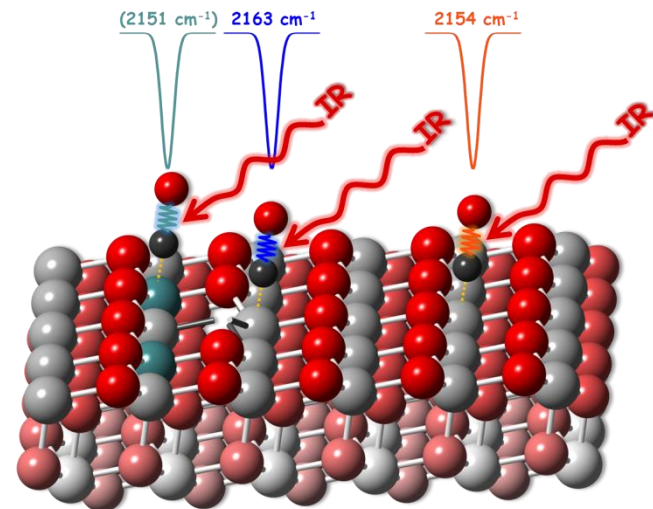


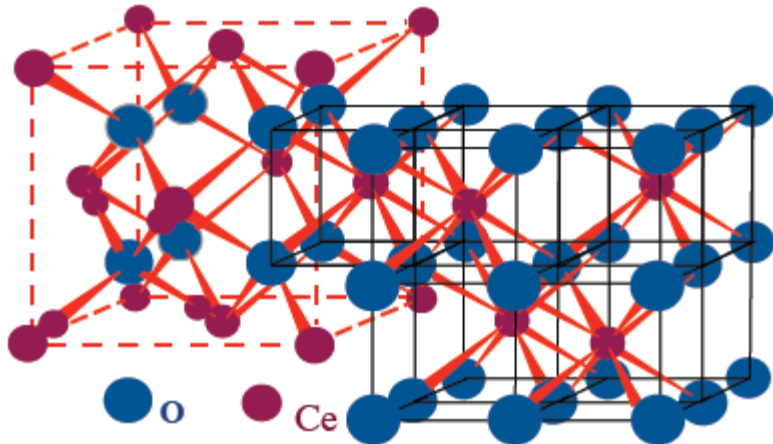
# Structure and reactivity of ceria single crystal surfaces studied by IR spectroscopy

Chengwu Yang, Alexei Nefedov, Yuemin Wang, Christof Wöll

Institute of Functional Interfaces (IFG)



# Why ceria ( $\text{CeO}_2$ , cerium dioxide) is interesting?



- Reducibility, storage/release of oxygen atoms – oxygen storage capacity (OSC).
- Interconversion between  $4f^1$ -Ce(III) and  $4f^0$ -Ce(IV) oxidation states.
- Defects can be created by oxygen release and electron transfer.
- Promote electron and oxygen transfer.
- Promote dispersion of noble metals and thermal stability of the support.

## 40 years of catalysis by ceria

1976 - Three-way catalysts

1980 - dehydrogenation  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ - $\text{CeO}_2$

1982 - FCC catalysts  $\text{CeO}_2$ / $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}_2\text{O}_5$

1995 - TWC doped ceria  $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}_2\text{O}_5$

2002 - Eolys™ Rhodia  $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{ZrO}_2$ -M

WGSR CO-PROX ( $\text{H}_2$  production catalysis)

DeNox LNT, combustion catalysis (CH<sub>4</sub>, VOC, soot), SCR etc.

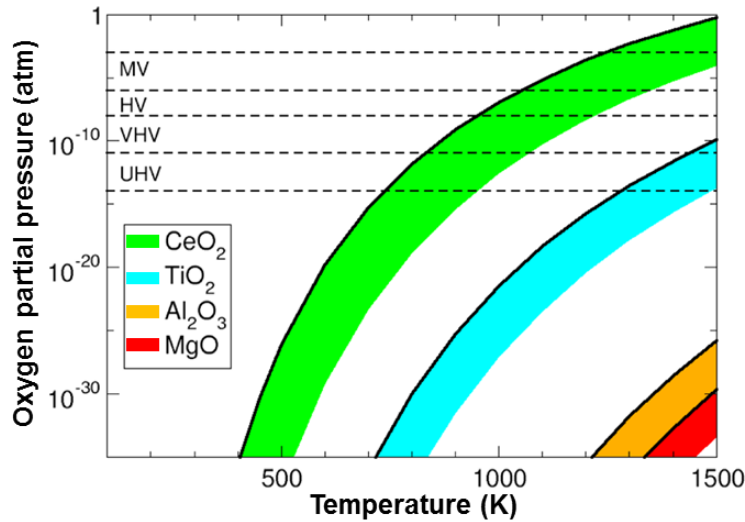
Fuel cell electrode

Deacon process (HCl oxidation)

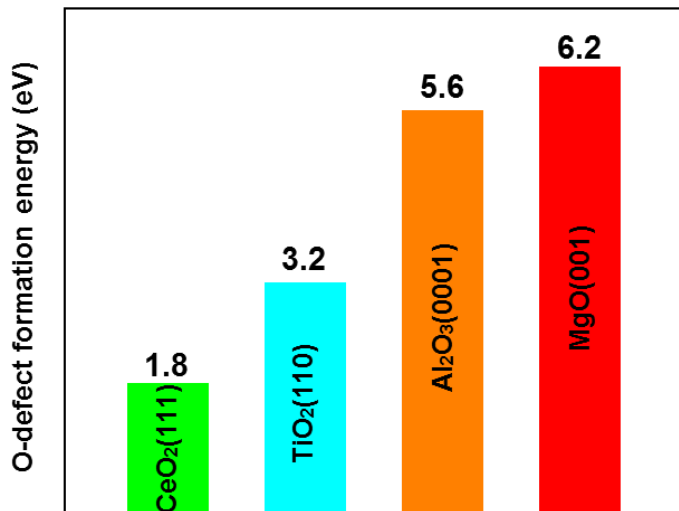
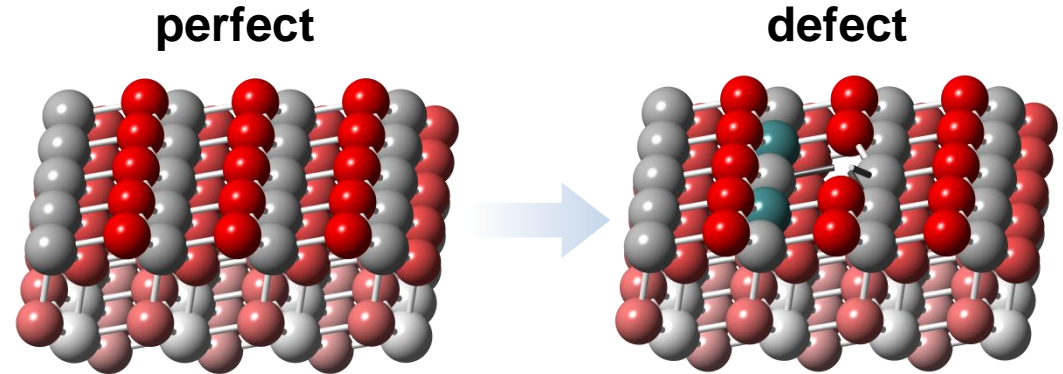
Water splitting catalyst

Biocatalysis

# Ceria has low oxygen vacancy formation energy



$p(\text{O}_2)$  vs T phase diagram.



