

Electronic Supplementary Information

CO₂ Activation by Ligand-Free Manganese Hydrides in a Parahydrogen Matrix

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Experimental and Computational Methods

Our experimental method for co-deposition of laser-ablated metal atoms with CO₂ diluted in solid parahydrogen matrices has been described in detail elsewhere.^{S1} Briefly, a Nd:YAG laser fundamental (1064 nm, 10 Hz repetition rate with 10 ns pulse width) was focused onto a rotating metal target, which gave a bright plume reacting with CO₂/*p*-H₂ gas mixture and spreading uniformly to the 3.5 K CsI cold window cooled by a closed-cycle helium refrigerator (Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Model RDK408D). Carbon dioxide (Shanghai Zhenxin Gas, 99.995%), isotopic ¹³CO₂ (Cambridge Isotopic Laboratories, 99% ¹³C, < 1% ¹⁸O), C¹⁸O₂ (Aldrich, 97% ¹⁸O) and CO₂ + ¹³CO₂, CO₂ + C¹⁸O₂, CO₂ + C^{16,18}O₂ + C¹⁸O₂ mixtures, together with hydrogen or deuterium (Cambridge Isotopic Laboratories, D, 99.8%) were used in various experiments. A 1:2:1 mixture of C¹⁶O₂, C^{16,18}O₂, and C¹⁸O₂ was prepared by tesla coil discharge in a 0.5 L pyrex bulb in which a full reaction was performed after 60 min from a 1:1 mixture of C¹⁶O₂ and C¹⁸O₂. Following deposition, MIR spectra have been recorded from 4800 to 450 cm⁻¹ on a Bruker Vertex 80V spectrometer equipped with a mercury cadmium telluride (MCTB) detector at a resolution of 0.5 cm⁻¹. Afterwards, the hydrogen matrices were annealed to desired temperatures to allow further product formation. Samples were exposed to photolysis using LED light (half-wave width 5 nm, 5 W) or a mercury arc lamp (Philips, 175 W) ranging from 520 nm to 220 nm wavelength.

Complementary density functional theory (B3LYP) calculations^{S2} were performed using the Gaussian 09 package.^{S3} The 6-311++G(3df, 3pd) basis set^{S4} were employed for all atoms. Different spin states were also explored to locate the ground-state product molecules. Harmonic vibrational frequencies were calculated analytically with zero-point energy included for the determination of reaction energies. Transition state optimizations were done using the synchronous transit-guided quasi-Newton (STQN) method and were verified through intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC) calculations.^{S5} Single-point CCSD(T)^{S6}/cc-pVTZ^{S7} energy calculations were performed at the B3LYP-optimized structures. Natural population analysis (NPA) was done using NBO 3.1 embedded in the Gaussian 09 package.^{S8}

Table S1 Infrared absorptions (cm^{-1}) observed for products of the reactions of Mn atoms with CO_2 molecules in solid $p\text{-H}_2$

$\text{CO}_2/p\text{-H}_2$	$^{13}\text{CO}_2/p\text{-H}_2$	$^{12}\text{CO}_2 + ^{13}\text{CO}_2/p\text{-H}_2$	$\text{C}^{18}\text{O}_2/p\text{-H}_2$	$\text{C}^{16}\text{O}_2 + \text{C}^{16,18}\text{O}_2 + \text{C}^{18}\text{O}_2/p\text{-H}_2$
(CO_2)MnH ₂				
1571.8	1571.8	1571.8	1571.8	1571.8
HMnOH				
3762.6	3762.6	3762.6	3750.6	3762.6, 3750.6
1668.8	1668.8	1668.8	1668.8	1668.8
HCO				
1864.6	1824.5	1864.6, 1824.5	1819.8	1864.6, 1819.8

Table S2 Infrared absorptions (cm⁻¹) observed for products of the reactions of Mn atoms with CO₂ molecules in solid *n*-H₂

CO ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	¹³ CO ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	¹² CO ₂ + ¹³ CO ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	C ¹⁸ O ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	C ¹⁶ O ₂ + C ¹⁸ O ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	C ¹⁶ O ₂ + C ^{16,18} O ₂ + C ¹⁸ O ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂
A: HMn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)					
2947.7	2928.2	2947.7, 2928.2	2938.0	2947.7, 2938.0	2947.7, 2944.1, 2938.0
2943.7 ^a	2925.1 ^a	2925.1 ^a	2934.3 ^a		2941.3 ^a
1660.5	1660.5	1660.5	1660.5	1660.5	1660.5
1542.4 ^a	1503.7 ^a	1542.4 ^a , 1503.7 ^a	1520.6 ^a	1542.4 ^a , 1520.6 ^a	1542.4 ^a , 1532.4 ^a , 1520.6 ^a
1538.7	1500.2	1538.7, 1500.2	1517.0	1538.7, 1517.0	1538.7, 1528.6, 1517.0
1363.1	1339.7	1363.1, 1339.7	1328.6	1363.1, 1328.6	1363.1, 1346.4, 1328.6
1307.7	1307.2	1307.7, 1307.2	1296.7	1307.7, 1296.7	1307.7, 1299.8, 1296.7
1305.3 ^a	1304.4 ^a		1293.4 ^a	1305.3 ^a , 1293.4 ^a	
817.6	811.3	817.6, 811.3	780.5	817.6, 780.5	817.6, 799.3, 780.5
816.0 ^a	809.6 ^a	816.0 ^a , 809.6 ^a	779.0 ^a	816.0 ^a , 779.0 ^a	797.6 ^a
B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)					
2929.4	2909.7		2919.1		
1533.5	1495.0	1533.5, 1495.0	1512.2	1533.5, 1512.2	1533.5, 1523.7, 1512.2
1361.4	1337.9	1362.7, 1361.4	1325.2	1361.4, 1325.2	1361.4, 1344.5, 1325.2
1310.4	1309.6	1310.4, 1309.6	1299.3	1310.4, 1299.3	
823.4	817.2	823.4, 817.2	785.7	823.4, 785.7	804.8

