

## Synthesis and ionic conductivity of calcium doped ceria relevant to Solid oxide fuel cell applications

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### Supplementary Information

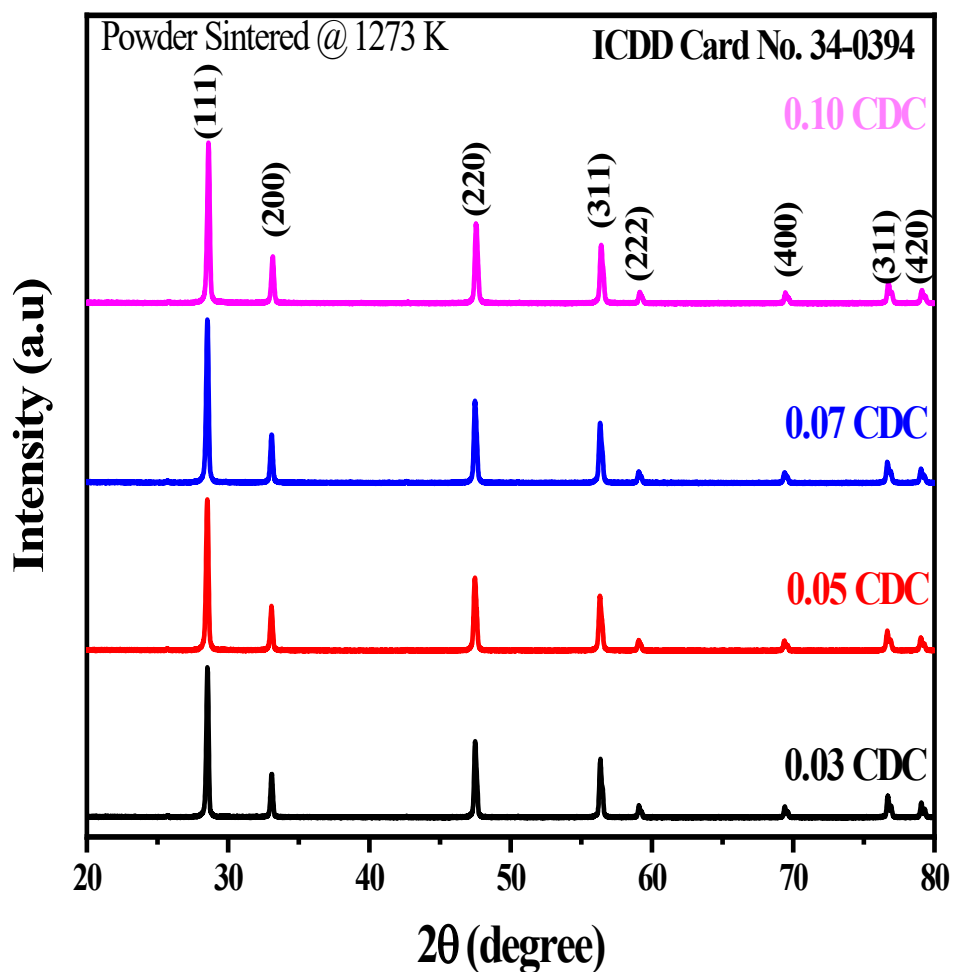
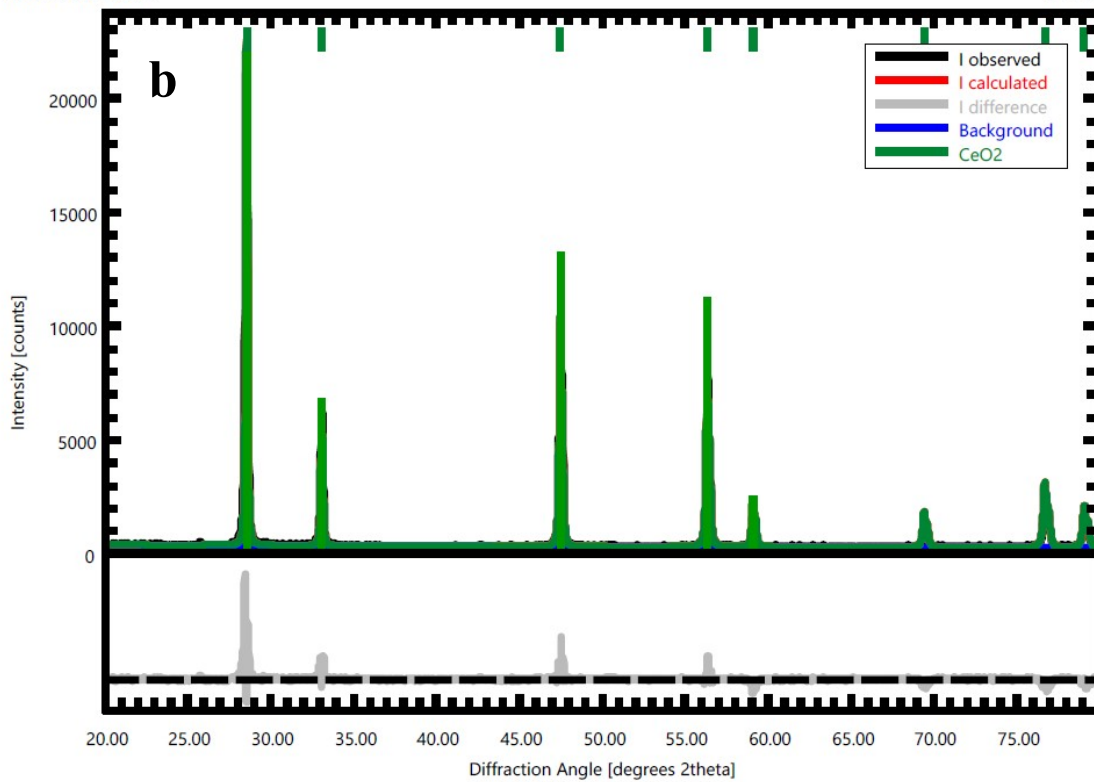
