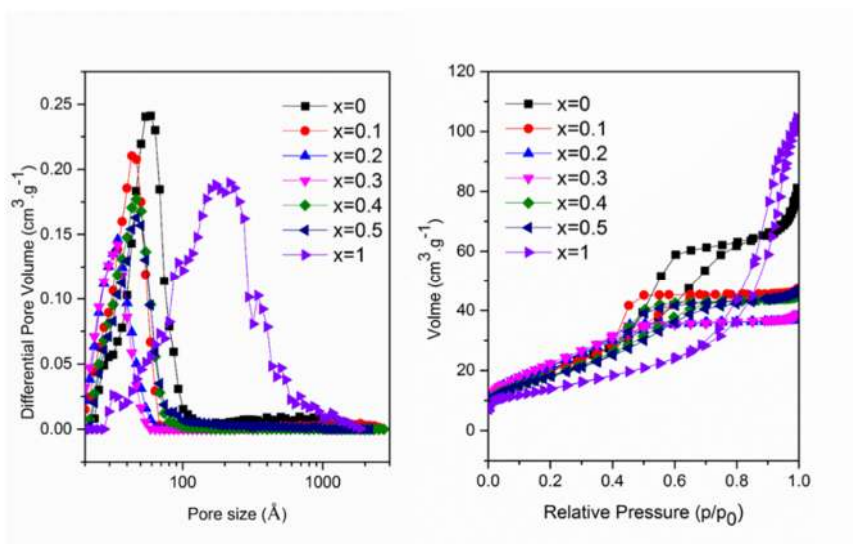
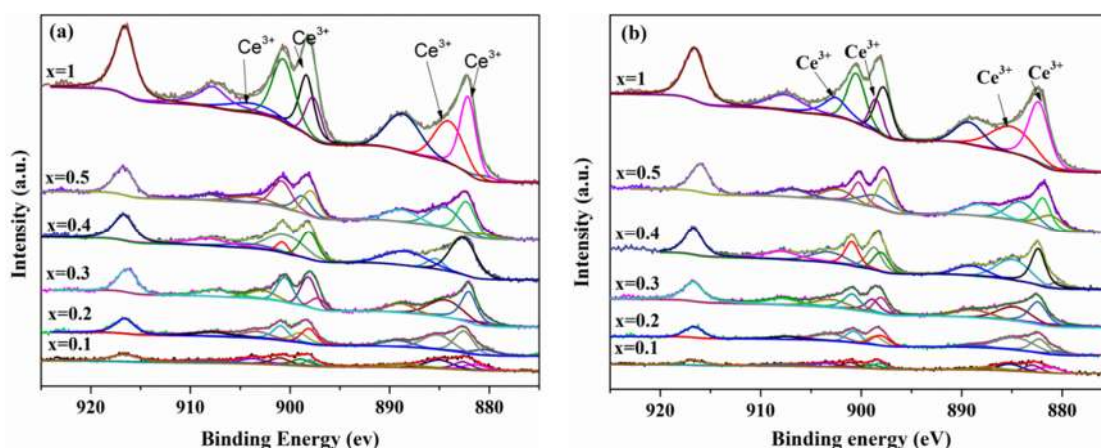


# Supporting Information: The Promoting Effect of Ce on the Performance of Au/Ce<sub>x</sub>Zr<sub>1-x</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for $\gamma$ -Valerolactone Production from Biomass-Based Levulinic Acid and Formic Acid



**Figure. S1** Pore size distribution and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms for samples of 0.6 wt% Au catalyst supported on Ce<sub>x</sub>Zr<sub>1-x</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure. S2** XP spectra of the (3d) of (a) Ce<sub>x</sub>Zr<sub>1-x</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and (b) 0.6 wt% Au/Ce<sub>x</sub>Zr<sub>1-x</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

