

## Electronic Supplementary Information for

### Highly Efficient Catalytic Properties of Sc and Fe Single Atoms Stabilized on Honeycomb Borophene/Al(111) heterostructure via a Dual Charge transfer effect†

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#### **This file includes:**

**Table S1.** Interlayer distance ( $d$ ) and charge transfer ( $Q$ ) between the h-B cover layer and the Al (111) substrate with and without considering vdW correction.

**Table S2.** Binding energies  $E_b$  of transition metal atoms (TMs) on four high symmetric adsorption sites of h-B/Al(111) substrate.

**Fig. S1 (a)** Binding energy and **(b)** Charge transfer of TM adatoms on the hollow site of graphene substrate.

**Fig. S2 (a)** Average binding energy ( $E_b$ ) of  $TM_n$  ( $TM=Sc, Fe; n=1, 2, 3$ ) on h-B/Al(111) calculated by DFT+U ( $U=3.0$  eV). **(b)** The average cohesive energies (ACE) of  $Sc_N$  and  $Fe_N$  clusters calculated by DFT+U ( $U=3.0$  eV).

**Fig. S3** Energy diagrams for **(a)** CO and **(b)** O<sub>2</sub> adsorption on the T<sub>d</sub>-Fe<sub>4</sub>/h-B/Al(111) complex.

**Fig. S4 (a)** The most stable configurations and corresponding binding energies ( $E_b$ ), and **(b)** the diffusion paths and energy barriers ( $E_{bar}$ ) of Sc and Fe atoms on graphene.

**Fig. S5** Temperature (T) fluctuation and the representative snapshots of the geometric structures (both top and side view) of **(a)** Sc/h-B/Al(111), and **(b)** Fe/h-B/Al(111) as a function of the ab initio molecular dynamics simulation time. The time-step is 1 fs.

**Fig. S6** L-H reaction process cycle diagram for CO oxidation of SAC-Fe stabilized on h-B/Al (111) substrate.

**Fig. S7** Adsorption configuration of O<sub>2</sub> molecules on Fe<sub>1</sub>-h-B/Al(111) in relatively high O<sub>2</sub> coverage regime.

**Fig. S8** The minimum energy paths for O<sub>2</sub> molecules dissociation on the B atomic sites of the Fe/h-B/Al(111) complexes. In both **(a)** and **(b)**, the O<sub>2</sub> molecules are initially placed more than 3.5 Å above the B cover layer.

**Fig. S9** The minimum energy path for CO oxidation by attacking the dissociated O atoms on the B atomic sites of the Fe/h-B/Al(111) complexes.

**Fig. S10** L-H reaction process cycle diagram for CO oxidation of SAC-Sc stabilized on h-B/Al(111) substrate.

**Fig. S11** The reaction barriers of Sc-SAC and Fe-SAC by plane DFT and DFT+U methods. **(a)** ER mechanism and **(b)** LH mechanism for Sc-SAC; **(c)** ER mechanism and **(d)** LH mechanism for Fe-SAC, respectively.

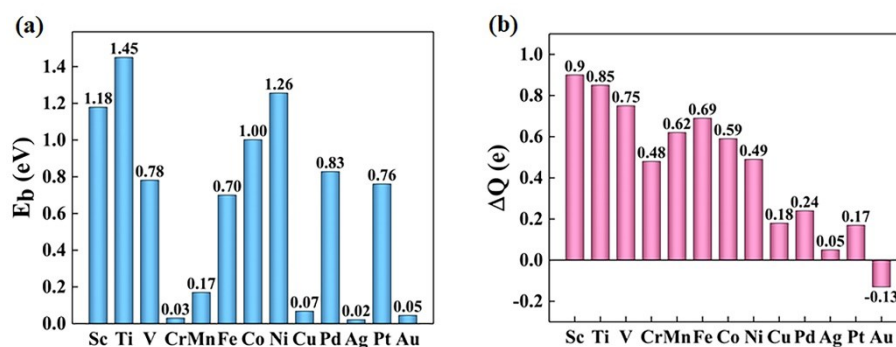
**Fig. S12** Charge transfer ( $\Delta Q$ ) evolution of the key steps presented in the E-R process of CO oxidation on Fe-SAC.

