

A novel interpenetrated anion-pillared porous material with high water tolerance afforded efficient C₂H₂/C₂H₄ separation

Lifeng Yang,^a Anye Jin,^a Lisha Ge,^a Xili Cui,^a Huabin Xing*^a

^a Key Laboratory of Biomass Chemical Engineering of Ministry of Education, College of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027

Supplementary Information

Table of contents

Materials and characterization	2
Table S1: Crystal structure data	5
Figure S1-S2: The crystal structure	5
Figure S3: The CO ₂ (196 K) adsorption isotherm	7
Figure S4-S6: Langmuir-Freundlich Fitting	8
Figure S7-S10: The stability test of several materials	9
Figure S11: The C ₂ H ₂ capacity of ZU-62-Ni under different activated condition	11
Figure S12: The TGA results	11
Figure S13-S14: The C ₂ H ₂ and C ₂ H ₄ adsorption isotherm results	12
Figure S15: Separation performance of several reported materials	13
Figure S16-S17: The C ₂ H ₂ isosteric adsorption heat	14
Table S2: The comparison of C ₂ H ₂ and C ₂ H ₄ uptake from gas sorption isotherms for various materials	15
Figure S18-S20: The experimental breakthrough experiment	16
Reference	18

Methods and Characterization

Synthesis of ZU-62-Ni

The water solution (4.0 mL) of NiNbOF_5 (0.0730 g) and the methanol solution (4.0 mL) of 4, 4'-bipyridylacetylene (0.0515 g) were preheated for 10 min at 338 K. Then the water solution was slowly dropped in to the methanol solution to afford the milk white solution. The mixture was heated at 358 K for 24 h. The bulk synthesis using the 5 times more raw materials was conducted in the same procedure, except the usage of both the water and methanol was increased to 20 mL and the reaction time was extended to 48 h. The obtained white powder was exchanged with methanol for one day. 2 mL of $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ($v/v=1:1$) was layered over 3 mL methanol solution containing 4, 4'-bipyridylacetylene (0.073 g in 10 mL CH_3OH) in a long thin tube. 3 mL NiNbOF_5 (0.05 g in 10 mL H_2O) was carefully layered over the buffer layer. The tube was sealed and left undisturbed at 298 K. After 1 week, white crystal was obtained.

Single Crystal X-ray diffraction data for ZU-62-Ni

Crystal data for ZU-62-Ni was collected at 123(2) K on a Bruker AXS D8 VENTURE diffractometer equipped with a PHOTON-100/CMOS detector ($\text{CuK}\alpha$, $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$). Indexing was performed using APEX2. Data integration and reduction were completed using SaintPlus 6.01. Absorption correction was performed by the multi-scan method implemented in SADABS. The space group was determined using XPREP implemented in APEX2.1 The structure was solved with SHELXL-2018/3 (direct methods) and refined on F2 (nonlinear least-squares method) with SHELXL-2018/3 contained in APEX2, WinGX v1.70.01, and OLEX2 v1.1.5 program packages. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The contribution of disordered solvent molecules was treated as diffuse using the Squeeze routine implemented in Platon. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) was carried out at room temperature on a Bruker D8 Advance θ/θ diffractometer using $\text{Cu-K}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda=1.5418 \text{ \AA}$). The crystal data was summarized in Table S1.

The residual electron densities in the solvent-accessible void due to disordered solvent molecules were treated with the PLATON SQUEEZE program. And according to the electron densities as well as the used solvent, the residual solvents were assumed to be one CH_3OH and three H_2O , however, the actual location of the solvent was unable to be determined due to its serious disorder. The proper formula was assumed to be $\text{Ni}(\text{dpa})_2(\text{NbOF}_5)\cdot 1\text{CH}_3\text{OH}\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Characterization Methods

Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data was collected on a SHIMADZU XRD-6000 diffractometer ($\text{Cu K}\alpha\lambda = 1.540598 \text{ \AA}$) with an operating power of 40 KV, 30mA and a scan speed of $4.0^\circ/\text{min}$. The range of 2θ was from 5° to 60° . The thermal gravimetric analysis was performed on an instrument of TGA Q500 V20.13 Build 39. Experiments were carried out using a platinum pan under nitrogen atmosphere. Firstly, the sample was removed water at 80°C and equilibrated for 5 minutes, then cooled down to 50°C . The data were collected at the temperature range of 50°C to 600°C with a ramp of $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$.

Gas Adsorption Measurements and breakthrough experiment

The measurements of C_2H_2 and C_2H_4 adsorption isotherms were performed on the Micrometrics

ASAP 2460. Before gas adsorption measurements, 100-200 mg sample of ZU-62-Ni were degassed at 80 °C for 24 hours until the pressure dropped below 50 µmHg. The sorption isotherms were collected at 273~313 K on activated samples.

