

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Theoretical insights into the nature of synergistic enhancement in bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 catalysts for ammonia activation

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Calculated equilibrium geometries of mono- and bi-metallic catalysts

Monometallic Co(II)AlPO-5

Table S1: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(II)AlPO-5.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (H1)	2.120
Co1	O2	1.871
Co1	O3	1.897
Co1	O4	1.876
O1 (H1)	P1 (H1)	1.608
O2	P2	1.518
O3	P3	1.520
O4	P4	1.524
O1	H1	0.992

Monometallic Co(III)AlPO-5

Table S2: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(III)AlPO-5.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1	1.816
Co1	O2	1.820
Co1	O3	1.837
Co1	O4	1.822
O1	P1	1.548
O2	P2	1.545
O3	P3	1.541
O4	P4	1.546

Monometallic Ti(IV)AlPO-5

Table S3: Bond lengths in monometallic Ti(IV)AlPO-5.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Ti1	O1 (H1)	1.987
Ti1	O2	1.775
Ti1	O3	1.765
Ti1	O4	1.751
O1 (H1)	Al1 (H1)	1.792
O2	Al2	1.700
O3	Al3	1.711
O4	Al4	1.751
O1	H1	0.970

Bimetallic Co(II)Ti(IV)AlPO-5**Table S4:** Bond lengths in bimetallic Co(II)Ti(IV)AlPO-5.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (H1) (Bridge)	1.973
Co1	O2	1.909
Co1	O3	1.782
Co1	O4	2.005
Ti1	O1 (H1) (Bridge)	1.961
Ti1	O5 (H2)	1.983
Ti1	O6	1.731
Ti1	O7	1.719
O2	P1	1.514
O3	P2	1.519
O4	P3	1.540
O5 (H2)	Al1 (H2)	1.801
O6	Al2	1.703
O7	Al3	1.731
O1 (H1) (Bridge)	H1	0.973
O5 (H2)	H2	0.982

Bimetallic Co(III)Ti(IV)AlPO-5**Table S5:** Bond lengths in bimetallic Co(III)Ti(IV)AlPO-5.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (Bridge)	1.757
Co1	O2	1.860
Co1	O3	1.743
Co1	O4	1.931
Ti1	O1 (Bridge)	1.928
Ti1	O5 (H1)	1.988
Ti1	O6	1.744
Ti1	O7	1.768
O2	P1	1.534
O3	P2	1.534
O4	P3	1.557
O5 (H1)	Al1 (H1)	1.805
O6	Al2	1.665
O7	Al3	1.726
O5 (H1)	H1	0.975

Calculated equilibrium geometries of bound monometallic catalysts

Table S6: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(II)AlPO-5 bound to O₂.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (H)	2.120
Co1	O2	1.881
Co1	O3	1.900
Co1	O4	1.876
O1 (H)	P1 (H)	1.608
O2	P2	1.517
O3	P3	1.519
O4	P4	1.518
O1 (H)	H1	0.992
Co1	O5	3.215
Co1	O6	4.135
O5	O6	1.227

Table S7: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(III)AlPO-5 bound to O₂.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1	1.838
Co1	O2	1.826
Co1	O3	1.835
Co1	O4	1.819
O1	P1	1.541
O2	P2	1.548
O3	P3	1.540
O4	P4	1.545
Co1	O5	3.423
Co1	O6	4.097
O5	O6	1.227

Table S8: Bond lengths in monometallic Ti(IV)AlPO-5 bond to O₂.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Ti1	O1 (H)	1.995
Ti1	O2	1.760
Ti1	O3	1.768
Ti1	O4	1.751

O1 (H)	Al1 (H)	1.791
O2	Al2	1.701
O3	Al3	1.713
O4	Al4	1.711
O1 (H)	H1	0.696
Ti1	O5	3.001
Ti1	O6	3.746
O5	O5	1.227

Table S9: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(II)AlPO-5 bound to NH₃.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1	1.814
Co1	O2	1.838
Co1	O3	1.852
Co1	O4	1.964
O1	P1	1.536
O2	P2	1.535
O3	P3	1.527
O4	P4	1.526
Co1	N1	2.208
N1	H1	1.017
N1	H2	1.017
N2	H3	1.019

Table S10: Bond lengths in monometallic Co(III)AlPO-5 bound to NH₃.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (H)	2.136
Co1	O2	1.953
Co1	O3	1.981
Co1	O4	1.923
O1 (H)	P1 (H)	1.596
O2	P2	1.509
O3	P3	1.512
O4	P4	1.508
O1 (H)	H1	1.001
Co1	N1	2.215
N1	H2	1.017
N1	H3	1.018
N2	H4	1.018

Table S11: Bond lengths in monometallic Ti(IV)AlPO-5 bound to NH₃.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Ti1	O1 (H)	2.097
Ti1	O2	1.789
Ti1	O3	1.801
Ti1	O4	1.760
O1 (H)	Al1 (H)	1.759
O2	Al2	1.709
O3	Al3	1.690
O4	Al4	1.704
O1 (H)	H1	0.968
Ti1	N1	2.254
N1	H2	1.017
N1	H3	1.019
N2	H4	1.021

Calculated equilibrium geometries of bound bimetallic catalysts

Table S12: Bond lengths in bimetallic Co(III)Ti(IV)AlPO-5 with ammonia bound to the cobalt site.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (Bridge)	1.733
Co1	O2	1.862
Co1	O3	1.887
Co1	O4	2.122
Ti1	O1 (Bridge)	1.745
Ti1	O5	1.747
Ti1	O6	1.806
Ti1	O7 (H1)	1.978
O2	P1	1.514
O3	P2	1.543
O4	P3	1.530
O5	Al1	1.726
O6	Al2	1.722
O7 (H1)	Al3	1.776
O7 (H1)	H1	0.969
Co1	N1	2.186
N1	H2	1.017
N1	H3	1.018
N1	H4	1.019

Table S13: Bond lengths in bimetallic Co(III)Ti(IV)AlPO-5 with ammonia bound to the titanium site.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Bond length/Å
Co1	O1 (Bridge)	1.726
Co1	O2	1.844
Co1	O3	1.871
Co1	O4	1.873
Ti1	O1	1.750
Ti1	O5	1.761
Ti1	O6	1.844
Ti1	O7 (H1)	2.008
O2	P1	1.514
O3	P2	1.543
O4	P3	1.530
O5	Al1	1.729
O6	Al2	1.722
O7 (H1)	Al3	1.776
O7 (H1)	H1	0.969
Ti1	N1	2.239
N1	H2	1.019
N1	H3	1.020
N1	H4	1.021

