

## Supplementary Information

### Vitrification of non-meltable zeolitic-imidazolate frameworks

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### **Supplementary Texts**

I. Structural differences between ZIF crystals, ZNIC liquids, and ZIF foams.

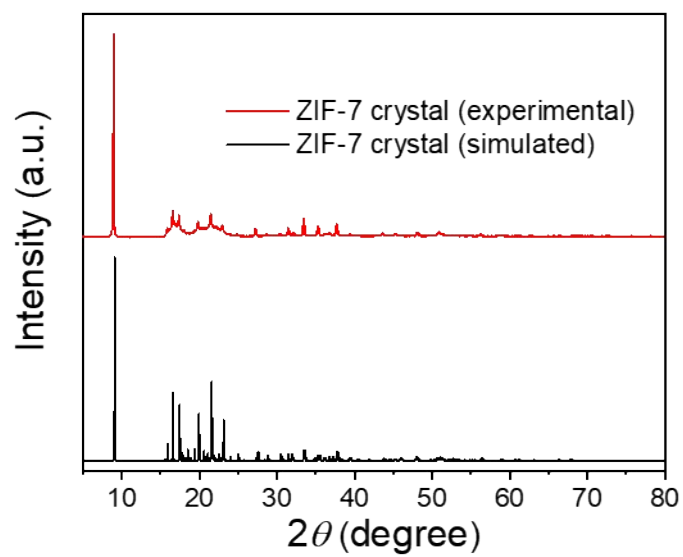
II. Gas adsorption of ZIF crystals and ZIF foams.

### **Supplementary References**

## **Abbreviations**

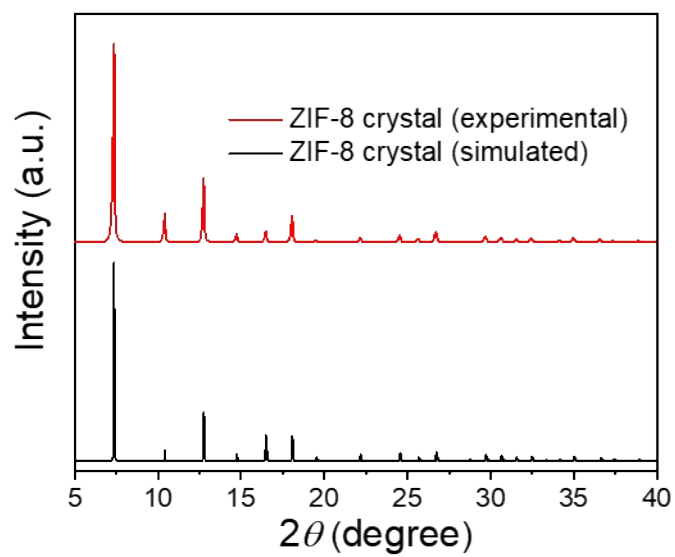
PXRD	Powder X-ray diffraction
ZIF	Zeolitic imidazolate framework
ZNIC	Zinc nitrate imidazole complex
TGA	Thermogravimetric analysis
DSC	Differential scanning calorimetry
$T_d$	Decomposition temperature
MAS	Magic-angle-spinning
FTIR	Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy
MS	Mass spectroscopy
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance
HR-TEM	High resolution transmission electron microscope
SAED	Selected-area electron diffraction
PDF	Pair distribution function
ICP-MS	Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
SEM	Scanning electron microscope
EDS	Energy dispersive spectroscopy
DFT	Density functional theory
BET	Brunauer–Emmett–Teller
PALS	Positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy
$\tau_3$	Lifetime
$I_3$	Intensity

D <sub>3</sub>	Pore diameter
V <sub>f</sub>	Pore volume
FFV	Fractional free volume
blm	Benzimidazole
mlm	2-methylimidazole
MUV-24	Fe-based ZIF (Fe(Im) <sub>2</sub> )
ZIF-62	Zn(Im) <sub>1.75</sub> (blm) <sub>0.25</sub> , Im = imidazolate
ZIF-76	Zn(Im) <sub>1.62</sub> (CbIm) <sub>0.8</sub> , CbIm = 6-chlorobenzimidazolate
ZIF-4	Zn(Im) <sub>2</sub>
ZIF-UC-2	Zn(Im) <sub>1.87</sub> (6-Cl-5-Fblm) <sub>0.13</sub> , 6-Cl-5-Fblm = 6-chloro-5-fluoro-benzimidazolate
ZIF-7	Zn(blmm) <sub>2</sub>
ZIF-8	Zn(mlm) <sub>2</sub>
ZIF-95	Zn(CbIm) <sub>2</sub>
IL	Ionic liquid
RT	Room temperature

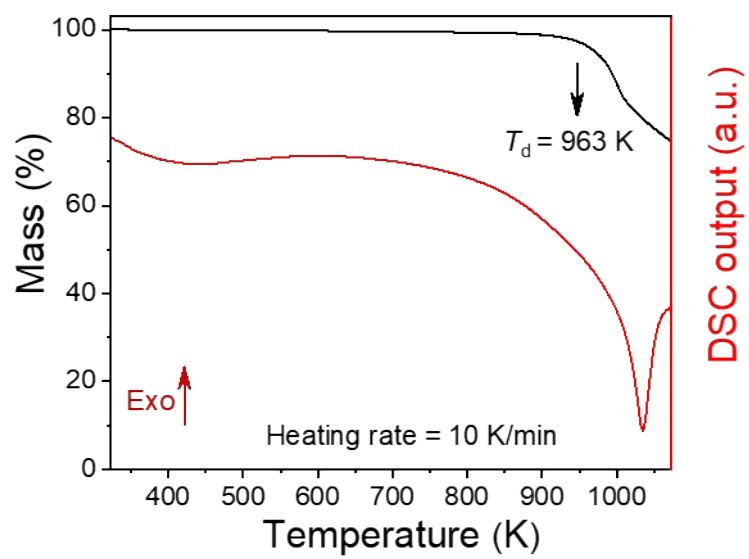


**Fig. S1.** PXRD patterns of the as-synthesized and simulated ZIF-7 crystal by the solvothermal method.

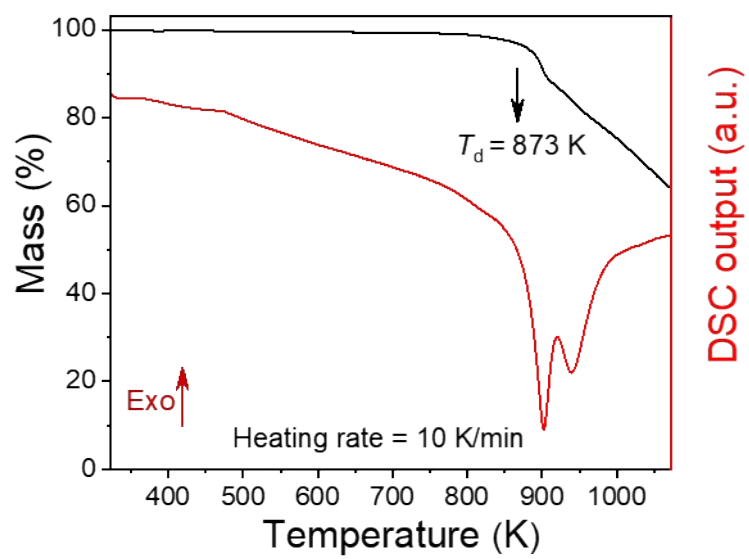




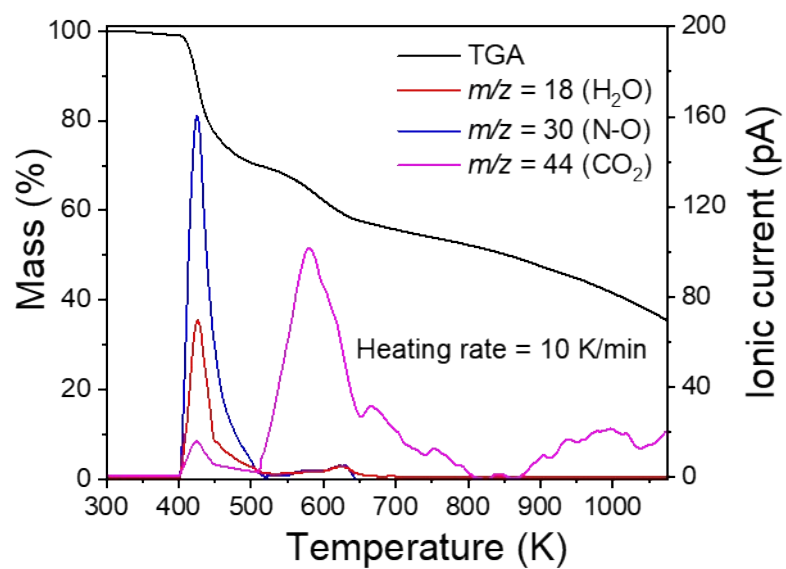
**Fig. S2.** PXRD patterns of the as-synthesized and simulated ZIF-8 crystal by the solvothermal method.



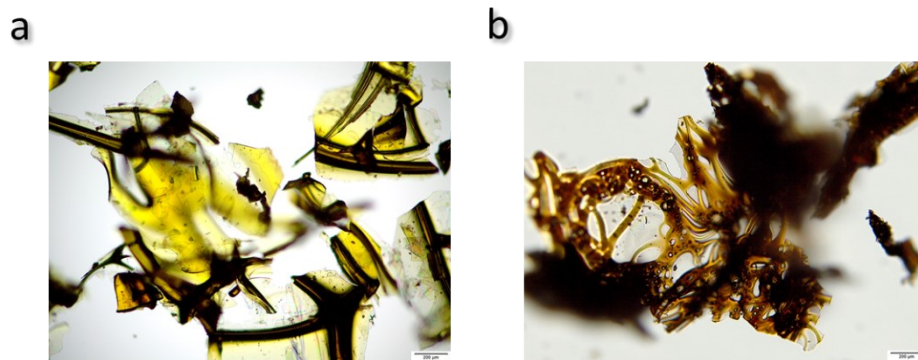
**Fig. S3.** DSC-TGA traces of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal.



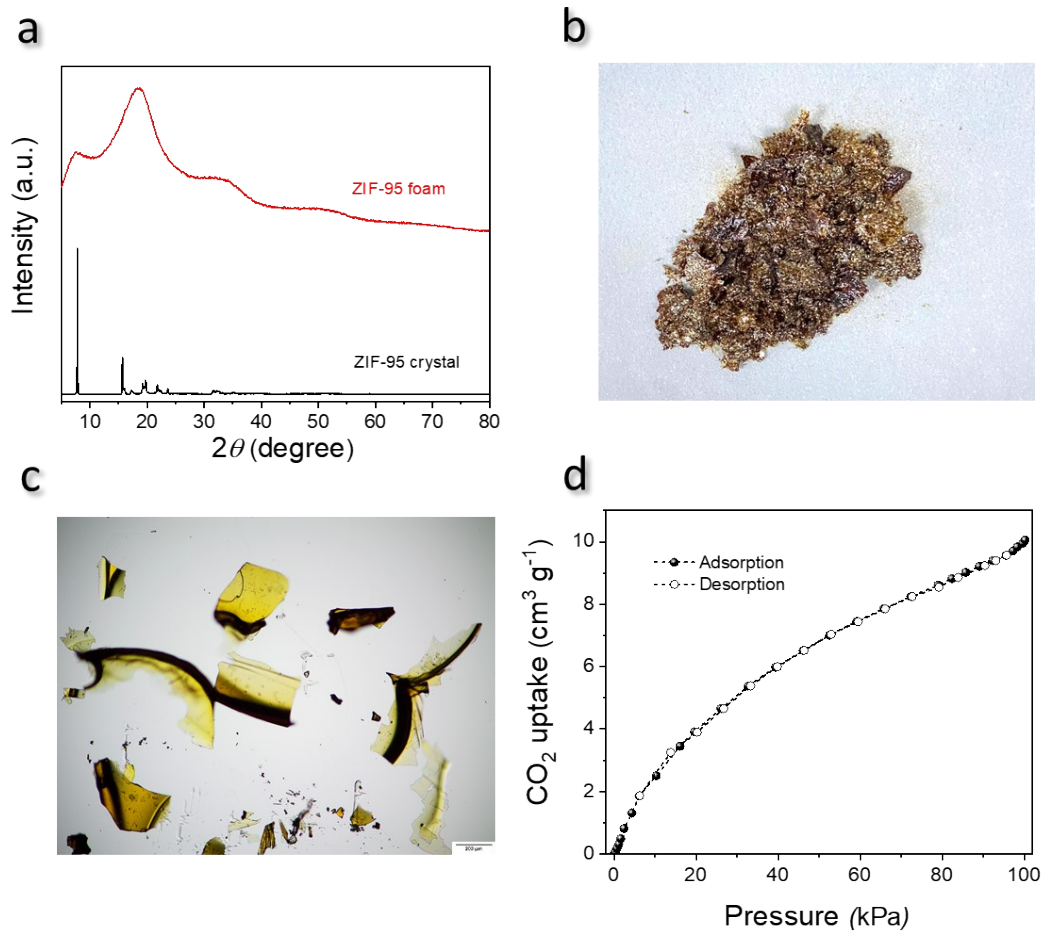
**Fig. S4.** DSC-TGA traces of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal.



