

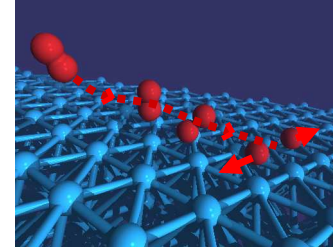
## Accuracy of adiabatic DFT calculations in the description of molecular dissociation at metal surfaces

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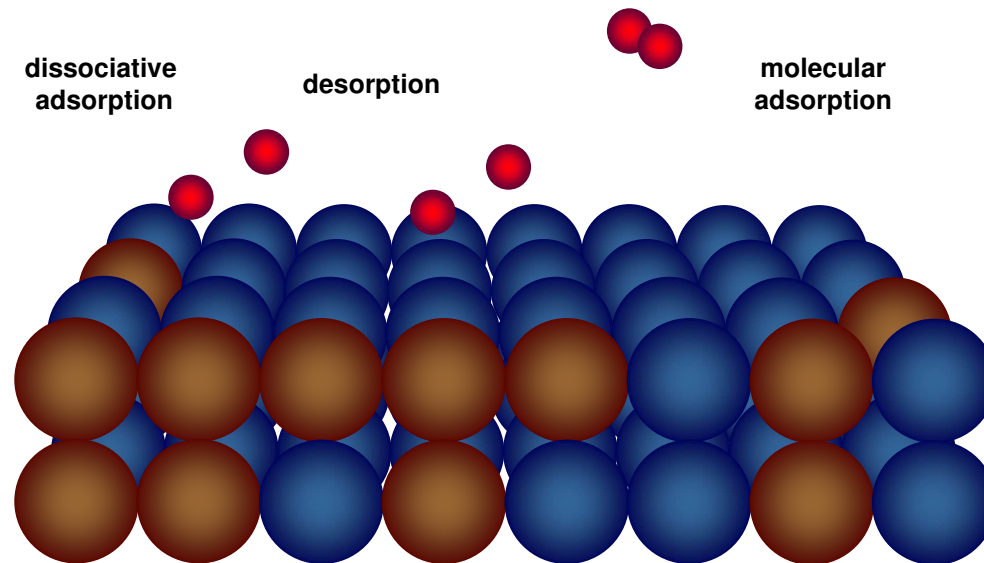
*XII International Conference on Vibrations at Surfaces - VAS12  
Erice (Italy), July 20-26, 2007*



## ➔ gas/surface dynamics



from the fundamental point of view, the goal is to understand how solid surfaces can be used to promote gas-phase chemical reactions



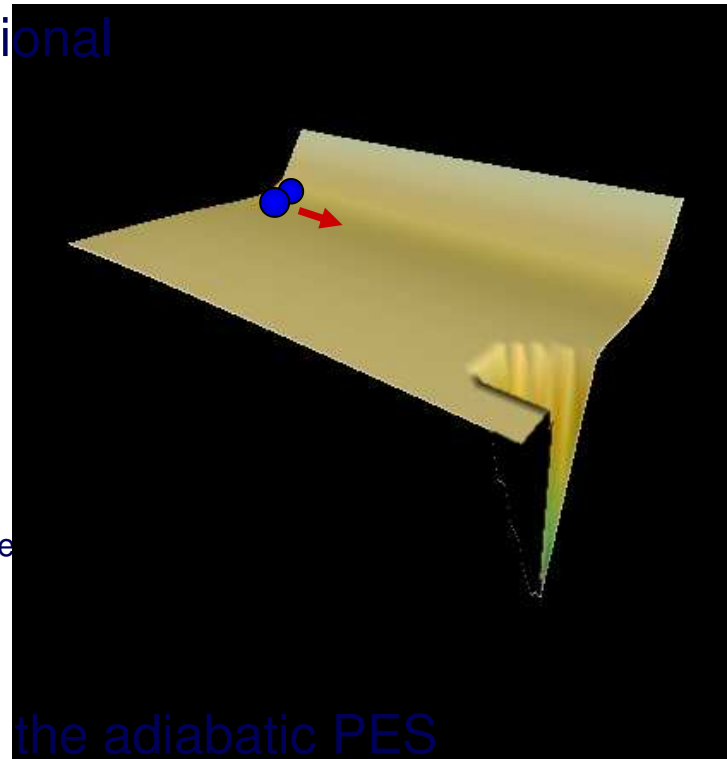
some elementary reactive processes  
at surfaces

