

**Supporting Information for *Chemical Communications***

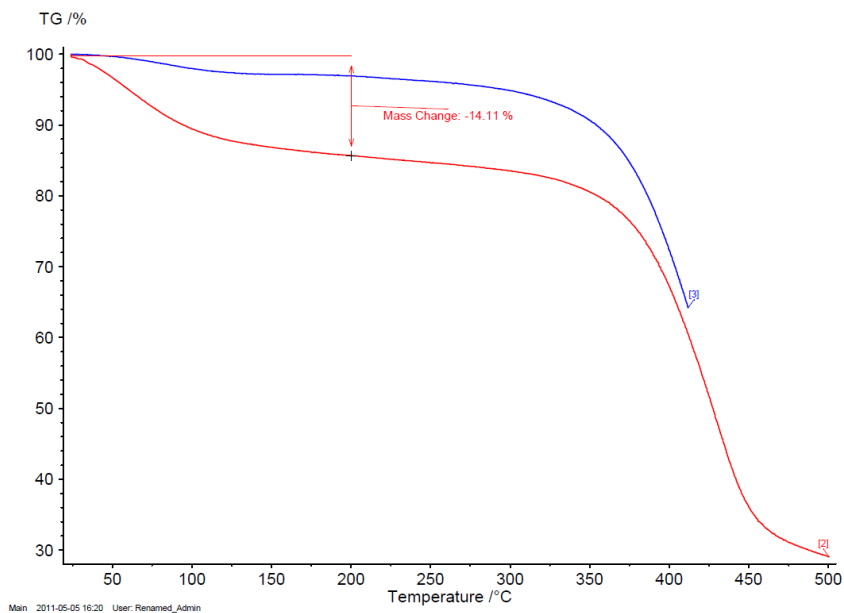
**Cucurbit[7]uril: an Amorphous Molecular Material for Highly Selective  
Carbon Dioxide Uptake**

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Atwood<sup>\*c</sup>**

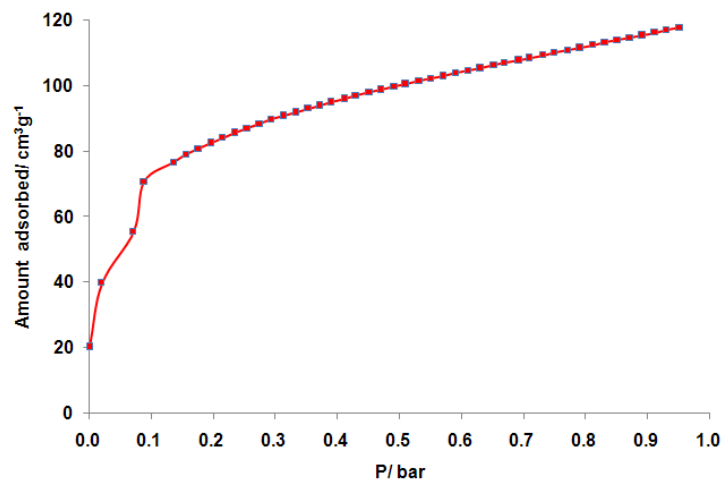
## **Experimental procedures:**

**1. Material synthesis and preparation.** Cucurbit[7]uril and cucurbit[6]uril were synthesized according to the classical procedure reported by Day and Co-workers.<sup>1</sup> CB[7] was precipitated by pouring its hot solution of glycerol into methanol, followed by filtration and washing several times with methanol. The obtained solid was dried under vacuum at 150 °C for 48 hrs to remove included solvent molecules. The purity of CB[7] has been checked by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and mass spectrometry studies which are identical to the reported values. CB[7] solid is harvested in amorphous state which is confirmed by powder X-ray diffraction and selected area electron diffraction (SAED) studies. CB[6] is obtained in a semi-crystalline state and transformed into amorphous state by grinding.

**2. CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms and enthalpy of adsorption for CB[7] solid.** Gas sorption isotherms were acquired from activated samples of CB[7] and CB[6] with an Autosorb-IQ (volumetric method) outfitted with the micropore option by Quantachrome Instruments (Boynton Beach, Florida, USA) running version 1.55 of the ASWin software package. CO<sub>2</sub> isotherms were collected at various temperatures (273 K, 297 K and 196 K) in the range  $1.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ bar} \leq P \leq 1.00 \text{ bar}$  using bone dry CO<sub>2</sub>. The CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpy of CB[7] was calculated from the isotherms at 273 K and 297 K using the “heat of sorption” function enclosed in the software. The BET surface area is decided using the isotherm at 196 K.



