Supporting Information

MXene-Supported Single Atom Catalyst Selectively Converts $\rm CO_2$ into Methanol and Methane⁺

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Computational details:

To compute energy differences of elementary proton coupled electron transfer (PCET) steps, the computational hydrogen electrode (CHE) model was used ¹:

$$H^{+} + e^{-} \leftrightarrow \frac{H_{2(g)}}{2}$$
 (Eq S1)

 $E_{H^{+}+e^{-}} = \frac{E_{H_2(g)}}{2}$, @pH=0 and 1 atm (Eq S2)

To calculate the formations energy from Eq (1) of the manuscript, the energy of Oxygen (O) must be calculated. Using the DFT energy of O_2 and dividing by 2 to obtain the energy of O has been shown to be inaccurate². Thus, we use the benchmarked Gibbs formation energy ³ of $H_2O_{(g)}$ to back-calculate the energy of O. The equations below were used:

$$H_{2(g)} + \frac{1}{2}O_{2,(g)} \rightarrow H_2O_{(g)}; \Delta G_{f,bench} = -228.61 \frac{kJ}{mol} = -2.37 \ eV$$
(Eq S3)

$$E_{0,correction} = 0.57 \ eV \tag{Eq S4}$$

To obtain the correction energy for the oxygen atom, we calculate (from DFT simulations) the Gibbs formation energy of the reaction in Eq S3, which was $\Delta G_{f,sim} = -2.94 \ eV$. We then take the simulated $\Delta G_{f,sim}$ and subtract $\Delta G_{f,bench}$ to get the correction energy.

To convert DFT energies to Gibbs free energy, the ASE thermochemistry module was used ⁴. Specifically, the Gibbs free energy of adsorbed intermediates and liquid products were approximated using the harmonic module, while gaseous reactants and products were approximated using the ideal gas model at 1atm and room temperature (298.15 K). The equations for the harmonic model are below.

$$U(T) = E_{DFT} + E_{ZPE} + \sum_{i}^{harm \ DOF} \frac{\epsilon_i}{e^{\frac{-\epsilon_i}{k_B T}} - 1}$$
(Eq S5)

$$S = k_B \sum_{i}^{harm \ DOF} \left[\frac{\epsilon_i}{e^{\frac{-\epsilon_i}{k_B T}} - 1} - ln^{\frac{1}{100}} (1 - e^{\frac{-\epsilon_i}{k_B T}}) \right]$$
(Eq S6)

$$G(T) = U(T) - TS(T)$$
(Eq S7)

The equations for the ideal gas model are below:

$$H(T) = E_{DFT} + E_{ZPE} + \int_{0}^{T} Cp \ dT$$
(Eq S8)

$$Cp = k_B + C_{V,trans} + C_{V,rot} + C_{V,vib} + C_{v,elec}$$
(Eq S9)

$$S(T,P) = S_{trans} + S_{rot} + S_{elec} + S_{vib} - k_B \ln\left(\frac{P}{P^0}\right)$$
(Eq S10)

$$G(T,P) = H(T) - TS(T,P)$$
(Eq S11)

To calculate reaction energy differences from a PCET step:

$$^{*}CO_{2} + H^{+} + e^{-} \rightarrow ^{*}COOH$$
 (Eq S12)

$$\Delta E_{DFT} = E_{*COOH} - E_{*CO_2} - E_{H_2} - \frac{E_{H_2}}{2}$$
(Eq S13)



Figure S1. Four MXene supports that are used in this paper. (a) left: $Ti_{18}C_9O_{18}$; right: $Ti_{27}C_{18}O_{18}$

(b) left: Mo₁₈C₉O₁₈; right: Mo₂₇C₁₈O₁₈.



Figure S2. CO₂ protonation to OCHO or COOH on Ru@Mo2 catalyst



Figure S3. Charge delocalization of *CHO and *COH on Ni@Ti3. Blue color indicates areas

where electrons are lost whereas yellow color indicates the opposite.



