Environment-friendly, co-catalyst and solvent-free fixation of CO₂ using an ionic Zinc(II)-porphyrin complex immobilized in porous metal-organic framework

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Experimental section

(a) Materials

All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. ZrCl₄ (98 %), Zn(OAc)₂.6H₂O, and pyrrole (98 %) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Chemicals. Methyl iodide (98 %) and propionic acid (99 %) were received from TCI Chemicals. [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄ and H₄TCPP ligands was prepared by following the previously reported literature procedure with modification and characterized by ¹H NMR, UV-Vis. and FTIR spectroscopy.¹ PCN-224 is synthesized based on the reported procedure and the phase purity of the compound was identified by PXRD analysis, UV-Vis and FTIR spectroscopy.²

(b) Physical measurements

Powder X-ray powder diffraction (PXRD) patterns were collected on a PANalytical X'PERT PRO diffractometer using Cu K α radiation (λ =1.542 Å; 40 kV, 20 mA). Elemental analysis (C, H, and N) of the compounds were collected on a Thermo Fischer Flash 2000 elemental analyzer. Fourier transform infrared spectra were recorded on KBr pellets using Bruker IFS66 v/S spectrophotometer. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) of MOF1 was recorded in the temperature range of RT–600 °C at a heating rate of 10 °C min⁻¹on a Mettler Toledo thermogravimetric analyzer under N₂ atmosphere with a flow rate of 30 mLmin⁻¹. The products of the catalytic reactions were analyzed by ¹H NMR spectra recorded in CDCl₃ on a JEOL JNM-ECS-400 spectrometer at 400 MHz.

(c) Adsorption measurements

 N_2 adsorption measurements of PCN-224 and $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^-]_4@PCN-224$ were carried out at 77K, whereas CO₂ adsorption measurements were conducted at 273 and 298K on Quadrasorb-SI automatic volumetric instrument. Ultrapure (99.995%) N_2 , and CO₂ gases were utilized for carrying out the adsorption measurements. Prior to adsorption measurements, the $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^-]_4@PCN$ sample (~ 0.1 g) was degassed at 393K under vacuum (18 mTorr) for 16 hours, then the activated sample was connected to the surface area analyzer and the operations were computer controlled. The temperature 77 K was achieved using liquid nitrogen, while 273 and 298K by using water/ethylene glycol (1:1) and the dead volume of the sample cell was determined using Helium gas (99.995%).

(d) Analysis of gas adsorption isotherms

Clausius-Clapeyron Equation³ was used to calculate the enthalpies of CO_2 adsorption. By using Langmuir Freundlich equation⁴ an accurate fit was retrieved which gives a precise prediction of hydrogen adsorbed at saturation. A modification of Clausius-Clapeyron equation is used for calculations.

$$\ln\left[\frac{P_1}{P_2}\right] = \Delta H_{ads} X \left[\frac{T_2 - T_1}{R X T_2 T_1}\right]$$
------(i)

where, P_1 and P_2 = pressures for isotherm at 273K and 298K respectively.

 T_1 and T_2 = temperatures for isotherm at 273K and 298K respectively.

 ΔH_{ads} = Enthalpy of adsorption.

R = Universal gas constant = 8.314 J/K/mol.

Pressure is a function of amount of gas adsorbed which was determined by using the Langmuir-Freundlich fit.

$$\frac{Q}{Q_{m}} = \frac{B X P^{(1/t)}}{1 + (B X P^{(1/t)})}$$
-----(ii)

where, Q = moles of gas adsorbed.

 Q_m = moles of gas adsorbed at saturation.

B and t = constants.

P = Pressure.

By rearranging equation (ii) we get equation (iii)

$$P = \left[\frac{Q/Q_{m}}{B - (B X Q/Q_{m})}\right]^{t}$$
------(iii)

Substituting equation (iii) into equation (i) we get

$$\Delta H_{ads} = \frac{R X T_1 X T_2}{T_2 - T_1} \ln \frac{\left[\frac{Q/Q_{m1}}{B - (B X Q/Q_{m1})}\right]^{t1}}{\left[\frac{Q/Q_{m2}}{B - (B X Q/Q_{m2})}\right]^{t2}} -....(iv)$$

In equation (iv), subscript 1 and 2 are representing data corresponding to 273K and 298K in case of carbon dioxide gas.

randomly inside the pores of PCN-224 and then the geometry optimization was carried out.

