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Pd and its Intermetallics in Heterogeneous Catalysis





FUNDAMENTALS



The function of a catalyst: The single crystal approach

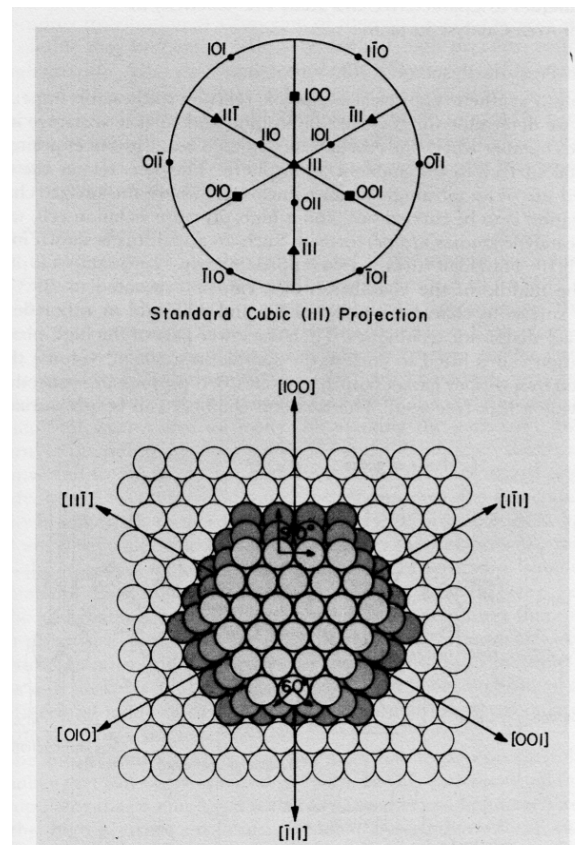
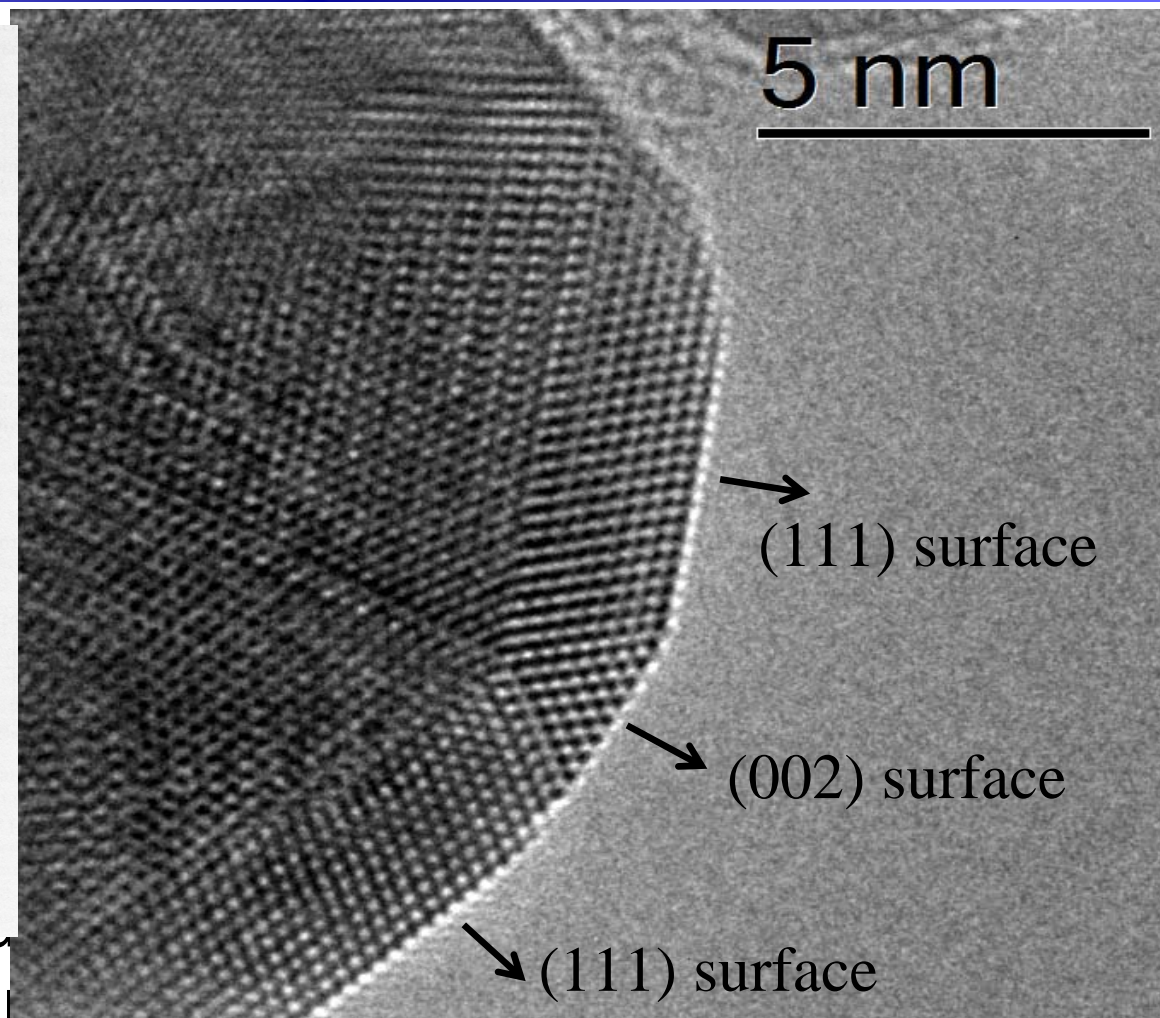


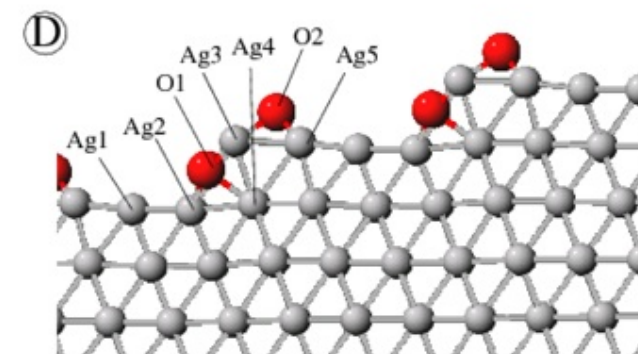
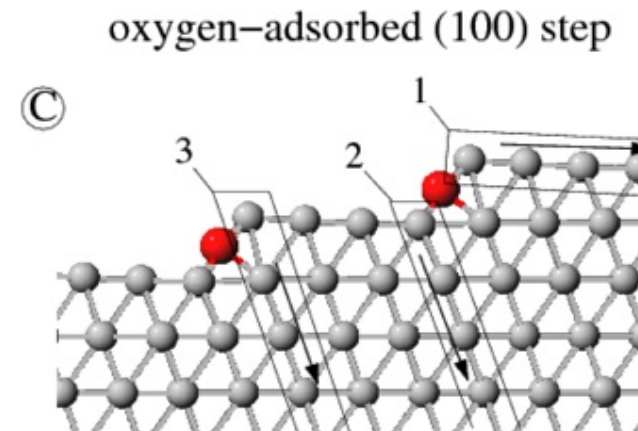
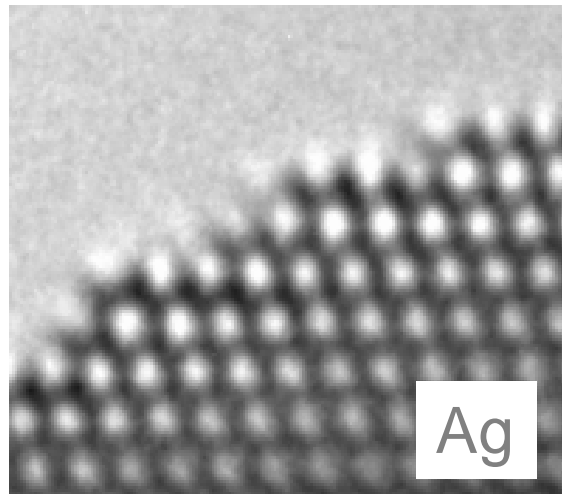
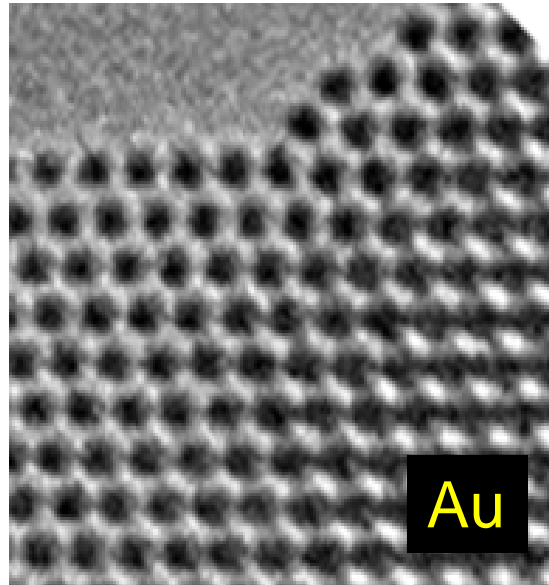
Figure 8.9. Catalyst particle viewed as a crystallite, composed of well-defined atomic planes.



Somorjai 1981
Bulk is "irrelevant",



Defects: Oxo-philicity

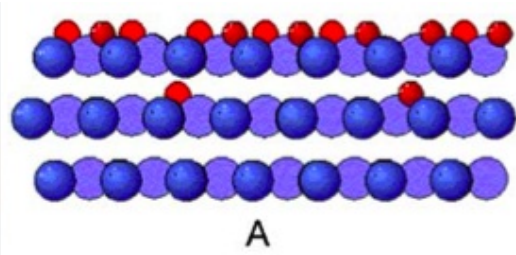


T. Jakob
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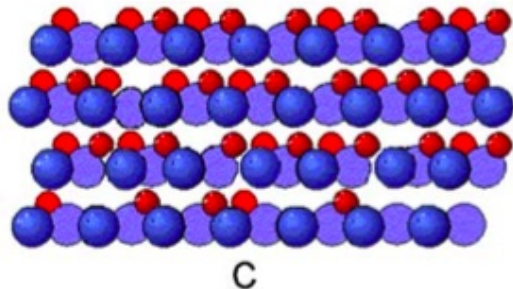
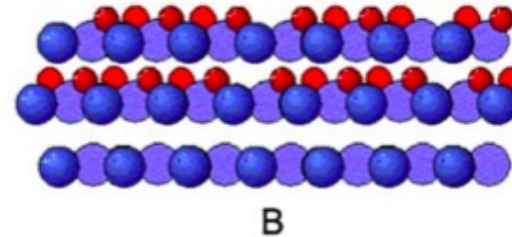


Metastable sub-surface species



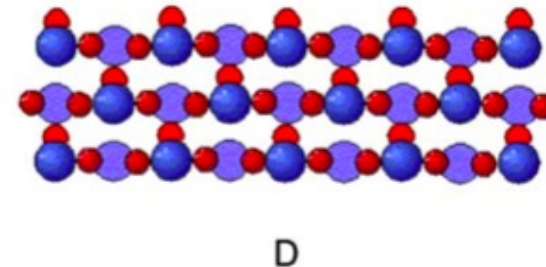
At low potential: metal plus dissolved species (“dirt”)

At slightly elevated potential: “trilayer” (theory)



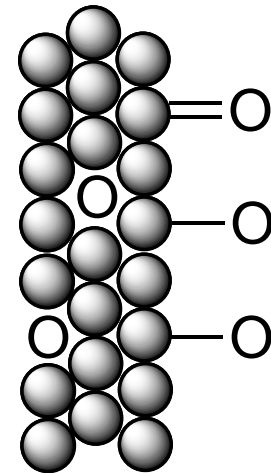
At potentials beyond the “pressure gap”: sub-oxide, sub-surface oxide, TSO (HP-XPS)

At high potential: oxide; when defective: nucleo and electrophilic



Di-oxygen as oxidant

- Atomic chemisorbed oxygen (created typically in UHV) is amphoteric in redox properties: at “virtual pressure” → sub-surface
- Sub-surface oxygen is not reactive but
 - Polarizes the surface for adsorption
 - Restructures the surface by incorporation (autocatalytic)
 - Segregates to the surface as **O nucleo**
 - Polarizes atomic oxygen into **O electro**
- **Electrophilic oxygen**
 - Oxidizes functional substrates (CO, olefines)
 - Creates all oxygenate organic molecules
- **Nucleophilic oxygen**
 - Activates C-H bonds into functional substrates
 - Creates basicity and binds water (OH)
 - Protonates via OH oxygenates

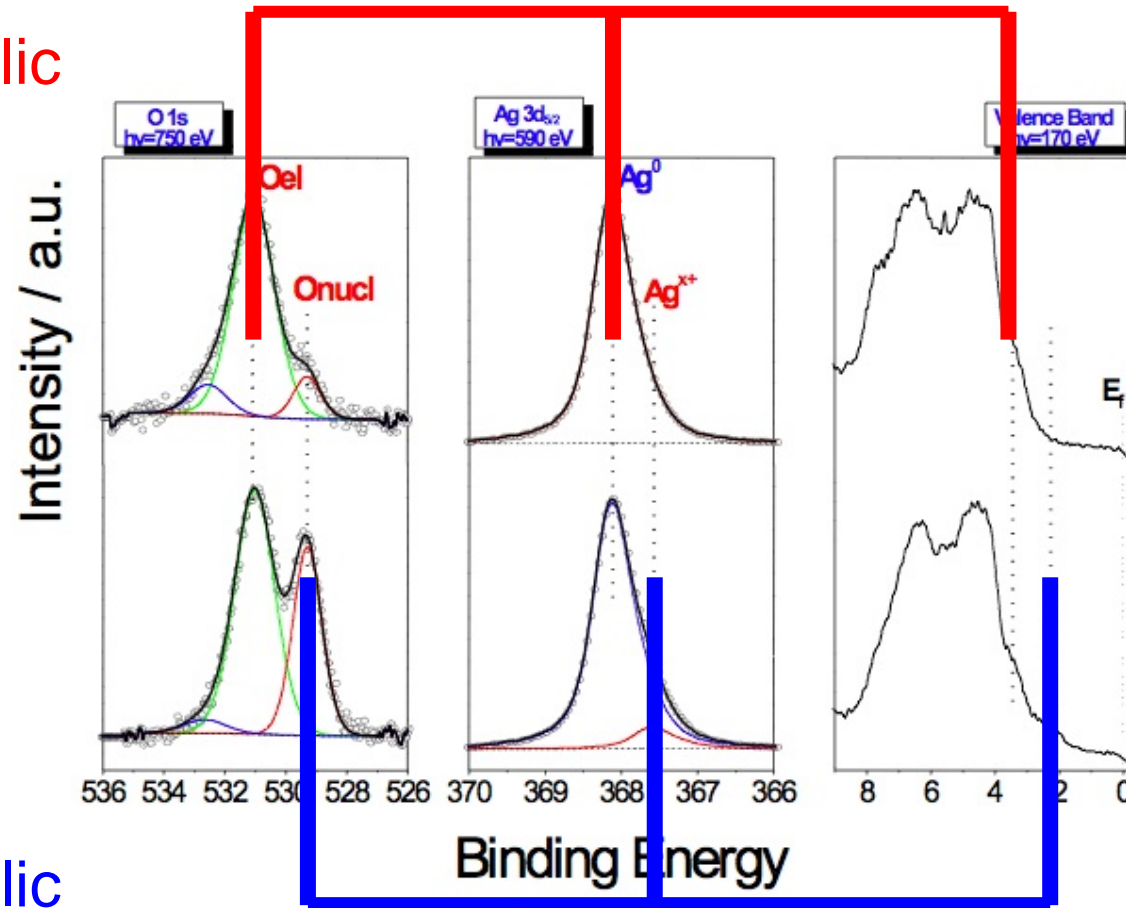


With metals



Multifunctional oxygen

electrophilic



nucleophilic

Analogy: Protonic vs hydridic hydrogen?

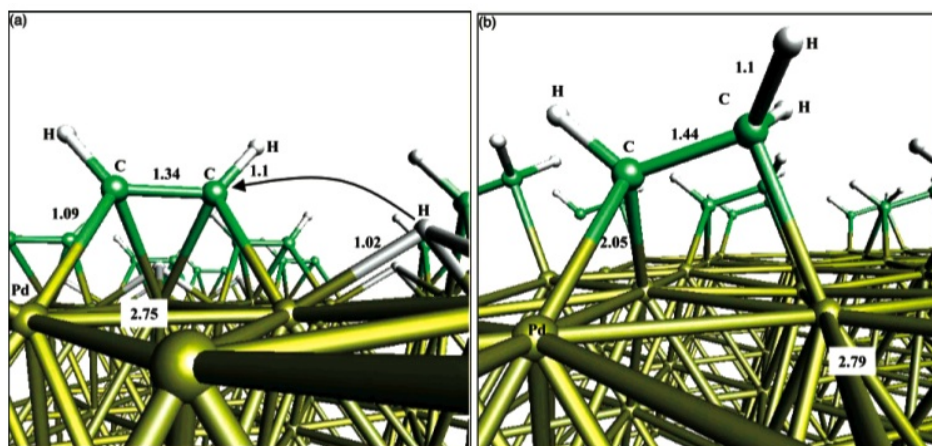


Hydrogenation Catalysis

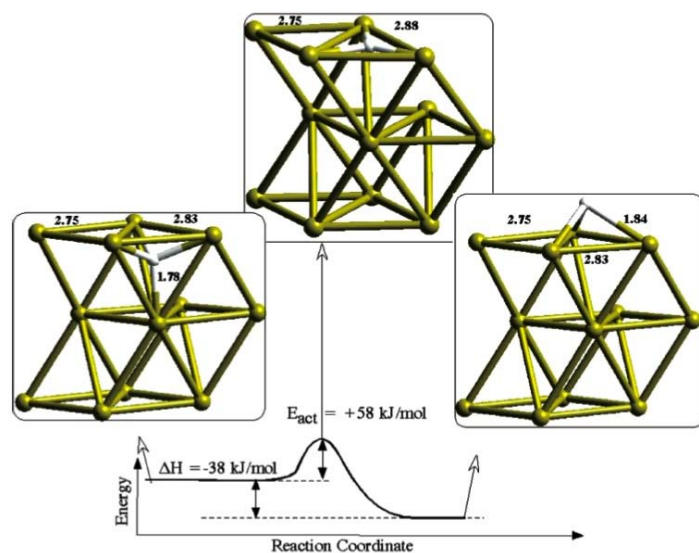
- A widely used yet often poorly selective catalyst for hydrogenation reactions is Pd metal as nano-particles on supports.
- Selectivity controlled by additives (poorly reproducible).
- Concept: Size of active site controls selectivity.
- Concept: sub-surface “hydride” is relevant or detrimental.



Reaction pathway: role of H_{sub}



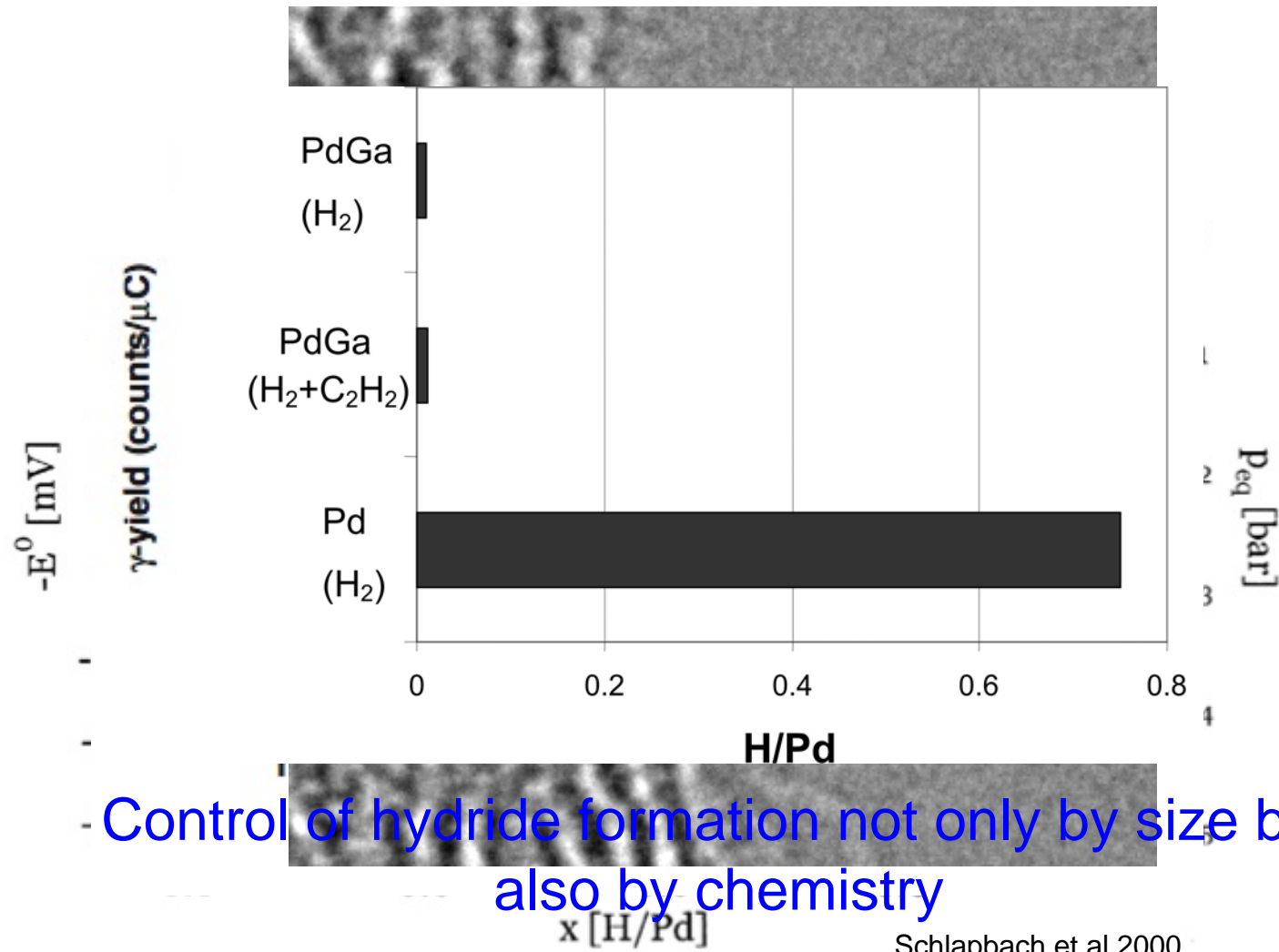
Active site: 6 Pd atoms:
Rate controlled by equal
chemical potentials of [H]
and [substrate].



