



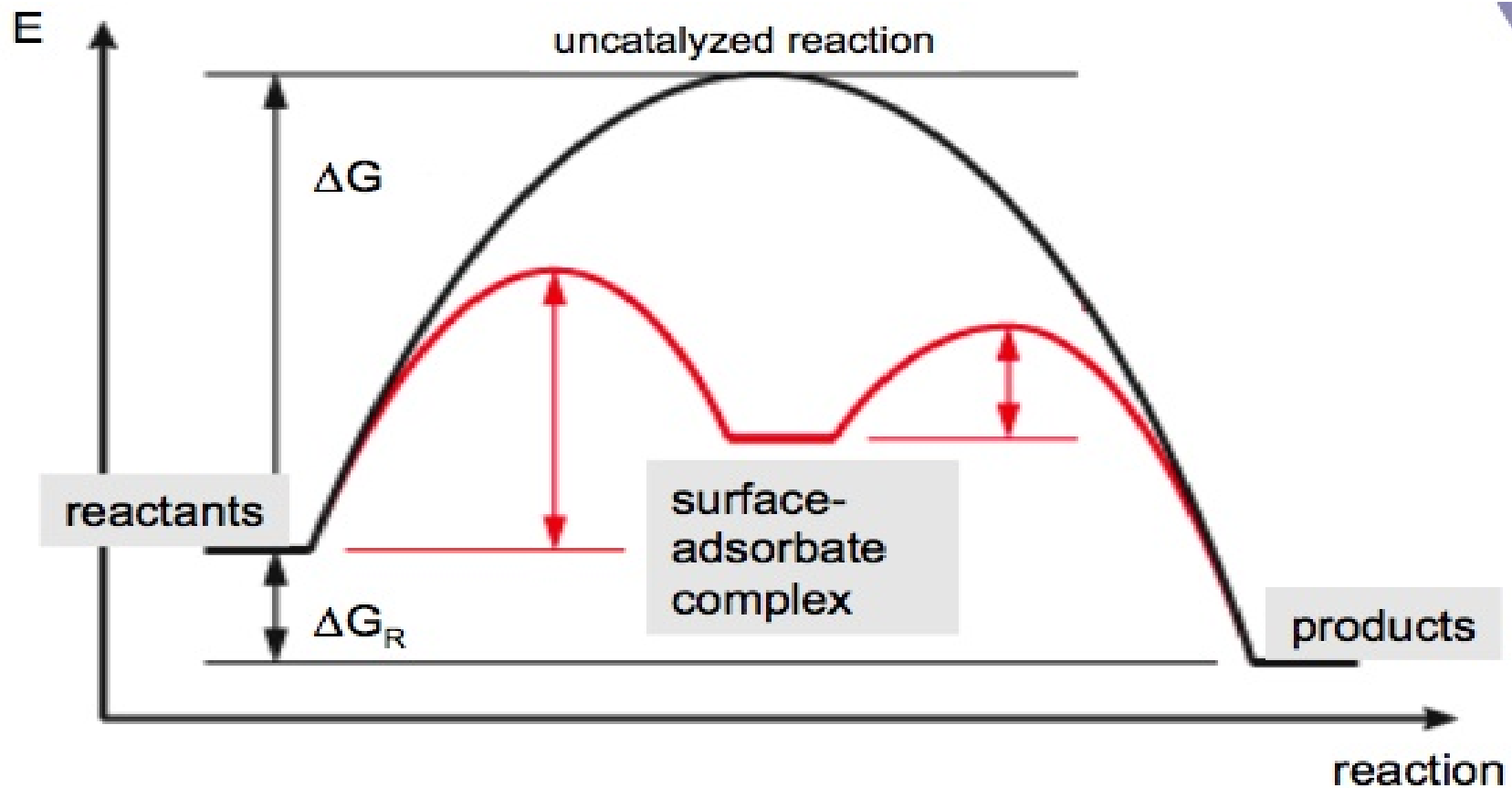
Robert Schlögl
Fritz-Haber-Institut der MPG

SELECTIVITY IN HETEROGENEOUS CATALYTIC HYDROGENATION AND OXIDATION: FROM CONCEPTS TO MATERIALS?





Function of a catalyst: Static SM



Adsorbate structures dynamical (phonical waves)

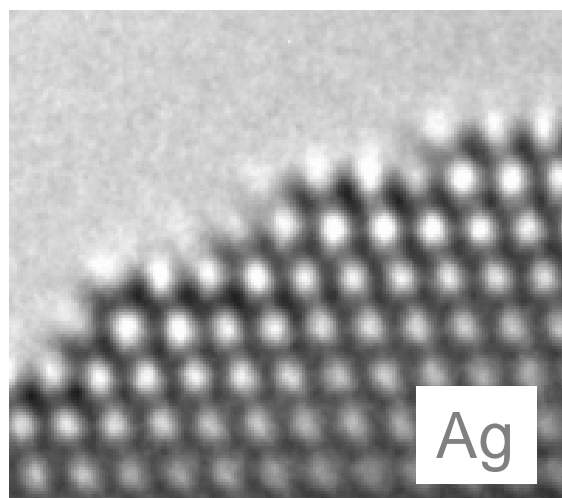
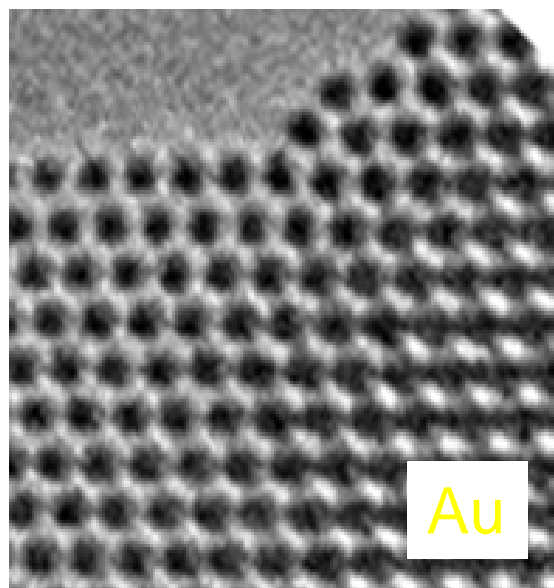
Bulk is "irrelevant", no chemical transformations sub-surface



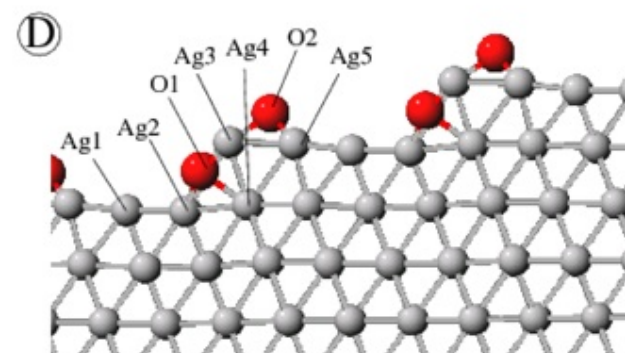
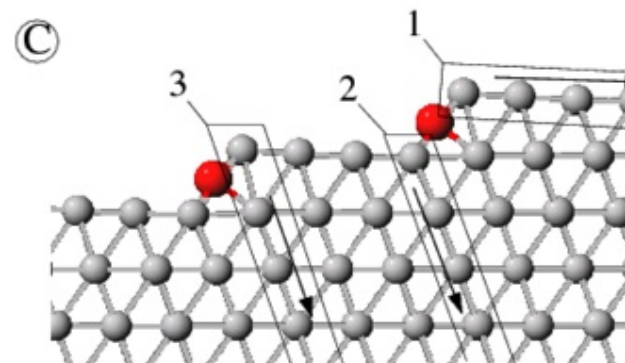
FUNDAMENTALS



High-energy sites



oxygen-adsorbed (100) step

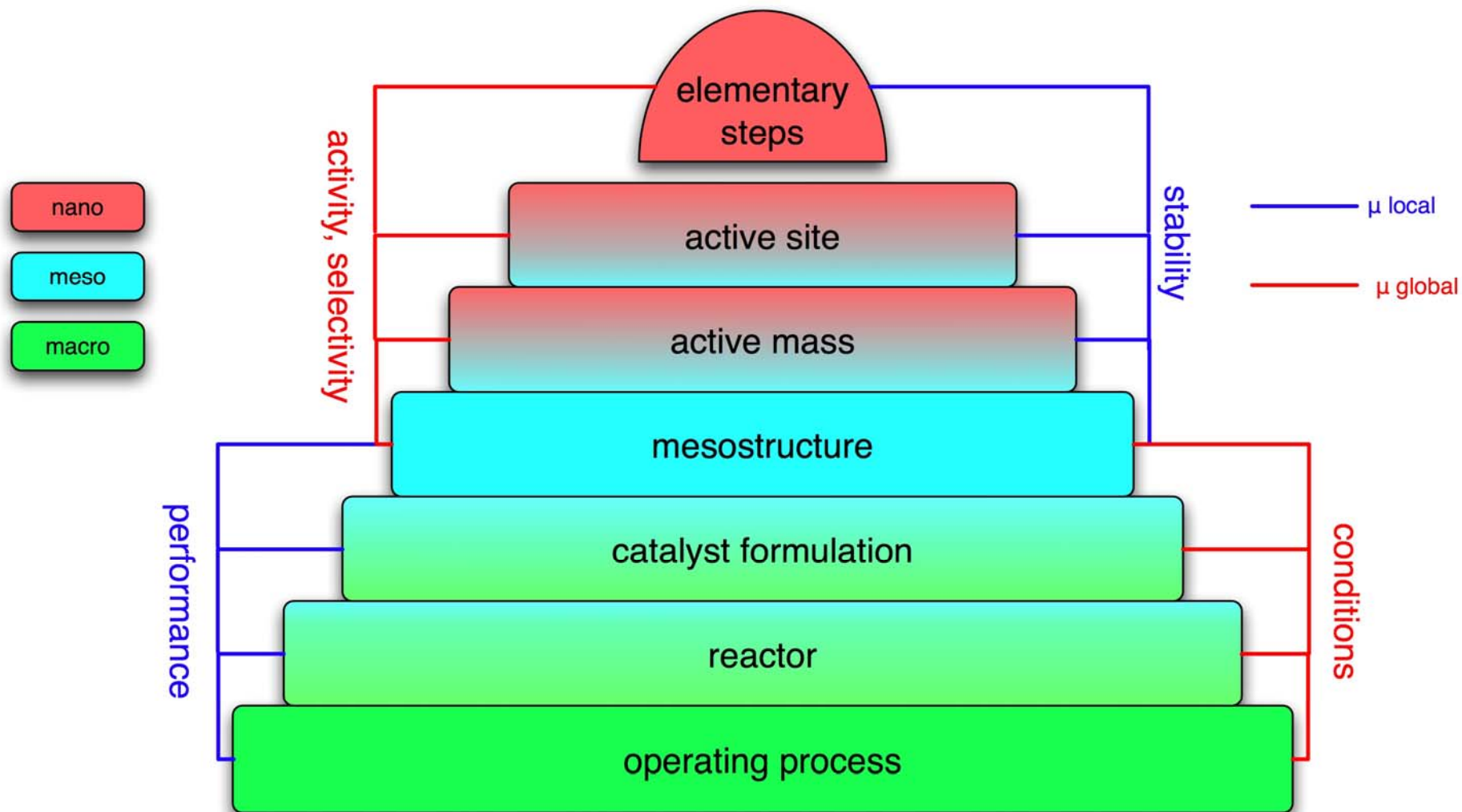


T. Jakob
M. Scheffler

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Translate function into process: material science and chemical engineering