**Table S1.** Interlayer distance ( $d$ ) and charge transfer ( $Q$ ) between the h-B cover layer and the Al (111) substrate with and without considering vdW correction.

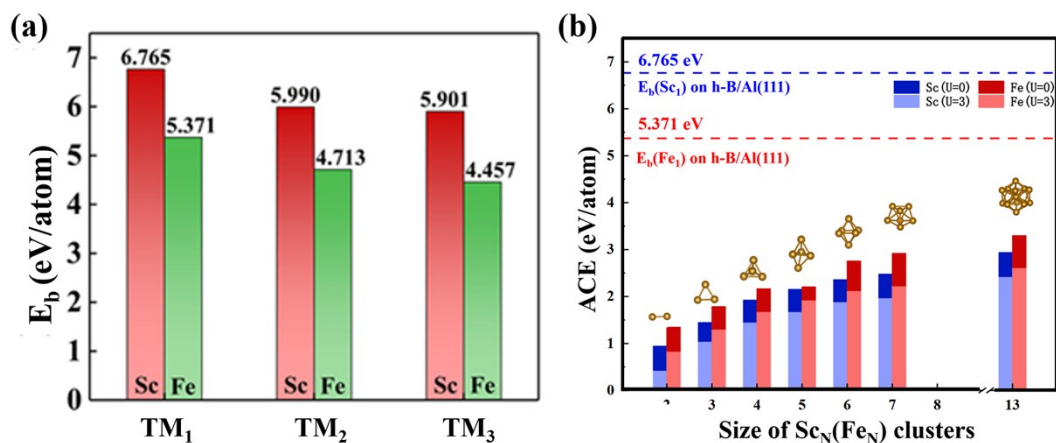
	$d$	$\Delta Q$
vdW	1.49 Å	0.68 $e$
Without vdW	1.54 Å	0.68 $e$

**Table S2.** Binding energies  $E_b$  of transition metal atoms (TMs) on four high symmetric adsorption sites of h-B/Al(111) substrate, i.e., hollow (H), bridge (B), top1 (T1), and top2 (T2).

$E_b$ (eV)	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Pd	Pt	Au	Ag
H	7.48	8.12	7.46	6.44	5.06	5.88	6.16	5.84	4.29	4.58	5.70	3.10	3.02
B	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.09	—
T1	—	—	—	5.14	3.75	4.19	4.91	4.82	—	4.05	5.32	—	—
T2	—	—	—	5.04	—	4.19	4.84	4.86	—	—	5.52	—	—

