

Role of NanoBioSensor of Gallium Phosphide Sheet for Detecting and Removing of Nitric Oxide & Nitrogen Dioxide: Chemisorption Study by DFT Method

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Received: 15.04.2023; Accepted: 28.05.2023; Published: 30.06.2024

Abstract: The role of the gallium phosphide nanosheet for the adsorption of pollutant gases of nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide was investigated by applying density functional theory. The fluctuations of charge distributions have demonstrated a more significant charge transfer between graphitic-like gallium phosphide surface (electron acceptor) and gas molecules (electron donors) through the adsorption process. The partial electron density states related to this have illustrated that the nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide states in the gallium phosphide nanosheet have more of the conduction band, while the developed contribution of P states are near Ga states, but N and O states have minor contributions. Gallium phosphide nanosurface has indicated enough capability for trapping nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide through charge transfer from N and O atoms to the Ga atoms due to intra-atomic and interatomic interactions.

Keywords: Eco-friendly method; nanoscience; toxic gas scavenging; adsorption system.

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1. Introduction

Generally, gas sensors are largely approved with properties such as high selectivity and sensitivity, low cost, small size, long working life, and resistant activity in different environmental statuses [1-5].

Based on the application of graphene as a gas sensor in some works [6-10], it has been confirmed that the charge transfer diffused by adsorbing of gas molecules on the graphene surface might be considered to produce sensitive detectors. Moreover, sensor attributes can change the resistance of the graphene nanosheet once the gas molecules act like acceptors or donors of electrons [11-17].

Thus, making high-implement gas detectors for distinguishing hazardous gases is essential [18-24]. The gas sensors containing metal oxides have been used to recognize hazardous pollutant gases, which have most gas sensing characteristics except accurate selectivity [25]. Their detecting mechanism usually deals with the chemical interaction between the gas molecule and the oxygen molecule adsorbed on the surface because cross sensitivity among various analyte gas compounds is obvious in a metal oxide-based sensor instrument [26,27]. For example, the reconnaissance of SO₂ and NO₂ molecules is prevented due to cross-interference when diffused in a mixed status from a static origin [28].

Recently, two-dimensional nanomaterials with high surfaces of phosphorene and silicene have been known for efficient gas detection, which can largely transfer the charge density between gas molecules and the substrates [29-34].

Semiconductor materials are mainly prepared from the elements in groups II to VI of the periodic table [35]. In the compound in group III-V, each atom of group III is bonded to four atoms of group V for attaining an octet in the valence band when the valence charge from an atom of group V transfers toward an atom of group III and cultivates partial ionic bonding to the crystal surface [36].

The GaN structure is one of the most discovered group III-nitride semiconductors, and it has been applied in different applications, such as electronic and optoelectronic devices and sensor instruments [37-40]. Considering the prominent electronic properties of gallium nitride (GaN), it can be an appropriate case for gas sensing [41-47]. For instance, some studies have exhibited that Ga₁₂N₁₂ nanoclusters can gas sense CO, NO, NO₂, and HCN gas molecules [48-51].

Moreover, GaN nanostructures suggest firm action under different radiation and space conditions at room temperature and wide varieties of temperature and humidity compared to metal-oxides [52]. In addition, it has been investigated that magnetic properties, instead of electrical properties owing to the interaction between the gas molecule and surface in the active compound, the PL-GaN sheet could be applied as a largely selective magnetic gas detector for NO and NO₂ sensing [46,47]. DFT computations have been accomplished, and it has been indicated that GaN wurtzoids, as agents of GaN nanocrystals, are appropriate for hydrogen-detecting nanostructures. The nitrogen sites were discovered to have a function for the hydrogen sensing susceptibility. It's obvious that wurtzoids are bundles of capped (3, 0) nanotubes that build the wurtzite phase when they attain nanocrystal or bulk sizes [53].

Moreover, GaP has been investigated as a sensitive material for constructing anodically bonded cells for atomic detectors because its properties containing optical transparency in the near "IR" and high thermal conductivity make it a notable option in sensor devices [54].

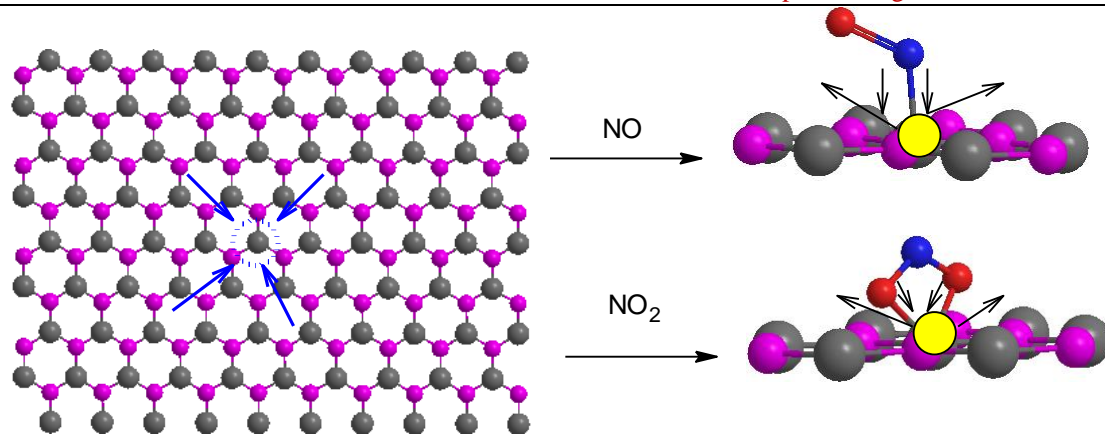
One-dimensional semiconductor nanowires often consist of polytypic structures due to the coexistence of various crystal GaAs as semiconductors using the chemical vapor transport approach [55]. The damaging impact of NO₂ on human health and the environment has caused NO₂ gas sensors and their state-of-the-art characteristics to be studied [56-58].

