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A DFT study of gas adsorption (NO, NO₂) on metal oxides (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayer

JiaHui Su^{1,2}, Xin Liu^{1,2*}, Hanmei Zhang^{1,2}, Bing Zhao^{1,2}, Yue Feng³, Chao Wang⁴, Tao Shen^{2*}

Abstract

The adsorption properties of five gases on metal oxides (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ were studied by the first-principles density functional theory. The gas sensitivity of nitric oxide, ammonia, nitrogen dioxide, methane, and formaldehyde on metal oxides (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ was systematically discussed on the aspects of adsorption energy, the density of state, and electronic localization function and desorption time. The results prove that metal oxides (CuO, Ag₂O) modified could enhance the adsorption abilities of Ti₃C₂O₂. The adsorption capacity of CuO-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ is NH₃>NO>NO₂>CH₂O>CH₄, and the adsorption capacity of Ag₂O-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ is NO>NO₂>CH₂O>NH₃>CH₄. The NO₂ adsorption capacity Ag₂O-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ is 11.24 times than pure Ti₃C₂O₂. By comparison, CuO-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ is more suitable for capturing NO gas than Ag₂O-modified Ti₃C₂O₂, and the former exhibits chemically adsorbed. Considering the results, CuO and Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ can be used as oxynitride gas sensors.

Key Words: NO gas sensor; NO₂ gas sensor; DFT; metal oxides modified; Ti₃C₂O₂ MXene.

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1. Introduction

Gas detection plays a vital role in monitoring and exploration of toxic gases. The detection of toxic gas molecules is of great significance in causing environmental pollution and public problems [1]. There are two sources of oxynitride, natural and industrial manufacture. In nature, it is mainly produced by decomposing organic matter in soil and oceans. Most of the way of industrial manufacture come from the combustion process of fossil fuels. Oxynitride, mainly NO and NO₂, are an important cause of photochemical smog and acid rain. NO is highly toxic, and the presence of a large amount of NO gas in the air will cause health problems to the human body and may also cause environmental pollution [2-4]. In addition to affecting daily life, NO₂ can also damage the atmospheric environment [5].

In recent years, with the rapid development of materials science, gas-sensing technology based on nanoscale gas-sensitive materials has made significant breakthroughs. New two-dimensional nanomaterials such as graphene, boron nitride, and MXenes have attracted attention because of their unique geometric structures and high specific surface areas. So far, many remarkable achievements have been made in the field of gas sensitization [6-9]. Among them, Ti₃C₂O₂ is particularly outstanding in the development of gas sensors due to its rich adsorption sites and stable structure. By managing strain, it is expected to become a feasible test material for gas sensors. Kong et al. found that Ti₃C₂O₂ and Ti₃C₂F₂ with point vacancies have high sensitivity to SO₂ [10]. Zeng et al. mentioned in their research that Ti₃C₂T_x has good sensing ability for NO and NO₂ [11]. Unfortunately, nitride gas does not react well enough to gas sensors made of pure Ti₃C₂O₂. Weng et al. found that monolayer Ti₃C₂O₂ on NO₂ is physical adsorption [12]. Therefore, it is urgent to modify Ti₃C₂O₂ MXenes to improve its adsorption performance.

Fortunately, studies have shown that improving gas sensitivity on two-dimensional materials can be achieved by modifying surface transition metal oxides. Specifically, it is by introducing more adsorption sites or building heterostructures at the contact interfaces of different materials [13-15]. For example, CuO-modified graphene is considered as an excellent sensor for H₂S detection [16]. The adsorption of C₂H₂, NH₃

1 and NO gases by metal (CuO, Ag₂O) modified MoTe₂ has been studied [17]. Among
2 them, the adsorption performance of MoTe₂ modified by Ag₂O and CuO is
3 significantly improved, which provides a theoretical basis for metal modification. **The**
4 **sensors based on graphene decorated with CuO nanorods showed best sensitivity and**
5 **selectivity to H₂S gas [18]. Ghasemi A R et al. used thin film of Ag₂O-nanoparticles**
6 **MWCNTs for specific detection of methane, the fabricated sensor has significant**
7 **novelties such as specificity, reproducibility, high sensitivity, more improved**
8 **detection limit and short response time [19]. These reports show that CuO and Ag₂O**
9 **have the potential to improve the gas-sensing properties of two-dimensional materials.**
10 **However, to the best of our knowledge, a study of theoretical calculation research on**
11 **the gas sensing properties of metal oxide (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ for five**
12 **gases has not been reported to date.**

13 Combined with previous studies on Ti₃C₂O₂ gas sensitivity, this study analyzed the
14 interaction between metal (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ MXene and five gases (NO,
15 NH₃, NO₂, CH₄, and CH₂O) gas molecular systems through DFT research. First, the
16 most stable position of metal (CuO, Ag₂O) modified Ti₃C₂O₂ is analyzed.
17 Subsequently, the reaction mechanism of the interaction between metal (CuO, Ag₂O)
18 modified Ti₃C₂O₂ and five gases were studied. The results show that the Ti₃C₂O₂
19 structure modified by the most stable metal (CuO, Ag₂O) could improve the
20 adsorption performance of oxynitride gas. Our research provides academic impetus
21 for the advancement of oxynitride sensors.

