

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Three stable dinuclear $[M_2(OH)_{0.5}(NO_3)_{0.5}(RCOO)_2(RN)_4]$ ($M =$ **Cu, Ni**) based metal-organic frameworks with high CO_2 adsorption and selective separation for O_2/N_2 and C_3H_8/CH_4

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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_2 , CH_4 , C_2H_6 and C_3H_8 for compounds **Cu-L₁**, **Ni-L₁** and **Ni-L₂**, 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 is also necessary.

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

$$q = q_{m_1} \times \frac{b_1 \times p^{1/n_1}}{1 + b_1 \times p^{1/n_1}} + q_{m_2} \times \frac{b_2 \times p^{1/n_2}}{1 + b_2 \times p^{1/n_2}}$$

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), q_{m_1} and q_{m_2} are the saturation capacities of sites 1 and 2 (mol/kg), 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

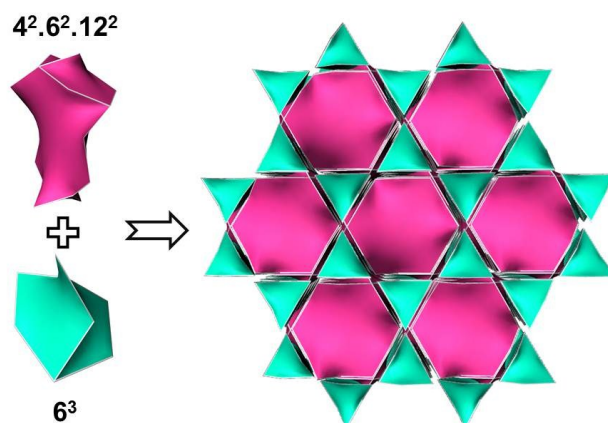


Fig. S1 Topological features of compound **Cu-L₁** displayed by tiles and face symbols for green (6^3) and pink ($4^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 12^2$) tiles.

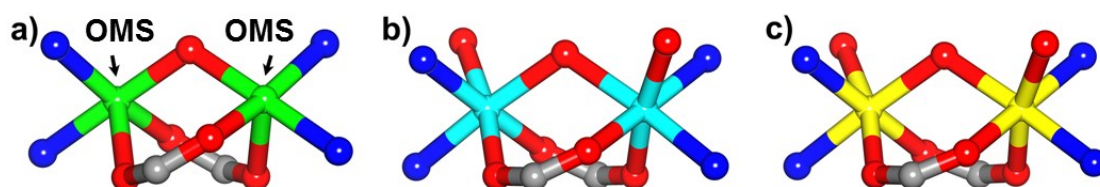


Fig. S2 Comparison of metal atom coordination modes for compounds **Cu-L₁** (a), **Ni-L₁** (b) and **Ni-L₂** (c).

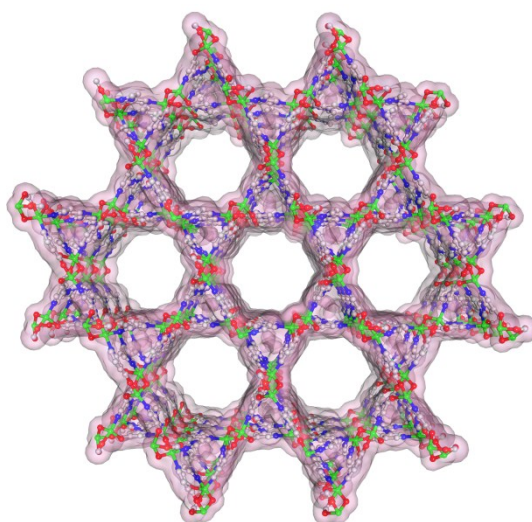


Fig. S3 The illustration of structure displayed by connolly surface areas.

