

## Supplementary Information

### **Biomimetic CO oxidation below -100 °C by a nitrate-containing metal-free microporous system**

Konstantin Khivantsev,<sup>1†\*</sup> Nicholas R. Jaegers,<sup>1†</sup> Hristiyan A. Aleksandrov,<sup>2,†\*</sup> Libor Kovarik,<sup>1</sup> Mirosław A. Derewinski,<sup>1,3</sup> Yong Wang,<sup>1,4</sup> Georgi N. Vayssilov,<sup>2</sup> and Janos Szanyi<sup>1†\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute for Integrated Catalysis, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA 99352, USA.

<sup>2</sup> Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, University of Sofia, Sofia 1126, Bulgaria

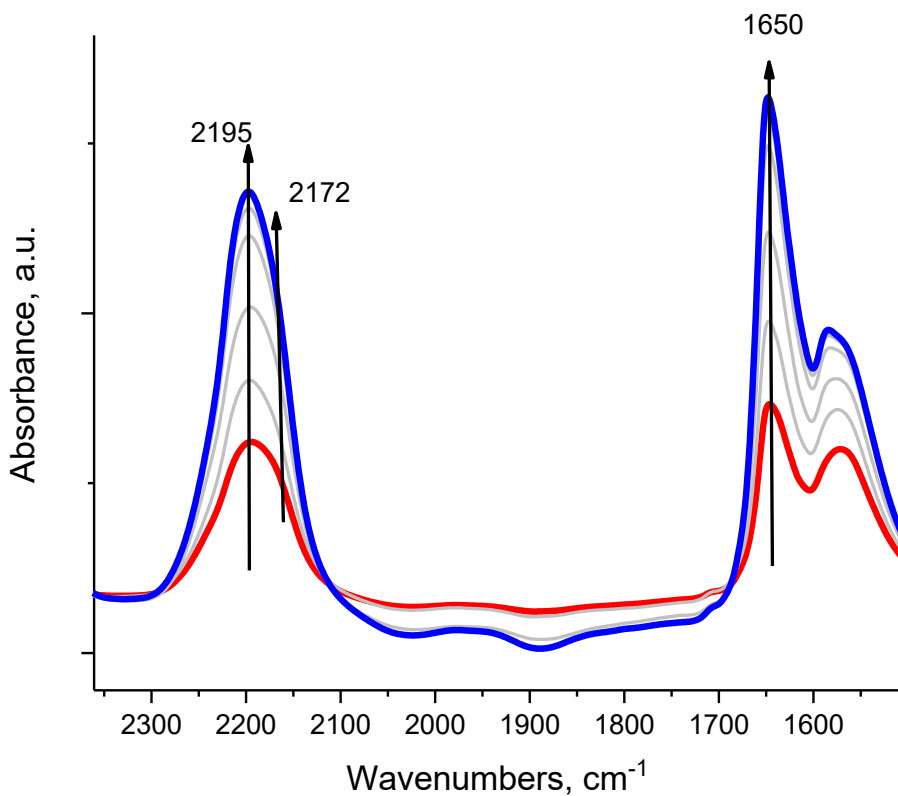
<sup>3</sup> Jerzy Haber Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow 30-239, Poland

<sup>4</sup> Voiland School of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering Washington State University, Pullman, WA, USA 99163

