

Supplementary Information

Tuning the selectivity of NH₃ oxidation via cooperative electronic interactions between platinum and copper sites

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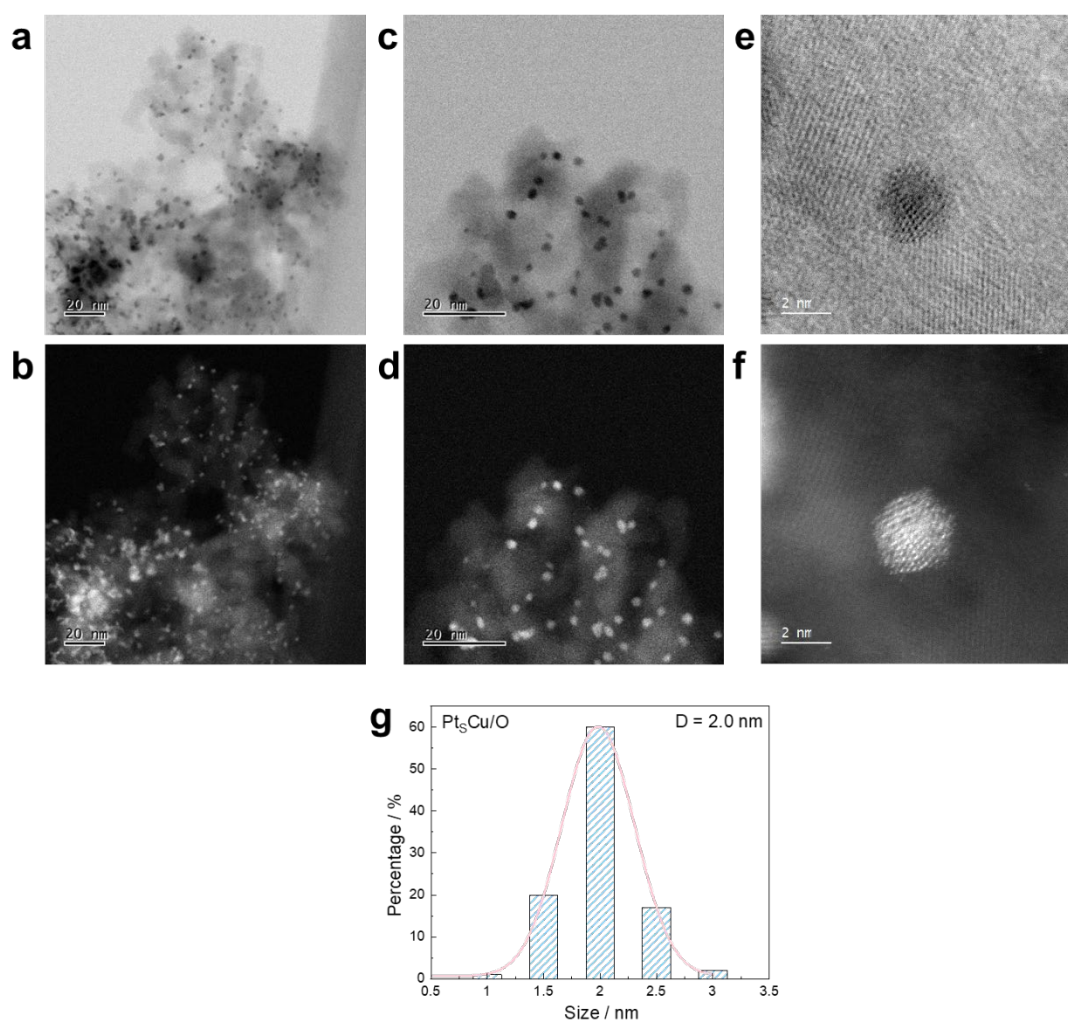


Figure S1. STEM images and particle size distribution of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ before reaction. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ before reaction at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

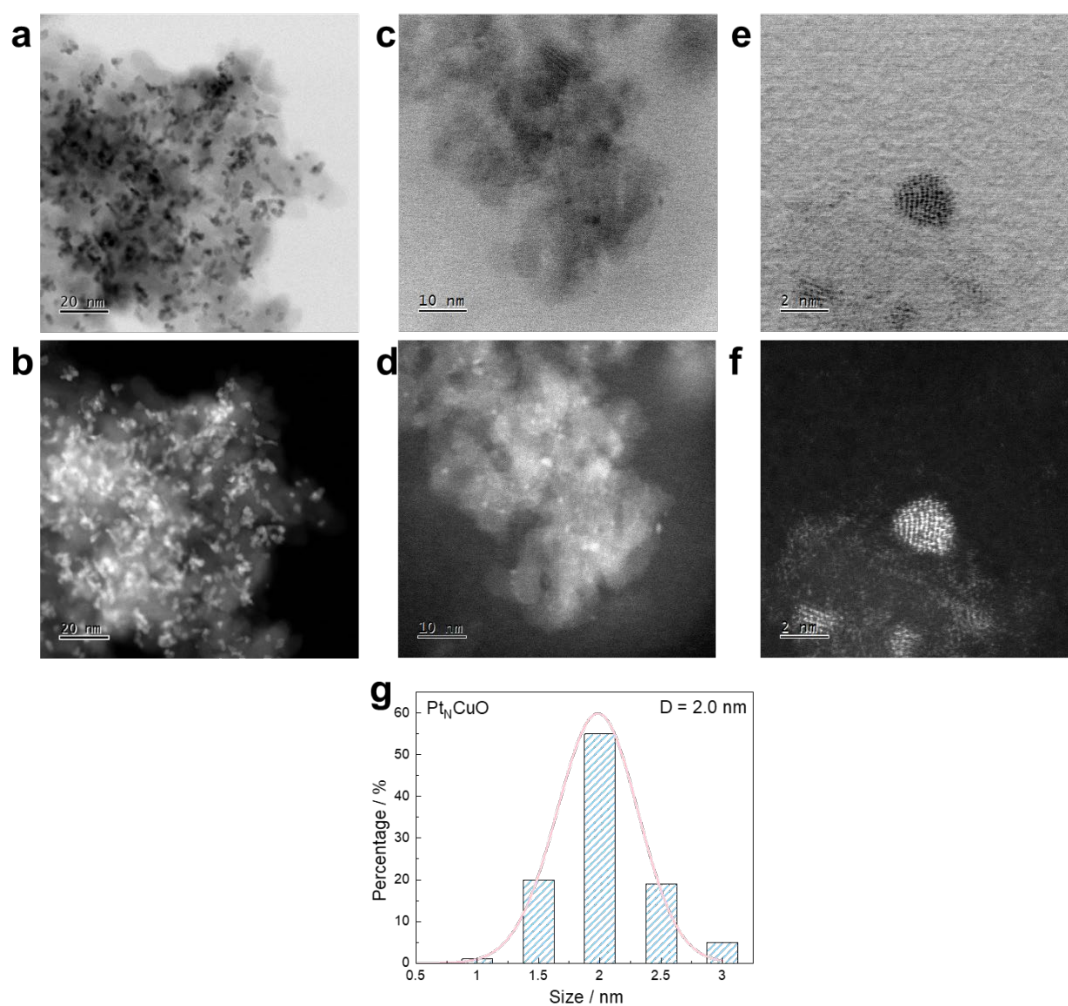


Figure S2. STEM images and particle size distribution of $\text{Pt}_N\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ before reaction. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of $\text{Pt}_N\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ before reaction at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

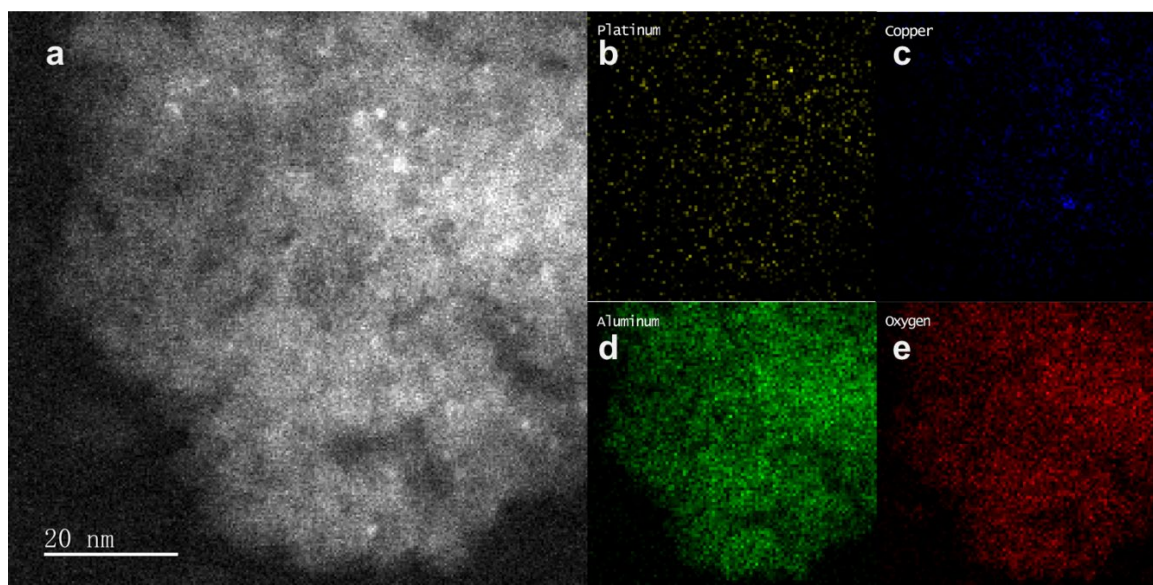


Figure S3. Compositional elemental mapping of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. **a** STEM image of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. **b-e** EDS elemental mapping of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$.

