

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

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 **contributors to this work**



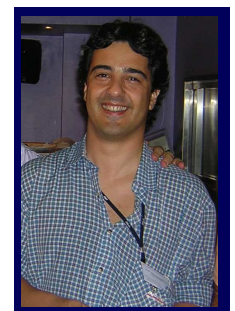
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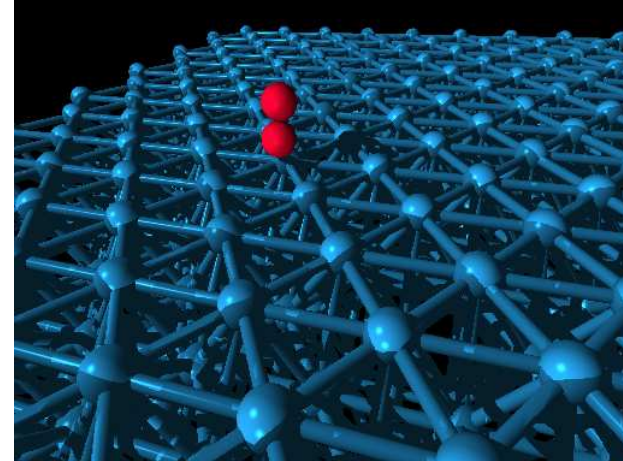


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France



 **outline**

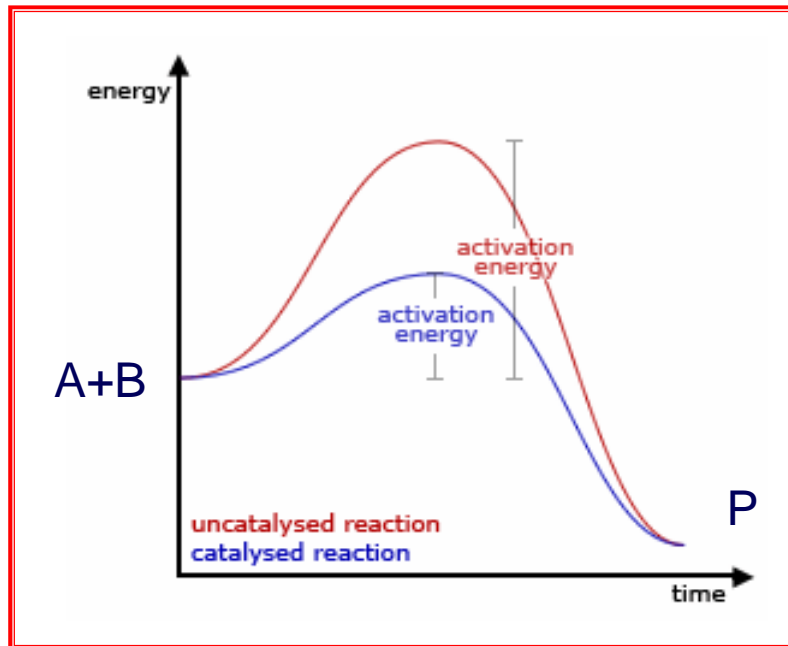


- introduction
- surface face and reactivity
- non-adiabatic effects: electronic excitations
- conclusions

## ➡ gas/solid interfaces and heterogeneous catalysis

### What is catalysis?

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



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

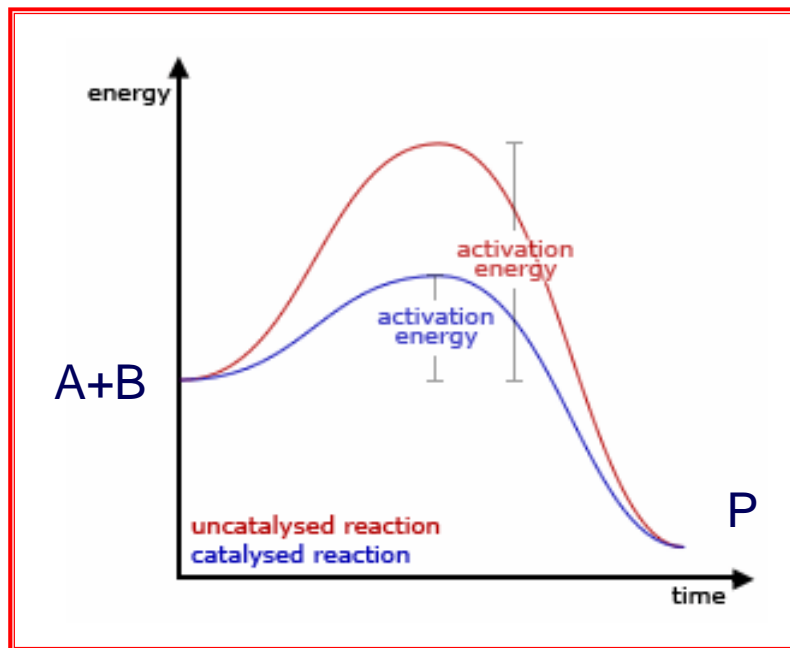
### Heterogeneous catalysis:

The catalyst is in a different phase → solid surfaces.

## ➡ gas/solid interfaces and heterogeneous catalysis

*What is catalysis?*

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



觸媒

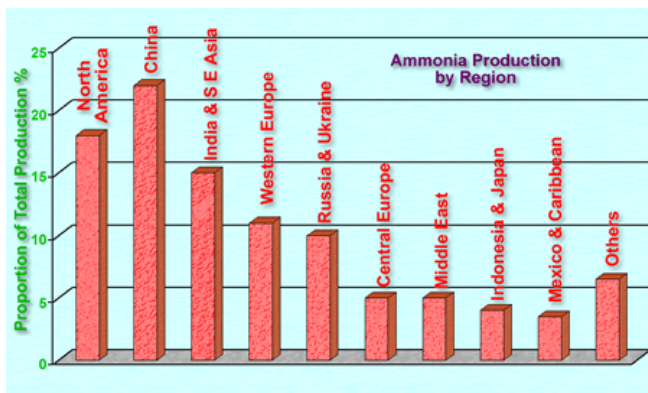
The chinese symbol  
for catalyst  
is the same as the one  
for marriage broker  
(matchmaker)

**Heterogeneous catalysis:**

The catalyst is in a different phase → solid surfaces.

