

# Supporting Information

**A Novel Phosphotungstic Acid Supported Single Metal Atom Catalyst with High  
Activity and Selectivity for the Synthesis of NH<sub>3</sub> from Electrochemical N<sub>2</sub>  
Reduction : A DFT Prediction**

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Table S1. Calculated vibrational frequencies, zero point energies and entropy of different adsorption species, where the \* denotes the adsorption site. Note that \*N≡\*N and \*N≡N represent the side-on and end-on adsorption configurations, respectively.

Adsorption Species	$E_{\text{ZPE}}$ (eV)	$TS$ (eV)
H <sub>2</sub>	0.27	0.40
N <sub>2</sub>	0.15	0.59
*N≡*N	0.20	0.13
*N=*NH	0.50	0.12
*N-*NH <sub>2</sub>	0.84	0.09
*NH-*NH <sub>2</sub>	1.12	0.15
*NH <sub>2</sub> -*NH <sub>2</sub>	1.47	0.12
*NH <sub>2</sub> -*NH <sub>3</sub>	1.68	0.18
*N	0.09	0.06
*NH	0.35	0.10
*NH <sub>2</sub>	0.67	0.12
*NH <sub>3</sub>	1.03	0.16
*N≡N	0.20	0.18
*N=*NH	0.46	0.20
*NH-NH	0.81	0.20
*NH-NH <sub>2</sub>	1.14	0.21
*NH <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>2</sub>	1.49	0.21
*N-NH <sub>2</sub>	0.81	0.20
NH <sub>3</sub>	0.89	0.60

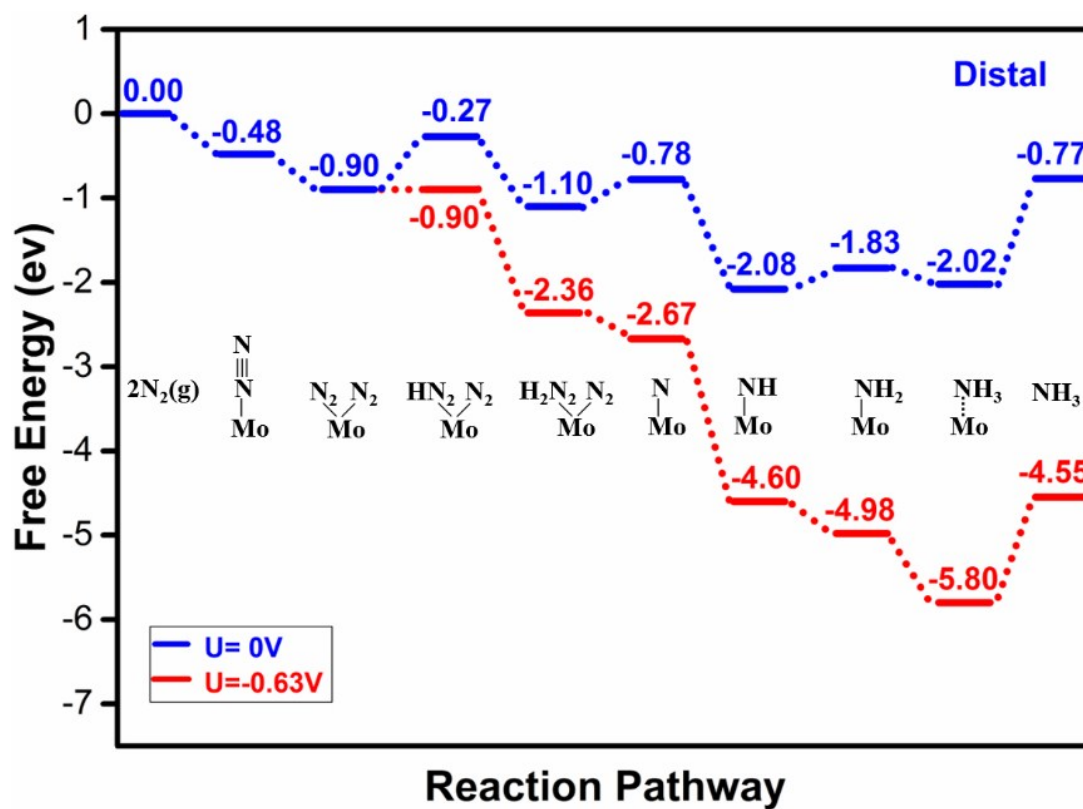


Figure S1. Calculated free energy diagrams for NRR on Mo-PTA through distal mechanism when two  $\text{N}_2^*$  are coadsorbed in the reaction state at different applied potentials.

