Supporting information for: Sizable Dynamics in Small Pores: CO₂ Location and Motion in the α -Mg Formate Metal-Organic Framework

Yuanjun Lu,^[a] Bryan E.G. Lucier,^[a] Yue Zhang,^[a] Pengju Ren,^[b,c] Anmin Zheng,^[d] Yining Huang^[a,*]

 ^[a] Department of Chemistry, The University of Western Ontario, 1151 Richmond Street, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 5B7
^[b] State Key Laboratory of Coal Conversion, Institute of Coal Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Taiyuan, 030001, P.R. China

^[c] National Energy Center for Coal to Clean Fuels, Synfuels China Co., Ltd, Huairou District, Beijing, 101400, P.R. China

^[d] State Key Laboratory of Magnetic Resonance and Atomic and Molecular Physics, Wuhan Center for Magnetic Resonance, Wuhan Institute of Physics and Mathematics, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Wuhan 430071, P.R. China

Table of Contents

ltem	Page
Table S1. The extracted wobbling and hopping angles of CO ₂ in α -Mg formate	2
Figure S1. Experimental and simulated powder X-ray diffraction patterns	3
Figure S2. The distribution of carbon atoms of CO_2 in α -Mg formate	
at various temperatures, as calculated by MD simulations	4
Figure S3. The calculated mean squared displacement of CO_2 in α -Mg formate	5
Figure S4. Crystal lattice of α -Mg formate, crystallographically unique	
hydrogen positions, and CO ₂ adsorption sites	6
Figure S5. Experimental and motionally-simulated ¹³ C SSNMR spectra	7
Figure S6. The dynamic motions of CO ₂ molecules in α -Mg formate	8
Figure S7. CO ₂ location, position, and motion in α -Mg formate	9

Table S1. The extracted wobbling^{*a*} and hopping^{*b*} angles of CO₂ in α -Mg formate, as derived from ¹³C SSNMR spectra using EXPRESS.¹ Both motional rates are in the fast motion regime (*i.e.*, $\geq 10^7$ Hz) throughout the experimental temperature range.

Temperature (° K)	Wobbling ($lpha$, °)	Hopping (β , °)
393	47.5	41
373	47.5	42
353	47.5	44
333	48	45
313	48	45
293	49	42
273	49	39
253	49	36
233	48.5	32
213	48	27
193	47	23
173	45	23

^{*a*} The uncertainty of each wobbling angle is ± 0.1 °. ^{*b*} The uncertainty of each hopping angle is 0.2 °.

¹ R. L. Vold and G. L. Hoatson, *J. Magn. Reson.*, 2009, **198**, 57-72.



Figure S1. Powder XRD (pXRD) results of the activated and as-made α -Mg formate MOF, along with the calculated pXRD patterns.



Figure S2. The *xy* plane projection of the distribution of carbon atoms of CO_2 in α -Mg formate at various temperatures, as calculated by MD simulations. The decrease in localized intensity at higher temperatures, and increase in intensity between the maxima, is due to increased CO_2 mobility within the channels of α -Mg formate.



Figure S3. The calculated mean squared displacement (MSD) of the center of mass (COM) of CO_2 in α -Mg formate at a temperature of 253 K.



Figure S4. The extended crystal lattice of α -Mg formate, as viewed down the crystallographic *b* axis, is shown. There are six crystallographically unique hydrogen positions in this MOF, but only the three hydrogen atoms which protrude into the pore interior are shown here, highlighted by purple, yellow, and green circles. For clarity, the three types of hydrogen atoms are labeled within separate adjacent channels, although they all exist within the same channel. The red circles denote the CO₂ adsorption sites, and are only shown in three channels, but are present in all channels.



Figure S5. The experimental ¹³C VT SSNMR spectra of CO₂-loaded α -Mg formate are shown in (a), along with simulations in (b), (c), and (d). In (b), motional simulations incorporating localized wobbling and non-localized twofold hopping are depicted; these match well with the experimental spectra in (a). In contrast, the simulated spectra shown in (c) that only consider localized wobbling of CO₂, as well as spectra in (d) that only incorporate the non-localized twofold hopping (d) of CO₂, are both poor matches to the experimental spectra. Note the difference in x-axis scale in (d).



Figure S6. The dynamic motions of CO₂ molecules in the α -Mg formate MOF are illustrated. CO₂ participates in a localized wobbling through an angle of α , modeled by a C₆ sixfold rotation, along with a non-localized twofold (C₂) hopping through an equivalent angle β .



Figure S7. In (a), the localized C₆ wobbling of CO₂ through an angle of α about an individual hydrogen-based adsorption site within the pores of α -Mg formate is shown. The H(formate)...O-C(CO₂) angle is 120 ° and H(formate)...O(CO₂) distance is ca. 3.2 Angstroms, according to MD simulations (see main text). The illustration in (b) is a depiction of the non-localized C₂ hopping of CO₂ through an angle of β between hydrogen-based adsorption sites along the *b* axis of α -Mg formate.