

1 From Molecular Property to Catalytic Mechanism: A DFT Study on 2 the Formation of High-Density cis-syn-cis-Perhydrophenanthrene

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10 Lv)

11 1. Physical property calculation

12 1.1. Calculation for density

13 Density is of paramount importance for high energy density fuels (HEDFs), as a
14 higher density means a fuel tank of fixed volume can carry a greater mass of fuel, which
15 significantly enhances the range, payload, and speed of aerospace vehicles. Using
16 multiple molecular dynamics (MD) simulations to determine density can yield results
17 closer to experimental values, while DFT method offers higher computational
18 efficiency compared to MD simulations. Therefore, we combined DFT and MD
19 methods for the isomer screening of PHP.

20 DFT method

21 Density was calculated using the DFT method via Equation (1) [1, 2].

$$22 \quad \rho = \alpha \left(\frac{M}{0.001 V} \right) + \beta V (\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2) + \gamma \quad (1)$$

23 The density estimated by the relative molecular mass (M) and the van der Waals
24 volume (V_m) of the molecule is given by M/V , where V_m represents the volume of an
25 isolated gas-phase molecule in $\text{cm}^3/\text{molecule}$. Following the proposal of Bader et al. ,
26 this volume is defined as the space enclosed by the 0.001 au (e/Bohr^3) isosurface of the

1 molecular electron density (r) [3]. The term $v\sigma^2$ tot accounts for electrostatic
2 interactions, where v denotes the balance degree of positive and negative charges on
3 the isosurface, and σ^2 tot measures the potential variation on the molecular surface.
4 Three fitting coefficients ($\alpha=0.9183$, $\beta=0.0028$, $\gamma=0.0443$) were used to correlate with
5 experimental data. The parameters V_m , v , and σ^2 tot of fuel molecules were obtained
6 using the Multiwfn 3.8 software [4, 5].

7 **MD simulations**

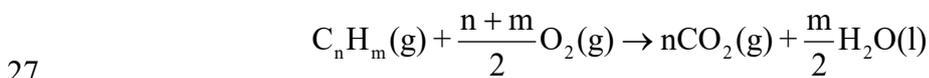
8 MD simulations were performed using the LAMMPS package[6], with the
9 COMPASS force field employed throughout all simulations. The COMPASS force
10 field is well-suited for modeling various organic molecules, including alkanes, benzene,
11 and their derivatives, and can accurately predict physical properties such as density and
12 viscosity compared to other force fields [7-10]. First, 128 fuel molecules were dispersed
13 in a simulation box of approximately $30 \text{ \AA} \times 30 \text{ \AA} \times 30 \text{ \AA}$. Geometric optimization and
14 annealing processes were then conducted to obtain stable configurations. During MD
15 simulations, the NPT ensemble was applied under constant temperature (298.15 K) and
16 pressure (1 bar) conditions for a total simulation time of 5 ns, with a time step of 1 fs.

17 **1.2. Calculation of mass net heat of combustion**

18 The mass net heat of combustion refers to the heat released per unit mass of fuel
19 during complete combustion, where water vapor in the combustion products remains in
20 gaseous form. This parameter serves as a critical indicator for evaluating the energy
21 release of high-density fuels in practical combustion processes. The mass net heat of
22 combustion $\Delta H_c(M)$ (kJ/g) can be obtained by calculating the combustion enthalpy and
23 evaporation enthalpy per unit mass according to the definition, as shown in Equation
24 (2).

$$25 \quad \Delta H_c(M) = \frac{\Delta H_c(298.15 \text{ K})(g) + \Delta H_{\text{vap}}}{M} \quad (2)$$

26 Combustion enthalpy is calculated by Equation (3).



$$H_c(298.15 \text{ K})(g) \rightarrow \Delta E_0 + \Delta ZPE + \Delta H(298.15 \text{ K}) \quad (3)$$

where ΔE_0 represents the electronic energy at 298.15 K and 1 atm, ΔZPE denotes the zero-point energy correction under the same conditions, $\Delta H(298.15 \text{ K})$ refers to the enthalpy correction term. The ZPE and $H(298.15 \text{ K})$ values for each species were computed using the Shermo software package [11].

Vaporization enthalpy is calculated by Equation (4).

$$\begin{aligned} C_n H_m(l) &\rightarrow C_n H_m(g) \\ \Delta H_{\text{vap}} &= a(SA)^{0.5} + b(v\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2)^{0.5} + c \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where the surface area of the fuel molecule (SA) was obtained using Multiwfn 3.8 software. The fitting coefficients for the enthalpy of vaporization are $a = 2.13$, $b = 0.93$, and $c = -17.84$, respectively.

Mass net heat of combustion is calculated by Equation (5).

$$NHOC(M) = \frac{\Delta H_c}{M} \quad (5)$$

Volume net heat of combustion can be obtained from the mass net heat of combustion, as shown in Equation (6).

$$NHOC(V) = NHOC(M) \times \rho \quad (6)$$

1.3 Calculation for specific impulse

The specific heat of combustion of hydrocarbons, h (J/g), is given by:

$$h = 1000NHOC(M) \quad (7)$$

When polycyclic alkanes react with oxygen at the stoichiometric ratio, the conversion relationship between the specific heat of combustion of the hydrocarbon (h) and that of the fuel (hydrocarbon + oxygen) (H) is:

$$H = \frac{h(11.91 + x)}{43.66 + 8.93x} \quad (8)$$

where x is the ratio of the number of hydrogen to carbon atoms in the fuel molecule.

1 The formula for specific impulse is [12]:

$$I_{\text{sp}} = \frac{(2\eta H)^{0.5}}{g} \quad (9)$$

2
3 where the efficiency factor η is 0.556, applicable to most polycyclic alkanes, and the
4 calculated results are in good agreement with experimental values.

5 **1.4. Other properties**

6 Melting point, boiling point, critical temperature, critical pressure, critical volume,
7 flash point, and other properties were estimated using the group contribution method to
8 improve the prediction of the physical properties of PHP [13].

9 The group contribution method addresses the need for rapid estimation of physical
10 and thermodynamic properties of compounds in chemical engineering and related
11 fields. Its fundamental principle is to treat the properties of a compound as the sum of
12 contributions from each structural group within its molecular architecture. Despite its
13 utility, the group contribution method has limitations regarding the spatial structure of
14 fuel molecules. The influence of spatial structure on fuel properties is well-established,
15 particularly for stereoisomers with distinct stereochemical configurations. A typical
16 example is the difference in freezing points between endo-tetrahydrodicyclopentadiene
17 (endo-THDCPD) and exo-tetrahydrodicyclopentadiene (exo-THDCPD), which arises
18 primarily from the impact of molecular spatial geometry on physical properties.
19 However, the group contribution method cannot capture structural disparities between
20 molecules.

21 Melting point is calculated by Equation (10).

$$\exp\left(\frac{T_m}{147.45}\right) = \sum_i n_i G_i \quad (10)$$

23 Boiling point is calculated by Equation (11).

$$\exp\left(\frac{T_b}{222.543}\right) = \sum_i n_i G_i \quad (11)$$

25 Critical temperature is calculated by Equation (12).

1
$$\exp\left(\frac{T_c}{231.5239}\right) = \sum_i n_i G_i \quad (12)$$

2 Calculation of critical Pressure is calculated by Equation (13).

3
$$(P_c - 5.9827)^{-0.5} - 0.108998 = \sum_i n_i G_i \quad (13)$$

4 Critical Volume is calculated by Equation (14).

5
$$V_c - 7.95 = \sum_i n_i G_i \quad (14)$$

6 G_i represents the contribution of a certain group to the physical property, and the

7 G_i values used are shown in Table S1.

8

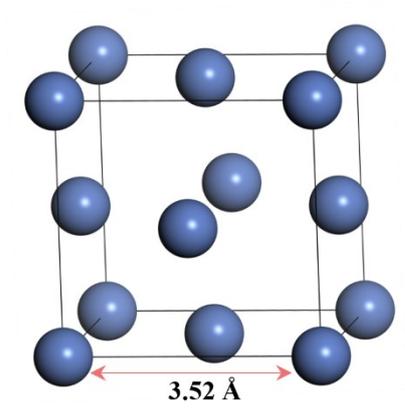
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Table S1. G_i values in group contribution method [13].

Groups	G_i				
	T_m	T_b	T_c	P_c	V_c
CH ₂ (cyclic)	0.5699	0.8234	1.8815	0.009884	49.24
CH(cyclic)	0.0335	0.5946	1.102	0.007596	44.95
CH(multiring)	0.6647	0.1415	1.2513	-3.33	-2.095

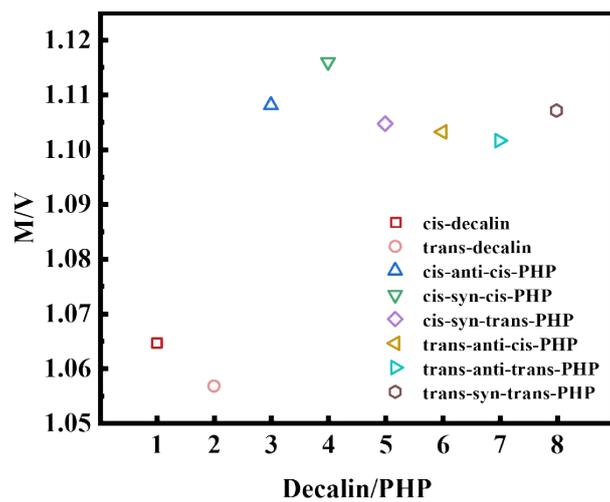
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Figure S1. Optimized unit cell of Ni.



