



# Modern Methods in Heterogeneous Catalysis Research

## Charge transport across interfaces

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## Overview:

- Biology / Photovoltaic / LED / Electrochemical cell / Catalysis

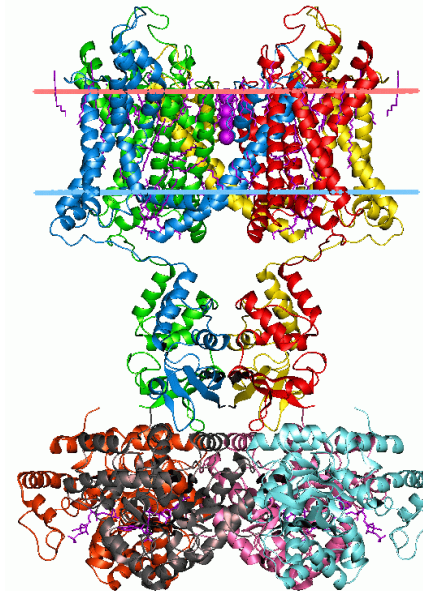
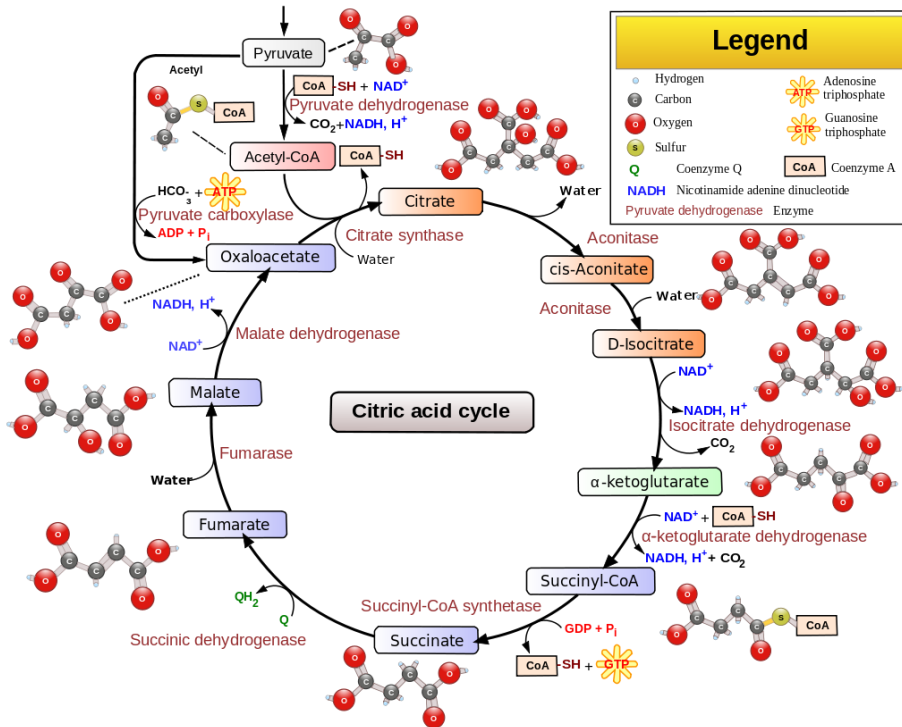
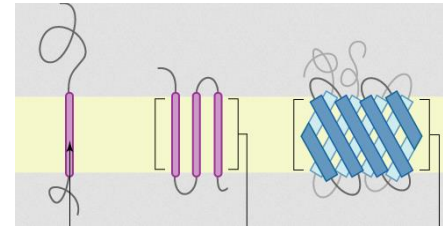
## Charge transport in electrochemical storage devices:

- Basics
- Charging mechanisms
- Conduction and charging mechanism of “modern” Li-ion battery
- Electrochemical determination of the band gap
- Experimental determination of charge carrier (Li<sup>+</sup>) conduction (electrolyte / diffusion in materials)

## Charge transport in catalysis

- Solid state chemistry/physics basics
- Oxidation catalyst
- MCPT setup

# I) Charge transport in biology / transmembrane ion channel family

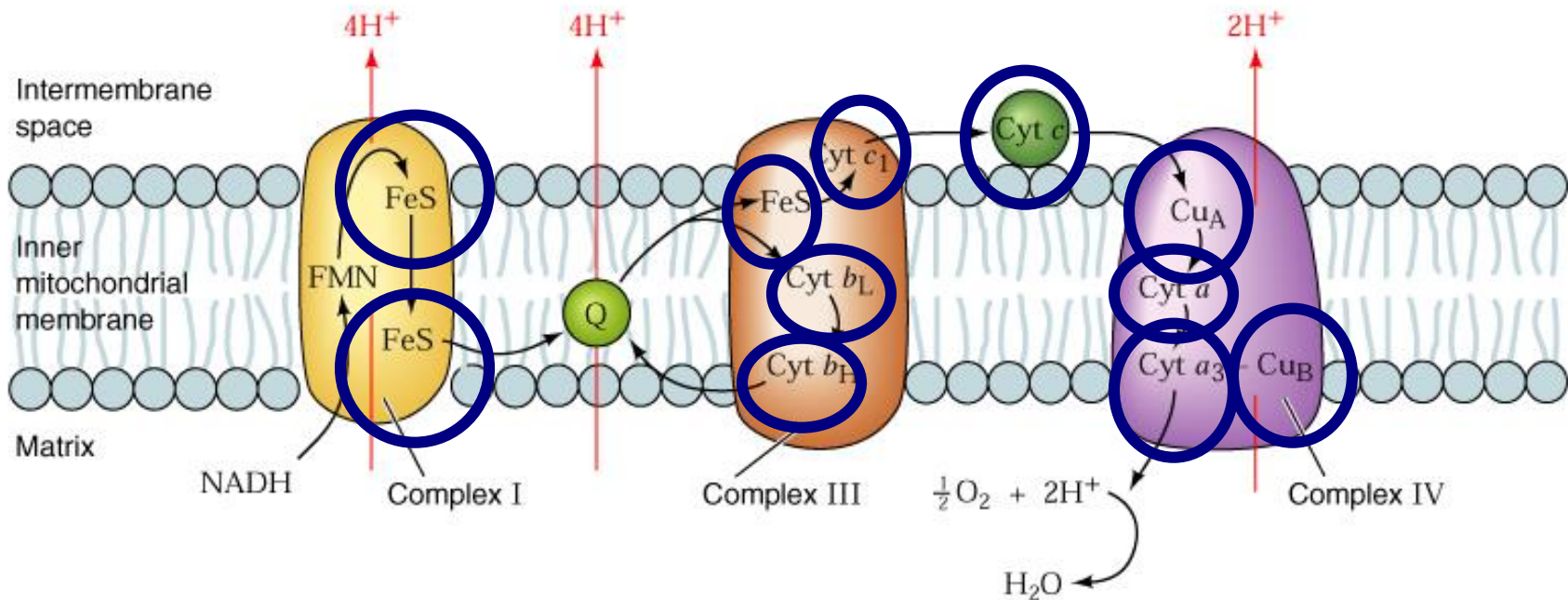


Left: Potassium channel structure in a membrane-like environment.

Right: Potassium channel. Calculated hydrocarbon boundaries of the [lipid bilayer](#) are indicated by red and blue dots.

# Krebs Cycle

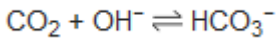
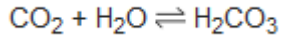
## Results in oxidative phosphorylation



## Active site of carbonic anhydrase



### Carbonic anhydrase:



### Vitamine B12:

Catalyzes the transfer of methyl groups

### Superoxide dismutase

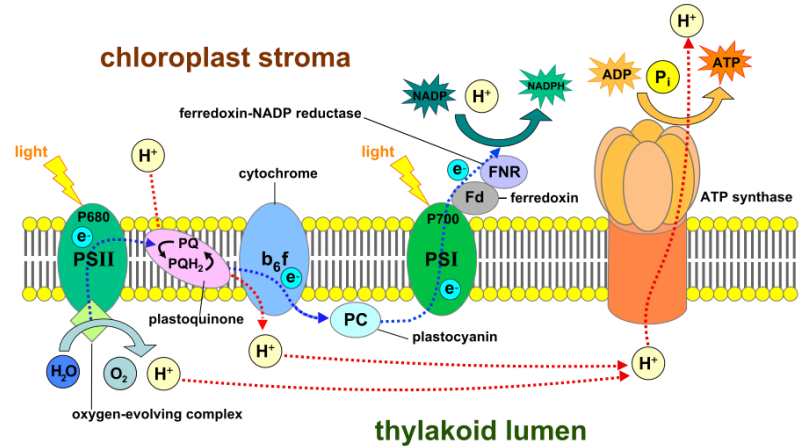
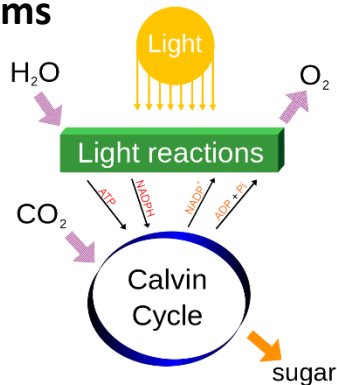
$\text{O}_2^-$  is produced by reduction of  $\text{O}_2$

$\text{O}_2^-$  is very oxidizing

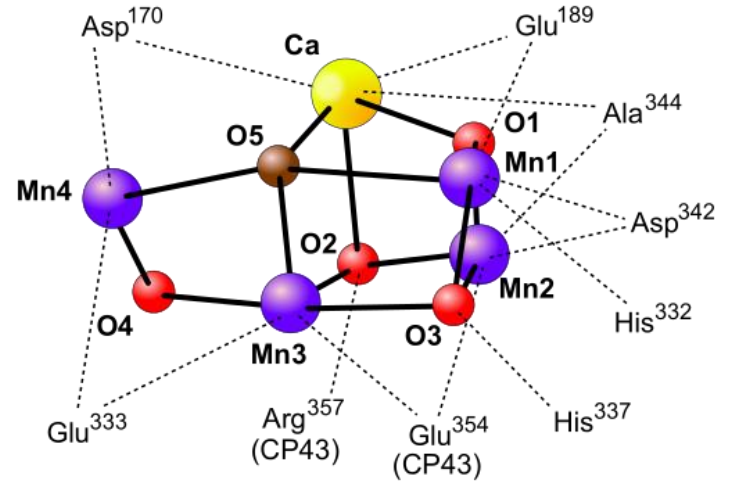
SOD catalyse its dispoportionation to  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

