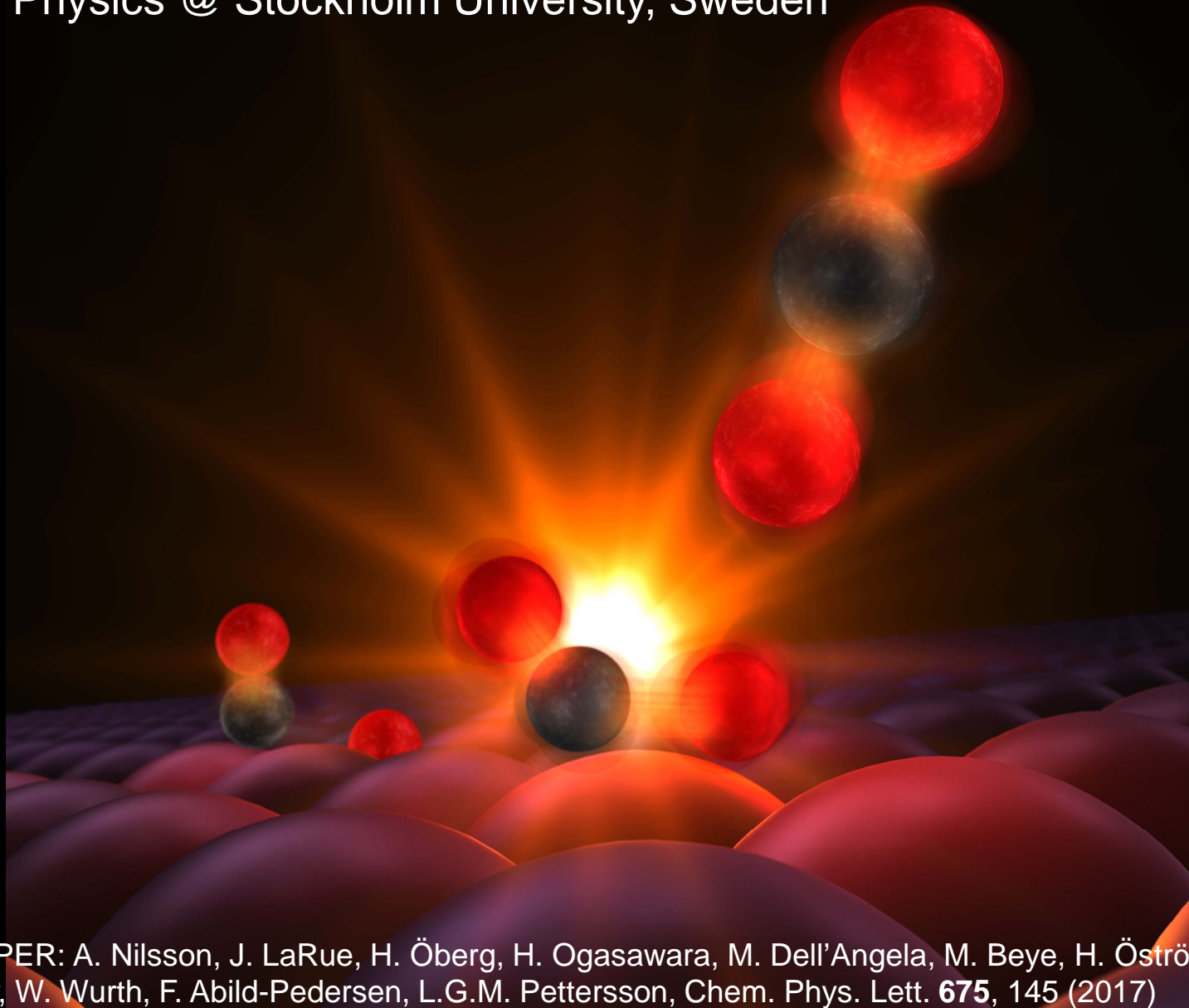


# Probing Surface Catalysis in Real Time

Anders Nilsson

Chemical Physics @ Stockholm University, Sweden



# Co-Workers for LCLS data



Jerry LaRue (Chapman University)

Lin Yu, May Ling Ng, Honliang Xin, Stefan Moeller, Dennis Nordlund, John Turner, Ryan Coffee, M. P. Minitti, Jens Nørskov, Frank Abild-Pedersen, Hirohito Ogasawara (Stanford/SLAC)

Martin Beye, Alexander Föhlisch (HZB Berlin)

Giuseppe Mercurio, Wilfried Wurth (DESY and Univ Hamburg)

Oleg Krejci, Henrik Öberg, Jörgen Gladh, Lars G. M. Pettersson, Henrik Öström, Simon Schreck, Matthew Weston (Fysikum, SU)

Jonas Sellberg (KTH, Stockholm)

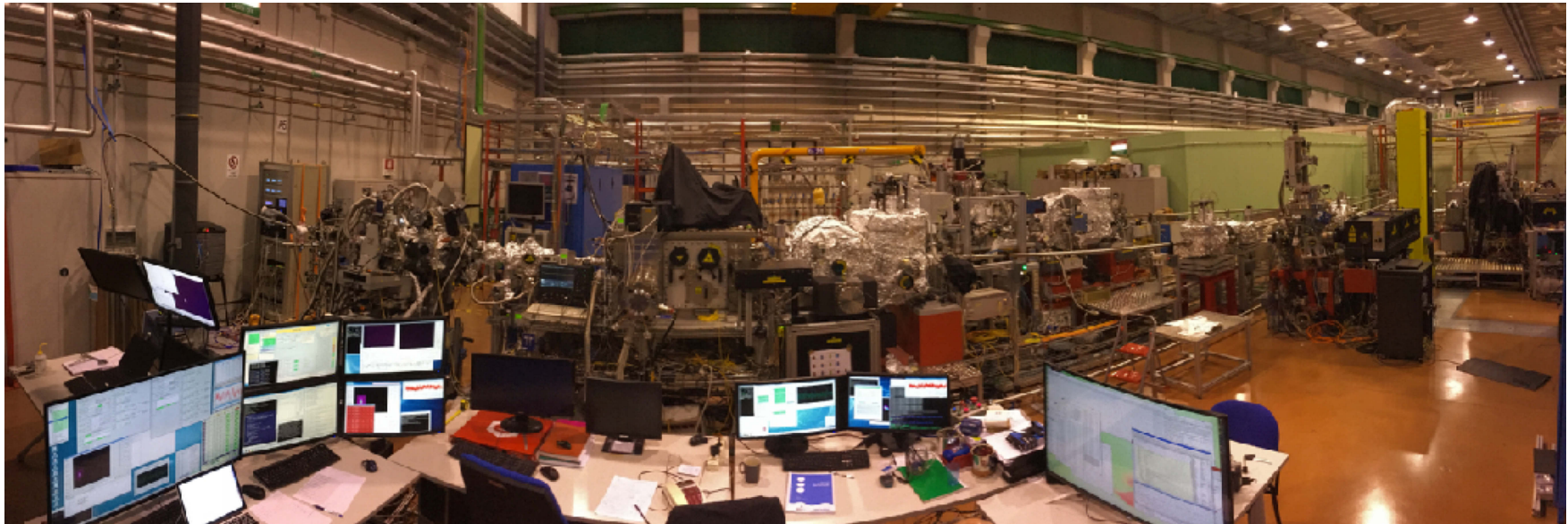
Martin Wolf (FHI Berlin)



**Denys Naumenko, Emanuele Pedersoli, Flavio Capotondi, Ivaylo Nikolov, Martina Dell'Angela, Roberto Costantini**



**Hirohito Ogasawara**



**Martin Beye, Piter Miedema**



**CHAPMAN  
UNIVERSITY**

**Jerry  
LaRue**



**Anders Nilsson, Boyang Liu, Filippo Cavalca, Fivos Perakis, Hsin-Yi Wang, Jörgen Gladh, Matthew Weston, Sergey Koroidov, Simon Schreck**

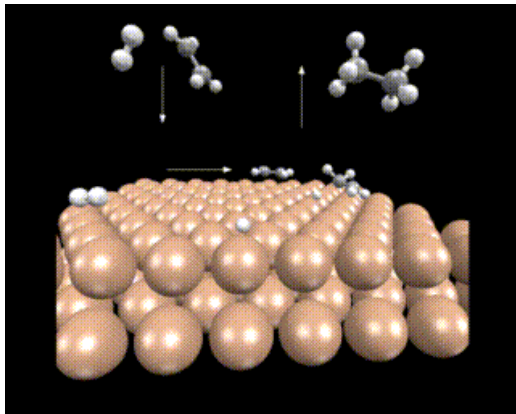
# Ammonia feeds the world

## Fertilizers

1-2 % of the global energy consumption  
Saved 2-3 Billion peoples life

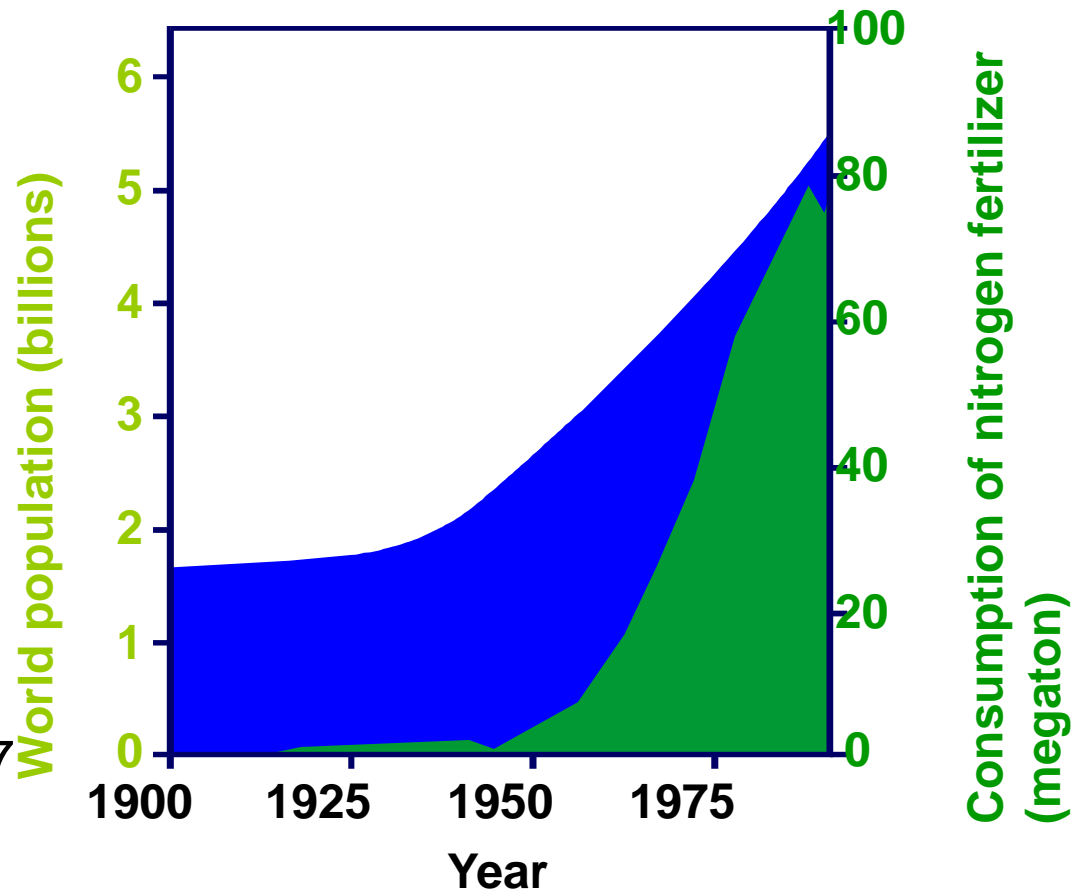


Haber Bosch Process



Surface Catalysis

Nobelprize 1918, 1933 and 2007



# Sustainable fuels

Catalysis is key

Biomass → fuels

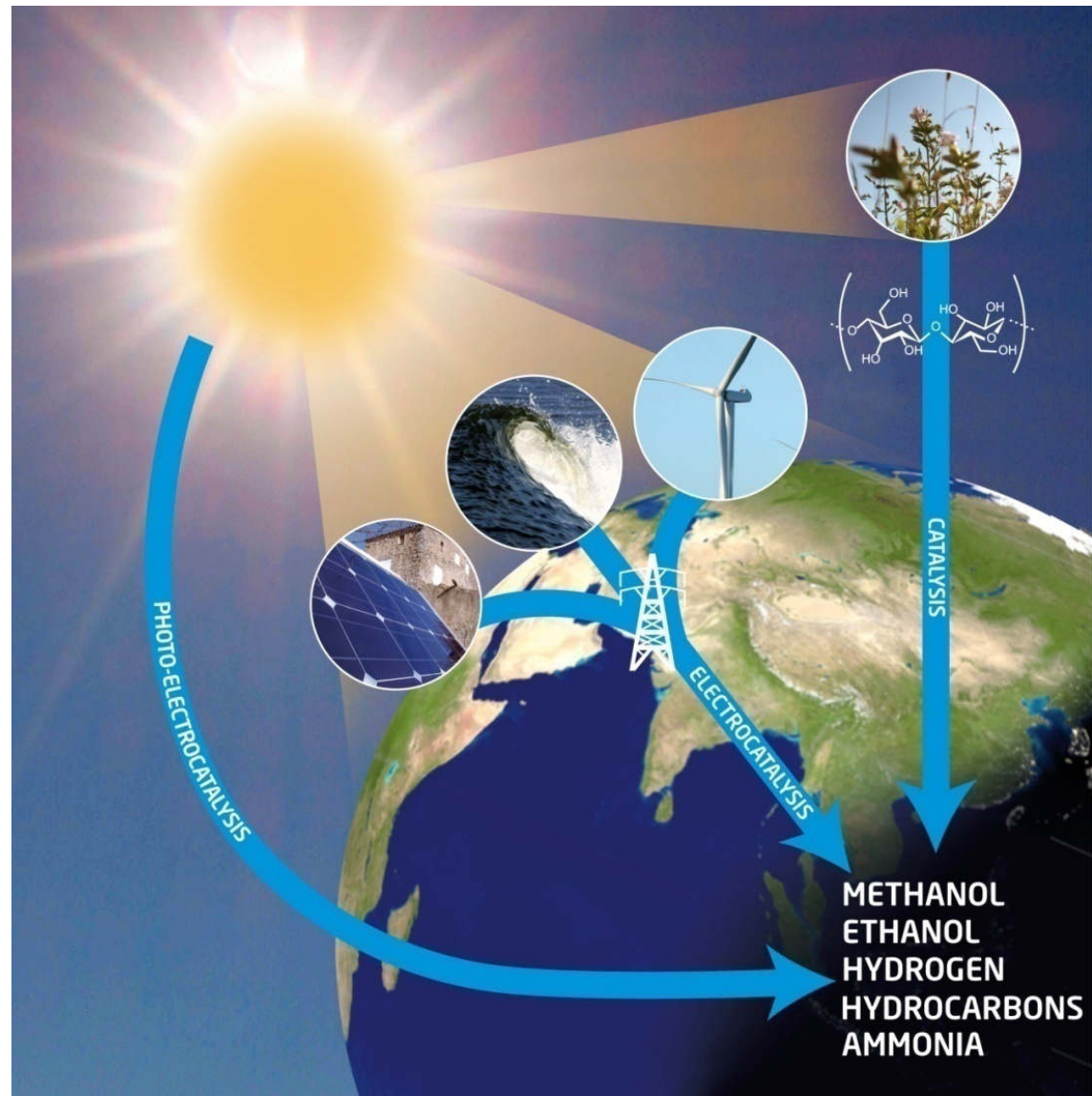
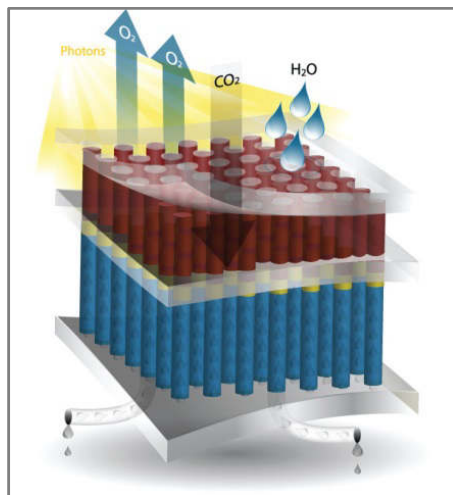
Electricity → fuels

Direct sunlight → fuels

(artificial photosynthesis)