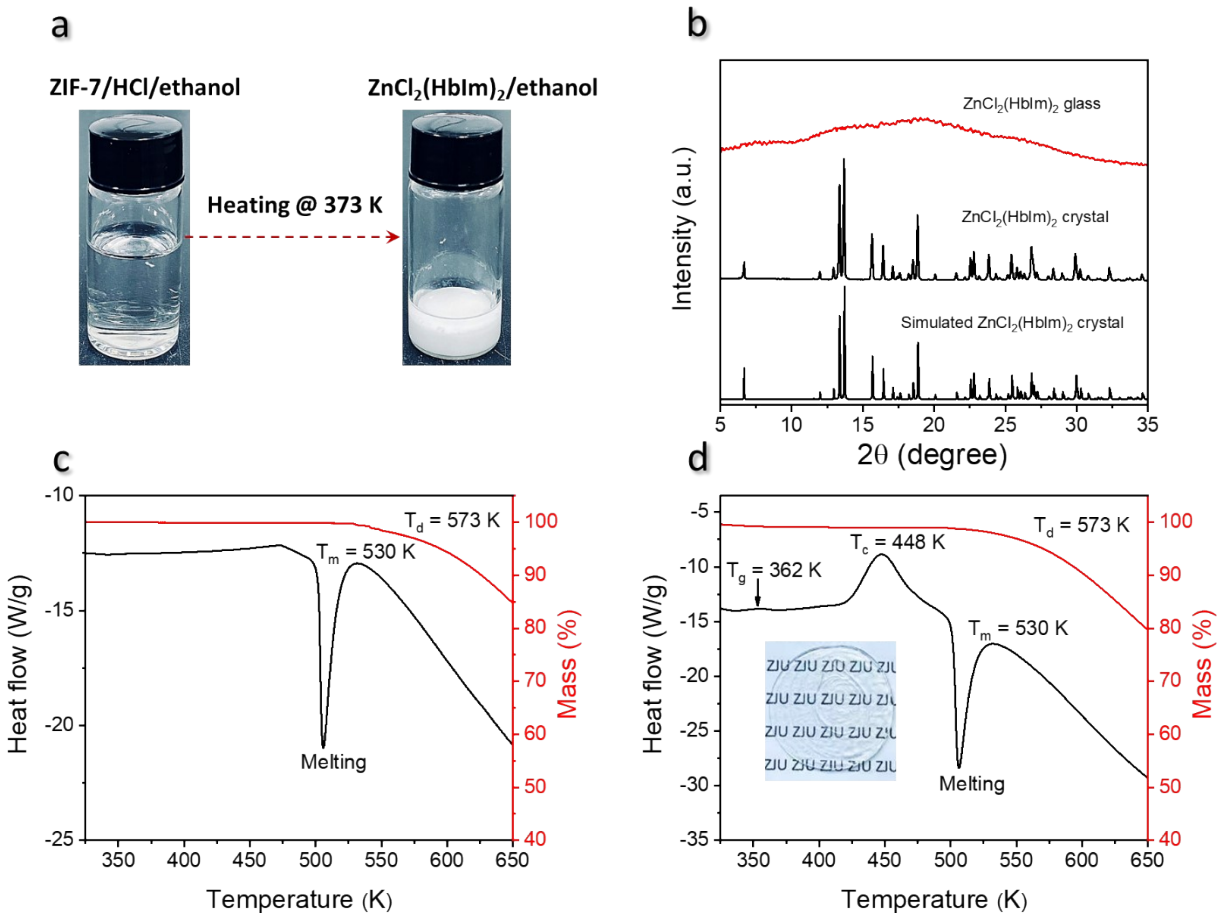
**Fig. S5.** TGA-MS trace of the as-synthesized ZNIC-8 liquid, demonstrating the  $H_2O$ , NO, and  $CO_2$  molecules are released at temperatures above 400 K.



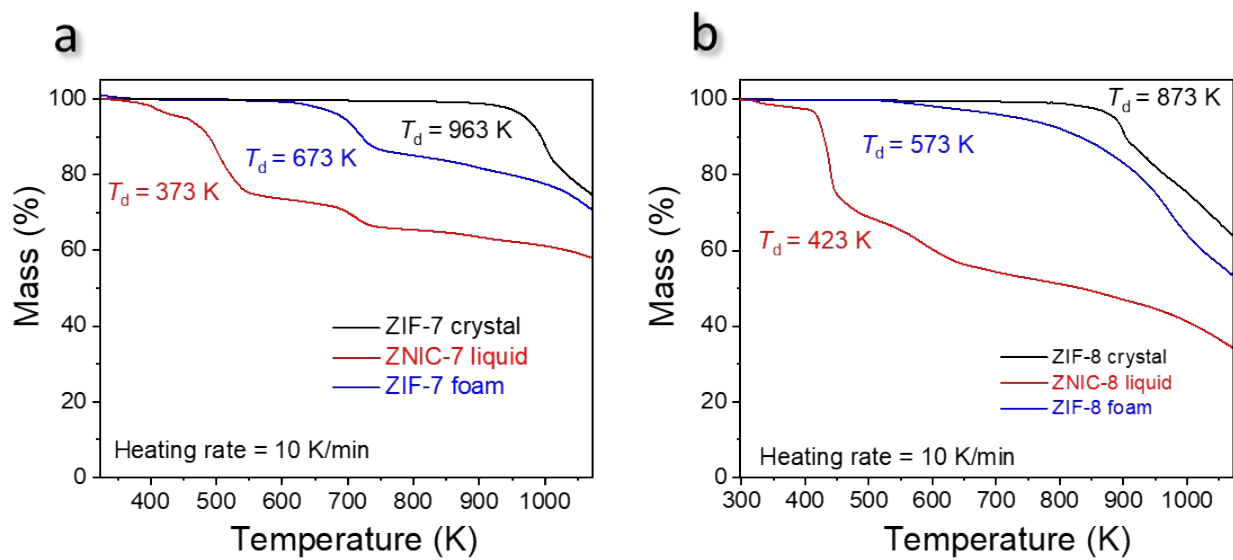
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**Fig. S7.** (a) PXRD patterns of the as-synthesized ZIF-95 crystal and ZIF-95 foam at RT. (b) Photograph and (c) optical image of the as-synthesized ZIF-95 foam. (d)  $\text{CO}_2$  adsorption isotherms for the as-synthesized ZIF-95 foam at 273 K.



**Fig. S8.** (a) Schematic illustration for the preparation of ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> crystal. (b) XRD patterns of the as-synthesized ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> crystal and ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> glass. DSC/TGA traces of the as-synthesized (c) ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> crystal and (d) ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> glass. The inset of d is the photograph of the melt-quenched ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(Hblm)<sub>2</sub> glass.

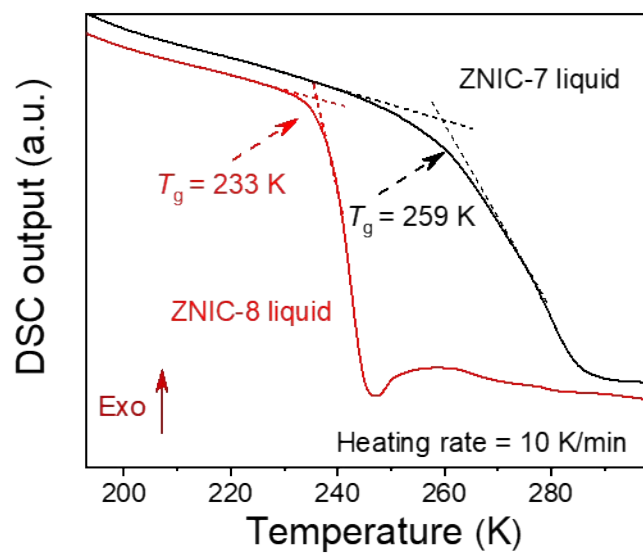


**Fig. S9.** TGA traces of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-8 crystal, ZNIC-8 liquid, and ZIF-8 foam and (b) ZIF-8 crystal, ZNIC-8 liquid, and ZIF-8 foam.

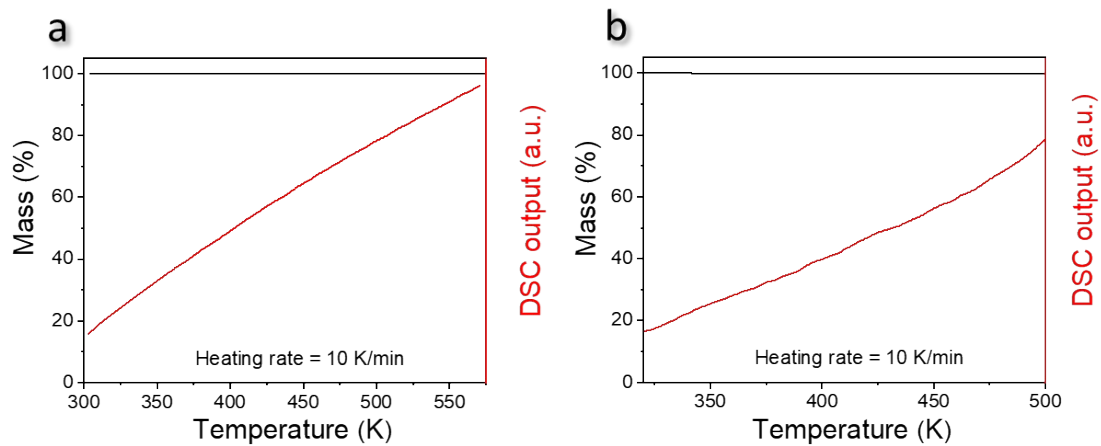


**Table S1.** Density values of the as-synthesized ZIF crystals and ZIF foams measured by Archimedes method.

Sample	Mass in air (g)	Mass in ethanol (g)	Density ( $\text{gcm}^{-3}$ )	Mass in air (g)	Mass in ethanol (g)	Density ( $\text{gcm}^{-3}$ )	Mass in air (g)	Mass in ethanol (g)	Density ( $\text{gcm}^{-3}$ )	Average density ( $\text{gcm}^{-3}$ )
ZIF-7 crystal	0.2966	0.1512	1.609	0.3124	0.1599	1.616	0.2684	0.1357	1.595	1.607
ZIF-7 foam	0.3381	0.1519	1.432	0.3564	0.1597	1.429	0.3121	0.1412	1.440	1.434
ZIF-8 crystal	0.2241	0.0662	1.119	0.2534	0.0719	1.101	0.1934	0.0572	1.120	1.113
ZIF-8 foam	0.2771	0.0456	0.944	0.2995	0.0502	0.947	0.2562	0.0412	0.940	0.944



**Fig. S10.** DSC traces of the as-synthesized ZNIC liquids.



**Fig. S11.** DSC/TGA traces of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-7 foam and (b) ZIF-8 foam.

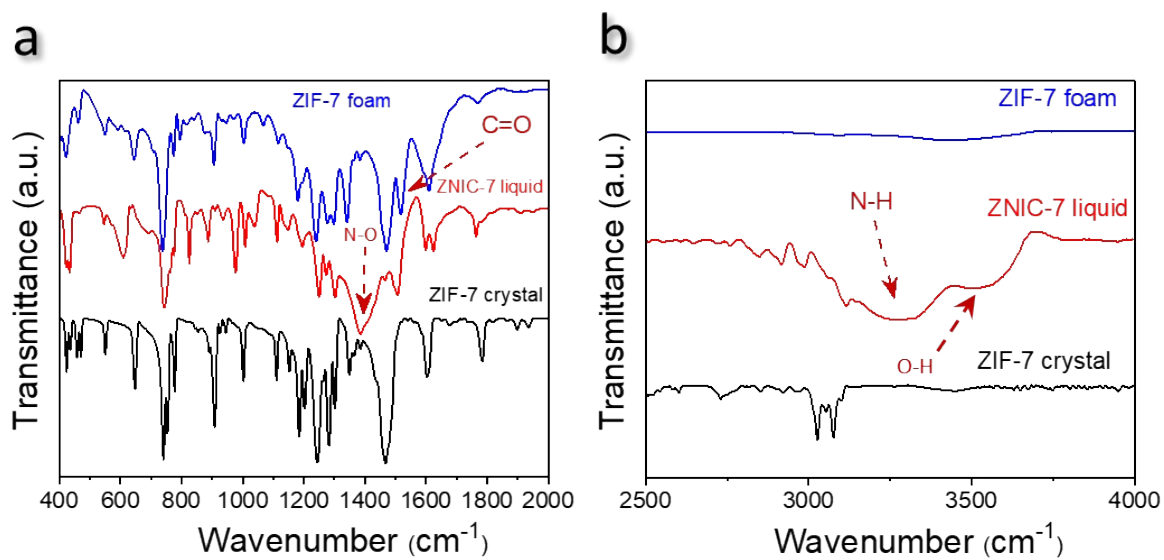
## **I. Structural differences between ZIF crystals, ZNIC liquids, and ZIF foams:**

