

Supplementary Information

Memory-dictated Dynamics of Single-atom Pt on CeO₂ for CO Oxidation

Zihao Zhang,^{1,2,†} Jinshu Tian,^{1,†} Yubing Lu,¹ Shize Yang,³ Dong Jiang,² Weixin Huang,² Yixiao Li,² Jiyun Hong,⁴ Adam S. Hoffman,⁴ Simon R. Bare,⁴ Mark H. Engelhard,¹ Abhaya K. Datye,⁵ Yong Wang*,^{1,2}

¹ Institute for Integrated Catalysis, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA 99354, USA

² The Gene and Linda Voiland School of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164, USA

³ Eyring Materials Center, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85257, USA

⁴ Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Light Source, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

⁵ Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Center for Micro-Engineered Materials, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131, USA

[†] These authors contributed equally

*Corresponding author. Email: yong.wang@pnnl.gov (Y. Wang)

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Supplementary Tables

Table S1 The actual Pt loadings and surface atomic percentage (Pt, Ce, and O) determined by ICP-AES and XPS, respectively

Samples	Pt (wt%)	Surface at. Pt%	Surface at. Ce%	Surface at. O%
CeO ₂	~	~	27.5	72.5
Pt/CeO ₂	0.75	0.8	26.6	72.6
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂	0.81	0.9	26.0	73.1
Pt/CeO ₂ -180 °C ^a	~	0.7	14.7	84.6
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -180 °C ^a	~	1.2	19.8	79.1
CeO ₂ -CO	~	~	25.5	74.5
Pt/CeO ₂ -CO	~	0.4	25.2	74.5
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -CO	~	0.6	25.5	73.9

^aPt/CeO₂-180 °C and Pt_{AT}CeO₂-180 °C represent the catalysts after treatment at 180 °C under CO oxidation condition for 20 mins before test.

Table S2 Best-fit EXAFS models characterizing results at the Pt L_3 -edge for the Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂ in ambient air at 25 °C, and CO oxidation condition at 25 °C and 180 °C. R: radial distance. CN: coordination number. E₀: correction to the threshold energy, σ^2 : Debye-Waller-like term

Samples	Path	R (Å)	CN	$\sigma^2 \times 10^3$ (Å ²)	E ₀ (eV)	R factor
Pt/CeO ₂ -ambient air	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.01	5.0 ± 0.4	2 ± 1	4.5 ± 1.1	0.003
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -ambient air	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.01	4.9 ± 0.5	2 ± 1	3.7 ± 1.5	0.005
Pt/CeO ₂ -CO/O ₂ 25°C	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.03	3.1 ± 0.9	3 ± 3	6.3 ± 3.7	0.008
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -CO/O ₂ 25°C	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.02	4.8 ± 1.2	4 ± 3	5.3 ± 3.2	0.006
Pt/CeO ₂ -CO/O ₂ 180°C	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.02	2.8 ± 0.7	4 ± 3	6.2 ± 3.2	0.006
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -CO/O ₂ 180°C	Pt-O	2.00 ± 0.01	3.2 ± 0.6	3 ± 2	5.6 ± 2.2	0.003

Table S3 BET surface area, pore volume, pore size, and average crystallite size of different samples determined by N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms and XRD

Samples	BET surface area (m ² /g)	Pore volume (cm ³ /g)	Pore size (nm)	Crystallite size (nm)
CeO ₂	53.3	0.34	20.1	11.5
800CeO ₂	13.4	0.11	34.1	31.5
0.1Pt/800CeO ₂	14.2	0.12	33.9	32.3
0.1Pt _{AT} 800CeO ₂	13.5	0.13	38.0	32.0
0.1Pt/CeO ₂	53.6	0.26	19.5	~
0.1Pt _{AT} CeO ₂	13.8	0.16	46.8	~
Pt/CeO ₂	51.1	0.26	20.3	12.0
Pt/CeO ₂ -CO	~	~	~	12.2
Pt/CeO ₂ -CO-O ₂	~	~	~	12.3
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂	27.2	0.16	23.9	21.7
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -CO	~	~	~	21.8
Pt _{AT} CeO ₂ -CO-O ₂	~	~	~	20.5

Supplementary Figures

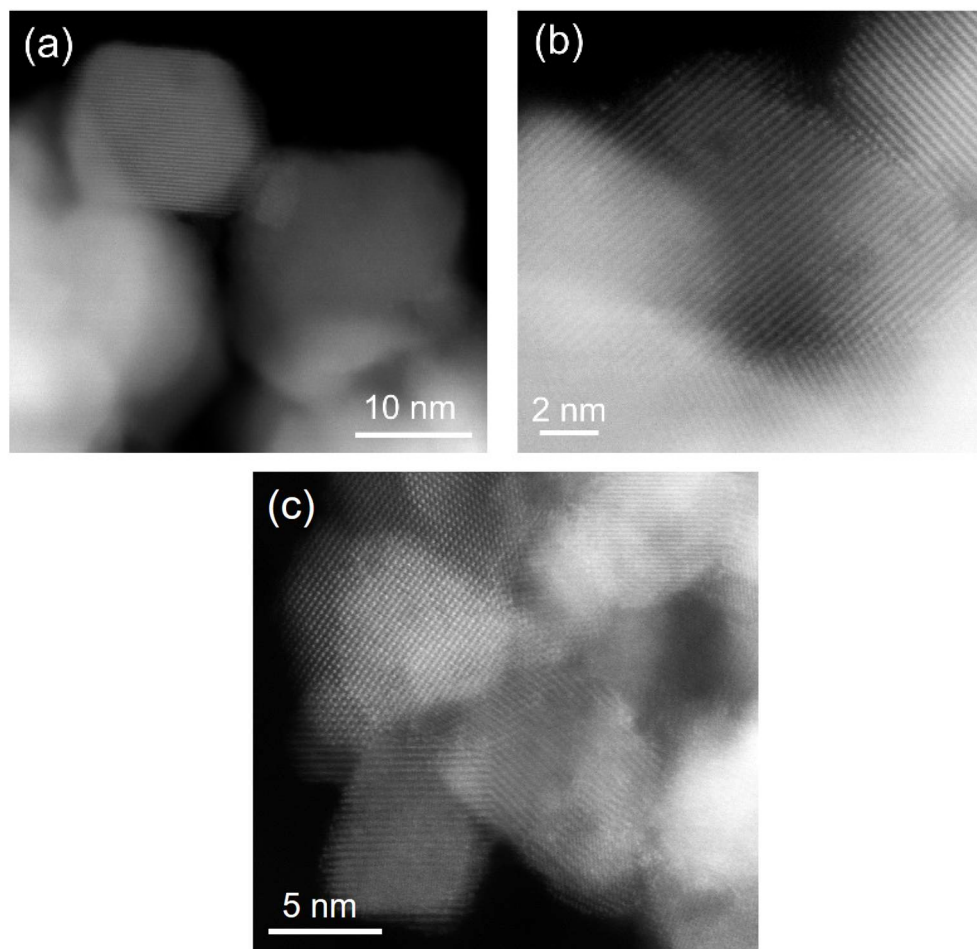


Fig. S1 HAADF-STEM images of (a,b) Pt_{AT}/CeO₂ and (c) Pt/CeO₂

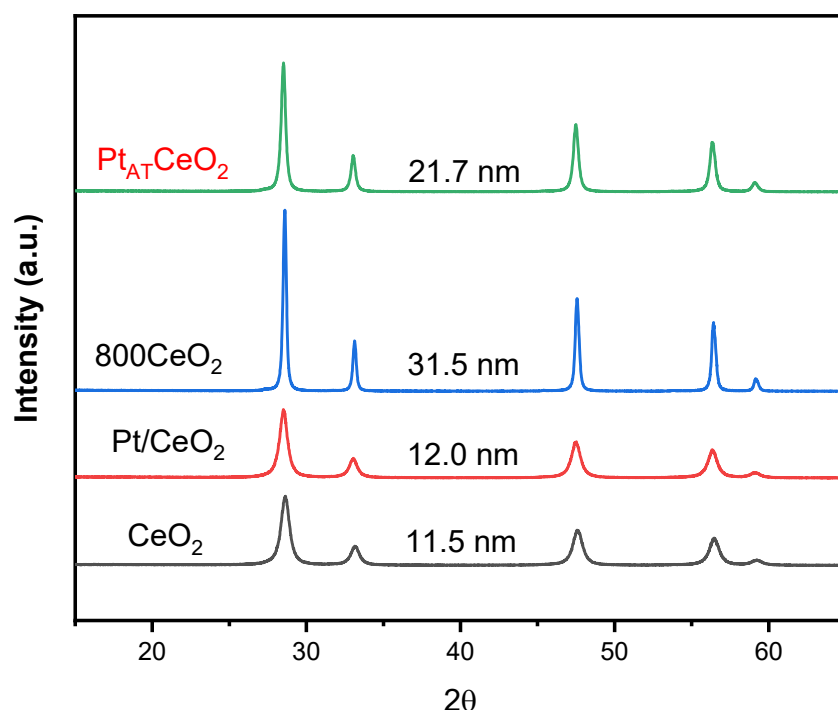


Fig. S2 Powder XRD patterns of CeO₂ (calcined at 500 °C), Pt/CeO₂, and Pt_{AT}CeO₂. 800CeO₂ is calcined directly at 800 °C for 10 h. The average CeO₂ crystallite sizes determined by Scherrer equation from CeO₂ (111) peak were also included

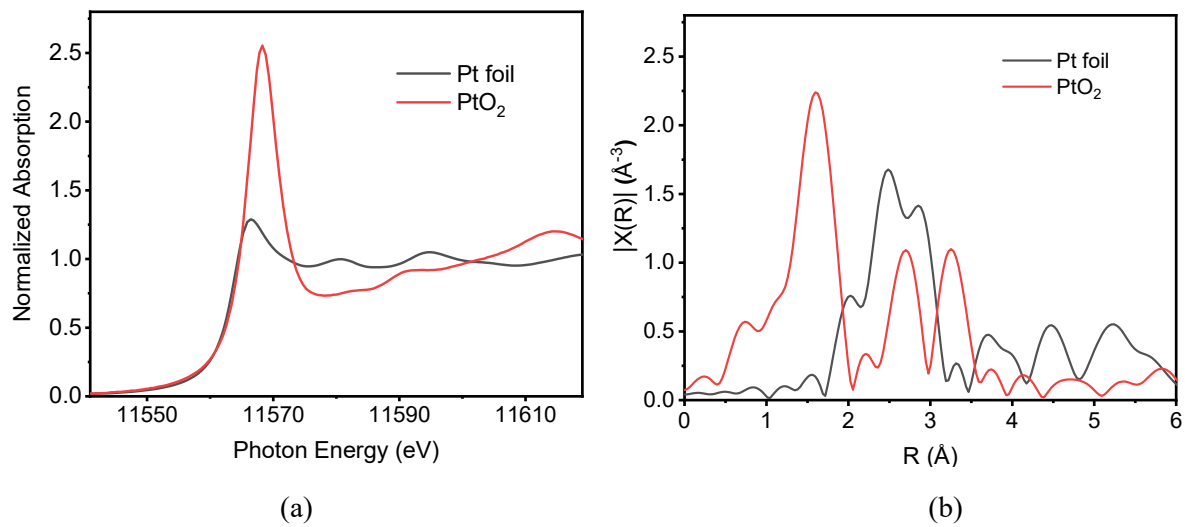


Fig. S3 Pt L_3 -edge XANES and the corresponding EXAFS spectra of references Pt foil and PtO₂

