

A STUDY OF THE DEFECT STRUCTURE OF  
"PURE" AND DOPED NONSTOICHIOMETRIC  $\text{CeO}_2$

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**MASTER**

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research program was to determine the defect structure (i.e. the type and concentration of atomic and electronic defects and the equilibrium relationships between these defects and the external variables such as temperature and oxygen pressure) and transport properties of defects in nonstoichiometric oxides from their electrical and thermodynamic behavior. Similar studies were also made on doped-nonstoichiometric oxides to determine the effect of the ionic radii, valence and concentration of the dopant cation on the nonstoichiometric defect structure and the transport properties of these defects. Studies of this kind also provide information about the magnitude, temperature and compositional dependence of the mobility of both electronic and ionic charge carriers in "pure" and doped-nonstoichiometric oxides at elevated temperatures, such data has been rather sparse in the literature.

The thermodynamic and electrical property study on "pure" and doped-nonstoichiometric  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  is reviewed. The combined study of the electrical conductivity, ionic transference, and thermodynamic measurements initiated on CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  as a function of temperature, oxygen pressure and CaO content is discussed. The results of similar measurements on  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped with other oxides (e.g.  $\text{ThO}_2$ ,  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ , etc.) which have cations with different valences and ionic radii are also discussed. The primary objective of these studies was to determine the effect of ionic radii, valence and concentration of the dopant cation on (1) the nonstoichiometric behavior, (2) the thermodynamic quantities  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  and  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$ , (3) the nonstoichiometric defect structure, (4) the electronic and ionic conductivities, and (5) the mobility of electrons and oxygen vacancies in doped  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .

## INTRODUCTION

Applications and potential applications of metal oxides in science and technology have increased significantly in recent years. For example, fluorite solid solutions of zirconia and thoria have been incorporated in a variety of galvanic cells to measure basic thermodynamic and kinetic data. Examples of technological applications of oxides include: oxide fuel elements for nuclear reactors, oxide electrolytes for batteries and fuel cells, electrodes in magnetohydrodynamic power generators, high-temperature electrochemical devices for monitoring the oxygen content of liquid metal and gases, air-fuel ratio monitors for internal combustion engines based on the electrical conductivity of metal oxide sensors which respond to the concentration of  $O_2$  in the exhaust gas, high temperature oxide insulators, oxide catalysis, and high dielectric capacitors.

The utilization of oxide systems in the above applications depends primarily on their unique properties. Since the properties of oxides are controlled to a great extent by the type and concentration of defects, optimization of these properties for a particular application requires that the defect structure be well characterized.

The purpose of this research program was to determine the defect structure (i.e. the type and concentration of atomic and electronic defects and the equilibrium relationships between these defects and the external variables such as temperature and oxygen pressure) and transport properties of defects in nonstoichiometric oxides from their electrical and thermodynamic behavior. Similar studies were also made on doped-nonstoichiometric oxides to determine the effect of the ionic radii, valence and concentration of the dopant cation on the nonstoichiometric defect structure and the transport properties of these defects. Studies of this kind also provide

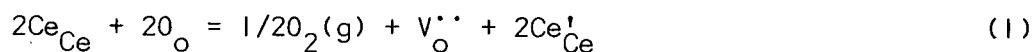
information about the magnitude, temperature and compositional dependence of the mobility of both electronic and ionic charge carriers in "pure" and doped-nonstoichiometric oxides at elevated temperatures, such data has been rather sparse in the literature.

The thermodynamic and electrical property study on "pure" and doped-nonstoichiometric  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  will be reviewed.<sup>1-11</sup> The combined study of the electrical conductivity, ionic transference, and thermodynamic measurements initiated on CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  as a function of temperature, oxygen pressure and CaO content will be discussed.<sup>9,10</sup> The results of similar measurements on  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped with other oxides (e.g.  $\text{ThO}_2$ ,  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ , etc.) which have cations with different valences and ionic radii will also be discussed.<sup>11,12</sup> The primary objective of these studies was to determine the effect of ionic radii, valence and concentration of the dopant cation on (1) the nonstoichiometric behavior, (2) the thermodynamic quantities  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  and  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$ , (3) the nonstoichiometric defect structure, (4) the electronic and ionic conductivities, and (5) the mobility of electrons and oxygen vacancies in doped  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .

# NONSTOICHIOMETRIC "PURE" CERIUM DIOXIDE

Nonstoichiometric cerium oxide,  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ , is a metal excess, n-type semiconductor. The earlier studies of the defect structure of  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  inferred from the observed oxygen partial pressure dependence of the electrical conductivity and the oxygen nonstoichiometry  $x$  have not been in unanimous agreement. Many of these studies have interpreted the experimental results using mass-action law treatments involving either cerium interstitials, oxygen vacancies or both in various states of ionization as being the predominant nonstoichiometric defect.<sup>1,3-5,13,14</sup>

The recent thermodynamic study on  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  by Panlener et al. has contributed much to the clear understanding of the nonstoichiometric defect structure.<sup>7</sup> The range of nonstoichiometry covered was  $0.001 \leq x \leq 0.3$ . The thermodynamic quantities  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  and  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$  (i.e. the relative partial molal enthalpy and entropy) were found to be independent of temperature. In the composition range  $0.001 < x < 0.01$ ,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  exhibits a slight dependence on  $x$ ; however the variation of  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$  is consistent with the defect reaction represented by Eq. (1) involving randomly distributed doubly ionized oxygen vacancies and electrons localized on cerium atoms.



In this composition region, the oxygen partial pressure dependence of  $x$ ,  $x \sim P_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/5}$ , is attributed to the variation of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  with nonstoichiometry. The previous defect model analysis utilizing the law of mass action approach is invalid because of the requirement of constant  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  (i.e.  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2} \neq f(x)$ ).

In the composition region  $x > 0.01$  defect interactions become important and  $x \sim P_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/n}$  where  $n > 5$  increases with decreasing  $P_{\text{O}_2}$ .

Other experimental evidence for the presence of oxygen vacancies as nonstoichiometric defects are: (i) oxygen self diffusion measurements by Steele and Floyd;<sup>15</sup> (ii) high temperature x-ray and neutron diffraction studies of Faber.<sup>16</sup>

The combination of thermodynamic and electrical conductivity studies by Blumenthal and Sharma<sup>5</sup> has resulted in the first complete characterization of the electronic conductivity of  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ . The isothermal electronic conductivity,  $\sigma_e$ , dependence on composition may be represented by the following expression

$$\sigma_e = 410[x]e^{-(0.158+x)/kT} (\text{ohm-cm})^{-1} \quad (2)$$

over the temperature range 750° to 1500°C and from  $x = 0.001$  to  $x = 0.1$ .

Equation (2) was rationalized in terms of the following simple relations for (a) the electron carrier concentration

$$n_{\text{Ce}'_{\text{Ce}}} = 8x/a_o^3 \quad (3)$$

where  $n_{\text{Ce}'_{\text{Ce}}}$  is the number of  $\text{Ce}'_{\text{Ce}}$  per cubic centimeter and  $a_o$  is the lattice parameter, and (b) the electron mobility

$$\mu_e = 5.2(10^{-2})e^{-(0.158+x)/kT} (\text{cm}^2/\text{V-sec}) \quad (4)$$

In a recent study in this laboratory an electrochemical cell technique was used to measure the ionic transference number of sintered specimens of "pure" nonstoichiometric  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  as a function of temperature and oxygen partial pressure.<sup>6</sup> The results were described in terms of a high and low oxygen pressure region. The ionic transference number,  $t_i$ , is controlled by impurities in the high oxygen region (i.e.  $1 > P_{\text{O}_2} > 10^{-3}$  atm). In the low oxygen pressure region the ionic transference number is small (e.g. above



700°C,  $t_i < 0.08$ ). The electrical conduction in this region is controlled by the nonstoichiometric defects and is predominantly electronic. Using the value of  $t_i \approx 0.05$  an estimate of the diffusion coefficient for doubly ionized oxygen vacancies,  $D_{V_o} \approx 3.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$  at 1000°C was calculated by combining thermodynamic and conductivity data with the Nernst-Einstein relation.

# DOPED NONSTOICHIOMETRIC CERIUM DIOXIDE

In our previous progress reports and recent publications we have described in detail a comprehensive study initiated in our laboratory to determine the effect of ionic radius, valence and concentration of foreign cations on the thermodynamic and electrical behavior of doped  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .<sup>8,9,11,12</sup> Cerium dioxide was selected as the host oxide in these doping experiments because it exhibits a large nonstoichiometric region,<sup>7,17</sup> an extensive solubility for foreign cations<sup>18</sup> and extensive studies have been performed on the thermodynamic<sup>7,17</sup> and electrical<sup>3-6</sup> behavior of "pure"  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .

Based on studies of x-ray and neutron diffraction,<sup>16</sup> thermodynamic,<sup>7</sup> electrical conductivity<sup>3-6</sup> and oxygen diffusion,<sup>15</sup> the predominant defects in nonstoichiometric  $\text{CeO}_2$  are doubly ionized oxygen vacancies and electrons localized on normal cerium atoms.

The doping experiments on  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  were initiated using  $\text{CaO}$  because the calcium ion has an ionic radius similar to a cerium ion and the addition of  $\text{CaO}$  to  $\text{CeO}_2$  results in the formation of oxygen vacancies.<sup>8</sup> Thus, the solution of  $\text{CaO}$  in nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide may be represented by the formula  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{Ca}_y\text{O}_{2-y-x}$ .

In a recent study the electrical conductivity of  $\text{CaO}$ -doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  (0.1 to 16 mole percent  $\text{CaO}$ ) was measured as a function of  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  (1 to  $10^{-22}$  atm) and temperature (700° to 1500°C).<sup>8</sup> All compositions exhibited mixed conduction and two limiting case regions were observed. The isothermal electrical conductivity at low temperatures and high oxygen partial pressures is independent of  $P_{\text{O}_2}$ ; the electrical conduction in this region is predominantly ionic and is directly proportional to the  $\text{CaO}$  content up to about 8 mole %  $\text{CaO}$ . The following expression was obtained

$$\sigma_i = [6.0 \pm 0.5][\text{mole \% CaO}]e^{-0.62/kT} \quad (5)$$

relating the ionic conductivity to the mole % CaO and temperature in this oxygen pressure and temperature region. At very low oxygen pressures and high temperatures the conduction is primarily electronic. In this region the magnitude and  $P_{O_2}$  dependence of  $\sigma$  is similar to "pure"  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ . At intermediate oxygen pressures the conduction is mixed (i.e. both electronic and ionic conduction is important).

As in the case of the defect structure analysis of "pure"  $\text{CeO}_2$ , the same problems associated with the mass action law approach and the compositional dependence of the charge carrier mobility are also present in the analysis of doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  (e.g. a) negligible interaction of defects (i.e.  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2} \neq f(x)$ ), b) random distribution of defects, c) Boltzmann statistics instead of Fermi Dirac statistics).<sup>19</sup>

Recently, an extensive thermodynamic investigation has been done on CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$ ,  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{Ca}_y\text{O}_{2-y-x}$ .<sup>9</sup> The results indicate that the thermodynamic behavior of  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped with aliovalent cations with valence less than four are more readily suitable for mass action law treatments than the corresponding behavior of "pure"  $\text{CeO}_2$ . For example, the oxygen nonstoichiometry  $x$  in the formula  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{Ca}_y\text{O}_{2-y-x}$  is proportional to  $P_{O_2}^{-1/4}$  over an appreciable range of  $P_{O_2}$ . The relative partial molal enthalpy,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$ , is also constant in this same composition region. The dependence of  $\Delta\bar{S}_{O_2}$  on  $x$  is consistent with the defect reaction described in Eq. (1).

Reddy recently measured the ionic transference numbers,  $t_i$ , of CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  samples, using an oxygen concentration cell from 700° to 1000°C and from 1 to  $10^{-22}$  atm of oxygen.<sup>10,12</sup> The transference data  $t_i = t_i(P_{O_2}, T)_y$  was combined with the appropriate electrical conductivity data,  $\sigma = \sigma(P_{O_2}, T)_y$

to obtain the following type of data for the ionic,  $\sigma_i$ , and electronic,  $\sigma_e$ , conductivities:

$$\sigma_i = \sigma_i(T, P_{O_2})_y \quad (6)$$

$$\sigma_e = \sigma_e(T, P_{O_2})_y \quad (7)$$

$$\sigma_i = \sigma_i(T, x)_y \quad (8)$$

$$\sigma_e = \sigma_e(T, x)_y \quad (9)$$

The results obtained to date may be summarized as follows:

a) Under isothermal conditions

$$\sigma_i \propto x \quad (10)$$

which is consistent with the dependence of  $\sigma_i$  on  $x$  predicted by the following expression

$$\sigma_i \approx B/T[y+x]e\mu_{V_O}^i \cdot \exp(-E_i/kT) \quad (11)$$

For the case where  $x \gg y$  (i.e. at high oxygen pressures) Eq. (11) simplifies to the following expression

$$\sigma_i \approx B/T[y]e\mu_{V_O}^i \cdot \exp(-E_i/kT) \quad (12)$$

The derivation of Eqs. (11) and (12) is based on a defect model involving doubly ionized oxygen vacancies.

b) Under isothermal conditions

$$\sigma_e \propto P_{O_2}^{-1/4} \quad (13)$$

and

$$\sigma_e \propto x \quad (14)$$

for  $x < 3 \times 10^{-2}$ . These results are consistent with defect models involving doubly ionized oxygen vacancies.