2. Computational details

22 DFT calculations are performed in the Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package (VASP)
23 [20] to add pseudopotentials using Projector Augmented Waves (PAW) to characterize
24 the interactions between electrons and ions [21]. The Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE)
25 function of the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) is used for geometry
26 optimization for all calculations [22,23]. Calculations converged using a plane wave
27 cutoff energy of 520 eV and a force of -0.05 eV/Å. **The self-consistent field**
28 **convergence accuracy was set to 1.0×10⁻⁶ Ha.** During the structural optimization
29 process, 4×4×1 Monkhorst-Pack K-points were used to sample Brillouin. In this study,
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1 we use a 3×3×1 Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayer. To obtain a single layer of Ti₃C₂O₂ and eliminate
2 the interaction between adjacent layers, we set the thickness of the vacuum layer to
3 20Å [24]. Considering the interaction between the substrate surface and gas molecules,
4 VASKIT was used to immobilize the two substrates [25]. When analyzing the
5 interaction between gas molecules and matrix, all charges before and after adsorption
6 of gas molecules on the matrix were distinguished, and CT between gas molecules
7 and matrix was evaluated by Bader charge calculation [26-30].

8 The energy released during the surface bonding of metal and Ti₃C₂O₂ is denoted as
9 E_{bind}, which is defined by equation 1:

$$10 \quad E_{\text{bind}} = E_{\text{metal-MXenes}} - E_{\text{metal}} - E_{\text{MXenes}} \quad (1)$$

11 where E_{metal}, and E_{MXenes} refer to the total energy of the metal, and pure Ti₃C₂O₂
12 monolayer, respectively. The E_{metal-MXenes} refer to the total energy of the metal modified
13 Ti₃C₂O₂ system.

14 And then equation 2 calculates the adsorption energy E_{ads}:

$$15 \quad E_{\text{ads}} = E_{\text{metal-MXenes-gas}} - E_{\text{gas}} - E_{\text{metal-MXenes}} \quad (2)$$

16 where the E_{metal-MXenes-gas} and E_{gas} refer to the energy after the system adsorbs the gas
17 and the energy of the gas. If E_{ads} is less than 0, the process is spontaneous. And energy
18 is released during the reaction.

19 To analyze the charge transfer of individual atoms during the gas adsorption process,
20 Q_t is calculated from equation 3:

$$21 \quad Q_t = Q_{\text{after}} - Q_{\text{before}} \quad (3)$$

22 where Q_{after} in equation 3 is the net charge of the atom after adsorption, and Q_{before} is
23 the net charge of the atom before adsorption. When Q_t is less than 0, it means that the
24 atom has lost electrons. In the opposite case, the atom receives electrons.

25 **3. Results and discussion**

26 *3.1 CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayer*

27 The most stable single-layer Ti₃C₂O₂ structure is shown in Figure 1. The lattice
28 parameter of the Ti₃C₂O₂ cell is 3.01Å, which is relatively consistent with previous
29 studies [31].

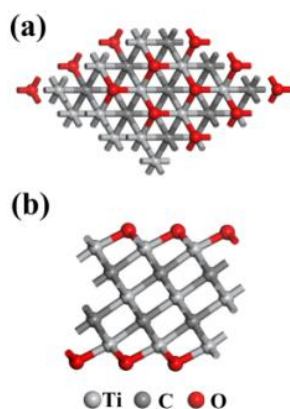


Figure 1. Top and side views of unadulterated $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$.

We considered a total of four different modification sites to obtain the most stable structure of CuO-modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ and three different modification sites to obtain the most stable structure of Ag_2O -modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$. CuO-modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ as shown in Figure 2(a-h), including between the Ti atom and the C atom (Figure 2a-b), between the Ti atom and the O atom (Figure 2g-h), top site above the Ti atom (Figure 2c-d), and top site above the O atom (Figure 2e-f). Considering that Cu and O atoms will have different effects when connected to different atoms, eight models are established. Comparing with Figure 2b, it can be found that the Cu atom in Figure 2a is originally connected with the C atom, which is close to the Ti atom, and the optimized Cu atom is bonded with the O atom, which is relatively far away. The Cu atom in Figure 2c is slightly shifted by the action of two O atoms near the Ti atom, while no such phenomenon is seen in Figure 2d. In Figure 2e, the O of the O functional group of $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ is originally connected with the O atom of CuO, and the structure was optimized to become the O connection of Cu atom and the functional group. Therefore, Figure 2e looks like Figure 2f. A similar situation also appears in Figure 2h.

The most stable structure of Ag_2O -modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$, as shown in Figure 2(i-k), including between the O atom and the Ag atom (Figure 2i), between the Ti atom and the Ag atom, the Ag atom and the C atom (Figure 2j), between the Ti atom and the Ag atom, the Ag atom and the O atom (Figure 2k). Comparing with Figure 2j and Figure 2k, it can be found that the Ag atom is connected with the O atom. Therefore, Figure 2k looks like Figure 2i. A similar situation also appears in Figure 2j.