Figure S4. CO desorption energy (in Gibbs free energy) of the six selected catalysts.



Figure S5. Energy diagram of the five final catalysts.

Table S1. Results comparing the HER and CO_2RR .

| | CO1* | 0000 | | CHO* | 0043* | 0042* | CHINON | PDS | DDS harriar | ⊔ ∗ , | Conclusion |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| structure | 0.417 | | | | | | 0.510 | | RDS-barrier | <u>п</u> | Co@Mo2 Better |
| <u>112/Co</u> | -0.417 | -0.878 | 0.272 | -0.197 | -0.080 | -0.091 | 0.513 | 112-Со-СНЗОН | 0.515 | -0.238 | HER, High RDS barrier |
| Ti2/Cu | -0.492 | -0.217 | -0.453 | 0.946 | -1.195 | -0.322 | 0.255 | Ti2-Cu-CHO | 0.946 | -0.032 | HER, High RDS barrier |
| Ti2/Fe | -0.390 | -1.357 | 0.497 | -0.073 | -0.343 | -0.890 | 1.078 | Ti2-Fe-CH3OH | 1.078 | -0.412 | HER.High RDS barrier |
| Ti2/Pt | -0.619 | -0.881 | -0.404 | 0.193 | -0.378 | -0.193 | 0.803 | Ti2-Pt-CH3OH | 0.803 | -0.880 | HER High RDS barrier |
| Ti2/Ru | -0.280 | -1.607 | 0.356 | -0.059 | -0.666 | -0.203 | 0.983 | Ti2-Ru-CH3OH | 0.983 | -0.893 | HER Ni@Ti3 is better |
| Ti2/Ni | -0.331 | -0.249 | -0.380 | 0.600 | -0.656 | -0.087 | -0.375 | Ti2-Ni-CHO | 0.600 | 0.540 | High RDS harrier |
| Ti3/Co | -0.775 | -0.852 | 0.158 | -0.084 | -0.191 | -0.564 | 0.830 | Ti3-Co-CH3OH | 0.830 | -0.574 | Other Cu is better |
| Ti3/Cu | -0.893 | 0.008 | -0.755 | 1.124 | -1.331 | -0.027 | 0.394 | Ti3-Cu-CHO | 1.124 | 0.118 | High PDS harrier |
| Ti3/Fe | -0.733 | -1.371 | 0.297 | 0.154 | -0.405 | -0.735 | 1.315 | Ti3-Fe-CH3OH | 1.315 | -0.692 | nigh KDS barrier |
| Ti3/Pt | -1.508 | -0.362 | -0.165 | -0.047 | 0.079 | -0.125 | 0.650 | Ti3-Pt-CH3OH | 0.650 | -1.155 | Good |
| Ti3/Ru | -0.581 | -1.693 | 0.292 | 0.048 | -0.099 | -0.766 | 1.321 | Ti3-Ru-CH3OH | 1.321 | -1.172 | High KDS barrier |
| Ti3/Ni | -0.318 | -0.463 | -0.217 | 0.352 | -0.424 | -0.077 | -0.331 | Ti3-Ni-CHO | 0.352 | 0.468 | Good |
| Mo2/Co | -0.920 | -0.317 | 0.024 | 0.147 | -0.263 | -0.636 | 0.487 | Mo2-Co-CH3OH | 0.487 | 0.019 | Good |
| Mo2/Cu | -0.138 | -0.385 | -0.729 | 1.197 | -1.183 | -0.163 | -0.077 | Mo2-Cu-CHO | 1.197 | 0.462 | High RDS barrier |
| Mo2/Fe | -0.811 | -0.218 | -0.477 | 0.569 | -0.386 | -0,460 | 0.305 | Mo2-Fe-CHO | 0,569 | 0.174 | Good |
| Mo2/Pt | -1.385 | -0.059 | -0.925 | 0.785 | -0.964 | -0.506 | 1.576 | Mo2-Pt-CH3OH | 1.576 | -0.684 | High RDS barrier |
| Mo2/Ru | -0.357 | 0.186 | -0 201 | -0.015 | -0 473 | -0.645 | 0.028 | Mo2-Ru-OCHO | 0 186 | 0.862 | Good |
| Mo2/Ni | -0.433 | -0 524 | -0.212 | 0 461 | -0.627 | -0.654 | 0.510 | Mo2-Ni-CH3OH | 0.510 | 0.458 | Ni@Ti3 better |
| Mo3/Co | 1 407 | -1 524 | -0.199 | 0.459 | -0.433 | -0.633 | -0.555 | Mo3-Co-CO2 | 1 407 | 1 233 | CO2 ads |
| Mo3/Cu | 1 348 | 0.085 | -1 237 | 1 488 | -1 448 | 0.329 | -2 044 | Mo3-Cu-CHO | 1 488 | 2 416 | High RDS barrier |
| Mo3/Fe | 1.510 | -1.822 | -0.195 | 0.676 | -0 724 | -0.772 | -0.050 | Mo3-Fe-CO2 | 1.100 | 1 120 | CO2 ads |
| Mo3/Pt | 1.710 | -1.300 | -0.175 | 0.448 | 0.328 | -0.433 | -1.011 | Mo3-Pt-CO2 | 1 238 | 0.650 | CO2 ads |
| Mo3/Ru | 1.230 | 2 070 | 0.163 | 0.777 | 0.328 | 0.793 | -1.011 | Mo3 Ru CO2 | 1.230 | 0.030 | CO2 ads |
| Mag/NE | 0.417 | -2.070 | -0.103 | 0.277 | -0.233 | -0.795 | -0.039 | Ma2 Ni CH2OH | 0.922 | 0.012 | High RDS barrier |
| Ti2/A a | -0.41/ | -1.044 | 1.065 | 1.021 | -0.510 | 0.016 | 0.033 | T2 A CHO | 1.220 | -0.536 | High RDS barrier |
| Tio/Ag | -0.283 | 0.300 | -1.005 | 1.231 | -0.937 | 0.010 | -0.800 | TID-Ag-CHO | 1.230 | 0.530 | Good |
| 113/Pd | -0.222 | -0.414 | -0.669 | 0.177 | -0.136 | -0.065 | -0.148 | 113-Pd-CHO | 0.177 | 0.0674 | |

