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Insertion of Oxygen and Nitrogen in the Siliceous Zeolite TON at High-Pressure

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Supporting Information Placeholder

ABSTRACT

The insertion of oxygen and nitrogen molecules in the 1D pore system of the zeolite TON was studied at high pressure by vibrational spectroscopy, x-ray diffraction and by Monte Carlo (MC) molecular modelling. Rietveld refinements and MC modelling indicate that on average six diatomic molecules per unit cell enter the pores of the zeolite. This induces changes in compressibility and distortion related to the $Cmc2_1$ to a $Pbn2_1$ phase transition compared to the empty-pore material. The filling behavior with N_2 and O_2 under pressure is similar to that of argon, suggesting that the kinetic diameter, which is very close in these three systems, plays a major role. The orientation of the diatomic molecules appears to have a rather minor effect on filling occurring at a slightly higher pressure for N_2 , which has a larger kinetic diameter. Both inserted molecules, initially not showing any marked orientation, begin to exhibit a degree of orientational order above 2 GPa.

1. Introduction

Zeolites are natural or synthetic aluminosilicates built up of corner-sharing TO_4 ($T = \text{Si, Al...}$) tetrahedra, which form a network of pores with typical diameters between 3 and 8 Å. These microporous materials are used at a large scale for applications in, for example, catalysis, adsorption, separation and ion exchange. In the recent years, we conducted several foundational studies on the high pressure (GPa) insertion of simple molecular systems into inert, purely siliceous zeolites, with an at least twofold purpose¹⁻¹¹. On one hand, we aimed to obtain sub-nanophases of densely confined guest simple systems in the host zeolites and to compare the intermolecular interactions and distances in the confined matter to those of the corresponding bulk systems at the same pressures. These interactions were indeed found to be very similar in the two cases, thereby providing a rationale and also a guide for tailoring potential pressure induced chemical reactions in this sort of confined molecular matter⁹. On the other hand, we aimed to obtain purely pressure induced chemical reactions such as the polymerization, in the case of simple C-based molecules as the guest species. In this case, novel hybrid organic/inorganic, polymer/zeolites nanocomposites were synthesized and recovered at ambient conditions⁵⁻⁸, a class of materials which may exhibit a rich diversity of physical properties suitable for potential applications in modern micro-electronics/photonics/mechanics and energy storage. In this context, we note that these studies are connected to high-pressure effects that have been proposed to rationalize strong confinement effects on catalytic reactions and/or phase transitions¹²⁻¹³.

One crucial, fundamental aspect in this research is the understanding of how the degree of filling of the inserted molecules depends on pressure and also how the structure of the host zeolite is affected. These two aspects were quantitatively investigated by means of X-ray diffraction on the purely SiO_2 zeolite ZSM-22 (TON) filled by Ne and Ar¹⁰. TON is a 1D micro-channel system based on 10-membered rings of SiO_4 tetrahedra with elliptical cross sections of 5.7 Å and 4.6 Å, respectively¹⁴. The insertion of the rare gas systems was found to strongly depend on the van der Waals (vdW) radius, equal to 1.5 Å and 1.8 Å in Ne and Ar, respectively, thereby differing by about 18%. Ne was found to completely fill the pores of TON at 4 GPa, achieving the saturation value of 12 Ne atoms per unit cell of the host zeolite, whereas

the degree of filling with Ar was almost two times lower. Also, the compressibility and structural distortions, such as pore ellipticity, are considerably reduced in the case of Ne as compared to the argon-filled and the empty pore material¹⁵.

In this work, we aim to provide a more general view on pressure driven filling of TON by extending our investigation to the case of the insertion of the simplest possible molecular systems possessing orientational degrees of freedom: the homonuclear diatomic molecules. Specifically, we chose N₂ and O₂ as the test systems, since the high pressure phase diagram of these two bulk substances, which we use as a reference here, is well known in the literature¹⁶⁻³⁰. The present study on confined N₂ and O₂ in TON is based on Raman spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, and Monte Carlo (MC) molecular modeling in the 0-20 GPa pressure range.

2. Experimental and theoretical methods

The TON sample was prepared by sol-gel techniques using triethylenetetramine as the structure directing agent followed by crystallization at 170°C under hydrothermal conditions and then calcination at 600°C^{15, 31-32}. Samples were prepared in which either oxygen or nitrogen was loaded with micron/submicron-size TON powder in stainless steel gasketed diamond anvil cells (DACs), with typical initial sample dimensions of 150-320 μm in diameter and 40-50 μm in thickness. We first homogeneously filled the gasket hole by TON powder and the powder was just gently compacted in order not to prevent the subsequent loading of the condensed gases. Either O₂ or N₂ was then loaded cryogenically at 77 K in its liquid phase at about 1 bar, and the liquid filled both the pores of the zeolite (confined O₂ and N₂) and residual empty space between the grains of TON (bulk O₂ and N₂). These samples were used for *in situ* Raman spectroscopy and X-ray diffraction (XRD) investigations under pressure. Ruby chips were inserted in the samples and pressure was measured based on the shift of the ruby R₁ fluorescence line³³. Raman signals were excited by the 647.1 nm line of a Kr⁺ laser. Backscattering geometry was used through a 20× Mitutoyo

micro-objective providing a beam spot of 2-3 μm , and the scattered light was detected by a single monochromator (Acton/SpectraPro 2500i) equipped with super notch filters and a CCD detector (Princeton Instruments Spec-10:100BR)³⁴ with typical spectral resolution of 0.6 cm^{-1} .

