

Supporting Information

Mechanism by which Nitrous Oxide Enables Continuous Methane Hydroxylation on Fe-CHA Zeolites

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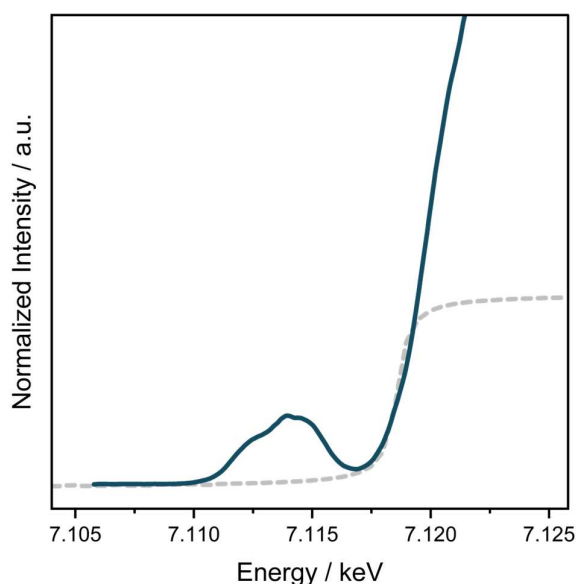
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12 **Supplementary Note 1**

13 **Pre-edge subtraction and analysis from Fe K α HERFD-XANES**

14 In analogy to Wilke et al.¹ and Boubnov et al.², the enhanced spectral resolution provided by
15 Fe K α high-energy-resolution fluorescence-detected XANES (HERFD-XANES) was
16 exploited to extract quantitative information from the pre-edge region. To isolate the pre-edge
17 contribution, the background was modeled and subtracted using an arctangent function
18 describing the absorption edge:



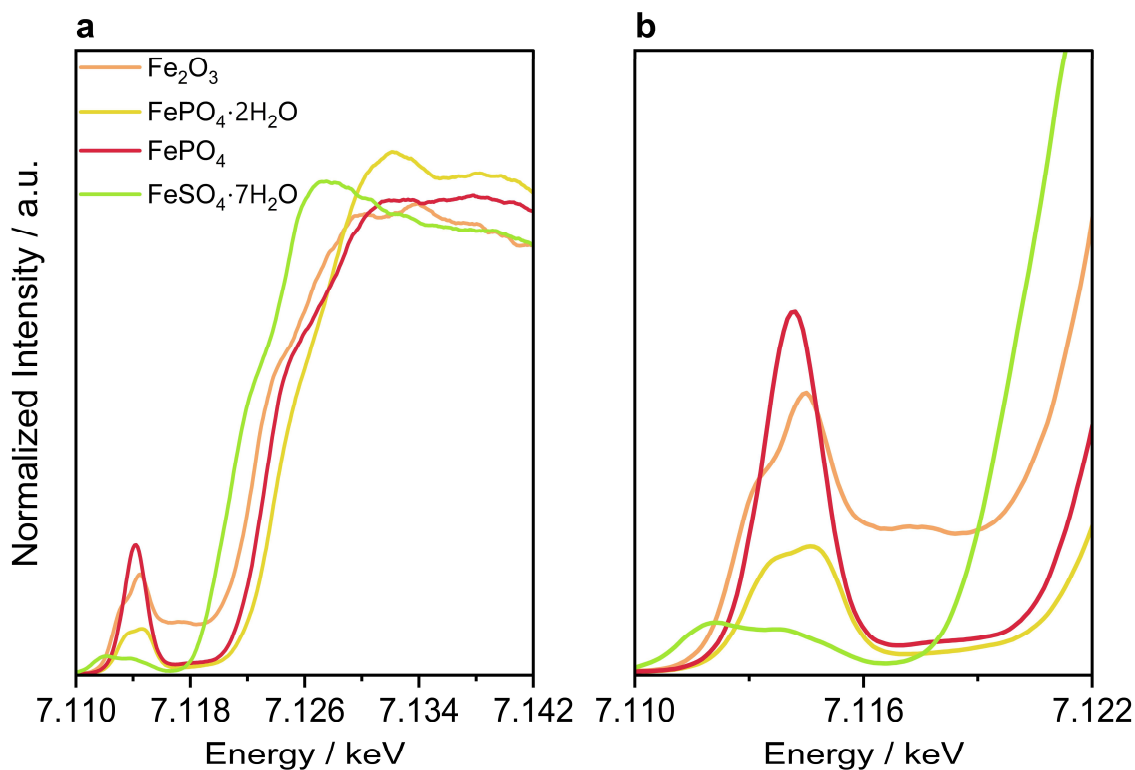
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20 **Pre-edge subtraction from Fe K α HERFD-XANES.** The experimental spectrum (solid
21 curve) is modeled with an arctangent function describing the absorption edge (dashed curve).

22

23 The resulting pre-edge feature was then fitted using a sum of Gaussian functions, and the
24 number of components was chosen to obtain an optimal description of the experimental data.
25 From both the raw and fitted pre-edge, the integrated pre-edge intensity was determined from
26 the peak area, and the centroid position was calculated. Reference compounds with well-
27 defined Fe oxidation states and coordination environments were used for calibration of the

28 centroid position analysis: $\text{FePO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Fe^{3+} , octahedral), Fe_2O_3 (Fe^{3+} , octahedral), FePO_4
29 (Fe^{3+} , tetrahedral), and $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Fe^{2+} , octahedral). The pre-edge analysis enables a
30 quantitative estimation of the average Fe redox state, leveraging the linear relationship between
31 the centroid position and the oxidation state.³



32
33 **Fe K α HERFD-XANES reference spectra used for pre-edge calibration. a**, Normalized
34 HERFD-XANES of $\text{FePO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Fe^{3+} , octahedral), Fe_2O_3 (Fe^{3+} , octahedral), FePO_4 (Fe^{3+} ,
35 tetrahedral), and $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Fe^{2+} , octahedral). **b**, Magnified view of the pre-edge region.

36

37 It is important to emphasize that pre-edge analysis alone cannot unambiguously determine the
38 coordination geometry of Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} , particularly when the system deviates from ideal sym-
39 metries. This limitation is especially relevant for Fe sites in zeolites, where a range of local
40 environments can arise due to varying anchoring sites and degrees of speciation.³

41 **Supplementary Note 2**

42 **Multivariate curve resolution (MCR)**

43 Applying the multivariate curve resolution-alternating least squares (MCR-ALS) method to
44 decompose the time-resolved *operando* XANES data of Fe-CHA, three significant components
45 (**Fig. 6g**; lack of fit presented in **Supplementary Figure 23**) associated with Fe centers were
46 identified over the whole reaction protocol and captured most of the signal variance: an
47 oxidized component formed upon contact with N₂O (Component 1), and two reduced
48 components (Components 2 and 3) observed under CH₄ and N₂O+CH₄. The absorption edge
49 energies of these components, determined at a normalized intensity of 0.9, were correlated with
50 the formal Fe oxidation-state analysis reported in **Supplementary Figure 6**, following an
51 approach analogous to previous studies.^{4, 5} The linear correlation between edge energy and
52 average oxidation state was derived from Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ reference compounds, yielding average
53 oxidation states of 2.9 for Component 1, 2.2 for Component 2, and 2.1 for Component 3.

54 Accordingly, Component 1 is assigned predominantly to Fe³⁺ species in Fe-CHA, whereas
55 Components 2 and 3 are assigned predominantly to Fe²⁺ species. The latter two components
56 differ mainly in the local coordination environment of Fe, as indicated by the feature at
57 7.120 keV in Component 2, which is characteristic of square-planar Fe²⁺ species, as discussed
58 in the main text. Since the kinetic analysis focused on the evolution of Fe oxidation states,
59 Components 2 and 3 were combined into a single contribution representative of Fe²⁺ species
60 for the analysis shown in **Fig. 6h**.

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64 **Supplementary Note 3**

65 **Additional details on density functional theory calculations**

66 Hexagonal CHA unit cells containing 36 tetrahedral (T) sites were taken from the International
67 Zeolite Association (IZA) database (13.675×13.675×14.767, unit: Å)⁶ and used to model the
68 CHA framework studied in the present work. Two Si atoms within the same six-membered ring
69 (6MR), separated by two intervening T sites, were substituted by Al (denoted Z₂, where Z
70 indicates CHA and “2” denotes two Al atoms per unit cell), giving a Si/Al ratio of 17/1,
71 comparable to that of the CHA catalysts used experimentally. This Al arrangement stabilizes
72 isolated Fe²⁺ cations in a square-planar coordination environment (Z₂Fe²⁺, **Supplementary**
73 **Fig. 26a**), which is energetically preferred^{7, 8} and consistent with the spectroscopic evidence
74 reported in the main text.

75 Periodic, spin-polarized DFT calculations were performed with the *Vienna Ab initio Simulation*
76 *Package* (VASP 6.5.1)^{9, 10} and the projector-augmented wave (PAW) method, using a plane-
77 wave cutoff of 400 eV. Geometries were first relaxed with the Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof
78 (PBE)¹¹ functional, including a Hubbard correction ($U= 3$ eV) on Fe¹² within the Dudarev
79 scheme¹³ (PBE+ U); they were then refined using the hybrid Heyd–Scuseria–Ernzerhof
80 (HSE)^{14, 15, 16} functional, with the fraction of Hartree–Fock exchange set to 0.15, following
81 prior calibrations for Fe-containing systems.^{12, 17} In both stages, dispersive corrections by DFT-
82 D3 with Becke–Johnson (BJ) damping^{18, 19} were applied. Total energies and forces were
83 converged to 10⁻⁶ eV and 0.03 eV·Å⁻¹, respectively, with the first Brillouin zone sampled at
84 the Γ -point. The partial charges of Fe were obtained from Bader analysis^{20, 21, 22} and normalized
85 against Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ reference structures to estimate effective oxidation states. The Fe²⁺
86 reference is Z₂Fe²⁺ (**Supplementary Fig. 26a**), in which Fe compensates the two framework
87 negative charges introduced by two Al substitutions; the Fe³⁺ reference is Z₂Fe³⁺OH

88 (Supplementary Fig. 26b), in which Fe additionally compensates the negative charge
89 associated with the hydroxyl group.¹⁷

90 Vibrational frequencies were computed for the PBE+*U* (+ D3-BJ) optimized structures at the
91 same level of theory using the finite-difference method with a displacement of 0.015 Å. The
92 resulting frequencies were used to obtain zero-point vibrational energies (ZPE) and to derive
93 enthalpies (H), entropies (S), and free energies (G) according to:²³

$$H = E_0 + \text{ZPE} + H_{\text{trans}} + H_{\text{rot}} + H_{\text{vib}} \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$G = H - T \cdot \left[\frac{2}{3} \cdot (S_{\text{trans}}^{\text{gas}} + S_{\text{rot}}^{\text{gas}}) + S_{\text{vib}}^{\text{zeo}} \right] \quad (\text{S2})$$

94 Here, E_0 is the DFT-calculated electronic energy (including dispersion). The subscripts “trans”,
95 “rot”, and “vib” denote translational, rotational, and vibrational contributions derived from
96 standard statistical mechanics formalisms.²⁴ Low-frequency modes often correspond to
97 frustrated translations/rotations of the zeolite-confined species or framework and can
98 disproportionately affect entropy estimates ($S_{\text{vib}}^{\text{zeo}}$). Therefore, frequencies below 100 cm⁻¹ were
99 set to 100 cm⁻¹, except for modes corresponding to motion along the reaction coordinate for
100 transition states.^{25, 26} For mobile molecules confined within the CHA cages (e.g., N₂O, CH₄,
101 CH₃OH, and N₂), partial translational and rotational freedom was retained by approximating
102 these contributions as 2/3 of the corresponding gas-phase entropies ($S_{\text{trans}}^{\text{gas}}$ and $S_{\text{rot}}^{\text{gas}}$, Eq. S2),
103 consistent with prior theoretical treatments of CHA under comparable conditions.^{23, 27, 28, 29}

104 Transition states were initially located using the nudged elastic band (NEB) method³⁰ at the
105 PBE+*U* (+ D3-BJ) level, with total energies converged to 10⁻⁶ eV and atomic forces below
106 0.03 eV·Å⁻¹; they were then refined at the HSE level using the Dimer method³¹ to the same
107 convergence criteria. Transition states were confirmed by the detection of one imaginary
108 frequency corresponding to the vibration along the reaction coordinate.

109 **Supplementary Tables**

110 **Supplementary Table 1.** Summary of reported catalytic performance for continuous N₂O-
 111 assisted CH₄ hydroxylation, including catalyst composition, reaction conditions, and reported
 112 oxygenate selectivity and formation rates.^a

Catalyst	$r_{\text{MeOH+DME}}^{\text{b}}$ / $\mu\text{mol min}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{Fe}}^{-1}$	$S_{\text{MeOH+DME}}^{\text{c}}$ / %	Conditions	Ref.
Fe-CHA (0.4%wt Fe)	274.4	92	275 °C, 0.5%vol N ₂ O, 1%vol CH ₄ , Ar bal., 60 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 190 mg	this study
Fe-AEI (1.5%wt Fe)	267	85	250 °C, CH ₄ /N ₂ O/H ₂ O/Ar = 10:10:2:3, 25 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 100 mg	32
Fe-MOR^d (1.9 wt%)	301.2	25	300 °C, CH ₄ /N ₂ O/H ₂ O = 30:10:11-18, He bal., 100 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 300 mg	33
Fe-SSZ-13^d (1.4 wt%)	76.2	18		
Fe-SSZ-39^d (1.6 wt%)	107.3	6	270 °C, CH ₄ /N ₂ O/H ₂ O = 30:30:3, He bal., 50 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 300 mg	33
Fe-FER^d (1.5 wt%)	424.4	54		
Fe-ZSM-5^d (0.75 wt%)	313.3	26		

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116 Supplementary Table 1, continued.

