

TAP

Temporal Analysis of Products

SSITKA

Steady State Isotopic Transient  
Kinetic Analysis

**Modern Methods in Heterogeneous Catalysis**

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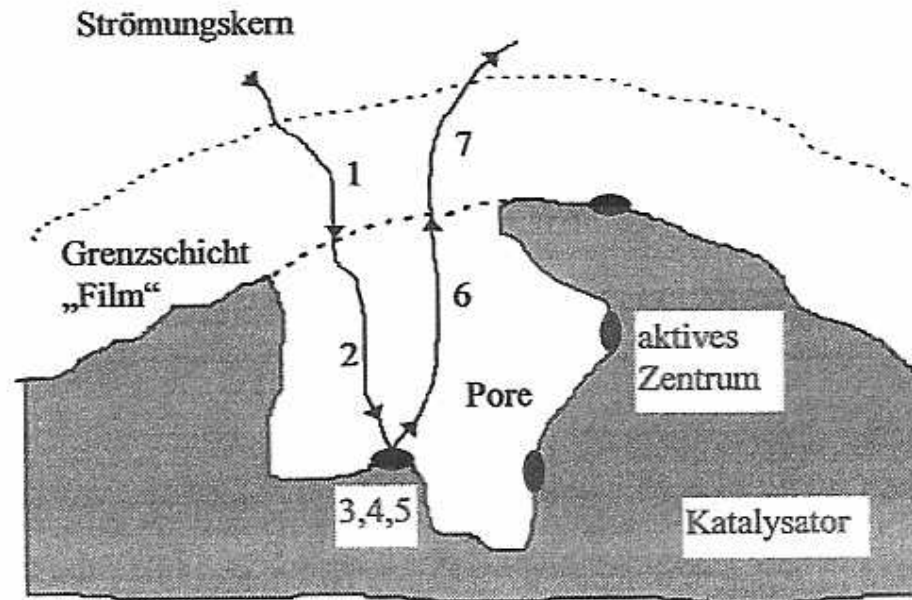
Transient methods are a powerful tool for gaining insights into the mechanisms of complex catalytic reactions.

# Outline

- Microkinetic modeling
- Laboratory reactors
- Background
  - Diffusion, mathematics
- TAP
  - System hardware, theory, examples
- SSITKA
  - Theory, examples

# Macrokinetics and Microkinetics

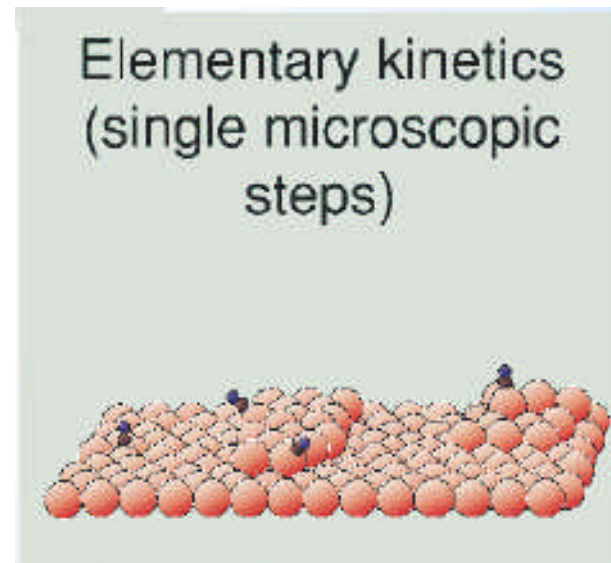
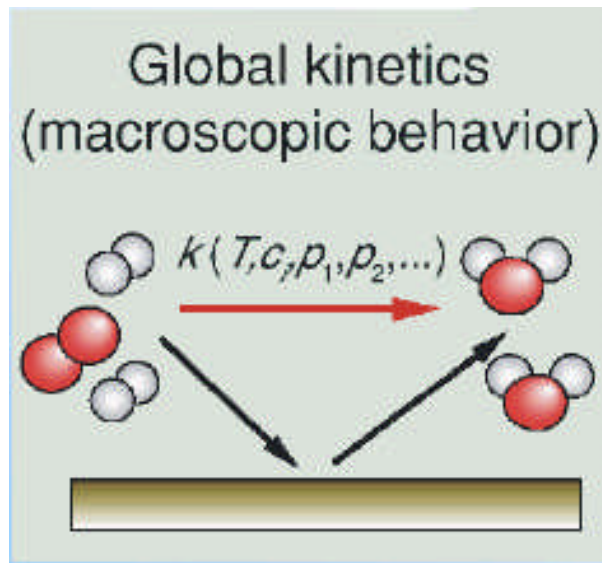
1. *Filmdiffusion der Edukte.* Die Edukte werden aus dem Strömungskern durch den Film an die äußere Oberfläche des Katalysatorteilchens transportiert;
2. *Porendiffusion der Edukte.* Da Strömung fehlt, wird Stofftransport von der Oberfläche in die Poren bzw. innerhalb der Poren durch Diffusion bewirkt,
3. *Adsorption der Edukte am aktiven Zentrum* aus der Gasphase
4. *Oberflächenreaktion am aktiven Zentrum*
5. *Desorption der Produkte* vom aktiven Zentrum in die Gasphase
6. *Porendiffusion der Produkte;*
7. *Filmdiffusion der Produkte.*



Schematische Darstellung der Teilschritte der heterogenen Katalyse

# Kinetic measurements

## Complexity of heterogeneously catalyzed reactions – Macrokinetics and Microkinetics



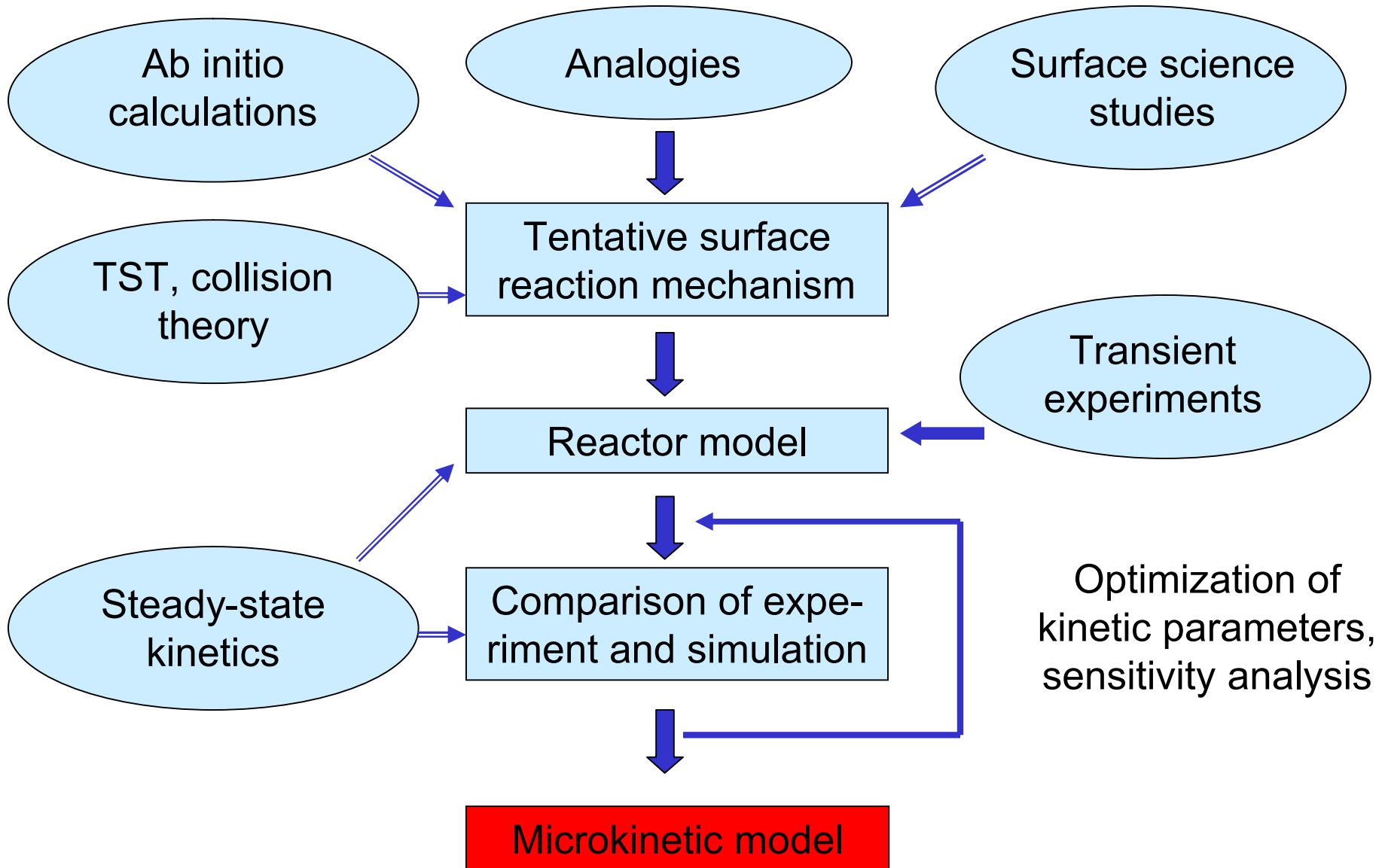
# Microkinetic modeling

J.A.Dumesic

„Microkinetic analysis is an examination of catalytic reactions in terms of *elementary chemical reactions* that occur on the catalyst *surface* and their *relation* with each other and with the surface during a catalytic circle.“

Review article: P. Stoltze

# Microkinetic model development



# Kinetic measurements

## *Tasks of laboratory investigations of heterogeneous catalytic processes*

- o catalyst preparation
- o catalyst screening
  - o activity
  - o selectivity
  - o stability
- o scale-up
- o process optimization

## *Complex reaction*

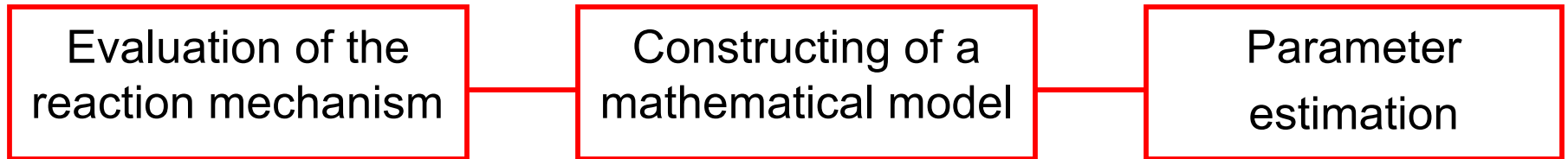
- o species
- o reaction mechanism
- o reaction kinetics

## *Laboratory reactors*

- o microcatalytic pulse r.
- o gaschromatographic r.
- o single pellet diffusion r.
- o catalytic fixed bed r.
- o recycle r.
- o ( *TAP* )



# Kinetic investigations



How to do...?

- Steady-state or unsteady-state experiment ?
- Quantitative evaluation of kinetic data ?

# Steady-state experiments

- Most common reaction technique used in heterogeneous catalysis
- Achieved by operation such that temperature, pressure, concentration, and flow rate at any point in the reactor is time invariant
- Access to activity, selectivity, reaction order, activation energy

# Steady-state experiments

- Advantages:
  - Easy to build and operate
  - Results can be described with mathematical models based on algebraic equations
  - Most industrial processes are operated under steady-state conditions
- Disadvantages:
  - Provide global kinetic parameters, limited information on individual reaction steps
  - Interpretations often based on „simple“ assumptions

# Unsteady-state experiments

- Transient techniques provide information on
  - Reaction intermediates (pulse response)  
(Gleaves 1988)
  - Reaction sequence in a multistep reaction  
(Kobayashi 1975)
  - Rate constants of elementary steps  
(Ertl 1979, Creten 1995)

# Unsteady-state experiments

- Transient techniques provide information on
  - Investigation of complex kinetic phenomena (oscillating chemical reactions, hysteresis) that are not observable under steady-state conditions
  - Probe of catalyst surfaces that are not easily observed under steady-state conditions (oxidation catalysis) (Haber 1983)

# Unsteady-state experiments

- Disadvantages
  - Not easy to build up, expensive
  - Main problem: theory is very complex

# Steady-state and transient methods

## Steady-state methods

- measure overall performance
- give integrated picture of reaction system
- have minimum reactor residence time of 1 s

## Transient methods

- give information on individual steps
- operate in millisecond time regime; resolution increase