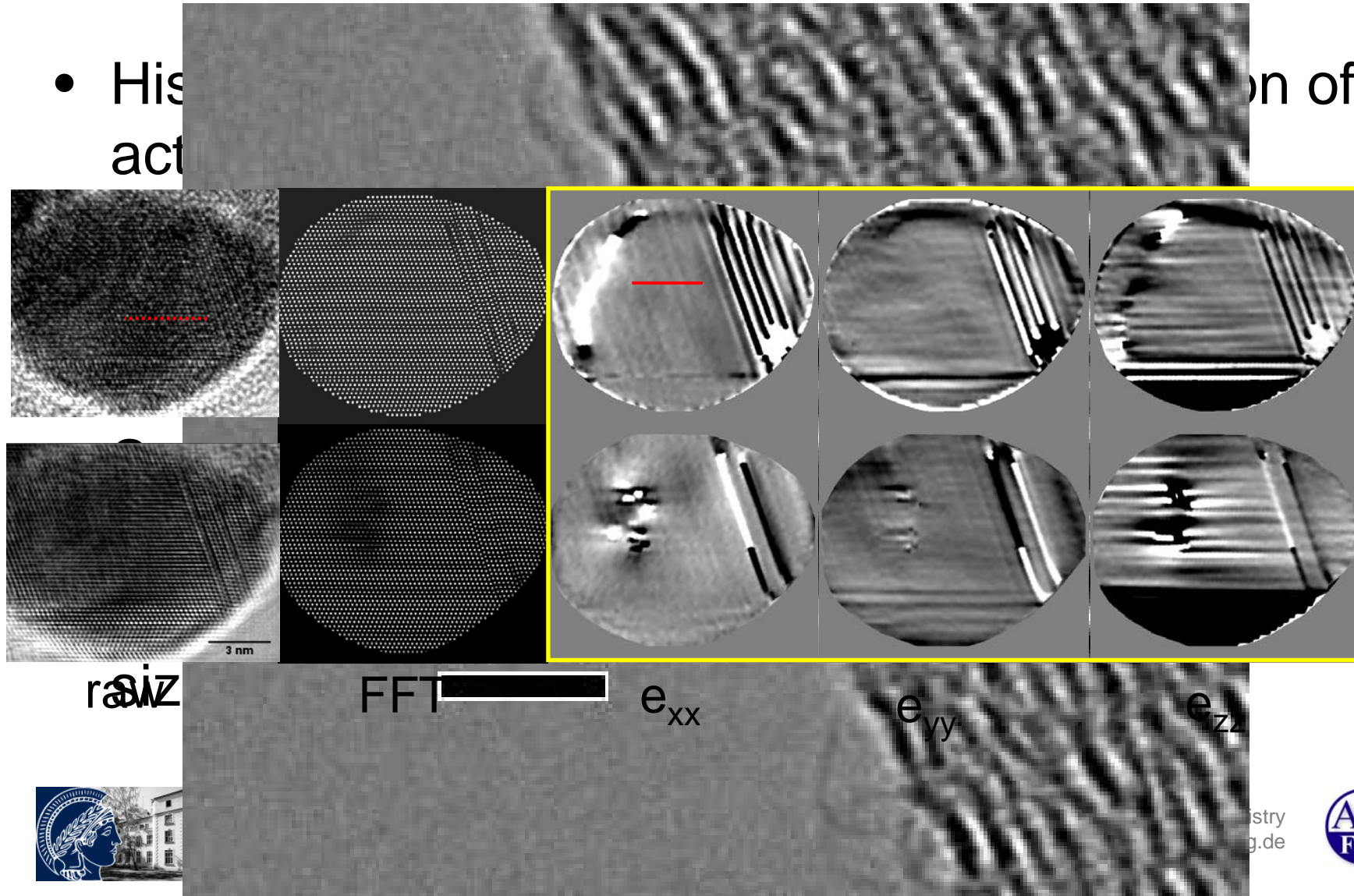
Beyond the SM: dynamics

- Static model good for 1-step processes controlled by adsorption.
- Most reactions exhibit several pathways; multi-step process with selectivity.
- Catalysts are functional materials **expressing** isolated active sites through contact with their reagent.
- Kinetics of Catalyst-reactant interaction (gas-solid diffusion) is critical.

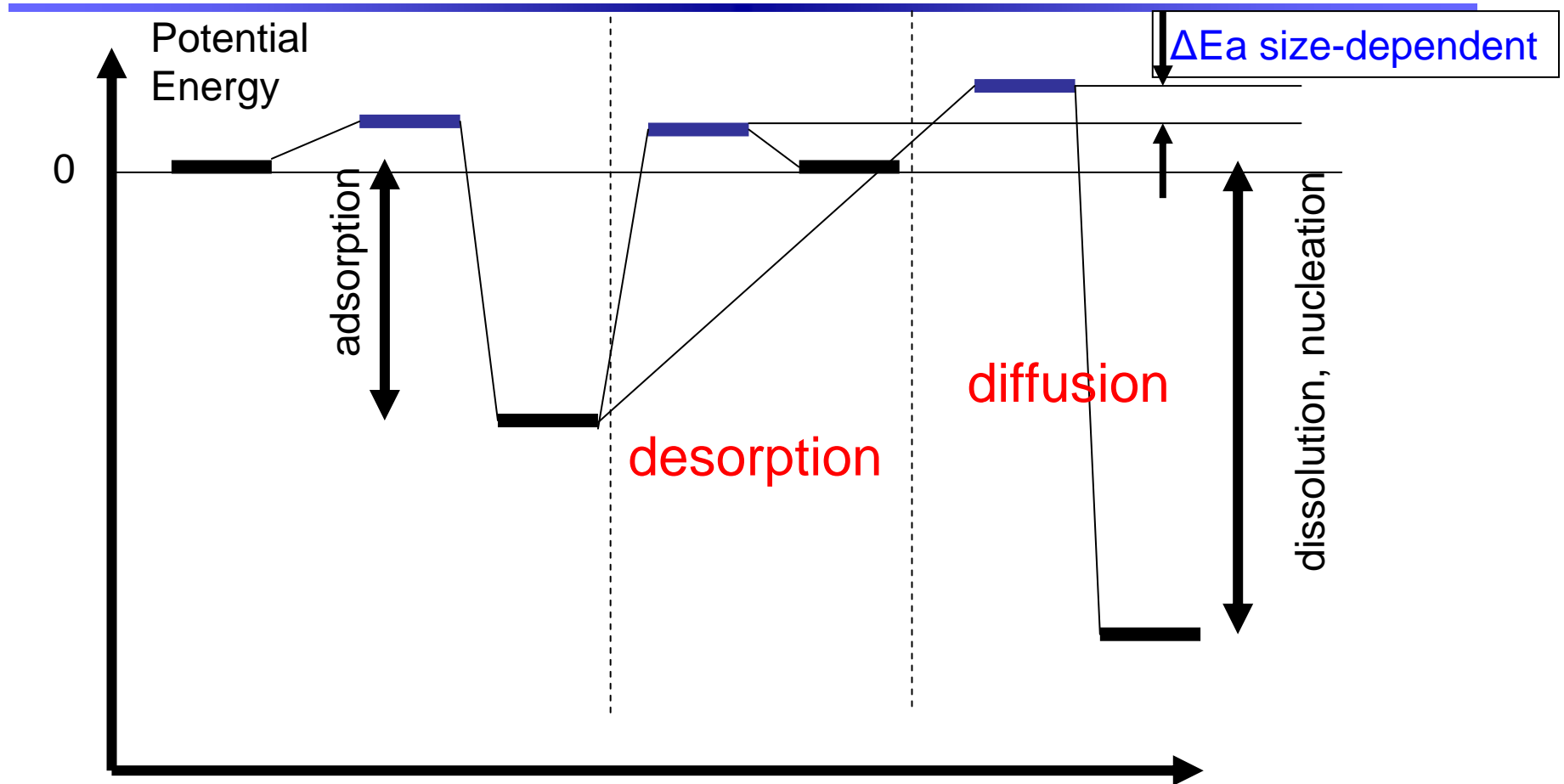


Nanostructuring in Catalysis

- History of nanostructuring in catalysis



Dynamics: excluded for large objects



Fundamental process:

Desorption-dissolution (phase formation)

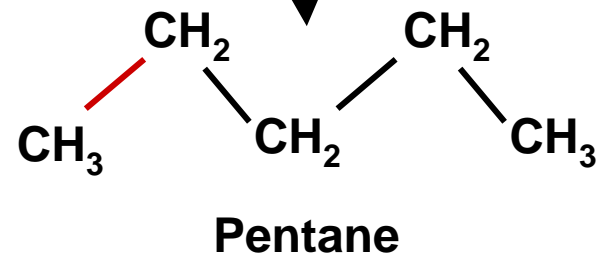
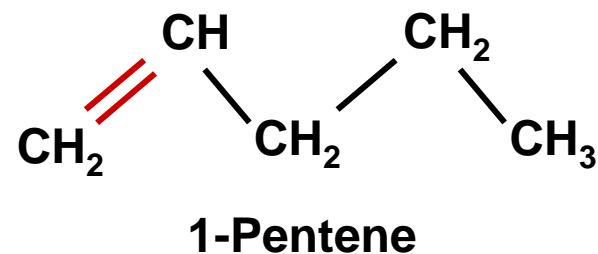
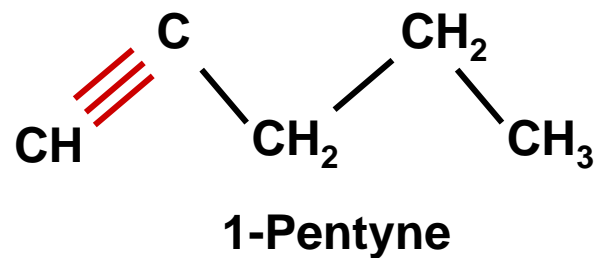
Process



Selectivity

- Catalysts in “complex” processes act on several elementary steps.
- Selective, if only one step is accelerated or remains unaffected and all other steps are retarded.
- High specificity of the active site with strong reactant-catalyst interactions.
- Material tuning through effective reactant-precursor interaction.

