

## **Non-adiabatic effects in the reactivity of molecules at metal surfaces**

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DONOSTIA INTERNATIONAL  
PHYSICS CENTER

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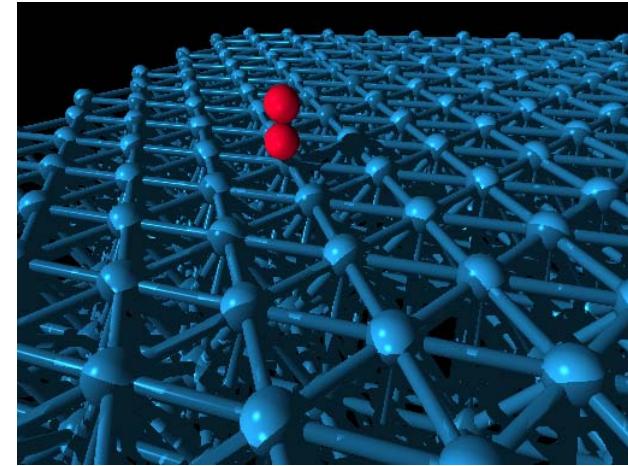
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France

## ➡ **outline**

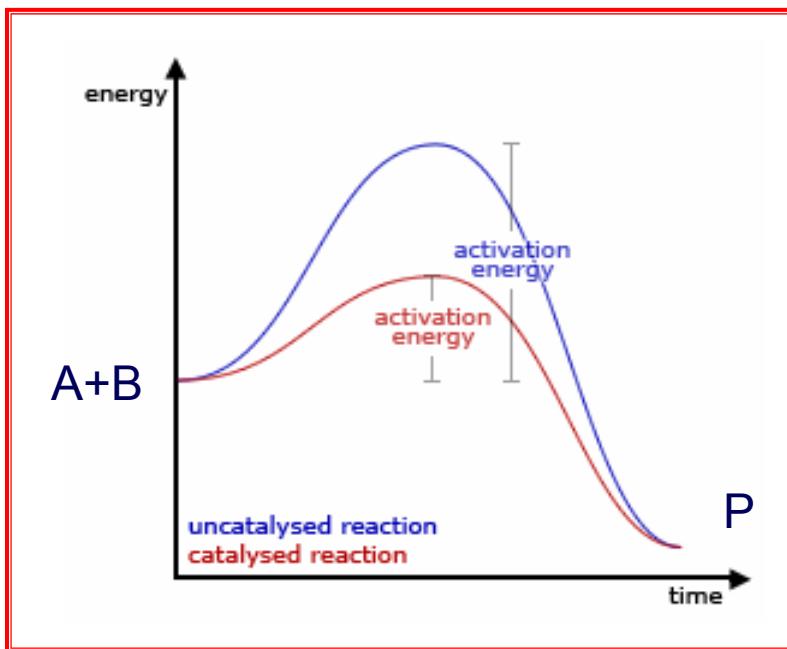
- introduction
- surface face and reactivity
- non-adiabatic effects: electronic excitations
- conclusions



## → gas/solid interfaces and heterogeneous catalysis

*What is catalysis?*

The effect produced in facilitating a chemical reaction, by the presence of a substance, which itself undergoes no permanent change.

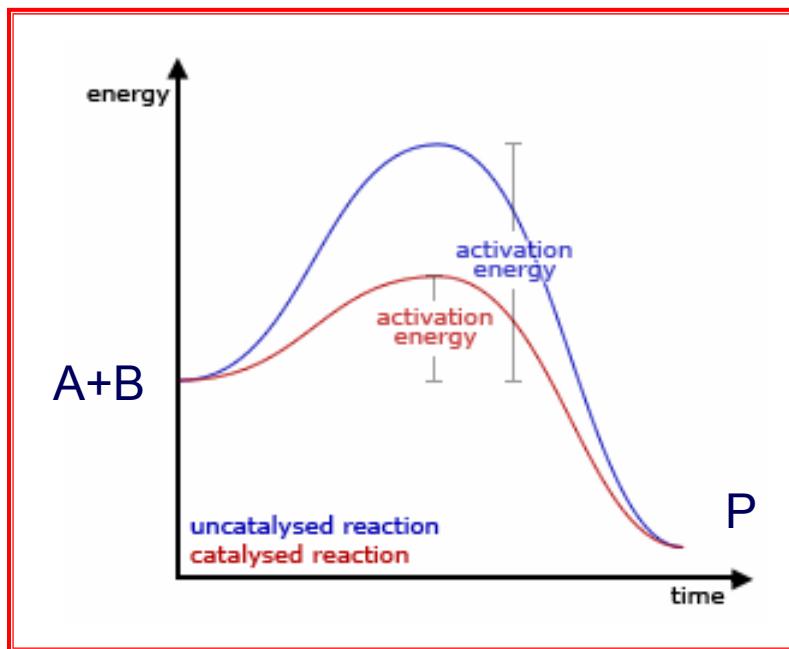


A and B are reactants  
C is the catalyst  
P is the reaction product

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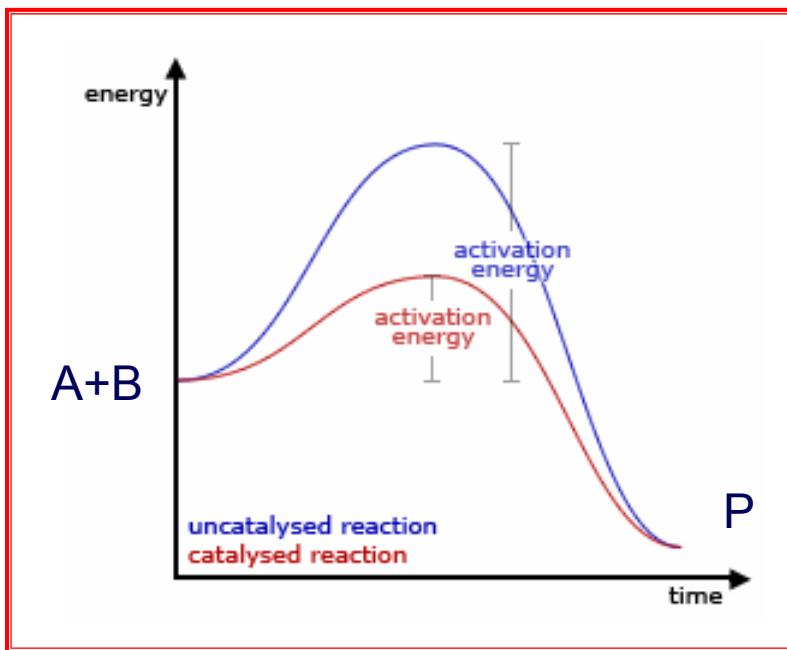
### Heterogeneous catalysis:

The catalyst is in a different phase → solid surfaces.

## → gas/solid interfaces and heterogeneous catalysis

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The effect produced in facilitating a chemical reaction, by the presence of a substance, which itself undergoes no permanent change.

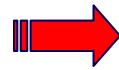


觸媒

The Chinese symbol for catalyst is the same as the one for marriage broker (matchmaker)

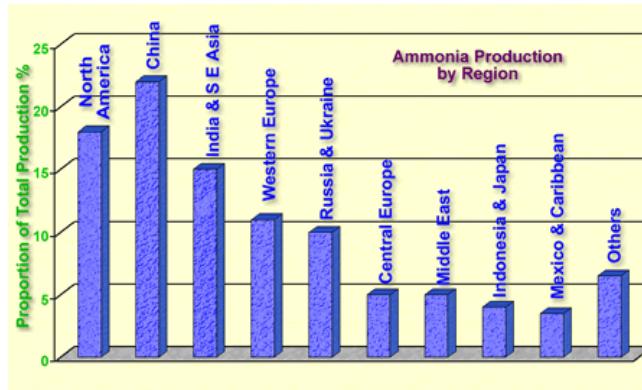
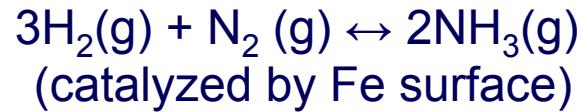
**Heterogeneous catalysis:**

The catalyst is in a different phase → solid surfaces.



## global context: chemical industry

ammonia synthesis:



world production:  
130 million tons (year 2000),  
~200US\$/ton



## ➡ global context: car industry



### ***Catalysis in car industry:***

In car engines, CO, NO, and NO<sub>2</sub> are formed.

Catalytic converters reduce such emissions by adsorbing CO and NO onto a catalytic surface, where the gases undergo a redox reaction.

CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> are desorbed from the surface and emitted as relatively harmless gases:



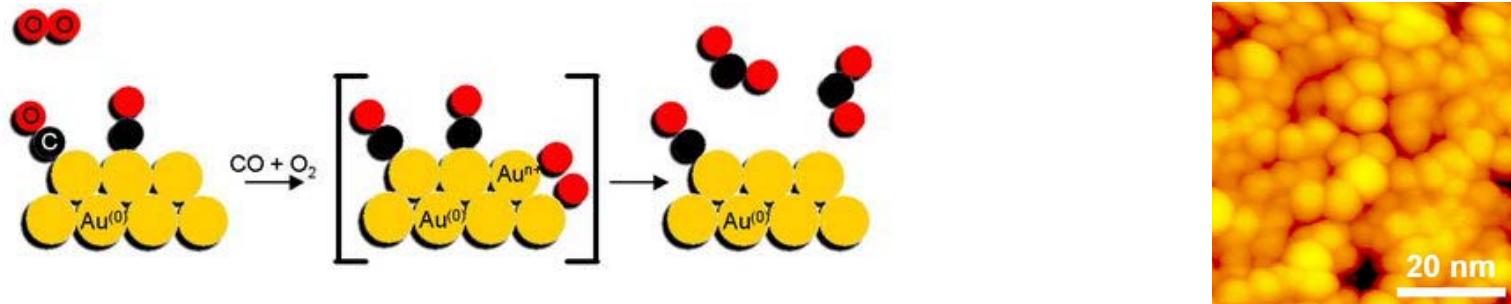
## → **catalysis and nanoscale**

- in the nanoscale, chemical properties can be changed
- tunability of electronic properties (optimization of reactivity)

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### Au as a catalyst

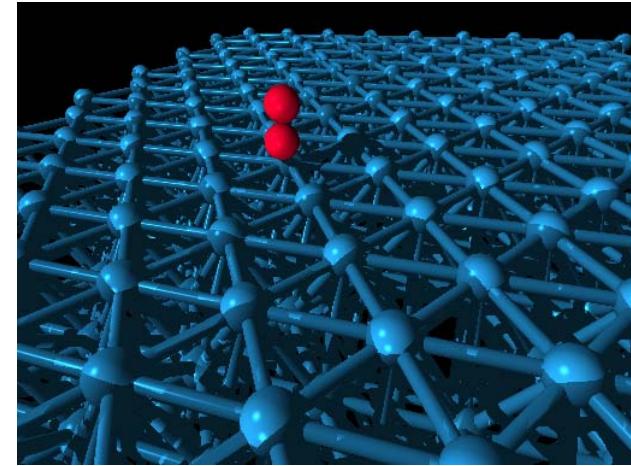


In general, Au is a noble metal, the most inert bulk metal.

