



# A molecular dynamics investigation of a variety of influences of temperature on diffusion in zeolites

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## ARTICLE INFO

### Article history:

Received 23 October 2008  
 Received in revised form 31 December 2008  
 Accepted 15 January 2009  
 Available online 24 January 2009

### Keywords:

Maxwell–Stefan diffusivity  
 Self diffusivity  
 Molecular dynamics  
 Zeolites  
 Activation energy  
 Loading dependence  
 Correlations

## ABSTRACT

Molecular dynamics (MD) simulations were performed to determine both the Maxwell–Stefan diffusivity,  $\mathcal{D}_i$ , and the self-diffusivity,  $D_{i, self}$ , of a variety of molecules (Ne, Ar, Kr, CH<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>) in five different zeolites (LTA, DDR, CHA, FAU, MFI) for a range of temperatures,  $T$ , and molecular loadings,  $q_i$ . The simulation results show that for cage-type zeolites with narrow windows (LTA, CHA, and DDR) with guest molecules such as CH<sub>4</sub> and Kr, that are tightly constrained at the window regions, the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$  dependence varies significantly with  $T$ . Furthermore, the activation energy changes with the loading  $q_i$ . The model of Reed and Ehrlich (D.A. Reed, G. Ehrlich, Surf. Sci. 102 (1981) 588) provides a convenient description of the combined influence of  $q_i$  and  $T$  on  $\mathcal{D}_i$ . For other guest–host combinations that were investigated the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$  dependence was found to depend relatively weakly on  $T$ . The strength of correlations, quantified by  $(\mathcal{D}_i/D_{i, self} - 1)$  is found to be practically  $T$ -independent for all guest–host combinations examined. Generally speaking, for a specified loading  $q_i$ , the activation energy for  $\mathcal{D}_i - T$  and  $D_{i, self} - T$  variations are different; the difference is about 10% when the strength of correlations is large.

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## 1. Introduction

Due to their regular nanometer sized pore structures, zeolites are widely used as catalysts and adsorbents that rely on either molecular sieving principles or subtle configurational effects for achieving high selectivities in separation and reaction applications [1–8]. For the design of catalytic and separation processes employing zeolites it is necessary to have accurate information on the Fick diffusivity  $D_i$  of guest molecules, defined for one-component diffusion by [9–11]

$$N_i = -\rho D_i \frac{dq_i}{dx}. \quad (1)$$

In Eq. (1),  $N_i$  is the molecular flux,  $q_i$  is molecular loading expressed in molecules per unit cell or per cage. The Fick diffusivity  $D_i$  is obtained by experimentally monitoring transient intra-crystalline uptake or response to pulse injection in chromatographic columns. For interpretation in terms of theoretical models, and for prediction of mixture diffusion characteristics, it is preferable to use the alternative Maxwell–Stefan (M–S) approach [12–14] in which the chemical potential gradient  $d\mu_i/dx$  is used as the driving force and the M–S diffusivity  $\mathcal{D}_i$  is defined by

$$N_i = -\rho q_i \mathcal{D}_i \frac{1}{RT} \frac{d\mu_i}{dx}. \quad (2)$$

The Fick and M–S diffusivities are inter-related,

$$D_i = \mathcal{D}_i \Gamma_i, \quad (3)$$

where  $\Gamma_i$  is the thermodynamic correction factor,

$$\Gamma_i \equiv \frac{d \ln f_i}{d \ln q_i}. \quad (4)$$

The thermodynamic factor  $\Gamma_i$  can be determined from knowledge of the adsorption isotherm that relates the molecular loading  $q_i$  to the bulk gas fugacity  $f_i$ .

The M–S diffusivity  $\mathcal{D}_i$  can be determined directly from molecular dynamics (MD) simulations by analyzing the mean square displacement of an ensemble of molecules for each of the coordinate directions from

$$\mathcal{D}_i = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n_i} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left\langle \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t)) \right)^2 \right\rangle. \quad (5)$$

MD simulations also yield the self-diffusivities,  $D_{i, self}$ , by analyzing the mean square displacement of individual molecules  $i$ ,

$$D_{i, self} = \frac{1}{2n_i} \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left\langle \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t))^2 \right) \right\rangle. \quad (6)$$

As alternatives to Einstein expressions (5) and (6), the diffusivities can also be determined using the velocity auto-correlations and the Green–Kubo formula [15] or from non-equilibrium MD simulations [16]. The  $D_{i, self}$  can also be obtained from NMR and

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### Nomenclature

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| $D_i$               | Fick diffusivity of species $i$ , $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  |
| $D_{i,\text{self}}$ | self-diffusivity, $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  |
| $\mathcal{D}_i$     | Maxwell–Stefan diffusivity of species $i$ , $\text{m}_2 \text{s}^{-1}$                                    |
| $\mathcal{D}_i(0)$  | zero-loading M–S diffusivity of species $i$ , $\text{m}_2 \text{s}^{-1}$                                  |
| $\mathcal{D}_{ii}$  | self-exchange diffusivity, $\text{m}_2 \text{s}^{-1}$   |
| $E_{\text{diff},i}$ | activation energy for diffusion $i$ , $\text{J mol}^{-1}$   |
| $f_i$               | fugacity of species $i$ , Pa  |
| $N_i$               | molecular flux of species $i$ , molecules, $\text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$                                  |
| $n_i$               | number of molecules of species $i$ in simulation box, dimensionless                                       |
| $q_i$               | loading of species $i$ , $\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ or molecules per unit cell or molecules per cage            |
| $q_{i,\text{sat}}$  | saturation loading of species $i$ , $\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ or molecules per unit cell or molecules per cage |
| $R$                 | gas constant, $8.314 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$   |
| $T$                 | absolute temperature, K   |

|     |                                    |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| $x$ | spatial distance, m                |
| $z$ | coordination number, dimensionless |

### Greek letters

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| $\beta_i$       | Reed–Ehrlich parameter, dimensionless                          |
| $\delta E_i$    | reduction in energy barrier for diffusion, $\text{J mol}^{-1}$ |
| $\varepsilon_i$ | Reed–Ehrlich parameter, dimensionless                          |
| $\phi_i$        | Reed–Ehrlich parameter, dimensionless                          |
| $\theta_i$      | fractional occupancy of component $i$ , dimensionless          |
| $\mu_i$         | molar chemical potential, $\text{J mol}^{-1}$                  |
| $\rho$          | density of zeolite, number of unit cells per $\text{m}^3$      |

### Subscripts

|            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>sat</i> | referring to saturation conditions |
| <i>i</i>   | referring to component $i$         |

QENS experiments. In general, the  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  is lower than  $\mathcal{D}_i$  due to correlation effects. In the M–S formulation the correlation effects are quantified by defining the self-exchange coefficient,  $\mathcal{D}_{ii}$ . The strength of the correlations can be quantified by the dimensionless parameter [13],

$$\frac{\theta_i \mathcal{D}_i}{\mathcal{D}_{ii}} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_i}{D_{i,\text{self}}} - 1, \quad (7)$$

where  $\theta_i$  is the fractional occupancy:

$$\theta_i = \frac{q_i}{q_{i,\text{sat}}}. \quad (8)$$

The higher the value of  $\theta_i \mathcal{D}_i / \mathcal{D}_{ii}$ , the stronger is the correlation.

Both experimental data and MD simulations show that the diffusivities ( $\mathcal{D}_i, D_{i,\text{self}}$ ), and correlations ( $\mathcal{D}_{ii}$ ) are strong functions of the molecular loading  $q_i$  [14,17]. Often, diffusivity data available at a certain temperature needs to be extrapolated to a different temperature. Nagumo et al. [18,19], for example suggest a methodology for performing simulations at high  $T$ , with attendant high diffusivities, and extrapolating these results to low  $T$ , where the diffusivities are too low to determine accurately using MD. Three questions that arise are as follows:

- (1) Does the loading dependence of the diffusivities ( $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$ , or  $D_{i,\text{self}} - q_i$ ) vary with  $T$ ?
- (2) Can we expect the strength of correlation effects, calculated from Eq. (7), to be  $T$ -independent?
- (3) Is the activation energy for self-diffusivity the same as that for the M–S diffusivity?

To obtain answers to the three questions posed above we performed MD simulations to determine both the M–S diffusivity,  $\mathcal{D}_i$ , and the self-diffusivity,  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ , of a variety of molecules (Ne, Ar, Kr,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ , and  $\text{N}_2$ ) in five different zeolites (LTA, DDR, CHA, FAU, and MFI) for a range of temperatures,  $T$ , and molecular loadings,  $q_i$ . The choice of the five zeolites was dictated by the importance of the structures in practice. The zeolite frameworks were considered to be rigid in all the simulations. Additionally, Monte Carlo simulations in the grand canonical (GC) ensemble were performed to determine the adsorption isotherms; these are required to determine the saturation capacity,  $q_{i,\text{sat}}$ , required for modeling of the loading dependence of  $\mathcal{D}_i$  using the model of Reed and Ehrlich [20–22]. Two kinds of MD simulation campaigns were run; for a fixed temperature the loading was varied up to saturation limit, and also for a fixed loading, the temperatures were varied. The entire data base of simulation results is available in

the Supplementary material accompanying this publication; this material includes details of the GCMC and MD simulation methodologies, description of the force fields used, validation of force fields used by comparison with experimental data on adsorption isotherms of a variety of molecules in DDR, simulation data (pure component isotherms;  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_i$ ;  $q_{i,\text{sat}}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_{ii}$ ), along with snapshots showing the location of molecules in the zeolite structures. A selection of the simulation results is presented below with the objective of drawing a range of generic conclusions.

## 2. Influence of $T$ on loading dependence of the M–S diffusivity

Generally speaking the loading dependence of  $\mathcal{D}_i$  is strongest for zeolite structures, such as LTA, DDR, and CHA that consist of cages separated by narrow windows [14], and it may be anticipated that the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$  dependence in such structures would be more sensitive to variations in  $T$ . Let us begin by considering diffusion of  $\text{CH}_4$  in LTA, that consists of cages separated by windows of 4.1 Å size. The MD simulation results for the M–S diffusivities,  $\mathcal{D}_i$  are shown in Fig. 1 as a function of  $q_i$  at different  $T$  in the range 800–1800 K. The chosen temperature range was motivated by the desire to allow comparison with the earlier study of Nagumo et al. [18]; in this

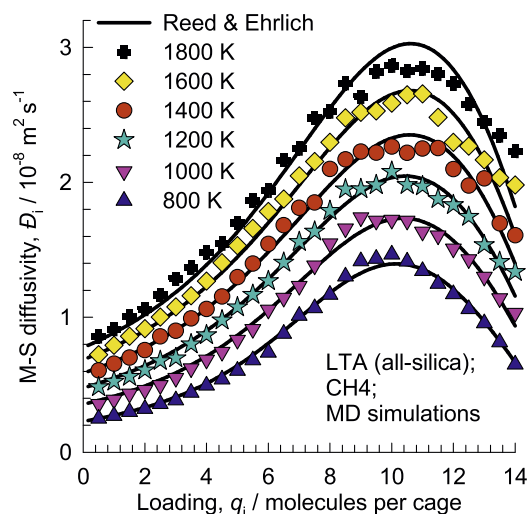
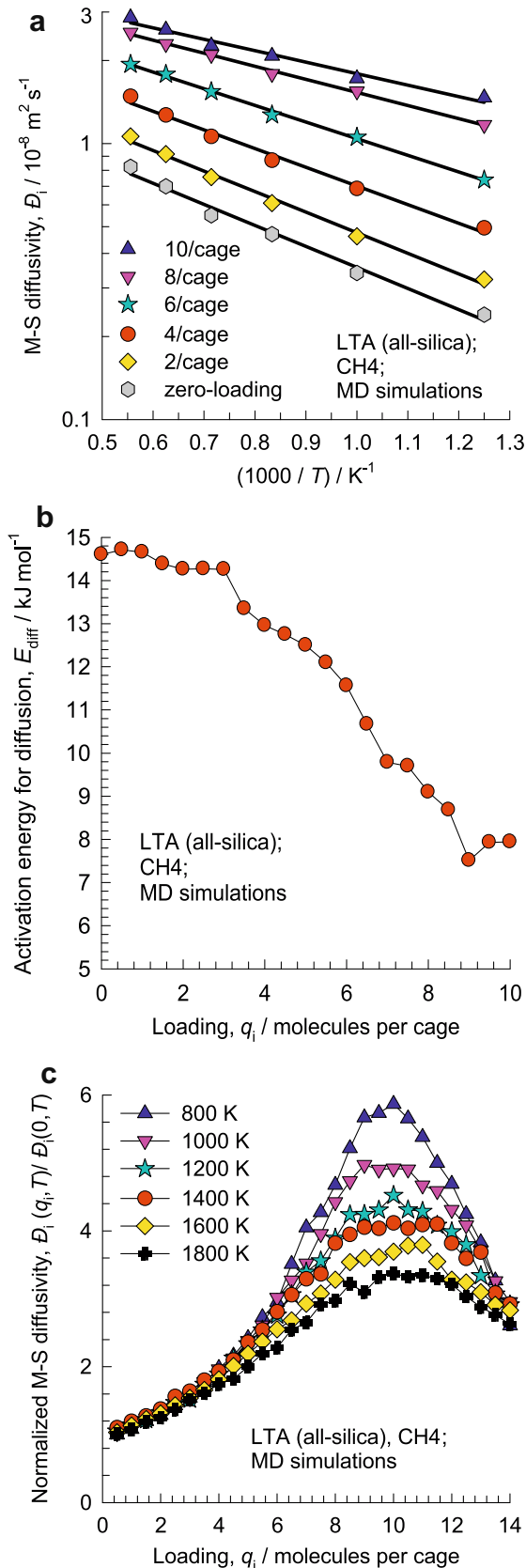


Fig. 1. MD simulation results for M–S diffusivities,  $\mathcal{D}_i$ , of  $\text{CH}_4$  in all-silica LTA zeolite at  $T = 800, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600,$  and  $1800 \text{ K}$ , as a function of the molecular loading  $q_i$ .

connection it must be remarked that LTA is only stable up to



**Fig. 2.** (a) Arrhenius plots at various loadings in LTA. (b) Activation energy as a function of  $q_i$ . (c) Normalized M-S diffusivity as a function of  $q_i$  for various  $T$ .

1200 K [23]. Diffusion in LTA is isotropic and the reported diffusivities are the average of those in the three coordinate directions.

From the data presented in Fig. 1, Arrhenius plots can be constructed for each loading; see Fig. 2a. The activation energy appears to be dependent on the loading within the cages. The  $E_{i,diff}$ , determined for each loading from the Arrhenius plots, are shown in Fig. 2b. The value of  $E_{i,diff}$  varies from 14.6 at  $q_i = 0$  to about 8 at  $q_i = 10$ . From the results in Fig. 2b we can conclude that extrapolation of diffusivity data in the manner suggested by Nagumo et al. [18,19] is only justified provided the loadings are the same between the two temperature levels. The  $\mathcal{D}_i(q_i, T)$  data, normalized with respect to the zero-loading diffusivities, are plotted in Fig. 2c; this figure shows that the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$  variation changes with  $T$ , and is significantly sharper at lower  $T$ . We now examine the fundamental reasons for this.

At any given  $T$ , the most convenient and practical physical model to quantify the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$  relation is that developed by Reed and Ehrlich for surface diffusion of adsorbed molecules [20]. In the Reed and Ehrlich model, as applied earlier for zeolites [21,22], the intermolecular interactions *within* a cage is assumed to influence the hopping frequencies of molecules *between* cages, by a factor

$$\phi_i = \exp\left(\frac{\delta E_i}{RT}\right), \quad (9)$$

where  $\delta E_i$  represents the *reduction* in the inter-cage hopping of molecules across the narrow windows [24,25]. The Reed and Ehrlich model leads to the following expression for the M-S diffusivity as a function of the fractional occupancy,  $\theta_i = q_i/q_{i,sat}$ ,

$$\mathcal{D}_i(\theta_i, T) = \mathcal{D}_i(0, T) \frac{(1 + \varepsilon_i)^{z-1}}{(1 + \varepsilon_i/\phi_i)^z}, \quad (10)$$

where  $z$  is the coordination number, representing the maximum number of nearest neighbors within a cage. From an engineering point of view the precise choice of the value of  $z$  is not crucial, as the *combination* of  $z$  and  $\phi_i$  prescribes the loading dependence. For LTA, a choice of  $z = 5$  is made, based on earlier work [13,14]. The other parameters are defined as follows (see Krishna et al. [21,26] for more detailed discussions and derivations)

$$\varepsilon_i = \frac{(\beta_i - 1 + 2\theta_i)\phi_i}{2(1 - \theta_i)}; \quad \beta_i = \sqrt{1 - 4\theta_i(1 - \theta_i)(1 - 1/\phi_i)}. \quad (11)$$

In the limiting case when there is no reduction in the energy barrier for diffusion,  $\delta E_i = 0$ , we get  $\phi_i = 1$ ,  $\beta_i = 1$ , and  $\varepsilon_i = \theta_i/(1 - \theta_i)$  and the M-S diffusivity  $\mathcal{D}_i$  decreases linearly with the vacancy  $(1 - \theta_i)$ . When the reduction in the free energy barrier is large enough,  $\phi_i \gg 1$ , there is a significant increase in  $\mathcal{D}_i$  with increasing  $q_i$ . As the saturation capacity,  $q_{i,sat}$ , is approached, there is an inevitable decline in  $\mathcal{D}_i$  and therefore  $\phi_i \gg 1$  leads to a maximum in the  $\mathcal{D}_i - q_i$ .

The MD simulated M-S diffusivities, extrapolated to  $q_i = 0$ , can be fitted as follows:

$$\mathcal{D}_i(0, T) = 2.06 \times 10^{-8} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{i,diff}}{RT}\right), \quad (12)$$

where  $E_{i,diff} = 14.6 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  is the activation energy for diffusion in the limit of zero-loading. Fitting the data set for each  $T$ , we obtain the  $\delta E_i$  and  $\phi_i$  values as shown in Fig. 3a and b. With these fitted  $\phi_i$  values the continuous solid lines in Fig. 1a are obtained. We note that the parameter  $\phi_i$ , that determines the loading dependence of  $\mathcal{D}_i$  shows significant variation with  $T$  for  $1200 < T < 800 \text{ K}$ ; for  $T > 1400 \text{ K}$  the  $\phi_i$  is practically  $T$ -independent. From Fig. 3a it can be seen that the free energy barrier  $\delta E_i$  is  $T$ -dependent. In previous work [13,14,26] we had fitted the loading dependence at a fixed temperature with the functional form  $\phi_i = a \exp(b\theta_i)$ . The entire data set could be fitted in the form

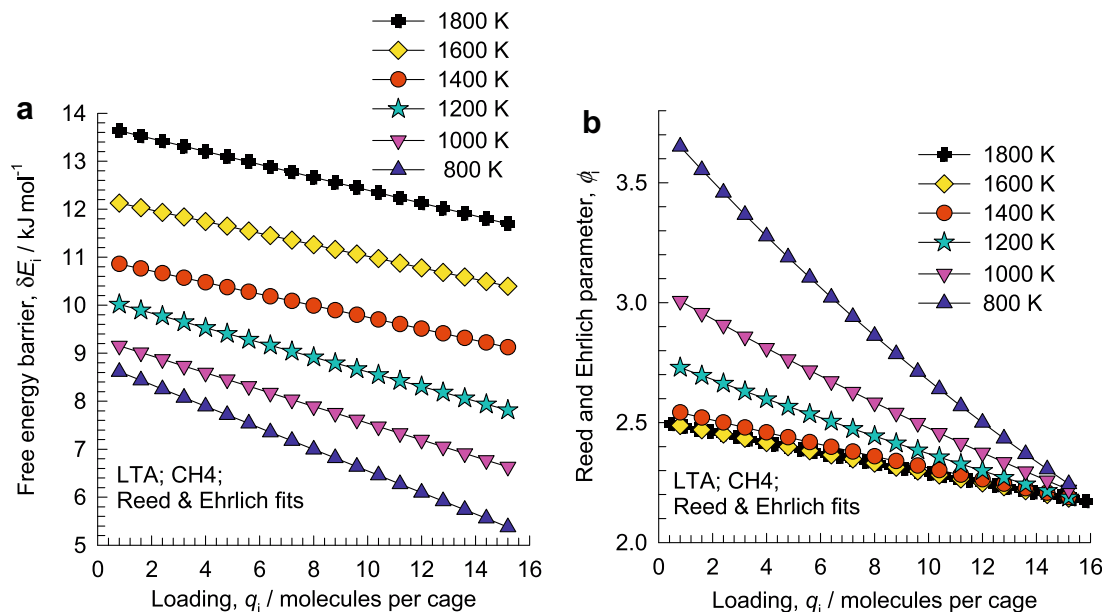


Fig. 3. (a) Free-energy barrier, and (b)  $\phi_i$  for diffusion of  $\text{CH}_4$  in LTA as a function of  $q_i$  for various temperatures.

$$\phi_i = \exp\left(\frac{a_0 + a_1 T}{RT}\right) \exp(b\theta_i), \quad (13)$$

with  $a_0 = 1530 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$ , and  $a_1 = 7.3 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and  $b = -0.25$ .

Results similar to  $\text{CH}_4/\text{LTA}$  are obtained for  $\text{CH}_4/\text{DDR}$ ,  $\text{Kr}/\text{DDR}$ , and  $\text{CH}_4/\text{CHA}$ ; for all these guest–host combinations the degree of confinement, defined as the diameter of the molecule divided by the size of the window opening, is close to unity. Example Arrhenius plots for the M–S diffusivities at two different loadings are shown in Fig. 4a and b. As for LTA, the activation energy is lower at the higher loading for  $\text{CH}_4$  diffusion in both DDR and CHA.

For molecules such as Ne, Ar,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and  $\text{N}_2$ , that are less strongly constrained at the window regions of DDR, the free energy barrier for hopping of molecules across the narrow windows of DDR are significantly lower. As a consequence, the influence of  $T$  on the loading dependence is either negligibly small or weak at best;

see data on the normalized M–S diffusivity in Fig. 5. For all these four molecules the Reed and Ehrlich model, as described above, provides a good description of the loading dependence (details can be found in the [Supplementary material](#)). Analogous results are obtained for Ar/CHA, and  $\text{O}_2/\text{DDR}$ . In this connection it worth mentioning the MD simulation of Schüring et al. [27] for ethane in LTA; they found that entropic effects lead to an anomalous  $T$  dependence in the 150–300 K range. Our simulation results do not show any anomaly.

The experimental data of van den Bergh et al. [6,28] for permeation of  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and  $\text{N}_2$  across a DDR membrane can be modeled using the  $T$ -dependent variant of the Reed and Ehrlich approach presented above; details are provided in the [Supplementary material](#). For  $\text{CH}_4$  permeation the best fits with experimental data on permeation fluxes is obtained with  $\phi_i = \exp((3000 + 4T)/RT) \exp(0.4\theta_i)$ . With this fitted  $\phi_i$  the normalized M–S diffusivities

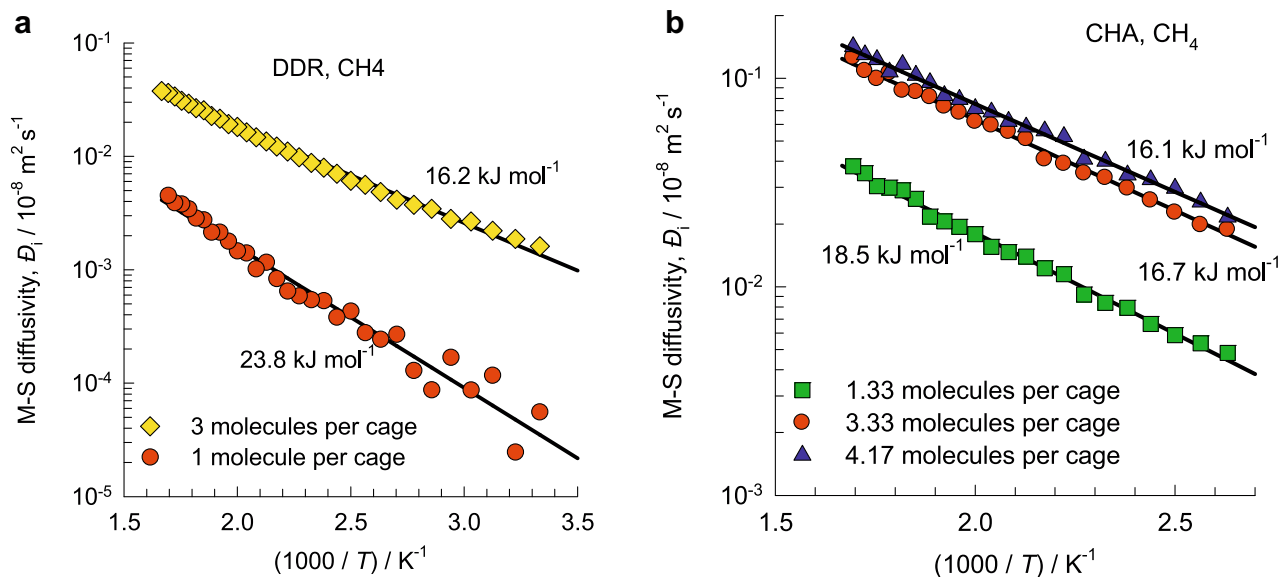


Fig. 4. Arrhenius plots for the M–S diffusivity of (a)  $\text{CH}_4/\text{DDR}$  and (b)  $\text{CH}_4/\text{CHA}$  at different loadings per cage.

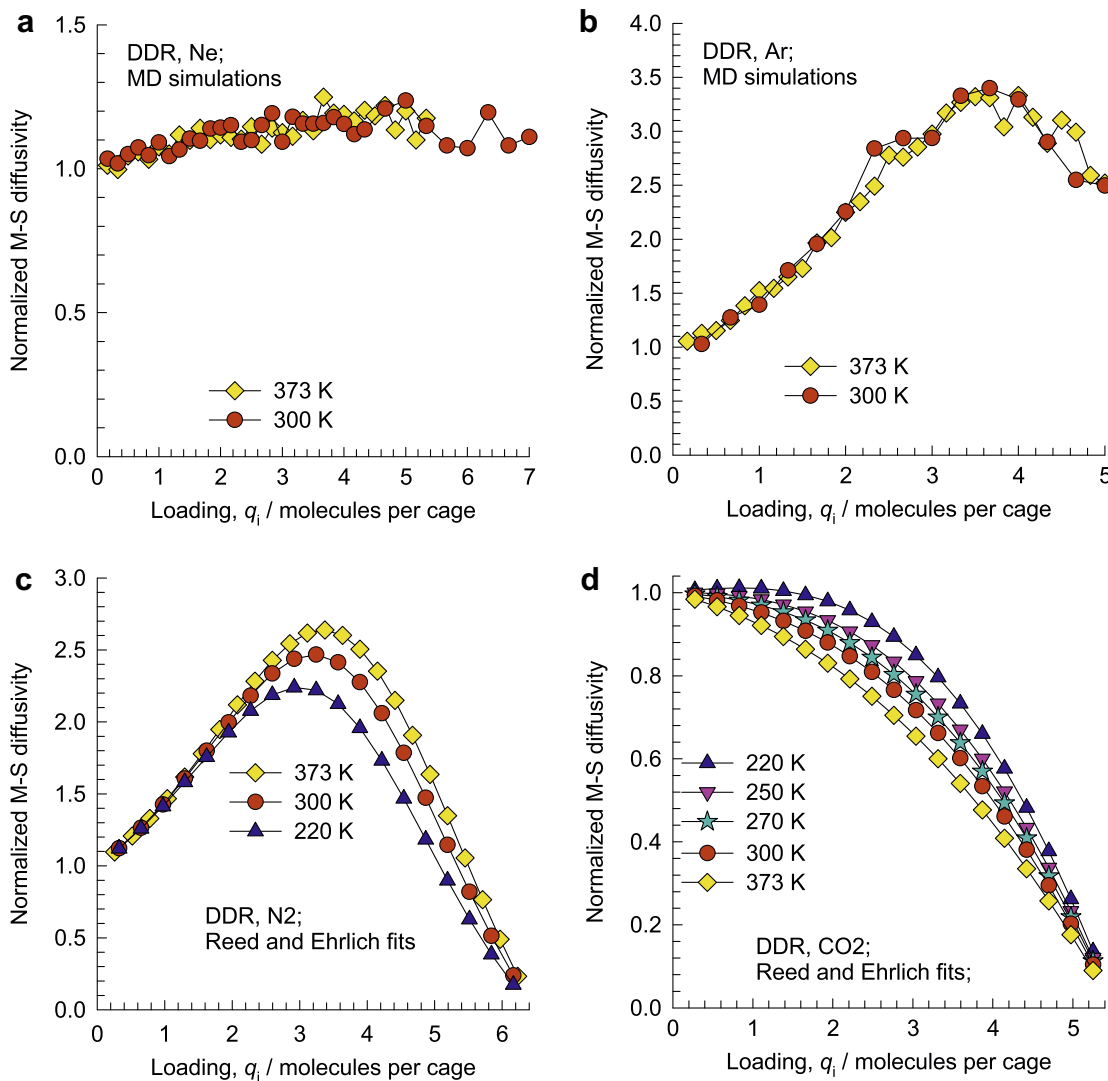


Fig. 5. Normalized M–S diffusivity for (a) Ne, (b) Ar, (c) CO<sub>2</sub>, and (d) N<sub>2</sub> in DDR for a variety of temperatures as a function of the molecular loading  $q_i$ .