0.513 RDS

Unfavourable

Favourable, but other catalysts of the same Transition Metal are better

Favourable

| Table S2. *OCHO vs *COOH formation. | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Structure | *OCHO (eV) | *COOH (eV) | E(*OCHO) > E(*COOH) | | | | |
| Co/Ti ₂ | -0.878 | -0.401 | FALSE | | | | |
| Cu/Ti ₂ | -0.217 | 0.213 | FALSE | | | | |
| Fe/Ti ₂ | -1.357 | -0.652 | FALSE | | | | |
| Pt/Ti ₂ | -0.881 | -0.778 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ru/Ti ₂ | -1.607 | -1.035 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ni/Ti ₂ | -0.249 | 0.222 | FALSE | | | | |
| Co/Ti ₃ | -0.852 | -0.412 | FALSE | | | | |
| Cu/Ti ₃ | 0.008 | 0.522 | FALSE | | | | |
| Fe/Ti ₃ | -1.371 | -0.637 | FALSE | | | | |
| Pt/Ti ₃ | -0.362 | -0.262 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ru/Ti₃ | -1.692 | -1.060 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ni/Ti ₃ | -0.463 | -0.460 | FALSE | | | | |
| Co/Mo ₂ | -0.317 | 0.206 | FALSE | | | | |
| Cu/Mo ₂ | -0.385 | 0.338 | FALSE | | | | |
| Fe/Mo ₂ | -0.218 | 0.236 | FALSE | | | | |
| Pt/Mo ₂ | -0.0593 | 0.0645 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ru/Mo ₂ | 0.185 | 0.367 | FALSE | | | | |
| Ni/Mo ₂ | -0.524 | 0.168 | FALSE | | | | |
| Co/Mo ₃ | -1.523 | 1 | | | | | |
| Cu/Mo₃ | 0.0851 | 0.581 | FALSE | | | | |
| Fe/Mo ₃ | -1.822 | | | | | | |
| Pt/Mo ₃ | -1.300 | | | | | | |
| Ru/Mo₃ | -2.070 | | | | | | |
| Ni/Mo ₃ | -1.044 | 1.165 | FALSE | | | | |