NH₃ coordination geometries

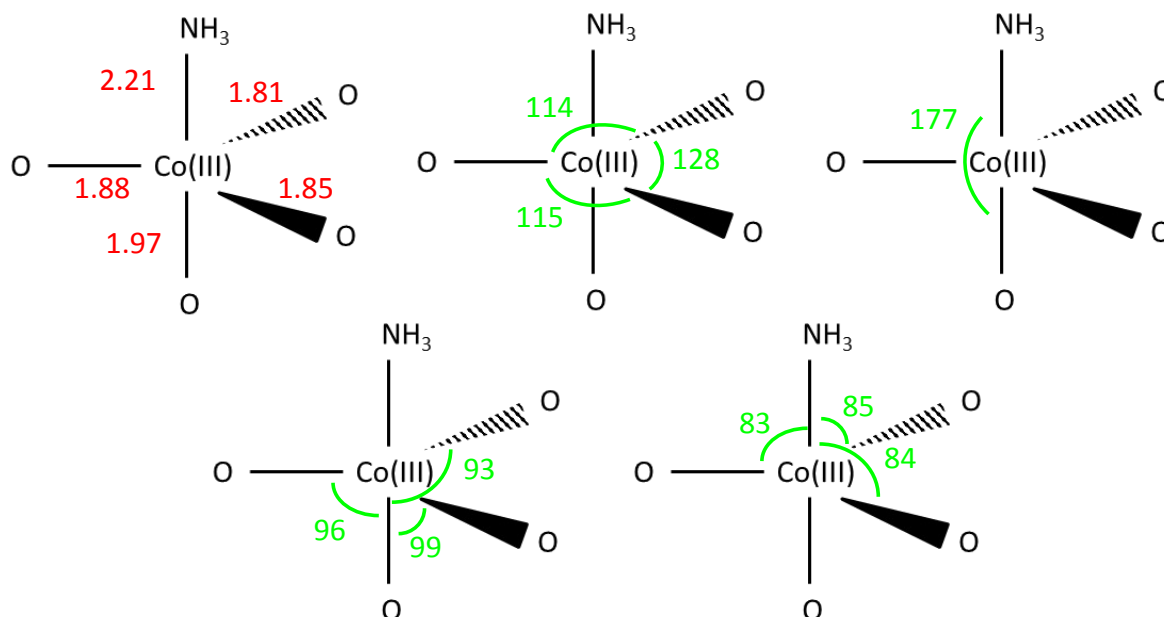


Figure S1: Geometric coordination of NH₃ to monometallic Co(III)AlPO-5 showing the trigonal bipyramidal shape. Red numbers represent lengths in angstroms, green values are angles in degrees.

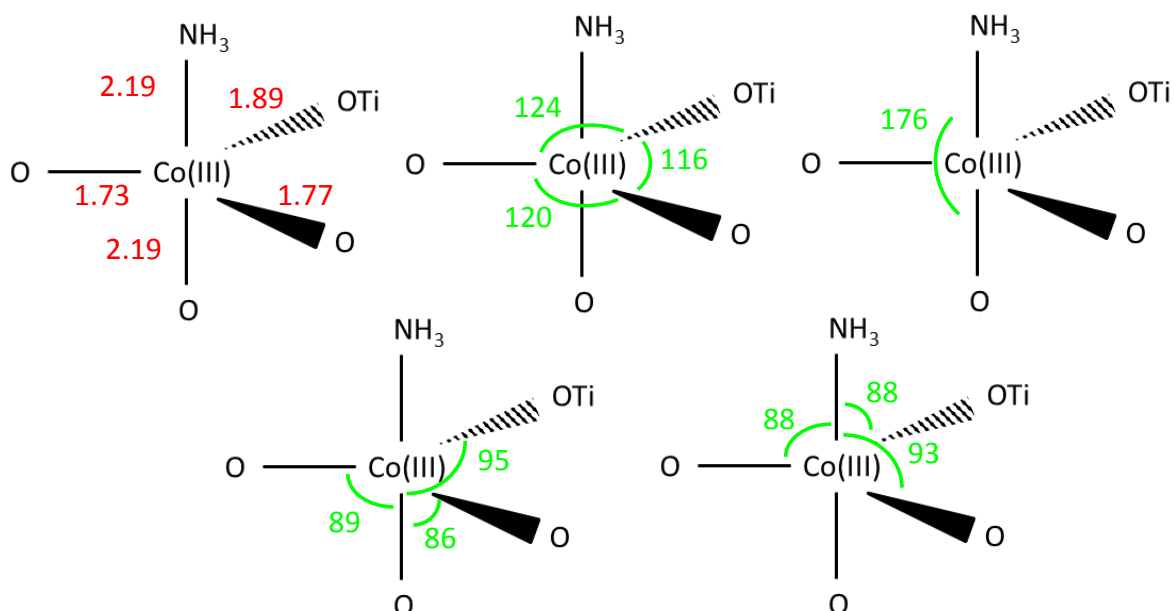


Figure S2: Geometric coordination of NH₃ to bimetallic Co(III)Ti(IV)AlPO-5 showing the trigonal bipyramidal shape. Red numbers represent lengths in angstroms, green values are angles in degrees.

Non-catalytic N-H activation energy profile

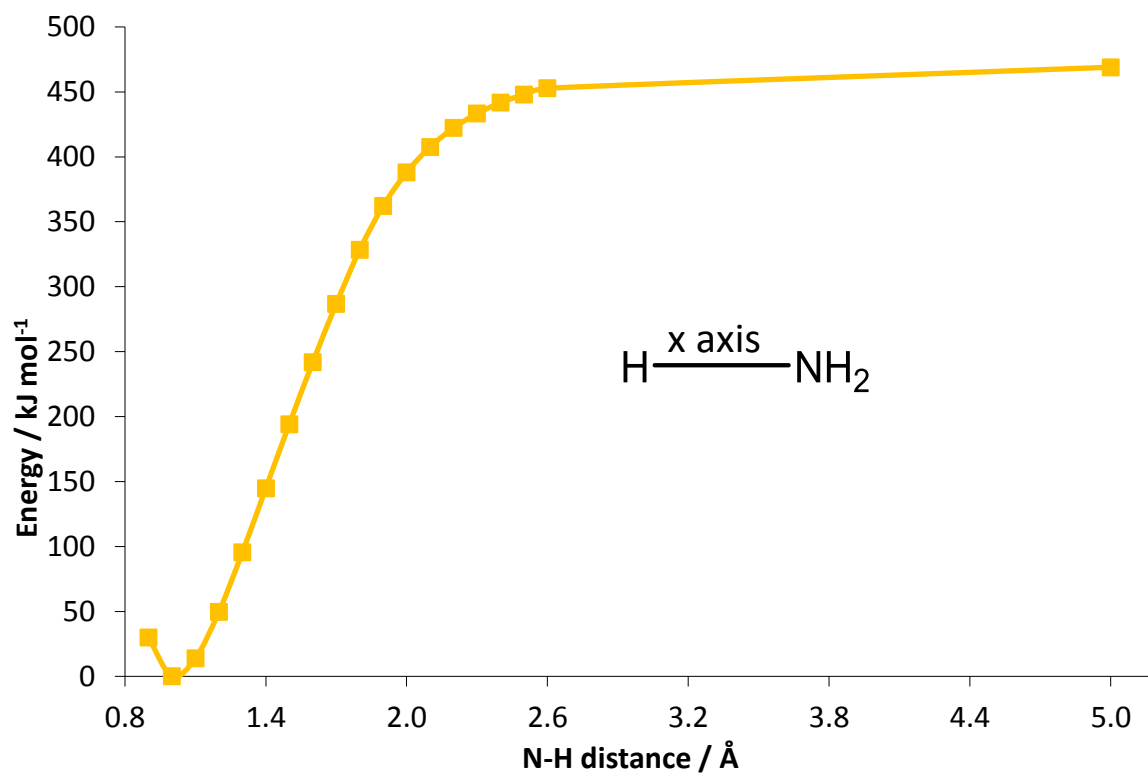


Figure S3: Energy profile showing that 470 kJ/mol is required to break the H—NH₂ bond non-catalytically.