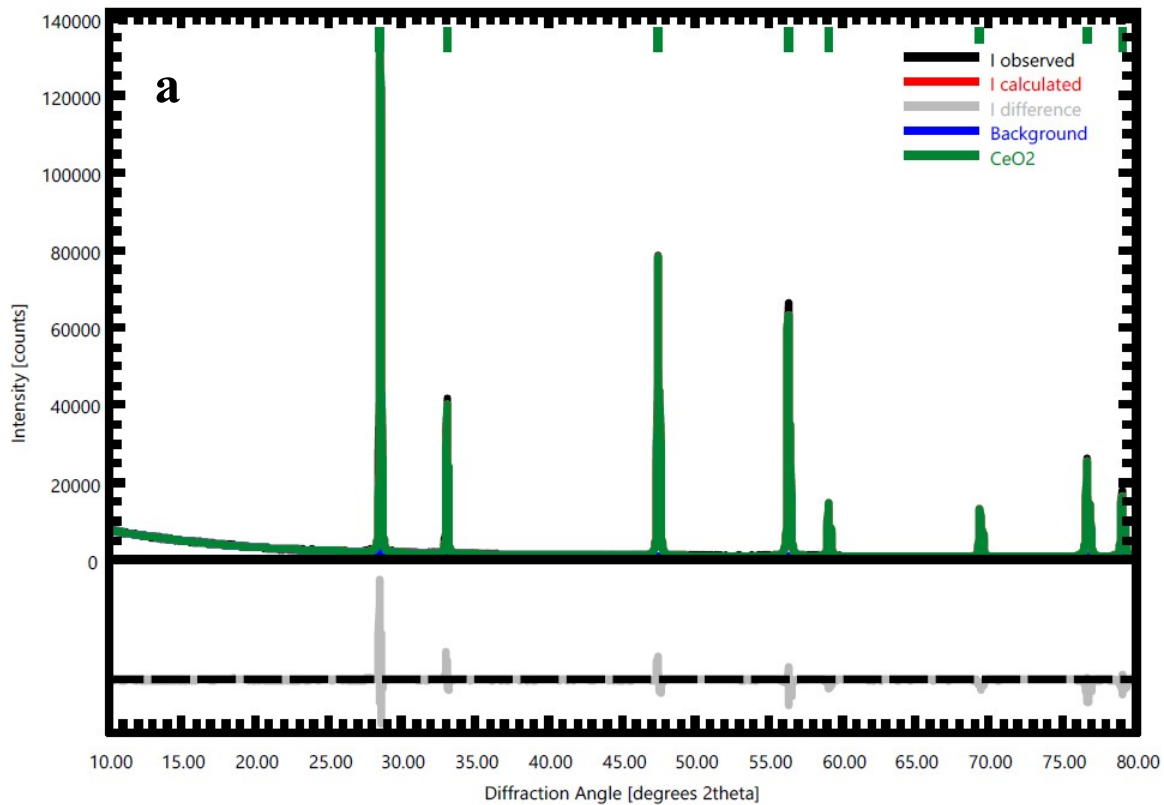
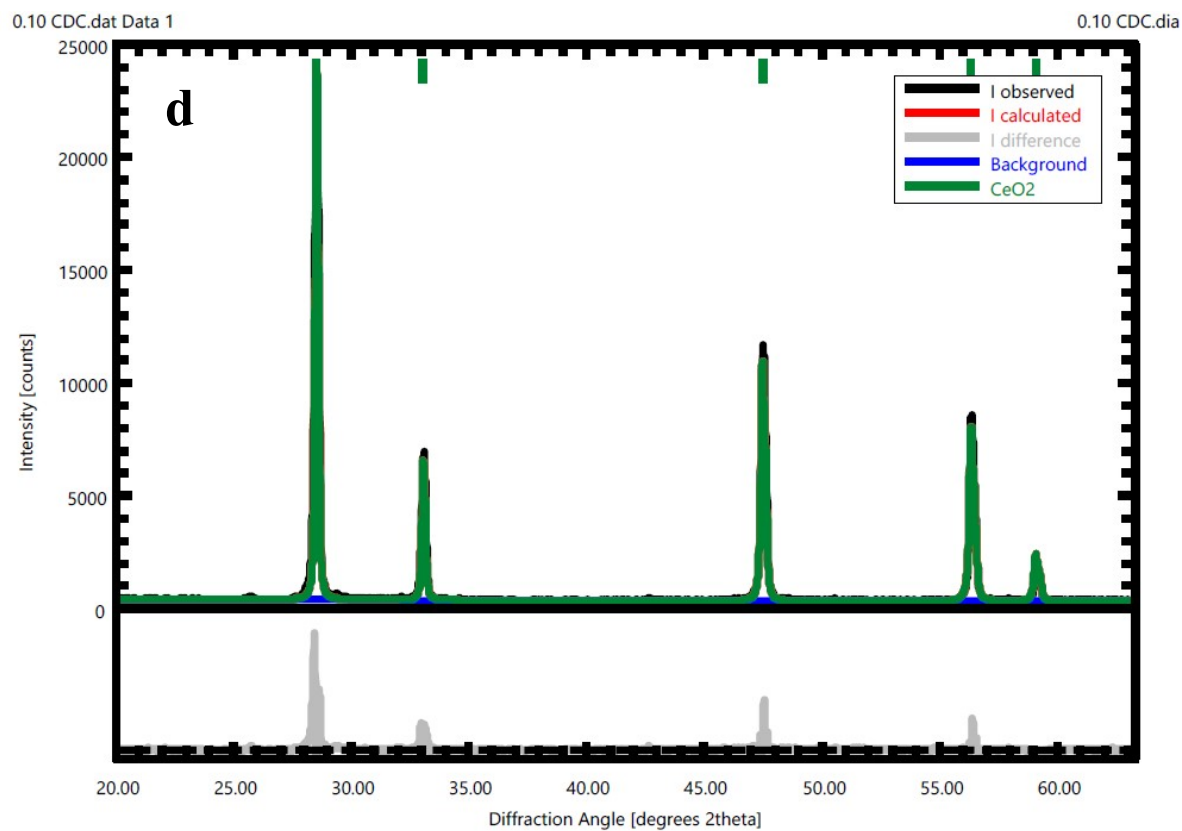
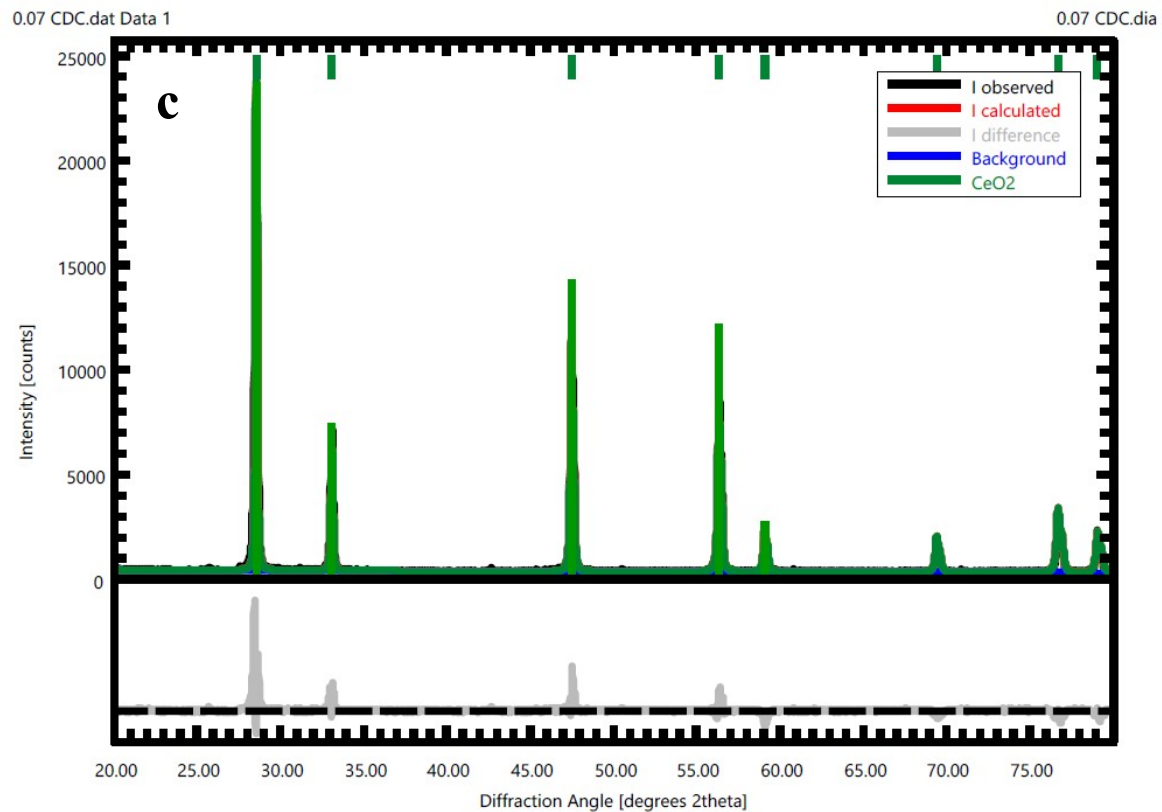


