## **Supporting Information**

# Reticular chemistry guided function customization: a case study of constructing low-polarity channel for efficient $C_3H_6/C_2H_4$ separation

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## 1. Calculation procedures of selectivity from IAST

The measured experimental data is excess loadings ( $q^{ex}$ ) of the pure components  $C_3H_6$ ,  $C_2H_6$  and  $C_2H_4$  for **ZJNU-401**, which should be converted to absolute loadings (q) firstly.

$$q = q^{ex} + \frac{pV_{pore}}{ZRT}$$
 (S1)

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.

In order to perform the IAST calculations, the single-component isotherm was fitted by the dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich (DSLF) adsorption model to correlate the pure-component equilibrium data and further predict the adsorption of mixtures. The DSLF model is described as:

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<sup>-1</sup>),  $q_{m1}$  and  $q_{m2}$  are the saturation capacities of sites 1 and 2 (mol kg<sup>-1</sup>),  $b_1$  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. To investigate the separation of binary mixtures, the adsorption selectivity is defined by

$$S_{ij} = \frac{x_1/x_2}{y_1/y_2}$$

 $x_1$  and  $x_2$  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  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  using the Ideal Adsorbed Solution Theory (IAST) of Myers and Prausnitz.

## 2. Theory calculations

## **Adsorption sites**

The fixed loading task in Sorption module based on metropolis Monte Carlo method in MS 2020 was employed to determine the adsorption sites of acethylene, ethane and ethylene molecule at MOF of **ZJNU-401**. The Universal Force Field (UFF)<sup>[1]</sup> parameters were employed to describe the interaction between adsorbates and MOF. In present sorption process, the Metropolis algorithm was used to accept or reject a configurational move of considered molecules. 1000000 steps of Metropolis Monte Carlo calculations were carried out with the initial equilibration period of 100000 steps.

## **Binding energy**

Binding energy between adsorbates (namely, ethane, ethylene and propylene) and MOF was calculated for low energy structure obtained from adsorption site calculation. All calculation was carried out by Forcite module with Universal Force Field (UFF)<sup>[2]</sup> parameters in Materials Studio (MS) 2020. After geometry optimization, the binding energies  $E_b$  were calculated according to the following equation<sup>[3]</sup>:

$$\Delta E = E_{\text{total}} - E_{\text{MOF}} - E_{\text{adsorbate}}$$

Where  $E_{total}$  is the total energy of the MOF structure with adsorbate adsorption,  $E_{MOF}$  is the energy of the isolated MOF and  $E_{adsorbate}$  is the energy of one adsorbate, namely, ethane, ethylene or propylene.

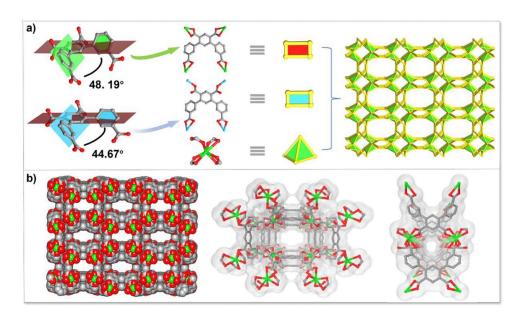
## 3. Experimental Section

#### 3.1 Materials and Measurements

All materials were purchased commercially and used without re-treatment processed. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data were operated on a Rigaku D/max-2550 diffractometer with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 1.5418 Å) at 298 K and collected data at a range of 3-40 $^{\circ}$  (2 $\theta$ ). The thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA) was carried out on

TGA Q500 at a range of 308 to 1073 K in the air atmosphere. With accompanying graphite-monoChromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) on a Bruker Apex II CCD diffractometer, the Single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis was recorded at room temperature (CCDC: 2365428). The further crystallographic data of **ZJNU-401** was listed in the supporting information. Gas adsorption measurement was recorded on Autosorb iQ adsorption apparatus. 60 mg of sample of **ZJNU-401** was immersed in dehydrated methanol with frequent exchanges for 4 days, and degassed under vacuum at 373 K for 10 h. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption and desorption experiments were carried out at 77 K to characterize the pore environment.  $C_2H_4$ ,  $C_2H_6$  and  $C_3H_6$  adsorption and desorption experiments carried out at 273/298/308 K. The temperature at 77 K was maintained with liquid nitrogen and other temperatures were controlled by a circulating water bath. Breakthrough experiments were performed at a commercial testing company.

## 4. Supporting Figures



**Fig. S1** Structural description of **ZJNU-401** (a) Simpliffcation of 4-connected SBUs and polyhedron view; (b) CPK view and their pore environment.

