

# Supplementary Information

## Probing Topological Electronic Effects in Catalysis: Thiophene Adsorption on NiMoS and CoMoS Clusters

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**Table S1.** DFT distributed multipole analysis at selected sites of the Ni<sub>3</sub>Mo<sub>13</sub>S<sub>32</sub> cluster (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Atom notation follows from Figures 1 and 2. For dipole values (Q<sub>1</sub>): 1 a. u. (ea<sub>0</sub>) = 2.5417 D

	Ni <sub>c,IV</sub>	Ni <sub>e,IV</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub>	S <sub>o,III</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub>
Q <sub>0</sub>	-0.24	-0.26	-0.19	-0.10	0.93	0.84
Q <sub>1</sub>	0.27	0.19	0.31	0.33	0.28	0.20
Q <sub>2</sub>	0.45	0.76	1.07	0.88	0.64	0.59

**Table S2.** DFT distributed multipole analysis at selected sites of the Co<sub>3</sub>Mo<sub>13</sub>S<sub>32</sub> cluster (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Atom notation follows from Figures 1 and 2

	Co <sub>c,IV</sub>	Co <sub>e,IV</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub>	S <sub>o,III</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub>
Q <sub>0</sub>	-0.19	-0.15	-0.21	-0.14	0.90	0.87
Q <sub>1</sub>	0.38	0.39	0.33	0.33	0.26	0.18
Q <sub>2</sub>	0.42	0.60	1.00	0.71	0.59	0.40

**Table S3.** DFT distributed multipole analysis at selected sites of the Mo<sub>16</sub>S<sub>32</sub> cluster (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Atom notation follows from Figures 1 and 2

	Mo <sub>c,IV</sub>	Mo <sub>e,IV</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub>	S <sub>o,III</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub>
Q <sub>0</sub>	0.81	0.73	-0.39	-0.43	0.78	0.73
Q <sub>1</sub>	0.07	0.13	0.16	0.29	0.15	0.05
Q <sub>2</sub>	0.84	1.00	0.81	0.50	0.52	0.19

**Table S4.** DFT distributed multipole analysis for the thiophene molecule (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Carbon atom numbers follow from Figure 2

	S	C1	C2	C3	C4
Q <sub>0</sub>	0.63	-0.34	-0.07	-0.07	-0.34
Q <sub>1</sub>	1.19	0.45	0.03	0.03	0.45
Q <sub>2</sub>	2.03	1.68	1.32	1.32	1.68

**Table S5.** DFT distributed multipole analysis at selected sites of the thiophene plus Ni<sub>3</sub>Mo<sub>13</sub>S<sub>32</sub> system (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Atom numbers follow from Figure 2

	Atom															
	Ni <sub>c,IV</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Ni <sub>e,IV</sub>	Ni <sub>c,IV</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub> <sup>*</sup>	S <sub>o,III</sub> <sup>*</sup>	S <sub>o,III</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub>	S	C1	C2	C3	C4
Q <sub>0</sub>	-0.22	-0.29	-0.25	-0.19	-0.08	-0.08	-0.19	0.93	0.85	0.84	0.93	0.70	-0.32	-0.07	-0.11	-0.36
Q <sub>1</sub>	0.52	0.17	0.27	0.40	0.39	0.36	0.33	0.28	0.20	0.20	0.28	1.04	0.43	0.07	0.16	0.45
Q <sub>2</sub>	0.58	0.92	0.49	1.15	0.76	0.93	1.06	0.58	0.51	0.61	0.65	1.79	1.57	1.39	1.16	1.47

**Table S6.** DFT distributed multipole analysis at selected sites of the thiophene plus Co<sub>3</sub>Mo<sub>13</sub>S<sub>32</sub> system (Q<sub>0</sub> charge, Q<sub>1</sub> dipole and Q<sub>2</sub> quadrupole). All values are in atomic units (ea<sub>0</sub><sup>k</sup> for Q<sub>k</sub>). Atom numbers follow from Figure 2

	Atom															
	Co <sub>c,IV</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Co <sub>e,IV</sub>	Co <sub>c,IV</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub> <sup>*</sup>	S <sub>o,III</sub> <sup>*</sup>	S <sub>o,III</sub>	S <sub>c,II</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub> <sup>*</sup>	Mo <sub>i,VI</sub>	Mo <sub>o,VI</sub>	S	C1	C2	C3	C4
Q <sub>0</sub>	-0.18	-0.32	-0.20	-0.15	-0.03	-0.03	-0.17	0.89	0.81	0.82	0.90	0.73	-0.29	-0.05	-0.05	-0.38
Q <sub>1</sub>	0.54	0.22	0.39	0.38	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.30	0.22	0.25	0.28	0.91	0.41	0.05	0.13	0.44
Q <sub>2</sub>	0.91	0.80	0.49	1.21	0.80	0.93	1.06	0.51	0.51	0.61	0.60	1.39	1.47	1.33	1.28	1.27

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