## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

New Proposed Proton-abstracted Roundabout with Backside

Attack Mechanism for the S<sub>N</sub>2 Reaction at Nitrogen Center F<sup>-+</sup>

## NH<sub>2</sub>Cl

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#### CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ DFT/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ

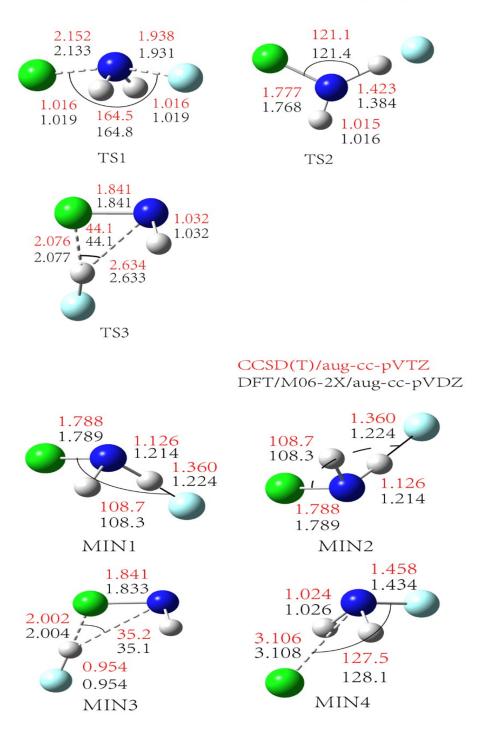
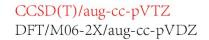


Figure.S1 Comparison of gemoetries of the stationary points (in Å and degrees) between the DFT/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ levels of theory



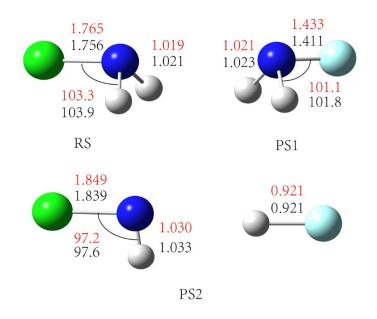


Figure S2. Comparison of gemoetries of the reactants and products (in Å and degrees) between DFT/M06-2X/aug-cc-pVDZ and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ levels of theory.

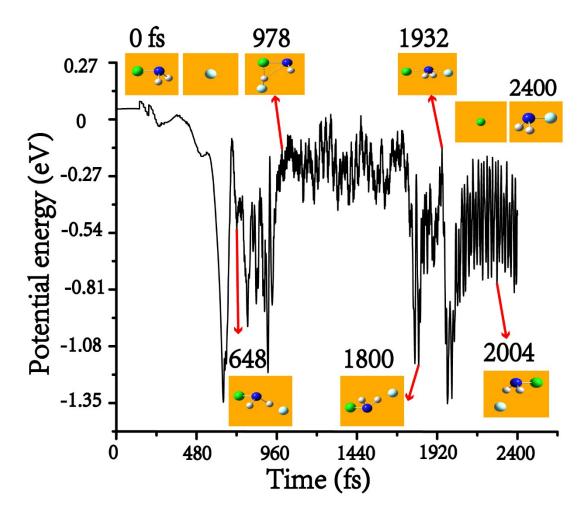


Figure S3. Potential energy vs. time from another PAR&BAR reactive trajectory. The labelled points along the reactive trajectory are used to search and locate the stationary points of the PAR&BAR potential energy profile in Figure 4, leading to the stationary points: RS, MIN1, TS3, MIN2, TS1, MIN4 and PS1, respectively.

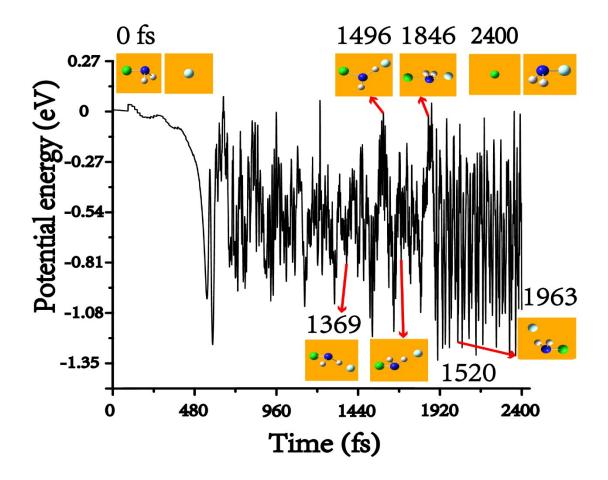


Figure S4. Potential energy vs. time from a double-inversion reactive trajectory. The labelled points along the reactive trajectory are used to search and locate the stationary points of the double-inversion potential energy profile in Figure 4, leading to the stationary points: RS, MIN1, TS2, MIN2, TS1, MIN4 and PS1, respectively.

