

**Density functional theory study of  $\text{Ni}_x$  ( $x=4-16$ )  
cluster impregnation effects in multi-metal (Ce, Ti)  
UiO-66 metal organic frameworks**

Phanikumar Pentyala, Prakash Biswas, Prateek K. Jha\*

Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee  
247667, India

\*Corresponding author; Email: prateek.jha@ch.iitr.ac.in

\*Supporting Information\*

Table S1: Nomenclature of the different  $\text{Ni}_x$  impregnated configurations

Explanation	Name of configuration
Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ce}$
$\text{Ni}_4$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_4$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_8$
$\text{Ni}_{12}$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_{12}$
$\text{Ni}_{16}$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_{16}$
Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ce}$
$\text{Ni}_4$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_4$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_8$
$\text{Ni}_{12}$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_{12}$
$\text{Ni}_{16}$ in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_{16}$
Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ti}$
$\text{Ni}_4$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_4$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_8$
$\text{Ni}_{12}$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_{12}$
$\text{Ni}_{16}$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	$L_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_{16}$
Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ti}$
$\text{Ni}_4$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_4$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_8$
$\text{Ni}_{12}$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_{12}$
$\text{Ni}_{16}$ in Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%)	$H_{Ti}\text{-Ni}_{16}$
Planar $\text{Ni}_4$ in octahedral void of UiO-66 (Zr)	oct-UiO-66
Planar $\text{Ni}_4$ in octahedral void of Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%)	oct- $L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_4$
Another $\text{Ni}_4$ configuration in tetrahedral void	tet- $L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_4$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in octahedral void	oct- $L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_8$
$\text{Ni}_8$ in other tetrahedral void	tet- $L_{Ce}\text{-Ni}_8$

