

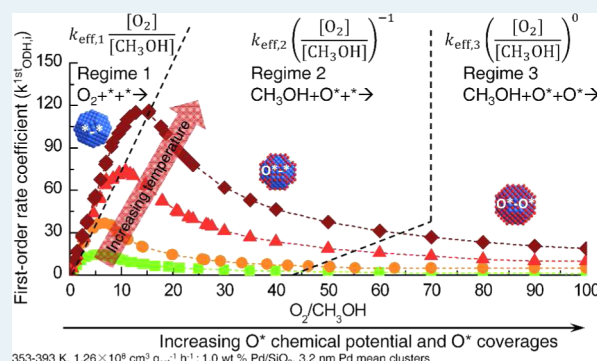
Catalytic Consequences of Chemisorbed Oxygen during Methanol Oxidative Dehydrogenation on Pd Clusters

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Surface oxygen contents and thermodynamic activities of nanosized Pd clusters and their connection to the reactivities for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation are established from rate measurements in the kinetically controlled regime and oxygen uptake studies at chemical equilibrium. First-order rate coefficients for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation (turnover rates divided by CH_3OH pressure) are single-valued functions of the oxygen-to-methanol ratio in the contacting gas phase because this ratio determines the oxygen coverages, the relative abundance of chemisorbed oxygen and unoccupied Pd sites, and in turn, the identities of the kinetically relevant steps at Pd cluster surfaces. As the oxygen-to-methanol ratio increases, the most abundant surface intermediates on Pd clusters vary from uncovered to saturated with chemisorbed oxygen; in response to this shift in coverages, the kinetically relevant step concomitantly varies from oxygen dissociation, to CH_3OH activation on oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs ($\text{O}^*-\text{*}$), and then to CH_3OH activation on oxygen adatom pairs (O^*-O^*), during which the first-order rate coefficients initially increase and then reach a maximum value before decreasing to a constant value that does not vary with the oxygen-to-methanol ratio. These dependencies reflect the dual catalytic functionality of chemisorbed oxygen, first promoting the methanol conversion as the oxygen coverages increase and then inhibiting the reaction at near O^* saturation, as oxygen displaces the unoccupied Pd sites, thus removing the $\text{O}^*-\text{*}$ centers while replacing them with less reactive O^*-O^* centers for CH_3OH activation. Methanol acts as a surface oxygen scavenger that reduces the oxygen chemical potential at Pd cluster surfaces during its catalytic turnovers. The oxygen-scavenging step by methanol increases with temperature to a larger extent than the O_2 activation step. As a result of more effective oxygen removal (by reactions) at higher temperatures, the critical oxygen coverage required for the transition of regimes from $\text{*}-\text{*}$ to $\text{O}^*-\text{*}$ as the predominant surface sites occurs at higher oxygen-to-methanol ratios. Larger Pd clusters are more reactive for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation than smaller clusters in all regimes because cluster dimension influences the relative abundance of chemisorbed oxygen and unoccupied Pd sites, the oxygen binding strengths, and their reactivities. The direct connection of first-order rate coefficient and oxidant-to-reductant ratio appears to be general for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation on other transition metals and for oxidation catalysis, for which the reductant scavenges the chemisorbed oxygen effectively, thus dictating their coverages and thermodynamic activities.



KEYWORDS: methanol, oxidation catalysis, oxygen chemical potential, palladium, oxygen coverages, partial oxidation, oxidative dehydrogenation, kinetic regime

1. INTRODUCTION

Light alcohols react with chemisorbed oxygen atoms on metal clusters (CH_3OH oxidation on Au,¹ Pt,² and Pd;³ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ oxidation on Pd³ and Au;^{4–6} $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH}$ oxidation on Pt and Pd electrodes⁷) or with lattice oxygen on metal oxide domains (CH_3OH oxidation on V_2O_5 ,⁸ RuO_2 ,⁹ Fe_2O_3 ,¹⁰ and MoO_3 ;¹⁰ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ oxidation on RuO_2 ⁹) via kinetically coupled alcohol and oxygen activation steps at near-ambient conditions in both vapor and liquid media, forming formates, aldehydes, ketones, and esters. Vapor-phase oxidation of light alcohols (CH_3OH ,^{11–17} $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$,¹⁸ $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH}$ ¹⁹) on oxygen-covered metal {Au(111),^{11,12,18,19} Ag(211),¹³ Cu(110),¹⁴ Pt(211),¹³ Pd(211),¹³ Ir(111),¹⁵ and Rh(211)¹³} or metal oxide { RuO_2 (110)¹⁶ and MgO (100)¹⁷} surfaces involves O–H

bond scission of the alcohols assisted by reactive oxygen atoms. For the case of methanol, the catalytic involvement of chemisorbed oxygen atoms in methanol activation leads the first-order rate coefficients (turnover rates divided by CH_3OH pressure) to initially increase and then reach a constant value with increasing oxygen chemical potentials, as oxygen coverages on Pt, Ag, and RuO_2 cluster surfaces increase from largely uncovered to saturated with oxygen.^{2,20} Here, we report a distinct dependence of first-order rate coefficients on Pd cluster surfaces for which their values initially increase, reach a

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transition point, and then decrease to a constant value as oxygen chemical potential increases. The bimodal kinetic dependence, undetected on other metals (i.e., Pt, RuO₂, Ag), reflects the dual catalytic roles of oxygen in promoting or inhibiting methanol catalytic turnovers on Pd clusters. The mechanistic interpretation of this unique dependency, its connection to the surface contents and thermodynamic activities of oxygen, and the catalytic functions of oxygen deserve further investigations.

We probe here the peculiar bimodal, generalized correlation of the first-order rate coefficient on operating oxygen-to-methanol ratio. We confirm that these kinetic phenomena are intrinsic catalytic events, uncorrupted by transport artifacts, by rigorous removal of temperature and concentration gradients within catalyst bed and pellets. These intrinsic rates, when combined with equilibrium oxygen uptakes, allow us to conclude that first-order rate coefficients are single-valued functions of the operating oxygen-to-methanol ratio, categorized in three distinct kinetic regimes, each with a unique kinetically relevant step and identity of most abundant reactive intermediates. We show that the ratio of oxygen-to-methanol and that of O₂ to CH₃OH activation rate constants define the thermodynamic activities of reactive oxygen and, in turn, the kinetic regimes and their transition through the kinetic coupling of methanol and oxygen activation steps. Pd cluster surfaces nearly saturated with chemisorbed oxygen contain a small amount of oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs that activate CH₃OH much more effectively than oxygen adatom pairs. These site pairs diminish, and the CH₃OH turnover rates concomitantly decrease as oxygen coverages reach saturation. The connection of oxygen reactivities to their binding strength was probed by varying the cluster size and average surface coordination. Larger Pd clusters are more reactive for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation because weakly bound oxygen atoms prevalent on these larger clusters are more effective for CH₃OH activation (in regimes 2 and 3) and contain a larger fraction of unoccupied Pd sites available for O₂ dissociation (in regime 1) than smaller clusters. As the temperature increases, higher oxygen-to-methanol ratios are required for attaining the critical oxygen coverage for the transition between regimes because smaller activation energies for O₂ than CH₃OH activation result in a decrease in rate constant ratios for O₂ to CH₃OH activation. The bimodal dependencies of rate coefficients with oxidant-to-reductant ratios, shown here for CH₃OH oxidation on Pd, appear to be general for several classes of oxidation catalytic systems (CH₄^{21–23} or C₂H₆²³ oxidation on Pt) which involve oxygen vacancies as active sites and under conditions that the oxygen recombination rates are kinetically inconsequential and, as a result, the oxidant-to-reductant ratio rigorously reflects the oxygen coverages and the thermodynamic activities of oxygen at cluster surfaces.

2. EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

2.1. Synthesis and Characterizations of Supported Pd Clusters. Pd/SiO₂ (0.5 or 1.0 wt % Pd) catalysts were synthesized by incipient wetness impregnation of SiO₂ with an aqueous palladium(II) nitrate solution, prepared from dissolving the Pd salt [Pd(NO₃)₂, Sigma-Aldrich, 99.995% trace metals basis] in doubly deionized water. Silica (Grace, Davisil Chromatographic Silica, 330 m² g^{−1}, 1.25 cm³ g^{−1} pore volume, 0–75 μm particle size) was treated in ambient air by heating to 673 at 0.033 K s^{−1} and holding for 3 h before the incipient wetness impregnation step with Pd precursor solution. The

impregnated sample was kept at 353 K for 24 h under ambient air and then treated in flowing dry air (Linde, 99.99%, 0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) by increasing the temperature at 0.05 K s^{−1} to and holding isothermally at 673 K for 5 h. Portions of the Pd samples were subsequently treated under flowing dry air (Linde, 99.99%, 0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}, 0.05 K s^{−1} ramp) at temperatures between 673 and 1073 K for 5 h to vary the average Pd cluster size. These samples were cooled to ambient temperature in flowing dry air and then treated at 673 K (0.033 K s^{−1}) in 5% H₂/He (Linde certified standard to be 5.22%, 0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) for 1 h before cooling to ambient temperature in He (Linde, 99.999%, 0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}). The samples were exposed to flowing 1% O₂/He (0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) at ambient temperature for 6 h before exposure to ambient conditions. These catalyst powders were diluted with SiO₂ (Grace, Davisil Chromatographic Silica, 330 m² g^{−1} surface area, 1.25 cm³ g^{−1} pore volume, 0–75 μm particle size) at a SiO₂-to-catalyst mass ratio of 200 and subsequently pelleted and sieved to retain 125–180 μm agglomerates.

The Pd dispersion (the fraction of Pd atoms at cluster surfaces) in these samples was determined from irreversible O₂ uptakes at 313 K between 0 and 50 kPa O₂ after the samples were treated in situ in flowing H₂ (Linde, 99.999%, 0.3 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) at 673 K for 1 h, exposed to dynamic vacuum (1 × 10^{−6} Pa to 5 × 10^{−2} Pa) at 673 K for 10 h, and then cooled under dynamic vacuum (1 × 10^{−6} Pa to 5 × 10^{−2} Pa) to 313 K. The average cluster diameters were estimated from these dispersion values by assuming an atomic O-to-surface Pd ratio of one (O/Pd_s = 1; where subscript s denotes surface Pd) and Pd clusters in hemispherical shapes with a density of bulk Pd metal (12.0 g cm^{−3}).²⁴ The ratio of atomic oxygen-to-total Pd atoms and the chemical state of Pd clusters were determined by isothermal volumetric oxygen uptakes at 373 K.