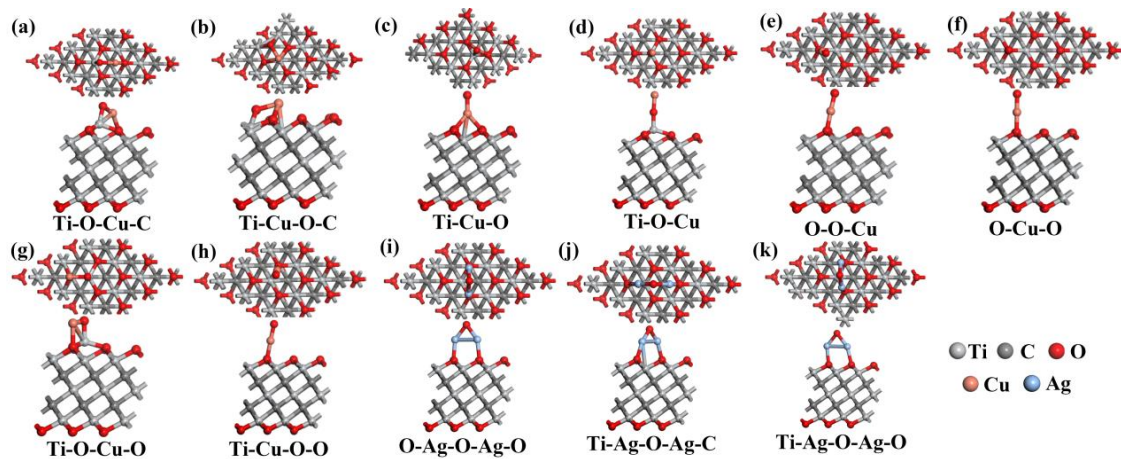


Figure 2. Top view and side view of $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ modified by CuO and Ag_2O at different sites.

To describe the energy released during the surface bonding process between CuO , Ag_2O and $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$, and to express the stability of the structure, Figure 3 represents the amount of energy released. Among the eight CuO -modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ models in Figure 3a, the Ti-O-Cu-C model has the smallest E_b value (- 2.13 eV), that is the most energy released in the process. The Ti-O-Cu-O model is similar to the Ti-O-Cu-C model. The difference is that the Cu atom of the former is bound to the O atom which is closer to the Ti atom, while the latter is the distant O atom. Therefore, the most stable structure is shown in Figure 2a from the perspective of the energy released during the surface bonding process of CuO and $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$.

Among the three Ag_2O -modified $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ models, the O-Ag-O-Ag-O model has the smallest E_b value (-2.32 eV) in Figure 3b, that is, the most energy is released during the process. The Ti-Ag-O-Ag-O model is similar to the O-Ag-O-Ag-O model. The difference is that the structure of the former has slight deformations. From the perspective of the energy released during the surface bonding of Ag_2O and $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$, the most stable structure is shown in Figure 2i.

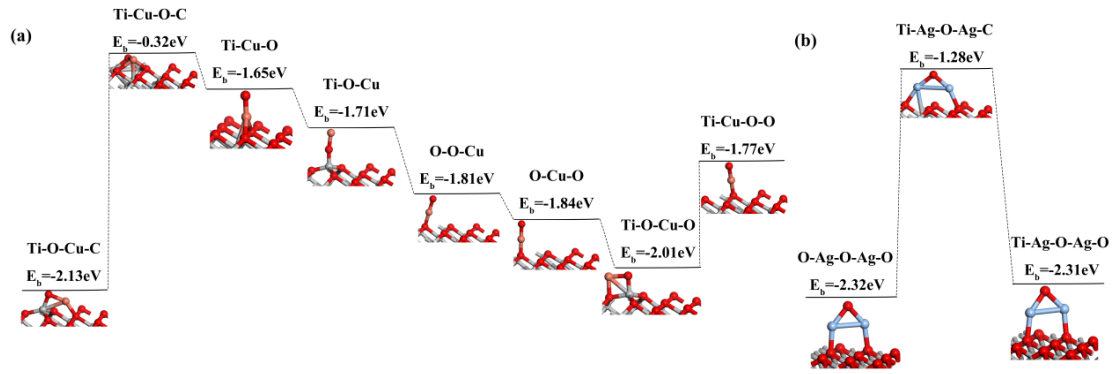


Figure 3. The released energy when CuO or Ag₂O binds to Ti₃C₂O₂ at different sites. For the purpose of understanding the behavior of CuO and Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂, calculation of the density of state (DOS), partial density of states (PDOS), the electron localization function (ELF), and average charge transfer. Figure 4a shows DOS before and after CuO modification. We found new peaks near -1.26 eV and -0.75 eV. According to the PDOS of Figure 4b, the O-2p orbital in Ti₃C₂O₂ hybridized with the Cu-3d orbital near -1.26 eV and -0.75 eV, possibly bonding between the O and Cu atoms. To further analyze the influence of CuO on the original Ti₃C₂O₂, ELF is calculated, as shown in Figure 4c. Corresponding to Figure 4b, the bonding interaction between the Cu atom and the O atom in Ti₃C₂O₂. According to the average charge transfer of different atoms of Ti-O-Cu-C in Figure 4d, it can be found that there are both electron inflow and outflow in CuO, which is related to the short distance between CuO and Ti₃C₂O₂. Meanwhile, for the Ag₂O modification model, new peaks were found near -2.40 eV and -0.20 eV in DOS before and after Ag₂O modification which can be seen in Figure 4e. According to the PDOS in Figure 4f, the O-2p orbital in Ti₃C₂O₂ hybridizes with the Ag-4d orbital around -2.40 eV and -0.20 eV. Figure 4g is consistent with the results analyzed in Figure 4f. There is a bonding interaction between the O atoms in Ti₃C₂O₂ and the Ag atoms in Ag₂O. According to the average charge transfer of different atoms of O-Ag-O-Ag-O in Figure 4h, it can be found that there are both electrons flowing in and electrons flowing out of Ag₂O.