Calculated oxygen defect formation energy.

## Stability and reducibility of ceria surfaces

Surface	Surface energy ( $\text{J}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ )	O-vacancy formation energy (eV)
(111)	0.68	2.60
(110)	1.01	1.99
(100)	1.41	2.27

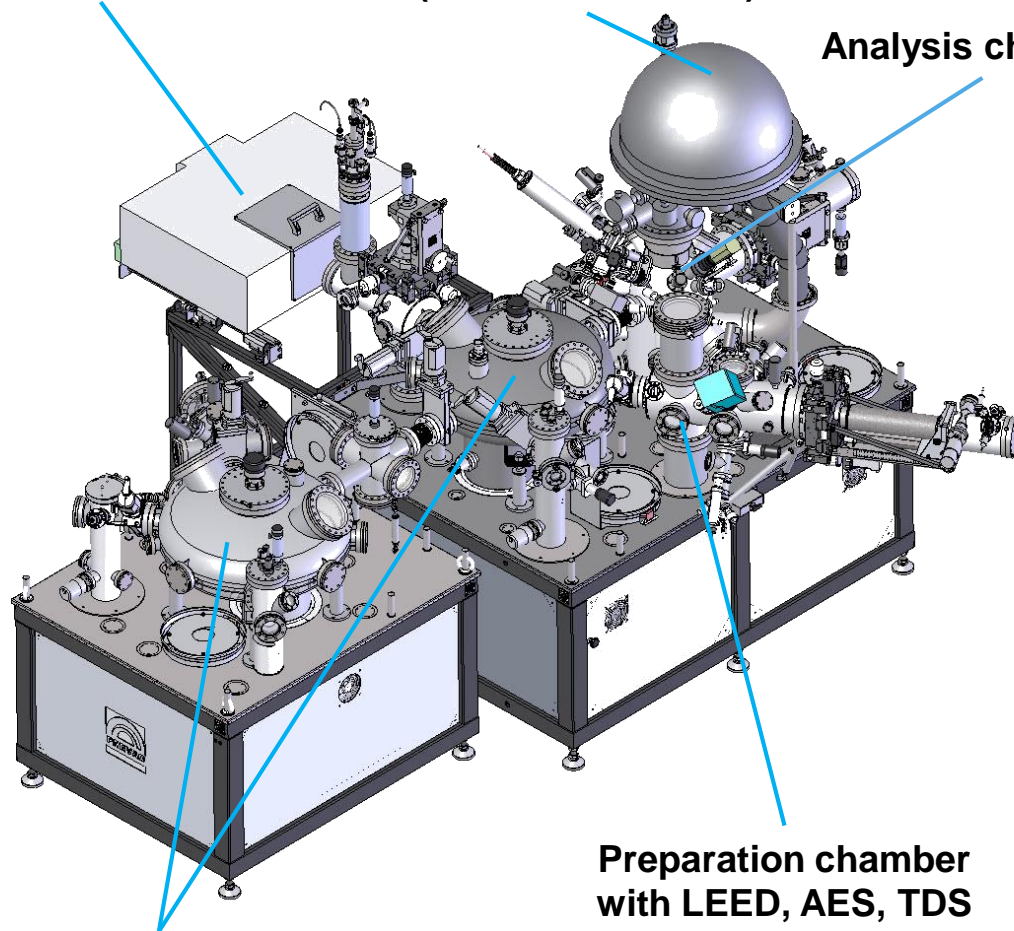
M. Nolan et al., *Surf. Sci.*, 2005, 576, 217.  
 M. Nolan et al., *Surf. Sci.*, 2005, 595, 223.

# UHV-FTIR apparatus

UHV-FTIR  
(Bruker Vertex 80v)

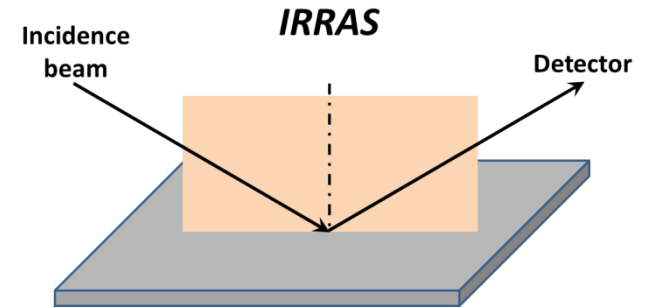
XPS, UPS and AES analyzer  
(VG Scienta R4000)

Analysis chamber



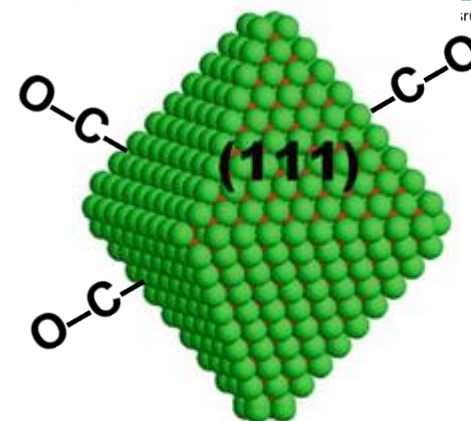
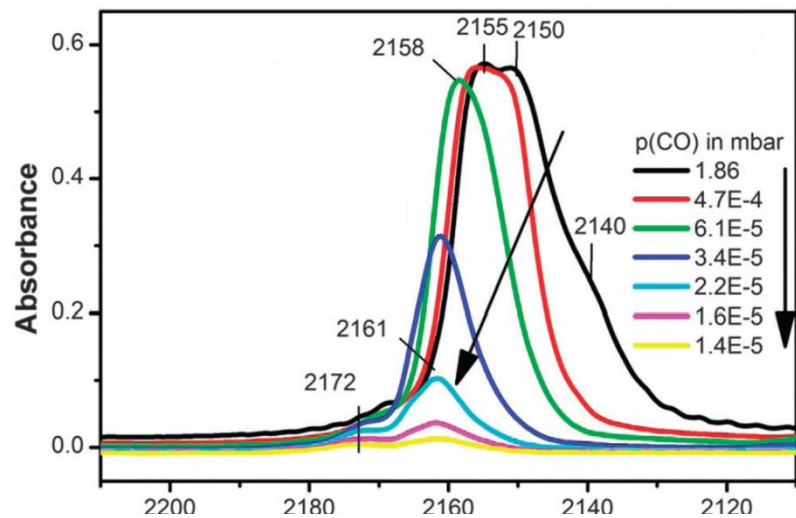
Distribution chambers