Hydrogen abstraction step

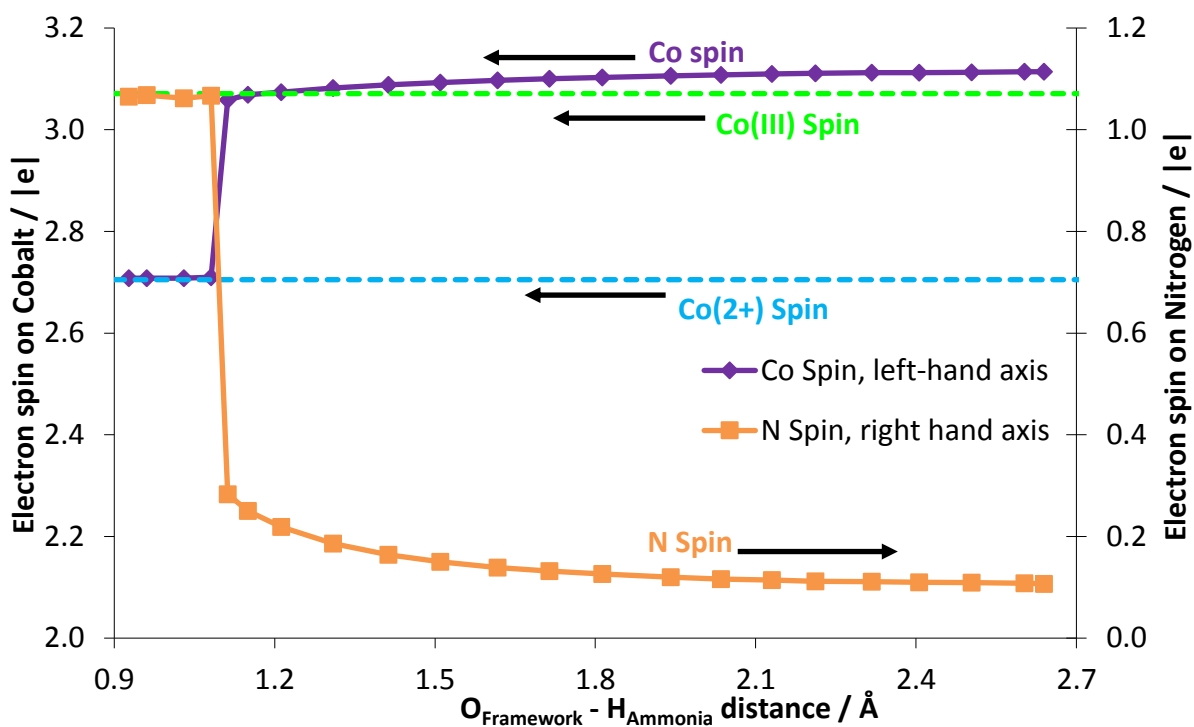


Figure S4: Spin evolution of monometallic CoAlPO-5 for the activation of ammonia.

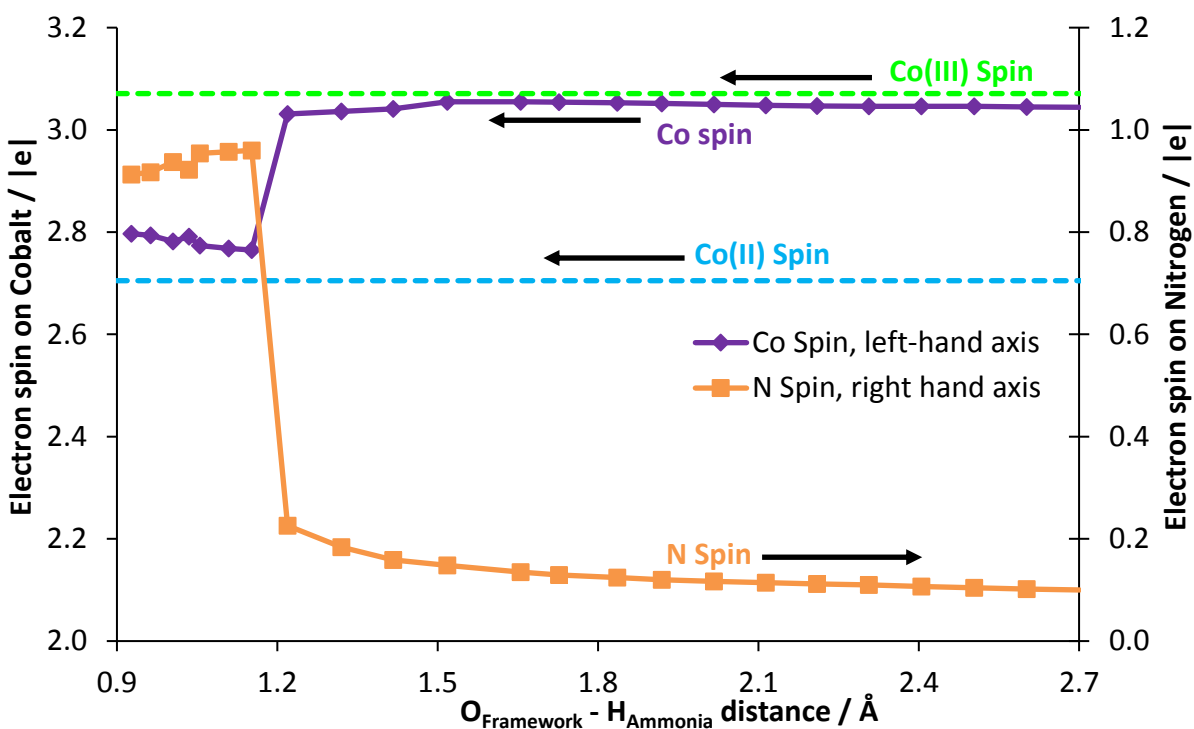


Figure S5: Spin evolution of bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 for the activation of ammonia.

