

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# Two unique copper cluster-based metal-organic frameworks with high performance for CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption and separation

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### S1. Calculation procedures of selectivity from IAST

The measured experimental data is excess loadings ( $q^{ex}$ ) of the pure components CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> for compound **1**, which should be converted to absolute loadings ( $q$ ) firstly.

$$q = q^{ex} + \frac{pV_{pore}}{ZRT}$$

Here  $Z$  is the compressibility factor. The Peng-Robinson equation was used to estimate the value of compressibility factor to obtain the absolute loading, while the measure pore volume 0.40 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> is also necessary.

The dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equation is used for fitting the isotherm data at 298 K.

$$q = q_{m1} \times \frac{b_1 \times p^{1/n_1}}{1 + b_1 \times p^{1/n_1}} + q_{m2} \times \frac{b_2 \times p^{1/n_2}}{1 + b_2 \times p^{1/n_2}}$$

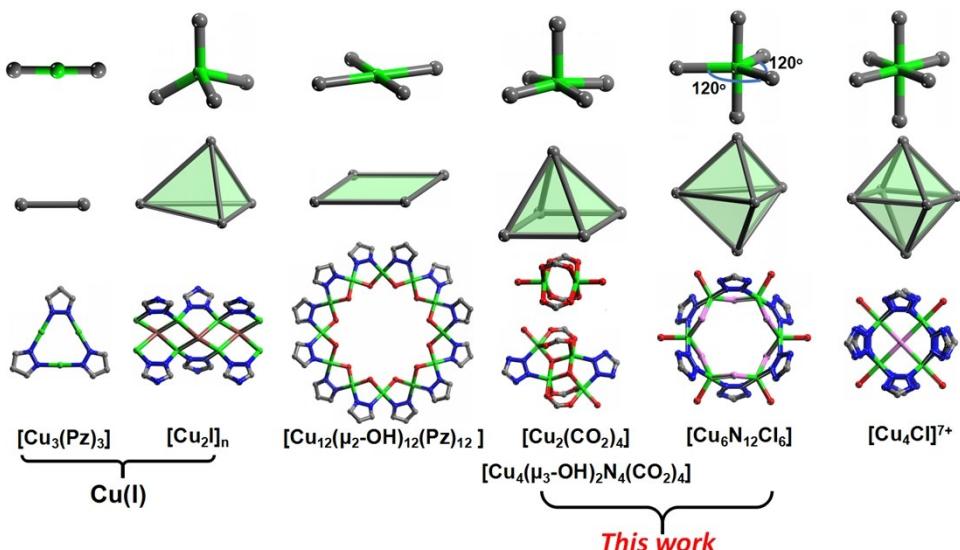
Here  $p$  is the pressure of the bulk gas at equilibrium with the adsorbed phase (kPa),  $q$  is the adsorbed amount per mass of adsorbent (mol kg<sup>-1</sup>),  $q_{m1}$  and  $q_{m2}$  are the saturation capacities of sites 1 and 2 (mol kg<sup>-1</sup>),  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  are the affinity coefficients of sites 1 and 2 (1/kPa),  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the deviations from an ideal homogeneous surface.

The selectivity of preferential adsorption of component 1 over component 2 in a mixture containing 1 and 2, perhaps in the presence of other components too, can be formally defined as

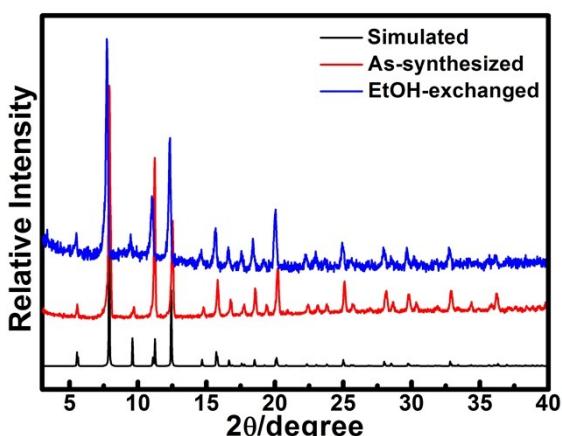
$$S = \frac{q_1/q_2}{p_1/p_2}$$

$q_1$  and  $q_2$  are the absolute component loadings of the adsorbed phase in the mixture. These component loadings are also termed the uptake capacities. We calculate the values of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  using the Ideal Adsorbed Solution Theory (IAST) of Myers and Prausnitz.

