

LN#1,2  
Structure (ch.1)  
Analysis (ch.2) LN#

Chemical  
reaction  
mechanism  
(ch.3, ch.4) LN#4,5

Geometric structure<sup>3</sup> → geometric effect      Ensemble effect

Electronic structure → electronic effect

Vibrational structure → vibrational effect (phonon, plasmon...)

Liquid & charged interface (ch.5) LN#6

Applications (ch.6-8) LN#7,8

## Lecture Note #4 (Spring, 2020)

# Chemisorption, Physisorption, & Dynamics

1. Type of interactions, binding sites, diffusion
2. Non-dissociative chemisorption
3. Dissociative chemisorption
4. Reactivity of metals
5. Atoms and molecules incident on a surface
6. Reaction mechanisms
7. Measurement of sticking coefficients

Reading: Kolasinski, ch.3

# Type of interactions

## Physisorption vs. Chemisorption

### Physisorption (physical adsorption)

- Van der Waals interaction (weak interaction)
- Small adsorption energy:  $\leq 20$  kJ/mole
- Similar to condensation
- Multilayer adsorption possible
- No charge transfer
- Substrate non-specific

### Chemisorption (chemical adsorption)

- Chemical bonding (covalent bonding)
- Large adsorption energy:  $\geq 200$  kJ/mole
- Charge transfer : work function change
- Limited to a monolayer
- Substrate specific
- Gas specific

**Synoptic table 25.1\*** Maximum observed enthalpies of physisorption

Adsorbate	$\Delta_{\text{ad}}H^\ominus/(\text{kJ mol}^{-1})$
CH <sub>4</sub>	-21
H <sub>2</sub>	-84
H <sub>2</sub> O	-59
N <sub>2</sub>	-21

**Synoptic table 25.2\*** Enthalpies of chemisorption,  $\Delta_{\text{ad}}H^\ominus/(\text{kJ mol}^{-1})$

Adsorbate	Adsorbent (substrate)		
	Cr	Fe	Ni
CH <sub>4</sub>	-427	-285	-243
CO		-192	
H <sub>2</sub>	-188	-134	
NH <sub>3</sub>		-188	-155

**Table 3.1** A comparison between chemisorption and physisorption.

Chemisorption	Physisorption
Electron exchange	Polarization
Chemical bond formation	van der Waals attractions
Strong	Weak
$\geq 1 \text{ eV}$ ( $100 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ )	$\leq 0.3 \text{ eV}$ ( $30 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ), stable only at cryogenic temperatures
Highly corrugated potential	Less strongly directional
Analogies with co-ordination chemistry	

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 96.485 \text{ kJ/mol} = 8065.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

**Table 3.2** Enthalpy of adsorption for a few selected systems.

Physisorption	$-\Delta_{\text{ads}} H_{\text{m}}^{\circ}$ $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	Atomic chemisorption	$-\Delta_{\text{ads}} H_{\text{m}}^{\circ}$ $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	Molecular chemisorption	$-\Delta_{\text{ads}} H_{\text{m}}^{\circ}$ $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	Dissociative chemisorption	$-\Delta_{\text{ads}} H_{\text{m}}^{\circ}$ $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$
Ar/MgO(100)	8.4	N/Ni(100)	420	CO/Ni(111)	122	NO/Ni(100)	290
Kr/MgO(100)	11.7	H/Pt(111)	265	CO/Pt(111)	120	O <sub>2</sub> /Ni(111)	480
Xe/MgO(100)	15.5	H/Ni(111)	279	CO/Rh(111)	139	O <sub>2</sub> /Ni(100)	530
N <sub>2</sub> /MgO(100)	14.7	H/Rh(111)	265	CO/Cu(111)	53	O <sub>2</sub> /Pt(111)	208
CH <sub>4</sub> /MgO(100)	12	H/Pd(111)	274	NO/Pt(111)	114	O <sub>2</sub> /Rh(100)	358
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> /MgO(100)	18	O/Ni(111)	495	NO/Pd(111)	179	H <sub>2</sub> /Ni(111)	94
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> /MgO(100)	23	O/Ni(100)	518	NO/Pd(100)	161	H <sub>2</sub> /Pt(111)	72
		O/Pt(111)	357	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> /Pt(111)	164	H <sub>2</sub> /Pd(111)	88
D <sub>2</sub> O/Pt(111)	51.3	O/Rh(100)	430	CH/Pt(111)	727	H <sub>2</sub> /Rh(111)	70
		I/Pt(111)	232	CH <sub>3</sub> /Pt(111)	250	CH <sub>3</sub> I/Pt(111)	212

Source: Physisorption values taken from [300]. Atomic chemisorption (and CH and CH<sub>3</sub>) values taken from [301]. Molecular and dissociative chemisorption values taken from [17].

Cryogenic temperatures: liquid He (4K), liquid N<sub>2</sub> (77K)

- Adsorption, especially chemisorption  $\rightarrow$  surface free energy  $\downarrow \rightarrow$  surface tension,  $\gamma \downarrow$
  - Chemisorption  $\rightarrow$  usually exothermic process  $\rightarrow \Delta S < 0$  (gas in 2D),  $\Delta G < 0$  (constant T & P, free energy  $\downarrow$ , spontaneous)  $\rightarrow \Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S \rightarrow \Delta H < 0$  (exothermic)
  - Temperature  $\downarrow \rightarrow$  Adsorption  $\uparrow$
  - exception: dissociate adsorbates & high translational mobility on the surface ( $\Delta S > 0$ ). Repulsion between adsorbates by coverage  $\uparrow \rightarrow$  less exothermic
- e.g.,  $\text{H}_2$  on glass: endothermic,  $\text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow 2\text{H}(\text{glass})$ ,  $\Delta S > 0 \rightarrow \Delta H > 0$

# Terminology

- Adsorption site density

$$N_s = \# \text{ of sites } / \text{cm}^2 \sim 10^{15} / \text{cm}^2$$

- Coverage

fractional coverage  $\theta = N_s / N$

saturation coverage :  $\theta_s = 1$

- Wall collision rate  $Z_w$

$Z_w = \# \text{ molecules striking a surface } / \text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{s}$

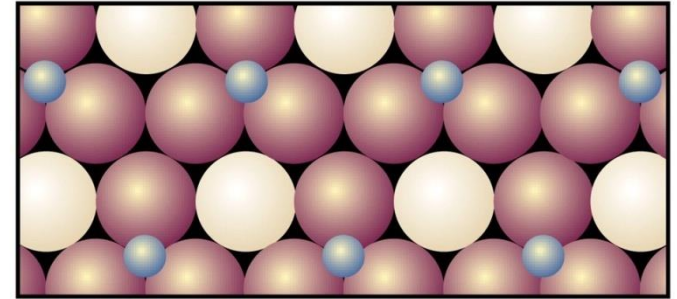
$$Z_w = P / (2\pi mkT)^{1/2} \sim 10^{15} \text{ molecules } / \text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{s}$$

@  $10^{-6}$  Torr and 298 K

1 L (Langmuir) =  $10^{-6}$  Torr·s of gas exposure

- Monolayer completion time  $\sim 1 \text{ sec}$  @  $10^{-6}$  Torr

(1 atm =  $1.013 \times 10^5$  Pa, 1 torr = 133.3 Pa)



# Binding sites and diffusion

Surface sites are separated by energetic barriers → diffusion barrier

Potential energy surface (1-D and 2-D)

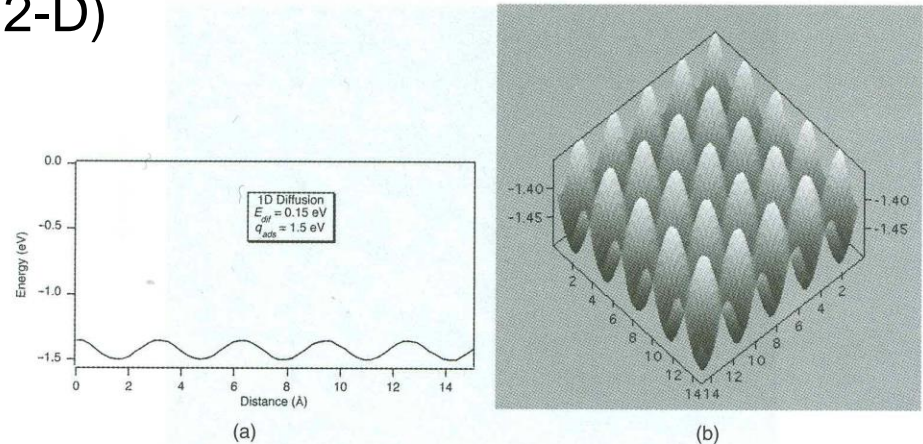
Diffusion

$$D = D_0 \exp(-E_{\text{diff}}/RT)$$

$D$ : diffusion coefficient

$D_0$ : diffusion pre-factor

$E_{\text{diff}}$ : activation energy for diffusion



**Figure 3.1** The interaction potential of an adsorbate is corrugated as can be seen in these (a) 1D and (b) 2D representations of energy versus position on ideal defect-free surfaces.

Generally,  $E_{\text{diff}}$  is small compared to  $E_{\text{des}}$  (desorption activation  $E$ )

If low temp limit,  $RT \ll E_{\text{diff}} \rightarrow D \sim 0$ , adsorbate motion: vibrational only, localized to a binding site → adsorbate as a lattice gas

If very low temp for light adsorbates as H → quantum effects dominate → tunneling (diffusion is independent of temp)

As  $T \uparrow$ ,  $RT \sim E_{\text{diff}} \rightarrow$  diffusional hopping between sites  $\uparrow$

If high temp ( $RT \gg E_{\text{diff}}$ ) → adsorbate translates freely across the surface (type of Brownian motion) → not bound in x & y directions (free 2D motion) → 2D gas

Chemisorbates experience greater diffusion barriers than physisorbates  
Below the high-temp limit,  $D$  is related to the hopping frequency ( $v$ )

$$D = vd^2 / 2b$$

$d$ : mean-square hopping length (related to the distance between sites)

$b$ : dimensionality of diffusion (1D:  $b = 1$ , diffusion in a plane:  $b = 2$ )

The root mean square distance,  $\langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ , in 1D in a time  $t$

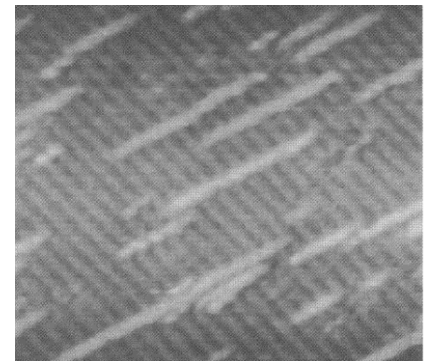
$$\langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{(2Dt)} \quad (\text{uniform 1D potential})$$

For 2D potential energy surface(PES) ( $b = 2$ ),

$$\langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{(4Dt)} \quad (\text{uniform 2D potential})$$

