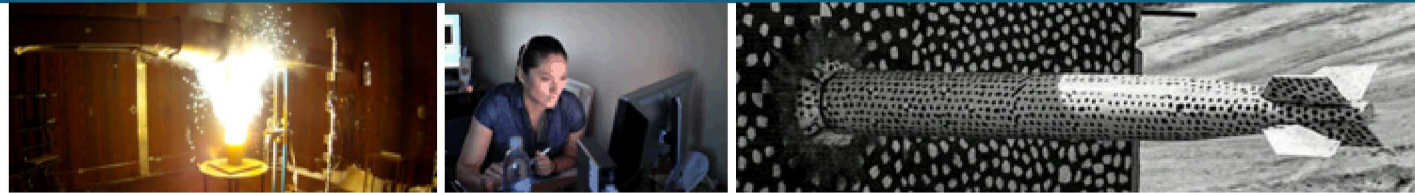


# Exploring the Low-Temperature Carbon Monoxide Oxidation and Thermochemical Water Splitting Capabilities of High Entropy Oxides



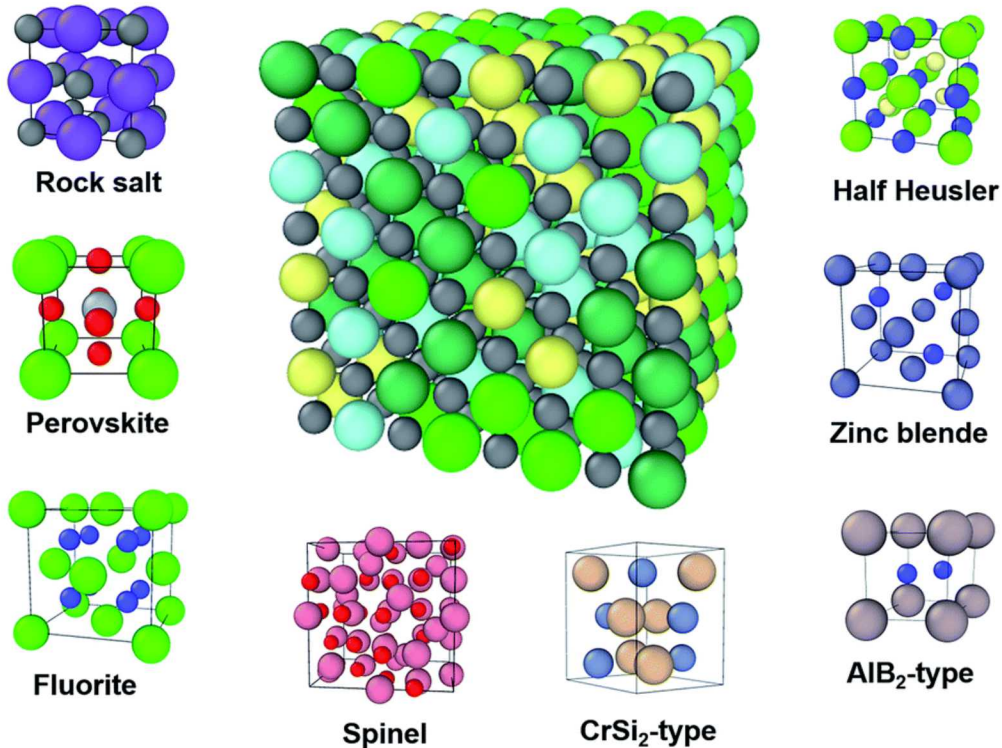
*2019 MRS Fall Meeting*

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### Structural Diversity of High Entropy Ceramics

### High Entropy Oxide (HEO)

- Single-phase multi-cation oxide stabilized by configurational entropy
- High configurational entropy due to randomly distributed elements on same lattice site
- Engineer chemical and defect structure of oxides

### Previous reported applications

Rock salt-based HEO (Mg,Co,Ni,Cu,Zn)O

- Li-storage capability
- Catalytic CO oxidation

Polycation oxides (PCO) (Mg,Fe,Co,Ni)O<sub>x</sub>

- High-temperature water splitting

Zhang, R.-Z.; Reece, M.J. *J. Mater. Chem. A*. 2019, 7, 22148.

Sarkar, A. *et al. Adv. Mater.* 2019, 1806236.

Zhai, S. *et al. Energy Environ. Sc.* 2018, 11, 2172.