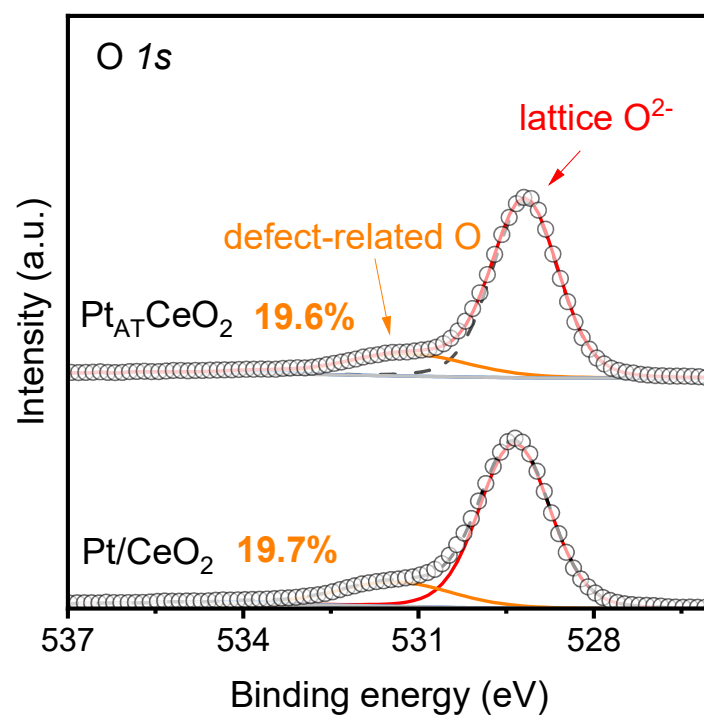


Fig. S4 O 1s XPS spectra of Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂

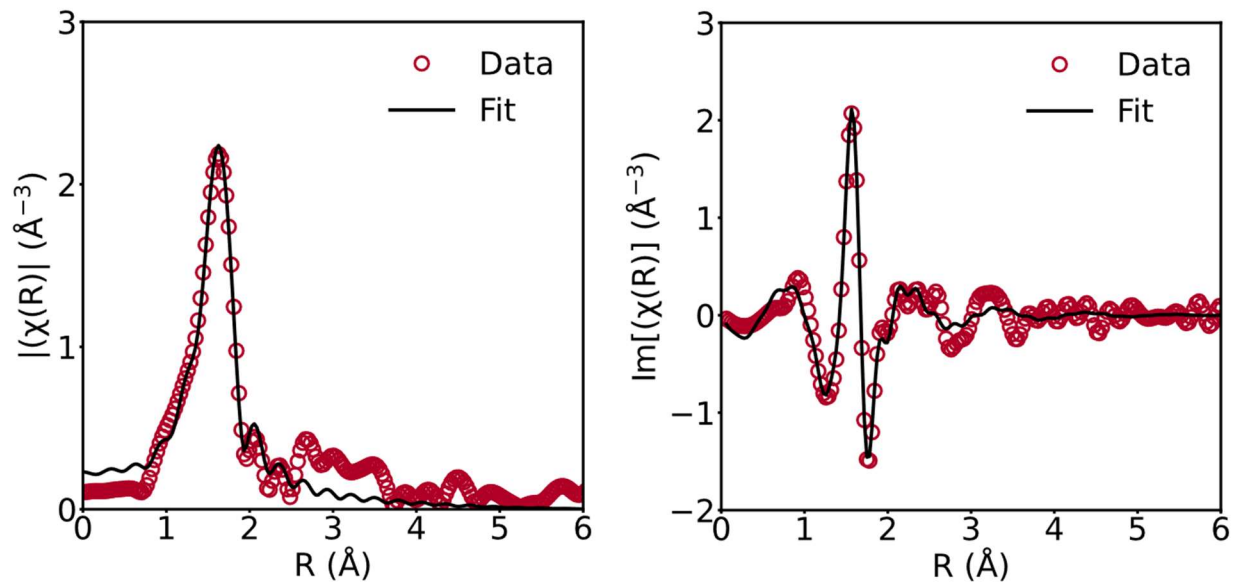


Fig. S5 Pt L_3 -edge X-ray absorption spectroscopy of fresh Pt/CeO₂. Magnitude (left) and imaginary component (right) of the Fourier-transform of the $\chi(k)$ data of fresh Pt/CeO₂ collected under air. Data (circle) and model fit (solid line). $R = 1.2\text{-}2 \text{ \AA}$ for the fit window. $\Delta k = 3\text{-}14 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ for the Fourier transform

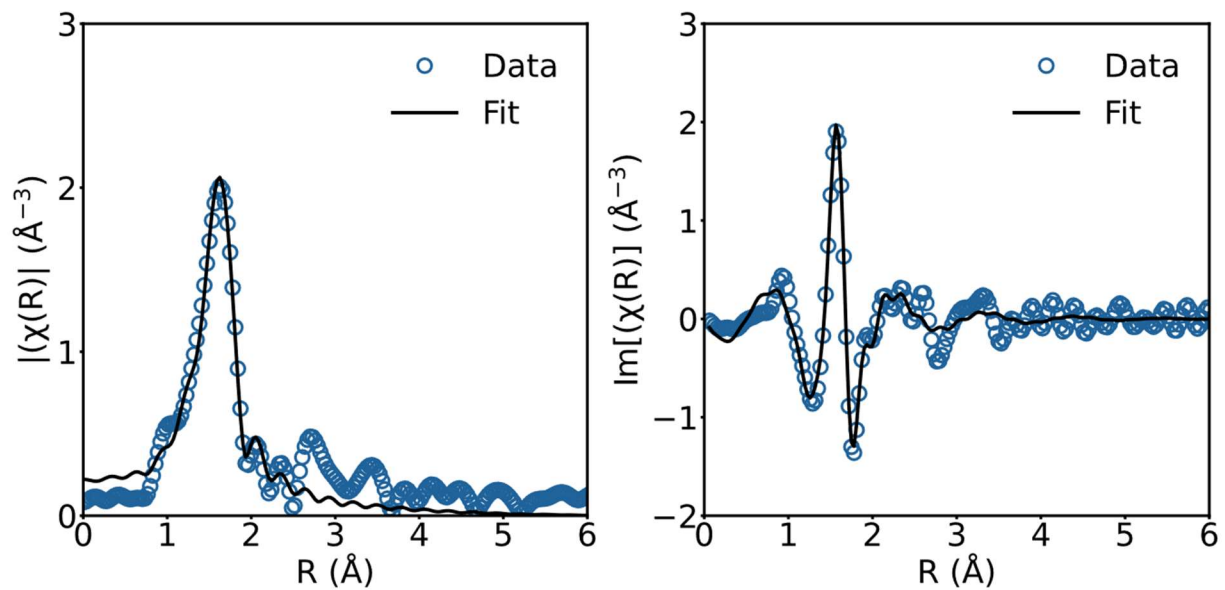
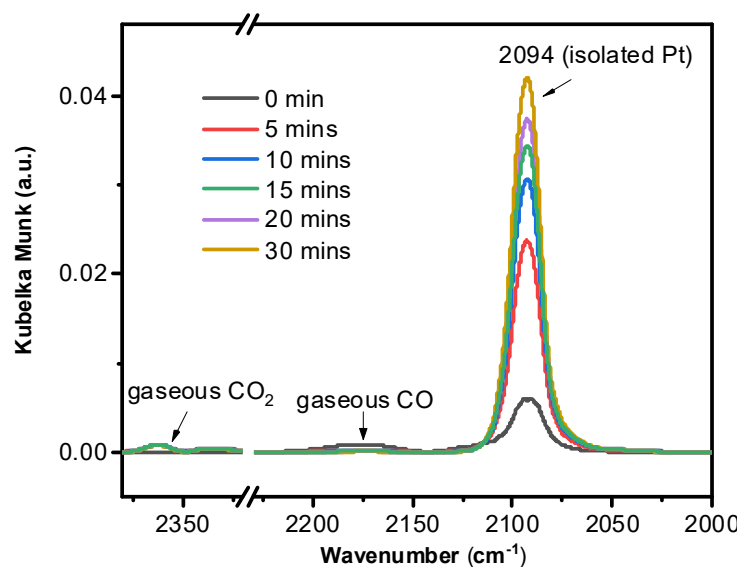
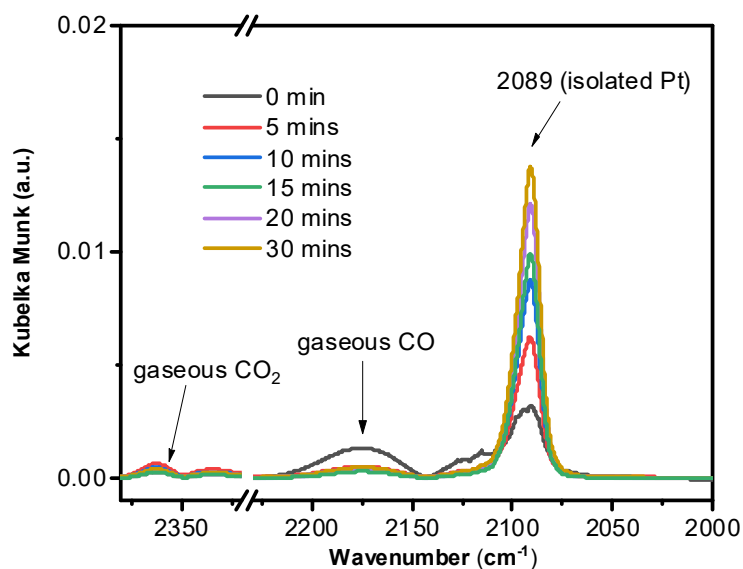


Fig. S6 Pt L_3 -edge X-ray absorption spectroscopy of fresh Pt_{AT}CeO₂. Magnitude (left) and imaginary component (right) of the Fourier-transform of the $\chi(k)$ data of fresh Pt_{AT}CeO₂ collected under air. Data (circle) and model fit (solid line). $R = 1.2\text{--}2\text{ \AA}$ for the fit window. $\Delta k = 3\text{--}14\text{ \AA}^{-1}$ for the Fourier transform



(a)



(b)

Fig. S7 *In situ* CO diffuse reflectance infrared Fourier transform spectra (CO-DRIFTS) for (a) Pt/CeO₂ and (b) Pt_{AT}CeO₂ at 100 °C in the flowing 1% CO and 8% O₂ mixture (balanced in He) from 0 ~ 30 mins. Operation condition: After increasing temperature to 100 °C in O₂/He, 1% CO was introduced and the spectra were recorded for the next 30 mins

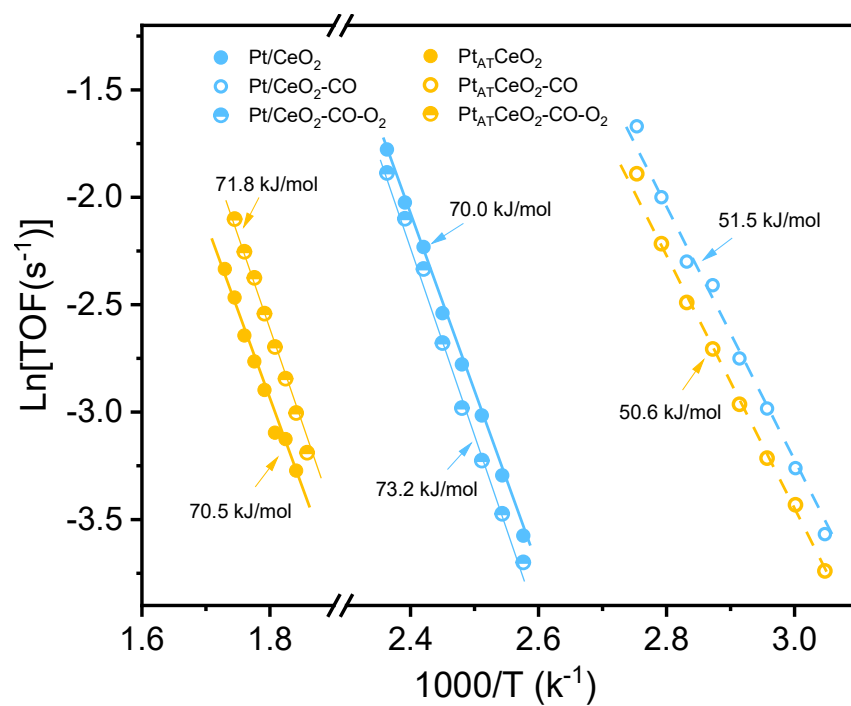


Fig. S8 Arrhenius plots of fresh, CO-reduced, and re-oxidized Pt/CeO_2 and $\text{Pt}_{\text{AT}}\text{CeO}_2$. 1% CO and 4% O_2 balanced in Ar with WHSV of 300 $\text{L/g}\cdot\text{h}$, 20 mg catalyst diluted with SiC to 400 mg