Diffusion barrier is not always uniform across the surface

e.g. Si(100)(2 x 1):  
easier diffusion along rows,  
difficult across rows



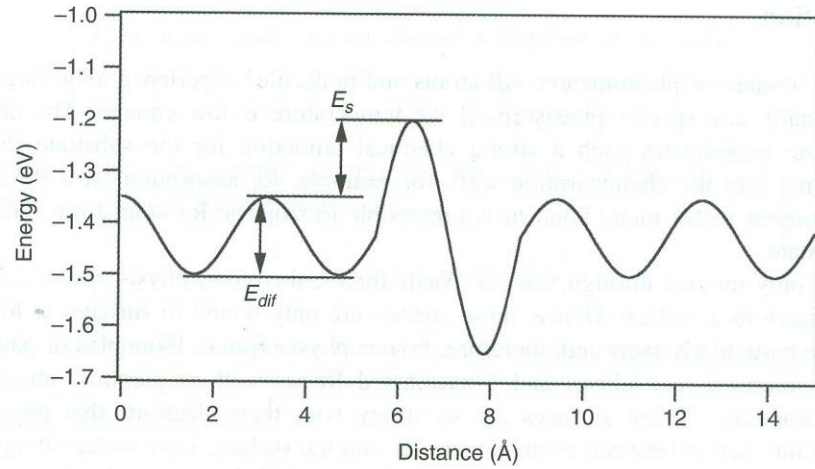
## Step-up diffusion ( $E_s$ )

Steps, or defects: higher diffusion barriers

Lateral interactions of adsorbates:

Repulsive:  $D \uparrow$

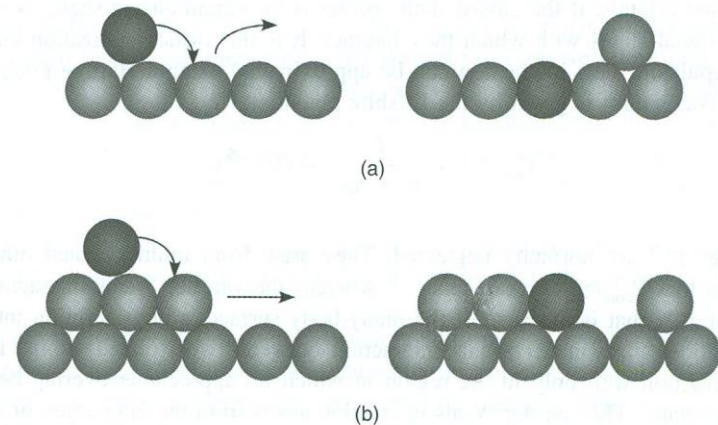
Attractive:  $D \downarrow$



**Figure 3.3** A step changes the diffusion activation energy,  $E_{dif}$  [one-dimensional (1D) diffusion]. Step-up diffusion is often negligible because of the increased barrier; note also the increased binding strength at the bottom of the step – a feature that is often observed.  $E_s$ , Ehrlich-Schwöbel barrier.

Diffusion for strongly interacting atoms (metal on metal)

→ exchange mechanism

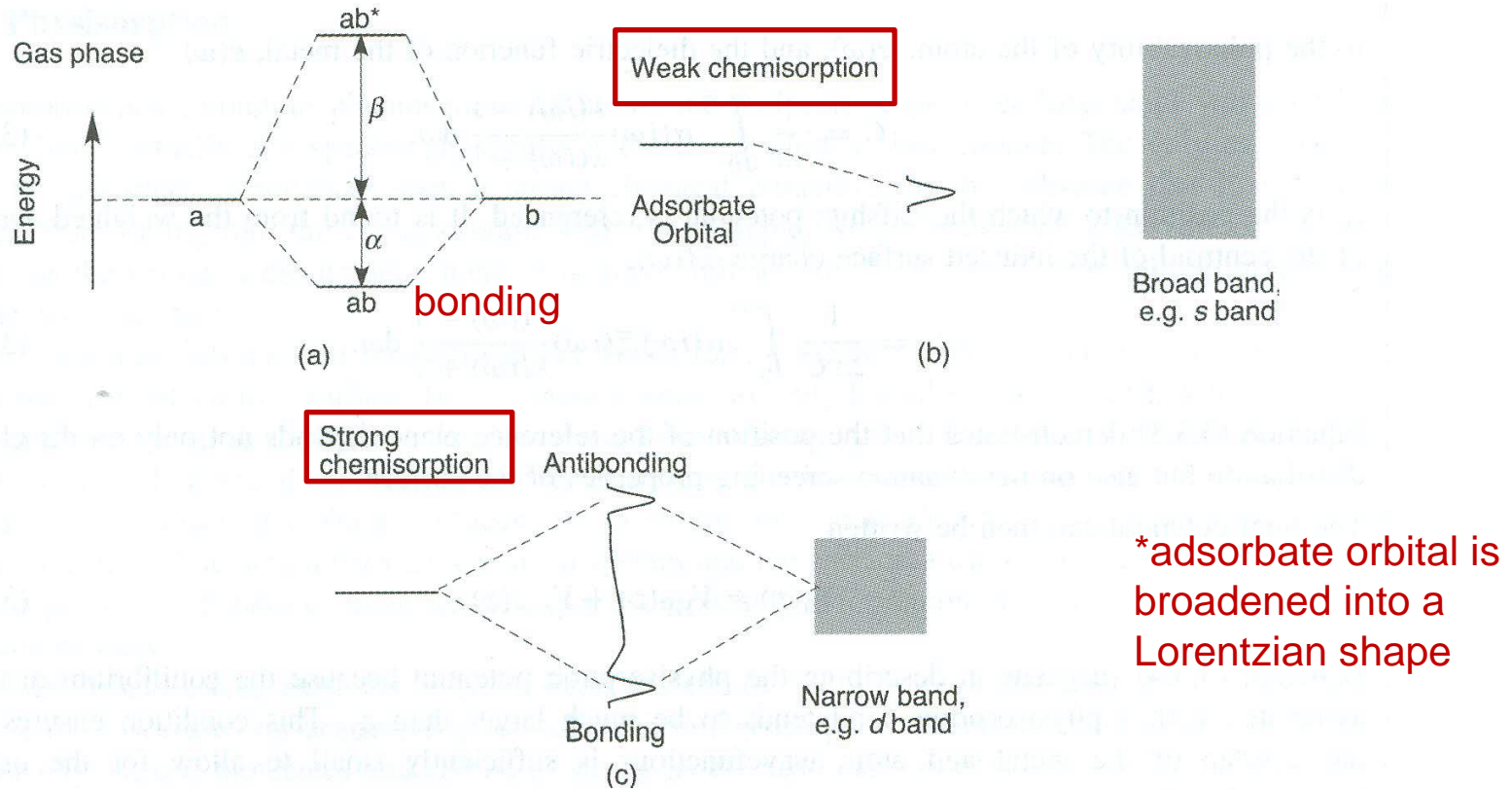


**Figure 3.4** The exchange mechanism of diffusion. Mass transport occurs via the replacement of one atom with another. This can happen either (a) on a terrace or (b) at a step

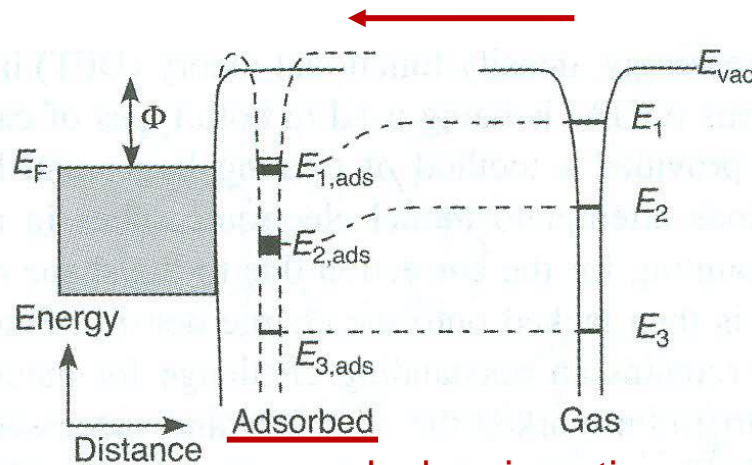
# Non-dissociative chemisorption

Theoretical treatment of chemisorption (Langmuir, Nobel Prize (1935))

Chemisorption → formation of a chemical bond between adsorbate & surface  
→ **molecular orbital formation**



**Figure 3.5** Orbital interactions. (a) Gas phase. (b) Weak chemisorption. (c) Strong chemisorption. *a, b*, atomic orbitals; *ab, ab\**, bonding and antibonding molecular orbitals;  $\alpha, \beta$  energy shifts of molecular orbitals with respect to the mean energy of *a* and *b*.



weak chemisorption case

**Figure 3.6** Diagram of broadening and shifting of adsorbate levels as they approach a surface.  $E_F$ , Fermi energy;  $E_{vac}$ , vacuum energy;  $\Phi$  work function of the surface material;  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $E_3$ , energies of molecular orbitals 1, 2 and 3, respectively, of the molecule far from the surface;  $E_{1,ads}$ ,  $E_{2,ads}$ ,  $E_{3,ads}$ , energies of molecular orbitals 1, 2 and 3, respectively, of the adsorbed molecule; shaded area, occupied band (e.g. valence band).

As a molecule approaches a surface, its electronic states interact with the electronic states of the metal

→ this broadens the MOs and it also lowers the energy of the MOs

→ the reason why MOs experience a shift and broadening is that they interact with the electron of the substrate

Core level → little interaction (e.g.  $E_3$ , core levels) → sharp MO

# Blyholder model of CO chemisorption on a metal

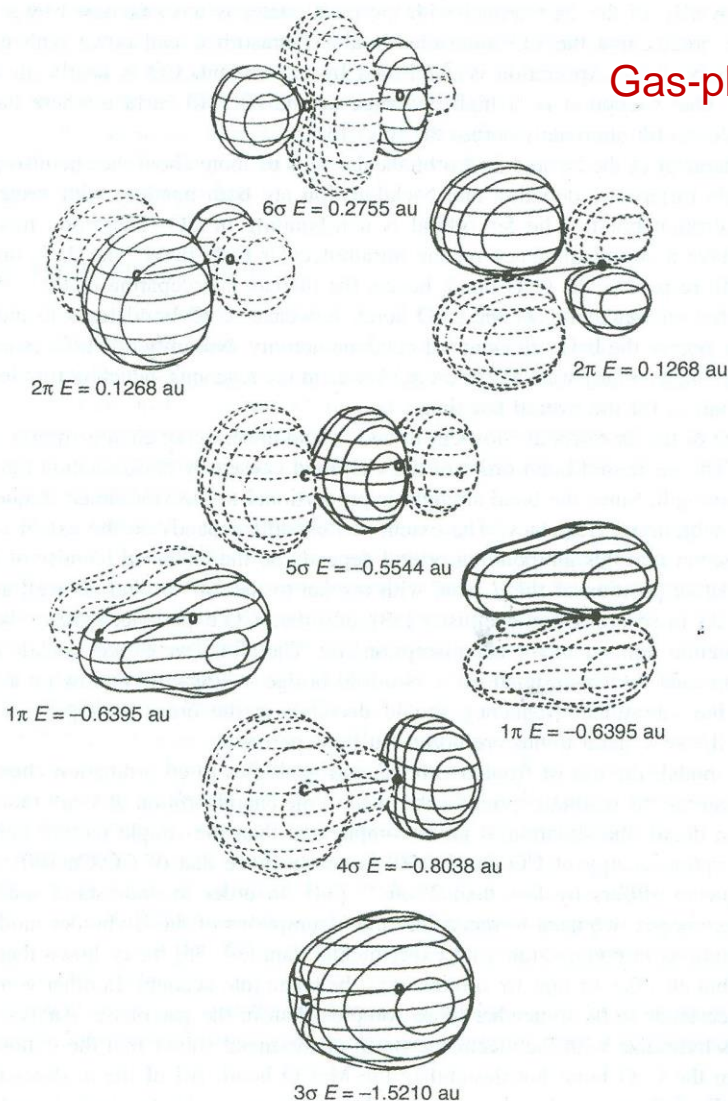
CO: why non-dissociative molecular adsorption?