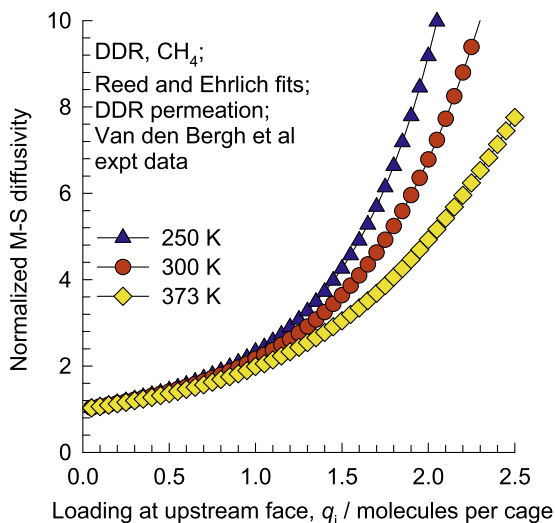


Fig. 6. Normalized Maxwell–Stefan diffusivities of CH<sub>4</sub> as a function of the cage loading at the upstream face of DDR membrane, for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K. The calculations are the best fits to match the experimental DDR membrane permeation data of van den Bergh et al. [6,28]; details are available in the Supplementary material.

can be calculated as a function of the loading for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K; see Fig. 6. We note that the loading dependence is steeper at lower  $T$ , than at higher  $T$ , in line with the MD simulation results. For CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> permeation, on the other hand, the experimental data could be fitted with the parameter  $\phi_i$  that is  $T$ -independent, broadly in line with MD simulation results.

As evidenced in published MD simulations [13,14,26], in other zeolite structures such as 1D channels (AFI, TON, MTW, MOR), intersecting channels (MFI, ISV, BEA), cages with large windows (FAU), the loading dependence is qualitatively different than for LTA, CHA, ERI and DDR; the  $\bar{D}_i$  generally decreases with increasing  $q_i$ . The influence of  $T$  on the  $\bar{D}_i - q_i$  dependence is also usually of less importance. This is illustrated in Fig. 7 by data on the normalized M–S diffusivity for CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI at different  $T$ . We note that the loading dependences for these guest–host combinations are practically independent of  $T$ .

### 3. Influence of $T$ on the strength of correlations

At any given value of  $q_i$ ,  $D_{i,self}$  is lower than  $\bar{D}_i$ , because of correlation effects [13,14]. Fig. 8 shows a plot of the parameter quantifying correlation effects,  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$ , versus the loading  $q_i$  at a variety of  $T$  for six different guest–host combinations: CH<sub>4</sub>/LTA, Ar/DDR, Ne/DDR, CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI. In all cases



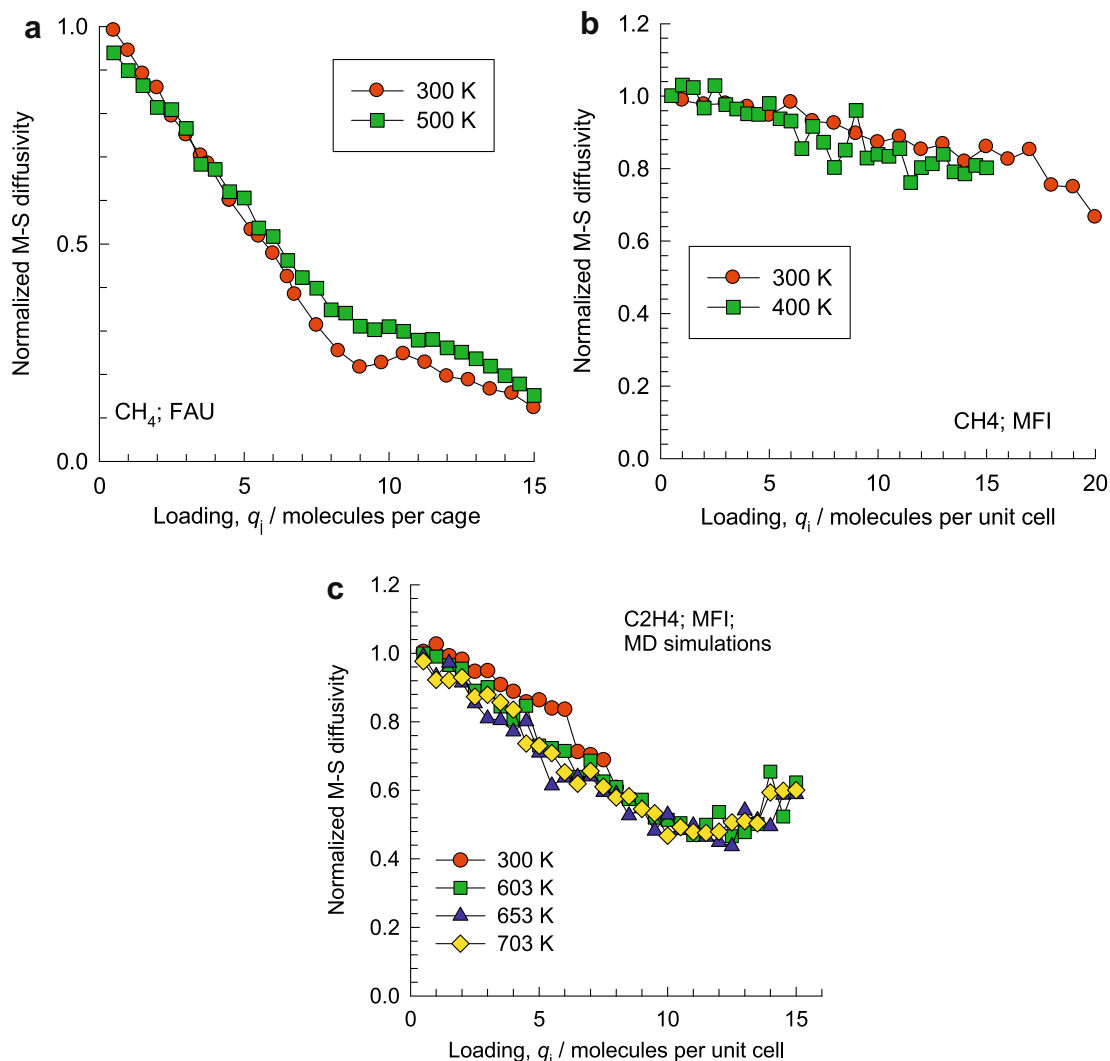


Fig. 7. Normalized M–S diffusivity for (a) CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, (b) CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and (c) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI as a function of the molecular loading  $q_i$  for a variety of temperatures.

we note that  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  versus  $q_i$  is practically  $T$ -independent; this is a convenient result.

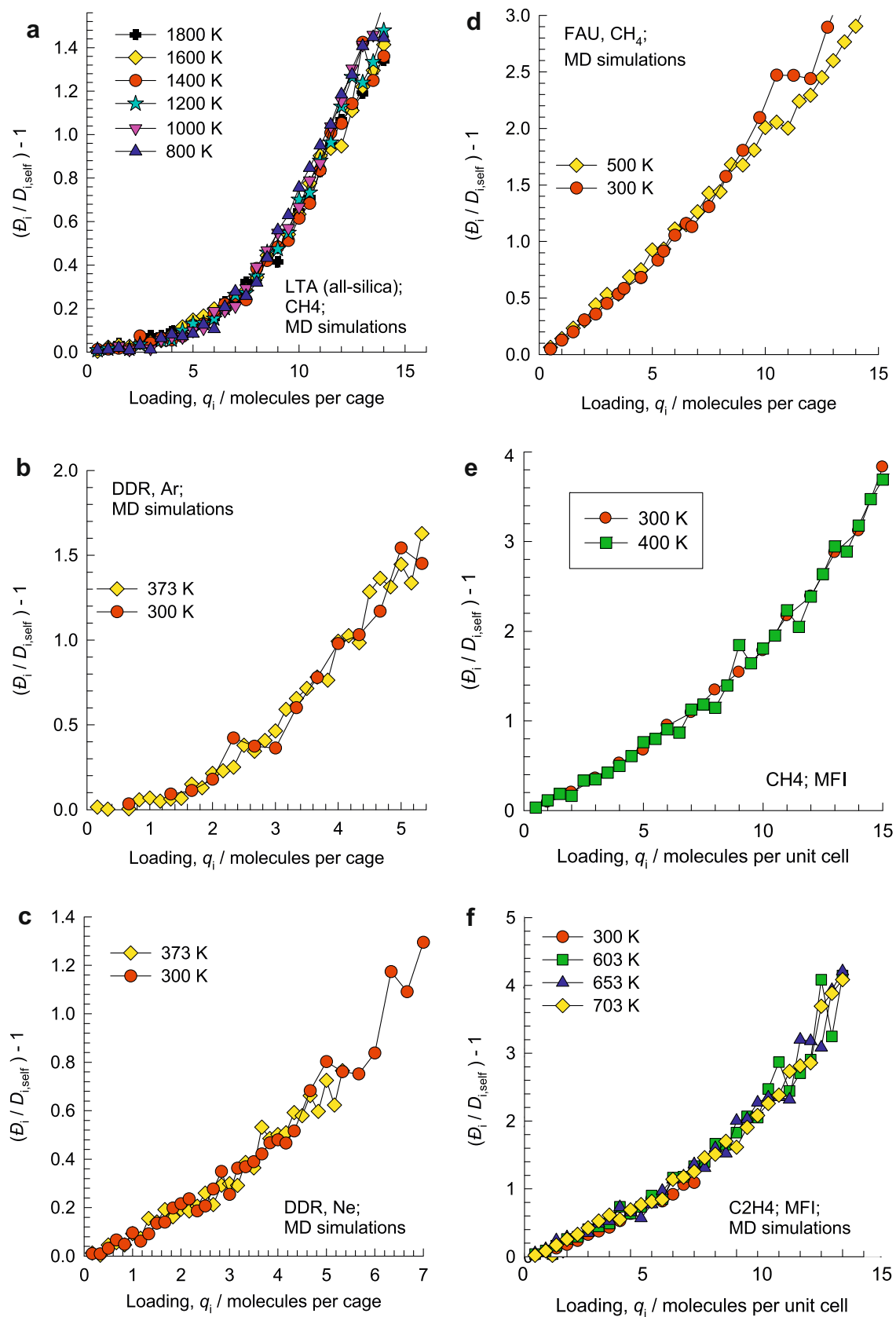
If  $\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self}$  is  $T$ -independent, the inescapable conclusion is that the activation energy for  $D_{i,self}$  cannot be identical to that for  $\bar{D}_i$ , unless correlation effects are negligibly small. To illustrate this let us consider three guest–host combinations: CH<sub>4</sub>/LTA, Ar/DDR, and Ne/DDR at loadings  $q_i = 8, 3,$  and  $3$  molecules per cage, respectively. At these loadings the values of  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for each case is smaller than 0.5 (cf. Fig. 8a, b, and c), signifying relatively weak correlations. The activation energies for  $\bar{D}_i$  and  $D_{i,self}$  are equal to each other for all three combinations; see Fig. 9a, b, and c. Consider now the guest–host combinations CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI at loadings  $q_i = 80, 10,$  and  $8$  molecules per unit cell. In these cases  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1) > 1.5$  (cf. Fig. 8d, e, and f), signifying relatively strong correlations. The activation energies for  $\bar{D}_i$  and  $D_{i,self}$  differ by about 10% for all three combinations; see Fig. 9d, e, and f. For practical engineering design purposes the 10% differences could perhaps be ignored, but for consistent modeling purposes, the differences should be accounted for.

#### 4. Conclusions

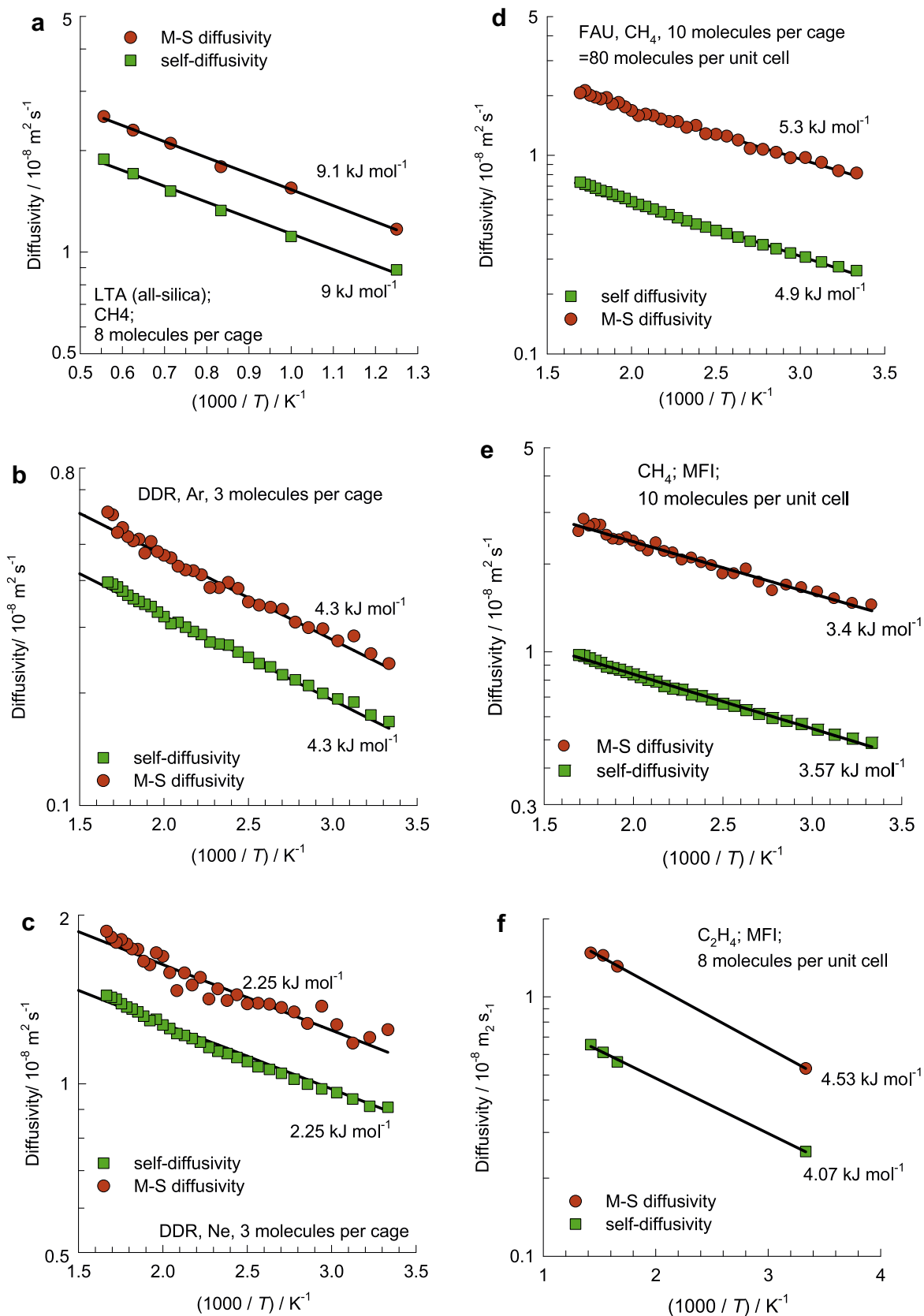
MD simulations for diffusion of a variety of guest molecules in five different zeolites LTA, FAU, MFI, CHA, and DDR have provided the following answers to the three questions posed in the Section 1.

- (1) The loading dependence of the diffusivities ( $\bar{D}_i - q_i$ , and  $D_{i,self} - q_i$ ), in general, varies significantly with  $T$  for diffusion of cage-type zeolites such as LTA, CHA and DDR in which the guest molecules such as CH<sub>4</sub> and Kr that are tightly constrained at the window regions. In such cases the activation energy for diffusion changes with loading  $q_i$ . For diffusion of lightly constrained molecules such as CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, Ar, and Ne in DDR, or in CHA, the influence of  $T$  on the loading dependence is negligibly small or weak; this is also the case for CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI and CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU. The model of Reed and Ehrlich [14,20,26] provides a good description of the combined influence of  $q_i$  and  $T$  on  $\bar{D}_i$ .
- (2) The strength of correlations, quantified by  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  is found to be practically  $T$ -independent for all guest–host combinations investigated.
- (3) The activation energy for  $D_{i,self}$ , in general, differs than that for  $\bar{D}_i$ . The difference is negligibly small if the correlation effects are small. Conversely, when correlation effects are significant the activation energy for  $D_{i,self}$  can be approximately 10% different than that for  $\bar{D}_i$ .

The current study has been restricted to cation-free zeolites, and the influence of the presence of cations on the loading dependence needs further investigation.



**Fig. 8.** The correlation parameter  $(D_i/D_{i,self}) - 1$  for (a) CH<sub>4</sub>/LTA, (b) Ar/DDR, (c) Ne/DDR, (d) CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, (e) CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and (f) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI as function of loading  $q_i$  for various temperatures.



**Fig. 9.** Comparison of Arrhenius plots for  $D_{i,self}$  and  $D_i$  at a fixed loading for (a) CH<sub>4</sub>/LTA, (b) Ar/DDR, (c) Ne/DDR, (d) CH<sub>4</sub>/FAU, (e) CH<sub>4</sub>/MFI, and (f) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>/MFI.



## Acknowledgments

RK acknowledges the grant of a TOP subsidy from the Netherlands Foundation for Fundamental Research (NWO-CW) for intensification of reactors.

## Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at [doi:10.1016/j.micromeso.2009.01.015](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.micromeso.2009.01.015).

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*-Supplementary material to accompany:*

# A molecular dynamics investigation of a variety of influences of temperature on diffusion in zeolites

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# GCMC simulation methodology

Adsorption equilibria of a variety of molecules ( $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ , Ar, Ne, Kr, and  $\text{O}_2$ ) in LTA, CHA, FAU, MFI, and DDR zeolites were computed using Monte Carlo (MC) simulations in the grand canonical (GC) ensemble. The crystallographic data are available elsewhere.[1] The window sizes of these cage-type zeolites are listed in Table 1. The zeolite lattices are rigid during simulations, with static atomic charges that are assigned by choosing  $q_{\text{Si}} = +2.05$  and  $q_{\text{O}} = -1.025$ , following the works of Jaramillo and Auerbach [2] and Calero et al.[3].  $\text{CH}_4$  molecules are described with a united atom model, in which each molecule is treated as a single interaction center.[4] The interaction between adsorbed molecules is described with Coulombic and Lennard-Jones terms. The Coulombic interactions in the system are calculated by Ewald summation for periodic systems[5]. The parameters for  $\text{CH}_4$  are taken from Dubbeldam et al[6] and Calero et al.[3].  $\text{CO}_2$  molecules are taken linear and rigid with bond length C–O of  $1.16\text{\AA}$  according to the 3LJ3CB.EPM2 model developed by Harris and Young [7]. We use the 2LJ3CB.MSKM model for  $\text{N}_2$  dumbbell molecules with a rigid interatomic bond of  $1.098\text{\AA}$ [8, 9]. The partial charges of  $\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  are distributed around each molecule to reproduce experimental quadrupole moment. The interactions between adsorbed molecules and the zeolite are dominated by dispersive forces between the pseudo-atoms and the oxygen atoms of the zeolite [10, 11] and the interactions of silicon and aluminium are considered through an effective potential with only the oxygen atoms. The Lennard-Jones parameters for  $\text{CH}_4$ -zeolite interactions are taken from Dubbeldam et al.[6]. The Lennard-Jones parameters for  $\text{CO}_2$ -zeolite and  $\text{N}_2$ -zeolite interactions are essentially those of Makrodimitris et al.[9]; see also García-Pérez et al.[12]. The force fields for Ne and Ar are taken from the paper by Skoulidas and Sholl[13]. The force field for Kr is from Talu and Myers [14]. The force field for  $\text{O}_2$  is taken from the work of Mellot and Lignieres[15]. The force field for ethene is taken from the work of Ban et al. [16].

Table 2 summarizes the information on the force fields. Figure 1 presents cartoons showing the approximate molecular dimensions of Ne, Ar, Kr, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>. The molecular diameters are estimated on the basis of the Lennard-Jones size parameters  $\sigma$  for molecule-molecule interactions. The molecular lengths are estimated on the basis of the bond lengths.

The Lennard-Jones potentials are shifted and cut at 12 Å. The number of unit cells in the simulation box was chosen such that the minimum length in each of the coordinate directions was larger than 24 Å. Periodic boundary conditions were employed. Further GCMC simulation details are available in earlier publications[3, 6, 17].

The GCMC simulations were performed using the BIGMAC code developed by T.J.H. Vlugt[18] as basis. The code was modified to handle rigid molecular structures and charges. S. Calero is gratefully acknowledged for her technical inputs in this regard. Detailed validation of the force fields used for CH<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub> is available elsewhere[6, 12]. Additional verification of the force fields used is provided by comparison of the simulated adsorption isotherms for a variety of gases in DDR zeolite with recent experimental data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] and Himeno et al. [21, 22].

## 1. MD simulation methodology

Diffusion is simulated using Newton's equations of motion until the system properties, on average, no longer change in time. The Verlet algorithm is used for time integration. A time step of 1 fs was used in all simulations. For each simulation, *initializing* GCMC moves are used to place the molecules in the domain, minimizing the energy. Next, follows an *equilibration* stage. These are essentially the same as the production cycles, only the statistics are not yet taken into account. This removes any initial large disturbances in the system do not affect statistics. After a fixed number of initialization and equilibrium steps, the MD simulation *production* cycles start. For every cycle, the statistics for determining the mean square displacements (MSDs) are updated. The MSDs are determined for time intervals ranging from 2 fs to 1 ns. In order to do this, an order- $N$  algorithm, as detailed in Chapter 4 of Frenkel and Smit[5] is implemented. The Nosé-Hoover thermostat is applied to all the diffusing particles.

The DLPOLY code[23] was used along with the force field implementation as described in the previous section. DL\_POLY is a molecular dynamics simulation package written by W. Smith, T.R. Forester and I.T. Todorov and has been obtained from CCLRCs Daresbury Laboratory via the website.[23]

MD simulations were carried out to determine the diffusivities of both pure components and binary mixtures for a variety of molecular loadings. All simulations were carried out on clusters of PCs equipped with Intel Xeon processors running at 3.4 GHz on the Linux operating system. Each MD simulation, for a specified loading, was run for 120 h, determined to be long enough to obtain reliable statistics for determination of the diffusivities. Several independent MD simulations were run and the results averaged.

The self-diffusivities,  $D_{i,self}$ , were computed by analyzing the mean square displacement of each species  $i$  for each of the coordinate directions:

$$D_{i,self} = \frac{1}{2n_i} \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left\langle \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t))^2 \right) \right\rangle \quad (1)$$

In this expression  $n_i$  represents the number of molecules of species  $i$  respectively, and  $\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t)$  is the position of molecule  $l$  of species  $i$  at any time  $t$ . The expression (1) also defines the self-diffusivity in a  $n$ -component mixture.

For single component diffusion, the Maxwell-Stefan diffusivity was determined for each of the coordinate directions from

$$D_i = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n_i} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left\langle \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t)) \right)^2 \right\rangle \quad (2)$$

For DDR the reported diffusivities are the averages in x- and y- directions  $D = (D_x + D_y)/2$ . For MFI, CHA and LTA the average values calculated according to  $D = (D_x + D_y + D_z)/3$  are presented. In all cases reported here, the MSD values were linear in  $t$  for  $t > 10$  ps (used in data regression analysis to determine the diffusivities) and we found no evidence of single file diffusion characteristics.

For CH<sub>4</sub>/DDR the molecules are tightly constrained at the window regions; the self- and M-S diffusivities are close to each other. In this case only, the reported in the manuscript as M-S diffusivities  $D_i$  are, in actual fact, the self-diffusivities,  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  that are more accurately determinable.

The self-exchange coefficient  $D_{ii}$  were calculated from

$$D_{ii} = \frac{\theta_i}{\frac{1}{D_{i,\text{self}}} - \frac{1}{D_i}} \quad (3)$$

where  $\theta_i$  is the fractional occupancy:

$$\theta_i = \frac{q_i}{q_{i,\text{sat}}} \quad (4)$$

Two kinds of MD campaigns were carried out. Firstly, for a fixed temperature the loading was varied up to saturation limit. Secondly, for a fixed loading, the temperatures were varied.

## 2. MD animations

Animations of MD simulations for diffusion of a variety of molecules in DDR, CHA, MFI, FAU, and LTA are available on our web site [24].

## 3. Simulation results for CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA

LTA consists of cages separated by windows of 4.1 Å size; see the framework structure and pore landscape in Figure 2. Figure 3 presents the GCMC simulations of the pure component isotherms for CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA at temperatures  $T = 800$  K, 1000 K, 1200 K, 1400 K, 1600 K, and 1800 K. From this data the saturation capacity  $q_{i,\text{sat}}$  is determined as 16 molecules per cage. Also shown are the data for  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  at various  $T$ . Figure 4 shows the data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  and  $D_i$  for CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA at different temperatures  $T$ . Also shown in Figure 4 are the diffusivity data normalized with respect to the zero-loading diffusivities. Figure 5 presents the Arrhenius plots and activation energies for diffusion of CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA.



## 4. Simulation results for CH<sub>4</sub> in CHA

CHA consists of cages separated by windows of 3.8 Å size; see the framework structure and pore landscape in Figure 6.

Figure 7 presents data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in CHA at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots.

Figure 8 presents data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for Ar in CHA at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots.

## 5. Simulation results for CH<sub>4</sub> in FAU

FAU consists of cages separated by 12-ring windows of 7.4 Å size; see the framework structure and pore landscape in Figure 9

Figure 10 shows  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in FAU at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots

## 6. Simulation results for CH<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI

MFI consists of two 10 T-ring intersecting channels of 5.1 – 5.5 Å and 5.3 – 5.6 Å sizes; the pore structure and landscape are shown in Figure 11.

Figure 12 Data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in MFI at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots

Figure 13 shows the GCMC simulations of the pure component isotherm for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI at 300 K, along with snapshot showing the location of molecules. Figure 14 presents data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  and  $D_i$  for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI at temperatures  $T = 300$  K, 603 K, 653 K, and 703 K. Figure 15 presents the Arrhenius

plots for the T-dependence of  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  and  $\bar{D}_i$ . Also shown in Figure 15 are  $(\bar{D}_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for diffusion of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  in MFI  $T = 300$  K, 603 K, 653 K, and 703 K..

## 7. Simulation data for DDR, and force field validation

DDR zeolite consists of cages separated by narrow elliptical shaped windows of 3.6 – 4.4 Å size. See the pore structure and landscapes in Figure 16. Comparisons of the experimental data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] and Himeno et al. [21, 22] with GCMC simulations for  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ , Ar, and Kr in DDR are given in Figures 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22. These data give an indication of the validity of the force fields used in this study. We also carried out GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for Ne, for which Van den Bergh et al. [20] were not able to determine the isotherms.

