A short introduction to physics and chemistry at crystalline surfaces

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outline

- surfaces: metals, semiconductors, oxides, 2D materials
- 1. catalysis
- 2. nanostructures at graphene

DFT and experiments in surface science

Common crystal structures

Common metallic crystal structures



Common metal surfaces



Common metal surfaces



hcp(0001)



fcc





FCC(111)







hcp(0001)





side

top

B A B



Defects at metal surfaces

stepped surface



terrace atom



Atoms with reduced coordination number

terrace atom

Atomic Simulation Environment (ASE): https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase

Slab model of surfaces



surface energy

$$\gamma = \frac{\mathrm{E(slab, N)} - \mathrm{N} \cdot \mathrm{E(bulk)}}{2\mathrm{A}}$$

clear correlation between surface energy and the number of broken NN bonds



work function

Catalysis



dissociative chemisorption





Catalysts



Technical conditions: $T \approx 400^{\circ}$ C, $p \approx 300$ bar promoted iron catalyst

BASE S6-10 catalyst [at %]

	Fe	к	AI	Са	ο	
Bulk composition Surface –	40.5	0.35	2.0	1.7	53.2	
unreduced	8.6	36.2	10.7	4.7	40.0	
reduced	11.0	27.0	17.0	4.0	41.0	
cat. active spot	30.1	29.0	6.7	1.0	33.2	

Ammonia synthesis – industrial catalyst

very complicated structure

O at Ru(0001)



G. Ertl, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 47, 3524 (2008).

>make a simple model

Gerhard Ertl, Nobel prize in Chemistry 2007

"for his studies of chemical processes on solid surfaces".

Catalysts: transition and noble metals



Theory of chemisorption

adatoms on transition-metal surfaces



Newns-Anderson model

Phys. Rev. 178, 1123 (1969).



d-band model

Hammer-Norskov (d-band) model



d-band center

 $\epsilon_d = \frac{\int \text{DOS}(\mathbf{E}) \mathbf{E} d\mathbf{E}}{\int \text{DOS}(\mathbf{E}) d\mathbf{E}}$

Understanding trends in reactivity based on a single parameter

use it only for similar adsorption geometries!



d-band model

reactivity of different metals H at metal surfaces



The "same" metal oxygen adatom on Pd monolayers





similar adsorption geometries!



d-band model

SH@Au(17 11 9) "on-top" geometry

structural defects – trends in reactivity







Defects at metal surfaces

DFT: O2 dissociation on stepped Pt(111) steps Ag-covered steps



 $n = n_0 e^{-E_a/kT}$

Atoms at steps billion times more reactive than terrace sites

terraces

Defects at metal surfaces



O₂ dissociation on Pt



Atoms at steps billion times more reactive than terrace sites

lead poisoning of catalysts

N₂ dissociation on Ru



Special sites (defects) control reactivity

Graphite and graphene







thickness of graphite left by a pencil writing on paper is ~20 nm 50 to 60 graphene layers



K. Novoselov and A. Geim, Nobel prize in Physics 2010

"for groundbreaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene."

Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM)



Ag(100)



2.5 пт х 2.5 пт на 160 К



Fe atoms on Cu

Hydrogen atoms on graphite





STM images

PRL 96, 156104 (2006)

two types of hydrogen structures

STM results

H adatom



DFT used to search for favorable configuration of H adatoms

Let's start wit TWO H atoms



unknown structures





H dimers

e.



ortho dimer

 $E_{\rm B} = 2.7 \, {\rm eV}$

DFT

experiment

para dimer



DFT can be use to simulate STM images and compare them with those obtained from STM imaging

DFT can be used to simulate STM images

experiment

Tersoff-Hamann scheme - local density of states n (r,E)

Hydrogen atoms on graphite

Temperature programmed desorption (TPD)

different desorption barriers

associative desorption

para dimer

NEB used to calculate barriers

direct process: $O \rightarrow H_2$ occurs at 470K

associative desorption

ortho dimer

direct process: $O \rightarrow H_2$ does not occur

associative desorption

ortho dimer

process: $O \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow H_2$ occurs at 600K

DFT in surface science

- structural properties of surface
- adsorption geometries, nanostructures

- chemical reactions
- > DFT and STM, TPD, ...