Electronic structure of gas-phase CO → modification of electronic structure on surface

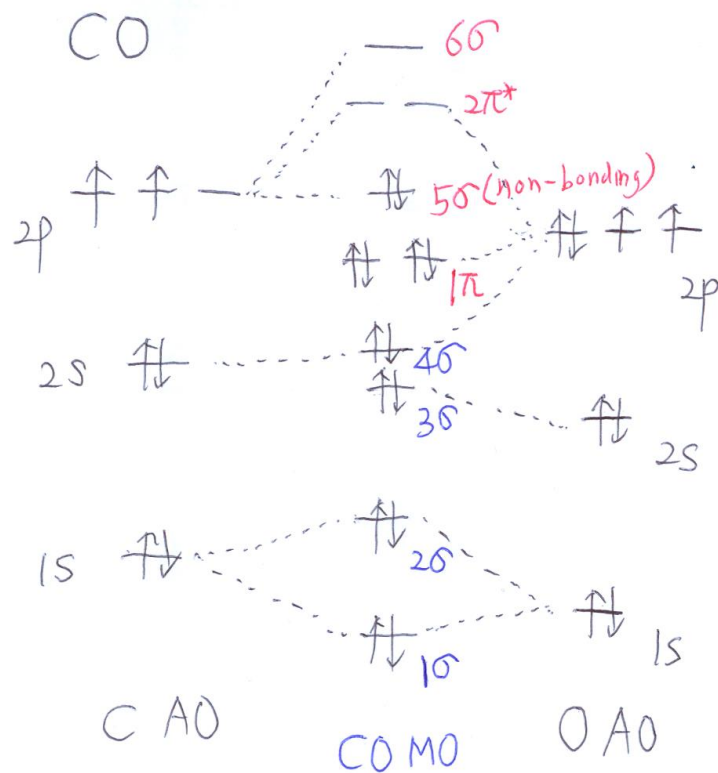
HOMO(highest occupied MO):  $5\sigma$   
MO (non-bonding of C-O)

LUMO (lowest unoccupied MO):  
 $2\pi^*$  (antibonding of C-O)

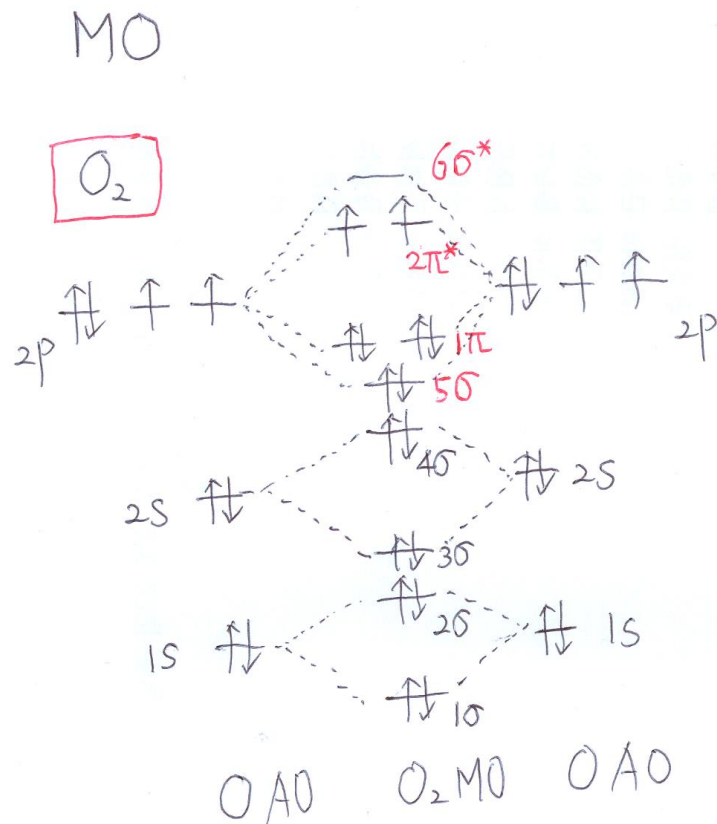
Gas-phase CO



**Figure 3.7** The molecular orbitals of gas-phase CO. The wavefunction changes sign in going from the regions enclosed by solid lines to those enclosed by dashed lines. Energies,  $E$ , are given in atomic units (1 atomic unit = 27.21 eV). Orbitals with negative energies are occupied in the ground state of the neutral molecule. Reproduced from W. L. Jorgensen, L. Salem, *The Organic Chemist's Book of Orbitals*, Academic Press, New York. © (1973) with permission from Academic Press.



CO: Stable MO  $\rightarrow$  molecular adsorption  
 $5\sigma \downarrow$  or  $5\sigma e^-$  donation to metal  
 $\rightarrow$  more stable



$2e^-$  in  $2\pi^*$  antibonding MO  
 $\rightarrow$  stable to donate  $2\pi^* e^-$  ( $2\pi^* e^- \uparrow$ )  
 $\rightarrow$  dissociative

## HOMO & LUMO with respect to the surface

$5\sigma$  orbital is localized on the C end of the molecule

$2\pi^*$  is symmetrically distributed along the molecular axis

→

$5\sigma$  is completely occupied as it lies below  $E_F$

$2\pi^*$  is partially occupied

→

(1)  $5\sigma$  orbital interacts strongly with the metallic electronic states

$5\sigma$  electron is donated to the metal and new hybrid electronic states are formed (**donation**)

→ localized C end of molecule

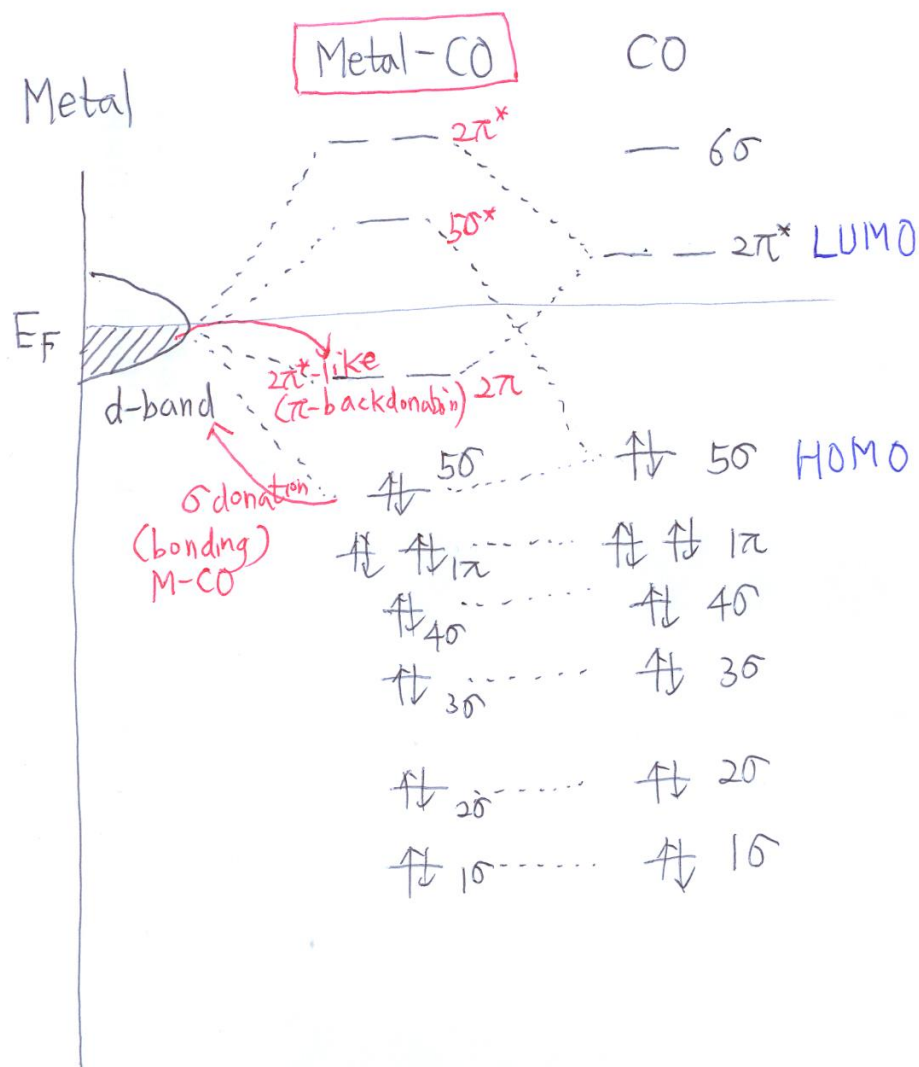
(2)  $2\pi^*$  orbital accept electron from the metal (**backdonation**)

→ new hybrid electronic states → localized about CO molecule

Donation & backdonation → both bonding with respect to M-CO bond (chemisorption)

$2\pi^*$  backdonation weaken the C-O bond → weaker C-O bond leads to increased reactivity of the CO

$2\pi^*$  backdonation → C-O vibration frequency↓



Pt  $5d^9 6s^1$  empty d orbital

Au  $5d^{10} 6s^1$

Pd  $4d^{10}$

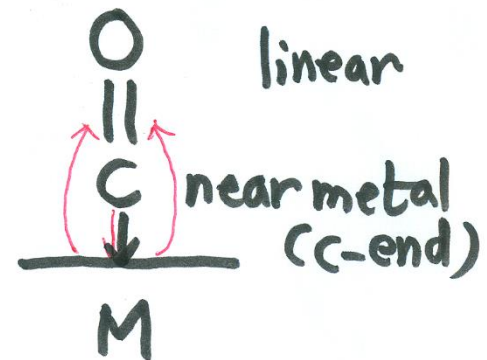
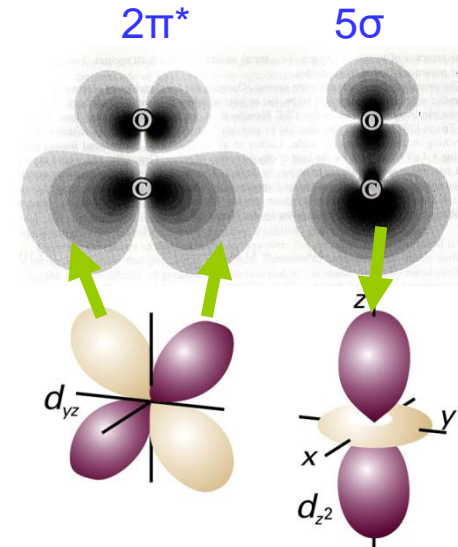
Ni  $3d^8 4s^2$

Rh  $4d^8 5s^1$

### $\sigma$ donation + $\pi$ backdonation

- (1) To form strong chemical bond between metal surface and C of CO (M-CO)
- (2) To weaken the C-O bond because of the charge depletion of the CO  $5\sigma$  bonding orbital and charge increase CO  $2\pi^*$  antibonding orbital