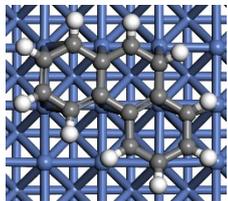
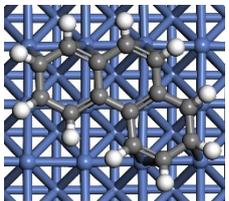
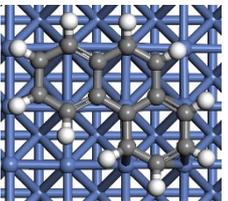
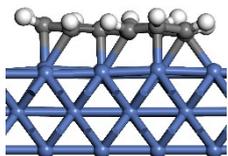
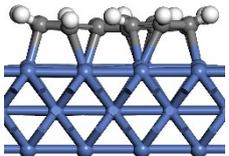
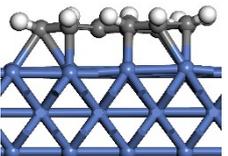
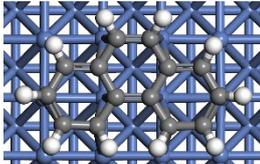
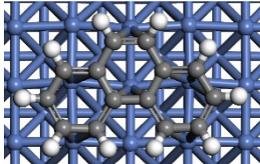
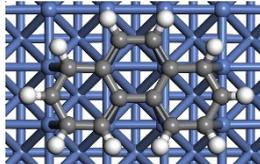
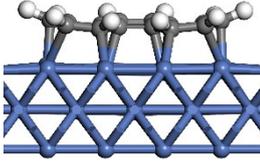
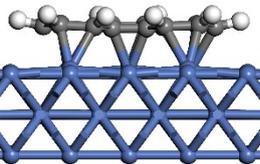
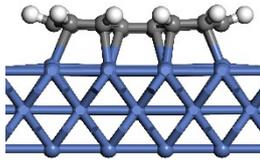
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Figure S2. M/V values for decalin and PHP.

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Table S2. Six stable adsorption sites of PHE on the Ni(100) surface.

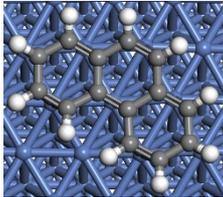
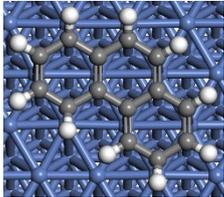
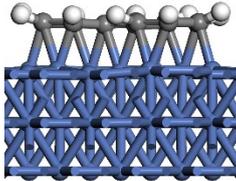
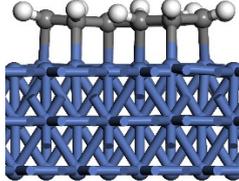
Site	hhb	hhh	bbh
$E_{\text{ads}}(\text{eV})$	-5.03	-5.26	-4.90
Top view			
Side view			
Site	bhb	bbb	hbh
$E_{\text{ads}}(\text{eV})$	-4.52	-3.88	-4.99
Top view			
Side view			

2

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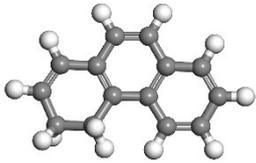
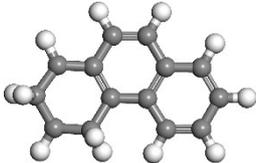
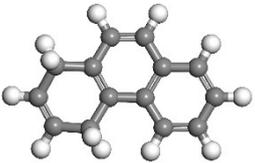
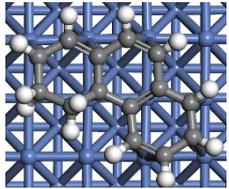
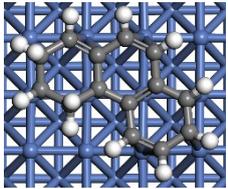
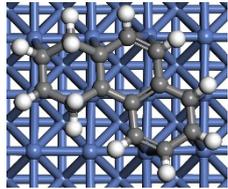
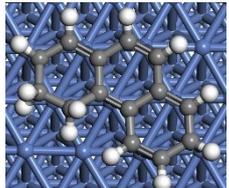
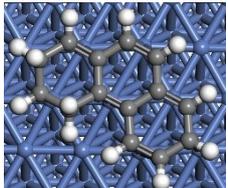
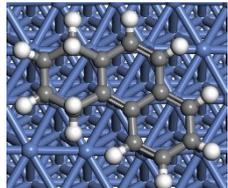
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Table S3. Two stable adsorption sites of PHE on the Ni(111) surface.

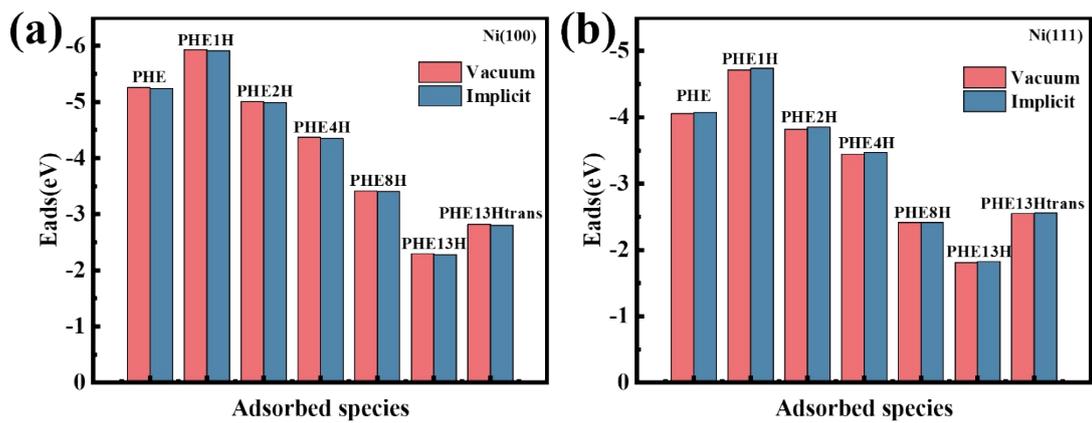
Site	b1	b2
$E_{\text{ads}}(\text{eV})$	-4.06	-3.98
Top view		
Side view		

2

1 **Table S4.** Adsorption configurations of three PHE2H intermediates (9,10-A-PHE2H, 9,11-A-PHE2H, 9,12-A-PHE2H) on Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces.

	9,10-A-PHE2H	9,11-A-PHE2H	9,12-A-PHE2H
A-PHE2H			
Ni(100)			
$E_{\text{ads}}(\text{eV})$	-4.86	-6.67	-4.68
Ni(111)			
$E_{\text{ads}}(\text{eV})$	-3.83	-5.73	-3.78

3



1

2 **Figure S3.** Adsorption energies of PHE and related species in vacuum and decalin solvent on the

3

(a) Ni(100) and (b) Ni(111) surfaces

1 **Table S5** The energy barrier for the first hydrogen addition of PHE on Ni(100) and Ni(111)
2 surfaces.

C atom	Ni(100)	Ni(111)
	E_a (eV)	E_a (eV)
1	0.84	0.73
3	0.87	0.88
4	0.88	0.91
5	0.90	0.88
6	0.80	0.72
9	0.74	0.71
10	0.95	0.90
11	0.87	0.94
12	0.83	1.05
14	0.86	0.77

3

- 1 **Table S6.** Energy barriers for the hydrogenation of the A-PHE4H intermediate on Ni(100) and
2 Ni(111) surfaces to form PHE5H.

C atom	Ni(100)	Ni(111)
	E_a (eV)	E_a (eV)
1	0.80	0.70
3	0.78	0.98
4	0.93	0.86
5	0.92	0.88
6	0.86	0.77
8	1.06	0.62
13	1.00	0.99
14	0.94	0.69

3

- 1 **Table S7.** Energy barriers for hydrogenation of AC-PHE8H intermediate to AC-PHE9H on
2 Ni(100) surface.

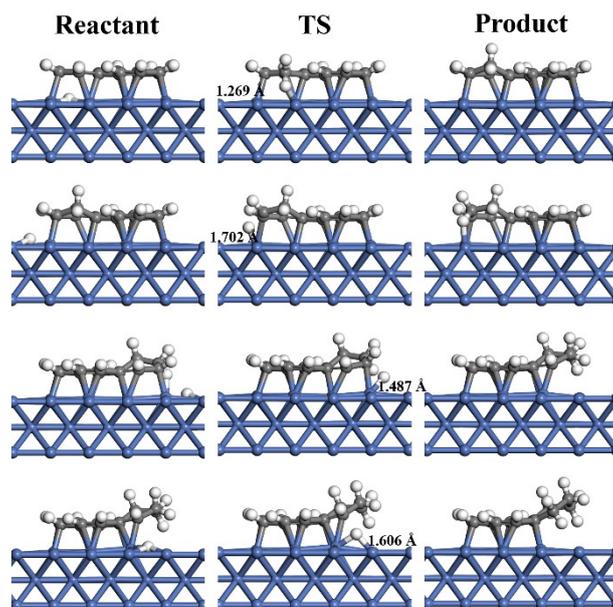
C atom	E_a (eV)
1	0.83
8	0.73
13	0.98
14	0.92

3

1 **Table S8.** Energy barriers for hydrogenation of AB-PHE8H intermediate to AB-PHE9H on
2 Ni(111) surface.