The FTIR spectra of both the as-synthesized ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 crystals display the characteristic vibration bands of ZIF-7 and ZIF-8.<sup>1,2,3</sup> The FTIR vibration bands of ZNIC liquids are different from those of their parent ZIFs in terms of band position and intensity. The ZNIC liquids exhibit three prominent bands at  $1385\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $3270\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $3500\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which are attributed to the vibrations of the N-O, N-H, and O-H bonds, respectively. This observation suggests the existence of water within the ZNIC liquids and indicates the protonation of organic linkers during the solvation process of ZIFs.<sup>4,5,6</sup> After thermal treatment of ZNIC liquids, the N-O, N-H, and O-H bands disappear in the FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF foams (Figs. S12 and S13), indicating the deprotonation of organic linkers and the complete removal of nitrates and water. Interestingly, the vibration bands observed in the FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF foams like glasses are broader than those of the parent ZIF crystals (Figs. S14 and S15). But their band positions are closer to those of the parent ZIF crystals. A new vibration band is observed in the ZIF-7 foam spectrum at  $1518\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , being assigned to the vibration of C=O bonds.<sup>7</sup> The FTIR results confirm that the as-synthesized ZIF crystals and their corresponding foams possess an identical molecular structure.<sup>8</sup> In addition, the blm linkers in ZIF-7 foam were oxidized during thermal treatment, while the mlm linkers remain unchanged. This is also confirmed by the solution  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  measurements (Figs. S16 and S17), in which the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal and ZIF-8 foam demonstrate typical proton resonances of mlm linkers. Furthermore, the  $\text{H}_2/\text{H}_5$  proton resonance peaks of blm disappear in the solution  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of ZIF-7 foam. In contrast, the proton integration values for  $\text{H}_1$  and  $\text{H}_3/\text{H}_4$  are 1 and 2, respectively. This observation and FTIR results indicate that the  $\text{C}_3/\text{C}_6$  atoms in the blm of ZIF-7 foam are oxidized during the heat treatment of

ZNIC-7 liquid at 573 K. The protonation and deprotonation of organic linkers are further confirmed by the  $^1\text{H}$  CPMAS-NMR measurements (Fig. S18). A broad proton resonance peak associated with H-N bonds (@ 11.87 ppm) is detected only for ZNIC liquids. However, this peak diminishes notably in the spectra of both ZIF crystals and ZIF foams. The deprotonation of organic linkers implies the formation of Zn-blm/mlm-Zn coordination bonds (i.e., the formation of ZIF structure). Moreover, the  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR measurements (Figs. S18-S20) further confirm a high degree of structural disorder in the foam samples. This is evidenced by the broader resonance peaks observed in the foam samples compared to their respective ZIF crystals. Essentially, this signifies that the distribution of bond lengths and angles of the organic linkers is broader in the foam state than in the crystal form. For example, the proton resonance peak of mIm broadens following the transition from the ZIF-8 crystal into the ZNIC-8 liquid and becomes even broader in the case of the ZIF-8 foam. A similar trend is observed for ZIF-7 structure, yet the width of the proton resonance peaks diminishes subsequent to the removal of water and nitrates owing to the oxidation of blm. Just like the  $^1\text{H}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra, the  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF crystals match well with those of their ZIF foams, yet the resonance bands in the spectra of foams are considerably broader compared to the crystals (Figs. S19 and S20).<sup>9</sup> Unlike the  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of both ZIF crystals and ZIF foams, interestingly, the  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of the as-synthesized ZNIC-7 and ZNIC-8 liquids ( Figs. S19 and S20) exhibit additional broad resonance peaks around 131 ppm/138 ppm and 118 ppm, respectively. These results imply that the transformation of blm/mlm into Hbim/HmIm during ZIF solvation results in the formation of the independent Hbim/HmIm, subsequently revert to the dependent blm/mlm upon heat treatment.<sup>4,5,10,11</sup> The observed peak broadening in the NMR spectra of foam

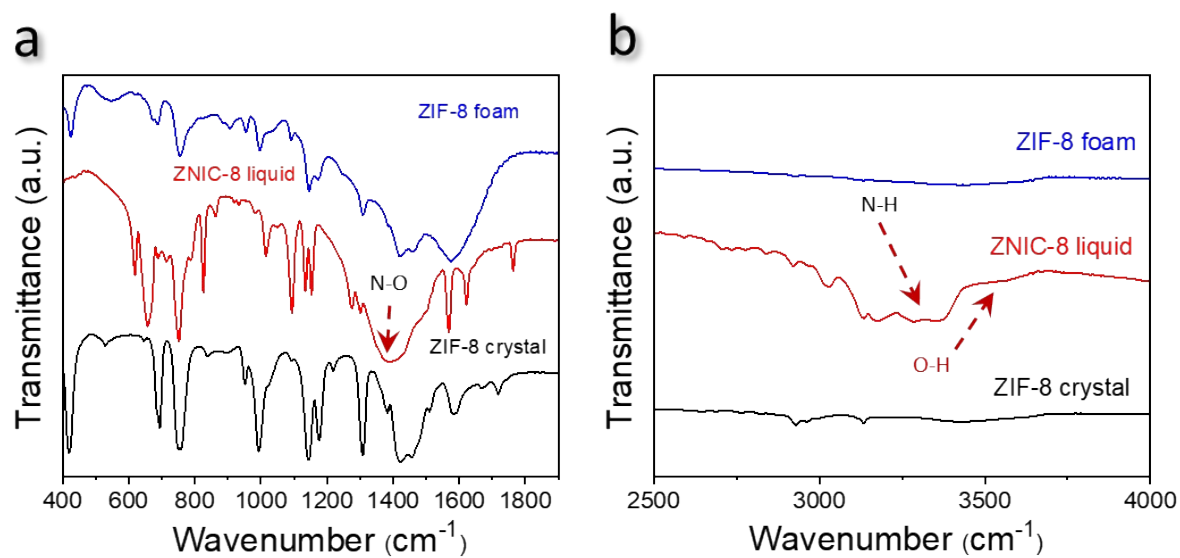
samples implies that the structure of the ZIF crystals is strongly perturbed upon alcohol/acid attack.<sup>12,13,14</sup> This observation also indicates a high degree of distortion in C-H and C-C bonds of organic linkers upon vitrification. The similar characteristics in the FTIR and NMR spectra of both the ZIF foams and the ZIF crystals imply the preservation of organic linkers and molecular structure of ZIFs after the two-step perturbations. This is further confirmed by the ICP-MS measurement and elemental analysis (Table S2). Elemental analysis shows a negligible difference between crystalline and perturbed ZIF-8, whereas the composition of the ZIF-7 foam is slightly different from that of ZIF-7 crystal because of the oxidation of blm during heat treatment. The X-ray-PDF  $D(r)$  data of both the ZIF-7 crystal and its corresponding foam (Fig. S21) suggest that the correlations between Zn and blm remain intact in the ZIF-7 foam, since the observed C-N, Zn-N, Zn-C, and Zn-Zn correlations in the foam sample are similar to those in ZIF-7 crystal.<sup>13,15</sup> This observation indicates that the ZIF foam synthesized by the structural perturbation approach possesses similar short-range order correlations as the parent crystalline counterpart. The increase in the intensity of the correlation peak at 1.32 Å suggests a contribution from C-O bonds, confirming the oxidation of blm. The  $D(r)$  data of the ZNIC-7 liquid (Fig. S21) endorses that the correlations between Zn and NO<sub>3</sub>/Hblm are formed in the ZNIC liquid; where the C-N/N-O, Zn-N/Zn-O/O-O, and Zn-C correlations are clearly observed at 1.34 Å, 2.04 Å/4.12 Å, and 2.97 Å, respectively. While, the Zn-Zn correlation fades in in the spectrum of ZNIC-7 liquid, indicating the conversion of coordination bonded ZIF-7 network (i.e., Zn-blm-Zn) into the hydrogen bonded ZNIC-7 network (i.e., Hbim-Zn-NO<sub>3</sub>). Observing the SEM images (Figs. S22 and S23), it's evident that the ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 crystals showcase layered and polyhedral geometries, respectively. In contrast, both ZNIC liquids and ZIF foams appear as particles with irregular geometry. From these

observations, we infer that the vitrification of layered ZIF-7 crystals leads to the transformation of the network structure from 2D to shapeless network. This transformation is also confirmed by TEM measurements (Figs. S24 and S25). In addition, the SAED patterns of the as-synthesized ZIF foams do not show any interfered fringes, implying the amorphous nature of the ZIFs (insets of Figs. S24 and S25). Moreover, the TEM/EDS mappings of both the as-synthesized ZIF crystals and their respective foams (Figs. S26-S29) show that the Zn, C, and N elements are distributed homogeneously in ZIF networks. But it should be noted that, besides Zn/C/N, oxygen is also present in ZIF-7 foam due to the oxidation of blm linkers (Fig. S27). These results are in line with the FTIR, NMR and elemental analyses.

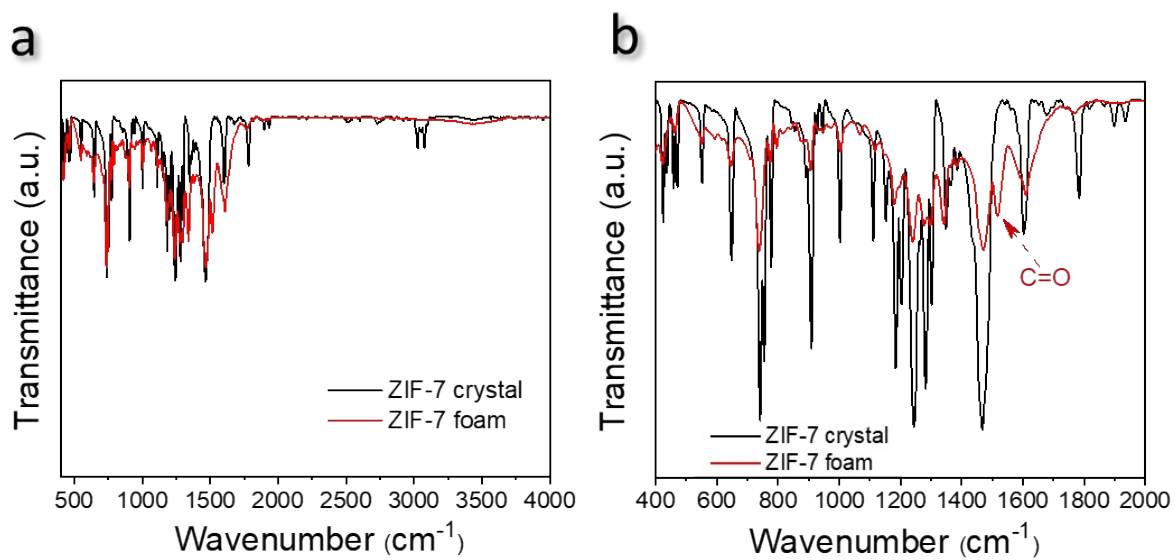


**Fig. S12.** FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZNIC-7 liquid, and ZIF-7 foam at RT in the wavenumber range of (a) 400 – 2000 cm<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 2500 – 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

