

# Yangyang Liu, Ph.D.

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## **EDUCATION**

- 2014 Ph.D. Chemistry, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
Thesis Advisor: Prof. Hongcai Zhou  
2009 B. S. Chemistry, Nankai University, Tianjin, China

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2021-Present Associate Professor (with early tenure), California State University, Los Angeles, CA  
2016-2021 Assistant Professor, California State University, Los Angeles, CA  
2014-2016 Postdoctoral Fellow, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Advisors: Prof. Joseph Hupp and Prof. Omar Farha

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

- 2023 Department of Energy FAIR Award  
2018 Department of Defense Army Research and Education Program Award  
2017 ACS-PRF Undergraduate New Investigator  
2015 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in GLCACS Student/Postdoc Presentation Contest  
2013 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Poster Presentation in BASF-TAMU Graduate Student Symposium  
2013 Eastman Chemical Travel Award  
2008 Kwang-Hua Scholarship  
2006, 2007 Excellent Student Scholarship

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2016-present Assistant/Associate Professor, California State University, Los Angeles, CA  
CHEM 3100 Writing for Chemists  
CHEM/PHYS 4142 Chemistry and Physics of Materials  
CHEM 3600 Inorganic Chemistry  
CHEM 4810 Advanced Synthetic Methods  
CHEM 4890 Molecular Sciences Capstone  
CHEM 5600 Advanced Inorganic Chemistry  
2009-2011 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
General Chemistry Laboratory I  
General Chemistry Laboratory II  
Advanced Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Materials and inorganic chemistry, metal-organic frameworks, covalent-organic frameworks, functional materials, (photo)catalysis, renewable energy, environmental remediation, and biomedicine.

## **PUBLICATIONS & PATENTS**

### **Published Articles in peer-reviewed journals**

CSULA undergraduate authors are underlined, †CSULA master's student authors, #equal contribution, \*corresponding author(s)