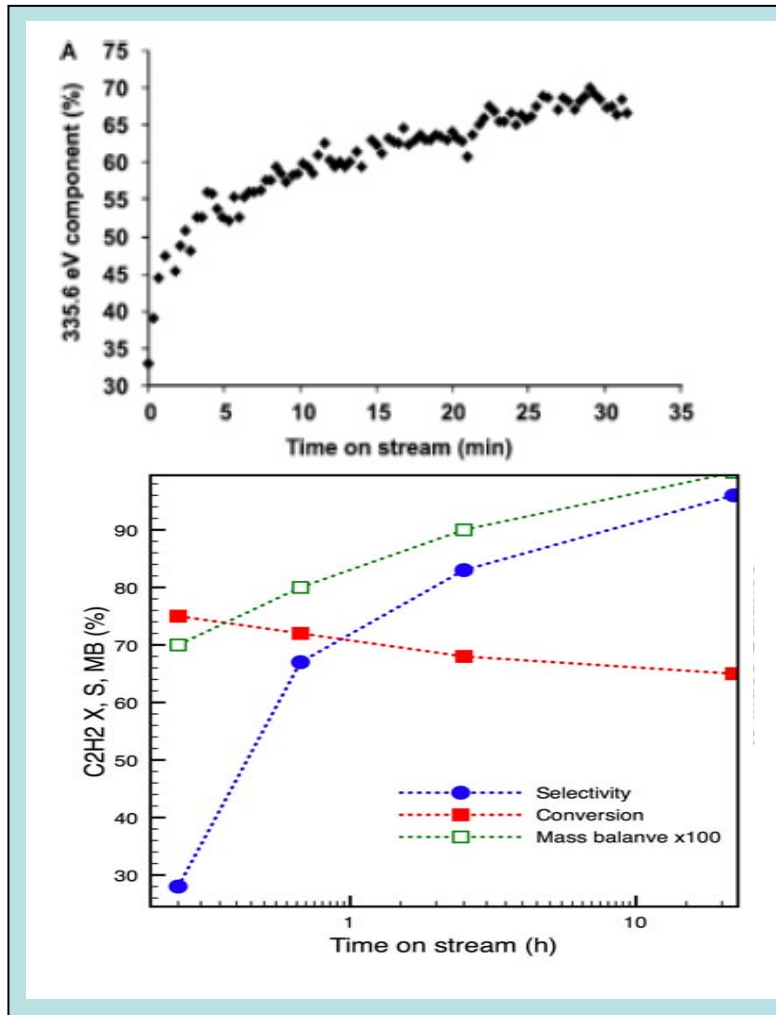




METAL (?) HYDROGENATION CATALYSTS



In-situ XPS: Pd 3d (720 eV): sub-surface C

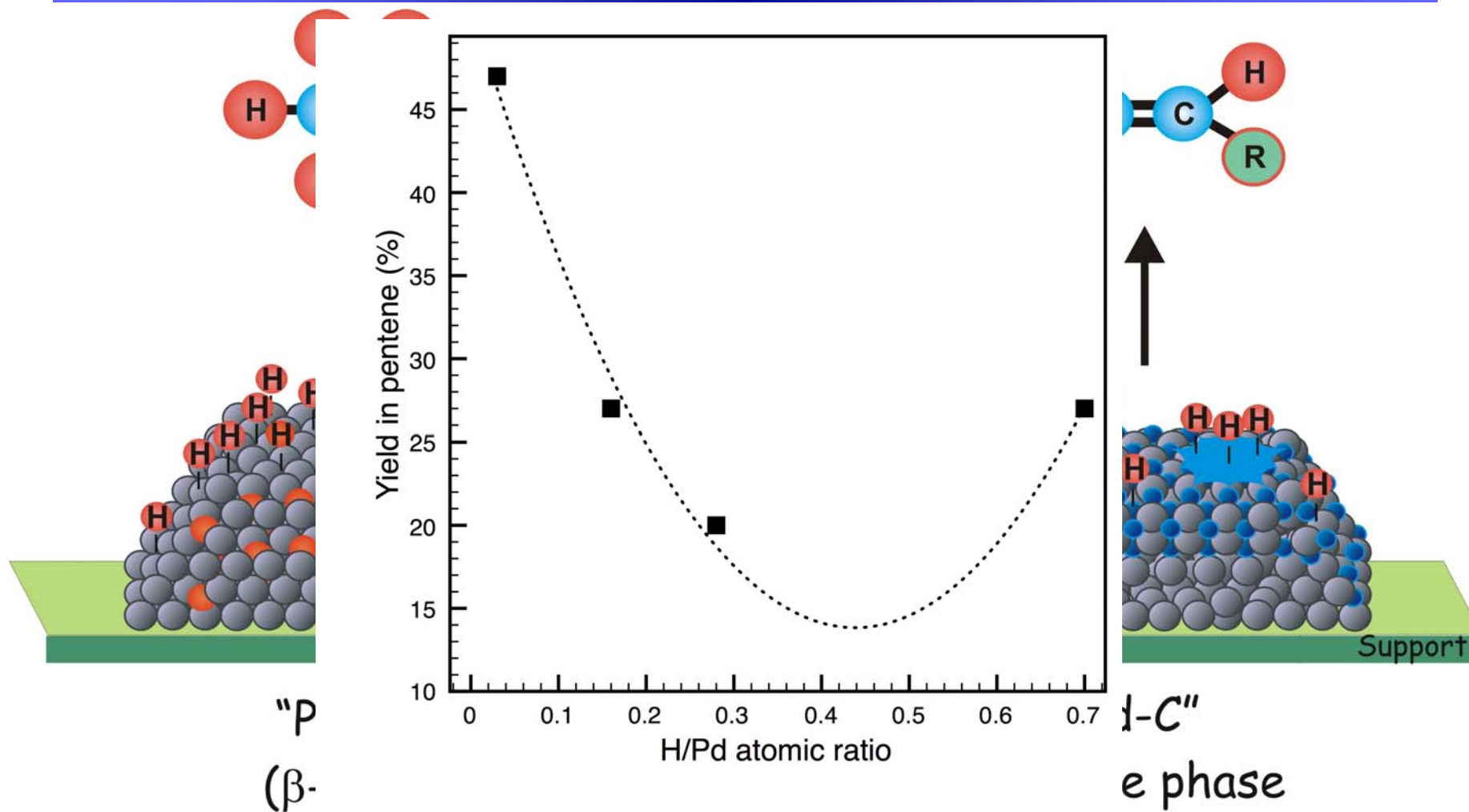


In-situ time-resolved
XPS:

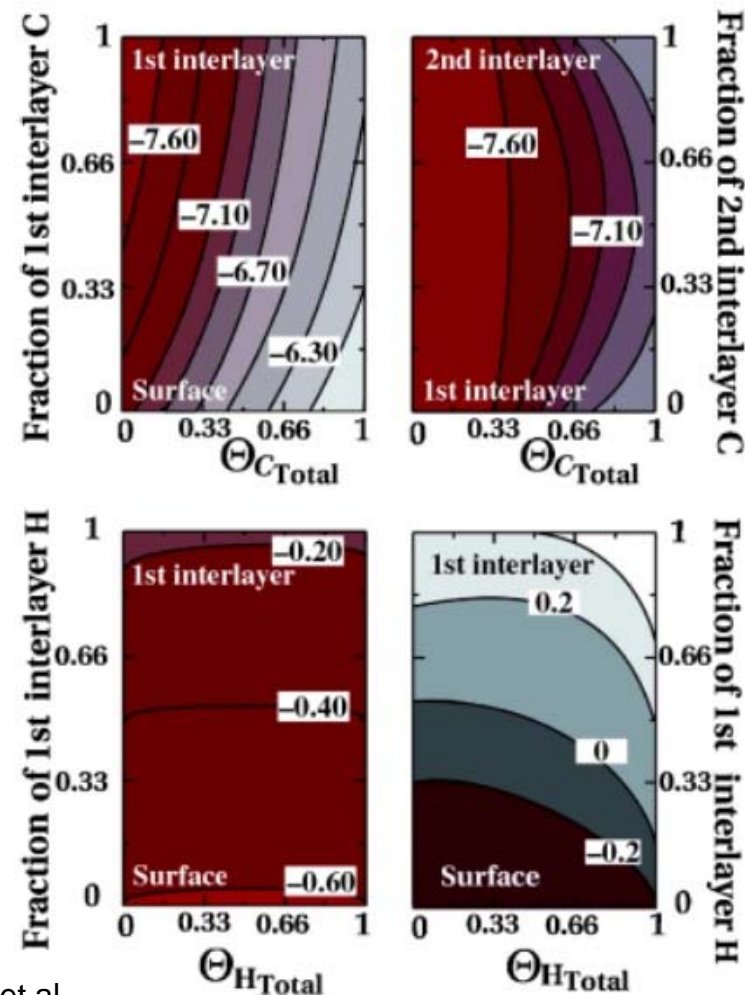
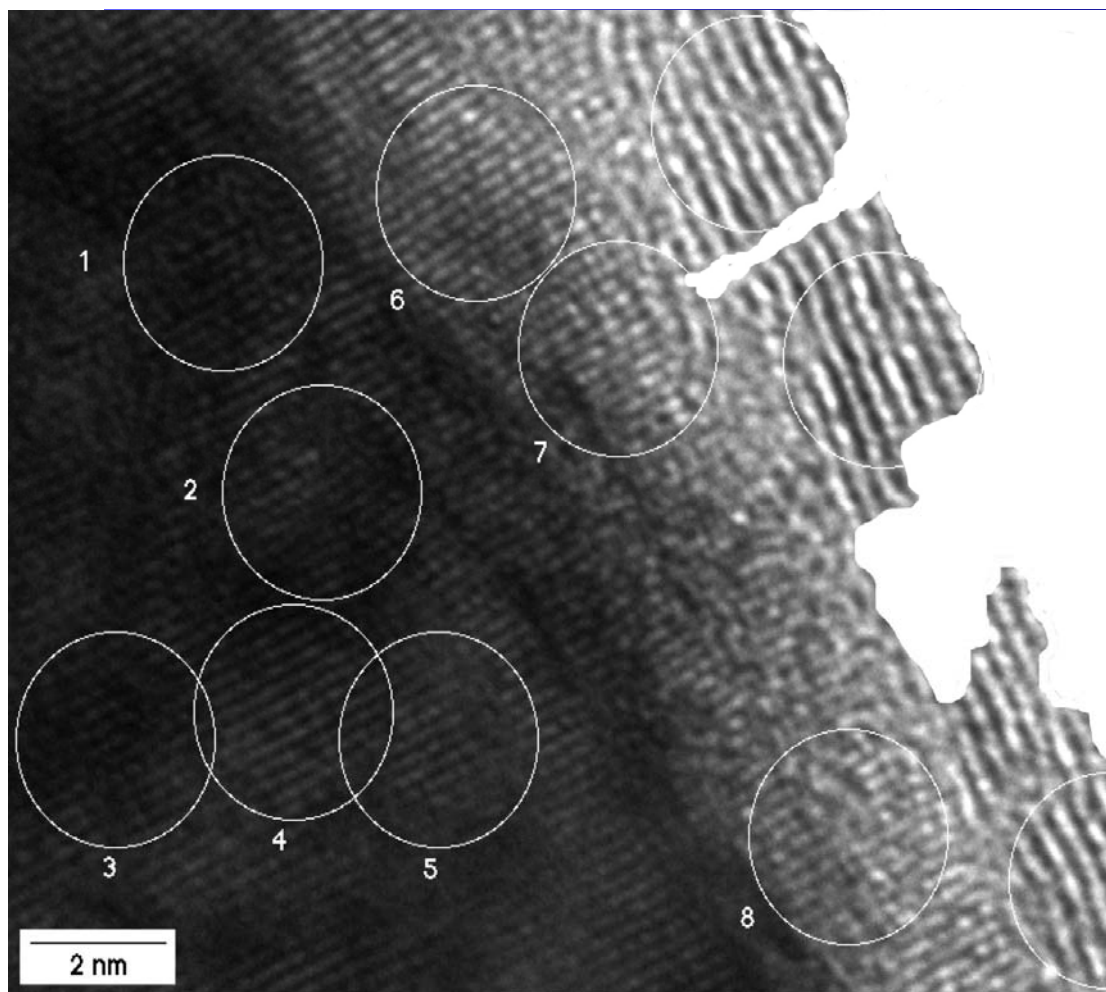
Correlation
between equilibration
and sub-surface C
formation



Selectivity control



Origin of the effects

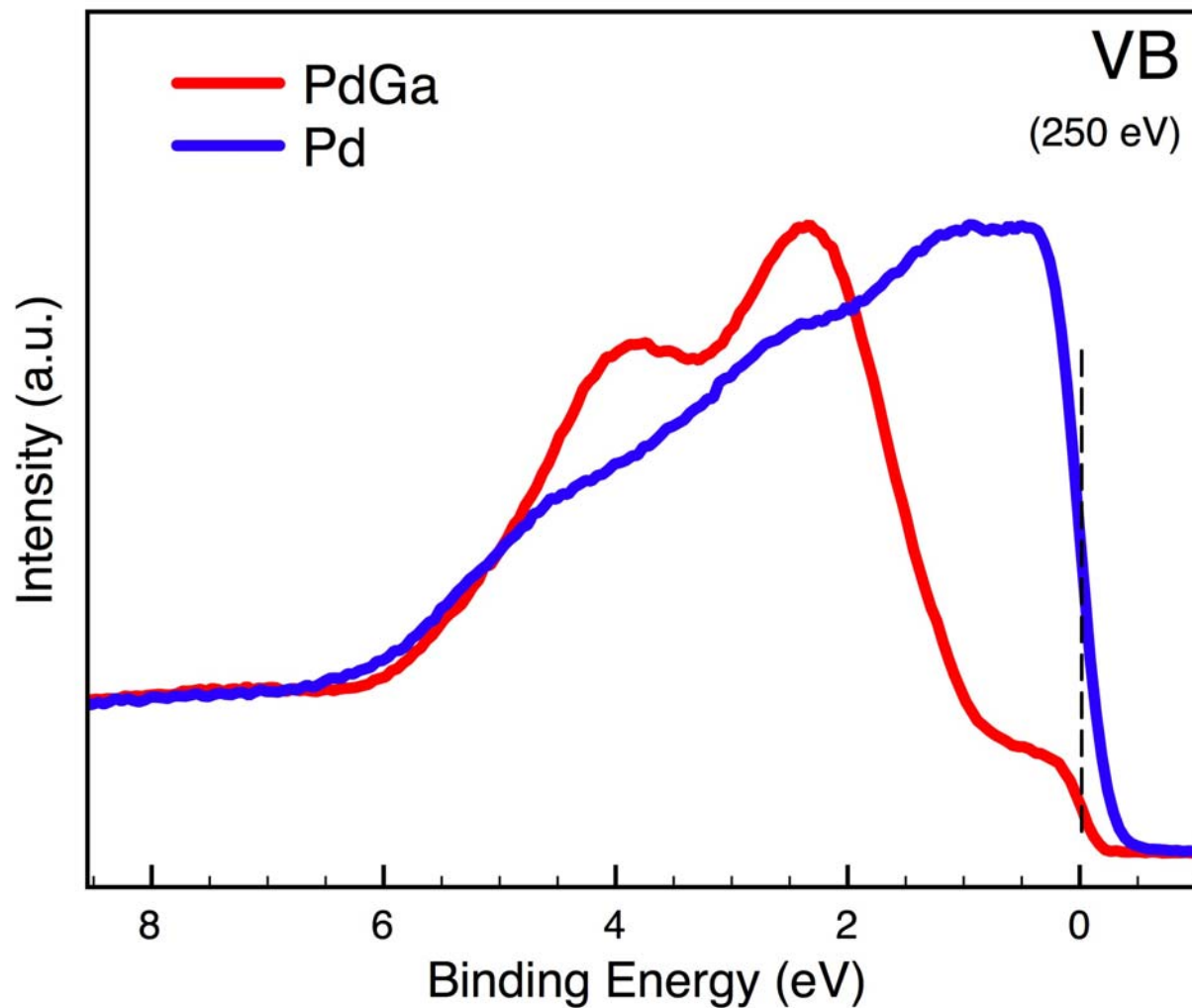
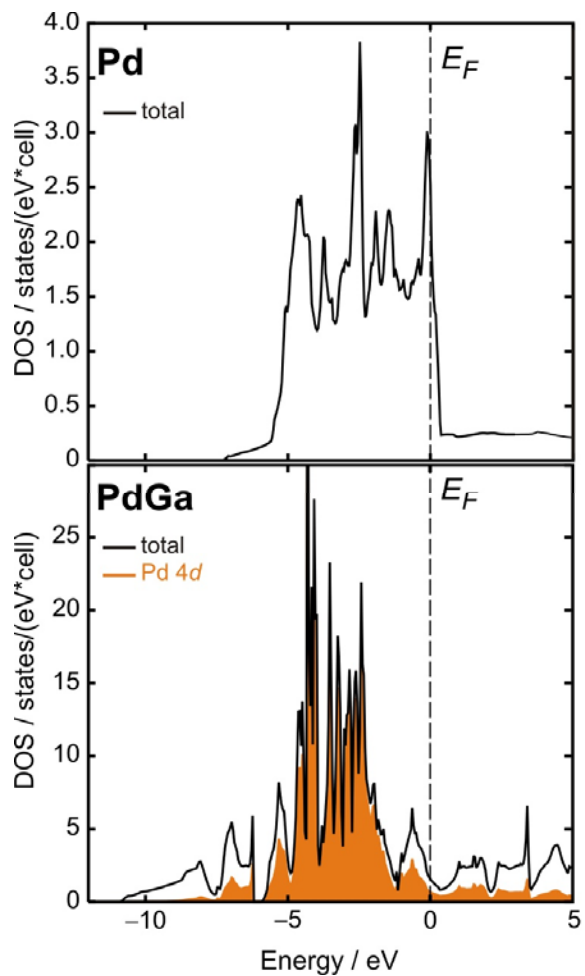


