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A Multi-modal Pre-training Transformer for

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Universal Transfer Learning in Metal-Organic

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Frameworks

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## 14 **ABSTRACT**

15 Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are a class of crystalline porous materials that exhibit a vast  
16 chemical space due to their tunable molecular building blocks with diverse topologies. Given that  
17 an unlimited number of MOFs can, in principle, be synthesized, constructing structure-property  
18 relationships through a machine learning approach allows for efficient exploration of this vast  
19 chemical space, resulting in identifying optimal candidates with desired properties. In this work,  
20 we introduce MOFTransformer, a multi-model Transformer encoder pre-trained with 1 million  
21 hypothetical MOFs. This multi-modal model utilizes integrated atom-based graph and energy-grid  
22 embeddings to capture both local and global features of MOFs, respectively. By fine-tuning the  
23 pre-trained model with small datasets ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 MOFs, our model achieves  
24 state-of-the-art results for predicting across various properties including gas adsorption, diffusion,  
25 electronic properties, and even text-mined data. Beyond its universal transfer learning capabilities,  
26 MOFTransformer generates chemical insights by analyzing feature importance through attention  
27 scores within the self-attention layers. As such, this model can serve as a bedrock platform for  
28 other MOF researchers that seek to develop new machine learning models for their work.

29

## 30 **Introduction**

31 Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are a class of crystalline porous materials used for various  
32 energy and environmental applications<sup>1-4</sup> due to their excellent properties such as large surface  
33 area,<sup>5</sup> high chemical/thermal stability,<sup>6</sup> and tunability.<sup>7</sup> Given that MOFs are composed of  
34 thousands of tunable molecular building blocks (i.e., metal nodes and organic linkers), an infinite  
35 number of MOFs can, in principle, be synthesized taking into all the different combinations. To  
36 efficiently explore this vast MOF search space, it is important to identify the structure-property  
37 relationship for a given application. One can then focus on MOFs that contain specific structures  
38 that can lead to user-desired properties. To gain information regarding this relationship, high-  
39 throughput computational screening approaches has been primarily used by conducting  
40 simulations on a large dataset of MOF structures and retroactively identifying the  
41 structure/property relationship.<sup>8-11</sup> However, this can be a cumbersome process and more  
42 importantly, one would need to conduct independent computational screenings for each of the  
43 applications, which requires a vast quantity of computational resources.

44 An alternative way to discover the structure-property relationship is through a machine-learning  
45 (ML) approach, and this methodology has gained a lot of traction lately.<sup>12,13</sup> In particular,  
46 geometric descriptors of MOF structures (e.g. void fraction and pore volume) have been used to  
47 accurately predict various gas adsorption properties.<sup>14-16</sup> Also, Bucior et al.<sup>17</sup> developed a machine  
48 learning model using energy grid histograms as descriptors to predict gas uptake properties. For  
49 diffusion properties, Ibrahim et al.<sup>18</sup> developed a machine-learning model to predict N<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>  
50 selectivity and diffusivity using geometric, atom-type, and chemical feature descriptors. For  
51 electronic properties, Rosen et al.<sup>19</sup> demonstrated that a graph neural network facilitates capturing  
52 the underlying chemical features leading to accurate predictions in the band gap values for the

53 MOFs. Unfortunately, in all these previous studies, the developed machine-learning model cannot  
54 be readily transferred from one application to another. As such, one would need to restart the  
55 training process and develop a new machine-learning model from scratch for every different  
56 application.

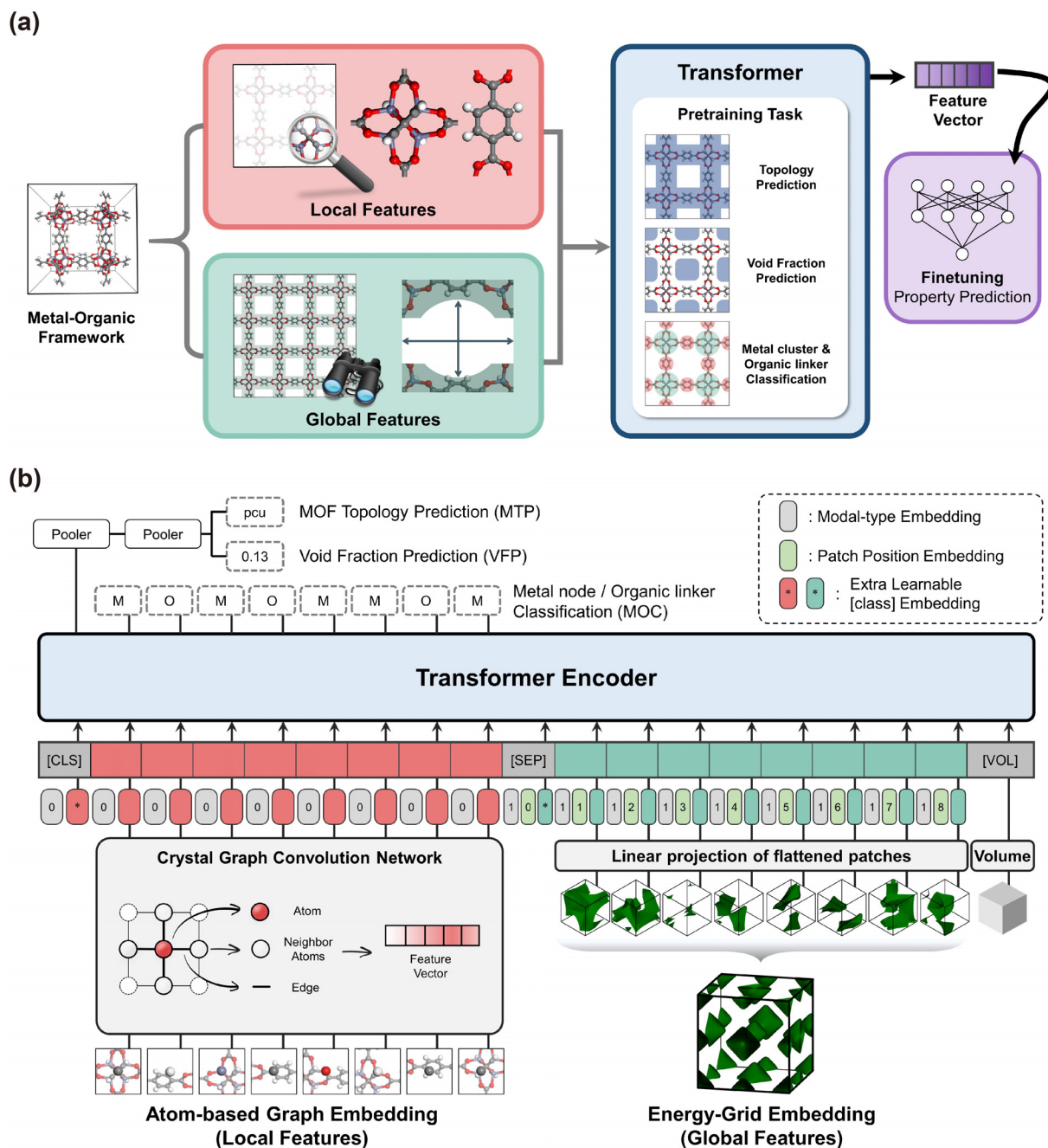
57 To remedy this issue, one can utilize transfer learning, which incorporates knowledge from one  
58 machine learning application to another and, thereby, in principle, saving computational time for  
59 subsequent machine learning works. Although transfer learning has been applied in a few cases  
60 for MOFs, it is still limited to specific properties (e.g. transfer knowledge from gas uptake to gas  
61 diffusivity or between different gas types), limiting their utility.<sup>16,20</sup> To make transferability a  
62 feasible solution, a universal transfer learning model that can be applied to all possible properties  
63 needs to be constructed. To achieve this, machine-learning models and descriptors should capture  
64 two disparate types of features for MOFs: (1) local features (e.g., specific bonds and chemistry  
65 makeup of the building blocks) and (2) global features (e.g., geometric and topological descriptors).  
66 Although both the local descriptors (e.g. CGCNN,<sup>19,21</sup> chemical descriptors,<sup>18</sup> RACs,<sup>22,23</sup> and  
67 building-block embedding,<sup>11,24,25</sup>) and the global features (e.g., geometric features calculated by  
68 ZEO++,<sup>26</sup> the histograms of energy-grids.<sup>16,17</sup>) have been developed previously, as far as we know,  
69 none of these works have effectively captured both the local and global features to achieve  
70 universal transfer learning.