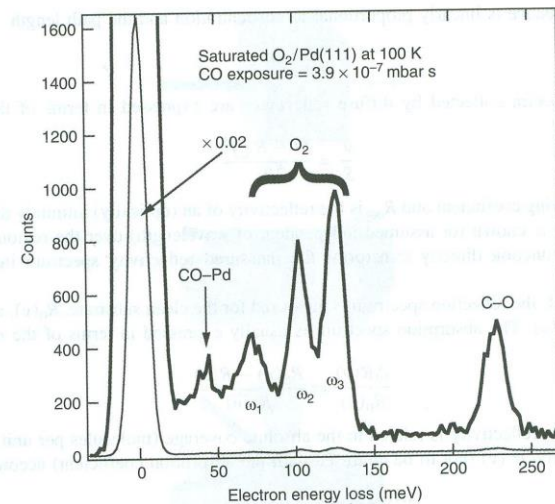
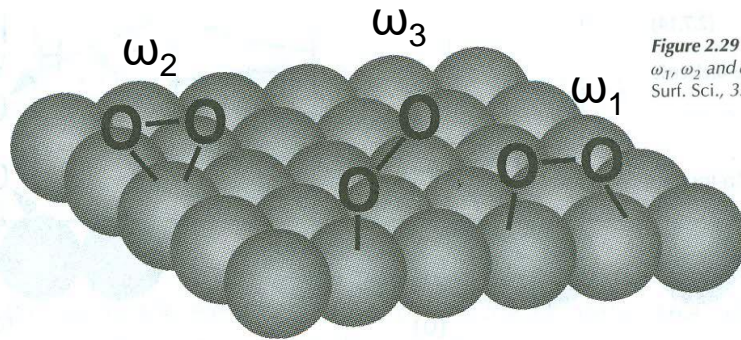
- Charge transfer : work function change
- $e^-$  donation + backdonation
- Orbital symmetry
- Transition & noble metal : d-band metal



# Molecular oxygen chemisorption

- vibrational spectrum of  $\text{O}_2/\text{Pd}(111)$ : O-O stretching peaks (Fig. 2.29)
- occupation of  $\pi^*\uparrow$ , M- $\text{O}_2$  bonding $\uparrow \rightarrow$  vibrational frequency $\downarrow$
- $\text{O}_2$  dissociative at high temp (e.g.  $\text{O}_2/\text{Pd}$  dissociative  $> 180\text{ K}$ )  $\rightarrow$  this related to the MO structure of  $\text{O}_2$ . two  $2\pi^*$  orbitals are half-filled and degenerate in the gas phase

$\omega_1$  strongest M- $\text{O}_2$ , weakest O-O

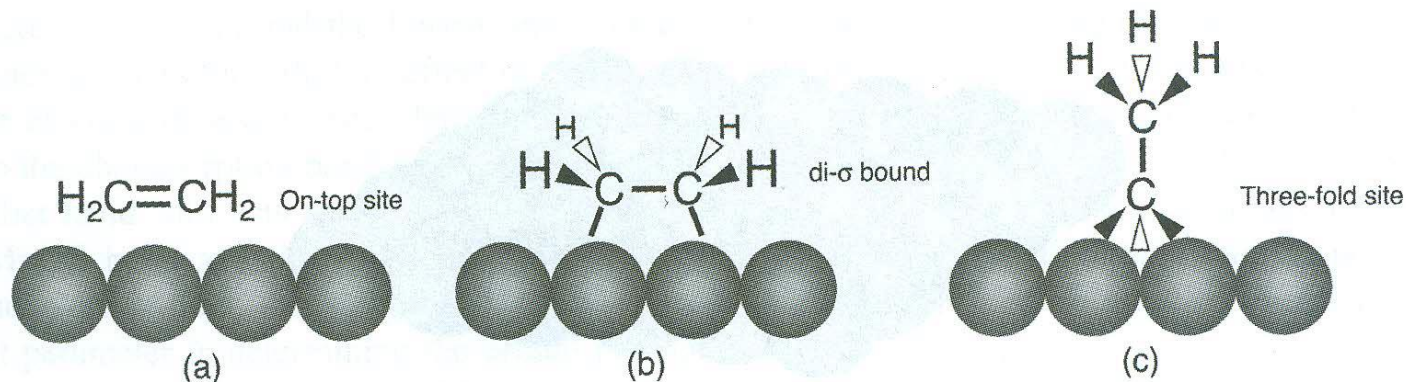


**Figure 2.29** The electron energy loss spectrum of co-adsorbed  $\text{O}_2 + \text{CO}$  on  $\text{Pd}(111)$ . The species associated with  $\omega_1$ ,  $\omega_2$  and  $\omega_3$  are illustrated in Fig. 3.8. Adapted from K.W. Kolasinski, F. Cemič, A. de Meijere, E. Hasselbrink, *Surf. Sci.*, 334, 19. © 1995 with permission from Elsevier.

**Figure 3.8**  $\text{O}_2/\text{Pd}(111)$  adsorbate structure. The labelling of the three states ( $\omega_1$ ,  $\omega_2$  and  $\omega_3$ ) correlates with the loss peaks observed in the electron energy loss spectrum as shown in Fig. 2.30.

# The binding of ethene

- a model of the binding of polyatomic molecule to a surface
- Fig.3.9(a): -73 kJ/mol on Pt(111)
- Fig.3.9(b):  $\pi$  electron donated to the surface to form two  $\sigma$  bonds  $\rightarrow$  structure of ethane ( $sp^3$  hybridization), -117 kJ/mol on Pt(111) ( $\sim 280$  K)
- Fig.3.9(c): loss of H with  $T \uparrow$



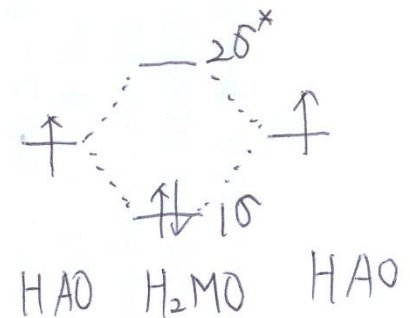
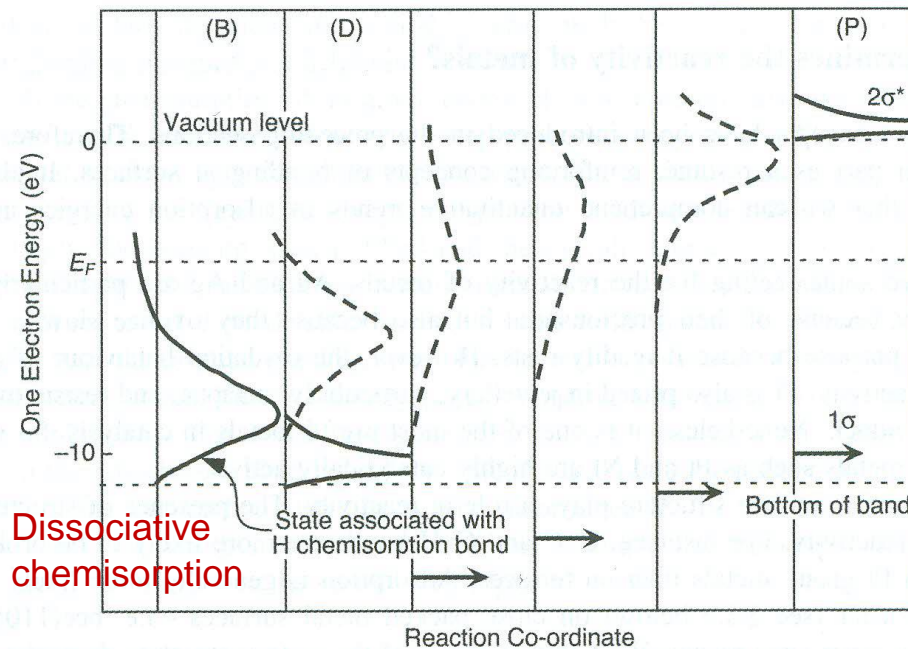
**Figure 3.9** The binding of ethene at a metal surface. (a) The weakly chemisorbed  $\pi$ -bonded  $C_2H_4$ . (b) The  $\sigma$ -bonded chemisorbed state. (c) Ethynylidyne.

# Dissociative chemisorption: $H_2$ on a simple metal

- bonding + antibonding pair

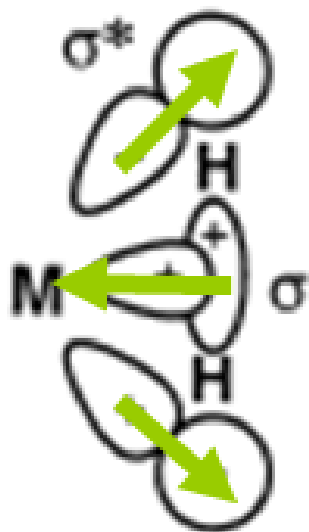
cf) CO: backdonation into  $\pi$  system is bonding with respect to the M-CO bond but antibonding with respect to the C-O bond

- $H_2$ : electron donation from the metal into the  $2\sigma^*$  antibonding orbital  $\rightarrow$  weaken of H-H bond and strengthen the adsorbate/surface interaction  $\rightarrow$  dissociation

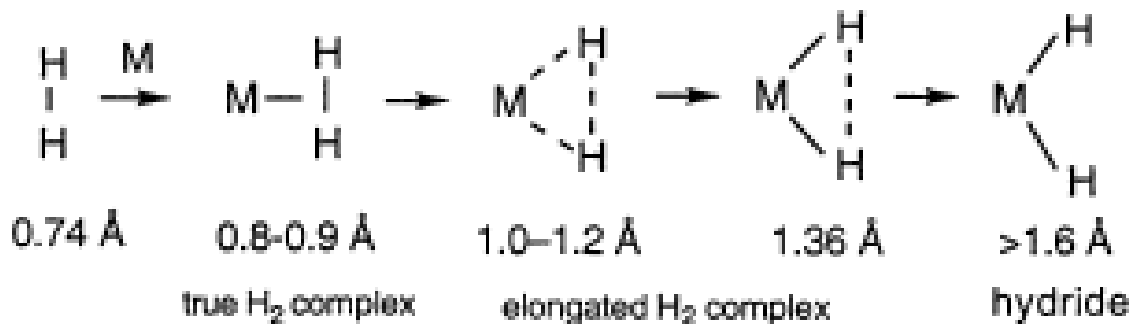


**Figure 3.10** Calculated changes in the electronic structure of the orbitals associated with  $H_2$  as the molecule approaches a Mg surface. Moving to the left in the diagram represents motion toward the surface. Reproduced from J. K. Nørskov, A. Houmøller, P. K. Johansson, B. I. Lundqvist, Phys. Rev. Lett., 46, 257. © 1981, with permission from the American Physical Society.