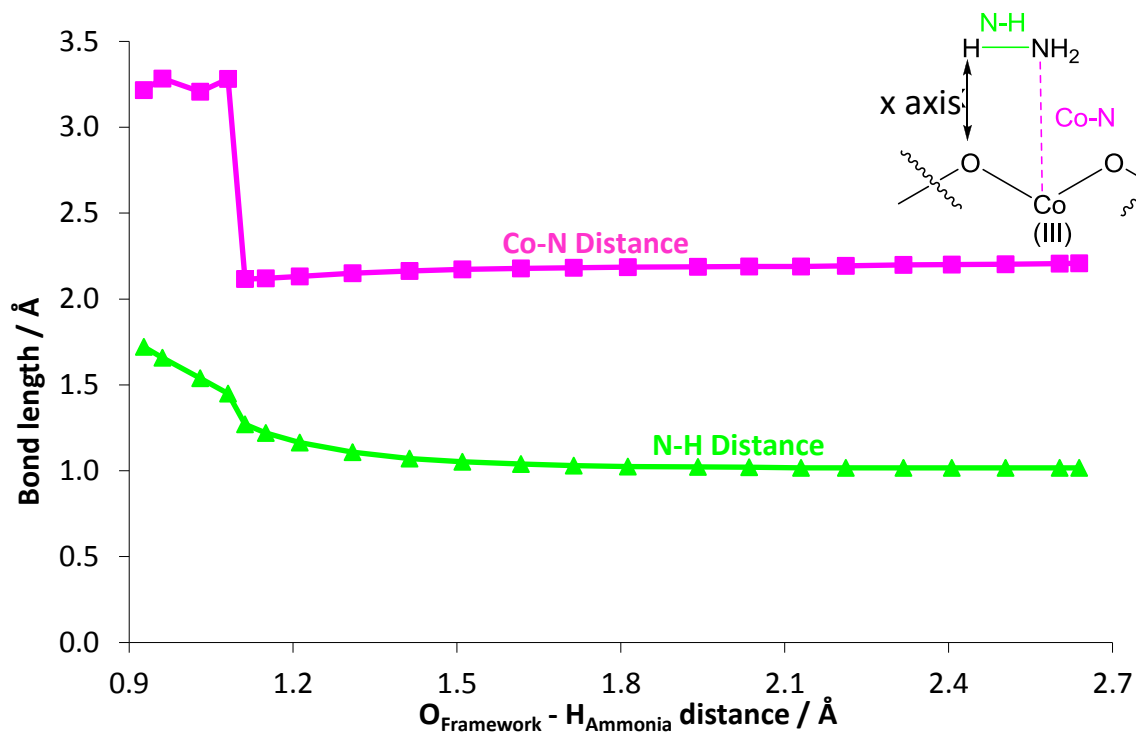


Figure S6: The evolution of bond lengths in the monometallic CoAlPO-5 system for the initial ammonia activation step.

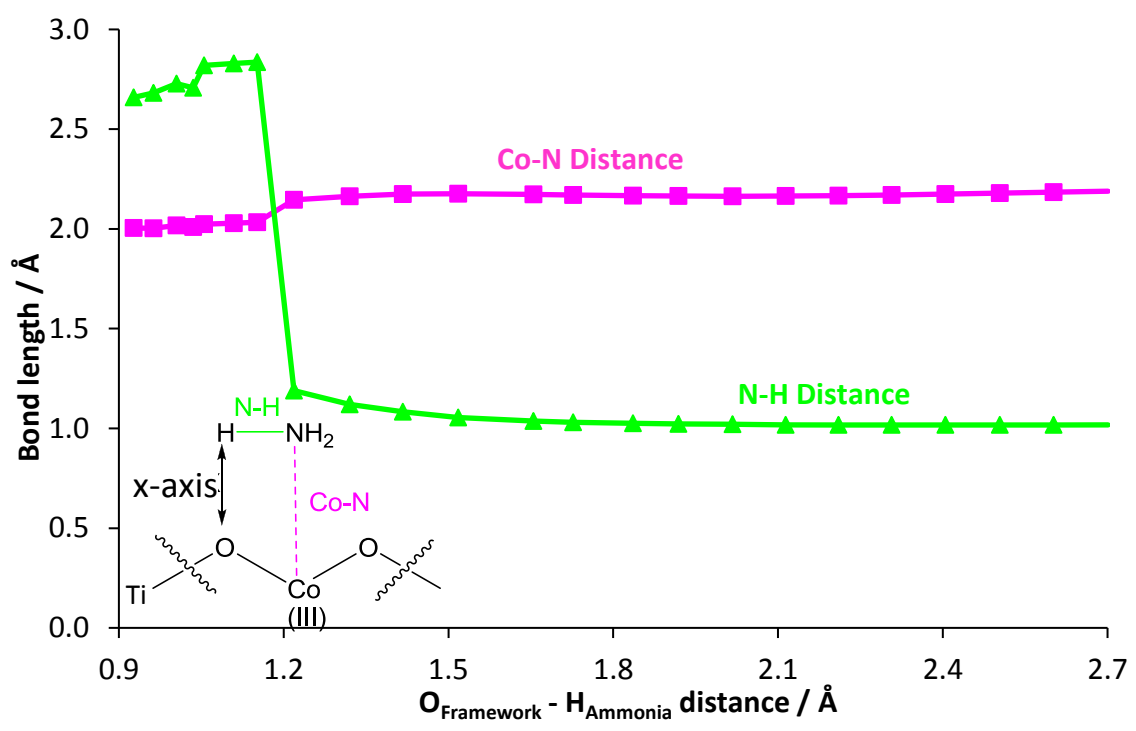


Figure S7: The evolution of bond lengths in the bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 system for the initial ammonia activation step.

Oxygen addition step

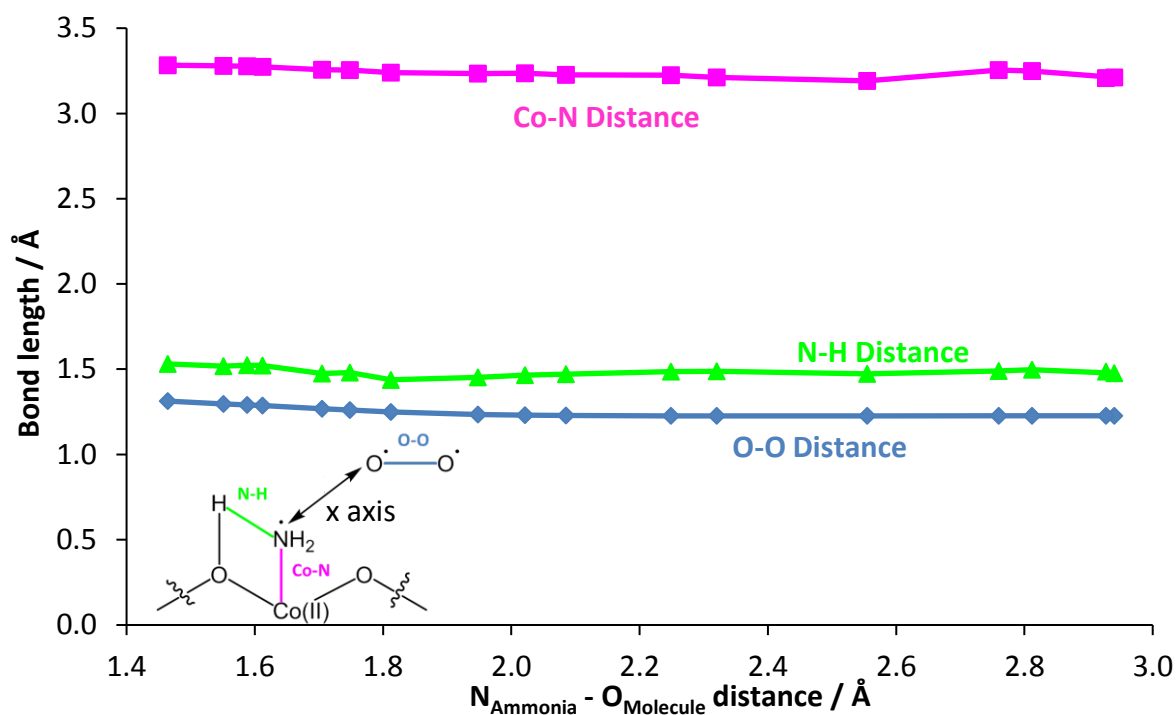


Figure S8: The evolution of bond lengths in the monometallic CoAlPO-5 system for the NH₂OO formation step.