Ammonia, "NH₃", is an important ingredient of reactive nitrogen, and it has a prevalent harmful impact on health. Nitrogen atoms in NH₃ help to form atmospheric aerosols that remain in the atmosphere for some time [59-61]. Moreover, "NH₃" is crucial in biology, medicine, and environmental controlling equipment. Recently, GaP epitaxial nanowires have been investigated as an efficient adsorption material for NH₃ detection with a simple device [62].

Therefore, this research wants to investigate the adsorption of hazardous gas of NO and NO₂ by using a monolayer graphitic GaP nanosheet with an atomically flat planar honeycomb hexagonal structure as "PL-GaP" [63-66] employing density functional theory (DFT) to discover the adsorbing parameters of the GaP nanosheet.

2. Materials and Methods

In this research, the simulated calculations have been calculated by Gaussian 16, Revision C.01 [67] using the DFT method. The [Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof] "PBE" functional with high-precision generalized gradient approximation "GGA" has been employed to achieve more authentic results [68]. Every simulated group contains a graphitic-like length of 25 Å with a bond length of 2.28 Å for GaP with a single NO or NO₂ molecule adsorbed onto it (Scheme1).



GaP nanosheet

Scheme 1. "Langmuir" adsorption of NO and NO₂ onto GaP nanosheet.

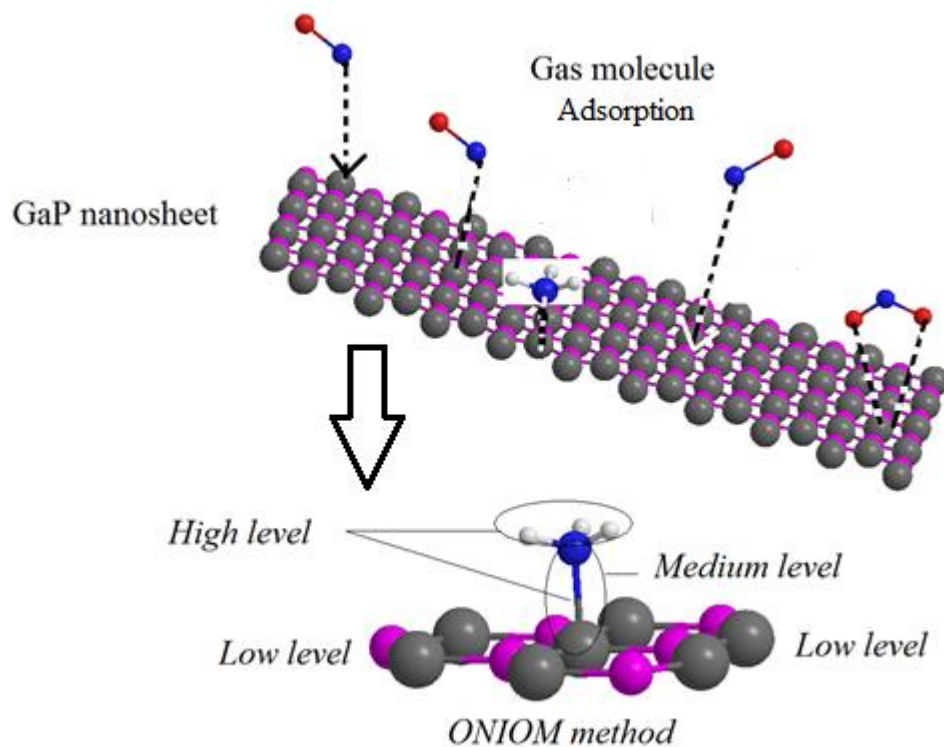
The charge transfer between adsorbates of NO, NO₂, and the adsorbent of GaP nanosheet is calculated using the Bader charge analysis [69]. This method can measure charge accumulation from the charge of each atom in the complex model. Finally, the total adsorption charge transfer can be obtained as a formula: $\Delta Q_t = Q_2 - Q_1$, where Q_2 and Q_1 remark the charge of NO and NO₂ before and after adoption, respectively. As a matter of fact, Positive ΔQ_t indicates that electrons are transferred from gas molecules of NO and NO₂ to the surfaces of the GaP nanosheet, and the adsorbent acts as an electron acceptor [70,71].

The adsorbing of NO and NO₂ gases on the surface of the GaP nanosheet was defined by the theory "Langmuir" isotherm [72-81], which indicates the chemisorption between gas molecules and the GaP surface. The adsorbates of NO and NO₂ molecules are maintained on the surface of GaP with "Langmuir" chemisorption (Scheme1).