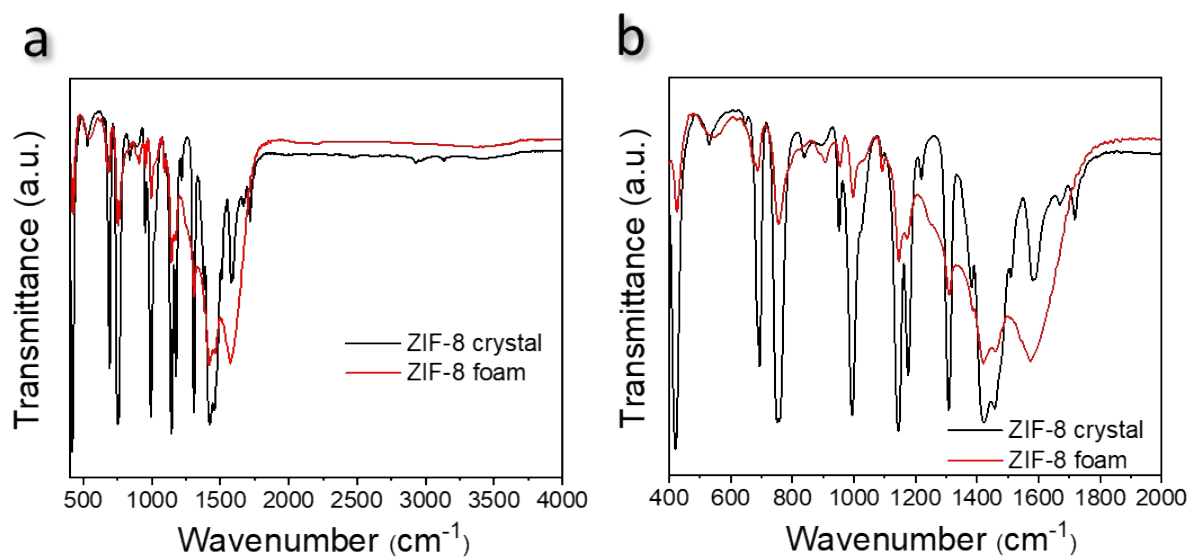




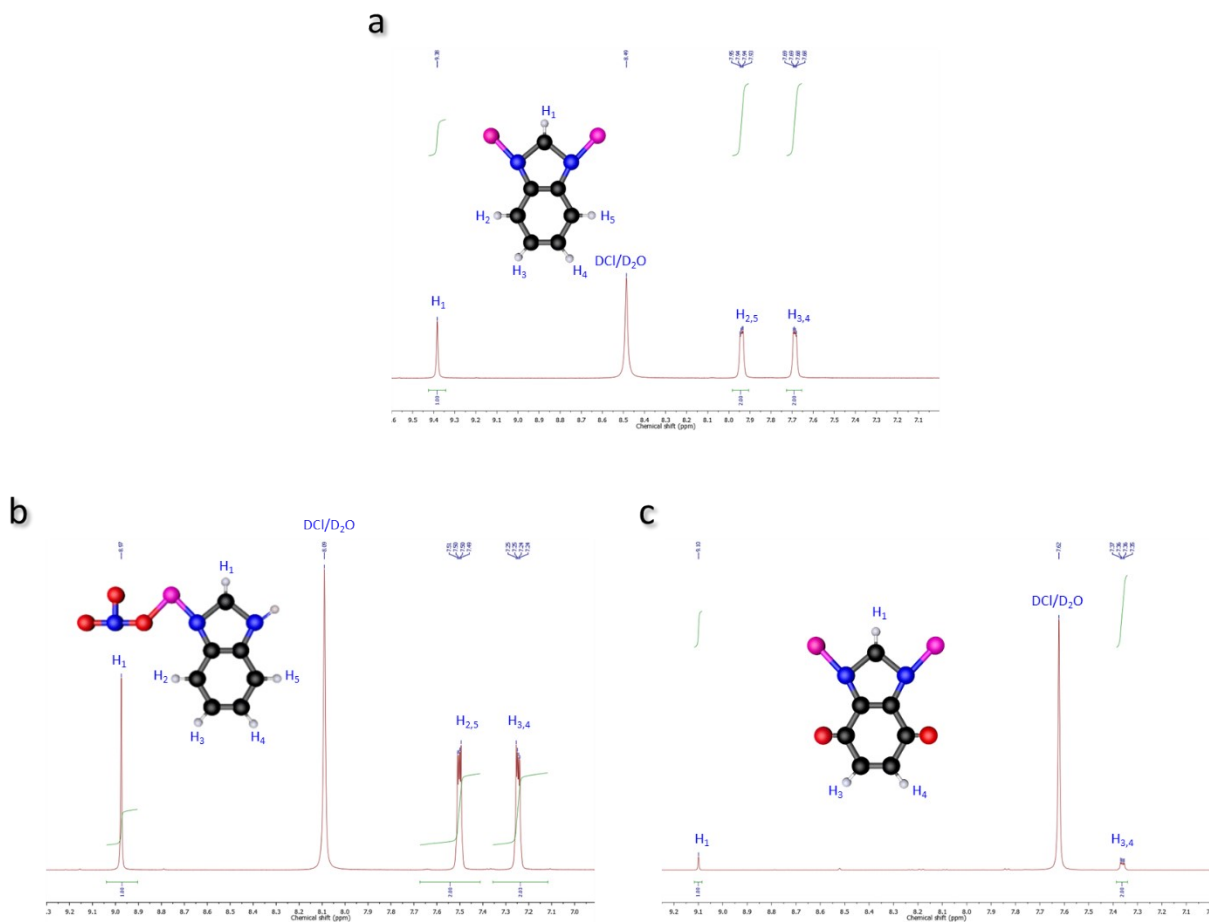
**Fig. S13.** FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal, ZNIC-8 liquid, and ZIF-8 foam at RT in the wavenumber range of (a) 400 – 2000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and (b) 2500 – 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



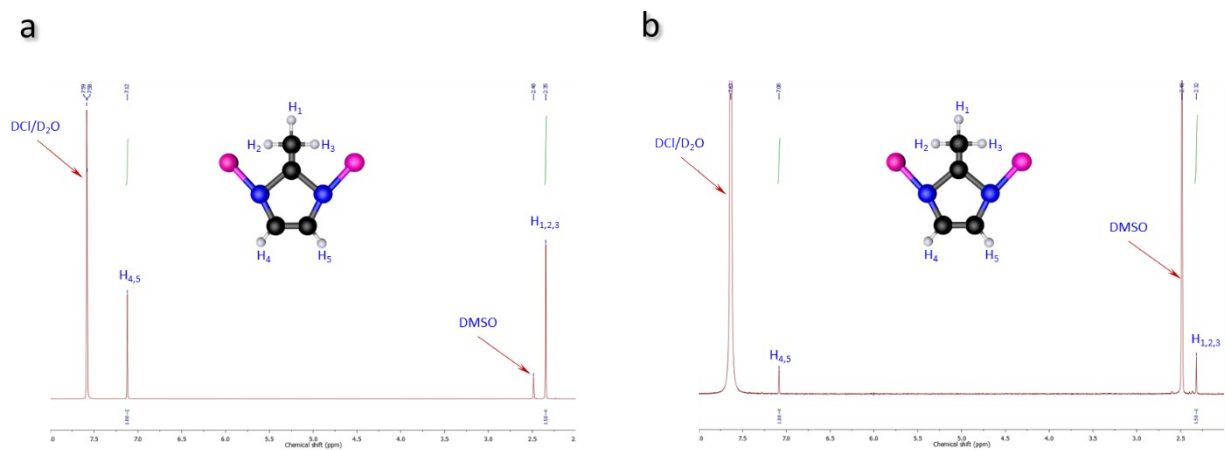
**Fig. S14.** FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal and ZIF-7 foam at RT in the wavenumber range of (a) 400 – 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and (b) 400 – 2000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



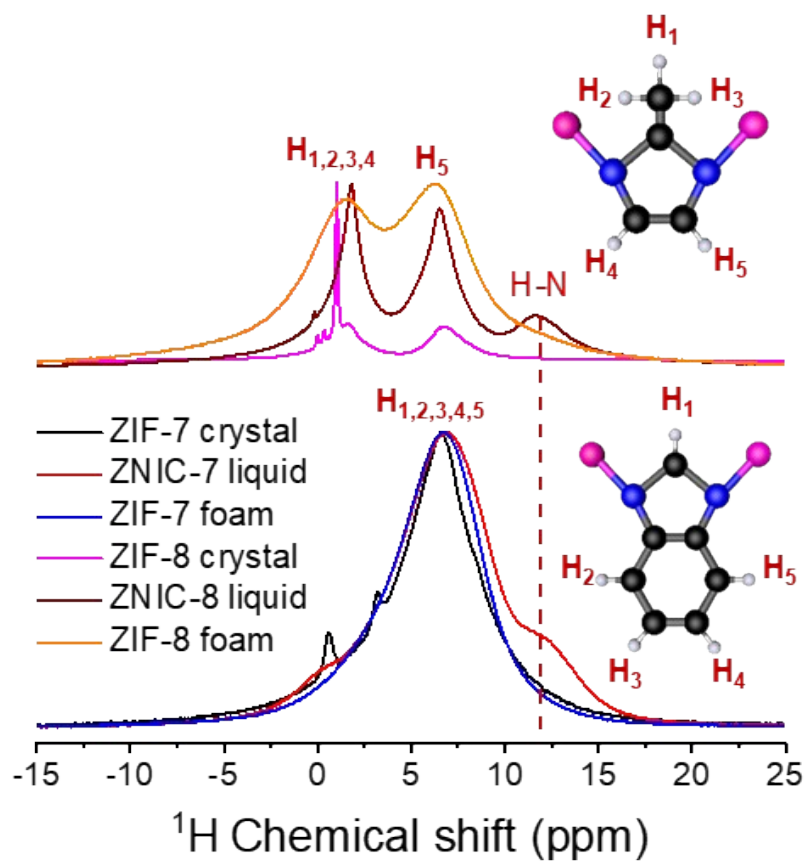
**Fig. S15.** FTIR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal and ZIF-8 foam at RT in the wavenumber range of (a) 400 – 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and (b) 400 – 2000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



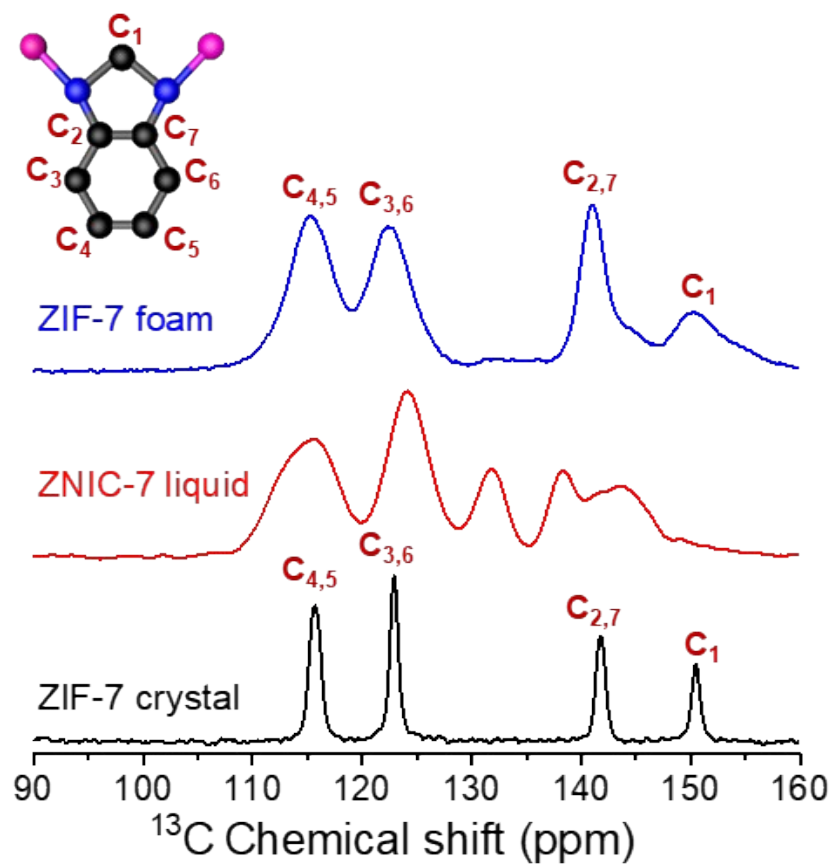
**Fig. S16.** Solution  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-7 crystal, (b) ZNIC-7 liquid, and (c) ZIF-7 foam at RT, including the proton integration values (green numbers) and the number of protons in each linker (blue numbers). The inset is the molecular structure of ZIF-7 before (left) and after (right) vitrification.



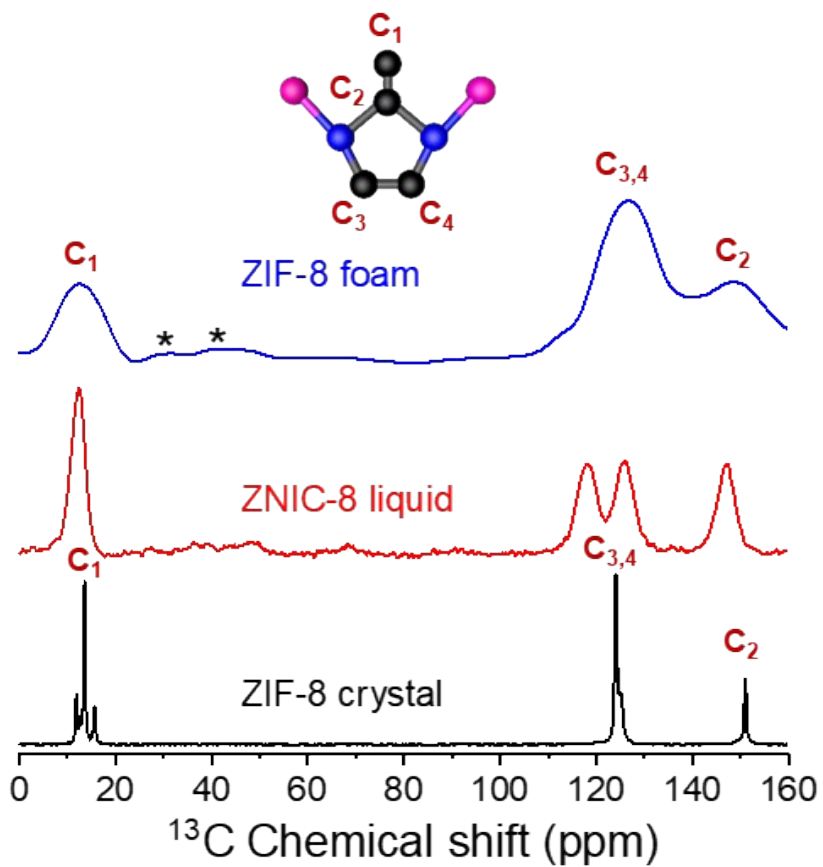
**Fig. S17.** Solution  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-8 crystal and (b) ZIF-8 foam at RT, including the proton integration values (green numbers) and the number of protons in each linker (blue numbers). The inset is the molecular structure of ZIF-8 before (left) and after (right) vitrification.



