

Supplementary Information

Effects of oxygen coverage, catalyst size, and core composition on Pt-alloy core-shell nanoparticles for the oxygen reduction reaction

Supareek Praserthdam and Perla B. Balbuena*

Department of Chemical Engineering

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843

[*balbuena@tamu.edu](mailto:balbuena@tamu.edu)

Notation

E_{sys} = energy of the selected system (eV)

$E_{O/sys}$ = energy of the oxygen-adsorbed selected system (eV)

$E_{ads,sys}$ = adsorption energy of oxygen atom on the selected system (eV)

$E_{seg(A-B)}$ = segregation energy of the system of A and B segregated pair (eV/atom/pair)

$E_{dis,sys}$ = dissolution energy of the selected system (eV)

$E_{sys,0}$ = energy of the system before dissolution (eV)

$E_{sys,+}$ = energy of the system after dissolution (eV)

ΔE_{dis} = dissolution energy shift of the system from pure Pt system (eV)

$E_{dis,alloy}$ = dissolution energy of the core-shell system (eV)

$E_{dis,Pt}$ = dissolution energy of the pure Pt system (eV)

Table I. Adsorption energy of the 116-atom $Pt_{shell}-(M-Ni)_{core}$ nanoparticle system.

$Pt_{shell}-(M-Ni)_{core}$	E_{sys} (eV)	$E_{O/sys}$ (eV)	E_{ads} (sys) (eV)	$E_{ads}(Pt)$ (eV)	$E_{ads,rel}$ (eV/atom)
Fe	-708.46	-712.65	0.72	-1.23	+1.95
Co	-664.58	-670.02	-0.53	-1.23	+0.70
Ru	-725.96	-731.50	-0.63	-1.23	+0.60
Rh	-660.92	-666.64	-0.80	-1.23	+0.43
Re	-838.57	-844.22	-0.73	-1.23	+0.50
Os	-786.29	-791.87	-0.66	-1.23	+0.57
Ir	-705.70	-711.48	-0.86	-1.23	+0.37

Table II. Oxygen adsorption energy of Ptshell-(Re-Ni)core system as a function of sized and oxygen coverage and Ptshell-(Fe-C_n-Fe-Ni)core system as a function of carbon content and oxygen coverage per (111) facet. The adsorption sites are defined as in Figure 3.

The label of the adsorption site of E and NE specifies that for the E (Edge) one of the oxygen atoms is adsorbed on the site near the edge of the nanoparticle, while for NE (non-Edge) means that all of the adsorbed oxygen are not located at the site near the edge.

# total atoms	# O-atoms /O-Coverage	Adsorption site	E _{sys} (eV)	E _{O/sys} (eV)	E _{ads} (eV/atom)	E _{ads,rel} (eV)	
Pt_{shell}-(Re-Ni)_{core}							
116 (NP ^{**})	1 (0.0128 ML)	Def	-838.57	-844.236	-0.74	-	
		A	-838.57	-844.238	-0.75	-	
		B	-838.57	-844.239	-0.75	+0.49	
	2 (0.0256 ML)	Def & A	-838.57	-849.85	-0.73	-	
		Def & B	-838.57	-849.86	-0.73	+0.45	
		A & B	-838.57	-849.84	-0.72	-	
	8 (0.103 ML)*	Def*	-838.57	-882.58	-0.59	+0.59	
		A	-1933.92	-1939.68	-0.84	-	
		B	-1933.92	-1939.44	-0.60	-	
260 (NP ^{**})		C	-1933.92	-1939.69	-0.85	-	
		D	-1933.92	-1939.82	-0.98	+0.07	
		E	-1933.92	-1939.45	-0.61	-	
		F	-1933.92	-1939.68	-0.85	-	
		G	-1933.92	-1939.50	-0.66	-	
2 (0.014 ML)	E01 (A+B)	-1933.92	-1944.97	-0.61	-		
	E02 (A+C)	-1933.92	-1945.18	-0.71	+0.39		
	E03 (C+F)	-1933.92	-1944.80	-0.53	-		
	E04 (F+G)	-1933.92	-1944.99	-0.62	-		
	NE1 (A+D)	-1933.92	-1945.14	-0.69	-		
	NE2 (B+D)	-1933.92	-1944.96	-0.60	-		
	NE3 (C+D)	-1933.92	-1945.14	-0.69	-		
	NE4 (F+D)	-1933.92	-1944.93	-0.59	-		
	A*	-1933.92	-1978.88	-0.70	+0.40		
45 (SLAB)	1 (0.111 ML)	P1	-299.49	-305.007	-0.599	-	
		P2	-299.49	-305.008	-0.600	+0.67	
		P3	-299.49	-305.007	-0.599	-	
		P4	-299.49	-305.007	-0.599	-	
		Pt_{shell}-(Fe-C_n-Fe-Ni)_{core} ***					
284 (Fe _{4.6} C _{1.0}) [†]	1 (0.007 ML)	Def	-1929.44	-1937.66	-3.30	-2.07	
296 (Fe _{3.1} C _{1.0}) [†]		Def	-2035.20	-2042.31	-2.19	-0.95	
302 (Fe _{2.6} C _{1.0}) [†]		Def	-2085.00	-2091.69	-1.77	-0.53	
310 (Fe _{2.2} C _{1.0}) [†]		Def	-2154.09	-2157.93	+1.07	+2.30	