			(CO ₂)MnH ₂		
1589.2	1589.2	1589.2	1589.2	1589.2	1589.2
			HMnOH		
3761.9	3761.9	3761.9	3750.1	3761.9, 3750.1	3761.9, 3750.1
1668.4	1668.4	1668.4	1668.4	1668.4	1668.4
			HCO		
1864.4	1824.1	1864.4, 1824.1	1819.5	1864.4, 1819.5	

^aThe site absorptions for complex A.

Table S3 Infrared absorptions (cm⁻¹) observed for products of the reactions of Mn atoms with CO₂ molecules in solid matrix samples

CO ₂ / <i>p</i> -H ₂	CO ₂ / <i>n</i> -H ₂	CO ₂ /D ₂	CO ₂ /H ₂ + D ₂ (1:1)		CO ₂ /HD	
A: HMn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)		A: DMn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)	A: HMn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	A: DMn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)	A: DMn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	A: HMn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)
2947.6	2947.7	2208.8	2949.1	2207.1	2949.0	2207.1
	2943.7 ^a	2204.4 ^a				
1660.7	1660.5	1195.1	1659.7	1195.2	1195.8	1660.6
1543.6 ^a	1542.4 ^a	1534.9 ^a	1542.7 ^a	1529.2 ^a	1542.0 ^a	1528.7 ^a
1538.9	1538.7	1524.6	1539.6	1526.0	1538.4	1524.7
1363.1	1363.1	1329.7	1363.5	1329.4	1363.3	1329.5
1307.6	1307.7	975.3	1308.4	974.7	1308.5	974.6
1305.2 ^a	1305.3 ^a		1305.9 ^a		1305.5 ^a	
817.5	817.6	811.1	817.8	810.9	817.9	810.9
	816.0 ^a					
B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)		B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)	B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)	B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	B: Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CD)
2929.7	2929.4	2192.4	2931.0	2191.0	2931.3	2190.9
1533.6	1533.5	1520.5	1533.9	1520.6	1533.7	1519.5
1361.4	1361.4	1327.6	1361.6	1327.5	1361.5	1327.5
1310.3	1310.4	977.2	1311.5	976.1	1311.1	976.3
823.3	823.4					

(CO ₂)MnH ₂	(CO ₂)MnD ₂	(CO ₂)MnH ₂	(CO ₂)MnD ₂	(CO ₂)MnHD
1571.8	1589.2	1151.1	1588.1	1152.4
				1610.9
HMnOH	DMnOD	HMnOH	DMnOD	HMnOD
3762.6	3761.9	2764.0		2769.1
				3758.0
1668.8	1668.4	1198.9	1666.4	1200.4
				1667.2
				1201.1

^aThe site absorptions for complex A.

Table S4 Calculated frequencies (cm^{-1}) for products of the reactions of Mn atoms with CO_2 molecules in solid hydrogen (values in parentheses are calculated intensities in km mol^{-1})

B3LYP							mode assignment	
16-O	16-18	18-O	13-C	D ₂	HD			
A: $\text{HMn}(\eta^2\text{-O}_2\text{CH})$								
3053.2 (59)	3053.2 (59)	3053.2 (59)	3043.6 (55)	2259.8 (64)	2259.8 (63)	3053.2 (59)	C-H str	
1707.9 (267)	1707.9 (267)	1707.9 (267)	1707.9 (267)	1218.7 (156)	1707.9 (269)	1218.7 (155)	Mn-H str	
1567.2 (358)	1557.2 (343)	1545.3 (326)	1526.6 (332)	1552.9 (404)	1553.0 (408)	1567.1 (355)	O-C-O asym	
1390.3 (119)	1371.7 (112)	1351.1 (115)	1366.0 (112)	1356.1 (88)	1356.0 (98)	1390.5 (107)	O-C-O sym	
1328.3 (64)	1320.7 (75)	1317.0 (78)	1327.4 (72)	984.5 (12)	984.5 (12)	1328.3 (64)	C-H bend	
821.4 (57)	803.1 (51)	784.2 (46)	814.5 (60)	814.0 (60)	814.0 (59)	821.4 (58)	O-C-O bend	
B: $\text{Mn}(\eta^2\text{-O}_2\text{CH})$								
3032.9 (82)	3032.9 (82)	3032.9 (82)	3023.5 (78)	2244.0 (81)	2244.0 (81)	3032.9 (82)	C-H str	
1564.0 (234)	1554.1 (223)	1542.3 (211)	1523.4 (216)	1550.1 (274)	1550.1 (274)	1564.0 (234)	O-C-O asym	
1389.3 (112)	1370.8 (106)	1349.8 (109)	1365.1 (107)	1355.7 (92)	1355.7 (92)	1389.3 (112)	O-C-O sym	
1331.6 (55)	1323.8 (64)	1320.3 (66)	1330.7 (60)	986.4 (10)	986.4 (10)	1331.6 (55)	C-H bend	
814.8 (60)	796.8 (54)	778.3 (49)	807.7 (64)	807.2 (62)	807.2 (62)	814.8 (60)	O-C-O bend	
(CO_2) MnH_2								
2413.5 (801)	2398.4 (785)	2393.0 (793)	2376.8 (776)	2344.6 (758)	2413.4 (799)	2413.4 (796)	2413.5 (805)	O=C=O asym

