

## **Intermolecular Energy Flows between Surface Molecules on Metal Nanoparticles**

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**This file includes:**

Figure S1 to S7

Supporting Information text

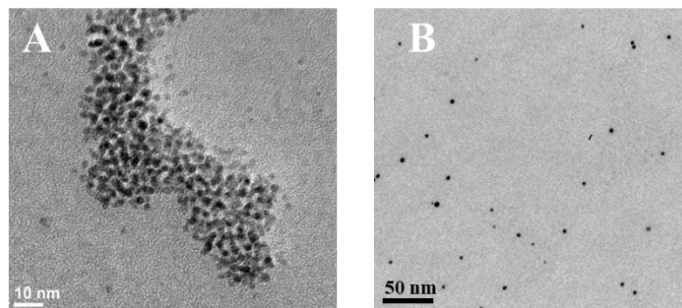


Fig. S1TEM Characterization of 2nm (A) and 5 nm (B) Pt samples

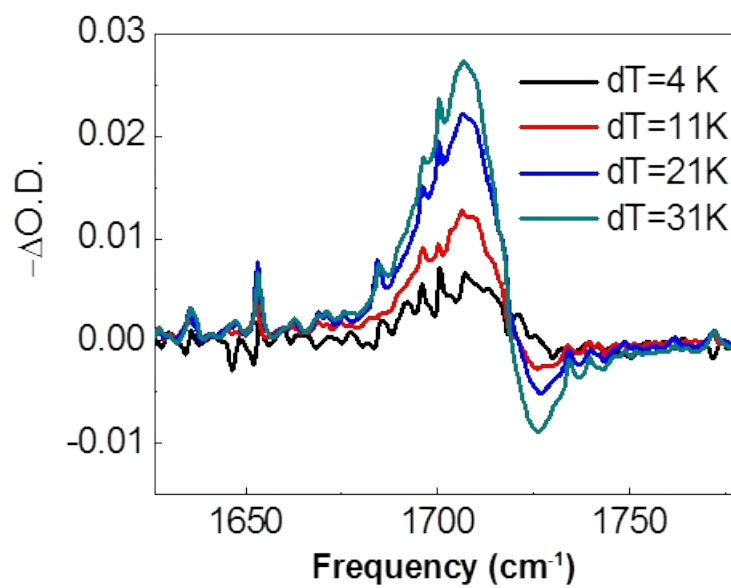


Fig. S2 Temperature dependent FTIR of carbonyl group of MTS.

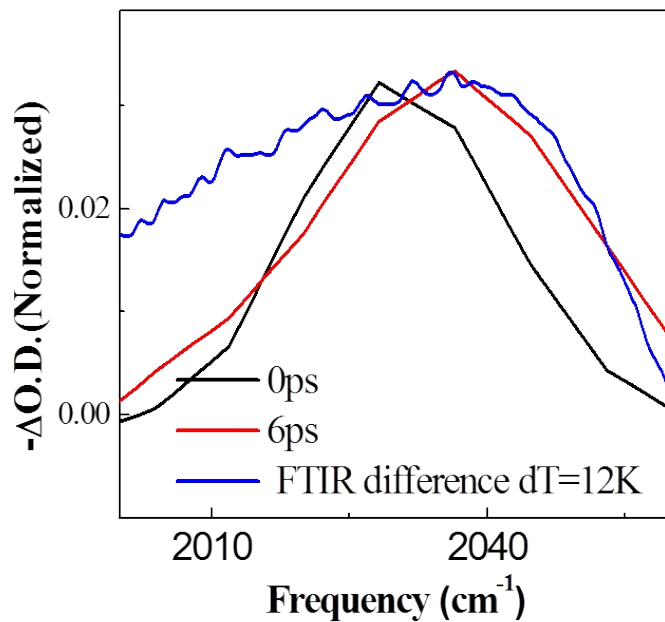


Fig. S3 Temperature dependent FTIR and pump probe spectrum of carbon monoxide on 2 nm PtNP.