For re-analysis and re-interpretation of the data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] for permeation across a DDR membrane, to be presented below, we need to fit the isotherms. All the GCMC simulated isotherms were fitted with the 3-site Langmuir model

$$q_i = \frac{q_{i,\text{sat},A} b_{i,A} f_i}{1 + b_{i,A} f_i} + \frac{q_{i,\text{sat},B} b_{i,B} f_i}{1 + b_{i,B} f_i} + \frac{q_{i,\text{sat},C} b_{i,C} f_i}{1 + b_{i,C} f_i} \quad (5)$$

It was found impossible to fit any of the component isotherms with either a 2-site or single site Langmuir model. The 3-site Langmuir fits are “empirical” and the individual sites cannot be identified with specific locations within DDR. In eq. (5)  $q_i$  is the molar loading expressed in  $\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ,  $q_{i,\text{sat},A}$  is the saturation loading of site A, and  $f_i$  is the fugacity of the bulk gas phase. The values of the fitted  $T$ -dependent parameters  $b_i$  and  $q_{i,\text{sat}}$  are specified in Table 3. Note that the data were fitted with loading in the units of  $\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ . In the main text of the paper, the data have been presented in the units of molecules per cage. A loading of 1 molecule per cage corresponds with  $0.832 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ . The total number of GCMC data points (at varying fugacity and temperature) used in the data fits were:  $\text{CH}_4 = 378$ ;  $\text{CO}_2 = 320$ ;  $\text{N}_2 = 321$ ;  $\text{O}_2 = 168$ ; Ar = 194; Kr = 192; Ne = 95.

The MD simulation results for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, Ar, O<sub>2</sub>, Kr, and Ne are presented in Figures 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29. Also presented in these figures are the fitted values of the Reed and Ehrlich parameter  $\phi_i$ .

## 8. Re-analysis of Van den Bergh [19, 20] unary permeation data

Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] have published data for unary permeation of CH<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub> across a DDR membrane for a set of temperatures and pressures. We begin by developing a model to describe their unary permeation data. For this purpose we use the approach developed in our earlier publication [25]. A brief summary of the approach is given below.

The Reed-Ehrlich model is used to describe the M-S diffusivity as a function of the fractional occupancy,  $\theta_i$  and temperature,  $T$ :

$$D_i(T) = D_i(0) \exp\left(-\frac{E_{diff,i}}{RT}\right) \frac{(1 + \varepsilon_i)^{z-1}}{(1 + \varepsilon_i / \phi_i)^z} \quad (6)$$

where  $z$  is the coordination number, representing the maximum number of nearest neighbors within a cage. The parameter  $E_{diff,i}$  is the activation energy for diffusion of species  $i$ . The value of  $z$  is chosen to be 5, as this represents the maximum number of molecules within a cage. The choice of this  $z$  parameter is not crucial because the key parameter  $\phi_i$  is to be fitted empirically in any event. The other parameters are defined as

$$\varepsilon_i = \frac{(\beta_i - 1 + 2\theta_i)\phi_i}{2(1 - \theta_i)}; \quad \beta_i = \sqrt{1 - 4\theta_i(1 - \theta_i)(1 - 1/\phi_i)} \quad (7)$$

Using the Reed-Ehrlich loading dependence, and a 3-site Langmuir fit for the pure component isotherms we define a modified driving force  $MDF_i$

$$MDF_i \equiv \int_{f_{i,down}}^{f_{i,up}} \frac{(1 + \varepsilon_i)^{z-1}}{(1 + \varepsilon_i / \phi_i)^z} \frac{q_i}{f_i} df_i = \int_{f_{i,down}}^{f_{i,up}} \frac{(1 + \varepsilon_i)^{z-1}}{(1 + \varepsilon_i / \phi_i)^z} \left( \frac{q_{i,sat,A} b_{iA}}{1 + b_{iA} f_i} + \frac{q_{i,sat,B} b_{iB}}{1 + b_{iB} f_i} + \frac{q_{i,sat,C} b_{iC}}{1 + b_{iC} f_i} \right) df_i \quad (8)$$

The unary permeation flux at any given  $T$  is

$$N_i(T) = \frac{\rho D_i(0)}{\delta} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{diff,i}}{RT}\right) MDF_i \quad (9)$$

It is to be noted that eq (9) assumes each permeation experiment is carried out under isothermal conditions and there is no temperature gradient across the membrane. From the unary permeation data,  $\rho D_i(0) / \delta$ ,  $E_{diff,i}$  and  $\phi_i$  can be backed out by fitting to the measured permeation fluxes. For the reasons discussed in the main text of this paper, the  $\phi_i$  was fitted in the form

$$\phi_i = \exp\left(\frac{a_0 + a_1 T}{RT}\right) \exp(b\theta_i) \quad (10)$$

The backed-out data are summarized in Table 4. Figure 30 shows the unary permeation data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20], along with the calculations following eq (9). The unary permeation data for CH<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub> includes the sets published in both papers [19, 20].

Figure 31. shows the fitted Reed-Ehrlich parameter  $\phi_i$  for CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> as a function of the cage loading, for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K. The experimental data for CO<sub>2</sub> permeation covers a range of upstream loadings up to a maximum of about 4.2 molecules per cage. The experimental data for N<sub>2</sub> permeation covers a range of upstream loadings up to a maximum of about 1 molecules per cage. The experimental data for CH<sub>4</sub> permeation covers a range of upstream loadings up to a maximum of about 2.3 molecules per cage. Figure 32 presents the normalized Maxwell-Stefan diffusivities of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> as a function of the cage loading, for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K.

## 9. Notation

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| $b_i$                 | Langmuir constant, Pa <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $D_{i,\text{self}}$   | self-diffusivity, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>  |
| $D_i$                 | Maxwell-Stefan diffusivity of species $i$ , m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>                                |
| $D_i(0)$              | zero-loading M-S diffusivity of species $i$ , m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>                              |
| $D_{ii}$              | self-exchange diffusivity, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $E_{\text{diff},i}$   | activation energy for diffusion $i$ , J mol <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $f_i$                 | fugacity of species $i$ , Pa  |
| $MDF_i$               | modified driving force for transport across membrane, mol kg <sup>-1</sup>                                |
| $N_i$                 | molar flux of species $i$ , mol m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $n_i$                 | number of molecules of species $i$ in simulation box, dimensionless                                       |
| $q_i$                 | loading of species $i$ , mol kg <sup>-1</sup> or molecules per unit cell or molecules per cage            |
| $q_{i,\text{sat}}$    | saturation loading of species $i$ , mol kg <sup>-1</sup> or molecules per unit cell or molecules per cage |
| $\mathbf{r}_{l,i}(t)$ | position of molecule $l$ of species $i$ at any time $t$ , m   |
| $R$                   | gas constant, 8.314 J mol <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $t$                   | time, s   |
| $T$                   | absolute temperature, K   |
| $x$                   | spatial distance, m   |
| $z$                   | coordination number, dimensionless  |

### **Greek letters**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| $\beta_i$  | Reed-Ehrlich parameter, dimensionless   |
| $\Gamma_i$ | thermodynamic factor, dimensionless   |
| $\delta$   | thickness of zeolite membrane, m  |
| $\theta_i$ | fractional occupancy of component $i$ , dimensionless   |
| $\mu_i$    | molar chemical potential, J mol <sup>-1</sup>   |
| $\rho$     | framework density of zeolite, kg m <sup>-3</sup> or unit cells m <sup>-3</sup> or cages m <sup>-3</sup> |

### ***Subscripts***

sat            referring to saturation conditions

$i,j$             components in mixture



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Table 1. Characteristic sizes of channels or windows for zeolite structures

| <b>Zeolite</b> | <b>Channel or window size/ Å</b>                    |
|----------------|---|
| FAU            | 12-ring window of 7.4 Å size                        |
| MFI            | 10 T-ring intersecting channels of 5.1 – 5.6 Å size |
| LTA            | 8 T-ring window of 4.1 Å size                       |
| CHA            | 8 T-ring window of 3.8 Å size                       |
| DDR            | 8 T-ring window of 3.6 Å- 4.4 Å size                |

Table 2. Summary of force field used in GCMC and MD simulations

The interaction between adsorbates was calculated using Lennard-Jones potentials and electrostatic interactions using an Ewald summation method. For adsorbate-adsorbate interactions, Lorentz-Berthelot mixing rules were applied for  $\sigma$  and  $\epsilon/k_B$ . Leonard-Jones interaction with the zeolite was only taken  $\sigma$  and  $\epsilon/k_B$  and epsilon for the adsorbates and for the interaction with the adsorbates and with the zeolites. The charges are also shown for the pseudo atoms.

| (pseudo-) atom       | Atom-atom<br>$\sigma / \text{\AA}$ | Atom-atom<br>$\epsilon/k_B / \text{K}$ | Atom - O in zeolite<br>$\sigma / \text{\AA}$ | Atom - O in zeolite<br>$\epsilon/k_B / \text{K}$ | charge   |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
| CH <sub>4</sub>      | 3.72                               | 158.5                                  | 3.47   | 115  | 0        |
| C (CO <sub>2</sub> ) | 2.757                              | 28.129                                 | 2.7815                                       | 50.2   | 0.6512   |
| O (CO <sub>2</sub> ) | 3.033                              | 80.507                                 | 2.9195                                       | 84.93  | -0.3256  |
| N (N <sub>2</sub> )  | 3.32                               | 36.4                                   | 3.06   | 58.25  | -0.40484 |
| O (O <sub>2</sub> )  | 3.0896                             | 44.5                                   | 2.97   | 67.8   | -0.112   |
| Ar                   | 3.42                               | 124.07                                 | 3.17   | 95.61  | 0        |
| Ne                   | 2.789                              | 35.7                                   | 2.798  | 56.87  | 0        |
| Kr                   | 3.636                              | 166.4                                  | 3.45   | 109.6  | 0        |

The molecule geometries were fixed. The bond angle for CO<sub>2</sub> is 180°. For N<sub>2</sub>, a point charge is located in the middle between the two atoms, that is twice the magnitude of the charges on N, and opposite in sign, so that the total molecule charge is zero. Similarly, for O<sub>2</sub>, a point charge is located in the middle between the two atoms, that is twice the magnitude of the charges on O, and opposite in sign, so that the total molecule charge is zero. The following table shows the bond lengths that were used:

| bond                   | bond length / $\text{\AA}$ |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| N-N (N <sub>2</sub> )  | 1.098                      |
| O-O (O <sub>2</sub> )  | 1.2                        |
| C-O (CO <sub>2</sub> ) | 1.16                       |

The zeolite atoms are considered immobile. The following table shows the charges used for the zeolite atoms:

| atom                  | charge |
|-----------------------|--------|
| O <sub>Zeolite</sub>  | -1.025 |
| Si <sub>Zeolite</sub> | 2.05   |

Table 3. Temperature dependent 3-site Langmuir parameters for DDR

$$q = \frac{q_{sat,A} b_A f}{1 + b_A f} + \frac{q_{sat,B} b_B f}{1 + b_B f} + \frac{q_{sat,C} b_C f}{1 + b_C f}$$

For CO<sub>2</sub>:  $b_A = 7.8 \times 10^{-11} \exp\left(\frac{3400}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 3.0 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$$b_B = 2 \times 10^{-13} \exp\left(\frac{3800}{T}\right)$$
;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.0 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 1.9 \times 10^{-14} \exp\left(\frac{3450}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 0.6 \text{ mol/kg}$

For CH<sub>4</sub>:  $b_A = 2.39 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{2200}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 1.6 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$$b_B = 1.24 \times 10^{-11} \exp\left(\frac{2200}{T}\right)$$
;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.6 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 1.27 \times 10^{-12} \exp\left(\frac{1000}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 1.0 \text{ mol/kg}$

For N<sub>2</sub>:  $b_A = 1.57 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{1650}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$$b_B = 4.5 \times 10^{-11} \exp\left(\frac{1650}{T}\right)$$
;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 3 \times 10^{-13} \exp\left(\frac{1650}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$

For Ar:  $b_A = 2.336 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{1460}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 2.1 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$$b_B = 4.55 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{620}{T}\right)$$
;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.3 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 5.738 \times 10^{-13} \exp\left(\frac{2200}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 2 \text{ mol/kg}$

For Kr:  $b_A = 2.18 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{2100}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 1.6 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$b_B = 1.3 \times 10^{-11} \exp\left(\frac{2270}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.6 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 5.6 \times 10^{-12} \exp\left(\frac{1000}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 1.0 \text{ mol/kg}$

For O<sub>2</sub>:  $b_A = 2.223 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{1600}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$b_B = 1.79 \times 10^{-10} \exp\left(\frac{1600}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,B} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 5.16 \times 10^{-13} \exp\left(\frac{2200}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 1.8 \text{ mol/kg}$

For Ne:  $b_A = 4.088 \times 10^{-9} \exp\left(\frac{500}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,A} = 5 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;

$b_B = 1.374 \times 10^{-10} \exp\left(\frac{500}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,B} = 5 \text{ mol/kg}$ ;  $b_C = 1.545 \times 10^{-12} \exp\left(\frac{500}{T}\right)$ ;  $q_{sat,C} = 5 \text{ mol/kg}$



Table 4. Unary permeation parameters for DDR membrane backed out from the data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20]. In all cases we take the coordination number in the Reed and Ehrlich model,  $z = 5$ .

| Molecule        | $\rho D_i(0)/\delta$<br>$10^{-3} \text{ kg m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ | $\phi_i$                                 |
|-----------------|--|--|
| CO <sub>2</sub> | $933 \exp(-13600/RT)$  | $1.49 \exp(0.4\theta_i)$                 |
| CH <sub>4</sub> | $43 \exp(-19100/RT)$   | $\exp((3000 + 4T)/RT) \exp(0.4\theta_i)$ |
| N <sub>2</sub>  | $123 \exp(-8076/RT)$   | $1.7 \exp(0.6\theta_i)$                  |

## 11. Captions for Figures

Figure 1. Cartoon showing the approximate molecular dimensions of Ne, Ar, Kr, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>. The molecular diameters are estimated on the basis of the Lennard-Jones size parameters  $\sigma$  for molecule-molecule interactions. The molecular lengths are estimated on the basis of the bond lengths.

Figure 2. LTA structure and pore landscape.

Figure 3. Pure component isotherms for CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA at different temperatures  $T$ . Also shown are the data for  $(\mathcal{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  at various  $T$ .

Figure 4. Data on  $D_{i,self}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_i$  for CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA at different temperatures  $T$ .

Figure 5. Arrhenius plots and activation energies for diffusion of CH<sub>4</sub> in LTA.

Figure 6. CHA structure and pore landscape.

Figure 7.  $D_{i,self}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_i$ , and  $(\mathcal{D}_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in CHA at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots

Figure 8.  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for Ar in CHA at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots.

Figure 9. FAU structure and pore landscape.

Figure 10.  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in FAU at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots

Figure 11. MFI structure and pore landscape.

Figure 12.  $D_{i,\text{self}}$ ,  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for CH<sub>4</sub> in MFI at different temperatures  $T$ , along with Arrhenius plots

Figure 13. Pure component isotherm for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI at 300 K, along with snapshot showing the location of molecules.

Figure 14. Data on  $D_{i,\text{self}}$  and  $D_i$  for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI at different temperatures  $T$ .

Figure 15. Arrhenius plots and  $(D_i/D_{i,\text{self}} - 1)$  data for diffusion of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> in MFI.

Figure 16. DDR structure and pore landscape.

Figure 17. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for CH<sub>4</sub> in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of Van den Bergh et al.[19, 20] and Himeno et al.[21, 22].

Figure 18. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for CO<sub>2</sub> in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] and Himeno et al. [21, 22].

Figure 19. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for N<sub>2</sub> in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] and Himeno et al. [22].

Figure 20. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for O<sub>2</sub> in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of van den Bergh et al.[20].

Figure 21. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for Ar in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of van den Bergh et al.[20].

Figure 22. Comparison of GCMC simulations for pure component isotherms for Kr in DDR at various  $T$  with experimental data of van den Bergh et al.[20].

Figure 23. MD simulation data for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for CO<sub>2</sub> in DDR at  $T = 220$  K, 250 K, 270 K, 300 K, and 373 K. The Reed and Ehrlich fits of  $\phi_i$  are also plotted.

Figure 24. MD simulation data for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for N<sub>2</sub> in DDR at  $T = 220$  K, 300 K, and 373 K. The Reed and Ehrlich fits of  $\phi_i$  are also plotted.

Figure 25. MD simulation data for  $D_i \approx D_{i,self}$  for CH<sub>4</sub> in DDR at  $T = 300$  K, 373 K, 400 K, 500 K, and 600 K. Also shown are the Arrhenius plots for loadings of 1 and 3 molecules per cage.

Figure 26. MD simulation data for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for Ar in DDR at  $T = 300$  K, and 373 K. The Reed and Ehrlich fits of  $\phi_i$  are also plotted.

Figure 27. MD simulation data for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for O<sub>2</sub> in DDR at  $T = 300$  K, and 373 K. The Reed and Ehrlich fits of  $\phi_i$  are also plotted.

Figure 28. MD simulation data for  $D_i \approx D_{i,self}$  for Kr in DDR at  $T = 300$  K, and 373 K.

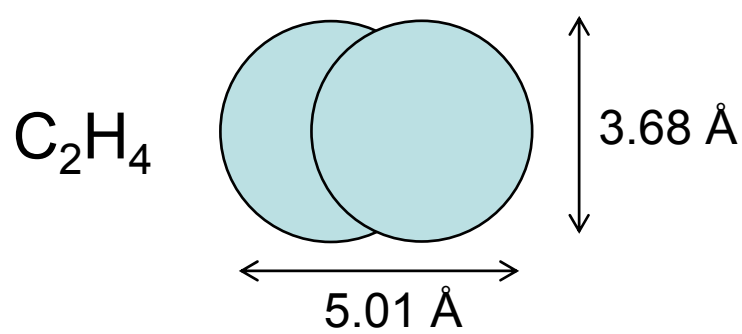
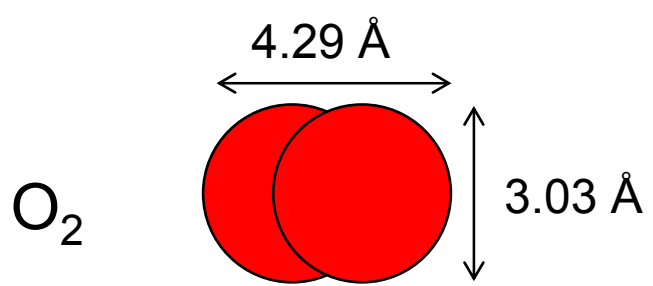
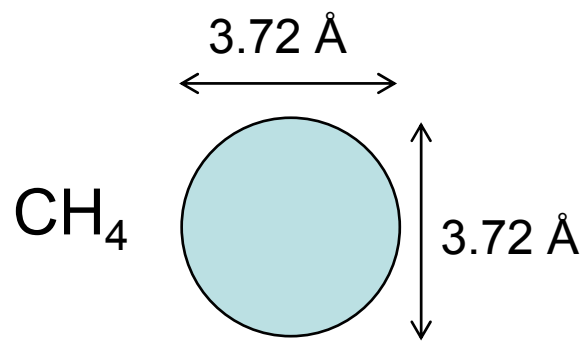
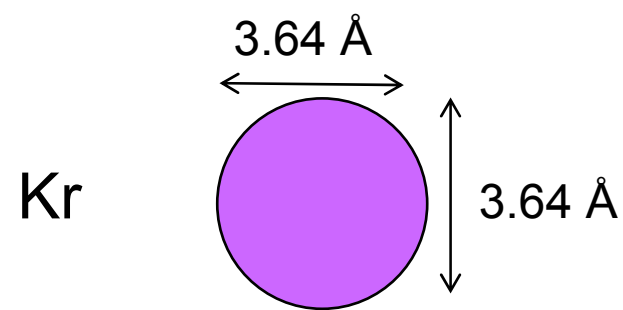
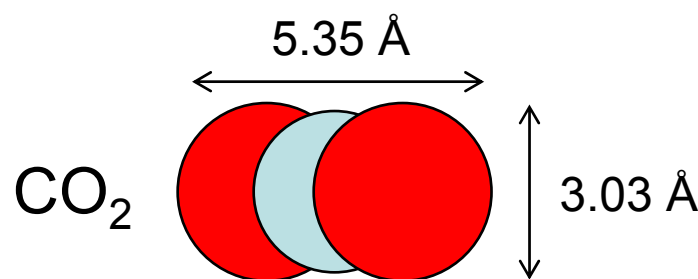
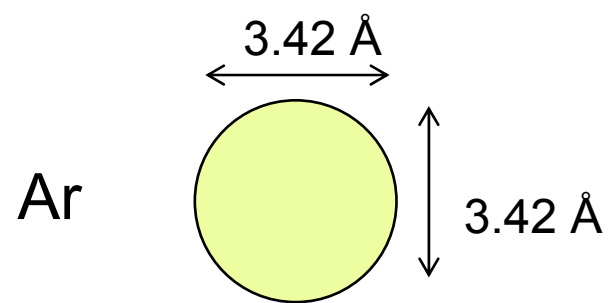
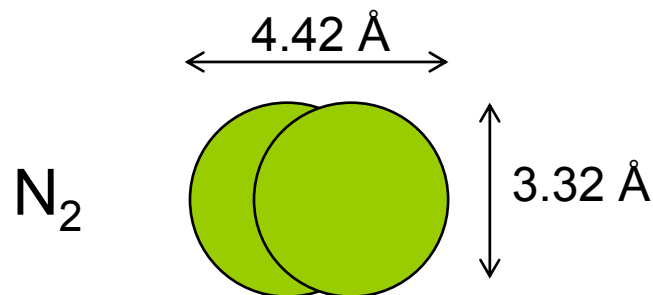
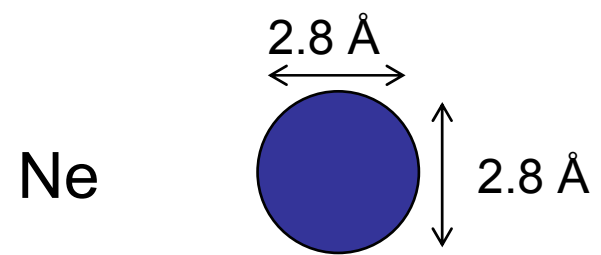
Figure 29. MD simulation data for  $D_i$ , and  $(D_i/D_{i,self} - 1)$  for Ne in DDR at  $T = 300$  K, and 373 K. The Reed and Ehrlich fits of  $\phi_i$  are also plotted.

Figure 30. Unary permeation fluxes of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> across a DDR membrane at specified upstream pressures and varying  $T$ . The experimental data of Van den Bergh et al. [19, 20] are denoted by filled symbols. The continuous solid lines represent the model calculations using eq. (9). Further data inputs are as given in Table 3 and Table 4.

Figure 31. Fitted Reed-Ehrlich parameter  $\phi_1$  for CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> as a function of the cage loading, for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K.

Figure 32. Normalized Maxwell-Stefan diffusivities of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub> as a function of the cage loading, for  $T = 250$  K, 300 K, and 373 K. The presented calculations are based on fitted parameters to the Reed and Ehrlich model.

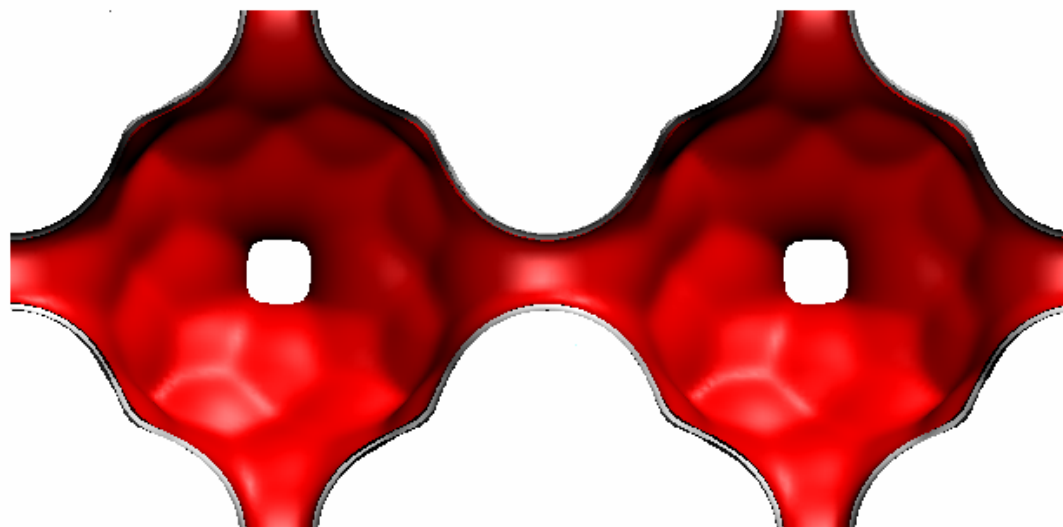
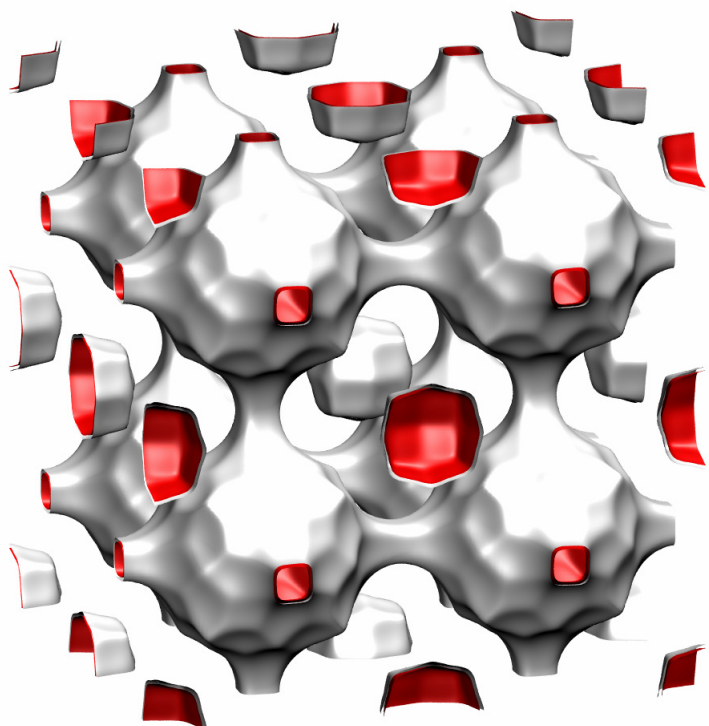
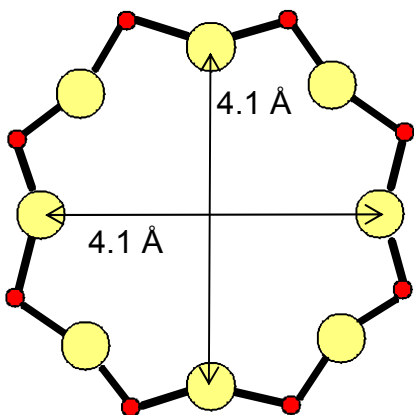
Figure 1



# LTA (all silica)

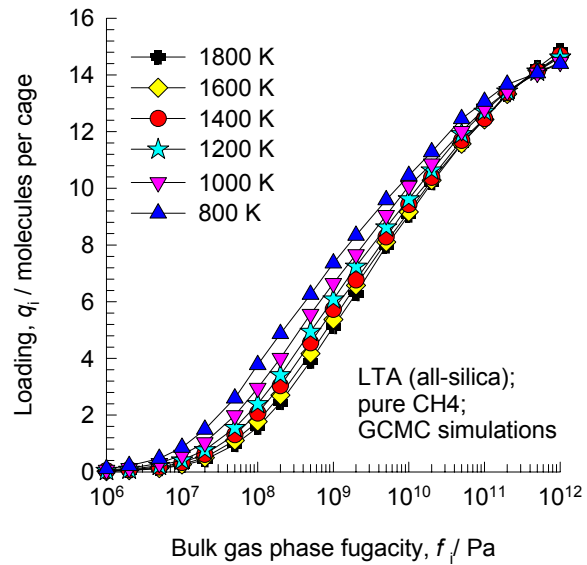
Figure 2

8-ring  
window  
of LTA





# Pure component isotherms



For Reed & Ehrlich fits we take  $q_{i,sat} = 16$  molecules per cage for all  $T$ .