The changes of charge density analysis in the adsorption process have illustrated that the GaP nanosheet shows the Bader charge of -0.721e before adsorption of NO & NO₂ and -0.183e, -0.352e, after adsorption of NO & NO₂, respectively.

Therefore, the changes of charge density for "Langmuir" adsorption of NO & NO₂ on GaP surface alternatively are $\Delta Q_{NO \rightarrow GaP} = +0.538 > \Delta Q_{NO_2 \rightarrow GaP} = +0.369$.

The total energy of the NO & NO₂ molecules and GaP surface should be computed to calculate the adsorption energy. As it has been shown in Scheme 1, we have built a graphitic-like length of 25 Å with a bond length of 2.28 Å for GaP. Then, we tailored the spin-polarized DFT calculation with the "ONIOM" model [82] accompanying the same force and energy convergence accuracy to the adsorption systems, with CAM-B3LYP [83] functional and with 6-311+G (d,p) [84] basis set for nitrogen, oxygen, and LANL2DZ for gallium in the adsorption sites for the first layer (high level). The second layer (medium level) has been considered on some gallium atoms and nitrogen or phosphorus atoms of GaP nanosheet, respectively, in the adsorption site due to semi-empirical methods. The third layer (low level) has been saved on the remaining gallium atoms and also remained nitrogen or phosphorus atoms of GaP nanosheet with molecular mechanic force fields (Scheme 2) [82] as formula: $E_{ONIOM} = E_{1st} + E_{2nd} + E_{3rd}$.



Scheme2. The mechanism of the "Langmuir" adsorption of NO and NO₂ molecules onto GaP nanosheet is based on optimized coordination due to the three-layered high, medium, and low levels of the "ONIOM" method.

The binding energy of each system has been calculated to determine the most sensitive structure of gallium phosphide (GaP) as the selective sensor for detecting gas molecules of NO and NO₂. Therefore, we have found that the priority for selecting the surface binding of N-atom of NO and O-atom of NO₂ in the adsorption site can be impacted by the existence of close atoms in the GaP surface. The simulated distribution functions of NO → GaP and NO₂ → GaP have illustrated that the created clusters lead to the bond lengths of N → Ga in NO → GaP (1.44 Å) and O → Ga in NO₂ → GaP (2.44 Å) (Schemes1 & 2).

3. Results and Discussion

In this verdict, gallium phosphide (GaP) nanosheet has been investigated as the efficient surface because of their structural selectivity for adsorption of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

3.1. Electronic properties.

The electronic structures of NO and NO₂ adsorbed on the GaP nanosheet have been analyzed to simplify subsequent discussion for interfacial electronic properties using CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ, 6-311+G (d,p) basis sets. The graph of partial DOS (PDOS) has illustrated that the *p* states of N- and O- adsorption on the GaP nanosheet are dominant through the conduction band (Figure 1). A distinct metallic feature can be observed in the GaP nanosheet because of the strong interaction between the *p* states of N, P, and the *d* state of Ga near the Fermi energy. Moreover, the existence of covalent features for these complexes has exhibited the identical energy amount and figure of the PDOS for the *p* orbitals of N, O, P, and *d* orbitals of Ga (Figure 1).