# Transient experiments

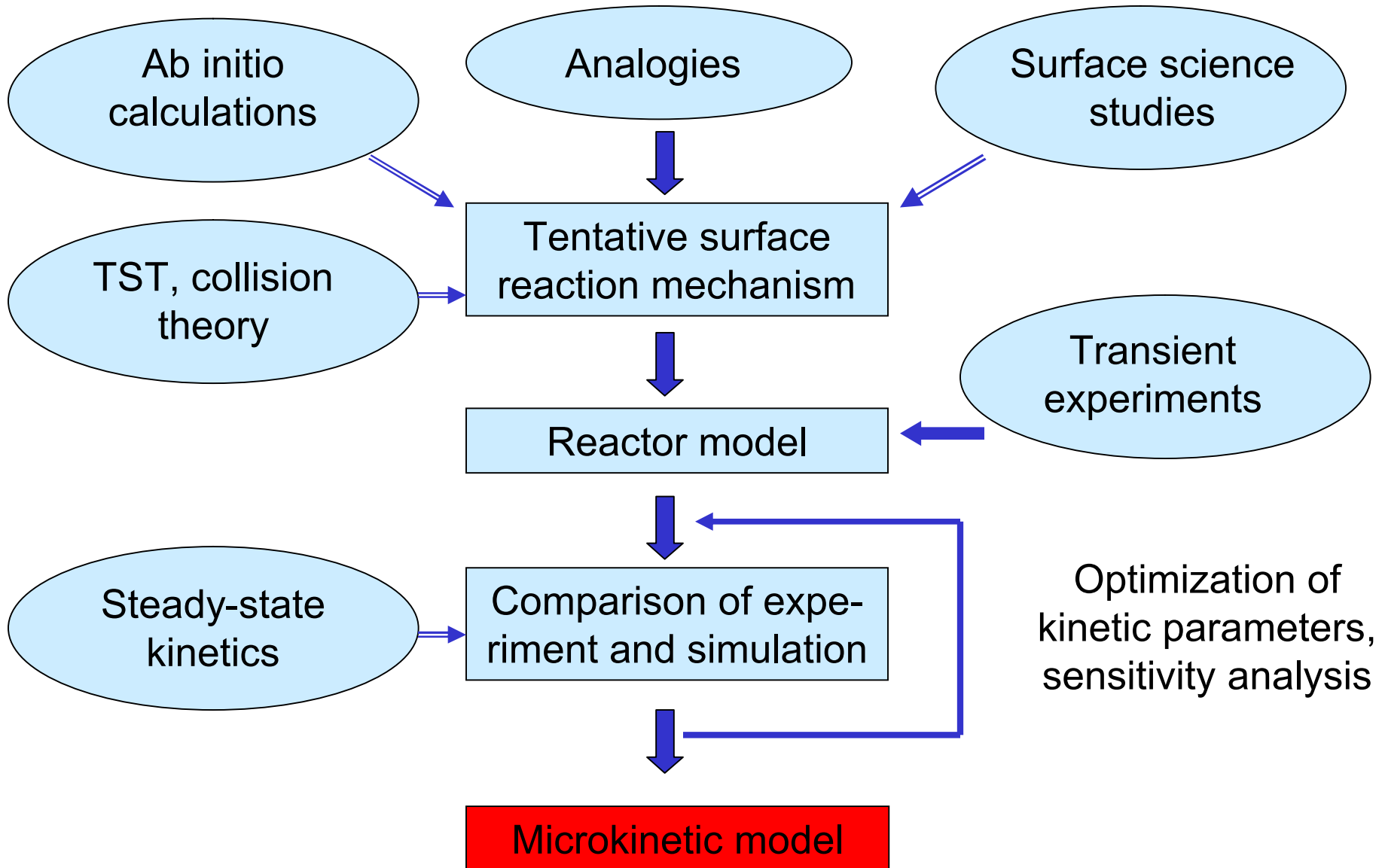
- *Transients* are introduced into a system by *varying* one or more *state variables* (p, T, c, flow)
- Examples:
  - Molecular beam experiments  
*pressure change*
  - Temperature-programmed experiments  
*temperature change*
  - Step change experiments  
*concentration change*



# TAP – A transient technique

- The *key feature* which distinguishes it from other pulse experiments is that *no carrier gas* is used and, gas transport is the result of a pressure gradient.
- At low pulse intensities the total gas pressure is very small, and gas transport occurs via *Knudsen diffusion* only.
- Pulse residence time under vacuum conditions is much shorter than in conventional pulse experiments. Thus a *high time resolution* is achievable.

# Microkinetic model development



# TAP – Features

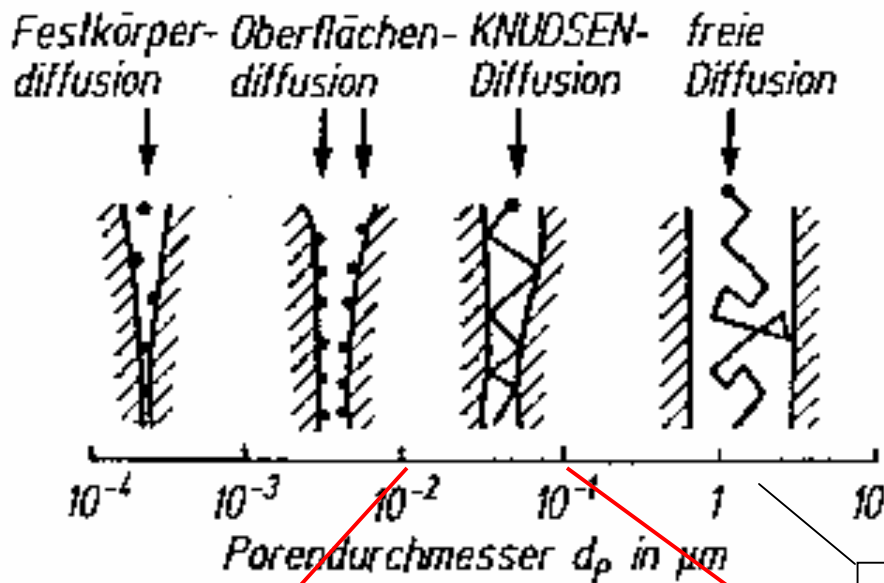
- *Extraction of kinetic parameters* differs compared to steady-state and surface science experiments
  - Steady-state: kinetic information is extracted from the transport-kinetics data by experimentally eliminating effects of transport
  - Surface science: gas phase is eliminated
  - In *TAP* pulse experiments *gas transport is not eliminated*. The pulse response data provides information on the transport **and** kinetic parameters.

# TAP – Features

- *TAP pulse* experiments are *state-defining*
  - *Typical pulse* contains  $\approx 10^{13}$  *molecules*  
or  $10^{10}$  moles
  - Example:
    - sample surface of  $10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$
    - a single pulse would be equivalent to  $1/10000$  of the total surface per gram of sample
    - conventional pulsed reactor experiments address approximately 20 % of the surface per pulse

# Background - Diffusion

## Transport mechanisms in porous solids



Pore diffusion depending on pore diameter

$$D_{Knudsen} = \frac{1}{3} d_p w = \frac{1}{3} d_p \sqrt{\frac{8RT}{pM}}$$

$$D_{free} = \frac{1}{3} \Lambda w$$

$\Lambda$  ...mean free path length

$w$  ...mean velocity of molecule

# Background - Diffusion

## Characterization of porous structures

- Porosity  $\frac{\text{pore volume}}{\text{total volume, - mass}} \left[ \frac{m^3}{m^3} \right], \left[ \frac{m^3}{kg} \right]$

- Pore radius, pore diameter
- Pore radius distribution, -density

$$H(r_p) = \int_{r_{p,\min}}^{r_p} h(r_p) dr_p \quad ; \quad h(r_p) = \frac{dH(r_p)}{dr_p}$$

- Specific surface area
- Tortuosity factor

# Background - Diffusion

## Knudsen diffusion

- mean free path length of molecule > pore diameter

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} p \sigma^2} \frac{V}{N_A}$$

$\Lambda$  ... mean free path length

$\sigma^2$  ... molecular cross-section

$V$  ... gas molar volume at  $p$

- $N_A/V$  at 298 K :  $c_{\text{ges}} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{19} \cdot p$  (molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>)  
(dimension of  $p$  10<sup>5</sup> Pa)

- mean free path length with typical  $\sigma$  (9-20\*10<sup>-16</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>)

$$\Lambda \cong \frac{10^2}{p} \quad (nm)$$

# Background - Diffusion

## Knudsen diffusion

- Knudsen flow through one cylindrical pore

$$D_{K,i} = \frac{d_p}{3} \sqrt{\frac{8RT}{pM}} \approx 10^{-6} \frac{m^2}{s} \text{ (at } 293 \text{ K, } 0.01 \text{ MPa)}$$

- For porous solids, the relative pore volume  $\varepsilon_b$  and the tortuosity factor  $\tau_K$  have to be considered

$$D_{K,i}^{eff} = \frac{\varepsilon_P}{\tau_K} \frac{d_p}{3} \sqrt{\frac{8RT}{pM}}$$



# Background - Mathematics

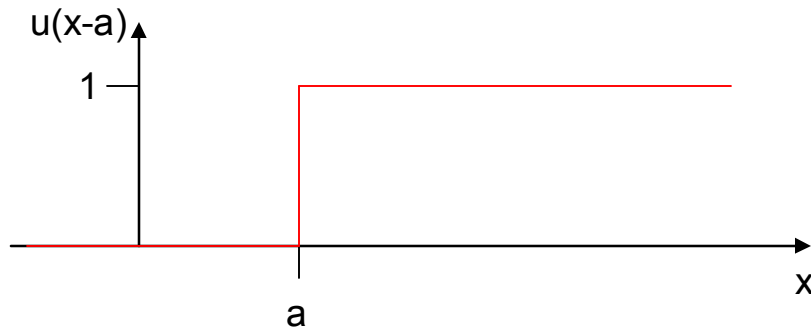
- *Delta function*  $f(x) = \delta(x-a)$ 
  - functional which acts on elements of a function
  - integral
$$\int_x^y d(t-a) dt = \begin{cases} 1 & x < a < y \\ 0 & a < x, y < a \end{cases} \quad \text{for } x < y$$
  - multiplication with a function  $f(x)$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) d(x-a) dx = f(a)$$

# Background - Mathematics

- *Delta function*

- graphical representation as „Sprungfunktion“ (limes)



$$d(x-a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin n(x-a)$$

$$\frac{du(x-a)}{dx} = d(x-a)$$

- graphical representation as „Pulsfunktion“



$$\int d(t-a) dt = \begin{cases} 1 \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

# Background - Mathematics

- *Laplace transformation*
  - aim: transformation of differential and integral expressions into algebraic expressions
  - definition

$$f(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} F(t) dt$$

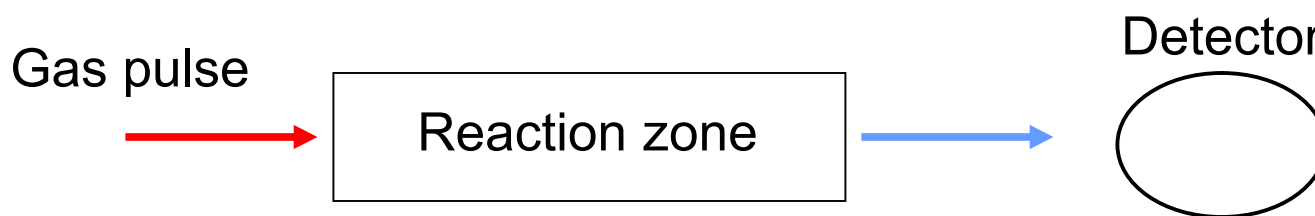
- examples

$$f(s) = L[1] = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt = -\frac{1}{s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{s}$$

$$f(s) = L[e^{at}] = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} dt = \frac{1}{a-s}$$

