## TEM image of the Pd-grafted mesoporous silicate material



## Mesoporous Materials

- Amorphous, disordered - silica xerogels
- Ordered pores, amorphous walls

| Pore diameter, $\boldsymbol{d}$ <br> $[\mathrm{nm}]$ | Material | Example |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\boldsymbol{d}>50$ | Macroporous | Aerogels |
| $2<\boldsymbol{d}<50$ | Mesoporous | Xerogels |
| $\boldsymbol{d}<2$ | Microporous | Zeolites |

## Mesoporous Materials

| Pore diameter, $\boldsymbol{d}$ <br> $[\mathrm{nm}]$ | Material | Example |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\boldsymbol{d}>50$ | Macroporous | Aerogels, foams |
| $2<\boldsymbol{d}<50$ | Mesoporous | Xerogels, MCM-41, SBA-15 |
| $\boldsymbol{d}<2$ | Microporous | Zeolites, MOF, COF |



## IUPAC classification of porous materials



## Mesoporous Materials

## MMS mesoporous molecular sieves

MCM-n Mobil Composition of Matter
M41S
Discovered 1992
A - lamellar, 2D layers, MCM-50
B - hexagonal order, 1D channels, MCM-41
C - cubic, 3D channel structure (bicontinuous), MCM-48
Inverse hexagonal


A


B


C

## Pore size distribution



## Micelles - Supramolecular Templates

In zeolitic materials the template is a single molecule or ion
Self assembled aggregates of molecules or ions can also serve as templates
Surfactants aggregate into a variety of structures depending on conditions


## Mesostructure Assembly

A


## Supramolecular Templating

Surfactants - amphiphilic molecules, polar (head group)and nonpolar (chain, tail) part lyophilic, lyophobic

Ionic surfactants, cationic, anionic, zwitterionic
Nonionic amines, polyethyleneoxides
A - normal surfactant molecule
B - gemini
C - swallow tail



Diblock copolymer surfactant

Bolaform surfactant


Classical surfactant (rigid surfactant)


Gemini surfactant (dimeric)


## Surfactants

Anionic

- sulfates:
- sulfonates:
- phosphates:
- carboxylates:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1} \mathrm{OSO}_{3} \mathrm{Na}^{+} \\
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1} \mathrm{SO}_{3} \mathrm{H} \\
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1} \mathrm{OPO}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{2} \\
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1} \mathrm{COOH}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Cationic

- alkylammonium salts:
$\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3} \mathrm{NX} \quad \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{OH}, \mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{Br}, \mathrm{HSO}_{4}$
- dialkylammonium salts: $\left(\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{33}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{~N}^{+} \mathrm{Br}^{-}$


## Noionic

- primary amines:
- polyethyleneoxides:
$\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}_{2 \mathrm{n}+1} \mathrm{NH}_{2}$
$\mathrm{HO}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{H}$


## Supramolecular Templating



Phase diagram of $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathbf{T M A B r}$
CMC = critical micelle conc.

## Micellar Shapes

Micellar shapes
A -spherical, B - rod-like, C - lamellar


A


B


C

Micelles in media
A - normal, in polar solvent, $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$B$ - inverse, in nonpolar solvent, organics


## Surfactant Molecules

## Critical packing parameter - CPP

$$
\mathbf{C P P}=V_{H} / a_{0} I_{c}
$$

$V_{H}$ volume of the hydrophobic part, $a_{0}$ surface area of the hydrophilic part, $I_{c}$ critical chain length:

$$
\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{c}} \leq 1.5+1.265 \mathrm{n} \quad[\AA]
$$

$n$ number of carbon atoms. $I_{c}$ depends on the chain shape.