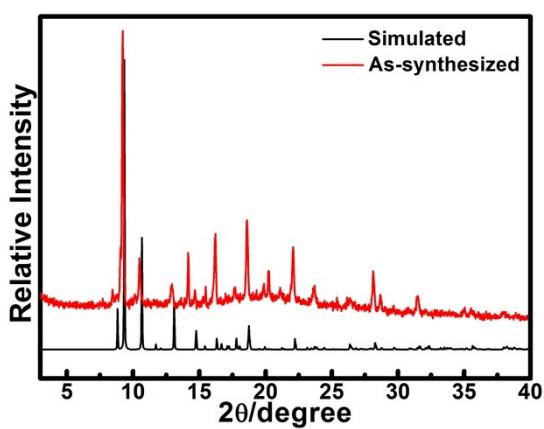
## S2. Supporting Figures



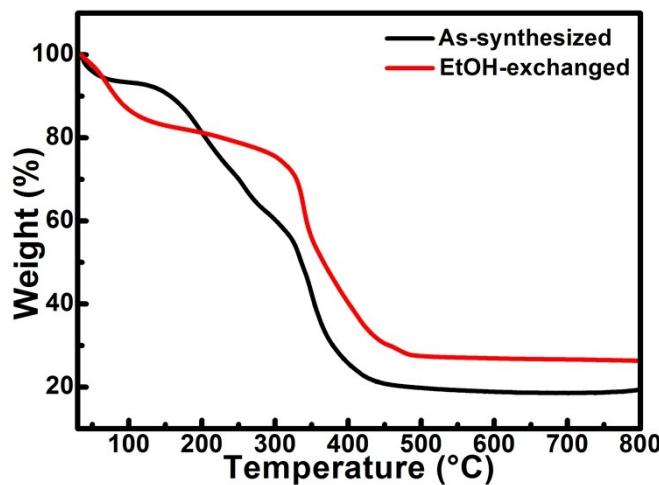
**Fig. S1** Comparison of Cu atom coordination modes for reported Cu-MOFs and this work.



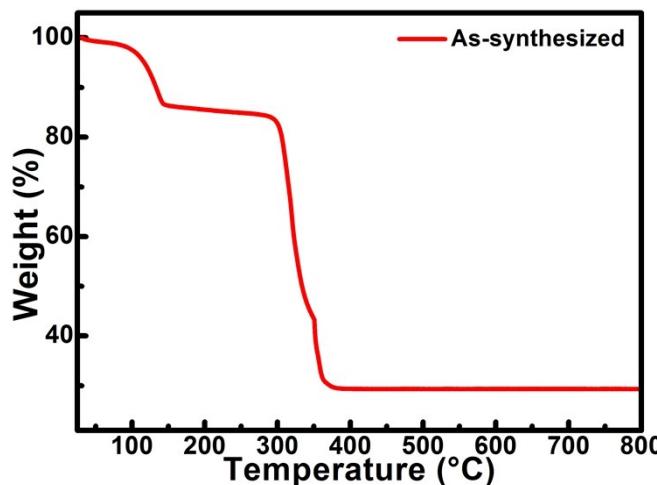
**Fig. S2** PXRD patterns of compound **1** for simulated, as-synthesized and EtOH-exchanged samples. The differences in reflection intensity are probably due to preferred orientations in the powder sample.



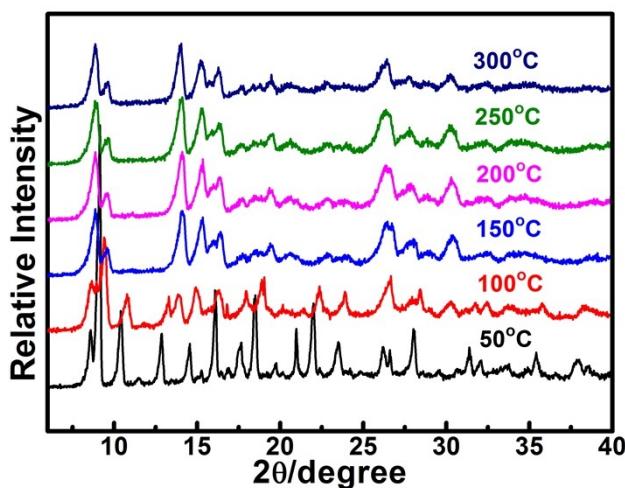
**Fig. S3** PXRD patterns of compound **2** for simulated and as-synthesized samples. The differences in reflection intensity are probably due to preferred orientations in the powder sample.



