

Electronic Supplementary Information

High-throughput Computational Screening of Metal Organic Frameworks with Topological Diversity for Hexane Isomer Separations

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The interactions between framework atoms and hexane isomers were represented by Lennard-Jones (LJ) potential with no consideration of coulomb interaction (equation S1), and cross LJ parameters were estimated by the Lorentz-Berthelot combining rules. All potential parameters are listed in Table S1 and S2 according to UFF ¹ and TraPPE ² force field.

$$U_{ij} = 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] \quad (\text{S1})$$

where i and j are interacting atoms, and r_{ij} is the distance between atoms i and j . ϵ_{ij} and σ_{ij} are LJ well depth and atomic pair equilibrium distance, respectively.

Table S1. Lennard-Jones parameters of MOFs.³

Atom type	ϵ/k_B [K]	σ [Å]	Atom type	ϵ/k_B [K]	σ [Å]	Atom type	ϵ/k_B [K]	σ [Å]
C	47.86	3.47	Zn	62.4	2.46	Co	7.04	2.56
H	7.65	2.85	Zr	34.72	2.78	Cr	7.55	2.69
O	48.16	3.03	Cu	2.516	3.11	Mn	6.54	2.64
N	38.95	3.26	Si	155.99	3.81	B	47.8	3.58

Table S2a. Bond bending potential, Bond stretch potential, Non-bonded Lennard-Jones parameters, Bond torsion potential of hexane isomers

$$U_{\text{bond-bending}} = \frac{1}{2} k_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_0)^2 \quad (\text{S2})$$

bending	θ_0	k_{θ}/k_B (K/rad ²)
CH _x -(CH ₂)-CH _y	114	62500
CH _x -(CH)-CH _y	112	62500
CH _x -(C)-CH _y	109.47	62500

$$U_{bond-stretch} = \frac{1}{2} k_b (r - r_0)^2 \quad (\text{S3})$$

stretch	r_0 [Å]	k_b/k_B (K/rad ²)
CH _x -CH _x	1.54	96500

Non-bonded Lennard-Jones potentials are calculated by equation S1.

LJ	ε/k_B [K]	σ [Å]
CH ₃	108.0	3.76
CH ₂	56.0	3.96
CH	17.0	4.67
C	0.8	6.38

$$U_{bond-torsion} = c_0 + c_1 (1 + \cos \phi) + c_2 (1 - \cos 2\phi) + c_3 (1 + \cos 3\phi) \quad (\text{S4})$$

torsion	c_0/k_B [K/rad ²]	c_1/k_B [K/rad ²]	c_2/k_B [K/rad ²]	c_3/k_B [K/rad ²]
CH _x -(CH ₂)-(CH ₂)-CH _y	0	335.03	-68.19	791.32
CH _x -(CH ₂)-(CH)-CH _y	-251.06	428.73	-111.85	441.27
CH _x -(CH ₂)-(C)-CH _y	0	0	0	461.29
CH _x -(CH)-(CH)-CH _y	-251.06	428.73	-111.85	441.27
CH _x -(CH)-(C)-CH _y	0	0	0	1635.7

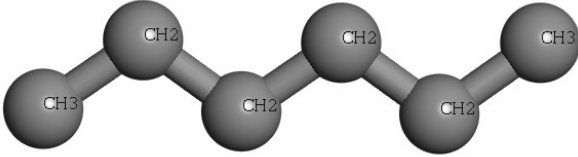
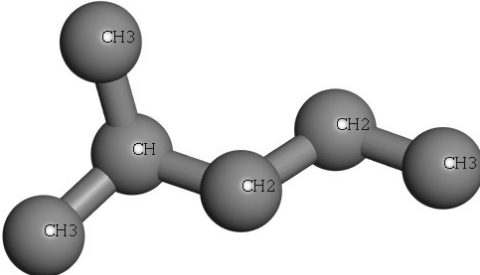
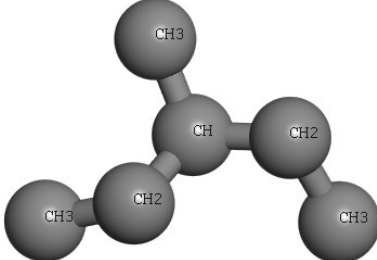
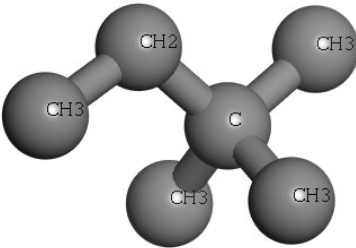
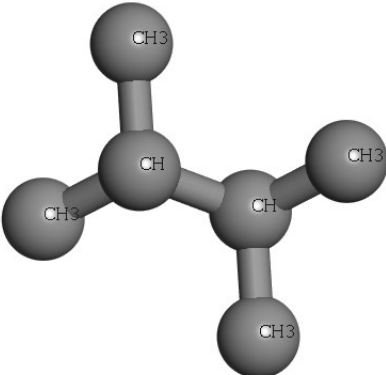
n-hexane (nC6)	2-methylpentane (2MP)
	