Active metal is Cu

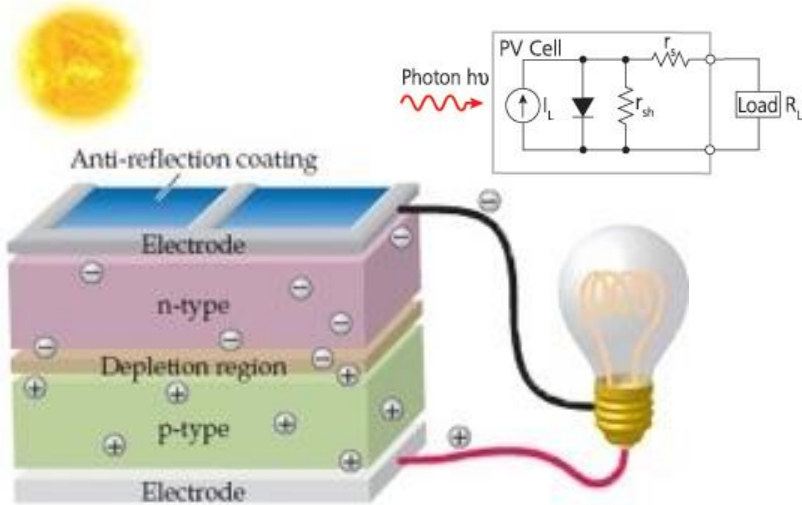
### Chlorophyll systems



### Oxygen-evolving complex (OEC)



# I) Charge transport in photovoltaic cells “Current from light”



## Semiconductors and dopants (“impurities”)

Elemental semiconductors  
C(diamond), Si, Ge

B  
P-type dopant for C

B, Al, Ga, In  
P-type dopant for Si

Al, Ga, In  
P-type dopant for Ge

13	IIIA	14	IVA	15	VA
B Boron 10.81 2p <sup>1</sup>	5	C Carbon 12.011 2p <sup>2</sup>	6	N Nitrogen 14.0067 2p <sup>3</sup>	7
Al Aluminum 26.9815 3p <sup>1</sup>	13	Si Silicon 28.0855 3p <sup>2</sup>	14	P Phosphorus 30.9738 3p <sup>3</sup>	15
Ga Gallium 69.723 4p <sup>1</sup>	31	Ge Germanium 72.61 4p <sup>2</sup>	32	As Arsenic 74.92159 4p <sup>3</sup>	33
In Indium 114.82 5p <sup>1</sup>	49			Sb Antimony 121.75 5p <sup>3</sup>	51

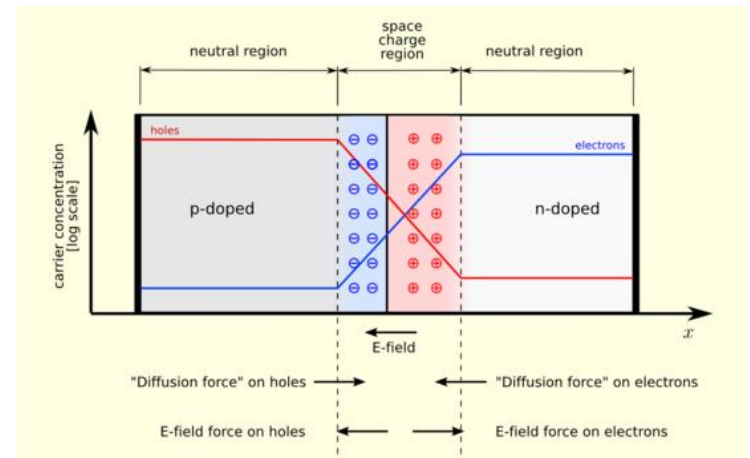
N, P  
N-type dopant for C

P, As, Sb  
N-type dopant for Si, Ge

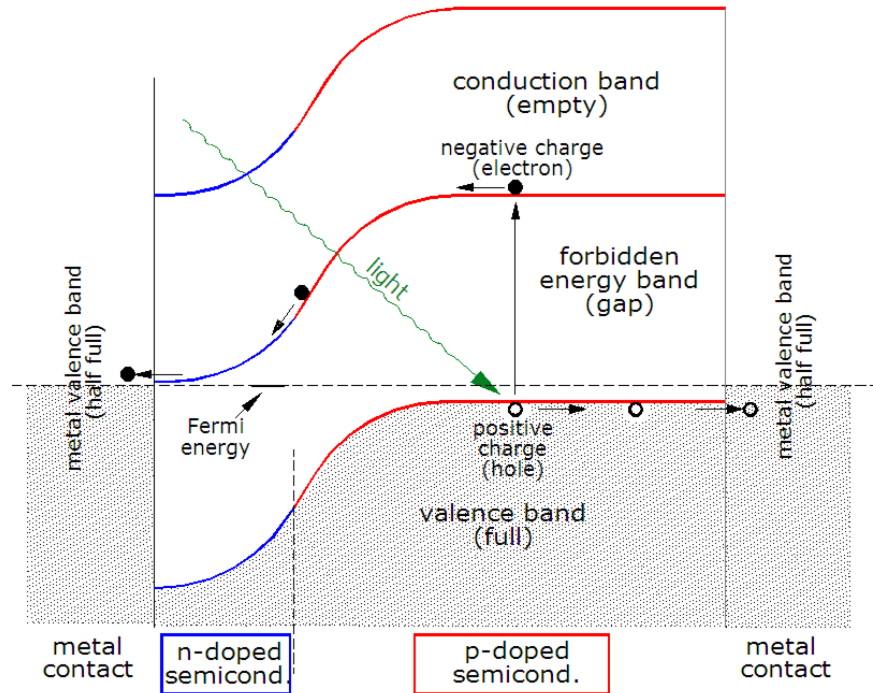
A photovoltaic cell comprises P-type and N-type semiconductors with different electrical properties, joined together.

Photovoltaic solar cell. Sunlight absorbed in the **depletion region** of the cell causes a separation of charges that generates an electrical potential, which enables current to flow through an external electrical circuit (lightbulb).

## PN junction



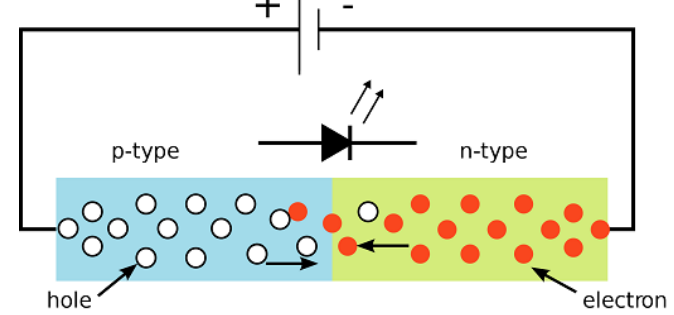
# PN junction (short circuit)



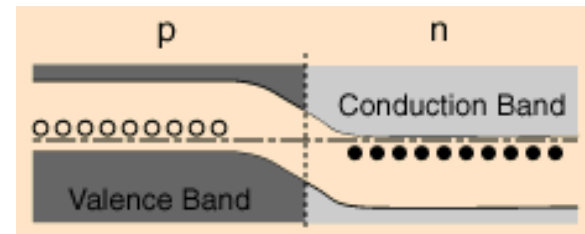
# I) Then the opposite “light from current”



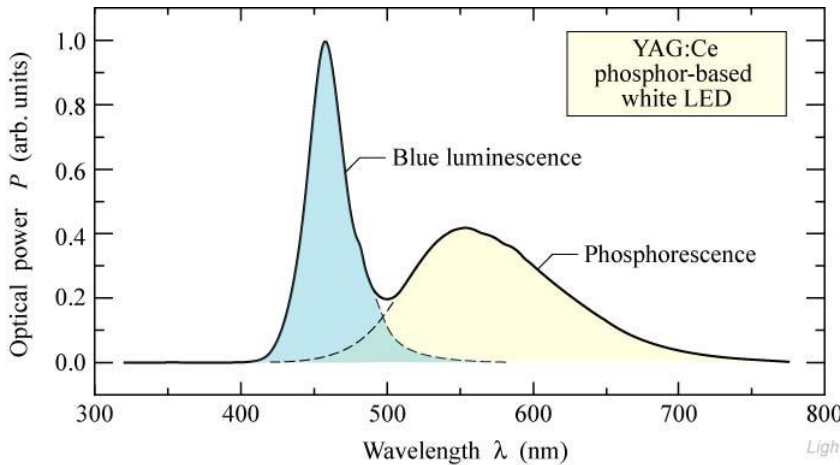
## Diode PN junction



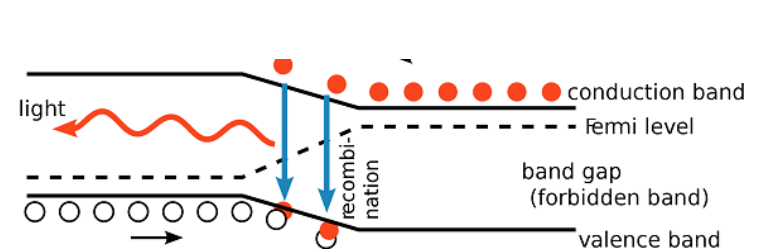
## Energy bands at equilibrium



## Emission spectrum of a phosphor-based LED

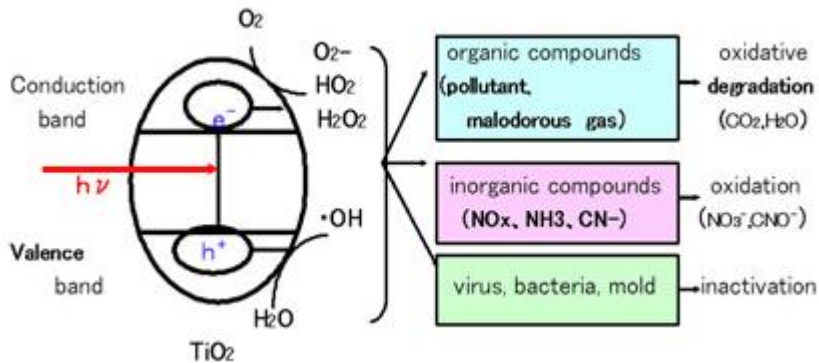


## Energy bands at “work”

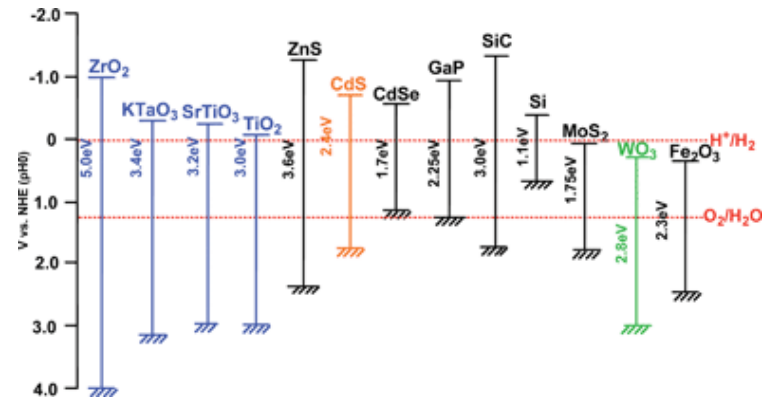
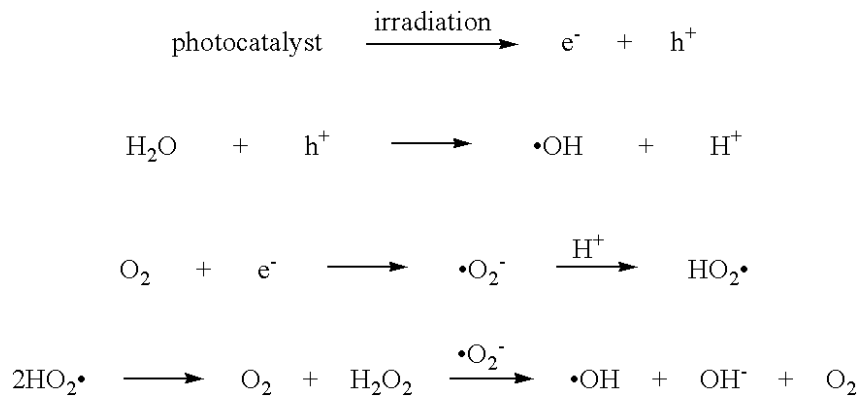