(e) Synthesis and characterization



Synthesis of Tetrakis(4-pyridyl)porphyrin: In a 250-mL round bottom flask 4pyridinecarboxaldehyde (5.63 g, 50 mmol) was dissolved in propionic acid (100 mL). Pyrrole was then added dropwise (3.36 g, 50 mmol) and the solution was refluxed at 140 °C for 12h. After the reaction mixture the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and precipitated in DMF at low temerature. The precipitate was filtered and washed with diethyl ether and dried under vacuum to yield purple solid. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6,) δ 8.94 (d, 8H, δ 8.83 (s, 8H,), δ 8.07 (d, 8H,), -2.83 (s, 2H).

Synthesis of 5, 10, 15, 20-tetrakis (4'-pyridyl) Zn(II) porphyrin, [Zn(II)TPyP]. In a 250mL round bottom flask TPyP (100 mg, 0.16 mmol) and 1 ml solution of $Zn(CH_3COO)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (88 mg, 0.40 mmol) in methanol were added in 60 mL chloroform and the mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature. The resulting violet product is precipitated by adding methanol to the concentrated reaction mixture, filtered, washed thoroughly with methanol and dried under vacuum. UV-Vis. (λ) 427 (Soret band), 560 nm, 599 nm (Q bands). ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.94 (d, 8H, δ 8.83 (s, 8H,), δ 8.07 (d, 8H,).

Synthesis of 5, 10, 15, 20-tetrakis (1-methylpyridinium-4'-yl) Zn(II) porphyrin, [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄.

In a 100-mL round bottom flask Zn(II)TPyP (109 mg, 0.16 mmol) and excess of methyl iodide (0.5 mL, 8 mmol) is dissolved in 20 mL DMF and the mixture was stirred for 20 hours at 45 °C. After cooling down to room temperature 40 mL of diethyl ether was introduced. The resultant violet solid was filtered and washed with diethyl ether and chloroform and dried under vacuum. UV-Vis. (λ) 450 nm (Soret band), 576 nm, 624 nm (Q bands). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6,) δ 9.43 (d, 8H), δ 9.12 (s, 8H), δ 8.93 (d, 8H), δ 4.73 (s, 12H). FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2998, 1632, 1498, 1386, 1332, 1258, 1188, 1093, 998, 860, 719, 664. ESI-MS m/z calcd. for C₄₄H₃₆N₈Zn⁴⁺ ([M-4I]⁺) 185.06, found 185.03.

Synthesis of 5, 10, 15, 20-Tetrakis (4-methoxycarbonylphenyl) porphyrin (TPPCOOMe)

In a 250-mL round bottom flask, methyl 4-formylbenzoate (6.9 g, 0.042 mol) was added in 100 mL of propionic acid. To this solution 0.043 mol (3.0 mL) pyrrole was added dropwise and the solution was refluxed at 140 °C for 12h. After the reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature the solid was filtered and washed with methanol and water and dried under vacuum to obtain purple solid (1.8 g, 2.12 mmol, 20% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.82 (s, 8H), 8.43 (d, 8H), 8.29 (d, 8H), 4.10 (s, 12H), -2.83 (s, 2H).

Synthesis of [5, 10, 15, 20-Tetrakis (4-carboxyphenyl) porphyrin] (H₄TCPP)

In a 250-mL round bottom flask 0.75 g of TPPCOOMe was dissolved in 25 mL of THF and 25 mL of MeOH to which an aqueous solution of 2.63 g KOH (0.0469 mol) in 25 mL H_2O was

added. This mixture was refluxed for 12h and after being cooled to room temperature the solvent was evaporated. Additional water was added and filtered and the filtrate was acidified with 1M HCl until complete precipitation of the purple solid of the ligand which was collected by filtration, washed with water and dried in vacuum desiccator.

Synthesis of PCN-224

PCN-224 was prepared based on the reported procedure. $ZrCl_4$ (120 mg,), benzoic acid (1.2 g), H₄TCPP ligand (40 mg), acetic acid (0.5 mL) were mixed in 7.5 mL of DMF and the solution was sonicated for 15 min in a 23 mL Teflon vessel. The vessel was sealed in a stainless-steel autoclave which was kept at 120 °C for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature purple solid was centrifuged and washed with acetone and the phase purity of the compound was identified by PXRD analysis. FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3314, 1657, 1602, 1542, 1412, 1269, 1180, 1020, 962, 871, 799, 771, 724, 653. UV-Vis. (λ) 439 nm (Soret band), 523 nm, 560 nm, 604 nm and 659 nm (Q bands).