electronic structure of Pd

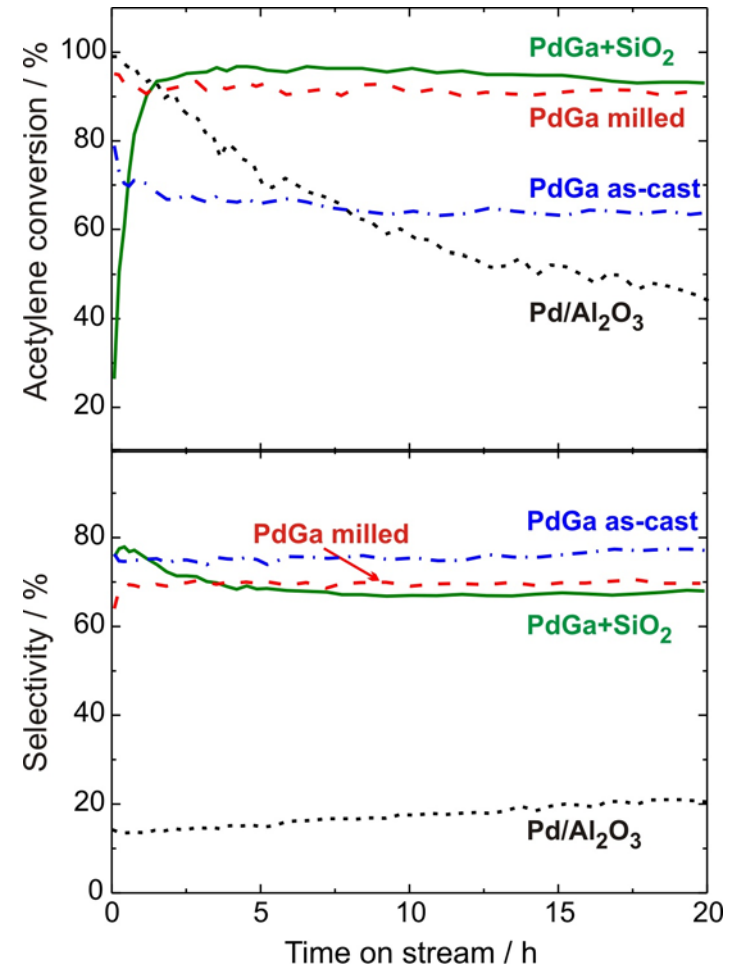
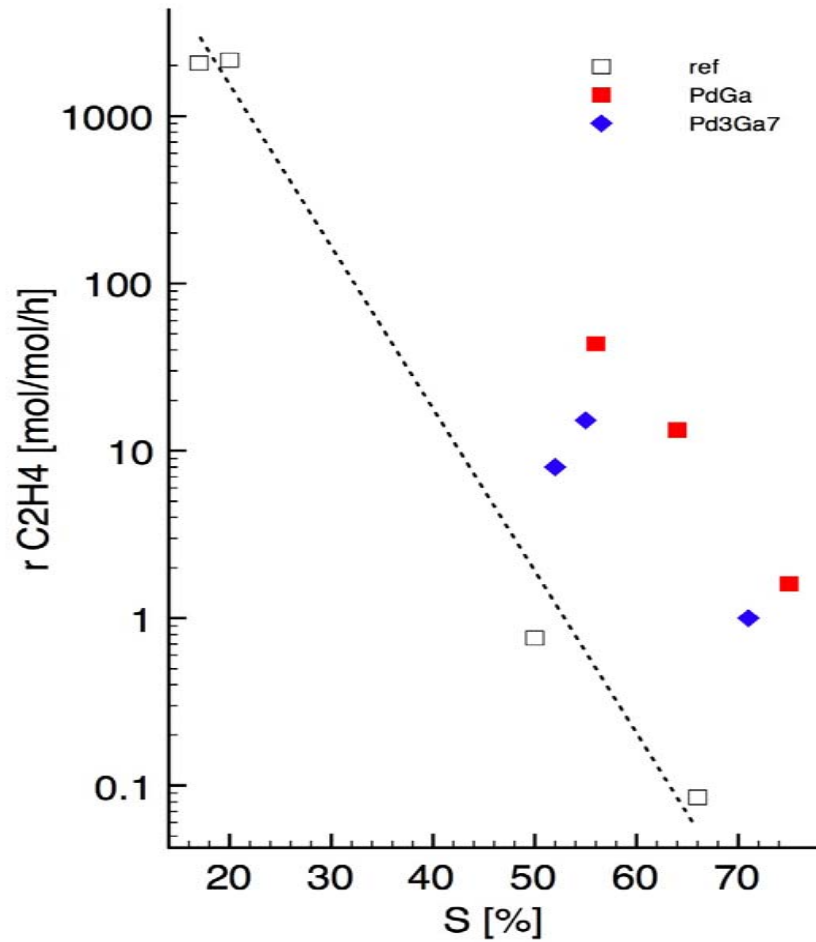
P. Sautet et al,
Angew. Chem., 2008



Intermetallics: kovalent interaction



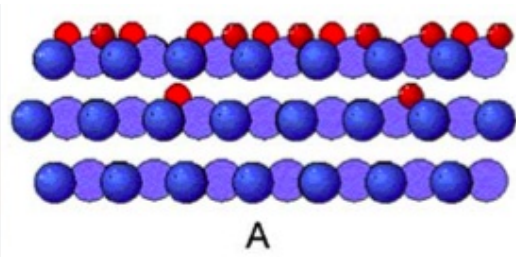
PdGa: a designer system



FIRST SUMMARY

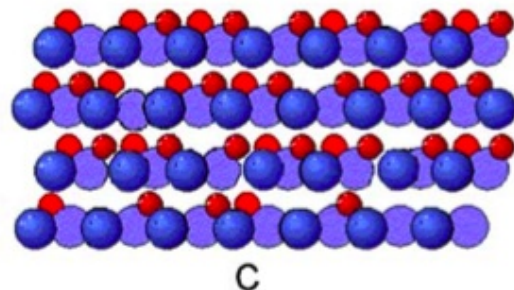
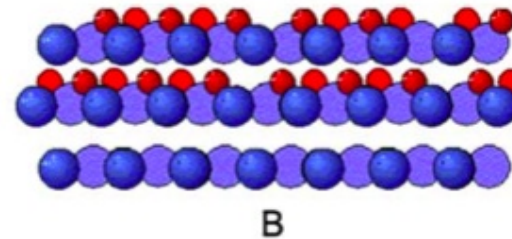


Surface and sub-surface species



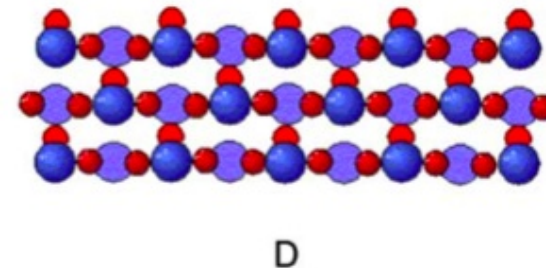
At low potential: metal plus dissolved species (“dirt”)

At slightly elevated potential: “trilayer” (theory)



At potentials beyond the “pressure gap”: sub-surface compounds (transient)

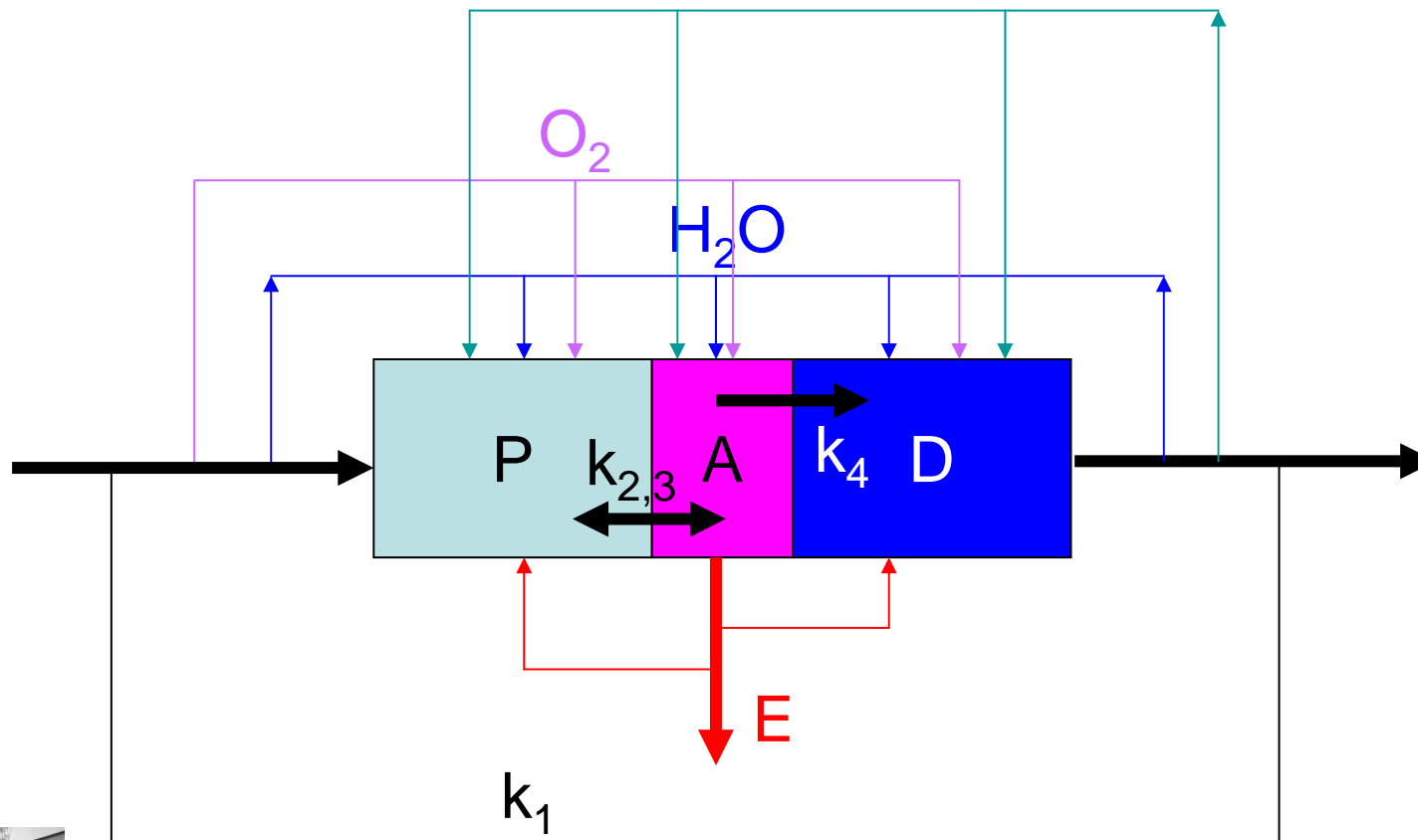
At high potential: compound; when defective: nucleo- and electrophilic



Catalyst dynamics

Finite values of $k_{2,3}$ and k_4 under selective reaction conditions only when nanostructured

