

# Investigating Organometallic Crosslinked Polymers with Density Functional Theory

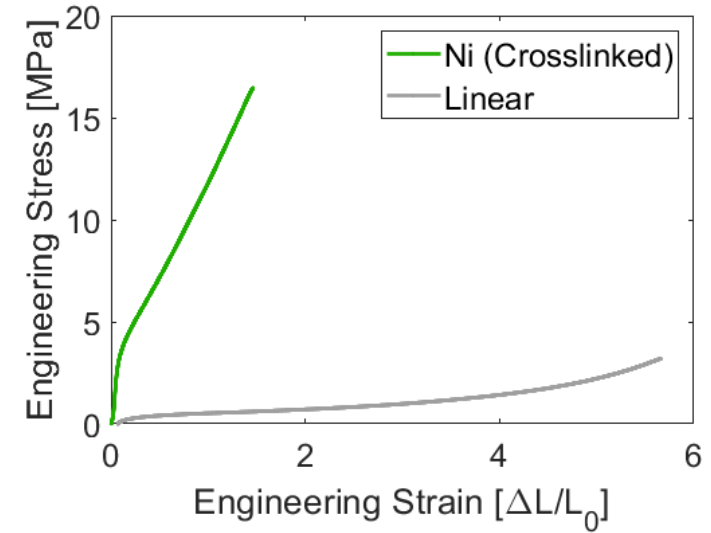
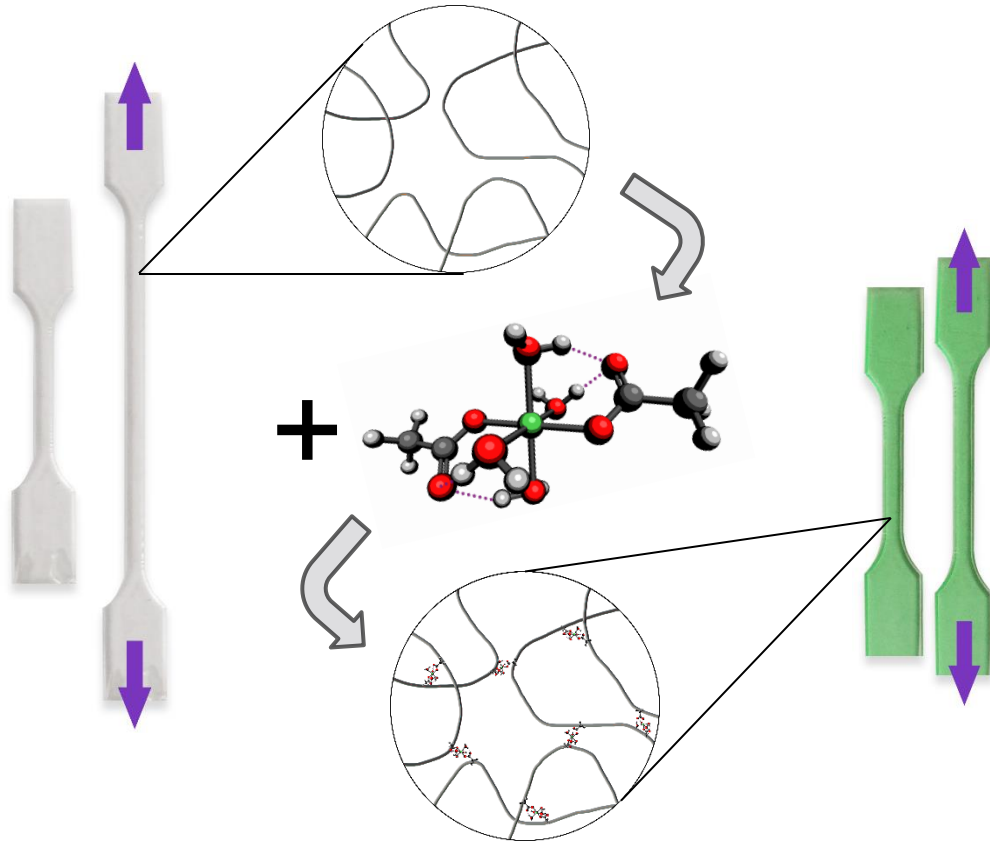
56th Annual Technical Meeting of the Society of Engineering Science