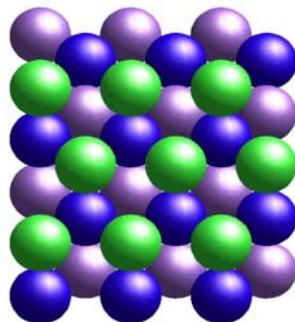
The chemical properties of Au dramatically change in the nanoscale. For instance, Au can act as a catalyst and transform CO into CO<sub>2</sub> when it comes in the form of nanoparticles.

## ➡ outline

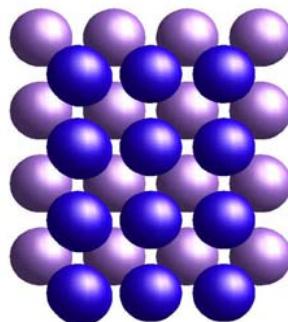
- introduction
- **surface face and reactivity**
- non-adiabatic effects: electronic excitations
- conclusions



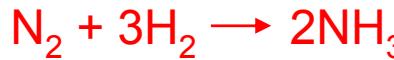
# ➡ surface face and reactivity



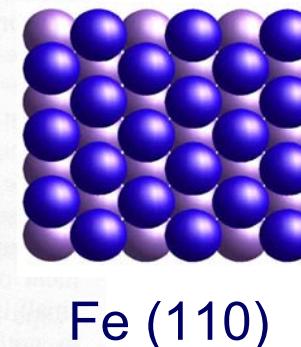
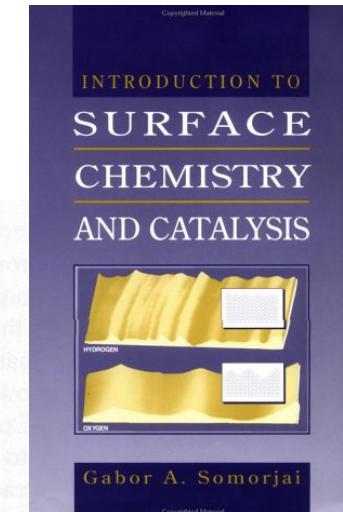
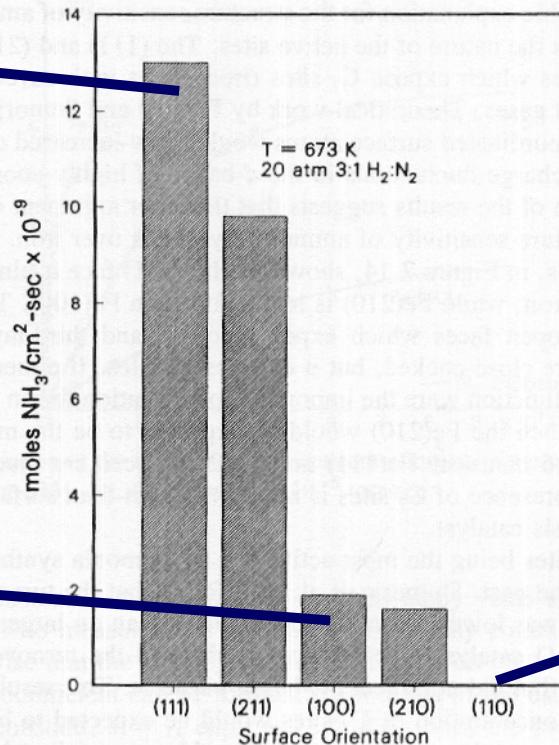
Fe (111)



Fe (100)



rates of ammonia synthesis  
over five iron single-crystal surfaces



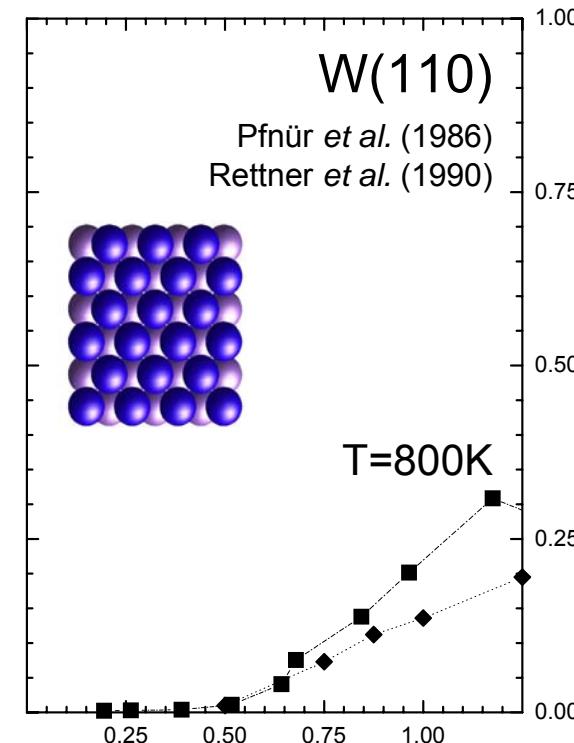
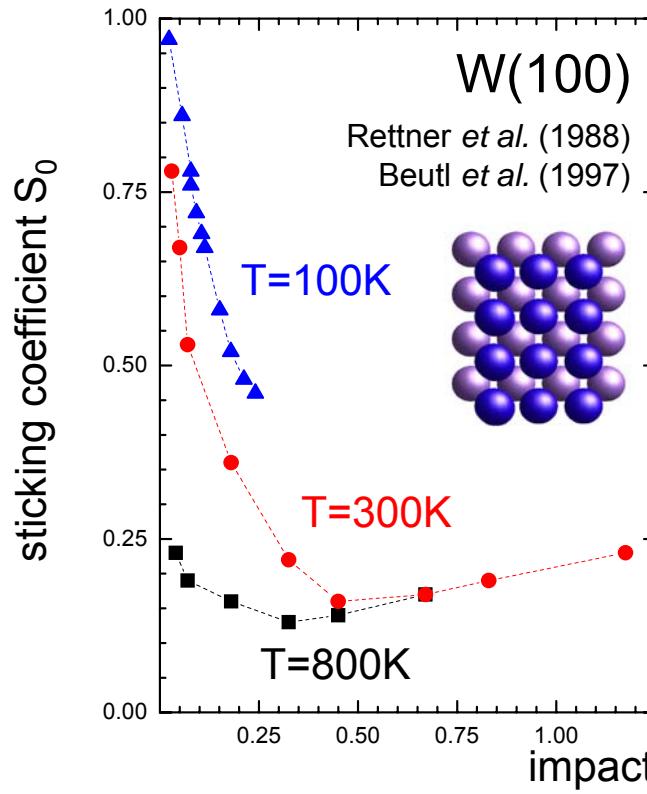
Fe (110)

Figure 7.14. Rates of ammonia synthesis over five iron single-crystal surfaces with different orientations: (111), (211), (100), (210), and (110) [38].



## surface face and reactivity: measurements of N<sub>2</sub> dissociation on W surfaces

normal incidence



**no threshold**

**threshold**

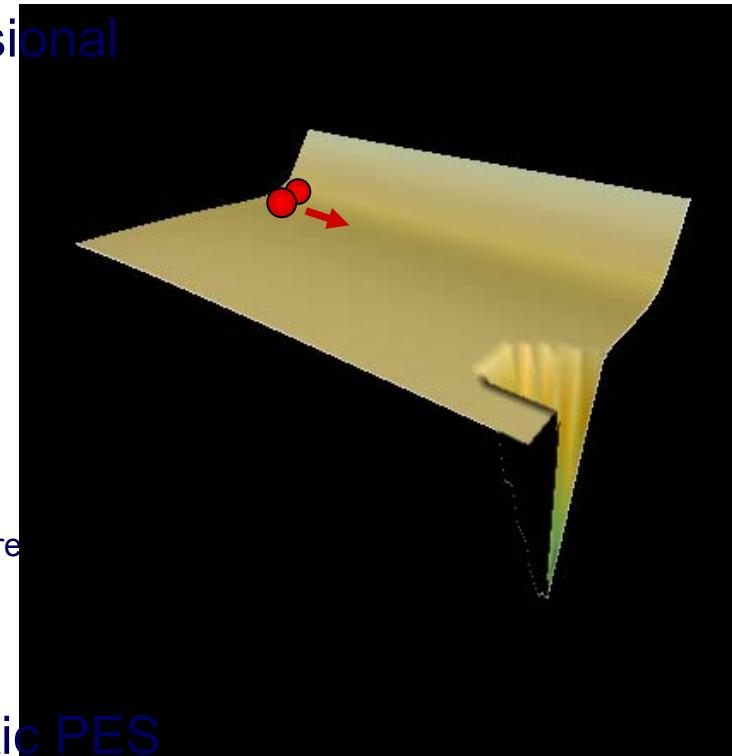
## → theoretical method

- adiabatic calculation of the molecule / surface interaction through a multidimensional potential energy surface (PES)

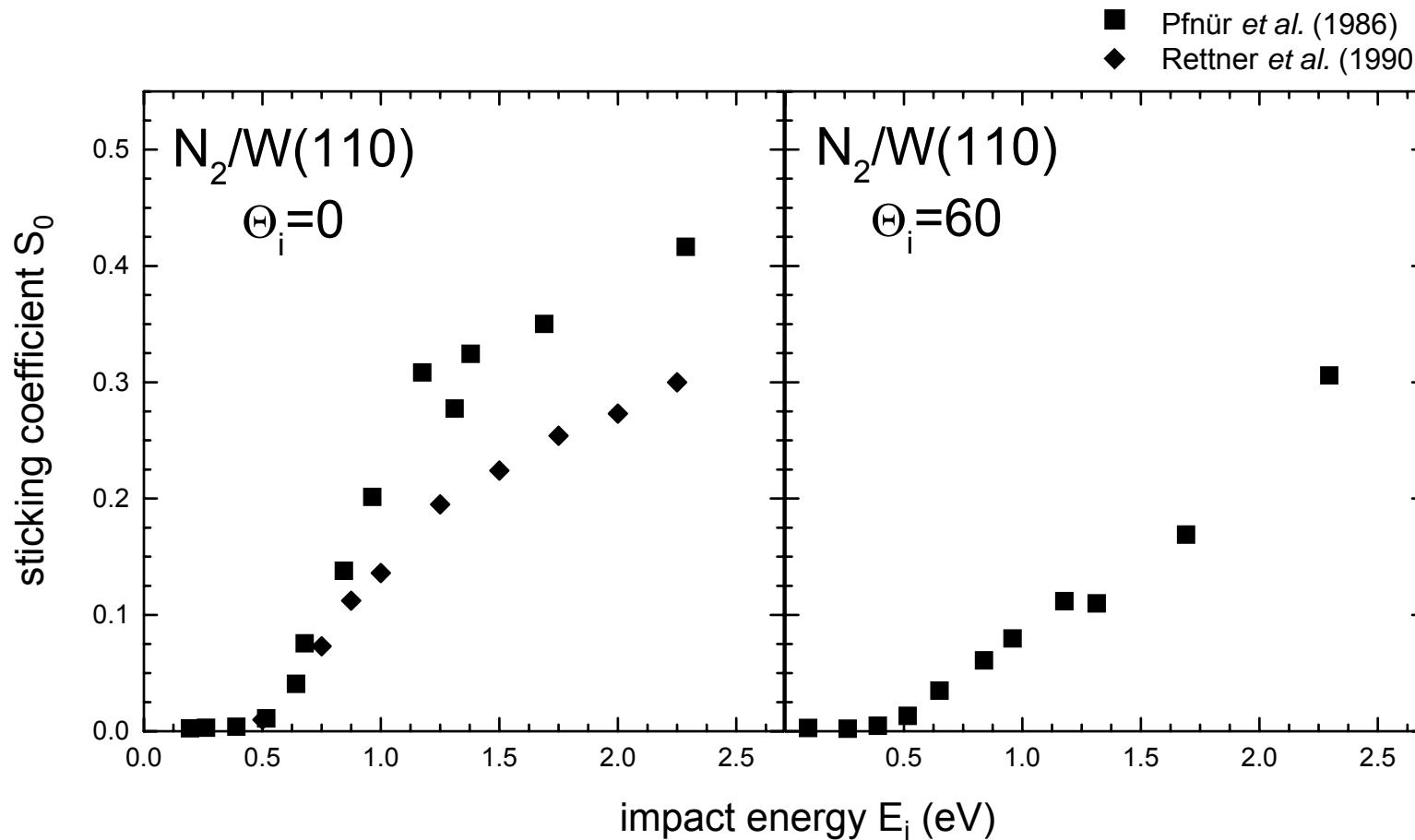
In our particular case:

- DFT - GGA (PW91) calculation with VASP
- Plane-wave basis set and US pseudopotentials
- periodic supercell: 5-layer slab and 2x2 surface cell
- 30 configurations = 5610 ab-initio values
- interpolation through the corrugation reducing procedure  
[Busnengo *et al.*, JCP 112, 7641 (2000)]

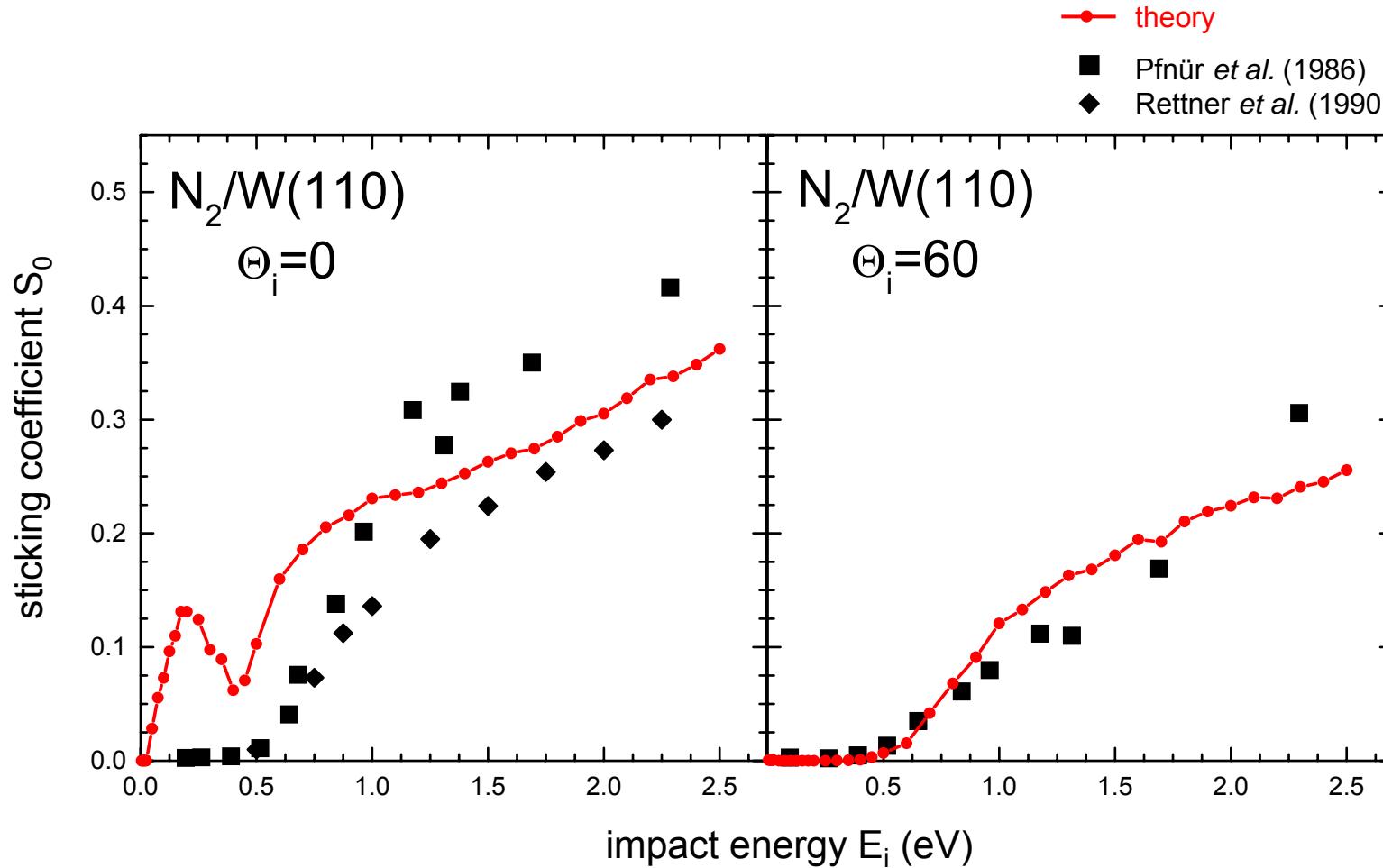
- classical dynamics in the adiabatic PES



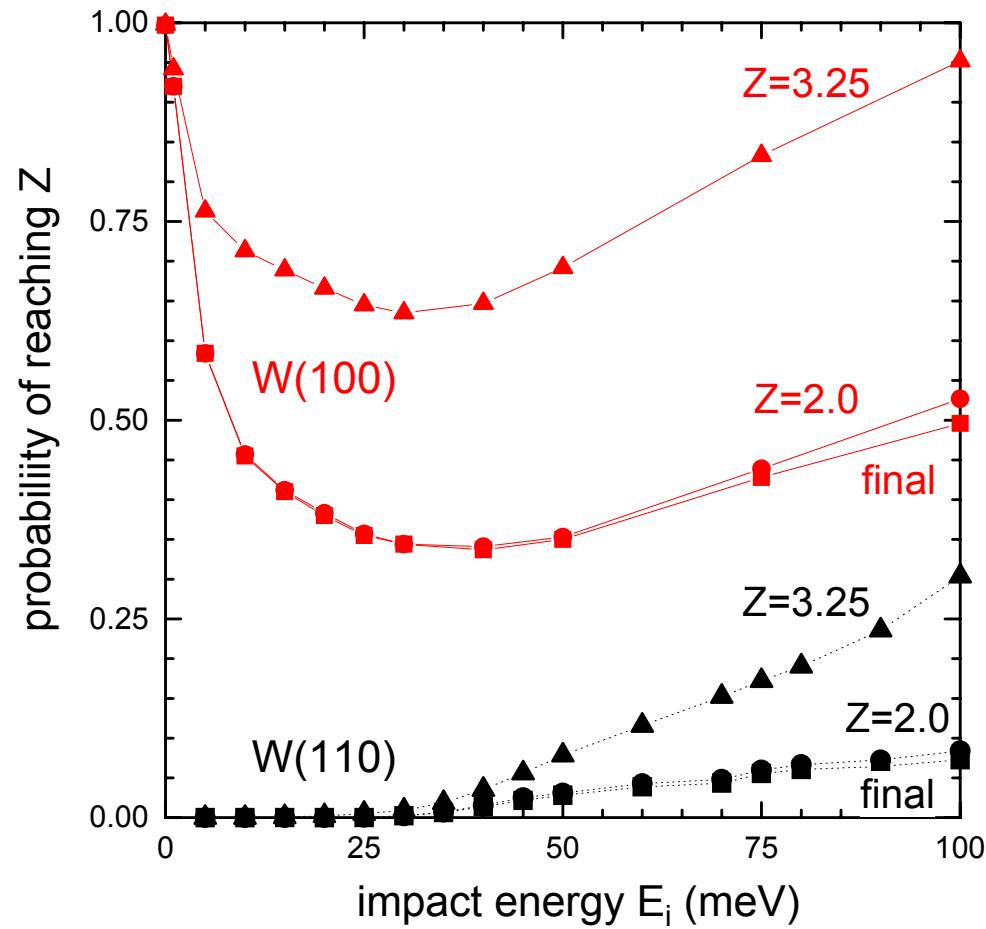
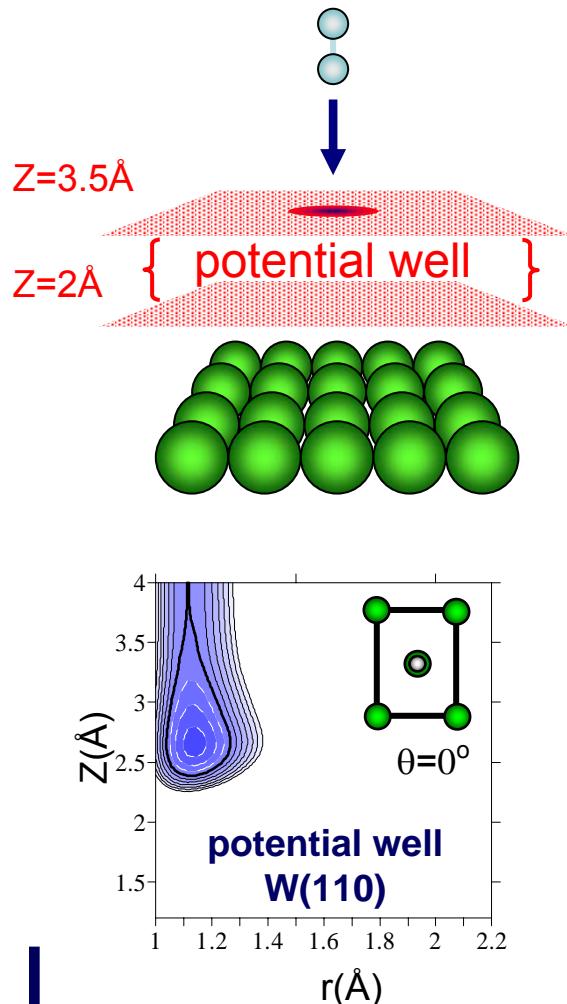
## ➡ classical dynamics in the 6D-PES