In the above study, CaO was selected as a dopant because the ionic radius of the calcium ion ( $\text{Ca}^{+2}$  : 1.09Å) is very similar to the cerium ion ( $\text{Ce}^{+4}$  : 1.07Å).<sup>18</sup> To determine the effect of a larger cation with the same valence as  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$ , an electrical conductivity and thermodynamic study<sup>11</sup> was made on SrO-doped nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide (i.e.,  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{Sr}_y\text{O}_{2-y-x}$ ) as a function of temperature ( $\sim 700 - 1500^\circ\text{C}$ ) and oxygen partial pressure ( $\sim 1$  to  $10^{-21}$  atm). Assuming limiting case defect models the ionic,  $\sigma_i$ , and electronic,  $\sigma_e$ , conductivities were calculated from this data.

In the region where  $y \gg x$  (i.e., at low temperatures and high oxygen pressures) the conductivity is independent of  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  and up to approximately 3 mole % SrO, it is proportional to mole % SrO. The equation for ionic conductivity,

$$\sigma_i \approx [4.5 \pm 0.5][\text{m/o SrO}] \exp(-0.58/kT), \quad (15)$$

was obtained by fitting the conductivity data in this region to an expression derived on the basis of an oxygen vacancy model.

In the composition region between approximately  $x = 10^{-3}$  and  $x = 10^{-2}$ , both the thermodynamic behavior and the electrical conductivity was shown to be consistent with a defect model involving randomly distributed doubly ionized oxygen vacancies and electrons localized on normal cerium sites. In this region the electronic conductivity varies linearly with  $x$  and the electronic mobility decreases with increasing SrO content.

An approximation expression for the diffusion coefficient of oxygen vacancies,  $D_{\text{V}_\text{O}}$ , in SrO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$

$$D_{V_O} \approx 2.8 \times 10^{-3} \exp(-0.58/kT) \quad (16)$$

was determined in this study from the above data and the Nernst-Einstein relation. It is interesting to note that  $D_{V_O}$  for SrO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  is about 20% greater than  $D_{V_O}$  for CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  at  $800^\circ\text{C}$ , whereas at  $1000^\circ\text{C}$  both values of  $D_{V_O}$  are about equal.<sup>8</sup>

A recent study of oxygen self-diffusion<sup>15</sup> in yttria doped ceria at  $P_{O_2} = 1$  atm in the temperature range  $850 - 1150^\circ\text{C}$  indicates that the activation energy, approximately 20 kcal/mole, is essentially independent of yttria composition (i.e., for  $z$  between 0 and 0.2 in the formula  $\text{Ce}_{1-2z}\text{Y}_{2z}\text{O}_{2-z}$ ). The activation energy obtained in this study ( $\sim 13$  kcal/mole) for diffusion of oxygen vacancies produced by SrO is about 1 kcal less than observed in a similar study<sup>8</sup> on CaO-doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  and about 7 kcal less than the value reported for self-diffusion of oxygen in  $\text{Ce}_{1-2z}\text{Y}_{2z}\text{O}_{2-z}$ .

In our previous progress reports and recent publications we have described in detail a comprehensive study initiated in our laboratory to determine the effect of the ionic radii, valence and concentration of foreign cations on (1) the nonstoichiometric behavior of doped  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ , (2) the thermodynamic quantities,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  and  $\Delta\bar{S}_{O_2}$ , and (3) the nonstoichiometric defect structure of doped  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .<sup>9,11,12</sup>

Our earlier reported thermodynamic studies on doped- $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  have been limited primarily to foreign cations with a lower valence than cerium (i.e., Ca, Sr, Y and La).<sup>12</sup> It has been shown that doping  $\text{CeO}_2$  with these lower valent cations produces oxygen vacancies.<sup>8,11</sup> Thus the solution of MO or  $M'_2\text{O}_3$  in nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide may be represented by the formulae  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{M}_y\text{O}_{2-y-x}$  and  $\text{Ce}_{1-z}\text{M}'_2\text{O}_{2-z/2-x}$  respectively where  $M = \text{Ca}, \text{Sr}$  and  $M' = \text{Y}, \text{La}$ . In the composition region near stoichiometry (i.e., for  $x$

