

Electronic supplementary information (ESI)

**On-purpose design of dual active sites in single V atom anchored C₂N
nanosheet for propane dehydrogenation catalysis**

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Table S1. Adsorption energies of single TM atoms on C₂N.

TM	E _{ads} (H1) (eV)	E _{ads} (H2) (eV)	E _{ads} (H3) (eV)	E _{ads} (B1) (eV)	E _{ads} (B2) (eV)	E _{ads} (h1) (eV)	E _{ads} (h2) (eV)	E _{cohe} ^a (eV)
Sc	-7.54	-7.54				-3.56	-1.79	-3.9
Ti	-6.77	-6.75				-3.61	-2.05	-4.85
V	-6.04				-1.21	-2.62	-1.50	-5.31
Cr	-7.93	-7.92	-7.45			-3.73	-4.01	-4.1
Mn	-4.46	-4.44	-4.22		-0.47	-0.50	-0.45	-2.92
Fe	-4.57					-1.50	-1.05	-4.28
Co	-4.52					-1.67	-1.57	-4.39
Ni	-4.94					-1.84	-2.21	-4.44
Cu	-3.38			-0.59	-0.55	-0.35	-0.50	-3.49
Zn	-1.46			-0.14	-0.14	-0.15	-0.16	-1.35

^a Cohesion energy**Table S2.** Adsorption energies of single and double TM atoms on C₂N.

TM	E _{ads} (TM1) (eV)	E _{ads} (TM2) (eV)	ΔE* (eV)	TM	E _{ads} (TM1) (eV)	E _{ads} (TM2) (eV)	ΔE* (eV) ^a
Sc	-7.54	-3.66	3.88	Fe	-4.57	-3.86	0.71
Ti	-6.77	-5.02	1.75	Co	-4.52	-4.47	0.05
V	-6.04	-4.35	1.70	Ni	-4.94	-4.30	0.64
Cr	-7.93	-5.87	2.06	Cu	-3.38	-2.66	0.72
Mn	-4.46	-1.01	3.45	Zn	-1.46	-1.94	-0.48

$$^a \Delta E^* = E_{ads}(TM2) - E_{ads}(TM1)$$

Table S3. Summary of possible elementary reactions in PDH.

Reaction No.	Elementary Reaction
1	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^*$
2	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3^* + \text{H}^*$
3	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}^* + 2\text{H}^*$
4	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}_2$
5	$\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}_2$
6	$\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CCH}_3^* + 2\text{H}^*$
7	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}^* + \text{H}^*$
8	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{C}=\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^*$
9	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3^* + \text{CHCH}_3^*$
10	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2^* + \text{CH}_2^* + \text{H}^*$
11	$\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3^* + \text{H}^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH}^* + \text{CH}_3^* + \text{H}^*$
12	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2^* \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CH} + \text{CH}_2^*$

Table S4. The reaction energies of the first and second dehydrogenations of propane on $\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$.

$\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	C_3H_8^* $E_{\text{ads}}^*(\text{eV})$	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_7^*(\text{TM}) + \text{H}^*(\text{N})$ ΔE (eV)	E_b (eV)	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_6^*(\text{TM}) + 2\text{H}^*(\text{N})$ ΔE (eV)	E_b (eV)
$\text{Sc}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	-0.65	0.56	1.00	0.57	1.58
$\text{Ti}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	-0.86	0.28	0.97	0.53	0.86
$\text{V}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	-0.39	0.10	1.12	0.31	0.91
$\text{Cr}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	-0.34	0.30	1.38	0.26	1.08
$\text{Mn}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	-0.47	0.36	1.71	0.19	1.27

Table S5. The activation barriers (E_b) and reaction energies (E_{r1}) of dehydrogenation, the energies required for propylene desorption (E_{r2}) on $\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$, as well as the energy difference between dehydrogenation and desorption process of propylene ($\Delta E = E_b - E_{r2}$).