Fig. 1S XRD pattern of pellet CDC powder samples sintered at 1273 K.

The Rietveld refinement of CDC pellets have been performed using PROFEX software. From the obtained results it is clear that the difference between the calculated and observed XRD pattern is negligible. The refinement parameters are shown in Table 1S.





**Fig. 2S** XRD patterns after Rietveld refinement (a) 0.03, (b) 0.05, (c) 0.07 and (d) 0.10 CDC pellets.

**Table 1S**

Rietveld refinement parameters of CDC samples

Sample	Agreement factors			Average Crystallite Size in nm
	R <sub>p</sub>	R <sub>wp</sub>	GoF	
0.03 CDC	2.22	5.49	2.47	318
0.05 CDC	4.58	12.39	2.70	136
0.07 CDC	4.43	12.33	2.78	127
0.10 CDC	4.42	12.62	2.85	108

The FT-IR spectra of CDC samples is shown in Fig. 4S. The band at 3984  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  represent the stretching mode of C–H bond and the bands 2911  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 2853  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to the organic molecules absorbed during synthesis [1-4]. The 3434  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1626  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  bands are ascribed to (O–H) vibration modes of water (H–bonded) molecules [5]. The 1767  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  band is due to stretching vibration of carboxylate salts ( $\text{COO}^-$ ) and that at 1027  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is due to the cerium-oxygen [6]. The weaker band at 717  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to the Ce–O group having lower double bond nature and Ce–O–Ce chains of asymmetric stretching vibration of metal oxide. The stretching vibration band of Ce–O–Ca bonds is represented by the band at 877  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  [7, 8].

