# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Sorption behaviour in a unique 3,12-connected zinc-organic framework with 2.4 nm cages

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#### **S1.** General Experimental Procedures

#### 1.1. Materials and Methods.

Reactions were carried out in 23 ml glass vials under autogenous pressure. All the reactants are of reagent-grade quality and used as purchased commercially without further purification. The power X-ray diffraction patterns (PXRD) were collected by a Rigaku D using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ =0.154 nm). Single gas adsorption measurements were performed in the Accelerated Surface Area and Porosimetry 2020 (ASAP 2020) System. Elemental analyses for C, H, N were carried out on a German Elementary Vario EL III instrument. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were recorded on a NETZSCH STA 449C unit at a heating rate of 10 °C · min<sup>-1</sup> under flowing nitrogen atmosphere.

#### **1.2.** Synthesis of [Zn<sub>9</sub>(BTB)<sub>4</sub>(odabco)<sub>3</sub>(µ<sub>3</sub>-O)<sub>3</sub>(µ<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>]•16DEF (FJI-2)

A mixture of  $Zn(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.10 mmol, 30 mg), H<sub>3</sub>BTB (0.05 mmol, 22 mg, H<sub>3</sub>BTB = 1,3,5-Tris(4-carboxyphenyl)benzene) and dabco (0.10 mmol, 11 mg, dabco = 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]-octane) in N,N'-diethylformamide (DEF) (5 ml) with an additional HBF<sub>4</sub> (0.1 ml, Tetrafluoroboric acid, 40% in water) was sealed in a 23 ml glass vial, which was heated at 85 °C for 4 days, and cooled down to room-temperature. It's worth noting that in the formula of **FJI-2**, the odabco is the product of *in situ* mono-oxidation of the dabco ligand as depicted in the Scheme S1. After washed by fresh acetone, the colorless crystals of **FJI-2** were obtained in *ca*. 66% yield based on the BTB ligand. Elemental analysis was calculated for **FJI-2**: C, 55.26%; H, 6.12%; N, 6.88%. Found: C, 54.66%; H, 5.91%; N, 6.83%. The phase purity of the sample was confirmed by powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) and more details are shown below in Section S5.



Scheme S1. The synthesis of FJI-2.



Figure S1.Photographic and SEM images of the acetone-exchanged FJI-2.

#### S2. Single-Crystal X-ray Crystallography

The structures data of compound **FJI-2** was collected on a Rigaku Mercury CCD diffractometer equipped with a graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ =0.71073Å) at room temperature and the structure was resolved by the direct method and refined by full-matrix least-squares fitting on  $F^2$  by SHELX-97.<sup>S1</sup> Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters at 173 (2) K for **FJI-2** are listed in Table S1. We employed PLATON/SQUEEZE<sup>S2</sup> to calculate the contribution to the diffraction from the solvent region and thereby produced a set of solvent-free diffraction intensities. The final formula of **FJI-2** was calculated from the SQUEEZE<sup>S2</sup> results combined with elemental analysis data and TGA data. More details on the crystallographic studies as well as atomic displacement parameters are given in Supporting Information as CIF files. Crystallographic data for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited. The following crystal structure has been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre and allocated the deposition number (CCDC No.) 943717 for **FJI-2**.

Items	FJI-2-T173K
chemical formula	$C_{11}H_5N_{0.50}O_3Zn_{0.75}$
formula mass	241.18
crystal system	Cubic
space group	Im-3 (#. 204)
<i>a</i> (Å)	27.3685 (2)
b (Å)	27.3685 (2)
<i>c</i> (Å)	27.3685 (2)
α (°)	90.00
$\beta$ (°)	90.00
γ(°)	90.00
unit cell volume ( $Å^3$ )	20500.0 (3)
temperature (K)	173 (2)
Z	48
F(000)	5808
no. of reflections measured	16467
no. of independent reflections	3190
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0841
final R1 values (I>2σ(I))	0.0799
final wR ( $F^2$ ) values ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.2527
goodness of fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.092
flack parameter	0.00(2)

### Table S1. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for FJI-2 at 173 (2) K.



### S3. Additional X-ray Crystal Structural and Topological Figures

Figure S2. The structural components of FJI-2.



**Figure S3.** The coordination environment of two crystallographically different Zn(II) centers observed in **FJI-2**.



**Figure S4.** Simplified Zn<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> SBUs in **FJI-2**.



**Figure S5.** Topological analysis of **FJI-2**, BTB ligands as 3-connected nodes and  $Zn_6O_6$  SBUs as 12-connected nodes.