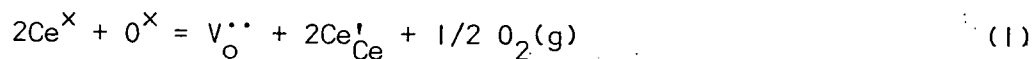
between approximately  $10^{-3}$  and  $10^{-2}$ ). For these lower valent dopants the variation of  $\Delta\bar{S}_{O_2}$  with  $x$  was found to be consistent with a defect model involving randomly distributed doubly ionized oxygen vacancies and electrons localized on normal cerium sites.<sup>9</sup> The range of nonstoichiometry with which this defect model fits the experimental results increases with increasing dopant concentration.<sup>9</sup> In this same nonstoichiometric region  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  exhibits a very small dependence on  $x$  for the lower dopant concentration (e.g.  $y < 0.045$  for  $Ce_{1-y}Ca_yO_{2-y-x}$ ) and for the higher dopant concentration  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  is essentially independent of  $x$ .

In the last progress report<sup>12</sup> an attempt was made to relate the dependence of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  on the dopant concentration for the lower valent foreign cation (e.g.  $y/2$  for  $Ce_{1-y}Ca_yO_{2-y-x}$  and  $z/4$  for  $Ce_{1-z}La_zO_{2-z/2-x}$ ). The values of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  used were determined in the near stoichiometric region (i.e. where  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  exhibits either a small dependence or is independent of  $x$ ). As discussed in previous publications<sup>9,11</sup> and reports,<sup>12</sup> this is the same region of nonstoichiometry where the variation of  $\Delta\bar{S}_{O_2}$  with  $\log x$  is consistent with the nonstoichiometric defect model proposed for "pure"  $CeO_2$  and  $CeO_2$  doped with either  $CaO$ ,  $SrO$ ,  $La_2O_3$  or  $Y_2O_3$ . From plots of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  versus  $y/2$  and  $z/4$  it was observed that the dependence of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  on the oxygen vacancy concentration appears to be linear within a band of approximately  $\pm 0.2$  eV.<sup>12</sup> It also appears that the dependence of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  on the ionic radius is very small.

Although we do not have any quantitative explanation for these results, it is interesting to speculate about the possible causes for the observed behavior. For example, to a first order approximation the increase in  $\Delta\bar{H}_{O_2}$  with  $y/2$  or  $z/4$  may be related to a decrease in the coulombic attraction resulting from the decreased average charge of the

ions (i.e. substitution of lower valent cations and the presence of oxygen vacancies would reduce the average charge of the cations and anions in  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped with lower valent oxides).

A recent study in this laboratory has also been initiated on the electrical conductivity of  $\text{ThO}_2$ -doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  as a function of  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  and temperature.<sup>12</sup> In this study  $\text{ThO}_2$  was selected as a dopant because: (1) the ionic radius of  $\text{Th}^{+4}$  is larger than  $\text{Ce}^{+4}$  and (2)  $\text{ThO}_2$  has the same fluorite crystal structure as  $\text{CeO}_2$  (an x-ray study has shown that  $\text{ThO}_2$  and  $\text{CeO}_2$  are completely soluble in one another), (3) the thorium ion has the same valence as a cerium ion. Thus,  $\text{ThO}_2$  should be an excellent dopant for determining the effect of lattice dilatation on the (a) energy of formation of the nonstoichiometric defects reaction



and (b) the energy of motion for the electrons,  $Q$ , in the expression

$$\mu = \mu_{\text{O}} e^{-Q/kT} \quad (17)$$

As described in the progress report<sup>12</sup> thermogravimetric measurements were made on  $\text{ThO}_2$ -doped nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide specimens (10 mole %  $\text{ThO}_2$ ) as a function of temperature and oxygen pressure. From this data the deviation from stoichiometry  $x = x(T, P_{\text{O}_2})^y$  was determined for value of  $y = 0.10$ .