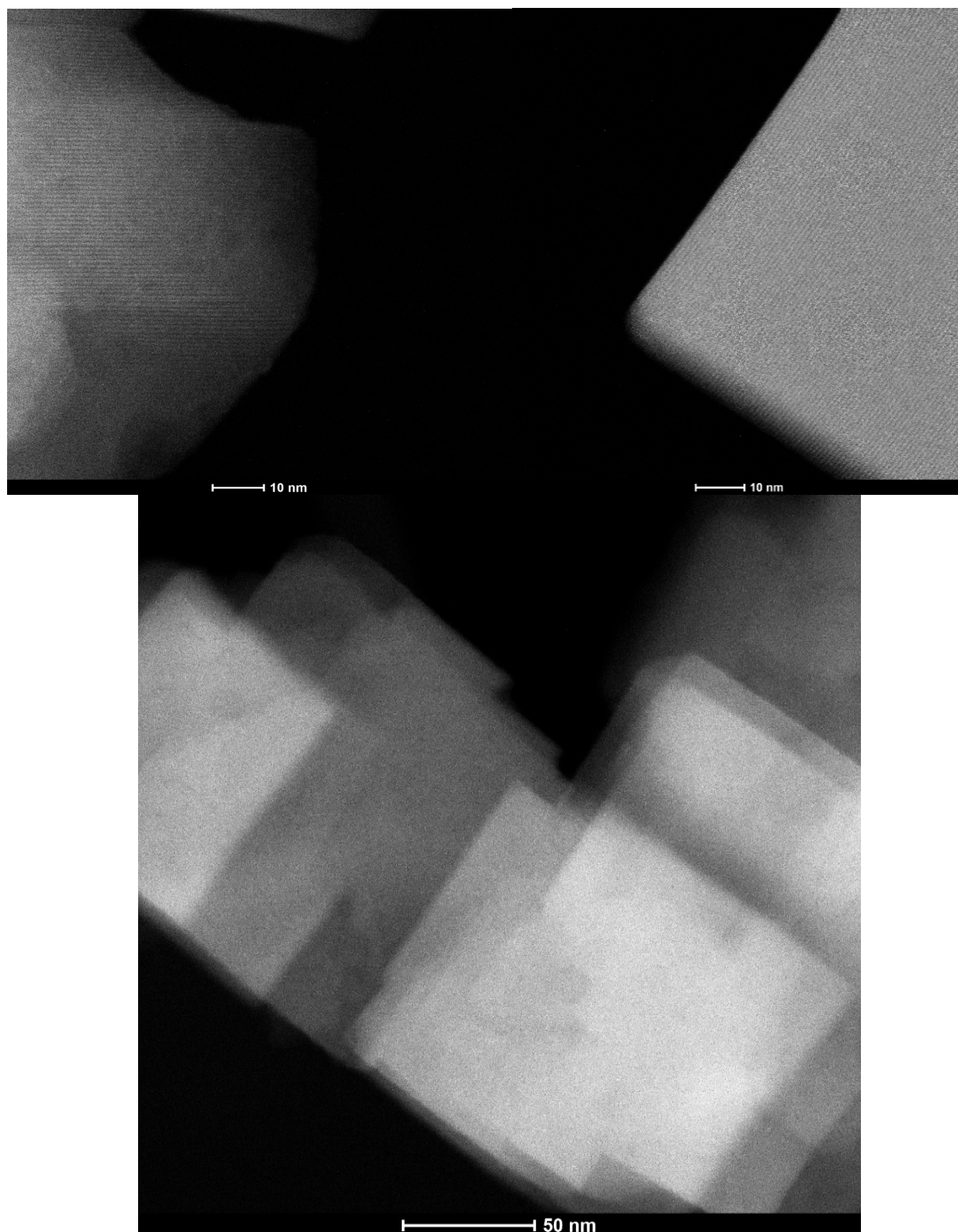
\* Correspondence to: K.K. E-mail: Konstantin.Khivantsev@pnnl.gov . H.A.A. E-mail: Haa@chem.uni-sofia.bg. J.Sz. E-mail: Janos.Szanyi@pnnl.gov;

