Electronic Supplementary Information

Three in One: Engineering MOF Channels via Coordinated Water Arrays for Regulated Separation of Alkanes and Alkenes†

Lu-Lu Ma,^{a,b} Pavel N. Zolotarev,^c Kang Zhou,^b Xin Zhou,^b Jiaqi Liu,^b Jiafeng Miao,^b Shenfang Li,^b Guo-Ping Yang,*^a Yao-Yu Wang,^a Davide M. Proserpio,*^c Jing Li,*^{d,c} Hao Wang*^b

^aKey Laboratory of Synthetic and Natural Functional Molecule Chemistry of the Ministry of Education, Shaanxi Key Laboratory of Physico-Inorganic Chemistry, College of Chemistry & Materials Science, Northwest University, Xi'an 710127, P. R. China. E-mail: $ygp@nwu.edu.cn$

^bHoffmann Institute of Advanced Materials, Shenzhen Polytechnic 7098 Liuxian Blvd., Nanshan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518055, P. R. China. E-mail: wanghao@szpt.edu.cn

^cDipartimento di Chimica, Università degli Studi di Milano, 20133 Milano, Italy. Email: davide.proserpio@unimi.it

^dDepartment of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Rutgers University, 123 Bevier Road, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854, United States. Email: jingli@rutgers.edu

Supplementary Methods

Search for isoreticular rod-MOFs. The TopCryst service contains the data on the representatives of different topological types of all coordination networks collected in the CSD. The nets stored in the service are the result of the standard and cluster representation obtained using an automatic procedure, which guarantees rigor of the analysis and the coverage of the large amount of data. With these advantages comes the disadvantage, the rod-MOF representations are not stored because their construction requires user intervention in an *ad hoc* manner. Therefore, for the search of the analogous/isoreticular rod-net MOFs a workaround has been employed. First, we obtained the *standard representation* for **HIAM-317** in which metal atoms and ligand's center of mass serve as network nodes that results in the 6,8-connected sea net. The search in the TopCryst service revealed 42 structures of sea topological type, but not all 42 structures are rod-MOF, so we need to find those that can be described with the same rod net as in HIAM-317. We have applied the algorithm reported in [L. S. Xie, E. V. Alexandrov, G. Skorupskii, D. M. Proserpio and M. Dincă, Chem. Sci., 2019, 10, 8558–8565] to find the point of extension and metal (PE&M) description for HIAM-317, which results in the underlying net of the 3,4,6T325 topological type. We have obtained the PE&M representation for the 42 structures with sea topology and found that 26 of them are rod-MOF isoreticular with HIAM-317 (see Table S3). A manual check of 26 structures, revealed that only the HIQLEB structure (UPC-101-Al) [Weidong Fan, Xia Wang, Ben Xu, Yutong Wang, Dandan Liu, Ming Zhang, Yizhu Shang, Fangna Dai, Liangliang Zhang, Daofeng Sun, Journal of Materials Chemistry A, 2018, 6, 24486, DOI: 10.1039/C8TA07839D] comprises the ligand most similar to the one in HIAM-317.

The standard sea or the PE&M 3,4,6T325 are not the best nets for a good visual description of Y-MOF, so we also computed the straight rod (STR) net. In the STR representation the biphenyl core of the tetratopic ligand was represented as two linked 3-connected nodes and the rods comprise carboxylate-connected yttrium atoms. From the figure below two –COO groups are pointing to Y and each Y is bridged to the next Y by an oxygen atom of the bridging OH and another bridge comes from one oxygen of the carboxylates.

The unnecessary bonds between carboxylates and yttrium atoms were deleted, and after simplification the rods appear as a zig-zag chain of nodes. Each of these nodes is now 4-coordinated, linked to two PEs (the C atom of the carboxylate) attributed to two different ligands, in addition to two other nodes of the rod. The 3,4-coordinated net obtained in such way corresponds to the jeb topological type (see the figure above and S7b).