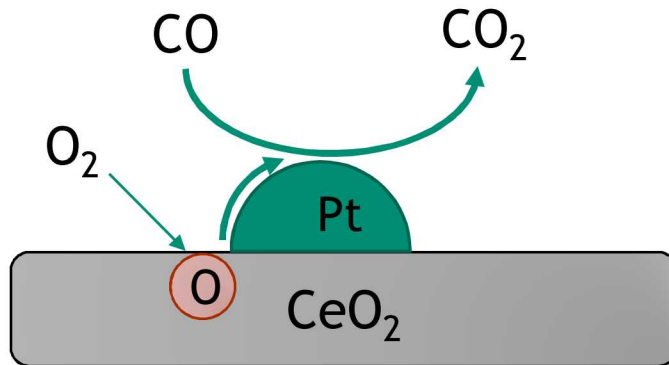
Djenadic, R. *et al. Mater. Res. Lett.* 2017, 5, 102.

Gild, J. *et al. J. Eur. Ceram. Soc.* 2018, 38, 3578.

Rost, C.M. *et al. Nat. Comm.* 2015, 6, 8485.

# Different Catalytic and Surface-Mediated Processes

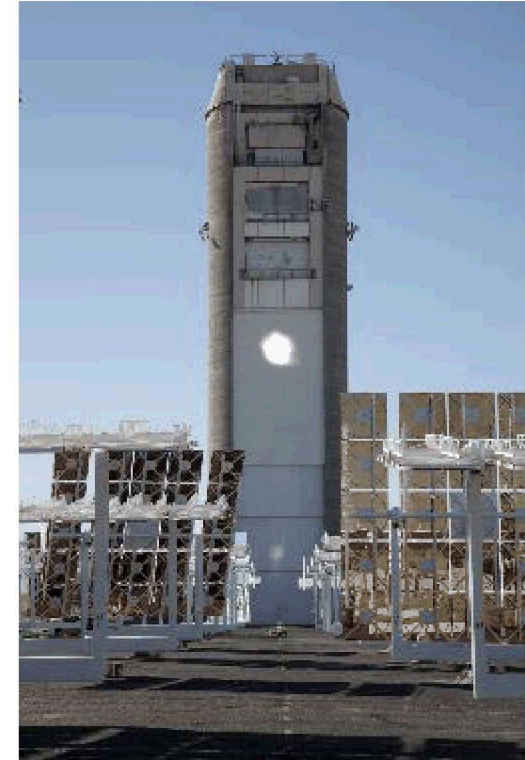
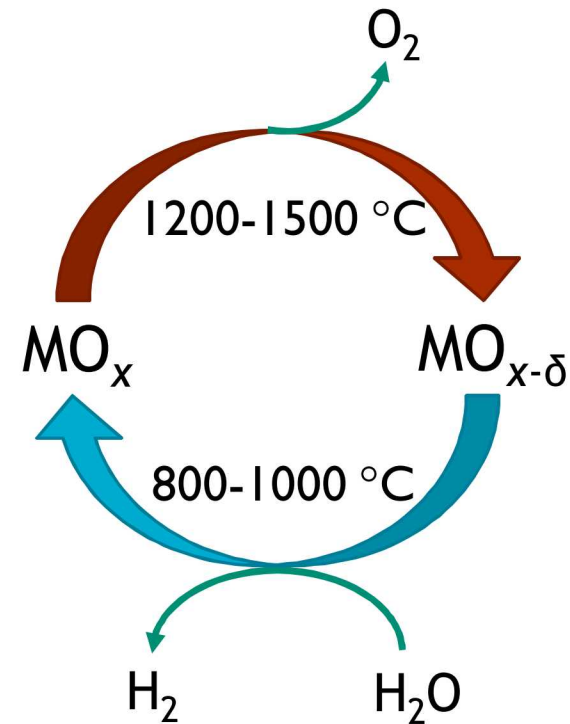
## Carbon Monoxide Oxidation