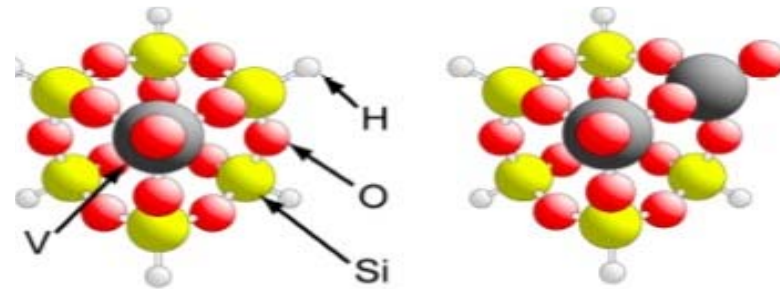
reductants, carbon



Consequences

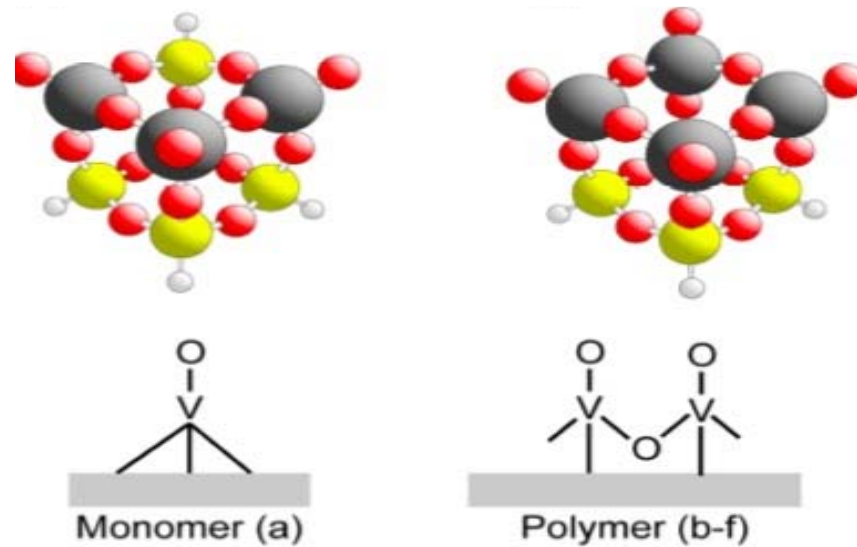
- Active catalysts cannot be “prepared”: precursors activate in chemical potential of reactants.
- {Structure} of the precursor controls composition and structure of the active phase.
- Analysis of fresh precursors and ex situ allow limited conclusions about active state.
- The same precursor will catalyze different processes under different conditions: screen and optimize operation conditions as much as precursor compositions.





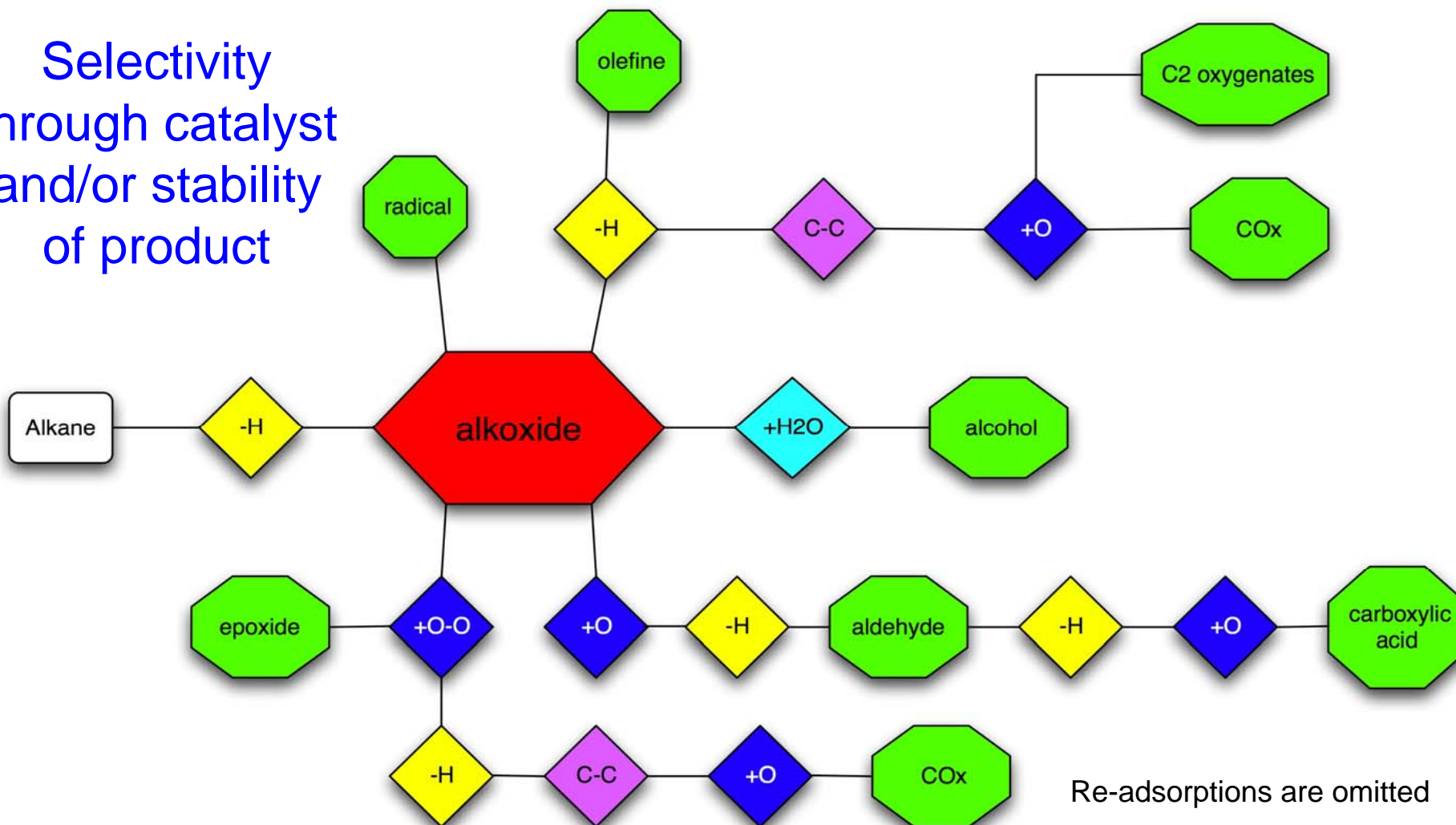
MMO vs. models

OXIDES AS CATALYSTS

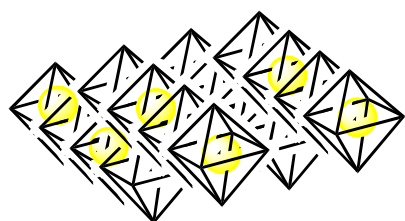


Alkane activation

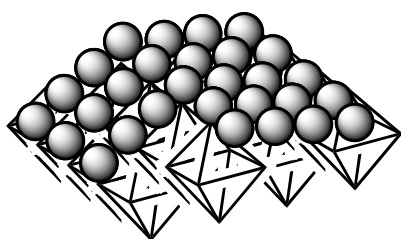
Selectivity through catalyst and/or stability of product



