

Supplementary Information

The fundamental equation governing the COMPASS force field is provided in (S1), as the following <sup>1</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E = & \sum_b [K_2(b - b_0)^2 + K_3(b - b_0)^3 + K_4(b - b_0)^4] \\
 & + \sum_{\theta} [H_2(\theta - \theta_0)^2 + H_3(\theta - \theta_0)^3 + H_4(\theta - \theta_0)^4] \\
 & + \sum_{\phi} \{V_1[1 - \cos(\phi - \phi_1^0)] + V_2[1 - \cos(\phi - 2\phi_2^0)] + V_3[1 - \cos(\phi - 3\phi_3^0)]\} \\
 & + \sum_x K_x x^2 + \sum_b \sum_{b'} F_{bb'} (b - b_0)(b' - b'_0) + \sum_{\theta} \sum_{\theta'} F_{\theta\theta'} (\theta - \theta_0)(\theta' - \theta'_0) \\
 & + \sum_b \sum_{\theta} F_{b\theta} (b - b_0)(\theta - \theta_0) + \sum_b \sum_{\phi} (b - b_0)[V_1 \cos \phi + V_2 \cos 2\phi + V_3 \cos 3\phi] \\
 & + \sum_{b'} \sum_{\theta} F_{b\theta} (b' - b'_0) + [V_1 \cos \phi + V_2 \cos 2\phi + V_3 \cos 3\phi] \\
 & + \sum_{\phi} \sum_{\theta} \sum_{\theta'} K_{\phi\theta\theta'} \cos \phi (\theta - \theta_0)(\theta' - \theta'_0) + \sum_{i>j} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} + \sum_{i>j} \varepsilon_{ij} \left[ 2 \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^9 - 3 \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] \quad (S1)
 \end{aligned}$$

In COMPASS, the energy term,  $E$ , has been characterized via three major categories, which are namely: (a) the bonded energy (b) the cross-terms and (c) the non-bonded energy contributions. The bonded energy is consisted of contributions (i) – (iv) in (8) such as the following, (i) the covalent bond stretching energy terms (ii) the bond angle bending energy terms (iii) the torsion angle rotation energy terms of the polymeric chains, which has been fitted by a Fourier series function readily available in the software and (iv) the out-of-plane energy or improper term that has been described as a harmonic function. On the other hand, the cross interaction contribution is constituted through the (v) – (x) terms in (8), which encompass the characterization of dynamic variation among bond stretching, bending, and torsion angle rotation. Finally, the last two terms, (xi) and (xii), which are representative terms of the non-bonded energy that illustrate the interactive forces between polymer chains and small molecules, describe the Columbic electrostatic force and van der Waals interaction

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respectively <sup>2</sup>. Detail description pertaining to the energy contributions can be found elsewhere in published literature <sup>3,4</sup> and within Materials Studio itself <sup>5</sup>.

For the non-bonded Lennard Jones energy term, it has been described with a sixth-order combination rule in order to calculate the corresponding parameters, such as that provided in (S2) and (S3).

$$\sigma_{ij} = \left( \frac{\sigma_i^6 + \sigma_j^6}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} \quad (S2)$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_i\varepsilon_j} \left( \frac{\sigma_i^3\sigma_j^3}{\sigma_i^6 + \sigma_j^6} \right) \quad (S3)$$

In (S2) and (S3),  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the distance at which the potential energy is zero,  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  corresponds to the well-depth of the interaction potential, while  $\sigma_i$  and  $\varepsilon_i$  represent the size and energy parameters of the interaction atoms respectively, which are commonly known as the Lennard Jones parameters. As for the Columbic electrostatic term, the partial charges are computed from the charge bond increment,  $\delta_{ij}$ , which represents charge separation between two valence-bonded atoms <sup>4,6</sup>. The net charge,  $q_i$ , for atom i is a summation of all charge bond increments related to atom i, such as that depicted in (S4).