Breakthrough experiment was carried out in a 4.6 mm inner diameter column of 50 mm length packed with 0.30 g of ZU-62-Ni. The column was first activated at 80 °C under 10 mL flow of He for 24 hours. The mixed gas of C₂H₂/C₂H₄= 1/99 (v/v) was then introduced at 1.5 mL min⁻¹. Outlet gas from the column was monitored using gas chromatography (GC-2010 plus) with the flame ionization detector (FID). After the breakthrough experiment, the sample was regenerated with He flow 15 mL min⁻¹ under 25 °C for 8 hours.

Virial Equation: Estimation of the isosteric heats of gas adsorption (Q_{st})

A virial-type equation of comprising the temperature-independent parameters **a_i** and **b_j** are employed to calculate the isosteric heat for C₂H₂ (at 273 K, 298 K and 313 K). The adsorption isotherm data are fitted using the following equation:

$$\ln P = \ln N + 1/T \sum_{i=0}^m a_i N_i + \sum_{j=0}^n b_j N_j \quad (1)$$

Here, **P** is the pressure expressed in **mmHg**, **N** is the amount adsorbed in **mg g⁻¹**, **T** is the temperature in **K**, **a_i** and **b_j** are virial coefficients, and **m**, **n** represent the number of coefficients required to adequately describe the isotherms. The values of the virial coefficients **a₀** to **a_m** are then used to calculate the C₂H₂ isosteric heat of adsorption using the following equation:

$$Q_{st} = -R \sum_{i=0}^m a_i N_i \quad (2)$$

Q_{st} is the gas coverage-dependent isosteric heat of adsorption and R is the universal gas constant.

Fitting of Pure Component Isotherms

The adsorption isotherms of C₂H₂ and C₂H₄ in ZU-62-Ni were fitted using a dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich model.

$$q = q_{A,sat} \frac{b_A p^{v_A}}{1 + b_A p^{v_A}} + q_{B,sat} \frac{b_B p^{v_B}}{1 + b_B p^{v_B}} \quad (3)$$

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⁻¹), **q_{A,sat}** and **q_{B,sat}** are the saturation capacities of site 1 and 2 (mol kg⁻¹), **b_A** and **b_B** are the affinity coefficients of site 1 and 2 (kPa⁻¹), and **v_A** and **v_B** represent the deviations from an ideal homogeneous surface.

The C₂H₂ isosteric heat of adsorption within ZU-62-Ni, **Q_{st}**, defined as:

$$Q_{st} = RT^2 \left(\frac{\partial \ln p}{\partial T} \right)_q \quad (4)$$

The calculations are based on the use of the Clausius-Clapeyron equation.

IAST Calculations of Adsorption Selectivities.

The adsorption selectivity for C₂H₂/C₂H₄ separation was defined by [4]

$$S_{ads} = \frac{q_1/q_2}{P_1/P_2} \quad (5)$$

q_1 , and q_2 are the molar loadings in the adsorbed phase in equilibrium with the bulk gas phase with partial pressures p_1 , and p_2 .

Table S1. Crystal structure data of ZU-62-Ni.

Unit cell parameters	
Formula sum	C ₂₄ H ₁₆ F ₅ N ₄ Nb Ni O
Formula weight	623.03 g/mol
Crystal system	tetragonal
Space –group	I 4/m m m (139)
Cell parameters	a=13.8526(6) Å c=7.8862(4) Å
Cell ratio	a/b=1.0000 b/c=1.7566 c/a=0.5693
Cell volume	1513.32(15) Å ³
Z	2
Calc.density	1.3672 g/cm ³

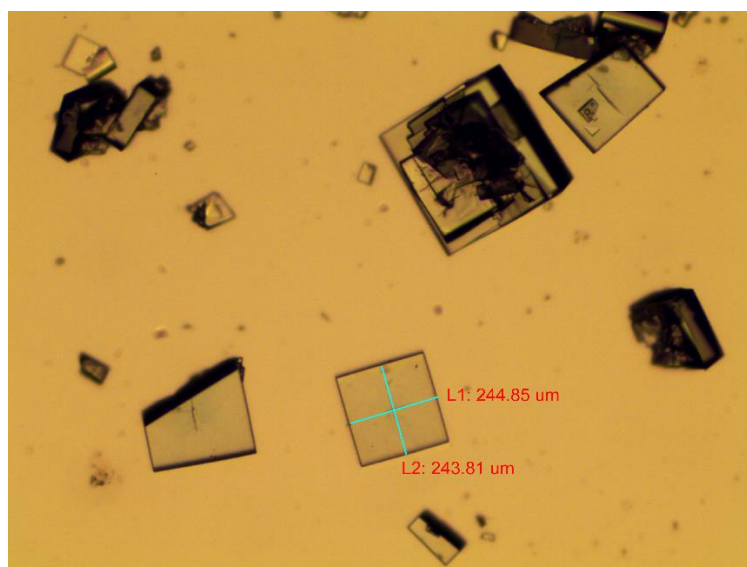


Figure S1. The morphology and size of the as-synthesized ZU-62-Ni crystal.