#### Publications from Independent Work at CSULA

40. Mishra, N. O.; Quon, A. S.; Nguyen, A.; Papazyan, E. K.; Hao, Y.; **Liu, Y.\*** Constructing Physiological Defense Systems against Infectious Disease with Metal–Organic Frameworks: A Review, *ACS Appl. Bio Mater.* **2023**, *6*, 3052–3065
39. Luo, H.-B.\*; Lin, F.-R.; Liu, Z.-Y.; Kong, Y.-R.; Idrees, K. B.; **Liu, Y.\***, Zou, Y.; Farha, O. K.; Ren, X.-M. MOF–Polymer Mixed Matrix Membranes as Chemical Protective Layers for Solid-Phase Detoxification of Toxic Organophosphates, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2023**, *15*, 2933-2939.
38. Zhang, A.-A.; Li, Y.-L.; Fang, Z.-B.; Xie, L.; Cao, R.; **Liu, Y.\***; Liu, T.-F.\* Facile Preparation of Hydrogen-Bonded Organic Framework/Cu<sub>2</sub>O Heterostructure Films via Electrophoretic Deposition for Efficient CO<sub>2</sub> Photoreduction. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2022**, *14*, 21050-21058.
37. Hao, Y.; Papazyan, E. K.; Ba, Y.; **Liu, Y.\*** Mechanism-Guided Design of Metal–Organic Framework Composites for Selective Photooxidation of a Mustard Gas Simulant under Solvent-Free Conditions. *ACS Catal.* **2022**, *12*, 363-371.
36. Zhang, J.; Zhang, R.; **Liu, Y.**; Kong, Y.-R.; Luo, H.-B.; Zou, Y.; Zhai, L.; Ren, X.-M. Acidic Groups Functionalized Carbon Dots Capping Channels of a Proton Conductive Metal–Organic Framework by Coordination Bonds to Improve the Water-Retention Capacity and Boost Proton Conduction. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2021**, *13*, 60084-60091.
35. Kong, Y.-R.; Zhang, R.; Zhang, J.; Luo, H.-B.; **Liu, Y.**; Zou, Y.; Ren, X.-M. Microwave-Assisted Rapid Synthesis of Nanoscale MOF-303 for Hydrogel Composites with Superior Proton Conduction at Ambient-Humidity Conditions. *ACS Appl. Energy Mater.* **2021**, *4*, 14681-14688.
34. Liu, M.; Zhang, J.; Kong, Y.-R.; Luo, H.-B.\*; **Liu, Y.**; Ren, X.-M.\* Thin Films of an Ultrastable Metal–Organic Framework for Formic Acid Sensing with High Selectivity and Excellent Reproducibility. *ACS Materials Lett.* **2021**, *3*, 1746–1751.
33. Zhang, J.; He X.; Kong, Y.-R.; Luo, H.-B.\*; Liu, M.; **Liu, Y.**; Ren, X.-M.\* Efficiently Boosting Moisture Retention Capacity of Porous Superprotonic Conducting MOF-802 at Ambient Humidity via Forming a Hydrogel Composite Strategy. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interface* **2021**, *13*, 37231-37238.
32. #Hao, Y.; #Liu, B. M.; Bennett, T. F.; Monsour, C. G.; Selke, M.\*; **Liu, Y.\*** Determination of Singlet Oxygen Quantum Yield of a Porphyrinic Metal–Organic Framework. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2021**, *125*, 7392-7400.
31. Luo, H.-B.; †Castro, A. J.; Wasson, M. C.; Flores, W.; Farha, O. K.; **Liu, Y.\*** Rapid, Biomimetic Degradation of a Nerve Agent Simulant by Incorporating Imidazole Bases into a Metal-Organic Framework. *ACS Catal.* **2021**, *11*, 1421-1429.
30. Zhang, X.; Wasson, M. C.; Shayan M.; Berdichevsky, E. K.; Ricardo-Noordberg, J.; Singh, Z.; Papazyan, E. K.; †Castro, A. J.; Marino, P.; Ajoyan, Z.; Chen, Z.; Islamoglu, T.; Howarth, A. J.\*; **Liu, Y.\***; Majewski, M. B.\*; Katz, M. J.\*; Mondloch, J. E.\*; Farha, O. K.\* A Historical Perspective on Porphyrin-based Metal-Organic Frameworks and Their Applications. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2020**, *429*, 213615.
29. Klein, S. E.; †Sosa, J. D.; Castonguay, A. C.; Flores, W. I.; Zarzar, L. D.\*; **Liu, Y.\*** Green Synthesis of Zr-Based Metal-Organic Framework Hydrogel Composites and Their Enhanced Adsorptive Properties. *Inorg. Chem. Front.* **2020**, *7*, 4813-4821.
28. Luo, H.-B.; Ren, Q.; **Liu, Y.\***; Zhang, J.; Ren, X. M.\* Proton Conduction of an Acid-Resistant Open-Framework Chalcogenidometalate Hybrid in Anhydrous versus Humid Environments. *Inorg. Chem.* **2020**, *59*, 7283–7289.
27. †Ilacas, G. C.; Basa, A.; Nelms, K. J.; Sosa, J. D.; **Liu, Y.\***; Gomez, F. A.\* Paper-based microfluidic devices for glucose assays employing a metal-organic framework (MOF). *Anal. Chim. Acta.* **2019**, *1055*, 74-80.
26. Cagan, D. A.; †Garcia, A. C.; †Li, K.; †Ashen-Garry, D.; †Tadle, A. C.; Zhang, D.; Nelms, K. J., **Liu, Y.**, Shallenberger, J. R., Stapleton, J. J., Selke, M. Chemistry of Singlet Oxygen with a Cadmium–Sulfur Cluster: Physical Quenching versus Photooxidation. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 67–71
25. Pereira, C. F.; **Liu, Y.**; Howarth, A.; Figueira, F.; Rocha, J.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K.; Tome, J. P. C.; Paz, F.

- A. A. Detoxification of a Mustard-Gas Simulant by Nanosized Porphyrin Based Metal–Organic Frameworks. *ACS Appl. Nano Mater.* **2019**, 2, 465-469.
24. Sosa, J. D.; Bennett, T. F.; Nelms, K. J.; Liu, B. M.; †Tovar R. C.; **Liu, Y.\***. Metal-Organic Framework Hybrid Materials and Their Applications”, *Crystals*, **2018**, 8, 325.