$\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_6^* \rightarrow \text{C}_3\text{H}_5^*(\text{TM}) + \text{H}^*(\text{N})$ E_b (eV)	E_{r1} (eV)	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_6^* \rightarrow \text{C}_3\text{H}_6(\text{g})^+*$ E_{r2} (eV)	ΔE (eV)
$\text{Sc}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	1.25	0.97	1.42	-0.17
$\text{Ti}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	1.38	1.03	1.43	-0.05
$\text{V}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	1.53	1.06	1.10	+0.43
$\text{Cr}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	1.97	0.68	1.07	+0.90
$\text{Mn}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$	1.83	0.83	1.32	+0.51

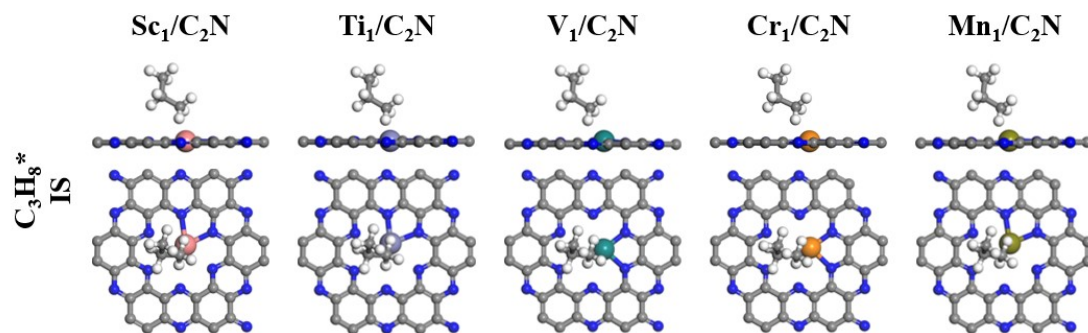


Fig. S1 Adsorption configurations of propane on TM₁/C₂N.

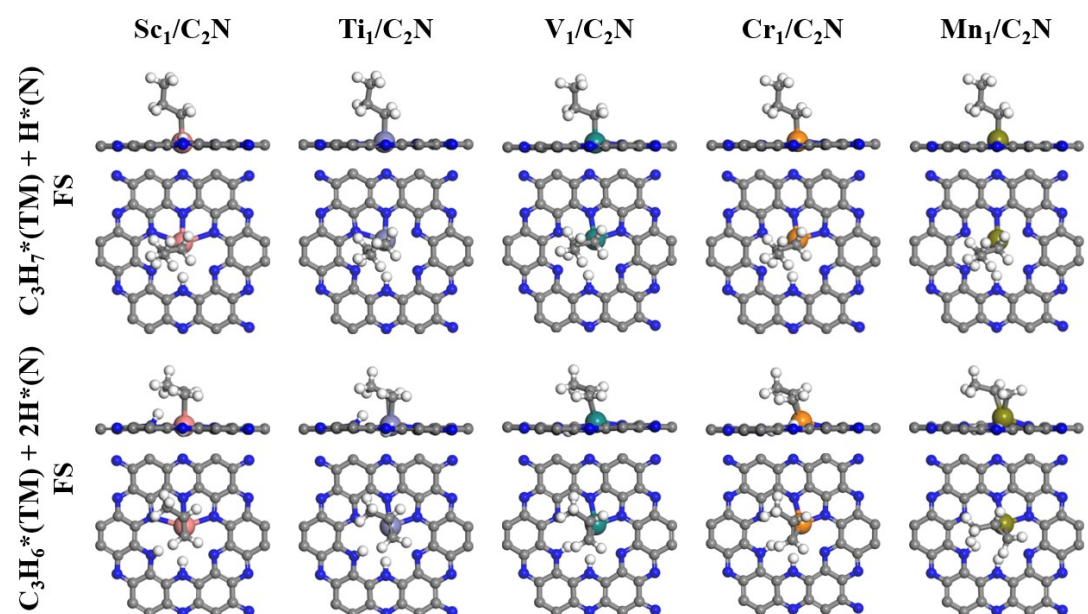


Fig. S2 Adsorption configurations of propyl, propylene and dissociated H atoms in the first and second dehydrogenations of propane on TM₁/C₂N.

