

## Electronic Supporting Information

### **A DFT+*U* study on the contribution of 4f electrons to oxygen vacancy formation and migration in Ln-doped CeO<sub>2</sub>**

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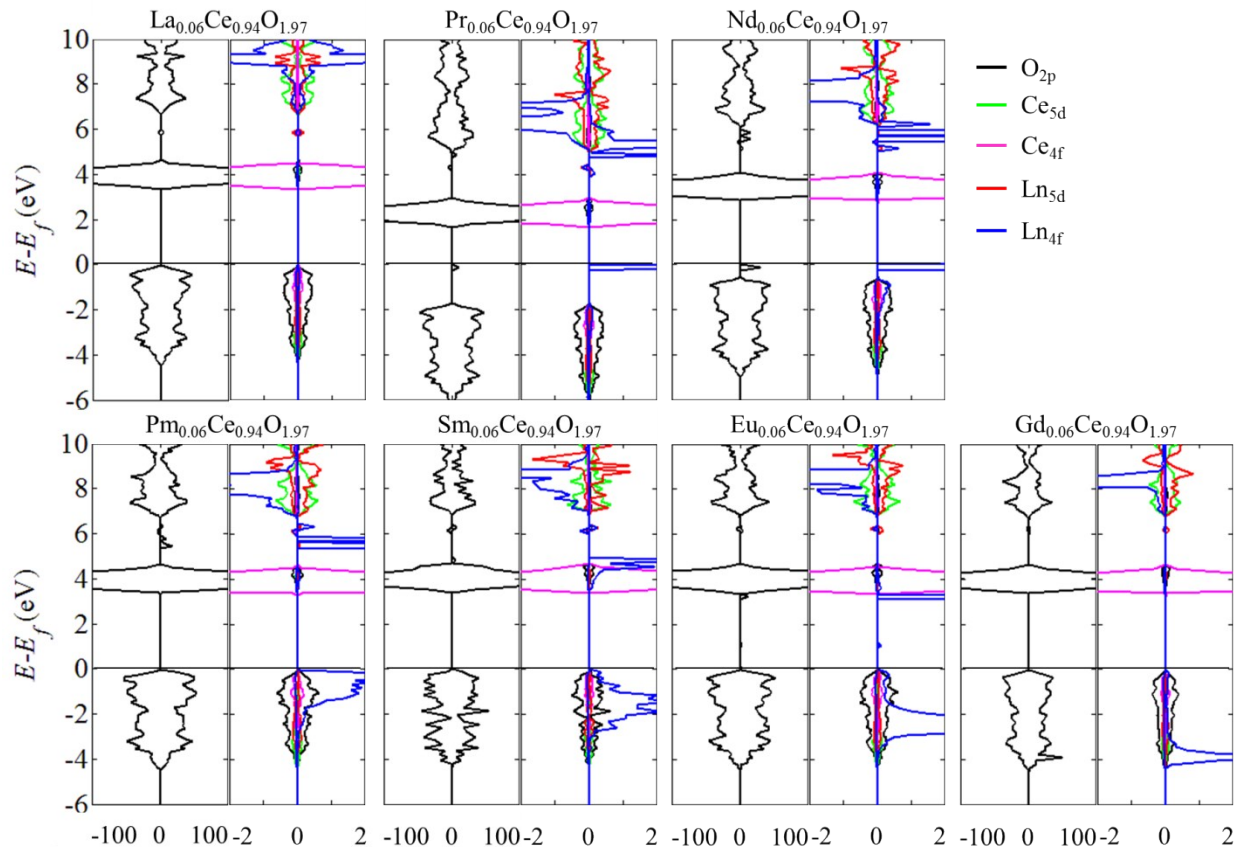


Figure S1. Total DOS and projected DOS obtained from hybrid functional calculations [1].