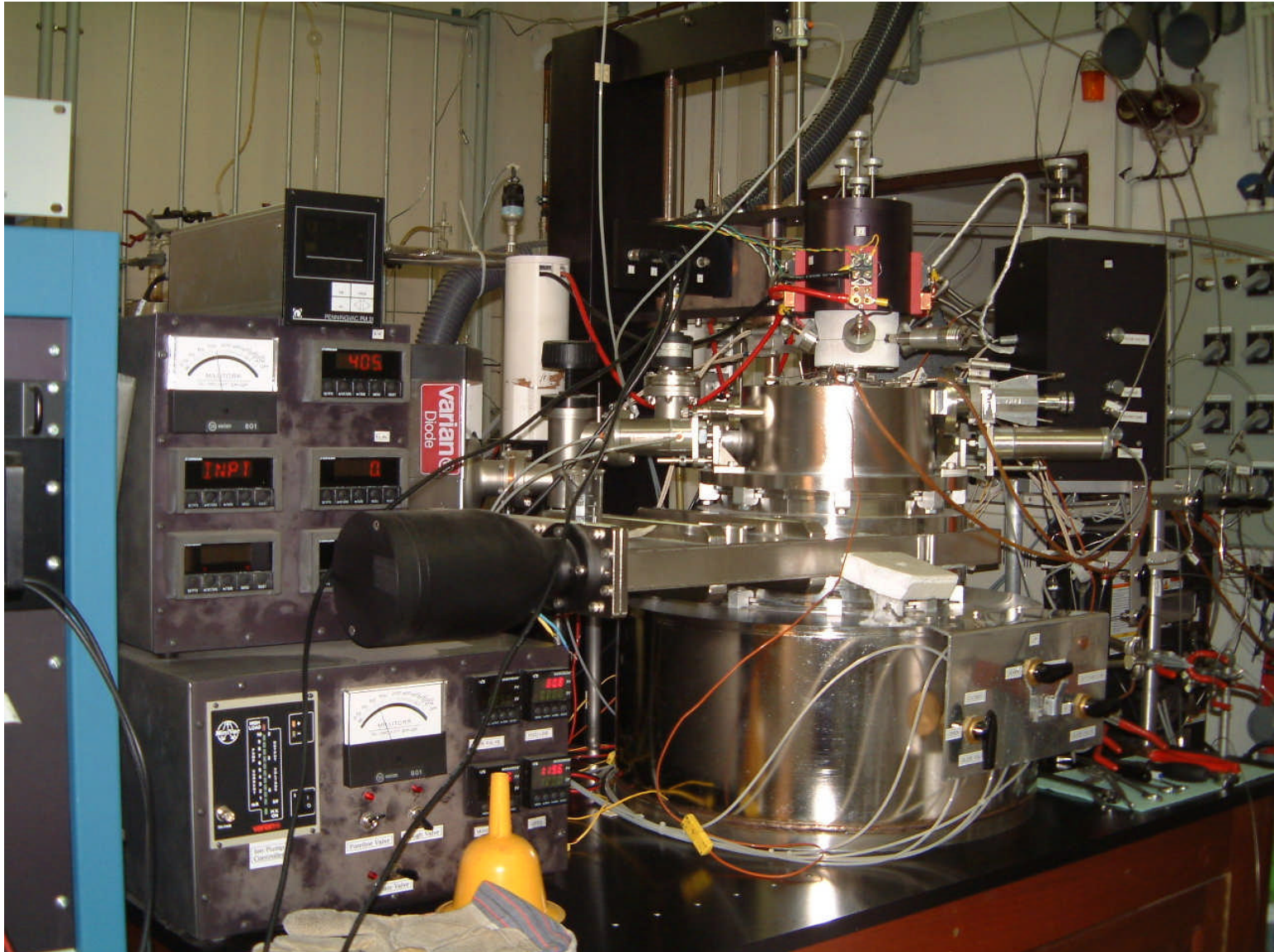
# TAP – System hardware

Simplified schematic of a TAP pulse response experiment

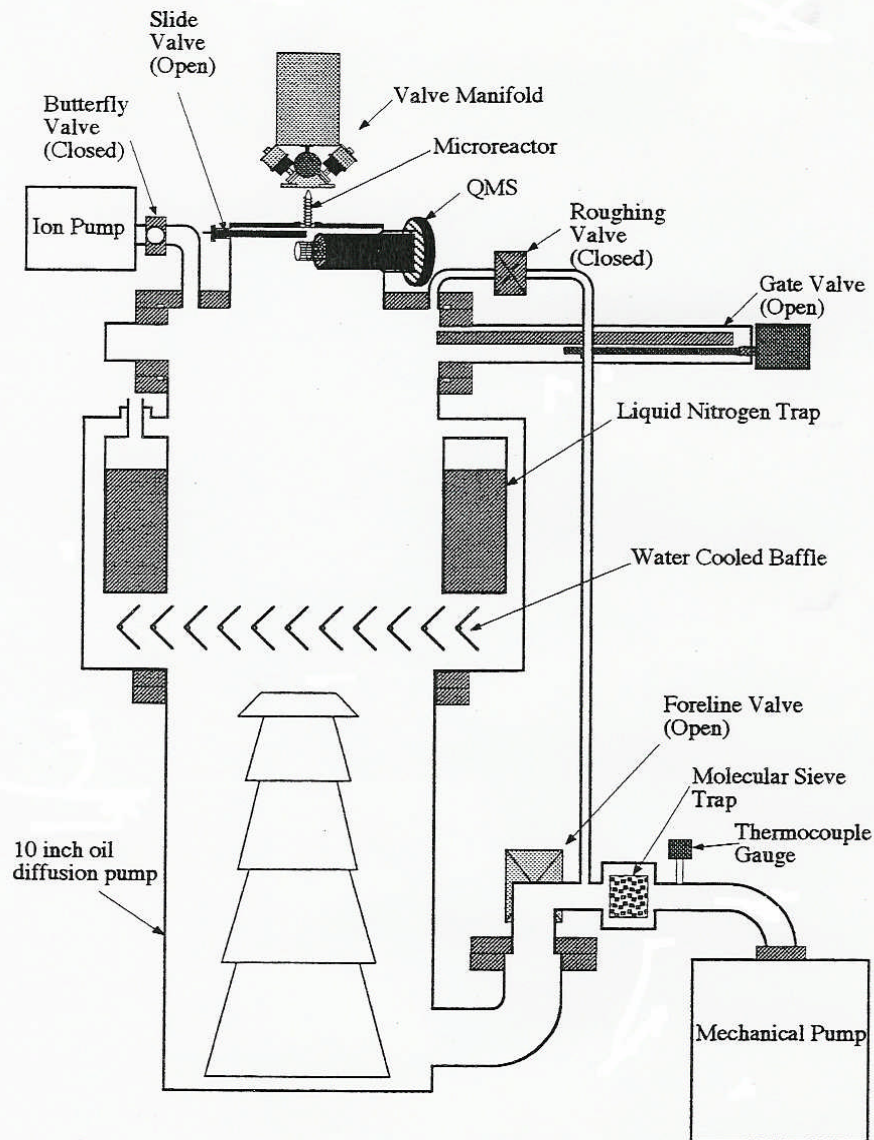


- Injection of a narrow gas pulse into an evacuated microreactor
- Gas pulses travel through the reactor
- Gas molecules (**reactant** and **product**) are monitored as a function of time and produce a transient response at the MS

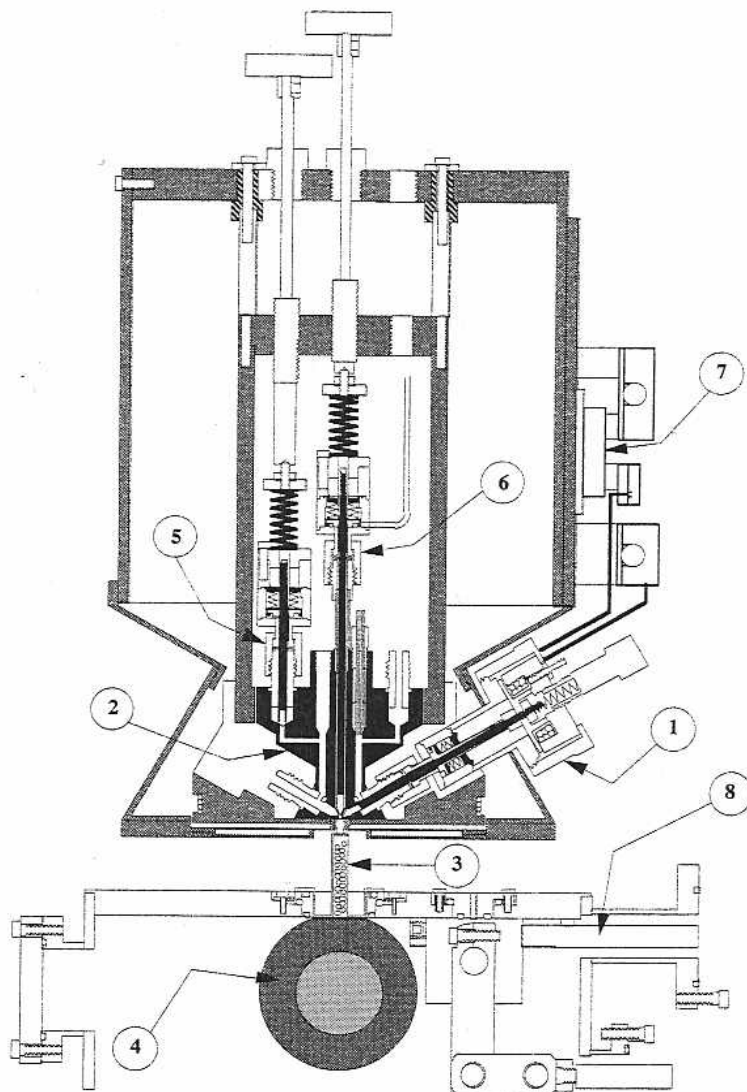
# TAP – System hardware



# TAP – System hardware

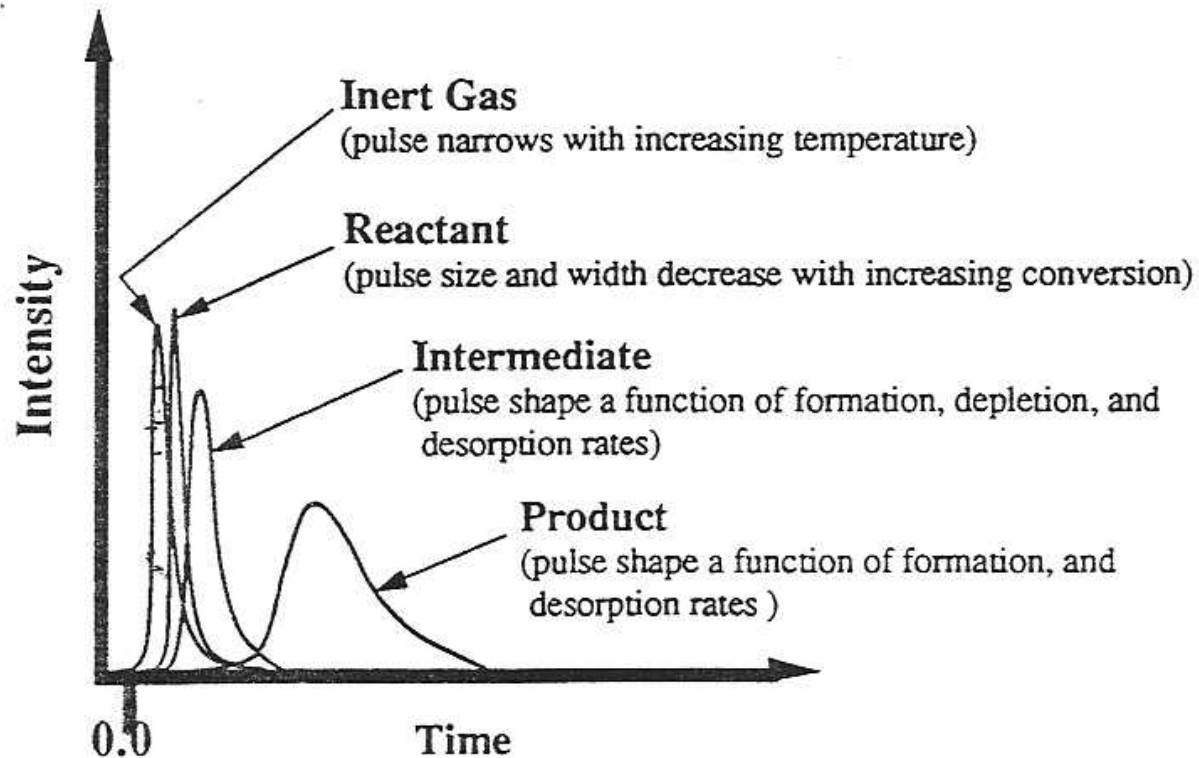


# TAP – System hardware



- 1) High speed pulse valve
- 2) Pulse valve manifold
- 3) Microreactor
- 4) Mass spectrometer
- 5) Vacuum valve
- 6) Manual flow valve
- 7) Mosfet switch