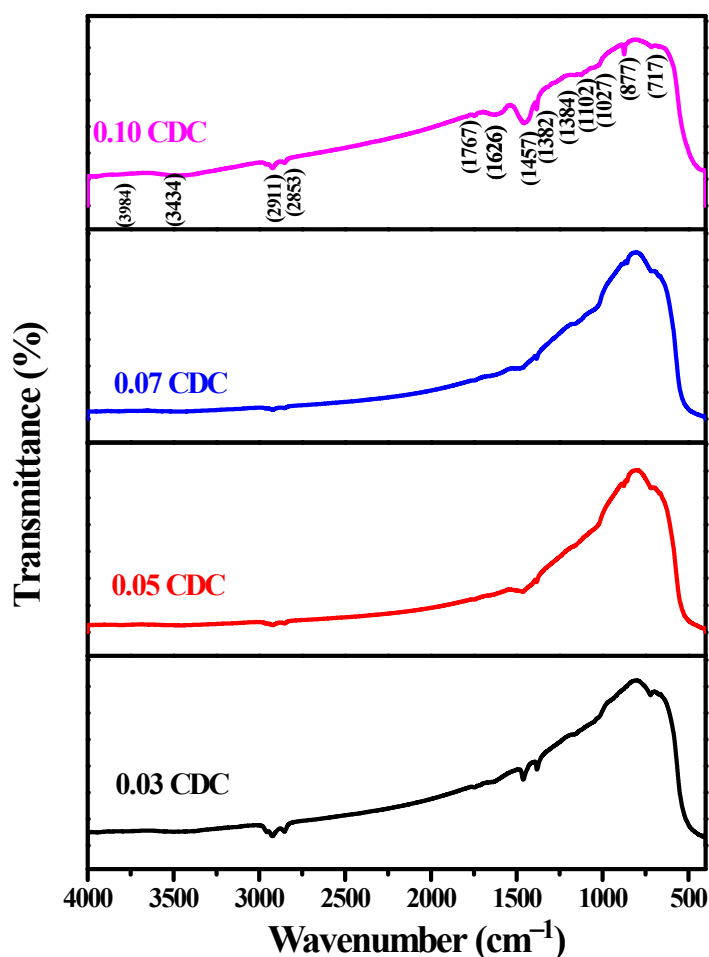
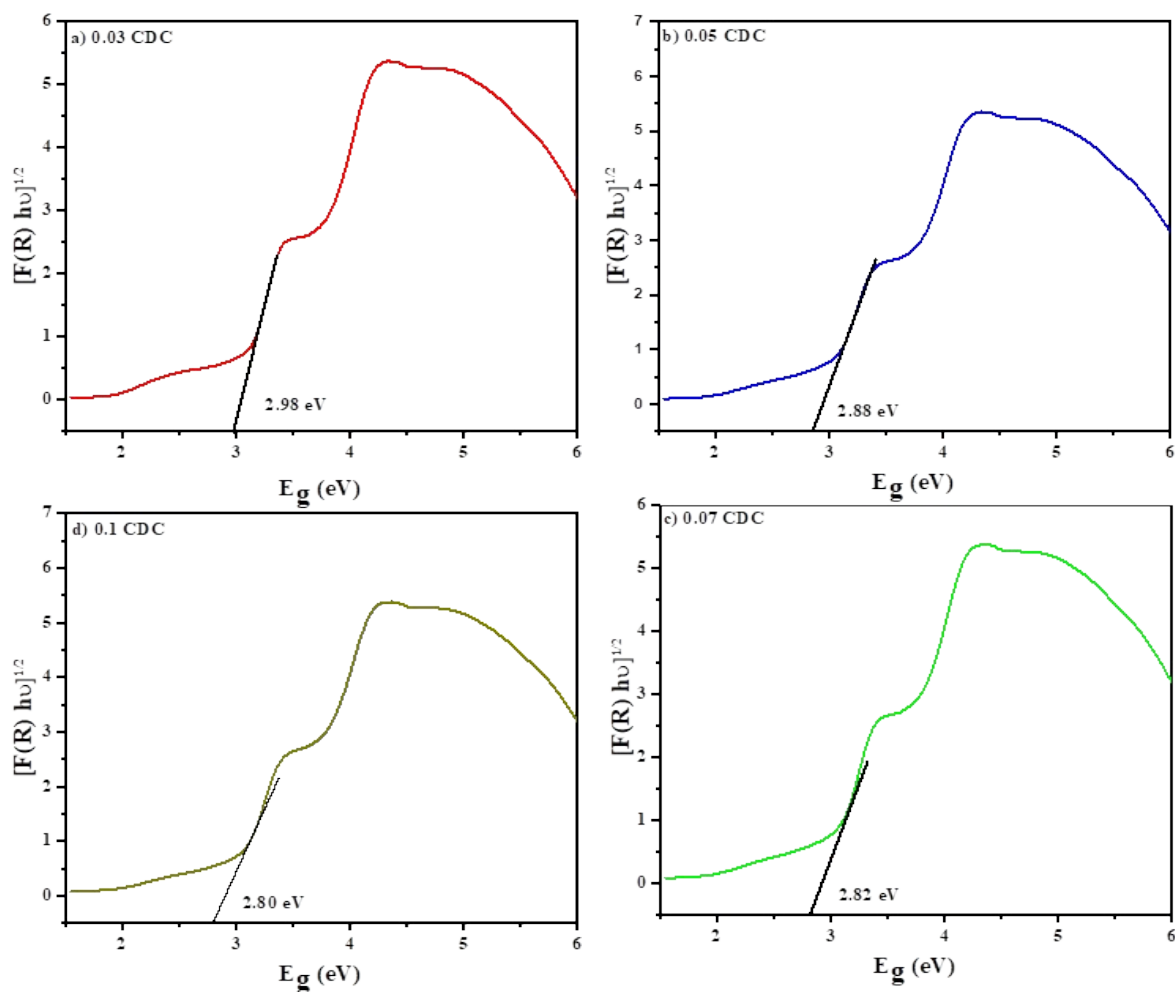