General characterizations

All reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Single crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a 'Bruker D8 VENTURE' diffractometer. The data of HIAM-317 and HIAM-317a were collected using MoK α (λ = 0.71073 Å) and CuK α (λ = 1.5406 Å), respectively. Using Olex2, the structures were solved with the ShelXT structure solution program using Intrinsic Phasing and refined with the ShelXL refinement package using Least Squares minimization. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns were recorded on a Bruker D8 Advance with Cu Kα radiation (λ = 1.5406 Å). Data were collected at room temperature at 2θ = 3 ~ 40°. Thermogravimetric measurements were performed on a thermal analyzer (TGA 550, TA Instruments) in N_2 atmosphere and the ramping rate was 10 °C/min. Scanning electron micrographs (SEM) images were taken using a JEOL JSM-IT800 (SHL). X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS) (including high-resolution spectrum) data were collected on Thermo Fisher ESCALAB 250Xi. C_2H_4 , and C_2H_6 adsorption isotherms were measured on a Micromeritics 3Flex analyzer, while C_3H_6 , and C_3H_8 adsorption isotherms were measured on a BSD-660. For each adsorption experiment, \sim 100 mg of MOF sample was activated 12 hours prior to data collection.

Synthesis of HIAM-317

H₄TCHB (20 mg, 0.03 mmol), 2-fluorobenzoic acid (500 mg, 3.57 mmol), Y(NO₃)₃·6H₂O (40.0 mg,

0.10 mmol), DMF (4 mL), and H2O (4 mL) were combined in a 20 mL Teflon bomb (Xi'an Taikang Technology Co., Ltd.) and the mixture was heated at 130 ℃ for 72 hours. After cooling down to room temperature, the obtained crystals were washed by DMF and then exchanged with CH_2Cl_2 3 times daily for 3 days. The solvent-exchanged samples were directly activated at 120 ℃ or 300 ℃ under dynamic vacuum for 12 hours to yield activated samples.

Breakthrough measurements

Breakthrough experiments were carried out in an auto mixed-gas breakthrough apparatus mixSorb S (manufactured by 3P Instruments and distributed by JWGB Instruments) equipped with a mass spectrum (MKS Circus 3). 1.58 g of adsorbent was packed into a steel column (I.D. 4 mm, volume 1 ml) and was activated at 120 or 300 ℃ for 4 hours under helium purging (10 ml/min) prior to measurements. When the temperature was cooled down to 25 ℃, helium flow was stopped and the feed mixed gases at a flow rate of 1 mL/min were introduced to the adsorption column. The outlet gas was analyzed using a mass spectrometer. After the adsorption reached dynamic equilibrium, the column was purged with helium (10 mL/min) at 120 ℃ for 1 hour for regeneration.

Fitting adsorption heat of pure component isotherms

$$
\ln P = \ln N + 1/\text{T} \sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i N^i + \sum_{i=0}^{n} b_i N^i \tag{1}
$$

$$
Q_{\rm st} = -R\sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i N^i \tag{2}
$$

The above virial expression was used to fit the combined isotherm data for HIAM-317b at 273 and 298 K (P is the pressure, N is the adsorbed amount, T is the temperature, a_i and b_i are virial coefficients, and m and N are the number of coefficients used to describe the isotherms). Q_{st} is the coverage-dependent enthalpy of adsorption and R is the universal gas constant.

Selectivity prediction via IAST

The experimental isotherm data for pure gas A, and gas B were fitted at 273 and 298 K using a Langmuir-Freundlich (L-F) model:

$$
q = \frac{a_1 * b_1 * P^{c_1}}{1 + b_1 * P^{c_1}} + \frac{a_2 * b_2 * P^{c_2}}{1 + b_2 * P^{c_2}} \tag{3}
$$

Where q and p were adsorbed amounts and the pressure of component *i*, respectively.

The adsorption selectivities for binary mixtures of gas A/gas B, defined by

$$
S_{i/j} = \frac{x_i * y_j}{x_j / y_i} \tag{4}
$$

were respectively calculated using the Ideal Adsorption Solution Theory (IAST) of Myers and Prausnitz. Where x_i is the mole fraction of component *i* in the adsorbed phase and y_i is the mole fraction of component i in the bulk.

Ab initio calculations and simulation details.

We used the DFT as implemented in the Vienna Ab initio simulation package (VASP) in all calculations. The exchange-correlation potential is described by using the generalized gradient approximation of Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (GGA-PBE). The projector augmented-wave (PAW) method is employed to treat interactions between ion cores and valence electrons. The plane-wave cutoff energy was fixed to 500 eV. Given structural models were relaxed until the Hellmann– Feynman forces smaller than -0.02 eV/Å and the change in energy smaller than 10^{-5} eV was attained. During the relaxation, the Brillouin zone was represented by a Γ centered k-point grid of 10 × 10 × 1. Grimme's DFT-D3 methodology was used to describe the dispersion interactions among all the atoms in adsorption models. And we used pymatgen to simulate the adsorption sites of the structure.