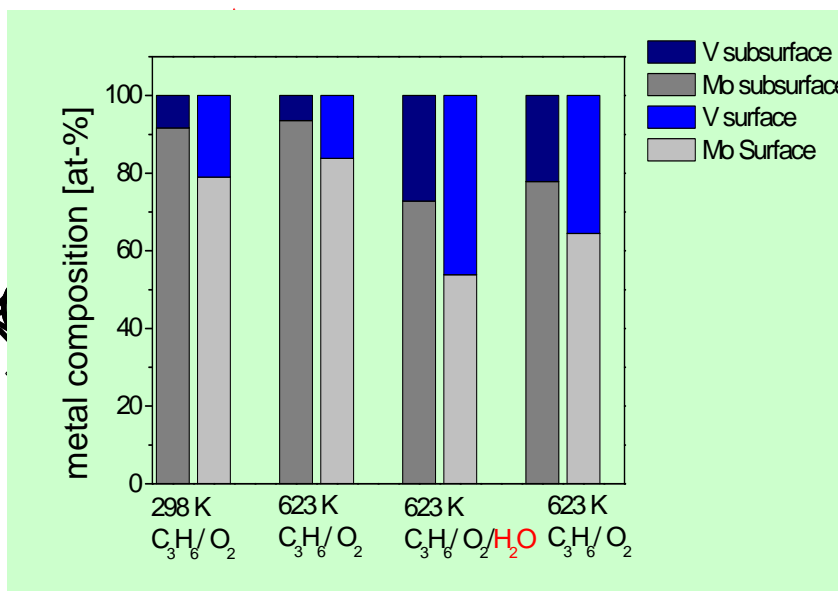
Self-organisation



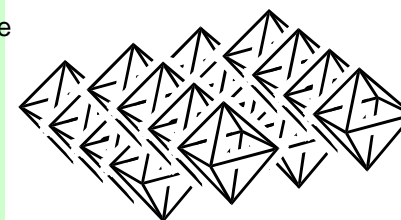
bulk insulator



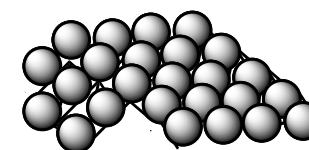
metal-insulator assembly



active phase



conductor



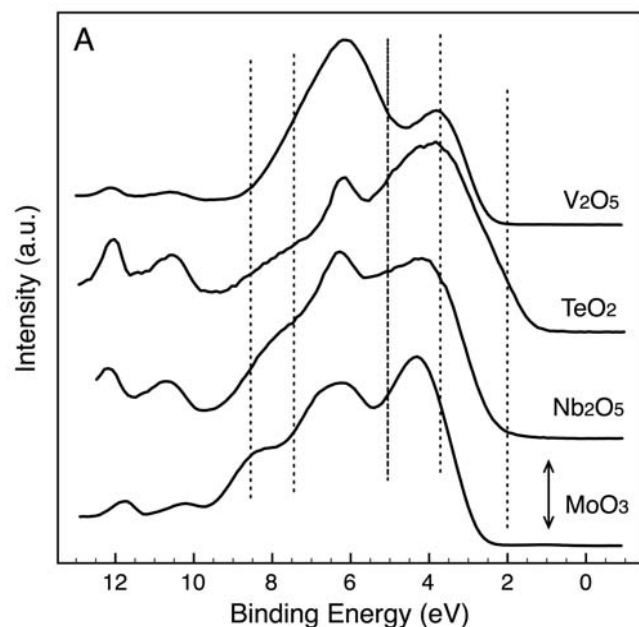
segregate

Redox catalysis is about electrons:
Conductivity and work function



Complex oxides: MMO

Reference oxides

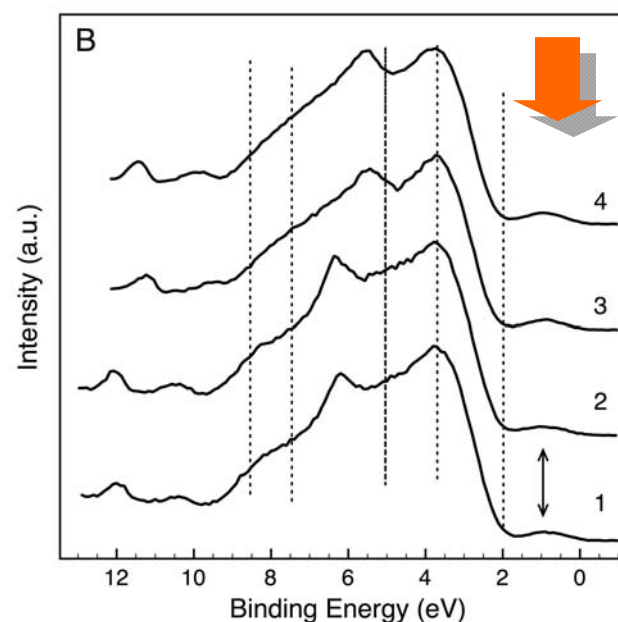


Exp. conditions: in O₂ at 623-673 K

MMO electronically derived
from MoO₃: covalent
rehybridisation

Catalysts

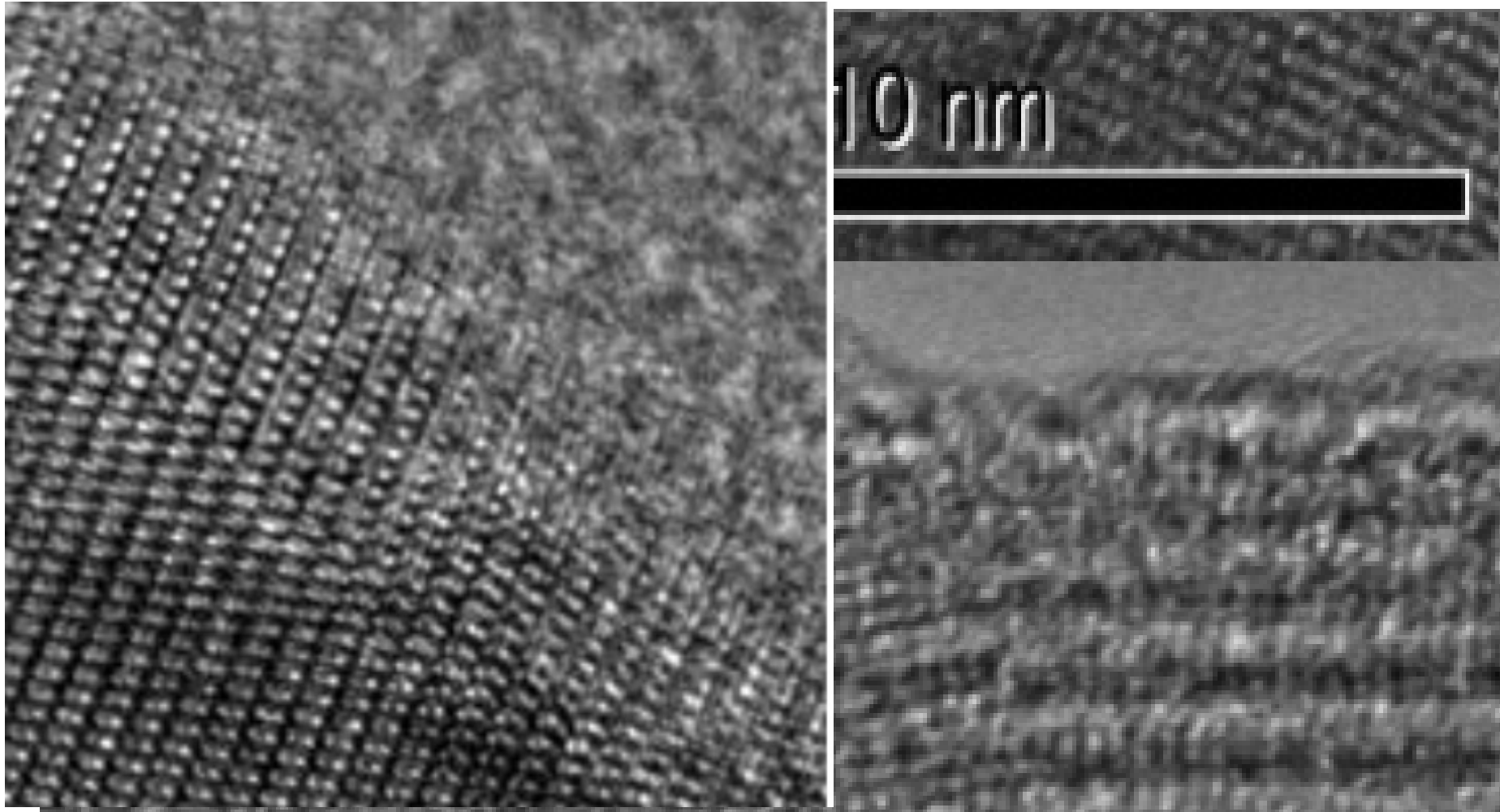
Oxygen
vacancies



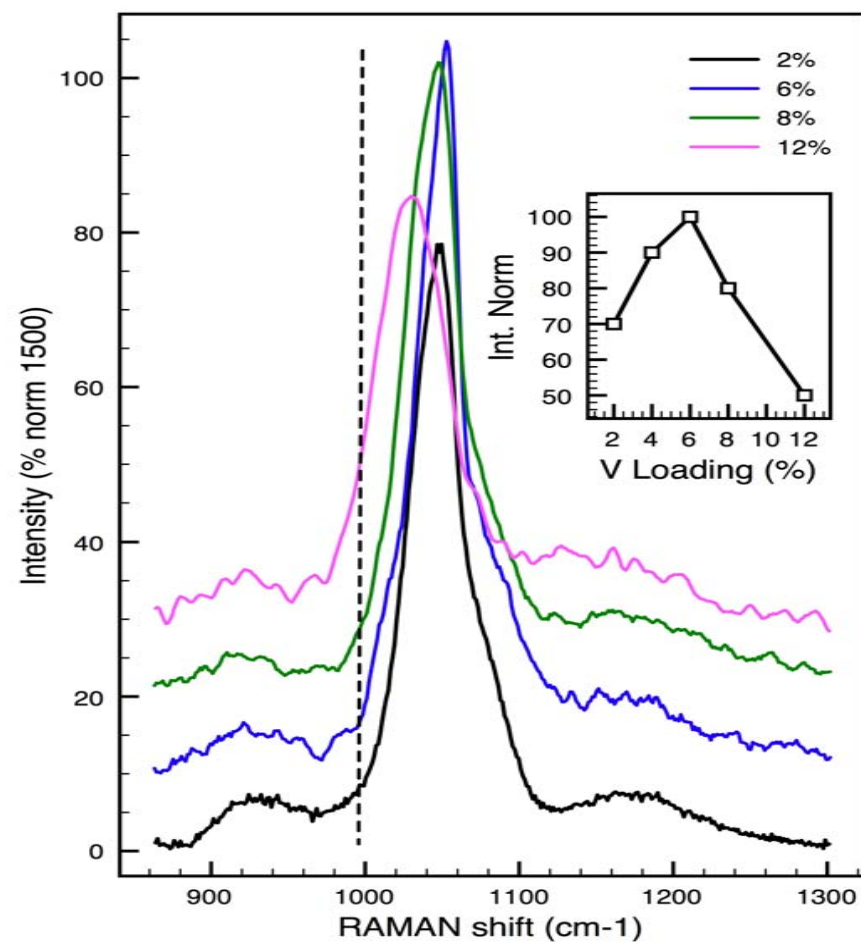
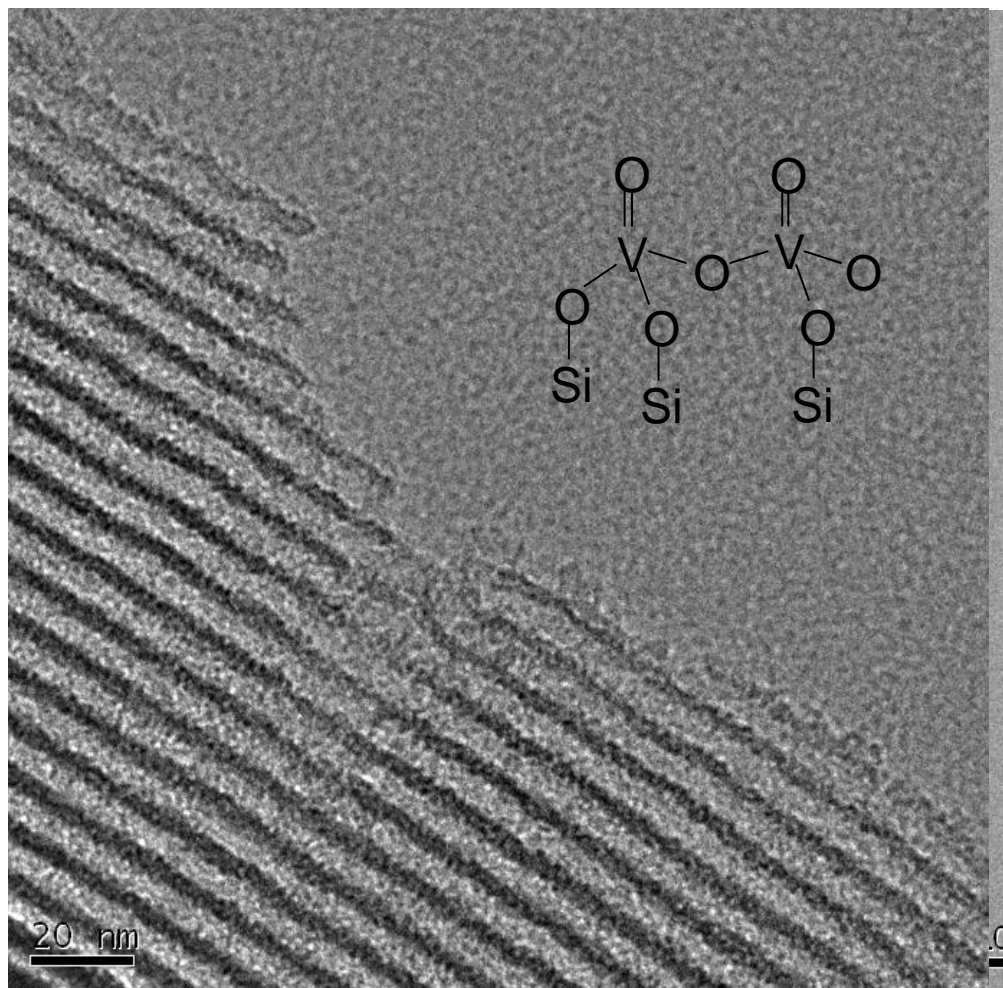
- 4 MoV: in C₃H₆+O₂ at 623 K
- 3 MoVW: in C₃H₆+O₂+H₂O at 623 K
- 2 M1 (1886): in C₃H₈+O₂+H₂O at 623 K
- 1 M1 (1761): in C₃H₈+O₂+H₂O at 623 K



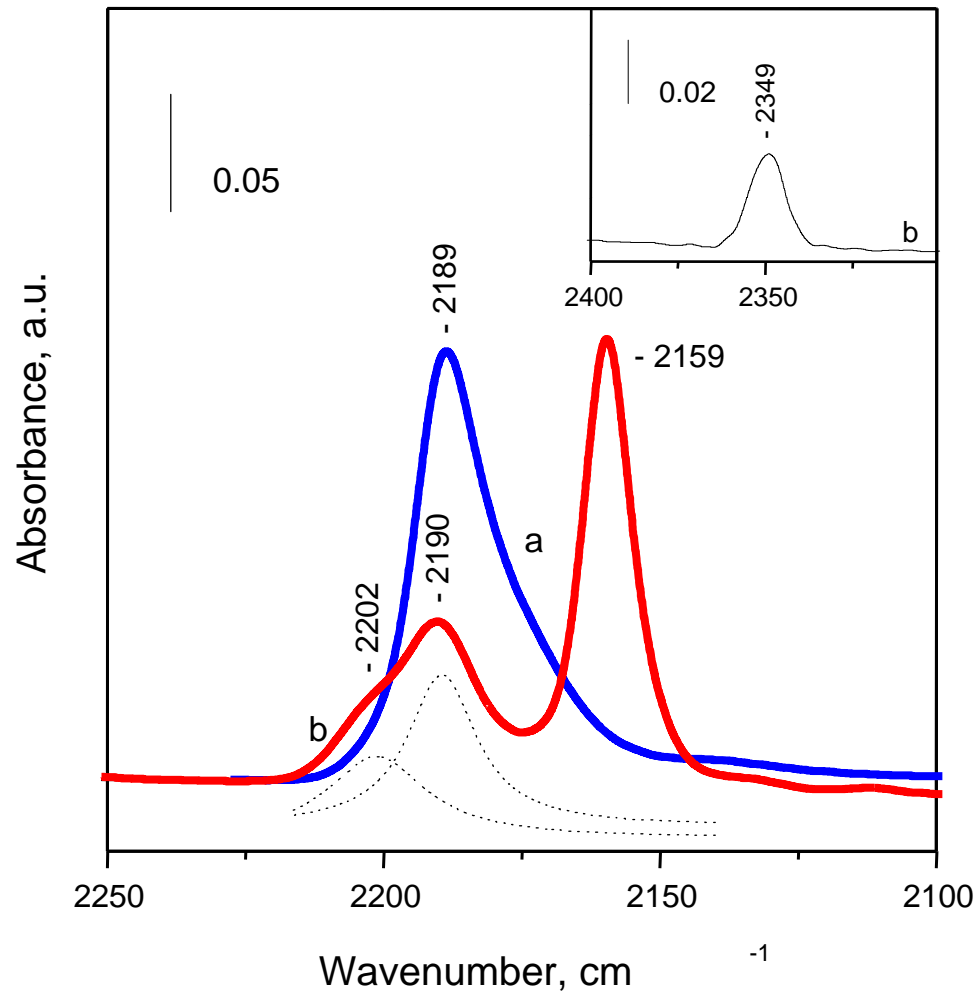
M1: MoVTeNbO_x : a typical system



V-SBA 15: a “molecular model”