**Fig. S18.**  $^1\text{H}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZNIC-7 liquid, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, ZNIC-8 liquid, and ZIF-8 foam at RT. The inset is the molecular structure of ZIF-8 (up) and ZIF-7 (down).



**Fig. S19.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZNIC-7 liquid, and ZIF-7 foam at RT. The inset is the molecular structure of ZIF-7.

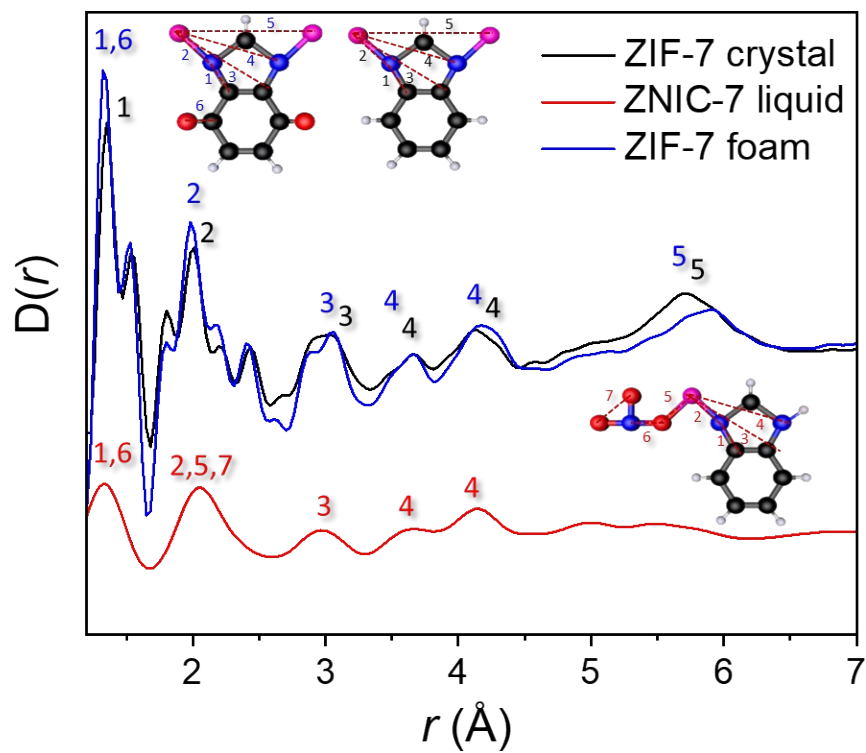


**Fig. S20.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS-NMR spectra of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal, ZNIC-8 liquid, and ZIF-8 foam at RT. Spinning sidebands are marked with asterisks. The inset is the molecular structure of ZIF-8.

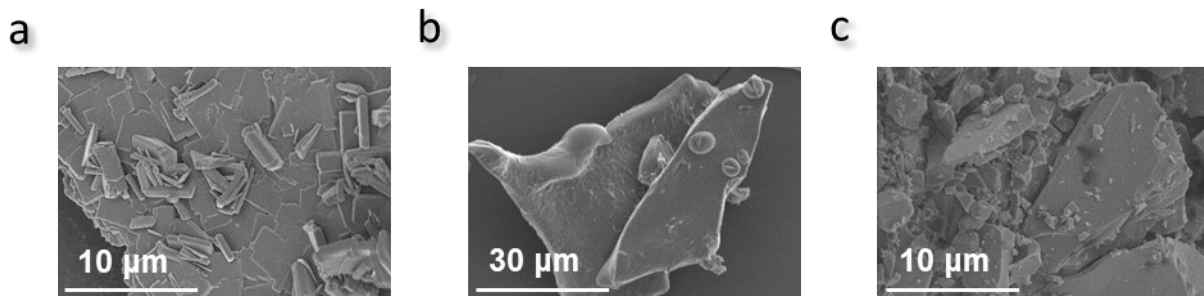


**Table S2.** Elemental analysis of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam by ICP-MS and CHNO measurements.

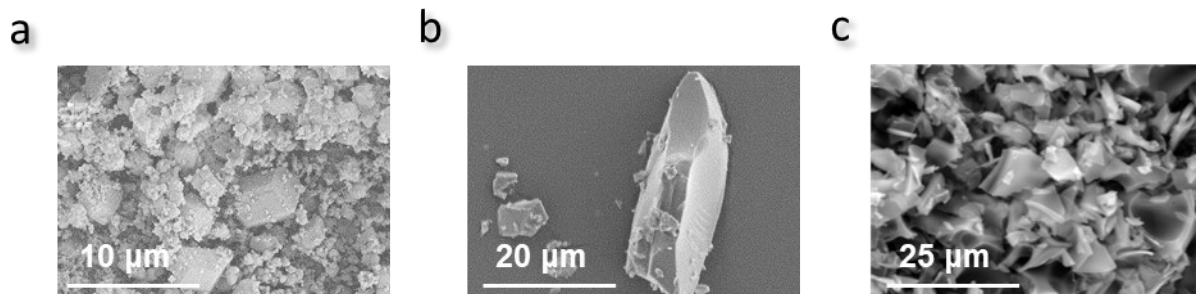
Sample	Calculated (wt%)					Measured (wt%)				
	Zn	N	C	H	O	Zn	N	C	H	O
ZIF-7 crystal $\text{Zn}(\text{C}_7\text{N}_2\text{H}_5)_2$	21.83	18.69	56.12	3.36	-	21.61	18.55	55.95	3.35	<0.01
ZIF-7 foam $\text{Zn}(\text{C}_7\text{N}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2$	18.18	15.58	46.76	1.68	17.80	18.37	15.44	46.34	1.61	17.75
ZIF-8 crystal $\text{Zn}(\text{C}_4\text{N}_2\text{H}_5)_2$	28.73	24.62	42.22	4.43	-	28.62	24.54	42.19	4.43	<0.01
ZIF-8 foam $\text{Zn}(\text{C}_4\text{N}_2\text{H}_5)_2$	28.73	24.62	42.22	4.43	-	29.96	23.98	41.13	4.21	<0.01



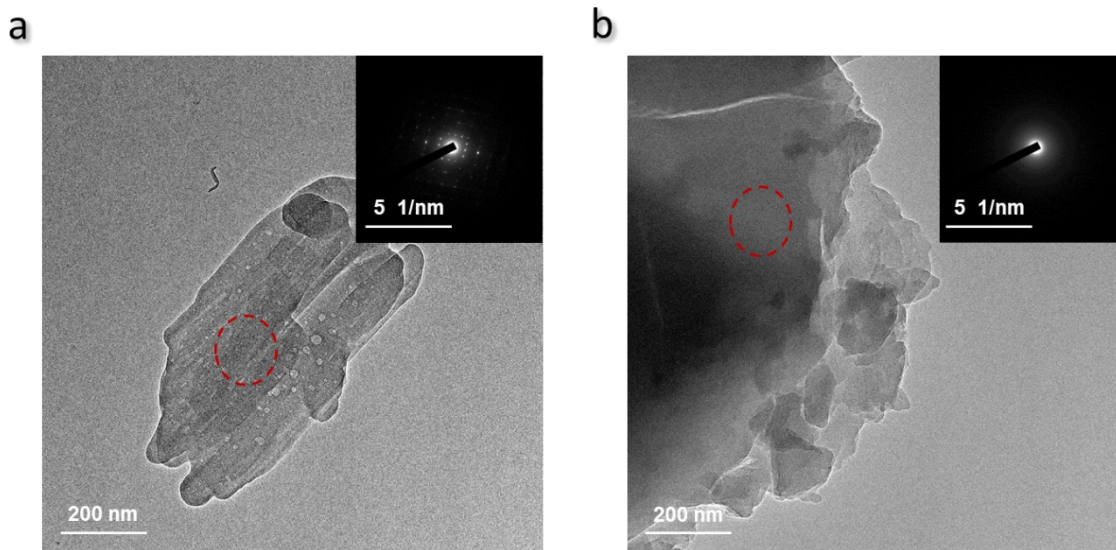
**Fig. S21.** X-ray PDF data of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZNIC liquid, and ZIF-7 foam.



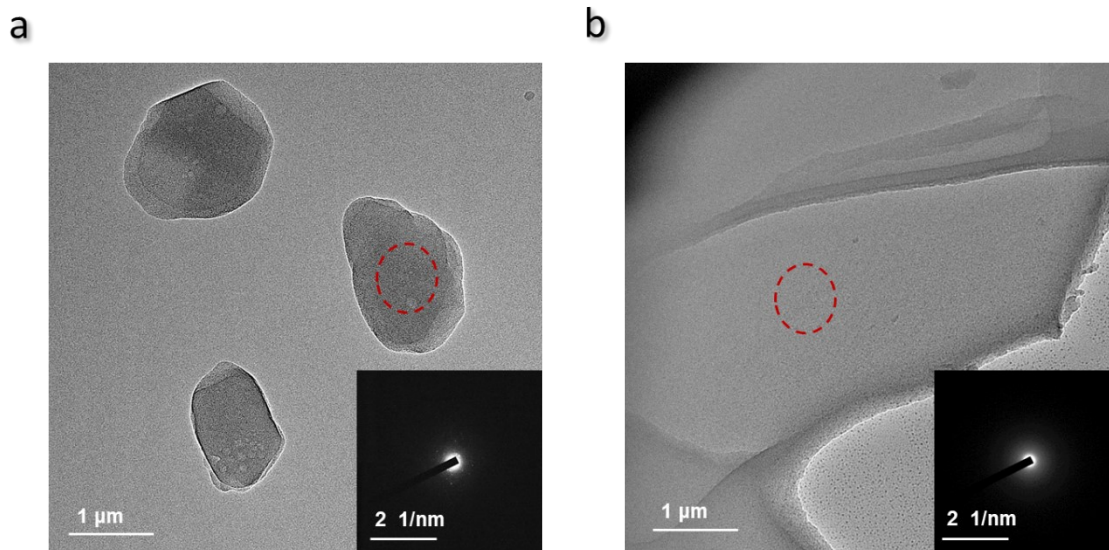
**Fig. S22.** SEM images of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-7 crystal, (b) ZNIC-7 liquid, and (c) ZIF-7 foam at RT.



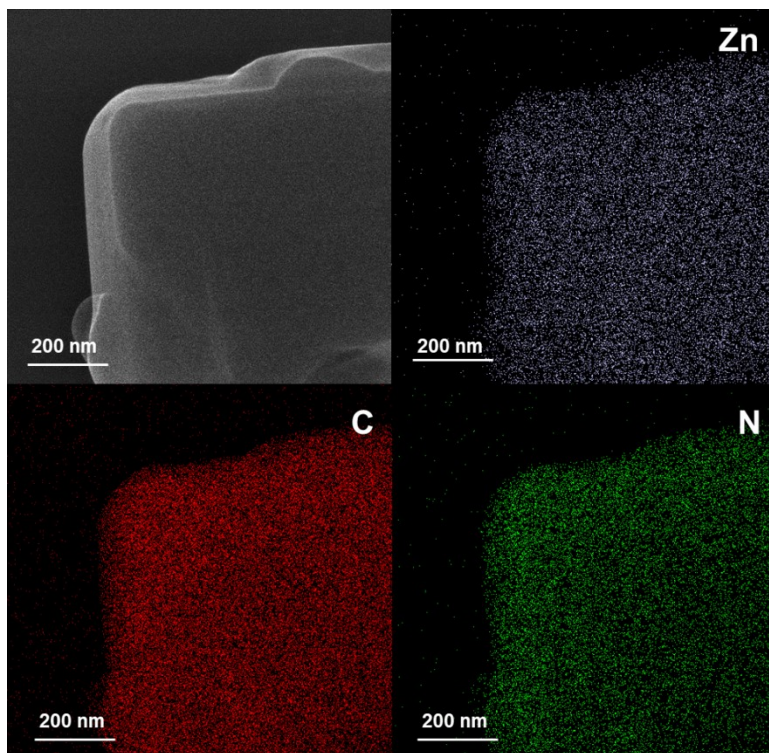
**Fig. S23.** SEM images of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-8 crystal, (b) ZNIC-8 liquid, and (c) ZIF-8 foam at RT.



