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Supporting information for

## Identification of Active Oxygen Species for Soot Combustion on LaMnO<sub>3</sub> Perovskite

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Supporting information includes:

- Experimental section.
- Table S1.
- Figures S1 to S5.
- The calculation of the active oxygen amount.
- References.

#### **1. Experimental section**

LaMnO<sub>3</sub> was prepared by a citric acid method. The desired amounts of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O and 50% Mn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> solution were dissolved in distilled water with citric acid monohydrate. Citric acid was added in a factor of 1.5 to the metal ions. The solution was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and then heated to 80 °C under continuous stirring. The resulting viscous gel was introduced into a muffle furnace preheated to 350 °C. The fast combustion process yields a fine and voluminous solid powder, which is further calcined at 700 °C for 5 h in flowing air.

X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) patterns were recorded on a Rigaku D/max-2500/PC diffractometer employing Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ =1.5418 Å) operating at 50 kV and 200 mA.

The oxidation states of Mn were determined by titration<sup>1, 2</sup>.

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) equipped with energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) was conducted on a JEOL JEM–2010 at an accelerating voltage of 200 kV.

The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) surface area and pore structure were measured by  $N_2$  adsorption/desorption using a Micromeritics ASAP 2020M instrument. Before  $N_2$  physisorption, the sample was outgassed at 300 °C for 5 h.

Raman spectra were measured using a Raman spectroscope (HR800) with a CCD camera. The 632.8 nm line of a He–Ne laser was used to simulate the Raman spectra. The measurements were carried out with a microscope by using a  $\times$ 50 objective lens (focus diameter larger than 1 micron) and the data are recorded in a backscattering geometry. Use of the cell allowed control of the sample temperature in static atmosphere.

Soot–TPR in the absence of gas phase oxygen was done in a fixed-bed flow reactor. A 50 mg sample of the soot/catalyst mixture (1:9, weight ratio) under tight contact was pretreated

in He (100 ml/min) at 200 °C for 1 h, and then heated at 5 °C/min from room temperature to 850 °C.

For O<sub>2</sub>–TPD experiments, the samples were pretreated *in situ* at 700 °C for 1 h in a flow of O<sub>2</sub> and cooled to room temperature in the presence of O<sub>2</sub>. TPD was conducted at 10 °C/min up to 900 °C in a 30 mL/min flow of He. A quadruple mass spectrometer (MS, OmniStar 200, Balzers) was used to monitor the O<sub>2</sub> concentration at a m/z of 32.

The details for the TPO reactions, isothermal reactions and isothermal anaerobic titrations at 280 °C can be found in our previous papers<sup>3, 4</sup>. Printex–U from Degussa was used as the model soot. As a measure of activity, the ignition temperature  $T_{10}$  from the TPO pattern is defined as the temperature at which 10% of the soot is converted<sup>3</sup>. The selectivity to CO<sub>2</sub> formation is defined as the percentage CO<sub>2</sub> outlet concentration divided by the sum of the CO<sub>2</sub> and CO outlet concentrations. The reaction rates for soot combustion at 280 °C were obtained by isothermal reactions. The active oxygen (O\*) amounts (mol/g) was obtained by isothermal anaerobic titrations, in which soot is regarded as the probe molecule. Thus the turnover frequency (TOF) value can be calculated.

2. Fig. S1



Fig. S1 XRD pattern of LaMnO<sub>3</sub> after calcination at 700 °C for 5 h.

# 3. Table S1

Sample	Unit cell parameter (Å)		Crystallite size	$Mn^{3+}/Mn^{4+}$		BET surface area
	a=b	С	(nm)		0	$(m^2/g)$
LaMnO <sub>3+δ</sub>	5.5060±0.0023	13.3331±0.0053	21.4	67.5/32.5	0.16	13.2

Table S1 Structure and textural properties of LaMnO3





Fig. S2 TEM image of LaMnO<sub>3</sub>

5. Fig. S3



Fig. S3 In situ Raman spectra of LaMnO<sub>3</sub> in static air. (a) room temperature, (b) 150 °C, (c) 200 °C, (d) 250 °C, (e) 300°C, (f) 350 °C, (g) 400 °C, (h) 450 °C for 1 min, (i) 450 °C for 10 min.

### 6. The calculation of the active oxygen amount

A stable and low conversion of soot (< 10%) was achieved in a kinetic regime for the isothermal soot combustion with O<sub>2</sub> at 280 °C on LaMnO<sub>3</sub> (Figure S4). The reaction rate can be obtained from the slope of the line, which is  $8.3 \times 10^{-8}$  mol s<sup>-1</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>. Then, O<sub>2</sub> is instantaneously removed from the reactant stream and is replaced with a flow of He. The transient decay in concentrations from the steady state was monitored using a quadruple mass spectrometer (MS, OmniStar 200, Balzers) with a *m*/*z* of 44 for CO<sub>2</sub> (Figure S5). The number of active oxygen sites available to soot under these reaction conditions can be quantified by integrating the diminishing rate of CO<sub>2</sub> formation over time.

Amount of active oxygen (mol/g): 
$$\frac{2FAP_0 \times 10^{-6}}{RTm}$$

Where *A* is the shaded area (s) in Figure S5, *F* is the volumetric flow rate (L/s), *m* is the mass of the catalyst (g),  $P_0$  is the atmospheric pressure (Pa), *R* is the gas constant and *T* is room temperature (K). Based on the above formula, the amount of active oxygen is  $3.7 \times 10^{-5}$  mol g<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S4 Soot conversion at 280 °C as a function of time on LaMnO<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S5  $CO_2$  concentrations at 280 °C as a function of time over LaMnO<sub>3</sub> after  $O_2$  is removed from the reactant feed.

### **References:**

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