

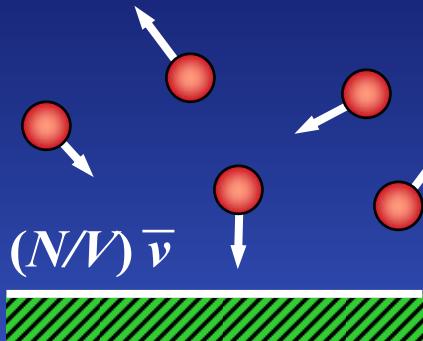
# Bridging the Pressure Gap (in Theory...)

Karsten Reuter

Fritz-Haber-Institut, Berlin



# Impingement and the “Surface Science” Ansatz



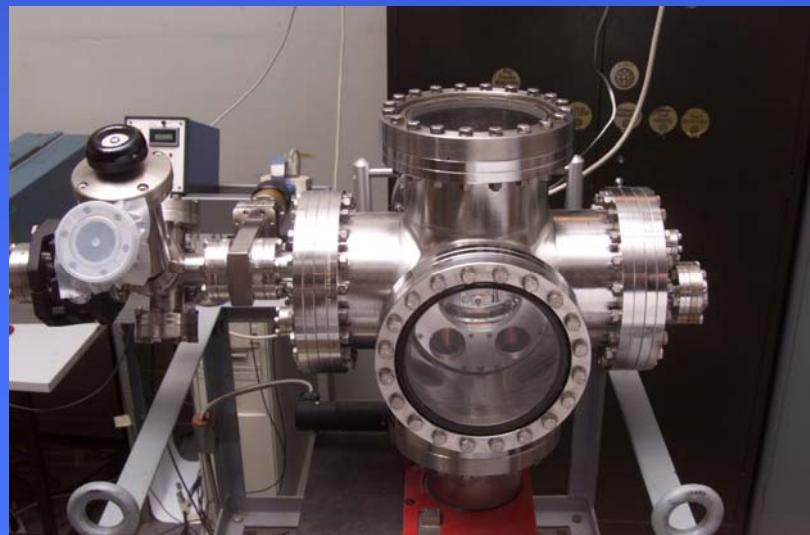
$$Z = \frac{p}{(2\pi mkT)^{1/2}}$$

$10^{15}$  sites/cm<sup>2</sup>,  $T=300$  K,  
 $p = 1$  atm:  $Z \sim 10^8$  site<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> !!

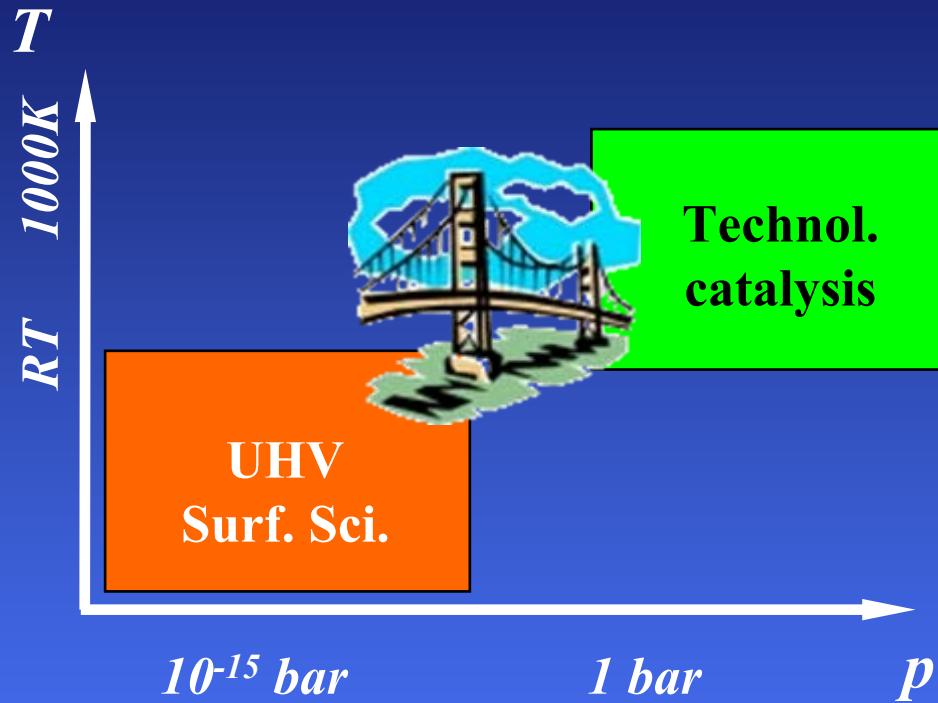
Requires  $p \lesssim 10^{-12}$  atm to keep a  
“clean” surface clean for  $t \sim 1h$

## Surface Science:

- $T \rightarrow 0K$ , UHV
- no equilibrium with gas phase
- deposition at fixed dosage  
(1 Langmuir =  $10^{-6}$  Torr s  $\approx 10^{-9}$  atm s)
  - Many techniques developed that only work in UHV („*ex situ*“)



# Pressure / Materials Gap in Heterogeneous Catalysis



Pressure gap:

Low vs. high temperatures

Finite dosage vs.  
gas phase reservoir

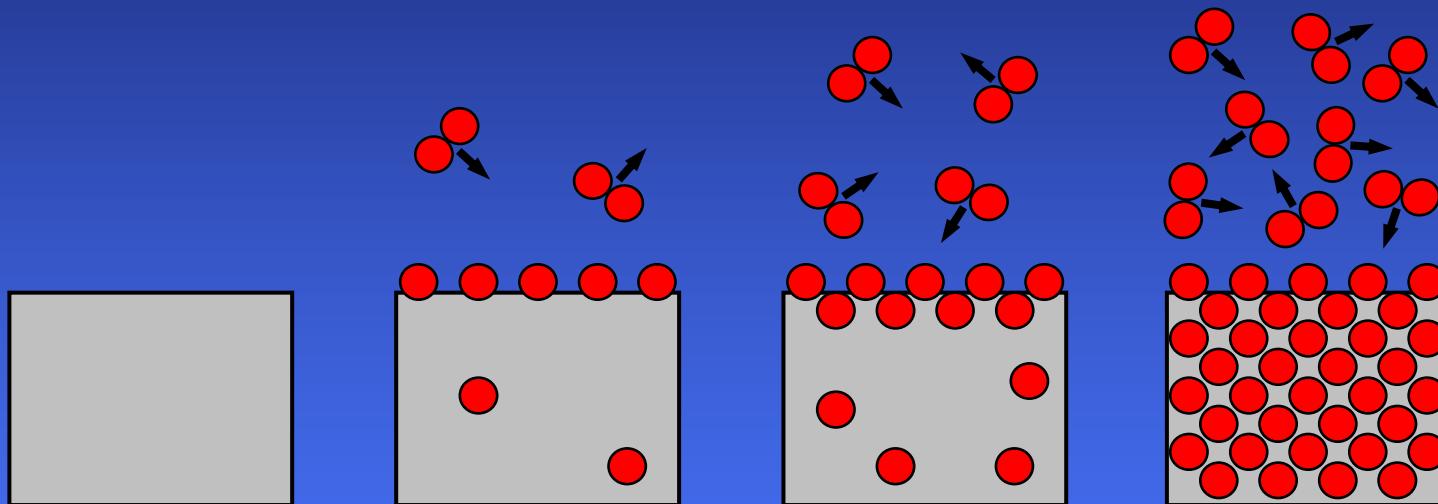
Materials (Complexity) gap:

Low-index single crystal surfaces  
vs. supported nanoparticles



# Example: Oxide Formation in Oxidation Catalysis

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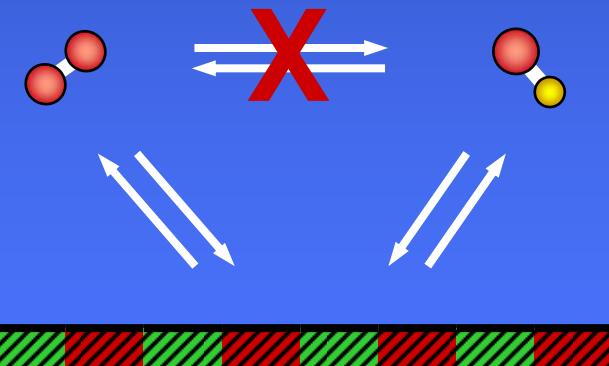
*Nanometer and sub-nanometer thin oxide films at surfaces of late transition metals,*  
K. Reuter, in: *Nanocatalysis: Principles, Methods, Case Studies*,  
(Eds.) U. Heiz, H. Hakkinen, and U. Landman, Springer (Berlin, 2006)  
<http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/th/paper.html>



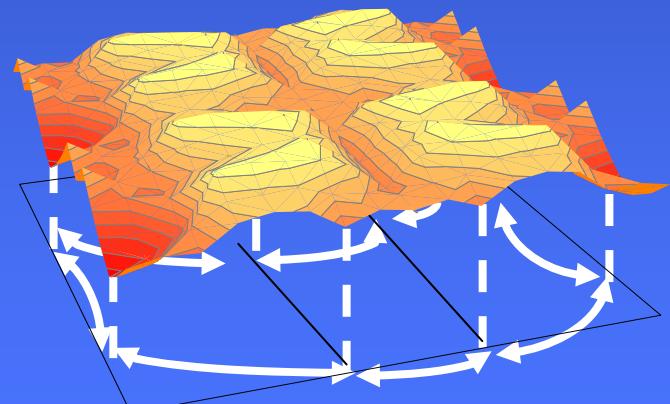
# Bridging the (Pressure) Gap

- Experiment:
- Awareness and diligent experiments...
  - Development and use of „*in situ*“ techniques
- Theory:
- Development and use of first-principles statistical mechanics approaches