C atom	E_a (eV)
2	0.79
3	1.04
4	0.84
5	0.73
6	0.89
7	1.05

3



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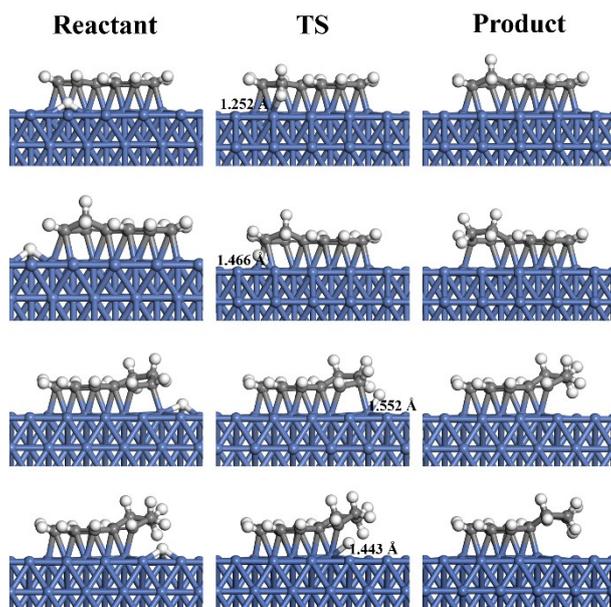
2 **Figure S4.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the first-ring

3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(100) surface. The first row: 9C+1H; the second row:

4 10C+2H; the third row: 11C+3H; the fourth row: 12C+4H. The numbers in the figure indicate the

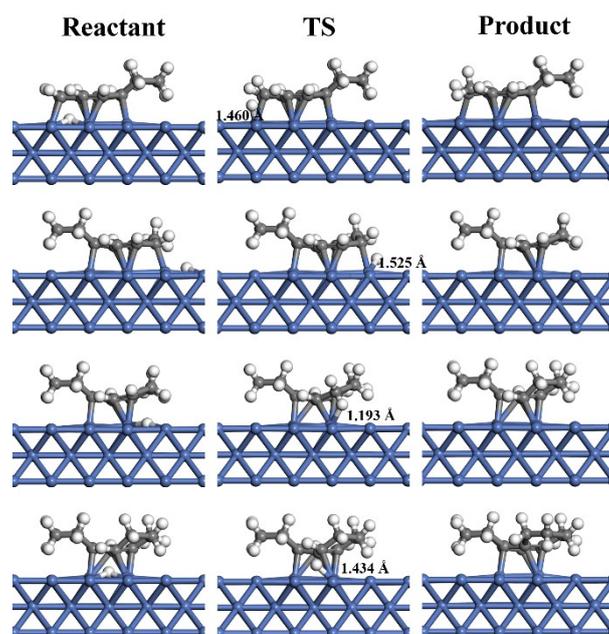
5 C–H bond distances at the transition state.

6



1

- 2 **Figure S5.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the first-ring
 3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(111) surface. The first row: 9C+1H; the second row:
 4 10C+2H; the third row: 11C+3H; the fourth row: 12C+4H.



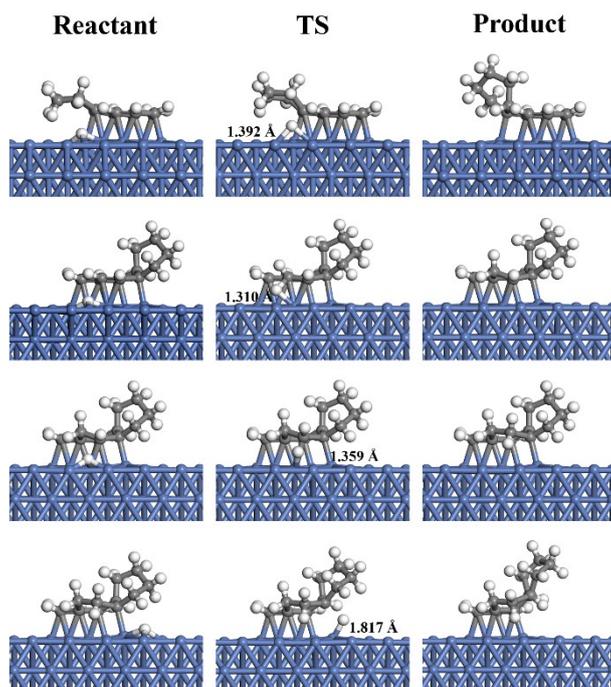
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2 **Figure S6.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the C-aromatic-ring

3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(100) surface. The first row: 3C+1H; the second row:

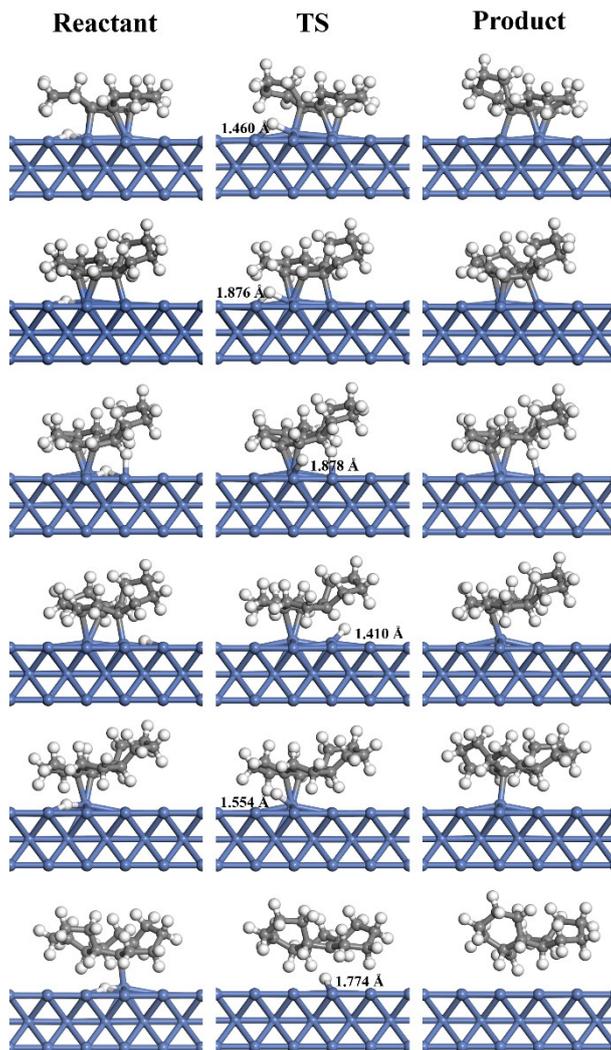
4 4C+2H; the third row: 5C+3H; the fourth row: 6C+4H.

5



1

2 **Figure S7.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the B-aromatic-ring
 3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(111) surface. The first row: 8C+1H; the second row:
 4 1C+2H; the third row: 14C+3H; the fourth row: 13C+4H.



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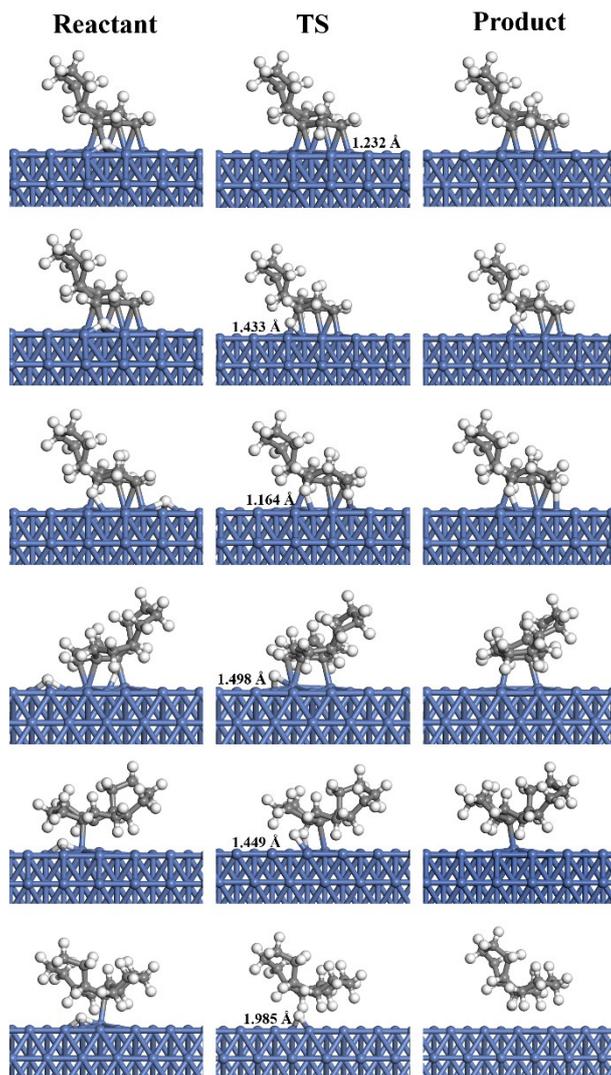
2 **Figure S8.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the last- aromatic ring