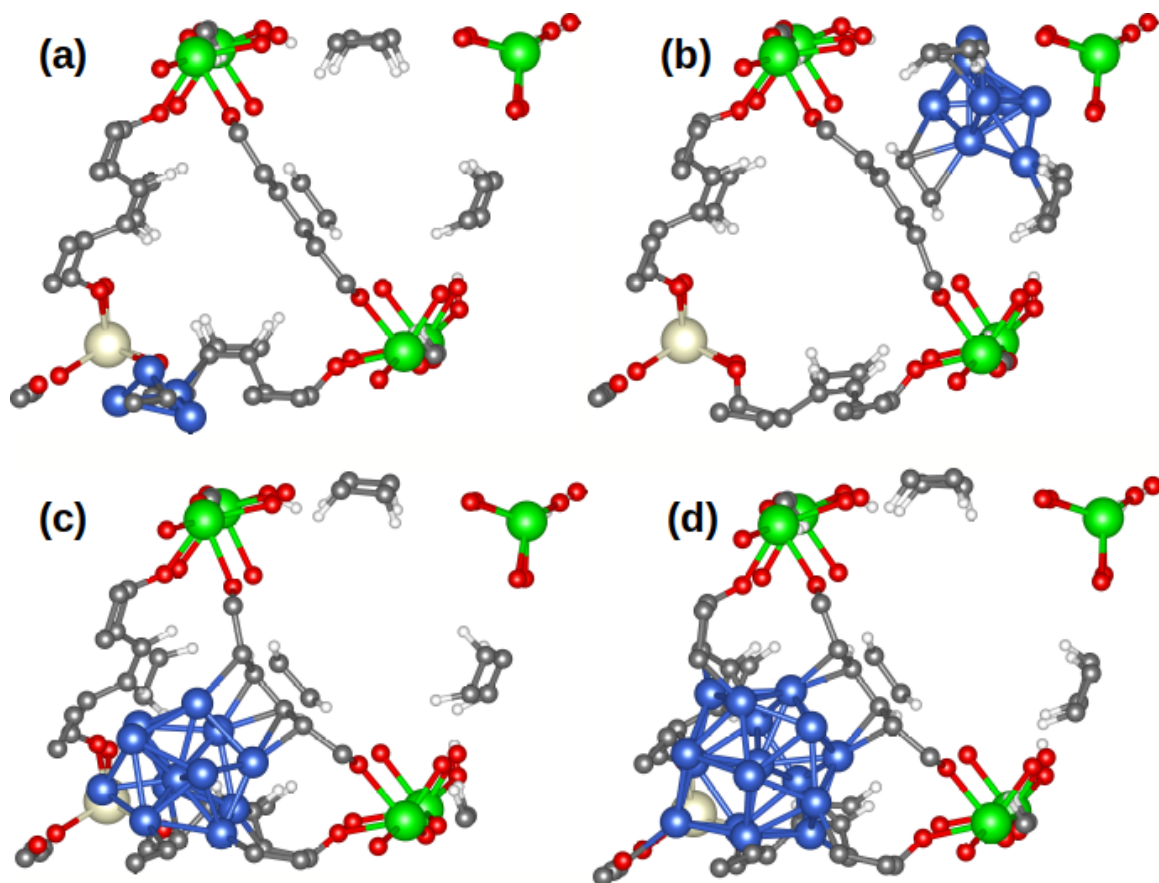


Figure S1: Stable configurations of Ni<sub>x</sub> ( $x=4-16$ ) clusters in the pores of Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%), (a)  $L_{Ce}$ -Ni<sub>4</sub>, (b)  $L_{Ce}$ -Ni<sub>8</sub>, (c)  $L_{Ce}$ -Ni<sub>12</sub> and (d)  $L_{Ce}$ -Ni<sub>16</sub>. Color coding: Cream- Ce, Green- Zr, Grey- C, Red- O, White- H and Blue- Ni.