Synthesis of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224

The complex@MOF hybrid was synthesized as follows: In a 100-mL round bottom flask, 30 mg of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄ was dissolved in 20 mL of DMF to this solution, 70 mg of freshly activated PCN-224 was added and the mixture was stirred for 24 h at 60 °C. After cooling to room temperature the brown solid obtained was centrifuged and washed with diethyl ether and acetone. The resulting hybrid material was thoroughly characterized by PXRD, TGA, UV-vis, FT-IR, MP-AES, and SEM-EDS analysis. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3314, 2992, 1657, 1634, 1542, 1498, 1412, 1386, 1332, 1269, 1258, 1188, 1180, 1020, 1093, 998, 962, 871, 860, 799, 771, 724, 719, 653 (Fig. S1). UV-Vis (λ) 433 nm (Soret band), 521 nm, 554 nm, 593 nm and 650 nm (Q bands) (Fig. S2).



Figure S1: FTIR spectra of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄, [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224 and PCN-224.



Figure S2. UV-Vis spectra of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄, [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224 and PCN-224.



Figure S3: Physical photos of: (a) PCN-224, (b) $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$, $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4$.



Figure S4. PXRD patterns: (a) pattern calculated from single crystal X-ray data for PCN-224; (b) as-synthesized PCN-224; (c) for [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224.



Figure S5. Thermogravimetric analysis of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224.



Figure S6: SEM image of: (a) PCN-224 and (b) [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224.



Figure S7: EDS mapping of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224.



Figure S8. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis of $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_{4}@PCN-224$: (a) Survey scan, (b) Zn 2p, (c) N 1s, (d) C 1s, (e) I 3d, (f) Zr 3d and (g) O 1s.



Figure S9. Pore size distribution plots estimated by using QSDFT on N_2 isotherm for $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ and PCN-224.



Figure S10. Carbon dioxide adsorption isotherm of **PCN-224** at 273K. The solid line shows the best fit to the data using Langmuir- Freundlich Equation.



Figure S11. Carbon dioxide adsorption isotherm of **PCN-224** at 298K. The solid line shows the best fit to the data using Langmuir-Freundlich Equation.



Figure S12. Enthalpy of carbon dioxide adsorption for **PCN-224** calculated using Clausius-Clapeyron equation.



Figure S13. Carbon dioxide adsorption isotherm of $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^-]_4@PCN-224$ at 273K. The solid line shows the best fit to the data using Langmuir-Freundlich Equation.



Figure S14. Carbon dioxide adsorption isotherm of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224 at 298K. The solid line shows the best fit to the data using Langmuir-Freundlich Equation.



Figure S15. Enthalpy of carbon dioxide adsorption for [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224 calculated using Clausius-Clapeyron equation.



Figure S16. (a) Optimized geometry of $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ (b) View of stacking of porphyrin macrocyclic rings via π - π interactions between the porphyrin rings of PCN-224 and the $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4$ complex.

	Cl $(1)^{O}$ + CO ₂ $(2n(II)^{O}NMeTPyP)^{4+}[I^{-}]_{4}@PCN-224$ 90 °C, 0.8 Mpa CO ₂ Cl				
S. N.	Catalyst	CO ₂ pressure (MPa)	Temperature (°C)	Time (h)	Conversion (%)
1	None	None	None	24	0
2	None	None	90	24	0
3	None	0.8	90	24	0
4	^(a) [Zn(II)NMeTPyP] ⁴⁺ [I ⁻] ₄ @PCN-224	0.8	90	24	>99
5	[Zn(II)NMeTPyP] ⁴⁺ [I ⁻] ₄ @PCN-224	None	90	24	0
6	^(b) PCN-224	0.8	90	24	10
7	PCN-224	None	90	24	0
8	$(c)[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}$ $[I^-]_4$	0.8	90	24	55.2

Table S1. Optimization of reaction parameters for cycloaddition of CO_2 with ECH.

Reaction conditions: ECH (10 mmol), catalyst: (a) 50 mg (0.012 mmol) (b) 47.54 mg (c) 2.46 mg.



Figure S17. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with epichlorohydrin catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.



Figure S18. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO_2 with epichlorohydrin catalysed by PCN-224 at 0.8 MPa of CO_2 and 90 °C.

Figure S19. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with epichlorohydrin catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_{4}$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S20. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with 1,2-epoxypropane catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S21. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with 1,2-epoxybutane catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S22. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with 1,2-epoxyhexane catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S23. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with 1,2-epoxydecane catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S24. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) spectra for the cycloaddition reaction of CO₂ with styrene oxide catalysed by $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ at 0.8 MPa of CO₂ and 90 °C.

Figure S25. Hot filtration test.

Figure S26. Time-dependent catalytic conversion of epichlorohydrin (ECH) with time: (a) as synthesized and (b) recycled catalyst after five cycles.

