
The Material Development of Ethanol Reformers and Solid Oxide Fuel Cells in the Green Energy Research

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Outline

- **Introduction:**
- **Methodology**
 - Hybrid experimental/computational method
- **Current results:**
 - Ethanol reformers
 - Hydrogen solid oxide fuel cells
- **Future work**
 - How if we nanoize the materials

Introduction: Alternative energy resources

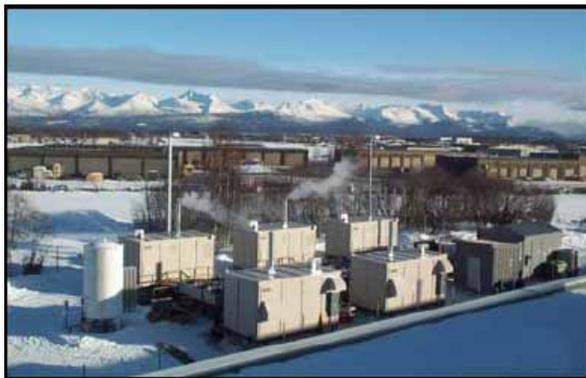
Problem: The recent **soaring oil price** and the appreciation of the **green house effect** have led to the general public's awareness of the detrimental outcome from the world's addiction to fossil fuels

Solution: **fuel cells** are considered as the **cleanest, most efficient** and **versatile** system for chemical to electrical energy conversion

Applications: in various scales

large ←

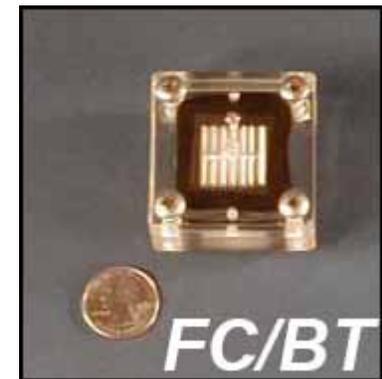
→ small



Power station



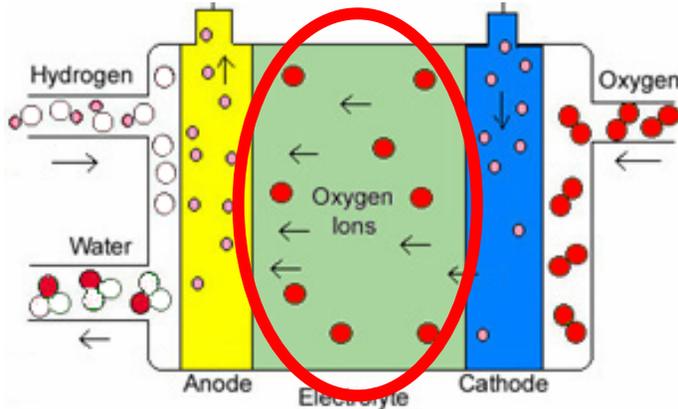
Low emission vehicle



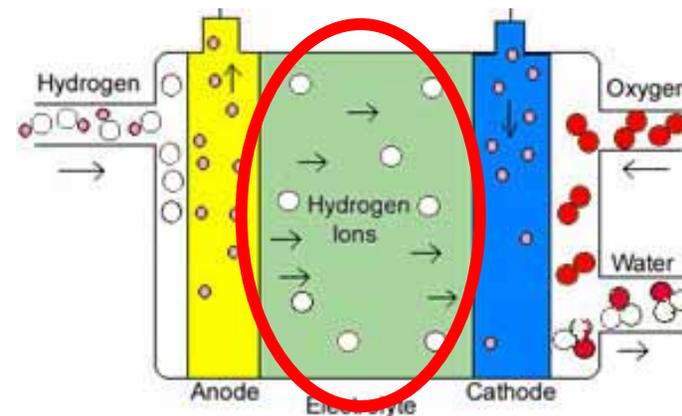
Portable devices

Introduction: Alternative energy resources

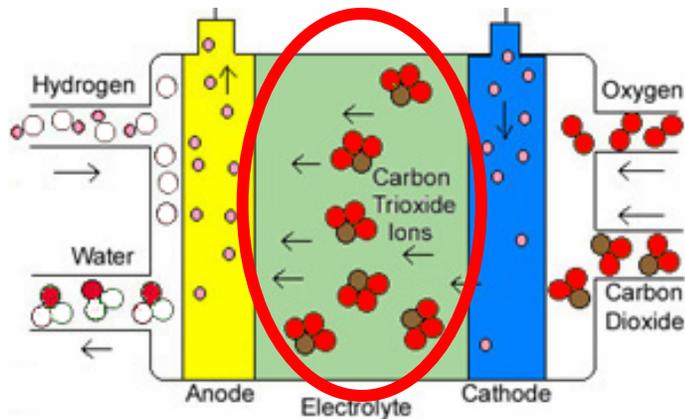
Types of Fuel cells: Conductive ions of O^{2-} , CO_3^{2-} , H^+ and OH^-



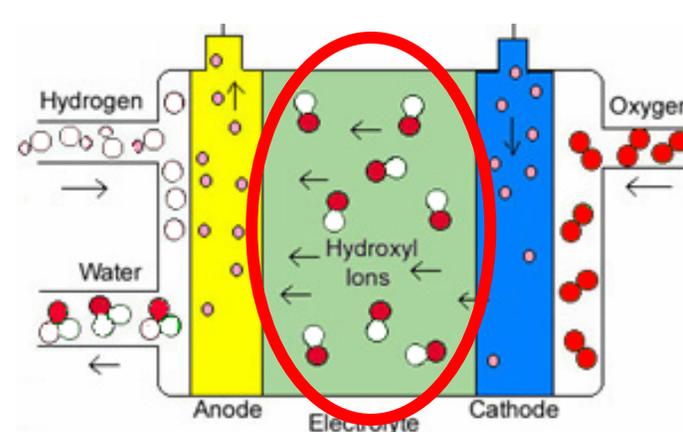
Solid oxide (SOFC): 500 ~ 1000 °C



Polymeric electrolyte membrane (PEMFC) Phosphoric acid (PAFC): ~ 200 °C



Molten carbonate (MCFC): ~650 °C



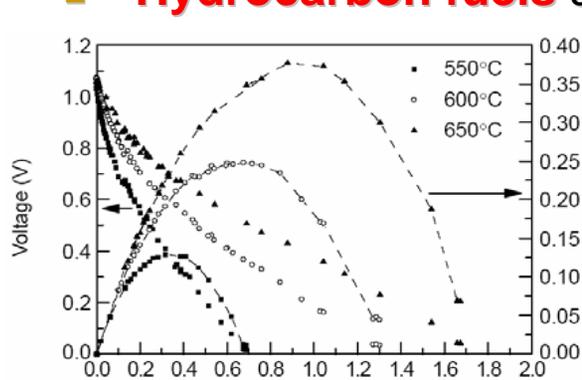
Alkaline (AFC): ~ 70 °C

Steele, B. C.; Helnzal, A.; *Nature*, **414**, 345 (2001)

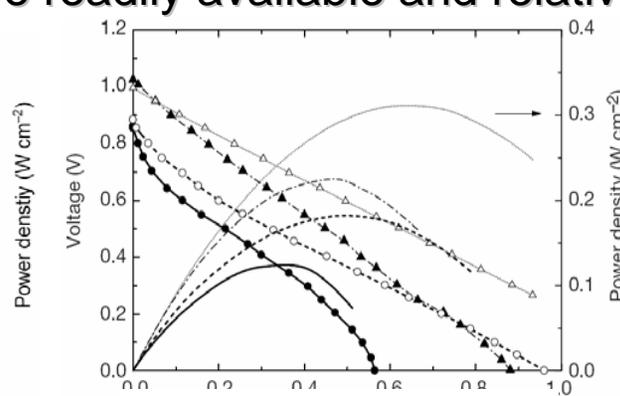
Introduction: Alternative energy resources

SOFC with hydrocarbon fuel:

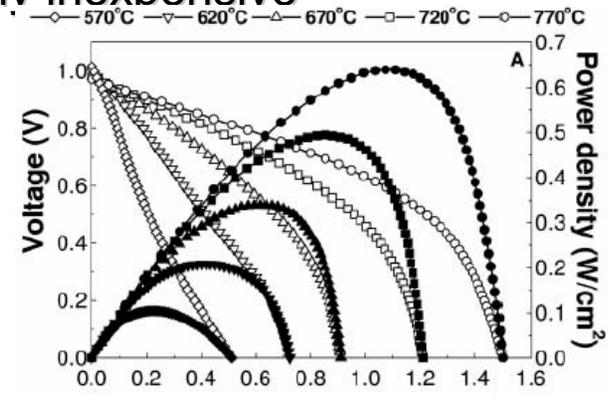
- SOFC can operate at high temperature and has excellent fuel flexibility;
- Hydrocarbon fuels are readily available and relatively inexpensive



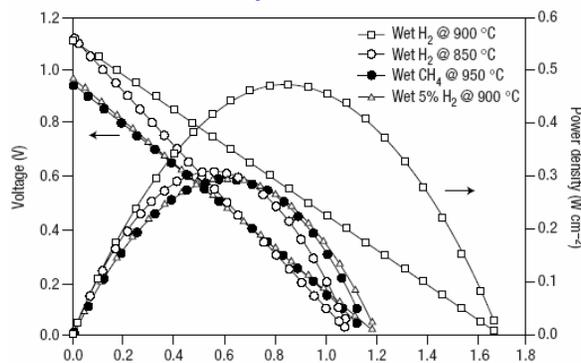
Y-CeO₂; methane¹
650 °C; 0.38 W/cm²



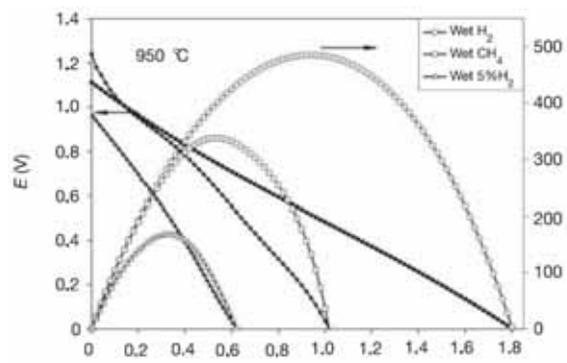
(Cu,Sm)-CeO₂; butane²
800 °C; 0.19 W/cm²



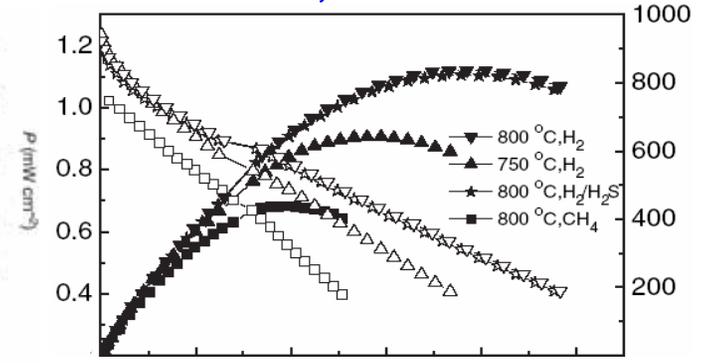
Ru-CeO₂; octane³
770 °C; 0.66 W/cm²



(La,Sr)(Cr,Mn)O_{3-d}; methane⁴
950 °C; 0.3 W/cm²



(La,Sr)(Ti,Mn,Ga)O_{3-d}; methane⁵
950 °C; 0.5 W/cm²



Sr(MgMo)O_{3-d}; methane⁶
800 °C; 0.4 W/cm²

¹ Murry, E. P.; Tsai, T.; Barnett, S. A.; *Nature*, **400**, 649 (1999)

² Park, S.; Vohs, J. M.; Gorte, R. J.; *Nature*, **404**, 265 (2000)

³ Zhan, Z.; Barnett, S. A.; *Science*, **308**, 844 (2005)

⁴ Tao, S.; Irvine, J. T. S.; *Nature Materials*, **2**, 320 (2003)

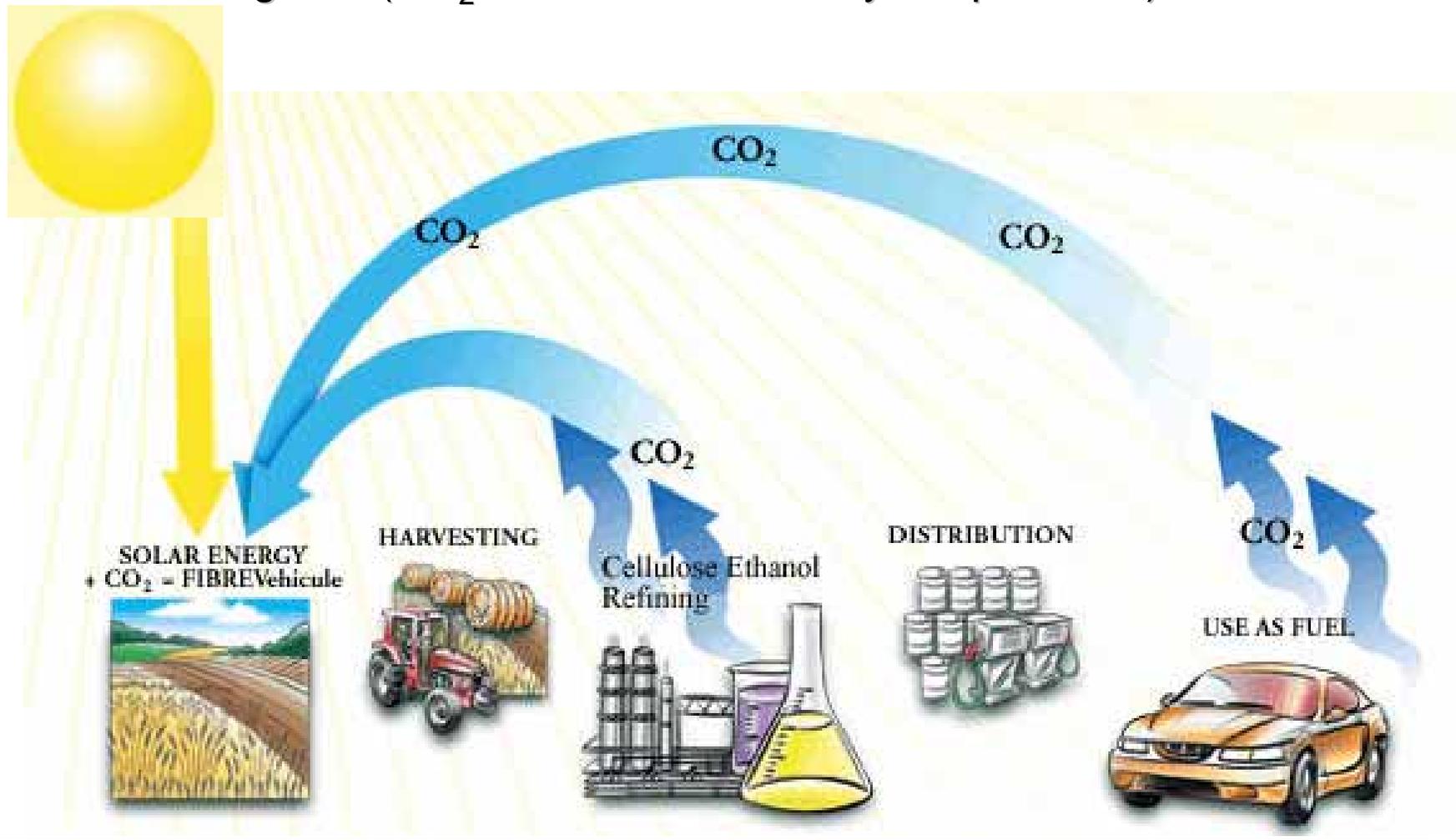
⁵ Ruiz-Morales, J. C.; Canales-Vazquez, J.; Savaniu, C.; Marrero-Lopez, D.; Zhou, W. Irvine, J. T. S.; *Nature*, **439**, 568 (2006)

⁶ Huang, Y. H.; Dass, R. I.; Xing, Z. L.; Goodenough, J. B.; *Science* **312**, 254 (2006)

Introduction: The green energy

SOFC with ethanol:

- Ethanol is green (CO_2 will be consumed by the producer)

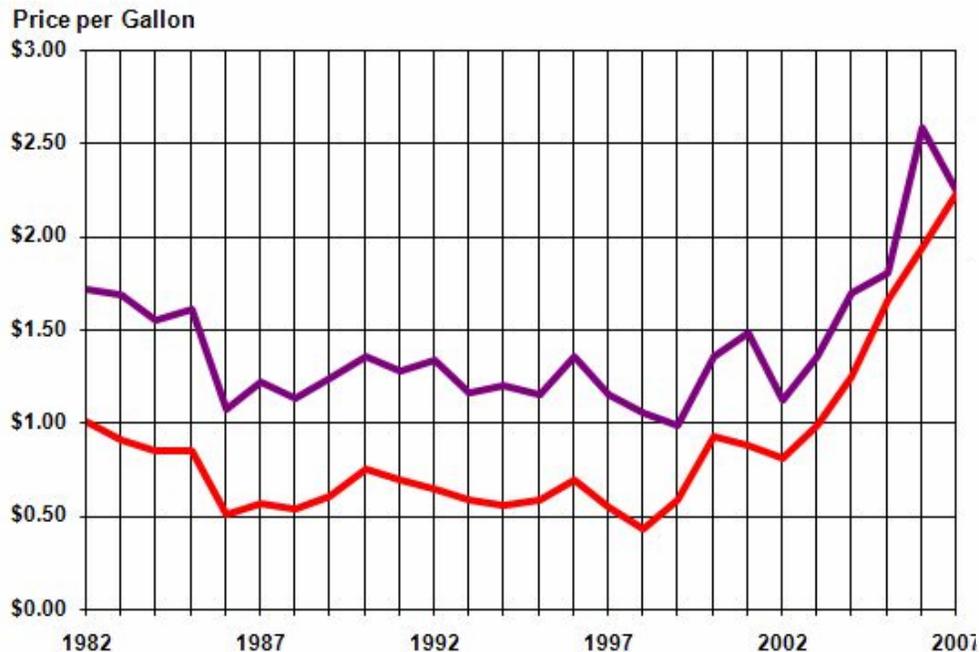


Wang, M.; The Debate on Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impacts of Fuel Ethanol. <http://www.transportation.anl.gov/> Center for Transportation Research Energy Systems Division, Argonne National Laboratory (2005)

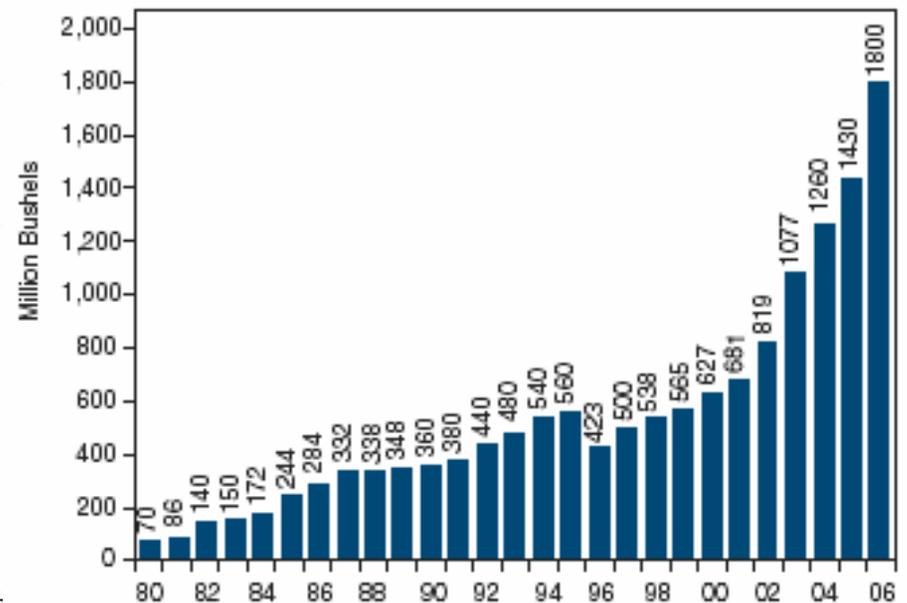
Introduction: The green energy

SOFC with ethanol

- It is readily available from industrial processes
- The cost for production will be even cheaper than gasoline



Costs of ethanol and gasoline



Ethanol production

Wang, M.; The Debate on Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impacts of Fuel Ethanol.