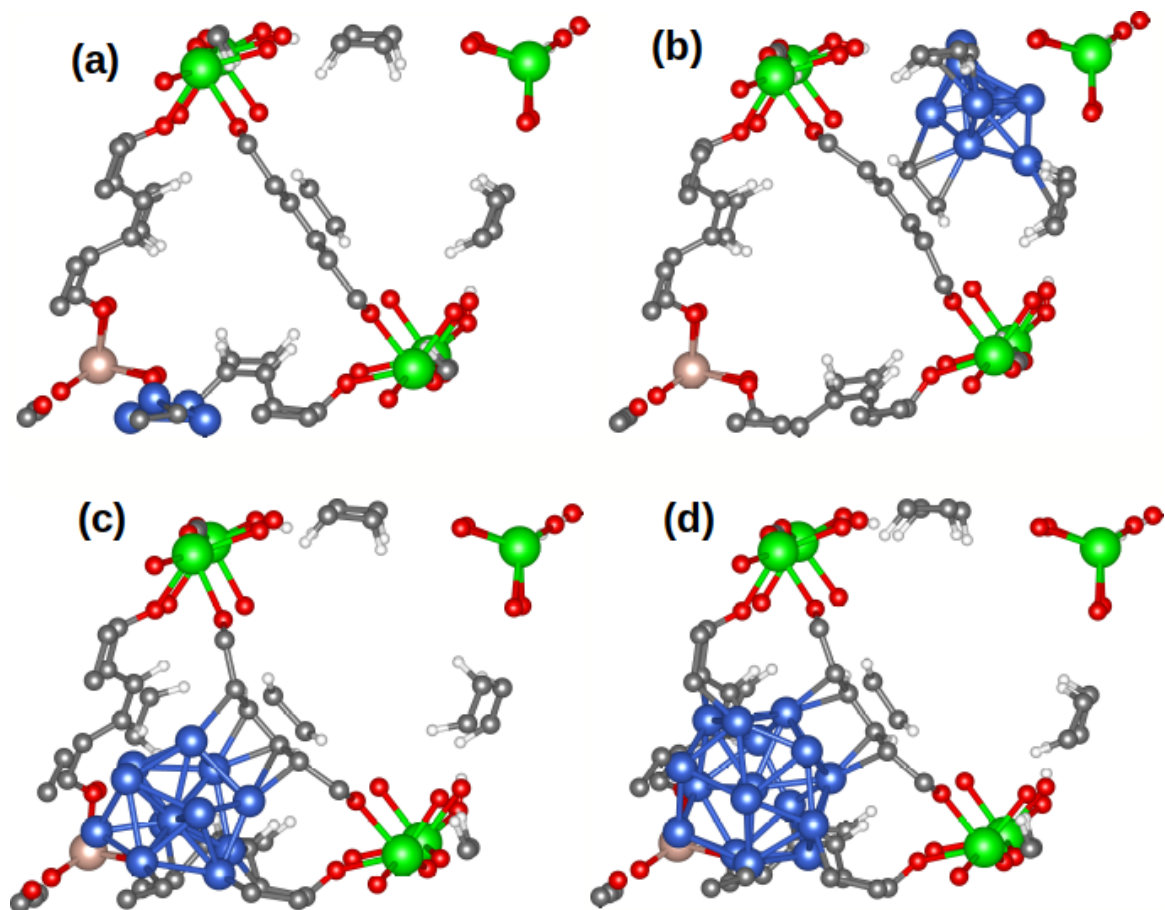


Figure S2: Stable configurations of Ni<sub>x</sub> ( $x=4-16$ ) clusters in the pores of Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%), (a)  $L_{Ti}$ -Ni<sub>4</sub>, (b)  $L_{Ti}$ -Ni<sub>8</sub>, (c)  $L_{Ti}$ -Ni<sub>12</sub> and (d)  $L_{Ti}$ -Ni<sub>16</sub>. Color coding: Pink- Ti, Green- Zr, Grey- C, Red- O, White- H and Blue- Ni.