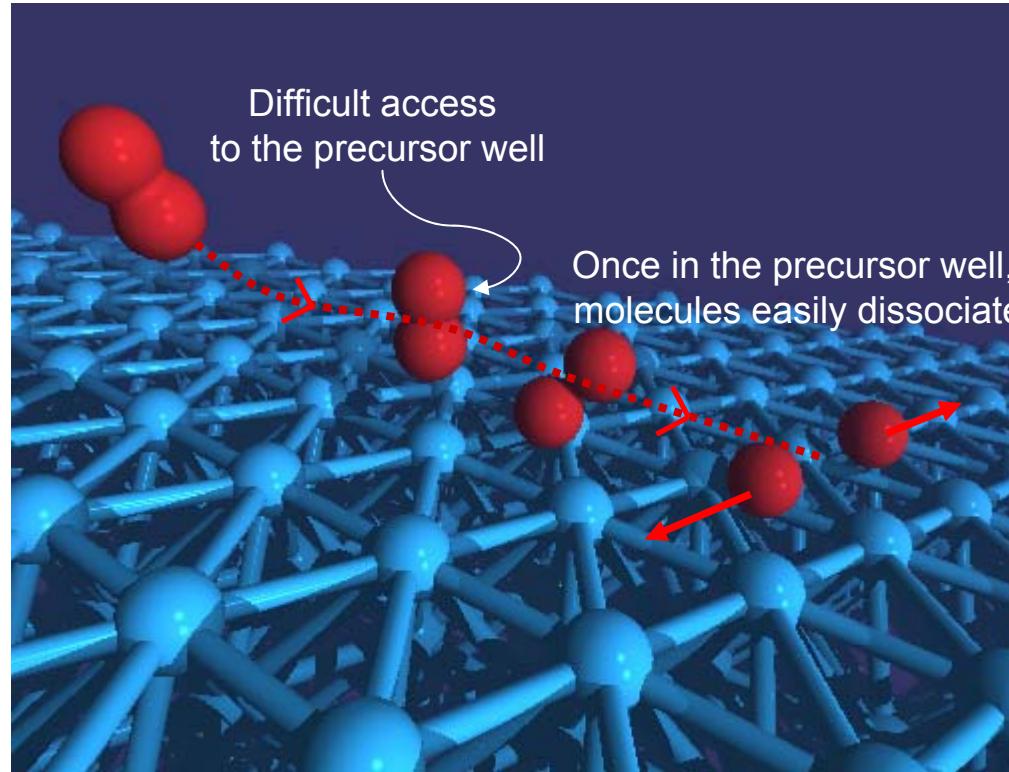
## ➡ classical dynamics in the 6D-PES



 for thermal energies, long distances matter

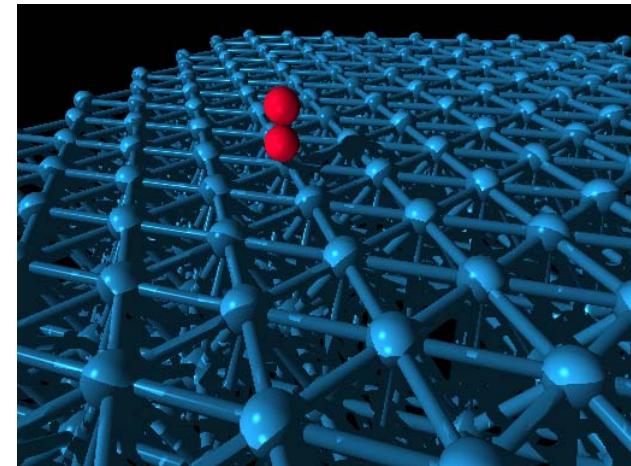


➡ **in summary, dynamics matters**



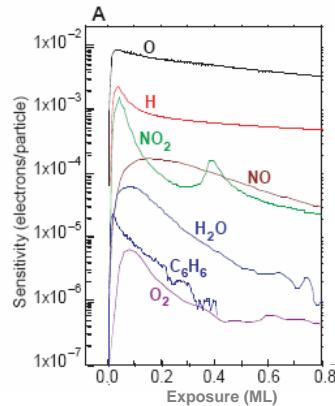
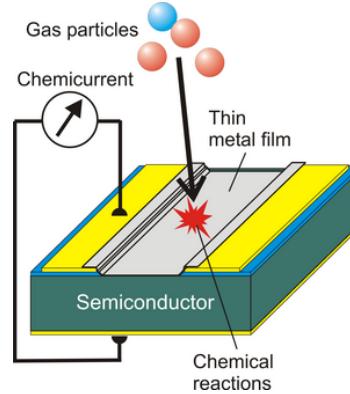
## → outline

- introduction
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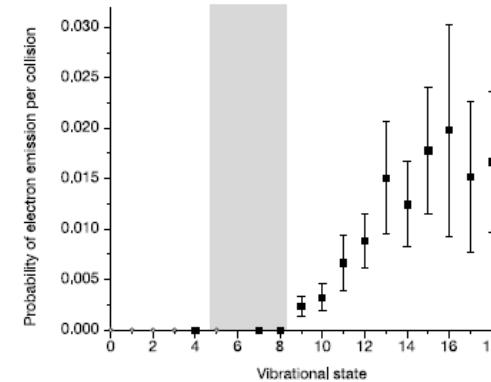
# non-adiabatic effects: electron-hole pair excitations

## chemicurrents



Gergen et al., Science **294**, 2521 (2001).

## vibrational promotion of electron transfer

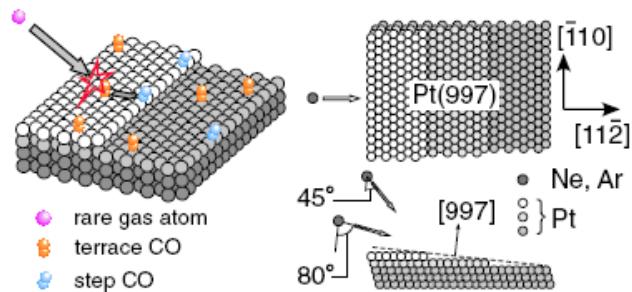


NO on Cs/Au(111)  
electron emission as  
a function of initial  
vibrational state

Huang et al., Science **290**, 111 (2000)  
White et al., Nature **433**, 503 (2005)

# non-adiabatic effects: electron-hole pair excitations

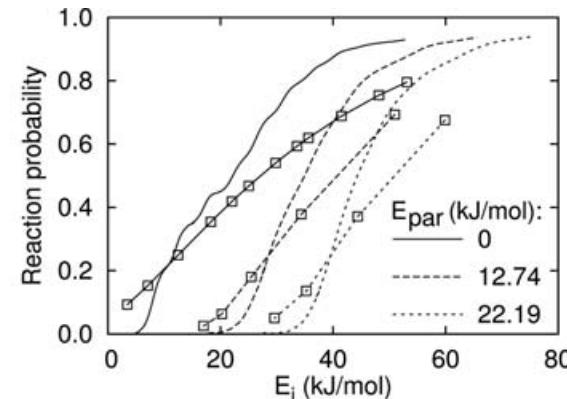
## friction of a single chemisorbed CO molecule



CO on Pt(997)  
migration to step edges

Takaoka *et al.*, PRL 100, 046104 (2008).

## electron excitation during H<sub>2</sub> dissociation



H<sub>2</sub> on Pt(111)  
sticking coefficient

Nieto *et al.*, Science 312, 86 (2006).

## description of electronic excitations by a friction coefficient

previously used for:

- damping of adsorbate vibrations:

Persson and Hellsing, PRL49, 662 (1982)

- dynamics of atomic adsorption

Trail, Bird, *et al.*, JCP119, 4539 (2003)

**classical equations of motion**

for each atom “*i*” in the molecule

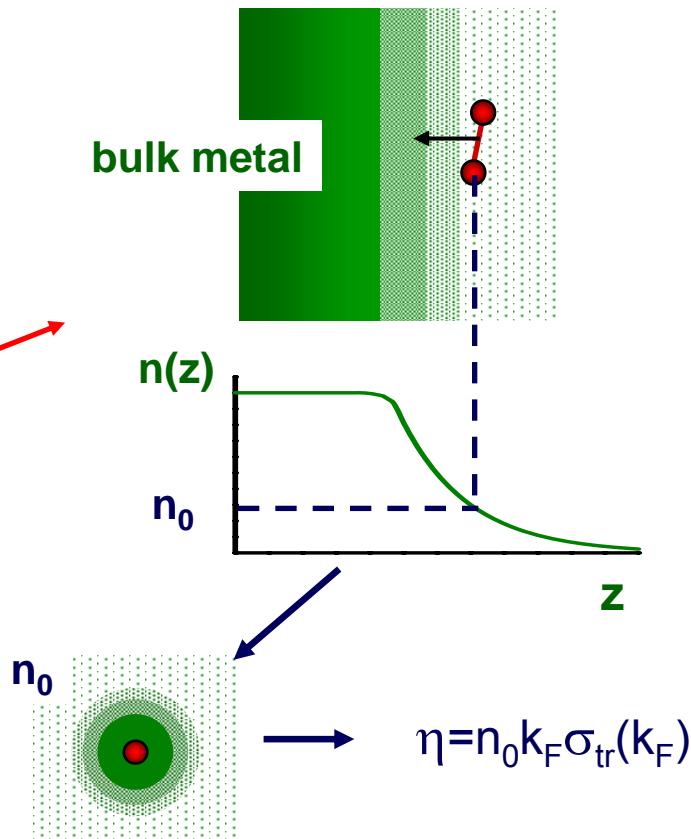
$$m_i(d^2r_i/dt^2) = \underbrace{-dV(r_i, r_j)/d(r_i)}_{\text{adiabatic force: 6D DFT PES}} - \eta(r_i)(dr_i/dt)$$