*For the system of 8 oxygen atoms, 1 oxygen atom per (111) facet is adsorbed at the designated position, where each nanoparticle has eight (111) facets.

**NP = nanoparticle model

*** For Pt_{shell}-(Fe-C_n-Fe-Ni)_{core}, all systems are nanoparticles

Highlight = selected system of the most stable configuration at each oxygen coverage

† the composition of the core-anchoring shell as Fe_xC_y

Table III. Segregation energy for $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Re}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}$ as a function of sizes and oxygen coverage and for $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Fe}-\text{C}_n-\text{Fe}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}$ as a function of carbon content and oxygen coverage Definitions of the sites are in Figure 3.

# total atoms	# O-atoms /O-Coverage	Adsorption site	E_{sys} (eV)	E_{NS} (eV)	$E_{\text{seg}}(\text{Pt-M})^*$ (eV/atom/pair)	$E_{\text{seg}}(\text{Re-Ni})$ (eV/atom/pair)
$\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Re}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}$						
116 (NP**)	1 (0.0128 ML)	Def	-838.57	-844.24	-1.36	N/D
		A	-838.57	-844.24	-7.20	N/D
		B	-838.57	-844.24	-6.52	-0.126
	2 (0.0256 ML)	Def & A	-838.57	-849.85	-0.394	N/D
		Def & B	-838.57	-849.86	-0.22	-0.013
		A & B	-838.57	-849.84	-0.397	N/D
	8 (0.103 ML) [‡]	Def	-838.57	-882.58	-0.27	+0.11
		A	-1933.92	-1939.68	N/D	N/D
		B	-1933.92	-1939.44	N/D	N/D
		C	-1933.92	-1939.69	N/D	N/D
		D	-1933.92	-1939.82	-1.06	-0.566
		E	-1933.92	-1939.45	N/D	N/D
		F	-1933.92	-1939.68	N/D	N/D
		G	-1933.92	-1939.5	N/D	N/D
260 (NP**)	2 (0.014 ML)	E01 (A+B)	-1933.92	-1944.97	N/D	N/D
		E02 (A+C)	-1933.92	-1945.18	-0.80	-0.147
		E03 (C+F)	-1933.92	-1944.8	N/D	N/D
		E04 (F+G)	-1933.92	-1944.99	N/D	N/D
		NE1 (A+D)	-1933.92	-1945.14	N/D	N/D
		NE2 (B+D)	-1933.92	-1944.96	N/D	N/D
		NE3 (C+D)	-1933.92	-1945.14	N/D	N/D
		NE4 (F+D)	-1933.92	-1944.93	N/D	N/D
		P1	-299.49	-305.007	-1.642	N/D
		P2	-299.49	-305.008	-1.640	-1.113
	1 (0.111 ML)	P3	-299.49	-305.007	-1.957	N/D
		P4	-299.49	-305.007	-1.645	N/D
		1 (0.25 ML)	Def****	-128.8	-138.72	-0.93
						-0.481
$\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Fe}-\text{C}_n-\text{Fe}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}^{***}$						
272 ($\text{Fe}_{9.2}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 284 ($\text{Fe}_{4.6}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 296 ($\text{Fe}_{3.1}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 310 ($\text{Fe}_{2.2}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	0 (0 ML)	Def	-1823.07	-1823.07	-1.32	N/D
		Def	-1929.44	-1929.44	-0.56	N/D
		Def	-2035.20	-2035.20	-0.61	N/D
		Def	-2154.09	-2154.09	+2.24	N/D
284 ($\text{Fe}_{4.6}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 296 ($\text{Fe}_{3.1}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 302 ($\text{Fe}_{2.6}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†] 310 ($\text{Fe}_{2.2}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	1 (0.007 ML)	Def	-1929.44	-1937.66	+1.08	N/D
		Def	-2035.20	-2042.31	-0.02	N/D
		Def	-2085.00	-2091.69	+0.53	N/D
		Def	-2154.09	-2157.93	+0.10	N/D