$$q_i = \sum_j \delta_{ij} \quad (S4)$$

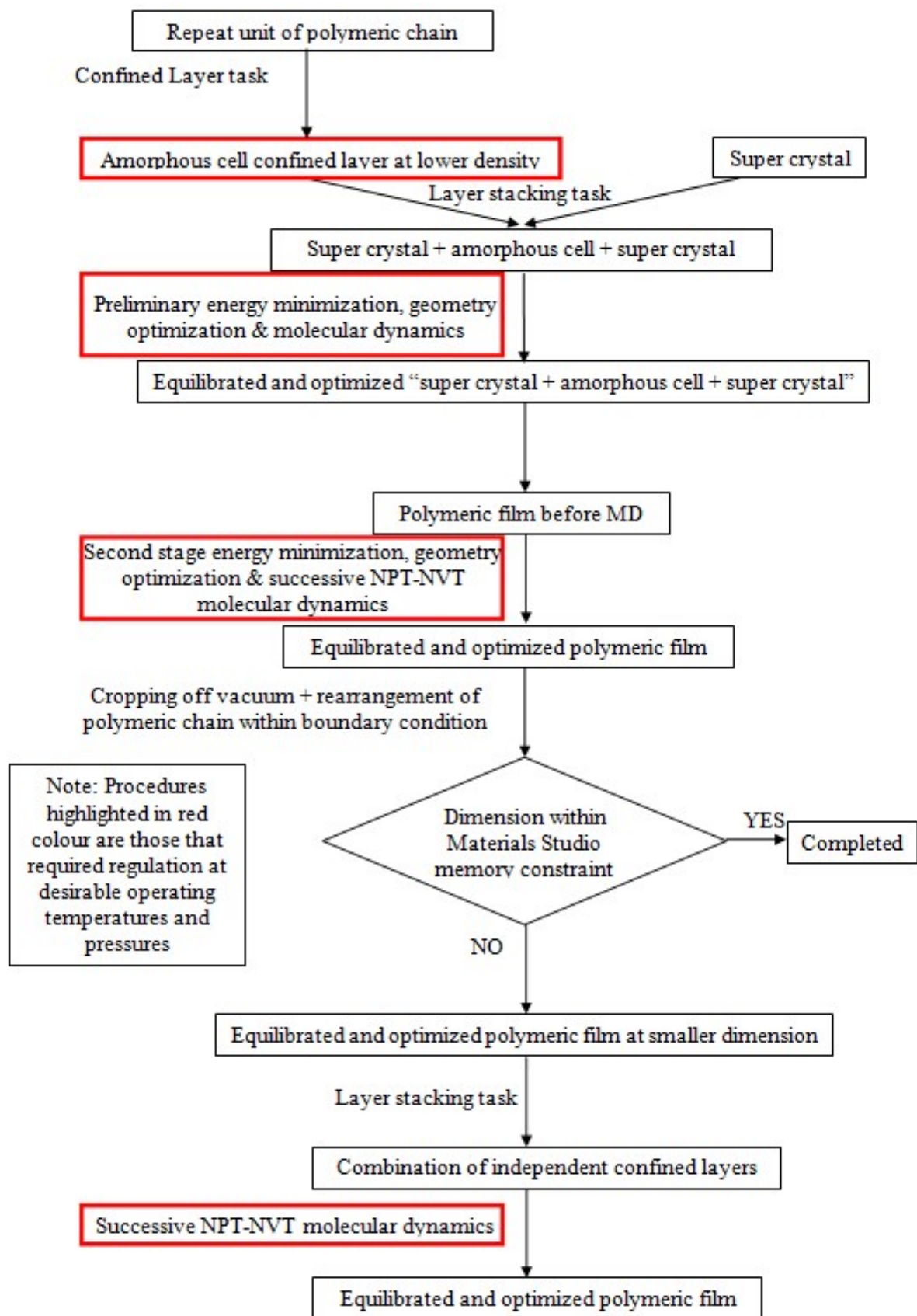


Figure S.1 Overview of Soft Confining Methodology for Ultrathin Films extended to operate at different temperatures and pressures (procedures requiring regulation of temperature and pressure are highlighted in red), adapted from Lock *et al.* (2017) <sup>7</sup>

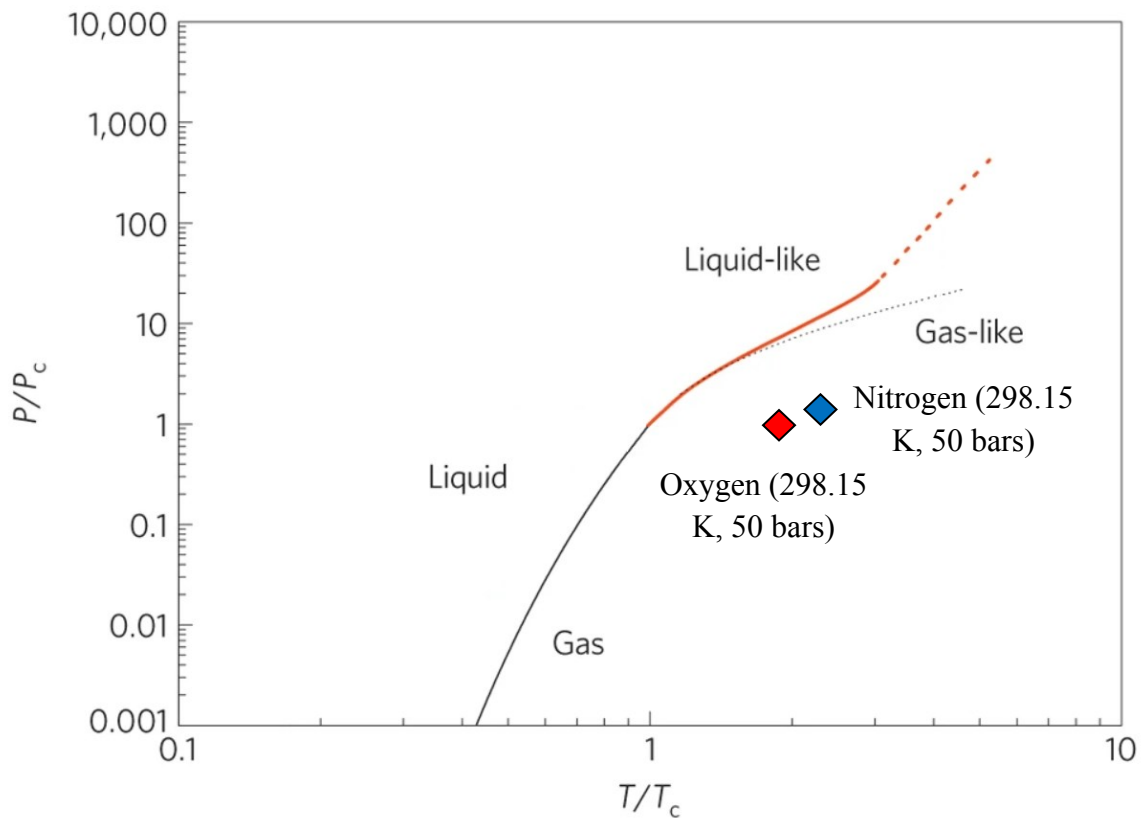


Figure S.2 Schematic representation of gas-liquid existence. Red line: Red line: Widom line of argon obtained from the NIST database (continuous) <sup>8</sup> and its extrapolation (dotted). Black line: best fit of the liquid-vapour coexistence lines for argon, neon, nitrogen and oxygen using the Plank-Riedel equation <sup>9</sup>, adapted from Simeoni *et al.* (2010) <sup>10</sup>