## ➔ global context: chemical industry

ammonia synthesis:  
 $3\text{H}_2(\text{g}) + \text{N}_2(\text{g}) \leftrightarrow 2\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$   
(catalyzed by Fe surface)



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





## ➡ global context: car industry



### *Catalysis in car industry:*

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

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

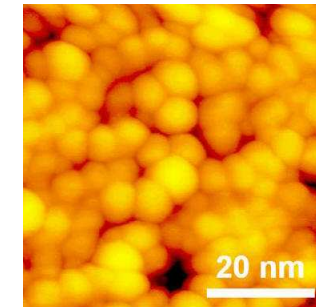
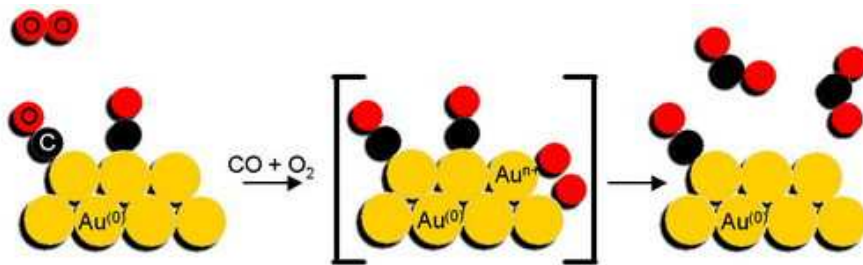
CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> are desorbed from the surface and emitted as relatively harmless gases:



## ➡ catalysis and nanoscale

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

### Au as a catalyst

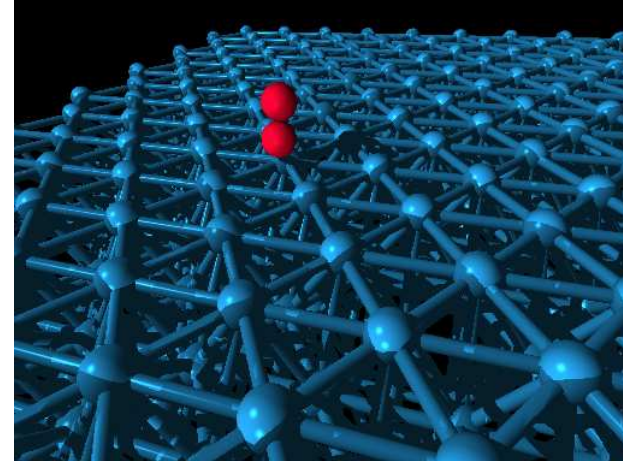


In general, Au is a noble metal, the most inert bulk metal.

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

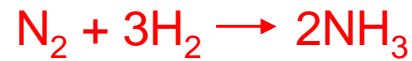


➔ **outline**

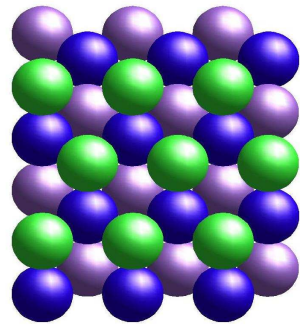


- introduction
- **surface face and reactivity**
- non-adiabatic effects: electronic excitations
- conclusions

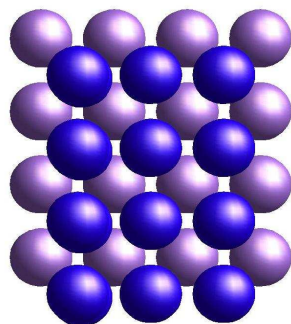
# surface face and reactivity



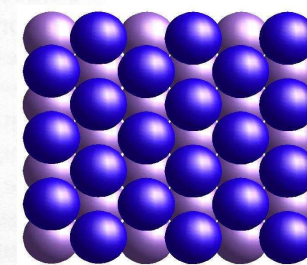
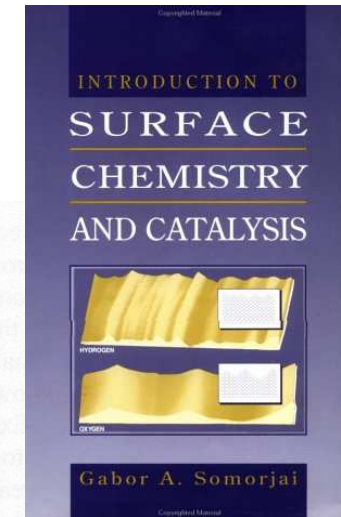
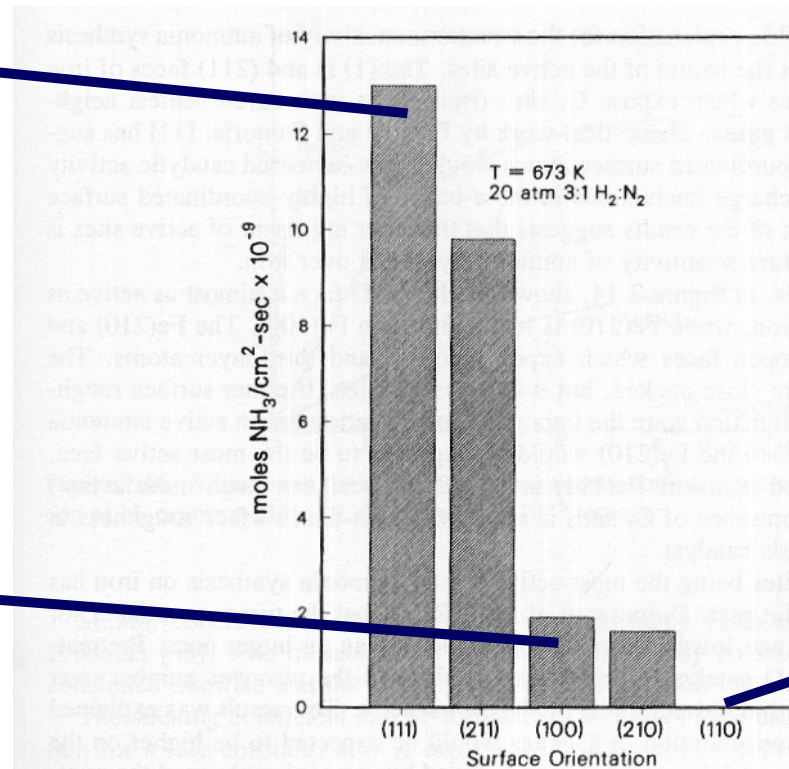
rates of ammonia synthesis  
over five iron single-crystal surfaces



