

Understanding Structural Flexibility of the Paddle-Wheel Zn-SBU motif in MOFs:
Influence of Pillar Ligands

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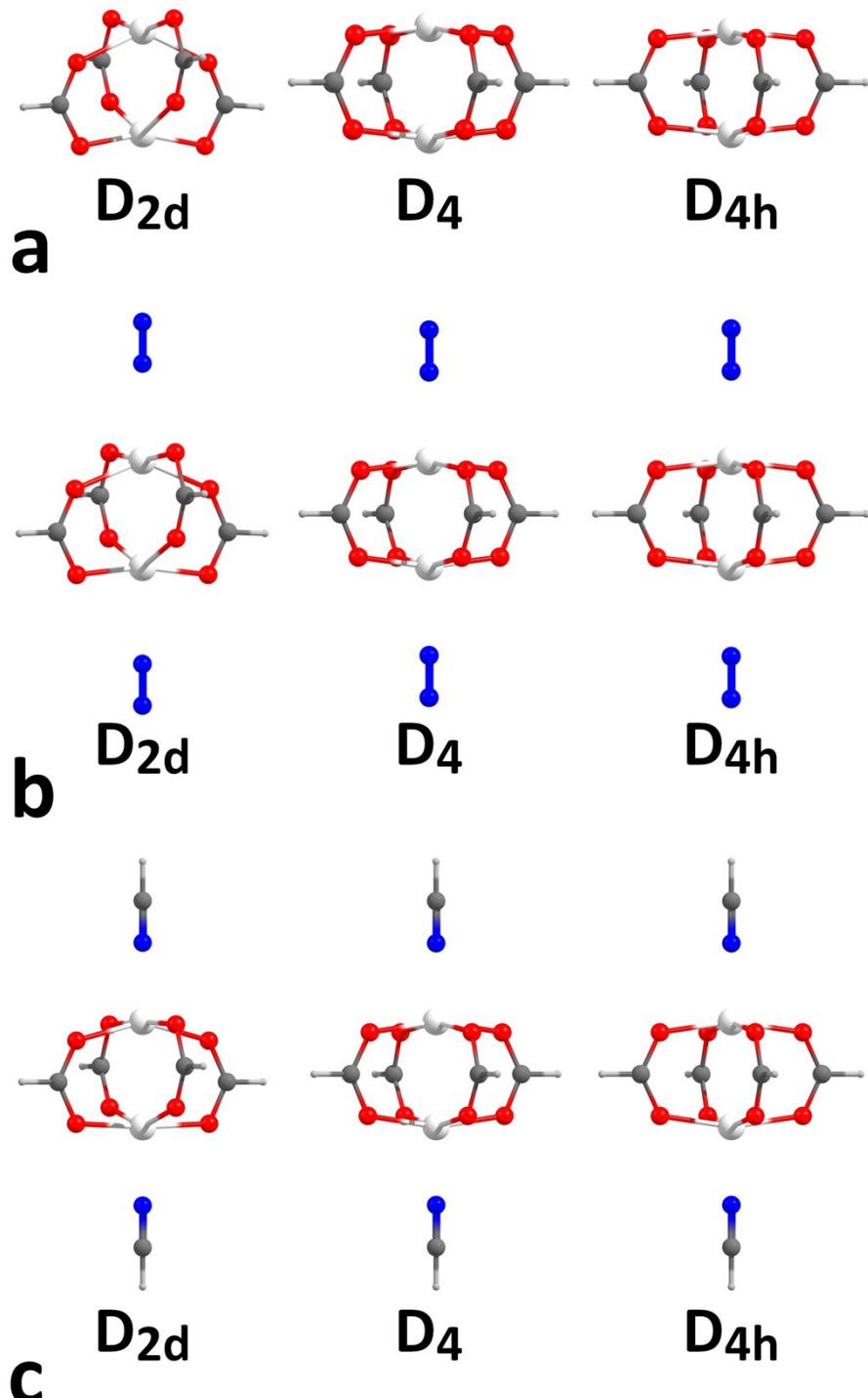


Figure S1. D_{2d} , D_4 and D_{4h} symmetries of Zn-SBU without pillar ligands (a), with N_2 (b) and NCH (c) molecules as pillar ligands.