Compounds	Ball and Stick model	Dimensions (10^{-10} m)	Kinetic Diameter (10^{-10} m)	Boiling point (K)
C_2H_4		$3.28\times4.18\times4.84$	4.2	169.5
C_2H_6		$3.81\times4.08\times4.82$	4.4	184.6
C_3H_6		$4.65\times4.16\times6.44$	4.6	225.45
C_3H_8		$4.20\times4.60\times6.80$	4.3	231.05

Table S1. Comparison for molecular sizes and physical properties of C_2H_4 , C_2H_6 , C_3H_6 and C_3H_8 .

Compound	HIAM-317	HIAM-317a
Chemical formula	$C_{23}H_{20}O_6Y$	$C_{23}H_{20}O_6Y$
Formula weight	481.30	481.30
T(K)	200 K	253 K
Radiation (\AA)	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)	CuKa (λ = 1.54178)
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic
Space group	Ibam	Ibam
	6.7432(2),	6.7374(7),
$a, b, c (\AA)$	24.8499(9),	$24.870(3)$,
	31.0273(11)	30.881(4)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
$V(\AA^3)$	5199.2(3)	5174.4(10)
Z	8	8
Density (calculated) $(g \text{ cm}^{-3})$	1.230	1.236
μ (mm ⁻¹)	2.273	3.443
Reflections collected / unique / R_{int}	28731 / 2736 / 0.1079	10327 / 2151 / 0.2428
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.045	1.010
R_1^a , wR_2^b (I > 2 σ)	0.0392 / 0.0951	0.0982 / 0.2399
R_1^a , w R_2^b (all data)	0.0558 / 0.1032	0.1308 / 0.2661

Table S2. Crystallographic data for HIAM-317 and HIAM-317a.

 ${}^{a}R_{1} = \Sigma ||F_{o}|-|F_{c}||)/\Sigma |F_{o}|; {}^{b}wR_{2} = [\Sigma w(F_{o}^{2}-F_{c}^{2})^{2}/\Sigma w(F_{o}^{2})^{2}]^{1/2}$

$Y(1)-Y(1)\#1$	3.5839(3)	$Y(1)-O(2)$	2.355(2)
$Y(1)-O(1)\#2$	2.317(3)	$Y(1)-O(2)\#4$	2.437(2)
$Y(1)-O(1)$	2.258(3)	$Y(1)-O(3)$	2.336(4)
$Y(1)-O(2)\#2$	2.437(2)	$Y(1)-O(4)\#2$	2.475(2)
$Y(1)-O(2)\#3$	2.355(2)	$Y(1)-O(4)\#4$	2.475(2)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-Y(1)\#1$	102.52(7)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-Y(1)#1	42.46(5)
$O(1) - Y(1) - Y(1) \# 1$	39.02(8)	$O(2)$ #2-Y(1)-Y(1)#1	144.85(5)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(1)\#2$	141.55(9)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-O(2)#4	145.90(5)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(2)\#3$	77.84(8)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-O(2)#2	103.04(7)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(2)$	77.84(8)	$O(2)-Y(1)-O(2)\#4$	103.04(7)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(2)\#3$	70.48(9)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-O(2)	67.87(10)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(2)\#2$	139.62(7)	$O(2)-Y(1)-O(2)\#2$	145.90(5)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(2)\#4$	139.62(7)	$O(2)$ #2-Y(1)-O(2)#4	65.30(9)
$O(1) - Y(1) - O(2)$	70.48(9)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-O(4)#4	138.39(8)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(2)\#4$	68.07(8)	$O(2)$ #4-Y(1)-O(4)#4	52.56(7)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(2)\#2$	68.07(8)	$O(2)$ #3-Y(1)-O(4)#2	71.23(8)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(3)$	139.41(12)	$O(2)-Y(1)-O(4)\#2$	138.39(8)
$O(1) - Y(1) - O(3)$	79.04(13)	$O(2)$ #2-Y(1)-O(4)#2	52.56(7)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(4)\#4$	89.11(6)	$O(2)$ #2-Y(1)-O(4)#4	115.18(7)
$O(1)-Y(1)-O(4)\#2$	89.11(6)	$O(2)-Y(1)-O(4)\#4$	71.24(8)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(4)\#2$	101.00(7)	$O(2)$ #4-Y(1)-O(4)#2	115.18(7)
$O(1)\#2-Y(1)-O(4)\#4$	101.00(7)	$O(3)-Y(1)-Y(1)\#1$	118.06(10)
$O(2)$ #4-Y(1)-Y(1)#1	144.85(5)	$O(3)-Y(1)-O(2)\#4$	78.04(10)
$O(2)-Y(1)-Y(1)\#1$	42.46(5)	$O(3)-Y(1)-O(2)\#2$	78.04(10)
$O(3)-Y(1)-O(2)\#3$	133.00(9)	$O(4)$ #4-Y(1)-Y(1)#1	99.72(5)
$O(3)-Y(1)-O(2)$	133.00(9)	$O(4)$ #2-Y(1)-O(4)#4	146.56(13)
$O(3)-Y(1)-O(4)\#4$	73.44(7)	$Y(1)-O(1)-Y(1)\#1$	103.14(13)
$O(3)-Y(1)-O(4)\#2$	73.44(7)	$Y(1)-O(2)-Y(1)\#1$	96.82(7)
$O(4)$ #2-Y(1)-Y(1)#1	99.72(5)		

