

# Efficient capture of $C_2H_2$ from $CO_2$ and $C_nH_4$ by a novel fluorinated anion pillared MOF with flexible molecular sieving effect

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Received: 12 July 2022 / Revised: 11 August 2022 / Accepted: 31 August 2022

## ABSTRACT

The efficient separation of acetylene ( $C_2H_2$ ) from carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) and  $C_nH_4$  ( $n = 1$  and  $2$ ) to manufacture high purity  $C_2H_2$  and recover other light hydrocarbons is technologically important, while posing significant challenges. Herein, we reported a new  $TiF_6^{2-}$  anion (TIFSIX) pillared metal-organic framework (MOF) ZNU-5 (ZNU = Zhejiang Normal University) with ultramicropores for highly selective  $C_2H_2$  capture with low adsorption heat through gate opening based molecular sieving effect. ZNU-5 takes up a large amount of  $C_2H_2$  ( $128.6\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) at  $1.0\text{ bar}$  and  $298\text{ K}$  but excludes  $CO_2$ ,  $CH_4$ , and  $C_2H_4$ . Such high capacity has never been realized in MOFs with molecular sieving. The breakthrough experiments further confirmed the highly selective  $C_2H_2$  separation performance from multi-component gas mixtures.  $3.3$ ,  $2.8$ , and  $2.2\text{ mmol/g}$  of  $C_2H_2$  is captured at ZNU-5 from equimolar  $C_2H_2/CO_2$ ,  $C_2H_2/CO_2/CH_4$ , and  $C_2H_2/CO_2/CH_4/C_2H_4$  mixtures, respectively. Furthermore,  $2.6$ ,  $2.0$ , and  $1.5\text{ mmol/g}$  of  $> 98\%$  purity  $C_2H_2$  can be recycled from the desorption process. Combining high working capacity, low adsorption heat, as well as good recyclability, ZNU-5 is promising for  $C_2H_2$  purification.

## KEYWORDS

metal-organic frameworks (MOFs),  $C_2H_2/CO_2$  separation, acetylene recovery, molecular sieving, flexible MOFs

## 1 Introduction

Acetylene ( $C_2H_2$ ) is a major raw feedstock for the production of various essential chemicals and polymers in industry [1–3]. It is produced from the partial combustion of natural gas or stream cracking of hydrocarbons, in which carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) and other  $C_1$ - $C_2$  light hydrocarbons are worth-noting contaminants that need to be removed to produce  $C_2H_2$  in high purity [4, 5]. Currently, energy-intensive cryogenic distillation and solvent extraction are employed for the recovery of  $C_2H_2$  from other gases. Due to the close boiling points, these approaches suffer from low energy inefficiency and are environmentally unfriendly. Therefore, physisorptive separation using porous solid adsorbents has attracted particular interest based on the lower cost and energy consumption [6–16]. However, the similarities among these gas molecules in terms of molecular size (kinetic diameter:  $3.3\text{ \AA}$  for both  $C_2H_2$  and  $CO_2$ ,  $3.8\text{ \AA}$  for  $CH_4$ , and  $4.2\text{ \AA}$  for  $C_2H_4$ ) and physical properties make these separations a great challenge [17–21].

Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are famous for their powerful structural predictability and tunability on pore size/shape and functionality [22–30]. However, the flexibility of MOFs is still very challenging to predict and flexible MOFs have less been studied in selective gas separation. UTSA-300 (SIFSIX-dps-Zn; SIFSIX =  $SiF_6^{2-}$ , dps = 4,4'-dipyridylsulfide) [31] is the first

reported flexible MOF that takes up  $69.0\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  of  $C_2H_2$  and negligible  $CO_2$  and  $C_2H_4$ . By replacing the zinc ion ( $Zn^{2+}$ ) to copper ion ( $Cu^{2+}$ ), the resulting SIFSIX-dps-Cu [32] exhibits increased  $C_2H_2$  uptake of  $102.4\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  as well as an ultrahigh selectivity of  $1,787$ . However, the practical dynamic capacity of  $C_2H_2$  from equimolar  $C_2H_2/CO_2$  mixture is only  $2.48\text{ mmol/g}$ , even lower than that ( $2.9\text{ mmol/g}$ ) of our recently reported robust MOF ZNU-1 (ZNU = Zhejiang Normal University) [33] with static uptake of  $76.3\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  and ideal adsorbed solution theory (IAST) selectivity of  $56.6$ . Therefore, high practical working capacity is still very difficult to realize by flexible MOFs in the context of challenging  $C_2H_2/CO_2$  separation.

Herein, we would like to report a new  $TiF_6^{2-}$  anion (TIFSIX) pillared flexible metal-organic framework ZNU-5 for selective  $C_2H_2$  adsorption. ZNU-5 is constructed by self-assembly of  $CuTiF_6$  and 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene (DIB) in  $MeOH/H_2O$  solution. It displays a large capacity of  $128.6\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  for  $C_2H_2$  under  $1.0\text{ bar}$  and  $298\text{ K}$  but only adsorbs  $15.2$ ,  $11.9$ , and  $3.5\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  of  $CO_2$ ,  $C_2H_4$ , and  $CH_4$ . The near-zero coverage  $C_2H_2$  adsorption heat is as low as  $27.8\text{ kJ/mol}$ , indicative of its low energy footprint for material regeneration. The calculated IAST selectivities at  $1.0\text{ bar}$  are  $11.6$  for  $C_2H_2/CO_2$ ,  $255$  for  $C_2H_2/C_2H_4$ , and  $850$  for  $C_2H_2/CH_4$ . Such high selectivities have rarely been achieved by reported top-performing MOFs. The practical separation performance is fully demonstrated by the breakthrough

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experiments of multi-component gas mixtures. 3.3, 2.8, and 2.2 mmol/g of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> is captured at ZNU-5 from 50/50 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>, 33.3/33.3/33.3 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub>, and 25/25/25/25 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> mixtures, respectively. 2.6, 2.0, and 1.5 mmol/g of > 98% purity C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> can be recycled from the desorption process. No separation performance reduction is observed over 5 cycles. Therefore, combining high working capacity, low adsorption heat, as well as good recyclability, ZNU-5 is promising for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> purification.

## 2 Experimental

### 2.1 Synthesis of ZNU-5

To a 5 mL long thin tube was added 1 mL of aqueous solution with (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>6</sub> (1 mg) and Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mg). 3 mL of MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O mixture was slowly layered above the solution, followed by 1 mL of MeOH solution of 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene (2 mg). The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at room temperature. After several days, purple needle-shaped crystals were formed on the glass surface. The average yield was ca. 75%.

### 2.2 Synthesis of ZNU-4

To a 5 mL long thin tube was added 1 mL of aqueous solution with (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>6</sub> (1 mg) and Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mg). 2 mL of MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O mixture was slowly layered above the solution, followed by 1 mL of MeCN solution of 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene (2 mg). The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at room temperature. After several days, blue flake shaped crystals were formed on the glass surface. The average yield was ca. 75%.

## 3 Results and discussion

### 3.1 Structural analysis and characterization

Light blue single crystals of ZNU-4 [34] with zsd topology was prepared in MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O solution (Fig. S2(a) in the Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM)). Each Cu(II) ion of ZNU-4 is connected to four imidazole nitrogen atoms from four different DIB ligands and two fluorine atoms from two TiF<sub>6</sub><sup>2-</sup> groups (Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)). The DIB ligand is in anti-configuration while TiF<sub>6</sub><sup>2-</sup> is coordinating through trans mode. Six copper ions and six DIB

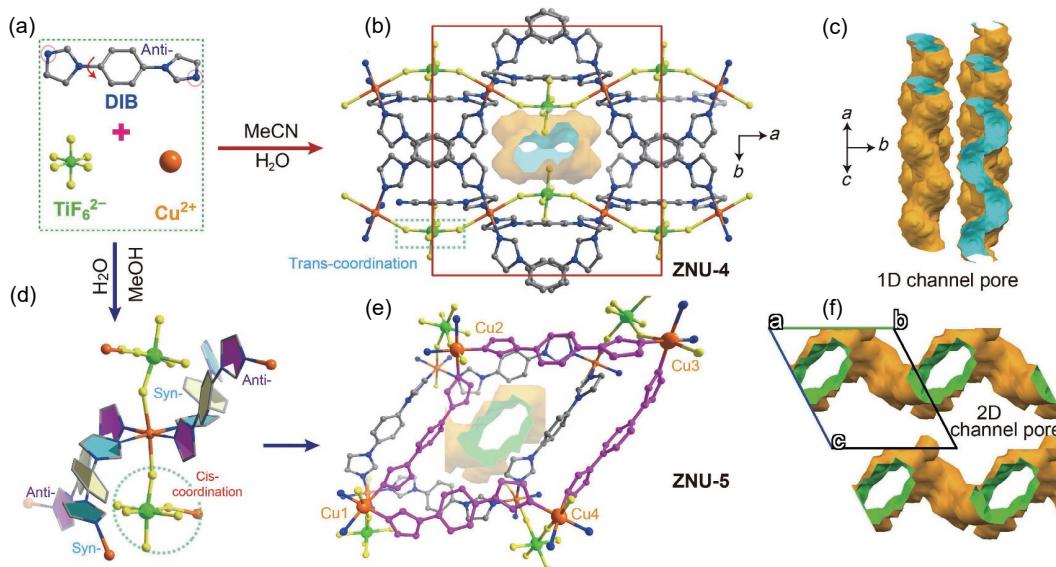
linkers generate a very twisted loop. Every unit cell contains two adjacent narrow one-dimensional (1D) channel with fluorine atoms decorated in the surface (Fig. 1(c)). The solvents play an important role in the self-assembly of the building units. In MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O solution, needle-shaped purple crystals of ZNU-5 were cultivated with distinct porous structures (Fig. S2(b) in the ESM). As shown in Fig. 1(d), every Cu(II) cation is octahedrally coordinated to four DIB ligands in half syn and half anti configuration and two TIFSIX anions in cis coordination mode, extending to a non-interpenetrated pcu topology framework (Fig. 1(e)). Different from ZNU-4, ZNU-5 features two-dimensional pore channels as shown in Fig. 1(f).

As shown in Fig. 2(a), the powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns of the as-synthesized ZNU-5 are consistent with the simulated ones from crystal structure, indicating the pure phase of sample. ZNU-5 is relatively stable in humid air but sensitive to water. A new phase appears when the sample is immersed in water. Interestingly, the original phase can be recovered when the water-soaked samples were re-activated or re-soaked in methanol (Fig. S12 in the ESM). Thermo gravimetric analysis (TGA) analysis was conducted to compare the thermal stability of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5 qualitatively (Fig. 2(b)). The weight reduction before 150 °C belongs to the loss of water and organic solvent in the pores. ZNU-5 shows a second weight loss until 340 °C, slightly higher than that of ZNU-4 (290 °C), suggesting the superior thermal stability of ZNU-5.

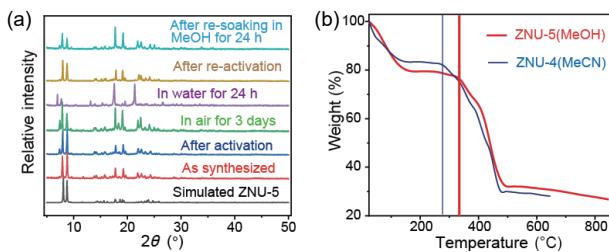
### 3.2 Single-component adsorption experiments and selectivity calculations

To evaluate the pore properties of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5, CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption measurements were performed at 195 K (Fig. 3(a)). ZNU-4 displays the type-I isotherm and the maximum loading is 105.7 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 100 kPa. The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) surface area is 358.6 m<sup>2</sup>/g. In contrast, two stages of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption are observed for ZNU-5. The CO<sub>2</sub> uptakes in the first and second steps are 200.9 (15 kPa) and 299.8 cm<sup>3</sup>/g (100 kPa), respectively. The BET surface area is 751.5 m<sup>2</sup>/g (Fig. S14(b) in the ESM). The calculated pore width is 5.2 Å (Fig. S14(a) in the ESM), perfectly consistent with the pore size (5.2 Å) measured from the single crystal structure (Fig. S10 in the ESM).