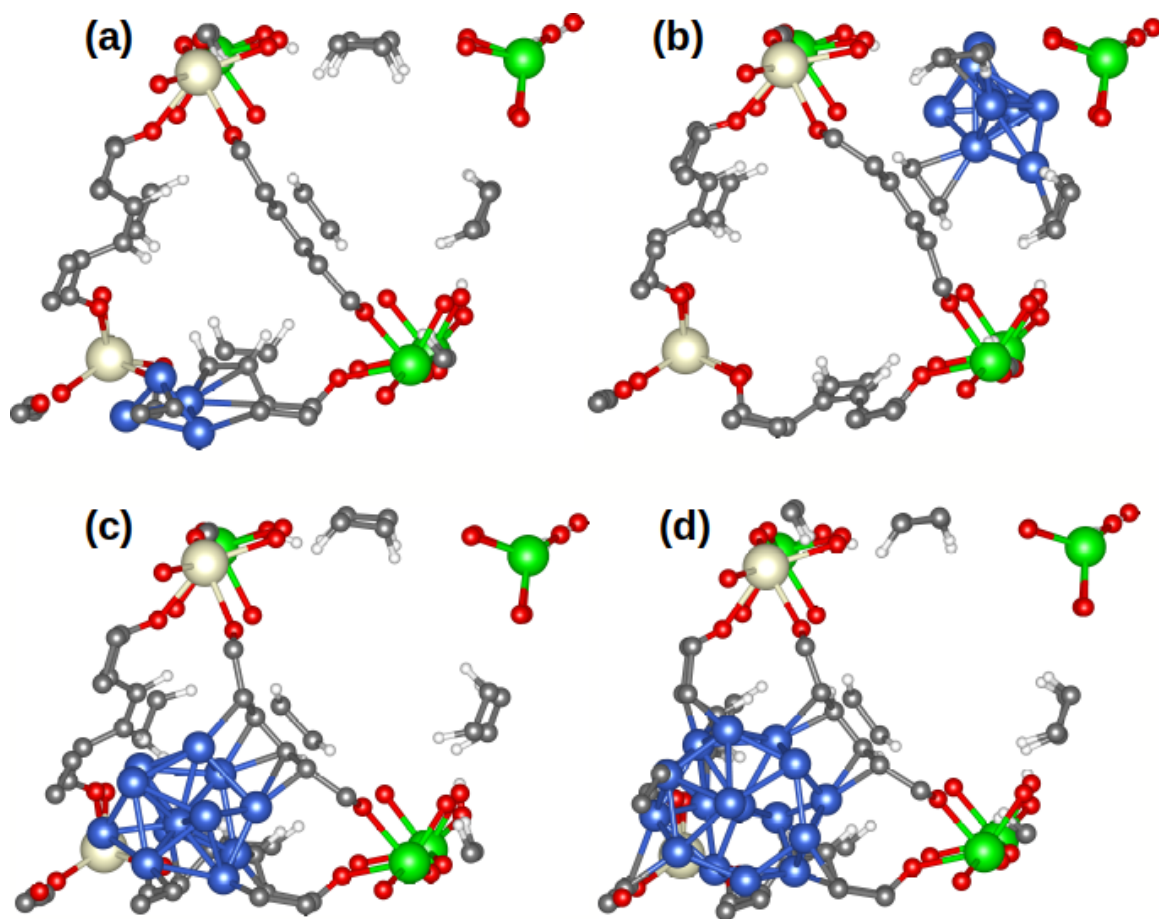


Figure S3: Stable configurations of Ni<sub>x</sub> ( $x=4-16$ ) clusters in the pores of Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%). (a) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>4</sub>, (b) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>8</sub>, (c) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>12</sub> and (d) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>16</sub>. Color coding: Cream- Ce, Green- Zr, Grey- C, Red- O, White- H and Blue- Ni.