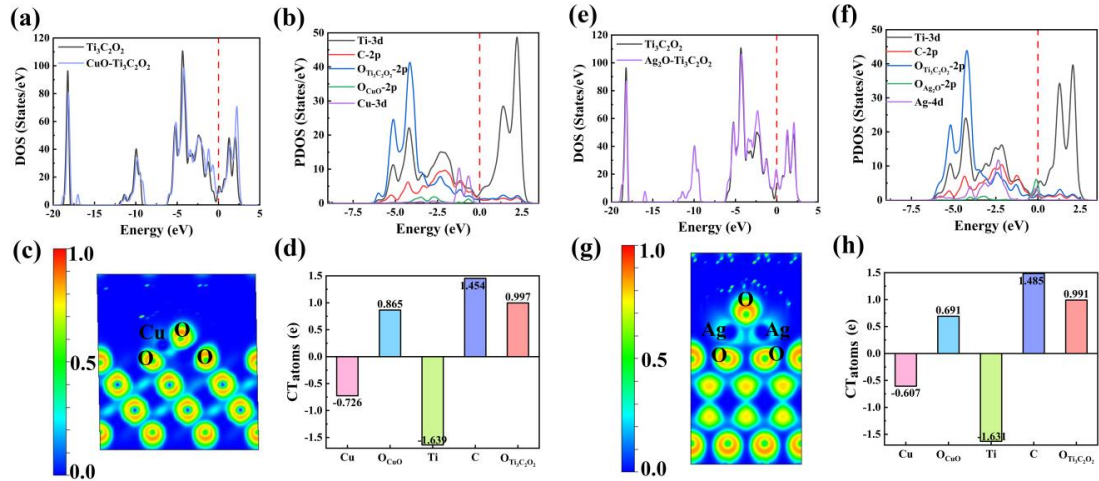


Figure 4. (a-d)TDOS, PDOS, ELF, and average charge transfer of Ti-O-Cu-C.

(e-h)TDOS, PDOS, ELF, and average charge transfer of O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

3.2 Adsorption of CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayer to gas molecules

To understand the adsorption behavior of five gas molecules on CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayers, the geometric optimization and electronic properties of these adsorption systems were studied deeply. Adsorption energy, charge exchanged, DOS, and ELF were calculated.

Figure 5 shows the adsorption of five gases on the superior adsorption sites of CuO-modified and Ag₂O-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ monolayer, respectively. When NH₃ gas and CH₂O gas are adsorbed on Ti-O-Cu-C, the Cu-O bond in CuO is broken. When NO gas and CH₂O are adsorbed on O-Ag-O-Ag-O, the Ag-O bond in Ag₂O is broken. It is obvious that there is still a distance between the CH₄ gas and both substrates.