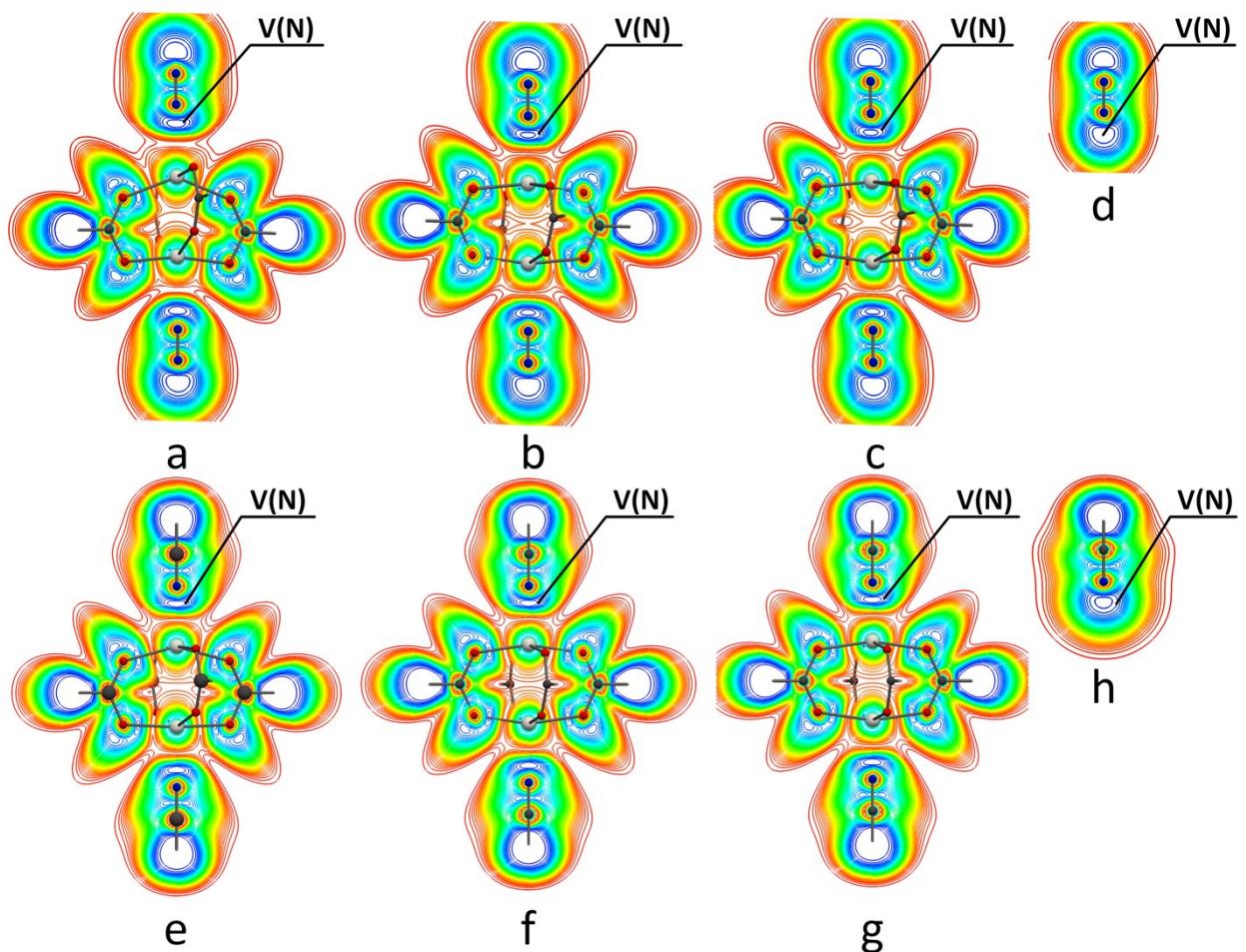


Figure S2. ELF maps calculated for the D_{2d} (a), D_4 (b) and D_{4h} (c) forms of the $Zn\text{-SBU}+2\text{N}_2$ system, $N\text{CH}$ (d) molecule, the D_{2d} (e), D_4 (f) and D_{4h} (g) forms of the $Zn\text{-SBU}+2\text{NCH}$ system and N_2 (h) molecule.