<http://www.transportation.anl.gov/>

Center for Transportation Research Energy Systems Division, Argonne National Laboratory (2005)

Introduction: Green power generators

→ **Challenge:** The development of materials with **better conversion efficiency**, **longer chemical stability** and **lower fabrication cost**

$$\text{WTW efficiency}^1 = \text{WTT efficiency} \times \text{TTW efficiency}$$

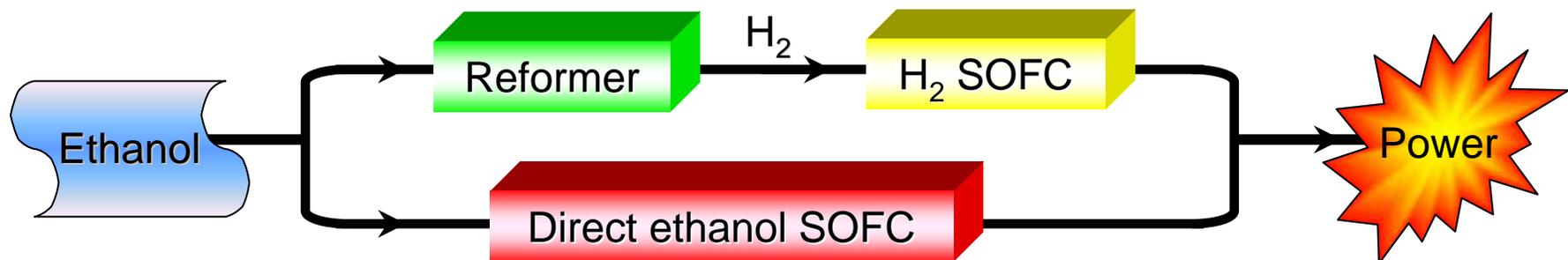
C_xH_y fuels < 22%	< 84%	Combustion engine < 16% ²
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H_2 fuel < 29 %	< 58%	H_2 -SOFC < 50%
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Biomass fuels	< 75% (ethanol)	Hydrocarbon-SOFC < 25% ³
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Our research:

- **Ethanol Reformer:** improve WTT efficiency of H_2 fuel
- **Direct ethanol SOFC:** improve TTW efficiency of fuel cells



1. Well-to-Wheel Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Advanced Fuel/Vehicle Systems. General Motors, Argonne National Laboratory, BP, Exxon Mobile and Shell, 2001.

2. "Toyota Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicle"; (2004) <http://www.toyota.co.jp/en/tech/environment/fchv/fchv11.html>.

3. Z. Zhan, S. A. Barnett: "An Octane-Fueled Solid Oxide Fuel Cell"; Science 308 (2005) 844.

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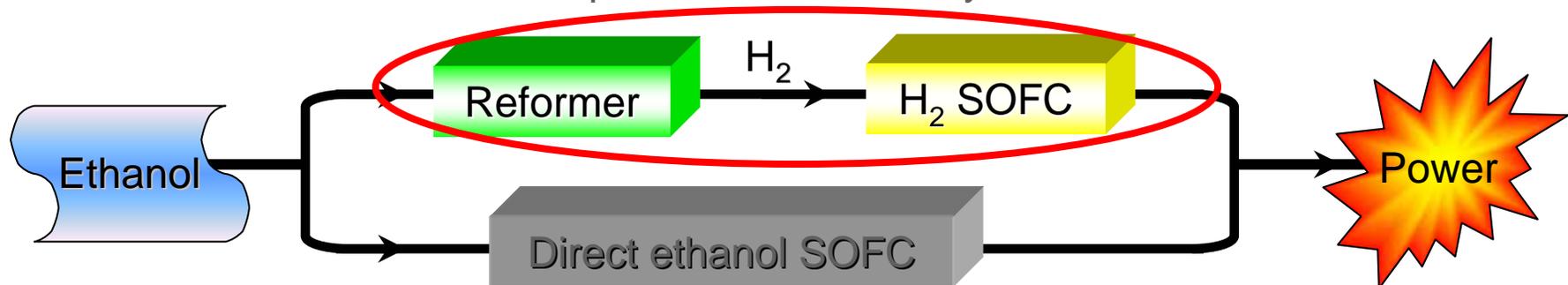
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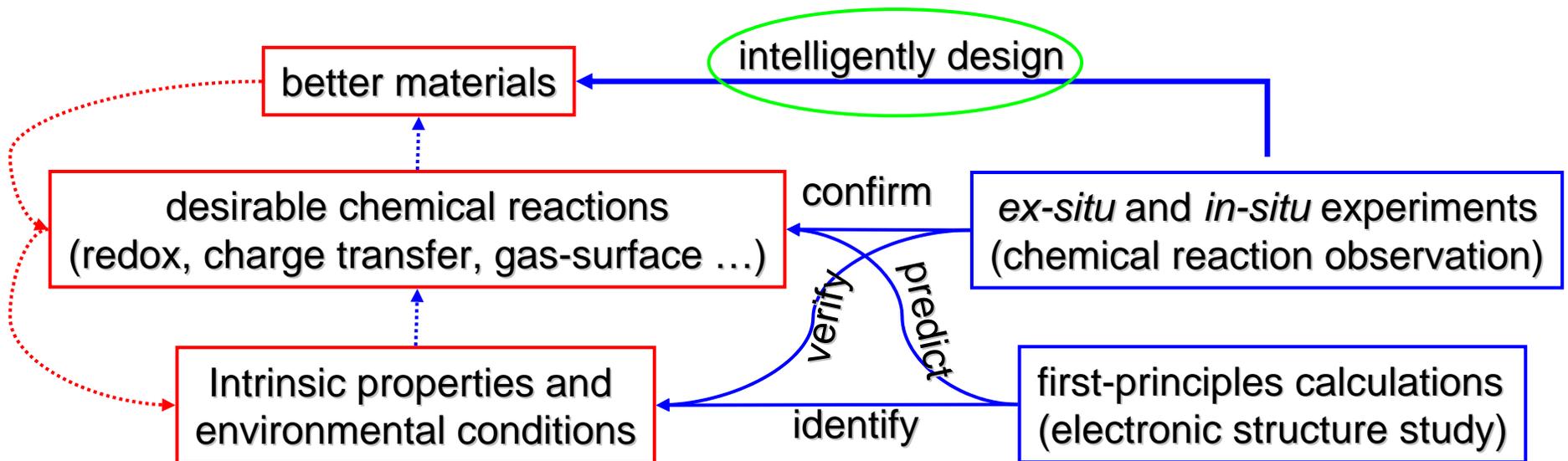
2. "Toyota Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicle"; (2004) <http://www.toyota.co.jp/en/tech/environment/fchv/fchv11.html>.

3. Z. Zhan, S. A. Barnett: "An Octane-Fueled Solid Oxide Fuel Cell"; Science 308 (2005) 844.

Methodology: Hybrid experiments & computation

Techniques

- Experiments: *ex-situ* and *in-situ* experiments
 - *Ex-situ* characterization: XRD, SEM, EDX, TEM
 - *In-situ* performance testing
- Computation: first-principles calculations
 - Density function theory (DFT) for the “larger system”
 - Periodic boundary condition for heterogeneous catalytic reactions



Methodology: Density functional theory

□ Kohn-Sham equation (DFT)

$$\hat{H}_{\text{KS}}\rho(r) = E_{\text{KS}}\rho(r)$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{KS}}[\rho] = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla_i^2 + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\int\frac{\rho(r')}{|r-r'|}dr' + \frac{\delta V_{\text{xc}}[\rho]}{\delta\rho}$$

$$\rho(r) = \varphi^*(r)\varphi(r)$$

□ Periodic boundary condition (PBC)

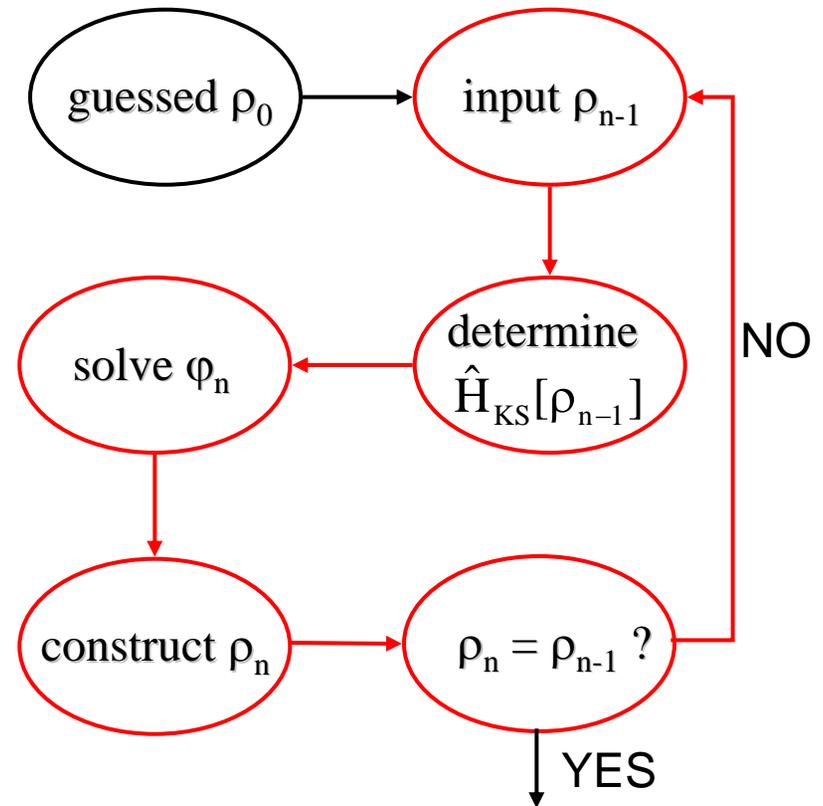
$$\varphi_k^n(r) = u_k^n(r)e^{ikr} = u_k^n(r+R)e^{ik(r+R)} = \varphi_k^n(r+R)$$

$$\rho(r+R) = \rho(r)$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{KS}}(r+R) = \hat{H}_{\text{KS}}(r)$$

$$E_{\text{KS}}(r+R) = E_{\text{KS}}(r)$$

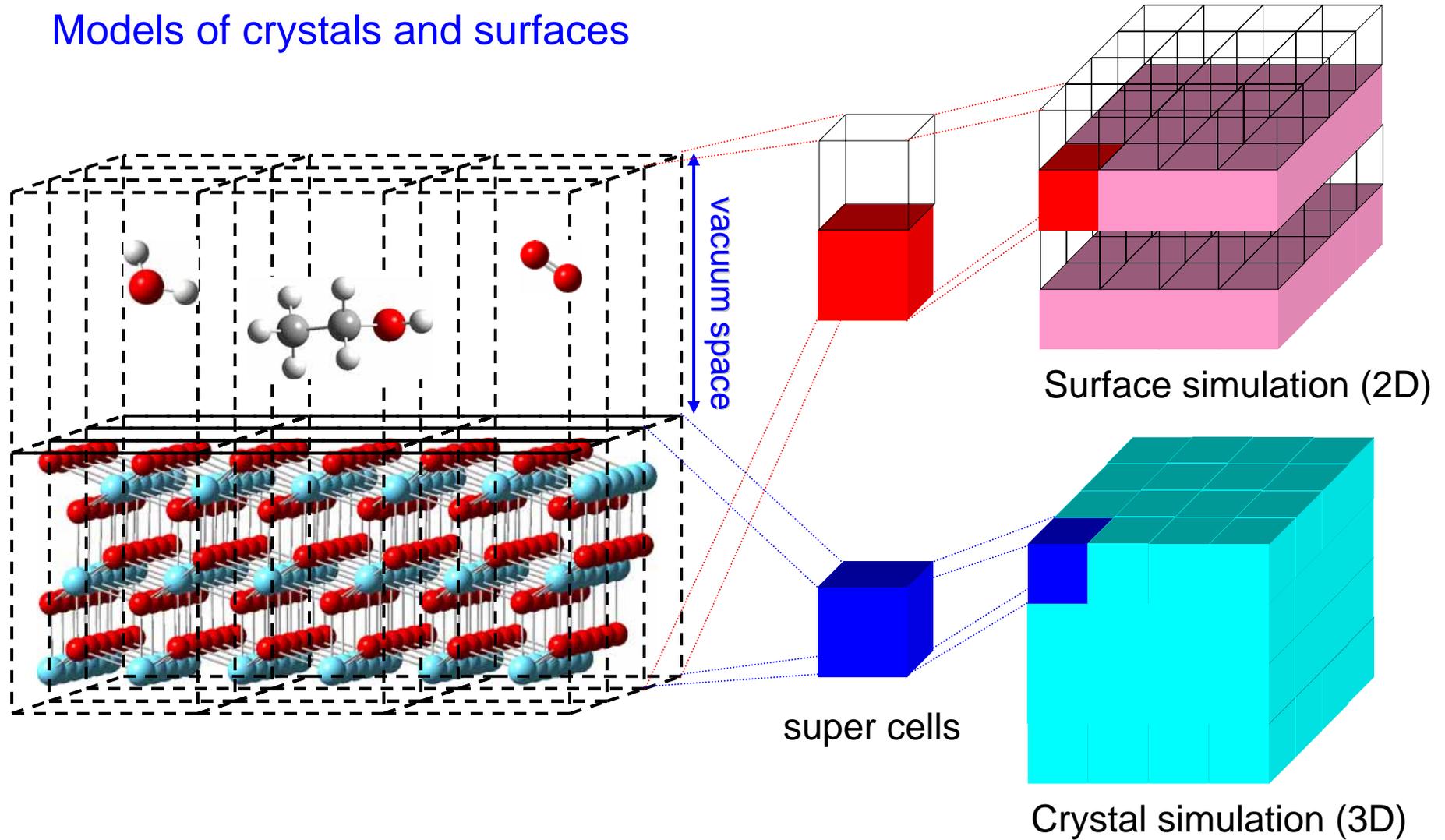
□ Self-consistent iterations



self-consistent density ρ_0 obtained
and ground state energy obtained

Methodology: Periodic boundary condition

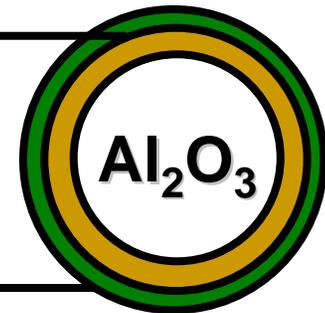
Models of crystals and surfaces



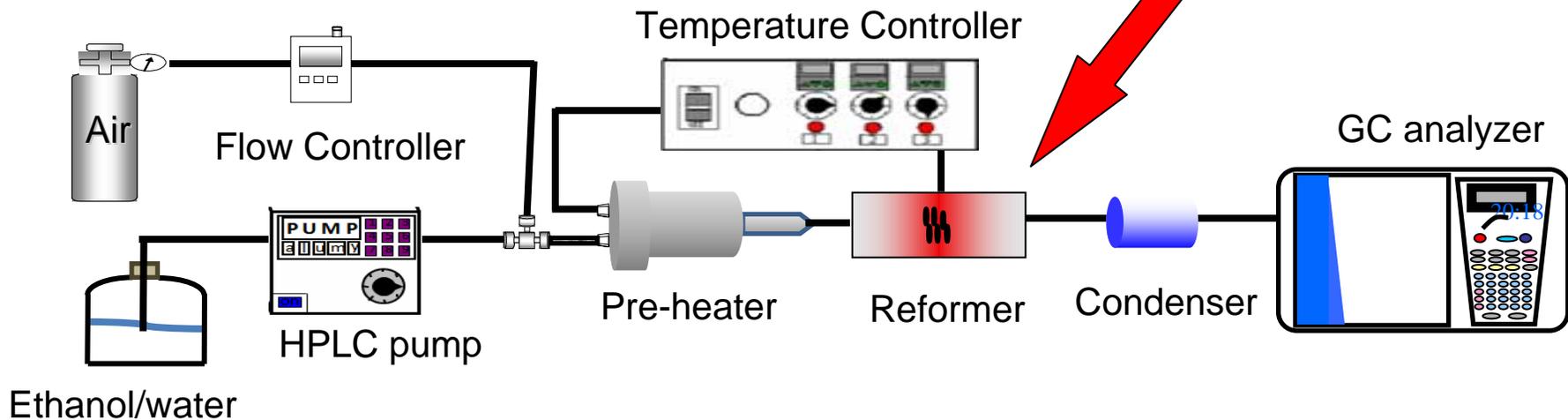
Current results: Ethanol reformers (expt.)