„Constrained Equilibrium“  
Atomistic Thermodynamics



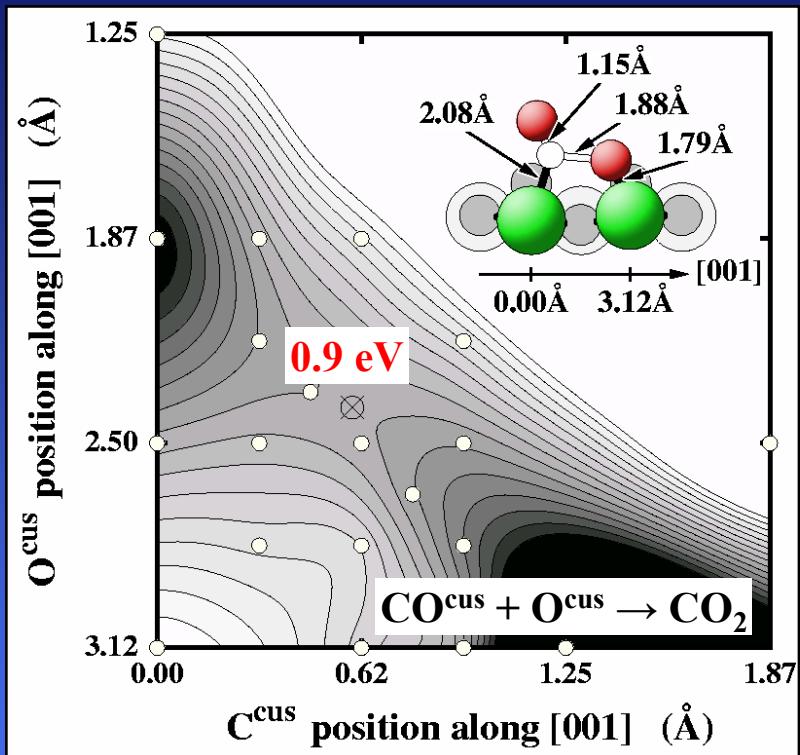
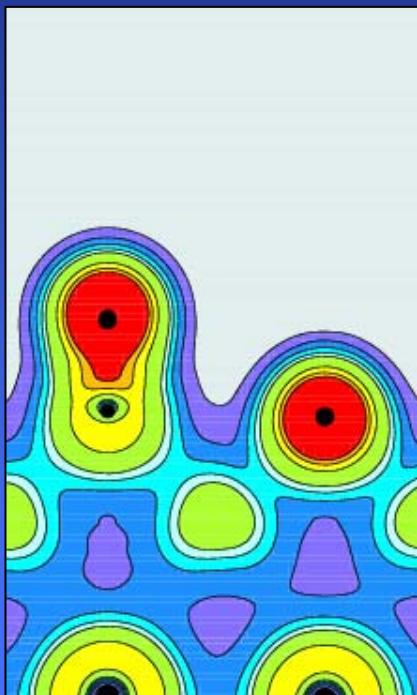
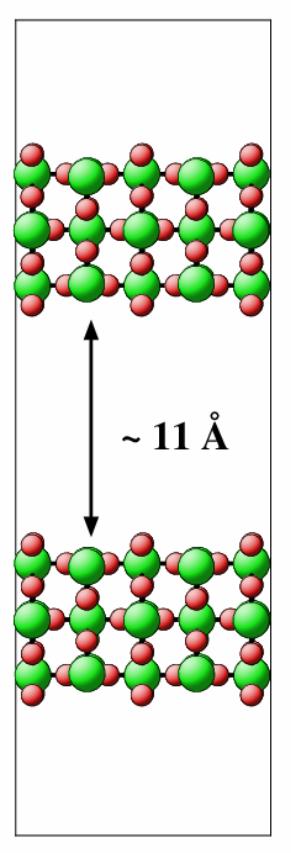
Kinetic Monte Carlo  
Simulations



# 1. The Electronic Regime



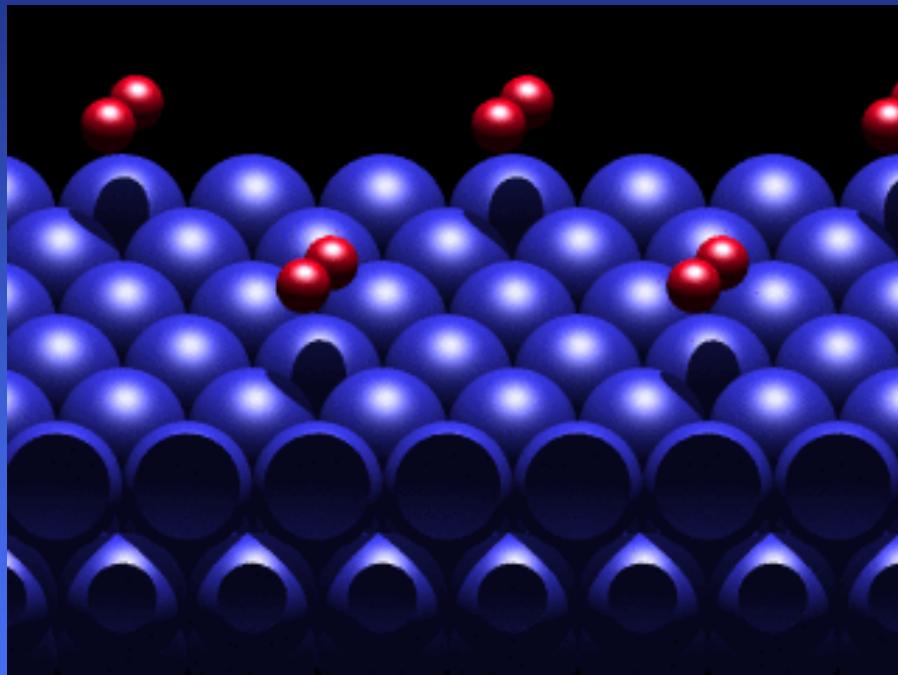
# DFT for Surface Chemical Reactions



- Total energy
- Forces (relaxation, vibrations, MD...)
- Electronic structure (...)

# Keeping Everything: Expensive, Limited Time Scale

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J. Behler *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 036104 (2005)

**Example:**

**O<sub>2</sub> dissociation at Al(111)**

**Total time of trajectory: 0.5 ps**  
**Time step: 2.5 fs (200 steps)**

**CPU cost: 45 days on  
1 Compaq  
ES45 processor**



## 2. Effect of a Surrounding Gas Phase on the Surface Structure and Composition: Equilibrium

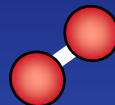
*Ab initio atomistic thermodynamics for surfaces: A primer*, J. Rogal and K. Reuter,  
RTO-AVT-142, VKI Lecture Series on "Experiment, Modeling and Simulation of  
Gas-Surface Interactions for Reactive Flows in Hypersonic Flights", Rhode-St-Genèse,  
Belgium (2006). <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/th/paper.html>



# First-Principles Atomistic Thermodynamics

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$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T, p)$$



equilibrium



$$G(T, p) = E^{\text{tot}} + F^{\text{vib}} - TS^{\text{conf}} + pV$$

DFT



C.M. Weinert and M. Scheffler,  
Mater. Sci. Forum 10-12, 25 (1986);  
E. Kaxiras *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 35, 9625 (1987)

# Computation of Free Energies: Ideal Gas I

$$Z = 1/N! \left( \cancel{Z_{\text{nucl}}} \ Z_{\text{el}} \ Z_{\text{trans}} \ Z_{\text{rot}} \ Z_{\text{vib}} \right)^N$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(T,p) = G / N = (F + pV) / N = (-k_B T \ln(Z) + pV) / N$$

i) Electr. free energy  $Z_{\text{el}} = \sum_i \exp(-E_i^{\text{el}} / k_B T)$

$$\Rightarrow F_{\text{el}} \approx E^{\text{tot}} - k_B T \ln(I_{\text{spin}})$$

Typical excitation energies eV  $\gg k_B T$ ,  
only (possibly degenerate) ground state  
contributes significantly

Required input:

Internal energy  $E^{\text{tot}}$

Ground state spin degeneracy  $I_{\text{spin}}$

ii) Transl. free energy  $Z_{\text{trans}} = \sum_k \exp(-\hbar k^2 / 2mk_B T)$  Particle in a box of length  $L = V^{1/3}$

$$(L \rightarrow \infty) \Rightarrow Z_{\text{trans}} \approx V (2\pi m k_B T / \hbar^2)^{3/2}$$

Required input: Particle mass  $m$



# Computation of Free Energies: Ideal Gas II

---

iii) Rotational free energy     $Z_{\text{rot}} = \sum_J (2J+1) \exp(-J(J+1)B_0 / k_B T)$                       Rigid rotator

(Diatom)  $\Rightarrow Z_{\text{rot}} \approx -k_B T \ln(k_B T / \sigma B_0)$      $\sigma = 2$  (homonucl.),  $= 1$  (heteronucl.)  
 $B_0 \sim md^2$  ( $d$  = bond length)

Required input:    Rotational constant  $B_0$   
(exp: tabulated microwave data)

iv) Vibrational free energy     $Z_{\text{vib}} = \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_n \exp(-(n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar\omega_i / k_B T)$                       Harmonic oscillator

$$\Rightarrow \mu_{\text{vib}}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega_i + k_B T \ln(1 - \exp(-\hbar\omega_i/k_B T))$$