Sub-surface hydrogen
strongly increases [H] above
surface sticking:
+ activity
- selectivity.



Pd-H in nanoparticles



Control of hydride formation not only by size but also by chemistry



Nano Pd in fluid phase oxidation

Alcohol	Time Reaction (h)	Conversion		Selectivity to aldehyde	
		Pd CNTs	Pd N-CNTs	Pd CNTs	Pd N-CNTs
Benzyl alcohol	2	16	96	>99	>99
1-phenylethanol	2	25	99	>99* *ketone	>99* *ketone
Cinnamyl alcohol	2	10	78	74	77
2-octen-1-ol	2	14	81	34	42
1-octanol	8	3	14	54	58

Structure controls reactivity.
Size as proxy?

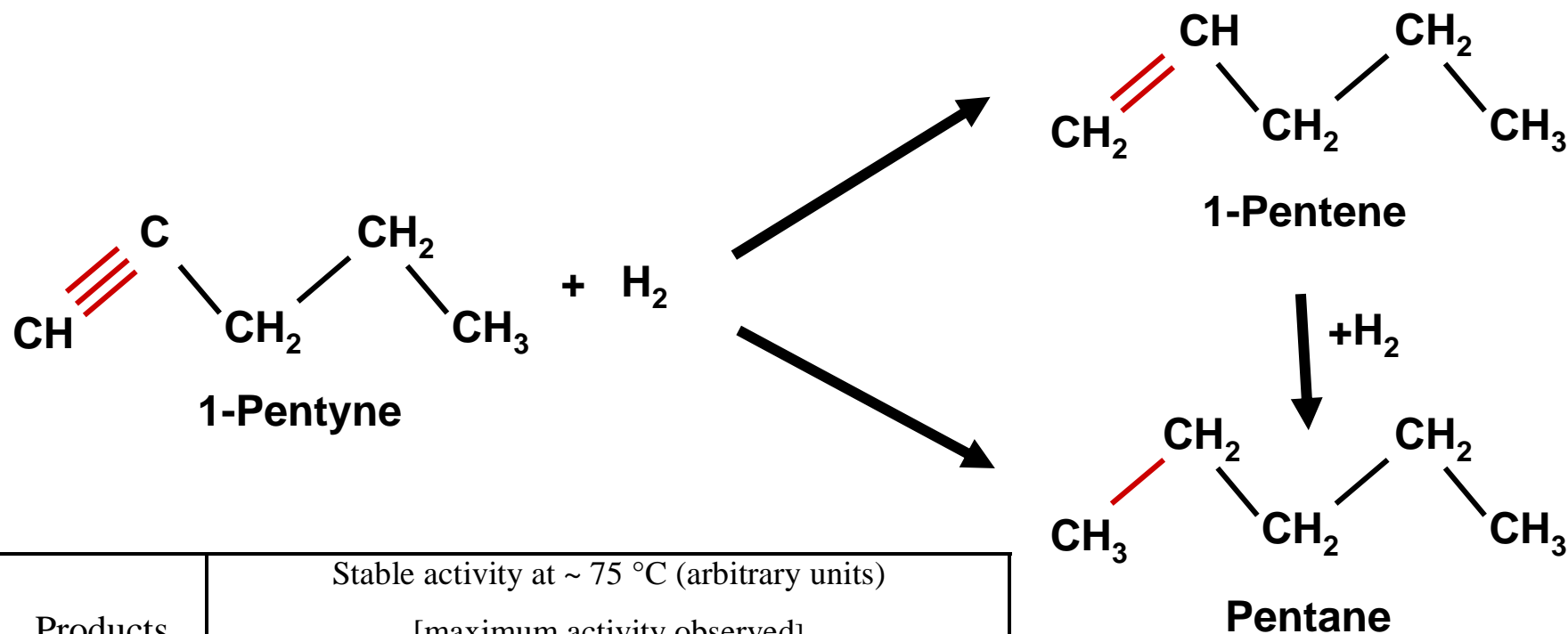
Benzyl benzoate



Metal (?) Hydrogenation Catalysts



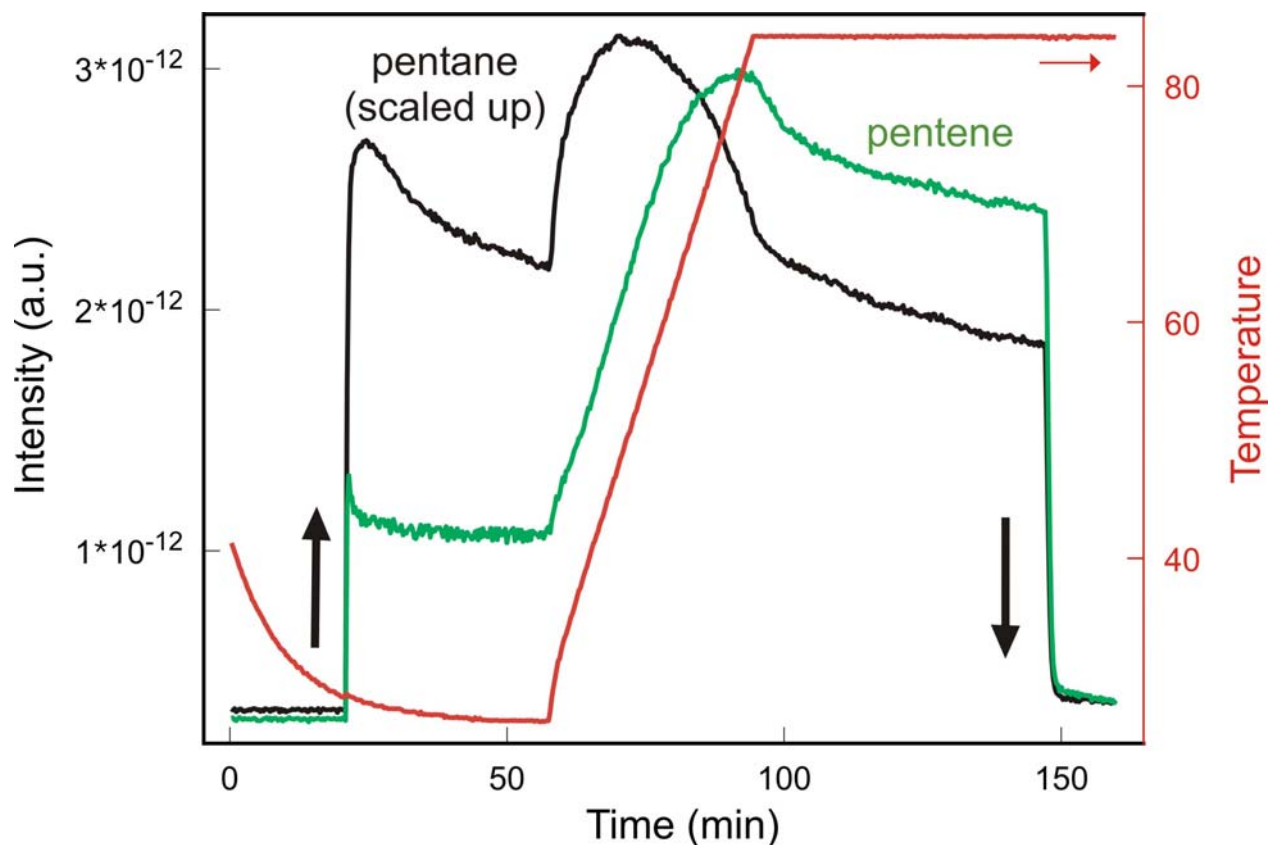
Pd in *selective* hydrogenation



Products	Stable activity at ~ 75 °C (arbitrary units)			
	[maximum activity observed]			
	5% Pd/CNT	3% Pd/Al ₂ O ₃	Pd foil	Pd(111)
Pentene	210 [240]	150 [170]	58 [75]	18 [22]
Pentane	20 [42]	15 [28]	~ 0.5 [1]	0



A consecutive reaction

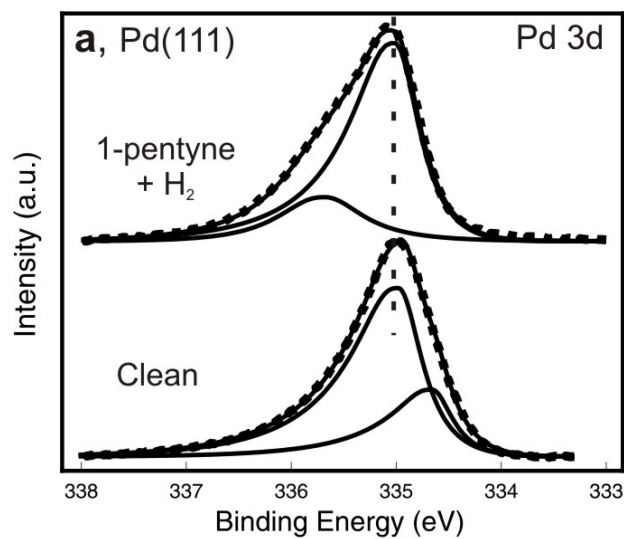


Deep hydrogenation
before
selective hydrogenation

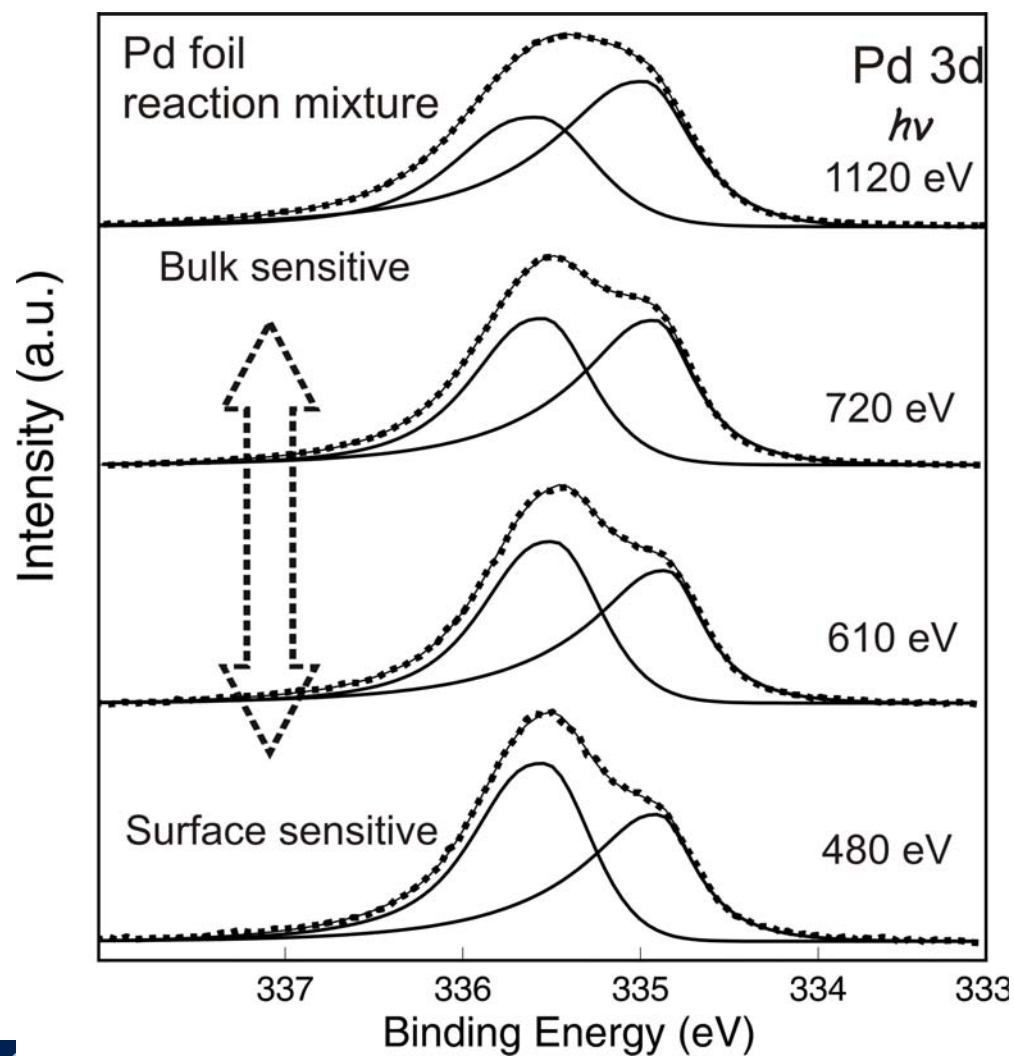
0.03 mbar pentyne
0.85 mbar H₂



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



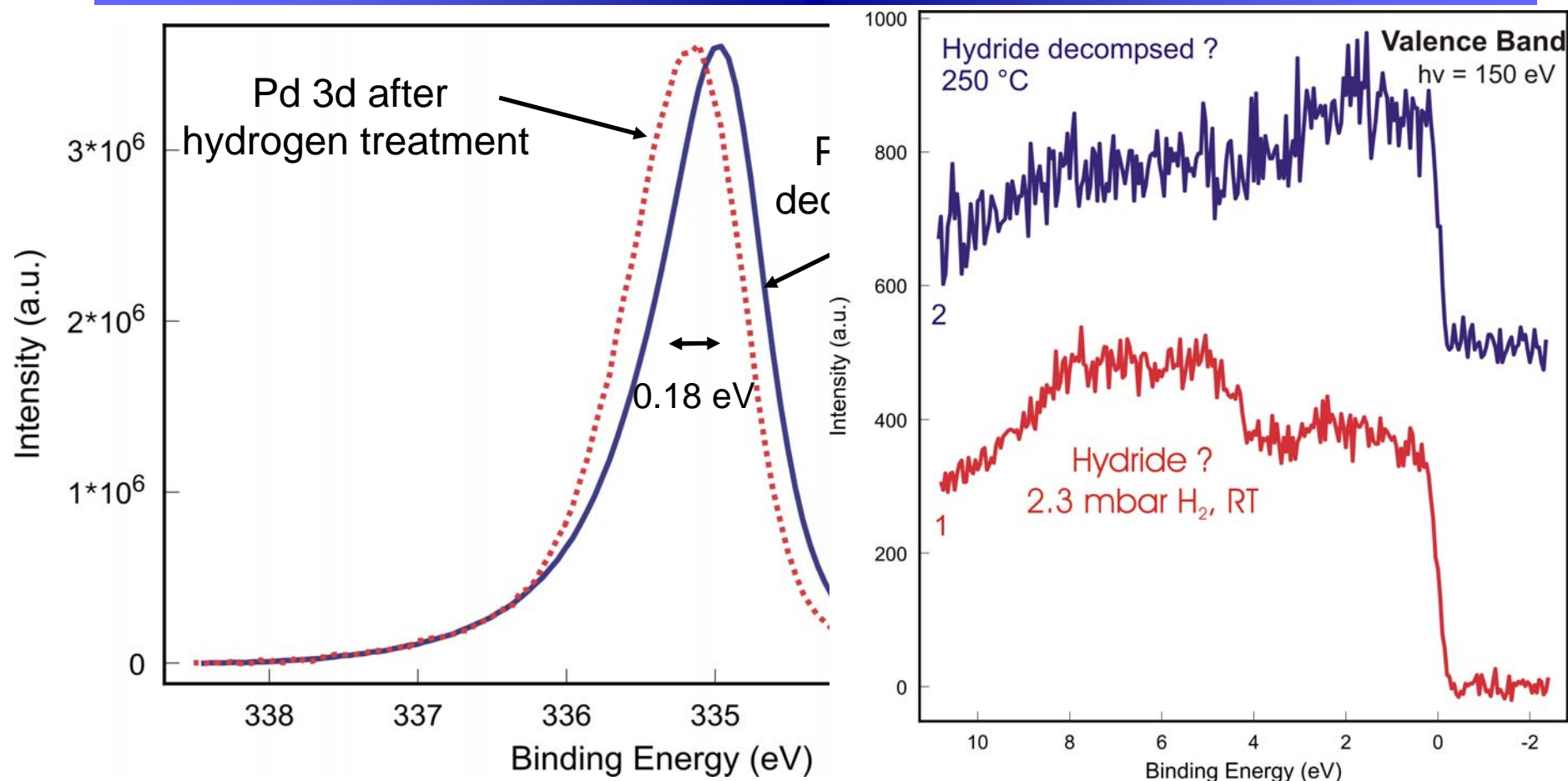
In-situ XPS: Pd 3d depth profiling



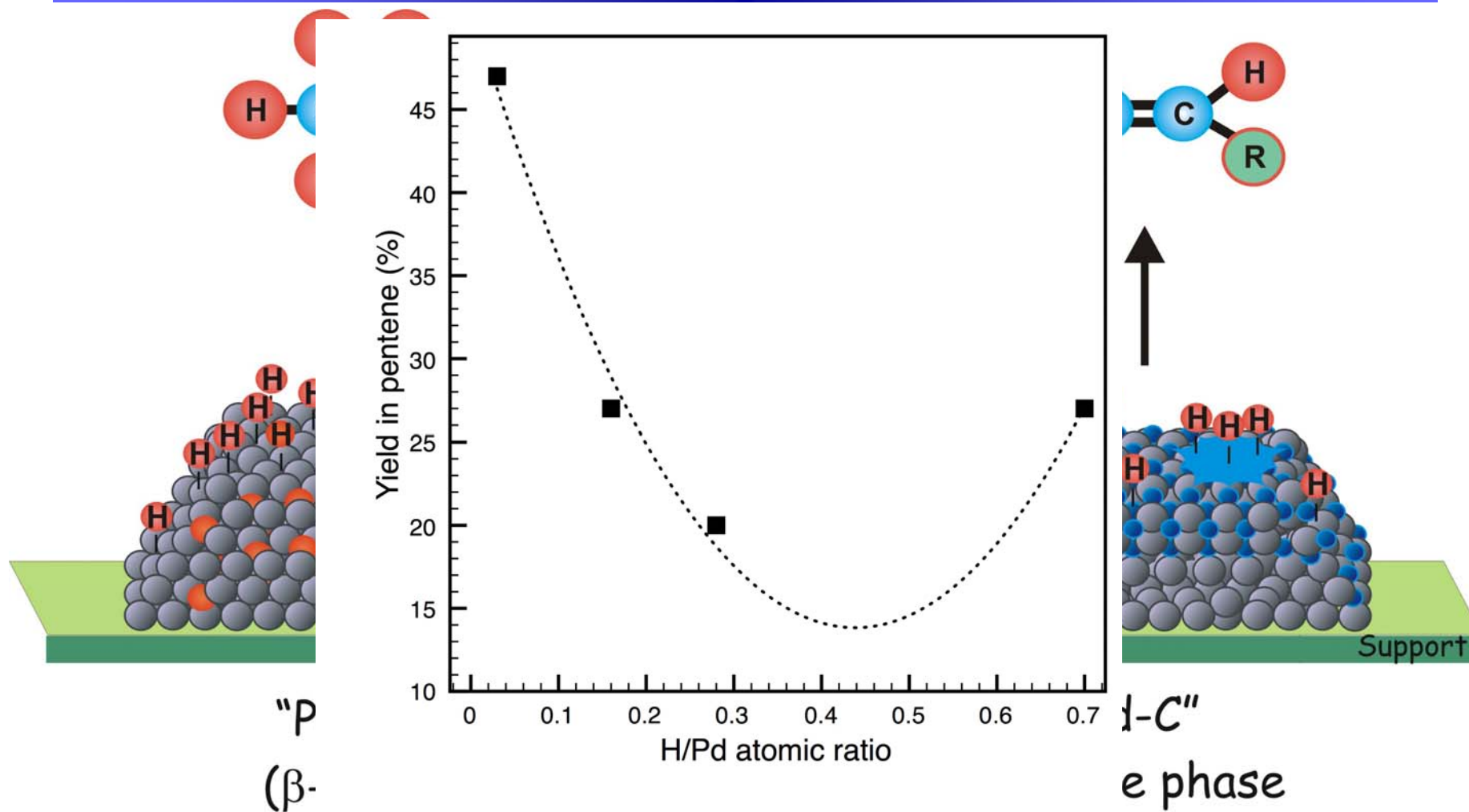
unambiguous
localisation of carbon-
induced component in
the surface-near region