X-ray diffraction ($\lambda=0.41121\text{ \AA}$) was performed in a diamond anvil cell (DAC) on beamline ID15B at the ESRF synchrotron using a MAR555 flat panel detector. The nominal size of the focal spot was $30\text{ }\mu\text{m}$. The diffraction patterns were analyzed and integrated using the FIT2D program³⁵. Rietveld refinements were performed using the program Fullprof³⁶. Soft constraints were applied to the Si-O distances, O-O distances and/or the O-Si-O angles. Crystal structures were plotted using the program VESTA³⁷.

Monte Carlo simulations in the Grand Canonical ensemble (GCMC) were performed to determine the number, the positions and orientations of O_2 and N_2 confined at room temperature in TON. Such atom-scale simulations at constant chemical potential μ , volume V , and temperature T allow determining the number of adsorbed oxygen, $n_{\text{O}_2}(\mu)$, and nitrogen, $n_{\text{N}_2}(\mu)$, molecules per zeolite unit cell as a function of chemical potential μ ³⁸. For a given μ and T , the corresponding pressure P was obtained according to the following strategy³⁹⁻⁴⁰. We perform GCMC simulations of bulk O_2 and bulk N_2 to obtain the relationship between chemical potential μ and density, $\rho(\mu)$. On the other hand, the relationship $\rho(P)$ between pressure P and density ρ is determined using Monte Carlo simulations in the isobaric-isothermal ensemble (NPT). From $\rho(\mu)$ and $\rho(P)$, $\mu(P)$ can be determined readily. For each gas, the pressures (or chemical potential) and unit cell parameters obtained from the experiments were used to perform these molecular simulations. A TON structure made of $2 \times 2 \times 5$ rigid unit cells was considered and periodic boundary conditions were used along the x , y , z directions to avoid finite size effects. O_2 and N_2 were described in these atom-scale simulations using all-atom potentials from the TRAPPE force field⁴¹⁻⁴². In more detail, for these two molecules, each atomic site is a Lennard-Jones center with the following parameters: $\sigma = 0.302\text{ nm}$, $\varepsilon/k_B = 49\text{ K}$ for the O atom in O_2 and $\sigma = 0.331\text{ nm}$, $\varepsilon/k_B = 36\text{ K}$ for the N atom in N_2 . In addition, to describe the electric quadrupole moment, each of these atomic sites carries a partial charge; $q_{\text{O}} = -0.113e$ and $q_{\text{N}} = -0.482e$ (the bond length is set to 0.11 nm for N_2 and 0.121 nm for O_2). For each molecule, to ensure

charge neutrality, the center of mass carries a charge $-2q$. Interactions with the O and Si atoms of zeolite TON were also described using the Lennard – Jones potential and the Coulomb electrostatic potential. The cross parameters σ and ϵ were determined by combining the like-atom parameters using the Lorentz – Berthelot rules (the like-atom parameters for zeolite TON are $\sigma = 0.3795$ nm, $\epsilon/k_B = 64.2$ K for Si and $\sigma = 0.3154$ nm, $\epsilon/k_B = 78.0$ K for O). As for the electrostatic charges on the Si and O atoms of the zeolite, there are taken from the force field for silica by Carre et al.⁴³

3. Results and discussion

Raman spectra of the molecular stretching were measured up to about 20 GPa on O₂/TON and N₂/TON mixtures, respectively (figure 1). In all cases, close to the peaks for the bulk systems, other much weaker yet clearly visible peaks appear, which we easily assign to confined O₂ and N₂. In the O₂/TON mixture at 0.5 GPa, we observe one single peak for confined O₂, and the two peaks of confined and bulk O₂ are rather sharp and well separated with the peak for confined O₂ positioned at slightly lower frequencies. Both peaks then suddenly broaden upon increasing pressure up to about 5.5 GPa, and the peak for confined O₂ appears as a not resolved, low frequency shoulder of the much sharper bulk O₂ peak. Above 5.5 GPa, bulk oxygen solidifies (β phase) and the corresponding peak sharpens significantly, while the peak for confined O₂ remains quite broad and much better distinguishable from the peak of the bulk phase. Above 10 GPa, at the δ - ϵ phase transition for pure O₂, the bulk O₂ peak jumps down to lower frequencies, due to the formation of weakly bonded (O₂)₄ tetramers, which are the molecular units of the ϵ phase. Correspondingly, confined oxygen displays two distinct peaks, slightly sharper than those observed below 10 GPa, now positioned at higher frequencies with respect to the peak of pure oxygen, which originate from weakly bonded (O₂)₂ dimers mixed with monomeric units both forming the confined material, as shown by us recently⁴⁴. In N₂/TON mixtures, we observe two distinct peaks for confined nitrogen at 2.8 GPa, at slightly lower and higher frequencies, respectively, with respect to the much stronger single peak of solid bulk nitrogen indicating that we have at least two symmetry independent molecules per unit cell. Upon

increasing pressure, the two peaks for confined nitrogen become more separated, but also increasingly broader, while solid nitrogen displays the sharp ν_1 and ν_2 peaks, in both δ and ϵ phase.

