



Effect of alcohol-water mixture on intrusionextrusion process in nanoporous materials

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Molecular spring

Extrusion

Intrusion

Pressure

A Volume



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E L E C T R O INTRUSION



8.5 -

8.0

7.5

7.0

6.5

5.5

Volume / mL g⁻¹

Example of solution with salts



Shock Adsorber







J. Phys. Chem. C 2019, 123, 25, 15589-15598

J. Phys. Chem. C **2014**, 118, 14, 7321-7328

10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 Pressure / MPa



Why chose alcohol solution



- More friendly with MOFs;
- Alcohol are soluble;
- they are bigger than typical ions used (they don't enter inside the materials);
- Identify those with a suitable size (and degree of polar groups).



Alcohol solutions







Alcohol solutions



Working hypotheses:

- Possible intrusion of alcohol inside ZIF8
- Formation of "structures" that prevent the intrusion of water molecules







Computational techniques: Classical Molecular Dynamics



 Brute force simulations: standard molecular dynamics of empty ZIF-8 in contact with alcohol solutions of 11.5% wt, 300 K and two pressure. Each simulation is 20 ns long.







Computational techniques: Advance sampling Techniques



Many problems (chemical reactions, diffusion in solids, nucleation, folding and unfolding of proteins) occur on timescale inaccessible by simulations









Affinity between ZIF-8 and solutions



Brute force simulations:

Number density profile along z-axis:

Number of alcohol molecules/volume.

Different behaviour between glycerine and methanol (tert-buthanol) solutions





Affinity between ZIF-8 and solutions



A zoom to highlight the surface-alcohol interactions; it also show the tertbutanol (and methanol) trend to stay close to hexagonal window and to occupy the center of those windows.





Advance sampling Techniques: combining RMD and Parallel Tempering simulations



 Advanced sampling techniques: Restrained Molecular Dynamics (RMD) along a linear path of intrusion coupled with Parallel Tempering techniques (T= 300-350 K). Every single simulation is 1 ns long.

Eq of integration of force







Advance sampling Techniques: combinir RMD and Parallel Tempering simulations







Intrusion Energy profile







Intrusion Energy profile















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Thanks for your attention!



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