Surface dynamics



Low-temperature CO adsorption

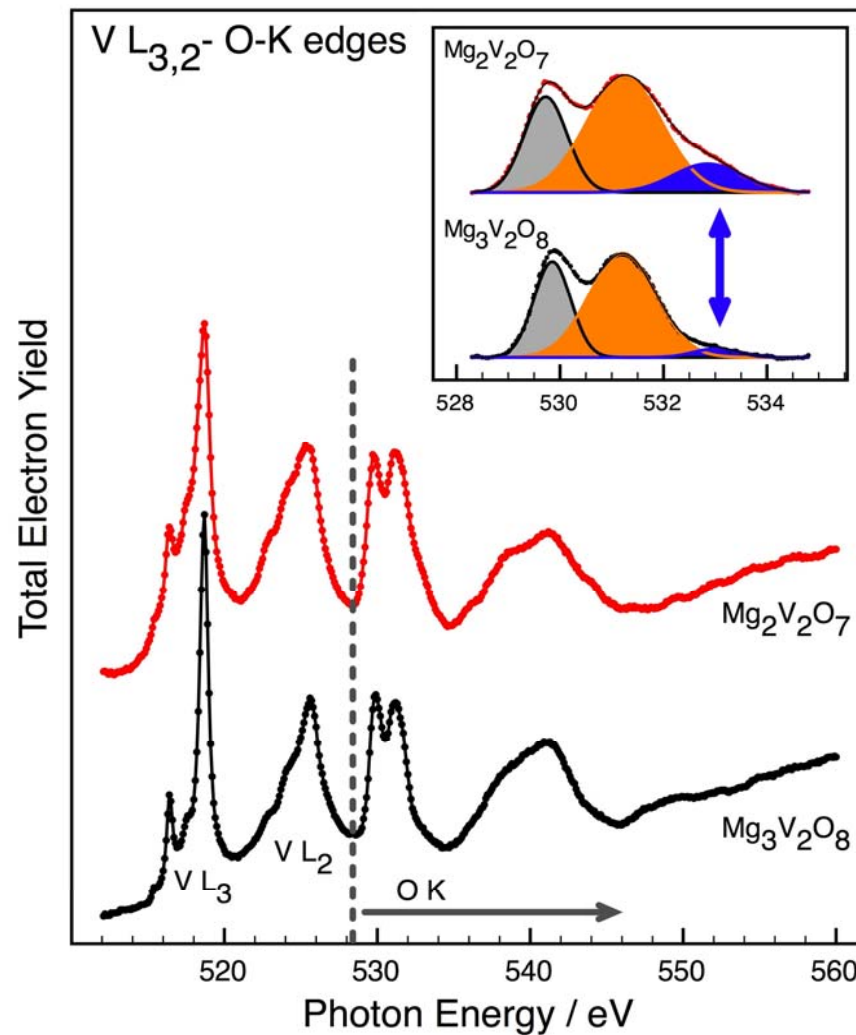
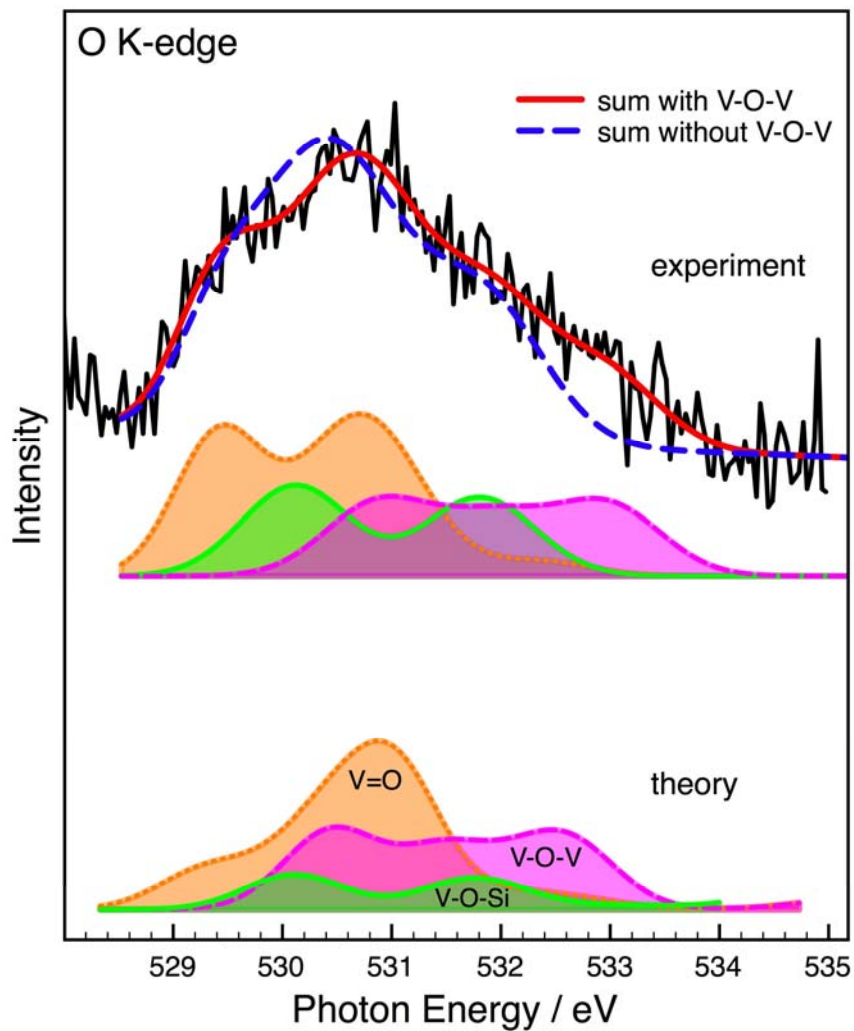
a) After dehydration and evacuation

b) After a following O₂ exposure at 85 K

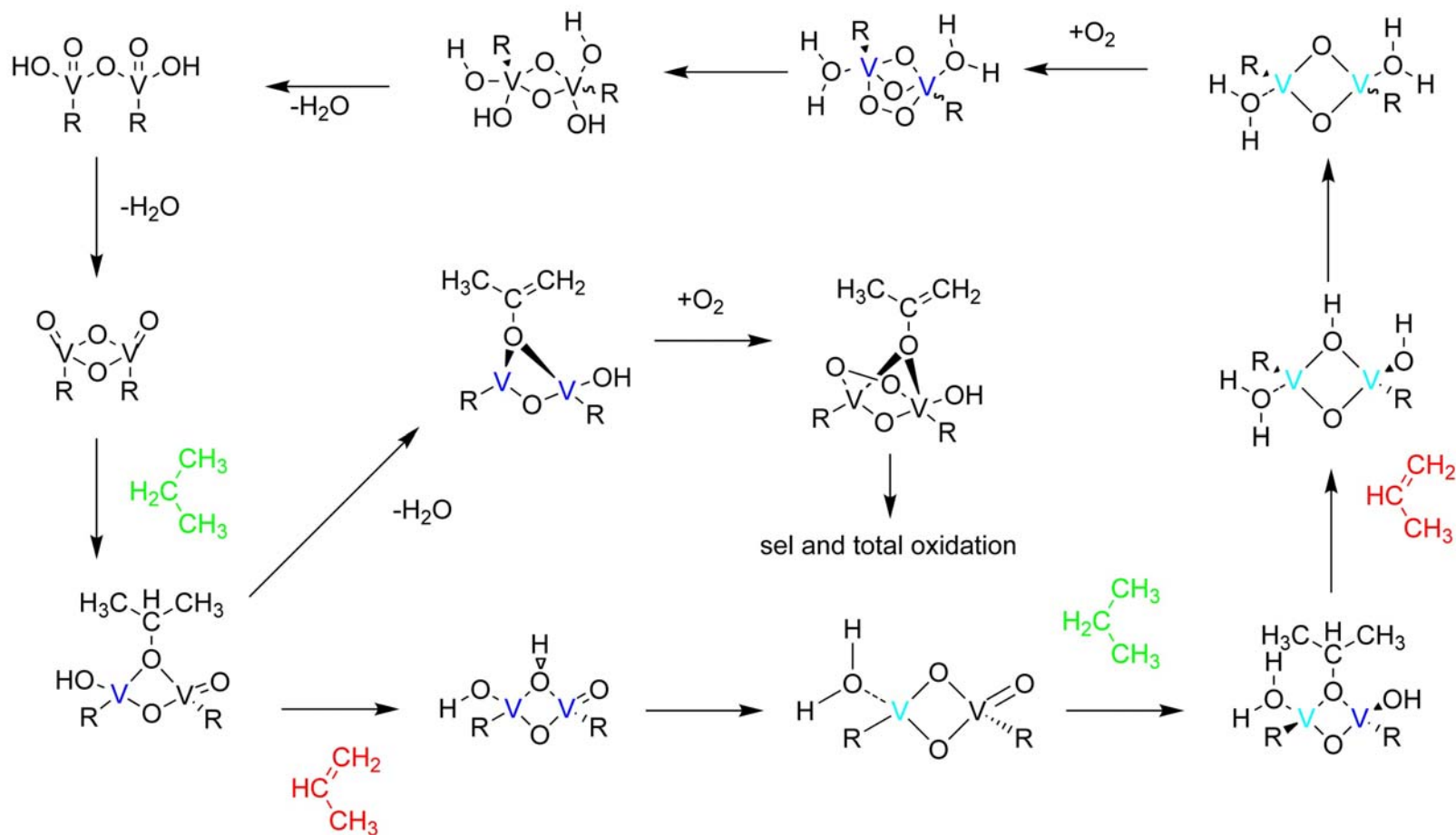
Several active sites, incompatible with single species, reactivity towards co-ordinating oxygen



