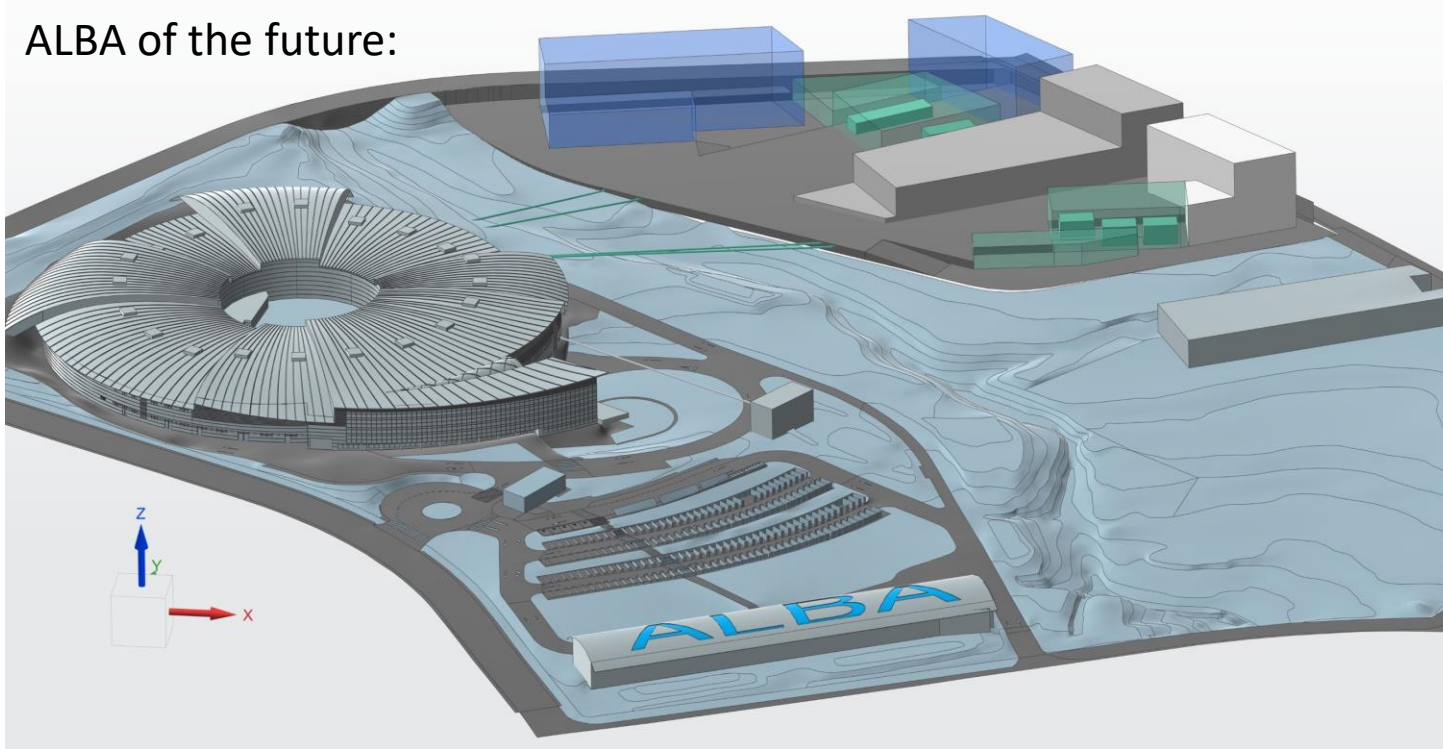


ALBA of the future:



## Catalysis related study at the CLÆSS beamline


*Alina Skorynina*

*06 November 2024 – Postdoc Day*

- Key publications:

1. **A. Skorynina**, et al. *Journal of Materials Chemistry C*, 2024, IF 5.7
2. R.L. Vasile, *Journal of the American Chemical Society* 146.37 (2024): 25824-25831, IF **14.5**
3. G. O'Rourke, et al. *EES Catalysis*, 2.4 (2024): 1006-1018, IF n/a
4. O. Usoltsev, et al., *Small*, (2024): 2401184, IF **13.0**
5. E. Kozyr, et al. *Synchrotron Radiation*, 31.5 (2024), IF 2.6
6. R. S. Silva, et al. *CrystEngComm*, 26.24 (2024): 3240-3249, IF 2.6
7. T. Gosh, et al. *Chemical Science*, 15.29 (2024): 11488-11499 , IF **7.6**
8. I. Beckers, *ACS catalysis* 14 (2024): 7080-7086, IF **11.7**
9. O. Usoltsev, et al. *Small Methods*, 2024, 2301397, IF **12.4**
10. **A. Skorynina**, et al. *Inorganic Chemistry*, 2023, 62(17), 6608–6616, IF 4.6
11. E. Kozyr, et al. *Catalysts* 2023, 13 (2), 414, IF 3.9
12. G. O'Rourke, et al. *Chemical Science* 2023, 15, IF **8.4**
13. O.A. Usoltsev, et al. *Applied Surface Science*, 2023, 614, 156171, IF 6.7

During my PhD: project management in 4 grants, 12 publications, 50+ conferences, *h*-index = 5

- During ALBA stay: 1 ReMade project, organizing  HERCULES2024 and 2025, developing the Harrick Solid-gas reactor, 13+ publications, 2 conferences, *h*-index = 8