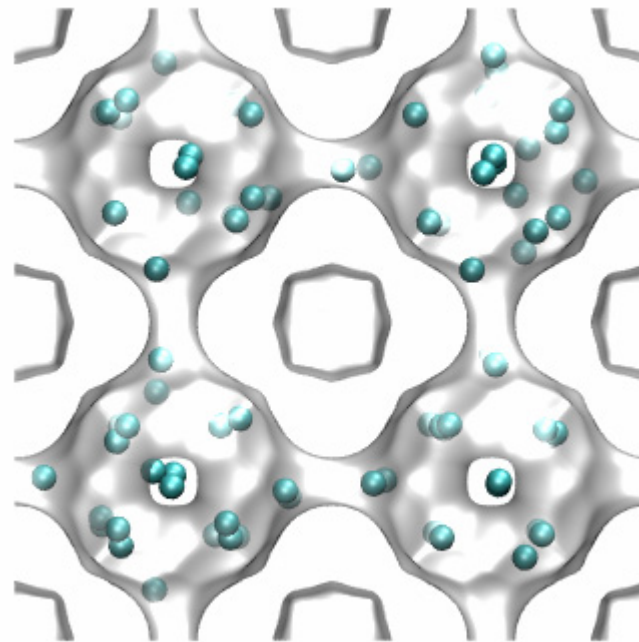


Figure 3

# Correlations

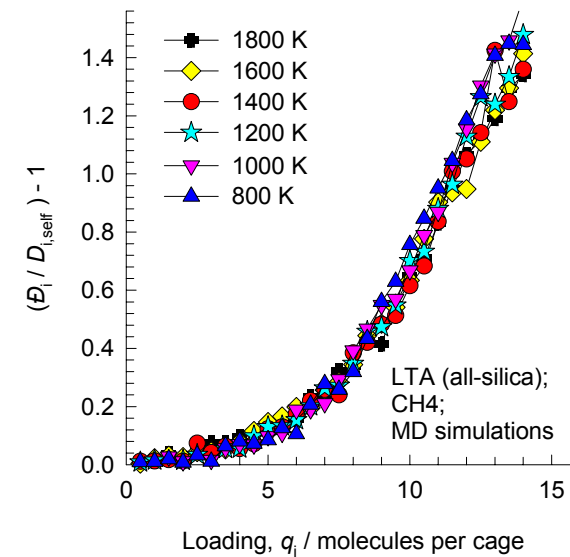
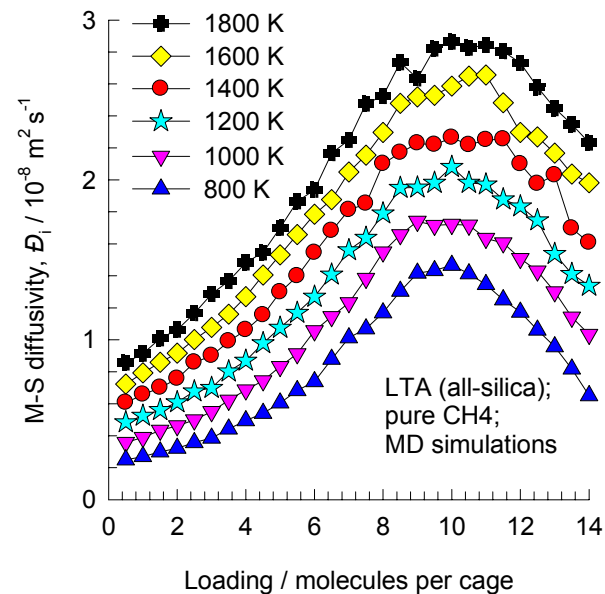
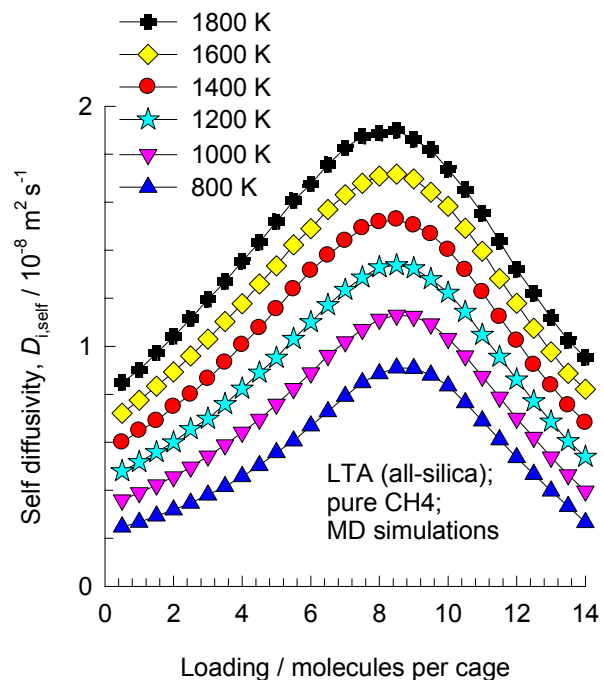
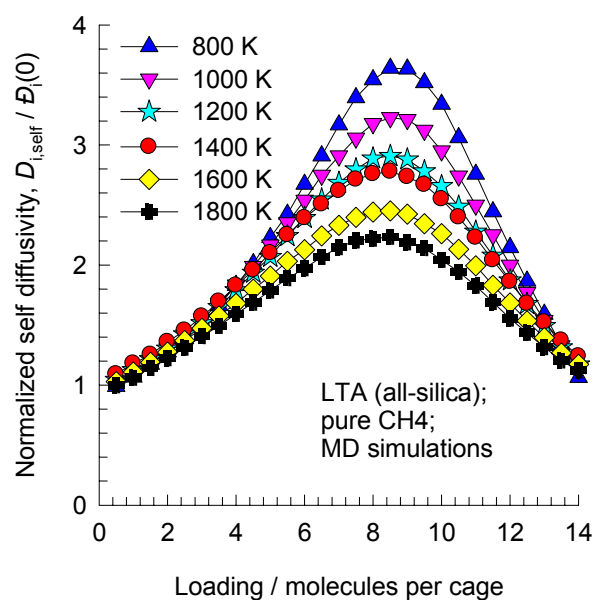


Figure 4



## Self-diffusivities



## Maxwell-Stefan diffusivities

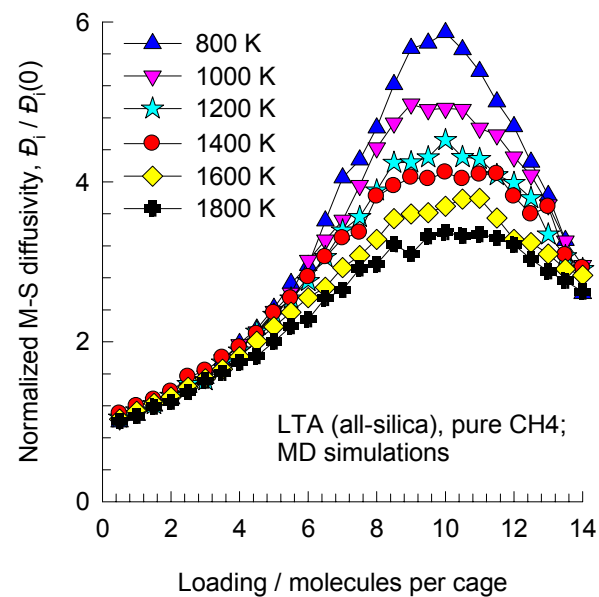
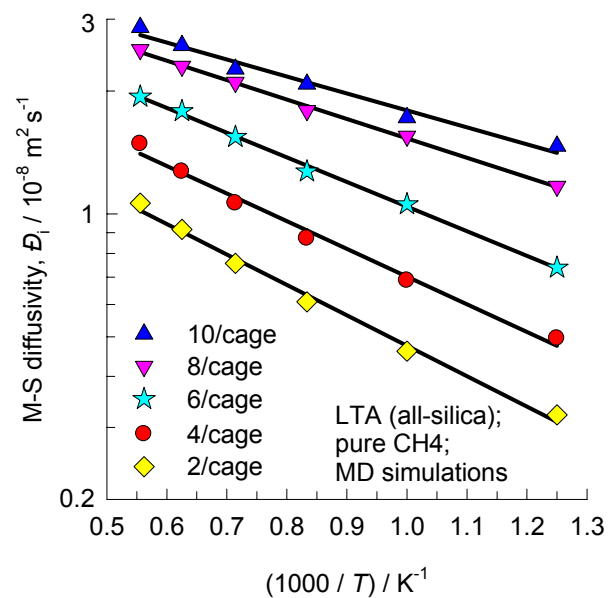
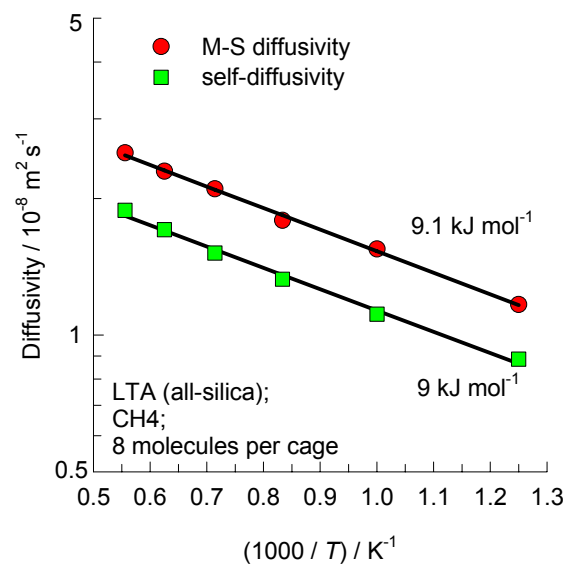


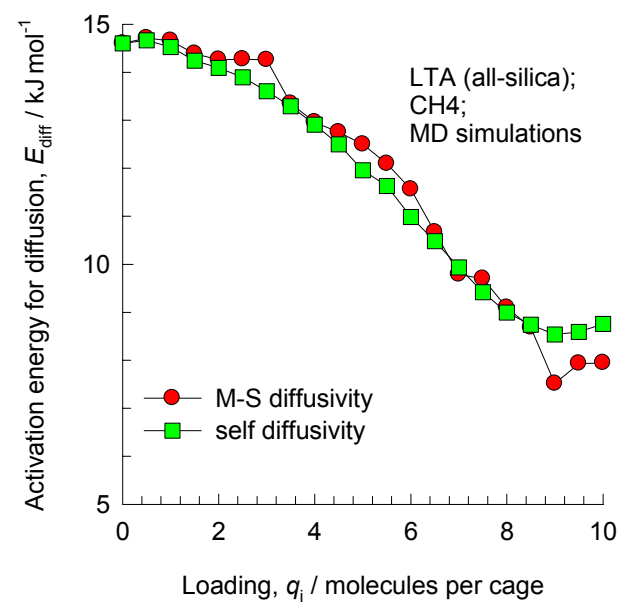
Figure 5



## Arrhenius plot



## Activation energies



# CHA (all silica)

Figure 6

8-ring  
window  
of CHA

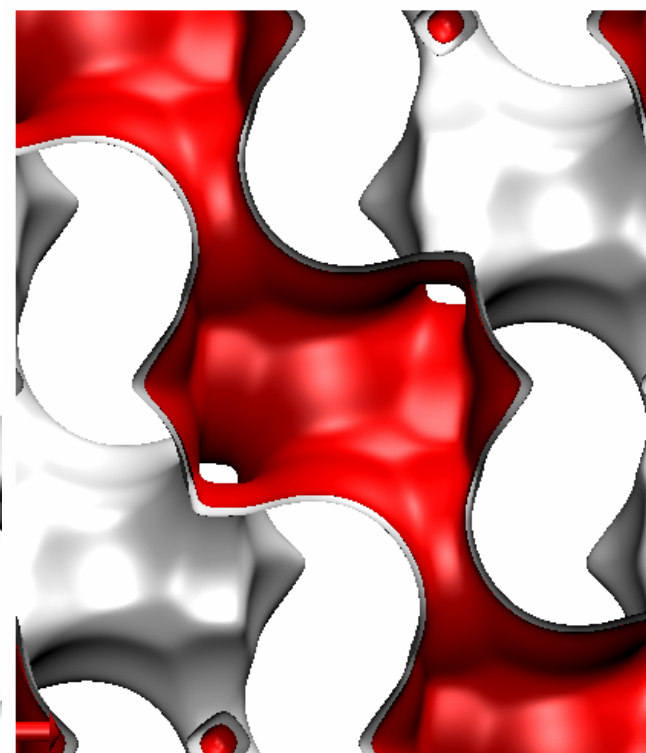
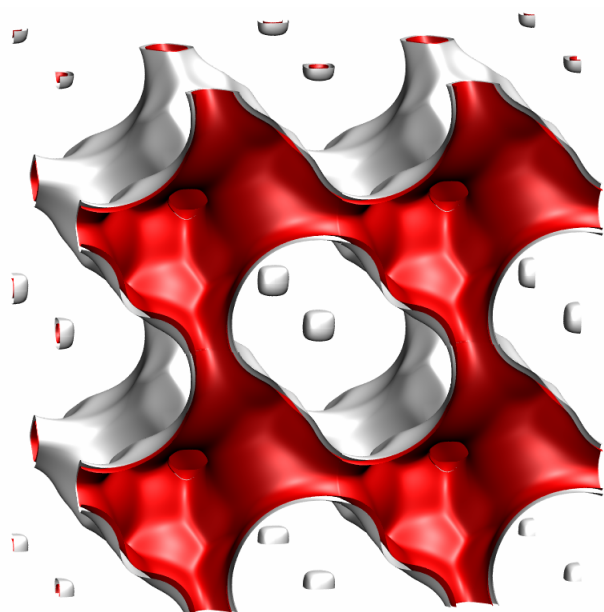
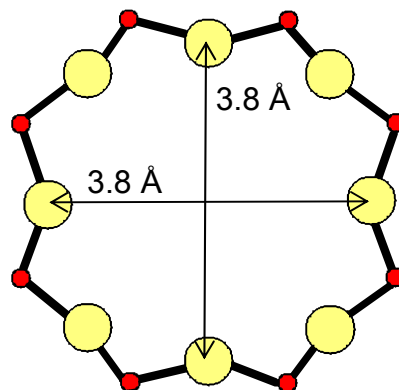
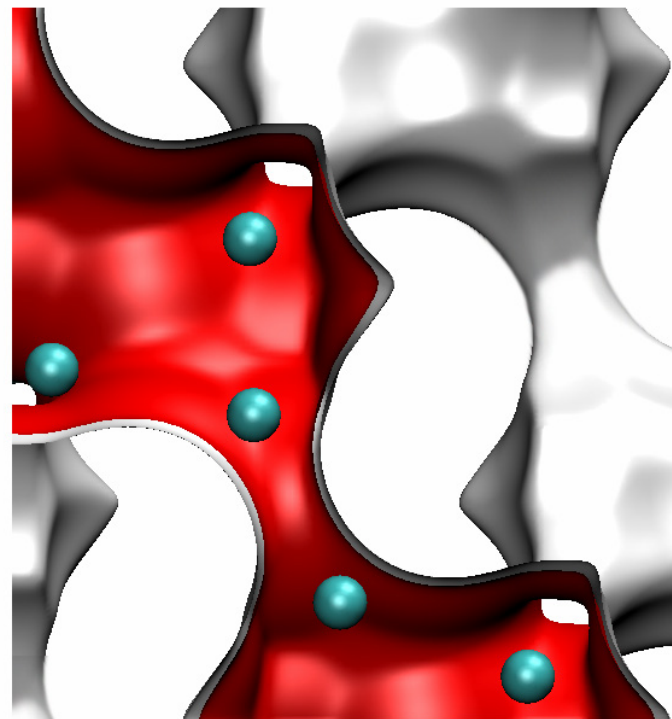
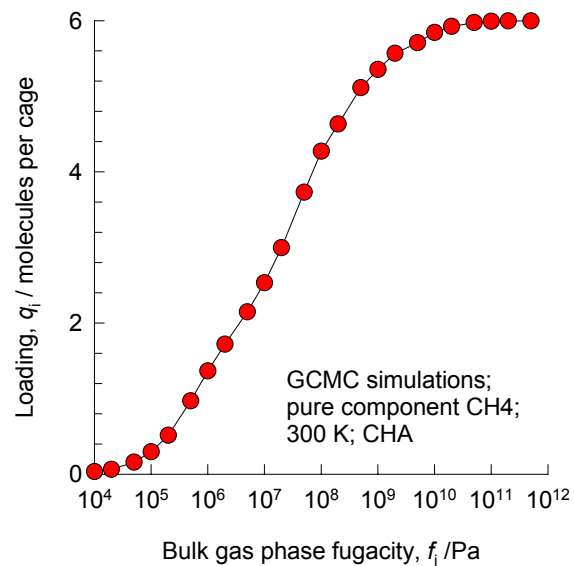


Figure 7



## CHA, CH<sub>4</sub>

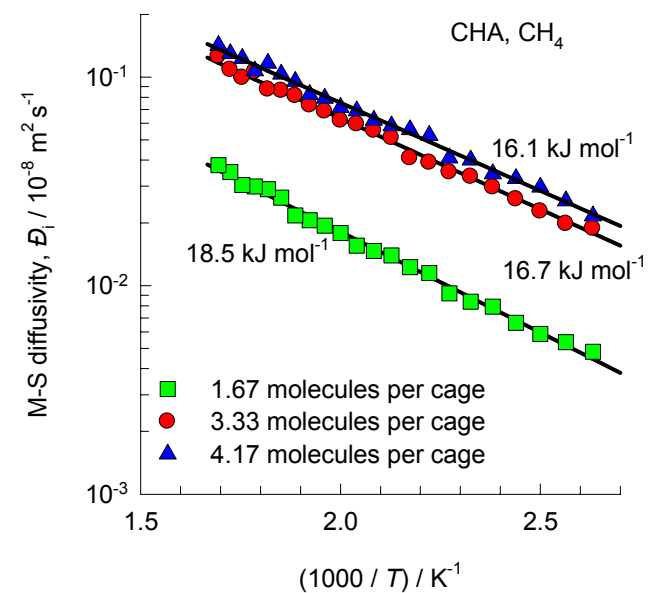
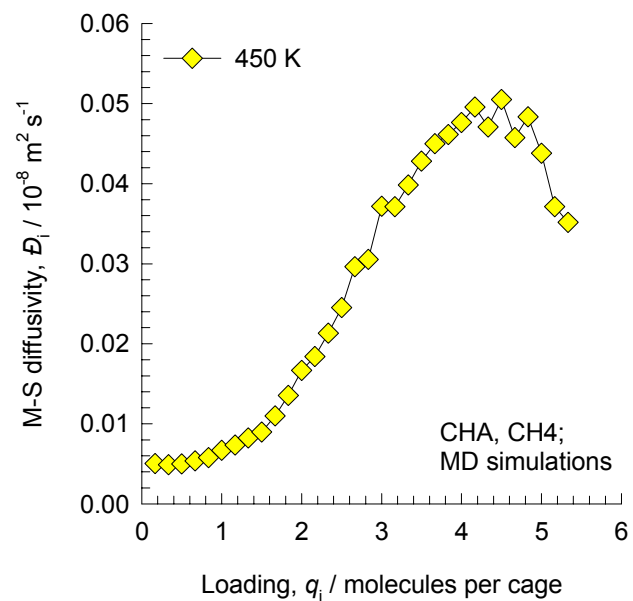
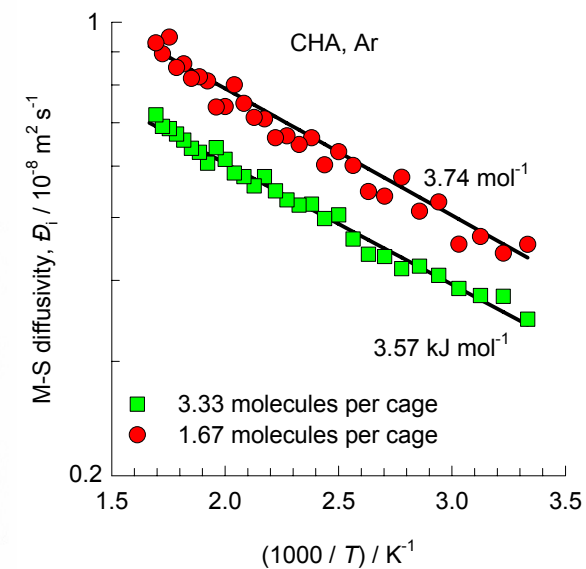
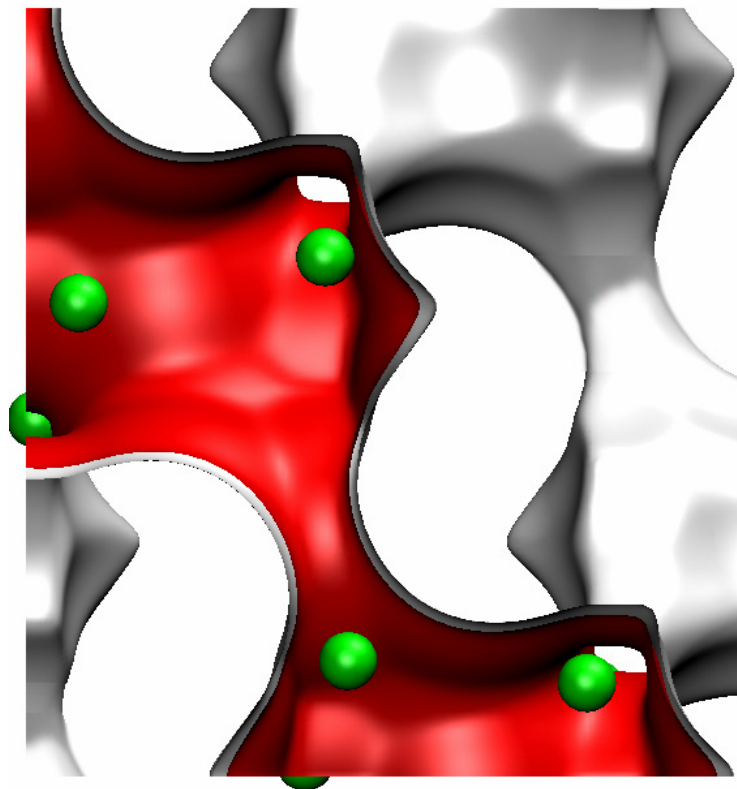
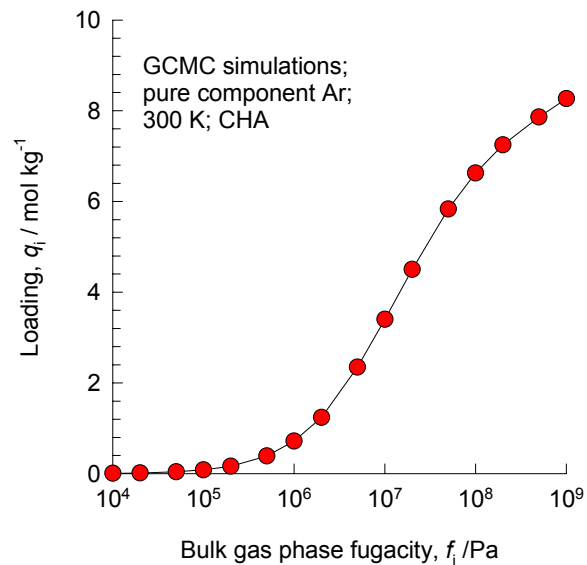
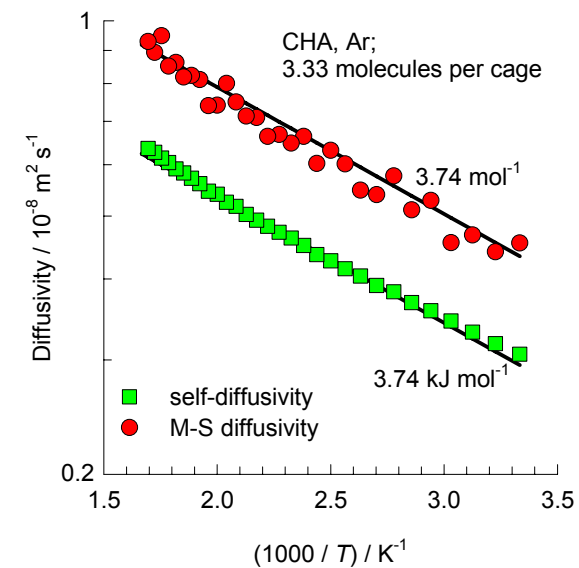
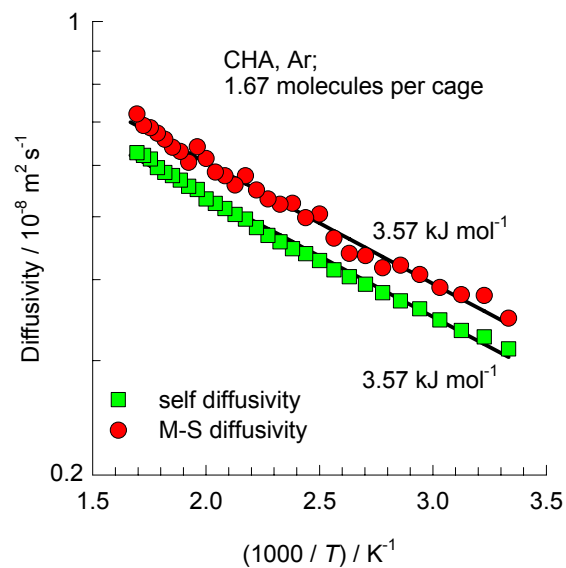
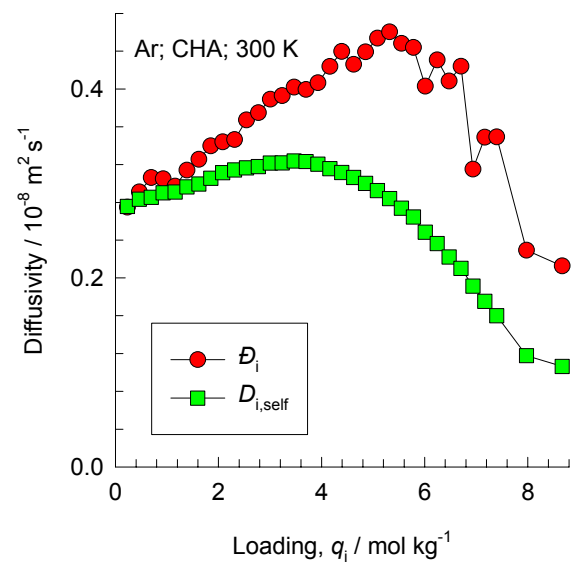


