

## Supporting Information

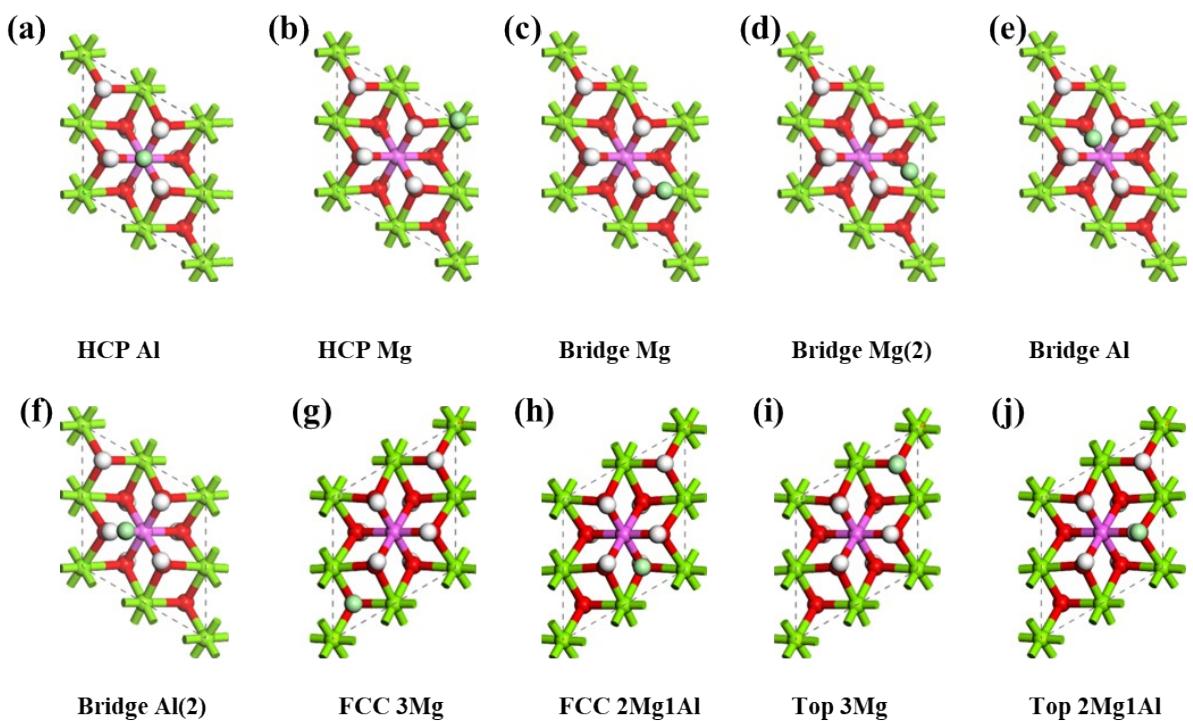
### Ag Single-Atom Modification of MgAl-LDH to Enhance the CH<sub>4</sub> Product Selectivity in CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction: A DFT Study