Publications Prior to CSULA

23. Garcia-Holley, P.; Schweitzer, B.; Islamoglu, T.; **Liu, Y.**; Lin, L.; Rodriguez, S.; Weston, M. H.; Hupp, J. T.; Gómez-Gualdrón, D. A.; Yildirim, T.; Farha, O. K. Benchmark Study of Hydrogen Storage in Metal-Organic Frameworks under Temperature and Pressure Swing Conditions. *ACS Energy Lett.* **2018**, 3(3), 748-754.
22. **Liu, Y.**; Howarth, A. J.; Vermeulen, N.A.; Moon, S. Y.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Catalytic Degradation of Chemical Warfare Agents and Their Simulants by Metal-Organic Frameworks. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2017**, 346, 101-111.
21. Howard, A. J.; Buru, C. T.; **Liu, Y.**; Ploskonka, A. M.; Hartlieb, K. J.; McEntee, M.; Mahle, J. J.; Buchanan, J. H.; Durke, E. M.; Al-Juaid, S. S.; Stoddart, J. F.; DeCoste, J. B.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Postsynthetic incorporation of a Singlet Oxygen Photosensitizer in a Metal-Organic Framework for Fast and Selective Oxidative Detoxification of Sulfur Mustard. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2017**, 23, 214-218.
20. **Liu, Y.#**; Buru, C. T.#; Howarth, A. J.; Mahle, J. J.; Buchanan, J. H.; DeCoste, J. B.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Efficient and Selective Oxidation of Sulfur Mustard using Singlet Oxygen Generated by a Pyrene-based Metal-Organic Frameworks. *J. Mater. Chem. A.* **2016**, 4, 13809-13813
19. Xu, Y.; Vermeulen, N. A.; **Liu, Y.**; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. SALE-Ing a MOF-Based “Ship of Theseus.” Sequential Building-Block Replacement for Complete Reformulation of a Pillared-Paddlewheel Metal-Organic Framework. *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2016**, 4345-4348.
18. **Liu, Y.**; Klet, R. C.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Probing the Correlations Between the Defects in Metal-Organic Frameworks and Their Catalytic Activity by an Epoxide Ring-opening Reaction. *Chem. Commun.* **2016**, 52, 7806-7809.
17. Howarth, A. J.#; **Liu, Y.#**; Li, P.; Li, Z.; Wang, T. C.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Chemical, Thermal and Mechanical Stabilities of Metal-Organic Frameworks. *Nat. Rev. Mater.* **2016**, 1, 15018.
16. Thornburg, N. E.; **Liu, Y.**; Li, P.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K.; Notestein, J. M. MOFs and Their Grafted Analogues: Regioselective Epoxide Ring-opening with Zr<sub>6</sub> Nodes. *Catal. Sci. Technol.* **2016**, 6, 6480-6484.
15. Klet, R. C.; **Liu, Y.**; Wang, T. C.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Evaluation of Brønsted Acidity and Proton Topology in Zr- and Hf-based Metal-Organic Frameworks Using Potentiometric Acid-Base Titration. *J. Mater. Chem. A.* **2016**, 4, 1479-1485.
14. Platero-Prats, A.; Mavrandonakis, A. M.; Gallington, L. C.; **Liu, Y.**; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K.; Cramer, C. J.; Chapman, K. W. Structural Transitions of the Metal-Oxide Nodes within Metal-Organic Frameworks: On the Local Structures of NU-1000 and UiO-66. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, 138, 4178-4185.
13. **Liu, Y.**; Moon, S.-Y.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Dual-Function Metal-Organic Framework as a Versatile Catalyst for Detoxifying Chemical Warfare Agent Simulants. *ACS Nano.* **2015**, 9, 12358-12364.
12. **Liu, Y.#**; Howarth, A. J.#; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Selective Photooxidation of a Mustard-Gas Simulant Catalyzed by a Porphyrinic Metal-Organic Framework. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 9001-9005.
11. Moon, S.-Y.#; **Liu, Y.#**; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Instantaneous Hydrolysis of Nerve-Agent Simulants with a Six-Connected Zirconium-Based Metal-Organic Framework. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 6795-6799.
10. Wang, S.; Morris, W.; **Liu, Y.**; McGuirk, M.C.; Zhou, Y.; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K.; Mirkin, C. A. Surface-Specific Functionalization of Nanoscale Metal-Organic Frameworks. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 14738-14742.
9. Howarth, A. J.; **Liu, Y.**; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Metal-Organic Frameworks for Applications in Remediation of Oxyanion/Cation-contaminated Water. *CrystEngComm.* **2015**, 17, 7245-7253.
8. Chen, Y.-P.; **Liu, Y.**; Liu, D.; Bosch, M.; Zhou, H.-C. Direct Measurement of Adsorbed Gas Redistribution in Metal-Organic Frameworks. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, 137, 2919-2930.
7. Beyzavi, M. H.#; Stephenson, C.#; **Liu, Y.#**; Hupp, J. T.; Farha, O. K. Metal-Organic Framework-based Catalysts: Chemical Fixation of CO<sub>2</sub> with Epoxides leading to Cyclic Organic Carbonates. *Front. Energy. Res.* **2015**, 2, 63.
6. Liu, T.-F.; Zou, L.; Feng, D.; Chen, Y.-P.; Fordham, S.; Wang, X.; **Liu, Y.**; Zhou, H.-C. Stepwise Synthesis of Robust Metal-Organic Frameworks via Postsynthetic Metathesis and Oxidation of Metal Nodes in a