Preparation chamber  
with LEED, AES, TDS  
and effusion cells

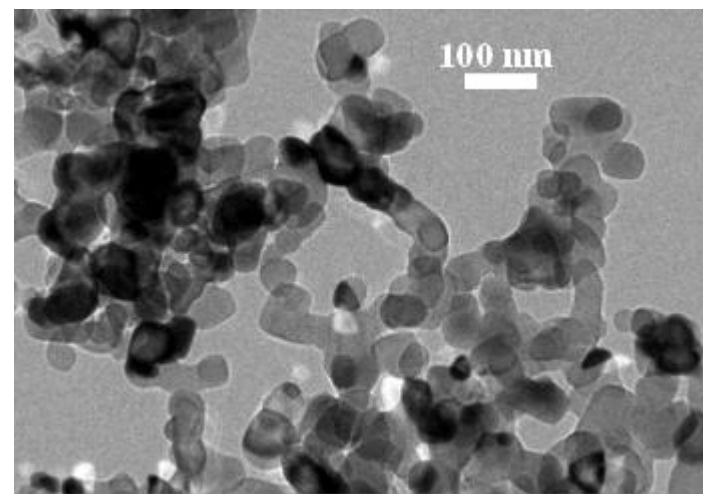
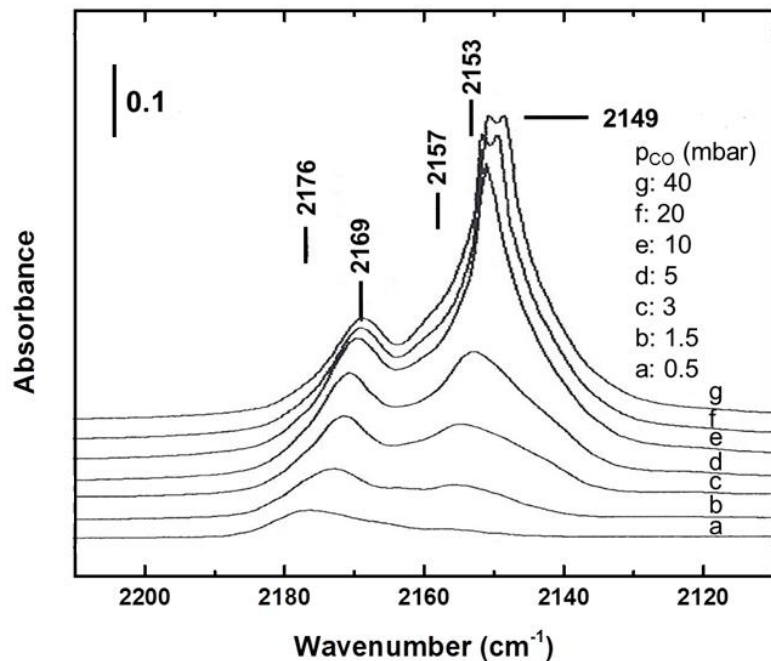


Enable routine measurements  
of IRRAS on oxide substrates

# CO on ceria powders

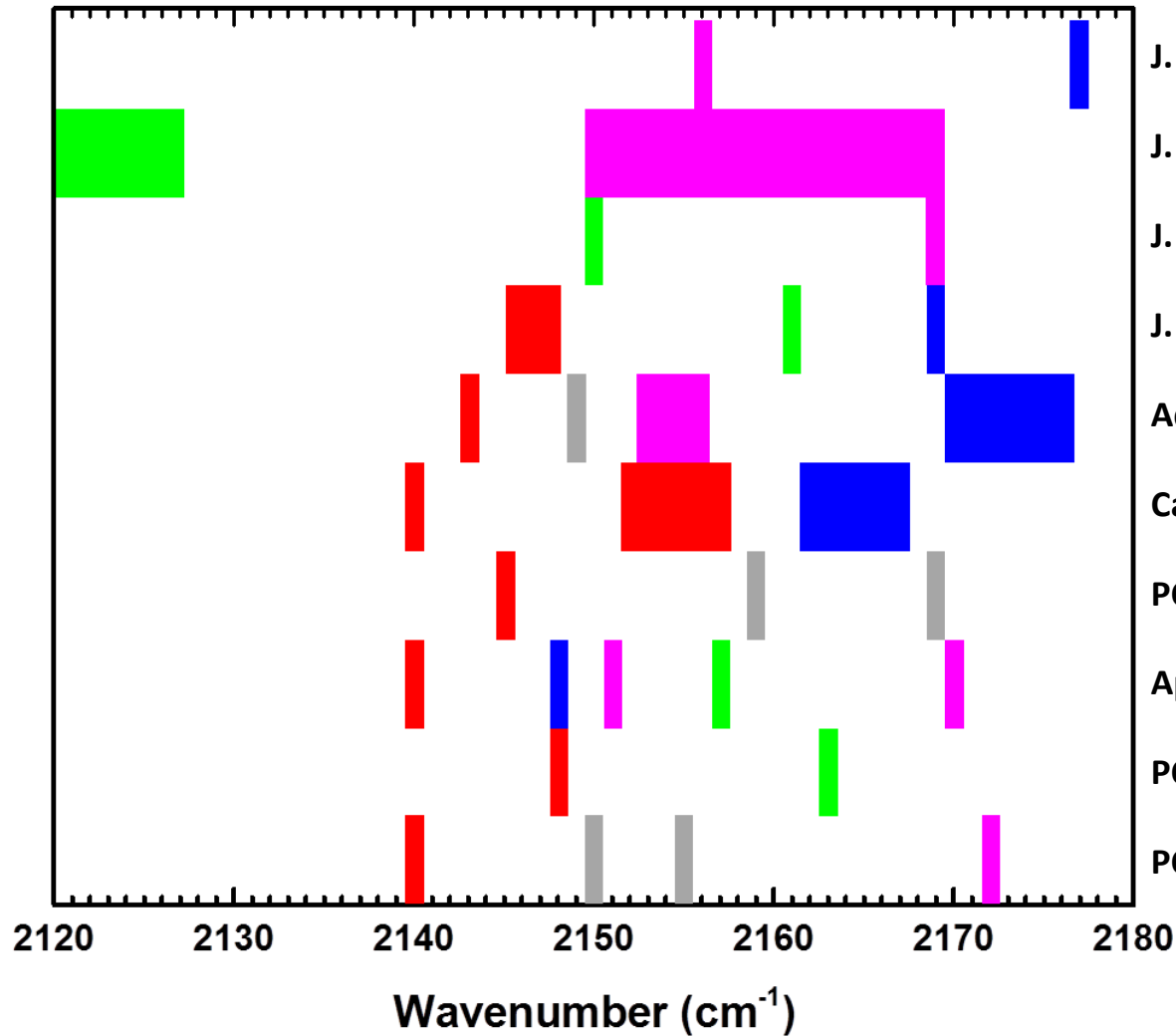


Wulff construction



How to assign the CO IR-bands?

# Controversial assignments of CO IR-bands on ceria powders



J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans., 1989, 85, 929.

J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans., 1994, 90, 653.

J. Phys. Chem., 1986, 90, 3176.

J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans., 1996, 92, 1603.

Adsorpt. Sci. Technol., 1997, 15, 377.

Catal. Today, 1999, 50, 207.

PCCP, 1999, 1, 5717.

