

Supporting Information

Suppression of Charge Carrier Recombination in Ta₃N₅ Photoanode via Defect Regulation

Guozheng Fan^{ab}, Zhaobo Zhou^{*bc}, Yu Jing^{*a}, and Thomas Frauenheim^{de}

a. Jiangsu Co-Innovation Centre of Efficient Processing and Utilization of Forest Resources, College of Chemical Engineering, Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing 210037, China. E-mail: yujing@njfu.edu.cn.

b. Bremen Center for Computational Materials Science, University of Bremen, 28359 Bremen, Germany.

c. Department of Physical and Macromolecular Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Prague 12843, Czech Republic. E-mail: zhaoboz@natur.cuni.cz.

d. School of Science, Constructor University, Bremen 28759, Germany.

e. Institute for Advanced Study, Chengdu University, Chengdu 610106, China.

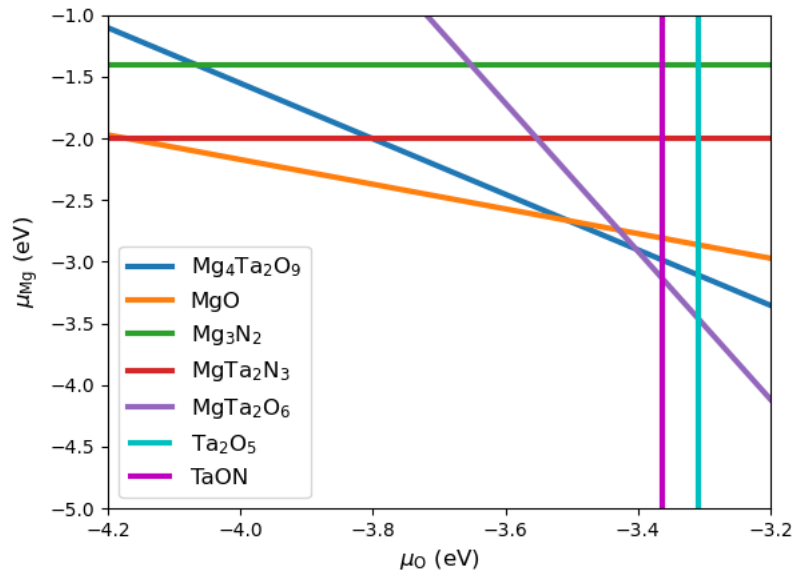


Figure S1: Chemical potentials of Mg and O co-doped Ta_3N_5 system under N-rich region.

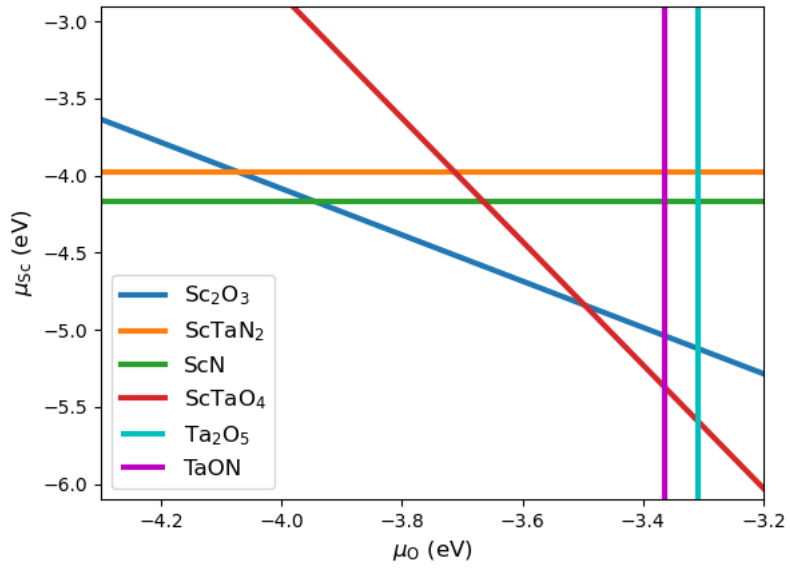


Figure S2: Chemical potentials of Sc and O co-doped Ta₃N₅ system under N-rich region.

