## **Supporting Information**

## Identification of Activity Trends for CO Oxidation on Supported

## **Transition-Metal Single Atom Catalysts**

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bond	occupancy	atomic center	hybridization	
		(contribution, %)	(function, %)	
σ(Cu-O)	0.96	Cu(16)	s 78, p 6, d 16	sp <sup>0.08</sup> d <sup>0.21</sup>
		O(84)	s 12, p 88	sp <sup>7.33</sup>
σ(Ag-O)	0.95	Ag(12)	s 91, p 6, d 4	$sp^{0.07}d^{0.04}$
		O(88)	s 3, p 97	sp <sup>32.33</sup>
σ(Au-O)	0.96	Au(25)	s 78, p 3, d 19	$sp^{0.04}d^{0.24}$
		O(75)	s 4, p 96	$sp^{24.00}$
σ(Ni-O)	1.94	Ni(17)	s 58, p 4, d 37	$sp^{0.07}d^{0.64}$
		O(84)	s 18, p 82	sp <sup>4.56</sup>
σ(Pd-O)	1.92	Pd(13)	s 77, p 7, d 17	sp <sup>0.09</sup> d <sup>0.22</sup>
		O(87)	s 8, p 92	$sp^{11.50}$
σ(Pt-O)	1.95	Pt(24)	s 57, p 4, d 39	$sp^{0.07}d^{0.68}$
		O(76)	s 12, p 88	sp <sup>7.33</sup>

**Table S1.** NBOs results of M/MgO (M = Cu, Ag, Au, Ni, Pd, Pt)

Table S2. Reaction energy barriers (in eV) for ER reaction steps leading to the formation of  $CO_2$ 

SACs		ER	
		$\Delta E1$	$\Delta E2$
Regular MgO	Au	1.03	0.89
	Ag	0.52	1.27
	Cu	0.58	1.36
	Pt	0.77	1.24
	Pd	1.01	1.53
	Ni	0.64	1.00
Fs-defected MgO	Au	0.52	1.14
	Ag	0.10	1.42
	Cu	0.50	1.41
	Pt	0.47	1.48
	Pd	0.83	1.64
	Ni	0.46	1.21

**Table S3**. The bond distances  $d(O_2)$  for co-adsorbed CO and  $O_2$  on SACs/MgO and SACs/Fs-defected MgO; and the calculated excess electronic charge on the adsorbed molecules  $\delta Q(O_2)$ 

	( =)		
Metal	surface	$d(O_2)$ (Å) <sup>a</sup>	$\delta Q(O_2)(e)$
Δα	regular	1.319	0.44
Ag	Fs-defected	1.330	0.51
Cu	regular	1.364	0.55
Cu	Fs-defected	1.384	0.58
NI	regular	1.293	0.26
INI	Fs-defected	1.313	0.32

<sup>*a*</sup> The calculated values for the isolated molecules are  $d(O_2) = 1.236$  Å, compared to the gas-phase experimental values of 1.21 Å, respectively.



**Figure S1.** Schematic representation of SACs hopping diffusion mechanism of M/MgO (M = Cu, Ag, Au, Ni, Pd, Pt) (Color scheme: O, red; Mg, green; M, yellow).



**Figure S2.** (a-b) Top view and (c-d) side view of HOMO of the regular and Fsdefected MgO(100) surface. The isosurface charge density was taken to be  $0.001 \text{ e/Å}^3$ 



**Figure S3.** NBO contours of M/MgO (M = Cu, Ag, Au, Ni, Pd, Pt) (isovalue = 0.03 a.u.).



**Figure S4.** SSAdNDP chemical bonding (5c-2e  $\sigma$  interactions between M and four neighboring O atoms) of M/Fs-defected MgO (M = Cu, Ag, Au, Ni, Pd, Pt) (isovalue = 0.03 a.u.).



**Figure S5.** (a) Charge localized on  $O_2$  (blue lines), Ag (red lines), and the total charge on Ag- $O_2$  (black lines) for the free and supported Ag- $O_2$  system. (b) Charge localized on  $O_2$  (blue lines), Cu (red lines), and the total charge on Cu- $O_2$  (black lines) for the free and supported Cu- $O_2$  system. Fs-MgO denotes Fs-defected MgO.



**Figure S6.** Spin polarized LDOS projected onto the  $O_2$  molecule and PDOS projected on the metal atom: (a)  $O_2$  adsorbed on Ag atom, (b)  $O_2$  adsorbed on Ag atom with regular MgO support, (c)  $O_2$  adsorbed on Ag atom with Fs-defected MgO support, and (d-f) Similar to a-c, respectively, but for Cu. Fs-MgO denotes Fs-defected MgO.



**Figure S7.** Schematic configurations of different states along the minimum-energy pathway via ER mechanism of CO oxidation on the (a) M/MgO and (b)  $M/F_s$ -MgO (M = Cu, Ag, Au, Ni, Pd and Pt). Color scheme: Red, green, grey and blue balls represent O, Mg, C and M atoms, respectively. Fs-MgO denotes Fs-defected MgO.



**Figure S8.** Schematic configurations of different states along the minimum-energy pathway via MvK mechanism of CO oxidation on the Ag/MgO. Color scheme: Red, green, grey and blue balls represent O, Mg, C and Ag atoms, respectively.



**Figure S9.** Schematic configurations of different states along the minimum-energy pathway via LH mechanism of CO oxidation on the Cu,Pd,Pt,Ni/Fs-defected MgO. Color scheme: Red, green, grey, pink balls represent O, Mg, C, Metal atoms, respectively.