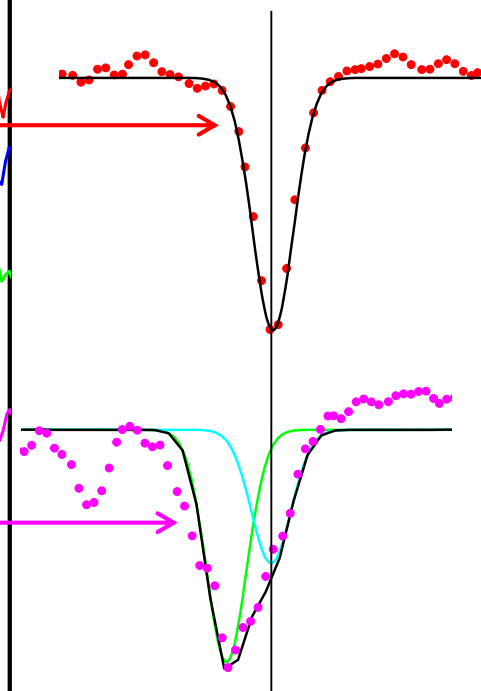
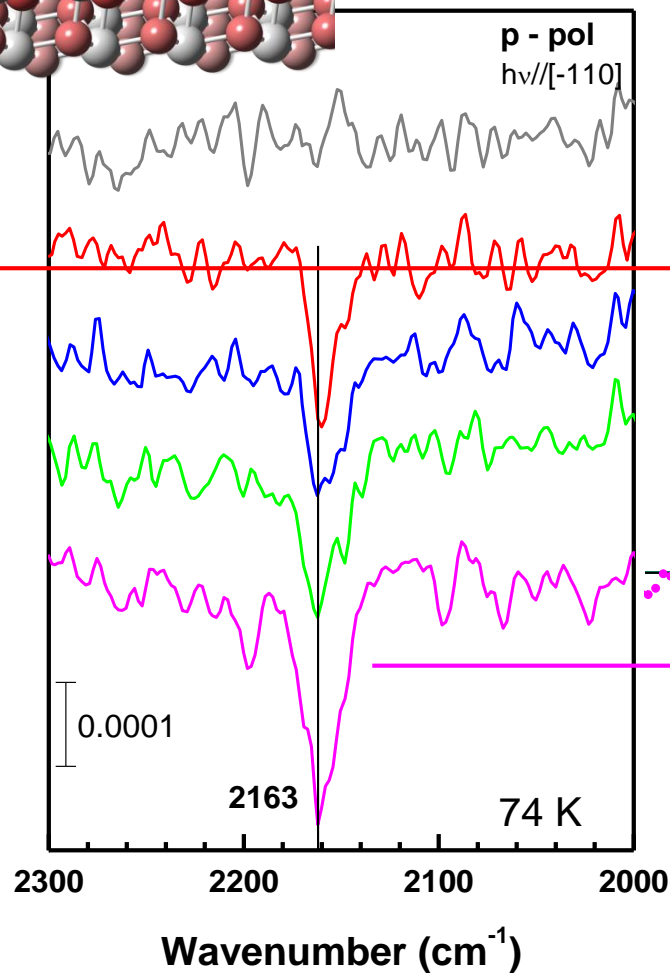
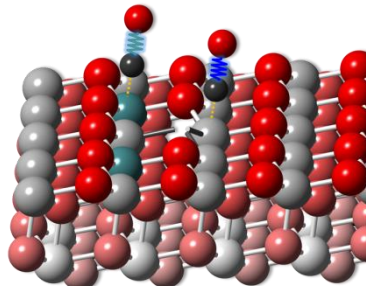
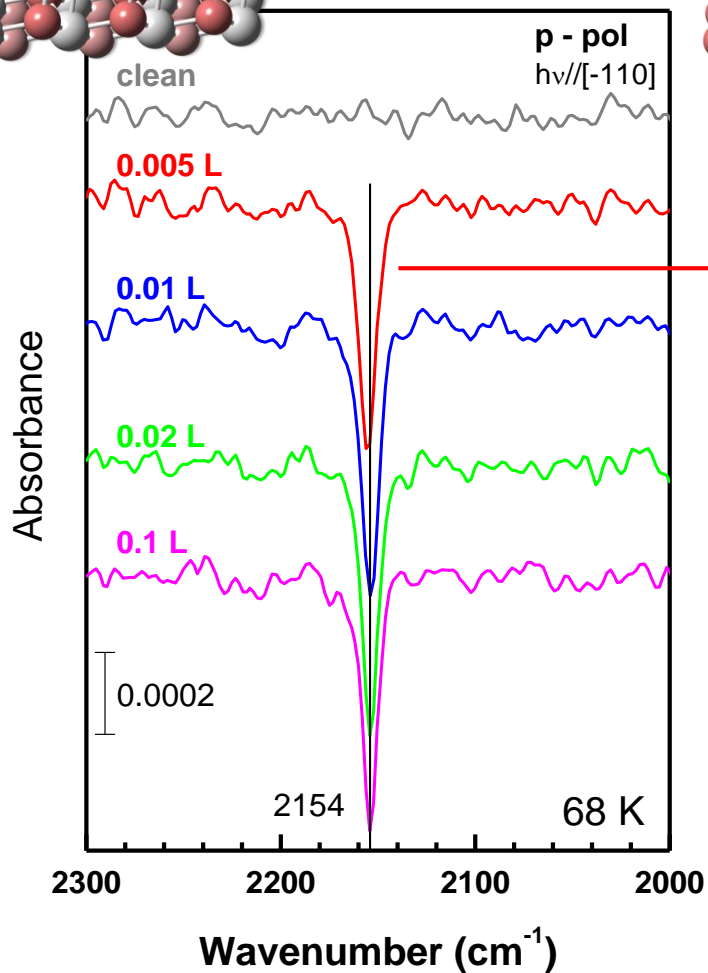
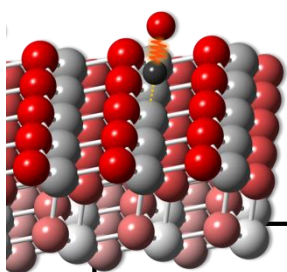
Appl. Catal. A: Gen., 2003, 252, 385.

PCCP, 2005, 7, 187.

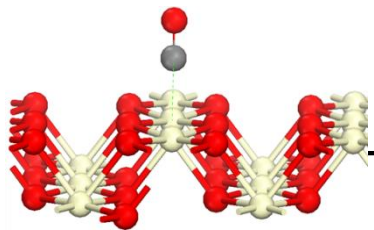
PCCP, 2013, 15, 3454.

█ physisorbed CO   
 █ CO/Ce<sup>4+</sup>   
 █ CO/Ce<sup>4+</sup><sub>cus</sub>   
 █ CO/Ce<sup>3+</sup>   
 █ other assignments