1660.7 (66)	1660.7 (66)	1660.7 (66)	1660.7 (66)	1660.7 (66)	1177.2 (64)	1643.1 (356)	1608.4 (313)	H–Mn–H sym
1588.7 (649)	1588.7 (649)	1588.7 (649)	1588.7 (649)	1588.7 (649)	1141.3 (308)	1145.9 (197)	1170.7 (221)	H–Mn–H asym
671.9 (33)	666.7 (32)	666.8 (33)	661.6 (32)	652.8 (31)	671.7 (30)	671.7 (30)	671.9 (32)	O=C=O bend
664.0 (25)	658.5 (24)	659.0 (25)	653.5 (24)	645.5 (23)	663.2 (31)	663.2 (31)	664.0 (25)	O=C=O bend
HMnOH								
3947.7 (91)	3947.7 (91)	3934.4 (86)	3934.4 (86)	3947.7 (91)	2876.9 (70)	2876.9 (70)	3947.7 (91)	O–H str
1708.8 (214)	1708.8 (214)	1708.7 (215)	1708.7 (215)	1708.8 (214)	1219.3 (123)	1708.7 (214)	1219.3 (124)	Mn–H str
675.5 (118)	675.5 (118)	648.9 (106)	648.9 (106)	675.5 (118)	656.4 (125)	657.6 (130)	674.4 (114)	Mn–OH str

Table S5 Comparison between the observed and calculated vibrational frequencies (cm^{-1}) and isotopic frequency ratios of the new molecules HMn(η^2 -O₂CH) and Mn(η^2 -O₂CH)

molecule	mode	obs (in solid <i>p</i> -H ₂ or D ₂)				calc			
		frequency	R _{12/13}	R _{16/18}	R _{H/D}	frequency	R _{12/13}	R _{16/18}	R _{H/D}
HMn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	C–H str	2947.6	1.0067	1.0033	1.3345	3053.2	1.0032	1.0000	1.3511
	Mn–H str	1660.7	1.0000	1.0000	1.3896	1707.9	1.0000	1.0000	1.4014
	O–C–O asym	1538.9	1.0257	1.0144	1.0094	1567.2	1.0266	1.0142	1.0092
	O–C–O sym	1363.1	1.0175	1.0260	1.0251	1390.3	1.0178	1.0290	1.0252
	C–H bend	1307.6	1.0005	1.0085	1.3407	1328.3	1.0007	1.0086	1.3492
	O–C–O bend	817.5	1.0078	1.0474	1.0079	821.4	1.0085	1.0474	1.0091
Mn(η^2 -O ₂ CH)	C–H str	2929.7	1.0068	1.0036	1.3363	3032.9	1.0031	1.0000	1.3516
	O–C–O asym	1533.6	1.0258	1.0142	1.0086	1564.0	1.0267	1.0141	1.0090
	O–C–O sym	1361.4	1.0176	1.0272	1.0255	1389.3	1.0177	1.0293	1.0248
	C–H bend	1310.3	1.0005	1.0083	1.3409	1331.6	1.0007	1.0086	1.3500
	O–C–O bend	823.3	1.0076	1.0477		814.8	1.0088	1.0469	1.0094

