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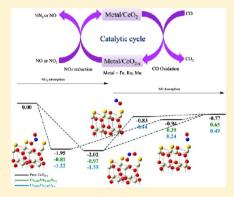
Computational Investigation of NO₂ Adsorption and Reduction on Ceria and M-Doped CeO_2 (111) (M = Mn, Fe) Surfaces

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The interaction and mechanism for NO2 reduction on ceria and Mdoped CeO₂ (111) (M = Mn, Fe) surfaces have been studied by using periodic density functional theory calculations corrected with the on-site Coulomb interaction via a Hubbard term (DFT+U). Our calculations show that NO2 adsorbs more strongly on the stoichiometric M-doped CeO2 surfaces compared with the undoped surface, forming nitrate-like (NO₃⁻) species with adsorption energies of -0.99 to -1.09 eV for CeO_{2} , -1.46 to -1.99 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2}$, and -1.32 to -1.64 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$. On the contrary, the adsorption of NO_2 is less stable at the oxygen vacancy site on the defective M-doped CeO2 surfaces $(-0.49 \text{ to } -0.97 \text{ eV for } Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2 \text{ and } -0.70 \text{ to } -1.35 \text{ eV for }$ Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O₂) than on the defective undoped surface (-1.95 to -2.02 eV), forming nitrite-like species (NO₂⁻). It is worth noting that the adsorption energies of NO₂ are proportional to the oxygen vacancy energies for stoichiometric surfaces,



whereas they are disproportional to the oxygen vacancy energies for defective surfaces. For the reduction reaction in which NO₂ is reduced to NO and the defective CeO2 and M-doped CeO2 (111) surfaces are fully reoxidized, the reaction energy is exothermic for $CeO_{2-\delta}$, whereas it is endothermic for $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$. The reaction energies depend on the oxygen vacancy formation energies, for which $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2 < Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2 < CeO_2$. The vibrational frequency calculations as well as the Bader charge analysis are carried out to characterize the adsorbed species.

1. INTRODUCTION

Ceria (CeO₂) is a multifunction rare earth oxide with excellent physical and chemical properties and has been extensively explored for several advanced applications in the fields of heterogeneous catalysis, electrochemistry, photochemistry, and material science. 1-4 In general, CeO₂ is used in the three-way catalysts for reducing the emission of toxic pollutants (CO, NOx, and hydrocarbon, etc.) from automobile exhaust due to its unique oxygen storage capacity associated with its rich oxygen vacancies. 5-9 Cerium oxide is used as a redox and support material in automotive catalysis. Recently, the use of ceria has been studied in the context of NO_x storage reduction used for lean-burn engines. The redox reaction occurs via Mars-van Krevelen mechanism. 12 The CO molecule is oxidized to CO_2 molecule by taking oxygen from the cerium oxide and creating oxygen vacancies on the surfaces. Either an O2 molecule from the gas phase can reoxidize the vacancies, forming O adspecies that then drive subsequent CO oxidation, or a molecule such as NO₂ or NO can be reduced with reoxidizing the vacancies to complete a full catalytic cycle for CO oxidation, NO2 or NO reduction, and catalyst regeneration.¹³ It is important to understand the reactivity and adsorption properties of this material by studying the interaction between molecules such as NO2 and CO, with CeO₂-based surfaces. Previously, we had studied the interaction and mechanism for CO oxidation on metal-doped CeO₂ (111) surface by using DFT + U method. 14-16 In the present work,

we extend our previous studies and investigate the adsorption and reduction of NO₂ on the ceria and Mn,Fe-doped CeO₂ (111) surfaces.

Reactions of NO2 on ceria surfaces have been the subject of numerous investigations. Rodriguez et al. 17 and Berner et al. 18 studied the interaction of NO2 with the (111) ceria surface and the (111) surface of ceria on a Pt support, respectively. Namai et al. 9 used AFM to study the interaction of NO₂ with a slightly reduced CeO₂(111) surface. UV photoemission spectroscopy (UPS) showed no evidence of NO2 dissociation, while no change in surface structure was observed in AFM images, indicating that NO2 does not interact with an oxidized surface. NO2 was found to dissociate into NO on reduced ceria, coupled to a reduction in the intensity of the reduced Ce(III) peak in the UPS spectrum. It was found that NO2 healed the oxygen vacancies on reduced ceria in AFM. These results demonstrate the necessity for the presence of reduced Ce(III) ions on the surface, which promote the breaking of one NO bond so that NO2 dissociates into NO and O, with the latter leading to oxidation of the surface. Recently, in situ DRIFTS experiments have revealed that reaction of NO_2 with ceria results in nitrate and immediate nitrite formation. ¹⁹ Filtschew et al.²⁰ study the mechanism of NO₂ storage in ceria using in

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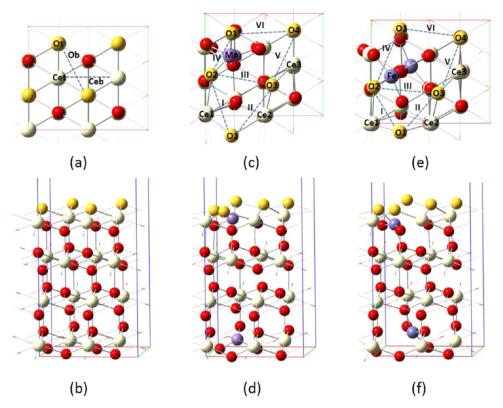