Catalyst	$r_{\text{MeOH+DME}}^{\text{b}}$ / $\mu\text{mol min}^{-1}$ $\text{g}_{\text{Fe}}^{-1}$	$S_{\text{MeOH+DME}}^{\text{c}}$ / %	Conditions	Ref.
Fe-FER^d (0.5 wt%)	-	20	350 °C, CH ₄ /N ₂ O/He =	34
Fe-ZSM-5^d (0.5 wt%)	-	4	28:7:65, He bal.,	
Fe-Beta^d (0.5 wt%)	-	5	70 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 200 mg	
Fe-ZSM-5^d (2 wt%)	15.6	18.3	300 °C, 2%vol N ₂ O, 20%vol CH ₄ , Ar bal., 55 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 440 mg	35
Fe-ZSM-5^d (2 wt%)	-	1.9	300 °C, CH ₄ /N ₂ O/He = 20:2:78, He bal., 30 mL min ⁻¹ , m _{cat} = 360 mg	36

117 ^a Literature data, as published, has been re-calculated in terms of mass-intrinsic activity.118 ^b reaction rate.119 ^c Selectivity.120 ^d Selectivity and formation rate refer to MeOH only.

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122

123 **Supplementary Table 2.** Summary of steady-state continuous N₂O-assisted CH₄ oxidation
124 over Fe-CHA.

Temperature / °C	Conversion / %		Rates / $\mu\text{mol min}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{Fe}}^{-1}$			
	N ₂ O	CH ₄	N ₂ O	CH ₄	MeOH	MeOH +DME
275	2.44	1.02	416.18	298.48	41.98	274.37
300	6.13	3.07	1038.97	905.32	80.56	539.04
325	22.42	7.28	3798.18	2145.11	277.57	1200.86
350	45.21	13.37	7659.01	3936.54	532.15	1484.52

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127 **Supplementary Table 3.** Summary of reaction conditions used in each *operando* spectroscopic
 128 measurement, including flow rate, gas concentration, temperature, and catalyst mass.

	XAS	HERFD	DRIFTS	EPR
Catalyst mass (mg)	39.6	40.3	30.7	14.2
Temperature (°C)	275			
Flow mL min⁻¹	60	60	60	10
Gas Concentrations	1 vol% N ₂ O, Ar balance → 2 vol% CH ₄ , Ar balance			
Stepwise protocol				
Gas Concentrations	0.5 vol% N ₂ O, 1 vol% CH ₄ , Ar balance			
Co-feeding protocol				

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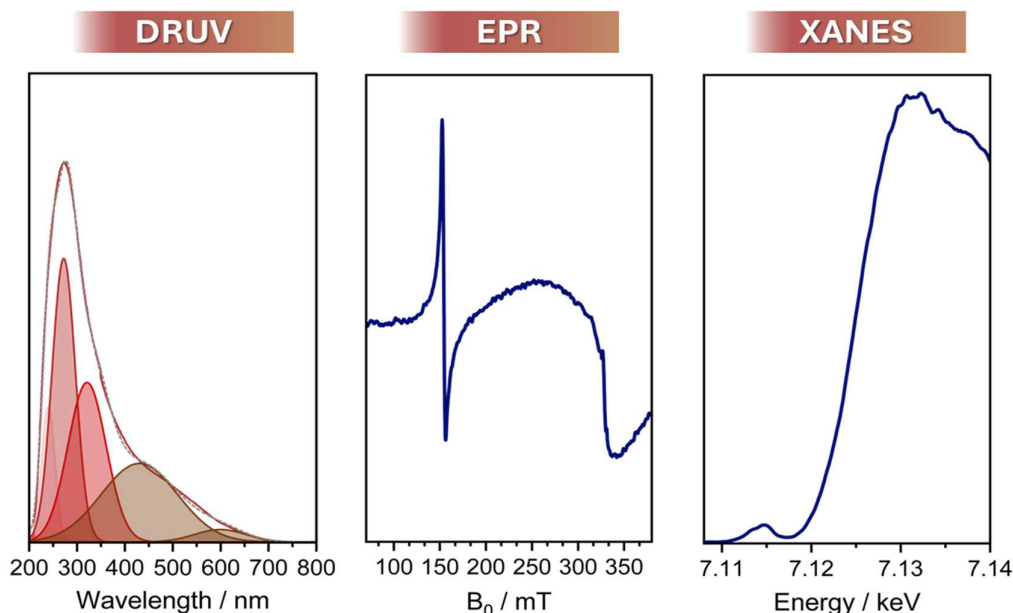
131 **Supplementary Table 4.** Summary of measurement parameters for HERFD-XAS, XAS, EPR,
 132 and DRIFTS, together with the modulation-excitation frequency and pulse sequence applied in
 133 the ME experiments.

ME Experiment		N₂O vs CH₄ with constant Ar flow	CH₄ vs Ar with constant N ₂ O flow
Conc. N₂O / vol%		1 vs 0	0.5
Conc. CH₄ / vol%		0 vs 2	1 vs 0
Temperature / °C		275	
Kα-HERFD	Half-cycle time / min	10	
	Number of cycles / -	12	
	Time spectrum / s	20	
	7.105 – 7.130 keV		
Kβ-HERFD	Half-cycle time / min	10	
	Number of cycles / -	12	
	Time spectrum / s	45	
	7.100 – 7.150 keV		
EPR^a	Half-cycle time / min	10	
	Number of cycles / -	12	
	Time spectrum / s	61	
	50 – 400 mT		
DRIFTS	Half-cycle time / min	10	
	Number of cycles / -	8	
	Time spectrum / s	7.5	
	4000 – 800 cm ⁻¹		

134

135 **Supplementary Figures**

136 **Supplementary Figure 1.** *Ex situ* spectroscopic results of Fe-CHA: Diffuse-reflectance UV-
137 vis (DRUV), EPR, and Fe K-edge XANES spectra collected at ambient conditions for Fe-CHA.



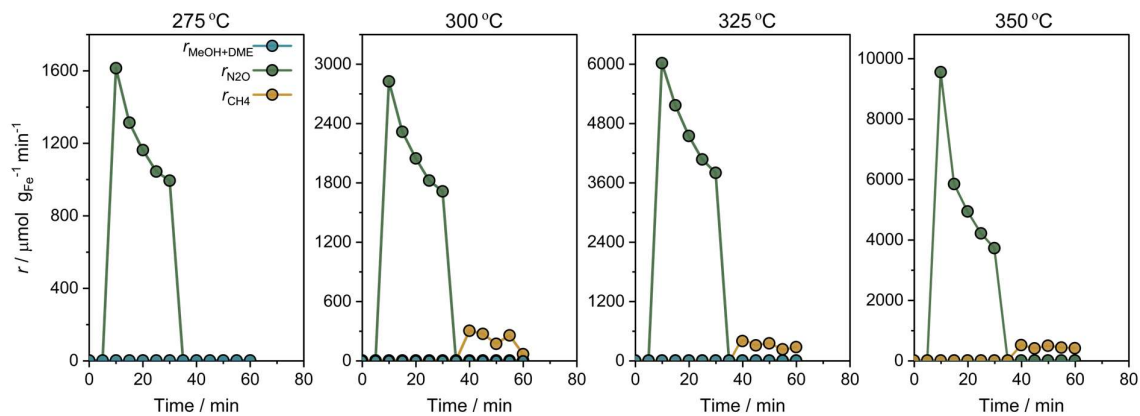
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139 As previously reported,³⁷ the DRUV spectra were dominated by ligand-to-metal charge-
140 transfer (LMCT) transitions associated with several Fe species: (i) tetrahedrally coordinated,
141 isolated Fe³⁺ species within the zeolite framework (Td, 200-250 nm); (ii) extra-framework Fe³⁺
142 species, possibly in octahedral coordination (Oh, 250-300 nm); (iii) oligomeric extra-
143 framework Fe³⁺ species confined within the zeolite pores (Fe_xO_y, 400-450 nm); and (iv) iron
144 oxide particles located on the external surface of the zeolite (around 550-650 nm).

145 The EPR spectrum mainly revealed two types of Fe species: 1) resonances at $g' \approx 4.3$ and $g' \approx$
146 8.8 assigned to Fe centers located either in framework positions or at extra-framework sites; 2)
147 the broad signal at $g' \approx 2$ attributed either to small Fe-oxide clusters (Fe_xO_y) or to highly
148 symmetric isolated Fe³⁺ species.^{37, 38}

149 The XANES spectrum is characterized by a pre-edge feature at 7.114 keV, typical of Fe³⁺
150 species, together with a shoulder at 7.112 keV, indicative of the co-presence of Fe²⁺ species.

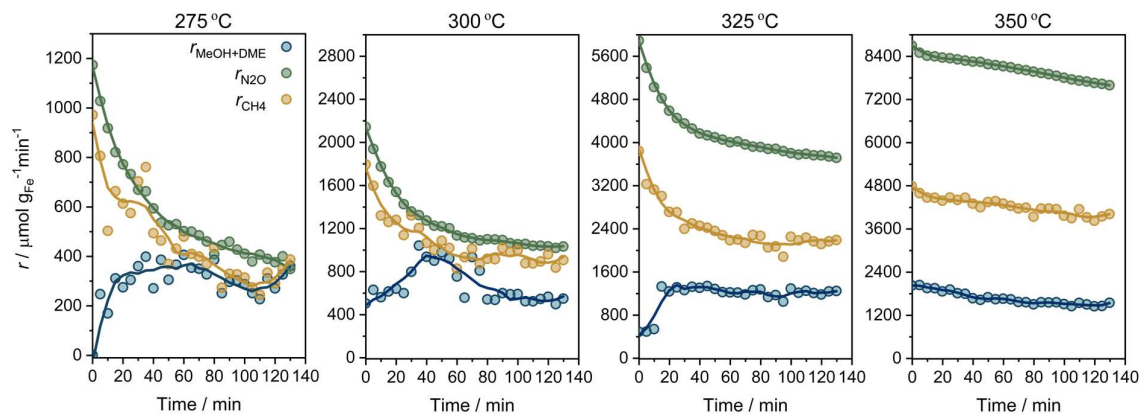
151 **Supplementary Figure 2.** N_2O consumption rate ($r_{\text{N}_2\text{O}}$), CH_4 consumption rate (r_{CH_4}), and
152 total oxygenate formation rate ($r_{\text{MeOH+DME}}$) as a function of temperature after exposing
153 Fe-CHA to 1% N_2O for 30 min, followed by 30 min of 2% CH_4 .



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156 **Supplementary Figure 3.** N_2O consumption rate ($r_{\text{N}_2\text{O}}$), CH_4 consumption rate (r_{CH_4}), and
157 total oxygenate formation rate ($r_{\text{MeOH+DME}}$) as a function of temperature during continuous
158 exposure of Fe-CHA to a 0.5% N_2O + 1% CH_4 mixture for 130 min. Solid curves are shown
159 to guide the eye.



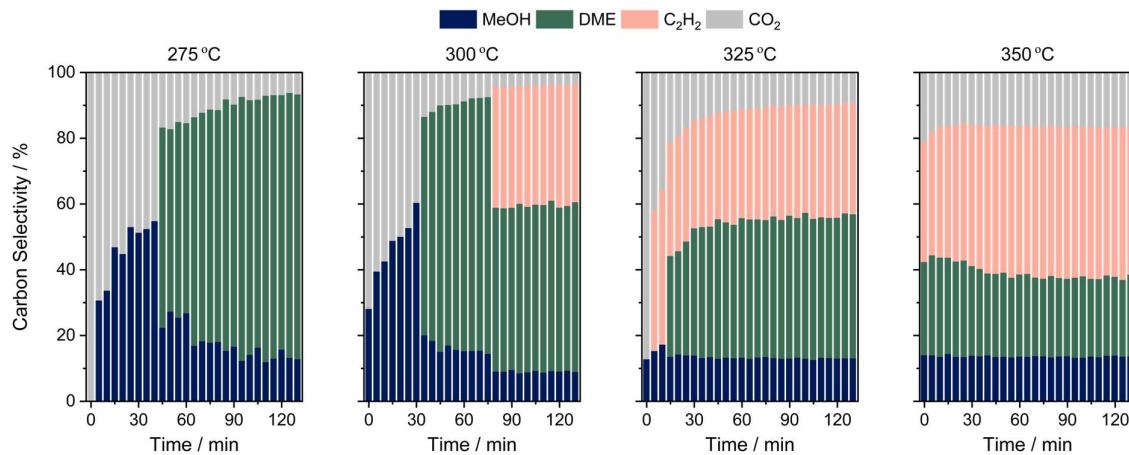
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164 **Supplementary Figure 4.** Time-on-stream evolution of carbon-based product selectivity
165 towards methanol (MeOH), dimethyl ether (DME), ethylene (C_2H_4), and CO_2 at the indicated
166 temperatures.