# CO on single crystal $\text{CeO}_2(111)$

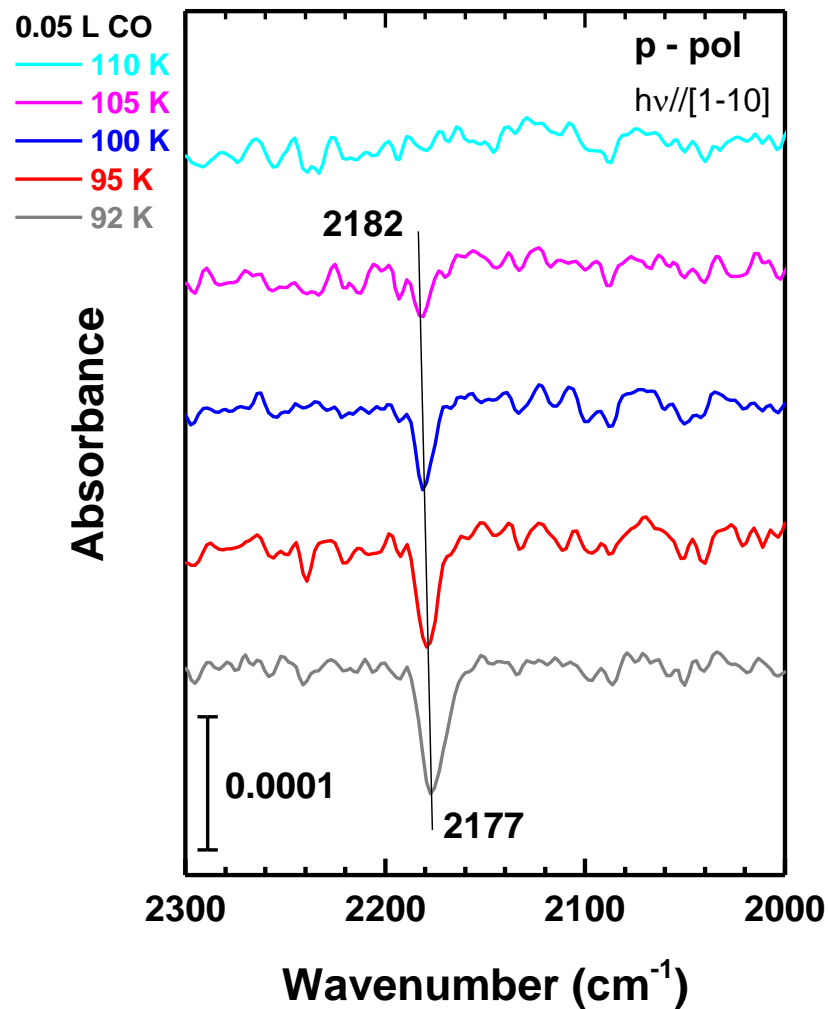
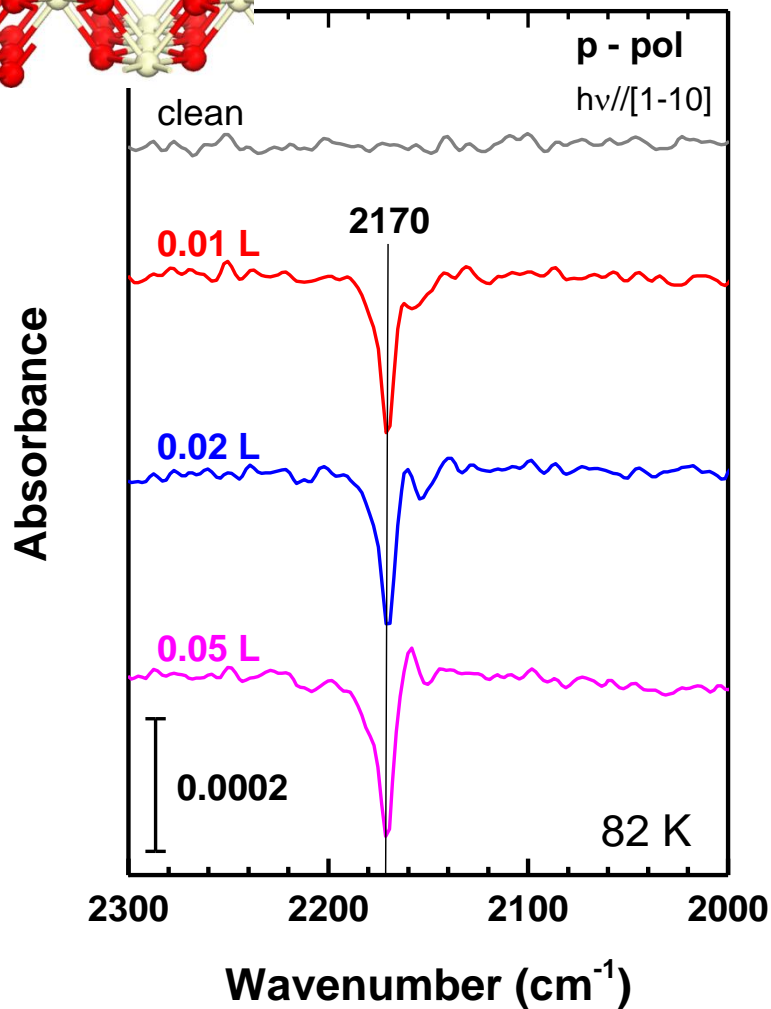