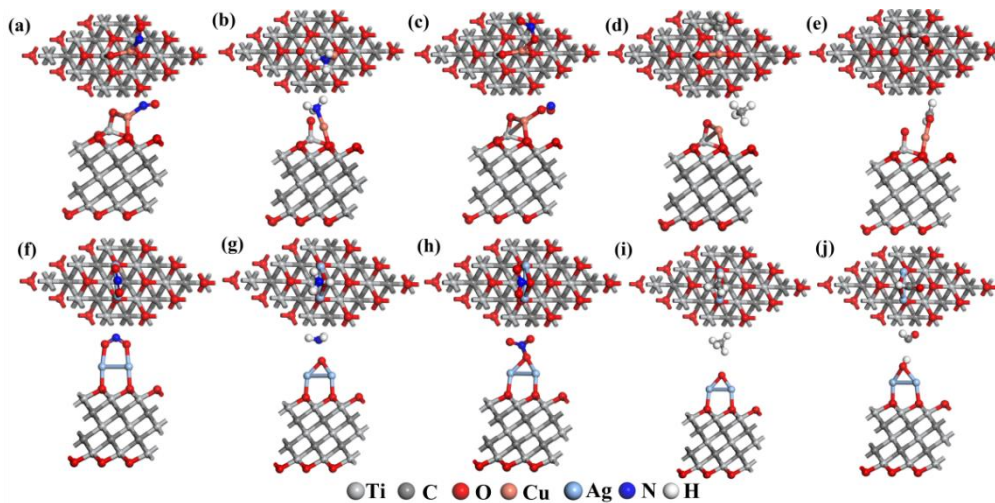


Figure 5. (a-e)five gases adsorption on Ti-O-Cu-C. (f-j)five gases adsorption on

O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

The adsorption energy and adsorption distance of five gases at Ti-O-Cu-C and O-Ag-O-Ag-O were presented in the Figure 6. The adsorption energy less than 0 means that the adsorption of gas by the substrate does not require energy from the outside world, but releases energy to the outside world. This means that the process is conducive to energy and is considered an exothermic process. The adsorption energies of pure $Ti_3C_2O_2$ for five gases calculated by our research group are -0.31 eV, -0.283 eV, 0.202 eV, -0.183 eV and -0.075 eV which are consistent with the results obtained by us and other researchers [9,11]. It can be seen from Figure 6a shows that the gas adsorption energies of NO, NH_3 , NO_2 , CH_4 , and CH_2O are -1.44 eV, -1.59 eV, -1.03 eV, -0.26 eV, and -0.83 eV, separately. Although the adsorption energy of NH_3 on Ti-O-Cu-C is the largest, NH_3 also causes the bond between the Cu atom and the O atom of CuO to break. The adsorption distance of CH_4 gas is the longest among the five gases, and its adsorption energy is also the smallest among all gases. The smaller adsorption energy may be caused by the longer adsorption distance. Compared with before modification, the adsorption effect is improved, and the E_{ads} of CH_4 are enhanced by 42%, but it still appears as physical adsorption [2]. On the contrary, E_{ads} for NO and NO_2 are about 4.64 times and 5.59 times higher than $Ti_3C_2O_2$. E_{ads} of NO is -1.44 eV, while that of NO_2 is -1.03 eV. Meanwhile, the bond length between the N atom in NO and the Cu atom in CuO is 1.790 Å, while the bond length between the O atom in NO_2 and the Cu atom in CuO is 1.937 Å. In general, the adsorption effect of NO is better than that of NO_2 .

In Figure 6b, the adsorption distance of CH_4 gas in the O-Ag-O-Ag-O structure is also the longest among the five gases, which is the same as Ti-O-Cu-C. The E_{ads} of NO_2 is about 11.24 times higher than that of pure $Ti_3C_2O_2$. At the same time, the distance between N atoms in NO_2 and O atoms in Ag_2O is 1.399 Å. Ag_2O -modified $Ti_3C_2O_2$ has a better adsorption effect on NO_2 gas. The adsorption energy of NO is the largest of the five gases, but the structure of Ag_2O changed. While maintaining the substrate, CuO-modified $Ti_3C_2O_2$ is more suitable for capturing NO gas than Ag_2O -modified $Ti_3C_2O_2$, and it is chemically adsorbed.

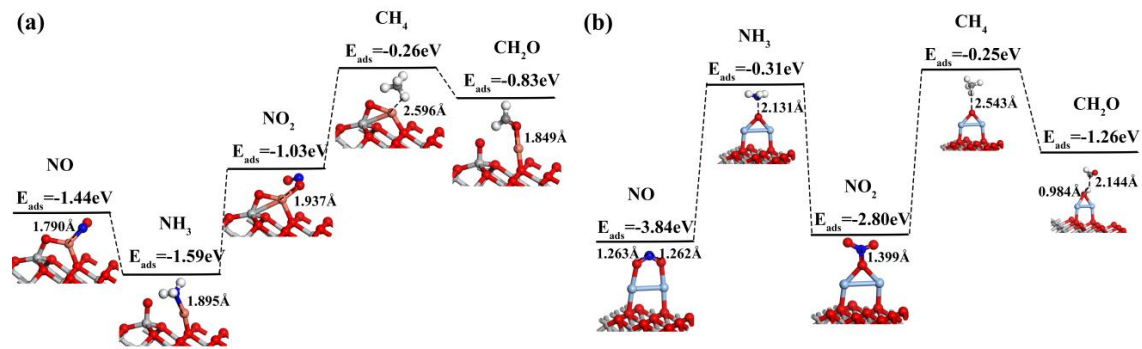


Figure 6. Adsorption energy and adsorption distance of five gases at (a) Ti-O-Cu-C and (b) O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

Because of the chemical adsorption characteristics of gas molecules on the matrix surface, the electronic properties of the matrix alteration during the examination of gas sensors. DOS analysis is a competent method for profoundly understanding electronic behavior [32,33]. Figure 7 depicts the density of states (DOS) of the five gases adsorbed on CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ systems, as well as the orbital DOS, to illustrate the modified electronic property of the CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ by five gases adsorption. For convenience, the position of the dashed line (0 eV) is used as the Fermi level in the DOS diagram. In Figure 7, the interatomic interactions can be to a higher degree analyzed through the distribution of PDOS. The overlapping peaks between varying orbitals over a large range can be attributed to the strong inter-orbital hybridization.