Fe (111)



Fe (100)

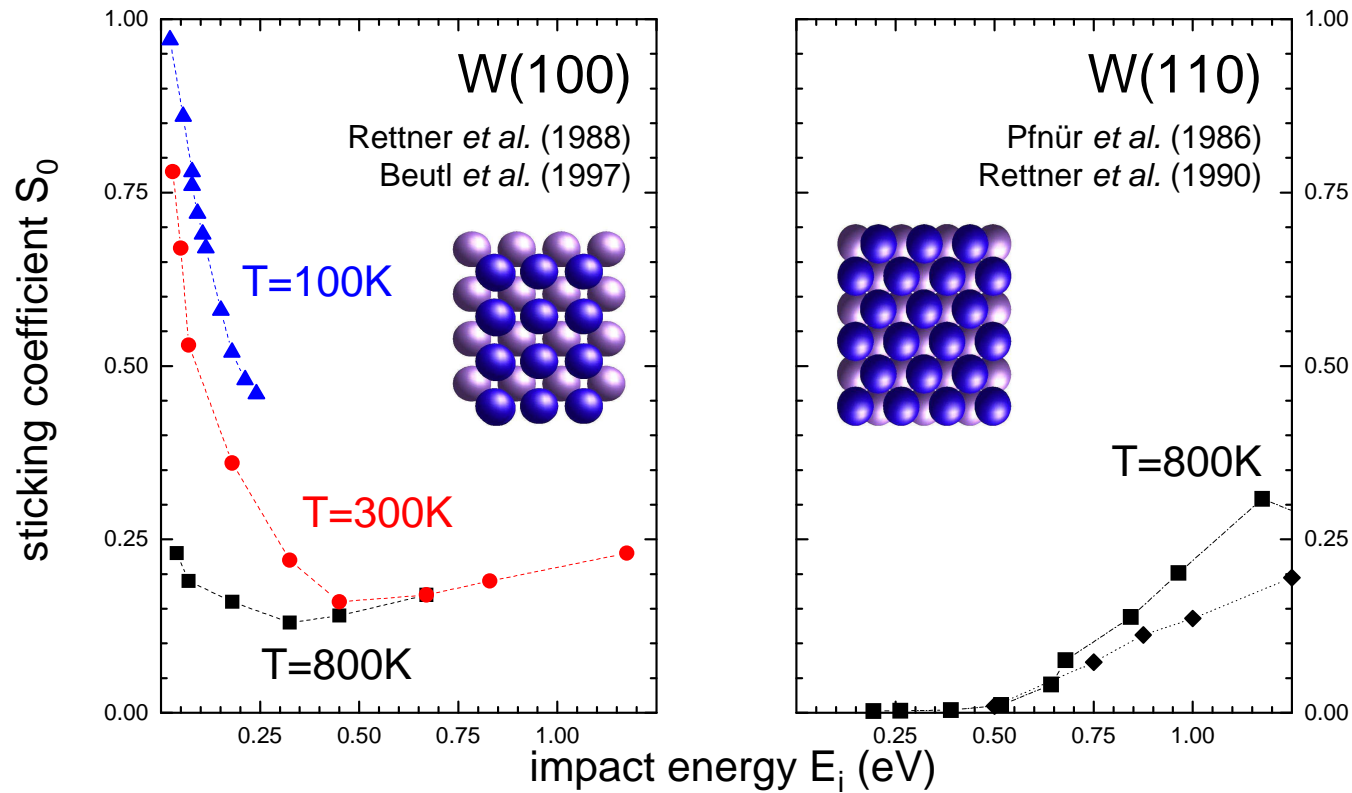


Fe (110)