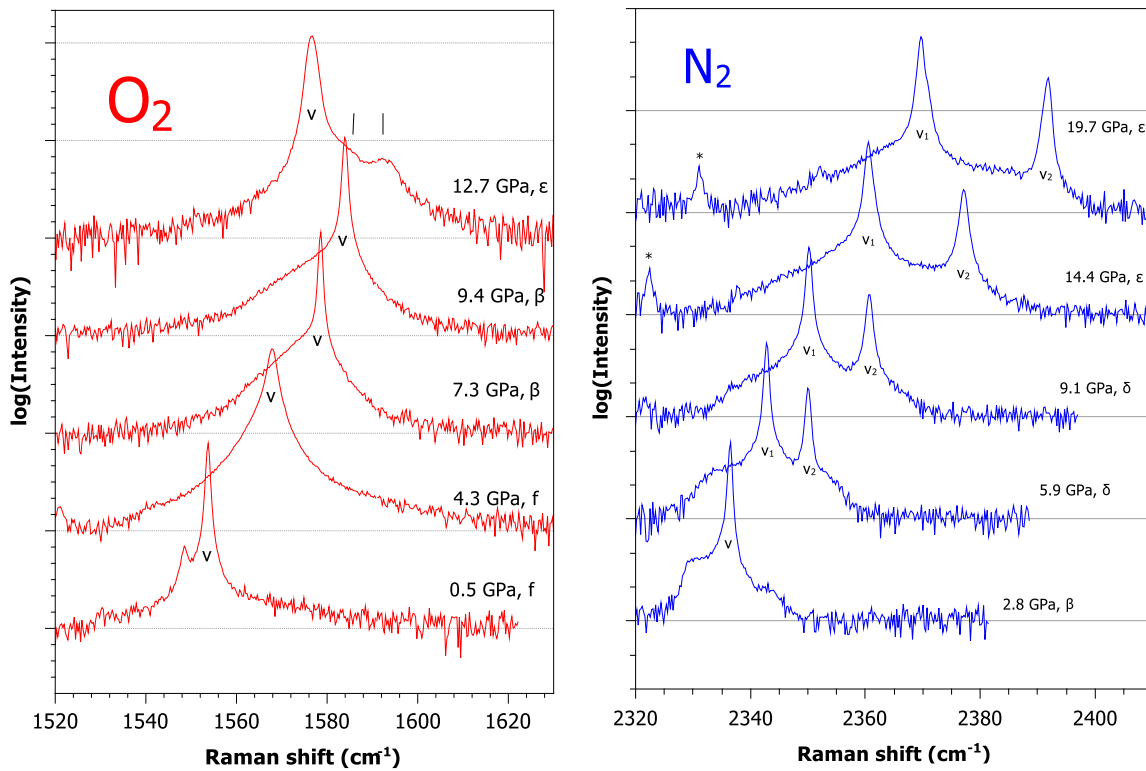


Figure 1. Selected Raman spectra of O_2 /TON and N_2 /TON mixtures measured upon increasing pressure. Logarithm (log) of the intensity is reported on the vertical scale. The spectra have been also vertically shifted, for the sake of visual clarity. Greek letters β , δ , and ϵ , and “f”: solid phases and the fluid phase, respectively. The ν , ν_1 and ν_2 letters indicate the crystalline components for the molecular stretching in the bulk phases. Vertical bars in the left panel indicate two distinct stretching modes for confined oxygen, which appear above 10 GPa (see main text). Asterisks in the right panel indicate the isotopic $^{15}N^{14}N$ stretching peak.

Our spectroscopic investigation allows us to draw a few important observations on the inserted molecular systems. Firstly, pressure shift of frequency for the confined and bulk systems are roughly similar. Also, at least for nitrogen, where two crystalline components are observed above 5.0 GPa in the pure system with a frequency spread that increases with pressure, we observe that the pressure behavior of the

frequency spread for the confined and bulk systems are very similar to one another. These facts suggest that intermolecular interactions and, as a consequence, intermolecular distances are very similar in the two cases, the confined and the bulk system, as already observed by us in the O₂/TON and the N₂/silicalite systems^{9, 44}. A second important observation deals with the confined systems displaying two Raman peaks, clearly visible for oxygen above 10 GPa and for nitrogen starting from low pressure. This is a first hint that at least two crystallographically independent, inserted molecules should sit within the primitive cell of TON. This finding is quantitatively assessed below, by the XRD investigation. A third very important outcome from the Raman studies stems from the pressure behavior of the integrated, total intensity ratio for confined O₂ and N₂, normalized to the integrated intensity for the bulk peak (in the case of N₂, only the ν_1 peak was considered above 5.0 GPa). These intensities have been obtained after a fitting procedure of the measured peaks to pseudo-Voigt functions. In figure 2, we report the normalized intensity for confined O₂ and N₂ vs. pressure up to 10 GPa, which is the range of pressures where Rietveld refinements of our XRD data are also available for a quantitative comparison. Incidentally, in the case of oxygen, we note that although the Raman intensity can change upon pressure increase because of changes in the molecular electronic structure [ref. 17-18], the normalized quantity reported in figure 3 should not be affected by these changes, which indeed reasonably occur for confined and bulk oxygen to the same extent. The normalized intensity for the confined matter clearly increases upon increasing pressure, reaching a sort of saturation above 3-4 GPa. Fitting of data points to an empirical increasing exponential function: $A[1-\exp(-P/P_r)]$, leads to a typical pressure growth rate of $P_r=1.8$ GPa. It is very straightforward to assign this type of growing mainly to the increasing number of inserted molecules with pressure in the host zeolite, a result which is quantitatively confirmed below by XRD.

