

“Supporting Information”

Can Si-embedded boron nitride nanotubes act as a favorable metal-free catalyst for CO oxidation by N₂O?

Mehdi D. Esrafil^{*}, Nasibeh Saeidi, Parisa Nematollahi

Laboratory of Theoretical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Maragheh, Maragheh, Iran

* Corresponding author. **Phone:** (+98) 4212237955. **Fax:** (+98) 4212276060. **P.O. Box:** 5513864596. **E-mail:** esrafil@maragheh.ac.ir (Mehdi D. Esrafil).

Figure S1. The optimized structures of the pristine long-length (6,0) BNNT along with the Si-doped configurations. All bond distances are in Å

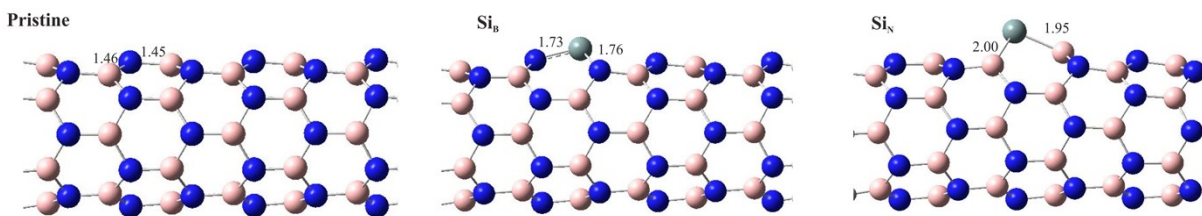


Figure S2. Optimized structures of adsorbed N_2O/CO molecules over a long-length (6,0) BNNT. All bond distances are in Å.

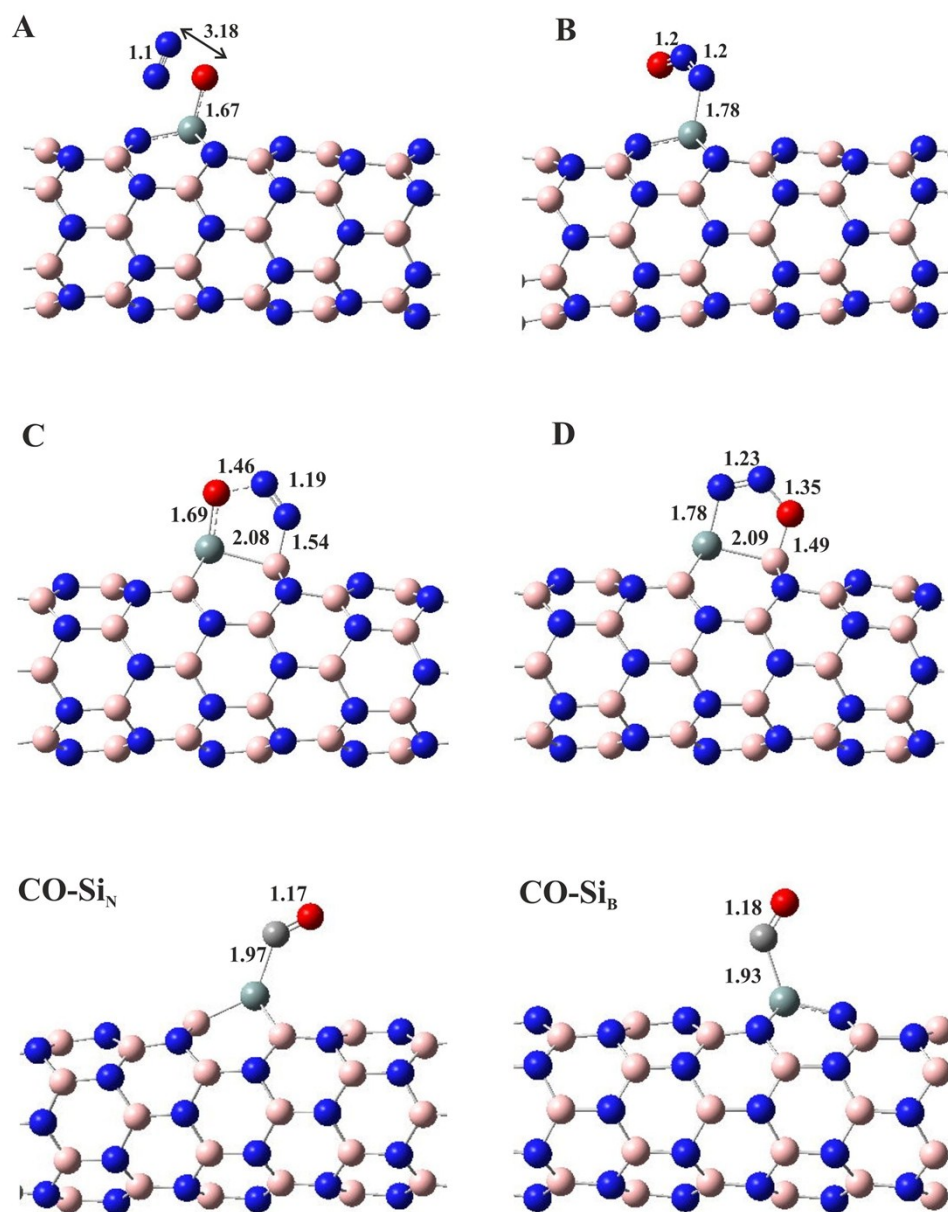
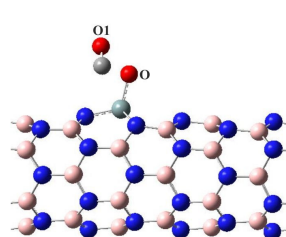