2.2. Steady-State Catalytic Rate and Selectivity Measurements. The Pd/SiO₂ and SiO₂ agglomerates (described in section 2.1) were physically mixed with SiO₂ (Grace, Davisil Chromatographic Silica, 330 m² g^{−1} surface area, 1.25 cm³ g^{−1} pore volume, 125–180 μm particle size) to form a packed catalyst bed with an overall SiO₂-to-catalyst mass ratio of 5700 to avoid intraparticle and bed gradients in temperature or concentration. The SiO₂ did not give detectable rates under all reaction conditions reported herein ($r_{\text{SiO}_2}/r_{\text{Pd/SiO}_2} < 0.01$ when compared at the same weight of SiO₂ between 323 and 393 K). The catalyst and diluent mixtures were held on a quartz supporting frit in a tubular microcatalytic plug flow reactor (8.1 mm reactor i.d.) equipped with a K-type thermocouple placed at the center of the packed bed. All samples were treated in situ under flowing H₂ (Linde, 99.999%, 0.2 × 10⁴–1.3 × 10⁴ cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) to 673 at 0.083 K s^{−1}, held for 1 h, and then cooled to reaction temperature in flowing He (Linde, 99.999%, 0.2 × 10⁴–1.3 × 10⁴ cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} s^{−1}) before exposure to CH₃OH–O₂ reactants. Reactant mixtures were prepared from either 5.5% O₂/He (Linde certified standard) or pure O₂ (Linde, 99.995%), CH₃OH (Sigma-Aldrich, anhydrous, 99.8%), and He (Linde, 99.999%). Gas flow rates of 5.5% O₂/He, pure O₂, and He were independently metered using electronic mass flow controllers to achieve a space velocity between 1.5 × 10⁷ and 2.5 × 10⁸ cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} h^{−1}. Liquid methanol was introduced using a gastight syringe (Hamilton, 5 cm³) mounted on a syringe infusion pump (KD Scientific, LEGATO 100) at a constant infusion rate (0.055–0.280 cm³ h^{−1}) into a heated zone maintained at 338 K, in which it was

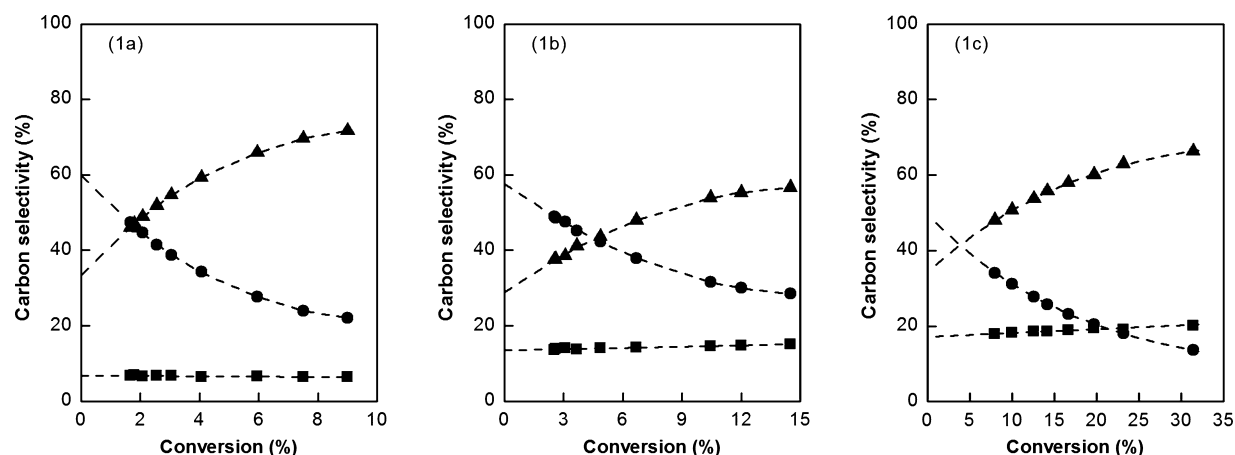


Figure 1. Carbon selectivities (CO₂ (■), HCHO (●), and HCOOCH₃ (▲)) during CH₃OH–O₂ reactions at 373 K on 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ catalyst (3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter) as a function of methanol conversion with O₂/CH₃OH feed mixtures of 1.5 (a), 9 (b), and 60 (c) (200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; 1.5×10^7 – 2.5×10^8 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} h^{−1}).

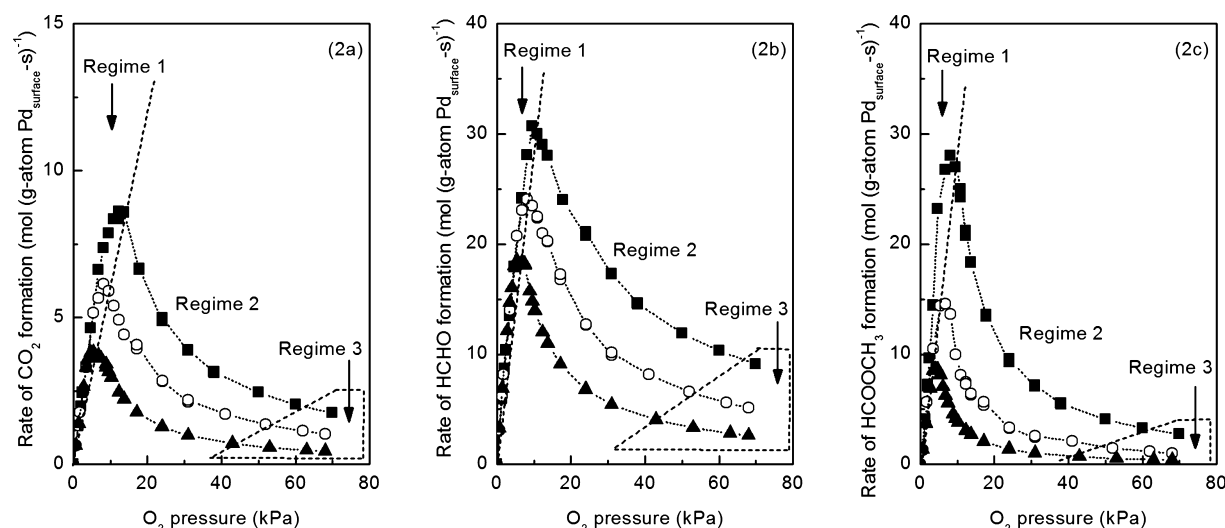


Figure 2. Turnover rates for CO₂ ($r_{\text{CO}_2,i}$ a), HCHO ($r_{\text{HCHO},i}$ b), and HCOOCH₃ ($r_{\text{HCOOCH}_3,i}$ c) formation as a function of O₂ pressure during CH₃OH–O₂ reactions (0.75 kPa (▲), 1.25 kPa (○), and 1.75 kPa (■) CH₃OH) on 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ at 373 K (3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; 1.26×10^8 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} h^{−1}; subscript i in $r_{\text{CO}_2,i}$, $r_{\text{HCHO},i}$, and $r_{\text{HCOOCH}_3,i}$ denotes regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3); kinetic regimes 1, 2, and 3 are labeled as regimes 1, 2, and 3, respectively, in the figure).

evaporated and mixed with the gas feed stream containing O₂ and He. All transfer gas lines were heated to 373 K to prevent condensation of reactants and products. The chemical compositions of the reactant and product streams were quantified using a micro gas chromatograph (Varian CP-4900) equipped with HP-PLOT U (CP 4900 backflush column module, 10 m) and Molecular Sieve 5A (CP 4900 backflush column module, 10 m) columns connected to thermal conductivity detectors. Rates of CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃ formation and methanol oxidative dehydrogenation at various CH₃OH and O₂ pressures were measured in the kinetically controlled regime, attained by keeping the reactor heat load below 0.023 W s^{−1}, as demonstrated elsewhere,² and at methanol and oxygen conversions below 10%, taken after reaching steady state, during which the changes in rates were less than 5% of their values, measured at a reference condition (O₂-to-CH₃OH = 1.5, space velocity of 1.26×10^8 cm³ g_{cat}^{−1} h^{−1}) for the entire duration of rate measurements (~20 h).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Selectivities and Reaction Network for Methanol Partial Oxidation on Pd Clusters. The selectivity of carbon-containing products (species j , $j = \text{CO}_2$, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃) is defined as the molar flow rate ratio of CH₃OH converted into species j to CH₃OH reacted. As an example, the selectivity toward HCOOCH₃ is determined from the molar flow rate of CH₃OH converted to HCOOCH₃ (which also equals twice of the molar flow rate of HCOOCH₃ in the reactor effluent) over the total molar flow rate of CH₃OH reacted (determined by subtracting the molar flow rate of CH₃OH at the effluent stream from the molar flow rate of CH₃OH in the feed) because each HCOOCH₃ is formed from two CH₃OH molecules. Parts a–c of Figure 1 show the selectivities of carbon-containing products (CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃) for CH₃OH–O₂ reactions as a function of CH₃OH conversion, obtained by varying the residence time, for three O₂-to-CH₃OH feed ratios of 1.5, 9, and 60 on Pd clusters (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm Pd cluster diameter) at 373 K. CO,