# CO on single crystal $\text{CeO}_2(110)$



oxidized

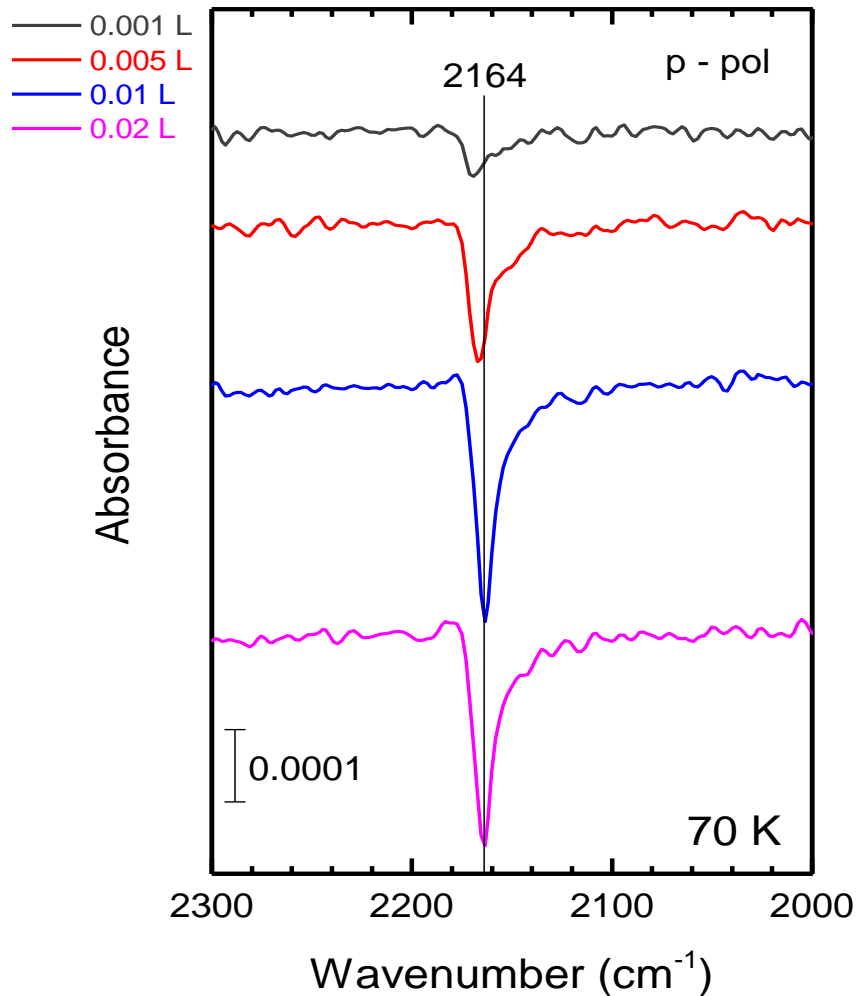
reduced



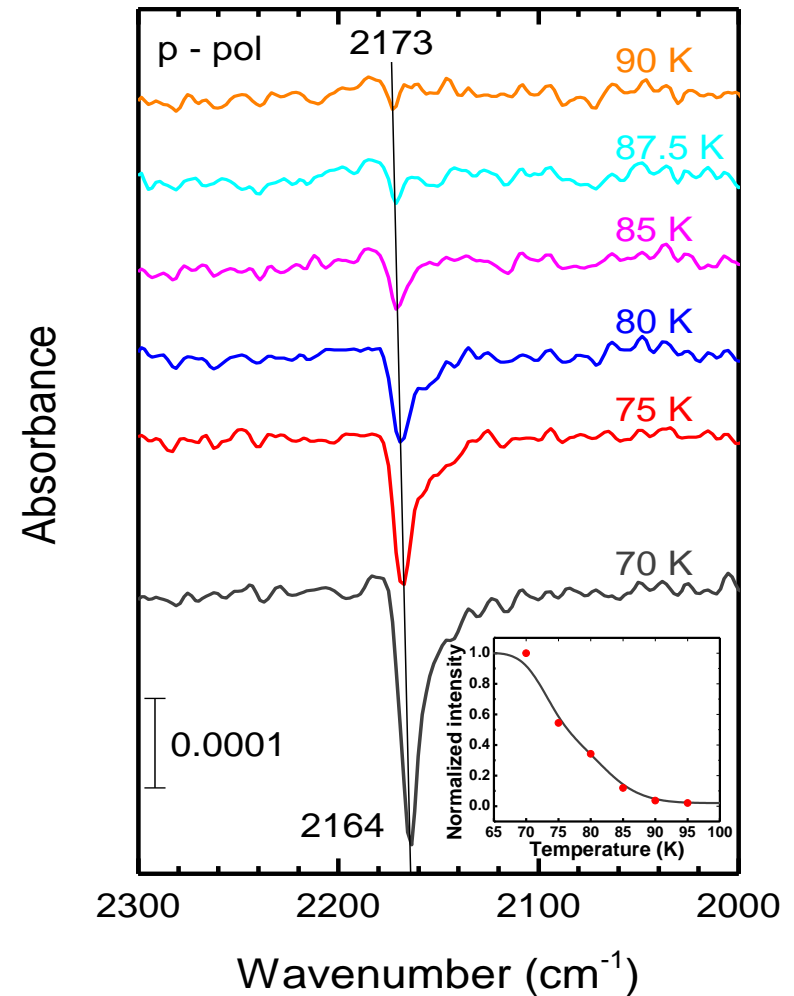


# CO on reduced single crystal CeO<sub>2-x</sub>(100)

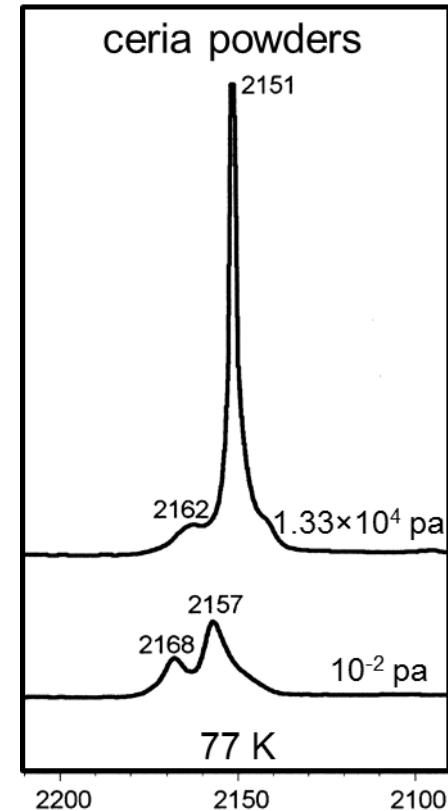
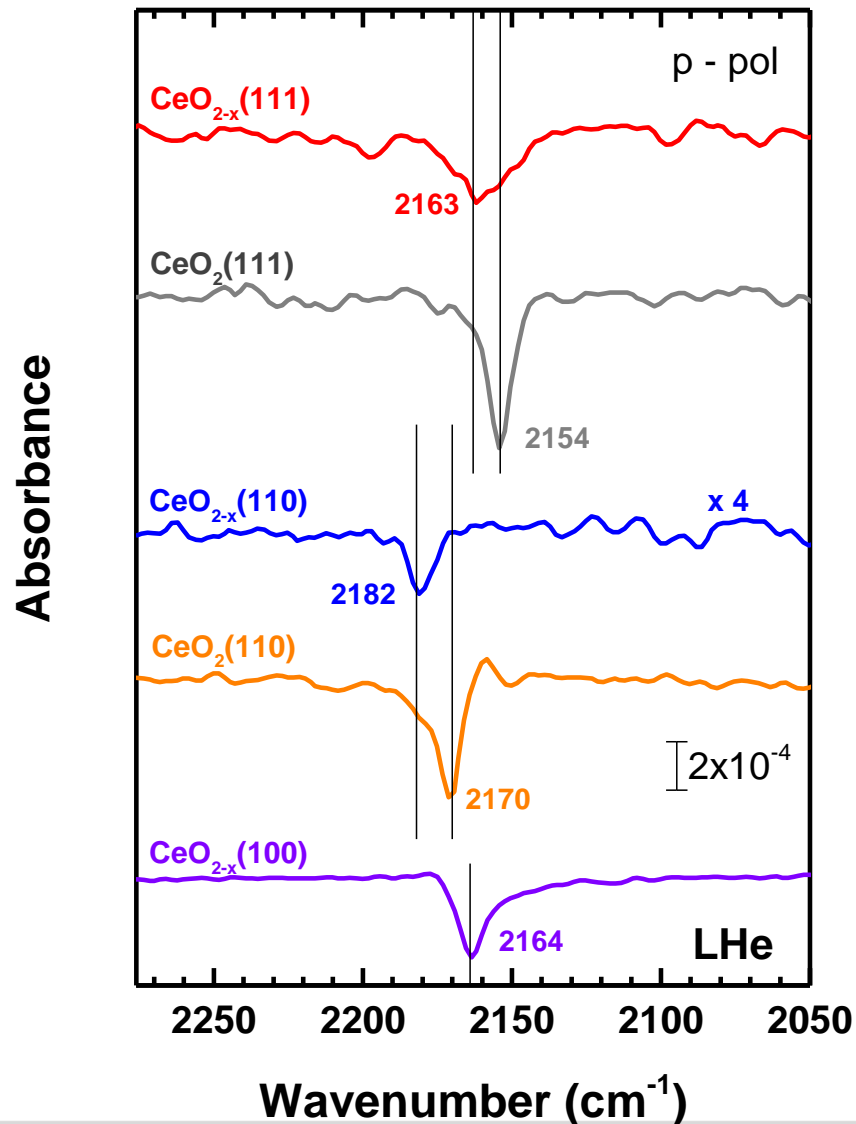
## reduced