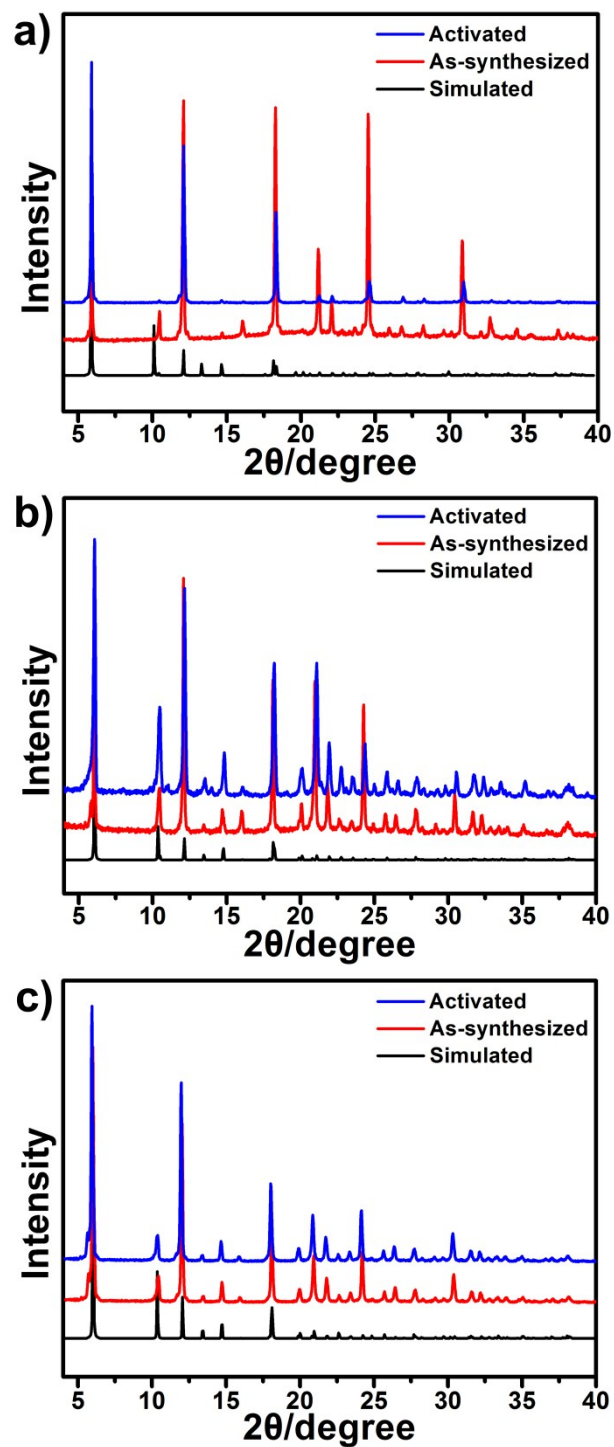


Fig. S4 PXRD patterns of compounds **Cu-L₁** (a), **Ni-L₁** (b) and **Ni-L₂** (c) for simulated, as-synthesized and activated samples.

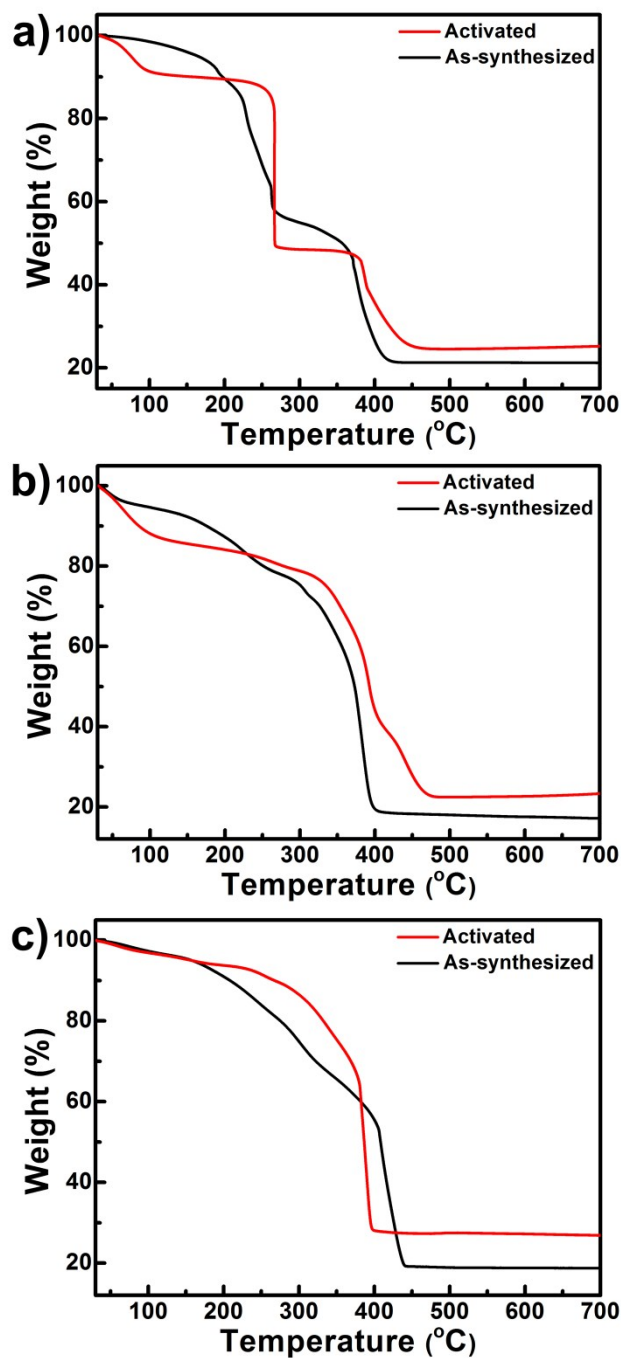


Fig. S5 Thermogravimetric analysis curves of compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) for as-synthesized and solvent-exchanged samples.