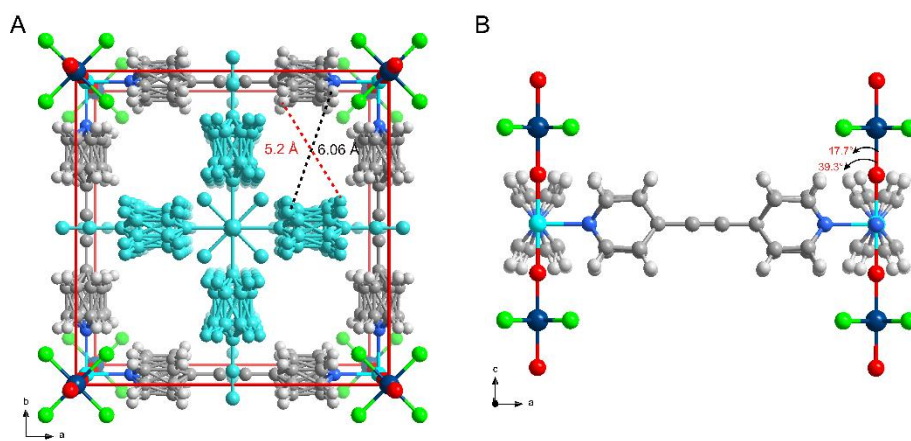


Figure S2: The crystal structure of ZU-62-Ni without solvent.

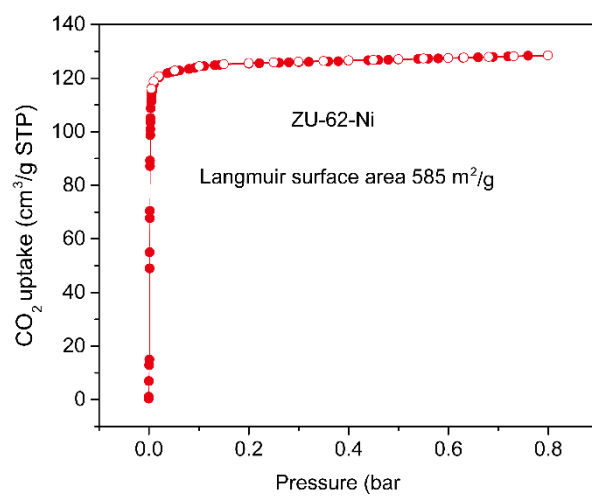


Figure S3: The CO₂ adsorption isotherm on ZU-62-Ni at 196 K.

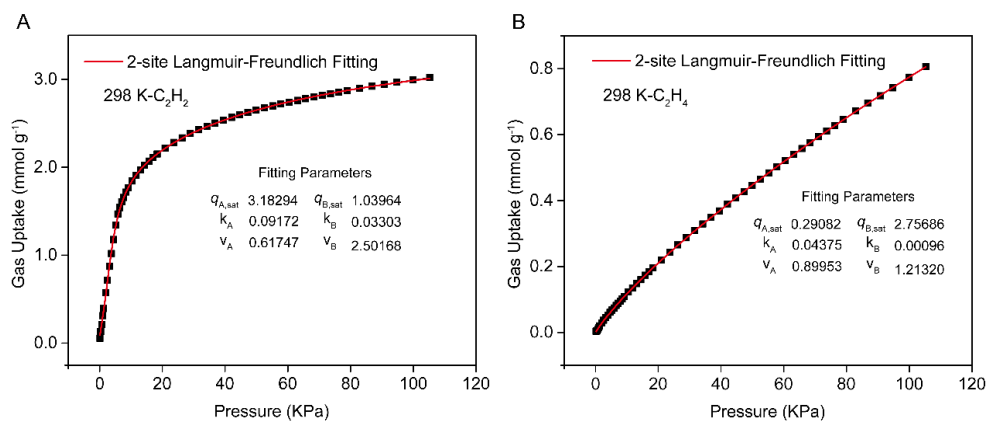


Figure S4: The Langmuir-Freundlich fitting of C₂H₂ and C₂H₄ adsorption isotherms of ZU-62-Ni.