71 When it comes to multi-modal learning that takes in multiple inputs, the Transformer  
72 architecture<sup>27</sup> (initially proposed for sequence data such as language models) has emerged as the  
73 dominant modeling network. Given that the Transformer consists of self-attention layers, which  
74 enables handling sequences of data in parallel, it facilitates efficient training of neural networks  
75 with vast amounts of data. In 2019, Google introduced BERT, a pre-training Transformer encoder

76 in the language model,<sup>28</sup> and demonstrated remarkable performance in transfer learning. By fine-  
77 tuning the pre-trained BERT model, it obtained state-of-the-art performance results for many  
78 Natural Language Process (NLP) tasks such as question-answering and named entity recognition.  
79 Moreover, for computer vision, various vision Transformer architectures have emerged as an  
80 alternative solution to convolution neural networks (CNNs).<sup>29</sup> Recently, the pre-trained  
81 Transformers' transfer learning strategy has been expanded to multi-modal learning.<sup>30</sup> And finally,  
82 the pre-trained multi-modal Transformers achieved state-of-the-art results in vision-language  
83 models such as image captioning and vision-question answering.<sup>31-33</sup> Due to its superior  
84 performance, the Transformer architectures have recently been adopted to predict various  
85 properties of MOFs.<sup>34,35</sup>

86 In this work, for the first time in MOF research, we introduce the multi-modal Transformer  
87 architecture (named "MOFTransformer"), which captures both the local and global features. Our  
88 MOFTransformer was pre-trained with 1 million hypothetical MOFs (hMOFs). By fine-tuning the  
89 pre-trained MOFTransformer, it showcases excellent prediction capabilities across multiple  
90 different properties (e.g., gas uptake, gas diffusivity, electronic properties of MOFs, and text-  
91 mined data). Besides its superior performance, this architecture allows chemists to capture insights  
92 from attention scores obtained by the attention layers of the MOFTransformer. As such, we believe  
93 that this model can serve as a bedrock architecture/model for future machine learning research for  
94 the MOF community.

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96  
 97 **Figure 1.** (a) Overall schematics of MOFTransformer. The model takes both local and global  
 98 features as inputs. In a pre-training step, it is trained with three pre-training tasks. In the fine-tuning  
 99 step, the model is trained to predict desired properties of MOFs using the weights of the pre-trained  
 100 model as initial weights. (b) The architecture of the MOFTransformer. The input embedding takes  
 101 atom-based graph embeddings and energy-grid embeddings that serve as local and global features,  
 102 respectively.

## 103 **Results**

### 104 **MOFTransformer**

105 The overall schematics of our MOFTransformer is shown in Figure 1(a). To build towards  
106 universal transfer learning, both pre-training and fine-tuning strategies are implemented. The  
107 objective of pre-training is to allow the MOFTransformer to learn the essential characteristics of a  
108 MOF. This pre-trained model serves as a starting point for all subsequent applications. Fine-tuning  
109 refers to the process of training the pre-trained models for the specific application at hand (e.g. gas  
110 adsorption uptake prediction). Figure 1(b) shows the schematic of the MOFTransformer  
111 architecture, which is based on a multi-layer bidirectional Transformer encoder developed by  
112 Vaswani et al.<sup>27</sup> The MOFTransformer is a multi-modal Transformer that takes two types of  
113 embedding as inputs, each representing the local and global features: (1) atom-based graph  
114 embedding (2) energy-grid embedding.

115 Previously, Xie et al.<sup>21</sup> devised crystal graph convolution neural networks (CGCNN) that  
116 transforms atoms (i.e., nodes), bonds (i.e., edges), and their features (i.e., the distance between  
117 atoms) into a vector space. Although CGCNN consists of convolutional layers and pooling layers  
118 from the original paper, the atom-based graph embedding in the MOFTransformer uses output  
119 vectors of the CGCNN without the pooling layers. It allows our model to deal with the atom-wise  
120 features without losing information. It should be noted that many atoms in the unit-cell of MOFs  
121 have the same embedding from the CGCNN, given that the CGCNN creates the embedding by  
122 taking atom types of nodes, distances, and atom types of the neighbor nodes (see Supplementary  
123 Figure S1). We grouped the topologically identical atoms and defined these sets as unique atoms  
124 (the details of the algorithm are explained in Supplementary Note S1). Removing the information

125 from the overlapping atoms enables efficient training and prevents significant memory issues that  
126 frequently appear when training with long sequences of inputs.