(◆ Oxygen and ◆ nitrogen at 298.15 K, 50 bars)

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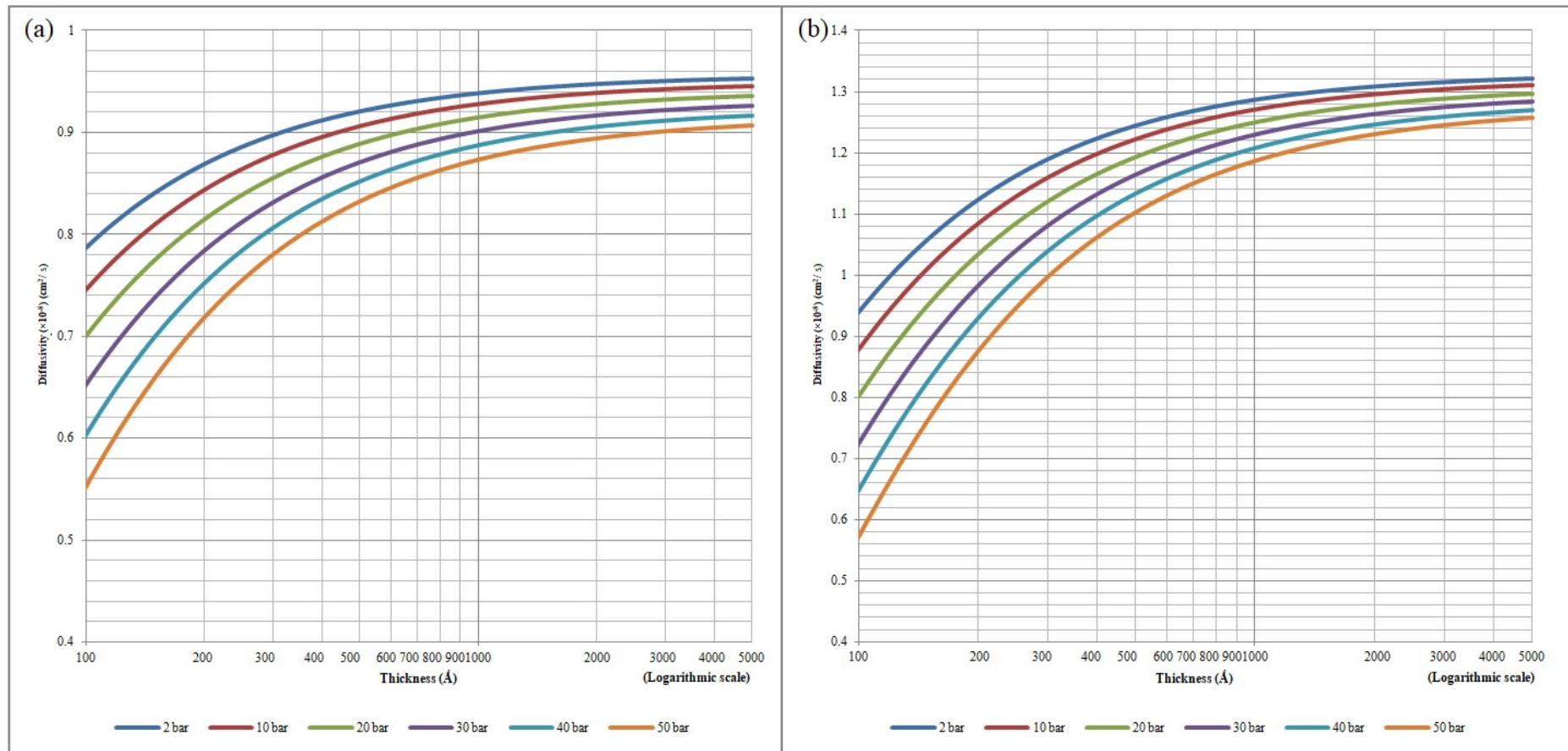


Figure S.3 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards  $N_2$  diffusivity under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K