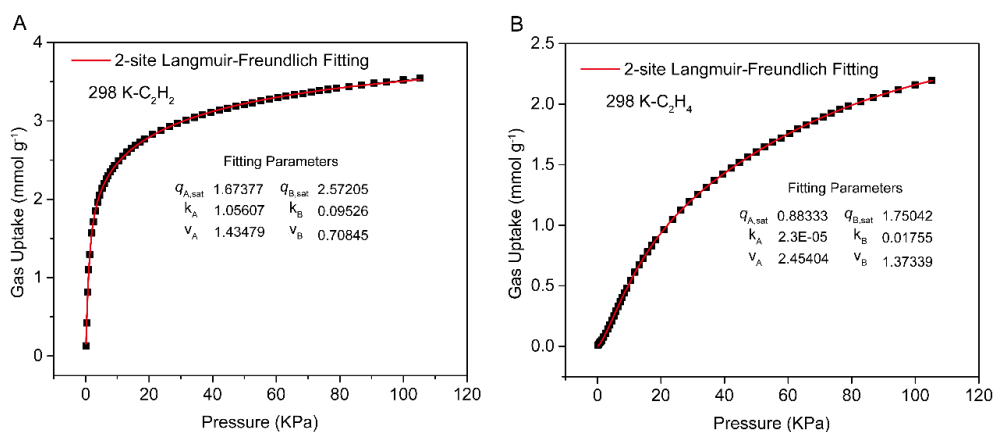


Figure S5: The Langmuir-Freundlich fitting of C₂H₂ and C₂H₄ adsorption isotherms of ZU-62.

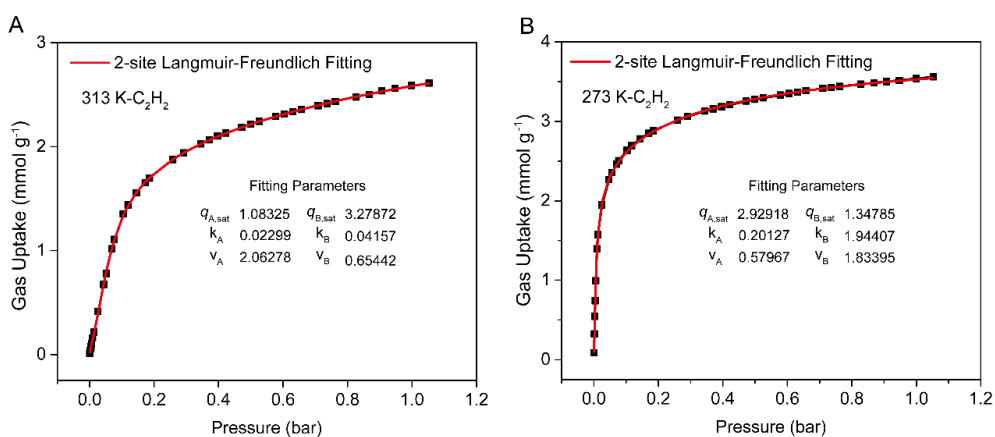


Figure S6: The Langmuir-Freundlich fitting of 273 K and 313 K C₂H₂ adsorption isotherms of ZU-62-Ni.

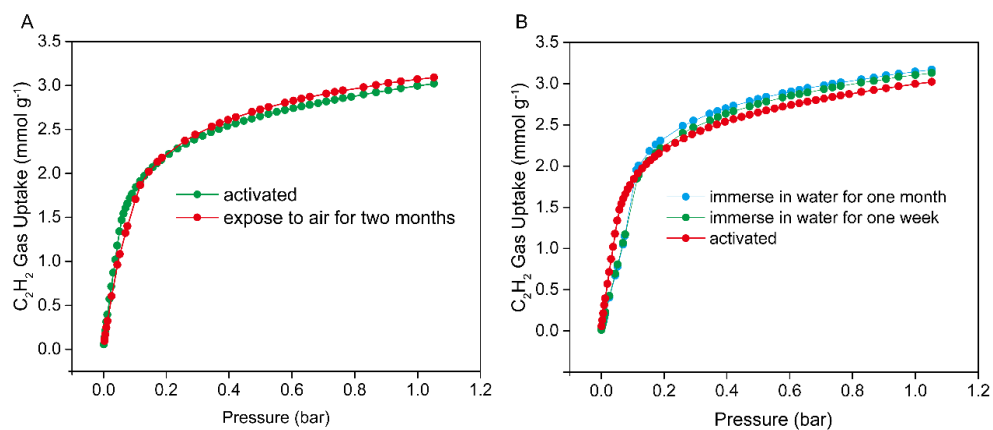


Figure S7: The stability test of ZU-62-Ni to air and water.

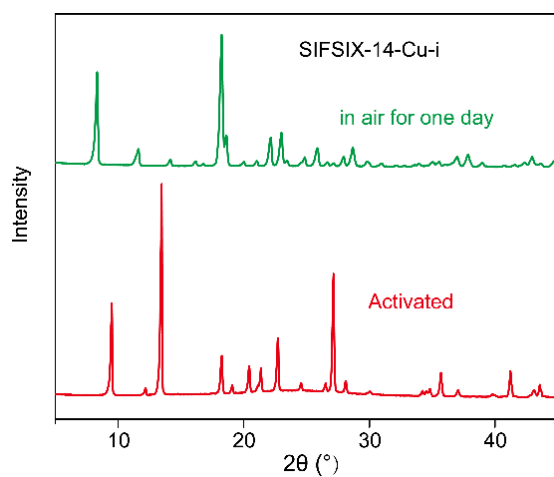


Figure S8: The XRD pattern of SIFSIX-14-Cu-i.