3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(100) surface. The first row: 9C+1H; the second row:

4 10C+2H; the third row: 11C+3H; the fourth row: 12C+4H; the fifth row: 2C+5H; the sixth row:

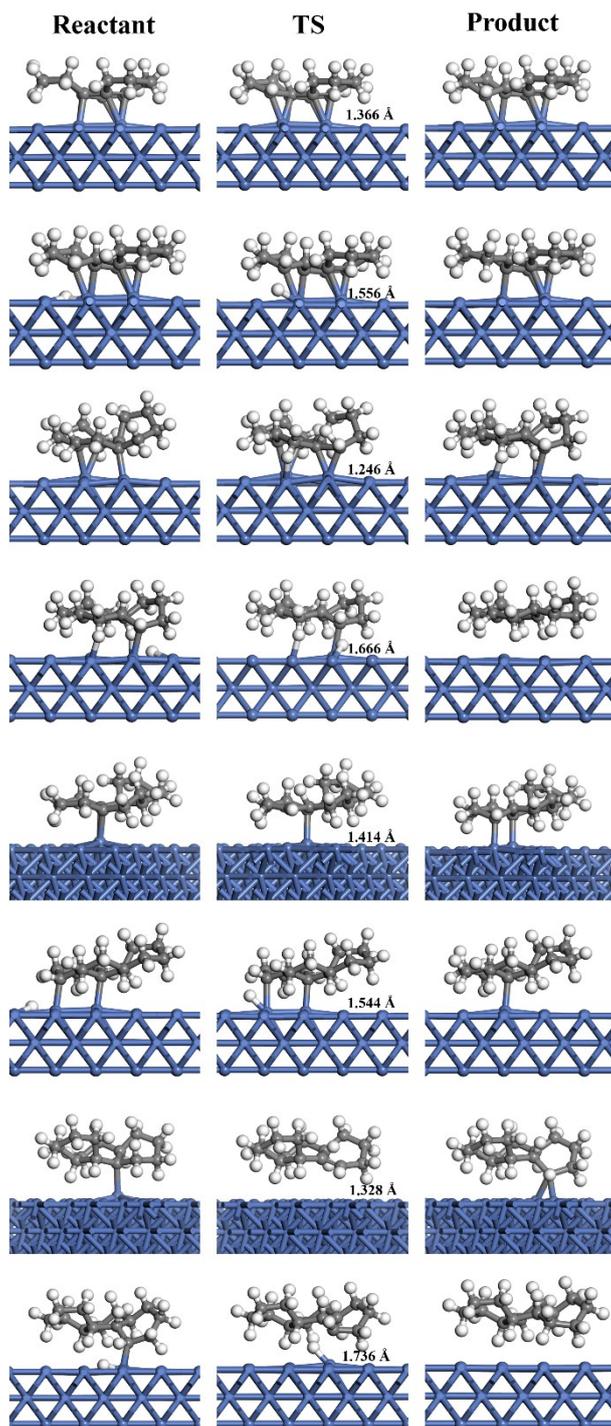
5 7C+6H.

6



1

2 **Figure S9.** Optimized reactant, transition state, and product structures for the last- aromatic ring
3 hydrogenation reaction of PHE on the Ni(111) surface. The first row: 9C+1H; the second row:
4 5C+2H; the third row: 6C+3H; the fourth row: 4C+4H; the fifth row: 2C+5H; the sixth row:
5 7C+6H.



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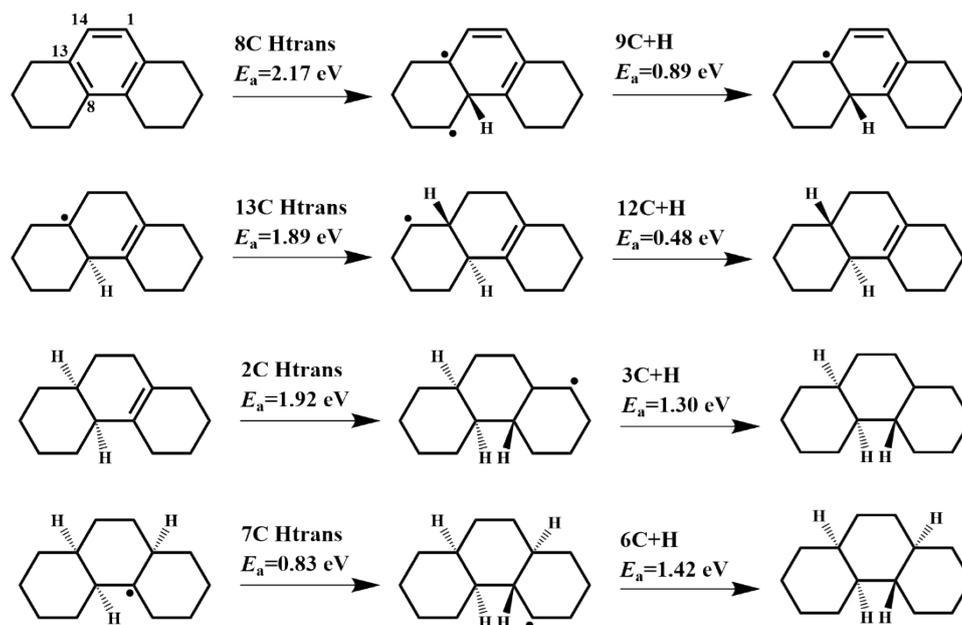
2 **Figure S10.** Optimized of reactants, transition states, and products structures for the formation of

3 trans configurations of 8C, 13C, 2C, and 7C of PHE on the Ni(100) surface. The first row: 8C

4 Htrans; the second row: 9C+H; the third row: 13C Htrans; the fourth row: 12C+H; the fifth row:

5 2C Htrans; the sixth row: 3C+H; the seventh row: 7C Htrans; the eighth row: 6C+H.

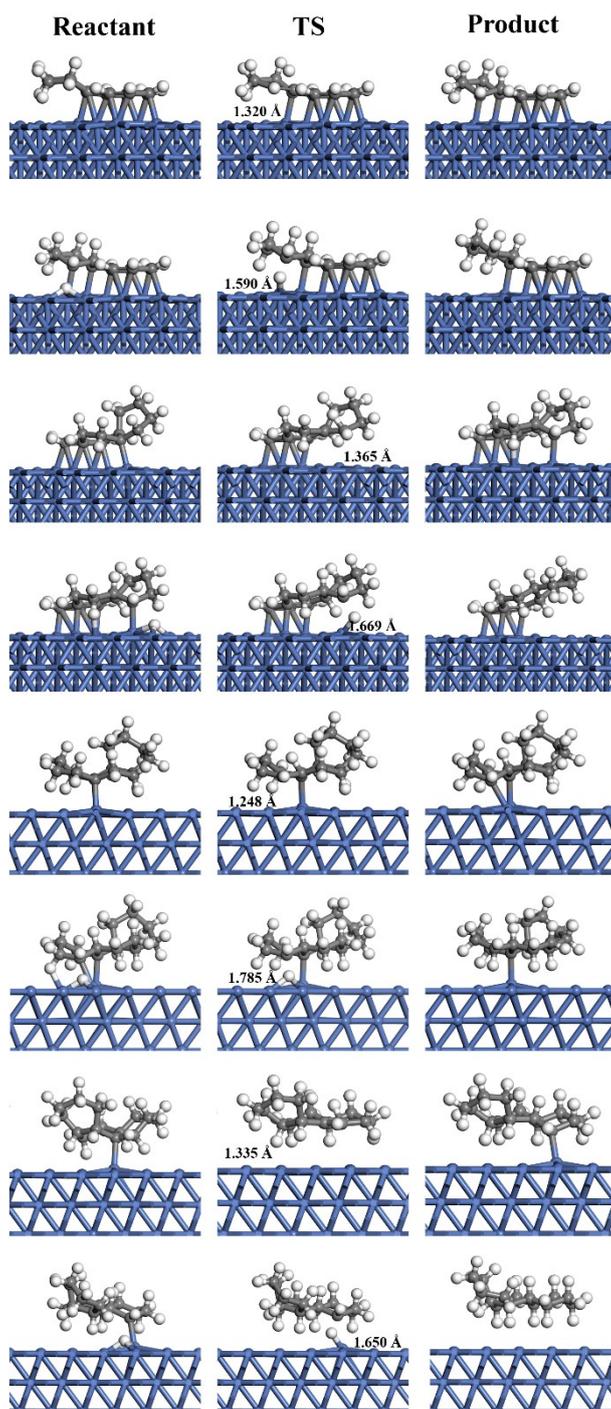
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2 **Figure S11.** Reaction networks for the formation of trans configurations of 8C, 13C, 2C, and 7C
 3 of PHE on the Ni(100) surface.