Novel catalysts needed

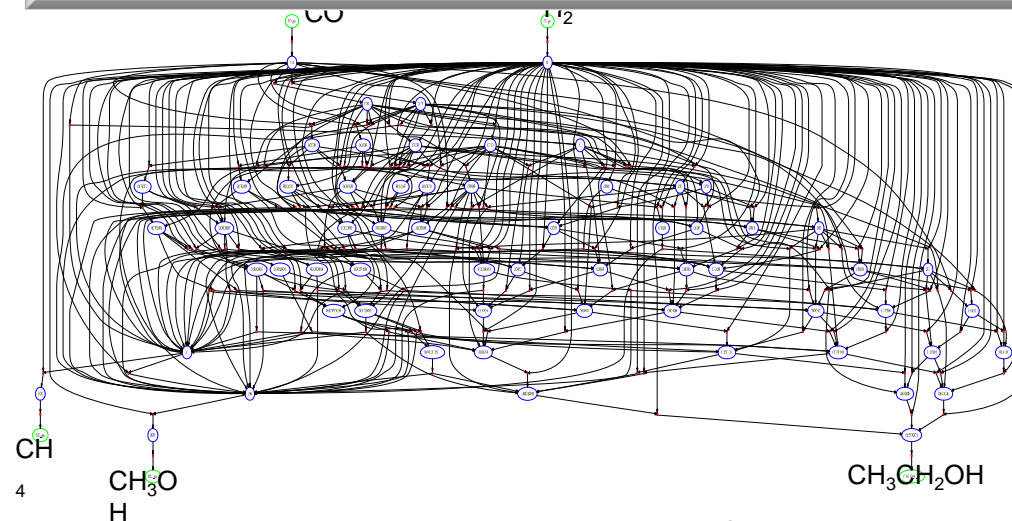
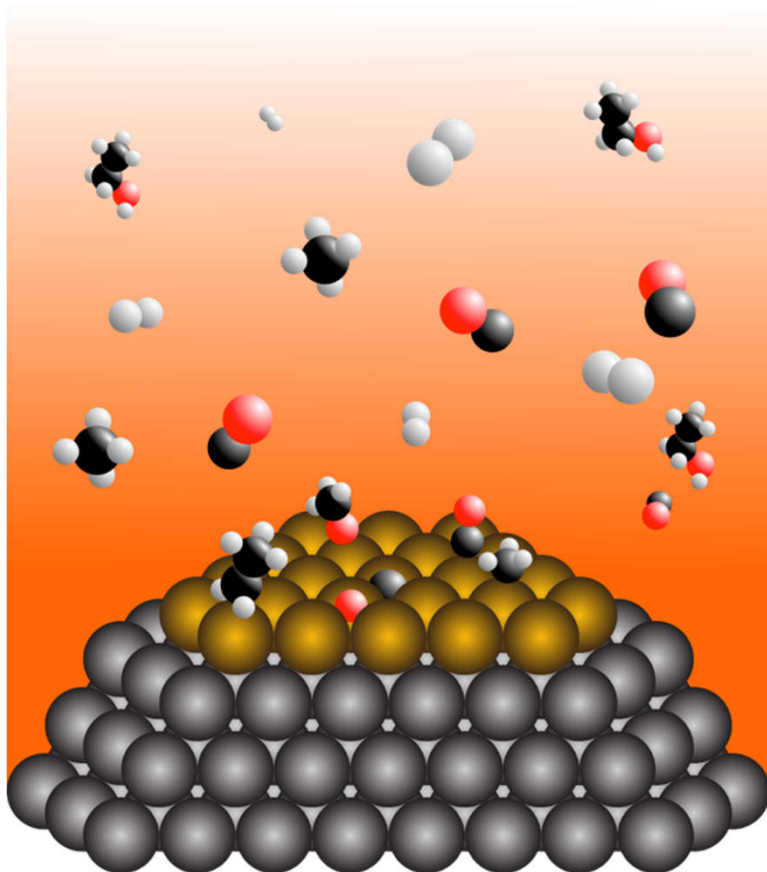
Made from Earth abundant materials



# Catalysis: Dealing with complexity

**Need a Tool that is:**

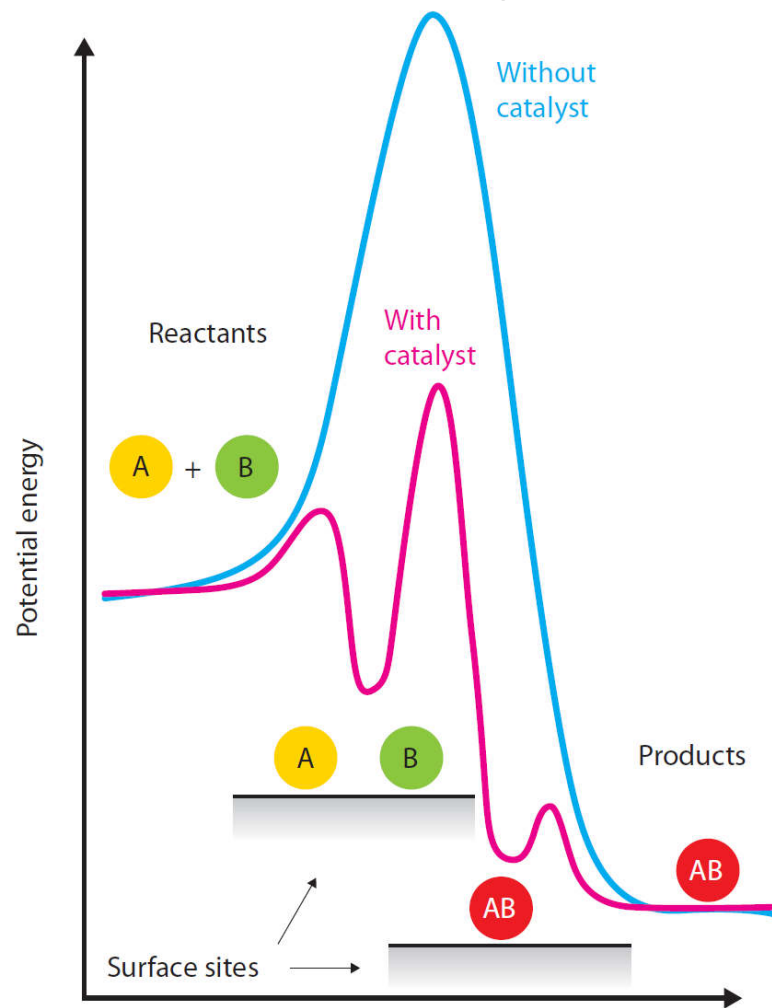
- **Chemical Sensitive**
- **Surface Sensitive**
- **Can work under realistic conditions**
- **Can detect transient phenomena**



100+ species  
200+ reactions  
2000+ unique pathways

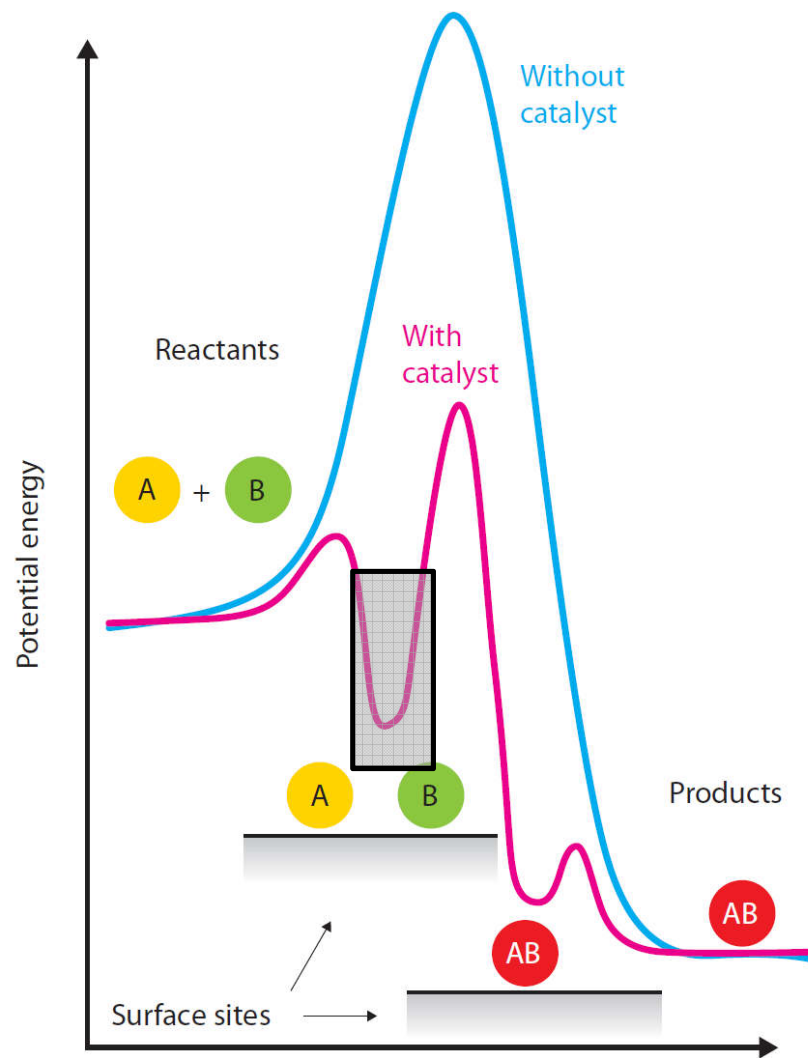
Medford, Ulissi, Hummelshøj,  
Bligaard, Nørskov (2016)

# Fundamental Understanding of Catalysis



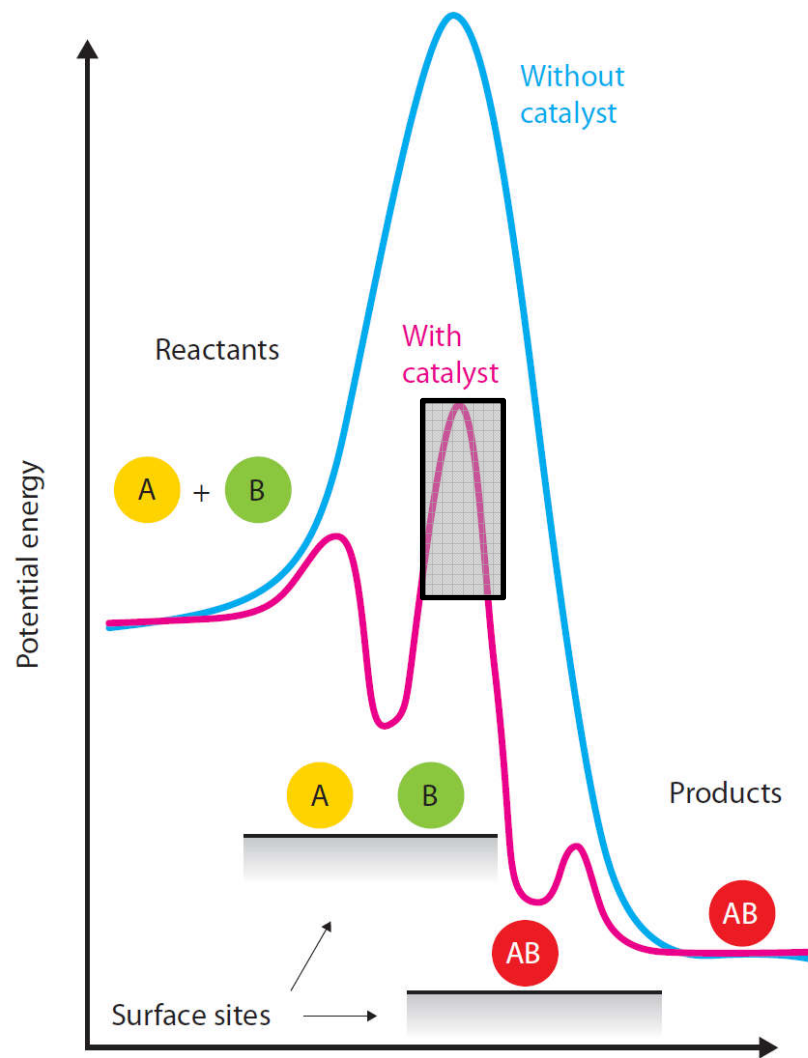
Courtesy I. Chorkendorff

# Probing Intermediates ?



Courtesy I. Chorkendorff

# Probing Transition States ?

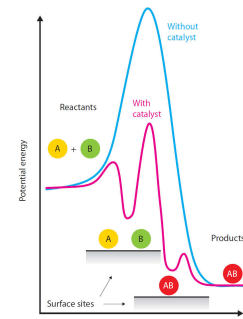
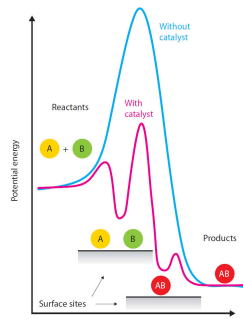
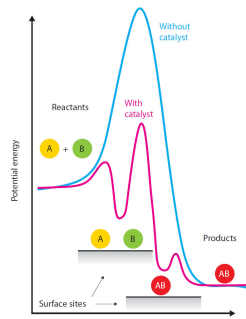


Courtesy I. Chorkendorff

# Time Resolved Measurements

Kinetics: Macroscopic reaction rate

How often a reaction event is successful



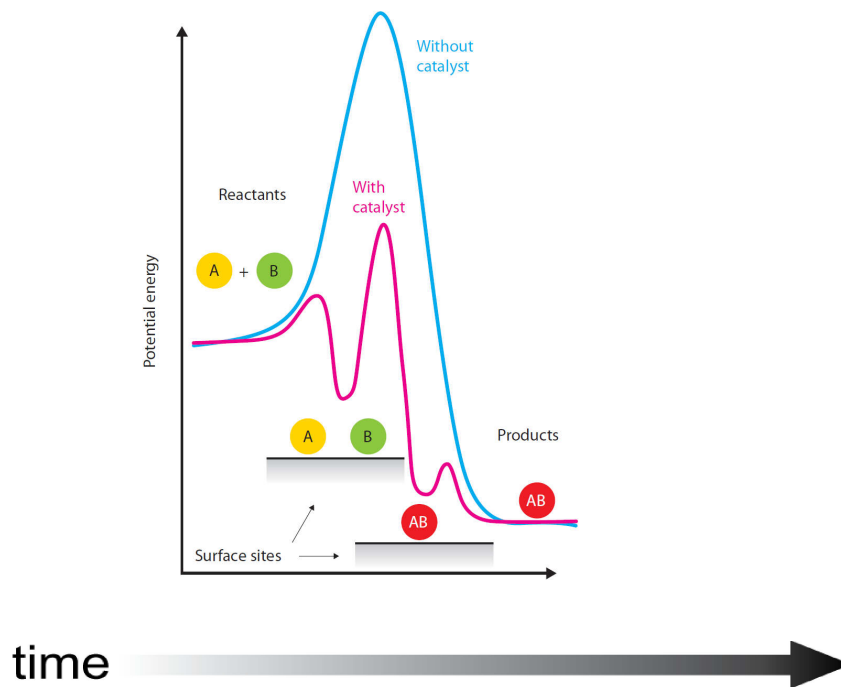
time →

# Time Resolved Measurements

Kinetics: Macroscopic reaction rate

How often a reaction event is successful

Dynamics: Following movements of atoms, molecules and electrons,  
Following reaction events in real time as they occurs



# Time Resolved Measurements

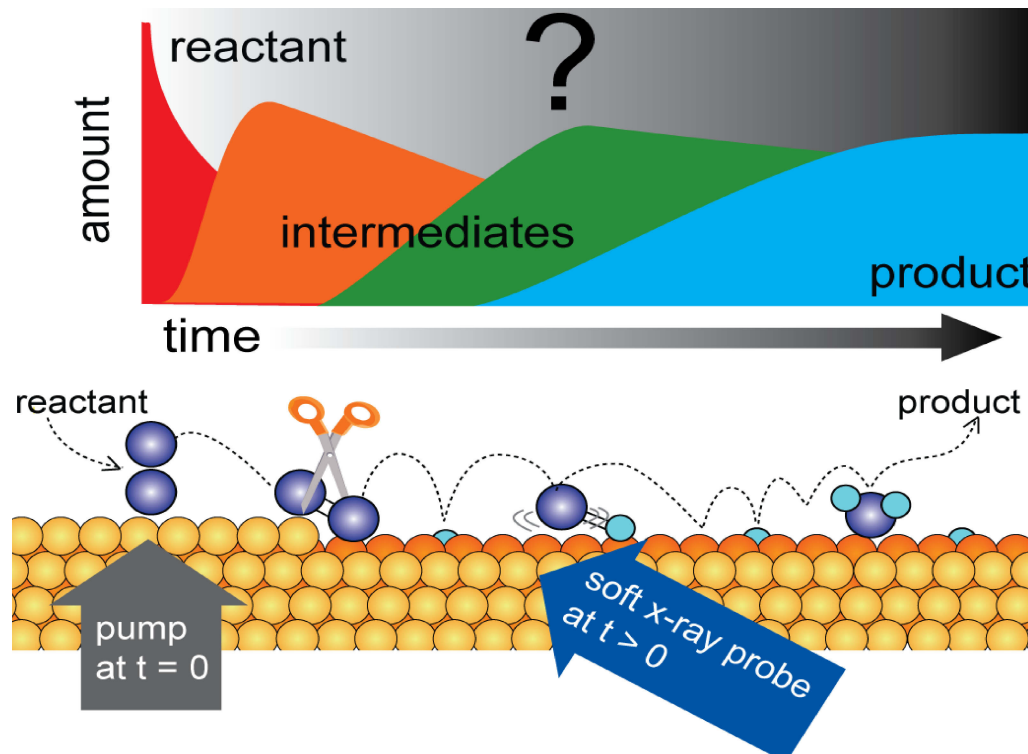
Kinetics: Macroscopic reaction rate

How often a reaction event is successful

Dynamics: Following movements of atoms, molecules and electrons,  
Following reaction events in real time as they occurs

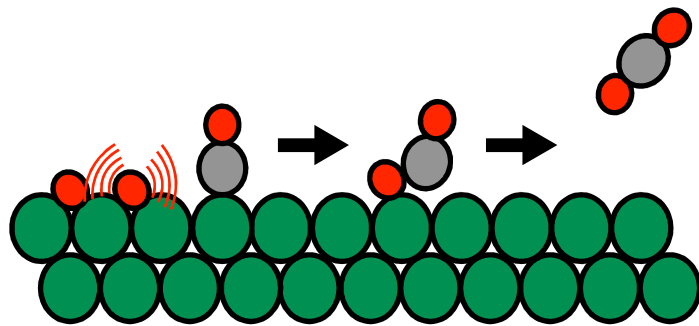
Pump: to start all reaction events simultaneous; optical lasers

Probe: probing the evolvement of the reaction at a specific time delay; x-ray

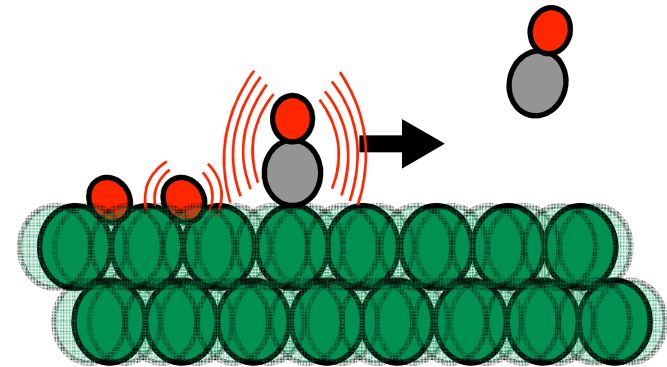


# Atom Energy Selectivity Control

Can we direct the energy flow in catalysis?