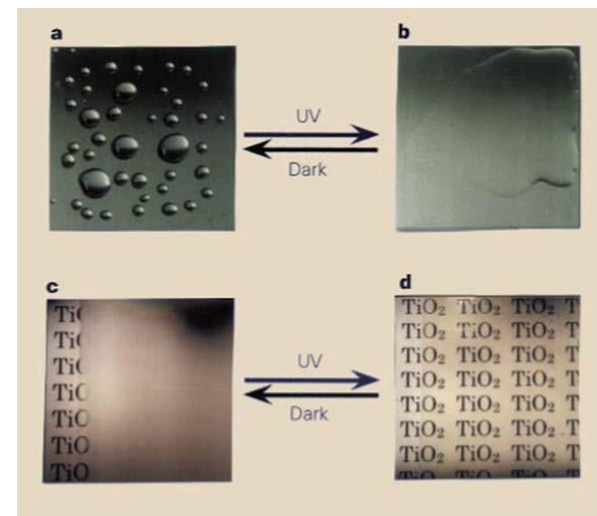
## TiO<sub>2</sub> as photocatalysis (oxidation)



Free radicals generated from TiO<sub>2</sub> oxidize organic matter



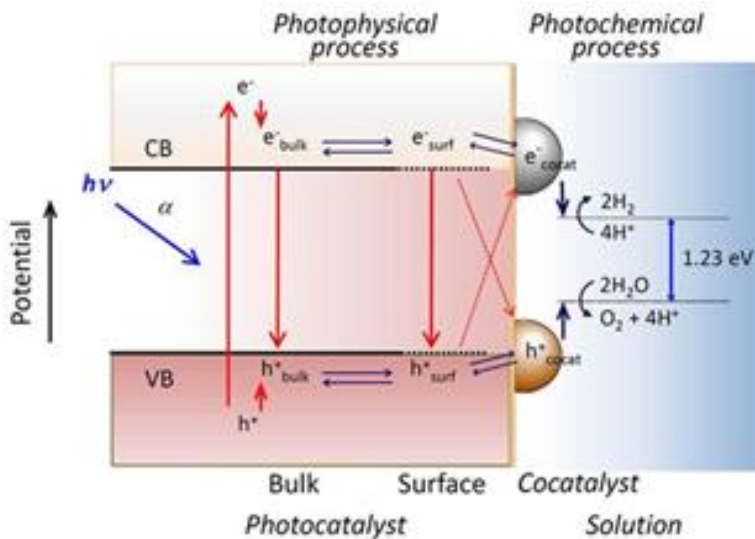
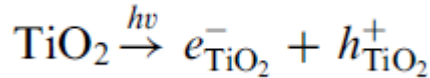
## Superhydrophilicity of TiO<sub>2</sub> (anti-fouling agent) Before and after UV irradiation (TiO<sub>2</sub> thin film)



# I) Photocatalytic water splitting

## Water splitting by photocatalysis

Photo-generated electrons and holes



For hydrogen production, the CB level should be more negative than hydrogen production level

For oxygen production the VB should be more positive than water oxidation level

## Challenges:

Photocorrosion (CdS, SiC)

Recombination of photo-generated electron/hole pairs

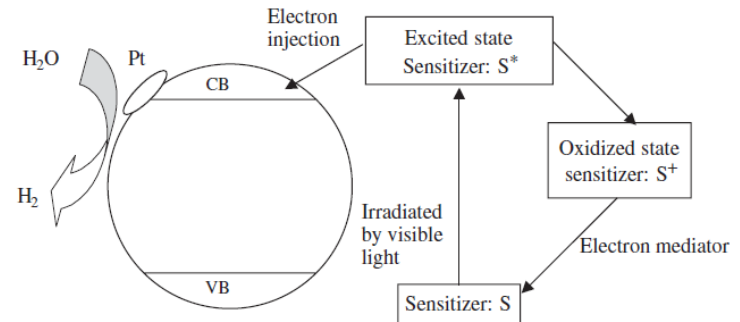
Fast backward reaction, recombination of hydrogen with water reforming water

Need UV light as TiO2 band gap is 3.2eV. Only 4% of sun light is UV

**Mediation (H<sub>2</sub> production enhancer I<sup>-</sup> / IO<sup>3-</sup>)**

**Adding carbonate to suppress backward reactions**

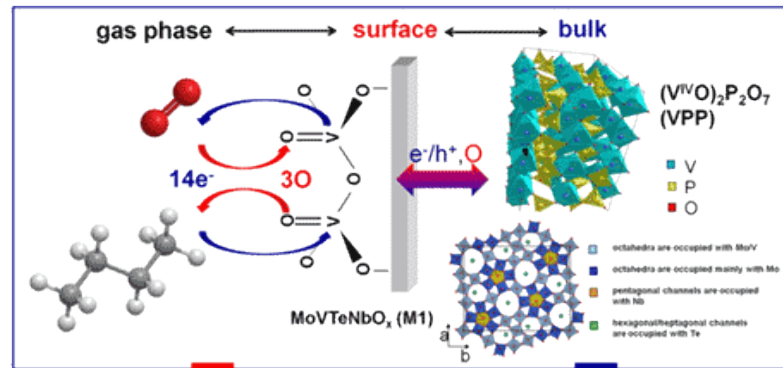
**Loading with noble metals and dye sensitization**



# I) Red-Ox catalysts

## Catalytic oxidation:

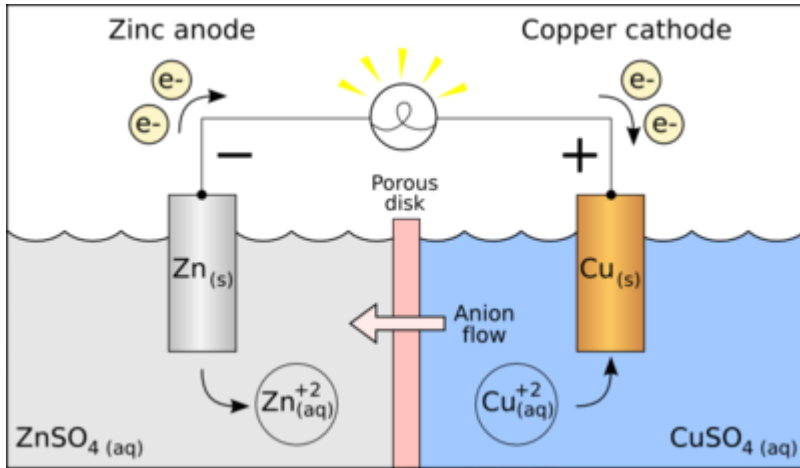
Substrate	Process	Catalyst (homogeneous or heterogeneous)	Product	Application
sulfur dioxide	contact process	vanadium pentoxide (heterogeneous)	sulfuric acid	fertilizer production
ammonia	Ostwald process	platinum (heterogeneous)	nitric acid	basic chemicals, TNT
hydrogen sulfide	Claus process	vanadium pentoxide (heterogeneous)	sulfur	remediation of byproduct of oil refinery
methane, ammonia	Andrussow process	platinum (heterogeneous)	hydrogen cyanide	basic chemicals, gold mining extractant
ethylene	epoxidation	mixed Ag oxides (heterogeneous)	ethylene oxide	basic chemicals, surfactants



*Is the catalytic reaction a localized surface event ("active site") and the bulk only an "innocent" support?*

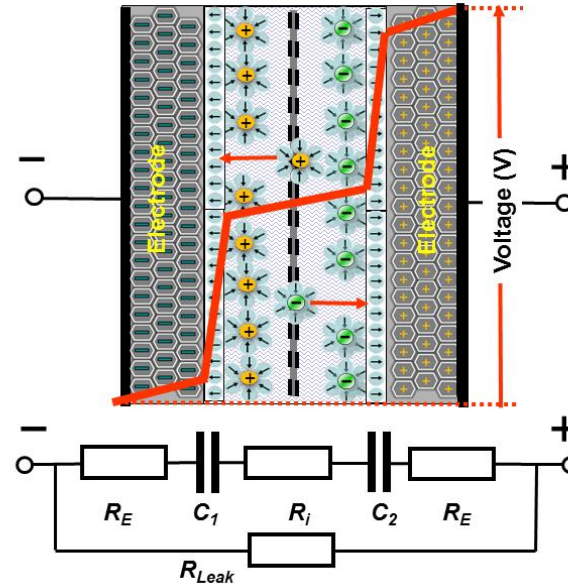
*Or are bulk charge carriers participating in the reaction and is interfacial bulk-surface charge transport relevant?*

## Electrochemical cell:



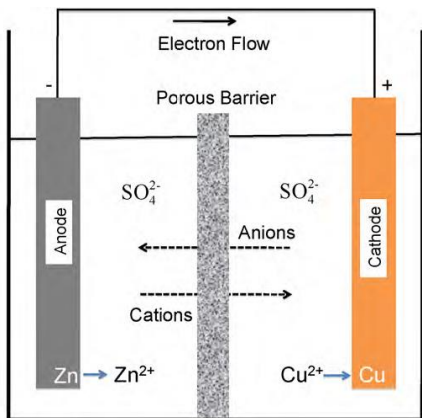
Energy density: 100 Wh/Kg (bulk storage)  
 Low power density: 10 W/Kg (Diffusion)

