

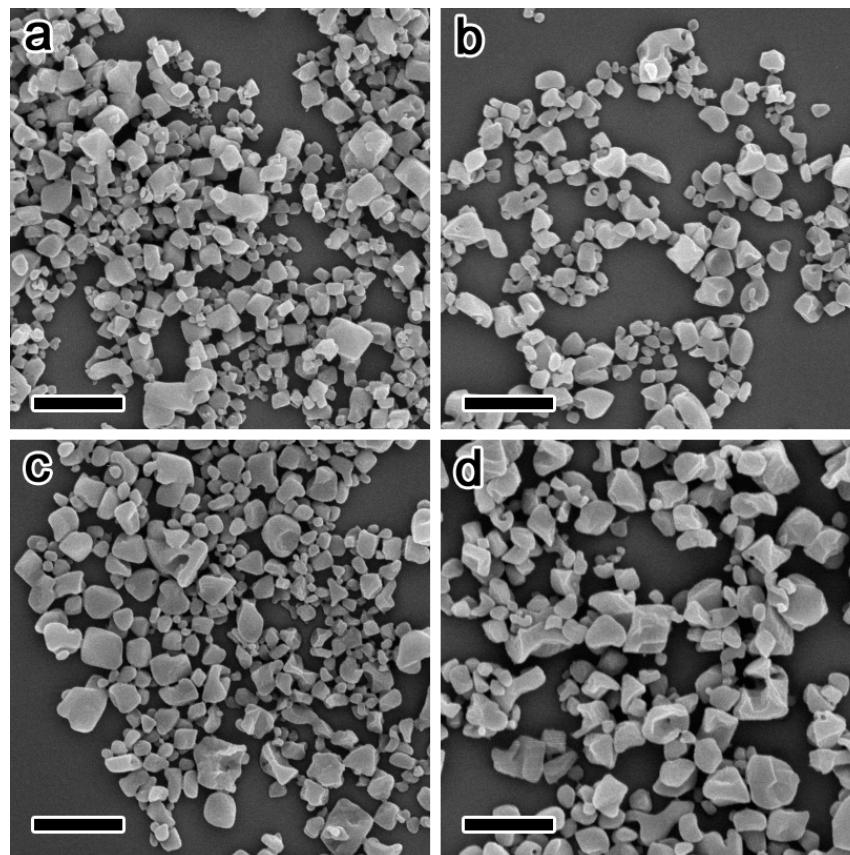
Supplementary information for

HKUST-1 MOF Nanoparticles: Non-classical Crystallization Route in  
Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>

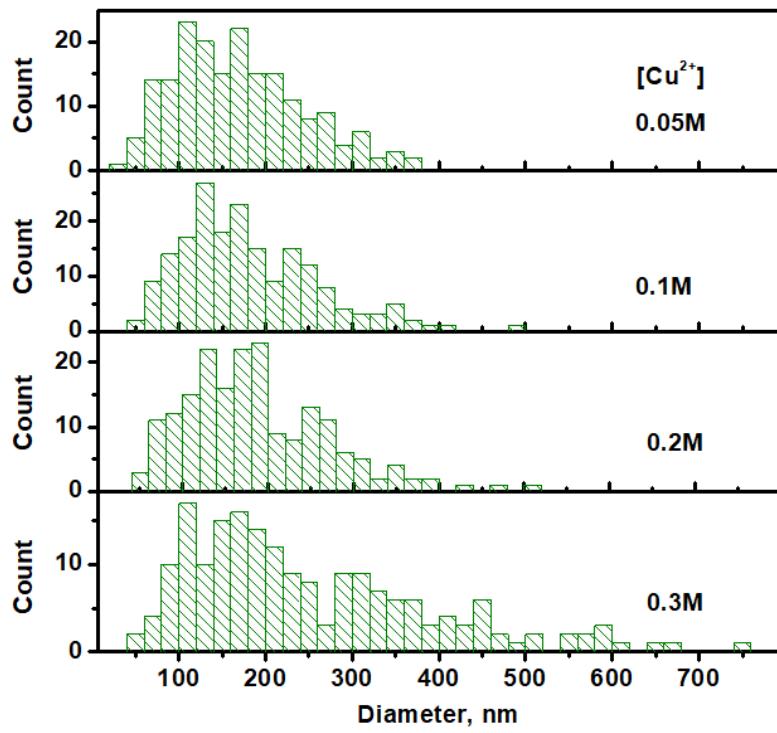
Ji Feng, Almond Lau and Igor V. Novoselov\*

Department of Mechanical Engineering and Institute for Nano-Engineered Systems,  
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

