



**The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



1938-10

Workshop on Nanoscience for Solar Energy Conversion

27 - 29 October 2008

Quantum simulations of electrochemical systems

Nicola MARZARI
*MIT, Dept of Materials Science & Engineering
77 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge
MA 02139-4307
U.S.A.*

Rari Nantes in Gurgite Vasto



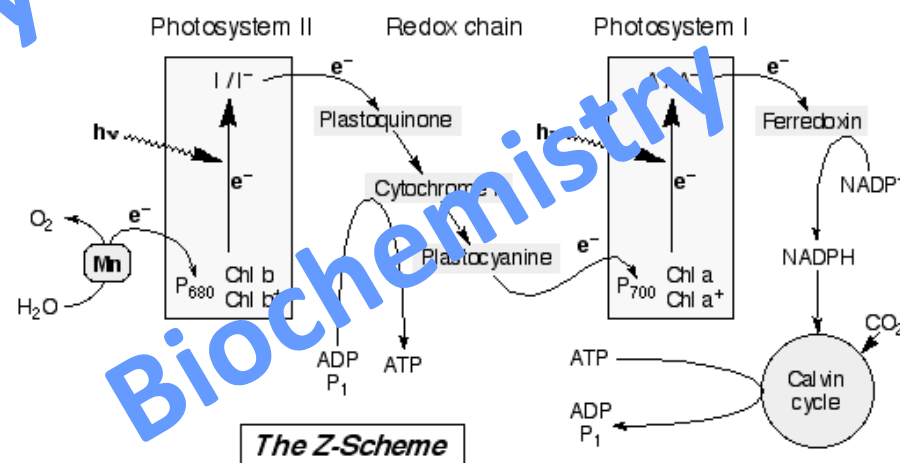
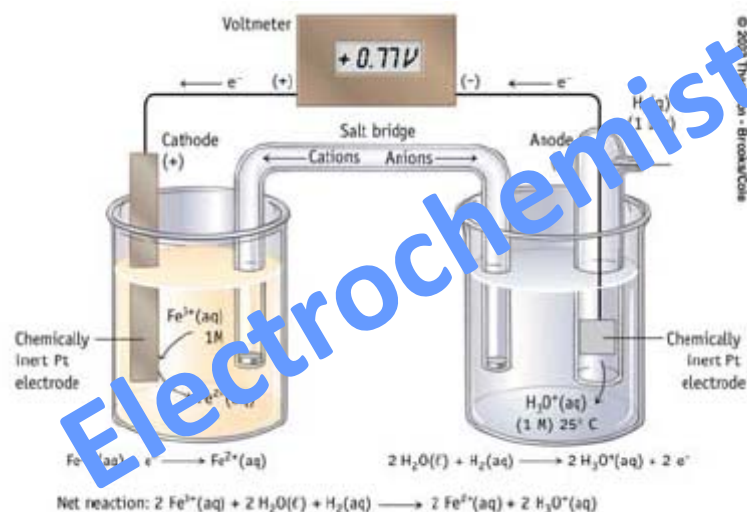
Nicola Marzari

***Department of Materials Science and Engineering, MIT
School of Science, Addis Ababa University***

Energy harvesting and conversion: DFT challenges

1. Oxidation states and charge-transfer excitations (IP/EA catastrophe, long-range self-interactions)
2. Transition-metal catalysis (localized d , f orbitals, short-range self-interactions)
3. Realistic electrochemistry: quantum simulations at applied electrochemical potentials

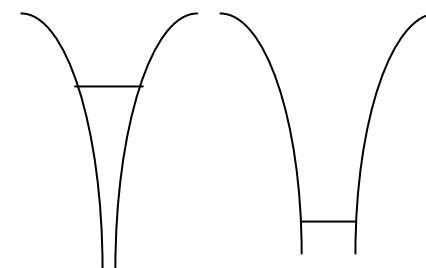
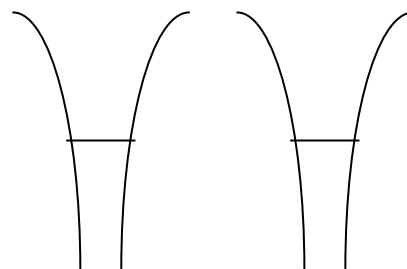
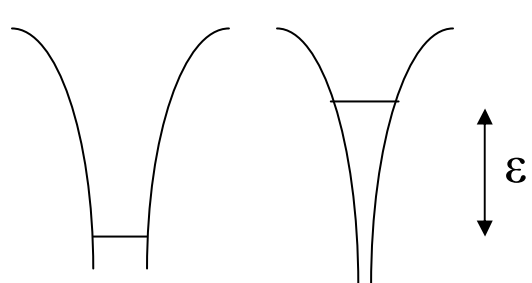
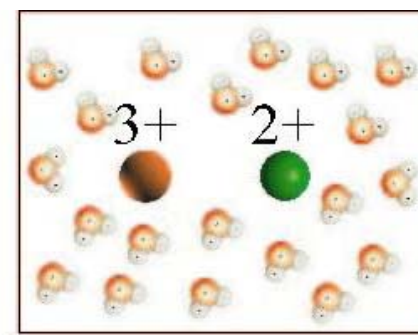
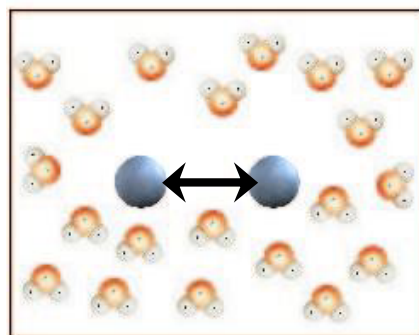
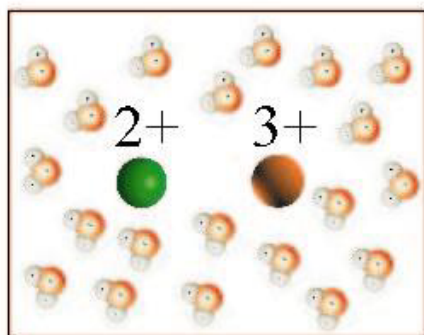
Electron-transfer reactions



- Redox reactions in which an electron moves from a donor to an acceptor (via a bridge, in “inner-sphere” reactions)
- Rudolph Marcus ('50s-'60s, Nobel prize in Chemistry, 1992)
- Arie Warshel, David Chandler ('80s)

Marcus picture of electron transfer

- Electron transfer mediated by polar solvent fluctuations.
- Tunneling can occur when reactant and product are degenerate



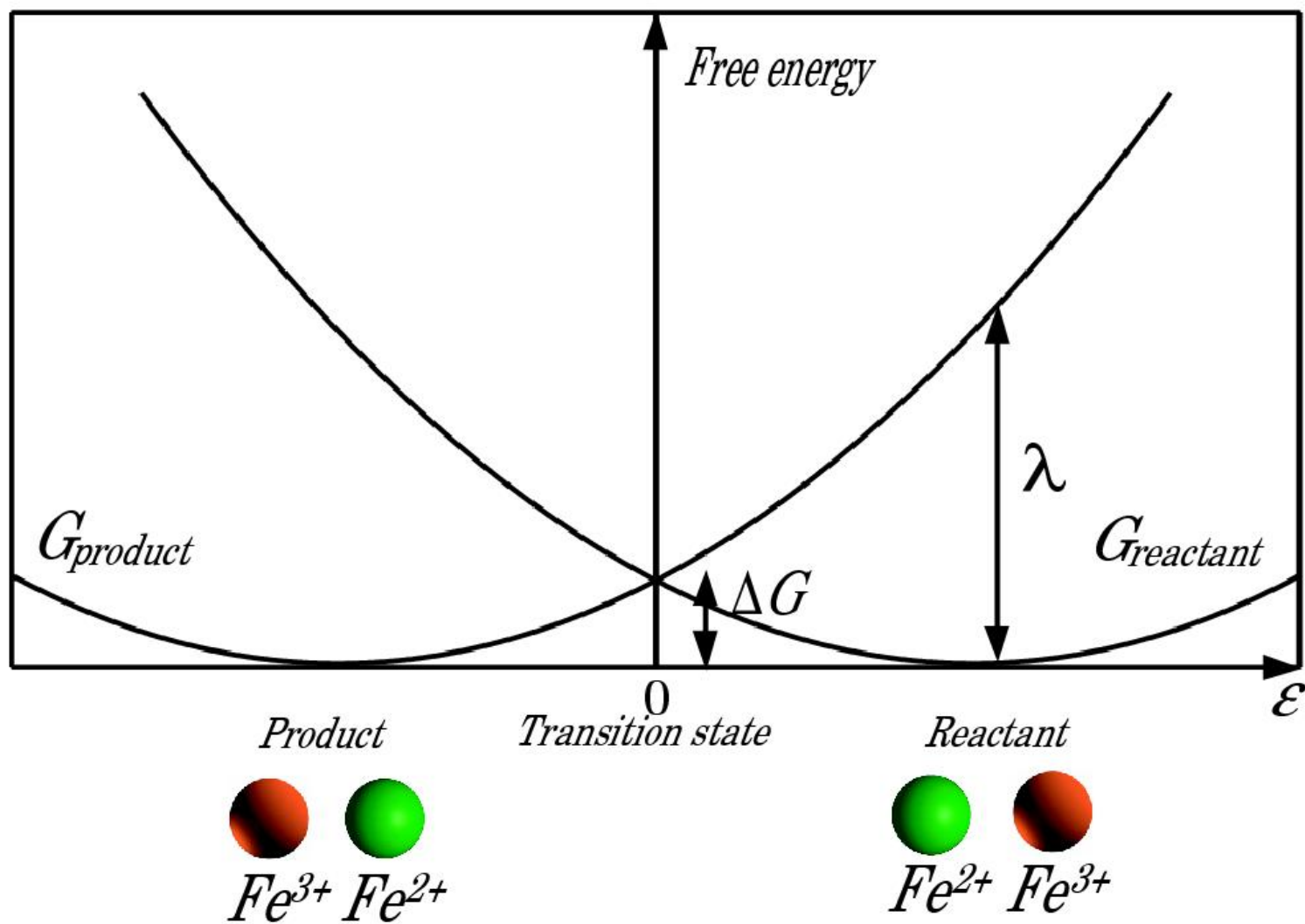
- $\epsilon = \epsilon_{\text{product}} - \epsilon_{\text{reactant}}$ is the energy gap or reaction coordinate