- Single-Crystal to Single-Crystal Transformation. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 7813-7816.
5. Xie, Y.; Yang, H.; Wang, U. Z.; **Liu, Y.**; Li, J.-R.; Zhou, H.-C. Unusual Preservation of Polyhedral Molecular Building Units in a Metal-Organic Framework with Evident Desymmetrization in Ligand Design. *Chem. Comm.* **2014**, *50*, 563-565.
  4. Zhang, M.; Lu, W.; Li, J.-R.; Bosch, M.; Chen, Y.-P.; Liu, T.-F.; **Liu, Y.**; Zhou, H.-C. Design and synthesis of nucleobase-incorporated metal-organic materials. *Inorg. Chem. Front.* **2014**, *1*, 159-162.
  3. **Liu, Y.**; Chen, Y.-P.; Liu, T.-F.; Yakovenko, A. A.; Raiff, A. M.; Zhou, H.-C. Selective Gas Adsorption and Unique Phase Transition Properties in a Stable Magnesium Metal-Organic Framework Constructed from Infinite Metal Chains. *CrystEngComm.* **2013**, *15*, 9688-9693.
  2. **Liu, Y.**; Li, J.-R.; Verdegaal, W. M.; Liu, T.-F.; Zhou, H.-C. Isostructural Metal-Organic Frameworks Assembled from Functionalized Di-isophthalate Ligands through a Ligand Truncation Strategy. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 5637-5643.
  1. **Liu, Y.**; Wang, U. Z.; Zhou, H.-C. Recent Advances in Carbon Dioxide Capture with Metal-Organic Frameworks. *Greenhouse Gas Sci. and Technol.* **2012**, *2*, 239-259.

## Patent

Farha, O. K.; Hupp, J. T.; Beyzavi, H. M.; Stephenson, C. J.; **Liu, Y.** Zirconium- and Hafnium-Based Metal-Organic Frameworks as Epoxide Ring-Opening Catalysts. US Patent *US20170362167A1*.

## EXTERNAL GRANT FUNDING

2023-2026	Department of Energy (DOE), “Designing Photoresponsive Nanosponges for Efficient and Reversible Capture and Release of Carbon Dioxide.” (Role: PI)	\$750,000
2023-2025	DOE, “Developing Highly Porous Metal-Organic Frameworks and Composite Materials for Hydrogen Storage.” (Role: PI)	\$300,000
2022-2023	DOE, “R&D Scoping Study and Infrastructure Self-Assessment of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Based Research Capabilities for California State University, Los Angeles.” (Role: PI)	\$200,000
2022-2027	National Science Foundation (NSF), “HSI Implementation and Evaluation Project: Increasing participation and persistence in STEM by incorporating field-based experiences in the urban environment.” (Role: Co-PI; PI: René Vellanoweth)	\$815,523
2022-2027	National Science Foundation (NSF) “CREST Center for Advancement toward Sustainable Urban Systems (CATSUS)” (Role: Senior Personnel; PI: Dr. Arturo Pacheco-Vega)	\$5,000,000
2016-2022	NSF “CREST Center for Energy and Sustainability” (Role: Co-PI; PI: Dr. Arturo Pacheco-Vega)	\$4,999,999
2018-2022	Department of Defense, Army Research Office “Multifunctional Metal-Organic Frameworks for Efficient Degradation of Chemical Warfare Agents: Mechanism and Synthesis” (Role: PI)	\$600,000
2017-2020	ACS PRF “Mechanism-Guided Design and Synthesis of Metal-Organic Frameworks with Optimized Pores for Methane Storage” (Role: PI)	\$55,000
2017-2019	NSF “Supplement—Partnership of CREST at California State University-Los Angeles with Northwestern University: Solid-State Supramolecular Crystals for Photovoltaic Cells” (Role: PI)	\$99,997
2017-2018	La Kretz Environmental Endowment “Reducing Air Pollution by Designing the Next-Generation Catalytic Converter Integrated with a Filtration System” (Role: PI)	\$7,000