3-methylpentane (3MP)	2,2-dimethylbutane (22DMB)
	
2,3-dimethylbutane(23DMB)	
	

Table S2b. United-atom models of hexane isomers in TraPPE force field.

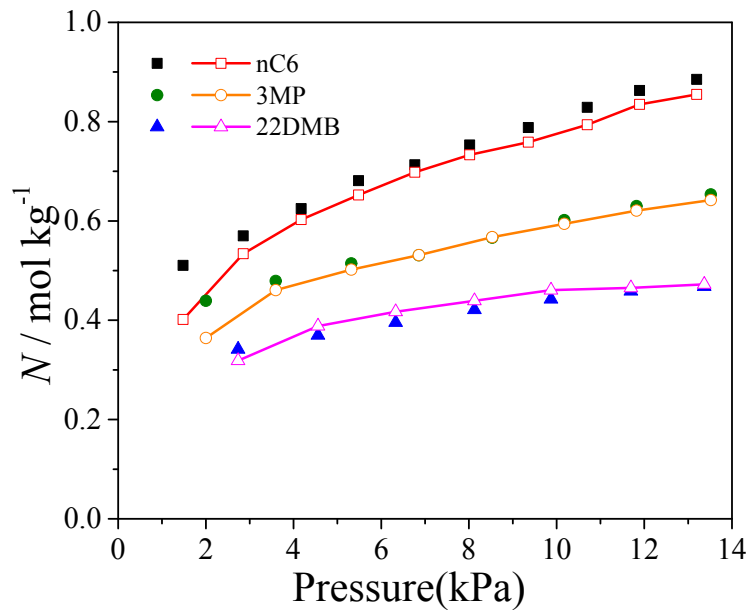


Figure S2: Comparison of simulated and experimental adsorption isotherms for nC6, 3MP and 22DMB in Fe-FDCA at 298 K. The solid and hollow points refer to the experimental and simulated data, respectively. The experimental data were taken from reference 4.