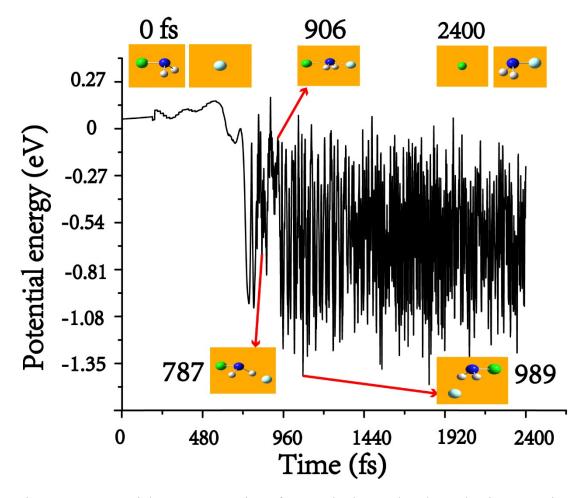


Figure S5. Potential energy vs. time from a hydrogen-bond mechanism reactive trajectory. The labelled points along the reactive trajectory are used to search and locate the stationary points of the hydrogen-bond potential energy profile in Figure 4, leading to the stationary points: RS, MIN1, TS1, MIN4 and PS1, respectively.

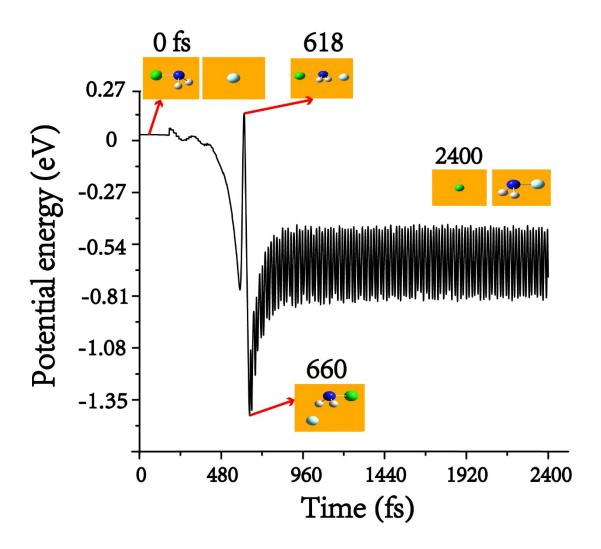


Figure S6. Potential energy vs. time from a direct rebound reactive trajectory. The labelled points along this reactive trajectory are used to search and locate the stationary points of the potential energy profile in Figure 4, leading to the stationary points: RS, TS1, MIN4 and PS1, respectively.

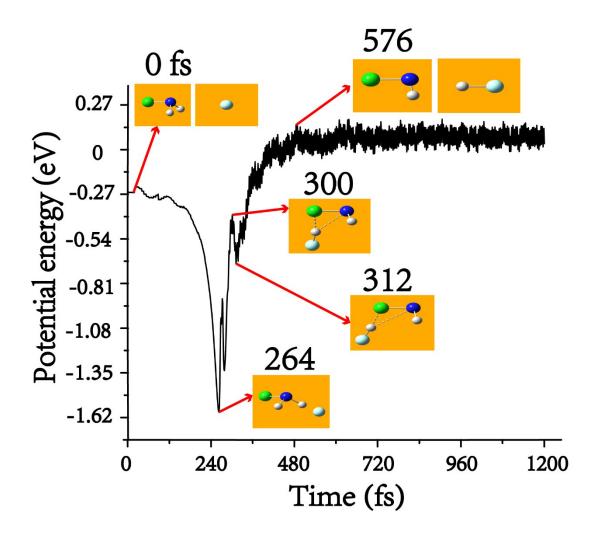


Figure S7. Potential energy vs. time from an abstraction reactive trajectory. The labelled points along this reactive trajectory are used to search and locate the stationary points of the abstraction potential energy profile in Figure 4, leading to the stationary points: RS, MIN1, TS3, MIN3 and PS2, respectively.

Table S1. Relative energies in kcal/mol of stationary points from our DFT/aug-cc-pVDZ and CCSD(T)-F12/aug-cc-pVTZ results and the benchmark results at the CCSD(T)-F12b/aug-cc-pV5Z(-PP) level of theory<sup>a</sup>.

