hard 7. **Question:** How does the change in the central core of the linker from MFM-180ad16 to MFM-181a-d16 affect the rotational dynamics of the phenyl rings as observed by 2H NMR? * **Answer:** The change in the central core primarily affects the flipping mode (k1) of the phenyl rings. MFM-181a-d16 exhibits a faster flipping motion compared to MFM-180a-d16, indicated by the lower transition temperature (T1) for MFM-181a-d16. * **Difficulty:** Hard Reasoning A question that requires an 'understanding' of the text to answer. **Figure S4.** Formatted Gemini response of multi-hop Q&A generation – seven reasoning questions.

	Output		
<pre>1. **Question:** True or False: MFM-180a exhibits a higher BET surfac 185a.</pre>	e area than MFM–		
* **Answer:** False			
<pre>* **Difficulty:** Easy</pre>			
2. **Question:** True or False: The isosteric heat of CO ₂ adsorption	is significantly		
different across the MFM series.			
* **Answer:** False			
<pre>* **Difficulty:** Easy</pre>			
3. **Question:** True or False: Elongating the metal-organic cages in	the MFM series		
leads to a decrease in the volumetric $ ext{CH}_4$ uptake at 65 bar.			
* **Answer:** False			
<pre>* **Difficulty:** Medium</pre>			
4. **Question:** True or False: The 2H NMR studies revealed that the	phenyl rings in		
both MFM-180a-d16 and MFM-181a-d16 exhibit free, unrestricted rotation	on at all		
temperatures.			
* **Answer:** False			
<pre>* **Difficulty:** Medium</pre>			
5. **Question:** True or False: The MFM materials demonstrate a highe	r selectivity for		
CO ₂ adsorption over CH4.			
* **Answer:** Irue			
* **VITTICULTY:** Easy			
6. **QUESTION:** True or False: The synthesis of all MFM materials was identical column to add to prove conditions.	s achieved under		
identical solvent and temperature conditions.			
* **Answer:** False			
* **DITTICULTY:** Easy 7 HelOwastions the True of Solary The processes of open metal sites in t	he MEM contine		
7. **Question:** True of False; The presence of open metal sites in t	ne MFM series		
contributes to their CO_2 adsorption capabilities.			
* **AIISWEI;** ITUE			
* **DITTICULLY:** Easy			
True/False			
A question that for which the answer is either True or False			
A question that for which the answer is either frue of False.			

Γ

Figure S5. Formatted Gemini response of multi-hop Q&A generation – seven true or false questions.

GPT-4	Output
"question": "What is the main synthesis of zeolitic imidazol "answer": "The main goal of th ZIFs was to efficiently discov specifically ZIFs, by systemat compositions.", "difficulty":	goal of the high-throughput protocol developed for the ate frameworks (ZIFs)?", he high-throughput protocol developed for the synthesis of ver and synthesize new crystalline solid-state compounds, cically exploring a wide range of reaction conditions and "medium", "type": "factual"
"question": "How many differen experiments?", "answer": "Twenty-five differe experiments.", "difficulty": "	t ZIF crystals were synthesized from the high-throughput ent ZIF crystals were synthesized from the high-throughput 'easy", "type": " factual "
"question": "What are the key "answer": "The key differences transition metal atoms (such a and P) found in zeolites, and oxides in zeolites, resulting "medium", "type": "factual"	differences between ZIFs and traditional zeolites?", between ZIFs and traditional zeolites are that in ZIFs, is Zn and Co) replace the tetrahedral linkers (such as Si, Al, imidazolates or imidazolate-type linkers replace the bridging in structures with tetrahedral frameworks.", "difficulty":
"question": "What was the outo	ome of using a high-throughput method in the synthesis of
<pre>ZIFS?", "answer": "The outcome of usin discovery of 25 different ZIF and structures, and 5 with top "medium", "type": "factual"</pre>	g a high-throughput method in the synthesis of ZIFs was the structures, including 16 previously unreported compositions pologies not observed in zeolites before.", "difficulty":
"question": "What makes ZIF-69 "answer": "ZIF-69 and ZIF-70 a exceptional stability, high po which contribute to their extr selectivity for CO2 capture fr "reasoning"	and ZIF-70 particularly interesting for CO2 capture?", ire particularly interesting for CO2 capture due to their prosity, and the presence of heterolinks in their structure, caordinary capacity for storing CO2 and their unusual com CO2/CO mixtures.", "difficulty": "hard", "type":
"question": "How does the ther materials?", "answer": "ZIF-68, ZIF-69, and temperatures up to 390°C, whic their potential for industrial	mal stability of ZIF–68, ZIF–69, and ZIF–70 compare to other ZIF–70 exhibit high thermal stability, withstanding th is extraordinary compared to other materials and indicates applications.", "difficulty": "medium", "type": " reasoning "
"question": "What was the meth	od used to confirm the permanent porosity of ZIF-68, ZIF-69,
and ZIF-70?", "answer": "The permanent poros adsorption measurements, which materials with permanent poros	ity of ZIF-68, ZIF-69, and ZIF-70 was confirmed through N2 showed type I adsorption isotherm behavior typical of sity,", "difficulty": "medium", "type": " factual "
"question": "Are ZIFs chemical "answer": "True", "difficulty"	ly stable in boiling organic and aqueous media?", : "easy", "type": " True or False "
"question": "Did the high-thro	ughput synthesis method allow for the discovery of ZIFs with
heterolinks?", "answer": "True", "difficulty"	: "easy", "type": "True or False"
"question": "Is the high-throu ZIF production?", "answer": "True", "difficulty"	ghput synthesis method scalable to multigram quantities for : "easy". "type": " True or False "
DO	I: 10.1126/science.1152516

Figure S6. Unformatted GPT-4 response of single-hop Q&A generation. In this response, GPT-4 only generated 5 factual, 2 reasoning and 3 T/F questions, while our prompt asked for 6, 7, 7 respectively. Different question types were also mixed, which we did not want.

Publisher	Synthesis Conditions	Single-Hop Q&As	Multi-Hop Q&As
American Association for the	1	5	3
Advancement of Science			
American Chemical Society			7
American Institute of Physics		1	1
American Physical Society		1	1
Chinese Chemical Society	1	2	1
Elsevier		8	6
National Academy of Sciences	1	2	1
Springer Nature	18	10	10
Royal Society of Chemistry	21	10	10
Wiley	8	11	10

Table S1. Number of DOIs included in the datasets.

	LLM		
	GPT-4 Turbo	Claude 3 Opus	Gemini 1.5 Pro
Pricing per 1M tokens	Input \$10.00	Input \$15.00	Input \$1.25 (prompts
			<= 128k) or \$2.50
	Output \$30.00	Output \$75.00	(prompts > 128k)
			Output \$5 (prompts
			<= 128k) or \$10
			(prompts > 128k)
Total tokens	337.6M ^[1]	15.3M	17.1M
Total costs	\$3600 ^[1]	\$257.14	\$85.40
Number of requests	~7590 ^[1]	328	469
Cost per DOI per task	\$0.47	\$0.78	\$0.18

Table S2. Cost analysis for the LLMs

References

 Rampal, N.; Wang, K.; Burigana, M.; Hou, L.; Al-Johani, J.; Sackmann, A.; Murayshid, H. S.; AlSumari, W. A.; AlAbdulkarim, A. M.; Alhazmi, N. E.; Alawad, M. O.; Borgs, C.; Chayes, J. T.; Yaghi, O. M. Single and Multi-Hop Question-Answering Datasets for Reticular Chemistry with GPT-4-Turbo. *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* 2024, 20, 9128–9137.