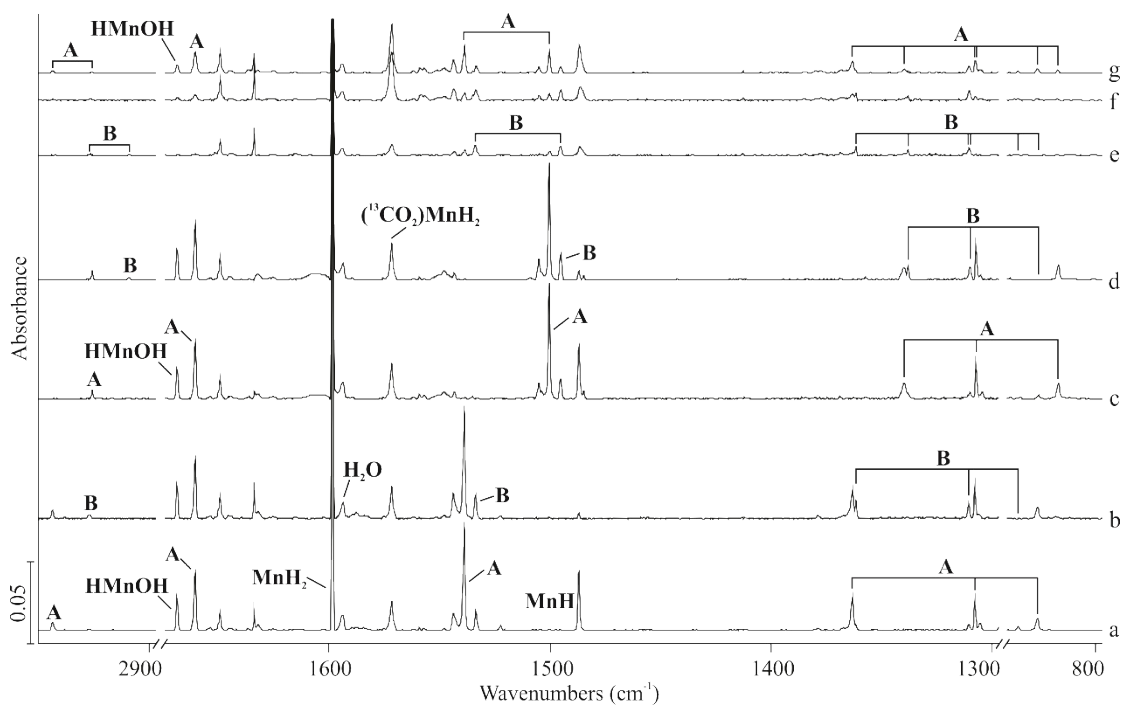


Fig. S1 Infrared spectra for the reaction products of manganese atoms and CO₂ in solid *p*-H₂ at 4 K. Mn + 0.5% ¹²C¹⁶O₂: (a) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min) and (b) after 450 nm irradiation (20 min). Mn + 0.5% ¹³C¹⁶O₂: (c) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min) and (d) after 450 nm irradiation (20 min). Mn + 0.5% ¹²C¹⁶O₂ + 0.5% ¹³C¹⁶O₂: (e) after 520 nm irradiation (20 min), (f) after 365 nm irradiation (5 min), and (g) after > 220 nm irradiation (5 min).

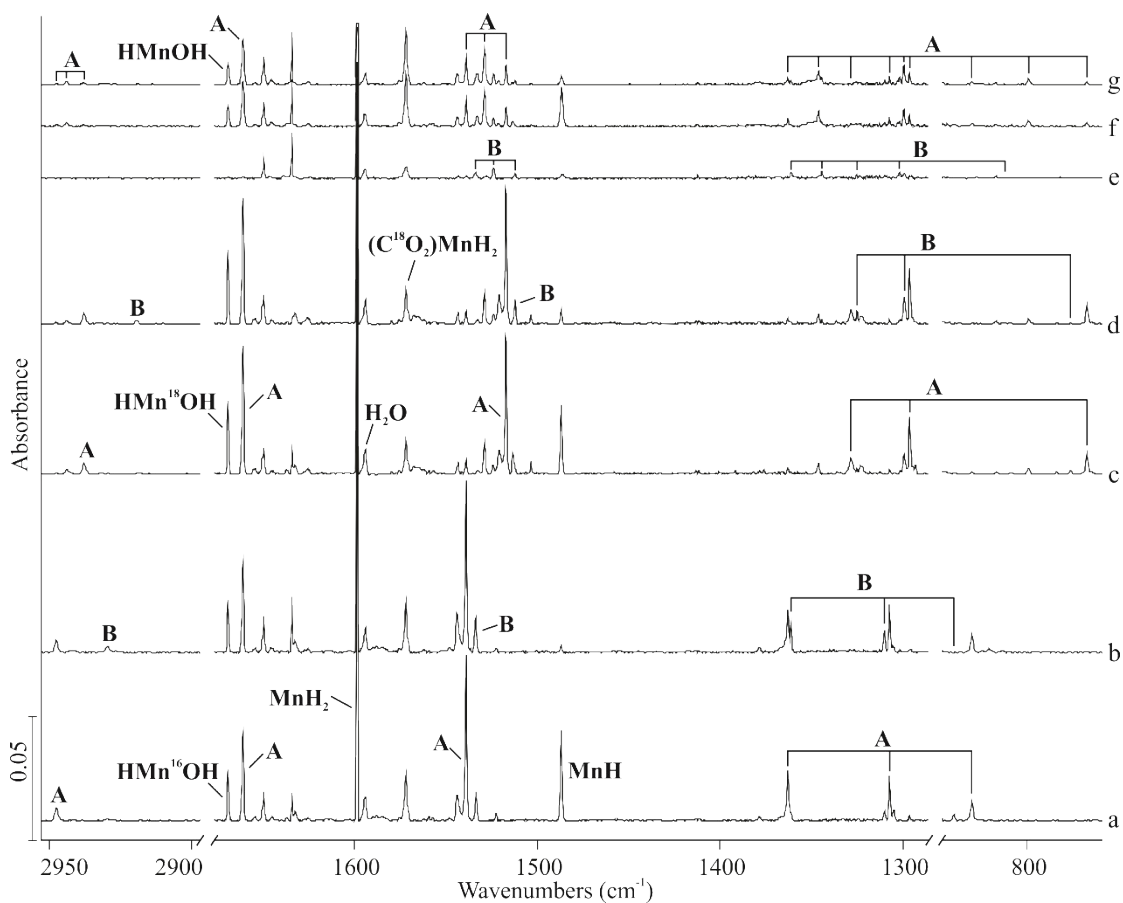


Fig. S2 Infrared spectra for the reaction products of manganese atoms and CO_2 in solid $p\text{-H}_2$ at 4 K. $\text{Mn} + 0.5\% \text{}^{12}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}_2$: (a) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min) and (b) after 450 nm irradiation (20 min). $\text{Mn} + 0.5\% \text{}^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}_2$: (c) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min) and (d) after 450 nm irradiation (20 min). $\text{Mn} + 1.5\% (\text{}^{12}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}_2 + \text{}^{12}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{O} + \text{}^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}_2)$: (e) after 520 nm irradiation (20 min), (f) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min), and (g) after 450 nm irradiation (20 min).