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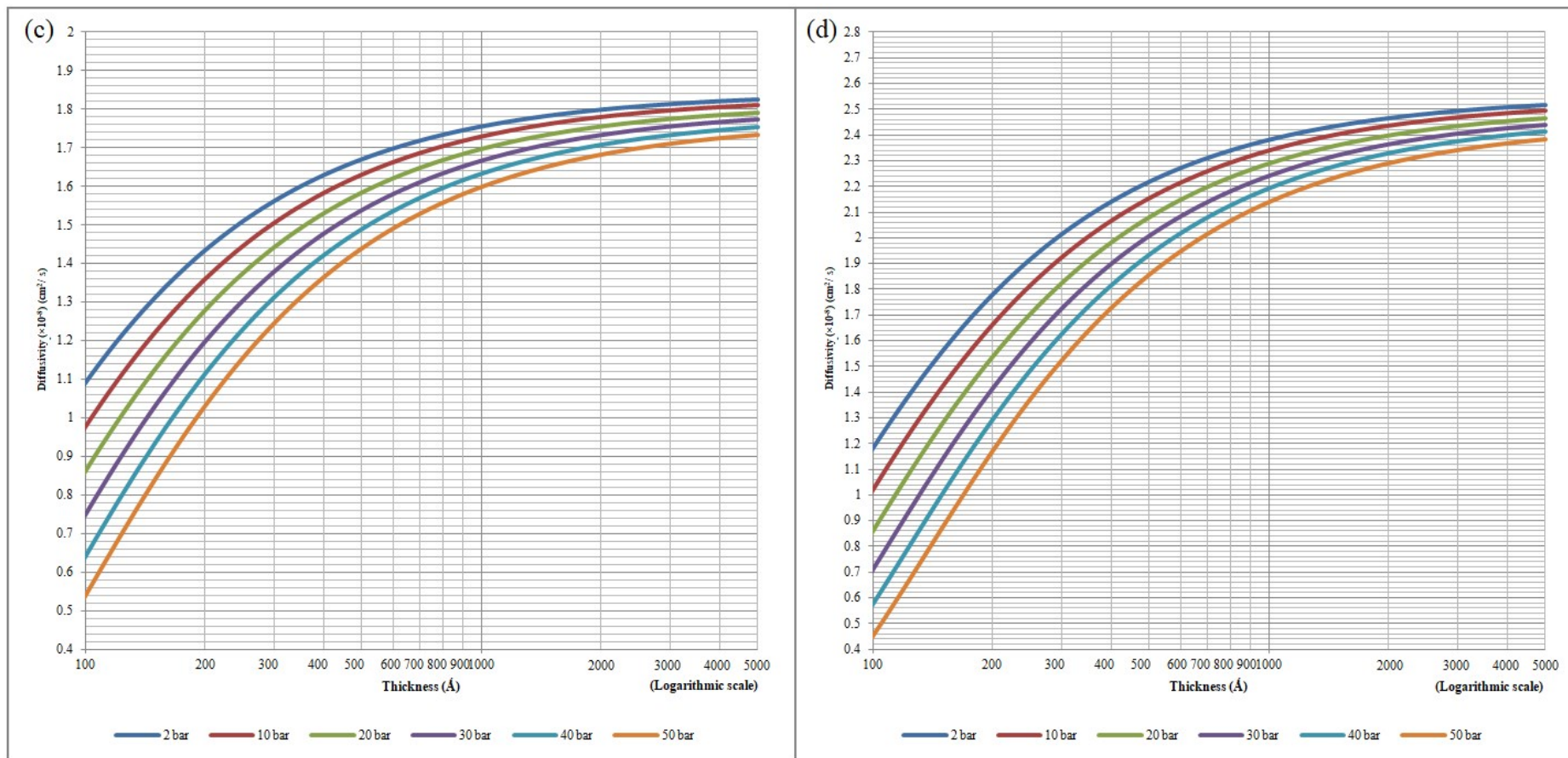


Figure S.3 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards N<sub>2</sub> diffusivity under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K (continued)

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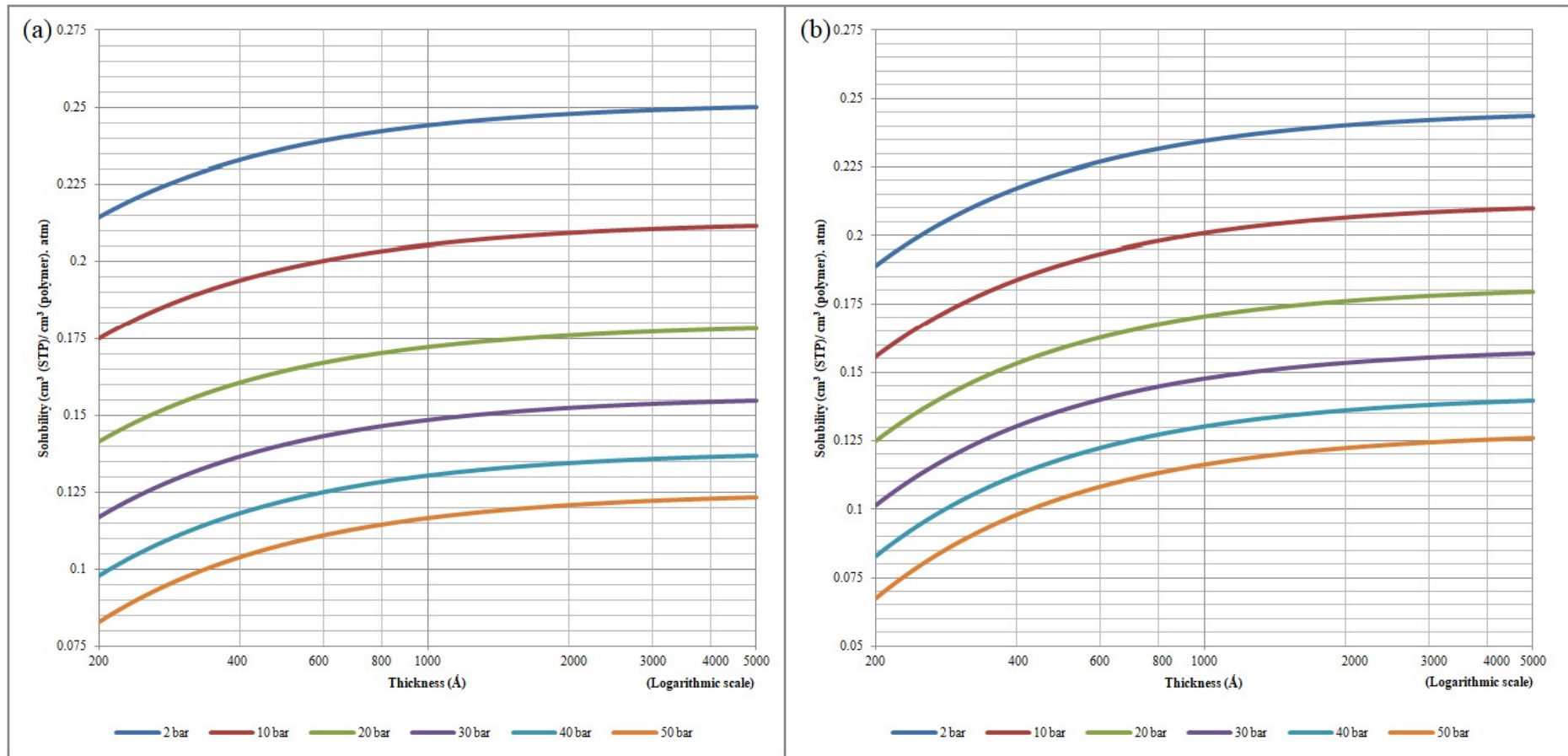