 $^{^1}$ There are blank slots for catalysts that were screened out early due to high adsorption energy of CO₂, making them unfavourable regardless of further steps.

| Structure | E_1 (HCOOH* to HCOOH) | E_2 (HCOOH* to CHO*) | $E_2 > E_1$ |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Co/Ti ₂ | 1.013 | -0.197 | FALSE |
| Cu/Ti ₂ | 1.152 | 0.946 | FALSE |
| Fe/Ti ₂ | 1.240 | -0.073 | FALSE |
| Pt/Ti ₂ | 1.894 | 0.193 | FALSE |
| Ru/Ti ₂ | 1.522 | -0.059 | FALSE |
| Ni/Ti ₂ | 0.950 | 0.599 | FALSE |
| Co/Ti ₃ | 1.460 | -0.084 | FALSE |
| Cu/Ti ₃ | 1.623 | 1.124 | FALSE |
| Fe/Ti ₃ | 1.797 | 0.154 | FALSE |
| Pt/Ti ₃ | 2.025 | -0.047 | FALSE |
| Ru/Ti₃ | 1.972 | 0.048 | FALSE |
| Ni/Ti ₃ | 0.988 | 0.352 | FALSE |
| Co/Mo ₂ | 1.203 | 0.147 | FALSE |
| Cu/Mo ₂ | 1.242 | 1.197 | FALSE |
| Fe/Mo ₂ | 1.496 | 0.569 | FALSE |
| Pt/Mo ₂ | 2.359 | 0.785 | FALSE |
| Ru/Mo ₂ | 0.362 | -0.015 | FALSE |
| Ni/Mo ₂ | 1.158 | 0.461 | FALSE |
| Co/Mo ₃ | 0.305 | 0.459 | TRUE |
| Cu/Mo₃ | -0.207 | 1.487 | TRUE |
| Fe/Mo ₃ | 0.597 | 0.676 | TRUE |
| Pt/Mo ₃ | 0.800 | 0.449 | FALSE |
| Ru/Mo₃ | 0.680 | 0.277 | FALSE |
| Ni/Mo ₃ | 1.980 | 0.535 | FALSE |

Table S3. HCOOH desorption versus protonation to form *CHO.