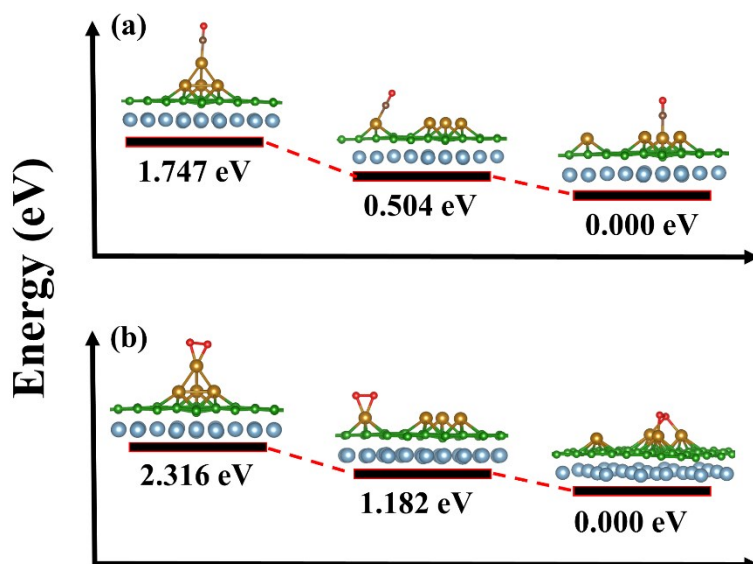


**Fig. S1** (a) Binding energy and (b) Charge transfer of TM adatoms on the hollow site of graphene substrate.



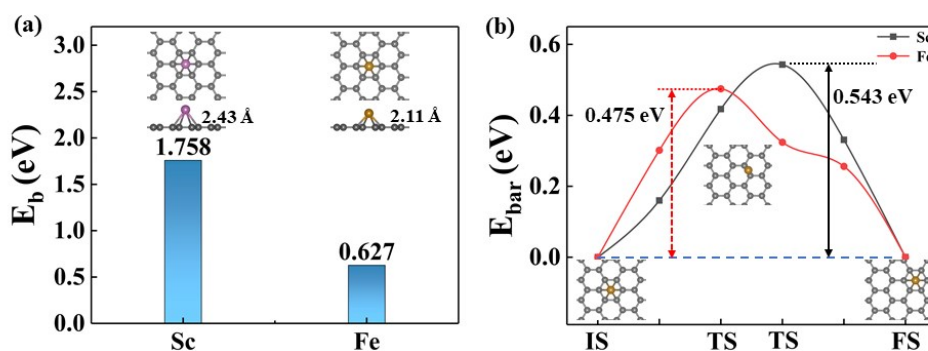
**Fig. S2** (a) Average binding energy ( $E_b$ ) of  $TM_n$  ( $TM=Sc, Fe; n=1, 2, 3$ ) on h-B/Al(111) calculated by DFT+U ( $U=3.0$  eV). (b) The average cohesive energies (ACE) of  $Sc_N$  and  $Fe_N$  clusters calculated by DFT+U ( $U=3.0$  eV).

Here,  $TM_1$ ,  $TM_2$ , and  $TM_3$  represent that the  $TM_n$  deposited on the substrate in the forms of single atom, dimer, and trimer, respectively.  $E_b = [E(TM_n) + E(h-B/Al(111)) - E(TM_n/h-B/Al(111))]/n$ , where the  $E(TM_n)$ ,  $E(h-B/Al(111))$ , and  $E(TM_n/h-B/Al(111))$  are the total energies of the  $TM_n$  species, the h-B/Al(111) substrate, and the  $TM_n/h-B/Al(111)$  complex, respectively. For comparison, the average cohesive energies (ACE) of both  $Sc_{13}$  and  $Fe_{13}$  are also presented,  $ACE = -[E(TM_N) - N \times E(TM_{atom})]/N$ , where the  $E(TM_N)$  and  $E(TM_{atom})$  are the total energies of the  $TM_N$  clusters and TM atom in the gas phase, respectively.