127 When it comes to the energy-grid embedding, the energy grids were calculated using a methane  
128 molecule probe that was selected due to its facility in modeling. Universal Force Field,<sup>36</sup> and  
129 TraPPE<sup>37</sup> were used to describe adsorbate-adsorbent van der Waals interactions in MOFs and the  
130 methane molecule, respectively. The 3D energy grids can be treated as 3D images, which means  
131 that the grid points and the energy values of the energy grids serve as pixels and 1-channel colors,  
132 respectively. Similar to the Vision Transformer,<sup>29</sup> the MOFTransformer takes 1-dimensional (1D)  
133 patches of the flattened 3D energy grids where (H, W, D) are the height, width, and depth of energy  
134 grids and (P, P, P) is the patch resolution, and  $N = HW D/P^3$  is the number of patches. Given that  
135 the energy grids were interpolated to  $30 \times 30 \times 30 \text{ \AA}$ , the height H, weight W, and depth D are 30  
136  $\text{\AA}$ . The patch size P was set to 5  $\text{\AA}$ , so the number of patches N is 216.

137 The MOFTransformer model is derived from the BERT-based model<sup>28</sup> (L=12, H=768, A=12),  
138 where L is the number of blocks, H is the hidden size, and A is the number of self-attention heads.  
139 Similar to BERT's class and separate tokens, the class token [CLS] and the separate token [SEP],  
140 which are learnable embedding layers, are located at the first position and between the two types  
141 of embedding, respectively (see Figure 1(b)). The [CLS] token is a head token of the Transformer  
142 blocks and predicts desired properties by adding a single pooling layer for the pre-training and  
143 fine-tuning tasks. Apart from these, a volume token [VOL], which is the normalized cell volume,  
144 is added at the final position of the input embedding because the interpolation of the energy grids  
145 leads to a loss of information regarding the volume of the original energy grids. Finally, position  
146 embedding and modal-type embedding, which are also learnable embedding layers, are added to  
147 the input embedding by the element-wise summation. The position embedding is a vector that



148 encodes the position of the sequence, and the modal-type embedding encodes the two types of  
149 embedding to 0 and 1.

## 150 **Understanding MOF descriptors**

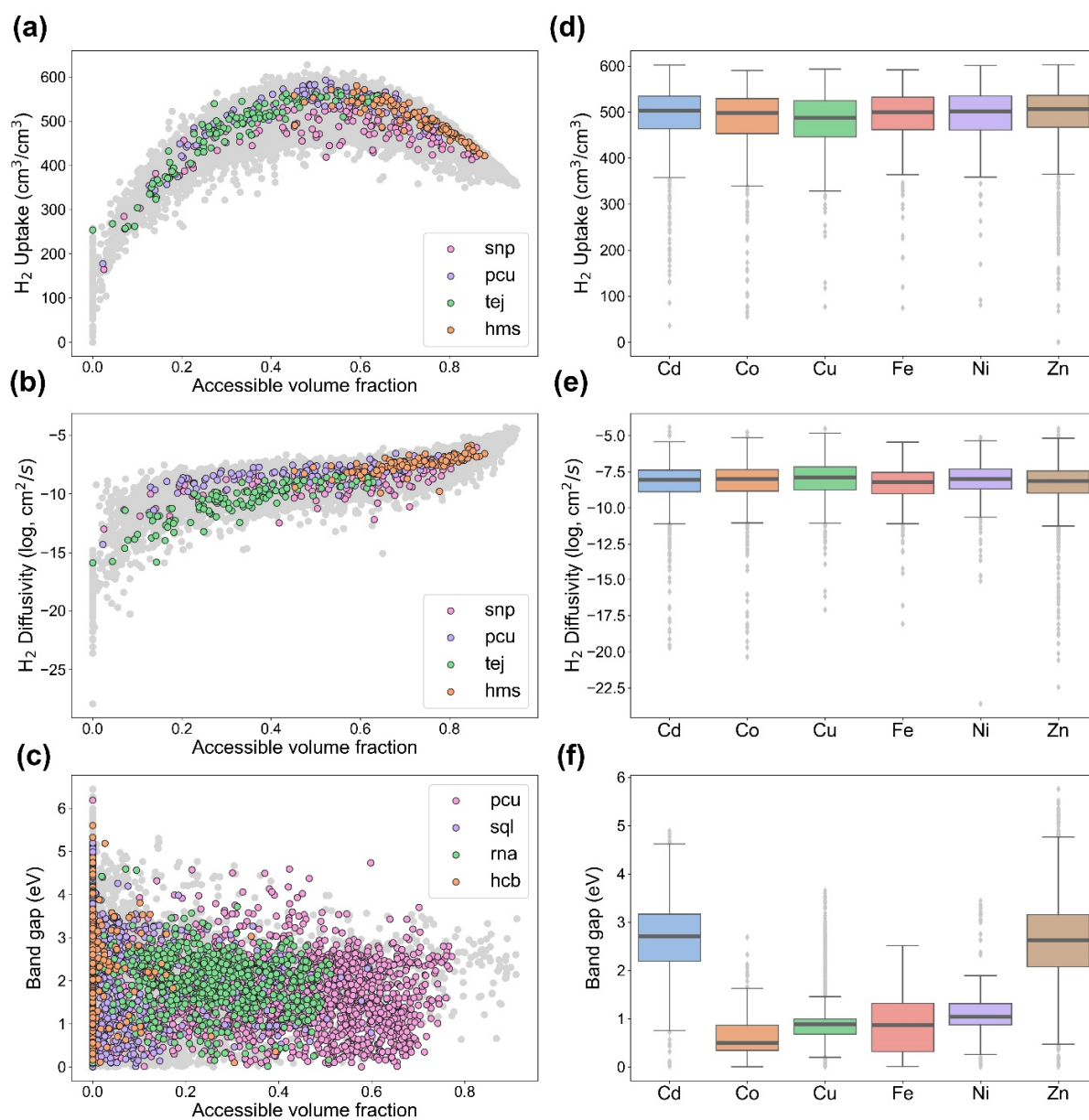
151 It is important to recognize how MOF descriptors (i.e., local features and global features)  
152 influence the properties of MOFs. As shown in Figure 2, H<sub>2</sub> uptake, H<sub>2</sub> diffusivity, and band gap  
153 were selected as case-study applications for MOFs that represent adsorption, diffusion, and  
154 electronic properties, respectively. Figure 2(a-c) shows the structure-property maps obtained from  
155 the molecular simulations for each of these applications. For H<sub>2</sub> uptake and diffusivity, the data  
156 was taken from our fine-tuning dataset (20,000 structures). The band gap values are obtained from  
157 the QMOF database (version 13) with the PBE functional that includes a total of 20,373 structures.  
158 From Figure 2(a-b), it can be seen that the H<sub>2</sub> uptake and diffusivity increase with accessible  
159 volume fraction and are strongly dependent on the MOF topology due to the correlation between  
160 topology and void fraction. Meanwhile, the band gap exhibits no correlation with accessible  
161 volume fraction and topology, which is reasonable given that electronic properties are more  
162 dependent on local chemical features as opposed to global geometric features.