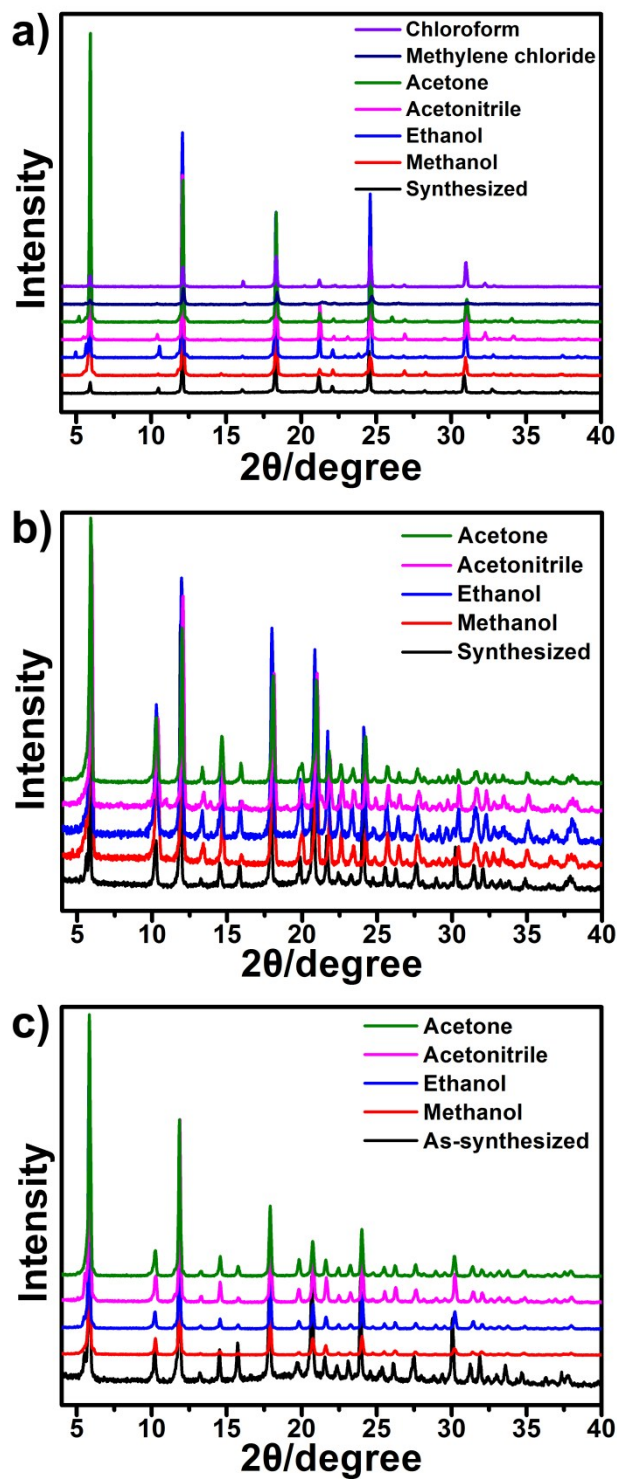


Fig. S6 XRD patterns of compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) for solvent-exchanged samples.

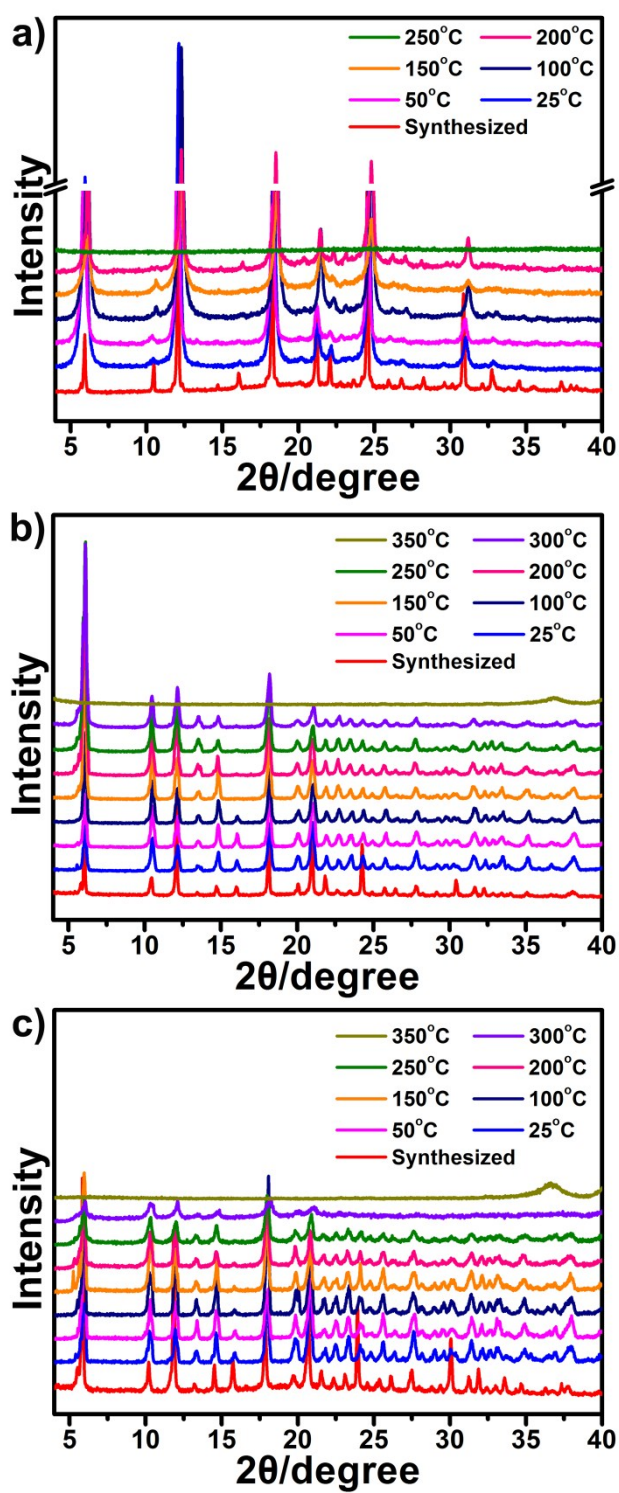


Fig. S7 Varied temperature PXRD patterns of compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

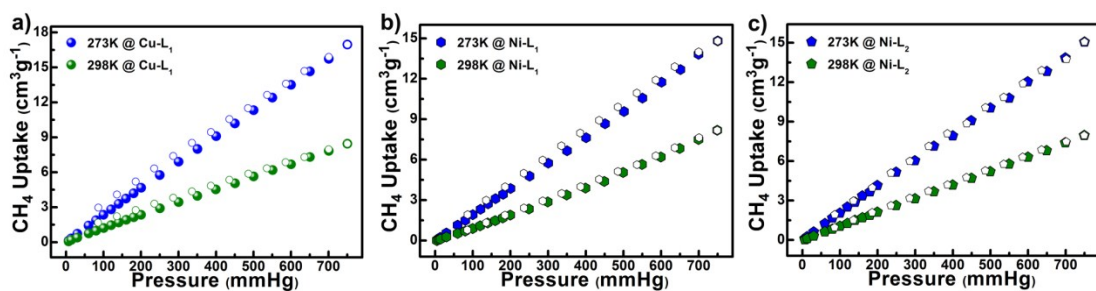


Fig. S8 CH₄ sorption isotherms for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) at 273 and 298 K.