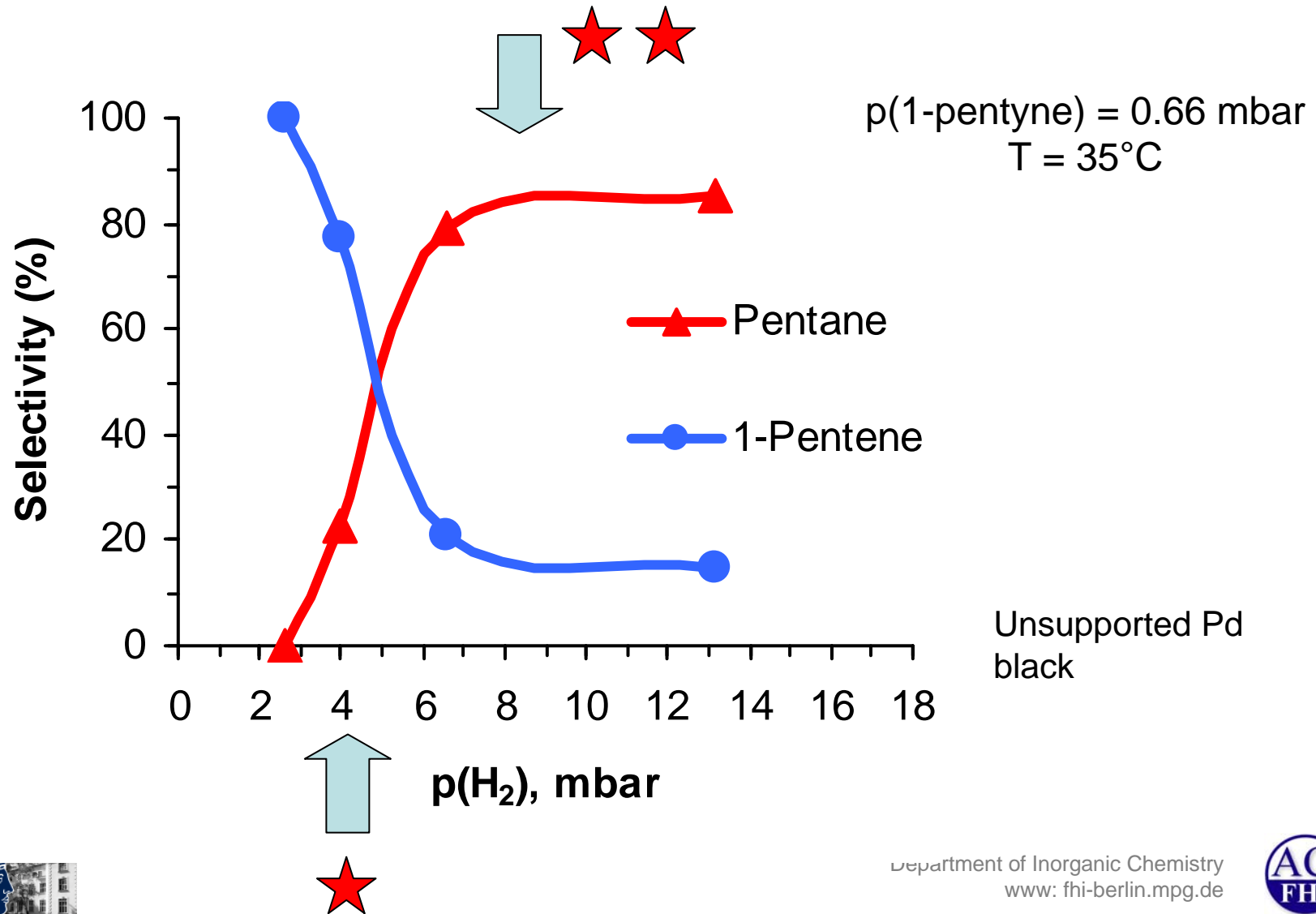
Sub-surface H vs. sub-surface C



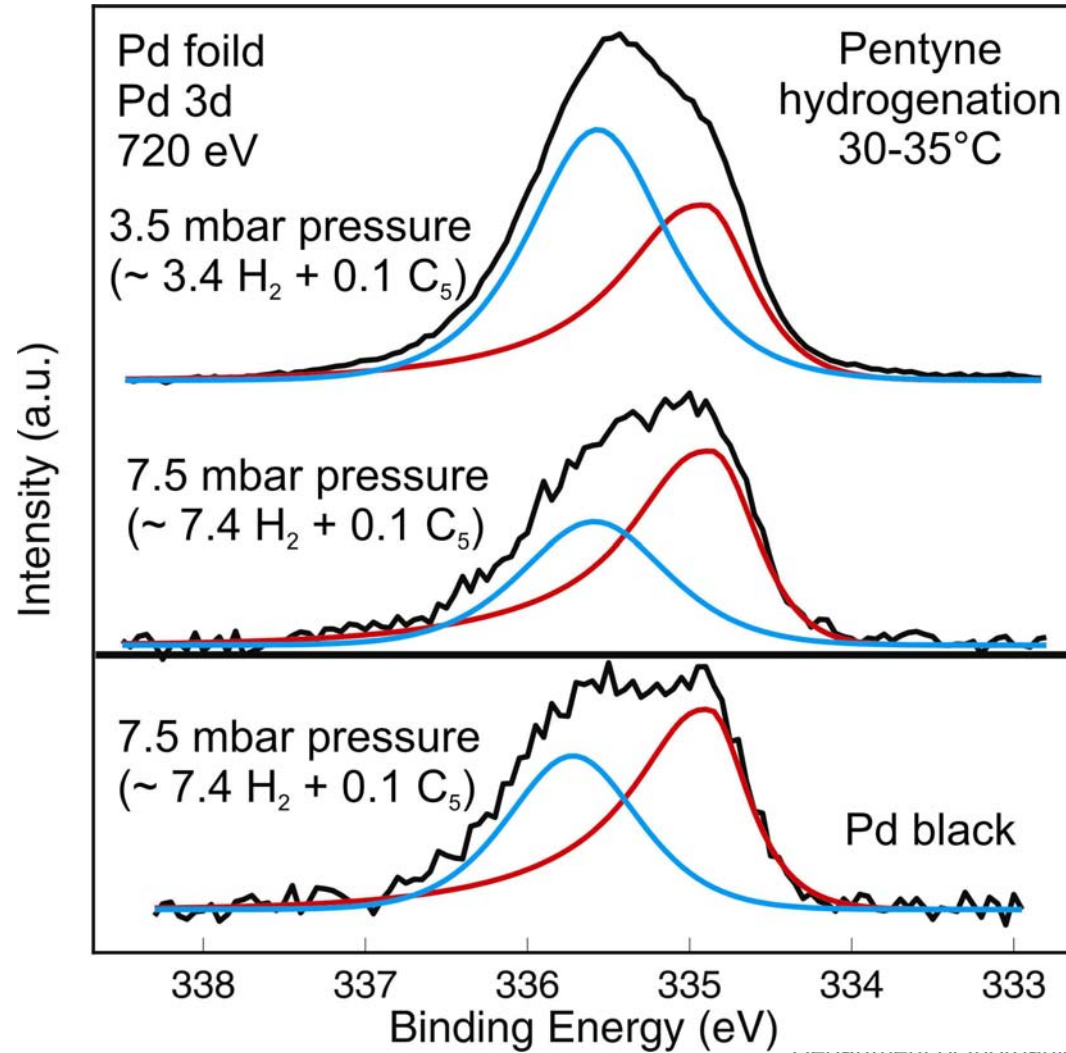
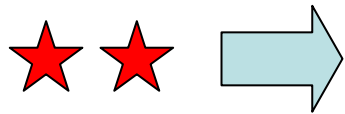
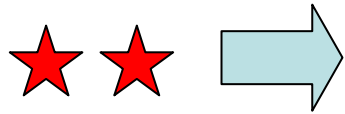
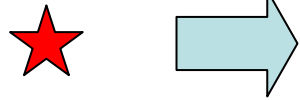
Selectivity control



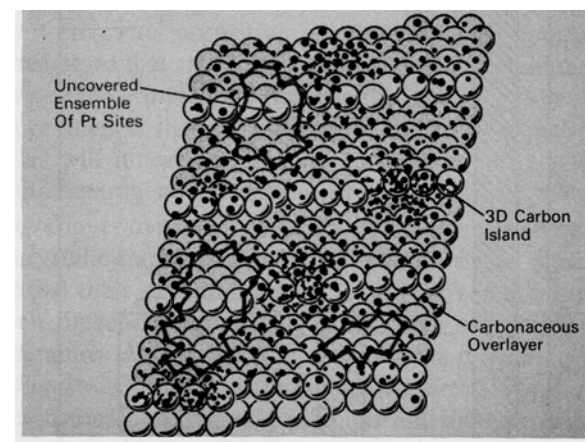
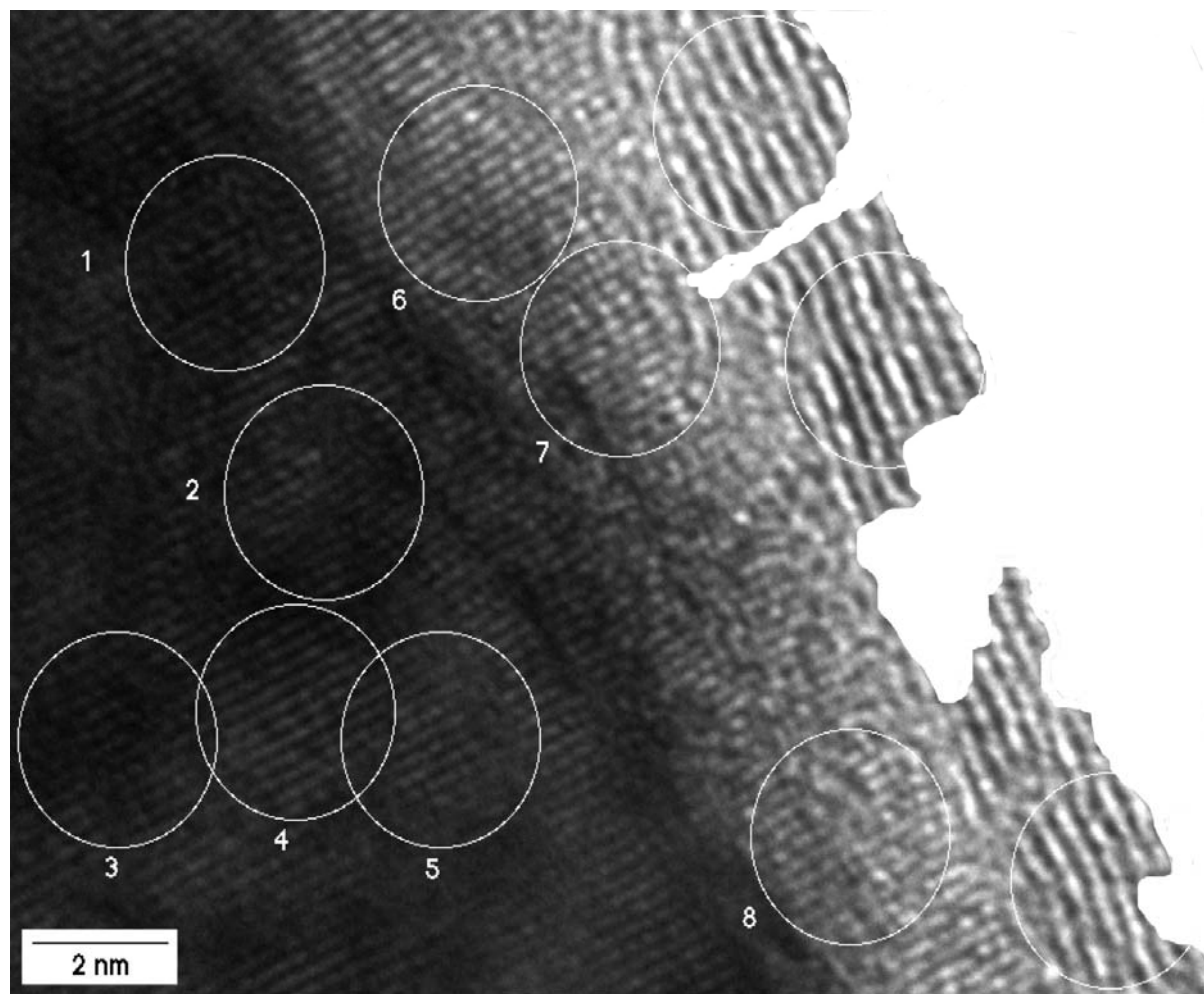
Pressure gap: reaction



Pressure gap: origin



Real structure: the role of nanostructuring

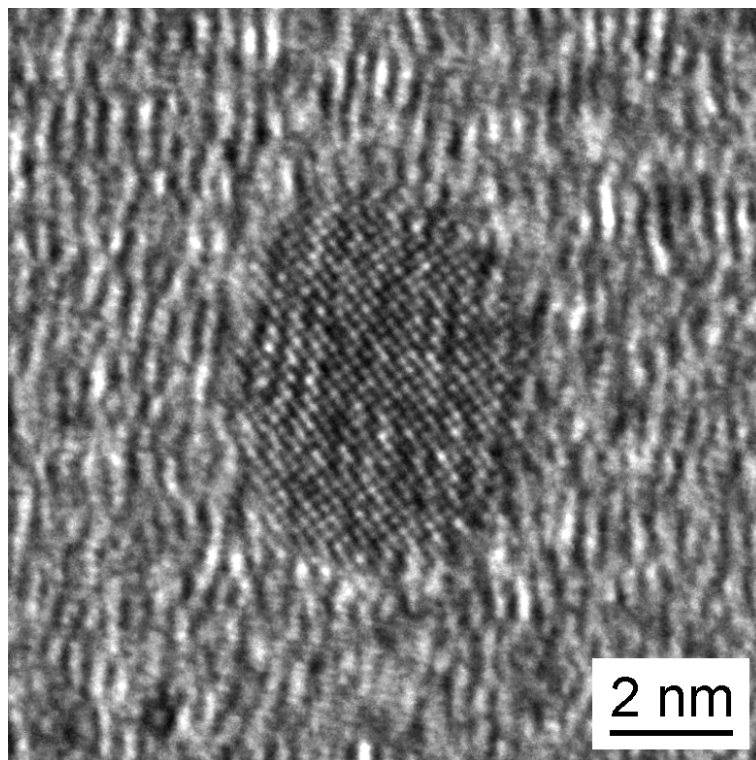


Somorjai 1994

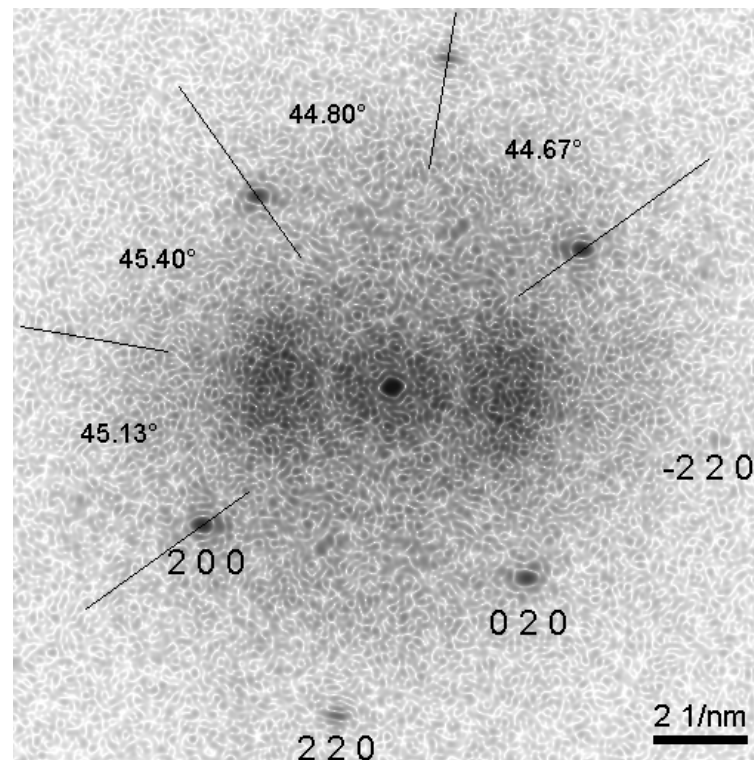
Hydrogen dissolution
under carbon!



“Structure sensitivity”



5% Pd/CNT after reaction



0.2025 nm	+4.2%	0.1944 nm	2 0 0
0.2027 nm	+4.3%	0.1944 nm	0 2 0
0.1421 nm	+3.4%	0.1374 nm	2 2 0
0.1434 nm	+4.4%	0.1374 nm	-2 2 0

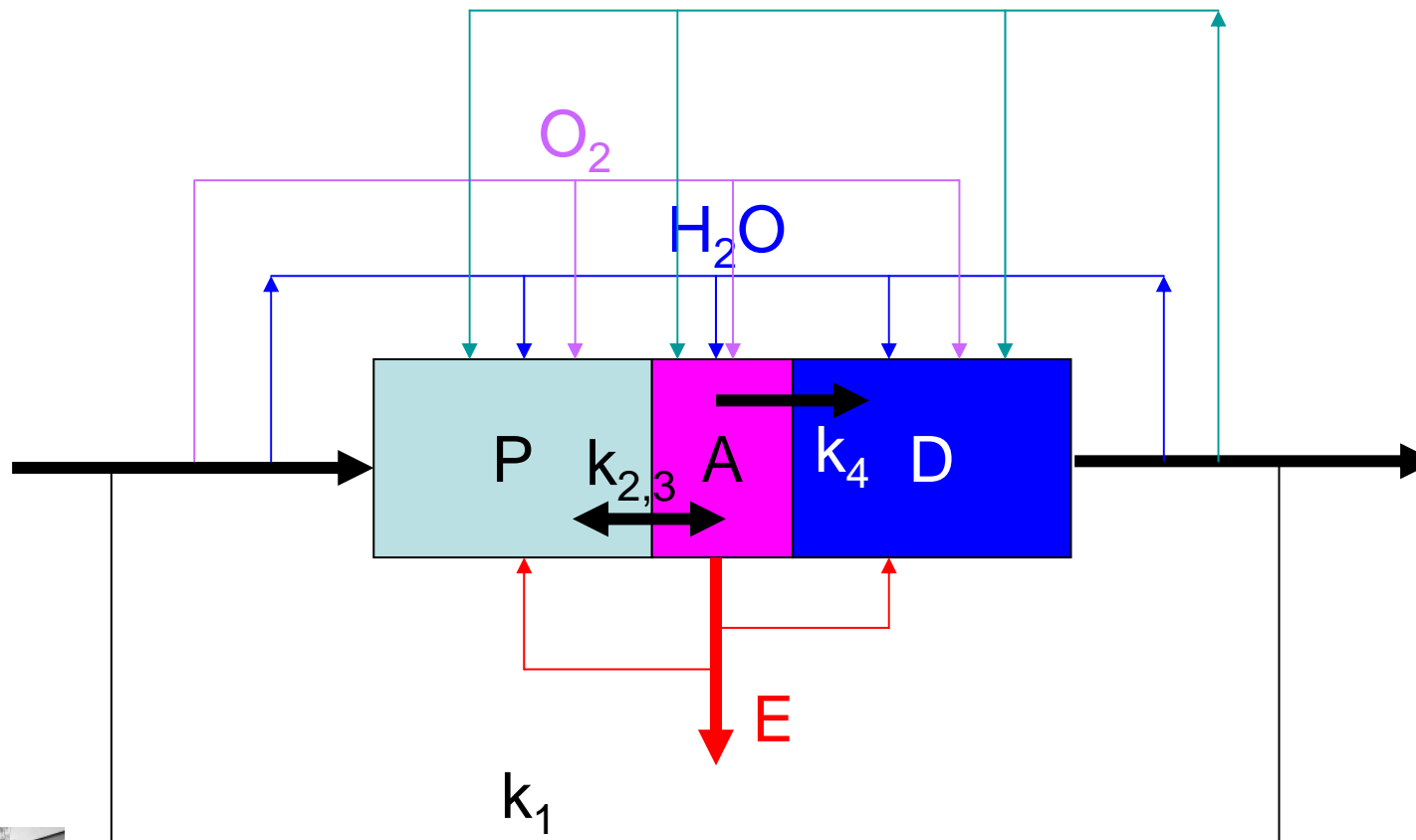
FIRST SUMMARY



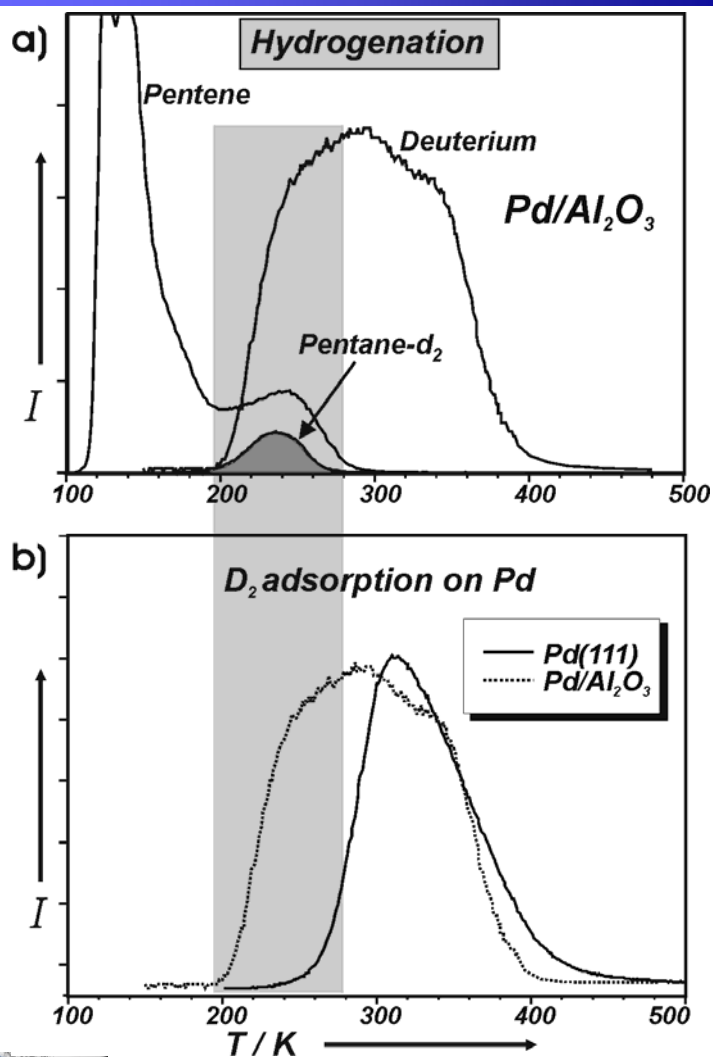
Catalyst dynamics

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

reductants, carbon



Comparison to model studies: role of sub-surface hydrogen



Pentenes to pentane

Hydrogenation
in the presence of
subsurface H
[Pd particles]

