

Looking into Copper in CO-PROX Catalysts: A Multitechnique Approach

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Dpto de Ciencia de Materiales, Ing. Met. y Q. Inorg., Univ. Cadiz, Spain

Material Science Department, Univ. Cambridge, UK

Chemistry Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, USA

10 years using CuO-CeO_2 catalysts

for:

- CO total oxidation with O_2 (TOX)

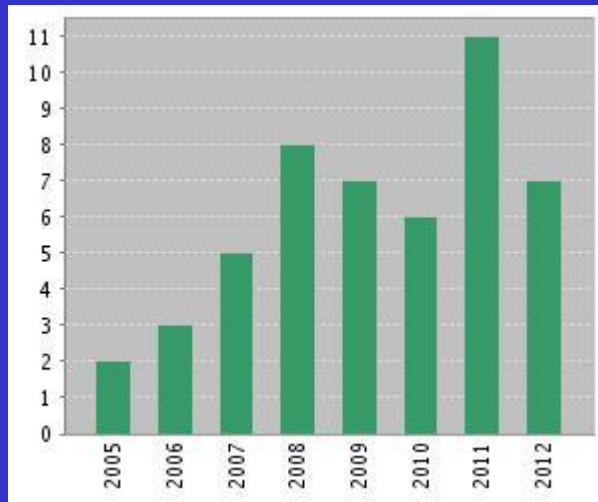
and

- CO preferential oxidation in excess of H_2 (PROX)

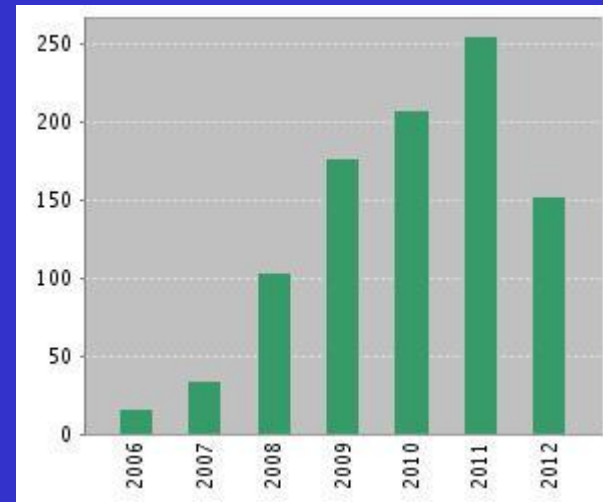
Last 10 years using CuO-CeO_2 catalysts

CO preferential oxidation in excess of H_2 (PROX)

Published Items in Each Year



Citations in Each Year



Search: Web of Knowledge

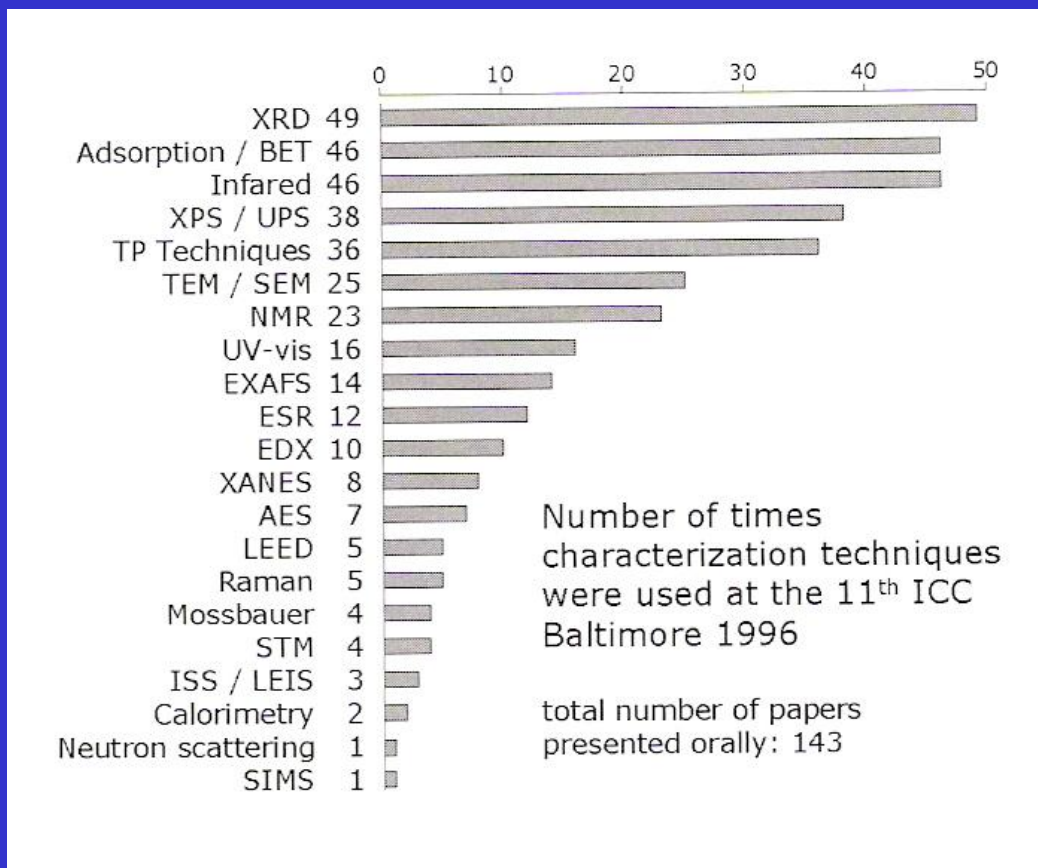
Period: 2002-2012

Topic: "CO-PROX AND CuO AND CeO2"

Results: 49 references

Impact: h-index = 17 (cites/item = 19.22)

Looking into Copper in CO-PROX Catalysts: A Multitechnique Approach



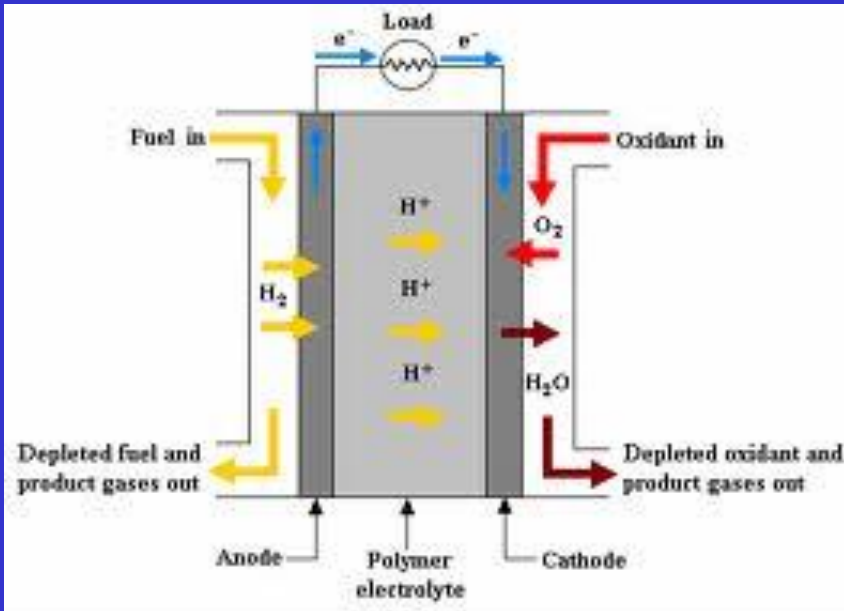
Characterization techniques used in Catalysis

	real catalyst	single crystal
reaction conditions 1- 300 bar.	XRD, TP techniques Infrared and Raman EXAFS, Mossbauer esr, NMR, AFM	Infrared TP techniques STM,AFM
vacuum 10 ⁻⁶ /10 ⁻¹⁰ bar	XPS, SIMS, SNMS LEIS, RBS, TEM, SEM	all surface science techniques

◇ The "*operando*" techniques

◇ The "*pressure gap*" debate

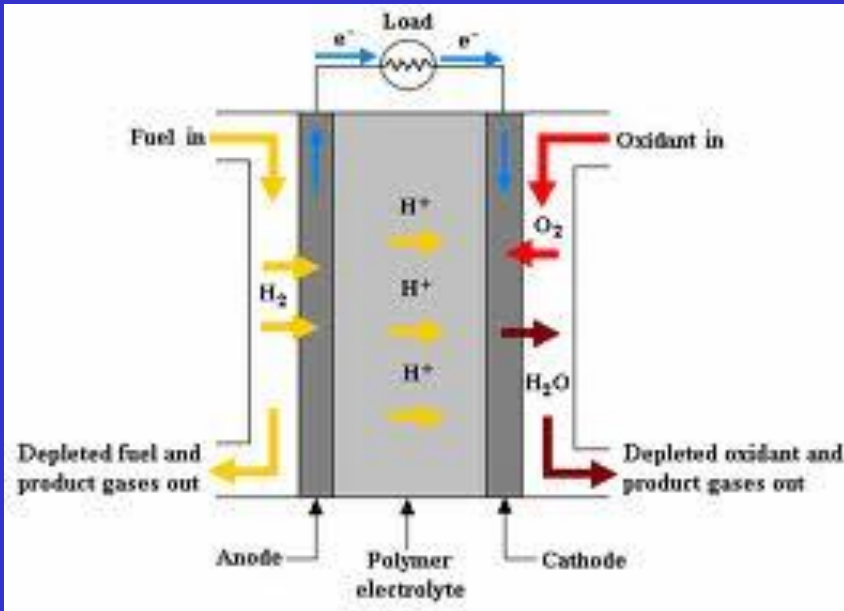
Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell unit



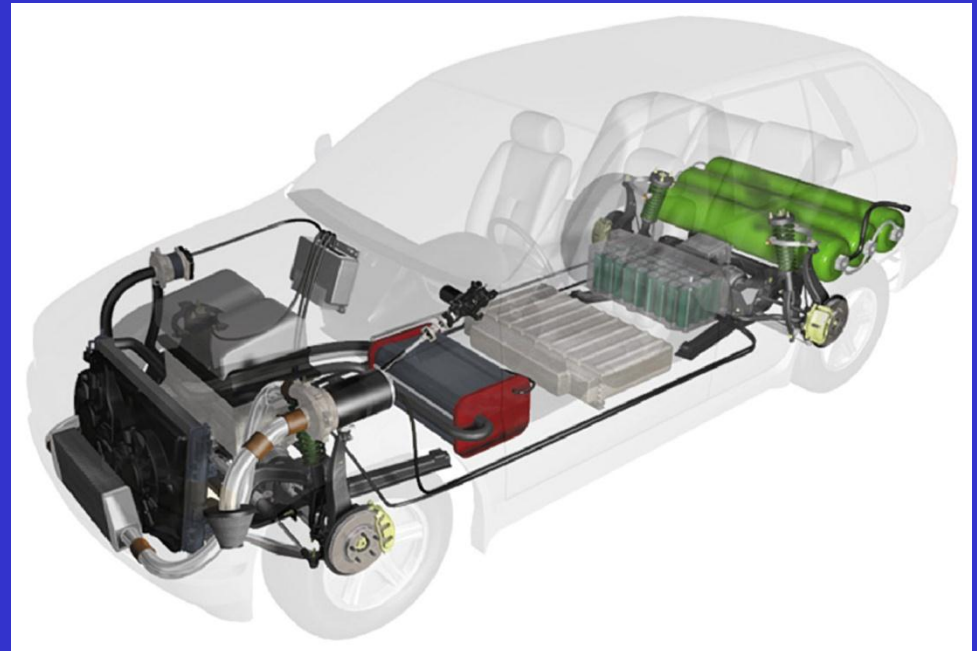
Industrial Applications



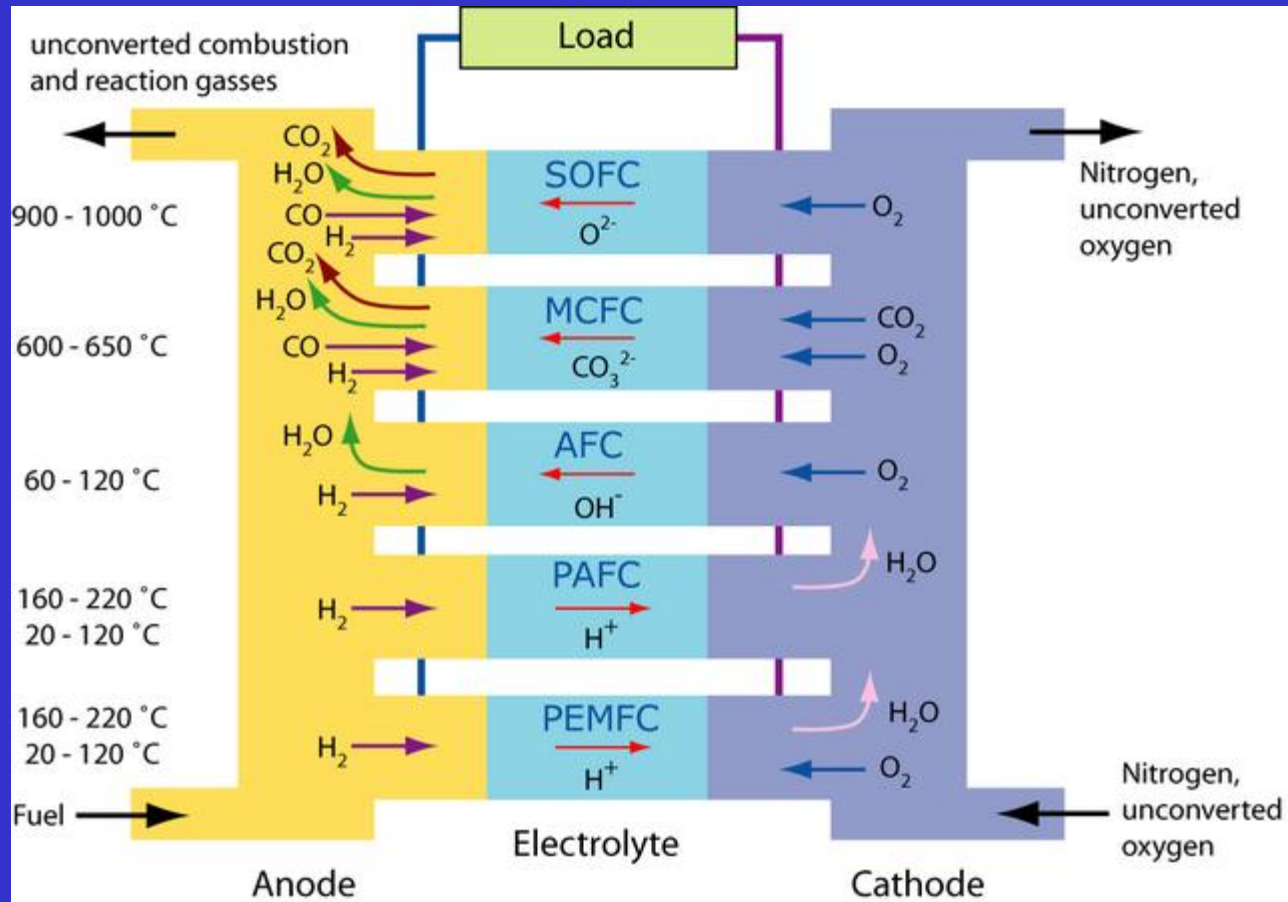
Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell unit



Hydrogen Powered
automotives

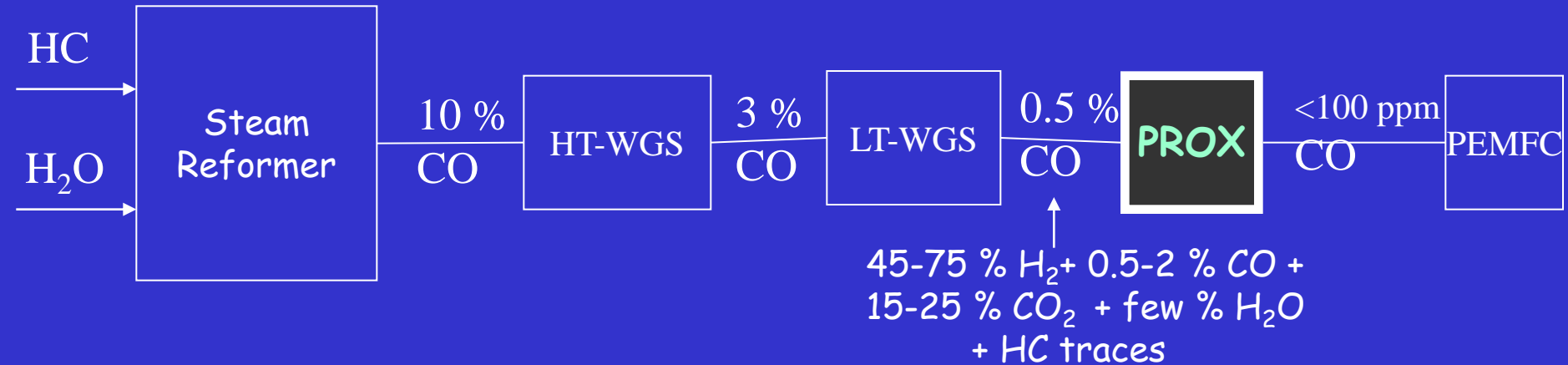


Fuel Cells: From PEMFC to SOFC electrolytes

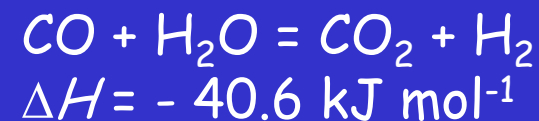
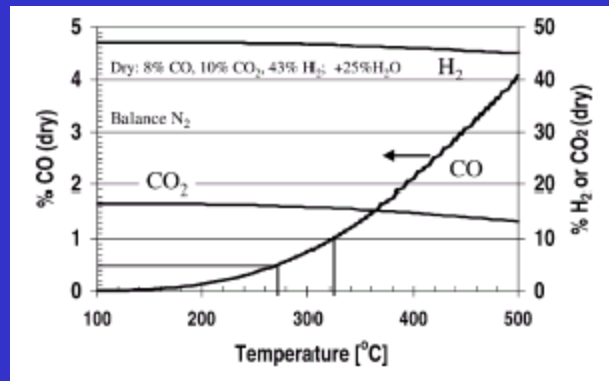


PEMFC : Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell
 SOFC: Solid Oxide Fuel Cell

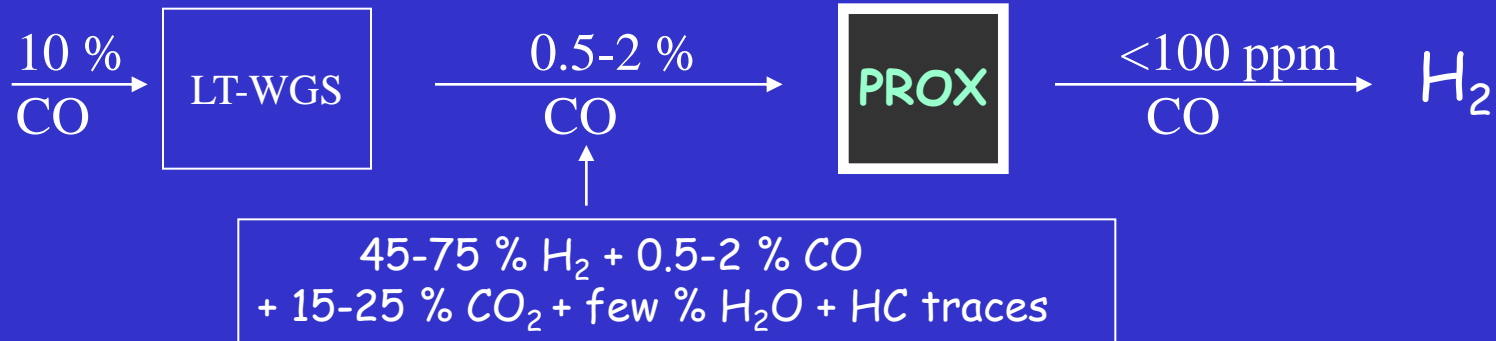
H₂ generation from HC's for its use in PEMFC



Thermodynamics of the WGS process



Catalytic Preferential Oxidation of CO





Requirements for CO-PROX catalysts



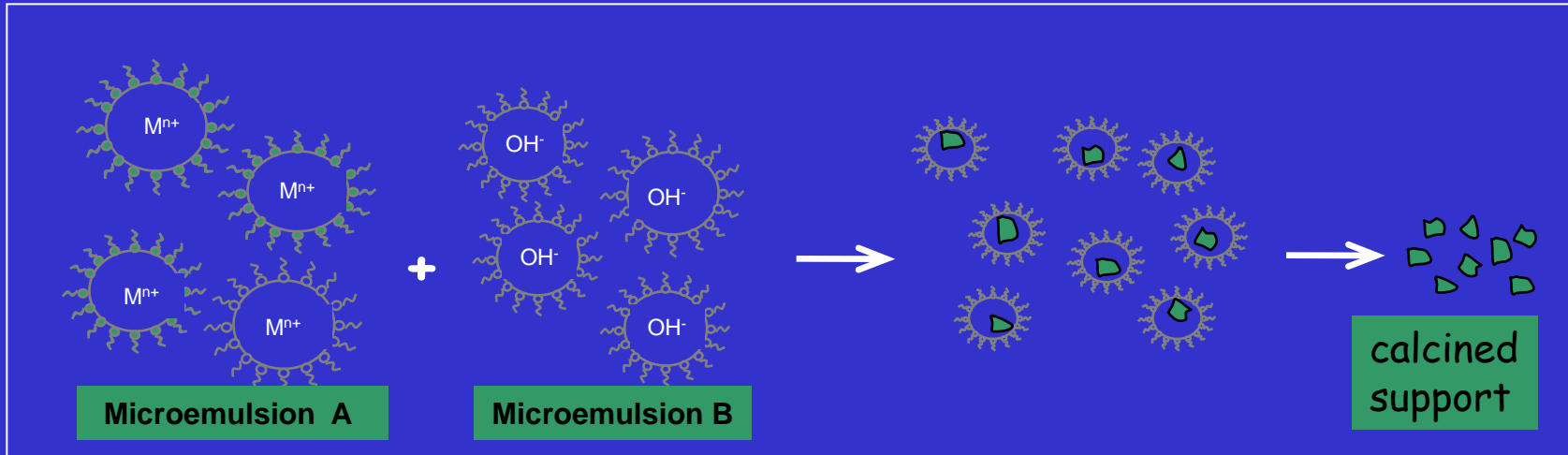
- High reactivity for CO oxidation
 - Low reactivity for H_2 oxidation
 - High resistance to poisoning by CO_2 and H_2O
- } CO_2 -Selectivity

Overview of CO-PROX catalysts

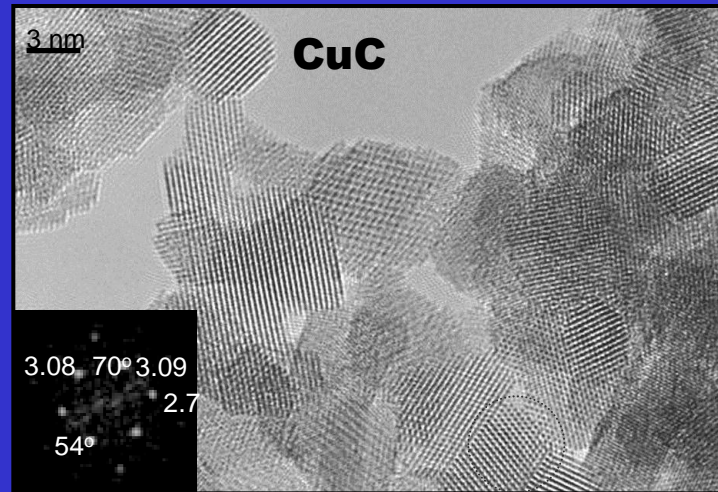
Systems	Supported PtGM Pt; Pt-Ru; Pt-Rh (promoters; Ru, Rh)	Supported gold Au/Fe ₂ O ₃ ; Au/TiO ₂ ; Au/CeO ₂	Copper-ceria CuO/CeO ₂ ; CuO/(Ce,M)O _x
Conversion window	100-200 °C	50-100 °C	120-200 °C
Selectivity at full conversion	 50 % (could be enhanced by certain promoters)	50-100 %	80-100 %
Resistance to H ₂ O-CO ₂	good	 poor	fair

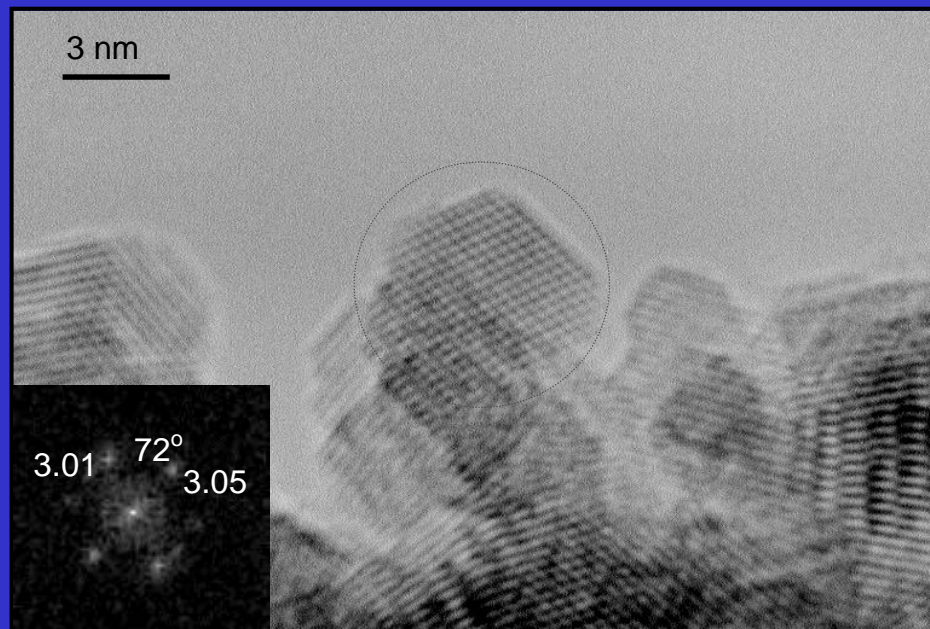
How to prepare a CuO-CeO_2
catalysts ?