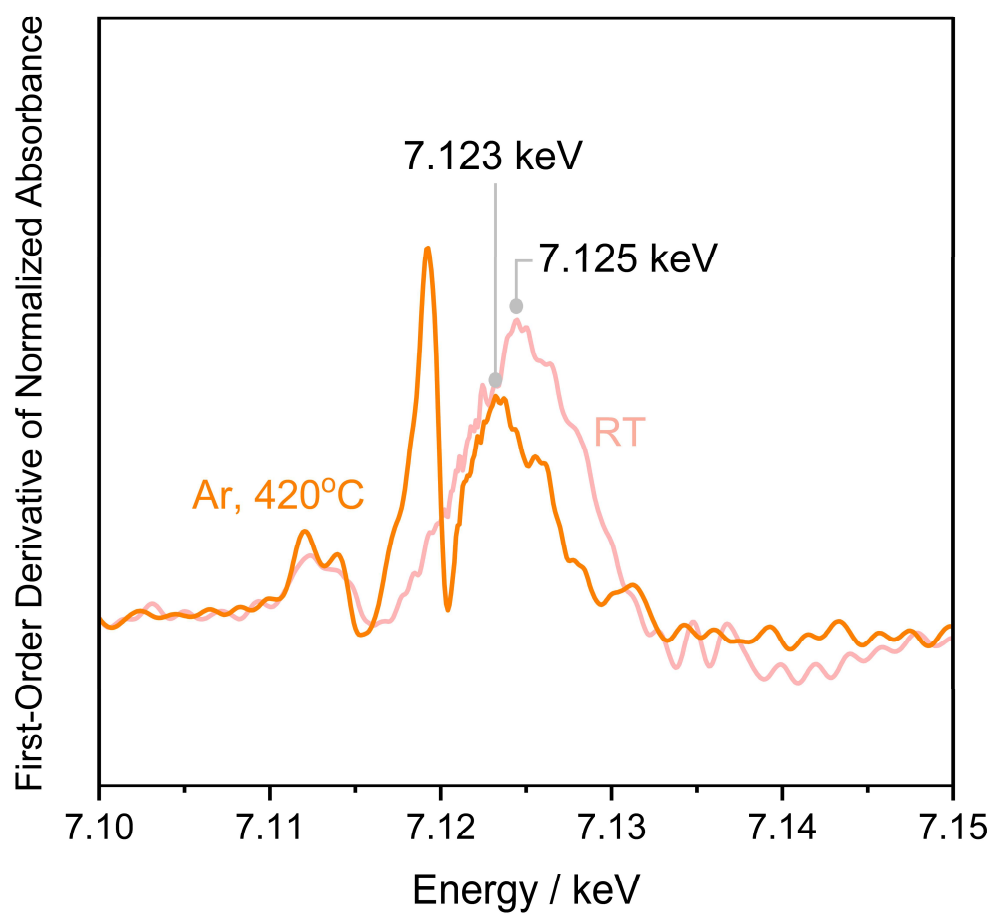


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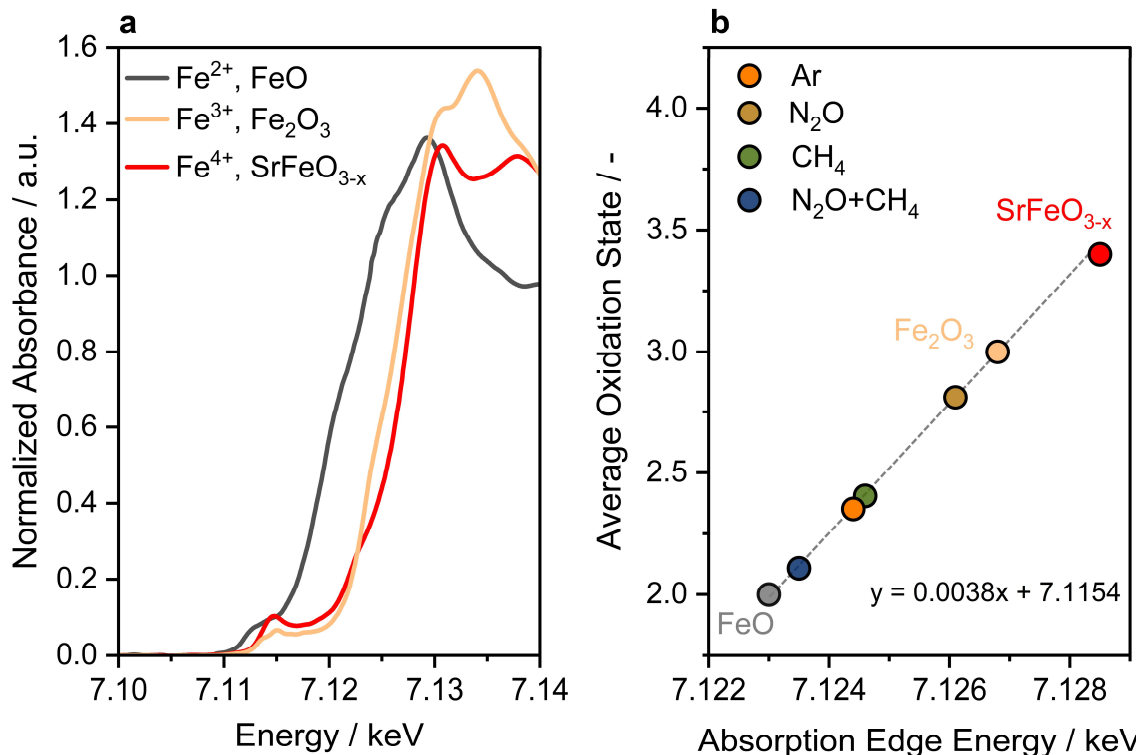
170 **Supplementary Figure 5.** First-order derivative of normalized absorbance and corresponding
171 absorption edge energies for pristine Fe-CHA and upon dehydration from room temperature
172 (RT) to 420°C. Experimental conditions: Ar flow ($60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$), temperature ramp to 420°C
173 ($10^\circ\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$).



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176 **Supplementary Figure 6. a**, Normalized Fe K-edge XANES spectra of reference compounds
 177 (FeO, Fe₂O₃, and SrFeO_{3-x}). **b**, Calibration of absorption energy at the normalized intensity of
 178 0.9 versus formal Fe oxidation state. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of 60 mL·min⁻¹,
 179 balanced in Ar, at 275°C, sequential exposure to N₂O (1 vol%) for 10 min, CH₄ (2 vol%) for
 180 10 min, N₂O (0.5 vol%) + CH₄ (1 vol%) for 20 min, and finally Ar for 5 min.



181

182 Absorption edge energies at the normalized intensity of 0.9 were plotted against formal Fe
 183 oxidation states, in analogous to previous analysis.^{4,5} The linear fit represents the correlation
 184 between edge energy and average oxidations state, derived from the Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ reference
 185 compounds.

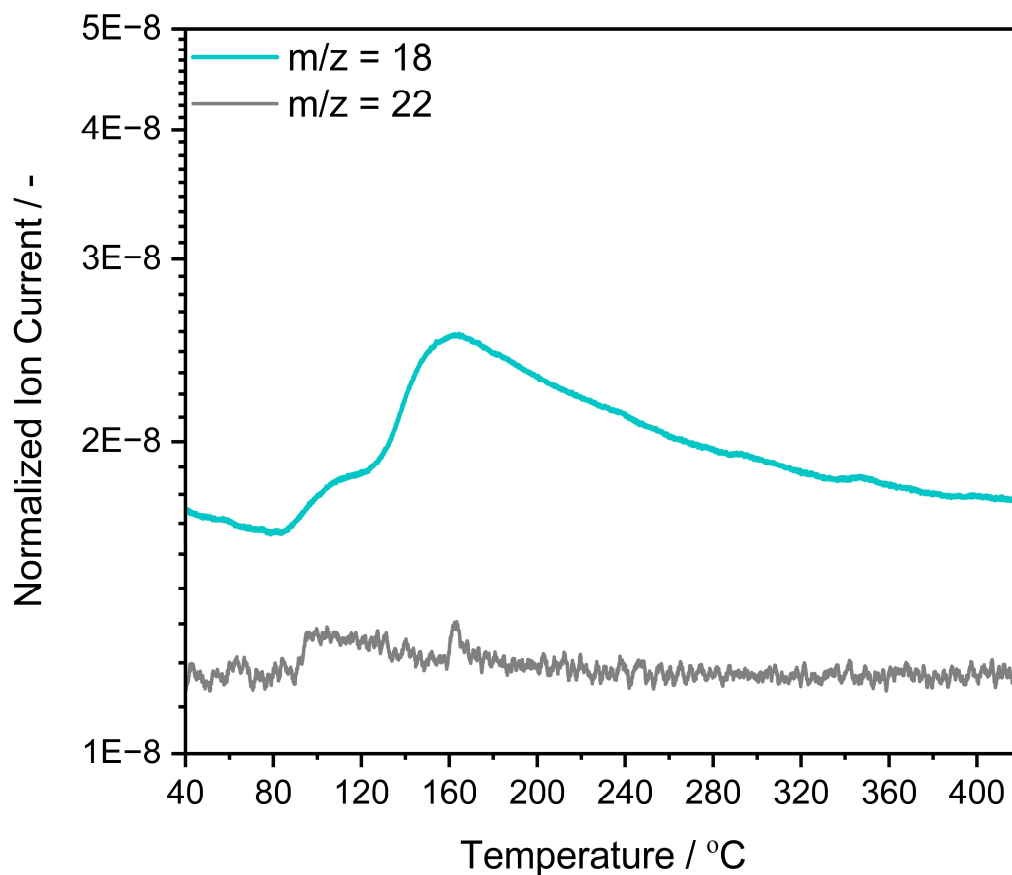
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189 **Supplementary Figure 7.** Evolution of the normalized ion current for the detected mass
190 fragments $m/z = 18$ (H_2O) and $m/z = 22$ (carbon fragment used to monitor CO_2 formation)
191 recorded during *operando* XAS (**Fig. 2a**) under dehydration conditions as a function of
192 temperature. Experimental conditions: Ar flow ($60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$), temperature ramp to 420°C
193 ($10^\circ\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$).