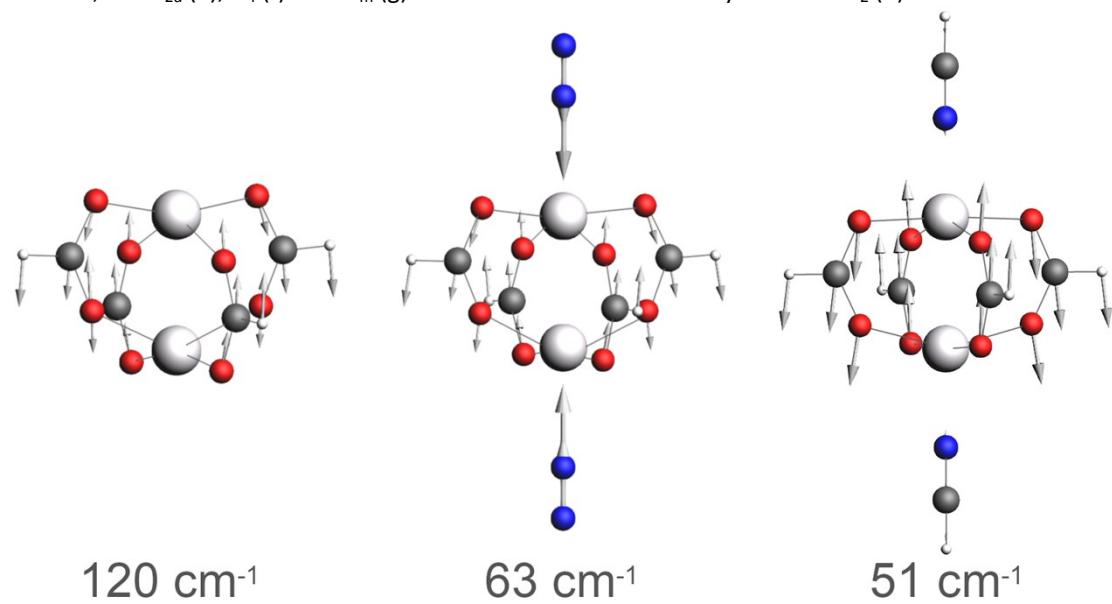


Figure S3. Vibrational modes, which can promote transition between two D_{2d} forms of $Zn\text{-SBU}$, $Zn\text{-SBU}+2\text{N}_2$ and $Zn\text{-SBU}+2\text{NCH}$.

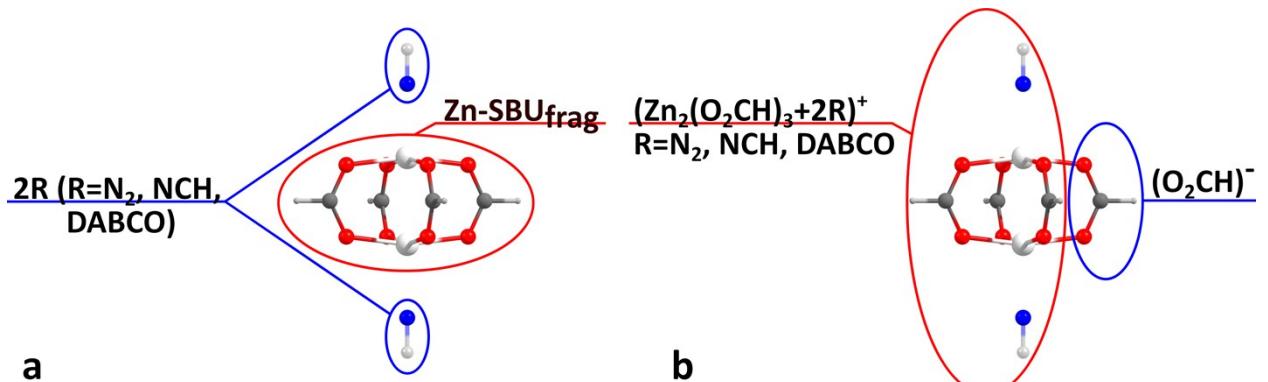


Figure S4. Zn-SBU_{frag} and 2R fragments (a) and Zn₂(O₂CH)₃+2R)⁺ and (O₂CH)⁻ fragments (b) (R=N₂, NCH, DABCO) used for the energy decomposition analysis.