Operated below 700 °C

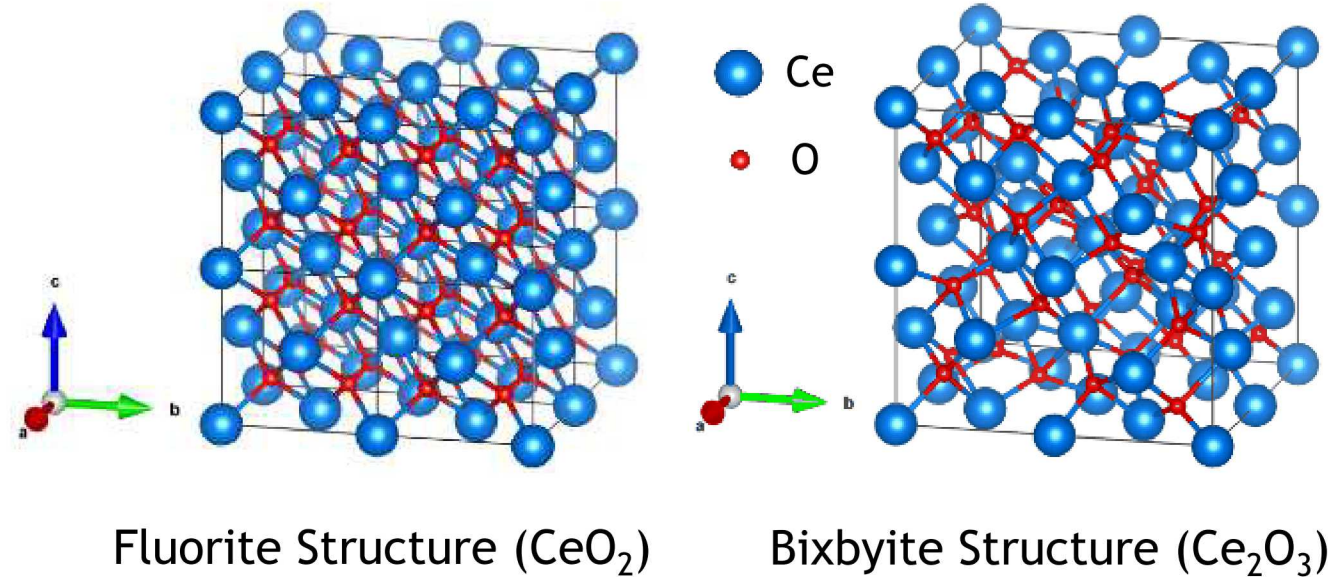
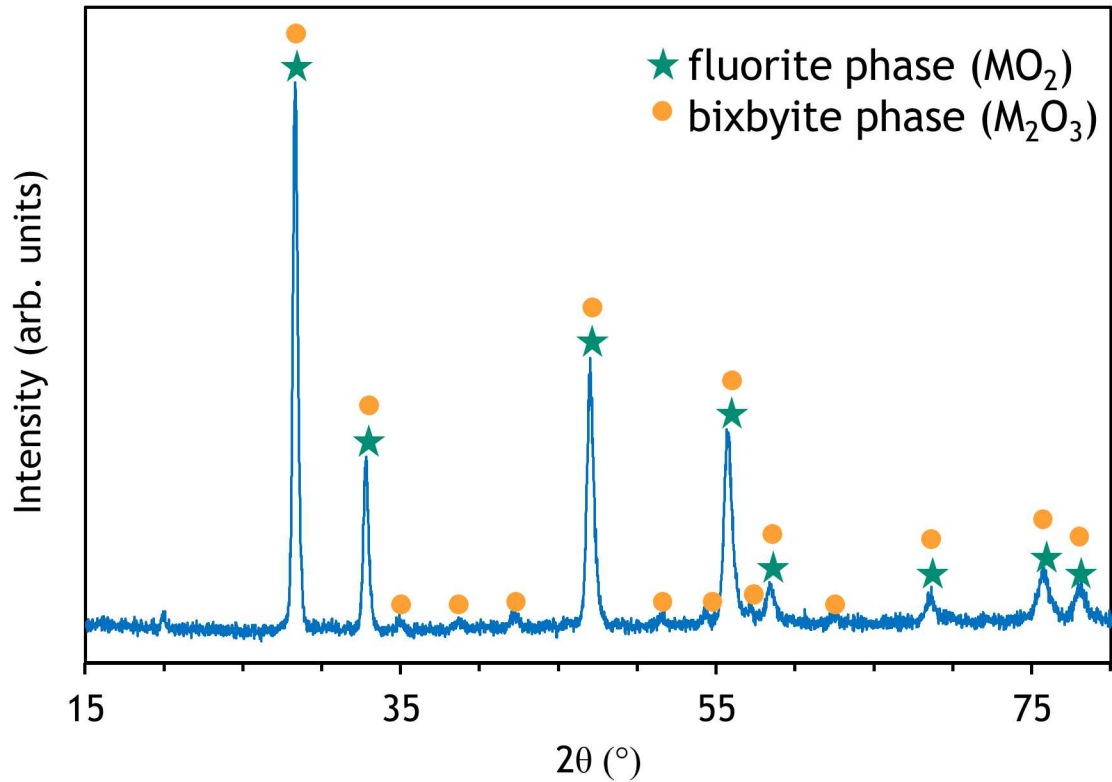
- CeO<sub>2</sub> studied heavily for both reactions
- Explore these reactions with high entropy oxide with fluorite structure  
(Ce<sub>0.2</sub>La<sub>0.2</sub>Pr<sub>0.2</sub>Sm<sub>0.2</sub>Y<sub>0.2</sub>)O<sub>2</sub>