HCOOH, and H₂ were undetected (<5 ppmv, which correspond to CO, HCOOH, and H₂ selectivities of less than 0.4%, 0.4%, and 0.1%, respectively) over the entire range of O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (0.1–100; 0.5–5 kPa CH₃OH and 0.1–70 kPa O₂) at 373 K, consistent with previously reported selectivities for Pd catalysts;^{3,25} similar products were also found on dispersed Pt clusters.^{2,26} Carbon selectivities toward HCHO decreased and those for HCOOCH₃ and CO₂ concomitantly increased as the CH₃OH conversion and residence time increased for all O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (1.5, 9, and 60, Figure 1). Extrapolation of these selectivity values to zero conversion minimizes the rate contributions from secondary reactions; these selectivities reflect the relative rates of CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃ formation predominantly from primary reactions. The nonzero selectivity values (6.8% CO₂, 59.9% HCHO, and 33.1% HCOOCH₃ for O₂/CH₃OH = 1.5; 13.5% CO₂, 57.4% HCHO, and 29.1% HCOOCH₃ for O₂/CH₃OH = 9; 17.1% CO₂, 49.4% HCHO, and 34.3% HCOOCH₃ for O₂/CH₃OH = 60), which we interpret as indicative that all three products (CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃) can form directly from primary reactions between methanol and oxygen derived species on Pd cluster surfaces. HCOOCH₃-O₂ reactions at similar space velocities did not lead to CO₂, HCHO, or CH₃OH at detectable values on Pd (313 K, 45 kPa O₂ and 0.3 kPa HCOOCH₃ feed),³ as also found on Pt (373–450 K, 0.1–40 kPa O₂, and 0.6 kPa HCOOCH₃ feed).² These findings led us to conclude that all carbon containing products may be formed directly from CH₃OH and portions of CO₂ and HCOOCH₃ are formed from HCHO oxidation and HCHO acetalization with methanol derived surface intermediates, respectively, as found previously on Pt/SiO₂ (373 K),² Pd/γ-Al₂O₃ (313 K),³ and Au nanofibers between 10 and 50 nm (293–353 K).¹

Figure 2 shows the turnover rates [unit: mol (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s)⁻¹, defined as the mole of product (CO₂, HCHO, or HCOOCH₃) formed per mole of surface Pd atom per time] for CO₂ (Figure 2a), HCHO (Figure 2b), and HCOOCH₃ (Figure 2c) formation at various CH₃OH pressures (0.5–2.0 kPa), plotted against the O₂ pressure over a wide range of O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (0.1–100) on Pd clusters (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter) at 373 K. Turnover rates for CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃ formation vary with O₂ and CH₃OH pressures differently depending on the range of O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio. These variations in rate dependencies are categorized here in three kinetic regimes (regime 1: 0.1–7 O₂/CH₃OH, regime 2: 7–50 O₂/CH₃OH, regime 3: 50–100 O₂/CH₃OH) based on the operating O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio, as highlighted in Figure 2. The rate of formation for carbon species *j* (*j* = HCHO, HCOOCH₃, or CO₂) per surface Pd atom in regime *i* (*i* = 1, 2, or 3) is denoted as *r_{j,i}* and expressed in a general form (eq 1) that varies with the CH₃OH and O₂ pressures (denoted as [CH₃OH] and [O₂], respectively)

$$r_{j,i} = k_{app,j,i} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{\alpha_{j,i}} [\text{O}_2]^{\beta_{j,i}} \quad (1)$$

where *k_{app,j,i}* is the apparent rate constant for species *j* in regime *i* and *α_{j,i}* and *β_{j,i}* are the apparent reaction orders with respect to CH₃OH and O₂, respectively, for species *j* in regime *i*.

At low O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (<7, regime 1), turnover rates for CO₂ formation increased linearly with O₂ (*β_{CO₂,1}* = 1.0 ± 0.1), whereas those for HCHO formation increased less than linearly (*β_{HCHO,1}* = 0.8 ± 0.1) and for HCOOCH₃ formation increased more than linearly (*β_{HCOOCH₃,1}* = 1.3 ± 0.1) with O₂.

The turnover rates for CO₂ formation did not vary with CH₃OH pressure (*α_{CO₂,1}* = 0.0 ± 0.1) and for HCHO and HCOOCH₃ formation varied weakly with CH₃OH pressure (*α_{HCHO,1}* = −0.1 ± 0.1 and *α_{HCOOCH₃,1}* = 0.3 ± 0.1). As the O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio increased to above 7 and below 50 (regime 2), the rates of CO₂, HCHO, and HCOOCH₃ formation began to acquire a negative dependence with O₂ pressure (*β_{CO₂,2}* = −1.0 ± 0.1, *β_{HCHO,2}* = −0.8 ± 0.1, and *β_{HCOOCH₃,2}* = −1.2 ± 0.1) and depended more than linearly and much more strongly on CH₃OH pressure (*α_{CO₂,2}* = 1.7 ± 0.2, *α_{HCHO,2}* = 1.3 ± 0.3, and *α_{HCOOCH₃,2}* = 2.4 ± 0.3) than in regime 1. A further increase in O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio to above 50 (regime 3) led all product formation rates to become independent of O₂ pressure (*β_{CO₂,3}* = *β_{HCHO,3}* = *β_{HCOOCH₃,3}* = 0.0 ± 0.1) and depend less strongly on CH₃OH pressure (*α_{CO₂,3}* = 0.8 ± 0.2, *α_{HCHO,3}* = 0.5 ± 0.2, and *α_{HCOOCH₃,3}* = 1.7 ± 0.2) than in regime 2. These transitions in rate dependence in response to changing O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio appear to reflect a direct connection of the operating O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio to the nature and relative abundances of the surface intermediates and the prevalent kinetically relevant steps during methanol oxidation catalysis. Next, we focus on interpreting the rates of methanol oxidative dehydrogenation, as these rates reflect the effective collisional frequencies for the initial methanol activation during their catalytic sojourns on Pd clusters without the contributions from methanol molecules consumed by secondary reactions.

3.2. First-Order Rate Coefficients for Methanol Oxidative Dehydrogenation Are Single-Valued Functions of O₂-to-CH₃OH Ratio. Turnover rates for CH₃OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH), *r_{ODH,i}* (subscript “ODH,*i*” refers to oxidative dehydrogenation reaction in regime *i*), were reported as the combined rates for HCHO, CO₂, and HCOOCH₃ formation (*r_{ODH,i}* = *r_{CO₂,i}* + *r_{HCHO,i}* + *r_{HCOOCH₃,i}*)⁹ because HCHO, CO₂, or HCOOCH₃ formation each requires a catalytic CH₃OH sojourn. The turnover rates [*r_{ODH,i}*, mol (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s)⁻¹; mole of CH₃OH per mole of surface Pd atom per time] divided by CH₃OH pressure ([CH₃OH]) give the first-order rate coefficients [*k^{1st}_{ODH,i}*, mol (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s-kPa)⁻¹] for oxidative dehydrogenation reaction:

$$k_{ODH,i}^{1st} = \frac{r_{ODH,i}}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \quad (2)$$

Their values for CH₃OH–O₂ reactions on Pd clusters (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 373 K) are single-valued functions of the operating O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios, as shown in Figure 3, irrespective of individual CH₃OH and O₂ pressures. O₂-to-CH₃OH values dictate the kinetic dependencies and their transition; thus, they define the operating boundaries for regimes 1–3 (regime 1: 0.1–7 O₂/CH₃OH, regime 2: 7–50 O₂/CH₃OH, and regime 3: 50–100 O₂/CH₃OH). The single-valued functional dependence of first-order rate coefficients on O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios was also found for Pt, Ag, and RuO₂ clusters: the rate coefficients were found to either increase or remain unchanged with the O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio at the two operating regimes corresponded to regimes 1 and 3, respectively.²⁰ The regime corresponded to the intermediate O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (regime 2) was, however, not being detected on these clusters.

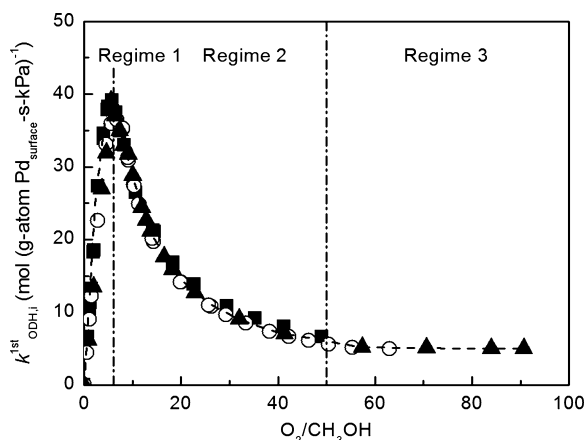


Figure 3. First-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},i} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$, subscript i denotes regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3)) for CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH) as single-valued functions of O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio during CH_3OH - O_2 reactions (0.75 kPa (\blacktriangle), 1.25 kPa (\circ), and 1.75 kPa (\blacksquare) CH_3OH) at 373 K on 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ (3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$; kinetic regimes 1, 2, and 3 are labeled as regimes 1, 2, and 3, respectively, in the figure).

In regime 1 ($0.1 < \text{O}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OH} < 7$), first-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},1}^{\text{1st}}$) increased proportionally with O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratios (Figure 3)

$$k_{\text{ODH},1}^{\text{1st}} = \frac{r_{\text{ODH},1}}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} = k_{\text{eff},1} \left(\frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \right) \quad (3)$$

where $k_{\text{eff},1}$ denotes the effective rate constant for CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation in regime 1. CH_3OH turnover rates in this regime vary linearly with O_2 pressure ($\beta_{\text{ODH},1} = 1.0 \pm 0.1$, Table 1) and are insensitive to CH_3OH pressure ($\alpha_{\text{ODH},1} = 0.0 \pm 0.1$, Table 1), consistent with rates limited by oxygen activation on Pd cluster surfaces largely uncovered of reactive intermediates² (derivation in section S1 in Supporting Information)

$$r_{\text{ODH},1} = k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}} [\text{O}_2] \quad (4)$$

where $k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ denotes the rate constant for oxygen dissociation on Pd clusters. The measured rate constant for oxygen dissociation on Pd clusters free of reactive intermediates, $k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ is 6.7 ± 0.5

mol O_2 (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s-kPa)⁻¹ at 373 K, obtained from linear regression of rate data in regime 1 from Figure 3 with eq 4.