Required input:    M fundamental vibr. modes  $\omega_i$



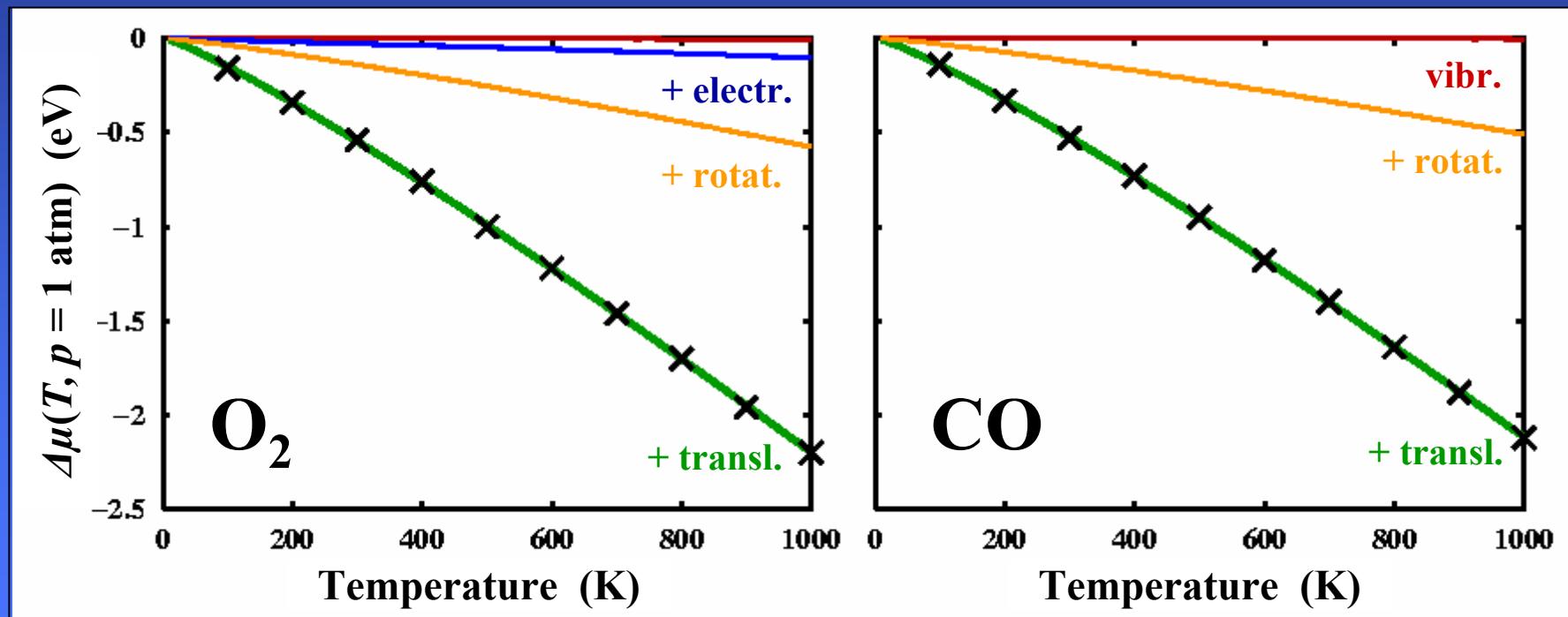
Calculate dynamic matrix  $D_{ij} = (m_i m_j)^{-1/2} (\partial^2 E^{\text{tot}} / \partial r_i \partial r_j)_{r_{\text{eq}}}$   
Solve eigenvalue problem  $\det(D - 1/\omega_i^2)$



# Computation of Free Energies: Ideal Gas III

	O <sub>2</sub>	CO
<i>m</i> (amu)	32	28
$\nu_{\text{stretch}}$ (meV)	196	269
$B_0$ (meV)	0.18	0.24
$\sigma$	2	1
$I_{\text{spin}}$	3	1

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \mu(T, p) \\ &= E^{\text{tot}} + \Delta\mu(T, p)\end{aligned}$$



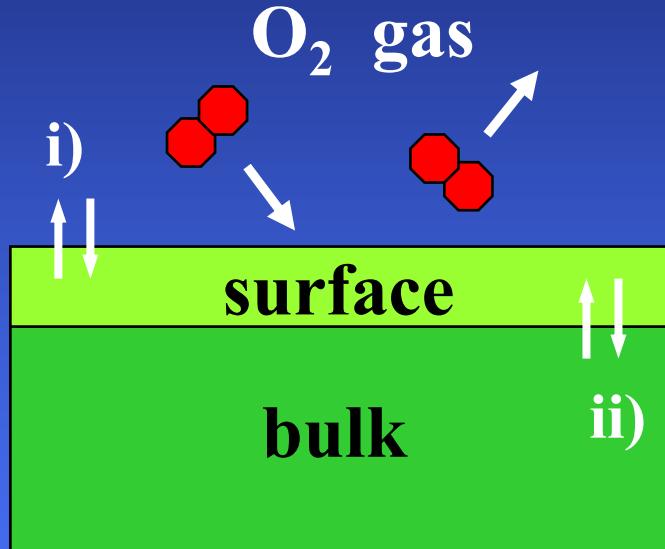
Alternatively:

$$\Delta\mu(T, p) = \Delta\mu(T, p^0) + kT \ln(p/p^0)$$

and  $\Delta\mu(T, p^0 = 1 \text{ atm})$  tabulated in thermochem. tables (e.g. JANAF)

# Example: Surface in Contact with Oxygen Gas Phase

$$\gamma_{\text{surf.}} = 1/A \left[ G_{\text{surf.}}(N_O, N_M) - N_O \mu_O - N_M \mu_M \right]$$



Use reservoirs:

i)  $\mu_O$  from ideal gas

ii)  $\mu_M = g_M^{\text{bulk}}$

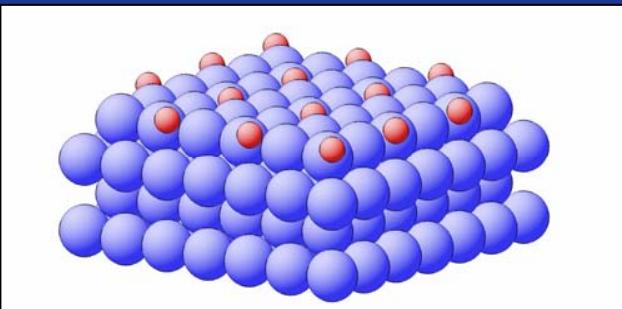
Forget about  $F^{\text{vib}}$  and  $F^{\text{conf}}$  for the moment:

$$\gamma(T,p) \approx (E_{\text{surf.}}^{(\text{slab})} - N_M E_M^{\text{bulk}})/A - N_O \mu_O(T,p)/A$$

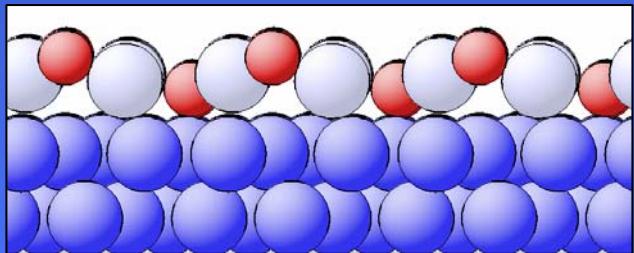


# Oxide formation on Pd(100)

$$\gamma \approx (E_{\text{surf.}}^{(\text{slab})} - N_M E_M^{\text{bulk}})/A - N_O \mu_O/A$$



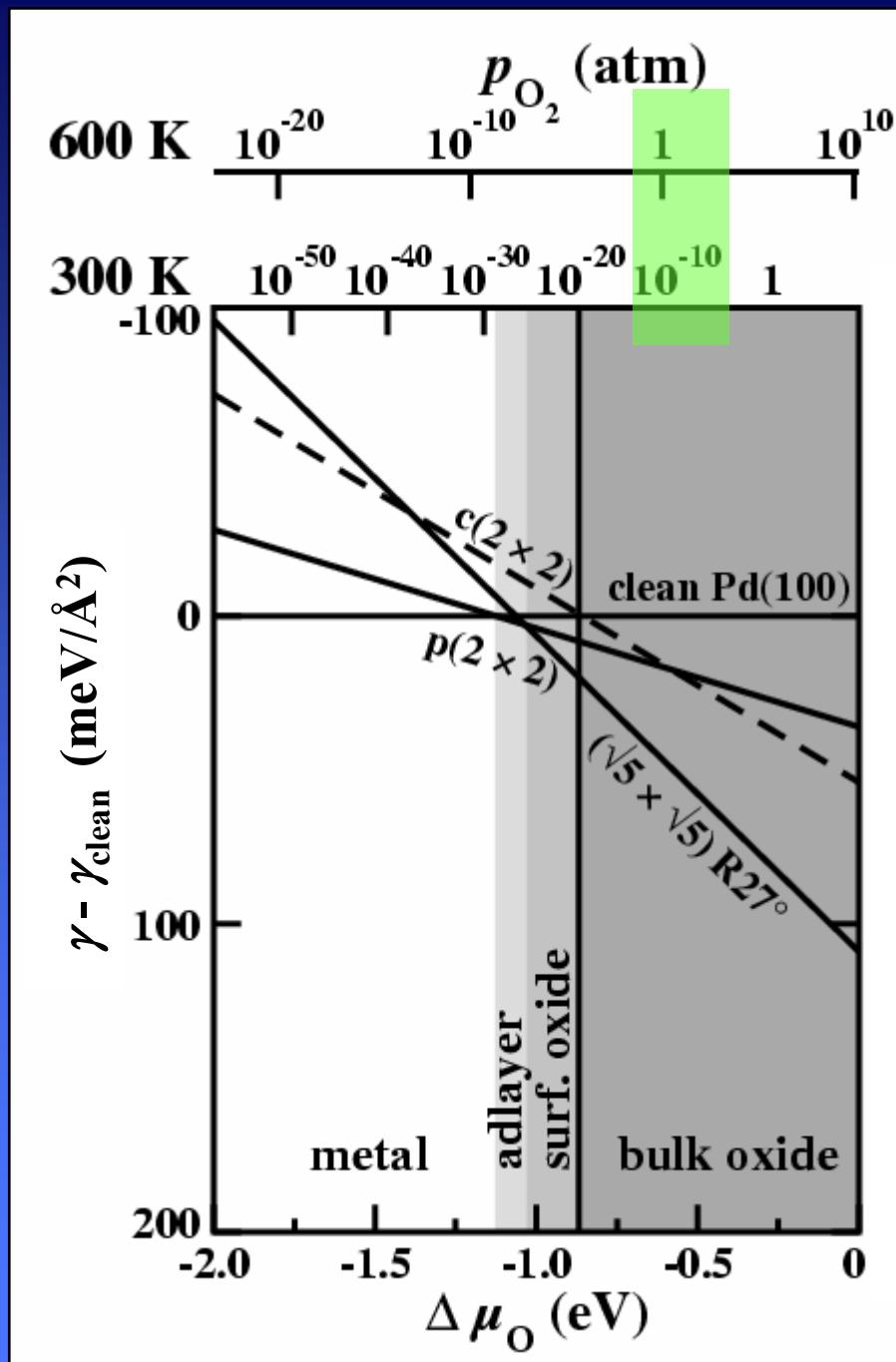
$p(2 \times 2)$  O/Pd(100)