## Solar Thermochemical Hydrogen Production



# Synthesis of $(\text{Ce,La,Pr,Sm,Y})\text{O}_2$ High Entropy Oxide

Reacting stoichiometric amount of  $\text{CeO}_2$ ,  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{Pr}_6\text{O}_{11}$ ,  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  at  $1500\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  in air

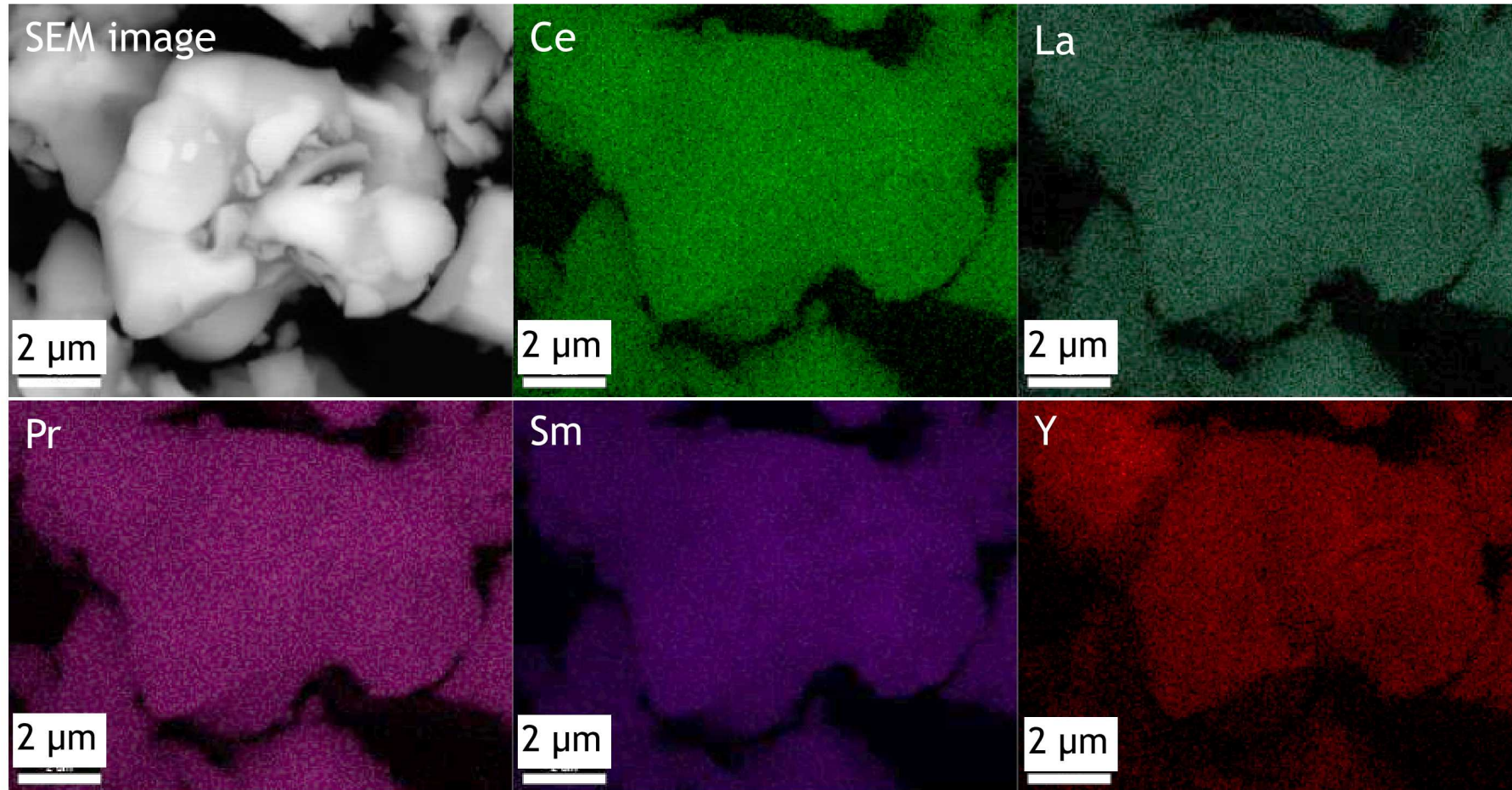


Bixbyite: comparable to  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  fluorite supercell with oxygen removed

- XRD pattern reveals mainly fluorite phase with bixbyite phase.
- Bixbyite phase was still present even after heating at  $1500\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  under  $\text{O}_2$