| Structure | E (*CHO to *CHOH) | E (*CHOH to *CH ₂ OH) | E (*CH₂OH to *CH₂OH) | RDS | Energy of RDS |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | (eV) | (eV) | (eV) | | (eV) |
| Co/Ti ₂ | 0.234 | -1.143 | 0.651 | Ti2-Co-CH3OH | 0.513 |
| Cu/Ti ₂ | -0.356 | -0.674 | -0.233 | Ti2-Cu-CHO | 0.946 |
| Fe/Ti ₂ | -0.047 | -0.976 | 0.868 | Ti2-Fe-CH3OH | 0.868 |
| Pt/Ti ₂ | -0.256 | -0.581 | 1.069 | Ti2-Pt-CH3OH | 0.803 |
| Ru/Ti ₂ | -0.189 | -0.723 | 1.025 | Ti2-Ru-CH3OH | 0.983 |
| Ni/Ti ₂ | -0.215 | -0.837 | -0.065 | Ti2-Ni-CHO | 0.600 |
| Co/Ti ₃ | 0.052 | -1.017 | 1.040 | ТіЗ-Со-СНЗОН | 0.830 |
| Cu/Ti ₃ | -0.480 | -0.534 | 0.051 | Ti3-Cu-CHO | 1.124 |
| Fe/Ti ₃ | -0.094 | -0.968 | 1.237 | Ti3-Fe-CH3OH | 1.237 |
| Pt/Ti ₃ | -0.377 | -0.494 | 1.475 | Pt@Ti3-CH3OH | 0.650 |
| Ru/Ti₃ | -0.171 | -0.789 | 1.416 | Ti3-Ru-CH3OH | 1.321 |
| Ni/Ti ₃ | -0.121 | -1.404 | 0.693 | Ni@Ti3-CHO | 0.352 |
| Co/Mo ₂ | -0.098 | -1.105 | 0.791 | Co@Mo2-CH3OH | 0.487 |
| Cu/Mo ₂ | -0.864 | -0.043 | -0.516 | Mo2-Cu-CHO | 1.197 |
| Fe/Mo ₂ | 0.032 | -0.909 | 0.336 | Fe@Mo2-CHO | 0.569 |
| Pt/Mo ₂ | -1.604 | 0.619 | 1.091 | Mo2-Pt-CH3OH | 1.091 |
| Ru/Mo ₂ | -0.243 | -0.915 | 0.068 | Ru@Mo2-OCHO | 0.186 |
| Ni/Mo ₂ | -0.273 | -1.028 | 0.530 | Mo2-Ni-CH3OH | 0.510 |
| Co/Mo ₃ | 2 | | | Mo3-Co-CO2 | |
| Cu/Mo ₃ | | | | Mo3-Cu-CHO | |
| Fe/Mo ₃ | | | | Mo3-Fe-CO2 | |
| Pt/Mo₂ | | | | Mo3-Pt-CO2 | |
| Ru/Mo ₂ | | | | Mo3-Ru-CO2 | |
| Ni/Mo ₃ | 0.067 | 0.690 | -0.779 | Mo3-Ni-CH2OH | 0.690 |

 Table S4. *CHOH pathway vs *OCH₂ pathway.

 $^{^2}$ There are blank slots for catalysts that were screened out early due to high adsorption energy of CO₂, making them unfavorable regardless of further steps.

Table S5. DFT energy and Gibbs free energy data (eV). E_DFT is the DFT energy calculated at the ground state. E_ZPE is the zero-point energy as presented on Eq S3. Cv_harm is the harmonic heat capacity as defined in Eq S7. The TS term represents the temperature (298K) times the entropy. G is the Gibbs free energy (eV) as presented in Eq S9.