Reformer preparation

- **Metal oxide supporter (M1)**
 - Impregnate $M1(NO_3)_x$ solution on Al_2O_3
 - Vaporize water solvent
 - Fire at 600 °C to form metal oxide
- **Metal/metal oxide reformer ($M2/M1O_x/Al_2O_3$)**
 - Impregnate $M2(NO_3)_x$ solution on $M1O_x/Al_2O_3$
 - Vaporize water solvent
 - Reduce to M2 in H_2 at high temperature

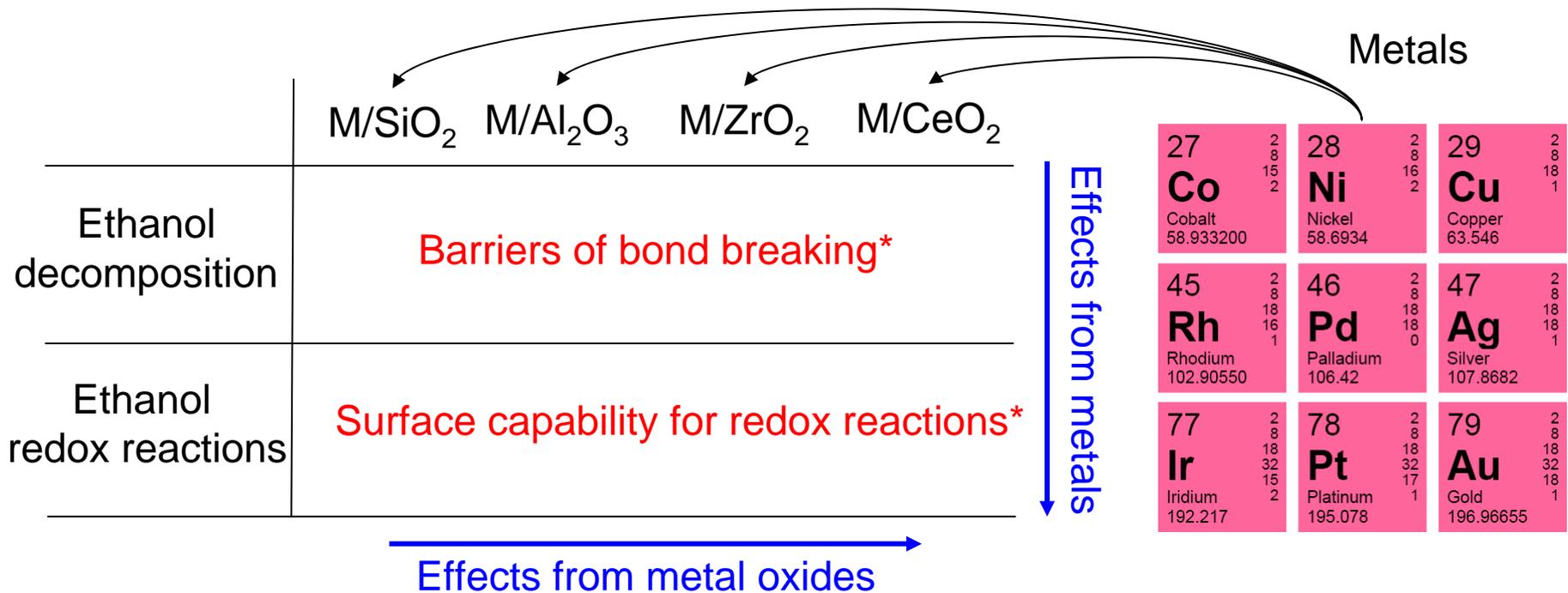


Measurement of H_2 production



Current results: Ethanol reformers (expt.)

To systematically study the reforming mechanism and establish design rules



Selected combinations

- **SiO₂ and Al₂O₃**: less active metal oxides
- **ZrO₂**: corresponding to the common SOFC electrolyte, Y-doped ZrO₂ (YSZ)
- **CeO₂**: corresponding to the common SOFC electrolyte, Gd-doped CeO₂ (GDC)
- **Metals**: All metals have the same crystal structures and no geometrical effects

Navarro, R. M.; Peña, M. A.; Fierro, J. L. G; *Chem. Rev.* **107** 3952 (2007)

Current results: Ethanol reformers (expt.)

Results: H₂ production on different reformers (%)

27 Co Cobalt 58.933200	28 Ni Nickel 58.6934	29 Cu Copper 63.546
45 Rh Rhodium 102.90550	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.8682
77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.078	79 Au Gold 196.96655

M/SiO₂

1.6	0.2	0.2
49.6	0.3	0.3

M/Al₂O₃

2.6	1.7	5.5
50.0	12.8	2.7
	20.8	

M/ZrO₂

2.8	0.3	9.7
41.0	12.5	5.1
	15.1	

M/CeO₂

20.2	27.3	20.3
90.5	26.9	15.0
97.3	53.7	17.6

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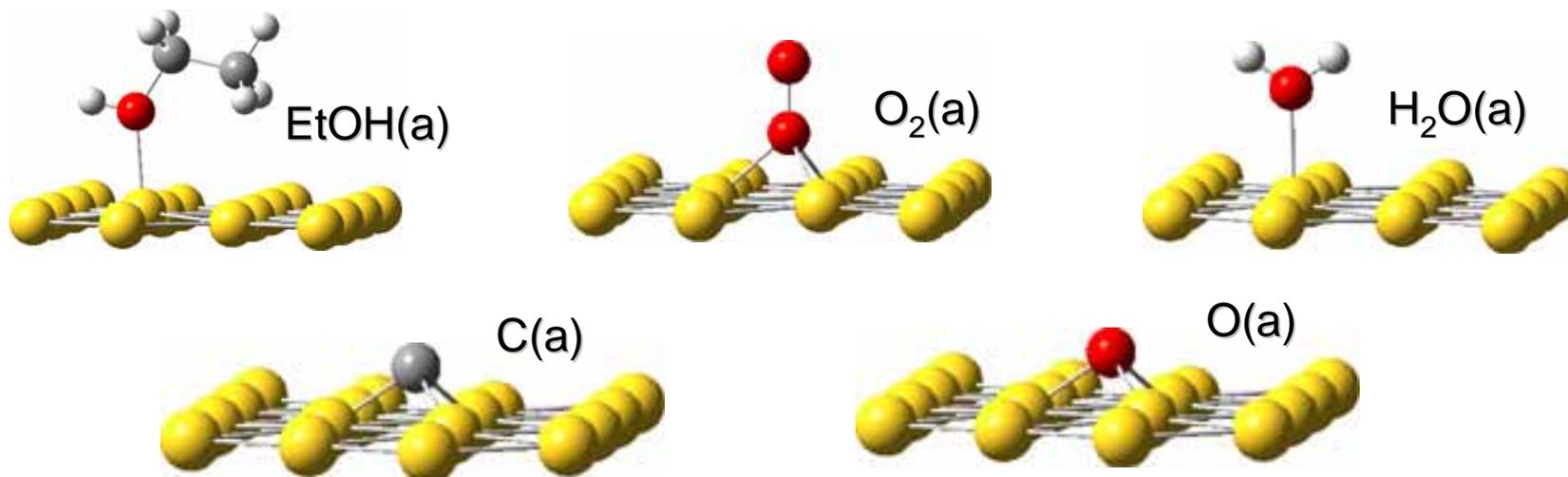
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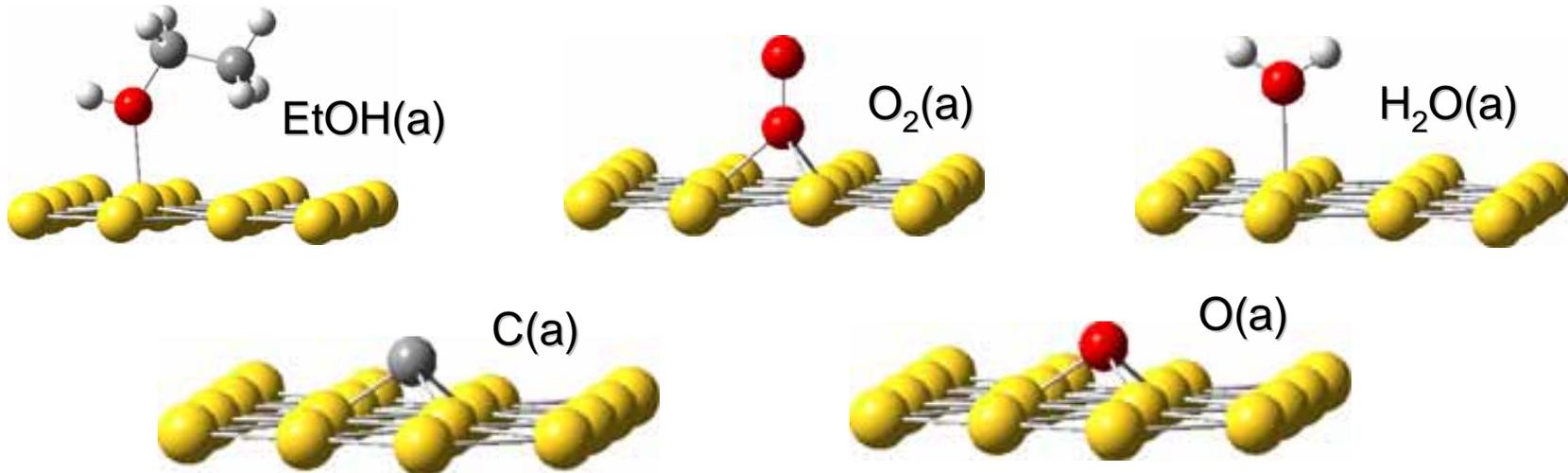
Adsorptions energies (kcal/mole)



	Co	Ni	Cu	Rh	Pd	Ag	Ir	Pt	Au
EtOH(a)	-7.1	-7.5	-4.9	-7.6	-6.4	-2.8	-5.8	-5.4	-2.0
O ₂ (a)	-26.2	-22.9	-11.7	-42.7	-23.7	-16.7	-36.4	-24.4	-16.1
H ₂ O(a)	-6.9	-6.5	-5.4	-6.9	-5.3	-3.8	-6.2	-4.3	-1.2
C(a)	-174.6	-166.2	-118.8	-170.8	-163.1	-85.0	-170.9	-171.6	-111.4
O(a)	-141.2	-135.2	-122.1	-128.5	-109.1	-93.0	-123.0	-107.7	-84.8

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

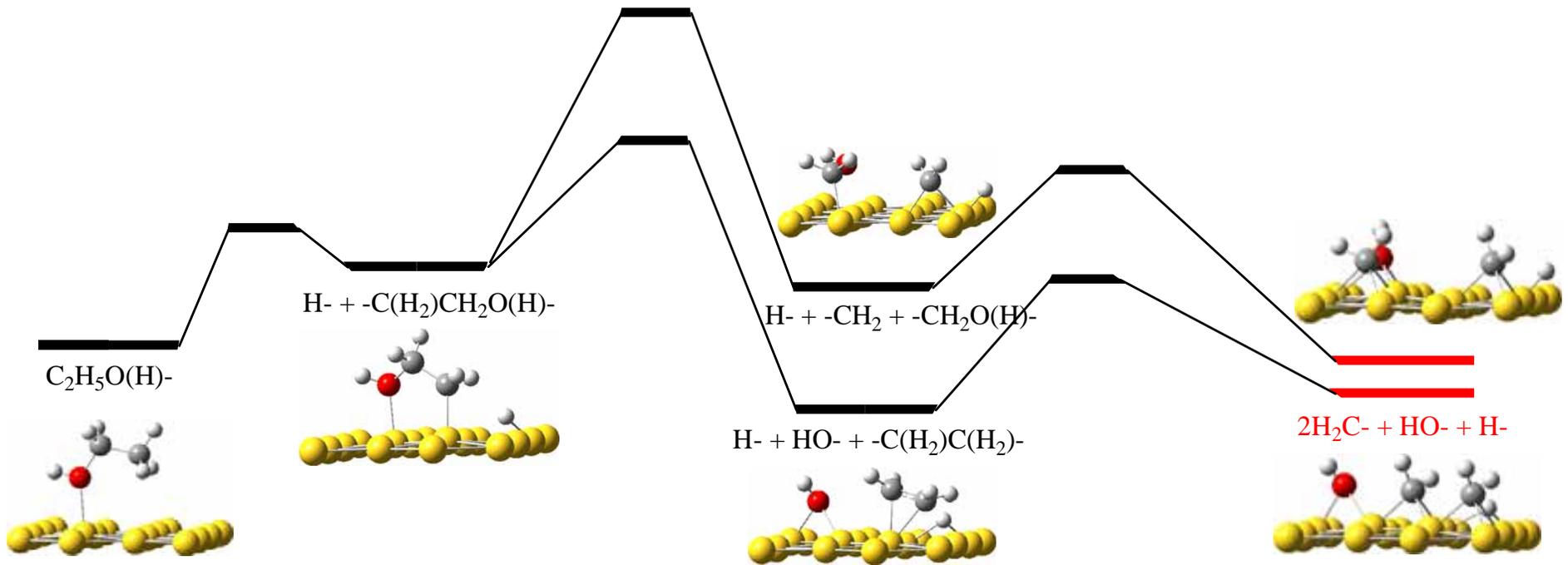
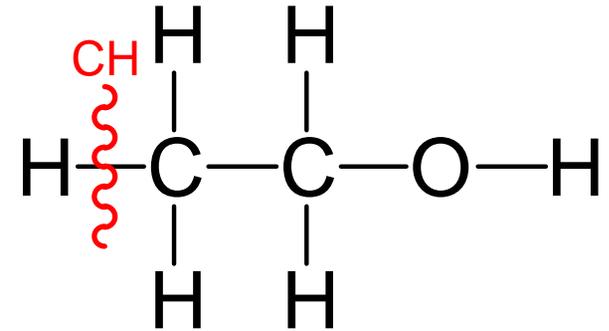
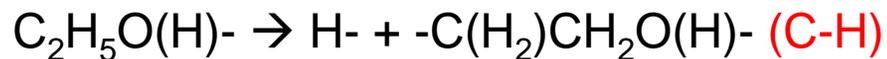
Cu, Ag and Au have lower adsorption energies



	Co	Ni	Cu	Rh	Pd	Ag	Ir	Pt	Au
EtOH(a)	-7.1	-7.5	-4.9	-7.6	-6.4	-2.8	-5.8	-5.4	-2.0
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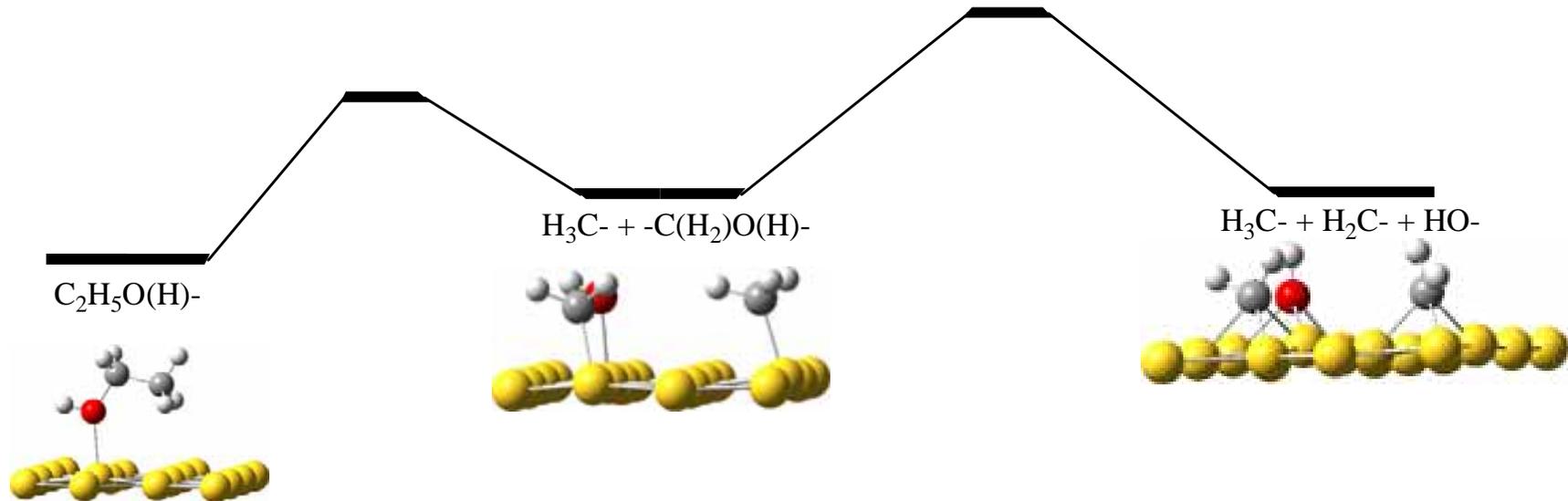
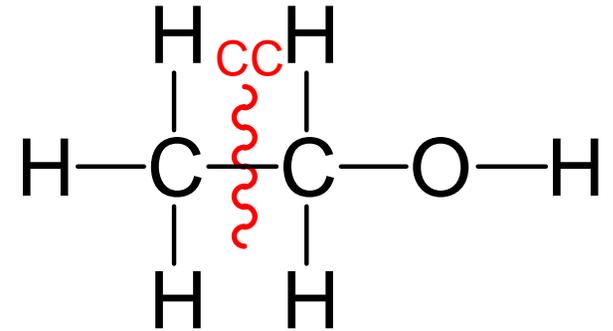
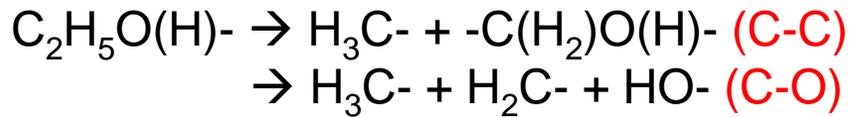
Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Reaction mechanism: initial C-H breaking reaction