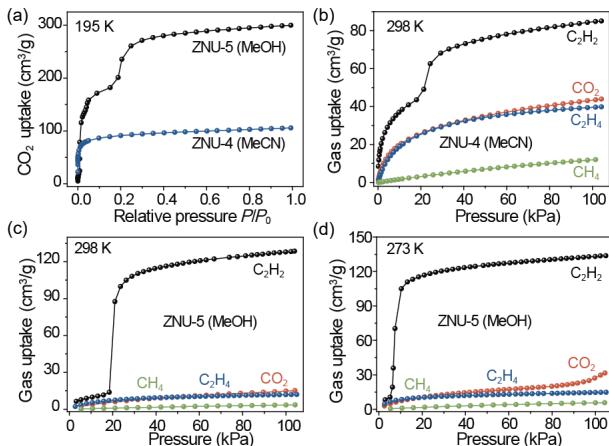
The distinct structure/pore architectures and porosity of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5 prompted us to evaluate their difference in gas



**Figure 1** (a) The building blocks for the synthesis of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5. (b) The porous structure of ZNU-4. (c) Voids of ZNU-4. (d) Coordination mode in ZNU-5. (e) The porous structure of ZNU-5. (f) Voids of ZNU-5. The voids are generated by a probe with a radius of 1.2 Å.



**Figure 2** (a) PXRD patterns of ZNU-5 under different condition. (b) Thermo gravimetric analysis curve of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5.

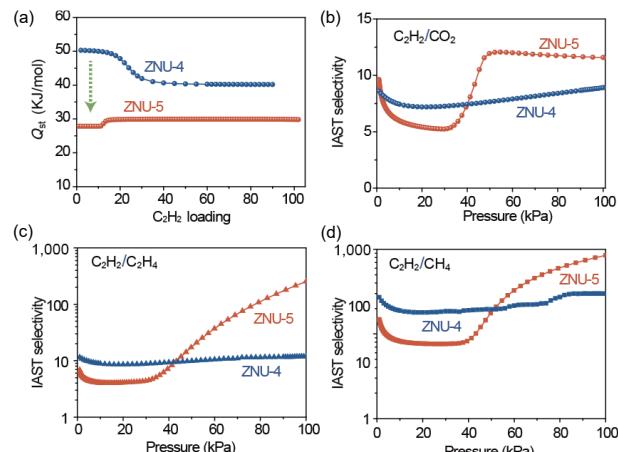


**Figure 3** (a)  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption isotherm for ZNU-4 and ZNU-5 at 195 K. (b)  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  adsorption isotherms in ZNU-4 at 298 K. (c) and (d)  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  adsorption isotherms in ZNU-5 at 298 and 273 K.

adsorption and separation performances. As shown in Figs. 3(b)–3(d), and Figs. S15 and S16 in the ESM, we performed unary gas adsorption tests for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  under the temperature ranging from 263 to 313 K. The  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  adsorption isotherms of ZNU-5 showed gate-opening pressure increases from 5 kPa (273 K) to around 20 kPa (298 K) and 30 kPa (313 K), indicating that the gate-opening pressure is temperature dependent. Such temperature dependent gate-opening has also been observed for  $\text{CO}_2$  at 263 K, which possesses a higher gate-opening pressure (65 kPa). Impressively, ZNU-5 exhibits a remarkably high  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  uptake of  $128.6 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  at 298 K and 100 kPa with a flexible feature (Fig. 3(c)), which is 51.1% higher than that of ZNU-4 ( $85.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ). This value sets a new record of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  capacity at 100 kPa among MOF materials with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  molecular sieving effect, which outperforms many benchmark MOFs including UTSA-300 ( $69.0 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [31], NTU-65 ( $75.4 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [35], ZJU-196 ( $83.5 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [36], CPL-1-NH<sub>2</sub> ( $41.2 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [37], SIFSIX-dps-Cu ( $102.4 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [32], and MOF-OH ( $60.0 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ ) [38]. Notably, ZNU-5 completely prevents the  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  entrance at the pressure up to 100 kPa at 298 K. Therefore, the exceptional  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  capture capacity at 100 kPa combined with the much lower  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  uptakes enables ZNU-5 with great potential to achieve one-step  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  purification from quaternary  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{CH}_4$  mixtures.

Figure 4(a) shows that the initial  $Q_{st}$  values for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  (27.8 kJ/mol) in ZNU-5 is much lower than that of ZNU-4 (50.3 kJ/mol), implying a relatively low energy consumption in regeneration.

IAST calculations were performed to qualitatively evaluate the adsorption selectivity of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5 for equimolar  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CH}_4$  mixtures at 298 K, respectively. Due to the existence of the gate-opening phenomenon, the fitting is challenging and temperature dependant dual-site Langmuir–Freundlich model is applied. The comparison of experimental and simulated adsorption isotherms



**Figure 4** (a)  $Q_{st}$  for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  adsorption in ZNU-4 and ZNU-5. (b)–(d) IAST selectivity for equimolar  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CH}_4$  mixtures in ZNU-4 and ZNU-5 at 298 K.

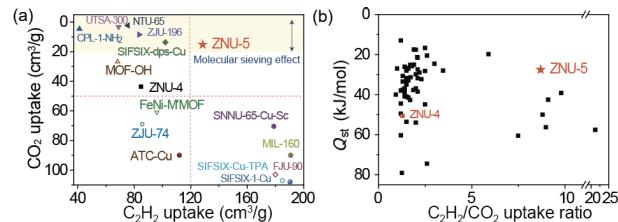
as well as the fitting parameters are presented in Fig. S17 and Table S3 in the ESM, which showed the fitting is in excellent accuracy. For equimolar  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CH}_4$  mixtures, as presented in Figs. 4(b)–4(d), ZNU-5 exhibits a higher selectivity up to 12, 255, and 850 at 100 kPa, which is superior to ZNU-4 with the selectivity of 9, 12, and 300.

The comparison of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  uptake in top-performing materials is presented in Fig. 5(a). ZNU-5 is the best example that shows a very high  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  uptake as well as a very low  $\text{CO}_2$  uptake, which is also reflected in the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  uptake ratio in Fig. 5(b). SNNU-65-Cu-Sc [39], MIL-160 [40], FJU-90 [41], SIFSIX-Cu-TPA [42], and SIFSIX-1-Cu [43] exhibited a higher  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  uptake, yet a higher  $\text{CO}_2$  uptake as well, leading to decreased  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  selectivity. Besides, ZNU-5 is the only porous materials that exhibit a  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  uptake ratio  $> 8$  and  $Q_{st}$  value  $< 30 \text{ kJ/mol}$  [44–53]. A more comprehensive comparison table is listed in Tables S4–S6 in the ESM, among which ZNU-5 is still a benchmark material for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  recovery from other gases.

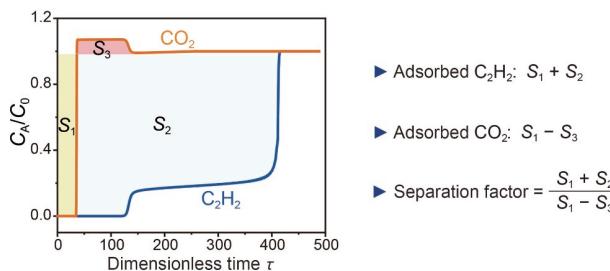
### 3.3 Dynamic breakthrough experiments

Transient breakthrough simulations were conducted to evaluate the separation performance of ZNU-5 for equimolar  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  (50/50) mixture. As shown in Fig. 6, ZNU-5 exhibits a stepped breakthrough curve for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ , which is not seen in rigid adsorbents [54]. Nonetheless, the captured  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  amount is still very large while that of  $\text{CO}_2$  is negligible, thus leading to a high separation factor. Besides, as  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ , the target gas, needs desorption process to obtain, slight leakage in the breakthrough process will not have large influence on the dynamic capacity of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ .

To evaluate the practical separation performance as well as confirm the stepped breakthrough phenomenon, experimental breakthrough tests were conducted. The results showed that the experimental breakthrough curves are very similar with the simulations (Fig. S18 in the ESM). For equimolar  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  mixtures, efficient separations could be accomplished by ZNU-5



**Figure 5** (a) Comparison of the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  uptakes at 100 kPa and 298 K between ZNU-5 and other materials. (b) Comparison of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  uptake ratio and  $Q_{st}$  for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  between ZNU-5 and other materials.

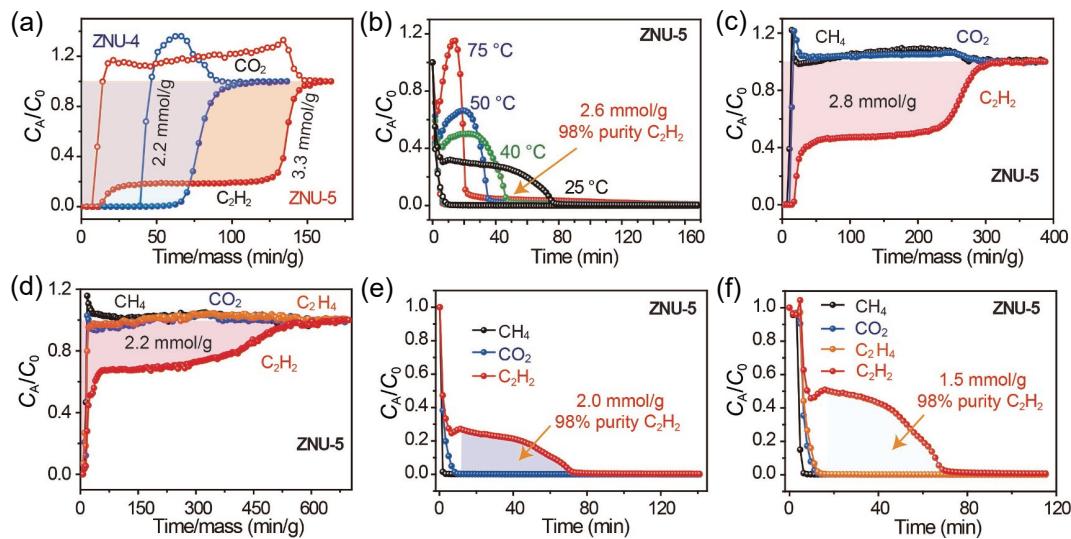


**Figure 6** Simulated breakthrough curve of ZNU-5 for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50) at 298 K.

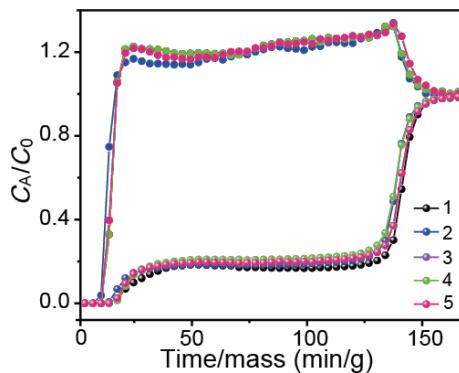
with 3.3 mol/g of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  capacity, while the uptake of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  absorbed in ZNU-4 was only 2.2 mol/g (Fig. 7(a)). Subsequently, we explored the effect of different desorption temperatures on regeneration. Figure 7(b) shows that the desorption time of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  is gradually shortened with the increase of desorption temperature. Controlling the desorption temperature of 25 °C, 2.6 mol/g of 98% purity  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  can be recovered from the column after blowing  $\text{CO}_2$  out at the first stage. The dynamic separation

factor of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  is calculated to be 9.1 (Fig. S20 in the ESM), higher than those of ZNU-4 (5.4) [34] and many other top-performing materials such as CAU-10-H (3.4) [53], JCM-1 (4.4) [45], ZJU-74a (4.3) [55], and SNNU-45 (2.9) [8]. The capture ability of ZNU-5 for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  from the ternary and quaternary mixtures was further studied. As shown in Figs. 7(c) and 7(d), when the gas mixtures containing equal ratios of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$  or  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  passed through the ZNU-5 packed column,  $\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$  or  $\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  outflowed first, then  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  began to discharge at around 104/170 min, and up to 2.8/2.2 mmol/g of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  was adsorbed in this process. During desorption process, 2.0/1.5 mmol/g of 98% purity  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  can be recovered from the column by stepped Ar purge process, which are both higher than those of ZNU-4 (0.48 and 0.05 mmol/g) [34].