Figure 1. (a) Side and (b) top views of the CeO₂ (111) surface. Cet, Ceb, Ot, Ob, and Oh correspond to active sites for "Ce top", "Ce bridge", "O top", "O bridge", and "O hollow" sites, respectively. (c) Side and (d) top views of the $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surface model. (e) Side and (f) top views of the $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surface model. I (IV), II, III, V, and VI correspond to active sites for "O1–O2", "O1–O3", "O2–O3", "O3–O4", and "O1–O4" sites, respectively. Yellow, red, white, and cyanine blue spheres represent the top-layer O, O, Ce, and M (M = Mn, Fe) atoms, respectively. A rectangle represents the supercell used in this study.

situ Raman spectroscopy combined with FT-IR gas-phase analysis. They propose the following mechanism: exposure to NO₂ leads to the formation of different nitrate (free, bidentate, bridging) and nitrite species. Theoretically, Nolan et al.²¹ and Galea et al.²² have studied the adsorption of NO₂ on reduced (111), (110), and (100) surfaces of ceria, resulting in nitrite formation and partial ceria reoxidation, while NO₂ reduction to NO is accompanied by full ceria reoxidation. In addition, a GGA+*U* study of surface reduction and the adsorption of CO and NO₂ on CeO₂ (110) surface reported by Scanlon et al.²³ has demonstrated interactions involved in surface reduction and the adsorption of CO and NO₂ on the (110) ceria surface.

To the best our knowledge, molecular-level study of NO_2 reduction on metal-doped CeO_2 catalysts has not been previously investigated. In the present work, we attempt to address the NO_2 adsorption and the detailed reaction mechanisms of NO_2 reduction catalyzed by ceria and Mn,Fe-CeO₂ (111) surfaces that have used as catalysts for CO oxidation previously. ^{15,16}

2. COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

Spin-polarized density functional theory (DFT) plane-wave calculations as implemented in the Vienna ab initio simulation package (VASP)^{24,25} with the projector-augmented wave method (PAW)^{26} were performed. The electron exchange-correlation functional was treated within the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) with the Perdew–Wang 91 (PW91) exchange-correlation functional. The calculations were carried out using the Brillouin zone sampled with (3 \times 3 \times 1) Monkhorst–Pack mesh k-points grid with a cutoff

energy of 400 eV, which allows convergence to 0.01 eV in the total energy. The DFT with the Hubbard U term (DFT+U) method³⁵ was applied to accurately correct the strong on-site Coulomb interactions of Ce_{4f} states to describe the localization of the Ce_{4f} states in the reduced ceria. There is no general rule on a "correct" U value to describe the localized 4f orbitals of Ce. For example, Loschen et al. There is no general rule on 5 to 6 eV for LDA+U calculations and 2 to 3 eV for GGA+U calculations. Andersson et al. Clarified that the U value must satisfy the criteria of U > 6 eV for LDA calculations and U > 5 eV for GGA calculations to exactly predict the ground state of Ce₂O_x. The proposed U values seem to depend on the oxidation states of Ce and the functional used. As such, we chose U = 6.3 eV, which has been shown to work well for previous studies on the metal-doped ceria. U = 0.00

For the surface model, we examined only the (111) surface to characterize the NO₂-ceria interactions because (111) surface is energetically the most stable among the low-index CeO₂ (111), (110), and (100) surfaces. ⁴²⁻⁴⁴ As shown in Figure 1, the slab model was a $p(\sqrt{3} \times 2)$ lateral cell with 12 atomic layers thick and a 15 Å vacuum gap in the direction perpendicular to the surface. To examine the effect of Mn and Fe cations for NO₂ reduction, for the (111) surface, one Ce atom of the outermost Ce layer on each side of the $p(\sqrt{3} \times 2)$ CeO₂ (111) slab was replaced by a Mn or Fe atom, giving an overall dopant concentration of 12.5%. The reduced systems were created by removing one oxygen atom resulting in an oxygen vacancy concentration of 6.25%. The bottom six layers of the surface model were fixed to the estimated bulk

Table 1. Interatomic Distances between Metal (Ce, Mn, Fe) and Oxygen Observed for Stoichiometric and Defective Surfaces^a

	CeO ₂ (111)	$CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111)	$Ce_{0.825}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ (111)	$Ce_{0.825}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111)	$Ce_{0.825}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111)	$Ce_{0.825}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111)	
	2.37 (O1)	2.46 (O1)	2.67 (O1)	2.47 (O1)	2.25 (O1)	2.33 (O1)	
Ce2-O (Å)	2.36 (O3)		2.41 (O3)		2.19 (O3)		
	2.36 (O4)	2.42 (O4)	2.28 (O4)	2.19 (O4)	2.34 (O4)	2.40 (O4)	
average (Å)	2.36	2.44	2.45	2.33	2.26	2.37	
	2.37 (O2)	2.40 (O2)	2.47 (O2)	2.48 (O2)	2.50 (O2)	2.40 (O2)	
Ce3-O (Å)	2.37 (O3)		2.16 (O3)		2.15 (O3)		
	2.37 (O4)	2.42 (O4)	2.30 (O4)	2.34 (O4)	2.31 (O4)	2.31 (O4)	
average (Å)	2.37	2.41	2.31	2.41	2.32	2.36	
	2.37 (O1)	2.29 (O1)	1.83 (O1)	1.80 (O1)	3.46 (O1)	3.52 (O1)	
M-O (Å)	2.36 (O2)	2.26 (O2)	1.89 (O2)	1.83 (O2)	1.80 (O2)	1.84 (O2)	
(M = Ce, Mn, Fe)	2.36 (O3)		3.56 (O3)		3.63 (O3)		
average (Å)	2.36	2.28	2.43	1.82	2.96	2.68	
^a Labels are defined in Figure 1.							