friction

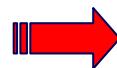
coefficient

6D DFT PES

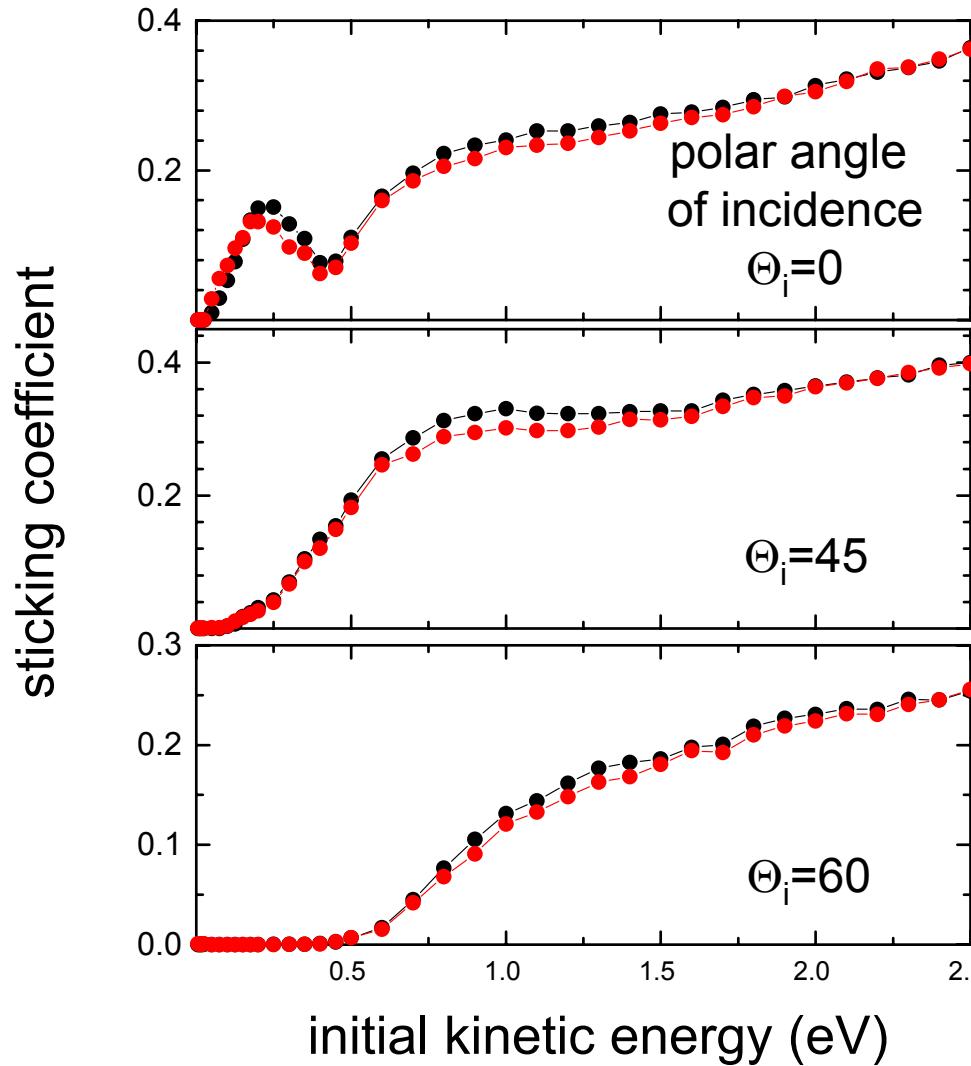
**friction coefficient:  
effective medium approximation**



effective medium:  
FEG with electronic density  $n_0$



## probability of dissociative adsorption: N<sub>2</sub> on W(110)



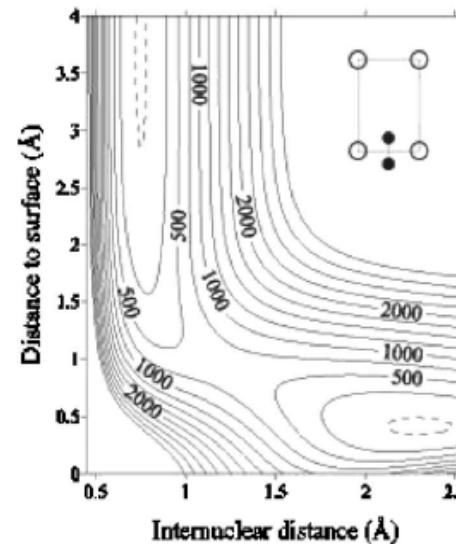
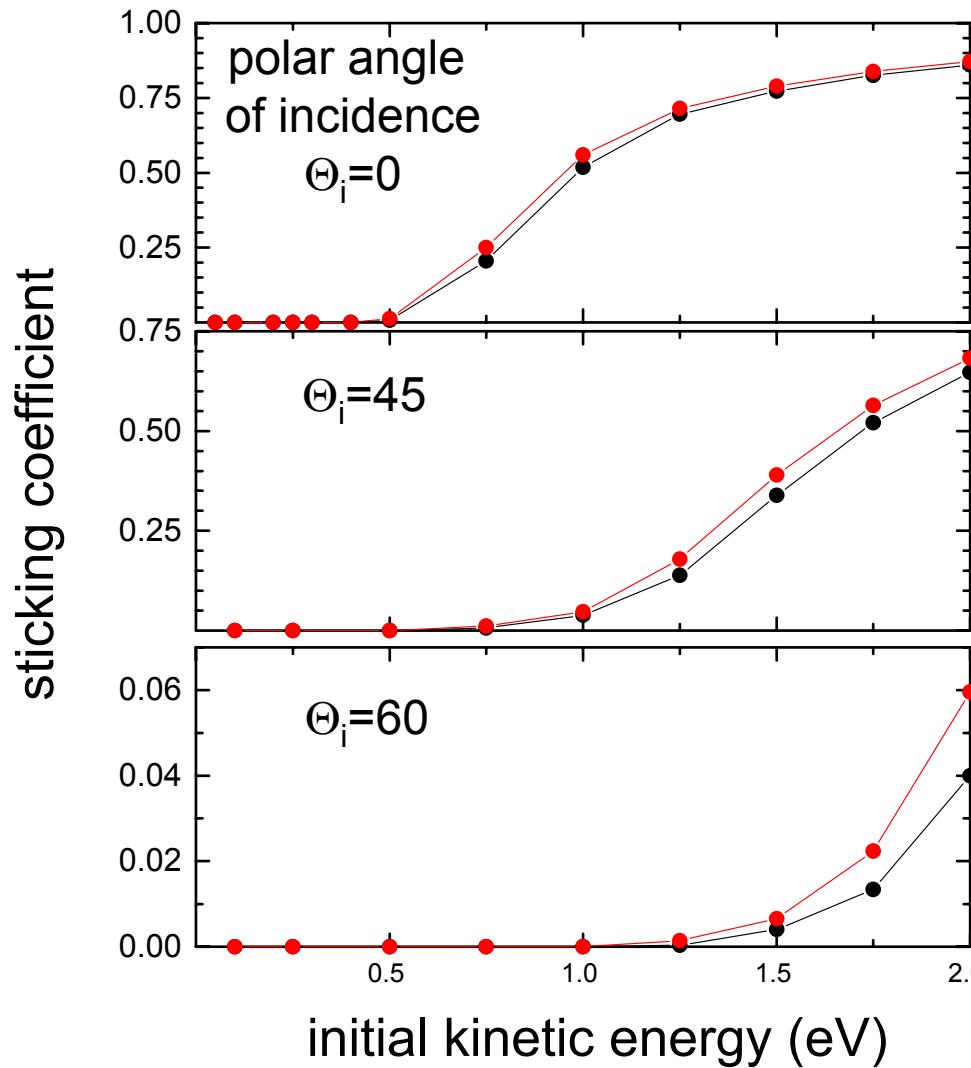
non-adiabatic

adiabatic

but for this system,  
dissociation is  
roughly decided at  
 $Z=2.5\text{\AA}$



## probability of dissociative adsorption: H<sub>2</sub> on Cu(110)



non-adiabatic  
adiabatic

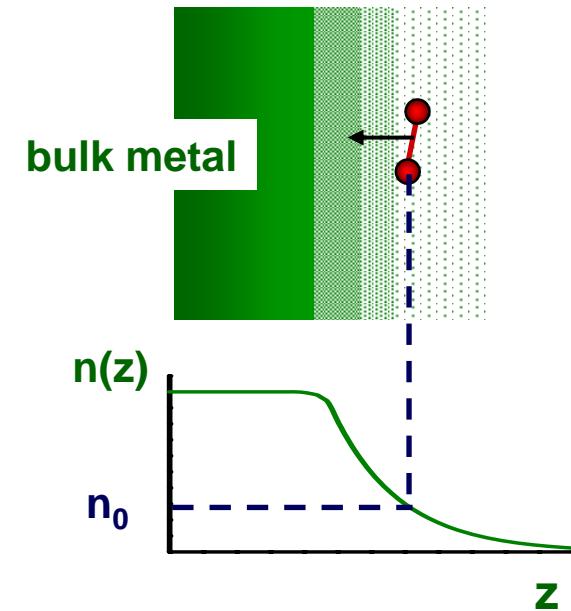
## classical equations of motion

for each atom “*i*” in the molecule

$$m_i(d^2r_i/dt^2) = -dV(r_i, r_j)/d(r_i) - \eta(r_i)(dr_i/dt)$$

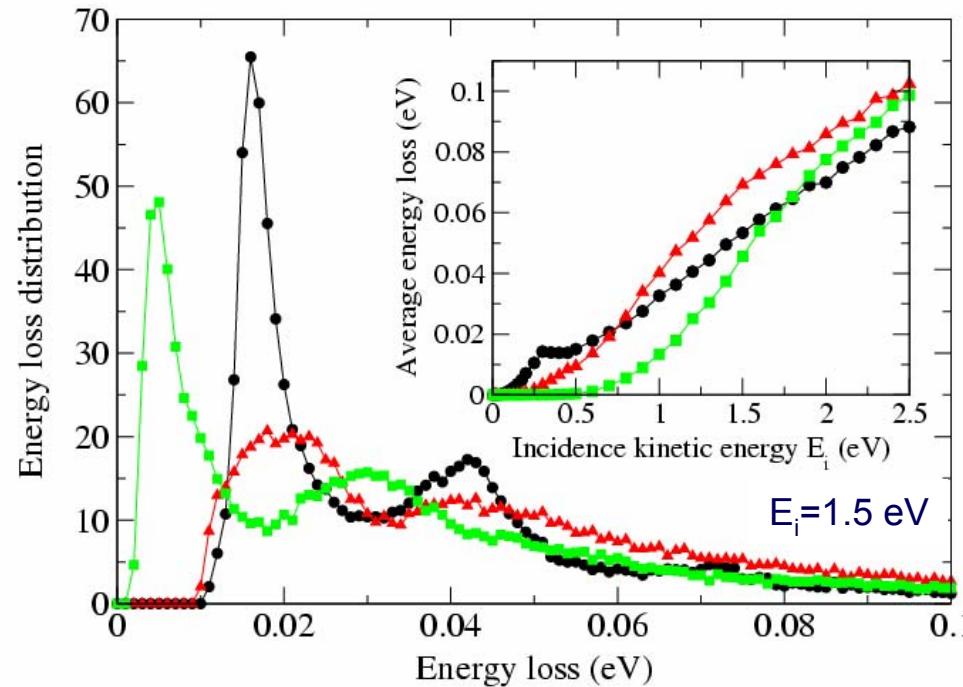
friction coefficient

velocity



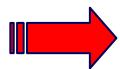


## energy loss of reflected molecules: N<sub>2</sub> on W(110)



$\Theta_i=0$   
 $\Theta_i=45$   
 $\Theta_i=60$

energy losses in the reflected molecules  
due to electronic excitations are < 100 meV

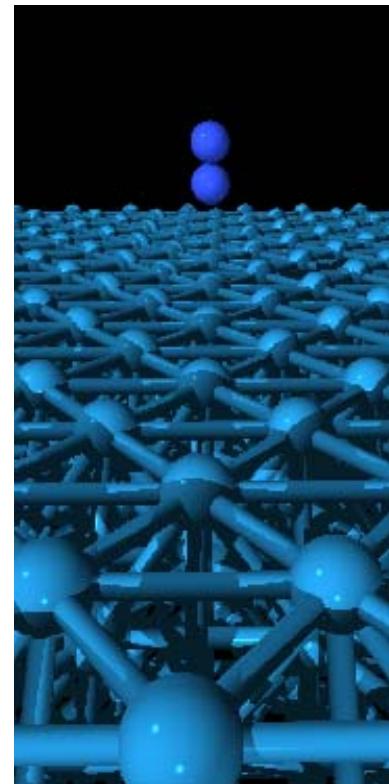


# some conclusions

the reactivity of diatomic molecules on surfaces  
can be very dependent on the particular surface face

in the particular case of N<sub>2</sub>/W, we have shown  
that the differences in reactivity arise from the  
dynamics at long distances (>3 Å) from the surface