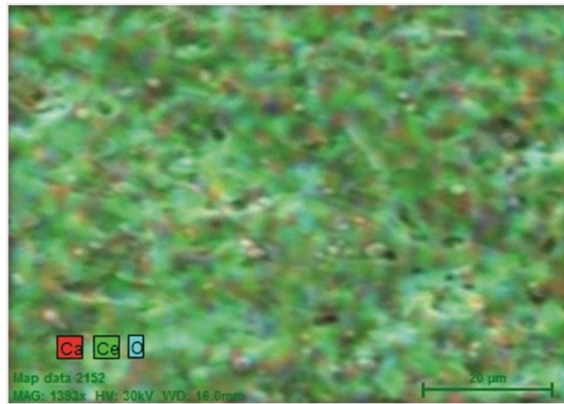
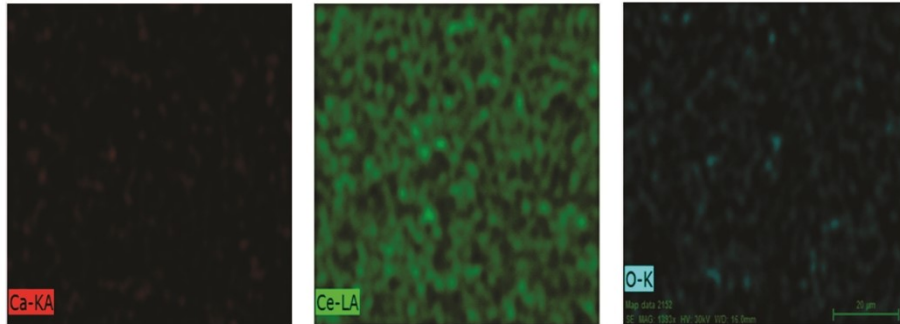
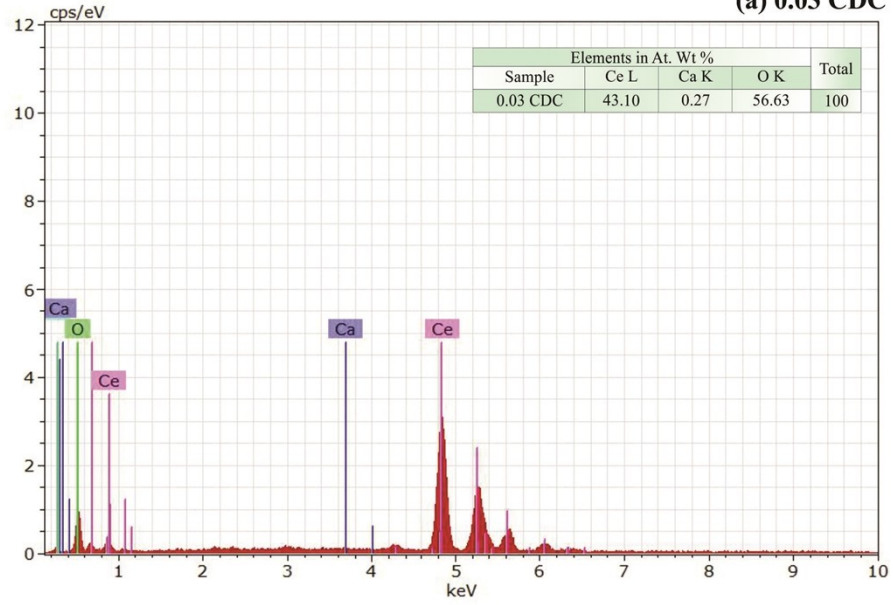
Fig. 3S FT-IR spectra of CDC samples.

The Kubelka–Munk plots of CDC samples for optical band gap are shown in **Fig. 4S**. It is found that, the band-gap energy decreased with increase in dopant (Ca) concentration (Table. 1), compared to the reported band-gap energy of 3.33 eV for cerium oxide [9]. The Ca ions are engendered at the ground and excited f-energy state in the CeO<sub>2</sub> band during the doping process. From the energy state of Ca entraps lots of excited electrons impending from O2–2p level and hence causing the decrease in bandgap energy [10]. The values for the energy bandgap determined from the Kubelka–Munk plots decrease from 3.33 for CeO<sub>2</sub> to 2.98, 2.88, 2.82 to 2.80 eV for 0.03 CDC, 0.05 CDC, 0.07 CDC and 0.10 CDC respectively.

