Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers. This journal is © the Partner Organisations 2021

# **Supporting Information**

# Effect of dz<sup>2</sup> Orbital Electron-Distribution of La-Based Inorganic

# Perovskites on Surface Kinetics of a Model Reaction

Yamkela Nzuzo<sup>a</sup>, Adedapo Adeyinka<sup>a</sup>, Emanuela Carleschi<sup>b</sup>, Bryan P. Doyle<sup>b</sup>, Ndzondelelo

Bingwa<sup>a\*</sup>

Research Centre for Synthesis and Catalysis, Department of Chemical Sciences, University of Johannesburg, PO Box 524, Johannesburg, South Africa.

<sup>b</sup>Department of Physics, University of Johannesburg, PO Box 524, Johannesburg, South

Africa.

email: <u>nbingwa@uj.ac.za</u>

Entry	Catalyst	<b>Tolerance factor (t)</b>
1.	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	0.89
2.	LaMnO <sub>3</sub>	0.86
3.	LaFeO <sub>3</sub>	0.91
4.	LaCoO <sub>3</sub>	0.87
5.	LaNiO <sub>3</sub>	0.94
6.	LaCuO <sub>3</sub>	0.75
7.	LaZnO <sub>3</sub>	0.99

 Table S1: Calculated Goldschmidt's tolerance factors for Lanthanum-based perovskites.

**TPR** Analysis

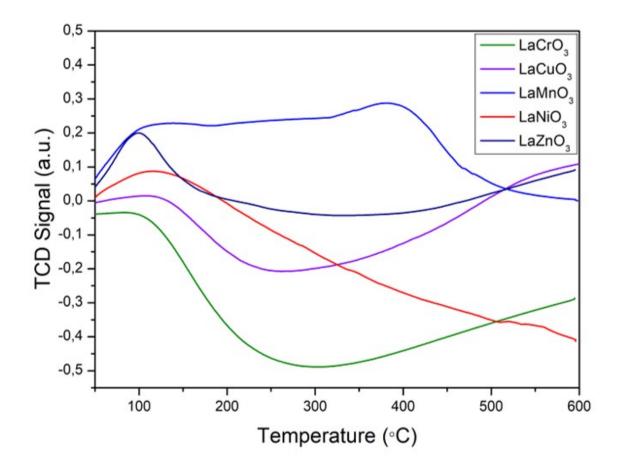


Figure S1: TPR profiles of the perovskites.

### **TGA Analysis**

The obtained surface areas for synthesized perovskites are relatively low, it is clearly that the surface area is not only a determining factor for its higher catalytic activity. We postulated that the stability was also a key factor to the higher catalytic efficiency of a catalyst. The LaMO<sub>3</sub> perovskites showed higher stability and degradation was observed in 2 steps. The first step is ascribed to the loss of water molecules and the second step is ascribed to total decomposition of the organic in the perovskite catalysts.

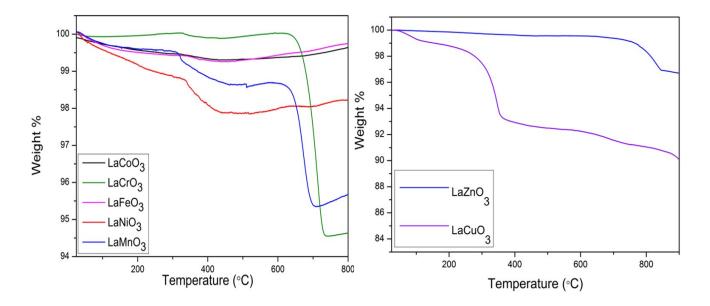
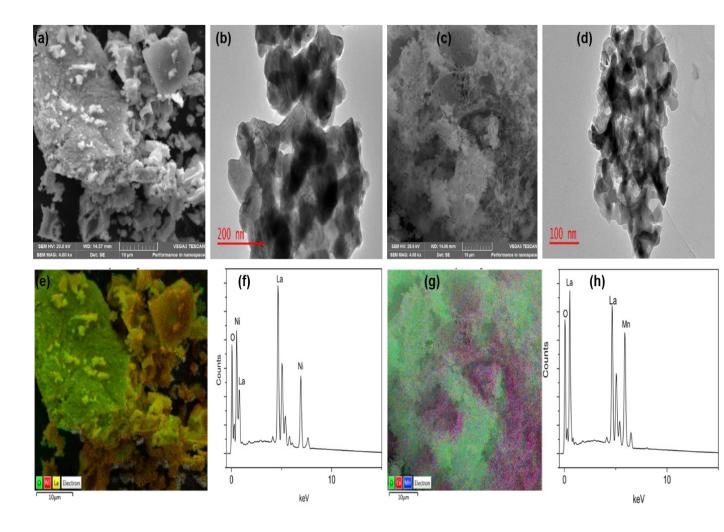
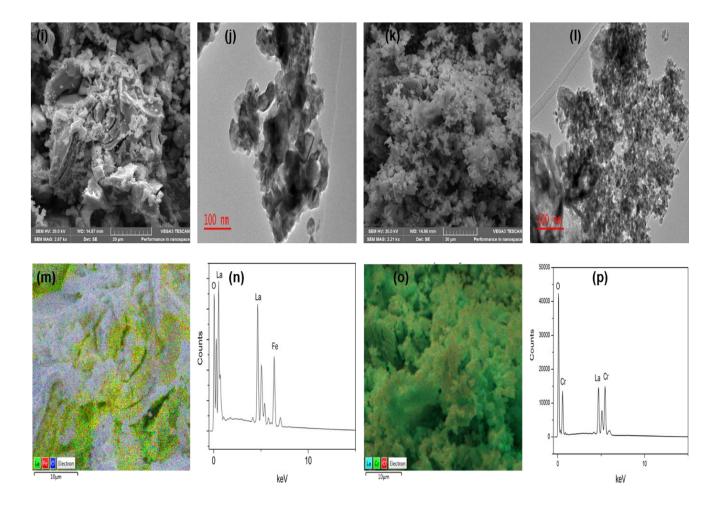