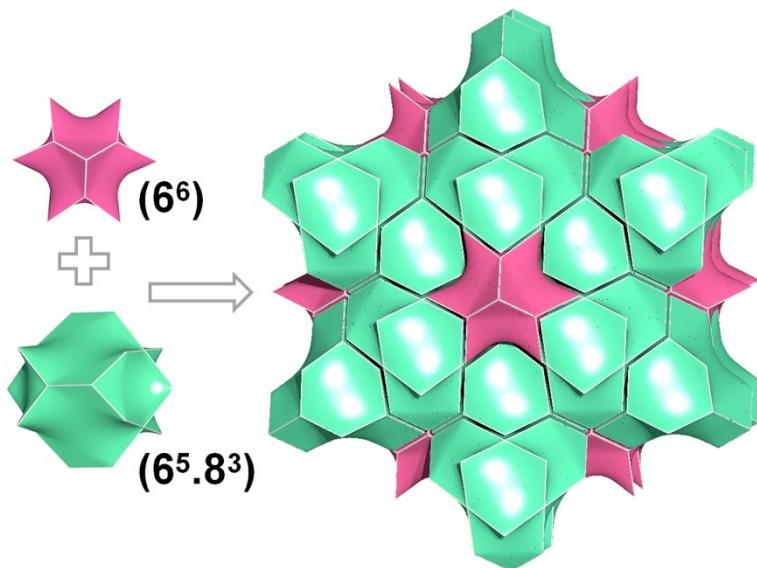
**Fig. S4** Thermogravimetric analysis curves of compound 1 for the as-synthesized and EtOH-exchanged samples.



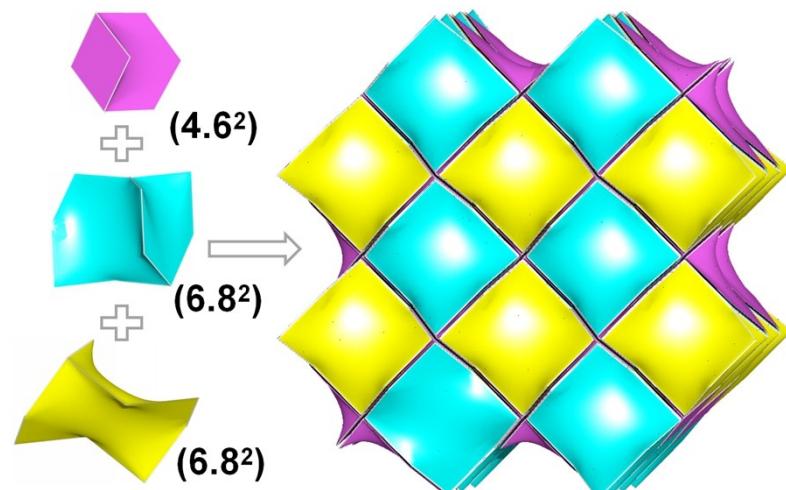
**Fig. S5** Thermogravimetric analysis curve of compound 2.



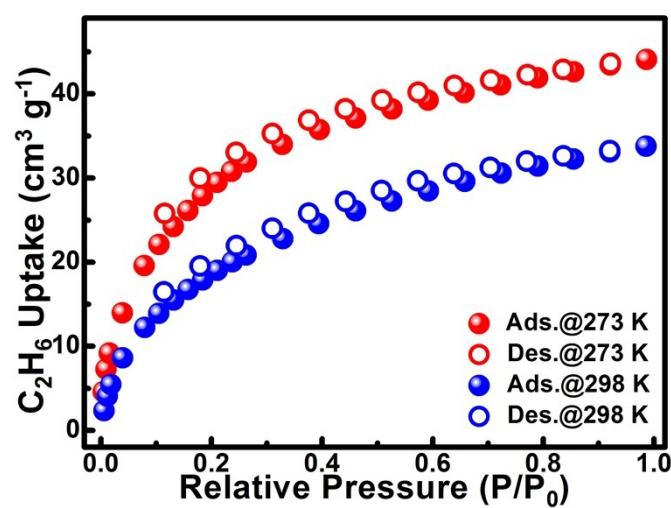
**Fig. S6** Temperature-dependent PXRD pattern of compound 2.