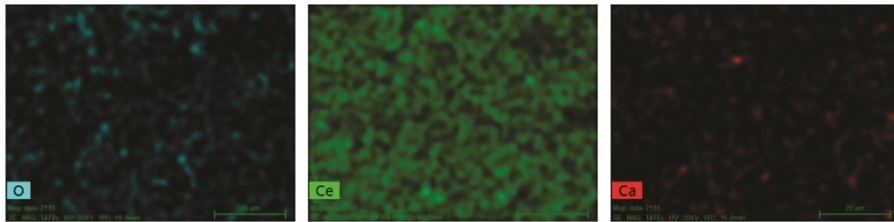
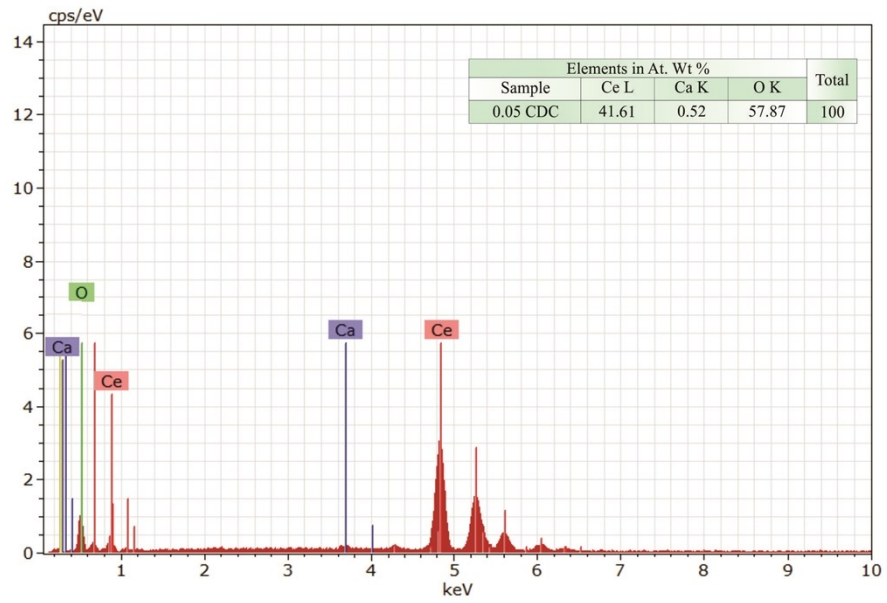


**Fig. 4S** Kubelka–Munk plots of CDC samples.

(a) 0.03 CDC

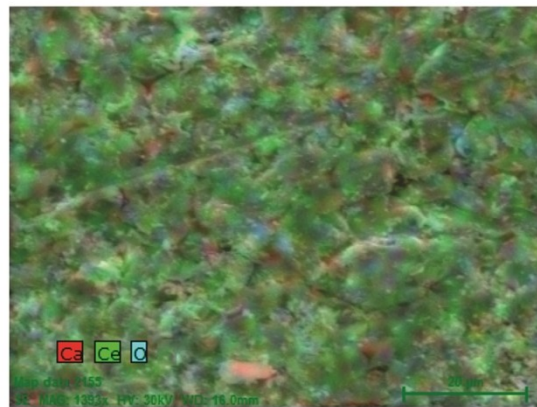
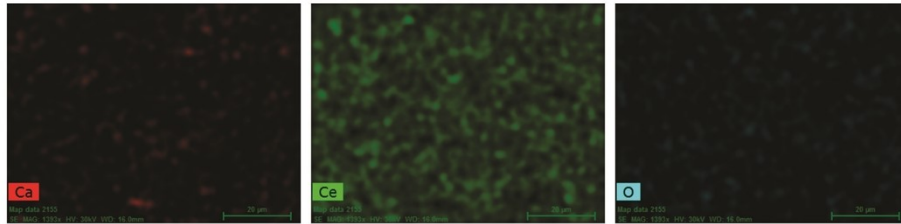
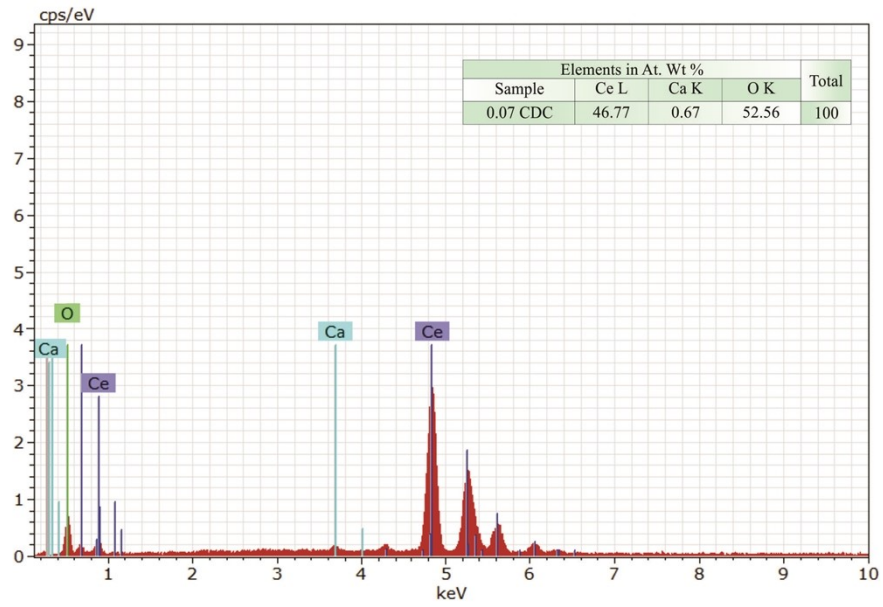