No hydrogenation
without
subsurface H
[Pd(111)]

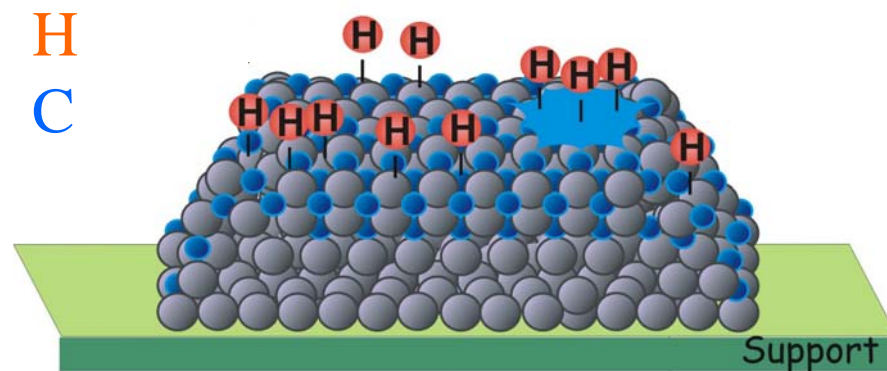
Doyle AM, Shaikhutdinov SK, Jackson SD, Freund HJ
ANGEWANDTE CHEMIE-INTERNATIONAL EDITION
42 (42): 5240-5243 2003

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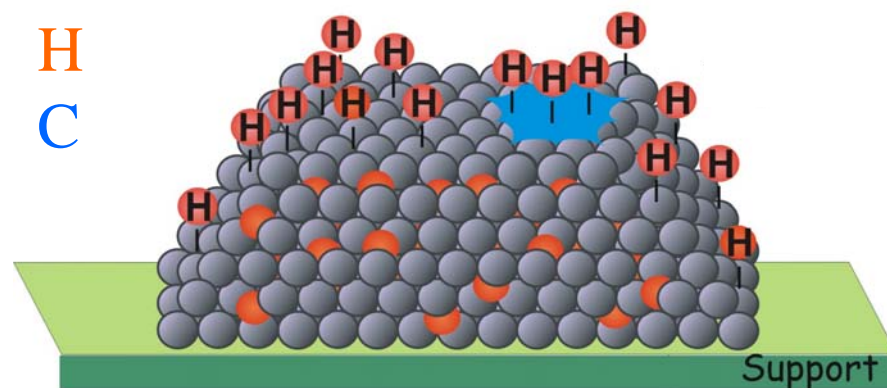
Summary

Alkyne \rightarrow Alkene:



Alkene \rightarrow Alkane:

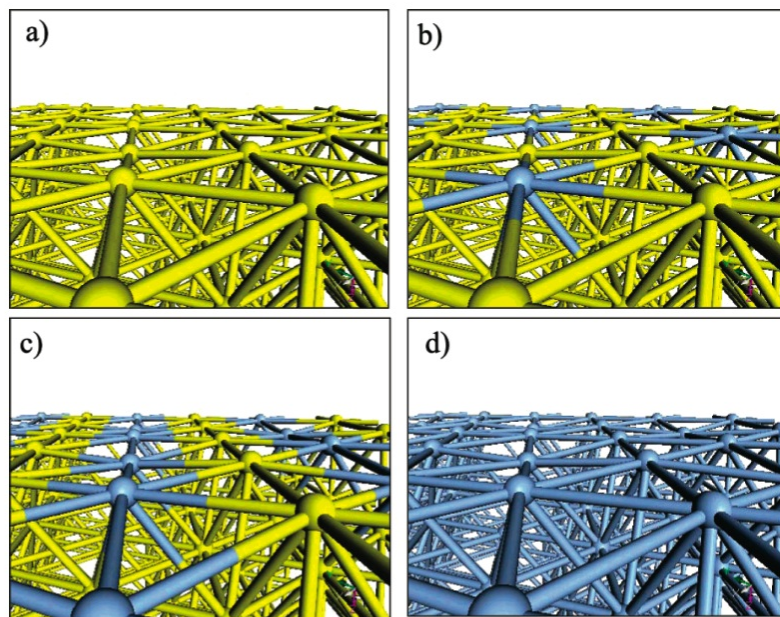
Alkyne \rightarrow Alkane:



Alloys and Intermetallics: Two different classes of metals as Catalysts



Alloy Systems

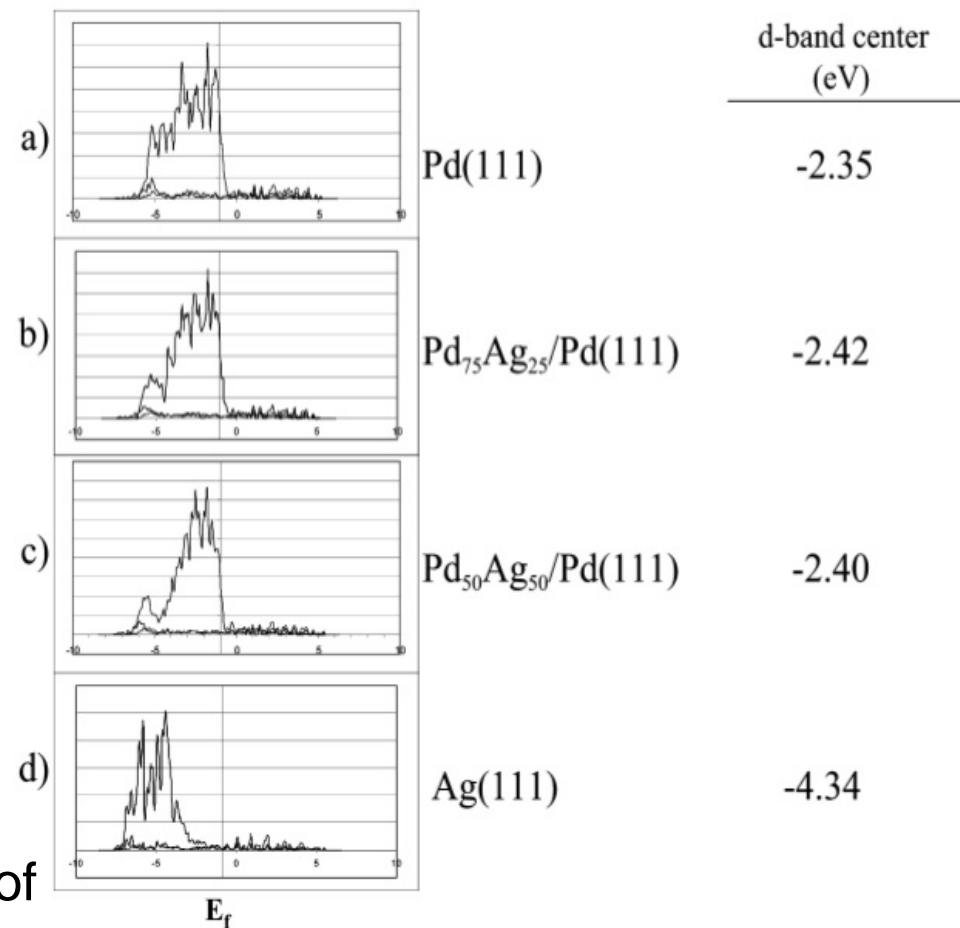


M. Neurock, 2003, 2005

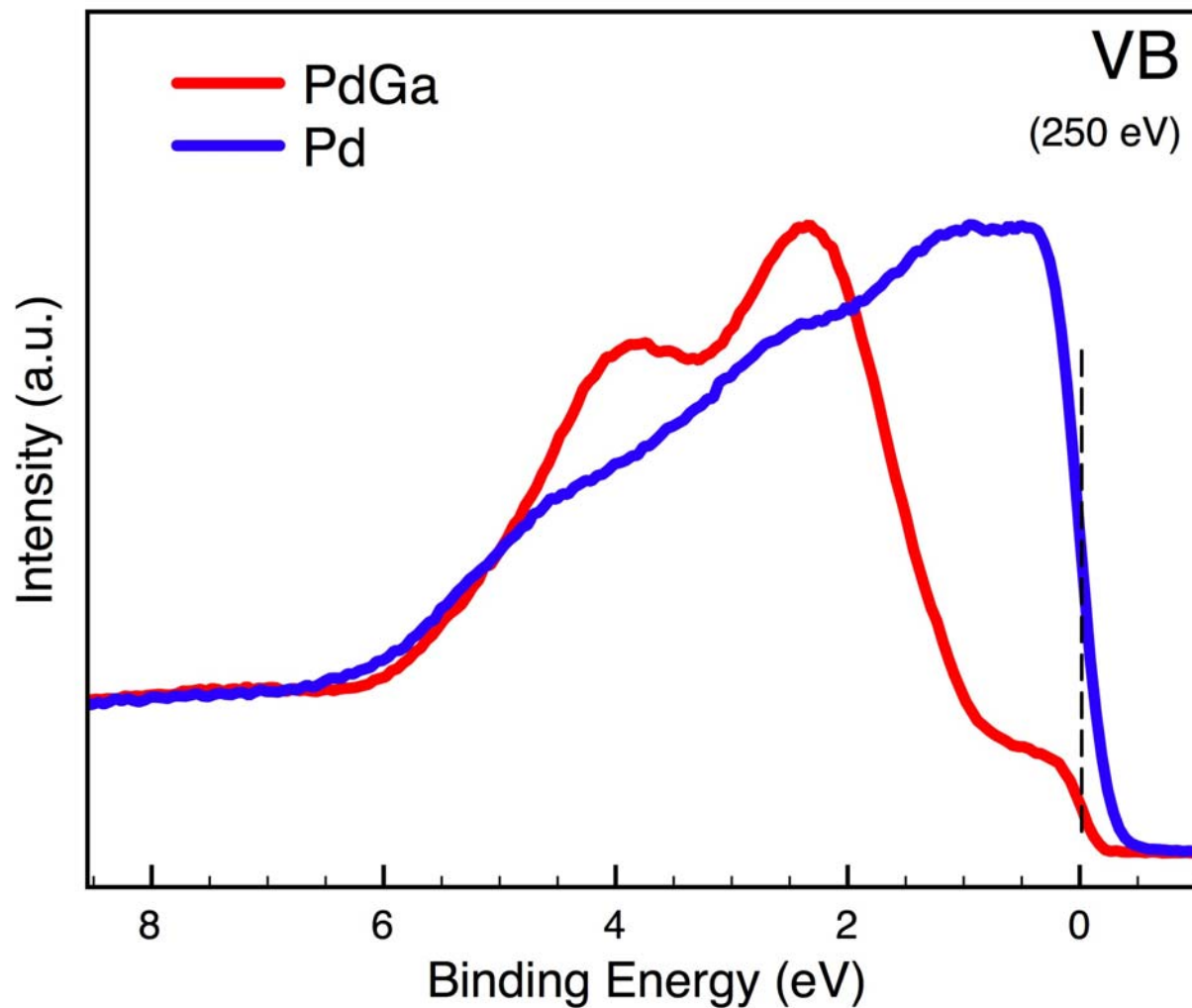
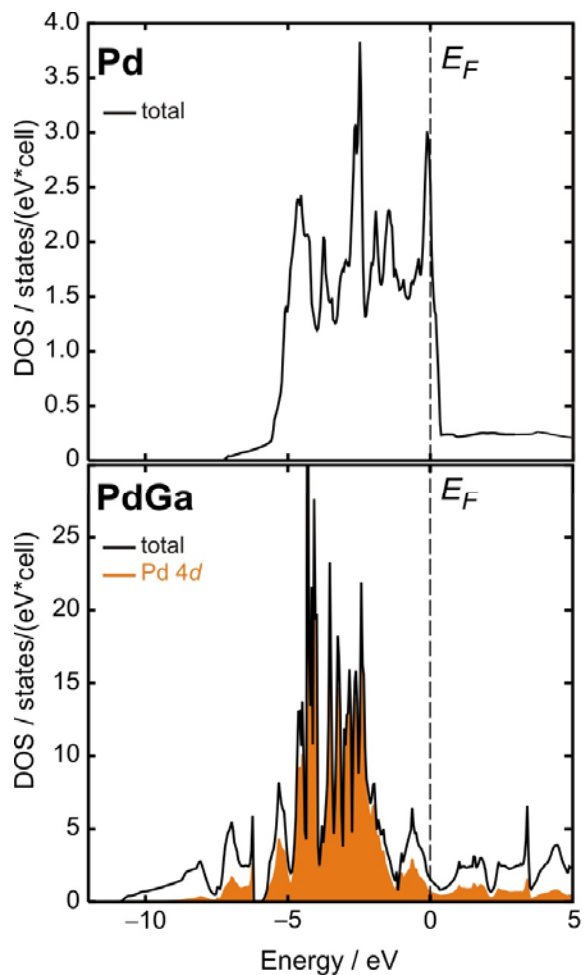
Combined benefits of site isolation and of electronic structure modification

Analysis of the Effects of Alloying Pd with Ag

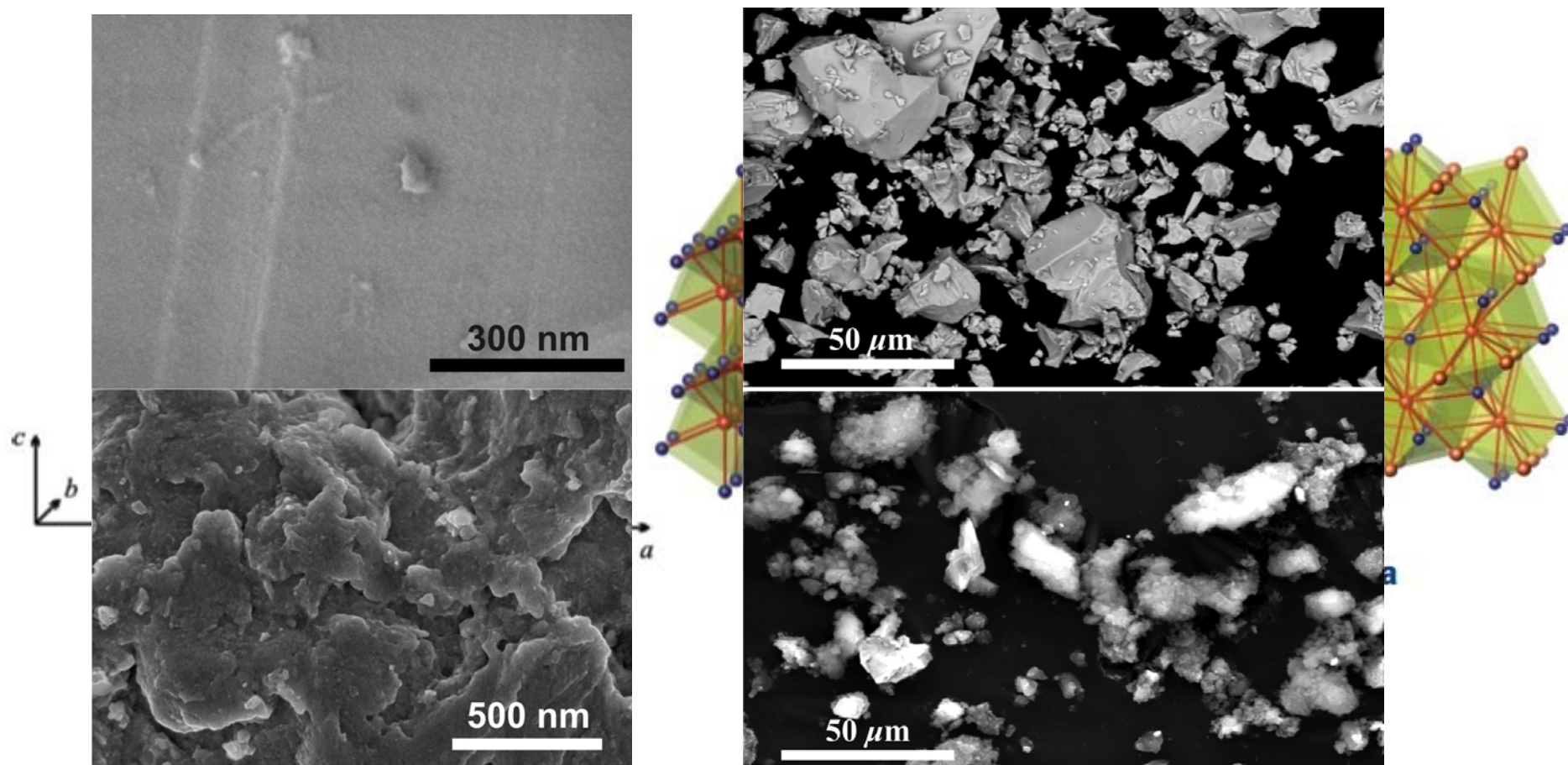
J. Phys. Chem. B, Vol. 109, No. 25, 2005 12465