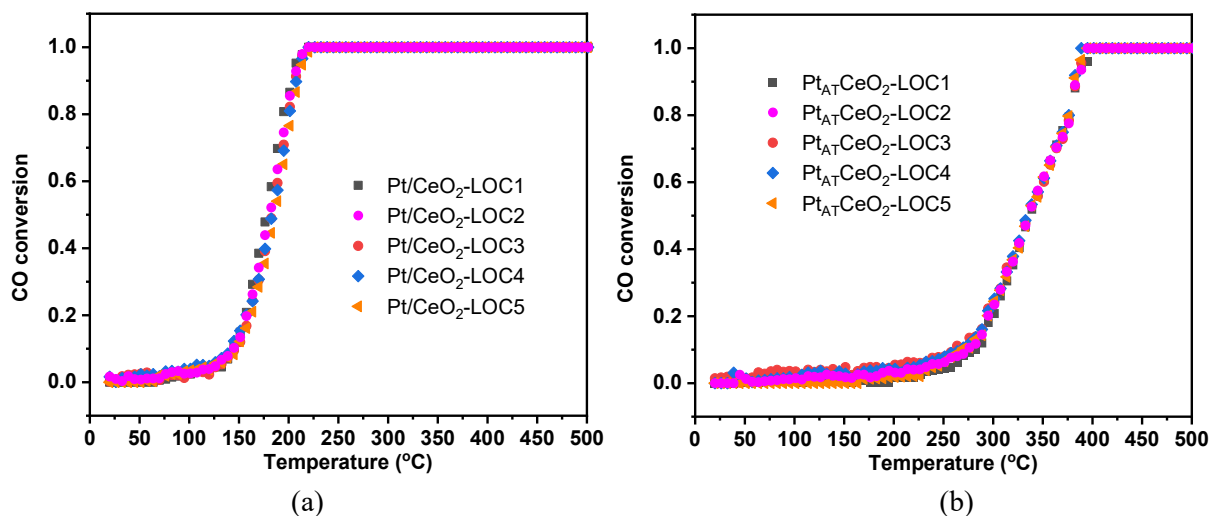


Fig. S9 Five repeated light-off curves (LOCs) of fresh (a) Pt/CeO₂ and (b) Pt_{AT}CeO₂. Reaction conditions: catalyst loading = 20 mg, diluted with SiC to 400 mg, 1% CO and 4% O₂ balanced in Ar, total flow rate = 100 mL/min, ramping from 20 to 500 °C with the ramping rate of 3 °C/min for each cycle; For instance, Pt/CeO₂-LOC2 represents the second light-off curve of Pt/CeO₂; Pt_{AT}CeO₂-LOC4 represents the fourth light-off curve of Pt_{AT}CeO₂

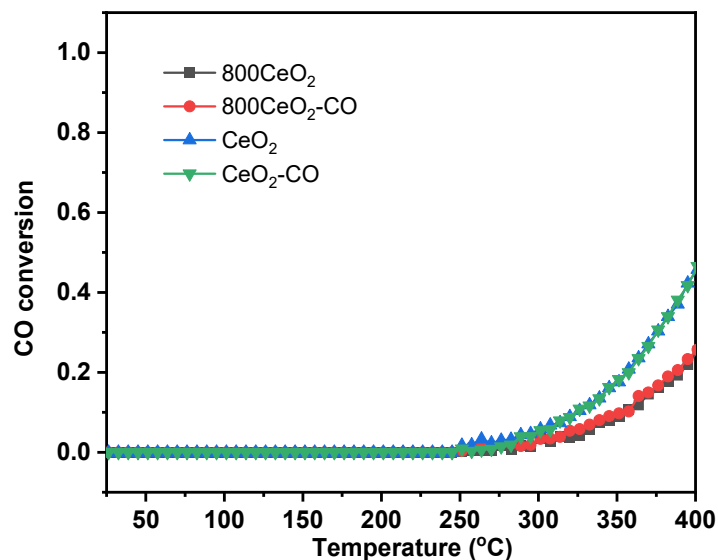


Fig. S10 CO oxidation performance (light-off curve) of CeO₂ (precalcined at 500 °C) and 800CeO₂ (precalcined at 800 °C) before and after CO reduction. Reaction conditions: catalyst loading = 20 mg, diluted with SiC to 400 mg, 1% CO and 4% O₂ balanced in Ar, total flow rate = 100 mL/min, ramping from 20 to 400 °C with the ramping rate of 3 °C/min for each cycle

800CeO₂ shows slightly lower CO oxidation reactivity than CeO₂ (calcined at 500 °C), that is ascribed to its lower surface area (53.3 m²/g for CeO₂ and 13.4 m²/g for 800CeO₂, **Table S3**). In addition, the CO oxidation reactivity of pure CeO₂ and 800CeO₂ does not change even after CO pretreatment.

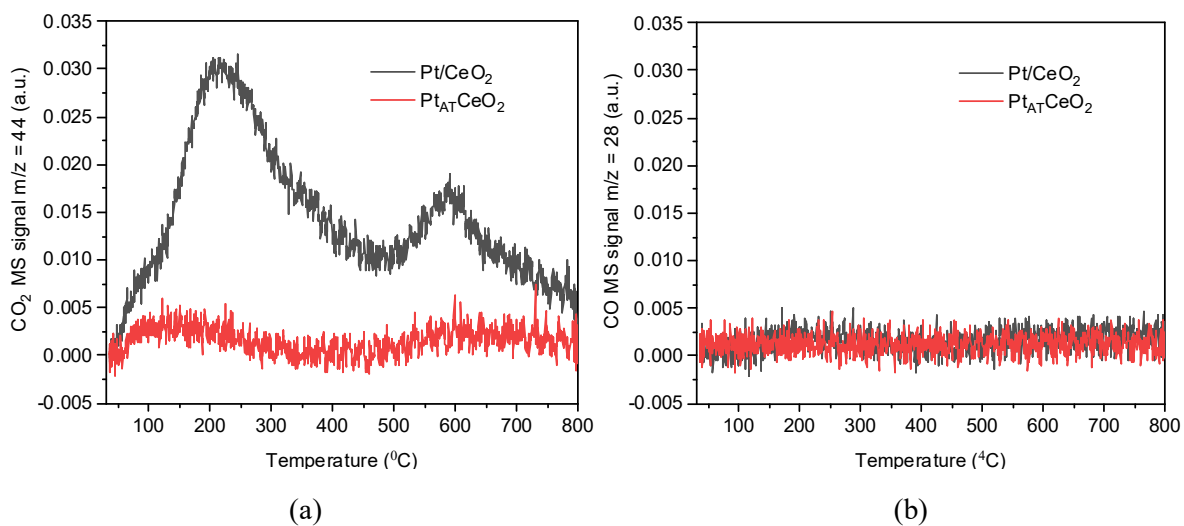


Fig. S11 (a) CO₂ MS signal ($m/z = 44$) and (b) CO MS signal ($m/z = 28$) during temperature programmed desorption of CO from 35 to 800 °C on Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂. During the CO desorption process, only CO₂ was monitored with very little CO signal being detected, suggesting that adsorbed CO will react with lattice O of CeO₂ to form CO₂ before desorption

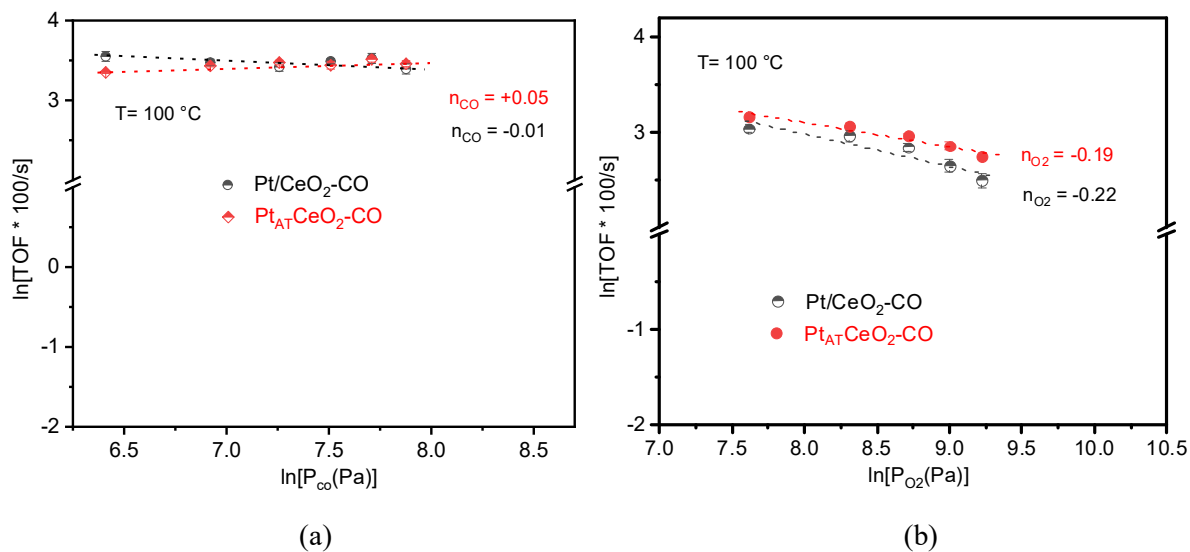


Fig. S12 (a) CO and (b) O₂ partial pressure on the reaction rate (TOF) of Pt/CeO₂-CO and Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO, respectively. The reaction temperature is chosen as 100 °C. Two reduced catalysts show similar CO oxidation activity, and similar reaction orders in both CO and O₂ due to the formation of Pt aggregates after reduction