R. A. Marcus, J. Chem. Phys. 43, 679 (1965)

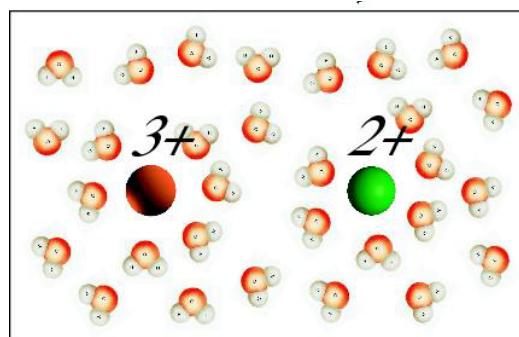
A. Warshel, J. Chem. Phys. 86, 2218 (1982)

D. Chandler, Classical and Quantum Dynamics in Condensed Phase Simulations, pp. 25-49 (1998)

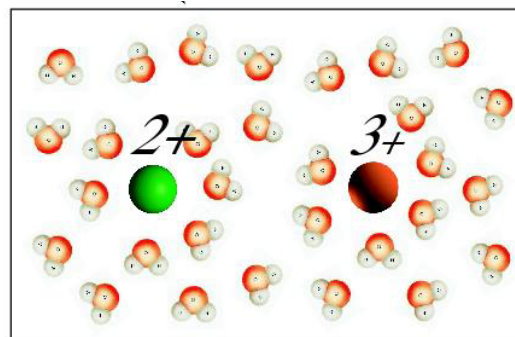
Ferrous-ferric self-exchange



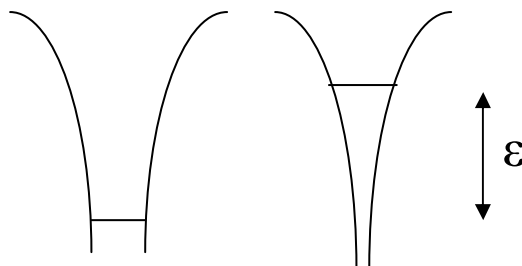
Sampling ϵ across the phase space



Product state



Reactant state

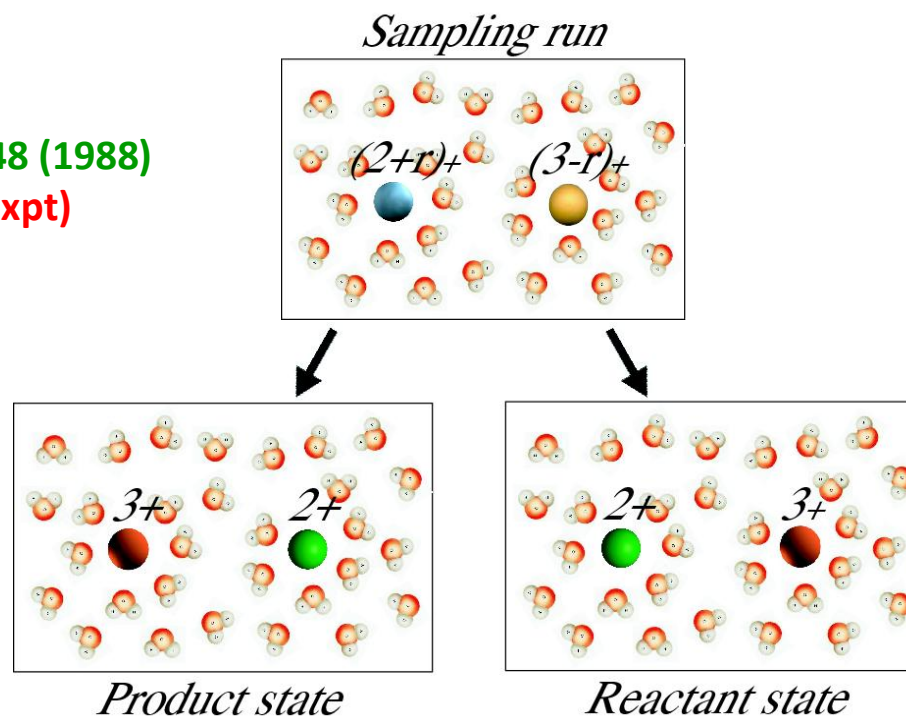


Calculation of the energy gap

R. A. Kuharski et al.

J. Chem. Phys. 89, 3248 (1988)

$\lambda = 3.6$ eV (vs 2.1 eV expt)



1. **Umbrella sampling runs:** Car-Parrinello simulations with fractional charged irons
2. **Constrained runs:** Car-Parrinello simulations constrained on the stored trajectories, and constrained on the reactant state and in the product state

Umbrella sampling

3. **Statistics:** $\varepsilon(\mathbf{t}) = \varepsilon_{\text{product}}(\mathbf{t}) - \varepsilon_{\text{reactant}}(\mathbf{t})$ is the reaction coordinate at each time step;
4. **$G_{\text{reactant}}(\varepsilon) = -k_B T \ln(P(\varepsilon))$ is the free energy, where $P(\varepsilon)$ is the probability distribution of ε , after corrections for **non-Boltzmann statistics** in the umbrella sampling**

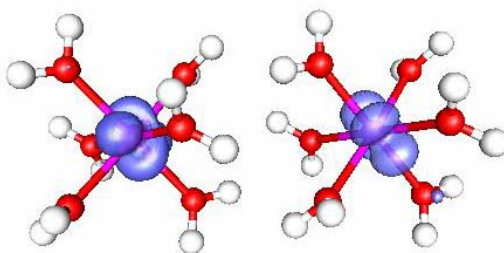
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\varepsilon) &= \frac{\int \delta(\varepsilon(\{r\}) - \varepsilon) \exp[-\beta E_r(\{r\})] dr_1 \cdots dr_N}{\int \exp[-\beta E_r(\{r\})] dr_1 \cdots dr_N} \\
 &= \frac{\int \exp[-\beta E_s(\{r\})] \delta(\varepsilon(\{r\}) - \varepsilon) \exp[-\beta [E_r(\{r\}) - E_s(\{r\})]] dr_1 \cdots dr_N}{\int \exp[-\beta E_s(\{r\})] \exp[-\beta [E_r(\{r\}) - E_s(\{r\})]] dr_1 \cdots dr_N} \\
 &= \frac{\sum_t \delta_{\varepsilon, \varepsilon(t)} \exp[-\beta [E_r(t) - E_s(t)]]}{\sum_t \exp[-\beta [E_r(t) - E_s(t)]]}
 \end{aligned}$$

When sampling Hamiltonian is not same as reactant Hamiltonian

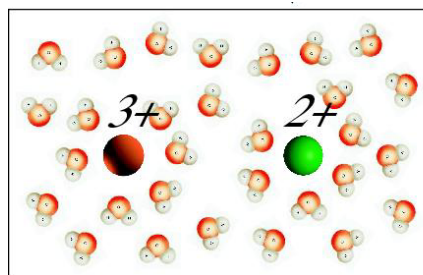


DFT shortcomings: ground and excited states

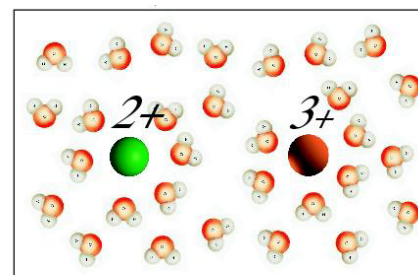
- a) The transferring electron (minority spin 3d electron for iron ions) splits between two ions – **the ground state is incorrect**