Figure S.4 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards  $N_2$  solubility under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K

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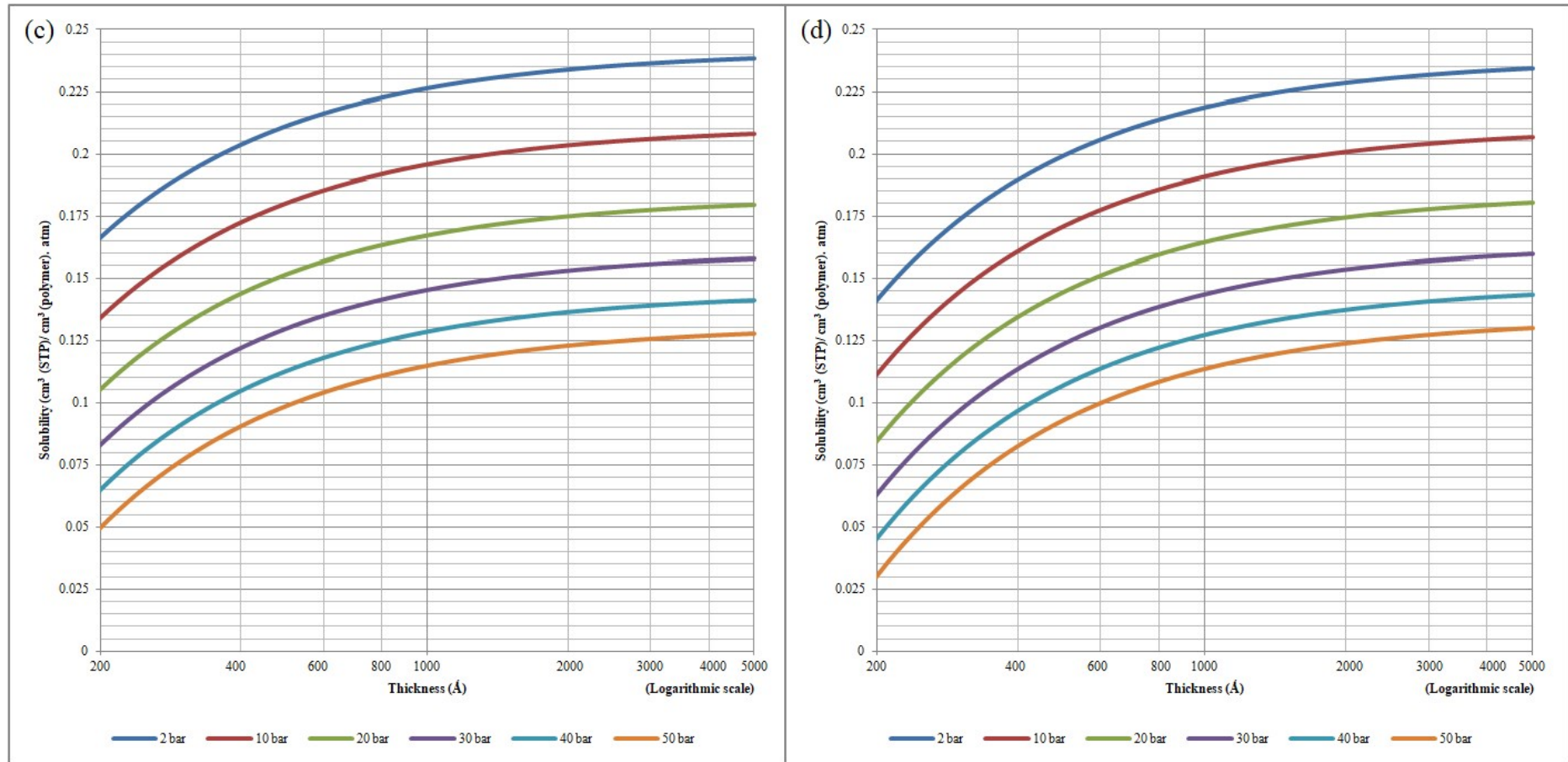


Figure S.4 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards  $N_2$  solubility under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K (continued)