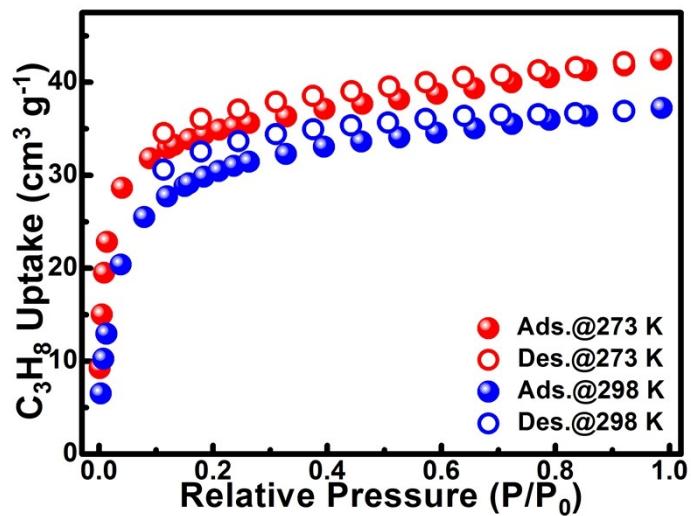
**Fig. S7** Topological feature of compound **1** displayed by tiles and face symbols for pink and green tiles are  $(6^6)$  and  $(6^5 \cdot 8^3)$ .



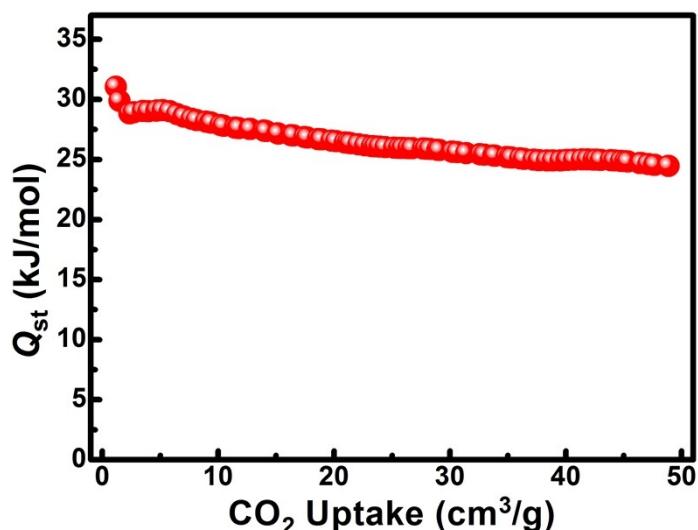
**Fig. S8** Topological feature of compound **2** displayed by tiles and face symbols for pink, blue and yellow tiles are  $(4 \cdot 6^2)$ ,  $(6 \cdot 8^2)$  and  $(6 \cdot 8^2)$ .



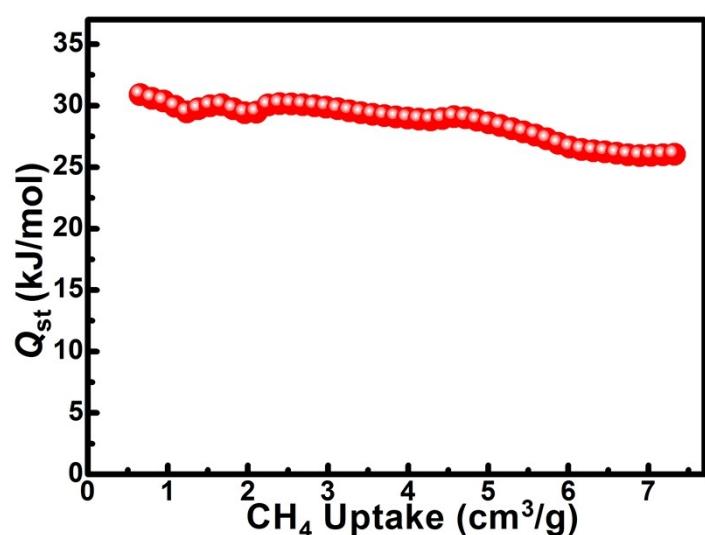
**Fig. S9**  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$  sorption isotherms for compound **1** at 273 and 298 K.



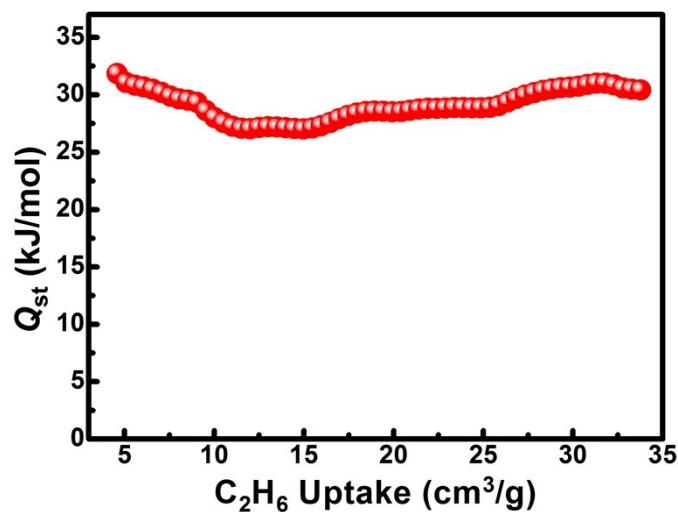
**Fig. S10**  $C_3H_8$  sorption isotherms for compound 1 at 273 and 298 K.