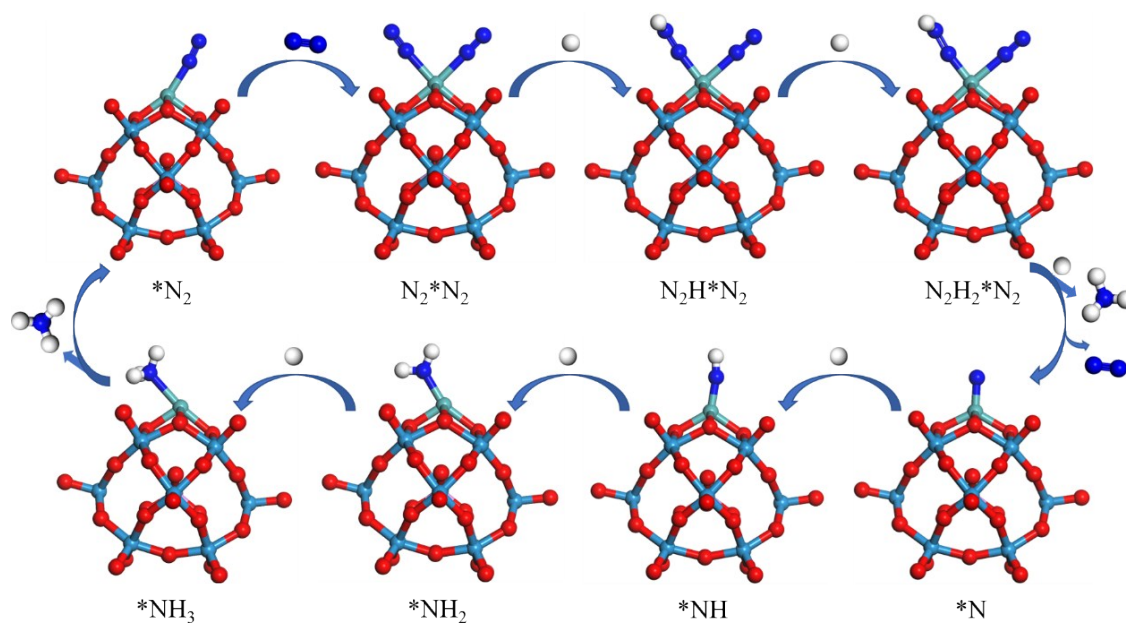


Figure S2. The optimized structures of the intermediates on Mo-PTA following the distal mechanism when two nitrogen molecules are coadsorbed in the reaction state.

Color scheme: P, pink; O, red; W, blue; Mo, cyan; N, navy blue; and H, white.

For the coadsorption of  $^*\text{N}_2$  and  $^*\text{H}$ , when  $\text{N}_2$  firstly adsorbed on Mo-PTA, the  $\Delta G$  of second H adsorption is computed by  $\Delta G = (E_{\text{H}^*\text{N}_2} - E_{^*\text{N}_2} - 1/2E_{\text{H}_2}) + (E_{\text{H}^*\text{N}_2} - E_{^*\text{N}_2} - 1/2E_{\text{H}_2})_{\text{ZPE}} - T(S_{\text{H}^*\text{N}_2} - S_{^*\text{N}_2} - 1/2S_{\text{H}_2})$ .

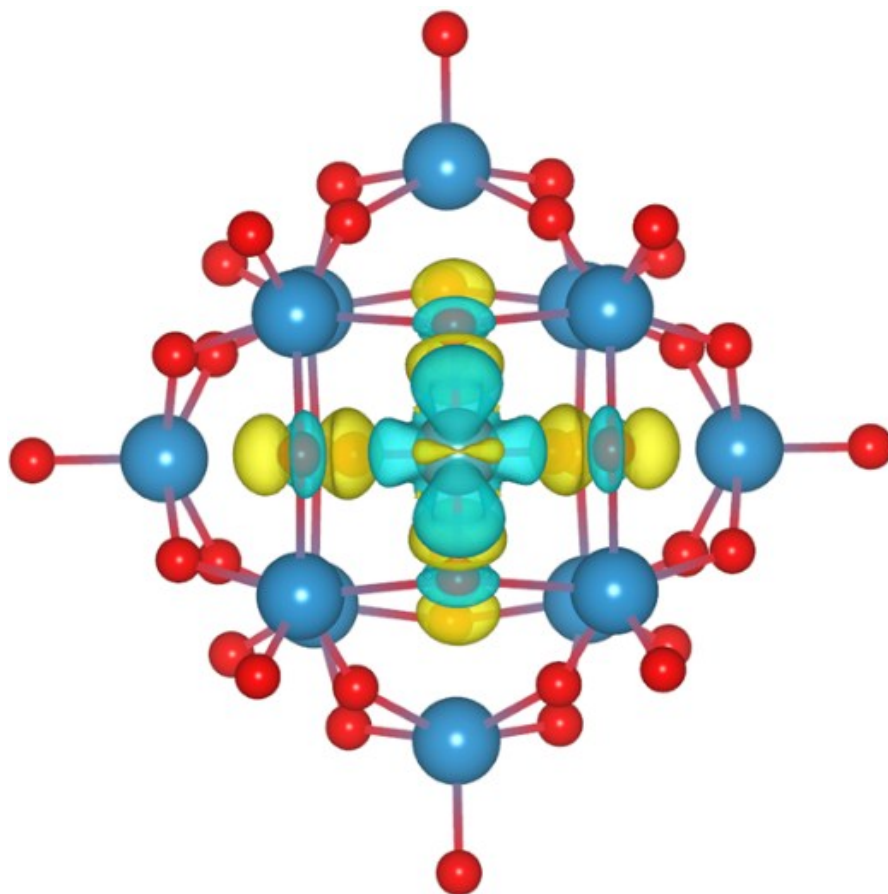


Figure S3. Charge differential density Of Mo-PTA. Isosurface levels is  $0.008 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ , and charge density difference is computed as  $\rho(\text{Mo-PTA}) - \rho(\text{PTA}) - \rho(\text{Mo})$ . Cyan and yellow represent charge depletion and accumulation, respectively