As the O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio increased to above 7 but below 50, the transition from regime 1 to regime 2 occurred, during which the first-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}}$) varied inversely with O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio (Figure 3)

$$k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}} = \frac{r_{\text{ODH},2}}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} = k_{\text{eff},2} \left(\frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \right)^{-1} \quad (5)$$

where $k_{\text{eff},2}$ denotes the effective rate constant for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation in regime 2. The linear relation between the first-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}}$) and the inverse of O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio ($[(\text{O}_2)/(\text{CH}_3\text{OH})]^{-1}$) is confirmed in Figure 4, and the regression of these data against

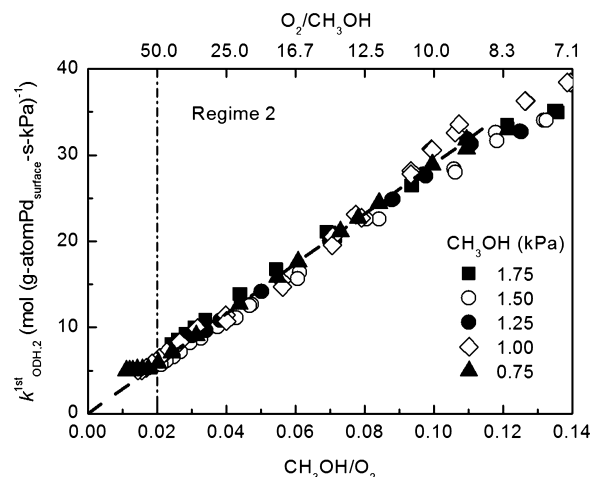


Figure 4. First-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$) for CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH) in regime 2 on 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ (3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter) at 373 K as a function of CH_3OH -to- O_2 ratio ($\text{O}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OH} = 7$ –50; 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

eq 5 gives $k_{\text{eff},2}$ of $290 \pm 10 \text{ mol (g-atom Pd}_{\text{surface}}\text{-s-kPa)}^{-1}$ at 373 K. This relation of $k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}}$ and the inverse of O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio (eq 5) arises from a second-order dependence of rates on CH_3OH and an inverse dependence of rates on O_2 , as shown in section S2 of the Supporting Information, Figures S1a

Table 1. Observed Rate Dependencies and Apparent Reaction Orders for CH_3OH Oxidative Dehydrogenation (ODH) and for HCHO , CO_2 , and HCOOCH_3 Formation, Identity of the Most Abundant Surface Intermediates (MASI), and the Active Sites during CH_3OH - O_2 Reactions on 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ in Kinetic Regimes 1–3 at 373 K^a

kinetic regime i	regime 1 ($0.1 < \text{O}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OH} < 7$)	regime 2 ($7 < \text{O}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OH} < 50$)	regime 3 ($50 < \text{O}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{OH} < 100$)
MASI	[*]	[O*]	[O*]
active sites	* _— *	O* _— *	O* _— O*
$r_{\text{j},i}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{j},1} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{\alpha_{\text{j},1}} [\text{O}_2]^{\beta_{\text{j},1}}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{j},2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{\alpha_{\text{j},2}} [\text{O}_2]^{\beta_{\text{j},2}}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{j},3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{\alpha_{\text{j},3}} [\text{O}_2]^{\beta_{\text{j},3}}$
$r_{\text{ODH},i}$	$k_{\text{eff},1} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^0 [\text{O}_2]^1$	$k_{\text{eff},2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^2 [\text{O}_2]^{-1}$	$k_{\text{eff},3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^1 [\text{O}_2]^0$
$r_{\text{CO}_2,i}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{CO}_2,1} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^0 [\text{O}_2]^1$	$k_{\text{app},\text{CO}_2,2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{1.7} [\text{O}_2]^{-1}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{CO}_2,3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{0.8} [\text{O}_2]^0$
$r_{\text{HCHO},i}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCHO},1} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-0.1} [\text{O}_2]^{0.8}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCHO},2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{1.3} [\text{O}_2]^{-0.8}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCHO},3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{0.5} [\text{O}_2]^0$
$r_{\text{HCOOCH}_3,i}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCOOCH}_3,1} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{0.3} [\text{O}_2]^{1.3}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCOOCH}_3,2} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{2.4} [\text{O}_2]^{-1.2}$	$k_{\text{app},\text{HCOOCH}_3,3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{1.7} [\text{O}_2]^0$

^a $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; the subscripts j, i in rates ($r_{\text{j},i}$ mol (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s)⁻¹), apparent rate constants ($k_{\text{eff},j,i}$ mol (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s-kPa)⁻¹), and apparent reaction orders ($\alpha_{\text{j},i}$ and $\beta_{\text{j},i}$) denote carbon-containing products j ($j = \text{CO}_2$, HCHO , or HCOOCH_3) and kinetic regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3); $k_{\text{eff},i}$ denotes the effective rate constant for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation in regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3).

and S1b, respectively. These rate data are consistent with kinetically relevant CH₃OH activation on oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs (O*–*) found on Pd cluster surfaces nearly saturated with chemisorbed oxygen atoms (O*), on which the relative abundances of oxygen and oxygen vacancies are given by the kinetic coupling of irreversible O₂ and CH₃OH activation steps (see derivation in section S2 of the [Supporting Information](#))

$$r_{\text{ODH},2} = \frac{(k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{*}]}^2 [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^2)}{k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}} [\text{O}_2]} = k_{\text{eff},2} \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^2}{[\text{O}_2]} \quad (6)$$

where $k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{*}]}$ denotes the rate constant for methanol activation on an O*–* site pair at Pd cluster surfaces. The opposite assumption of quasi-equilibrated oxygen activation would instead lead the first-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},2}^{\text{1st}}$) to vary proportionally with $[\text{O}_2]^{-0.5}$, as the rate $r_{\text{ODH},2}$ varies linearly with CH₃OH and inversely with O₂ to the negative one-half order, inconsistent with the observed dependencies (Figure S1a,b, [Supporting Information](#)). The $k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{*}]}$ is 44 ± 1 mol (g-atom Pd_{surface-s-kPa})^{–1} at 373 K, determined by nonlinear regression of the rate data in Figure 4 and assuming a constant $k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ value of 6.7 ± 0.5 mol O₂ (g-atom Pd_{surface-s-kPa})^{–1} throughout regimes 1 and 2. The oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pair (O*–*) acts as an acid–base site pair that polarizes the O–H bond of CH₃OH, by concomitant interactions of oxygen vacancy (exposed Pd, *) and CH₃O and of O* with the leaving H at the CH₃OH activation transition state; these oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs are found on metal surfaces, as previously reported for the case of O*-covered Ag(110),²⁷ Pt(111),²⁸ Pt(100),²⁹ and Au(111)¹¹ single crystal surfaces and similar lattice oxygen–metal ion pairs (O_{ox}–M_{ox}) on oxide surfaces of MgO(100)¹⁷ and RuO₂(110).¹⁶ These site pairs are also active in cleaving the O–H bond in larger alcohols [C₂H₅OH¹⁸ and C₃H₇OH¹⁹ on O*-covered Au(111) surfaces, and Ar–CH₂–OH (benzyl alcohol) on Pd clusters³⁰] and the C–H bond in CH₃OCH₃ (on O* covered Pt clusters),³¹ in CH₄ (on O* covered Pt clusters²² and Pd(111) surfaces³²), and in C₂H₆ (on O* covered Pt clusters)²³ via mechanistically similar pathways.

First-order rate coefficients decreased as the O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio increased because site occupation by O* led to less effective CH₃OH activation. The rate coefficients decreased to a constant value [5 ± 0.5 mol (g-atom Pd_{surface-s-kPa})^{–1}, 373 K] for O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios above 50, which corresponds to regime 3

$$k_{\text{ODH},3}^{\text{1st}} = \frac{r_{\text{ODH},3}}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} = k_{\text{eff},3} \left(\frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \right)^0 \quad (7)$$

where $k_{\text{eff},3}$ denotes the effective rate constant for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation in this regime. The rates increase proportionally with CH₃OH pressure ($\alpha_{\text{ODH},3} = 1.0 \pm 0.1$, Table 1) but remain insensitive to O₂ pressure ($\beta_{\text{ODH},3} = 0.0 \pm 0.1$, Table 1), an indication that the CH₃OH activation must be kinetically relevant and occur on Pd surfaces saturated with O*:

$$r_{\text{ODH},3} = k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^1 [\text{O}_2]^0 \quad (8)$$

Here, $k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$ reflects the elementary rate constant of CH₃OH activation assisted by an oxygen adatom pair (O*–O*) and equals $k_{\text{eff},3}$ in eq 7 (derivation in section S3 in the [Supporting Information](#)).

These elementary reaction steps for O₂ dissociation on *–* site pairs and CH₃OH activation on O*–* and O*–O* site pairs occur concurrently in all regimes, but their relative contributions to the observed rates differ markedly because of the difference in site abundances of chemisorbed oxygen and unoccupied Pd sites and the extent of their participation in catalysis from one regime to another. The kinetic dependencies and the associated rate derivations were obtained for each regime when the proposed kinetically relevant step for the individual regime remains as the predominant step for CH₃OH turnovers. During the transition from one regime to another, CH₃OH turnovers contain the rate contribution from the kinetically relevant steps for both regimes and as O* coverages vary, the elementary rate and equilibrium constants for these steps may deviate from their constant values, because O* reactivities depend on O* coverages, as the coverages influence the lateral repulsive interactions between O* atoms, heats of O* adsorption, and in turn their reactivities.