| | E_DFT | E_ZPE | Cv_harm | TS | G | Extra G term |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|--------|------------|--------------|
| Ni@Ti₃.H2 | -58102.57 | 0.123 | 0 | 0 | -58102.44 | 0.123 |
| Ni@Ti3-CO₂ | -59115.76 | 0.378 | 0.078 | -0.133 | -59115.44 | 0.323 |
| Ni@Ti3-OCHO | -59132.03 | 0.673 | 0.073 | -0.123 | -59131.41 | 0.623 |
| Ni@Ti3-HCOOH | -59148.06 | 0.987 | 0.09 | -0.156 | -59147.14 | 0.921 |
| Ni@Ti3-CHO | -58694.95 | 0.498 | 0.067 | -0.121 | -58694.51 | 0.443 |
| Ni@Ti3-OCH2 | -58711.18 | 0.785 | 0.074 | -0.153 | -58710.48 | 0.706 |
| Ni@Ti3-OCH3 | -58727.07 | 1.102 | 0.078 | -0.176 | -58726.06 | 1.005 |
| Ni@Ti3-CH3OH | -58744.40 | 1.457 | | -0.151 | -58743.02 | 1.388 |
| Ni@Ti3-COOH | -59131.73 | 0.68 | 0.072 | -0.113 | -59131.09 | 0.64 |
| Ni@Ti3-CHOH | -58710.88 | 0.84 | 0.066 | -0.111 | -58710.08 | 0.795 |
| Ni@Ti3-COH | -58694.17 | | | | | |
| Ni@Ti3-CH2 | -58273.76 | 0.606 | 0.024 | -0.036 | -58273.168 | 0.594 |
| Ni@Ti3-CH3 | -58291.09 | 0.918 | 0.039 | -0.078 | -58290.211 | 0.88 |
| Ni@Ti3-O | -58522.06 | 0.08 | 0.029 | -0.049 | -58522.002 | 0.061 |
| Ni@Ti3-OH | -58540.24 | 0.364 | 0.044 | -0.071 | -58539.906 | 0.336 |
| Ni@Ti3-H2O | -58557.48 | 0.685 | 0.067 | -0.12 | -58556.846 | 0.631 |
| Ni@Ti3-CO | -58679.81 | 0.232 | 0.052 | -0.083 | -58679.614 | 0.201 |
| Ni@Ti3-CH4 | -58308.25 | 1.211 | 0.069 | -0.147 | -58307.119 | 1.132 |
| Pt@Ti ₃ -H2 | -56766.71 | 0.225 | 0.008 | -0.011 | -56766.489 | 0.222 |
| Pt@Ti3-CO2 | -57778.77 | 0.332 | 0.063 | -0.114 | -57778.495 | 0.281 |
| Pt@Ti3-OCHO | -57794.65 | 0.68 | 0.07 | -0.117 | -57794.016 | 0.633 |
| Pt@Ti3-HCOOH | -57810.92 | 0.953 | 0.061 | -0.101 | -57810.008 | 0.913 |
| Pt@Ti3-CHO | -57358.21 | 0.492 | 0.03 | -0.048 | -57357.739 | 0.474 |
| Pt@Ti3-OCH2 | -57373.94 | 0.796 | 0.044 | -0.072 | -57373.175 | 0.767 |
| Pt@Ti3-OCH3 | -57389.87 | 1.108 | 0.078 | -0.156 | -57388.847 | 1.029 |
| Pt@Ti3-CH3OH | -57406.70 | 1.46 | 0.105 | -0.228 | -57405.37 | 1.336 |
| Pt@Ti3-COOH | -57794.84 | 0.639 | 0.052 | -0.084 | -57794.241 | 0.607 |
| Pt@Ti3-O | -57184.48 | 0.068 | 0.016 | -0.027 | -57184.43 | 0.057 |
| Pt@Ti3-OH | -57202.89 | 0.362 | | -0.046 | -57202.55 | 0.343 |
| Pt@Ti3-H2O | -57219.57 | 0.697 | | -0.117 | -57218.931 | 0.642 |
| Pt@Ti3-CO | -57343.25 | 0.23 | 0.035 | -0.059 | -57343.041 | 0.206 |
| Pt@Ti3-CH4 | -56970.83 | 1.194 | 0.091 | -0.192 | -56969.74 | 1.093 |