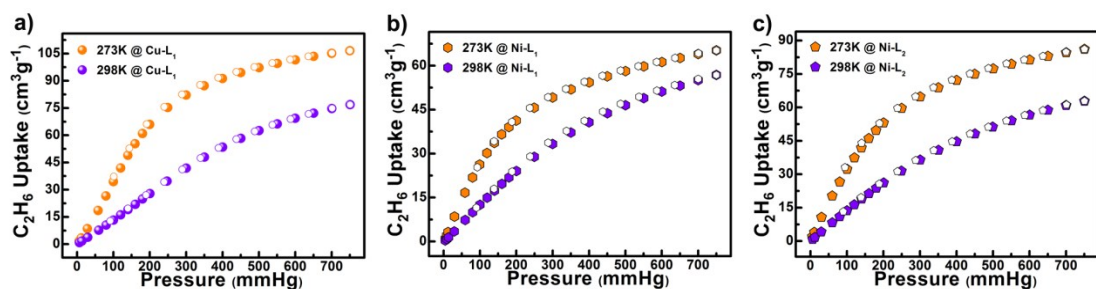


Fig. S9 C₂H₆ sorption isotherms for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) at 273 and 298 K.

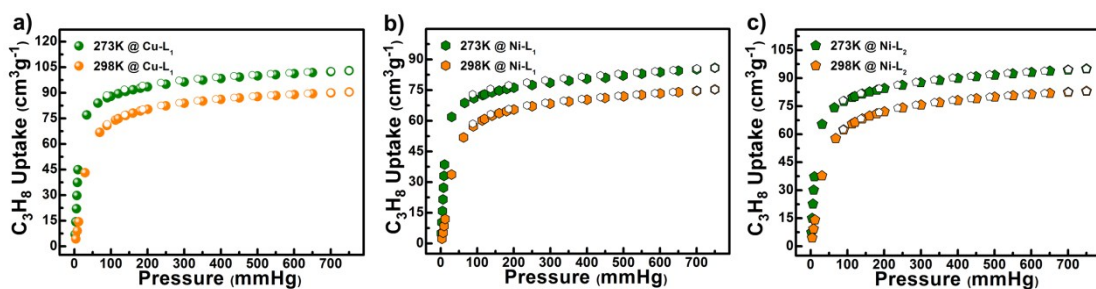


Fig. S10 C₃H₈ sorption isotherms for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) at 273 and 298 K.