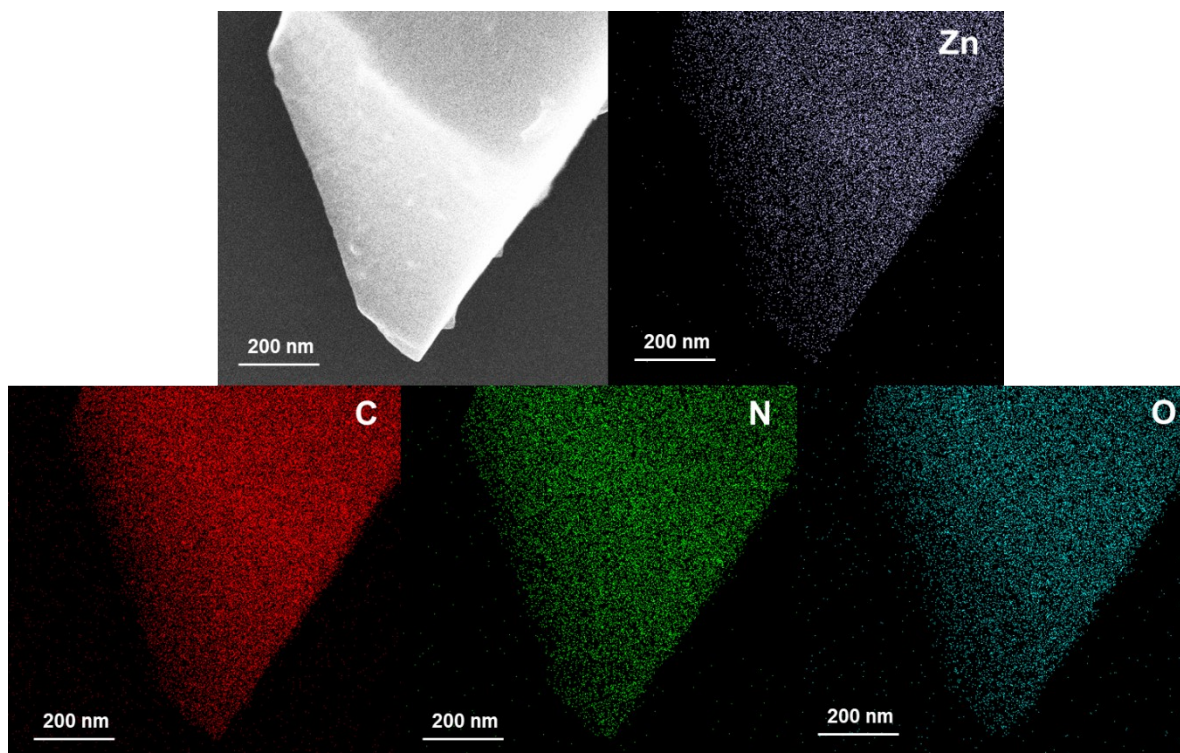
**Fig. S24.** TEM images of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-7 crystal and (b) ZIF-7 foam at RT. The inset of a and b are the SAED patterns of areas circled in red.



**Fig. S25.** TEM images of the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-8 crystal and (b) ZIF-8 foam at RT. The inset of a and b are the SAED patterns of areas circled in red.

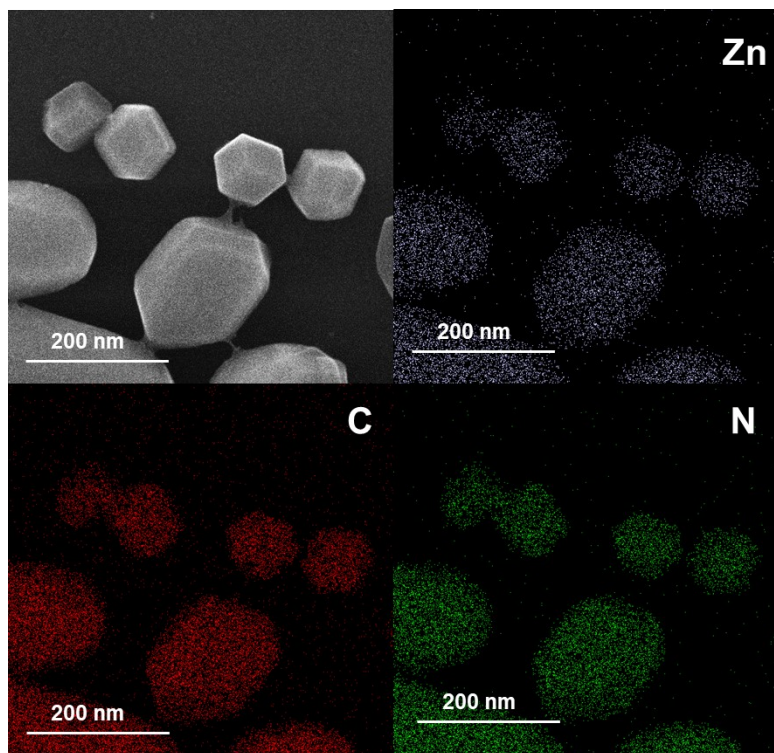


**Fig. S26.** TEM/EDS mappings of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal at RT.

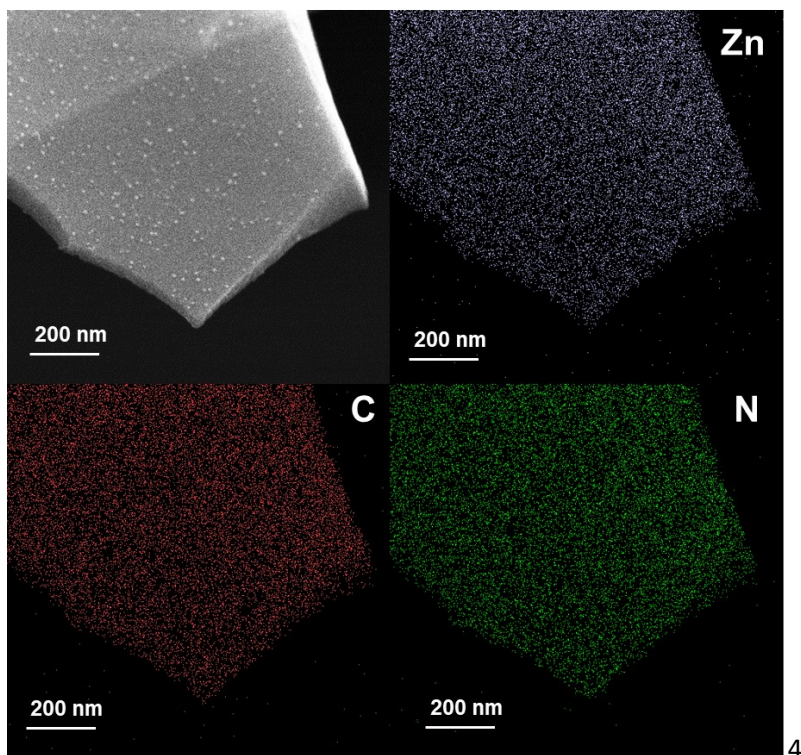


**Fig. S27.** TEM/EDS mappings of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 foam at RT.





**Fig. S28.** TEM/EDS mappings of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystal at RT.

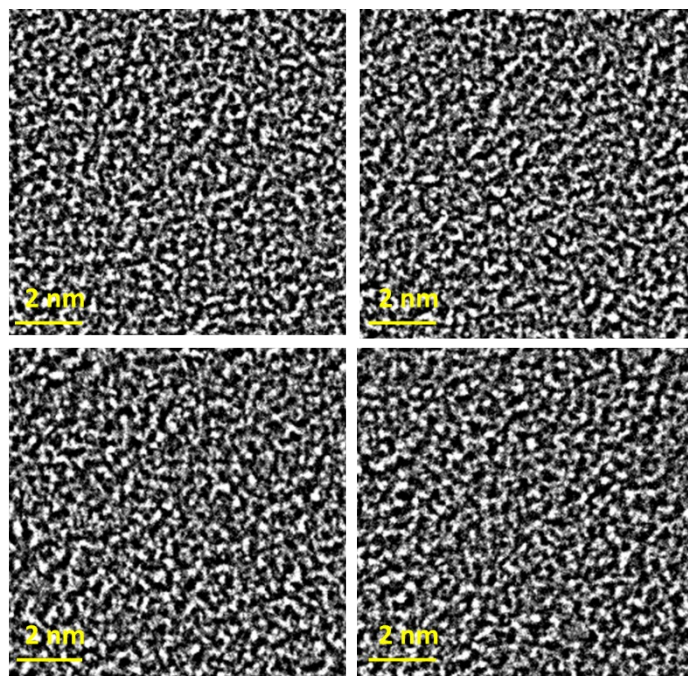


**Fig. S29.** TEM/EDS mappings of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 foam at RT.

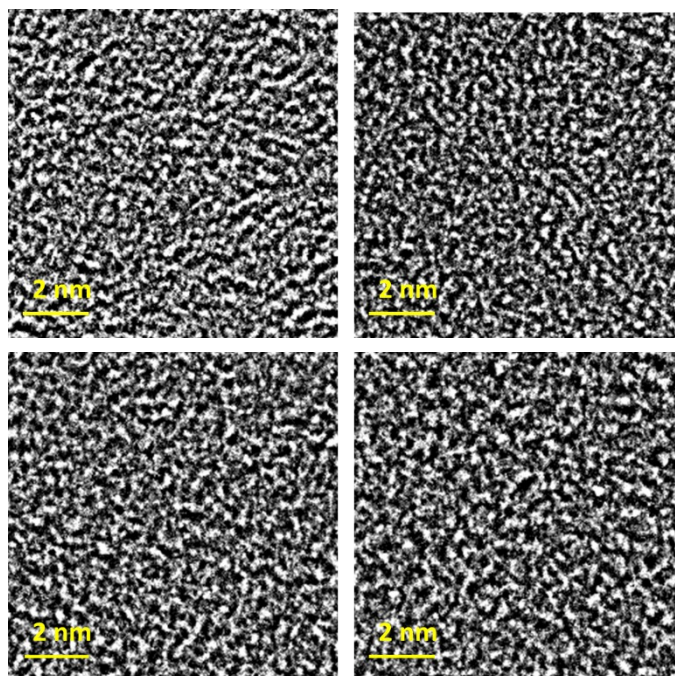
## **II. Gas adsorption of ZIF crystals and ZIF foams:**

Based on the BET model and DFT calculations for gas adsorption-desorption isotherms (Table S4), it is found that the N<sub>2</sub>-BET surface area/total pore volume for ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 foams are 19 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>/0.012 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> and 41 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>/0.074 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. On the other hand, the DFT calculations for the CO<sub>2</sub> gas adsorption-desorption (@ 273 K) suggest that the total pore volume in ZIF-7/ZIF-8 increases/decreases by 7.50/1.94 times after foam formation, respectively. The CO<sub>2</sub>-DFT surface area/total pore volume (@ 273 K) are found to be 7 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> / 0.002 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>, 60 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> / 0.015 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>, 133 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> / 0.031 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>, and 62 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> / 0.016 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> for ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam, respectively. In comparison with the melt-quenched ZIF glasses (e.g., ZIF-4, ZIF-62, ZIF-76, ZIF-8/IL, and ZIF-UC, and MUV-24),<sup>2,12,16,18-22</sup> both ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 foams synthesized by structural perturbation approach exhibit unique gas adsorption capabilities (Table S4). For example, the melt-quenched ZIF-76 and ZIF-UC glasses can only adsorb CO<sub>2</sub> gas at 273 K (30 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> for ZIF-76 glass and 18-42 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> for ZIF-UC glasses at 100 kPa),<sup>12,21</sup> and do not adsorb the larger N<sub>2</sub> gas molecules. In addition, the melt-quenched ZIF-4 and MUV-24 glasses do not demonstrate any signs for gas adsorption,<sup>20,22</sup> despite the formation of pores in ZIF-4 glass.<sup>23</sup> Similar to ZIF-76 and ZIF-UC glasses, ZIF-62 glass blocks the N<sub>2</sub> gas diffusion in glass, and hence exhibiting adsorption only for smaller gas molecules such as O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, and CO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>19</sup> It was reported that the porosity of ZIF-62 glass could be improved through the preparation of glass foam, allowing ZIF-62 glass to adsorb a minor amount of N<sub>2</sub> gas (~ 3 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> @ 77 K and 100 kPa) and CO<sub>2</sub> gas (~ 30 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> @ 273 K and 100 kPa).<sup>16</sup> Based on the N<sub>2</sub>-BET model, the total pore volume and BET surface area of ZIF-62 glass foam are 0.005 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> and 2.83 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>, which are relatively low. In addition, the non-pure ZIF-8/IL glass exhibits adsorption for CO<sub>2</sub> gas (10-15 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>) and