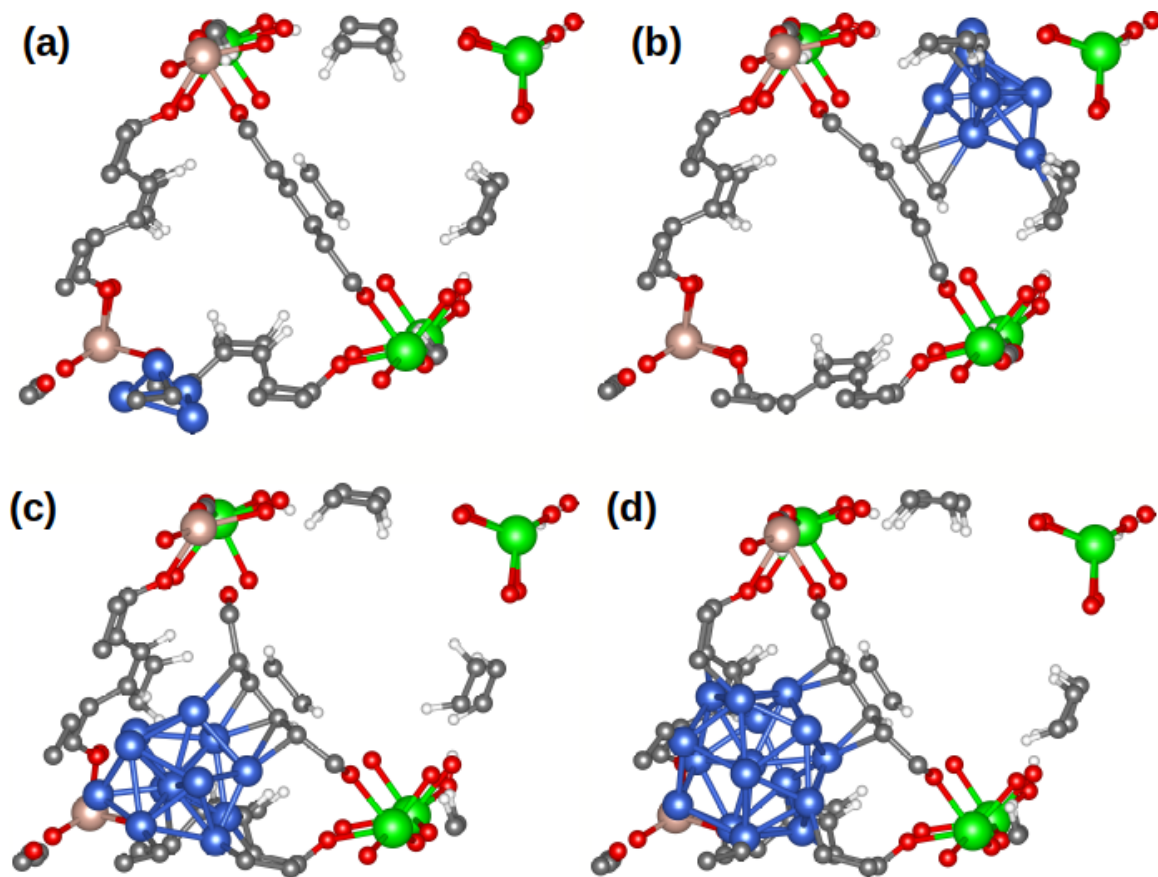


Figure S4: Stable configurations of Ni<sub>x</sub> ( $x=4-16$ ) clusters in the pores of Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%). (a)  $H_{Ti}-Ni_4$ , (b)  $H_{Ti}-Ni_8$ , (c)  $H_{Ti}-Ni_{12}$  and (d)  $H_{Ti}-Ni_{16}$ . Color coding: Pink-Ti, Green-Zr, Grey-C, Red-O, White-H and Blue-Ni.

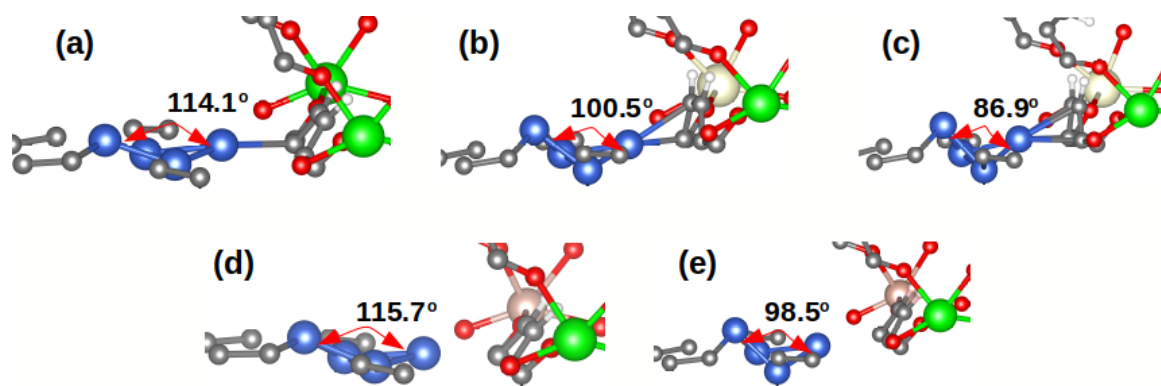


Figure S5:  $\text{Ni}_4$  bending shapes in the different models, (a) UiO-66 (Zr) ( $114.1^\circ$ ), (b)  $\text{L}_{\text{Ce}}\text{-Ni}_4$  ( $100.5^\circ$ ), (c)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ce}}\text{-Ni}_4$  ( $86.9^\circ$ ), (d)  $\text{L}_{\text{Ti}}\text{-Ni}_4$  ( $115.7^\circ$ ), and (e)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti}}\text{-Ni}_4$  ( $98.5^\circ$ )