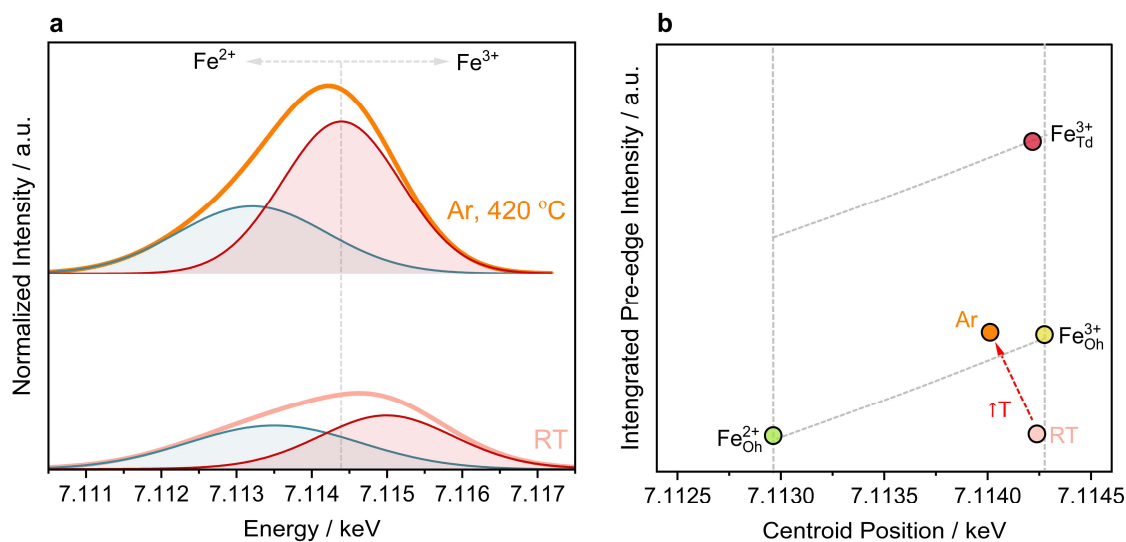
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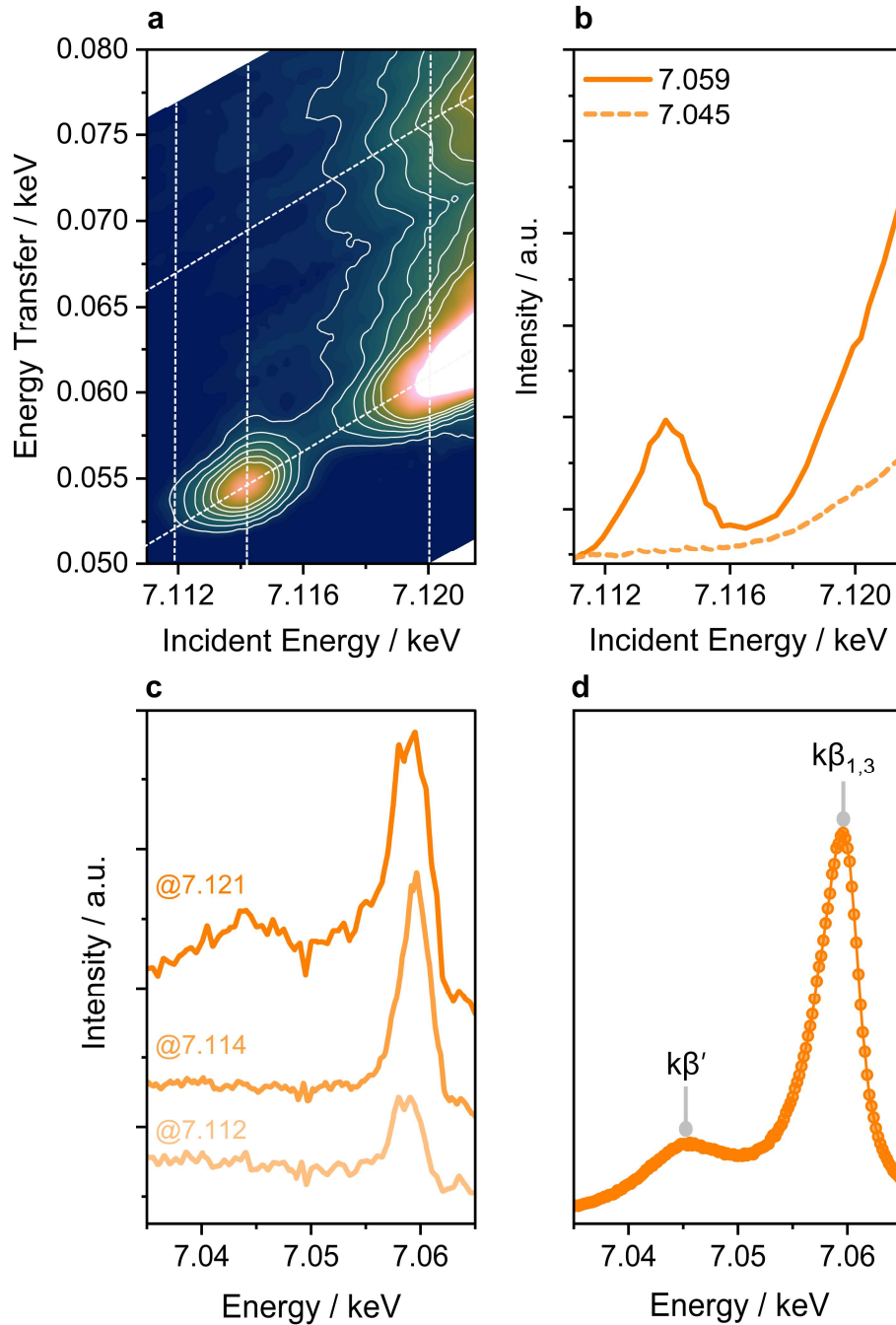
197 **Supplementary Figure 8. a**, Background-subtracted pre-edge features extracted from Fe-K α -
198 HERFD-XANES for pristine Fe-CHA and upon dehydration from room temperature (RT) to
199 420°C, along with corresponding Gaussian deconvolution fits. **b**, Pre-edge integrated intensity
200 and centroid position of the spectra including reference compounds representative of Fe²⁺ and
201 Fe³⁺ in Oh and Td coordination (**Supplementary Note 1**). Experimental conditions: Ar flow
202 (60 mL·min⁻¹), temperature ramp to 420°C (10°C·min⁻¹).



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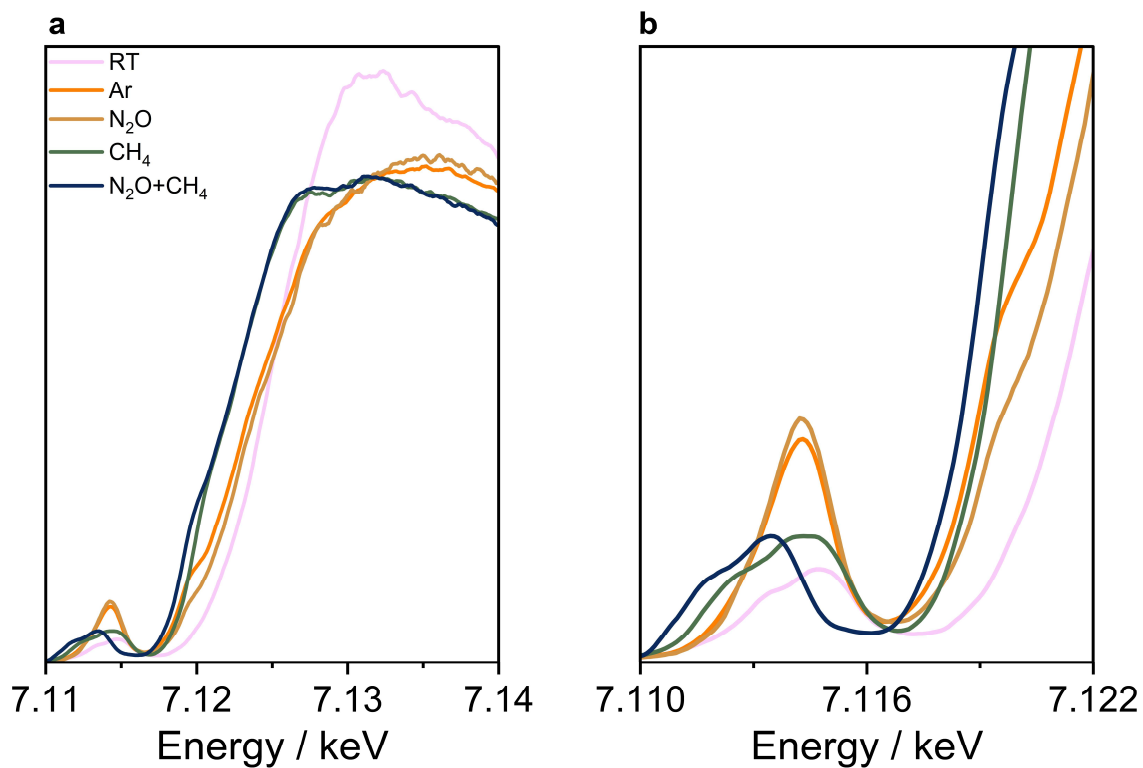
205 **Supplementary Figure 9. a**, $1s3p$ RIXS plane of Fe-CHA after dehydration at 420°C . **b**,
206 Contant emission energy (CEE) cuts yielding Fe K-edge-like spectra. **c**, Fe $K\beta_{1,3}$ and $K\beta'$
207 resonant XES spectra collected at constant incident energies (CIE). **d**, Non-resonant Fe $K\beta$
208 XES spectra collected on Fe-CHA after dehydration at 420°C . Experimental conditions: Ar
209 flow ($60\text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$), temperature ramp to 420°C ($10^{\circ}\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$).



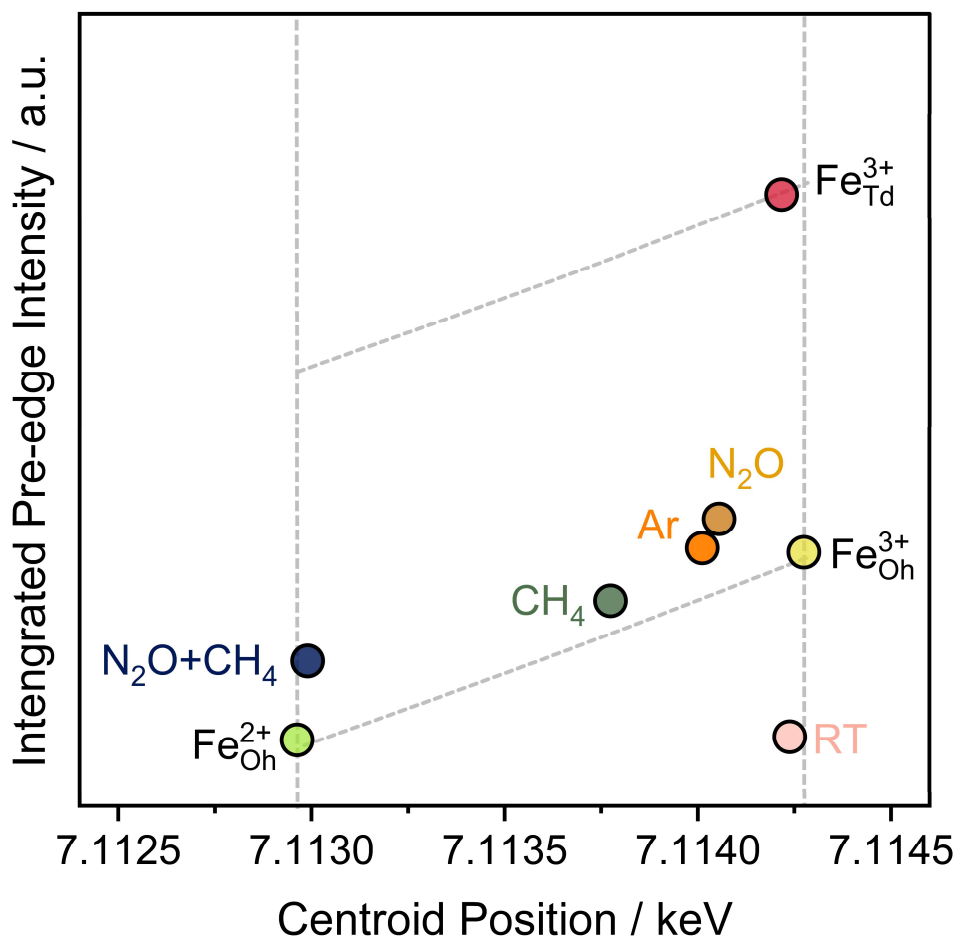
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212 **Supplementary Figure 10.** Fe K α -HERFD-XANES of Fe-CHA in different reaction environ-
213 nments. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of 60 mL·min⁻¹, balanced in Ar, at 275°C, se-
214 quential exposure to N₂O (1 vol%) for 10 min, CH₄ (2 vol%) for 10 min, N₂O (0.5 vol%) +
215 CH₄ (1 vol%) for 20 min, and finally Ar for 5 min.



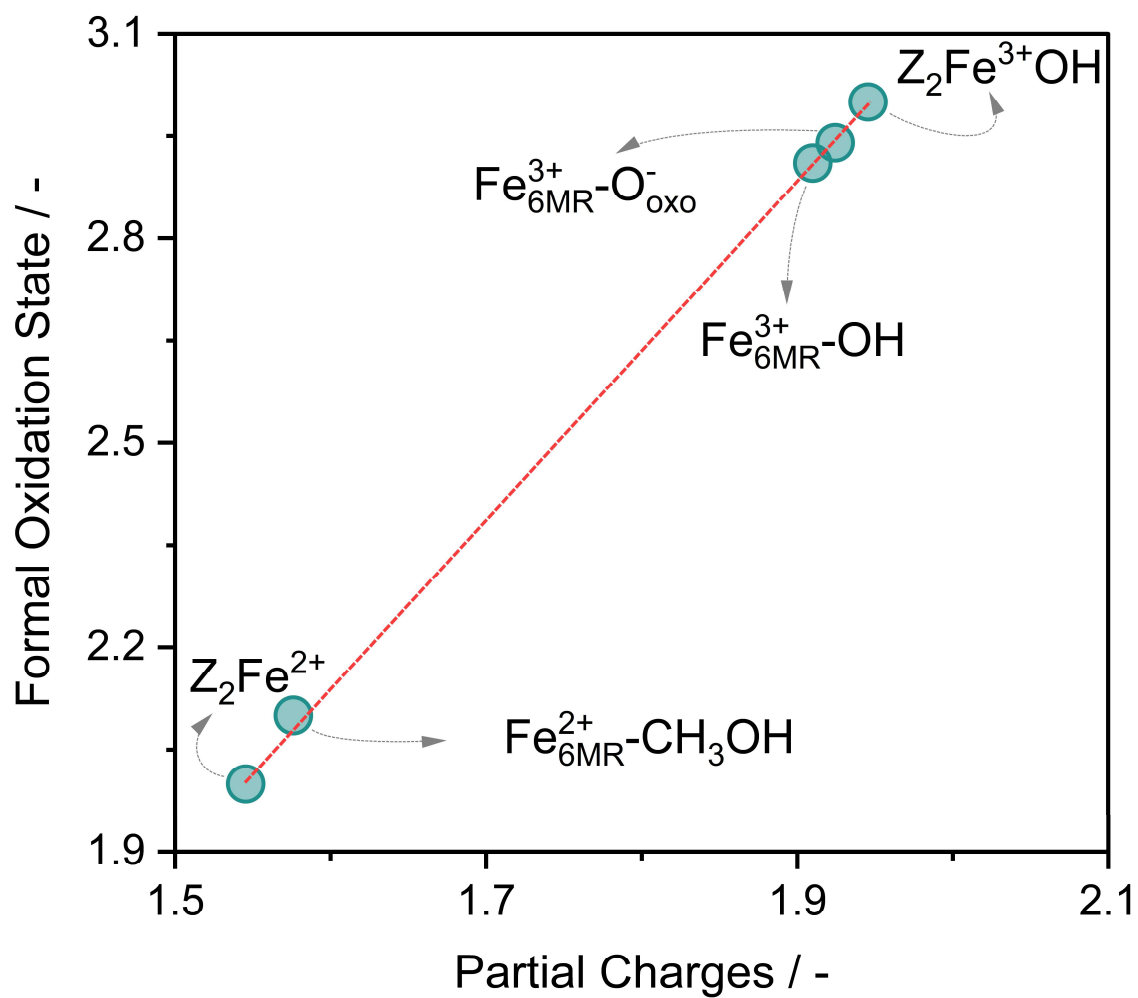
218 **Supplementary Figure 11.** Pre-edge integrated intensity and centroid position of the spectra
 219 from background subtracted Fe K α -HERFD-XANES including reference compounds
 220 representative of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ in Oh and Td coordination (**Supplementary Note 1**).
 221 Experimental conditions: total flow rate of 60 mL·min⁻¹, balanced in Ar, at 275°C, sequential
 222 exposure to N₂O (1 vol%) for 10 min, CH₄ (2 vol%) for 10 min, N₂O (0.5 vol%) + CH₄ (1
 223 vol%) for 20 min, and finally Ar for 5 min.