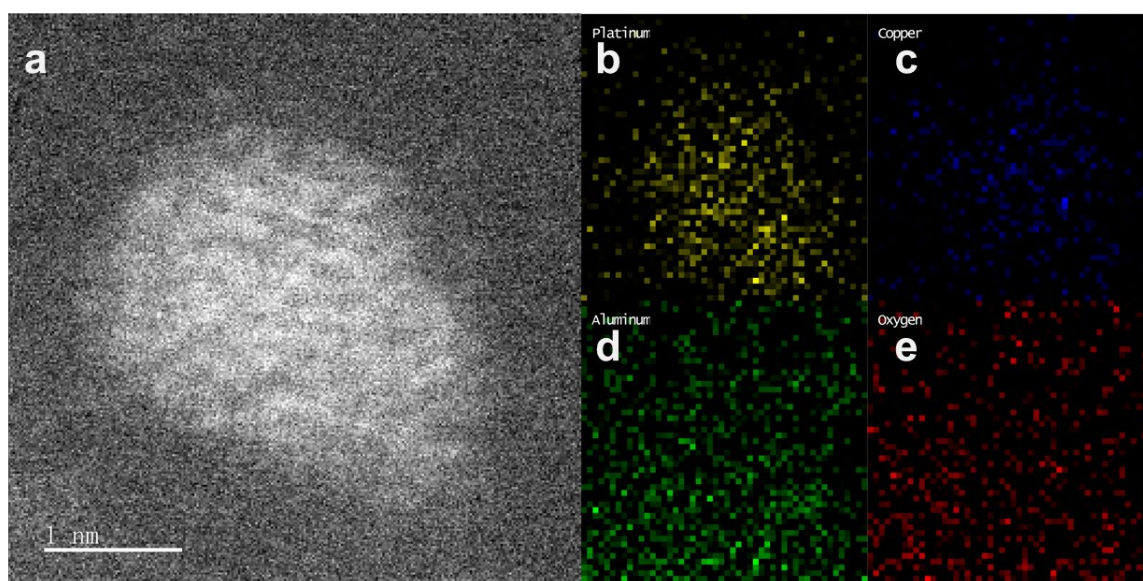


Figure S4. Compositional elemental mapping of a single nanoparticle in $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. **a** STEM image of a single nanoparticle in $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. **b-e** EDS elemental mapping of a single nanoparticle in $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$.

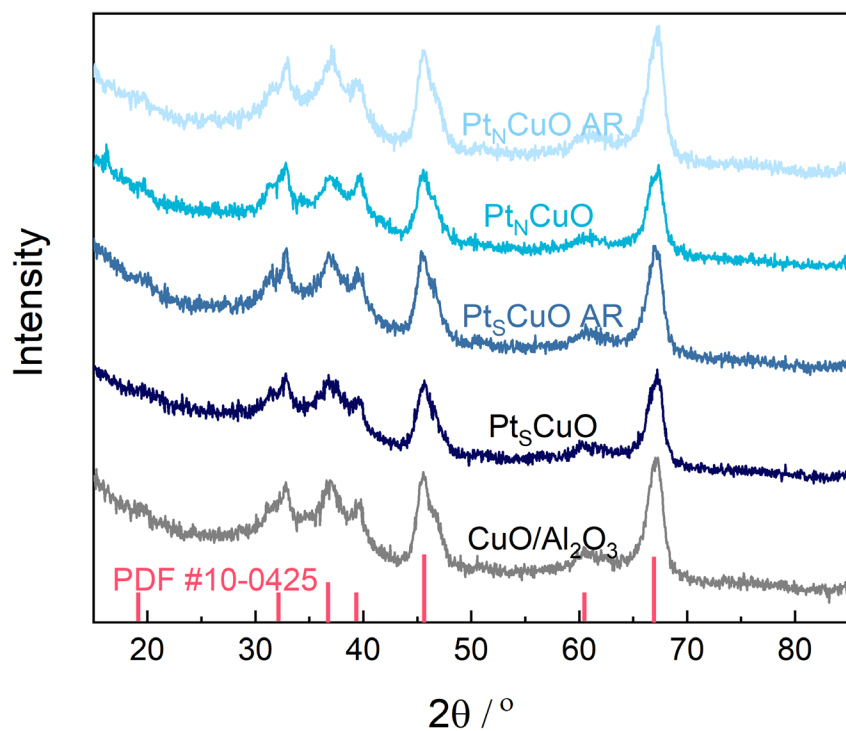


Figure S5. X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of Pt_SCuO/Al₂O₃, Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ and CuO/Al₂O₃ before and after reaction. Al₂O₃ PDF #10-0425 is provided at the bottom in pink. (AR: after reaction)

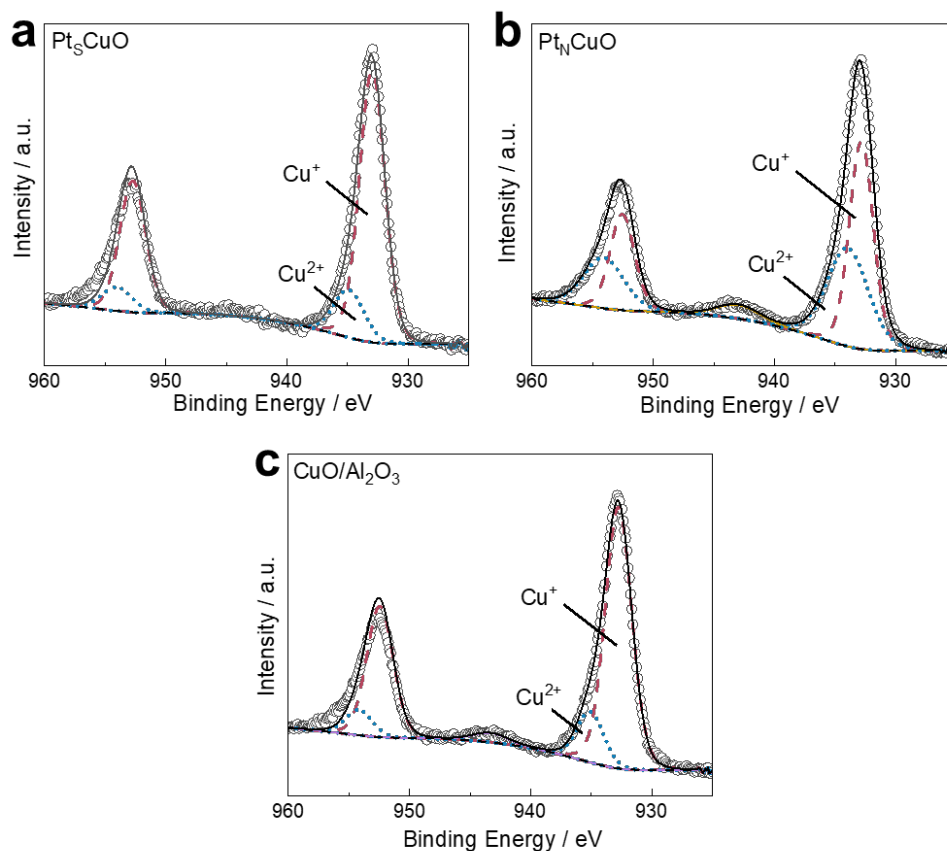


Figure S6. Cu 2p XPS spectra of different catalysts. Cu 2p XPS spectra of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (a), $\text{Pt}_N\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (b) and $\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (c). Pink lines correspond to Cu^+ 2p, and blue lines correspond to Cu^{2+} 2p.

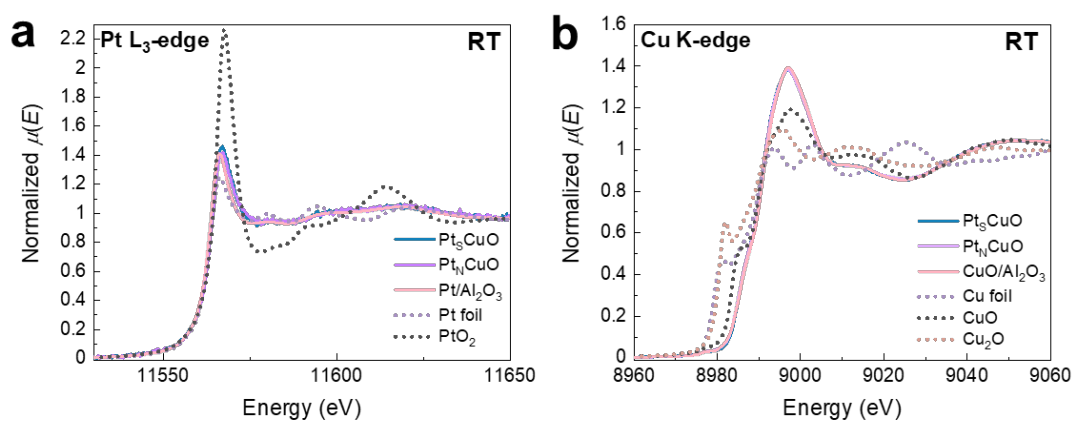


Figure S7. EXAFS spectra of different catalysts. Pt L₃-edge (a) and Cu K-edge (b) EXAFS spectra of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$, $\text{Pt}_N\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$.

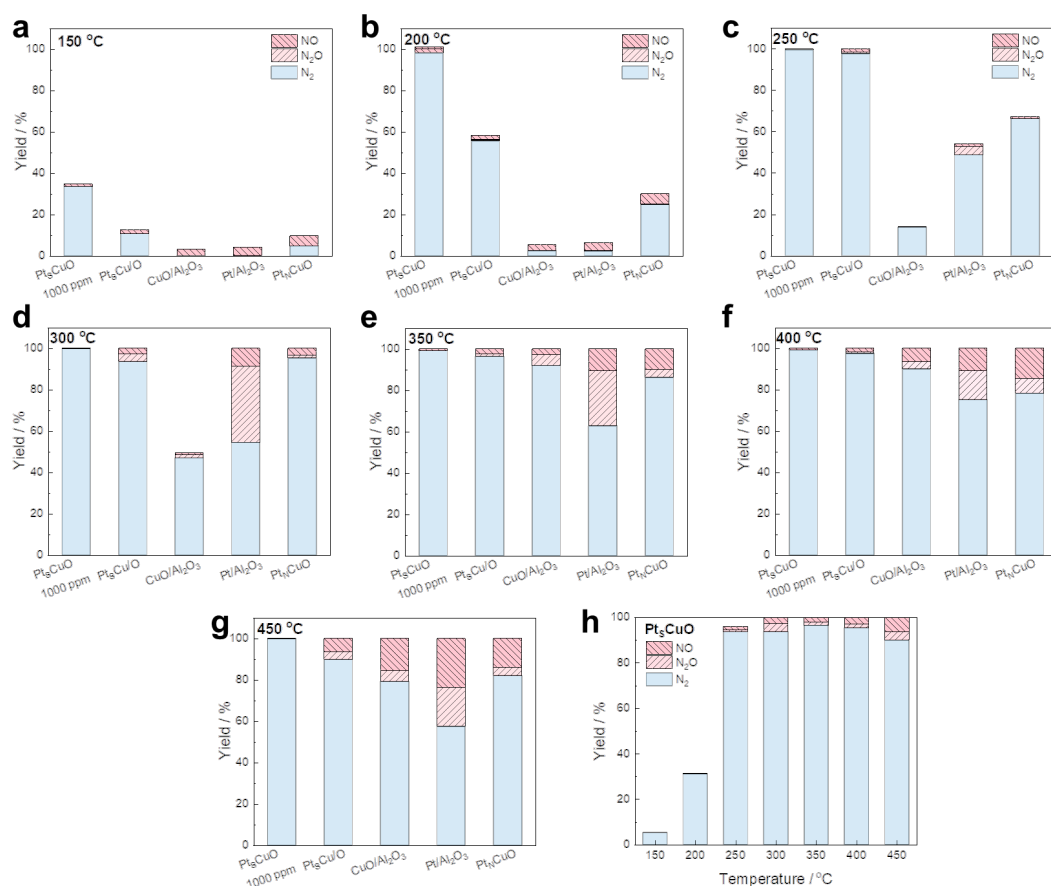


Figure S8. Performance of different catalysts in the oxidation of NH_3 at different temperatures. a 150 °C, b 200 °C, c 250 °C, d 300 °C, e 350 °C, f 400 °C, g 450 °C, h $\text{Pt}_3\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (reaction conditions: 50 mg catalyst, 5000 ppm NH_3 , 5% O_2 balanced in He, gas flow: 100 mL/min, WHSV=600 $\text{mL NH}_3 \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$).

