Table S1. Calculated adsorption energies of the reactants ( $CH_3CO$ ,  $CH_3CN$ , and  $CH_3CH_2$ ) and the products ( $CH_3$ , CO, CN, and  $CH_2$ ) on Ni, Cu/Ni and Pt/Ni surfaces respectively.

		Ni	Cu/Ni	Pt/Ni
	site	adsorption energy /eV		
Reactant				
CH <sub>3</sub> CO	$\eta^2 \eta^1(C,O)$	-3.29	-3.52	-4.27
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	$\eta^1 \eta^3(C,N)$	-1.15	-1.57	-2.33
$CH_3CH_2$	Top-η1(C)	-1.82	-1.92	-2.18
Products				
$CH_3$	top	-2.17	-2.24	-2.49
CO	fcc	-1.91	-2.23	-2.45
CN	fcc	-4.46	-4.70	-5.21
CH <sub>2</sub>	bridge	-5.34	-5.45	-5.90