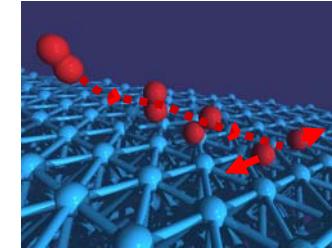
a local description of the friction coefficient shows that  
electronic excitations play ***a minor role***  
in the dissociation of diatomic molecules on metal surfaces



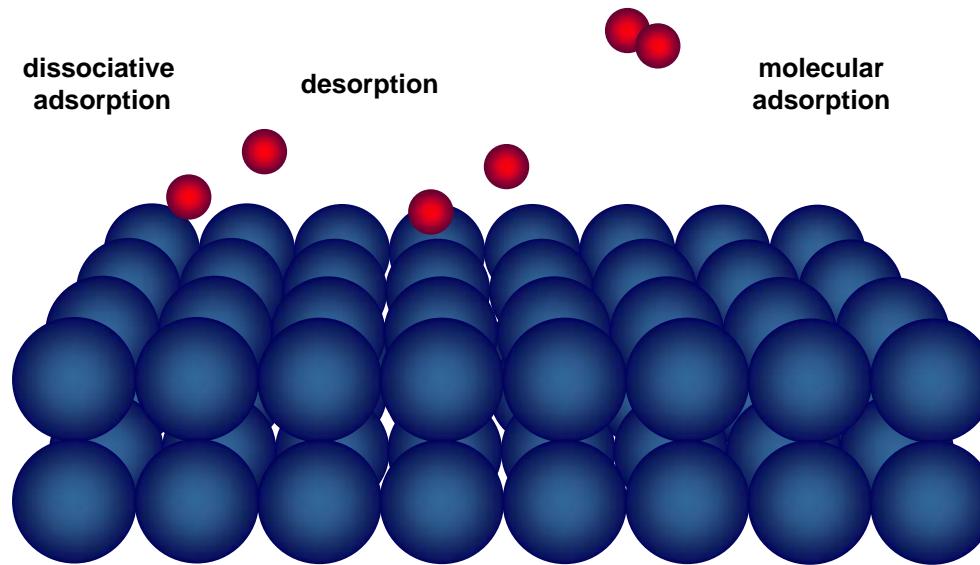
**thank you for your attention**

*1<sup>st</sup> nanoICT Symposium  
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## → gas/surface dynamics



from the fundamental point of view, the goal is to understand how solid surfaces and nanostructures can be used to promote gas-phase chemical reactions



some elementary reactive processes  
at surfaces

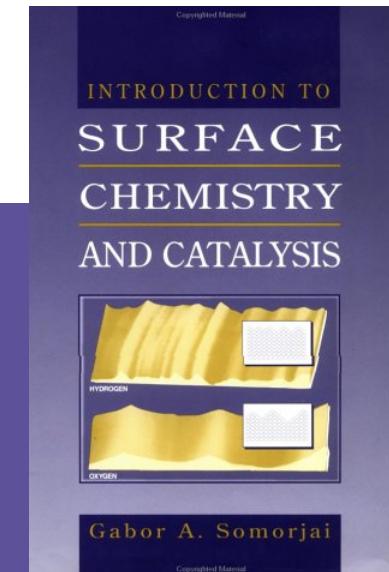
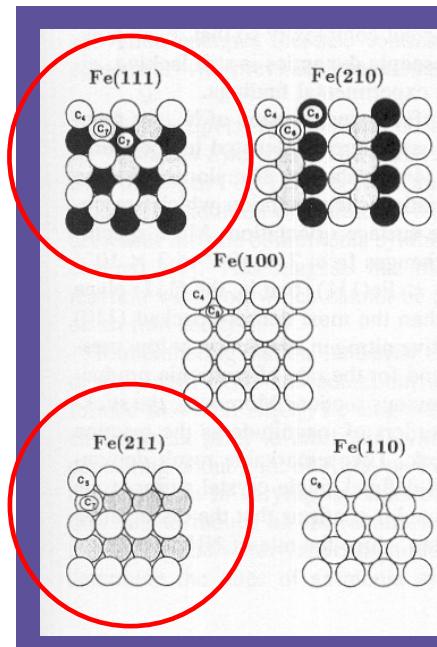
## ➡ **surface face and reactivity**

- ➡ the rate-limiting step in ammonia formation is the dissociative adsorption of N<sub>2</sub> on the surface
- ➡ two possible reasons for the difference in reactivity over different faces:
  - surface roughness (work function)
  - unique active sites at the surface

## ➡ surface face and reactivity

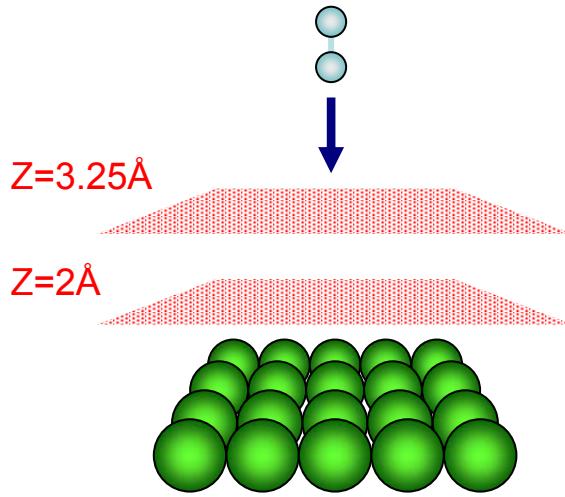
- ➡ the rate-limiting step in ammonia formation is the dissociative adsorption of N<sub>2</sub> on the surface
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  - surface roughness (work functions)
  - unique active sites at the surface

most reactive surfaces  
have C<sub>7</sub> sites  
(seven nearest neighbors)

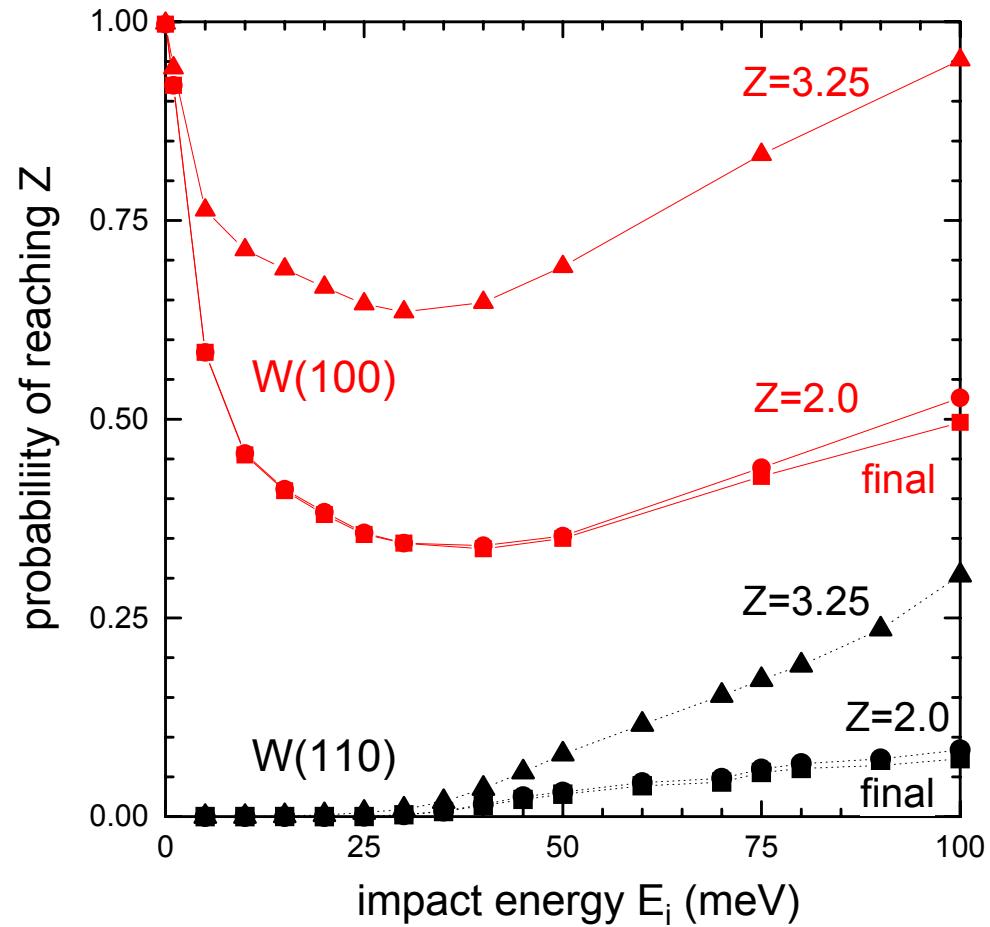


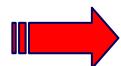
**Figure 7.15.** Schematic representations of the idealized surface structures of the (111), (211), (100), (210), and (110) orientation of iron single crystals. The coordination of each surface atom is indicated [38].

 for thermal energies, long distances matter



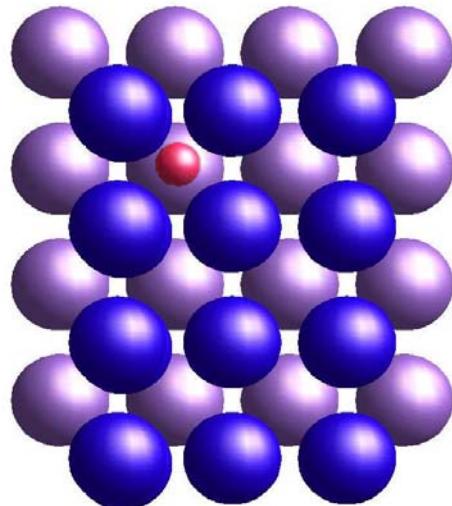
The amount of  $\text{N}_2$  molecules that are able to reach  $Z=3.25 \text{\AA}$  is much smaller in the  $W(110)$  face





## final state features: N adsorption on W

W(100)