Table S1. The vacancy formation energies,  $E_f^{vac}$ , and migration energies,  $\Delta E_m$ , for ip1, ip2, and ip3. The calculations were conducted by considering 4f electrons frozen at the core ( $\text{Ln}_{4f@core}$ ) and as valence electrons with  $U_{\text{eff}@Ln} = 0$  eV as well as with the fitted  $U_{\text{eff}@Ln}$  specified in the computational details section in the main manuscript.

Systems	$\text{Ln}_{4f}$ Treatment	$\Delta E_m$ (eV)			$E_f^{vac}$ (eV)
		ip1(fwd/bwd)	ip2(fwd/bwd)	ip3(fwd/bwd)	
LCO	$U_{\text{eff}@La} = 0$ eV	0.338/0.424	0.811/0.782	1.591/1.591	-0.614
	$U_{\text{eff}@La} = 4.5$ eV	0.305/0.465	0.794/0.811	1.695/1.695	-0.662
$\text{CeO}_{2-x}$	$U_{\text{eff}@Ce}^* = 5$ eV		0.442/0.442		3.693
	$\text{Ce}_{4f@core}^{**}$	0.370/0.486	0.798/0.809	1.629/1.629	4.546
	$U_{\text{eff}@Pr} = 0$ eV	0.534/0.333	0.395/0.330	0.968/0.968	3.127
PCO	$U_{\text{eff}@Pr} = 4$ eV	0.466/0.414	0.810/0.746	1.361/1.361	1.640
	$\text{Pr}_{4f@core}$	0.437/0.464	0.801/0.771	1.356/1.356	-0.590
	$U_{\text{eff}@Nd} = 0$ eV	0.536/0.366	0.700/0.662	0.898/0.898	1.077
NCO	$U_{\text{eff}@Nd} = 3.5$ eV	0.497/0.431	0.788/0.747	1.325/1.325	-0.100
	$\text{Nd}_{4f@core}$	0.501/0.447	0.799/0.740	1.373/1.373	-0.608
	$U_{\text{eff}@Pm} = 0$ eV	0.585/0.373	0.831/0.697	1.171/1.171	0.683
PmCO	$U_{\text{eff}@Pm} = 3.5$ eV	0.544/0.391	0.827/0.718	1.293/1.293	-0.581
	$\text{Pm}_{4f@core}$	0.574/0.430	0.793/0.700	1.256/1.256	-0.656
	$U_{\text{eff}@Sm} = 0$ eV	0.591/0.392	0.776/0.654	1.001/1.001	0.360
SCO	$U_{\text{eff}@Sm} = 4$ eV	0.578/0.425	0.814/0.710	1.193/1.193	-0.622
	$\text{Sm}_{4f@core}$	0.612/0.404	0.788/0.669	1.189/1.189	-0.697
ECO	$U_{\text{eff}@Eu} = 0$ eV	0.571/0.389	0.836/0.714	1.068/1.068	-0.293
	$U_{\text{eff}@Eu} = 4$ eV	0.598/0.435	0.839/0.730	1.230/1.230	-0.650
	$U_{\text{eff}@Gd} = 0$ eV	0.723/0.337	0.775/0.575	1.015/1.015	-0.636
GCO	$U_{\text{eff}@Gd} = 4$ eV	0.708/0.355	0.774/0.590	1.039/1.039	-0.793
	$\text{Gd}_{4f@core}$	0.734/0.363	0.766/0.576	1.018/1.018	-0.793
YCO	--	0.818/0.316	0.750/0.503	0.906/0.906	-0.891
*	$U_{\text{eff}} = 5$ eV for all Ce 4f-electrons.				
**	The 4f-electrons of two reduced Ce ions as virtual dopants in the presence of an oxygen vacancy, are set as core electrons.				