# Key Work from the Past:

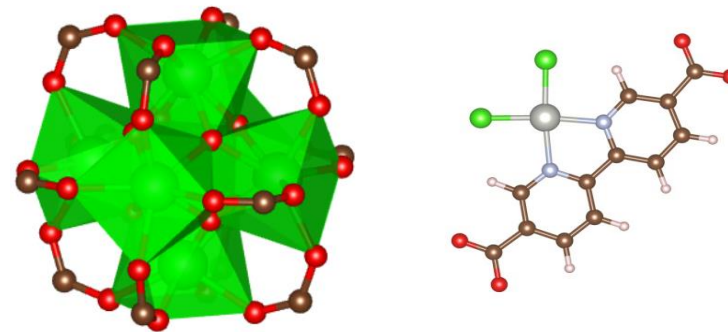
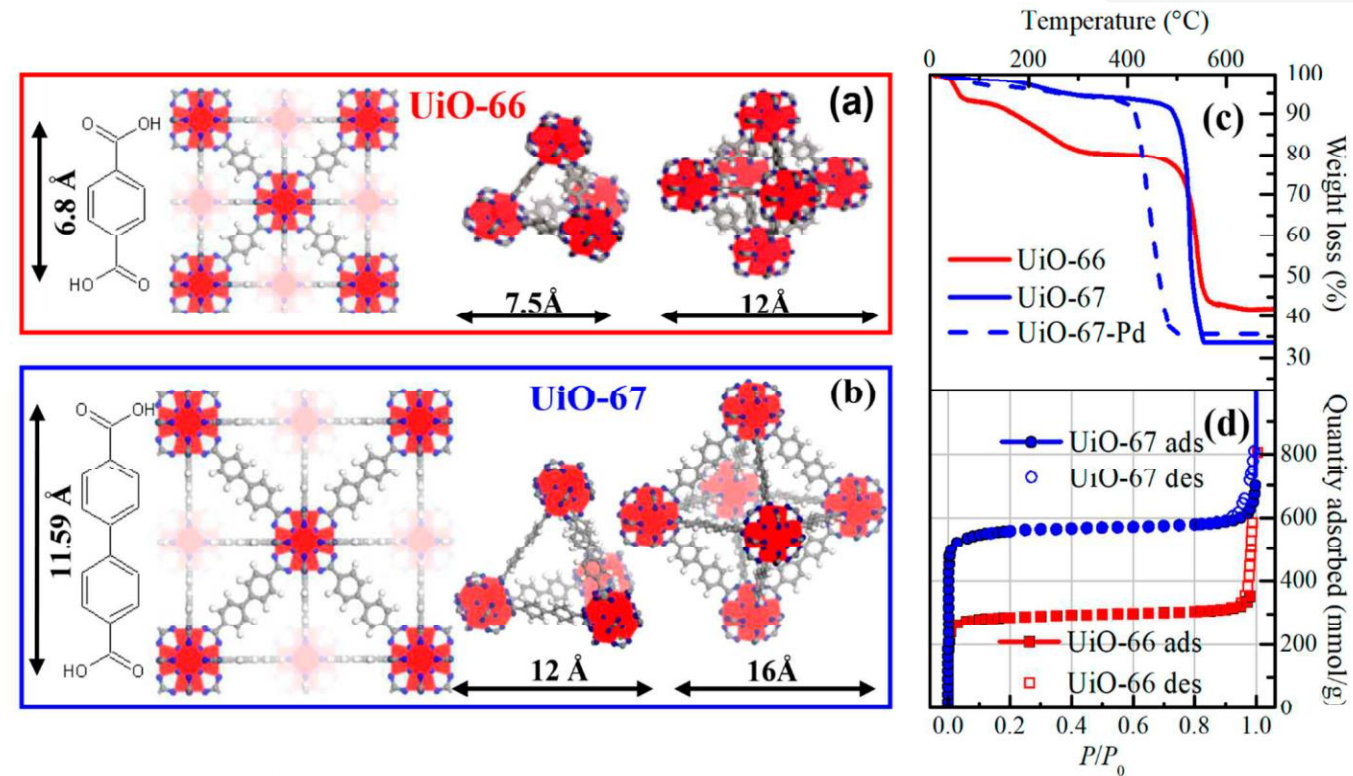


Prof. Unni Olsbye



Prof. Silvia Bordiga

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and utilization of CO<sub>2</sub> as a feedstock
- MOFs promote a **more uniform distribution** of metal nanoparticles, increasing the **accessibility of active sites**
- Flexibility in MOF-catalyst design** to incorporate a variety of metals and functional groups

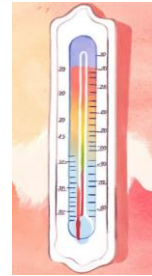
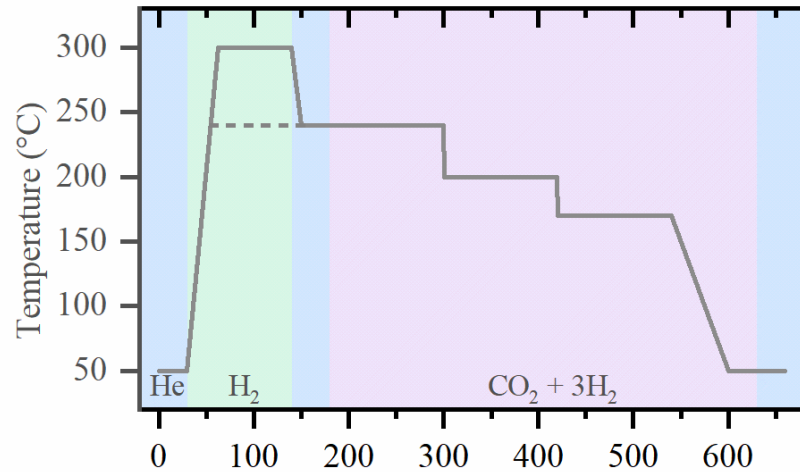


A. Bugaev, A. Skorynina, et al *Cat. Tod.* 336 (2019) 33–39.  
A. Skorynina, et al. *Journal of Materials Chemistry C*, 2024.