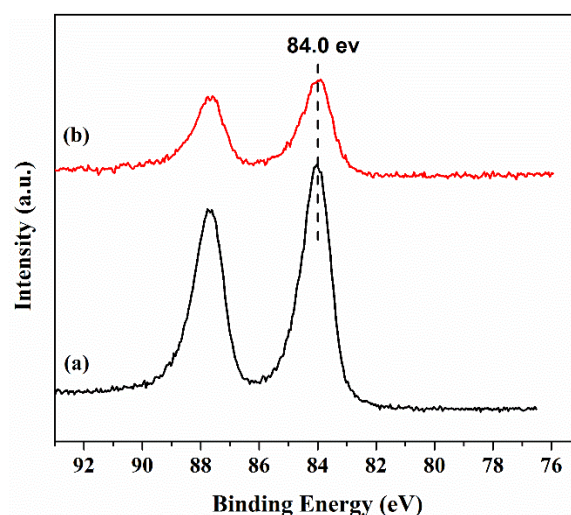


Figure. S3 XPS spectra of 2 wt% Au/Ce<sub>0.4</sub>Zr<sub>0.6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> catalyst: (a) before reaction; (b) after five runs.

Table S1 BET analysis and H<sub>2</sub> consumption from TPR of 0.6 wt% Au/ Ce<sub>x</sub>Zr<sub>1-x</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

Sample	BET Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Total pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	Average Pore width (nm)	TPR H <sub>2</sub> consumption (μmol g <sup>-1</sup> )
Au/ZrO <sub>2</sub>	77	0.12	4.7	65.6 <sup>a</sup> /61 <sup>b</sup>
Au/Ce <sub>0.1</sub> Zr <sub>0.9</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	75	0.077	3.3	153.9
Au/Ce <sub>0.2</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	81	0.048	2.9	414.3
Au/Ce <sub>0.3</sub> Zr <sub>0.7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	84	0.048	3.1	552.0
Au/Ce <sub>0.4</sub> Zr <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	68	0.072	3.5	597.0
Au/Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	66	0.072	3.7	496.6
Au/CeO <sub>2</sub>	50	0.15	11.4	500.1 <sup>a</sup> /231 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Experimental value obtained from TPR analysis

<sup>b</sup> Calculated value for Au<sup>3+</sup> to Au<sup>0</sup>

Table S2 The relative concentration of surface cerium species on different supports and catalysts.

Supporter	Percentage (%)		Au/Ce <sub>x</sub> Zr <sub>1-x</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Percentage (%)	
	Ce <sup>4+</sup>	Ce <sup>3+</sup>		Ce <sup>4+</sup>	Ce <sup>3+</sup>
Ce <sub>0.1</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	57.6	42.4	Au/Ce <sub>0.1</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	54.8	45.2
Ce <sub>0.2</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	63.2	36.8	Au/Ce <sub>0.2</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	52.9	47.1
Ce <sub>0.3</sub> Zr <sub>0.7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	61.4	38.6	Au/Ce <sub>0.3</sub> Zr <sub>0.7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	63.8	36.2
Ce <sub>0.4</sub> Zr <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	75.6	24.4	Au/Ce <sub>0.4</sub> Zr <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	63.6	36.4
Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	67.7	32.3	Au/Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	62.6	37.8
CeO <sub>2</sub>	72.5	27.5	Au/CeO <sub>2</sub>	67.3	32.7

**Table S3** The relative concentration of surface OIs on different supports and catalysts.

Supporter	Percentage (%)		Au /Ce <sub>x</sub> Zr <sub>1-x</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Percentage (%)	
	O <sub>I</sub> <sup>a</sup>	O <sub>II</sub> <sup>b</sup>		O <sub>I</sub>	O <sub>II</sub>
ZrO <sub>2</sub>	68.9	31.1	Au/ZrO <sub>2</sub>	51.2	48.8
Ce <sub>0.1</sub> Zr <sub>0.9</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	59.8	40.2	Au/Ce <sub>0.1</sub> Zr <sub>0.9</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	52.9	47.1
Ce <sub>0.2</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	66.2	33.8	Au/Ce <sub>0.2</sub> Zr <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	60.0	40.0
Ce <sub>0.3</sub> Zr <sub>0.7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	52.9	47.1	Au/Ce <sub>0.3</sub> Zr <sub>0.7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	49.7	50.3
Ce <sub>0.4</sub> Zr <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	45.5	54.5	Au/Ce <sub>0.4</sub> Zr <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	60.3	39.7
Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	49.9	50.1	Au/Ce <sub>0.5</sub> Zr <sub>0.5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	42.7	57.3
CeO <sub>2</sub>	48.9	51.1	Au/CeO <sub>2</sub>	44.9	55.1

<sup>a</sup>lattice oxygen, <sup>b</sup> absorbed oxygen.