- b) The energy gap is an **excited state property**



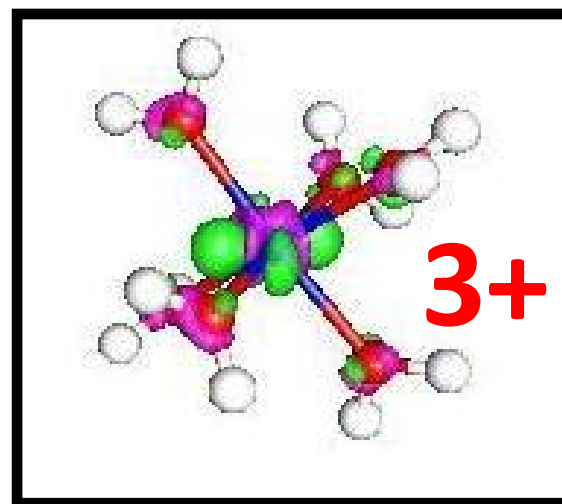
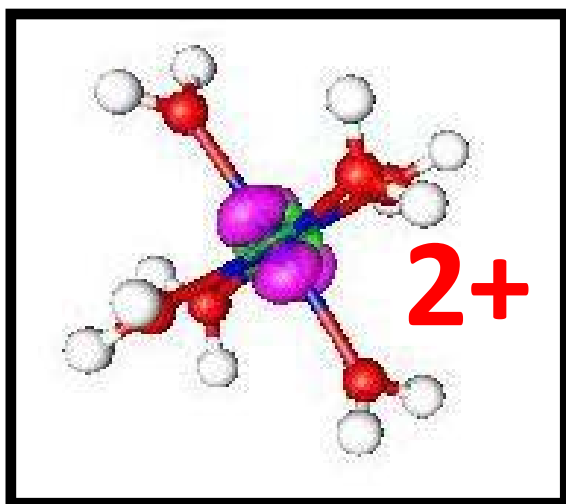
Product state



Reactant state

A penalty-functional for oxidation-reductions

You know the electronic structure you want



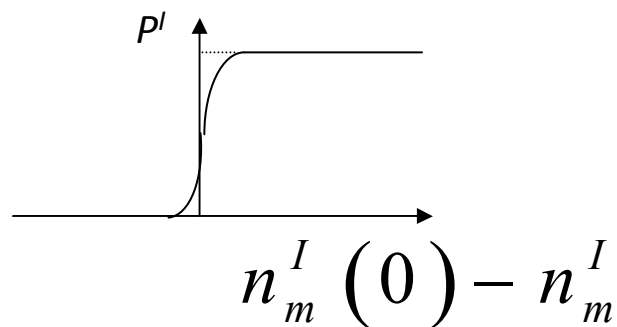
You capture it by measuring the occupation of target orbitals:

$$n_{mm}^{I\sigma} = \sum_i \langle \psi_i^\sigma | \varphi_m^I \rangle \langle \varphi_m^I | \psi_i^\sigma \rangle$$

A penalty-functional for oxidation-reductions

Penalize electronic states that have not the target occupation

$$\begin{aligned} E[\{\psi_i\}] &\Rightarrow E[\{\psi_i\}] + E_{\text{penalty}}[n^{I\sigma}(0)] \\ &= E[\{\psi_i\}] + \sum_I \frac{P^I}{\sigma_I \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{n^{I\sigma}(0) - n_m^I} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma_I^2}\right) dx \end{aligned}$$



Constrained DFT - see also:

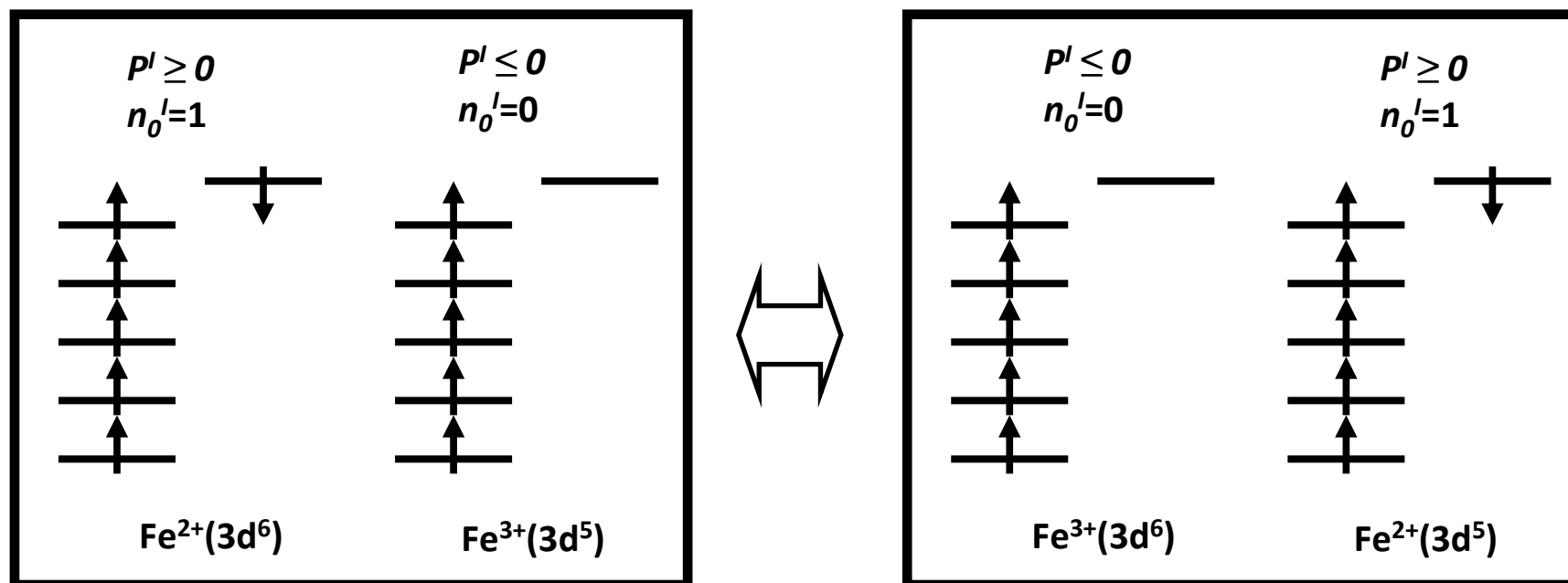
P. Dederichs et al, PRL 53, 2512 (1984)

T. Van Voorhis, PRA 72, 024502 (2005)

P. H. L. Sit, M Cococcioni and N. Marzari, PRL 97, 028303 (2006)

J. Boehler et al, PRB 75, 115409 (2007)

Controlling oxidation states



f_0^I is a COMPACT PHOTOGRAPH of the electronic structure you want

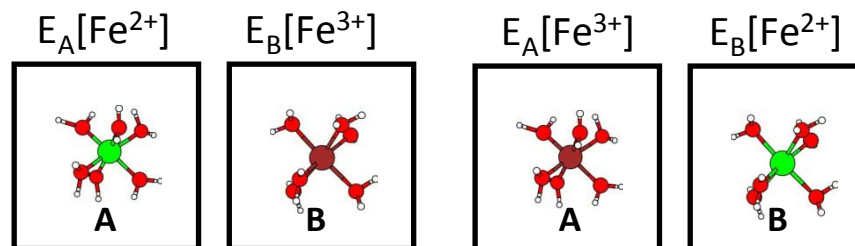
In aqueous environment, to reproduce the correct ferrous, ferric picture:

	p^I	n_0^I	σ_1
<i>ferrous</i>	0.54 eV	0.95	0.01
<i>ferric</i>	-0.54 eV	0.28	0.01

Is it correct ? (Quantitative picture)

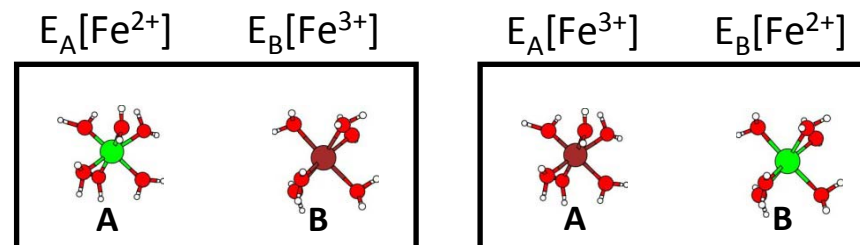
Exact DFT calculations:

$$\varepsilon = \{E_A[\text{Fe}^{3+}] + E_B[\text{Fe}^{2+}]\} \\ - \{E_A[\text{Fe}^{2+}] + E_B[\text{Fe}^{3+}]\}$$



Penalty functional:

$$\varepsilon = E_{AB}[\text{Fe}^{3+} - \text{Fe}^{2+}] \\ - E_{AB}[\text{Fe}^{2+} - \text{Fe}^{3+}]$$