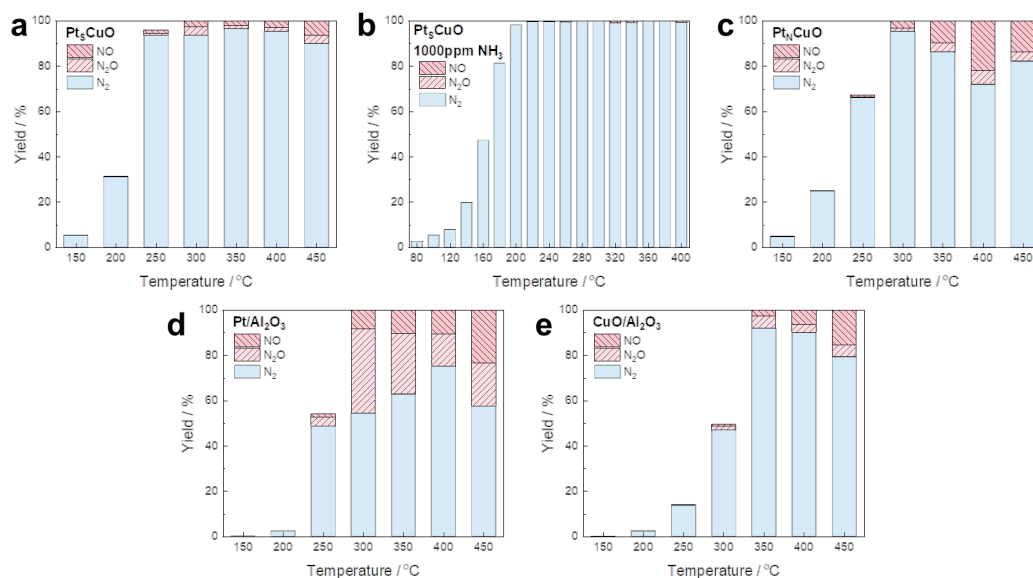


Figure S9. Catalytic performance of different catalysts in NH_3 oxidation. a $\text{Pt}_3\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$, b $\text{Pt}_3\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at 1000 ppm NH_3 , c $\text{Pt}_3\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$, d $\text{Pt}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$, e $\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (reaction condition: 50 mg catalyst, 5000 ppm NH_3 , 5% O_2 balanced in He, gas flow: 100 mL/min, WHSV=600 $\text{mL NH}_3 \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$).

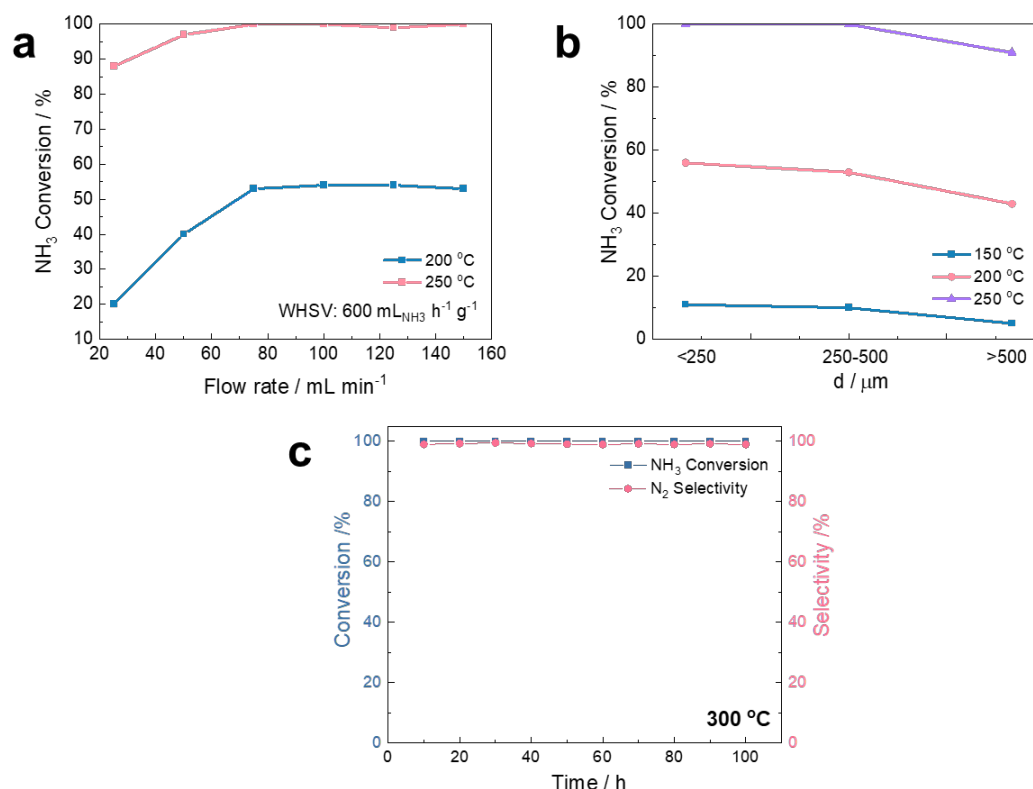


Figure S10. Influence of diffusion limitations and stability tests. a Influence of flow rate on NH_3 conversion; **b** Influence of particle size on NH_3 conversion; **c** Stability of $\text{Pt}_5\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at 300 °C.

To rule out external diffusion limitations, experiments were conducted using different amounts of catalyst at the same WHSV. When the flow rate exceeds 75 mL/min , no external diffusion is present. Since the flow rate used in our experiments are larger than this threshold, there is no external diffusion limitation under the reaction conditions used. Additionally, the catalytic performance with catalysts of differing particle sizes was tested to evaluate potential internal diffusion limitations (Figure S8b). When the particle size is < 500 μm , internal diffusion limitations do not impact on the catalytic performance. In our experiment, the catalyst particle size is smaller than 250 μm , confirming that internal diffusion is not a factor under the given reaction conditions.

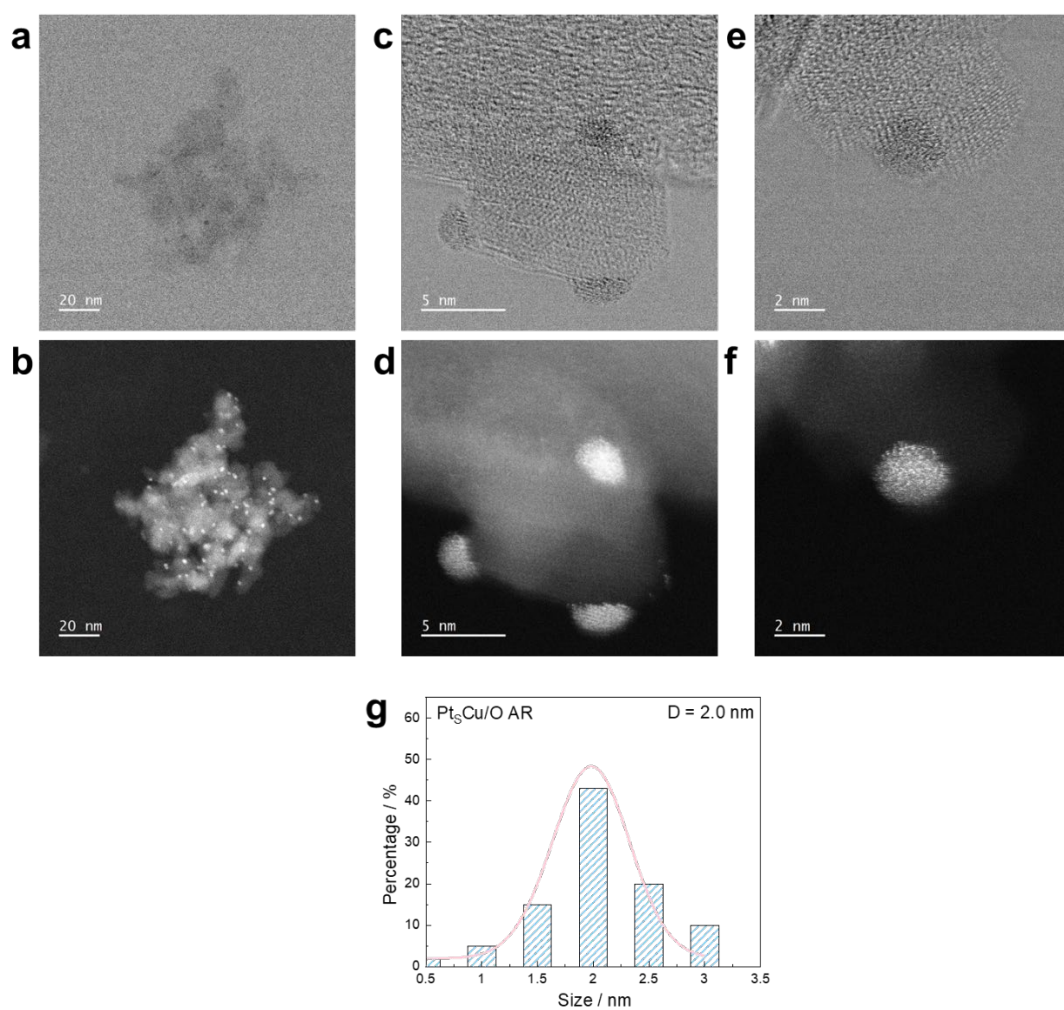


Figure S11. STEM images and particle size distribution of $\text{PtsCuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ after reaction. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of $\text{PtsCuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ after reaction at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