(d) (a) 20 20 0 0 -20 -20 -40 DOS (states/eV) 40 40 20 20 0 0 -20 -20 -40 (c) 40 20 20 -20 -40 E (eV) E (eV)

Figure 2. Density of states and local density of states for stoichiometric (a) CeO_2 , (b) $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$, and (c) $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ surfaces and for defective (d) $CeO_{2-\delta i}$ (e) $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta i}$ and (f) $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surfaces. The energy at E=0 eV represents the Fermi energy.

parameters, while the remaining layers were fully optimized. The adsorption energies were calculated by the equation: $\Delta E_{\rm ads} = E[{\rm surface} - {\rm adsorbate}] - E[{\rm surface}] - E[{\rm adsorbate}]$, where $E[{\rm surface} - {\rm adsorbate}]$, $E[{\rm surface}]$, and $E[{\rm adsorbate}]$ are the calculated electronic energies of adsorbed species on the surface, the bare surface, and the adsorbate in the gas phase, respectively. The climbing image nudged elastic band (CINEB) method 45,46 was applied to map out MEPs after locating plausible local minima. All transition states were verified by the number of imaginary frequencies (NIMG) with NIMG = 1. The charge density difference was calculated using the expression: $\Delta \rho_{\rm diff} = \rho[{\rm surface} + {\rm adsorbate}] - \rho[{\rm surface}] - \rho[{\rm adsorbate}]$, where $\rho[{\rm surface} + {\rm adsorbate}]$, $\rho[{\rm surface}]$, and $\rho[{\rm adsorbate}]$ are the charge density of adsorbed species on the surface, the bare surface, and the adsorbate, respectively.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Stoichiometric Ceria and Doped CeO₂ **Surfaces.** To ensure the reliability of the computational results, we first predicted bulk lattice constants and compared them with the experimental values. The predicted lattice constants for undoped, Mn-doped, and Fe-doped ceria are 5.45, 5.39, and 5.42 Å, respectively, which is in agreement with the experimental values of 5.41, 47 5.41, 48 and 5.42 Å. 49 The

optimized stoichiometric CeO₂ (111) surface has the Ce-O bond length equal to 2.36 to 2.37 Å, as shown in Table 1. The relaxed structures of M-doped CeO₂ (111) surfaces in which two Ce atoms are replaced by two M atoms are shown in Figure 1b,c for M = Mn and Fe, respectively, while optimized M-doped CeO₂ (111) surfaces show geometric distortions of the oxygen lattice. For the Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂ surface, the Mn atom has relaxed to form short Mn-O bond distances of 1.83 (Mn-O1) and 1.89 (Mn-O2) Å and long Mn-O3 bond distance of 3.56 Å with Ce2-O bonds of 2.67 (O1), 2.41 (O3), and 2.28 (O4) Å and Ce3-O bonds of 2.47 (O2), 2.16 (O3), and 2.30 (O4) Å; see Table 1. In the $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ structure, the Fe atom has relaxed to form short Fe-O bond distances of 1.80 Å and two long Fe-O bond distances of 3.46 (O2) and 3.63 (O3) Å with Ce2-O bonds of 2.25 (O1), 2.19 (O3), and 2.34 (O4) Å and Ce3-O bonds of 2.50 (O2), 2.15 (O3), and 2.31 (O4) Å. (See Table 1.)

The oxygen vacancy formation is described by the reaction $Ce_{1-x}M_xO_2 \rightarrow Ce_{1-x}M_xO_{2-\delta} + 1/2O_2$. The oxygen vacancy formation energy, E_θ was computed according to eq 1

$$E_{f} = E(Ce_{1-x}M_{x}O_{2-\delta}) + 1/2E(O_{2}) - E(Ce_{1-x}M_{x}O_{2})$$
(1)

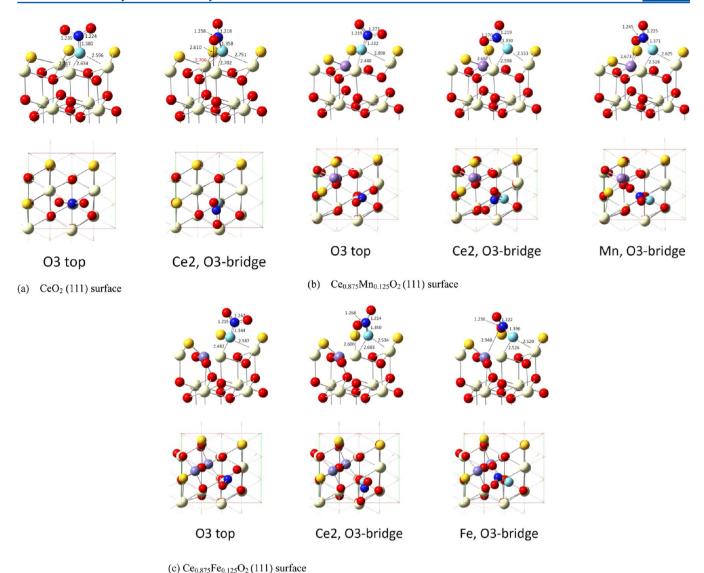


Figure 3. Side view and top view for the optimized structures of NO_2 chemisorbed on the stoichiometric surfaces. NO_2 chemisorption on (a) CeO_2 (111) surface, (b) $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surface, and (c) $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surface.