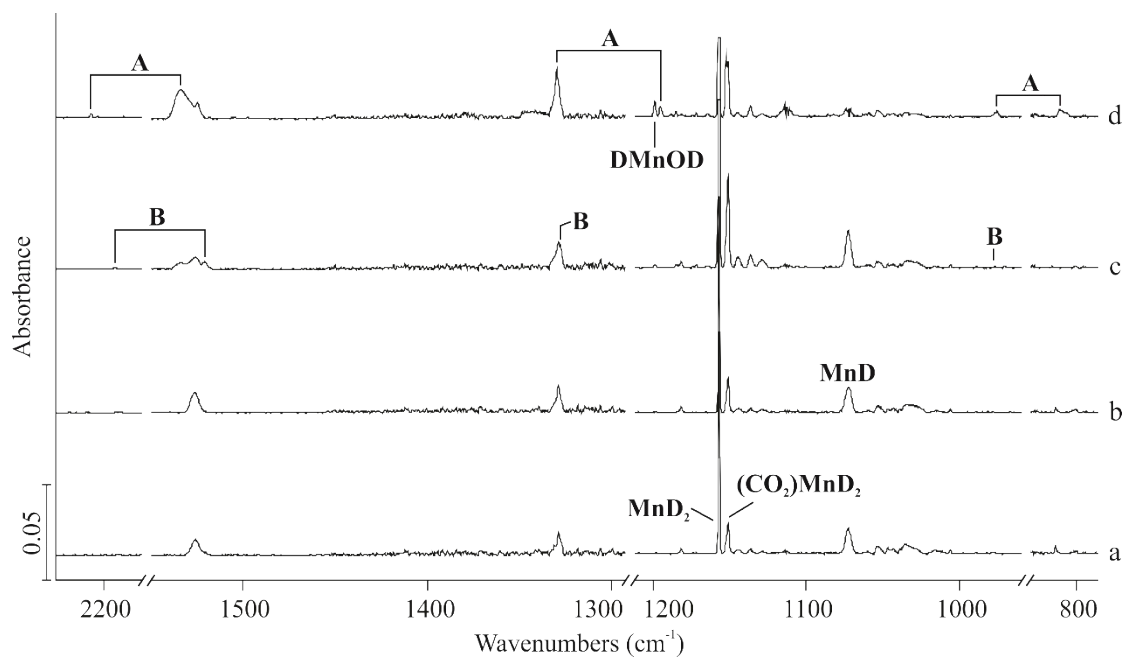


Fig. S3 Infrared spectra for the reaction products of manganese atoms and 0.5% CO₂ in solid D₂ at 4 K: (a) after deposition for 60 min, (b) after annealing to 8 K, (c) after 365 nm irradiation (5 min), and (d) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min).

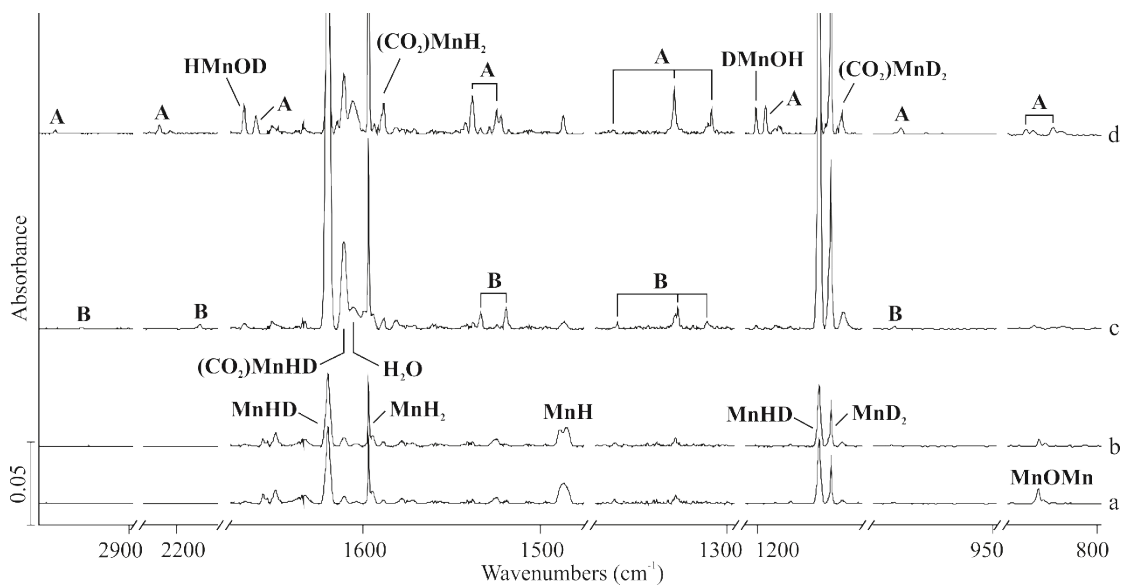


Fig. S4 Infrared spectra for the reaction products of manganese atoms and 0.4% CO₂ in solid HD at 4 K: (a) after deposition for 60 min, (b) after annealing to 6.5 K, (c) after 365 nm irradiation (5 min), and (d) after > 220 nm irradiation (10 min).