Intermetallics: kovalent interaction



Structures and termination

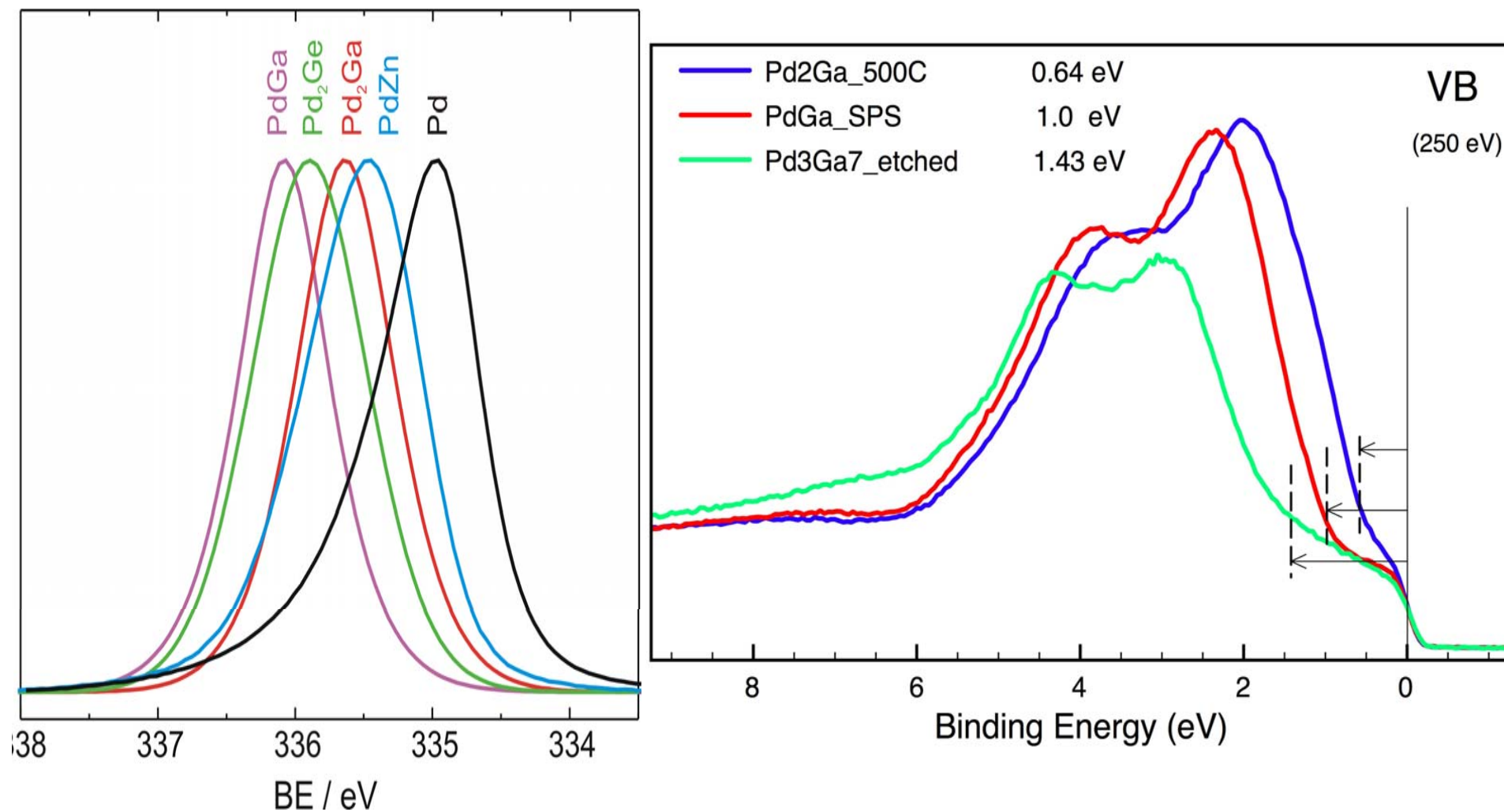


Opportunities

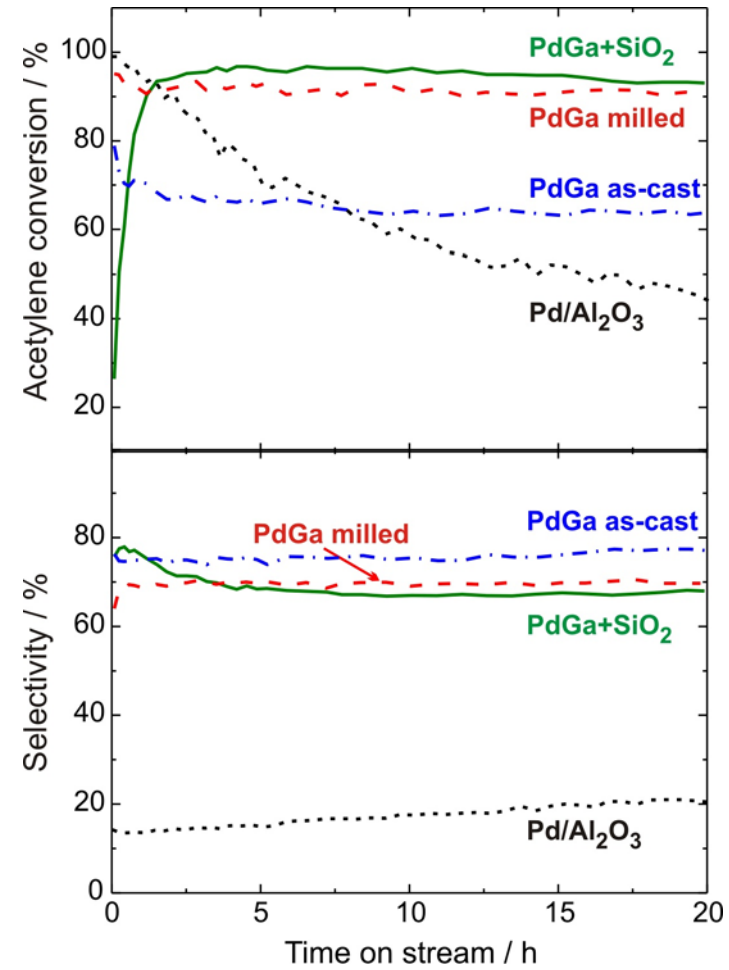
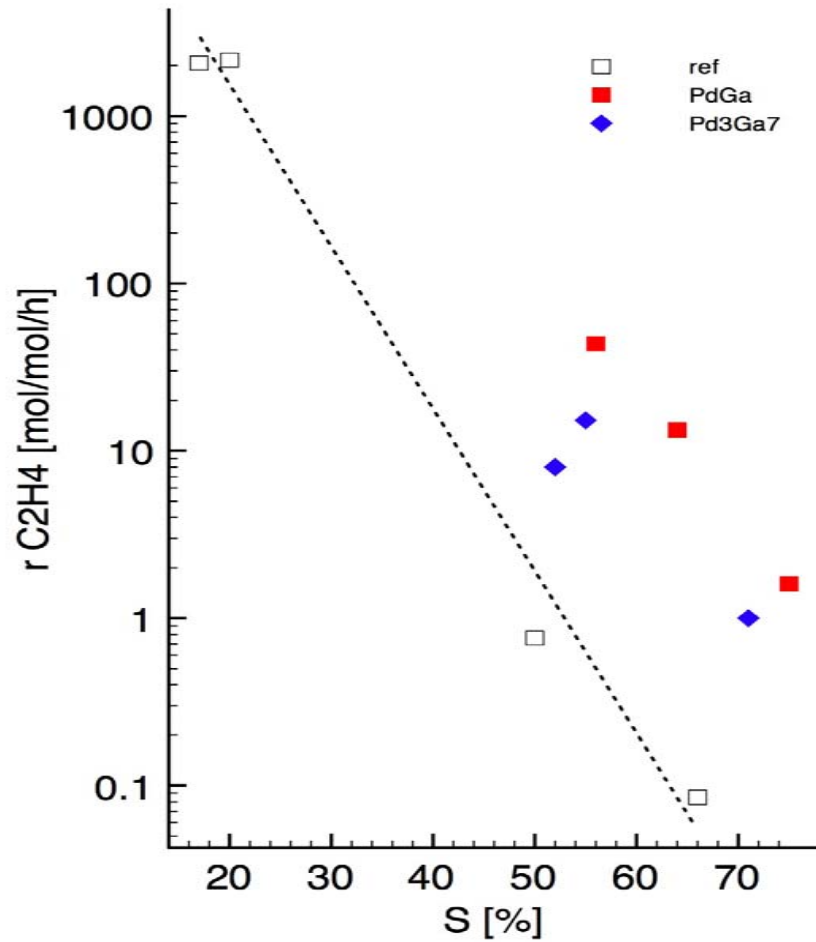
- Alloys are chemically unstable and segregate: rapid loss of site-isolating effect.
- Alloys exhibit only weak modifications of electronic structure: strong influence of local geometry, (ensemble effect).
- Concept: use intermetallics:
 - Covalent metal-metal interaction: High structural stability
 - No sub-surface chemistry: Design of active site.



A family of compounds with quite different properties



PdGa: a designer system



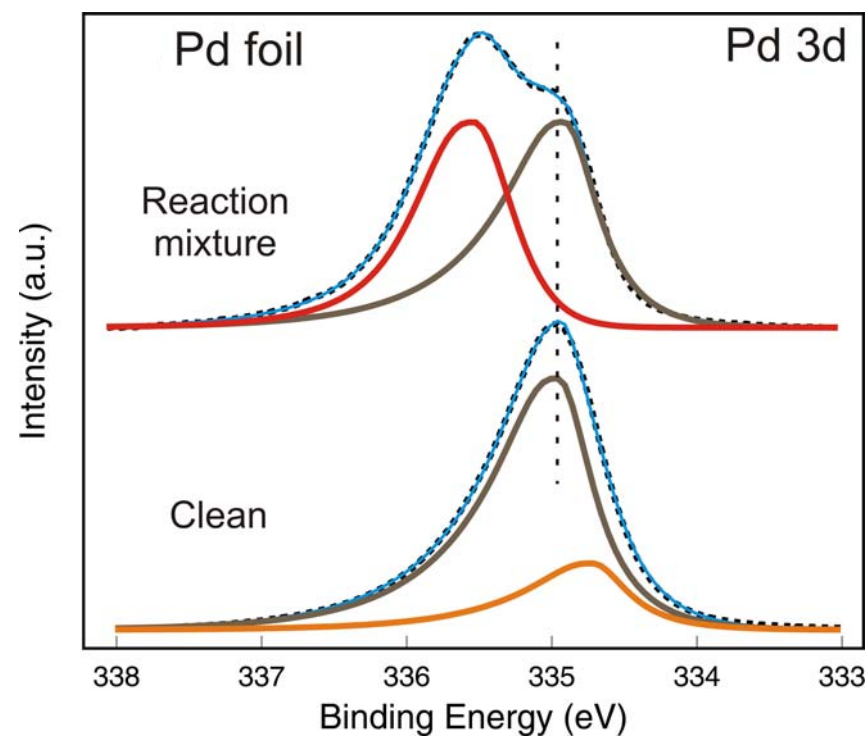
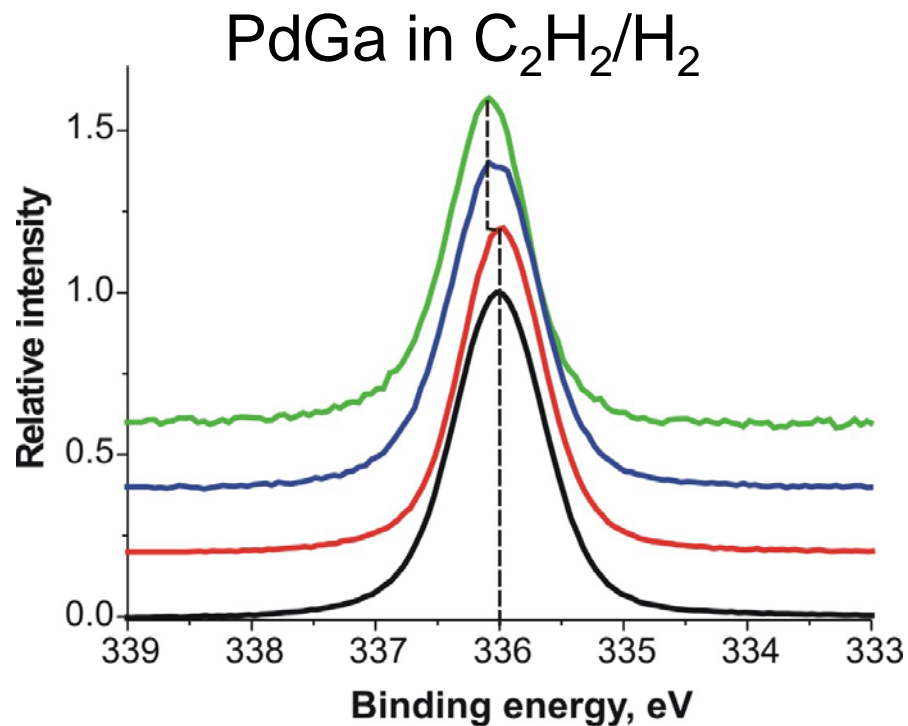
Reaction in C3-yne hydrogenation

Experiment	H/Pd	Catalytic conditions	Conversion Selectivity
1. -5 °C: Starts unselective: ~50% C ₃ H ₈ and C ₃ H ₆ in the product stream	0.024±123%		
2. -5 °C: Gets selective: ~66% C ₃ H ₈ conversion		1.2 ml/min C ₃ H ₄	X: >99.99%
3. -4 °C: Starts producing C ₃ H ₈ again		36 ml/min C ₃ H ₆	S(C ₃ H ₆): 75 / 83%
4. C ₃ -Mix -2 °C: ~67% C ₃ H ₈ and 33% C ₃ H ₆ in the product stream	0.048±58%	3.2 ml/min H ₂	S(C ₃ H ₈): 17 / 10%
		91 / 60 °C	S(C ₆): 7%
in N ₂	0.06±48%	-	-

Experiment	H/Pd	Catalytic conditions	Conversion Selectivity
in H ₂	0.75±6%	-	-
C3-Mix	0.8±5%	1.2 ml/min C ₃ H ₄ 12 ml/min C ₃ H ₆ 12 ml/min H ₂ ~-5 °C	



A stable sub-surface regime



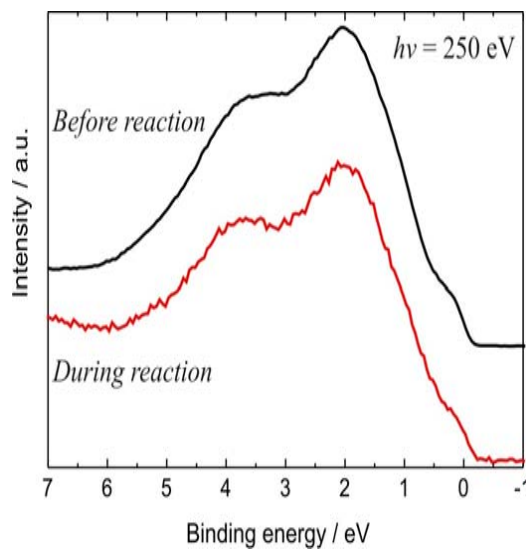
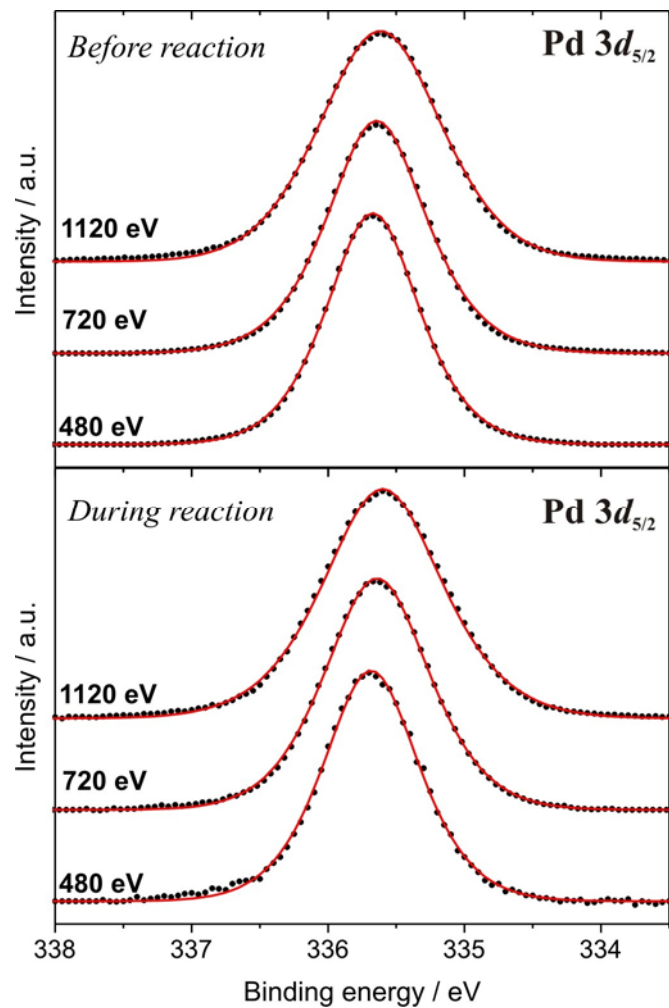
D. Teschner et al., J. Catal. 2006, 242 26.

Pd in alkyne/H₂

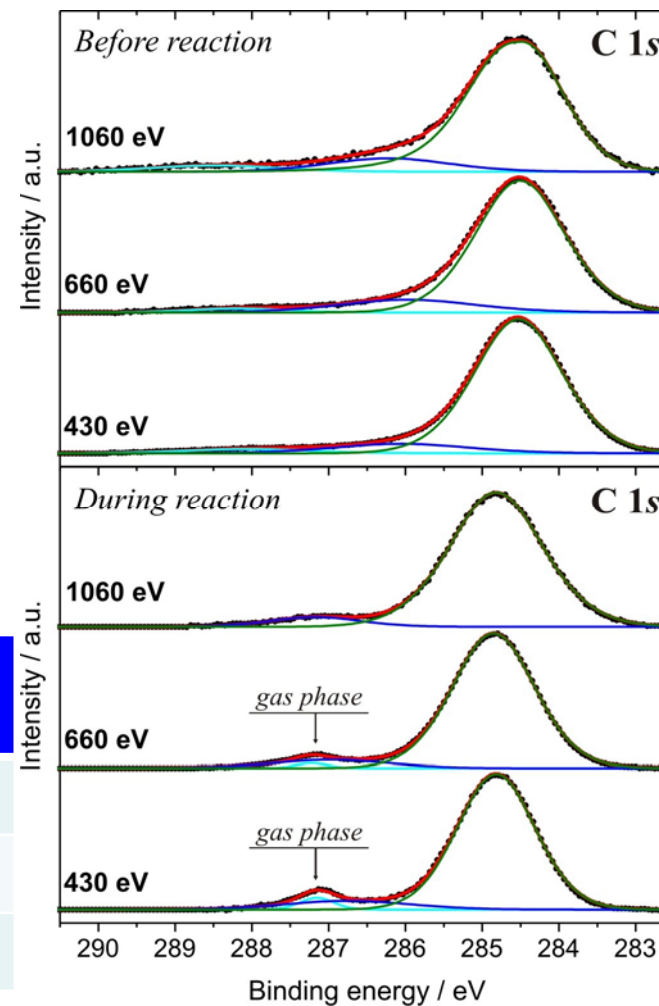
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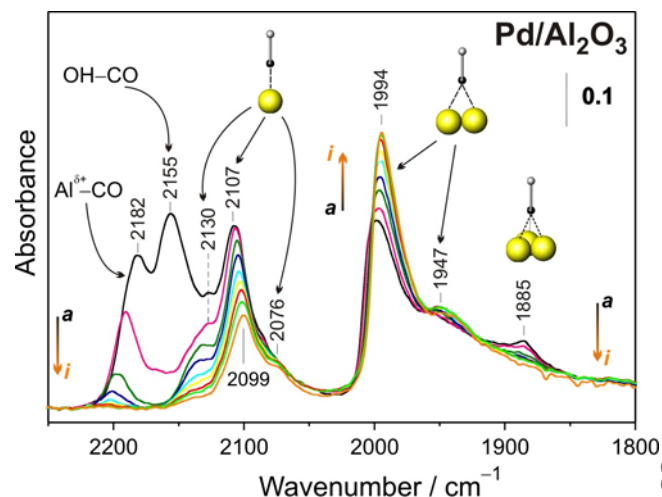
Pd₂Ga



Depth (nm)	PdGa at% C	Pd ₂ Ga at% C
3.8	0.4	2.3
2.3	0.8	6.0
1.4	2.0	24.1

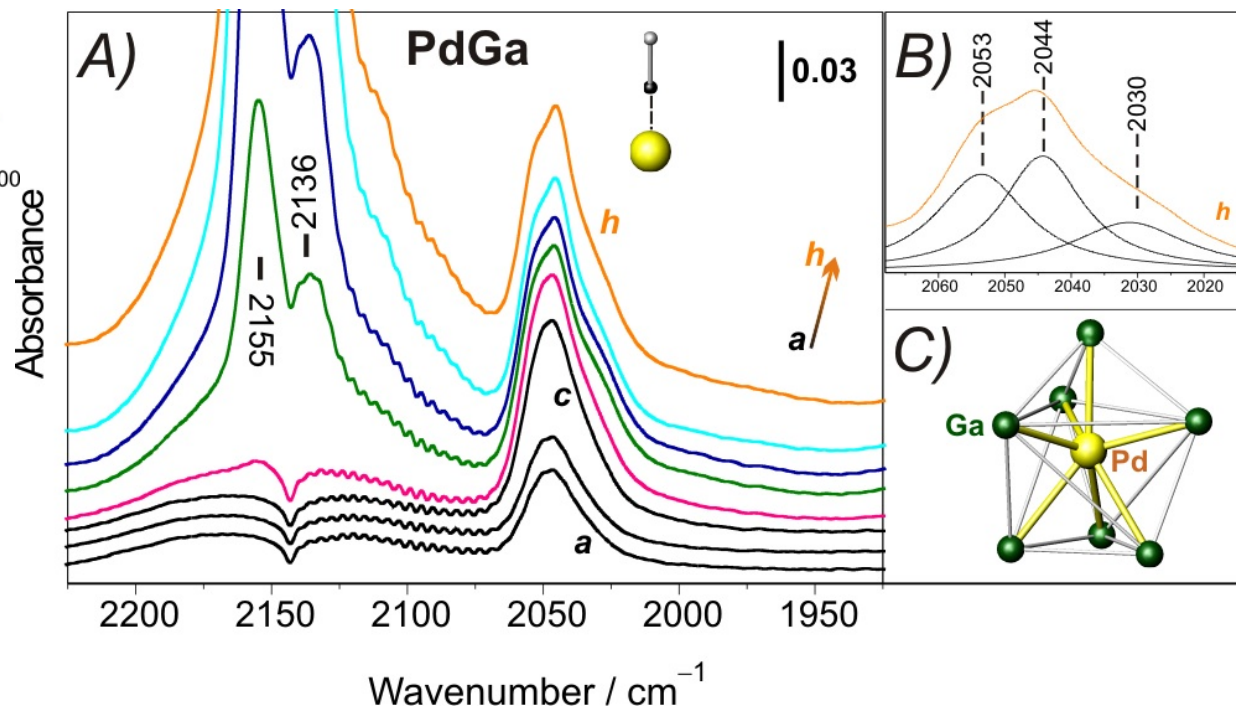


Site isolation: experimental



Adsorption,
evacuation
and cooling

CO adsorption in FTIR



Adsorption and cooling



SECOND SUMMARY

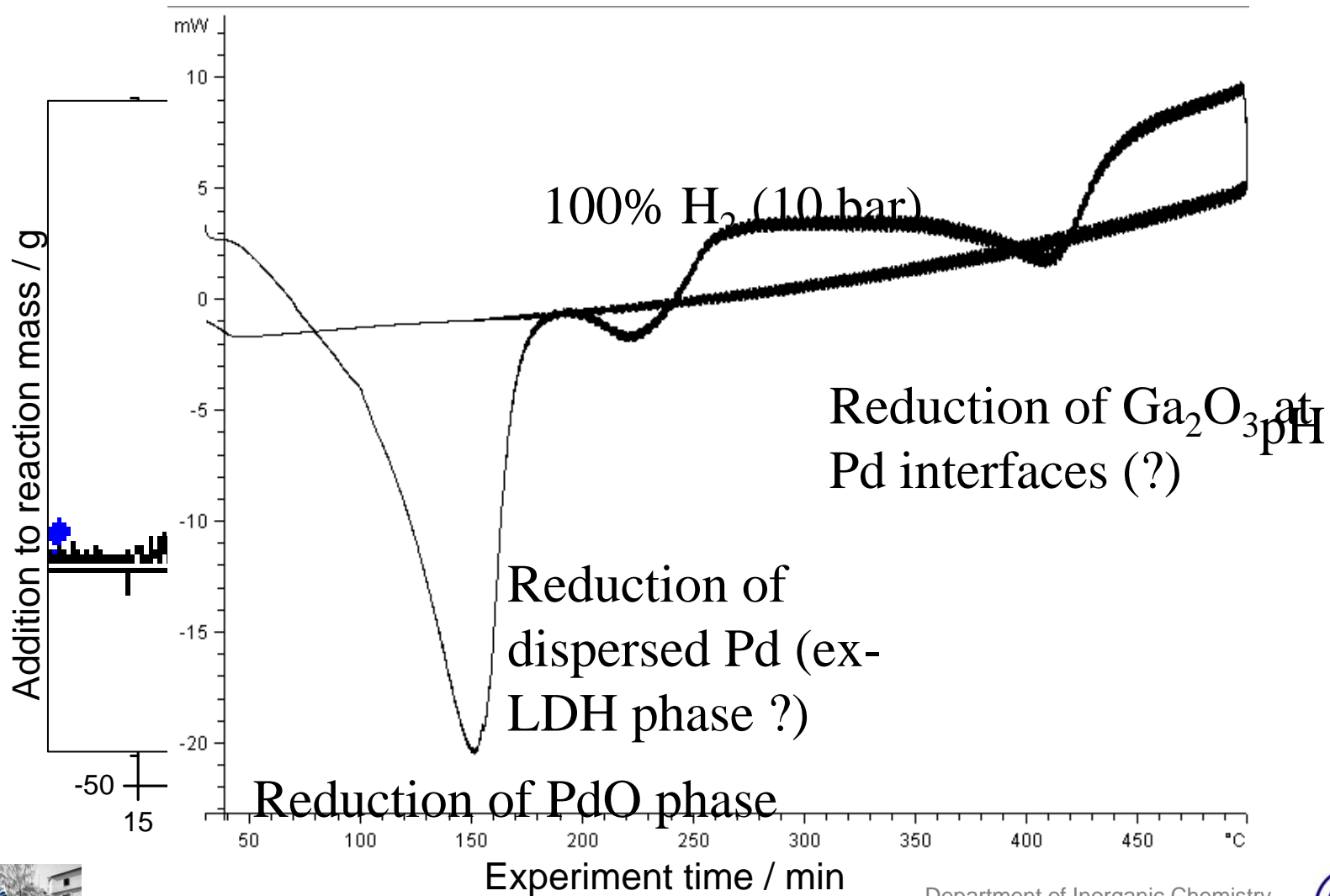


Materials

- Intermetallics provide a novel and robust opportunity for selective catalysis:
- Decoupling of surface catalysis and sub-surface reactant storage.
- Strong modification of electronic structure: “design”.
- Chemically robust surface termination: site isolation.