## Supercapacitors:

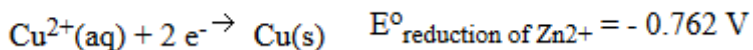
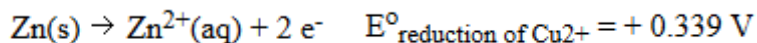


Low energy density: 1 - 10 Wh/Kg (surface charge storage)  
 Low power density: 1000 W/Kg

## Standard cell potential:



Half-reactions for each process



Overall standard potential

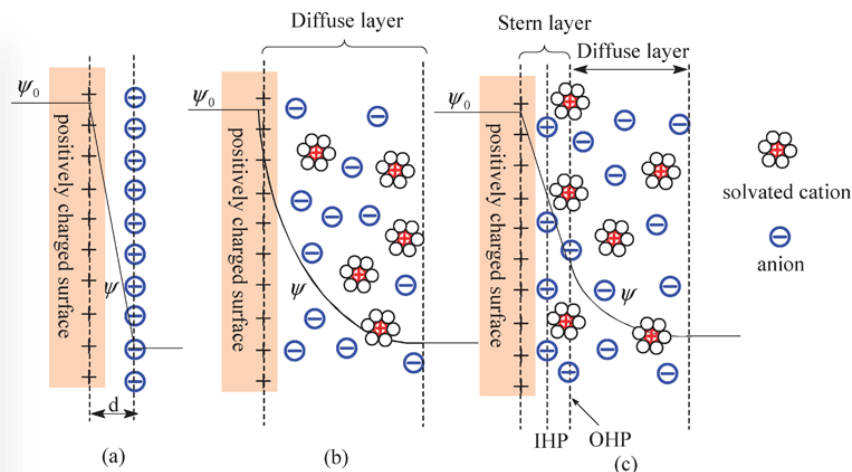
$$E^{\circ}_{\text{cell}} = E^{\circ}_{\text{reduction}} + E^{\circ}_{\text{oxidation}}$$

$$E^{\circ}_{\text{oxidation of Zn}} = - (- 0.762 \text{ V}) = + 0.762 \text{ V}$$

Nernst relationship (Thermodynamic)

$$E = E^0 + \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \frac{[\text{Ox}]}{[\text{Red}]}$$

## Electrical double layer: models



(a) the Helmholtz model

(b) the Gouy–Chapman model

(c) the Stern model

(IHP): Inner Helmholtz plane (IHP)

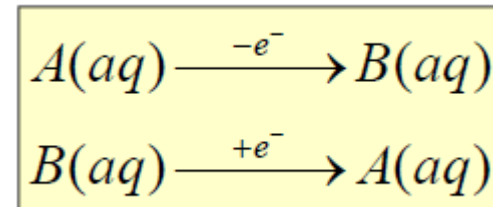
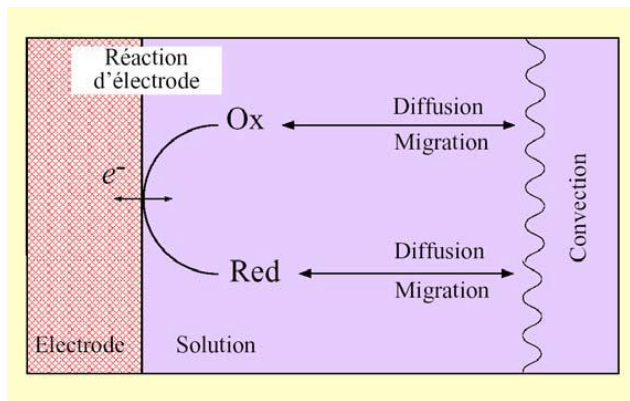
(OHP): Outer Helmholtz plane (OHP)

# Dynamics events at electrode: transport and kinetics at electrode

Steps:

- 1) Reactant product transport to the electrode surface
- 2) Electron transfer kinetics at electrode surface

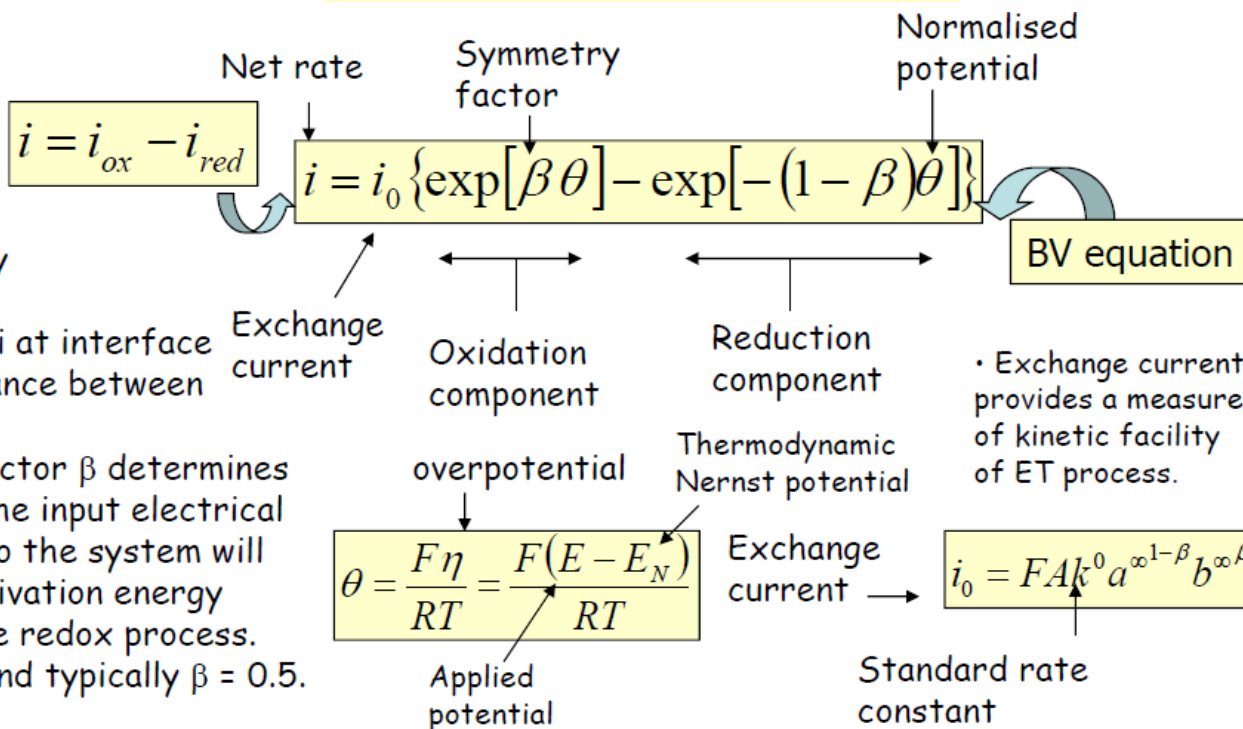
From a classical macroscopic point of view, the transition state theory is used and results in the **Butler-Volmer Equation**



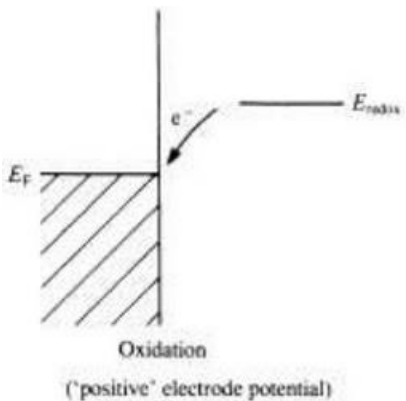
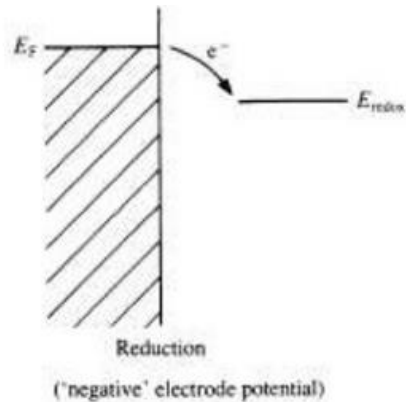
- Oxidation and Reduction processes are microscopically reversible.

- Net current  $i$  at interface reflects a balance between  $i_{ox}$  and  $i_{red}$ .

- Symmetry factor  $\beta$  determines how much of the input electrical energy fed into the system will affect the activation energy barrier for the redox process. Note  $0 < \beta < 1$  and typically  $\beta = 0.5$ .

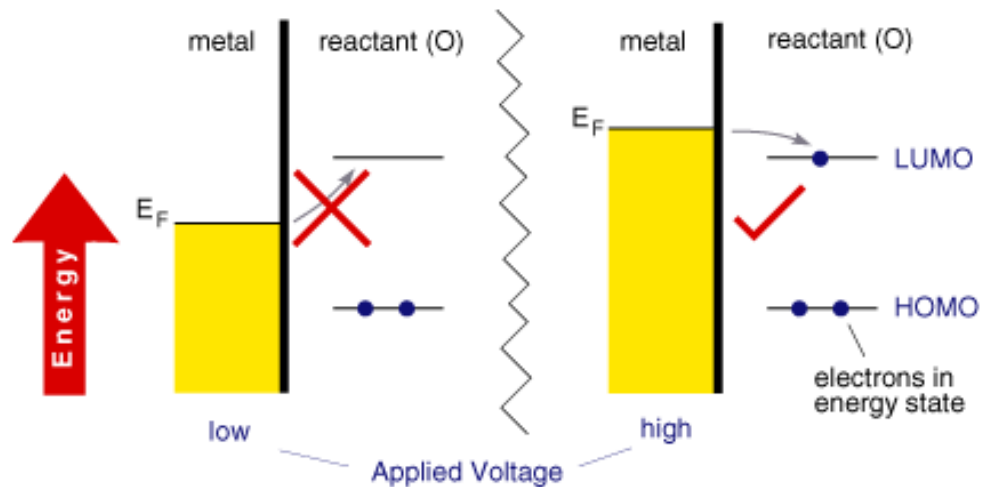


By applying a potential to the electrode, we influence the highest occupied electronic level of the metal, (the fermi level,  $E_F$ )



Energy of electrons in metal *increases* upon application of a potential more negative than the thermodynamic equilibrium value.