### S4. Topological Analysis Results by TOPOS 4.0

#### 

1:C11 H5 N0.50 O3 Zn0.75

Topology for **BTB** 1

-----

Atom Sc1 links by bridge ligands and has

Common vertex with				R(A-A)	
0.0000	0.5000	0.0000	(000)	11.395A	1
0.0000	0.0000	0.5000	(000)	11.395A	1
0.5000	0.0000	0.0000	(000)	11.395A	1
	vertex with 0.0000 0.0000 0.5000	vertex with 0.0000 0.5000 0.0000 0.0000 0.5000 0.0000	vertex with         0.0000       0.5000       0.0000         0.0000       0.0000       0.5000         0.5000       0.0000       0.0000	vertex with         0.0000       0.5000       0.0000       ( 0 0 0)         0.0000       0.0000       0.5000       ( 0 0 0)         0.5000       0.0000       0.0000       ( 0 0 0)	vertex with         R(A-A)           0.0000         0.5000         0.0000         ( 0 0 0 )         11.395A           0.0000         0.0000         0.5000         ( 0 0 0 )         11.395A           0.5000         0.0000         0.0000         ( 0 0 0 )         11.395A

Topology for **BTB** 1

-----

#### Atom Ti1 links by bridge ligands and has

Common v	ertex with				R(A-A)	
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.2139	0.2139	0.2139	(000)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.7861	-0.2139	-0.2139	(100)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.2139	-0.2139	-0.2139	(000)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.2139	-0.2139	0.2139	(000)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.7861	-0.2139	0.2139	(100)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.2139	0.2139	-0.2139	(000)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.7861	0.2139	-0.2139	(100)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.7861	0.2139	0.2139	(100)	11.395A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.5000	0.0000	-0.5000	(00-1)	13.684A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.5000	0.0000	0.5000	(000)	13.684A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.5000	-0.5000	0.0000	(0-1-1)	13.684A	1
<b>Zn<sub>6</sub>O</b> <sub>6</sub> 1	0.5000	0.5000	0.0000	(00-1)	13.684A	1

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Structural group analysis

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Structural group No 1

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Structure consists of 3D framework with **Zn<sub>6</sub>O<sub>63</sub>BTB**<sub>8</sub>

**Coordination sequences** 

-----

 BTB 1:
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10

 Num
 3
 27
 67
 130
 227
 343
 472
 632
 805
 1009

 Cum
 4
 31
 98
 228
 455
 798
 1270
 1902
 2707
 3716

-----

**Zn<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 1**: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Num 12 36 84 162 260 374 516 674 860 1062 Cum 13 49 133 295 555 929 1445 2119 2979 4041

-----

TD10=3804

Vertex symbols for selected sublattice

\_\_\_\_\_

BTB Point (Schlafli) symbol:{4^3}

Extended point symbol: [4(2).4(2).4(2)]

\_\_\_\_\_

**Zn<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>** Point (Schlafli) symbol:{4^28.6^34.8^4}

Extended point symbol:

).6(7).6(7).6(7).6(7).6(8).6(8).8(24).8(24).8(24).8(24)]

-----

Point (Schlafli) symbol for net: {4^28.6^34.8^4}3{4^3}8

3,12-c net with stoichiometry (3-c)8(12-c)3; 2-nodal net

New topology.





**Figure S6.** PXRD patterns of **FJI-2**: a) simulated from the crystallographic information file; b) from the as-prepared sample; c) from the desolvated sample activated at 135 oC.



#### **S6.** Thermal Gravimetric Plots

**Figure S7.** TGA curves for **FJI-2** and desolvated **FJI2** activated at 135 °C, and three other famous MOF materials with similar trend in temperature range from 150 to 300 °C.

We notice that the weight loss occurred in the temperature range from 150 degrees to 300 degrees is very common phenomenon in the field of MOF materials,<sup>\$3-\$5</sup> as depicted in Figure S7. Although we are unable to predict what exactly happen in this temperature region, we boldly assume that it could be caused by the weakened coordination bonds between the metal centers and the organic ligands or even the decomposition of ligands in the framework as the temperature increases.<sup>\$6</sup>

### **S7. Elemental Analysis**

	C(%)	H(%)	N(%)
Calculated	55.26	6.12	6.88
As-synthesized	54.66	5.91	6.83
Activated @135 °C	53.78	4.47	3.15

#### Table S2. Elemental Analysis of FJI-2 with Different Treatment.

As for the elemental analysis of C, H and N for **FJI-2** and desolvated **FJI-2** materials, this difference in these elements are mainly caused by the removal of guest molecules, including the small  $H_2O$  and *N.N'*-diethylformamide (DEF) molecules.