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

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

normal incidence



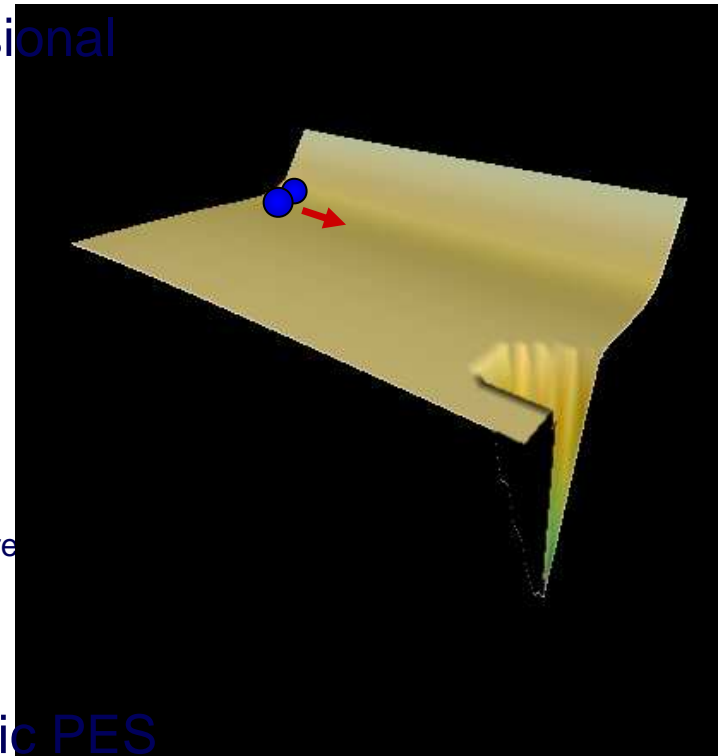
## ➡ theoretical method

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

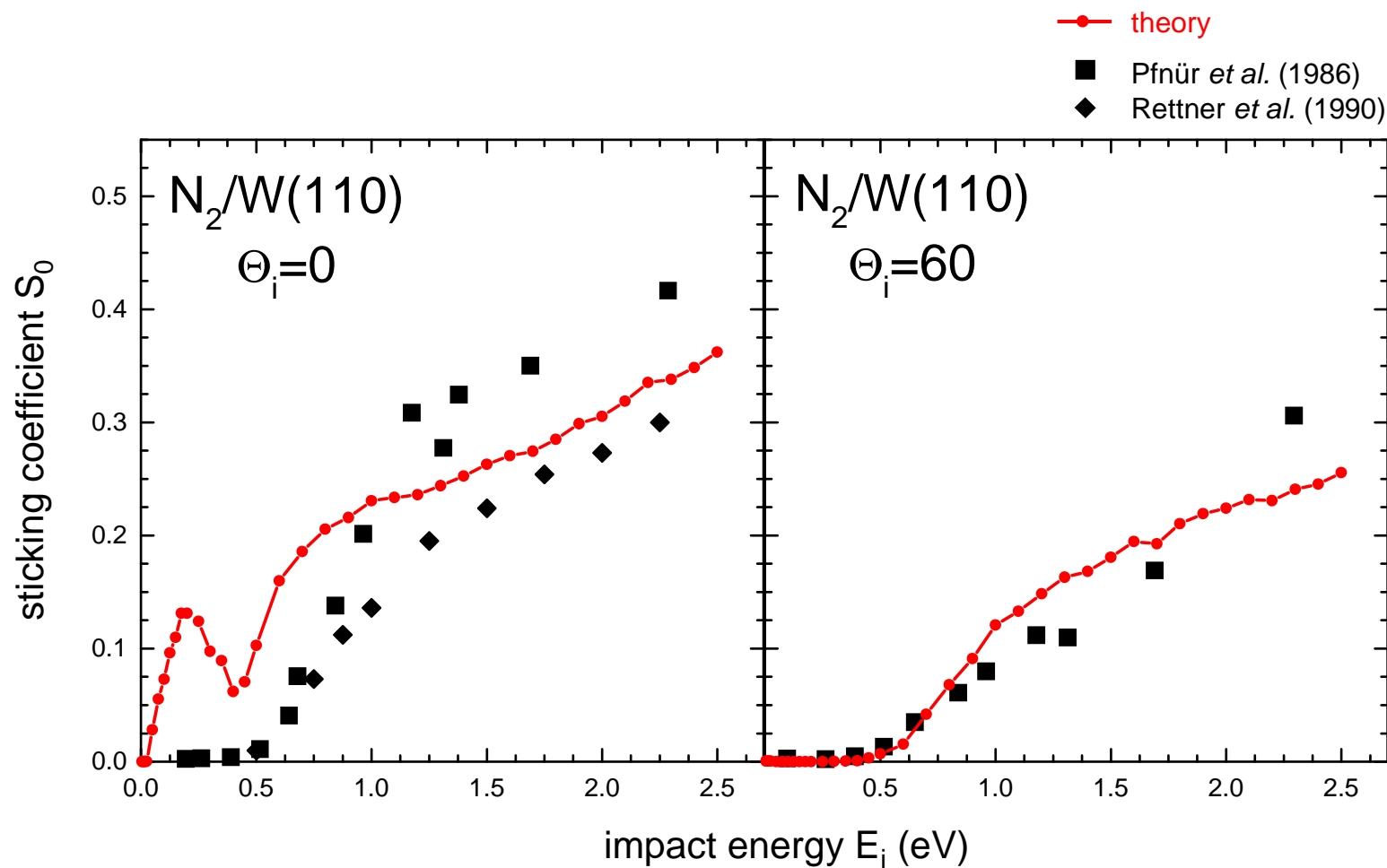
In our particular case:

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

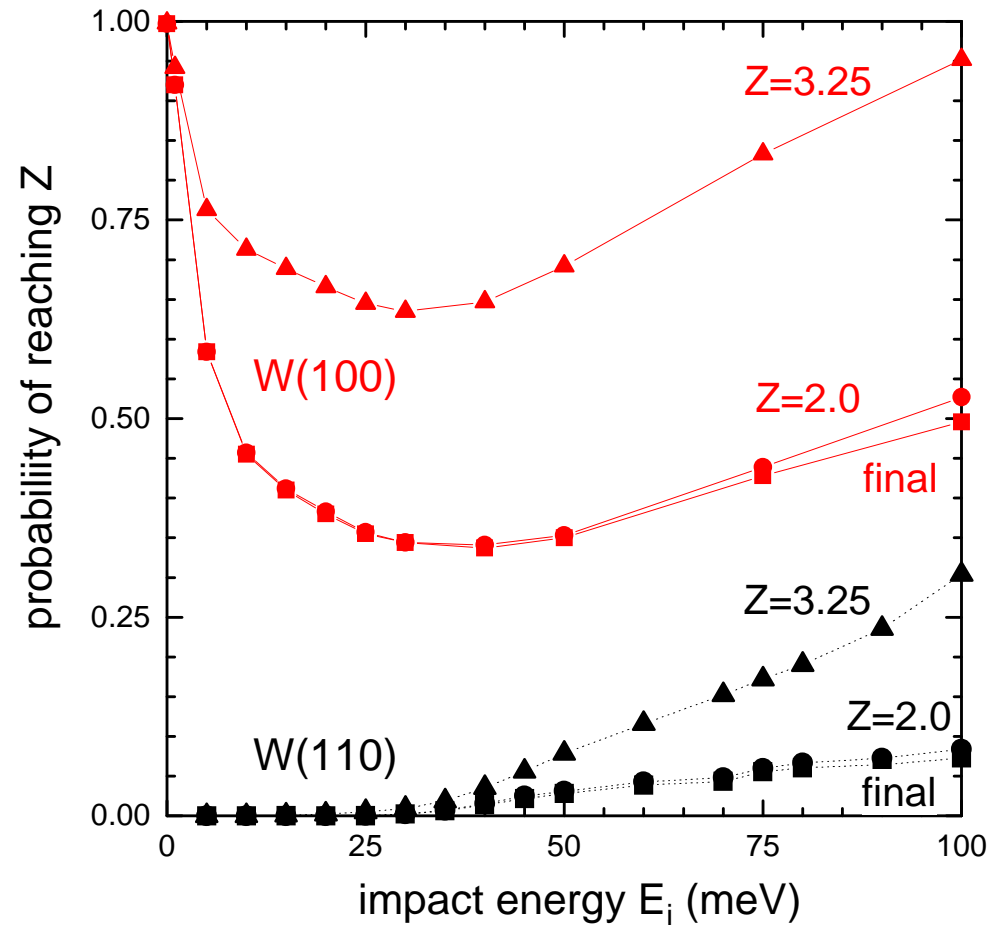
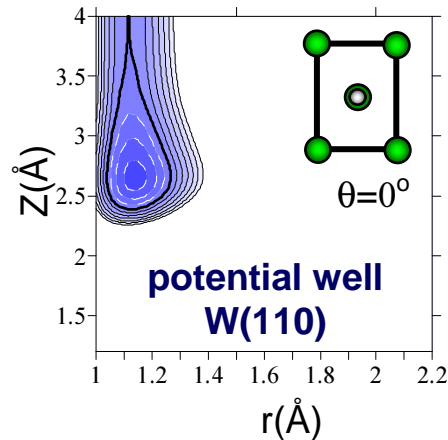
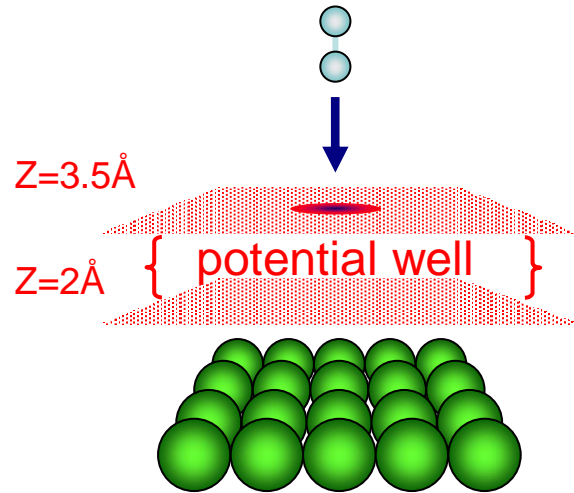
- classical dynamics in the adiabatic PES