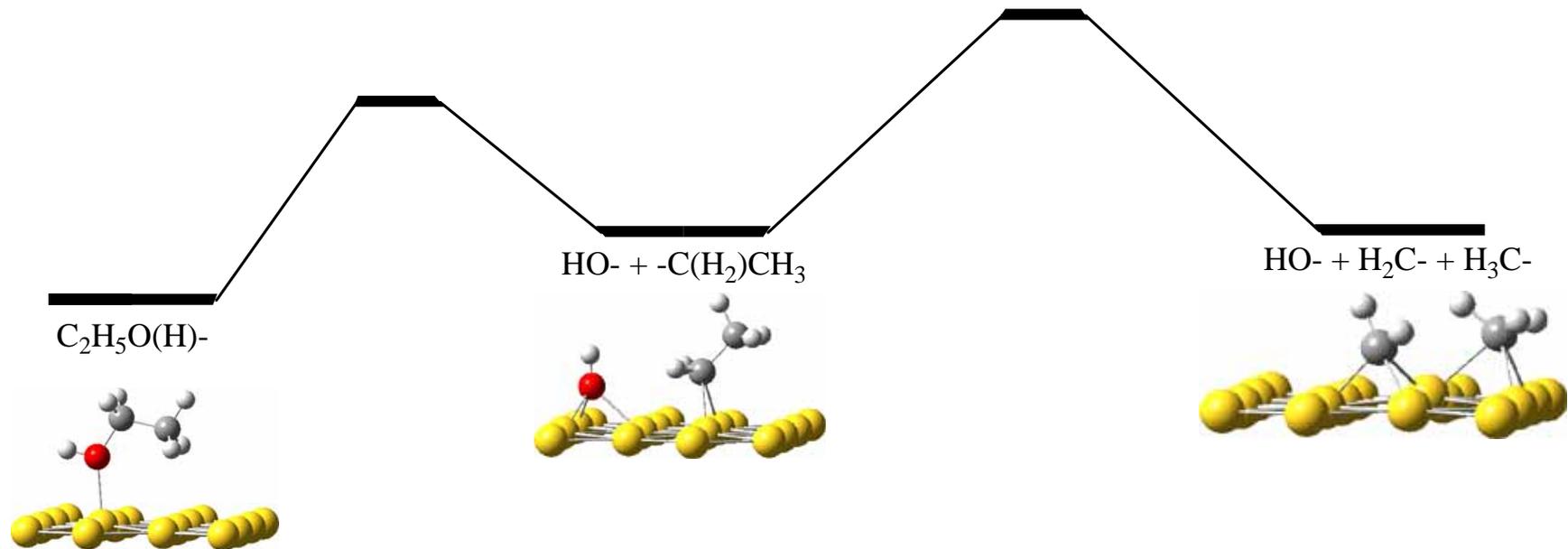
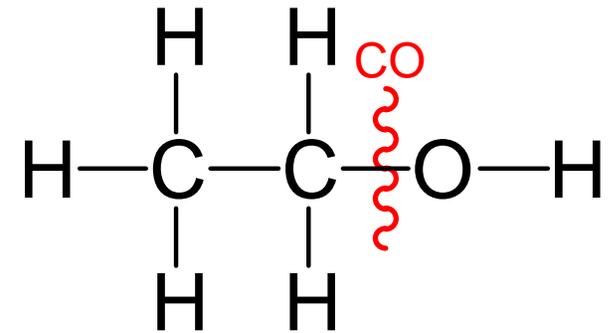
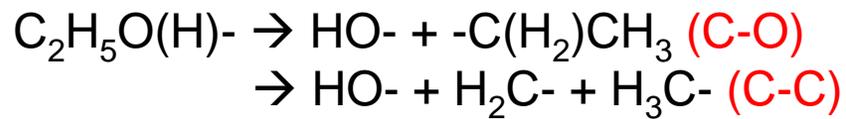
Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Reaction mechanism: initial C-C breaking reaction



Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

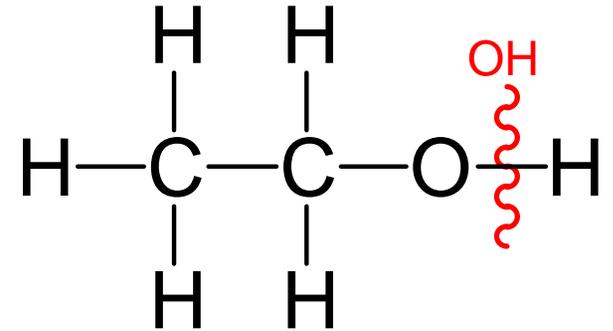
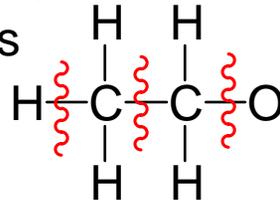
Reaction mechanism: initial C-O breaking reaction



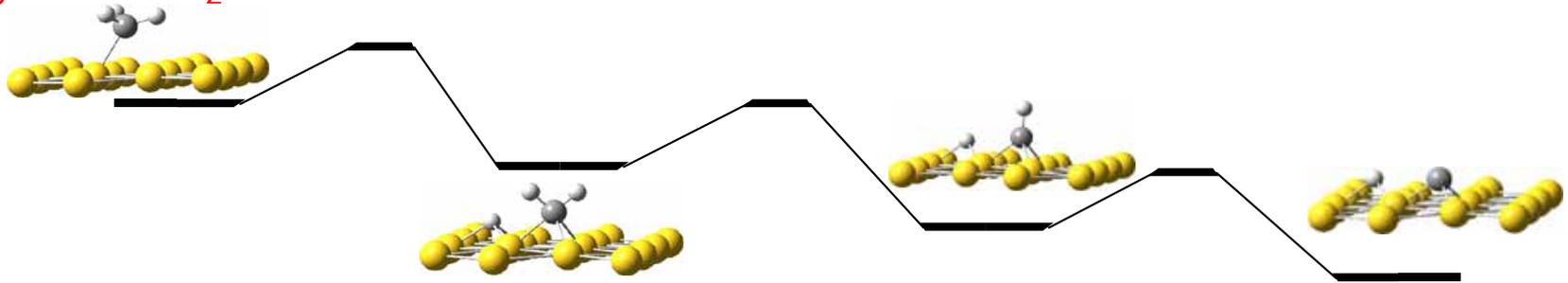
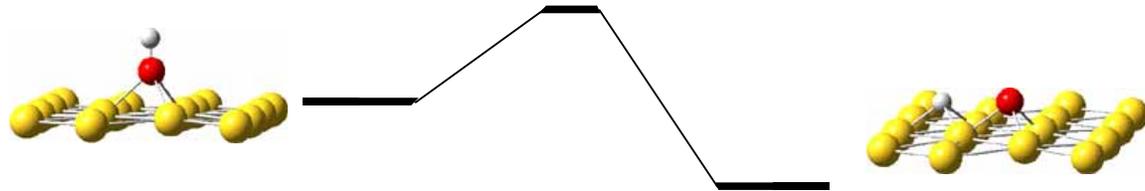
Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Reaction mechanism: initial O-H breaking reaction

Starting from $C_2H_5O^-$ and following the C-H, C-C and C-O breaking reactions



Fragments CH_3 and OH dissociation:



Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

TS barrier (heat of reaction) in eV

	Co	Rh	Ir	Ni	Pd	Pt	Cu	Ag	Au
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}(\text{H}) \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CC1})} \text{H}_3\text{C} - + - \text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{O}(\text{H}) \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CO1})} \text{H}_3\text{C} - + \text{H}_2\text{C} - + \text{HO} -$									
TS(CC1)	2.66(1.01)	2.65(0.50)	2.02(0.39)	2.24(0.88)	2.70(0.71)	2.35(0.14)	3.34(1.48)	3.36(2.22)	4.04(1.50)
TS(CO1)	0.64(-0.77)	1.07(0.01)	0.87(0.00)	1.20(-0.43)	1.32(0.69)	0.94(0.87)	1.45(0.17)	1.84(1.15)	2.14(1.62)
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}(\text{H}) \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CO2})} \text{H}_3\text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{C} - + \text{HO} - \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CC2})} \text{H}_3\text{C} - + \text{H}_2\text{C} - + \text{HO} -$									
TS(CO2)	1.02(-0.16)	1.76(0.20)	1.71(0.37)	1.46(0.10)	2.23(0.59)	1.93(0.36)	1.78(0.45)	2.16(1.35)	2.48(1.50)
TS(CC2)	1.30(0.17)	1.20 (0.38)	0.78(0.18)	1.30(0.45)	1.43 (1.09)	0.93(0.56)	1.87(1.41)	2.66(2.00)	2.06(1.63)
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}(\text{H}) \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CH1})} -\text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{O}(\text{H}) - + \text{H} - \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CC3})} \text{H}_2\text{C} - + - \text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{O}(\text{H}) - + \text{H} - \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CO3})} 2\text{H}_2\text{C} - + \text{HO} - + \text{H} - \\ \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CO4})} -\text{C}(\text{H}_2)\text{C}(\text{H}_2) - + \text{HO} - + \text{H} - \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{CO3})} 2\text{H}_2\text{C} - + \text{HO} - + \text{H} - \end{array} \right.$									
TS(CH1)	1.34(0.46)	0.52(0.45)	0.48(0.41)	1.46(0.51)	1.38(0.55)	0.91(0.40)	2.03(1.09)	3.09(1.90)	2.90(1.33)
TS(CC3)	0.63(0.32)	1.02(-0.03)	0.60(-0.17)	0.86(0.17)	0.87(0.35)	1.14(0.28)	2.08(1.24)	2.71(2.09)	2.33(1.63)
TS(CO3)	0.34(-1.03)	1.00(-0.11)	0.94(0.45)	0.27(-0.43)	1.24(0.64)	1.28(0.87)	1.16(0.06)	1.83(1.13)	2.12(1.54)
TS(CO4)	0.03(-0.88)	0.42(-0.69)	0.54(-0.42)	0.14(-0.73)	0.68(-0.27)	0.78(0.27)	1.59(-0.43)	2.13(-0.27)	1.91(0.65)
TS(CC4)	0.88(0.86)	0.99(0.82)	1.28(0.33)	1.04(1.02)	1.66(1.48)	2.01(0.33)	2.76(1.99)	3.45(2.92)	2.70(2.52)
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}(\text{H}) \xrightarrow{\text{TS}(\text{OH1})} \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O} - + \text{H} -$									
TS(OH1)	0.44(-0.74)	0.58(-0.19)	0.69(0.21)	0.67(-0.58)	0.70(0.25)	0.99(0.55)	1.10(-0.10)	1.94(0.84)	1.45(1.32)

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

TS barrier (heat of reaction) in eV

	Co	Rh	Ir	Ni	Pd	Pt	Cu	Ag	Au
$C_2H_5O \xrightarrow{TS(CC5)} H_3C-+-C(H_2)O \xrightarrow{TS(CO5)} H_3C-+H_2C-+O-$									
TS(CC5)	1.52(0.78)	1.41(0.65)	1.85(0.37)	1.62(1.26)	1.93(0.53)	2.08(1.04)	2.27(1.87)	2.79(1.66)	3.45(0.88)
TS(CO5)	0.78(-0.10)	1.12(-0.23)	1.01(-0.13)	1.13(-0.49)	1.63(0.75)	1.50(0.42)	1.70(1.48)	2.65(2.60)	2.86(2.32)
$C_2H_5O \xrightarrow{TS(CO6)} H_3C(H_2)C-+O- \xrightarrow{TS(CC6)} H_3C-+H_2C-+O-$									
TS(CO6)	0.86(0.12)	1.27(-0.07)	1.20(-0.13)	0.90(0.26)	0.77(0.42)	1.37(0.03)	1.83(1.03)	2.13(1.13)	1.57(1.40)
TS(CC6)	1.15(0.25)	1.43(0.36)	0.97(-0.01)	1.28(0.45)	1.13(0.82)	1.65(0.10)	1.86(1.20)	3.05(2.02)	1.71(1.64)
$C_2H_5O \xrightarrow{TS(CH2)} -C(H_2)C(H_2)O-+H- \rightarrow \begin{cases} \xrightarrow{TS(CC7)} H_2C-+-C(H_2)O-+H- \xrightarrow{TS(CO7)} 2H_2C-+O-+H- \\ \xrightarrow{TS(CO8)} -C(H_2)C(H_2)-+O-+H- \xrightarrow{TS(CO8)} 2H_2C-+O-+H- \end{cases}$									
TS(CH2)	1.28(1.08)	0.55(0.52)	0.44(0.04)	1.47(1.15)	1.03(0.55)	0.75(-0.27)	1.67(1.11)	3.12(1.35)	1.68(1.34)
TS(CC7)	0.19(-0.18)	0.45(-0.24)	0.72(-0.03)	0.30(-0.19)	0.60(-0.06)	0.73(0.18)	2.20(1.96)	2.30(1.02)	1.60(0.74)
TS(CO7)	0.10(-0.57)	0.07(-0.48)	0.50(-0.73)	0.12(-0.69)	0.71(-0.78)	1.14(0.43)	1.25(0.48)	3.55(2.55)	3.60(2.28)
TS(CO8)	0.05(-1.51)	0.05(-1.10)	0.21(-0.60)	0.10(-1.33)	0.18(-0.62)	1.02(0.24)	1.13(0.09)	1.08(-0.12)	1.24(0.36)
TS(CC8)	0.92(0.90)	0.97(0.84)	1.44(0.32)	1.05(1.01)	1.78(1.52)	1.40(0.48)	2.27(2.00)	4.10(3.81)	3.02(2.96)
$H_3C \xrightarrow{TS(CH3)} H_2C-+H- \xrightarrow{TS(CH4)} HC-+2H- \xrightarrow{TS(CH5)} C-+3H-$									
TS(CH3)	0.11(-0.17)	0.18(-0.25)	0.28(0.04)	0.32(-0.20)	0.56(-0.07)	0.64(-0.01)	1.25(0.78)	2.03(1.69)	1.67(1.39)
TS(CH4)	0.15(-0.33)	0.11(-0.51)	0.31(-1.14)	0.17(-0.34)	0.33(-0.46)	0.54(-0.50)	1.05(0.61)	1.66(1.32)	1.21(0.77)
TS(CH5)	1.08(0.50)	1.07(0.42)	1.11(0.76)	1.24(0.60)	1.31(0.40)	1.16(0.61)	1.56(1.37)	2.27(1.90)	2.16(1.63)
$HO \xrightarrow{TS(OH2)} O-+H-$									
TS(OH2)	0.99(-0.16)	0.65(-0.21)	0.45(-0.16)	1.00(-0.13)	1.26(0.15)	0.57(0.01)	1.82(0.71)	2.60(1.74)	2.06(1.40)

Recall: Ethanol reformers (expt.)

Reactivity: Ir > Rh > Pt > Pd*

?

27 Co Cobalt 58.933200	28 Ni Nickel 58.6934	29 Cu Copper 63.546
45 Rh Rhodium 102.90550	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.8682
77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.078	79 Au Gold 196.96655

M/SiO₂

1.6	0.2	0.2
49.6	0.3	0.3

M/Al₂O₃

2.6	1.7	5.5
50.0	12.8	2.7
	20.8	

M/ZrO₂

2.8	0.3	9.7
41.0	12.5	5.1
	15.1	

M/CeO₂

20.2	27.3	20.3
90.5	26.9	15.0
97.3	53.7	17.6

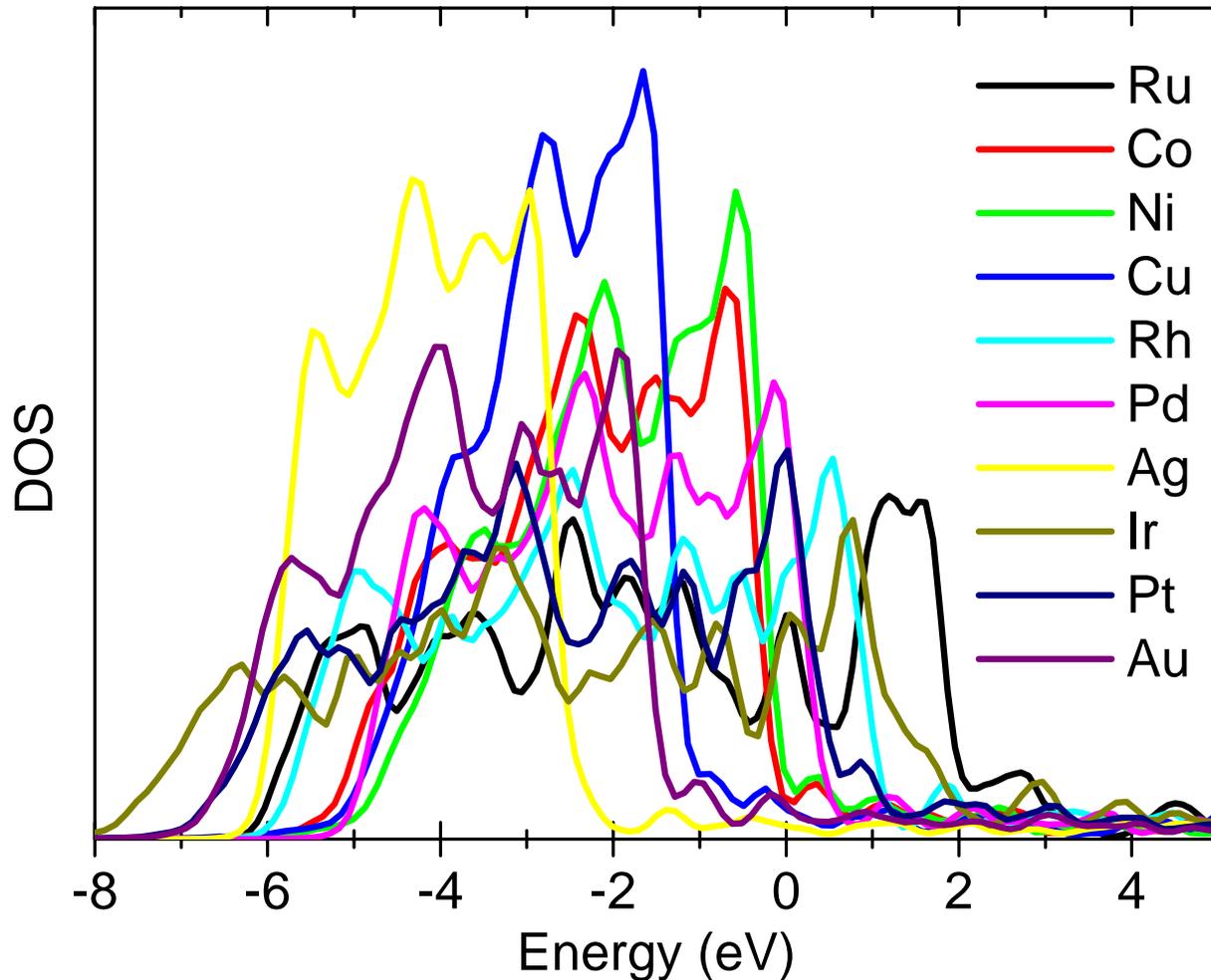
➔ No clear correlation between decomposition barriers and reactivity

Rh > Pd > Ni = Pt/ γ -Al₂O₃: Llorca, J.; Homs, N.; Sales, J.; de la Piscina, P. R. *J. Catal.* **209**, 306 (2002)

Rh > Pd > Pt > Ru / γ -Al₂O₃: Auaprête, G.; Descorme, C.; Duprez, D. *Catal. Commun.* **3**, 263 (2002)