† These authors contributed equally

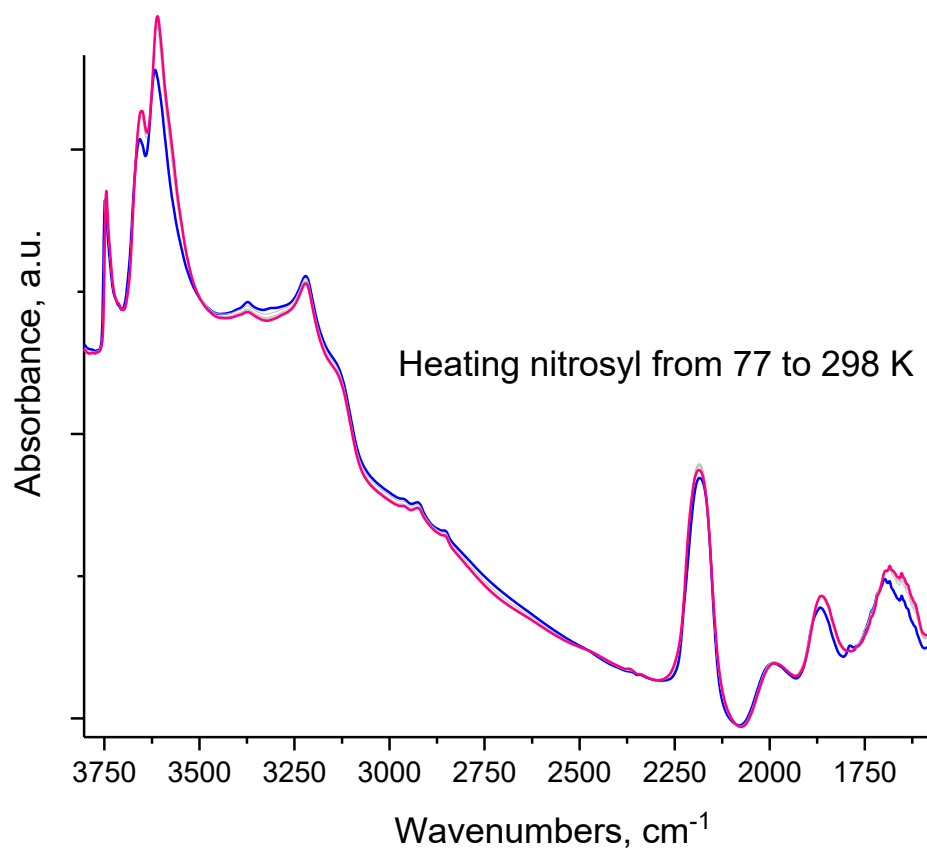
## Supplementary Figures



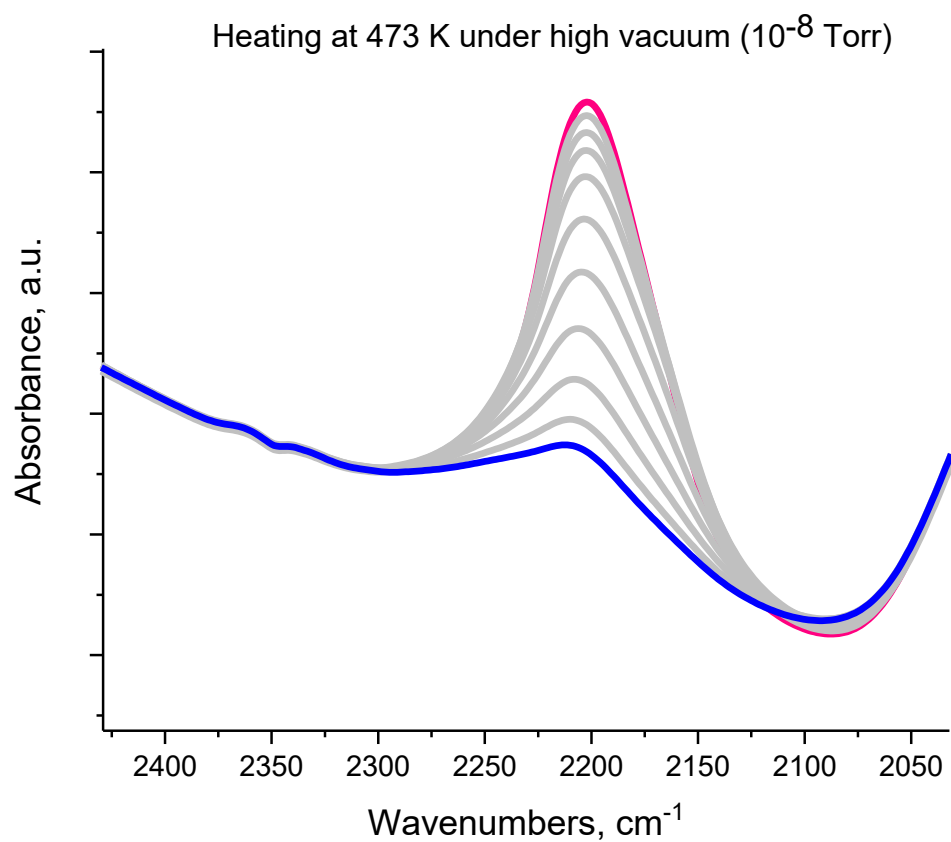
Supplementary Figure 1. Difference spectra during *in-situ* FTIR during sequential NO<sub>2</sub> adsorption (2 Torr) at room temperature on H-SSZ-13 with Si/Al ~ 6.



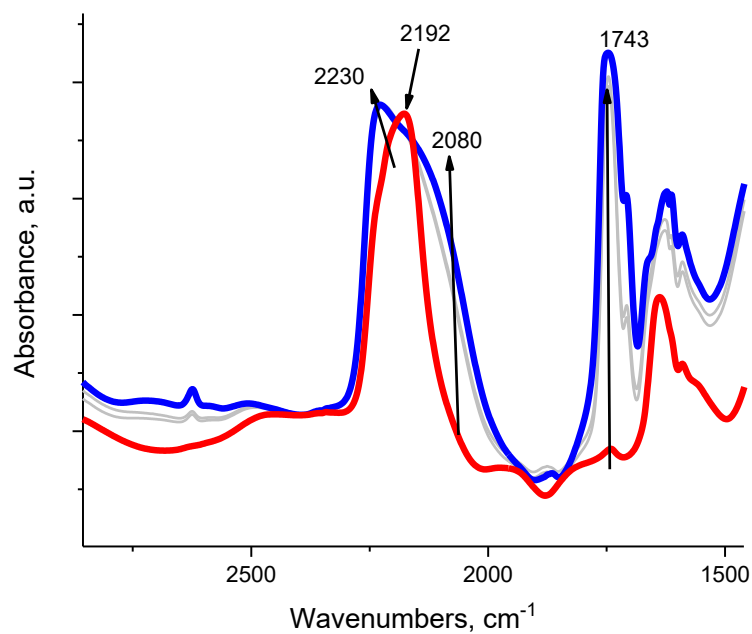
Supplementary Figure 2. Representative HAADF-STEM images of the small-pore SSZ-13 crystals employed in this study, showing highly crystalline materials.