where $E(Ce_{1-x}M_xO_2)$ indicates the energy of the bulk or surface $Ce_{1-x}M_xO_2$, $E(O_2)$ is the energy of a gas-phase O_2 , and $E(Ce_{1-x}M_xO_{2-\delta})$ is the energy of the bulk in the presence of one oxygen vacancy. In the present study, we only show the formation of oxygen vacancy neighboring the metal dopant because the required energy for the vacancy further away from metal dopant is close to the undoped CeO_2 . The calculated E_f values are 3.20, 0.73, and 1.04 eV for undoped, Mn-, and Fedoped CeO2 bulk, respectively. The formation energies of surface O vacancy are calculated to be 2.08, 0.55, and 0.68 eV for undoped, Mn-, and Fe-doped CeO₂ surface, respectively. The smaller E_f indicates that Mn- and Fe-doped ceria show higher OSC property than CeO₂, which is consistent with the experimental results. 49 The removal of an oxygen results in a significant distortion around the three anions originally coordinated to the oxygen (O3). As presented in Table 1, the surface Ce–O distances in defective CeO₂ (111) surface are calculated to be 2.44 (Ce2-O), 2.41 (Ce3-O), and 2.28 (Ce-O) Å on average. For the $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-x}$ surface, the Mn-O distances are calculated to be 1.80 (Mn-O1) and 1.83 (Mn-O2) Å with Ce2-O bonds of 2.47 (O1) and 2.19 (O4)

Å and Ce3–O bonds of 2.48 (O2) and 2.34 (O4) Å (Table 1). In the $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-x}$ structure, the Fe–O bond lengths are calculated to be 1.82 (O2) and 3.52 (O1) Å, with Ce2–O distances of 2.33 (O1) and 2.40 (O4) Å and Ce3–O distances of 2.40 (O2) and 2.31 (O4) Å (Table 1).

The features of the electronic density of states (DOS) and local density of states (LDOS) for above structures are shown in Figure 2. The stoichiometric ${\rm CeO_2}$ (111) surface is well known to be an insulator. When a ceria surface is reduced, a gap state appears between the valence band and the unoccupied Ce 4f states (Figure 2). The gap state is mainly composed of Ce 4f states, which has also been seen with other DFT+U calculations. 21,23,50

3.2. Adsorption and Reaction of NO_2 on Stoichiometric Ceria and M-Doped CeO_2 (111) Surfaces. The interactions between NO_2 and stoichiometric CeO_2 and M-doped CeO_2 (111) surfaces were investigated using DFT+U calculations first. Plausible intermediates for the NO_2 – CeO_2 or NO_2 – $CeO_{.875}M_{0.125}O_2$ interactions were initially optimized by placing a single NO_2 molecular at different active sites on the (111) surface, as shown in Figure 1. The NO_2 interactions with

Table 2. Adsorption Energy (eV) and Calculated Frequencies (cm $^{-1}$) of NO $_2$ on Stoichiometric CeO $_2$ (111), Ce $_{0.825}$ Mn $_{0.125}$ O $_2$ (111), and Ce $_{0.825}$ Fe $_{0.125}$ O $_2$ (111) Surfaces a,b

adsorption site	CeO_2 (eV)	frequency	$Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$	frequency	$Ce_{0.825}Fe_{0.125}O_2$	frequency
Physisorption						
O3 top	$-0.11 (-0.07)^c$	1640, 1314, 722	-0.23 (-0.06)	1649, 1318, 715		
Ce2, O3-bridge	-0.16 (-0.07)	1644, 1307, 711	-0.12 (-0.07)	1645, 1304, 711	-0.05 (-0.09)	1664, 1323, 720
Chemisorption						
O3 top $(\eta^1$ -N)	$-0.99 (-1.31)^c$	1599, 1261	-1.95 (-0.80)	1563, 1212	-1.64 (-0.73)	1586, 1212
Ce2, O3-bridge (μ^2 -N,O)	-1.09 (-1.10)	1587, 1237	-1.99 (-0.79)	1572, 1225	-1.56 (-0.76)	1595, 1209
M, O3-bridge (μ^2 -N,O); M = Mn, Fe			-1.46 (-0.83)	1570, 1241	-1.32 (-0.80)	1596, 1250

^aCalculated frequencies of a gas-phase NO₂ are 1702, 1394, and 767 cm⁻¹, while the experimental values are 1618, 1318, and 750 cm⁻¹. ^bExperimental frequencies of nitrate species on CeO₂ surface are 1540–1599 and 1170–1270 cm⁻¹. ^cValues in parentheses are effective charges that are calculated by the Bader analysis program.