Supplementary Information

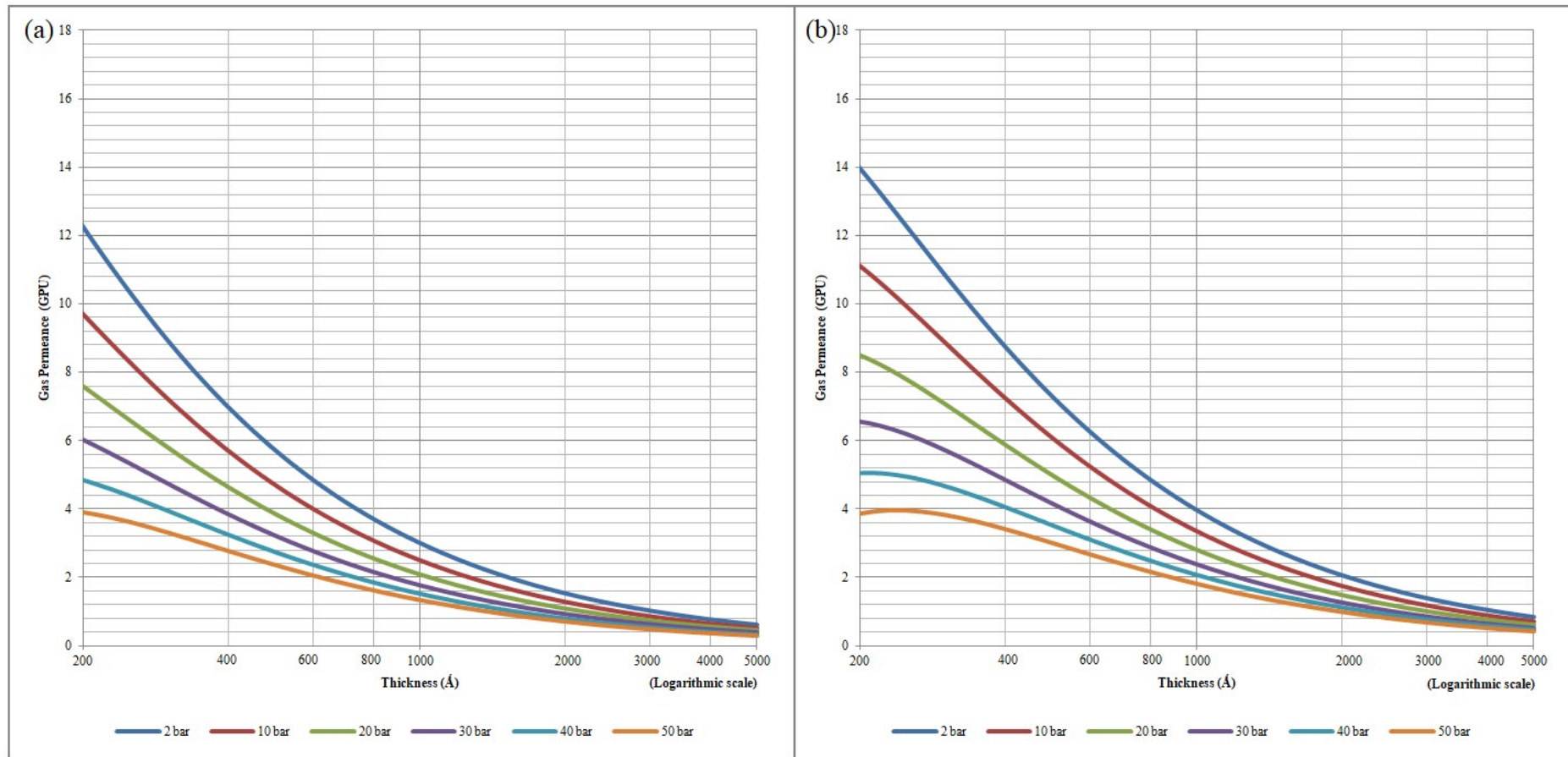


Figure S.5 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards  $N_2$  permeance (pure gas) under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K