## ➡ theoretical method

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

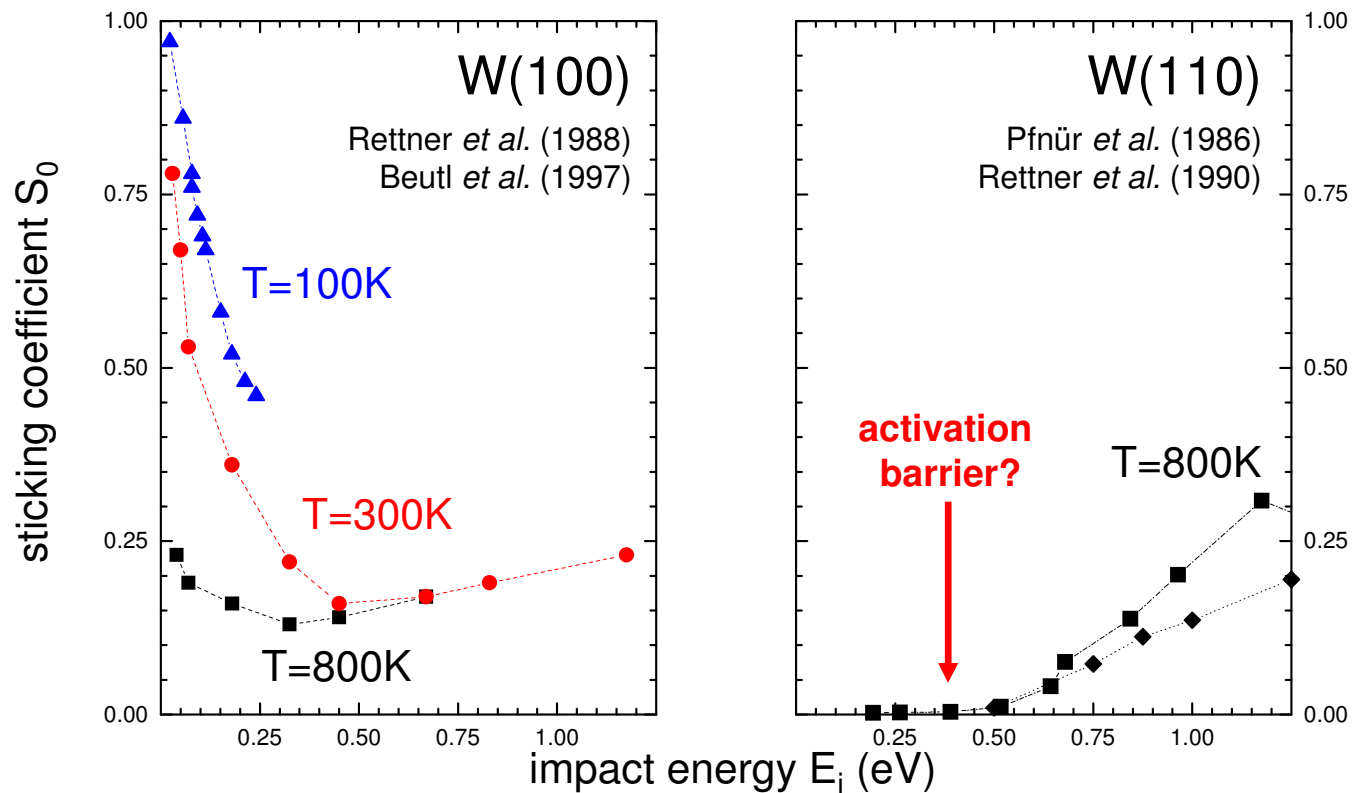
In our particular case:

- 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 or quantum dynamics in the adiabatic PES

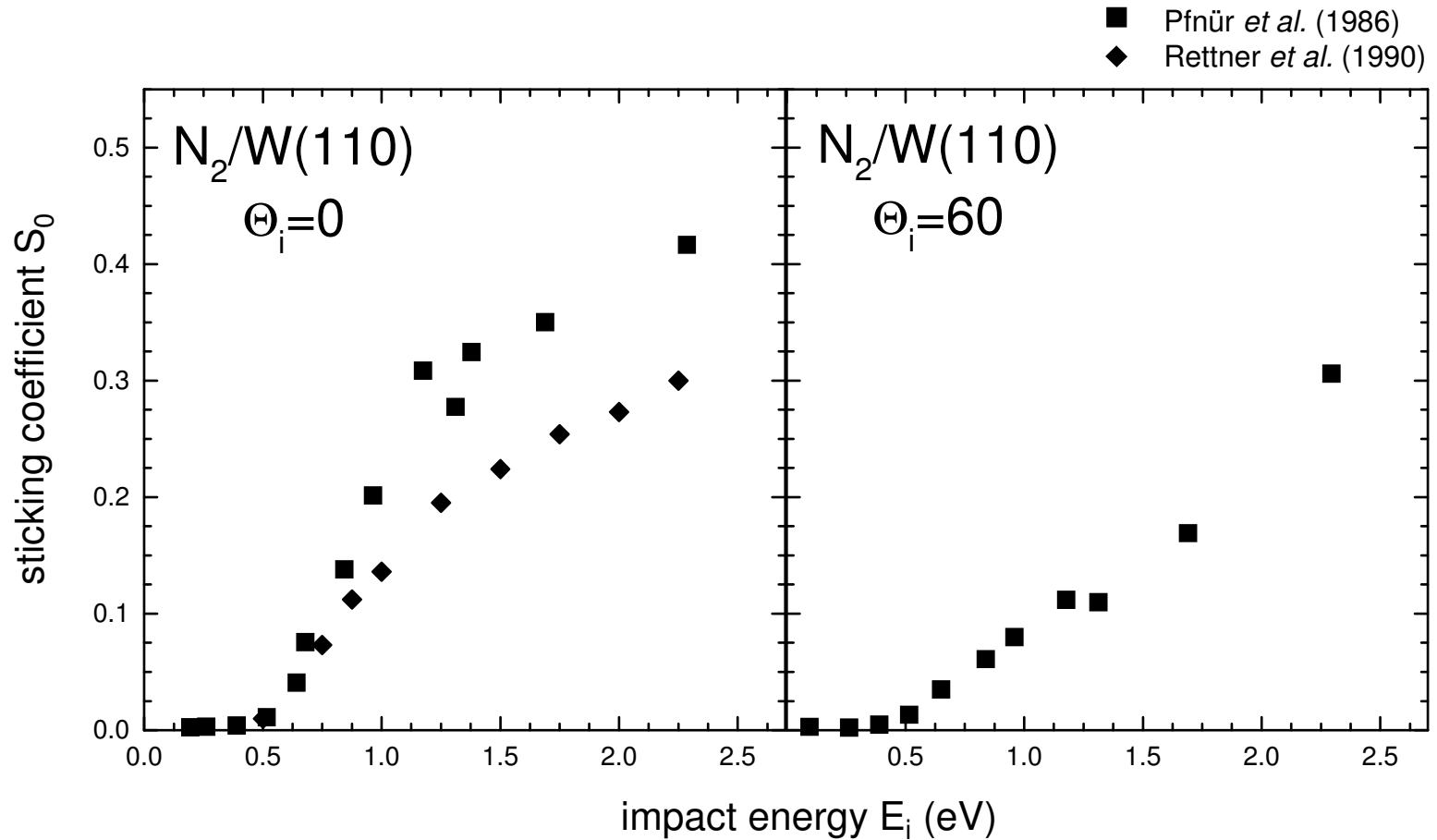


➔ **surface face and reactivity:  
measurements of N<sub>2</sub> dissociation on W surfaces**