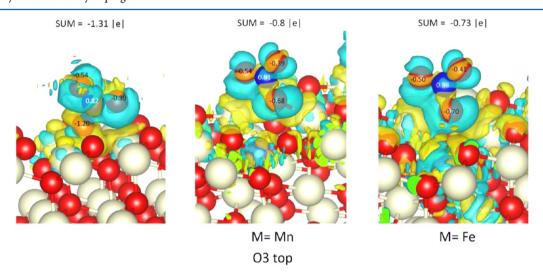


Figure 4. Illustration of charge-density difference for NO₂ chemisorption (nitrate-like species) at O3 top site on (a) CeO₂ (111) surface, (b) Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂ (111) surface, and (c) Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O₂ (111) surface. $\Delta \rho_{\text{diff}}$ isosurfaces were calculated at 0.05 bohr⁻³. The values are effective charges that are calculated by the Bader analysis program.

the surface can be divided into physisorption and chemisorption. The optimized configurations of NO2 physisorption and NO₂ chemisorption are presented in Figure S1 (Supporting Information) and Figure 3, respectively. Table 2 displays the relative adsorption energies and calculated frequencies. NO2 physisorption is observed at the oxygen and metal center (Ce, Mn, and Fe) sites with adsorption energies of -0.11 to -0.16, -0.12 to -0.23, and -0.05 eV for NO_2-CeO_2 , $NO_2 Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$, and $NO_2-Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$, respectively. The distances of N-O_{surf} and N-Ce_{surf} are 2.583 to 2.727 and 2.972 to 2.978 Å. (See Figure S1 in the Supporting Information.) As seen in Figure 3, NO2 prefers to bind to the oxide anions via the nitrogen (η^1-N) or bind to O and metal centers via bidentate adsorption mode (μ^2 -N,O), leading to NO₂ chemisorption and formation of nitrate-like species (NO₃⁻). The lengths of the N-O_{surf} bond for the monodentate adsorption modes (η^1 -N) are 1.380, 1.332, and 1.344 Å for $NO_2 - CeO_2$, $NO_2 - Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$, and $NO_2 -$ Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O₂, respectively (see Figure 3), which are elongated compared with that of a free NO₃⁻ molecule (1.18 Å). The lengths of the N-O_{surf} and O-M_{surf} bonds for the bidentate adsorption modes (μ^2 -N,O) are 1.358, 1.330 to 1.371, and 1.350 to 1.396 Å and 2.610, 2.673 to 2.687, and 2.600 to 2.904 Å (see Figure 3). The adsorption energies for NO₃⁻-like species on the CeO₂, Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂, and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surfaces are -0.99 to -1.09, -1.46 to − 1.99, and −1.32 to −1.64 eV. A Bader charge analysis gives

net charges of -1.10 to -1.31, -0.79 to -0.83, and -0.73 to -0.80 e (see Table 2 and Figure 4) for the nitrate-like species on the CeO_2 , $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surfaces, respectively, and which seem to be a reasonable value for a bound NO₃⁻ ion. The vibrational frequencies for the adsorbed species on the stoichiometric (111) surfaces are summarized in Table 2. The predicted vibrational frequencies at the region of 1640-1664, 1304-1323, and 711-722 cm⁻¹ are attributed to NO₂ physisorption, where the values are close to that of a gas-phase NO₂ molecule (the calculated frequency values of 1702, 1394, and 767 cm⁻¹ and the experimental values of 1618, 1318, and 750 cm⁻¹), as shown in Table 2. The predicted frequencies of nitrate-like species (1563-1599 and 1209–1261 cm⁻¹) are in close agreement with the experimental value, 1540-1599 and 1170-1270 cm^{-1,20} The decomposition process producing defective surface and a gas-phase NO₃ molecule from NO₂-CeO₂, NO₂-Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂, and NO₂-Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O₂ requires very high energies of 2.85-2.95, 1.91-2.44, and 1.93-2.25 eV. The final product defective surface and NO₃(g) is 1.86, 0.45, and 0.61 eV above the initial reactants in energy, indicating that it is difficult to emit NO₃(g) with an oxygen vacancy formation from the surfaces. The results are consistent with the experiment, 20 which shows that a temperature of 200 °C is needed to form free nitrate.

3.3. Adsorption and Reaction of NO₂ on Defective Ceria and M-doped CeO₂ (111) Surfaces. Dissociation of NO₂ to NO will not occur on the stoichiometric surface of

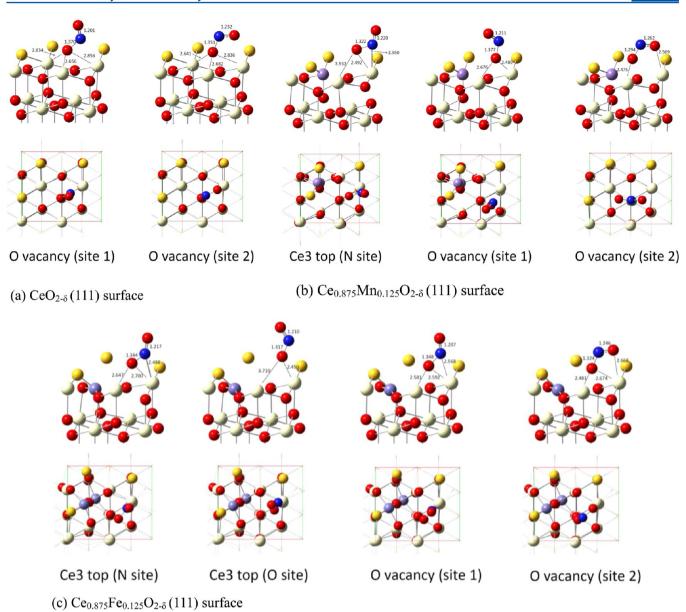


Figure 5. Side view and top view for the optimized structures of NO₂ chemisorbed on the defective surfaces. NO₂ chemisorption on (a) $CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, (b) $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, and (c) $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface.