Nanostructured and supported: PdGa on hydrotalcite



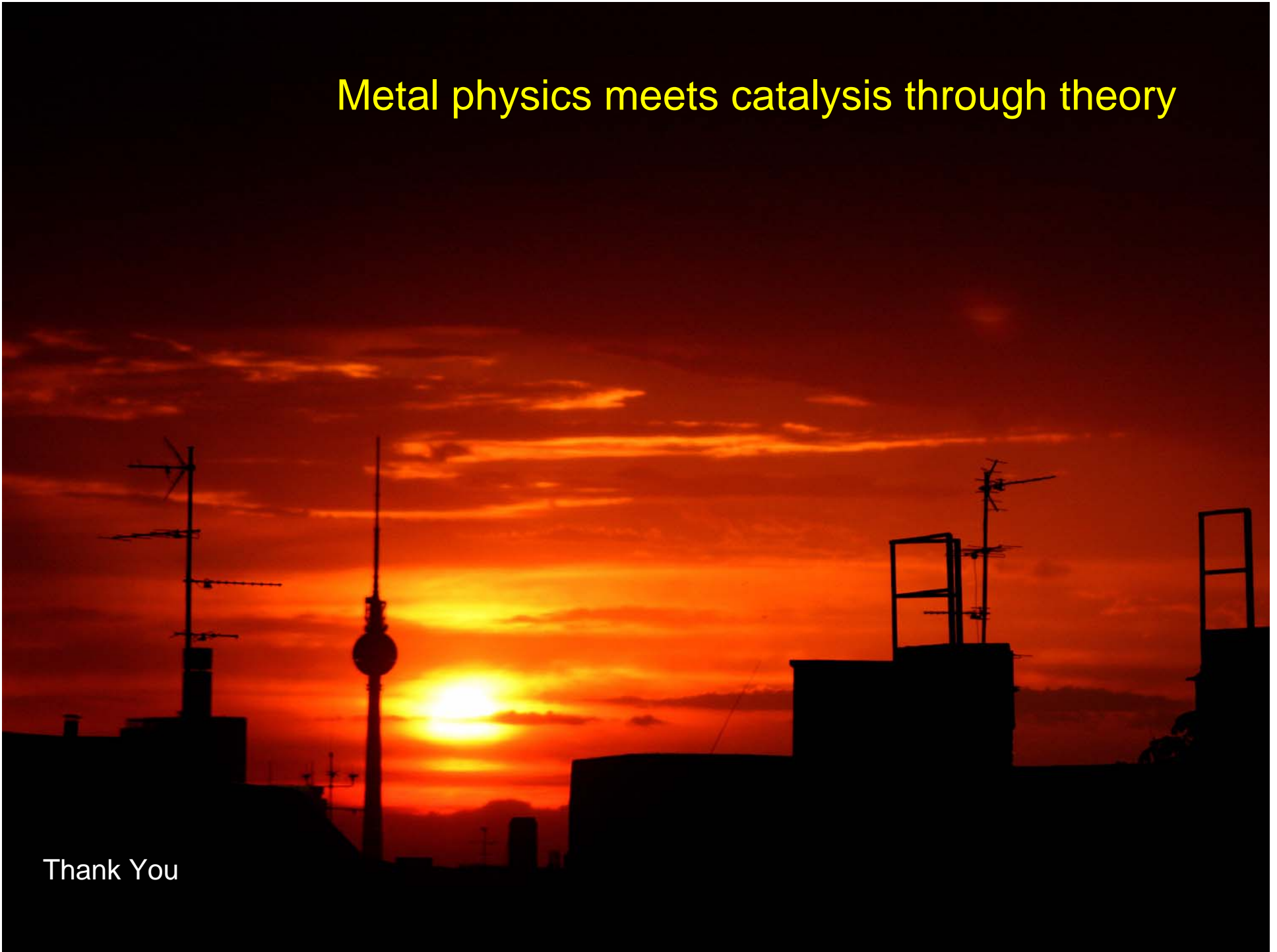
Outlook

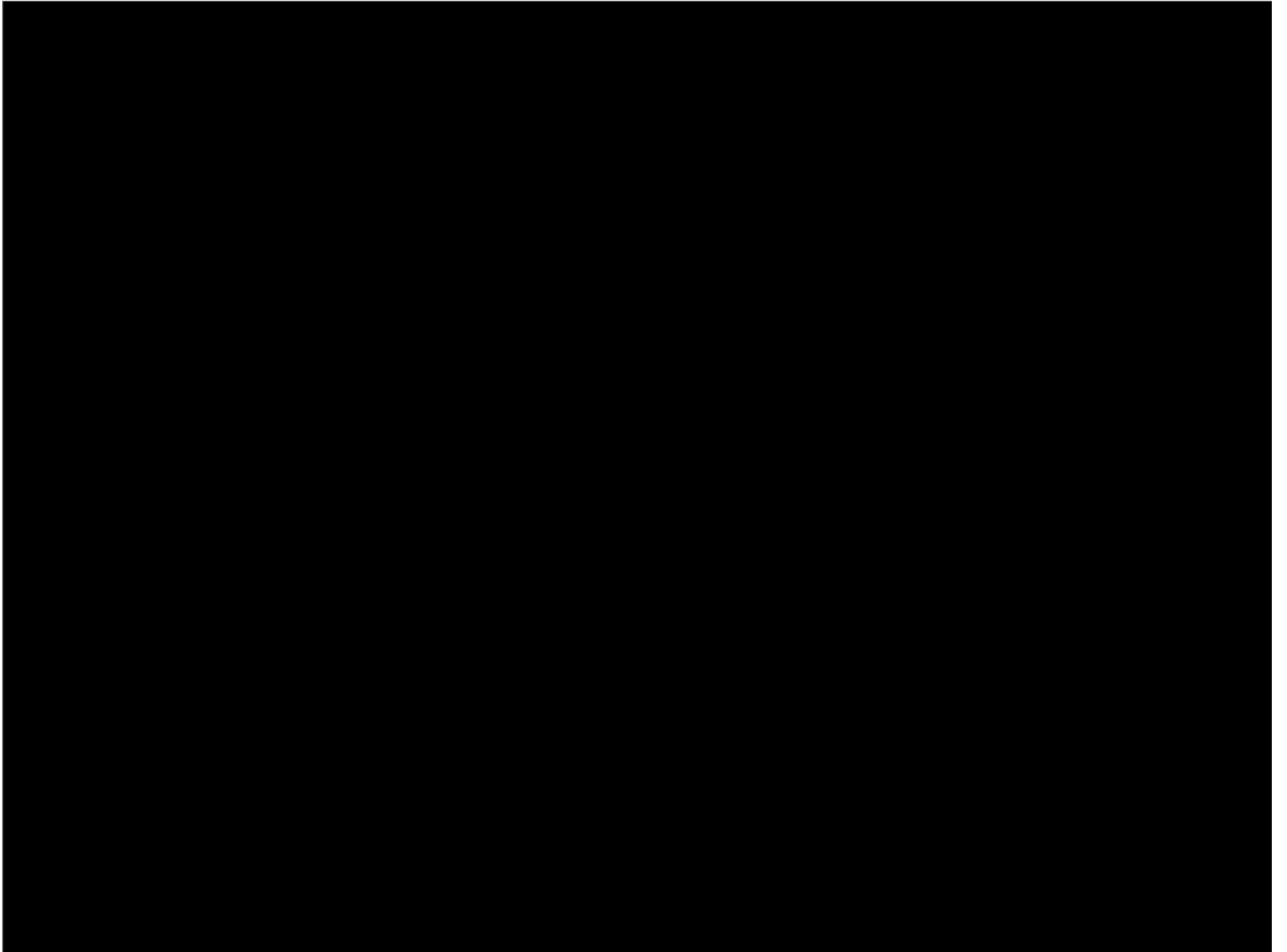
- Combination of intermetallics and nanostructuring should allow control over catalytic material properties: no more material dynamics.
- Enhanced chance to apply theory as predictive tool.
- Synthesis of system with yet unknown catalytic properties (“pseudo Pt”) for largest challenges in catalysis: energy conversion.



Metal physics meets catalysis through theory

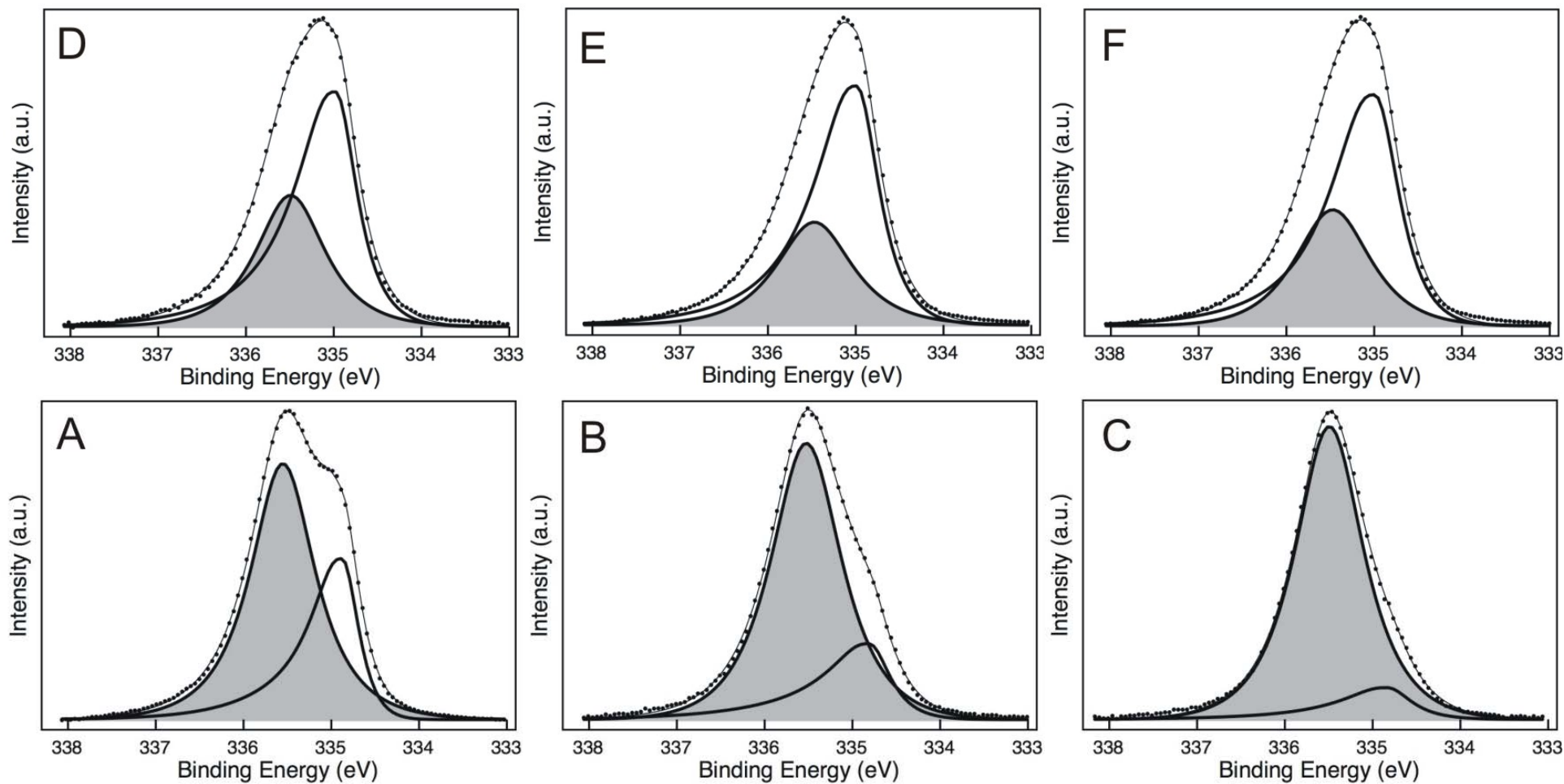
Thank You



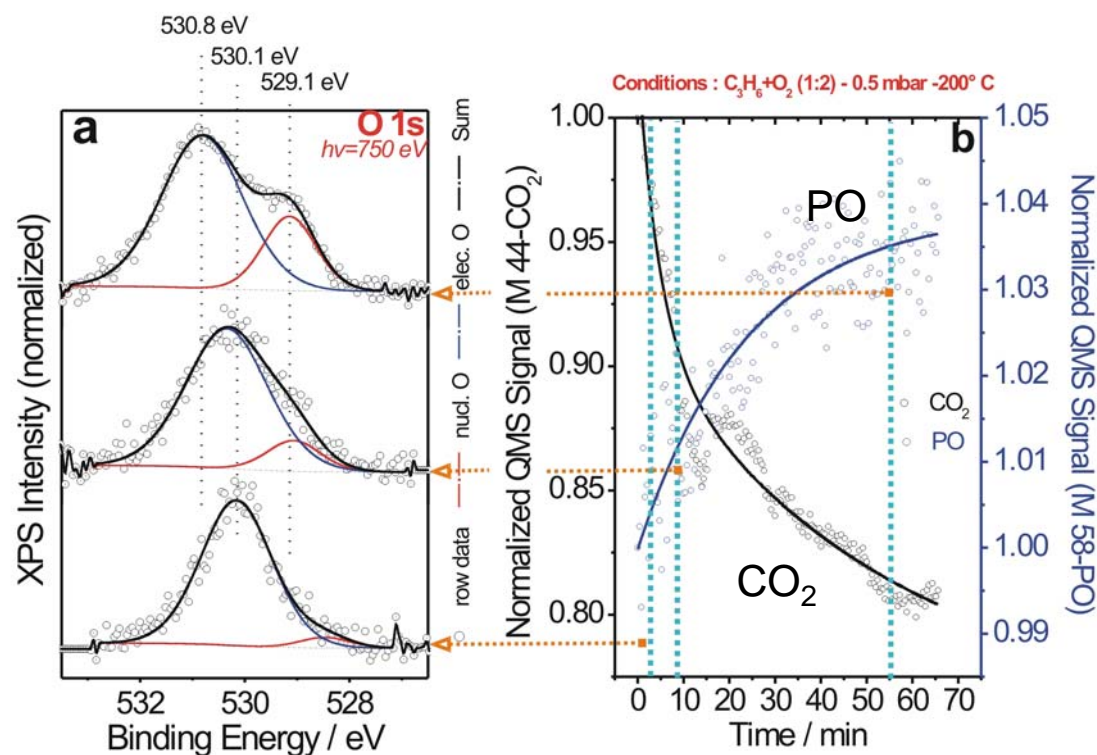


Alkene and alkyne hydrogenation at the synchrotron

Pd foil, $\sim 70^\circ\text{C}$, 1 mbar ($0.1 \text{ C}_x\text{H}_y + 0.9 \text{ H}_2$)



Structure-function correlation in Ag: PO formation



Auto-formation of selective electrophilic oxygen by gradual intercalation of sub-surface oxygen in Ag

Ag nano, 473 K, 0.5 mbar, 1:2 C₃H₈:O₂
Total oxygen content "0.2 ML"

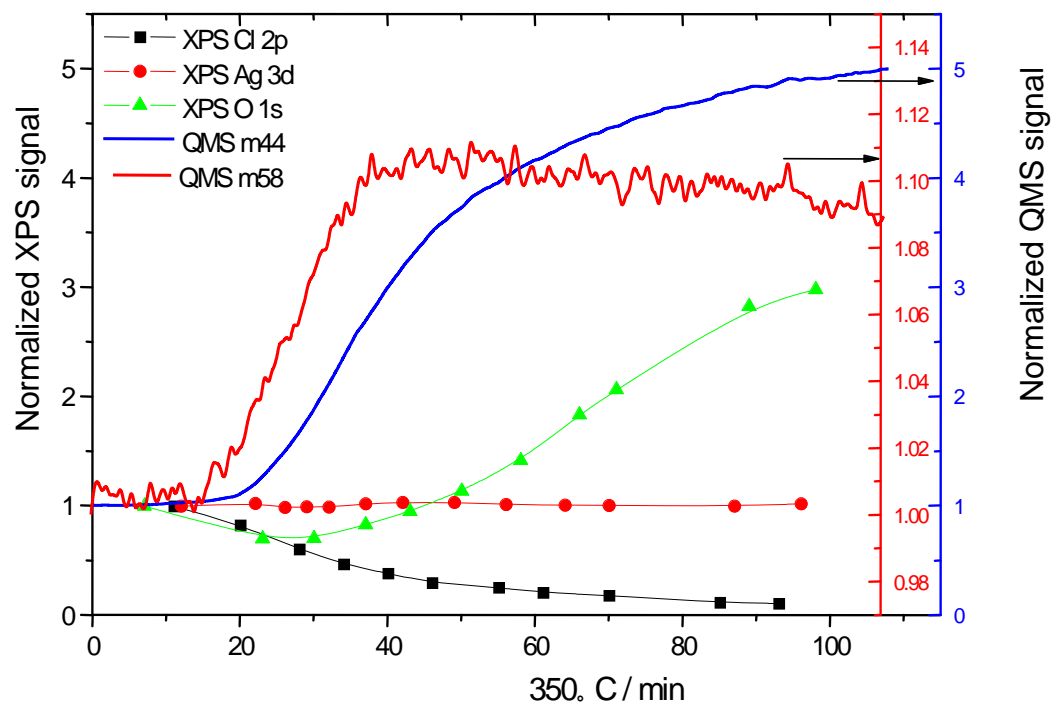
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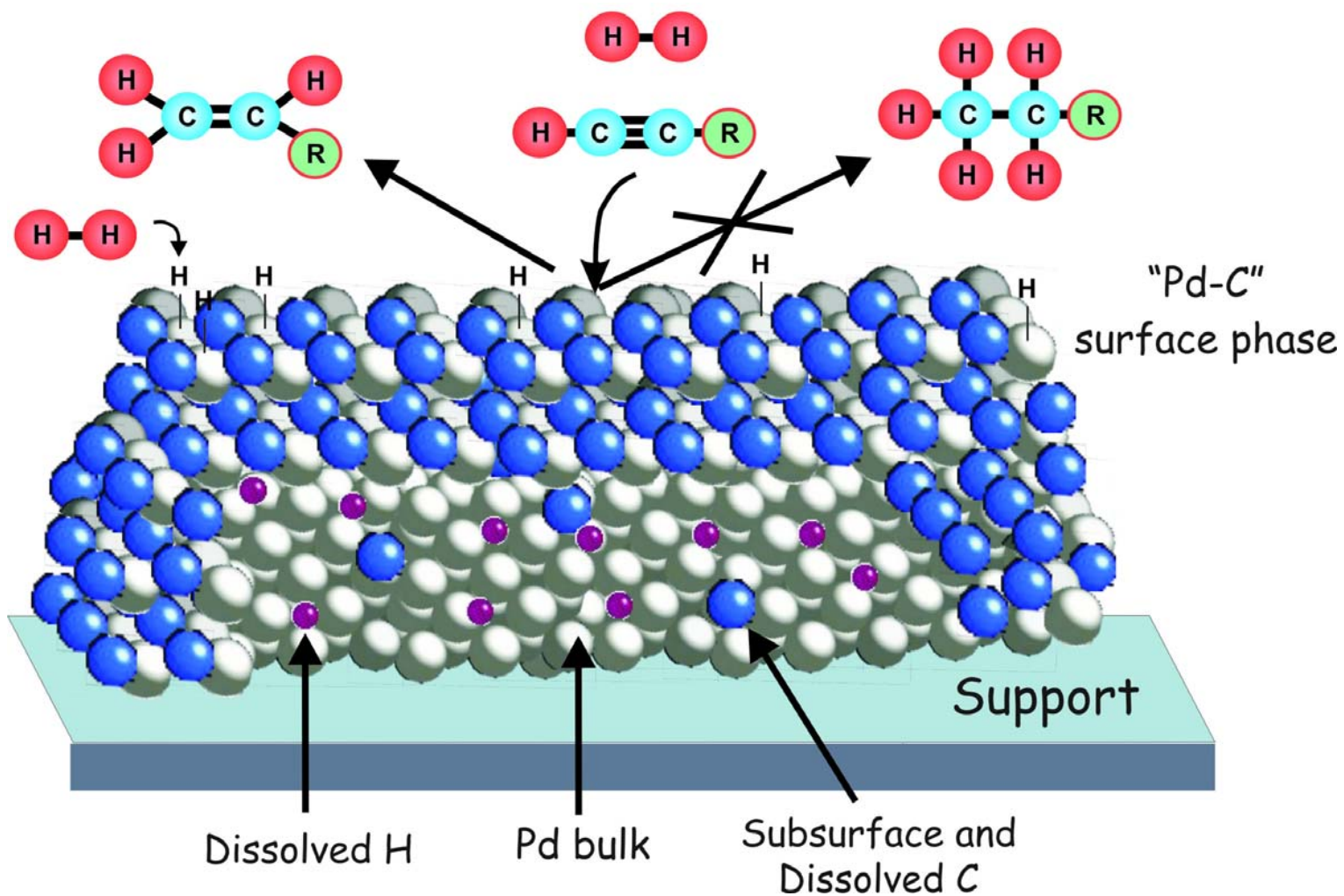
The function of a promoter