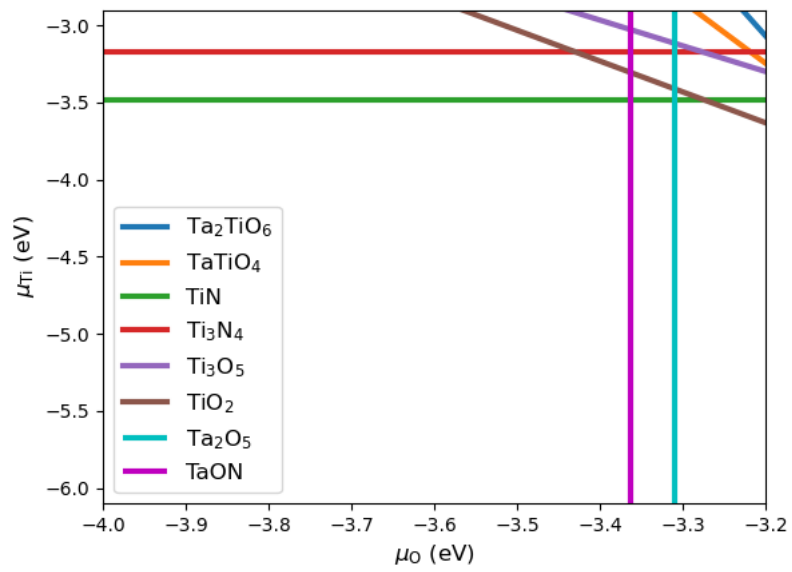


Figure S3: Chemical potentials of Ti and O co-doped Ta₃N₅ system under N-rich region.

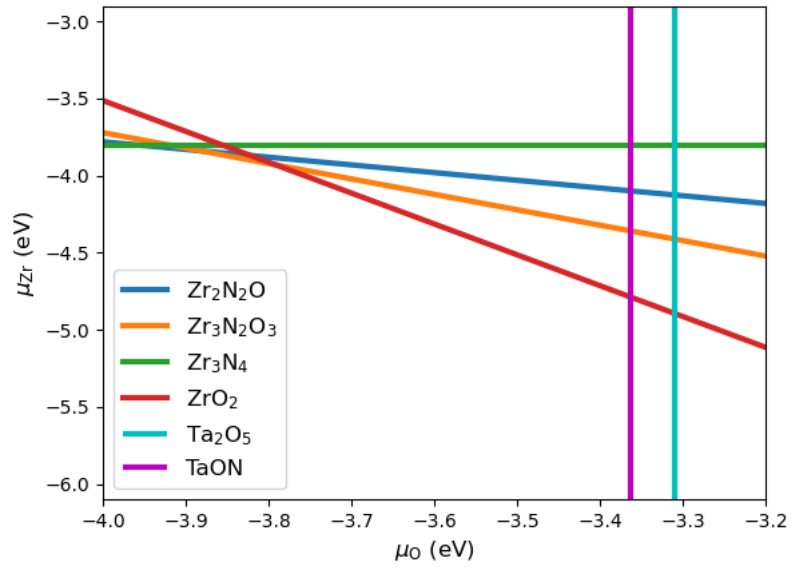


Figure S4: Chemical potentials of Zr and O co-doped Ta_3N_5 system under N-rich region.