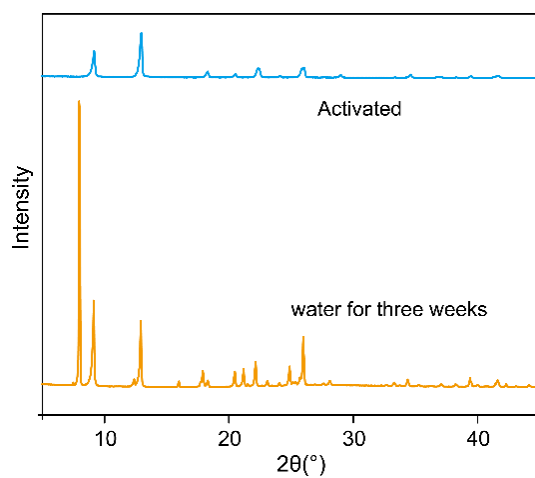


Figure S9: The XRD pattern of SIFSIX-2-Cu-i.

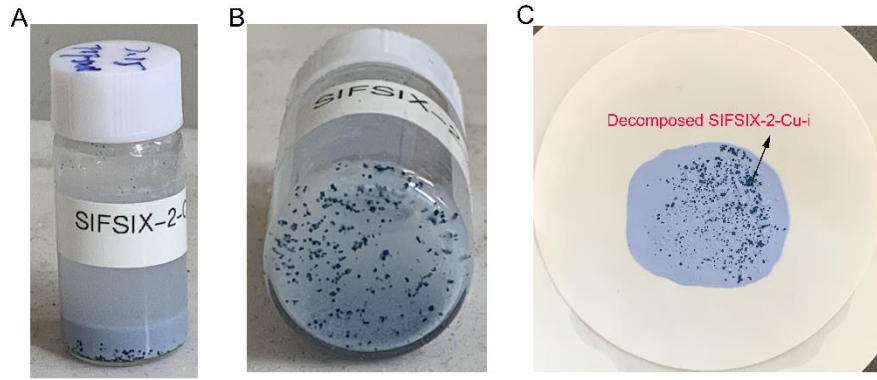


Figure S10: The status of SIFSIX-2-Cu-i after exposed to water for 3 weeks

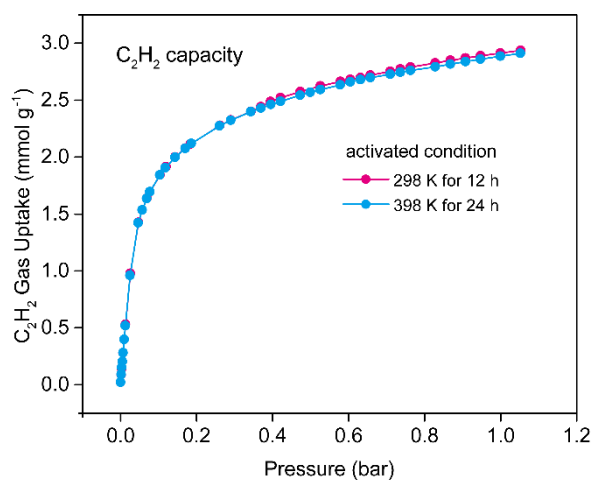


Figure S11: The C₂H₂ capacity of ZU-62-Ni under different activated conditions.

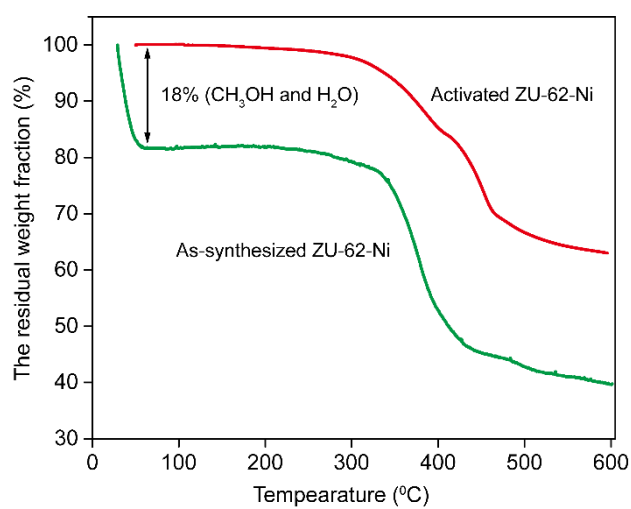


Figure S12: The TGA curve of activated ZU-62-Ni and the as-synthesized ZU-62-Ni.