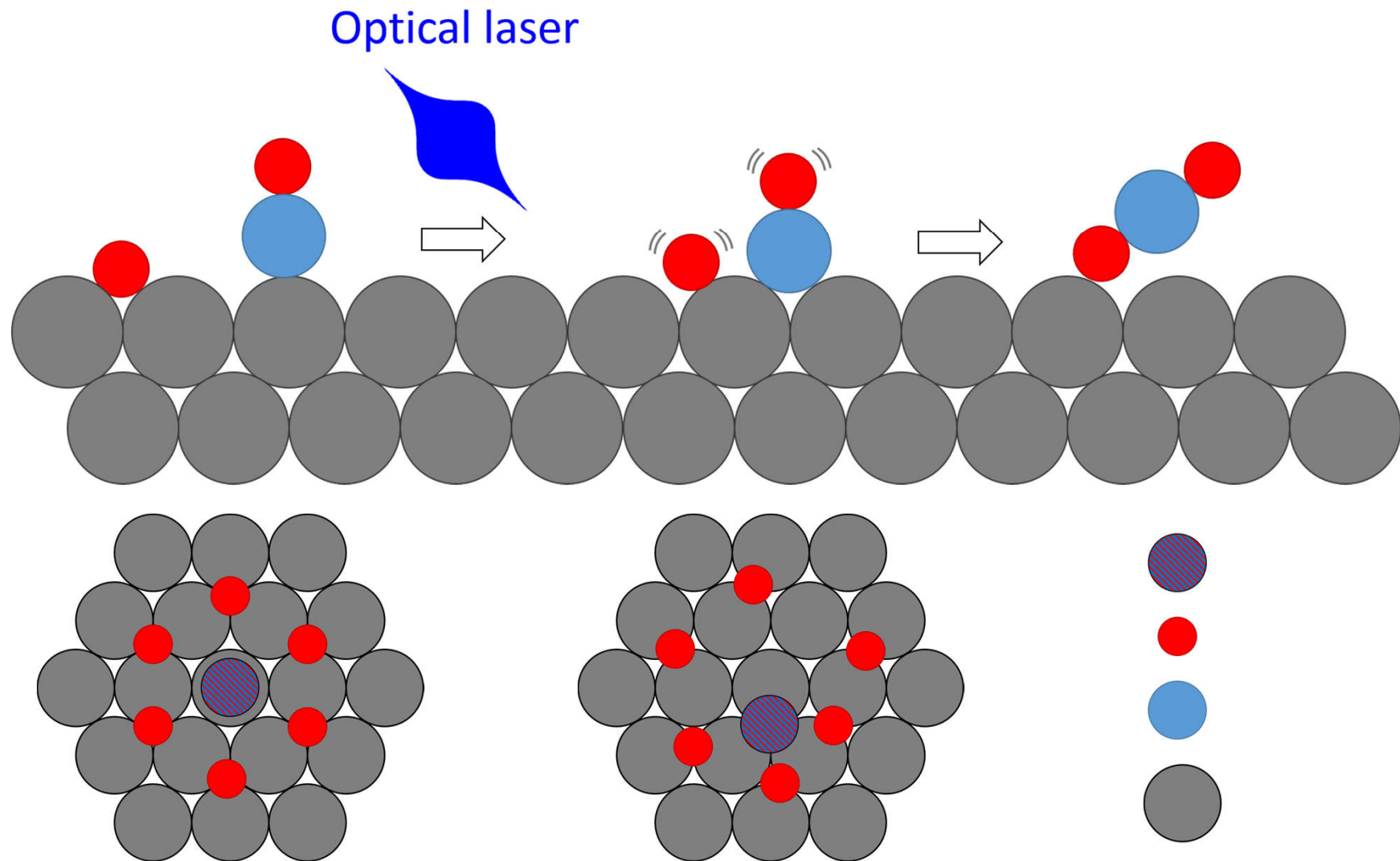


Selective Excitation on an Atomic Site

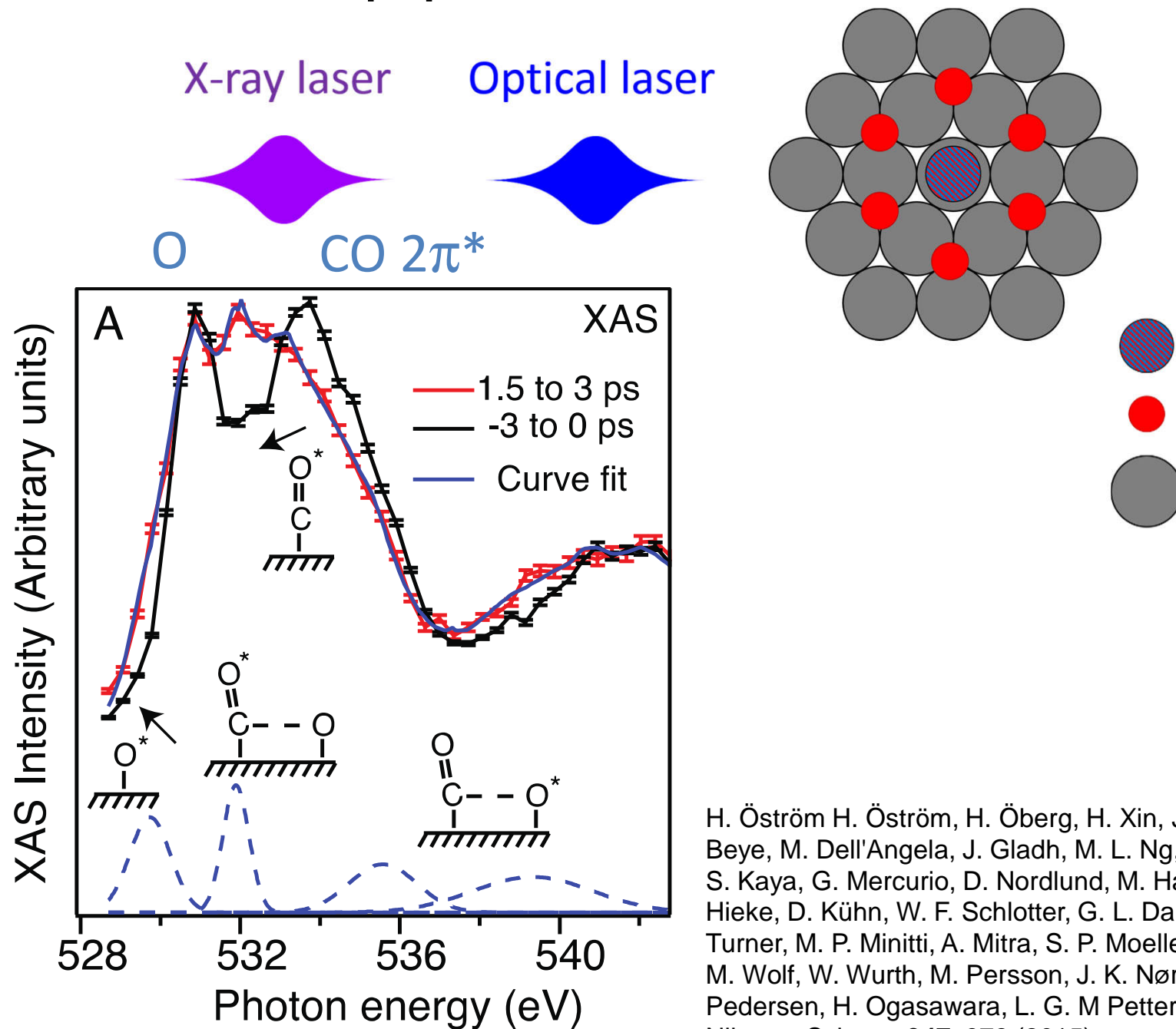


Thermal Energy Excites Everything

# O and CO are both excited to produce CO<sub>2</sub> Observation of the Transition State

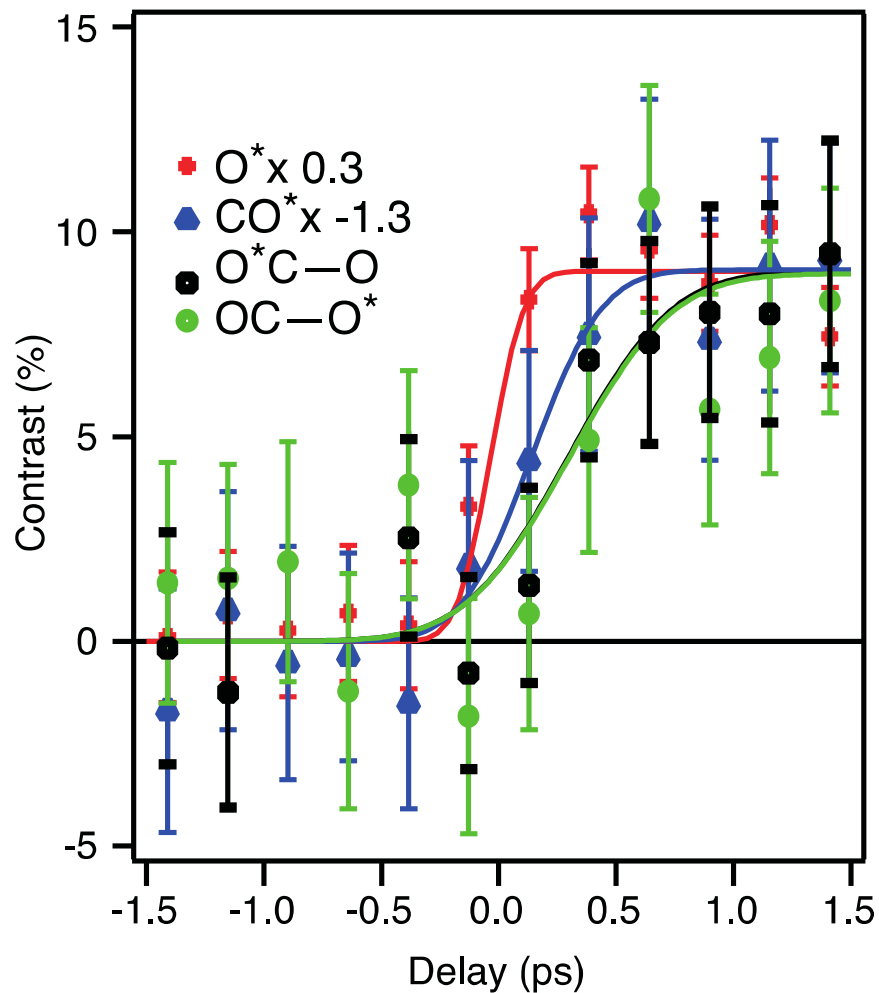


# Pump-probe of CO oxidation



H. Öström, H. Öström, H. Öberg, H. Xin, J. LaRue, M. Beye, M. Dell'Angela, J. Gladh, M. L. Ng, J. A. Sellberg, S. Kaya, G. Mercurio, D. Nordlund, M. Hantschmann, F. Hieke, D. Kühn, W. F. Schlotter, G. L. Dakovski, J. J. Turner, M. P. Minitti, A. Mitra, S. P. Moeller, A. Föhlisch, M. Wolf, W. Wurth, M. Persson, J. K. Nørskov, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara, L. G. M. Pettersson, A.

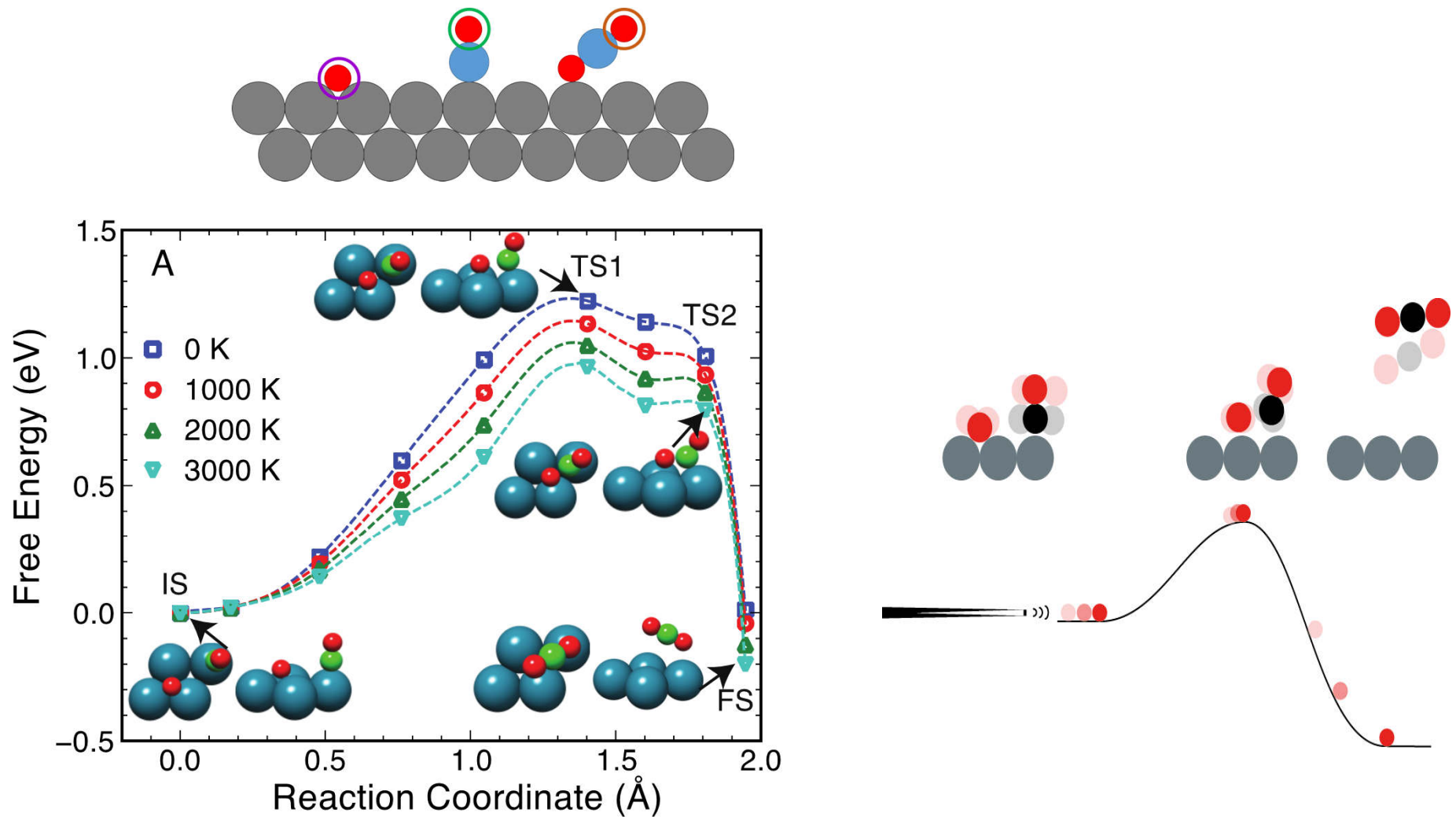
# Transient Time Scales



- O activation 300 fs
- CO activation 500 fs
- Formation of  $^*OC-O$  800 fs
- Formation of  $OC-O^*$  800 fs