Recyclability is a very important parameter to assess the potential for practical application. Thus, 5 repetitive breakthrough experiments were carried out. Negligible capacity reduction is observed (Fig. 8), demonstrating that ZNU-5 is a promising adsorbent with good cyclic utilization performance.



**Figure 7** (a) The breakthrough curve for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50) separation at ZNU-4 and ZNU-5. (b) The  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50) desorption curves for ZNU-5 at 25, 40, 50, and 75 °C. (c) The breakthrough curve for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$ (33.3/33.3/33.3) separation at ZNU-5. (d) The breakthrough curves for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{CH}_4$ (25/25/25/25) separation at ZNU-5. (e) The desorption curves for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$ (33.3/33.3/33.3) separation at ZNU-5. (f) The desorption curves for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4/\text{CH}_4$ (25/25/25/25) separation at ZNU-5.



**Figure 8** Five cycles of dynamic breakthrough curves for  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50, v/v) mixture.

## 4 Conclusions

In a nutshell, we reported a novel fluorinated anion pillared MOF with flexible molecular sieving effect that can efficiently capture  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  from  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{C}_n\text{H}_4$  ( $n = 1$  and 2). The foregoing results

revealed that ZNU-5 exhibits not only high  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  uptake capacity but also simultaneously excellent  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  (12),  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  (255), and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CH}_4$  (850) selectivity under ambient conditions, outperforming most of the flexible molecular sieving MOFs reported. Experimental breakthrough tests further confirmed the effective capture of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  from binary  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ , ternary  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$ , and quaternary  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4/\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  mixtures with large productivity and good recyclability. Thus, combining large working capacity, low adsorption heat, as well as excellent recyclability, ZNU-5 is a promising adsorbent for practical  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  purification and separation. The mechanism of the selective gate opening behavior is under study.

## Acknowledgements

Y. B. Z. acknowledged the financial support by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 21908193) and Jinhua Industrial Key Project (No. 2021A22648). S. D. acknowledged the financial support by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 21871231) and the Special Funds for Basic Scientific Research of Zhejiang University (Nos. 2019QNA3010 and K20210335). L. Y. W. acknowledged the financial support by the

National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 22205207).

**Electronic Supplementary Material:** Supplementary material (crystallographic data and additional figures) is available in the online version of this article at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12274-022-4996-9>.

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# Electronic Supplementary Material

## Efficient capture of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> from CO<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>4</sub> by a novel fluorinated anion pillared MOF with flexible molecular sieving effect

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Supporting information to <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12274-022-4996-9>

# Experimental Section

## I. General Information and Procedures

### Materials:

1,4-dibromobenzene, CuI, and dimethylglycine were purchased from Energy Chemical. Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O was purchased from Macklin. (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>TiF<sub>6</sub> was purchased from Alab Chemical Technology. Imidazole was purchased from Aladdin. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was purchased from LUQUAN without further purification. All reagents and solvents were used without further purification.

### Procedures:

1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene was synthesized according to the literature method with slight modifications[1] :A mixture of 1,4-dibromobenzene (4.718 g, 20 mmol), imidazole (3.404 g, 50 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (11.057 g, 80 mmol), dimethylglycine (825.0 mg, 8 mmol) and CuI (761.8 mg, 4 mmol) were charged into a Schlenk flask. The system was then evacuated and back filled with N<sub>2</sub> twice, followed by addition of 50 mL of DMSO. The mixture was heated at 110 °C for 48 h before it was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. During the concentration process, white crystalline solid formed and the remaining yellow liquid (~ 10 mL) was difficult to remove under 50 °C. Then, the mixture was filtered and white solid was collected and dried under vacuum at room temperature for 2h. The purity of the obtained white solid was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The weight was 2.544g. Yield: 61%.

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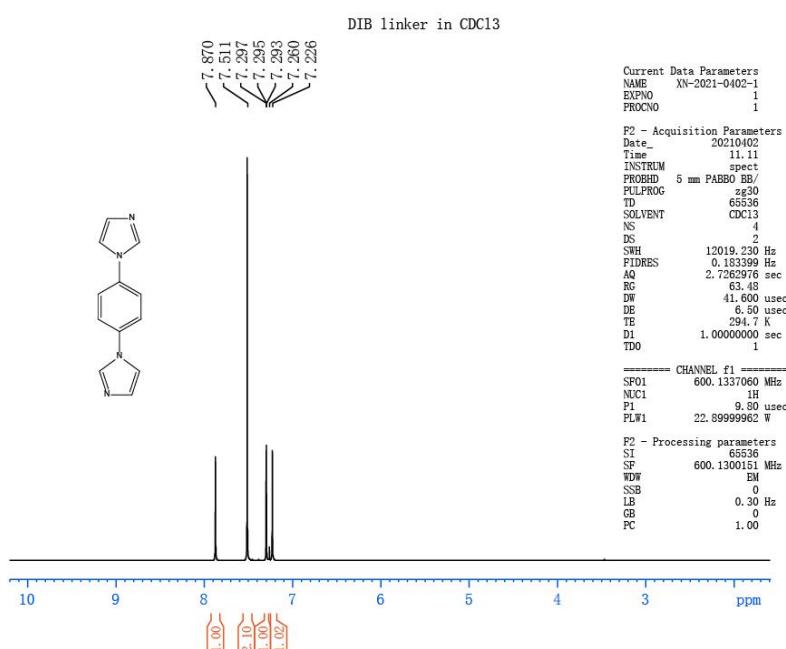
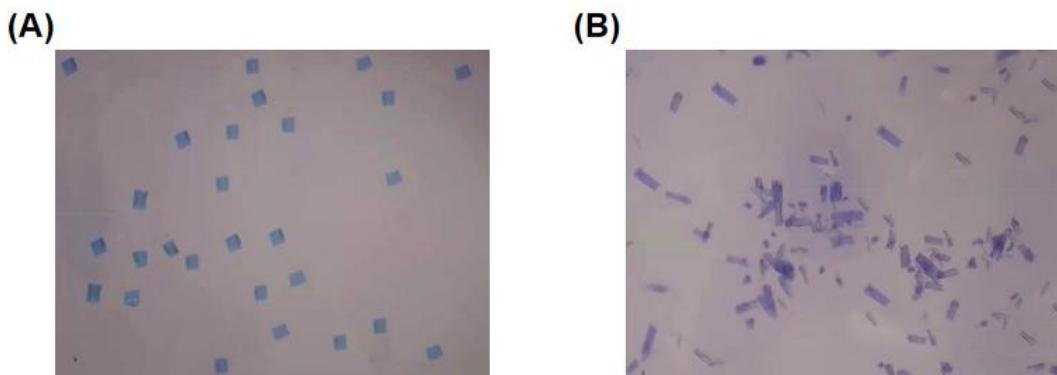


Figure S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene

**Preparation of ZNU-4:** To a 5 mL long thin tube was added a 1 mL of aqueous solution with  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiF}_6$  (1 mg) and  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1 mg). 2 mL of MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O mixture was slowly layered above the solution, followed by a 1 mL of MeCN solution of 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene(2 mg). The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at RT. After several days, blue flake shaped crystals were formed on the glass surface. The average yield is ca 75%

**Preparation of ZNU-5:** To a 5 mL long thin tube was added a 1 mL of aqueous solution with  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiF}_6$  (1 mg) and  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1 mg). 3 mL of MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O mixture was slowly layered above the solution, followed by a 1 mL of MeOH solution of 1,4-di(1H-imidazol-1-yl)benzene(2 mg). The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at RT. The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at RT. After several days, purple needle-shaped crystals were formed on the glass surface. The average yield is ca 75%



**Figure S2** The microscopic image of as-synthesized ZNU-4 and ZNU-5.

**Single-crystal X-ray diffraction studies** were conducted at 193 K on the BrukerAXS D8 VENTURE diffractometer equipped with a PHOTON-100/CMOS detector ( $\text{GaK}\alpha$ ,  $\lambda = 1.34139 \text{ \AA}$ ). Indexing was performed using APEX2. Data integration and reduction were completed using SaintPlus 6.01. Absorption correction was performed by the multi-scan method implemented in SADABS. The space group was determined using XPREP implemented in APEX2.1. The structure was solved with SHELXS-97 (direct methods) and refined on F2 (nonlinear least-squares method) with SHELXL-97 contained in APEX2, WinGX v1.70.01, and OLEX2 v1.1.5 program packages. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The contribution of disordered solvent molecules was treated as diffuse using the Squeeze routine implemented in Platon.

**Powder X-ray diffraction** (PXRD) data were collected on the SHIMADZU XRD-6000 diffractometer ( $\text{Cu K}\alpha\lambda = 1.540598 \text{ \AA}$ ) with an operating power of 40 KV, 30 mA and a scan speed of 4.0°/min. The range of  $2\theta$  was from 5° to 50°.

**Thermal gravimetric analysis** was performed on the TGA STA449F5 instrument. Experiments were carried out using a platinum pan under nitrogen atmosphere which conducted by a flow rate of 60 mL/min nitrogen gas. First, the sample was heated at 80 °C for 1 h to remove the water residue and equilibrated for 5 minutes, then cooled down to 50 °C. The data were collected at the temperature range of 50 °C to 800 °C with a ramp of 10 °C /min.

**The static gas adsorption equilibrium measurements** were performed on the Builder SSA 7000 (Beijing) instrument. Before gas adsorption measurements, the sample of ZNU-5 (~100 mg) was evacuated at 25 °C for 2 h firstly, and then at 80°C for 10 h until the pressure dropped below 7 μmHg. The sorption isotherms were collected at 195K, 263K, 273K, 298K, and 313K on activated samples. The

experimental temperatures were controlled by liquid acetone bath (195 K) and water / ethanol bath (263K, 273K, 298K, and 313K), respectively.

#### Fitting of experimental data on pure component isotherms

The unary isotherm data for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> measured at four different temperatures 263K, 273K, 298K, and 313K in ZNU-5 were fitted with good accuracy using the dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich model, where we distinguish two distinct adsorption sites A and B:

$$q = \frac{q_{sat,A} b_A p^{vA}}{1 + b_A p^{vA}} + \frac{q_{sat,B} b_B p^{vB}}{1 + b_B p^{vB}} \quad (S1)$$

Here, P is the pressure of the bulk gas at equilibrium with the adsorbed phase (Pa), q is the adsorbed amount per mass of adsorbent (mol kg<sup>-1</sup>), q<sub>sat</sub>, A and q<sub>sat</sub>, B are the saturation capacities of site A and B (mol kg<sup>-1</sup>), b<sub>A</sub> and b<sub>B</sub> are the affinity coefficients of site A and B (Pa<sup>-1</sup>).

In eq (S1), the Langmuir-Freundlich parameters b<sub>A</sub> and b<sub>B</sub> can be temperature dependent or temperature independent .

$$b_A = b_{A0} \exp\left(\frac{E_A}{RT}\right); \quad b_B = b_{B0} \exp\left(\frac{E_B}{RT}\right) \quad (S2)$$

In eq (S2), E<sub>A</sub> and E<sub>B</sub> are the energy parameters associated with sites A, and B, respectively.