Figure 8

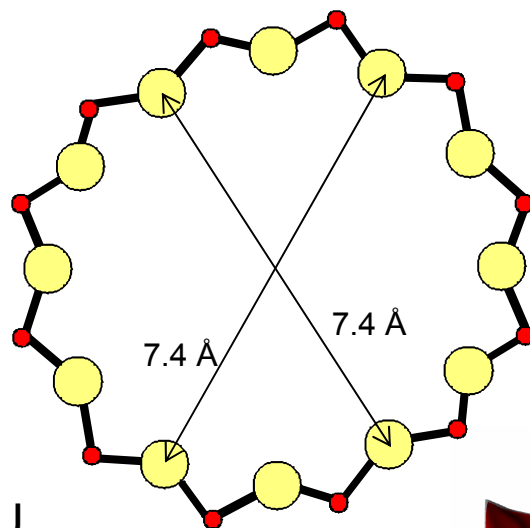


## CHA, Ar

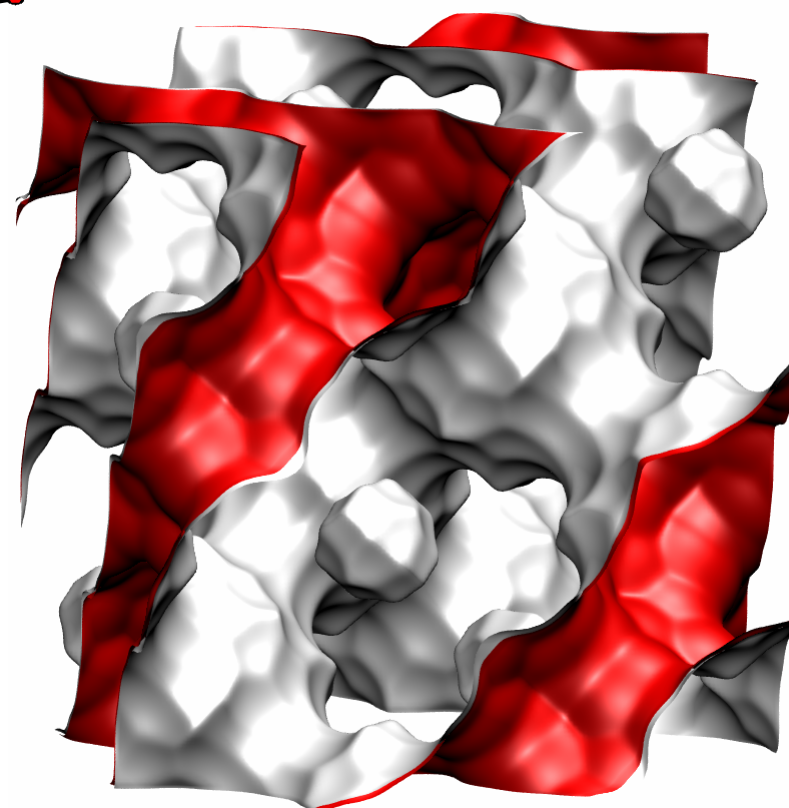
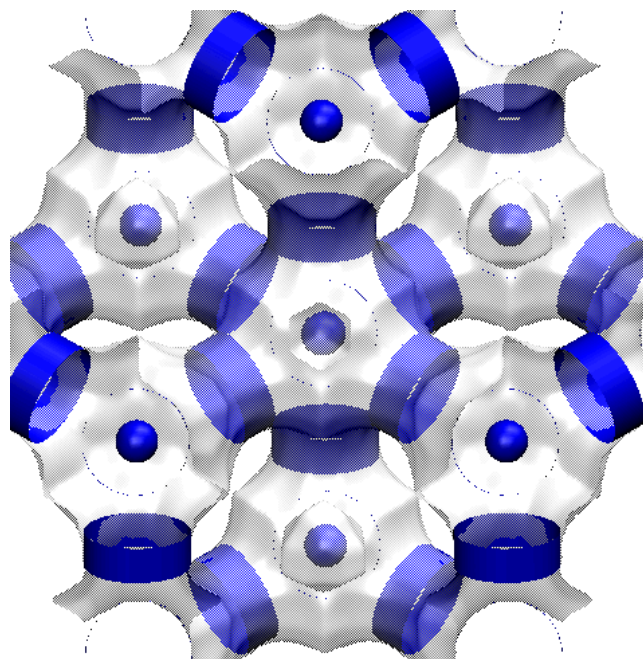
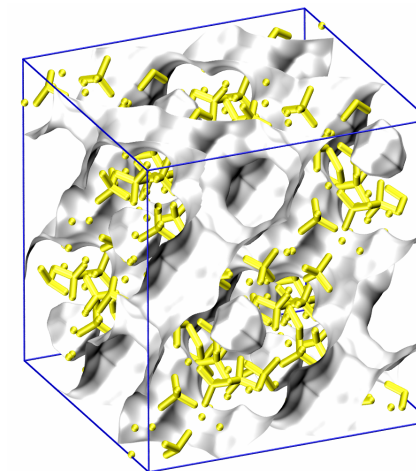




# FAU (all silica)

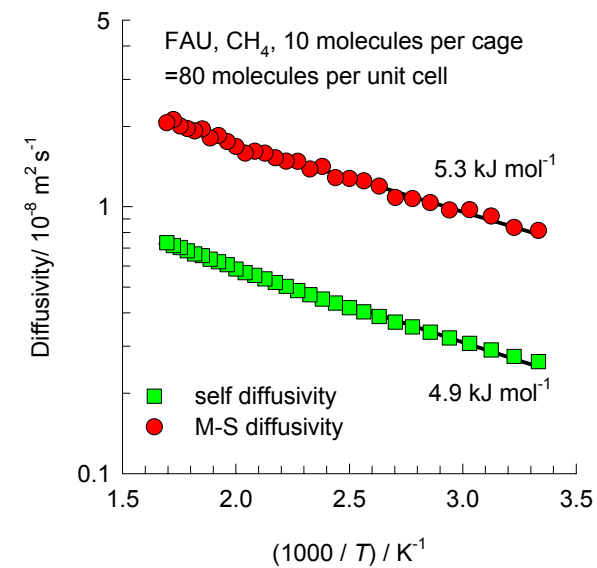
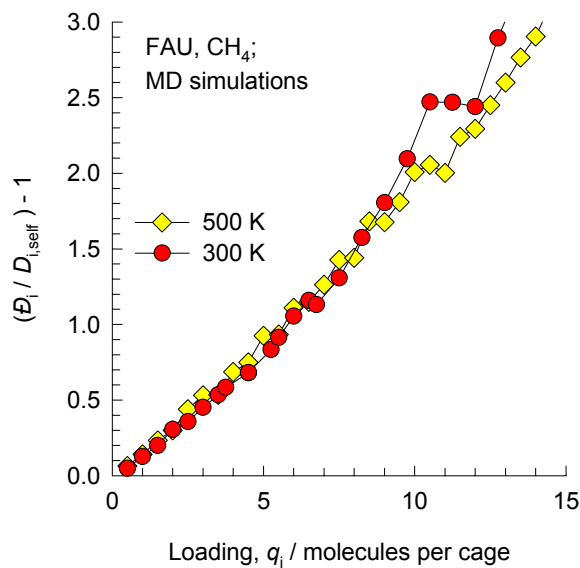
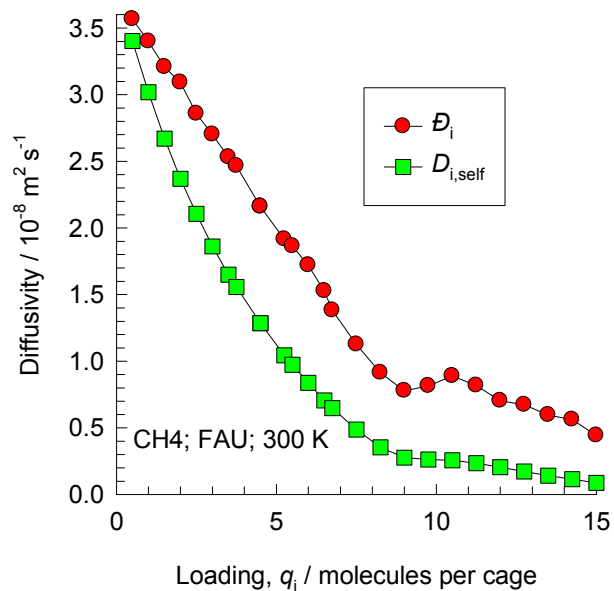
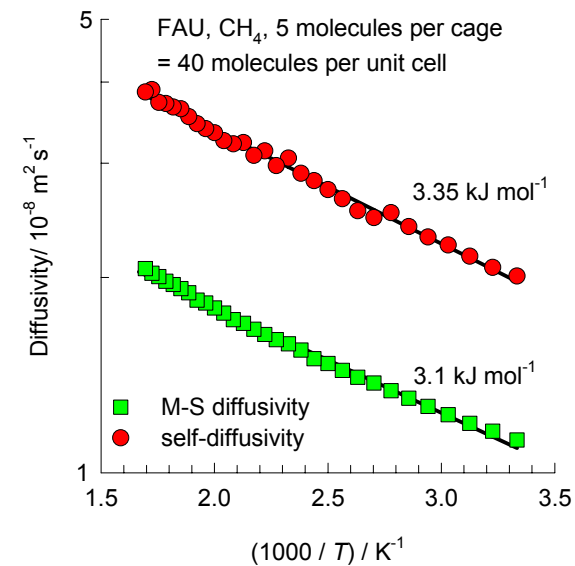
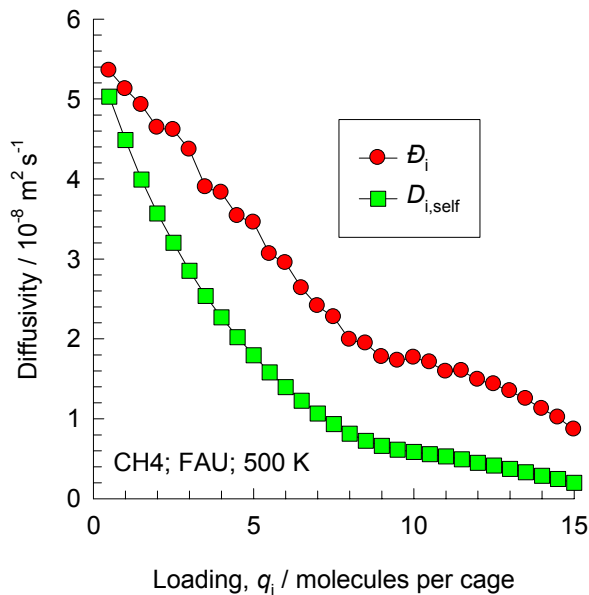
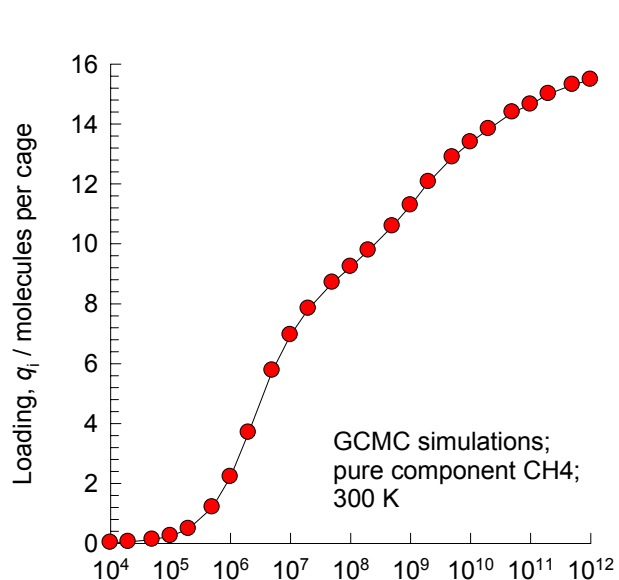


12-ring  
window of FAU



# FAU, CH<sub>4</sub>

Figure 10

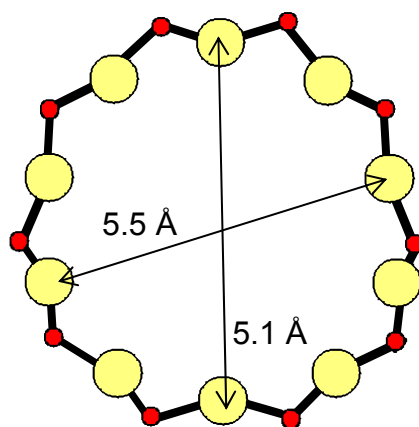




# MFI (all silica)

Figure 11

10 ring channel  
of MFI viewed along [100]



10 ring channel  
of MFI viewed along [010]

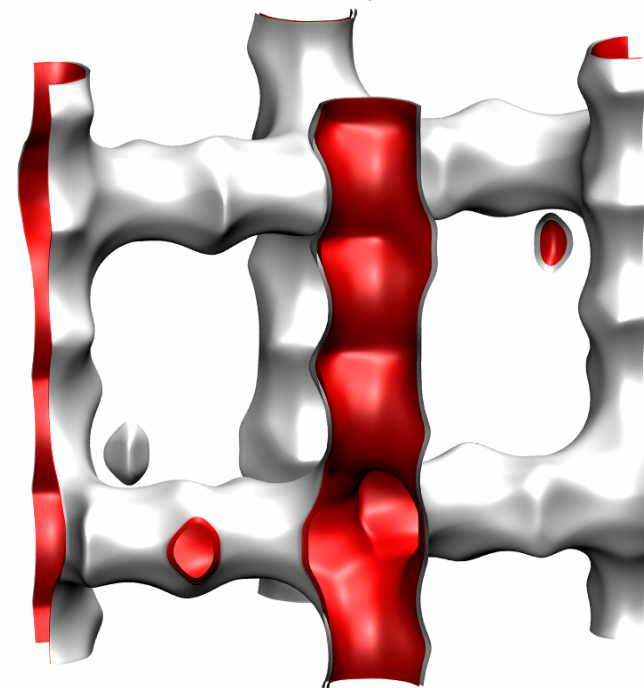
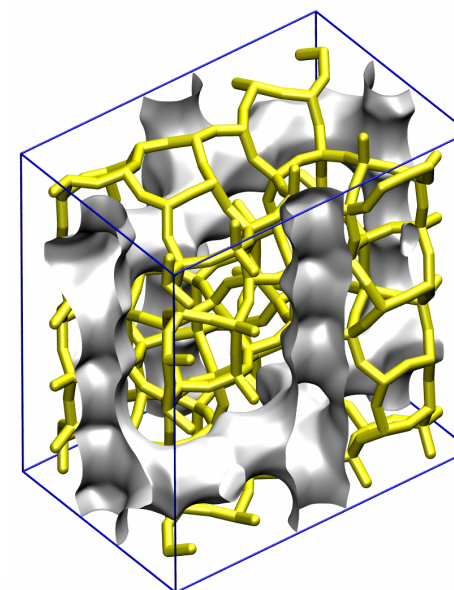
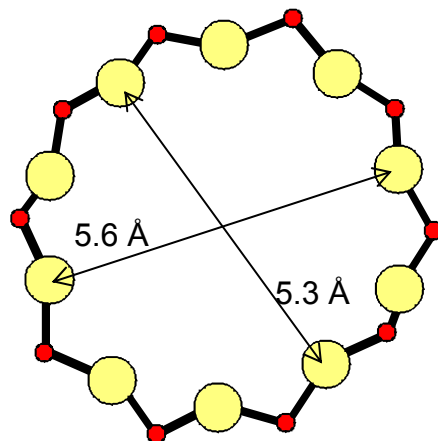
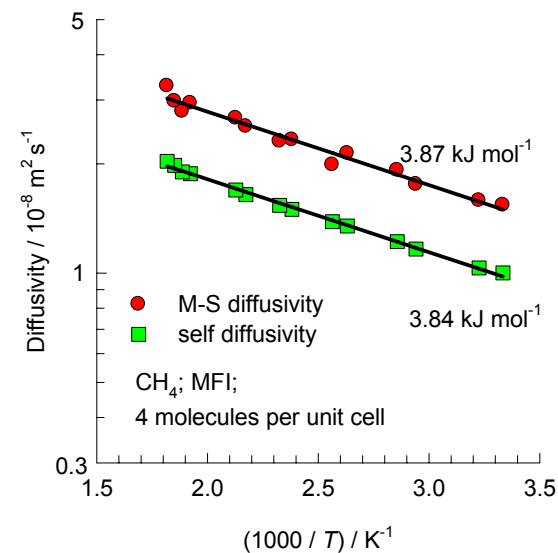
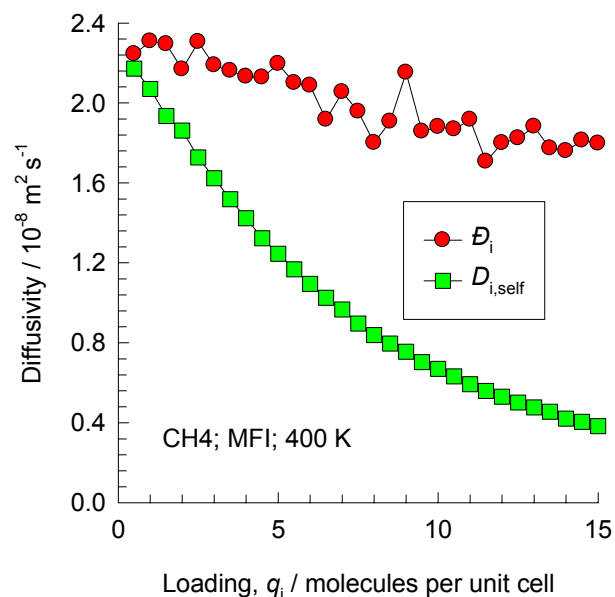
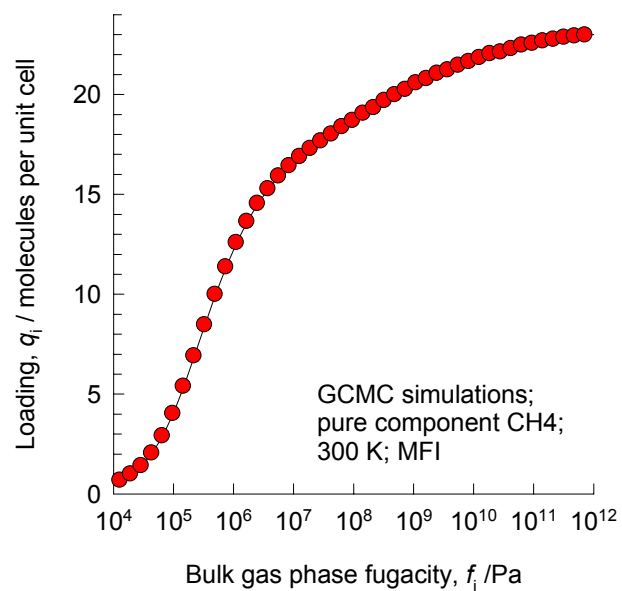
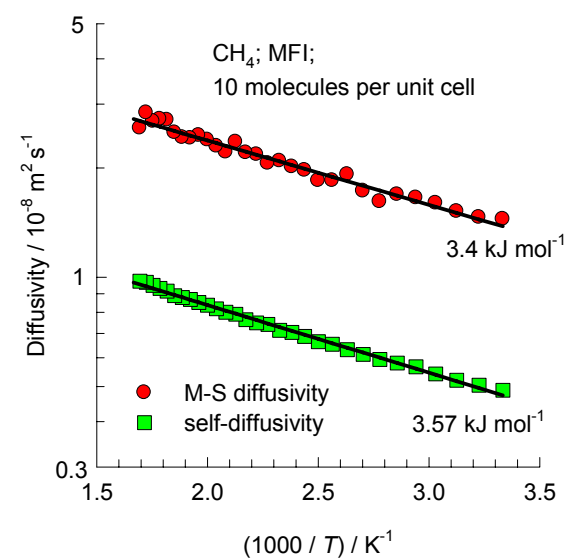
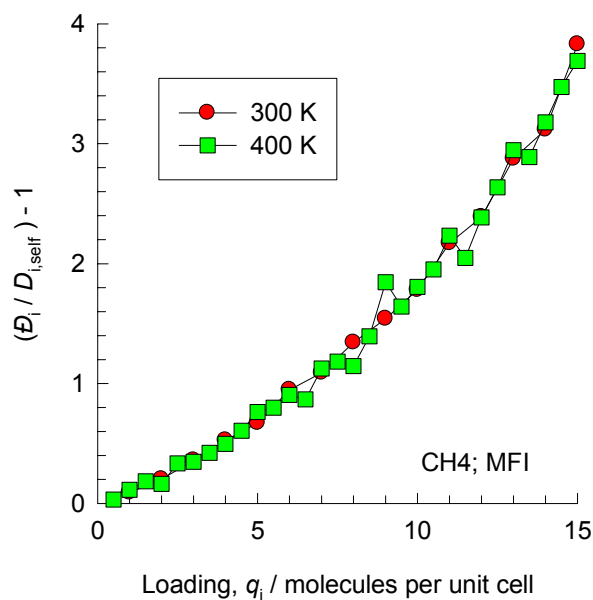
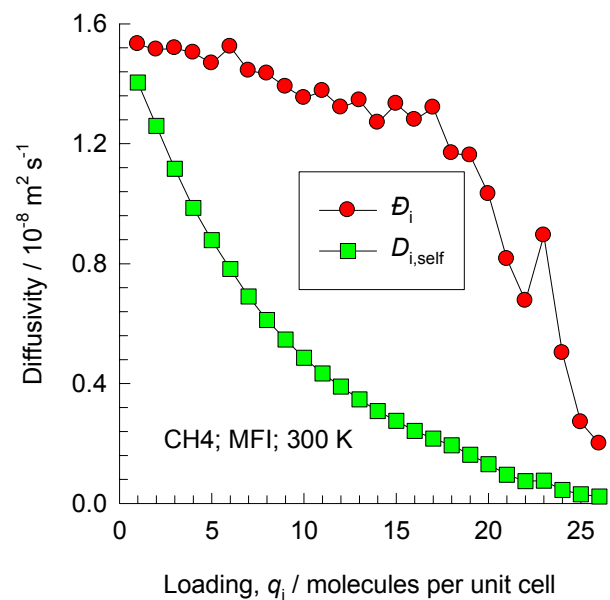


Figure 12



## MFI, 300 K, CH<sub>4</sub>



# Ethene in MFI, 300 K, isotherm

Figure 13

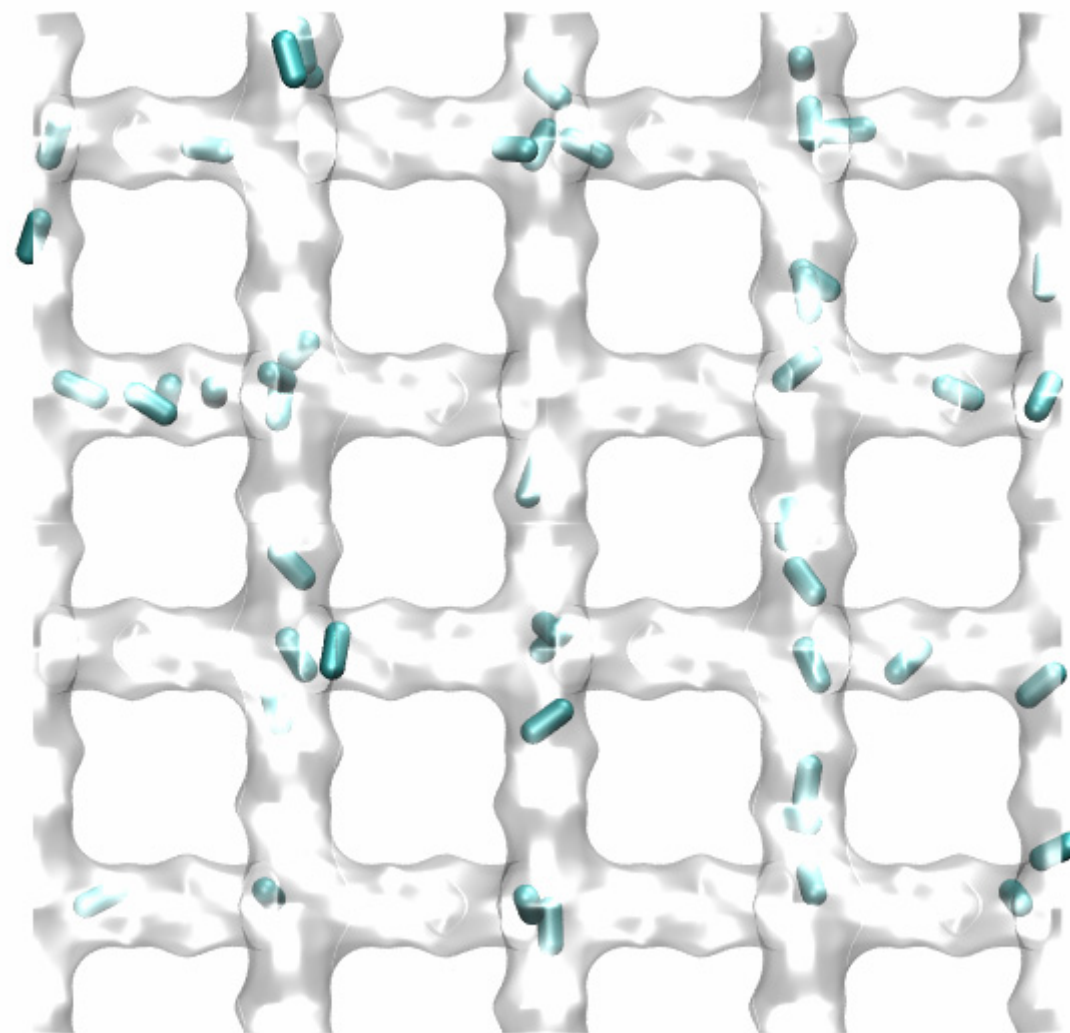
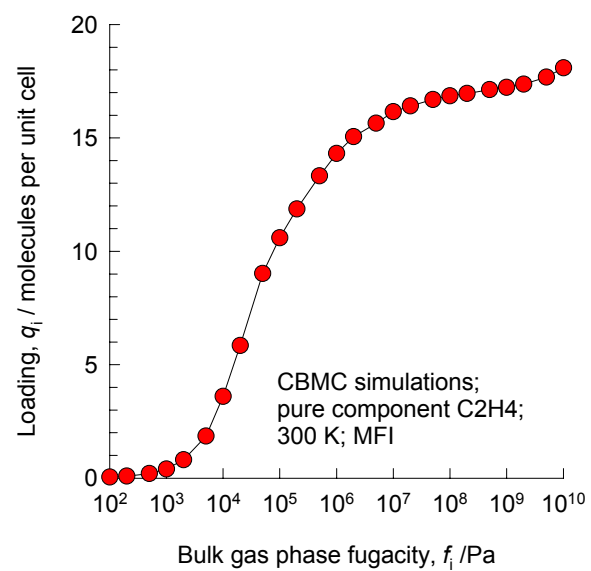
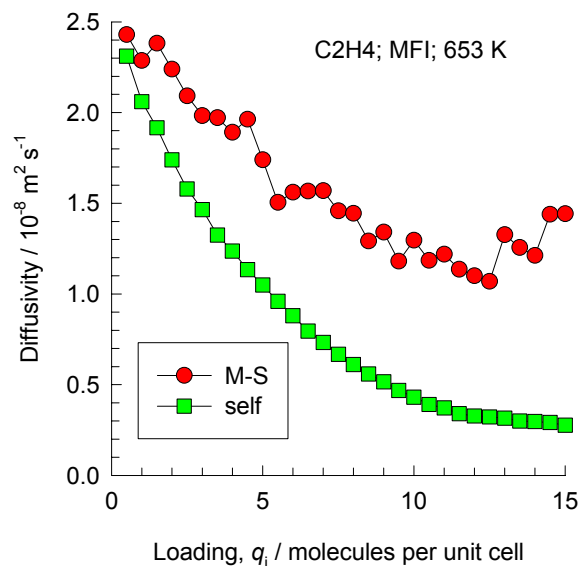
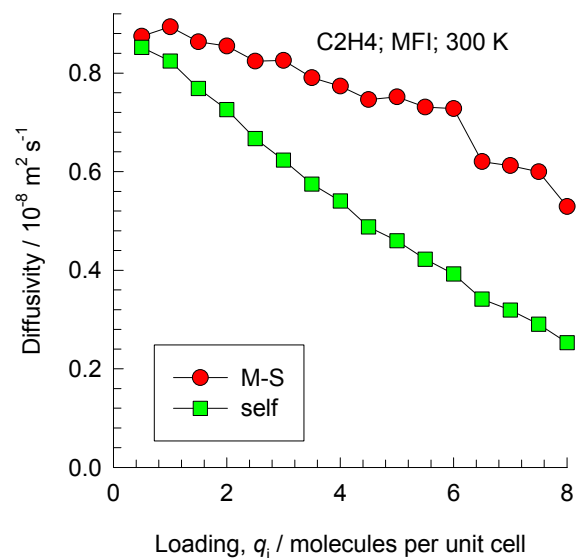