224

225 The pre-edge analysis provides an estimate of the average Fe oxidation state by exploiting the
 226 linear correlation between the pre-edge centroid energy and the Fe oxidation state. This
 227 correlation was calibrated using the Fe²⁺_{Oh} and Fe³⁺_{Oh} references, yielding the relationship $y =$
 228 $0.0013x + 7.1103$, where y is the centroid energy and x is the formal Fe oxidation state.

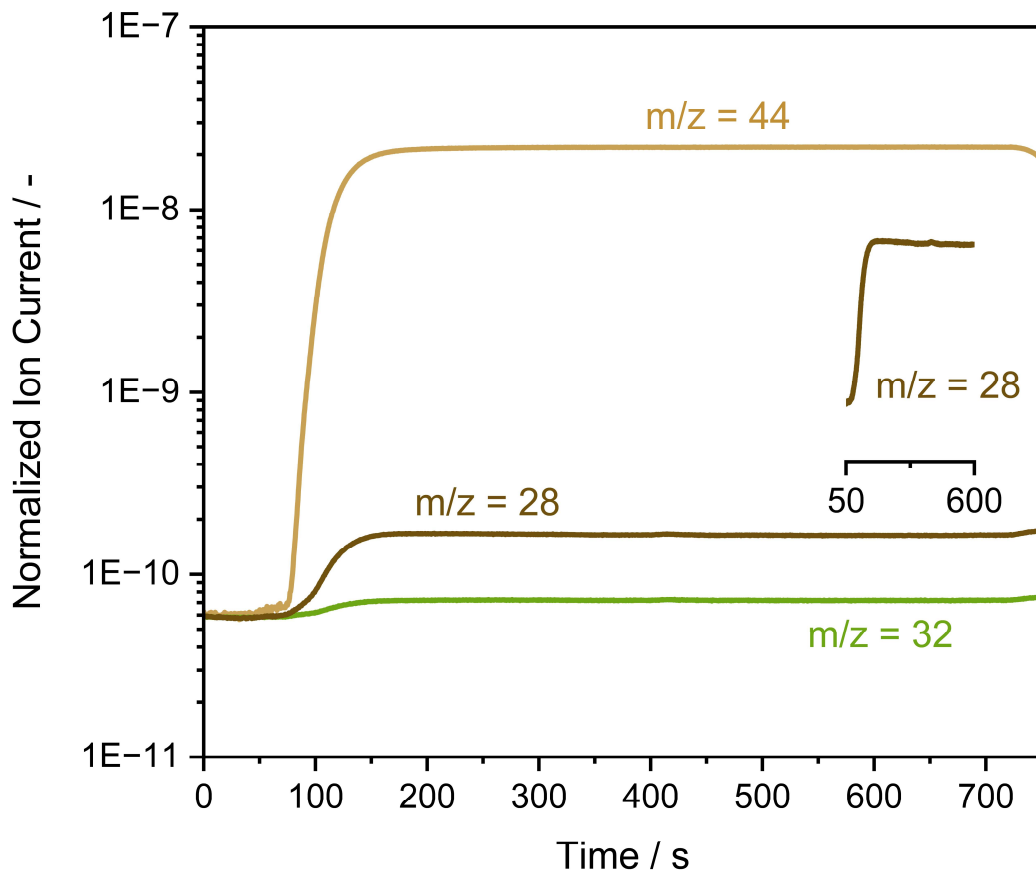
229 **Supplementary Figure 12.** Bader-analysis-derived partial Fe charges vs the corresponding
230 formal oxidation states of Fe species used as references ($Z_2\text{Fe}^{2+}$ and $Z_2\text{Fe}^{3+}\text{OH}$) and relevant in
231 CH_4 hydroxylation.



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233

234 **Supplementary Figure 13.** Temporal evolution of the normalized ion current for the detected
235 mass fragments $m/z = 44$ (N_2O), $m/z = 28$ (N_2), and $m/z = 32$ (O_2) during N_2O exposure in the
236 *operando* XAS experiment (**Fig. 3a**). The inset highlights the transient behavior of the $m/z =$
237 28 signal. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar, at 275°C ,
238 exposure to N_2O (1 vol%) for 10 min.



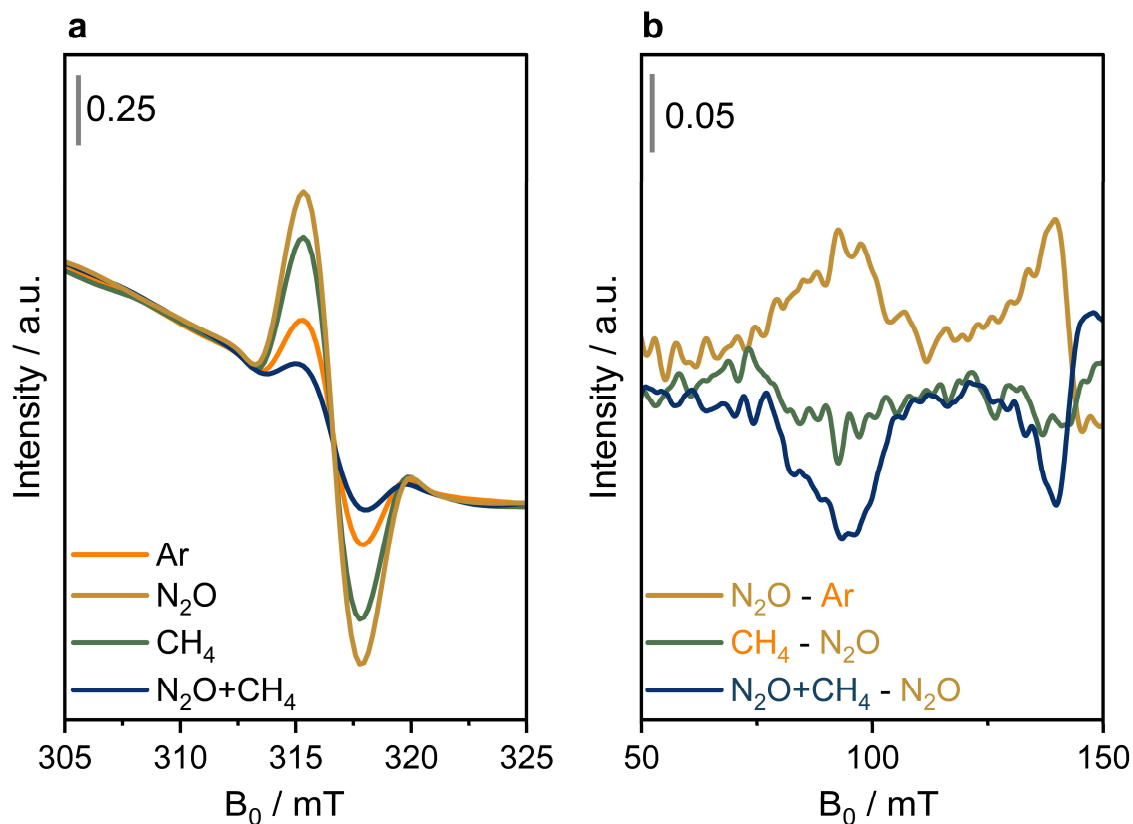
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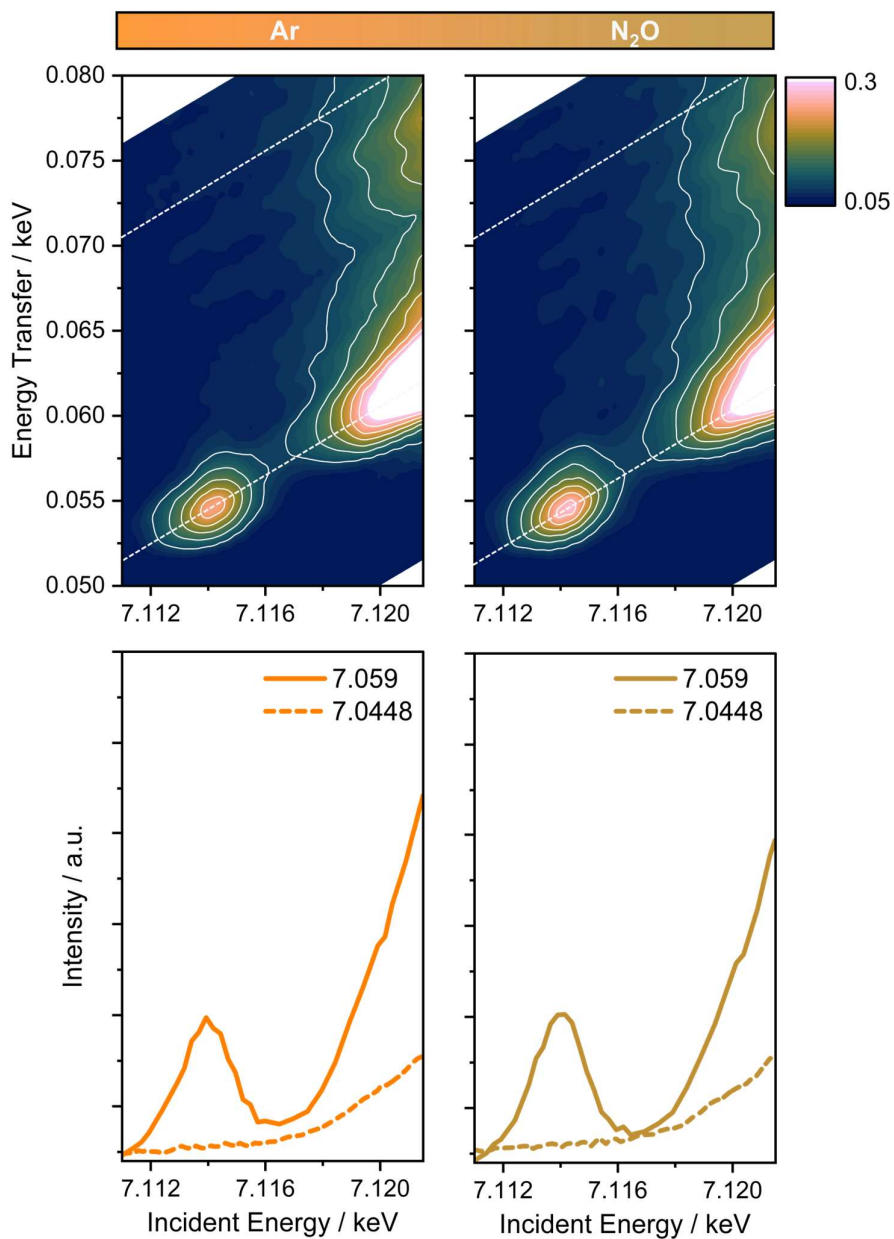
243 **Supplementary Figure 14. a**, Magnified view of the $g' \approx 2$ region to emphasize variations in
244 Fe-related paramagnetic signals. **b**, Differential EPR spectra obtained by subtracting the
245 reference spectrum (as indicated). Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$,
246 balanced in Ar, at 275°C , sequential exposure to N_2O (1 vol%) for 10 min, CH_4 (2 vol%) for
247 10 min, N_2O (0.5 vol%) + CH_4 (1 vol%) for 20 min, and finally Ar for 5 min.



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250 **Supplementary Figure 15.** $1s3p$ RIXS planes of Fe-CHA after the Ar treatment at 420 °C and
251 upon contact with N_2O , along with their Fe K-edge-like spectra obtained by constant emission
252 energy (CEE) cuts. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar, at
253 275°C, exposure to N_2O (1 vol%) for 10 min.