163 On top of this, Figure 2(d-f) shows the correlation between the MOF properties and the types of  
164 metal atoms. It can be seen that the dependence on metal atoms is lowest for H<sub>2</sub> uptake while  
165 highest for the band gap energy. And similar trends can be found for the organic linkers (see  
166 Supplementary Figure S2). Along with the aforementioned geometric analysis, Figure 2(d-f)  
167 confirms that adsorption and diffusion properties rely more on global features, while electronic  
168 properties rely more on local features. Apart from these, some properties like O<sub>2</sub> diffusivity (which  
169 is more dependent on electronic effects than H<sub>2</sub> diffusivity) and CO<sub>2</sub> Henry coefficient have more  
170 complex correlations between features and properties (see Supplementary Figure S3). As such,

171 this illustrates the importance of integrating both local and global features within the Transformer

172 to enable universal transferability across different applications.

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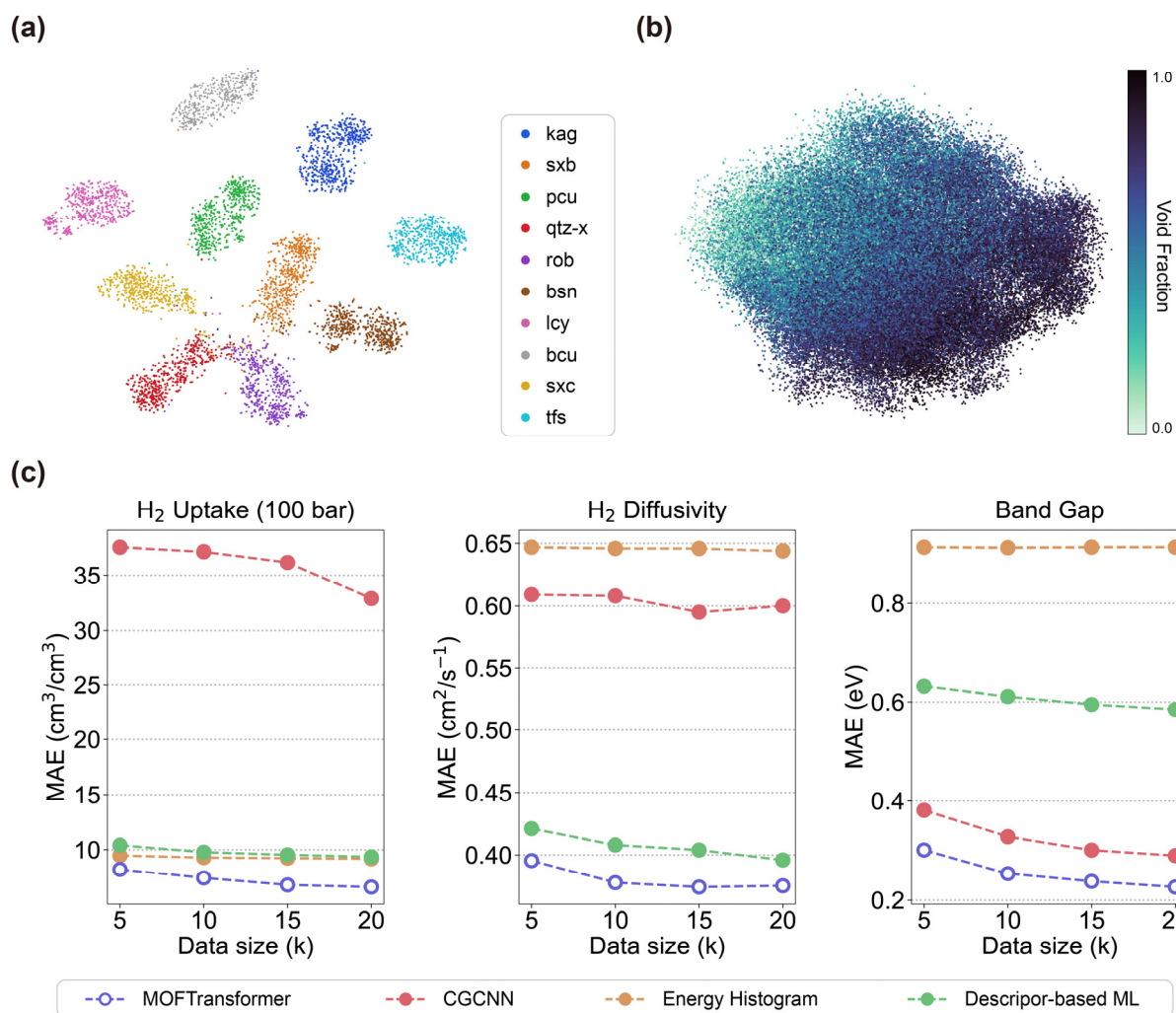
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175 **Figure 2.** (a-c) Scattered plots showing the relationship between accessible volume fraction and  
 176 various properties (i.e., gas uptake, diffusivity, and bandgap). Gray dots represent the MOFs from  
 177 each database, and colored dots represent MOFs with the top four topologies obtained from  
 178 MOFid.<sup>38</sup> (d-f) The box plot of properties (adsorption, diffusion, and band gap) for each metal  
 179 type. The dark line in the center of the box represents the median.

## 180 **Pre-training Results**

181 The pre-training tasks play an essential role in determining the effectiveness of the transfer  
182 learning performance. Three pre-training tasks were designed to capture the essential features of  
183 the MOFs: (1) MOF topology prediction (MTP), (2) void fraction prediction (VFP), and (3) metal  
184 cluster/organic linker classification (MOC). For the MTP task, the model was trained to predict  
185 the 1,079 topologies of MOFs by adding a classification head, which consists of a single dense  
186 layer to the [CLS] token. The list of topologies is summarized in Supplementary Table S1. For the  
187 VFP task, the model is trained to predict accessible void fraction calculated by ZEO++<sup>26</sup> by adding  
188 single dense layers to the [CLS] token. Finally, the MOC task was performed as it would enable  
189 the model to learn the features separately stemming from each metal node and organic linker. The  
190 binary classification (determining a given MOF atom as belonging to the metal or the organic  
191 linker) is conducted for the atom-wise features of atom-based embedding. The accuracies of MTP  
192 and MOC were 0.97, 0.98 and the MAE of VFP was 0.01.