Figure 7a shows that the TDOS after NO adsorption rises in the Fermi level state, which means the conductivity increases. For Ti-O-Cu-C, it can be observed that the TDOS increases significantly in a small range from -9.16 eV to -8.04 eV after NO adsorption. The hybridization of N-2p and Cu-3d orbitals near -13.08 eV, -8.93 eV, -1.87 eV, and 0.13 eV, indicating interaction between them. In Figure 7b, the N-2p orbital is hybridized with the Cu-3d orbital near -6.21 eV. For NO₂ adsorbed on Ti-O-Cu-C, it can be seen from Figure 7c that the overlapping orbits near -2.90 eV and -0.75 eV are mainly composed of O-2p orbits in NO₂ and Cu-3d orbits in CuO, indicating the interaction between them. Regarding CH₄, it should be specifically noted that the nearly unchanged TDOS depicted in Figure 7d figures that the sensitive detection of CH₄ on Ti-O-Cu-C is unfavorable. Likewise, the adsorption of CH₄ on

Ti-O-Cu-C is relatively poor, and its PDOS shows not much substantial interaction in Figure 7d. In Figure 7e, the PDOS of CH₂O, only O-2p and Cu-3d orbitals appear peaks at the same energy level (-3.24 eV and 1.46 eV).

For O-Ag-O-Ag-O in Figure 7f, the overlapping orbitals near -8.53 eV, -3.60 eV, -3.18 eV, -2.32 eV and -1.24 eV are mainly composed of O-2p orbitals in NO and Ag-4d orbitals in Ag₂O, indicating interaction between them. Figure 7h shows that TDOS has new peaks at -8.26 eV, -7.38 eV and -10.58 eV after NO₂ adsorption. It can be seen from PDOS that it is contributed by O-2p in Ag₂O and N-2p orbitals in NO₂ gas, indicating interaction between them. The possible bonding of the N atom of NO and Cu atom is illustrated in Figure 7a. These state hybridizations verify the strong orbital interaction in the newly formed Cu-N bonds, confirming their strong binding force. The analysis of the relationship between NO and NO₂ and the substrate is consistent with the conclusion in the previous paper.

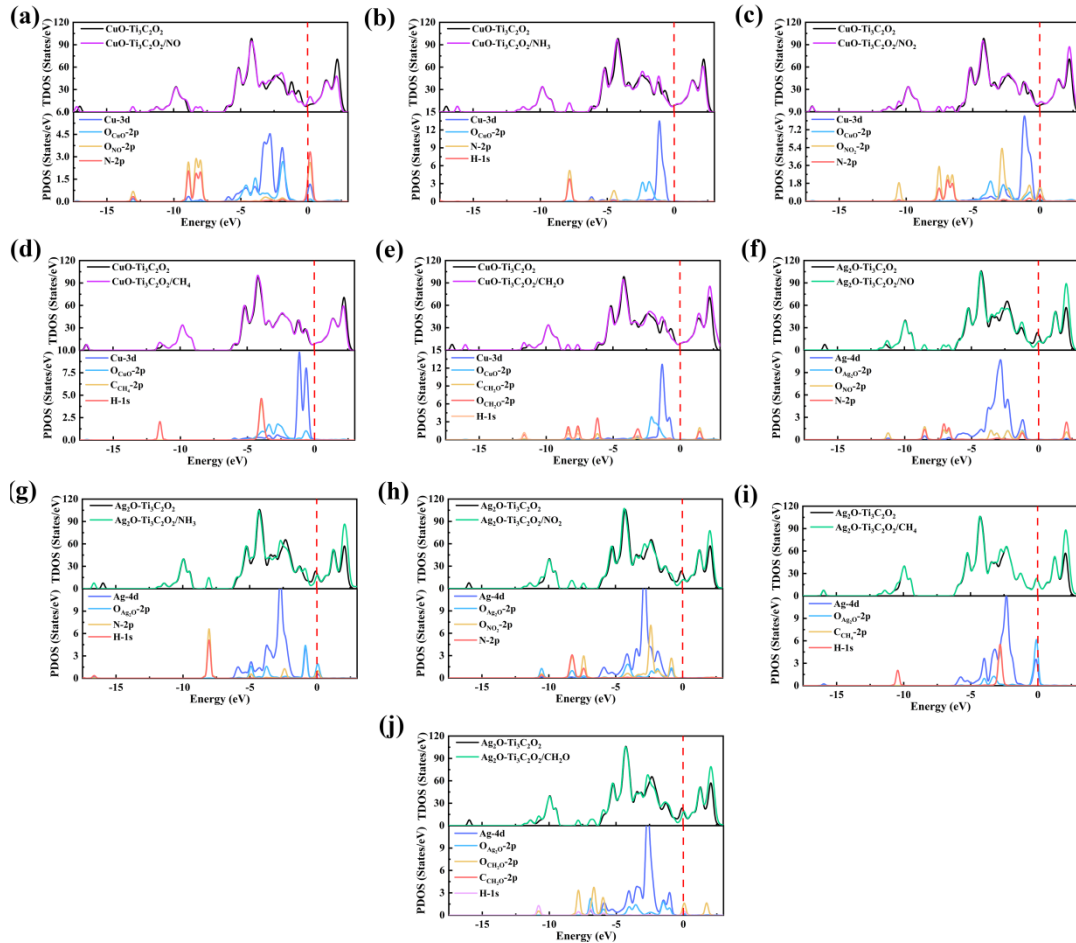
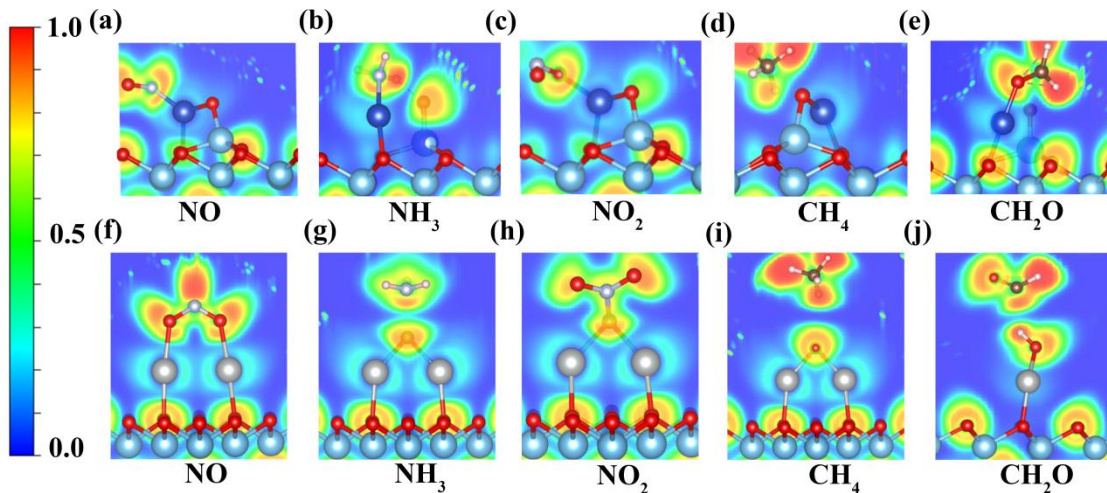