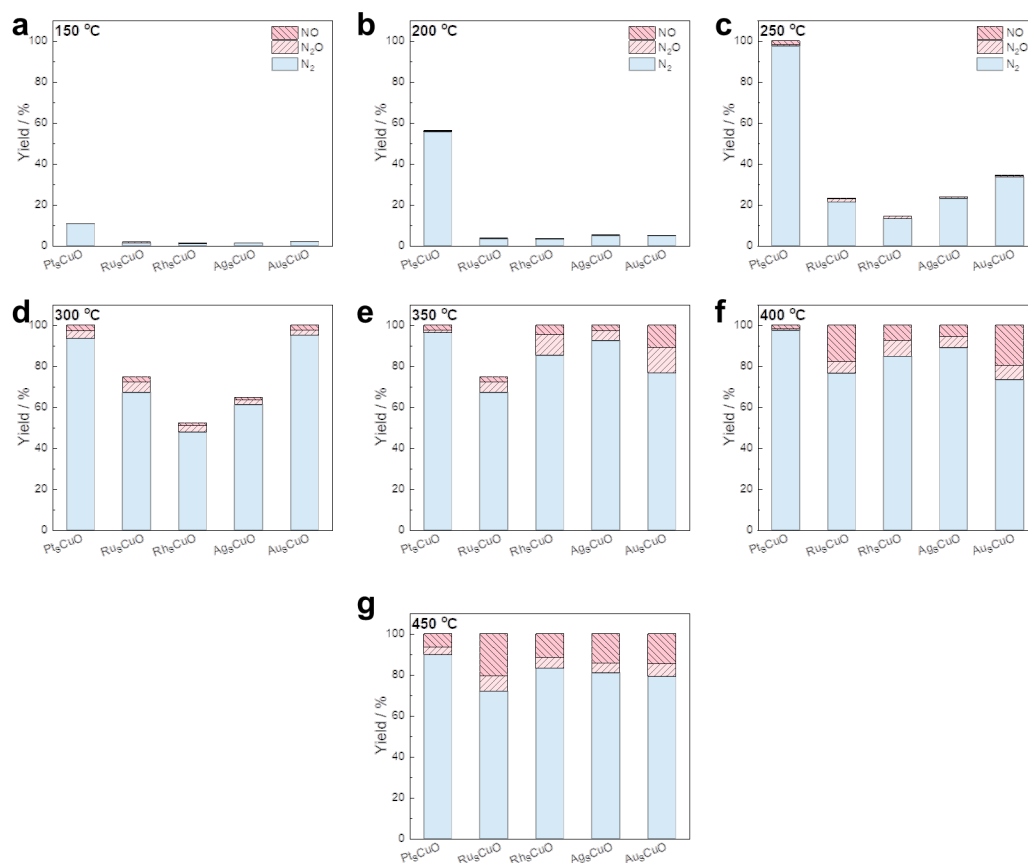


Figure S12. Catalytic performance of M-Cu catalysts (Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃, Ru₅CuO/Al₂O₃, Rh₅CuO/Al₂O₃, Ag₅CuO/Al₂O₃, Au₅CuO/Al₂O₃) in NH₃ oxidation at different temperatures. a 150 °C, b 200 °C, c 250 °C, d 300 °C, e 350 °C, f 400 °C, g 450 °C. Reaction condition: 50 mg catalyst, 5000 ppm NH₃, 5% O₂ balanced in He, gas flow: 100 mL/min, WHSV=600 mL NH₃·h⁻¹·g⁻¹.

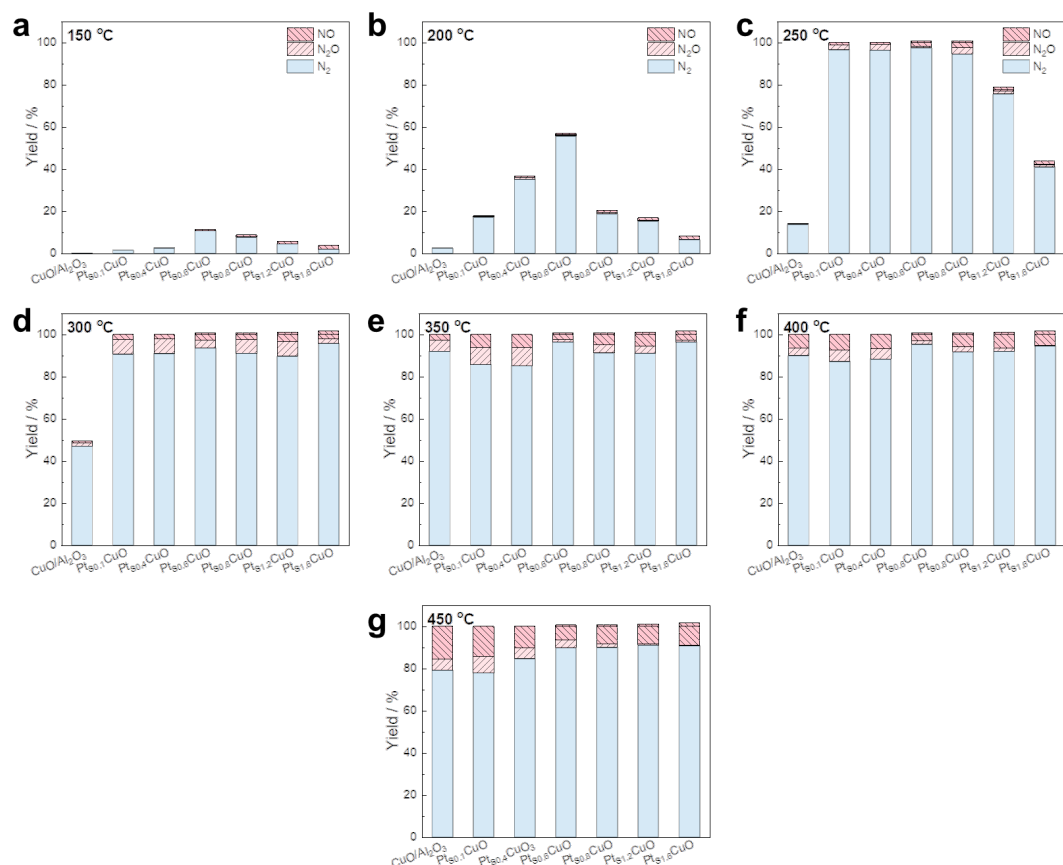


Figure S13. Performance of catalysts with different Pt loadings (0, 0.1, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.2 and 1.6%) in the oxidation of NH_3 at different temperatures. a 150 °C, b 200 °C, c 250 °C, d 300 °C, e 350 °C, f 400 °C, g 450 °C. Reaction conditions: 50 mg catalyst, 5000 ppm NH_3 , 5% O_2 balanced in He, gas flow: 100 mL/min, WHSV=600 mL $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$.

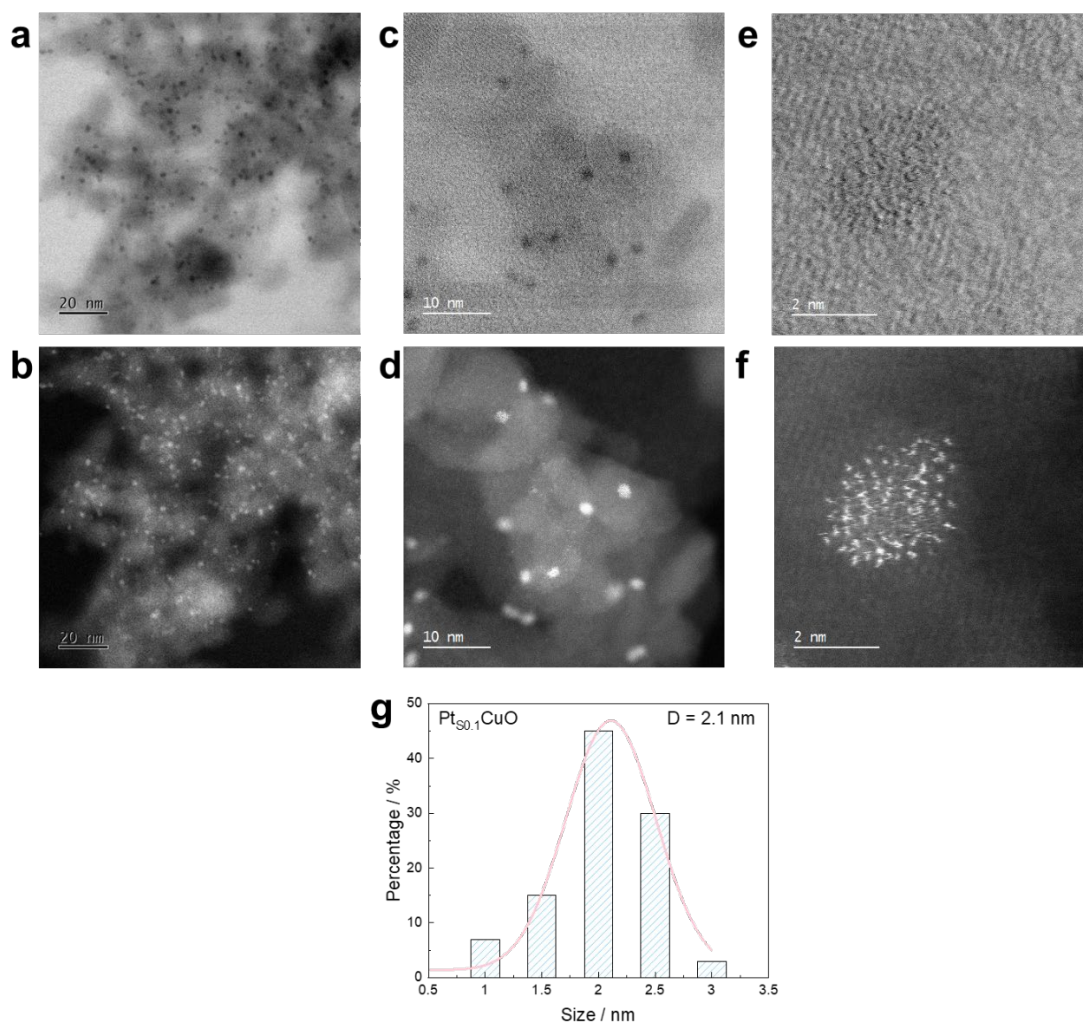


Figure S14. STEM images and particle size distribution of $\text{Pt}_{0.1}\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of $\text{Pt}_{0.1}\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