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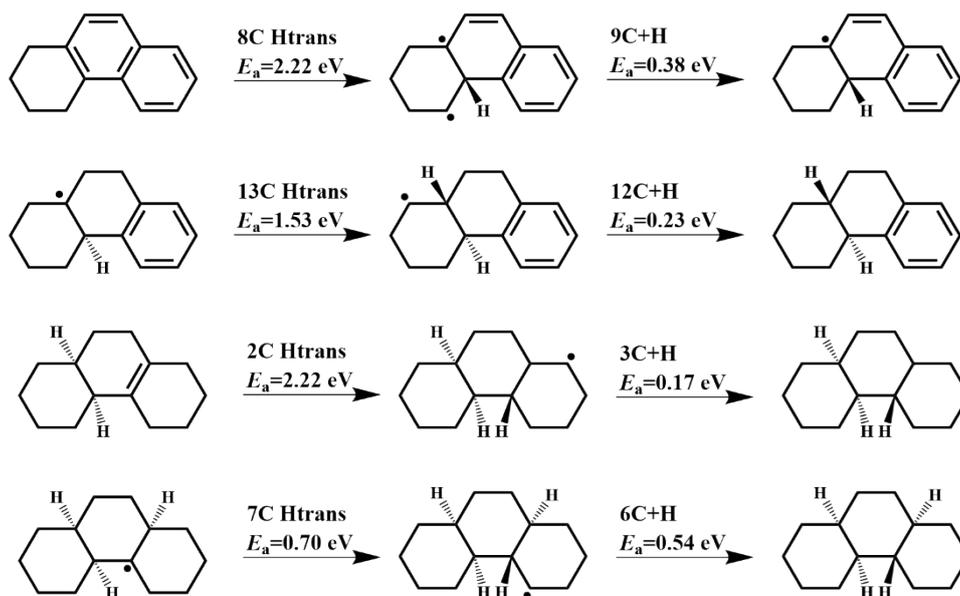
2 **Figure S12.** Optimized of reactants, transition states, and products structures for the formation of

3 trans configurations of 8C, 13C, 2C, and 7C of PHE on the Ni(111) surface. The first row: 8C

4 Htrans; the second row: 9C+H; the third row: 13C Htrans; the fourth row: 12C+H; the fifth row:

5 2C Htrans; the sixth row: 3C+H; the seventh row: 7C Htrans; the eighth row: 6C+H.

6



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2 **Figure S13.** Reaction networks for the formation of trans configurations of 8C, 13C, 2C, and 7C

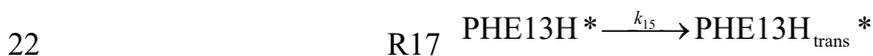
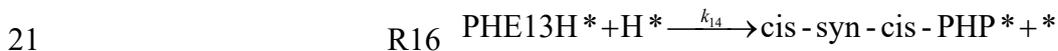
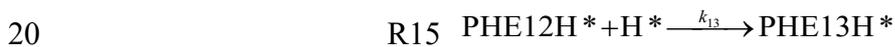
3 of PHE on the Ni(111) surface.

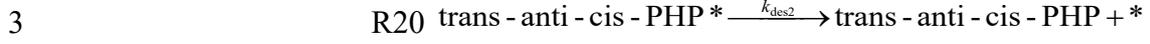
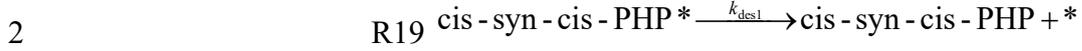
4

5

1 3. Microkinetic modeling

2 A microkinetic modeling was established to investigate the changes in reaction
3 rates and product selectivity of PHE hydrogenation at different temperatures. The
4 forward reaction rates were used to approximately estimate the entire process. The
5 elementary reactions are as follows:





4

5 Among them, R1 and R2 represent the adsorption processes of PHE and hydrogen,
 6 and R3–R18 are the elementary reactions for forming cis-syn-cis PHP and trans-anti-
 7 cis PHP. The species coverages (θ) of reactants and products can be calculated by the
 8 following formulas:

9
$$\theta_{\text{PHE}} = c_{\text{PHE}} k_{\text{PHE}} \theta^*$$

10
$$\theta_{\text{H}} = c_{\text{H}_2} \frac{1}{2} k_{\text{H}} \theta^*$$

11 The steady-state approximation was applied to R3–R20:

12
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE1H}}}{dt} = k_1 \theta_{\text{PHE}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_2 \theta_{\text{PHE1H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

13
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE2H}}}{dt} = k_2 \theta_{\text{PHE1H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_3 \theta_{\text{PHE2H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

14
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE3H}}}{dt} = k_3 \theta_{\text{PHE2H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_4 \theta_{\text{PHE3H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

15
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE4H}}}{dt} = k_4 \theta_{\text{PHE3H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_5 \theta_{\text{PHE4H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

16
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE5H}}}{dt} = k_5 \theta_{\text{PHE4H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_6 \theta_{\text{PHE5H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

17
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE6H}}}{dt} = k_6 \theta_{\text{PHE5H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_7 \theta_{\text{PHE6H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

18
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE7H}}}{dt} = k_7 \theta_{\text{PHE6H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_8 \theta_{\text{PHE7H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

19
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE8H}}}{dt} = k_8 \theta_{\text{PHE7H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_9 \theta_{\text{PHE8H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

20
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE9H}}}{dt} = k_9 \theta_{\text{PHE8H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_{10} \theta_{\text{PHE9H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

21
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE10H}}}{dt} = k_{10} \theta_{\text{PHE9H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_{11} \theta_{\text{PHE10H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

22
$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE11H}}}{dt} = k_{11} \theta_{\text{PHE10H}} \theta_{\text{H}} - k_{12} \theta_{\text{PHE11H}} \theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE12H}}}{dt} = k_{12}\theta_{\text{PHE11H}}\theta_{\text{H}} - k_{13}\theta_{\text{PHE12H}}\theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE13H}}}{dt} = k_{13}\theta_{\text{PHE12H}}\theta_{\text{H}} - k_{14}\theta_{\text{PHE13H}}\theta_{\text{H}} - k_{15}\theta_{\text{PHE13H}} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP}}}{dt} = k_{14}\theta_{\text{PHE13H}}\theta_{\text{H}} - k_{des1}\theta_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP}} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{PHE13H-trans}}}{dt} = k_{15}\theta_{\text{PHE13H}} - k_{16}\theta_{\text{PHE13H-trans}}\theta_{\text{H}} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{trans-anti-cis-PHP}}}{dt} = k_{16}\theta_{\text{PHE13H-trans}}\theta_{\text{H}} - k_{des2}\theta_{\text{trans-anti-cis-PHP}} = 0$$

The relationship of all coverages is:

$$\theta^* + \sum_{j \neq *} \theta_j = 1$$

The calculation results of k and θ at different temperatures are shown in Table S11-23.

The reaction rates for the formation of cis-syn-cis-PHP and trans-anti-cis-PHP can be calculated using the following formula.

$$\gamma_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP}} = k_{14}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP}}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{trans-anti-cis-PHP}} = k_{16}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{trans-anti-cis-PHP}}$$

The selectivity of cis-syn-cis-PHP and trans-anti-cis-PHP were calculated using the following Equation.

$$S = \frac{\gamma_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP/trans-anti-cis-PHP}}}{\gamma_{\text{cis-syn-cis-PHP}} + \gamma_{\text{trans-anti-cis-PHP}}}$$

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Table S9. ΔG_a (kJ/mol) for PHE hydrogenation on the Ni(100) surface

T(K)	533.15	553.15	573.15	593.15	613.15	633.15	653.15	673.15	693.15	713.15	733.15	753.15	773.15
PHE1H	68.14	68.12	68.11	68.11	68.11	68.12	68.14	68.16	68.18	68.22	68.25	68.30	68.34
PHE2H	64.78	65.02	65.26	65.52	65.78	66.05	66.33	66.61	66.90	67.20	67.50	67.81	68.13
PHE3H	65.70	65.90	66.11	66.33	66.56	66.79	67.03	67.28	67.53	67.79	68.06	68.33	68.61
PHE4H	36.52	36.67	36.83	36.99	37.17	37.34	37.53	37.72	37.92	38.12	38.33	38.54	38.76
PHE5H	82.95	83.25	83.57	83.89	84.22	84.56	84.90	85.26	85.61	85.98	86.35	86.72	87.10
PHE6H	67.95	68.12	68.29	68.47	68.66	68.86	69.06	69.27	69.49	69.72	69.95	70.18	70.42
PHE7H	72.86	73.48	74.10	74.74	75.39	76.04	76.71	77.39	78.08	78.77	79.48	80.19	80.91
PHE8H	62.78	62.53	62.29	62.04	61.80	61.56	61.32	61.08	60.85	60.61	60.38	60.15	59.92
PHE9H	92.12	91.52	90.91	90.30	89.68	89.06	88.43	87.80	87.17	86.53	85.89	85.25	84.60
PHE10H	68.70	68.80	68.91	69.02	69.15	69.28	69.42	69.56	69.71	69.87	70.03	70.20	70.38
PHE11H	24.77	24.85	24.93	25.03	25.13	25.24	25.36	25.49	25.63	25.78	25.93	26.09	26.26
PHE12H	125.61	126.25	126.91	127.60	128.31	129.04	129.79	130.57	131.36	132.18	133.01	133.86	134.73
PHE13H	54.50	54.70	54.91	55.13	55.34	55.56	55.79	56.02	56.26	56.50	56.74	56.99	57.24
cis-syn-cis- PHP	26.63	26.31	26.00	25.69	25.38	25.07	24.77	24.46	24.16	23.86	23.56	23.26	22.96
PHE13H- trans	133.80	134.92	136.05	137.21	138.39	139.59	140.80	142.04	143.29	144.56	145.85	147.15	148.47
trans-anti- cis PHP	61.01	60.54	60.07	59.60	59.13	58.67	58.20	57.73	57.27	56.81	56.34	55.88	55.42
cis-syn-cis- PHP _{des}	-146.17	-146.14	-146.11	-146.08	-146.06	-146.03	-146.01	-146.00	-145.98	-145.97	-145.96	-145.95	-145.94
trans-anti- cis-PHP _{des}	-207.78	-209.06	-210.35	-211.67	-213.01	-214.36	-215.74	-217.13	-218.54	-219.97	-221.41	-222.88	-224.35