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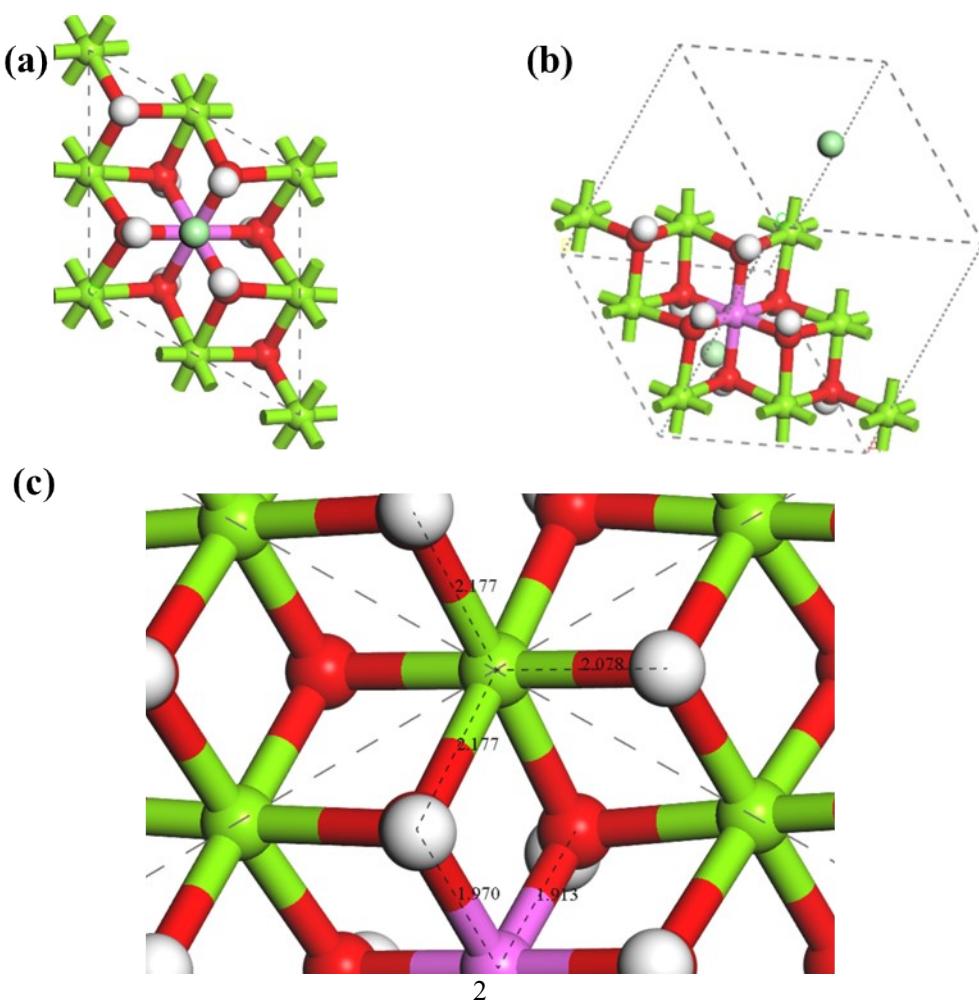
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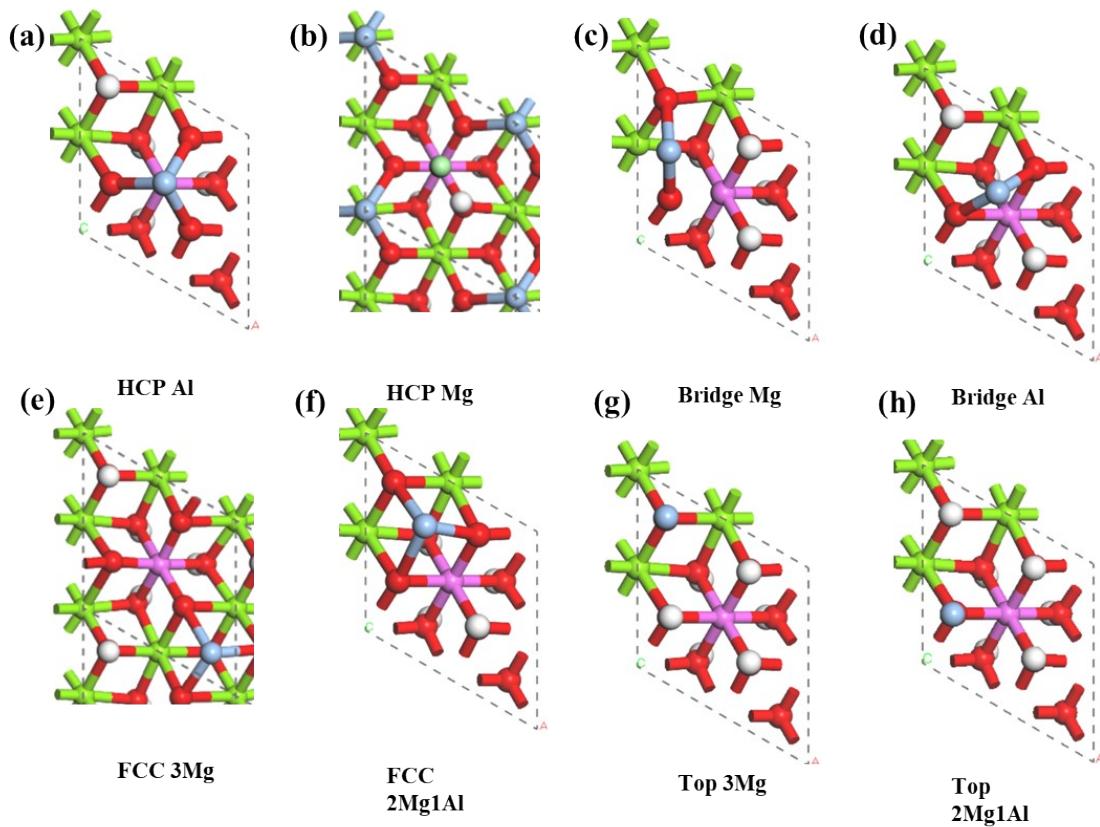
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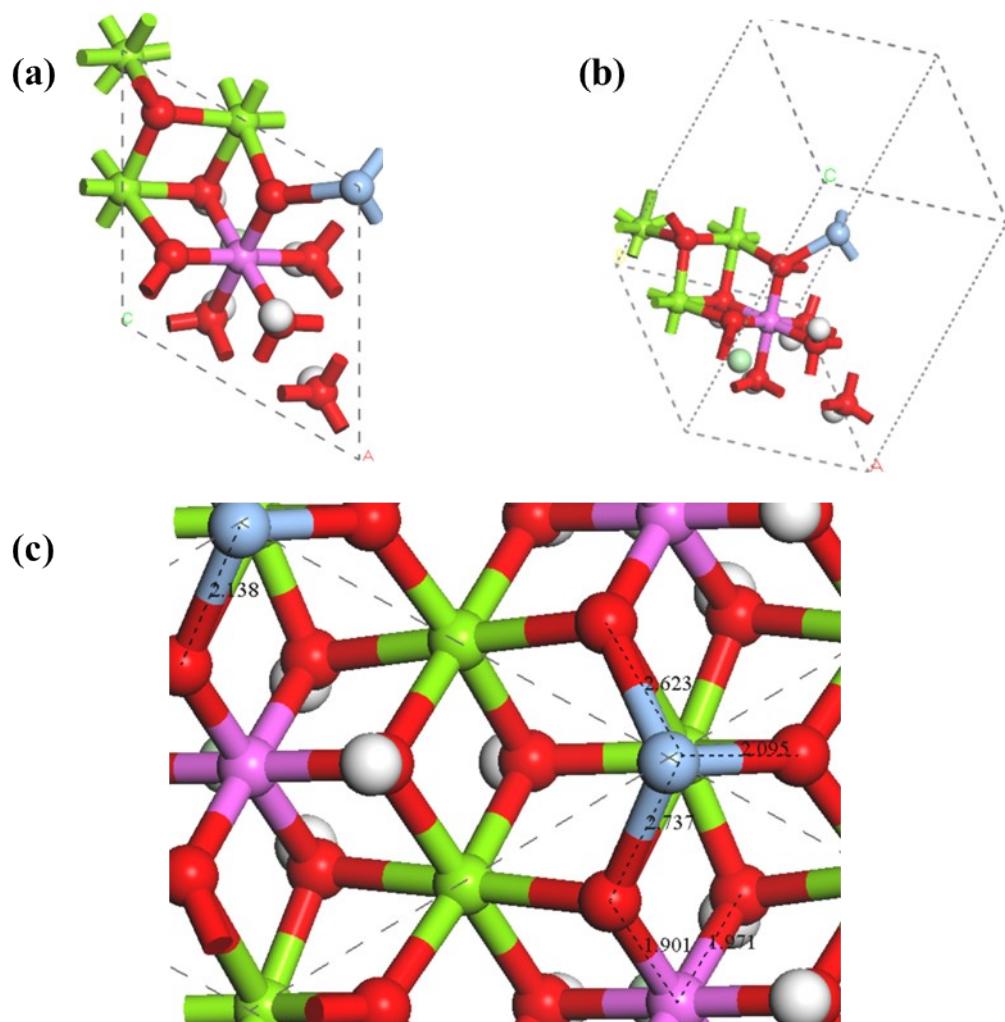
**Figure S1.** Optimized LDH structures with different  $\text{Cl}^-$  sites.