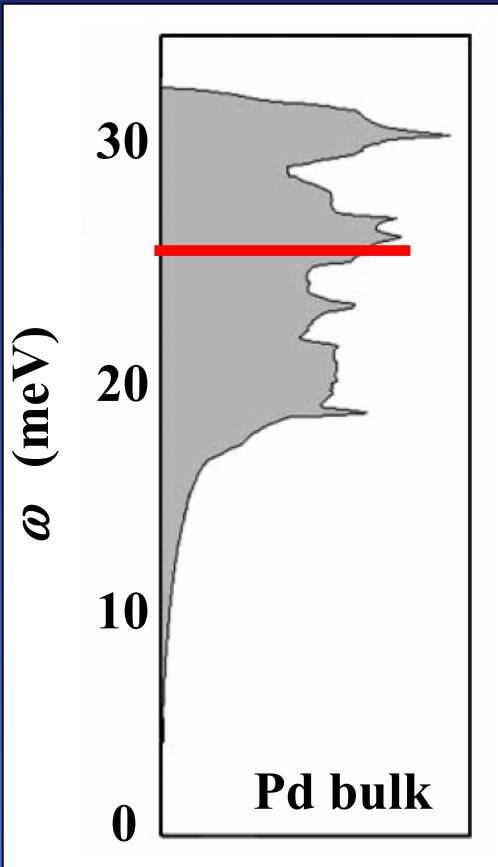
$(\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5})R27^\circ$  PdO(101)/Pd(100)



M. Todorova *et al.*, Surf. Sci. 541, 101 (2003);  
K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,  
Appl. Phys. A 78, 793 (2004)



# Vibrational Contributions to the Surface Free Energy



$$F^{\text{vib}}(T, V) = \int d\omega F^{\text{vib}}(T, \omega) \sigma(\omega)$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma^{\text{vib}} = \Delta F^{\text{vib}}/A = \\ = 1/A \int d\omega F^{\text{vib}}(T, \omega) [\sigma^{\text{surf.}}(\omega) - N_{\text{Ru}} \sigma^{\text{bulk}}(\omega)]$$

Only the vibrational changes at the surface contribute to the surface free energy

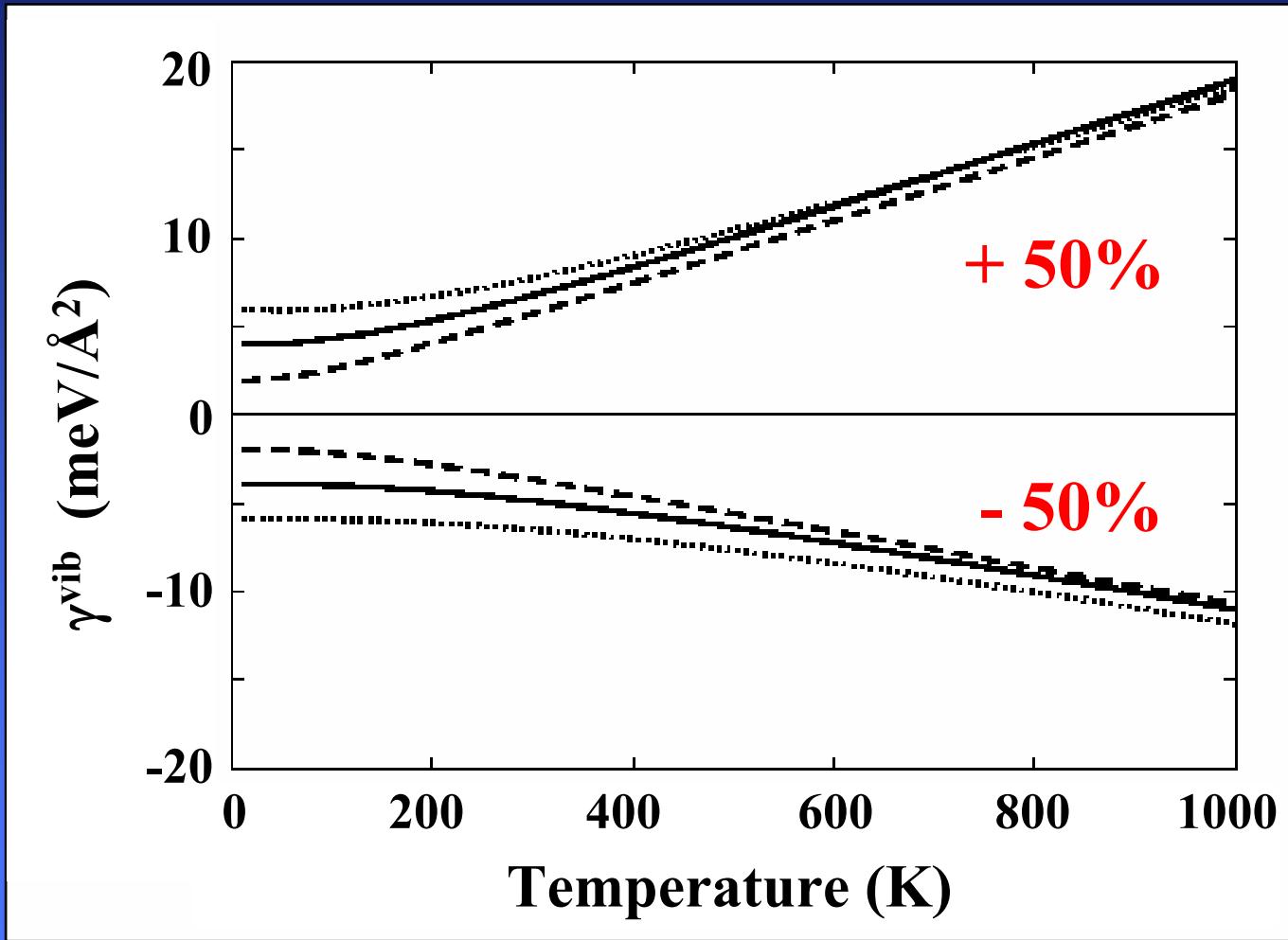
⇒ Use simple models for order of magnitude estimate

e.g. Einstein model:  $\sigma(\omega) = \delta(\omega - \underline{\omega})$

$$\underline{\omega}_{\text{Pd}}(\text{bulk}) \sim 25 \text{ meV}$$



# Surface Induced Variations of Substrate Modes

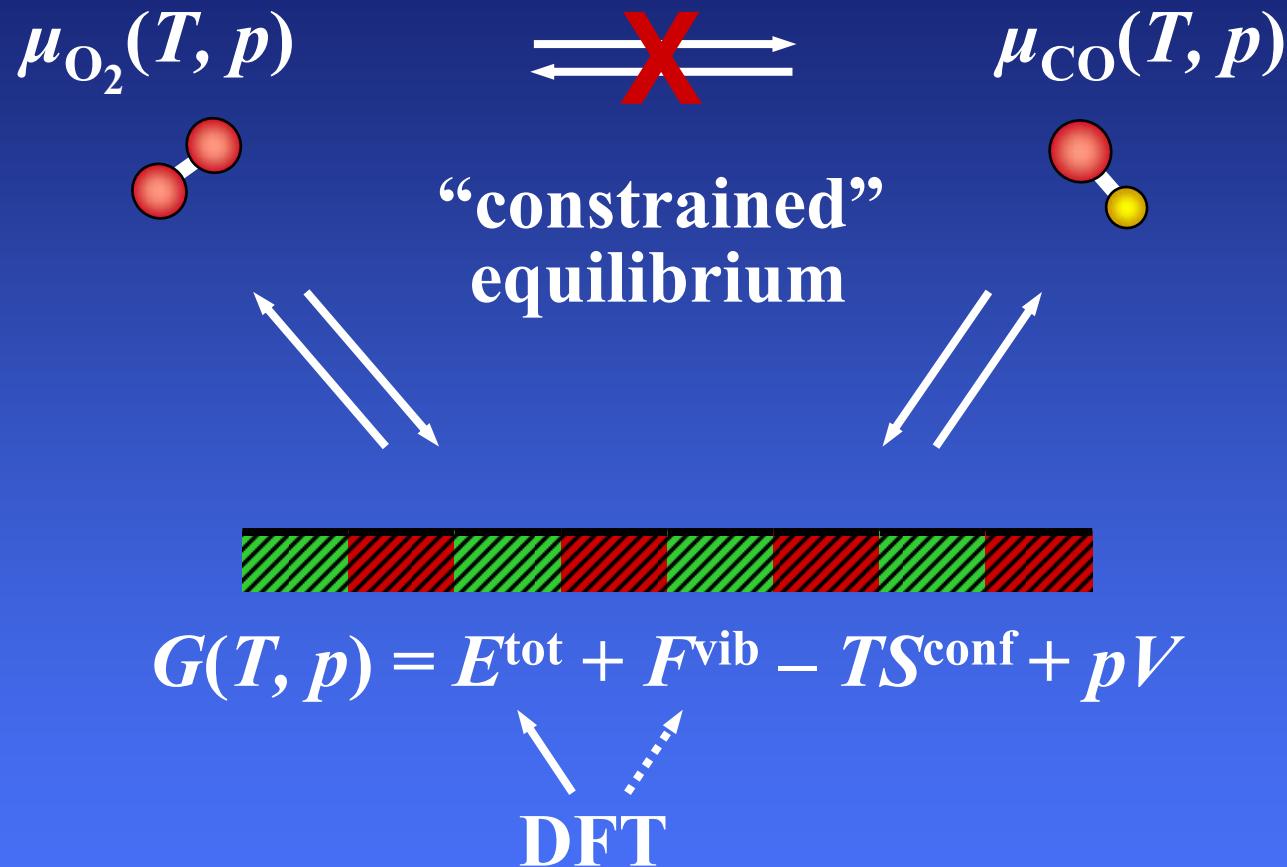


< 10 meV/Å<sup>2</sup> for T < 600 K - in this case!!!