Chlorine is an effective but not sustained promoter

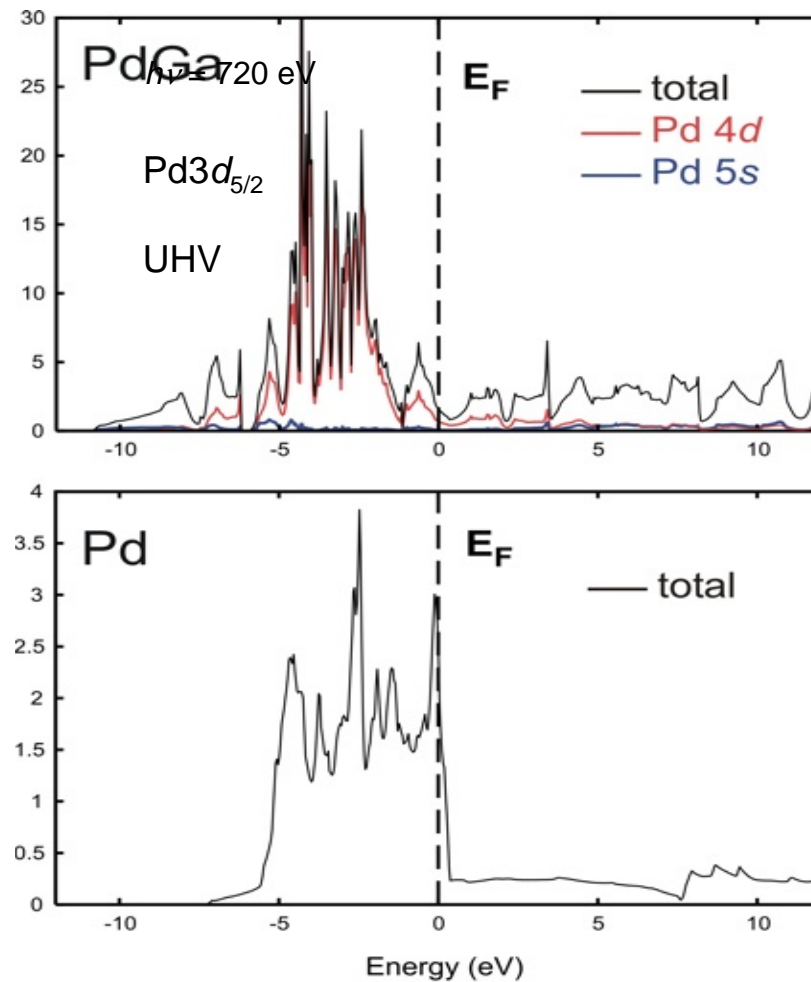
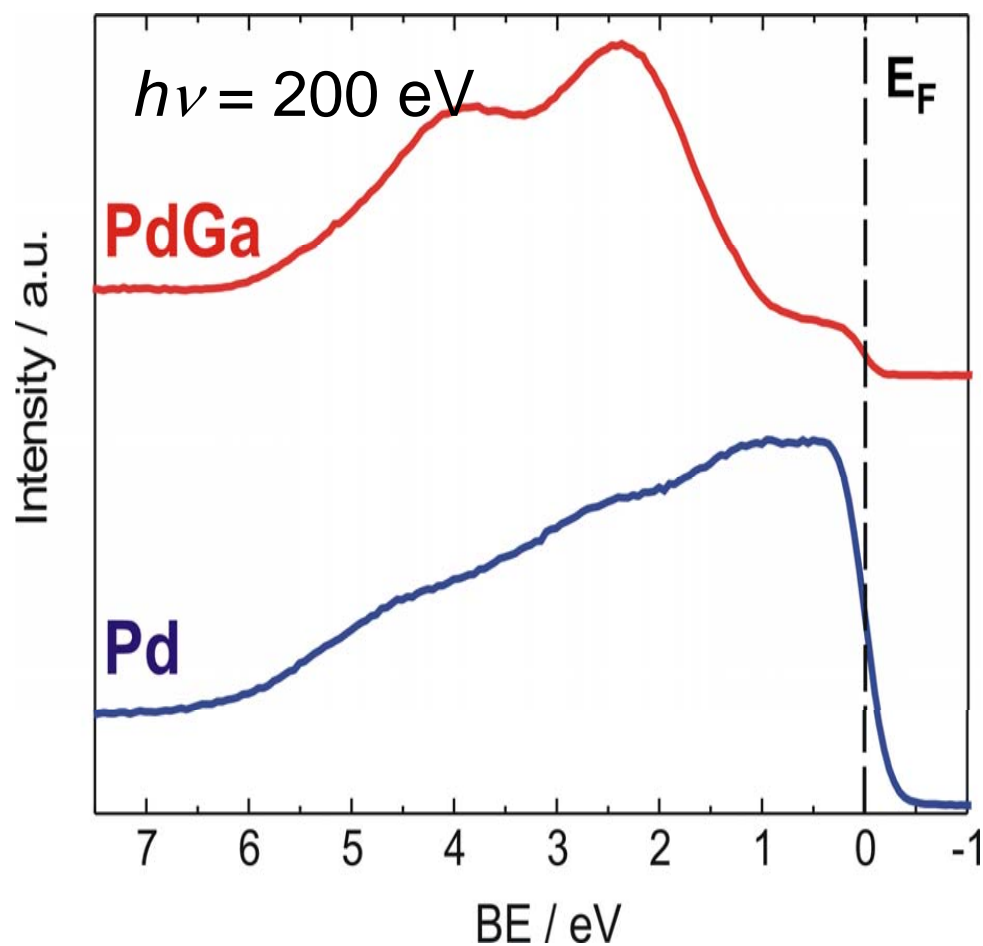
Chlorine is covered
under fresh Ag
surface: after 45 min
tos: loss of
promotion



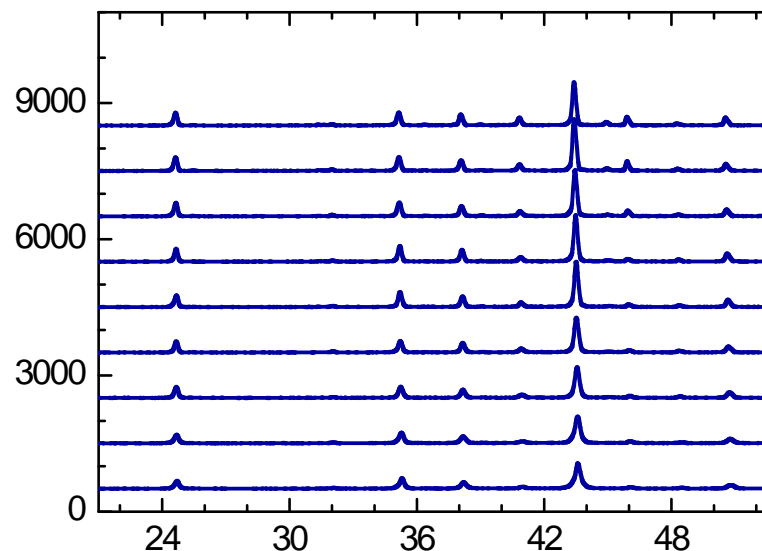
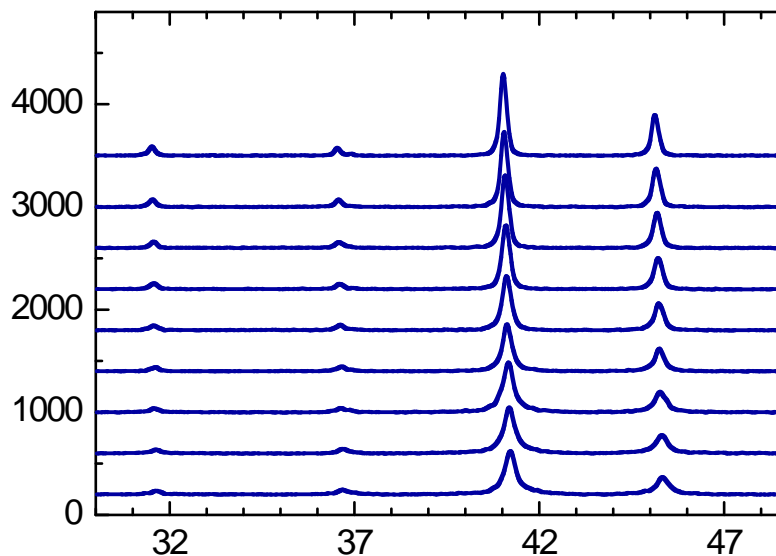
The Model



Meet the challenge: Intermetallics of Pd



Structural stability: No bulk reaction



PdGa und Pd₃Ga₇ in 50% H₂ + 50% He

No hydrides, no segregation, no phase transformations.



The catalysts

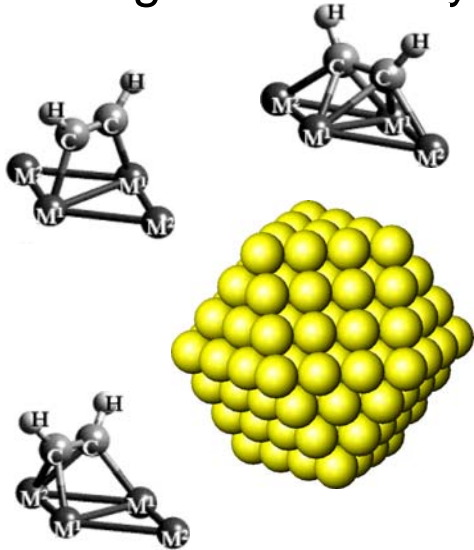
Pd metal

supported on oxides

✓ activity

✗ selectivity

✗ long-time stability



Pd clusters

Pd-Ga intermetallics:

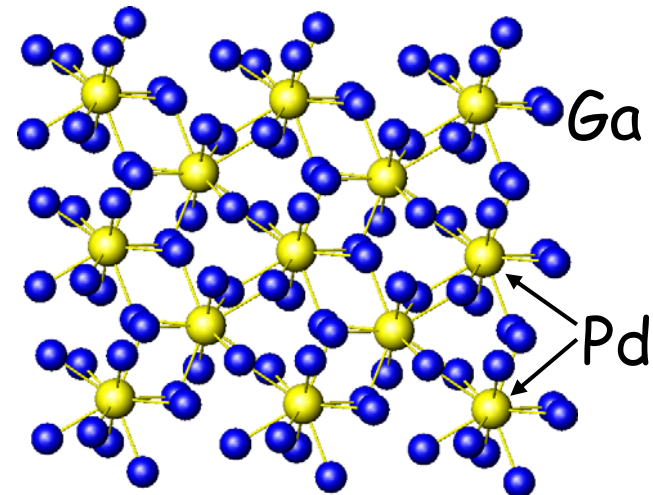
PdGa and Pd₃Ga₇

✓ activity

✓ selectivity

✓ long-time stability

Active sites



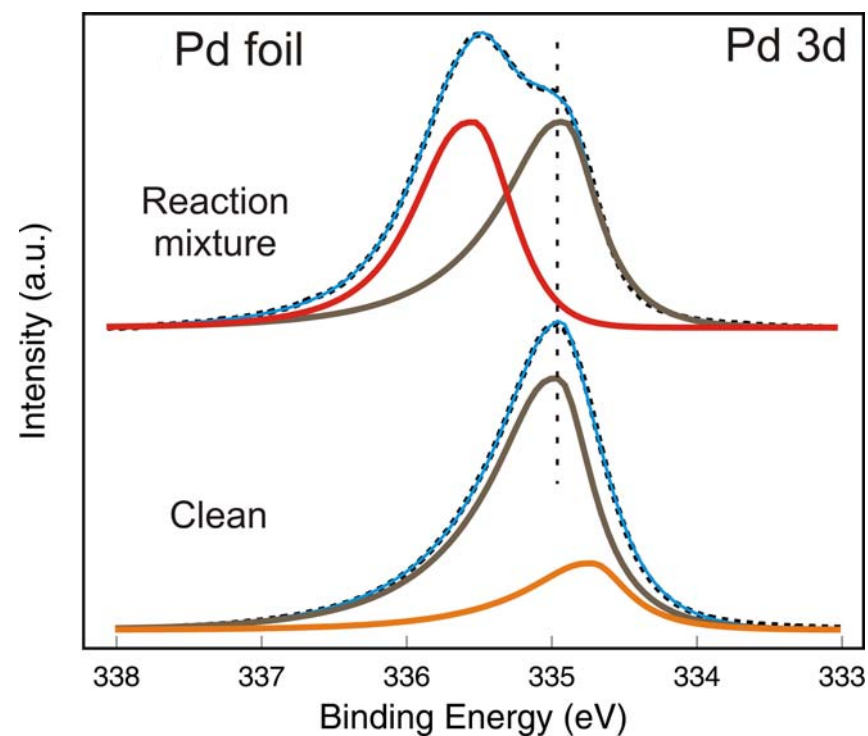
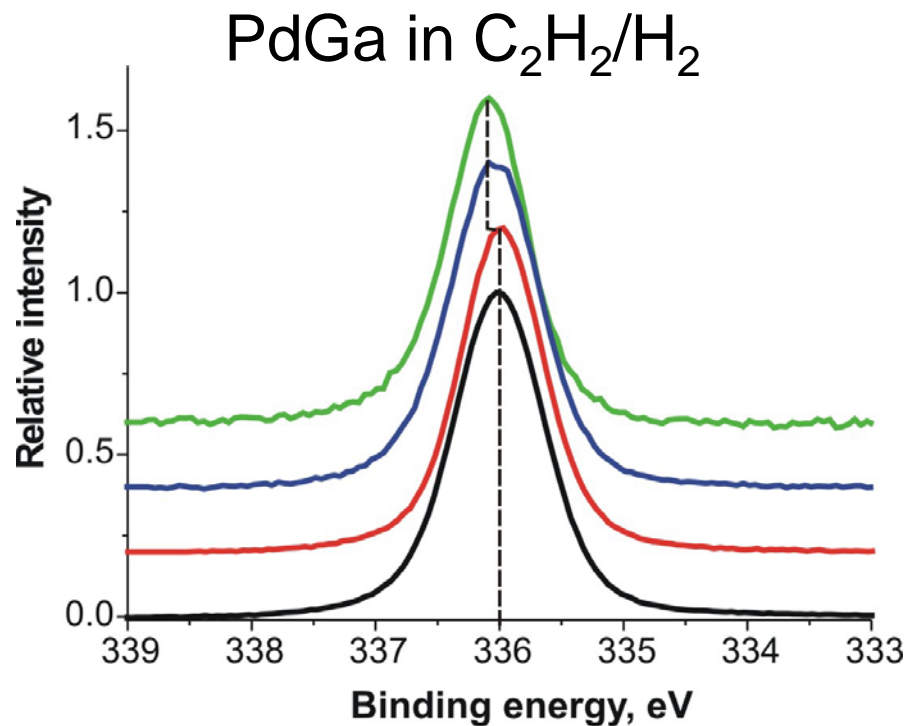
Isolated Pd atoms

Consequences

- Well-ordered extended (model) materials slow down activation and stay often non-reactive (gaps);
- Except for kinetically non-demanding reactions (single step processes);
- Where they also reach only moderate performance.
- High performance catalysis needs addition of complexity:
 - Nanostructuring (for synthesis)
 - In-situ methods (for functional analysis and optimization)



A stable sub-surface regime



D. Teschner et al., J. Catal. 2006, 242 26.

Pd in alkyne/H₂

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www: fhi-berlin.mpg.de



The reactions

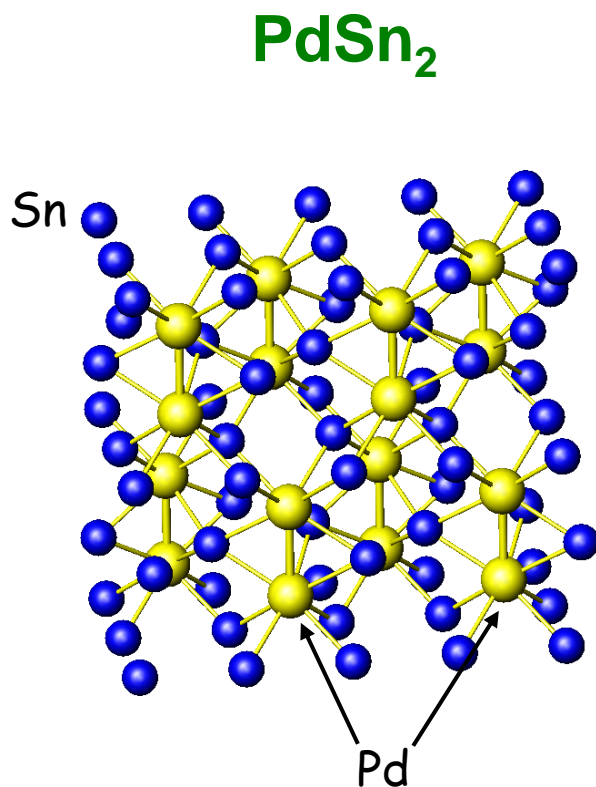
Selective hydrogenation of C-C triple bonds in
medium-sized molecules to olefins:
Key step in vitamin and pharmaceutical synthesis

Extremely critical reaction conditions
Severe stability problems

Selective hydrogenation of acetylene in
ethylene as pre-requisite for effective poly-
ethylene synthesis



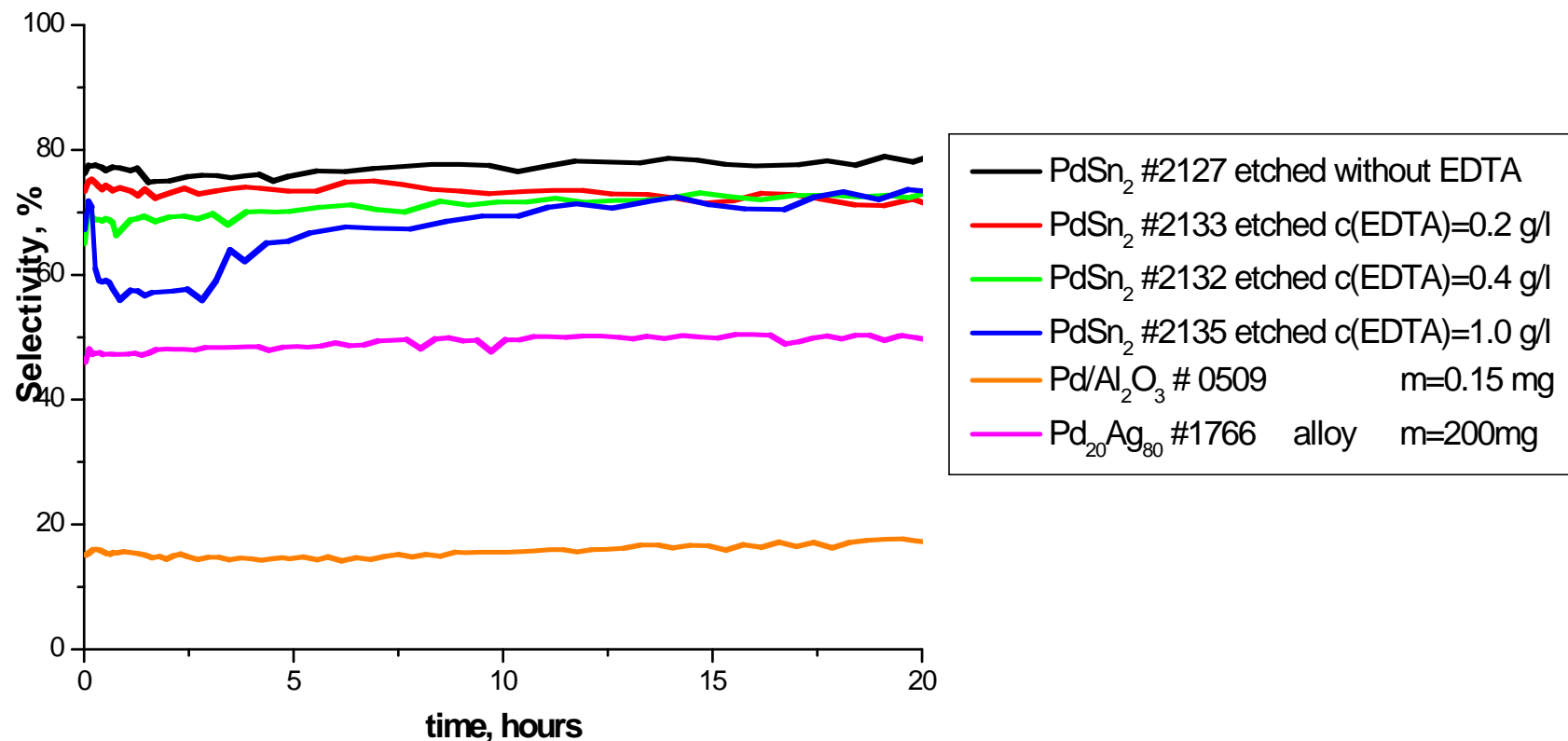
Flexibility of concept?