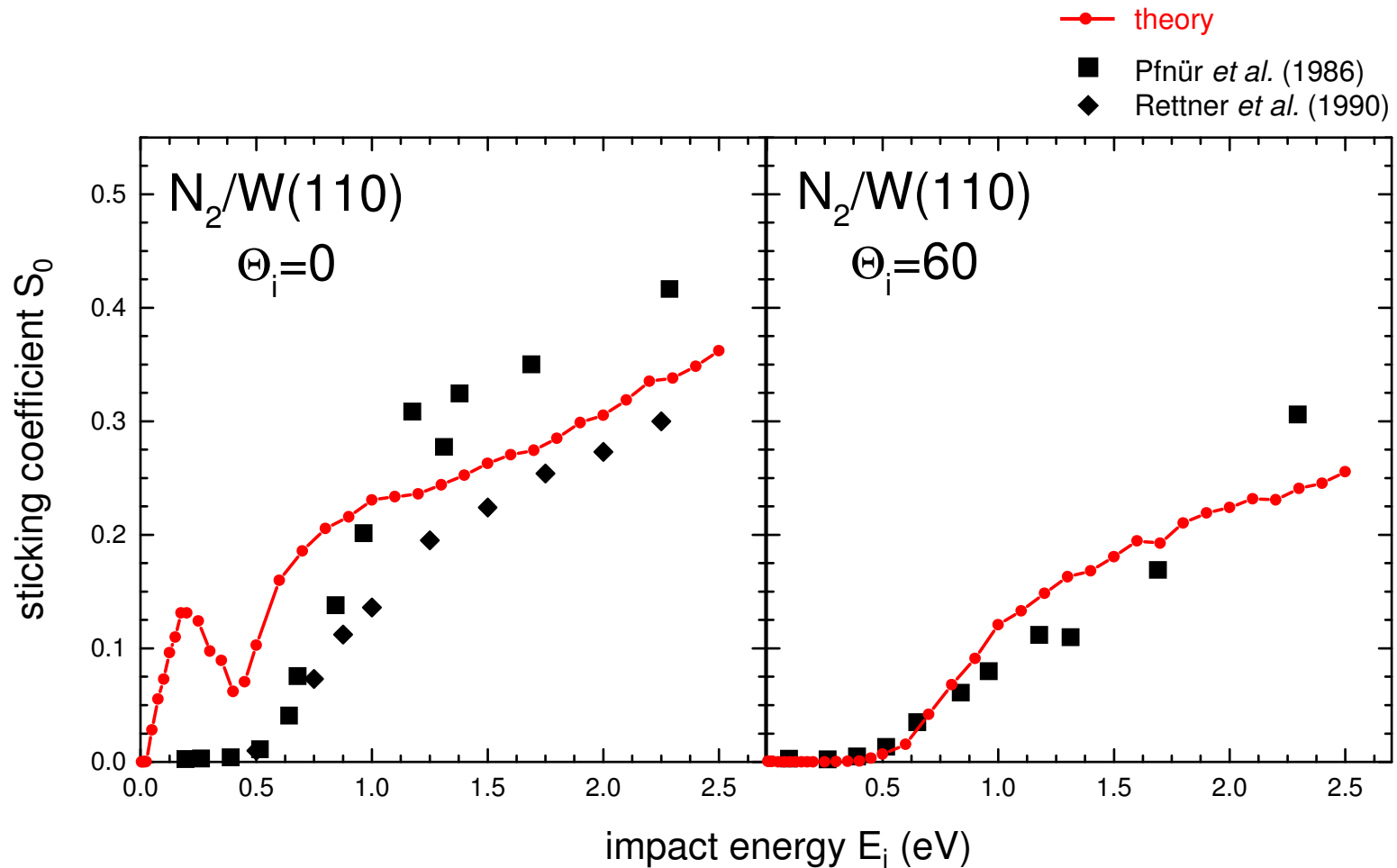
normal incidence



## classical dynamics in the 6D-PES



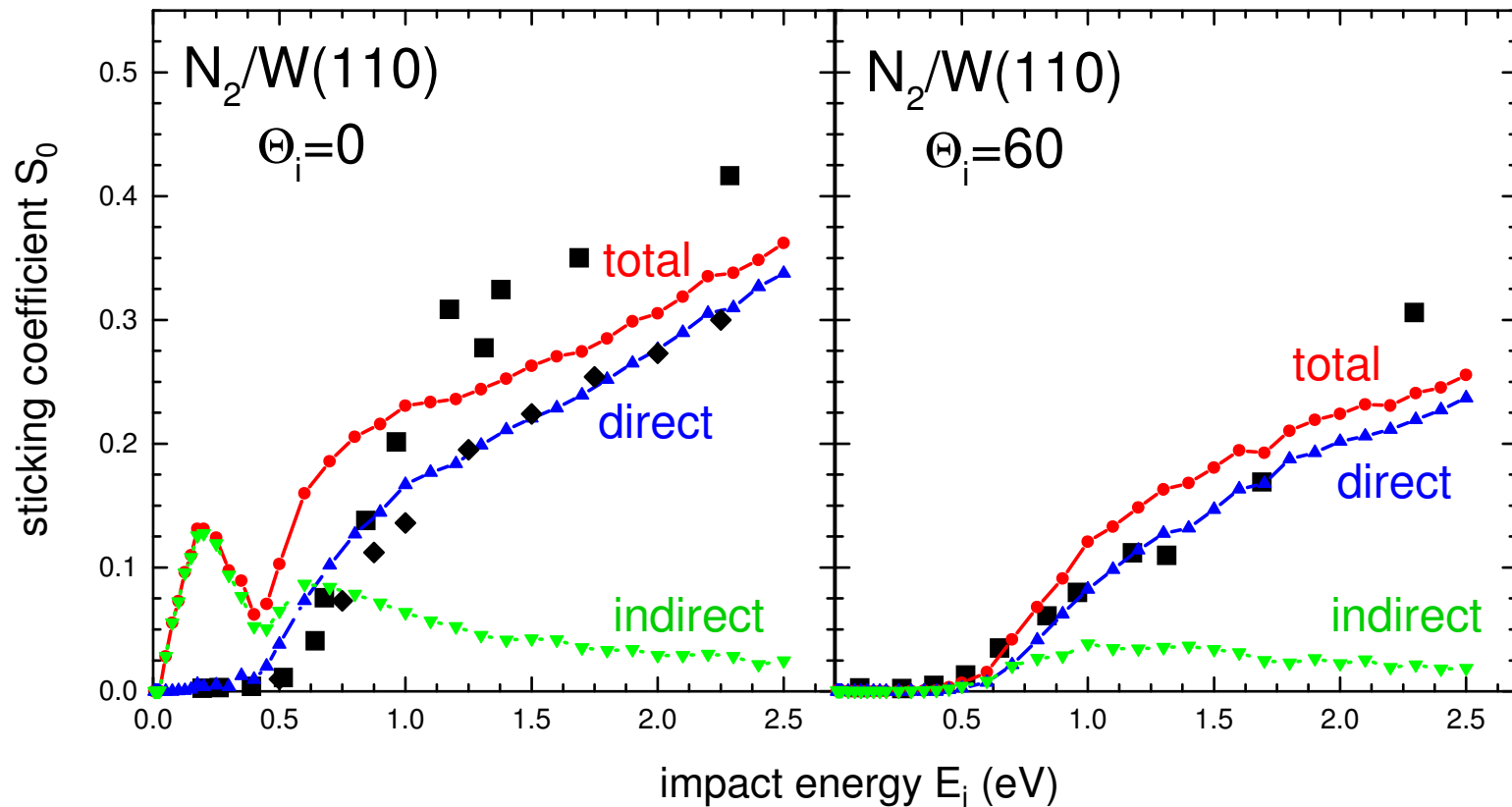
## → classical dynamics in the 6D-PES



## classical dynamics