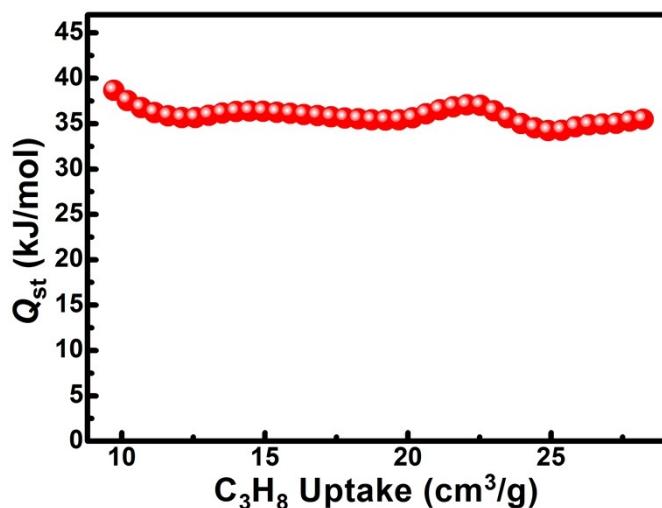
**Fig. S11**  $Q_{\text{st}}$  of  $\text{CO}_2$  for compound 1 calculated by MicroActive soft.



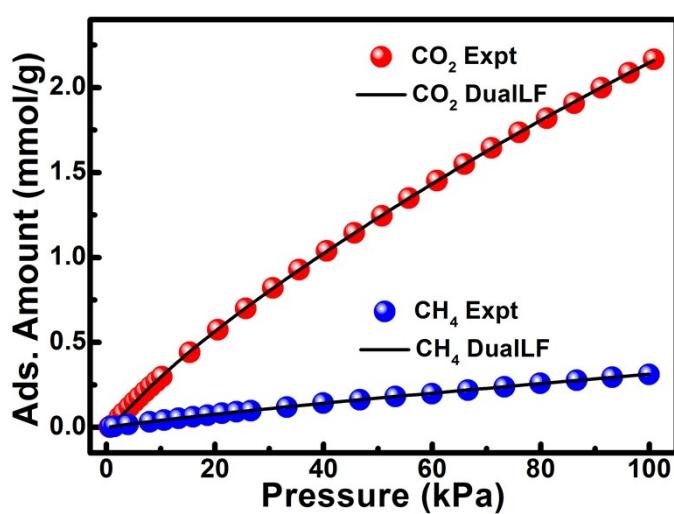
**Fig. S12**  $Q_{\text{st}}$  of  $\text{CH}_4$  for compound 1 calculated by MicroActive soft.



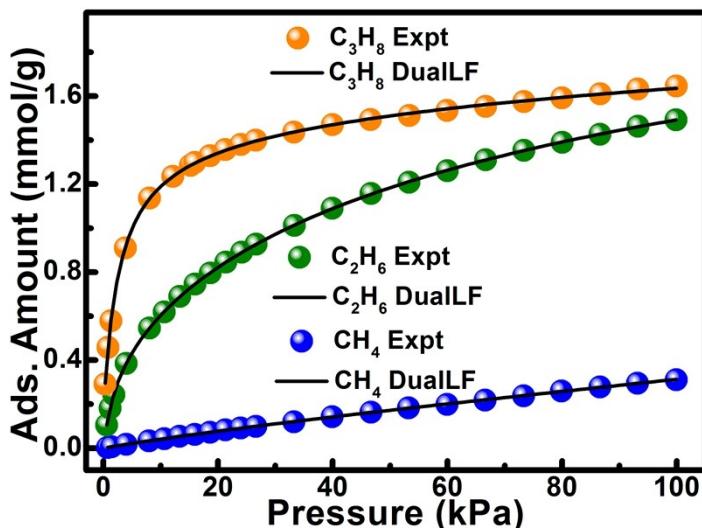
**Fig. S13**  $Q_{st}$  of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$  for compound **1** calculated by MicroActive soft.