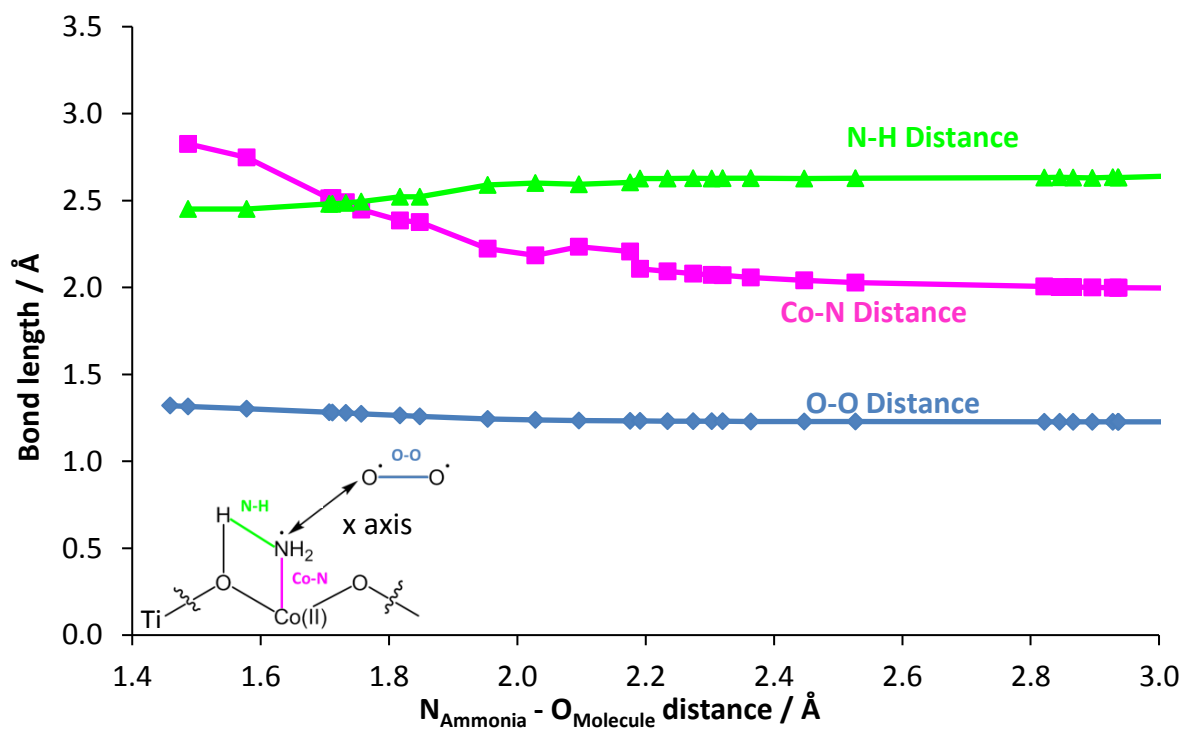


Figure S9: The evolution of bond lengths in the bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 system for the NH₂OO formation step.

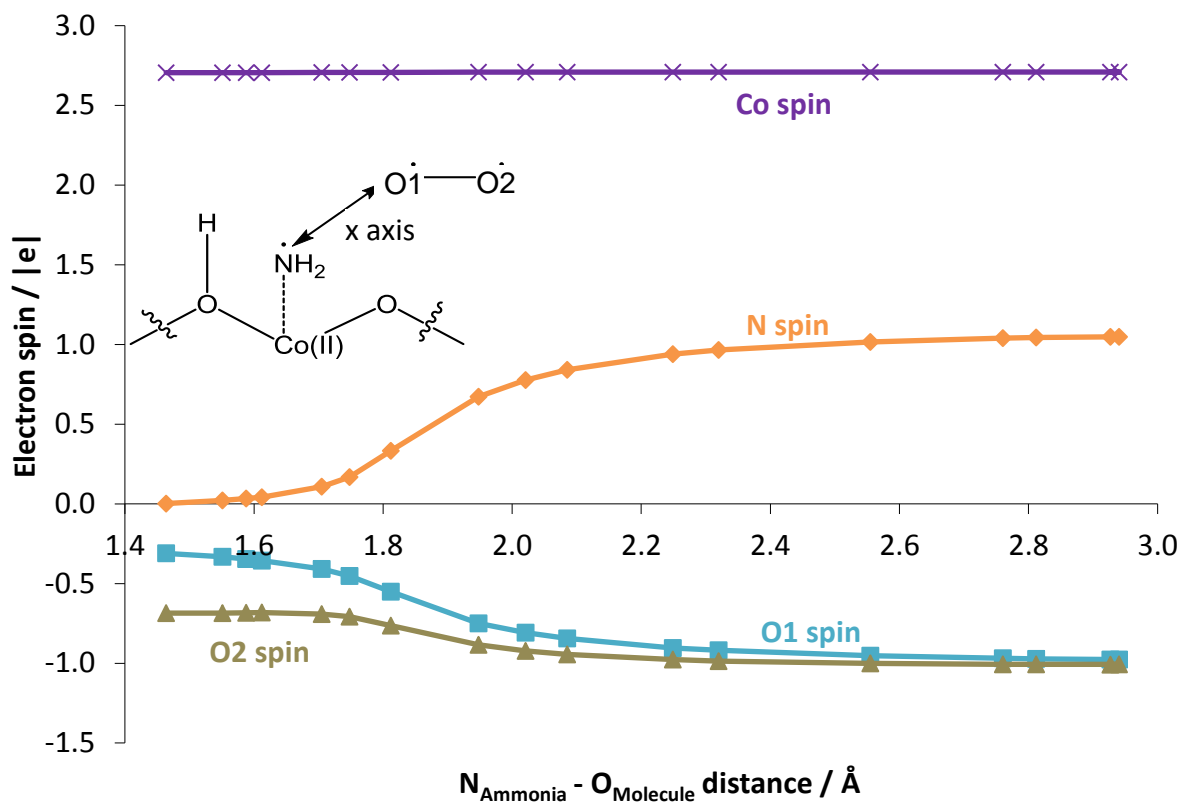


Figure S10: The evolution of spin in the monometallic CoAlPO-5 system for the formation of the NH₂OO radical species.