in the 6D-PES

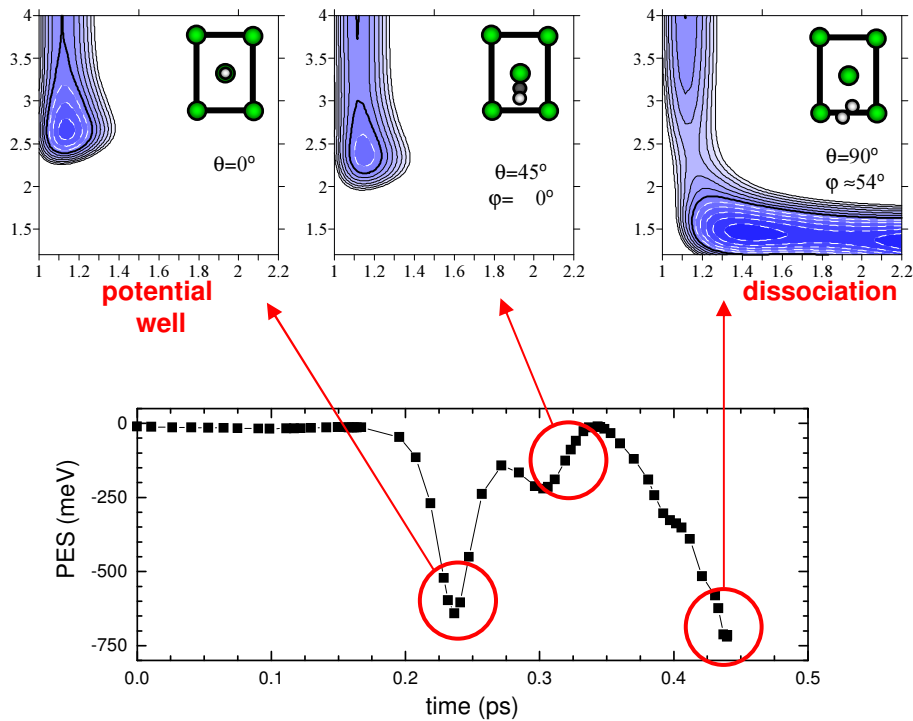
direct channel =  $n_{\text{reb}} < 5$   
indirect channel =  $n_{\text{reb}} > 5$

—●— theory  
■ Pfnür *et al.* (1986)  
◆ Rettner *et al.* (1990)