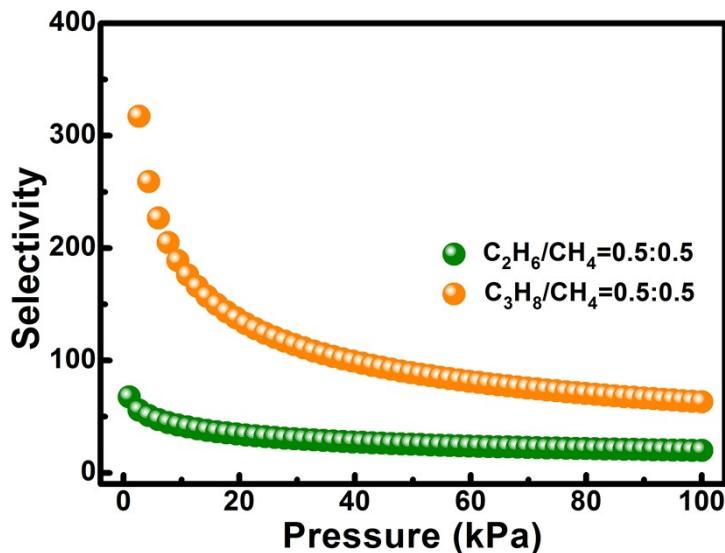
**Fig. S14**  $Q_{st}$  of  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$  for compound **1** calculated by MicroActive soft.



**Fig. S15**  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  adsorption isotherms for compound **1** at 298 K along with the dual-site Langmuir Freundlich (DSLF) fits.



**Fig. S16** C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> adsorption isotherms for compound **1** at 298 K along with the dual-site Langmuir Freundlich (DSLF) fits.



**Fig. S17** C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> gas mixture adsorption selectivity is predicted by IAST at 298 K and 100 kPa for compound **1**.

### S3. Supporting Tables

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinements for compound **1**and compound **2**.

Compound	1	2
Formula	C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>43</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> ClN <sub>8</sub> O <sub>10</sub>	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>40</sub> Cu <sub>4</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>16</sub>
F <sub>w</sub>	778.20	1078.90
Temp (K)	293(2) K	293(2) K
Crystal system	Trigonal	Monoclinic
Space group	P-3m1	P2(1)/n
a (Å)	18.429(3)	12.009(2)
b (Å)	18.429(3)	11.479(2)
c (Å)	15.739(3)	16.743(3)
α (°)	90	90
β (°)	90	93.26(3)
γ (°)	120	90
V(Å <sup>3</sup> )	4629.0(13)	2304.2(8)
Z	6	2
D <sub>c</sub> (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	1.675	1.555
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.534	1.896
F(000)	2424	1096
Reflections collected/unique (R <sub>int</sub> )	30705 / 3034 [R(int) = 0.0576]	14898/4171 [R(int) = 0.0413]
Goodness on fit	1.115	1.170
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0383, wR2 = 0.1321	R1 = 0.0292, wR2 = 0.0909
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0490, wR2 = 0.1358	R1 = 0.0349, wR2 = 0.0921

$$R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|. \quad wR_2 = [\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [w(F_o^2)^2]]^{1/2}$$

As the guest molecules were highly disordered and could not be modeled properly, the diffused electron densities resulting from them were removed by the SQUEEZE routine in PLATON and the results were appended in the following:

For compound **1**:

```
loop_
    _platon_squeeze_void_nr
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_x
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_y
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_z
    _platon_squeeze_void_volume
    _platon_squeeze_void_count_electrons
    _platon_squeeze_void_content
        1 -0.005  0.476 -0.014      3001      591 ''
    _platon_squeeze_void_probe_radius          1.20
    _platon_squeeze_details                  ?
```

For compound 2:

```
loop_
    _platon_squeeze_void_nr
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_x
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_y
    _platon_squeeze_void_average_z
    _platon_squeeze_void_volume
    _platon_squeeze_void_count_electrons
    _platon_squeeze_void_content
        1 -0.007 -0.020  0.002      1339      282 ''
    _platon_squeeze_void_probe_radius          1.20
    _platon_squeeze_details                  ?
```