Table 3. Adsorption Energy (eV) and Calculated Frequencies (cm $^{-1}$) of NO $_2$ on Defective CeO $_{2-x}(111)$, Ce $_{0.825}\mathrm{Mn}_{0.125}\mathrm{O}_{2-x}(111)$, and Ce $_{0.825}\mathrm{Fe}_{0.125}\mathrm{O}_{2-x}(111)$ Surfaces a,b

adsorption site	$CeO_{2-\delta}$ (eV)	frequency	$Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$	frequency	$Ce_{0.825}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$	frequency
			Physisorption			
Ce3 top (O site)			$-0.15 (-0.24)^c$	796, 996, 1603	-0.27 (-0.26)	710, 1175, 1549
Ce3 top (N site)					-0.27 (-0.29)	952, 1130, 1579
			Chemisorption			
Ce3 top (O site; η^2 -O,N)					-0.70 (-0.49)	875, 1467
Ce3 top (N site; η^2 -N,O)			-0.49 (-0.73)	727, 1542	-1.00 (-0.74)	720, 1546
O vacancy (site 1; μ^2 -N,O)	$-1.95 (-0.83)^c$	701, 1701	-0.81 (-0.80)	892, 1556	-1.22 (-0.72)	928, 1602
O vacancy (site 2; μ^2 -N,O)	-2.02 (-0.81)	762, 1454	-0.97 (-0.78)	783, 1310	-1.35 (-0.75)	796, 1387
			NO Formation			
Ce3 top (O site)	$-0.83 [-0.06]^d$				0.44 [-0.05]	1906
Ce3 top (N site)	-0.94 [-0.18]	1874	0.39 [-0.26]	1854	0.24 [-0.24]	1906

 $[^]a$ Calculated frequencies of a gas-phase NO are 1990 cm $^{-1}$, while the experimental values are 1904 cm $^{-1}$. b Experimental frequencies of nitrite species on defective CeO $_2$ surface are 1484-1716 cm $^{-1}$. c Values in parentheses () are effective charges. d Values in square brackets [] are the calculated adsorption energies of NO on stoichiometric surfaces.

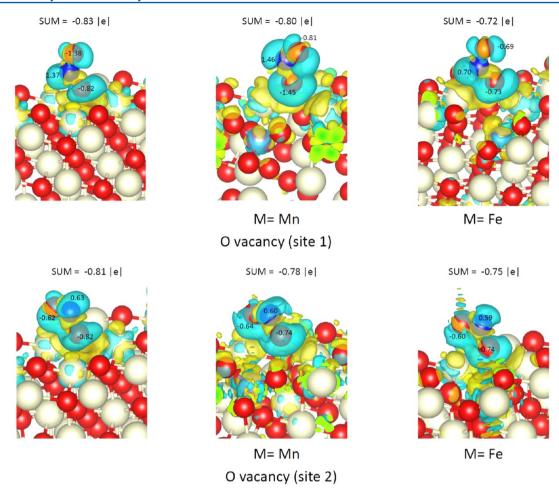


Figure 6. Illustration of charge-density difference for NO₂ chemisorption (nitrite-like species) at O vacancy site on (a) $CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, (b) $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, and (c) $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface. $\Delta\rho_{diff}$ isosurfaces were calculated at 0.05 bohr⁻³. The values are effective charges that are calculated by the Bader analysis program.

 CeO_2 , $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2$ (111) surfaces instead of the formation of stable NO₃⁻-like species, requiring surface prereduction to produce reactive O vacancy sites. In the vacancy adsorption mode, the NO_2 bonds to the $CeO_{2-\delta}$ and M-doped $CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111) surfaces in several different configurations by utilizing its O and N atoms, leading to the products of NO₂ physisorption and chemisorption. The optimized configurations of NO2 physisorption and NO2 chemisorption are presented in Figure S2 (Supporting Information) and Figure 5, respectively. Table 3 displays the relative adsorption energies and calculated frequencies. NO2 physisorption is observed only at the Ce top sites of $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surfaces with adsorption energies of -0.15eV (N atom of NO₂ bond to Ce) for the $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surface and -0.27 (N atom of NO₂ bond to Ce) and -0.27 eV (O atom of NO $_2$ bond to Ce) for the $\mathsf{Ce}_{0.875}\mathsf{Fe}_{0.125}\mathsf{O}_{2-\delta}\!.$ The distance of O-Ce_{surf} is 2.471 Å for NO_2 -Ce_{0.875} $Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and the distances of O-Ce_{surf} and N-Ce_{surf} are 2.668 and 2.804 Å for $NO_2-Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$. (See Figure S2 in the Supporting Information.) The NO₂ molecule adsorbs at the oxygen vacancy site through one of its oxygen atoms, leading to two bidentate adsorption modes: μ^2 -N,O on M, vac and μ^2 -O,O on M, vac. (See Figure 5.) We denote the oxygen atom of NO₂ occupying the pre-exiting vacancy site as O_V and the other oxygen atom as O_N. Adsorption of NO₂ on the defective surfaces results in significant elongation of the N-O_V bond