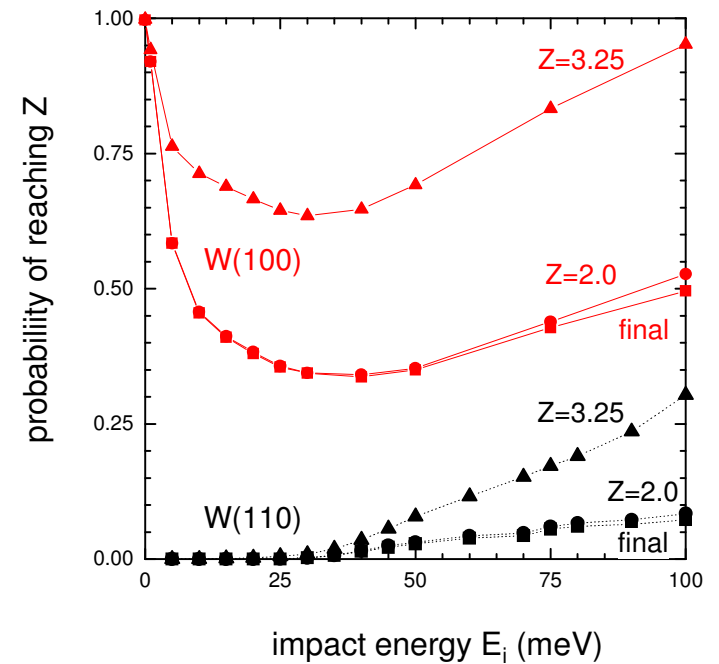


## ➔ dissociative adsorption of N<sub>2</sub> on W

non-activated paths to dissociation in W(110)



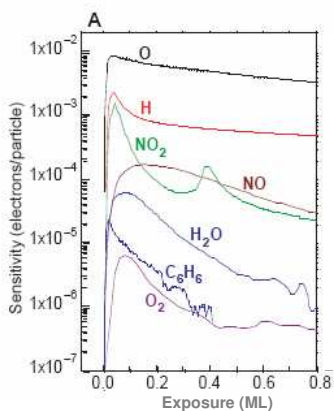
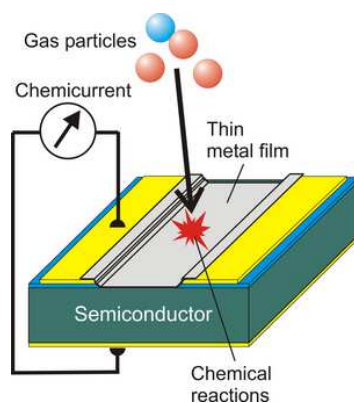
dynamics at long-distances matter





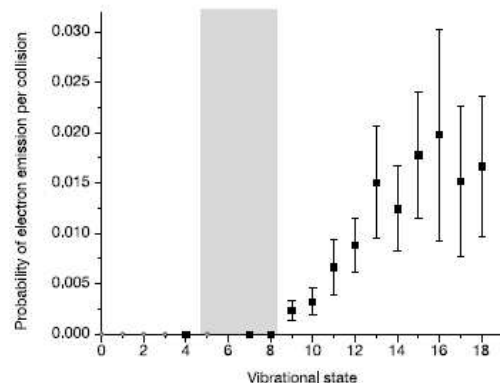
# ➔ non-adiabatic effects: electron-hole pair excitations

## chemicurrents



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

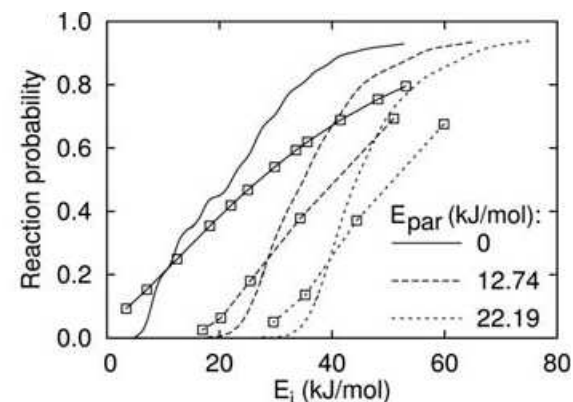
## vibrational promotion of electron transfer



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)