Figure S27. First-order kinetic curves of catalytic conversion of ECH with time for (a) as synthesized and (b) recycled catalyst after five cycles.

Figure S28. PXRD patterns of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224, (a) as-synthesized sample;

(b) for activated sample by heating at 120 °C for 12 h; (c) recycled sample after catalysis.

Figure S29. UV-Vis Spectra: (a) as synthesized $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$, (b) recycled after catalysis.

Figure S30. FTIR Spectra: (a) as synthesized $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_{4}@PCN-224$, (b) recovered after five cycles of catalysis.

Table S2. Comparison of the catalytic activity of $[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_4@PCN-224$ with reported MOFs known for co-catalyst-free cycloaddition of CO₂ with epoxides.

S. No.	Substrate	MOF catalyst	Cataly st	Reaction Conditions	Conve rsion	Reference
1,00			mol (%)		(%)	
1.	cı	(I_)Meim-UiO-66	0.52	0.1 MPa, 120 °C, 24 h	100	5a
2.	R	F-IRMOF-3	-	0.1 Mpa, 120 °C, 3h	89	5b
3.	CI	Zn-TATAB	0.42	0.1 Mpa, 100 °C, 16 h	98	5c
4.	CI	Co-TATAB	0.2	0.1 Mpa, 80 °C, 15h	98	5d
5.	×	MIL-101-N(n- Bu) ₃ Br	0.9	2 MPa, 80 °C, 8 h	87.5	6a
6.	Å	polyILs@MIL-101	-	0.1 MPa, 45 °C, 48 h	94	6b
7.	cı 🗸 🛆	IL@MIL-101-SO ₃ H	0.43	0.1 Mpa, 90 °C, 48 h	98	60
8.	CI O	MIL-101-IP	0.298	0.1 Mpa, 50 °C, 68 h	99	6d
9.	cı 🗸 🖄	II-ZIF-90	0.49	0.1 Mpa, 120 °C, 3h	94	6e
10.	cı	UiO-67-IL	1.5	0.1 Mpa, 90 °C, 12h	95	6f
11.	CI	F-ZIF-90	0.177	1.17 MPa, 120 °C, 6 h	94	6g
12.	Å	IL/MIL-101-NH ₂	0.435	1.3 MPa, 120 °C, 1 h	91	6h
13	cı	ZnTCPP⊂(Br [–])Etim- UiO-66	0.95	0.1 Mpa, 140 °C, 14 h	86.9	6i
14	CI 20	FЛ-C10	0.35	0.1 Mpa, 60 °C, 24 h	87	6j
15		SalenCo(23%)C(Br) Etim-UiO-66	-	0.1 Mpa, 120 °C, 12 h	84	6k
16.	Å	[Zn(II)NMeTPyP] ⁴⁺ [I ⁻] ₄ @PCN-224	0.116	0.8 MPa, 90 °C, 24 h	95.2	Present work

17.	CI	[Zn(II)NMeTPyP] ⁴⁺ [I ⁻] ₄ @PCN-224	0.116	0.8 MPa, 90 °C, 24 h	>99	Present work
18.	8	$[Zn(II)NMeTPyP]^{4+}[I^{-}]_{4}@PCN-224$	0.116	0.8 MPa, 90 °C, 24 h	>99	Present work

Table S3: Optimized coordinates for structure of [Zn(II)NMeTPyP]⁴⁺[I⁻]₄@PCN-224

Zr	7.80700000 10.19400000	8.24300000	С	9.77100000	20.15500000	2.85600000
0	8.21800000 11.93000000	6.77800000	С	9.49900000	19.64400000	4.17500000
0	7.27300000 9.44200000 1	0.23000000	Н	9.27800000	20.27000000	5.04000000
0	8.48300000 7.97400000 8	3.45500000	0	10.61300000	25.36300000	7.80600000
Ν	9.92300000 19.03400000	2.00800000	Ν	10.17900000	21.21500000	-0.01200000
С	9.25800000 12.77300000	6.65700000	С	10.82500000	23.51500000	5.63000000
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С	8.58400000	14.19200000	-5.21200000	Zr	10.21200000	30.16600000	7.91100000
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Ν	27.65300000	19.16900000 2.14400000	Н	26.76900000	24.06900000	-6.15200000
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Н	29.83300000	23.07800000 3.01500000	С	27.93400000	23.41800000	-0.83800000
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С	27.66500000	19.96700000 4.29000000	С	28.84300000	13.59400000	-5.54000000
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Ν	28.42500000	19.08600000	-2.09000000	0	26.89600000	29.39900000	-9.77300000
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