3.3. Effects of Methanol Pressure on the O* Chemical Potential at Pd Cluster Surfaces. Equilibrium oxygen coverages at Pd cluster surfaces (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter) were measured as a function of oxygen pressure (0–50 kPa O₂, without CH₃OH) at 373 K. The atomic ratios of oxygen-to-surface Pd (O/Pd_s, where subscript s denotes surface Pd) at equilibrium are shown in Figure 5 as a function of O₂ pressure. The O/Pd_s ratios

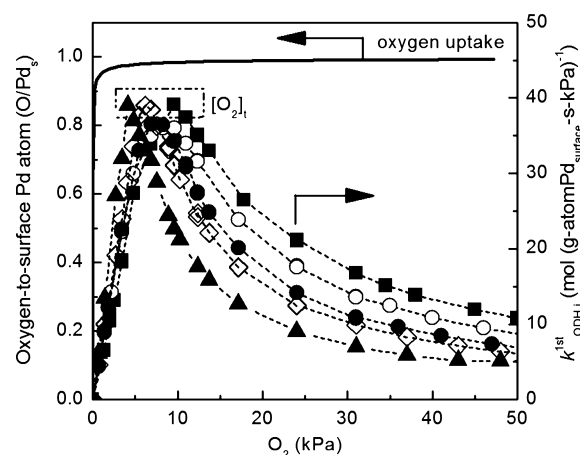


Figure 5. Atomic ratio of oxygen-to-surface Pd atom (O/Pd_s, subscript s denotes surface Pd) during volumetric oxygen uptakes (without CH₃OH, 373 K) and the first-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},i}/[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$, subscript i denotes regime i (i = 1, 2, or 3), 373 K) for CH₃OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH) on Pd clusters at 0.75 kPa (▲), 1.00 kPa (◇), 1.25 kPa (●), 1.50 kPa (○), and 1.75 kPa (■) CH₃OH, plotted against oxygen pressure. The O₂ pressure required for kinetic transition between regimes 1 and 2 is labeled in the figure as $[\text{O}_2]_t$ (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; 1.26×10^8 cm³ g_{cat}^{–1} h^{–1}).

increased sharply (from 0.0 to 0.9) over a narrow range of O₂ pressure (0–0.25 kPa) but more gradually and then approached near unity (O/Pd_s = 0.95) at higher O₂ pressures (>1 kPa). These O/Pd_s ratios depend on the equilibrium constant for O₂ dissociative adsorption [K_{O_2} , which equals the rate constant ratio of O₂ dissociation ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$) to O* recombination ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{r}}$)] and oxygen pressure ($[\text{O}_2]$) via the following relation on Langmuirian surfaces:

$$\frac{O}{Pd_s} = \frac{[O^*]}{[L]} = \frac{(K_{O_2}[O_2])^{0.5}}{1 + (K_{O_2}[O_2])^{0.5}} \quad (9)$$

$[O^*]$ and $[L]$ denote the concentration of O^* and total available adsorption site, respectively, on Pd cluster surfaces. The equilibrium constant for O_2 dissociation (K_{O_2}) is estimated to be $400 \pm 50 \text{ kPa}^{-1}$ at 373 K, which corresponds to the heat of oxygen dissociative adsorption of $-111 \text{ kJ (mol } O_2)^{-1}$, by assuming complete entropy losses of O_2 of $211 \text{ J (mol } O_2 \text{ K})^{-1}$ for the formation of immobile chemisorbed oxygen atoms.³³ Similar heats of oxygen dissociative adsorption ($-100 \pm 7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$) are also observed on 0.5 ML oxygen covered Pd(111) surfaces in direct calorimetric measurements.^{34,35}

O^* coverages during steady-state methanol oxidative dehydrogenation must either be identical to or lower than those at equilibrium (without CH_3OH) because their values are given not only by the O_2 dissociation-recombination step but also by an additional pathway of O^* removal from cluster surfaces via their reactions with CH_3OH . Pseudo-steady-state assumption of chemisorbed oxygen atoms leads to an equation containing the rates of O_2 dissociation ($r_{O_2,f}$), O^* recombination ($r_{O_2,r}$), and O^* removal via their involvement as oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy or oxygen adatom site pairs in CH_3OH activation ($r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]}$ or $r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]}$):

$$\frac{dO^*}{dt} = 0 = 2r_{O_2,f} - 2r_{O_2,r} - \nu_{[O^*-O^*]}r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]} - \nu_{[O^*-O^*]}r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]} \quad (10a)$$

$$\frac{dO^*}{dt} = 0 = 2k_{O_2,f}[O_2][*]^2 - 2k_{O_2,r}[O^*]^2 - \nu_{[O^*-O^*]}k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH][O^*][*] - \nu_{[O^*-O^*]}k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH][O^*]^2 \quad (10b)$$

$$\frac{[O^*]}{[*]} = \frac{2k_{O_2,f}[O_2]}{\sqrt{(k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH])^2 + 4(k_{O_2,r} + k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH])k_{O_2,f}[O_2]} + k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH]} \quad (11)$$

Next, we analyze the relative magnitude of the terms in eq 11, which defines the reversibility of oxygen activation step, because the reversibility is given by the relative rates of oxygen recombination ($r_{O_2,r}$) to methanol conversion ($r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]} + r_{CH_3OH,[O^*-O^*]}$). The relative magnitude and reversibility of oxygen activation may differ from one regime to another, as the predominant catalytic route for methanol activation varies.

In regime 1, the rates of oxygen adatom recombination are kinetically insignificant because Pd cluster surfaces are largely uncovered of O^* and as such the probability of an O^* finding a vicinal O^* remains low, making O^* recombination followed by molecular desorption an unlikely event. Thus, O^* recombination rates must be much lower than the O^* reaction rates with CH_3OH , which equal to the net O_2 dissociation rates, and oxygen activation is irreversible in this regime. In regimes 2 and 3, the reversibility of oxygen dissociation steps is inferred from the kinetic dependencies and rates of $^{16}O^{18}O$ isotopologue formation from $^{16}O_2$ - $^{18}O_2$ mixtures at the oxygen chemical potential range relevant to methanol oxidation catalysis on surfaces nearly or fully saturated with O^* atoms. O^*

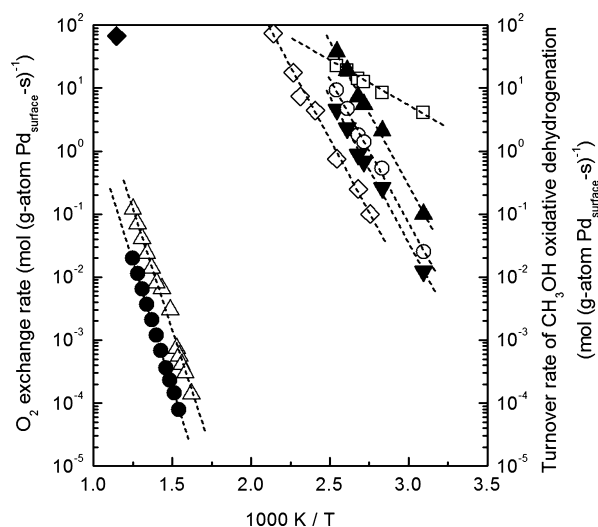


Figure 6. $^{16}O^{18}O$ isotopologue formation rates in $^{16}O_2$ - $^{18}O_2$ mixtures (2 kPa O_2 ; 2 nm (●),³⁶ 8 nm (△),³⁶ and 21.3 nm (◆)³⁷ Pd clusters) and turnover rates of CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation in regime 1 (□; 2 kPa O_2 , 0.50 kPa CH_3OH), regime 2 (2 kPa O_2 ; 0.07 kPa (▼), 0.10 kPa (○), and 0.20 (▲) kPa CH_3OH), and regime 3 (◇; 2 kPa O_2 , 0.05 kPa CH_3OH) on Pd clusters (1.0 wt % Pd/ SiO_2 , 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter).

Two O^* atoms are required for each CH_3OH activation that results in the formation of $HCHO$ or $HCOOCH_3$, which together account for over 88% of the carbon products (Figure 2, 373 K); thus, two is used to approximate the reaction stoichiometries $\nu_{[O^*-O^*]}$ and $\nu_{[O^*-O^*]}$ in eqs 10a and 10b. $k_{[O^*-O^*]}$ and $k_{[O^*-O^*]}$ denote the rate constants of CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* and on O^*-O^* site pairs, respectively. The atomic ratio of chemisorbed oxygen (O^*)-to-unoccupied Pd site ($*$) during steady-state methanol oxidation catalysis, after rearranging eq 10b, is

recombination events may be probed from $^{16}O^{18}O$ isotopologue formation with $^{16}O_2$ - $^{18}O_2$ mixtures. The rates of $^{16}O^{18}O$ formation on O^* covered Pd clusters (2 nm,³⁶ 8 nm,³⁶ and 21.3 nm³⁷ mean cluster diameters) reported previously^{36,37} are plotted in Figure 6 as a function of inverse temperature. Extrapolation of these $^{16}O^{18}O$ formation rates from a higher temperature range [1:1 $^{16}O_2$ - $^{18}O_2$ mixtures, 2 kPa O_2 at 573–723 K³⁶ or 0.2–0.6 kPa O_2 at 873 K,³⁷ activation barrier of 148–152 kJ mol^{-1} on Pd clusters (2 and 8 nm mean cluster diameters)³⁶] to 373 K gave $^{16}O^{18}O$ formation rates of 1.4×10^{-13} to $7.1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ mol } O_2 \text{ (g-atom Pd surface-s)}^{-1}$. These O^* recombination rates measured at chemical equilibrium are expected to be larger than those during steady-state CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation, because CH_3OH scavenges the O^* to coverages much lower than equilibrium. In fact, $^{16}O^{18}O$ formation rates in Figure 6 give an estimated rate ratio of oxygen recombination to CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation, $r_{^{16}O^{18}O}(r_{ODH,2})^{-1}$ or $r_{^{16}O^{18}O}(r_{ODH,3})^{-1}$, smaller than 10^{-10} over the entire temperature range (313–393 K; e.g. $<10^{-11}$ at 373 K, 0.07–0.20 kPa CH_3OH , 2 kPa O_2), leading us to conclude that

O₂ activation must be irreversible at all practical conditions relevant for methanol oxidation catalysis in these regimes.