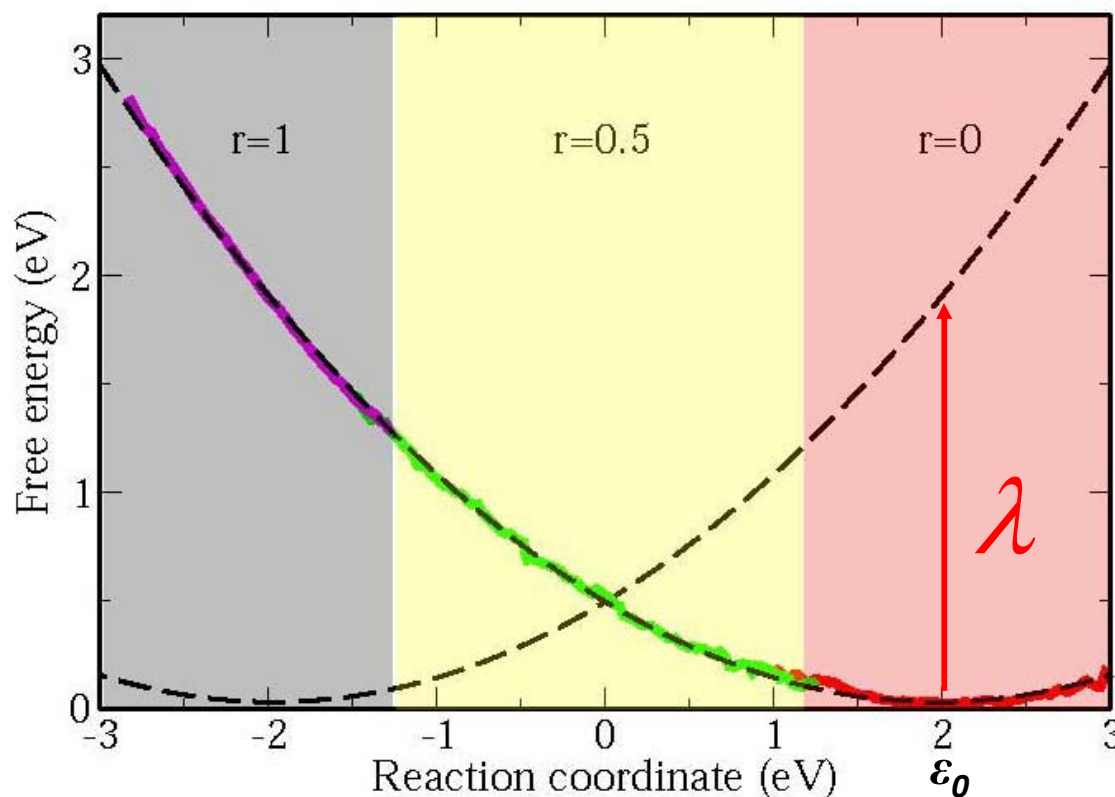
Exact DFT	Penalty functional
0.622 eV	0.632 eV
0.542 eV	0.569 eV
0.769 eV	0.769 eV
1.012 eV	1.027 eV

Take home message 😊

Standard LDA/GGA DFT predicts excited states with 0.01 eV accuracy !

(for some charge-transfer reactions...)

Realistic Marcus free energy surface



Two ions, separated 5.5 Å apart, solvated in 62 water molecules at 400 K

$$\lambda = G_{\text{product}}(\varepsilon_0) - G_{\text{reactant}}(\varepsilon_0) = 1.93 \text{ eV (expt. 2.1 eV)}$$

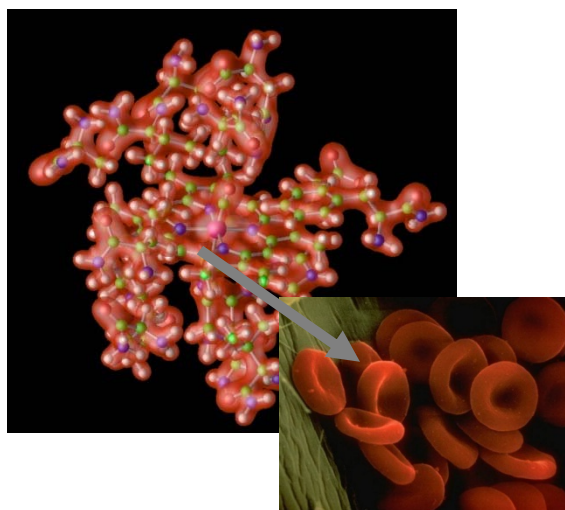
P. H. L. Sit, M Cococcioni and N. Marzari, Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 028303 (2006)

Transition-metal chemistry

Transition metals are reactive centers of fundamental natural and synthetic reactions:

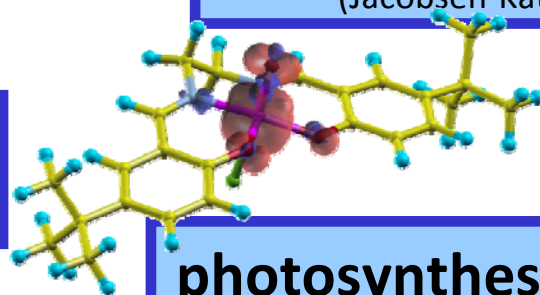
hemeproteins

(Myoglobin pictured).



chiral epoxidation

(Jacobsen-Katsuki catalyst).

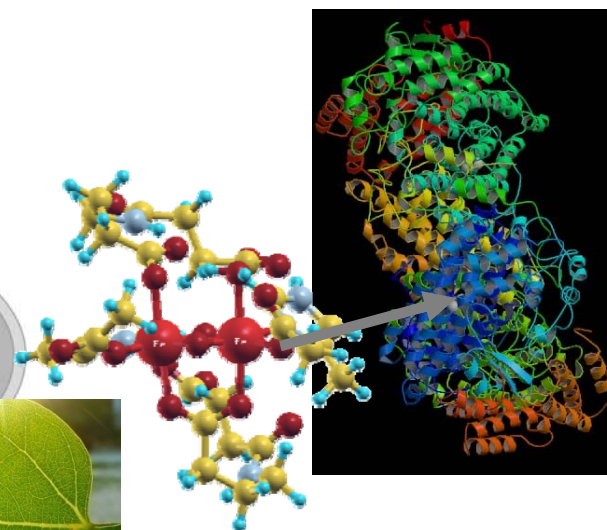
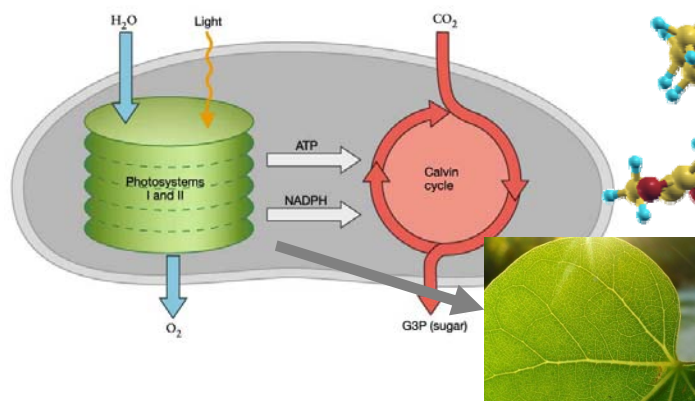


oxidoreductases

(Methane monooxygenase).

photosynthesis

(Photosystems I/II).



But **most** electronic-structure approaches **fail** to describe transition metal chemistry accurately!

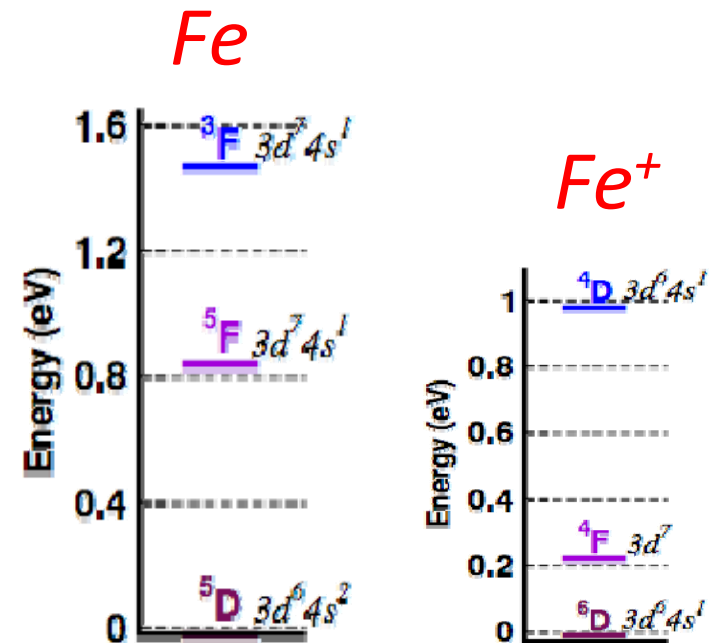
Transition-metal chemistry

d,f electrons are challenging

1) localized

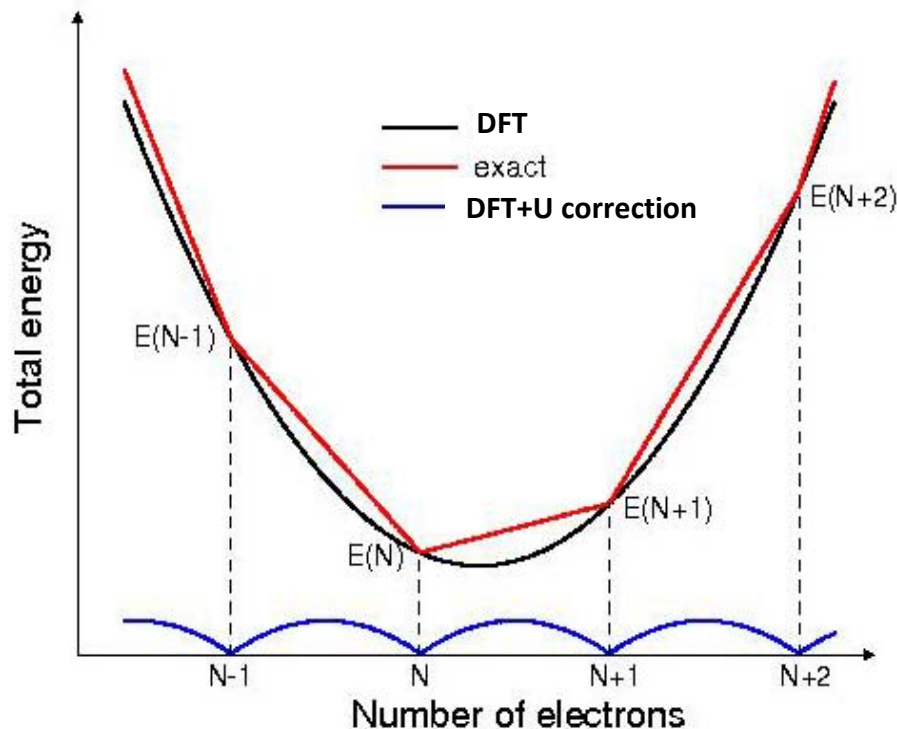
2) closely spaced levels

3) open shell: several configurations and spins



A DFT + Hubbard U approach

$$\frac{U}{2} \sum_{I,\sigma} \sum_{mm'} [n_{mm'}^{I\sigma} (\delta_{m'm} - n_{m'm}^{I\sigma})]$$



GGA energy has *unphysical curvature*

the exact solution is *piecewise linear*

correction reproduces exact solution

U is the *intrinsic* unphysical curvature of the GGA solution;
U is a FIRST-PRINCIPLES linear-response property:

U and rotationally-invariant U: V.I. Anisimov and coworkers PRB (1991), PRB (1995).