# TAP – Response curves

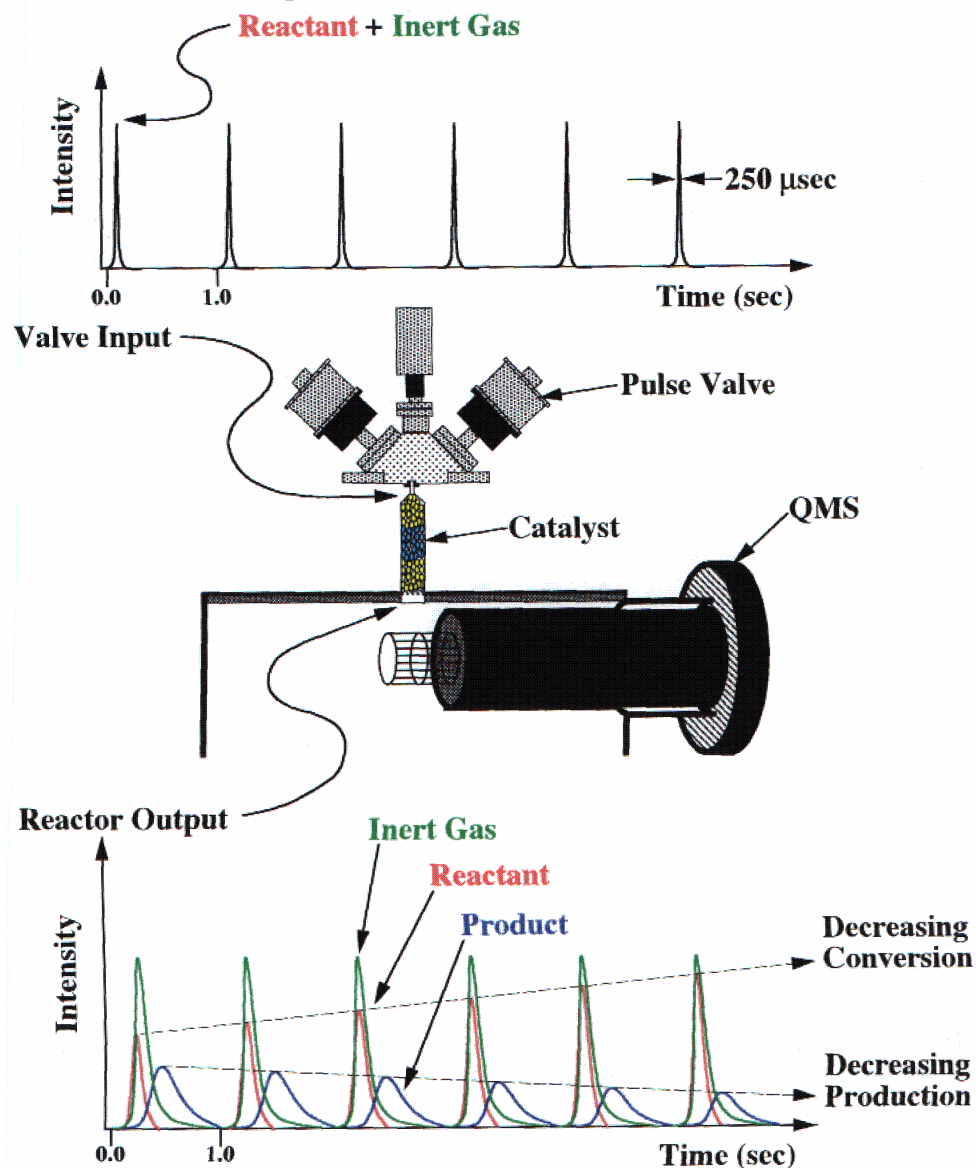


Typical pulse response experimental outputs



# TAP – Multipulse experiment

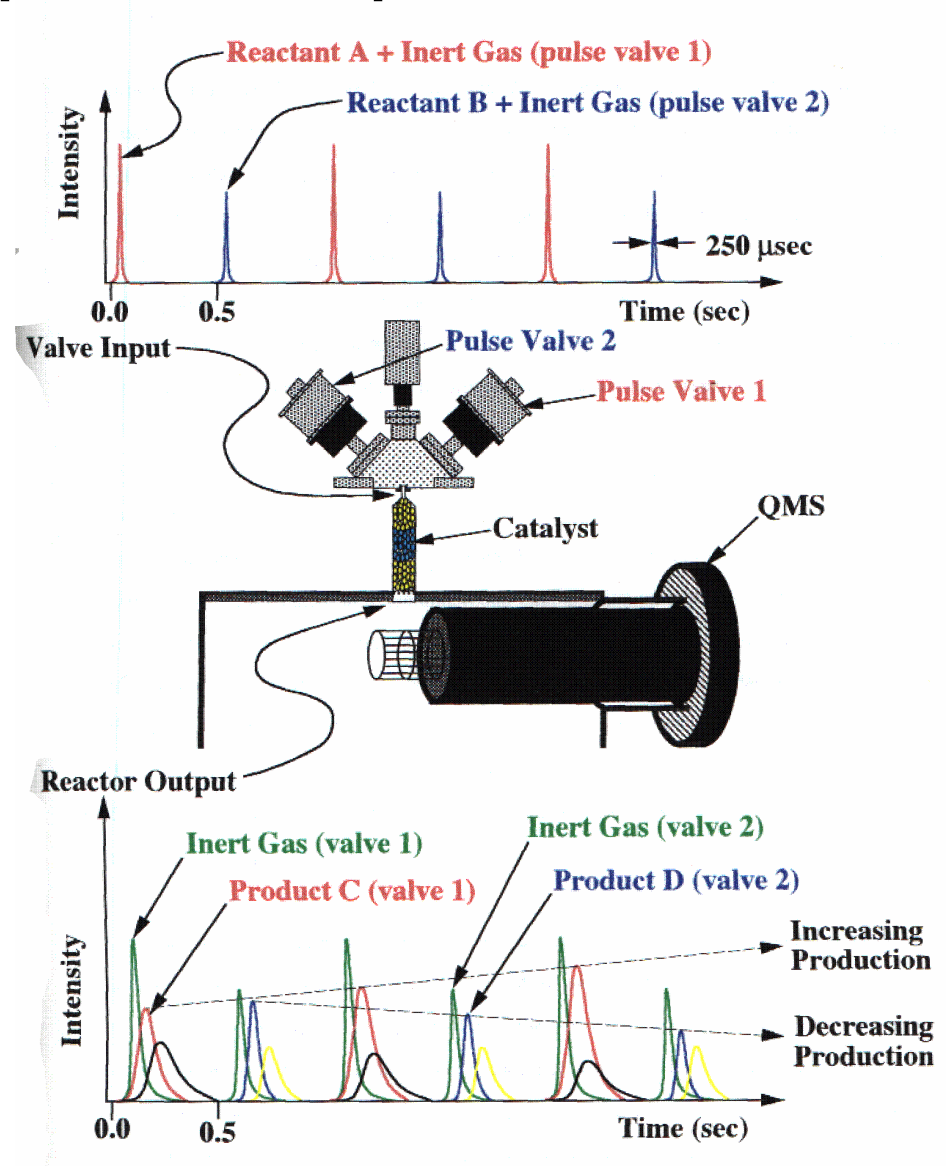
- Key features of **input**:
  - typical pulse intensity range from  $10^{13}$  to  $10^{17}$  molecules/pulse
  - pulse width 150-250  $\mu\text{s}$
  - pulse rates 1-50  $\text{s}^{-1}$
- Key features of **output**:
  - different products have different responses
  - individual product response can change with pulse number



# TAP – Pump probe experiment

- Key features of **input**:
  - different reaction mixtures are introduced sequentially from separate pulse valves

- Key features of **output**:
  - output transient response spectrum coincides with both valve inputs



# TAP – Transient response data

In contrast to traditional kinetic methods, that measure concentrations, the *observable quantity* in TAP pulse response experiments is the *time dependent gas flow* escaping from the outlet of the microreactor.

The outlet flow is measured with a *MS* (QMS) that detects individual components of the flow with great sensitivity.

The *composition* of the flow provides information on the types of *chemical transformation* in the microreactor.

The *time dependence* of the flow contains information on *gas transport* and *kinetics*.

# TAP – Theory

## *Goal*

- Interpretation of pulse response data
  - determine typical processes
  - find parameters for these processes
  - develop a model
- Analyzation of experiments that provide parameters of diffusion, irreversible adsorption or reaction and reversible reaction

# TAP – General models

Currently there are three basic models in application based on partial-differential equations.

- *One-zone-model*
- *Three-zone-model*
- *Thin-zone-model*

The mathematical framework for the one-zone-model was first published in 1988 (Gleaves).

Basic *assumptions* of one-zone-model:

- catalyst and inert particle *bed is uniform*
- *no radial gradient* of *concentration* in the bed
- *no temperature gradient* (axial or radial)
- *diffusivity* of each gas is *constant*

# TAP – Gas transport model

*The gas transport is the result of Knudsen diffusion.*

An important *characteristic* of this transport process is that the *diffusivities* of the individual components of a gas mixture are *independent* of the *pressure* or the *composition* of the mixture.

$$D_{e1} \frac{\sqrt{M_1}}{\sqrt{T_1}} = D_{e2} \frac{\sqrt{M_2}}{\sqrt{T_2}}$$

$D_{e,i}$  ...effective Knudsen diffusivity

$M_i$  ...molecular weight

$T_i$  ...temperature

1,2 ...gas 1, gas 2

# TAP – Transport model

(1) Diffusion only case –

Mass balance for a non-reacting gas A transported by Knudsen diffusion

$$\varepsilon_b \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial t} = D_{eA} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial z^2}$$

$C_A$  ... concentration of gas A (mol/cm<sup>3</sup>)

$D_{eA}$  ... effective Knudsen diffusivity of gas A (cm<sup>2</sup>/s)

$t$  ... time (s)

$z$  ... axial coordinate (cm)

$\varepsilon_b$  ... fractional voidage of the packed bed in the reactor

# TAP – Transport model

The equation can be solved using different sets of initial and boundary conditions that correspond to different physical situations.

$$\textit{initial conditions: } 0 \leq z \leq L, t = 0, C_A = d_z \frac{N_{pA}}{e_b A}$$

$$\textit{boundary conditions: } z = 0, \quad \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$z = L, \quad C_A = 0$$

- $N_{pA}$  ... number of moles of gas A in one pulse
- $A$  ... cross-sectional area of the reactor (cm<sup>2</sup>)
- $L$  ... length of the reactor (cm)



# TAP – Transport model

The gas flow at the reactor exit  $F_A$  (mol/s) is described by

$$F_A = A D_{eA} \left. \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial z} \right|_{z=L}$$

and the gas flux (mol/cm<sup>2</sup> s) by

$$\text{Flux}_A = \frac{F_A}{A}$$

To solve for the gas flow it is useful to express initial and boundary conditions in terms of dimensionless parameters.

# TAP - Transport model

Use of dimensionless parameters

$$x = \frac{z}{L} \quad \dots \text{dimensionless axial coordinate}$$

$$\bar{C}_A = \frac{C_A}{N_{PA}/e_b AL} \dots \text{dimensionless concentration}$$

$$t = \frac{t D_{eA}}{e_b L^2} \quad \dots \text{dimensionless time}$$

# TAP – Transport model

Dimensionless form of mass balance

$$\frac{\partial \bar{C}_A}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 \bar{C}_A}{\partial x^2}$$

initial conditions:  $0 \leq \xi \leq 1$  ,  $t = 0$  ,  $\bar{C}_A = d_x$

boundary conditions:  $\xi = 0$  ,  $\frac{\partial \bar{C}_A}{\partial x} = 0$   
 $\xi = 1$  ,  $\bar{C}_A = 0$

Solution:

- analytical
  - a) method of separation of variables
  - b) Laplace transformation
- numerical for more complex problems

# TAP – Transport model

Method of separation of variables:

*solution for dimensionless concentration*

$$\bar{C}_A(x,t) = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \cos((n+0.5)\pi x) \exp(-(n+0.5)^2 \pi^2 t)$$

*solution for dimensionless flow rate*

$$\bar{F}_A(x,t) = -\frac{\partial \bar{C}_A(x,t)}{\partial x} = \pi \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2n+1) \sin((n+0.5)\pi x) \exp(-(n+0.5)^2 \pi^2 t)$$

*dimensionless flow rate at the exit (x=1)*

$$\bar{F}_A = \pi \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \exp(-(n+0.5)^2 \pi^2 t)$$

# TAP – Transport model

$$\bar{F}_A = p \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \exp(-(n+0.5)^2 p^2 t)$$

Expression for the dimensionless exit flow rate as a function of dimensionless time

***Standard diffusion curve***

For *any* TAP pulse response experiment that involves *only gas transport*, the plot of *the dimensionless exit flow rate* versus dimensionless time will give *the same curve* regardless the gas, reactor length, particle size, or reactor temperature.

# TAP – Transport model

Due to initial condition the surface area under SDC is equal to unity – flow rate in dimensional form

$$\frac{F_A}{N_{pA}} = \frac{D_{eA} p}{e_b L^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \exp\left(- (n+0.5)^2 p^2 \frac{t D_{eA}}{e_b L^2}\right)$$

An important property of this dimensional dependence is that its *shape* is *independent on* the *pulse intensity* if the process occurs in the *Knudsen* regime.

# TAP – Transport model

$$\frac{F_A}{N_{pA}} = \frac{D_{eA} p}{e_b L^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \exp\left(- (n+0.5)^2 p^2 \frac{t D_{eA}}{e_b L^2}\right)$$

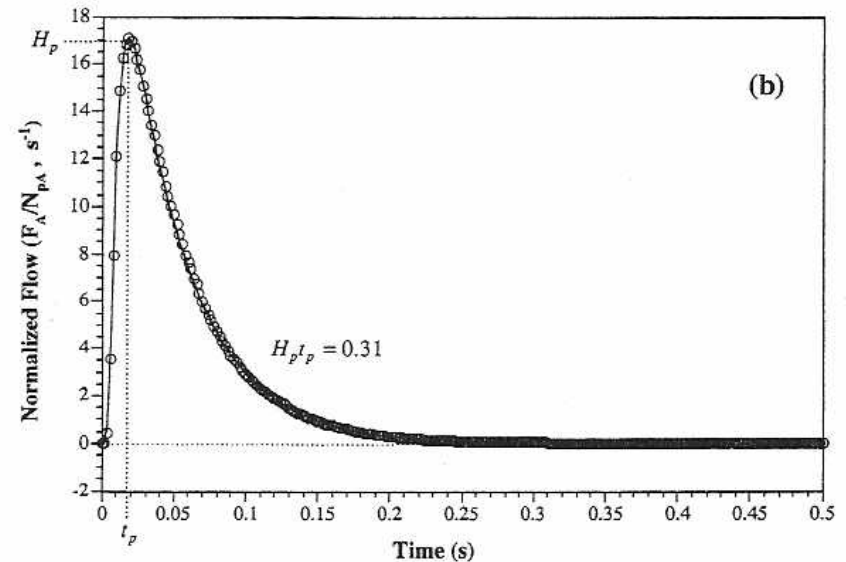
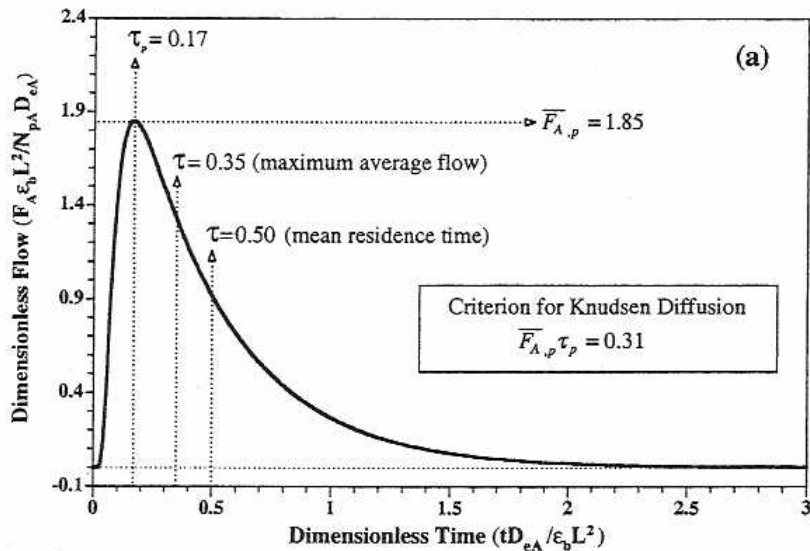
Characteristics of standard diffusion curve

$$t_p = \frac{1}{6} \quad , \quad t_p = \frac{1}{6} \frac{e_b L^2}{D_{eA}} \quad \dots \text{peak maximum}$$

$$\bar{F}_{A,p} = 1.85 \quad , \quad H_p = 1.85 \frac{D_{eA}}{e_b L^2} \quad \dots \text{corresponding height}$$

$$\bar{F}_{A,p} t_p = H_p t_p \approx 0.31 \quad \dots \text{„fingerprint“ for Knudsen regime}$$

# TAP – Transport model



- Standard diffusion curve showing key time characteristics and the criterion for Knudsen diffusion
- Comparison of standard curve with experimental inert gas curve over inert packed bed



# TAP – Transport + adsorption model

(2) Diffusion + irreversible adsorption

(adsorption is first order in gas concentration)

$$e_b \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial t} = D_{eA} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial z^2} - a_s S_v (1 - e_b) k_a C_A$$

$$\frac{\partial q_A}{\partial t} = k_a C_A$$

$a_s$  ... surface concentration of active sites (mol/cm<sup>2</sup> of catalyst)

$k_a$  ... adsorption rate constant (cm<sup>3</sup> of gas/mol s)

$S_v$  ... surface area of catalyst per volume of catalyst (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