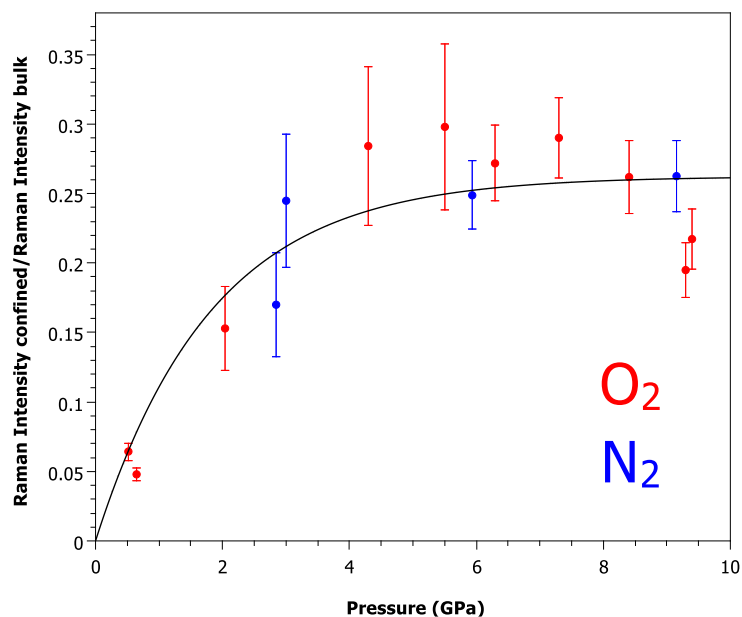


Figure 2. Red and blue circles: integrated Raman intensity for confined O₂ (red) and N₂ (blue) normalized to the integrated intensity for the corresponding bulk systems, see text. Points for N₂ have been vertically rescaled by a factor of 1.36 in order to display the same average value as those for O₂ above 4.0 GPa. An increasing exponential function was fitted to the whole set of data: $A[1-\exp(-P/P_r)]$, with $A=0.26$ and $P_r=1.8$ GPa.

Powder XRD patterns were measured up to 20 GPa on TON in oxygen and in nitrogen. The data obtained above 10 GPa for oxygen were subject to extremely strong contamination from the diffraction due to bulk ϵ -oxygen. In both cases changes in relative intensity were observed due to pore filling and TON remained crystalline up to the highest pressure reached, Figure 3. Rietveld refinements were performed up to 10 GPa for both systems, which except for the lowest pressure point at 0.45 GPa in the TON-O₂ experiment, correspond to the high pressure $Pbn2_1$ phase of TON. Fourier difference maps were calculated. Strong peaks were found in the pores and these peaks were used to place the guest molecules in the unit cell, which were modelled using isoelectronic silicon and sulfur atoms for N₂ and O₂ molecules, respectively. The results indicate that the N₂ and O₂ molecules enter the pores, but not the smaller cages and rings of the framework. The structure was then refined using the same model as in previous work using soft constraints on intratetrahedral Si-O and O-O distances and including some carbon atoms to

account for the residue arising from the calcination of the structure directing agent¹⁵. Reasonable agreement factors were obtained and the refined framework was used as the starting point for the MC molecular modelling to obtain a more meaningful structural model. The result from MC models were then used as starting points for the refinements at various pressures. It became clear that no improvement to the fits were obtained using individual diatomic molecules and thus the isoelectronic atoms were used in the refinements, Figure 4, to determine the centers of gravity of the diatomic molecules. The diatomic molecules in both systems partially occupy two sets of $4a$ Wyckoff sites (x,y,z) (Figures 5 and CIF files in SI). The exception is the low pressure point at 0.45 GPa in $Cmc2_1$ phase of O₂-filled TON, in which a set of $4a$ Wyckoff sites $(0,y,z)$ is occupied. These results are consistent with the Fourier difference maps.

A strong increase in the number of molecules per unit cell occurs up to 3 GPa for O₂ and N₂, pressure above which the occupancy saturates in both cases at 6 molecules per unit cell and thus 3 molecules per pore distributed with 75 % probability on four sites (Figure 6). The filling curve is slightly shifted to higher pressure for N₂. Less than full occupation of these sites could be partially related to the presence in the pores of a residue from the structure directing agent remaining after pyrolysis of the zeolite¹⁵. The higher intrusion pressure for nitrogen can be linked to its larger kinetic diameter and is in good agreement with the results of the simulations discussed below. The degree of filling is much greater than the saturation at 3.7 nitrogen molecules/UC³¹ found by adsorption isotherm data. The filling data are similar to previous results for argon in terms of number of guest species per unit cell and much lower than the corresponding value of 12 for Ne, which has a significantly smaller kinetic diameter.

Figure 6 shows the simulated adsorption isotherms obtained for N₂ and O₂ at room temperature in TON. As mentioned above, the pressures selected for each gas in the GCMC simulations correspond to the experimental data points. The adsorbed amount of N₂ increases up to 5 N₂ molecules per unit cell upon increasing the pressure to ~3 GPa and then remains constant at about 5.5 N₂ per unit cell. In contrast, for O₂ in a similar pressure range, the adsorbed amount increases from about 4 O₂ molecules per unit cell to about 8 O₂ molecules per unit cell for increasing the pressure to $P < 2$ GPa and then decreases to about 6

O₂ molecules upon further increasing the pressure beyond $P > 2$ GPa. Even if O₂ has a slightly longer bond length than N₂, the larger maximum adsorbed amount for O₂ compared to N₂ can be explained by the slightly smaller Lennard-Jones size parameter for the former ($\sigma = 0.302$ for O₂ and $\sigma = 0.331$ nm for N₂). Overall, the behavior observed for these two gases can be rationalized as follows. At low pressures, upon compression, despite the observed unit cell volume decrease, the adsorbed amount increases as a result of the increasing gas chemical potential (we recall that at constant pressure the gas pressure and chemical potential are directly related). However, for large pressures, the unit cell compression prevails so that the volume accessible for adsorption – and hence the adsorbed amount – decreases. The strong increase followed by a decrease is not observed experimentally for the case of O₂-TON. This is probably due to kinetic factors as the filling curves are shifted to higher pressure in the experiments as compared to the simulations. The large increase followed by a decrease in the case of oxygen below 5 GPa in the MC simulations corresponds to the pressure range over which the oxygen is in the fluid state. Instead, at higher pressures good agreement is observed, and the number of molecules is constant or only decreases slightly at which the bulk N₂ and O₂ are solid. As a consequence, the relative volume remains systematically much higher and the compressibility lower than that of TON in non-penetrating pressure medium DAPHNE7474. As in the simulations, the filling curve of nitrogen is shifted to higher pressures with respect to that of oxygen due to its larger size.