193 Next, we visualized the embedding vector of the pre-training model in a two-dimensional space  
194 using t-SNE, and PCA methods, as shown in Figure 3. Figure 3(a) shows a result of a t-SNE plot  
195 for the embedding vector of class tokens with the top 10 frequently appearing topologies in the  
196 dataset. Figure 3(a) shows that MOFs with different topologies are clustered together and  
197 segregated from other MOFs, indicating that proper learning has occurred. And the same pattern  
198 of results was seen for all topologies (see Supplementary Figure S4). Furthermore, it is interesting  
199 to note that the PCA plots exhibit the distribution of the embedding vector that gradually increases  
200 according to the void fraction, as shown in Figure 3(b). This indicates that the embedding vectors  
201 are clustered with similar values of void fraction. These results demonstrate that the pre-training  
202 model is successfully trained to capture the critical features of the MOFs.



203  
 204 **Figure 3.** (a) For the top 10 frequently appearing topologies, the t-SNE plot embeds the class  
 205 tokens of the pre-training model. (b) The class tokens of the pre-trained model are embedded by  
 206 the PCA method, and a void fraction determines their colors. (c) Plots of MAE results of the fine-  
 207 tuning model and three baseline models with datasets of H<sub>2</sub> uptake, H<sub>2</sub> diffusivity, and band gap  
 208 according to dataset size from 5,000 to 20,000. The baseline models are machine learning models  
 209 that were respectively used to predict gas uptake, diffusivity, and band gap values.

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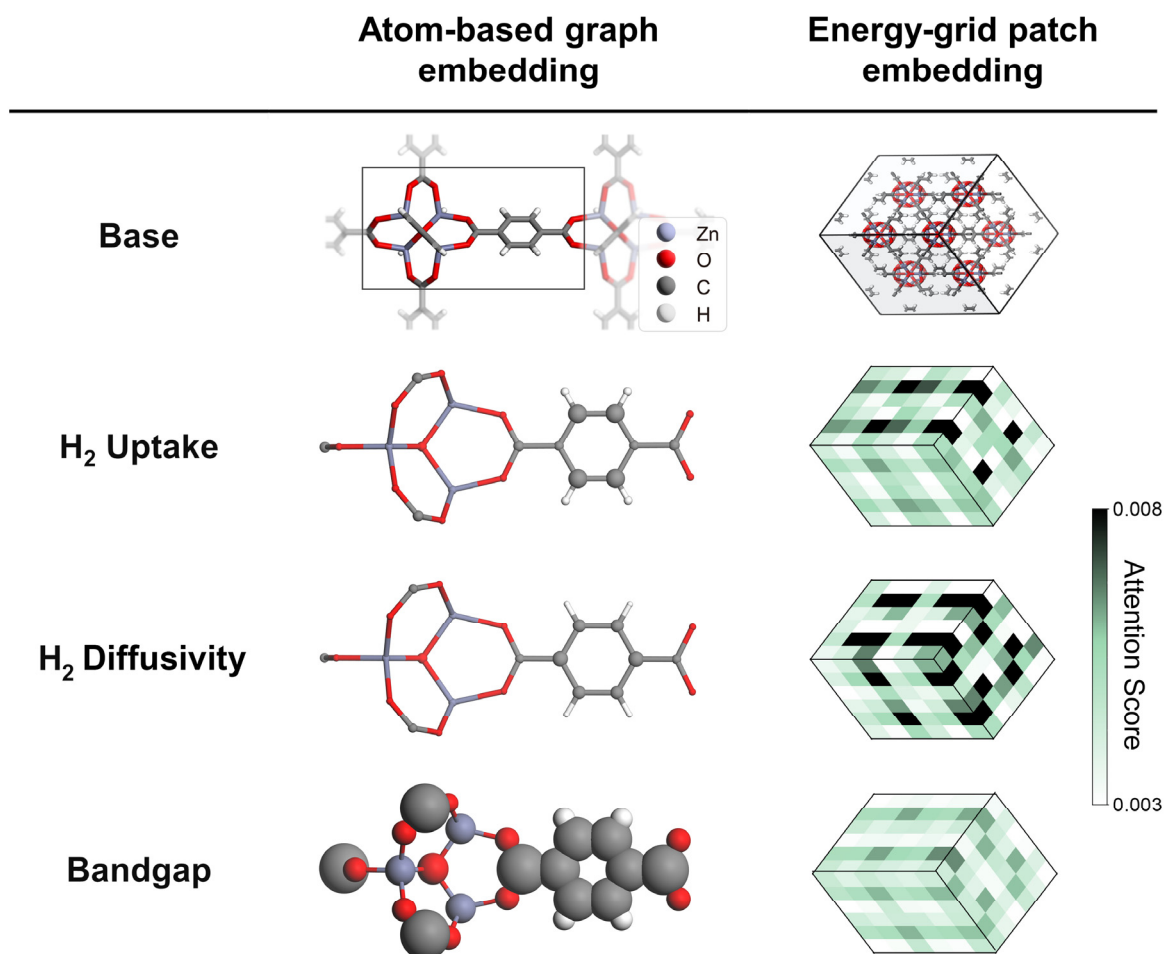
## 211 **Fine-tuning Results**

212 Figure 3(c) shows the fine-tuning results for predicting H<sub>2</sub> uptake (100 bar), H<sub>2</sub> diffusivity, and  
213 band gap, which were obtained from GCMC, MD, and DFT simulations, respectively. While 1  
214 million hMOFs were used for the pre-training step, a relatively smaller number of MOFs (i.e.,  
215 5,000 to 20,000) were used for training during the fine-tuning stages. The performance of the fine-  
216 tuning is compared with the three baseline models (i.e., the energy histogram,<sup>17</sup> descriptor-based  
217 ML model,<sup>18</sup> and CGCNN<sup>19,21</sup>) as these have shown high performance in predicting gas uptake,  
218 diffusivity, and band gap, respectively. And from these comparisons, it can be seen that the  
219 MOFTransformer outperforms all of these other models, demonstrating both its superior  
220 performance as well as transferable capabilities. It is worth noting that the MatErials Graph  
221 Network (MEGNET)<sup>39</sup> outperforms the CGCNN in predicting the band gaps of MOFs<sup>40</sup>. The  
222 MEGNET utilizes global state attributes such as system temperature as well as atomic and bond  
223 attributes as inputs. However, graph network models like CGCNN and MEGNET may have  
224 difficulty in effectively predicting properties that rely on global features such as gas uptake and  
225 diffusivity for MOFs. This is due to the larger crystal system of MOFs, which is characterized by  
226 a larger number of atoms and defined by metal clusters and organic linkers as nodes and edges,  
227 respectively. As a result, the MOFTransformer exhibits strong performance in universal transfer  
228 learning for MOFs compared to graph network models. The ablation studies of the fine-tuning to  
229 demonstrate the effect of the data size on the pre-training tasks are explained in the Supplementary  
230 Note S2.