## → classical dynamics in the 6D-PES

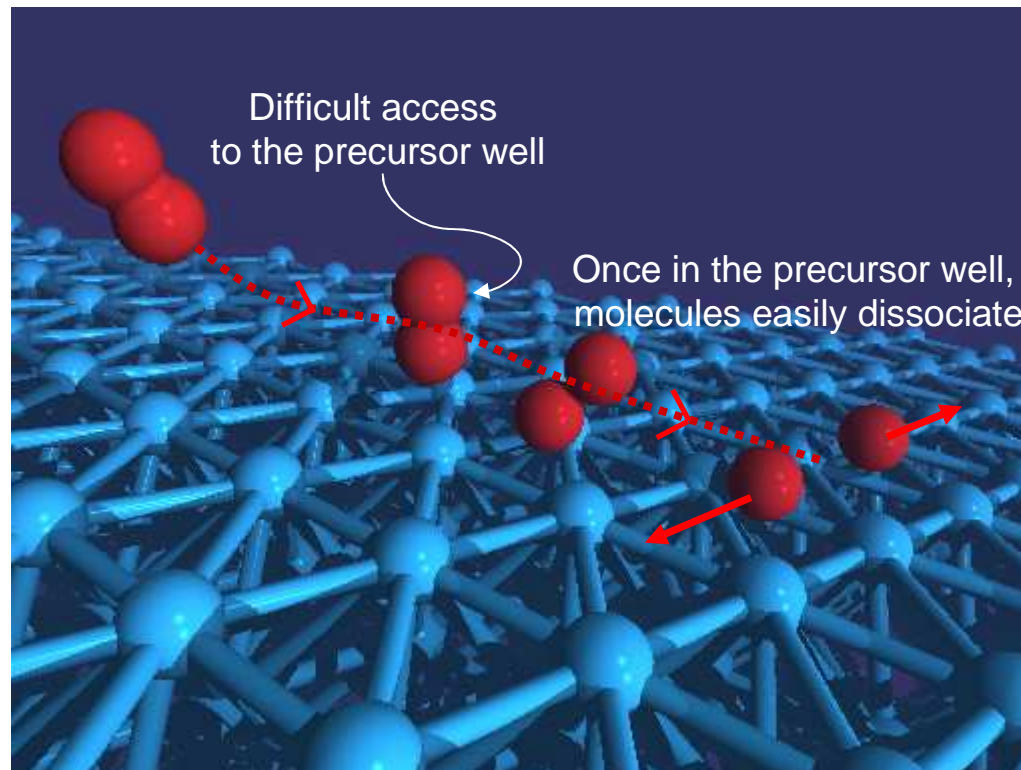


➔ for thermal energies, long distances matter



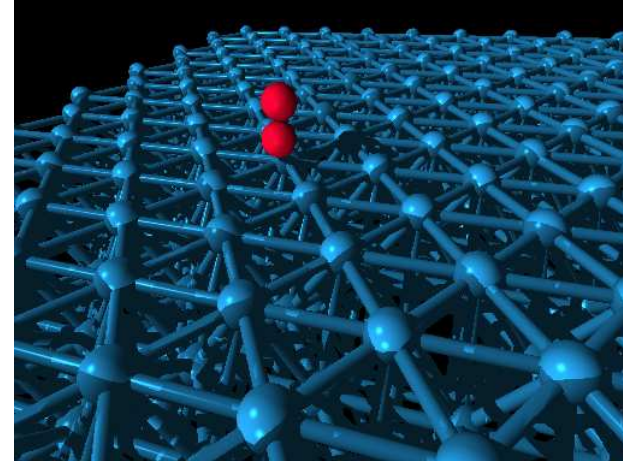


➡ in summary, dynamics matters



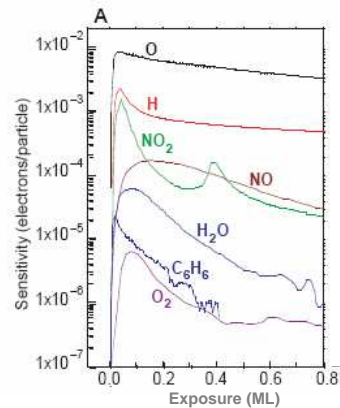
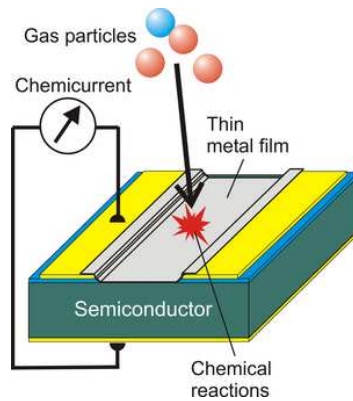
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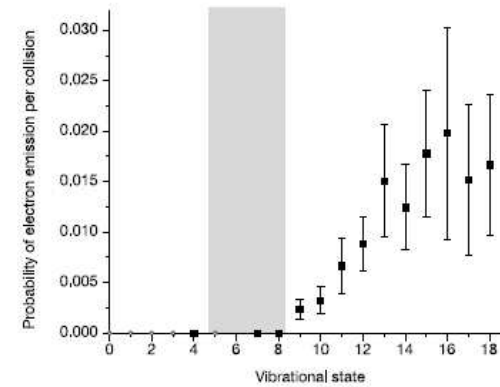
# ➔ non-adiabatic effects: electron-hole pair excitations