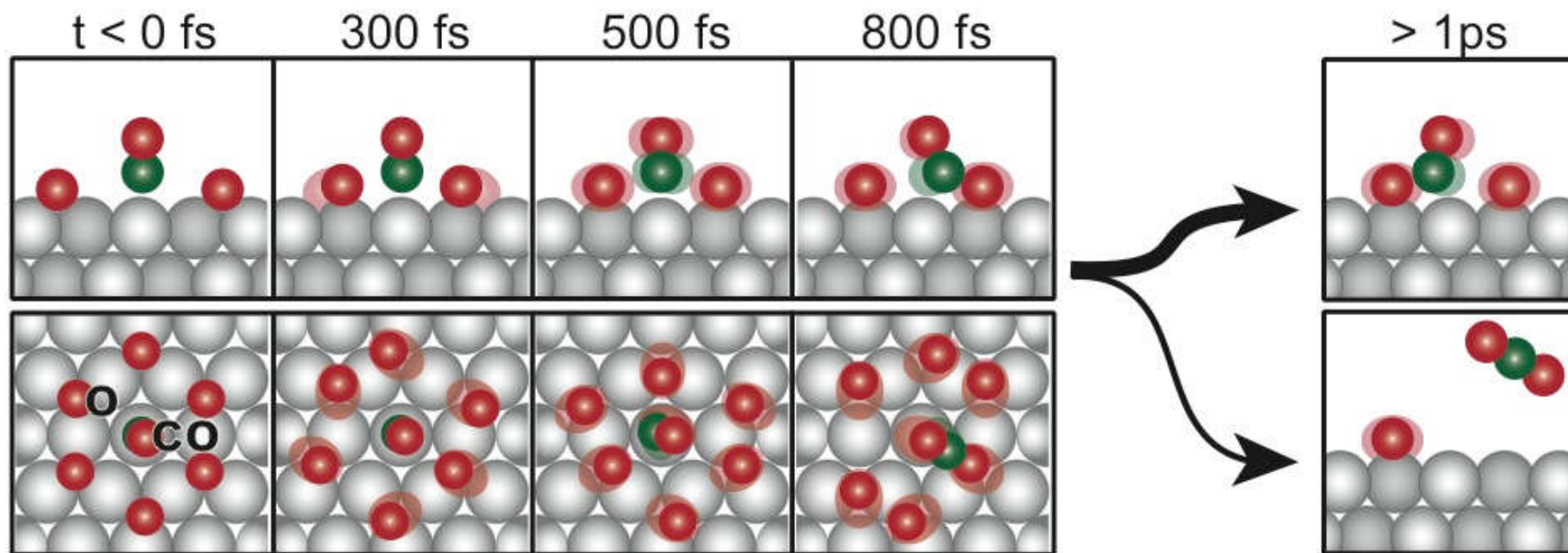
H. Öström, H. Öström, H. Öberg, H. Xin, J. LaRue, M. Beye, M. Dell'Angela, J. Gladh, M. L. Ng, J. A. Sellberg, S. Kaya, G. Mercurio, D. Nordlund, M. Hantschmann, F. Hieke, D. Kühn, W. F. Schlotter, G. L. Dakovski, J. J. Turner, M. P. Minitti, A. Mitra, S. P. Moeller, A. Föhlisch, M. Wolf, W. Wurth, M. Persson, J. K. Nørskov, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara, L. G. M. Pettersson,

# Ultrafast Observation of the Transition State Region in Catalytic CO Oxidation on Ru(0001)



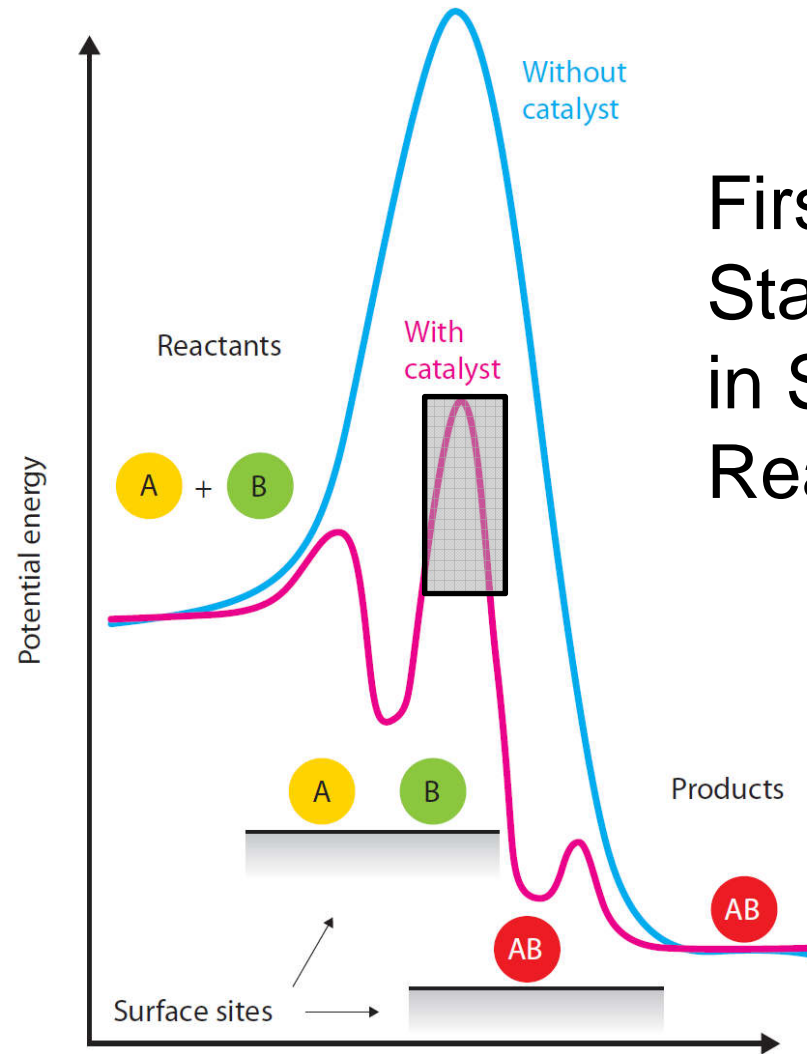
H. Öström, H. Öström, H. Öberg, H. Xin, J. LaRue, M. Beye, M. Dell'Angela, J. Gladh, M. L. Ng, J. A. Sellberg, S. Kaya, G. Mercurio, D. Nordlund, M. Hantschmann, F. Hieke, D. Kühn, W. F. Schlotter, G. L. Dakovski, J. J. Turner, M. P. Minitti, A. Mitra, S. P. Moeller, A. Föhlisch, M. Wolf, W. Wurth, M. Persson, J. K. Nørskov, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara, L. G. M. Pettersson,

# Mechanism



H. Öström, H. Öström, H. Öberg, H. Xin, J. LaRue, M. Beye, M. Dell'Angela, J. Gladh, M. L. Ng, J. A. Sellberg, S. Kaya, G. Mercurio, D. Nordlund, M. Hantschmann, F. Hieke, D. Kühn, W. F. Schlotter, G. L. Dakovski, J. J. Turner, M. P. Minitti, A. Mitra, S. P. Moeller, A. Föhlisch, M. Wolf, W. Wurth, M. Persson, J. K. Nørskov, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara, L. G. M. Pettersson,

# 😊 Probing Transition States 😊



First time Transition State is Observed in Surface Chemical Reaction

# Artificial Photosynthesis

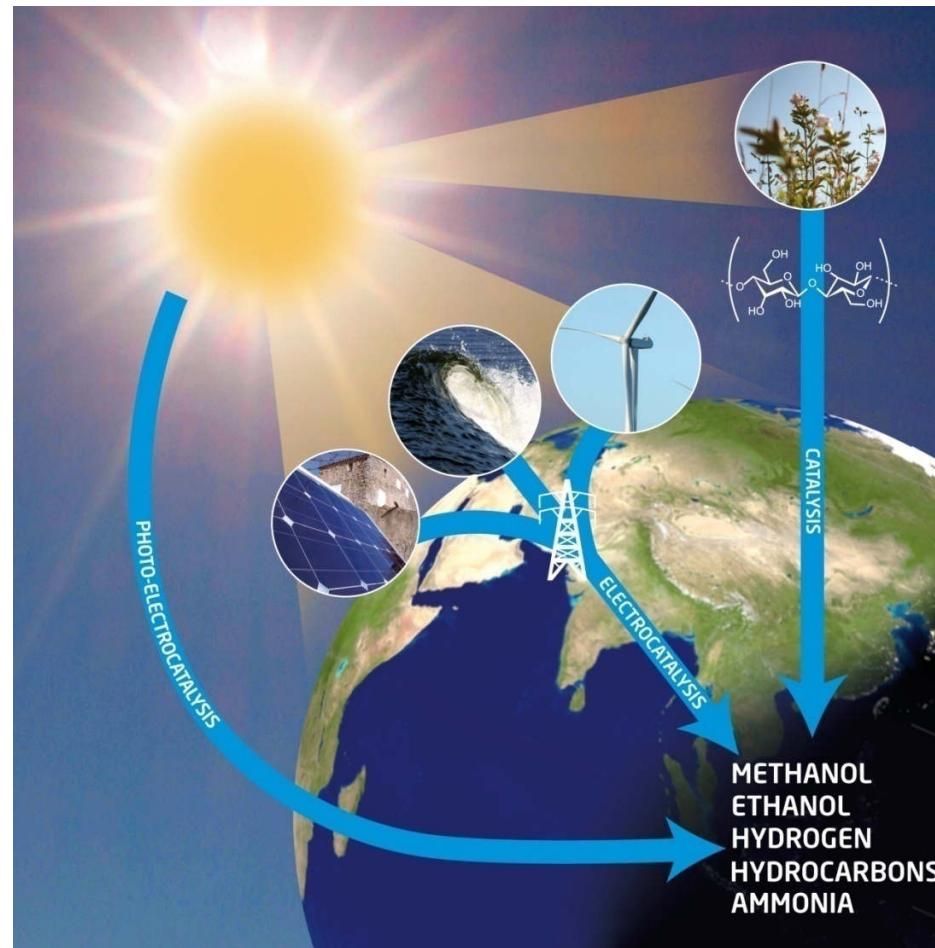
Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> to fuels  
and chemicals

One of the main  
challenges for the  
future

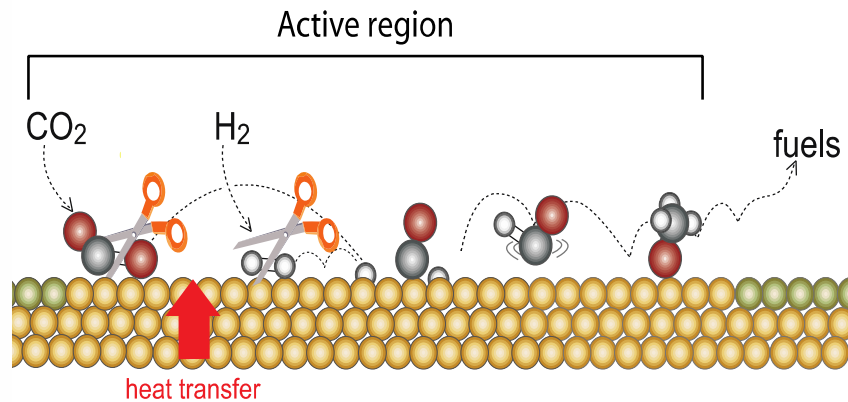
Photochemical

Electrochemical

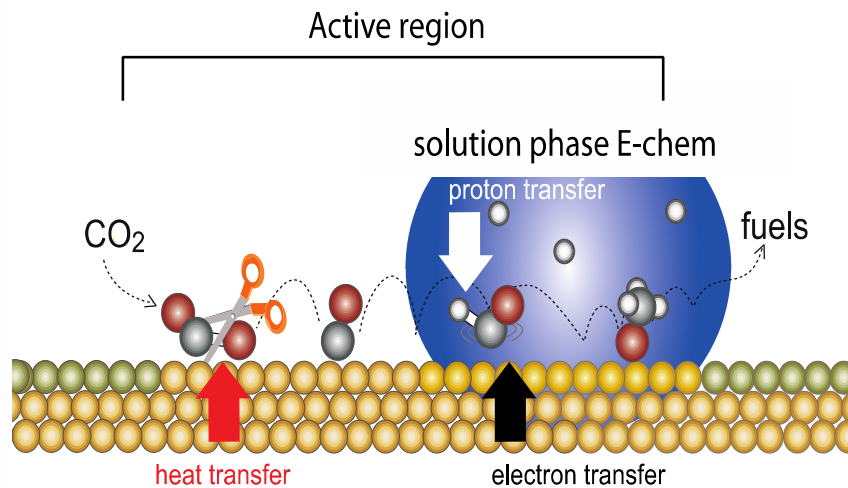
Chemical



# Heat or Electron Transfers

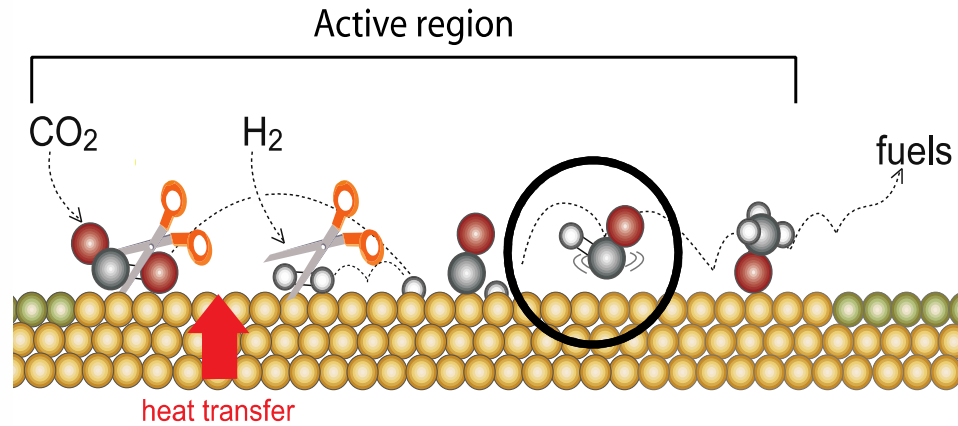


Thermal

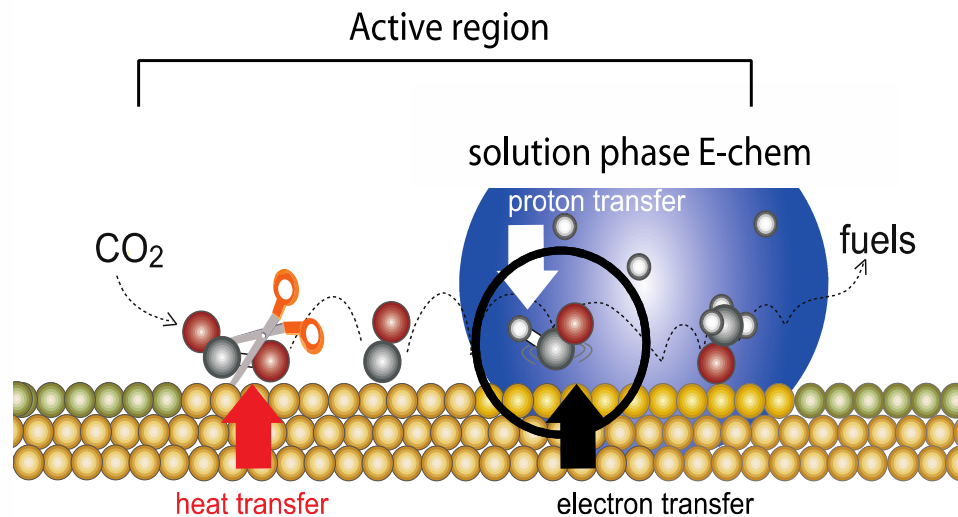


Electrochemical

Can we see the most essential intermediate predicted by theory  
COH or HCO



Thermal



Electrochemical

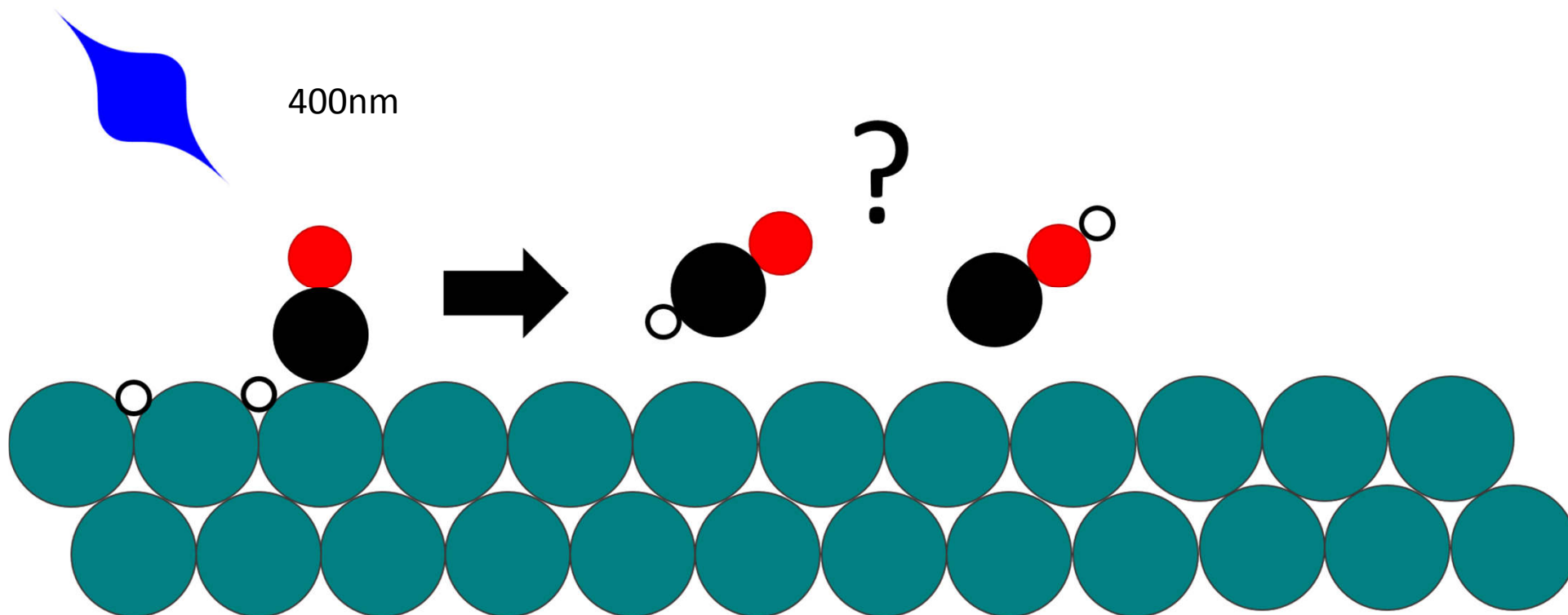
# Stable or Metastable Transient Intermediate