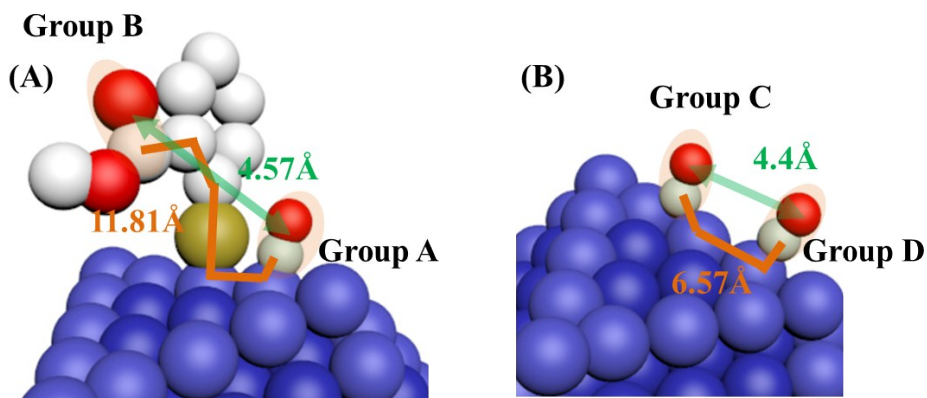


Fig. S4 Cartoon illustration of distances between two groups through bonds (orange) and space (green) (A) CO (group A) and carbonyl (group B) (B) CO (bridge CO) and CO (step CO).

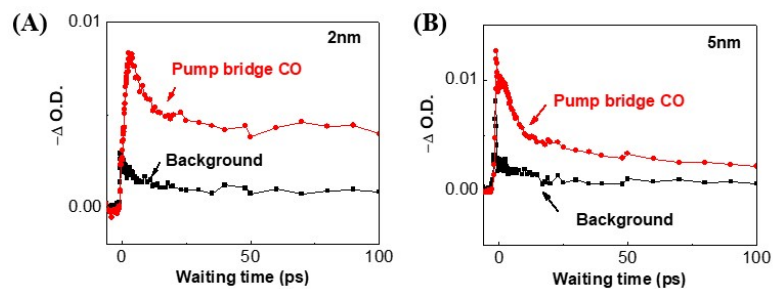


Fig. S5 Waiting time dependent intensities of step CO stretch after bridge CO is excited on 2nm (A) and 5nm (B) Pt particle (red); step CO stretch after heating particle with IR light ( $2220\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) (black).

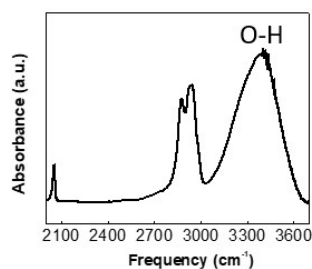


Fig. S6 FTIR of water absorption peak ( $3400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) on 5 nm Pt nanoparticle coating with PVP.

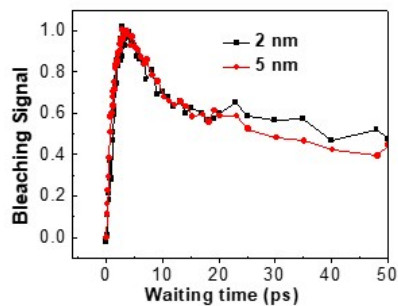


Fig. S7 Waiting time dependent normalized intensities of step CO stretch after bridge CO is excited on 2nm and 5nm particles.

### Fitting parameters for energy transport of two cases

Energy transport from CO on surface to carbonyl on the MTS:

$$y=A_1\exp(-x/t_1)+A_2\exp(-x/t_2)+y_0$$

$A_1=-1.04$ ,  $t_1=5$  ps,  $A_2=1.08$ ,  $t_2=600$  ps,  $y_0=0$ ; (parameter  $t_1$  could be varied from 4 ps to 6 ps. Thus, in the manuscript, we gave the average rate with err bar is  $5\pm 1$  ps. Parameter  $t_2$  is varied from 500 ps to 700 ps. Thus, the average rate with err bar is  $600\pm 100$  ps.)

Energy transport from CO on surface bridge site to CO on surface step site:

$$y=A_1\exp(-x/t_1)+A_2\exp(-x/t_2)+A_3\exp(-x/t_3)$$

$A_1=-2.8$ ,  $t_1=2.2$  ps,  $A_2=2.4$ ,  $t_2=4.2$  ps,  $A_3=0.59$ ,  $t_3=1000$  ps. (parameter  $t_2$  could be varied from 3.5 ps to 4.8 ps. Thus, in the manuscript, we gave the average rate with err bar is  $4.2\pm 0.7$  ps. Parameter  $t_3$  is varied from 800 ps to 1200 ps. Thus, the average rate with err bar is  $1000\pm 200$  ps.)