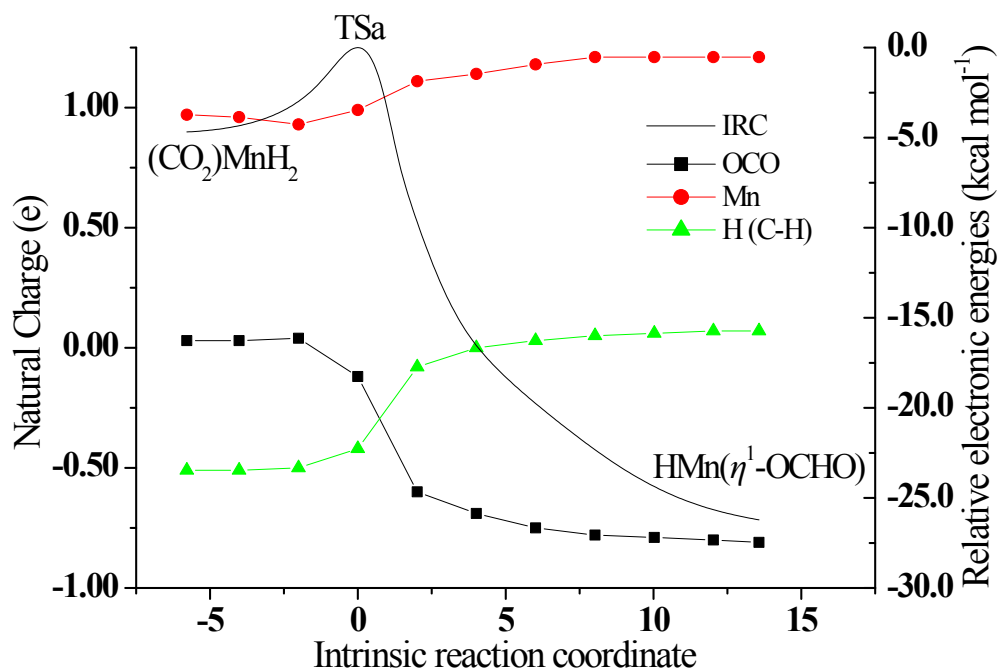


Fig. S5 IRC pathway for the transition state that connects the initial complex formed by interaction of reactants MnH_2 and CO_2 to the $\text{HMn}(\eta^1\text{-OCHO})$ minimum, and the evolution of the natural charge from natural population analysis (NPA) in hydride transfer calculated at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level.

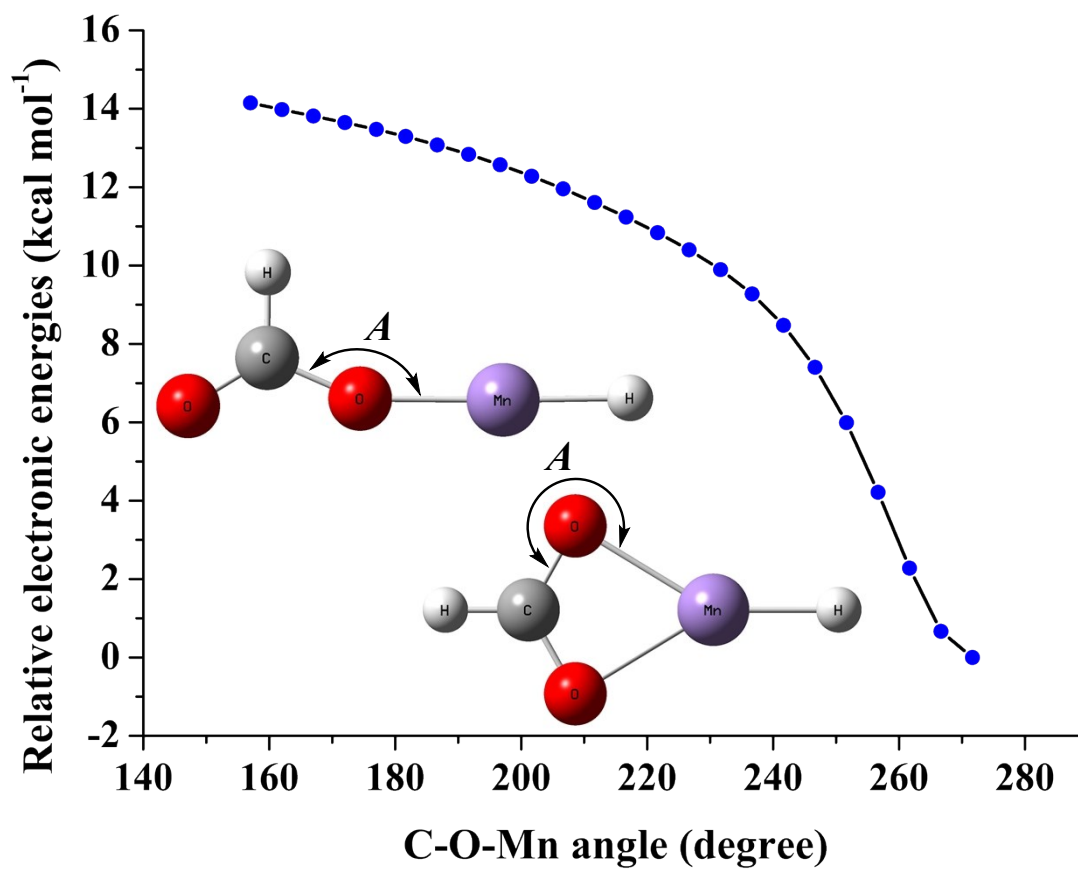


Fig. S6 Relaxed scan of the C–O–Mn angle (*A*) of the HMn(η^1 -OCHO) minimum.