## HCO or CHO ?

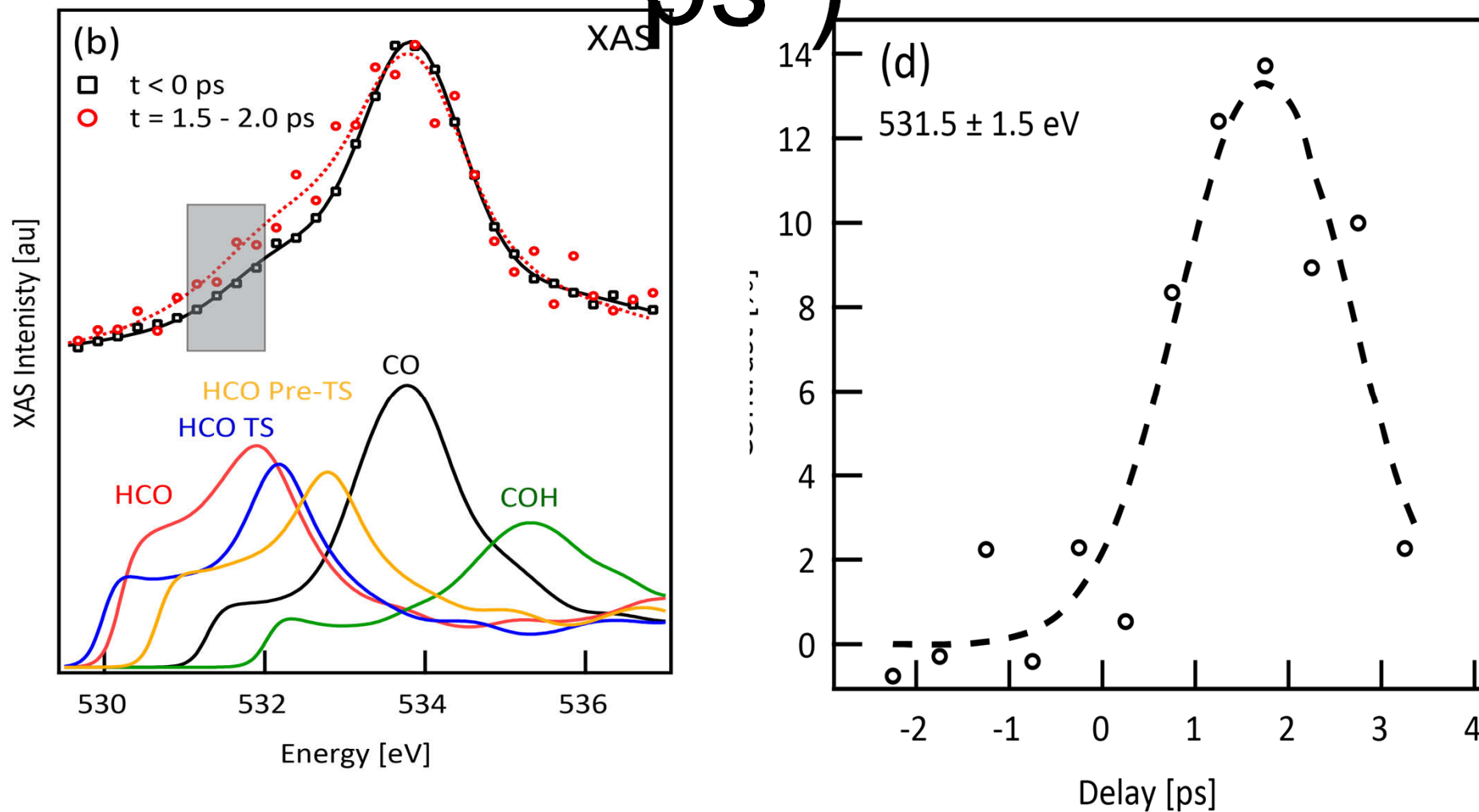
### Interactions with CO and H

- Carbon
- Oxygen
- Hydrogen
- Ruthenium

Optical laser

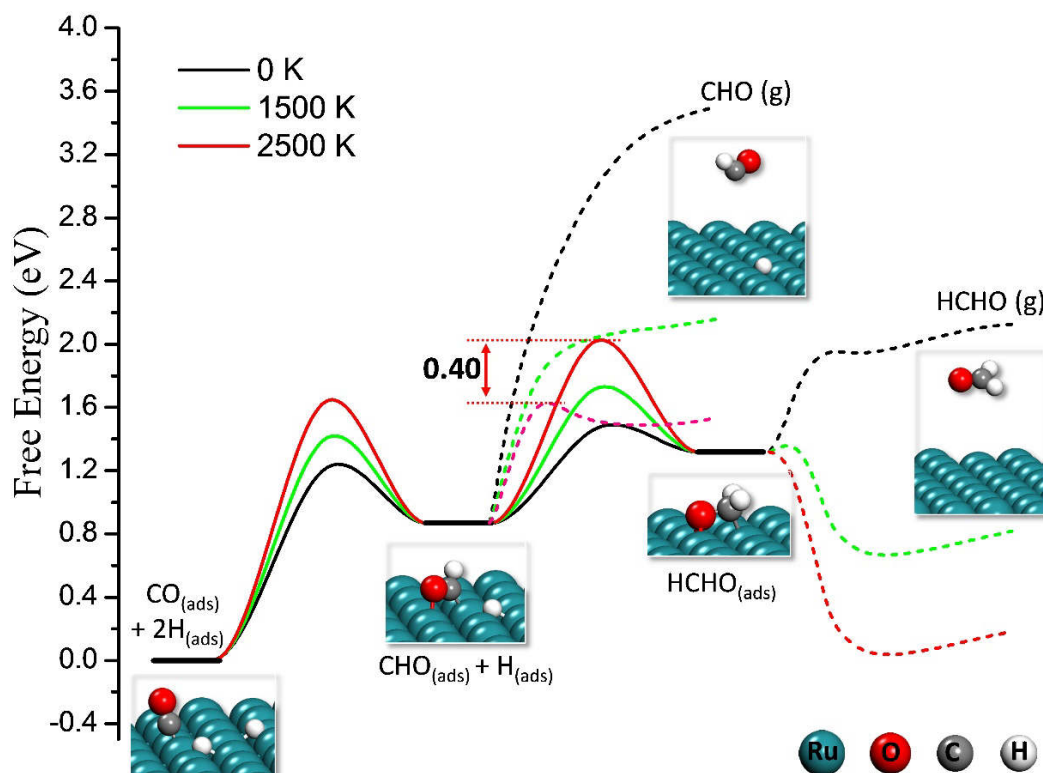


# Fast time scales ( $t < 4$ ps )



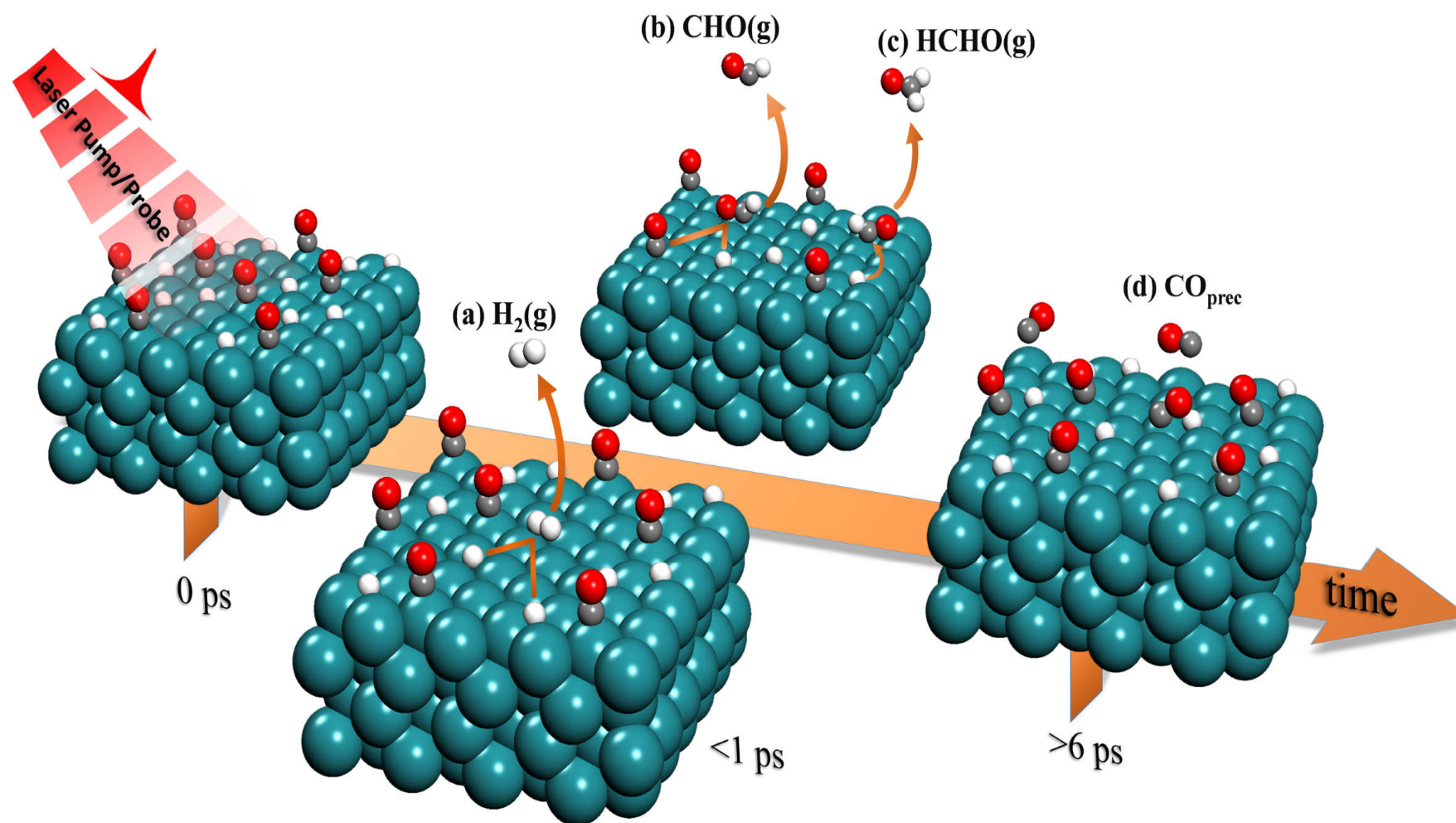
J. LaRue, O. Krejci, L. Yu, M. Beye, M. L. Ng, H. Öberg, H. Xin, G. Mercurio, S. Moeller, J. J. Turner, D. Nordlund, R. Coffee, M. P. Minitti, W. Wurth, L. G. M. Pettersson, H. Öström, A. Nilsson, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **8**, 3820 (2017)

# Free Energy Calculations CHO and CH<sub>2</sub>O Formation



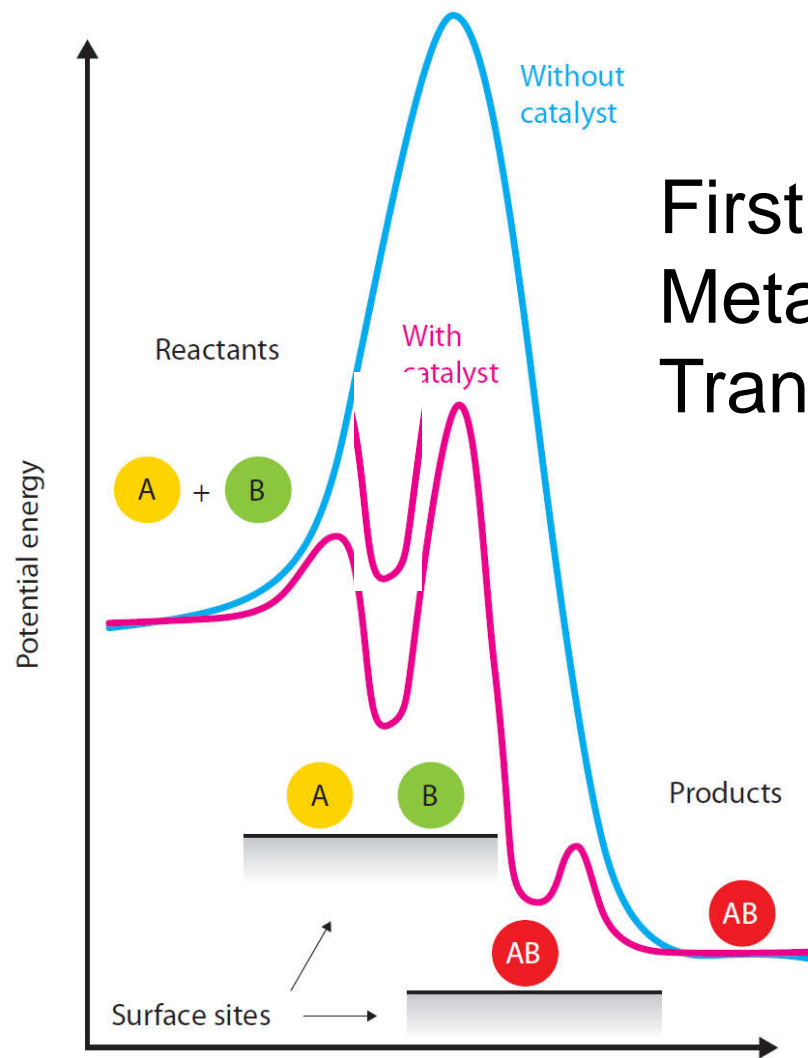
J. LaRue O. Krejci, L. Yu, M. Beye, M. L. Ng H. Öberg, H. Xin, G. Mercurio, S. Moeller, J. J. Turner, D. Nordlund, R. Coffee, M. P. Minitti, W. Wurth, L. G. M. Pettersson, H. Öström, A. Nilsson, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara J. Phys. Chem. Lett **8**, 3820 (2017)

# Mechanism



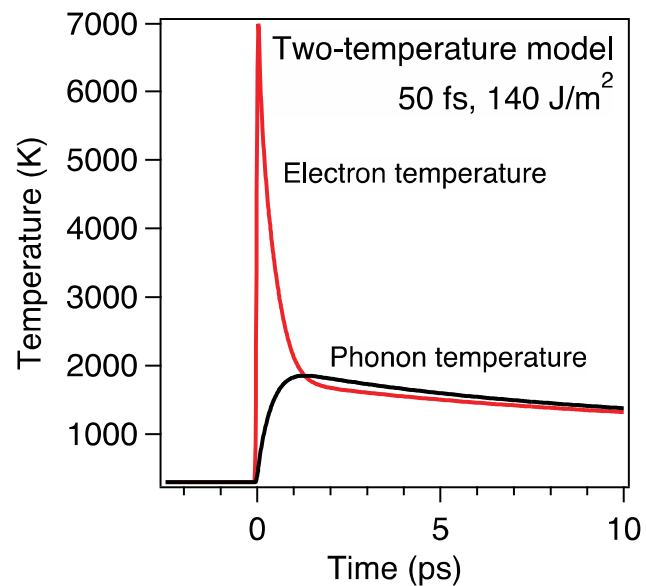
J. LaRue O. Krejci, L. Yu, M. Beye, M. L. Ng H. Öberg, H. Xin, G. Mercurio, S. Moeller, J. J. Turner, D. Nordlund, R. Coffee, M. P. Minitti, W. Wurth, L. G. M. Pettersson, H. Öström, A. Nilsson, F. Abild-Pedersen, H. Ogasawara J. Phys. Chem. Lett **8**, 3820 (2017)

# ☺ Probing Transient Intermediate ☺

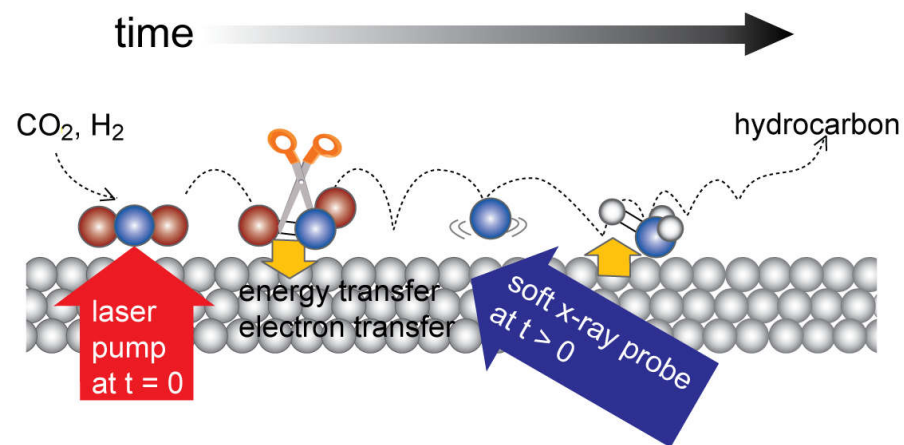


First time CHO is observed  
Metastable  
Transient Intermediate

# 400 nm fs-laser induced CO oxidation and hydrogenation on Ru(0001)

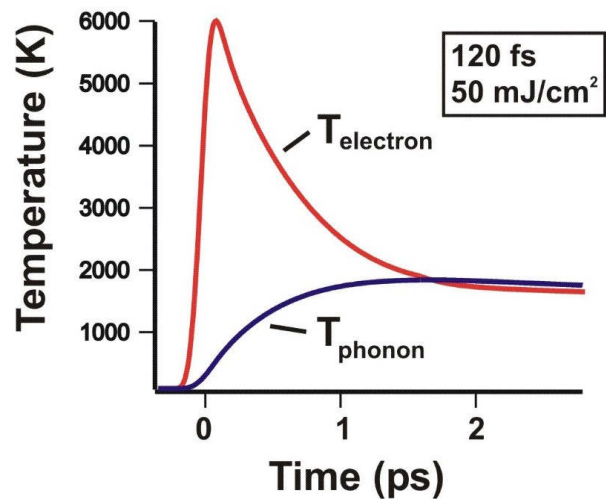
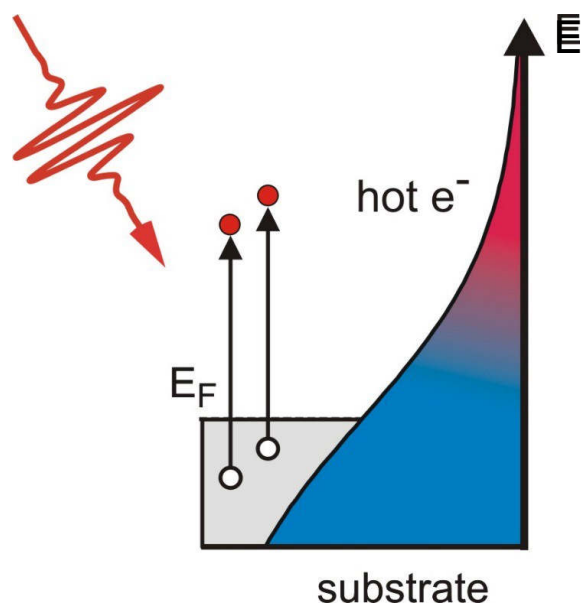