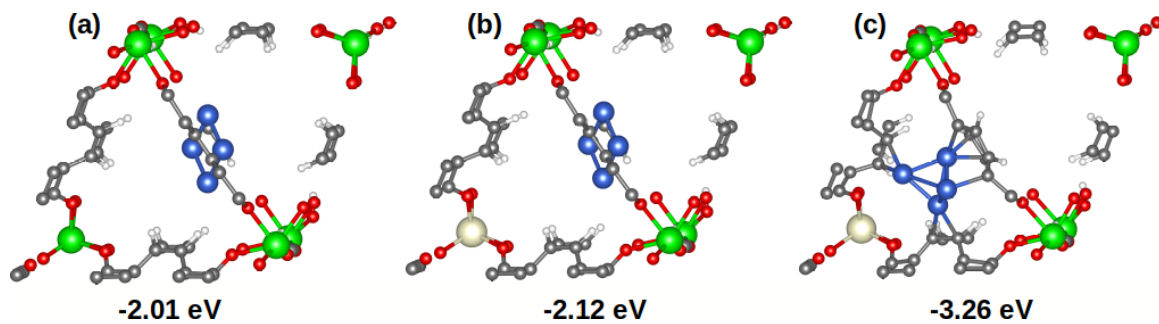


Figure S6: Additional configurations of  $\text{Ni}_4$  clusters in octahedral and tetrahedral pores of UiO-66 (Zr) and Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (16.6%). (a) oct-UiO-66, (b) oct- $\text{L}_{\text{Ce}}\text{-Ni}_4$ , and (c) tet- $\text{L}_{\text{Ce}}\text{-Ni}_4$ . Octahedral void occupied planar  $\text{Ni}_4$  is not interacted with carbons and has lower binding energies of 2.01 eV (a) and 2.12 eV (b) as compared to tetrahedral binding energy in (c) (-3.26 eV). Color coding: Cream- Ce, Green- Zr, Grey- C, Red- O, White- H and Blue- Ni



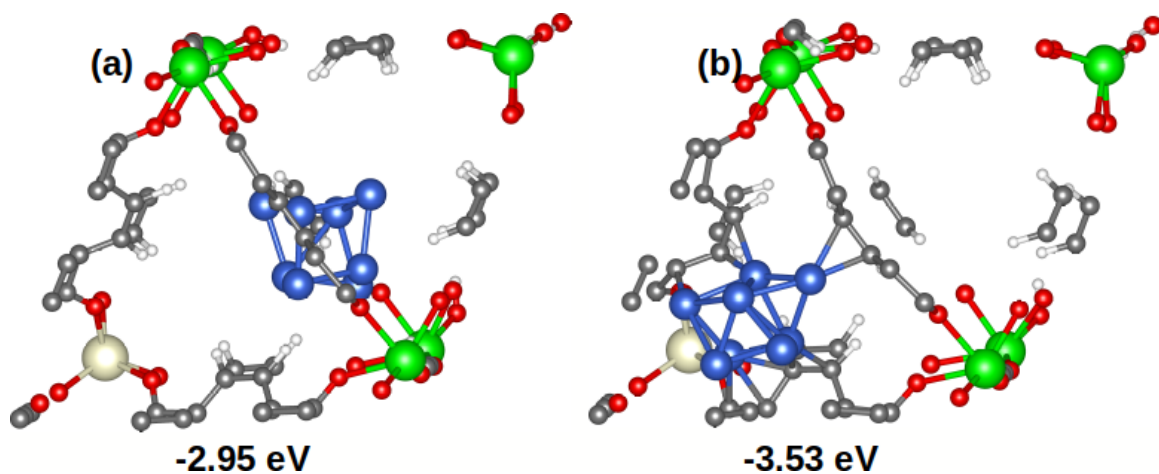


Figure S7: Additional configurations of  $\text{Ni}_8$  clusters in octahedral and tetrahedral pores of Ce/Zr-Uio-66 (16.6%). (a) oct- $\text{LCe-Ni}_8$ , and (b) tet- $\text{LCe-Ni}_8$ . The shape of  $\text{Ni}_8$  configuration in tetrahedral void changed as compared to octahedral void. Similar to  $\text{Ni}_4$ , the binding energy of  $\text{Ni}_8$  cluster in tetrahedral pore results into higher value of -3.53 eV (b) as compared to octahedral pore (-2.95 eV (a)). Color coding: Cream- Ce, Green- Zr, Grey- C, Red- O, White- H and Blue- Ni