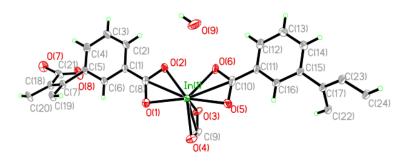


Fig. S2 The thermal ellipsoid diagrams of the crystal structure to illustrate the asymmetric unit.

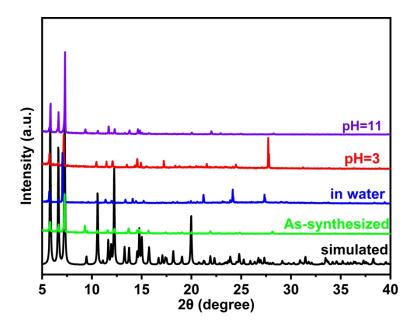


Fig. S3 PXRD patterns of **ZJNU-401** immersed in different acid-base aqueous solution for three days.

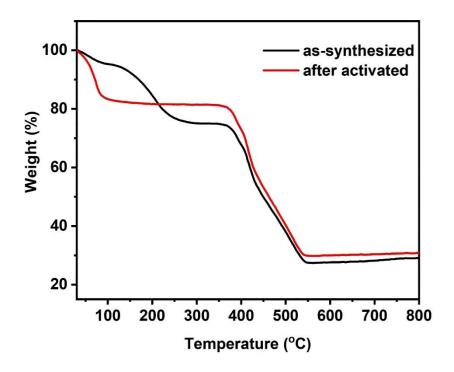


Fig. S4 TG curves of as-synthesized and after activated samples of ZJNU-401.

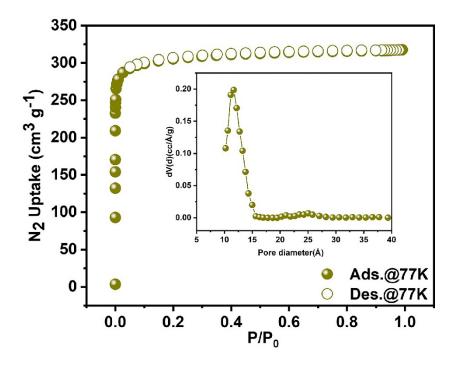


Fig. S5 N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms for ZJNU-401 at 77 K and the pore size distribution.

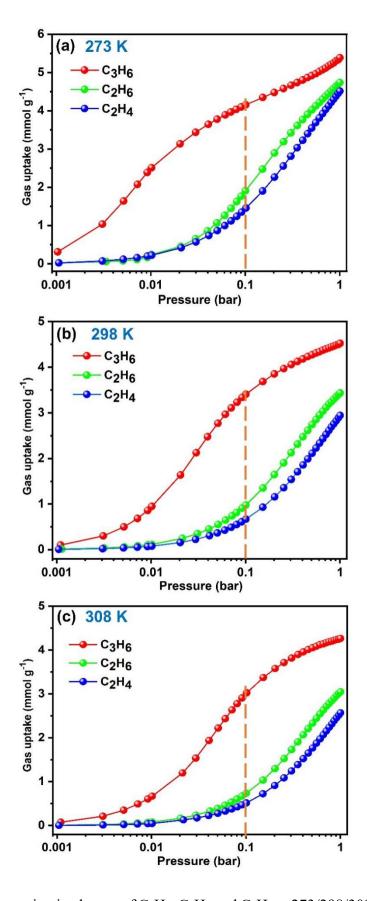


Fig. S6 The adsorption isotherms of  $C_3H_6$ ,  $C_2H_4$  and  $C_2H_6$  at 273/298/308 K under 1bar.

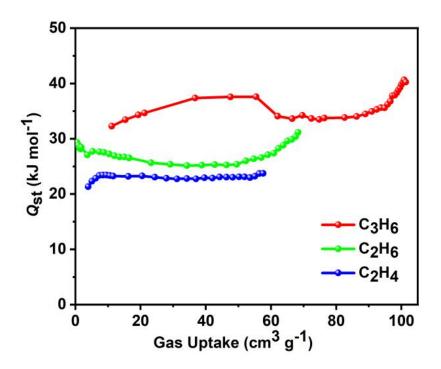


Fig. S7 The  $Q_{st}$  of ZJNU-401 for  $C_3H_6$ ,  $C_2H_6$  and  $C_2H_4$ .

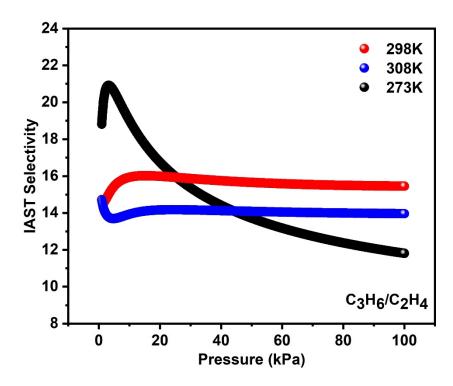


Fig. S8 Selectivity of equimolar mixtures of  $C_3H_6/C_2H_4$  for **ZJNU-401** at 273/298/308 K.