- $\text{H}_2$   $1\sigma$  and  $2\sigma^*$  orbitals shift and broaden as they approach the surface  $\rightarrow$  electron transfer from the metal to the  $\text{H}_2$  occurs because the  $2\sigma^*$  drops in energy and broadens as  $\text{H}_2$  approaches the surface  $\rightarrow$  As it drops below  $E_F$ , electrons begin to populate the orbital and  $\text{H}_2$  bond grows progressively weaker while M-H bonds become progressively stronger



Kubas interaction



# What determines the reactivity of metals?

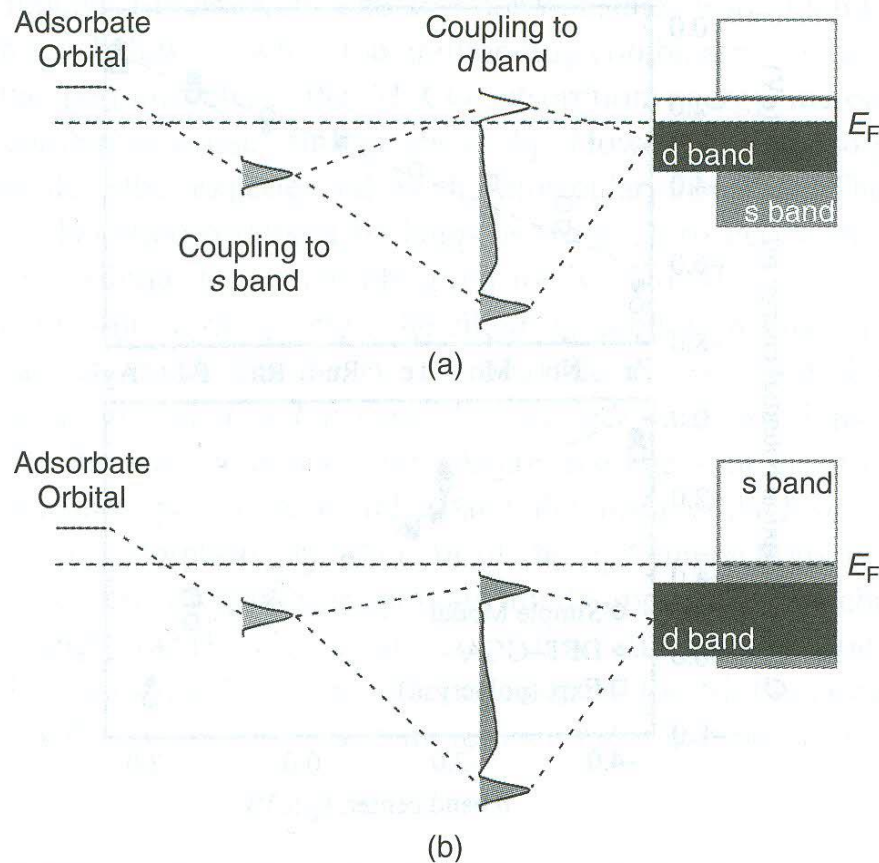
- What makes Au so noble whereas Pt & Ni are highly catalytic active?
- Surface structure plays a role in reactivity: defects (steps, kinks) → enhance reactivity. Adsorption hindered on close packed (fcc(111), bcc(110), hcp(001))  
Structural effect
- Also electronic structure plays a role in reactivity → e.g., Hammer & Nørskov → H, O adsorption on metal (s, d bands)  
Electronic effect

## H on metal: two step process

Step 1)  $H1s \leftrightarrow s$  band of the metal (s band in transition metals are very broad) → weak chemisorption

Step 2)  $H1s \leftrightarrow d$  band of the metal →

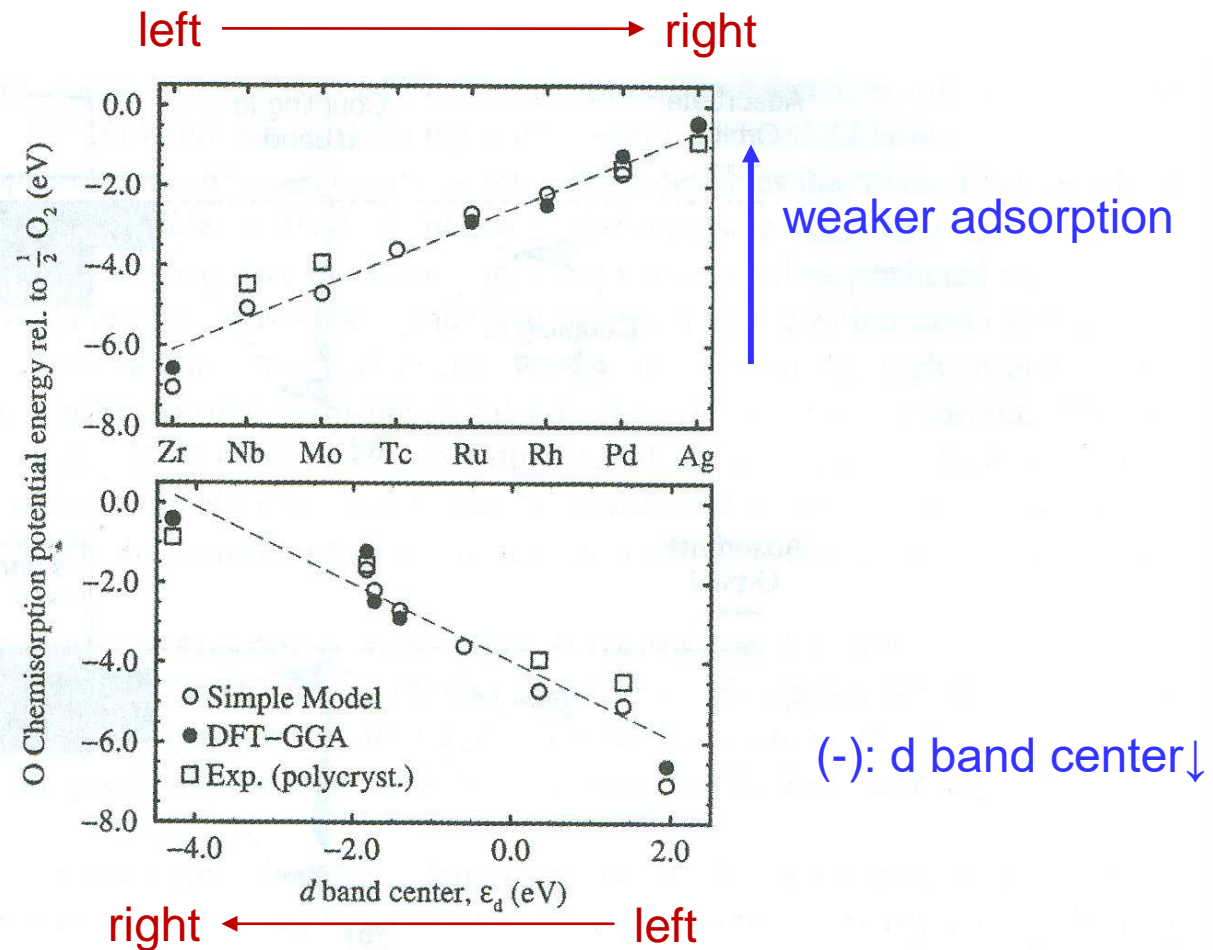
- (a) Early transition metal: antibonding above  $E_F$  → antibonding: not-filled → chemisorption(bonding) attractive↑ → **strong exothermic**
- (b) Coinage metal (Cu, Ag, Au...): antibonding below  $E_F$   
left to right in Periodic Table: filled electrons in antibonding↑ → chemisorption(bonding) repulsive↑(attractive↓) → weaken chemisorption



**Figure 3.11** The two-step conceptualization of chemisorption bond formation on transition metal surfaces. (a) Early transition metal. (b) Coinage metal.

Adsorption energy,  $\Delta E = \Delta E_{sp} + \Delta E_d$   
 $\Delta E_{sp}$ ,  $\Delta E_d$ : coupling to the sp states & d states

Coupling to the d band,  $\Delta E_d = \Delta E_d^{hyb} + \Delta E_d^{orth}$   
 $\Delta E_d^{hyb}$ ,  $\Delta E_d^{orth}$ : **attractive** hybridization term & **repulsive** orthogonalization term



**Figure 3.12** The interaction strength of chemisorbed O and how it varies across a row of transition metals. In the upper panel, the good agreement between experimental and theoretical results is shown. In the lower panel, the linear relationship between interaction strength and the d band centre is demonstrated. Source of data for experimental results: I. Toyoshima, G. A. Somorjai, *Catal. Rev – Sci. Eng.*, 19 (1979) 105. Reprinted from B. Hammer and J. K. Nørskov, *Theoretical surface science and catalysis – Calculations and concepts*, *Adv. Catal.*, Vol. 45 (Eds B. C. Gates, H. Knözinger), Academic Press, Boston, p. 71. © 2000 with permission from Academic Press.

- In Cu(3d), Ag(4d), Au(5d), why Au is more noble than Cu?
- 3d→5d, core→valence, wider band in valence
- orthogonalization energy between adsorbate & metal d orbitals, which is repulsive, increases with increasing coupling strength → this energy increases as the d orbitals become more extended → 5d orbitals of Au are more extended than the 3d orbitals of Cu, which renders Au less reactive than Cu because of the higher energy cost of orthogonalization between the H1s & Au 5d orbitals
- Two criteria influencing the strength of the chemisorption interaction
  - (i) The degree of filling of the antibonding adsorbate-metal d states
  - (ii) The strength of the coupling→ the filling increases in going from left to right across a row of transition metals in the periodic table and is complete for the coinage metals (Cu, Ag, Au). The coupling increases in going down a column in the periodic table. It also increases in going to the right across a period

Same principle can be extended to molecular adsorption  
e.g. CO, Blyholder model (next page) →

- $5\sigma$  derived states (bonding & antibonding combinations) are predominantly below  $E_F$ , and, therefore, lead to a repulsive interaction
- $2\pi^*$  derived states lead to attractive interaction because the bonding combination lies below  $E_F$  while the antibonding combination is (at least partially) above  $E_F$

→ Moving to the left in the periodic table, the M-CO adsorption energy increases as the filling of the  $2\pi^*$ -metal antibonding combination rises further above  $E_F$ . However, the adsorption energy of C and O increases at a greater rate than that experienced by the molecular adsorbate

→ therefore, a crossover from molecular to dissociative adsorption occurs

→ this happens from Co to Fe for the 3d transition, Ru to Mo for 4d and Re to W for 5d

→ similar trends are observed for  $N_2$  and NO

- In dissociative chemisorption of  $H_2$  both the filled  $\sigma_g$  orbital and the unfilled  $\sigma_u^*$  MO must be considered

→  $\sigma_g$  orbital acts like  $H1s$  orbital

$\sigma_u^*$  orbital undergoes similar hybridization

→ the strength of the  $\sigma_u^*$  interactions is the dominant factor that determines the height of the activation barrier