## electron excitation role during N<sub>2</sub> dissociation



N<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

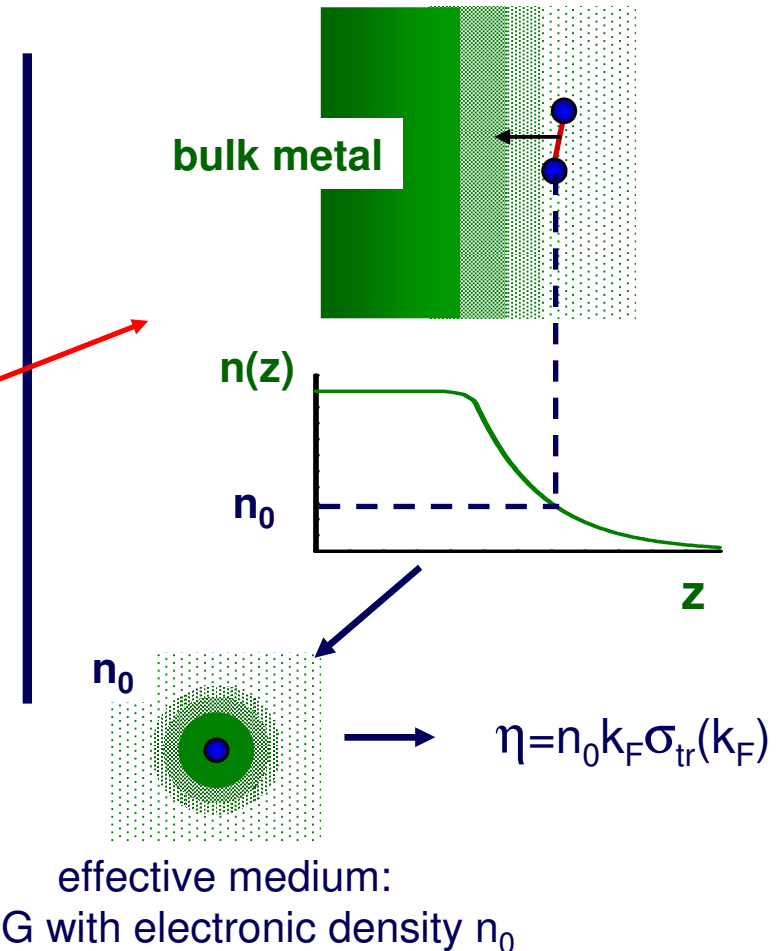
for each atom “*i*” in the molecule

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

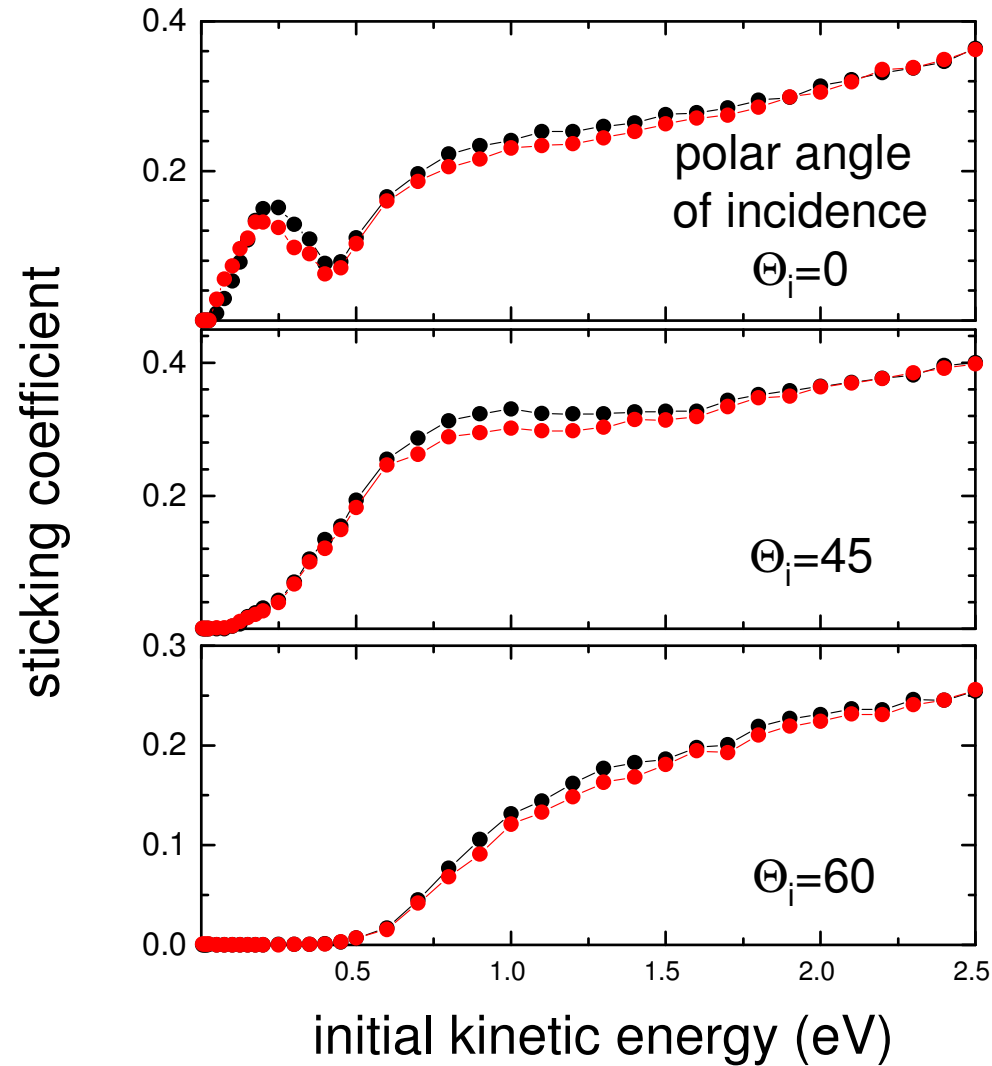
adiabatic  
force:  
6D DFT PES

friction  
coefficient

friction coefficient:  
effective medium approximation

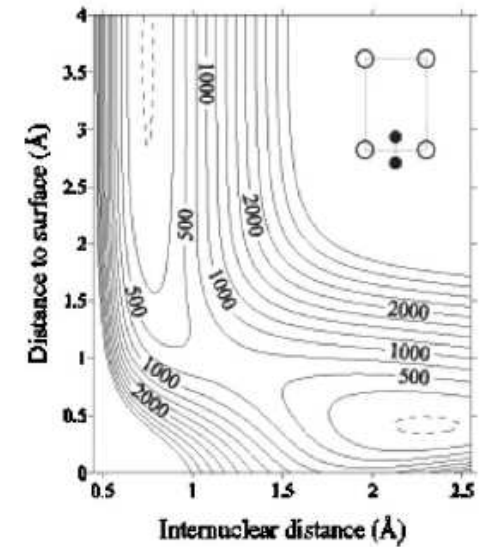
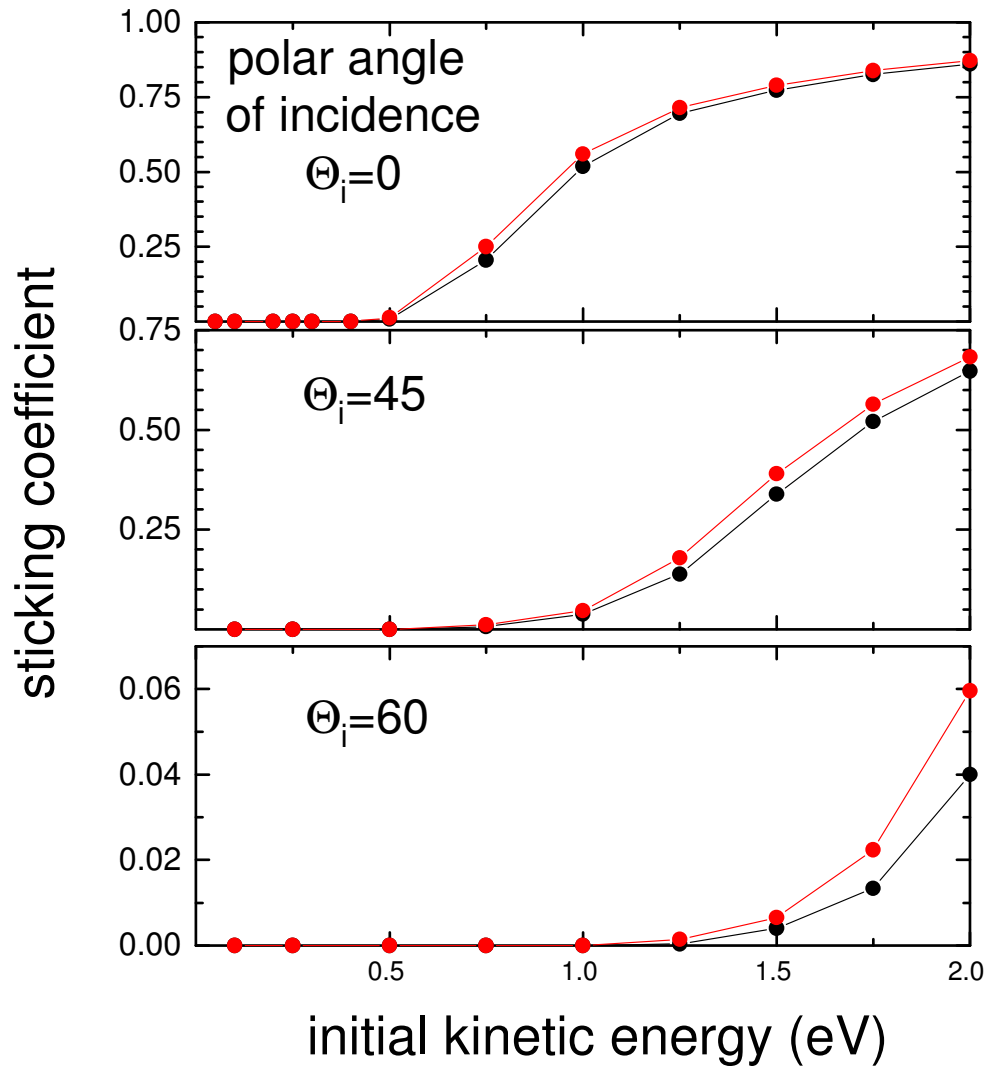


probability of dissociative adsorption:  $N_2$  on W(110)



but for this system,  
dissociation is  
roughly decided at  
 $Z=2.5A$

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



[Salin, JCP 124, 104704 (2006)]

● non-adiabatic

● adiabatic

## → accuracy of adiabatic DFT calculations

Kohn-Sham equations solved self-consistently