Figure 7. TDOS and PDOS of five gases at (a-e) Ti-O-Cu-C and (f-j) O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

1 To further analyze the effect of five gas molecules adsorbed on Ti-O-Cu-C and
 2 O-Ag-O-Ag-O, the calculation of ELF is shown in Figure 8. ELF helps to gain a deep
 3 understanding of the disparity in adsorption strength of gas molecules, which more
 4 instinctively reflects the bonding characteristics [34]. In the ELF results, the red area
 5 indicates charge accumulation and the blue area indicates charge depletion, where
 6 1.00 indicates that the electrons are completely localized and 0.5 indicates that the
 7 electrons are completely delocalized. Figure 8b and Figure 8e show the bonding
 8 interaction between NH₃ and CH₂O gas molecules and Cu atoms. However, there is
 9 no bonding interaction between Cu atoms and O atoms. **When NH₃ gas exists, the
 10 bond between Cu atoms and O atoms is broken, which is not conducive to reuse.**
 11 Figure 8d, Figure 8g and Figure 8i show that there is no bonding between the gas and
 12 the substrate, consistent with small E_{ads}. This means that the adsorption process is
 13 reversible. Figure 8a, Figure 8c, Figure 8f, and Figure 8h show that the ELF value of
 14 N atoms in NO gas molecules and O atoms in NO₂ gas molecules is about 0.8, which
 15 is in an electron localization state. It is speculated that there may be existence strong
 16 interaction between atoms, consistent with DOS. Supporting the above analysis: CuO
 17 and Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ are suitable for adsorbing NO and NO₂ respectively.
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 52 **Figure 8. ELF of five gases at (a-e) Ti-O-Cu-C and (f-j) O-Ag-O-Ag-O.**

53
 54 It can be seen that adequate charge is transferred during the reaction of substrates with
 55 gas, in Figure 9. In Figure 9a, NO₂ loses a larger charge of 0.327 e from Ti-O-Cu-C.
 56 The substrates surface has the weakest interaction with CH₄ of all the gas adsorption
 57 reactions (-0.015 e and -0.005 e). Of particular note, the almost unchanged TDOS in
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Figure 7d and Figure 7i indicate low detection sensitivity for CH₄ on substrates, which corresponds to less charge transfer in Figure 9, which is consistent with the previous analysis of CH₄ physical adsorption is consistent.

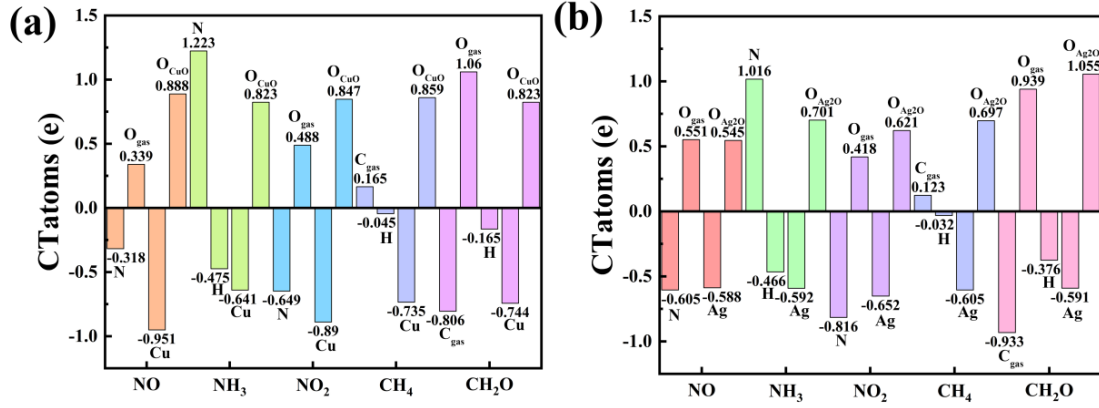


Figure 9. Average charge transfer of five gases at (a) Ti-O-Cu-C and (b) O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