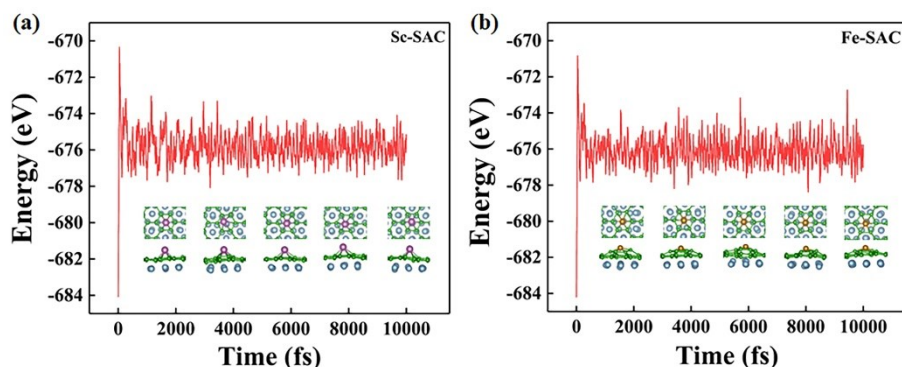


**Fig. S3** Energy diagrams for (a) CO and (b)  $O_2$  adsorption on the  $T_d-Fe_4/h-B/Al(111)$  complex.

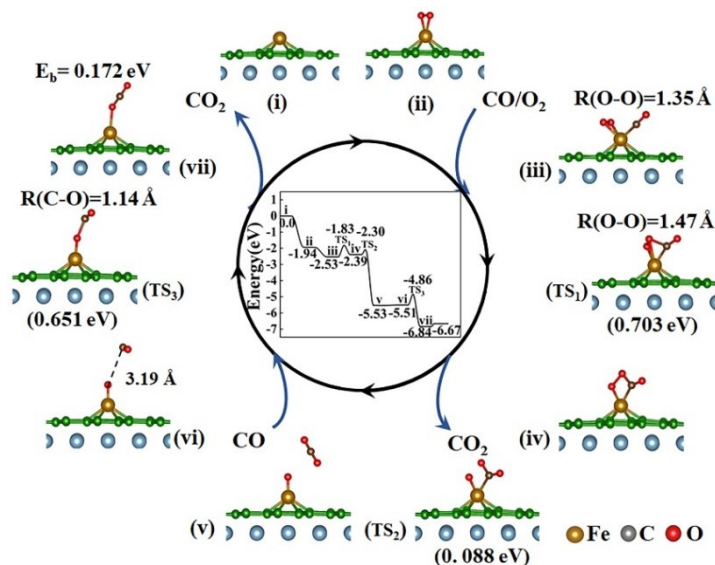
From Fig. S3, one can see that the adsorption of CO and/or  $O_2$  molecule facilitates the dissociation of the  $T_d-Fe_4$  cluster and the generation of the  $Fe_1$  single atoms.



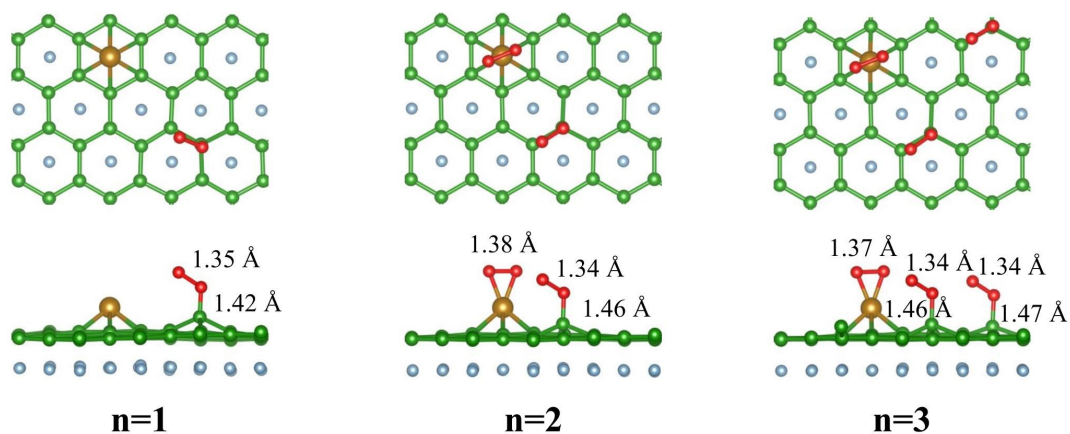
**Figure S4.** (a) The most stable configurations and corresponding binding energies ( $E_b$ ), and (b) the diffusion paths and energy barriers ( $E_{bar}$ ) of Sc and Fe atoms on graphene.