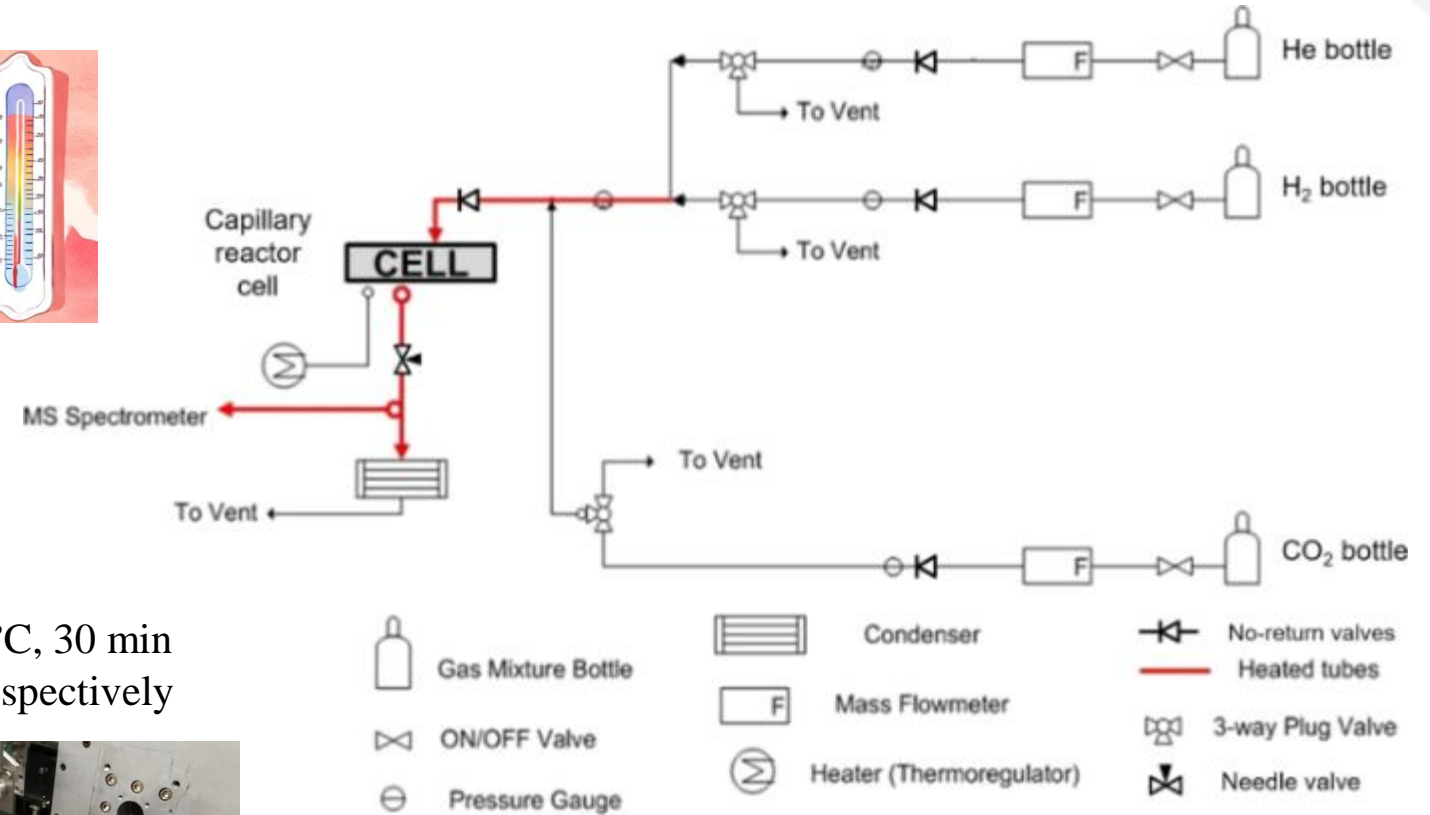
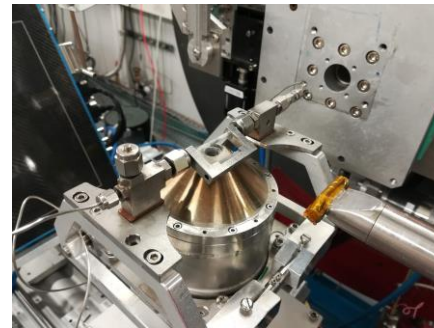




# Operando experiment on CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation



Act.: 1.4 mL/min H<sub>2</sub> and 8.6 mL/min He, 300 or 240 °C, 30 min  
 Reac.: 7.5, 2.5, and 10 mL/min of H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and He, respectively  
 240, 200, 170 and 50 °C, 1 or 8 bar, 2 h