#### **S8** Gas Sorption Test

 $N_2$ ,  $H_2$  and  $CO_2$  Isotherms. N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> isotherms were determined using an IGA gravimetric adsorption apparatus at the Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter in a clean ultra high vacuum system. Before measurements, about 100 mg acetone-exchanged samples were loaded into the sample basket within the adsorption instrument and then degassed under dynamic vacuum at 135 °C for 10 h to obtain the fully desolvated samples.



Figure S8. N2 adsorption-desorption isotherms for activated FJI-2 at 77 K.



**Figure S9**: The BET surface area report of **FJI-2** sample obtained by N<sub>2</sub> adsorption data at 77 K on MicroActive Version 1.01.



Figure S10: Pore size distribution for activated FJI-2 calculated by NLDFT.

H<sub>2</sub> at 77 K and 87 K, CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> isotherms measured at 273 K and 295 K for

IFJI-2 were fit to the following Equation

In Fig. 3b, the adsorption heat  $(Q_{st})$  of hydrogen for the desolvated FJI-2 is fitted by Virial method using the data obtained from 77 K and 87 K.

$$\ln(p) = \ln(N) + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i * N_i + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=0}^{m} a_j * N_j$$

- N: adsorbed quantity (mg/g);
- p: pressure (mmHg);
- T: Temperature (K);
- ai, bj: Constant;
- R: 8.314 J·mol<sup>-1</sup>·K<sup>-1</sup>;

The isosteric enthalpy of adsorption  $(Q_{st})$ :

$$Q_{st} = ln(p) = -R*\sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i * N_i$$



Figure S11: H2 sorption isotherms for FJI-2 at 77 and 87 K.



**Figure S12**: Nonlinear curve fitting of  $H_2$  adsorption isotherms for **FJI-2** at 77 K and 87 K.

		Value	Standard Error	
	a0*	-863.27827	1.90691	
	a1*	39.34858	0.72549	
	a2*	-3.45452	0.10874	
	a3*	0.12442	0.01619	
ln(P)	a4*	-0.00632	0.00121	
	a5*	1.50277E-4	3.33409E-5	
	b0*	12.77152	0.022	
	b1*	-0.2453	0.00786	
	b2*	0.02721	6.4853E-4	
	k	77	0	
	k	87	0	

y=ln(x)+1/k\*(a0+a1\*x+a2\*x^2+a3\*x^3+a4\*x^4+a5\*x^5)+(b0+b1\*x+b2\*x^2)



Figure S13: Heats of adsorption for H2 in FJI-2.

#### **S9 IAST adsorption selectivity calculation**

We adopt the ideal adsorbed solution theory (IAST)<sup>S7</sup> based upon the experimental single gas adsorption measurements as listed in the following pages, including carbon dioxide, methane and nitrogen at 273 K and 295 K, which is commonly used to predict binary mixture adsorption selectivity. Using the pure component isotherm fits, the adsorption selectivity is defined by

$$S_{ads} = (q_1/q_2)/(p_1/p_2),$$

where  $q_i$  is the amount of i adsorbed and  $p_i$  is the partial pressure of i in the mixture.

We us the following written codes to simulate the adsorption selectivity of  $CO_2$ over  $CH_4$  or  $N_2$  in Fig. 3d,

28	# No. of Pressure Point
y1, y2	# Molar fraction of binary mixture (y1 and y2, y1 + y2 = 1)
1, 2, 3, 4,	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 101, 102, 103,
104, 105,	106, 107, 108, 109 #The unit is same parameter b, kPa
a1, a1	# fitting parameter Nsat1(A1) for both component (Unit: mmol/g)
b1, b1	# fitting parameter b1 for both component (Unit: kPa <sup>-1</sup> )
c1, c1	# fitting parameter c1 for both component
0, 0	# fitting parameter Nsat2(A2) for both component(Unit: mmol/g)
0, 0	# fitting parameter b2 for both component (Unit: kPa <sup>-1</sup> )
1, 1	# fitting parameter c2 for both component



Figure S14: CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for FJI-2 at 273 K and 295 K.



Figure S15: CH<sub>4</sub> adsorption isotherms for FJI-2 at 273 K and 295 K.

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Figure S16: N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms for FJI-2 at 273 K and 295 K.



Figure S17: (a) CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherm curves in the range of  $0 \sim 110$  kPa at 273 K. (b) Adsorption selectivity of CO<sub>2</sub> over CH<sub>4</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>.