Figure S2: TGA profiles of LaMO<sub>3</sub> (M= Co, Cr, Fe, Ni, Mn, Cu, Zn) perovskites.

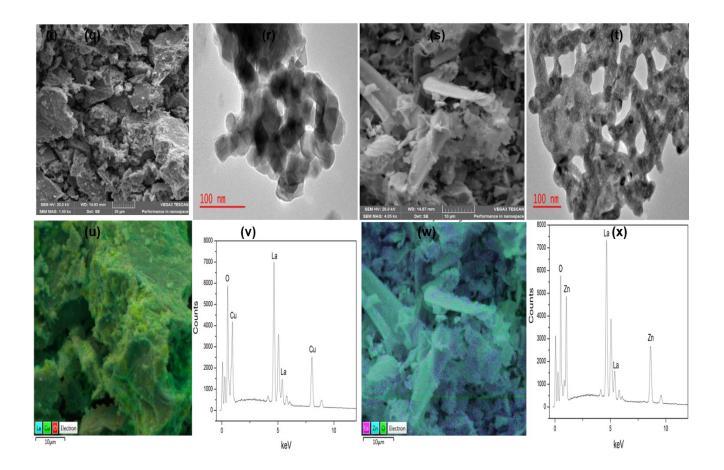
# SEM and TEM Analysis



**Figure S3:** (a) SEM image and (b) TEM image for LaNiO<sub>3</sub>; (c) SEM image and (d) TEM image for LaMnO<sub>3</sub>; (e) Elemental mapping and (f) EDS spectrum for LaNiO<sub>3</sub>; (g) Elemental mapping and (h) EDS spectrum for LaMnO<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S4:** (i) SEM image and (j) TEM image for LaFeO<sub>3</sub> (k) SEM image and (l) TEM image for LaCrO<sub>3</sub> (m) Elemental mapping and (n) EDS spectrum for LaFeO<sub>3</sub> (o) Elemental mapping and (p) EDS spectrum for LaCrO<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S5:** (q) SEM image and (r) TEM image for LaCuO<sub>3</sub> (s) SEM image and (t) TEM image for LaZnO<sub>3</sub> (u) Elemental mapping and (v) EDS spectrum for LaCuO<sub>3</sub> (w) Elemental mapping and (x) EDS spectrum for LaZnO<sub>3</sub>.

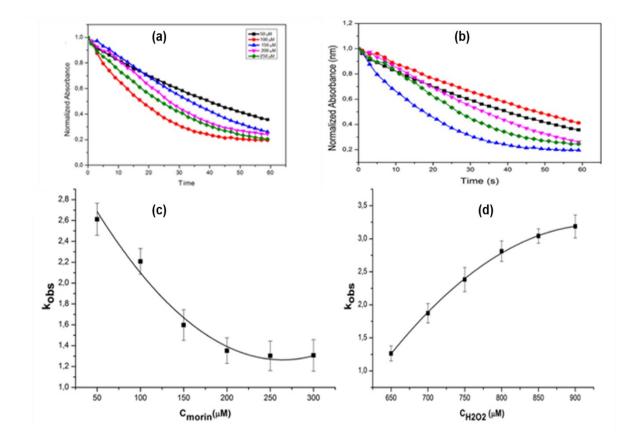
#### **Catalytic Reactions**

#### Morin concentration variation

Morin concentration was carried out to investigate the effect of concentration on the surface of morin while fixing  $H_2O_2$  concentration. Concentration range (50-250  $\mu$ M) was used. Based on the results obtained, the absorbance decreases as the morin concentration increases. This may be due to the concentration of morin on the surface of the catalyst. At the surface of the catalyst, the morin and  $H_2O_2$  were adsorbed before the reaction. So, as the morin concentration increases catalyst surface area would be covered with morin, therefore less morin will be absorbed to the surface which makes it very for  $H_2O_2$  to be adsorbed on the active site of the catalyst thereby decreases the rate of reaction [1]. Moreover, the observed rate of reaction decreases as the morin concentration increases.