The isosteric heat of adsorption, Q<sub>st</sub>, is defined as

$$Q_{st} = -RT^2 \left( \frac{\partial \ln p}{\partial T} \right)_q \quad (S3)$$

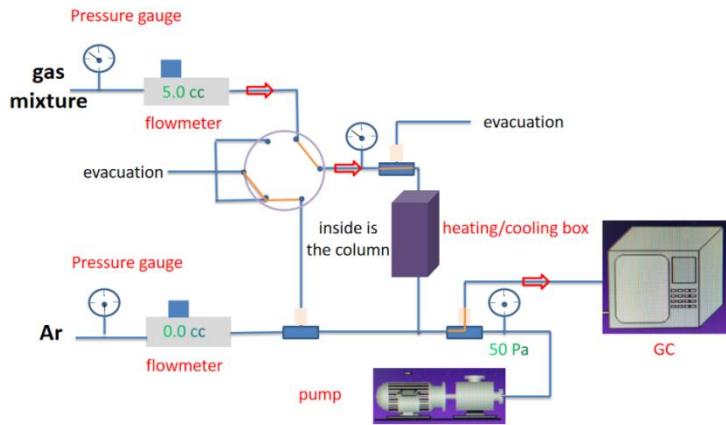
where the derivative in the right member of eq (S3) is determined at constant adsorbate loading, q. The calculations are based on the use of the Clausius-Clapeyron equation.

#### Breakthrough experiments

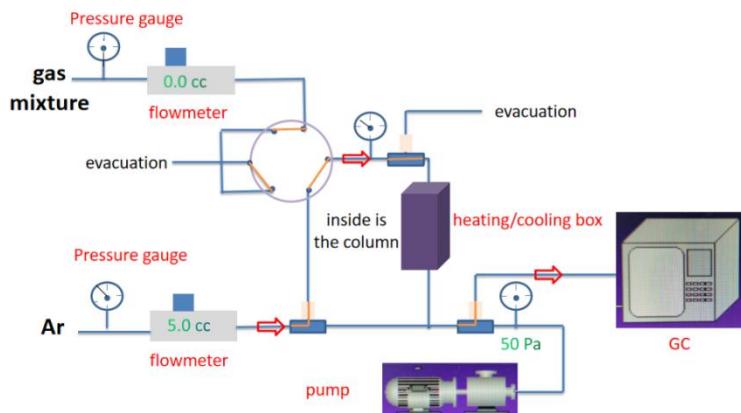
The breakthrough experiments were carried out in the dynamic gas breakthrough equipment HPMC-41 (Xuzhou North Gaorui Electronic Equipment Co., Ltd). The experiments were conducted using a stainless steel column (4.9 mm inner diameter × 100 mm length). The weight of ZNU-5 packed in the columns was 0.45g. The column packed with sample was first purged with a Ar flow (5 mL min<sup>-1</sup>) for 18 h at 60 °C. The mixed gas of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> (v/v, 50:50), C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (v/v/v, 33:33:33), and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> (v/v/v/v, 25:25:25:25) was then introduced. All the flowrates are calibrated using the home-made soap-film flowmeter. Outlet gas from the column was monitored using gas chromatography (GC-9860-5CNJ) with the thermal conductivity detector TCD. After the breakthrough experiment, the sample was regenerated with a Ar flow of 5 mL min<sup>-1</sup> at 70 °C for 5 h or by desorption under vacuum at 70 °C overnight.

The illustration of the gas breakthrough equipment working mechanism is showing as below: A) under work; B) under purge; C) under vacuum.

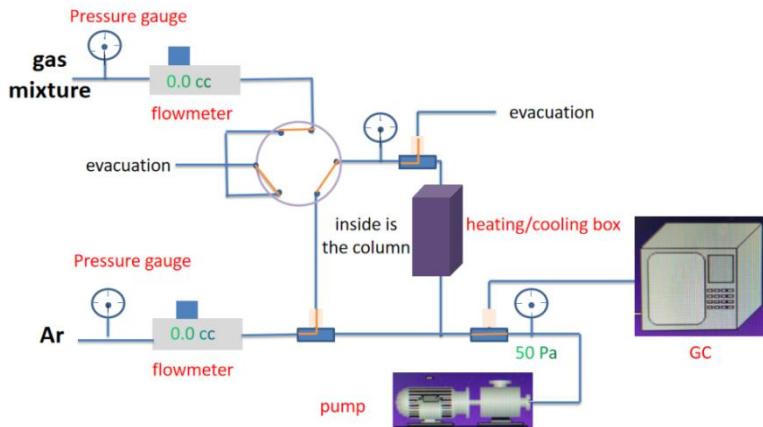
## A) Under Work



## B) Under Purge



## C) Under Vacuum



**Figure S3** The illustration of the gas breakthrough equipment working mechanism containing gas pipelines, pressure gauge, flowmeter, GC and pump: A) under work, B) under purge, C) under vacuum.

### Calculation of separation factor ( $\alpha$ )

The amount of gas adsorbed  $i$  ( $q_i$ ) is calculated from the breakthrough curves using the following:

$$q_i = \frac{V_T P_i \Delta T}{m} \quad (S4)$$

Here, VT is the total flow rate of gas (mL/min), Pi is the partial pressure of gas i (atm), ΔT is the time for initial breakthrough of gas i to occur (mins) and m is the mass of the sorbent (g). The separation factor ( $\alpha$ ) of the breakthrough experiment is determined as

$$\alpha = \frac{q_1 y_2}{q_2 y_1} \quad (\text{S5})$$

Where,  $y_i$  is the partial pressure of gas i in the gas mixture. For equimolar gas mixtures,  $y_1=y_2$ ,  $\alpha = q_1/q_2$ .

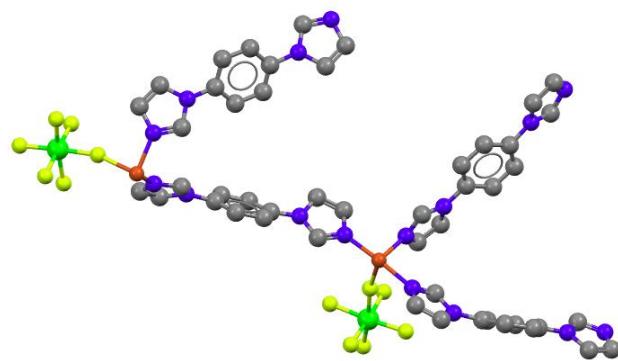
Besides, the separation factor ( $\alpha$ ) can also be calculated directly from the desorption curves after saturation, where the ratio of areas below the desorption curves is nearly equal to the separation factor.

## II. Characterization (SCXRD, PXRD, TGA)

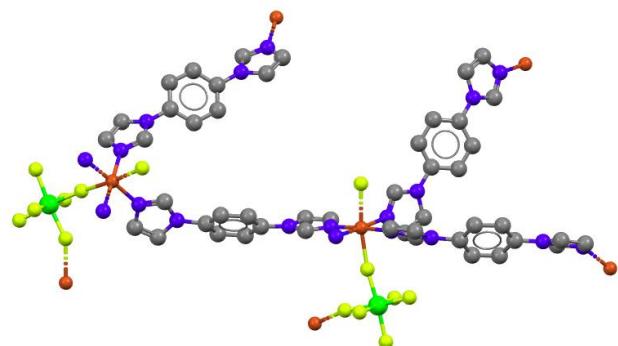
**Table S1** Crystallographic data for ZNU-5 and ZNU-4

Materials	Simulated ZNU-5	ZNU-5 immersed to H <sub>2</sub> O	ZNU-4 (MeCN)
Cell	a=12.1965(3)	a=12.655(3)	a=18.4836(14)
	b=12.5066(4)	b=12.923(2)	b=17.0872(11)
	c=12.5675(4)	c=14.301(3)	c=11.6222(8)
	$\alpha$ =60.7210(10)	$\alpha$ =63.337(5)	$\alpha$ =90
	$\beta$ =79.864(2)	$\beta$ =79.594(6)	$\beta$ =121.863(2)
	$\gamma$ =64.958(2)	$\gamma$ =63.137(5)	$\gamma$ =90
Temperature	--	193K	193K
Volume(Å <sup>3</sup> )	--	1863.8(7)	3117.6(4)
Space group	P 1	P -1	C 2/c
Formula	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>20</sub> CuF <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> Ti	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>20</sub> CuF <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> Ti	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>20</sub> CuF <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> Ti, 2(C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N)
Mu	-	0.836	1.011
Density	-	1.151	1.551
Z	-	2	4
R	-	0.0847	0.0489
wR2	-	0.2460	0.1221
S	-	0.951	1.048
CCDC No.		2173508	2173507

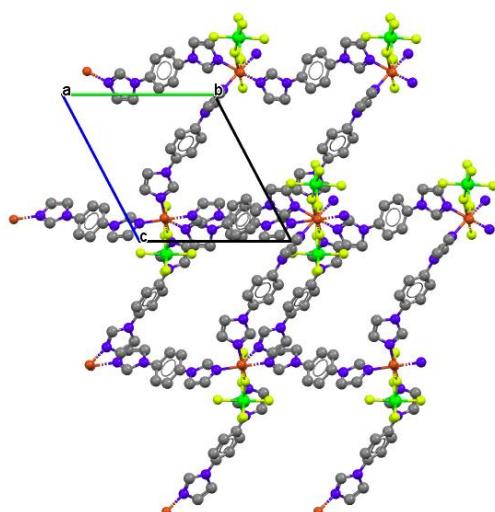
The single crystals are fragile under normal temperature. Only cell parameters (a,b,c,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ) can be obtained and the structures are not able to be completely solved unambiguously. Thus, this structure was modified based on its SIFSIX analogue SIFSIX-23-Cu- $\gamma$ 2 (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2020, 142, 6896-6901). The PXRD pattern from stimulated ZNU-5 is very consistent with that of the as-synthesized ZNU-5. The single crystals can be perfectly measured at low temperature (eg, 193 K) and solved, but a single crystal to single crystal transformation is observed. The structure solved at 193 K is different from that of synthesized. Interestingly, this newly formed structure is consistent with that of ZNU-5 after immersing to water (Fig. S12B).



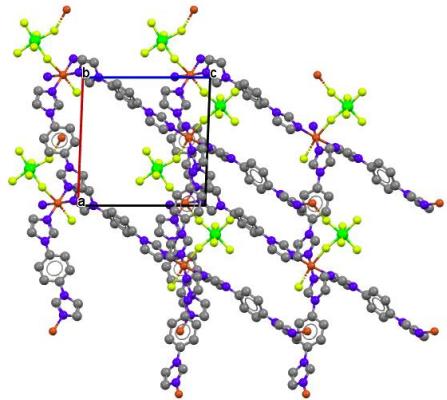
**Figure S4** Asymmetric unit of as-synthesized ZNU-5.



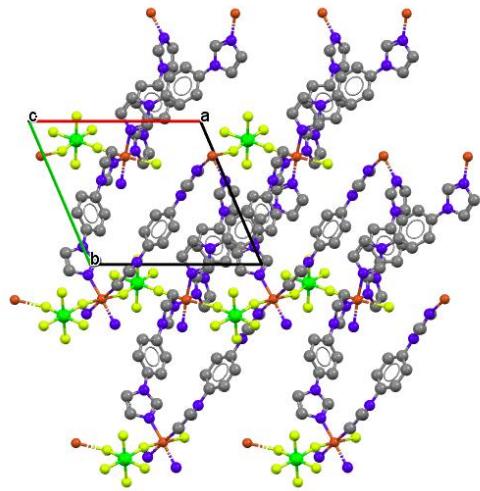
**Figure S5** View of the coordination environments of as-synthesized ZNU-5.