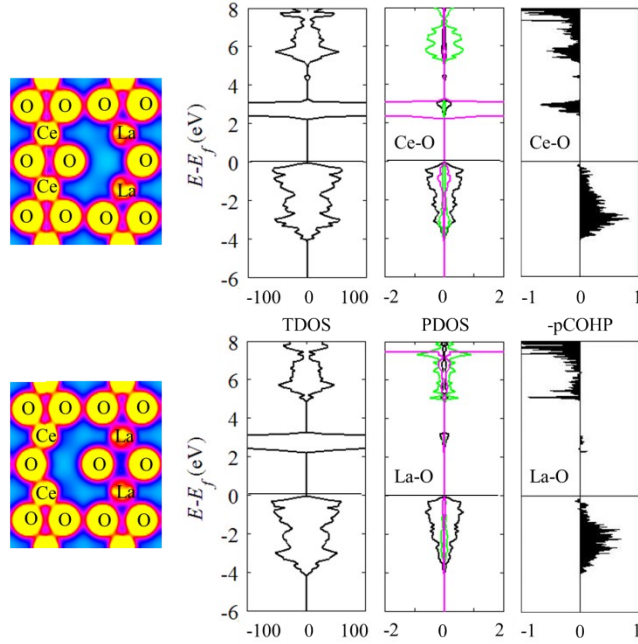


Figure S2. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of La-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1.

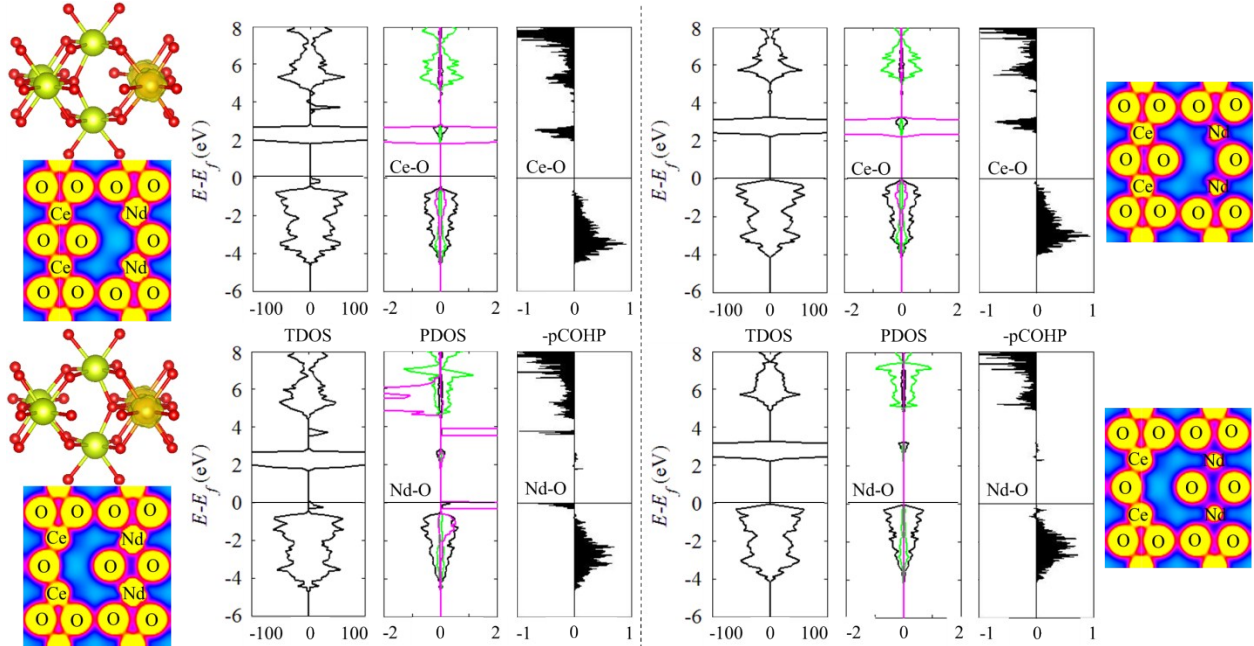


Figure S3. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Nd-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1. Left panel shows the 4fval results while right panel shows the 4fcore results.