### 3. Towards Catalysis: “Constrained Equilibria”



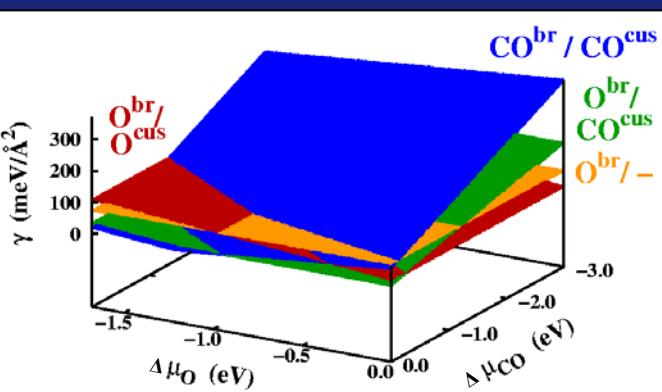
# First-Principles Atomistic Thermodynamics



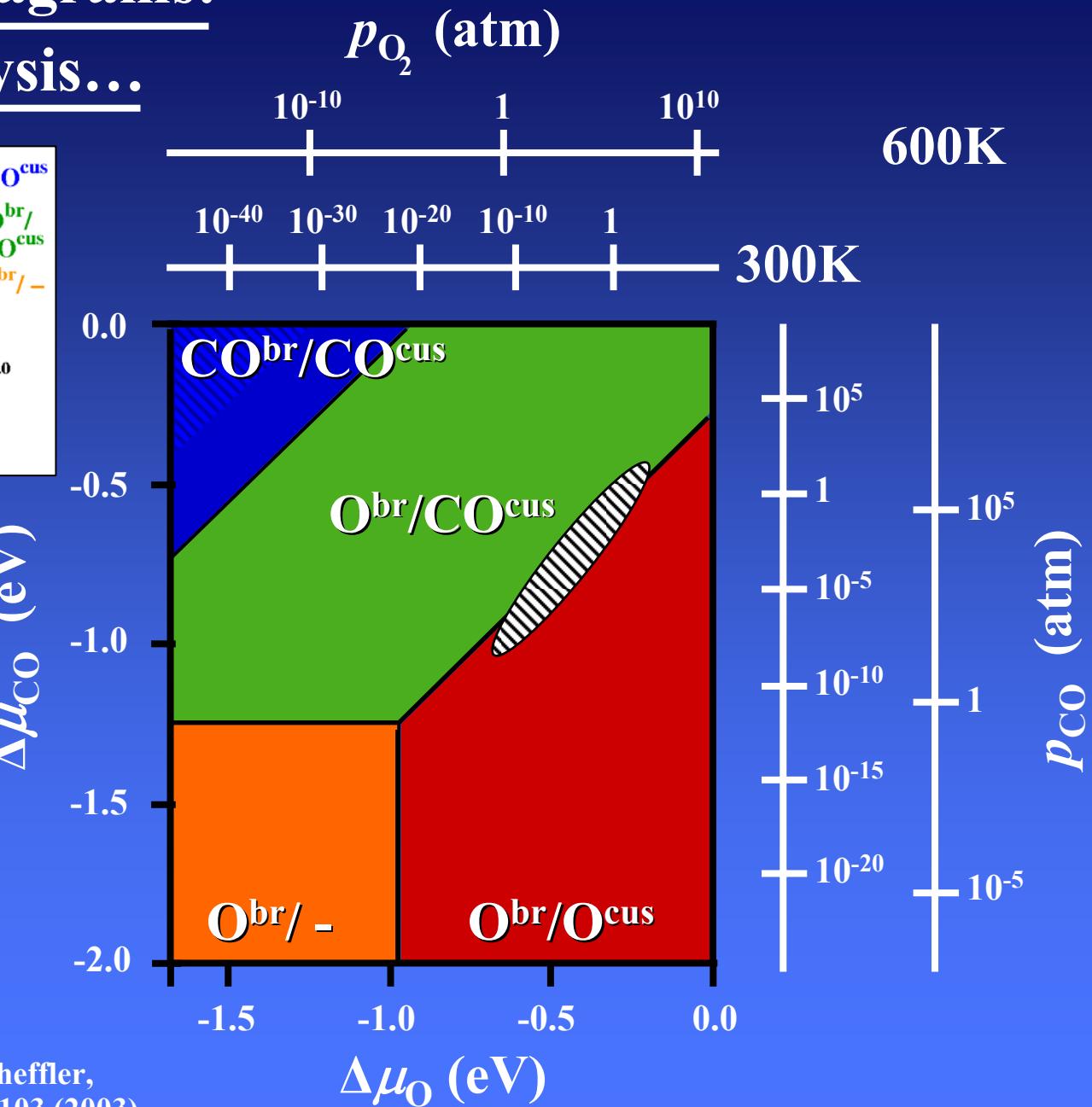
C.M. Weinert and M. Scheffler,  
Mater. Sci. Forum 10-12, 25 (1986);  
E. Kaxiras *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 35, 9625 (1987)

K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,  
Phys. Rev. B 65, 035406 (2001);  
Phys. Rev. B 68, 045407 (2003)

# Surface phase diagrams: towards catalysis...



CO Oxidation at  
 $\text{RuO}_2(110)$



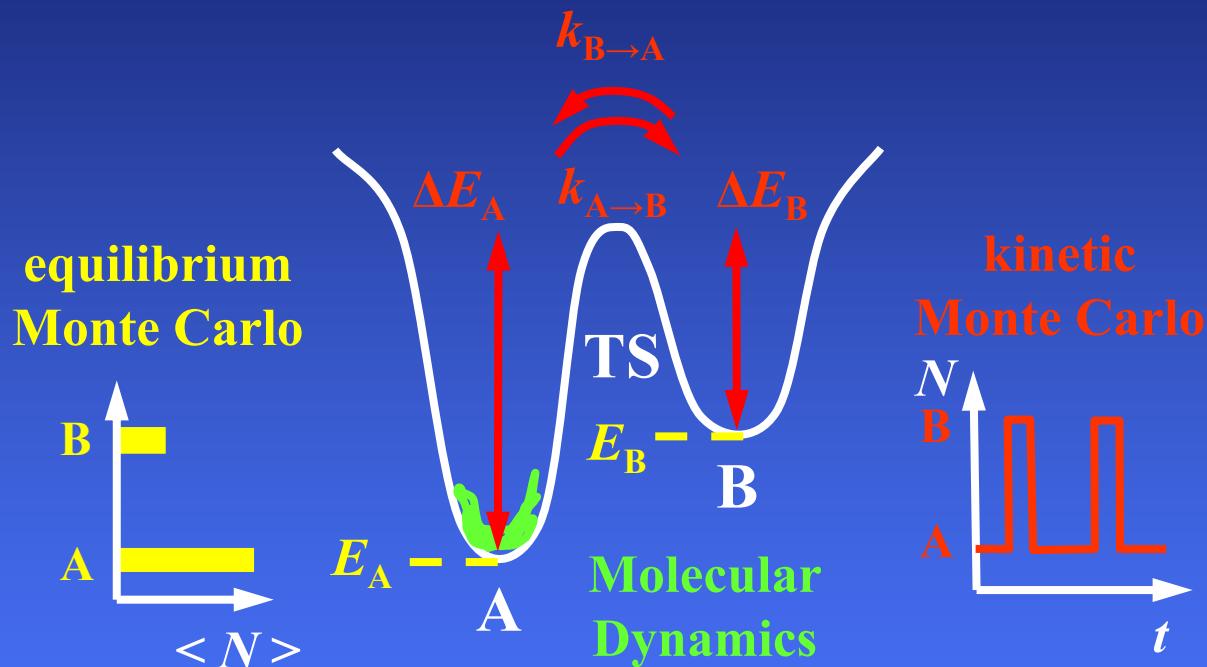
# 4. Real Kinetics: First-Principles kinetic Monte Carlo Simulations



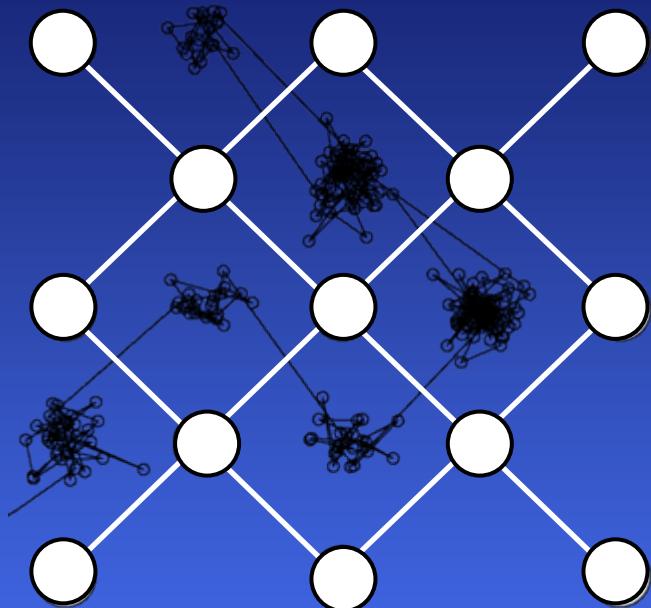
*Ab initio atomistic thermodynamics and statistical mechanics of surface properties and functions*  
K. Reuter, C. Stampfl and M. Scheffler, in: **Handbook of Materials Modeling** Vol. 1,  
(Ed.) S. Yip, Springer (Berlin, 2005). <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/th/paper.html>