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Electronic structure: DOS analysis



d-band centers*

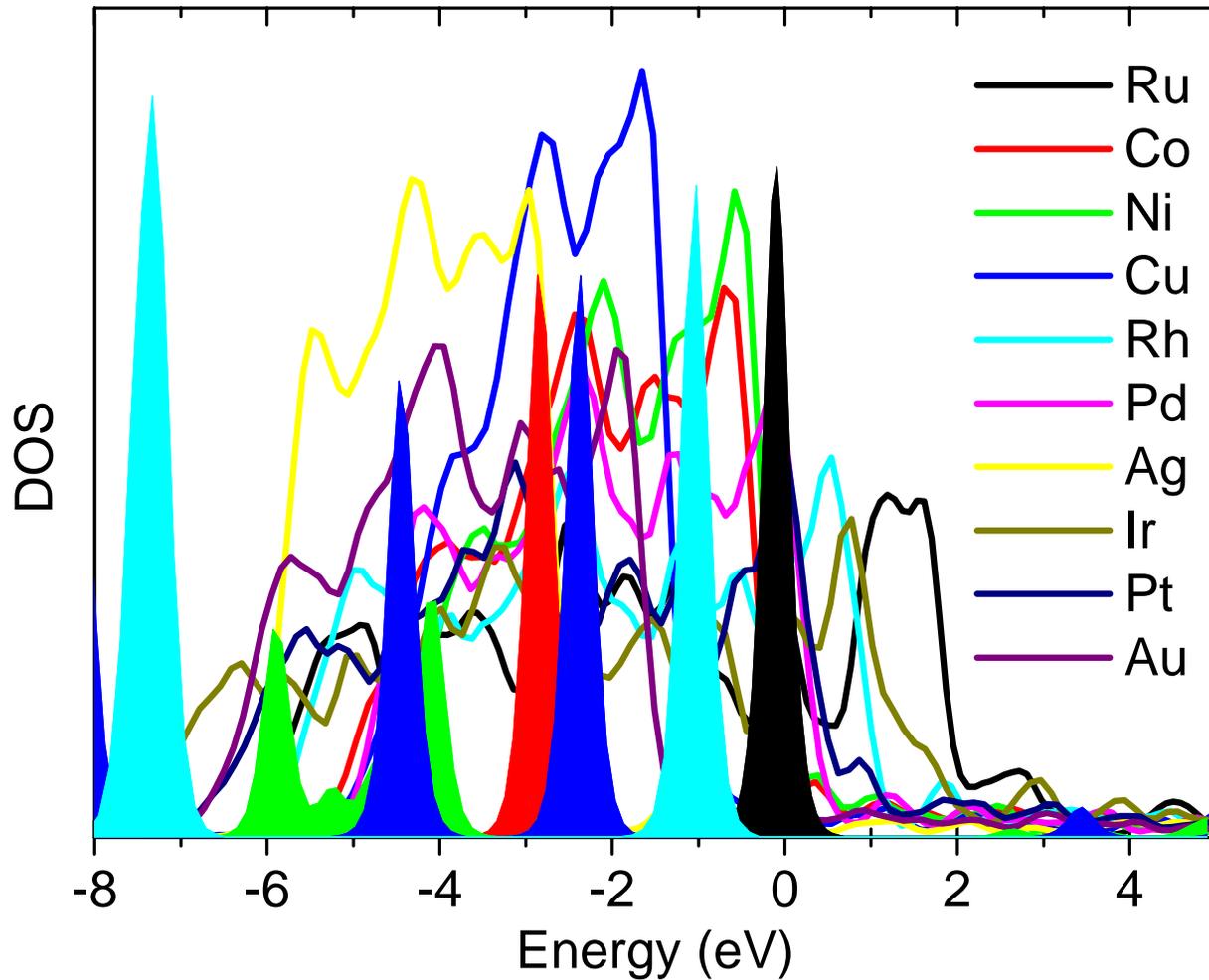
Ru*	-1.41
Co	-1.17
Ni	-1.29
Cu	-2.67
Rh	-1.73
Pd	-1.83
Ag	-4.30
Ir	-2.11
Pt	-2.25
Au	-3.56

95% Ru/CeO₂: Deluga, G. A.; Salge, J. R.; Schmidt, L. D.; Verykios, X. E.; *Science* **303** 933 (2004)
Hammer, B; Norskov, J. K.: *Adv. Catal.* **43**, 71 (2000)

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Electronic structure: DOS analysis

Δ Bader charges



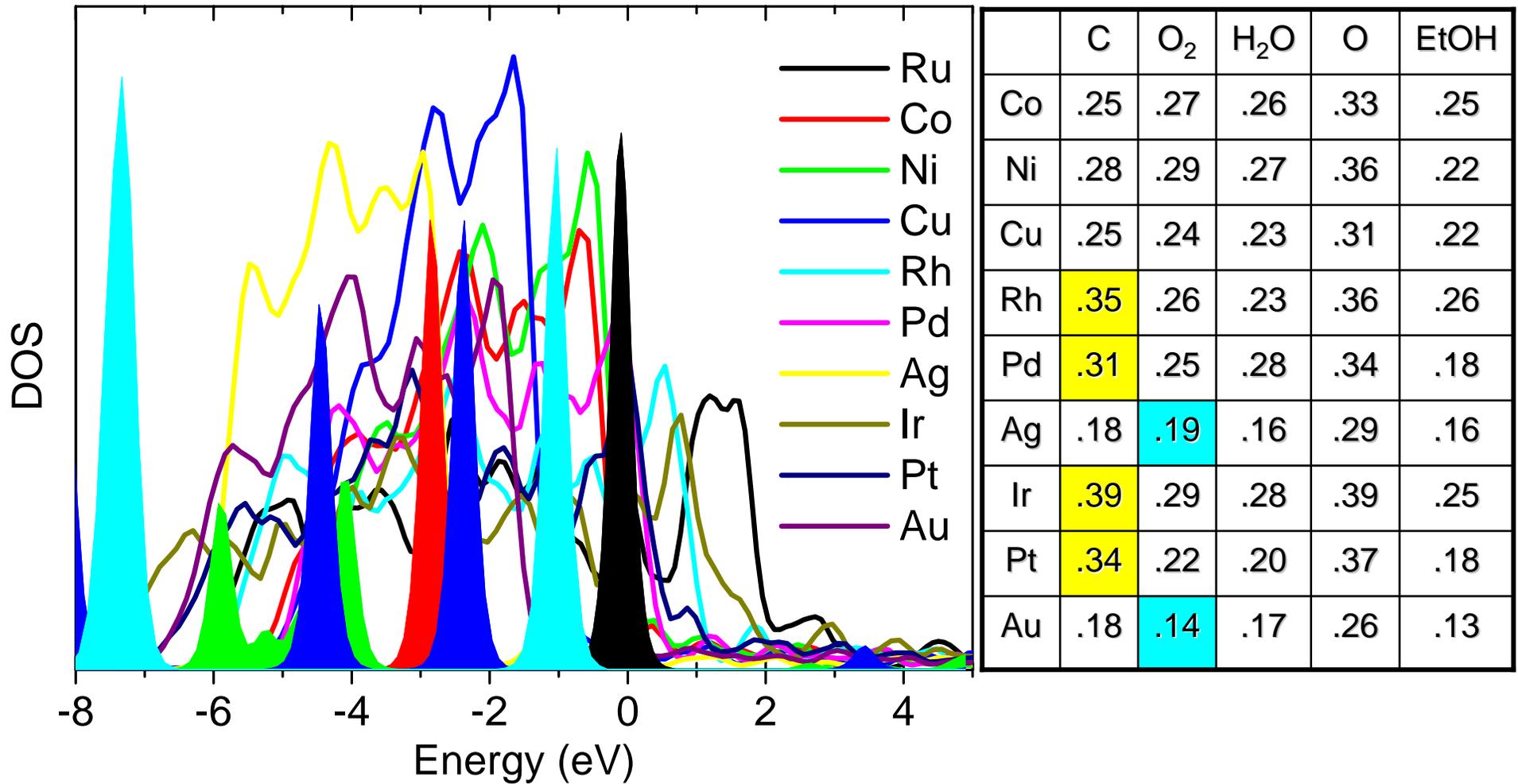
	C	O ₂	H ₂ O	O	EtOH
Co	.25	.27	.26	.33	.25
Ni	.28	.29	.27	.36	.22
Cu	.25	.24	.23	.31	.22
Rh	.35	.26	.23	.36	.26
Pd	.31	.25	.28	.34	.18
Ag	.18	.19	.16	.29	.16
Ir	.39	.29	.28	.39	.25
Pt	.34	.22	.20	.37	.18
Au	.18	.14	.17	.26	.13



Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Electronic structure: DOS analysis

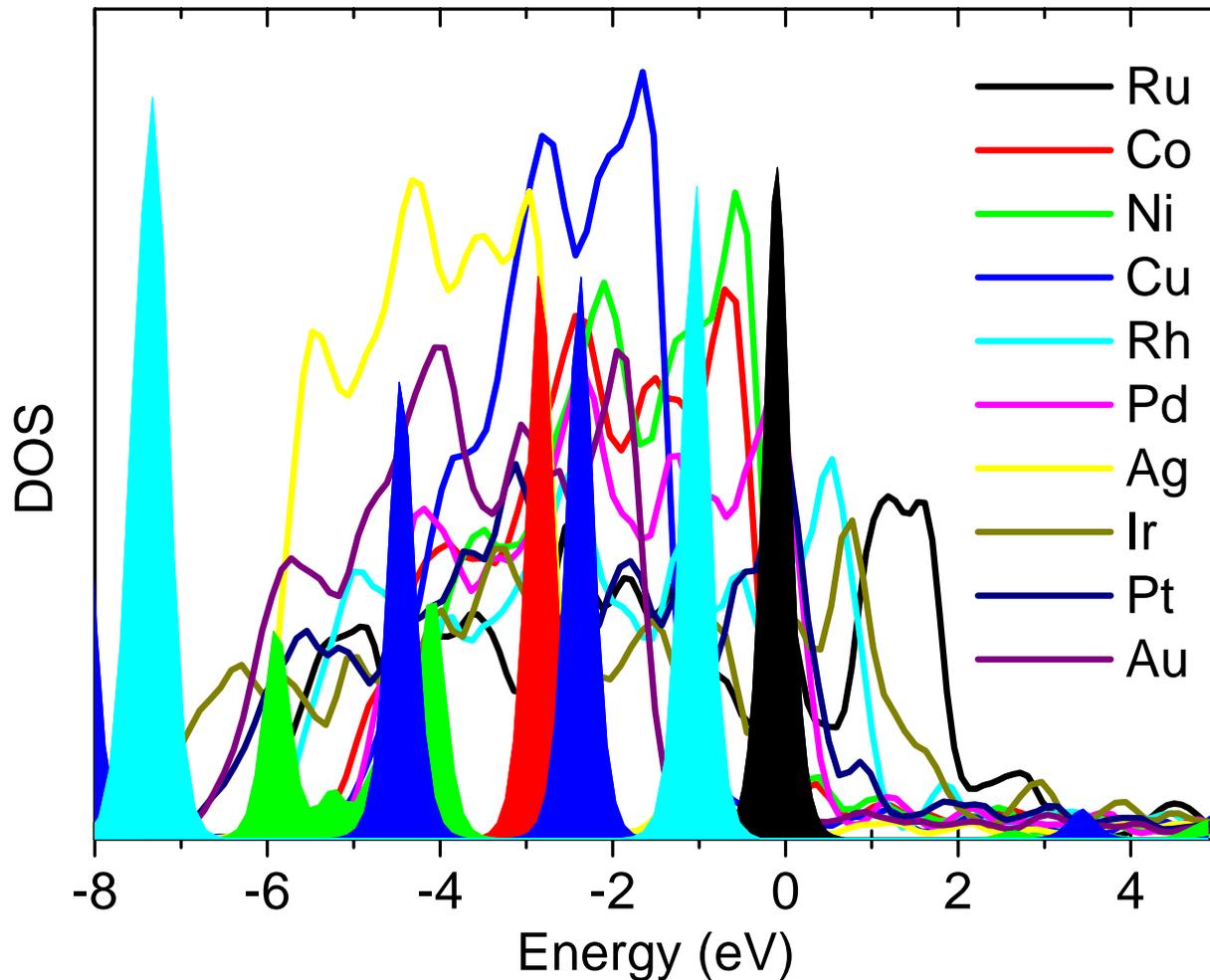
Δ Bader charges



C
 O₂
 H₂O
 O
 EtOH

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Electronic structure: DOS analysis

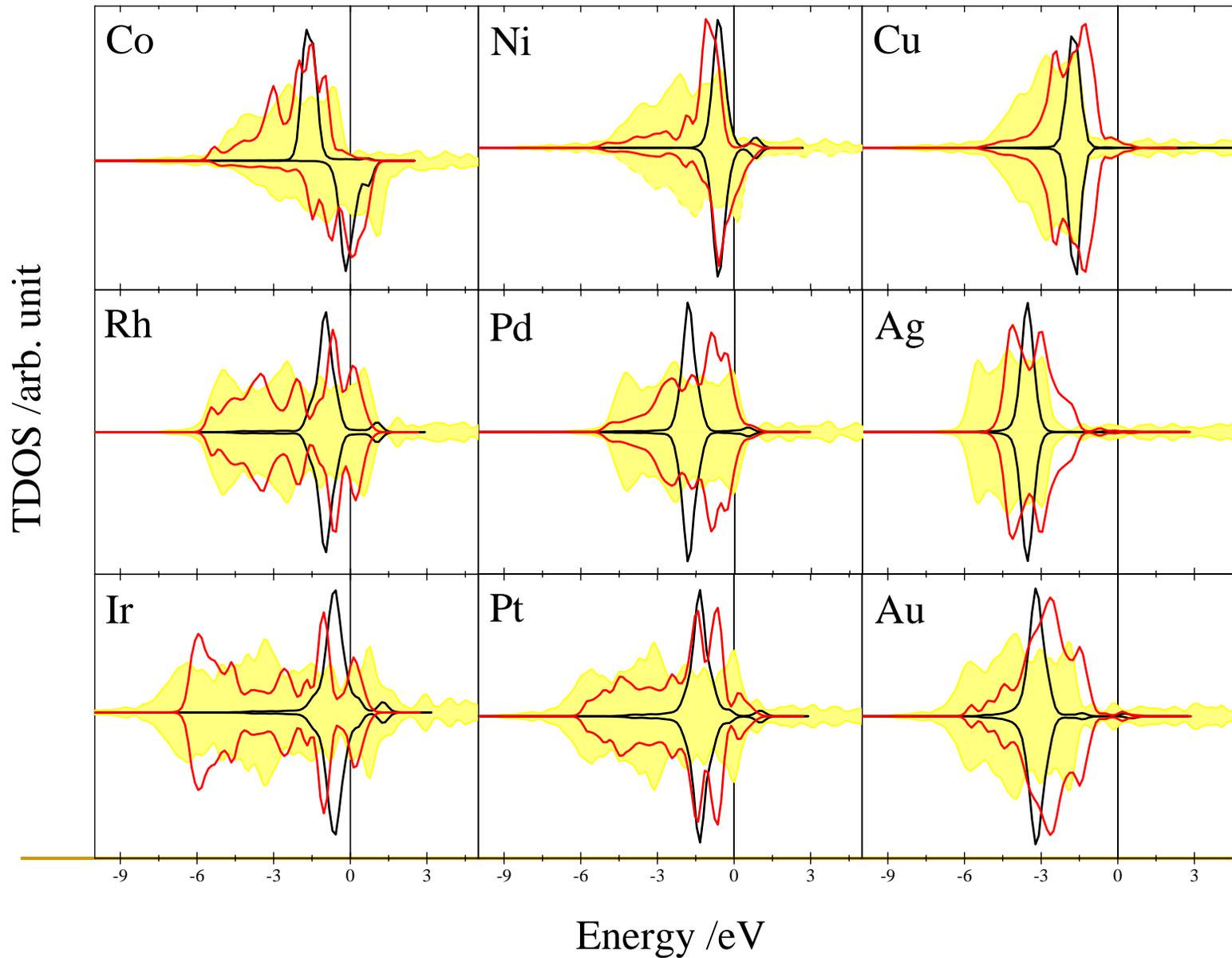


- Ru, Ir, Rh has better reactivity with broader DOS
- Rh, Ir, Pd and Pt has larger DOS overlap with C (fast e-transfer)
- Ag and Au has smaller DOS overlap with O₂ (slow e-transfer)

● C ● O₂ ● H₂O ● O ● EtOH

Current results: Ethanol reformers (compt.)

Electronic structure: DOS analysis of M/CeO₂



Current results: Ethanol reformers

Ethanol reforming related two major factors:

decomposition and redox reaction*

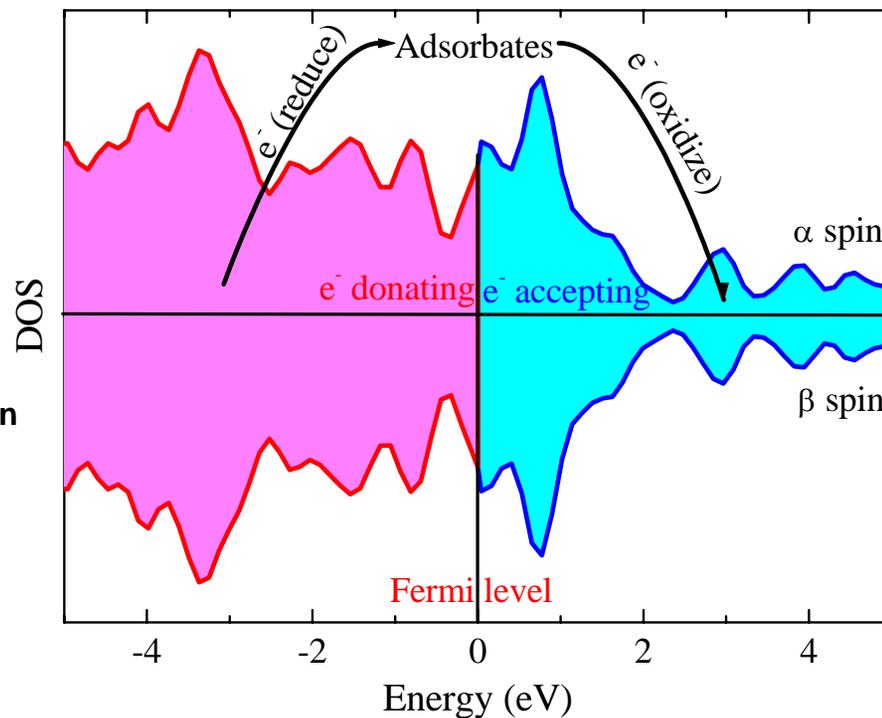
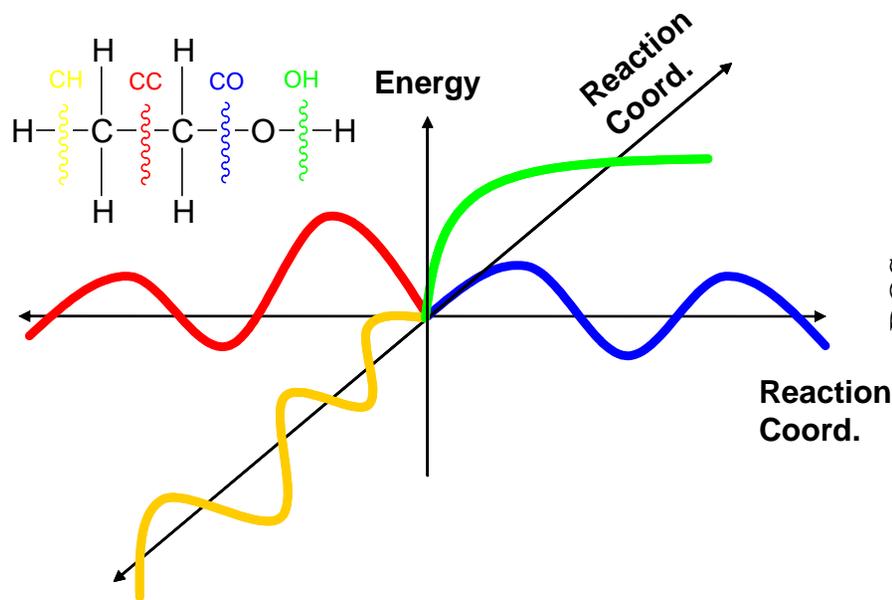
- ❑ **Decomposition reaction:** Cu, Ag and Au have **higher** decomposition barriers (compt.) and **low** reforming efficiency (expt.). Rh and Ir have **lower** decomposition barriers and **higher** reforming efficiency. However, Co and Ni showed the **low** barriers, but with the **low** efficiency.
- ❑ **Redox capability:** Ru, Rh, Ir, Pd and Pt have **broader** d-band distribution and good overlap with all the reactants of ethanol, O₂ and H₂O, which promote the electron transfer between metal surface and adsorbates and enhance the redox reaction in the ethanol reforming process.
- ➔ Lower decomposition barrier is NOT necessary to assist the ethanol reforming process. The decomposed C(a) might cause surface poisoning if it can not be removed by the redox reaction.