Microemulsion preparation



1% w/w Cu was incorporated by incipient wetness impregnation

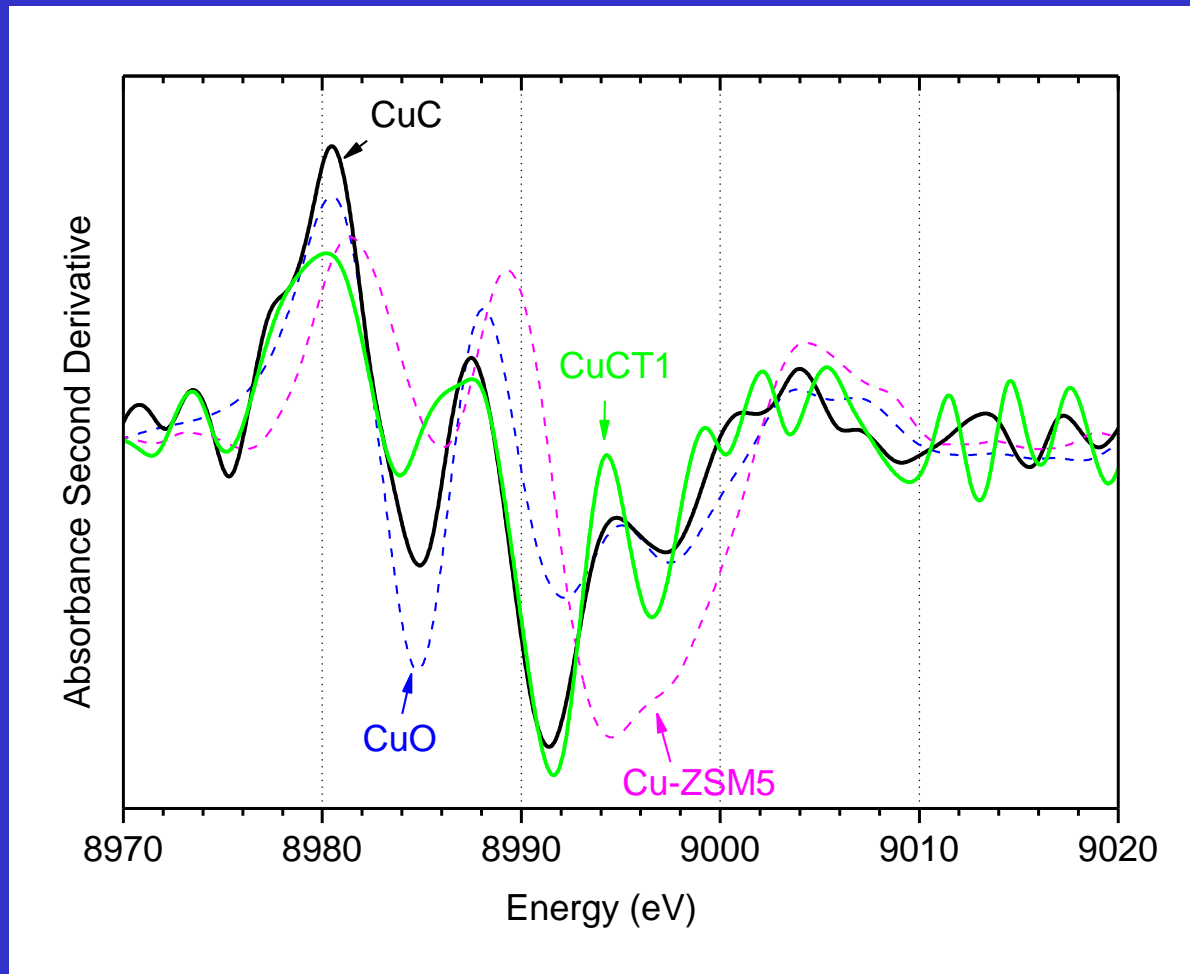




Sample	Cell parameter (Å) ^a	Particle size (nm)		(Ce/Tb) _{at} ^c Ratio XPS	S _{BET} (m ² g ⁻¹) ^a
		HREM ^b	XRD ^a		
CuC	5.413 (5.412)	6.7 (8.2)	8.3 (7.9)	-	92 (92)
CeTb1 50% Tb	5.367 (5.368)	5.5 (6.9)	6.1 (6.0)	0.89 ± 0.13	95 (95)
CeTb4 20% Tb	5.393 (5.392)	6.6 (9.0)	7.2 (7.4)	4.25 ± 0.75	104 (104)

The copper catalysts were prepared on CeO₂ supports containing 20% and 50% of Tb to examine possible electronic interactions of the support with the CuO active phase of the catalysts during CO-TOX. Data for the respective supports are given in parenthesis

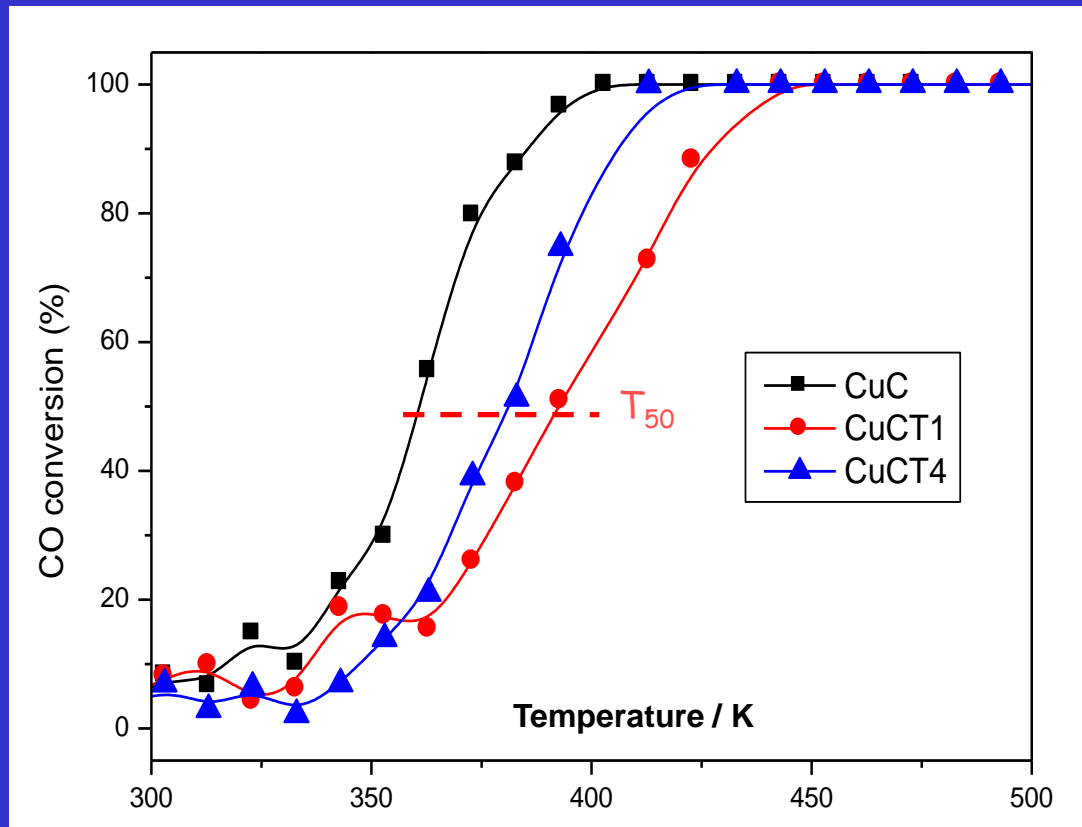
XANES Cu-K edge analysis of calcined CuC and CuCT1



The structure of copper in the original calcined CuC and CuCT1 catalysts is quite different to that of small clusters of CuO incorporated into ZSM 5 zeolites, it looks more like bulk CuO but cannot be seen either by XRD or even by HRTEM

Catalytic tests in CO-TOX

CO-TOX: 1% CO + 0.5% O₂ + Ar (balance)



Space velocity: 80.000 h⁻¹; heating ramp: 5 K min⁻¹

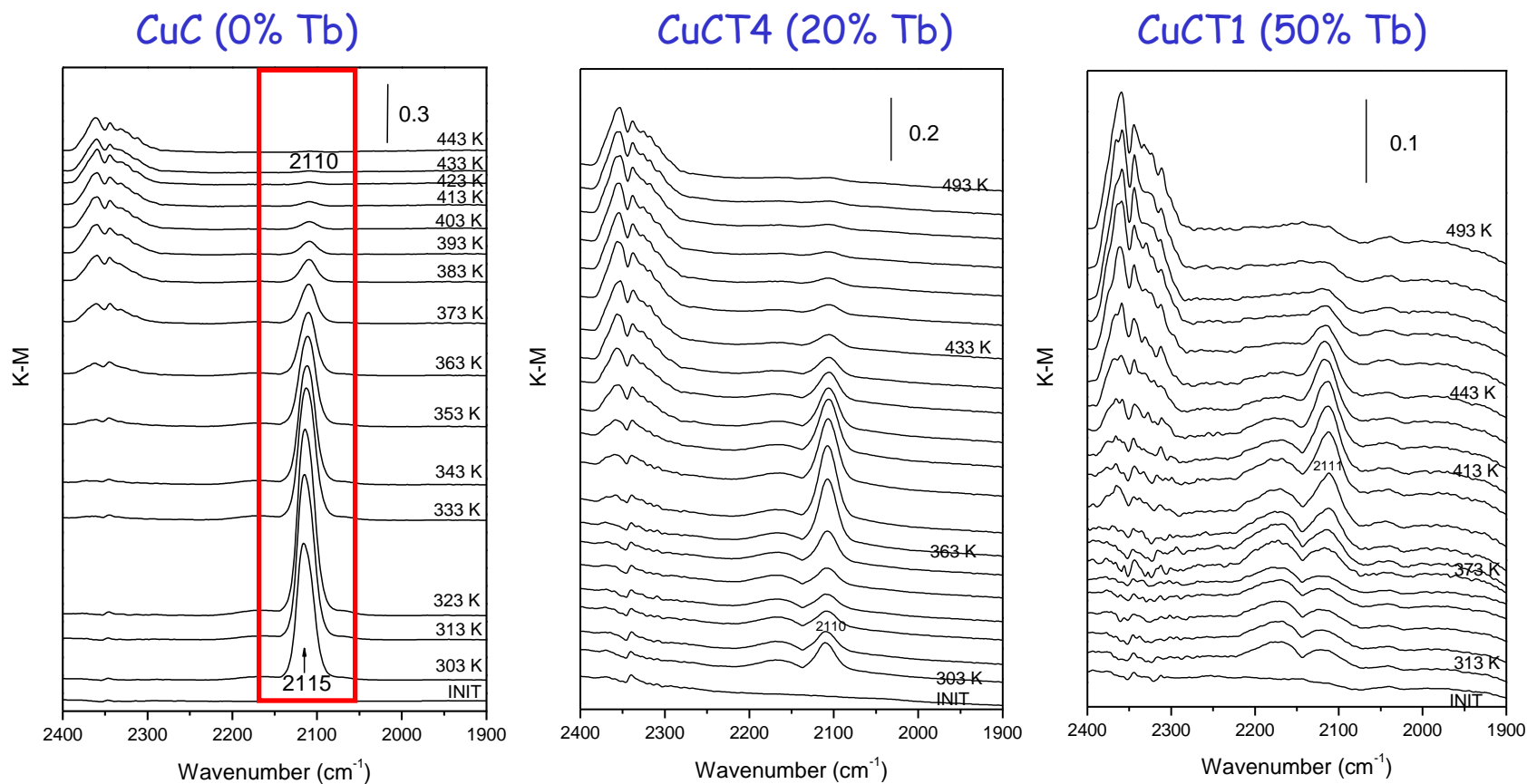
How work copper in CuC and CuCT catalysts
during CO-TOX?

Operando - DRIFTS

Operando - XPS/XAES

Operando - DRIFTS analysis of CuC, CuCT4 and CuCT1

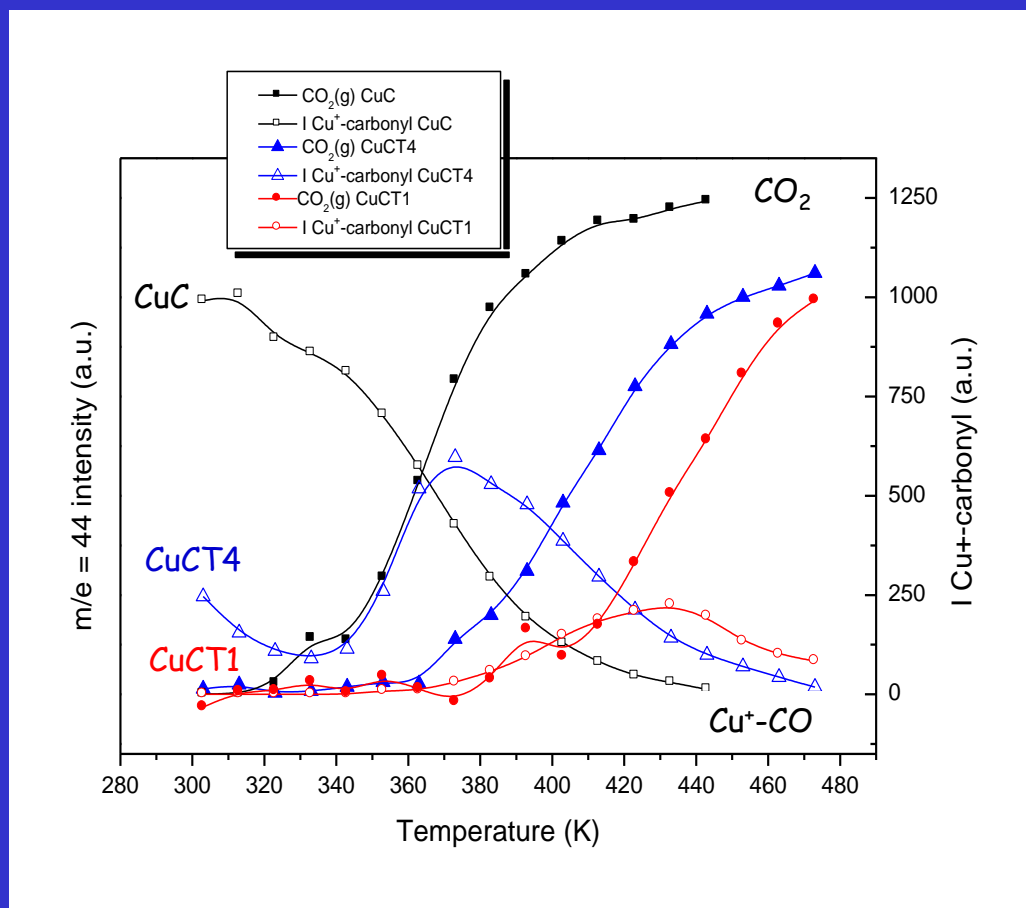
CO-TOX: 1% CO + 0.5% O₂



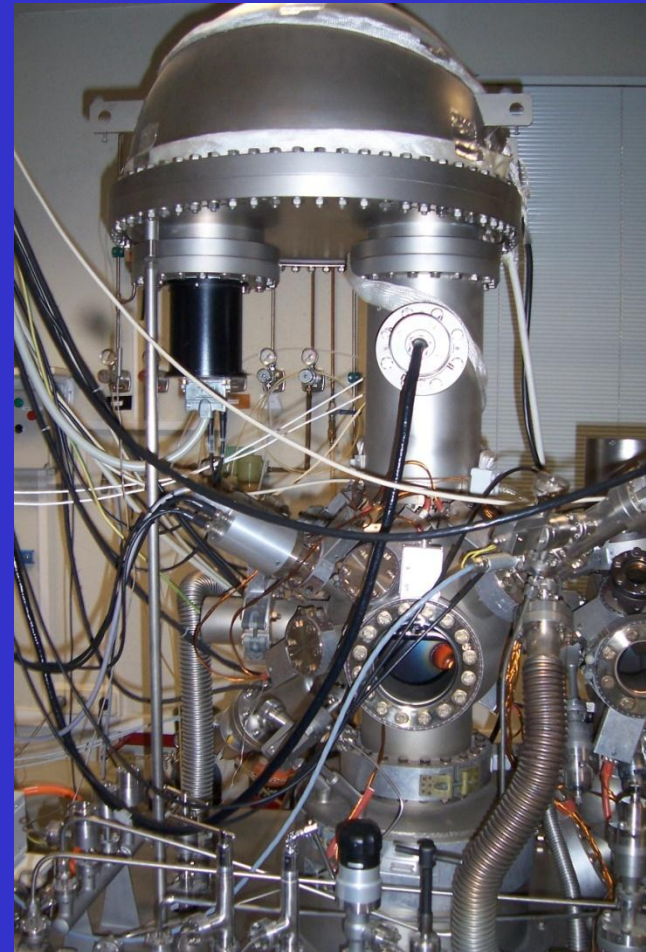
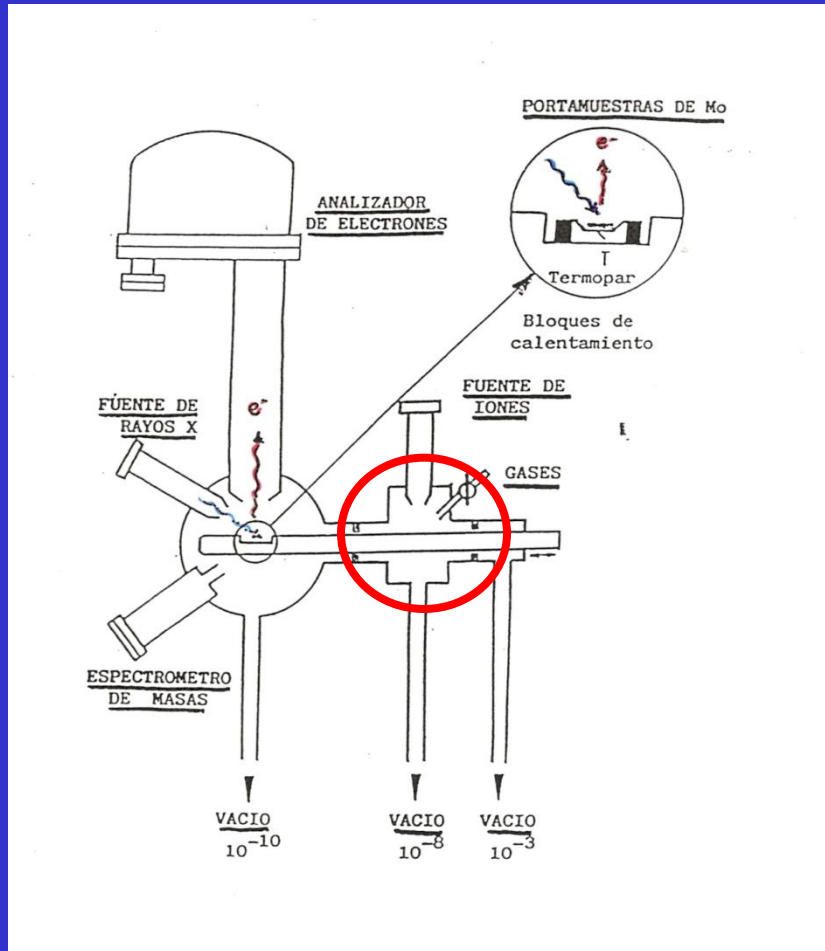
The amount of Cu⁺-CO species, at 2110 cm⁻¹, decreases with increasing Tb content in the CeO₂ support indicating a loss of Cu⁺ centers for CO

Operando - DRIFTS vs. Catalytic tests

CO-TOX: 1% CO + 0.5% O₂

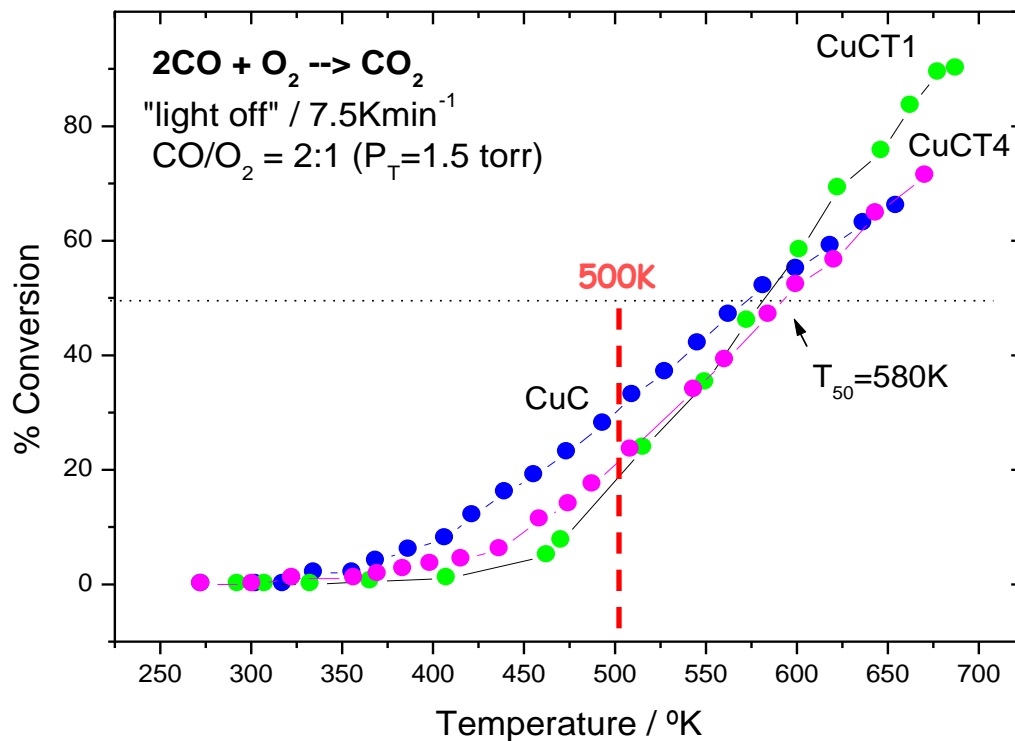


Operando - XPS/XAES

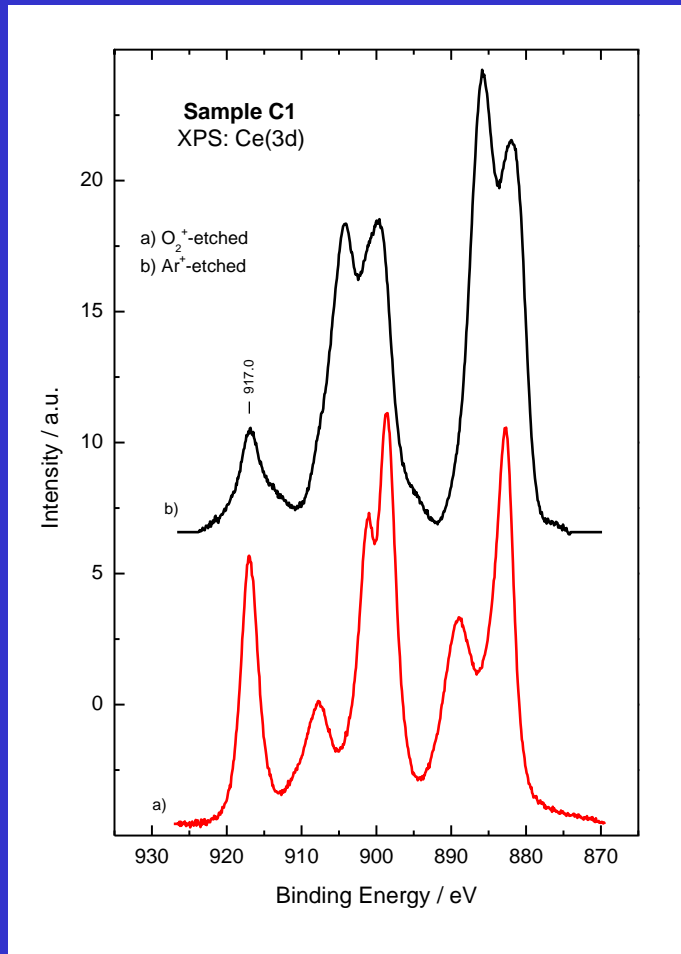


Main Chamber XPS, XAES and LEIS
Reaction Chamber: Gas manifold/MS, Ion-sputtering