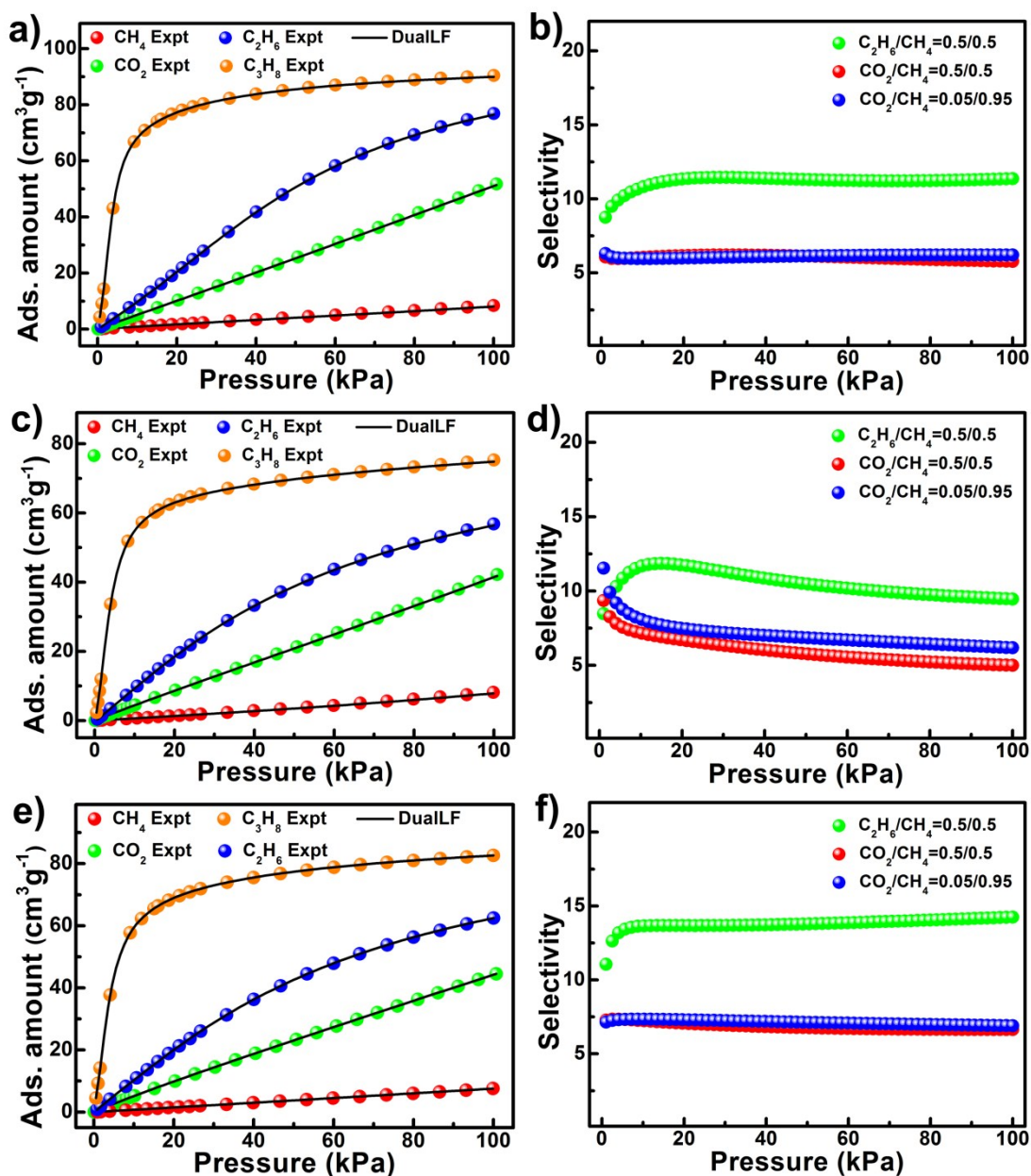


Fig. S11 CO_2 , CH_4 , C_2H_6 and C_3H_8 adsorption isotherms for compounds **Cu-L₁** (a), **Ni-L₁** (c) and **Ni-L₂** (e) at 298 K along with the dual-site Langmuir Freundlich (DSLFF) fits. The selectivity of CO_2/CH_4 and $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6/\text{CH}_4$ is predicted by IAST at 298 K for compounds **Cu-L₁** (b), **Ni-L₁** (d) and **Ni-L₂** (f).

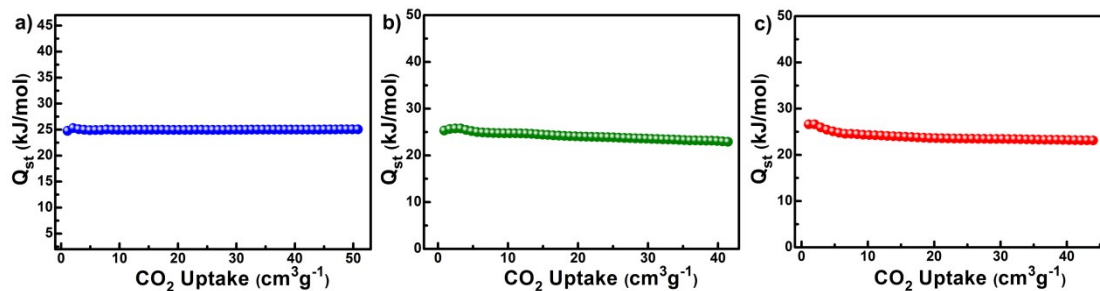


Fig. S12 Q_{st} of CO_2 for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

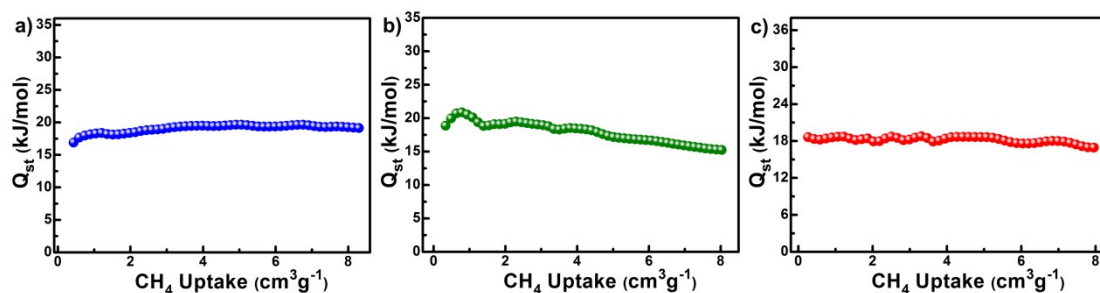


Fig. S13 Q_{st} of CH_4 for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

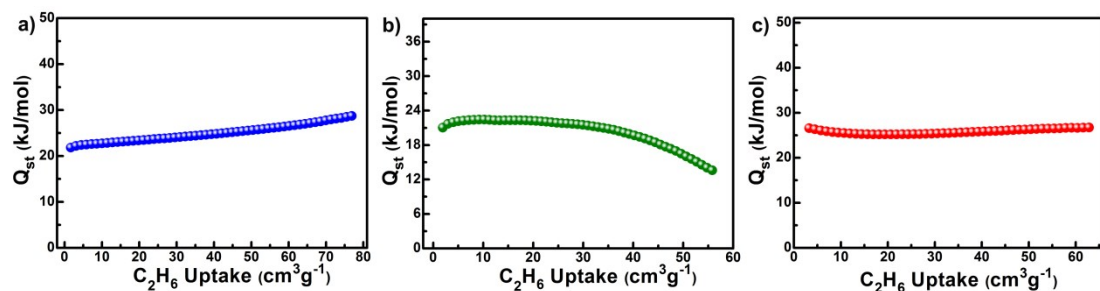


Fig. S14 Q_{st} of C_2H_6 for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

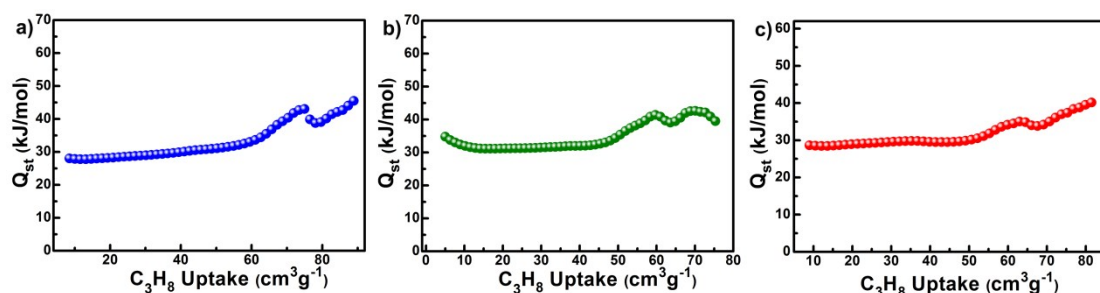


Fig. S15 Q_{st} of C_3H_8 for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