Current results: Ethanol reformers



ethanol decomposition
(PES calculation)

redox capability
(DOS analysis)

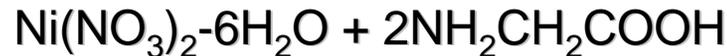


Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

Powder preparation: Glycine nitrate process (GNP)

Mix metal nitrate solution with glycine (NH₂CH₂COOH)

Ni anode:



Zr_{0.92}Y_{0.08}O_{2-δ} (YSZ) electrolyte:



La_{0.8}Sr_{0.2}MnO_{3-δ} (LSM) cathode:



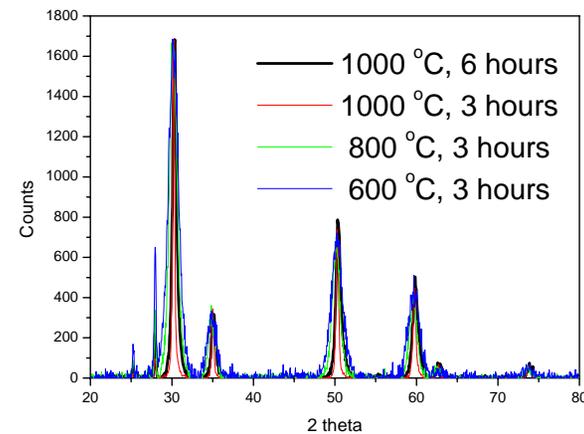
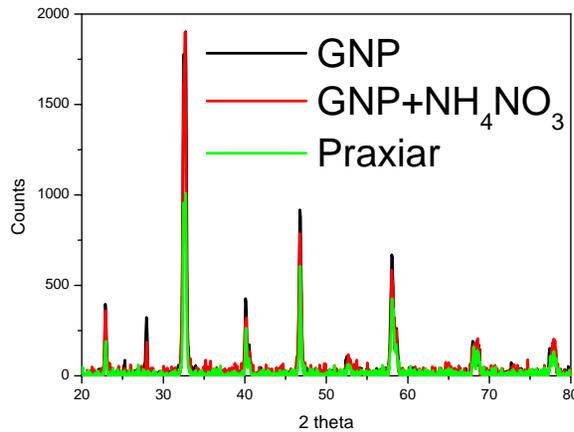
- ❑ Heat up the solution to vaporize the water (convert to gel), to auto-ignite to flame and to result fine ashes
- ❑ Fire ashes in furnace at 800 °C for 3 hours

→ **NO₃²⁻/glycine = 1 : 1**

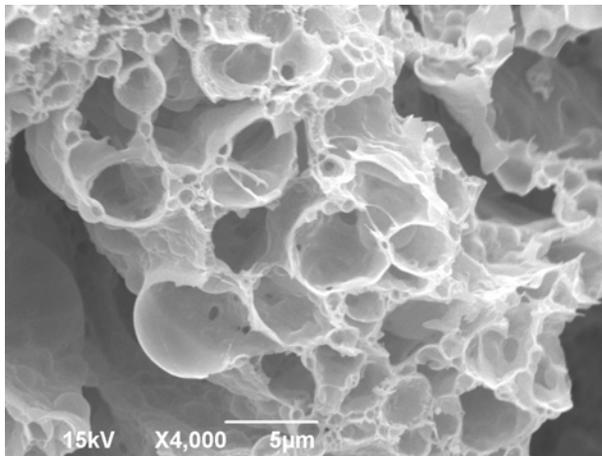
Insufficient glycine leads to less vigorous auto-ignition and extra amount of glycine hinders formation of the desired phase due to the residual carbon

Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

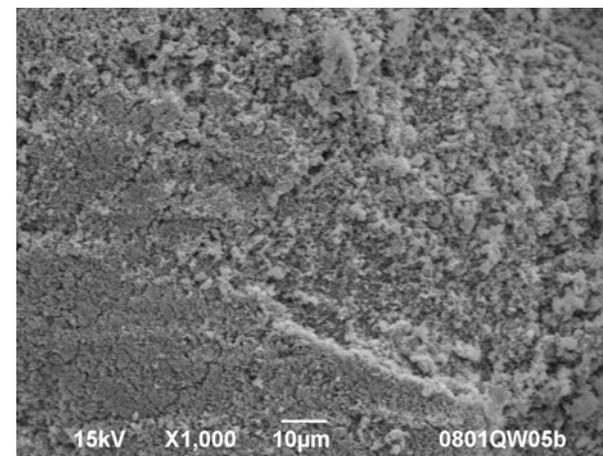
XRD: NH₄NO₃ has limited effect in GNP and higher temperature results narrower peak.



SEM: GNP shows better microstructure (than solid state reaction (SSR) does)



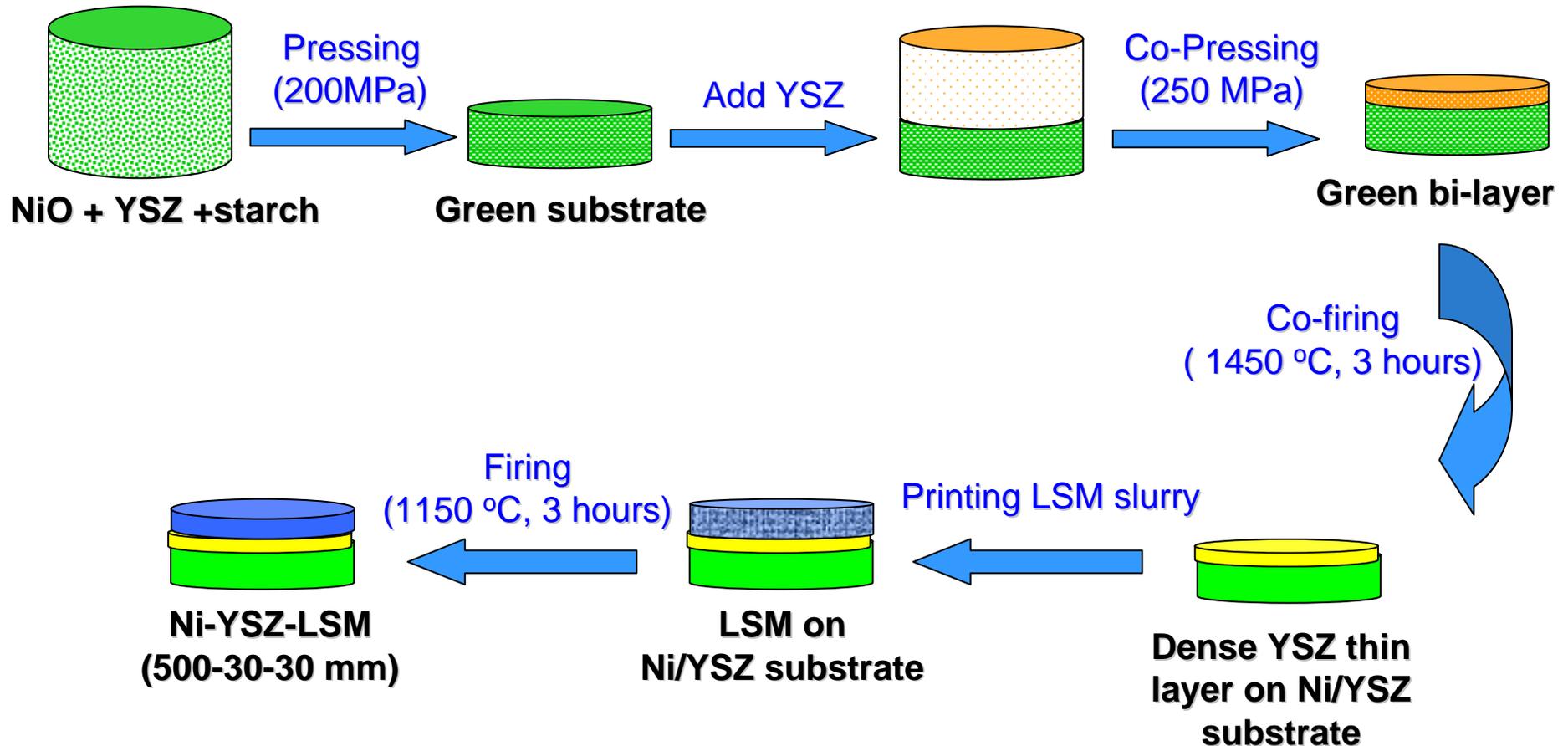
GNP



SSR

Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

Cell assembling: Dry-pressing process (a simple and cost-effective method)



Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

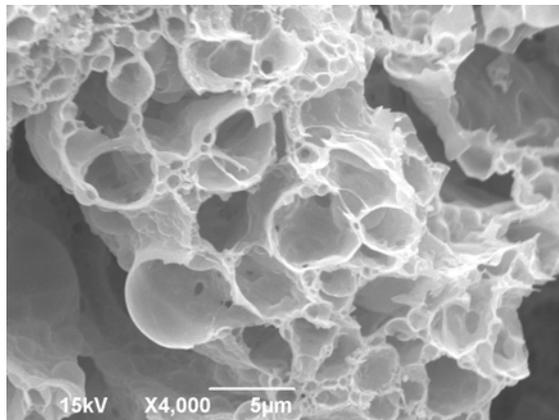
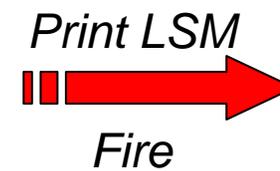
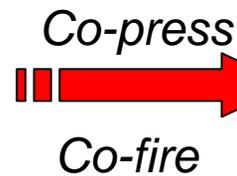
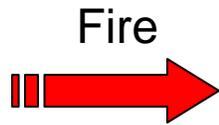
Ni/YSZ/LSM: Single cell fabrication

Nitrade solution

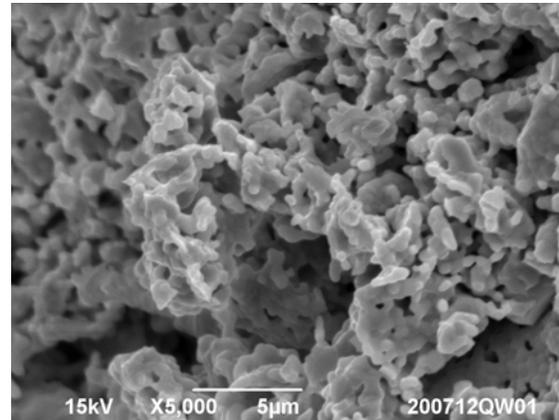
Metal oxide powder

NiO/YSZ half cell

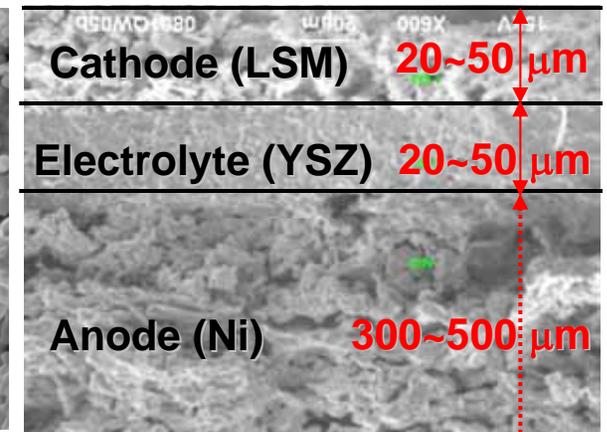
NiO/YSZ/LSM single cell



Foam-like structure



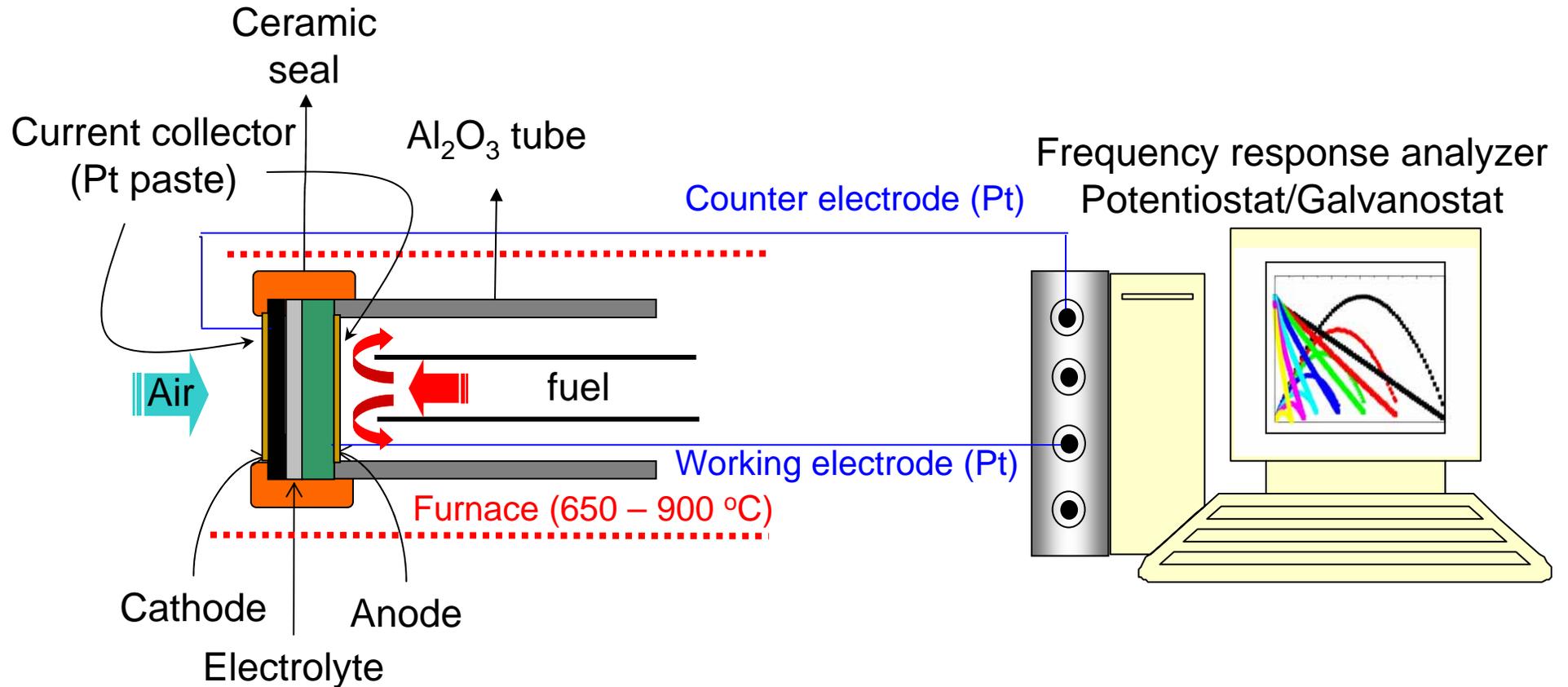
Porous anode surface



Cross section

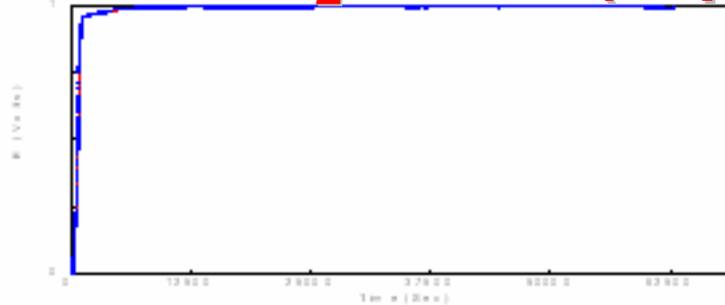
Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