# First-Principles Kinetic Monte Carlo Simulations

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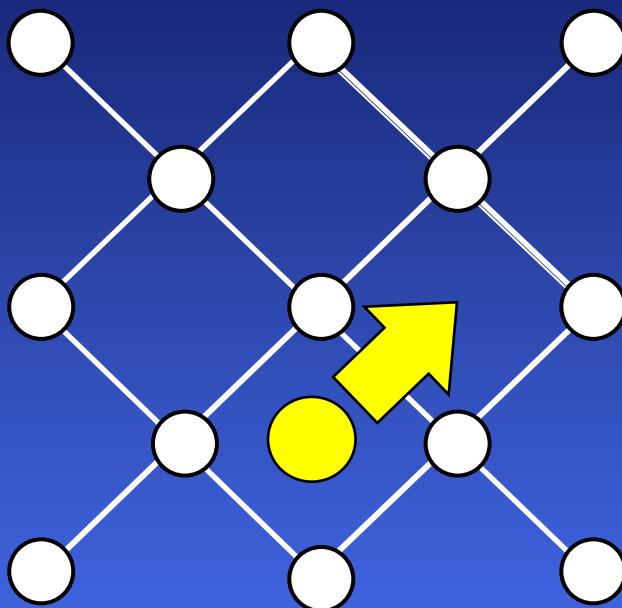


# Kinetic Monte Carlo: Essentially Coarse-Grained MD



Molecular Dynamics:  
the whole trajectory

*ab initio* MD:  
up to 50 ps



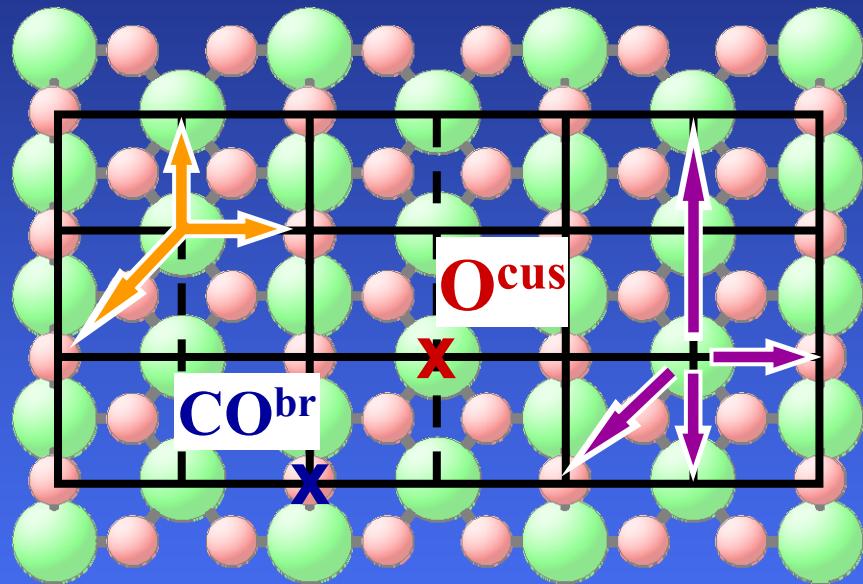
Kinetic Monte Carlo:  
coarse-grained hops

*ab initio* kMC:  
up to minutes



# The crucial ingredients to a kMC simulation

$$\frac{dP(\vec{r}, t)}{dt} = - \sum_{\vec{r}'} k(\vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{r}') P(\vec{r}, t) + \sum_{\vec{r}'} k(\vec{r}' \rightarrow \vec{r}) P(\vec{r}', t)$$



## ii) Process rates

PES from DFT

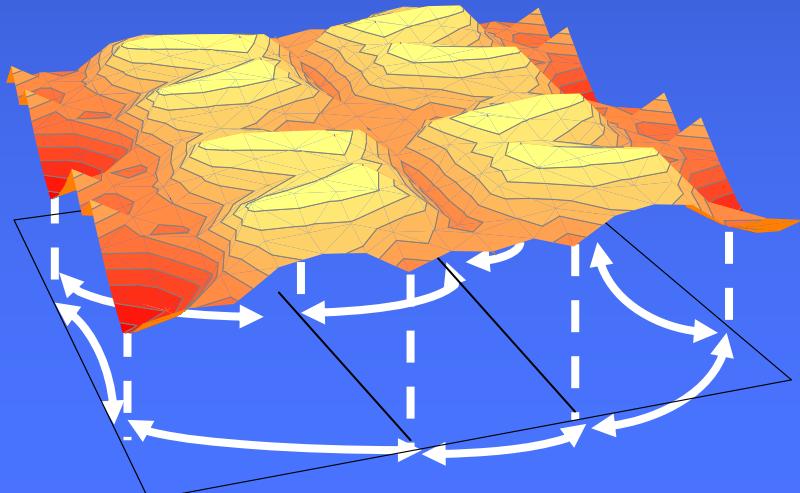
Transition state theory

$$k = k_B T / h \ Z_{\text{TS}} / Z_{\text{IS}} \\ = \Gamma_0 \exp(-\Delta E / kT)$$

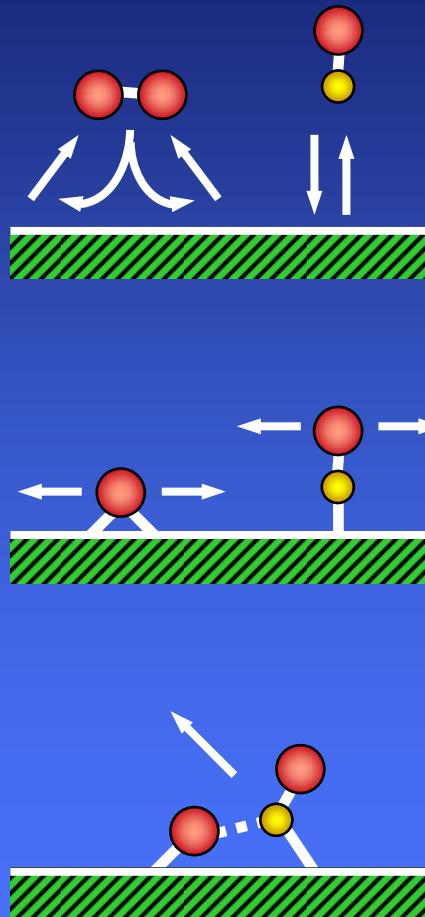
## i) Elementary processes

Fixed process list vs. „on-the-fly“ kMC

Lattice vs. off-lattice kMC



# kMC Events for CO Oxidation over RuO<sub>2</sub>(110)



Adsorption:

CO - unimolecular, O<sub>2</sub> – dissociative  
no barrier  
rate given by impingement  $k \sim S_o p/(2\pi m kT)$

Desorption:

CO – 1<sup>st</sup> order, O<sub>2</sub> – 2<sup>nd</sup> order  
out of DFT adsorption well (= barrier)  
prefactor from detailed balance

Diffusion:

hops to nearest neighbor sites  
site and element specific  
barrier from DFT (TST)  
prefactor from DFT (hTST)

Reaction:

site specific  
immediate desorption, no readsorption  
barrier from DFT (TST)  
prefactor from detailed balance

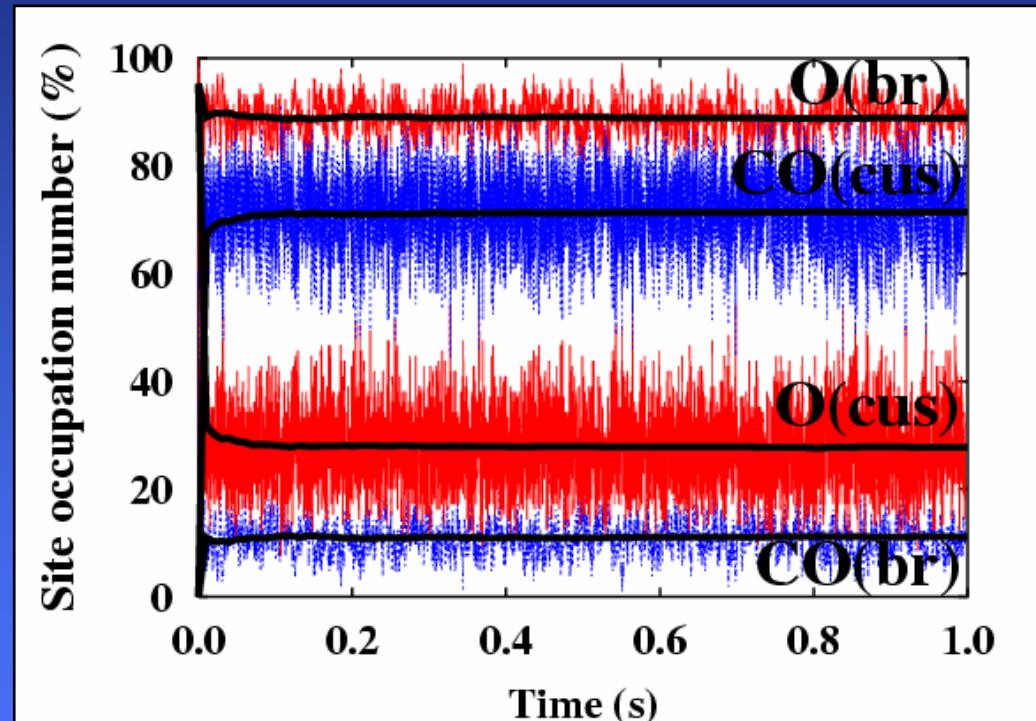
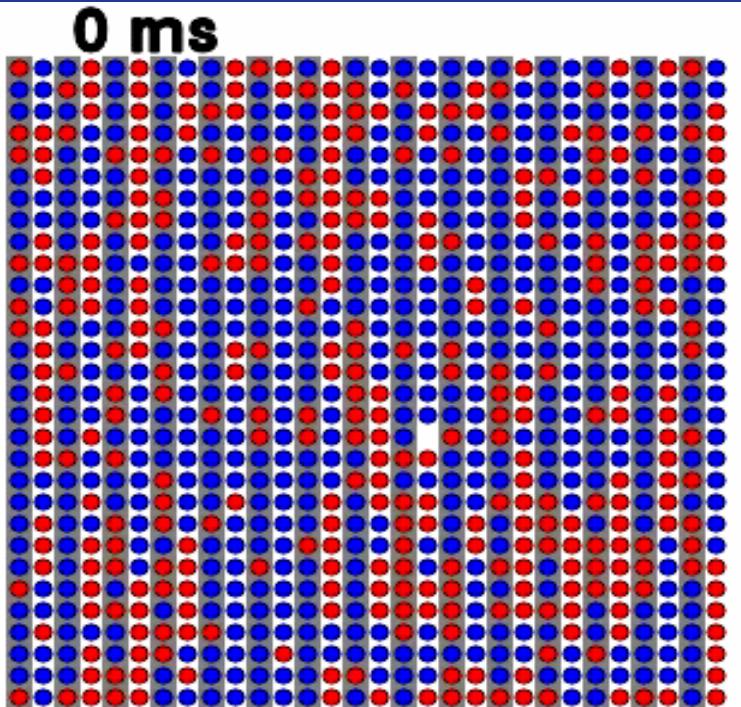
26 elementary processes considered