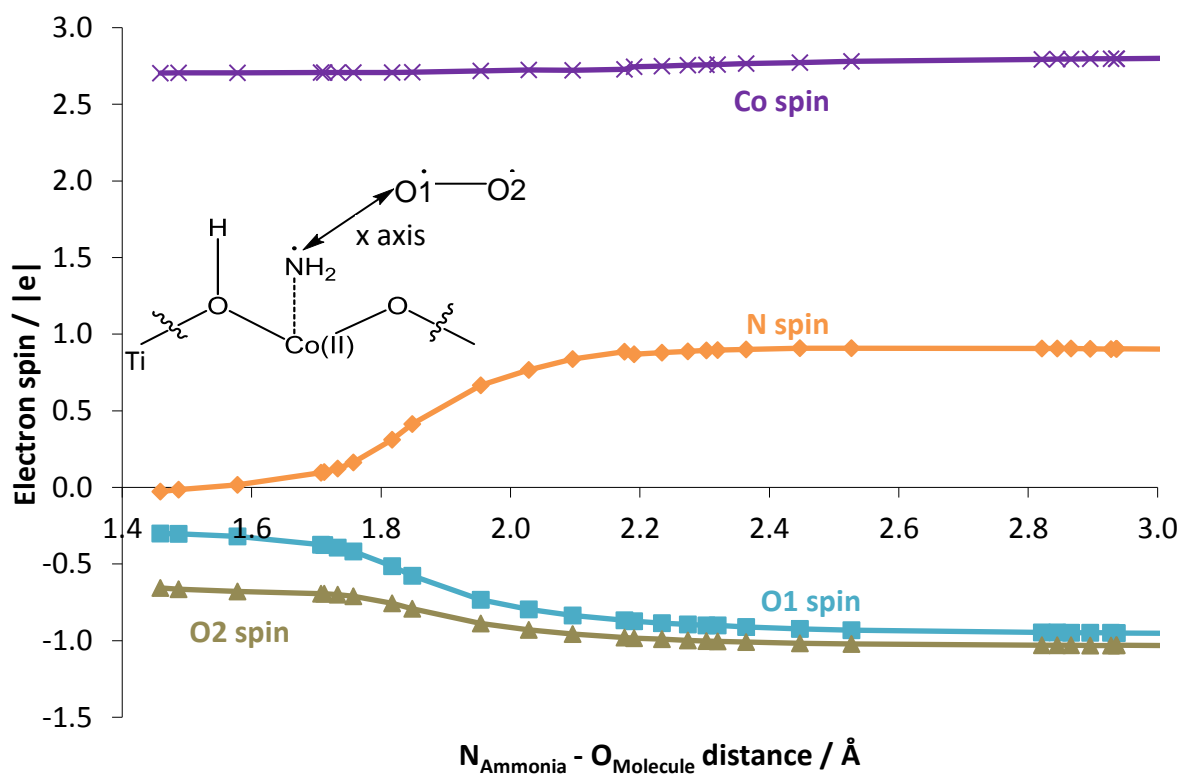


Figure S11: The evolution of spin in the bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 system for the formation of the NH₂OO radical species

194- 194	0.2616E-04	1122.5774	33.6540	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
195- 195	0.2631E-04	1125.7401	33.7488	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
196- 196	0.2647E-04	1129.1015	33.8496	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
197- 197	0.2655E-04	1130.9515	33.9051	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
198- 198	0.2665E-04	1133.0041	33.9666	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
199- 199	0.2678E-04	1135.8230	34.0511	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
200- 200	0.2689E-04	1138.1383	34.1205	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
201- 201	0.2698E-04	1140.0039	34.1765	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
202- 202	0.2712E-04	1143.0591	34.2680	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
203- 203	0.2725E-04	1145.6750	34.3465	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
204- 204	0.2743E-04	1149.5039	34.4613	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
205- 205	0.2758E-04	1152.6179	34.5546	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
206- 206	0.2782E-04	1157.7153	34.7074	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
207- 207	0.2787E-04	1158.6872	34.7366	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
208- 208	0.2794E-04	1160.1866	34.7815	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
209- 209	0.2806E-04	1162.6350	34.8549	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
210- 210	0.2824E-04	1166.3220	34.9655	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
211- 211	0.2829E-04	1167.3274	34.9956	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
212- 212	0.2847E-04	1171.1156	35.1092	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
213- 213	0.2856E-04	1172.8394	35.1608	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
214- 214	0.2885E-04	1178.8789	35.3419	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
215- 215	0.2886E-04	1179.0546	35.3472	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
216- 216	0.2892E-04	1180.2213	35.3821	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
217- 217	0.2923E-04	1186.6513	35.5749	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
218- 218	0.2954E-04	1192.9400	35.7634	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
219- 219	0.2956E-04	1193.1779	35.7706	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
220- 220	0.3054E-04	1212.8515	36.3604	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
221- 221	0.3180E-04	1237.7286	37.1062	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
222- 222	0.3196E-04	1240.7514	37.1968	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
223- 223	0.3208E-04	1243.0382	37.2653	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
224- 224	0.3272E-04	1255.3372	37.6341	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
225- 225	0.3275E-04	1256.0770	37.6562	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
226- 226	0.3331E-04	1266.6325	37.9727	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
227- 227	0.3360E-04	1272.2175	38.1401	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
228- 228	0.3388E-04	1277.4900	38.2982	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
229- 229	0.3424E-04	1284.3380	38.5035	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
230- 230	0.3458E-04	1290.6902	38.6939	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
231- 231	0.4332E-04	1444.4853	43.3046	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
232- 232	0.5193E-04	1581.6154	47.4156	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
233- 233	0.2491E-03	3463.8488	103.8436	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
234- 234	0.2628E-03	3557.6053	106.6543	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
235- 235	0.2639E-03	3565.0860	106.8786	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A
236- 236	0.3138E-03	3888.0400	116.5605	(A)	(A)	(0.00)	A

Transition state figures

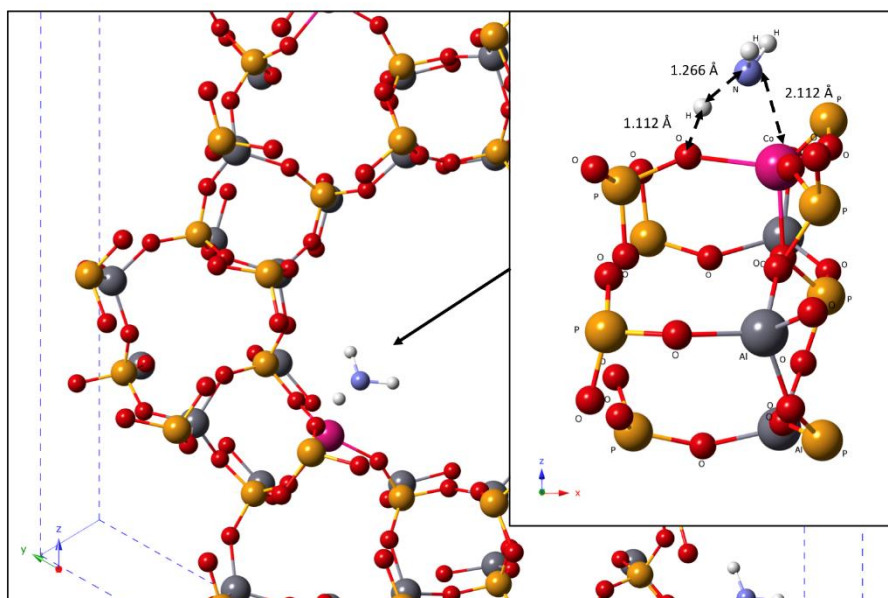


Figure S12: The calculated transition state for the monometallic CoAlPO-5 system during the hydrogen abstraction step. Pink = Cobalt, Red = Oxygen, Yellow = Phosphorus, Grey = Aluminium, White = Hydrogen, Blue = Nitrogen.