| Pd@Ti3-CO2 | -57971.23 | 0.393 | 0.07 | -0.113 | -57970.886 | 0.349 |
|--------------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|------------|-------|
| Pd@Ti3-OCHO | -57987.46 | 0.675 | | -0.12 | -57986.831 | 0.626 |
| Pd@Ti3-HCOOH | -58003.94 | 0.974 | 0.085 | -0.142 | -58003.02 | 0.915 |
| Pd@Ti3-COOH | -57987.55 | 0.668 | 0.079 | -0.128 | -57986.932 | 0.618 |
| Pd@Ti3-CO | -57535.13 | 0.226 | | -0.091 | -57534.944 | 0.19 |
| Pd@Ti3-CHO | -57551.00 | 0.51 | | -0.111 | -57550.542 | 0.461 |
| Pd@Ti3-OCH2 | -57566.95 | 0.809 | | | -57566.218 | 0.730 |
| Pd@Ti3-OCH3 | -57582.82 | 1.115 | 0.088 | -0.179 | -57581.798 | 1.024 |
| Pd@Ti3-CH3OH | -57599.62 | 1.444 | | | -57598.265 | 1.357 |
| Pd@Ti3-CH4 | -57163.84 | 1.212 | 0.09 | -0.206 | -57162.754 | 1.095 |
| Pd@Ti3-O | -57377.40 | 0.079 | | -0.043 | -57377.338 | 0.063 |
| Pd@Ti3-H2 | -56959.37 | | | | -56959.165 | 0.202 |
| Pd@Ti3-OH | -57395.62 | 0.346 | 0.058 | -0.124 | -57395.335 | 0.280 |
| Pd@Ti3-H2O | -57413.12 | 0.694 | 0.059 | -0.097 | -57412.465 | 0.655 |
| Ru@Mo2-H2 | -45274.55 | 0.224 | 0.005 | -0.007 | -45274.33 | 0.223 |
| Ru@Co@Mo22 | -46287.49 | 0.375 | 0.085 | -0.214 | -46287.24 | 0.246 |
| Ru@Mo2-OCHO | -46303.11 | 0.635 | 0.047 | -0.077 | -46302.5 | 0.606 |
| Ru@Mo2-HCOOH | -46319.12 | 0.934 | 0.105 | -0.215 | -46318.295 | 0.823 |
| Ru@Mo2-CHO | -45866.38 | 0.495 | 0.026 | -0.04 | -45865.897 | 0.481 |
| Ru@Mo2-OCH2 | -45882.66 | 0.805 | 0.081 | -0.155 | -45881.928 | 0.732 |
| Ru@Mo2-OCH3 | -45899.11 | 1.124 | 0.091 | -0.185 | -45898.084 | 1.03 |
| Ru@Mo2-CH3OH | -45915.27 | 1.452 | 0.105 | -0.211 | -45913.927 | 1.346 |
| Ru@Co@Mo2OH | -46302.92 | 0.641 | 0.049 | -0.075 | -46302.312 | 0.615 |
| Ru@Mo2-O | -45694.91 | 0.078 | 0.034 | -0.064 | -45694.869 | 0.048 |
| Ru@Mo2-OH | -45712.15 | 0.362 | 0.045 | -0.074 | -45711.822 | 0.333 |
| Mor-Ru-H2O | -45728.63 | 0.693 | 0.059 | -0.097 | -45727.983 | 0.654 |
| Ru@Co@Mo2 | -45850.24 | 0.222 | 0.057 | -0.101 | -45850.068 | 0.179 |
| Ru@Mo2-CH4 | -45479.75 | 1.25 | 0.106 | -0.26 | -45478.656 | 1.095 |
| Co@Mo2-H2 | -46656.02 | 0.21 | 0.008 | -0.011 | -46655.816 | 0.207 |
| Co@Mo2-CO2 | -47668.67 | 0.381 | 0.08 | -0.145 | -47668.359 | 0.316 |
| Co@Mo2-OCHO | -47684.80 | 0.677 | 0.079 | -0.148 | -47684.194 | 0.607 |
| Co@Mo2-HCOOH | -47700.58 | 0.955 | 0.064 | -0.111 | -47699.679 | 0.906 |
| Co@Mo2-CHO | -47247.68 | 0.493 | 0.071 | -0.154 | -47247.274 | 0.409 |
| Co@Mo2-OCH2 | -47263.75 | 0.792 | 0.067 | -0.124 | -47263.02 | 0.734 |
| Co@Mo2-OCH3 | -47280.19 | 1.113 | 0.095 | -0.199 | -47279.191 | 1.008 |
| Co@Mo2-CH3OH | -47296.69 | 1.463 | 0.081 | -0.15 | -47295.303 | 1.394 |
| Co@Mo2-COOH | -47684.27 | 0.646 | 0.049 | -0.078 | -47683.661 | 0.616 |
| Co@Mo2-O | -47075.43 | 0.07 | 0.036 | -0.068 | -47075.398 | 0.038 |
| Co@Mo2-OH | -47093.36 | 0.38 | 0.038 | -0.06 | -47093.011 | 0.358 |
| Co@Mo2-CO | -47231.96 | 0.24 | 0.048 | -0.076 | -47231.753 | 0.212 |