V-O-V



Reaction pathway



SECOND SUMMARY

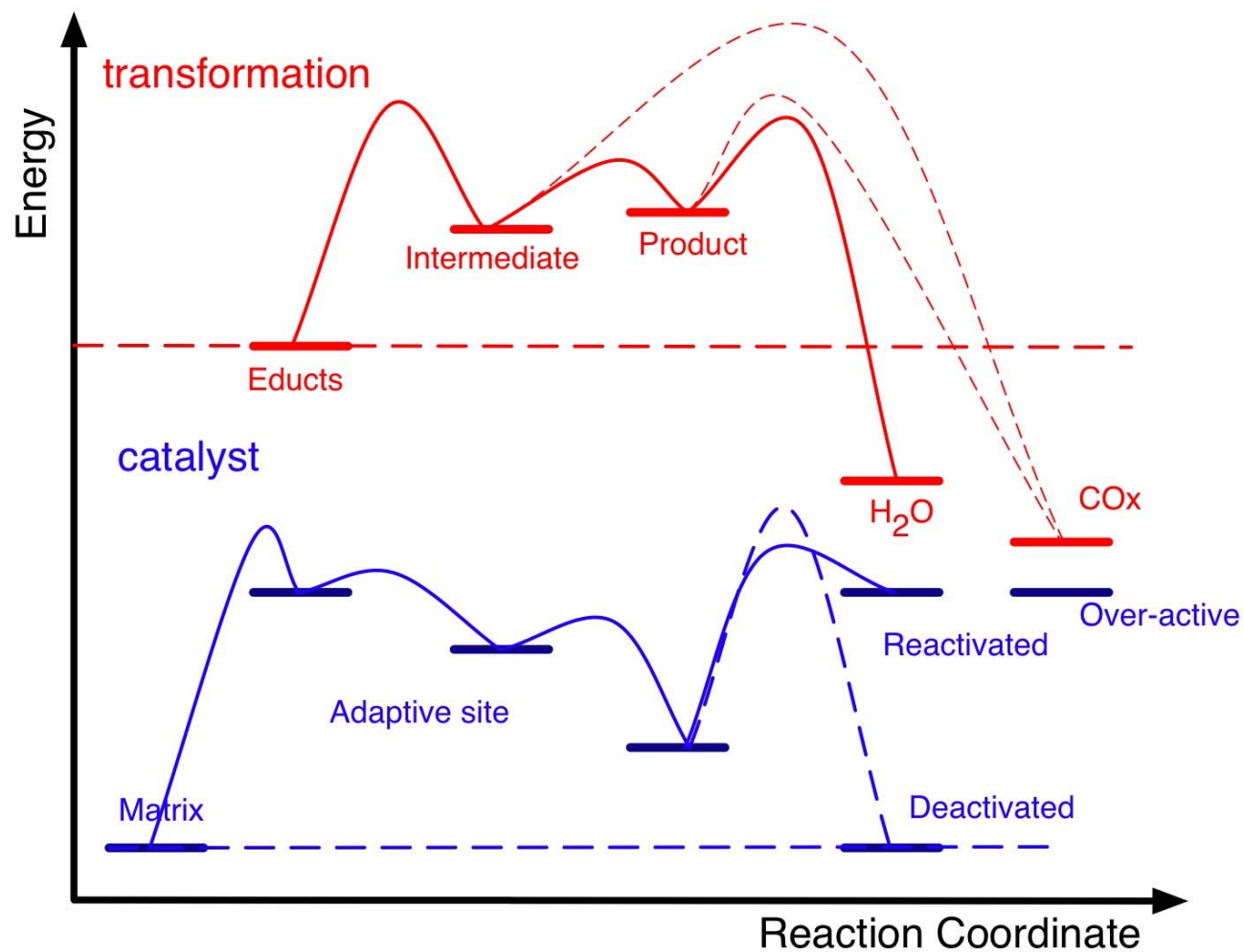


Active sites in a high performance catalyst

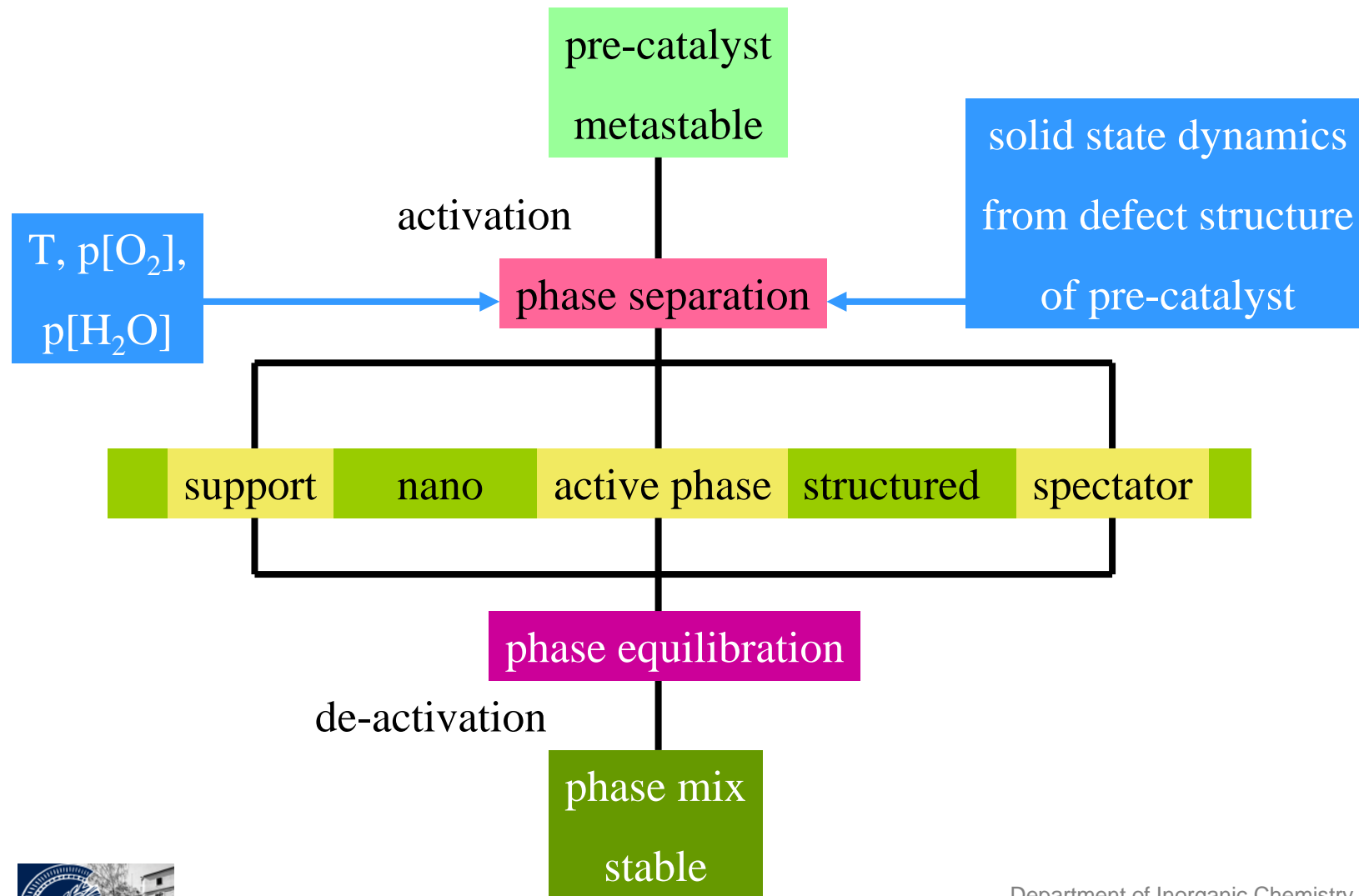
- An active heterogeneous catalyst contains few **adaptive sites** for reaction.
- They adapt their structure according to the local chemical potential and guarantee selective operation on progressively more reactive adsorbates.
- The complex structure of the precursors is required to fix the chemical potential of the active phase in the reaction environment.

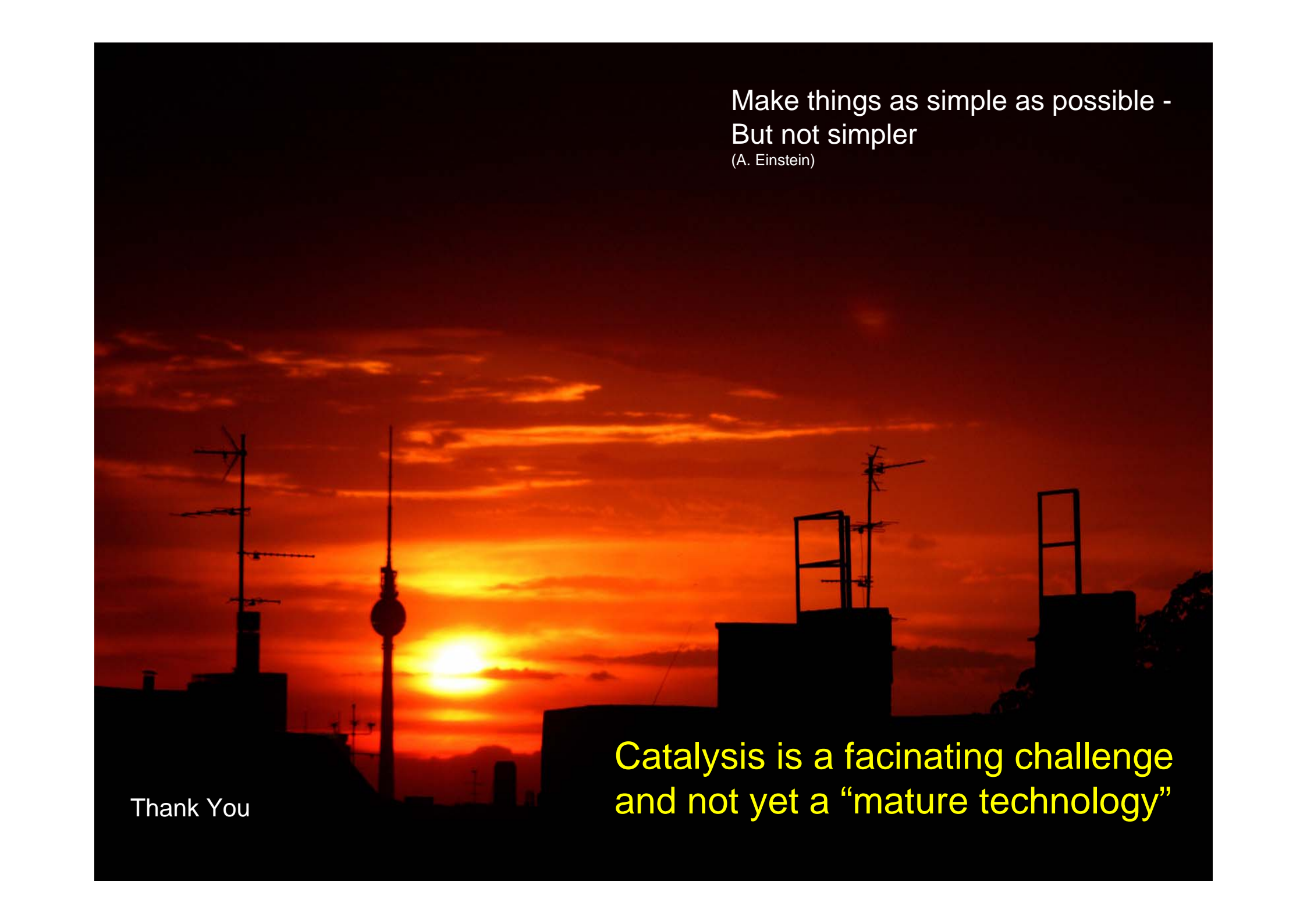


Selective oxidation: Coupling of transformation and material



Catalyst dynamics



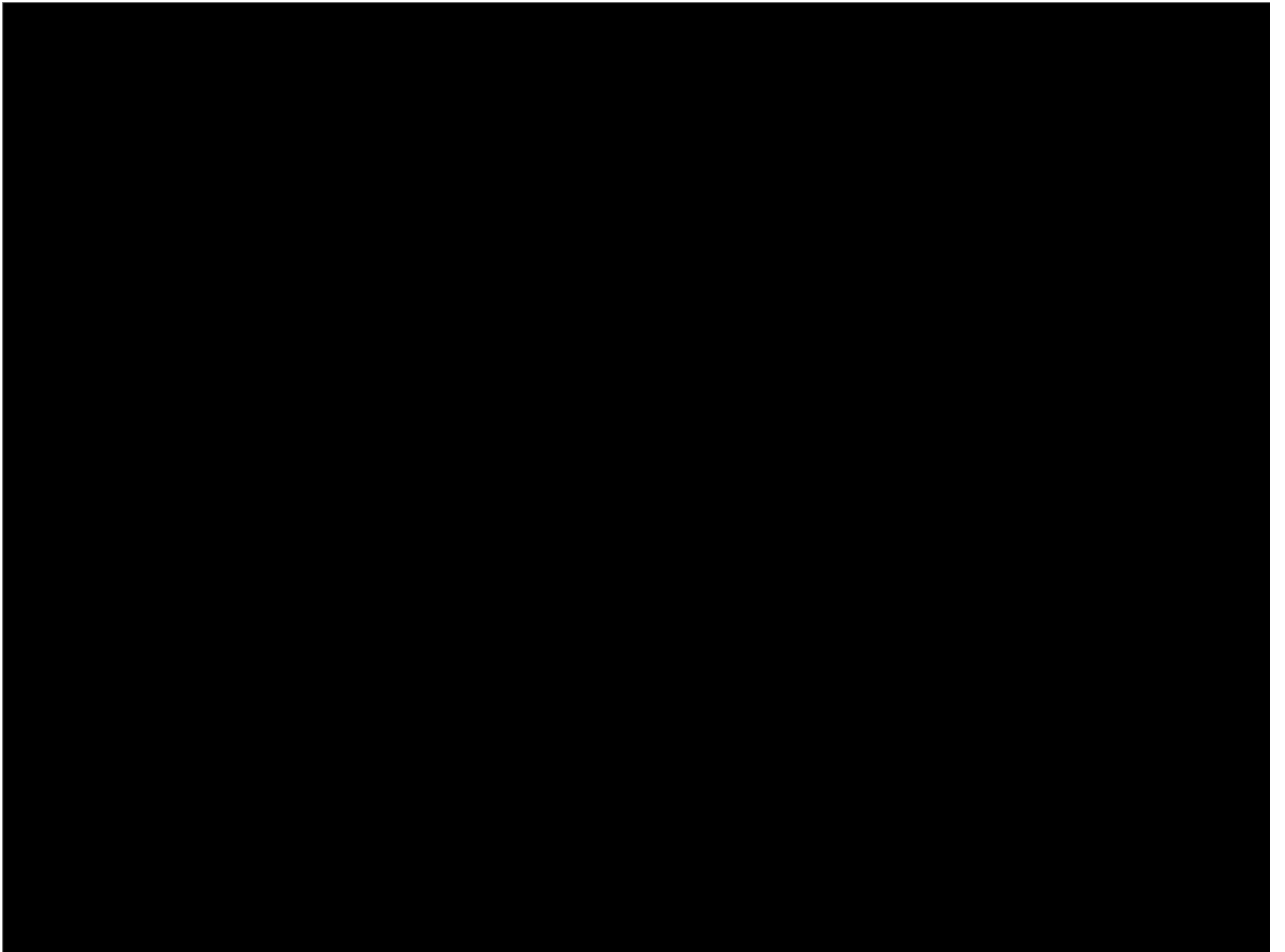


Make things as simple as possible -
But not simpler

(A. Einstein)

Thank You

Catalysis is a fascinating challenge
and not yet a “mature technology”



Catalyst dynamics