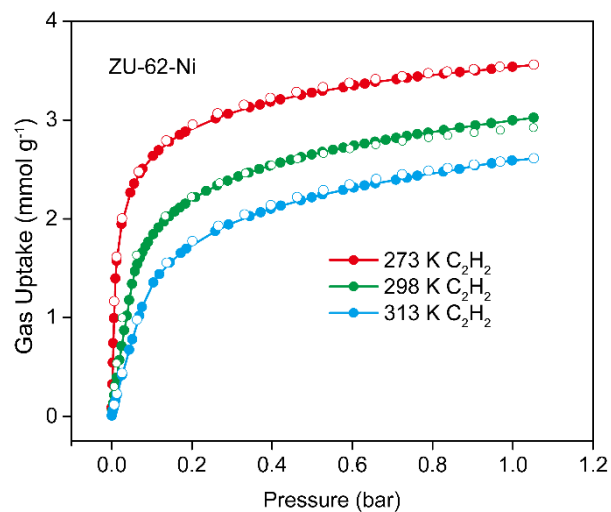


Figure S13: The C_2H_2 adsorption isotherm results of ZU-62-Ni from 273 K to 313 K.

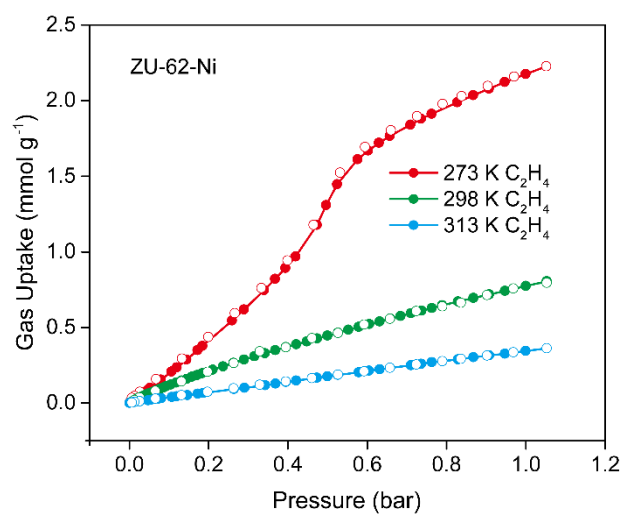


Figure S14: The C_2H_4 adsorption isotherm results of ZU-62-Ni from 273 K to 313 K.

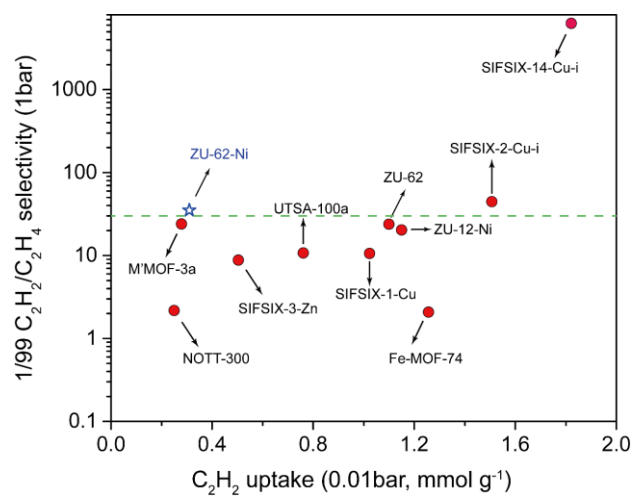


Figure S15: Comparison of C_2H_2/C_2H_4 (1/99) selectivity and C_2H_2 (0.01 bar) uptake of previously reported materials.

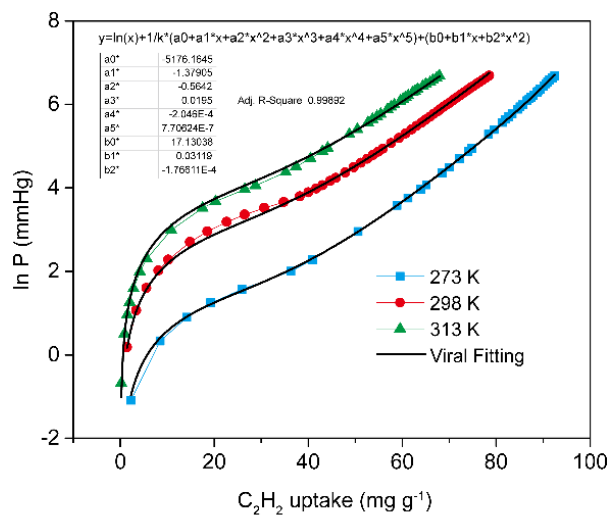


Figure S16: The virial fitting of the C_2H_2 adsorption isotherms for ZU-62-Ni at 273 K, 298 K and 313 K.