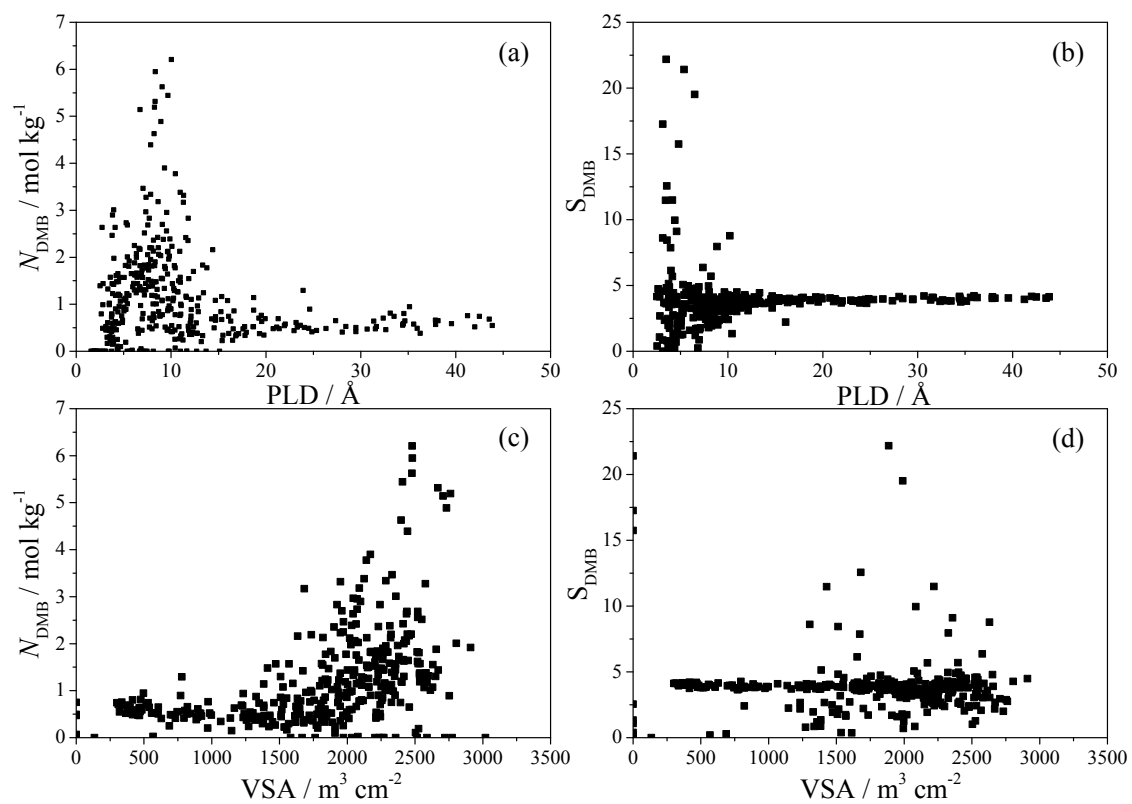


Figure S3. Relationship plots of (a) N_{DMB} ; (b) S_{DMB} versus PLD and (c) N_{DMB} ; (d) S_{DMB} versus VSA in 390 MOFs at 433 K.

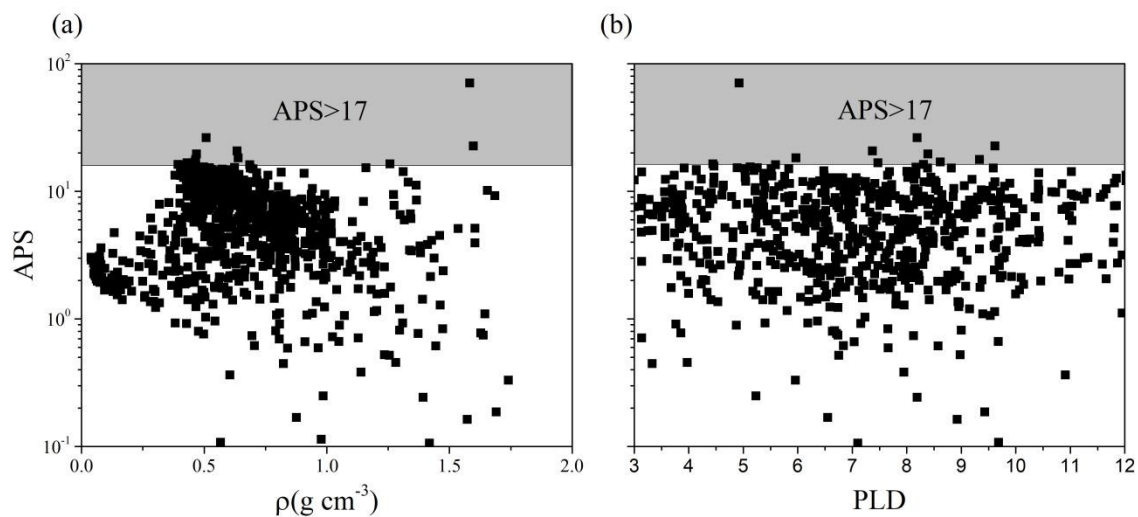


Figure S4. Relationship plots between APS⁵ and (a) density; (b) PLD. The shadow region indicates APS > 17.