The much lower rates of O* recombination relative to CH₃OH conversion (Figure 6) and the kinetic evidence of predominant CH₃OH activation on O*–* and O*–O* pairs in regimes 2 and 3, respectively, allow the further simplification of eq 11 $[k_{O_2,r}[O^*]^2 \ll k_{[O^*-*]}[CH_3OH][O^*][*]$ and $k_{O_2,r}[O^*]^2 \ll k_{[O^*-O^*]}[CH_3OH][O^*]^2$ in regimes 2 and 3, respectively] to an expression relating the atomic ratio of oxygen-to-Pd to O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio:

$$\text{regime 2: } \left(\frac{[O^*]}{[*]} \right)_{\text{regime 2}} = \frac{k_{O_2,r}[O_2]}{k_{[O^*-*]}[CH_3OH]} \quad (12a)$$

$$\text{regime 3: } \left(\frac{[O^*]}{[*]} \right)_{\text{regime 3}} = \left(\frac{k_{O_2,r}}{k_{[O^*-O^*]}} \right)^{0.5} \left(\frac{[O_2]}{[CH_3OH]} \right)^{0.5} \quad (12b)$$

These direct relations of [O*]/[*] to O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio or to the square root of O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio via a proportionality constant given by $k_{O_2,r}(k_{[O^*-*]})^{-1}$ in regime 2 or $(k_{O_2,r})^{0.5}(k_{[O^*-O^*]})^{-0.5}$ in regime 3 clearly demonstrate that O* coverages during steady-state methanol oxidative dehydrogenation are prescribed by the O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio. O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio, taken together with the rate constant ratios in eqs 12a and 12b, is a rigorous thermodynamic proxy, as it determines the identity of most abundant surface intermediates, active sites, and kinetically relevant step.

We examine next the CH₃OH pressure and its relation to oxygen coverages required for the kinetic transition from regime 1 to regime 2, defined here to occur at the highest first-order rate coefficient value $[38 \pm 2 \text{ mol (g-atom Pd}_{\text{surface}}\text{-s-kPa)}^{-1}]$ in Figure 3, 373 K] attained during methanol oxidative dehydrogenation. The first-order rate coefficients, $k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{st}}$ (subscript *i* denotes regime 1, 2, or 3), and the kinetic transition points on Pd clusters (3.2 nm mean cluster diameter) at 373 K for different methanol pressures (0.75–1.75 kPa) are plotted against the O₂ pressure in Figure 5. These transition points, designated as [O₂]_t (subscript *t* herein denotes the transition point) and highlighted in Figure 5, occur at the same oxygen coverage [expressed in terms of ([O*]/[*])_t], as the identity of most abundant surface intermediates undergoes an incipient transition from mostly uncovered in regime 1 to nearly saturated with O* in regime 2.

$$\left(\frac{[O^*]}{[*]} \right)_t = \left(\frac{k_{O_2,r}}{k_{[O^*-*]}} \right) \left(\frac{[O_2]}{[CH_3OH]} \right)_t \quad (13)$$

As CH₃OH pressure increases, the rates of O* removal by CH₃OH increase proportionally; thus, the oxygen chemical potential at cluster surfaces concomitantly decreases and, as a result, deviates from those at chemical equilibrium. At higher CH₃OH pressures, O₂ pressures required for Pd cluster surfaces to attain the critical O* coverage ([O*]/[*])_t for the transition increase commensurately (e.g., [O₂]_t = 4.8 ± 0.5 kPa for [CH₃OH]_t = 0.75 kPa, [O₂]_t = 11.0 ± 0.5 kPa for [CH₃OH]_t = 1.75 kPa). These effects of CH₃OH reflect a direct, inverse relation of CH₃OH pressure and O* coverages during catalysis. The linear relation for O₂ and CH₃OH pressures to attain the critical O* coverage for the transition from regime 1 to regime 2 {[O₂]_t and [CH₃OH]_t, respectively} for 2.5, 3.2, and 7.7 nm

Pd clusters at 373 K is captured in Figure 7, and the catalytic effects of cluster diameter are discussed in section 3.5. The

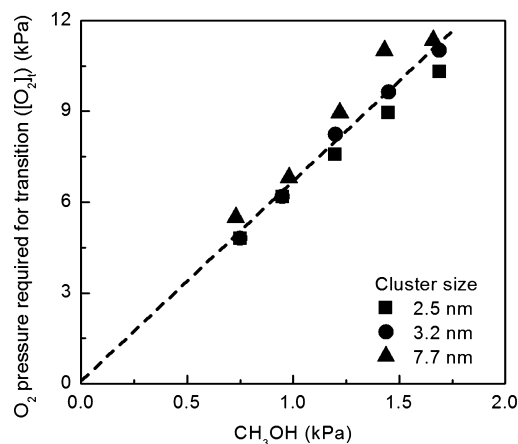


Figure 7. Oxygen pressures required for kinetic transition between regimes 1 and 2, [O₂]_t, plotted as a function of methanol pressure, during CH₃OH oxidative dehydrogenation at 373 K on Pd clusters (2.5 nm (■), 3.2 nm (●), and 7.7 nm (▲) mean Pd cluster diameter) (0.5 (■) and 1.0 (●, ▲) wt % Pd/SiO₂, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

slope of this relation, which corresponds to an oxygen-to-methanol ratio of 7 ± 1 , reflects the operating boundary for regimes 1 and 2, irrespective of cluster sizes (2.5–7.7 nm). The O* coverage ([O*]/[L] = 0.55 ± 0.05 , estimated from eq S6 in section S2 of the Supporting Information) at these kinetic transition points equals those at chemical equilibrium with O₂, attained in the limit of zero CH₃OH pressure.

3.4. Temperature Effects on the Transition among Regimes and Their Associated Kinetic Parameters for Methanol Oxidative Dehydrogenation. We explore next the effects of temperature on the operating boundary between the regimes and their respective rate constant values. First-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{st}}$) for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation on Pd clusters (1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter) at different temperatures (323–393 K) were determined by varying the CH₃OH and O₂ pressures independently over pressure ranges (0.5–2.0 kPa CH₃OH, 0.1–60 kPa O₂) corresponding to O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios between 0.1 to 30. These rate coefficient values, irrespective of the individual reactant pressures and temperature, exhibit similar single-valued functional dependencies with the O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio, as shown in Figure 8a, because the operating kinetic regimes, their associated kinetically relevant step, and the identity of most abundant surface intermediates remain the same as those described in section 3.2. As the temperature increases, transitions from one regime to another occur at higher O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios (e.g., 2.6 ± 0.4 at 323 K and 14 ± 1 at 393 K). These transitions all occur at a critical oxygen coverage, expressed in terms of ([O*]/[*])_t, at which the identity of the most abundant surface intermediates converts from *–* to O*–* pairs. The O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio required to attain the critical oxygen coverage ([O*]/[*])_t for the transition from regime 1 to 2, ([O₂][CH₃OH]^{−1})_t, depends on the rate constant ratio of methanol activation to oxygen dissociation [derived from eq 13] and thus on temperature, after expressing the rate constants for methanol activation

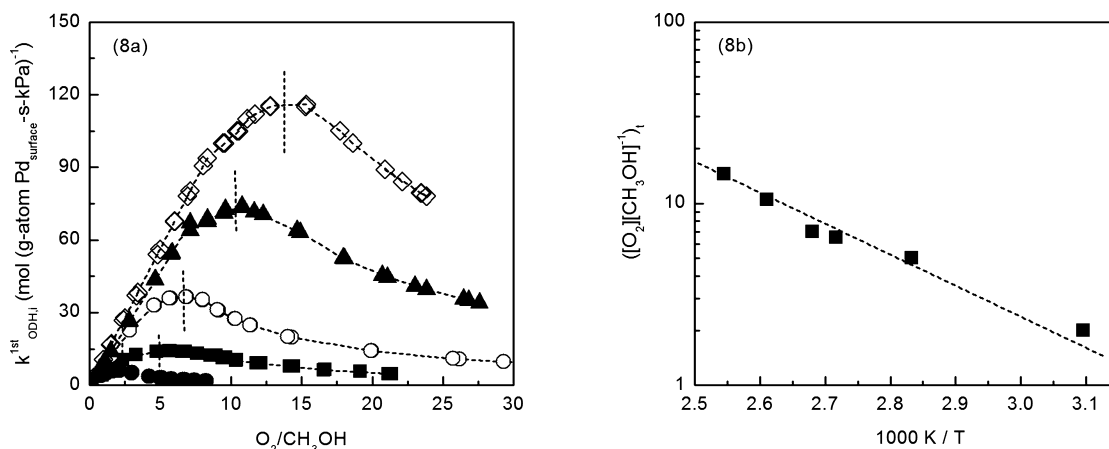


Figure 8. (a) First-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},i}[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$, subscript i denotes regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3)) for CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH) as single-valued functions of O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio during CH_3OH - O_2 reactions (0.5–2.0 kPa CH_3OH , 0.1–60 kPa O_2) on Pd clusters at 323 K (●), 353 K (■), 373 K (○), 383 K (▲), and 393 K (◇). (b) Measured O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratios required for transition between regimes 1 and 2, $([\text{O}_2]/[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}])_t$, during methanol oxidation on Pd clusters as a function of inverse temperature (1.0 wt % Pd/ SiO_2 , 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO_2 -to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO_2 -to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$) and oxygen dissociation ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$) in an Arrhenius form of

$$\left(\frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \right)_t = \frac{k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}([\text{O}^*])}{k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}} \left(\frac{[\text{O}^*]}{[\text{O}_2]} \right)_t = \frac{A_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}}{A_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}} \exp \left[- \frac{(E_{A,[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]} - E_{A,\text{O}_2,\text{f}})}{RT} \right] \left(\frac{[\text{O}^*]}{[\text{O}_2]} \right)_t \quad (14)$$

$$\ln \left(\frac{[\text{O}_2]}{[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]} \right)_t = \ln \left(\frac{[\text{O}^*]}{[\text{O}_2]} \right)_t + \ln \left(\frac{A_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}}{A_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}} \right) - \frac{1}{RT} (E_{A,[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]} - E_{A,\text{O}_2,\text{f}}) \quad (15)$$

$A_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$ and $A_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ are the pre-exponential factors and $E_{A,[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$ and $E_{A,\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ are the activation barriers for methanol activation on an O^*-O^* pair and oxygen dissociation, respectively. The correlation in eq 15 relates the oxygen-to-methanol ratio required for the transition between regime 1 and 2, $([\text{O}_2]/[\text{CH}_3\text{OH}])_t$, to inverse temperature, as captured in Figure 8b. The slope of this line, $-(E_{A,[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]} - E_{A,\text{O}_2,\text{f}})R^{-1}$, is the difference in activation barrier for methanol activation and oxygen dissociation divided by gas constant R .