**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for compound **1**.

Compound 1			
Cu(1)-O(2)#1	1.952(2)	Cu(1)-O(2)#2	1.952(2)
Cu(1)-O(1)#3	1.953(2)	Cu(1)-O(1)	1.953(2)
Cu(1)-O(3)	2.158(4)	Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	2.6678(10)
Cu(2)-N(1)#4	1.969(3)	Cu(2)-N(1)	1.969(3)
Cu(2)-O(4')	2.16(2)	Cu(2)-O(4')#4	2.16(2)
Cu(2)-O(4)	2.294(14)	Cu(2)-O(4)#4	2.294(14)
Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	2.301(3)	Cu(2)-Cl(2)	2.301(3)
Cu(2)-Cl(1)	2.393(2)	Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	2.393(2)
Cl(1)-Cu(2)#6	2.393(2)	Cl(2)-Cu(2)#6	O(2)-Cu(1)#1
O(2)#1-Cu(1)-O(2)#2	88.86(16)	O(2)#1-Cu(1)-O(1)#3	89.58(12)
O(2)#2-Cu(1)-O(1)#3	167.31(10)	O(2)#1-Cu(1)-O(1)	167.31(10)
O(2)#2-Cu(1)-O(1)	89.58(12)	O(1)#3-Cu(1)-O(1)	89.19(16)
O(2)#1-Cu(1)-O(3)	97.28(12)	O(2)#2-Cu(1)-O(3)	97.28(12)
O(1)#3-Cu(1)-O(3)	95.41(12)	O(1)-Cu(1)-O(3)	95.41(12)
O(2)#1-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	82.91(7)	O(2)#2-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	82.91(7)
O(1)#3-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	84.40(7)	O(1)-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	84.40(7)
O(3)-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#1	179.72(15)	N(1)#4-Cu(2)-N(1)	178.87(18)
N(1)#4-Cu(2)-O(4')	86.6(5)	N(1)-Cu(2)-O(4')	92.3(5)
N(1)#4-Cu(2)-O(4')#4	92.3(5)	N(1)-Cu(2)-O(4')#4	86.6(5)
O(4')-Cu(2)-O(4')#4	40.1(9)	N(1)#4-Cu(2)-O(4)	90.5(7)
N(1)-Cu(2)-O(4)	88.4(7)	O(4')-Cu(2)-O(4)	25.8(8)
O(4')#4-Cu(2)-O(4)	14.4(5)	N(1)#4-Cu(2)-O(4)#4	88.4(7)
N(1)-Cu(2)-O(4)#4	90.5(7)	O(4')-Cu(2)-O(4)#4	14.4(5)
O(4')#4-Cu(2)-O(4)#4	25.8(8)	O(4)-Cu(2)-O(4)#4	11.4(10)
N(1)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	89.55(12)	N(1)-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	91.26(13)
O(4')-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	115.9(5)	O(4')#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	155.6(5)
O(4)-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	141.4(5)	O(4)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)#5	130.2(5)
N(1)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	91.26(13)	N(1)-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	89.55(12)
O(4')-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	155.6(5)	O(4')#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	115.9(5)
O(4)-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	130.2(5)	O(4)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	141.4(5)
Cl(2)#5-Cu(2)-Cl(2)	88.4(4)	N(1)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	91.94(11)
N(1)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	88.43(10)	O(4')-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	129.3(4)
O(4')#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	89.4(4)	O(4)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	103.7(5)
O(4)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	115.0(5)	Cl(2)#5-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	114.8(3)
Cl(2)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)	26.42(16)	N(1)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	88.43(10)
N(1)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	91.94(11)	O(4')-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	89.4(4)
O(4')#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	129.3(4)	O(4)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	115.0(5)
O(4)#4-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	103.7(5)	Cl(2)#5-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	26.42(16)
Cl(2)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	114.8(3)	Cl(1)-Cu(2)-Cl(1)#5	141.2(2)
Cu(2)-Cl(1)-Cu(2)#6	100.45(12)	Cu(2)#6-Cl(2)-Cu(2)	106.12(17)
C(6)-O(1)-Cu(1)	122.4(2)	C(6)-O(2)-Cu(1)#1	124.4(2)

O(4)#4-O(4)-Cu(2)	84.3(5)	O(4')#4-O(4')-Cu(2)	69.9(4)
N(1)#7-N(1)-Cu(2)	126.89(8)	N(2)-N(1)-Cu(2)	123.3(2)
N(1)#7-N(1)-N(2)	109.79(18)	N(2)-C(1)-N(2)#7	111.4(4)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

#1 -x+1,-y,-z+1 #2 x-y,-y,-z+1 #3 -x+y+1,y,z #4 x-y,-y,-z #5 y,-x+y,-z #6 x-y,x,-z #7 x,x-y,z