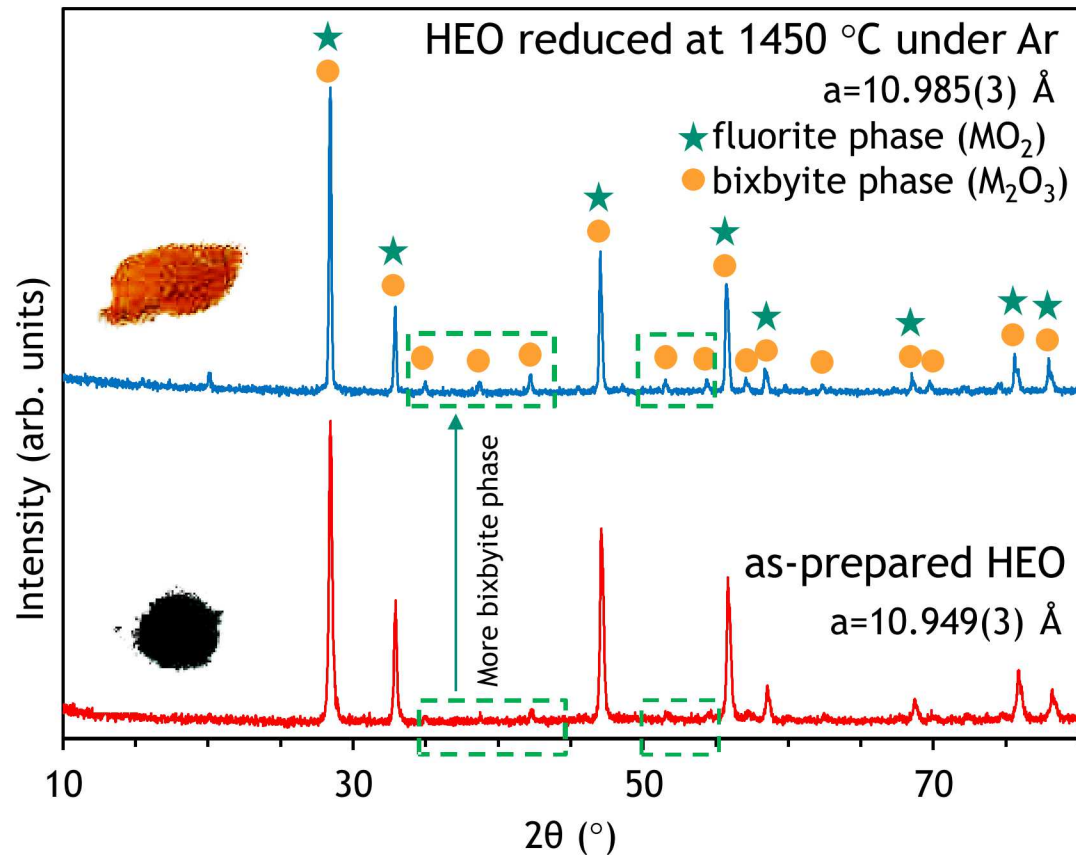
# SEM/EDS of $(\text{Ce,La,Pr,Sm,Y})\text{O}_2$

Homogeneous distribution of the metal cations was observed under EDS mapping in SEM.