3.3 Adsorption properties in different systems

As a gas sensor, various gas models should be compared for their desorption performance on the gas sensor applications. The desorption time τ represents the time required to remove gas molecules adsorbed on the surface of the material. It is also an important parameter for sensing performance. Its characteristic is the desorb time, which is generally calculated by Equation 4:

$$\tau = A^{-1} \exp(E_a / k_B T) \quad (4)$$

Among them, A (S^{-1}) is the apparent frequency factor and the value of A is evaluated as $10^{12} s^{-1}$ [35,36]; T is the temperature, which can be set according to the required temperature; E_a (eV) represents the absolute value of the adsorption energy. As is shown in the equation the greater the adsorption energy of gas molecules, the more difficult it is to desorb. The desorption time obtained at the temperature of 298 K, 348 K, and 398 K are plotted in Figure 10.

The adsorption energies of CH₄ and CH₂O on Ti-O-Cu-C and NH₃ and CH₄ on O-Ag-O-Ag-O are relatively small, reflecting the less desorption time. The minimum desorption time of CH₄ on Ti-O-Cu-C and O-Ag-O-Ag-O is 24.9 ns and 14.4 ns respectively, and the temperature is 298 K. The desorption time indicates that the desorption process of gas molecules on the substrate can easily occur, and the

adsorption interference to other gases is small. The desorption time of Ti-O-Cu-C for NO gas shortens as the temperature increases. When the temperature is 398 K, the desorption time is 1.69×10^6 s, which can be used to remove NO. At a temperature of 398 K, the desorption time of NO₂ on O-Ag-O-Ag-O is 2.67×10^{23} s, and it takes a long time for NO₂ to desorb from the material surface. The adsorption intensity of the above two gases is still very high at 398 K, and CuO and Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ are very suitable as adsorbents.

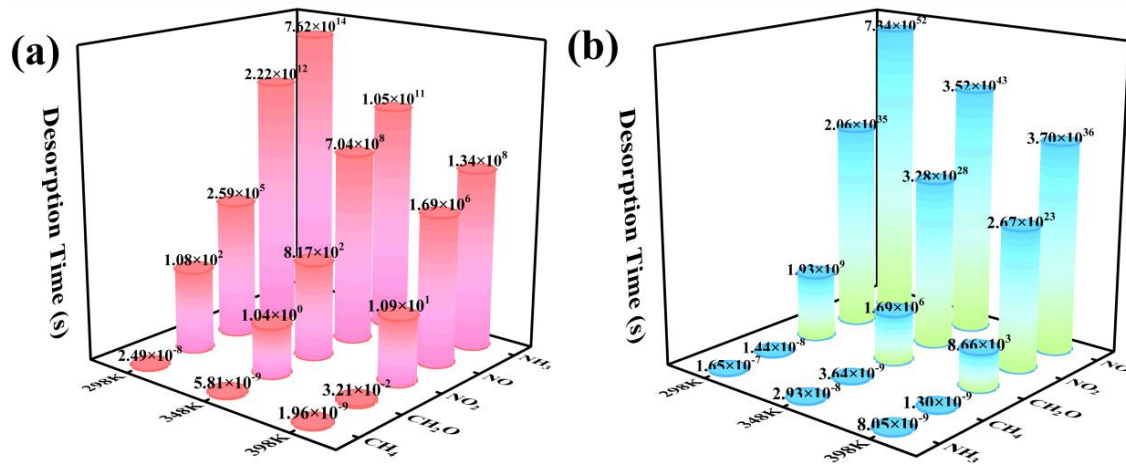


Figure 10. The calculated desorption time of five gases at (a) Ti-O-Cu-C and (b) O-Ag-O-Ag-O.

4. Conclusion

In summary, the adsorption energies and electronic properties of NO, NH₃, NO₂, CH₄, and CH₂O gas molecules on CuO/Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ were calculated and compared. The results show that CuO/Ag₂O modification of Ti₃C₂O₂ can significantly improve the adsorption of gas on the surface of Ti₃C₂O₂. The high adsorption energy (-1.44 eV) of the CuO-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ system makes the adsorption chance of NO higher, and the high adsorption energy (-2.80 eV) of the Ag₂O-modified Ti₃C₂O₂ system makes the adsorption chance of NO₂ higher. The adsorption time shows that CuO and Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ has broad application possibilities in adsorbing NO and NO₂, and provides a theoretical analysis of its gas-sensing mechanism. Therefore, CuO, Ag₂O modified Ti₃C₂O₂ can be considered suitable oxynitride gas-sensing materials.

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