## chemicurrents



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

## vibrational promotion of electron transfer

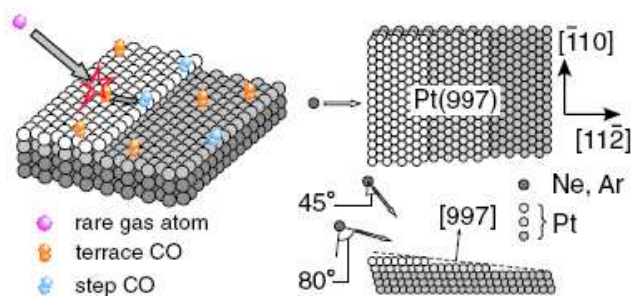


NO on Cs/Au(111)  
electron emission as  
a function of initial  
vibrational state

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

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

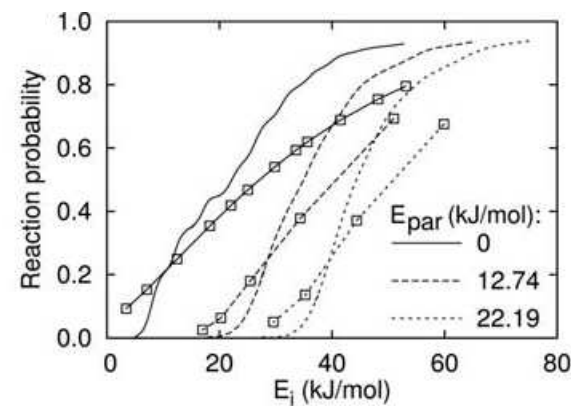
### friction of a single chemisorbed CO molecule



CO on Pt(997)  
migration to step edges

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

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



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

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

description of electronic excitations by a friction coefficient

previously used for:

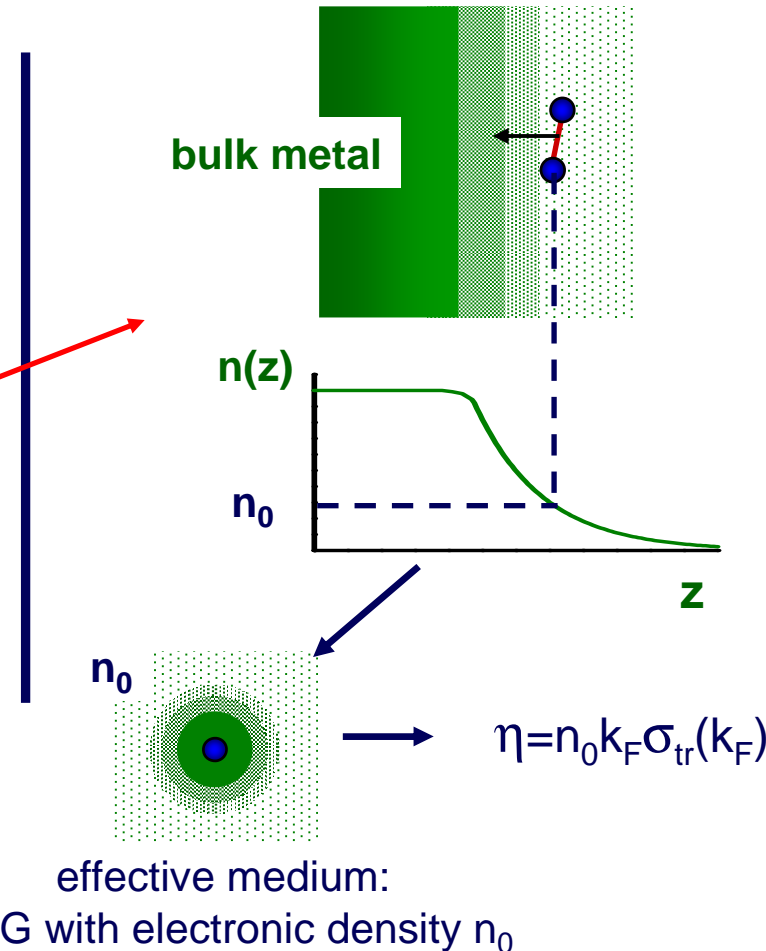
- damping of adsorbate vibrations:  
Persson and Hellsing, PRL49, 662 (1982)
- dynamics of atomic adsorption  
Trail, Bird, *et al.*, JCP119, 4539 (2003)