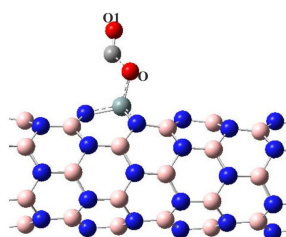
Figure S3. Local configurations of the gas molecules over the long-length (6,0) BNNT in various states, including the initial state (IS), transition state (TS) and final state (FS) along the minimum-energy pathway via the $\text{N}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{O}^* + \text{N}_2$ and $\text{O}^* + \text{CO} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$ routes. All bond distances are in Å.

(Si_B)



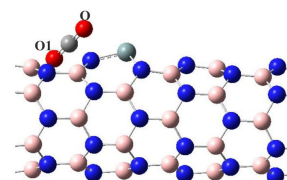
Si_B-O* + CO

r (Si-O)= 1.67
r (O-C)= 2.69
r (C-O1)= 1.13



TS-1

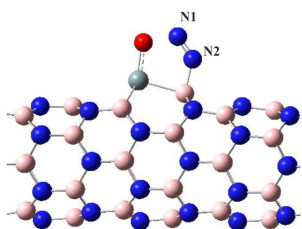
r (Si-O)= 1.67
r (O-C)= 2.04
r (C-O1)= 1.13



Si_B + CO₂

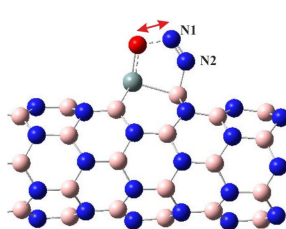
r (Si-O)= 4.61
r (O-C)= 1.16
r (C-O1)= 1.16

(Si_N)



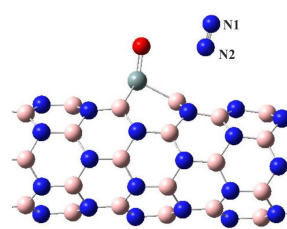
C

r (Si-O)= 1.69
r (O-N1)= 1.47
r (N1-N2)= 1.19
r (N2-B)= 1.54



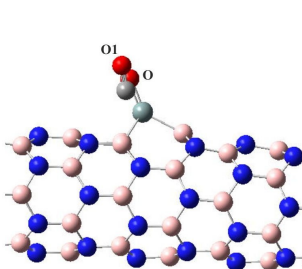
TS-2

r (Si-O)= 1.67
r (O-N1)= 1.54
r (N1-N2)= 1.19
r (N2-B)= 1.54



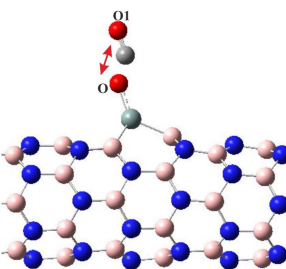
Si_N-O* + N₂

r (Si-O)= 1.58
r (O-N2)= 2.92
r (N1-N2)= 1.10
r (N2-B)= 2.80



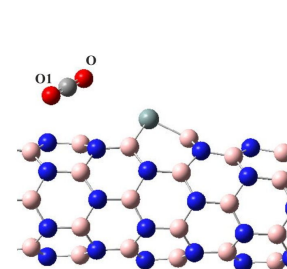
Si_N-O* + CO

r (Si-O)= 1.58
r (O-C)= 2.93
r (C-O1)= 1.13



TS-3

r (Si-O)= 1.66
r (O-C)= 1.92
r (C-O1)= 1.14



Si_N + CO₂

r (Si-O)= 3.42
r (O-C)= 1.16
r (C-O1)= 1.16

Table S1. Calculated binding distances (R) and adsorption energies (E_{ads}) of the $\text{N}_2\text{O}/\text{CO}$ adsorption over the long-length (6,0) BNNT

configuration	R (Å)	E_{ads} (kcal/mol)
$\text{N}_2\text{O}-\text{Si}_\text{B}$		
A	1.67	-79.21
B	1.78	-26.93
$\text{N}_2\text{O}-\text{Si}_\text{N}$		
C	1.69	-28.89
D	1.78	-20.32
$\text{CO}-\text{Si}_\text{B}$	1.93	-5.01
$\text{CO}-\text{Si}_\text{N}$	1.97	-4.10