Schematic diagram of SOFC performance testing

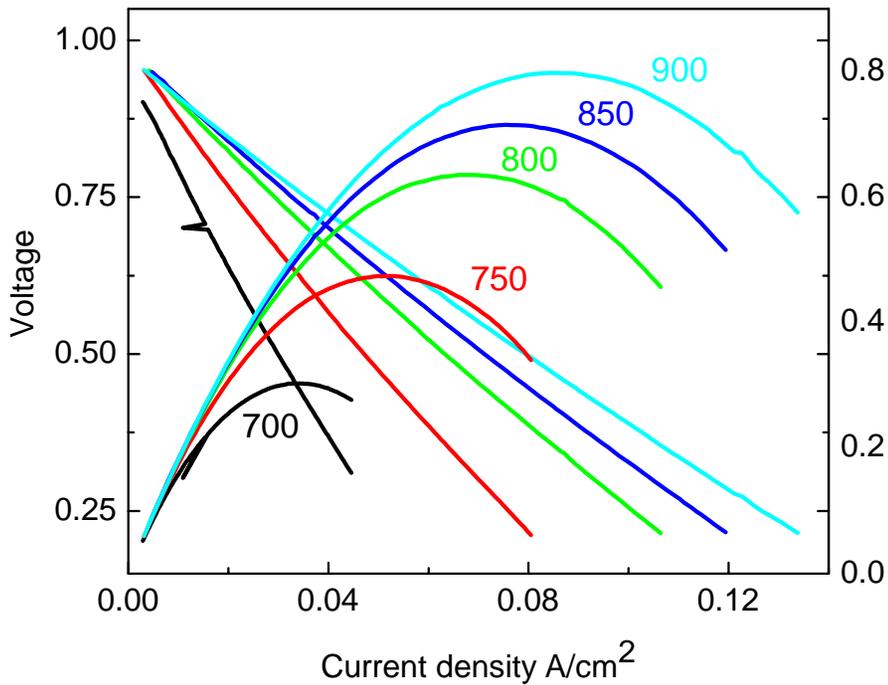


Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

OCV (stabilize), 1.0 V

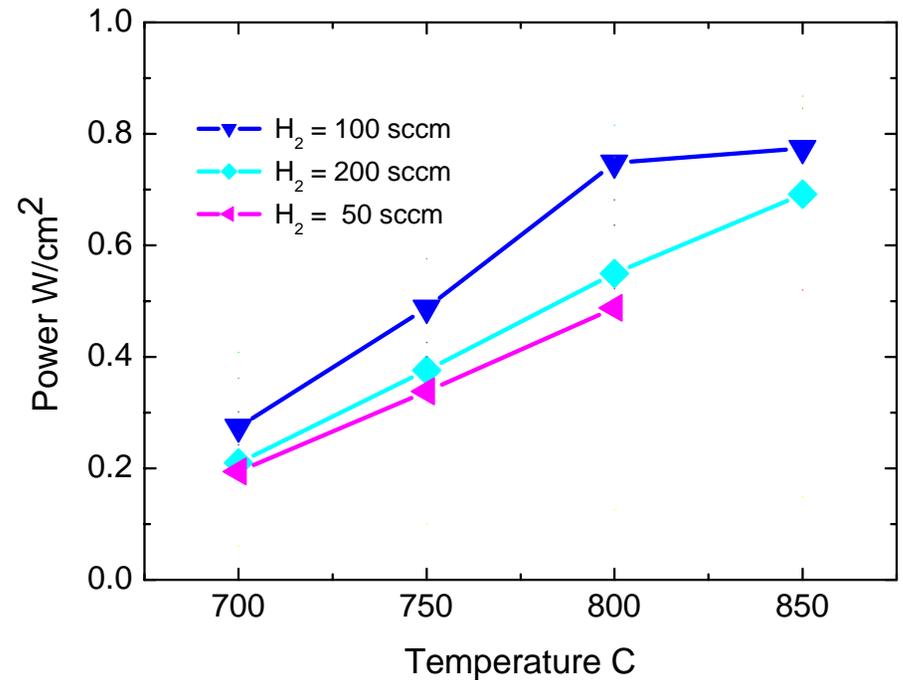


Temperature effect, 0.8 W/cm²



H₂ effect, 50, 100, 200 sccm

→ 50 sccm H₂ flow is still high enough



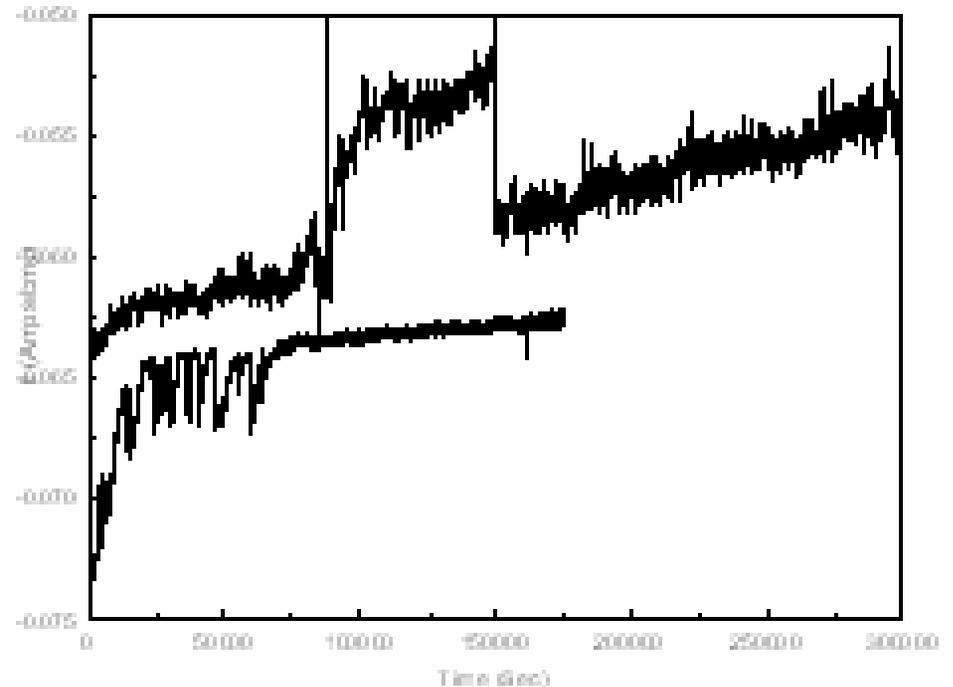
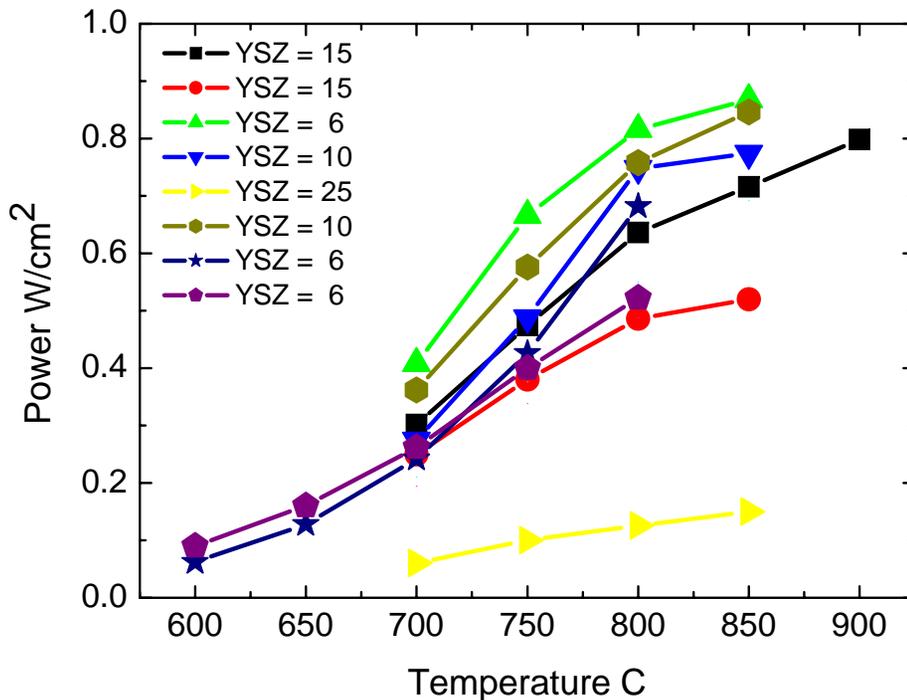
Current results: H₂ SOFC (expt.)

YSZ thickness, 6, 10, 15, 25 mg

Long term stability, 55 and 83 hours

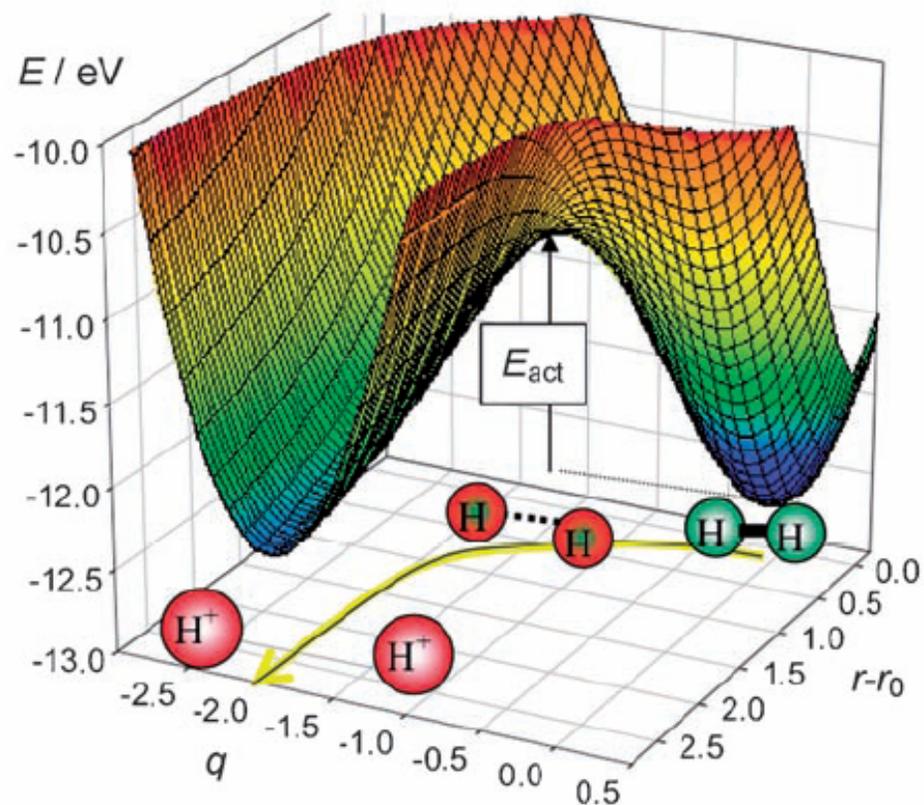
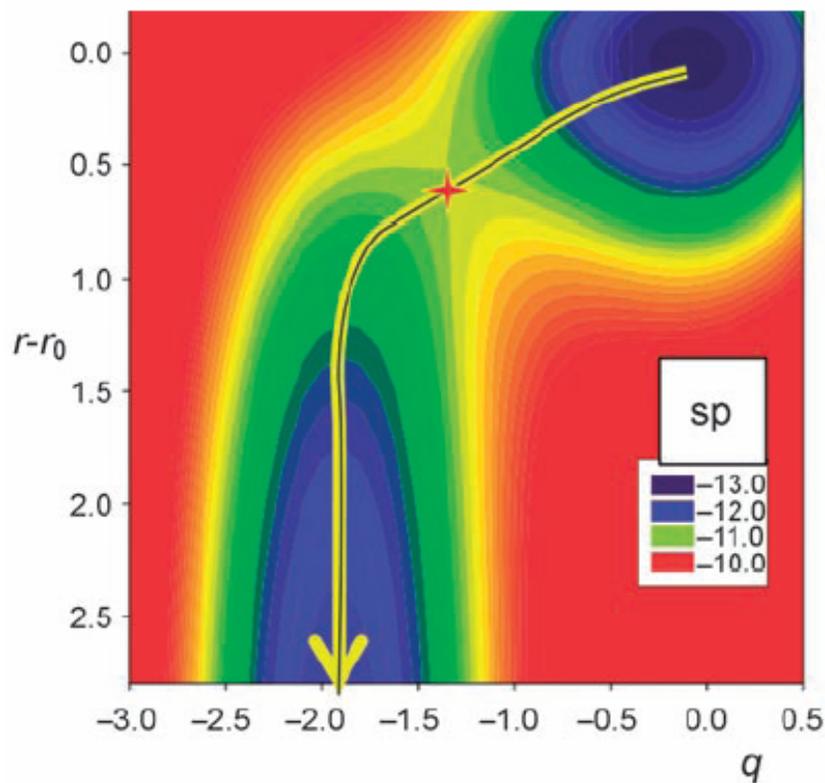
Thinner YSZ → lower resistant
6, 10 and 15 have similar performance

55 hours, power reduce < 1%
86 hours, power reduce < 5% (damage)



Current results: H₂ SOFC (compt.)

Anode reaction: H₂ → 2H⁺ + 2e⁻

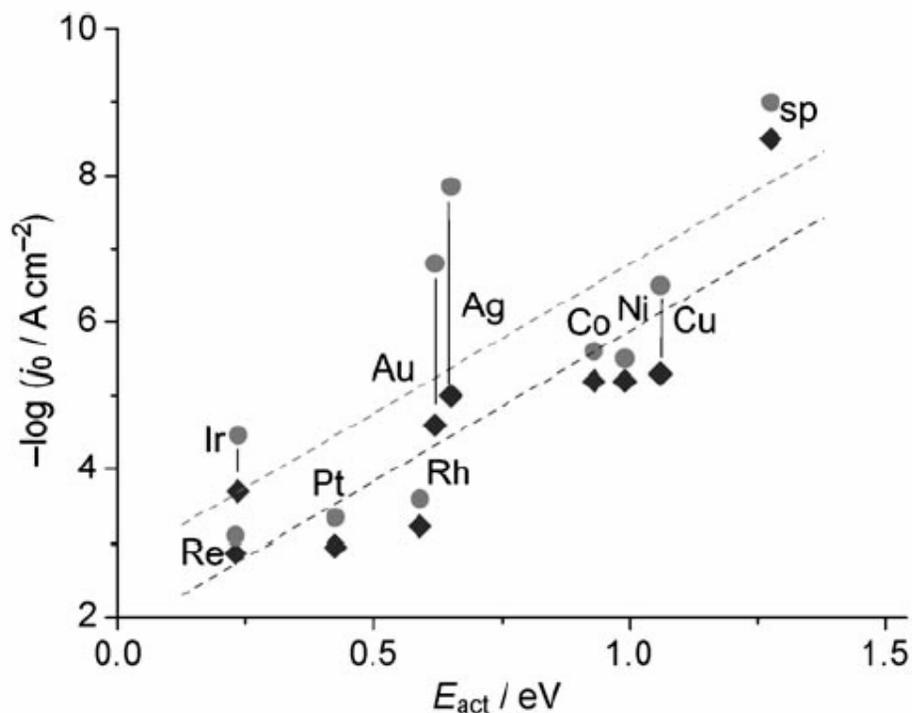


Elizabeth Santos and Wolfgang Schickler; Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 8262 –8265

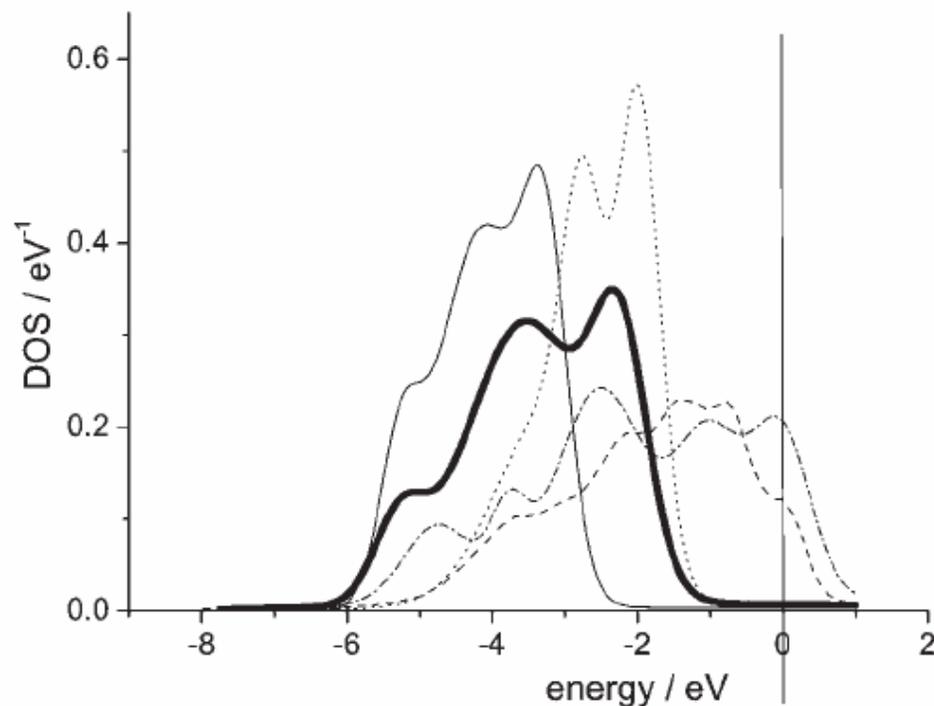
Current results: H₂ SOFC (compt.)

For metal surfaces, the performance is related to d-band centers

Performance --- H₂ dissociation



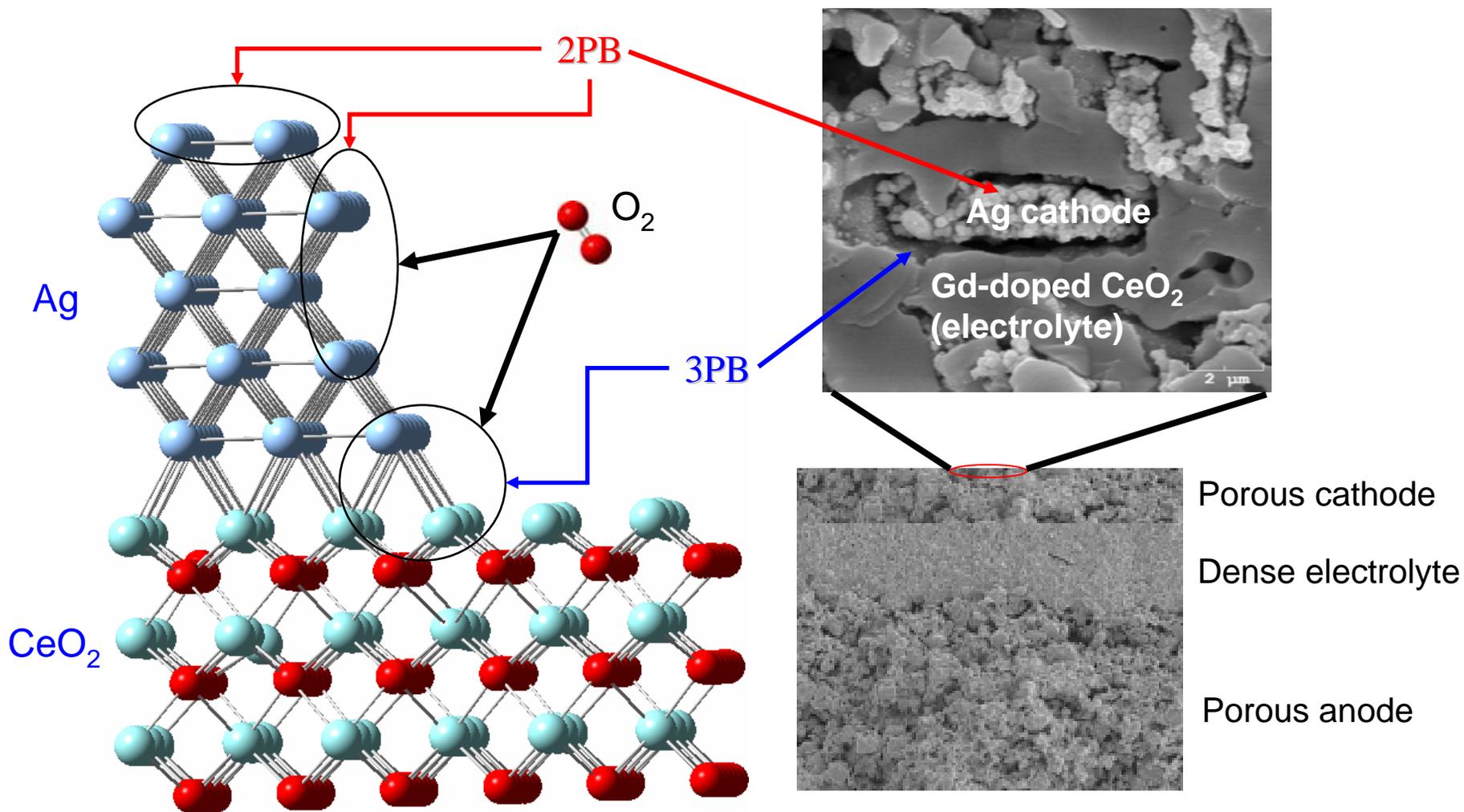
Dissociation barriers --- d-band structure



Elizabeth Santos and Wolfgang Schmickler; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2007, 46, 8262 –8265
Hammer, B.; Nørskov, J. K.; *Adv. Catal.*, **45**, 71 (2000)

Current results: H₂ SOFC (compt.)