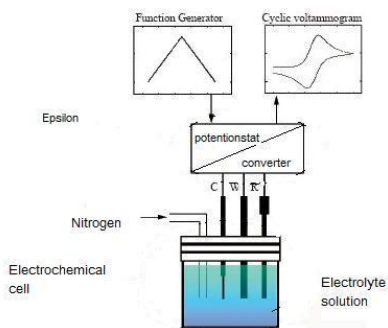
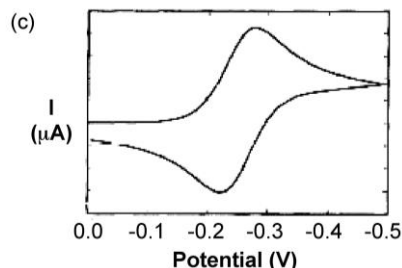
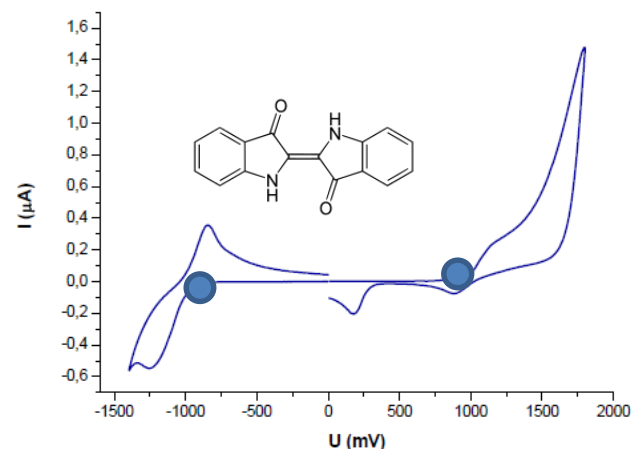
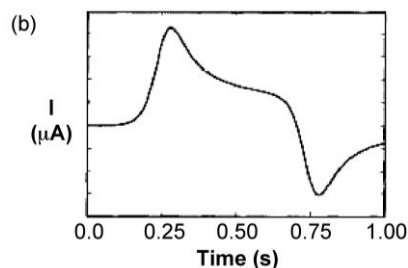
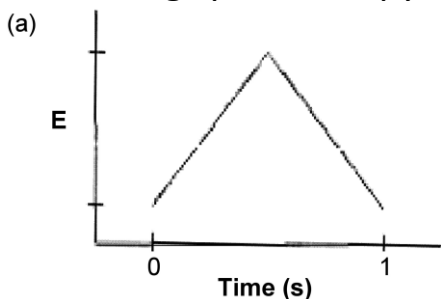
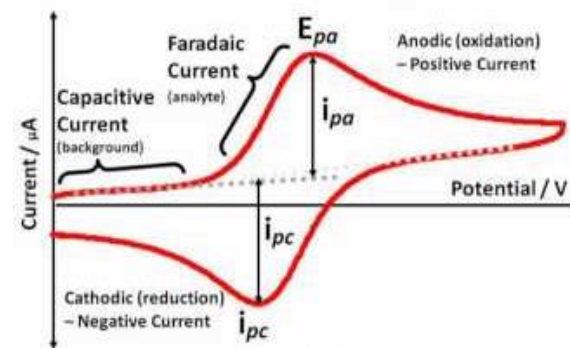
A net reduction (cathodic) current flows from metal to LUMO levels of redox active species in solution.



Cyclic voltammetry (CV) has been successfully employed for several decades in the quantitative estimation of the HOMO and LUMO levels of electro-active molecular species soluble in suitable solvents.

The main advantage of CV is the mild experimental conditions at which the measurements are performed, compared to techniques such as photoelectron and tunneling spectroscopy.

**Cyclic Voltammogram**



$$E(\text{HOMO}) = -e [E_{\text{ox}}^{\text{onset}} + 4.4]$$

$$E(\text{LUMO}) = -e [E_{\text{red}}^{\text{onset}} + 4.4]$$

Estimated band gap ca. 1.7eV



The absorption coefficient,  $\alpha$ , due to interband transition near the band-gap is well described:  $\alpha \hbar \omega = B (\hbar \omega - E_g)^2$

$\hbar \omega$  is photon energy,  $E_g$  is optical gap. This Tauc plot defines the optical gap in amorphous semiconductors.

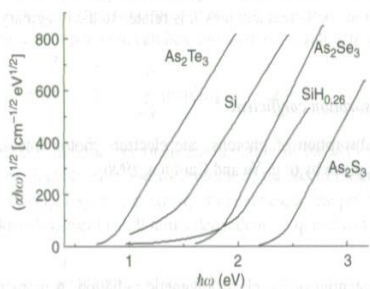
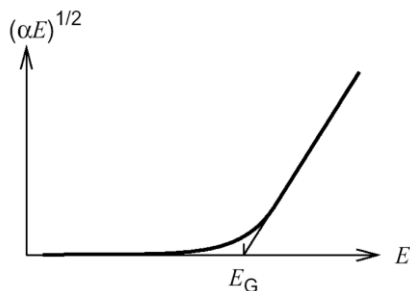
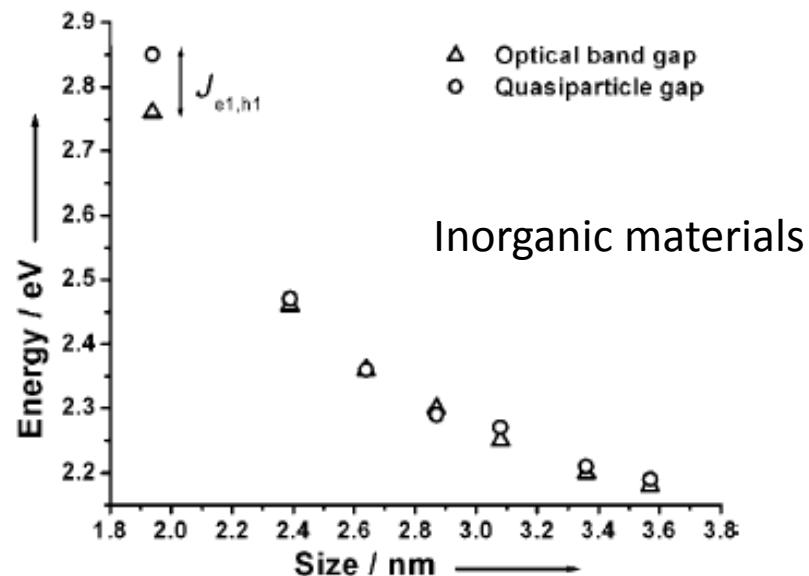


Figure 4.5 Tauc plots for different a-semiconductors (Morigaki, 1999).

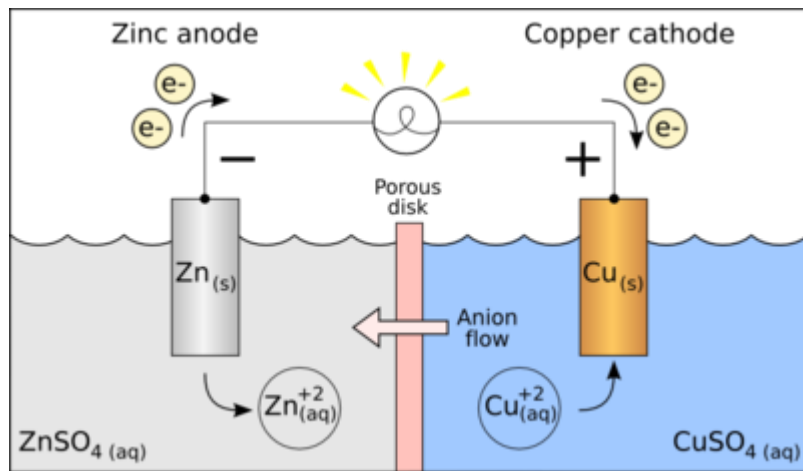
Comparison of optical and electrochemical band gap for qdots



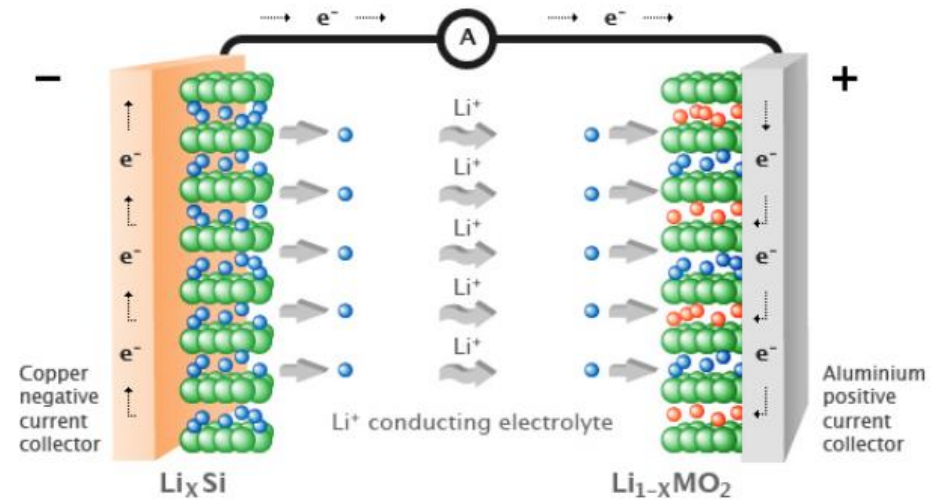
Organic materials

Compound	$E_{\text{ox}}^{\text{onset}}$ vs. Ag/AgCl (V)	HOMO level (eV)	$E_{\text{red}}^{\text{onset}}$ vs. Ag/AgCl (V)	LUMO level (eV)	$E_g$ [from CV (eV)]	Optical $E_g$ (eV)
Indigo	-1.1	-5.5	0.6	-3.8	1.7	1.7
Cibalackrot	-1.2	-5.6	0.9	-3.5	2.5	2.0
Vat yellow 1	-1.9	-6.3	0.8	-3.6	2.7	2.3
Vat orange 3	-1.8	-6.2	0.6	-3.8	2.4	2.1