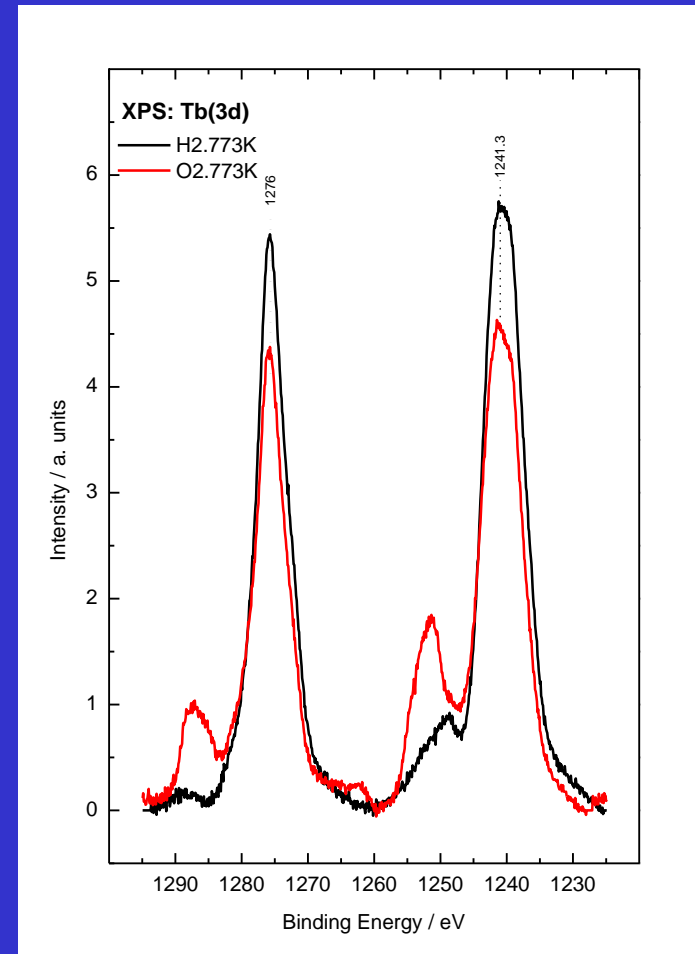
Operando - XPS/XAES



Factor Analysis: Ce(3d) and Tb(3d) in CuCT1

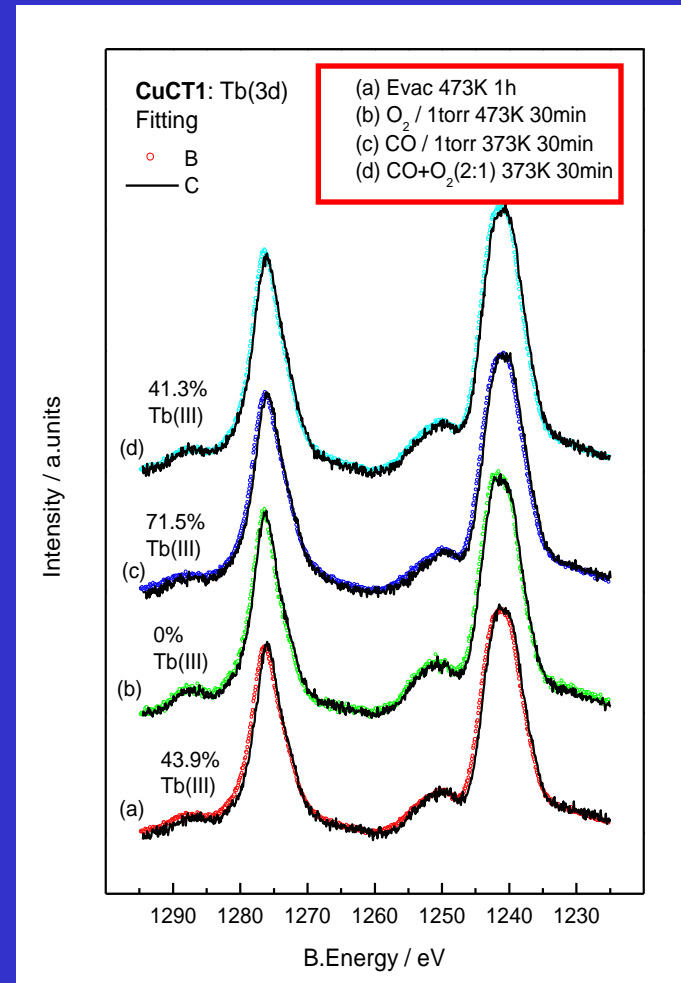
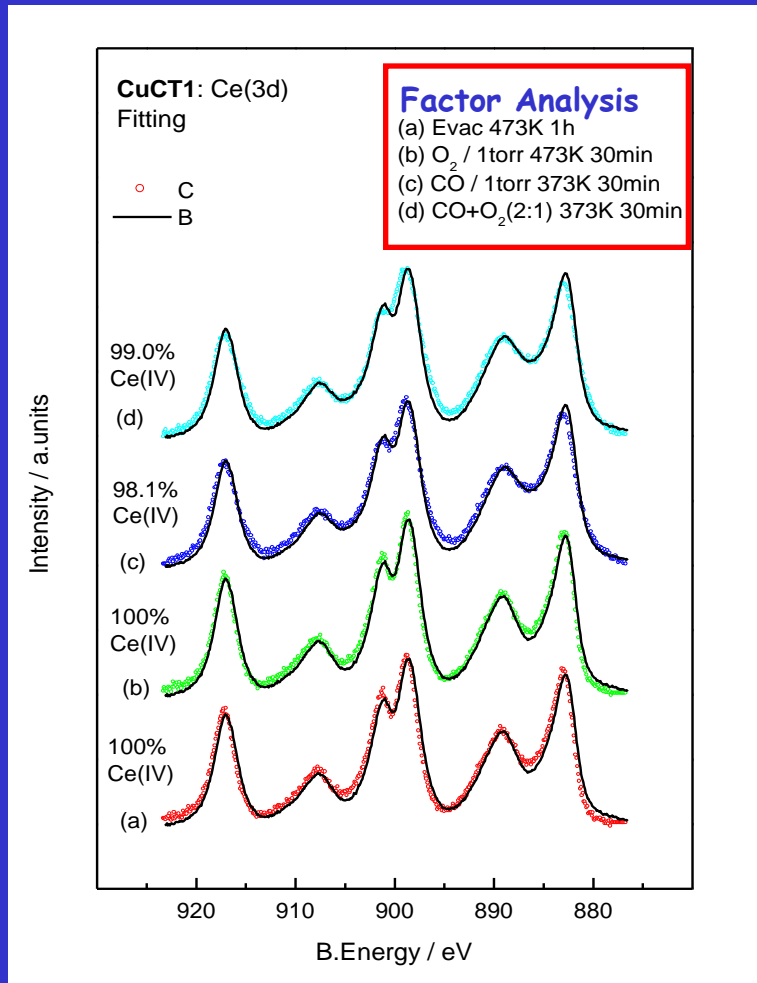


XPS: Ce(3d)
 CeO_2 vs. Ce_2O_3



XPS: Tb(3d)
 TbO_2 vs. Tb_2O_3

Operando-XPS: Ce(3d) and Tb(3d) in CuCT1



Operando-XPS was carried out under O₂, CO and CO/O₂(2:1) and Ce(3d) and Tb(3d) spectra analysed by Factor Analysis

Operando XPS of CuCT1 and CuC catalysts

Conclusions

- 1:** copper dispersion, measured as $\text{Cu}/(\text{Ce}+\text{Tb})$ ratios, only slightly changes with the treatments and are similar to those observed in the CuC catalyst under similar conditions.
- 2:** terbium dispersion, measured as $\text{Tb}/(\text{Ce}+\text{Tb})$, is not modified by the treatments and is similar to that observed in the CT1 support.
- 3:** terbium oxidation state changes with the treatments ($\text{Tb}^{3+}/\text{Tb}^{4+}$). 43.6% of the terbium is as Tb^{3+} in the original calcined catalyst
- 4:** cerium remains fully oxidized after all the treatments (100% Ce^{4+})
- 5:** cerium and copper in CuC (reference) are more easily reduce than in CuCT1 and CuCT4 under reducing treatments (i.e. CO or H_2)

What happen to Copper in CuCT1 ?

CO/O₂ (2:1) reaction at 473K

Supports:



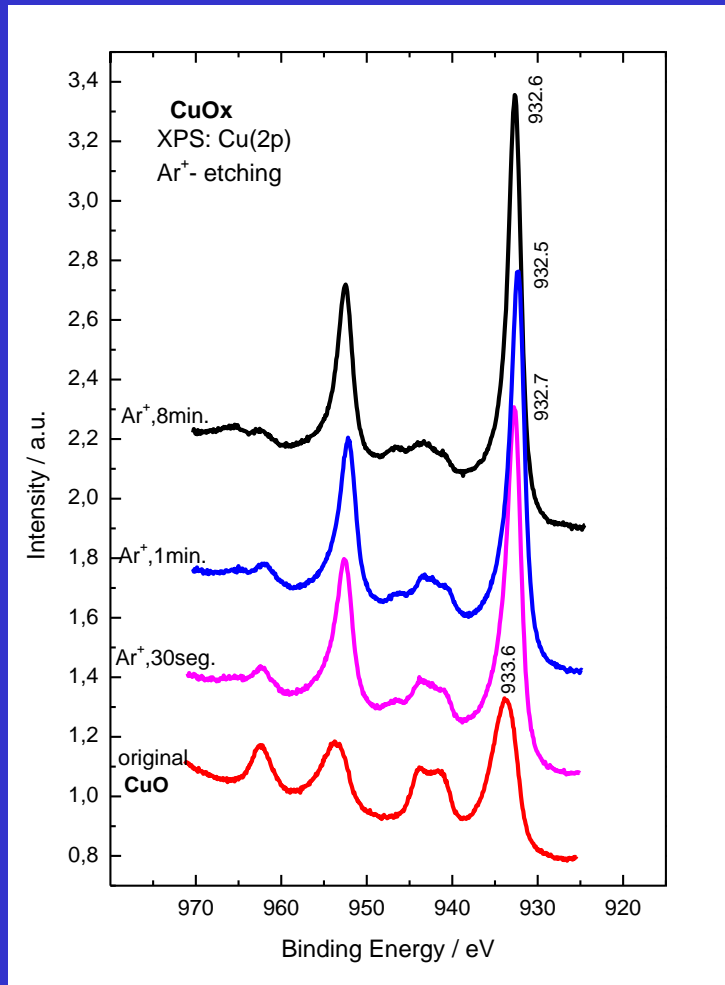
Copper:



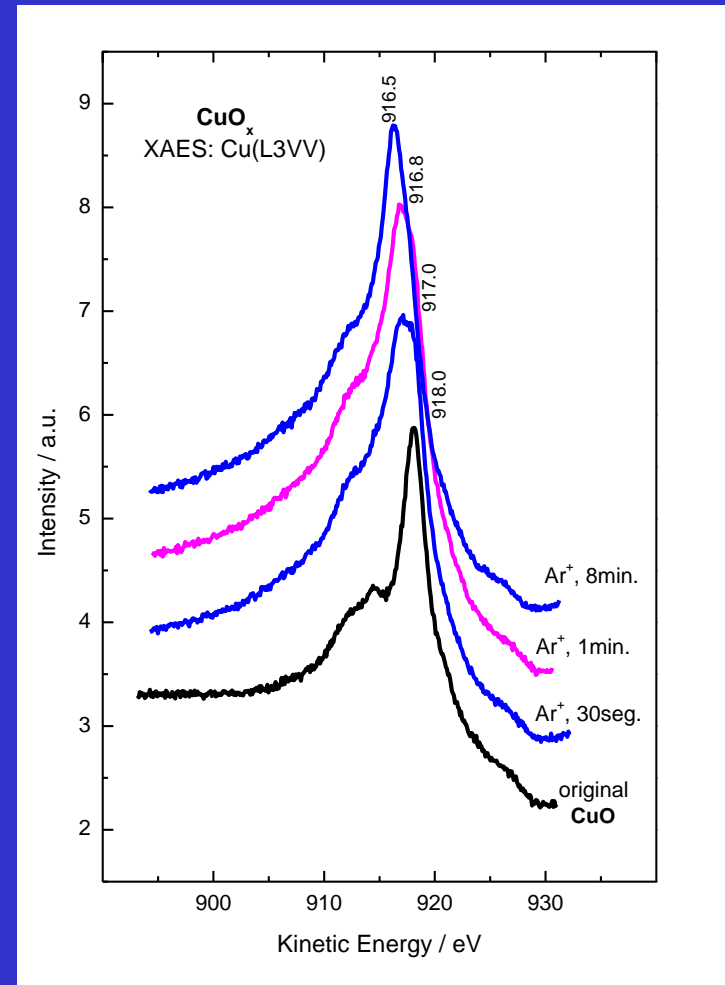
In principle, Tb⁴⁺/Tb³⁺ acts as a "redox buffer" against Cu²⁺/Cu⁺ and Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ what explains the differences in reactivity observed in the three catalysts (CuC > CuCT4 >> CuCT1). This implies a strong electronic interaction through the interfase CuO-CeO₂ under CO-TOX *operando* conditions

But, how is copper under *operando*-XPS/XAES conditions in CuO-CeO₂ catalysts?

Differential Ar⁺-sputtering of CuO (bulk)



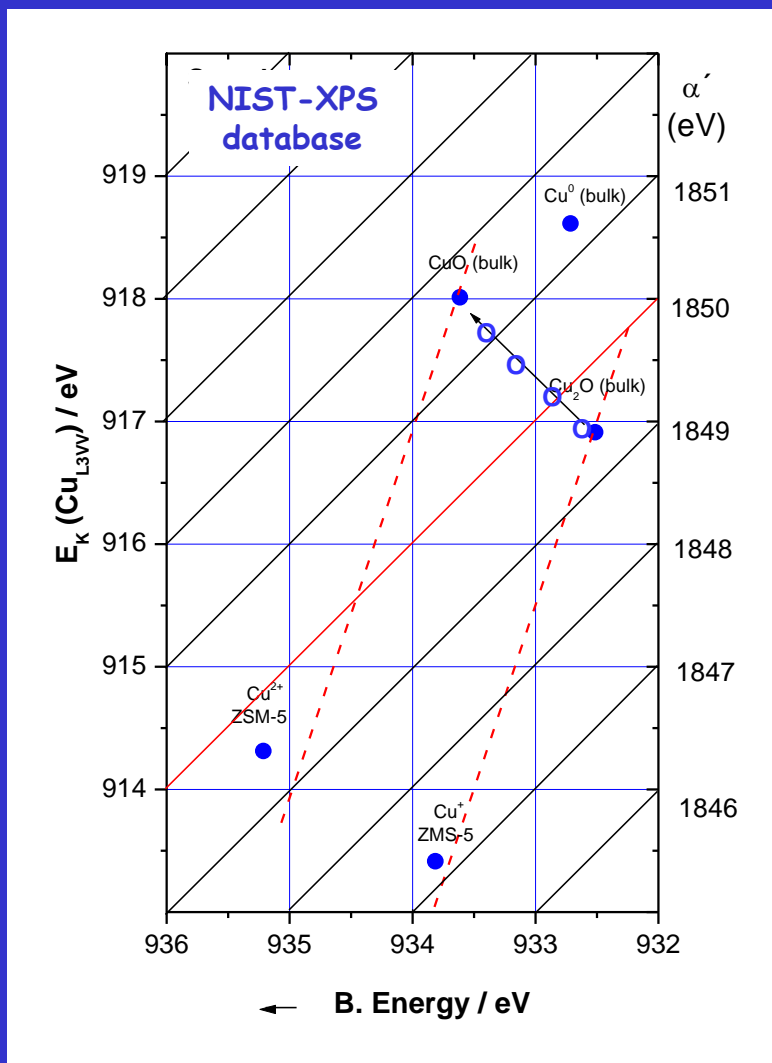
XPS: Cu(2p)



XAES: Cu(L₃M₄₅M₄₅, ¹G)



Wagner "chemical state plots" for copper



$E_{BE}(\text{Cu}2p)$ vs. $E_K(\text{CuL}_3VV)$

- Blue dots, bulk CuO, Cu₂O and Cu (foil) references and copper loaded ZSM-5 zeolites (W. Grünert et al.)

- "slope -1" full lines show the modified Auger parameter defined by Wagner as:

$$\alpha' = E_{BE}(\text{Cu}2p) + E_K(\text{CuL}_3VV)$$

α' in eV (right scale) being related to the relaxation of the hole at the core-ionized copper atom ("final state effects")

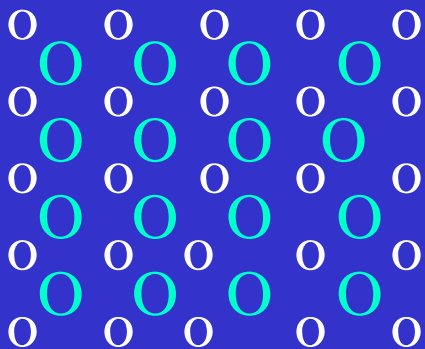
- "slope -3" red guide dash lines indicate similar "chemical states" to those of the respective references

C.D. Wagner Anal. Chem 44 (1972) 967

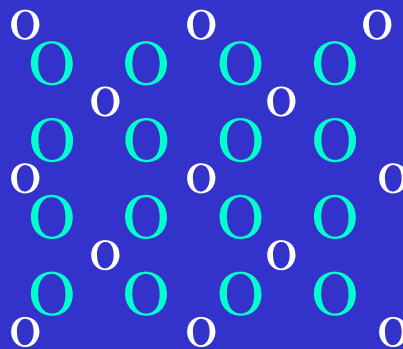
NIST X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy Database; <http://srdata.nist.gov/xps/>

W. Grünert et al. J. Phys. Chem. 98 (1994) 10832

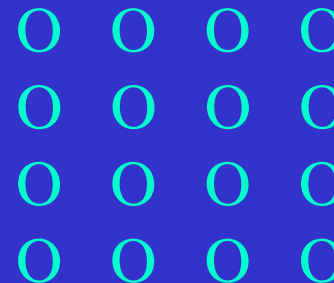
Copper oxides: A metal "stuffed" with oxygen (cationic eutaxy)



CuO (Tenorite)



Cu₂O (Cuprite)



Cu (fcc)

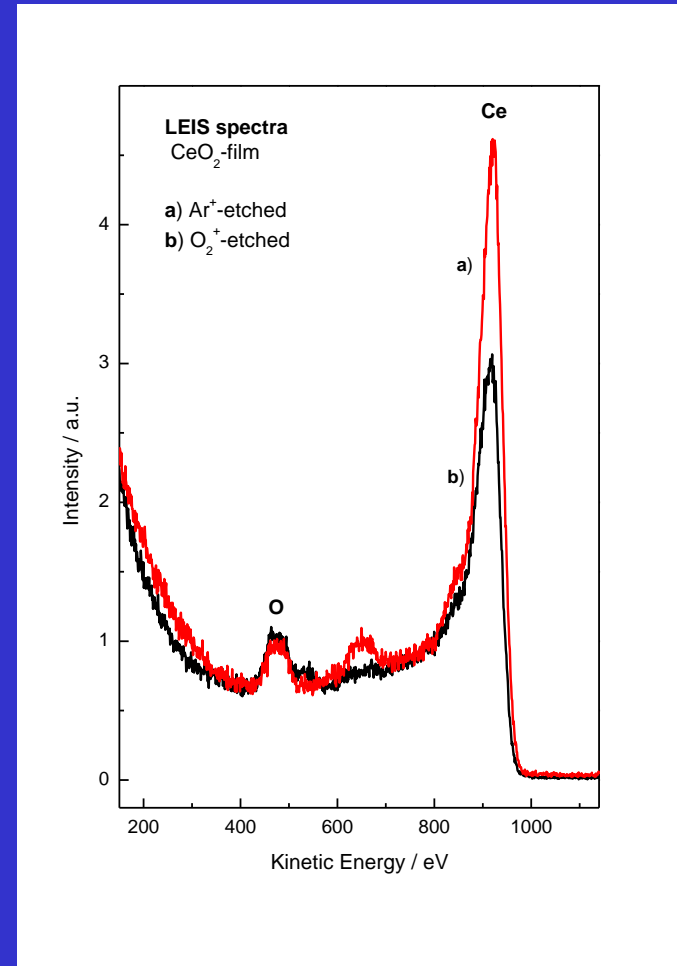
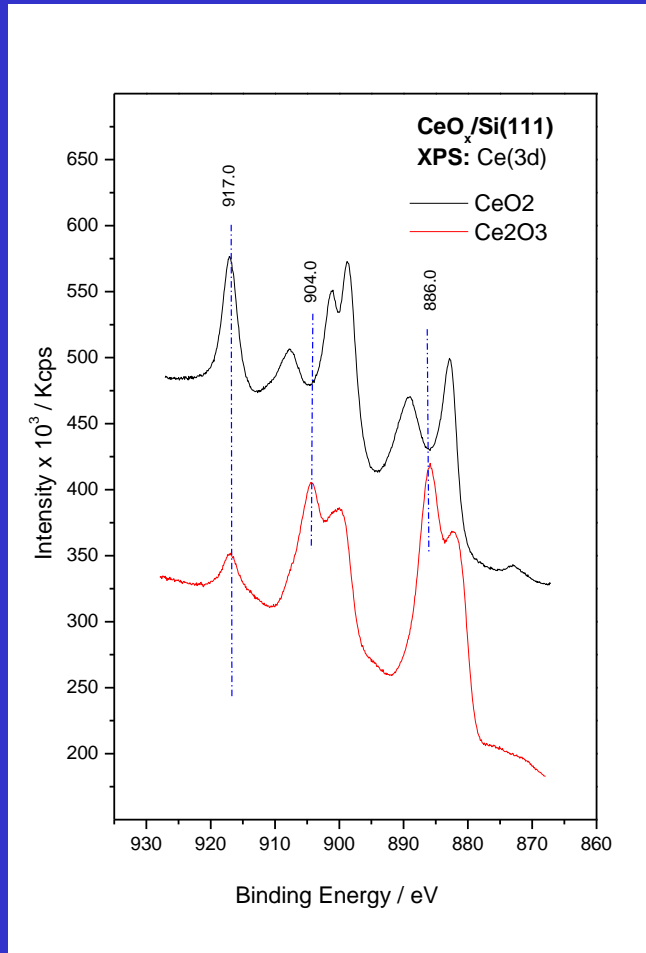
The structure of the three *stable* copper oxides: cuprite (Cu₂O, cubic) tenorite (CuO, monoclinic) and paramelaconite (Cu₄O₃, tetragonal mixed valence) all have the same *fcc* array of Cu atoms with O atoms occupying tetrahedral interstices. The occupied tetrahedral are those needed to satisfy the linear two-fold coordination of Cu (I) and the planar four-fold coordination of Cu (II). This set of structures show an *fcc* eutaxy of cations, a concept first defined by O'Keeffe and Hyde.

Looking into Copper: *Operando*-XPS/XAES

from $\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/\text{CeO}_2/\text{Si}(111)$ films

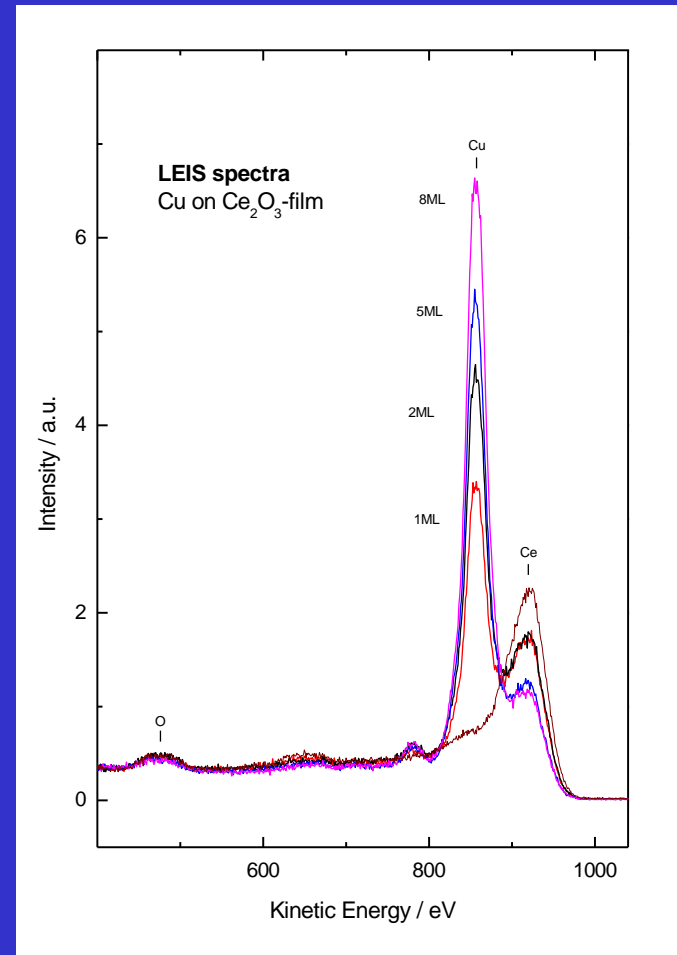
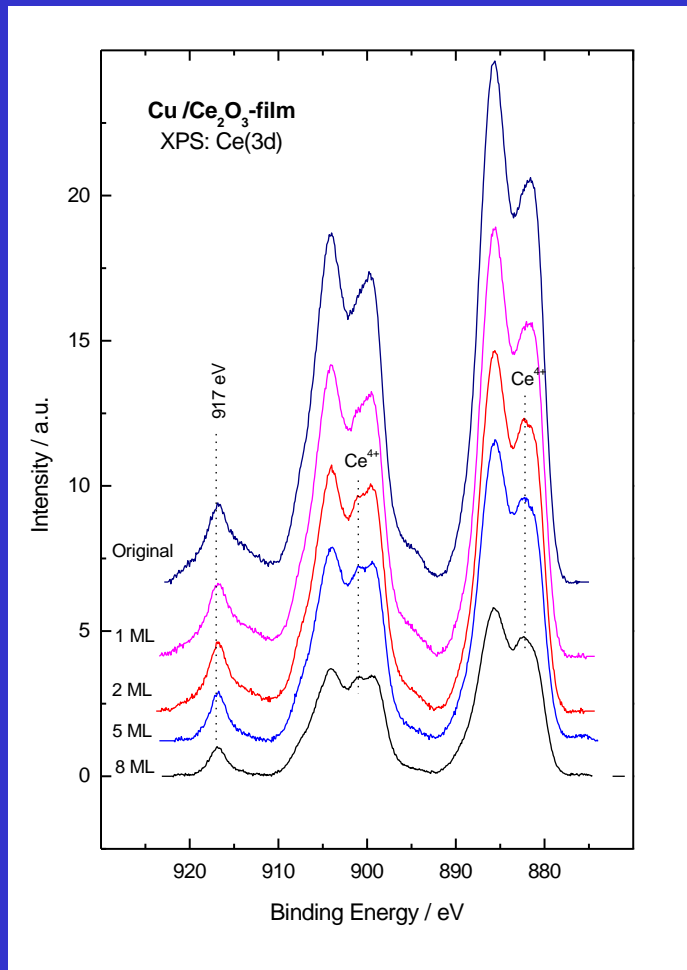
to $\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/\text{CeO}_2$ real catalysts

$CeO_2/Si(111)$ vs. $Ce_2O_3/Si(111)$ films



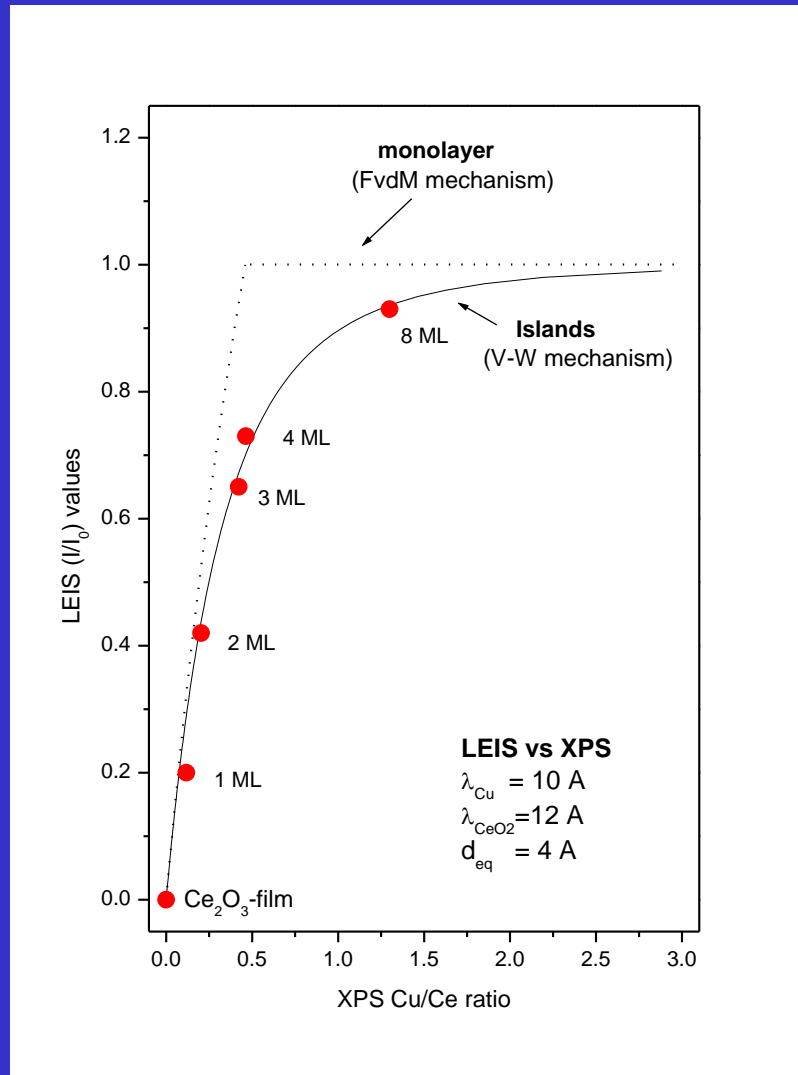
Low Energy Ions Scattering (LEIS/ISS) using He⁺ (1KV) detects exclusively the atoms at the topmost layer of the surface