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Table S10. ΔG_a (kJ/mol) for PHE hydrogenation on the Ni(111) surface

T(K)	533.15	553.15	573.15	593.15	613.15	633.15	653.15	673.15	693.15	713.15	733.15	753.15	773.15
PHE1H	70.70	70.91	71.12	71.34	71.56	71.79	72.02	72.26	72.51	72.76	73.01	73.27	73.53
PHE2H	18.50	18.62	18.74	18.86	18.99	19.12	19.26	19.40	19.54	19.69	19.84	20.00	20.15
PHE3H	81.65	82.05	82.46	82.88	83.31	83.76	84.21	84.67	85.14	85.62	86.11	86.61	87.12
PHE4H	33.82	33.89	33.96	34.03	34.11	34.20	34.29	34.38	34.48	34.58	34.69	34.80	34.91
PHE5H	64.08	64.43	64.78	65.14	65.51	65.89	66.28	66.67	67.07	67.48	67.90	68.32	68.75
PHE6H	15.45	15.60	15.76	15.91	16.07	16.23	16.39	16.56	16.72	16.89	17.06	17.23	17.41
PHE7H	15.59	14.75	13.90	13.03	12.17	11.29	10.41	9.52	8.63	7.73	6.83	5.92	5.00
PHE8H	56.98	56.43	55.88	55.33	54.77	54.21	53.65	53.09	52.53	51.97	51.40	50.84	50.27
PHE9H	79.53	80.18	80.83	81.50	82.18	82.87	83.57	84.28	85.00	85.73	86.47	87.22	87.98
PHE10H	23.08	23.16	23.25	23.34	23.44	23.53	23.64	23.74	23.85	23.97	24.08	24.20	24.33
PHE11H	16.41	16.39	16.38	16.38	16.38	16.38	16.39	16.40	16.42	16.44	16.46	16.49	16.52
PHE12H	60.54	61.01	61.48	61.96	62.45	62.96	63.47	63.99	64.52	65.05	65.60	66.15	66.72
PHE13H	67.38	68.18	69.00	69.83	70.67	71.53	72.41	73.29	74.19	75.10	76.03	76.97	77.92
cis-syn-cis PHP	-1.40	-1.76	-2.11	-2.46	-2.82	-3.18	-3.54	-3.90	-4.26	-4.62	-4.99	-5.35	-5.72
PHE13H- trans	85.86	85.78	85.70	85.63	85.56	85.50	85.44	85.38	85.33	85.29	85.24	85.20	85.16
trans-anti- cis PHP	33.90	33.33	32.76	32.18	31.61	31.03	30.46	29.88	29.30	28.72	28.14	27.56	26.99
cis-syn-cis- PHP _{des}	-161.85	-162.59	-163.34	-164.10	-164.87	-165.66	-166.46	-167.26	-168.08	-168.92	-169.76	-170.61	-171.48
trans-anti- cis-PHP _{des}	-175.89	-175.73	-175.57	-175.42	-175.26	-175.11	-174.97	-174.82	-174.68	-174.54	-174.40	-174.26	-174.13

2

1 **Table S11.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 533 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.04E+06	4.51E+05	PHE	2.94E-09	2.94E-09
R2	4.96E+10	2.15E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	2.43E+06	1.35E+06	PHE1H	1.15E-09	1.93E-14
R4	6.22E+06	2.06E+11	PHE2H	1.39E-09	2.70E-08
R5	5.16E+06	1.47E+05	PHE3H	2.24E-12	6.56E-13
R6	3.20E+09	6.06E+09	PHE4H	6.87E-08	6.02E-10
R7	1.04E+05	6.61E+06	PHE5H	2.45E-09	1.13E-14
R8	2.92E+06	3.53E+11	PHE6H	8.83E-09	1.10E-14
R9	8.11E+05	3.62E+11	PHE7H	7.76E-10	1.05E-10
R10	9.23E+06	3.79E+07	PHE8H	5.42E-07	2.16E-08
R11	1.32E+04	1.84E+05	PHE9H	3.20E-09	5.50E-14
R12	2.24E+06	7.23E+10	PHE10H	1.71E-13	1.17E-14
R13	4.19E+10	3.39E+11	PHE11H	1.07E-03	2.63E-10
R14	6.67E+00	1.51E+07	PHE12H	1.13E-10	1.12E-09
R15	6.32E+07	3.54E+06	PHE13H	2.56E-13	2.47E-16
R16	2.80E+10	1.61E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	2.36E-09	1.04E-07
R17	1.15E+00(s ⁻¹)	5.29E+04(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H-trans	1.99E-20	1.88E-21
R18	1.47E+07	6.92E+09	trans-anti-cis PHP	1.05E-13	8.09E-15
R19	3.04E+06	3.82E+04	*	1.90E-11	4.39E-11
R20	2.79E+00	1.61E+03			

3

1 **Table S12.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 553 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.06E+06	4.59E+05	PHE	3.11E-09	3.11E-09
R2	4.87E+10	2.11E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	4.41E+06	2.38E+06	PHE1H	1.33E-09	3.10E-14
R4	1.03E+07	2.39E+11	PHE2H	1.59E-09	2.77E-08
R5	8.62E+06	2.68E+05	PHE3H	3.18E-12	9.15E-13
R6	4.30E+09	8.10E+09	PHE4H	6.98E-08	6.97E-10
R7	1.96E+05	1.06E+07	PHE5H	2.73E-09	1.85E-14
R8	5.02E+06	4.01E+11	PHE6H	1.03E-08	1.45E-14
R9	1.33E+06	5.10E+11	PHE7H	8.21E-10	1.07E-10
R10	1.67E+07	6.93E+07	PHE8H	4.19E-07	2.33E-08
R11	3.26E+04	3.18E+05	PHE9H	3.46E-09	8.43E-14
R12	3.95E+06	8.79E+10	PHE10H	2.61E-13	1.87E-14
R13	5.24E+10	3.98E+11	PHE11H	8.26E-04	3.22E-10
R14	1.66E+01	2.30E+07	PHE12H	1.42E-10	1.41E-09
R15	9.65E+07	5.26E+06	PHE13H	3.55E-13	4.17E-16
R16	3.85E+10	1.78E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	1.22E-09	5.45E-08
R17	2.73E+00(s ⁻¹)	1.11E+05(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	3.54E-20	4.38E-21
R18	2.74E+07	1.05E+10	trans-anti-cis PHP	7.54E-14	5.91E-15
R19	1.13E+07	1.36E+05	*	1.97E-11	4.56E-11
R20	1.29E+01	7.82E+03			

3

4

1 **Table S13.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 573 K.

Reaction	Rate constant ($M^{-1} s^{-1}$)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.08E+06	4.68E+05	PHE	3.28E-09	3.28E-09
R2	4.78E+10	2.07E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	7.65E+06	4.04E+06	PHE1H	1.54E-09	4.81E-14
R4	1.63E+07	2.75E+11	PHE2H	1.80E-09	2.84E-08
R5	1.39E+07	4.67E+05	PHE3H	4.43E-12	1.25E-12
R6	5.67E+09	1.06E+10	PHE4H	7.10E-08	7.99E-10
R7	3.53E+05	1.66E+07	PHE5H	3.01E-09	2.93E-14
R8	8.32E+06	4.51E+11	PHE6H	1.19E-08	1.88E-14
R9	2.12E+06	7.02E+11	PHE7H	8.65E-10	1.09E-10
R10	2.90E+07	1.22E+08	PHE8H	3.30E-07	2.52E-08
R11	7.59E+04	5.26E+05	PHE9H	3.73E-09	1.25E-13
R12	6.72E+06	1.06E+11	PHE10H	3.90E-13	2.87E-14
R13	6.43E+10	4.62E+11	PHE11H	6.51E-04	3.89E-10
R14	3.85E+01	3.40E+07	PHE12H	1.75E-10	1.74E-09
R15	1.43E+08	7.60E+06	PHE13H	4.83E-13	6.78E-16
R16	5.20E+10	1.95E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	6.56E-10	2.98E-08
R17	6.11E+00(s^{-1})	2.21E+05(s^{-1})	PHE13H- trans	6.01E-20	9.61E-21
R18	4.90E+07	1.56E+10	trans-anti- cis PHP	5.53E-14	4.40E-15
R19	3.82E+07	4.44E+05	*	2.04E-11	4.72E-11
R20	5.33E+01	3.41E+04			

3

1 **Table S14.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 593 K.