$$\left\{ -\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

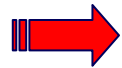
$$v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) = v_{\text{jellium}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{Hartree}}(\mathbf{r}) - v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r})$$

exchange-correlation  
term  
is not exact

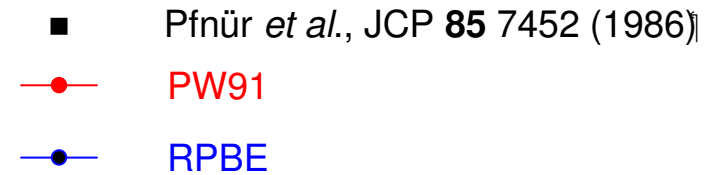
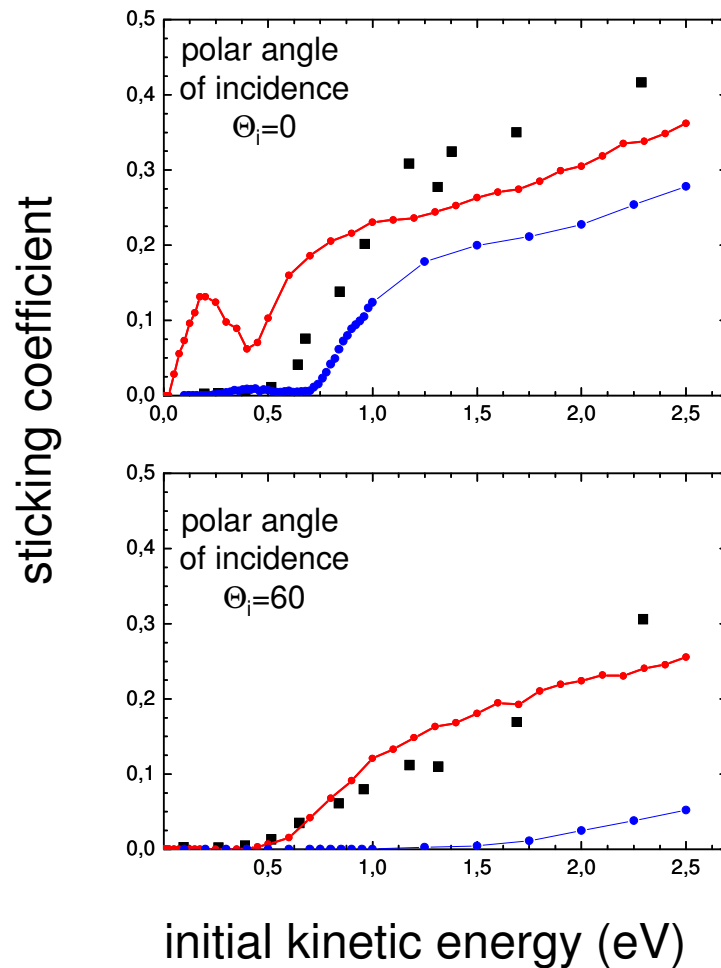
	LDA	PW91	$E_{\text{chem},\beta}$		RPBE	$E_{\text{chem}}^{\text{exp}}$
			PBE	revPBE		
O(fcc)/Ni(111)	-6.68	-5.38	-5.27	-4.83	-4.77	-4.84 <sup>a</sup>
O(hol)/Ni(100)	-6.97	-5.66	-5.55	-5.10	-5.03	-5.41 <sup>a</sup>
O(hol)/Rh(100)	-6.64	-5.34	-5.23	-4.77	-4.71	-4.56 <sup>a</sup>
O(fcc)/Pd(111)	-5.34	-4.08	-3.98	-3.54	-3.49	
O(hol)/Pd(100)	-5.39	-4.14	-4.04	-3.59	-3.53	