## Galvanic cell



## Si based lithium ion battery (LIB)



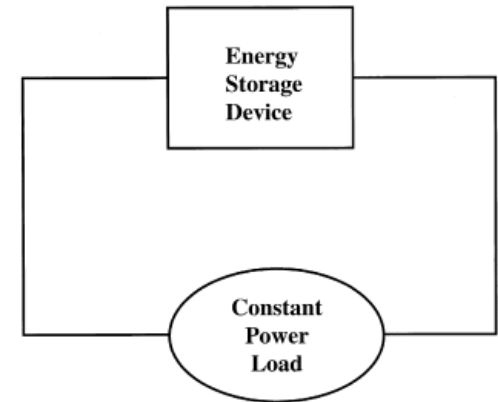
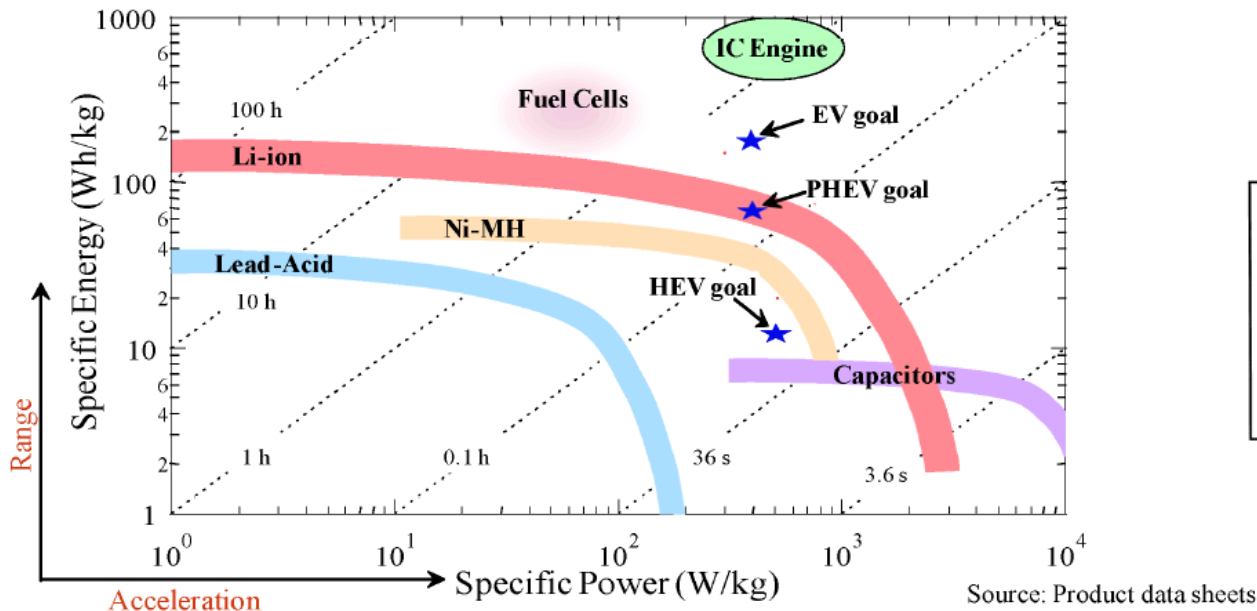
# The Ragone plot

**“specific energy”:**

[in watt-hours per kilogram (Wh/kg)] and “energy density” [in watt-hours per liter (Wh/L)] are used to compare the energy contents of a system

**“specific power”** (in W/kg) and “power density” (in W/L) are expressing a rate capability.

The attributes “gravimetric” (per kilogram) and “volumetric” (per liter):  
are used To compare the power and energy capabilities, a representation known as the Ragone plot or diagram has been developed.





## And a bit more of some “useful” definitions

A *battery* is one or more electrically connected electrochemical cells having terminals/contacts to supply electrical energy.

A *primary battery* is a cell, or group of cells, for the generation of electrical energy intended to be used until exhausted and then discarded. Primary batteries are assembled in the charged state; discharge is the primary process during operation.

A *secondary battery* is a cell or group of cells for the generation of electrical energy in which the cell, after being discharged, may be restored to its original charged condition by an electric current flowing in the direction opposite to the flow of current when the cell was discharged. Other terms for this type of battery are rechargeable battery or accumulator. As secondary batteries are usually assembled in the discharged state, they have to be charged first before they can undergo discharge in a secondary process.

A *specialty battery* is a primary battery that is in limited production for a specific end-use. In this paper specialty batteries will not be particularly addressed.

The *anode* is the negative electrode of a cell associated with oxidative chemical reactions that release electrons into the external circuit.

The *cathode* is the positive electrode of a cell associated with reductive chemical reactions that gain electrons from the external circuit.

*Active mass* is the material that generates electrical current by means of a chemical reaction within the battery.

An *electrolyte* is a material that provides pure ionic conductivity between the positive and negative electrodes of a cell.

A *separator* is a physical barrier between the positive and negative electrodes incorporated into most cell designs to prevent electrical shorting. The separator can be a gelled electrolyte or a microporous plastic film or other porous inert material filled with electrolyte. Separators must be permeable to the ions and inert in the battery environment.

A *fuel cell* is an electrochemical conversion device that has a continuous supply of fuel such as hydrogen, natural gas, or methanol and an oxidant such as oxygen, air, or hydrogen peroxide. It can have auxiliary parts to feed the device with reactants as well as a battery to supply energy for start-up.

An *electrochemical capacitor* is a device that stores electrical energy in the electrical double layer that forms at the interface between an electrolytic solution and an electronic conductor. The term applies to charged carbon-carbon systems as well as carbon-battery electrode and conducting polymer electrode combinations sometimes called ultracapacitors, supercapacitors, or hybrid capacitors.

*Open-circuit voltage* is the voltage across the terminals of a cell or battery when no external current flows. It is usually close to the thermodynamic voltage for the system.

*Closed-circuit voltage* is the voltage of a cell or battery when the battery is producing current into the external circuit.

*Discharge* is an operation in which a battery delivers electrical energy to an external load.

*Charge* is an operation in which the battery is restored to its original charged condition by reversal of the current flow.

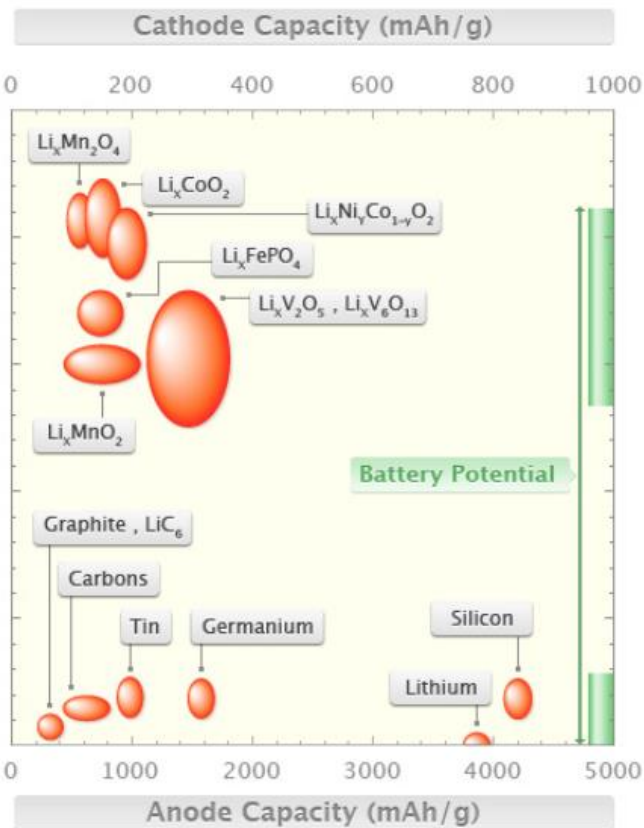
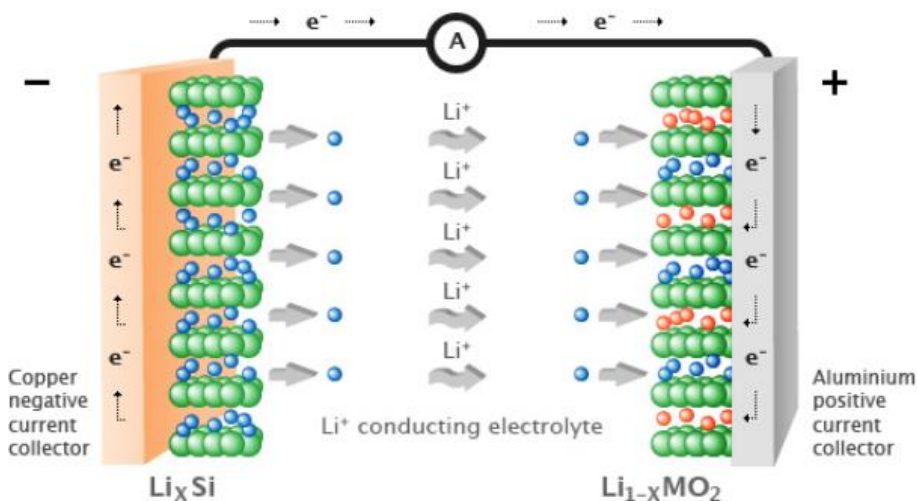
*Internal resistance* or *impedance* is the resistance or impedance that a battery or cell offers to current flow.

The *Faraday constant*,  $F$ , is the amount of charge that transfers when one equivalent weight of active mass reacts, 96 485.3 C/g-equiv, 26.8015 Ah/g-equiv.

*Thermal runaway* is an event that occurs when the battery electrode's reaction with the electrolyte becomes self-sustaining and the reactions enter an autocatalytic mode. This situation is responsible for many safety incidents and fires associated with battery operations.

## Si based lithium ion battery (LIB)

## Capacity of Anode and Cathode materials



## Known active elements for Li storage

H																	He	
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne	
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar	
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe	
Cs	Ba	La +	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac +	Lr	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	Fl	Uup	Lv	Uus	Uuo

# Li<sup>+</sup>-solvation and Ion transport in electrolyte

## Ideal solvent:

High electrical permittivity -> to dissolve the salt  
Low viscosity -> to facilitate ion transport  
Stable at the anode and cathode interface

-> *So far this compound is unknown*

## As compromise a mixture of components are used:

Salt: LiPF<sub>6</sub>

As solvent:

High dielectric permittivity: Etylene carbonate (EC)  
Low viscosity: Various acyclic carbonate and carboxylic esters.  
such as : Dimethyl carbonate (DMC), Diethyl carbonate (DEC)

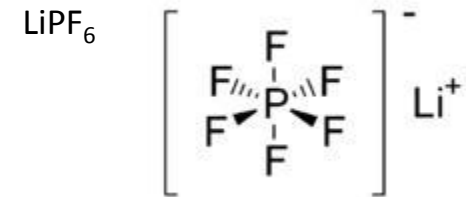
Today state of the art electrolytes typically have:

An ionique conductivity: 5 – 10 mS/cm  
Routine cell operation: -30 to 60°C

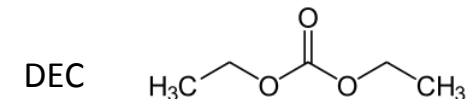
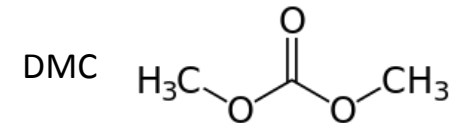
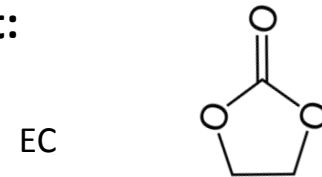
-> **Solvents are not thermodynamically stable within the battery working voltage (0 to 5V vs. Li<sup>+</sup>).**

-> **Solvent typically “polymerize” on the electrode surface forming a passivation layer (SEI).**

## Salt:



## Solvent:



# Portfolio of solvents and lithium salts

## Desired properties:

- Electrolyte solvent must be polar to dissociate the salt
- Good ionic conductivity
- Electrically insulating
- Electrochemically inert (0 to 5V)

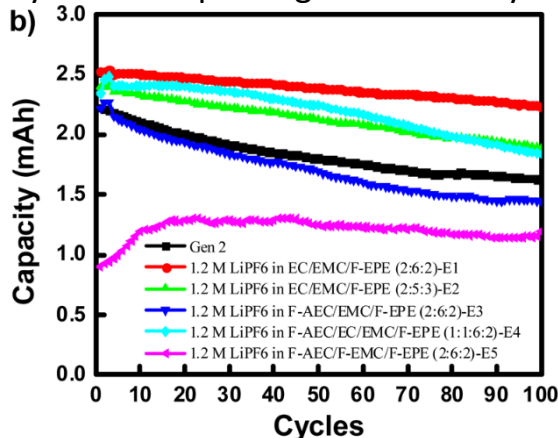
-> these constraints limits to a "small" family of aprotic organic compounds

## Fine tuning of solvent properties is often performed by fluorination:

Adding Fluor will results in a drop of the energy level of the HOMO and LUMO.