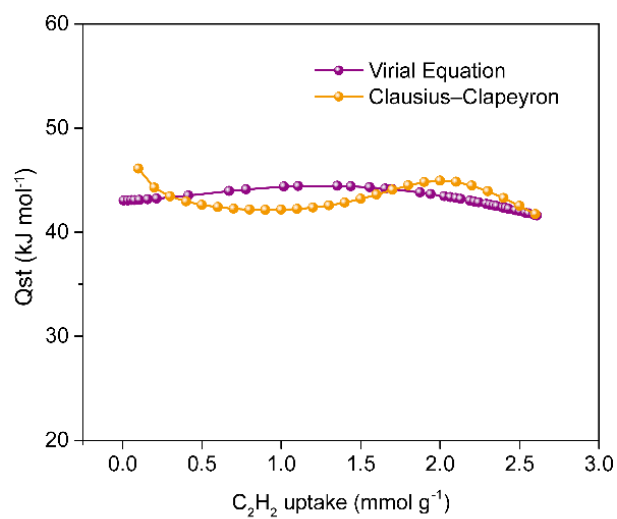


Figure S17: The C_2H_2 isosteric adsorption heat within ZU-62-Ni.

Table S2: The comparison of C₂H₂ and C₂H₄ uptake from gas adsorption isotherms for various materials.

Materials	BET% (m ² g ⁻¹)	C ₂ H ₂ uptake at 0.01bar (mmol g ⁻¹)	C ₂ H ₂ uptake at 1bar (mmol g ⁻¹)	C ₂ H ₄ uptake at 1bar (mmol g ⁻¹)	C ₂ H ₂ /C ₂ H ₄ (1/99) selectivity	Reference
ZU-62-Ni	404†	0.3	3.01	0.8	37.2	This work
ZU-62	476	1.1	3.53	2.19	24	1
ZU-32	467	1.54	3.96	2.19	67	2
ZU-33	424†	1.94	3.78	0.70	1100&	2
ZU-12-Ni	480	1.15	4.21	2.42	22.7	3
SIFSIX-2-Cu-i	503	1.5	4.02	2.19	44.54	4
SIFSIX-14-Cu-i	612†	1.82	3.65	0.63	6320&	5
SIFSIX-3-Ni	368	0.23	3.30	1.75	5.03	6
SIFSIX-3-Zn	250	0.50	3.64	2.24	8.82	4
SIFSIX-1-Cu	1178	1.02	8.5	4.11	10.63	4
TIFSIX-4-Cu-i	542	0.45	4.3	1.5	11	7
TIFSIX-2-Cu-i	685	1.7	4.1	2.5	55	7
M'MOF-3a	110	0.28	1.9	0.4	24	8
UTSA-100a	970	0.76	4.27	1.66	10.72	9
NOTT-300	1370	0.25	6.34#	4.28#	2.17	10
Fe-MOF-74	1350	1.26	6.8*	6.1*	2.08	11
NKMOF-1-Ni	380	1.69	2.72	2.09	1272.6	12

% BET surface area calculated from N₂ isotherms at 77K.

* at temperature of 318 K.

at temperature of 293 K.

& only for the qualitative comparison

† BET surface area calculated from CO₂ isotherms at 196 K.

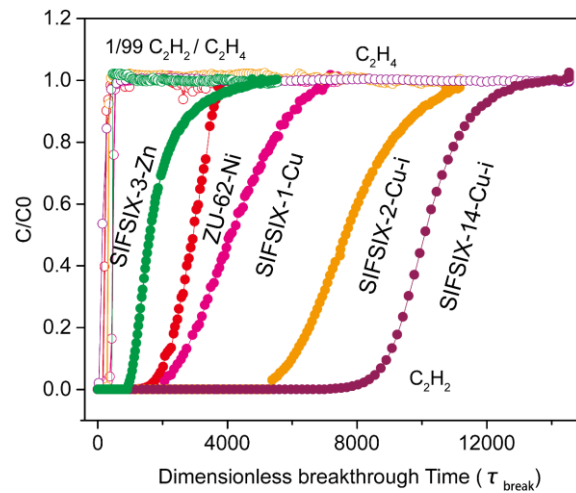


Figure S18: The experimental breakthrough performance of previously reported best-performing materials.