Study of $\text{Cu}/\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Si}(111)$ films: Copper evaporation



Evaporation of copper (up to 8ML) on a highly reduced $\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Si}(111)$ substrate followed by XPS (left) and LEIS (right) showing the progressive "shadowing" of the Ce_2O_3 substrate

Study of $\text{Cu}/\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Si}(111)$ films



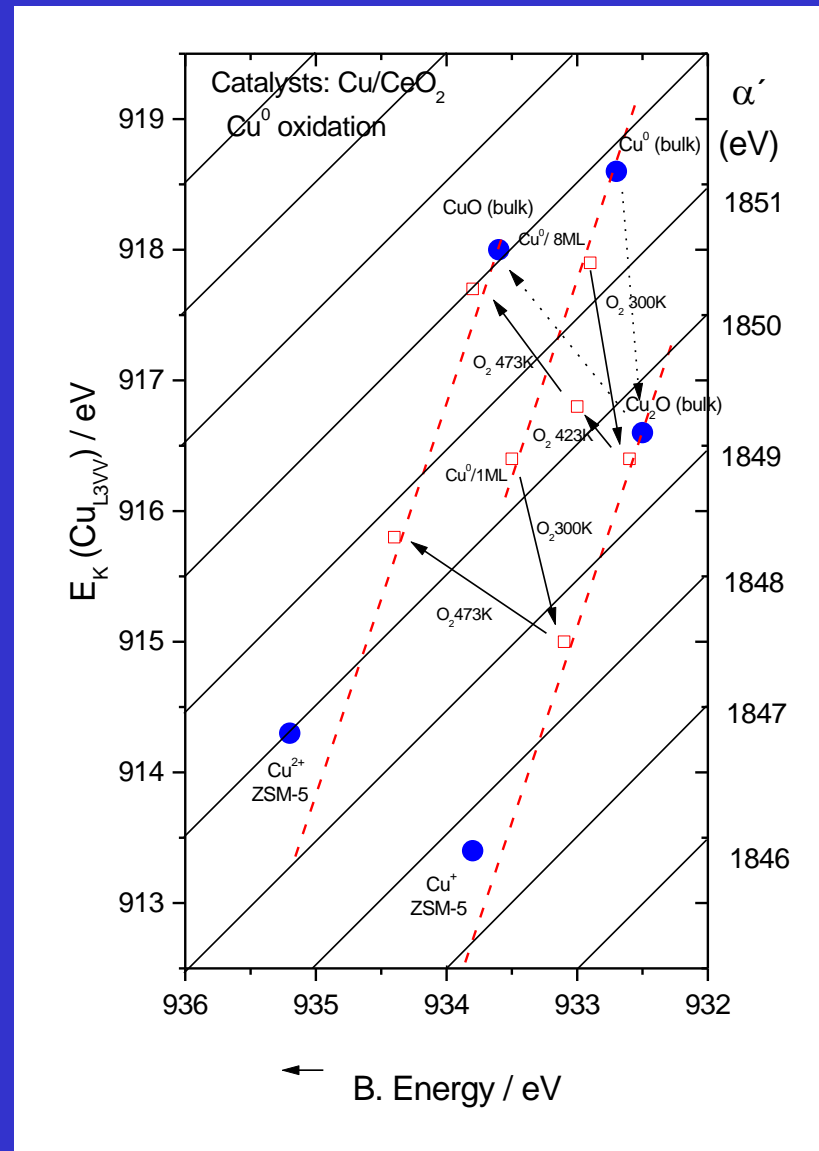
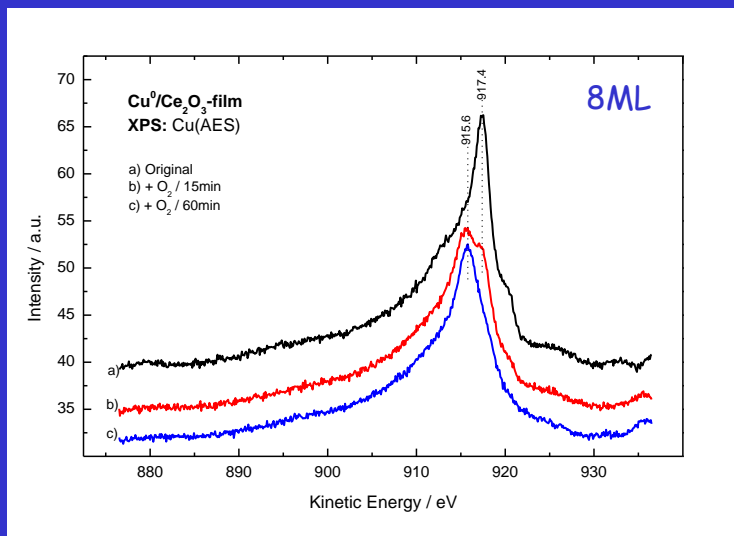
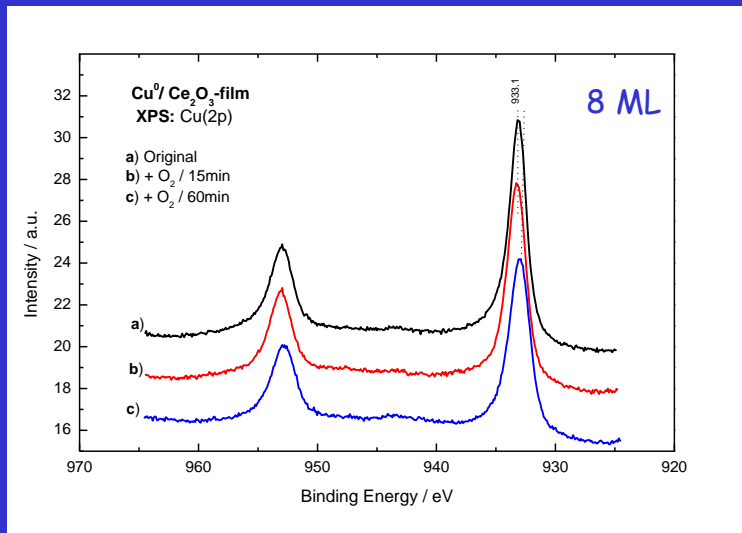
Frank van der Merve "layer by layer" mechanism

Volmer-Weber "Islands" mechanism

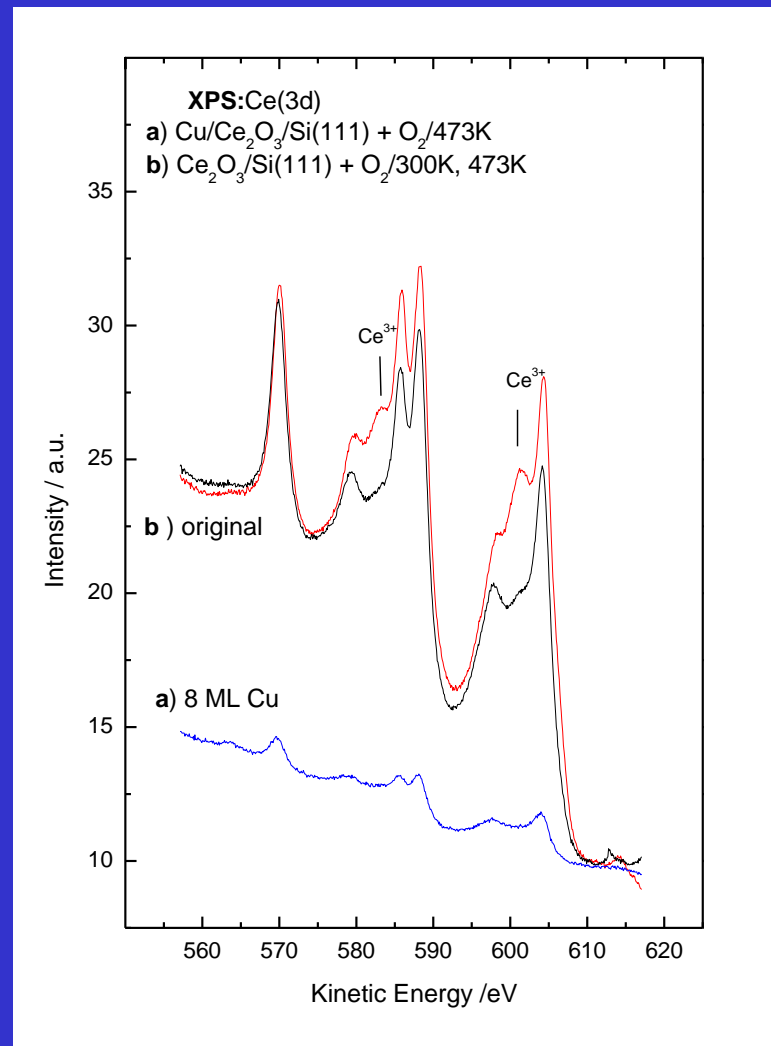
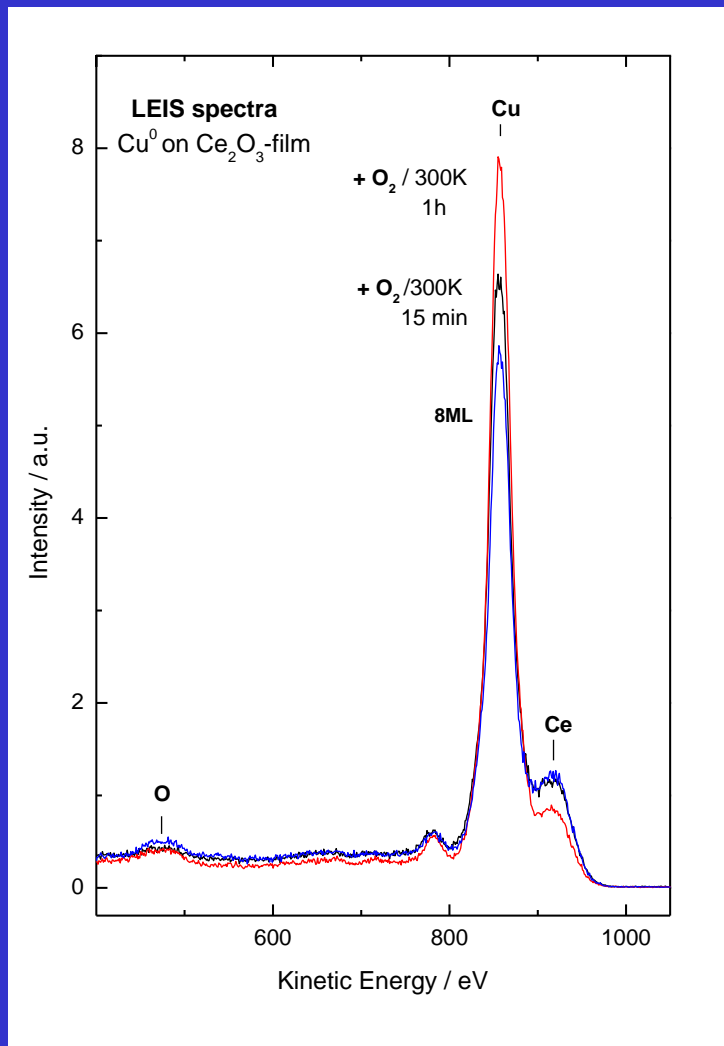
Stransi-Krastinov mechanism
"one layer + 3D islands"

For metal deposited on oxidic supports the more general growing mode is the formation of "single layer islands" up to a coverage of 0.3-0.7 and then the formation of three-dimensional islands

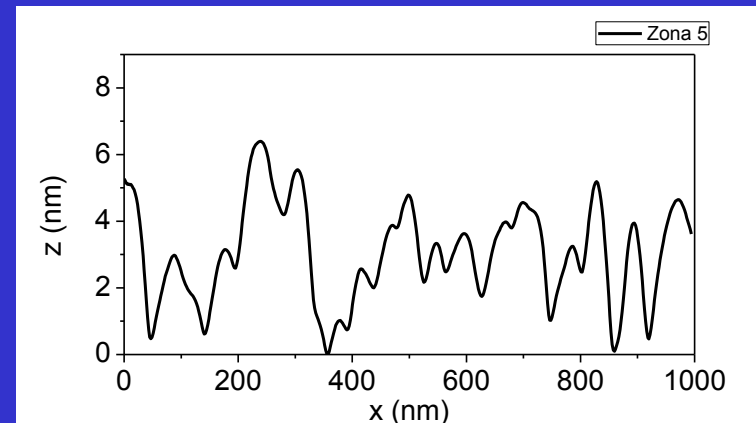
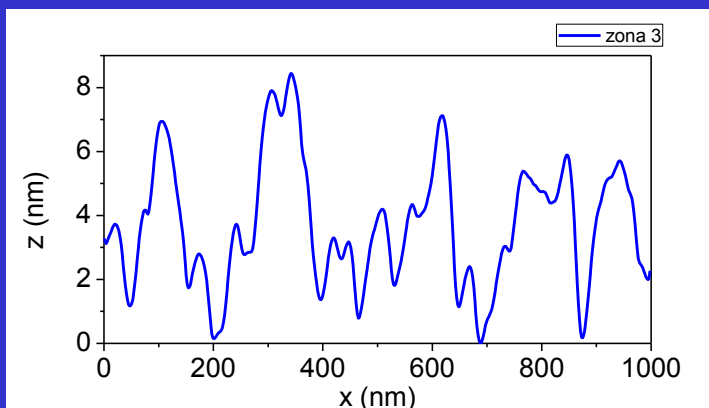
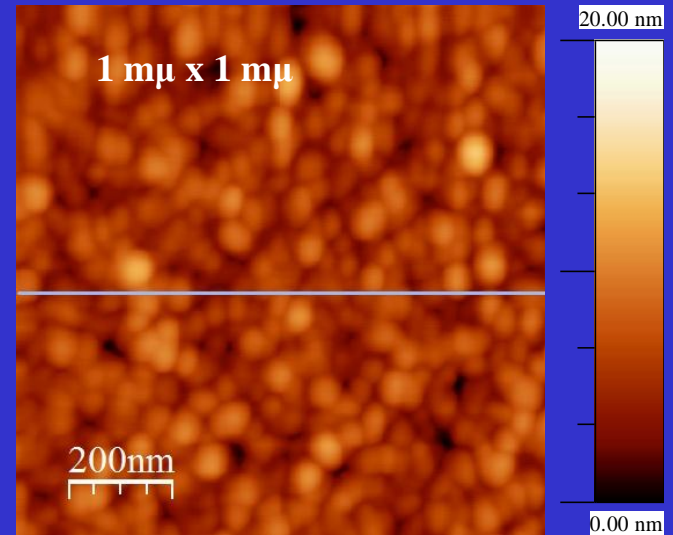
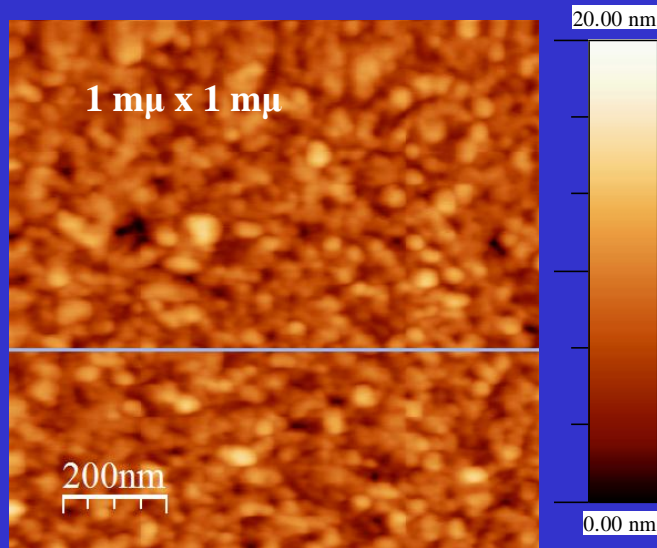
Oxidation of Cu/Ce₂O₃/Si(111) to CuO/CeO₂/Si(111)



Oxidation of Cu/Ce₂O₃/Si(111) to CuO/CeO₂/Si(111)



AFM study of CuO/CeO₂/Si(111) films



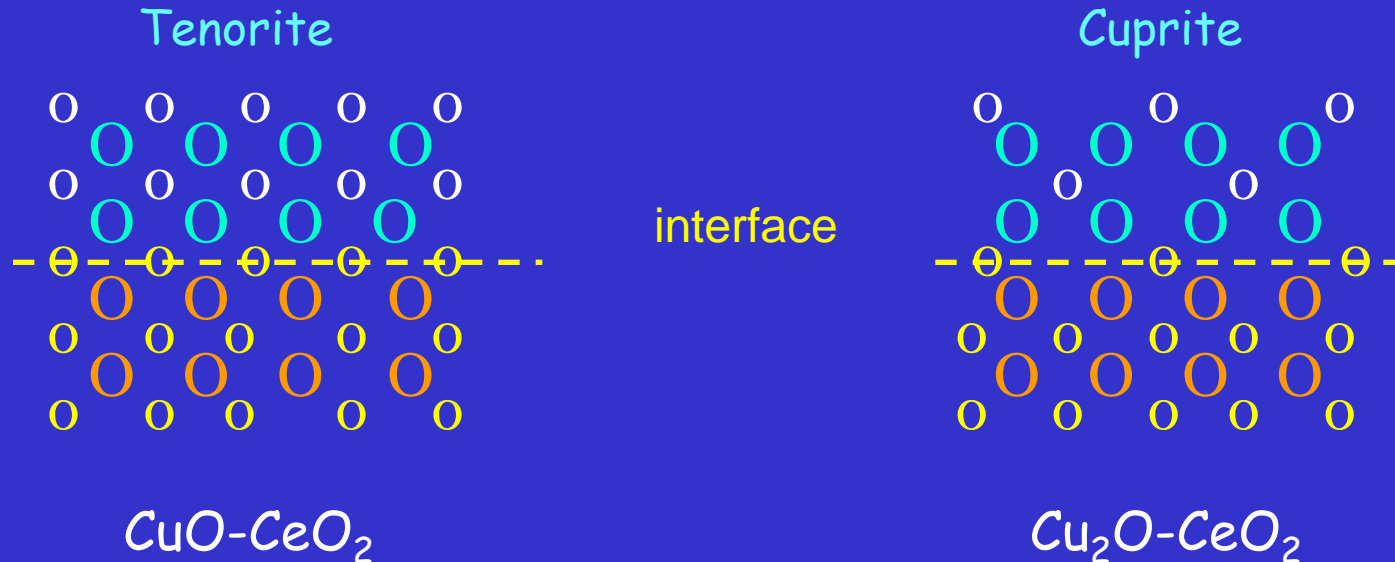
CeO₂/Si(111)

Av. Disc diam: 30 nm
RMS roughness: 2.0 nm
Peak to valley: 16.2 nm
Average height: 7.2 nm

Cu_xO/CeO₂/Si(111)

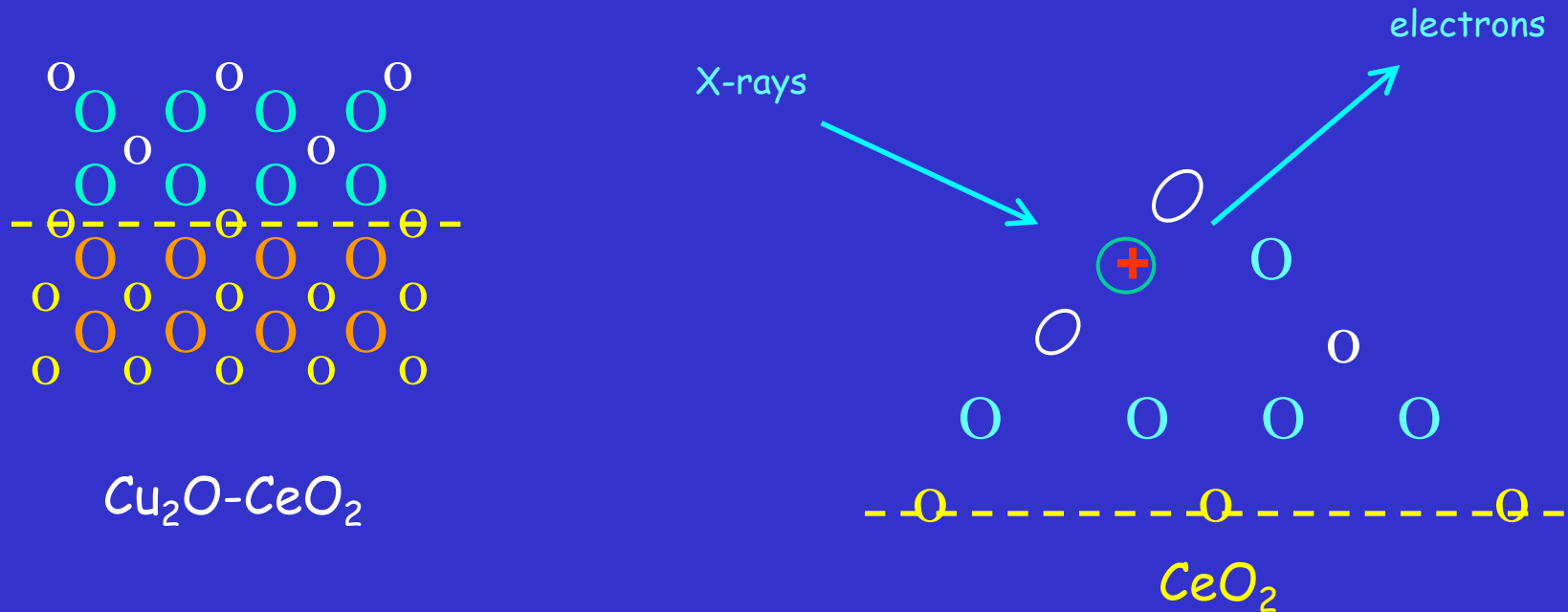
Av. Disc diam.: 46 nm
RMS roughness: 1.8 nm
Peak to valley: 13.9 nm
Average height: 5.6 nm

Copper oxides - Ceria interfaces



Since the cation lattice is essentially maintained (cation eutaxy) appropriate cation lattice dimensions can be calculated. According to B. Skårman et al. a tensile strain is imposed to the copper oxides by ceria support which diminishes from 27% lattice mistfit for Cuprite to around 8% for Tenorite. Misfit strain of this magnitude can only be maintained for a few monolayers of copper

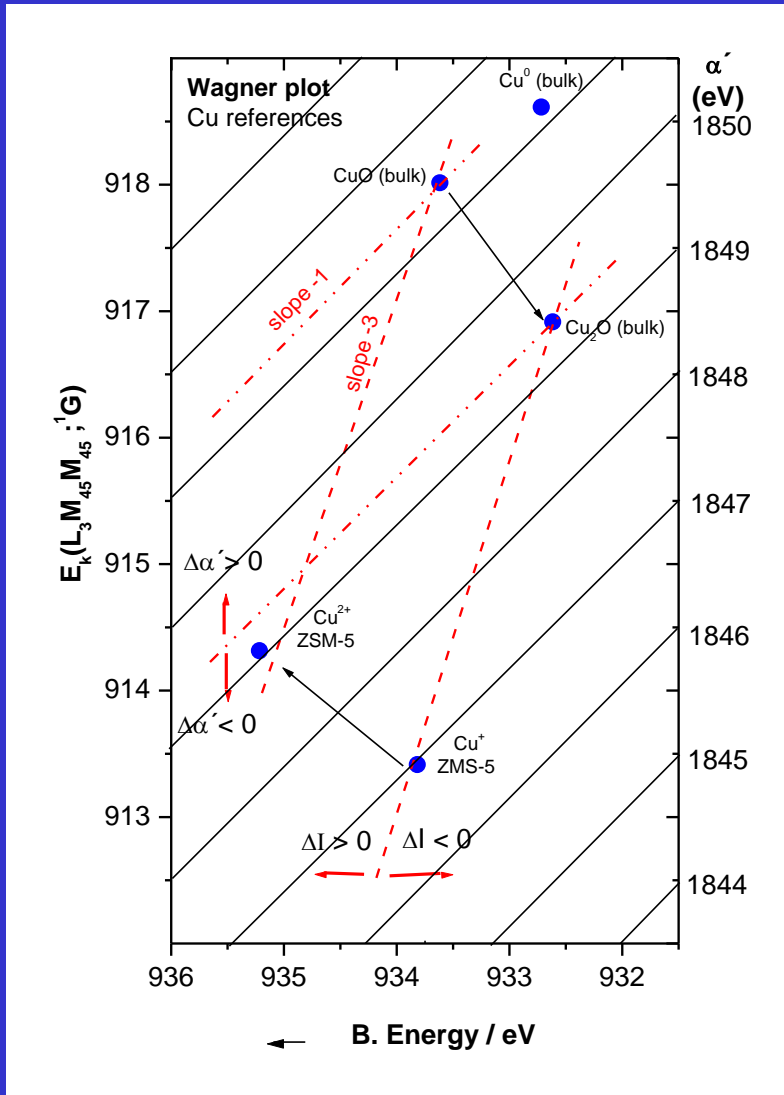
Cu₂O - CeO₂ interface: Extra-atomic relaxation (R^{ea})



"final state effects"

The *hole* (+) left in the core-ionized copper polarizes the neighbour atoms. This "extra-atomic relaxation" process can be related to the Wagner modified Auger parameter shift ($\Delta\alpha' = 2\Delta R^{ea}$). To a good approximation, the electrostatic Moretti's simple model shows that the Auger parameter shift is a function of the number, distance, electronic polarizability and local symmetry of the first neighbour ligands of the core-ionized copper atom calculated taking into account dipole-dipole interactions between them

Wagner "chemical state plots" for copper



$$\alpha'_{Cu} = E_B(2p_{3/2}) + E_K(CuL_3M_{45}M_{45}, ^1G)$$

Moretti's electrostatic model

$$\Delta\alpha' = (\alpha'_{Cu+ZSM5} - \alpha'_{Cu_2O})$$

$$\Delta\alpha' = 2[\Delta R^{ia} + \Delta R^{ea}]$$

for a non-local screening:

$$\Delta\alpha' = 2\Delta R^{ea}$$

$$E_K = [\text{const} + 2(V_M + kq)] - 3E_B$$

$$I = [\text{const} + 2(V_M + kq)]$$

$$\Delta I = 2\Delta(V_M + kq)$$

if $\Delta I = 0$, same chemical state

C.D. Wagner Anal. Chem 44 (1972) 967; *ibid.* Faraday Discuss. Chem. Soc. 60 (1975) 291