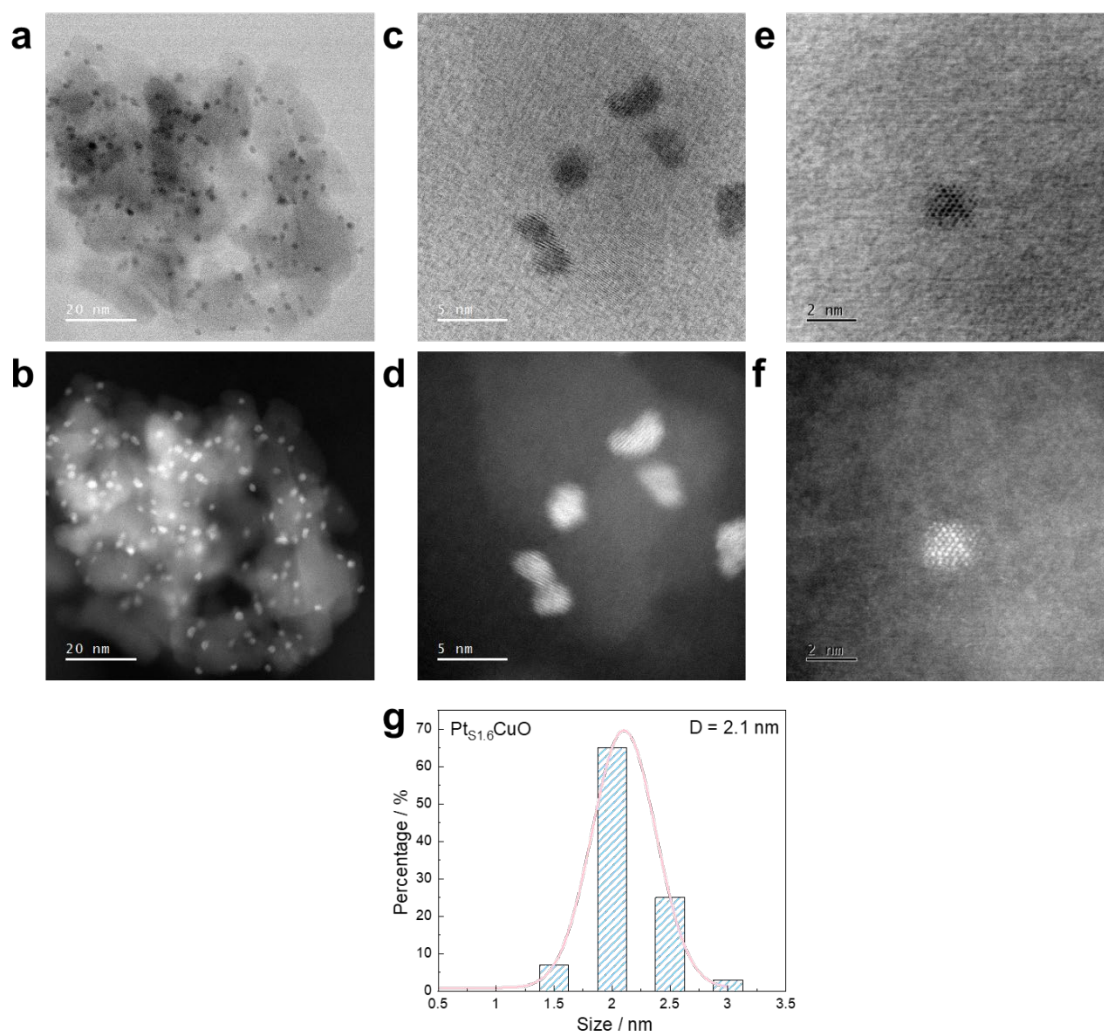


Figure S15. STEM images and particle size distribution of $\text{Pt}_{\text{S}1.6}\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ before reaction. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of $\text{Pt}_{\text{S}1.6}\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

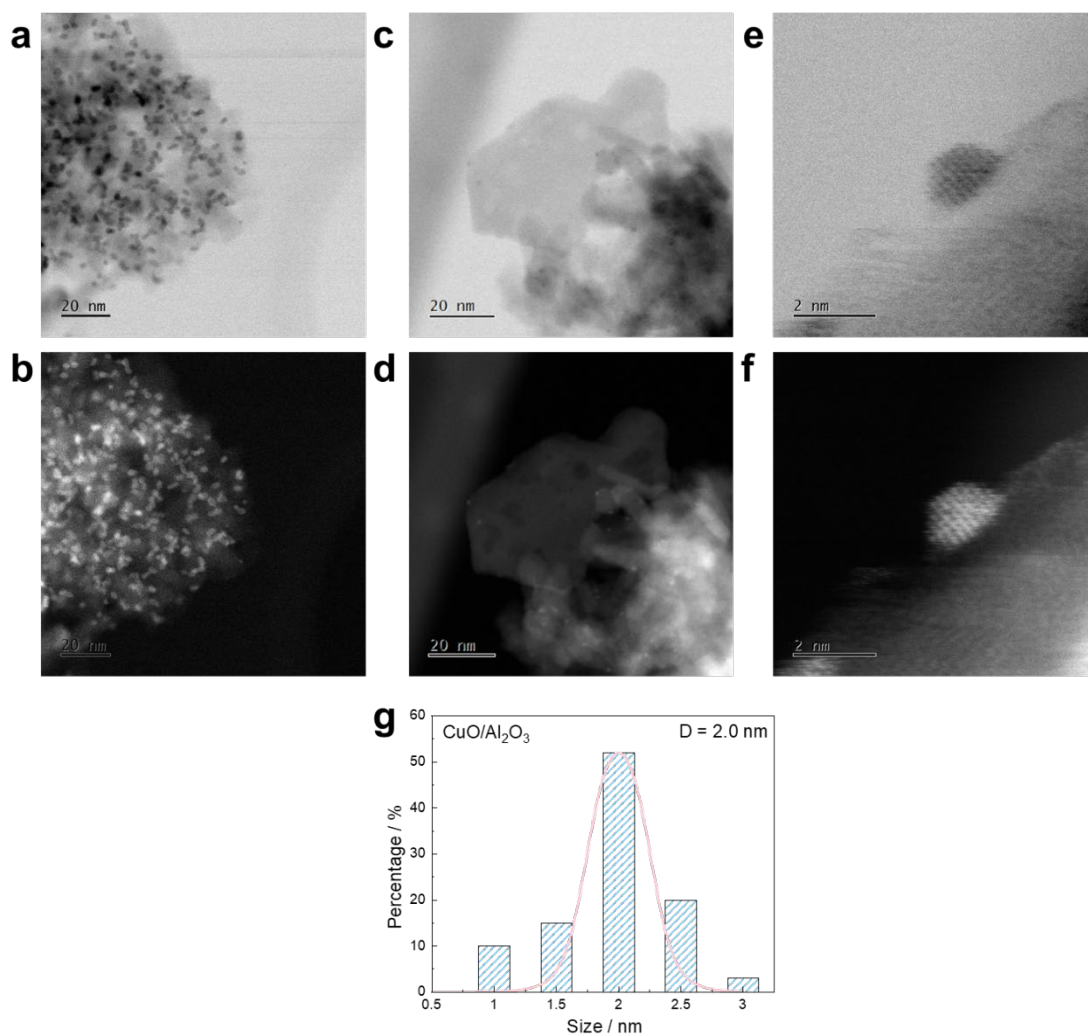


Figure S16. STEM images and particle size distribution of CuO/Al₂O₃. BF-STEM (a, c, e) and HAADF-STEM (b, d, f) images of CuO/Al₂O₃ at different magnifications and the particle size distribution (g). The average particle size was calculated based on more than 100 particles.

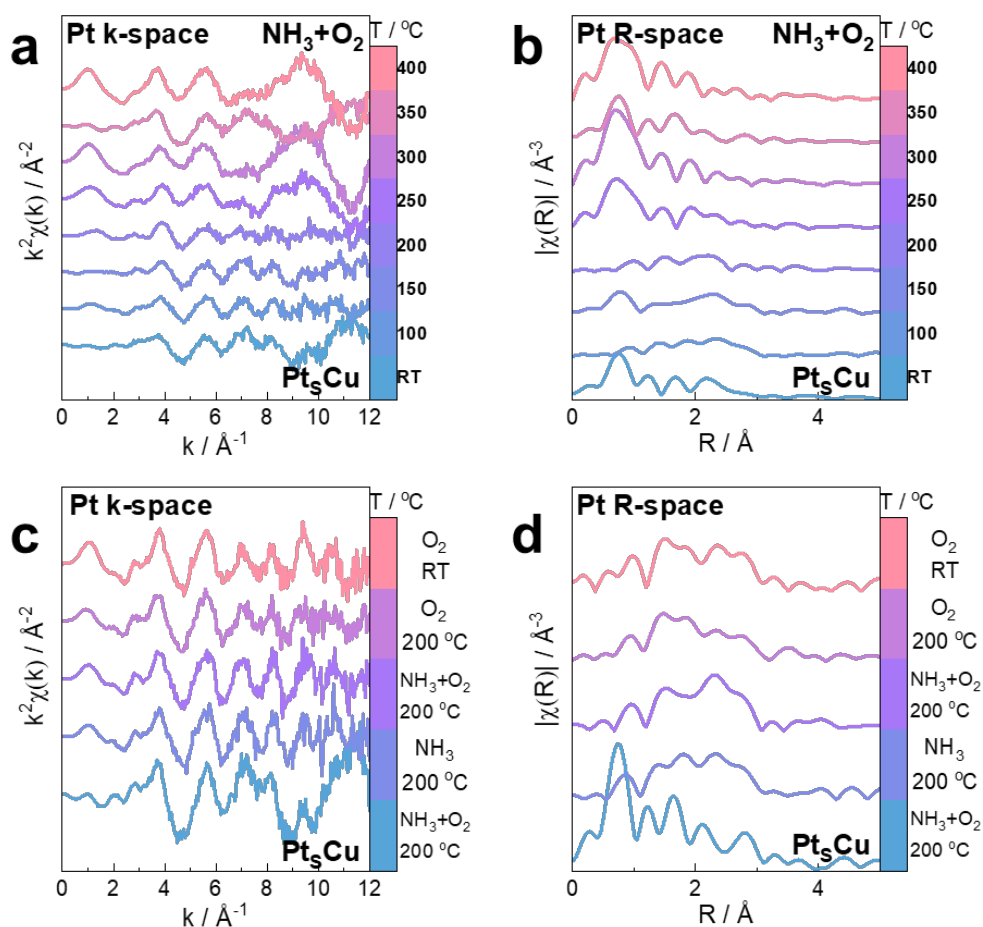


Figure S17. Operando Pt L₃-edge EXAFS spectra of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. Operando EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ as a function of temperature; Operando EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ in different gas environments.