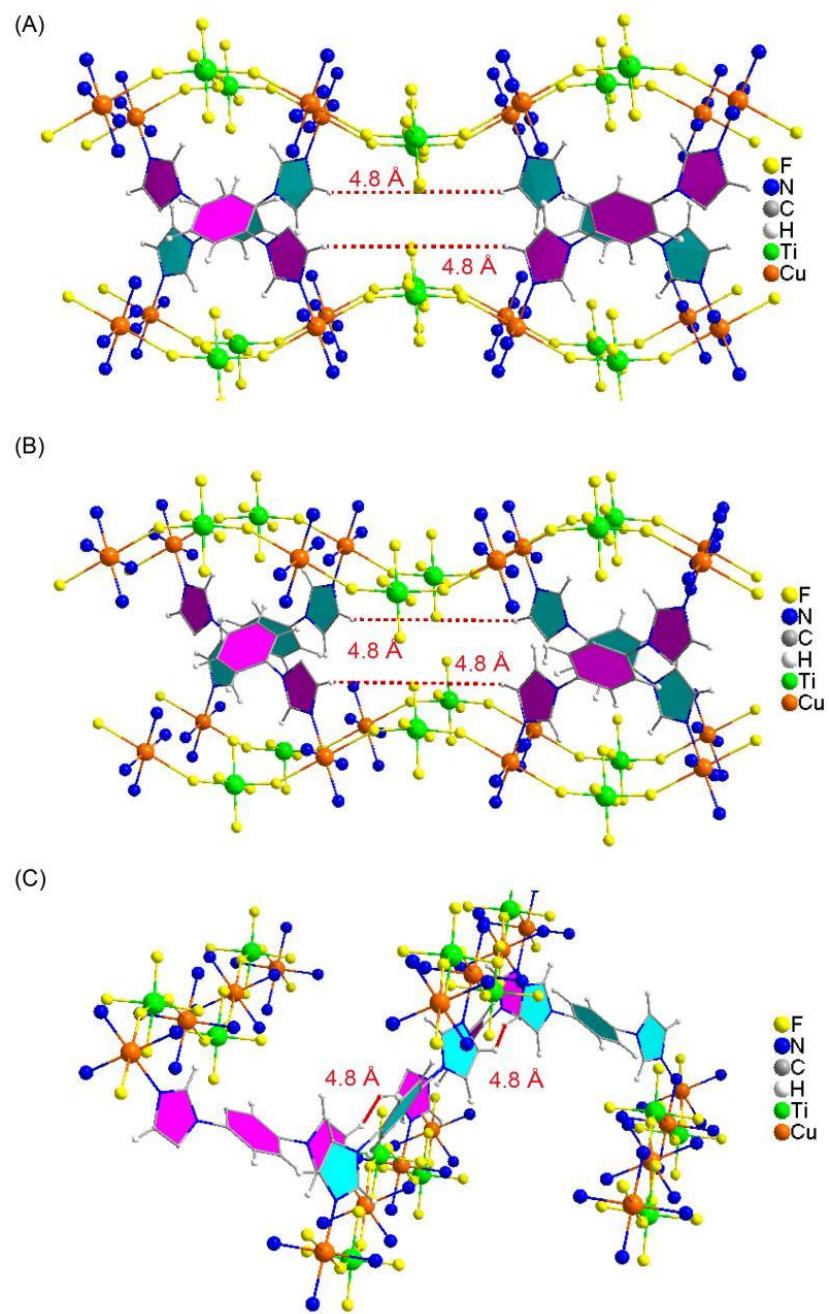
**Figure S6** Single crystal structure of as-synthesized ZNU-5 viewed along axis a.



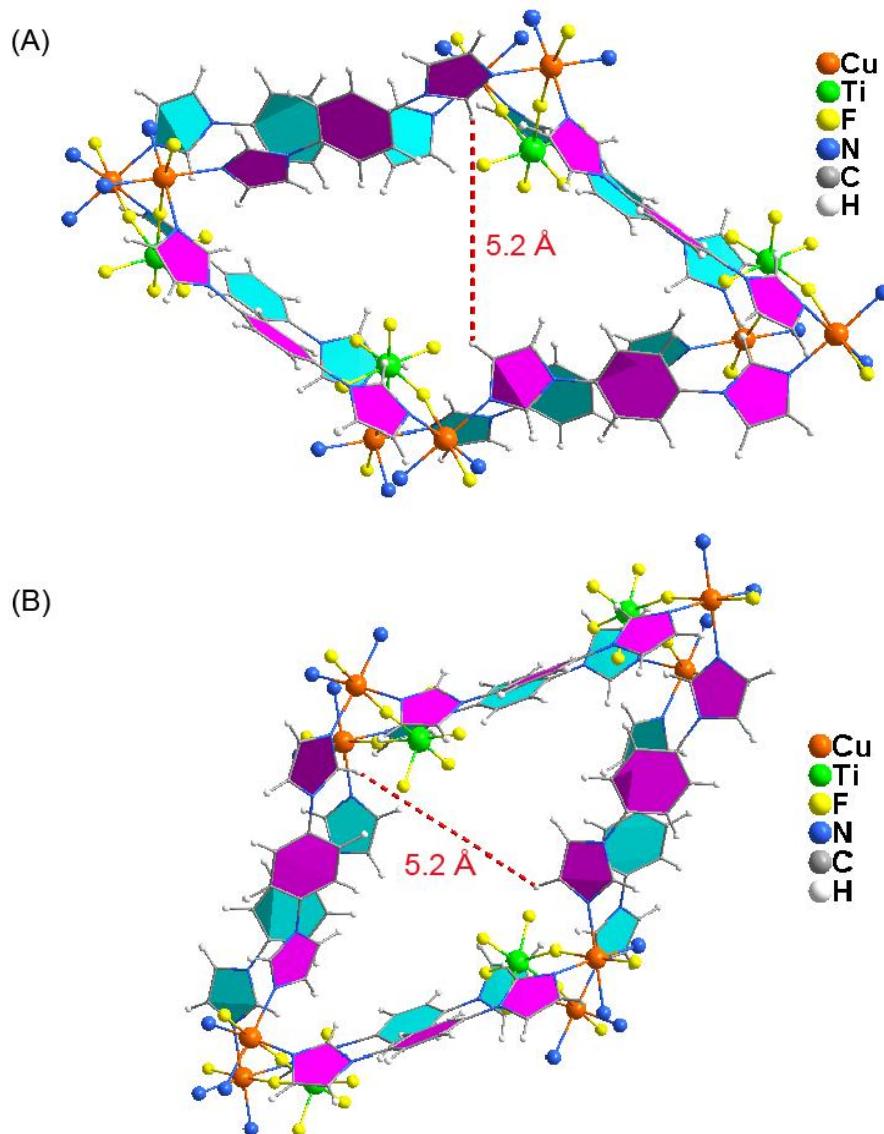
**Figure S7** Single crystal structure of as-synthesized ZNU-5 viewed along axis b.



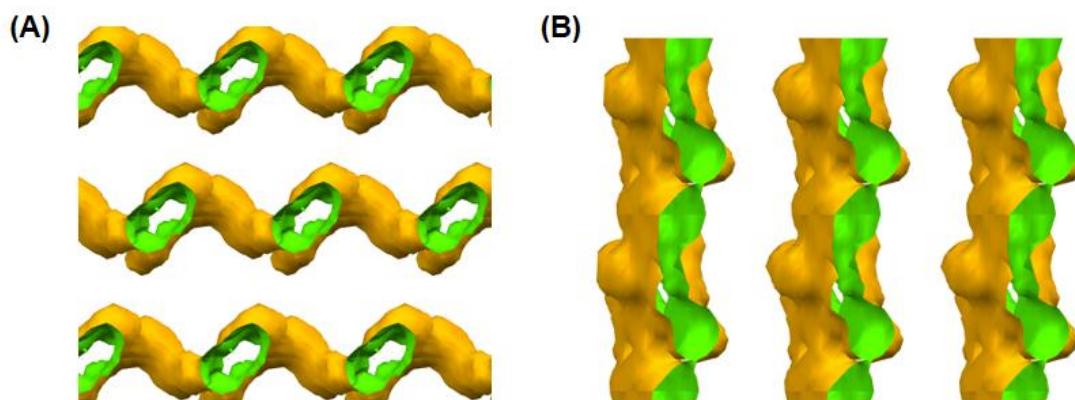
**Figure S8** Single crystal structure of as-synthesized ZNU-5 viewed along axis c.



**Figure S9** Crystal structures of ZNU-4 shown in different directions for the demonstration of the pore size. The distances have subtracted the Van der Waal radii of the two hydrogen atoms.

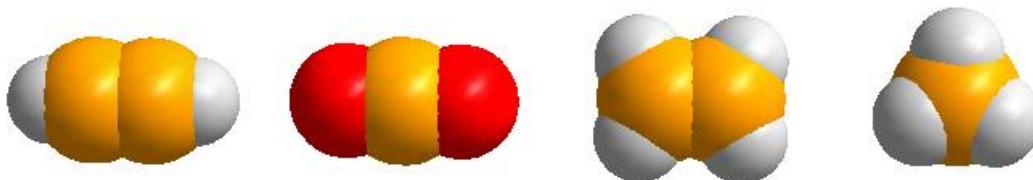


**Figure S10** Crystal structures of as-synthesized ZNU-5 shown in different directions for the demonstration of the pore size. The distances have subtracted the Van der Waal radii of the two hydrogen atoms.

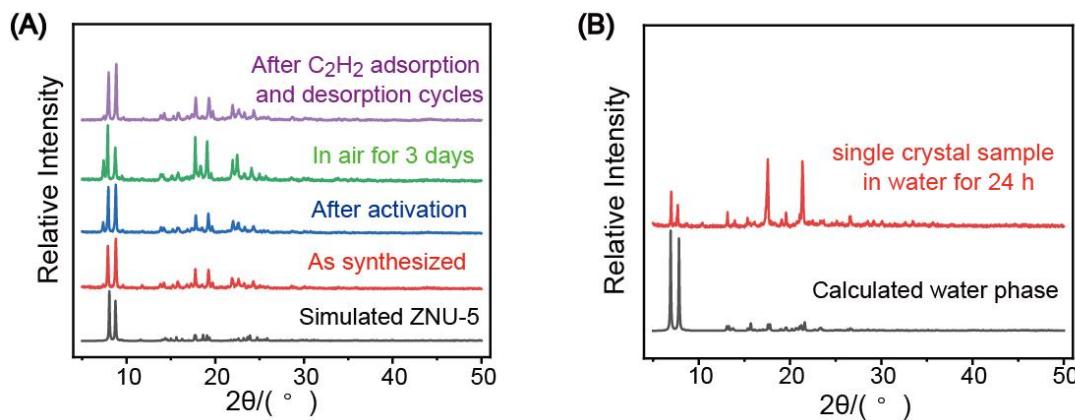


**Figure S11** Voids of as-synthesized ZNU-5 viewed along the crystallographic axis a(A) and b(B).

**Table S2** Comparison of the physical properties of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub>

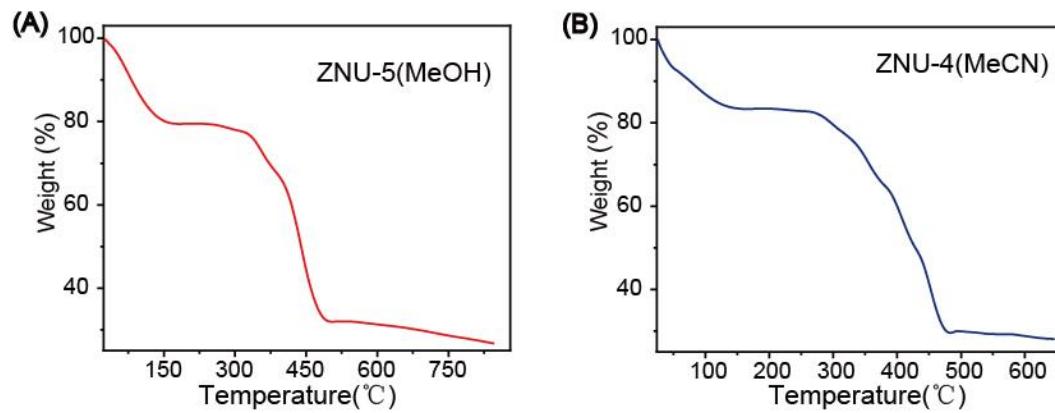


Molecular formula	Molecular dimension(Å)			Kinetic diameter(Å)	Polarizability ×10 <sup>-25</sup> (cm <sup>3</sup> )	Boiling point (K)
	X	Y	Z			
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	3.32	3.34	5.70	3.33	33.3-39.3	188.4
CO <sub>2</sub>	3.18	3.33	5.36	3.33	29.11	194.7
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3.28	4.18	4.84	4.16	42.5	169.4
CH <sub>4</sub>	3.83	3.94	4.10	3.76	25.93	111.7



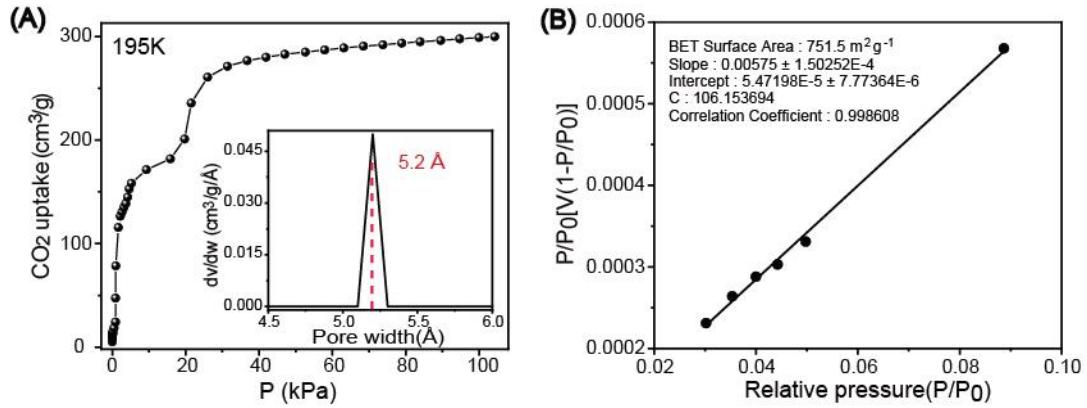
**Figure S12** PXRD patterns of ZNU-5 under different condition.