Table S3. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for HIAM-317.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 x-1/2, -y+3/2, -z+1; #2 x+1/2, -

y+3/2, -z+1; #3 x, y, -z+1; #4 x+1/2, -y+3/2, z; #5 -x+1, -y+1, z; #6 -x+1, y, -z+1/2.

refcode	composition	Space	Name	
		Group		
GUKVEO	C10 H4 Al2 O10	Pbam	(mu8-Benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylato)-	
			bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-aluminium) MIL-118B	
GUKVIS	C10 H9.5 Al2 O12.75	Pnam	(mu8-Benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylato)-	
			bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-aluminium hydrate)	
			MIL-118C	
GUXQAR	C10 H12 O14 V2	$P-1$	(mu8-1,2,4,5-Benzenetetracarboxylato)-	
			bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-vanadium(iii)	
			tetrahydrate) MIL-60	
HALTUM	C60 H60 N4 Ni4 O22	P21/m	bis(mu-1,1':4',1"-terphenyl-2',4,4",5'-	
			tetracarboxylato)-bis(mu-N,N-	
			dimethylacetamide)-bis(mu-aqua)-tetra-nickel	
			N,N-dimethylacetamide solvate	
HERYOT	C14 H8 O10 Zn2	Pbam	(mu8-1,4,5,8-Naphthalenetetracarboxylato)-di-	
			aqua-di-zinc)	
HIQLEB	C40 H31 Al2 N2 O12.5	Cmmm	$bis(mu-hydroxo)-(mu-3,3',5,5'-tetrakis(4-$	
			carboxylatophenyl)[1,1'-biphenyl-4,4'-	
			diamine)-di-aluminium(iii) hydrate UPC-101-	
			AI	
LURRUM	C53 H53 In2 N3 O17	Cmmm	mu8-4,4',4",4"'-(Pyrene-1,3,6,8-	
			tetrayl)tetrabenzoato)-bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-	
			indium(iii) dimethylformamide solvate	
			tetrahydrate	
NUFYAP	C28 H12 Al4 O20	P21/c	bis(mu8-1,4,5,8-	
			Naphthalenetetracarboxylato)-tetrakis(mu2-	
			hydroxo)-tetra-aluminium)	
NUFYET	C14 H6 Ga2 O10	P21/c	(mu8-1,4,5,8-Naphthalenetetracarboxylato)-	
			bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-gallium)	
NUFYIX	C14 H6 In2 O10	P21/c	(mu8-1,4,5,8-Naphthalenetetracarboxylato)-	
			bis(mu2-hydroxo)-tetra-indium)	
QUCFUR	C16 H10 Al2 O13 S1	$P-1$	mu8-4,4'-Sulfonyldibenzene-1,2-	
			dicarboxylato)-bis(mu2-hydroxo)-di-	
			aluminium monohydrate CAU-12-dehy	
RAYYOI	C48 H33.1 Al2 Co1 N4	Cmmm	mu-5,10,15,20-tetrakis(4-	
	O13.55		carboxylatophenyl)porphyrinato)-bis(mu-	
			hydroxo)-di-aluminium-cobalt hydrate	
SULZOR	C24 H10 O10 Sc2	P21/c	bis(mu-hydroxo)-(mu-perylene-3,4,9,10-	
			tetracarboxylato)-di-scandium) Sc-CAU-9-	
			PTCDA	
SUMBAG	C34 H22 O11 Sc2	Cmmm	$(mu-1,2,4,5-tetrakis(4-$	
			carboxylatophenyl)benzene)-bis(mu-hydroxo)-	

Table S4. The 26 isoreticular structures with 3,4,6T325 PE&M underlying net observed in HIAM-317.