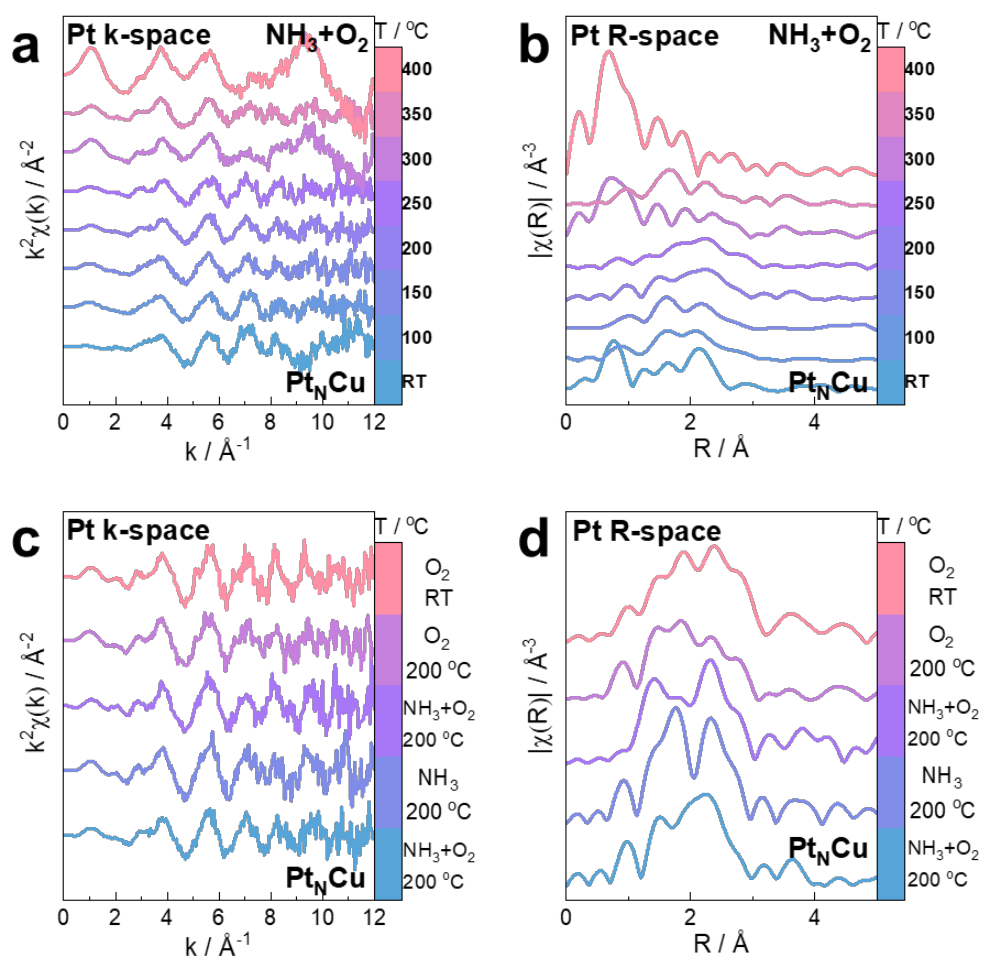


Figure S18. *Operando* Pt L₃-edge EXAFS spectra of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ as a function of temperature; *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ in different gas environments.

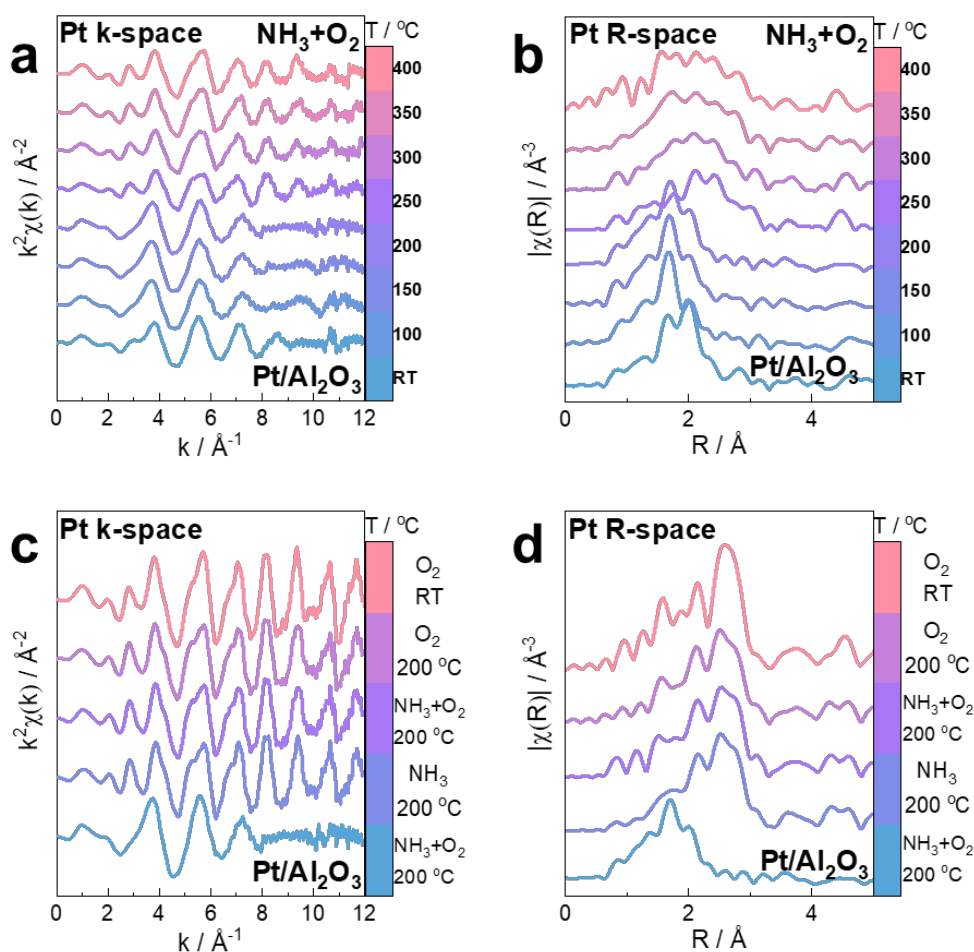


Figure S19. Operando Pt L₃-edge EXAFS spectra of Pt/Al₂O₃ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. Operando EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt/Al₂O₃ as a function of temperature; Operando EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Pt L₃-edge of Pt/Al₂O₃ in different gas environments.

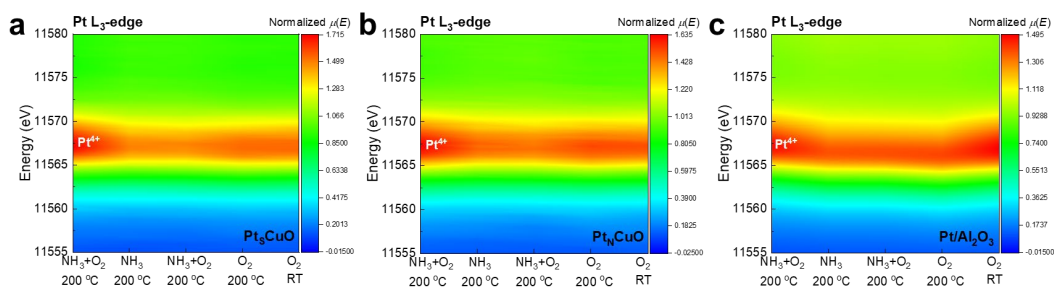


Figure S20. Operando Pt L₃-edge XANES spectra of different catalysts in different gases. Operando Pt L₃-edge XANES spectra of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ (a), Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ (b) and CuO/Al₂O₃ (c) under different gas atmospheres.

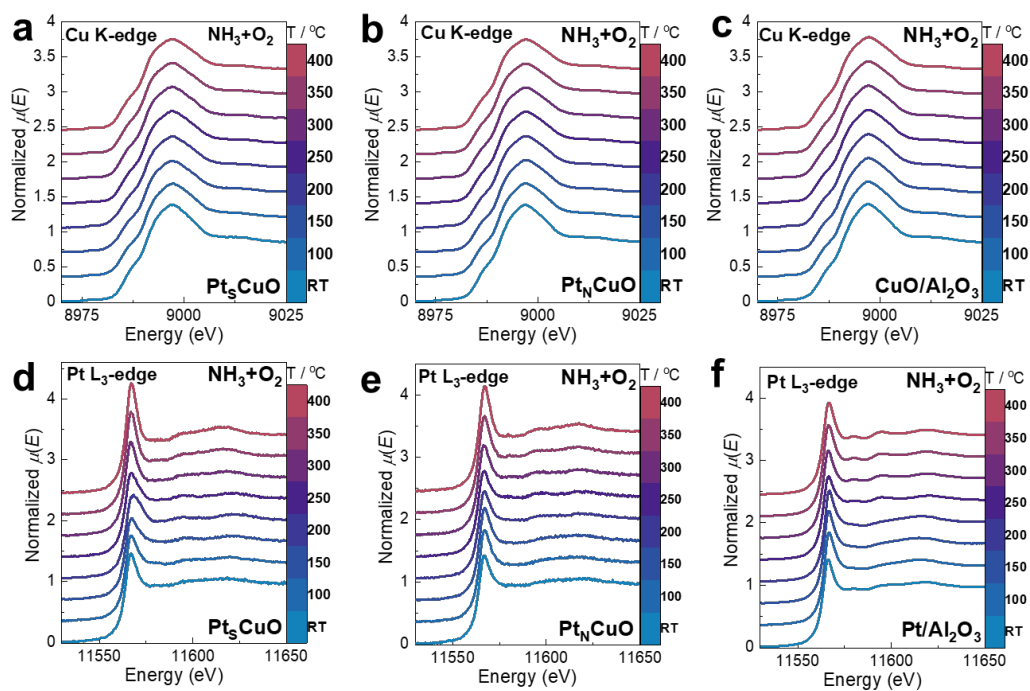


Figure S21. Operando Cu K-edge XANES spectra at different reaction temperatures. Operando Cu K-edge XANES spectra of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ (a), Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ (b) and CuO/Al₂O₃ (c) as a function of temperature; Operando Pt L₃-edge XANES spectra of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ (d), Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ (e) and Pt/Al₂O₃ (f) as a function of temperature.