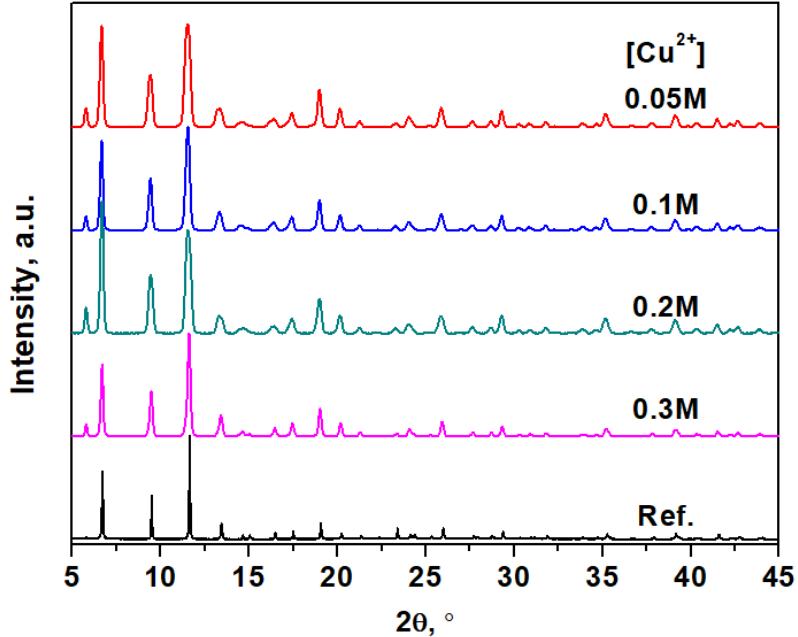
\*Email address of the corresponding author ivn@uw.edu



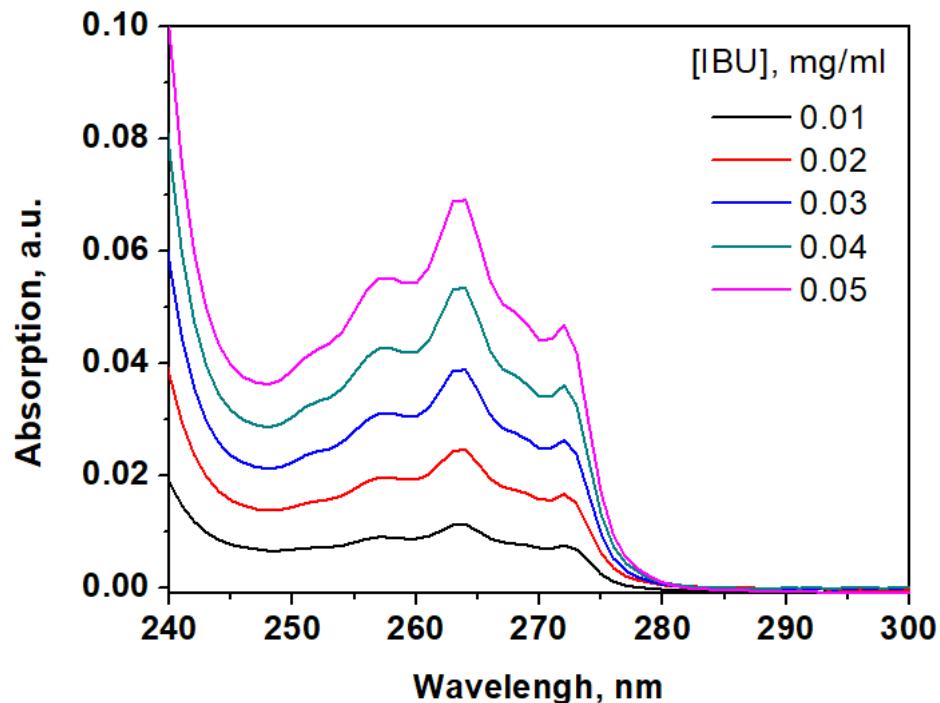
**Fig. S1.** SEM images of products obtained with different concentrations of Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: 0.05 M (a), 0.1 M (b), 0.2 M (c) and 0.3 M. The scale bars are 500 nm. The synthesis was done in a mixture of ethanol and scCO<sub>2</sub> ( $X_{EtOH} = 0.1$ ). The temperature and pressure were 75 °C and 10 MPa.