Conical (icecream cone, A)
Inverse conical (champagne cork, B)

## Micellar Shapes



A


B


C


D


E


F

Micellar structures
A ) sphere, B ) cylinder, C ) planar bilayer, D ) reverse micelles, E ) bicontinuous phase, F ) liposomes).
CPP
$<0.33$
$0.33-0.5$
$0.5-1.0$
surfactant
linear chain, large head
linear chain, small head
two chains, large head
micelle shape
spherical
cylindrical
bilayers

## Surfactant Molecules



## Mechanism of the Mesoporous Material Formation


$\mathrm{L}_{1}=$ micellar solution; $\mathbf{N c}=$ nematic phase; $\mathrm{H}_{1}=$ normal hexagonal phase (MCM-41; SBA-15);
$\mathrm{V}_{1}=$ normal bicontinuous cubic phase (MCM-48); $\mathrm{L}_{\alpha}=$ lamellar phase (MCM-50)
path $A$, the micellar solution route
path $B$, the lamellar phase route
path $C$, the nematic phase route

## General Liquid Crystal Templating (LCT) Mechanism



b) F


## Mechanism of the Mesoporous Material Formation

Hexagonal, MCM-41
LCT Liquid Crystal Templating


## SLC Silicatropic Liquid Crystals Mechanism



## Lamellar to Hexagonal Transformation



## Charge Density Matching



As condensation proceeds the charge on the silicate layer decreases

$$
\mathbf{S i}-\mathbf{O}^{-} \rightarrow \mathbf{S i}-\mathbf{O}-\mathbf{S i}
$$



## - Electrostatic interactions

a) $\mathbf{S}^{+} \mathbf{I}^{-}$
$\mathbf{I}=$ silicate
$\mathbf{S}=$ trimethylammonium
I-
b) $\mathrm{SI}^{+}$


$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{I}= & \mathrm{Fe}^{2+}, \\
& \mathrm{Fe}^{3+}, \mathrm{Co}^{2+}, \mathrm{Ni}^{2+}, \\
& \mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}, \mathrm{Pb}^{2+}, \mathrm{Al}^{3+}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\mathbf{S}=\text { sulfonane }
$$

c) $\mathbf{S}^{+} \mathbf{X I}^{+}$
$\mathbf{I}=$ silicate - polyelectrolyte
positive charge
$\mathbf{X}=\mathrm{Cl}$
$\mathbf{S}=$ trimethylammonium
(
d) $\mathbf{S M}^{+} \mathbf{I}^{-}$
$\mathbf{I}=$ aluminate
$\mathbf{M}=\mathrm{Na}$
S = phophate
$\underbrace{\ominus}$


- Hydrogen Bond
a) $\mathbf{S}^{\mathbf{0}} \mathbf{I}^{\mathbf{0}}$
$\mathbf{I}=$ silicate
$\mathbf{S}=$ ammine

b) $\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{0}} \mathbf{I}^{\mathbf{0}}$

I $=$ silicate
$\mathbf{N}=$ polyethylenoxide
I-

- Covalent Bond
a) $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{I}$

I = niobate, tantalate
$\mathbf{S}=$ ammine
(—S~~~N

## Control of Pore Size



## Control of Pore Size

Surfactant chain length - increasing the chain length = bigger pores

Swelling agents - an organic additive, such as trimethylbenzene, enters the surfactant assembly (micelle) = bigger pores

Post synthetic modification - after a material has been made the pore size can be reduced by modifying the interior surface $=$ smaller pores

## Control of Pore Size



| Surfactant <br> chain length <br> $\mathbf{n}$ <br> $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{H}_{2 \mathbf{n}_{+} \mathbf{N M e}_{3}}$ | Lattice <br> constant $(\AA)$ | Ar pore size <br> $(\AA)$ | Maximum <br> benzene <br> uptake at 50 <br> torr (wt\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | 31 | 18 | 16 |
| 9 | 32 | 21 | 37 |
| 10 | 33 | 22 | 32 |
| 12 | 33 | 22 | 36 |
| 14 | 38 | 30 | 54 |
| 16 | 40 | 37 | 64 |

## Control of Pore Size



## Control of Pore Size

Silylation of hydroxyl groups in MCM-41 by $\mathrm{Me}_{3} \mathrm{SiCl}$ reduces the effective pore size


## EISA = Evaporation-induced self-assembly



## EISA



## TEM micrograph of hexagonal molecular sieve





## XRD of Lamellar MCM-50




## XRD of Hexagonal MCM-41



wt $=$ wall thickness
$\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{1 0 0})=$ interplanar distance in the (100) plane $a_{0}=$ mesoporous parameter

$$
a_{0}=\frac{2 d_{100}}{\sqrt{3}^{34}}
$$

## Gas Adsorption Isotherms



## Template Removal



## Mesoporous Platinum Metal

$\mathrm{H}_{2}\left[\mathrm{PtCl}_{6}\right]$ or $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{PtCl}_{6}\right]$
$\mathrm{C}_{16}(\mathrm{EO})_{8}$
Assembly of liquid crystalline phase
Reductants: $\mathrm{Fe}, \mathbf{Z n}, \mathbf{H g}, \mathbf{N H}_{2} \mathbf{N H}_{2}$
Washed with acetone, water, HCl

SEM (upper) and TEM (lower) images of mesoporous Pt metal show particles $90-500 \mathrm{~nm}$ in diameter and a pore diameter of 30 A and a pore wall thickness of 30 A.