Figure 14



## MFI, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, diffusivities

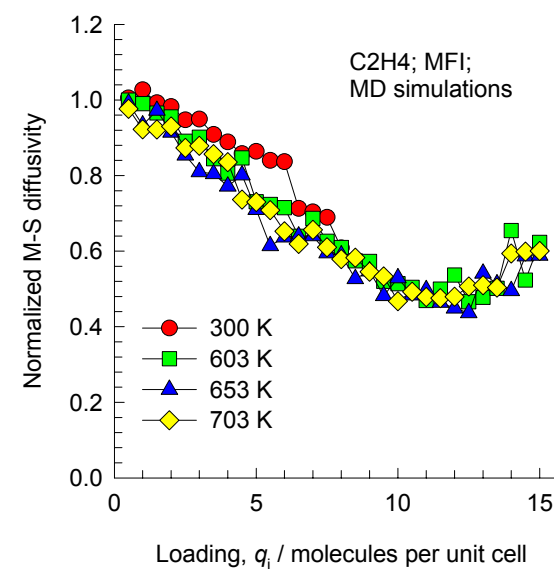
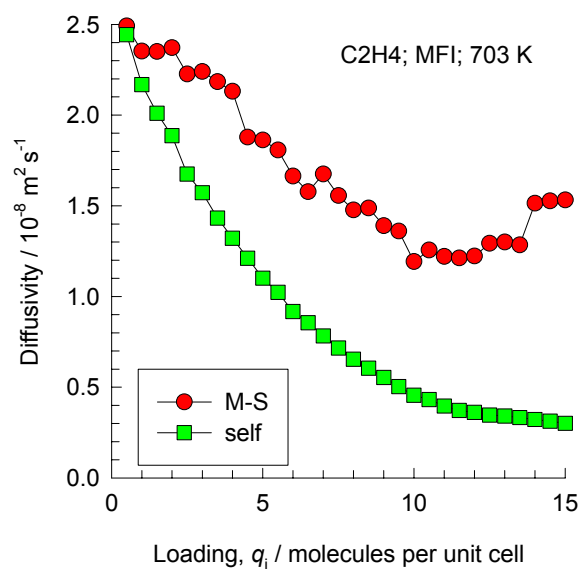
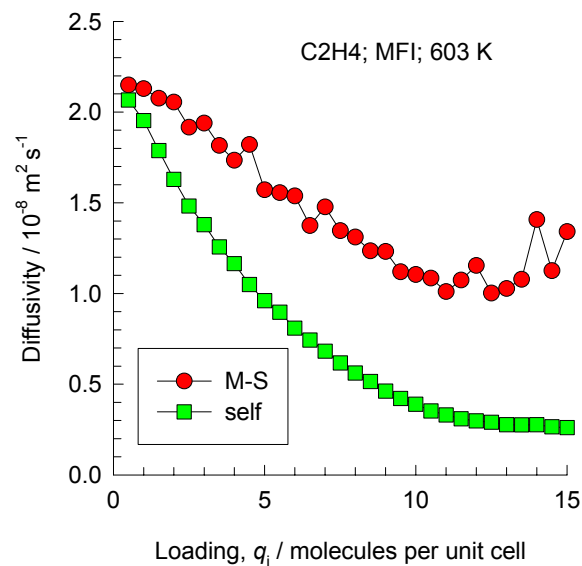
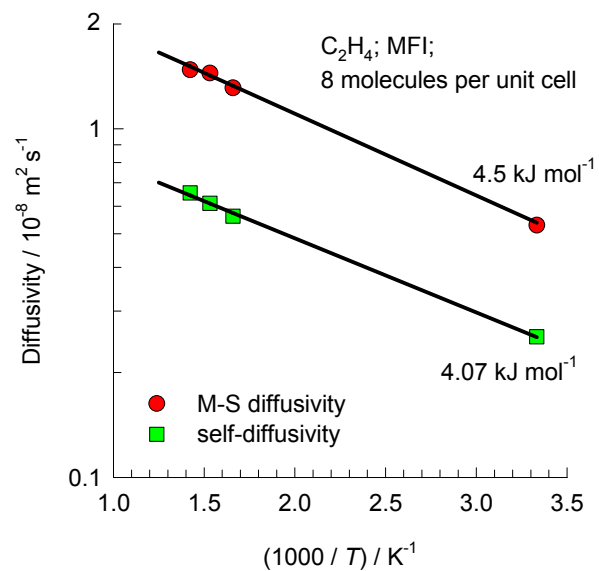
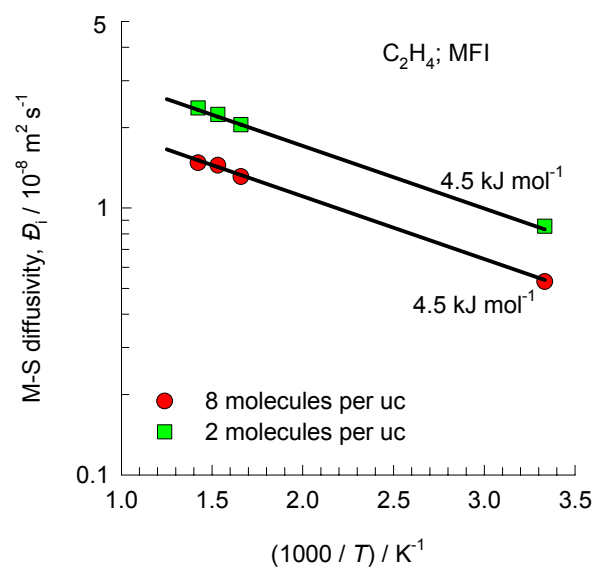


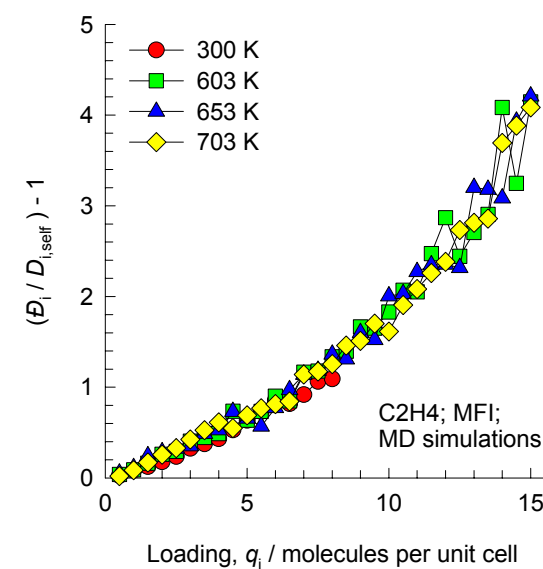
Figure 15



## MFI, $C_2H_4$ , activation energy



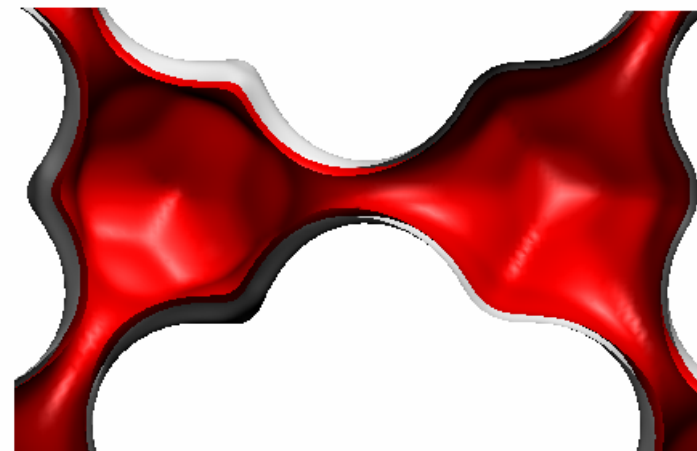
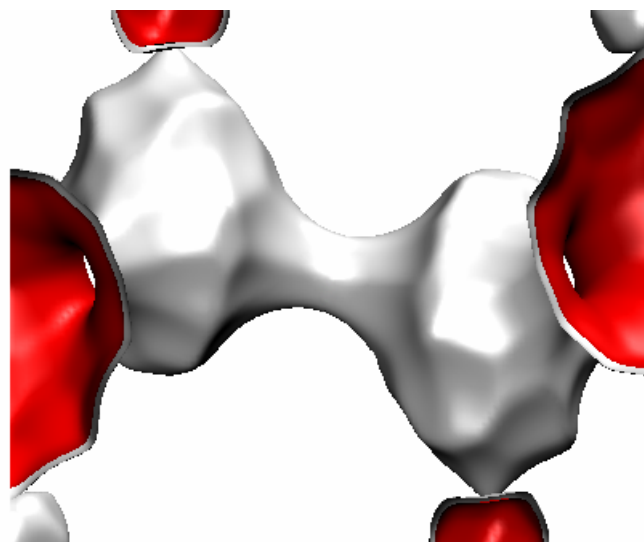
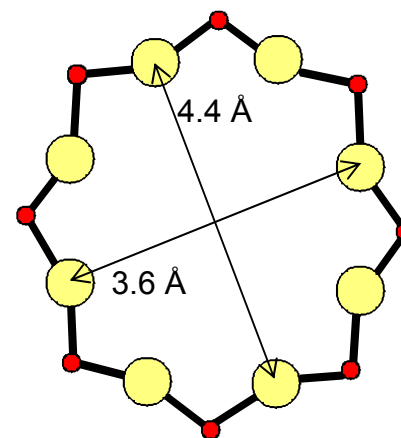
## correlations



# DDR (all silica)

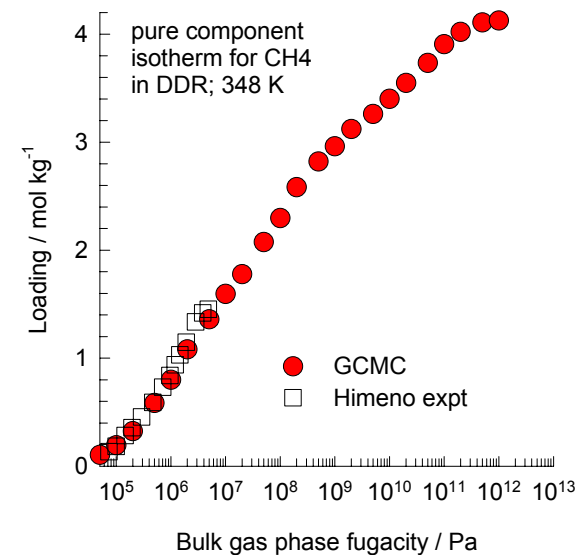
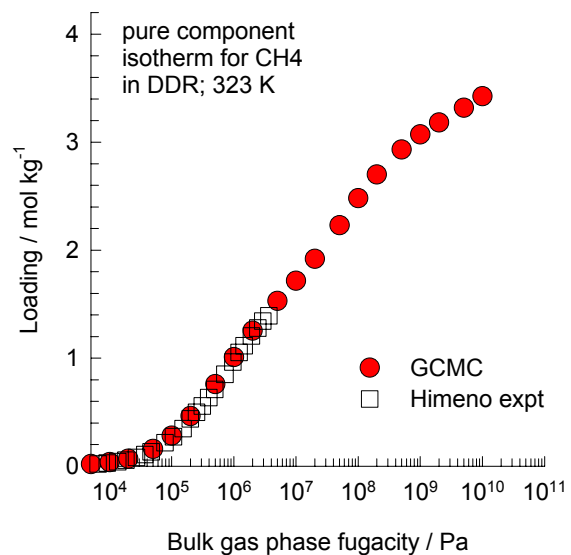
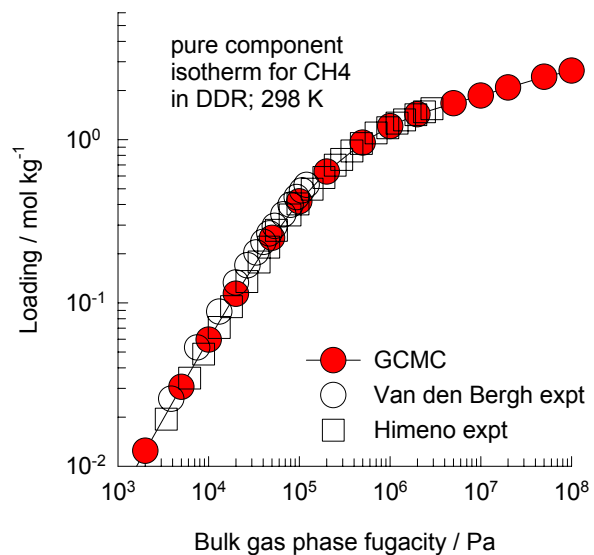
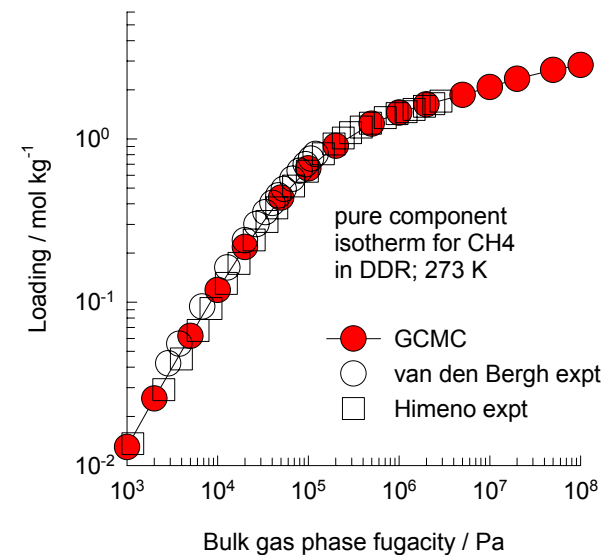
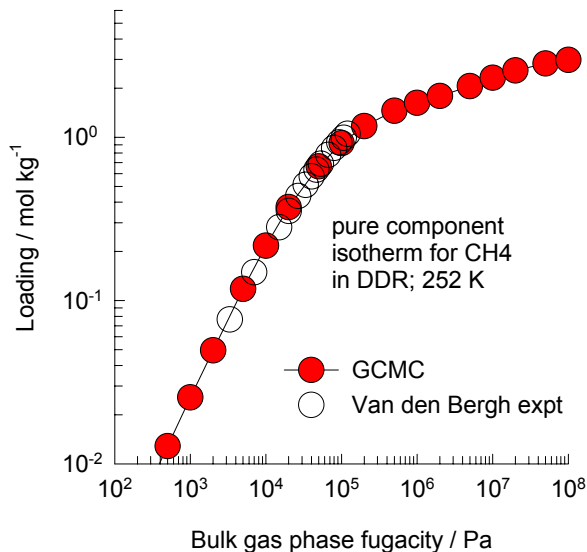
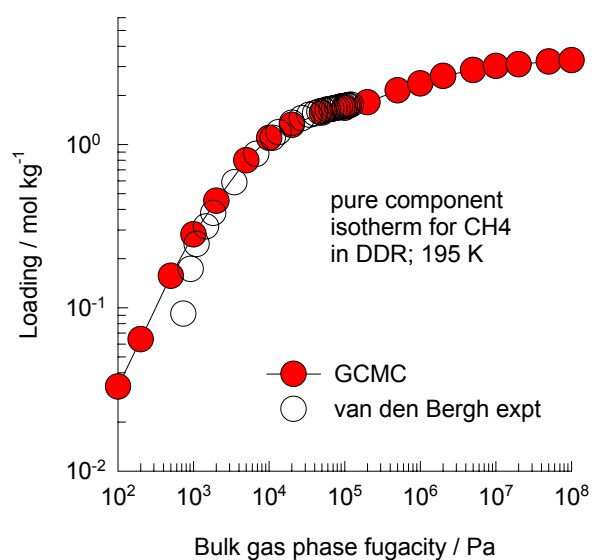
Figure 16

8-ring  
window  
of DDR



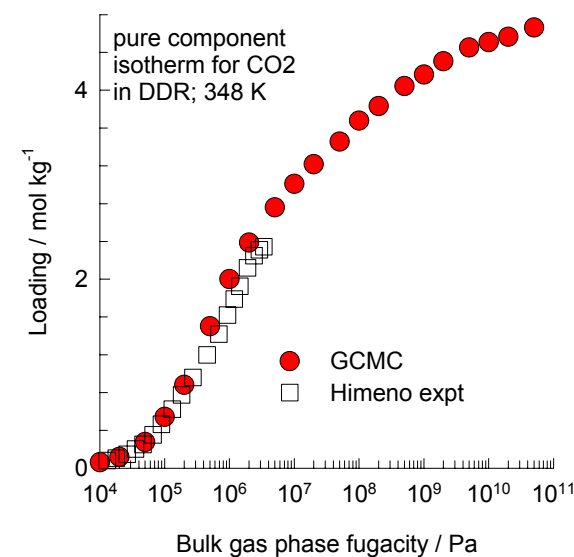
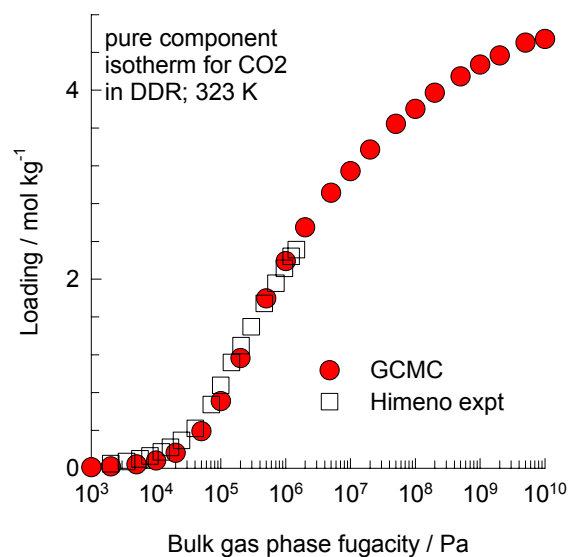
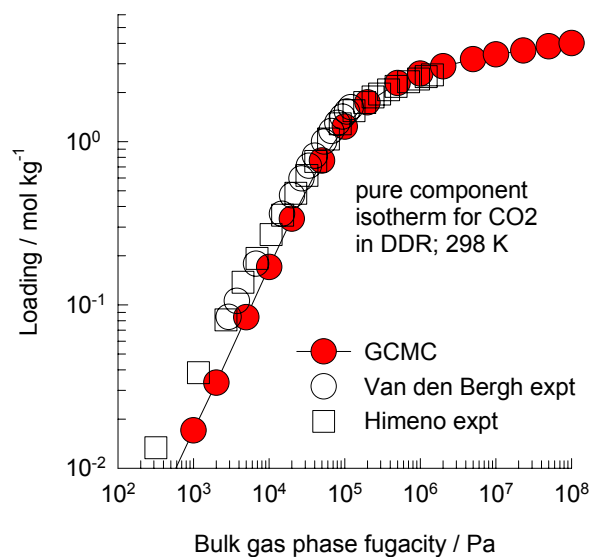
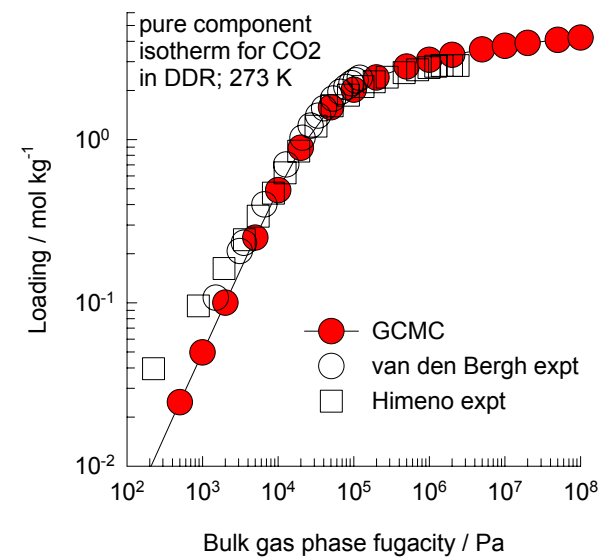
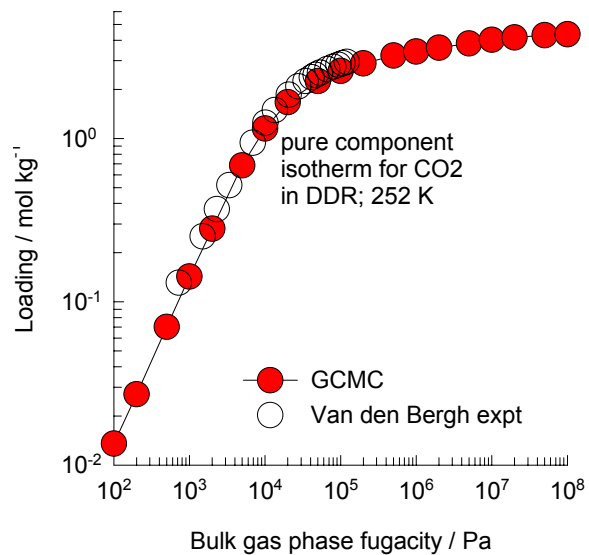
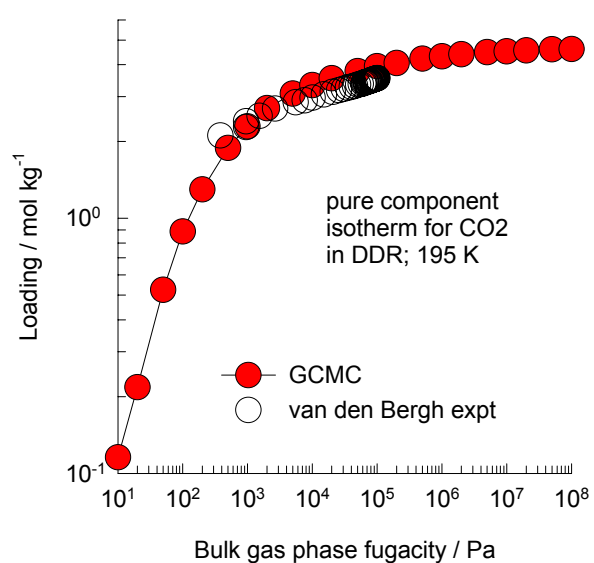
# DDR, CH<sub>4</sub>, isotherms

Figure 17



# DDR, CO<sub>2</sub>, isotherms

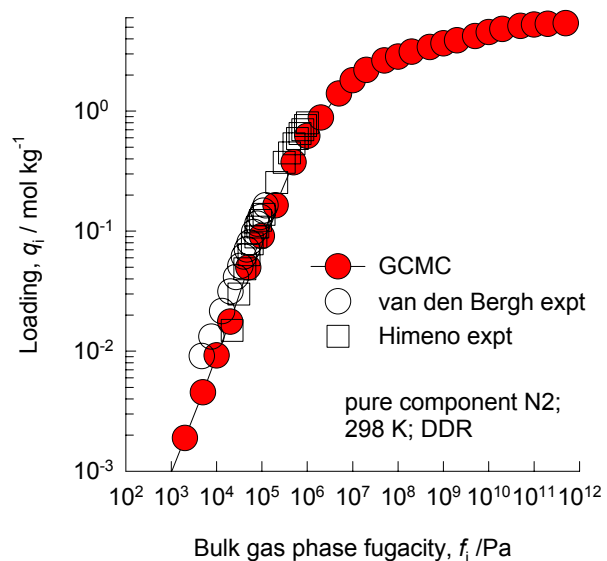
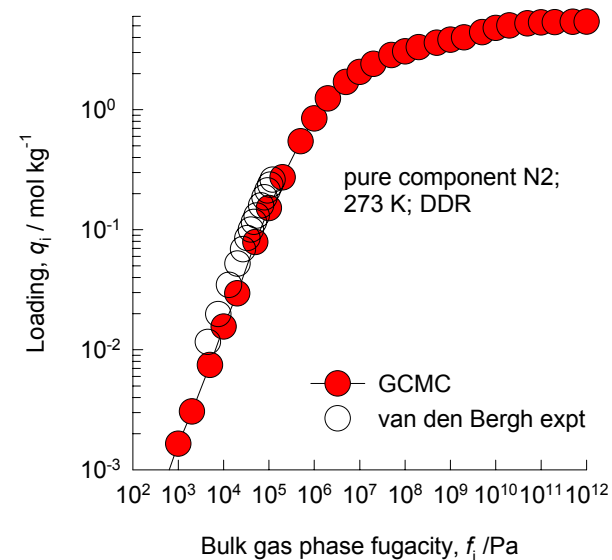
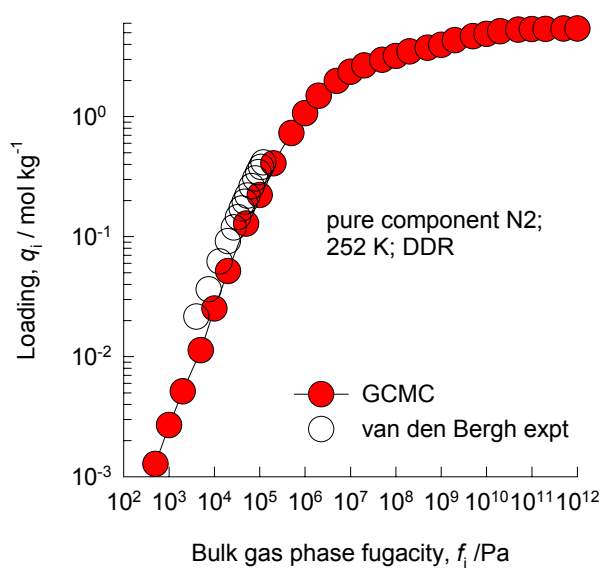
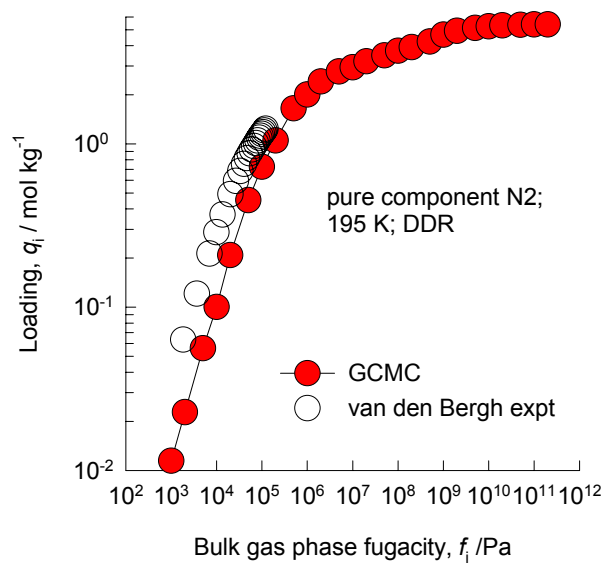
Figure 18





# DDR, N2, isotherms

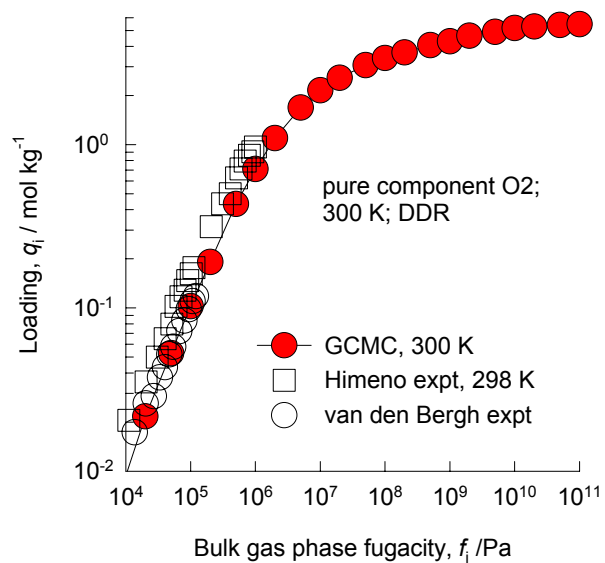
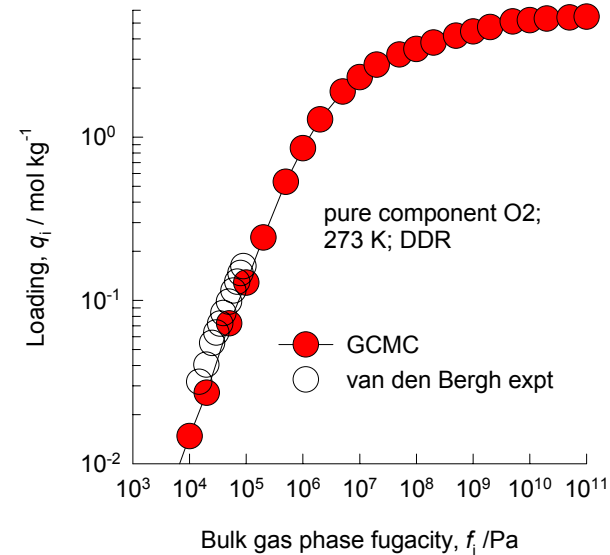
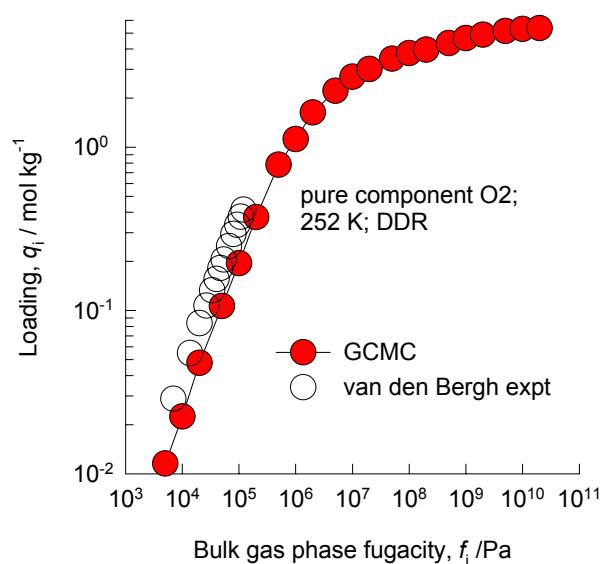
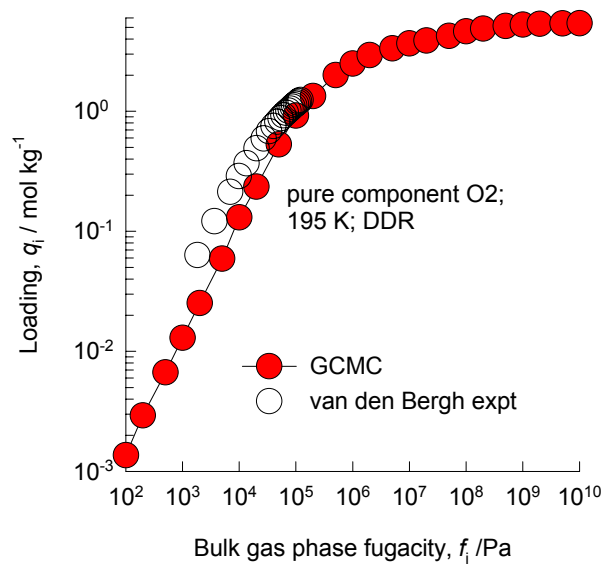
Figure 19



For Reed & Ehrlich fits we take  
 $q_{i,sat} = 16$  molecules per cage for all  $T$ .