PES of O₂ dissociation on Ag/CeO₂ (3PB) and Ag (2PB) surfaces

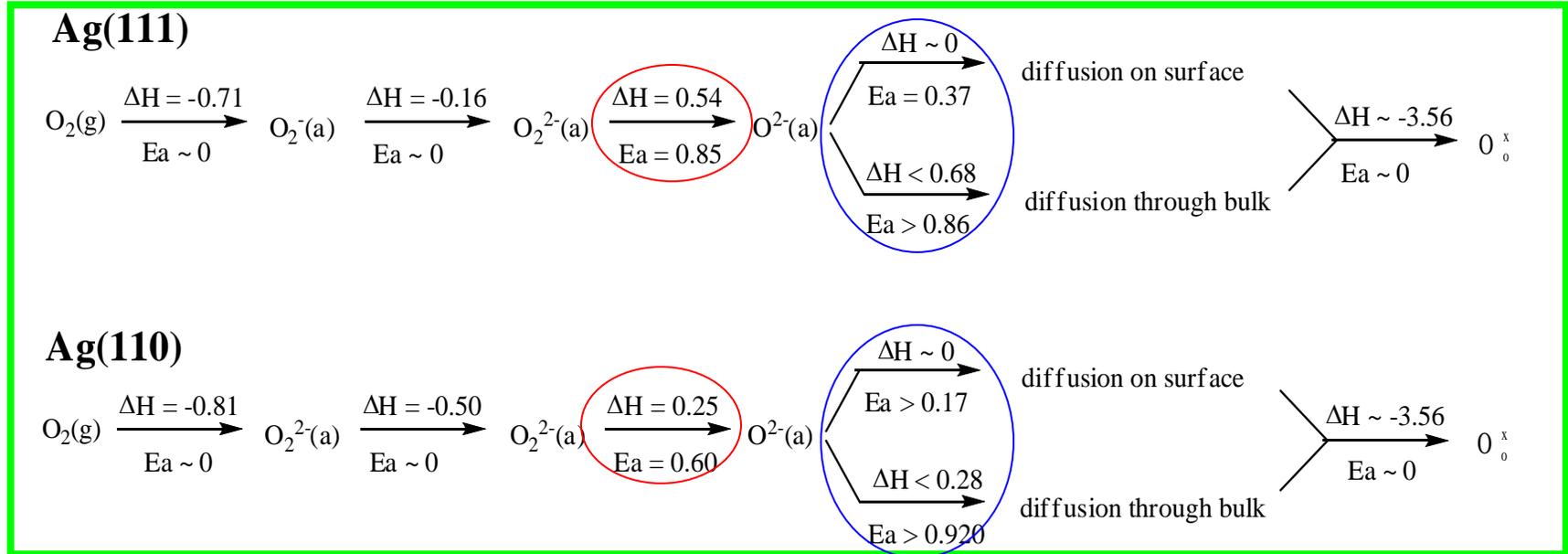


Wang, J. H.; Liu, M.; DOE SECA FY 2006 annual report

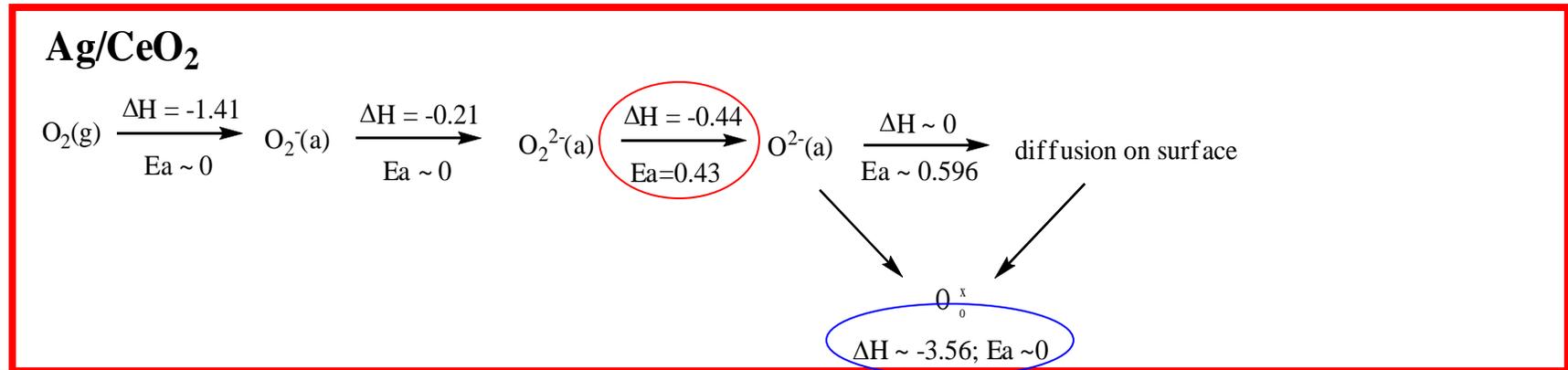
Current results: H₂ SOFC (compt.)

The O₂ reduction prefers to occur at 3PB

2PB



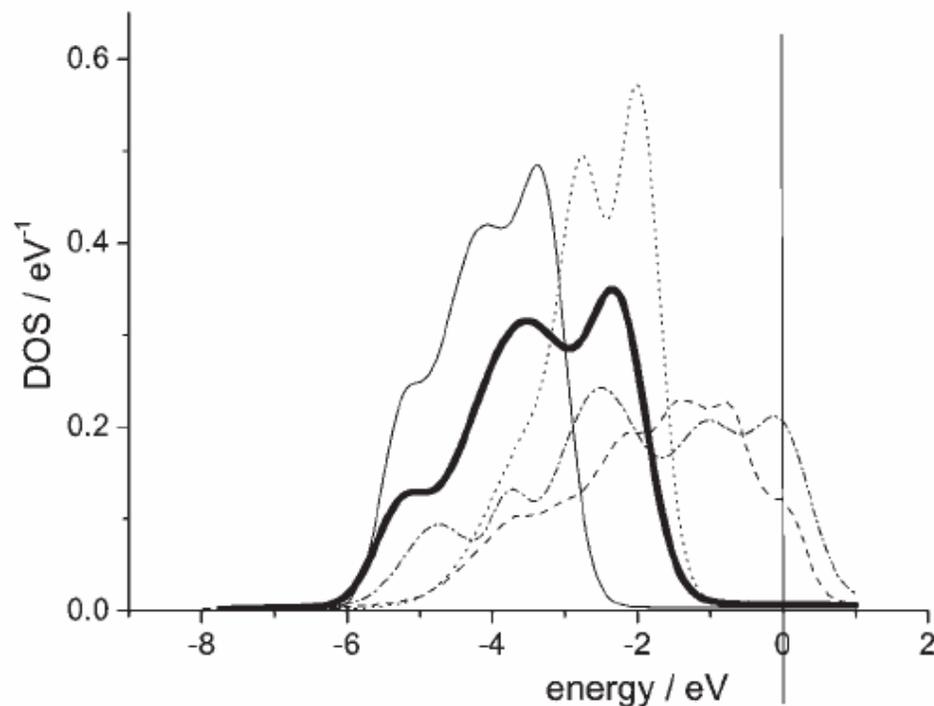
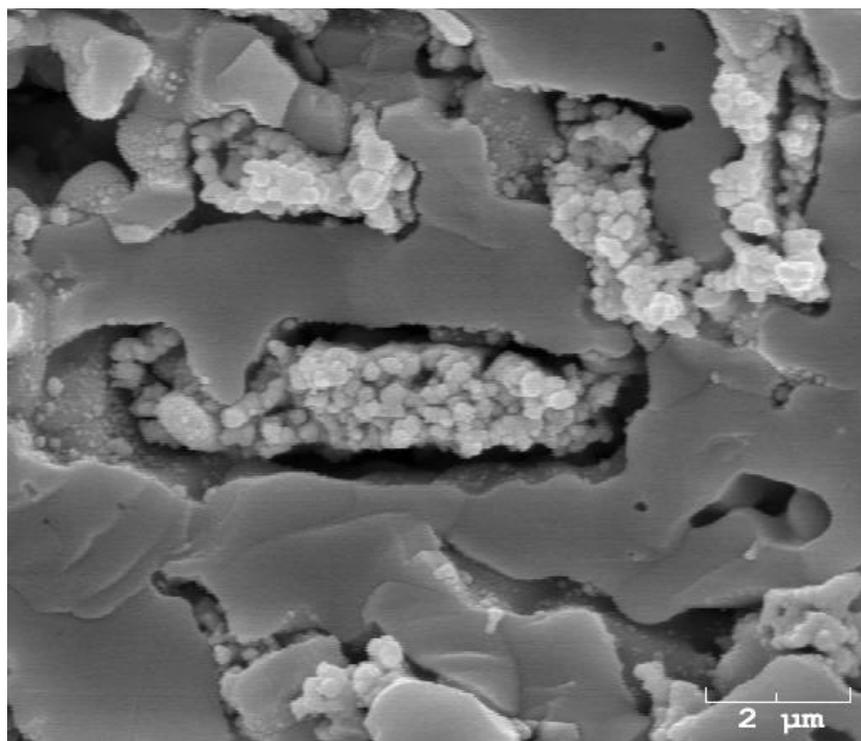
3PB



Future work: how if we nanoize the materials

The changes of physical and chemical properties

Increase reaction sites, 3PB (physical) Band structure changes, redox, (chemical)

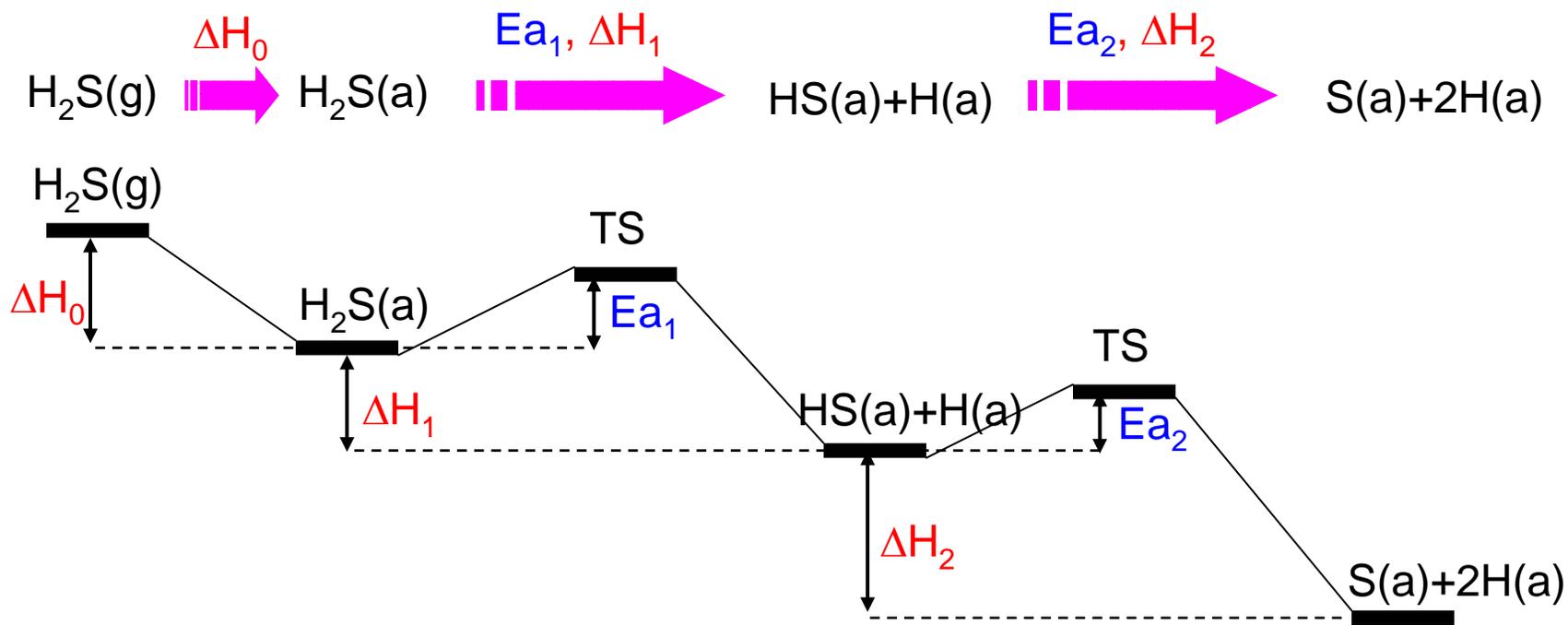


Elizabeth Santos and Wolfgang Schmickler; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2007, 46, 8262 –8265
Hammer, B.; Nørskov, J. K.; *Adv. Catal.*, **45**, 71 (2000)

Future work: how if we nanoize the materials

Surface orientation (physical)

	Ni(100)	Ni(111)	Fe(110)	Fe(100)
$\text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{S}(\text{a})$ (ΔH_0)	-0.83	-0.67	-1.20	-0.50
$\text{H}_2\text{S} \rightarrow \text{HS}+\text{S}$ (E_{a1})	0.29	0.15	0.10	0.25
$\text{H}_2\text{S} \rightarrow \text{HS}+\text{S}$ (ΔH_1)	-1.56	-0.98	-1.50	-1.30
$\text{HS} \rightarrow \text{H} + \text{S}$ (E_{a2})	0.45	0.11	0.11	0.28
$\text{HS} \rightarrow \text{H} + \text{S}$ (ΔH_2)	-1.05	-0.86	-1.35	-1.30



Pt(111): A. Michaelides and P. Hu, J. Chem. Phys. **115**, 8570 (2001)

Pd(111): D. R. Alfonso, et. Al., Catal. Today **99**, 315 (2005)

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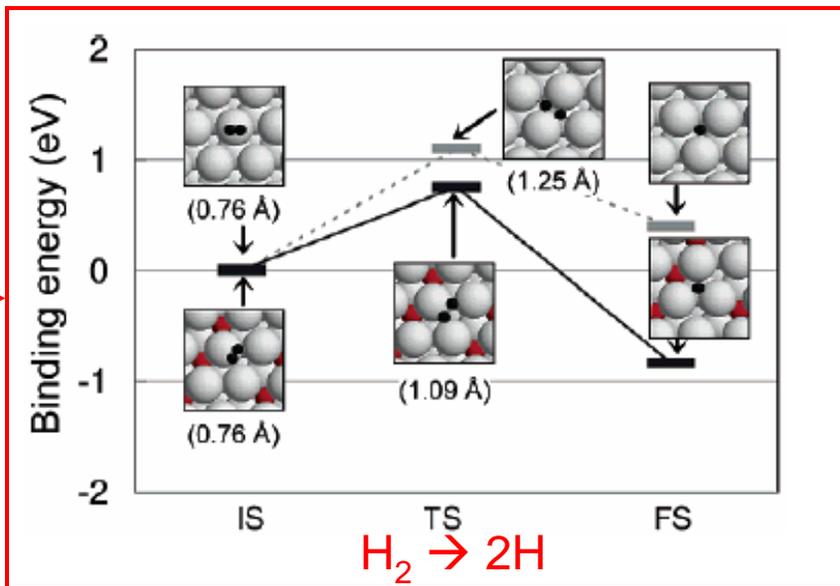
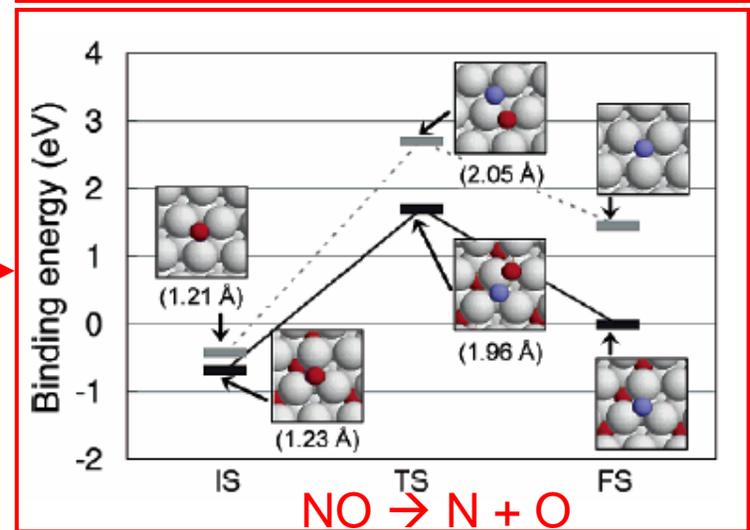
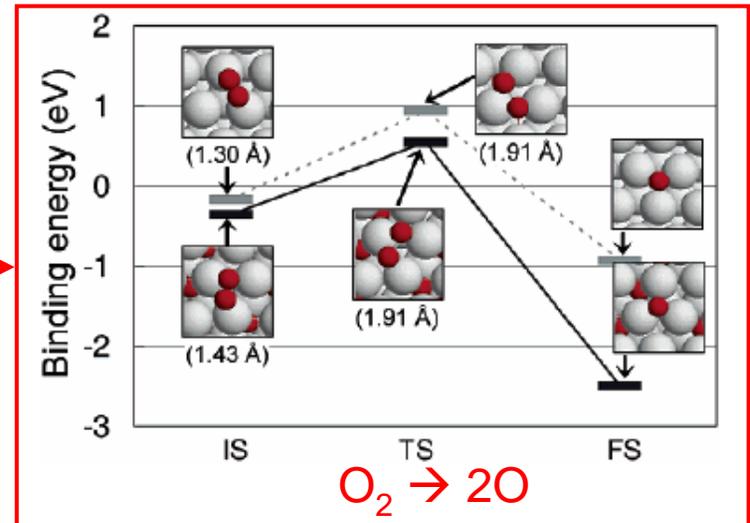
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Future work: how if we nanoize the materials

Catalytic activity (chemical)

reaction	$O_{(ads)}$ coverage	E_a (eV)	ZPE-corrected E_a^{ZPE} (eV)							
$H_2 \rightarrow 2H$	0	1.11	1.04							
	1/2	0.74	0.72							
$O_2 \rightarrow 2O$	0	1.11	1.06							
	1/2	0.86	$NO \rightarrow N + O$	0	3.12	3.08		1/2	2.38	2.33
$NO \rightarrow N + O$	0	3.12	3.08							
	1/2	2.38	2.33							



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Thank you !