Analysis: PXRD patterns revealed that there are minor differences between the activated samples and the as-synthesized samples. Such small differences are often found in many reported materials and regarded as the complete retention of the original structures. Take some for examples: NTU-55 (ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces. 2020, 12, 3764–3772) , PCP-31 (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 11576–11583) , UTSA-222 (Inorg. Chem. 2017, 56, 7145–7150), and ZJU-8 (RSC Adv. 2015, 5, 77417–77422). Besides, slight bond length and angle changes are also very common after the removal of the guests. In our case, the framework is very flexible. After the guest molecules are removed, the framework must have slight bond length and angle changes, which is reflected by the slight difference of PXRD patterns as well as its gate opening behavior for gas adsorption. This small changes are very difficult to characterize by single crystal XRD.

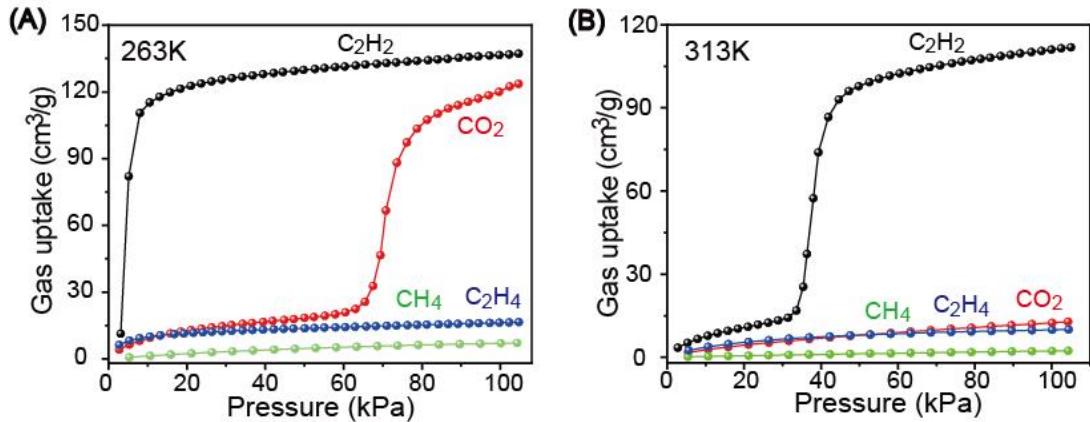


**Figure S13** Thermogravimetric analysis curve of ZNU-4 and ZNU-5.

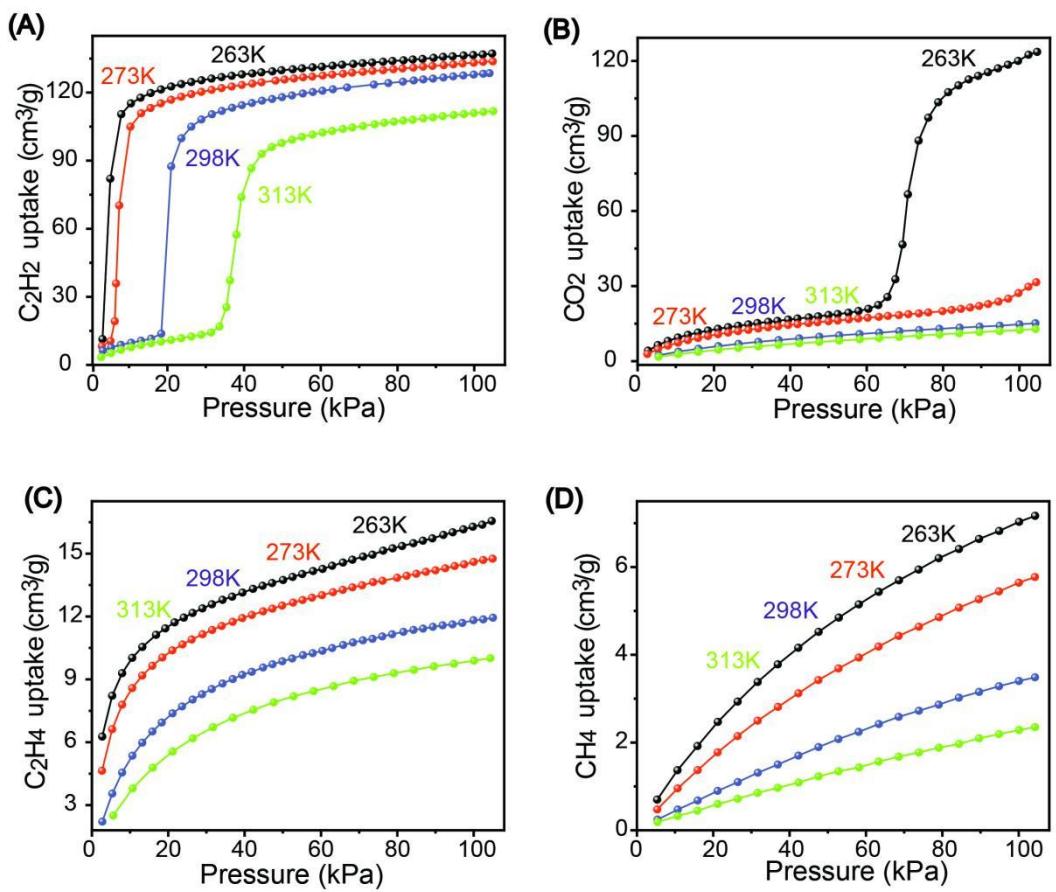
### III. Adsorption data



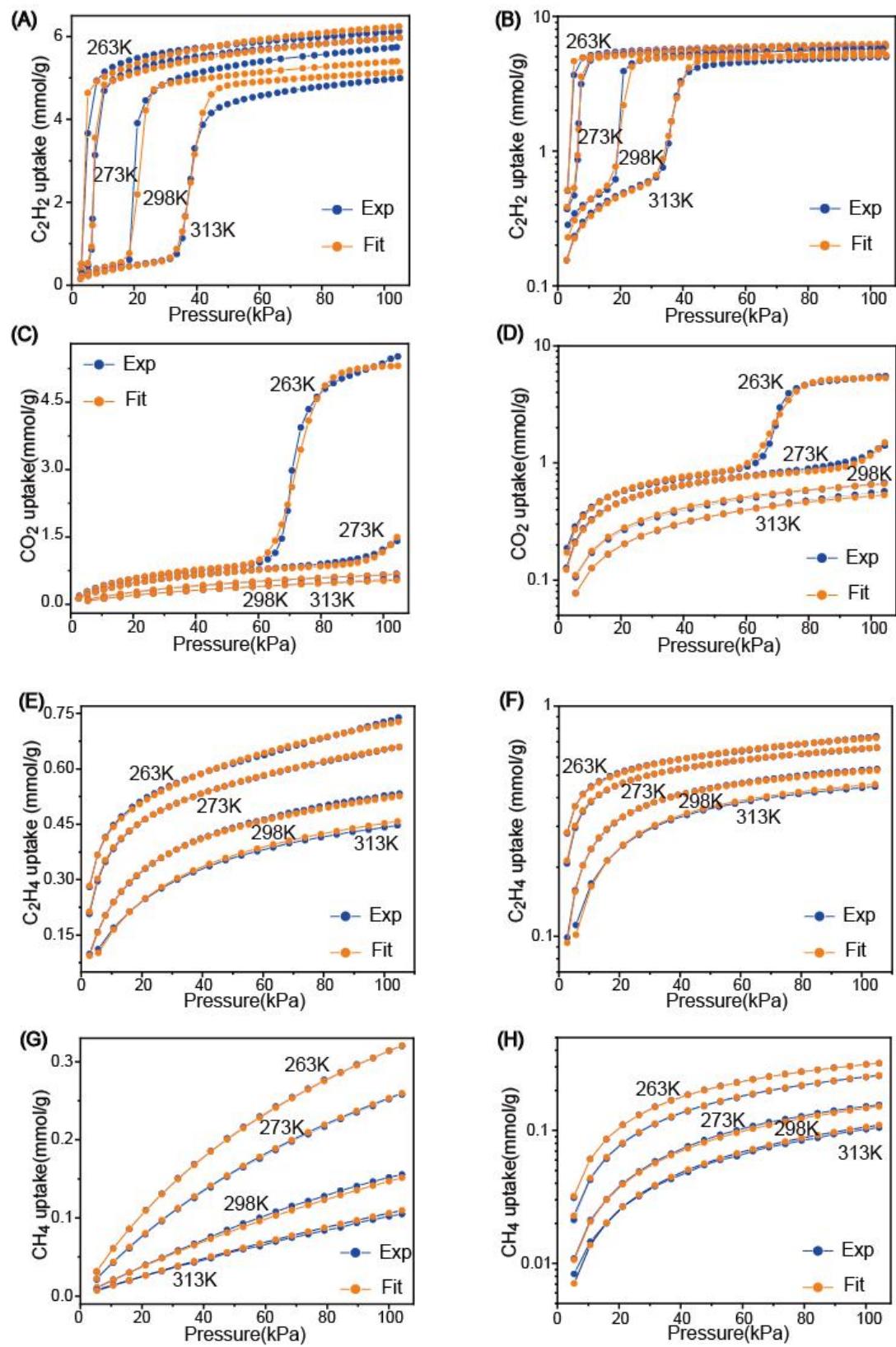
**Figure S14** (A) CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherm for ZNU-5 at 195 K and its calculated pore size distribution.(B) BET surface area plot of ZNU-5.



**Figure S15** The sorption isotherm of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> on ZNU-5 at 263K (A) and 313 K (B).



**Figure S16** The sorption isotherm of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$  on ZNU-5 at different temperature.