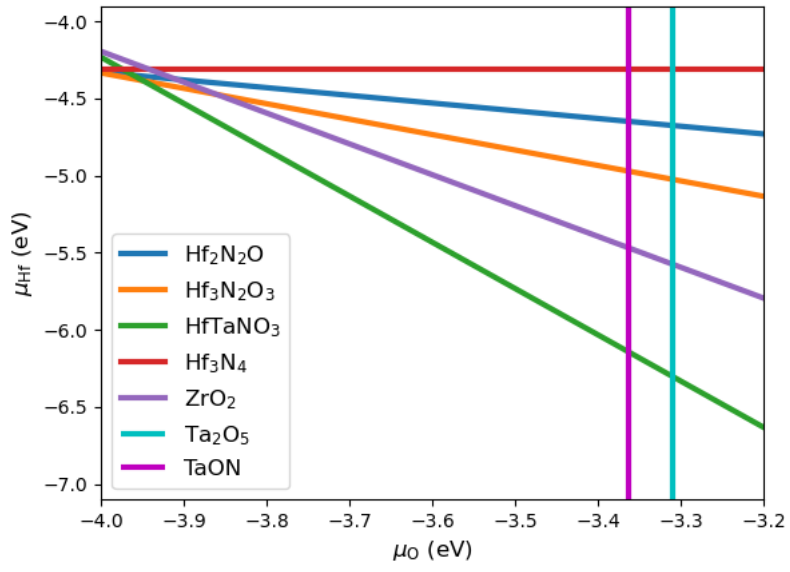


Figure S5: Chemical potentials of Hf and O co-doped Ta_3N_5 system under N-rich region.

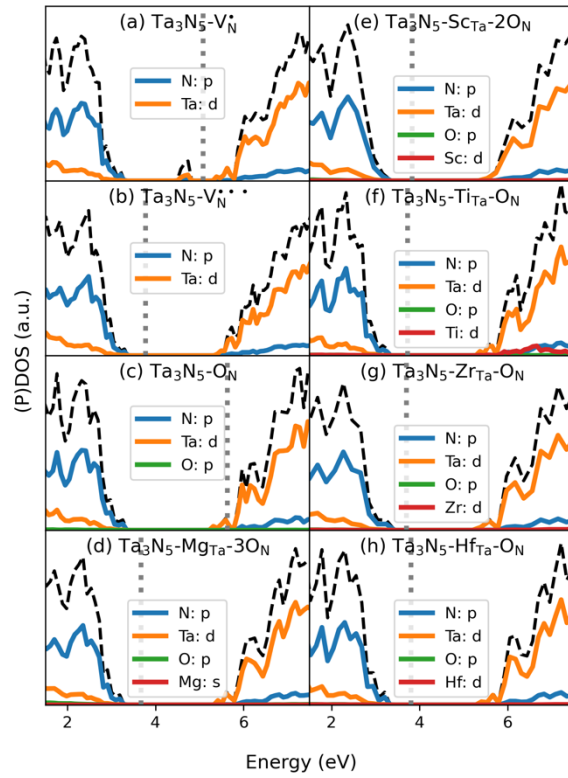


Figure S6: (P)DOS of (a) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}$, (b) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}$, (c) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (d) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Mg}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-3O}_\text{N}$, (e) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Sc}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-2O}_\text{N}$, (f) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Ti}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (g) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Zr}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, and (h) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Hf}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$. The vertical gray line is the Fermi energy (eV) and the dashed black line is the total DOS.