**Presenter:** Michael Buche

**Authors:** Michael Buche, Zachary Sparrow, Yuval Vidavsky,  
Robert DiStasio, Meredith Silberstein

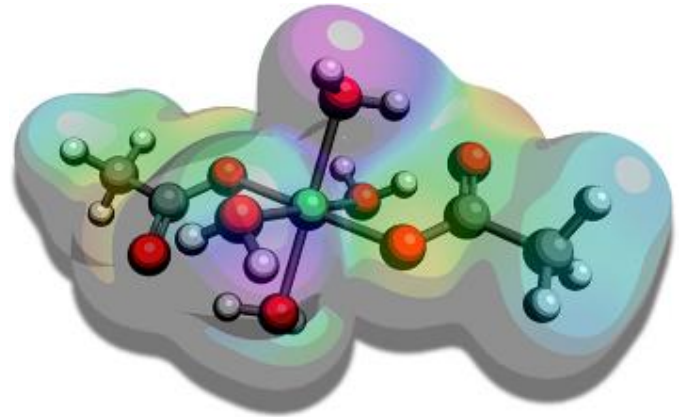
10/15/2019

# Organometallic Crosslinked Polymers



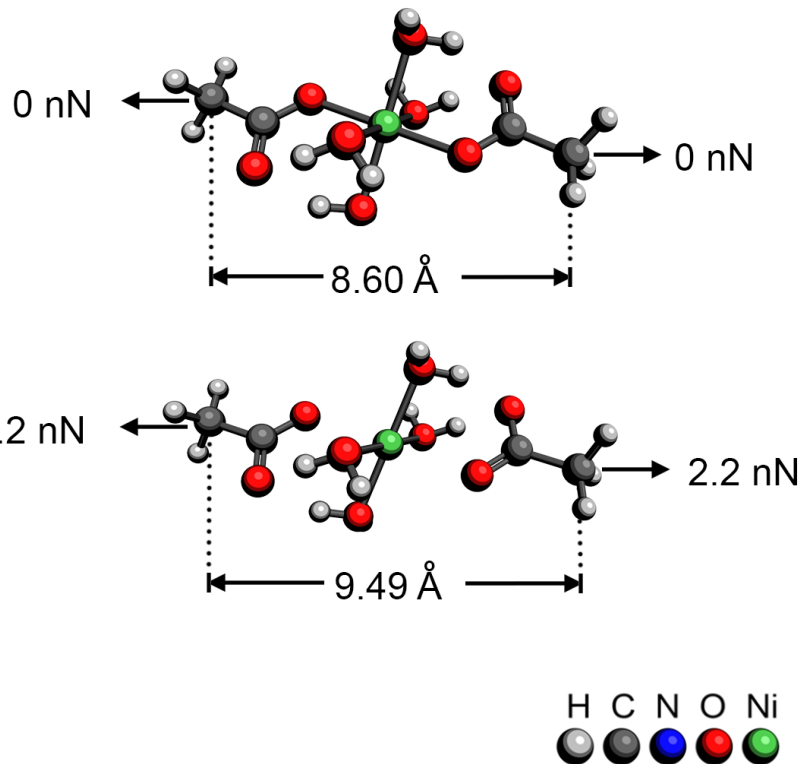
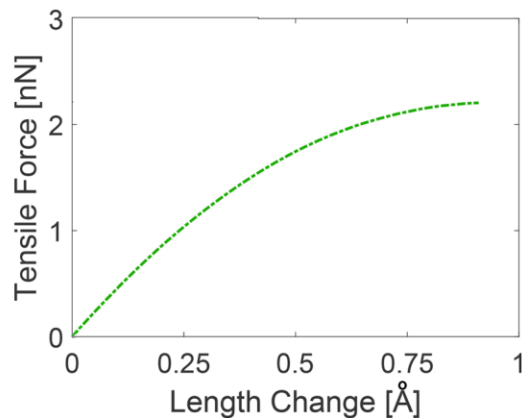
# Scope of this Study

- Metal-coordination complexes as crosslinking structures in a polymer
  - Use ligands to modify crosslinking structures
    - Thereby modifying bulk mechanical properties
- Investigate the crosslinking using quantum chemistry simulation
  - Predict and interpret experimental results
  - Inform material design
  - Inform a constitutive model
- Specifically, the crosslinking structure
  - Mechanical response
  - Free energy barriers
  - Population distributions