LRT U: M. Cococcioni and S. de Gironcoli. PRB (2005)

$$U = \frac{d^2 E^{LDA}}{d(n^{Id})^2} - \frac{d^2 E_0^{LDA}}{d(n^{Id})^2}$$

Isoelectronic FeO⁺ series

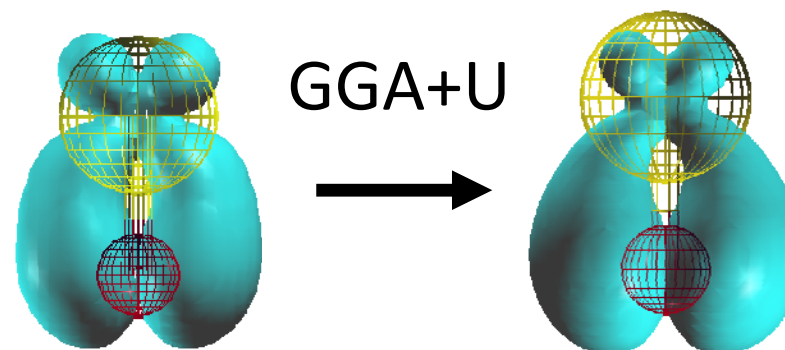
$$6\Sigma^+$$

FeO ⁺	5.50
FeN	4.38
MnO	3.41
CrO ⁻	2.85
CrF	2.00

Structural Parameters: FeO⁺

	⁶ FeO ⁺			⁴ FeO ⁺		
Method	R_e	ω_e	$\omega_e x_e$	R_e	ω_e	$\omega_e x_e$
GGA	1.62	901	328	1.56	1038	332
GGA+U	1.66	749	432	1.75	612	172
CCSD(T)	1.66	724	434	1.70	633	188

Delocalized minority spin π bond of ⁴FeO⁺

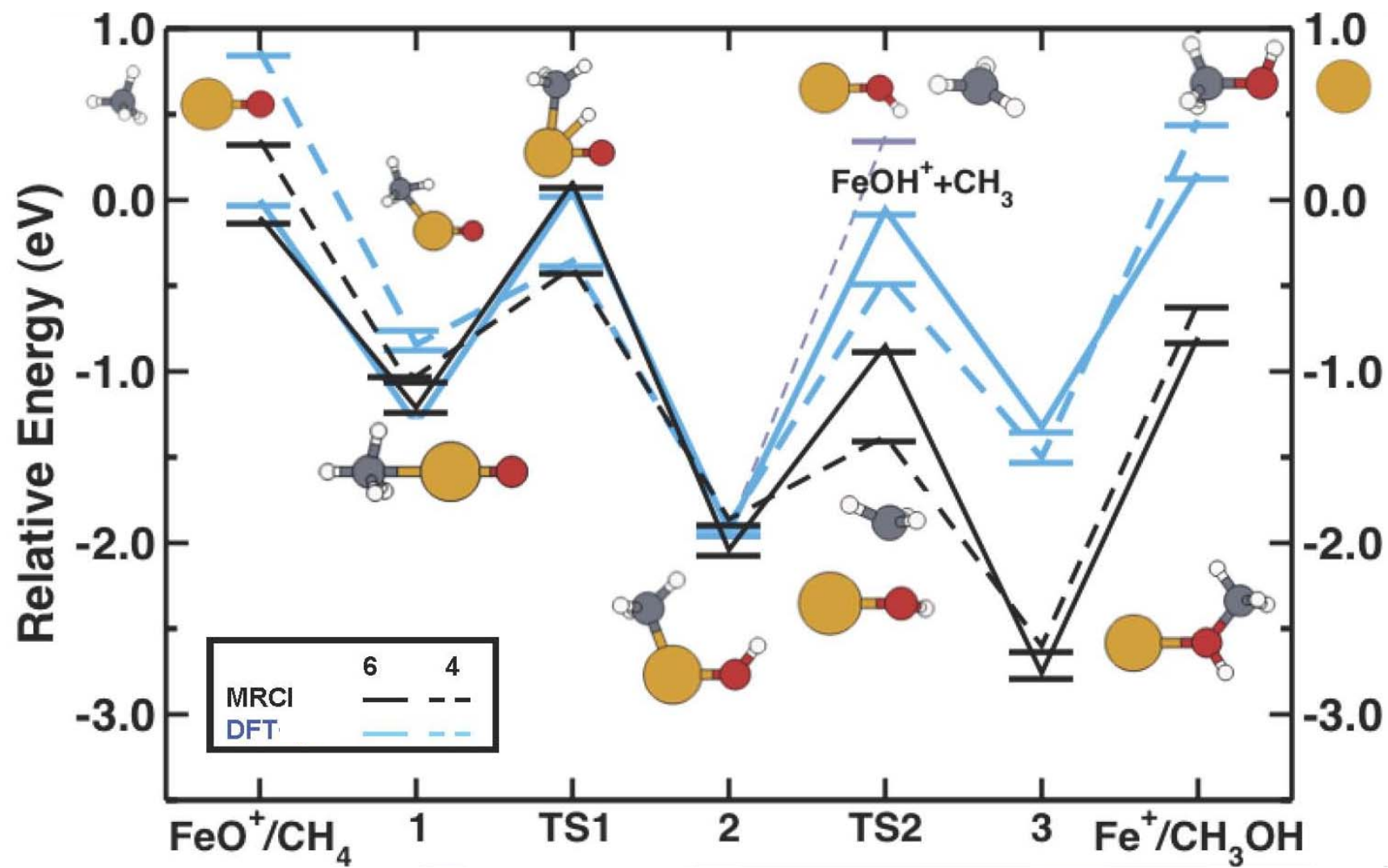


Multiplet Splittings: Fe₂ and Fe₂⁻

State	B3LYP	GGA	+U ₀ (2eV)	+U _{scf} (3eV)	CCSD(T)	MRCI ^a
⁸ Σ _g ⁻	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
⁸ Δ _g	0.14	-0.52	0.04	0.38	0.40	0.45
⁹ Σ _g ⁻	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
⁷ Σ _g ⁻	0.34	0.65	0.66	0.60	0.55	0.62
⁷ Δ _u	0.18	-0.12	0.48	0.72	0.86	0.69
⁹ Δ _g	0.36	0.28	0.36	0.41	0.38	0.45

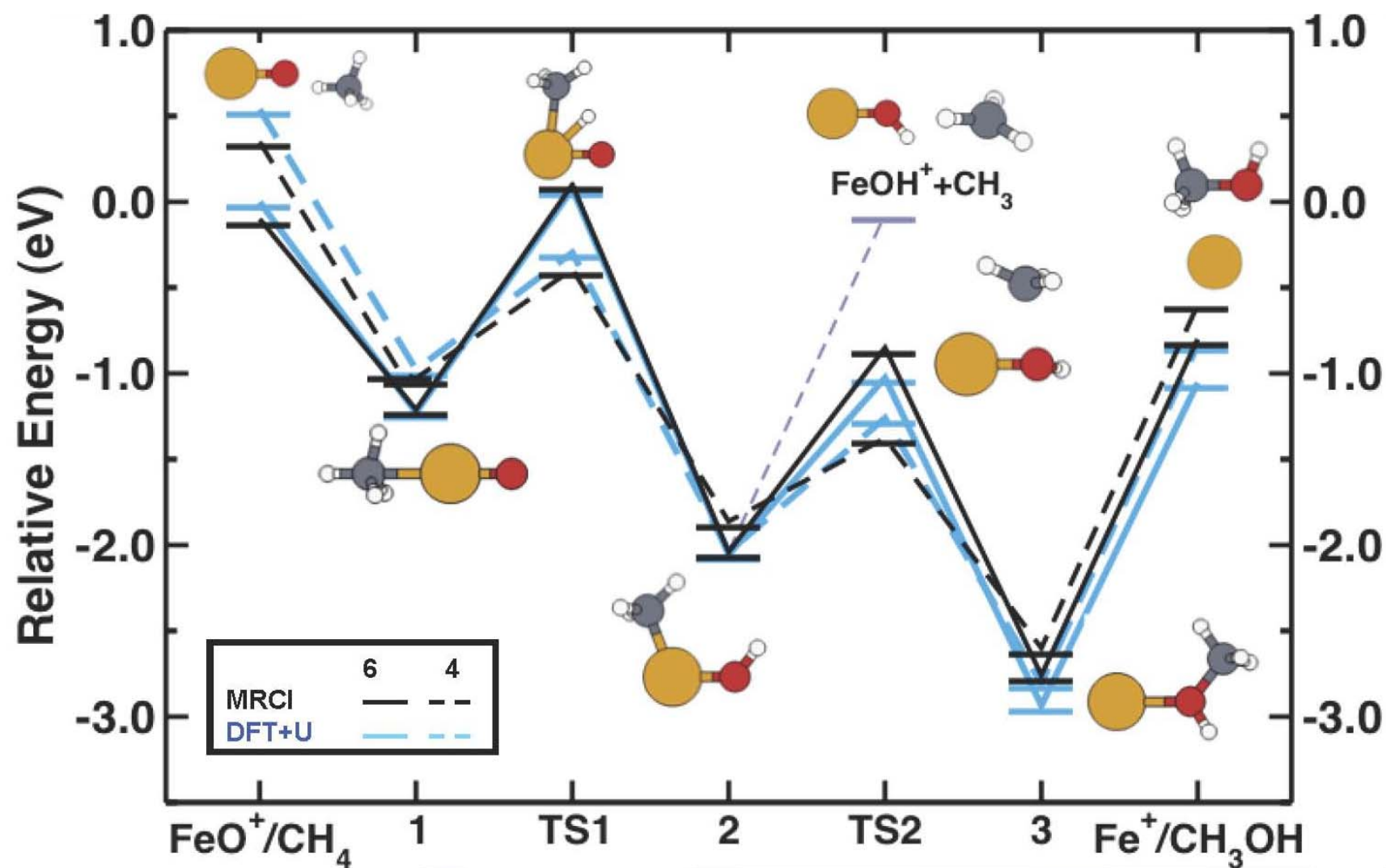
H.J. Kulik, M. Cococcioni, D.A. Scherlis, and N. Marzari, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2006)