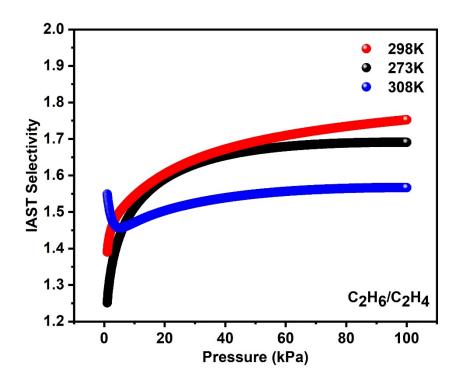


Fig. S9 Selectivity of equimolar mixtures of  $C_2H_6/C_2H_4$  for **ZJNU-401** at 273/298/308 K.

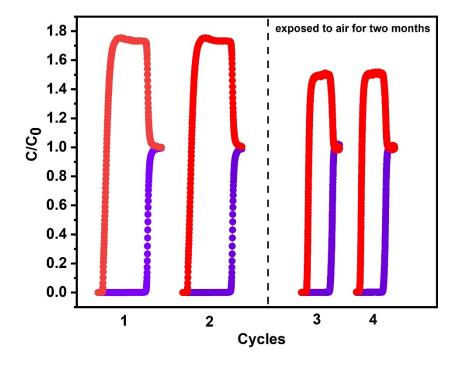


Fig. S10 The recycle of breakthrough curves and that after exposed to air for two months.

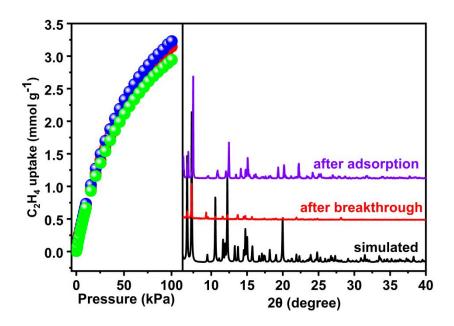


Fig. S11 The stability of sample proved by three times text of  $C_2H_4$  adsorption and the PXRD.

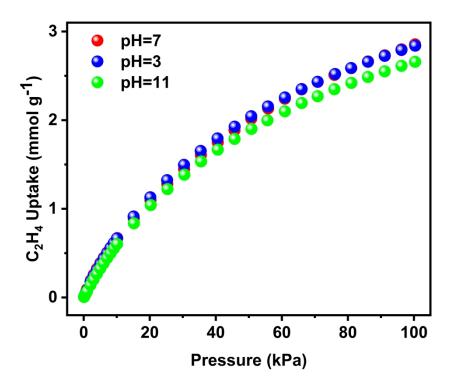


Fig. S12 The adsorption performance of ZJNU-401 after soaking in acidic, basic, and aqueous solutions.

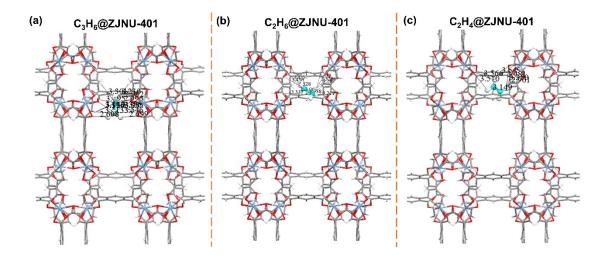


Fig. S13 Calculated optimized adsorption sites for (a)  $C_3H_6$  and (b)  $C_2H_6$  and (c)  $C_2H_4$  in **ZJNU-401**.

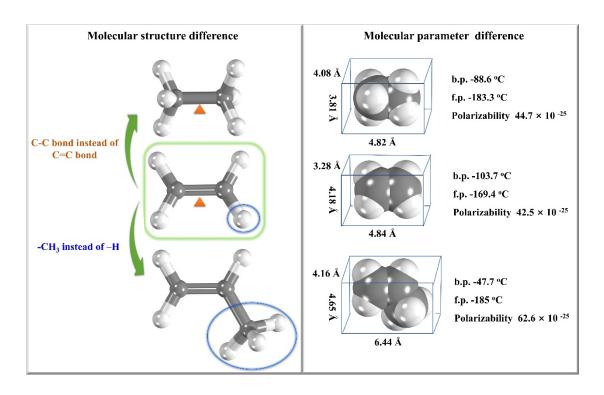


Fig. S14 Comparison of molecular structure and parameter of three gases.