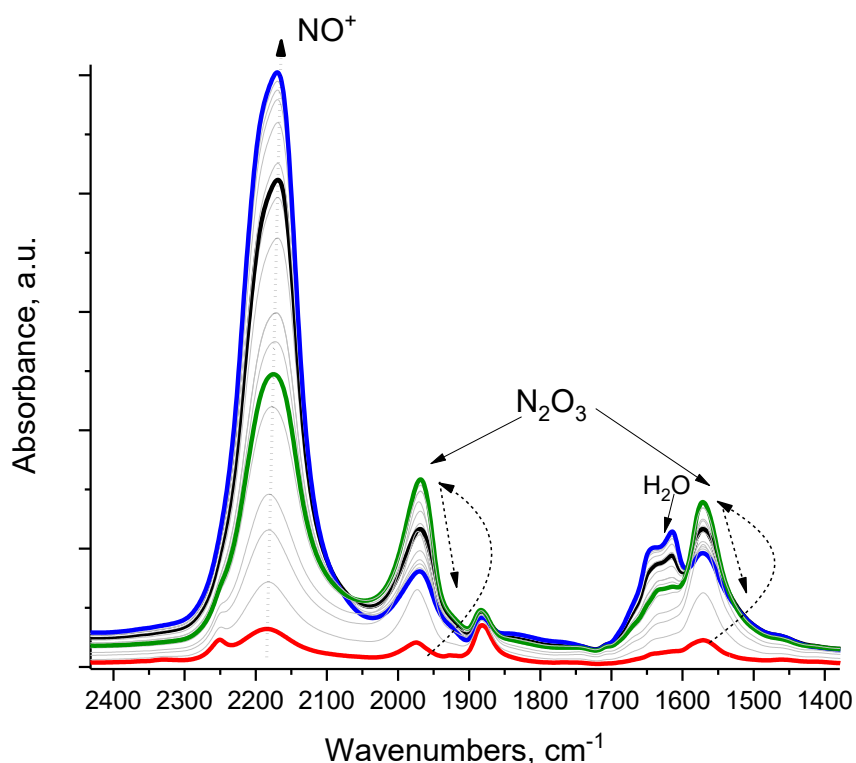
Supplementary Figure 3. In-situ FTIR during heating of nitrosyl (NO<sup>+</sup>)/SSZ-13 (Si/Al ~12) from 77 K (blue spectrum) to 298 K (red spectrum). Note that the IR cell vacuum was used as background (not zeolite itself)



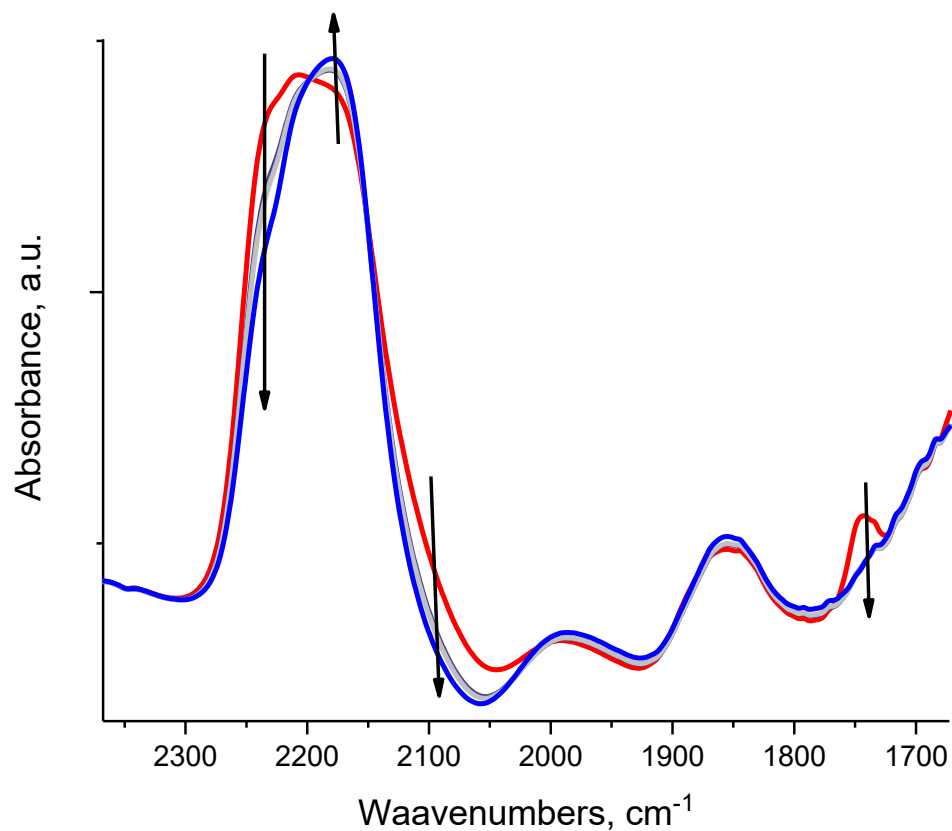
Supplementary Figure 4. In-situ FTIR of the N-O stretching region during continuous heating of Nitrosyl/SSZ-13 (Si/Al  $\sim 12$ ) at  $200^{\circ}\text{C}$  under high vacuum ( $10^{-8}$  Torr) from time=0 (red spectrum) to time=1 hour (blue spectrum). The intermediate spectra are shown in gray.