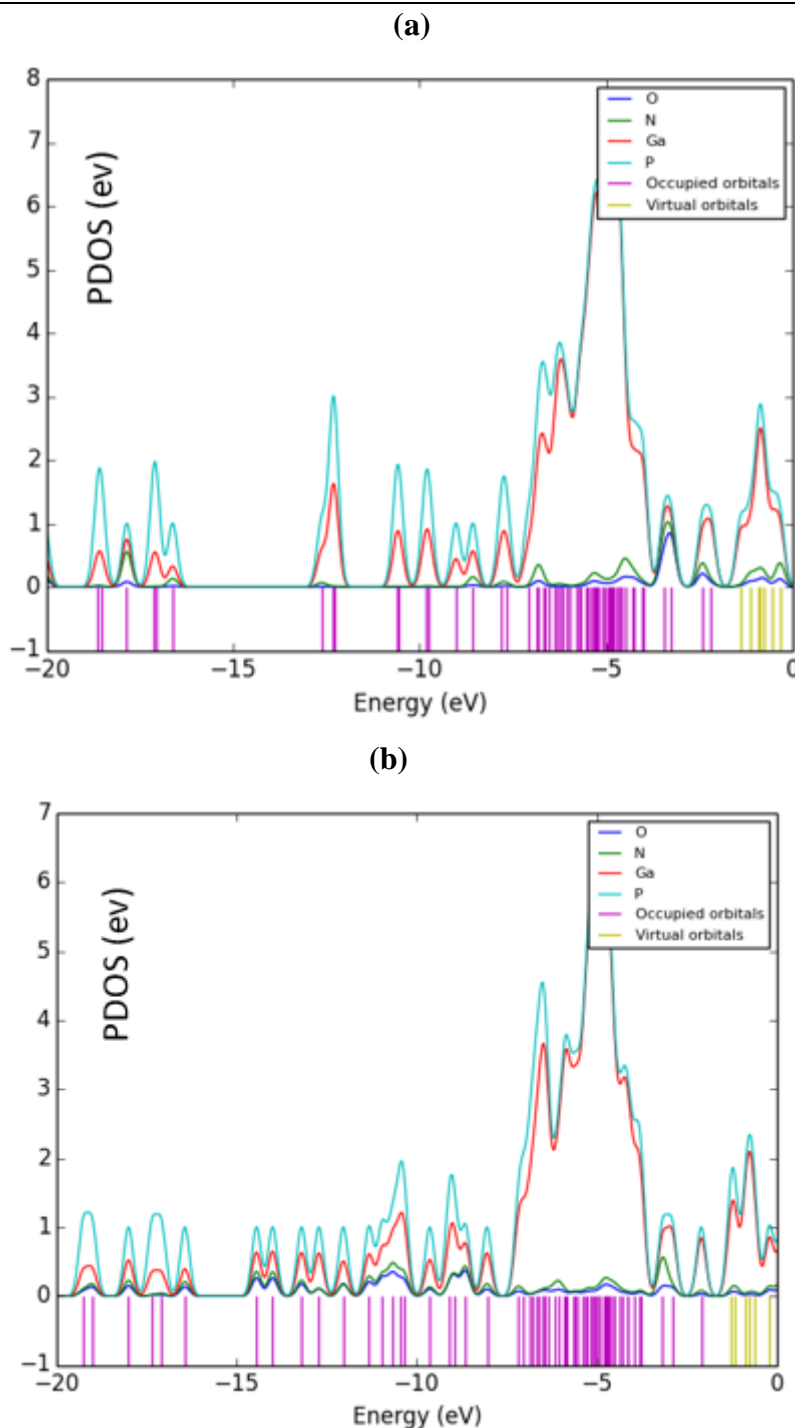


Figure 1. PDOS adsorption of (a) NO→ GaP, and (b) NO₂→ GaP nanosheets with Fermi level =0.

Figure 1a shows that the NO states in the GaP nanosheet have more contribution at the middle of the conduction band between -5 to -10 eV, while the contribution of gallium and phosphorus states are expanded and close together, but nitrogen and oxygen states have minor contributions. In addition, Figure 1b illustrates the adsorption of NO₂ onto GaP nanosheet has more contribution at the middle of the conduction band between -5 to -10 eV, while the contribution of gallium and phosphorus states are expanded and close together, but nitrogen and oxygen states have minor contributions.

The results were also approved by the partial electron density (PDOS), which showed a certain charge association between GaP nanosheet and gas molecules of NO and NO₂.

In other words, the P states in the GaP nanosheet have large contributions in the valence band. Thus, the above results exhibit that the cluster dominant of non-metallic and metallic features and a

certain degree of covalent features can illustrate the increase in the semiconducting direct band gap of gas molecules adsorbing on the GaP nanosheet.

3.2. Nuclear quadrupole resonance (NQR) analysis.

NQR is based on the multipole enlargement in cartesian harmonics as the following equations:

$$V(r) = V(0) + \left[\left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i x_j \right] + \dots \quad (1)$$

Then, after simplification of the equation, there are only the second derivatives dependent on the same variable for the potential energy [85,86]:

$$\begin{aligned} U &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3 r \rho_r \left[\left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i^2 \right] = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3 r \rho_r \left[\left(\frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i^2 \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3 r [\rho(r) \cdot x_i^2] \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

There are two parameters that must be obtained from NQR experiments: the quadrupole coupling constant, χ , and the asymmetry parameter of the EFG tensor η :

$$\chi = \frac{e^2 Q q_{zz}}{h} \quad (3)$$

$$\eta = \frac{q_{xx} - q_{yy}}{q_{zz}} \quad (4)$$

where q_{ii} are components of the EFG tensor at the quadrupole nucleus determined in the EFG principal axes system, Q is the nuclear quadrupole moment, e is the proton charge, and h is Planck's constant [87].

Since the electric potential for a system of point charges is equal to the sum of the point charges' individual potentials, the calculations are done simply based on the summation of potential fields, which is scalar, instead of the summation of the electric fields, which is vector and much more difficult than potential field. So, $V_E(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_i \frac{q_i}{|r-r_i|}$, where r is the point at which the potential is measured, r_i is a point at which the charge is $\neq 0$, and q_i is the charge at the point r_i . Finally, the potential of a continuous charge distribution $\rho(r)$ appears: $V_E(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_R \frac{\rho(r')}{|r-r'|} d^3 r'$, where R is a region including all the points at which the charge density is $\neq 0$, r' is a point inside R , and $\rho(r')$ is the charge density at the point r' [88].

NQR method has been carried out for the complexes of NO and NO₂ adsorption on the graphitic-like GaP nanosheet. As the EFG at the position of the nucleus in gas adsorbed on the gallium nitride and gallium phosphide nanosheets as the gas sensor is assigned by the valence electrons twisted in the special linkage with close nuclei of GaP nanosurface, the NQR frequency at which transitions happen is particular for NO → GaP and NO₂ → GaP clusters (Table 1).

Table 1. The electric potential (E_p) and Bader charge (Q) for elements involved in the adsorption mechanism of NO and NO₂ on the GaP nanosheets using CAM-B3LYP/EPR-III, 6-311+G (d,p) calculation extracted of NQR method.