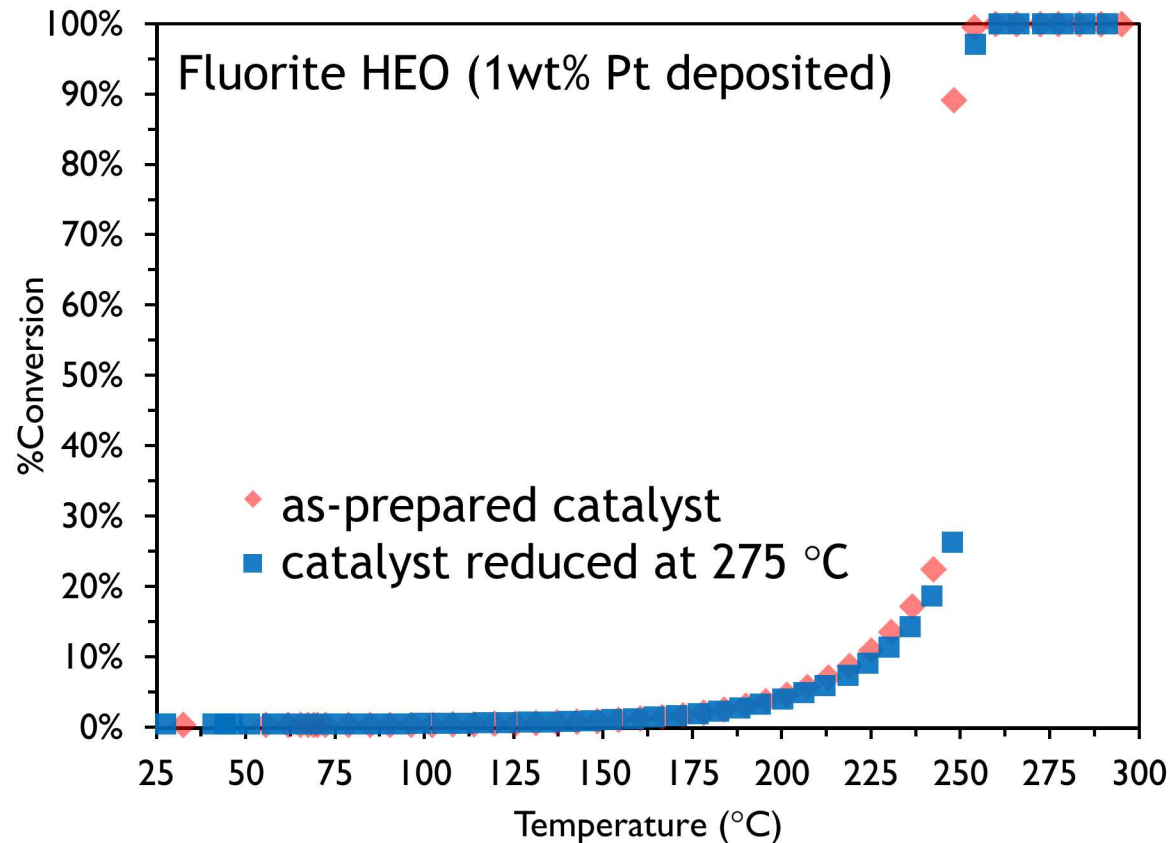
SEM/EDS Mapping

# Oxygen Defects on (Ce,La,Pr,Sm,Y)O<sub>2</sub> High Entropy Oxide



After heating sample at 1450 °C under Ar,

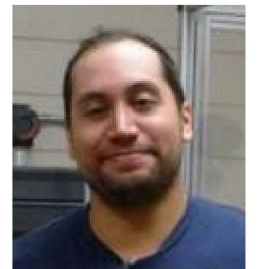
- Lattice expanded by  $\sim 0.04$  Å
- Fluorite phase converted to bixbyite phase
- Oxygen deficient phase can be utilized in different catalytic reactions.
- Possible to prepare different oxygen deficient phases by heating and quenching at different temperatures.