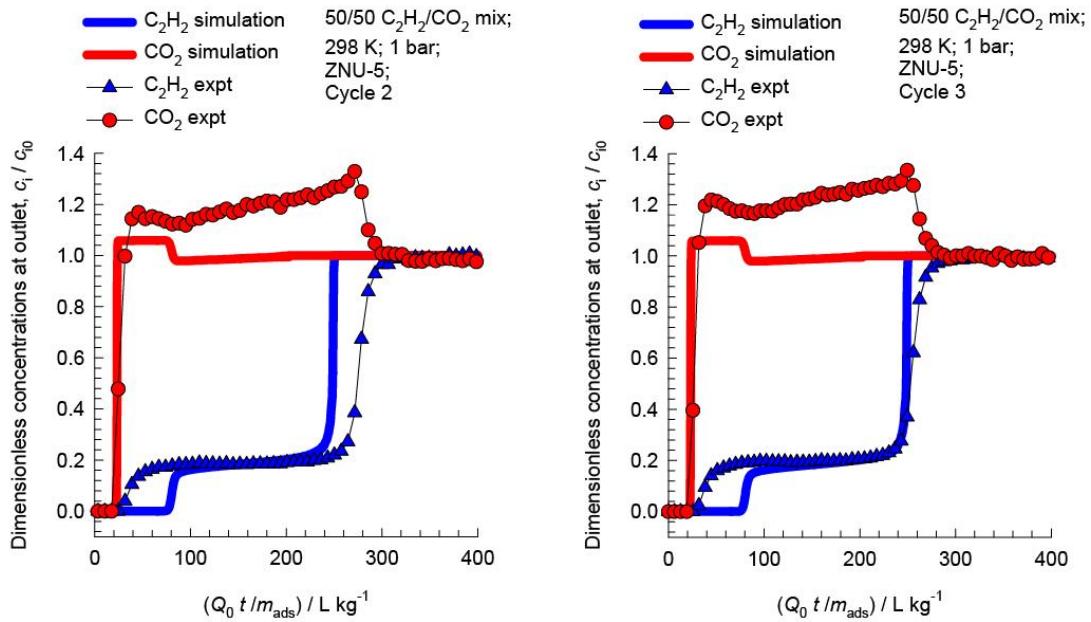


**Figure S17** Experimental and DSLF fitting adsorption isotherms of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> On ZNU-5 at 263K, 273K, 298K, and 313K.

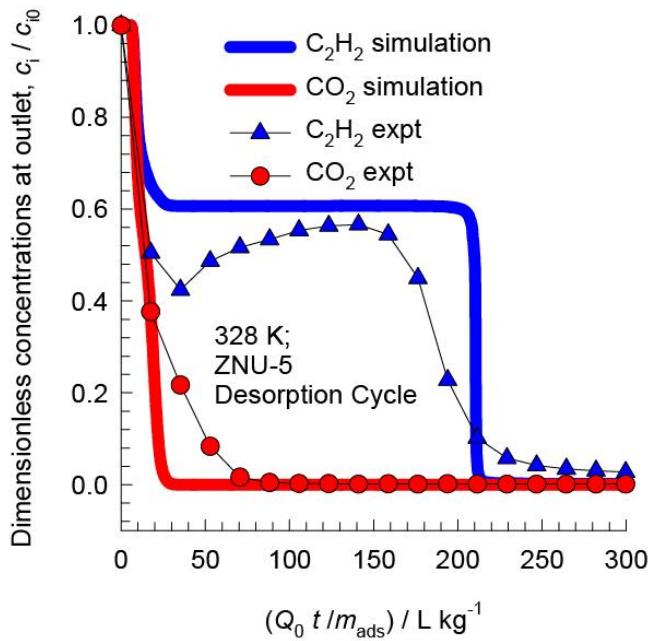
**Table S3** Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich fits for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> in ZNU-5

Parameter	Site A				Site B			
	q <sub>A,sat</sub>	B <sub>A0</sub>	E <sub>A</sub>	V <sub>A</sub>	q <sub>B,sat</sub>	B <sub>B0</sub>	E <sub>B</sub>	V <sub>B</sub>
unit	mol kg <sup>-1</sup>	Pa <sup>-VA</sup>	kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	--	mol kg <sup>-1</sup>	Pa <sup>-VB</sup>	kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	--
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	4.1	1.806E-190	593	19.8	3.83	5.927E-07	16.7	0.6
CO <sub>2</sub>	4.3	1.965E-205	545	19.85	1.4	3.063E-08	19.7	0.8
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	0.62	5.541E-11	25.6	1	0.48	1.868E-10	32.3	1
CH <sub>4</sub>	2.4	1.226E-12	26.5	1	0.47	7.671E-10	21.2	1

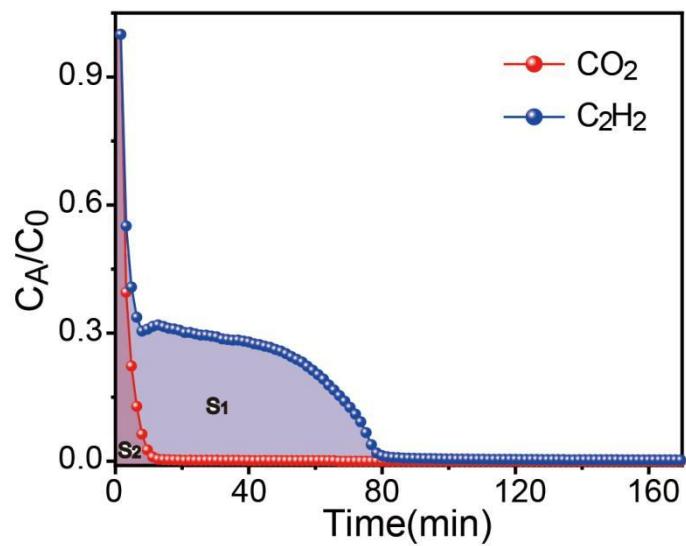
#### IV Breakthrough Experiments



**Figure S18** Simulated and Experimental breakthrough curves of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50) at 298K for the thired cycle.



**Figure S19** Simulated and Experimental desorption curves after the breakthrough experiment of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$ (50/50) mixtures under a constant Ar flow rate of 5 mL/min at 328 K and 1.0 bar .



**Figure S20** Experimental desorption curves after the breakthrough experiment of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  (50/50, v/v) mixtures under a constant Ar flow rate of 5 mL/min at 298 K and 1.0 bar.

Calculation of the area of the  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  area indicates the separation factor of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2$  (50/50, v/v) by ZNU-5 is ~9.1.

#### IV Comparison Table

**Table S4** Comparison of the reported materials on C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption capacity, IAST selectivity towards C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpy (Q<sub>st</sub>)

Adsorbents	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> , BET)	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	CO <sub>2</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	Uptake ratio	IAST (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub> ) (50/50)	Q <sub>st</sub> (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Q <sub>st</sub> (CO <sub>2</sub> kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub> adsorption by molecular sieving mechanism								
ZNU-5	751.5	128.6	15.2	8.5	12	27.8	-	This work
UTSA-300	311	69.0	3.36	20.5	743	57.6	-	[1]
CPL-1-NH <sub>2</sub>	103	41.2	4.70	8.8	119	50.0	33.0	[2]
ZNU-3	463	81.0	5.44	14.9	-	23.4	-	[3]
ZJU-196a	-	83.5	8.50	9.8	-	39.2	-	[4]
SIFSIX-dps-Cu	358	102.4	13.7	7.5	1786.6	60.5	-	[5]
GeFSIX-dps-Cu	310	90.5	10.1	9.0	171.9	56.3	-	[5]
NTU-65	680	75.3	2.3	33.6	-	-	-	[6]
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub> adsorption by thermodynamic mechanism								
ZNU-4	358.6	85.1	44.0	1.9	8.9	50.28	34.57	This work
ZNU-1	532	76.3	38.1	2.0	56.6	54.0	44.0	[7]
BSF-1	535	52.6	39.7	1.3	3.3	31	22	[8]
BSF-2	403	41.4	29.8	1.4	5.1	37.3	28.7	[9]
BSF-3	485	80.4	47.3	1.7	16.3	42.7	22.4	[10]
BSF-4	437	53.3	35.8	1.5	9.8	35	-	[11]
PCP-31	2858	50.0	34.9	1.4	43	53	30	[12]
PCP-32	4856	84.9	34.9	2.4	23	36	26	[12]
PCP-33	1248	121.8	58.7	2.1	6	27.5	26	[13]
UTSA-50 <sup>a</sup>	604	90.5	64.5	1.4	13.3	39.4	27.8	[14]
UTSA-68 <sup>a</sup>	2501	70.1	39.6	1.8	3.3	25.8	-	[15]
UTSA-74a	830	108.0	63.9	1.7	9	32	25	[16]
UTSA-98	1400	82.6	40.3	2.0	5.2	22.8	18.3	[17]

UTSA-220	577	76.2	75.7	1.0	4.4	29	27	[18]
UTSA-222a <sup>a</sup>	703	85.3	42.8	2.0	2	26	17	[19]
iMOF-5C	242	32.5	14.6	2.2	6	35.5	-	[20]
iMOF-6C	330	24.9	21.3	1.2	8	38	-	[20]
iMOF-7C	109	15.7	13.7	1.1	4	35	-	[20]
JCM-1	550	75.0	38.1	2.0	13.7	36.9	33.4	[21]
SIFSIX-Cu-TPA	1330	185.2	107.3	1.1	5.3	39.1	25.7	[22]
SIFSIX-21-Ni	871	90.0	29.1	3.1	27.7	37.9	19.8	[23]
TIFSIX-2-Ni-i	480.5	94.3	101.6	0.9	6.1	40	34	[24]
TIFSIX-2-Cu-i <sup>c</sup>	685	91.8	96.3	1.0	6.5	46.3	35.8	[24]
MPM-1-TIFSIX	950	101.5	86.9	1.2	0.83	30.1	48.4	[25]
SIFSIX-17-Ni	229.2	74.0	51.5	44.2	40.2	1.44	11.7	[26]
TIFSIX-17-Ni	237.6	73.0	47.0	48.3	37.8	1.55	20.9	[26]
UPC-110	1384.3	73.4	24.2	3.0	5.1	24.6	13	[27]
MUF-15 <sup>b</sup>	1130	109.1	84.7	1.3	4.2	24.2	28.3	[28]
MUF-17 <sup>b</sup>	247	61.2	51.1	1.2	6.01	49.5	31.1	[29]
TCuI	250	49.3	35.8	1.4	5.3	38.4	26.6	[30]
TCuBr	173	62.7	44.8	1.4	9.5	36.6	30.2	[30]
TCuCl	167	67.2	44.8	1.5	16.9	41	30.1	[30]
CAU-10-H <sup>a</sup>	627	89.8	60.0	1.5	4	27	25	[31]
CAU-10-NH <sub>2</sub>	403	96.3	56.0	1.7	10.8	31.3	24.5	[32]
MIL-160	1138	190.8	90.0	2.1	10	31.8	26.9	[33]
CAU-23	1320	119.0	71.9	1.7	3.8	26.7	20	[33]
MOF-NH <sub>2</sub>	120	60.0	31.4	1.9	12.6	16.7	24.2	[34]
MOF-OH	150	68.1	26.9	2.5	25	17.5	20.6	[34]
SNNU-37(Fe)	293.1	108.9	47.7	2.3	9.9	35	33.6	[35]
SNNU-37(Sc)	297.6	78.2	34.0	2.3	2.7	34.4	33.4	[35]
SNNU-45	1007	134.0	97.4	1.4	8.5	39.9	27.1	[36]
SNNU-63	1719.8	91.1	43.7	2.1	3.3	21.6	21.95	[37]
SNNU-65-Cu-Sc	2089.2	179.0	70.3	2.5	13.5	44.9	22.2	[38]
SNNU-65-Cu-Fe	2112	162.4	65.0	2.5	6.7	28.2	21.8	[38]
SNNU-65-Cu-Ga	1918	141.6	58.7	2.4	18.7	31.7	20.5	[38]