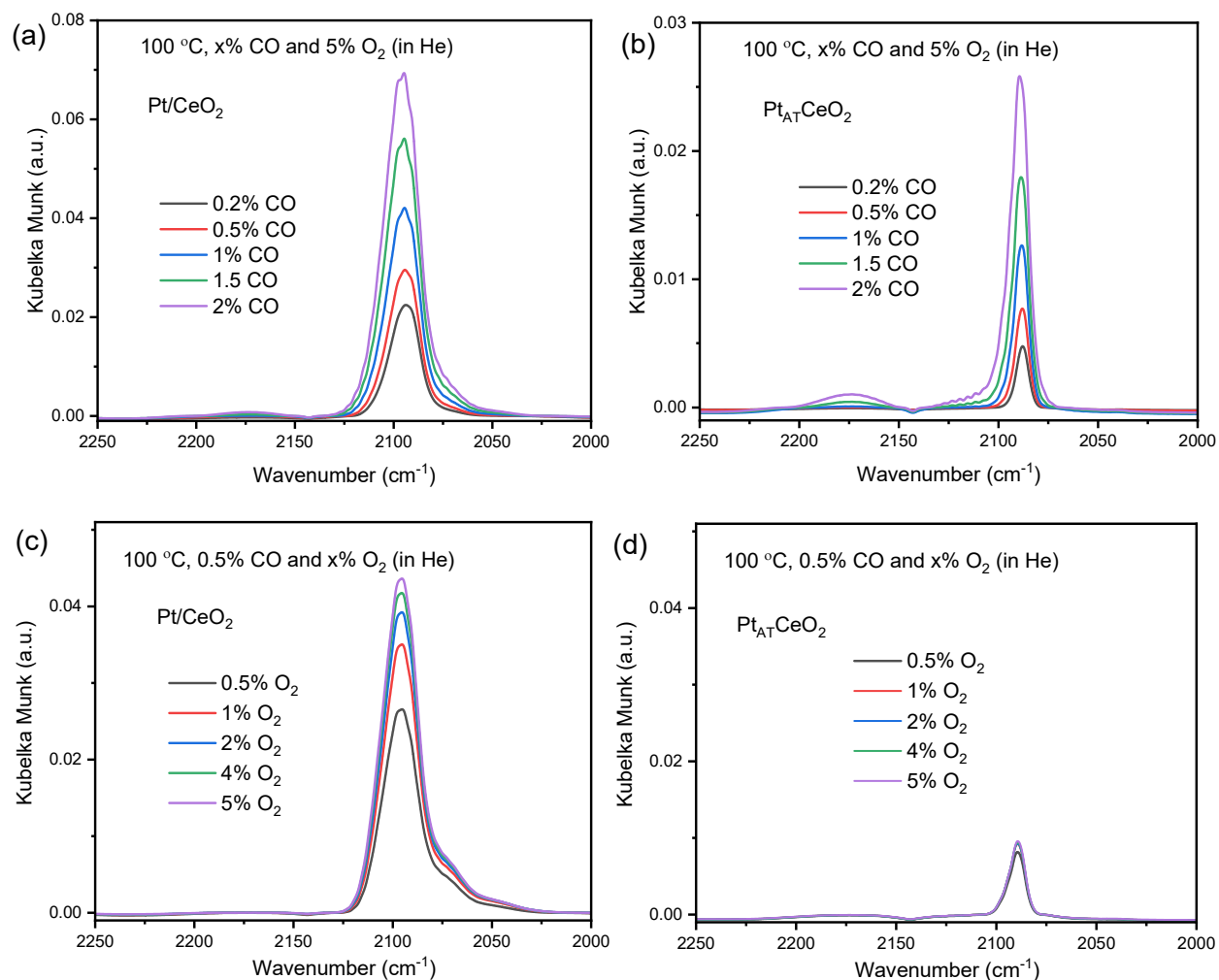


Fig. S13 CO-DRIFTS of (a,c) Pt/CeO₂ and (b,d) Pt_{AT}CeO₂, the effect of (a,b) CO and (c,d) O₂ partial pressures on the surface coverage of Pt₁ species at 100 °C. For (a,b) CO-dependent experiments, CO partial pressure increases from 0.2% to 2% in sequence with 5% O₂. For (c,d) O₂-dependent experiments, O₂ partial pressure increases from 0.5% to 5% in sequence with 0.5% CO

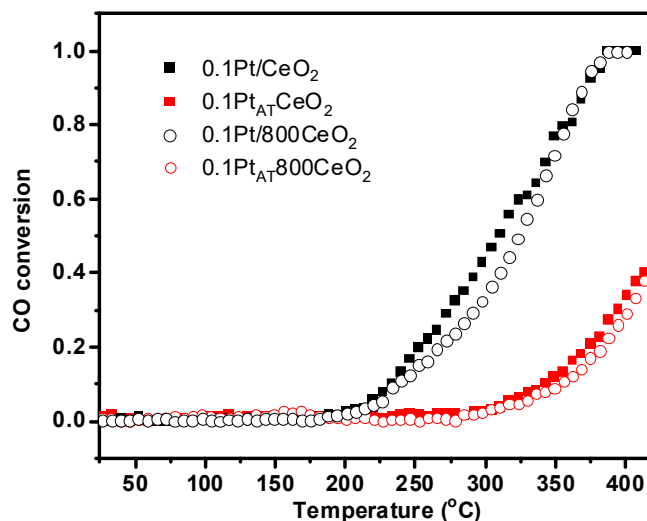


Fig. S14 CO oxidation performance (light-off curve) of 0.1Pt/CeO₂, 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂, 0.1Pt/800CeO₂, and 0.1Pt_{AT}800CeO₂. Reaction conditions: catalyst loading = 20 mg, diluted with SiC to 400 mg, 1% CO and 4% O₂ balanced in Ar, total flow rate = 100 mL/min, ramping from 20 to 400 °C with the ramping rate of 3 °C/min for each cycle

The average CeO₂ crystallite sizes of Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂ are 12.0 and 21.7 nm (**Table S3**), as determined by the Scherrer equation of XRD patterns (**Fig. S2**). The surface areas of Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂ determined by N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms (**Fig. S16, Table S3**) are 51.1 and 27.2 m²/g, respectively. Pt/CeO₂ has larger surface area and smaller CeO₂ size than Pt_{AT}CeO₂. To exclude the effect of surface area and CeO₂ grain size on reactivity, CeO₂ support was pre-calcined at 800 °C for 10 h to sacrifice the CeO₂ surface through particle agglomeration. A small amount of Pt (0.1 wt%) was then impregnated on the above-synthesized 800CeO₂ support to maintain the atomically dispersed nature, followed by calcination at 500 and 800 °C to obtain 0.1Pt/800CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}800CeO₂, respectively. Because of the pre-calcination of the support at 800 °C, 0.1Pt/800CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}800CeO₂ exhibited similar porosity properties (**Table S3, Fig. S17**) and CeO₂ particle size (**Fig. S18**) to the 800CeO₂ support. The obtained 0.1Pt/800CeO₂ still showed much higher CO oxidation activity than 0.1Pt_{AT}800CeO₂ (**Fig. S14**), although they have very similar surface area and CeO₂ grain size. To rule out the influence of few Pt clusters present in Pt/CeO₂ on activity, 0.1Pt/CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂ with a low Pt loading (~0.1 wt%) were prepared, which also showed the similar activity trend (**Fig. S14**). At such a low Pt loading, it is unlikely for oxidized Pt clusters to exist in fresh 0.1Pt/CeO₂ after calcination at 500 °C in air.

It should be noted that CO conversion is almost 100% over Pt/CeO₂ at 200 °C (**Fig. 3a**), but only around 2% over 0.1Pt/CeO₂. If the initial Pt₁ structure in Pt/CeO₂ was the real active site, we should expect around 10% conversion over 0.1Pt/CeO₂ at 200 °C. The much lower reactivity in 0.1Pt/CeO₂ might further prove that the *in situ* formed Pt clusters are the real active sites in Pt/CeO₂, since the lower surface Pt₁ density in 0.1Pt/CeO₂ is less likely to sinter under the same condition.

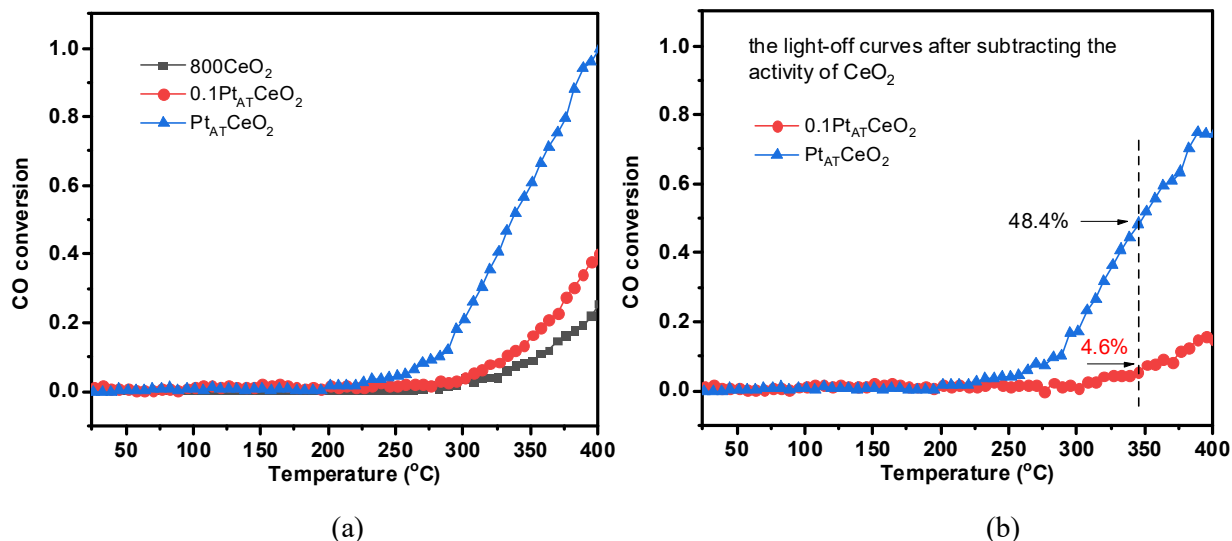


Fig. S15 (a) CO oxidation performance of 800CeO₂ (calcined at 800 °C), 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂, and Pt_{AT}CeO₂; (b) CO oxidation performance of 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂, and Pt_{AT}CeO₂ after subtracting the activity of CeO₂.

Because of the similar activity of 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂ and pure CeO₂, the effect of support on the reactivity should be discussed. We have combined the light-off curves for 800CeO₂, Pt_{AT}CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂ (**Fig. S15a**). Apparently, the catalytic activities of Pt_{AT}CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂ are still higher than that of pure CeO₂. Even with only 0.1 wt% Pt on CeO₂ surface, the difference in activity is evident, suggesting that the square-planar Pt₁ in Pt_{AT}CeO₂ is indeed more active than CeO₂. However, CeO₂ does contribute to some activity above 300 °C. To exclude the influence of CeO₂, the light-off curves of Pt_{AT}CeO₂ and 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂ were obtained by simply subtracting the activity of CeO₂, as seen in **Fig. S15b**. The CO conversion over Pt_{AT}CeO₂ is roughly 10 times higher than that of 0.1Pt_{AT}CeO₂, for example, 48.4% and 4.6% at 347 °C, respectively (**Fig. S15b**). This further suggests the Pt₁ in Pt_{AT}CeO₂ does not transform into Pt cluster, otherwise we will see a more than tenfold activity difference.

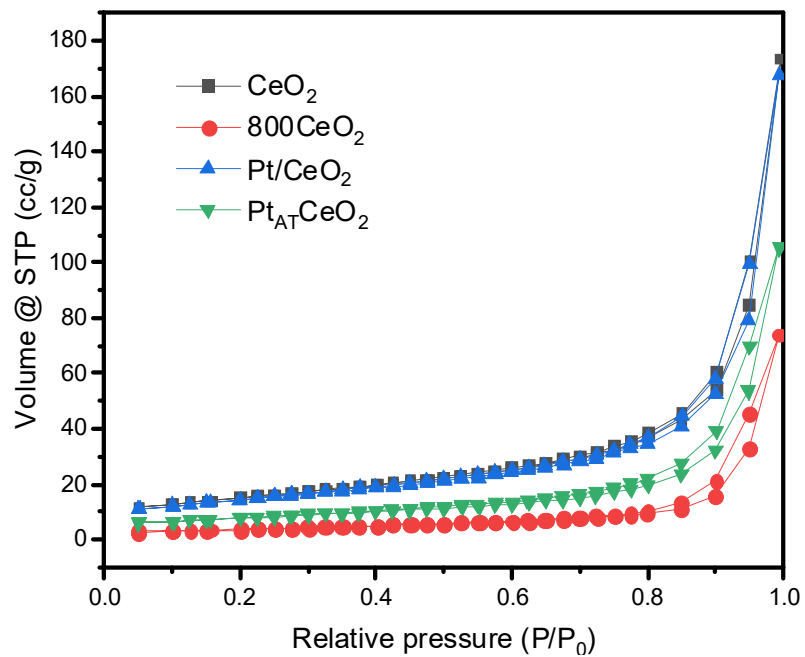


Fig. S16 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms at 77 K of CeO₂, 800CeO₂, Pt/CeO₂, and Pt_{AT}CeO₂

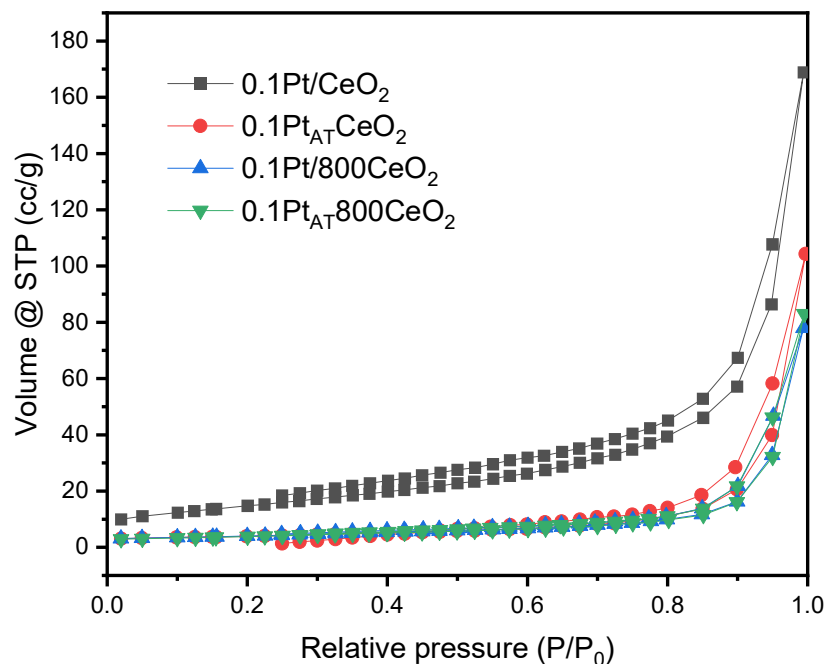


Fig. S17 N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms at 77 K of 0.1Pt/CeO₂, 0.1Pt_{AT}/CeO₂, 0.1Pt/800CeO₂, and 0.1Pt_{AT}/800CeO₂