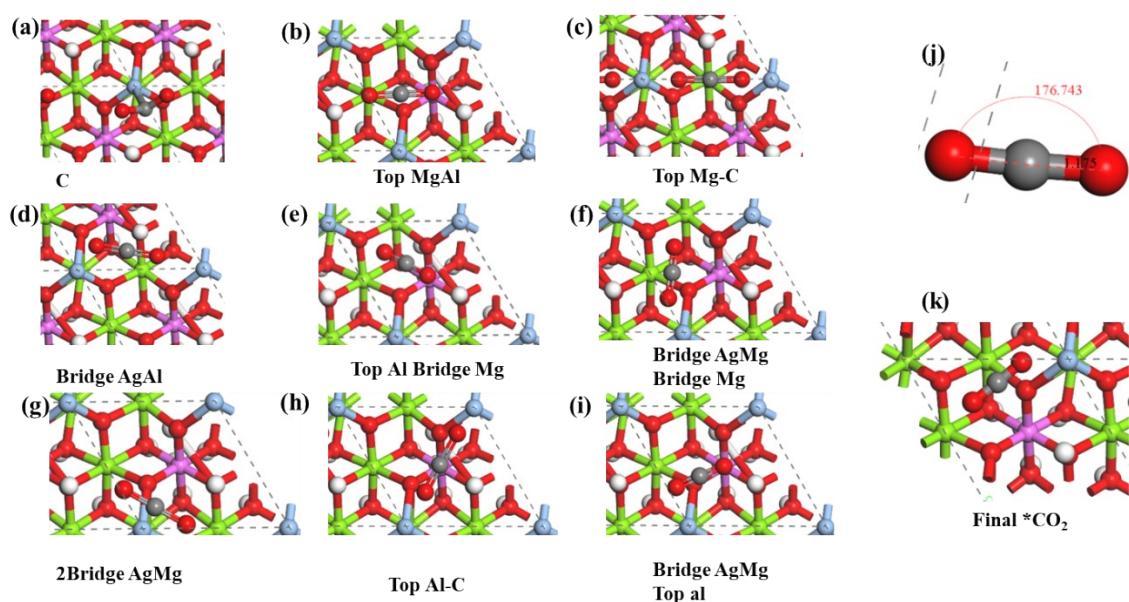
**Figure S2.** (a) Top view and (b) oblique view of the optimized MgAl-LDH structures with Cl<sup>-</sup>sites at HCP Al. (c) Bond length of the Mg-O and Al-O.