2017-2018 COAST Grant Development Program Award “Contaminant-selective sponges for removal of ocean toxins” (Role: Co-PI; PI: Dr. Monica So) \$19,030

### **INTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING**

2021-2022 Provost Research Fund at CSULA “Developing Porous Nanoparticles for Tumor-Targeted Drug Delivery” (Role: PI) \$8,000

2017-2018 CSU Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (RSCA) Program at CSULA “Investigating Porphyrinic Materials for the Degradation of Sulfur Mustard” (Role: PI) \$5,000

2017-2018 NSF PREM SEED grant at CSULA “Investigating Porous Materials for Hydrogen Storage Applications” (Role: PI) \$7,500

### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & INVITED SEMINARS**

1. *Liu, Y.* “Programmable Porous Materials for Catalysis and Sustainable Energy”, Invited Speaker, University of Southern California, Inorganic Chemistry Seminar Series, Jan. 2024
2. *Liu, Y.* “Designing Metal-Organic Frameworks Composites for the Removal and Degradation of Toxic Chemicals”, Invited Speaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Texas Pore Engineering Conference, Oct. 2023
3. *Liu, Y.* “Porous Framework Materials for the Removal of Emerging Contaminants from Aqueous Environments”, ACS Fall 2022 National Meeting, Invited speaker, Aug. 2022
4. *Liu, Y.* “Optimizing Metal-Organic Frameworks for Catalysis” IUPAC/ Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition, Invited speaker, Virtual, Aug. 2021
5. *Liu, Y.* “Optimizing Metal-Organic Framework Catalysts for the Detoxification of Chemical Warfare Agents”, ACS Spring 2021 National Meeting, Virtual, Apr. 2021
6. *Liu, Y.* “Synthesis and enhanced performance of metal-organic framework hybrid materials”, ACS Fall 2019 National Meeting, San Diego, California, Aug. 2019
7. *Liu, Y.* “Multifunctional Metal-Organic Frameworks: from Catalysis to Solar Cells”, Invited Seminar Series Speaker, Seminar in Interdisciplinary STEM Research, California State University, Los Angeles. Apr. 2018
8. *Liu, Y.* “Multifunctional Metal-Organic Frameworks: from Catalysis to Solar Cells”, Invited Seminar Series Speaker, California State University, Long Beach, California, Nov. 2017
9. *Liu, Y.* “Multifunctional Metal-Organic Frameworks: from Catalysis to Solar Cells”, Invited Seminar speaker, Oak Crest Institute of Science in Monrovia, California, Sep. 2017
10. *Liu, Y.* “Efficient and selective oxidation of sulfur mustard using singlet oxygen generated by a pyrene-based metal-organic framework”, ACS National Meeting & Exposition in San Francisco, California, Apr. 2017
11. *Liu, Y.* “Nanoporous Metal-Organic Frameworks: New Opportunities for Catalysis”. Invited talk. The Synfuels China Laboratory for Fundamental Catalysis, Beijing, China. Jan. 2016

### **AFFILIATIONS & SERVICES**

**Member**, American Chemical Society

**Journal Reviewer**, Journal of American Chemical Society, Angewandte Chemie, Chemical Society Reviews, ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces, Chemistry of Materials, Inorganic Chemistry, Energy & Fuels, Polymers, Inorganica Chimica Acta, Materials Letters, Frontiers in Chemistry, RSC Advances, Photochemistry and Photobiology, Nature Water Review.

**Proposal Reviewer**, Department of Energy, National Science Foundation, American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund, Research Corporation for Science Advancement, COAST Grant Development Program, Beckman Young Investigator.