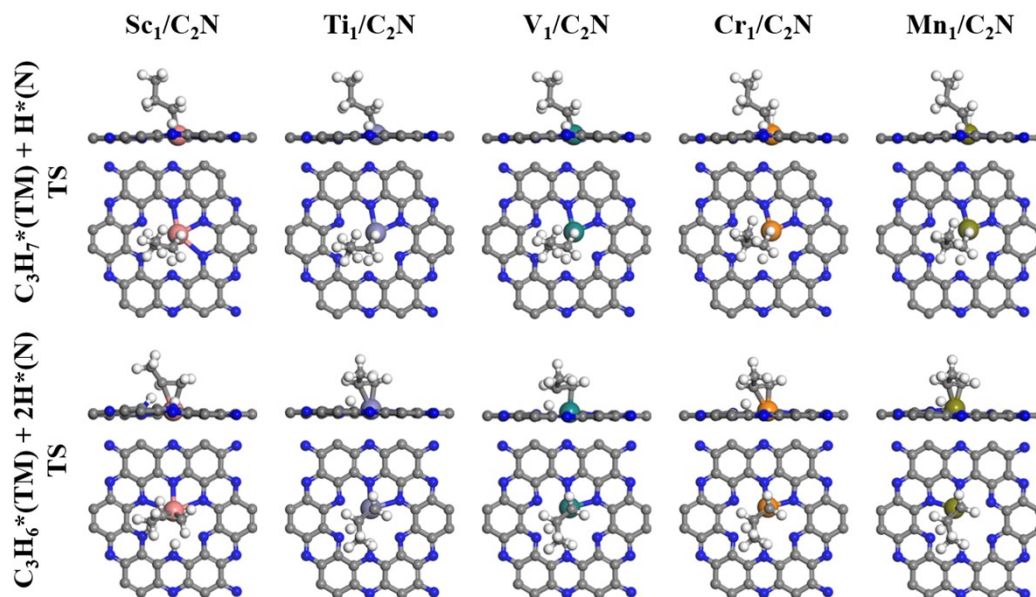


Fig. S3 Transition states of the first and second dehydrogenations of propane on $\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$.

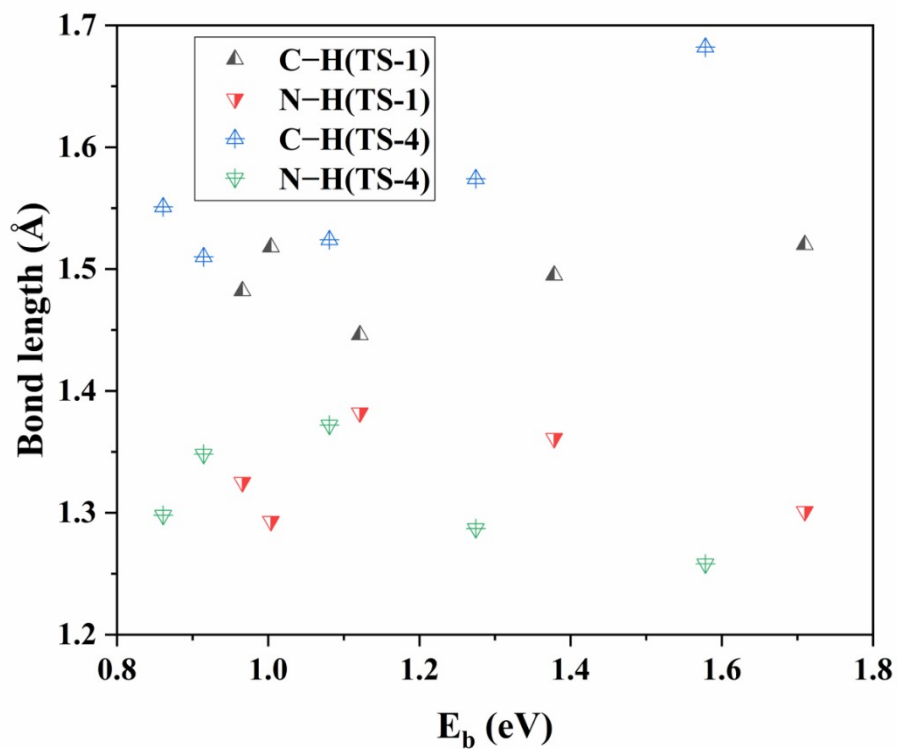


Fig. S4 Correspondence between the energy barrier and bond length of TS-1 and TS-4 on $\text{TM}_1/\text{C}_2\text{N}$.