# Atoms and molecules incident on a surface

- Atoms & molecules incident on a surface → adsorption & desorption

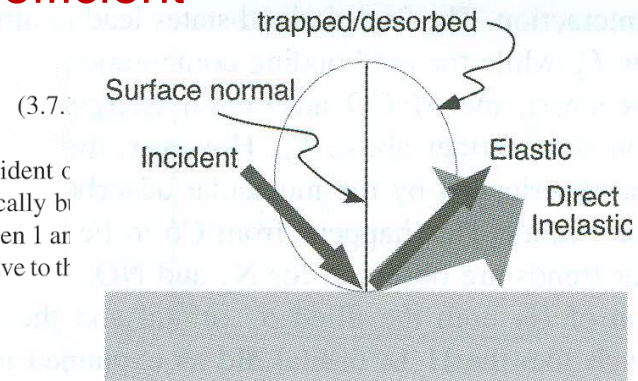
## Scattering channels

- Elastic scattering: no energy is exchanged → equal angle (incident & reflection) → specular scattering → **return to the gas phase (no adsorption)** (special case of elastic scattering: diffraction for light particles)
- Inelastic scattering: energy is exchanged
  - Direct inelastic scattering: particle either gains or loses energy and returned to the gas phase. e.g. He atoms scattering to investigate surface phonons
  - Trapping or sticking: particle loses enough energy to be trapped in the adsorption well at the surface
- Sticking probability or initial sticking coefficient**

$$s_0 = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{N_{\text{stick}}}{N_{\text{inc}}} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{N_{\text{stick}}}{N_{\text{el}} + N_{\text{in}} + N_{\text{stick}}}$$

where  $N_{\text{stick}}$  is the number of particles that stick to the surface,  $N_{\text{inc}}$  is the total number incident on the surface,  $N_{\text{el}}$  is the number scattered elastically, and  $N_{\text{in}}$  is the number scattered inelastically but which do not stick. Values of  $s_0$ , even for simple molecules such as  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$ , can vary between 1 and  $<10^{-10}$ . This extreme range of sticking probabilities indicates that sticking is extremely sensitive to the

$1 \sim 10^{-10}$  for  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$



**Figure 3.13** Scattering channels for a molecule incident upon a surface.

# Adsorption dynamics

- The outcome of the gas-surface collisions;
  - 1) **Trapping**: becoming a bound state after the 1<sup>st</sup> collision
  - 2) Direct reflection to the gas phase
- The **trapping probability** is determined by the amount of the **energy transfer** to the surface
- Energy transfer occurs via **multiphonon** excitations

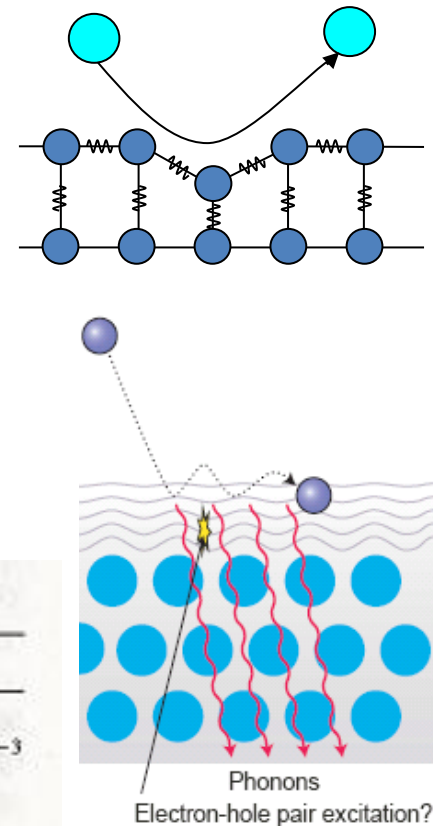
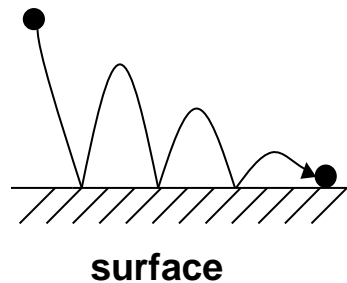
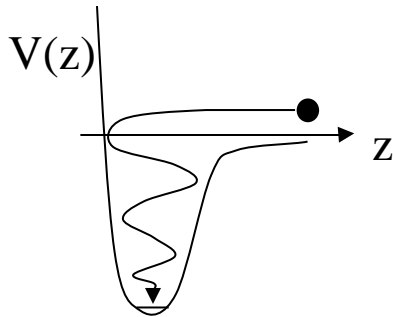


TABLE 5.1 Some Typical Values of the Initial Sticking Probability at 300 K

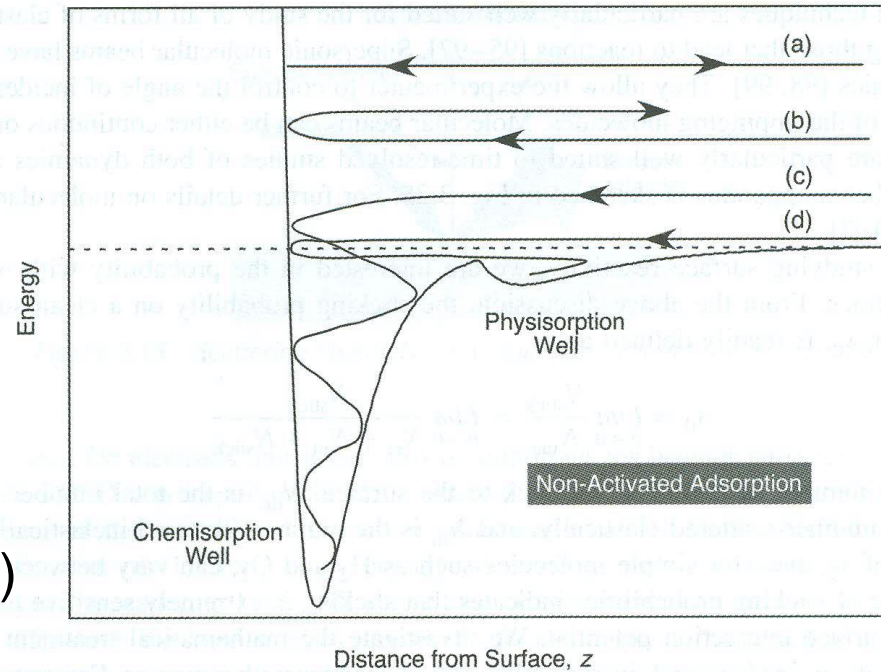
Gas	Surface	$S(0)$	Gas	Surface	$S(0)$
H <sub>2</sub>	Ni(100)	0.06	N <sub>2</sub>	W(320)	0.7
H <sub>2</sub>	Ni(111)	0.02	N <sub>2</sub>	W(110)	$< 3 \times 10^{-3}$
H <sub>2</sub>	Pt(110)	0.2	Ga	GaAs(100)-B	1.0
H <sub>2</sub>	Si(100)	$< 10^{-4}$	As <sub>4</sub>	GaAs(100)-B	$< 10^{-3}$
CO	Pt(111)	0.67	As <sub>4</sub>	GaAs(100)-A	0.5

Data taken from Morris et al. [1984] and Joyce and Foxton [1984].

# Non-activated adsorption

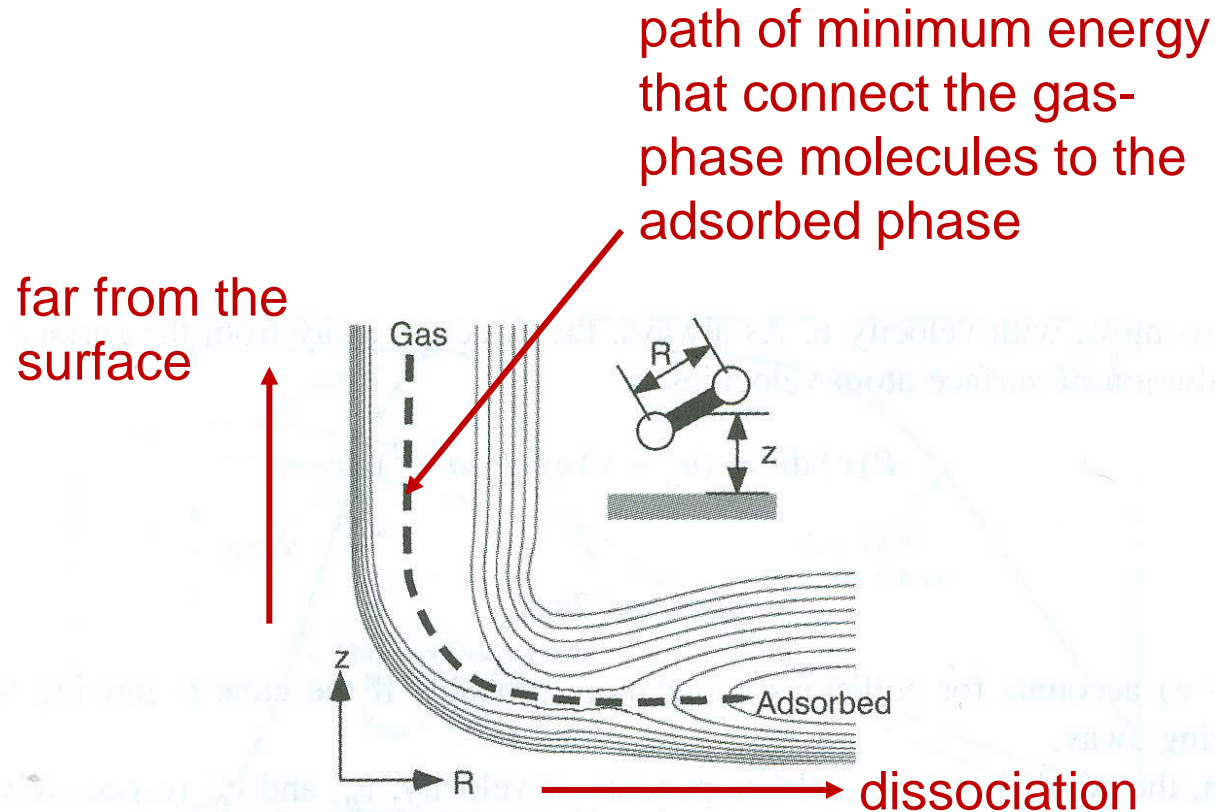
No energetic barrier

1D potential  
(Lennard-Jones diagram)



**Figure 3.14** A one-dimensional representation of non-activated adsorption: (a) elastic scattering trajectory; (b) direct inelastic scattering trajectory; (c) sticking event (chemisorption); (d) sticking event (physisorption).

2D potential energy hyperstructure (PES) → to describe dissociative adsorption

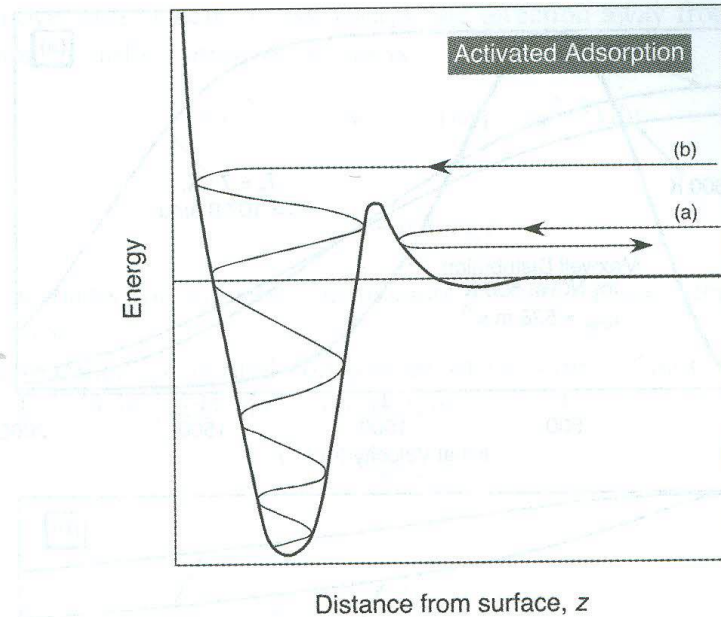


**Figure 3.15** 2D PES for non-activated dissociative adsorption.  $z$  is the distance from the molecular centre of mass to the surface.  $R$  is the internuclear distance between the atoms of the molecule.

