#### **Two-Dimensional Zeolites**

**Michael Tsapatsis** 

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#### Controlling Micropore Diffusion Length and Pore Sizes Independently



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#### Synthesis of hierarchical zeolites



R. Chal., C. Gérardin, M. Bulut, S. van Donk, ChemCatChem, 2011, 3, 67. K. Egeblad, C. H. Christensen, M. Kustova, C. H. Christensen, Chem. Mater. 2008, 20, 946.

# Pillaring nanosheets to create hierarchical zeolites (first introduced by Mobil in 1990's for pillared MWW)



US Patent 5,292,698; W. J. Roth, C. T. Kresge, J. C. Vartuli, M. E. Leonowicz, A. S. Fung, S. B. McCullen, in *Stud. Surf. Sci. Catal., Vol. 94* (Eds.: H. K. Beyer, H. G. Karge, I. Kiricsi, J. B. Nagy), Elsevier, Amsterdam, **1995**, pp. 301-308.



# **Zeolites**



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# Hydrothermal synthesis

 $Si(OCH_2CH_3)_4 + 4H_2O - Si(OH)_4 + 4CH_3CH_2OH$ 



Tetrabutylphosphonium Hydroxide (TBPOH) (**SDA**)



Tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS, **Si source**)







Hydrothermal Synthesis 115°C Zeolite

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### Self-pillared zeolite nanosheets



**Science** <u>336</u>, 1684-1687 (2012) Zhang X., Liu D., Xu D., Asahina S., Cychosz K., Varoon K., Al Wahedi Y., Bhan A., Al Hashimi S., Terasaki O., Thommes M. and Tsapatsis M. *Direct Synthesis of Self-Pillared Zeolite Nanosheets by Repetitive Branching.* 

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### Pore size distribution



M. Thommes, in *Stud. Surf. Sci. Catal., Vol. 168* (Eds.: J. Cejka, H. van Bekkum, A. Corma, F. Schüth), Elsevier, **2007**, pp. 495-525. P. I. Ravikovitch, A. V. Neimark, *Colloids Surf., A* **2001**, *187*, 11-21. Argon adsorption analysis done by Dr. Katie Cychosz and Dr. Matthias Thommes (Quantachrome)

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Hierarchical porosity improves deactivation behavior Example: Self-etherification of HMF



## **Reaction-diffusion**





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# 2,2 DMB 30°C





Advanced Functional Materials 24(2), 201-208 (2014)

n-nonane

#### Understanding the Unusual Adsorption Behaviour in Hierarchical Zeolite Nanosheets



#### Bai et al. ChemPhysChem15, 2225-2229 (2014)

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An approach for synthesis of hierarchical zeolites based on rotational intergrowths was demonstrated for single-unit-cell thick layers of MFI.

External and internal catalytic activity was quantitatively analyzed by classical reaction diffusion modeling.

Adsorption properties of single-unit-cell zeolites can be different from those of micro- and nanocrystals.

## Zeolite nanosheets: MWW and MFI







#### Exfoliation of layered MFI by melt compounding with polystyrene



Icar Engineering & Materials Science







#### Comparison before and after de-templation by acid wash





**AIChE Journal** <u>59(9)</u>, 3459-3467 (2013) Agrawal K.V., Topuz B., Navarro M., Nguenkam K., Elyassi B., Francis L. Tsapatsis M. Solution–Processable Exfoliated Zeolite Nanosheets Purified by Density Gradient Centrifugation- Invited contribution in Founders Tribute to Professor Neal R. Amundson DOI: 10.1002/aic.14099

**Science** <u>334</u>, 72-75 (2011) Varoon K., Zhang X., Elyassi B., Brewer D., Gettel M., Kumar S., Lee J.A., Maheshwari S., Mittal A., Sung C.-Y., Cococcioni M., Francis L.F., McCormick A.V. Mkhoyan A., Tsapatsis M. *Dispersible Exfoliated Zeolite Nanosheets and Their Application as a Selective Membrane.* DOI: 10.1126/science.1208891

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#### **Butane Isomer Permeation**

1.5-unit cell (1-D) zeolite MFI nanosheets (approximately 3 nm x 200 nm x 200 nm) can be prepared as suspensions in various solvents.

They can be transferred on porous and non-porous supports and on the air water interface.

TEM, ED, in-plane XRD consistent with expected structure. Crystallographic perfection and surface structure still unexplored.

**Functional (high performance)** MFI membranes demonstrated. Fast, low cost, scalable, processing possible.

Need for thin film/small quantity adsorption measurements.

Advanced Functional Materials <u>24(2)</u>, 201-208 (2014) Xu D., Swindlehurst G.R., Wu H., Olson D.H., Zhang X., Tsapatsis M. On the Synthesis and Adsorption Properties of Single-Unit-Cell Hierarchical Zeolites Made by Rotational Intergrowths-Invited contribution for Special Issue on Porous Materials DOI: 10.1002/adfm.201301975

**Current Opinion in Chemical Engineering** <u>2(3)</u>, 320-324 (2013) Bhan A., Tsapatsis M. Zeolites with Nanometer Diffusion Lengths and Implications in Shape Selective Catalysis DOI: 10.1016/j.coche.2013.06.001

**AIChE Journal** <u>59(9)</u>, 3459-3467 (2013) (with Agrawal K.V., Topuz B., Navarro M., Nguenkam K., Elyassi B. and Francis L.) Solution– Processable Exfoliated Zeolite Nanosheets Purified by Density Gradient Centrifugation- Invited contribution in Founders Tribute to Professor Neal R. Amundson DOI: 10.1002/aic.14099

**Science** <u>336</u>, 1684-1687 (2012) Zhang X., Liu D., Xu D., Asahina S., Cychosz K., Varoon K., Al Wahedi Y., Bhan A., Al Hashimi S., Terasaki O., Thommes M., Tsapatsis M. *Direct Synthesis of Self-Pillared Zeolite Nanosheets by Repetitive Branching.* DOI: 10.1126/science.1221111

Science <u>334</u>, 72-75 (2011) Varoon K., Zhang X., Elyassi B., Brewer D., Gettel M., Kumar S., Lee J.A., Maheshwari S., Mittal A., Sung C.-Y., Cococcioni M., Francis L.F., McCormick A.V. Mkhoyan A., Tsapatsis M. *Dispersible Exfoliated Zeolite Nanosheets and Their Application as a Selective Membrane.* DOI: 10.1126/science.1208891

ACS Catalysis <u>1(1)</u>, 7-17 (2011) Liu D., Bhan A., Tsapatsis, M., Al Hashimi S.) Catalytic behavior of Brønsted acid sites in MWW and MFI zeolites with dual meso- and micro-porosity. DOI: 10.1021/cs100042r

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