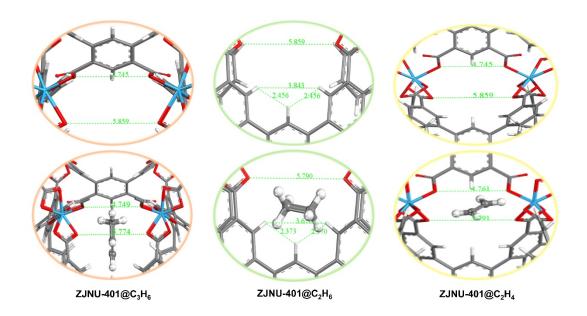


Fig. S15 Comparison of the bond lengths of the calculated structure and the host-crystal structure of ZJNU-401.

## 5. Supporting Tables

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for ZJNU-401.

Compound	ZJNU-401		
Empirical formula	$C_{176}In_8H_{80}O_{64}$		
Formula weight	4136.96		
λ (Å)	1.54178		
Crystal system	orthorhombic		
Space group	Fmm2		
a (Å)	24.3316(19)		
b (Å)	30.387(2)		
c (Å)	18.6976(9)		
α (deg)	90		
$\beta$ (deg)	90		
γ (deg)	90		
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	13824.2(16)		
Z	2		
$D_{\rm c}~({\rm g/cm^3})$	1.011		
$\mu~(\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$	5.719		
F(000)	4080.0		
Reflections collected	65124		
Unique $(R_{int})$	0.0430		
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.113		
$R_1$ , $wR_2$ [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	0.0543, 0.1701		
$R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)	0.0572, 0.1751		

**Table S2.** The refined parameters for the Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equations fit for the pure isotherms of small gas molecule for **ZJNU-401** at 273 K.

Adsor	$q_{m1}$	$\mathbf{b_1}$	n <sub>1</sub>	$q_{m2}$	$\mathbf{b_2}$	n <sub>2</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>
bate	$[\mathbf{mmol}\ \mathbf{g}^{-1}]$	[kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]		$[\mathbf{mmol}\ \mathbf{g}^{-1}]$	[kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]		
$C_3H_6$	4.46145	0.05954	0.55346	3.41758	1.84148	1.35768	0.99968
$C_2H_6$	4.28997	0.04022	1.0312	1.76072	0.07665	1	0.99981
$C_2H_4$	3.0233	0.01242	0.94534	3.8611	0.04899	0.9320	0.9999

**Table S3.** The refined parameters for the Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equations fit for the pure isotherms of small gas molecule for **ZJNU-401** at 298 K.

Adsor	$q_{m1}$	$\mathbf{b_1}$	$\mathbf{n}_1$	$q_{m2}$	$\mathbf{b_2}$	$n_2$	$\mathbb{R}^2$
bate	$[\mathbf{mmol}\ \mathbf{g}^{-1}]$	[kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]		$[\mathbf{mmol}\ \mathbf{g}^{-1}]$	[kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]		
$C_3H_6$	3.45961	0.27651	1.2859	2.44802	0.07781	0.50797	0.99997
$C_2H_6$	0.12353	0.3529	1.18812	4.73691	0.01757	1.1225	1
$C_2H_4$	3.85774	0.0066	1.17053	0.74039	0.0742	1.01203	0.99999

**Table S4.** The refined parameters for the Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich equations fit for the pure isotherms of small gas molecule for **ZJNU-401** at 308 K.

Adsor bate	q <sub>m1</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	b <sub>1</sub> [kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]	n <sub>1</sub>	q <sub>m2</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	b <sub>2</sub> [kPa <sup>-1</sup> ]	n <sub>2</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>
$C_3H_6$	0.66097	0.02869	2.55823	3.86659	0.19381	0.92339	0.99994
$C_2H_6$	3.15814	0.00575	1.35318	0.76388	0.08775	1.02498	1
$C_2H_4$	0.61103	0.06433	1	3.81109	0.00517	1.17311	0.99999

## 6. Reference

- [1]. Rappé A K, Casewit C J, Colwell K S, et al. UFF, a full periodic table force field for molecular mechanics and molecular dynamics simulations[J]. Journal of the American chemical society, 1992, 114(25): 10024-10035.
- [2]. Rappé A K, Casewit C J, Colwell K S, et al. UFF, a full periodic table force field for molecular mechanics and molecular dynamics simulations[J]. Journal of the American chemical society, 1992, 114(25): 10024-10035.
- [3]. Wang Y, Sun S, Wu P. Adaptive ionogel paint from room-temperature autonomous polymerization of α-thioctic acid for stretchable and healable electronics[J]. Advanced Functional Materials, 2021, 31(24): 2101494.