

First-Principles Calculations for CO₂ Activation and Dissociation on Pure and Bimetallic Surfaces

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Recently, CO₂ conversion into useful chemicals has been paid attention as a promising carbon resource. Due to its thermodynamic stability, one of the main issues in this field is to activate the CO₂ molecule on transition metal (TM) surfaces. However, the processes of CO₂ activation and/or dissociation on the surfaces have been still under. Here, we performed DFT calculation to understand the CO₂ activation process and suggest more reliable dissociation pathways on TM surfaces. Firstly, CO₂ adsorptions on pure TM surfaces were investigated with the analyses of adsorption energetics and geometrics. Then, to identify the activated state of CO₂, we analyzed vibrational frequencies, charge transfers and density of state on CO₂ adsorption. In addition, we identified the Brønsted-Evans-Polanyi relations between reaction and activation energy and the scaling relations of adsorption strength for the reaction intermediates. Finally, the trends on CO₂ dissociation on both bimetallic and pure metal surfaces were estimated by combining these relations and surface mixing rule which is a prediction method for the adsorption energies on bimetallic surfaces. Our results will contribute to designing TM catalysts for CO₂ dissociation and CO₂-related catalytic reactions.