$\theta_A$  ... fractional surface coverage of A

# TAP - Transport + adsorption model

(2) Diffusion + irreversible adsorption

Flow rate  $F_A$  at reactor exit

$$\frac{F_A}{N_{pA}} = \frac{D_{eA} p}{e_b L^2} \exp(-k'_a t) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \exp\left(- (n+0.5)^2 p^2 \frac{t D_{eA}}{e_b L^2}\right)$$

with

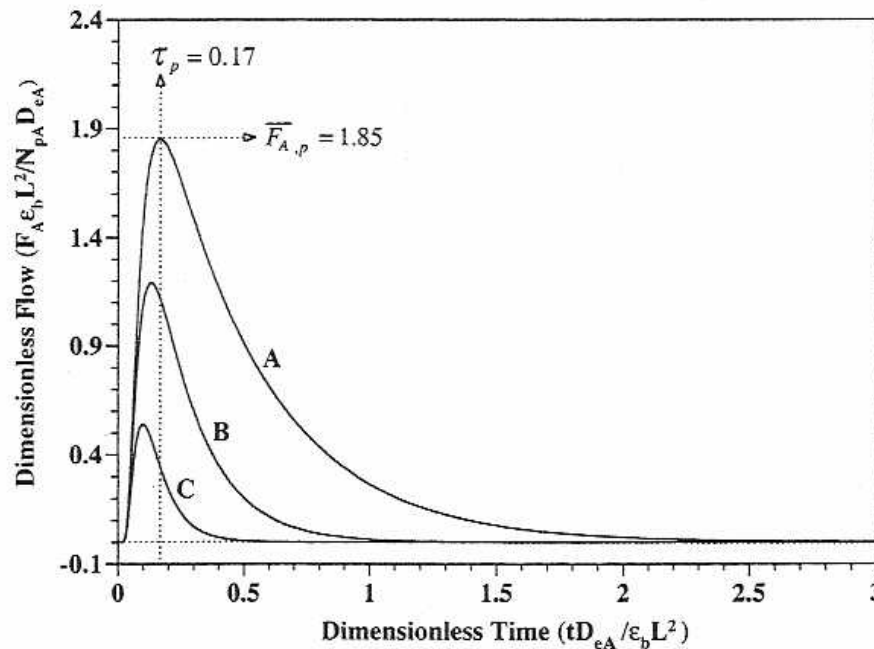
$$k'_a = \frac{a_s S_v (1-e_b) k_a}{e_b}$$

*Exit flow curve for diffusion+irreversible adsorption*

- is *smaller* than SDC by a *factor of  $\exp(-k'_a t)$*
- is always placed „inside“ the SDC (fingerprint)

# TAP - Transport + adsorption model

*Exit flow curve for the diffusion+irreversible adsorption case*



Comparison of irreversible adsorption curves with standard diffusion curve  
(A)  $k_a=0$  (SDC), (B)  $k_a=3$  (C)  $k_a=10$

# TAP – Transport and adsorption model

## (3) Diffusion + reversible adsorption

Mass balances

- for component A in gas phase

$$e_b \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial t} = D_{eA} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial z^2} - a_s S_v (1 - e_b) (k_a C_A - k_d q_A)$$

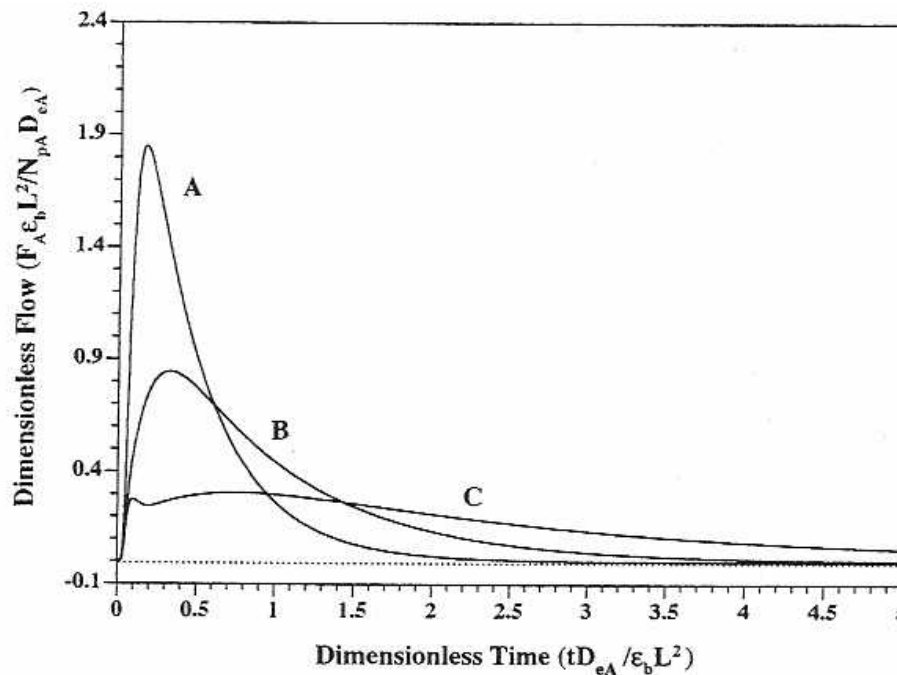
- for component A on the catalyst surface

$$\frac{\partial q_A}{\partial t} = k_a C_A - k_d q_A$$

$k_d$  ...desorption rate constant ( $s^{-1}$ )

# TAP - Transport + adsorption model

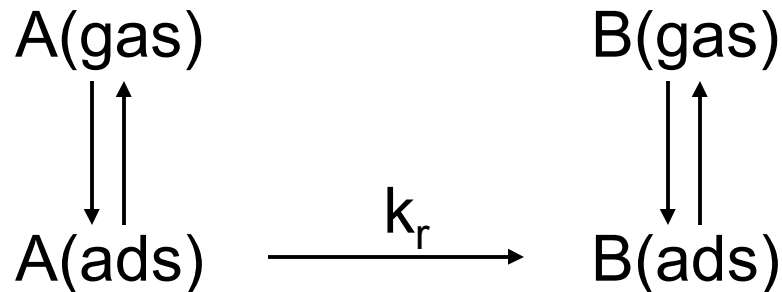
*Exit flow curve for the diffusion+reversible adsorption case*



Comparison of reversible adsorption curves with standard diffusion curve  
(A)  $k_a=0$  (SDC), (B)  $k_a=20$ ,  $k_d=20$   
(C)  $k_a=20$ ,  $k_d=5$

# TAP – Transport, adsorption, reaction

(3) Diffusion + reversible adsorption + irreversible reaction



$$e_b \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial t} = D_{eA} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial z^2} - a_s S_v (1 - e_b) (k_{aA} C_A - k_{dA} q_A)$$

$$\frac{\partial q_A}{\partial t} = k_{aA} C_A - k_{dA} q_A - k_r q_A$$

$$e_b \frac{\partial C_B}{\partial t} = D_{eB} \frac{\partial^2 C_B}{\partial z^2} - a_s S_v (1 - e_b) (k_{aB} C_B - k_{dB} q_B)$$

$$\frac{\partial q_B}{\partial t} = k_r q_A - k_{dB} C_B + k_{dB} q_B$$

# TAP – Transport, adsorption, reaction

## (3) Diffusion + reversible adsorption + irreversible reaction

The *initial* and *boundary* conditions used in the transport-only case can be applied to the transport+reaction case as well.

*Initial* condition  $t = 0$  ,  $C_A = 0$

*Inlet boundary* condition  $z=0$  ,  $-D_{eA,1} \frac{\partial C_{A,1}}{\partial z} = d(t)$

# TAP – Transport, adsorption, reaction

(3) Diffusion + reversible adsorption + irreversible reaction

$$-D_{eA,1} \frac{\partial C_{A,1}}{\partial z} = d(t)$$

The inlet flux is represented by a *delta function*. With this combination, *analytical solutions* in the Laplace-domain can be *easily derived* when the set of *differential equations* that describe the model is *linear*.



# TAP – Characteristic values

Use of dimensionless parameters

$$\bar{k}_a = k'_a \frac{e_b L^2}{D_{eA}}$$

dimensionless apparent adsorption rate constant

with  $k'_a = \frac{a_s S_v (1 - e_b) k_a}{e_b}$

$k'_a$  contains:

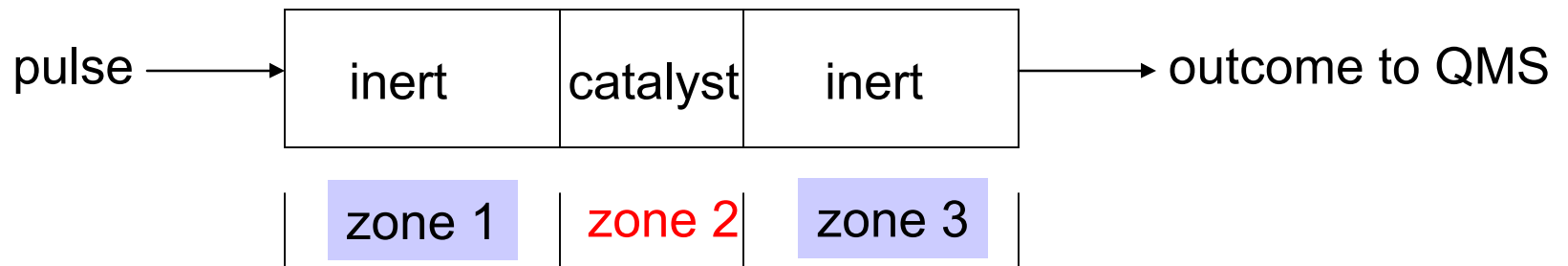
- the *kinetic characteristics* of the *active site* ( $k_a$ )
- the *structural characteristics* of the whole

catalytic system  $\frac{a_s S_v (1 - e_b)}{e_b}$

# TAP – Extended models

## Three-zone-model

Additional boundary conditions between the different zones have to be applied



Evaluation of curve shapes and „fingerprints“ are basically the same as for the one-zone-model

# TAP – Theory

## **Moment-based quantitative description of TAP-experiments**

- idea behind: observed TAP data consist of a set of exit flow rates versus time dependencies
- analytical solutions in integral form can be usually obtained
- analysis of some integral characteristics (moments) of the exit flow rate
- moments reflect important primary features of the observations

# TAP – Theory - Moments

- moment  $M_n$  of the exit flow rate  
(i.e. not of concentration)

$$M_n = \int_0^t t^n F(t) dt$$

n...order of moment

- representation in dimensionless form

$$\bar{m}_n = \int_0^{\infty} t^n \bar{F}_A dt \quad \text{with} \quad t = \frac{t}{(e_b L^2 / D_{eA})}$$

# TAP – Theory - Moments

Application to TAP experiments:

- for irreversible adsorption / reaction

$$\bar{m}_0 = 1 - X = \frac{1}{\cosh \sqrt{Da_I}} \quad \text{with} \quad Da_I = \frac{k'_a e_b L^2}{D_{eA}} \quad Da_I \dots \text{Damk\"ohler number I}$$

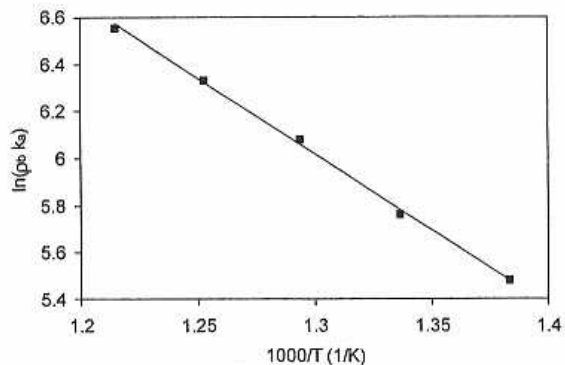
- mean dimensionless residence time

$$t_{res} = \frac{m_1}{m_0} = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A(n)}{[B(n) + Da_I]}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A(n)}{B(n) + Da_I}} t_{Dif}$$
$$A(n) = (-1)^n (2^n + 1)$$
$$B(n) = (n + 0.5)^2 p^2$$
$$t_{Dif} = \frac{e_b L^2}{D_{e,A}}$$

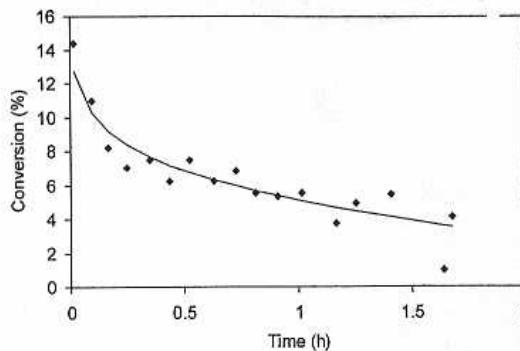
# TAP - Examples

## Mechanism and Kinetics of the Adsorption and Combustion of Methane on Ni/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and NiO/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Dewaele et al. 1999)

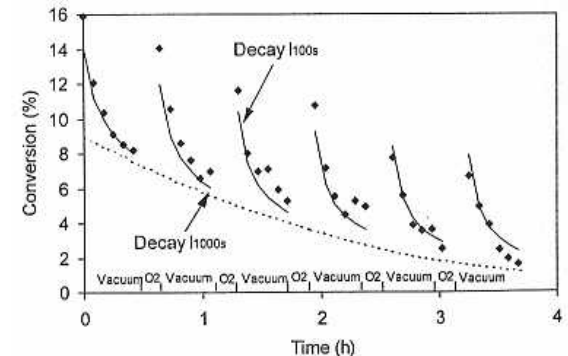
- Supported Ni catalysts for steam reforming of natural gas to synthesis gas
- Combination of TPR with single pulse experiments



Arrhenius plot of the methane adsorption rate coefficient  $\rho_B k_a$  ( $s^{-1}$ ) on the reduced Ni catalyst.



Evolution of the methane conversion at 823 K on 0.060 g of surface-oxidized catalyst in the absence of gas-phase oxygen as a function of time after surface oxidation. The methane pulse size:  $2.04 \times 10^{14}$  molecules. (♦) Experimental; (—) modeled according to Section 3.4.2.b.