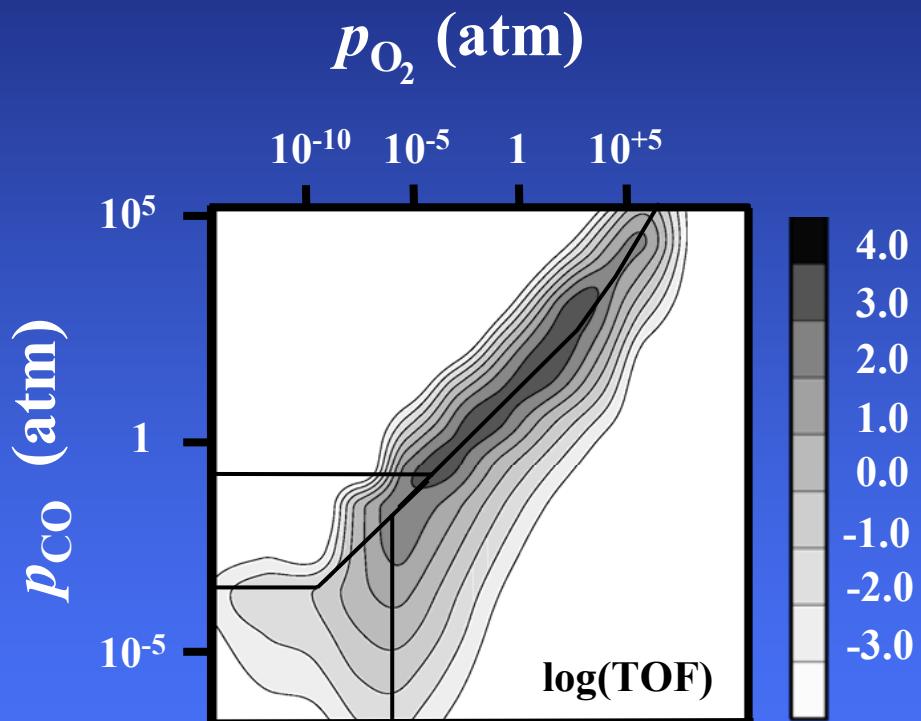
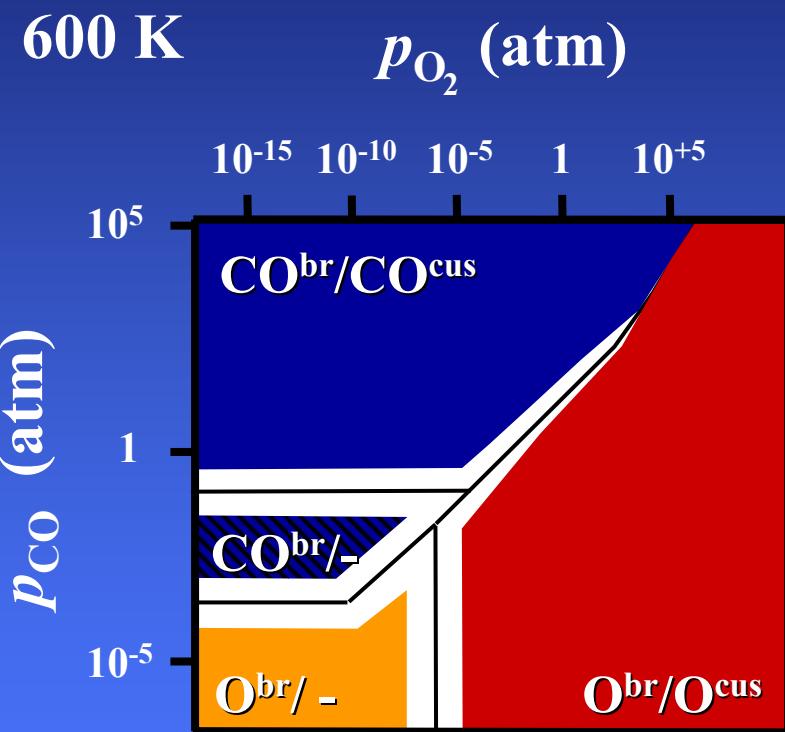
# The Steady-State of Heterogeneous Catalysis

$T = 600 \text{ K}$

$p_{\text{O}_2} = 1 \text{ atm}$     $p_{\text{CO}} = 7 \text{ atm}$



# A $(p_{\text{CO}}, p_{\text{O}_2})$ -Map of Catalytic Activity



# ...and How About Experiment?

350 K

$p_{O_2}$  (atm)

$10^{-30} \quad 10^{-20} \quad 10^{-10} \quad 1$

$p_{CO}$  (atm)

$1 \quad 10^{-10} \quad 10^{-20}$

$CO^{br}/CO^{cus}$

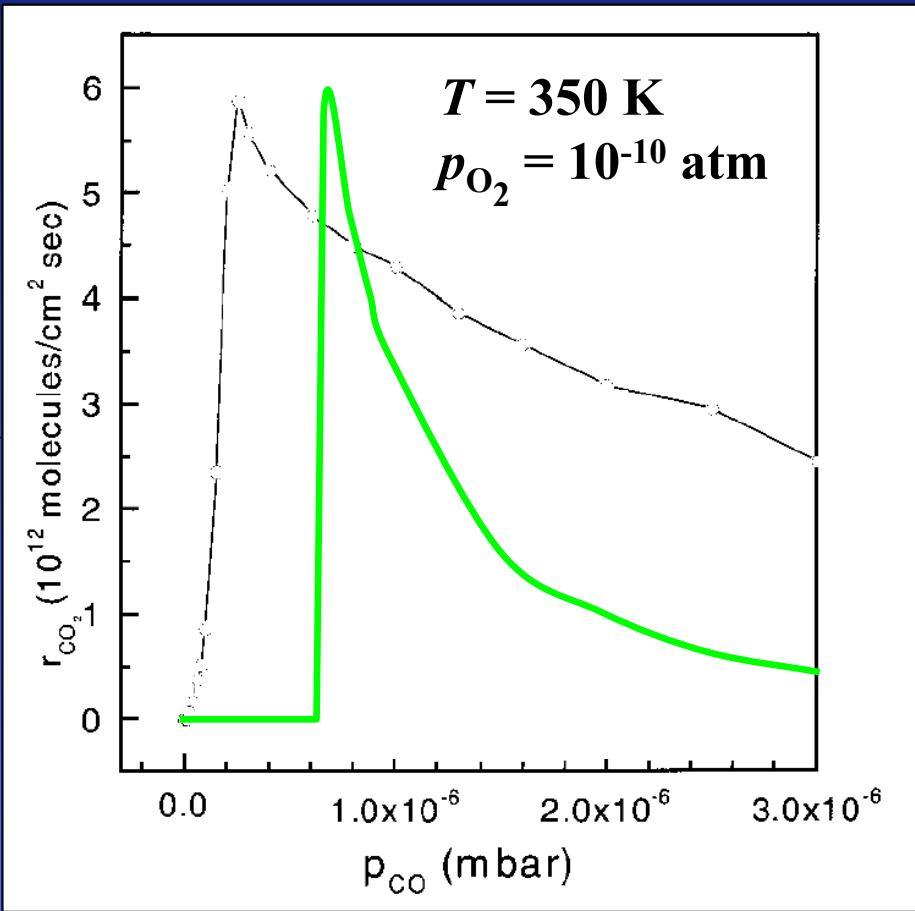
$CO^{br/-}$

- / -

$O^{br}/O^{cus}$

log(TOF)