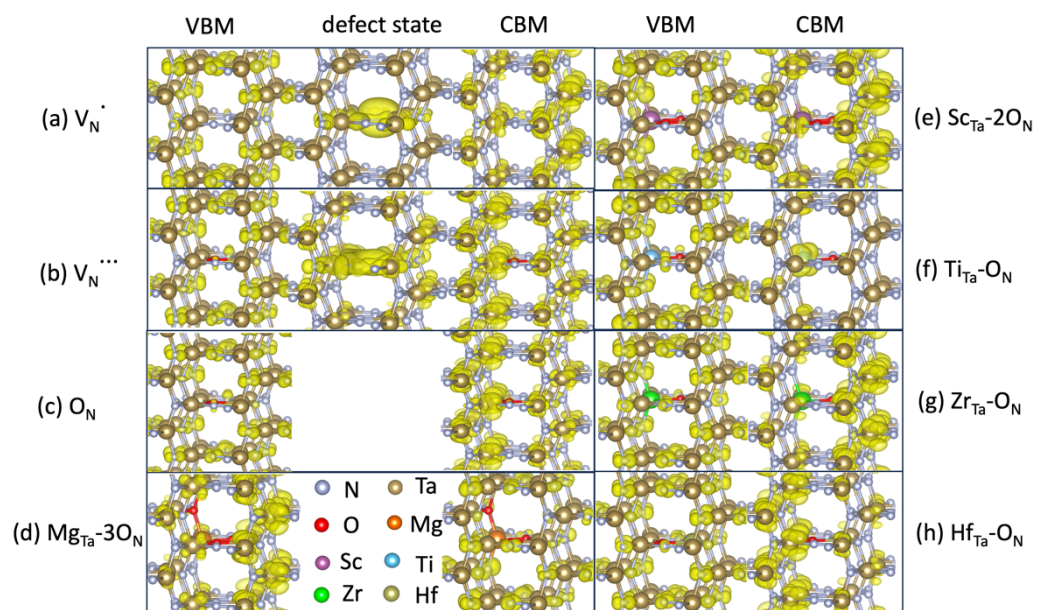


Figure S7: Partial electron densities of (a) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_N^{\cdot}$, (b) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_N^{\bullet\bullet\bullet}$, (c) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-O}_N$, (d) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Mg}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-3O}_N$, (e) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Sc}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-2O}_N$, (f) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Ti}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_N$, (g) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Zr}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_N$, and (h) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Hf}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_N$.

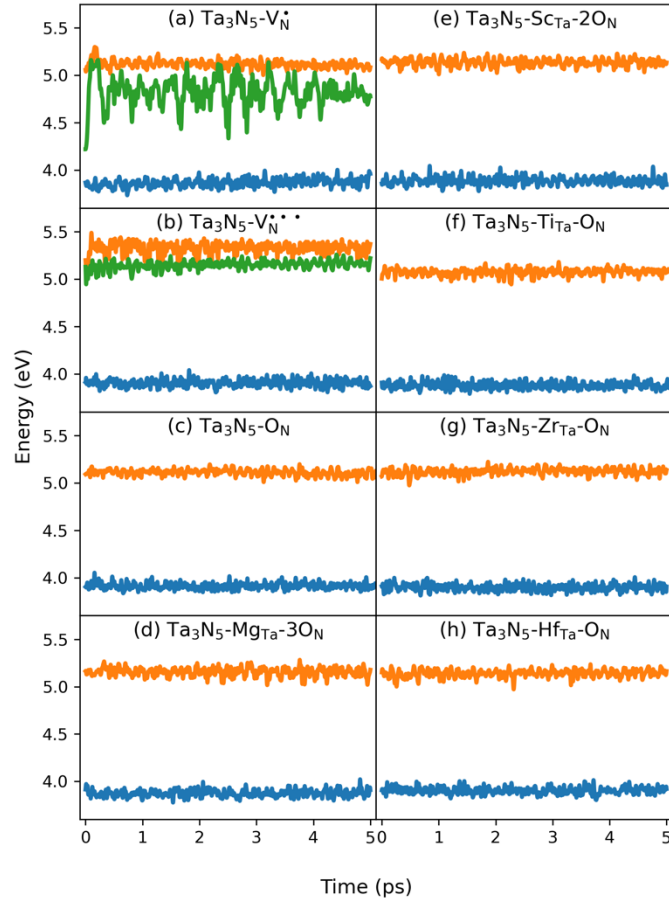


Figure S8: Time evolution of the VBM, CBM and the defect state of (a) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}^{\text{I}}$, (b) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}^{\text{II}}$, (c) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (d) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Mg}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-3O}_\text{N}$, (e) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Sc}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-2O}_\text{N}$, and (f) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Ti}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (g) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Zr}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, and (h) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Hf}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$. The green lines are the energies of the defect level.