Evolution of the methane conversion at 823 K on 0.060 g of surface-oxidized catalyst as a function of time after surface oxidation. Oxygen was fed ( $10^{-6} \text{ mol s}^{-1}$ ) for 10 min every 35 min. (♦) Experimental; (—) modeled according to Section 3.4.2.b.

# TAP - Examples

Selective oxidation of n-butane to maleic anhydride (MA)  
over vanadium phosphorous oxide (VPO)  
(Gleaves et al. 1997)

- important heterogeneous selective oxidation
- complex reaction (electron transfer, fission of C-H-bonds, addition of oxygen, ring closure)
- literature:  $(VO)_2P_2O_7$ -lattice as active-selective phase, but it is not clear how the lattice supplies the oxygen
  - possible involvement of oxygen adspecies adsorbed on vanadium surface sites
  - possible involvement of bulk oxygen
  - possibly other crystal phases are active

# TAP - Examples

Selective oxidation of n-butane to maleic anhydride (MA)  
over vanadium phosphorous oxide (VPO)

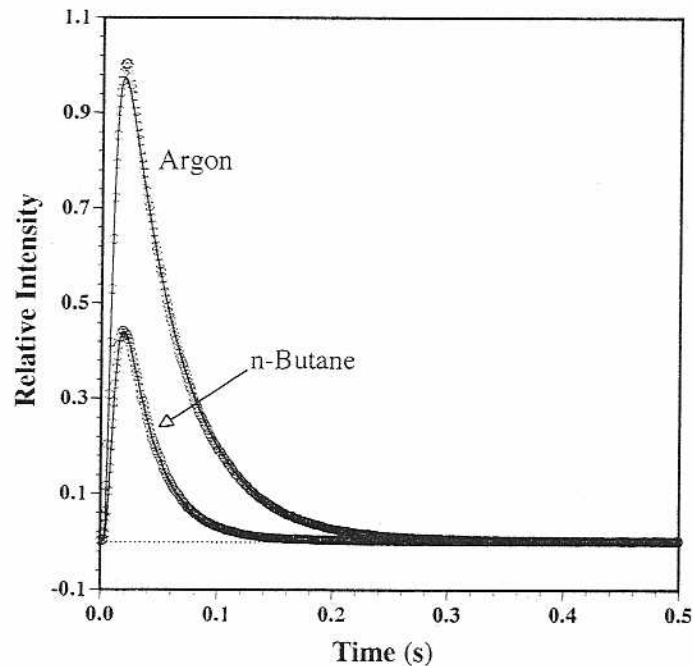
- Steady-state kinetic studies yielded different rate expressions and kinetic parameters – this may be related to differences in c. composition, c. structure, c. oxydation state, etc. → no unique information
- Aim of TAP investigations:  
Relate changes in kinetic dependencies to changes in the catalyst
- How to do ? Systematic alteration of the state of the catalyst and measuring kinetic dependencies



# TAP - Examples

Selective oxidation of n-butane to maleic anhydride (MA) over vanadium phosphorous oxide (VPO)

Kinetics of n-butane conversion over VPO in the absence of gas phase oxygen

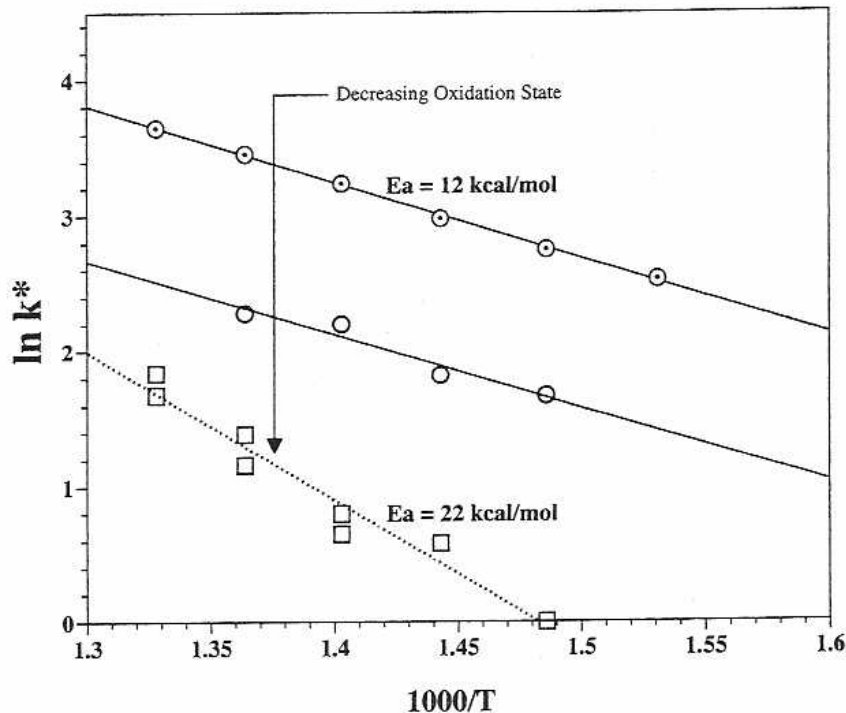


- n-butane curve lies completely within the generated diffusion curve → irreversible process
- initial step is irreversible (fissure of CC or CH bond)

# TAP - Examples

Selective oxidation of n-butane to maleic anhydride (MA) over vanadium phosphorous oxide (VPO)

Kinetics of n-butane conversion on oxygen-treated VPO



Arrhenius plots for pulsed n-butane conversion over an oxygen-treated VPO catalyst sample as a function of oxidation state

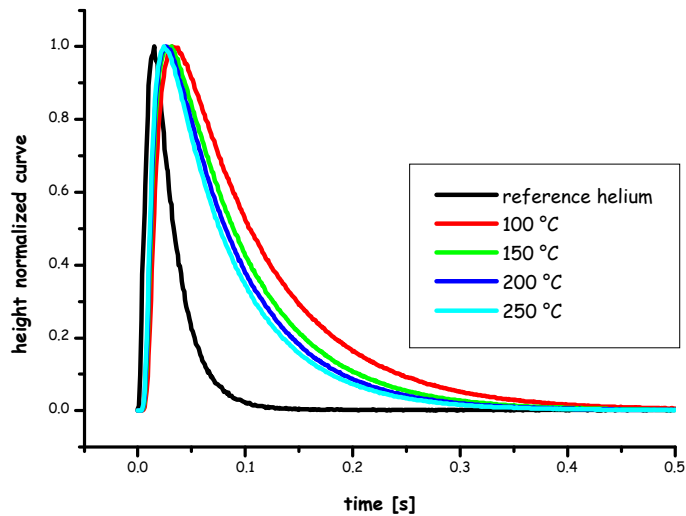
- values of apparent activation energy is strongly dependent on the VPO oxidation state
- decreasing number of active centers
- TAP + Raman:  $V^{4+}$   $V^{5+}$

# TAP - Examples

## N-Butane Isomerization on Sulfated Zirconia Catalysts (SPP-1091, Acid-Base Catalyzed Alkane Activation)

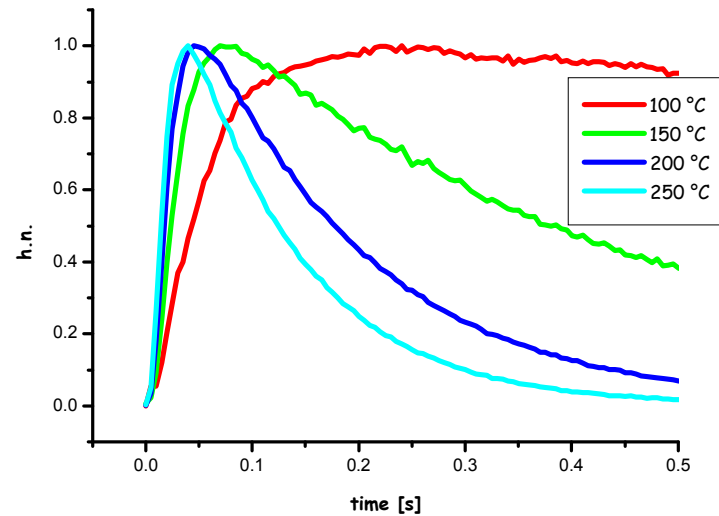
Pulses of n-butane

over inert material



0.107

over SZ



$\tau$  [s] at 100 °C:

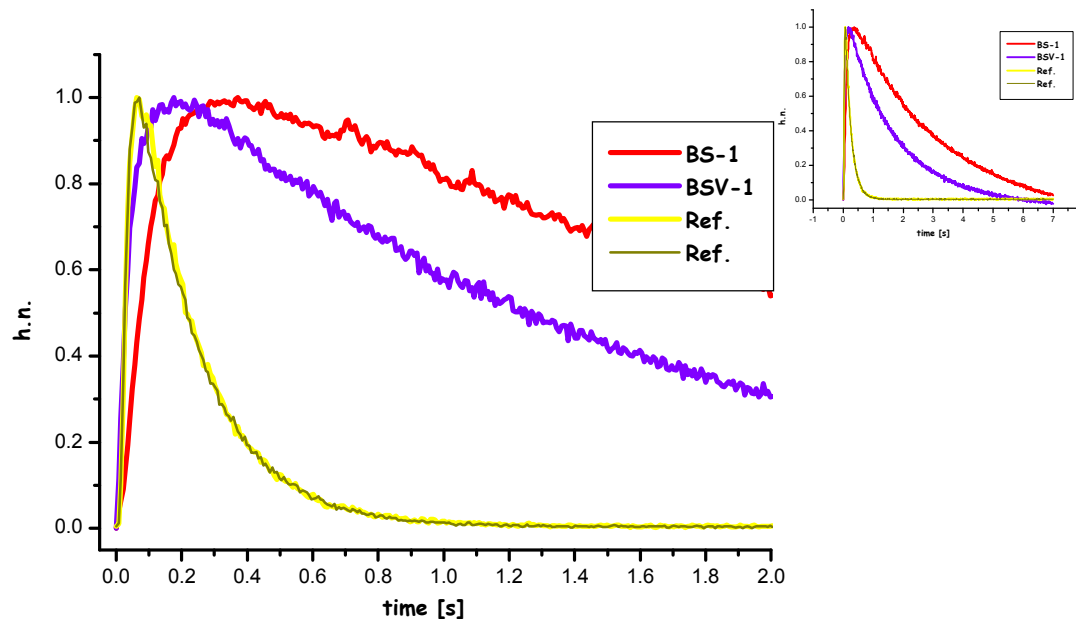
0.500

# TAP - Examples

## N-Butane Isomerization over Sulfated Zirconia Catalysts (SPP-1091, Acid-Base Catalyzed Alkane Activation)

Influence of sulfation - pulses of n-butane

**SZ**, calcined unsulfated precursor, inert

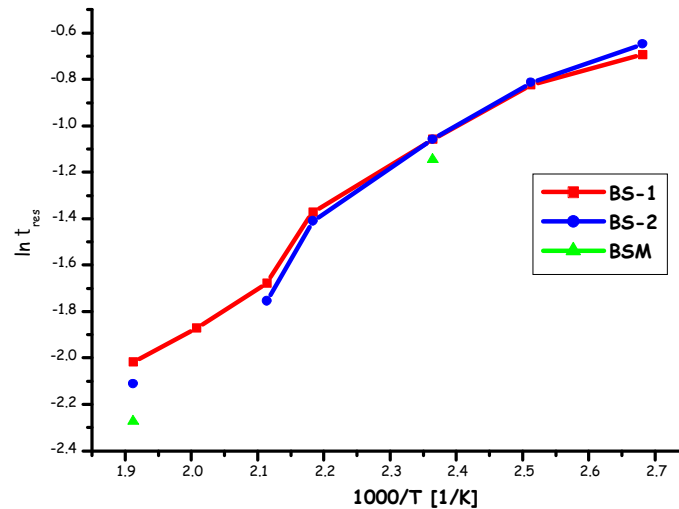


# TAP - Examples

## N-Butane Isomerization over Sulfated Zirconia Catalysts (SPP-1091, Acid-Base Catalyzed Alkane Activation)

Activation plots for **active SZ**, **inactive SZ**, **industrial reference**

at begin of reaction

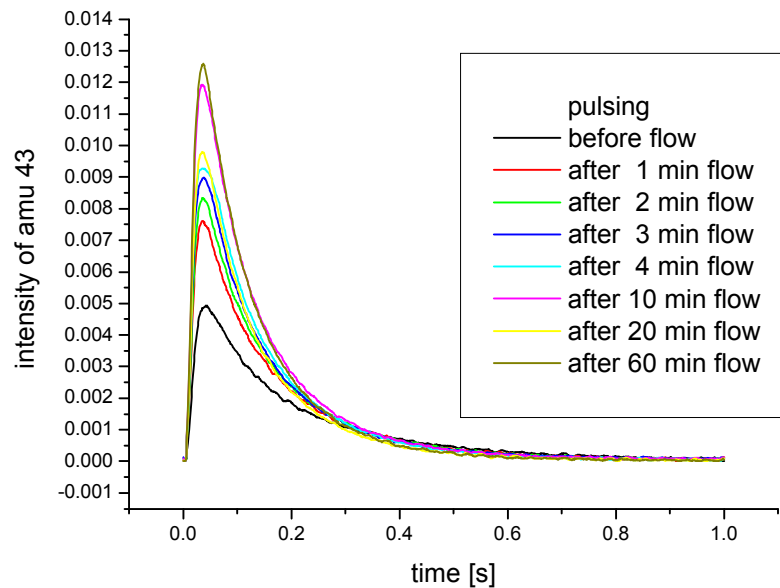


$E_{Akt}$  (BS-1)      »       $E_{Akt}$  (BS-2) at beginning

# TAP - Examples

## N-Butane Isomerization over Sulfated Zirconia Catalysts (SPP-1091, Acid-Base Catalyzed Alkane Activation)

Variation of activation state through switch between vacuum and atmospheric flow conditions at 150 °C