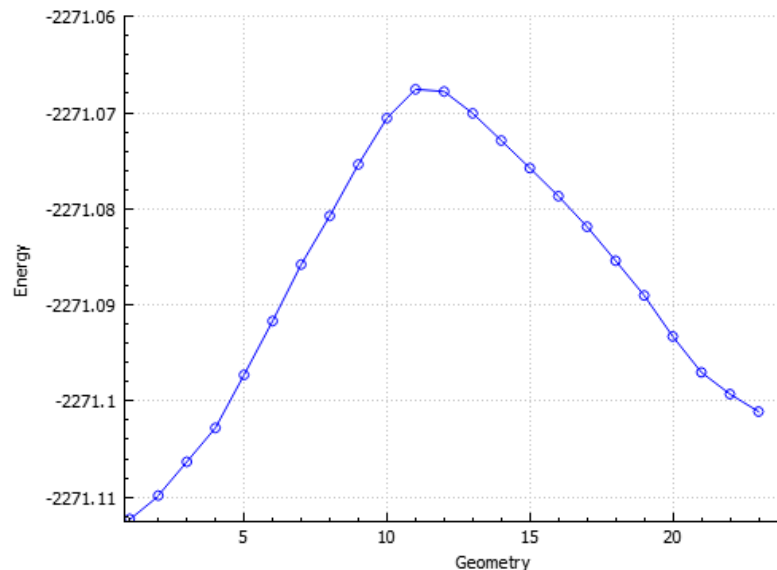
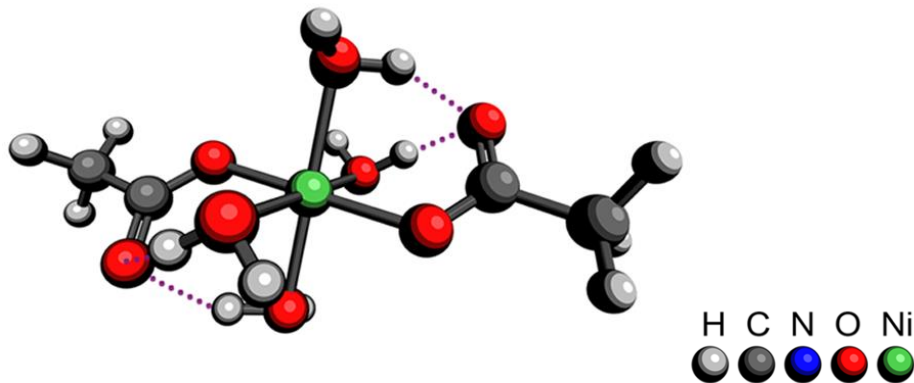
# Overview of Simulation Steps

- Mechanical Response
  - Minima search (OPT)
  - Diagonalize Hessian (FREQ)
  - Apply external forces (EFEI)

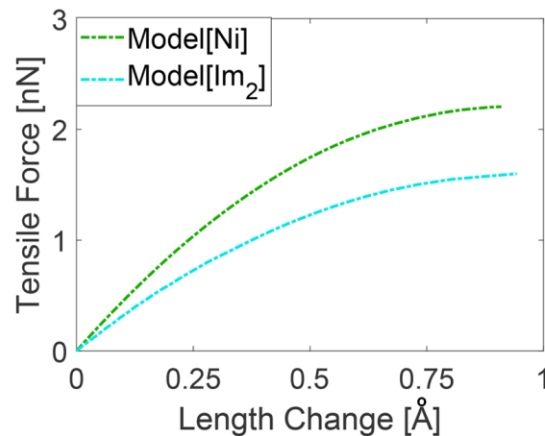
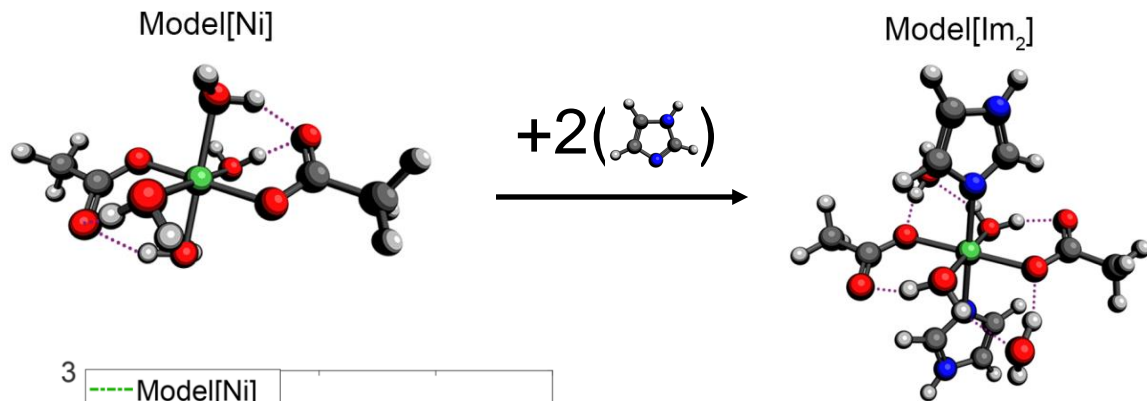