We explored the relationship plots of APS versus ρ and APS versus PLD for 841 MOFs at 10 bar and 433K. There are 8 MOFs with APS > 17 as seen from the shadow region in Figure S4. Neither APS versus ρ nor APS versus PLD shows a good correlation. However, PLD and ρ of the optimal MOFs are in the range of 4.5-10 Å and 0.5-1.7 g cm^{-3} , respectively as shown in Figure S4.

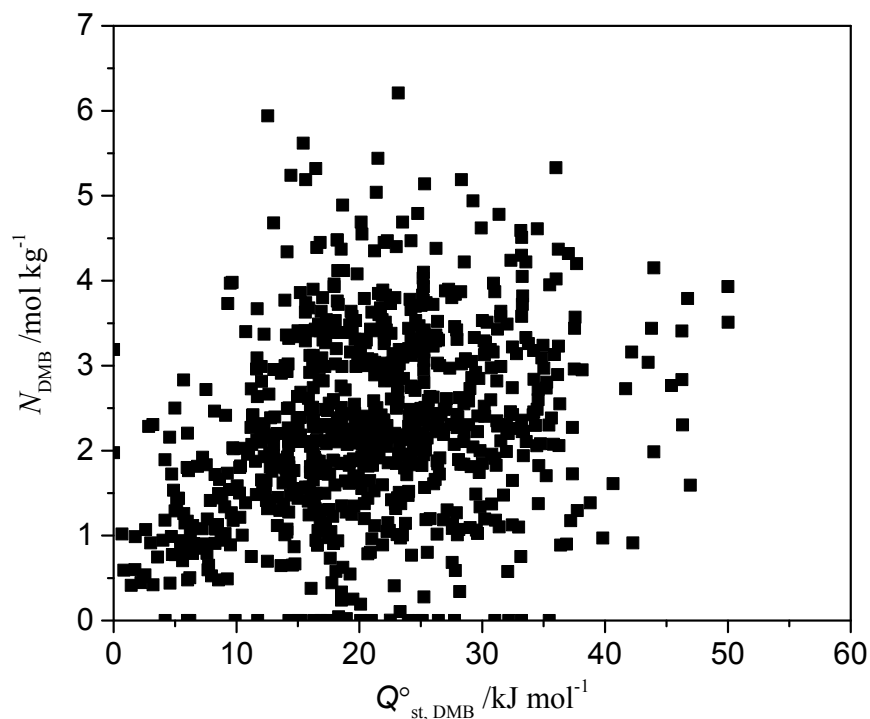


Figure S5. Relationship plots of adsorption capacity versus isosteric heat of adsorption ($N_{\text{DMB}} \sim Q^{\circ}_{\text{st,DMB}}$) for 22DMB and 23DMB in MOFs.

Figure S5 shows the relationship plots of N_{DMB} versus $Q^{\circ}_{\text{st,DMB}}$ for 22DMB and 23DMB in each MOF. N_{DMB} refers to the sum of the adsorption capacities for 22DMB and 23DMB in each MOF, while $Q^{\circ}_{\text{st,DMB}}$ is the geometric average of the isosteric heat of adsorption for 22DMB and 23DMB in each MOF. N_{DMB} versus $Q^{\circ}_{\text{st,DMB}}$ do not show a good correlation, but the MOFs with the optimal adsorption capacity have $Q^{\circ}_{\text{st,DMB}}$ in the range of 15-40 kJ mol^{-1} as shown in Figure S5.