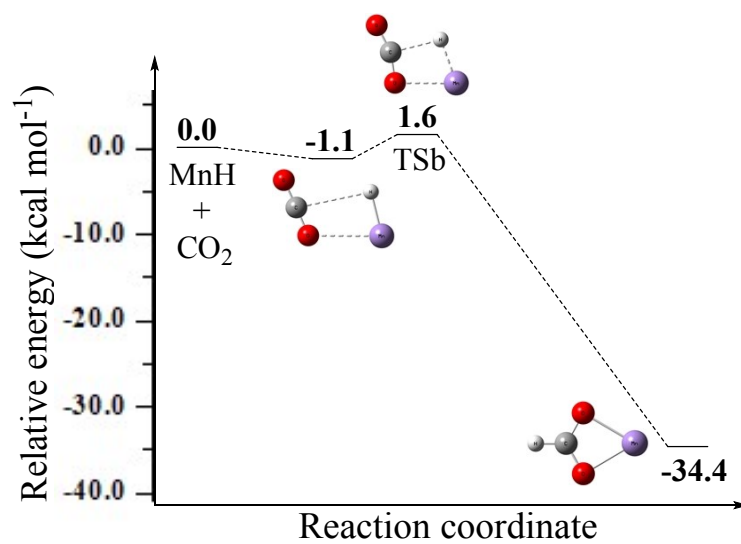


Fig. S7 Potential energy surface calculated for the reaction of MnH with CO₂.

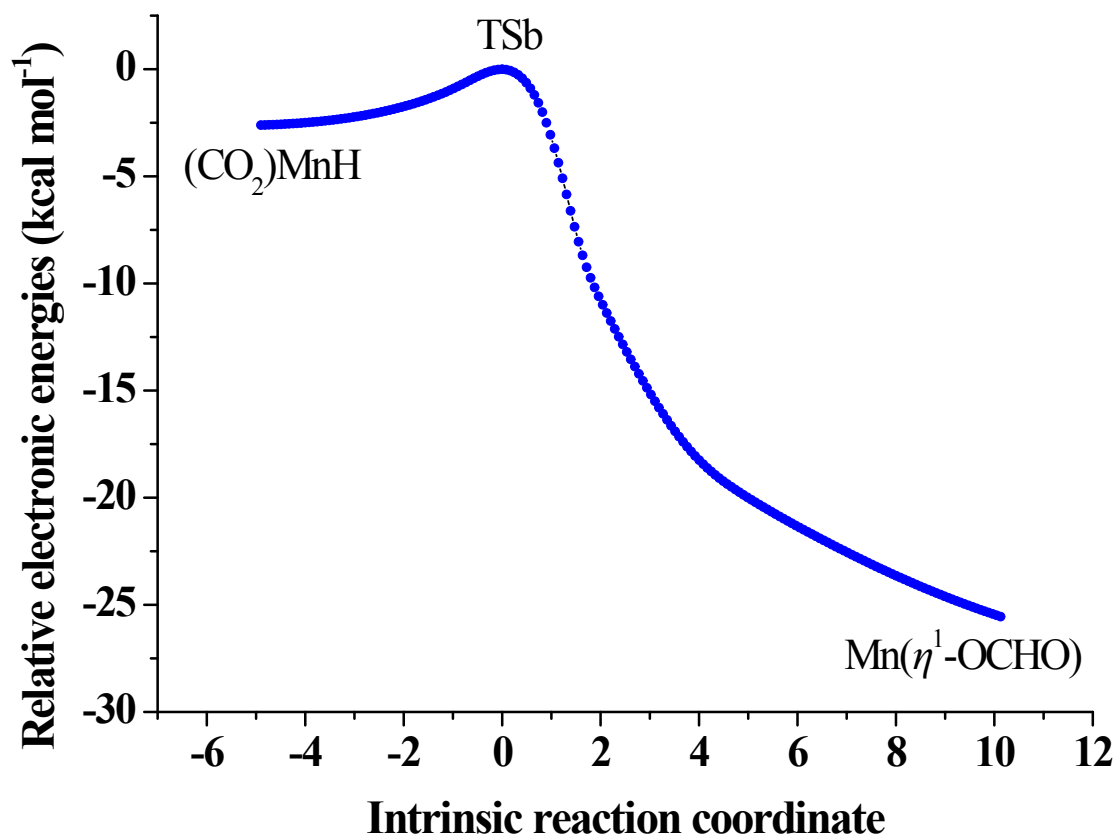


Fig. S8 IRC pathway for the transition state that connects the initial complex formed by interaction of reactants MnH and CO₂ to the Mn(η^1 -OCHO) minimum.