## Surface Silanols in MCM-41 Pores



## Chemistry inside the Pores


bis(benzene)chromium


## Hard Tempalting


$A=$ microwave digestion - template removal
B = introduction of metal salt solution
C = calcination
$\mathrm{D}=$ dissolution of $\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$ in HF or NaOH

$\mathrm{Cr}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ crystalline nanowires (bar = $25 \mathbf{n m}$ for A, 10 nm for A1)

## Pore Size Regimes and Transport Mechanisms

Macropores = larger than 50 nm larger than typical mean free path length of typical fluid. Bulk diffusion and viscous flow


Mesopores = between 2 and 50 nm same order or smaller than the mean free path length. Knudsen diffusion and surface diffusion. Multilayer adsorption and capillary condensation may contribute

Micropores = smaller than 2 nm pore size comparable to the size of


Capillary condensation


Activated

## Spinodal Decomposition


(a) Free energy of a binary system as a function of composition and the miscibility region showing the origin of the binodal and spinodal lines
(b) Evolution of a blend microstructure phase separating by spinodal decomposition

## Spinodal Decomposition

A two component system with a composition, $c$, that is unstable to small fluctuations in concentration, where

will spontaneously phase separate with the fluctuations increasing and coarsening over time.

## Spinodal Decomposition



## Sol-Gel with Phase Separation

Physical Cooling


Chemical Cooling


Composition

$$
\Delta G \propto R T\left[\left(\phi_{1} / P_{1}\right) \ln \phi_{1}+\left(\phi_{2} / P_{2}\right) \ln \phi_{2}+\chi_{12} \phi_{1} \phi_{2}\right]
$$

$\phi i=$ the volume fraction
Pi $(i=1,2)=$ the degree of polymerization of each component, $\chi_{12}$ the interaction parameter
The former two terms in the bracket express the entropic contribution, and the last term the enthalpic contribution


## Hierarchically Porous Monoliths

Macroporous - good mass transport Mesoporous - large surface area available for active sites Microporous - catalytic selectivity


(a)

TMOS-Formamide-1M nitric acid (b) calculated composition.
Reaction temperature $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; circles with cross and shaded areas denote the composition where the interconnceted structure has been obtained. •: nanoporous gel, $\oplus$ : interconnected strucuture, $O$ : particle aggregates, - : macroscopic two-phase.

(b)


SEM images of dried $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ gels prepared with varied water/ $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ molar ratios in the overall starting 1:0.5:0.5:f Ti( $\mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{c}} \mathrm{CH}$ ).: HCl :formamide:water composition: (a) $f$ ) 20.50 , (b) $f$ ) 20.75 , (c) $f$ ) 21.00 , (d) $f$ ) 21.25, and (e)f) 21.50. (f) Photo image of monolithic $\mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ gels prepared in Teflon tubes and a coin.

## Hierarchically Porous Monoliths

(a)


## Alkoxide + Water $(r<1.5)$ <br> + Formamide

Gel Phase: Silica + Good Solv. Fluid Phase : Good \& Poor Solvs.
(b)


Alkoxide + Water ( $r$ > 2 )

+ Weakly H.B. Polymer
Gel Phase: Silica + Solvent Fluid Phase : Polymer + Solvent
(c)


Alkoxide + Water $(r>2)$

+ Strongly H.B. Polymer
Gel Phase: Polymer + Silica Fluid Phase : Solvent + Silica


## Hierarchically Porous Monoliths



## Hierarchically Porous Monoliths

Time evolution of a spinodally decomposing isotropic symmetrical system



Alkoxide + Water $(r<1.5)$

+ Formamide
Gel Phase: Silica + Good Solv. Fluid Phase : Good \& Poor Solvs.
(b)