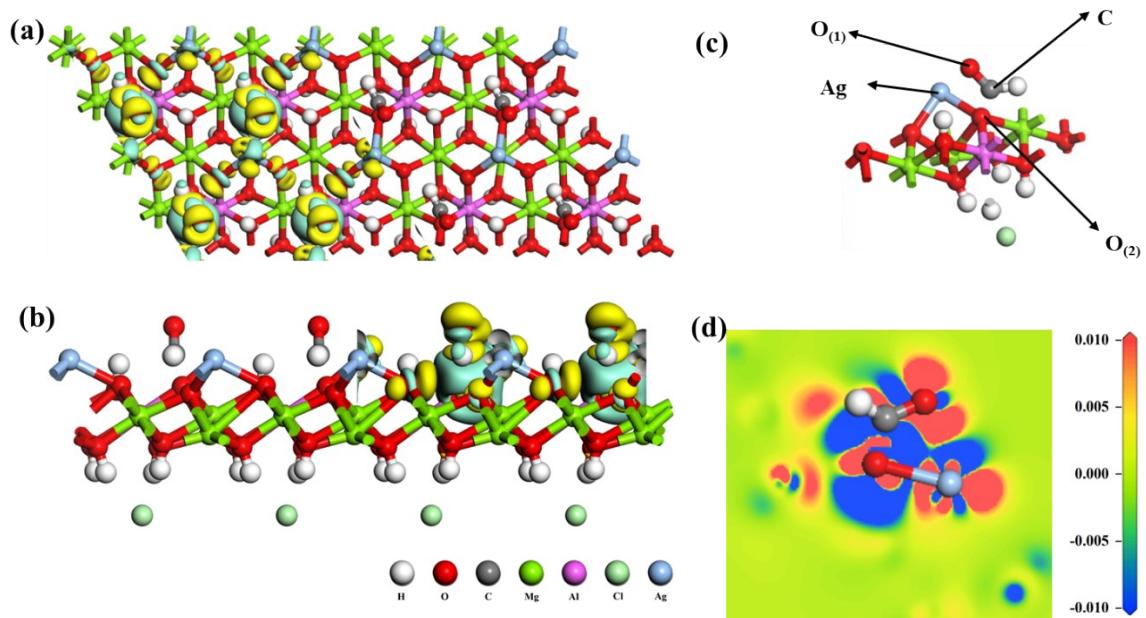
**Figure S3.** Optimized Ag/MgAl-LDH structures with different Ag sites.