Supplementary Figure 5. FTIR during in-situ adsorption of excess NO<sub>2</sub> (2 Torr) on NO<sup>+</sup>/SSZ-13 (Si/Al ~6) obtained through NO<sub>2</sub> disproportionation. The initial NO<sup>+</sup>/SSZ-13 spectrum is shown in red. The intermediate spectrum is shown in gray. The final state after 2 Torr NO<sub>2</sub> adsorption is shown in blue.

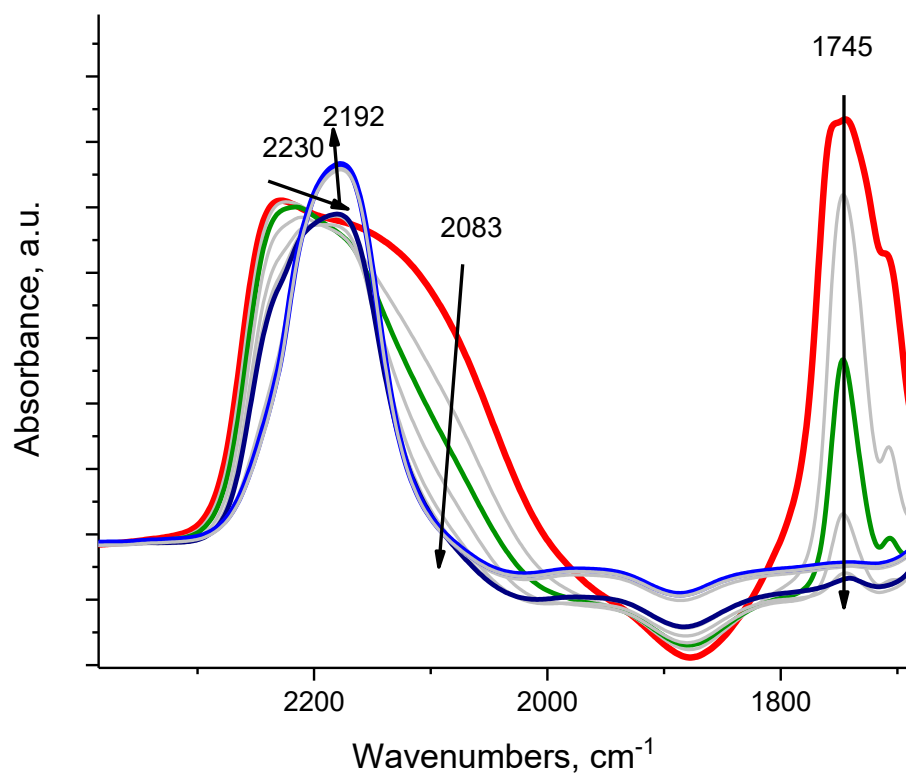


Supplementary Figure 6. In-situ FTIR during NO (0.5 Torr) and O<sub>2</sub> (0.1 Torr) co-adsorption on H-SSZ-13 (Si/Al~12). The red spectrum is after the first pulse of (NO+O<sub>2</sub>). The blue spectrum is at the end of the measurement (~ 15 minutes). The gray spectra were recorded approximately through equal time intervals between the start and the end of the measurement. The green (intermediate) spectrum is highlighted because it shows that N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> that is formed from (NO+NO<sub>2</sub>) interaction at this point reaches its maximum concentration: as it gets formed, it gets consumed by Bronsted acid protons forming NO<sup>+</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>O as clarified in the main text (the black spectrum shows one of the snapshots of this consumption resulting in loss of N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> spectroscopic signatures, growth of NO<sup>+</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>O features). For spectra collection, H-SSZ-13 zeolite pellet was used as a background.