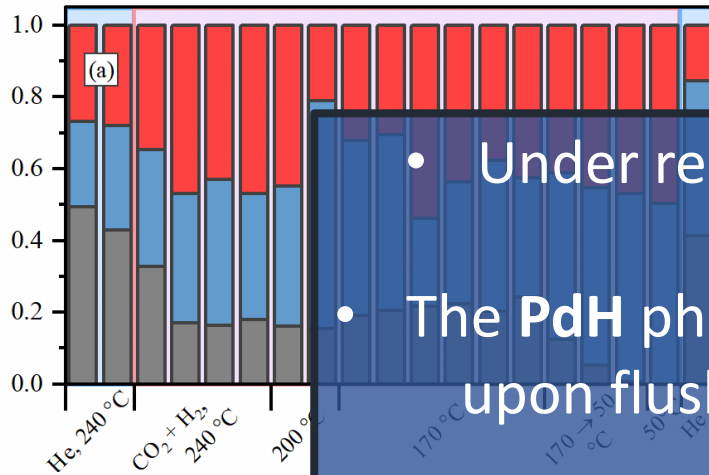


A. Bugaev, A. Skorynina, et al *Cat. Tod.* 336 (2019) 33–39.

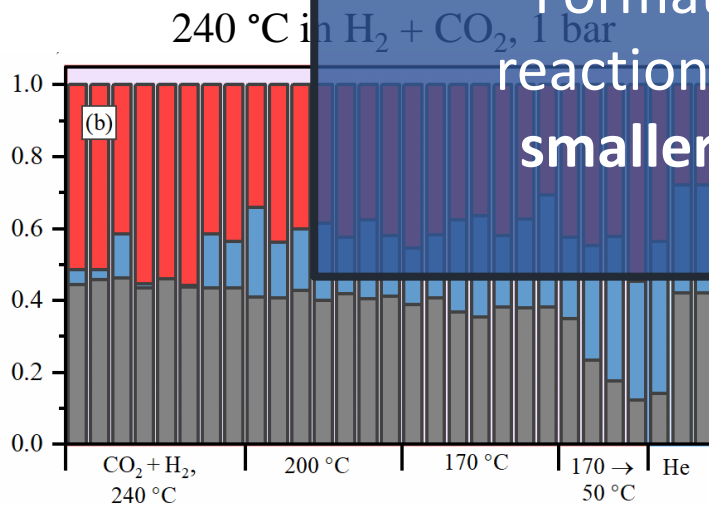
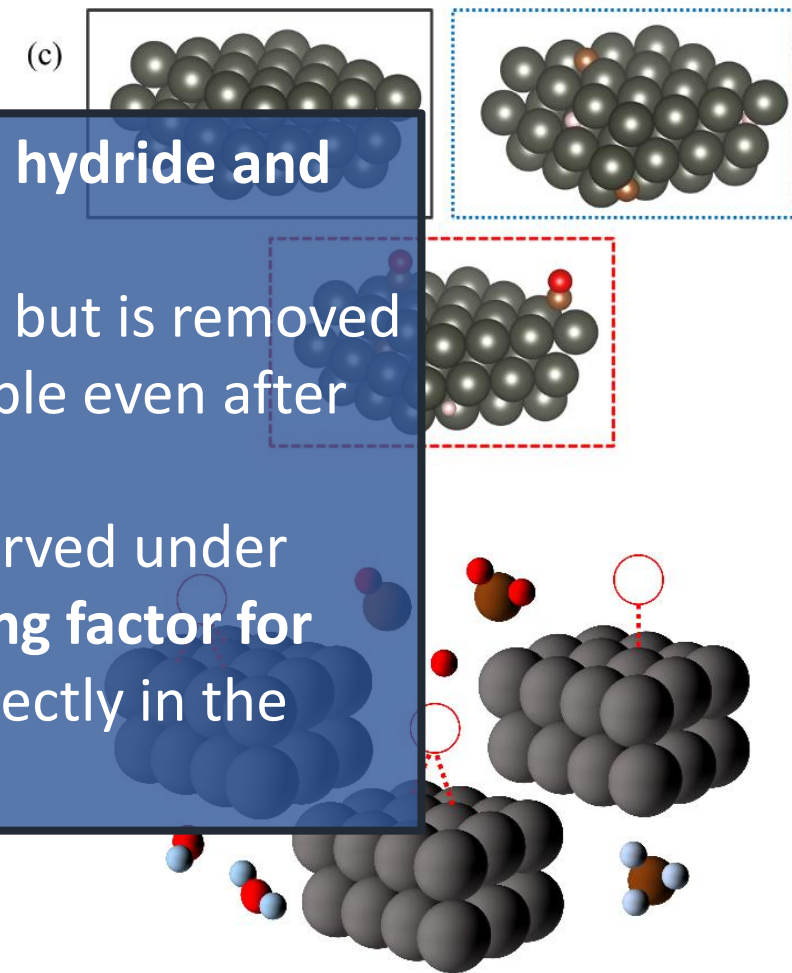
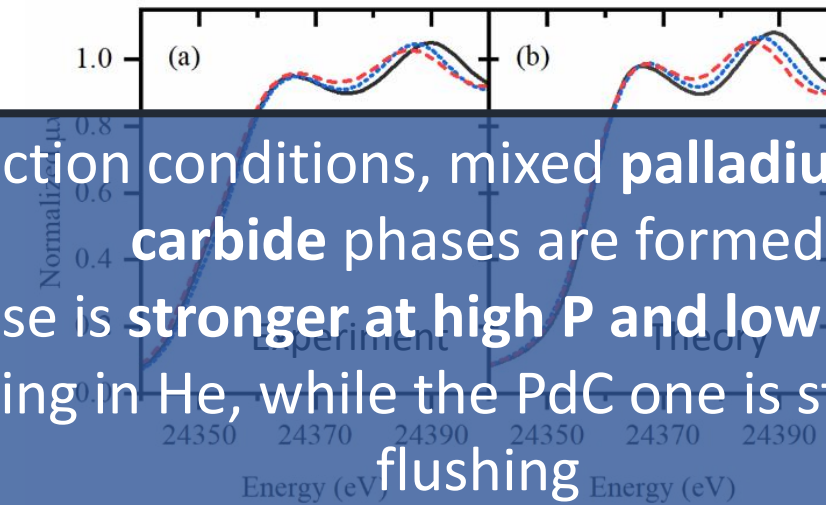
A. Skorynina, et al. *Journal of Materials Chemistry C*, 2024.