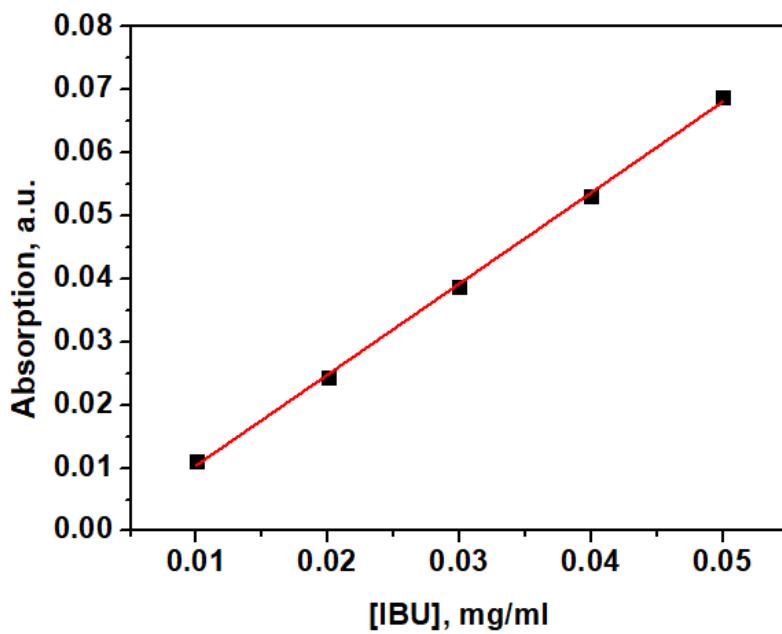
**Fig. S2.** Particle size distribution observed with  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  concentrations ranging from 0.05 M to 0.3 M. The synthesis was done in a mixture of ethanol and scCO<sub>2</sub> ( $X_{\text{EtOH}} = 0.1$ ). The temperature and pressure were 75 °C and 10 MPa.



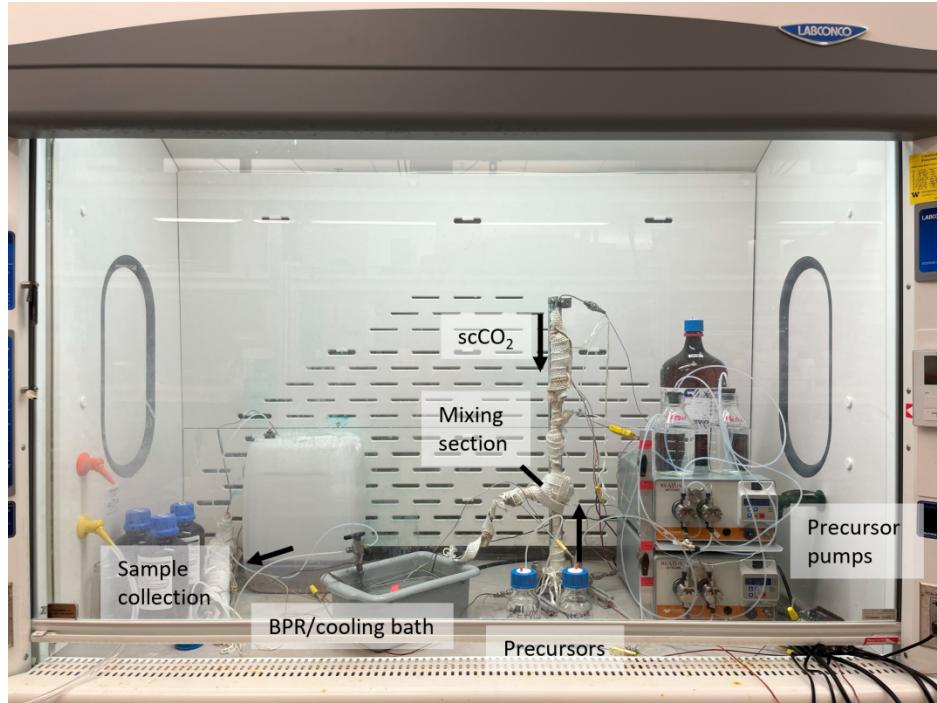
**Fig. S3.** XRD patterns of products obtained using  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  concentrations ranging from 0.05 M to 0.3 M. The synthesis was done in a mixture of ethanol and scCO<sub>2</sub> ( $X_{\text{EtOH}} = 0.1$ ). The temperature and pressure were 75 °C and 10 MPa.



**Fig. S4.** UV-vis spectra of IBU for the preparation of calibration curve.



**Fig. S5.** Calibration curve for ibuprofen (IBU) plotted using the absorption intensity at 263 nm from the UV-vis spectra. The linear fit is described by the equation:  $A = 1.44194 \times [\text{IBU}] - 0.004$ , with an  $R^2$  value of 0.99878.