| Co@Mo2-H2O | -47110.55 | 0.699 | 0.047 | -0.073 | -47109.878 | 0.672 |
|--------------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|------------|-------|
| Co@Mo2-CH4 | -46860.98 | 1.269 | 0.094 | -0.208 | -46859.834 | 1.155 |
| Fe@Mo2-H2 | -46060.21 | 0.217 | 0.006 | -0.008 | -46060.004 | 0.214 |
| Fe@Mo2-CO2 | - 47072.91 7 | 0.392 | 0.078 | -0.141 | -47072.589 | 0.328 |
| Fe@Mo2-OCHO | -47088.94 | 0.643 | 0.091 | -0.196 | -47088.406 | 0.538 |
| Fe@Mo2-HCOOH | -47105.22 | 0.965 | 0.08 | -0.141 | -47104.325 | 0.904 |
| Fe@Mo2-CHO | -46651.90 | 0.525 | 0.042 | -0.075 | -46651.414 | 0.490 |
| Fe@Mo2-OCH2 | -46668.10 | 0.782 | 0.073 | -0.146 | -46667.392 | 0.707 |
| Fe@Mo2-OCH3 | -46684.37 | 1.119 | 0.093 | -0.188 | -46683.346 | 1.022 |
| Fe@Mo2-CH3OH | -46701.14 | 1.462 | 0.09 | -0.17 | -46699.759 | 1.382 |
| Fe@Mo2-COOH | -47088.49 | 0.636 | 0.053 | -0.096 | -47087.897 | 0.593 |
| Fe@Mo2-O | -46480.62 | 0.074 | 0.037 | -0.076 | -46480.584 | 0.035 |
| Fe@Mo2-OH | -46498.04 | 0.361 | 0.027 | -0.041 | -46497.692 | 0.346 |
| Fe@Mo2-CO | -46636.29 | 0.234 | 0.051 | -0.082 | -46636.086 | 0.203 |
| Fe@Mo2-H2O | -46515.08 | 0.707 | 0.042 | -0.063 | -46514.394 | 0.684 |
| Fe@Mo2-CH4 | -46265.19 | 1.269 | 0.075 | -0.164 | -46264.014 | 1.180 |
| | | | | | | |

Table S6. Key Gibbs free energy differences for drawing conclusions on product selectivity.



Table S7 Example of the six final catalysts that have been previously synthesized in experiments

| Identified Catalysts | Structure synthesized | Applications |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Ni @Ti₃ | NiO on Ti ₃ C ₂ ^[5] | Supercapacitor |
| | Ni SAC on O-terminated Ti ₃ C ₂ ^[6] | Hydrazine oxidation |
| Pd @Ti ₃ | Pd SAC on Nb_2CT_2 (T= O, F, and OH) ^[7] | OER, ORR |
| р+ @ т; | Dt SAC on O terminated Ti C ^[8,9] | CO ₂ functionalization, Aniline |
| Ρι @ Π ₃ | | conversion, HER |
| Ru @ Mo ₂ | Ru SAC on O-terminated Mo ₂ C ^[10,11] | Nitrogen Reduction Reaction, HER |

| Co @Mo ₂ | Co SAC on O-terminated Mo ₂ ^[12] | OER and HER |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| Fe @Mo ₂ | Fe SAC on Mo_2CT_2 (T= O, F, and OH) ^[13] | Micropollutant removal |

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