SNNU-65-Cu-In	1936.2	153.2	56.0	2.7	7	23.4	24.9	[38]
SNNU-150-Al	-	97.0	44.4	2.2	7.27	29	24.8	[39]
SNNU-150-Ga	-	39.9	26.7	1.5	4.93	33	28	[39]
SNNU-150-In	-	34.9	23.1	1.5	5.57	36	32	[39]
ZJU-60 <sup>a</sup>	1627	150.6	73.3	2.1	6.7	17.6	15.2	[40]
ZJU-74 <sup>a</sup>	694	85.7	69.0	1.2	36.5	44.5	30	[41]
ZJU-199 <sup>a</sup>	987	128.0	62.4	2.1	4	38.5	29	[42]
ZJUT-2 <sup>a</sup>	-	76.0	49.0	1.6	10	41.5	36.1	[43]
PCM-48 <sup>a</sup>	300	25.5	21.7	1.2	4.3	23.6	15.4	[44]
JXNU-12	2544	78.0	37.4	2.1	2	21.3	19.9	[45]
JXNU-12(F)	2154	115.6	33.4	3.5	4.1	28	19.7	[45]
NbU-8 <sup>b</sup>	1467.4	190.4	49.3	3.9	5	34.6	30.3	[46]
NbU-10 <sup>b</sup>	292	45.0	31.0	1.5	6.5	34.6	27.6	[47]
FJU-6-TATB <sup>a</sup>	731	110.0	58.0	1.9	3.1	29	26	[48]
FJU-89a	774	101.5	61.2	1.7	4.3	31	27.8	[49]
FJU-90a	1572	180.1	103.0	1.7	4.3	25.1	20.7	[50]
ZJU-195	1721.9	214.2	105.0	2.0	4.7	29.9	20.7	[51]
CuI@UiO-66-(COOH) <sub>2</sub>	302.3	51.5	19.9	2.6	73	74.5	28.9	[52]
Cu-CPAH	880	131.7	88.0	1.5	3.6	35.4	31.5	[53]
FeNi-M' MOF	383	96.1	60.9	1.6	24	27	24.5	[54]
NKMOF-1-Ni	382	60.9	51.1	1.2	25	60.3	40.9	[55]
IPM-101	343	57.1	68.1	0.8	12.3	43.7	30.7	[56]
DICRO-4-Ni-i	398	43.0	23.1	1.9	13.9	37.7	33.9	[57]
CPM-107op	319	97.4	35.0	2.8	5.7	32	24	[58]
[Ni <sub>3</sub> (HCOO) <sub>6</sub> ] <sup>c</sup>	288.6	53.3	38.8	1.4	22	40.9	24.5	[59]
NTU-54 <sup>e</sup>	-	22.0	19.0	1.2	6.3	38	35	[60]
NTU-55	2300	140.4	65.0	2.2	4.5	25.5	22	[61]
NTU-66-Cu	1700	111.6	49.1	2.3	6	32.3	21.7	[62]
HOF-3 <sup>a</sup>	165	47.0	21.1	2.2	21	42	19	[63]
[Ni(dpip)]·2.5DMF·H <sub>2</sub> O	553.8	83.6	58.7	1.4	1.9	41.7	30.3	[64]
[Ni(tzba)0.5(F)(bpy)]	700	125.0	85.1	1.5	3	36.7	25.6	[65]
M' MOF-2a <sup>d</sup>	598	43.9	30.0	1.5	1.89	32.7	32.5	[66]

M' MOF-3a <sup>d</sup>	237	42.1	10.1	4.2	8.41	27.3	40.5	[66]
Cu <sub>2</sub> (ade) <sub>2</sub> (PA) <sub>2</sub>	401	49.1	33.6	1.5	4.1	26.8	23.6	[67]
JNU-1	818	63.0	51.0	1.2	3	13	-	[68]
JNU-2	1144	102.8	49.5	2.1	3.5	15.8	13.5	[68]
UPC-200(Al)-F-BIM	3192	139.8	54.7	2.6	2.25	20.5	14	[69]
SDU-CP-1 <sup>c</sup>	1986.5	84.9	38.1	2.2	2.5	27.9	21.4	[70]
MPM-1-Cl	491	67.9	43.0	1.6	3.21	27.3	23.1	[71]
Ca(dtztp) <sub>0.5</sub> (DMA)]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	553.8	110.0	93.6	1.2	1.8	28.8	19.2	[72]
Cu(BDC-Br)	303	34.3	24.2	1.4	3.9	26.1	25.6	[73]
JXNU-5a	406	55.9	34.8	1.6	5	32.9	25.2	[74]
ATC-Cu	600	112.2	90.0	1.2	53.6	79.1	-	[75]
FJU-22a	828.2	114.8	111.3	1.03	-	23	-	[76]
FJU-36	409	52.2	35.5	1.5	2.8	32.9	31.1	[77]
ZJU-195	1721.9	214.2	105.0	2.0	4.7	29.9	20.7	[78]
ZJNU-13	1352	118.4	87.9	1.3	5.64	33.5	22.5	[79]
[Ni <sub>2</sub> (BTEC)(bipy) <sub>3</sub> ]	97	76.8	13.0	5.9	33.5	19.8	25	[80]
Zn <sub>2</sub> (Pydc)(Ata) <sub>2</sub>	636	47.2	33.0	1.4	3.9	43.1	32.1	[81]
MAF-2	-	70.1	19.04	3.7	-	29.8	25.8	[82]
sql-16-Cu-NO <sub>3</sub>	-	34.7	16.7	2.1	78	38.6	25.6	[83]

a: At temperature of 296 K

b: At temperature of 293 K

c: IAST(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>=2:1)

d: At temperature of 295 K

e: At temperature of 273 K

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**Table S5** Comparison of the reported materials on C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> adsorption capacity,C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> adsorption enthalpy ( $Q_{st}$ ) and IAST selectivity towards C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

Adsorbents	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> , BET)	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	IAST (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) (50/50)	Q <sub>st</sub> (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> kJ· mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Q <sub>st</sub> (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> kJ· mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref
ZNU-5	751.5	128.6	11.9	255	27.8	-	This work
ZNU-4	358.6	85.1	39.9	11.8	50.3	31.4	This work
CPL-5 <sup>a</sup>	523	67.4	41.2	6	31.3	19.1	[1]
CPL-1 <sup>a</sup>	414	46.4	6.94	26.8	40.2	36.3	[1]
CPL-2 <sup>a</sup>	495	70.1	41.7	12	30.8	20.3	[1]
NbU-1	368.2	62.0	45.0	5.9	38.3	37.9	[2]
[Cu <sub>2</sub> (TPPB) <sub>2</sub> ](DMF) <sub>8</sub> <sup>a</sup>	216	44.0	4.80	18.4	34.1	13.2	[3]
M'MOF-4a <sup>b</sup>	602	~32.0	~9.50	14.3	35.2	-	[4]
M'MOF-5a <sup>b</sup>	202	~31.0	~12.0	4.9	50.1	-	[4]
M'MOF-6a <sup>b</sup>	369	~39.5	~15.0	7.4	30.3	-	[4]
M'MOF-7a <sup>b</sup>	90	~18.0	~6.0	7.4	47.1	-	[4]
BSF-1	535	52.6	36.6	2.3	31	26	[5]
BSF-2	403	41.4	29.6	2.9	37.7	23.5	[6]
BSF-3-Co	437	86.2	56.2	10.2	-	-	[7]
BSF-3	458	80.4	53.1	8.0	42.7	27.4	[7]
BSF-4	437	53.3	34.9	7.3	35	-	[8]
BSF-9	532	76.3	37.1	41.4	54	35	[9]
HUST-5 <sup>c</sup>	802.2	~50.0	~38.0	1.8	30.6	29.2	[10]
HUST-6 <sup>c</sup>	645.3	~80.0	~50.0	3.8	31.1	30.2	[10]
NPU-1	1396	114.0	94.0	1.4	27.88	23.95	[11]
NPU-2	1580	90.0	77.2	1.25	20.98	18.18	[11]
NPU-3	1834	57.8	49.7	1.32	19.93	17.79	[11]
M'MOF-3a <sup>d</sup>	110.1	42.5	9.0	5.23	27.1	27.3	[12]
SNNU-95	206.6	15.1	15.3	1.7	47.2	35.1	[13]
MUF-17 <sup>d</sup>	247	111.6	79.7	8.7	49.5	31.3	[14]
MgMOF-74 <sup>b</sup>	927	141.0	69.4	2.2	41	-	[15]

NOTT-300	1370	142.0	95.9	2.3	32	16	[16]
SIFSIX-2-Cu-i	503	90.0	49.1	41.0	41.9	30.7	[17]
TIFSIX-2-Ni-i	480.5	94.3	54.2	16.3	40	31	[18]
JCM-1	550	75.0	35.0	13.2	36.9	34.2	[19]
UTSA-100a	970	95.7	37.2	19.6	22	-	[20]
ELM-12	-	57.3	22.5	~28	25.4	-	[21]
SIFSIX-3-Zn	250	81.5	50.2	13.72	21	-	[22]
SIFSIX-3-Ni	368	73.9	39.2	5.98	30.5	-	[22]
FJU-22a	828.19	114.8	85.8	25.8	23	-	[23]
PCP-33	1248	121.8	86.8	~3	27.5	23.9	[24]

a : IAST(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>:C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)1:99

b : At temperature of 295K , IAST(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>:C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)1:99

c: At temperature of 273K , IAST(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>:C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)1:99

d: At temperature of 293K

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**Table S6** Comparison of the reported materials on C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> adsorption capacity, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> adsorption enthalpy ( $Q_{st}$ ) and IAST selectivity towards C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub>

Adsorbents	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> ,	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	CH <sub>4</sub> uptake (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	IAST (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) (50/50)	Q <sub>st</sub> (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Q <sub>st</sub> (CH <sub>4</sub> kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref

	BET)						
ZNU-5	751.5	128.6	3.49	850	27.8	-	This work
ZNU-4	358.6	85.1	12.3	299	50.28	21.31	This work
SNNU-13	530.82	72.3	10.0	48.5	39.6	19.9	[1]
SNNU-14	514.59	71.0	9.70	93.5	45.8	12.7	[1]
SNNU-15	299.48	43.5	6.10	61.6	40.9	27.5	[1]
SNNU-16	421.3	46.0	12.1	100.7	52.6	16.7	[1]
FeNi-M' MOF	-	96.5	25.7	198.9	35.1	8	[2]
JLU-MOF66	471	54.6	9.50	86.2	35.6	21.2	[3]
JLU-MOF67	480	35.2	8.30	20	33	18.2	[3]
NbU-11 <sup>a</sup>	550.6	77.3	14.7	175.8	31.9	21.5	[4]
UTSA-50 <sup>d</sup>	604	90.6	18.8	68	39.4	18.6	[5]
SNNU-Bai67	1088.7	116.7	18.5	37.6	35.1	23.1	[6]
VNU-18	1180.4	101.5	19.0	53.8	30.7	19.7	[6]
FJI-C1	1726.3	93.8	9.70	39.3	28.9	11.4	[7]
NbU-5	671	92.0	68.0	52.9	32.1	20.6	[8]
SNNU-64	463.8	58.6	9.80	35.8	34.6	19.2	[9]
NKMOF-1-Ni	382	61.0	22.2	>1000	60.3	28.5	[10]
Cu-TDPAT	-	178.0	28.3	127.1	42.5	20.7	[11]
SNNU-65-Cu-Ga	1918	141.6	13.6	120.6	31.7	15.2	[12]
SNNU-65-Cu-In	1936.2	153.3	13.8	69.5	23.4	15.8	[12]
Y-H3TDPAT	962	100.0	17.5	77.2	38.2	13.5	[13]
BUT-70A	460	69.5	9.70	66.6	23.9	15	[14]
FJI-C4	690	72.5	18.4	51	27	20.8	[15]
BSF-1	535	52.6	10.5	46.9	31	-	[16]
BSF-2	403	41.5	5.40	324	37.7	23.5	[17]
BSF-3	458	80.4	13.4	205	42.7	-	[18]
FIR-51 <sup>b</sup>	918.6	141.9	19.0	39.6	24.5	12.7	[19]
FJU-36a <sup>d</sup>	409	52.2	10.5	17.7	32.9	16.9	[20]

ZJNU-69	1655	171.7	19.8	34.5	31.2	15.9	[21]
Fe2(dobdc) <sup>c</sup>	1350	154.3	17.2	700	47	20	[22]
a: At temperature of 295K							
b: At temperature of 294K							
c: At temperature of 318K							
d: At temperature of 296K							

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