# Operando experiment on CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation

300 °C in H<sub>2</sub>, 8 bar

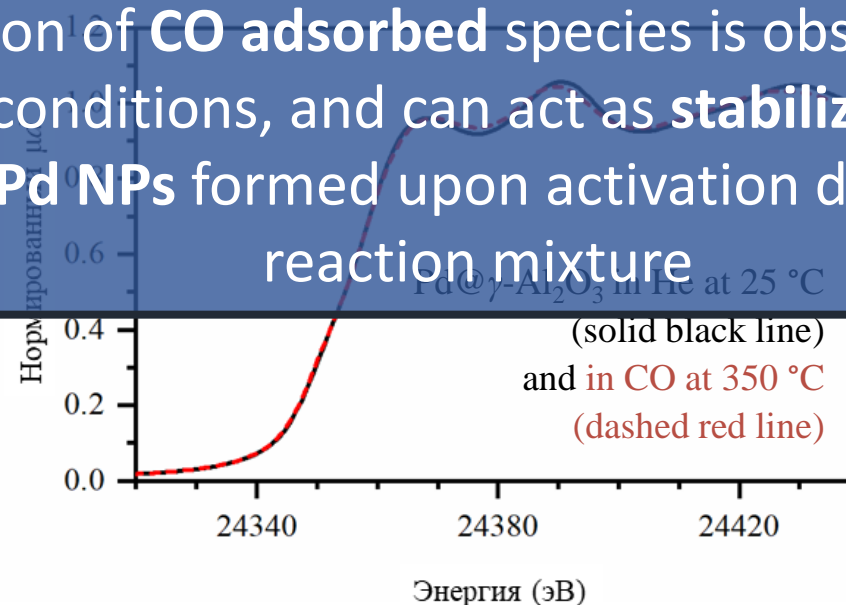


- Under reaction conditions, mixed **palladium hydride and carbide** phases are formed
- The **PdH** phase is **stronger at high P and low T**, but is removed upon flushing in He, while the PdC one is stable even after flushing
- Formation of **CO adsorbed** species is observed under reaction conditions, and can act as **stabilizing factor for smaller Pd NPs** formed upon activation directly in the reaction mixture

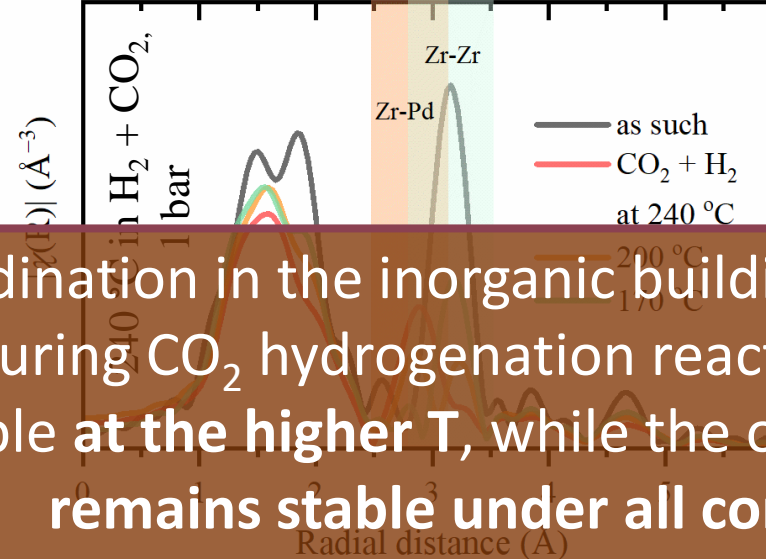
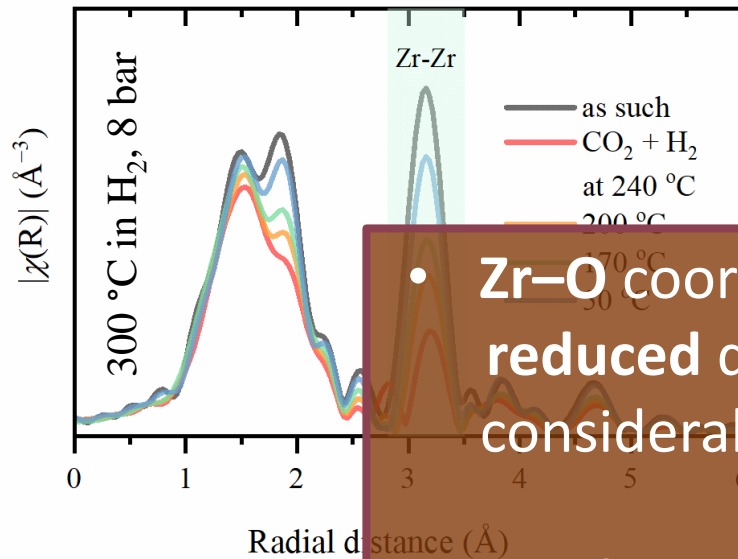