:Ö = Ṅ: → GaP			:Ö: -Ṅ = Ö: → GaP		
Atom	Q	E_p	Atom	Q	E_p
O1	-0.1121	-22.0983	N1	-0.1672	-18.1325
N2	-0.1830	-18.1953	O2	-0.2476	-21.9465
Ga3	-0.0542	-146.7837	O3	-0.2252	-21.9584
P4	0.0766	-53.3514	Ga4	-0.0473	-146.824
Ga5	-0.0238	-146.8043	P5	0.1540	-53.306
Ga6	-0.0337	-146.7962	Ga6	-0.1367	-146.787
P7	0.0826	-53.4215	Ga7	-0.1310	-146.787
Ga8	-0.0458	-146.7722	P8	0.1304	-53.4033
P9	0.1161	-53.4000	Ga9	-0.0419	-146.777
P10	0.0872	-53.3442	P10	0.0977	-53.4119

:Ö = N̄: → GaP			:Ö: -N̄ = Ö: → GaP		
Atom	Q	E _p	Atom	Q	E _p
Ga11	0.0255	-146.7736	P11	0.0535	-53.3514
Ga12	-0.0543	-146.7907	Ga12	0.3515	-146.765
P13	0.0681	-53.3499	Ga13	-0.0214	-146.816
Ga14	-0.0469	-146.7863	P14	0.1766	-53.2955
P15	0.0977	-53.4117	Ga15	-0.0405	-146.766
			P16	0.0951	-53.4106

In addition, Figure 2 (a,b) plots the electric potential of the NQR method versus Bader charge for elements of nitrogen, phosphorus, oxygen, and gallium in the adsorption process of NO and NO₂ on the GaP nanosheet using CAM-B3LYP/EPR-III, LANL2DZ, 6-311+G (d,p) level of theory.

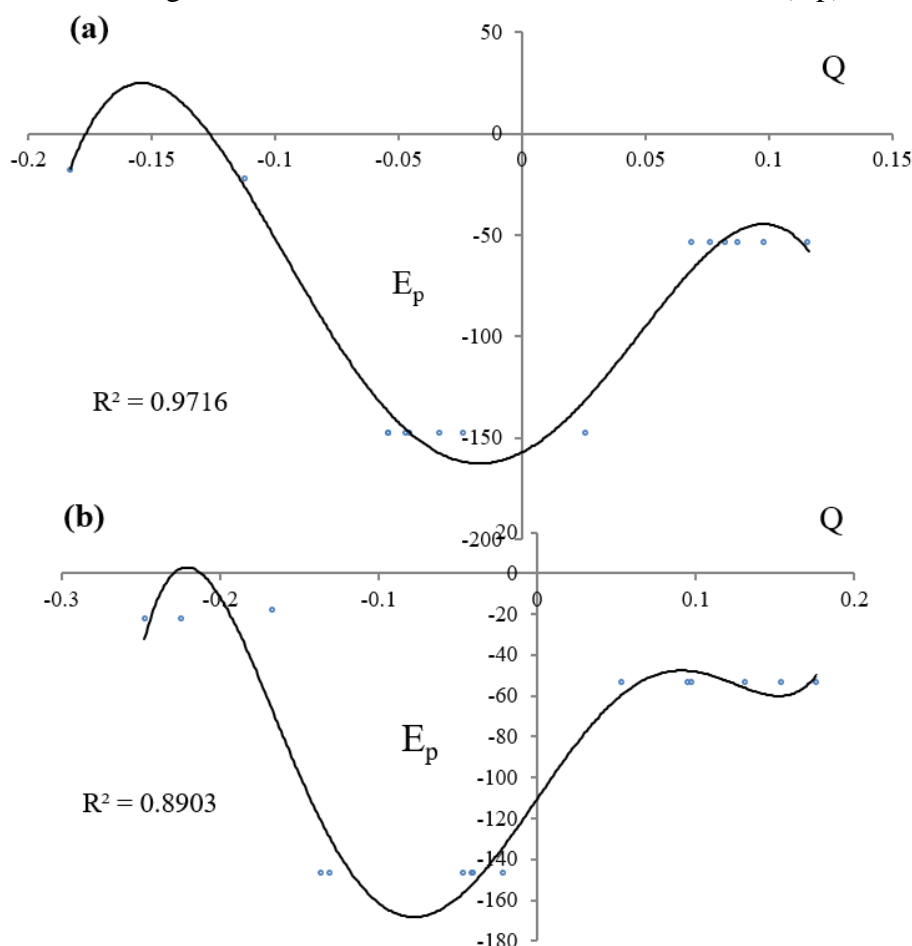


Figure 2. The electric potential versus Bader charge through NQR calculation for adsorption clusters of (a) NO → GaP and (b) NO₂ → GaP using CAM-B3LYP/EPR-III, LANL2DZ,6-31+G(d,p).

In Figure 2 (a,b), the changes in electric potential for nitrogen, phosphorus, oxygen, and gallium in the active site of Langmuir adsorption have been remarked. In fact, the effect of the binding between N and O with gallium in the GaP nanosheets has been observed during adsorbing NO and NO₂ through the resulting electric potential using NQR analysis (Figures 2a and 2b). It's obvious that the capability of GaP for detecting NO and NO₂ fluctuates by their selectivity and sensitivity, which can represent the efficiency of these surfaces as promising sensors.