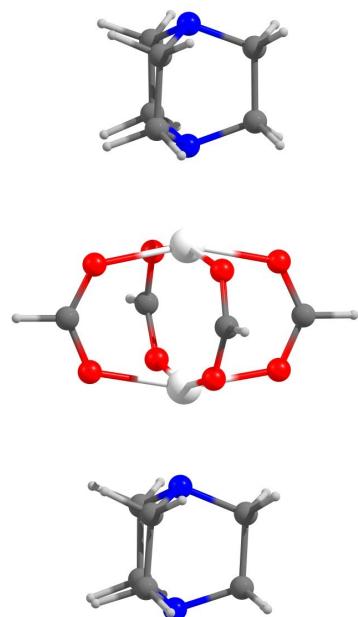


Figure S5. Local minimum with C₁ symmetry of Zn-SBU with DABCO as pillar ligands.

Table S1. Energy decomposition calculated for Zn-SBU+2N₂, Zn-SBU+2NCH and Zn-SBU+2DABCO systems at the S12h/TZP level of theory. E_{elstat}, E_{Pauli}, E_{orb}, E_{disp}, E_{int} are the energies of electrostatic interaction, Pauli repulsion, orbital interactions, dispersion energy, and interaction energy, respectively, calculated relative to Zn-SBU_{frag} and 2R (R=N₂, NCH, DABCO) fragments. All values are given in kcal/mol.

| | Zn-SBU+2N ₂ | | | Zn-SBU+2NCH | | | Zn-SBU+2DABCO |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | C ₁ |
| E _{elstat} | -14.28 | -24.63 | -24.61 | -65.89 | -68.91 | -68.79 | -142.48 |
| E _{Pauli} | 16.48 | 28.08 | 28.07 | 65.38 | 67.00 | 66.94 | 123.17 |
| E _{orb} | -9.84 | -18.47 | -18.44 | -32.40 | -34.12 | -34.04 | -50.99 |
| E _{disp} | -2.80 | -3.13 | -3.14 | -3.18 | -3.25 | -3.25 | -14.91 |
| E _{int} | -10.44 | -18.15 | -18.12 | -36.09 | -39.28 | -39.14 | -85.21 |

Table S2. Comparison of bonding energies of Zn-SBU_{frag} and 2R (R=N₂, NCH, DABCO) fragments calculated at different theoretical levels. All values are in kcal/mol.

| | Zn-SBU+2N ₂ | | | Zn-SBU+2NCH | | | Zn-SBU+2DABCO |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | C ₁ |
| S12h/TZP | -10.44 | -18.15 | -18.12 | -36.09 | -39.28 | -39.14 | -85.21 |
| CCSD(T)/Def2TZVP//S12h/TZP | -10.93 | -18.71 | -18.67 | -38.82 | -41.81 | -41.67 | n/a |
| sSAPT0/aug-cc-pvdz//S12h/TZP | -10.88 | -17.37 | -17.35 | -39.52 | -41.96 | -41.84 | -79.65 |

Table S3. Contribution of electrostatic, exchange, induction and dispersion (E_{elstat} , E_{exch} , E_{ind} , E_{disp} , respectively) components in interaction energy (E_{int}) of Zn-SBUfrag and 2R (R=N₂, NCH, DABCO) fragments calculated by SAPTO and sSAPTO method on dimer and monomer basis with aug-cc-pvdz basis set. All values are in kcal/mol.

