

2D surface confined nanoporous molecular networks at the liquid-solid interface: a scanning tunneling microscopy study

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## Content



- Two strategies toward formation of flexible porous networks
  - **Concentration control**
  - Guest induced transformation
- Conclusion

#### 2D organic nanoporous networks



Ordered structures with cavities formed by organic molecules on top of a solid substrate.

2D analogues of Zeolite and Metal-organic frameworks

Interactions involved

Hydrogen bonding

Metal-organic coordination

Van der Waals forces



## Application of the 2D nanoporous networks



## Template

Assembling of other organic molecules in a predefined manner









### Molecular device





Langmuir, Vol. 20, 2004, 9403.

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 4089.



## Challenges

Adjusting the pore size

Size available: from < 1 nm to 5 nm

Adjust the pore size sequentially. Larger size possible?

Hosting molecular clusters





nanovessels for chemical reaction

Langmuir, Vol. 20, 2004, 9403.

# Flexible porous network based on alkyl chain interdigitations





Dehydrobenzo[12]annulene Derivatives



Honeycomb structure

Tahara K. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 16613

### Advantage:



#### adjustable with high precision, ~ 2.5 $\text{\AA}$

#### Parameters of the honeycomb structure formed by DBA-OCn

	DBA-OC10	DBA-OC12	DBA-OC14	DBA-OC16	DBA-OC18	DBA-OC20
Repeating period (honeycomb)/nm	4.1	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.9	6.3
Size of the pore Corner-to-Corner	2.9	3.5	3.9	4.5	5.0	5.4
Area of unit cell /nm <sup>2</sup>	14.6	17.9	21.7	25.7	30.1	34.4
Percentage of pore /%	37	42	46	50	53	56

So in principle we can get nanopores with diameter ranging from 2.9 nm up to 5.4 nm using these DBAs as building blocks.





## Two strategies

•Adjusting the concentration

•Guest induced transformation

## **C**oncentration dependent formation



The concentration of the solution determines the number of molecules on the surface.

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2008, 47, 2964 - 2968





A series of STM images obtained with different concentration of DBA-OC16.

#### •General phenomena



•In a certain concentration range the surface coverage of porous structures show a linear dependence on concentration



## A thermodynaomic model

#### At equilibrium

$$\overline{\mu}_{l} = \overline{\mu}_{sol}$$
 and  $\overline{\mu}_{h} = \overline{\mu}_{sol}$ 





Nanopores with diameter ranging from 2.9 nm up to 7.5 nm could be formed. The pore diameter could be tuned with precision of 0.25 nm.

## Guest induced transformation



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, in press.

18+Un

SeDBS:SAL

SIGAS: OAChe

Organic Porous Frameworks in 2D: tunable in size? Yes, but... Seves: SAplends

#### Without guest

Concentration of DBAs: 0.05 mg/ml







ICAS: OAL



Allows us to adjust the number of molecules, the geometry in the cluster.



The host matrix changes its structure in order to accommodate the adsorption of the guest clusters.

## Dynamics within the host-guest matrix

Dynamics of the guest inside the cavity Migration of the guest between cavities Dynamics of the host molecules SEDES:SA

# Rotation of the nanographene dimers inside the cavity of DBA-OC12

Sebes: SA

S:OAC



#### Note the length of the dimer is larger than the diameter of the cavity. 3.8 nm vs 3.5 nm

#### Rotation of the clusters inside the cavity



These observations indicate the rotation angles are multiples of 60°.

The rotation of the guest cluster is a cooperative movement of the host-guest architecture.



2D nanoporous networks could be form with two different strategies: concentration control and guest induced transformation.

Tunable size and period, flexible

Beyond the art

Conclusion

Hosting molecular clusters, paved the way toward to use such nanoporous host matrices as nanoreactors

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