Hard cube model for non-activated adsorption: surface is modeled by a cube of mass  $m$

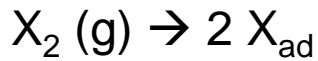
# Activated adsorption

Low sticking coefficient



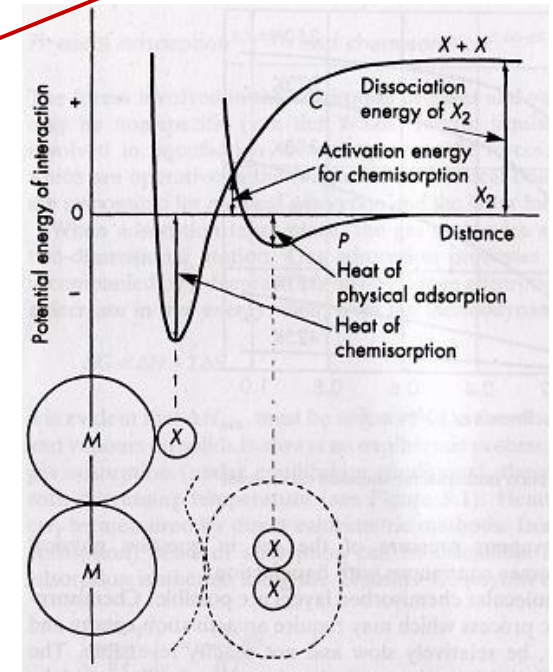
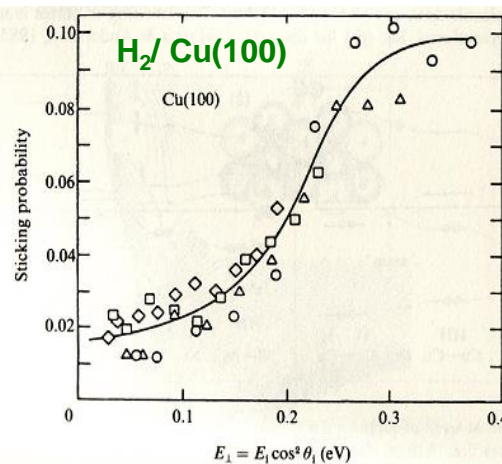
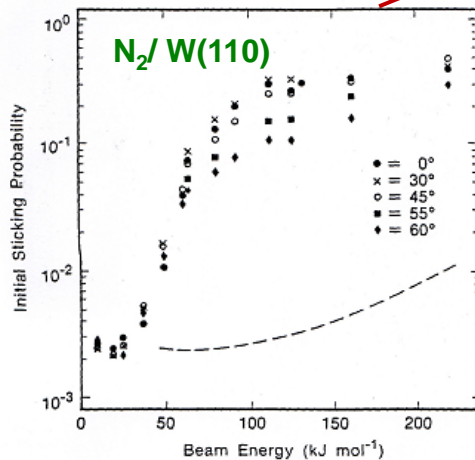
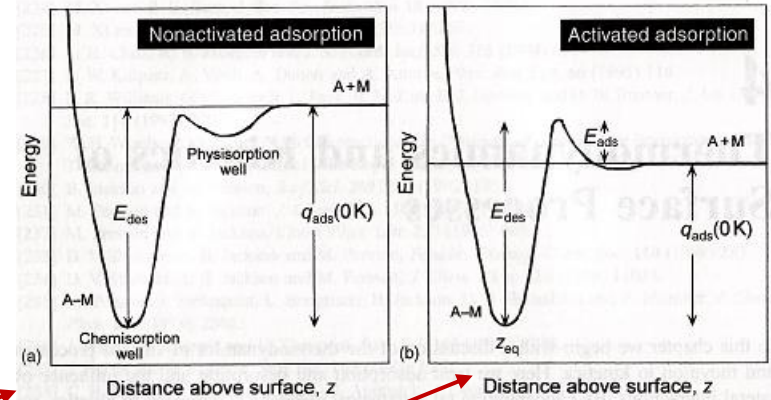
**Figure 3.17** A Lennard-Jones diagram is a one-dimensional representation of the potential energy. In the case shown here, the one dimension is taken as the distance above the surface. A barrier separating the chemisorption well from the gas phase distinguishes activated adsorption. Also shown in the diagram are the energies of two hypothetical trajectories at (a) low and (b) high kinetic energy. Classically, only high energy trajectories can overcome the adsorption barrier.

# Activated adsorption

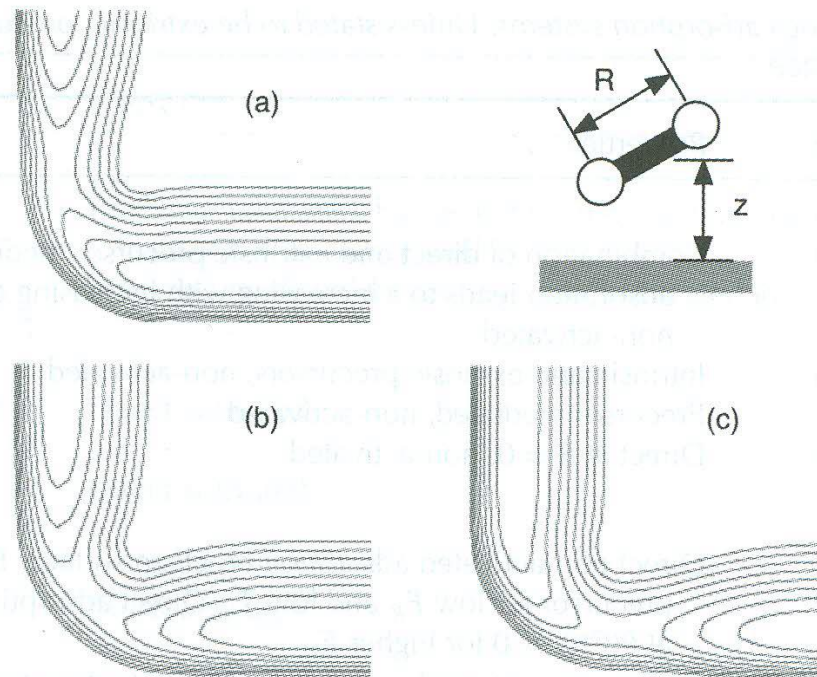


- Important process in heterogeneous catalysis
- **Very small  $s_0$**  due to the presence of an adsorption barrier
- A fast  $N_2$  can overcome the barrier to directly populate the atomic state
- A large kinetic energy dependence of  $s_0$

fast chemisorption    slow chemisorption  
gas on clean metal     $H_2$  on Cu  
20~40 kJ/mol  $E_a$



## 2D PES of activated dissociative adsorption: different position of the barrier



**Figure 3.18** Potential energy surfaces (PESs) for activated dissociative adsorption with (a) early, (b) middle and (c) late barriers.  $z$ , the distance from the molecular centre of mass to the surface (vertical axis);  $R$ , internuclear distance between the atoms of the (diatomic) molecule (horizontal axis). George Darling is thanked for providing these very fine model PESs.

## Direct vs. precursor mediated adsorption (Table 3.3)

- **Direct adsorption** corresponds to the case in which a molecule makes the decision to stick or scatter upon its first encounter with the surface  
→ a molecule hit the surface, loses energy, and adsorbs at the site where it lands or hop sites away from the point of impact
- **Precursor mediated adsorption**: a molecule loses sufficient energy → trapped into a mobile precursor state → hop or migrate

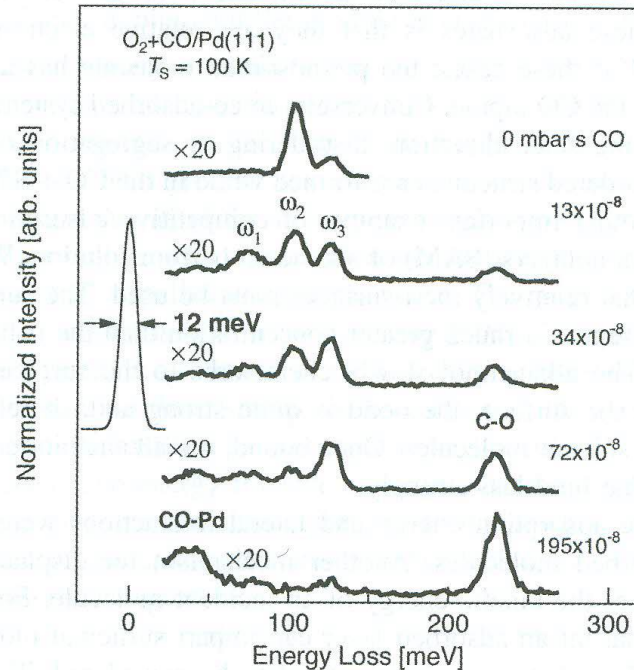
**Table 3.3** A survey of various adsorption systems. Unless stated to be extrinsic, precursor refers to the sticking behaviour on the clean surface.

Species	Surface	Properties	Reference
<i>Atomic</i>			
Xe	Pt(111)	Combination of direct and extrinsic precursor mediated adsorption leads to $s$ increasing with increasing coverage, non-activated	[125]
Kr	Pt(111)	Intrinsic and extrinsic precursors, non-activated	[126]
Cs	W	Precursor mediated, non-activated	[127]
Ir, Re, W, Pd	Ir(111)	Direct at $\theta = 0$ , non-activated	[128]
<i>Molecular</i>			
CO	Ni(100) Pt(111)	Direct non-activated adsorption on clean surface. Extrinsic precursor for low $E_K$ and low $T_s$ . Direct adsorption possible at $\theta(\text{CO}) > 0$ for higher $E_K$	[125][129, 130]

# Competitive adsorption & collision induced processes

- e.g.  $\text{O}_2 + \text{CO}$  on  $\text{Pd}(111)$

$\text{O}_2$  on  $\text{Pd}(111)$  at 100 K  $\rightarrow$  3 states  $\xrightarrow{\text{CO}\uparrow}$  CO can displace  $\text{O}_2$  from the surface  
 $\rightarrow$  remain  $\omega_3$  (most able to compete with CO for adsorption sites)  
 $\rightarrow$  **CO and  $\text{O}_2$  compete for sites on Pd surface**

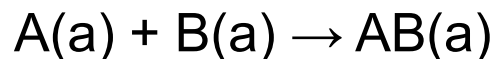


**Figure 3.23** Competitive adsorption in the  $\text{CO} + \text{O}_2/\text{Pd}(111)$  system is investigated by electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS). The species associated with species  $\omega_1$ ,  $\omega_2$  and  $\omega_3$  are illustrated in Fig. 3.8. arb units, arbitrary units;  $T_s$ , surface temperature. Reproduced from K. W. Kolasinski, F. Cemič, A. de Meijere, E. Hasselbrink, *Surf. Sci.*, 334, 19. © 1995, with permission from Elsevier.