Table S3. Top 22 MOFs with high APS and their physical properties

No.	MOFs	Topology	Linker	APS	N_{DMB} mol kg ⁻¹	S_{DMB}	PLD Å	LCD Å	VSA m ² cm ⁻³	ρ g cm ⁻³	Q_{st}° kJ mol ⁻¹
1	MOF-163	bct	L_2	70.59	1.98	35.56	3.97	6.85	2047.25	1.58	43.62
2	MOF-213	bcu	L_32	26.28	4.62	5.69	8.21	9.79	2397.44	0.51	29.10
3	MOF-304	bcu	L_2	22.69	1.021	22.21	3.49	6.60	2006.56	1.59	35.98
4	MOF-22	acs	L_2	20.74	3.27	6.34	7.37	7.98	2577.5	0.63	29.38
5	MOF-3549	gar	L_20	19.63	5.19	3.78	6.75	9.89	2458.92	0.46	28.48
6	MOF-4030	ith	L_24	18.34	3.79	4.83	5.32	7.85	2361.05	0.63	47.20
7	MOF-3639	gar	L_15	17.73	5.33	3.32	7.11	9.93	2369.57	0.46	36.03
8	MOF-4522	lcsb	L_5	17.01	4.79	3.55	7.47	10.01	2376.04	0.46	23.89
9	MOF-4521	lcsb	L_4	16.73	4.69	3.56	8.11	10.80	2260.71	0.43	20.07
10	MOF-144	bct	L_12	16.37	1.64	9.93	4.41	7.50	2086.83	1.25	31.96
11	MOF-3640	gar	L_16	16.19	5.04	3.21	9.33	10.79	2409.78	0.39	21.27
12	MOF-4076	ith	L_25	16.17	3.41	4.74	5.67	8.41	2326.83	0.68	46.42
13	MOF-3361	ftw	L_24	15.52	4.08	3.81	7.93	16.03	2227.82	0.49	18.73
14	MOF-4335	lcsb	L_4	15.44	4.55	3.39	8.13	11.45	2249.98	0.43	20.60
15	MOF-4161	ith	L_15	15.35	3.51	4.37	5.59	8.01	2220.34	0.62	50.12
16	MOF-4094	ith	L_41	15.32	4.47	3.42	8.09	10.61	2322.85	0.43	21.87
17	MOF-8583	rht	L_15	15.29	3.72	4.11	7.28	16.02	2219.92	0.52	17.26
18	MOF-2360	fcu	L_14	15.29	1.741	8.78	4.83	8.43	2254.99	1.15	28.04
19	MOF-4043	ith	L_38	15.25	3.96	3.85	7.24	12.13	2259.83	0.43	17.33
20	MOF-4162	ith	L_16	15.25	3.97	3.84	6.36	8.62	2361.39	0.51	31.99
21	MOF-117	bcs	L_30	15.23	5.14	2.96	6.73	9.02	2707.87	0.51	25.30
22	MOF-5923	ocu	L_12	15.19	3.29	4.61	6.54	14.90	2366.18	0.68	26.32