# Selectivity Data of CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> (15:85) at 273 K

	A(X)	B(Y)	C(Y)	D(Y)	E(Y)	F(Y)
Long Name	Pressure	N1	N2	x1	х2	Selecti∨ity
Units	kPa	mmol/g	mmol/g			
Comments						
Sparklines			$\square$	<u>\</u> .		
1	1	0.02305	0.00253	0.90105	0.09895	51.60106
2	2	0.04037	0.00522	0.88558	0.11442	43.8577
З	3	0.05597	0.00793	0.87586	0.12414	39.98196
4	4	0.07053	0.01066	0.86875	0.13125	37.5074
5	5	0.08434	0.01337	0.86315	0.13685	35.74118
6	6	0.09756	0.01607	0.85856	0.14144	34.39619
7	7	0.11032	0.01876	0.85468	0.14532	33.32764
8	8	0.12267	0.02142	0.85135	0.14866	32.45298
9	9	0.13468	0.02406	0.84844	0.15157	31.721
10	10	0.14638	0.02667	0.84587	0.15413	31.09786
11	20	0.25158	0.05132	0.83057	0.16944	27.77787
12	30	0.34291	0.07324	0.824	0.176	26.53007
13	40	0.42534	0.09265	0.82114	0.17886	26.01583
14	50	0.50127	0.10981	0.8203	0.1797	25.86784
15	60	0.57209	0.12499	0.8207	0.1793	25.93724
16	70	0.63876	0.13842	0.8219	0.1781	26.15042
17	80	0.70197	0.1503	0.82365	0.17635	26.4663
18	90	0.76222	0.16081	0.82578	0.17422	26.85994
19	100	0.81993	0.1701	0.82819	0.17181	27.3153
20	101	0.82557	0.17097	0.82844	0.17156	27.36377
21	102	0.83119	0.17182	0.82869	0.17131	27.41276
22	103	0.83679	0.17267	0.82895	0.17105	27.46221
23	104	0.84237	0.1735	0.82921	0.17079	27.51215
24	105	0.84793	0.17433	0.82947	0.17053	27.56258
25	106	0.85347	0.17514	0.82973	0.17027	27.61345
26	107	0.85898	0.17595	0.82999	0.17001	27.66479
27	108	0.86448	0.17674	0.83025	0.16975	27.7166
28	109	0.86996	0.17753	0.83052	0.16948	27.76882

# Selectivity Data of CO<sub>2</sub>:CH<sub>4</sub> (50:50) at 273 K

	A(X)	B(Y)	C(Y)	D(Y)	E(Y)	F(Y)
Long Name	Pressure	N1	N2	x1	х2	Selectivity
Units	kPa	mmol/g	mmol/g			
Comments						
Sparklines						
1	1	0.06046	0.00744	0.89046	0.10954	8.12907
2	2	0.10552	0.01442	0.87981	0.12019	7.32022
3	3	0.1459	0.02117	0.87328	0.12672	6.8914
4	4	0.18342	0.02776	0.86853	0.13147	6.6066
5	5	0.21887	0.03422	0.86481	0.13519	6.39679
6	6	0.25271	0.04055	0.86174	0.13826	6.2326
7	7	0.28523	0.04677	0.85913	0.14087	6.0989
8	8	0.31663	0.05289	0.85688	0.14313	5.98692
9	9	0.34707	0.05891	0.85489	0.14511	5.89114
10	10	0.37664	0.06485	0.85311	0.14689	5.80787
11	20	0.63905	0.12013	0.84176	0.15824	5.31944
12	30	0.86195	0.16949	0.83568	0.16432	5.08572
13	40	1.05933	0.21417	0.83183	0.16817	4.94627
14	50	1.23782	0.25497	0.8292	0.1708	4.85482
15	60	1.40137	0.29244	0.82735	0.17265	4.79194
16	70	1.55264	0.32703	0.82602	0.17398	4.74775
17	80	1.69354	0.35906	0.82507	0.17493	4.71661
18	90	1.82549	0.38882	0.82441	0.17559	4.69499
19	100	1.94965	0.41654	0.82396	0.17604	4.68057
20	101	1.96167	0.41921	0.82393	0.17607	4.67945
21	102	1.97362	0.42186	0.82389	0.17611	4.67839
22	103	1.98551	0.42449	0.82386	0.17614	4.67739
23	104	1.99733	0.42711	0.82383	0.17617	4.67643
24	105	2.00908	0.4297	0.82381	0.17619	4.67553
25	106	2.02077	0.43228	0.82378	0.17622	4.67467
26	107	2.0324	0.43484	0.82375	0.17625	4.67387
27	108	2.04396	0.43739	0.82373	0.17627	4.67311
28	109	2.05546	0.43992	0.82371	0.17629	4.6724

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