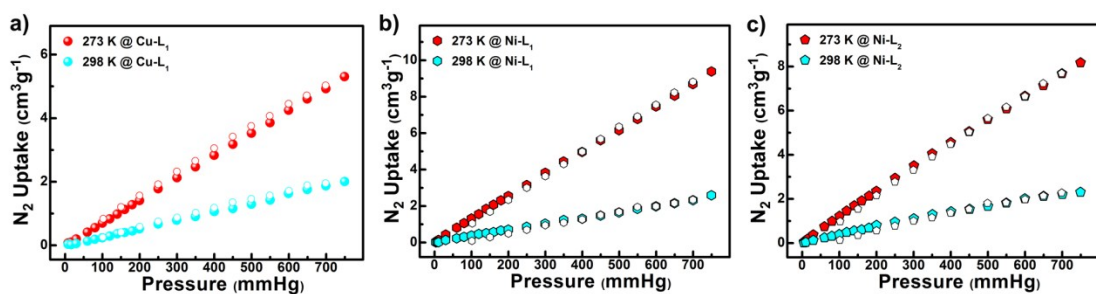


Fig. S16 N₂ sorption isotherms for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) at 273 and 298 K.

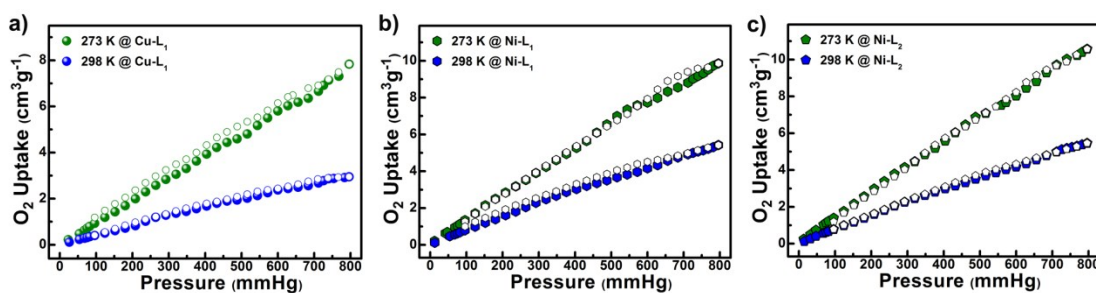


Fig. S17 O₂ sorption isotherms for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c) at 273 and 298 K.

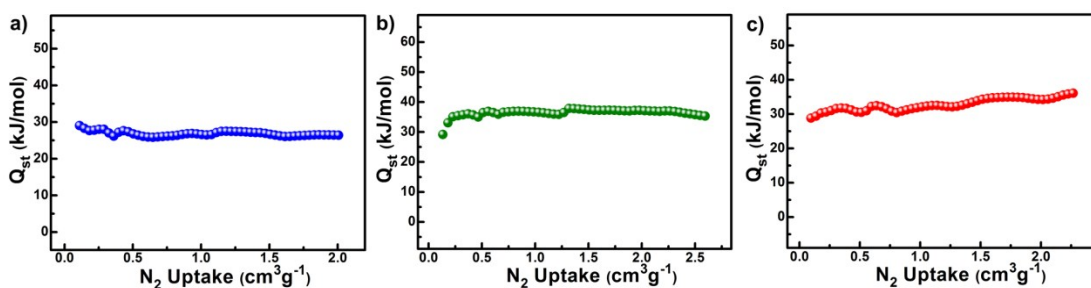


Fig. S18 Q_{st} of N₂ for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

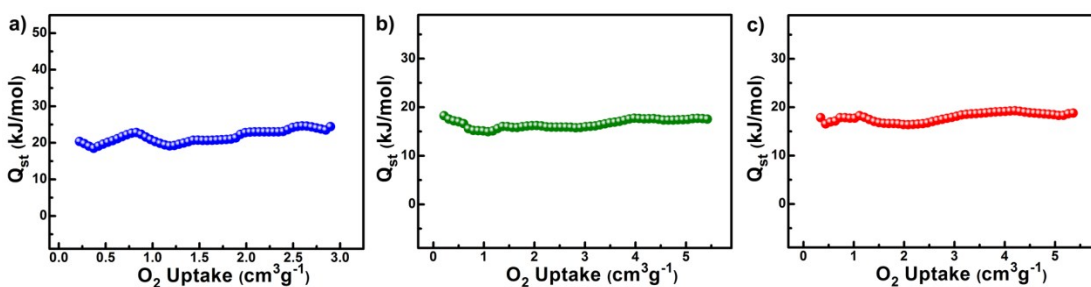


Fig. S19 Q_{st} of O₂ for compounds Cu-L₁ (a), Ni-L₁ (b) and Ni-L₂ (c).

S3. Supporting Tables

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinements for compounds **Cu-L₁**, **Ni-L₁** and **Ni-L₂**.

