1 *Supplementary material for*
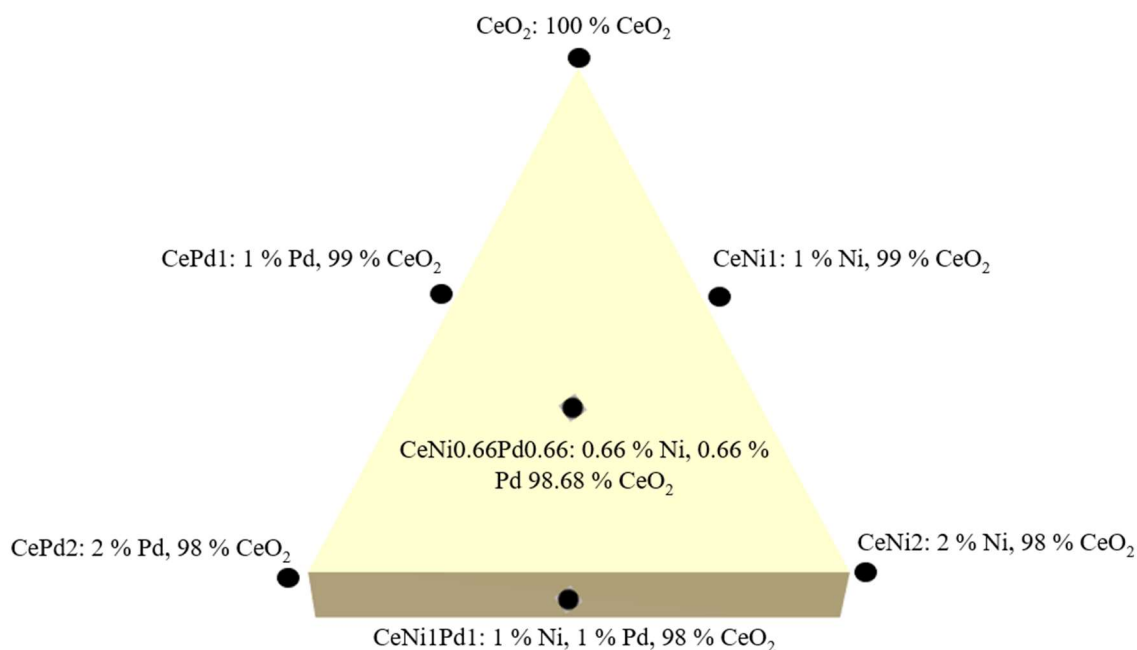
Optimization of the Load of Transition Metal Oxides (Fe$_2$O$_3$, Co$_3$O$_4$, NiO and/or PdO) onto CeO$_2$ Nanoparticles in Catalytic Steam Decomposition of *n*-C$_7$ Asphaltenes at Low Temperatures

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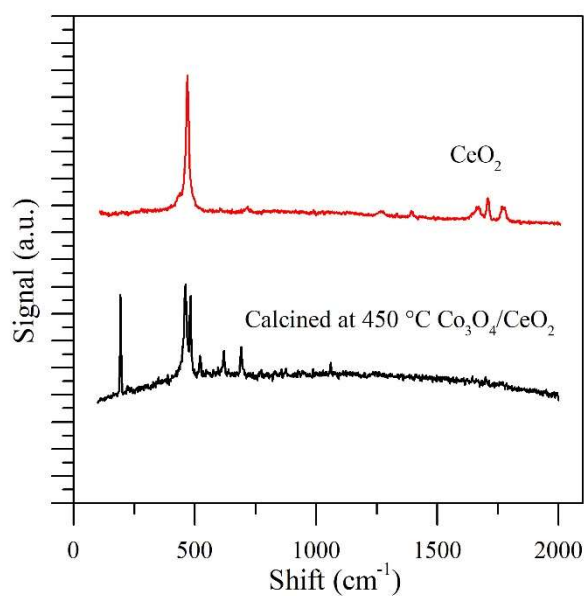
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16 **Figure S1.** Three components simplex-centroid mixture design with a ceria support (CeO$_2$) functionalized with nickel oxide (NiO) and palladium oxide (PdO).

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21   **Table S1.** Calculated parameters of the Special Cubic Model for the n-C$_7$ asphaltenes conversion
22   time in the presence of SCMD nanoparticles.

β_1	β_2	β_3	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}	β_{123}	R^2
0.006896	0.008264	0.008928	0.000246	0.002873	0.006017	0.003310	0.99

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25   **Figure S2.** Raman spectra for the support (CeO$_2$) and for the NiPd/CeO$_2$ nanoparticles. For CeO$_2$ a
26   characteristic spectrum for fluorite was obtained, and for the NiPd functionalizated CeO$_2$, a mixed
27   of fluorite and spinel was obtained, confirming the presence of the Co$_3$O$_4$.

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