RPBE functional  
provides better  
atomic chemisorption  
energies

Hammer *et al.*, PRB **59**, 7413 (1999)



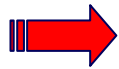
## influence of the exchange correlation functional in the sticking coefficient: $N_2/W(110)$



**the RPBE XC functional:**

- fits better the experimental chemisorption energies
- describes better the interaction very near the metallic surface
- but better dynamics??

**not in this case!**



## conclusions

classical dynamics based on DFT adiabatic calculations  
are able to describe the dynamics of  
dissociative adsorption

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

other uncertainties (choice of the exchange-correlation functional),  
intrinsic to the DFT-KS methodology, can lead to  
inaccuracies of the same order of magnitude

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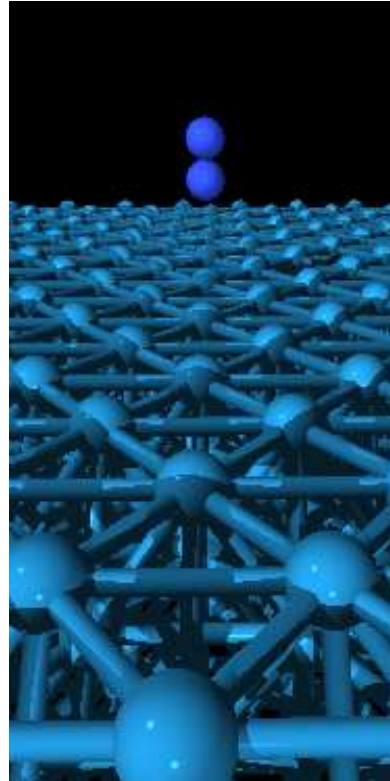


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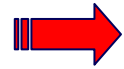
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**thank you for your attention**

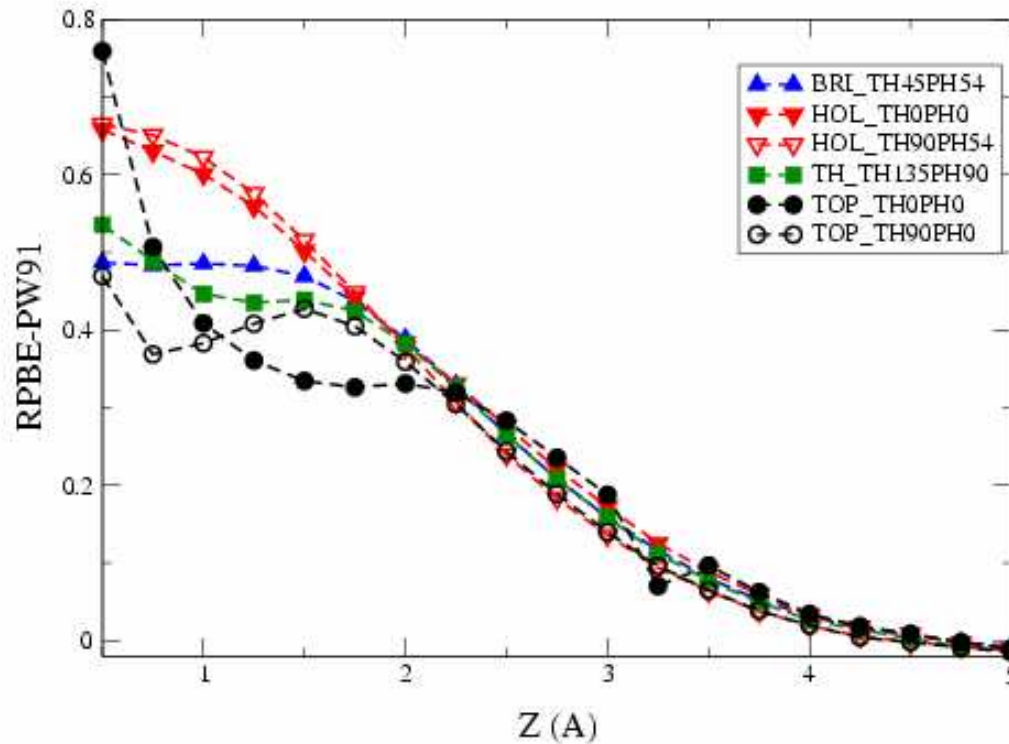
*Erice, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2007*



## $N_2$ on W(110): RPBE vs. PW91

$$E_{RPBE} - E_{PW91}$$

difference between total energy calculations using RPBE functional and PW91 XC-functionals, for several positions of the molecule



RPBE: Hammer *et al.*, PRB **59**, 7413 (1999)  
PW91: Perdew *et al.*, PRB **46**, 6671 (1992)