## thermal desorption



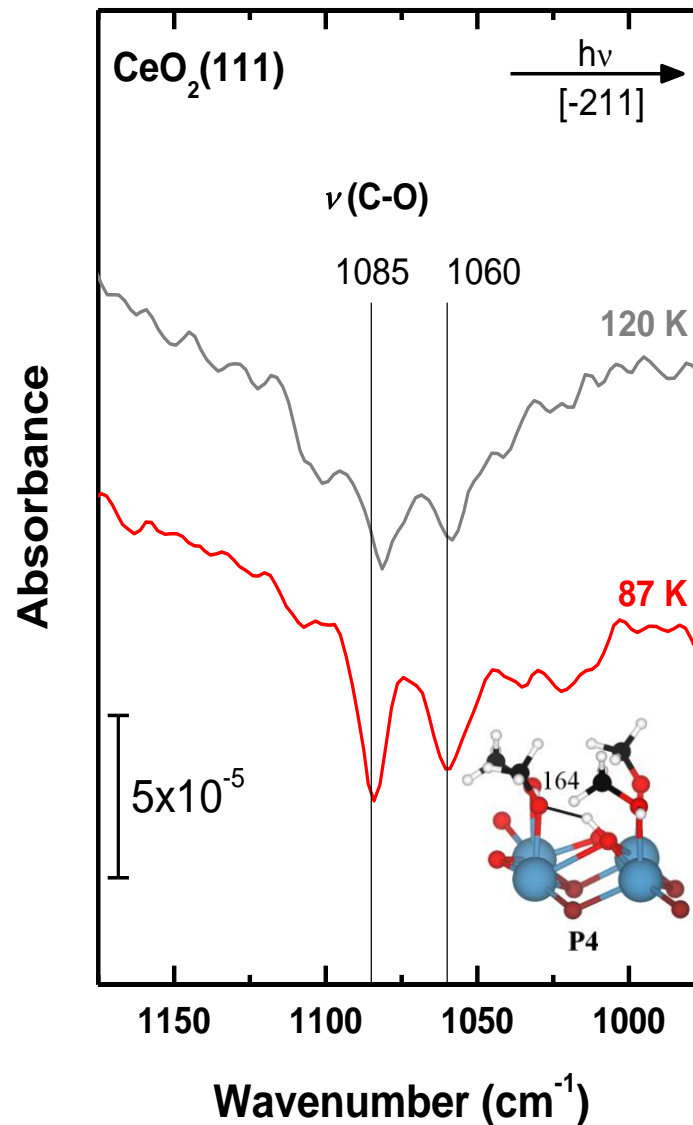
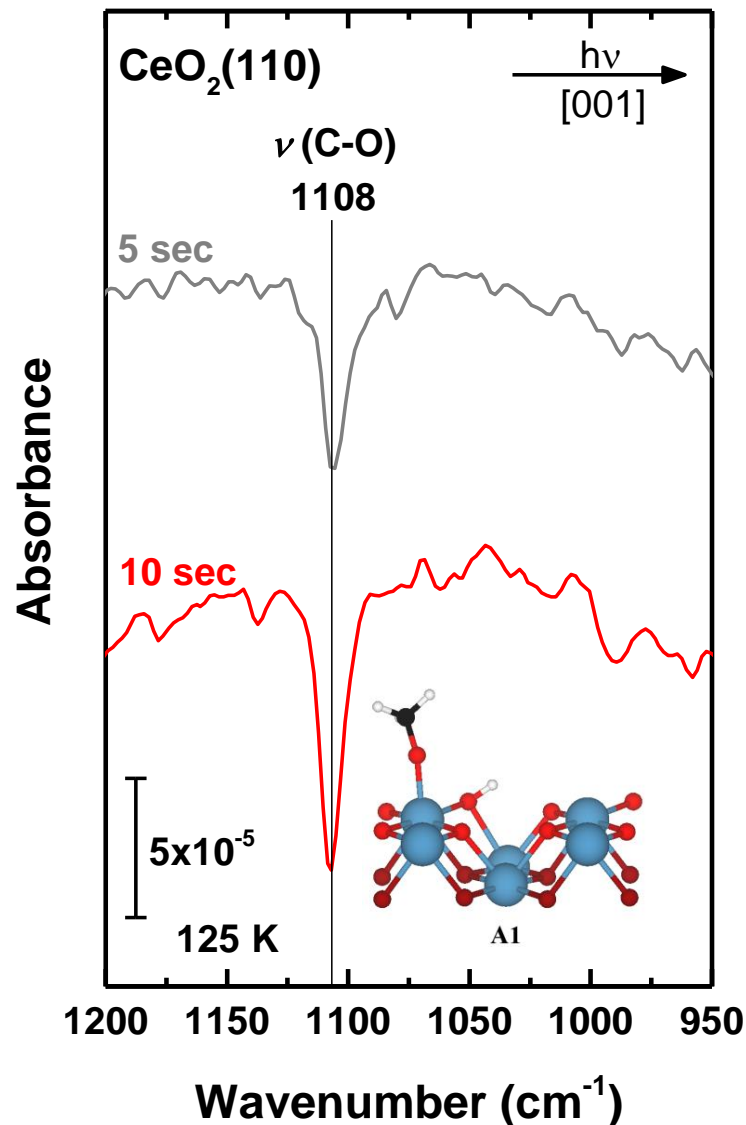
# Reassignment of IR-bands of CO on ceria surface



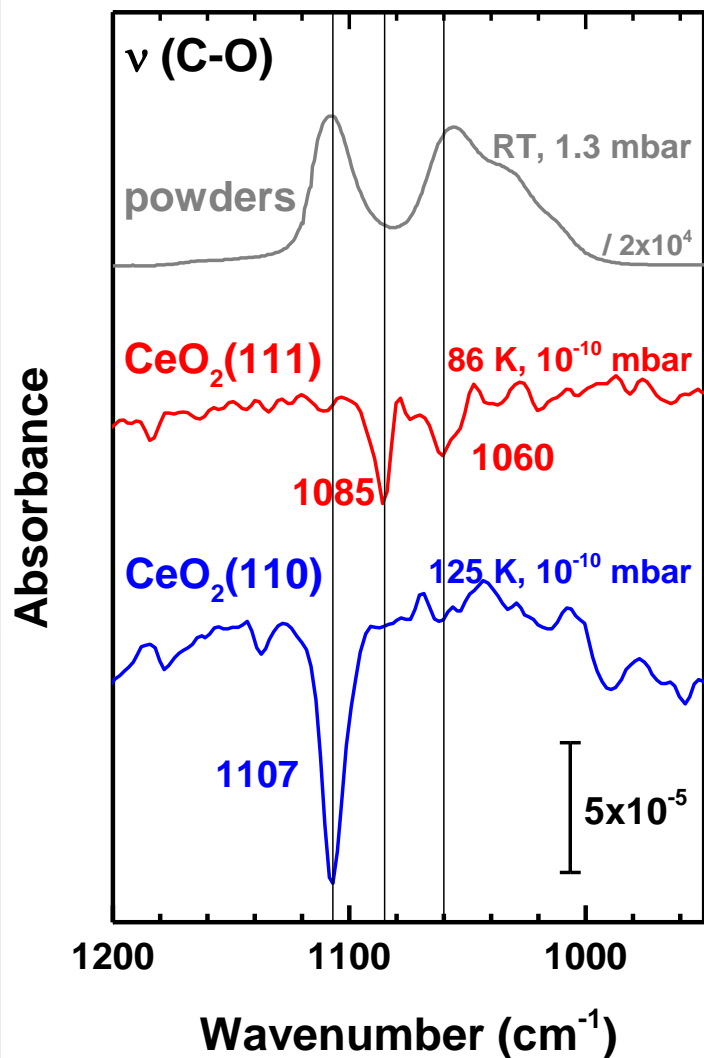
- $2157 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ : physisorbed CO
- $2168 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ : CO coordinated with  $\text{Ce}^{4+}$