**Light-off Curve for CO Oxidation**

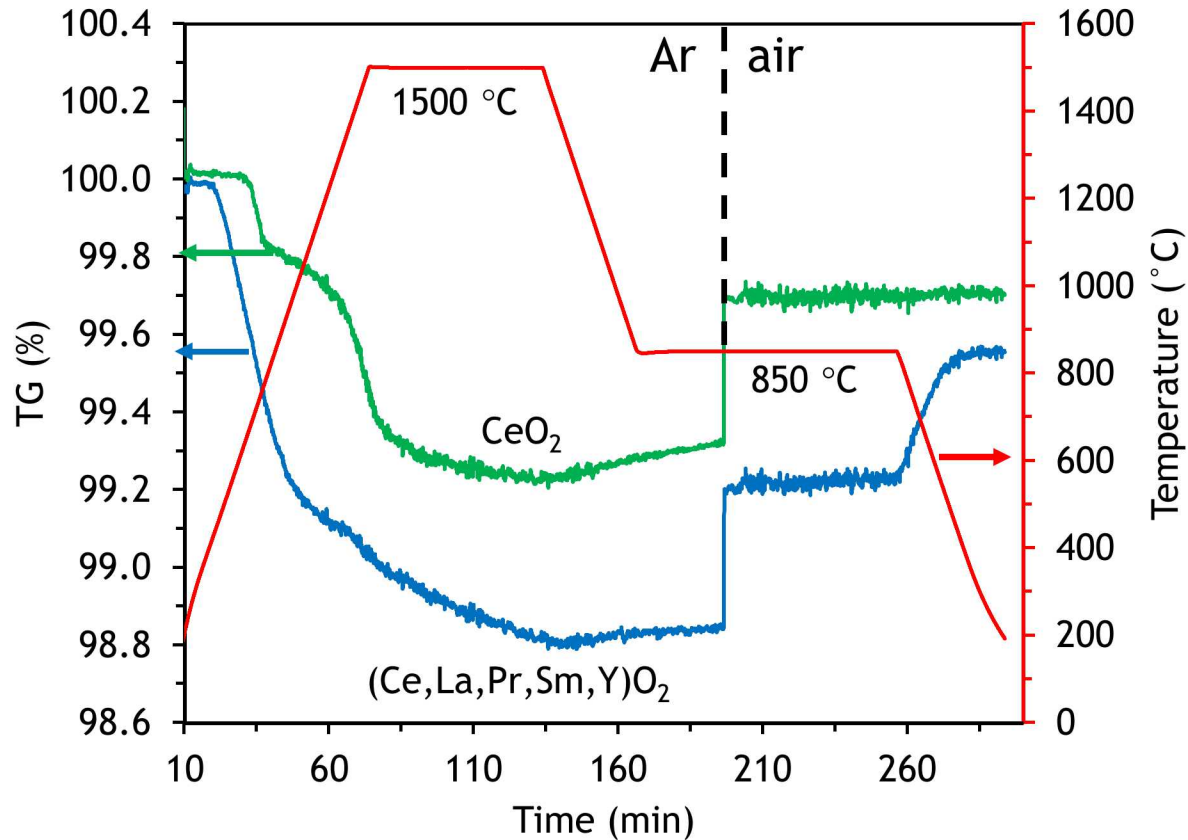
## CO Oxidation with 1wt% Pt deposited

- High conversion efficiency at ~250 °C
- After reduction at 275 °C, no change in catalyst performance observed.
- Pt is either stable on the surface of the support, or stable in the lattice
- High redox stability is promising for high temperature catalytic reactions.



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University of New Mexico

# Oxygen Redox Behavior



Exploring oxygen redox behavior of HEO comparing to  $\text{CeO}_2$

## Reduction at 1500 °C under Ar

- HEO (blue) reduces more than  $\text{CeO}_2$  (green)

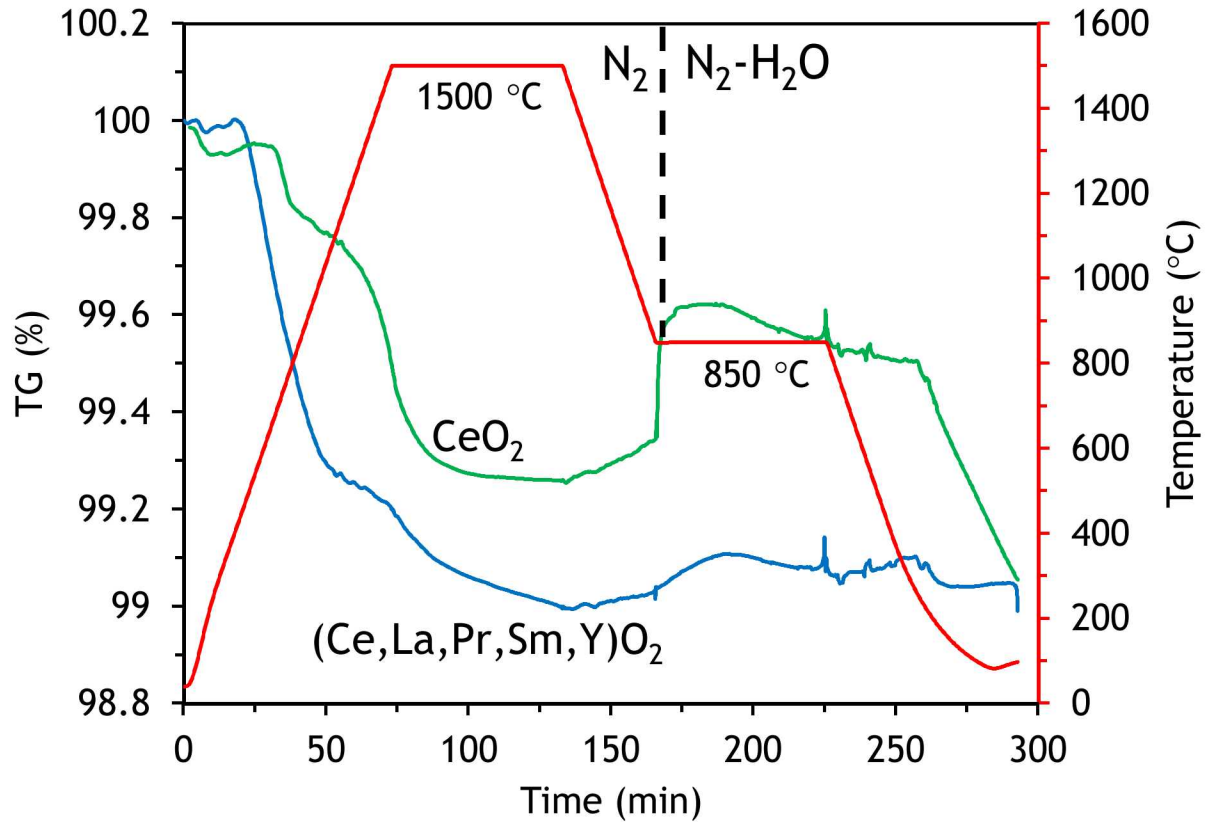
## Oxidation at 850 °C under air

- Similar oxidation behavior at 850 °C for both HEO and  $\text{CeO}_2$
- Further oxidation observed for HEO while cooling down.