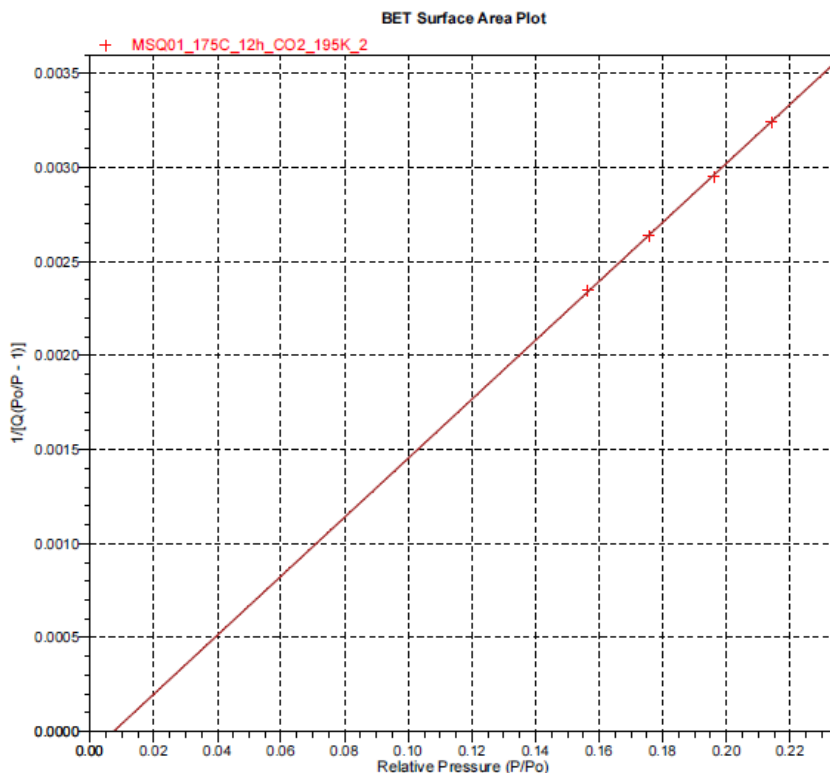
**Figure S1.** TGA profile of freshly synthesized CB[7] solid (red) and activated CB[7] solid after exposure to air for 24 hrs (blue).



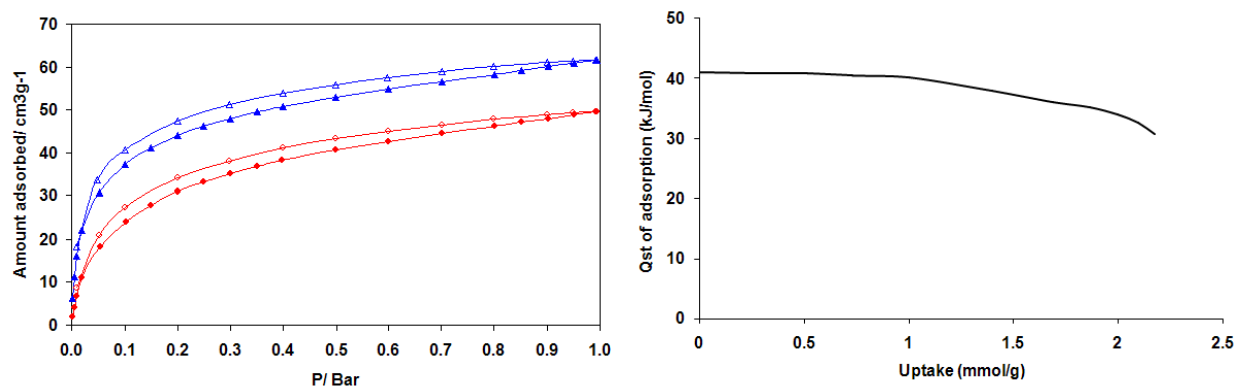
**Figure S2.** The CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherm of CB[7] solid at 196 K.

BET Surface Area Report  
BET Surface Area:  $293.3418 \pm 3.0144 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$   
Slope:  $0.015688 \pm 0.000157 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3\text{STP}$   
Y-Intercept:  $-0.000116 \pm 0.000031 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3\text{STP}$   
C:  $-134.692837$   
Qm:  $64.2143 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g STP}$   
Correlation Coefficient:  $0.9998498$   
Molecular Cross-Sectional Area:  $0.1700 \text{ nm}^2$