distance from its gas-phase value of 1.203 Å to 1.370 (site 1: μ^2 -N,O on M, vac) and 1.351 (site 2: μ^2 -O,O on M, vac) Å on the $CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, 1.322, 1.377, and 1.294 Å on the $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface, and 1.344, 1.317, 1.348, and 1.294 Å on the $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface. The N-O_N bond distance changes only slightly, being 1.232 Å (CeO_{2-x} surface), 1.220, 1.211, and 1.262 Å ($Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surface), and 1.217, 1.210, 1.207, and 1.246 Å $(Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surface). The adsorption energies of bidentate μ^2 -N,O on M, vac are calculated to be -1.95, -0.89, and -1.23 eV for $CeO_{2-\delta}$, $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$, and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surfaces, respectively, while the adsorption energies of bidentate μ^2 -O,O on M, vac are predicted to be -2.02, -0.97, and -1.35 eV. Interestingly, other NO2 chemisorption can be found for the defective Mdoped CeO₂ (111) surfaces. The NO₂ molecule adsorbs at the Ce top site through its nitrogen atom, leading to the bidentate adsorption modes of η^2 -N,O on Ce3 cation with adsorption energy of -0.49 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and the bidentate adsorption modes of η^2 -N,O (through nitrogen atom of NO₂) and η^2 -O₂N (through oxygen atom of NO₂) on Ce₃ cation with adsorption energies of -1.00 and -0.70 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$. (See Figure 5.) The N-O_{Ce} bond distances elongate to 1.322 (η^2 -N,O for $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$), 1.344 (η^2 -N,O for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$) and 1.317 (η^2 -O,N for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$) Å. A Bader charge analysis gives net charges

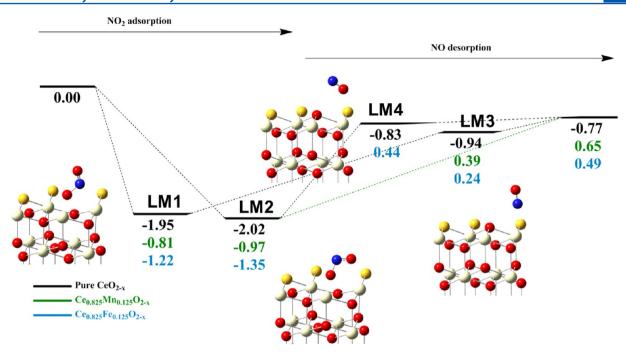


Figure 7. Calculated potential energy diagram for NO₂ reduction on $CeO_{2-\delta}$ (111), $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111), and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surface. The unit of energy is electronvolts.

of -0.81 to -0.83, -0.73 to -0.80, and -0.72 to -0.75 e (see Table 3 and Figure 6) for the NO₂ chemisorption on CeO_{2- δ}, Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2- δ}, and Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2- δ} (111) surfaces. The net charges of NO₂ chemisorption seem to be a reasonable value for a bound NO₂⁻ ion. Accordingly, those are assigned to nitrite-like species. The vibrational frequencies for the adsorbed species on the defective (111) surfaces were estimated as summarized in Table 3. The predicted vibrational frequencies at the region of 710–752, 996–1175, and 1549–1603 cm⁻¹ are attributed to the physisorbed NO₂ for which the vibrational frequency values are close to those of a gas-phase NO₂ molecule (750, 1318, and 1618 cm⁻¹). The predicted N–O frequencies of nitrite-like species (1387–1701 cm⁻¹) are in close agreement with the experimental values, 1484–1716 cm⁻¹.

The reduction of NO₂ catalyzed by $CeO_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) has been addressed, and the calculated reaction mechanism is illustrated in Figure 7, including the following elementary steps

$$\begin{split} &NO_{2(g)} + CeO_{2-\delta}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta} \\ &\rightarrow \left[NO_{2(ads)}\right]^{-} \left[CeO_{2-\delta}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}\right]^{+} \\ &\left[NO_{2(ads)}\right]^{-} \left[CeO_{2-\delta}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}\right]^{+} \\ &\rightarrow \left[NO_{(ads)}\right] \left[CeO_{2}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2}\right] \\ &\left[NO_{(ads)}\right] \left[CeO_{2}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2}\right] \\ &\rightarrow NO_{(g)} + CeO_{2}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2} \end{split}$$

First, the NO₂ adsorbs bidentately at M, vac site forming two surface—adsorbate modes, μ^2 -N,O (LM1) and μ^2 -O,O (LM2) intermediates; see Figure 7. In the surface—adsorbate, [NO_{2(ads)}]⁻[CeO_{2- δ}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2- δ}]⁺, an electron has been transferred from reduced ceria to the NO₂ molecule, accompanied by the partially reoxidized surface. The LM1