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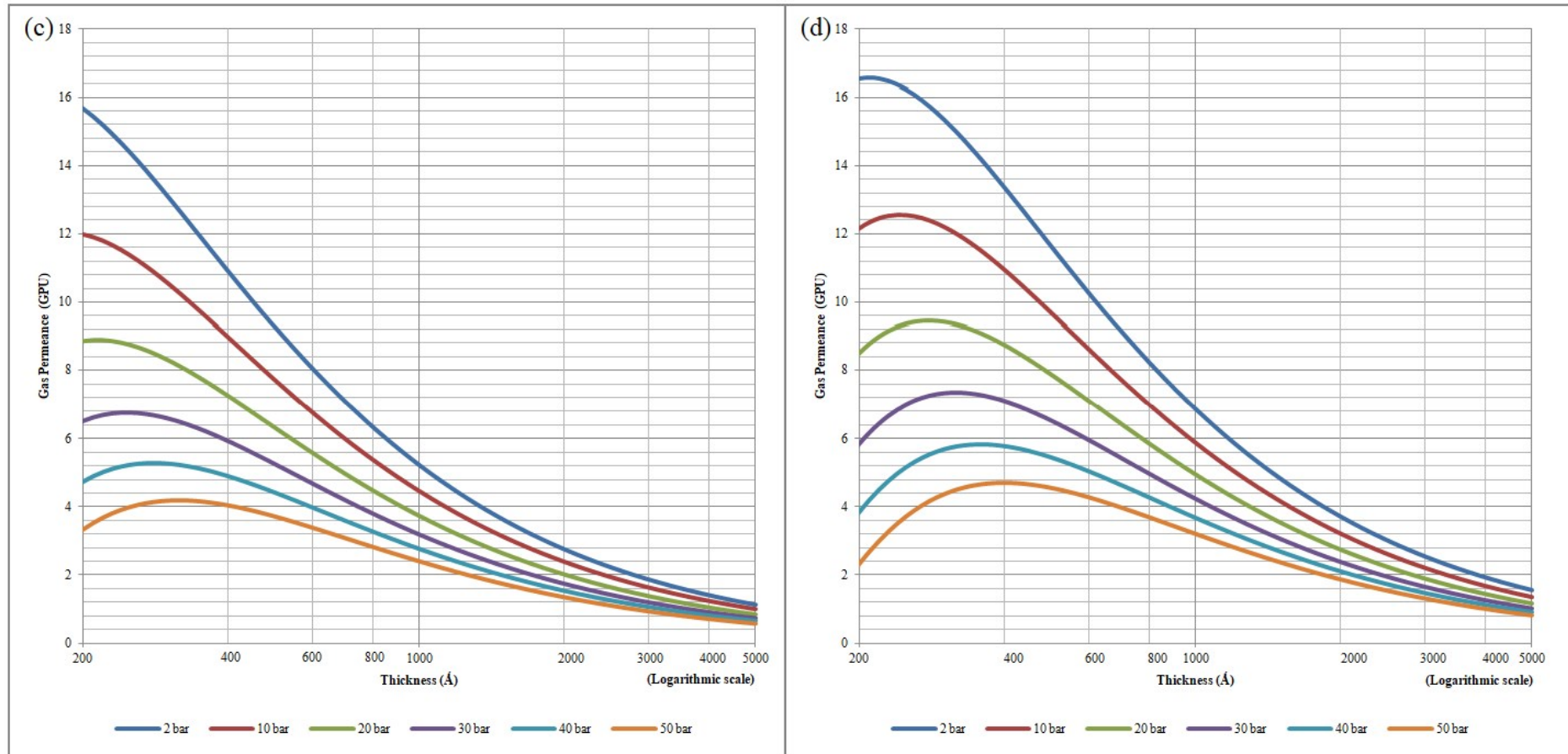


Figure S.5 Effect of thickness upon confinement towards  $N_2$  permeance (pure gas) under varying operating pressures of a) 298.15 K b) 308.15 K c) 318.15 K and d) 328.15 K (continued)

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Table S.1 Effect of film thickness on the specific volume data of the PSF ultrathin film at different operating temperatures

Temperature (K) Thickness (Å)	298.15	303.15	308.15	313.15	318.15	323.15	328.15
~100	0.80333 ( $\pm 2.53 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80297 ( $\pm 2.62 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80273 ( $\pm 5.33 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80112 ( $\pm 2.74 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.79992 ( $\pm 2.82 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.79873 ( $\pm 2.18 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.79655 ( $\pm 2.30 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~200	0.80497 ( $\pm 4.90 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80508 ( $\pm 3.16 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80514 ( $\pm 2.74 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80515 ( $\pm 3.01 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80522 ( $\pm 2.16 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80548 ( $\pm 2.71 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80572 ( $\pm 3.00 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~300	0.80599 ( $\pm 2.92 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80618 ( $\pm 2.40 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80623 ( $\pm 2.22 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80722 ( $\pm 2.39 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80743 ( $\pm 2.94 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80777 ( $\pm 3.44 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80806 ( $\pm 2.95 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~400	0.80615 ( $\pm 3.27 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80696 ( $\pm 3.03 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80721 ( $\pm 4.25 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80801 ( $\pm 2.86 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80874 ( $\pm 3.35 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80884 ( $\pm 2.49 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80925 ( $\pm 2.14 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~500	0.80674 ( $\pm 2.94 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80714 ( $\pm 2.87 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80727 ( $\pm 3.48 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80819 ( $\pm 2.96 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80892 ( $\pm 3.09 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80933 ( $\pm 2.72 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81006 ( $\pm 2.89 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~600	0.80690 ( $\pm 2.31 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80726 ( $\pm 3.20 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80760 ( $\pm 3.23 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80852 ( $\pm 2.22 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80945 ( $\pm 2.72 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81006 ( $\pm 3.11 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81038 ( $\pm 2.57 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~700	0.80698 ( $\pm 3.13 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80735 ( $\pm 2.35 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80803 ( $\pm 3.15 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80878 ( $\pm 2.41 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80953 ( $\pm 2.57 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81014 ( $\pm 2.56 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81046 ( $\pm 2.68 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~800	0.80714 ( $\pm 2.64 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80751 ( $\pm 2.33 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80842 ( $\pm 2.14 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80918 ( $\pm 2.75 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80993 ( $\pm 3.14 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81046 ( $\pm 2.75 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81070 ( $\pm 3.09 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~900	0.80731 ( $\pm 4.32 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80775 ( $\pm 3.24 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80886 ( $\pm 5.80 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80941 ( $\pm 3.53 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80997 ( $\pm 2.93 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81049 ( $\pm 2.20 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81095 ( $\pm 3.40 \times 10^{-4}$ )
~1000	0.80747 ( $\pm 3.59 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80777 ( $\pm 2.27 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80920 ( $\pm 3.38 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.80949 ( $\pm 3.21 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81005 ( $\pm 3.15 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81053 ( $\pm 3.15 \times 10^{-4}$ )	0.81119 ( $\pm 2.94 \times 10^{-4}$ )

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Table S.2 Oxygen diffusivity and solubility data of ~500 Å ultrathin PSF films under varying operating temperature (298.15 to 328.15 K) and pressure (2 to 50 bar)