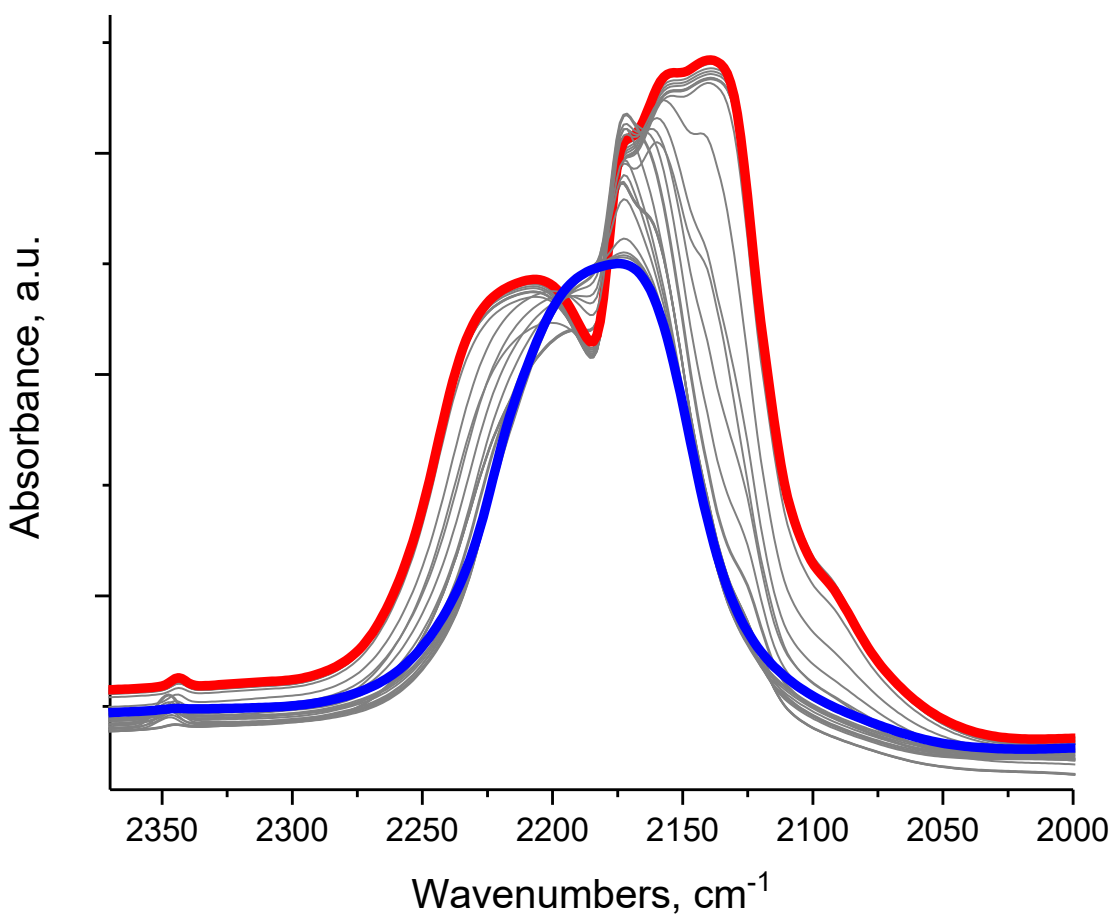


Supplementary Figure 7. In-situ FTIR during desorption of excess NO<sub>2</sub> (2 Torr) from NO<sup>+</sup>-NO<sub>2</sub> complex hosted in SSZ-13 (red initial spectrum) under continuous vacuum (10<sup>-7</sup> Torr) for 10 minutes for H-SSZ-13 (Si/Al ~12). Intermediate spectra are denoted in gray. The final spectrum is shown in blue. Data are complementary to Figure 1C.