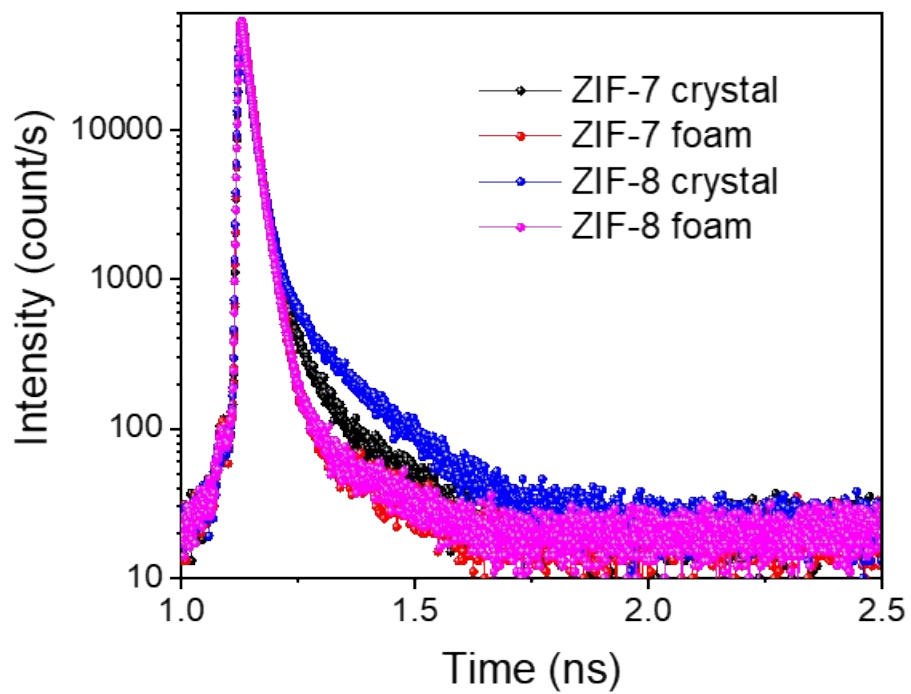
$\text{N}_2$  gas ( $5\text{-}10\text{ cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1}$ ) with a total pore volume ( $0.001\text{-}0.003\text{ cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1}$ ) and BET surface area ( $16\text{-}17\text{ m}^2\text{ g}^{-1}$ ).<sup>2</sup> Inspiringly, the as-synthesized ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 foams by structural perturbation approach demonstrate noteworthy adsorption capacities for various gases, including  $\text{N}_2$ . This stands in contrast to several melt-quenched ZIF glasses, which are unable to adsorb  $\text{N}_2$  gas. These two ZIF foams obtained from this work record relatively high  $\text{N}_2$  gas uptake of  $7.50\text{ cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1}$  and  $47.94\text{ cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1}$ , respectively. Moreover, compared with the melt-quenched ZIF glasses, both ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 foams display the highest total pore volume ( $0.012\text{-}0.074\text{ cm}^3\text{ g}^{-1}$ ) and BET surface area ( $19\text{-}41\text{ m}^2\text{ g}^{-1}$ ) based on the  $\text{N}_2$ -BET model. Remarkably, we have also observed that the as-synthesized ZIF foam exhibiting a higher gas adsorption capacity than the parent ZIF crystal, as seen in ZIF-7. This phenomenon seems to stem from the enlargement of pore size resulting from foaming.<sup>17</sup> The gas adsorption in melt-quenched ZIF glasses usually demonstrates lower levels compared to their respective ZIF crystals due to the pore collapse occurring upon vitrification.<sup>12,21</sup> Yet, the amorphization process of ZIF-7 crystal induces to a transformation in the network's dimensionality, shifting from 2D to shapeless network. Consequently, this transformation results in an increase of both pore size and gas adsorption capacities.<sup>16,17</sup>



**Fig. S30.** HR-TEM images of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 foam observed at different areas.



**Fig. S31.** HR-TEM images of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 foam observed at different areas.

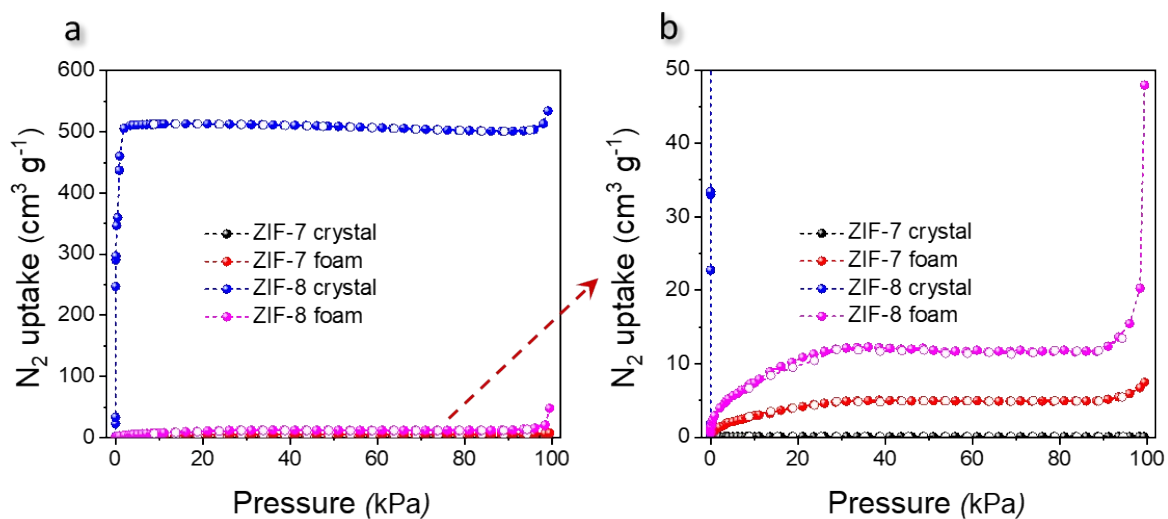


**Fig. S32.** PALS decay curves of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam.

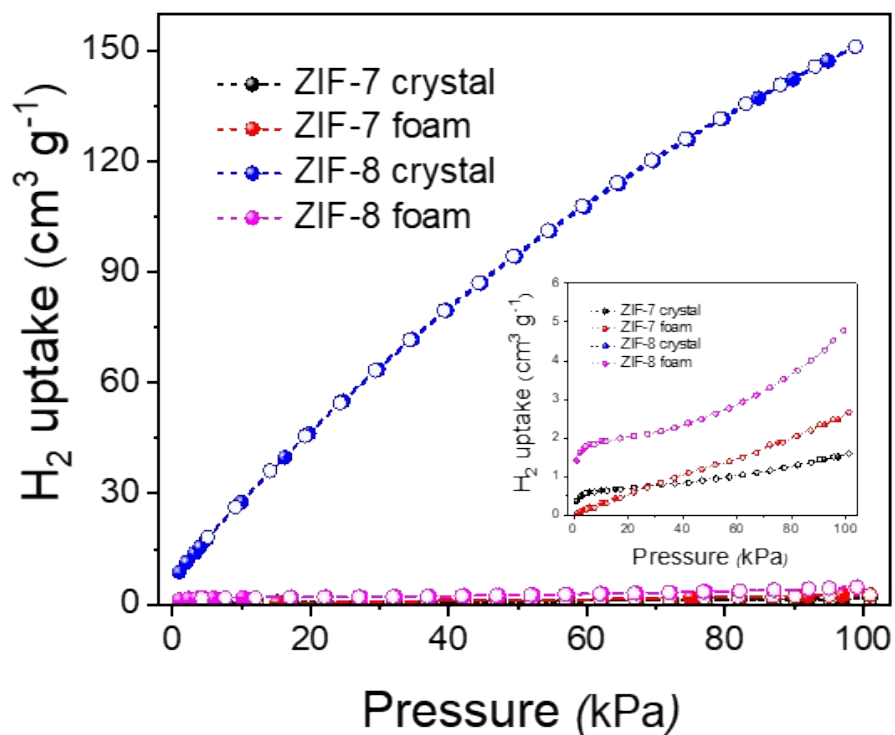
**Table S3.** PALS results for the as-synthesized ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 crystals and their foams.  $\tau_3$ ,  $I_3$ ,  $D_3$ ,  $V_f$ , and FFV are the lifetime, intensity, pore diameter, pore volume and fractional free volume at the third part of the decay curves, respectively.

Sample	$\tau_3$ (ns)	$I_3$ (%)	$D_3$ (Å)	$V_f$ (Å <sup>3</sup> )	FFV(%)
ZIF-7 crystal	2.003	6.1	5.702	97.066	1.080
ZIF-7 foam	2.275	1.9	6.176	123.341	0.430
ZIF-8 crystal	2.517	11.5	6.562	147.943	3.070
ZIF-8 foam	2.295	2.2	6.210	125.389	0.490

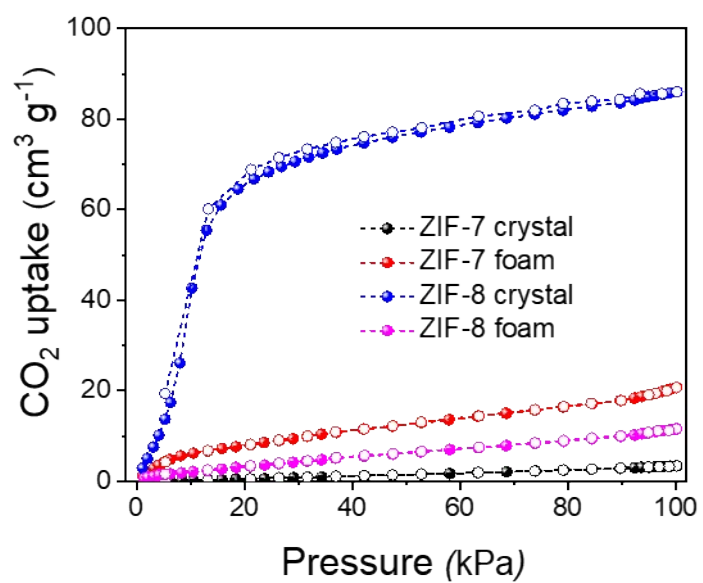




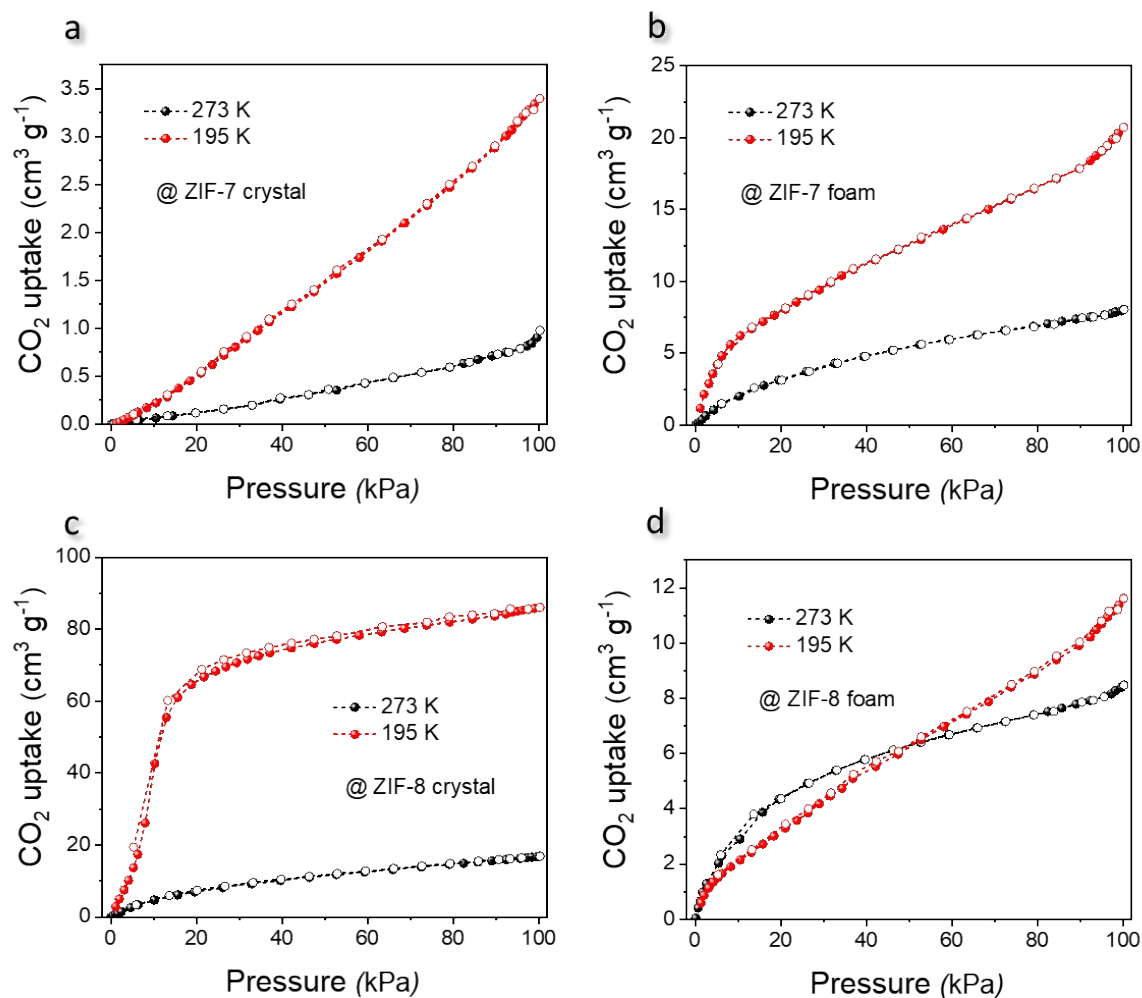
**Fig. S33.** (a) N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam at 77 K. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption. (b) the magnified N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms of a at the range of N<sub>2</sub> uptake of 0-50 cm<sup>3</sup>g<sup>-1</sup>.