231 To demonstrate further transferability across different applications, the MOFTransformer was  
232 fine-tuned for various properties summarized in Table 1. Table 1 shows a performance comparison  
233 between our fine-tuned model and the machine-learning models used in other works. And it can

234 be seen that the MOFTransformer model has either similar or higher performance (i.e., higher  $R^2$   
235 score or lower MAE) across all properties. In particular, it is worth noting the robustness of our  
236 model across different gas types, even though the probe molecule used to generate energy grids  
237 was  $\text{CH}_4$ . The reason is that overall shape of energy grids is relatively insensitive to the type of  
238 probe molecule which has little effect on our model to learn global features from energy-grid  
239 embeddings. In addition, the MOFTransformer can accurately predict properties at ambient  
240 condition, given that  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$  uptake and diffusivity were calculated at 1 bar and 298 K. Moreover,  
241 our model extends well to showcase lower MAE than the machine learning model using revised  
242 autocorrelations (RAC)<sup>41</sup> with geometric features as descriptors to predict solvent removal stability  
243 and thermal stability collected by text-mining. It is worth highlighting that our model showcases  
244 high performance in predicting the experimental data like text-minded data as well as the  
245 calculated properties. This result suggests that one can easily obtain high-performance structure-  
246 properties relationships by using our pre-trained model and fine-tuning it without needing to  
247 develop a new model from scratch.

248



249  
 250 **Figure 4.** The schematics for attention score of atom-based embedding and energy-grid embedding  
 251 in IRMOF-1. (left) Repeating building blocks models in IRMOF-1 with atomic size proportional  
 252 to attention score. (right) Energy-grids that represent attention scores by color. The original form  
 253 of the IRMOF-1 is shown in the “base.”