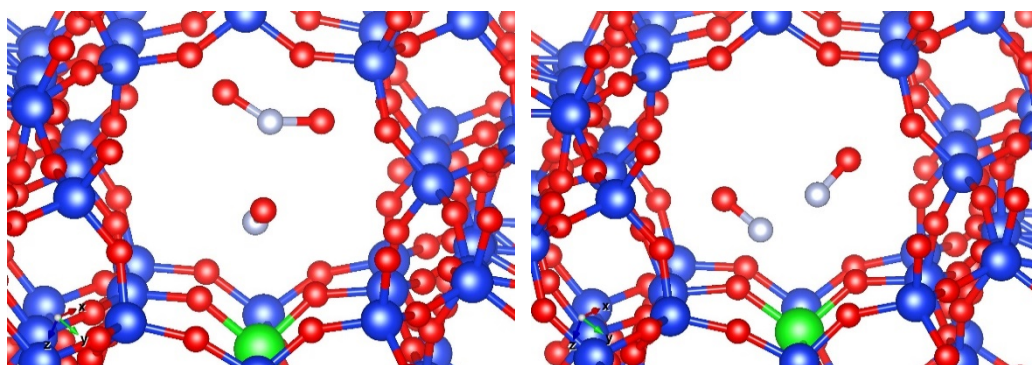




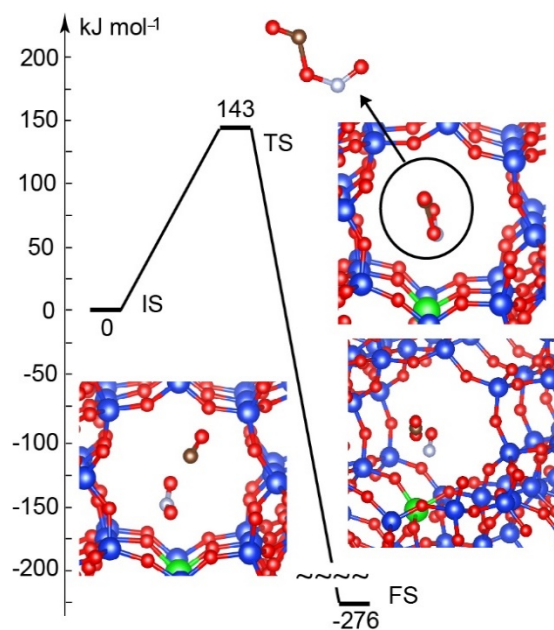
Supplementary Figure 8. In-situ FTIR during desorption of excess  $\text{NO}_2$  (2 Torr) from  $\text{NO}^+\text{-NO}_2$  system under continuous vacuum ( $10^{-7}$  Torr) for  $\text{H-SSZ-13}$  ( $\text{Si/Al} \sim 6$ ) at 298 K. The initial spectrum is denoted in red. The final spectrum is denoted in blue. Intermediate spectra taken in approximately equal time intervals are denoted in gray (with two intermediate spectra denoted in green and black to show the evolution and correlations of different N-O stretches). For spectra collection,  $\text{H-SSZ-13}$  zeolite pellet was used as a background. It follows that upon vacuum introduction,  $\text{NO}_2$  leaves  $\text{NO}^+\text{-NO}_2$  complex, restoring the original  $\text{NO}^+$  band.



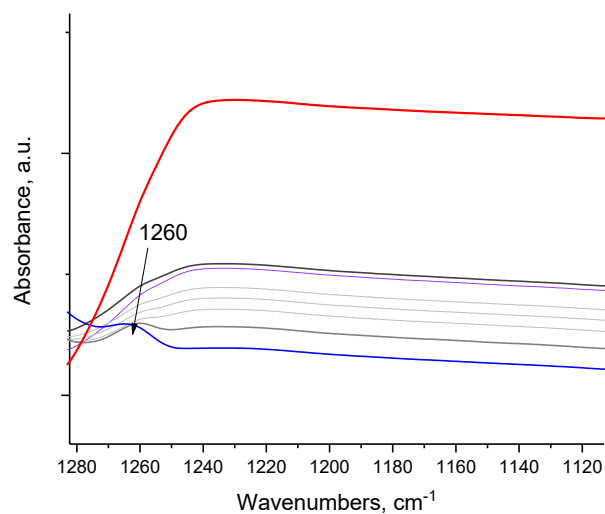
Supplementary Figure 9. In-situ FTIR during heating of  $\text{NO}^+\text{-CO/H-SSZ-13}$  (Si/Al  $\sim 12$ ). NO and sub-stoichiometric quantities of  $\text{O}_2$  were first reacted with zeolite to produce  $\text{NO}^+$  with only traces of nitrate, then vacuumed at 298 K, cooled down to 100 K, and reacted with 2 Torr CO at this temperature during continuous heating from 100 K (red spectrum) to 270 K (red spectrum). Only trace  $\text{CO}_2$  evolution was observed. The intermediate (gray) spectra show evolution of the spectra during heating from 100 to 270 K. During this, no  $\text{CO}_2$  evolves as evidenced by the lack of C-O stretches in the  $\sim 2345\text{ cm}^{-1}$  region. Thus, in the absence of nitrate no  $\text{CO}_2$  evolution is observed.



**Supplementary Figure 10.** Structures of  $\text{NO}^+\text{-NO}_2/\text{Zeolite}$  (left panel) and  $\text{NO}^+\text{-NO}/\text{Zeolite}$  (right panel) complexes. Color coding: Si – blue, O – red, Al – green, N – light blue, C – brown, H – white.



**Supplementary Figure 11.** Energy diagram of the mechanism of CO oxidation by  $\text{NO}_2^+\text{-CHA}$ . The corresponding initial state, transition state, and final state structures are also shown. Color coding: Si – blue, O – red, Al – green, N – light blue, C – brown, H – white.