Temperature (K)	Pressure (bar)	Diffusivity ( $\times 10^{-8}$ cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	Standard Deviation ( $\times 10^{-8}$ cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	Solubility (cm <sup>3</sup> (STP)/cm <sup>3</sup> atm)	Standard Deviation (cm <sup>3</sup> (STP)/cm <sup>3</sup> atm)
298.15	2	3.2893	$\pm 0.0428$	0.3702	$\pm 0.0052$
298.15	10	3.2379	$\pm 0.0240$	0.3379	$\pm 0.0021$
298.15	20	3.1887	$\pm 0.0410$	0.3112	$\pm 0.0061$
298.15	30	3.1486	$\pm 0.0243$	0.2901	$\pm 0.0047$
298.15	40	3.0534	$\pm 0.0219$	0.2761	$\pm 0.0049$
298.15	50	2.9912	$\pm 0.0362$	0.2619	$\pm 0.0084$
308.15	2	4.1536	$\pm 0.0186$	0.3254	$\pm 0.0056$
308.15	10	4.1694	$\pm 0.0299$	0.3066	$\pm 0.0080$
308.15	20	4.1411	$\pm 0.0160$	0.2753	$\pm 0.0082$
308.15	30	4.0899	$\pm 0.0488$	0.2598	$\pm 0.0075$
308.15	40	4.0122	$\pm 0.0106$	0.2412	$\pm 0.0033$
308.15	50	3.9533	$\pm 0.0366$	0.2301	$\pm 0.0063$
318.15	2	5.4989	$\pm 0.0458$	0.2912	$\pm 0.0067$
318.15	10	5.4015	$\pm 0.0476$	0.2622	$\pm 0.0028$
318.15	20	5.2087	$\pm 0.0159$	0.2391	$\pm 0.0045$
318.15	30	5.1027	$\pm 0.0496$	0.2188	$\pm 0.0037$
318.15	40	5.0142	$\pm 0.0358$	0.1995	$\pm 0.0039$
318.15	50	4.8763	$\pm 0.0435$	0.1874	$\pm 0.0031$
328.15	2	6.9122	$\pm 0.0221$	0.2576	$\pm 0.0048$
328.15	10	6.7342	$\pm 0.0217$	0.2286	$\pm 0.0032$
328.15	20	6.7089	$\pm 0.0140$	0.2051	$\pm 0.0046$
328.15	30	6.4672	$\pm 0.0351$	0.1827	$\pm 0.0068$
328.15	40	6.2129	$\pm 0.0352$	0.1681	$\pm 0.0030$
328.15	50	6.1173	$\pm 0.0233$	0.1557	0.0053

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Table S.3 Nitrogen diffusivity and solubility of ~500 Å ultrathin PSF films under varying operating temperature (298.15 to 328.15 K) and pressure (2 to 50 bar)

Temperature (K)	Pressure (bar)	Diffusivity ( $\times 10^{-8}$ cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	Standard Deviation ( $\times 10^{-8}$ cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	Solubility (cm <sup>3</sup> (STP)/cm <sup>3</sup> atm)	Standard Deviation (cm <sup>3</sup> (STP)/cm <sup>3</sup> atm)
298.15	2	0.9227	$\pm 0.0134$	0.2381	$\pm 0.0051$
298.15	10	0.9078	$\pm 0.0166$	0.1994	$\pm 0.0046$
298.15	20	0.8743	$\pm 0.0301$	0.1652	$\pm 0.0032$
298.15	30	0.8655	$\pm 0.0386$	0.1394	$\pm 0.0026$
298.15	40	0.8337	$\pm 0.0398$	0.1229	$\pm 0.0084$
298.15	50	0.8215	$\pm 0.0142$	0.1092	$\pm 0.0032$
308.15	2	1.1362	$\pm 0.0233$	0.2215	$\pm 0.0079$
308.15	10	1.1204	$\pm 0.0385$	0.1924	$\pm 0.0076$
308.15	20	1.1189	$\pm 0.0342$	0.1601	$\pm 0.0024$
308.15	30	1.1162	$\pm 0.0460$	0.1378	$\pm 0.0030$
308.15	40	1.1106	$\pm 0.0361$	0.1201	$\pm 0.0032$
308.15	50	1.0824	$\pm 0.0122$	0.1043	$\pm 0.0065$
318.15	2	1.6881	$\pm 0.0115$	0.2132	$\pm 0.0026$
318.15	10	1.6691	$\pm 0.0247$	0.1810	$\pm 0.0064$
318.15	20	1.5923	$\pm 0.0405$	0.1538	$\pm 0.0066$
318.15	30	1.5528	$\pm 0.0435$	0.1295	$\pm 0.0068$
318.15	40	1.5011	$\pm 0.0257$	0.1137	$\pm 0.0036$
318.15	50	1.4231	$\pm 0.0311$	0.1005	$\pm 0.0039$
328.15	2	2.2312	$\pm 0.0303$	0.2001	$\pm 0.0058$
328.15	10	2.1672	$\pm 0.0191$	0.1739	$\pm 0.0057$
328.15	20	2.0823	$\pm 0.0351$	0.1458	$\pm 0.0079$
328.15	30	2.0341	$\pm 0.0434$	0.1249	$\pm 0.0050$
328.15	40	1.9568	$\pm 0.0453$	0.1078	$\pm 0.0028$
328.15	50	1.8912	$\pm 0.0355$	0.0953	$\pm 0.0023$

## References

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