Reaction	Rate constant ($M^{-1} s^{-1}$)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.10E+06	4.76E+05	PHE	3.46E-09	3.46E-09
R2	4.70E+10	2.03E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	1.28E+07	6.61E+06	PHE1H	1.76E-09	7.28E-14
R4	2.52E+07	3.14E+11	PHE2H	2.04E-09	2.92E-08
R5	2.17E+07	7.83E+05	PHE3H	6.05E-12	1.67E-12
R6	7.32E+09	1.37E+10	PHE4H	7.25E-08	9.13E-10
R7	6.11E+05	2.50E+07	PHE5H	3.32E-09	4.52E-14
R8	1.33E+07	5.05E+11	PHE6H	1.36E-08	2.40E-14
R9	3.25E+06	9.50E+11	PHE7H	9.13E-10	1.11E-10
R10	4.85E+07	2.07E+08	PHE8H	2.65E-07	2.72E-08
R11	1.67E+05	8.41E+05	PHE9H	4.02E-09	1.82E-13
R12	1.10E+07	1.25E+11	PHE10H	5.69E-13	4.30E-14
R13	7.79E+10	5.31E+11	PHE11H	5.26E-04	4.67E-10
R14	8.42E+01	4.89E+07	PHE12H	2.14E-10	2.14E-09
R15	2.07E+08	1.07E+07	PHE13H	6.44E-13	1.07E-15
R16	6.87E+10	2.13E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	3.71E-10	1.71E-08
R17	1.29E+01(s^{-1})	4.22E+05(s^{-1})	PHE13H- trans	9.83E-20	1.99E-20
R18	8.43E+07	2.26E+10	trans-anti- cis PHP	4.14E-14	3.34E-15
R19	1.20E+08	1.34E+06	*	2.12E-11	4.89E-11
R20	2.00E+02	1.35E+05			

3

1 **Table S15.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 613 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.12E+06	4.84E+05	PHE	3.63E-09	3.63E-09
R2	4.62E+10	2.00E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	2.07E+07	1.05E+07	PHE1H	1.99E-09	1.07E-13
R4	3.77E+07	3.55E+11	PHE2H	2.29E-09	2.99E-08
R5	3.29E+07	1.27E+06	PHE3H	8.08E-12	2.19E-12
R6	9.30E+09	1.73E+10	PHE4H	7.38E-08	1.03E-09
R7	1.02E+06	3.68E+07	PHE5H	3.63E-09	6.76E-14
R8	2.07E+07	5.61E+11	PHE6H	1.55E-08	3.01E-14
R9	4.85E+06	1.26E+12	PHE7H	9.56E-10	1.12E-10
R10	7.86E+07	3.39E+08	PHE8H	2.14E-07	2.92E-08
R11	3.51E+05	1.30E+06	PHE9H	4.30E-09	2.58E-13
R12	1.75E+07	1.47E+11	PHE10H	8.08E-13	6.27E-14
R13	9.30E+10	6.06E+11	PHE11H	4.31E-04	5.53E-10
R14	1.74E+02	6.86E+07	PHE12H	2.57E-10	2.58E-09
R15	2.92E+08	1.47E+07	PHE13H	8.41E-13	1.64E-15
R16	8.94E+10	2.32E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	2.16E-10	1.01E-08
R17	2.59E+01(s ⁻¹)	7.70E+05(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	1.55E-19	3.95E-20
R18	1.40E+08	3.19E+10	trans-anti-cis PHP	3.15E-14	2.57E-15
R19	3.49E+08	3.77E+06	*	2.19E-11	5.05E-11
R20	6.91E+02	4.91E+05			

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1 **Table S16.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 633 K.

Reaction	Rate constant ($M^{-1} s^{-1}$)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.14E+06	4.91E+05	PHE	3.80E-09	3.80E-09
R2	4.55E+10	1.97E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	3.25E+07	1.61E+07	PHE1H	2.25E-09	1.53E-13
R4	5.51E+07	3.99E+11	PHE2H	2.55E-09	3.07E-08
R5	4.85E+07	2.00E+06	PHE3H	1.06E-11	2.83E-12
R6	1.16E+10	2.16E+10	PHE4H	7.51E-08	1.16E-09
R7	1.65E+06	5.27E+07	PHE5H	3.96E-09	9.87E-14
R8	3.13E+07	6.20E+11	PHE6H	1.75E-08	3.70E-14
R9	7.05E+06	1.65E+12	PHE7H	9.99E-10	1.13E-10
R10	1.24E+08	5.40E+08	PHE8H	1.76E-07	3.12E-08
R11	7.03E+05	1.96E+06	PHE9H	4.60E-09	3.58E-13
R12	2.69E+07	1.71E+11	PHE10H	1.13E-12	8.93E-14
R13	1.10E+11	6.85E+11	PHE11H	3.60E-04	6.50E-10
R14	3.44E+02	9.42E+07	PHE12H	3.07E-10	3.10E-09
R15	4.03E+08	1.98E+07	PHE13H	1.08E-12	2.44E-15
R16	1.14E+11	2.51E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	1.30E-10	6.16E-09
R17	4.95E+01(s^{-1})	1.36E+06(s^{-1})	PHE13H- trans	2.37E-19	7.47E-20
R18	2.26E+08	4.42E+10	trans-anti-cis PHP	2.43E-14	2.01E-15
R19	9.54E+08	9.92E+06	*	2.25E-11	5.21E-11
R20	2.20E+03	1.65E+06			

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1 **Table S17.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 653 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.15E+06	4.99E+05	PHE	3.99E-09	3.99E-09
R2	4.48E+10	1.94E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	4.96E+07	2.41E+07	PHE1H	2.52E-09	2.16E-13
R4	7.86E+07	4.45E+11	PHE2H	2.83E-09	3.15E-08
R5	7.00E+07	3.05E+06	PHE3H	1.38E-11	3.61E-12
R6	1.44E+10	2.67E+10	PHE4H	7.67E-08	1.30E-09
R7	2.58E+06	7.40E+07	PHE5H	4.31E-09	1.41E-13
R8	4.60E+07	6.81E+11	PHE6H	1.98E-08	4.51E-14
R9	1.00E+07	2.13E+12	PHE7H	1.05E-09	1.15E-10
R10	1.90E+08	8.38E+08	PHE8H	1.46E-07	3.35E-08
R11	1.35E+06	2.87E+06	PHE9H	4.91E-09	4.88E-13
R12	4.04E+07	1.97E+11	PHE10H	1.54E-12	1.25E-13
R13	1.28E+11	7.70E+11	PHE11H	3.05E-04	7.59E-10
R14	6.49E+02	1.27E+08	PHE12H	3.63E-10	3.69E-09
R15	5.46E+08	2.61E+07	PHE13H	1.37E-12	3.55E-15
R16	1.44E+11	2.71E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	8.08E-11	3.90E-09
R17	9.09E+01(s ⁻¹)	2.31E+06(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	3.53E-19	1.36E-19
R18	3.54E+08	6.01E+10	trans-anti-cis PHP	1.91E-14	1.59E-15
R19	2.46E+09	2.47E+07	*	2.33E-11	5.38E-11
R20	6.53E+03	5.14E+06			

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1 **Table S18.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 673 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.17E+06	5.07E+05	PHE	4.18E-09	4.17E-09
R2	4.41E+10	1.91E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	7.39E+07	3.53E+07	PHE1H	2.81E-09	2.98E-13
R4	1.10E+08	4.94E+11	PHE2H	3.13E-09	3.24E-08
R5	9.87E+07	4.54E+06	PHE3H	1.76E-11	4.53E-12
R6	1.75E+10	3.24E+10	PHE4H	7.82E-08	1.45E-09
R7	3.94E+06	1.02E+08	PHE5H	4.66E-09	1.98E-13
R8	6.62E+07	7.45E+11	PHE6H	2.22E-08	5.41E-14
R9	1.39E+07	2.72E+12	PHE7H	1.09E-09	1.16E-10
R10	2.83E+08	1.27E+09	PHE8H	1.23E-07	3.57E-08
R11	2.51E+06	4.12E+06	PHE9H	5.22E-09	6.53E-13
R12	5.91E+07	2.25E+11	PHE10H	2.08E-12	1.71E-13
R13	1.48E+11	8.59E+11	PHE11H	2.62E-04	8.78E-10
R14	1.18E+03	1.68E+08	PHE12H	4.24E-10	4.36E-09
R15	7.27E+08	3.38E+07	PHE13H	1.72E-12	5.04E-15
R16	1.80E+11	2.92E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	5.15E-11	2.53E-09
R17	1.61E+02(s ⁻¹)	3.80E+06(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	5.10E-19	2.39E-19
R18	5.40E+08	8.04E+10	trans-anti- cis PHP	1.52E-14	1.27E-15
R19	6.00E+09	5.81E+07	*	2.40E-11	5.54E-11
R20	1.81E+04	1.50E+07			