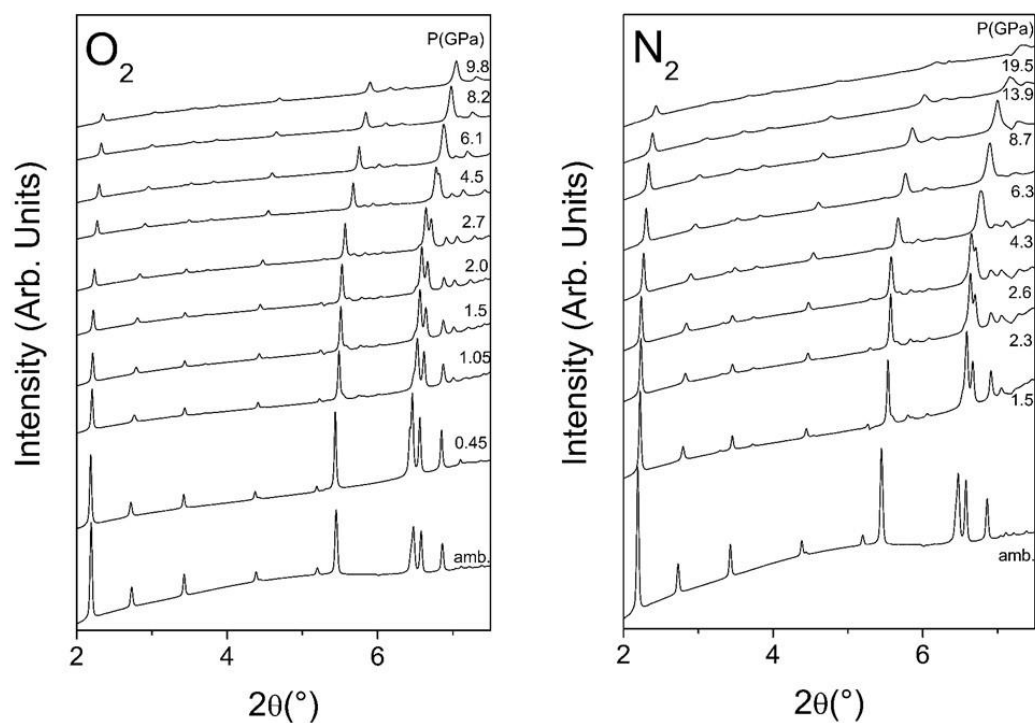


Figure 3. X-ray diffraction patterns of TON in O₂ and N₂ as a function of pressure ($\lambda=0.41121$ Å). The diffraction lines of ϵ -O₂ and ϵ -N₂ were observed above 10 GPa at diffraction angles above 8°. They exhibited strong texture and were typically more than an order of magnitude higher in intensity than the diffraction lines of TON indicating that the latter was completely immersed in a large amount of bulk O₂ or N₂ pressure transmitting medium

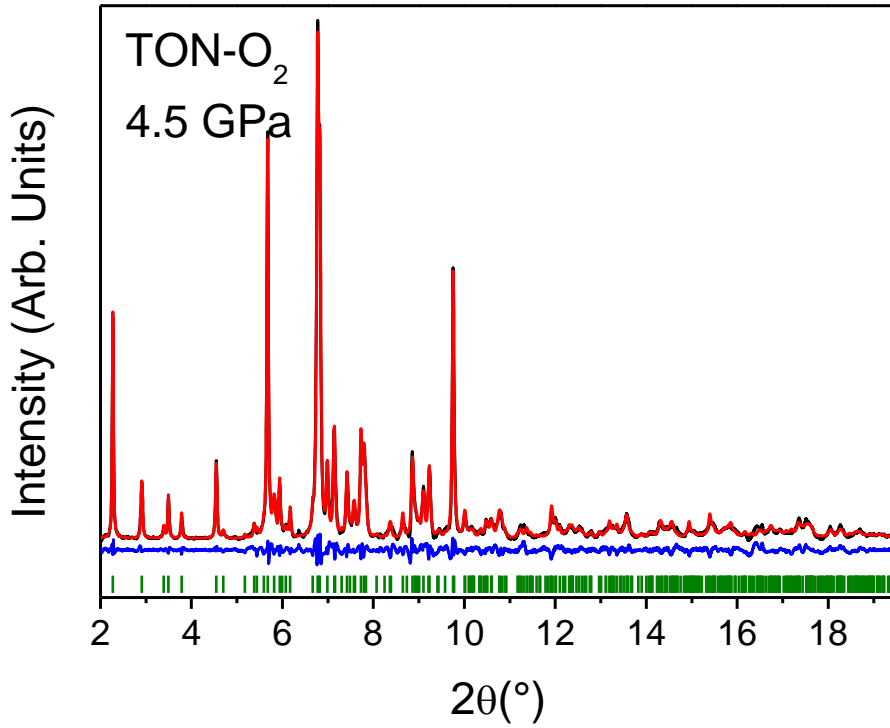


Figure 4. Experimental (black), calculated (red) and difference (blue) profiles for the the $Pbn2_1$ structure of TON-O₂ at 4.5(1) GPa. Vertical bars indicate the calculated positions of the Bragg reflections. The strong background due to Compton scattering from the diamond and broad features due to fluid O₂ have been subtracted.