- > better resistance to oxidation
- > "poorer" resistance to reduction

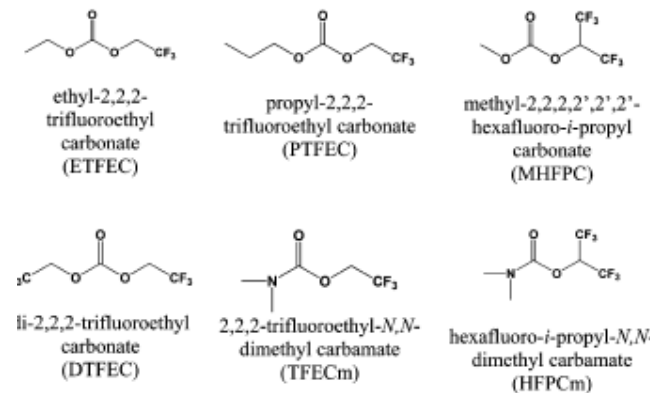
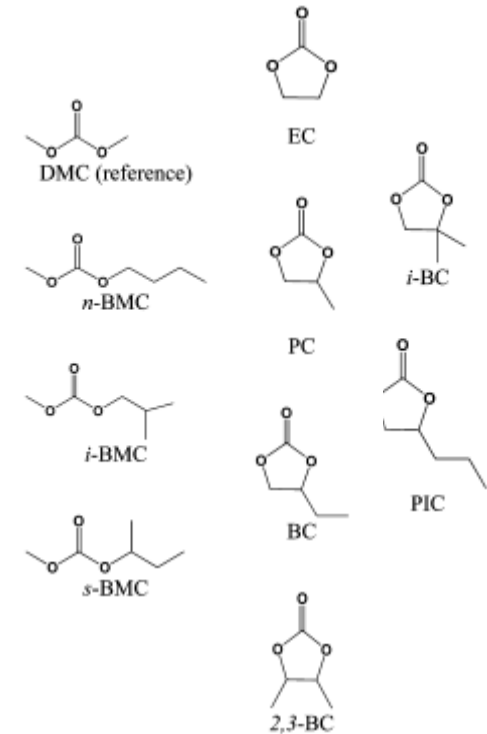
The SEI is formed at higher voltage (1.5V vs Li<sup>+</sup>) forming a "better" passivation layer thus improving the overall cycling behavior.



Effect of fluorinated carbonates and ethers

Note the significant influence of the solvent nature on the cycling behavior.

-> Highlights of the strong relevance of interfacial processes in LIB



## Fluorinated Esters:

Reversible capacity in presence of fluorinated esters is not affected.  
Coulombic efficiency of the first cycle is generally improved

-> *this improvement is related to the interfacial chemistry suggesting their participation in the SEI formation.*

## Esters of carboxylic acid:

Do not form an SEI  
Offer a wider temperature range  
Improves the solubility of certain Li salts  
Faster interfacial kinetics (Interfacial impedance reduced)

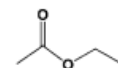
## Sulfones and sulfoxides:

Improves the electrochemical stability at high voltage but viscous

## Nitrile: acetonitrile

## Phosphorus-based solvent

## Ethers



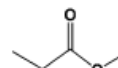
ethyl acetate



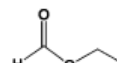
methyl formate



tetramethylene sulfone  
(sulfolane, or TMS)



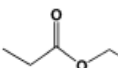
methyl propionate



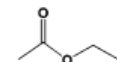
ethyl formate



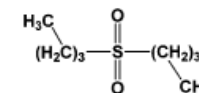
ethylmethyl sulfone  
(EMS)



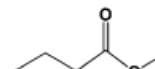
ethyl propionate



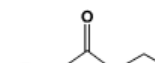
ethyl acetate



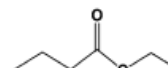
butyl sulfone  
(BS)



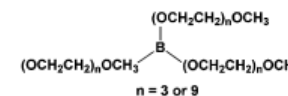
methyl butyrate



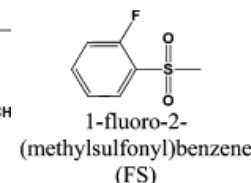
methyl difluoroacetate



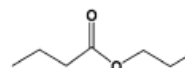
ethyl butyrate



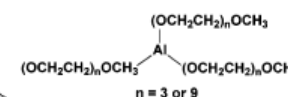
B-PEG



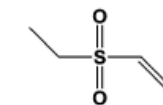
1-fluoro-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)benzene  
(FS)



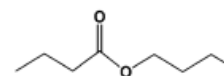
propyl butyrate



Al-PEG



ethyl vinyl sulfone  
(EVS)



butyl butyrate

Example of solvents



## Standard Li-salt: $\text{LiPF}_6$

It's dominance will not change soon.

$\text{LiPF}_6$  was the "best" compromise when evaluated against LIB applications.

$\text{LiPF}_6$  is far from "perfect".

->  $\text{LiPF}_6$  is chemically and thermally unstable

Alternative salts attempt to replace the labile P-F bond with more stable linkage, such as alkyls, aryls or oxo-chelate.

## Oxalate-chelate (TFOP)

Oxalate based anion reduced at 1.7V vs  $\text{Li}^+$ , pre-forming an SEI, as a consequence better capacity retention were reported.

Ex-situ XPS reported a large amount of oxalate in the SEI and much smaller amount of  $\text{LiF}$ .

## Borate or Boron-based cluster

The most famous is  $\text{LiBF}_4$ .

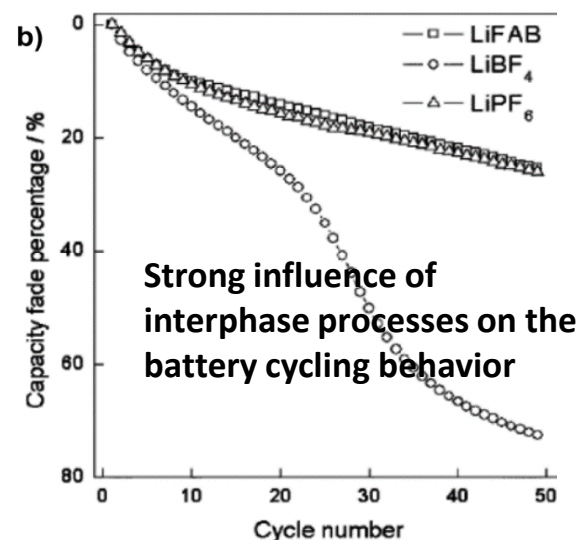
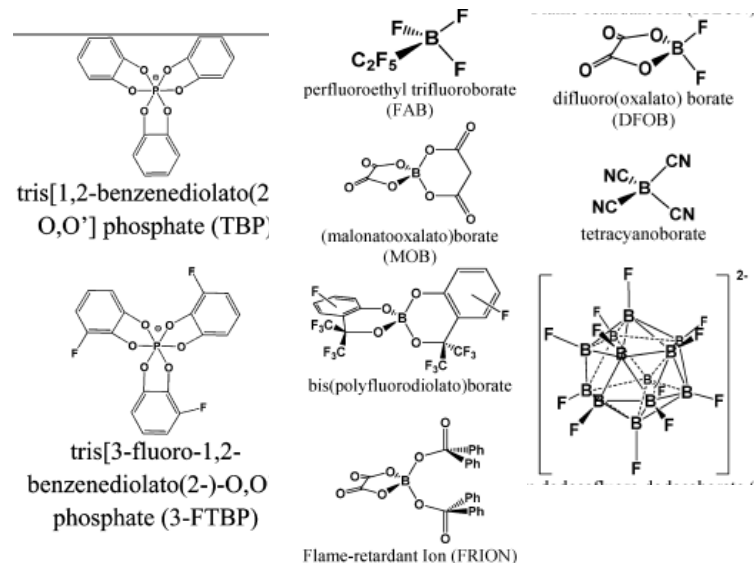
Poor ionic conductivity and solubility

## Hybrid between boron-based and oxalate-chelate salt

Currently these are maybe the most promising salt,

Such as the  $\text{LiDFOB}$  (difluoro(oxalato)borate)