T.D. Thomas, J. Electron Spectrosc. Relat. Phenom. 20 (1980) 117

G. Moretti, Surf. Interface Analysis, 17 (1991) 352-356

Calculated $\Delta\alpha'$ values for Cu_2O on CeO_2 and ZSM5 zeolites using Moretti's simple electrostatic model

Structure ($D_{\infty h}$)	$R_{\text{Cu-O}} (\text{\AA})$	$\alpha_o (\text{\AA}^3)$ n_1	$\alpha_o (\text{\AA}^3)$ n_2	$2R^{\text{ea}} (\text{eV})$	$\Delta\alpha' (\text{eV})$
Cu-O-Cu-O (Cu_2O , bulk)	1.85	3.3 2	---- ----	7.18	0.0
Cu-O-Cu-O (Cu_2O cluster)	1.95	3.3 2	---- ----	5.91	-1.27
Ce-O-Cu-O (CeO_2 interface)	1.95	3.3 1	2.7 1	5.43	-1.75
Si-O-Cu-O (ZSM5 interface)	1.95	3.3 1	1.22 1	4.25	-2.93

$2R^{\text{ea}} = (\alpha'_{\text{Cu}^+ (\text{s})} - \alpha'_{\text{Cu}^+ (\text{g})})$; $\Delta\alpha' = (\alpha'_{\text{Cu}^+ (\text{s})} - \alpha'_{\text{Cu}_2\text{O}/\text{bulk}})$; $\alpha'_{\text{Cu}^+ (\text{g})} = 1838.4 \text{ eV}$

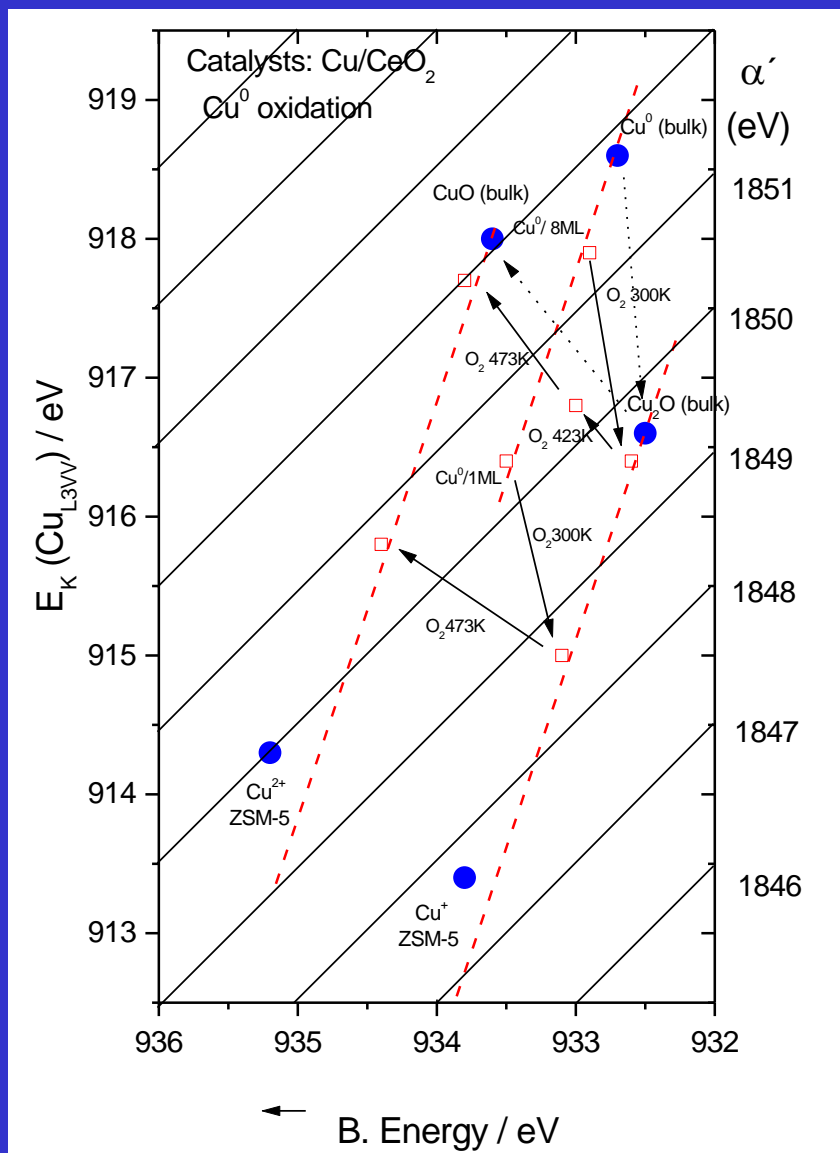
$$2R^{\text{ea}} (\text{eV}) = 14.4 n \alpha_o / R^4 (1 + D \alpha_o / R^3)$$

α_o = polarizability of the ligands (\AA^3)

n = number of nearneighbour

R = distance to the core-ionized atom (\AA)

D = parameter taking into account the symmetry



$E_{BE}(\text{Cu}2p)$ vs. $E_K(\text{Cu}_{L3VV})$

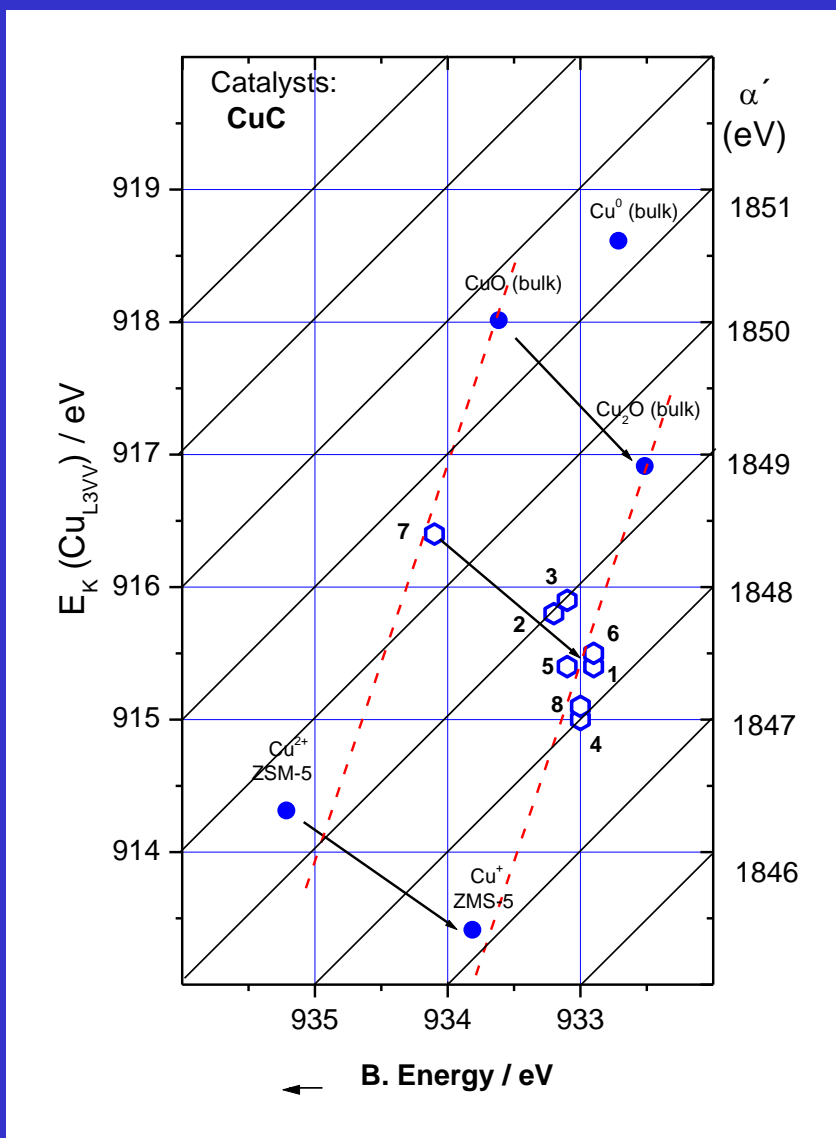
- XPS/XAES data of Copper in $\text{Cu}/\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Si}(111)$ model catalyst
- Evaporated copper experiments (1ML and 8ML) followed by "in situ" oxygen treatments from 300K to 473K

• "slope -3" red guide dashed lines indicate similar "chemical states" to those of the respective "bulk" references (e.g. Cu , Cu_2O and CuO)

Differences along the lines must be related with *size* and *interaction* of the copper clusters with the ceria (or ZSM5) supports

Operando- XPS/XAES of 1CuO/CeO₂ catalyst

Catalyst CuC: O₂, CO, H₂ and CO/H₂



Exp N°	Catalyst Treatments	Cu/Ce	O/(Ce+Cu)
1	evac 473K, 1h.	0.106	2,23
2	O ₂ /373K, 30 min	0.121	1.96
3	CO/573K, 15 min	0.100	2.13
4	H ₂ / 473K, 15 min	0.109	2.08
5	CO + H ₂ (1:1) 473K, 15 min	0.092	2.06
6	CO + H ₂ (1:1) 473K, 15 min	0.095	1.97
7	O ₂ /573K, 30 min	0.106	1.92
8	CO + H ₂ (1:1) 473K, 15 min	0.090	1.99

Dispersion of copper remains almost unchanged for all the treatments even at temperatures higher than 473K without reduction to metallic copper

How is copper during CO-PROX?

Preparation of new copper oxide-ceria catalysts

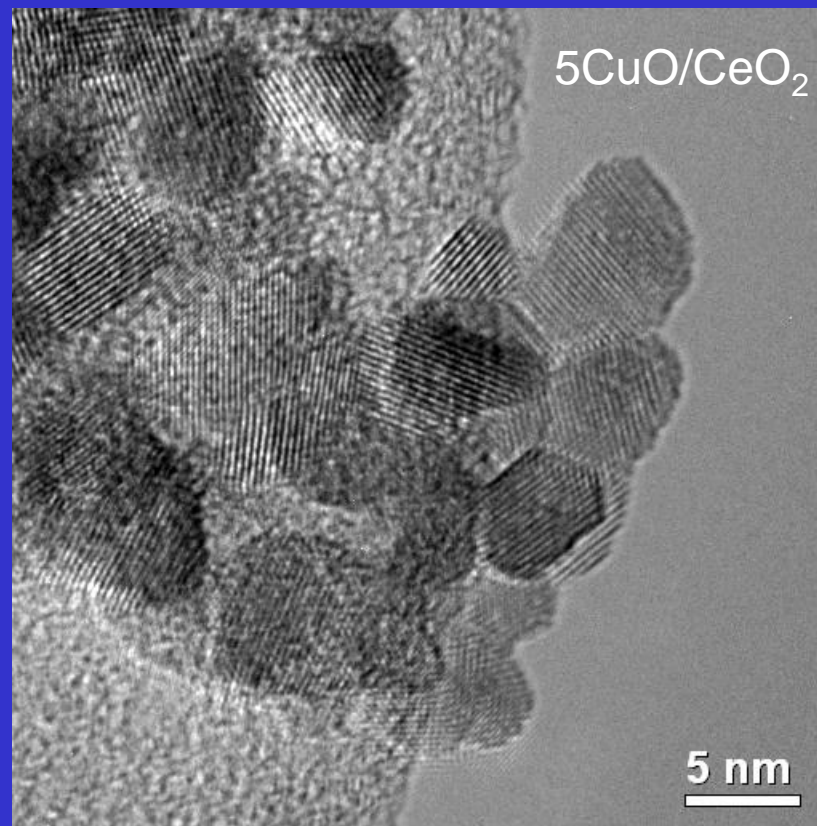
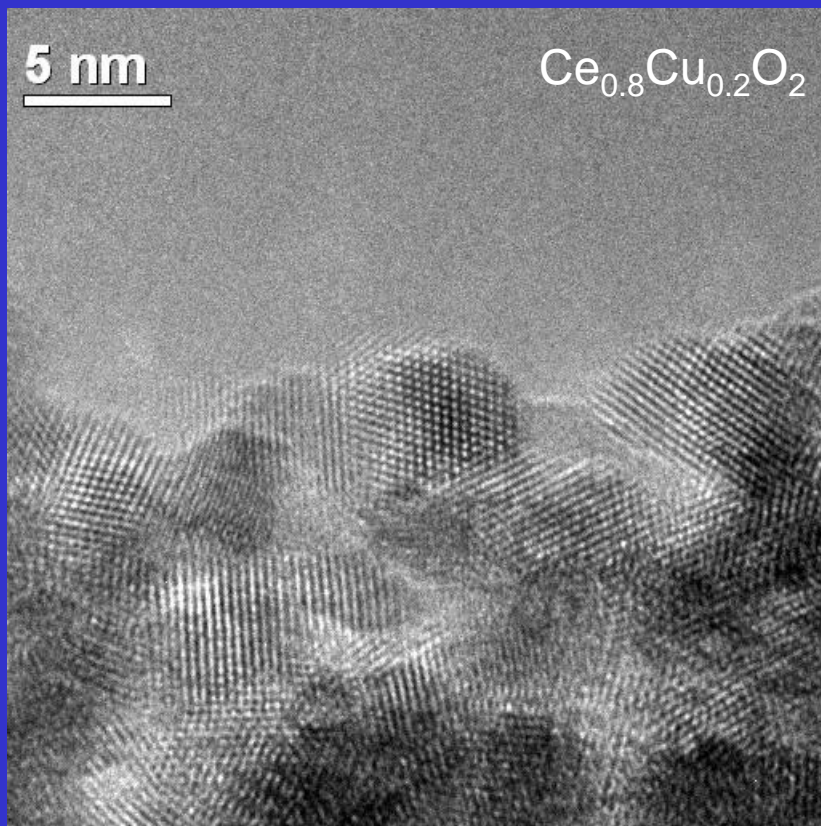
IMPREGNATION	
Catalyst name	Cu loading (wt. %)
0.5CuO/CeO ₂	0.5
1CuO/CeO ₂	1
3CuO/CeO ₂	3
5CuO/CeO ₂	5

Prepared by coprecipitation of microemulsions of copper and ceria

Prepared by impregnation of a CeO₂ support, obtained by microemulsion, with copper

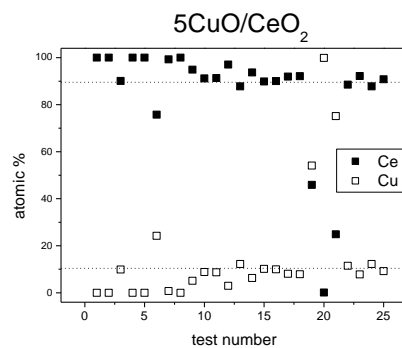
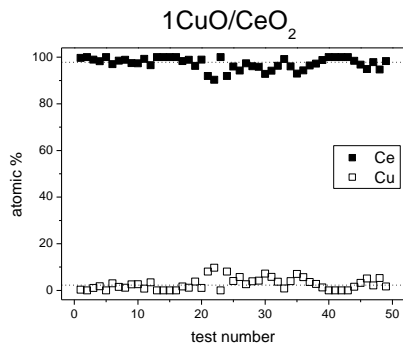
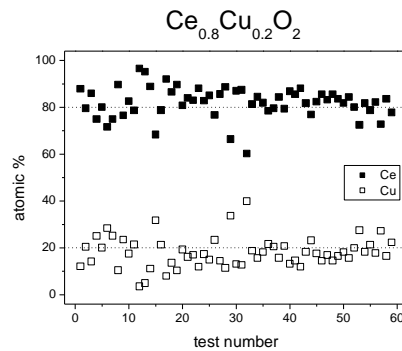
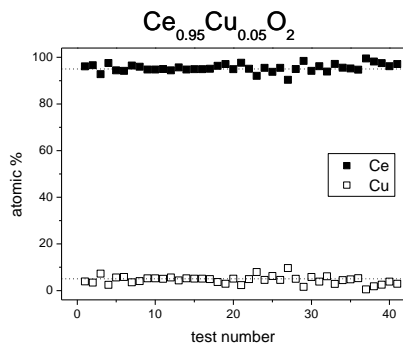
MICROEMULSION COPRECIPITATION	
Catalyst name	Ce:Cu atomic ratio
Ce _{0.95} Cu _{0.05} O ₂	9.5:0.5
Ce _{0.9} Cu _{0.1} O ₂	9:1
Ce _{0.8} Cu _{0.2} O ₂	8:2

CuO/CeO₂ catalysts: Structural characterization



CuO/CeO₂ catalysts. Structural characterization

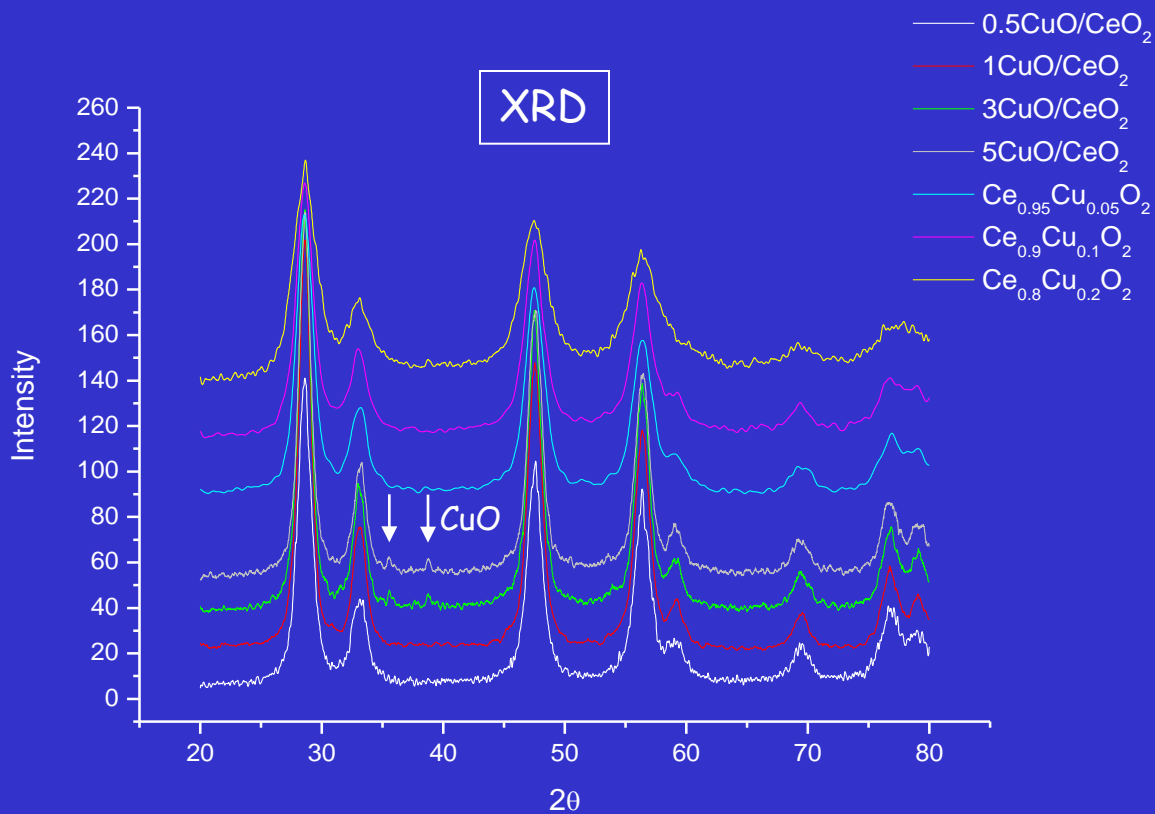
XEDS-STEM



X-ray Energy Dispersive Spectra

CuO-CeO₂ catalysts: Textural/structural characterization

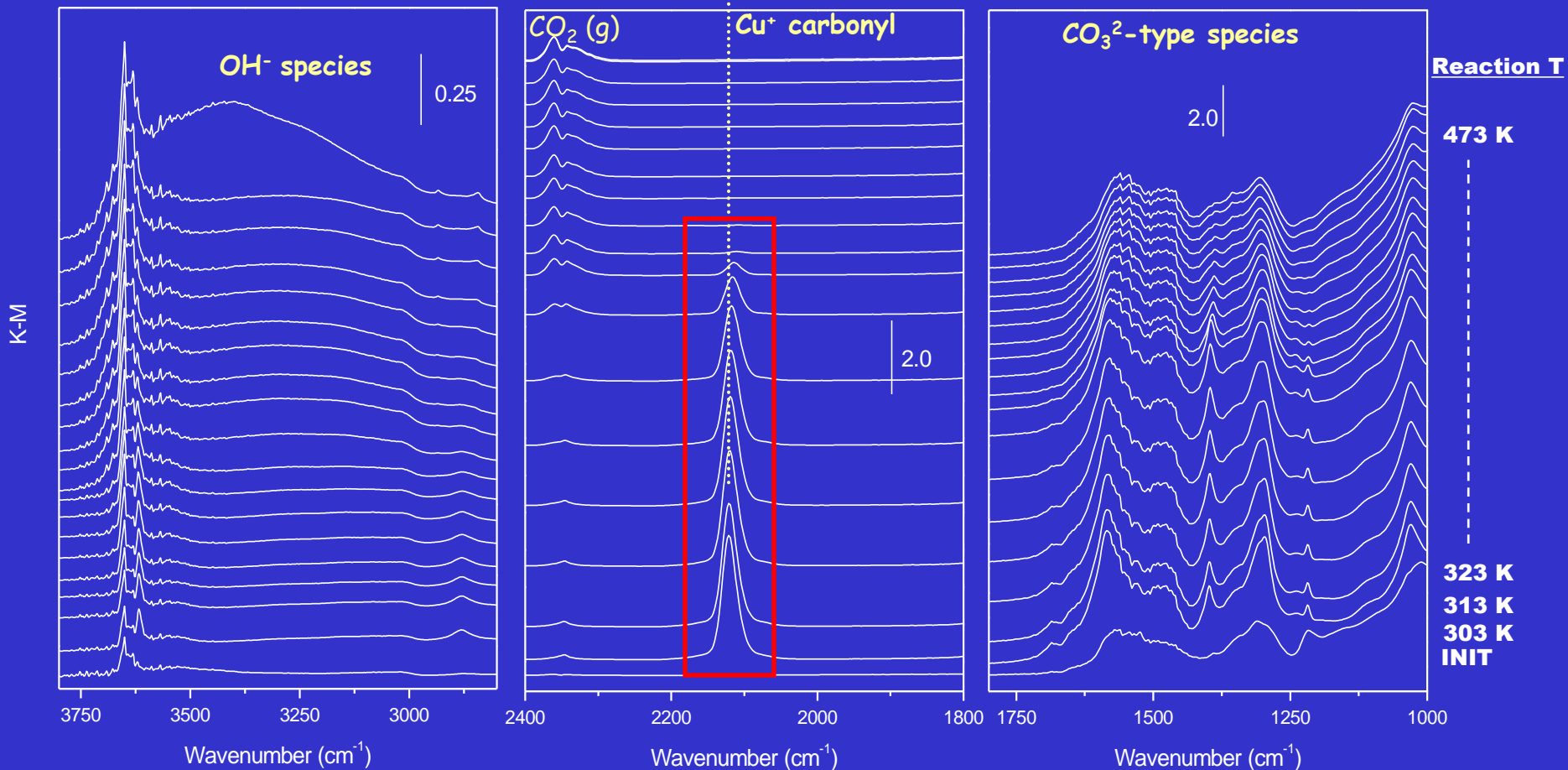
Catalyst	S _{BET} /m ² g ⁻¹
0.5CuO/CeO ₂	115.9
1CuO/CeO ₂	106.5
3CuO/CeO ₂	106.0
5CuO/CeO ₂	100.8
Ce _{0.95} Cu _{0.05} O ₂	129.6
Ce _{0.9} Cu _{0.1} O ₂	135.8
Ce _{0.8} Cu _{0.2} O ₂	151.0



XRD results for Ce _{1-x} Cu _x O ₂ at room temperature		
Sample	Lattice constant, a (Å)	Microstrain (a.u.)
CeO ₂	5.400	0.85
Ce _{0.95} Cu _{0.05} O ₂	5.401	1.14
Ce _{0.9} Cu _{0.1} O ₂	5.401	1.24
Ce _{0.8} Cu _{0.2} O ₂	5.406	1.85

$\text{Cu}_x\text{O}-\text{CeO}_2$ catalysts: *Operando*-DRIFTS analysis

CO-PROX: 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂ over 1CuO/CeO₂

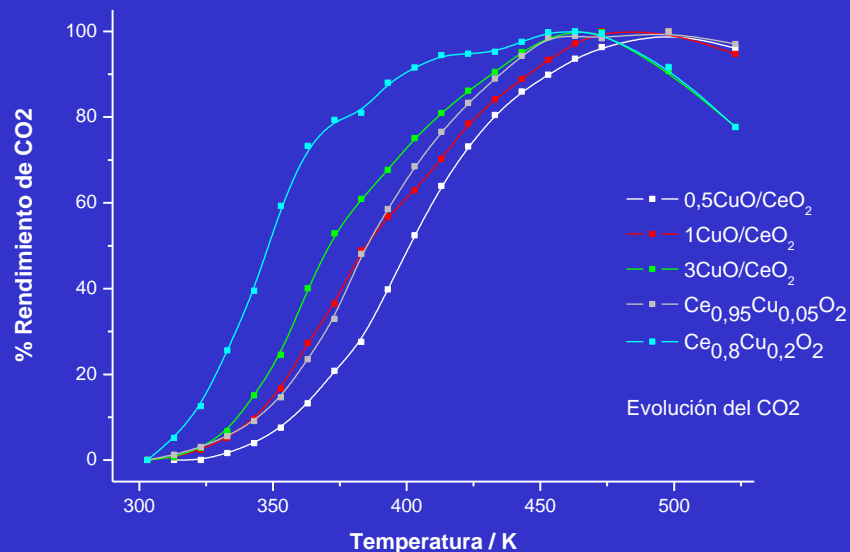


Difuse Reflectance Infrared Fourier Transformed Spectroscopy

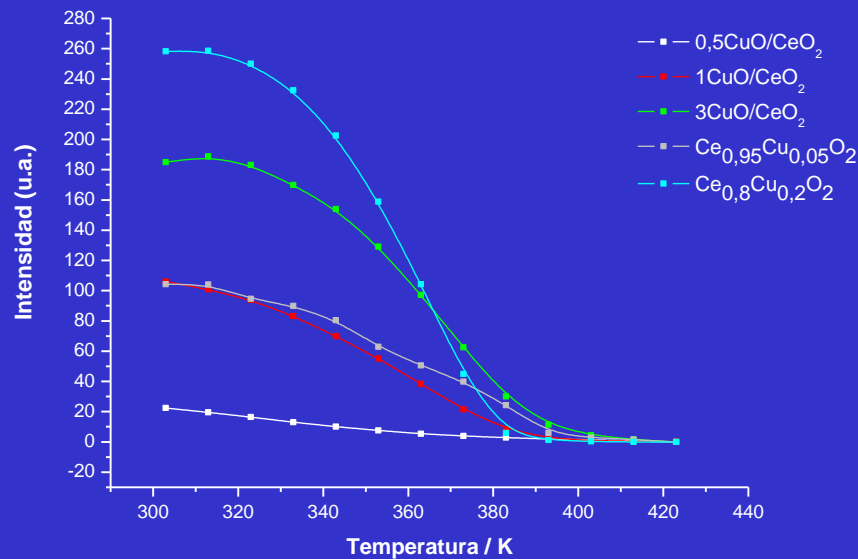
CuO/CeO₂ catalysts: Operando-DRIFTS analysis

CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂

QMS DATA for m/e = 44



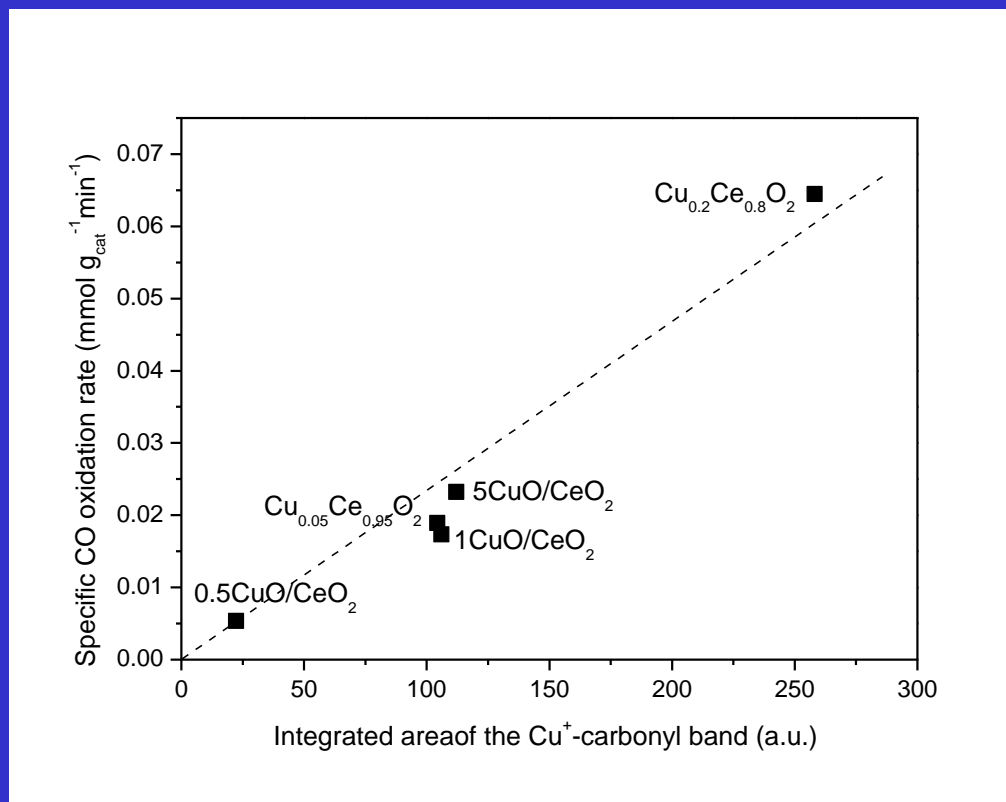
Cu⁺ carbonyl intensity



A correlation exist between the capacity to form Cu⁺-CO of each catalysts and its activity for CO oxidation

CuO-CeO₂ catalysts. Operando-DRIFTS analysis

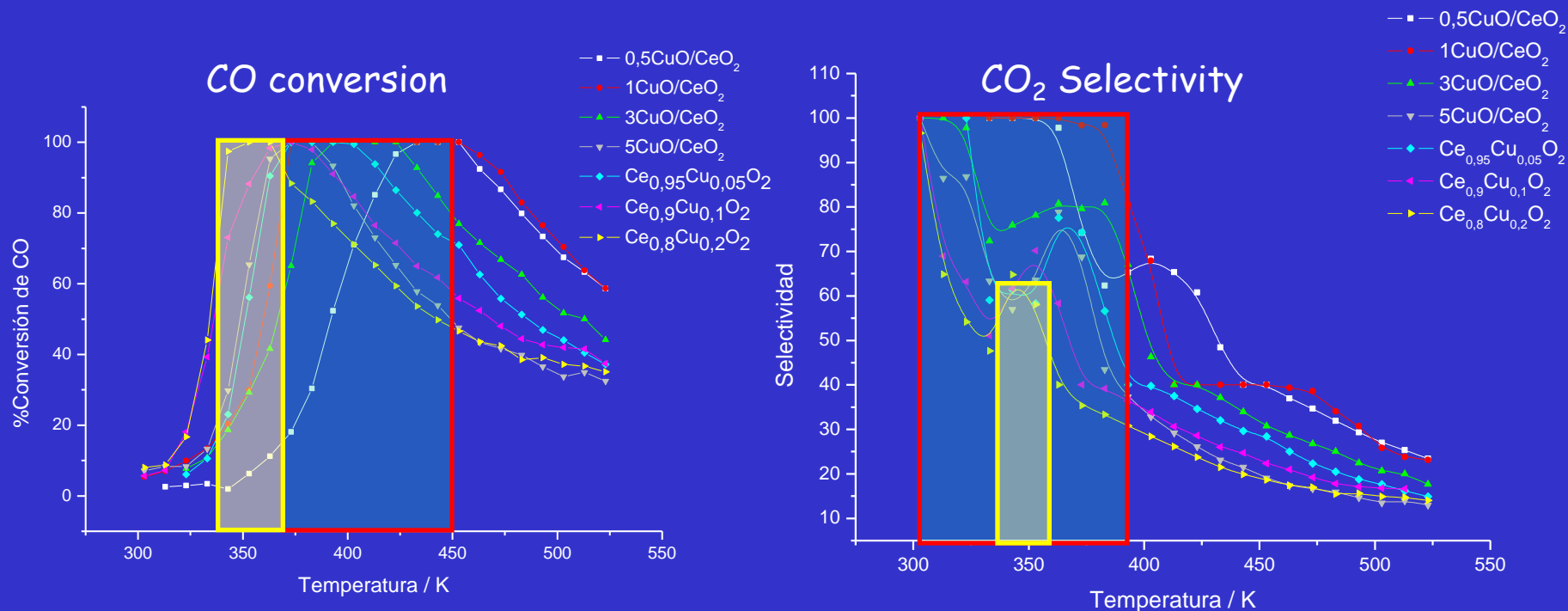
CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂



CO oxidation activity correlates with the intensity of Cu⁺ carbonyls formed under reaction conditions; this, along with consideration that such carbonyls reflect interfacial copper oxide reduction, indicates that such activity is basically related to the interfacial redox activity

$\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/\text{CeO}_2$ catalysts: Catalytic activity

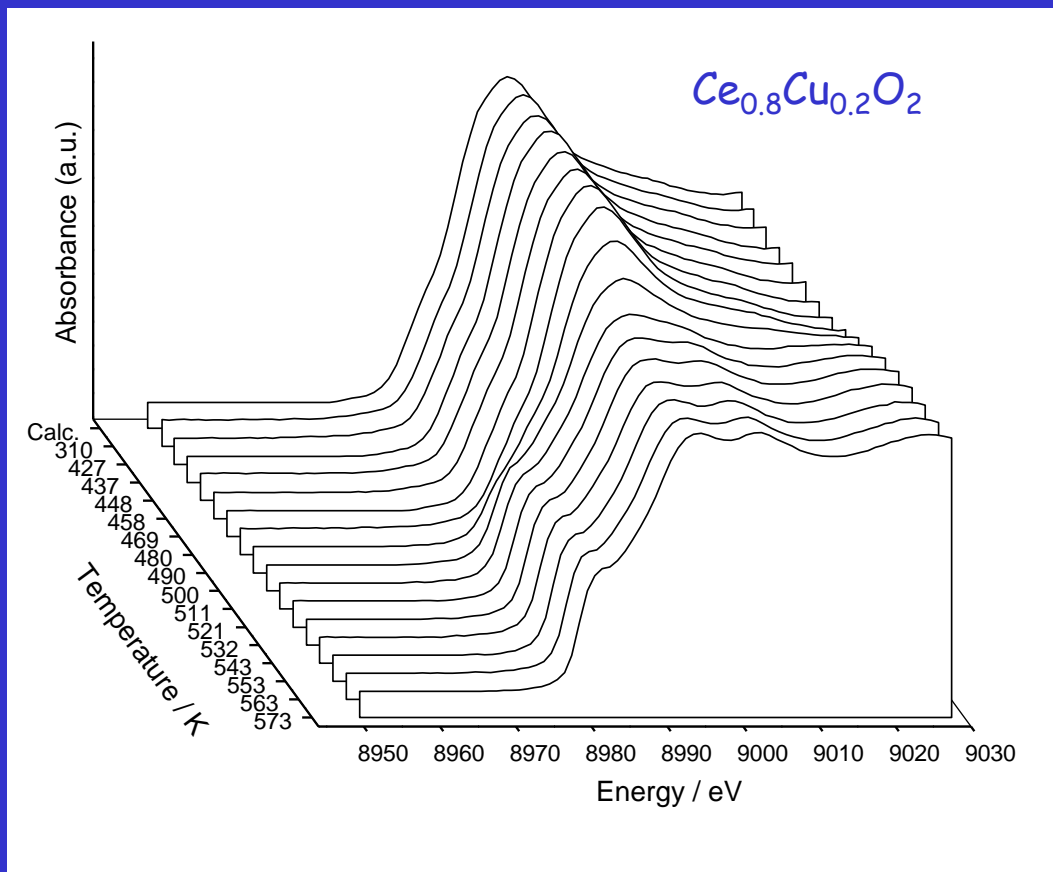
CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂



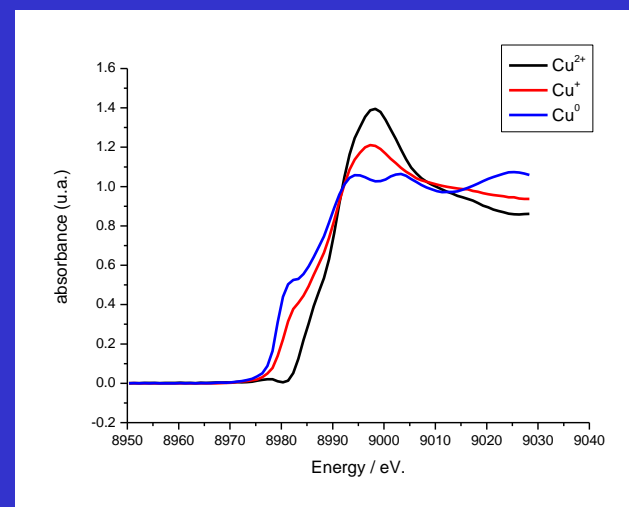
The window for CO conversion of catalysts prepared by Cu/Ce coprecipitation are active for CO oxidation at lower temperatures but with a much lower CO₂-selectivity while those prepared by impregnation shows much wider windows for both with a coincidence of ca 50-60 K

CuO-CeO₂ catalysts: Operando-XANES Cu-K edge

CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂

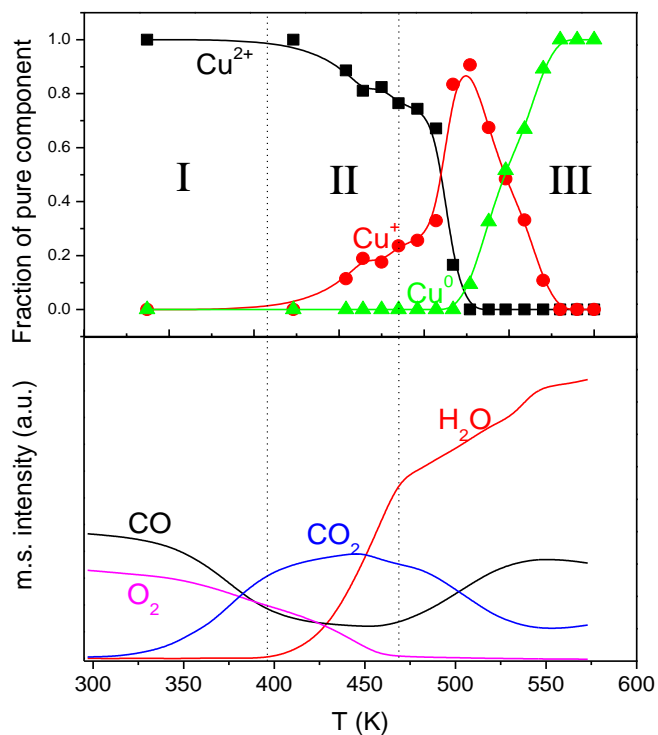


Components detected



CuO-CeO₂ catalysts: *Operando*-XANES Cu-K edge

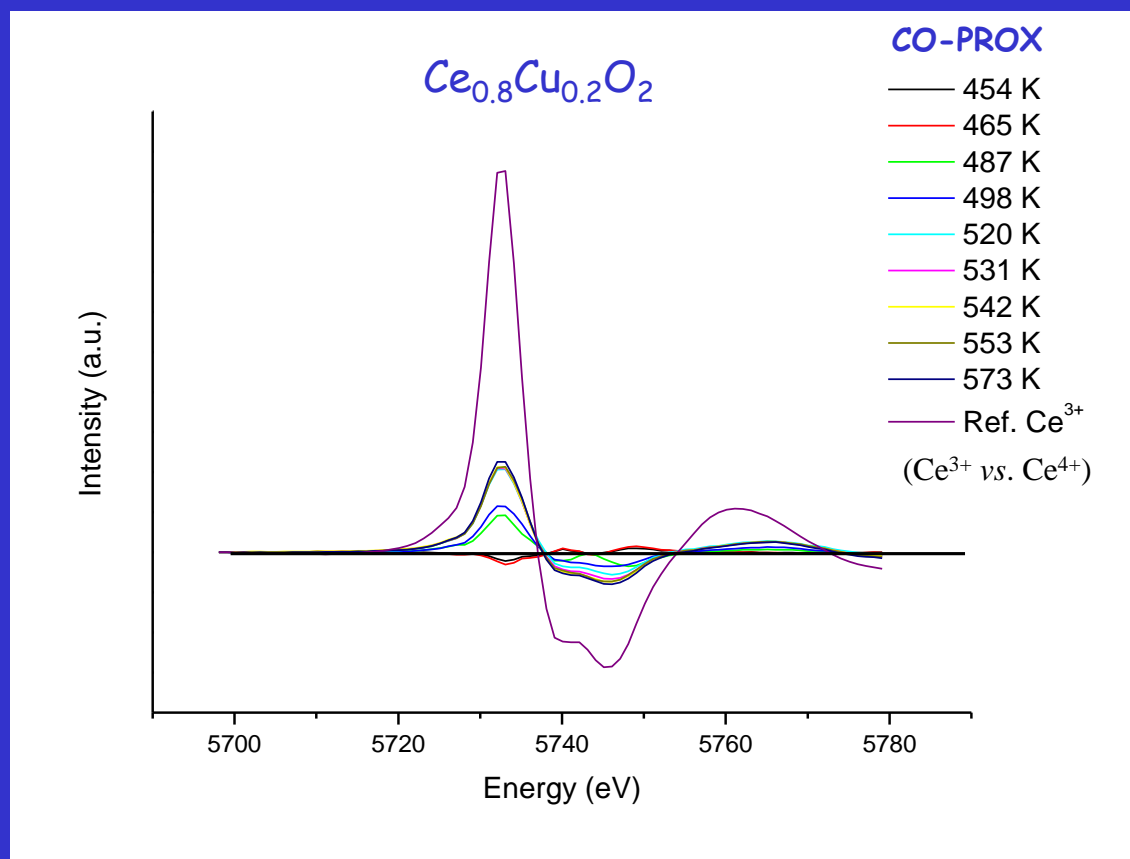
CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂ on Ce_{0.8}Cu_{0.2}O₂



H₂ oxidation apparently proceeds when the copper reduction is extended from interfacial positions to the rest of the copper oxide clusters. This along with consideration that CO oxidation appears related to interfacial copper oxide sites suggests that the CO-PROX activity could be modulated upon changing the structural characteristics of the dispersed copper oxide component and its interface with the support

CuO-CeO₂ catalysts. Operando-XANES Ce L_{III}-edge (difference spectra)

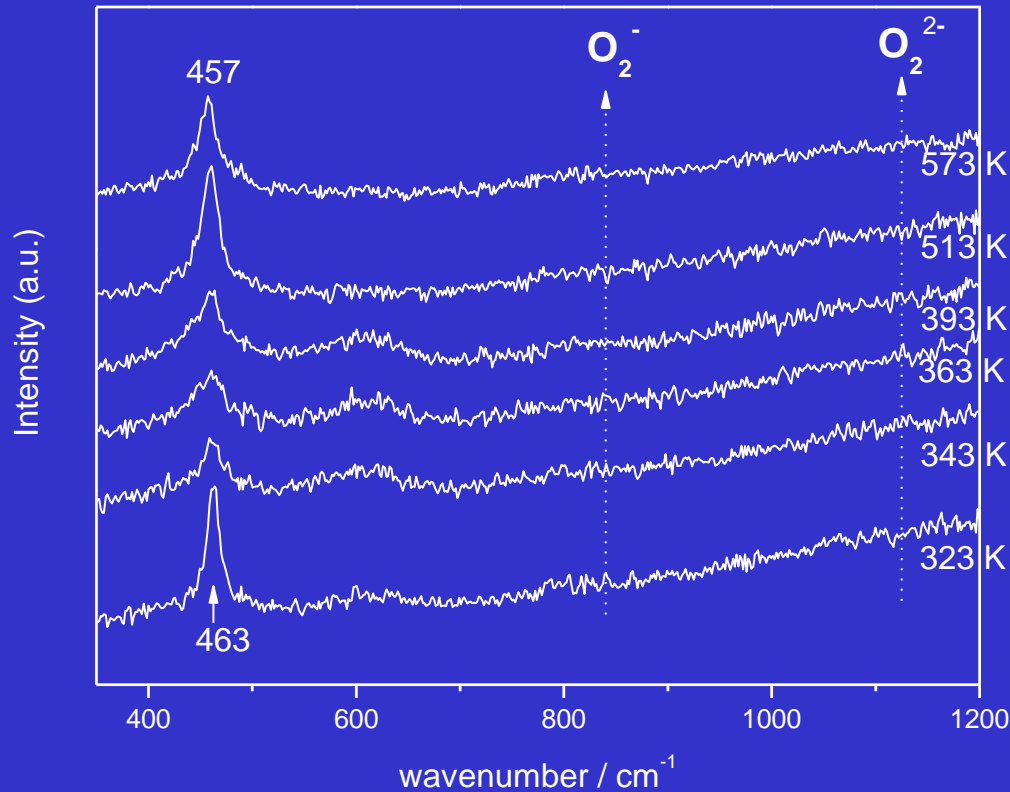
CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂



During the CO-PROX reaction some Ce³⁺ is seen also by XPS

Active oxygen species in CuO-CeO₂. Operando-Raman

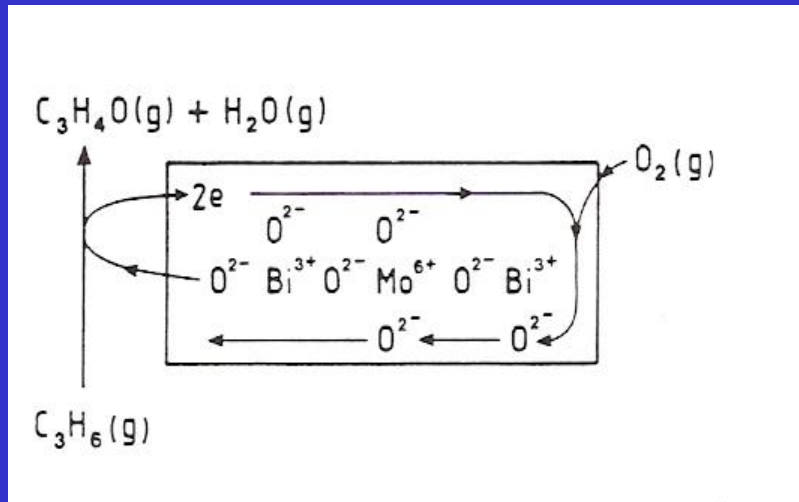
CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂ on Ce_{0.8}Cu_{0.2}O₂



oxidation mechanism using lattice O²⁻ of CeO₂?

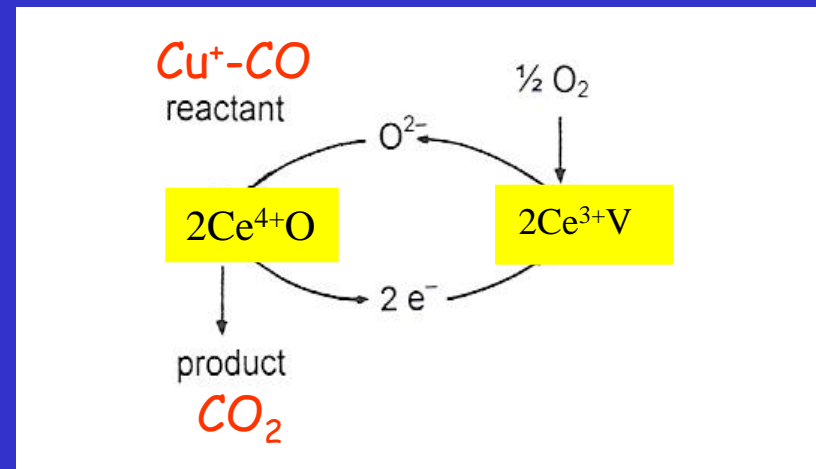
Mars-van Krevelen Mechanism for oxidation

Sacrificial mechanism



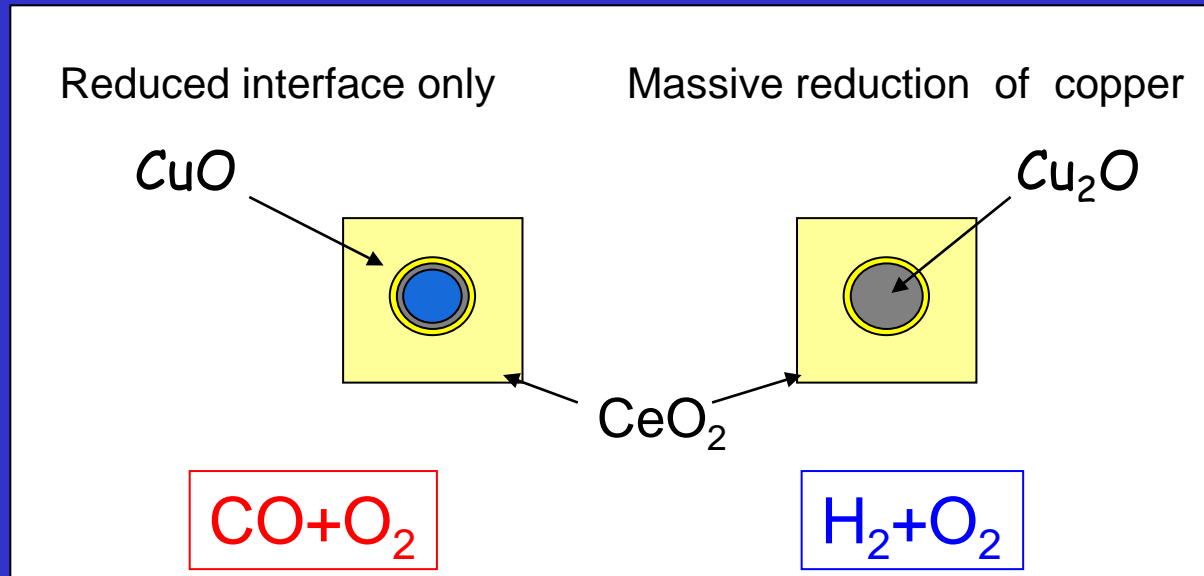
Some metal oxides that possess perovskite, fluorite or pyrochlore structures are prone to release their structural oxygen to an incoming reactant - such as hydrocarbons or carbon monoxide - and subsequently make good the loss by assimilating oxygen from the gas phase

Reduced $2Ce^{3+}$ centers at the CeO_2 , probably nearby the Cu_xO particles, were also detected during CO oxidation in *operando*-XPS/XAES experiments



In summary

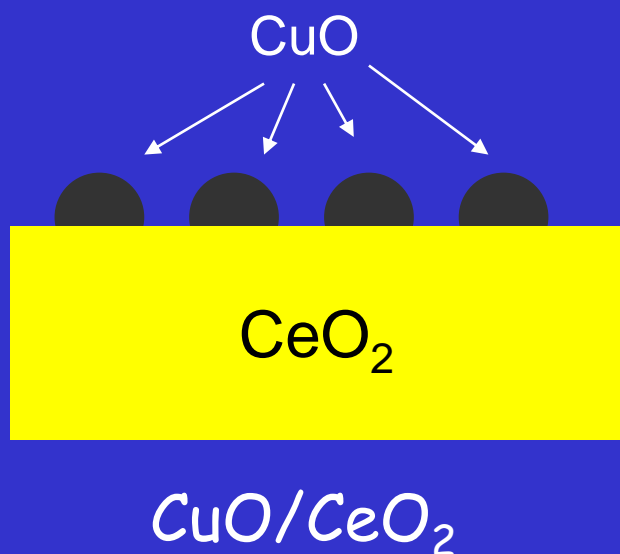
- Both CO and H_2 oxidation activities are enhanced by Cu_xO dispersion.
- CO oxidation is related to formation of interfacial sites in Cu_xO particles.
- H_2 oxidation is related to formation of reduced sites on top of Cu_xO particles.



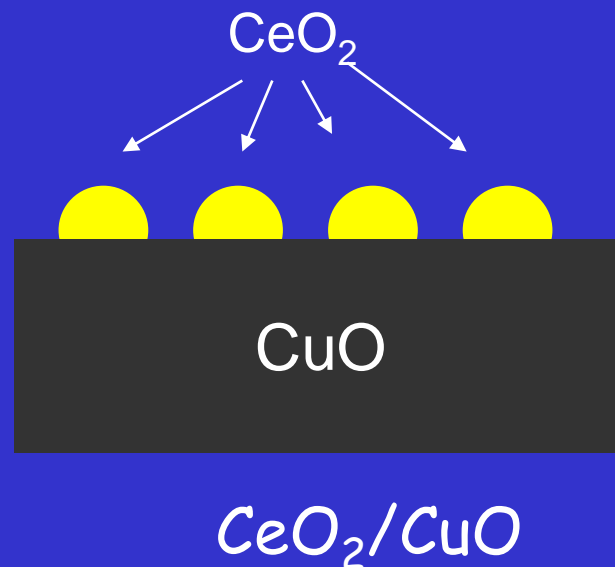
• These hypotheses open the possibility to control the CO -PROX activity by acting separately on the Cu_xO/CeO_2 interfaces and the CuO particles.