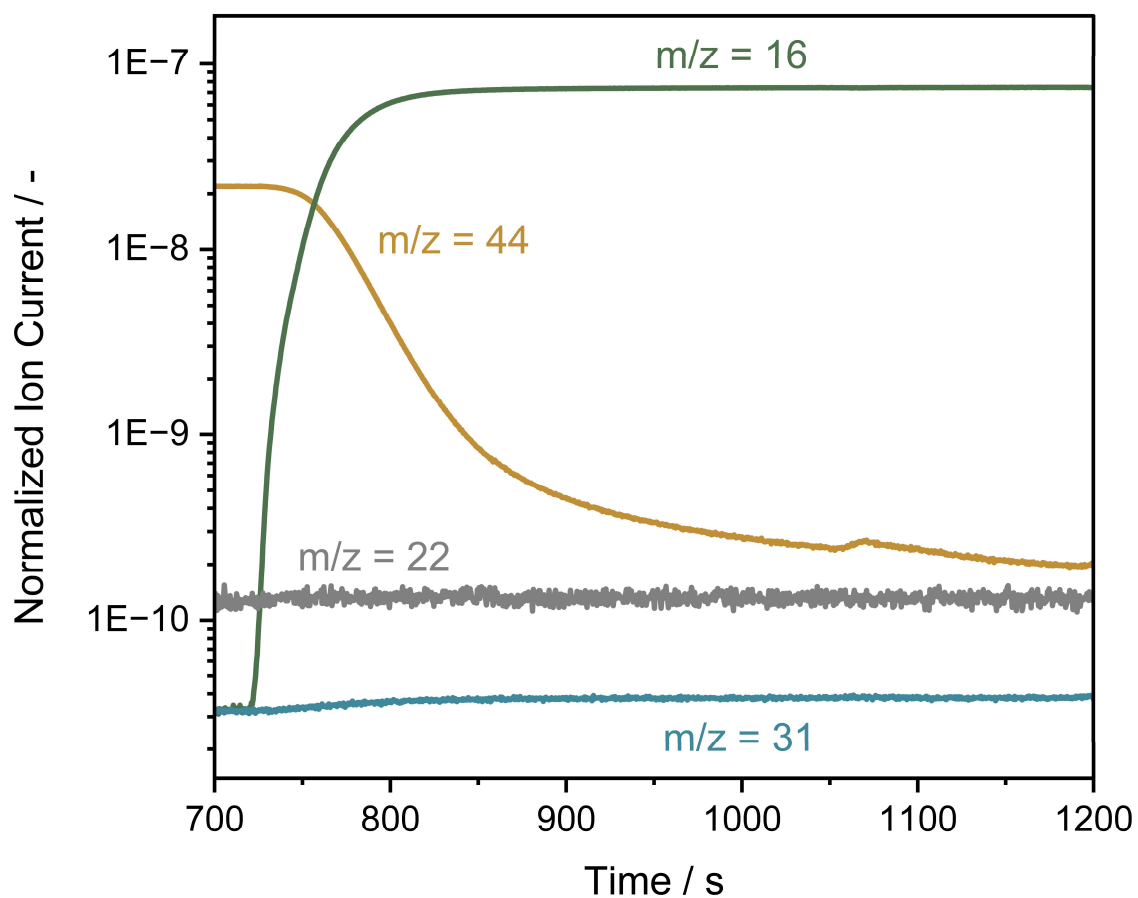


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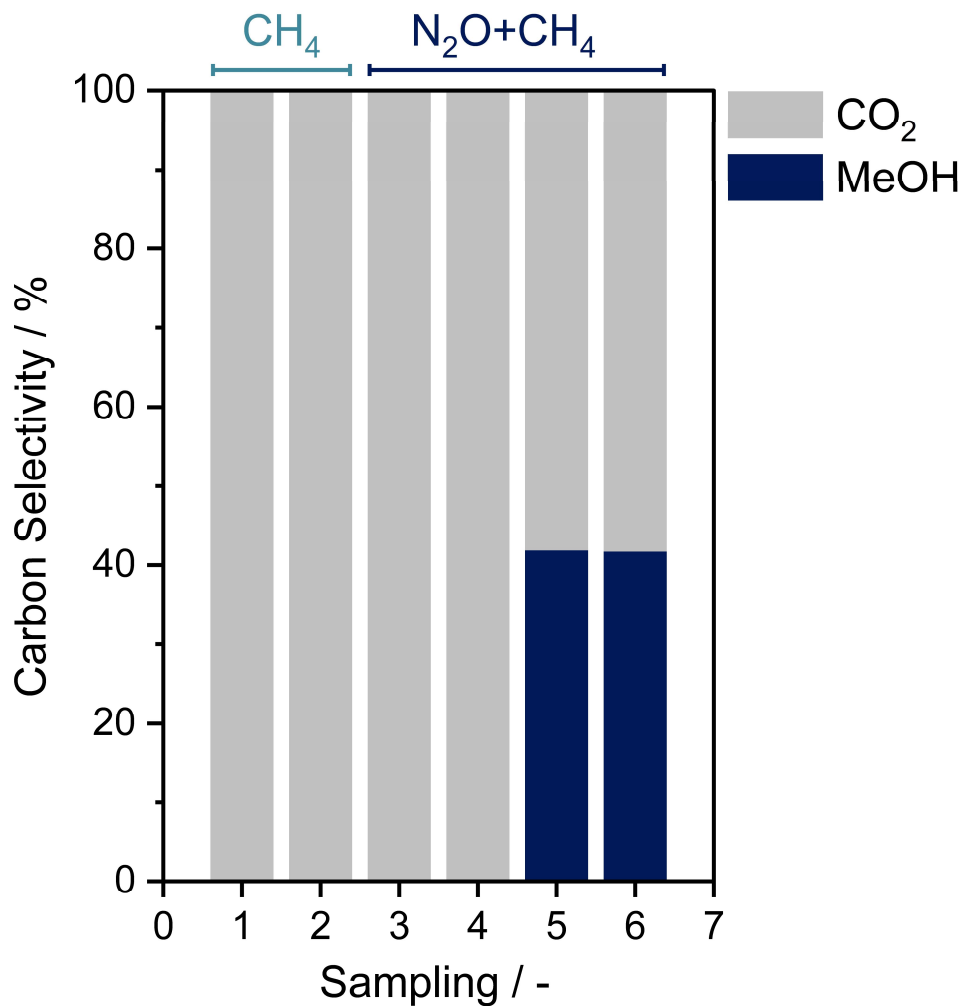
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257 **Supplementary Figure 16.** Temporal evolution of the normalized ion current for the detected
258 mass fragments $m/z = 16$ (CH_4), $m/z = 44$ (N_2O), $m/z = 22$ (carbon fragment), and $m/z = 31$
259 (CH_3OH), during CH_4 exposure in the *operando* XAS experiment (**Fig 3a**). Experimental
260 conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar, at 275°C , sequential exposure to
261 N_2O (1 vol%) for 10 min (shown in **Supplementary Fig. 13**) followed by CH_4 (2 vol%) for 10
262 min.



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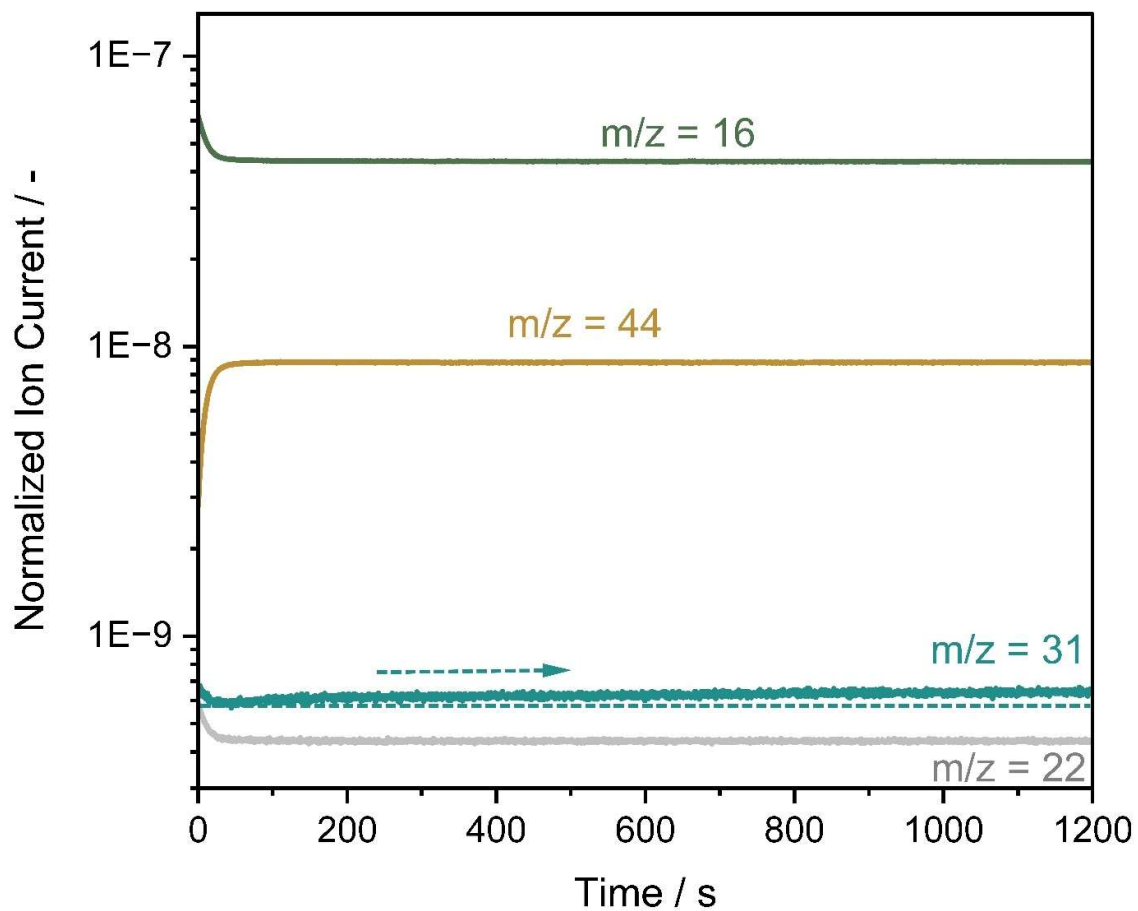
264 **Supplementary Figure 17.** Product distribution measured by μ GC during the CH_4 -only and
265 $\text{N}_2\text{O} + \text{CH}_4$ co-feed steps of the *operando* DRIFTS experiments shown in **Fig. 3g**, highlighting
266 the detectable gas-phase products. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$,
267 balanced in Ar, at 275°C , sequential exposure to N_2O (1 vol%) for 10 min (not shown), CH_4
268 (2 vol%) for 10 min, N_2O (0.5 vol%) + CH_4 (1 vol%) for 20 min, and finally Ar for 5 min.



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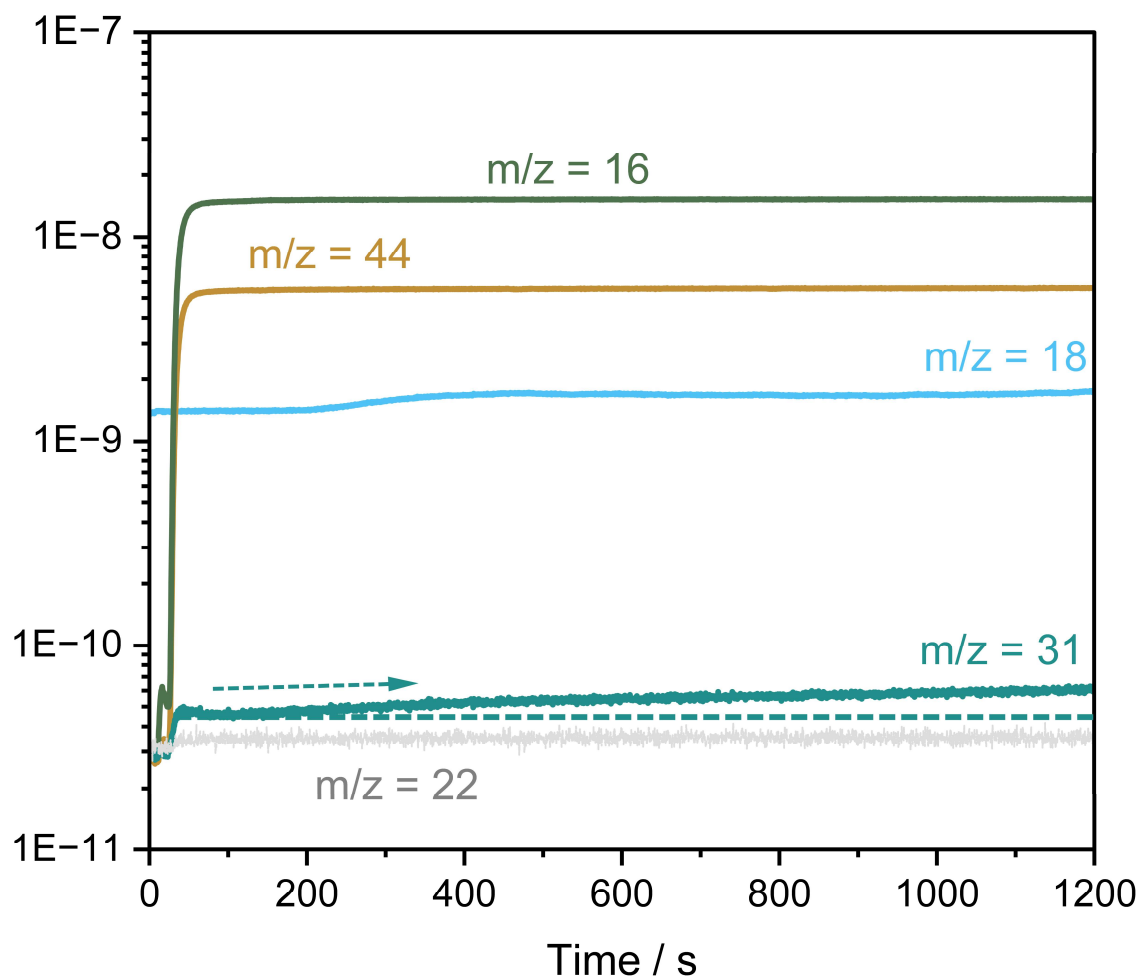
271 **Supplementary Figure 18.** Temporal evolution of the normalized ion current for the mass
272 fragments $m/z = 16$ (CH_4), $m/z = 44$ (N_2O), $m/z = 22$ (carbon fragment), and $m/z = 31$
273 (CH_3OH), during $\text{N}_2\text{O} + \text{CH}_4$ co-feed in the *operando* XAS experiment (**Fig. 3a**). Experimental
274 conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar, at 275°C , N_2O (0.5 vol%) and CH_4
275 (1 vol%) for 20 min.