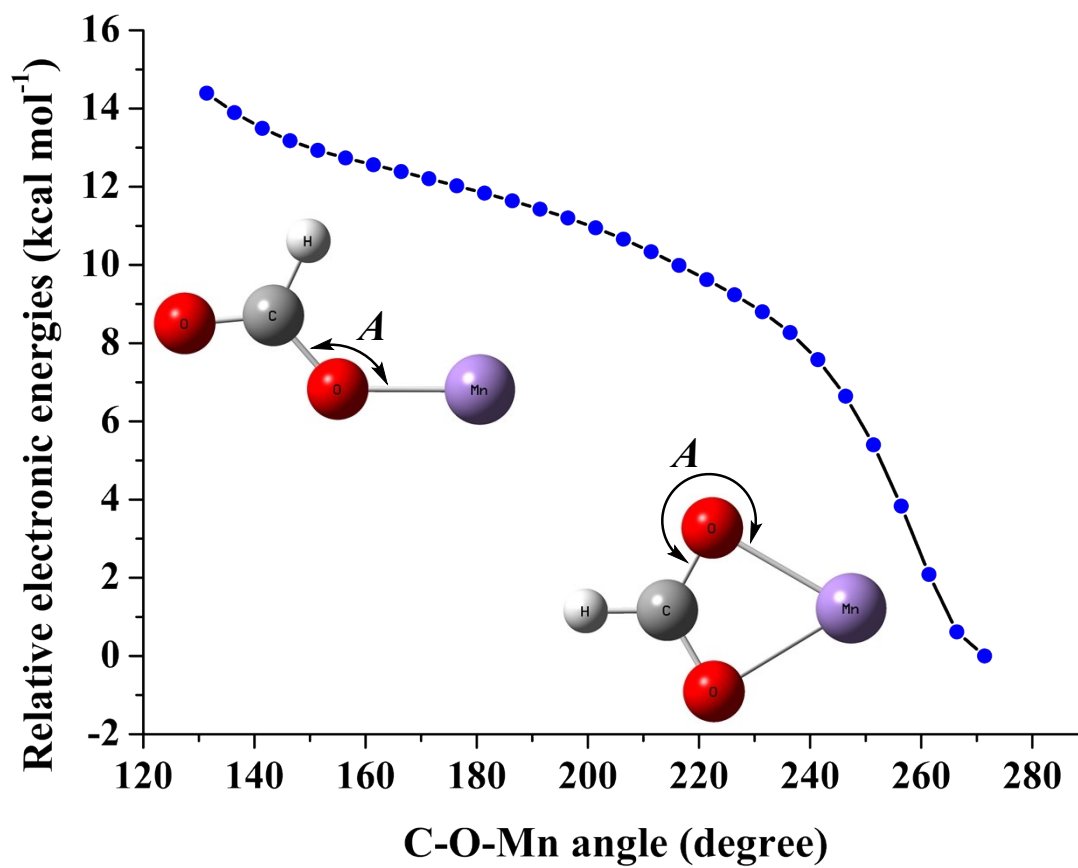


Fig. S9 Relaxed scan of the C–O–Mn angle (*A*) of the Mn(η^1 -OCHO) minimum.

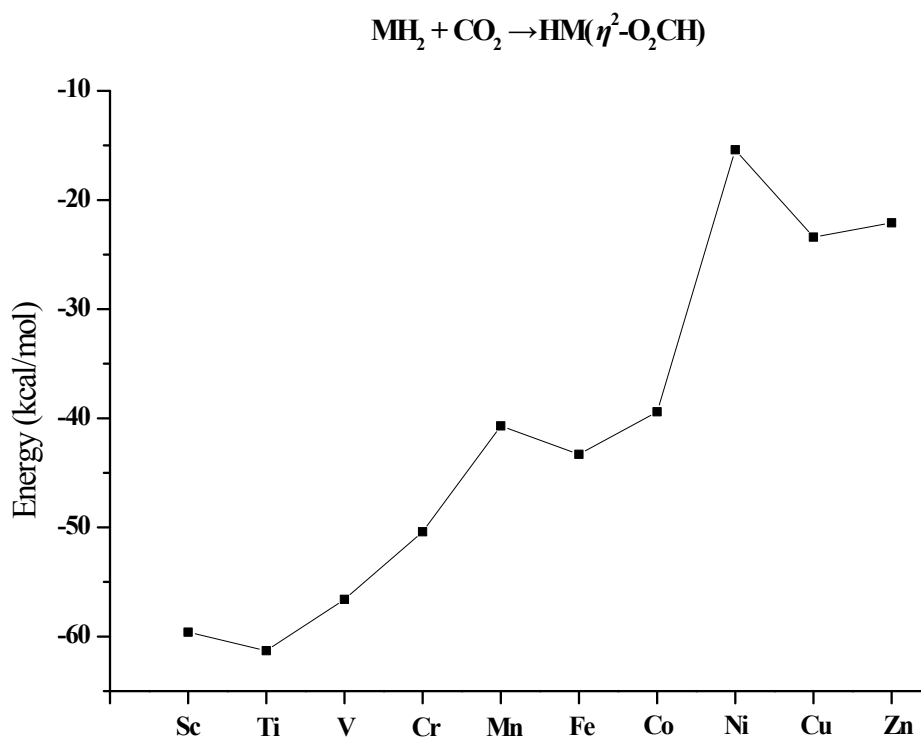


Fig. S10 The changes in energy for the reactions of MH_2 with CO_2 (M = first-row transition metal) obtained by single-point CCSD(T)/cc-pVTZ energy calculations at the B3LYP-optimized geometries.

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