CH_4 on FeO^+ : GGA



H.J. Kulik and N. Marzari, JCP in press (2008)

CH_4 on FeO^+ : GGA+U



H.J. Kulik and N. Marzari, JCP in press (2008)

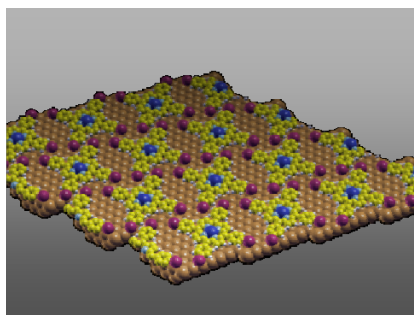
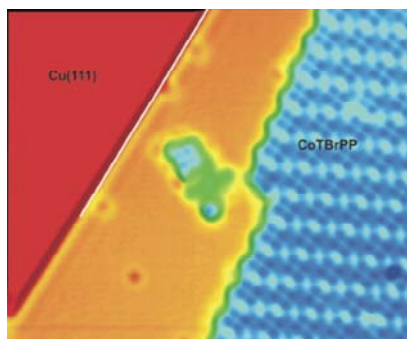
Multiplet splittings

Mean Absolute Errors

	GGA	GGA+U	B3LYP
Bond length (10^{-2} Å)	4.3	2.2	1.3
Multiplet splitting (eV)	0.20	0.04	0.30

Co-Porphyrin SAM on Cu(111)

Experiments show net spin on the outer ring of the molecule, not on Co when in SAM on Cu(111) surface (in collaboration with S-W Hla, Ohio U.)

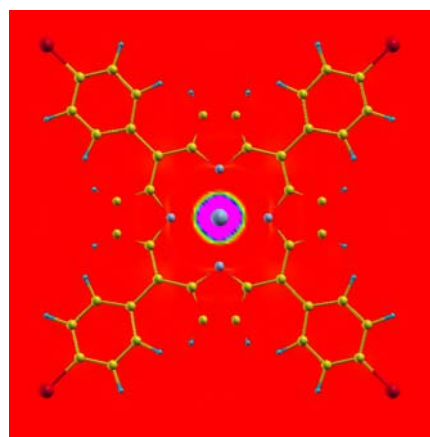


Unit cell: Co-TBrPP on Cu(111) slab
(177 atoms, 1357 e^-).

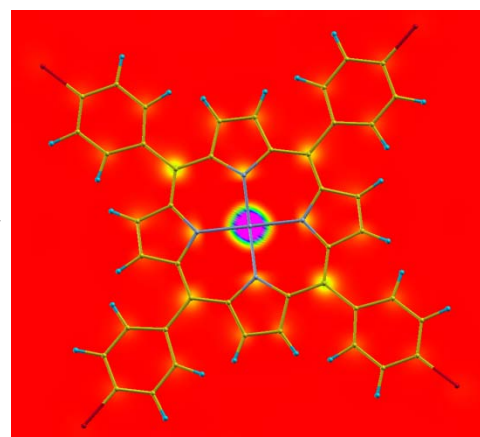
CPU Time: 20hrs on 6 2.40GHz Intel
Core 2 Duos.

isolated molecule

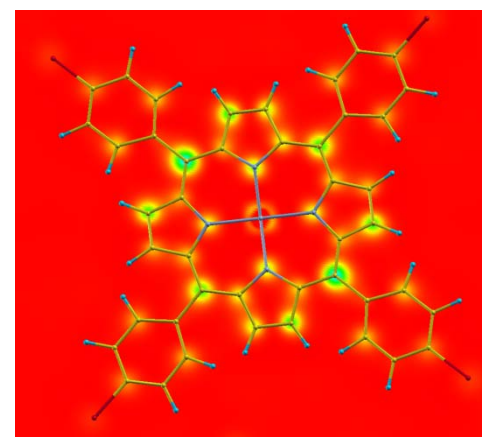
SAM on Cu(111)



GGA and GGA+U



GGA



GGA+U

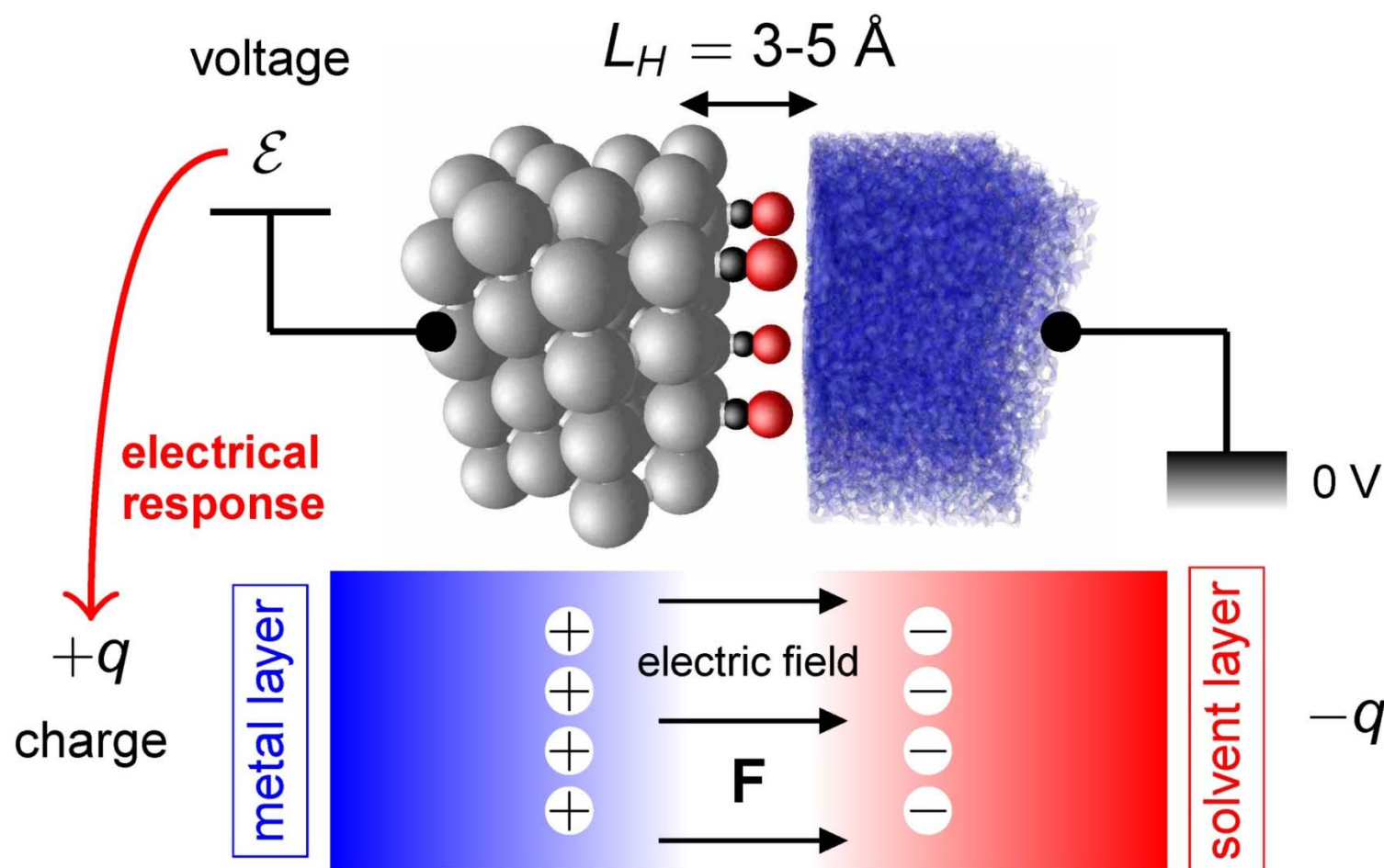
First-principles electrochemistry

Quantum-simulations in a realistic electrochemical environment:

1. solvent
2. counterions
3. applied potential

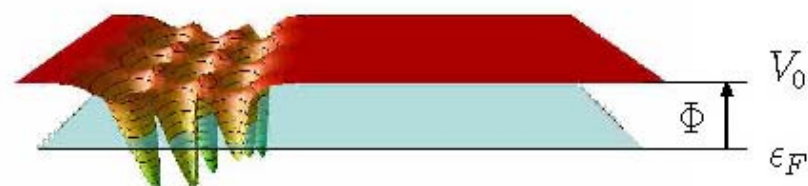
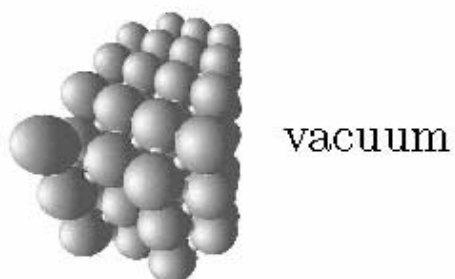
Our approach

The electrode potential is measured from the screened response of the quantum, solvent, and counterion fields

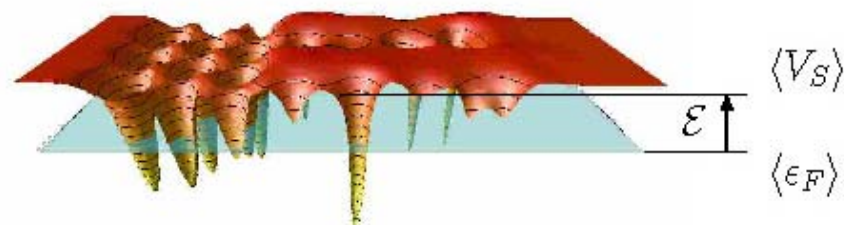
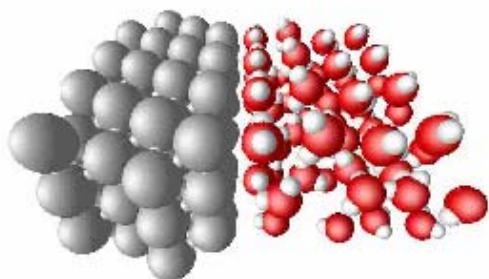


Work function and absolute electrode potential

(a) Work function Φ

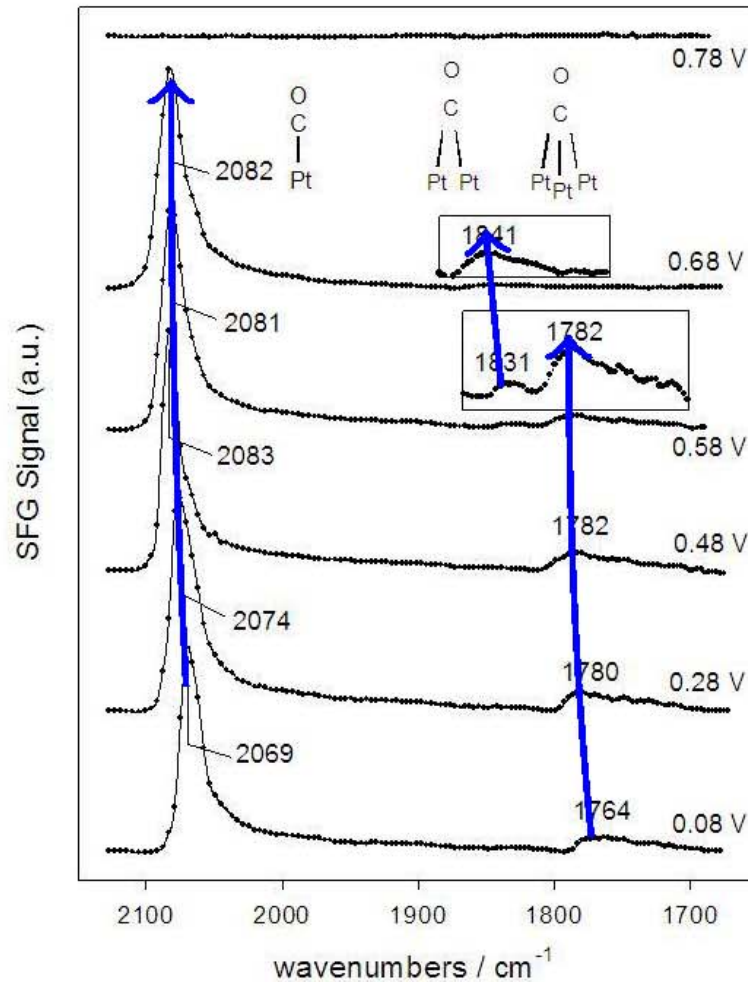


(b) Electrode potential $\mathcal{E}$



- 1 **Work Function:** Difference between the Fermi energy and the vacuum reference energy ($q = 0$ only)
- 2 **Electrode Potential:** Difference between the Fermi energy and the reference energy in the bulk of the solvent ($q = 0$ and $q \neq 0$)

Our probe: Stark tuning shifts



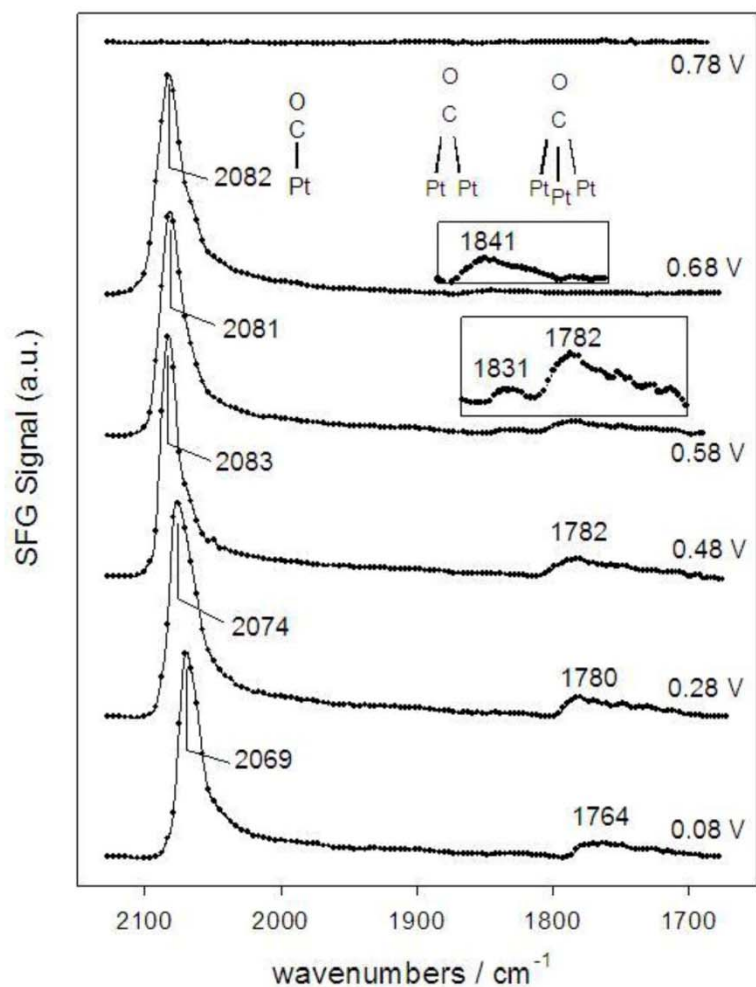
$$\frac{d\nu(\text{C-O})}{d\mathcal{E}} = 28\text{-}32 \text{ cm}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{C}$$

- Technologically important system (CO poisoning).
- Accurate experimental data.
- Highly sensitive to electrochemical conditions.
- No comprehensive first-principles model.

Vibrational properties from DFT



I. Dabo, A. Wieckowski, N. Marzari, JACS 129, 11045-11052 (2007)



$$\nu(\text{C} - \text{O})$$

DFT

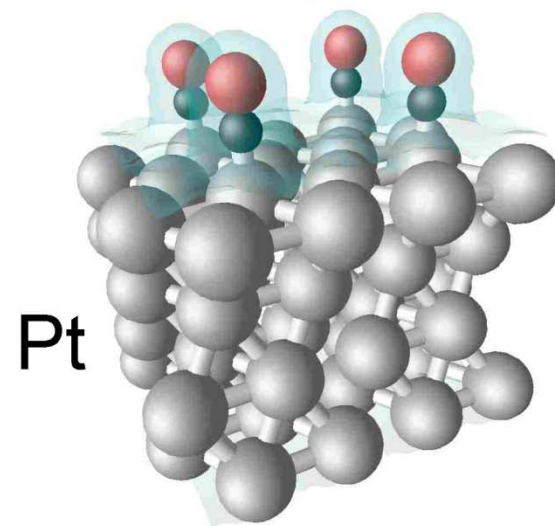
(Exp.)

atop 2050 cm^{-1} (2070 cm^{-1})

bridge 1845 cm^{-1} (1830 cm^{-1})

hcp 1752 cm^{-1} (1760 cm^{-1})

fcc 1743 cm^{-1} (1760 cm^{-1})