At small deviations from stoichiometry (i.e. for  $x$  less than approximately 0.01) the nonstoichiometric behavior is best characterized by the relation

$$x \propto P_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/4} \quad (18)$$



As discussed in the electrical properties section the electrical conductivity of  $\text{ThO}_2$  doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  samples was effected by the presence of impurities.<sup>12</sup> The nonstoichiometric dependence,  $x$ , on  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  given by Eq. (18) is consistent with the behavior observed for  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped with lower valent cations (e.g. Ca, Sr, Y, La).<sup>12</sup> Thus it appears that the lower valent impurities are effecting the nonstoichiometric behavior of  $\text{ThO}_2$  doped  $\text{CeO}_2$ . This sample is now being analyzed to check the above interpretation.

It is interesting to note that  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  is independent of  $x$  in the region near stoichiometry.<sup>12</sup> In this same composition region the magnitude of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  increases about 1 eV relative to the value reported for "pure"  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$ .<sup>12</sup> However, it is difficult to attribute the above changes in  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  solely to the presence of  $\text{ThO}_2$  because the thermodynamic behavior may also be influenced by the presence of lower valent cation impurities.

The effect of the lattice parameter on  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  appears to be more of a second order effect because the above change in  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  is much smaller than would be expected based on the large increase in the lattice parameter resulting from the presence of 10 mole %  $\text{ThO}_2$ .

All of the previous studies on doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  have been limited to foreign cation with the same or lower valence than cerium. None of these dopants produce charge compensating electronic defects. Thus, in an attempt to determine the relative importance of the valence of substitutional foreign ions and electronic defects on  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$ , a combined electrical conductivity and thermodynamic study on  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  doped cerium dioxide was initiated.<sup>12</sup> A higher valent dopant  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  was selected because it produces charge compensating electronic defects rather than oxygen vacancies as is the case for lower valent cations.

Thermogravimetric and electrical conductivity measurements were made on  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ -doped nonstoichiometric cerium dioxide (i.e.  $\text{Ce}_{1-y}\text{Ta}_y\text{O}_{2-x}$ ) as a function of temperature (800–1300°C) and oxygen partial pressure ( $1\text{--}10^{-22}$  atm).<sup>20</sup> From the thermodynamic data the deviation from stoichiometry  $x = x(T, P_{\text{O}_2})_y$  was determined from values of  $y = 0.00199, 0.00598, 0.00995, 0.01489$  and  $0.0198$ . The thermodynamic quantities  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  and  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$  were calculated in the region  $0.003 \leq x \leq 0.2$  and found to be independent of temperature.

In the composition region near stoichiometry,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  for  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  doped samples decreases with  $x$ . The range of this dependence increases with increasing  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  content. In this composition range, relative partial molal enthalpy,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  for "pure"  $\text{CeO}_2$  increases with  $x$ . At large deviations from stoichiometry the dependence of  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  for  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  doped specimen is similar to "pure"  $\text{CeO}_2$ , i.e. it increases with  $x$ . Since the relative partial molal enthalpy,  $\Delta\bar{H}_{\text{O}_2}$  for doped samples exhibits a strong and complicated dependence on  $x$ , the variation of  $\Delta\bar{S}_{\text{O}_2}$  is not consistent with the equations based on randomly distributed defect models.

In the region where  $y \gg x$  (i.e. at low temperature and high oxygen pressures) the conductivity is independent of  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  and exhibits a maximum near 0.75 mole %  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ . In the same region of nonstoichiometry and between 0.3 and 1.0 mole %  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ , the activation energy,  $Q$ , increases with dopant concentration. At intermediate oxygen pressures, the conductivity does not exhibit a single  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  dependence except with increasing  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  content the  $P_{\text{O}_2}$  dependence decreases. However in the same region of oxygen partial pressures, the conductivity of "pure"  $\text{CeO}_{2-x}$  is proportional to  $P_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/5}$ .

From the electrical conductivity and thermodynamic data, the isothermal compositional dependence of the electrical conductivity of  $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$  doped  $\text{CeO}_2$  was determined. Over the temperature range 800 - 1300°C, from  $y = 0.00199$  to  $y = 0.0198$  and  $x = 0.002$  to  $x = 0.16$ , the compositional and temperature dependence of the electrical conductivity may be represented by the expression

$$\sigma = (177.3 + 19600y)(1-2y-2x)(y+2x)$$

$$\exp \left[ \frac{-[(0.167 + 9.57y) + (0.676 - 21.4y)x]}{kT} \right]$$

where activation energy of electron motion is a function of both dopant concentration and nonstoichiometry.<sup>20</sup>

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