Supplementary Figure 12. In-situ FTIR of HON bending region during increase of temperature from 100 K (red line, described in Figure 2A, H-SSZ-13 with Si/Al  $\sim$ 12) to 135 K (blue line). The inset shows the magnified 2,400-2,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> region. Zeolite pellet itself was used as IR background.

## Supplementary Tables

### Supplementary Table 1

Binding energy (in kJ/mol) of NO<sub>2</sub> and NO to Zeo/NO<sup>+</sup> structure, vibrational frequencies (in cm<sup>-1</sup>),  $\nu(\text{N-O})$ , as well as selected interatomic distances,  $R(\text{A-B})$ , in pm.

Structure	BE	$\nu(\text{N-O})$	$R(\text{N-N})$	$R(\text{N-O})$	$R(\text{O}_{\text{zeo}}-\text{N}(\text{NO}^+))$ <sup>b</sup>
NO <sup>+</sup> <sup>a</sup>		2404		109	
NOF <sup>a</sup>		1920		115	
ONNO <sup>a</sup>		1727, 1879	199		
Zeo/NO <sup>+</sup> -NO <sub>2</sub>	-21	1722, 2042	272	113.1	214, 222
Zeo/NO <sup>+</sup> -NO	-52	2009, 1911	229	114.4, 114.6	223, 232

<sup>a</sup>gas phase species; <sup>b</sup>distances between zeolite O center and N atom from the charge-compensating NO<sup>+</sup> species

### Supplementary Table 2

Binding energy (in kJ/mol) of NO<sub>2</sub> and NO to Zeo/NO<sup>+</sup> structure, as well as calculated ( $\nu_{\text{calc}}$ ) with different functionals and experimental ( $\nu_{\text{exp}}$ ) vibrational frequencies (in cm<sup>-1</sup>).

Structure	BE	$\nu_{\text{calc}}$	BE	$\nu(\text{N-O})$	BE	$\nu_{\text{calc}}$	$\nu_{\text{exp}}$
	PBE+D2	PBE+D2	HSE06	HSE06	SCAN	SCAN	
Zeo/NO <sup>+</sup> -NO <sub>2</sub>	-21	1722, 2042	-19	1816, 2239	-37	2034, 2285	1746, 2080
Zeo/NO <sup>+</sup> -NO	-52	1911, 2009	-21	2013, 2189	-52	2165, 2356	1870, 2013
CO (gas)		2130		2230		2294	2143

**Supplementary Table 3**

Relative energies with respect to the zeolite system at initial state (ZEO1) and CO and HNO<sub>3</sub> molecules in gas phase ( $E_{\text{rel}}$ ), as well as with respect to the previous step ( $E_{\text{diff}}$ ). Energy barriers ( $E^{\#}$ ) are also shown. All energies (in kJ/mol) are calculated using PBE+D and HSE06 functionals.

	$E_{\text{rel}}$	$E^{\#}$	$E_{\text{diff}}$	$E_{\text{rel}}$	$E^{\#}$	$E_{\text{diff}}$
	PBE+D	PBE+D	PBE+D	HSE06	HSE06	HSE06
<b>Mehanism A</b>						
ZEO1+CO(g)+HNO <sub>3</sub> (g)	0			0		
ZEO1/CO/HNO <sub>3</sub>	-116		-116	-117		-117
TS1	81	196		126	243	
ZEO1/CO <sub>2</sub> /HNO <sub>2</sub>	-332		-217	-332		-215
<b>Mehanism B</b>						
ZEO1+CO(g)+HNO <sub>3</sub> (g)	0			0		
ZEO1/CO/HNO <sub>3</sub>	-116		-116	-117		-117
TS2	-34	81		45	162	
ZEO1/CO <sub>2</sub> /HNO <sub>2</sub>	-332		-217	-332		-215
<b>Mehanism C</b>						
ZEO1+CO(g)+HNO <sub>3</sub> (g)	0			0		
ZEO1/CO/HNO <sub>3</sub>	-116		-116	-117		-117
TS2	-34	81		45	162	
ZEO2/NO <sub>2</sub> /HCO <sub>2</sub>	-105		10	-98		19
TS2	-34	71		45	143	

ZEO1/CO <sub>2</sub> /HNO <sub>2</sub>	-332	-227	-332	-234
<b>Mehanism D</b>				
ZEO1+CO(g)+HNO <sub>3</sub> (g)	0		0	
ZEO1/CO/HNO <sub>3</sub>	-116	-116	-117	-117
TS2	-34	81	45	162
ZEO2/NO <sub>2</sub> /HCO <sub>2</sub>	-105	10	-98	19
ZEO2/HCO <sub>2</sub> /NO <sub>2</sub>	-116	-11	-96	2
TS3	-5	111	78	175
ZEO2/CO <sub>2</sub> /HNO <sub>2</sub>	-300	-184	-298	-202