| | Zn-SBU+2N ₂ | | | Zn-SBU+2NCH | | | Zn-SBU+2DABCO |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | C ₁ |
| Dimer Basis SAPTO | | | | | | | |
| E_{elstat} | -11.94 | -20.76 | -20.76 | -61.09 | -64.45 | -64.32 | -135.66 |
| E_{exch} | 15.05 | 25.52 | 25.53 | 57.75 | 60.09 | 60.08 | 117.35 |
| E_{ind} | -5.40 | -11.41 | -11.39 | -21.85 | -23.16 | -23.11 | -36.65 |
| E_{disp} | -7.89 | -10.27 | -10.29 | -15.62 | -15.88 | -15.90 | -32.68 |
| E_{int} | -10.18 | -16.92 | -16.91 | -40.80 | -43.39 | -43.26 | -87.64 |
| Monomer Basis SAPTO | | | | | | | |
| E_{elstat} | -11.82 | -21.12 | -21.11 | -63.91 | -67.61 | -67.47 | -137.19 |
| E_{exch} | 14.49 | 26.17 | 26.17 | 61.07 | 63.95 | 63.92 | 120.25 |
| E_{ind} | -6.31 | -13.26 | -13.24 | -24.65 | -26.23 | -26.18 | -42.26 |
| E_{disp} | -7.34 | -9.47 | -9.48 | -13.98 | -14.19 | -14.22 | -30.07 |
| E_{int} | -10.98 | -17.68 | -17.66 | -41.47 | -44.07 | -43.95 | -89.27 |
| Dimer Basis sSAPTO | | | | | | | |
| E_{elstat} | -11.94 | -20.76 | -20.76 | -61.09 | -64.45 | -64.32 | -135.66 |
| E_{exch} | 15.05 | 25.52 | 25.53 | 57.75 | 60.09 | 60.08 | 117.35 |
| E_{ind} | -5.05 | -10.14 | -10.12 | -14.97 | -15.73 | -15.69 | -14.22 |
| E_{disp} | -7.87 | -10.23 | -10.25 | -15.45 | -15.70 | -15.73 | -32.22 |
| E_{int} | -9.81 | -15.61 | -15.60 | -33.75 | -35.79 | -35.66 | -64.75 |
| Monomer Basis sSAPTO | | | | | | | |
| E_{elstat} | -11.82 | -21.12 | -21.11 | -63.91 | -67.61 | -67.47 | -137.19 |
| E_{exch} | 14.49 | 26.17 | 26.18 | 61.07 | 63.95 | 63.92 | 120.25 |
| E_{ind} | -6.22 | -12.97 | -12.95 | -22.79 | -24.20 | -24.15 | -32.92 |
| E_{disp} | -7.33 | -9.45 | -9.47 | -13.89 | -14.11 | -14.13 | -29.79 |
| E_{int} | -10.88 | -17.37 | -17.35 | -39.52 | -41.96 | -41.84 | -79.65 |

Table S4. Energy decomposition calculated for Zn-SBU+2N₂, Zn-SBU+2NCH and Zn-SBU+2DABCO systems at the S12h/TZP level of theory. E_{elstat} , E_{Pauli} , E_{orb} , E_{disp} , E_{int} are the energies of electrostatic interaction, Pauli repulsion, orbital interactions, dispersion energy, and interaction energy, respectively, calculated relative to (O₂CH)⁻ and (Zn₂(O₂CH)₃+2R) (R=*, N₂, NCH, DABCO) fragments. All values are given in kcal/mol.

| | Zn-SBU | | | Zn-SBU+2N ₂ | | | Zn-SBU+2NCH | | | Zn-SBU+DABCO |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | D _{2d} | D ₄ | D _{4h} | C ₁ |
| E_{Pauli} | 129.78 | 138.99 | 138.91 | 129.65 | 131.38 | 131.4 | 121.44 | 121.26 | 121.38 | 116.42 |
| E_{elstat} | -249.24 | -245.74 | -245.69 | -237.52 | -230.49 | -230.55 | -206.29 | -205 | -205.14 | -197.34 |
| E_{orb} | -74.5 | -74.53 | -74.6 | -72.28 | -70.71 | -70.79 | -64.51 | -64.44 | -64.54 | -63.33 |
| E_{disp} | -3.18 | -3.36 | -3.35 | -3.72 | -3.9 | -3.89 | -3.95 | -3.98 | -3.97 | -5.49 |
| E_{int} | -197.14 | -184.64 | -184.73 | -183.87 | -173.72 | -173.83 | -153.31 | -152.16 | -152.27 | -149.74 |
| steric | -119.46 | -106.75 | -106.78 | -107.87 | -99.11 | -99.15 | -84.85 | -83.74 | -83.76 | -80.92 |