Optimization of CuO/CeO₂ catalysts: inverse systems

Classic configuration



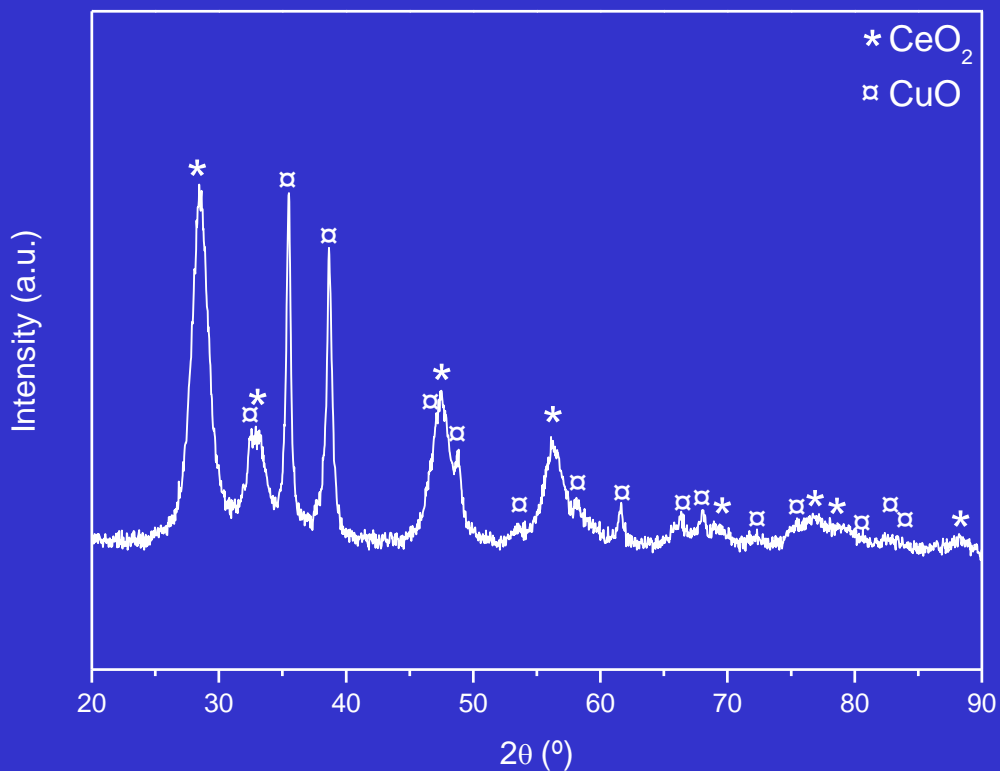
Inverse configuration



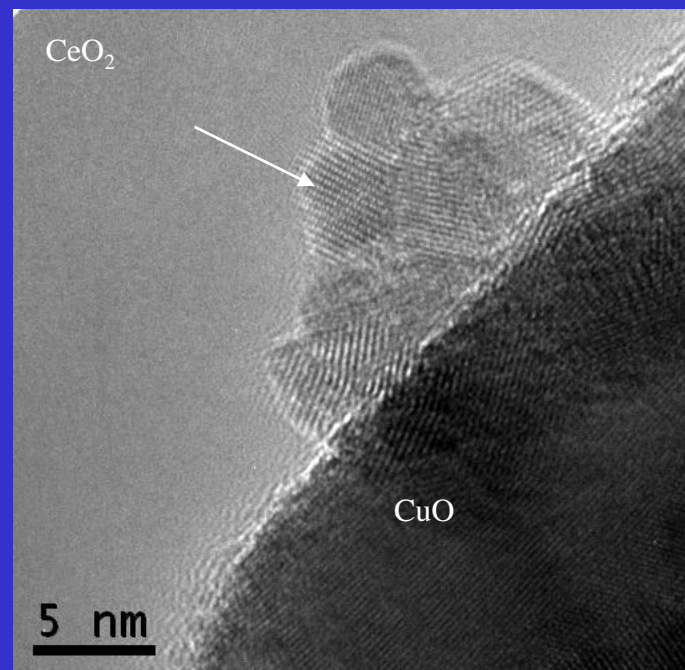
Why ?

Inverse CeO_2/CuO . Structural and morphological characterization

XRD



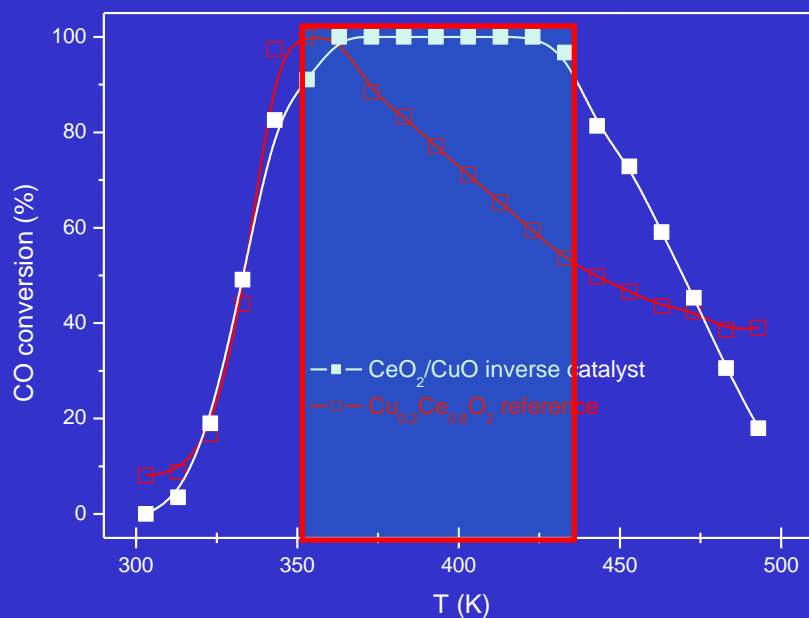
HREM



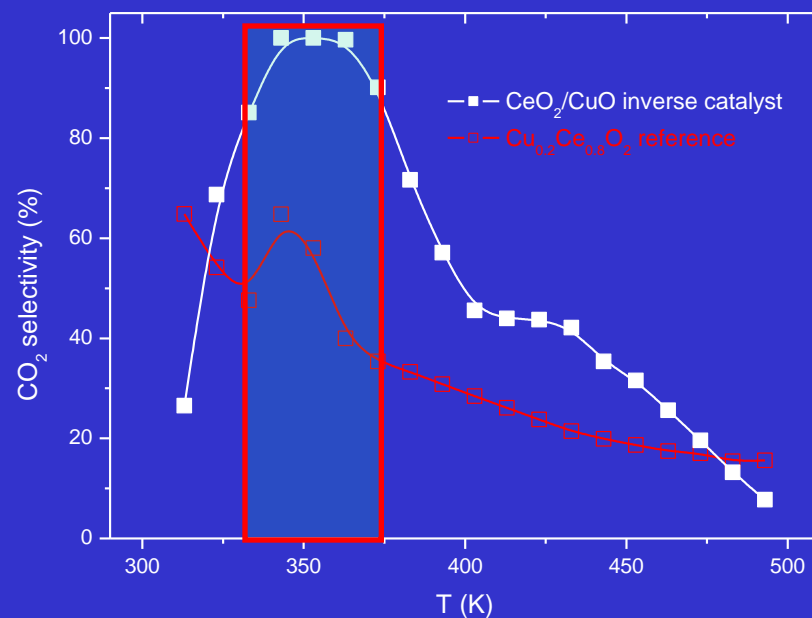
Inverse $\text{CeO}_2/\text{Cu}_x\text{O}$. Catalytic activity

CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O_2 + 50% H_2

CO conversion



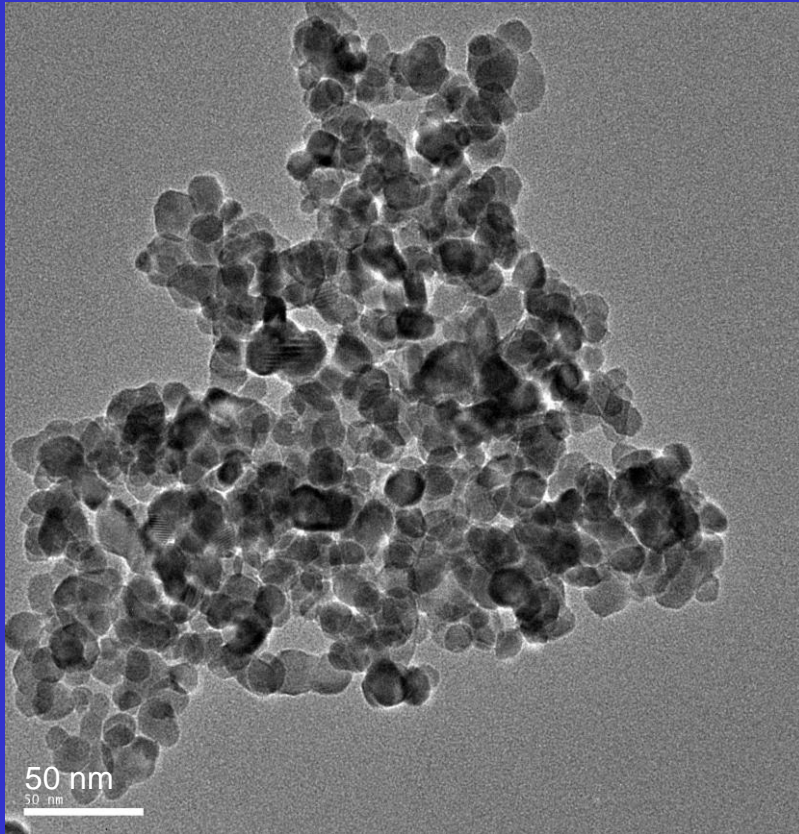
CO_2 selectivity



CO Conversion: $\text{CO} + \frac{1}{2}\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$

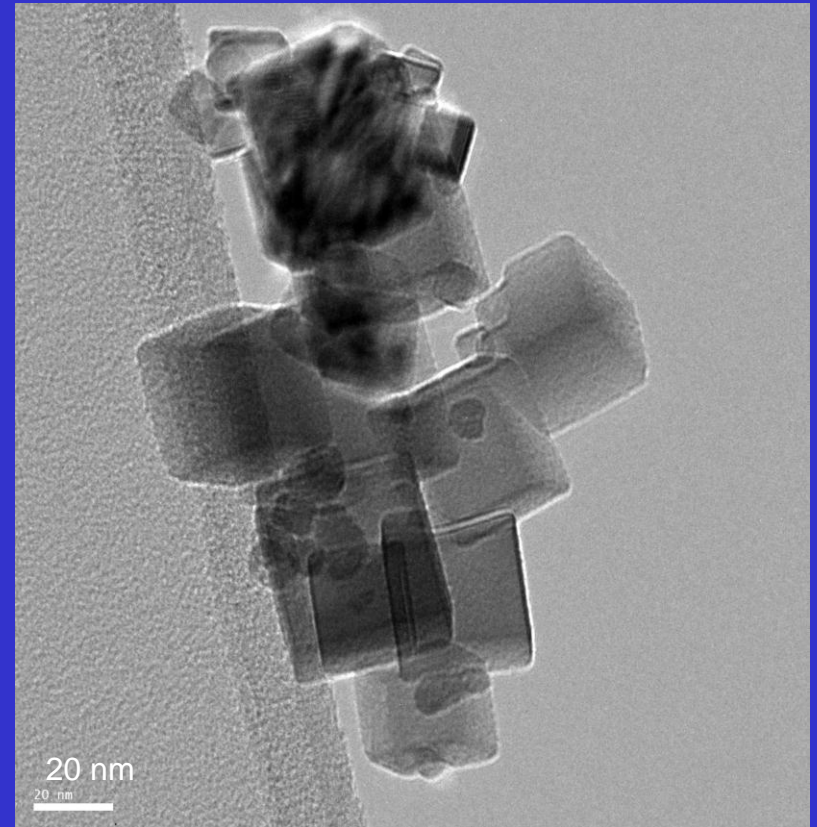
CO_2 Selectivity: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 \gg \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Or ... why not change the CuO-CeO₂ interfaces ?



CuO/CeO₂-NP

CeO₂ (111)



CuO/CeO₂-NC

CeO₂(100)

General features of $\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/\text{CeO}_2$ catalysts for CO-PROX and related processes

- In general terms, a correlation between redox and catalytic properties is observed, suggesting the existence of redox-type mechanisms in which both the copper oxide and the support components are involved.
- Their high catalytic activity for CO oxidation (either with or without H_2) seems to be due to the existence of strong synergetic CuO-support interactions.
- Such interaction appears to facilitate copper oxide reduction which help to activate the reactants. Stabilization of reduced states of copper by such interaction has been observed under *operando* conditions.
- The physicochemical properties of $\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/\text{CeO}_2$ interfaces strongly depend on the nature or type of both the copper oxide and the support entities.

Who is who?

- Daniel Gamarra (ICP-CSIC)
- Aitor Hornés (ICP-CSIC)
- Ana B. Hungría (ICP-CSIC, Univ. Cádiz)
- Parthasarathi Bera (ICP-CSIC)
- Antonio López Cámara (ICP-CSIC)
- Laura Barrio (BNL- USA, ICP-CSIC)
- Marcos Fernández-García (ICP-CSIC)
- José A. Rodríguez (BNL -USA)
- Arturo Martínez-Arias (ICP-CSIC)
- J. Carlos Conesa (ICP-CSIC)
- Javier Soria (ICP-CSIC)
- Guillermo Munuera (Univ. Sevilla, ICMS)
- Jonathan C. Hanson (BNL - USA)



Looking into Copper in CO-PROX Catalysts: A Multitechnique Approach

" Although *concepts* and *ideas* occupy a central place in the grand sweep of our understanding of the nature of the world around us, it is a mistake to imagine that they play a greater role than *tools* and *techniques* in achieving scientific progress. "

Prof. Sir John Meuring Thomas

Opening lecture (Turning Points in Catalysis)
First European Congress on Catalysis (EUROPACAT-1, Montpellier 1993)
Angew. Chem. Intern. Ed. Engl. 1994, 33, 913-937

Some Highlights in Heterogeneous Catalysis

1990-2000

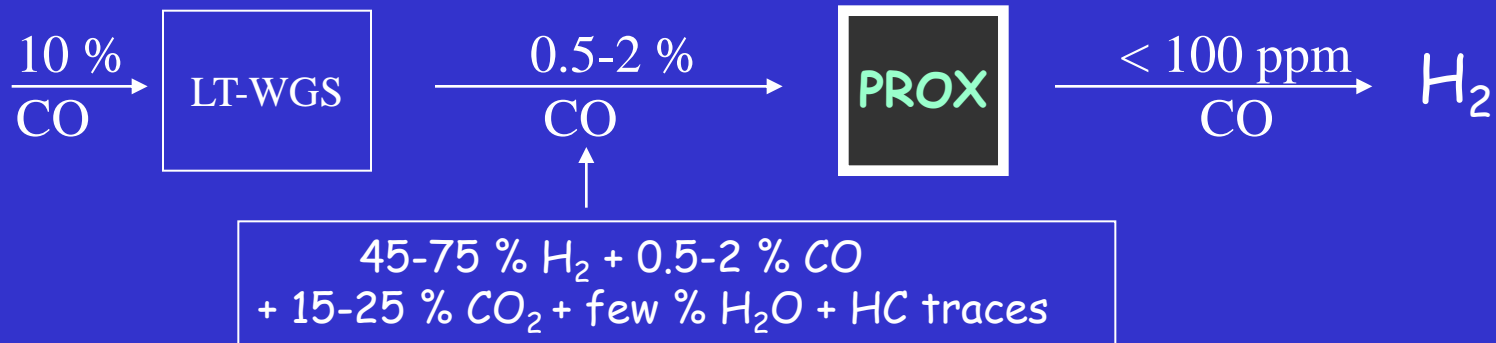
M/CeO_2 ($M = Pt, Rh$) for *TWC car catalysts*

$Rh-Pt/Ce_{1-x}Zr_xO_2/\gamma-Al_2O_3-La_2O_3$

2000-2012

CuO/CeO_2 catalysts for *CO oxidation*
(*TOX and CO-PROX*)

Catalytic Preferential Oxidation of CO



Requirements for CO-PROX catalysts



- High reactivity for CO oxidation
 - Low reactivity for H₂ oxidation
 - High resistance to poisoning by CO₂ and H₂O
- } CO₂-Selectivity

Active sites in CuO-CeO₂ catalysts: Kinetic analysis

$$-r_{\text{CO}} = 3.4 \times 10^{10} \exp\left(\frac{-94.4 \text{ kJ/mol}}{RT}\right) \\ \times p_{\text{CO}}^{0.91} p_{\text{CO}_2}^{-0.37} p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{-0.62} \text{ mol/kg/s}$$

$$-r_{\text{H}_2} = 6.1 \times 10^{13} \exp\left(\frac{-142 \text{ kJ/mol}}{RT}\right) \\ \times p_{\text{H}_2} p_{\text{CO}_2}^{-0.48} p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{-0.69} \text{ mol/kg/s}$$

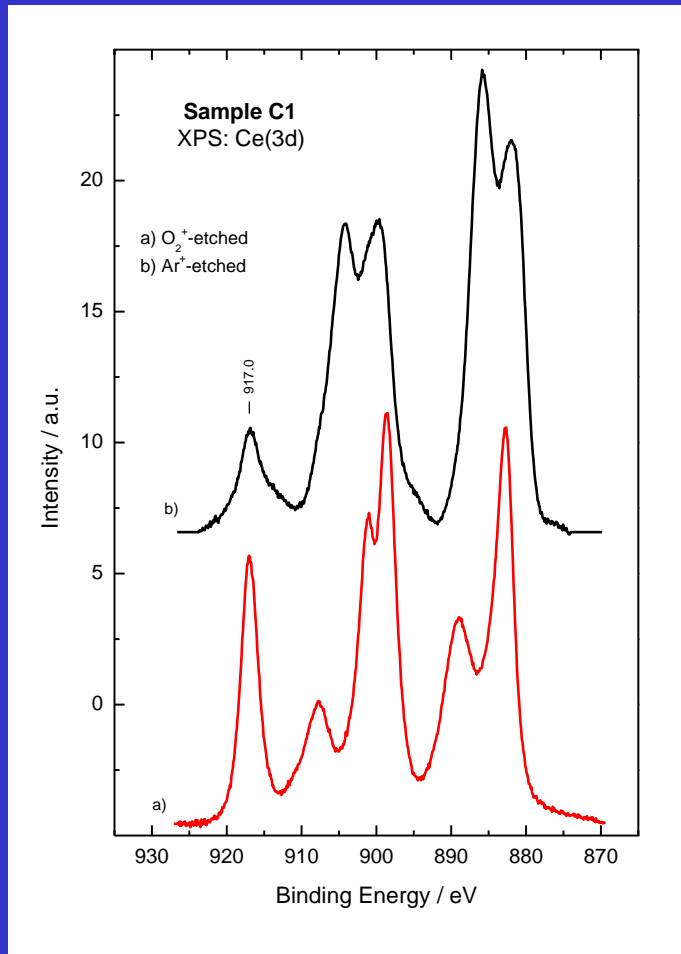
$\text{Cu}_x\text{O}/(\text{Ce},\text{M})\text{O}_y$ catalysts: General characteristics

Catalyst	Support employed and Ce/M atomic ratios ^a		Copper loading (wt. %)	S_{BET} (m^2g^{-1})	Structural properties: phases detected and crystal size ^b	
CuO/CeO_2	CeO_2	----	1	92	Fluorite CeO_2	≈ 8 nm
$\text{CuO}/\text{CT1}$ (50% Tb)	Ce-Tb mixed oxide	Ce/Tb = 1.10	1	95	Fluorite Ce-Tb mixed oxide	≈ 6 nm
$\text{CuO}/\text{CT4}$ (20% Tb)	Ce-Tb mixed oxide	Ce/Tb = 3.93	1	104	Fluorite Ce-Tb mixed oxide	≈ 7 nm

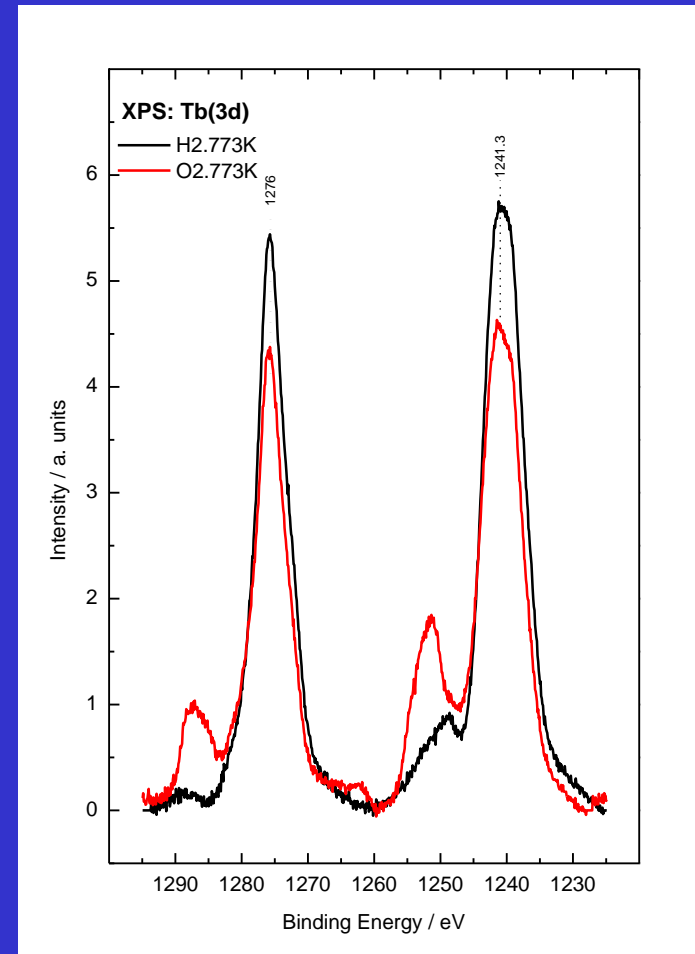
^a ICP-AES values. ^b Based on XRD, HRTEM and Raman

The copper catalysts (1% w/w Cu) were prepared on supports containing 20% and 50% of Tb to examine possible electronic interactions of the modified support with the Cu_xO active phase of the catalysts during CO-TOX

Factor Analysis: Ce(3d) and Tb(3d) in CuCT1



XPS: Ce(3d)
 CeO_2 vs. Ce_2O_3



XPS: Tb(3d)
 TbO_2 vs. Tb_2O_3

Operando-XPS of CuCT1 and CuC catalysts

CuCT1 and reference CuC after different treatments: compositions and F.A.

Pretreatments	Cu/(Ce+Tb) ^a	Tb/(Ce+Tb) ^a	% Tb ³⁺ in CuCT1	% Ce ⁴⁺ in CuCT1	% Ce ⁴⁺ in CuC (Reference)
Original / evac. 473K, 1h	0.088 (0.084)	0.39 (0.45)	43.9	100.0	100.0
O ₂ , 1 torr / 473K, 30 min.	0.092 (0.090)	0.44 (0.45)	0.0	100.0	100.0
CO, 1 torr / 373K, 30 min	0.076 (0.074)	0.42 (0.44)	71.5	98.1	84.6
CO/O ₂ (2:1), 1.5 torr / 423K (50%R)	0.086 (0.084)	0.43 (0.44)	41.3	99.0	100.0
Ar ⁺ -etching / 0.5 min.	0.062 (0.068)	0.48 (0.48)	70.0	26.1	17.5

a) A value of Tb/(Ce+Tb) = 0.476 was obtained for the CT1 support from ICP-AES; data for the CT1 support are given in parenthesis

Column 1: copper dispersion only slightly changes after the treatments and is similar to that observed in the CuC catalyst, given in parenthesis.