Compound	Cu-L ₁	Ni-L ₁	Ni-L ₂
Formula	C ₄₈ H ₅₃ Cu ₄ N ₁₉ O ₂₂	C ₅₁ H ₆₈ N ₂₀ Ni ₄ O ₂₇	C ₄₇ H ₅₆ N ₂₄ Ni ₄ O ₂₃
F _w	1502.25	1628.09	1559.99
Temp (K)	293(2) K	293(2) K	293(2) K
Crystal system	Trigonal	Trigonal	Trigonal
Space group	<i>P</i> 3 ₂ 21	<i>P</i> 3 ₂ 21	<i>P</i> 3 ₂ 21
a (Å)	16.547	16.851	16.943
b (Å)	16.547	16.851	16.943
c (Å)	10.580	10.518	10.504
α (°)	90	90	90
β (°)	90	90	90
γ (°)	120	120	120
V(Å ³)	2508.8(9)	2586.6(9)	2611.3(9)
Z, D _c (Mg/m ³)	1.50, 1.491	1.50, 1.568	1.50, 1.488
Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹)	1.339	1.170	1.153
F(000)	1149	1263	1203
Reflections collected/unique	16441/3056	17113/3240	17094/3168
R _{int}	0.0368	0.0711	0.0527
Data/restraints/ parameters	3056/24/148	3240/0/155	3168/110/203
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.107	1.010	1.054
R _I , wR ₂ [I > 2σ(I)]	0.0698, 0.1831	0.0440, 0.1115	0.0462, 0.1201
R _I , wR ₂ (all data)	0.0706, 0.1839	0.0517, 0.1157	0.0509, 0.1224

Table S2. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for compound **Cu-L₁**.

Compound Cu-L₁			
Cu(1)-O(3)	1.956(5)	Cu(1)-N(3)	2.061(6)
Cu(1)-O(1)#1	1.967(5)	Cu(1)-O(2)#3	2.280(5)
Cu(1)-N(2)#2	2.019(6)	O(3)-Cu(1)-O(1)#1	91.94(19)
O(3)-Cu(1)-N(2)#2	178.24(18)	O(1)#1-Cu(1)-N(2)#2	86.4(2)
O(3)-Cu(1)-N(3)	88.7(2)	O(1)#1-Cu(1)-N(3)	167.6(2)
N(2)#2-Cu(1)-N(3)	92.9(2)	O(3)-Cu(1)-O(2)#3	92.5(2)
O(1)#1-Cu(1)-O(2)#3	101.6(2)	N(2)#2-Cu(1)-O(2)#3	88.4(2)
N(3)-Cu(1)-O(2)#3	90.8(2)	C(9)-O(1)-Cu(1)#4	127.3(4)
C(9)-O(2)-Cu(1)#5	124.5(5)	N(4)-O(3)-Cu(1)	121.7(2)
N(4)-O(3)-Cu(1)#6	121.7(2)	Cu(1)-O(3)-Cu(1)#6	116.6(5)
C(1)-N(2)-Cu(1)#7	123.2(5)	C(3)-N(2)-Cu(1)#7	132.0(5)
C(7)-N(3)-Cu(1)	121.2(4)	C(8)-N(3)-Cu(1)	119.8(4)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

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

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

Table S3. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for compound **Ni-L₁**.

Compound Ni-L₁			
Ni(1)-O(1)#1	2.012(4)	Ni(1)-N(2)#2	2.063(5)
Ni(1)-O(2)#3	2.079(4)	Ni(1)-O(4)	2.085(5)
Ni(1)-O(3)	2.097(4)	Ni(1)-N(3)	2.100(5)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(2)#2	84.75(19)	O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(2)#3	98.50(17)
N(2)#2-Ni(1)-O(2)#3	87.53(18)	O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(4)	87.46(18)
N(2)#2-Ni(1)-O(4)	87.6(2)	O(2)#3-Ni(1)-O(4)	171.91(19)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(3)	88.54(16)	N(2)#2-Ni(1)-O(3)	173.23(16)
O(2)#3-Ni(1)-O(3)	94.35(16)	O(4)-Ni(1)-O(3)	91.2(2)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(3)	173.64(18)	N(2)#2-Ni(1)-N(3)	93.5(2)
O(2)#3-Ni(1)-N(3)	87.50(19)	O(4)-Ni(1)-N(3)	86.4(2)
O(3)-Ni(1)-N(3)	93.12(17)	C(9)-O(1)-Ni(1)#4	132.3(3)
C(9)-O(2)-Ni(1)#5	129.9(4)	N(4)-O(3)-Ni(1)	123.12(15)
N(4)-O(3)-Ni(1)#6	123.12(15)	Ni(1)-O(3)-Ni(1)#6	113.8(3)
C(7)-N(3)-Ni(1)	121.1(4)	C(8)-N(3)-Ni(1)	119.3(4)
C(1)-N(2)-Ni(1)#7	123.3(5)	C(3)-N(2)-Ni(1)#7	129.2(4)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

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

Table S4. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for compound **Ni-L₂**.

Compound Ni-L₂			
Ni(1)-O(1)#1	2.012(5)	Ni(1)-O(2)#2	2.066(4)
Ni(1)-O(3)	2.066(4)	Ni(1)-N(3)#3	2.095(6)
Ni(1)-N(4)	2.096(5)	Ni(1)-O(4)	2.122(5)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(2)#2	98.2(2)	O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(3)	89.73(17)
O(2)#2-Ni(1)-O(3)	95.33(18)	O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(3)#3	85.1(2)
O(2)#2-Ni(1)-N(3)#3	86.8(2)	O(3)-Ni(1)-N(3)#3	174.62(18)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(4)	174.0(2)	O(2)#2-Ni(1)-N(4)	87.1(2)
O(3)-Ni(1)-N(4)	92.51(19)	N(3)#3-Ni(1)-N(4)	92.5(2)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(4)	87.7(2)	O(2)#2-Ni(1)-O(4)	168.9(2)
O(3)-Ni(1)-O(4)	94.1(2)	N(3)#3-Ni(1)-O(4)	84.3(2)
N(4)-Ni(1)-O(4)	86.6(2)	C(8)-O(1)-Ni(1)#6	133.0(4)
C(8)-O(2)-Ni(1)#7	129.0(4)	N(7)-O(3)-Ni(1)	122.89(15)
N(7)-O(3)-Ni(1)#4	122.89(15)	Ni(1)-O(3)-Ni(1)#4	114.2(3)
C(9)-O(4)-Ni(1)	133.0(9)	N(6)-O(4)-Ni(1)	114.9(9)
C(2)-N(3)-Ni(1)#8	121.0(5)	C(1)-N(3)-Ni(1)#8	133.2(7)
C(1')-N(3)-Ni(1)#8	126.4(7)	C(4)-N(4)-Ni(1)	119.4(5)
C(5)-N(4)-Ni(1)	122.4(4)		