# SSITKA

Steady State Isotopic Transient  
Kinetic Analysis

# SSITKA - Theory

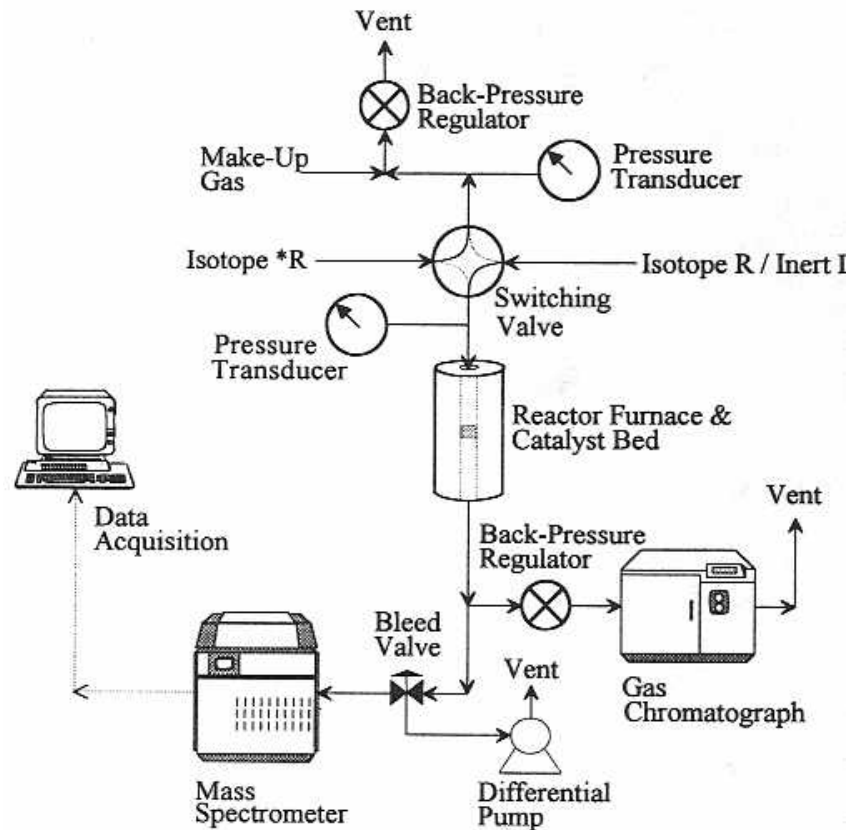
- Initially developed by Happel 1978, Bennett 1982 and Biloen 1983
- Determination of kinetics and catalyst surface reaction intermediates *in situ*
- The technique is based upon the *detection of isotopic labels* in the reactor effluent species versus time following a switch (step change) in the isotopic labeling of one of the reactant species in the reactor feed.
- Isothermic and isobaric conditions !
- Reactant and product concentrations remain undisturbed during step change !

*Steady-state reaction conditions are maintained under isotopic-transient operation*



# SSITKA - Theory

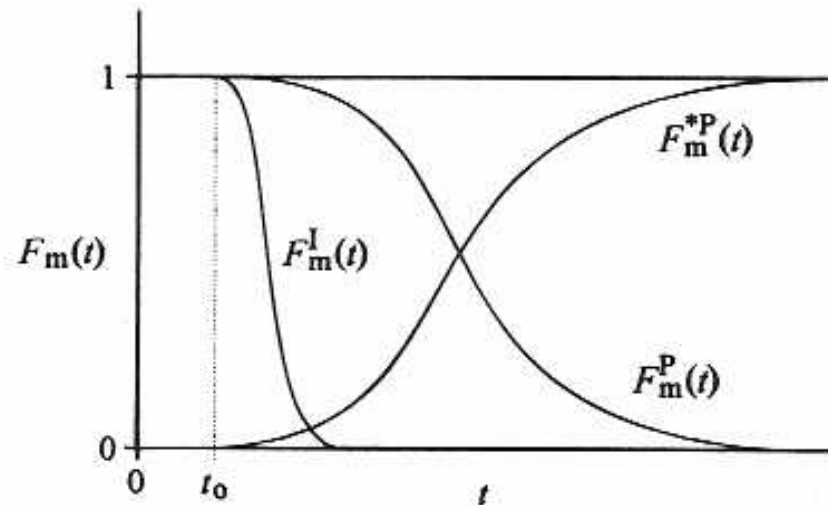
Review article: *Shannon, Goodwin 1995*



Typical reaction system for SSITKA experimentation

# SSITKA - Theory

- The step-input response is a statistical distribution representing the probability that an isotopic label remains adsorbed on the catalyst surface or appears in the effluent stream with time.



Typical normalized isotopic-transient responses

# SSITKA - Theory

- Characteristic values

- Step-input response of the product for the new isotopic label

$$F_m^{*P}(t)$$

- Step-decay response of the old isotopic label (prior to switch)

$$F_m^P(t)$$

- Relationship  $F_m^P(t) = 1 - F_m^{*P}(t)$

- Inert-tracer transient response for determination of gas-phase holdup

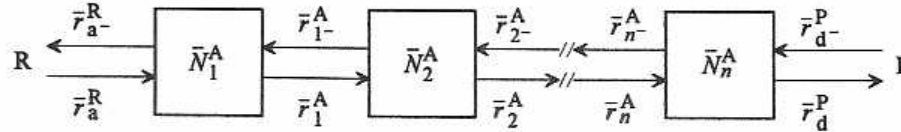
$$F_m^I(t)$$

# SSITKA - Theory

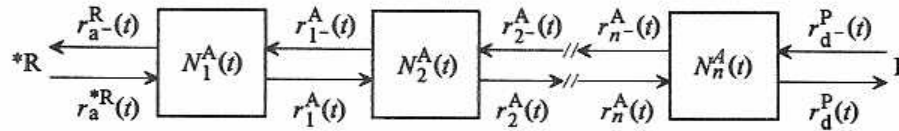
- In SSITKA, it is common to consider the *catalyst surface* to be composed of a *system of interconnected pools*, also termed *compartments*, where each pool represents a homogeneous or well-mixed subsystem within the reaction pathway.
- A *seperate pool* is assumed to exist *for each unique adsorbed reaction-intermediate* species or type of catalytically active site.
- It is assumed that there is essentially no mixing or holdup time associated with each pool or within the reaction pathway *except* for the residence time of a reaction-intermediate species adsorbed on the catalyst surface.

# SSITKA - Theory

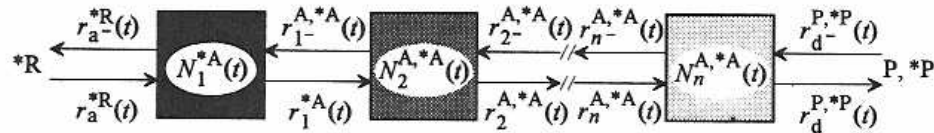
a.) Steady-State,  $t < 0$



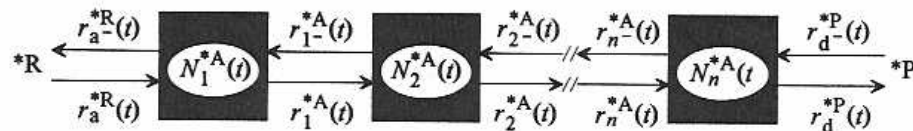
b.) At  $t = 0$



c.) For  $0 < t < \bar{\tau}^P$

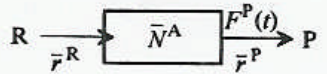
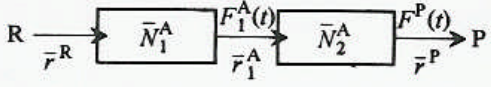
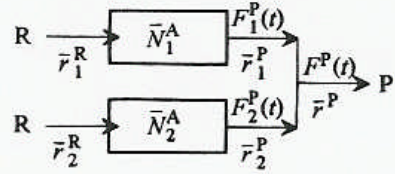


d.) As  $t \rightarrow \infty$



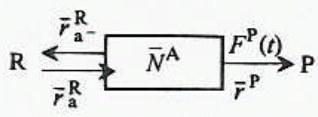
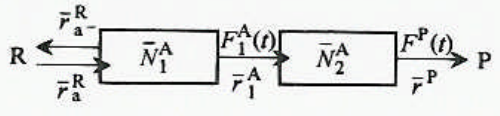
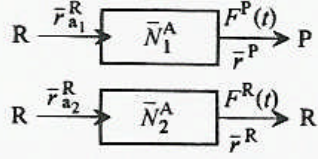
Catalyst-surface model showing the isotopic distribution between  $n$  pools in series following an isotopic switch,  $R \rightarrow *R$ , at the reaction volume inlet

# SSITKA - Theory

Model	Transient Responses and Kinetic Parameters
<p>1</p> 	$F^P(t) = \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}^A)$ $\bar{\tau}^P = \bar{\tau}^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}^A} \right\}^{-1} = \frac{1}{k}$ $\bar{r}^P = \bar{r}^R$
<p>2</p> 	$F^P(t) = \frac{\bar{\tau}_1^A}{\bar{\tau}_1^A - \bar{\tau}_2^A} \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_1^A) - \frac{\bar{\tau}_2^A}{\bar{\tau}_1^A - \bar{\tau}_2^A} \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_2^A)$ $\bar{\tau}_1^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}_1^A} \right\}^{-1} \quad \bar{\tau}_2^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}_2^A} \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{\tau}^P = \bar{\tau}_1^A + \bar{\tau}_2^A \quad \bar{r}^P = \bar{r}^R = \bar{r}_1^A$
<p>3</p> 	$F^P(t) = \bar{x}_1^A \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_1^A) + \bar{x}_2^A \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_2^A)$ $\bar{x}_1^A = \frac{\bar{N}_1^A}{\bar{N}_1^A + \bar{N}_2^A} \quad \bar{\tau}^P = \bar{x}_1^A \bar{\tau}_1^A + \bar{x}_2^A \bar{\tau}_2^A$ $\bar{x}_2^A = 1 - \bar{x}_1^A \quad \bar{r}_1^P = \bar{r}_1^R$ $\bar{r}_2^P = \bar{r}_2^R$

Catalyst-surface mechanistic models, transient responses, and kinetic parameters

# SSITKA - Theory

<p>4</p> 	$F^P(t) = \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}^P)$ $\bar{\tau}^P = \bar{\tau}^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}^A} \left( 1 + \frac{\bar{r}_a^R}{\bar{r}^P} \right) \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{r}^P = \bar{r}^R - \bar{r}_a^R$
<p>5</p> 	$F^P(t) = \frac{\bar{\tau}_1^A}{\bar{\tau}_1^A - \bar{\tau}_2^A} \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_1^A) - \frac{\bar{\tau}_2^A}{\bar{\tau}_1^A - \bar{\tau}_2^A} \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_2^A)$ $\bar{\tau}_1^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}_1^A} \left( 1 + \frac{\bar{r}_a^R}{\bar{r}_1^A} \right) \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{\tau}_2^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}_2^A} \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{\tau}^P = \bar{\tau}_1^A + \bar{\tau}_2^A$ $\bar{r}_1^P = \bar{r}_1^R$
<p>6</p> 	$F^P(t) = \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_1^A)$ $F^R(t) = \exp(-t/\bar{\tau}_2^A)$ $\bar{\tau}^P = \bar{\tau}_1^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^P}{\bar{N}_1^A} \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{\tau}^R = \bar{\tau}_2^A = \left\{ \frac{\bar{r}^R}{\bar{N}_2^A} \right\}^{-1}$ $\bar{r}^P = \bar{r}_{a1}^R$ $\bar{r}^R = \bar{r}_{a2}^R$