400 nm fs-laser pump  
↓  
<1ps electronic excitation  
↓  
>1ps phononic excitation



A. Nilsson, J. LaRue, H. Öberg, H. Ogasawara, M. Dell'Angela, M. Beye, H. Öström, J. Gladh, J.K. Nørskov, W. Wurth, F. Abild-Pedersen, L.G.M. Pettersson, Chem. Phys. Lett. **675**, 145 (2017)

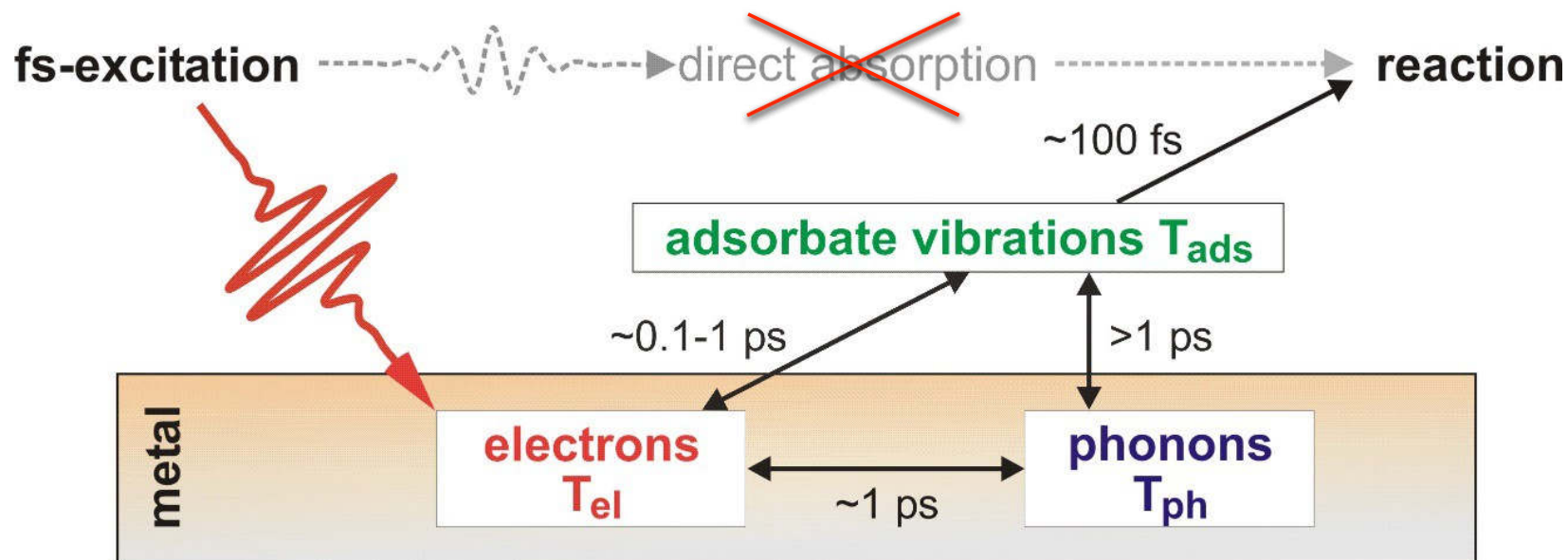
# Laser Stimulation



## Substrate mediated processes

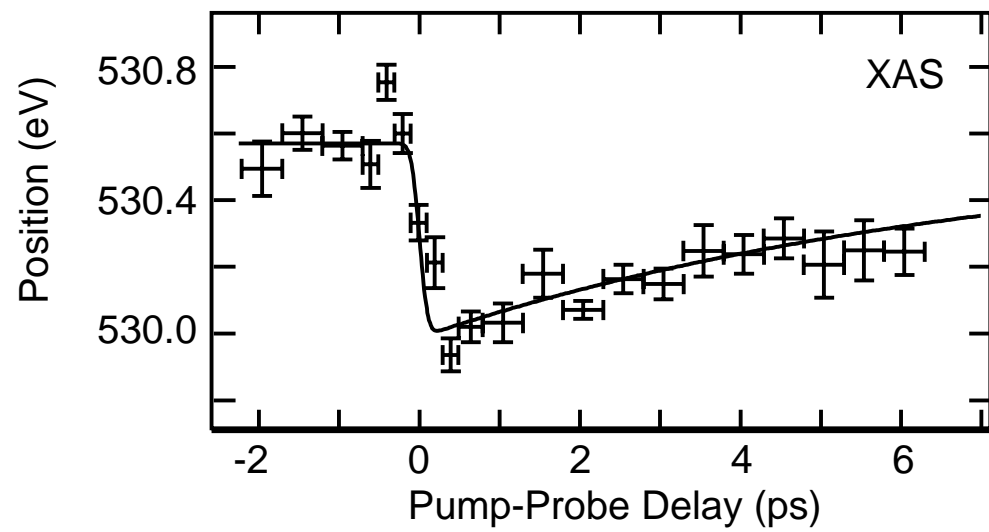
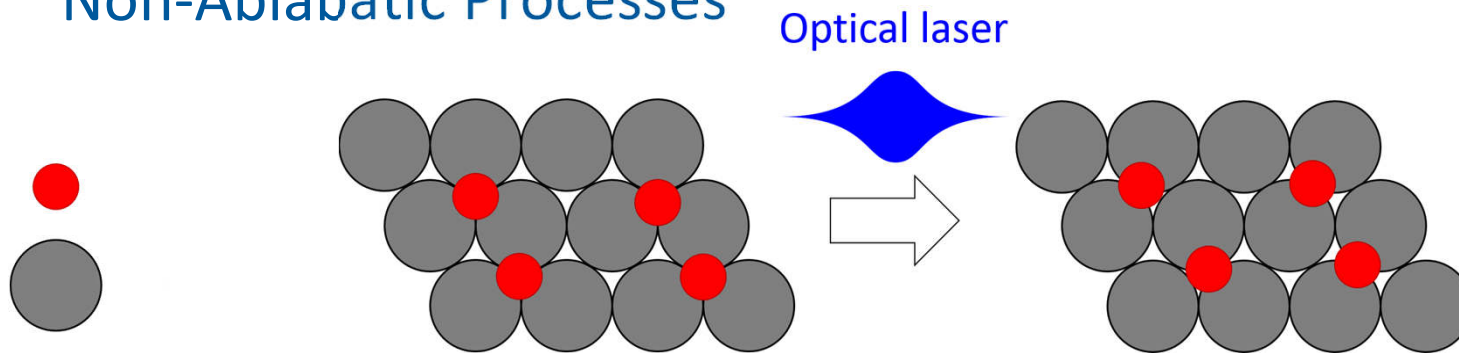
Role of...

- ? ...Non-thermalized electrons
- ? ...Thermalized electrons
- ? ...Phonons
- ? Direct excitation of the adsorbates/reactants possible



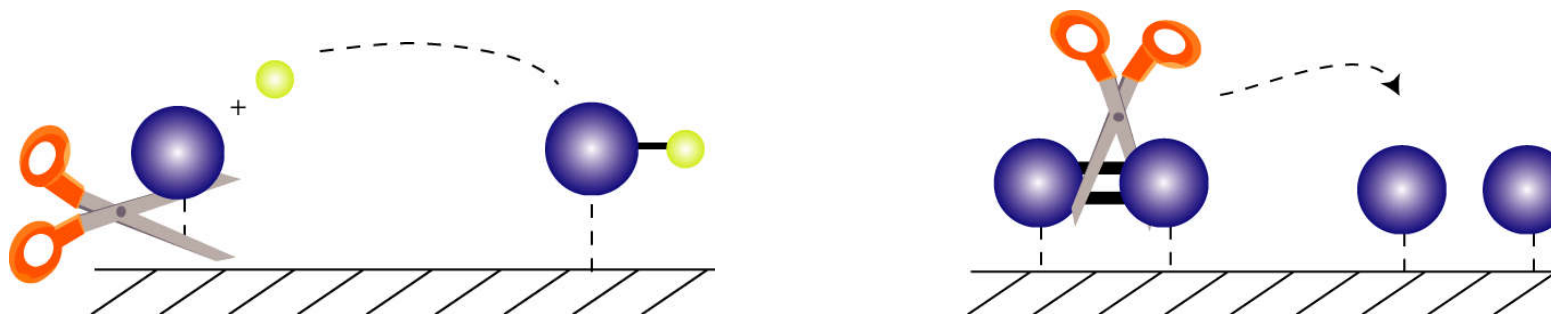
O/Ru

Very Fast Initial Rise – Equilibrated Hot Electrons or  
Non-Adiabatic Processes



M. Beye, H. Öberg, H. L. Xin, G. L. Dakovski, M. Dell'Angela, A. Föhlisch, J. Gladh, M. Hantschmann, F. Hieke, S. Kaya, D. Kühn, J. LaRue, G. Mercurio, M. P. Minitti, A. Mitra, S. P. Moeller, M. L. Ng, A. Nilsson, D. Nordlund, J. K. Nørskov, H. Öström, H. Ogasawara, M. Persson, W. F. Schlotter, J. A. Sellberg, M. Wolf, F. Abild-Pedersen, L. G. M. Pettersson, W. Wurth, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **7**, 3647 (2016)

# General reactivity balance



**Counter balance between atomic bond and molecular dissociation**

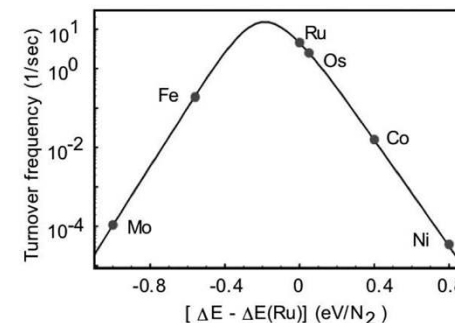
**General for many processes of importance for energy production and vital for our industrial society**

**We need to obtain a fundamental understanding of these elementary reactions !!!**

**Can we find ways to overcome the fundamental limitation of this balance?**

**Coherent control to go beyond peak in volcano?**

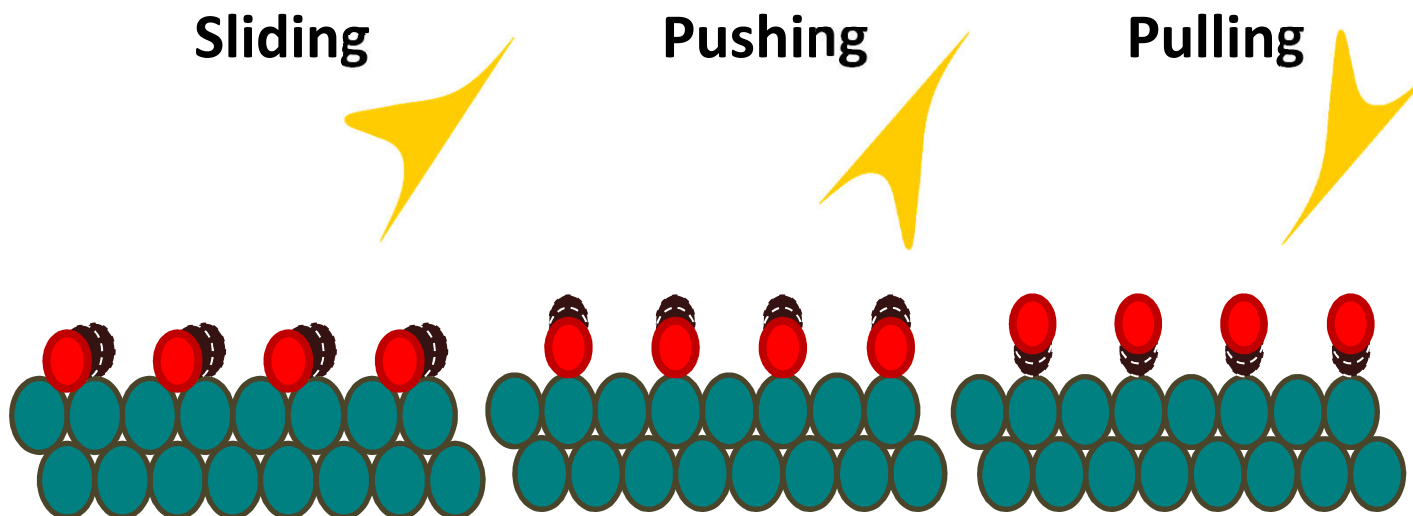
Logatottir, Rod, Nørskov, Hammer, Dahl, Jacobsen, *J. Catal.* 197, 229 (2001)



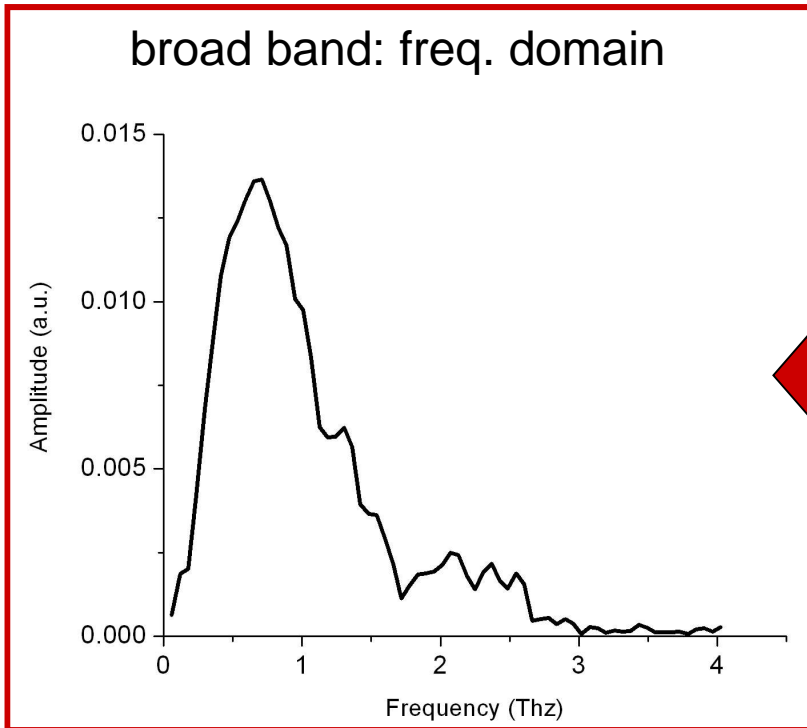
# Can we control reactivity by other means