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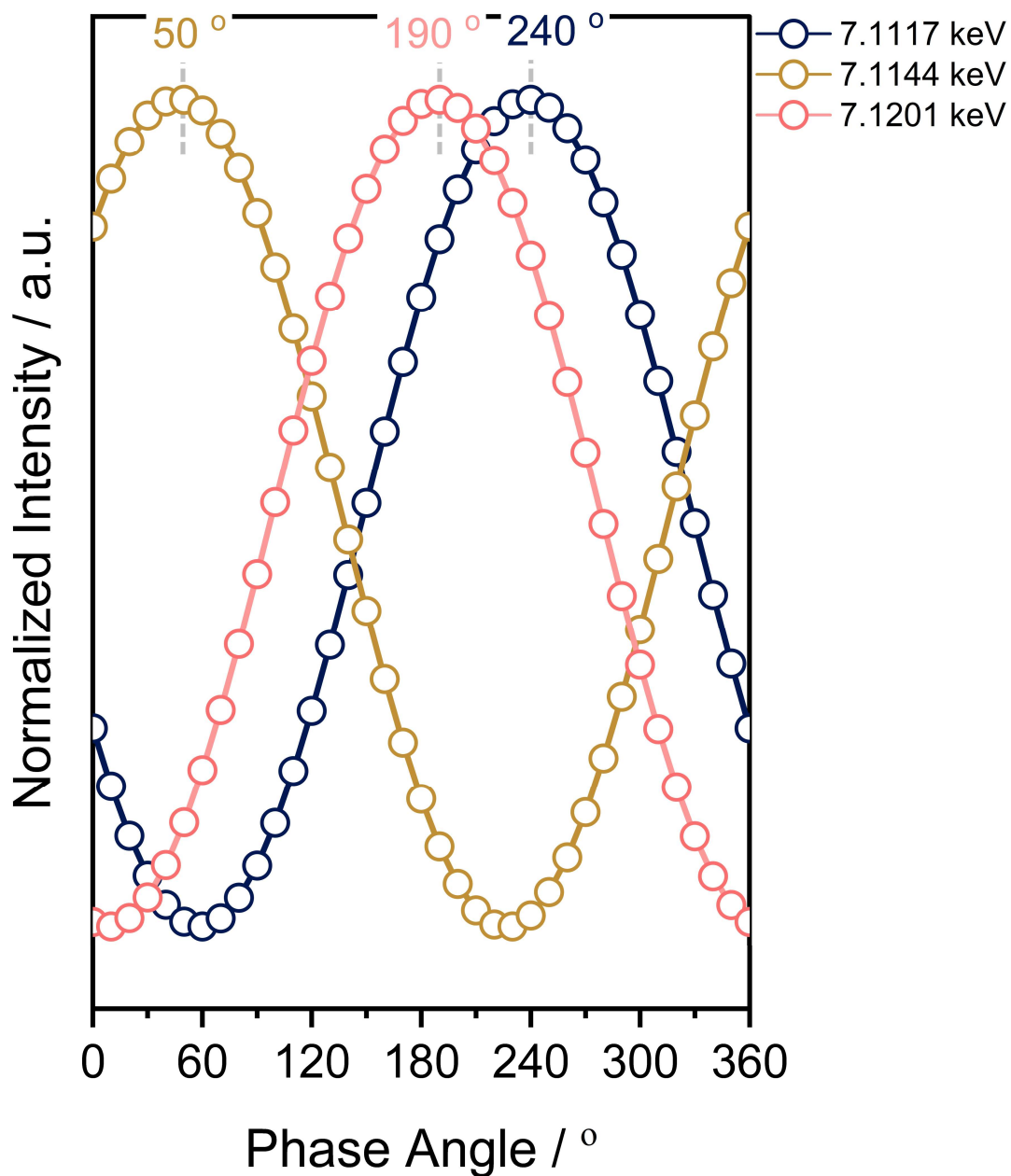
278 **Supplementary Figure 19.** Temporal evolution of the normalized ion current for the mass
279 fragments $m/z = 16$ (CH_4), $m/z = 18$ (H_2O), $m/z = 44$ (N_2O), $m/z = 22$ (carbon fragment), and
280 $m/z = 31$ (CH_3OH), during $\text{N}_2\text{O} + \text{CH}_4$ co-feed in the *operando* DRIFTS experiment (**Fig. 3g**).
281 Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar, at 275°C , N_2O (0.5
282 vol%) and CH_4 (1 vol%) for 20 min.



283

284

285 **Supplementary Figure 20.** Normalized intensity at fixed energy (7.1117, 7.1144, and
286 7.1201 keV) as a function of phase angle, recorded during ME-K α -HERFD. Experimental
287 conditions: total flow rate of 60 mL·min⁻¹, balanced in Ar, at 275°C, with 10 min pulses of CH₄
288 (1 vol%) introduced into a steady flow containing N₂O (0.5 vol%).

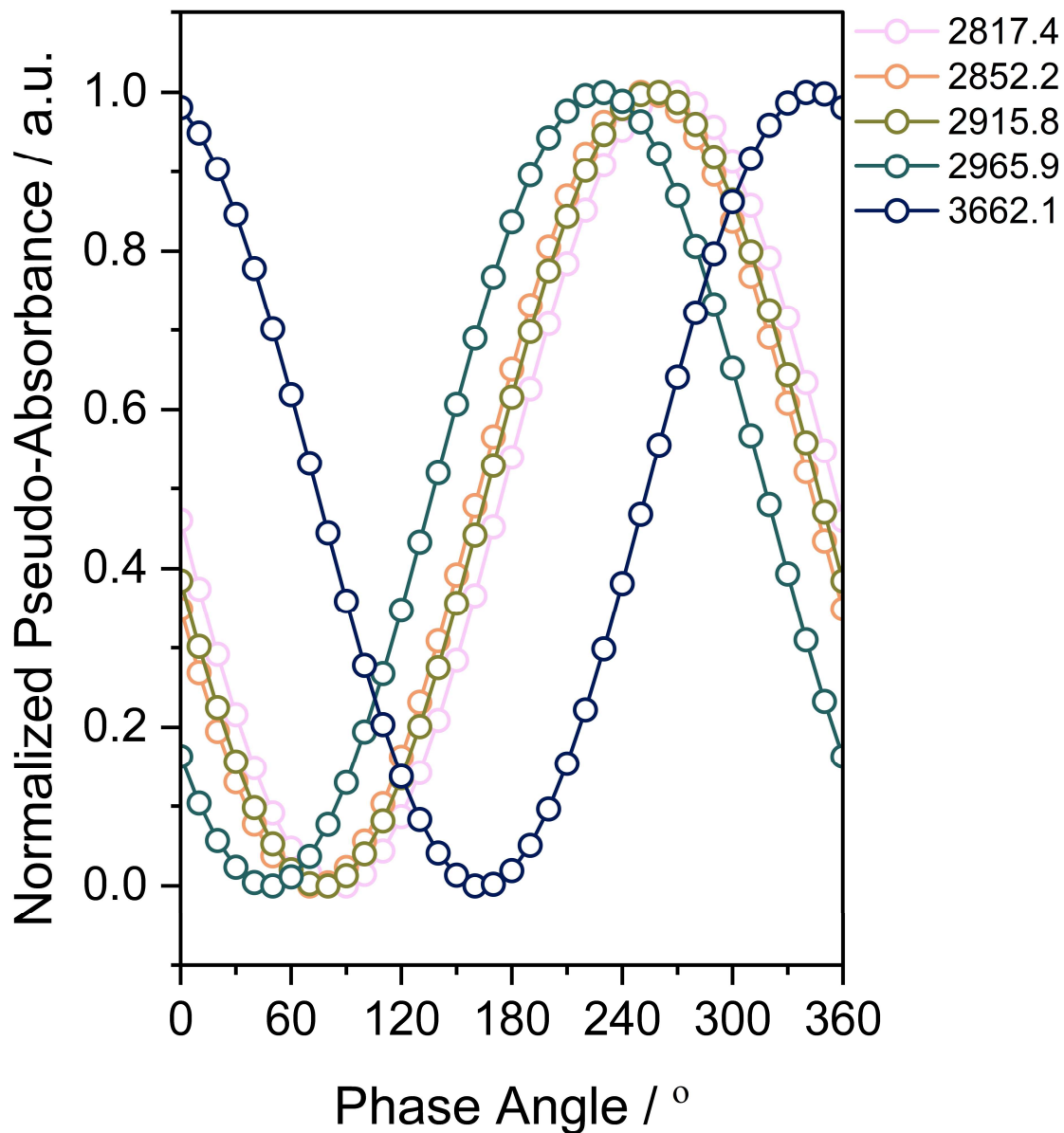


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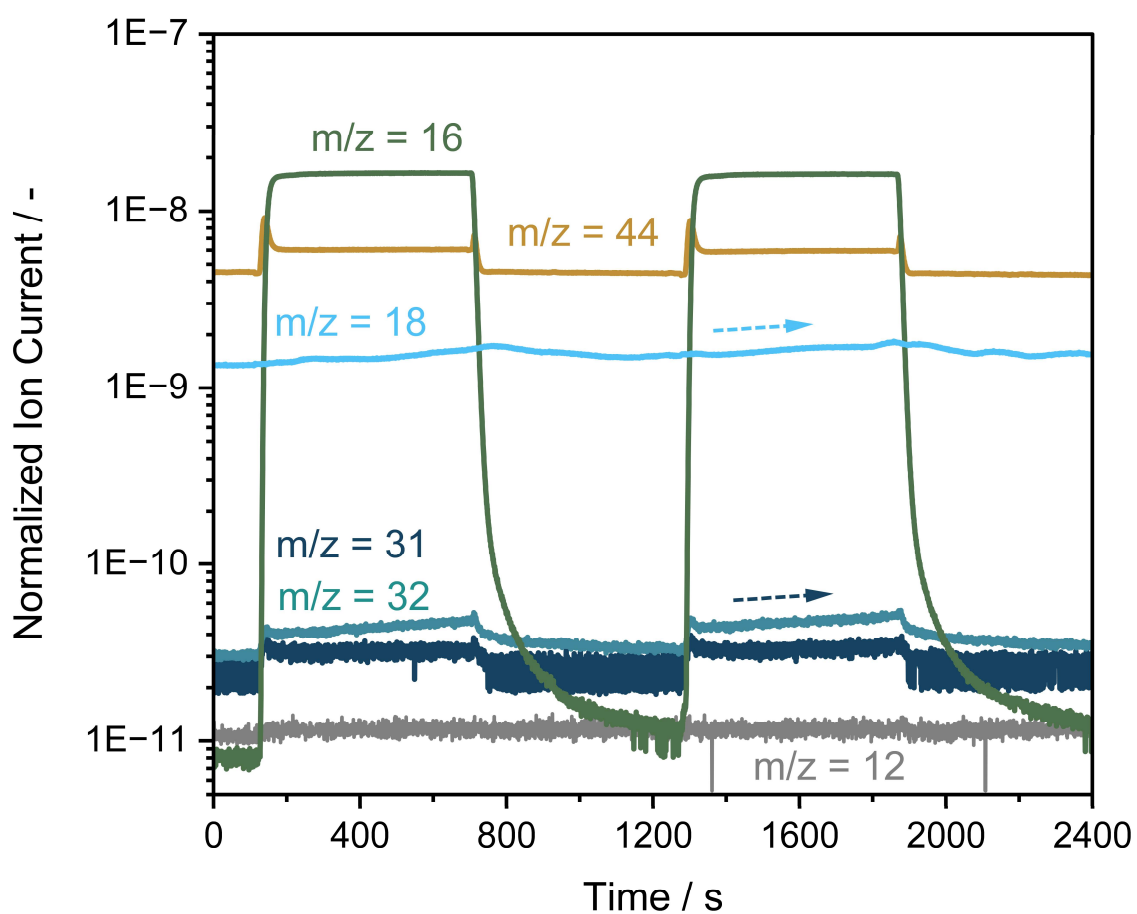
292 **Supplementary Figure 21.** Normalized pseudo-absorbance as a function of phase angle for
293 selected vibrational bands at 2817, 2852, 2918, 2966, and 3662 cm^{-1} , recorded during ME-
294 DRIFTS experiments. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar,
295 at 275°C , with 10 min pulses of CH_4 (1 vol%) introduced into a steady flow containing N_2O
296 (0.5 vol%).