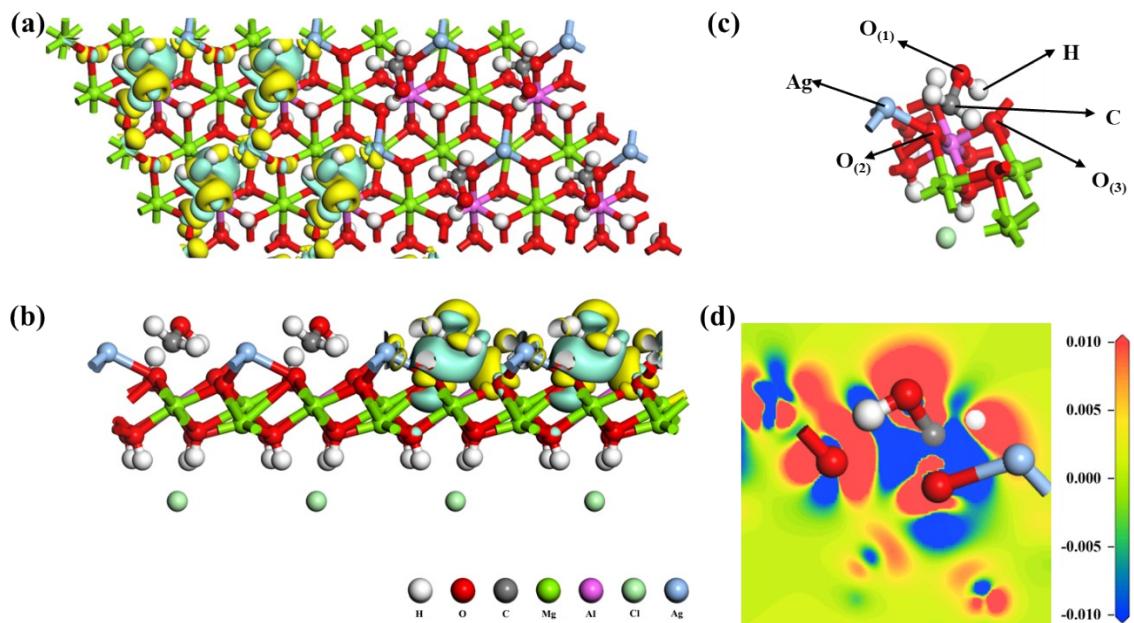
**Figure S4.** (a) Top view and (b) oblique view of the Optimized Ag/MgAl-LDH structures with Ag-sites at HCP Mg. (c) Bond length of the Mg-O and Al-O.