-4.0  
-5.0  
-6.0  
-7.0  
-8.0  
-9.0  
-10.0  
-11.0



J. Wang *et al.*, J. Phys. Chem. B 106, 3422 (2002)

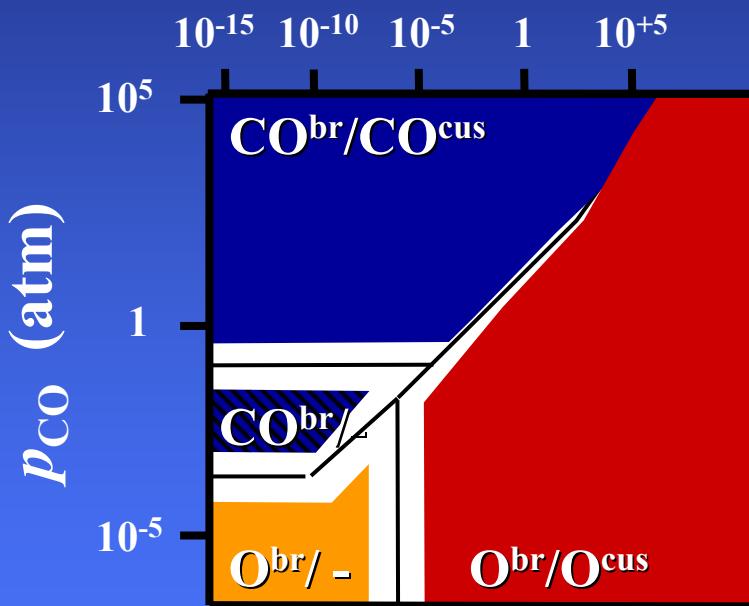
→ cf. NH<sub>3</sub>/Ru(001):

K. Honkala *et al.*, Science 307, 555 (2005)

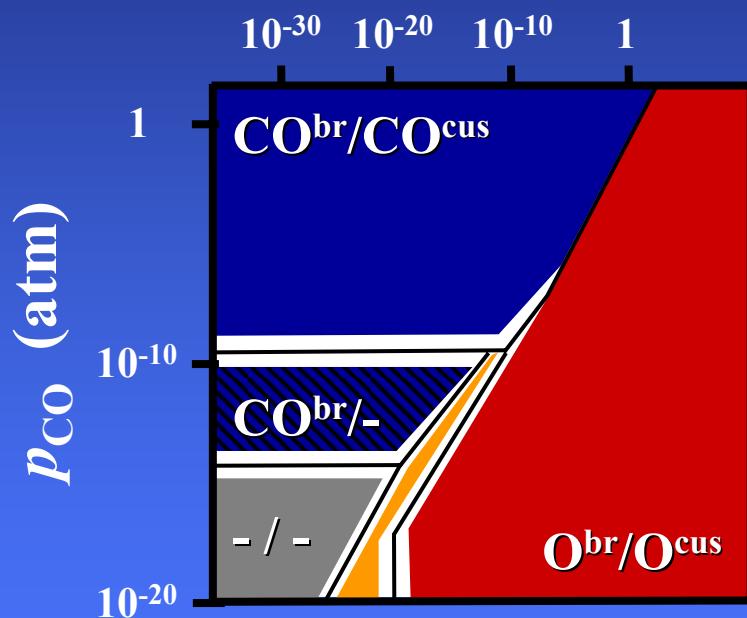


# Thermodynamic Scaling?

600 K       $p_{O_2}$  (atm)



$p_{O_2}$  (atm)      350 K



# Bridging the Gaps

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Still in its infancy... (experimentally and theoretically)

Theory: **First-Principles Statistical Mechanics Approaches**

**First-principles atomistic thermodynamics**

**First-principles kinetic Monte Carlo**

**Knowledge of surface structure under stationary-reaction conditions**

**Parameter-free calculation of turnover frequencies (in benign cases)**

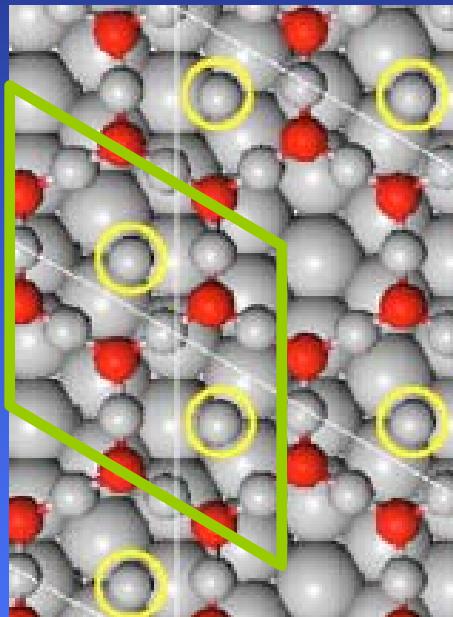


## 5. Current challenges



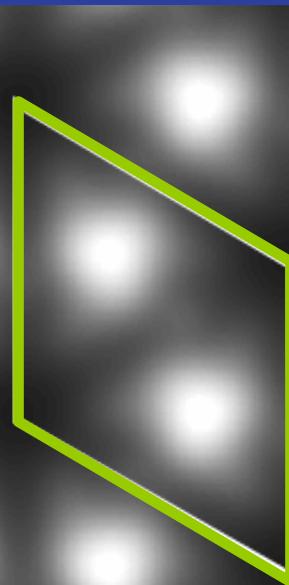
# Complex structure determination: Ethylene epoxidation at Ag(111)

Ag<sub>2</sub>O(111)-like  
overlayer



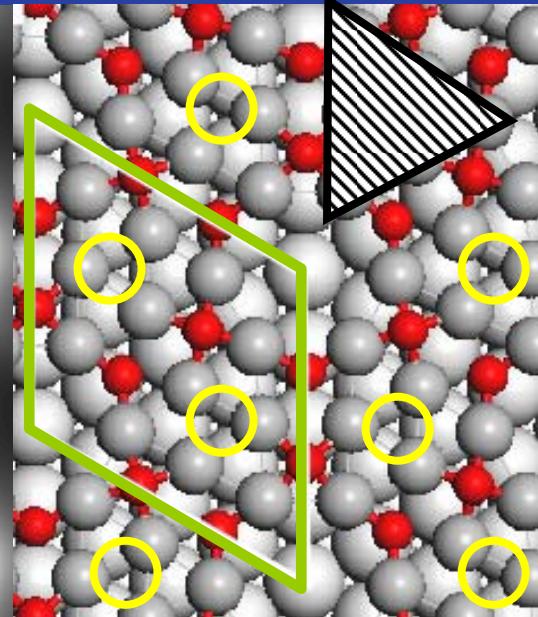
A. Michaelides, K. Reuter,  
and M. Scheffler,  
JVST A 23, 1487 (2005)

*p*(4x4)O / Ag(111)



C.I. Carlisle *et al.*,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 84, 3899 (2000)

Ag<sub>6</sub>-triangular  
reconstruction



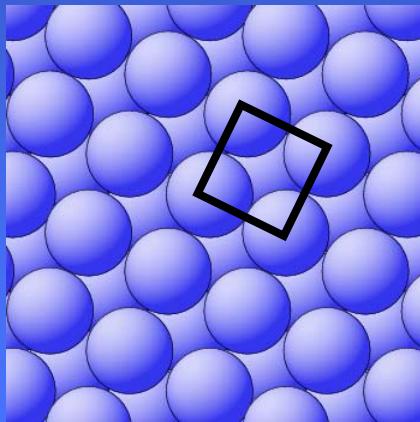
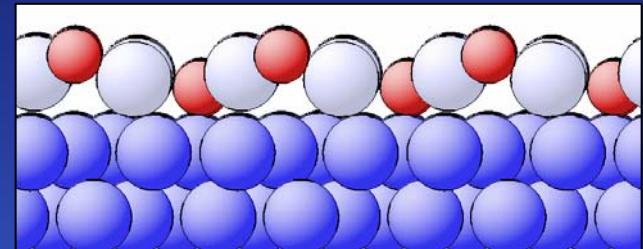
J. Schnadt *et al.*,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 146101 (2006);  
M. Schmid *et al.*, *ibid.* 96, 146102 (2006)



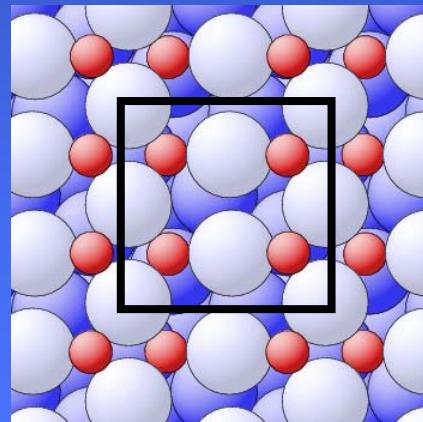
# Lattice mapping: CO oxidation at Pd(100)

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Catalytically active conditions likely to include continuous formation and reduction of surface oxide structure



(1 x 1)  
Pd(100)



$(\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5})R27^\circ$   
PdO(101)/Pd(100)

Lattice mapping of a structural phase transition ?!

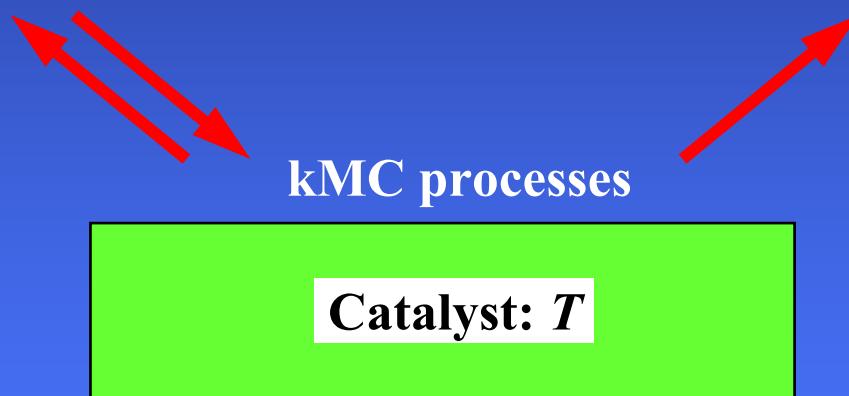


# Gas phase transport and heat dissipation

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Reactant gas phase:  $T, p_i$

Formed products: gone



# Last, not least...

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A vacuum is a hell of a lot better than  
some of the stuff that nature replaces it with.

Tennessee Williams