**adsorption energy**

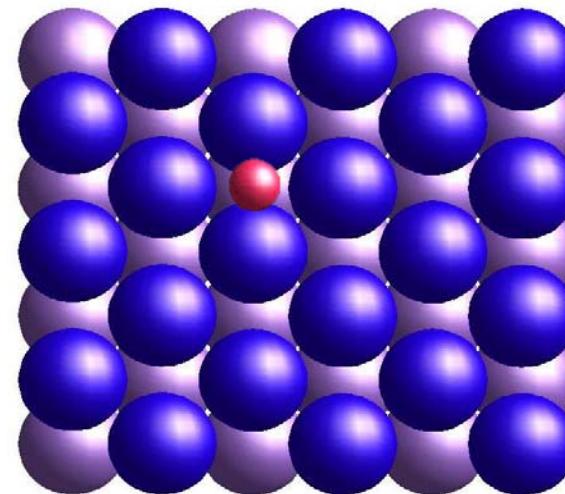
DFT = 7.4 eV

Exp. = 6.6-7 eV

**adsorption distance**

DFT = 0.63 Å

W(110)



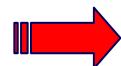
**adsorption energy**

DFT = 6.8 eV

Exp. = 6.6 eV

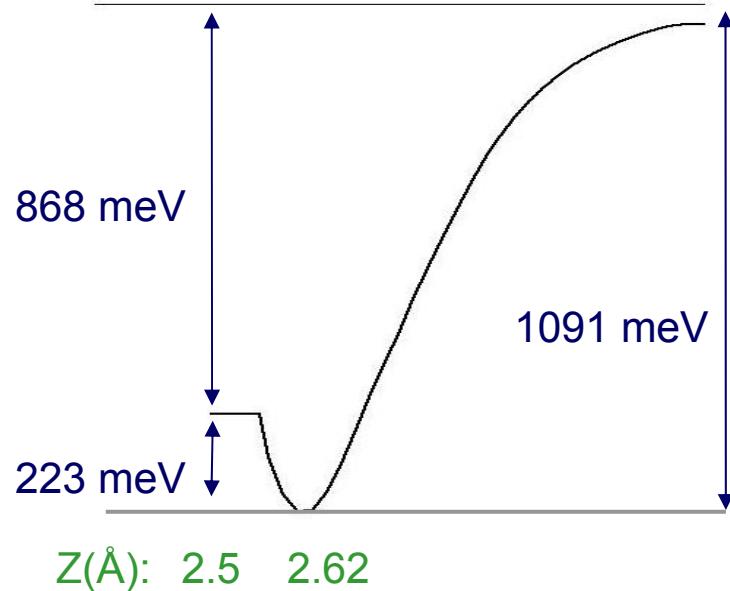
**adsorption distance**

DFT = 1.15 Å

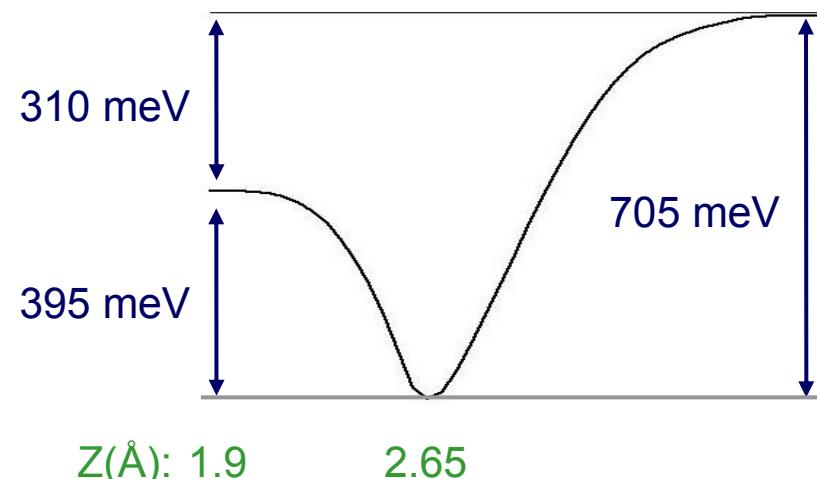


dynamic trapping in a well in both faces

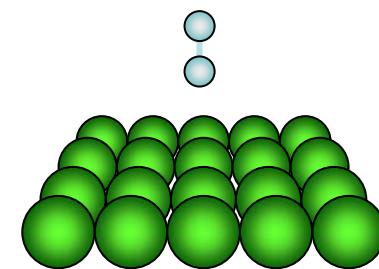
**W(100)**



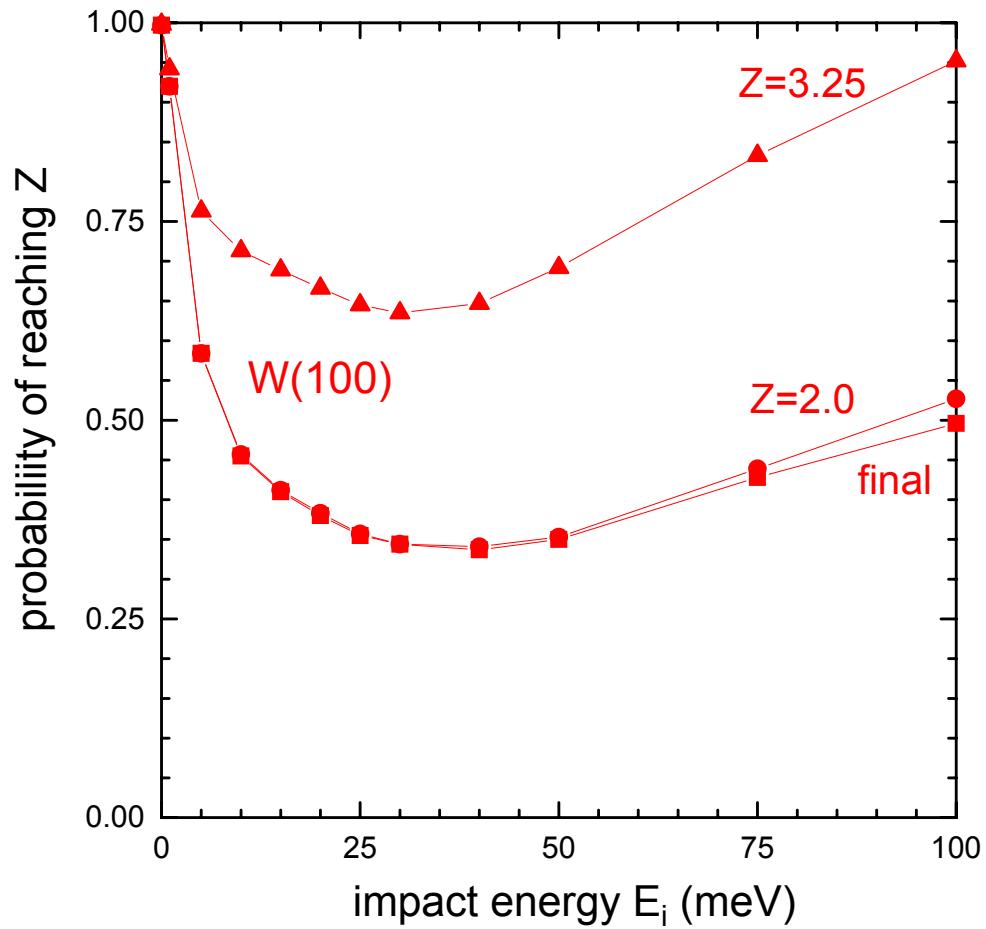
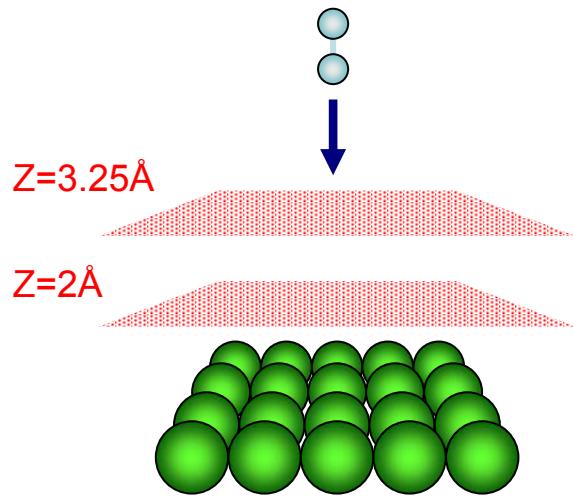
**W(110)**



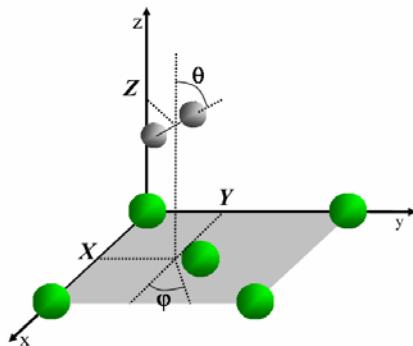
approach to surface:  
vertical over a surface atom