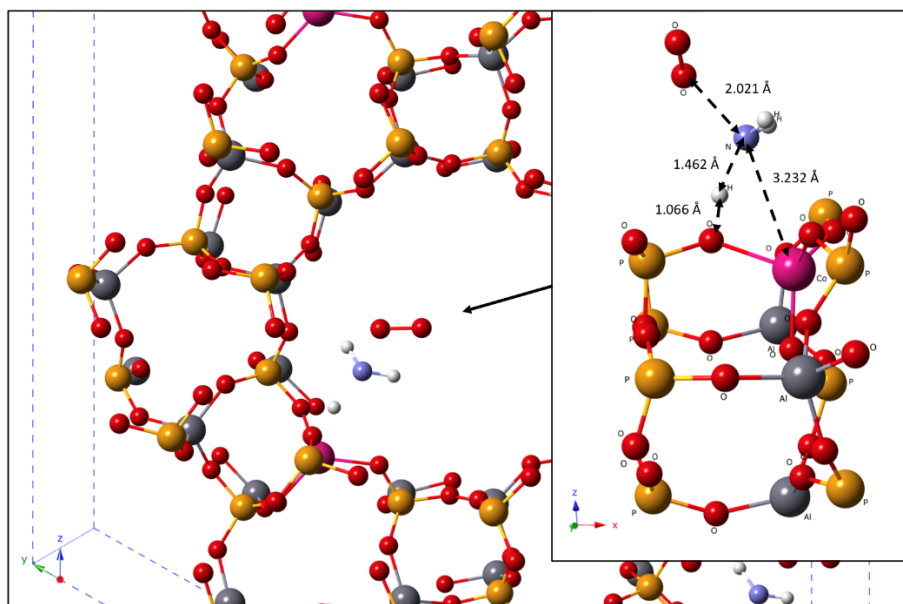


Figure S13: The calculated transition state for the monometallic CoAlPO-5 system during the oxygen addition step. Pink = Cobalt, Red = Oxygen, Yellow = Phosphorus, Grey = Aluminium, White = Hydrogen, Blue = Nitrogen.

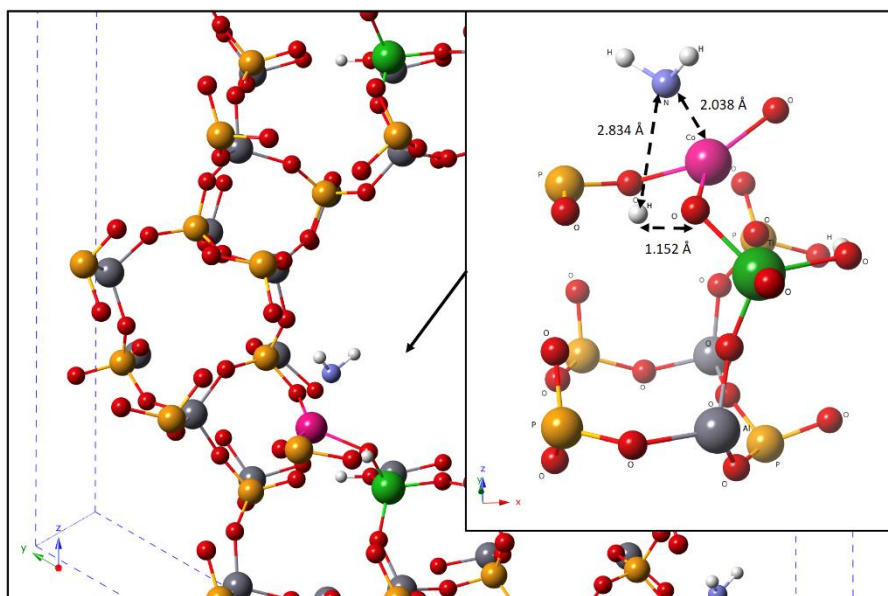


Figure S14: The calculated transition state for the bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 system during the hydrogen abstraction step. Pink = Cobalt, Green = Titanium, Red = Oxygen, Yellow = Phosphorus, Grey = Aluminium, White = Hydrogen, Blue = Nitrogen.

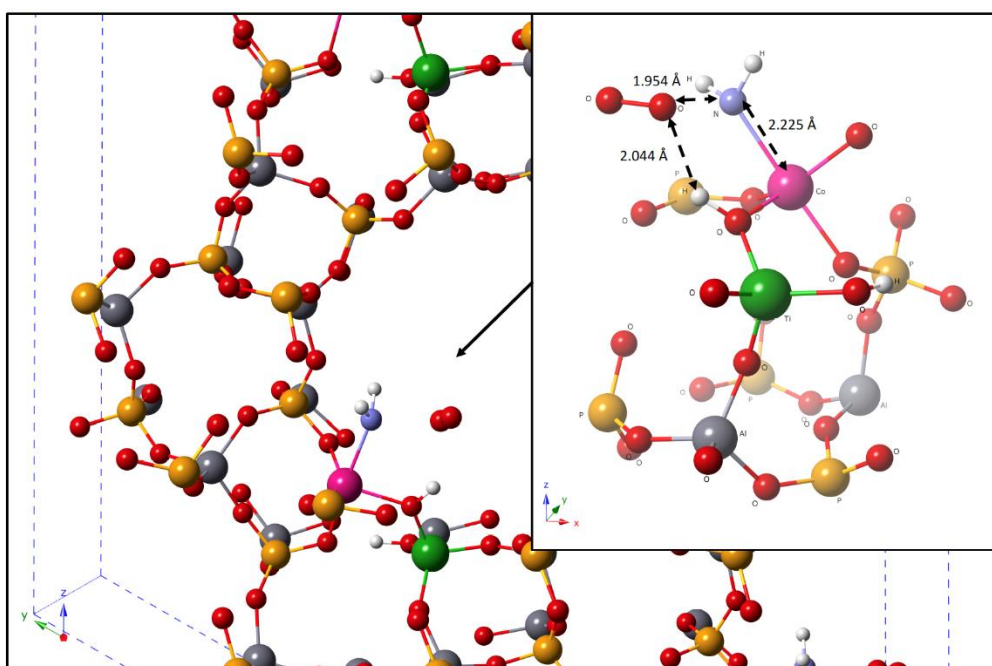


Figure S15: The calculated transition state for the bimetallic CoTiAlPO-5 system during the oxygen addition step. Pink = Cobalt, Green = Titanium, Red = Oxygen, Yellow = Phosphorus, Grey = Aluminium, White = Hydrogen, Blue = Nitrogen.