<i>Sample</i>	<i>Etching solution</i>	<i>Conversion after 1 hour</i>	<i>Conversion after 3 hour</i>
# 2039	100mg of sample, no etching	4 %	–
# 2040	saturated EDTA	15%	10%
# 2041	EDTA/NH ₃ , pH=10.3	21%	15%
# 2042	EDTA/NH ₃ /H ₂ O ₂ , pH=10.5	> 10%	–
# 2049	EDTA/NaOH, pH=12.8	25%	12%
# 2051	EDTA/NaOH, pH=13.3	43%	20%
# 2015	EDTA/NaOH, pH=13.8	37%	5%



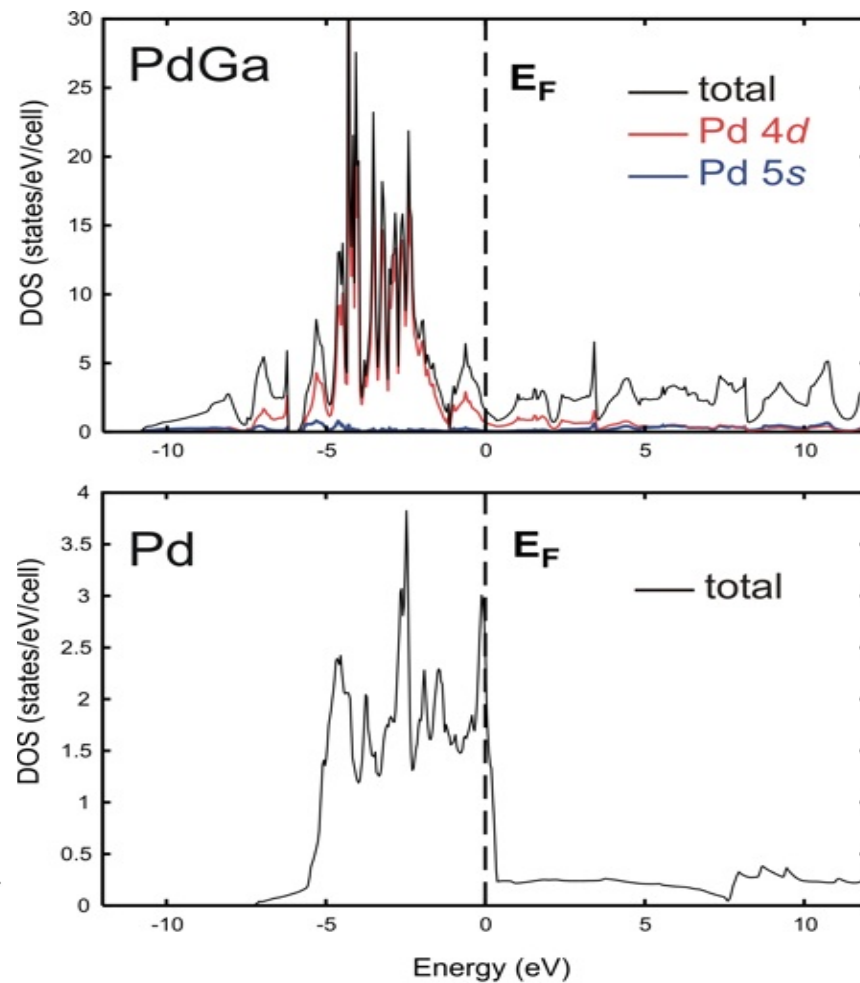
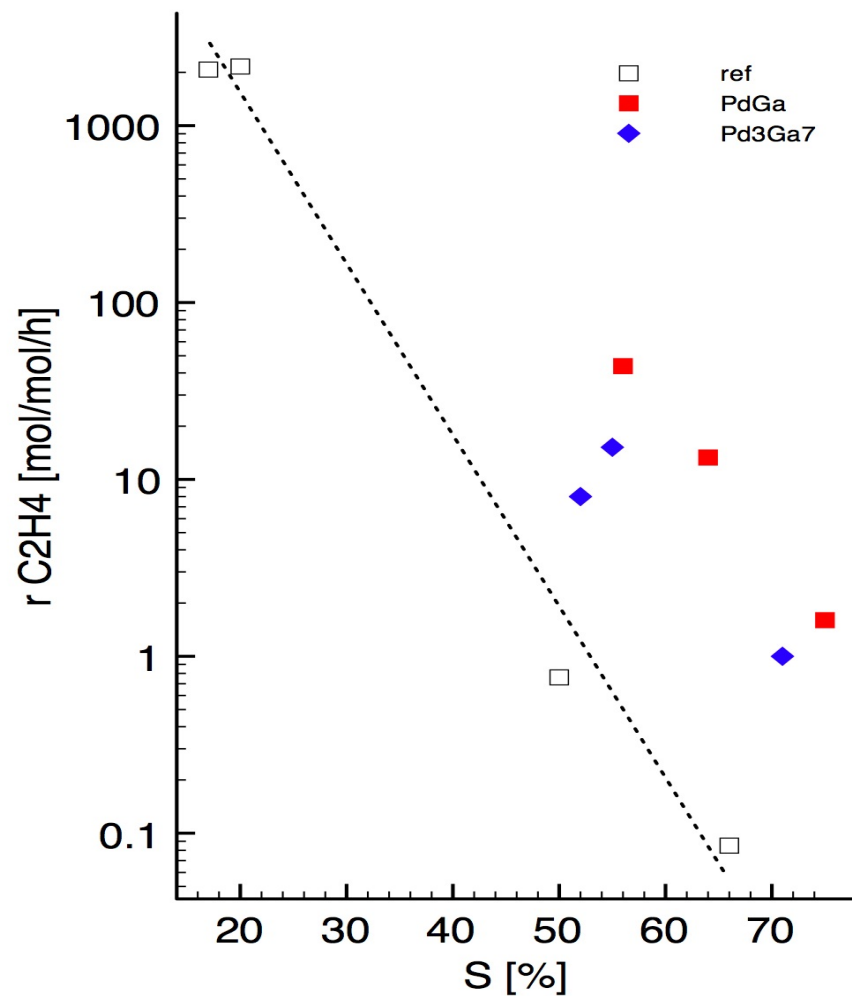
Good active sites but solid state dynamics?



85 mg after washing with EDTA at pH 13



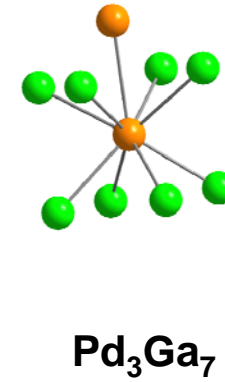
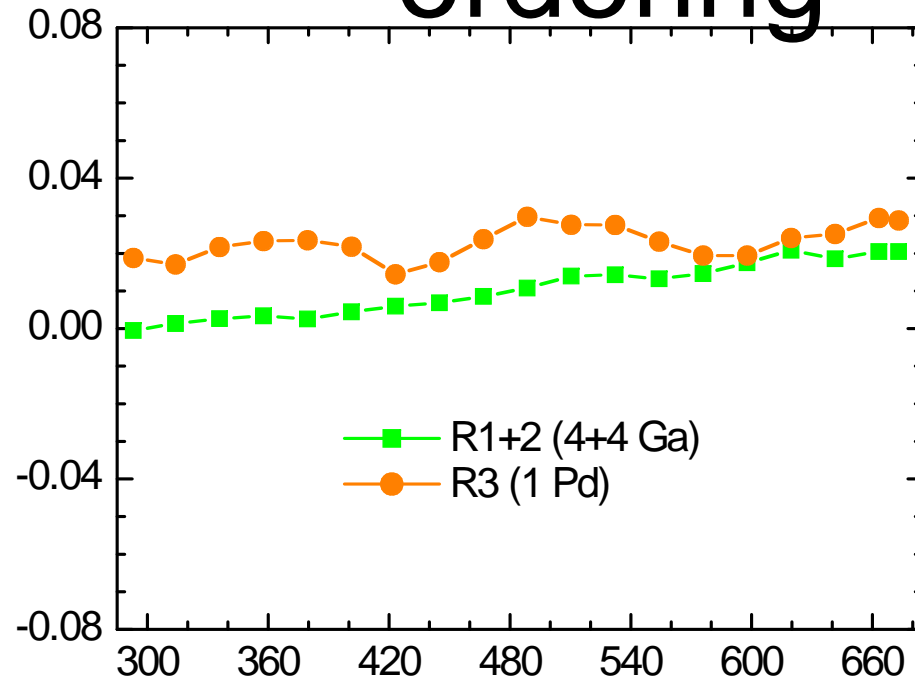
Proof of concept: new hydrogenation systems



J. Grin, M. Armbrüster, K. Kovnir



Structural stability. no modification of local ordering



EXAFS analysis
Pd₃Ga₇ in 10% C₂H₂ + 20% H₂



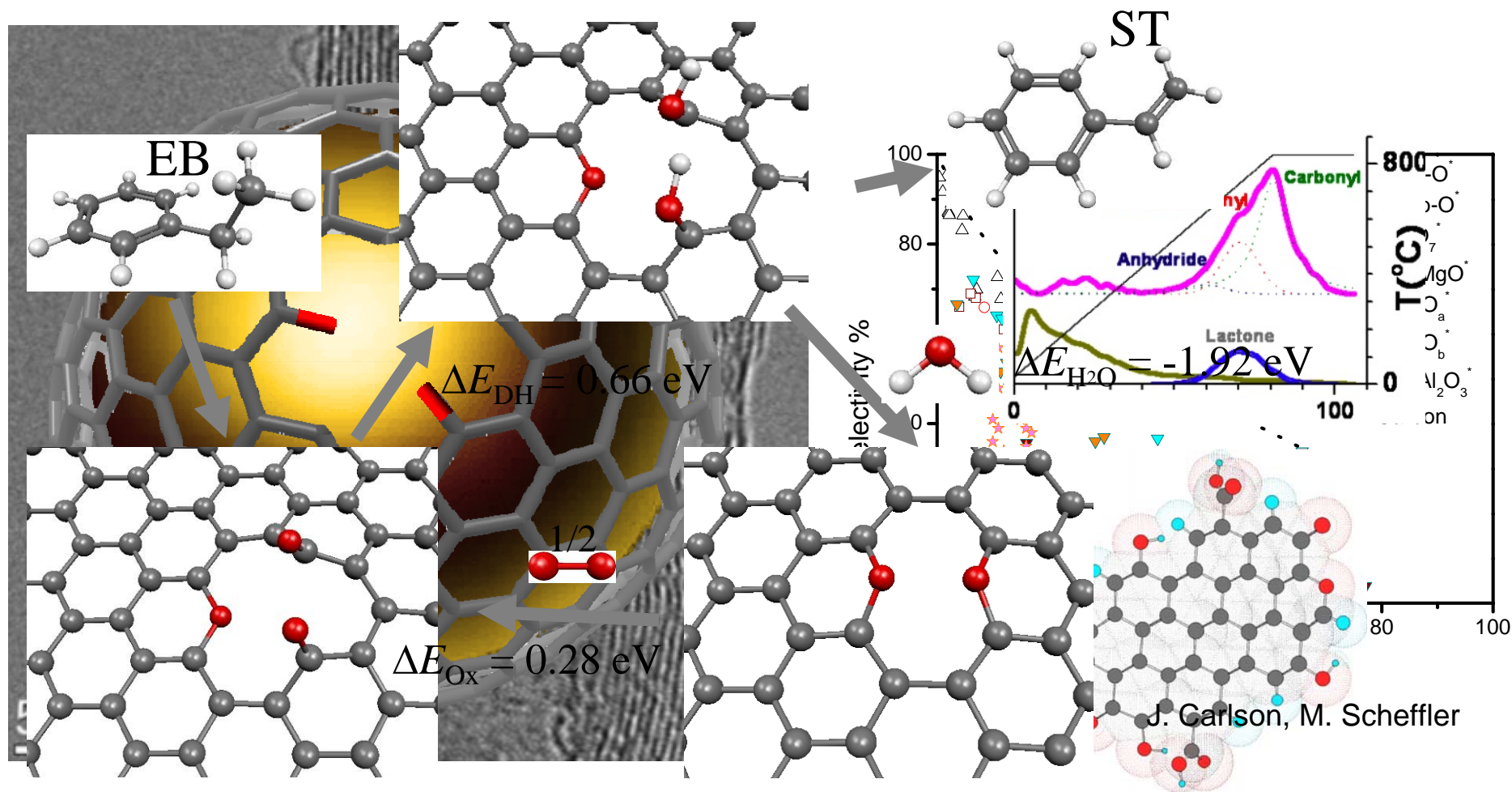
Active sites in a high performance catalyst

- An active heterogeneous catalyst contains **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.

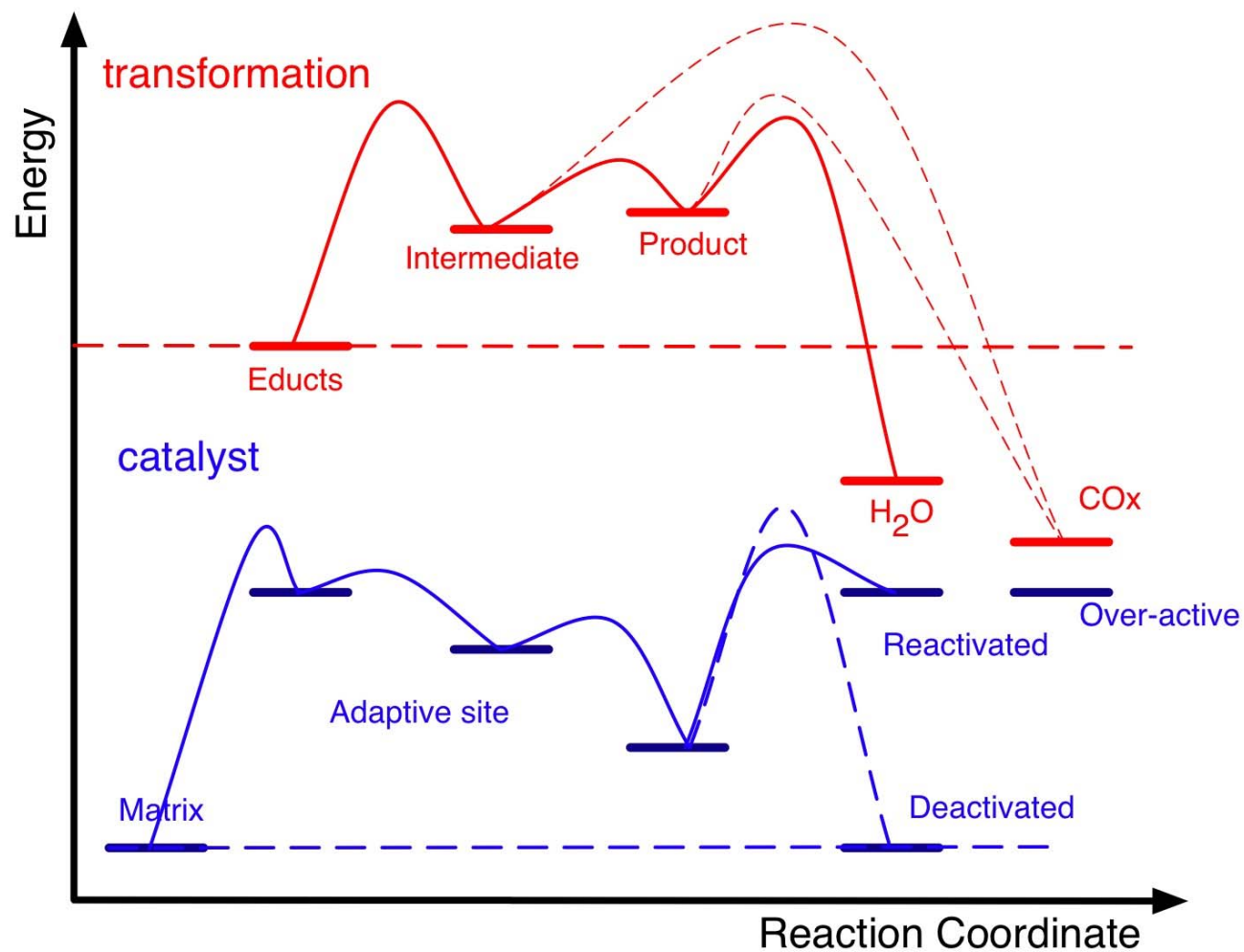


Decouple oxygen reagent from cat structure

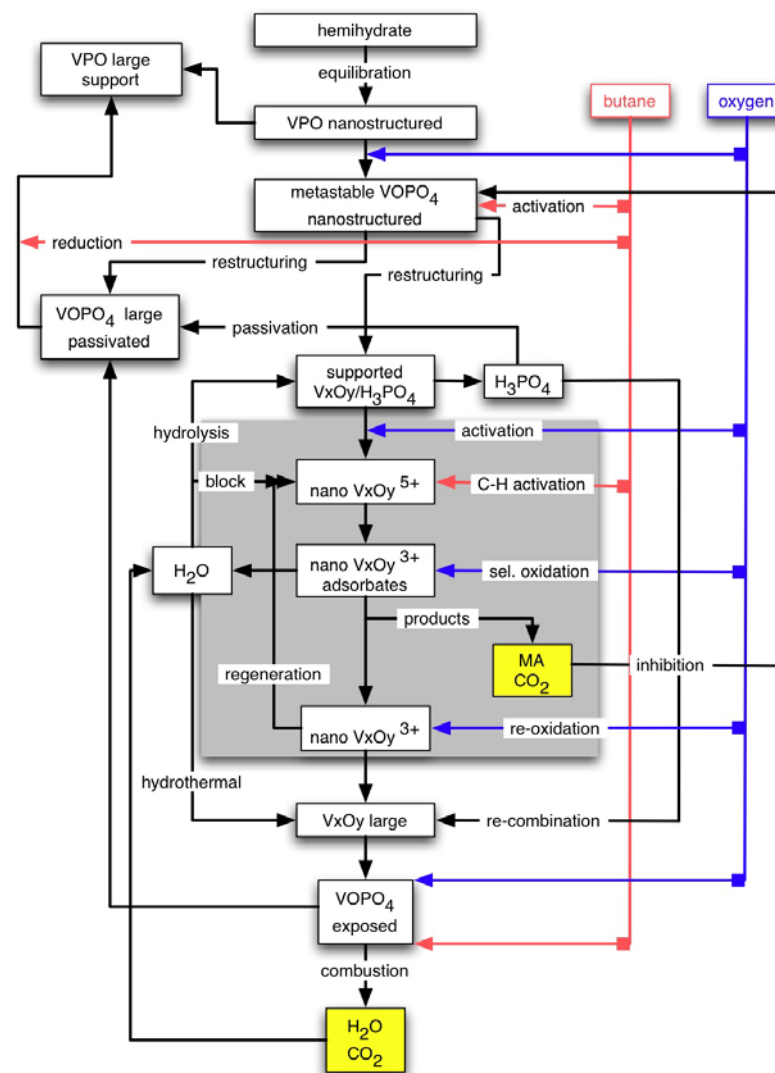
Metal-free catalysis for butane ODH



Coupling of transformation and material



Catalyst dynamics



Reaction pathway: role of H_{sub}