## First Experiment

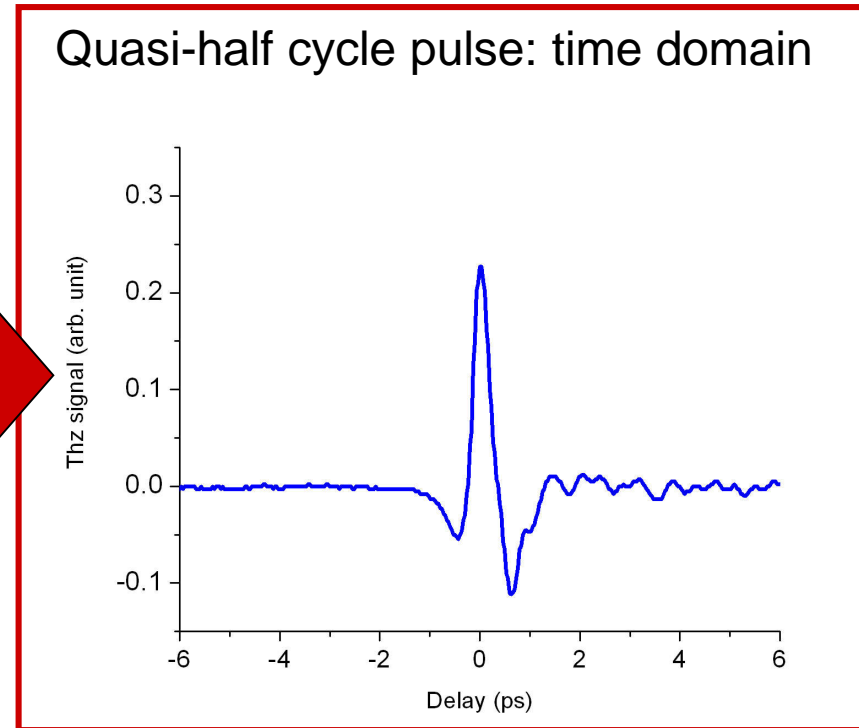
### THz radiation



# Coherent THz generation by ultrafast laser pulses

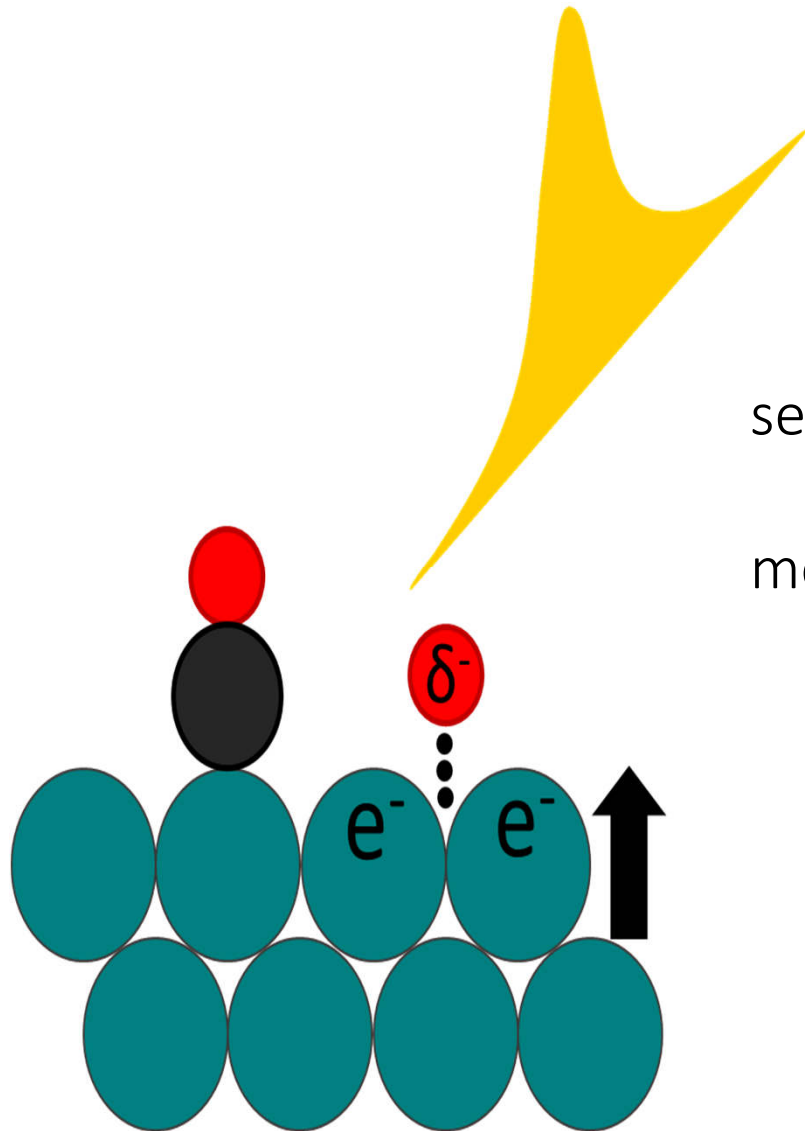


Femtosecond laser pulses are employed to generate THz pulses which have an extremely large bandwidth



Short THz pulses extend over only a few oscillation cycles are generated

# THz can induce CO oxidation

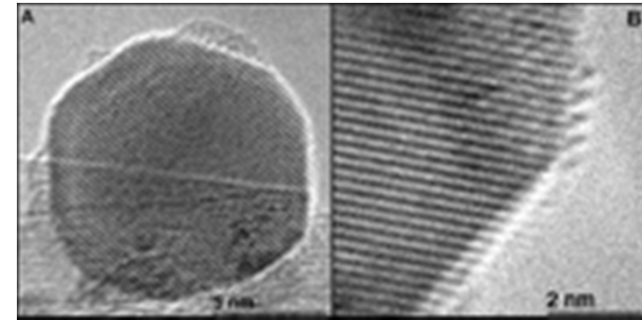


selectively exciting the O atom

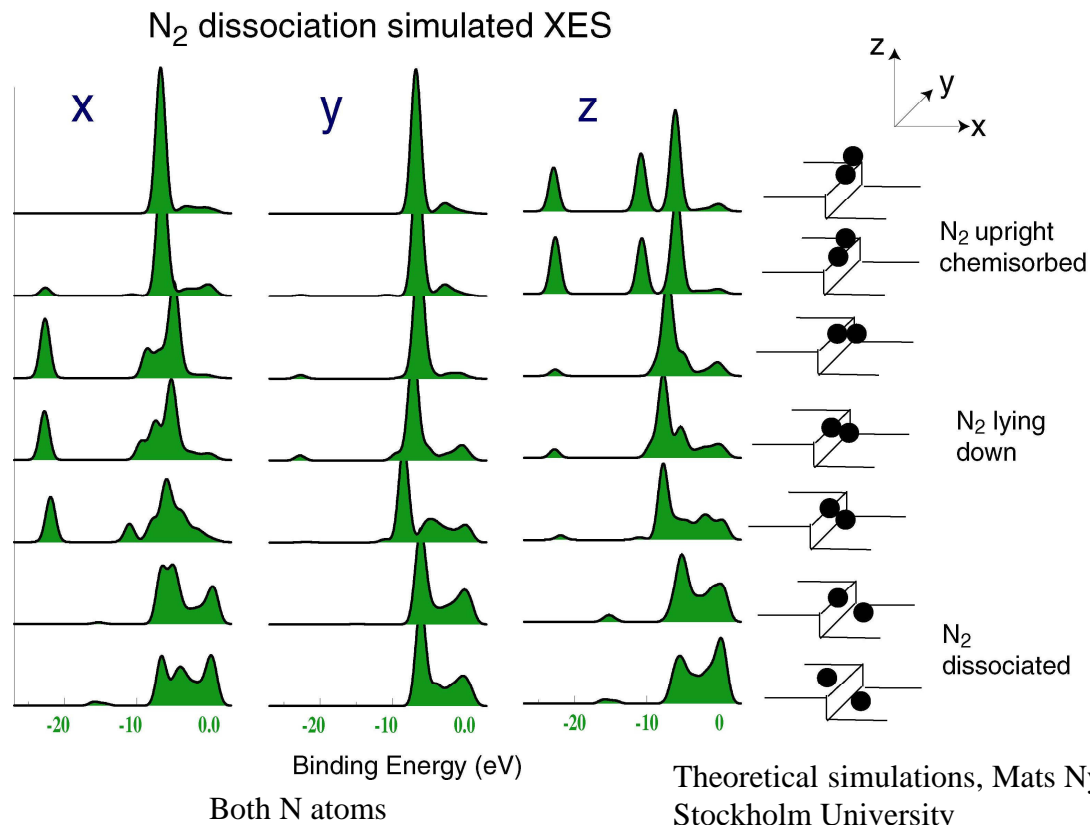
most likely through  $e^-$  polarization

# Accessing Active Sites on Nanoparticles

## Haber-Bosch

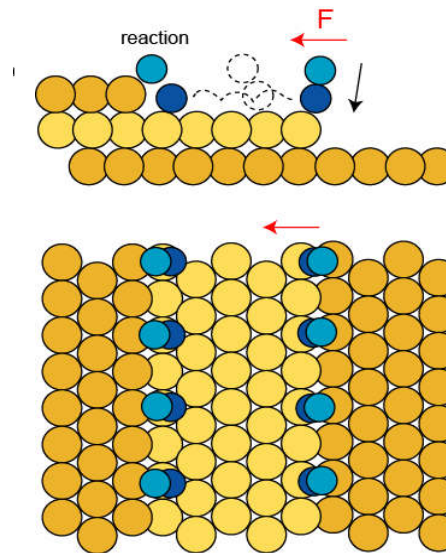


Hansen et.al. Science 294, 1508 (2001)



## New Ru Catalyst

### Active site at steps



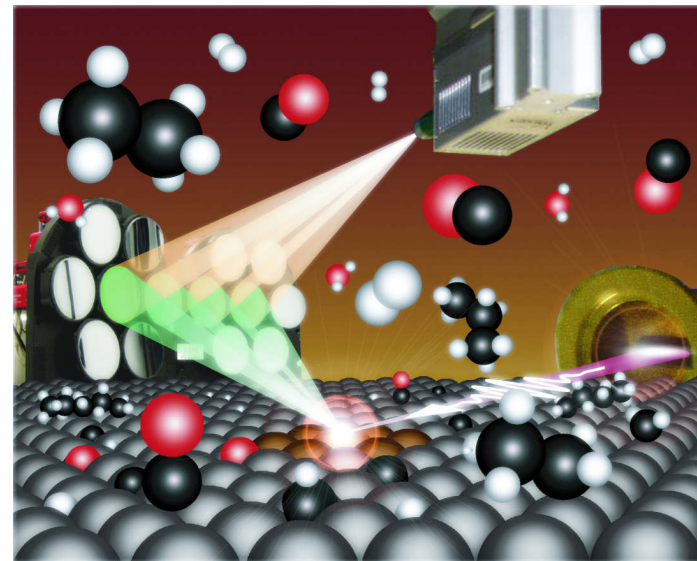
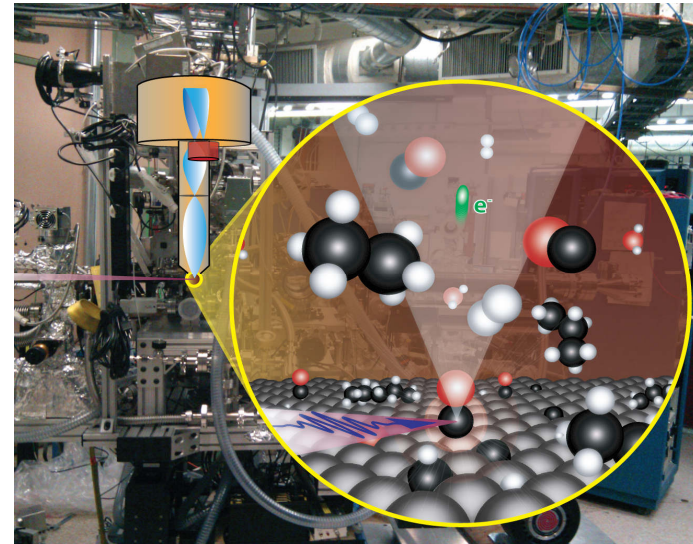
diffusion barrier <50 meV  
desorption barrier >500 meV

# In-situ or In-operando

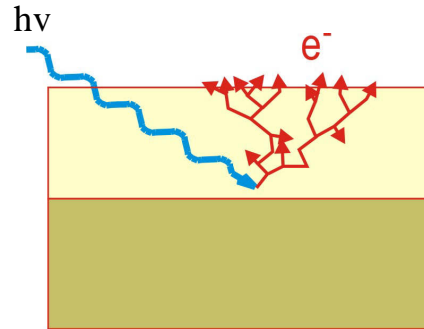
Record with ambient pressure XPS with 100 mbar

Hard x-ray ambient pressure XPS for 10 bar applications

In-situ Soft X-ray spectroscopy up to 1 bar



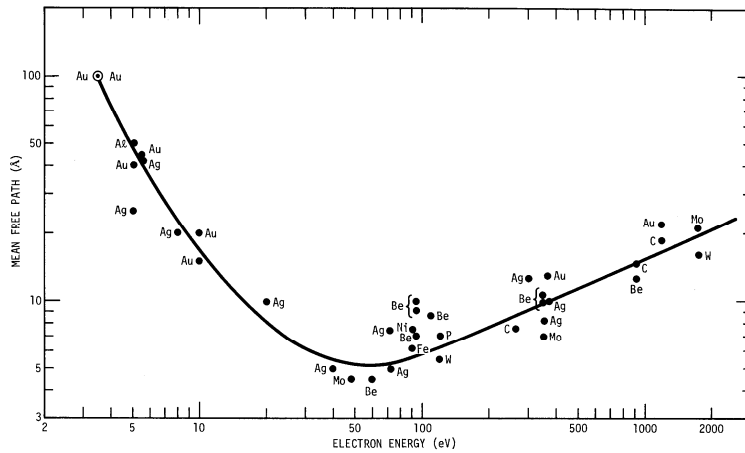
# Core Level Electron Spectroscopy



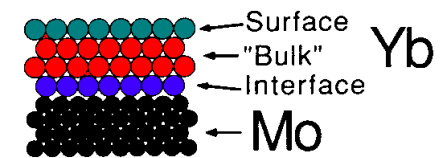
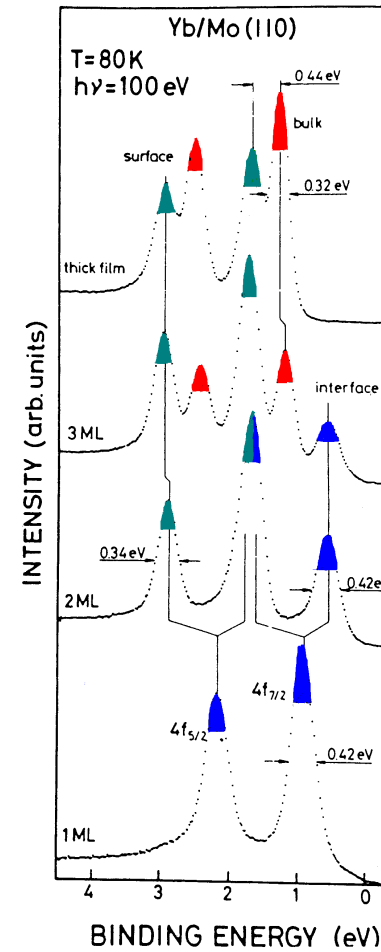
Electrons interact strongly

Surface Sensitivity

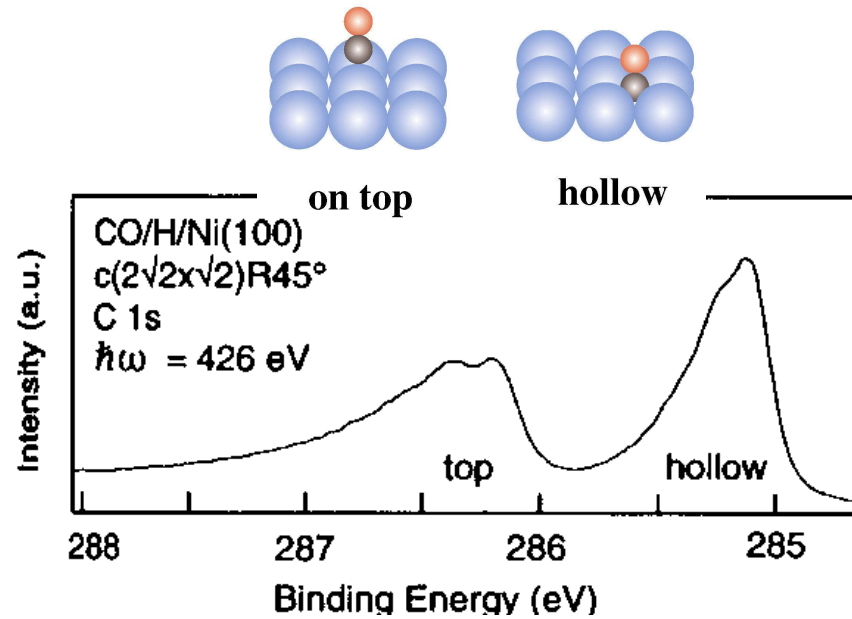
5-20 Å



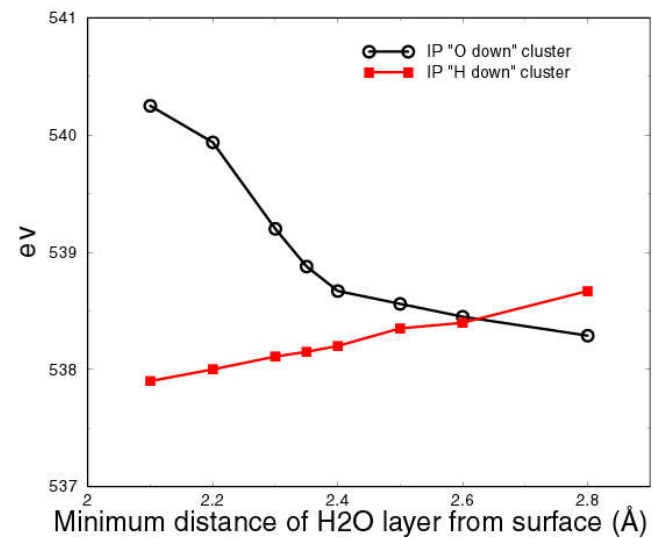
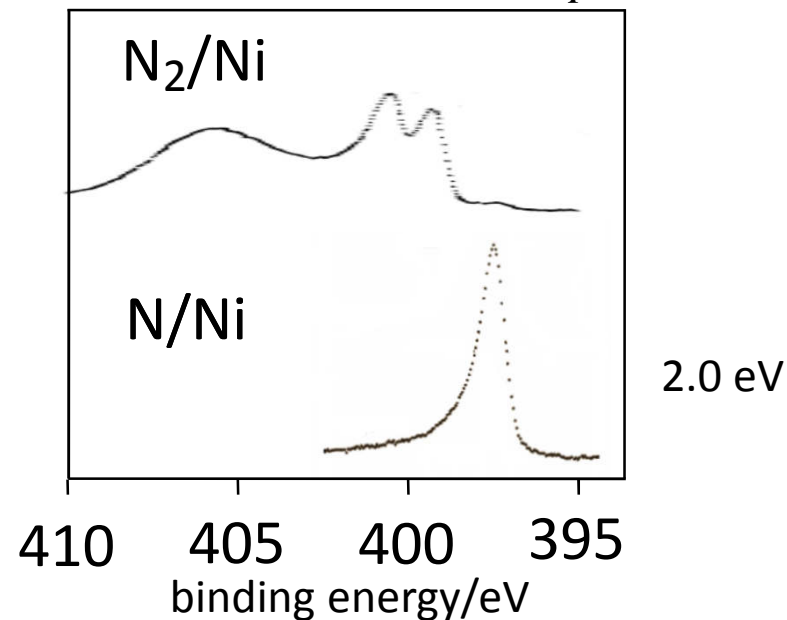
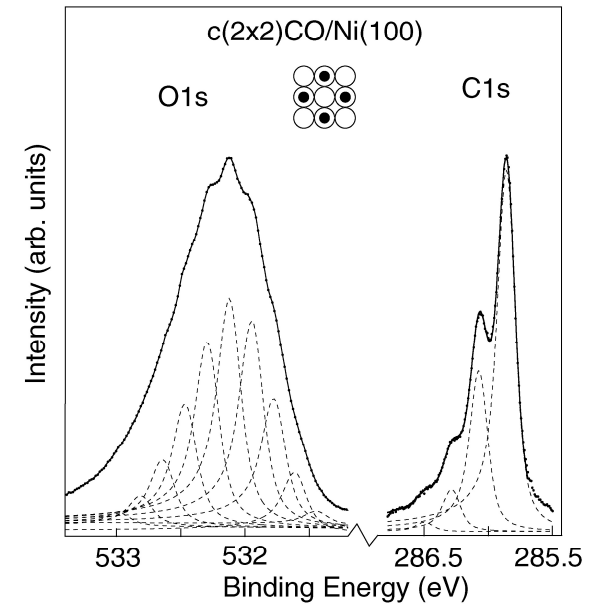
Dependent on electron kinetic energy