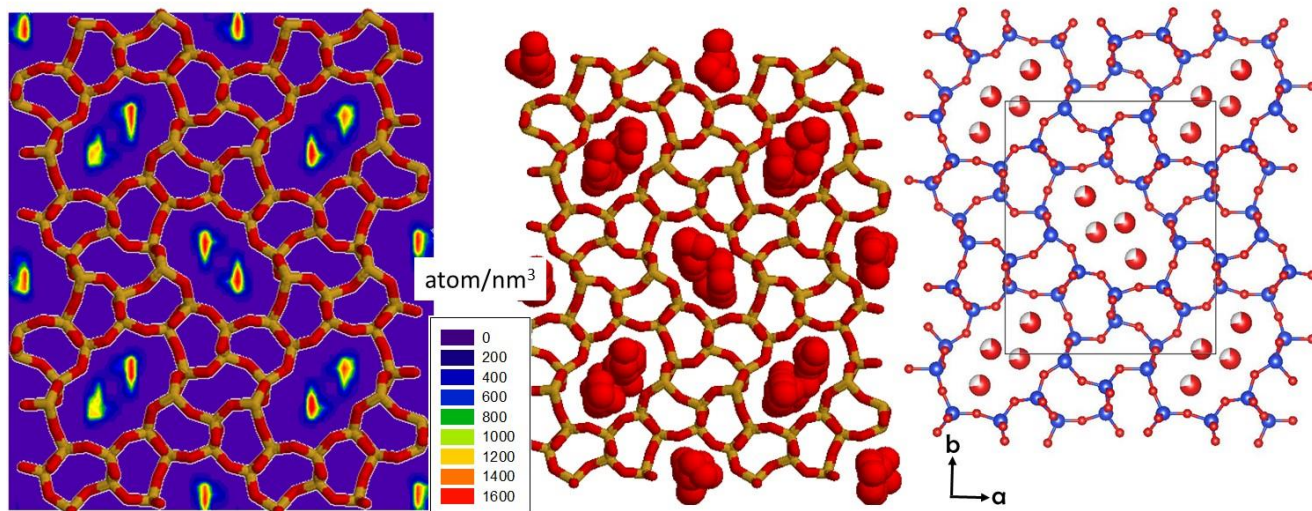


Figure 5. Density map (left) and projection of several unit cells along z (center) from MC modelling and the refined crystal structure of O₂-filled TON at 5.1 GPa ($Pbn2_1$) (right). Blue and red spheres represent the silicon and oxygen atoms in the zeolite, respectively. The large red spheres are the O atoms of the inserted O₂ molecules. Large red spheres in the figure at the right represent spherically disordered oxygen molecules and the shading represents the occupancy. The pore volume at 5.1 GPa, which is filled by O₂, is about $25\text{\AA}^3/\text{O}_2$ taking into account site occupancy of O₂ of 74%. This yields an O₂ density in the pores close to that of solid β -O₂ at similar pressures⁴⁵.

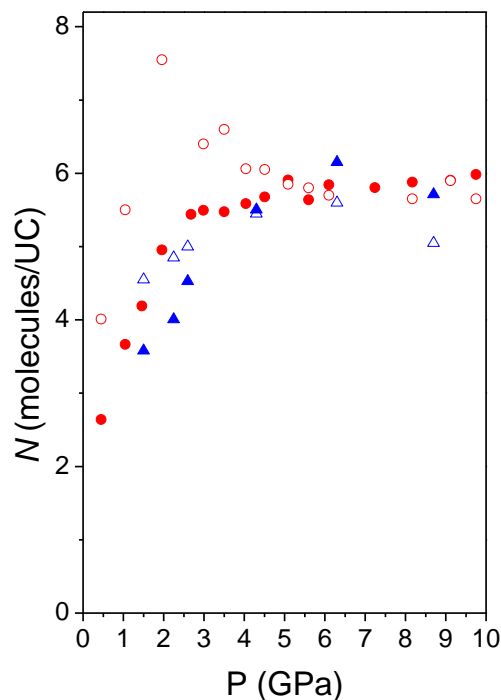


Figure 6. Experimental (solid symbols) and simulated (open symbols) adsorption isotherms for O₂ (red circles) and N₂ (blue triangles) at room temperature. Error bars are smaller than the symbol size. These data were obtained using GCMC simulations for a TON structure made up of $2 \times 2 \times 5$ unit cells. For each pressure, the unit cell parameters (a , b , and c) in the simulation were taken from the experimental data.

Pore filling has a major effect on the compressibility of TON (Figure 7). The compressibility of TON is significantly lower in N₂ and O₂ than for empty TON¹⁵. The values for the cell parameters and volume are slightly lower in N₂ as compared to O₂ below 3 GPa due to the lower degree of filling of N₂ up to this pressure. A similar effect is seen in argon. The compressibility is greater than in the case of neon, which fills TON to a much greater extent. In all cases filled TON compresses to a much lesser degree than empty TON as could be expected.