240 °C in H<sub>2</sub> + CO<sub>2</sub>, 1 bar

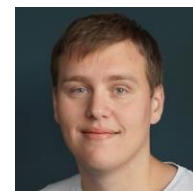
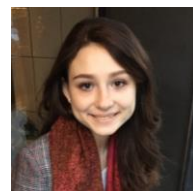
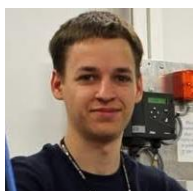
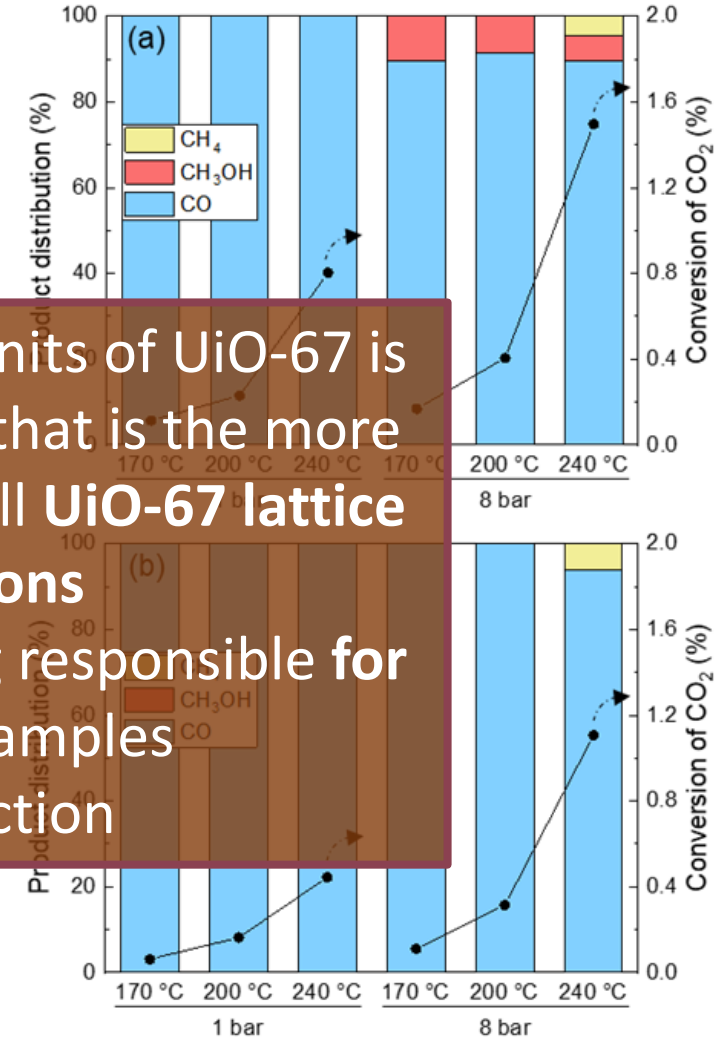
Operando conditions



# Operando experiment on CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation



- **Zr–O coordination in the inorganic building units of UiO-67 is reduced during CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation reaction that is the more considerable at the higher T, while the overall UiO-67 lattice remains stable under all conditions**
- **A Zr/Pd interface is observed in EXAFS, being responsible for methanol formation in UiO-67-Pd samples**
- CO is the main product of the reaction





# Goal for the ALBA Stay:

Previous talk summary: after 3 months from joining ALBA: showed achieved technical skills for users support & early involvement in ReMade projects

Motivation: interest in the job and need of building the necessary technical and scientific skills, user support to be incorporated in Spanish institutions, ideally at ALBA

Key collaborators and networks:

- Patricia Concepción (ITQ, Valencia)
- Felipe Gándara (CSIC, Madrid)
- Diego Cazorla Amoros (Universidad de Alicante, Alicante)
- Vitaly Sushkevich and Aram Bugaev (PSI, Switzerland)
- Unni Olsbye (UIO, Norway)
- Dirk de Vos (KU Leuven, Belgium)



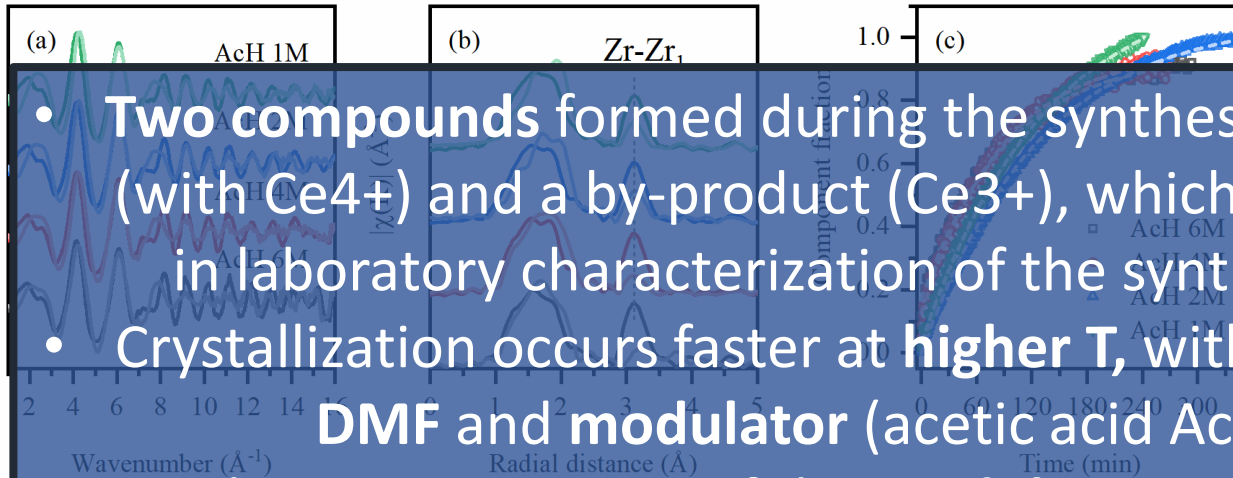
# Results and activities from already performed work: In situ size-shape-controlled synthesis