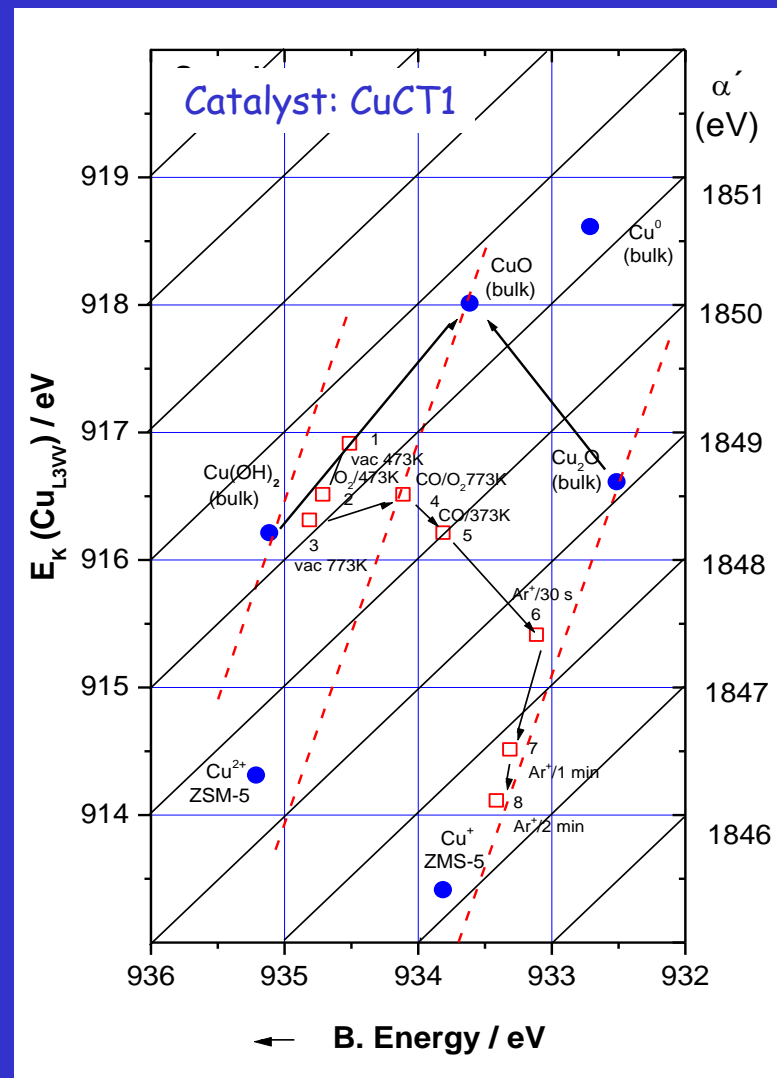
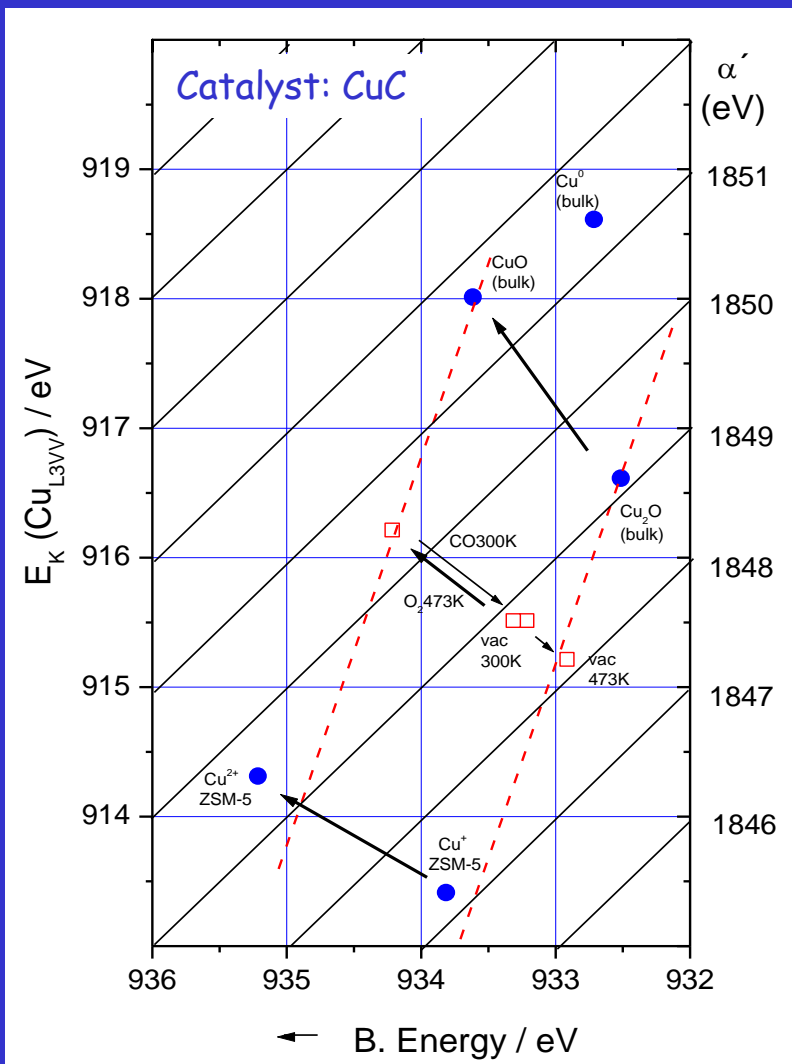
Column 2: terbium dispersion is not modified by the treatments and is similar to that observed in the CT1 support, given in parenthesis.

Column 3: terbium oxidation state changes with the treatments (Tb³⁺/Tb⁴⁺)

Column 4: cerium remains fully oxidized after all the treatments (Ce⁴⁺)

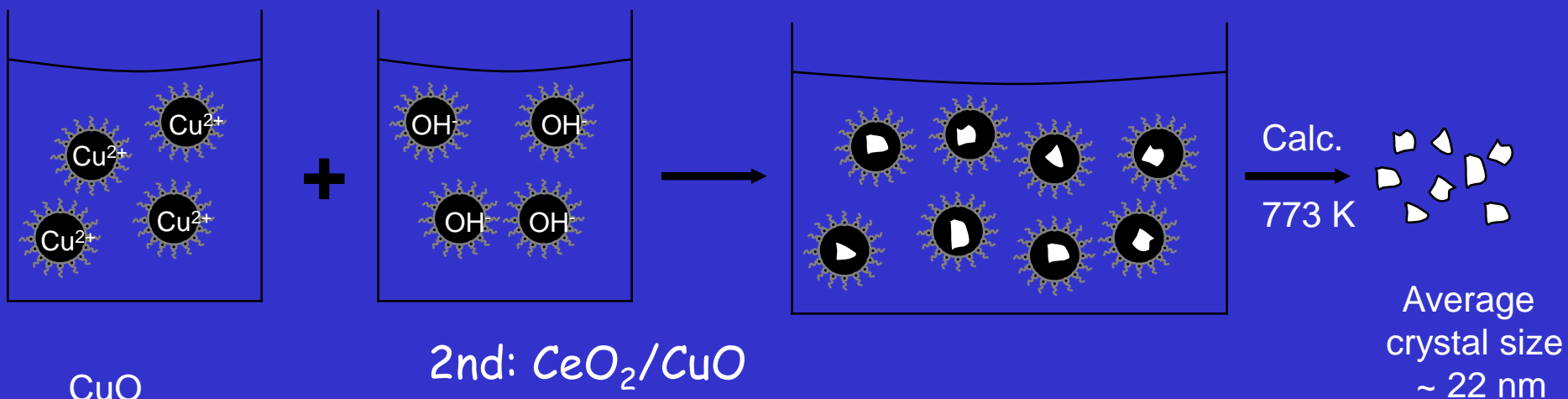
Column 5: cerium in CuC (reference) is more reducible than in CuCT1 under reducing treatments (i.e. CO or Ar⁺-etching)

Wagner "chemical state plots" of copper for CuC and CuCT1

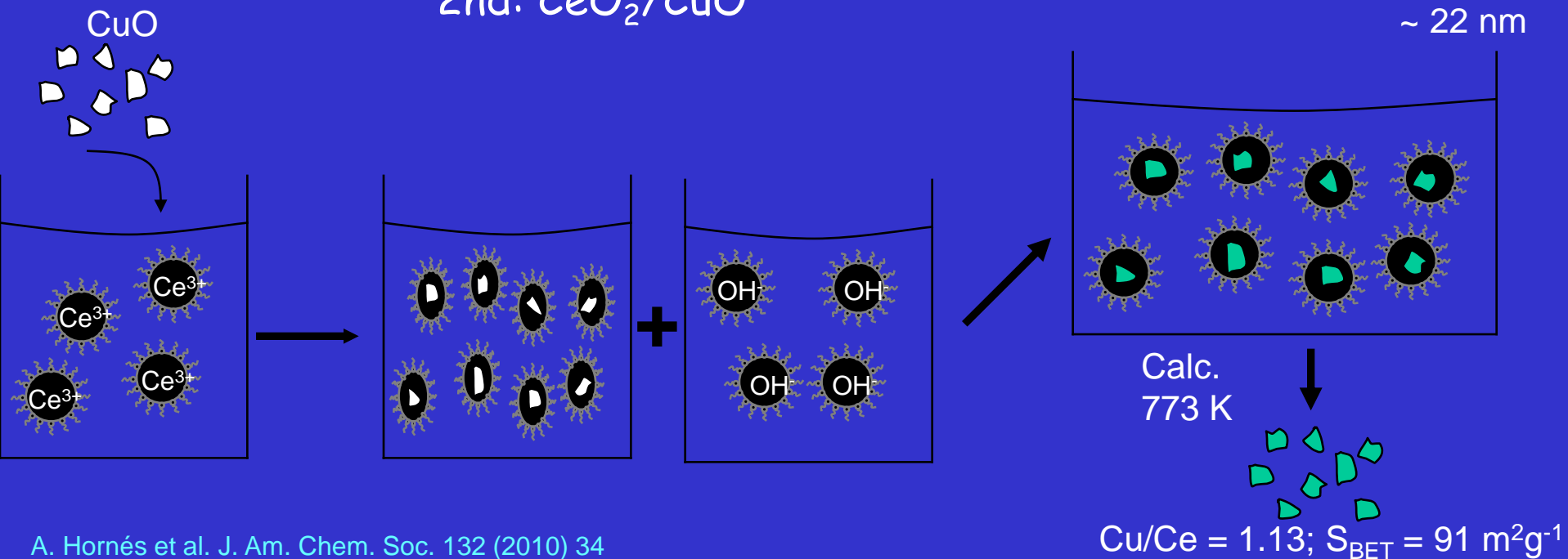


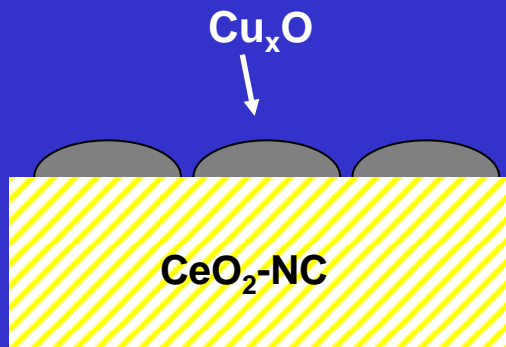
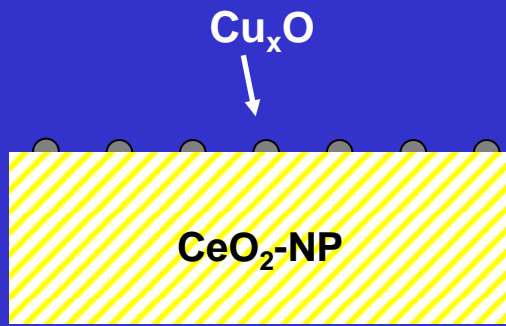
Inverse CeO_2/CuO Preparation

1st: CuO

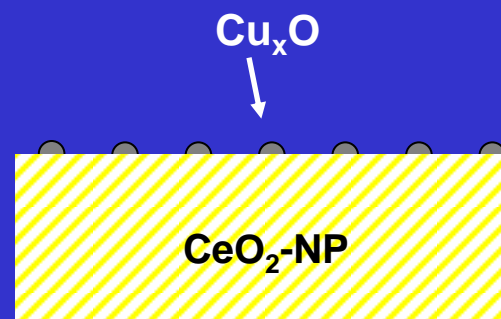
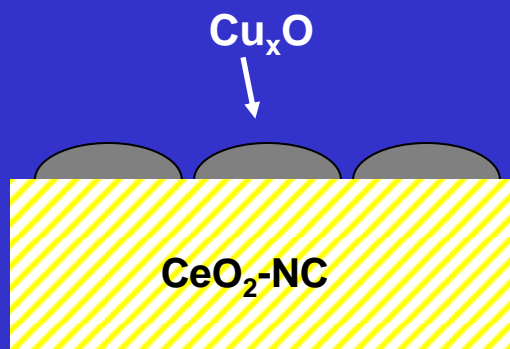


2nd: CeO_2/CuO

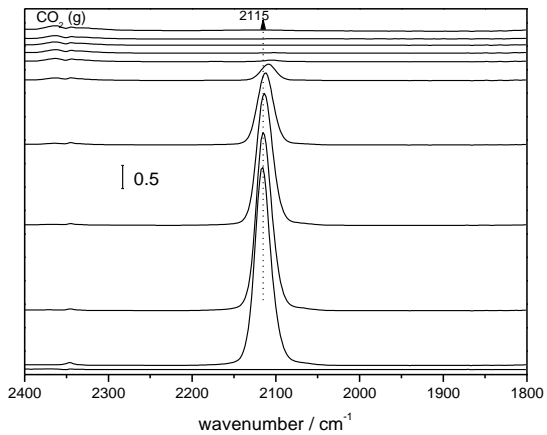
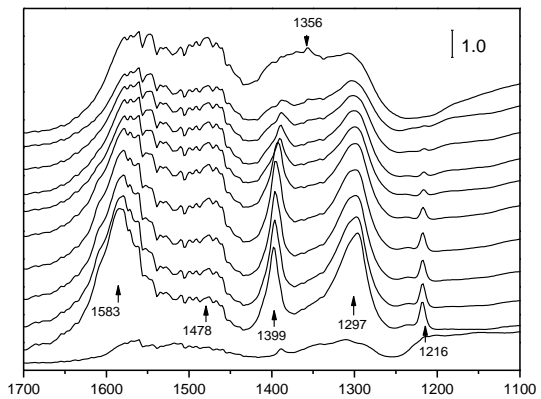




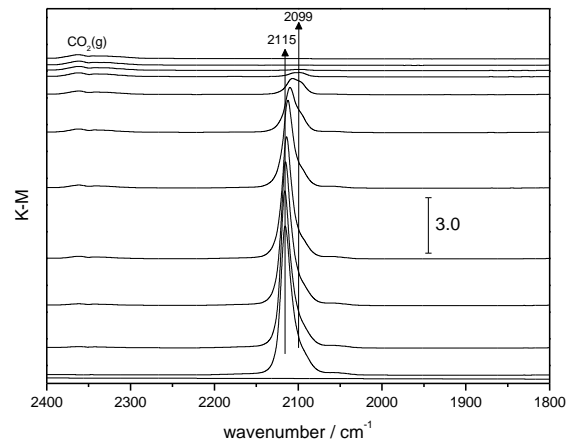
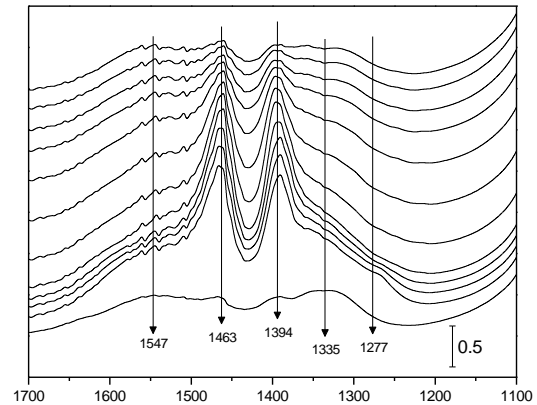
Sample	Crystal size (nm)	Lattice parameter a (Å)	Microstrain ($\Delta d/d$)	F_{2g} frequency (cm^{-1})	F_{2g} FWHM (cm^{-1})	S_{BET} (m^2g^{-1})
$\text{CeO}_2\text{-NC}$	46	5.406	0.0001	464	15.5	20
$\text{CeO}_2\text{-NP}$	7	5.410	0.0019	462	23.3	130
$\text{Cu/CeO}_2\text{-NC}$	42	5.404	0.0002	463	15.5	14
$\text{Cu/CeO}_2\text{-NP}$	7	5.410	0.0025	460	28.2	115



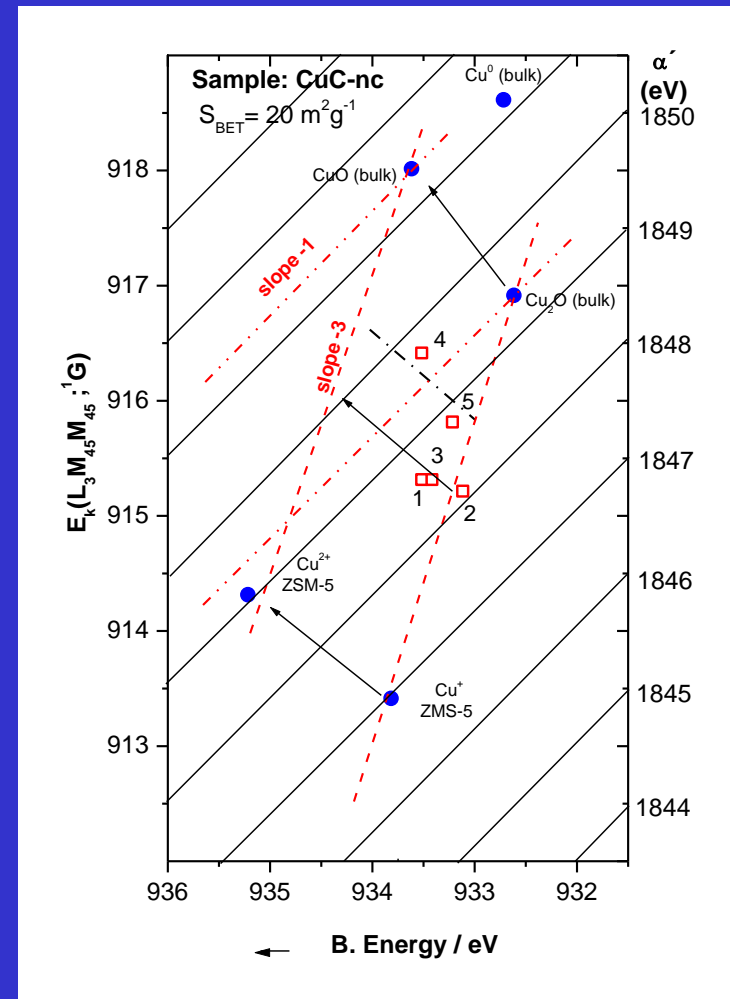
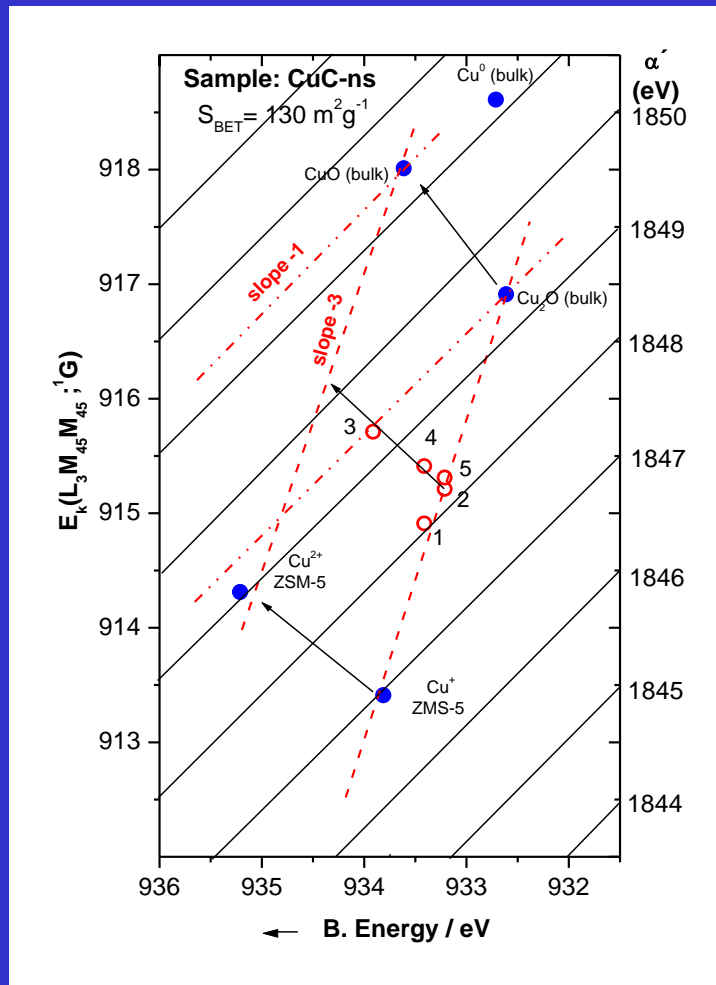
Cu/CeO₂-NP



Cu/CeO₂-NC



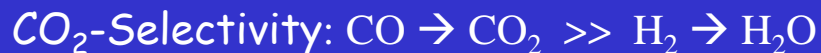
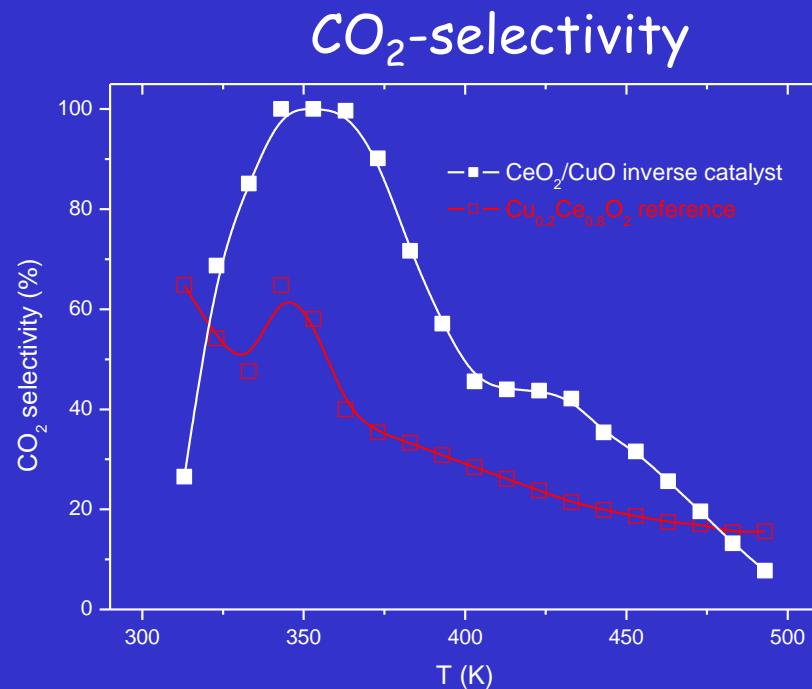
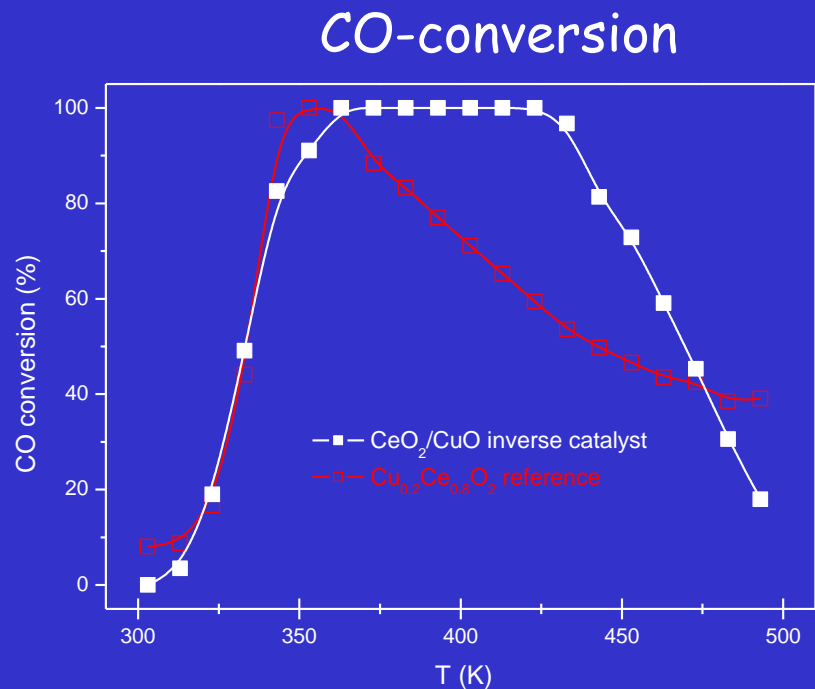
Operando-XPS/XAES CO-TOX and CO-PROX reactions: CuC-NP and CuC-NC catalysts



Treatments/473K: (1) *vac.* ; (2) red CO ; (3) CO-TOX ; (4) CO-PROX; (5) red H₂

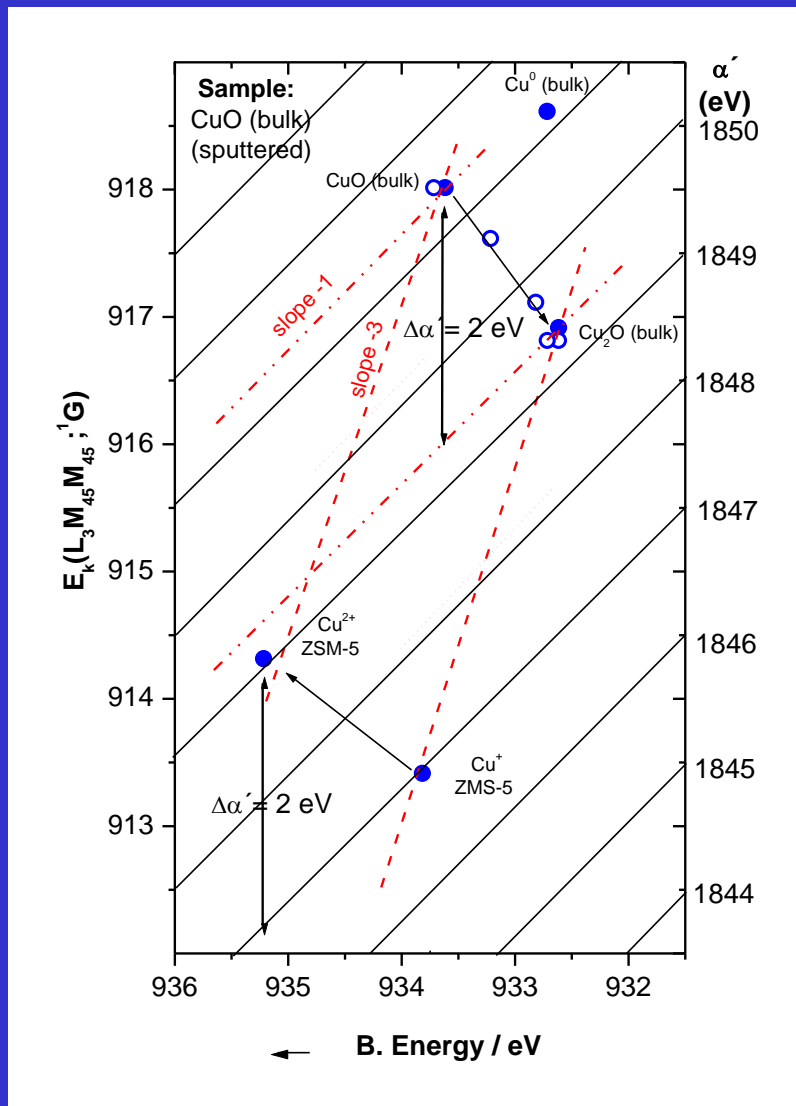
Catalytic conversion vs. selectivity in CuO-CeO₂ catalysts

CO-PROX: under 1% CO + 1.25% O₂ + 50% H₂



Wagner "chemical state plot" for copper

$E_{BE}(\text{Cu}2p)$ vs. $E_K(\text{Cu}L_3VV)$



- XPS/XAES data of copper in Ar+-etched bulk CuO (Tenorite)
- Differential sputtering of CuO produce reduced Cu_xO surfaces
- "slope -3" red dash lines indicate similar "chemical states" to those of the respective references
- Thus, the copper loaded in ZSM-5 zeolites prepared by W. Grünert et al. have the same "chemical states" as CuO and Cu_2O
- Differences are in the modified Auger parameter ($\Delta\alpha' \approx 2.4 \text{ eV}$) which are related to those "final state effects"

Looking into Copper in CO-PROX Catalysts: A Multitechnique Approach

" Although ideas and concepts are not ideas as you occupy huge mental places in the grand
expansion of our understanding of the structure of the world around us,
in its details, take time to imagine that the eye plays a great role in the
hand techniques in achieving scientific progress" científico"

John Meuring Thomas

Opening lecture (Turning Points in Catalysis)
First European Congress on Catalysis (EUROPACAT-1, Montpellier 1993)
Angew. Chem. Intern. Ed. Engl. 1994, 33, 913-937