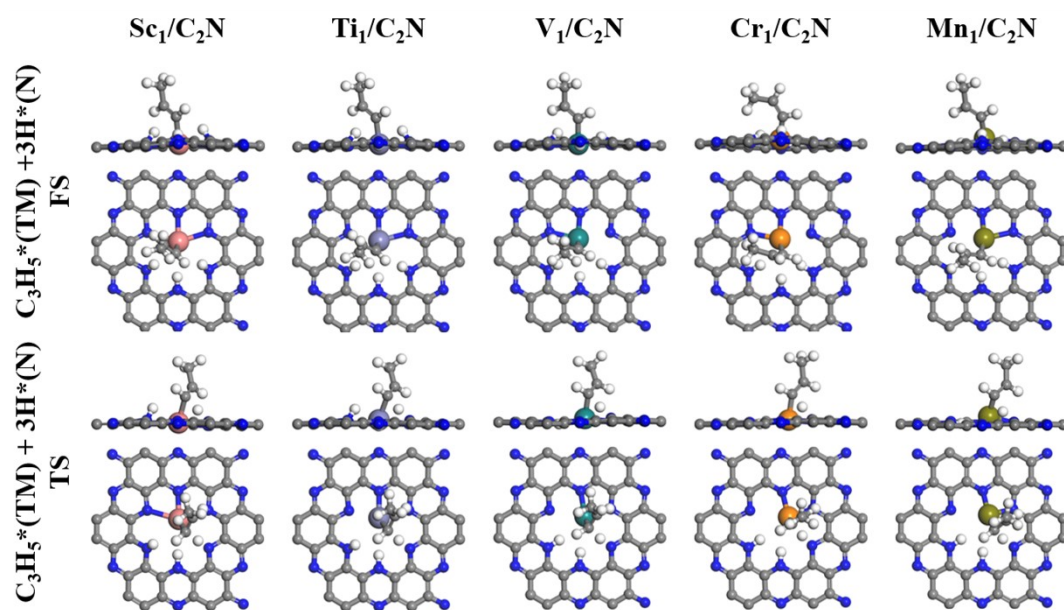


Fig. S5 Final states and transition states of propylene dehydrogenation on TM₁/C₂N.

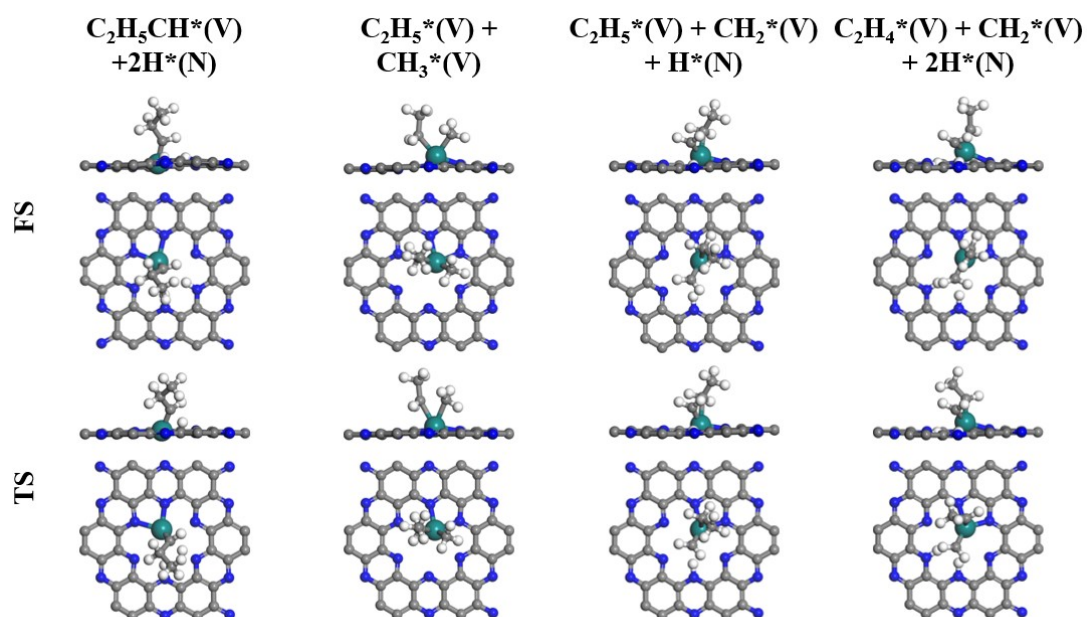


Fig. S6 Final states and transition states of over-dehydrogenation and C–C bond cracking of C₃ species on V₁/C₂N.