classical equations of motion

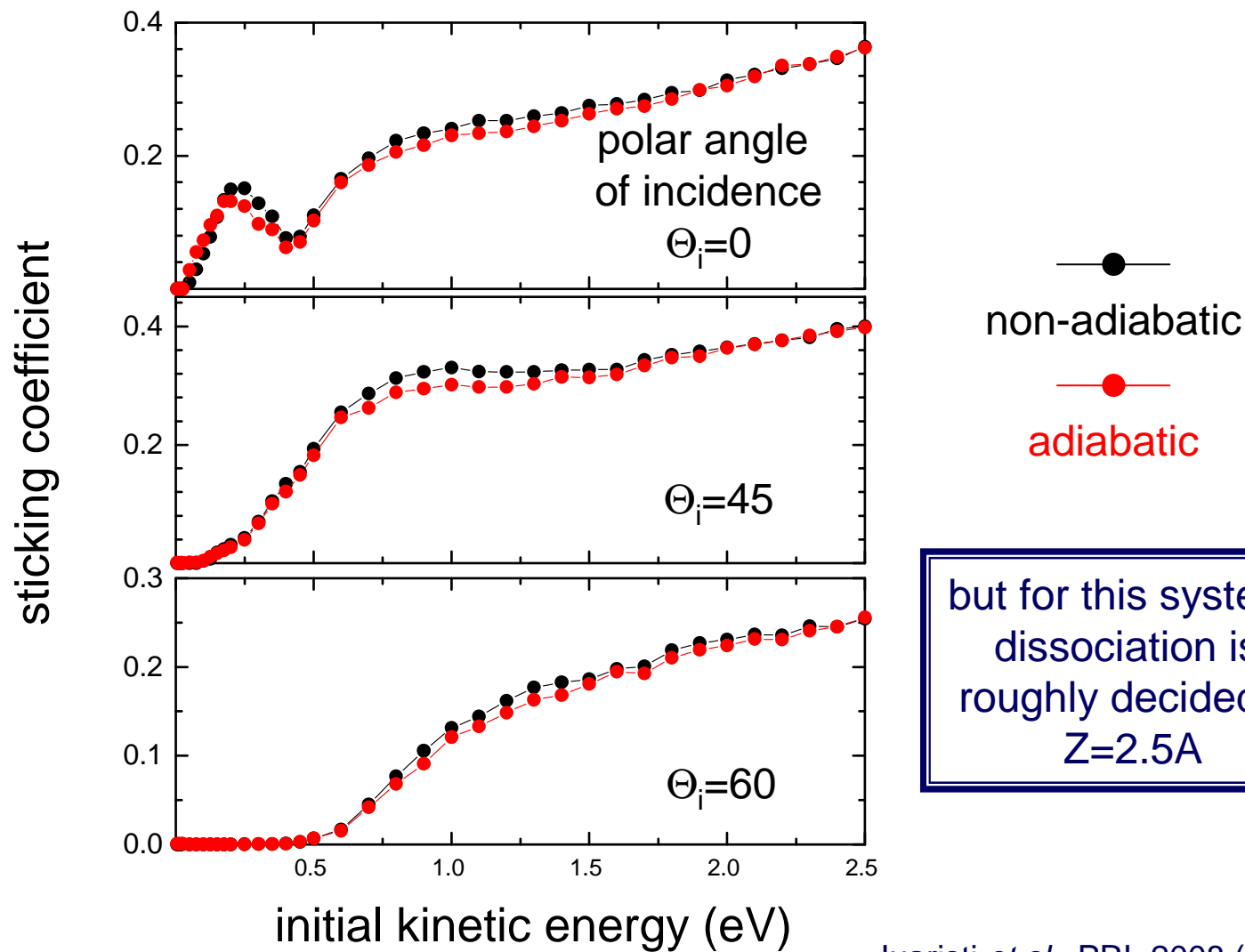
for each atom "i" in the molecule

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

friction coefficient:  
effective medium approximation

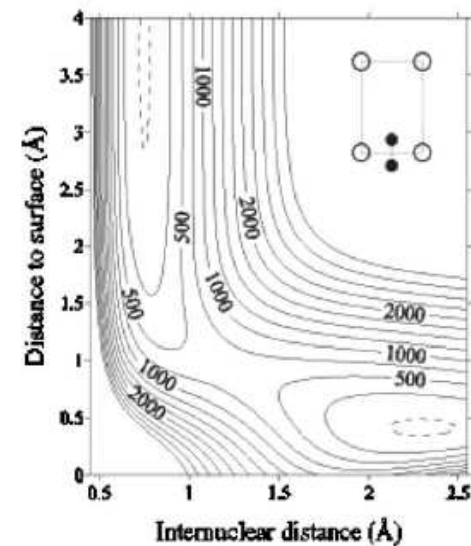
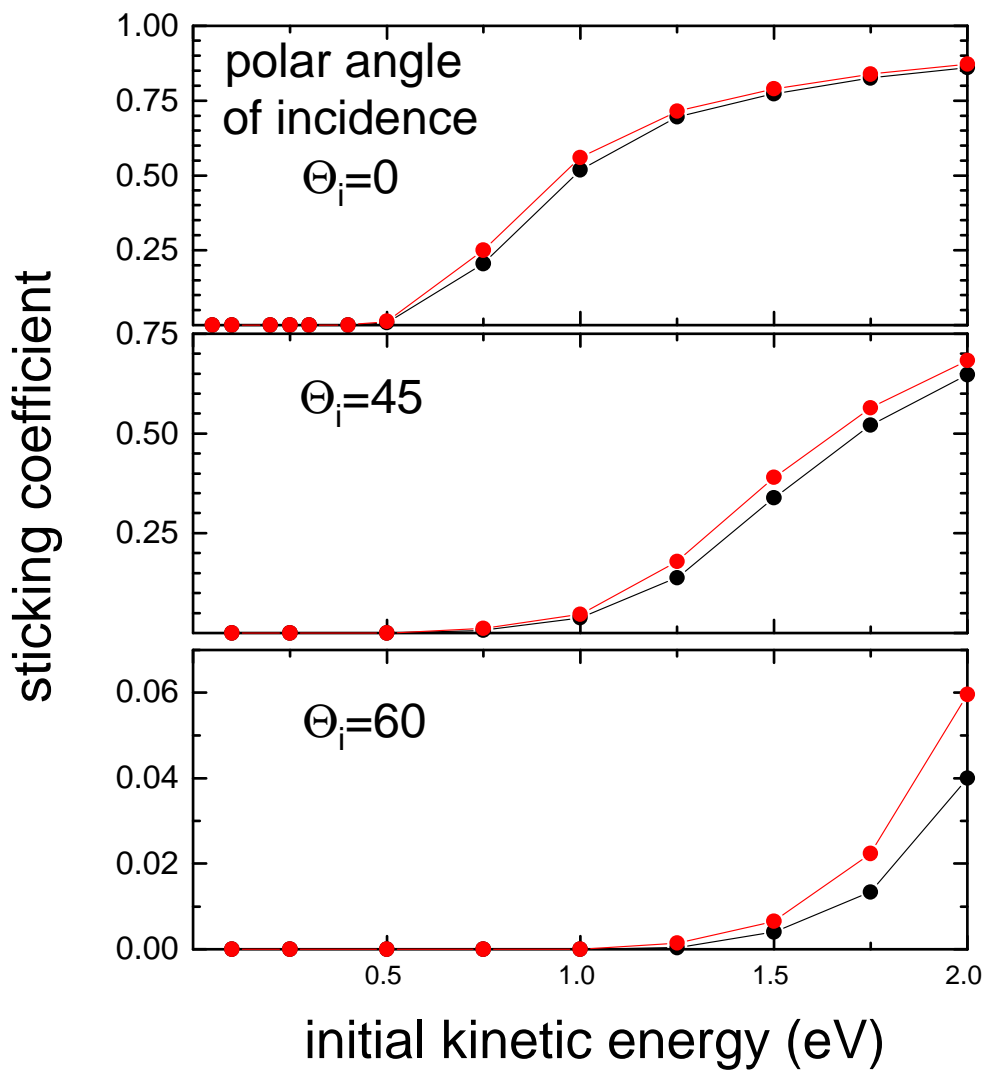