# Classification of reaction mechanism

## Langmuir-Hinshelwood mechanism (LH mechanism)

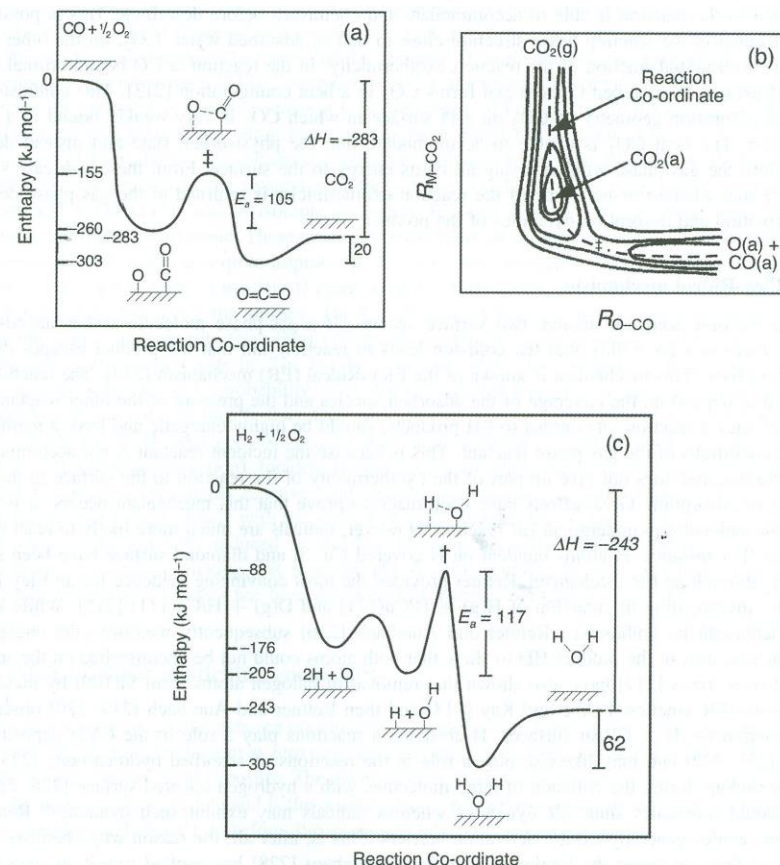
- Most common surface reaction mechanism → both reactants are adsorbed on the surface where they collide and form products → adsorption, desorption and surface diffusion play essential roles in the LH mechanism



- Reaction rate should depend on the surface coverage of both species

$$R = k\theta_A\theta_B$$

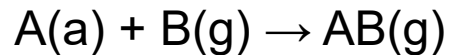
- RDS (rate determining step): adsorption or adsorbate decomposition or diffusion of an adsorbate to a reactive site or desorption of a product  
e.g.  $\text{NH}_3$  synthesis:  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption(RDS)  
 $\text{O}_2 + \text{CO}$  to form  $\text{CO}_2$  on Pt group



**Figure 3.24** The oxidation of CO to form CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> to form H<sub>2</sub>O on Pt(111) follow Langmuir-Hinshelwood mechanisms. The changes in energy along the reaction pathway are as follows. (a) Enthalpy changes associated with CO + O<sub>2</sub> reaction. The transition state ‡ is a stretched and bent CO<sub>2</sub> entity. (b) A two-dimensional potential energy surface of the CO + O<sub>2</sub> reaction, portraying the energetic changes as a function of the CO<sub>2</sub>-surface distance [r(M-CO<sub>2</sub>)] and the forming OC bond length [r(O-CO)]. (c) Enthalpy changes associated with the H<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>2</sub> reaction. Two intermediates (2H + O, and H + OH) are formed during the reaction. The transition state ‡ reached prior to the formation of H<sub>2</sub>O(a) is also bent and stretched; however ‡ resembles H<sub>2</sub>O(a) more closely than ‡ resembles CO<sub>2</sub>(a). Parts (a) and (b) Reproduced with permission from G. Ertl, Ber. Bunsenges. Phys. Chem. 86 (1982) 425. ©1982 Wiley VCH. Values for (c) taken from M. P. D'Evelyn and R. J. Madix, Surf. Sci. Rep. 3 (1983) 413.

## Eley-Rideal mechanism

- A surface reaction need not involve two surface species → if a gas-phase molecule sticks an adsorbed molecule, the collision leads to reaction and that the product escapes directly into the gas phase



→ reaction rate is expected to depend on the coverage of the adsorbed species and the pressure of the other reactant

$$R = k\theta_A P_B$$

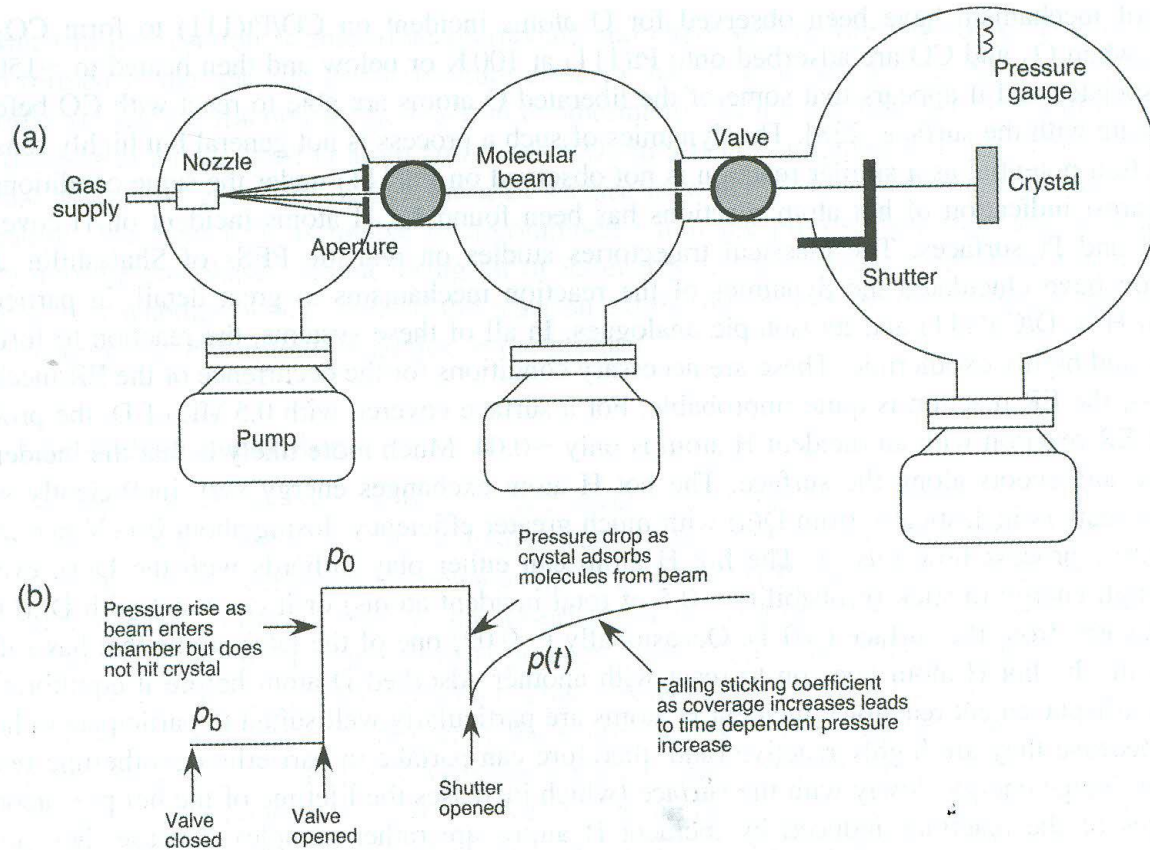
## Hot atom mechanism

- Mechanism between LH and ER → one of the reactants were adsorbed while the other was not yet fully accommodated to the surface → hot precursor or hot atom mechanism



e.g. O atoms incident on CO/Pt(111)

# Measurement of sticking coefficients



$$s(t) = \frac{p_0 - p(t)}{p_0 - p_b}$$

**Figure 3.25** The King and Wells method of sticking coefficient determination: (a) apparatus, (b) pressure curve.

- Sticking probability

$s = \text{\# molecules adsorbed} / \text{\# molecules impinging on a surface}$

- Molecular beam method, in which the partial pressure change is monitored with a QMS (quadrupole mass spectroscopy)

TABLE 5.1 Some Typical Values of the Initial Sticking Probability at 300 K

			(Chemisorption)		
Gas	Surface	$S(0)$	Gas	Surface	$S(0)$
H <sub>2</sub>	Ni(100)	0.06	N <sub>2</sub>	W(320)	0.7
H <sub>2</sub>	Ni(111)	0.02	N <sub>2</sub>	W(110)	$< 3 \times 10^{-3}$
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H <sub>2</sub>	Si(100)	$< 10^{-4}$	As <sub>4</sub>	GaAs(100)-B	$< 10^{-3}$
CO	Pt(111)	0.67	As <sub>4</sub>	GaAs(100)-A	0.5

Data taken from Morris et al. [1984] and Joyce and Foxton [1984].

## Factors influencing $s_0$ in chemisorption

- Gas- surface combination
- Efficiency of energy transfer in gas-surface collisions
- Surface orientation of the surface for a given single crystal material
- Presence of an energy barrier for dissociative adsorption: activated adsorption

# Summary

- Physisorption is a weak adsorption interaction in which polarization (dispersion) forces such as van der Waals interactions hold the adsorbate on the surface.
- Chemisorption is a strong adsorption interaction in which orbital overlap (sharing of electrons) leads to chemical bond formation.
- Binding sites at surfaces are separated by energy barriers. Therefore, diffusion on surfaces is an activated process.
- When the surface temperature is sufficiently high to cause rapid desorption, the adsorbed molecule may be able to enter a state with unhindered diffusion known as a 2D gas.
- The chemisorption bond is formed by hybridization of substrate electronic states with the MOs of the adsorbate.
- As a first approximation, the interaction of frontier MOs with the substrate should be considered to understand chemisorption bonding and adsorbate structure.
- On transition metals, chemisorption bond formation is conceived of as a two-step process (the d band model). In step 1, the frontier orbitals of the adsorbate are broadened and shifted by the interaction with the substrate electronic states.
- Adsorption and desorption are connected by microscopic reversibility.
- In any system for which the sticking coefficient is a function of energy, the desorbed molecules do not have an energy distribution corresponding to an equilibrium distribution at the surface temperature.
- Corrugation is the variation of barrier heights across the surface.
- Whereas initial sticking coefficient values for activated adsorption may exhibit Arrhenius behaviour over some range of temperature, a more general expectation is that they follow the sigmoidal form of Eq. (3.15.3).  
(dissociative chemisorption).
- Adsorption can either be a non-activated or activated process.
- Dissociative chemisorption is most commonly associated with activated adsorption. The height of the activation barrier depends on the molecular orientation and the impact position within the unit cell.
- For non-activated adsorption, the sticking coefficient tends to one for low-energy molecules but decreases for very high-energy molecules.
- For activated adsorption, sticking can only occur if the incident molecule has sufficient energy to overcome the adsorption barrier. Molecules with energy far in excess of the barrier height may have difficulty sticking as they cannot follow the minimum energy path.
- Adsorption occurs on a multidimensional potential energy hypersurface (PES) and the effect on the sticking coefficient of placing energy in any particular degree of freedom depends on the shape of the PES.
- Adsorption can either be direct or precursor-mediated.