3.3. "NMR" spectroscopy.

Isotropic (σ_{iso}) and anisotropy (σ_{aniso}) shielding tensors of "NMR" spectroscopy for certain atoms in the active site of NO and NO₂ adsorbed on the GaP nanosheet have been computed applying Gaussian 16, Revision C.01 and reported in Tables2 [67].

Table 2. Data of "NMR" shielding tensors for selected atoms of NO and NO₂ through adsorption on GaP nanosheets using CAM-B3LYP/EPR-III, 6-311+G (d,p) calculation.

:Ö = Ñ: → GaP			:Ö: -Ñ = Ö: → GaP		
Atom	σ _{iso}	σ _{aniso}	Atom	σ _{iso}	σ _{aniso}
O1	4291.3737	18144.2304	N1	963.1386	5073.9512
N2	1501.5049	7351.6689	O2	449.7992	1347.3262
Ga3	11101.4880	32961.8880	O3	240.2882	1770.9646
P4	1345.6299	2994.8451	Ga4	250.7804	17847.5451
Ga5	4597.8176	13217.0292	P5	7.4632	2349.9993
Ga6	8863.2663	27092.9349	Ga6	2265.7391	35940.7712
P7	2450.3875	8540.9915	Ga7	1778.5600	16061.2490
Ga8	10528.6575	42599.5393	P8	1540.9587	6540.2528
P9	2005.8726	12528.0484	Ga9	5545.2324	30081.3134
P10	2001.5489	5508.0432	P10	1832.7918	10443.3200
Ga11	74.6069	7545.0632	P11	1214.9676	2235.8903
Ga12	2070.4614	10425.6100	Ga12	2046.9346	2697.7003
P13	1077.9593	1502.2900	Ga13	280.8469	10404.0217
Ga14	12773.7755	21777.8000	P14	581.4133	946.6701
P15	786.8145	4011.5859	Ga15	12061.3717	22237.3411
			P16	2577.7451	6181.6267

"Isotropic chemical-shielding" (σ_{iso}) & "anisotropic chemical-shielding"

$$(\sigma_{\text{aniso}}) [89] : \sigma_{\text{iso}} = \frac{\sigma_{33} + \sigma_{22} + \sigma_{11}}{3} ; \sigma_{\text{aniso}} = \sigma_{33} - \frac{\sigma_{22} + \sigma_{11}}{2}$$

The chemical shielding (ppm) of "NMR" curves versus atom type was observed through adsorption of NO and NO₂ onto GaP nanosheet (Figure 3).

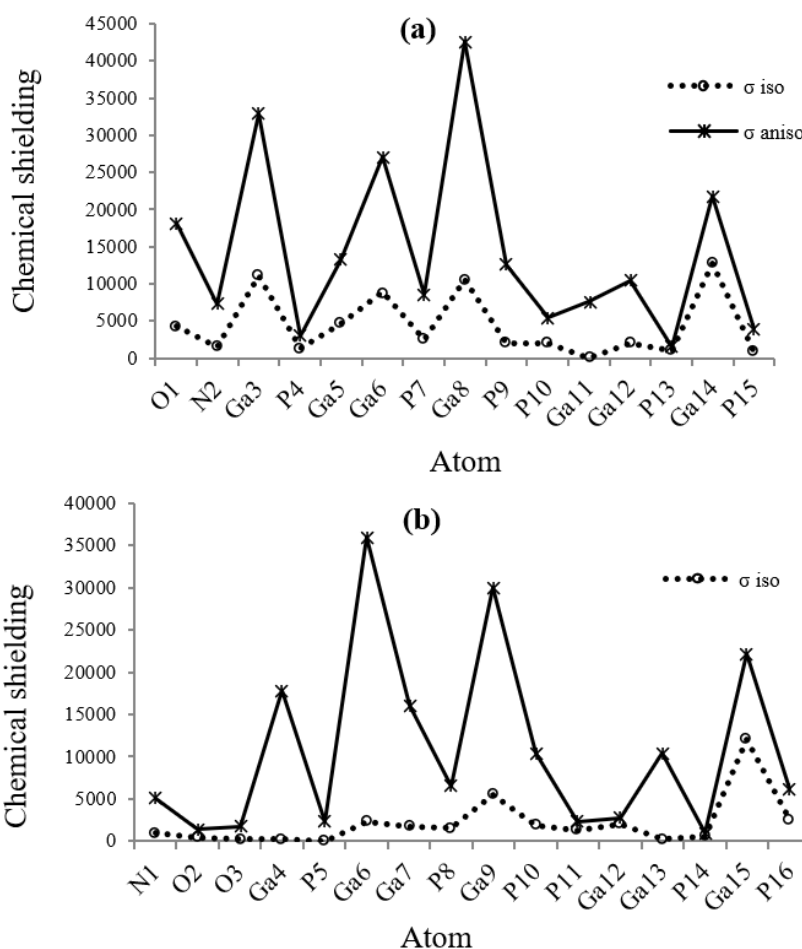


Figure 3. "NMR" adsorbing of NO and NO₂ on the GaP nanosheet through the production of clusters of (a) NO→ GaP and (b) NO₂→GaP.