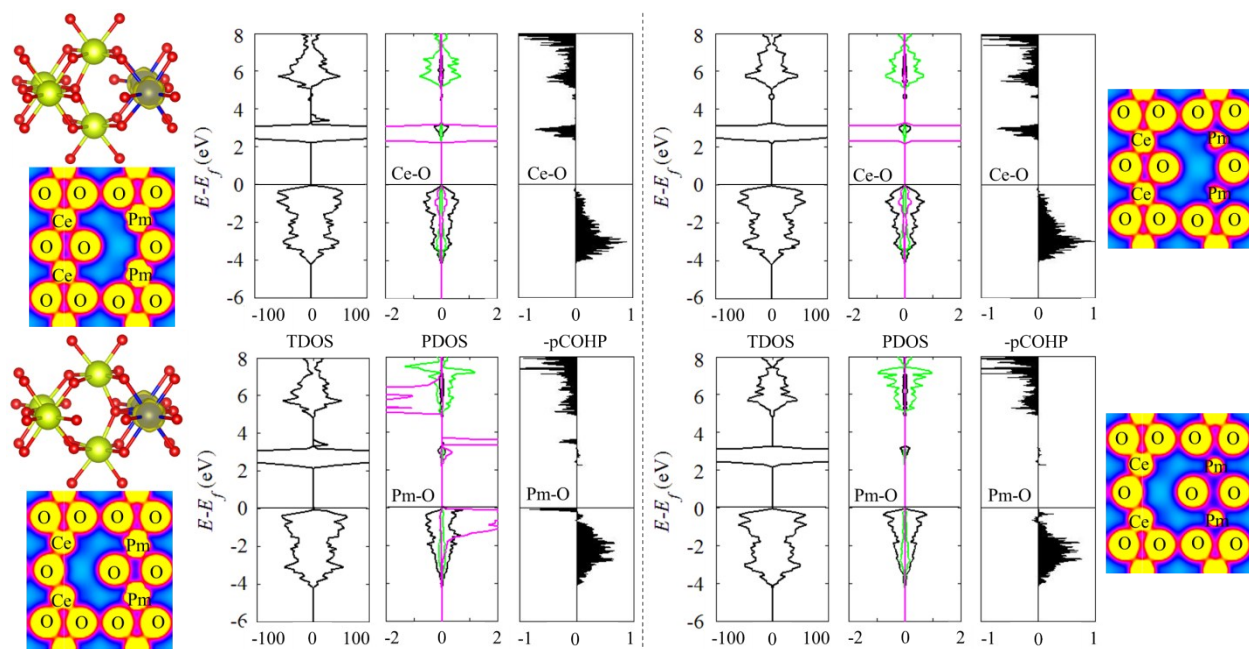


Figure S4. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Pm-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1. Left panel shows the 4fval results while right panel shows the 4fcore results.