probability of dissociative adsorption:  $N_2$  on W(110)





probability of dissociative adsorption:  $H_2$  on Cu(110)



[Salin, JCP 124, 104704 (2006)]

—●—  
non-adiabatic

—●—  
adiabatic

Juaristi *et al.*, PRL 2008 (in press)

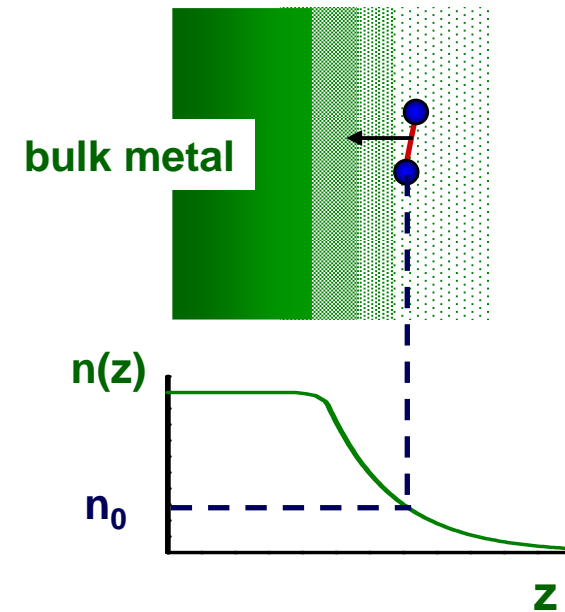
## classical equations of motion

for each atom “ $i$ ” in the molecule

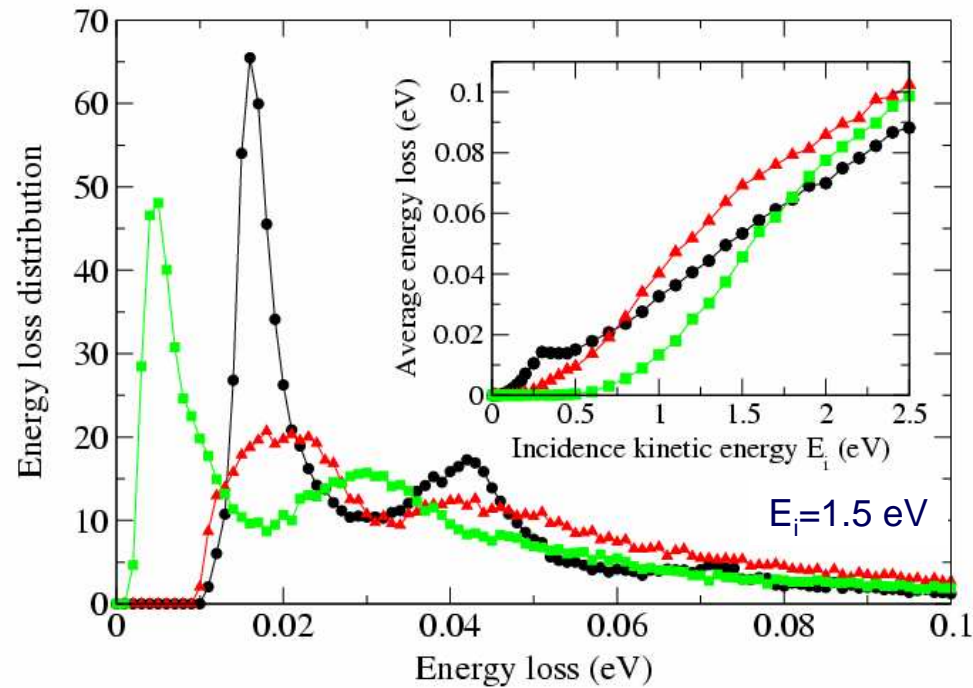
$$m_i(d^2r_i/dt^2) = -dV(r_i, r_j)/d(r_i) - \eta(r_i)(dr_i/dt)$$

friction coefficient

velocity

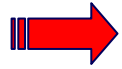


➔ energy loss of reflected molecules: N<sub>2</sub> on W(110)



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

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

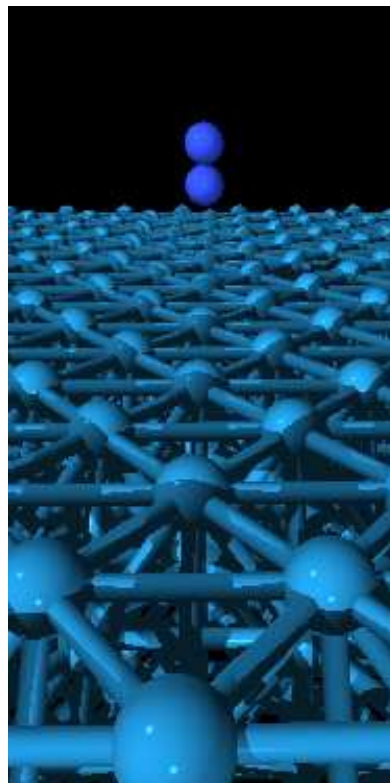


## some conclusions

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

in the particular case of  $N_2/W$ , we have shown  
that the differences in reactivity arise from the  
dynamics at long distances ( $>3 \text{ \AA}$ ) from the surface

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



**thank you for your attention**

*1<sup>st</sup> nanoICT Symposium  
Donostia – San Sebastian, February 26 2008*