Rate constants $k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$, $k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$, and $k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$ are derived from regression of the rate data in Figure 8a with the respective rate equation (eqs 3, 5, and 7 for regimes 1, 2, and 3, respectively) and shown in Figure 9 as a function of inverse temperature, whereas the associated barriers and pre-exponential values are summarized in Table 2. The activation barrier for oxygen dissociation on largely uncovered Pd clusters (regime 1), $E_{A,\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$ is $24 \pm 5 \text{ kJ (mol O}_2\text{)}^{-1}$. This step at low coverages is expected to occur readily with no barrier, as calculated by density functional studies on Pd(111), Pd(100), and Pd(110) surfaces.³⁸ The observed activated nature of this step may reflect an increase in the total Pd sites available for CH_3OH oxidation catalysis with increasing temperature. A small portion of Pd sites, specifically the coordinative unsaturated sites at corners and edges, may bind to methanol derived species

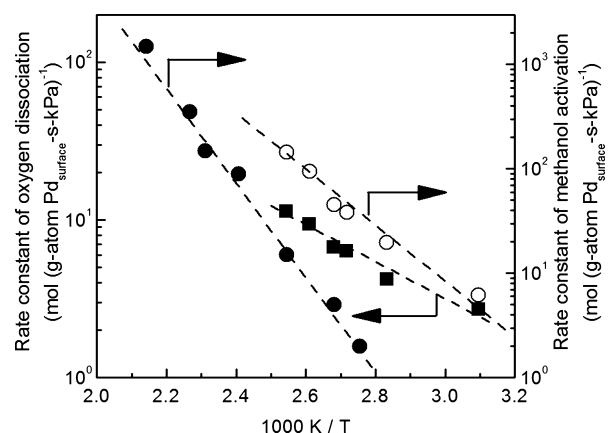


Figure 9. Rate constants of oxygen dissociation ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$, ■) on uncovered Pd cluster surfaces, of methanol activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$, ○), and of methanol activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$, ●) during CH_3OH - O_2 reactions on Pd clusters as a function of inverse temperature (1.0 wt % Pd/ SiO_2 , 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO_2 -to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO_2 -to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; 323–473 K; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

during catalysis. As an example, CH_3O^* adsorption energies are -184 kJ mol^{-1} on the edge site and -138 kJ mol^{-1} on the terrace site of a truncated-octahedral cluster with 79 Pd atoms.³⁹ CO^* adsorption energies are -188 kJ mol^{-1} on the edge site of an octahedral cluster with 146 Pd atoms and -142 kJ mol^{-1} on the terrace site of a cuboctahedral cluster with 147 Pd atoms.⁴⁰ It is plausible that these intermediates remain bound to a small fraction of Pd sites, especially those with lower coordination, at coverages that remain unchanged with pressures because of their stronger bindings, causing them to remain occupied and unable to participate in catalytic turnovers at low temperatures. At higher temperature, the binding species desorb and, as a result, these sites become catalytically active. This effect of temperature on the catalytic participation of low coordination Pd atoms may lead to the low barrier $[24 \pm 5 \text{ kJ (mol O}_2\text{)}^{-1}]$ measured for O_2 dissociation.

The effective rate constant for regime 2 [$k_{\text{eff},2} = k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}^2 k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}^{-1}$, eq 6] contains the elementary rate constants

Table 2. Measured Activation Barriers and Entropies for Methanol Oxidative Dehydrogenation on Pd Clusters in Kinetic Regimes 1–3^a

kinetic regime <i>i</i>	active sites	effective barrier ($E_{A,eff,i}$) (kJ mol ⁻¹)	pre-exponential factor ($A_{eff,i}$) (kPa ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	activation barrier for O ₂ dissociation ($E_{A,n}$) (kJ mol ⁻¹)	activation barrier for CH ₃ OH activation ($E_{A,n}$) (kJ mol ⁻¹)	activation entropy (ΔS_n^\ddagger) (J mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹)
regime 1	*–*	26 ± 5	3 × 10 ⁴	24 ± 5	NA ^b	–185 ± 10
regime 2	O*–*	83 ± 3	1.4 × 10 ¹⁴	24 ± 5	53 ± 5	–97 ± 10 ^a
regime 3	O*–O*	90 ± 3	1.9 × 10 ¹³	NA	90 ± 3	–18 ± 10

^aActivation entropy for methanol activation on O*–* site pair; the subscript *i* in effective barrier ($E_{A,eff,i}$) and pre-exponential factor ($A_{eff,i}$) denotes regime *i* (*i* = 1, 2, or 3); the subscript *n* in activation barrier ($E_{A,n}$) and activation entropy (ΔS_n^\ddagger) denotes O₂ dissociation, CH₃OH activation on O*–* site pair or on O*–O* site pair (*n* = (O₂f), [O*–*], or [O*–O*]); 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂, 3.2 nm mean Pd cluster diameter, 200 SiO₂-to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO₂-to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; 323–473 K; 1.26 × 10⁸ cm³ g_{cat}⁻¹ h⁻¹. ^bNA = not applicable.

for CH₃OH activation on O*–* site pair ($k_{[O^*-]*}$) and O₂ dissociation ($k_{O_2,f}$). The CH₃OH activation step cleaves the CH₃O–H bond, as proposed previously on the basis of temperature-programmed decomposition of CH₃OH on O*-covered Pd(100),⁴¹ Pd(111),⁴² Ag(110),²⁷ and Pt(111)²⁸ surfaces, temperature-programmed desorption of CH₃CHO from C₂H₅OH reactions with preadsorbed O* on Au(111) surfaces,¹⁸ and density functional theory calculations^{11,12,14–16} of CH₃OH dissociation on oxygen-covered single-crystal surfaces [1/9 ML O*/Au(111),^{11,12} 0.25 ML O*/Cu(110),¹⁴ and 0.5 ML O*/Ir(111)¹⁵] and RuO₂(110) surfaces.¹⁶ The rate constants $k_{[O^*-]*}$ are decoupled from those of O₂ dissociation ($k_{O_2,f}$) by assuming that the rate constants and barriers for the O₂ dissociation step are independent of O* coverages and thus remain the same across regimes 1 and 2. This is an approximation because the barriers are expected to be higher on O*-covered surfaces (regime 2) as a result of the lower heat of O* adsorption than on uncovered surfaces (regime 1), according to the prediction from Brønsted–Evans–Polanyi relation between the barrier and the heat of reaction (also the heat of O* adsorption).^{43,44} The decrease in the heat of O* adsorption with coverages was verified on Pd(111) surfaces based on calorimetric measurement³⁵ and the relation of heat of O* adsorption and O₂ dissociation barrier was confirmed from density functional theory calculations on Pt(111) surfaces.⁴⁵ The rate constant value gives an estimated barrier ($E_{A,[O^*-]*}$) and activation entropy ($\Delta S_{[O^*-]*}^\ddagger$) of 53 ± 5 kJ mol⁻¹ and –97 ± 10 J mol⁻¹ K⁻¹, respectively, for CH₃OH activation on O*–* pairs (in regime 2). The barriers are much lower than those for methanol activation on *–* pairs, determined from density functional theory calculations on Pd(111) to be 100 kJ mol⁻¹,^{46,47} because the O* in the O*–* pair acts as a Brønsted base that abstracts the H from the O–H bond. The catalytic involvement of O* on promoting the O–H cleavage and thus lowering the CH₃OH activation barriers is general, as previously found for the case on Au(111) (activation barrier of 21 kJ mol⁻¹ on O*–* vs 180 kJ mol⁻¹ on *–*)¹² and Cu(110) (activation barrier of 33 kJ mol⁻¹ on O*–* vs 100 kJ mol⁻¹ on *–*)¹⁴ surfaces. DFT studies shows O* (denoted as O^I*) atom stabilizing the CH₃O^{II}–H activation transition state, (CH₃O^{II}–H–O^I*)[‡], on Au(111) surfaces by forming a nearly fully formed O^I–H bond with the leaving H (O^I–H bond distance of 1.19 Å at transition state vs 1.03 Å at product state) whereas the O^{II}–H bond remains largely intact at 1.26 Å (compare with the O^{II}–H of 0.98 Å in the reactant state) and the CH₃O^{II} interact strongly with a vicinal Au atom (O^{II}–Au bond distance of 2.26 Å at transition state vs 2.09 Å at product state where CH₃O^{II} adsorbed on Au atom through its O^{II} atom).¹² In contrast, CH₃OH activation on *–* pairs in the absence of O* occurs via a nearly fully formed CH₃O^{II}–* bond

(O^{II}–Au bond distance of 2.14 Å at transition state vs 2.04 Å at the product state) at much higher barriers (180 kJ mol⁻¹ on *–* vs 21 kJ mol⁻¹ on O*–*).¹² Comparing with the opposite case of CH₃OH activation on O* saturated surfaces, on which Pd atoms are occupied by O* and remain inaccessible to CH₃OH (regime 3), the barrier on O*–* pairs is lower and the activation entropy losses are higher (more negative) than on O*–O* pairs [$E_{A,[O^*-]*} = 53 \pm 5$ kJ mol⁻¹ and $\Delta S_{[O^*-]*}^\ddagger = -97 \pm 10$ J mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ on O*–* pairs (regime 2) versus $E_{A,[O^*-O^*]} = 90 \pm 3$ kJ mol⁻¹ and $\Delta S_{[O^*-O^*]}^\ddagger = -18 \pm 10$ J mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ on O*–O* pairs (regime 3)]. The lower barriers and larger entropy losses in regime 2 reflect the involvement of exposed Pd atoms as “landing sites” that interact with CH₃O fragments at the transition states more strongly than for the case of O*–O* pairs.