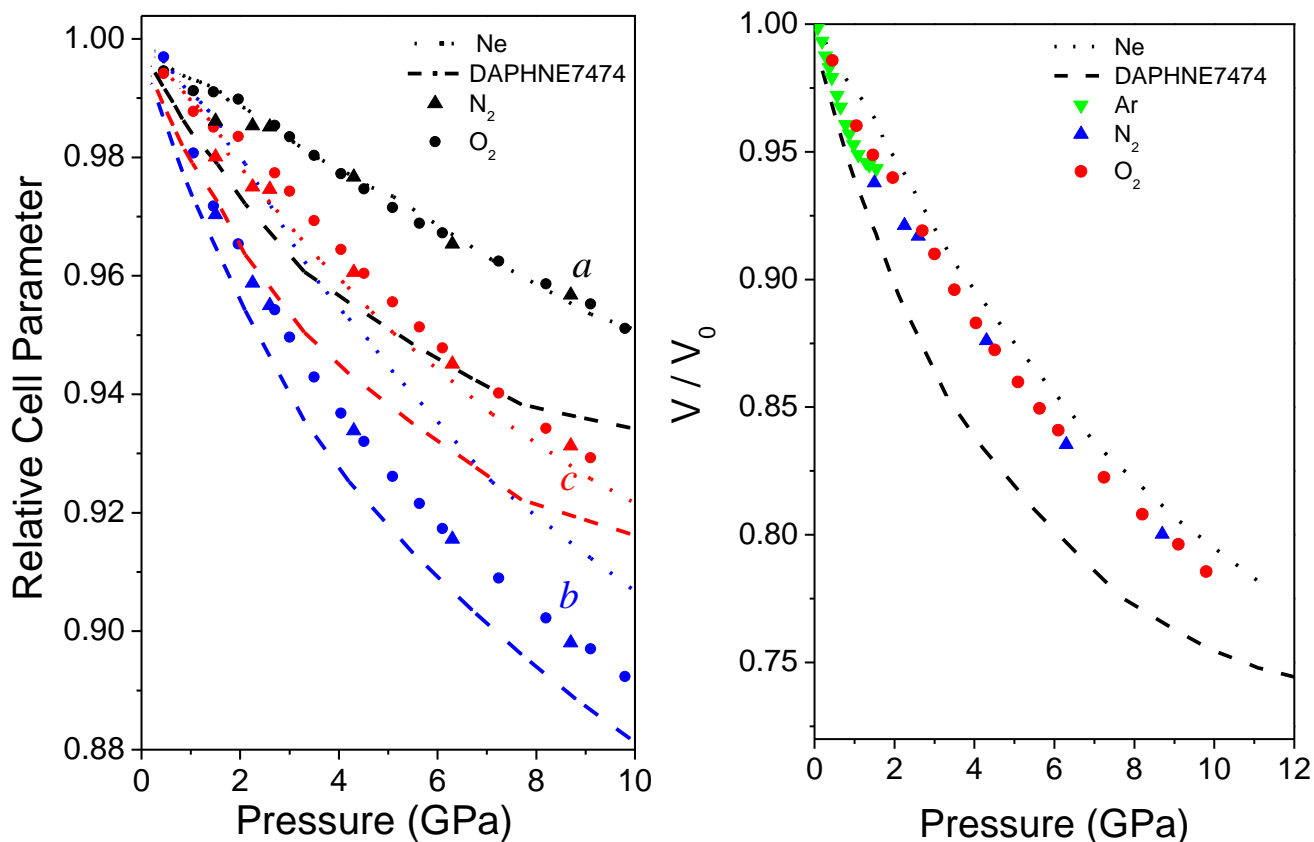


Figure 7. Relative cell parameters and volume (V/V_0) of TON in N_2 , O_2 and Ar (V/V_0)¹⁰ as a function of pressure (solid symbols). Dotted and dashed lines represents the behavior of TON in Ne¹⁰ and DAPHNE7474¹⁵, respectively. Error bars are smaller than the symbol size.

Compression is highly anisotropic with the **a** direction being particularly stiff (Figure 7) in all filled systems including neon. Compressibility along **c** is also similar to that observed in Ne. The compressibility along **b** is much greater in N_2 and O_2 . This can be linked to the high distortion in the xy plane due to pore collapse, which is shifted to significantly higher pressure in neon due to the higher degree of filling. Pore collapse measured by changes in pore ellipticity is similar in all systems except neon, including empty TON (Figure 8).

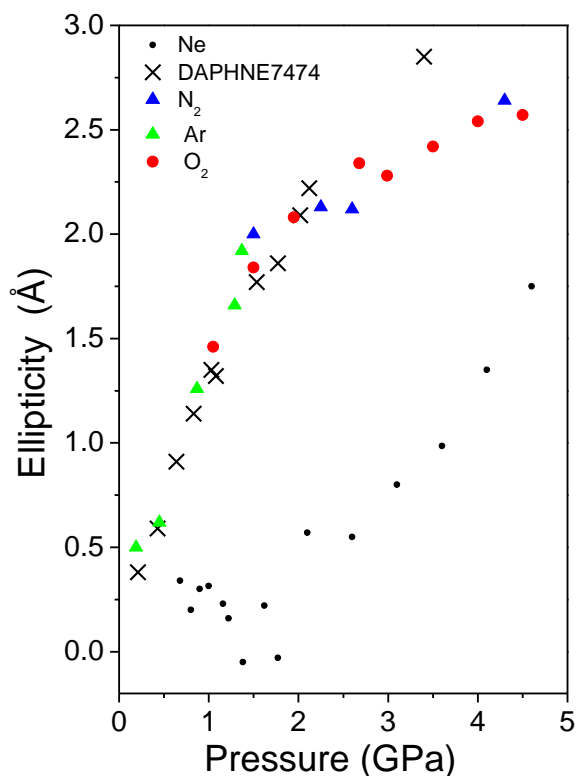


Figure 8. Pore ellipticity (difference between maximum and minimum diameters of the elliptical pores in TON) as a function of pressure of TON in N₂ and O₂, Ne¹⁰, Ar¹⁰ and DAPHNE7474¹⁵. Error bars are smaller than the symbol size.