**Fig. S6.** Photo of our reactor setup.

**Table S1.** Summary of particle size analysis for the scCO<sub>2</sub> assisted synthesis at 75 °C and 10 MPa.

	0.05 M	0.1 M	0.2 M	0.3 M
r <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> , nm	84.40	90.13	93.29	125.72
r <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup> , nm	98.99	106.38	111.14	161.78
r <sub>h</sub> <sup>c</sup> , nm	67.80	74.52	76.10	91.18
μ <sub>1</sub>	1.46	1.43	1.46	1.77
μ <sub>3</sub>	0.85	0.85	0.84	0.78
$^a r_1 = \sum r_i / N, ^b r_3 = \sqrt[3]{\sum r_i^3 / N}, ^c r_h = N / \sum (1/r_i)$ .				

**Table S2.** Summary of gas adsorption analysis.

[Cu <sup>2+</sup> ], M	Temperature, °C	Pressure, MPa	BET surface area, m <sup>2</sup> /g
0.05	75	10	1613
0.1	75	10	1785
0.2	75	10	1856
0.3	75	10	1694
35	35	10	1887
115	115	10	1750

**Table S3.** Adsorption capacity of HKUST-1 for Ibuprofen (IBU) at equilibrium, with a constant IBU volume of 3 mL in all cases.

Sample	IBU initial concentration, mg/ml	Activated	Averaged adsorption capacity, mg/g		Standard deviation, mg/g
CF 5mg	0.5	No	43		5
CF 25mg	0.5	No	39		0.4
CF 50mg	0.5	No	24		0.6
Mix 50 mg	0.5	No	6		1
CF 5mg	5	Yes	619		20
CF 12.5 mg	5	Yes	401		30
CF 25 mg	5	Yes	327		8
CF 40 mg	5	Yes	267		3
CF 50 mg	5	Yes	257		2

**Table S4.** Continuous synthesis for the production of HKUST-1 with reactor volume, particle size, solvent, residence time ( $\tau_{\text{res}}$ ), space-time yield (STY), surface area (SA), and surface area production rate (SAPR) included.

Method	Reactor volume, ml	Particle size, $\mu\text{m}$	Solvents	$\tau_{\text{res}}$	STY, $\text{kgm}^{-3}\text{d}^{-1}$	SAPR, $\text{m}^2\text{m}^{-3}\text{d}^{-1}$	SA, $\text{m}^2\text{g}^{-1}$	Ref
Continuous flow	100	-	Ethanol	1.5h	1479	$1.3 \times 10^9$	911	<sup>1</sup>
Continuous flow, microwave	25	-	Ethanol	13s	$4 \times 10^5$	$2.4 \times 10^1$	600	<sup>1</sup>
Microfluidic synthesis	0.24	5-15	DMF/H <sub>2</sub> O/ethanol/oil	6min	5.8	$1.1 \times 10^7$	1911	<sup>2</sup>
Continuous flow	108	0.2	Ethanol	1.2min	4533	$9.3 \times 10^9$	2046	<sup>3</sup>
Continuous flow	-	5-10	H <sub>2</sub> O 300°C, 25MPa	-	-	-	1950	<sup>4</sup>
Microfluidic synthesis	6.12	14	DMF/H <sub>2</sub> O/ethanol/oil	13min	1122	$1.8 \times 10^9$	1615	<sup>5</sup>
Our work	3.22	0.11-0.25	Ethanol/scCO <sub>2</sub>	10s	5668	$1.0 \times 10^{10}$	1610-1890	

1. C. McKinstry, E. J. Cussen, A. J. Fletcher, S. V. Patwardhan and J. Sefcik, *J. Chem. Eng.*, 2017, **326**, 570-577.
2. M. Faustini, J. Kim, G.-Y. Jeong, J. Y. Kim, H. R. Moon, W.-S. Ahn and D.-P. Kim, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2013, **135**, 14619-14626.
3. M. Rubio-Martinez, M. P. Batten, A. Polyzos, K.-C. Carey, J. I. Mardel, K.-S. Lim and M. R. Hill, *Sci. Rep.*, 2014, **4**, 5443.

4. M. Gimeno-Fabra, A. S. Munn, L. A. Stevens, T. C. Drage, D. M. Grant, R. J. Kashtiban, J. Sloan, E. Lester and R. I. Walton, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **48**, 10642-10644.
5. R. Shukre, T. E. Ericson, D. K. Unruh, H. J. Harbin, A. F. Cozzolino, C.-C. Chen and S. A. Vanapalli, *Microporous Mesoporous Mater.*, 2022, **339**, 112005.