# Overview of Simulation Steps

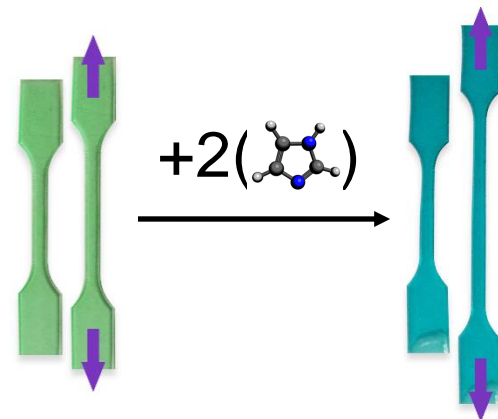
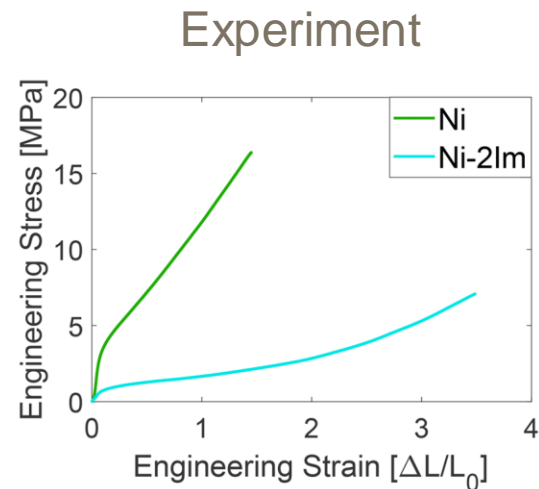
- Free Energy Barriers
  - EFEI-informed “product” (OPT)
  - Approximate reaction path (FSM)
  - Transition state search (TS)



# Effects of Added Ligands



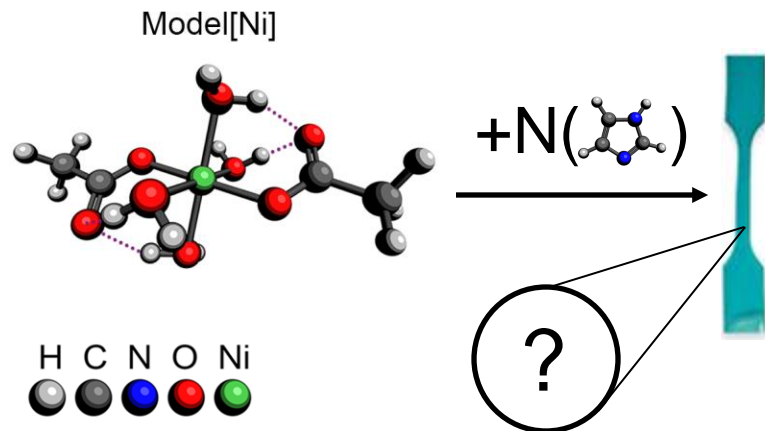
Model	[Ni]	[Im <sub>2</sub> ]
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	5.06	6.29
$\Delta G^\ddagger$ (kcal/mol)	18.13	15.60