J.-C. Lavalley et al., *Catal. Today*, 1999, 50, 207. (> 460 citations)

# CH<sub>3</sub>OH on oxidized monocrystalline CeO<sub>2</sub>(110) and (111)



# Reassignment of IR-bands of CH<sub>3</sub>OH on ceria surface



## previous assignments

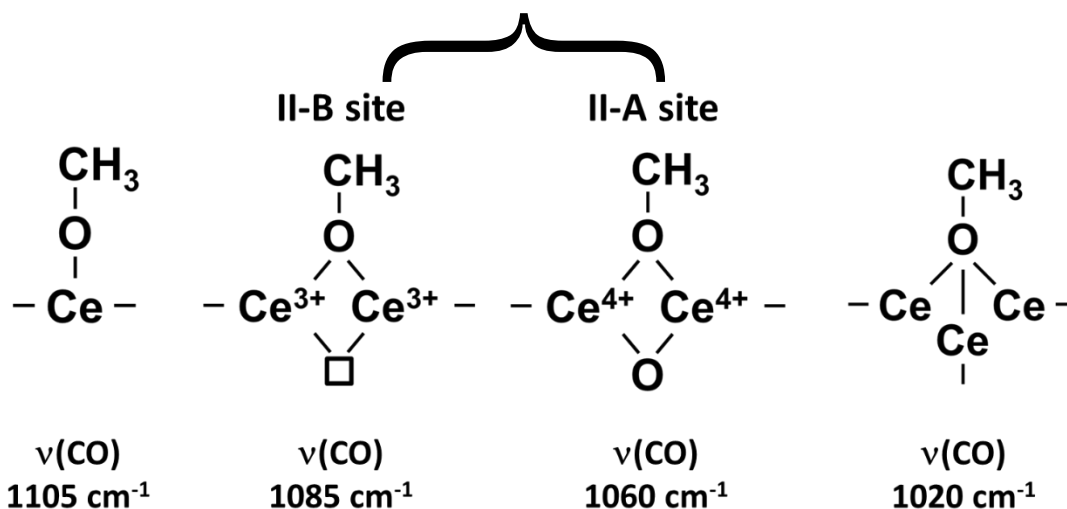
J. C. Lavalley et al., *React. Kinet. Catal. Lett.*, 1988, 36, 113.

J. C. Lavalley et al., *J. Chem. Soc., Faraday T rans.*, 1997, 93, 1159.

monodentate

bidentate

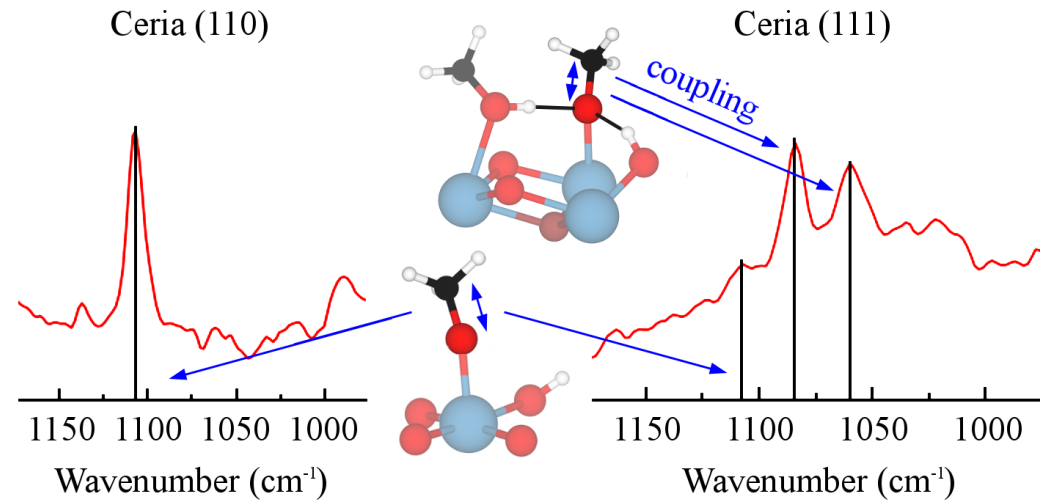
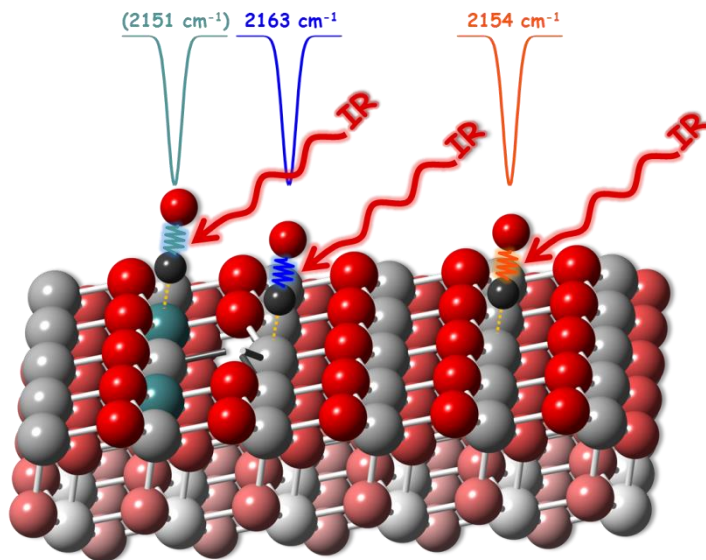
tridentate



A. Badri, C. Binet, J.-C. Lavalley, *J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans.*, 1997, 93, 1159.

C. Yang, F. Bebensee, A. Nefedov, C. Wöll, T. Kropp, L. Komissarov, C. Penschke, R. Moerer, J. Paier, J. Sauer, *J. Catal.*, 2016, 336, 116.

1. Using CO and CH<sub>3</sub>OH as probe molecules, UHV-IRRAS can distinguish ceria surface orientations and probe oxygen vacancies.
2. Based on vibrational frequencies of CO and CH<sub>3</sub>OH adsorption on oxidized and reduced ceria single crystals, the controversial assignments of IR-bands of CO and CH<sub>3</sub>OH adsorption on ceria powders can be clarified.

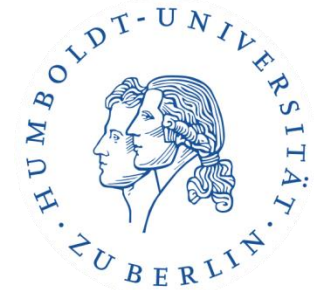


# Acknowledgements

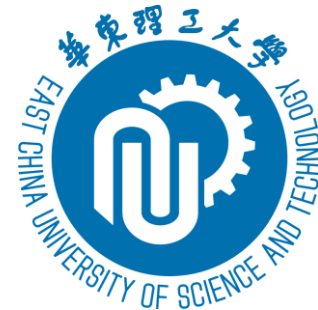
# Thank You!!

**Prof. Dr. Christof Wöll**  
**Dr. Yuemin Wang**  
**Xiaojuan Yu**  
**Ludger Schöttner**

**Prof. Dr. Joachim Sauer**  
**Dr. Joachim Paier**  
**Thomas Kropp**  
**Christopher Penschke**



**Prof. Dr. Xue-Qing Gong**  
**Li-Li Yin**



**Science and Technology  
of Nanosystems (STN)**

**Helmholtz Research School  
Energy-related catalysis**