Table S5. Fitting parameters of Clausius-Clapeyron isotherm model.

	C_2H_4	C_2H_6	C_3H_6	C_3H_8	T(K)
a ₀	2.29687	1.97407	1.7193	3.29593	273
b ₁	0.02718	0.04994	0.01978	0.01138	273
c ₁	1.12517	1.17578	0.95261	1.00967	273
a_2	12.7428	10.83435	2.15593	0.03324	273
b ₂	0.00225	0.00432	0.00116	6.79306E-5	273
c ₂	0.62794	0.57792	1.48208	2.78521	273
Chi^2	4.65549E-6	3.5282E-6	1.59273E-6	5.73621E-7	273
$R^{\wedge}2$	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	273
a ₀	2.11429	0.29386	0.067	0.23411	298
b ₁	0.81647	0.01353	8.63816E-8	0.00345	298
c ₁	1.16375	1.91403	4.58816	2.38034	298
a ₂	0.33265	1.72784	2.09881	1.49042	298
b ₂	0.00842	1.51	0.23671	0.54461	298
c ₂	1.63051	1.07374	1.08093	1.14268	298
Chi^2	1.21097E-5	1.91581E-5	1.08093	5.25944E-5	298
$R^{\wedge}2$	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.999	298

Table S6. Fitting parameters of Dual-site Langmuir-Freundlich isotherm model.

Fig. S1 Optical microscope image of the as-synthesized crystals of HIAM-317.

Fig. S2 The SEM and SEM-EDX patterns for HIAM-317 (a), HIAM-317a (b), and HIAM-317b (c).

Fig. S3 The TEM and SAED patterns for HIAM-317, HIAM-317a, and HIAM-317b.

Fig. S4 The XPS spectra (including high-resolution spectrum) for HIAM-317, HIAM-317a and HIAM-317b.

Fig. S5 The coordination mode of HIAM-317a and HIAM-317b. (Symmetric code: $#2 = 1/2+x$, 3/2-y, 1-z; $\#3 = x$, y, 1-z; $\#4 = 1/2+x$, 3/2-y, z)

Fig. S6 The asymmetric unit of **HIAM-317**. (Symmetric code: $#2 = 1/2+x$, $3/2-y$, $1-z$; $#3 = x$, y, $1-z$ $z; \#4 = 1/2+x, 3/2-y, z$

b) $3,4-c$ jeb

Fig. S7 The topological representations of HIAM-317.

Fig. S8 Simulated and experimental PXRD patterns of HIAM-317 in different forms.

Fig. S9 In-situ PXRD patterns of HIAM-317 collected at different temperatures and under ambient air atmosphere.

Fig. S10 (a) TGA curves of as-synthesized and CH₂Cl₂-exchaned samples of HIAM-317; (b) TGA curves of HIAM-317a and HIAM-317b.

Fig. S11 Adsorption isotherms of C_2H_4 and C_2H_6 (a) and C_3H_6 and C_3H_8 (b) for HIAM-317a and HIAM-317b at 273 K.

Fig. S12 IAST selectivity of HIAM-317b for equimolar binary C_2H_6/C_2H_4 (a) and C_3H_6/C_3H_8 (b) mixtures at 273 and 298 K.

Fig. S13 TG-MS curve of CH₂Cl₂@HIAM-317.

Fig. S14 Fitted adsorption isotherms of C₂H₄ (a), C₂H₆ (b), C₃H₆ (c) and C₃H₈ (d) for **HIAM-**317b.

Fig. S15 Fitted adsorption isotherms of C₂H₄, C₂H₆, C₃H₆ and C₃H₈ at 273 K (a)-(d) and 298 K (e)-(h) for HIAM-317b.

Fig. S16 Simulation of breakthrough experiments for C_2H_4/C_2H_6 (v/v, 1/1) and C_3H_6/C_3H_8 (v/v, 1/1) on HIAM-317a and HIAM-317b at 298K and 100 kPa.

Fig. S17 The preferential adsorption sites of HIAM-317a for C₂H₄ (a) and C₃H₆ (b). The C-H···π and C-H^{\cdots}O interations are prestented by orange and orange dashed line respectivily.

Fig. S18 The depth of field map of density distribution of C_2H_4 (a), C_2H_6 (b), C_3H_6 (c) and C_3H_8 (d) in HIAM-317b at 298K, 100 kPa.