# Varying Ligand Amount

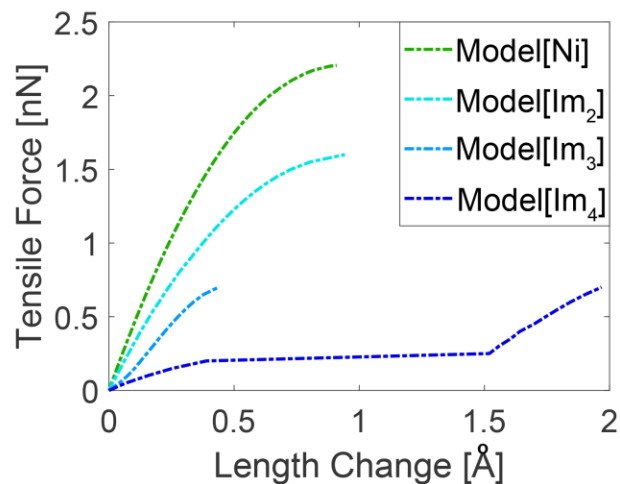
Does adding  $n$  ligands necessarily correspond to getting  $n$  on each crosslink? **No!**

N <sup>th</sup> Imidazole	1	2	3	4
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	-4.60	-8.34	-0.80	0.53



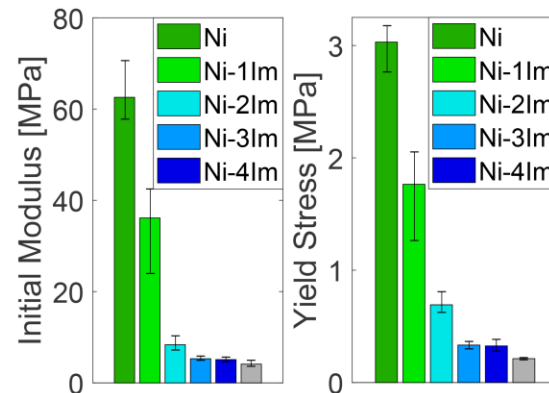
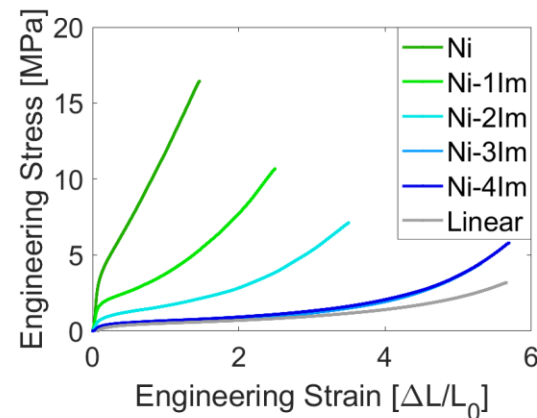
Imidazole Equivalents	[Ni]	[Im <sub>1</sub> ]	[Im <sub>2</sub> ]	[Im <sub>3</sub> ]	[Im <sub>4</sub> ]
0	100	0	0	0	0
1	49	2	49	0	0
2	0	0	100	0	0
3	0	0	21	61	18
4	0	0	16	60	24

# Varying Ligand Amount



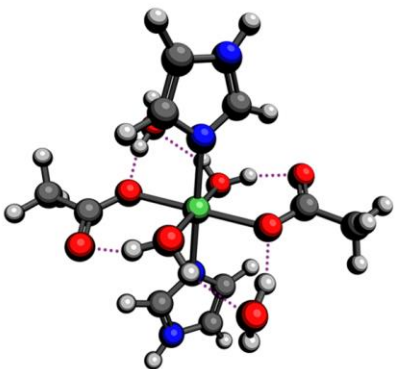
Model	[Ni]	[Im <sub>2</sub> ]	[Im <sub>3</sub> ]
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	5.06	6.29	2.12
$\Delta G^\ddagger$ (kcal/mol)	18.13	15.60	11.57