3.5. Effects of Pd Cluster Diameter on Methanol Oxidative Dehydrogenation Rates. As Pd clusters become larger, the fraction of Pd atoms located at the coordinative unsaturated corners and edges decreases but those at crystal facets concomitantly increase,⁴⁸ and as a result, the average coordination of surface Pd increases. For example, the average coordination numbers are 6.75 and 8.60 for exposed metal sites on 1.0 and 7.9 nm cuboctahedral clusters with face-centered cubic unit cell structures, respectively, predicted based on the theoretical model by Van Hardeveld and Hartog,⁴⁸ considering the statistical distributions of the various types of sites (edges, corner, closed packed (111) and (100) surfaces). The average coordination number approaches 9.00 on ideal (111) surfaces; as the average coordination number increases with cluster diameter, the average binding strength of chemisorbed oxygen concomitantly decreases.^{2,37} These effects of coordinative unsaturation on the rate and thermodynamic constants and the resulting methanol turnover rates are probed by varying the average Pd cluster diameter in 0.5 and 1.0 wt % Pd/SiO₂ catalysts from 2.5, 3.2, to 7.7 nm (average coordination numbers are 8.11, 8.27, and 8.59 for 2.5, 3.2, and 7.7 nm Pd clusters, respectively) at 373 K and the first-order rate coefficients for these samples are shown as a function of O₂-to-CH₃OH ratio in Figure 10. These rate coefficients exhibit identical dependencies with O₂-to-CH₃OH ratios, but their values were higher on the larger than the smaller clusters.

The rate coefficients ($k_{eff,1}$, $k_{eff,2}$, and $k_{eff,3}$) for all regimes and the rate constant ratio ($k_{[O^*-]*}/k_{O_2,f}$) for regime 2, extracted from the rate data in Figure 10, are shown in Figure 11 as a function of cluster diameter (2.5–7.7 nm). The effective rate constant ($k_{eff,1}$) in regime 1, which also equals the O₂ dissociation rate constant ($k_{O_2,f}$), increases by a factor of 2.2 ± 0.2 as cluster diameter increases from 2.5 to 7.7 nm. The O₂ dissociation step exhibits a low activation barrier [24 kJ (mol O₂)⁻¹ on 3.2 nm Pd clusters, Table 2] which does not vary

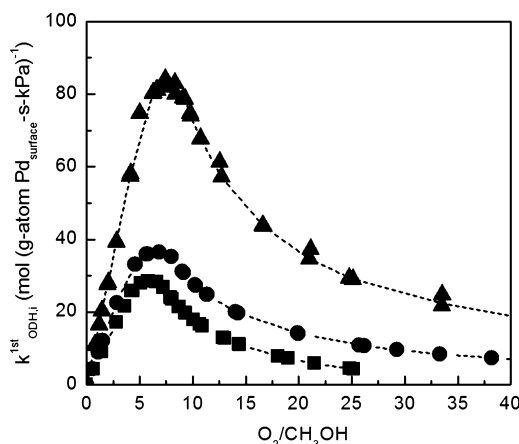


Figure 10. First-order rate coefficients ($k_{\text{ODH},i}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},i} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$, subscript i denotes regime i ($i = 1, 2$, or 3)) for CH_3OH oxidative dehydrogenation (ODH) at 373 K on supported Pd clusters of different mean diameters (2.5 nm (■), 3.2 nm (●), and 7.7 nm (▲)) as a function of O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratio (0.5 (■) and 1.0 (●, ▲) wt % Pd/ SiO_2 , 200 SiO_2 -to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO_2 -to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

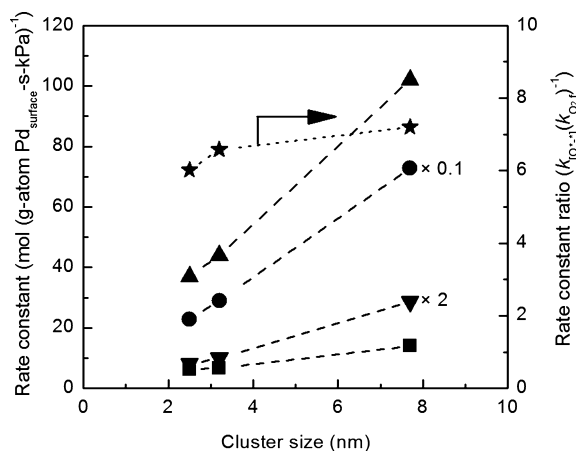


Figure 11. Cluster size dependence of rate constants for O_2 dissociation ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$, ■), CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$, ▲), and CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$, ▼), effective rate constant in regime 2 ($k_{\text{eff},2} = k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}^2 k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}^{-1}$, ●), and rate constant ratio of CH_3OH activation to O_2 dissociation ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}/(k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}})^{-1}$, ★) on Pd clusters at 373 K (0.5 (2.5 nm Pd clusters) and 1.0 (3.2 and 7.7 nm Pd clusters) wt % Pd/ SiO_2 , 200 SiO_2 -to-catalyst intraparticle and 5700 SiO_2 -to-catalyst interparticle dilution ratios; $1.26 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$).

markedly with the heat of oxygen adsorption ($\text{O}_2 + 2^* \rightarrow 2\text{O}^*$, $\Delta H_{\text{O}_2} = -205 \text{ kJ (mol O}_2)^{-1}$ at 300 K on bare Pd(111) surfaces³⁵); thus, the rate constant is expected to remain insensitive to cluster diameter. The cluster size effects on rate constant may be caused by a small amount of reactive intermediates (e.g., CH_3O^* and/or CO^*) that preferentially bind to coordinatively unsaturated corner and edge sites and more strongly on smaller than larger clusters at coverages independent of pressures. As a result of site occupation insensitive to pressure variation, these sites remain kinetically silent. In fact, the heats of adsorption for CH_3O^* and CO^* vary strongly with the adsorption sites: CH_3O^* adsorption energies on a Pd cluster are -184 kJ mol^{-1} on edge sites versus -138 kJ

mol^{-1} on terrace sites,³⁹ and those for CO^* adsorption on the same sites are -188 kJ mol^{-1} versus -144 kJ mol^{-1} , respectively.⁴⁰ On the larger clusters, the fraction of coordinatively unsaturated corner and edge remains insignificant; thus, all sites participate in catalysis.

The effective rate constants ($k_{\text{eff},2} = k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}^2 k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}^{-1}$) in regime 2 increase with increasing cluster diameter (Figure 11). The elementary rate constants for CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$), are decoupled from the effective rate constants by assuming the O_2 dissociation rate constants ($k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}$) remained insensitive to O^* coverages. The rate constants for CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* sites increase to the similar extents with that of O_2 dissociation (by 2.7 ± 0.1 times as cluster size increases from 2.5 to 7.7 nm). These effects of cluster size on the rate constants lead to an increase in the effective rate constant ($k_{\text{eff},2} = k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}^2 k_{\text{O}_2,\text{f}}^{-1}$) by a factor of 3.2 ± 0.2 . The rate constants for CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* site pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$) depend on the free energies for a $\text{CH}_3\text{OH(g)}$ to evolve a $(\text{CH}_3\text{O}^*-\text{H}-\text{O}^*)^\ddagger$ transition state and the extent of interactions between CH_3O^* with a Pd atom, the O^* and the leaving H atom, and the O and the leaving H atom in CH_3OH . An increase in the coordination of surface Pd atoms weaken their bindings to CH_3O^* , and to the O^* atoms, and in turn, strengthens the bindings of O^* to the leaving H atom. These concomitant effects of weaker CH_3O^* bindings and stronger H bindings to O^* appear to compensate one another, leading to the structure sensitivity effects.

The rate constant for CH_3OH activation on O^*-O^* sites pair ($k_{[\text{O}^*-\text{O}^*]}$), which equals the first-order rate coefficient in regime 3 ($k_{\text{ODH},3}^{\text{1st}} = r_{\text{ODH},3} [\text{CH}_3\text{OH}]^{-1}$), increases with increasing cluster size (Figure 11). The weakly bound O^* atoms prevalent on the larger clusters are more basic and thus more effective in electron donation to the leaving H during the O–H bond activation in CH_3OH , as reflected from an increase in the rate constant for CH_3OH activation by a proportionally factor of 3.4 ± 0.2 for the larger than the smaller Pd clusters (7.7 nm vs 2.5 nm). Similar effects of O^* binding energies on their reactivity toward methanol activation on O^*-O^* sites pair were observed when comparing metals with different O^* binding strengths: larger CH_3OH activation rate constants were measured for Pt than Pd, as Pt binds O^* more weakly (rate constant of 251 vs 5 mol CH_3OH (g-atom Pd_{surface}-s-kPa)^{−1} at 373 K²⁰ and O^* binding energies of -354 kJ mol^{-1} vs -382 kJ mol^{-1} for Pt vs Pd,⁴⁹ respectively).

4. CONCLUSION

Complex kinetic dependencies and their underlying mechanistic interpretation for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation on dispersed Pd clusters are established on the basis of rate measurements in the kinetically controlled regime and oxygen uptake studies. Three kinetic regimes, each with a unique dependence for methanol oxidative dehydrogenation and for products formation, are resulted from a dynamic transition in oxygen coverages and the concomitant transition in the kinetically relevant step in response to changing the oxygen-to-methanol ratio because this ratio is a rigorous thermodynamic proxy of oxygen chemical potential at Pd cluster surfaces during methanol oxidation catalysis. As oxygen coverages increase from uncovered to saturation, the identity of the kinetically relevant step varies from oxygen dissociation on Pd atom pairs, to CH_3OH activation on oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs, and then to CH_3OH activation on

oxygen adatom pairs. The direct relation of oxygen coverages and O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratios and their influences on the identity of kinetically relevant step lead to a generalized, single-valued functional correlation between first-order rate coefficients and O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratios. CH_3OH activation on oxygen adatom and oxygen vacancy pairs exhibits lower activation barriers and higher entropy losses than on oxygen adatom pairs, because oxygen vacancies provide the “landing sites” that interact more strongly with the CH_3O fragment at the transition state. In all regimes, methanol turnover rates increase with cluster diameter because of (i) an increase in the availability of unoccupied Pd sites for O_2 dissociation in regime 1 and (ii) a decrease in oxygen binding strengths and therefore a concomitant increase in oxygen reactivities in regimes 2 and 3. These effects of surface coverages and cluster sizes, when recognized, reduce the apparent complex kinetic phenomena into a simple correlation of rate coefficients and the operating O_2 -to- CH_3OH ratios. Such a relation reflects the defining roles of the thermodynamic activities of surface oxygen on their reactivities for oxidation catalysis and appears to be general across other classes of oxidation reactions.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

■ Supporting Information

The following file is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acscatal.5b00068.

Additional derivation information (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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