254



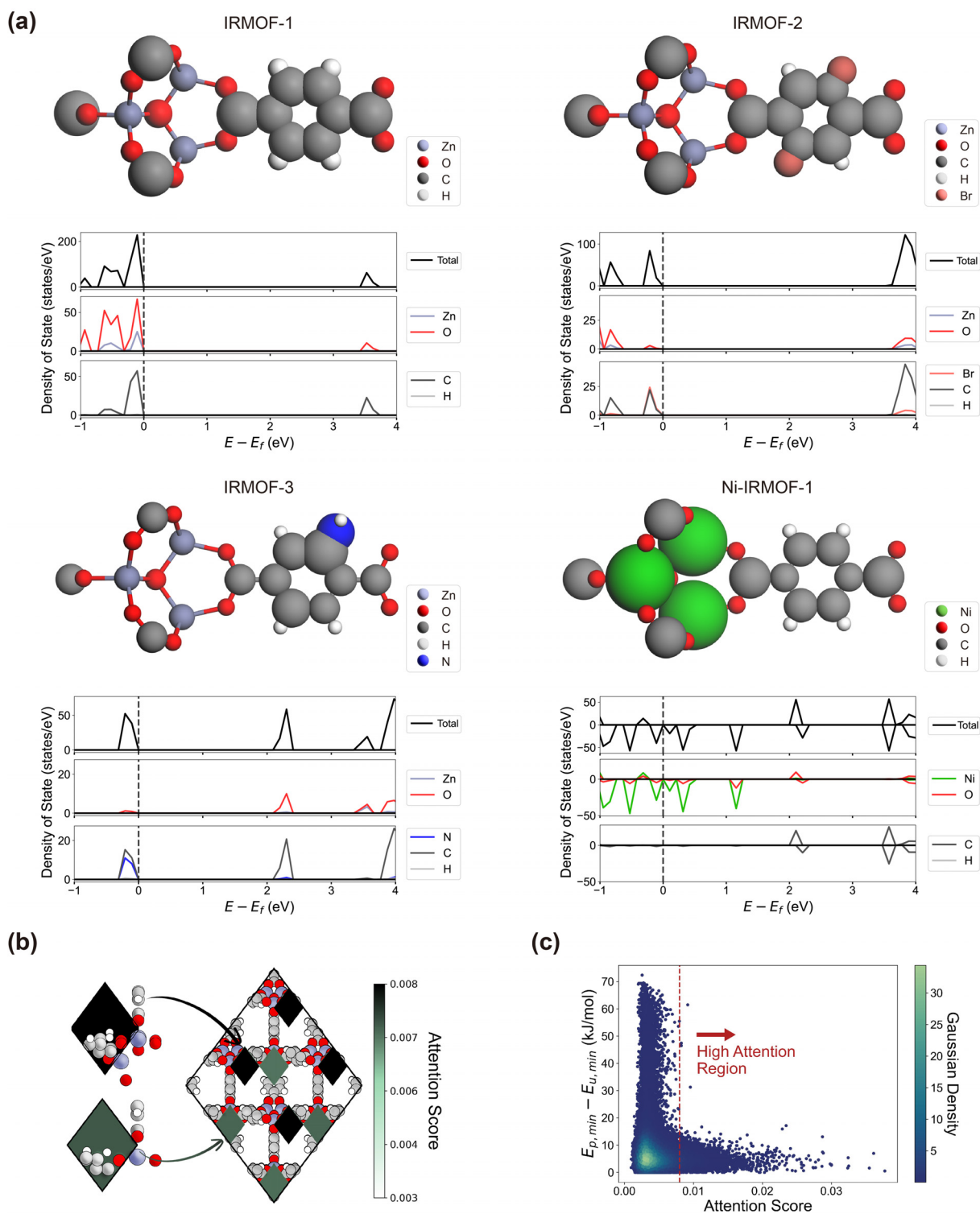
## 255 **Discussion**

256 Apart from the universal transfer learning, feature importance and its interpretation can lead to  
257 a better understanding of the relationship between the MOF structures and their properties. Given  
258 that attention scores measure how much the model should pay attention to inputs when predicting  
259 desired properties, attention layers of the Transformer were assigned high attention scores to input  
260 features according to their importance. From the fine-tuning models that predict H<sub>2</sub> uptake, H<sub>2</sub>  
261 diffusivity, and band gap, feature importance analysis was implemented for IRMOF-1, which is  
262 one of the representative isoreticular MOFs. Figure 4 shows both the repeating building blocks  
263 models, which represent the metal cluster and organic linker, of IRMOF-1 (representing local  
264 features) and the 6×6×6 patches of energy-grids (representing global features). The sizes of atoms  
265 in the repeating building block models are scaled according to the attention scores obtained by the  
266 atom-based embeddings. And the colors of the patches are proportional to the attention scores  
267 obtained from the energy-grid embeddings. As can be seen from Figure 4, the atom-based  
268 embeddings are assigned with low attention scores (e.g. visualized by small atom sizes) when  
269 predicting H<sub>2</sub> uptake and diffusivity. On the other hand, the energy-grid embeddings are assigned  
270 with high attention scores, which is in accordance with the fact that H<sub>2</sub> uptake and diffusivity rely  
271 more on the global features. Meanwhile, for the band gap prediction, there is a reversal in trend as  
272 the atom-based graph embeddings have higher attention scores compared to energy-grid  
273 embeddings as the band gap is more dependent on the local features. The additional feature  
274 importance analysis for other properties (e.g. O<sub>2</sub> diffusivity and CO<sub>2</sub> Henry coefficient) were also  
275 conducted (see Supplementary Figure S8). Note that the feature importance analysis via attention  
276 scores is in line with previous findings and a chemist's intuition.

277 Beyond the case study of IRMOF-1, we implemented an in-depth analysis of feature importance  
278 for the atom-based graph and the energy-grid embeddings for band gap and H<sub>2</sub> uptake, respectively.  
279 Given that the band gap is defined by the difference between the conduction-band minimum (CBM)  
280 and the valance-band maximum (VBM), one might think that the atoms that exhibit strong peaks  
281 at the CBM and VBM play a critical role in determining its value. Interestingly, we identified that  
282 the atoms with peaks at the CBM and VBM strongly correlate with the atoms having high attention  
283 scores. Figure 5(a) shows the repeating building blocks models of IRMOF-1, 2, 3, and Ni-IRMOF-  
284 1 and their density of state (DOS) plots. IRMOF-2 and IRMOF-3 are variants of the IRMOF-1  
285 structure with the BDC linker functionalized by  $-Br$  and  $-NH_2$ . For IRMOF-2 and IMROF-3, the  
286 atoms that are part of the organic linkers (i.e., C, H, N, Br) have higher attention scores than those  
287 from the metal clusters (i.e., Zn, O). Consistent with these results, the atoms of the organic linker  
288 have peaks at the CBM and VBM compared to those of the metal clusters. Meanwhile, for the Ni-  
289 IRMOF-1 (which has Ni instead of Zn compared to the IRMOF-1), the atoms that belong to the  
290 metal cluster have higher attention scores and stronger peaks at the CBM and VBM compared to  
291 the organic linkers. These tendencies are consistent with other examples that were randomly  
292 selected in the QMOF database (see Supplementary Figure S9). Apart from these, we confirmed  
293 that the feature importance analysis could capture the underestimation of the band gap calculated  
294 by the PBE functional (see Supplementary Note S3). Hence, these results demonstrate that the  
295 fine-tuned model successfully learns the chemical features that are the more important when it  
296 comes to the band gap predictions.

297 When it comes to the energy-grid embeddings, one could argue that the patches located near  
298 the metal atoms have an important role on determining the gas uptake<sup>42</sup> Indeed, from the fine-  
299 tuned model to predict H<sub>2</sub> uptake, the 8 highest attention scores from the 6x6x6 energy-grid patches

300 of IRMOF-1 are located near the metal atoms as shown in Figure 5(b). The metal atoms can make  
301 stronger bonding with adsorbates than other atoms such C, H, O, resulting in lower energy values  
302 for energy-grid patches near the metal atoms. Based on these observations, one can infer that the  
303 energy values of energy-grid patches can have an impact on determining attention score. Therefore,  
304 we plotted the relationship between the energy values of energy-grid points and the attention scores  
305 for each patch to further illustrate this relationship. The minimum energy values are normalized  
306 by their corresponding structure (or unit cell), which is represented on the y-axis of Figure 5(c).  
307 Figure 5(c) suggests that the energy-grid points with high attention scores tend to have relatively  
308 low energy values, as seen in the patches near the metal atoms. It is essential to highlight the fact  
309 that the scatter points within the high attention region (attention score  $> 0.008$ ) exhibit a lower  
310 difference of energy than 20 kJ/mol.



311  
 312 **Figure 5.** (a) Schematics of attention score for atom-based embedding, and density of state (DOS)  
 313 plots for IRMOF-1, 2, 3, and Ni-IRMOF-1. The atomic sizes of repeating building blocks model

314 are proportional to the attention score.  $E$  means the energy, and  $E_f$  indicates the Fermi level.  
315 Positive and negative values of DOS indicate spin-up and spin-down channels, respectively. (b)  
316 Schematic of high attention score patches of energy-grid embedding for IRMOF-1. (c) Scattered  
317 plot for the difference of minimum energy between patch and unit cell according to energy-grid  
318 embedding.  $E_{p,\min}$  refers the minimum energy of the patch, and  $E_{u,\min}$  refers to the minimum energy  
319 of the unit cell. The red line ( $x = 0.008$ ) distinguishes between high and low attention regions.

320

## 321 **Conclusions**

322 For the first time, we introduced a multi-modal pre-trained Transformer to capture both local  
323 and global features of MOFs. The model facilitates capturing the chemistry of metal nodes and  
324 organic linkers from the CGCNN and the information on geometric and topological features such  
325 as pore volume and topology from the energy grids. By fine-tuning the MOFTransformer model,  
326 our model outperforms all of the other state-of-the-art machine learning model across various  
327 different properties, showing its universal transferability as well as superior performance.  
328 Moreover, the model can provide insights by analyzing the feature importance from attention  
329 scores obtained from attention layers of the fine-tuned model. We believe that this model can be  
330 used as a bedrock model for other MOF researchers who wish to start their machine learning work  
331 and, as such, can help accelerate materials discovery and research within the field of porous  
332 materials.