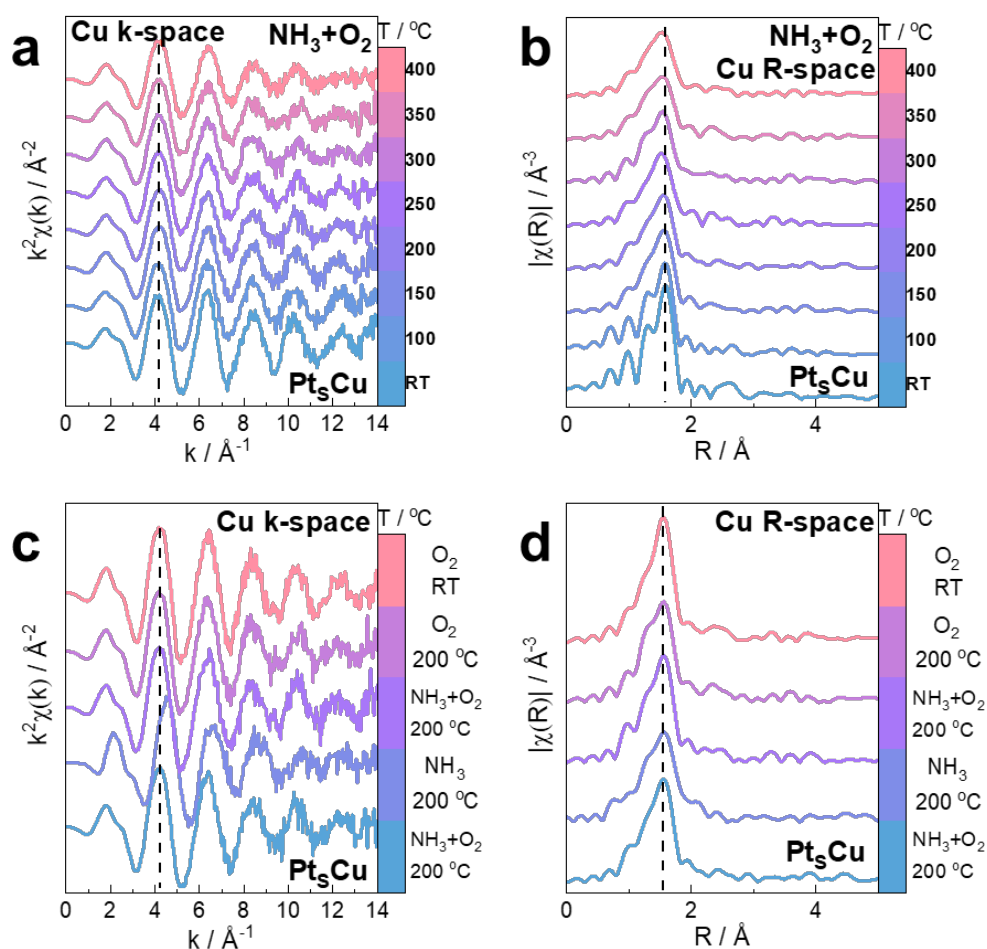


Figure S22. *Operando* Cu K-edge EXAFS spectra of $\text{PtsCuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Cu K-edge of $\text{PtsCuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ as a function of temperature; *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Cu K-edge of $\text{PtsCuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ in different gas environments.

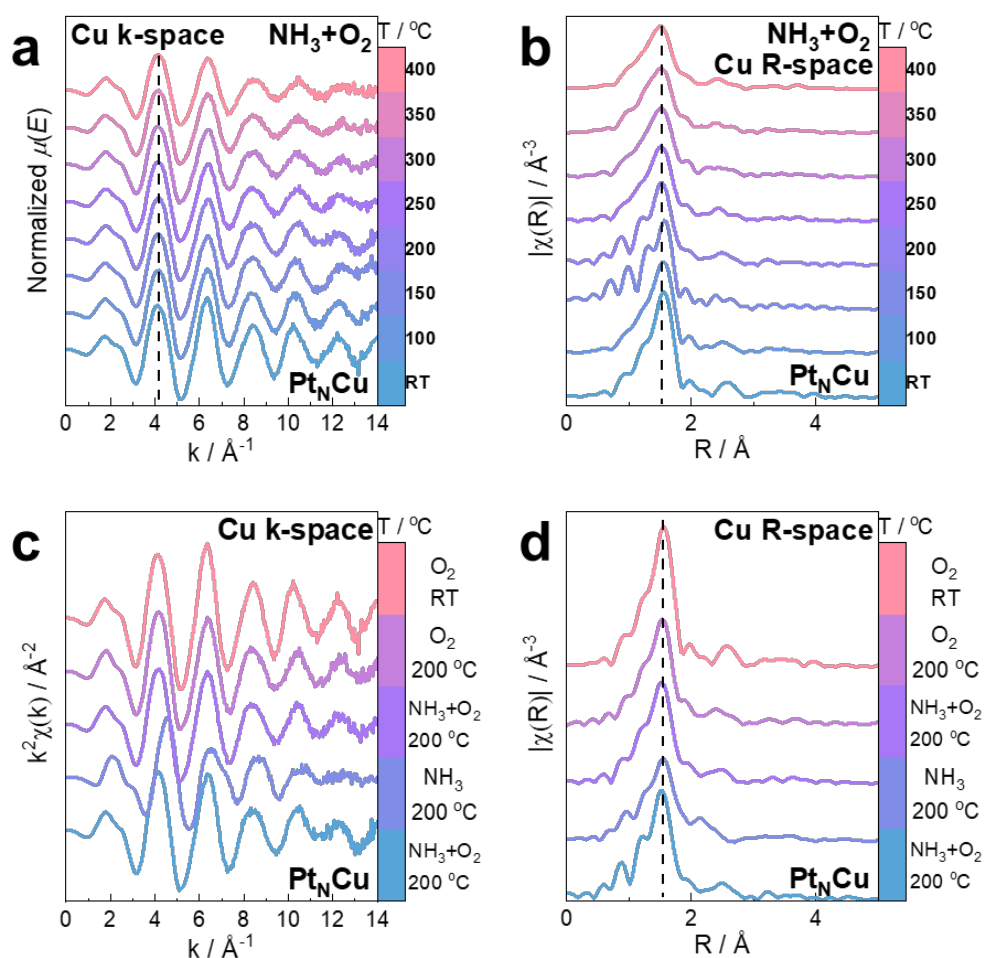


Figure S23. Operando Cu K-edge EXAFS spectra of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. Operando EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Cu K-edge of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ as a function of temperature; Operando EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Cu K-edge of Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ in different gas environments.

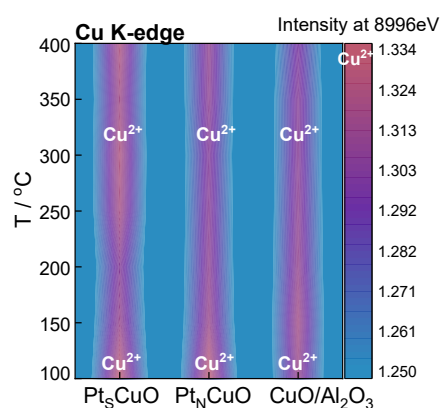


Figure S24. Operando Cu K-edge XAFS at different reaction temperatures. Signal intensity of the white-line at 8996 eV in a NH₃/O₂ atmosphere at different temperatures.

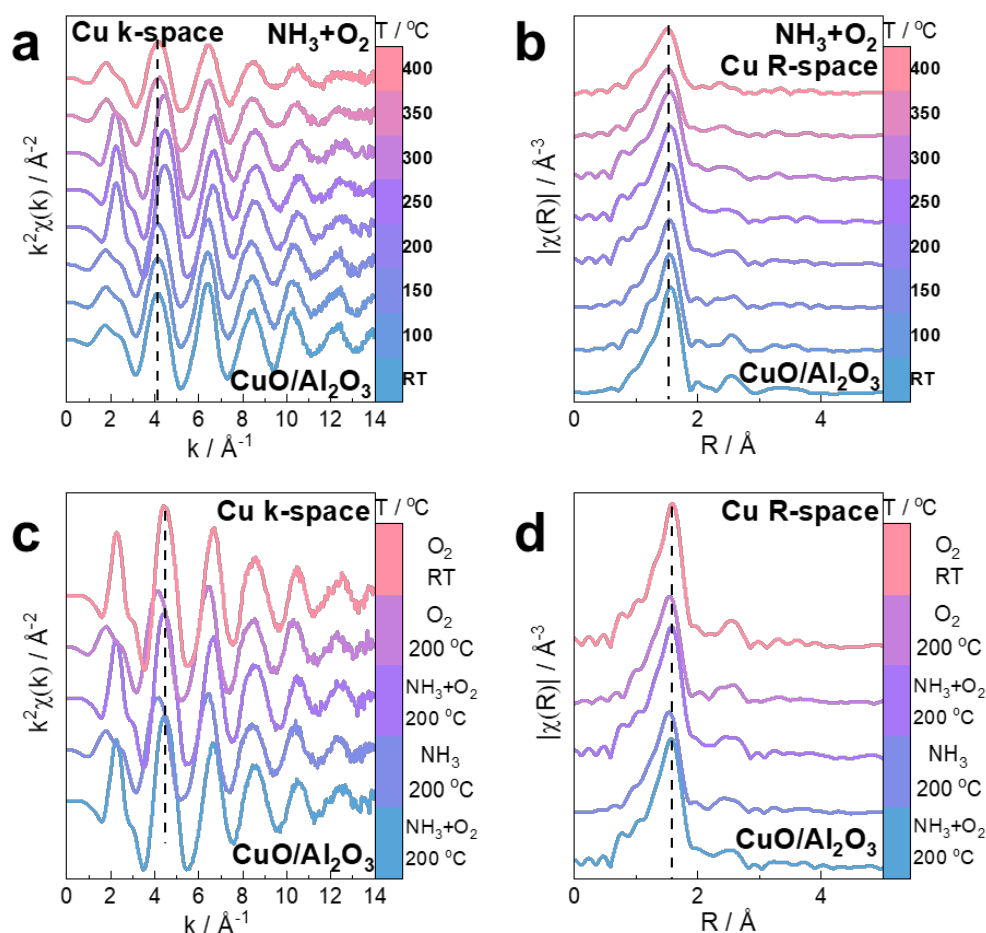


Figure S25. *Operando* Cu K-edge EXAFS spectra of CuO/Al₂O₃ at different reaction temperatures and in different gases. *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (a) and in R-space (b) of the Cu K-edge of CuO/Al₂O₃ as a function of temperature; *Operando* EXAFS in k-space (c) and in R-space (d) of the Cu K-edge of CuO/Al₂O₃ in different gas environments.