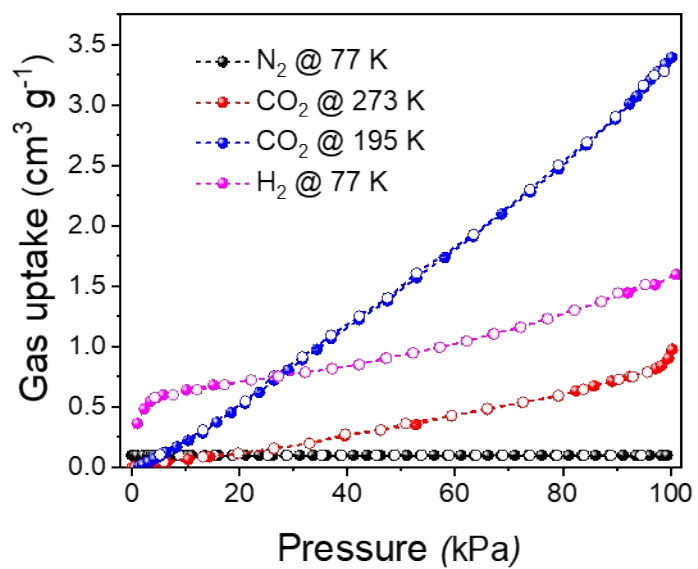
**Fig. S34.** H<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam at 77 K. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.



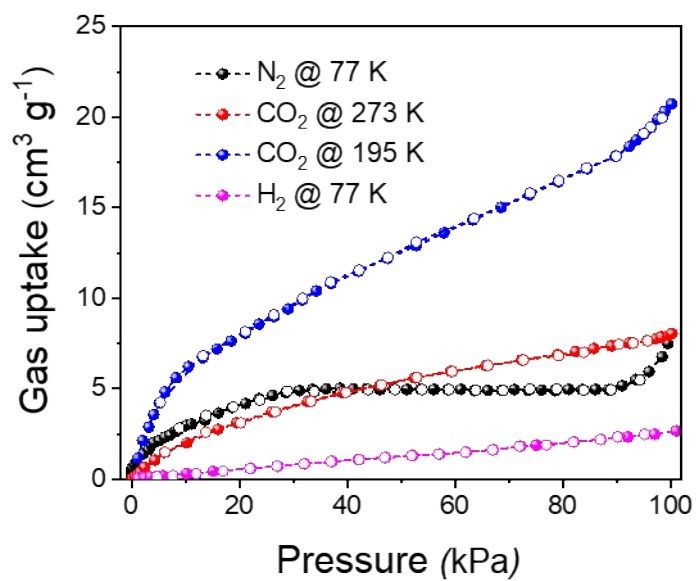
**Fig. S35.** CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystal, ZIF-7 foam, ZIF-8 crystal, and ZIF-8 foam at 195 K. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.



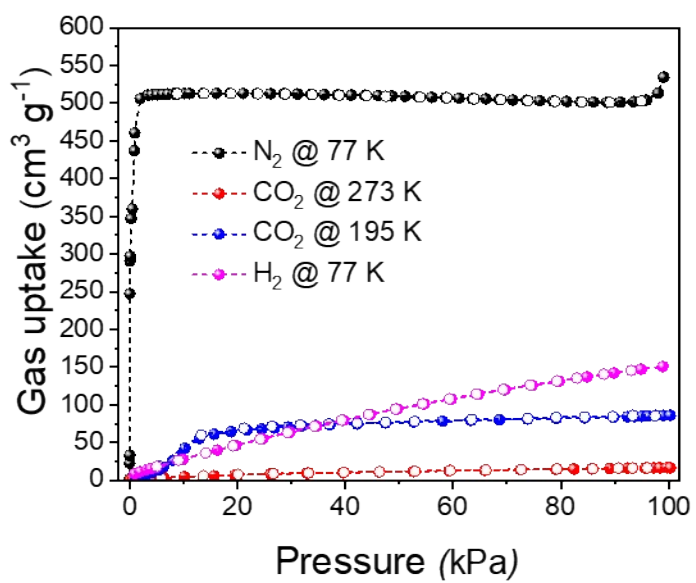
**Fig. S36.** CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for the as-synthesized (a) ZIF-7 crystal, (b) ZIF-7 foam, (c) ZIF-8 crystal, and (d) ZIF-8 foam at 273 K and 195 K. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption. The CO<sub>2</sub> gas adsorption measurements conducted at lower temperatures (i.e., from 273 K to 195 K) further validate the increased gas adsorption by ZIFs. This suggests the potential for CO<sub>2</sub> diffusion into the pores at lower temperatures, likely facilitated by the transition of CO<sub>2</sub> from a gaseous to a liquid state, contributing to enhanced adsorption. The N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, and CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms do not show any hysteresis effect, implying that the diffusion limitations are minimized for these gases.



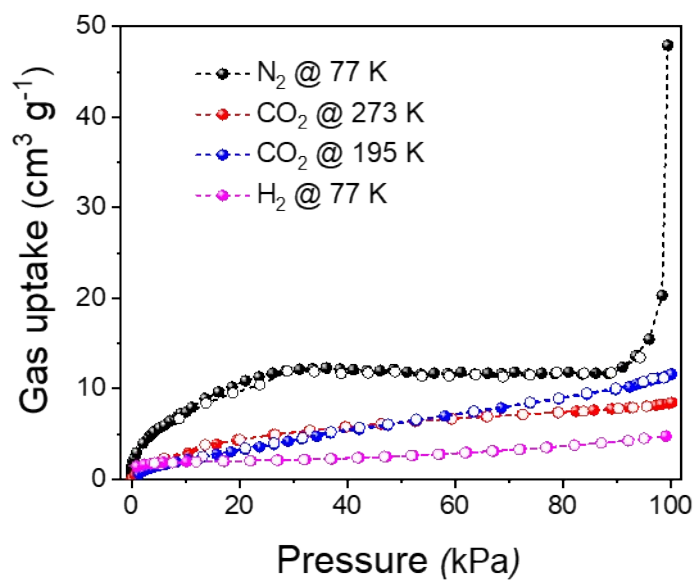
**Fig. S37.** Gas adsorption isotherms of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 crystals. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.



**Fig. S38.** Gas adsorption isotherms of the as-synthesized ZIF-7 foam. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.



**Fig. S39.** Gas adsorption isotherms of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 crystals. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.

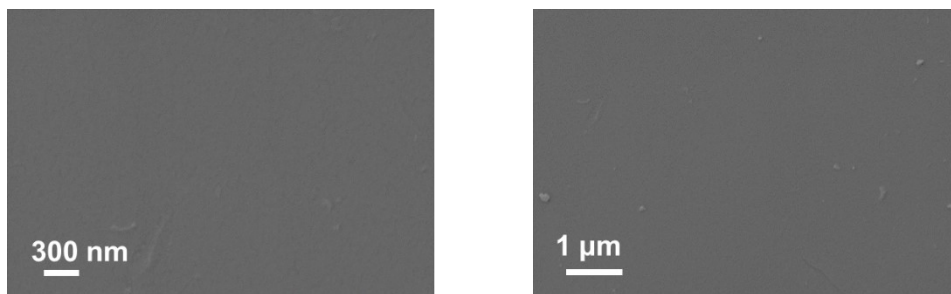


**Fig. S40.** Gas adsorption isotherms of the as-synthesized ZIF-8 foam. Filled symbols = adsorption, empty symbols = desorption.

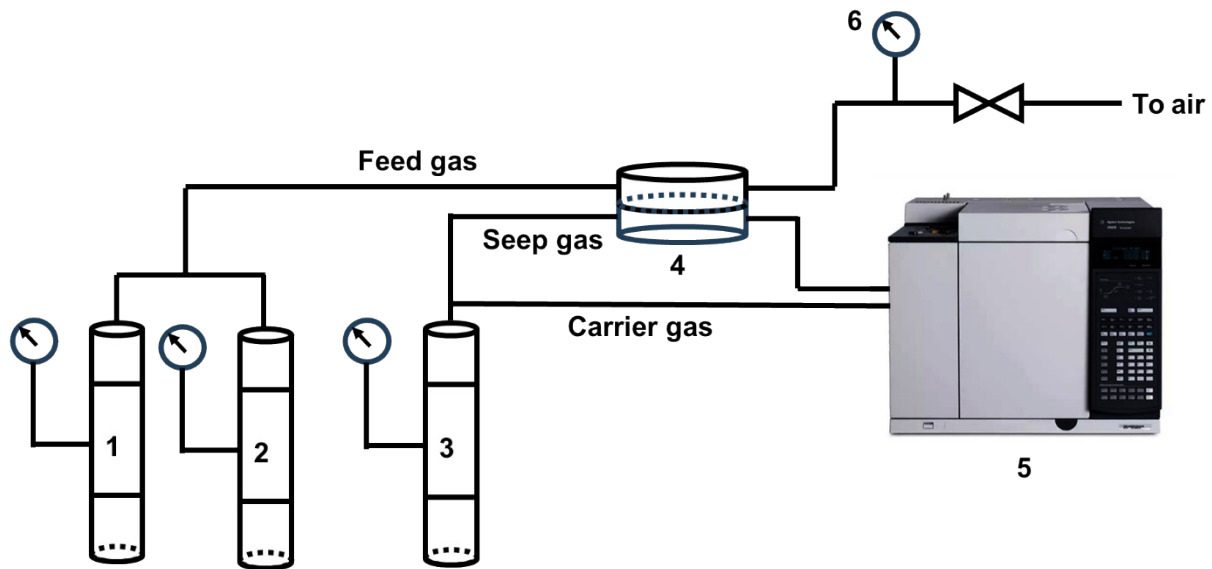


**Table S4.** Summary of the porosity characteristics of ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 foams derived from ZIF-7 and ZIF-8 crystals. The porosity parameters of the melt-quenched ZIF glasses are provided for comparison.

Sample	BET model (N <sub>2</sub> /77 K)			DFT model (CO <sub>2</sub> / 273 K)			CO <sub>2</sub> uptake (195 K) at 100 kPa (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> uptake (77 K) at 100 kPa (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Total pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	N <sub>2</sub> uptake at 100 kPa (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Total pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	CO <sub>2</sub> uptake at 100 kPa (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )			
ZIF-7 crystal	-	-	-	7	0.002	1	3.40	1.60	This work
ZIF-7 foam	19	0.012	7.50	60	0.015	8.05	20.73	2.67	This work
ZIF-8 crystal	1438	0.826	534.39	133	0.031	16.85	86.05	151	This work
ZIF-8 foam	41	0.074	47.94	62	0.016	8.47	11.62	4.77	This work
ZIF-4 glass	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
ZIF-62 glass	-	-	-	-	-	20.1	-	9.3	19
ZIF-62 glass foam	2.83	0.005	3	-	-	30	-	-	16
ZIF-76 glass	-	-	-	375	0.12	35	-	-	12
ZIF-8/IL glass	16-17	0.001-0.003	5-10	-	-	10-15	-	-	2
ZIF-UC glass	-	-	-	-	-	18-42	-	-	21
MUV-24 glass	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22

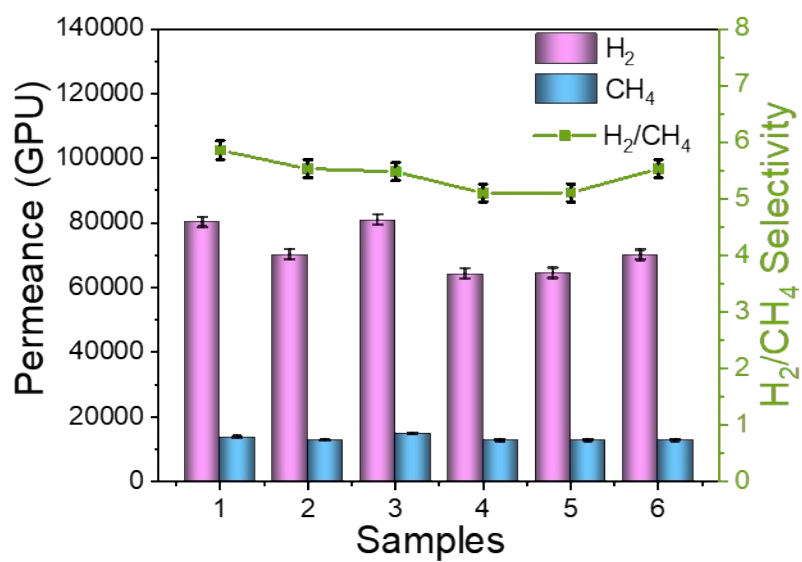


**Fig. S41.** SEM images of the as-fabricated membrane based on ZIF-7 foam observed at different areas.



1-2. Feed gas 3. Sweep or Carrier gas 4. membrane cell 5. Agilent gas chromatograph 6. pressure gauge

Fig. S42. Schematic diagram of the custom-made constant volume-variable pressure gas permeability test.



**Fig. S43.** Pure H<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> gas permeance and H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> selectivity of the as-fabricated membrane based on ZIF-8 foam that measured for six membranes with a thickness of 460 μm. The x-axis represents the sample number which was prepared under the same conditions.

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