*M = Re for $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Re}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}$ and M = Fe for $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Fe}-\text{C}_n-\text{Fe}-\text{Ni})_{\text{core}}$

**NP = nanoparticle model

*** all systems are nanoparticles

****This adsorption site is at the same position as P1 in 0.111 ML system

[‡]For the system of 8 oxygen atoms, 1 oxygen atom per (111) facet is adsorbed at the designated position, where each nanoparticle has eight (111) facets.

Highlight = selected system of the most stable configuration at each oxygen coverage

[†] = the composition of the core-anchoring shell as Fe_xC_y

Table IV. Dissolution potential shift for $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}(\text{Re-Ni})_{\text{core}}$ nanoparticles as a function of sizes and $\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Fe-C}_n\text{-Fe-Ni})_{\text{core}}$ nanoparticles as a function of carbon content Definitions of the sites are in Figure 9.

# total atoms	Adsorption site	$E_{\text{sys},0}$ (eV)	$E_{\text{sys},+}$ (eV)	$E_{\text{dis,alloy}}$ (eV)	$E_{\text{dis,Pt}}$ (eV)	ΔE_{dis} (eV)
$\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}(\text{Re-Ni})_{\text{core}}$						
116 (NP**)	IP	-838.57	-831.58	-6.98	-6.64	-0.34
	ED1	-838.57	-832.22	-6.35	-5.98	-0.37
	ED2	-838.57	-831.92	-6.65	-6.24	-0.42
260 (NP**)	IP1	-1933.92	-1927.27	-6.65	-6.62	-0.03
	IP2	-1933.92	-1926.74	-7.18	-6.92	-0.26
	IP3	-1933.92	-1927.07	-6.86	-6.91	+0.05
	IP4	-1933.92	-1927.26	-6.67	-6.63	-0.04
	ED1	-1933.92	-1927.01	-6.92	-6.32	-0.60
	ED2	-1933.92	-1927.73	-6.20	-5.89	-0.30
	ED3	-1933.92	-1926.97	-6.95	-6.31	-0.64
	ED4	-1933.92	-1927.22	-6.70	-6.32	-0.38
45 (SLAB)	P1	-299.49	-292.23	-7.26	-7.29	+0.03
	P2	-299.49	-292.24	-7.26	-7.29	+0.04
	P3	-299.49	-292.23	-7.26	-7.29	+0.03
	P4	-299.49	-292.23	-7.26	-7.29	+0.03
$\text{Pt}_{\text{shell}}-(\text{Fe-C}_n\text{-Fe-Ni})_{\text{core}}$ ***						
272 ($\text{Fe}_{9.2}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	IP2	-1823.07	-1817.13	-5.94	-6.92	+0.97
284 ($\text{Fe}_{4.6}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	IP2	-1929.44	-1923.68	-5.76	-6.92	+1.16
296 ($\text{Fe}_{3.1}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	IP2	-2035.20	-2028.69	-6.52	-6.92	+0.40
302 ($\text{Fe}_{2.6}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	IP2	-2085.00	-2077.33	-7.68	-6.92	-0.76
310 ($\text{Fe}_{2.2}\text{C}_{1.0}$) [†]	IP2	-2154.09	-2146.81	-7.28	-6.92	-0.36

**NP = nanoparticle

*** all systems are nanoparticles

[†] the composition of the core-anchoring shell as Fe_xC_y