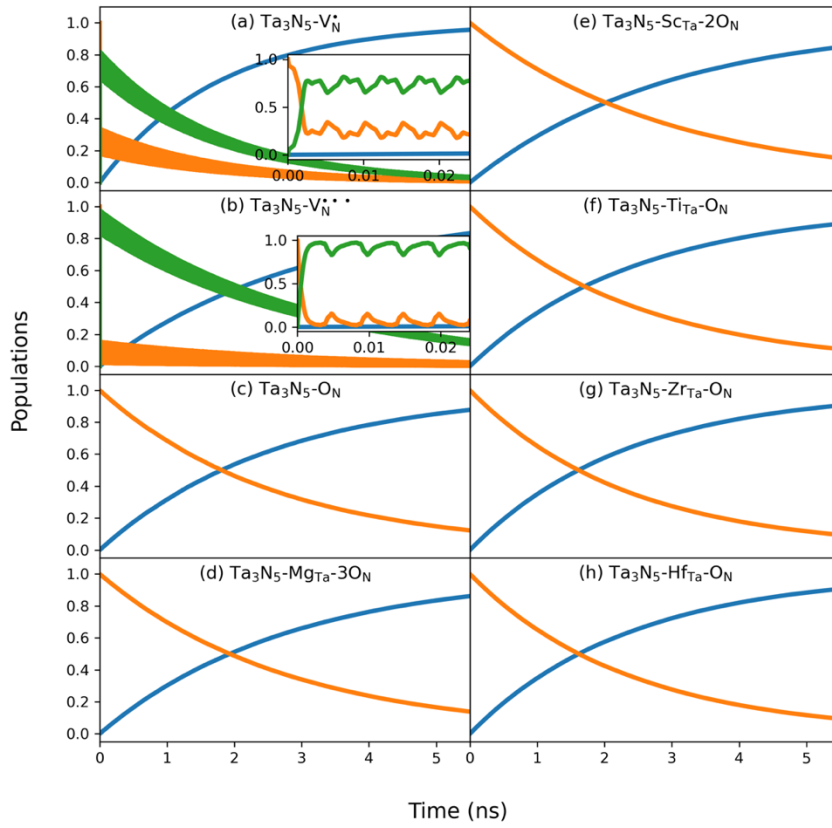


Figure S9: Time-dependent state population evolutions of (a) Ta₃N₅-V_N^{*}, (b) Ta₃N₅-V_N^{**}, (c) Ta₃N₅-O_N, (d) Ta₃N₅-Mg_{Ta}-3O_N, (e) Ta₃N₅-Sc_{Ta}-2O_N, (f) Ta₃N₅-Ti_{Ta}-O_N, (g) Ta₃N₅-Zr_{Ta}-O_N, and (h) Ta₃N₅-Hf_{Ta}-O_N. The blue lines are VBM populations, while the orange lines and green lines are those of CBM and defect state, respectively.

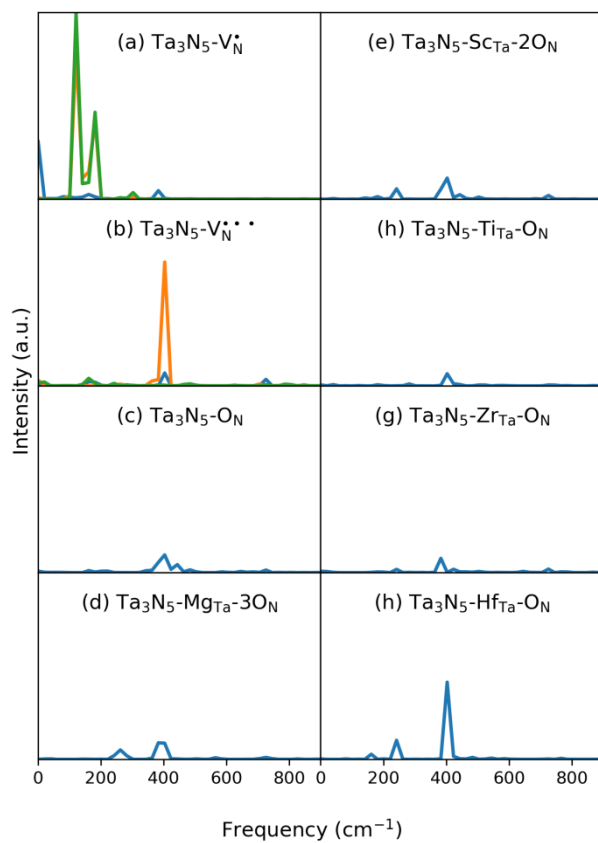


Figure S10: FT spectra of autocorrelation functions of the time evolution at 300K of (a) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}$, (b) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-V}_\text{N}''$, (c) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (d) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Mg}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-3O}_\text{N}$, (e) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Sc}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-2O}_\text{N}$, (f) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Ti}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, (g) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Zr}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$, and (h) $\text{Ta}_3\text{N}_5\text{-Hf}_{\text{Ta}}\text{-O}_\text{N}$.