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1 **Table S19.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 693 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.19E+06	5.14E+05	PHE	4.36E-09	4.36E-09
R2	4.35E+10	1.88E+10	H	9.99E-01	1.00E+00
R3	1.07E+08	5.05E+07	PHE1H	3.11E-09	4.04E-13
R4	1.50E+08	5.45E+11	PHE2H	3.43E-09	3.34E-08
R5	1.36E+08	6.60E+06	PHE3H	2.22E-11	5.64E-12
R6	2.11E+10	3.91E+10	PHE4H	7.96E-08	1.61E-09
R7	5.88E+06	1.37E+08	PHE5H	5.02E-09	2.72E-13
R8	9.33E+07	8.10E+11	PHE6H	2.47E-08	6.44E-14
R9	1.89E+07	3.42E+12	PHE7H	1.13E-09	1.17E-10
R10	4.14E+08	1.87E+09	PHE8H	1.04E-07	3.82E-08
R11	4.50E+06	5.77E+06	PHE9H	5.54E-09	8.61E-13
R12	8.46E+07	2.56E+11	PHE10H	2.75E-12	2.31E-13
R13	1.70E+11	9.53E+11	PHE11H	2.28E-04	1.01E-09
R14	2.06E+03	2.18E+08	PHE12H	4.92E-10	5.12E-09
R15	9.52E+08	4.30E+07	PHE13H	2.12E-12	7.04E-15
R16	2.21E+11	3.13E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	3.36E-11	1.69E-09
R17	2.74E+02(s ⁻¹)	6.09E+06(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	7.22E-19	4.05E-19
R18	8.05E+08	1.06E+11	trans-anti-cis PHP	1.22E-14	1.03E-15
R19	1.39E+10	1.30E+08	*	2.47E-11	5.71E-11
R20	4.75E+04	4.15E+07			

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1 **Table S20.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 713 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.21E+06	5.22E+05	PHE	2.54E-11	5.88E-11
R2	4.29E+10	1.86E+10	H	4.55E-09	4.56E-09
R3	1.53E+08	7.08E+07	PHE1H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R4	2.02E+08	5.97E+11	PHE2H	3.44E-09	5.40E-13
R5	1.85E+08	9.39E+06	PHE3H	3.76E-09	3.44E-08
R6	2.52E+10	4.65E+10	PHE4H	2.76E-11	6.93E-12
R7	8.57E+06	1.82E+08	PHE5H	8.13E-08	1.78E-09
R8	1.29E+08	8.78E+11	PHE6H	5.40E-09	3.67E-13
R9	2.53E+07	4.26E+12	PHE7H	2.75E-08	7.58E-14
R10	5.93E+08	2.72E+09	PHE8H	1.17E-09	1.19E-10
R11	7.82E+06	7.93E+06	PHE9H	8.90E-08	4.07E-08
R12	1.19E+08	2.88E+11	PHE10H	5.87E-09	1.12E-12
R13	1.93E+11	1.05E+12	PHE11H	3.60E-12	3.07E-13
R14	3.47E+03	2.79E+08	PHE12H	2.01E-04	1.16E-09
R15	1.23E+09	5.40E+07	PHE13H	5.67E-10	5.97E-09
R16	2.69E+11	3.34E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	2.59E-12	9.65E-15
R17	4.53E+02(s ⁻¹)	9.50E+06(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	2.25E-11	1.16E-09
R18	1.17E+09	1.37E+11	trans-anti- cis PHP	9.98E-19	6.67E-19
R19	3.10E+10	2.79E+08	*	9.97E-15	8.46E-16
R20	1.18E+05	1.08E+08			

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1 **Table S 21.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 733 K.

Reaction	Rate constant ($M^{-1} s^{-1}$)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.22E+06	5.29E+05	PHE	4.74E-09	4.74E-09
R2	4.23E+10	1.83E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	2.14E+08	9.75E+07	PHE1H	3.79E-09	7.09E-13
R4	2.68E+08	6.52E+11	PHE2H	4.10E-09	3.53E-08
R5	2.47E+08	1.31E+07	PHE3H	3.41E-11	8.42E-12
R6	2.98E+10	5.49E+10	PHE4H	8.29E-08	1.95E-09
R7	1.22E+07	2.37E+08	PHE5H	5.80E-09	4.88E-13
R8	1.75E+08	9.48E+11	PHE6H	3.04E-08	8.81E-14
R9	3.33E+07	5.25E+12	PHE7H	1.22E-09	1.20E-10
R10	8.33E+08	3.86E+09	PHE8H	7.68E-08	4.32E-08
R11	1.32E+07	1.07E+07	PHE9H	6.21E-09	1.43E-12
R12	1.63E+08	3.23E+11	PHE10H	4.64E-12	4.01E-13
R13	2.18E+11	1.15E+12	PHE11H	1.78E-04	1.31E-09
R14	5.68E+03	3.52E+08	PHE12H	6.48E-10	6.91E-09
R15	1.56E+09	6.69E+07	PHE13H	3.13E-12	1.30E-14
R16	3.24E+11	3.57E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	1.54E-11	8.04E-10
R17	7.27E+02(s^{-1})	1.45E+07(s^{-1})	PHE13H- trans	1.35E-18	1.07E-18
R18	1.68E+09	1.76E+11	trans-anti-cis PHP	8.20E-15	6.99E-16
R19	6.60E+10	5.75E+08	*	2.61E-11	6.04E-11
R20	2.78E+05	2.69E+08			

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1 **Table S22.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 753 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.24E+06	5.36E+05	PHE	4.95E-09	4.94E-09
R2	4.17E+10	1.81E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	2.93E+08	1.32E+08	PHE1H	4.16E-09	9.19E-13
R4	3.49E+08	7.09E+11	PHE2H	4.47E-09	3.63E-08
R5	3.25E+08	1.80E+07	PHE3H	4.17E-11	1.01E-11
R6	3.48E+10	6.43E+10	PHE4H	8.48E-08	2.14E-09
R7	1.71E+07	3.05E+08	PHE5H	6.22E-09	6.39E-13
R8	2.33E+08	1.02E+12	PHE6H	3.37E-08	1.02E-13
R9	4.31E+07	6.41E+12	PHE7H	1.26E-09	1.21E-10
R10	1.15E+09	5.39E+09	PHE8H	6.69E-08	4.59E-08
R11	2.17E+07	1.42E+07	PHE9H	6.57E-09	1.81E-12
R12	2.21E+08	3.60E+11	PHE10H	5.94E-12	5.17E-13
R13	2.45E+11	1.26E+12	PHE11H	1.61E-04	1.49E-09
R14	9.05E+03	4.38E+08	PHE12H	7.39E-10	7.96E-09
R15	1.96E+09	8.19E+07	PHE13H	3.76E-12	1.72E-14
R16	3.87E+11	3.79E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	1.08E-11	5.72E-10
R17	1.14E+03(s ⁻¹)	2.16E+07(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	1.80E-18	1.67E-18
R18	2.36E+09	2.22E+11	trans-anti- cis PHP	6.84E-15	5.82E-16
R19	1.35E+11	1.14E+09	*	2.69E-11	6.20E-11
R20	6.25E+05	6.36E+08			

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1 **Table S23.** Reaction rate constants and coverage for elementary hydrogenation steps of PHE on
 2 Ni(100) and Ni(111) surfaces at 773 K.

Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)		Species	Coverage	
	Ni(100)	Ni(111)		Ni(100)	Ni(111)
R1	1.25E+06	5.43E+05	PHE	5.15E-09	5.14E-09
R2	4.12E+10	1.78E+10	H	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
R3	3.96E+08	1.76E+08	PHE1H	4.54E-09	1.18E-12
R4	4.49E+08	7.68E+11	PHE2H	4.84E-09	3.74E-08
R5	4.21E+08	2.42E+07	PHE3H	5.04E-11	1.21E-11
R6	4.04E+10	7.46E+10	PHE4H	8.65E-08	2.34E-09
R7	2.36E+07	3.87E+08	PHE5H	6.64E-09	8.28E-13
R8	3.07E+08	1.09E+12	PHE6H	3.70E-08	1.17E-13
R9	5.51E+07	7.75E+12	PHE7H	1.30E-09	1.22E-10
R10	1.56E+09	7.40E+09	PHE8H	5.85E-08	4.87E-08
R11	3.49E+07	1.86E+07	PHE9H	6.92E-09	2.27E-12
R12	2.95E+08	3.99E+11	PHE10H	7.48E-12	6.60E-13
R13	2.72E+11	1.37E+12	PHE11H	1.45E-04	1.67E-09
R14	1.40E+04	5.40E+08	PHE12H	8.35E-10	9.13E-09
R15	2.44E+09	9.91E+07	PHE13H	4.46E-12	2.25E-14
R16	4.57E+11	4.03E+13	cis-syn-cis PHP	7.64E-12	4.15E-10
R17	1.73E+03(s ⁻¹)	3.15E+07(s ⁻¹)	PHE13H- trans	2.36E-18	2.55E-18
R18	3.26E+09	2.77E+11	trans-anti- cis PHP	5.73E-15	4.90E-16
R19	2.68E+11	2.18E+09	*	2.76E-11	6.37E-11
R20	1.35E+06	1.44E+09			

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