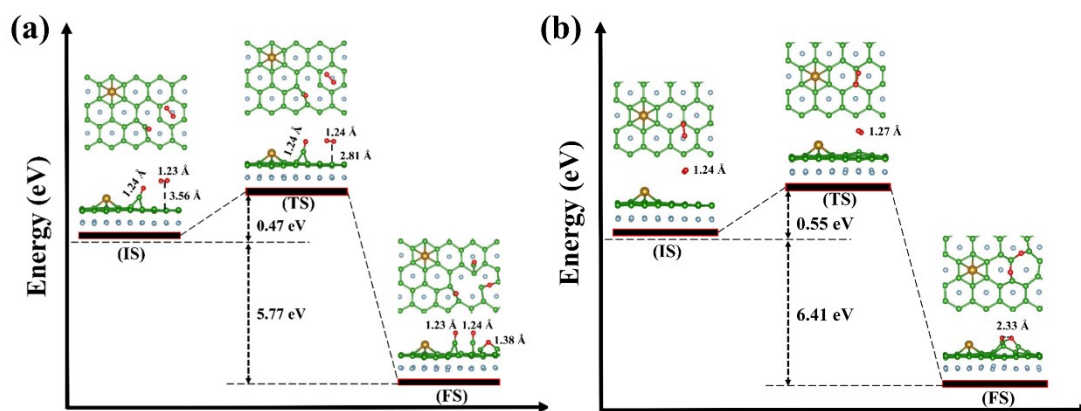
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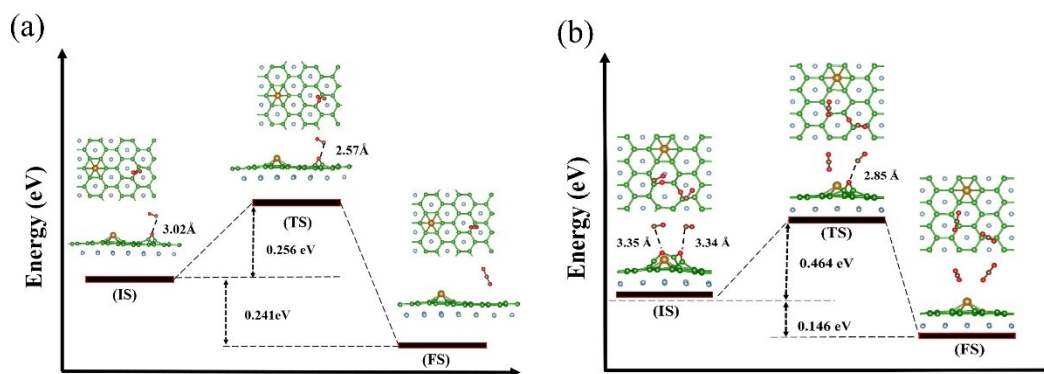
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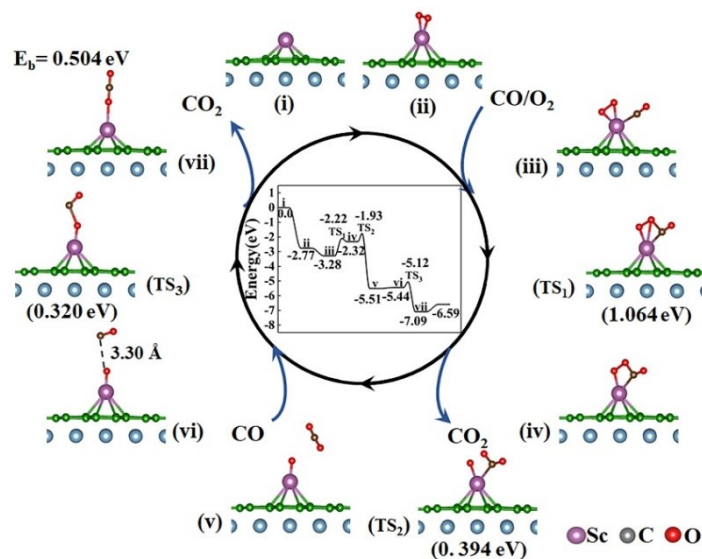
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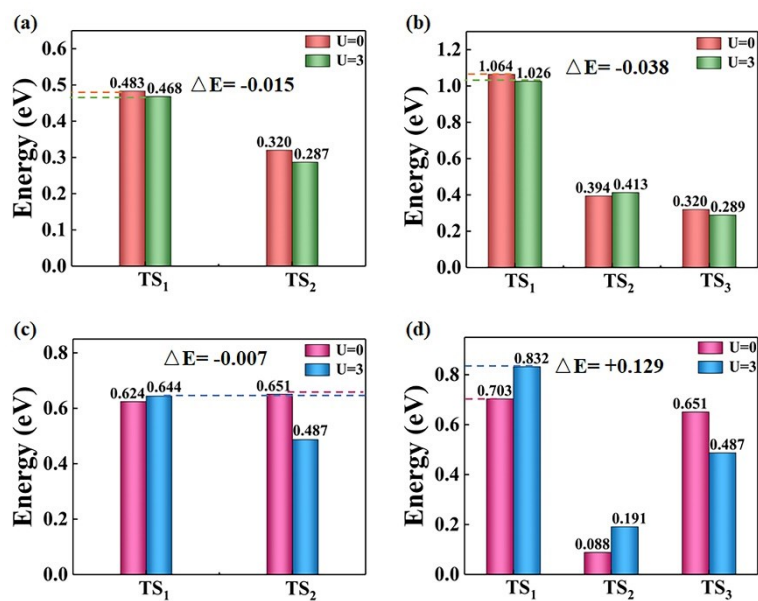
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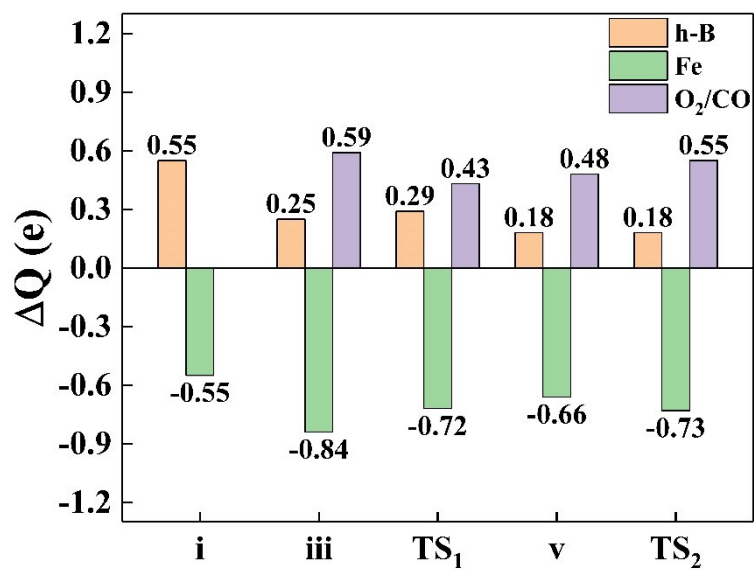
**Fig. S9** The minimum energy paths for CO oxidation by attacking the dissociated O atoms on the B atomic sites of the Fe/h-B/Al(111) complexes. (a) one CO molecule attacking one O atom, (b) two CO molecules attacking two dissociated O atoms.



**Fig. S10** L-H reaction process cycle diagram for CO oxidation of SAC-Sc stabilized on h-B/Al(111) substrate.



**Fig. S11** The reaction barriers of Sc-SAC and Fe-SAC by DFT and DFT+U methods. (a) ER mechanism and (b) LH mechanism for Sc-SAC; (c) ER mechanism and (d) LH mechanism for Fe-SAC, respectively.



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