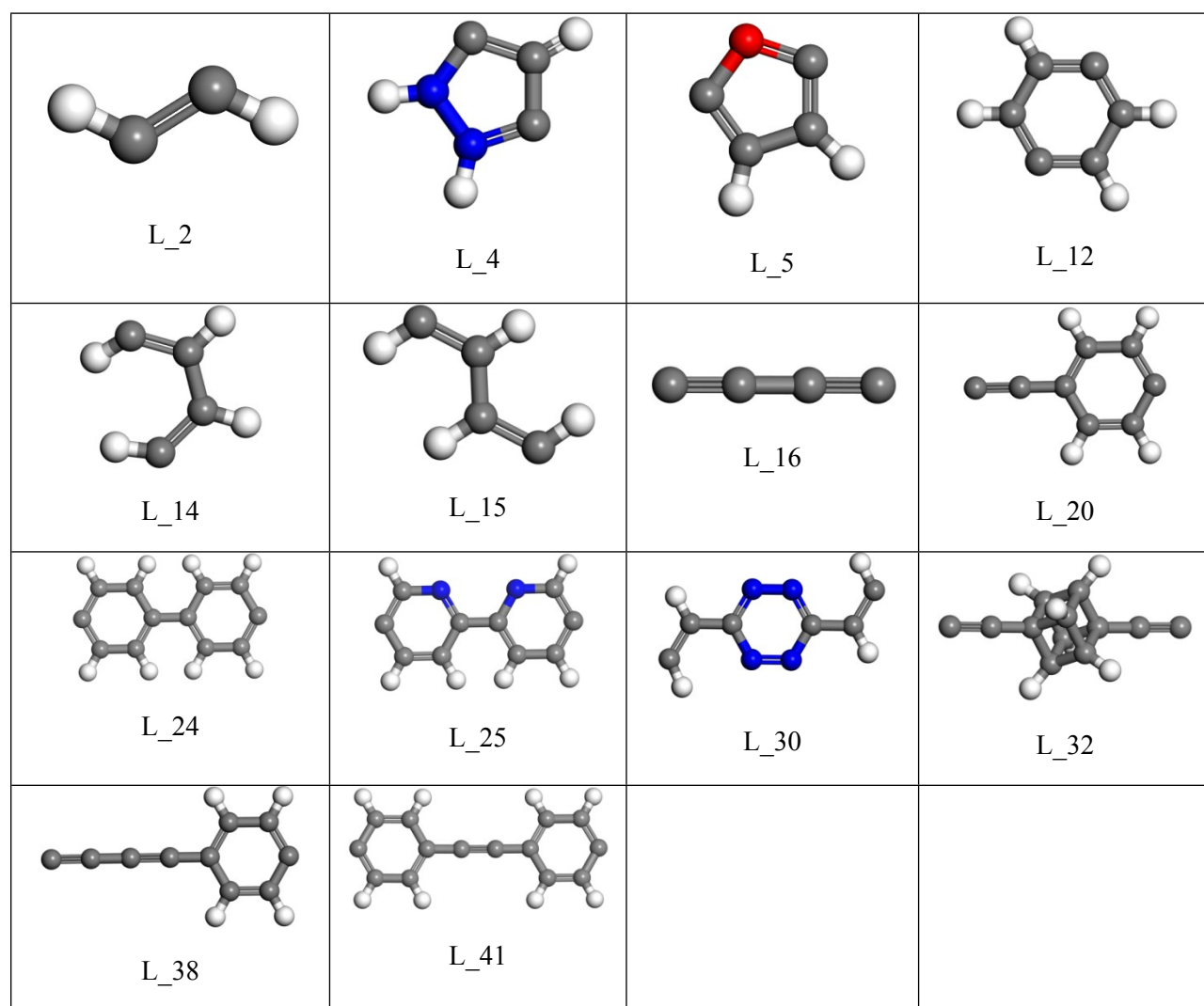


Figure S6. Linkers of top-performance MOFs.⁶

Table S4. Comparison of MOF-163 and real MOFs in terms of adsorption capacities (N) of hexane isomers and selectivities⁷⁻¹²

Adsorbents	condition	N (nC6) mol kg ⁻¹	N (2MP) mol kg ⁻¹	N (3MP) mol kg ⁻¹	N (22DMB) mol kg ⁻¹	N (23DMB) mol kg ⁻¹	S_{DMB}	ref
ZIF-8	423K, 50kPa	0.85	0.25	0.15	0.014	0.038	16.03 ^a	7
AC16	303K, 30kPa	1.45	-	0.42	0.09	0.21	6.23 ^a	8
XG00-4.5	298K, 10.5kPa	3.01	-	1.15	0.95	-	2.19 ^a	9
Zr-bptc	423K, 12kPa	1.43	-	0.248	0.10	-	8.39 ^a	10
Zr-abtc	423K, 12kPa	1.204	-	1.02	0.488	-	2.27 ^a	10
Zn(BDC)(Dabco) _{0.5}	313K, 33.4kPa	0.657	-	0.188	0.116	-	3.61 ^a	11
UIO-66_3a	423K, 0.6 kPa	0.034	-	0.119	0.227	0.223	2.94	12
UIO-66_4b	473K, 6.3 kPa	0.093	-	0.19	0.28	0.272	1.95	12
MOF-163_1	433K, 100kPa	0.0059	-	0.0711	1.1384	-	29.57	this work
MOF-163_2	433K, 100kPa	0.0014	0.018	0.043	0.723	0.213	22.5	this work

^a The part of experimental data refer to the reverse selectivity of S_{DMB} .