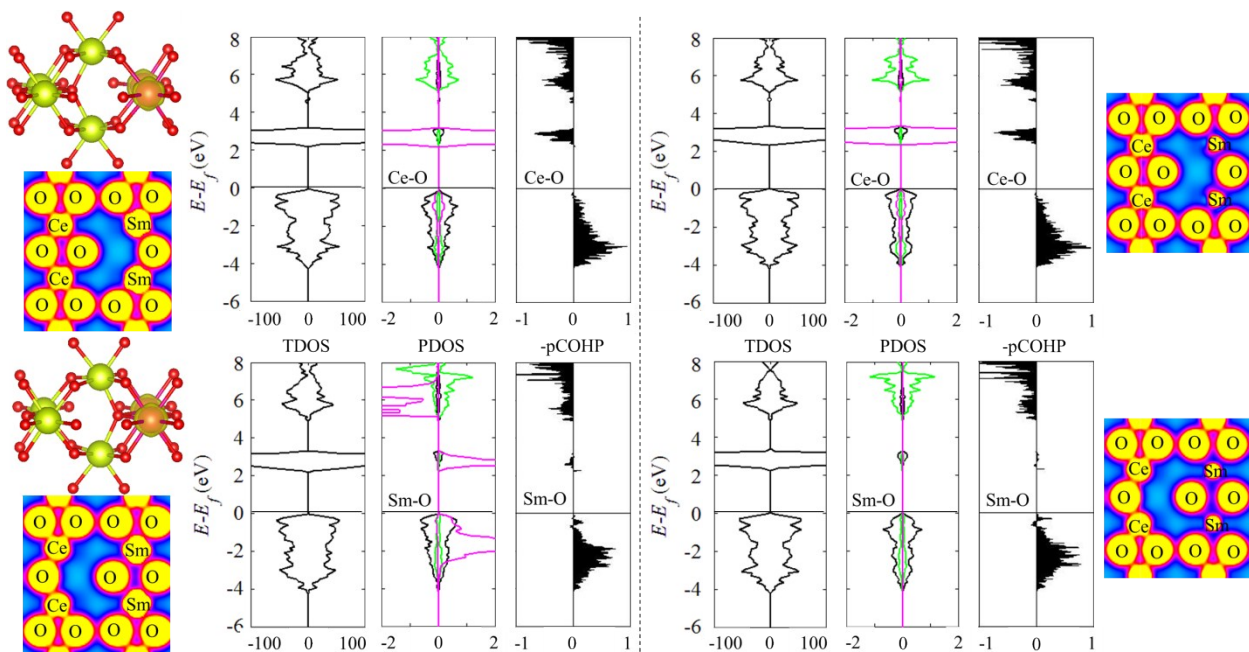


Figure S5. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Sm-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1. Left panel shows the 4fval results while right panel shows the 4fcore results.

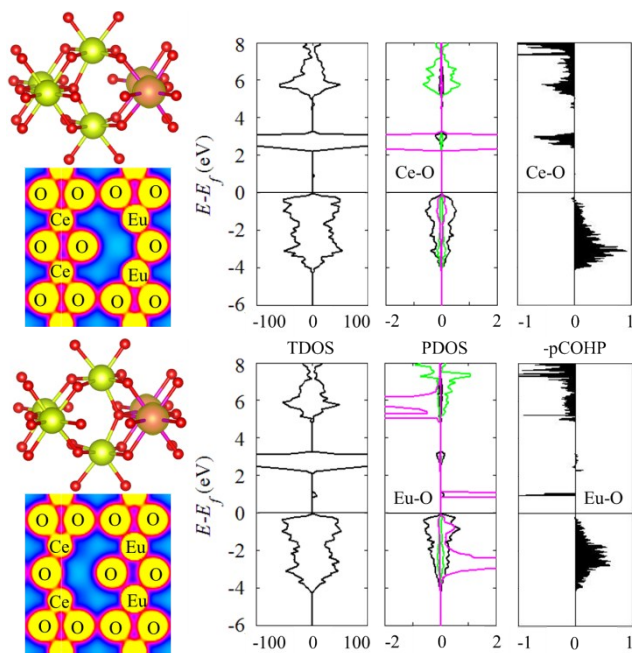


Figure S6. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Eu-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1.