Complete reaction energetics

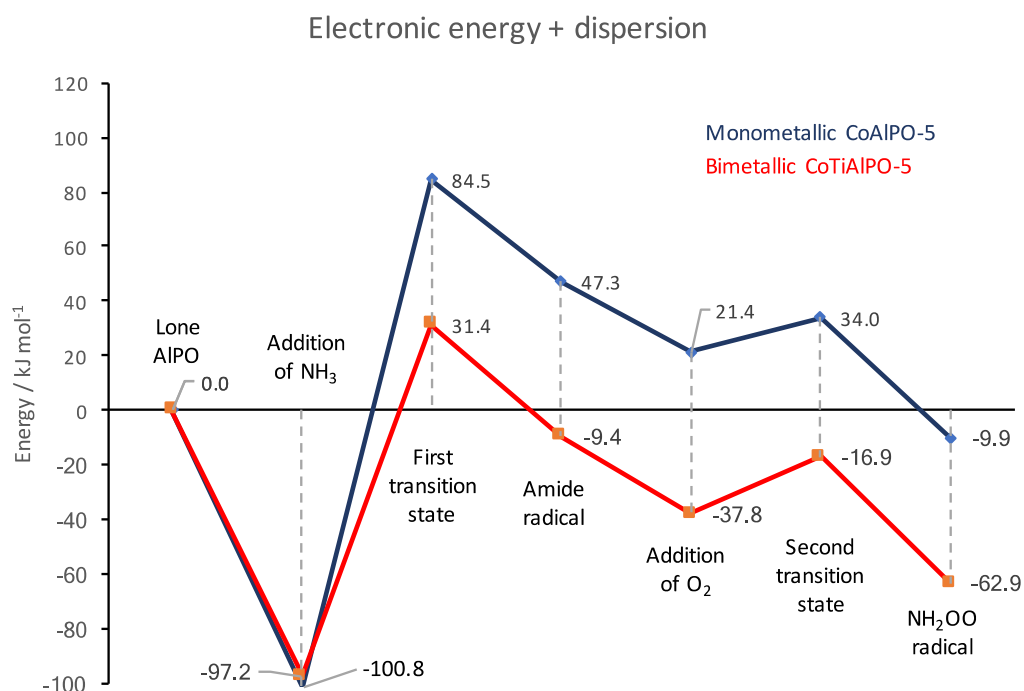


Figure S16: Full comparison of the complete electronic energetics required in the first two reaction steps, calculated with the addition of the dispersion correction.

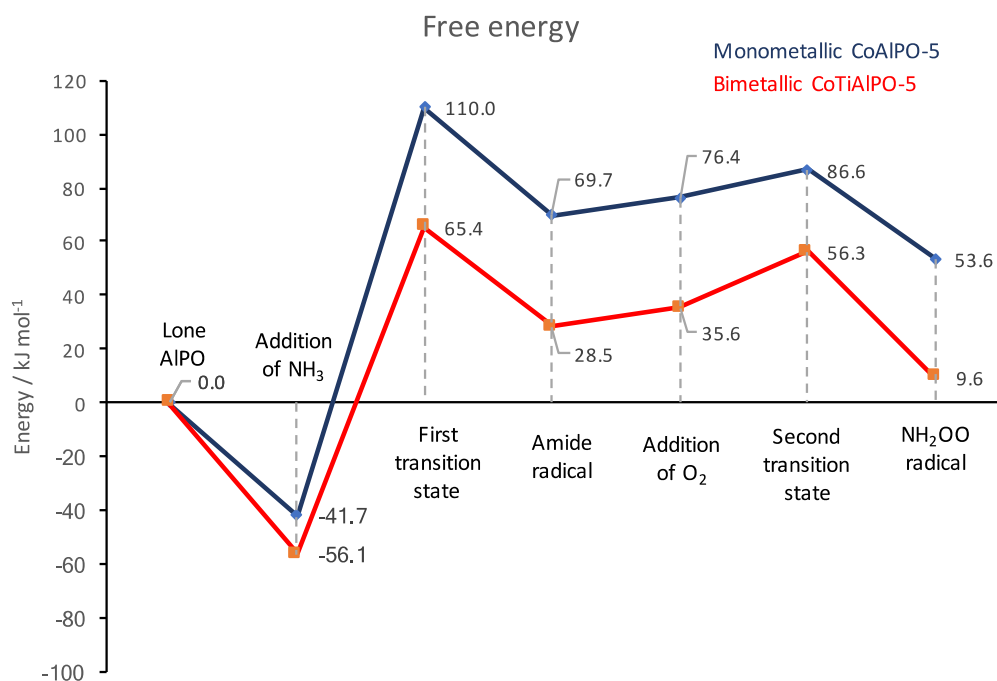


Figure S17: Full comparison of the complete free energy energetics required in the first two reaction steps, estimated by the addition of vibrational entropy and zero-point energy.

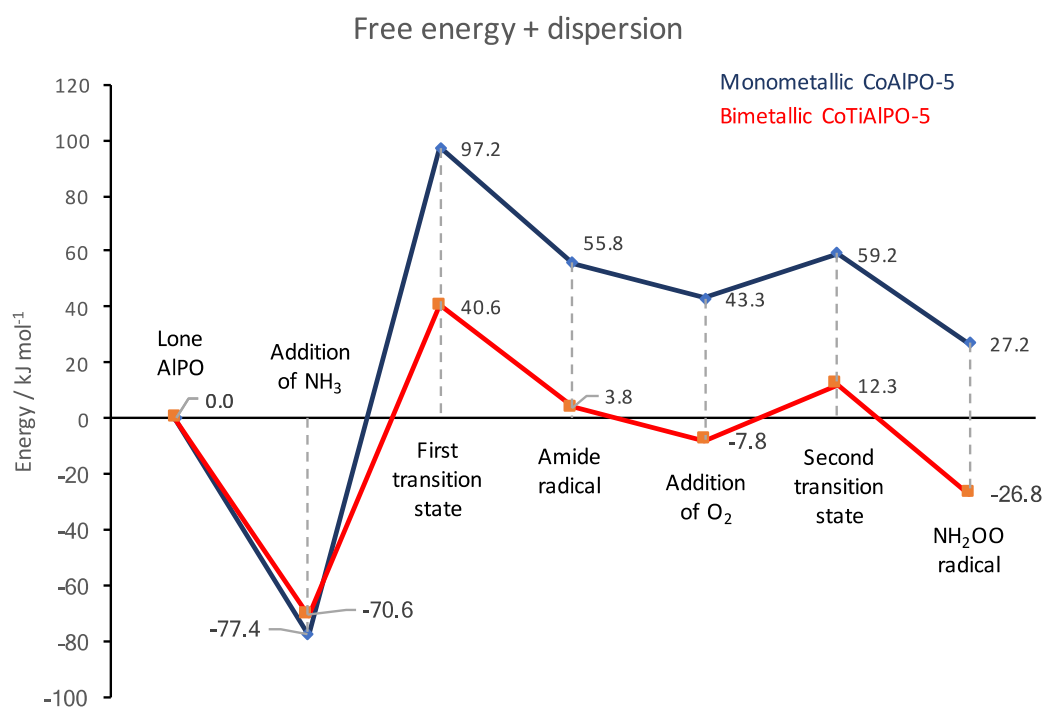


Figure S18: Full comparison of the complete free energy energetics required in the first two reaction steps, with the addition of the dispersion correction.