333

## 334 **Methods**

### 335 **Construction of hMOFs**

336 The hMOFs used to train our MOFTransformer were constructed using PORMAKE,<sup>11</sup> a Python  
337 library that can generate MOFs by combining building blocks with different topologies. These  
338 building blocks and the topologies were obtained from ToBaCCo,<sup>43</sup> CoREMOF (with all of the  
339 solvents removed),<sup>44</sup> and RCSR database.<sup>45</sup> Altogether, 1 million and 20,000 hMOFs were  
340 generated for the pre-training, and fine-tuning dataset, respectively, and the details of building  
341 hMOFs are explained in Supplementary Note S4. All of the generated structures were  
342 geometrically optimized using the LAMMPS<sup>46</sup> package with the UFF force field.<sup>36</sup>

### 343 **Computational details for molecular simulation**

344 For the fine-tuning dataset, H<sub>2</sub> uptake and diffusivity (or diffusion coefficient) were selected to  
345 represent adsorption and diffusive properties. H<sub>2</sub> was selected to enable facile calculation while  
346 being different from the guest molecule (i.e., methane) used for the energy grid construction. The  
347 calculations were conducted using the RASPA package.<sup>47</sup> For the H<sub>2</sub> molecule, a united atom  
348 model was adopted. Also, the pseudo-Feynman-Hibbs model was used to express the H<sub>2</sub> behavior  
349 at low temperature, which leads to fitting the Lenard-Jones (LJ) potentials to Feynman-Hibbs  
350 potential at T = 77 K.<sup>48,49</sup> Except for the H<sub>2</sub> molecules, the UFF force field was used with the  
351 Lorentz-Berthelot mixing rule and a cutoff distance of 12.8 Å.

352 For H<sub>2</sub> uptake calculation, the GCMC calculation was performed at 100 bar and 77 K for 10k  
353 production cycles with 5k cycles used for the initialization. Diffusivity (or diffusion coefficient)  
354 was calculated at infinite dilution at 77 K using the MD simulation. Given that the intermolecular  
355 interactions of the H<sub>2</sub> atoms are ignored for the infinite dilution simulation, it may sometimes lead  
356 to the initial configurations of the H<sub>2</sub> atoms captured within the small pores of MOFs. The initial

357 configurations were obtained from the MC simulation without infinite dilution for 5k cycles to  
358 prevent this from happening. Then, the MD simulations were conducted by NVT ensemble with 1  
359 fs time step.<sup>18,50</sup> The simulations were run for 3 million cycles, with 1k cycles used for the  
360 initialization and 10k cycles for equilibration. The guest molecules' mean-squared displacement  
361 (MSD) was computed every 10k cycles, and the diffusion coefficient was obtained using the slope  
362 of the MSD through Einstein's relation.<sup>51</sup>

### 363 **Pre-training and Fine-tuning**

364 In the pre-training step, AdamW<sup>52</sup> optimizer with a learning rate of  $10^{-4}$  and weight decay of  
365  $10^{-2}$  was used in all three tasks. The model was trained with a batch size of 1,024 during 100  
366 epochs. The pre-training dataset was randomly split into training, validation, test sets with the  
367 number of 800,000, 126,611, 100,000, respectively. The learning rate was warmed up during the  
368 first 5 % of the total epoch and then was linearly decayed to zero for the remaining epochs.

369 For fine-tuning, the MOFTransformer is trained to predict the desired properties with the model  
370 initialized by the converged weights from the pre-trained model. By adding a single dense layer to  
371 the class token, all model weights are fine-tuned to predict desired properties of MOFs. Given that  
372 the relatively small datasets are used during the fine-tuning step, the model was trained with a  
373 batch size of 32 during 20 epochs whose optimizer and learning rates are the same as those of the  
374 pre-training step. The fine-tuning dataset was randomly split into training, validation, test sets in a  
375 ratio of 0.8:0.1:0.1. For scaling the target properties, the standardization method was adopted.  
376 Training details of the three baseline models for comparison of the fine-tuning models are  
377 explained in Supplementary Note S5.

378



## 379 **Conflicts of interest**

380 There are no conflicts to declare.

## 381 **Author Contributions**

382 Y.K and H.P contributed equally to this work. Y.K and H.P developed MOFTransformer and  
383 wrote the manuscript with J.K. The manuscript was written through the contributions of all authors.  
384 All authors have given approval for the final version of the manuscript.

## 385 **Data availability**

386 Data used in this work are available via Figshare ([10.6084/m9.figshare.21155506](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.21155506)). It provides  
387 the pre-trained model and the atom-based graph embeddings and the energy-grid embeddings used  
388 as inputs of the MOFTransformer for CoREMOF, QMOF database .as well as fine-tuning data. In  
389 addition, The UFF-optimized CIF files of hypothetical MOFs used in this work are available via  
390 Figshare ([10.6084/m9.figshare.21810147](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.21810147))

## 391 **Code availability**

392 The MOFTransformer library is available at <https://github.com/hspark1212/MOFTransformer>.  
393 Documents for the library is available at <https://hspark1212.github.io/MOFTransformer> which  
394 provides up-to-date documentation for pre-training, fine-tuning, and feature importance analysis  
395 with the MOFTransformer. For the sake of reproducibility, all results in this manuscript are  
396 obtained from a 1.0.1 version of MOFTransformer library, which is available at  
397 <https://pypi.org/project/moftransformer/1.0.1>.

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537

538 **Table 1.** A table of fine-tuning results with the publicly accessible databases of MOFs that include  
 539 the properties calculated by GCMC, MD, and even text-mining data. The results of the machine  
 540 learning models used in the paper on the databases are summarized to compare the performance.

Property	MOFTransformer	Original paper	Number of data	Remarks	Ref
N <sub>2</sub> uptake	R2 : 0.78	R2 : 0.71	5,286	CoREMOF	18
O <sub>2</sub> uptake	R2 : 0.83	R2 : 0.74	5,286	CoREMOF	18
N <sub>2</sub> diffusivity	R2 : 0.77	R2 : 0.76	5,286	CoREMOF	18
O <sub>2</sub> diffusivity	R2 : 0.78	R2 : 0.74	5,286	CoREMOF	18
CO <sub>2</sub> henry coefficient	MAE : 0.30	MAE : 0.42	8,183	CoREMOF	22
Solvent removal stability classification	ACC : 0.76	ACC : 0.76	2,148	Text-mining data	40
Thermal stability regression	R2 : 0.44 (MAE : 45°C)	R2 : 0.46 (MAE : 44°C)	3,098	Text-mining data	40

541