**Figure S5.** Possible initial adsorption configuration of  $^*\text{CO}_2$  on Ag/MgAl-LDH.



**Figure S6.** The charge density difference of  $^*\text{COH}$  intermediates on the Ag/MgAl-LDH at (a) top view, (b) front view, (c) oblique view, and (d) the slice plot.



**Figure S7.** The charge density difference of  $^*\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  intermediates on the Ag/MgAl-LDH at a) the top view, b) front view, c) oblique view, and d) the slice plot.

**Table S1.** Lattice parameters of the bulk MgAl-LDH.

Lattice parameters(A)		Cell Angles(°)	
a	3.10373	α	89.990705
b	3.10372	β	90.009106
c	7.64898	γ	120.01846

**Table S2.** Monolayer MgAl-LDH optimization energies with different Cl<sup>-</sup> sites.

Structure	Single-point approximation energy (eV)	Structural optimization energy (eV)
HCP Al	-9266.8506	<b>-9269.1885</b>
HCP Mg	-9266.2993	-9269.0818
Bridge Mg	-9266.4028	/
Bridge Mg(2)	-9266.3168	/
Bridge Al	-9266.7623	/
Bridge Al(2)	-9266.7623	/
FCC 3Mg	-9267.2903	-9269.0325
FCC 2Mg1Al	-9267.7403	/
Top 3Mg	-9267.4670	/
Top 2Mg1Al	-9267.7430	/

**Table S3.** Binding energies of Ag single atom with MgAl-LDH at different Ag sites.

Structure	Structural optimization energy (eV)	Combination energy $E_b$ (eV)
HCP Al	-13219.7881	-4.9365
HCP Mg	-13220.1257	<b>-5.4173</b>
bridge Mg	-13238.4887	-4.5160
bridge Al	-13238.4425	-4.2307
FCC 3Mg	-13219.6144	-4.9975
FCC 2Mg1Al	-13220.0944	-5.3386
Top3Mg	-13256.3828	-3.0166
Top2Mg1Al	-13256.4371	-2.9207

**Table S4.** The standard theoretical values of Gibbs free energy change for the reactions generating different C1 products (the values are based on the NIST-JANAF database).

Reactions	$\Delta G(\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1})$	$\Delta G(\text{eV})$
$\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 = \text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (l)	20.085	0.2082
$\text{CO}_2 + 4\text{H}_2 = \text{CH}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (l)	-130.661	<b>-1.3542</b>
$\text{CO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2 = \text{CH}_2\text{O} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (l)	47.327	0.4905
$\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 = \text{HCOOH}$ (l)	36.847	0.382
$\text{CO}_2 + 3\text{H}_2 = \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ (l) + $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (l)	-9.632	-0.0998
$\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 = \text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (l)	20.085	0.2082

**Table S5.** Population analysis of \*COH intermediate.

Element	Mulliken charge	Bond	Bond population
C	0.3	C-O <sub>(1)</sub>	1.04
O <sub>(1)</sub>	-0.51	C-O <sub>(2)</sub>	0.63
O <sub>(2)</sub>	-0.76	C-Ag	-0.32
Ag	0.65	Ag-O <sub>(1)</sub>	0.03

**Table S6.** Population analysis of \*CH<sub>2</sub>OH intermediate.

Element	Mulliken charge	Bond	Bond population
H	0.34	H-O <sub>(3)</sub>	0.21
C	-0.05	C-O <sub>(1)</sub>	0.63
O <sub>(1)</sub>	-0.65	C-O <sub>(2)</sub>	0.46
O <sub>(2)</sub>	-0.77	C-Ag	-0.38
O <sub>(3)</sub>	-0.94		
Ag	0.8		

Detailed structure parameters could be retrieved from the CCDC number [2436716](#) for MgAl-LDH and [2436715](#) for Ag/MgAl-LDH.