**Table S3.** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for compound **2**.

Compound 2			
Cu(1)-O(3)#1	1.937(2)	Cu(1)-O(5)	1.967(2)
Cu(1)-O(5)#2	2.033(2)	Cu(1)-N(3)#3	2.041(3)
Cu(1)-O(1)	2.114(2)	Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	3.0348(10)
Cu(2)-O(4)#4	1.950(2)	Cu(2)-O(5)	1.952(2)
Cu(2)-O(6)	1.970(3)	Cu(2)-N(2)#3	2.004(3)
Cu(2)-O(2)#2	2.177(3)	O(2)-Cu(2)#2	2.177(3)
O(3)-Cu(1)#5	1.937(2)	O(4)-Cu(2)#6	1.950(2)
O(5)-Cu(1)#2	2.033(2)	N(2)-Cu(2)#7	2.004(3)
N(3)-Cu(1)#7	2.041(3)	O(3)#1-Cu(1)-O(5)	173.84(10)
O(3)#1-Cu(1)-O(5)#2	94.42(9)	O(5)-Cu(1)-O(5)#2	81.30(9)
O(3)#1-Cu(1)-N(3)#3	92.36(10)	O(5)-Cu(1)-N(3)#3	88.37(9)
O(5)#2-Cu(1)-N(3)#3	141.91(10)	O(3)#1-Cu(1)-O(1)	91.16(11)
O(5)-Cu(1)-O(1)	94.45(10)	O(5)#2-Cu(1)-O(1)	109.73(9)
N(3)#3-Cu(1)-O(1)	107.54(11)	O(3)#1-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	134.10(7)
O(5)-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	41.46(6)	O(5)#2-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	39.84(6)
N(3)#3-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	120.59(8)	O(1)-Cu(1)-Cu(1)#2	106.05(7)
O(4)#4-Cu(2)-O(5)	93.98(10)	O(4)#4-Cu(2)-O(6)	84.81(11)
O(5)-Cu(2)-O(6)	170.16(12)	O(4)#4-Cu(2)-N(2)#3	166.49(12)
O(5)-Cu(2)-N(2)#3	87.68(11)	O(6)-Cu(2)-N(2)#3	91.27(12)
O(4)#4-Cu(2)-O(2)#2	102.28(11)	O(5)-Cu(2)-O(2)#2	93.32(10)
O(6)-Cu(2)-O(2)#2	96.48(13)	N(2)#3-Cu(2)-O(2)#2	91.00(11)
C(8)-O(1)-Cu(1)	120.3(2)	C(8)-O(2)-Cu(2)#2	123.3(2)
C(9)-O(3)-Cu(1)#5	122.7(2)	C(9)-O(4)-Cu(2)#6	135.5(2)
Cu(2)-O(5)-Cu(1)	113.81(10)	Cu(2)-O(5)-Cu(1)#2	106.15(10)
Cu(1)-O(5)-Cu(1)#2	98.70(9)	Cu(2)-O(5)-H(5A)	Cu(1)-O(5)-H(5A)
Cu(1)#2-O(5)-H(5A)	118(2)	N(3)-N(2)-Cu(2)#7	120.0(2)
N(1)-N(2)-Cu(2)#7	128.6(2)	N(2)-N(3)-Cu(1)#7	117.71(19)
N(4)-N(3)-Cu(1)#7	132.7(2)	C(10)-O(6)-Cu(2)	125.5(5)
C(10')-O(6)-Cu(2)	117.8(13)	N(3)-N(2)-N(1)	110.2(2)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

#1 -x+1/2,y-1/2,-z+1/2    #2 -x+1,-y+2,-z+1    #3 x-1/2,-y+5/2,z+1/2    #4 x+1/2,-y+5/2,z+1/2  
#5 -x+1/2,y+1/2,-z+1/2    #6 x-1/2,-y+5/2,z-1/2    #7 x+1/2,-y+5/2,z-1/2

**Table S4.** The refined parameters for the Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equations fit for the pure isotherms of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> for compound **1** at 298 K.

	<b>q<sub>m1</sub></b>	<b>b<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>n<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>q<sub>m2</sub></b>	<b>b<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>n<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.34564	0.02986	1.38831	6.4509	0.00145	1.21709	0.99996
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.01724	0.02279	1.5	4.52556	8.14096E-4	0.96731	0.99982
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	0.11586	0.47064	1.55686	2.70934	0.04821	0.66536	0.99998
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	0.34162	0.29103	1.5	1.63897	0.36175	0.5	0.99925

**Table S5.** Comparison of compound **1** with other MOFs which exhibits high selectivity for CO<sub>2</sub> over CH<sub>4</sub> at 298 K under 1 bar.

Compound	Selectivity	Reference
ZJNU-55a	13.1	1
Mg-MOF-74	11.5	2
JLU-Liu46	9.8	3
<b>Compound 1</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>This work</b>
JLU-Liu22	9.4	4
Cu-PEIP	8.9	5
JLU-Liu6	7.4	6
JLU-Liu20	5.9	7
ZJNU-84	5.85	8
JLU-Liu2	4	9
MOF-5	2.3	10
MIL-53(Al)	2.3	11
Cu <sub>3</sub> (BTC) <sub>2</sub>	2.3	11
UMCM-1	1.8	11
MOF-177	0.9	11

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