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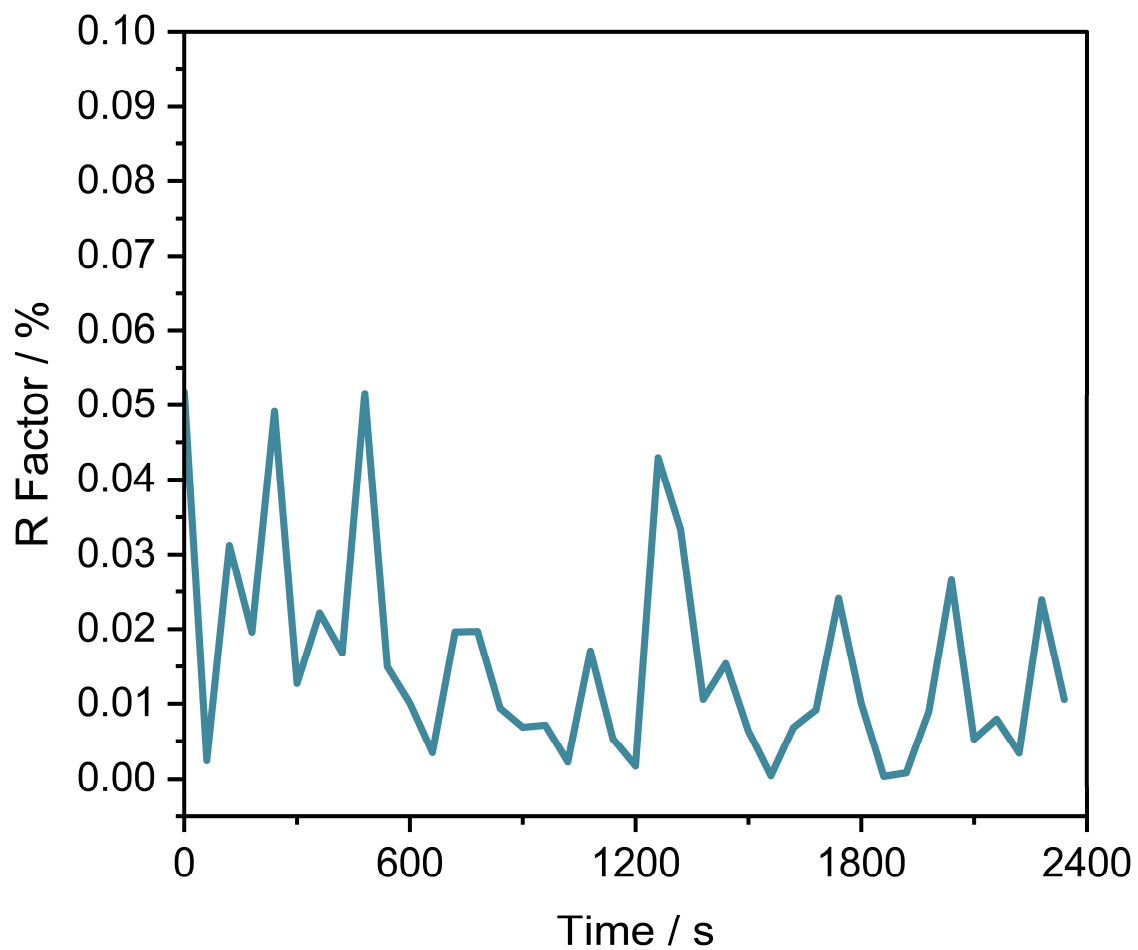
299 **Supplementary Figure 22.** Time evolution of the normalized ion currents for the detected
300 mass fragments during the *operando* ME-DRIFTS experiment (**Fig. 4d**), showing two
301 modulation periods. Monitored signals are $m/z = 16$ (CH_4), $m/z = 18$ (H_2O), $m/z = 44$ (N_2O),
302 $m/z = 12$ (carbon fragment), $m/z = 32$ (MeOH), and $m/z = 31$ (MeOH), representing two of the
303 modulation periods. Experimental conditions: total flow rate of $60 \text{ mL}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$, balanced in Ar,
304 at 275°C , with 10 min pulses of CH_4 (1 vol%) introduced into a steady flow containing N_2O
305 (0.5 vol%).



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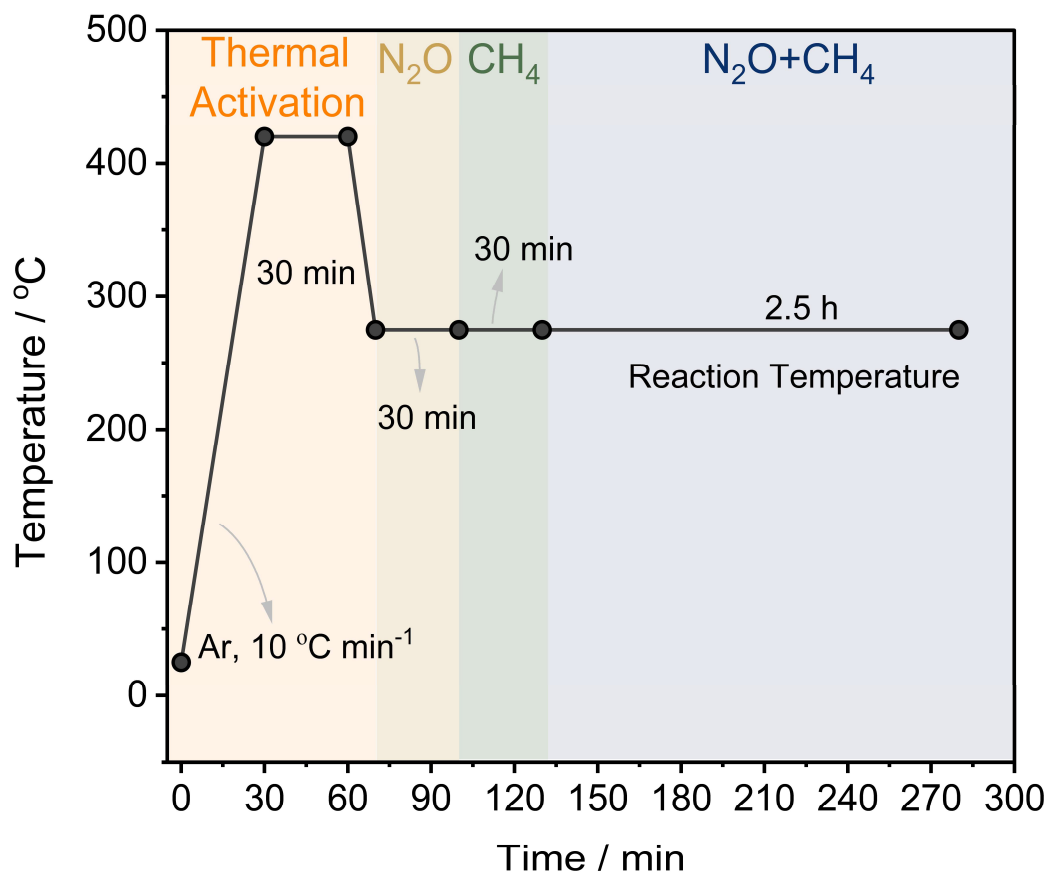
308 **Supplementary Figure 23.** Time evolution of the lack of fit, reported as the R factor (%), for
309 the multivariate curve resolution fit of the time-resolved XANES spectra.



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312 **Supplementary Figure 24.** Experimental protocol applied during the catalytic activity test.
313 After thermal activation in Ar (heating to 420°C at 10 °C·min⁻¹, then holding for 30 min), the
314 catalyst was cooled to the reaction temperature (275 °C). The feed was then switched
315 sequentially to N₂O (30 min), CH₄ (30 min), and N₂O + CH₄ (2.5 h), while maintaining constant
316 temperature.

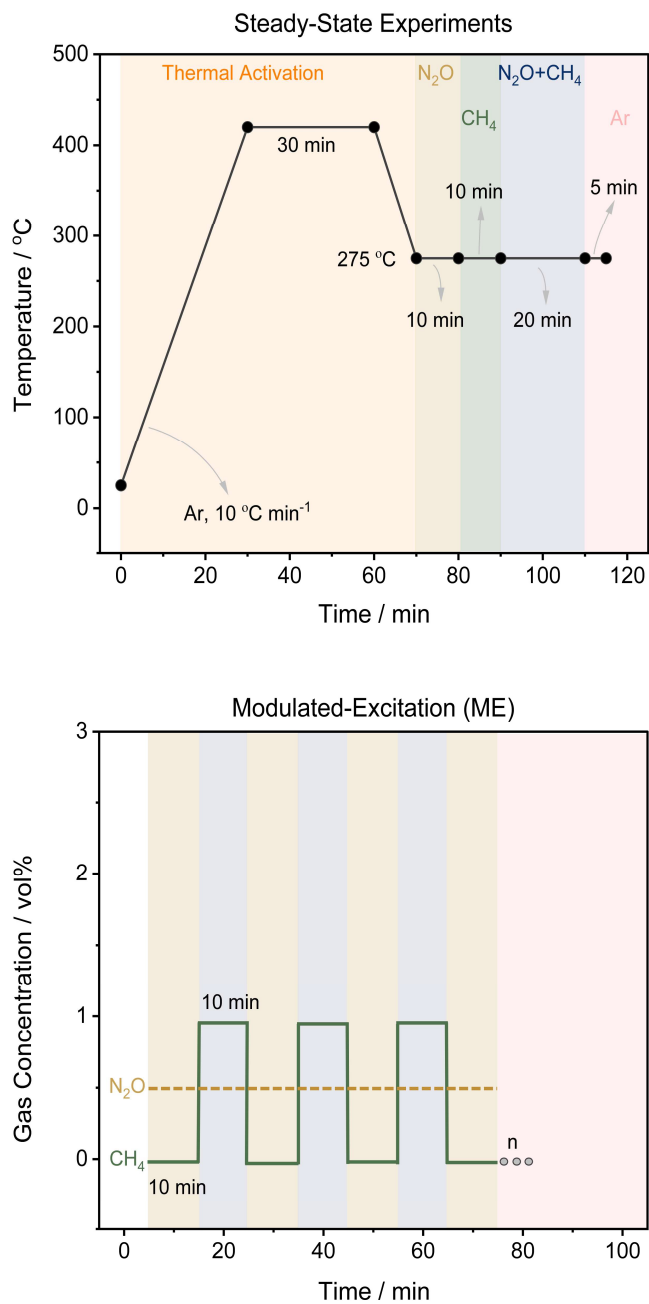


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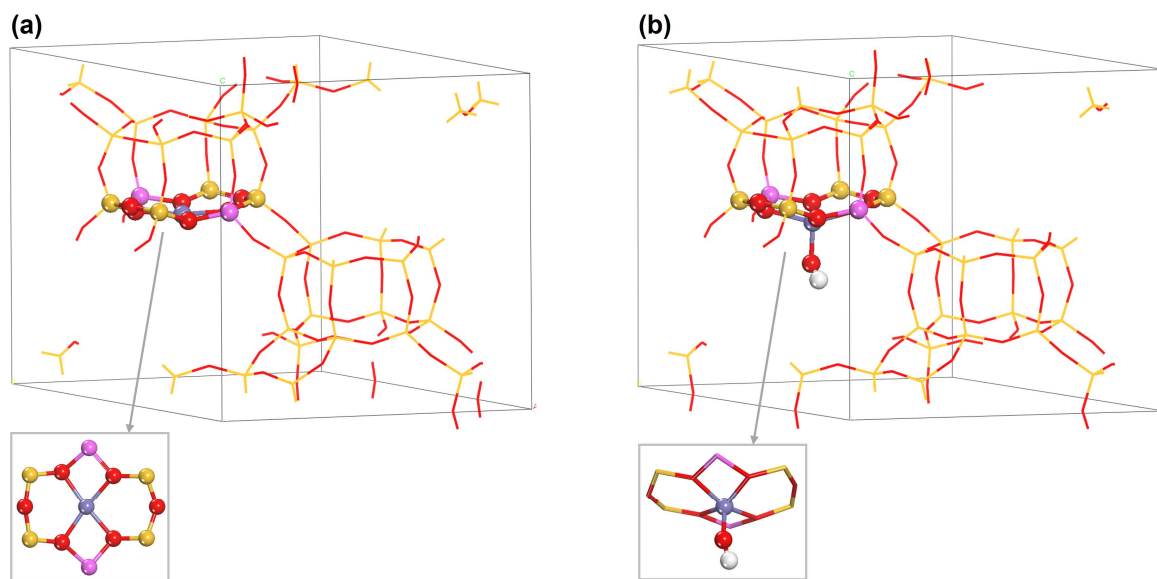
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320 **Supplementary Figure 25.** Protocols used for the transient and modulated excitation (ME)
321 spectroscopic experiments. Top: The catalyst was activated in Ar ($10^{\circ}\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ to 420°C , 30
322 min), cooled to 275°C , and then exposed to N_2O (10 min), CH_4 (10 min), $\text{N}_2\text{O} + \text{CH}_4$ (20 min),
323 and Ar (5 min). Bottom: During ME, N_2O was held constant at 0.5 vol%, while CH_4 was
324 switched between 0 and 1 vol% every 10 min over n cycles, followed by Ar.



325

326 **Supplementary Figure 26.** Hexagonal CHA unit cells with two Al substitutions in the same
327 6MR and exchanged **a**, Fe^{2+} (Z_2Fe^{2+}) and **b**, Fe^{3+}OH ($\text{Z}_2\text{Fe}^{3+}\text{OH}$). Yellow: Si; red: O; magenta:
328 Al; white: H; and gray: Fe.



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