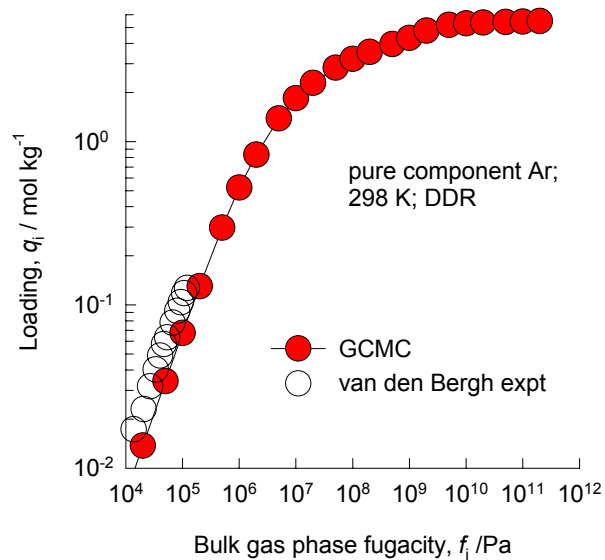
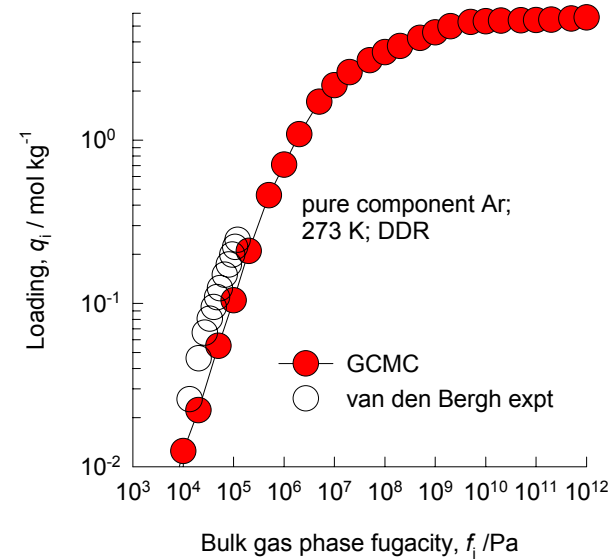
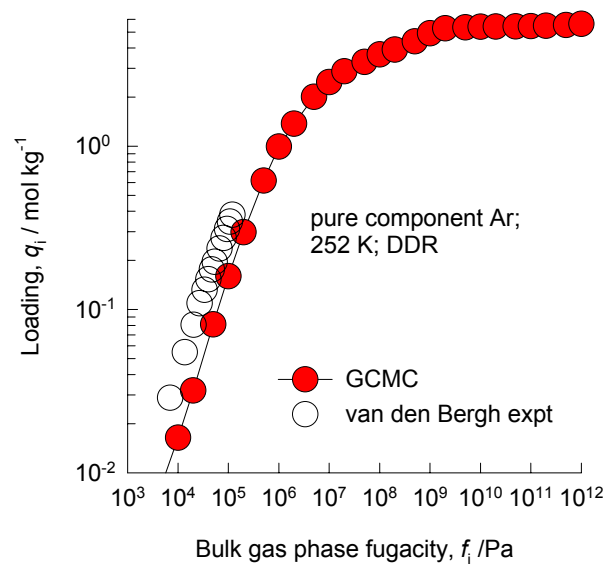
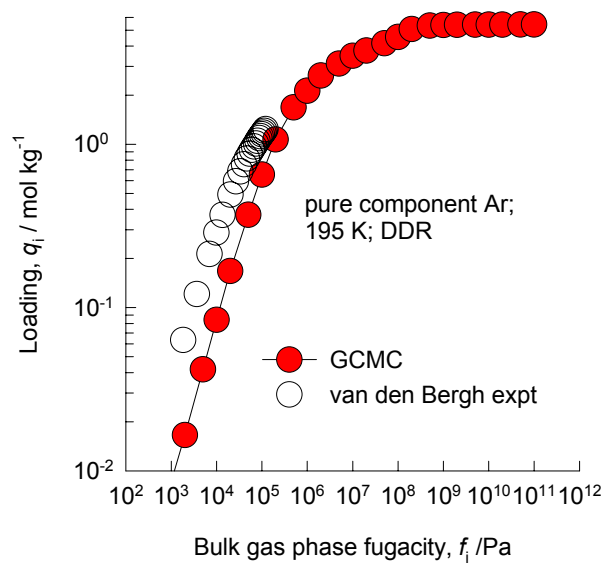
# DDR, O<sub>2</sub>, isotherms

Figure 20



# DDR, Ar, isotherms

Figure 21



# DDR, Kr, isotherms

Figure 22

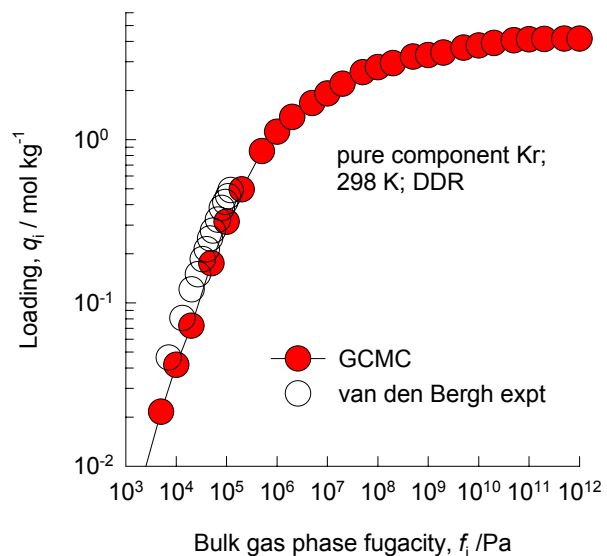
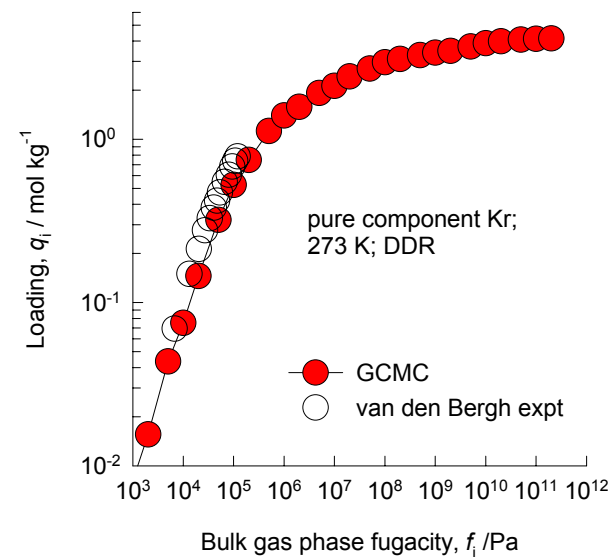
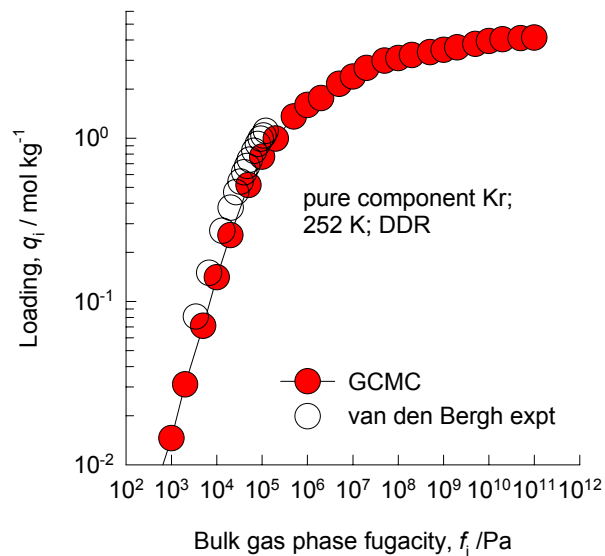
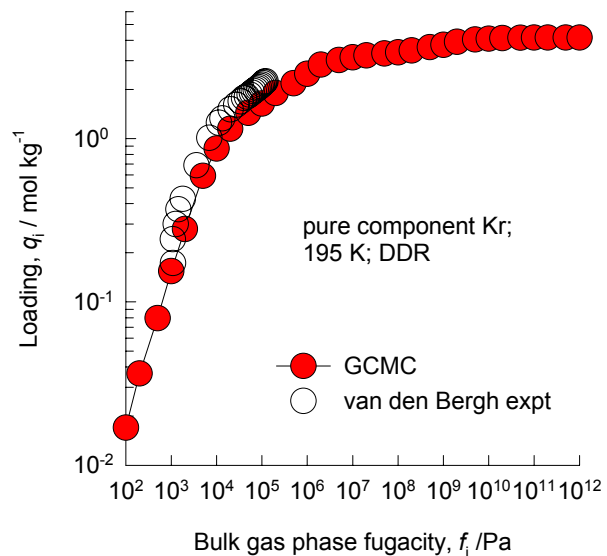
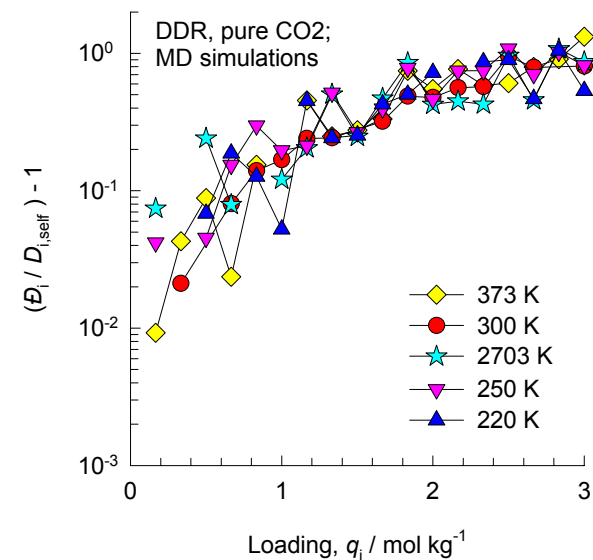
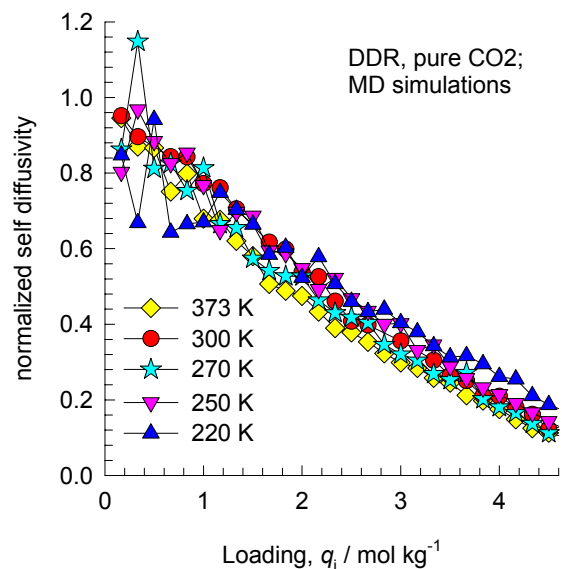
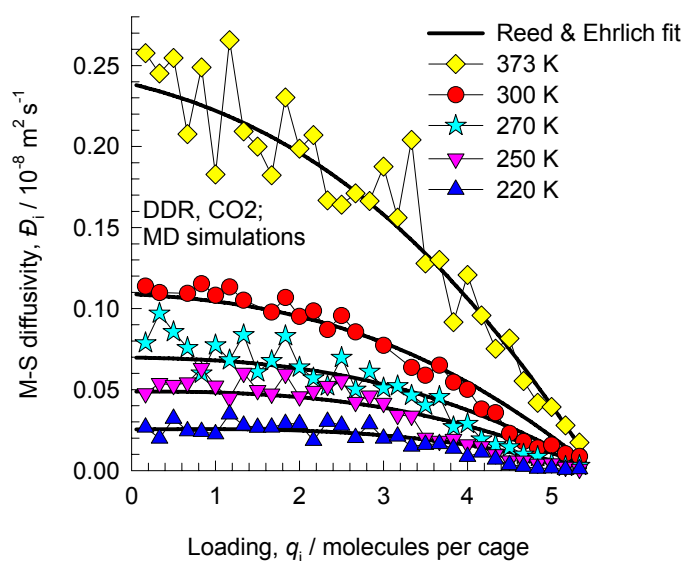


Figure 23



## DDR, CO<sub>2</sub>, diffusivities

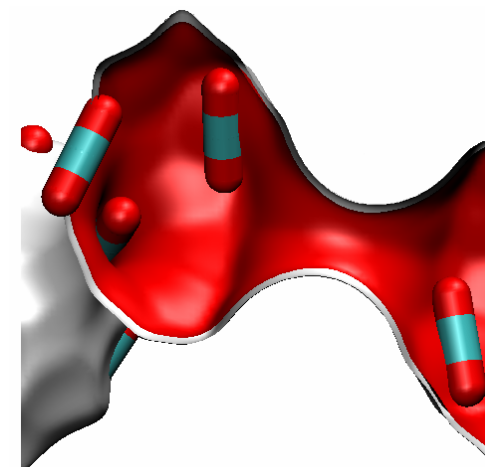
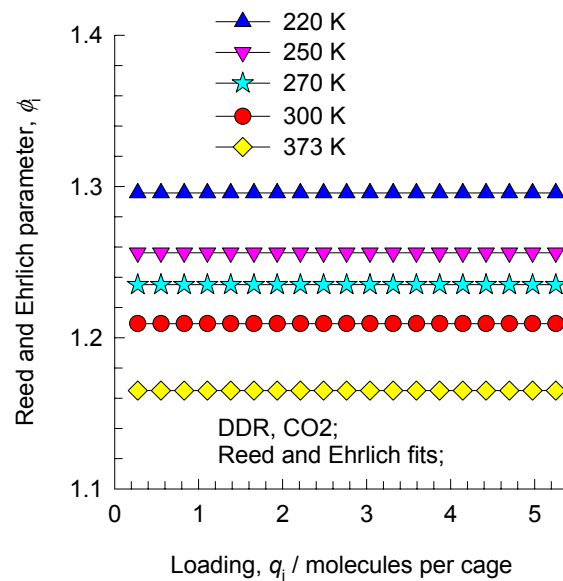
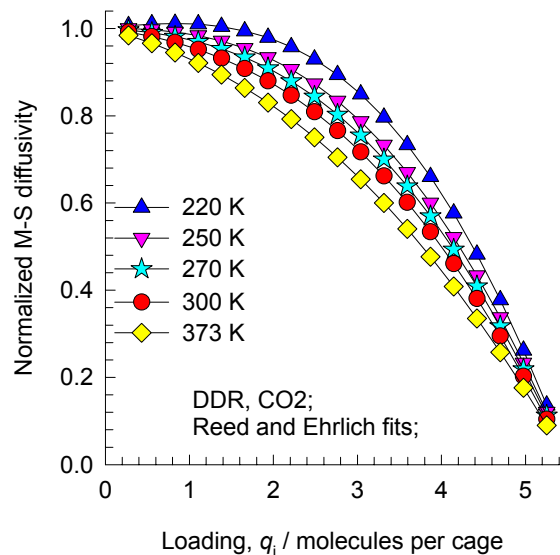
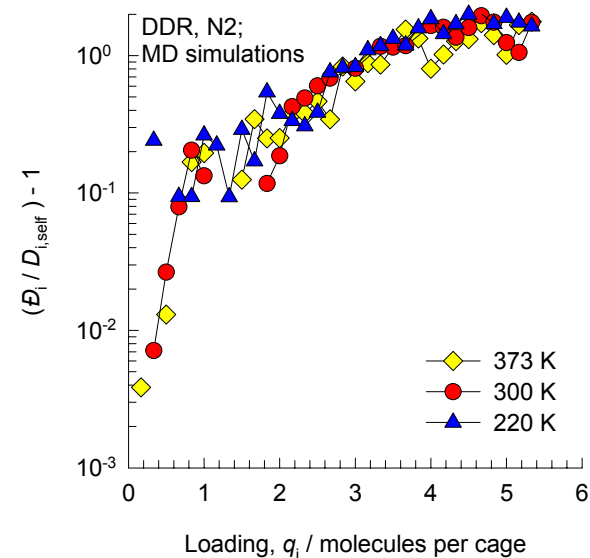
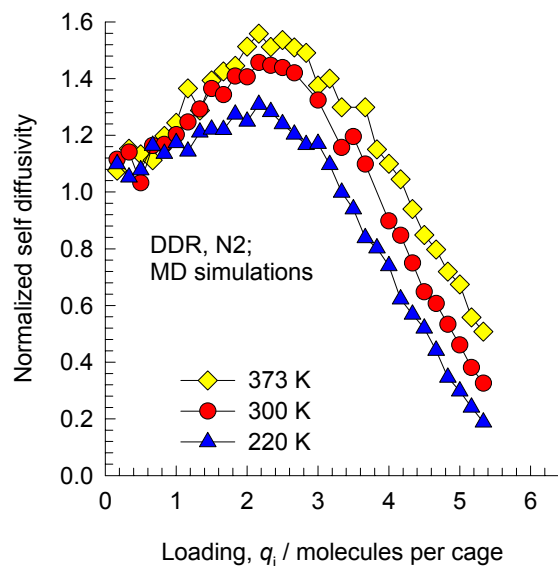
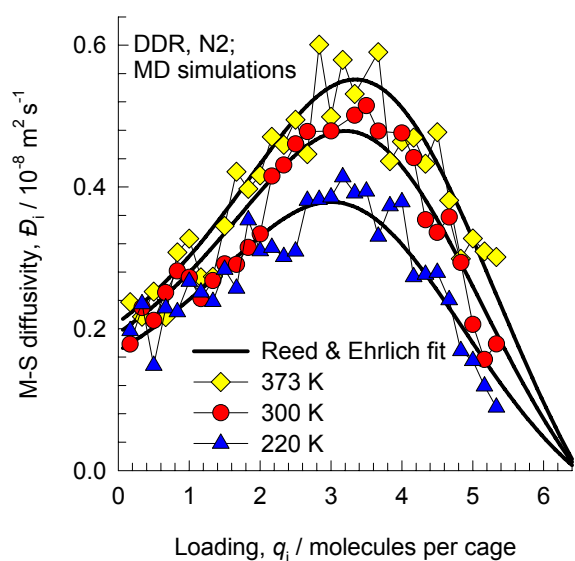


Figure 24



## DDR, N<sub>2</sub>, diffusivities

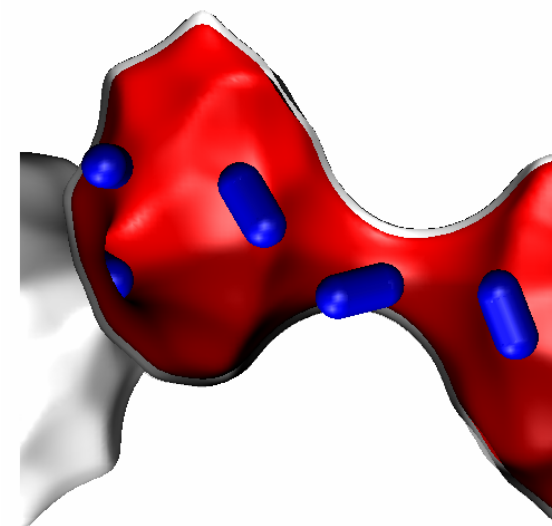
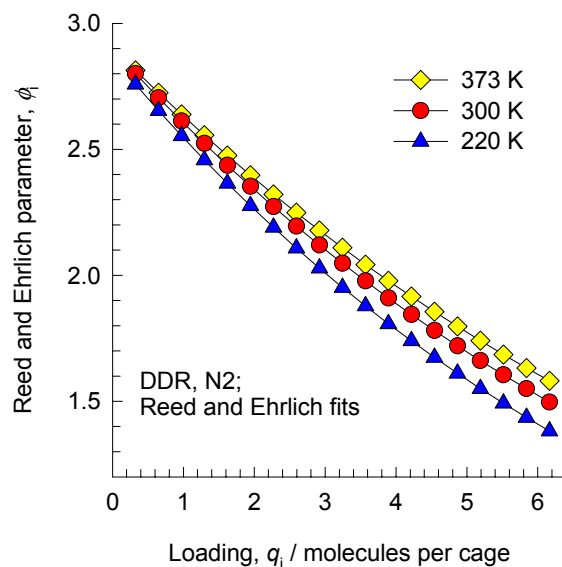
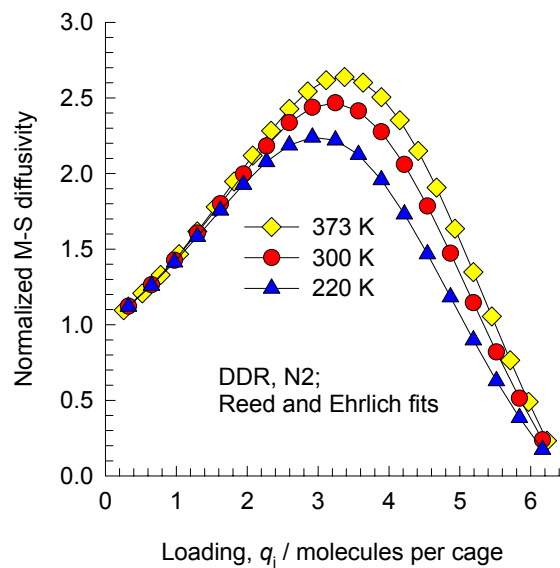
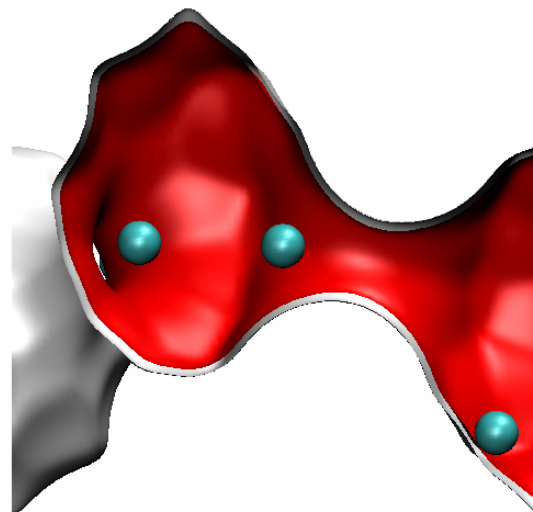
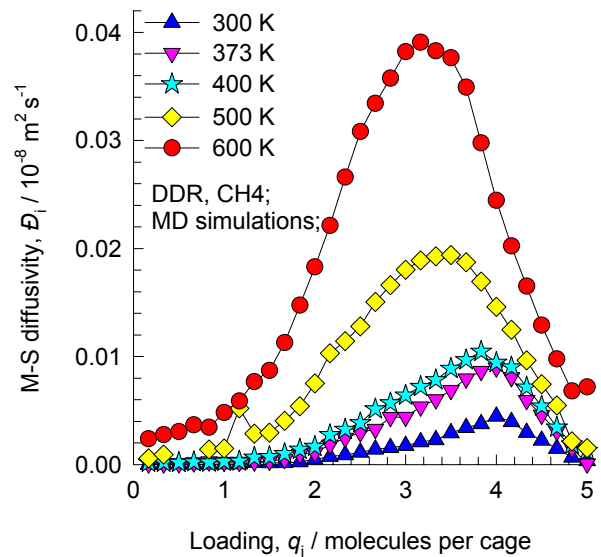


Figure 25



## DDR, CH<sub>4</sub>, diffusivities

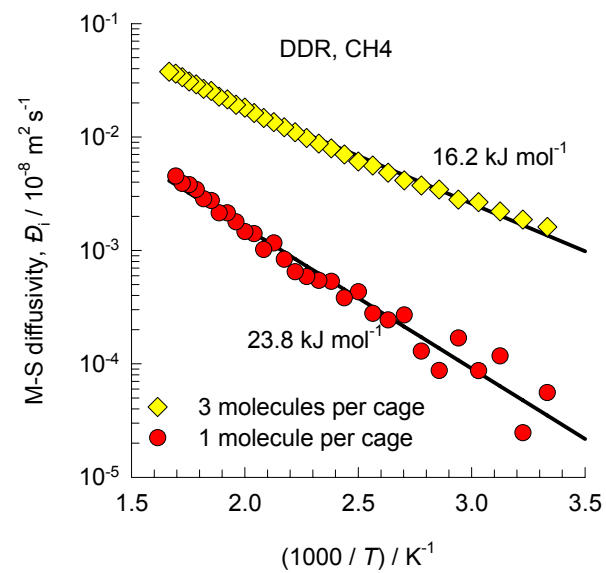
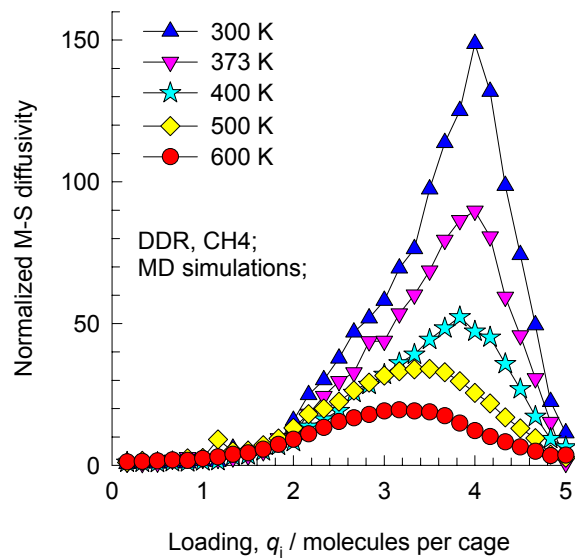
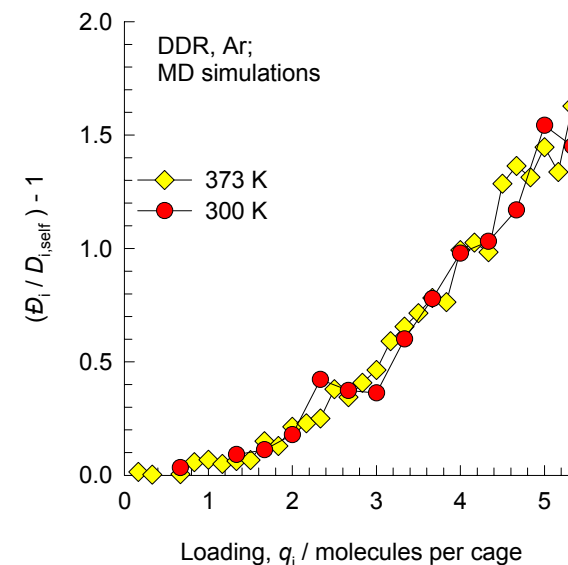
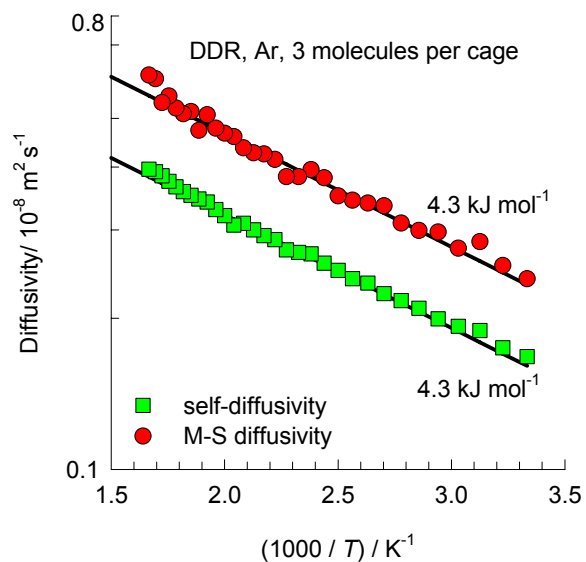
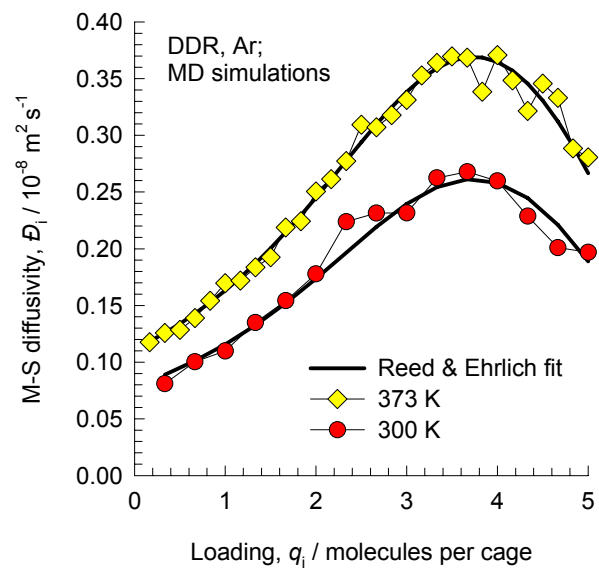


