

*Supplementary Information*

## Methane Capture at Room Temperature: Adsorption on $\delta$ -MoC and $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C Molybdenum Carbides (001) Surfaces

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**Table S1:** Adsorption structural data and energy values for methane molecule adsorbed on  $\beta$ -Mo<sub>2</sub>C(001) surfaces. IS and FS stand for initial and final structures, respectively, energies are in eV, distances in Å, and charges in number of electrons.

IS	FS	E <sub>ads</sub>	E <sub>ads</sub> +vdW	%vdW	$\Delta C-H_s$	$\Delta C-H_f$	$\Delta Q (C)$	$\Delta Q(H_s)$	$\Delta Q(H)$
$\beta(C)-H_3(hC)$	H <sub>3</sub> (hC)	-0.05	-0.29	82.8	0.006 0.006 0.005	0.005	-0.06	-0.03 0.09	0.00
$\beta(C)-H_1(hC)$	H <sub>1</sub> (hC)	-0.04	-0.24	83.3	0.014	0.003 0.002	-0.04	0.07	-0.01
$\beta(C)-H_2(hC)$	H <sub>2</sub> (hC)	-0.05	-0.29	82.8	0.002 0.002	0.002	-0.27	0.06 0.08	0.06 0.08
$\beta(Mo)-H_2(hC^2)$	H <sub>2</sub> (tMo)	-0.11	-0.39	71.8	0.027 0.029	0.002 0.001	-0.10	0.09	-0.01
$\beta(Mo)-H_3(tMo)$	H <sub>2</sub> (tMo) <sup>a</sup>	-0.03	-0.39	92.3	0.027 0.029	0.002 0.001	-0.10	0.09 0.05	-0.01 0.04
$\beta(Mo)-H_1(hMo)$	H <sub>2</sub> (tMo) <sup>a</sup>	-0.03	-0.39	92.3	0.027 0.029	0.002 0.001	-0.10	0.08 0.05	-0.01 0.03

<sup>a</sup>These geometries are obtained only when vdW correction is included.

**Table S2:** Adsorption data and energy values for methane adsorption on  $\delta$ -MoC(001) surfaces. IS and FS stand for initial and final structures, respectively, energies are in eV, distances in Å, and charges in number of electrons.

IS	FS	$E_{\text{ads}}$	$E_{\text{ads}} + \text{vdW}$	%vdW	$\Delta C\text{-H}_s$	$\Delta C\text{-H}_f$	$\Delta Q (\text{C})$	$\Delta Q (\text{H}_s)$	$\Delta Q (\text{H})$
$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{h})$	$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{h})$	-0.54	-0.92	41.3	0.006 0.003 0.003	0.004	-0.03	0.01 0.03	-0.02
$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{tC})$	$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{tC})$	-0.54	-0.90	40.0	0.004 0.004	0.004	-0.02	0.00 0.03	0.01
$\delta\text{-H}_2(\text{tMo})$	$\delta\text{-H}_2(\text{tMo})$	-0.54	-0.96	43.8	0.007 0.005 0.004	0.003 0.003	0.01	-0.05 0.01 -0.02	-0.01 0.02
$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{tMo})$	$\delta\text{-H}_3(\text{tMo})$	-0.55	-0.95	42.1	0.005 0.004	0.004	-0.02	0.01 0.05	-0.03