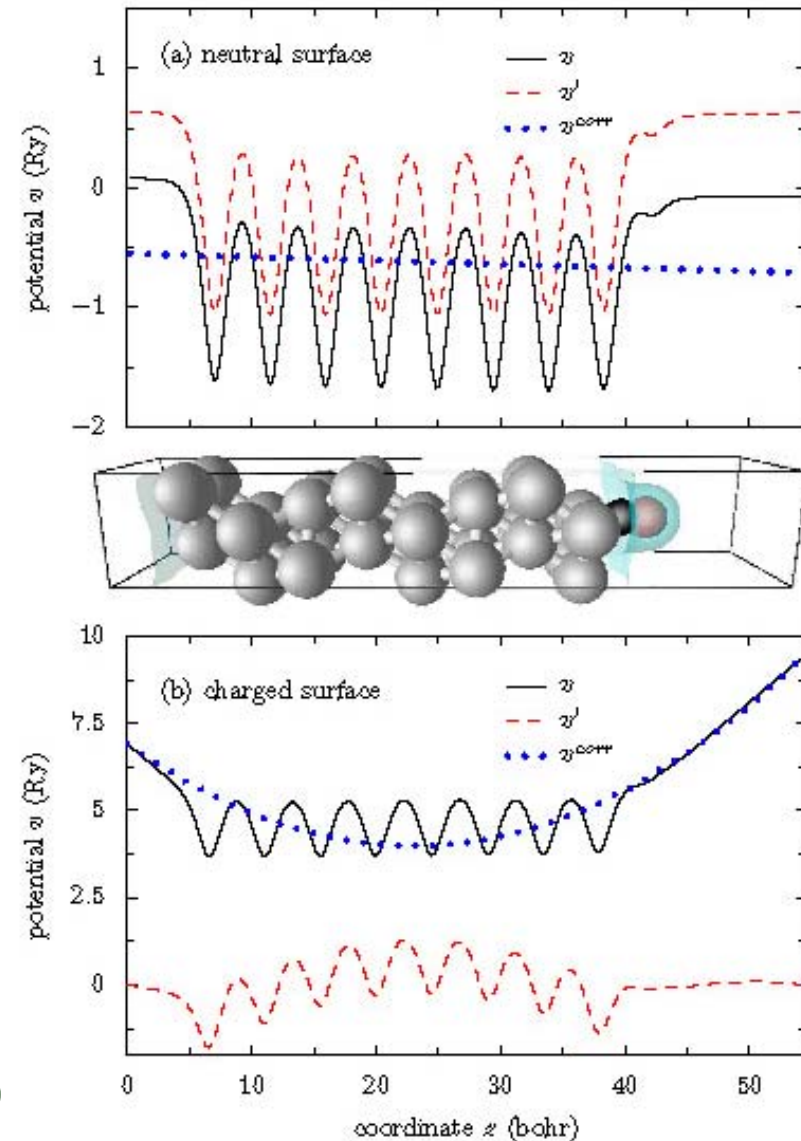
First ingredient: arbitrary boundary conditions

$$d^2v/dz^2 = -4\pi\rho$$

$$\text{---} \quad d^2v'/dz^2 = -4\pi(\rho - \langle\rho\rangle)$$

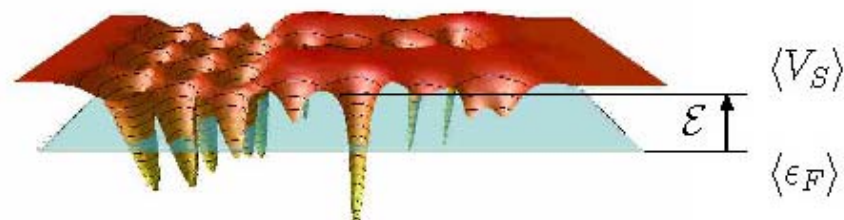
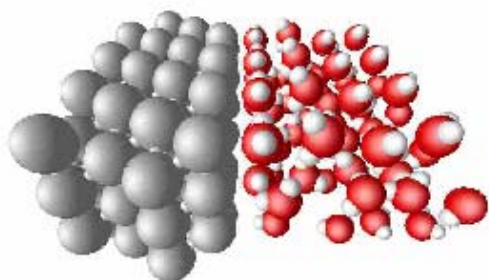
$$d^2v^{corr}/dz^2 = -4\pi\langle\rho\rangle$$

I. Dabo, B. Kozinsky, N. E. Singh-Miller, and
N. Marzari, Phys. Rev. B. 77, 115139 (2008)

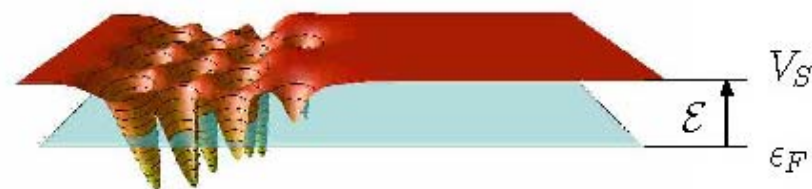
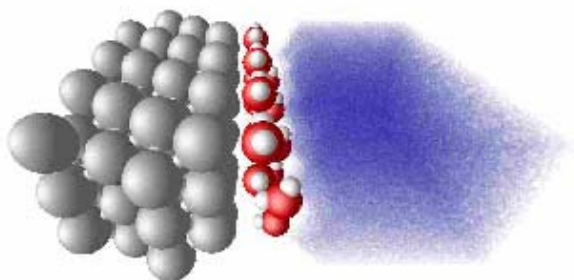


Second ingredient: solvent

(a) Explicit solvent model



(b) Implicit solvent model



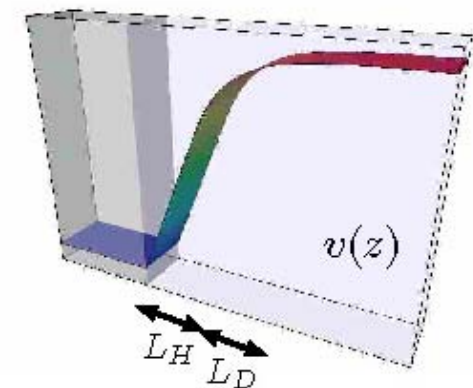
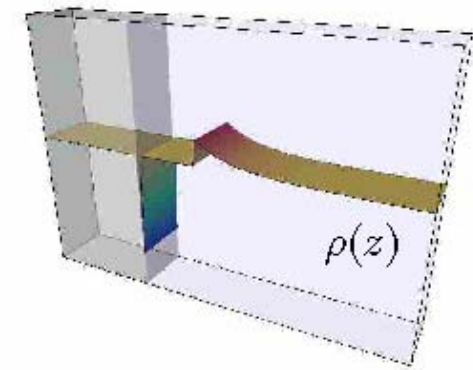
D. Scherlis, J.-L Fattebert, F. Gygi, M. Cococcioni, and N. Marzari, J. Chem. Phys (2006)

Third ingredient: self-consistent field of counterions

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \cdot \epsilon \nabla v^{corr} = -4\pi(\langle \rho \rangle + \rho'_p + \rho_d) \\ \rho'_p = \nabla \cdot \chi \nabla v' \\ \rho_d = z_d c_d \left(e^{-\frac{z_d v}{k_B T}} - e^{+\frac{z_d v}{k_B T}} \right) \text{ if } \rho < \rho_1 \end{array} \right.$$

$\Rightarrow$ ionic solvent reaction field

(c) Stern



**Fourth ingredient:
Electrochemical Boundary Conditions
(unpublished)**

Electrochemical vibrational Stark effect (unpublished)

QUASIAMORE @ MIT



QUAntum **SI**mulations for **A**dvanced **M**aterials **O**ptimization and **RE**search



Dr Francesca Baletto (hydrogen storage materials)

Dr Nicola Bonini (thermal management of nanostructures)

Dr Oswaldo Dieguez (CO tolerant catalysts)

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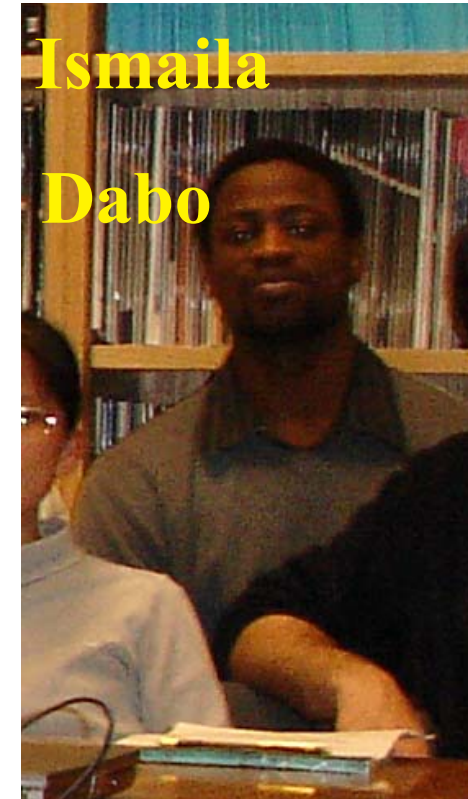
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Conclusions

- **Charge transfer reactions / long-range self-interactions: penalty functionals**
 - Marcus diabatic surfaces
- **Transition-metal catalysis / short-range self-interactions: DFT+ Hubbard U**
 - Addition/elimination of hydrogen, methane to methanol, porphyrin/heme chemistry...
- **First-principles electrochemistry: solvent, electrochemical boundary conditions, counterions**
 - Fuel cell electrodes