**Surface energy donor and sensor distances** The 2 nm Pt nanoparticle contains  $\sim 300$  Pt atoms in total. There are 162 pt atoms on the surface of 2 nm Pt nanoparticle. In total, 53% Pt atoms are on the surface. 0.0047g MTS is designed to occupy half of surface Pt atoms. The rest half Pt surface atoms are saturated with CO in EG solution as the following procedure. Based on the absorption peaks' ratio (FTIR), we obtain that C=O (MTS): C $\equiv$ O (step) ratio is around 6:1. MTS occupies half of the surface. CO takes the other half. If the center Pt atom is occupied at Pt (111) surface, the six Pt atoms must be attached by CO on steps. In other words, MTS binding Pt and CO binding Pt are next to each other. Therefore, as shown in Fig. S4, the nearest distance between donor C $\equiv$ O to reporter C=O is around 11.8 Å ( $2.0_{\text{Pt-C}}+2.77_{\text{Pt-Pt}}+2.33_{\text{Pt-S}}+1.78_{\text{S-C}}+1.39_{\text{C=C}}+1.54_{\text{C-C}}$ ).<sup>1-3</sup> The C=O distance to the surface is around 5.9 Å ( $1/2*2.33_{\text{Pt-S}}+1.78_{\text{S-C}}+1.39_{\text{C=C}}+1.54_{\text{C-C}}$ ). The space distance 4.57 Å for case 1 determination uses the condition of parallel situation between C $\equiv$ O and phenol ring. For the second case (Pt NP with step and bridged CO) Because C $\equiv$ Os are saturated. The nearest distance between CO<sub>step</sub> and CO<sub>bridge</sub> is 6.57 Å ( $2.0_{\text{Pt-C}}+2.77_{\text{Pt-Pt}}+1.8_{\text{Pt-C}}$ ) through bond. The space distance 4.4 Å determination is with the assumption that two C $\equiv$ O molecules are parallel to each other on surfaces.

**Dipole-dipole coupling transfer rate upper limit** Let's estimate if no electronic mediating two molecules on surface energy transport, how fast two molecule exchange energy based on dipole-dipole coupling. The distance between COs are  $\sim 4.4$  Å. Assuming transition dipole of CO is 0.4 D, the calculated coupling between two COs is around  $4.6\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The calculated coupling was then used to calculate the energy transfer rate from CO<sub>step</sub> to CO<sub>Bridge</sub> with dephasing time  $(0.37\text{ ps})^4$  and energy mismatch ( $190\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

$$k_{DA} = \frac{2}{1 + e^{\frac{-\Delta\omega}{kT}}} \beta^2 \frac{\frac{1}{\tau}}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + 4\beta^2 + \tau^{-2}} = \frac{2}{1 + \exp(-190/200)} 4.6^2 \frac{\frac{1}{\tau}}{190^2 + 4.6^2 + 14.4^2} = 1/441(\text{ps}^{-1})$$

Eq. S1

The donor acceptor rate ratio is based on the detailed balance  $k_{DA}/k_{AD} = \exp(\Delta E/KT) = \exp((2030-1840)/206) = 2.5$ . Thus, the energy transfer rate from CO on bridge to CO on step is  $1/1102 \text{ ps}^{-1}$ , which comes from  $(1/2.5) \times (1/441)$ . Thus, for case 1, the C=O at  $1713 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is even larger than bridge CO ( $1840 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), it is definitely much slower rate. Therefore, the signals from fig 3 and fig 4 are reporting heat dynamics not 1<sup>st</sup> vibrational energy exchanging.

**Estimated of temperature increase for the PVP coated sample:** the laser spot is 200-300 microns, the sample thickness is 100 microns, the laser pulse energy is about 10uJ (assumed to be completely absorbed), the density of PVP is about  $0.8 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and the heat capacity is assumed to be  $0.8 \text{ cal/degree.g}$ . The estimated temperature increase is about  $0.9 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  without considering any dissipation. Water molecules absorbed by PVP (fig. s6) may also facilitate the energy dissipation to environments.

## References:

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- (2) Wei, G.-F.; Liu, Z.-P. Restructuring and hydrogen evolution on Pt nanoparticle. *Chemical science* **2015**, *6*, 1485-1490.
- (3) Lin, X.; Ramer, N. J.; Rappe, A. M.; Hass, K. C.; Schneider, W. F.; Trout, B. L. Effect of particle size on the adsorption of O and S atoms on Pt: A density-functional theory study. *J Phys Chem B* **2001**, *105*, 7739-7747.
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