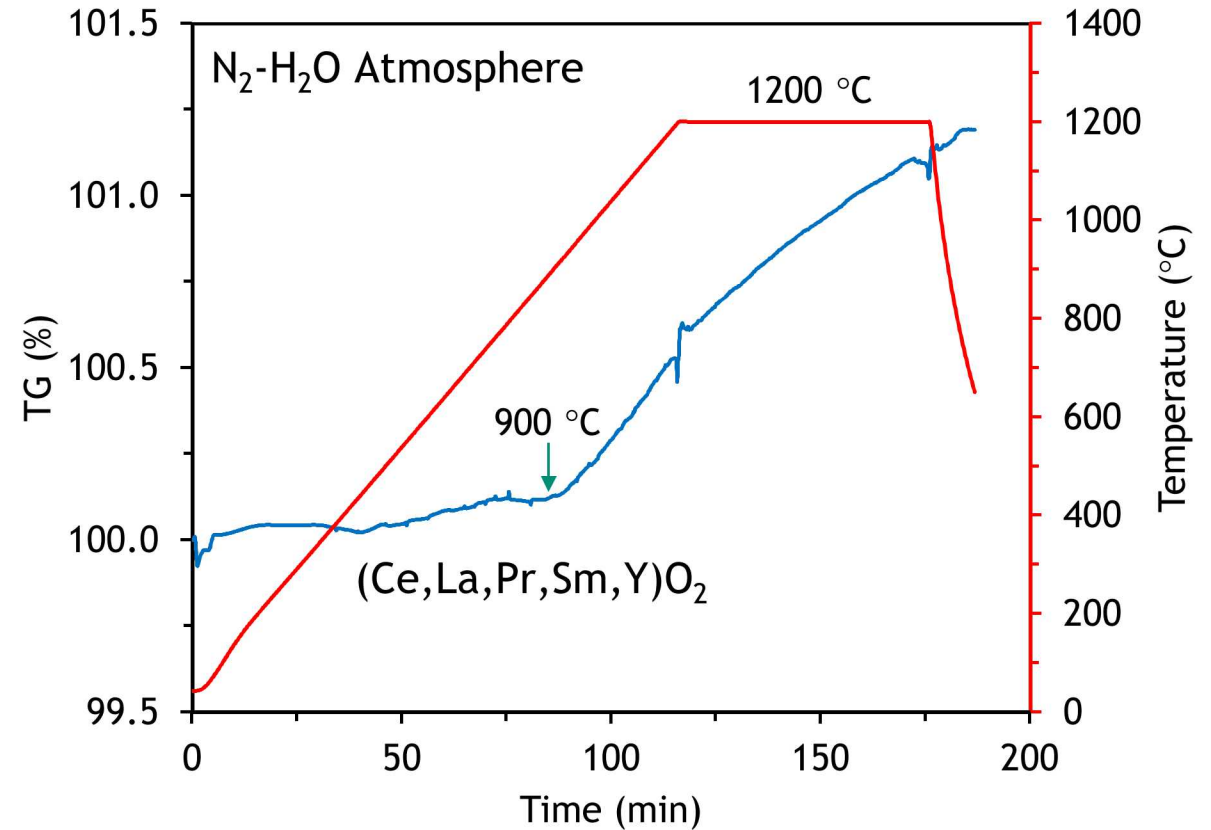
HEO readily reduces and oxidizes more than  $\text{CeO}_2$



# 9 High-Temperature Water Splitting



Same temperature program as before, but replacing air with steam- $\text{N}_2$ . While  $\text{CeO}_2$  splits water rapidly, HEO shows slow water splitting.



The HEO was further tested by heating to 1200 °C under steam- $\text{N}_2$ . Water splitting occurs more above 900 °C with slow kinetics - phase change between fluorite and bixbyite

**(Ce,La,Pr,Sm,Y)O<sub>2</sub> prepared via solid state synthesis**

## Catalytic CO Oxidation

- Good redox stability observed for HEO with Pt deposited
- Possible support derivation by inducing oxygen vacancies
  - fluorite vs. bixbyite phase

## High-Temperature Water Splitting

- Greater extent of reduction for HEO than CeO<sub>2</sub>
- Slower water splitting kinetics
  - Phase transition between fluorite and bixbyite structure
- Develop better understanding on temperature-dependent phase change

## Collaborator

David Rademacher



Dr. Andrew De La Riva

Dr. Abhaya K. Datye



## Funding