and LM2 are calculated to be -1.95, -0.81, and -1.22 eV and -2.02, -0.97, and -1.35 eV with respect to reactants for $CeO_{2-\delta}$, $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$, and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surfaces, respectively, showing that the formation of the surface-adsorbate complex is favorable. The following deoxygenation of NO_{2(ads)} occurs without any activation energy, leading to $[NO_{(ads)}][CeO_2/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_2]$ (LM3) and LM4). It should be noted that we cannot find LM4 configuration for the $Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ system. This dissociation process is endothermic and requires 1.01 to 1.79 eV, which is consistent with the temperatures needed for the reaction to occur. 17,18 The desorption of $\mathrm{NO}_{(ads)}$ in LM3 and LM4 results in the full surface reoxidation. In view of the interactions between NO molecule and the stoichiometric surfaces, NO molecule is weakly bound to the surface with slight desorption energies of 0.05 to 0.26 eV; see Figure 7. The overall $NO_{2(g)}$ + $CeO_{2-\delta}/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_{2-\delta} \rightarrow NO_{(g)} + CeO_2/Ce_{0.875}M_{0.125}O_2$ reaction is exothermic with reaction energy of -0.77 eV for $CeO_{2-\delta}$ surface and endothermic with reaction energies of 0.65 eV for the $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surface and 0.49 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surface, respectively. It is noteworthy that the reaction energies depend on the oxygen vacancy formation energies, for which $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2 < Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2 < CeO_2$. This is the same as the ordering of the reaction energies. Thus, the generation of the reoxidized surface by NO2 is most favorable on the CeO2 surface because the oxygen vacancy formation energy is highest among those surfaces. Conversely, the Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂ surface has the lowest oxygen vacancy formation energy so that it is the least favorable surface for NO2 reduction.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The structures and energies of NO_2 adsorption and reduction on ceria and M-doped CeO_2 (111) (M = Mn, Fe) surfaces have been studied by using periodic DFT calculations corrected with the on-site Coulomb interaction via a Hubbard term (DFT+U). The interactions can divide into two types of NO_2 adsorption:

Table 4. Energies for the Catalytic Oxidation of CO and Reduction of NO₂ on the Ceria-based (111) Surface

reaction	CeO_2	$Ce_{0.825}Mn_{0.125}O_2$	$Ce_{0.825}Fe_{0.125}O_2$
$CeO_2 + CO \rightarrow CeO_{2-\delta} + CO_2$	-1.22	-2.86	-2.89
$CeO_{2-\delta} + NO_2 \rightarrow CeO_2 + NO$	-0.77	0.65	0.49
$CO + NO_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + NO$	-1.99	-2.21	-2.40

physisorption and chemisorption. NO2 physisorption is observed at the oxygen and metal center (Ce, Mn, and Fe) sites with adsorption energies of -0.11 to -0.16, -0.12 to -0.23, and -0.05 eV for NO_2-CeO_2 , $NO_2-Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$, and NO2-Ce0.875Fe0.125O2, while NO2 prefers to bind to the oxide anions via the nitrogen (η^1-N) or bond to O and metal centers via bidentate adsorption mode (μ^2 -N,O), leading to NO₂ chemisorption and the formation of nitrate-like species (NO_3^-) with adsorption energies of -0.99 to -1.09, -1.46 to -1.99, and -1.32 to -1.64 eV. For the defective surfaces, NO₂ physisorption is observed only at the Ce top sites of $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ surfaces with adsorption energies of -0.15 eV $(Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta})$ and -0.27 $eV(Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta})$. NO_2 molecule adsorbs at the oxygen vacancy site through one of its oxygen atoms, leading to two bidentate chemisorption modes: μ^2 -N,O on M, vac with adsorption energies of -1.95, -0.89, and -1.23 eV for $CeO_{2-\delta t}$ $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ (111) surfaces and μ^2 -O,O on M, vac (-2.02, -0.97, and -1.35 eV). It should note that other NO2 chemisorption can be found for the defective M-doped CeO₂ (111) surfaces with adsorption energy of -0.49 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$ and adsorption energies of -1.00 and -0.70 eV for $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$. Our calculations showed that NO2 adsorbs more strongly on the stoichiometric M-doped CeO₂ surfaces compared with the undoped surface with the formation of an adsorbed nitrate-like (NO₃⁻) species, whereas NO2 adsorption is less stable at the oxygen vacancy site on the defective M-doped CeO₂ surfaces than on the defective undoped surface, forming nitrite-like species (NO₂⁻). Analyses of calculated vibrational frequencies and Bader charges were carried out to characterize those species. The adsorption energies of NO₂ are proportional to the oxygen vacancy energies for stoichiometric surfaces, while those are disproportional to the oxygen vacancy energies for defective surfaces. For the NO2 reduction reaction, the reaction energy is exothermic for $\text{CeO}_{2-\delta}$, whereas it is endothermic for $\text{Ce}_{0.875}\text{Mn}_{0.125}\text{O}_{2-\delta}$ and $Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2-\delta}$. The reaction energies depends on the oxygen vacancy formation energies, for which $Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_2$ $< Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_2 < CeO_2$. The ready formation and the high stability of NO₂ chemisorption (NO₃ species formation on the stoichiometric surfaces and NO₂⁻ species formation on the defective surfaces) suggest that ceria-based materials can be the potential of NO_x storage-reduction catalysts used for lean-burn engines. Compared with CO oxidation, pure CeO2 is a better catalyst for NO2 reduction, whereas doped CeO2 is a better catalyst for CO oxidation, as shown in Table 4. However, the catalytic reaction of CO + $NO_2 \rightarrow CO_2$ + NO in Table 4 is all exothermic so that the oxidation of CO to CO2 and the reduction of NO₂ to NO is favored and that it is predicted to be very exothermic on doped CeO₂.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

Top view and side view of the optimized geometries of NO₂ physisorption on CeO₂ (111) surface, Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O₂ (111) surface, and Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O₂ (111) surface. Top view and side

view of the optimized geometries of NO₂ physisorption and NO formation on CeO_{2- δ} (111) surface, Ce_{0.875}Mn_{0.125}O_{2- δ} (111) surface, and Ce_{0.875}Fe_{0.125}O_{2- δ} (111) surface. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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