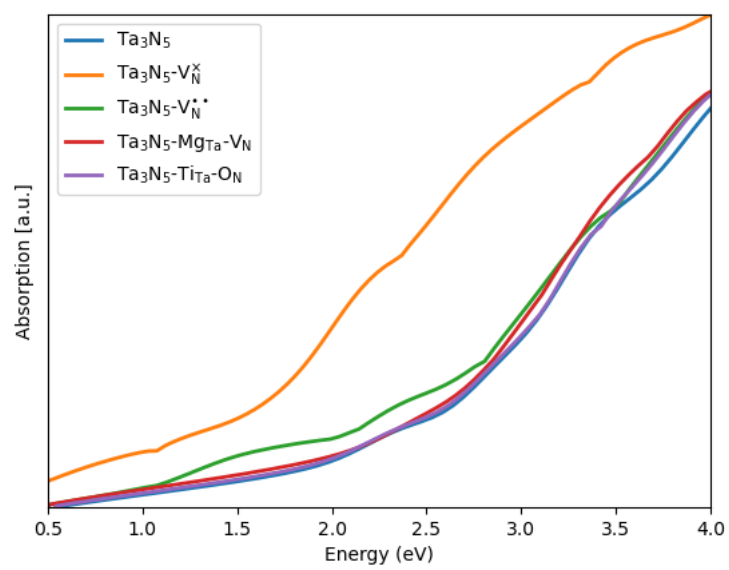


Figure S11: Light absorption coefficients of Ta₃N₅, Ta₃N₅-V_N^x, Ta₃N₅-V_N^{*}, Ta₃N₅-Mg_{Ta}-V_N^x, and Ta₃N₅-Ti_{Ta}-O_N systems.

Table S1: e-h recombination time, NACs, dephasing time, and Bader charges of Ta atoms in Figure 1(c) of Ta₃N₅ with doping metal and oxygen atoms. The transition state is CBM to VBM.

	e-h recombination time (ns)	NACs (meV)	Dephasing time (fs)	Bader charge of Ta ¹	Bader charge of Ta ²	Bader charge of Ta ³
Ta ₃ N ₅ -V _N ⁱ	1.75	1.22	11.33	2.14	2.10	2.34
Ta ₃ N ₅ -V _N ⁱⁱ	3.07	0.84	10.5	2.42	2.37	2.40
Ta ₃ N ₅ -O _N	2.62	1.34	17.35	2.46	2.46	2.48
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Mg _{Ta} -3O _N	2.78	1.35	12.51	2.46	2.47	2.49
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Sc _{Ta} -2O _N	2.41	1.33	13.09	2.47	2.48	2.49
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Ti _{Ta} -O _N	2.46	1.35	16.78	2.47	2.47	2.48
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Zr _{Ta} -O _N	2.33	1.39	15.96	2.46	2.47	2.49
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Hf _{Ta} -O _N	2.33	1.36	14.02	2.46	2.47	2.49

Table S2: Bader charges of N atoms in Figure 1(c) and NACs of Ta₃N₅ systems with doping metal and N vacancies (different charge states). The first transition state with superscript 1 is between VBM and the defect state, and superscript 2 is between the defect state and CBM. The superscripts of N are consistent with the labels in Figure 1.

	Bader charge of N ¹	Bader charge of N ²	Bader charge of N ³	Bader charge of N ⁴
Ta ₃ N ₅	1.40	1.40	1.53	1.55
Ta ₃ N ₅ -V _N ^x	1.45	1.45	1.59	1.55
Ta ₃ N ₅ -V _N ^{..}	1.46	1.44	1.59	1.56
Ta ₃ N ₅ -Mg _{Ta} -V _N ^x	1.48	1.48	1.56	1.55