Figure 26



## DDR, Ar, diffusivities

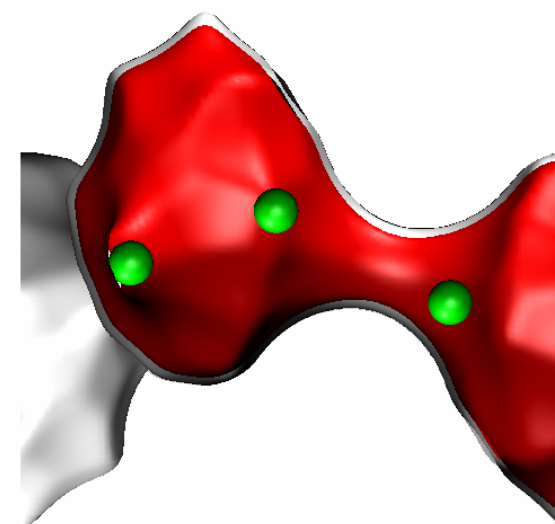
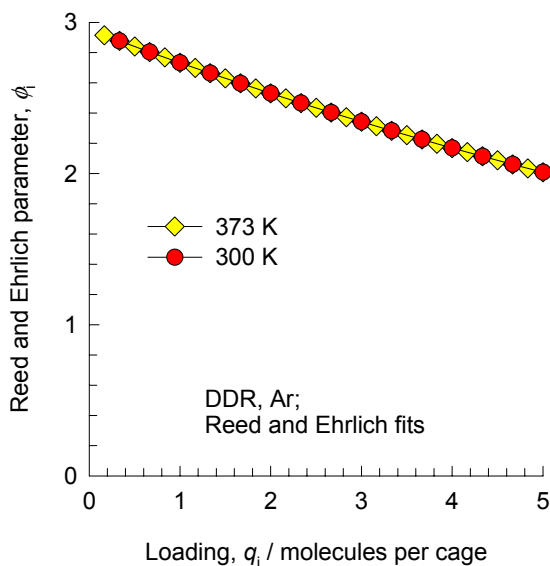
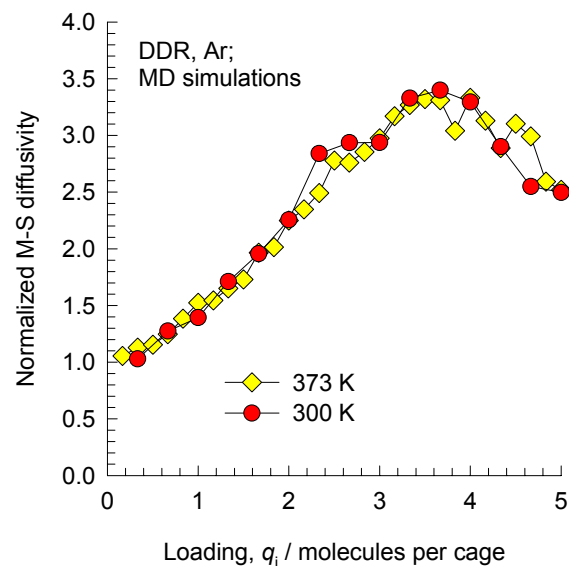
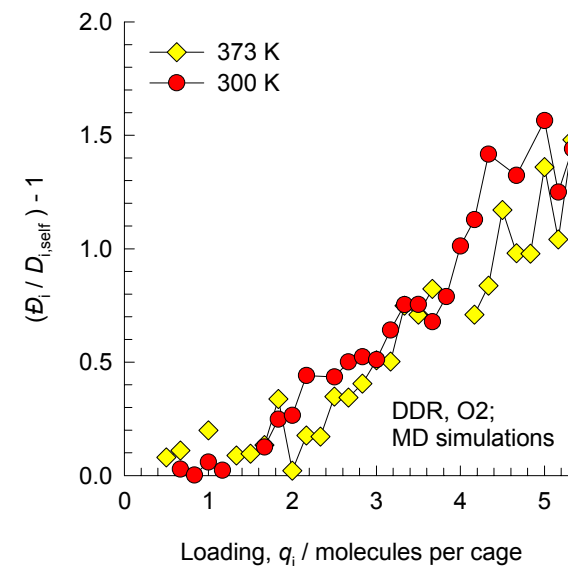
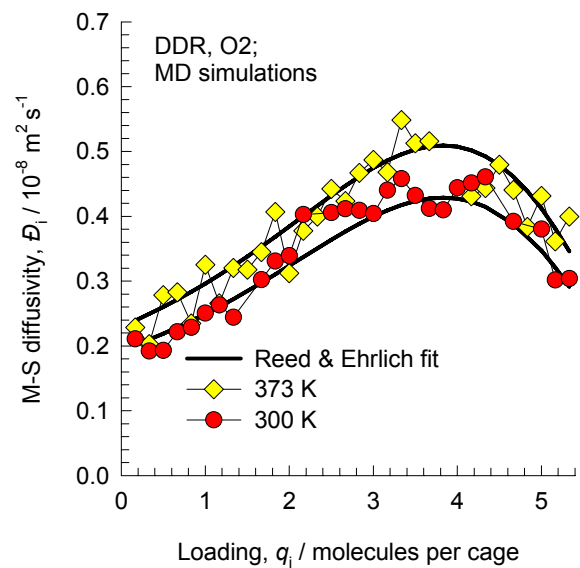




Figure 27



## DDR, O<sub>2</sub>, diffusivities

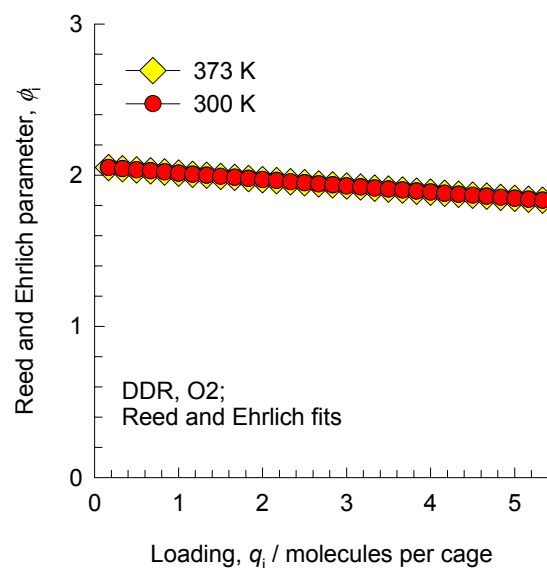
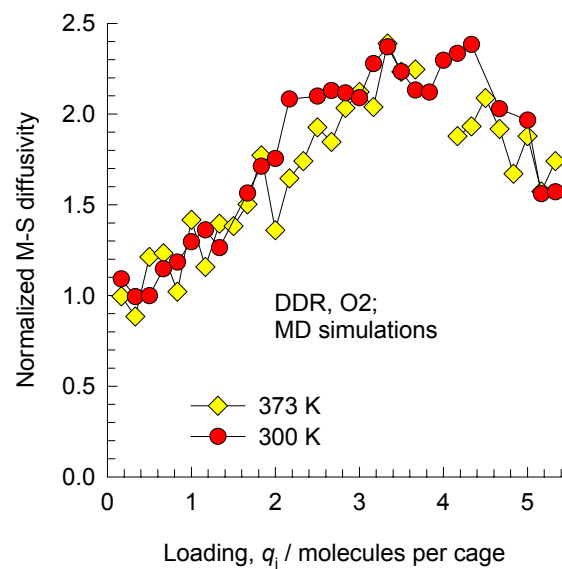
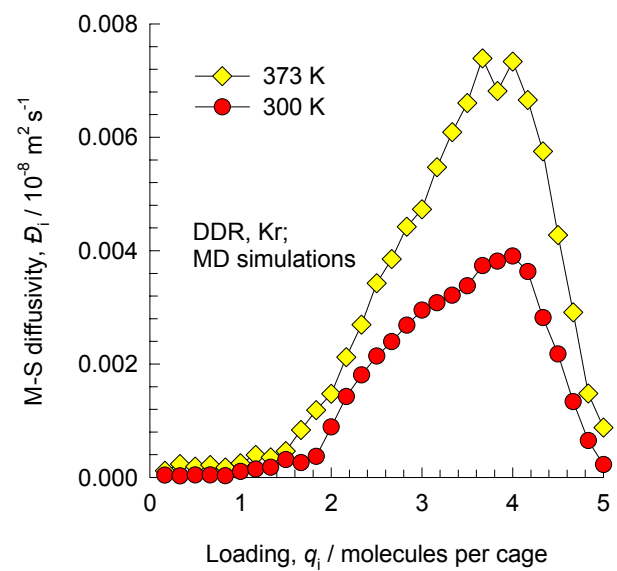


Figure 28



## DDR, Kr, diffusivities

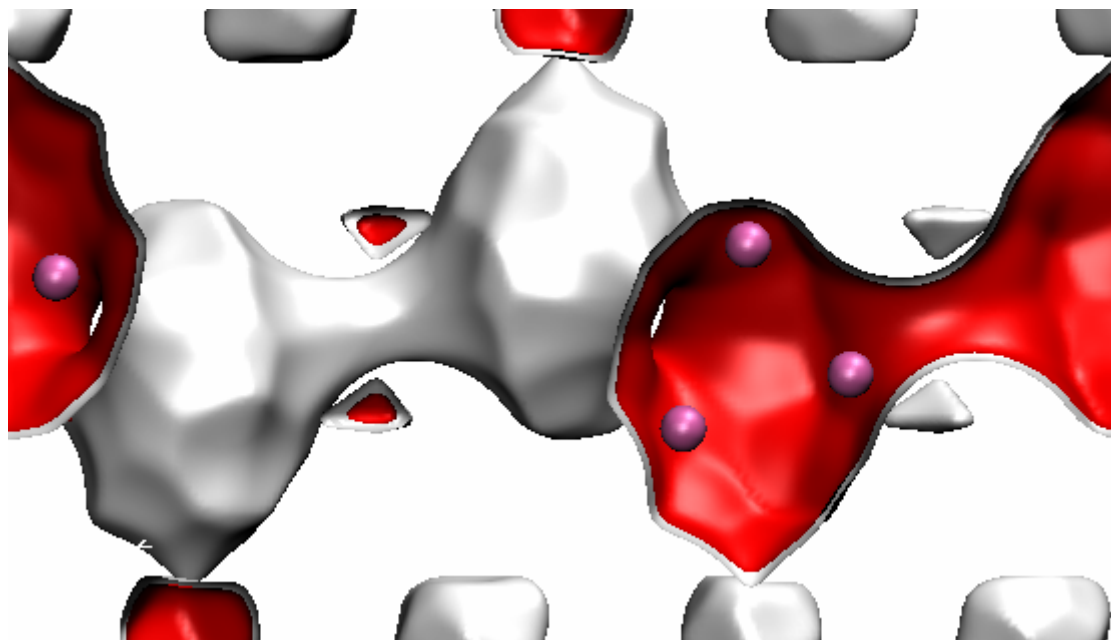
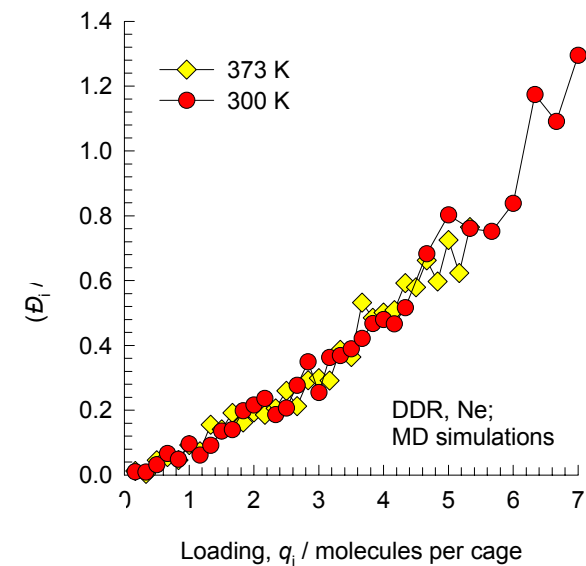
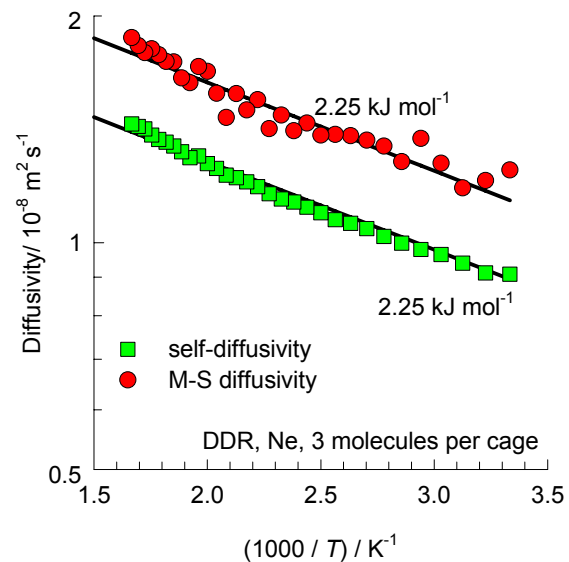
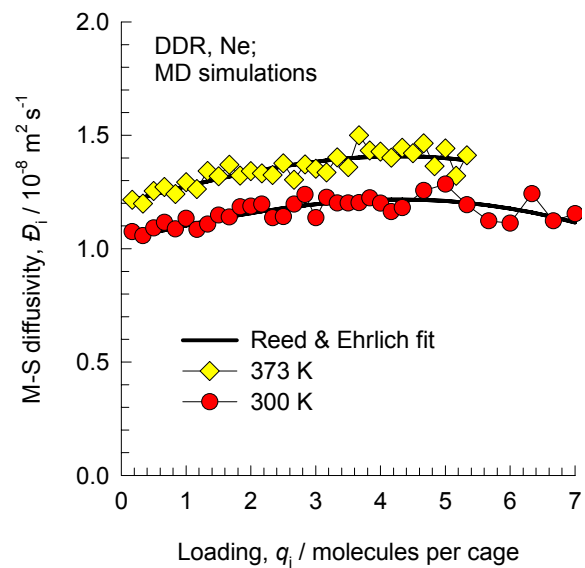


Figure 29



## DDR, Ne, diffusivities

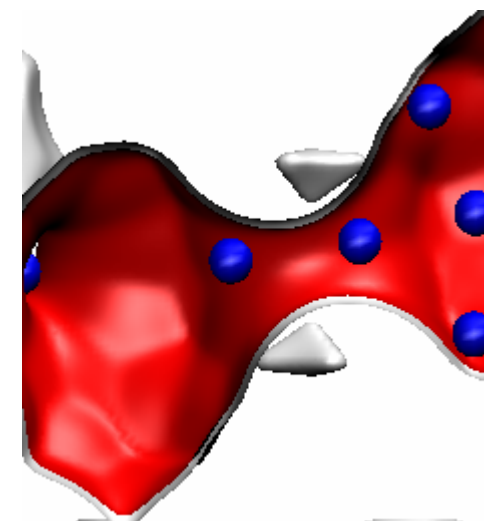
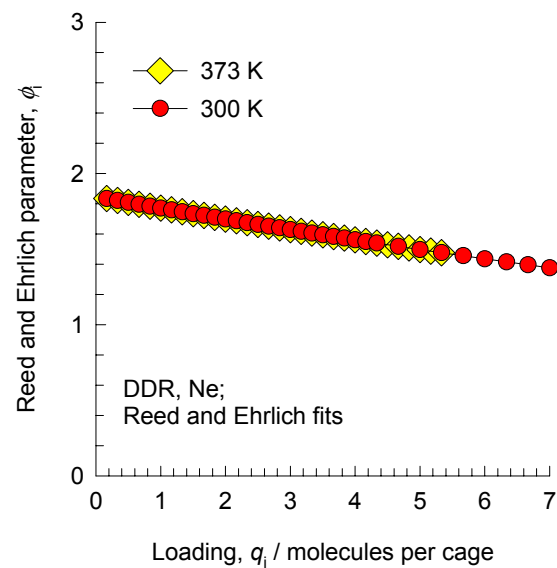
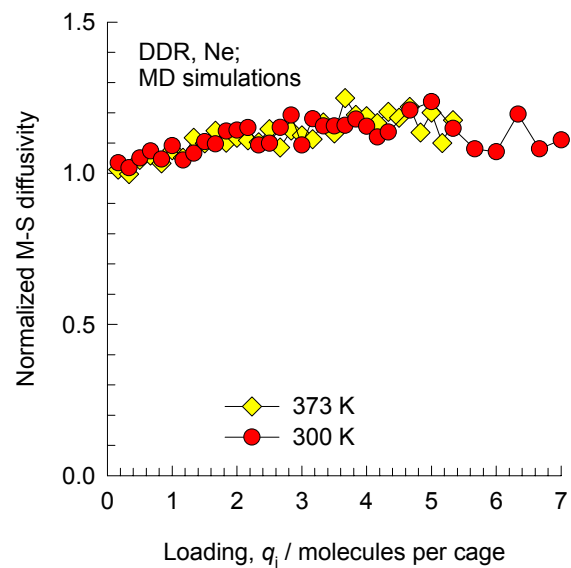
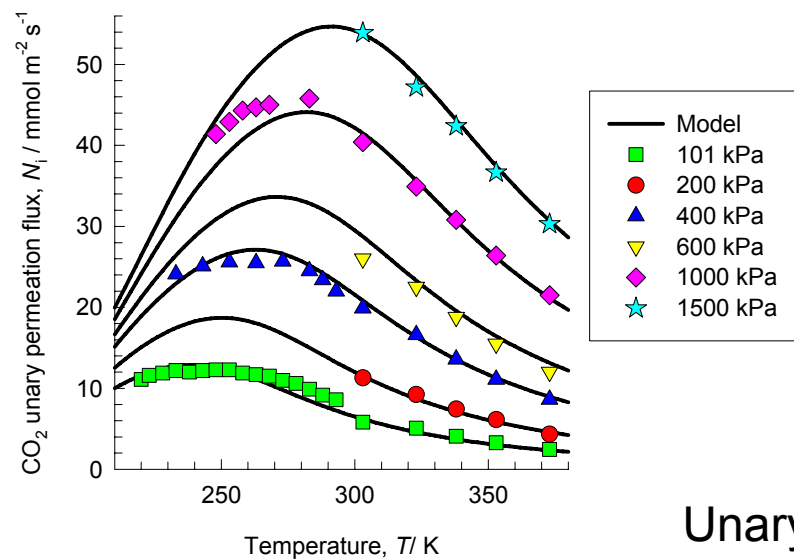


Figure 30



Unary permeation data of van den Bergh (2007, 2008) compared to Reed & Ehrlich model calculations

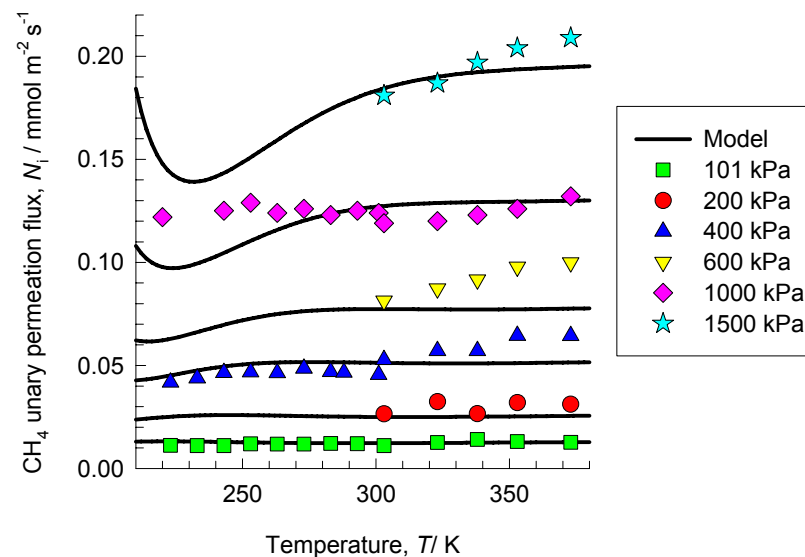
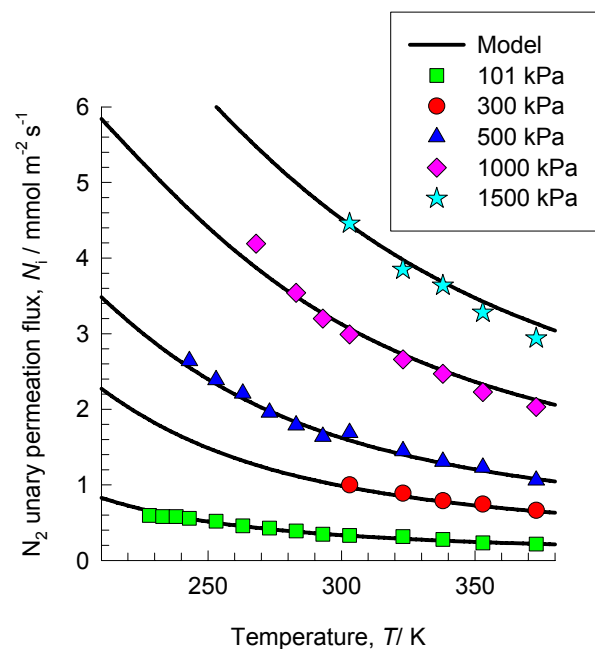
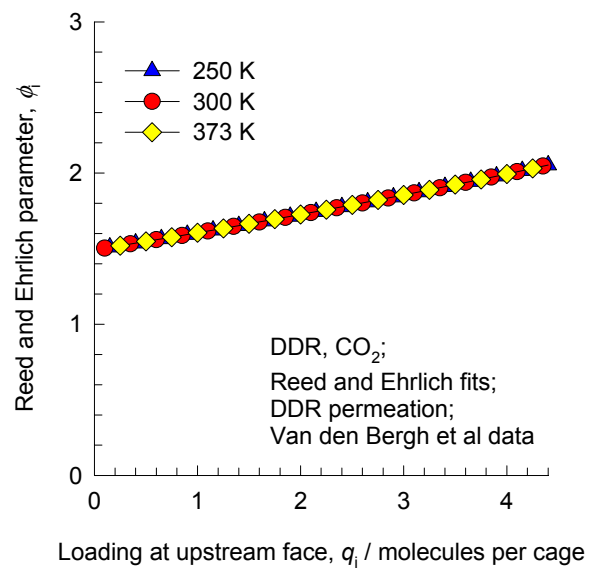


Figure 31



### Reed & Ehrlich fitted $\phi_i$

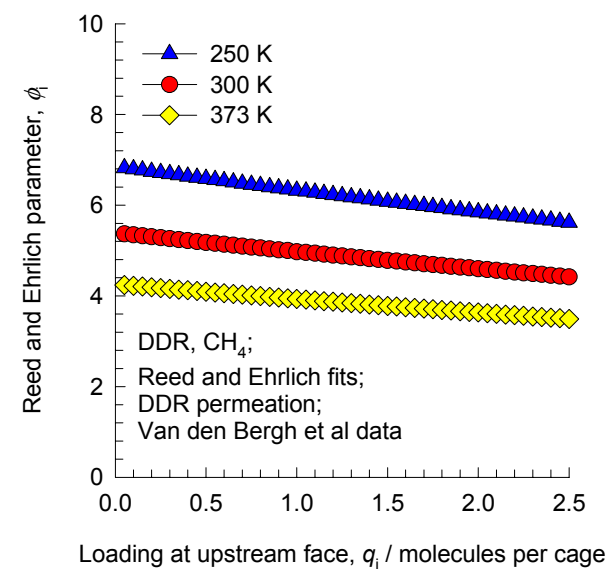
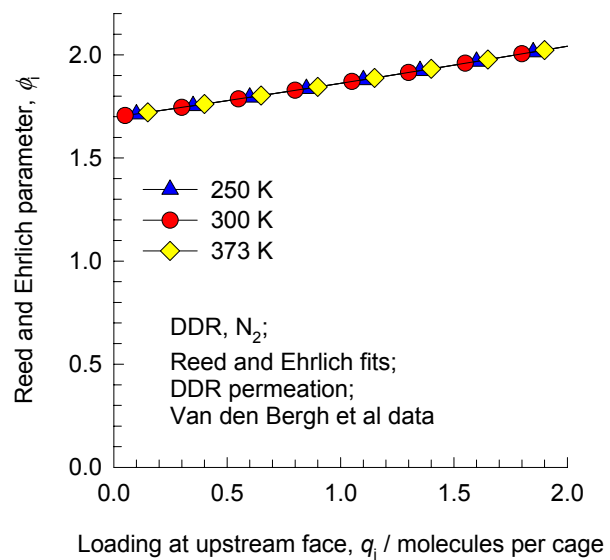
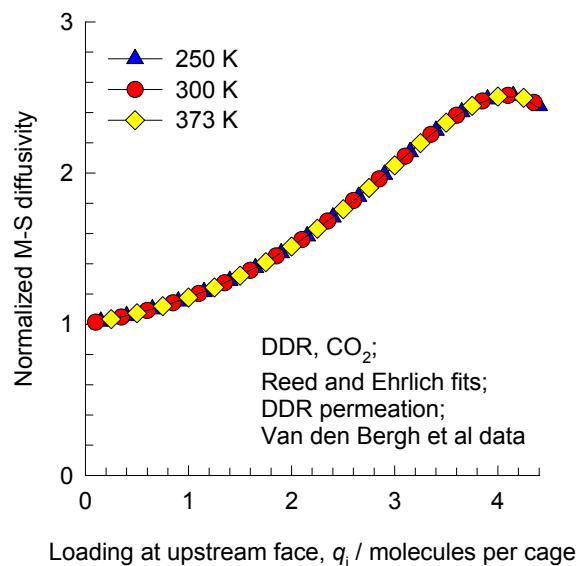


Figure 32



Reed & Ehrlich model calculations of normalized M-S diffusivities