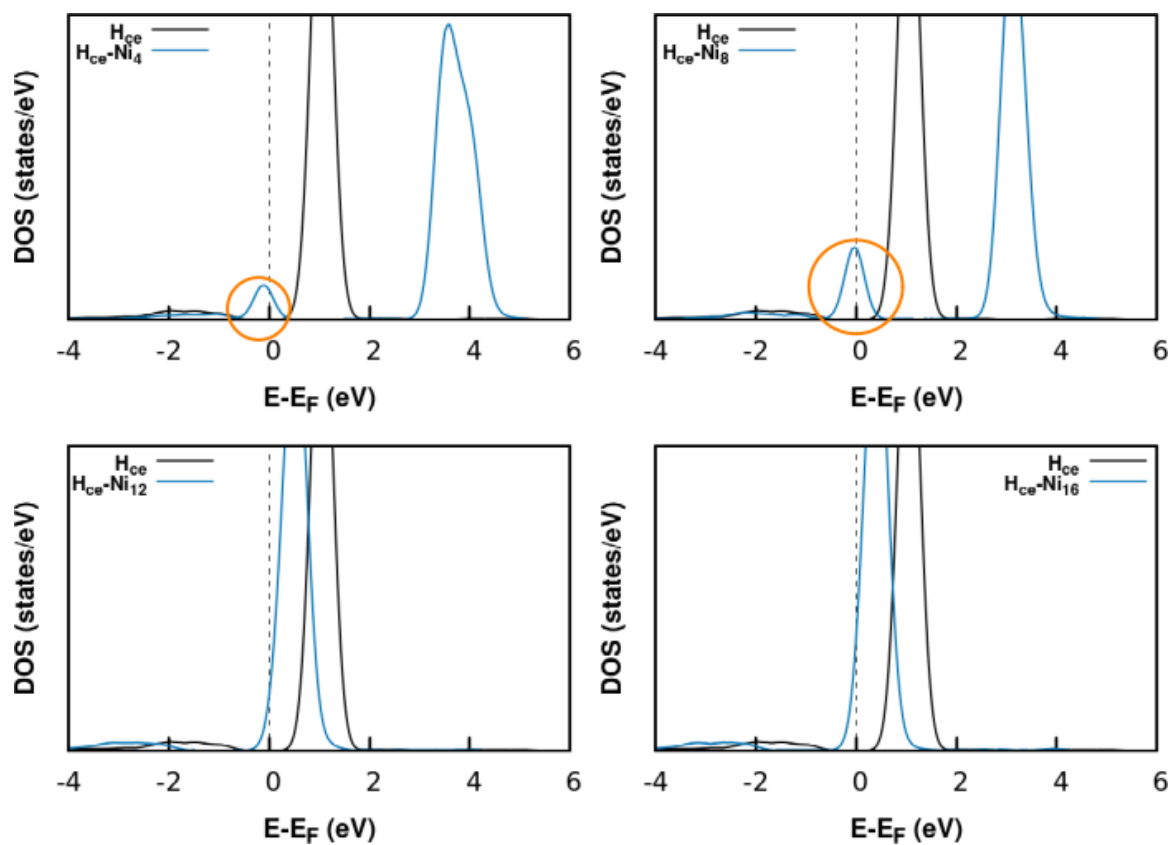


Figure S8: Projected density of states (PDOS) of Ce (4f) before and after impregnation of Ni<sub>x</sub> ( $x=4-16$ ) cluster in Ce/Zr-MOF (33.3%), (a) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>4</sub>, (b) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>8</sub>, (c) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>12</sub>, and (d) H<sub>Ce</sub>-Ni<sub>16</sub>. Orange circle represent new electronic state of Ce after impregnation of Ni<sub>x</sub> cluster