MC simulations can provide further insight concerning the orientations of the inserted guest molecules. Following previous studies on nanoconfined fluids⁴⁶⁻⁴⁷, we calculated the angular distribution $P(\cos \theta)$ for O₂ and N₂ confined in TON at room temperature where θ is the angle between the molecule axis and the z-axis (this axis corresponds to the channel axis in TON). As shown in Fig. 9, for O₂, a non-monotonous behavior is observed. O₂ does not show any preferential orientation at the lowest pressure, suggesting that the cavities are large enough to allow for large orientational diffusion. Upon increasing the pressure (from ~2 to ~5 GPa), the confined O₂ exhibits a preferred orientation, $\cos \theta \sim 0$, with their axis that tends to be perpendicular to the channel axis in TON (z-axis). As the pressure keeps increasing (> 6 GPa), the cavities become smaller and smaller and a bimodal angular distribution is observed. In this regime, more

and more molecules tend to be aligned with the channel axis ($\cos \theta \sim 0.8-0.9$), the other molecules exhibit a second preferential orientation with $\cos \theta \sim 0$ (perpendicular to the pore axis). Interestingly, the data shown in Fig. 9 suggest that a similar scenario is observed for N_2 confined in TON, but orientational features are less pronounced compared to O_2 . At the lowest pressure, like for O_2 , the N_2 molecules do not display a significantly marked angular distribution (even if a slightly preferred orientation with their axis perpendicular to the channel axis seems to be observed, i.e. $\cos \theta \sim 0$). Upon increasing the pressure from 2 to 6 GPa, the confined N_2 exhibits a preferred orientation with $\cos \theta \sim 0.8$ GPa. If the pressure is further increased (> 6 GPa), as observed for O_2 , N_2 exhibits a bimodal angular distribution with a large number of molecules aligned perpendicular to the channel axis ($\cos \theta \sim 0$) and a non-negligible number of molecules with $\cos \theta \sim 0.8$.

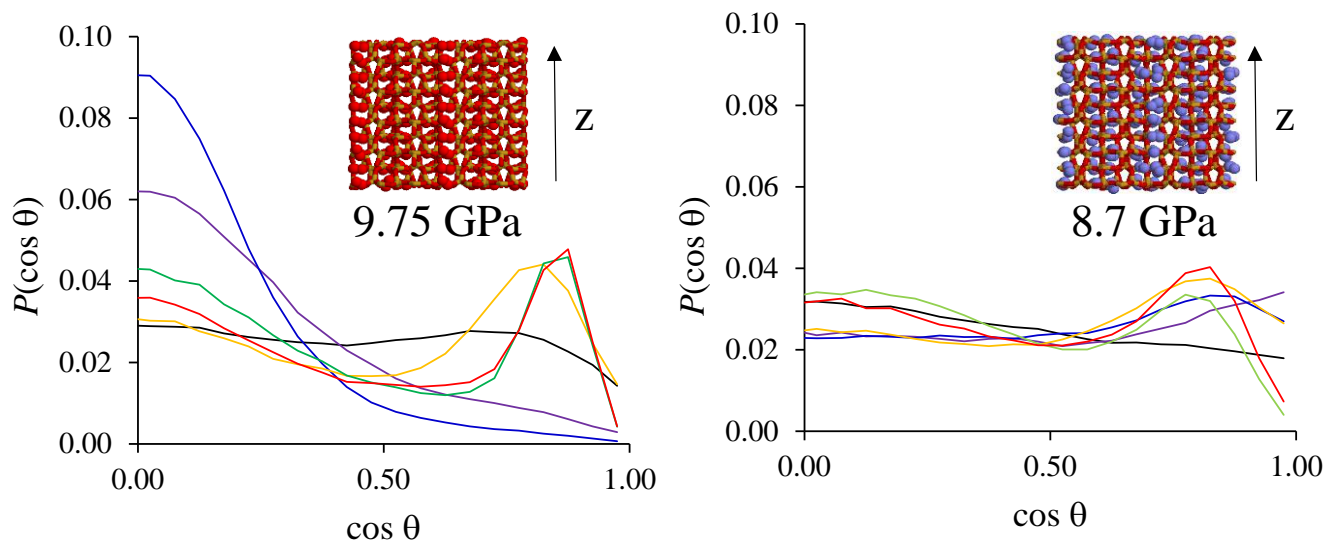


Figure 9. Simulated angular distributions $P(\cos \theta)$ for O_2 (left) and N_2 (right) confined in TON at room temperature and different pressure. θ is the angle between the molecule axis and the z-axis which corresponds to the channel axis in TON. For O_2 , the color code is $P = 1.05$ GPa (black), 1.95 GPa (purple), 3.5 GPa (blue), 5.09 GPa (orange), 8.17 GPa (green), and 9.75 GPa (red). For N_2 , the color code is 1.5 GPa (black), 2.25 GPa (purple), 2.6 GPa (blue), 4.3 GPa (orange), 6.3 GPa (green), and 8.7 GPa (red). For each gas, we also show a typical molecular configuration with the same color code as in Fig. 5 (the red and blue spheres are the O and N atoms in O_2 and N_2 , respectively).

4. Conclusions

Strong agreement was observed between the results of Raman spectroscopy and X-ray diffraction in terms of pore filling and the presence of two sites for the diatomic molecules, which exhibit a significant degree of orientational disorder. The filling curve in nitrogen is shifted to slightly higher pressure due to its larger kinetic diameter. MC modelling indicates that as a function of pressure, the orientational distribution of the O₂ molecules exhibit the following sequence - isotropic-perpendicular to the channel axis-bimodal, whereas for N₂ it is isotropic-parallel to the channel axis-bimodal, but less pronounced. TON is an ideal model system to study confined O₂ and N₂ due to its 1D pore system and its relatively small unit cell for a zeolite. The observed filling behavior of O₂ and N₂ could be expected to be somewhat similar in more complex 3D systems such as MFI⁹, although the larger pore diameter, the presence of two types of pores and channel intersections in this 3D system could favor a higher degree of disorder.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information. Crystallographic information files (CIF) file containing the structural data for the N₂-TON system at 4.3 and the O₂-TON system at 4.5 have been supplied as supporting information. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Author Contributions

The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

Notes

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TOC Graphic