#### Hydrogen peroxide variation

The reaction rate  $(k_{obs})$  was measured while varying the concentration of hydrogen peroxide at room temperature. The concentration increases as  $k_{obs}$  increases thereby gives positive correlation. These results are in good agreement with MnO<sub>x</sub> nanoparticles catalyzed the oxidation of morin [2].

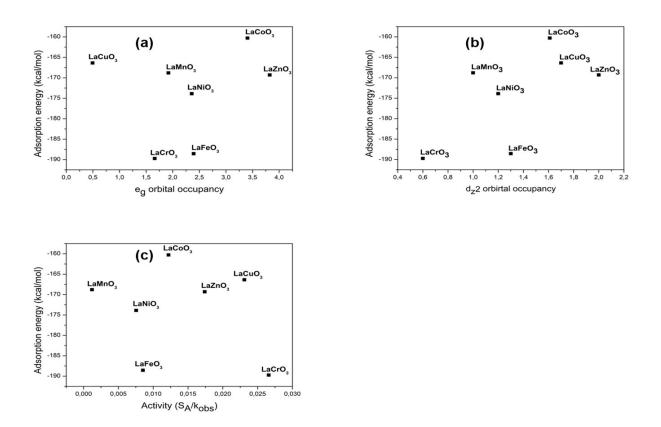


**Figure S6:** The relationship between (a) Absorbance vs time, (b) Absorbance vs time (c)  $k_{obs}$  vs [morin] and (d)  $k_{obs}$  vs [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>].

Morin concentration (µM)	Catalyst	Rate (S <sup>-1</sup> )
250	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$5.267 \times 10^{-1}$
200	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$6.180 \times 10^{-1}$
150	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$5.118 \times 10^{-1}$
100	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$4.808 \times 10^{-1}$
50	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$3.830 \times 10^{-1}$
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> concentration (μM)	Catalyst	Rate (S <sup>-1</sup> )
900	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$2.581 \times 10^{-1}$
850	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$2.814 \times 10^{-1}$
800	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$2.678 \times 10^{-1}$
750	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$3.932 \times 10^{-1}$
700	LaCrO <sub>3</sub>	$5.271 \times 10^{-1}$

**Table S3:** Calculated rate of reaction for concentration variation.

### **Adsorption Energies results**

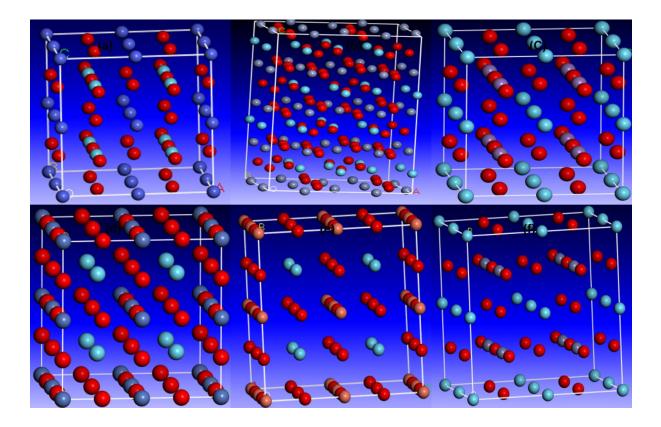


**Figure S8:** Plots of adsorption energy versus (a) catalytic activity (b)  $e_g$  orbital occupancy and (c)  $dz^2$  orbital filling.

Adsorption energy: The energy, in kcal<sup>-mol<sup>-1</sup></sup>, released (or required) when the relaxed adsorbate components are adsorbed on the substrate. This is sum of the rigid energy and the deformation energy for the adsorbate components.

**Rigid energy**: The energy, in in kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>, released (or required) when the unrelaxed adsorbate components (before the geometry optimization step) are adsorbed on the substrate.

**Deformation energy**: The energy, in in kcal<sup>-</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>, released (or required) when adsorbate components are relaxed on the substrate surface.



Electronic structures of La-based perovskites

**Figure S9:** Optimized electronic structures of (a) LaCoO<sub>3</sub>, (B) LaCrO<sub>3</sub>, (c) LaMnO<sub>3</sub>, (d) LaNiO<sub>3</sub>, (e) LaCuO<sub>3</sub> and (f) LaZnO<sub>3</sub> perovskites.

### References

- H. Xiao, R. Wang, L. Dong, Y. Cui, S. Chen, H. Sun, G. Ma, Biocompatible Dendrimer-Encapsulated Palladium Nanoparticles for Oxidation of Morin Biocompatible Dendrimer-Encapsulated Palladium Nanoparticles for Oxidation of Morin, ACS Omega. 4 (2019) 18685–18691. https://doi.org/10.1021/acsomega.9b02606.
- [2] Z. Erlangung, Composites of Spherical Polyelectrolyte Brushes and Nanoparticles Synthesis, Characterization and Their Use in Catalysis, (2011).