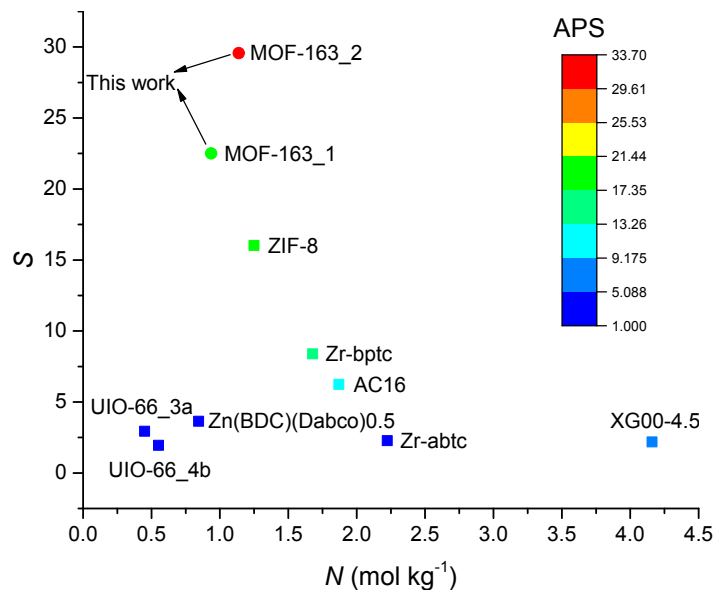


Figure S7. Relationship plots of adsorption selectivity versus total capacity of preferred adsorption components for separation of a multicomponent equimolar mixture (nC6/2MP/3MP/22DMB/23DMB) in various porous materials. The solid circles refer to the simulated data in this work while the solid rectangles refer to the experimental data.⁷⁻¹²The experimental data refer to the selectivity for nC6/22DMB except ones of UIO-66 while the data of UIO and MOF-163 refer to the selectivity for 22DMB/nC6. APS of porous materials except UIO and MOF-163 was newly defined as $APS = N_{(nC6+2MP+3MP)} / S_{DMB}$. Total capacity of preferred adsorption components in UIO and MOF-163 refers to $N_{(22DMB+23DMB)}$ while that in the other materials refers to $N_{(nC6+2MP+3MP)}$.

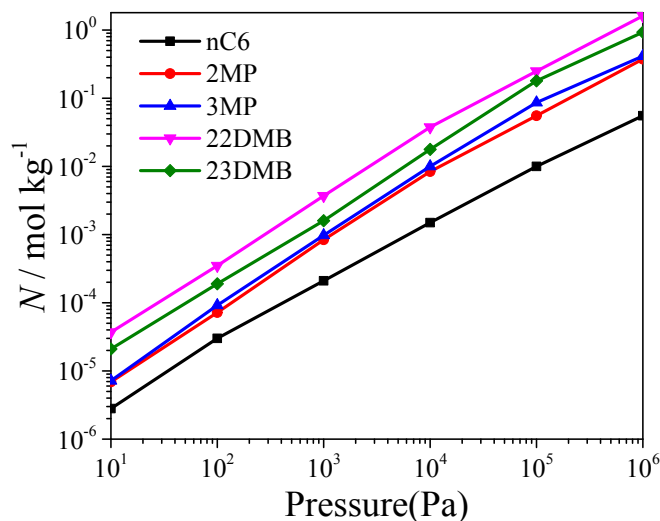


Figure S8. Adsorption isotherms of each component (nC6, 2MP, 3MP, 22DMB and 23DMB) for a quinary equimolar mixture in MOF-9355 (*a.k.a.* she-MOF-1) at 433 K.