The resulting graphs of "NMR" data in Figure3 (a,b) have shown the isotropic and anisotropy factors for NO→ GaP nanosheet with several sharp peaks related to gallium atoms involving the

adsorption site (Ga3, Ga5, Ga6, Ga8, Ga12, Ga14) (Figure3a) and NO₂→ GaP nanosheet with several sharp peaks related to gallium atoms involving the adsorption site (Ga4, Ga6, Ga7, Ga9, Ga13, Ga15) (Figure 3b). Although, in the NMR spectroscopy, the remarkable peak around the gallium atom in the GaP nanosheet has been observed through the adsorption procedure of gas molecules, there are some fluctuations in the chemical shielding behaviors of isotropic and anisotropy attributes.

3.4. "IR" insight & thermodynamic analysis.

In this part, the stability of complexes, including gas adsorption on graphitic gallium phosphide (GaP), has been investigated through thermodynamic properties that define the reactions that gas molecules of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) endure in the gallium coordination sphere. Concerning the adsorption process, the thermodynamic characters were evaluated for NO and NO₂ on the surface of graphitic gallium phosphide (GaP) as the gas detector, which can be applicable as the selective sensor for these gases (Table 3).

Table 3. The thermodynamic character of NO and NO₂ adsorbed on the GaP nanosheet.

Compound	$\Delta E^0 \times 10^{-4}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta E^0_{ads} \times 10^{-4}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta H^0 \times 10^{-4}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G^0 \times 10^{-4}$ (kcal/mol)	S ⁰ (Cal/K.mol)	Dipole moment (Debye)
Ga-P	-3.2937	-	-3.2936	-3.2964	91.515	0.4347
NO	-8.0017	-	-8.0016	-8.0031	48.968	0.2376
NO ₂	-12.6298	-	-12.6298	-12.6315	57.792	0.2323
NO→ GaP	-970.6414	-959.3460	-970.6413	-970.6453	131.438	2.3266
NO ₂ → GaP	-975.2858	-959.3623	-975.2858	-975.2897	130.628	2.0852

Furthermore, the "IR" spectrums for the adsorption of NO and NO₂ on the surface of the GaP nanosheet have been reported in Figure 4 (a, b). The graphs of Figure 4a have been observed in the frequency range between 50 cm⁻¹- 500 cm⁻¹ for the complex of NO→ GaP with a sharp peak around 200 cm⁻¹.

Figure 4b shows the several strongest IR peaks of NO₂→ GaP clusters, approximately between 200 cm⁻¹- 1150 cm⁻¹. Besides, it has been seen that the frequency sharp peaks of 265 cm⁻¹ and 700 cm⁻¹ for NO₂→ GaP (Figure 4b).

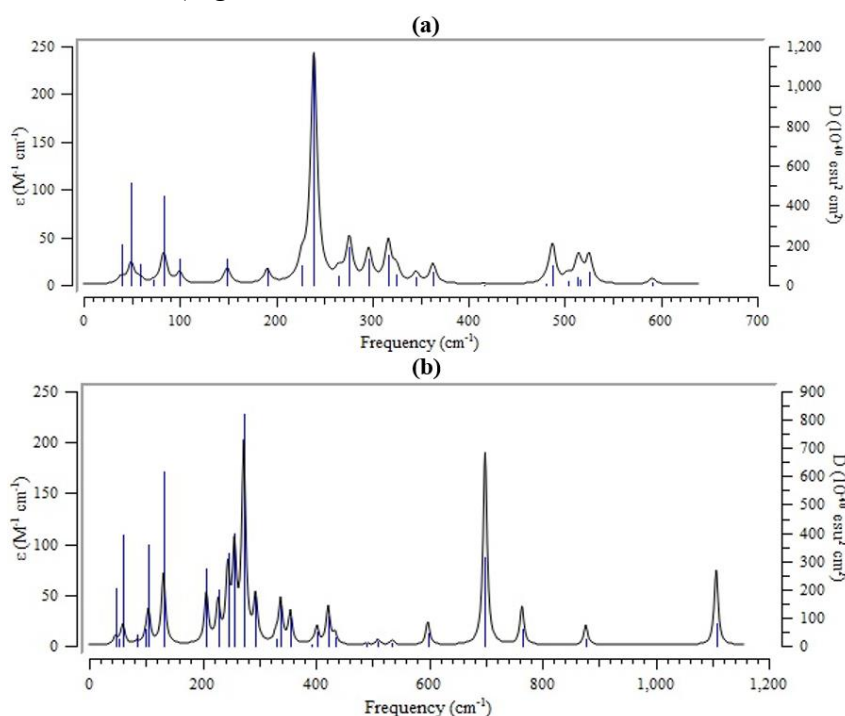


Figure 4. The frequency (cm⁻¹) changes through the "IR" spectrums for (a) NO→ GaP and (b) NO₂→ GaP nanosheet as the selective gas detector.