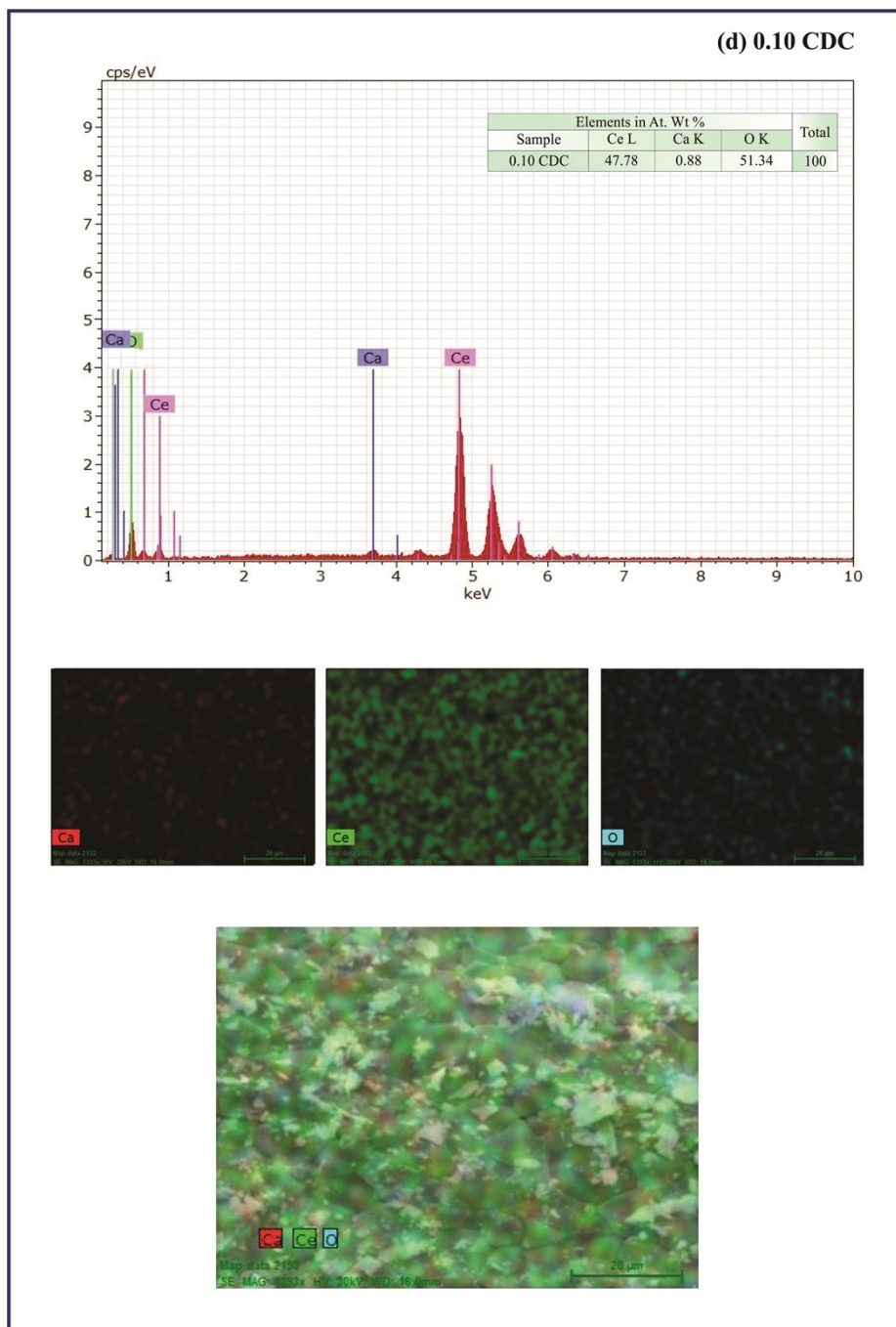
(b) 0.05 CDC





(c) 0.07 CDC





**Fig. 5S** EDX spectra and elemental mapping of CDC samples.

## References

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