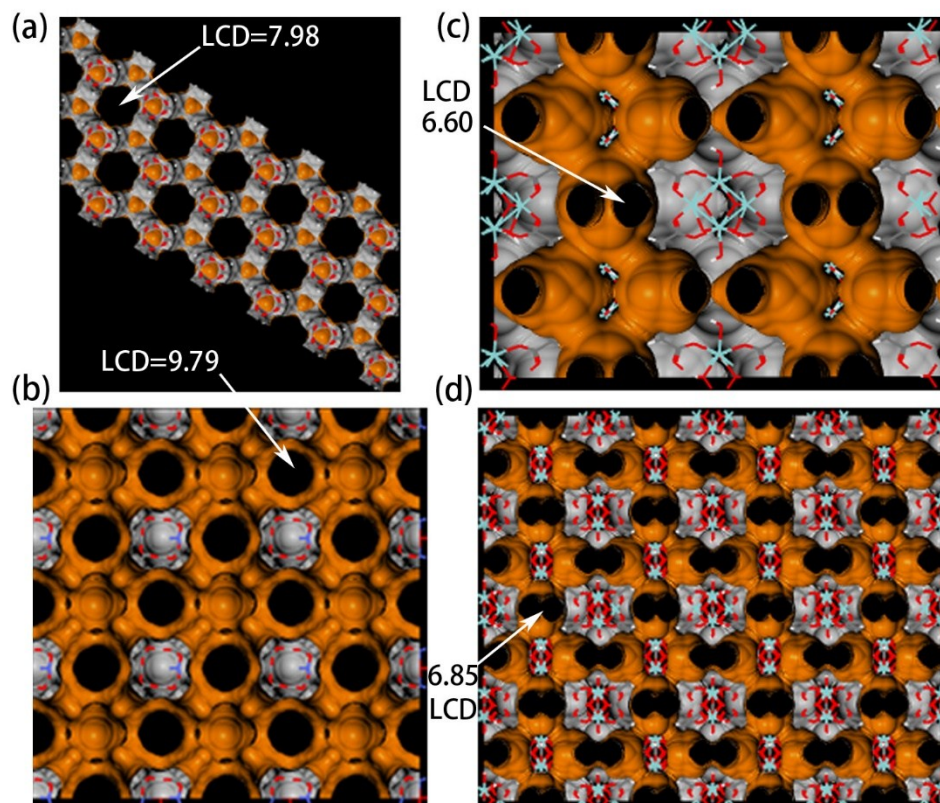


Figure S9. Structures and pore channels of top-performance MOFs.

(a) MOF-22; (b) MOF-213; (c) MOF-304; (d) MOF-163.

Table S5. Parameters used for breakthrough prediction¹³

Parameter	Value
Length(L)	0.3m
Inlet Velocity (v_0)	0.04 m/s
Void Fraction (ϵ)	0.4
Crystal Density (ρ)	1.58 g/cm ³
Bed Pressure (P_0)	1 bar
Column Temperature (T_0)	433 K

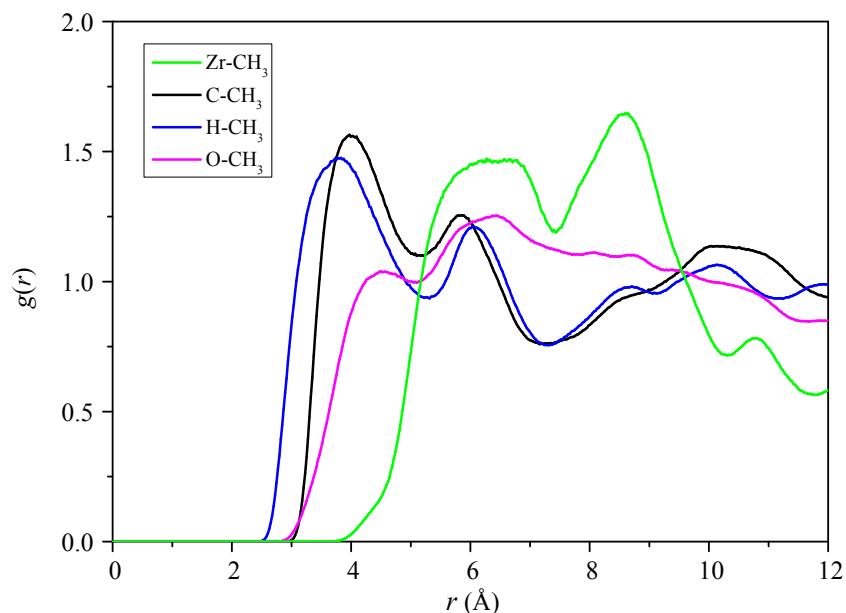


Figure S10. Radial distribution functions of various atom pairs between adsorbed 22DMB (CH_3 refers to the methyl group of 22DMB) and the framework atoms (including Zr, C H and O) in MOF-163 at 433 K and 10 bar.

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