Monometallic Zr- or Ce-UiO-66 and bimetallic Ce/Zr-UiO-66

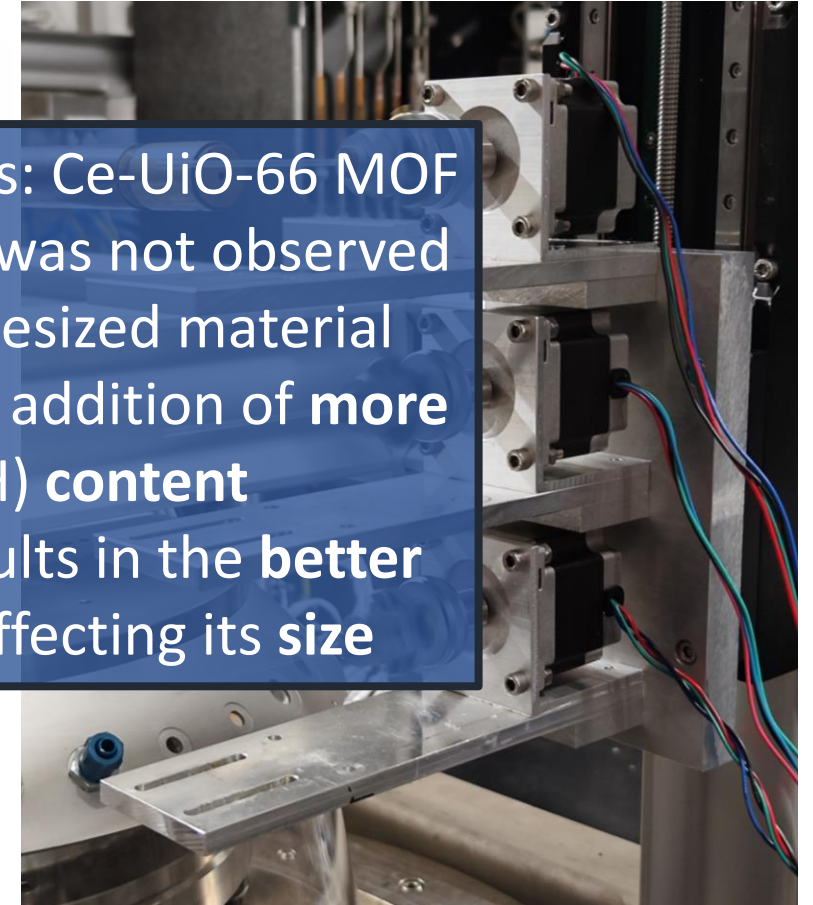
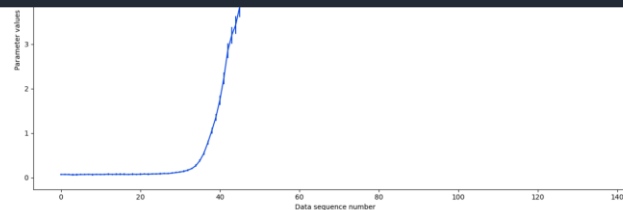


Dr. Vitaly Sushkevich

$k^2\chi(k) (\text{\AA}^{-2})$



- **Two compounds** formed during the synthesis: Ce-UiO-66 MOF (with Ce4+) and a by-product (Ce3+), which was not observed in laboratory characterization of the synthesized material
- Crystallization occurs faster at **higher T**, with addition of **more DMF and modulator (acetic acid AcH) content**
- Higher concentration of the **modulator** results in the **better stability** of the MOF particles as well as effecting its **size**