## Experiment

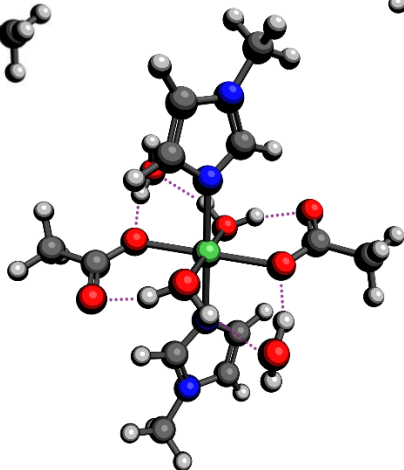


# Varying Ligand Type

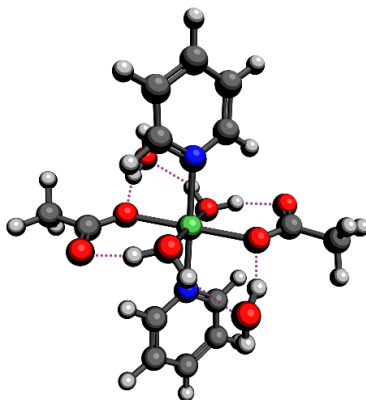
Model[Im<sub>2</sub>]



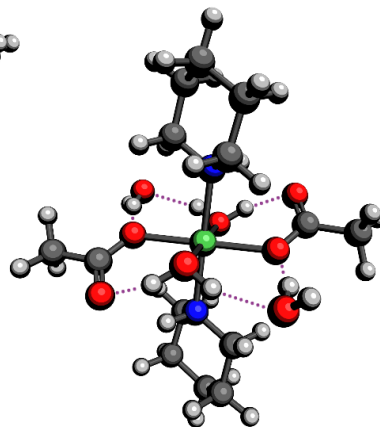
Model[MeIm<sub>2</sub>]



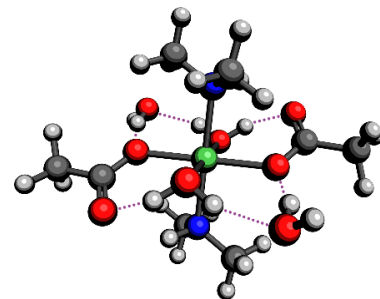
Model[Py<sub>2</sub>]



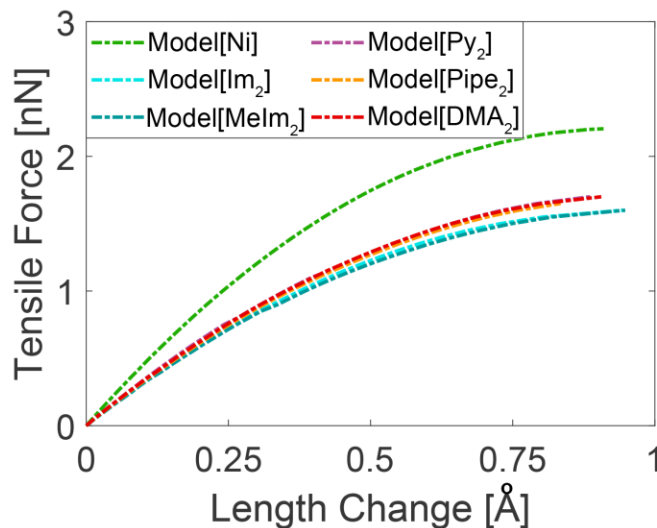
Model[Pipe<sub>2</sub>]



Model[DMA<sub>2</sub>]

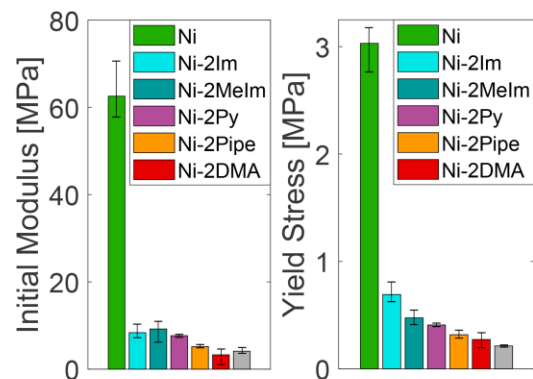
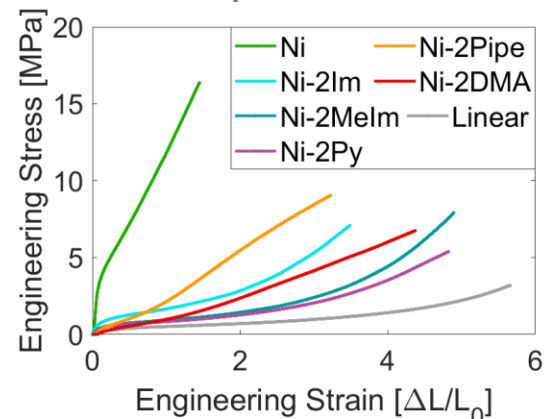