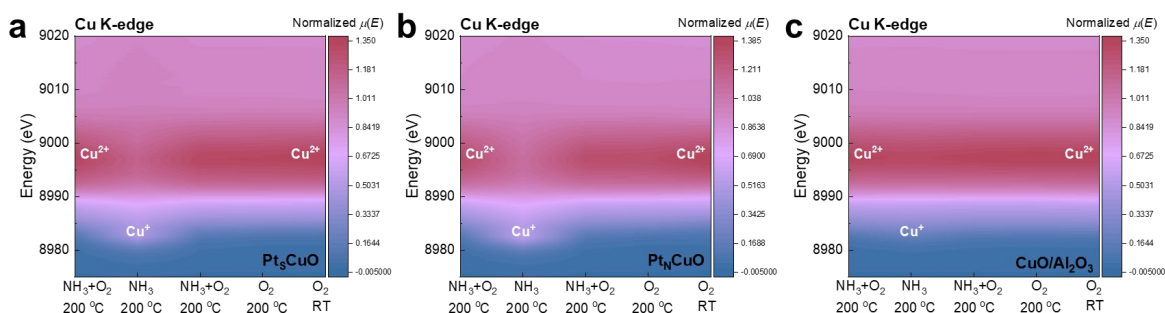


Figure S26. *Operando* Cu K-edge XANES spectra of different catalysts under different gases. *Operando* Cu K-edge XANES spectra of Pt₅CuO/Al₂O₃ (a), Pt_NCuO/Al₂O₃ (b) and CuO/Al₂O₃ (c) under different gas atmospheres.

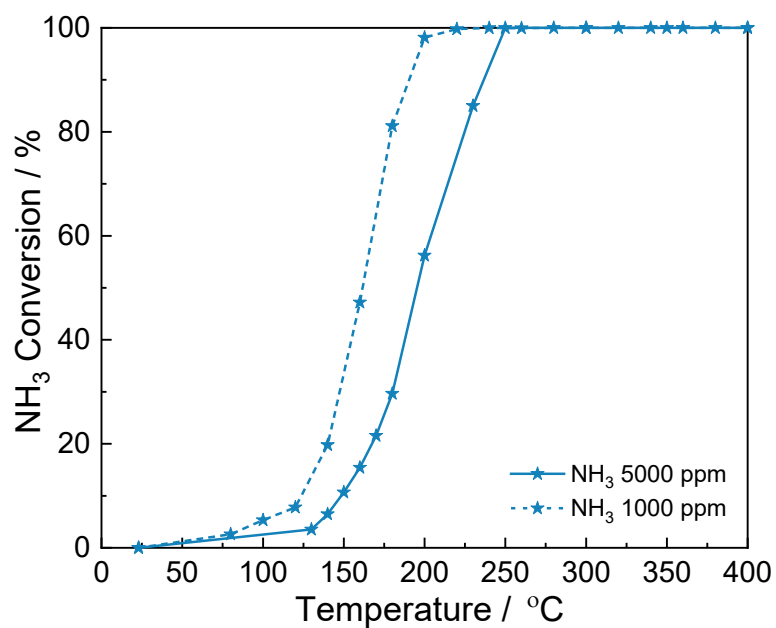


Figure S27. Light off curve for PtsCu/Al₂O₃ at different NH₃ concentration.
Reaction conditions: 50 mg catalyst, 1000 or 5000 ppm NH₃, 5% O₂ balanced in He, gas flow: 100 mL/min.

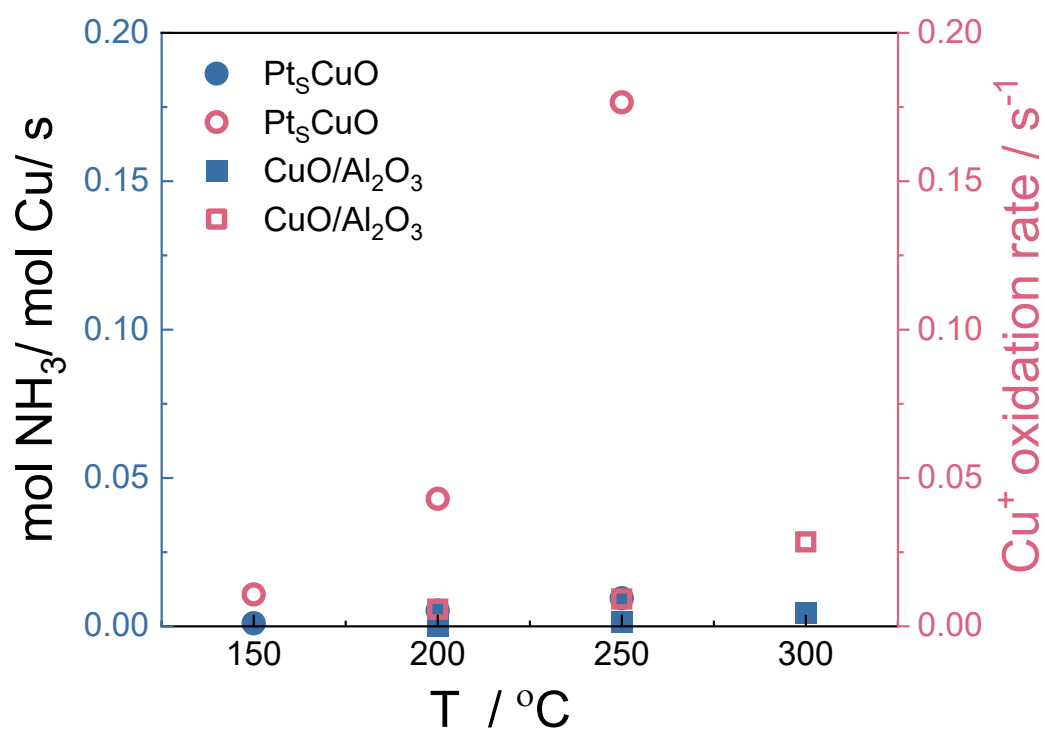


Figure S28. Turnover frequency (TOF) comparisons between $\text{Pt}_5\text{Cu}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. TOF of the whole NH_3 -SCO reaction (i.e. NH_3 oxidation rate) and Cu^+ oxidation rate in $\text{Pt}_5\text{Cu}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{CuO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. EXAFS fitting results of the different catalysts.

Sample	Scattering	C.N.	d (Å)	σ^2	E_0 (eV)	R-factor
Cu foil STD	Cu-Cu	12	2.56			
Cu ₂ O STD	Cu-O	2	1.85			
	Cu-Cu	12	3.01			
CuO STD	Cu-O	4	1.95			
		4	2.88			
	Cu-Cu	4	3.07			
		2	3.16			
Pt ₅ CuO/Al ₂ O ₃	Cu-O	3.42± 0.17	1.95	0.005± 0.0007	-0.39±0.70	0.013
	Pt-O (1)	2.01 ± 0.55	1.95	0.006±0.004		
	Pt-Pt (2)	5.77 ± 1.46	2.69		1.85± 2.30	0.017
	Pt-Cu (3)	1.08 ± 0.66	2.67	0.009±0.002		
Pt _N CuO/Al ₂ O ₃	Cu-O	3.41± 0.16	1.95	0.003±0.0007	-0.61±0.62	0.015
	Pt-O (1)	1.75± 0.32	1.91	0.005±0.0001		
	Pt-Pt (2)	4.48± 1.36	2.79		2.10± 2.80	0.022
	Pt-Cu (3)	5.84± 1.72	2.56	0.011±0.003		

a C.N. is coordination number.

b d is interatomic distance.

c σ^2 is Debye-Waller factor, a measure of thermal and static disorder in absorber scatter distances.

d ΔE_0 is edge energy shift.

EXAFS data fitting was in accordance with literature methods.¹⁻³

Table S2. Review of performance of CuO-based bi-functional catalysts evaluated in the NH₃-SCO reaction.

No.	Catalyst	T (°C)	NH ₃ conversion (%)	N ₂ selectivity (%)	WHSV (mL _{NH3} ·h ⁻¹ ·g ⁻¹)	Ref.
1	Pt ₈ CuO/Al ₂ O ₃ (this	200	100	96	600	
2	work)	400	100	98	600	
3	10wt%CuO-Al ₂ O ₃	350	100	93	30	4
4	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ (1.8 wt.% Pt)	220	100	63	206	5
5	Pt/CuO/Al ₂ O ₃ (1.0 wt.% Pt, 20.0 wt.% Cu)	210	100	88	126	6
6	Pt/CuO/Al ₂ O ₃ (1.0 wt.% Pt, 20.0 wt.% Cu)	250	100	83	-	7
7	Au/Cu/Al ₂ O ₃ (5 wt.% Au/1.0 mol% Cu)	300	100	95	240	8
8	Ag/Cu/Al ₂ O ₃ (7.5 wt.% Ag/2.5 wt.% Cu)	300	100	95	30	9
9	Ag/Cu/Al ₂ O ₃ (7.5 wt.% Ag/2.5 wt.% Cu)	325	100	95	300	10
10	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ -Cu/ZSM-5 (0.46 wt.% Pt/2.5 wt.% Cu)	250	100	82	-	11
11	30wt%CuO-RuO ₂	210	100	99	75	12
12	4.2 wt% Pd/Al ₂ O ₃	300	100	86	300	13
13	2.6 wt% Pt/Al ₂ O ₃	250	98	43	299	13
14	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ @Cu/ZSM-5	300	98	94	167	14
15	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ + Cu/SSZ-13	450	90	80	524	15
16	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ + Cu/SSZ-13	450	80	90	GHSV: 332k h ⁻¹	16
17	2 wt % Pt/γ-Al ₂ O ₃	230	100	40	1260	17

Supplementary References

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