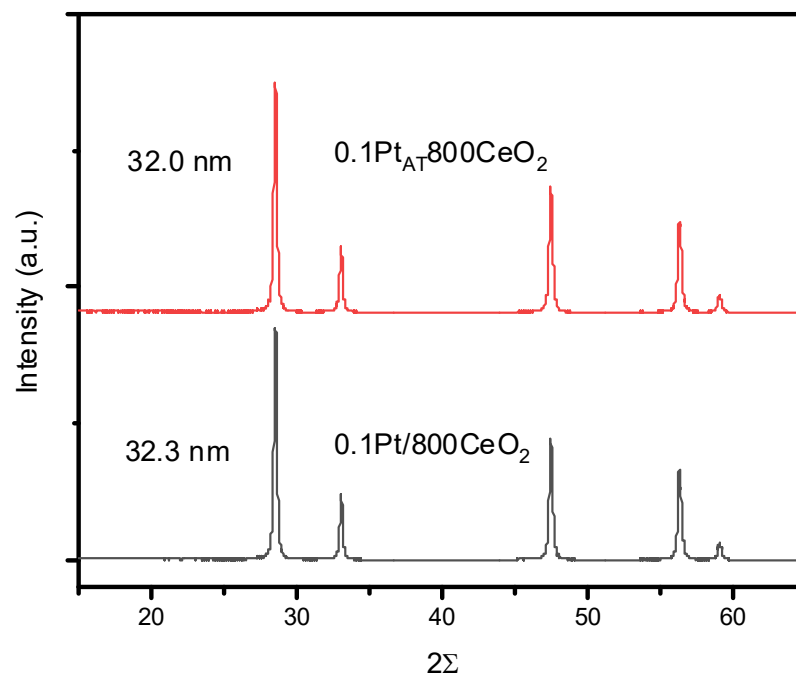


Fig. S18 Powder XRD patterns of 0.1Pt/800CeO₂, and 0.1Pt_{AT}/800CeO₂. These two samples show very similar CeO₂ crystallite size

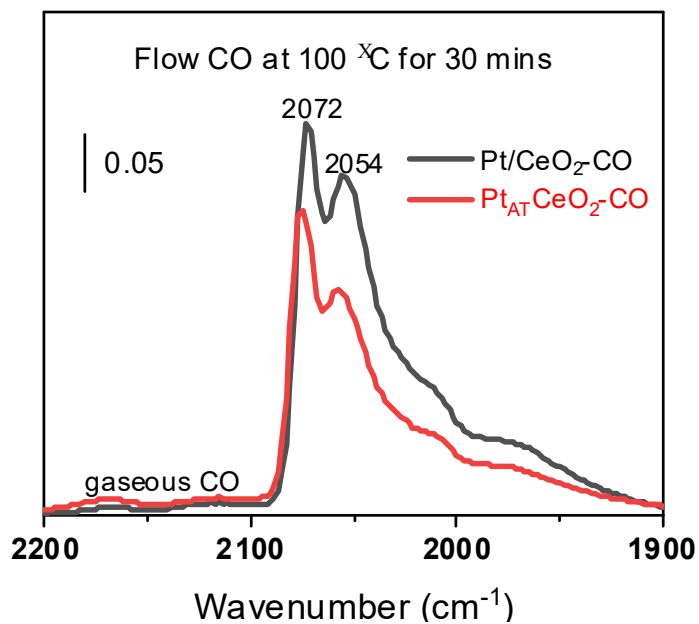


Fig. S19 CO-DRIFTs of Pt/CeO₂-CO and Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO. Operation condition: after pretreatment of fresh sample in CO at 275 °C for 20 mins, the sample was cooled down to 100 °C in CO before test.

By combining other characterization techniques, the infrared features around 2072 and 2054 cm⁻¹ can be attributed to the vibrations of CO adsorbed on the Pt NPs. For example, the formation of Pt NPs can be clearly confirmed by the TEM images (Fig. 5a,5d), XPS spectra (Fig. S23), and Raman spectra (Fig. S24).

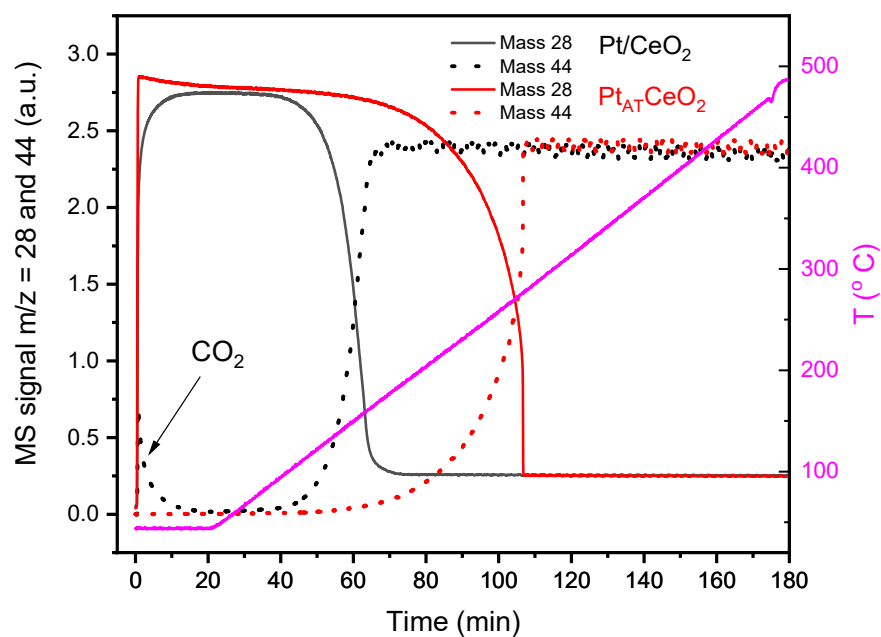


Fig. S20 MS signal $m/z = 28$ (CO) and 44 (CO_2) intensity during temperature programmed surface reaction (TPSR). Before 0 min, the sample was pretreated in O_2 at 500 °C for 30 mins, then cool down to room temperature (RT) in O_2 . At 0 min, CO is introduced into O_2 flow with CO/ O_2 ratio of 1:4 at RT. After 20 mins, the temperature increased to 500 °C with the heating rate of 3 °C/min to simulate the CO oxidation process. The reactivity result is consistent with light-off curve performance in Figure 3a

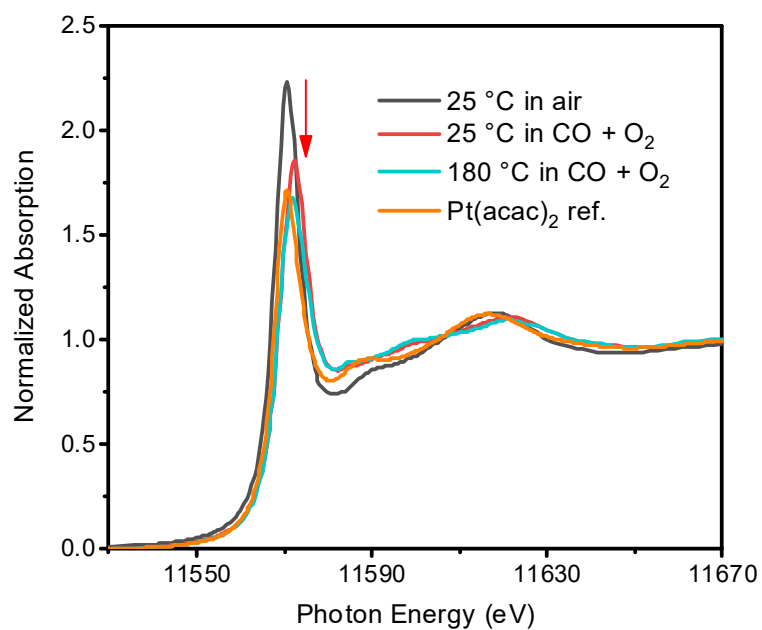


Fig. S21 Pt L_3 -edge XANES of Pt/CeO₂ at 25 °C in ambient air, at 25 °C and 180 °C in CO oxidation condition, as well as the Pt(acac)₂ (Pt²⁺) reference

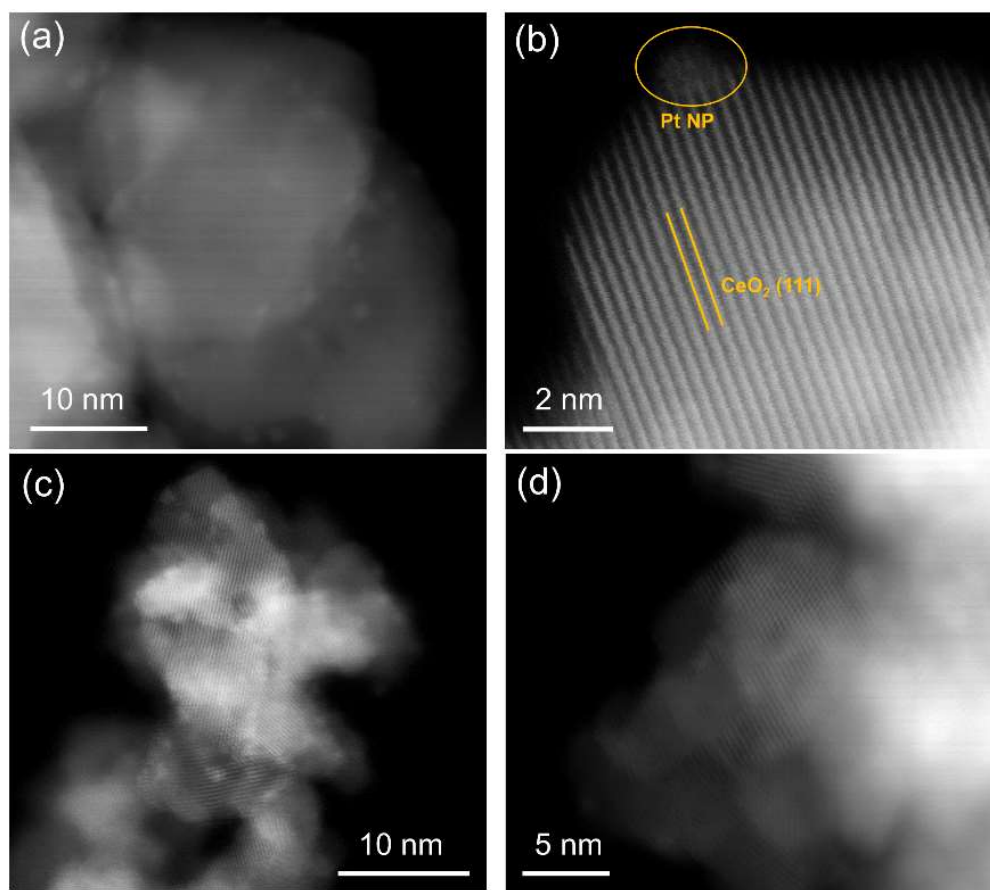


Fig. S22 HAADF-STEM images of (a, b) Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO and (c, d) Pt/CeO₂-CO