	DFT/aug-cc-	CCSD(T)-F12/aug-	CCSD(T)-
	pVDZ	cc-pVTZ <sup>b</sup>	F12b/aug-cc-
			pV5Z(-PP)
RS ( $F^-$ + NH <sub>2</sub> Cl)	0.0	0.0	0.0
MIN1	-33.1	-30.6	-30.2
MIN2	-33.1	-30.6	-30.0
MIN3	-12.6	-10.5	-10.2
MIN4	-36.5	-30.0	-29.6
TS1	-14.2	-12.5	-11.9
TS2	-27.4	-23.7	NA
TS3	-12.4	-10.1	-9.7
$PS1 (Cl^- + NH_2F)$	-20.3	-14.0	-13.6
PS2 (HF + NHCl <sup>-</sup> )	5.3	7.1	7.3

a. From Ref. 41. Benchmark classical relative energies obtained as CCSD(T)- F12b/aug-cc-pV5Z(-PP) with core correlation effects.

Table S2. Cartesian coordinates(Å) of the stationary points at the CCSD(T)/aug-ccpVTZ level of theory.

TT	0.020	0.005	1 201
H	-0.938	0.005	1.391
Н	0.465	0.815	1.391
N	0.044	-0.077	1.133
Cl	0.009	-0.016	-0.630

## RS (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl)

### MIN1

Н	1.036	0.011	0.224
Н	0.037	-1.128	0.961
Ν	0.083	-0.119	0.809
Cl	-1.230	0.089	-0.386
F	2.262	0.068	-0.363

## MIN2

Н	1.036	0.011	-0.224
Н	0.037	-1.128	-0.961
N	0.083	-0.119	-0.809
Cl	-1.230	0.089	0.386
F	2.262	0.068	0.363

### MIN3

Н	0.137	1.301	0.042
Н	-1.384	-1.556	0.417
N	-0.692	-1.629	-0.342
Cl	0.619	-0.600	0.442
F	-0.029	2.231	-0.091

Н	-0.578	-0.775	-0.291
Н	-0.581	0.777	-0.292
N	-1.247	0.000	-0.301
Cl	1.667	-0.002	0.774
F	-1.680	-0.001	-1.693

TS1

Н	-0.227	-0.802	-0.632
Н	-0.216	0.792	-0.657
N	-0.518	0.006	-0.088
Cl	1.377	0.009	0.931
F	-1.917	-0.006	-1.429

TS2

152			
Н	-1.692	-0.270	-0.794
Н	-0.216	1.282	-0.054
N	-0.815	0.034	-0.384
Cl	0.033	-1.498	-0.078
F	0.186	2.205	0.173

TS3

Н	0.674	0.790	0.709
Н	0.254	-2.076	0.145
N	-0.542	-1.540	0.527
Cl	-0.514	-0.167	-0.700
F	1.239	1.346	1.225

Н	-0.922	-0.022	0.933
Н	0.480	0.787	0.934
N	0.065	-0.112	0.684
F	0.000	0.000	-0.742

# PS2 (NHCl<sup>-</sup>)

N	1.6276	-1.866	-0.560
Н	1.391	-0.863	-0.560
Cl	3.465	-1.673	-0.560

# PS2 (HF)

F	3.213	0.637	0.000
Н	2.292	0.637	0.000

	MIN1	MIN2	MIN3	MIN4	TS1	TS2	TS3
ZPE	5598.7	5598.7	5256.8	6156.1	5528.3	4897.9	5144.5
1	130.8	130.8	80.4	53.2	422.7 <i>i</i>	441.6 <i>i</i>	108.4 <i>i</i>
2	393.9	393.9	166.7	113.0	235.2	115.3	186.9
3	511.2	511.2	213.5	164.4	260.1	340.3	250.6
4	615.9	615.9	507.4	857.6	317.9	664.8	516.9
5	1212.9	1212.9	776.5	1303.8	969.4	1067.9	585.0
6	1411.2	1411.2	812.5	1362.2	1067.3	1221.6	736.9
7	1597.7	1597.7	1244.7	1584.2	1530.9	1354.7	1246.0
8	1890.0	1890.0	3313.0	3414.2	3498.9	1964.2	3287.1
9	3434.3	3434.3	3398.8	3459.5	3599.5	3508.5	3588.0

Table S3. Harmonic vibrational frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) for the stationary points at the CCSD(T)-F12/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory.

	RS (NH <sub>2</sub> Cl)	PS1 (NH <sub>2</sub> F)	PS2 (NHCl <sup>-</sup> )	PS2 (HF)
ZPE	5765.9	6032.8	2521.4	2045.6
1	670.8	918.6	511.7	4091.2
2	1092.5	1276.7	1227.8	
3	1196.7	1346.3	3303.3	
4	1604.0	1628.5		
5	3436.6	3399.2		
6	3531.2	3496.3		