A. Skorynina, *In process*, 2025

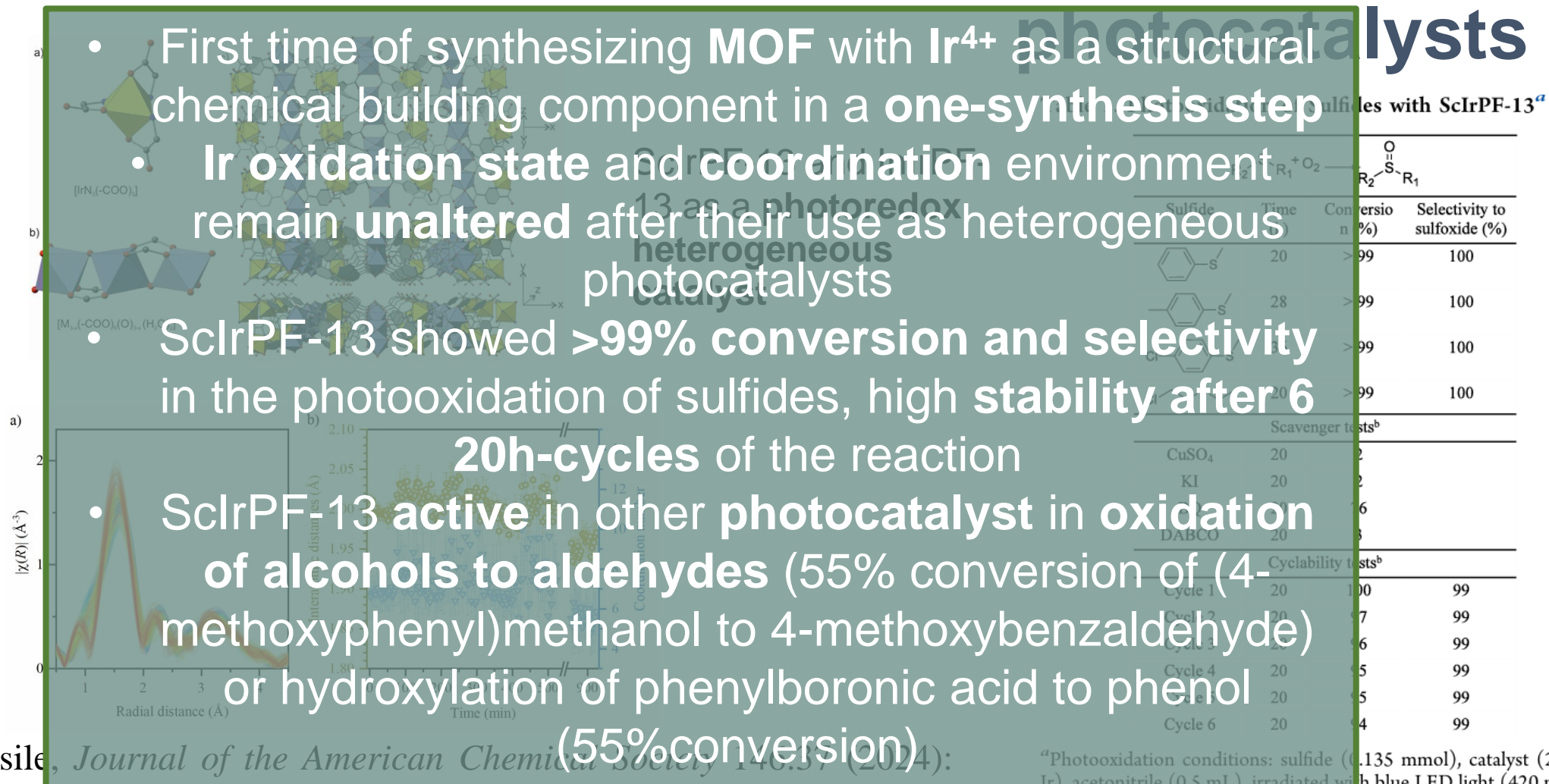


# Results and activities from already performed work:

## Multi-metal MOFs as heterogeneous photocatalysts



Dr. Felipe Gándara



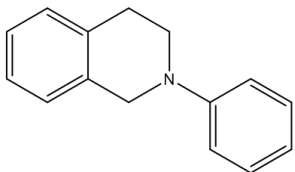
R.L. Vasile, *Journal of the American Chemical Society* 146:37 (2024): 25824-25831.

# Results and activities from already performed work:

## Multi-metal MOFs as heterogeneous photocatalysts



Dr. Felipe Gándara



The dehydrogenative coupling aza-Henry reaction of 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (15  $\mu$ L, 0.08 mmol), nitromethane (0.6 mL), catalyst (5-6 mg, 1.0 %), blue LED ring light, at room temperature during 24 h in air. Selectivity of the products A and B were determined by  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ .

- Different multimetal MOFs based on tritopic  $\text{H}_3\text{BTB}$  and tetratopic  $\text{H}_4\text{TCPP}$  linkers were synthesized, using identical multimetal  $m\text{BUs}$  as precursors
- The incorporation of specific Co sites in the SBU results in an enhancement of the photocatalytic activity in comparison with its single-metal analogue MOF
- $\text{Ga}_7\text{Co-TCPP}$  demonstrated an excellent performance maintaining a 100% conversion value even after 5 recycling cycles as catalyst for photocatalytic aza-Henry reaction

	Conv. (%)	Sel. A (%)
1 Ga-TCPP	95	87
2 Ga-Ni-TCPP	92	86
3 Ga-Co-TCPP	97	90
4 Ga-TCPP	97	80
5 Ga-Ni-TCPP	83	100
Freeze	100	100

Reaction conditions: 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (15  $\mu$ L, 0.08 mmol), nitromethane (0.6 mL), catalyst (5-6 mg, 1.0 %), blue LED ring light, at room temperature during 24 h in air. Selectivity of the products A and B were determined by  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ .

## Hydrogenation of alkenes to alkanes



Dr. Patricia Concepción



- Pd, Rh, Pt and Ni catalysts
- Plastic and polymer industry

### Harrick cell commissioning under real catalytic conditions

- Long term goals:

Deepen expertise in catalysis

- Compatible with vacuum cube
- Develop technical approach to address complex catalytic reactions
- Accessing energies below 6 keV:

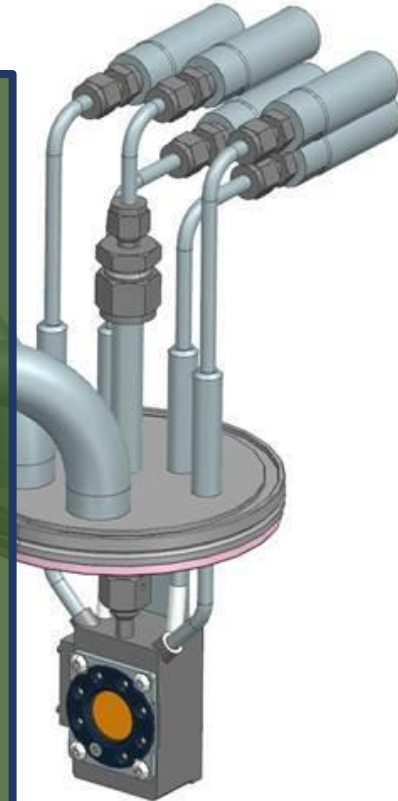
Engineer tunable synthesis approaches to enhance catalyst performance

- $L_3$ -edges of the following transition metals (Ru 2838 eV, Rh 3004 eV, Ru 3203 eV, Ag 3681 eV, Au 3538 eV, Ir 3529 eV, Sn 3925 eV, etc.)
- $K$ -edges of S, Cl, K, Ca, Fe, Ti, V (which are not reachable with ITQ solid gas reactor)

- Measure for success:

- Small inner volume
- Wider range of temperatures and pressures
- Suitable for in situ gas/liquid circulations
- Short space between window and the sample (2-3 mm)

- Easy replacement of windows



Publication  
Conferences  
Grants



# Summary:

Group of Dr. Patricia Concepción  
“Heterogeneous Catalysis to Reveal New Capabilities of the Harrick Solid-Gas Reactor”

Dr. Felipe Gándara  
“Tailored Multimetal MOFs for Enhanced Photocatalytic Applications”

Group of Prof. Dirk De Vos  
“Ru-, Rh-, Pd-complexes for PVC Recycling”  
(Homogeneous catalysis)

Group of Prof. Unni Olsbye  
“MOFs for CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation”



Universitat d'Alacant  
Universidad de Alicante

Group of Prof. Diego Cazorla  
“Design of Biomass-Derived Activated Carbon Catalysts for Hydrogen Production”



Dr. Vitaly Sushkevich  
“Mechanisms of the formation of MOFs”

Dr. Aram Bugaev  
“Study of noble metal catalysts phases under real catalytic processes”