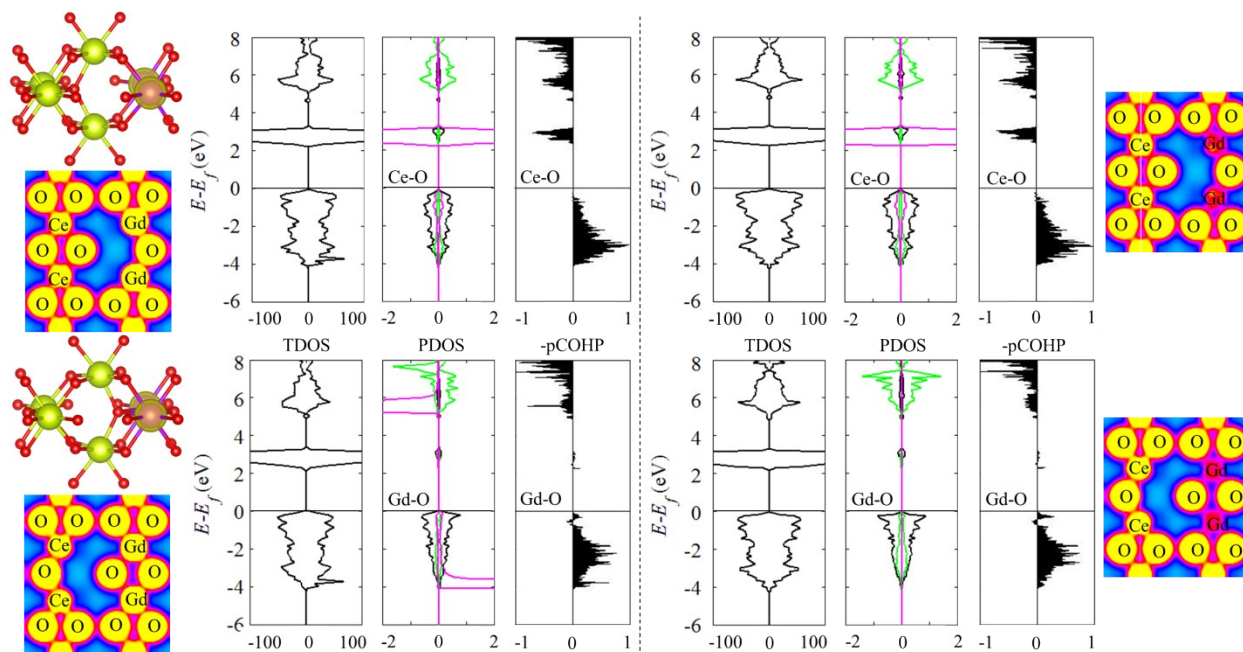


Figure S7. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Gd-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1. Left panel shows the 4fval results while right panel shows the 4fcore results.



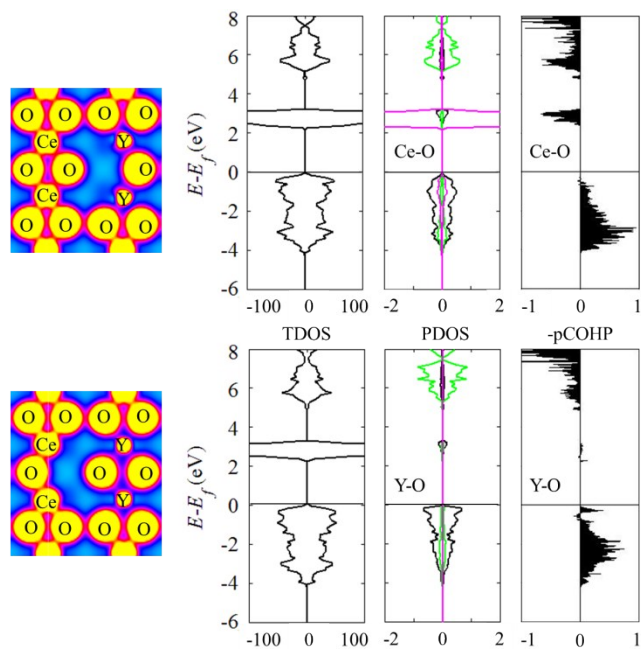


Figure S8. Charge density plots within energy range of  $O_{2p}$ -VB, total and projected DOS and the corresponding COHP curves of Y-doped  $CeO_2$  at initial and final states of ip1.

- [1] A. D. Becke, *The Journal of Chemical Physics*, 1993, 98, 1372-1377.