# Core Level Shifts and Geometry



*J. El spec.* **126**, 3 (2002)

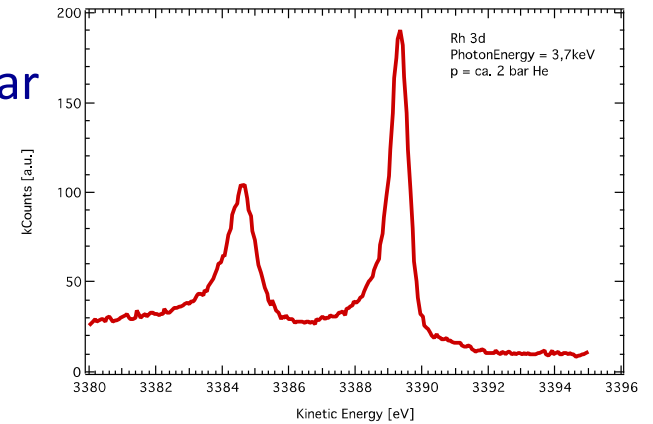
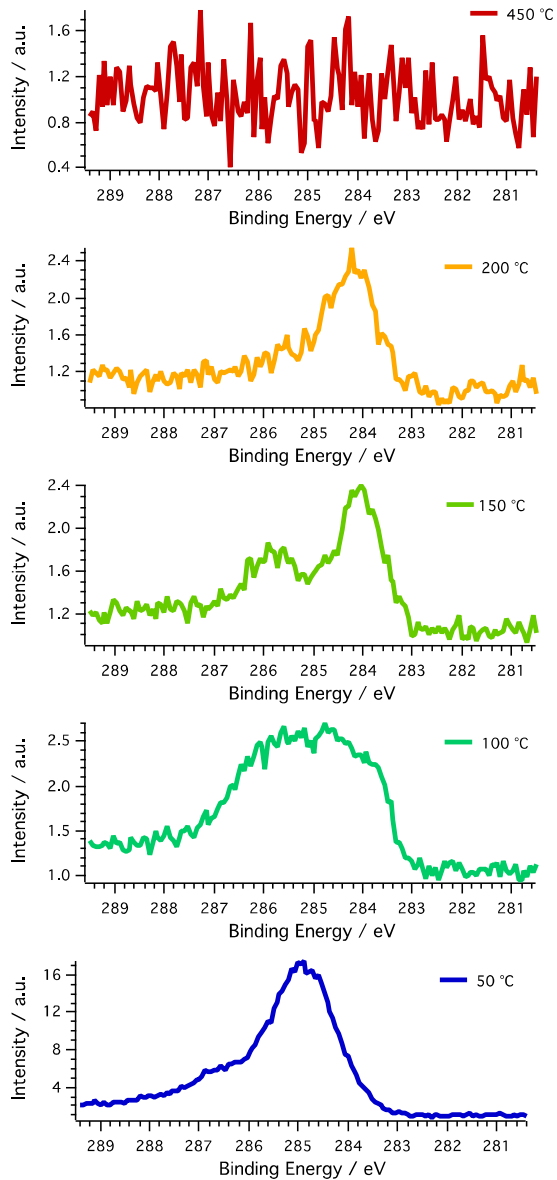


*Phys.Rev.Lett.* **89**, 276102 (2002)

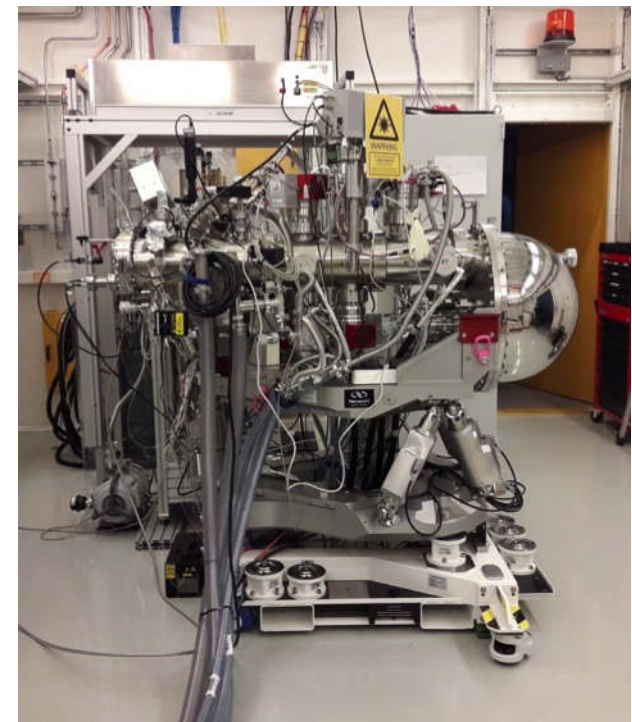
# High Pressure XPS

First catalysis using  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2$  on Rh(111) at  $p = 160$  mbar

Increasing temperature



XPS @ 2,5 bar / 450 °C

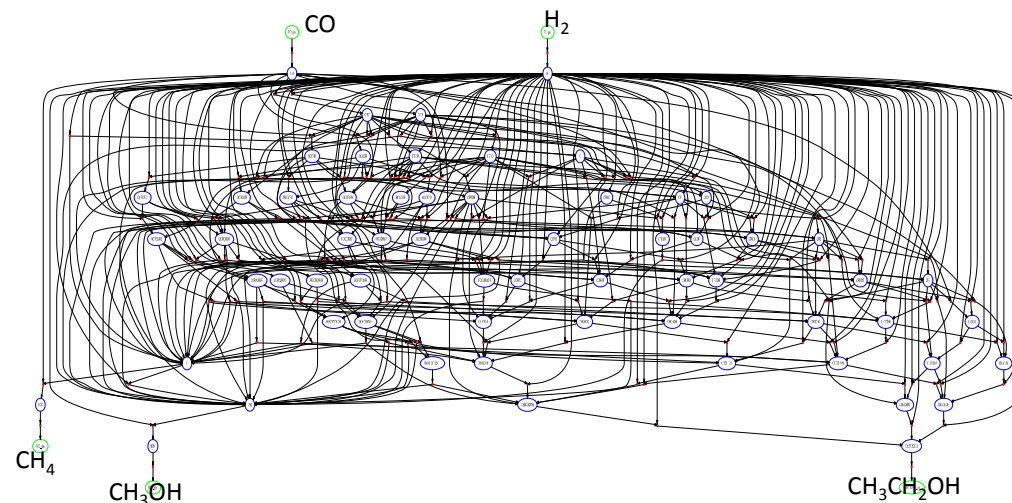
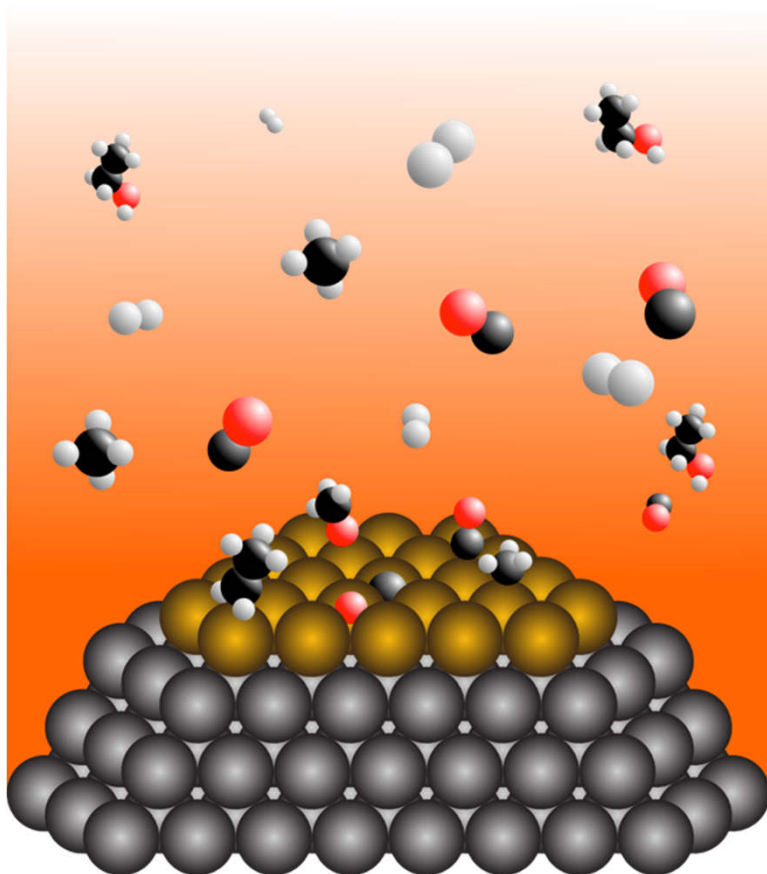


P. Amann et al. unpublished

# Catalysis: Dealing with complexity

**Need a Tool that is:**

- **Chemical Sensitive**
- **Surface Sensitive**
- **Can work under realistic conditions**



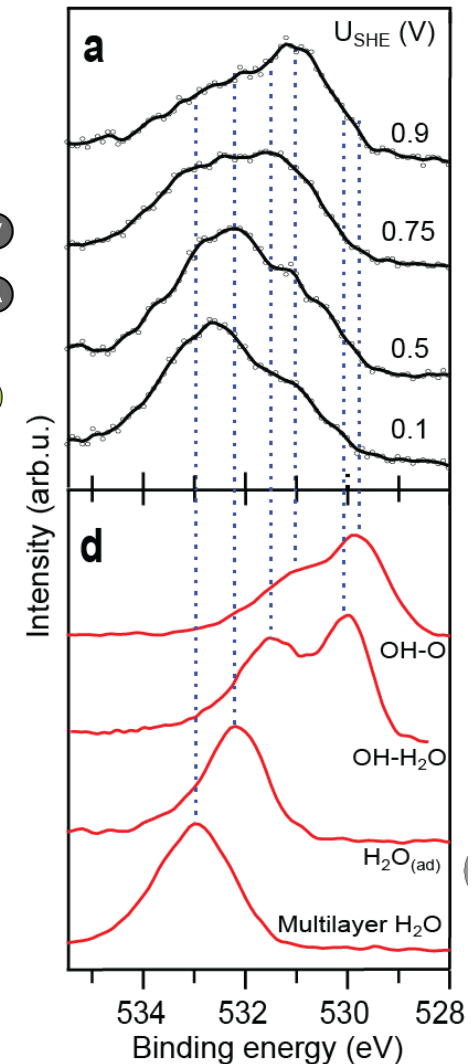
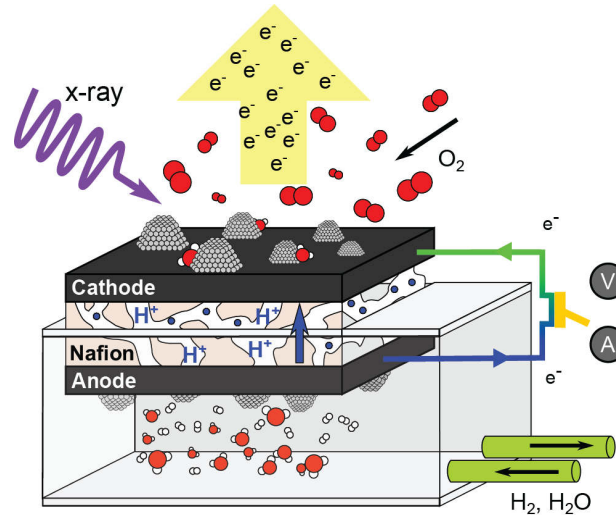
100+ species  
200+ reactions  
2000+ unique pathways

Medford, Ulissi, Hummelshøj,  
Bligaard, Nørskov (2016)

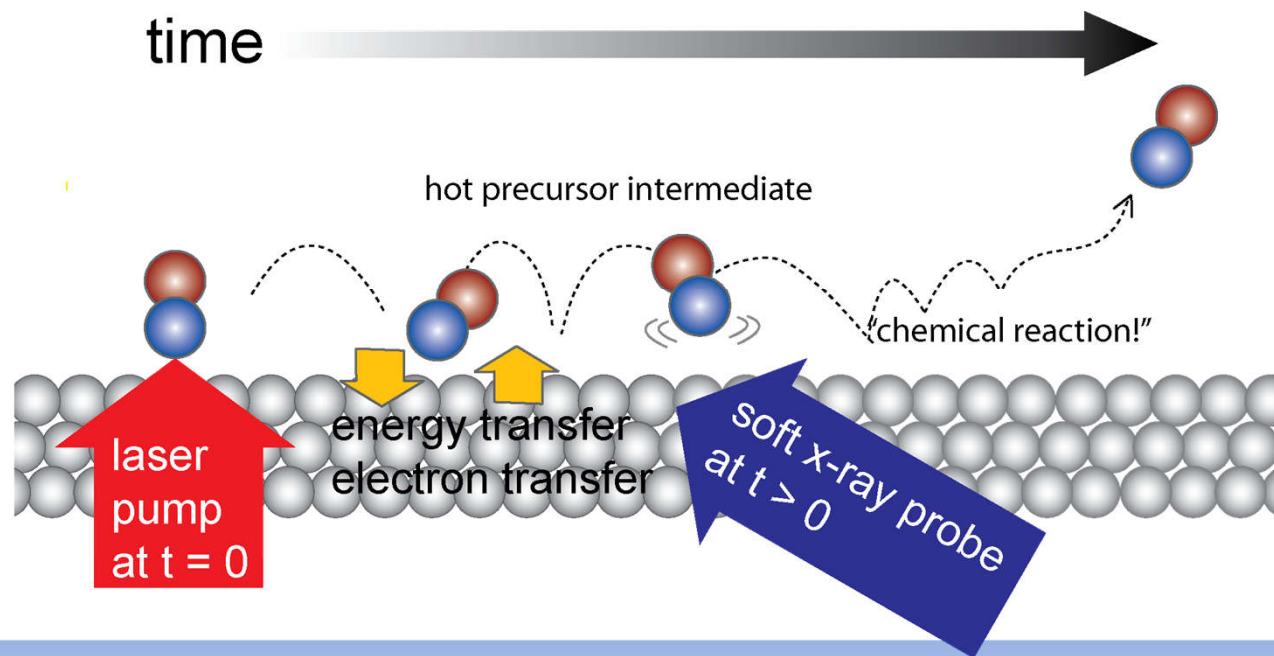
# Electro Catalysis

## XPS of operating PEMFC

- direct observation of key O/OH intermediates
- Surface sensitivity
- complexity of nanoparticle surfaces
- Water splitting
- Artificial photosynthesis
- Batteries



# New Era in Probing Catalysis



- First surface chemical reactions with LCLS
- Proof of principle

Precursor to CO desorption in a weakened surface chemical bond

Transition State with CO—O interaction in CO oxidation

- $\text{H} + \text{CO} \rightarrow \text{HCO}$ , Fischer-Tropsch, ammonia synthesis, etc.
- Higher pressure ( $\sim 100$  torr), solid-liquid interfaces, photocatalysis
- Shorter FEL pulses, THz radiation control
- “Chemical Physicists dream”

# Facility

- Soft x-ray undulator with monochromator  $\Delta E \approx 0.2$  eV covering C, N, O K and 3d TM L-edges
- Variable polarization
- Dedicated station for XAS, RIXS with both UHV and operando
- Essential to develop efficient detection schemes
- Hard X-ray Line for High Pressure XPS
- Diffraction but this could be done at FXE
- Short pulses  $\approx 1$  fs to investigate electron dynamics
- THz pump
- Staff with knowledge in FEL science geared towards catalysis to support unexperienced FEL users