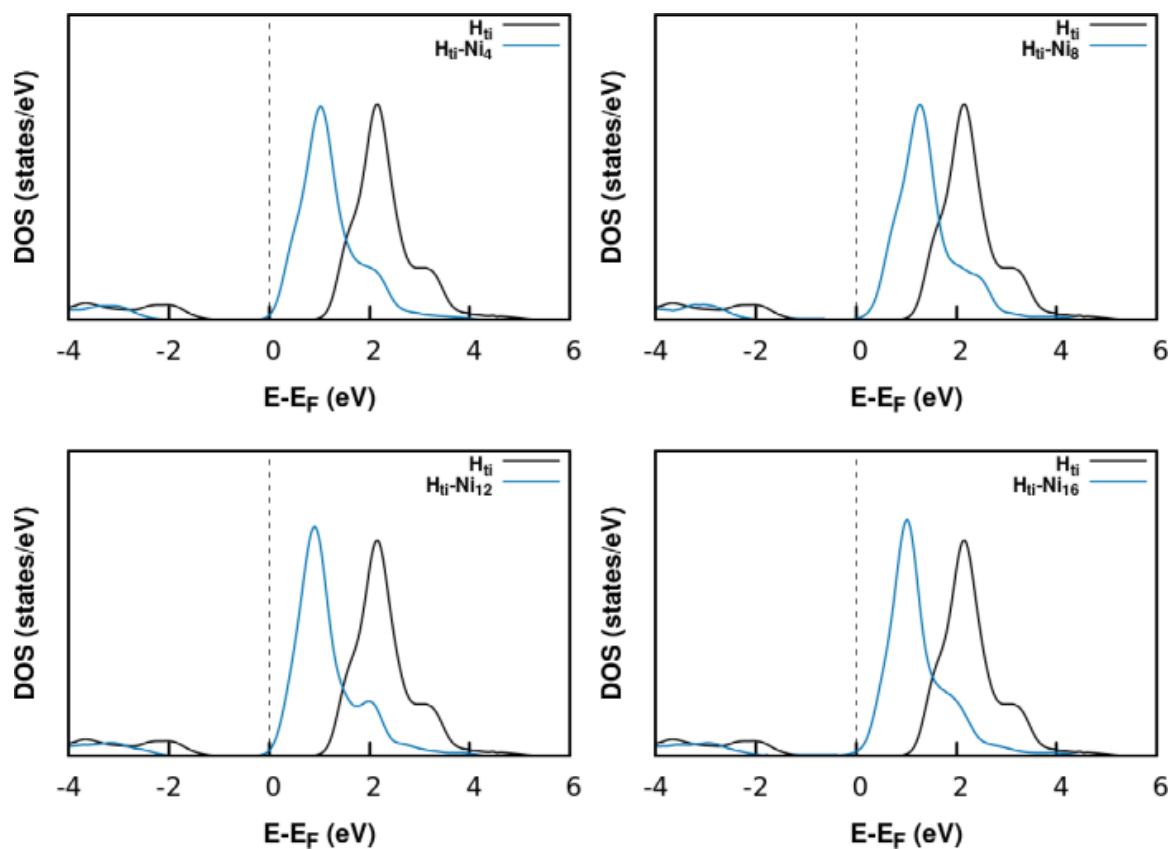


Figure S9: Projected density of states (PDOS) of Ti (3d) before and after impregnation of  $\text{Ni}_x$  ( $x=4-16$ ) cluster in Ti/Zr-MOF (33.3%), (a)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti-Ni}_4}$ , (b)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti-Ni}_8}$ , (c)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti-Ni}_{12}}$ , and (d)  $\text{H}_{\text{Ti-Ni}_{16}}$

Table S2: Average Löwdin charges of doped metal node (Ce/Ti) in Ce/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%), and Ti/Zr-UiO-66 (33.3%).

Configuration Name	Avg. charges on Ce/Ti ( $e$ )
$H_{Ce}$	0.45
$H_{Ce-Ni_4}$	0.55
$H_{Ce-Ni_8}$	0.45
$H_{Ce-Ni_{12}}$	0.37
$H_{Ce-Ni_{16}}$	0.39
$H_{Ti}$	1.576
$H_{Ti-Ni_4}$	1.579
$H_{Ti-Ni_8}$	1.578
$H_{Ti-Ni_{12}}$	1.585
$H_{Ti-Ni_{16}}$	1.588