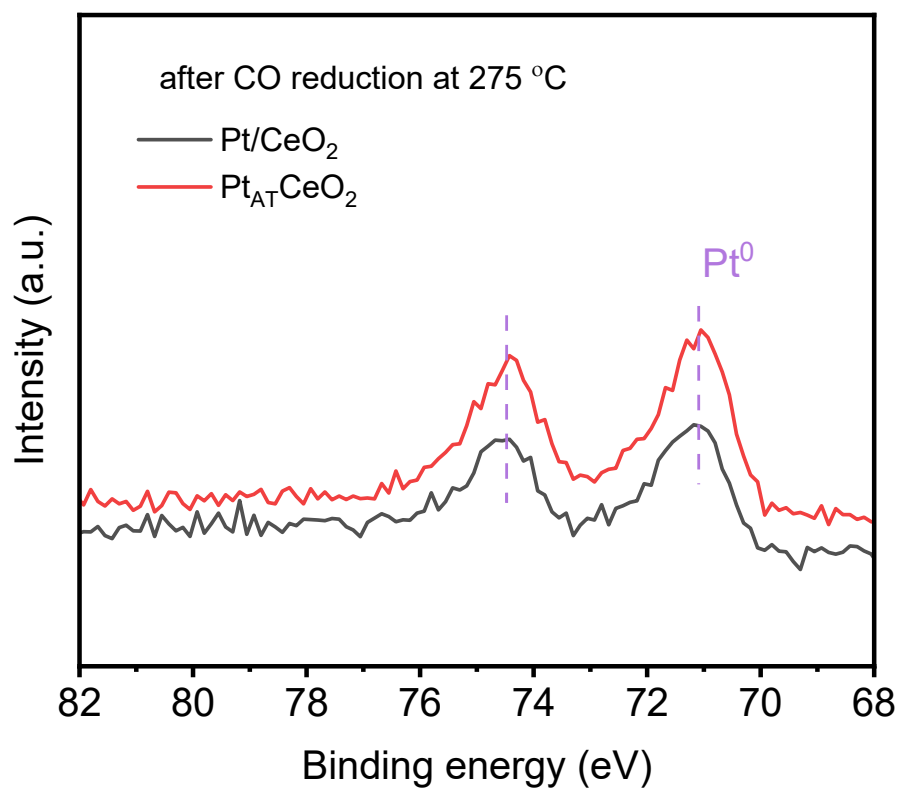
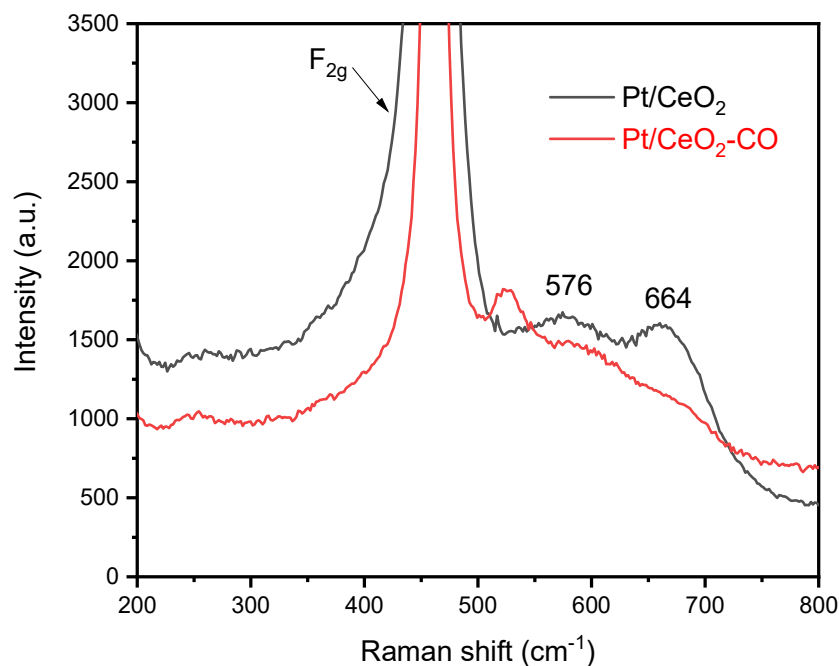
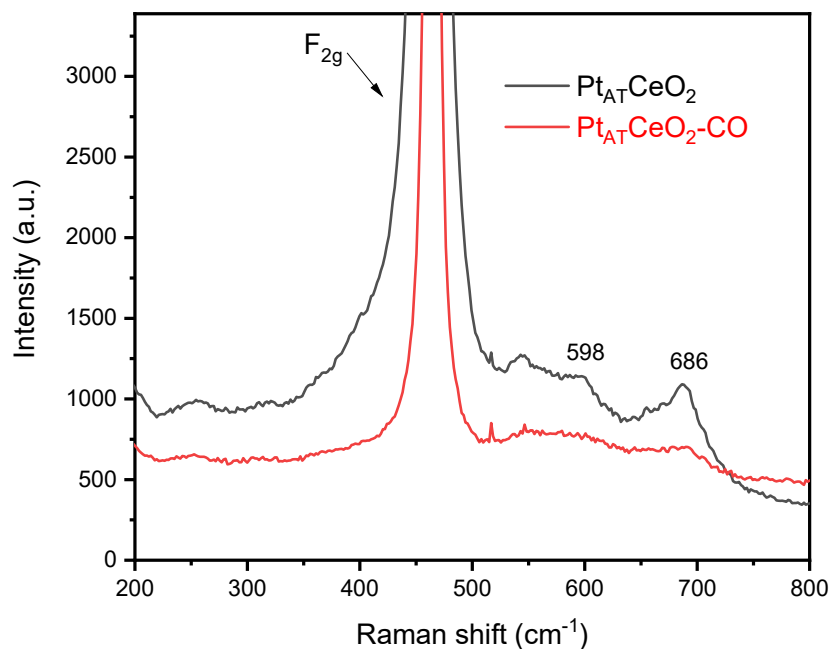


Fig. S23 Pt 4f XPS spectra for Pt/CeO₂ and Pt_{AT}CeO₂ after treatment in CO at 275 °C for 20 mins



(a)



(b)

Fig. S24 Raman spectra of fresh and CO-reduced (a) Pt/CeO₂ and (b) Pt_{AT}CeO₂. Raman spectra of Pt/CeO₂-CO and Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO were collected after *in situ* reduction at 275 °C with CO in Raman cell. The distinct bands at 576 and 667 cm⁻¹ for Pt/CeO₂ and 598 and 686 cm⁻¹ for Pt_{AT}CeO₂ are usually considered as the single-atom Pt features ascribed from the Pt-O or Pt-O-Ce vibrations. After the CO reduction, the Raman intensity of those peaks significantly decrease, which also suggest the formation of Pt NPs in Pt/CeO₂-CO and Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO.

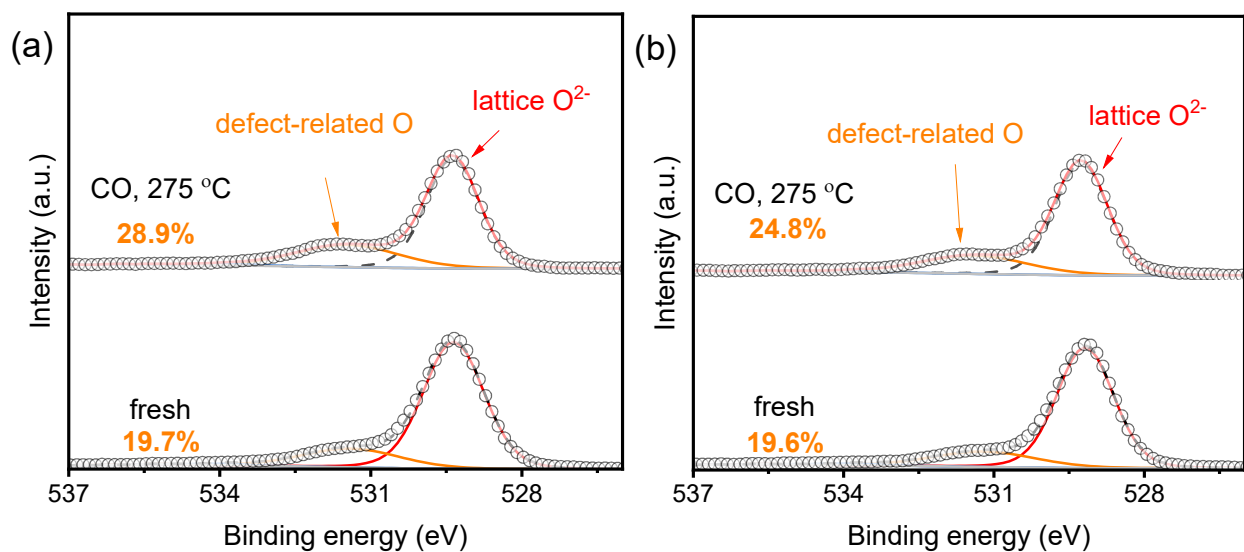


Fig. S25 O 1s XPS spectra of fresh and reduced (a) Pt/CeO₂ and (b) Pt_{AT}/CeO₂ samples. The peak at ~529.3 eV is attributed to the lattice O, and the peaks at ~531.4 eV and 534.3 eV are ascribed to two types of defect-related O.

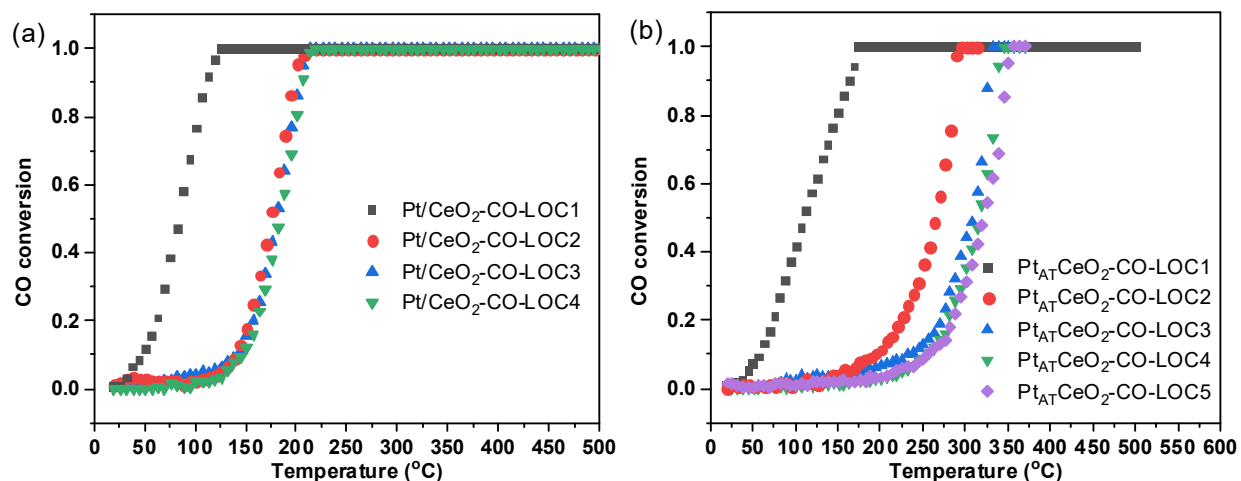


Fig. S26 Multiple light-off curves of (a) Pt/CeO₂-CO and (b) Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO samples. Each light-off curve was performed from 25 to 500 °C. For instance, Pt/CeO₂-CO-LOC2 represents the second light-off curve of Pt/CeO₂-CO; Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO-LOC4 represents the fourth light-off curve of Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO

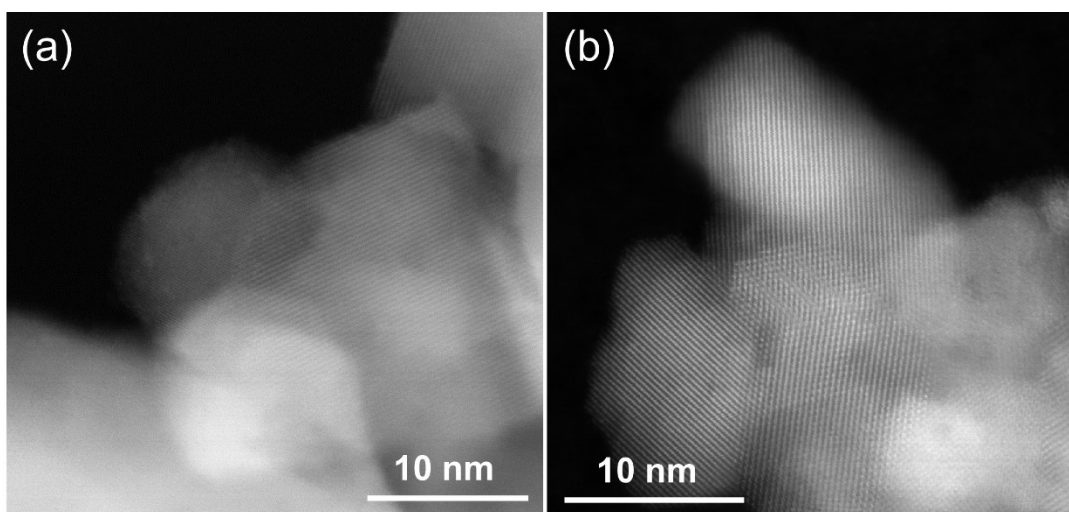


Fig. S27 HAADF-STEM images of (a) $\text{Pt}_{\text{AT}}\text{CeO}_2\text{-CO-O}_2$ and (b) $\text{Pt/CeO}_2\text{-CO-O}_2$

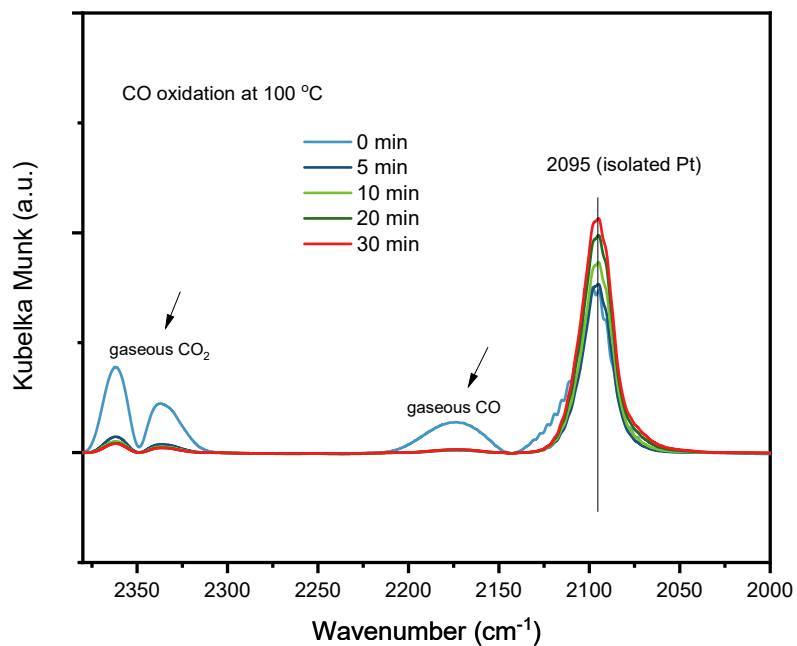


Fig. S28 *In situ* CO-DRIFTS of Pt/CeO₂-CO-O₂ at 100 °C under CO oxidation condition up to 30 mins.

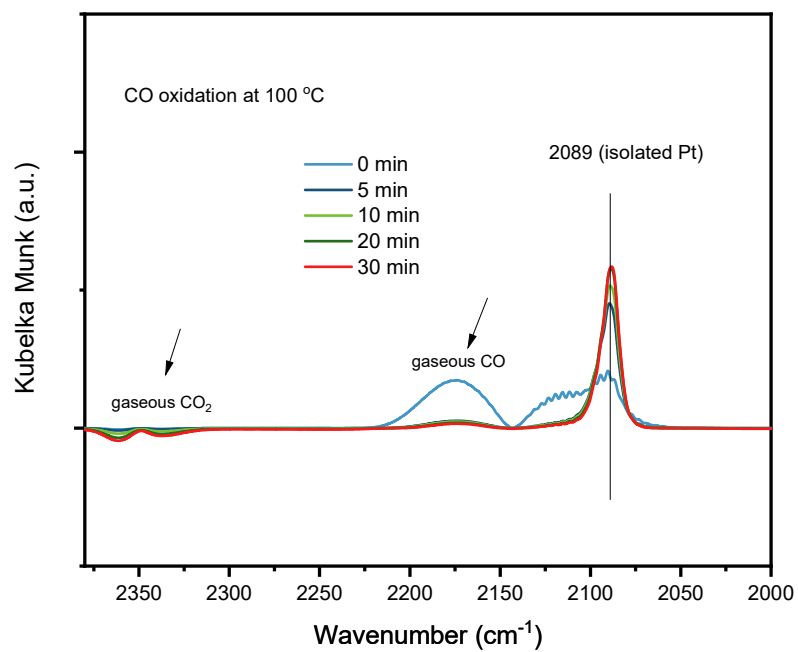


Fig. S29 *In situ* CO-DRIFTS of Pt_{AT}CeO₂-CO-O₂ at 100 °C under CO oxidation condition up to 30 mins

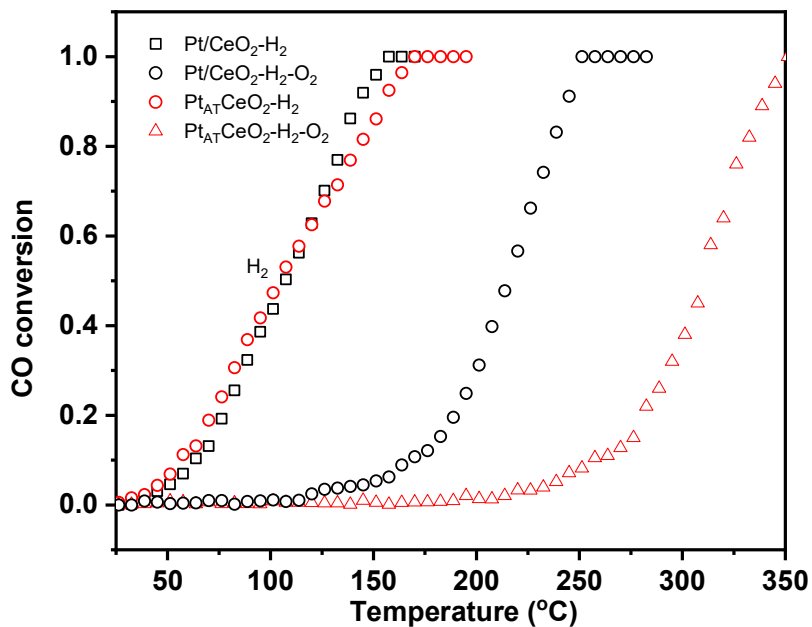
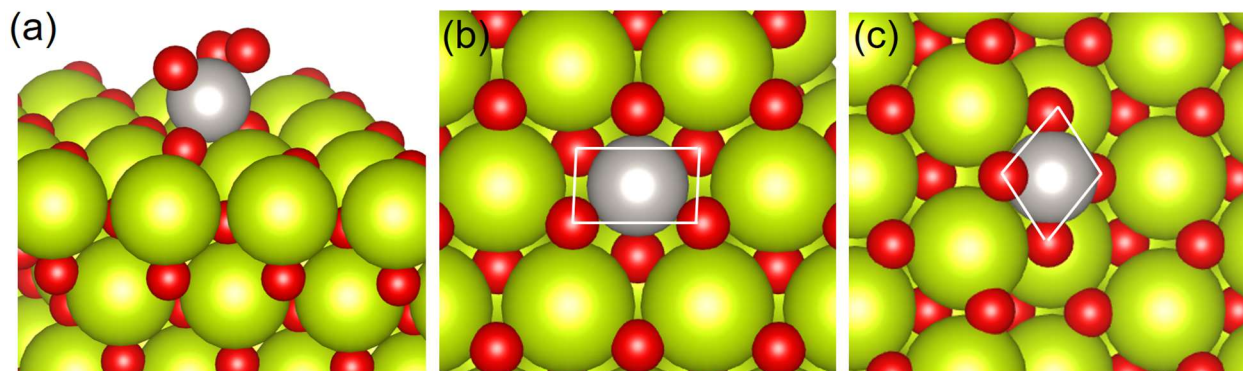


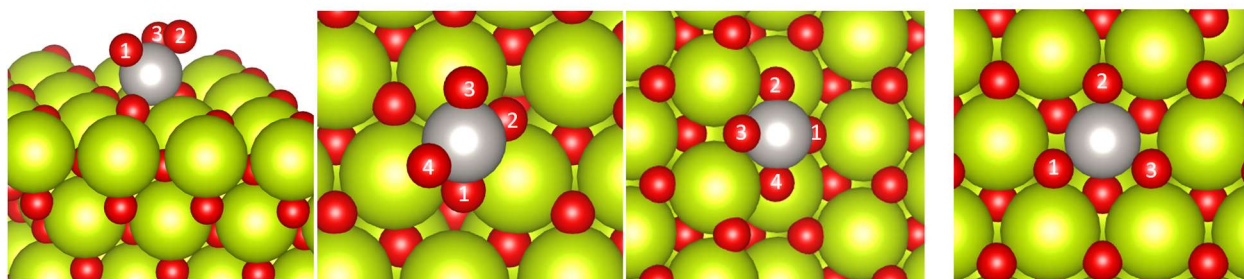
Fig. S30 CO oxidation performance (light-off curve) of Pt/CeO₂-H₂, Pt_{AT}CeO₂-H₂, Pt/CeO₂-H₂-O₂, Pt_{AT}CeO₂-H₂-O₂. Reaction conditions: catalyst loading = 20 mg, diluted with SiC to 400 mg, 1% CO and 4% O₂ balanced in Ar, total flow rate = 100 mL/min, ramping from 20 to 500 °C with the ramping rate of 3 °C/min for each cycle



(d) EXAFS fits vs. DFT model (First shell Pt-O)

	XAFS Fit	DFT
Pt/CeO₂		
$N_{\text{Pt-O}}$	5.00 ± 0.43	5
$R_{\text{Pt-O}}$	2.00 ± 0.01	1.9-2.1
$\sigma^2 \times 10^3 (\text{\AA}^2)$	2 ± 1	
ΔE_0 (eV)	4.48 ± 1.14	
R factor	0.003	
Pt_{AT}CeO₂		
$N_{\text{Pt-O}}$	4.89 ± 0.52	6 (surface)/4 (step)
$R_{\text{Pt-O}}$	2.00 ± 0.01	2.0-2.1 (surface)/1.9-2.0 (step)
$\sigma^2 \times 10^3 (\text{\AA}^2)$	2 ± 1	
ΔE_0 (eV)	3.74 ± 1.45	
R factor	0.005	

Fig. S31 The optimized models of (a) adsorbed Pt₁, (b) square planar Pt₁ on CeO₂ surface and (c) square planar Pt₁ on CeO₂ step site, as well as the (d) comparison of EXAFS fits and DFT model with first shell Pt-O. Pt: grey, Ce: yellow, O: red



Sample	O vacancy formation energy (eV)			
	1	2	3	4
Adsorbed PtO_5	0.02	0.01	-0.25	~
Adsorbed PtO_4	0.73	0.28	0.23	0.41
Square planar Pt_1 on step	2.68	1.82	2.08	1.65
Square planar Pt_1 on surface	1.14	1.15	1.12	~

Fig. S32 Oxygen vacancy formation energy of adsorbed Pt_1 and square planar Pt_1 on $\text{CeO}_2(111)$ step and surface