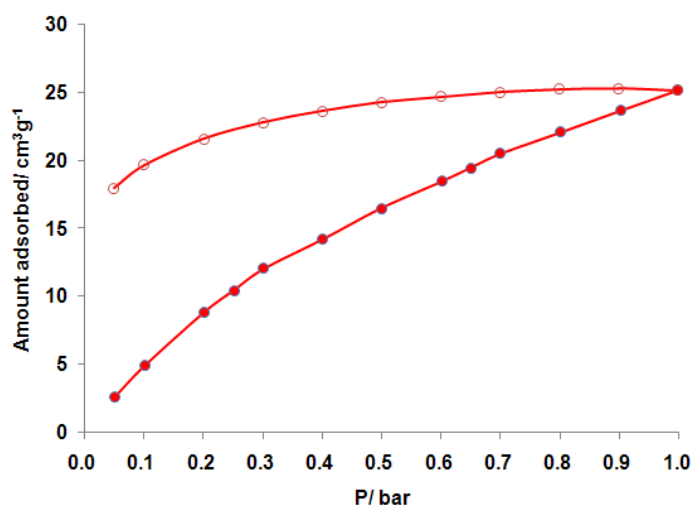
Relative Pressure(P/Po)	Quantity Adsorbed(cm <sup>3</sup> /g STP)	1/[Q(Po/P - 1)]
0.156436232	79.0150	0.002347
0.175717463	80.8105	0.002638
0.196007035	82.6524	0.002950
0.214187911	84.1210	0.003240
0.234287276	85.7287	0.003569



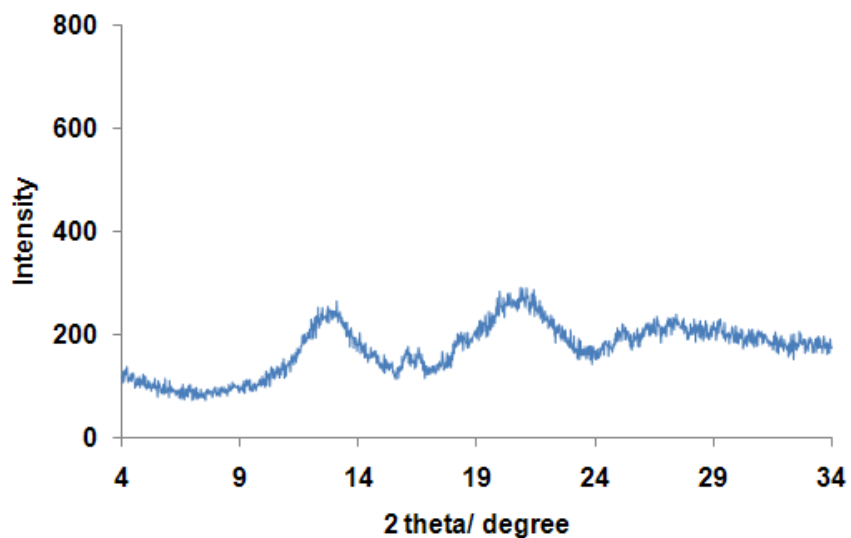
**Figure S3.** The measurement of multi-point surface area of CB[7] was based on sorption profile at  $P/P^0 = 0.15-0.25$ .



**Figure S4.** (left) CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms of CB[7] solid at 297 K (red circle) and 273 K (blue triangle). (right) The CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpy of CB[7] calculated from the isotherms at 273 K and 297 K using the “heat of adsorption” function enclosed in the software.



**Figure S5.** The CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherm of amorphous CB[6] solid at 297 K. (filled symbols: adsorption; open symbols: desorption).



**Figure S6.** The PXRD pattern of activated CB[7] solid shows two broad peaks.

**Table S1. CO<sub>2</sub> uptake and enthalpy of adsorption for selected MOFs and organic molecular solids.**

Material	BET surface area [m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	V <sub>p</sub> [cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ]	V(CO <sub>2</sub> ) [mg/g], RT 0.1 bar	V(CO <sub>2</sub> ) [mg/g], RT 1 bar	-ΔH <sub>ads</sub> (kJ/mol)
CB[7]	293	0.21	48.0	100	40
CB[6](Hexagonal) <sup>2</sup>	210	0.13	32.0	90	33
CC3 <sup>3</sup>	624		30.0*	100*	
TPP <sup>4</sup>	240		13	43	
SOF-1a <sup>5</sup>	474	0.23	10.0	32	27.5
MOF-5 <sup>6</sup>	3563	1.319	3.5	36.5	15.9
HKUST-1 <sup>6</sup>	2134	0.801	27.3	123.5	23.3
Mg-DOBDC <sup>6</sup>	1495		261.6	352	47

**Reference:**

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  6. A. Yazaydin, R. Q. Snurr, and T.-H. Park, et al, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2009, **131**, 18198.
- \* At 273 K.