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## PhD student project in crystalline nanoporous materials

A 4-years PhD student project position entitled "Multifunctional zeolite materials for processing of platform chemicals and their derivatives" is available at the Engineering Solid Catalysts group, Department of Physical and Macromolecular Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Charles university, starting from April 2022.

## **Requirements:**

•Enthusiasm for the topics of designing, in-depth characterisation and application of zeolite catalysts

•Ability to communicate within an international team.

## We offer:

•Participation in cutting-edge materials chemistry research.

•Opportunity to gain expertise in novel analytical and synthetic techniques (X-ray diffraction, physisorption, FTIR and NMR spectroscopies, electron microscopy).

Advances in catalysis have fuelled the development of modern society, particularly thanks to zeolites, solid acid catalysts with versatile chemical composition and uniform micropores. Similarly to the vital role of the brain in a human body, the acid sites (framework metal atoms) determine the catalytic activity and selectivity of zeolite catalysts. Fine-tuning these acid sites at a "nanoscale" level (e.g., their nature/strength/concentration) has enabled us to enhance the properties of zeolites to some



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extent. However, currently available synthetic tools are still unable to control the acid-site structure in heterogeneous catalyst at an atomic level, which is crucial for designing atom-efficient catalytic processes.

This is where the Engineering Solid Catalysts Group comes in: we develop various synthetic techniques allowing fabrication of materials with desired nature and concentration of active sites (*Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 48 (2019) 1095). By applying advance characterization techniques, we characterize the designed materials and test them in relevant reactions with the aim to establish synthesis-structure-function relationships for engineering highly efficient catalyst for particular catalytic process. This is what we would like to explore further together with you, the successful applicant.

For questions, please, do not hesitate to contact Dr. Mariya Shamzhy, tel: +420221951291, e-mail: mariya.shamzhy@natur.cuni.cz