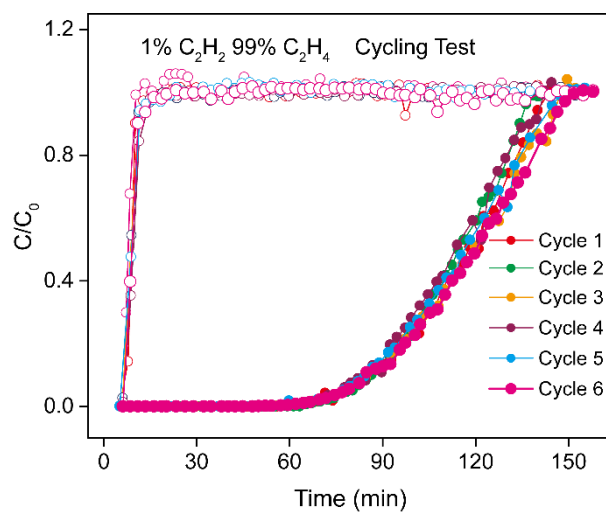


Figure S19: The cycling C_2H_2/C_2H_4 breakthrough performance. (desorption condition: He flow 15 mL min^{-1} under 25°C for 8 hours)

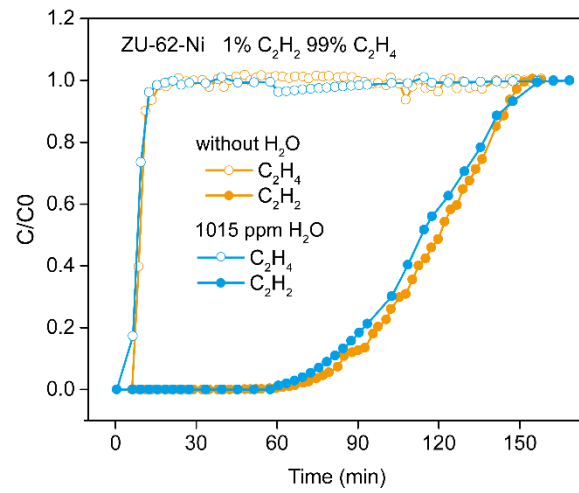


Figure S20: The experimental column breakthrough curves for C₂H₂/C₂H₄ (1/99, v/v) and C₂H₂/C₂H₄/H₂O separations (1.01/98.9, v/v ; with 1015 ppm H₂O) on ZU-62-Ni.

Reference

1. L. F. Yang, X. L. Cui, Z. Q. Zhang, Q. W. Yang, Z. B. Bao, Q. L. Ren and H. B. Xing, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed*, 2018, **57**, 13145-13149.
2. Z. Zhang, X. Cui, L. Yang, J. Cui, Z. Bao, Q. Yang and H. Xing, *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res*, 2018, **57**, 7266-7274.
3. M. Jiang, X. Cui, L. Yang, Q. Yang, Z. Zhang, Y. Yang and H. Xing, *Chem. Eng. J*, 2018, **352**, 803-810.
4. X. Cui, K. Chen, H. Xing, Q. Yang, R. Krishna, Z. Bao, H. Wu, W. Zhou, X. Dong, Y. Han, B. Li, Q. Ren, M. J. Zaworotko and B. Chen, *Science*, 2016, **353**, 141-144.
5. B. Li, X. Cui, D. O'Nolan, H. M. Wen, M. Jiang, R. Krishna, H. Wu, R. B. Lin, Y. S. Chen, D. Yuan, H. Xing, W. Zhou, Q. Ren, G. Qian, M. J. Zaworotko and B. Chen, *Adv Mater*, 2017, **29**, 1704210-1704217.
6. L. Yang, X. Cui, Q. Yang, S. Qian, H. Wu, Z. Bao, Z. Zhang, Q. Ren, W. Zhou, B. Chen and H. Xing, *Adv Mater*, 2018, **30**, 1705374-1705382.
7. A. Bajpai, D. O'Nolan, D. G. Madden, K. J. Chen, T. Pham, A. Kumar, M. Lusi, J. J. Perry, B. Space and M. J. Zaworotko, *Chem. Commun*, 2017, **53**, 11592-11595.
8. S. C. Xiang, Z. Zhang, C. G. Zhao, K. Hong, X. Zhao, D. R. Ding, M. H. Xie, C. D. Wu, M. C. Das, R. Gill, K. M. Thomas and B. Chen, *Nat. Commun*, 2011, **2**, 204-211.
9. T. L. Hu, H. Wang, B. Li, R. Krishna, H. Wu, W. Zhou, Y. Zhao, Y. Han, X. Wang, W. Zhu, Z. Yao, S. Xiang and B. Chen, *Nat. Commun*, 2015, **6**, 7328-7337.
10. S. Yang, A. J. Ramirez-Cuesta, R. Newby, V. Garcia-Sakai, P. Manuel, S. K. Callear, S. I. Campbell, C. C. Tang and M. Schroder, *Nat. Chem*, 2014, **7**, 121-129.
11. E. D. Bloch, W. L. Queen, R. Krishna, J. M. Zadrozny, C. M. Brown and J. R. Long, *Science*, 2012, **335**, 1606-1610.
12. Y. L. Peng, T. Pham, P. Li, T. Wang, Y. Chen, K. J. Chen, B. Space, K. Forrest, P. Cheng, Z. Zhang and M. Zaworotko, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed*, 2018, **57**, 10971-10975.