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

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

#6 $y+1, x, -z$ #7 $-y+1, x-y, z-1/3$ #8 $-y+1, x-y, z+2/3$

Table S5. Comparison of CO₂ adsorption data at 273 K.

Compound	BET (m ² g ⁻¹)	CO ₂ (cm ³ g ⁻¹)	Q _{st} (kJ mol ⁻¹)	Ref.
Cu-L₁	716	115	24.8	This work
JLU-Liu47	1800	192	35	1
Cu-TDPAT	1938	227	42.2	2
CPM-200-Fe/Mg	1459	207.6	34.3	3
IFMC-1	780	91.4	30.7	4
JLU-Liu38	1784	92.6	24	5
CPM-20	1009	91.2		6
FJI-C1	1726.3	64	20.7	7
(Et ₂ NH ₂)[In(2,6-NDC) ₂]·2H ₂ O·DEF	891	72.2	19.6	8
[H ₂ N(CH ₃) ₂][In(4,4'BPDC) ₂]·4DMF·2H ₂ O	638	34	25.8	9
[Cu(F-pymo) ₂] _n		38.7	49-55	10
NOTT-202a	2220	~56	20-25	11
InOF-15	935.6	78	31.1	12

“~”represent approximate values are obtained from the figures of reported articles.

Table S6. Comparison of C₃H₈/CH₄ selectivity (0.5/0.5) at 101 kPa and 298 K of compounds **Cu-L₁** and **Ni-L₂** with the reported MOFs.

Compound	C ₃ H ₈ /CH ₄ (0.5/0.5)	Ref.
Cu-L₁	175	This work
Ni-L₂	167	This work
UPC-33	41.8	13
BSF-1	353	14
[Cu ₄ (PMTD) ₂ (H ₂ O) ₃]·20 H ₂ O	~105	15
JLU-Liu23	273	16
JLU-MOF51	220	17
[Zn ₂₄ (BDPO) ₁₂ (DMF) ₁₂]·6DMF·52H ₂ O	125	18
FJI-C4	293	19
UTSA-35a	~80	20
eea-MOF-4	136	21

“~”represent approximate values are obtained from the figures of reported articles.

Table S7. The refined parameters for the Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equations fit for the pure isotherms of CO₂, CH₄, C₂H₆ and C₃H₈ for compounds **Cu-L₁**, **Ni-L₁** and **Ni-L₂** at 298 K.

Cu-L₁	q_{m1}	b₁	1/n₁	q_{m2}	b₂	1/n₂	R²
CO ₂	0.38684	0.04058	0.88895	29.56189	2.91706E-4	1.1983	1
CH ₄	1	0.00415	0.99341	1.9418	4.33339E-7	2.47973	0.99995
C ₂ H ₆	3.58732	5.40009E-4	1.88337	0.7894	0.05024	1.06683	1
C ₃ H ₈	2.25703	0.05579	2.40374	2.13085	0.1294	0.78189	0.99999

Ni-L₁	q_{m1}	b₁	1/n₁	q_{m2}	b₂	1/n₂	R²
CO ₂	7	0.00299	0.98054	16.49958	1.02113E-6	2.16191	0.99999
CH ₄	2.76023	9.25777E-6	1.98086	0.2	0.01038	1.15305	0.9999
C ₂ H ₆	0.02944	0.11866	2.24535	3.80853	0.00678	1.22221	0.99999
C ₃ H ₈	2.51574	0.08526	1.86066	3.04433	0.02843	0.56059	0.99998

Ni-L₂	q_{m1}	b₁	1/n₁	q_{m2}	b₂	1/n₂	R²
CO ₂	0.75267	0.02757	0.92348	17.66724	2.77914E-4	1.25814	1
CH ₄	1.06409	0.00329	0.9113	2.22501	1.02406E-4	1.4184	0.99985
C ₂ H ₆	4.01293	0.00478	1.30441	0.14241	0.23661	1.09311	1
C ₃ H ₈	2.17334	0.10758	0.61134	2.29706	0.08328	1.88911	1

Table S8. Comparison of O₂/N₂ selectivity at 20 kPa and 77 K.

Compound	O₂/N₂	Q_{st} of O₂ (kJ/mol)	Ref.
Cu-L₁	1.44	24.4	This work
Ni-L₁	1.34	17.6	This work
Ni-L₂	1.45	18.8	This work
Mn/Cu-BTC	1.32	~14	22
Fe/Cu-BTC	1.27	~14	22
Co/Cu-BTC	1.27	15.7	22
Cu-BTC	1.13	10.7	22
JLU-Liu31	1.34	-	23
JLU-Liu18	1.24	16	24

“~”represent approximate values are obtained from the figures of reported articles.

References:

1. B. Liu, S. Yao, X. Y. Liu, X. Li, R. Krishna, G. H. Li, Q. H. Huo and Y. L. Liu, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2017, **9**, 32820-32828.
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