The adsorptive capacity of NO and NO₂ on the surface of GaP is approved by the $\Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{ads}}$ amounts as formula:

$$\Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{ads}} = \Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{X} \rightarrow \text{GaP}} - (\Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{X}} + \Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{GaP}}) ; (\text{X}=\text{NO and NO}_2)$$

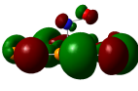
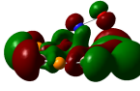
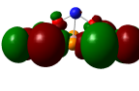
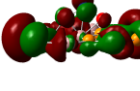
Table 3 shows that the adsorbing of NO and NO₂ on the surfaces of GaP nanosheet must have both a "physical" and "chemical" nature. All the measured relative adsorption energies ($\Delta E^{\circ}_{\text{ads}}$) are almost identical and exhibit the accuracy of the calculations and the estimated data by all methods (Table 3).

Furthermore, the results of Table 3 have indicated that NO → GaP and NO₂ → GaP nanosheets have a large gap of Gibbs free energy adsorption, which defines the changes between Gibbs free energy of initial compounds ($\Delta G^{\circ}_{\text{NO}}$, $\Delta G^{\circ}_{\text{NO}_2}$) & ($\Delta G^{\circ}_{\text{GaP}}$) and product compounds ($\Delta G^{\circ}_{\text{NO} \rightarrow \text{GaP}}$, $\Delta G^{\circ}_{\text{NO}_2 \rightarrow \text{GaP}}$) through polarizability. However, GaP nanosheet seems to possess enough efficiency for adsorbing toxic gases of NO and NO₂.

3.5. Analysis of "HOMO, LUMO".

Based on frontier molecular orbital "FMO" theory, the "LUMO" and "HOMO" and the energy between them is the band gap of the adsorption system was computed. In fact, the broadband gap diagram indicates that there is less conductivity [90-92]. The "LUMO", "HOMO", band energy gap (ΔE), and other quantities distributions of NO and NO₂ on the surface of GaP nanosheet as the gas detector system denotes that the gas adsorption procedure scatters the electrons of the system (Table 4).

Table 4. "LUMO" (a.u.), "HOMO" (a.u.), band energy gap (ΔE /eV), and other quantities (eV) distributions of NO and NO₂ adsorbed on the surface of GaP nanosheet.

Gas → GaP	LUMO	HOMO	ΔE	μ	χ	η	ζ	ψ
NO → GaP	 -0.0512	 -0.0803	0.7910	-1.7893	1.7893	0.3955	1.2642	4.0475
NO ₂ → GaP	 -0.0469	 -0.0771	0.8212	-1.6871	1.6871	0.4106	1.2177	3.4660

Band energy gap : $\Delta E = E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}}$; Chemical potential: $\mu = (E_{\text{HOMO}} + E_{\text{LUMO}})/2$; Electronegativity: $\chi = -(E_{\text{HOMO}} + E_{\text{LUMO}})/2$; Hardness : $\eta = (E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}})/2$; Softness: $\zeta = 1/(2\eta)$; electrophilicity index: $\psi = \mu^2/(2\eta)$ [24-26].

The energy gap between HOMO and LUMO has represented the transporting of molecular electrical characters [93]. On the other hand, the difference between HOMO and LUMO has exhibited the effect of the adsorption process on the electronic behavior of NO and NO₂ on the surfaces of GaP nanosheet (Table 4). " μ " which shows chemical potential accompanying negative worth using B3LYP/ LANL2DZ, 6-311+G (d, p), has an agreeable yield for capturing NO and NO₂ by GaP nanosheet (Table 4).

The illustration of donor-acceptor molecules depends on the relative frontier molecular levels. The HOMO-LUMO gap defines the charge transfer in gas molecules adsorbed on the GaP surface through the simplified molecular-level diagram. In fact, the number of transferred charges might be considerably small, as in the case of parallel and perpendicular coordination, which indicates electronic couplings are smaller than in co-facial coordination. The results in Table 4 have indicated the energy level shifts of gas molecule → surface-HOMO and gas molecule → surface-LUMO of nanoclusters as a function of their distance d orbitals from the high symmetry points of each gas

molecule on the GaP surface. Therefore, the HOMO level of the molecule is lowered as it loses its electron, whereas the LUMO level of the surface is raised as it gains partial charge.

4. Conclusions

This research aimed to illustrate gas adsorption on GaP nanosheets. The structural, energetic, and infrared adsorption properties of linearly "atop" for NO and NO₂ molecules adsorbing on GaP nanosheet have been explored using DFT calculations.

The values of charge density changes have shown a more important charge transfer for GaP, which acts as the electron acceptor and gas molecules and the stronger electron donor through adsorption on the graphitic-like GaP surface. It has been assumed that the priority for selecting the surface binding of N-atom of NO and O-atom of NO₂ in the adsorption site can be impacted by the existence of close atoms in the GaP surface.

Finally, our molecular simulation consequences have exhibited the existence of orbital hybridization between gallium sites and gas molecules of NO and NO₂, which also approves the recovery of adsorption susceptibility of graphene sheets. In fact, the GaP nanosheet can promise an applicable outlook in the NO and NO₂ gas sensor field.

Funding

This research received no external funding.

Acknowledgments

In successfully completing this paper and its research, the authors are grateful to Kastamonu University.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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