Catalyst-surface mechanistic models, transient responses, and kinetic parameters

**Table 1. Reactions Studied by Steady-State Isotopic-Transient Methods**

reaction	catalyst	ref(s)	
methanation and Fischer-Tropsch synthesis	Fe	30, 31 <sup>a</sup>	
	Fe/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	32	
	Co	3, 11, 29, 33 <sup>b</sup>	
	Co/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	34, <sup>c</sup> 35, <sup>d</sup> 36 <sup>d</sup>	
	Co/SiO <sub>2</sub>	31, 37, 38, 39 <sup>e</sup>	
	Ni	12, <sup>f</sup> 40, <sup>f</sup> 41, <sup>f</sup> 42	
	Ni/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	22, 23	
	Ni/SiO <sub>2</sub>	3, 11, 40, <sup>g</sup> 43, <sup>g</sup> 44, <sup>g</sup> 45, <sup>g</sup> 46, <sup>g</sup> 47	
	Ru/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3, 11, 29, 37, 48, 49	
	Ru/SiO <sub>2</sub>	16, 17, 50, 51, 52, 53, <sup>h</sup> 97	
	Ru/TiO <sub>2</sub>	16, 54, 55	
	Rh/MgO	56	
	Rh/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	57, 58, 59	
	Rh/SiO <sub>2</sub>	33, <sup>b</sup> 60, <sup>b</sup> 61, <sup>i</sup> 62 <sup>b</sup>	
	Pt/TiO <sub>2</sub>	47	
	ammonia synthesis	Fe	15, <sup>j</sup> 27 <sup>j</sup>
		Ru/SiO <sub>2</sub>	63 <sup>j</sup>
	ammonia oxidation and NO selective catalytic reduction	V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	64, 65
ethane hydrogenolysis	Co/SiO <sub>2</sub>	66	
	Ru/SiO <sub>2</sub>	19	
methanol synthesis	Pd/SiO <sub>2</sub>	67, 68 <sup>k</sup>	
benzene hydrogenation	Ni	28, 70 <sup>l</sup>	
	Ni/SiO <sub>2</sub>	28, 70 <sup>l</sup>	
methane coupling	MgO	71, <sup>k</sup> 72, 73	
	Li/MgO	72, 73, 74, 75	
	TiO <sub>2</sub>	76 <sup>k</sup>	
	NiO	73 <sup>k</sup>	
	Sr/La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	77	
	SnO <sub>2</sub>	73	
	Sn/MgO	73	
	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	69, 71, <sup>k</sup> 77	
	Sm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	73, 75, 78, 79	
	methane partial oxidation	V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	80 <sup>m</sup>
		V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	80, <sup>m</sup> 81, 82
		MoO <sub>3</sub>	83 <sup>n</sup>
		MoO <sub>3</sub> /SiO <sub>2</sub>	84 <sup>n</sup>
		Pr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	85 <sup>b</sup>
		Sm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	85, <sup>b</sup> 86, <sup>b</sup> 87, <sup>b</sup> 88 <sup>b</sup>
Li/Sm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		85 <sup>b</sup>	
Rh/La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		89	
NO-CO reaction	Pt/Rh/NiO/CeO <sub>2</sub> /Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	89 <sup>o</sup>	
CO oxidation	Rh/La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	89	
	Pt/Rh/NiO/CeO <sub>2</sub> /Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	89 <sup>o</sup>	
propylene partial oxidation	Sb/Sn/V Oxide	90	
propane dehydrogenation	Pt/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	91	
	Pt/Sn/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	91	
isobutene hydrogenation and isobutane dehydrogenation	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	92, <sup>p</sup> 93 <sup>p</sup>	
vinyl acetate synthesis	Pd/Cd/K/SiO <sub>2</sub>	94	
	Pd/Au/K/SiO <sub>2</sub>	94	
ethylene hydroformylation	Rh/SiO <sub>2</sub>	95, <sup>b</sup> 96 <sup>b</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Promoted (SiO<sub>2</sub>/Cu/K) Fe. <sup>b</sup> Pulse technique. <sup>c</sup> Pt or Re promoted. <sup>d</sup> La promoted. <sup>e</sup> Zr promoted. <sup>f</sup> Raney nickel Commercial-kieselguhr support. <sup>h</sup> K doped. <sup>i</sup> V promoted. <sup>j</sup> Commercial-promoted (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/K<sub>2</sub>O/CaO) Fe catalyst. <sup>k</sup> Li promoted. <sup>l</sup> Also Ni and Ni-K/SiO<sub>2</sub>. <sup>m</sup> Also bulk and supports. <sup>n</sup> Various molybdena species. <sup>o</sup> Commercial-automotive catalyst. <sup>p</sup> Chrom gel.



# SSITKA – Kinetic parameters

**Table 2. Most Common Steady-State Kinetic Parameters Determined by SSITKA**

kinetic parameters	assumptions	comments
abundance of adsorbed surface intermediates leading to P: $\bar{N}^P$ mean surface-residence time of adsorbed intermediates leading to P: $\bar{\tau}^P$	a single reactant isotopic element is incorporated per single product species	determined value is independent of the underlying kinetic model; however, any detailed value is dependent upon an assumed kinetic model
reactivity: $k$	overall reaction is pseudo-first order	parameter underestimation occurs for reversible-reaction pathway
surface coverage of adsorbed intermediates leading to P: $\bar{\theta}_c^P$	accurate number of active sites is obtainable from separate measurement	measured number of sites may be different than the true number of active sites, i.e., if obtained from chemisorption
reactivity distribution: $f(k)$	surface consists of pseudo-first-order parallel pools (a heterogeneous surface)	proper gas-phase holdup correction of the measured product-species transient response is required

# SSITKA - Examples

## Selective NO reduction over Co-ZSM-5

(Sadovskaya et al. 2001)

- SCR of NO with CH<sub>4</sub> in the presence of excess oxygen
- Controversial discussion of formation mechanism of surface NO<sub>x</sub> species
- IR investigation in presence of O<sub>2</sub> showed bands for nitrite and nitrate complexes and for NO<sub>x</sub><sup>δ+</sup>
- Focus on formation of adsorbed NO<sub>x</sub> species in absence and presence of oxygen, but in absence of methane by using doubly labeled nitric oxide

# SSITKA - Examples

## Selective NO reduction over Co-ZSM-5 (Sadovskaya et al. 2001)

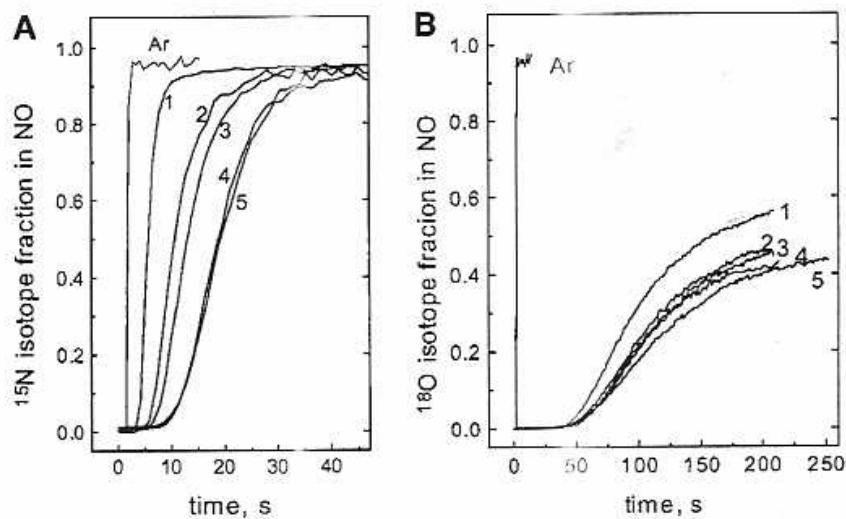
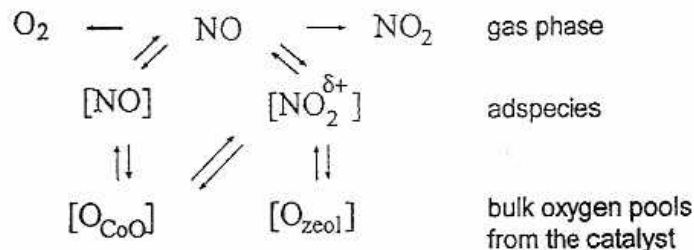


FIG. 1. Time dependencies of (A)  $^{15}\text{N}$  and (B)  $^{18}\text{O}$  isotopic fractions in NO compared to Ar response observed after  $^{14}\text{N}^{16}\text{O}$  to  $^{15}\text{N}^{18}\text{O}$  replacement in (1) NO + He flow and in NO +  $\text{O}_2$  + He flows at (2) 0.15%, (3) 0.3%, (4) 1.5%, and (5) 3% oxygen content.

# SSITKA - Examples

## Selective NO reduction over Co-ZSM-5 (Sadovskaya et al. 2001)



$$\frac{\partial \alpha_{NO}^{18}}{\partial t} + \frac{U}{V} \frac{\partial \alpha_{NO}^{18}}{\partial \xi} = \frac{G}{VC_{NO}N} \left( \sum_{i=1}^2 W_i (\alpha_i^{18} - \alpha_{NO}^{18}) - (R_1 + R_2) \alpha_{NO}^{18} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_i^{15}}{\partial t} = \frac{W_i}{\theta_i} (\alpha_{NO}^{18} - \alpha_i^{18}) + \sum_{j=1}^m \beta_j (\alpha_j^{18} - \alpha_i^{18})$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_j^{18}}{\partial t} = \sum_{i=1}^2 m_i \beta_i (\alpha_i^{18} - \alpha_j^{18}) + \sum_{k=1}^m m_k \beta_k (\alpha_k^{18} - \alpha_j^{18})$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_{O_2}^{18}}{\partial t} + \frac{U}{V} \frac{\partial \alpha_{O_2}^{18}}{\partial \xi} = \frac{G}{VC_{O_2}N} R_1 \alpha_{NO}^{18}$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_{NO_2}^{18}}{\partial t} + \frac{U}{V} \frac{\partial \alpha_{NO_2}^{18}}{\partial \xi} = \frac{G}{VC_{NO_2}N} R_2 \alpha_{NO}^{18}$$

# SSITKA - Examples

## Selective NO reduction over Co-ZSM-5 (Sadovskaya et al. 2001)

- Cobalt mononitrosyls,  $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  species, nitrite complexes have average lifetimes of 0.1, 1, and 100 s
- Observation in agreement with DRIFT
- Concentration of mononitrosyls was found proportional to NO content in feed gas; no saturation
- $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  species approached maximum coverage within the same concentration range; only part of cobalt active species participate in  $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  species formation

# SSITKA - Examples

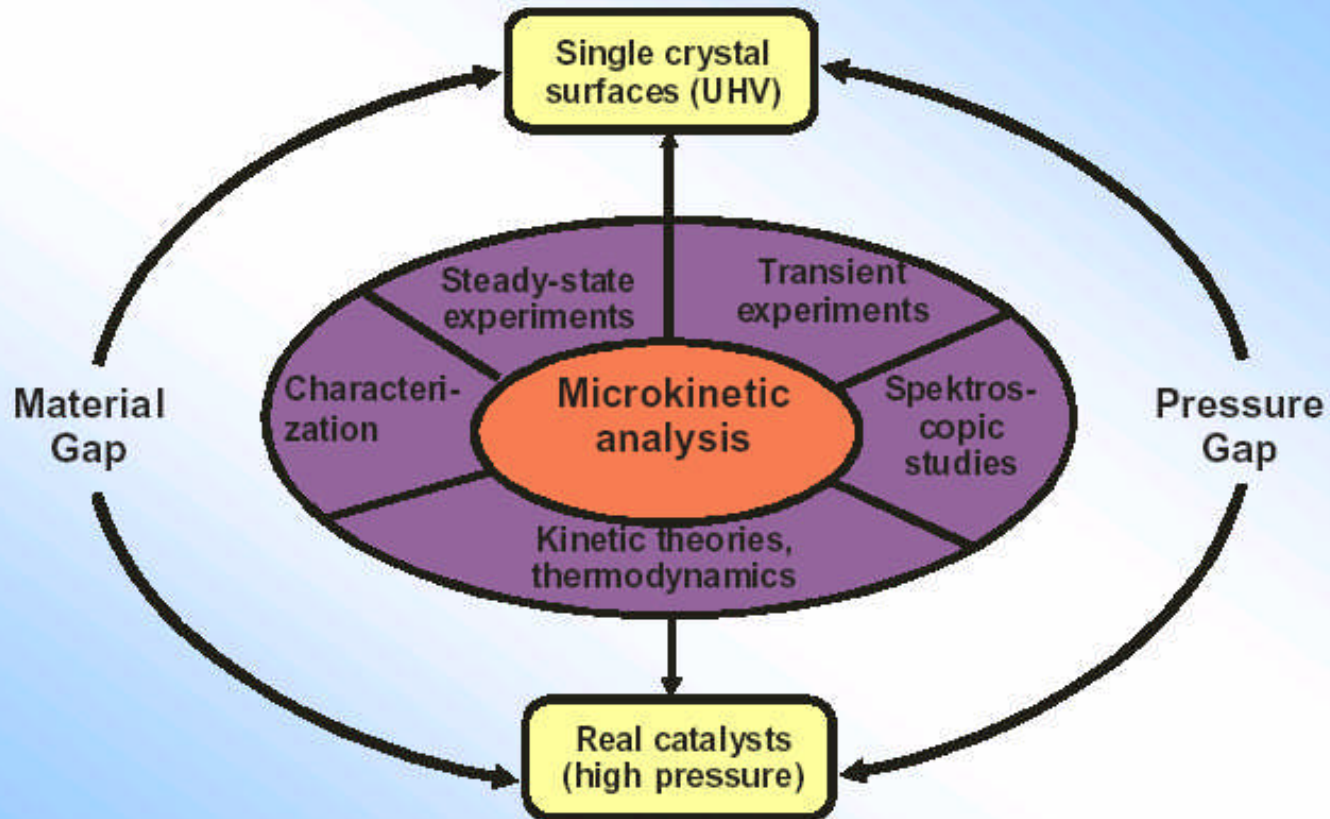
## Selective NO reduction over Co-ZSM-5

(Sadovskaya et al. 2001)

- Rate of gaseous  $\text{NO}_2$  formation comparable with nitrite formation and substantially lower than that of  $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  formation
- Conclusion:  $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  can not originate from  $\text{NO}_2$  formation but formed in two sequential steps (i) molecular oxygen adsorption and (ii) NO reaction with oxidized surface sites
- Rate of oxygen exchange within  $\text{NO}_x^{\delta+}$  lower than their formation indicating that the two oxygens are nonequivalent

# Kinetic modeling

## *Knowledge-Based Approach: Microkinetic Analysis*



Way down South in the land of cotton  
Where good mints juleps are not forgotten  
An old farmer sits on his plantation  
Thinking up problems to astound the nation  
*Lindemann and Hinshelwood* can stand it no more  
While *Smith and Carberry* have run for the door  
Now there is one as he told it to me  
And I give it to you, completely for free  
We know *kinetics* is a staid sort of sport  
If *reaction order* is all there's to report  
So we've studied about *reactor design*  
In detail and elegance quite so fine  
Mixing models have been disussed  
Where *proper equations* are a must  
Age distributions become important here  
An intricate analysis, it is clear  
Now this is the question to give you fits  
An excellent chance to test your wits  
Of these distributions there are many it's sure  
Derived from a *theory* assuredly most pure



***Residence time*, internal, and exit age  
All we owe to Danckwerts, that clever sage  
What are they, please, a clear explanation  
Combining words with an *appropriate equation*  
Relationships between them are almost horrendous  
A discussion of this would be simply tremendous  
When you've written all this consider you're done  
Now wasn't that all just good clean fun  
If you did what was asked, and that I hope  
Then with *chemical reactors* you're able to cope  
One final thing I must now say  
Of the light of knowledge a final ray  
*Reaction kinetics* is in a mess  
In spite of *Eyring* and *Arrhenius*  
Alas, was it ever thus so**

**The more we learn, the less we know !**

John B. Butt

## SSITKA

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