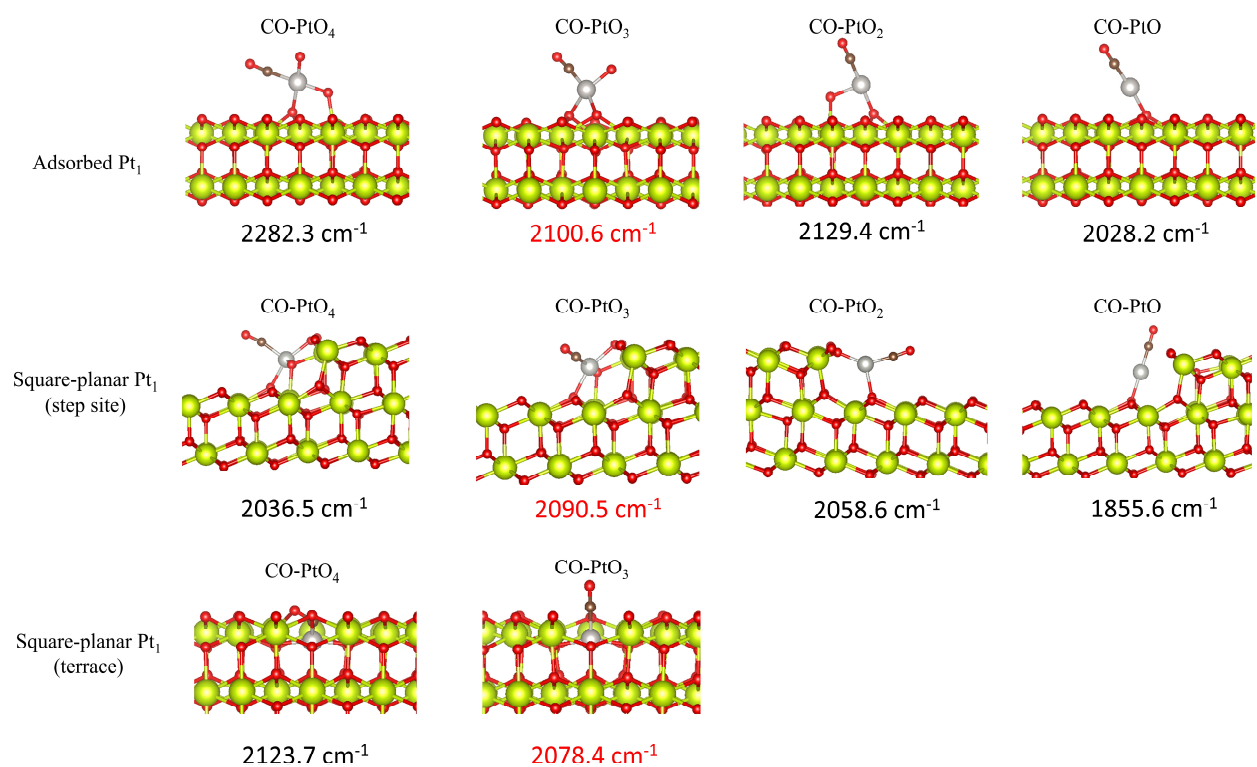


Fig. S33 Vibrational frequency of adsorbed CO on various PtO_x structures

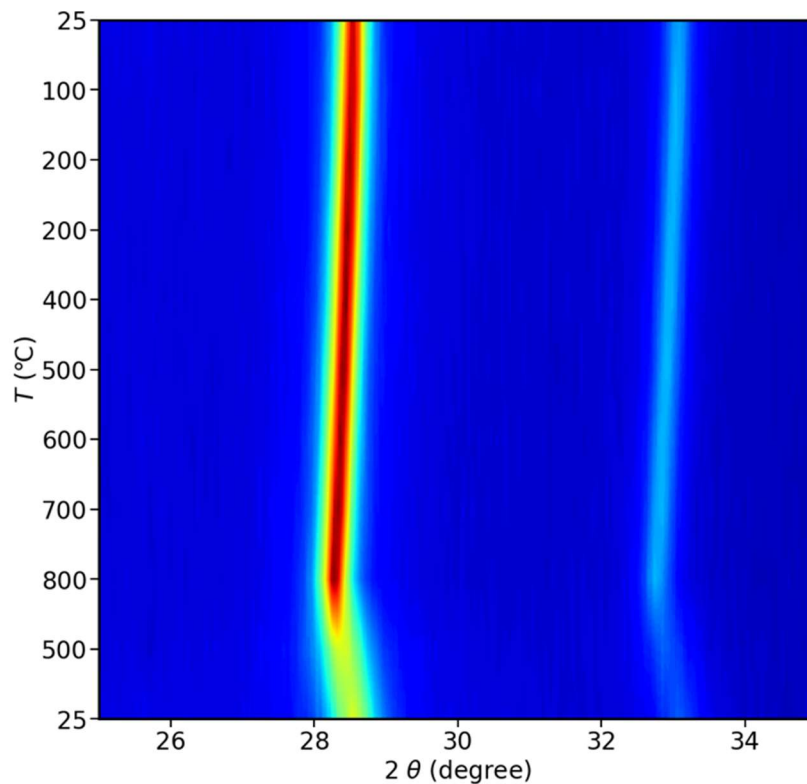


Fig. S34 *In situ* XRD intensity map for Pt/CeO₂ as a function of 2θ and temperature with the temperature first increases from 25 to 800 °C, and then decreases from 800 to 25 °C

2θ value decreases with the increase of temperature, and then increases as decreasing the temperature. This suggests the lattice expansion of CeO₂ during the ramping process, and lattice shrink during the cooling process. In other words, Ce-O distance in CeO₂ unit cell will be elongated at high temperature, which might be the driving force for the formation of square planar Pt₁. Also, the color represents the intensity of XRD pattern, in which red means higher intensity.

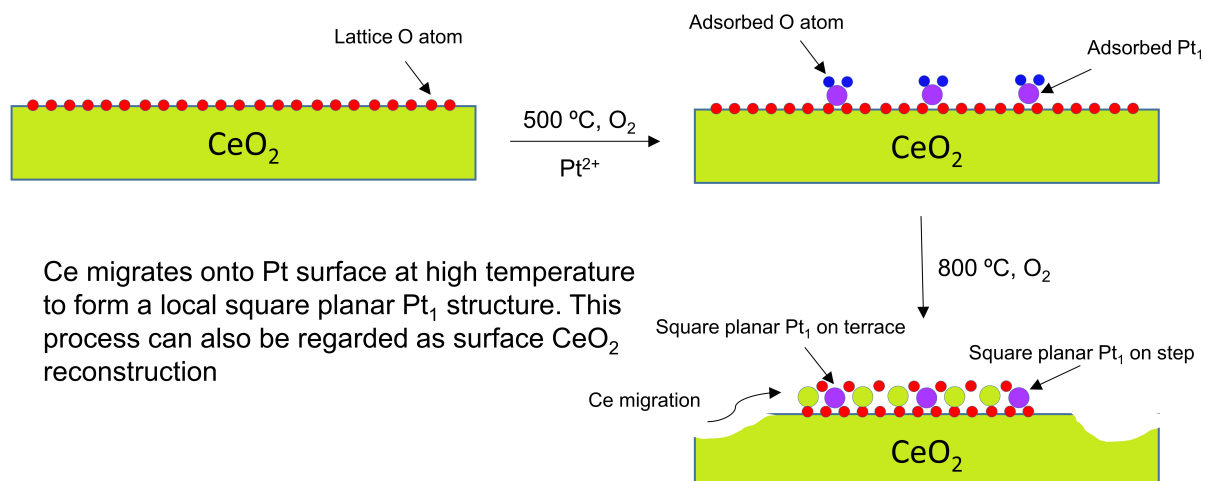


Fig. S35 The formation mechanism of adsorbed Pt_1 at low calcination temperature and square planar Pt_1 at high calcination temperature

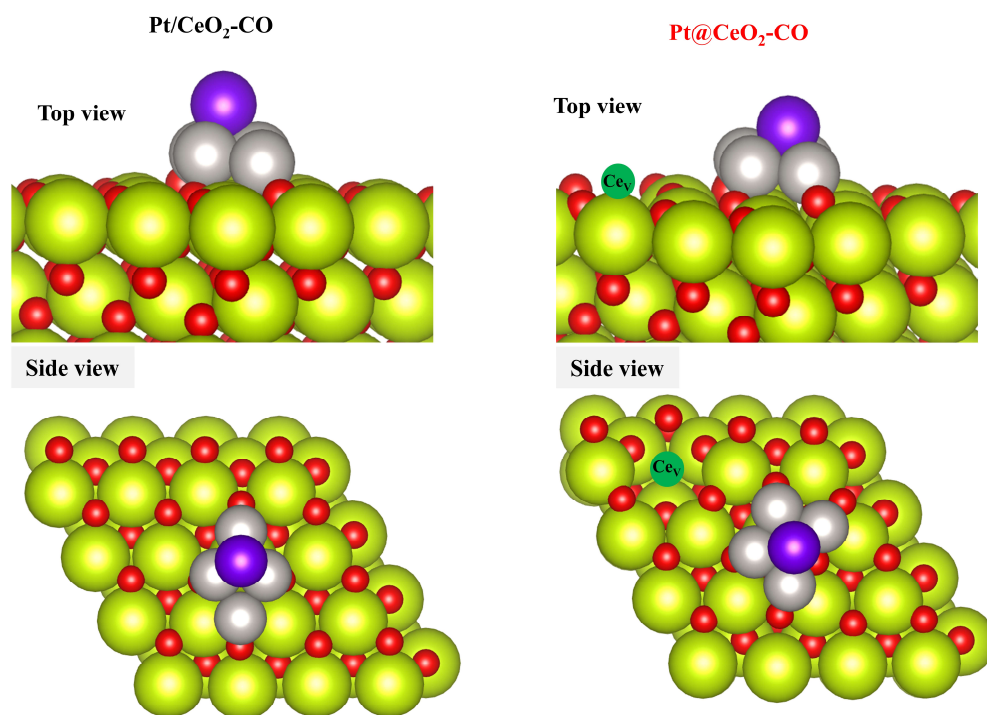


Fig. S36 The optimized models of Pt NPs (five Pt atoms) on CeO_2 (111) surface without Ce_v (left, $\text{Pt}/\text{CeO}_2\text{-CO}$) and with Ce_v (right, $\text{Pt}_{\text{AT}}\text{CeO}_2\text{-CO}$). Pt: grey, Ce: yellow, O: red. We mark top Pt atom as purple since the redispersion progress of this atom will be simulated later

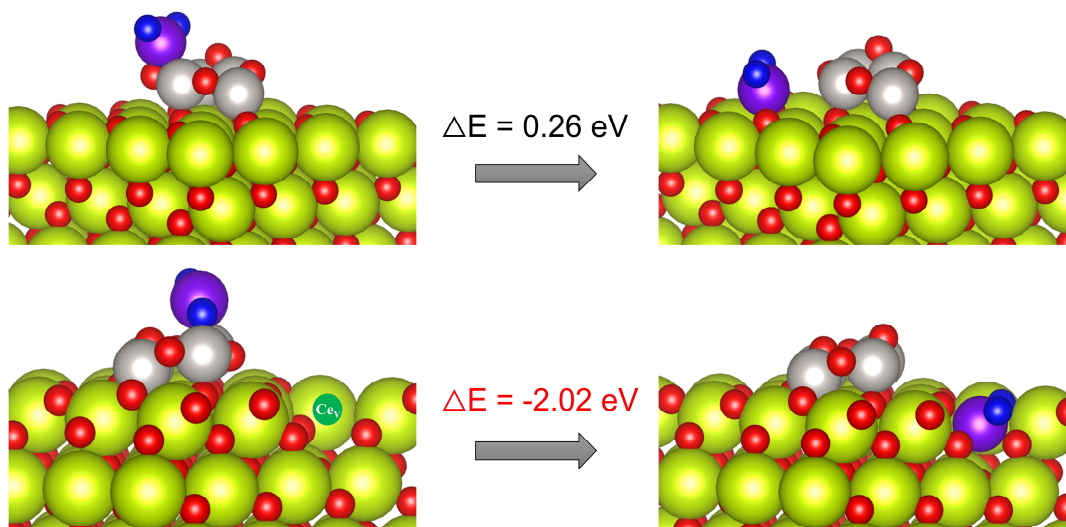


Fig. 37 The energy for redispersion of top Pt atom in PtO_x cluster to CeO₂ (111) surface and V_{Ce}. The energy is given in eV. Pt: grey, Ce: yellow, O: red, top Pt atom: purple, top O: blue