# Varying Ligand Type

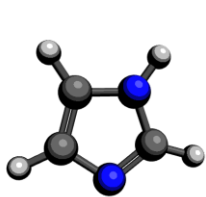


Model	[Melm <sub>2</sub> ]	[Py <sub>2</sub> ]	[Pipe <sub>2</sub> ]	[DMA <sub>2</sub> ]
$\Delta G$ (kcal/mol)	4.68	5.21	5.95	6.51
$\Delta G^\ddagger$ (kcal/mol)	15.36	16.63	16.33	16.66

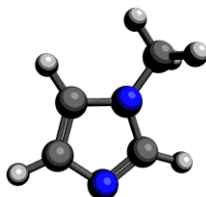
## Experiment



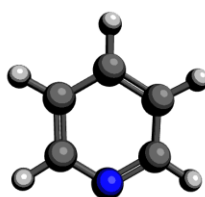
# Varying Ligand Type



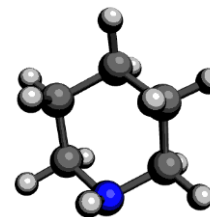
Im



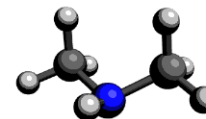
Melm



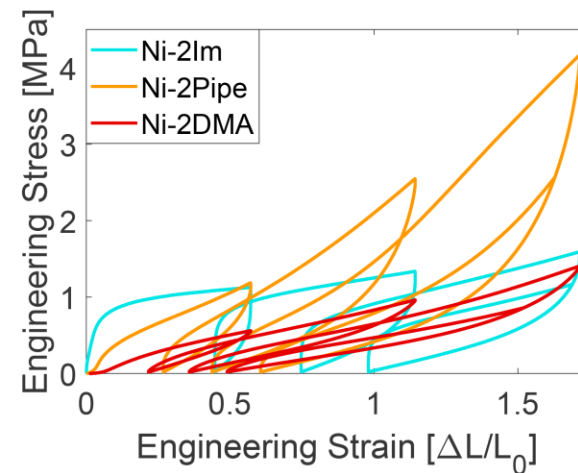
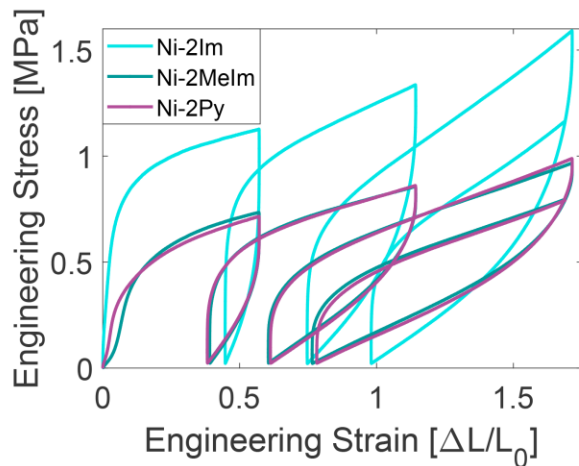
Py



Pipe

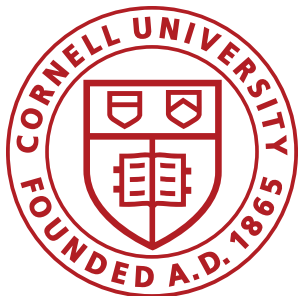


DMA



# In Summary

- **Adding ligands** reduced crosslink stiffness and energy barrier
  - Manifested in reduced material stiffness and yield strength
- **Varying ligand amount** reduced crosslink stiffness and barrier
  - Manifested in excellent tunability from Ni to the Linear material
- **Varying ligand type** requires more in-depth analysis to predict
  - Material properties likely ruled by ligand-environment interactions
    - More comprehensive simulations



# XSEDE

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## Thank you

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