➡ for thermal energies, long distances matter

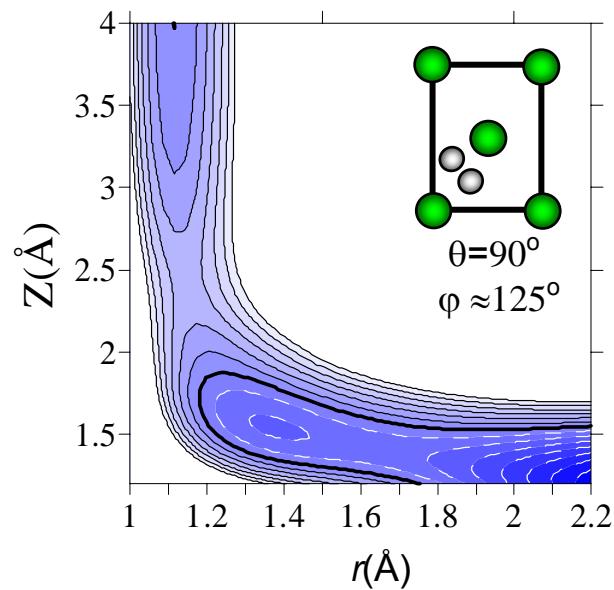
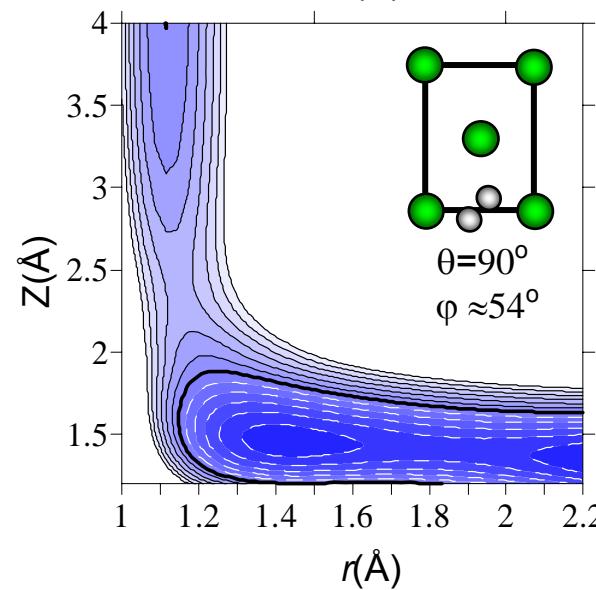
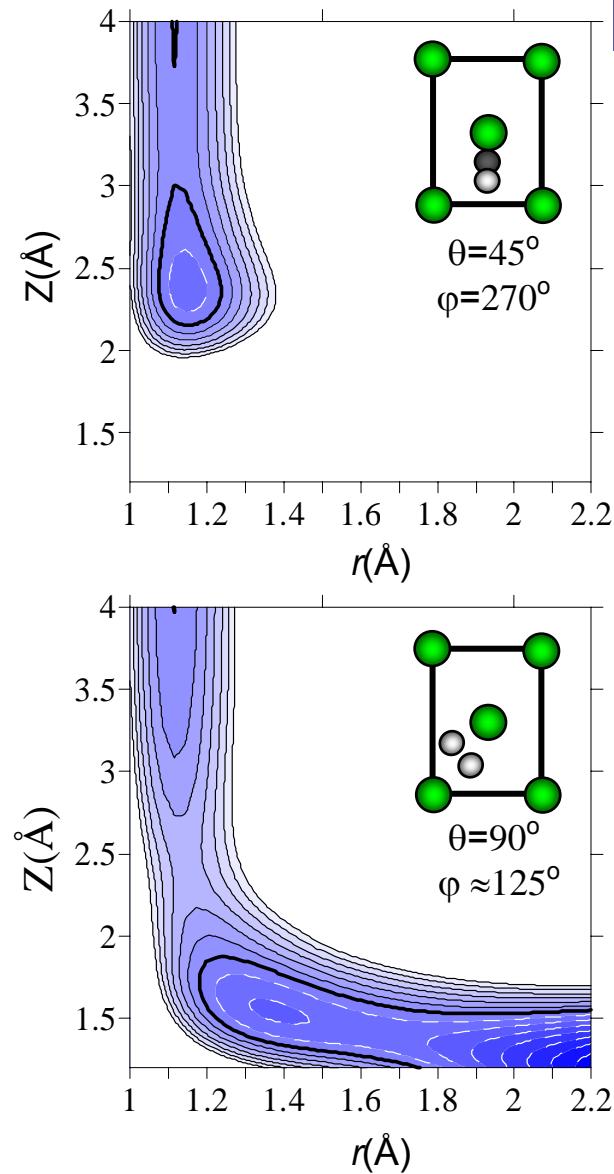
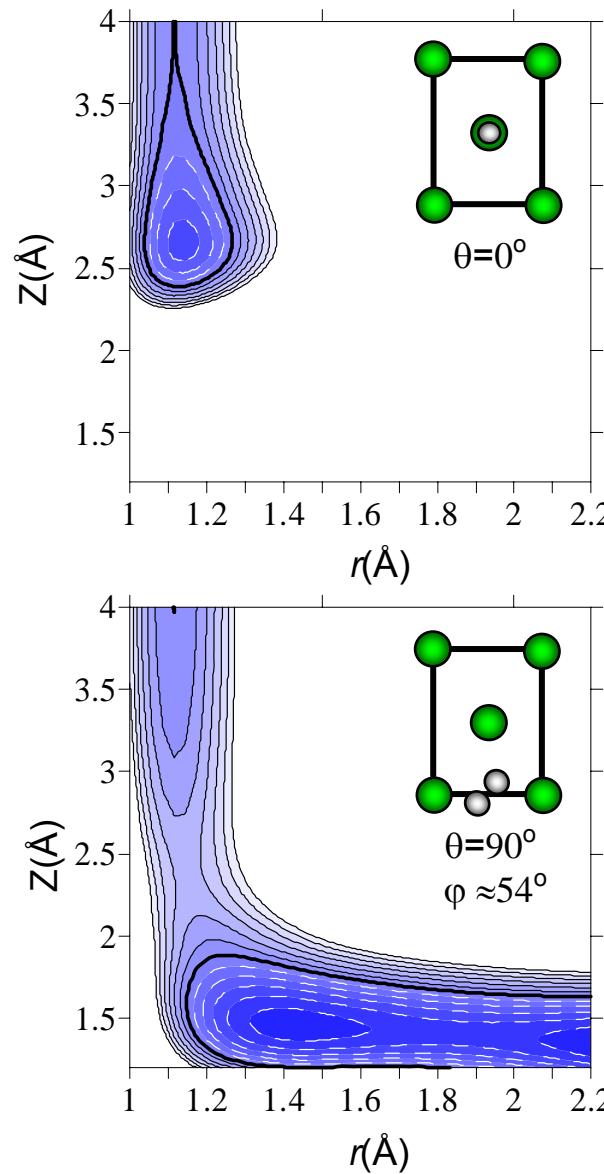


some  
elbow plots  
for the  
 $N_2/W(110)$   
system



distance between  
contour lines = 0.2eV

- - - E < 0
- E = 0
- E > 0



Today's key factors in the development of chemical processes are the concepts of "zero-waste" and "100 % selectivity".

In the field of catalysis, the chemistry at interphases, referred to as heterogeneous catalysis, is promising to achieve both goals.

# MB Experiments in Catalysis

## Beyond Single Crystal Kinetics

### Some Kinetic Effects on Catalyst Surfaces:

confinement effects  
on small particles,  
fluctuations

metal  
particle

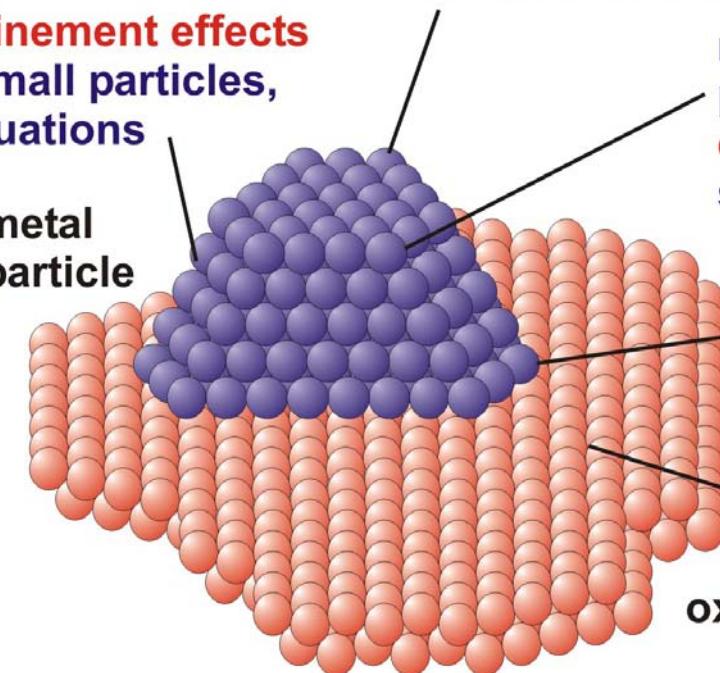
communication effects  
between different sites  
via surface diffusion

modified adsorption / reaction  
properties due to electronic  
effects (electron confinement,  
support interaction)

new adsorption/reaction  
sites due to geometric effects  
(edges,corners, facets...)

trapping / adsorption /  
diffusion on the support  
oxide support

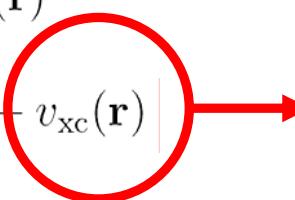
"supported metal catalyst"



## → accuracy of adiabatic DFT calculations

Kohn-Sham equations solved self-consistently

$$\left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

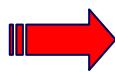
$$v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) = v_{\text{jellium}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{Hartree}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r})$$


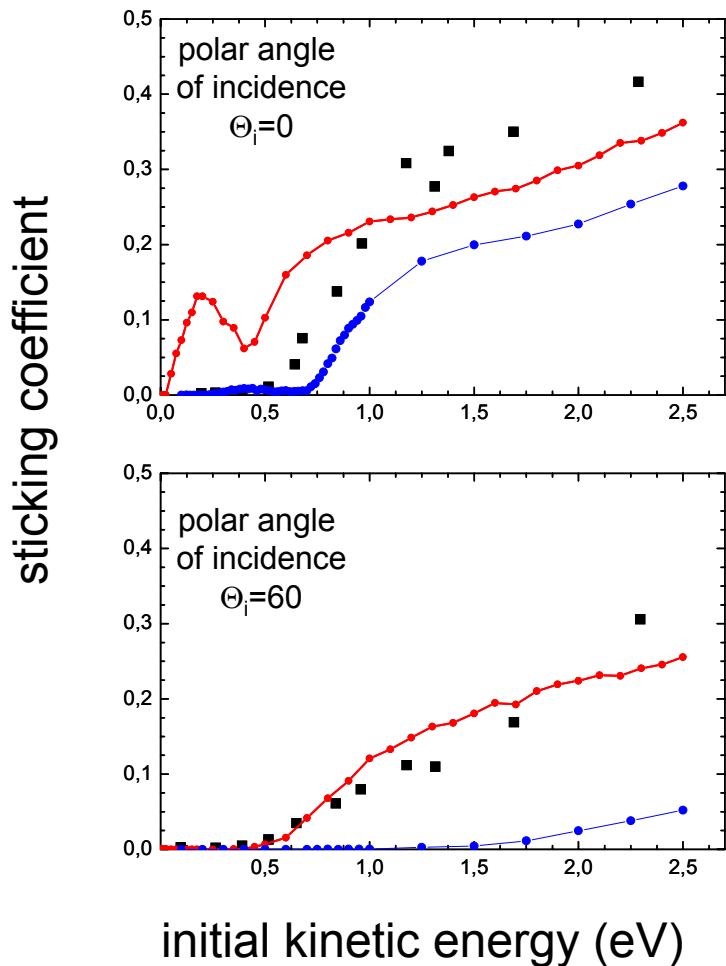
exchange-correlation  
term  
is not exact

|                | LDA   | PW91  | $E_{\text{chem},\beta}$ | revPBE | RPBE  | $E_{\text{chem}}^{\text{exp}}$ |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------------------------|--------|-------|--------------------------------|
| O(fcc)/Ni(111) | -6.68 | -5.38 | -5.27                   | -4.83  | -4.77 | -4.84 <sup>a</sup>             |
| O(hol)/Ni(100) | -6.97 | -5.66 | -5.55                   | -5.10  | -5.03 | -5.41 <sup>a</sup>             |
| O(hol)/Rh(100) | -6.64 | -5.34 | -5.23                   | -4.77  | -4.71 | -4.56 <sup>a</sup>             |
| O(fcc)/Pd(111) | -5.34 | -4.08 | -3.98                   | -3.54  | -3.49 |                                |
| O(hol)/Pd(100) | -5.39 | -4.14 | -4.04                   | -3.59  | -3.53 |                                |

RPBE functional  
provides better  
atomic chemisorption  
energies

Hammer *et al.*, PRB **59**, 7413 (1999)


**influence of the exchange correlation functional  
in the sticking coefficient:  $N_2/W(110)$**



- Pfnür *et al.*, JCP **85** 7452 (1986)
- PW91
- RPBE

*the RPBE XC functional:*

- fits better the experimental chemisorption energies
- describes better the interaction very near the metallic surface
- but better dynamics??

*not in this case!*

Bocan *et al.*, JCP 2008 (in press)