## Other salts: Heterocyclic anions, Aluminates, and more



Capacity fading using various Li-salts

## Basics:

Electrolyte: A substance that conducts electricity through the movement of ions

## Metals:

Conductivity range: 10 to  $10^5$  S/cm

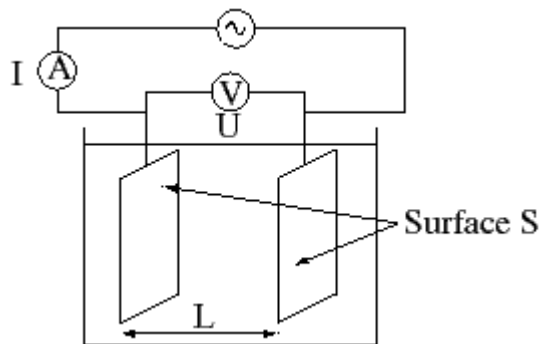
Charge carrier: electron

Conduction increase with temperature

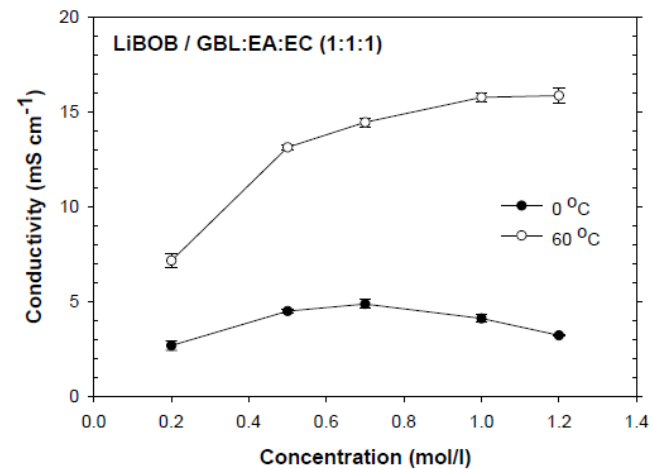
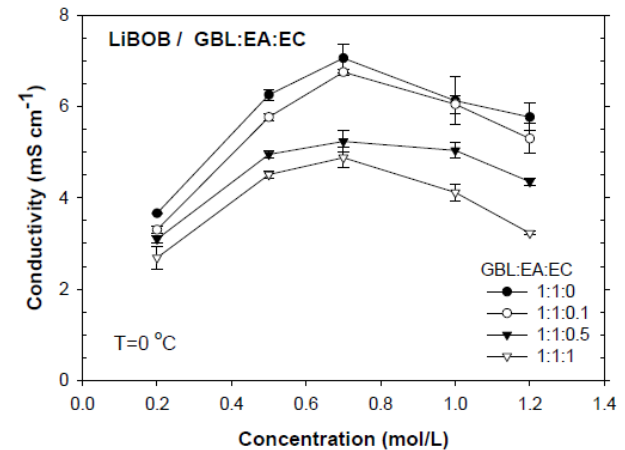
## Solid electrolyte

- Conductivity range  $10^{-3}$  to 10 S/cm
- Ions carry the current
- Conductivity decreases with temperature (activated transport)

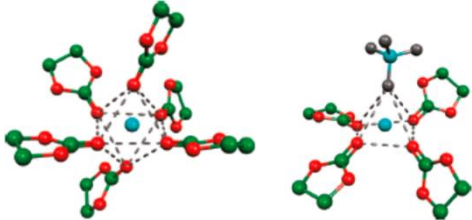
## Measurement principle of electrolyte conductance



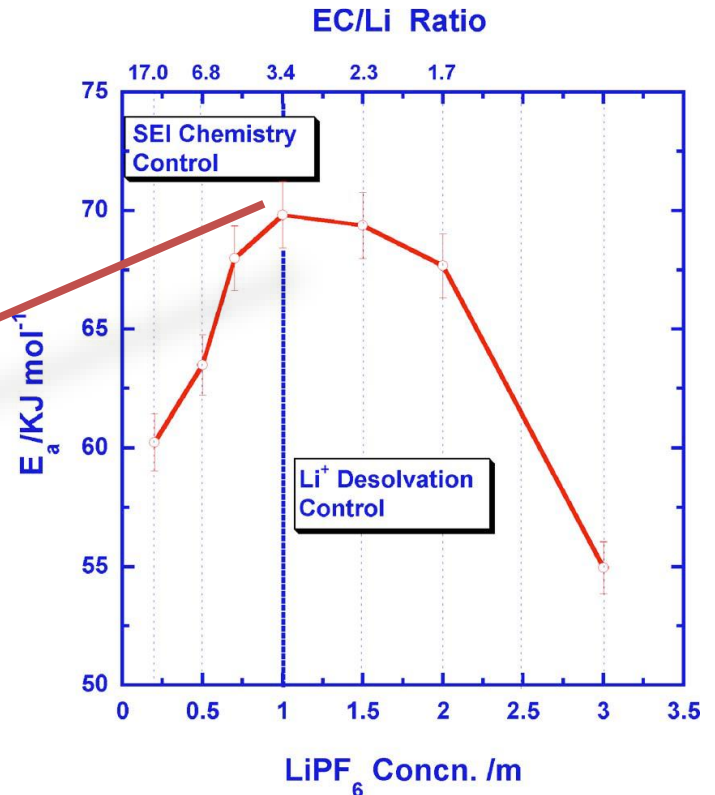
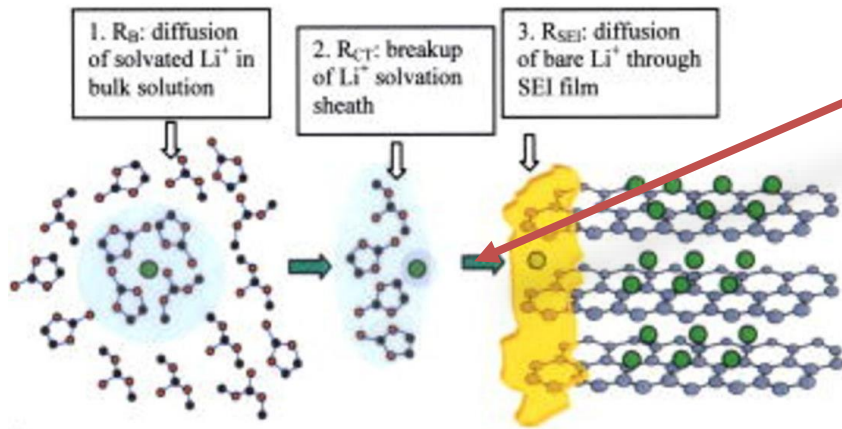
## Liquid electrolyte conductivity



Li-salt dissolves through ion-solvent interaction

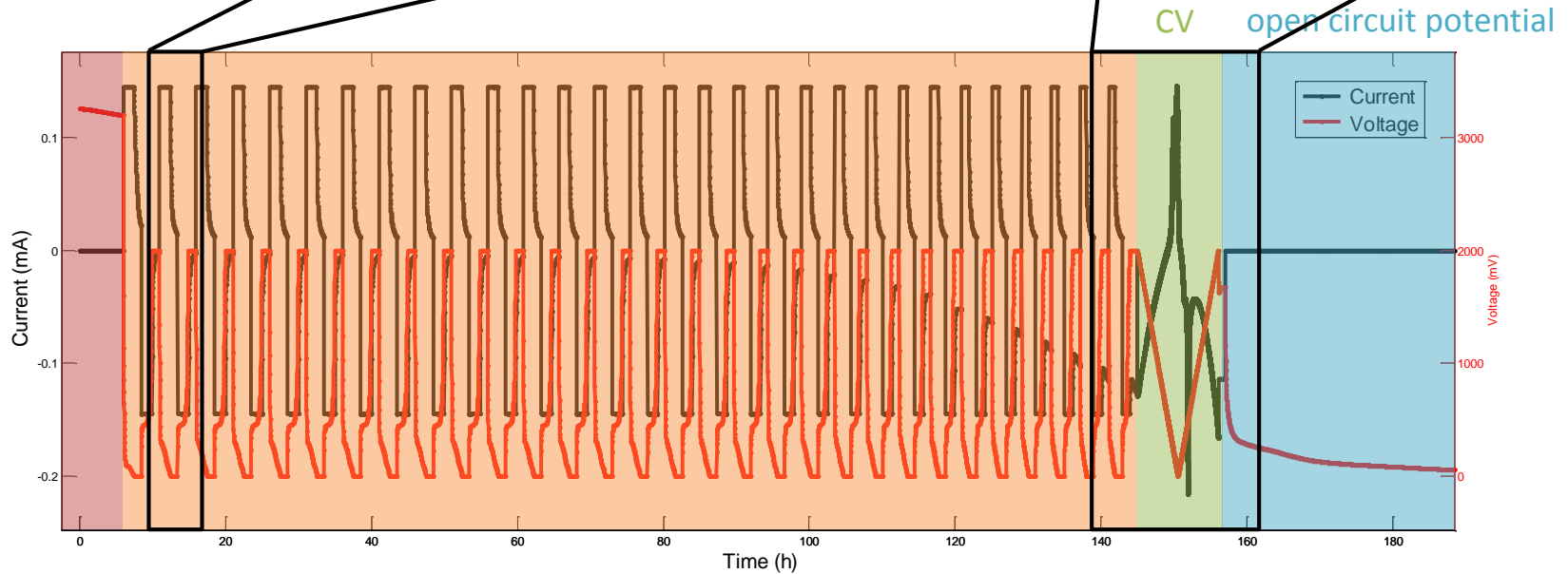
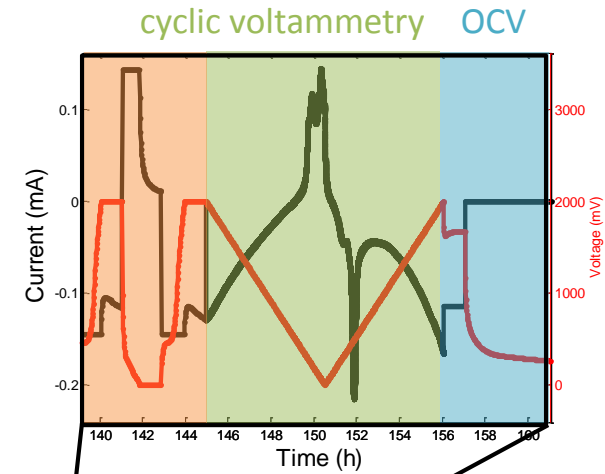
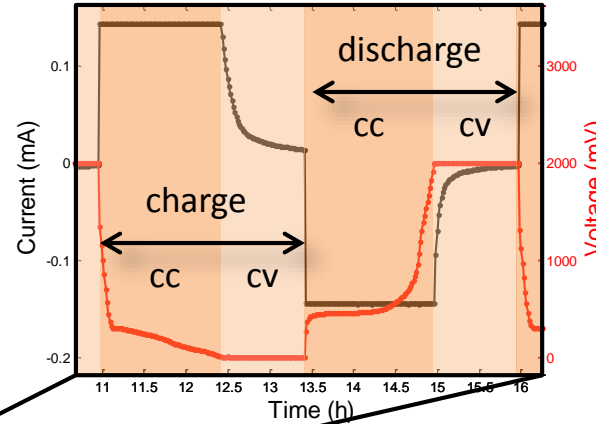


Charge-transfer activation energies on the [Li-ion]

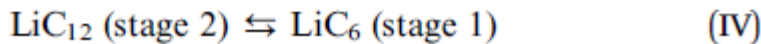
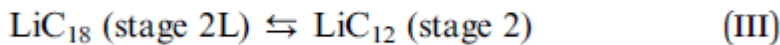
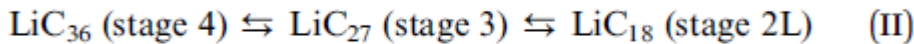
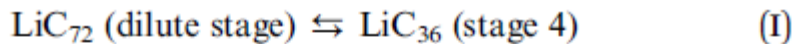
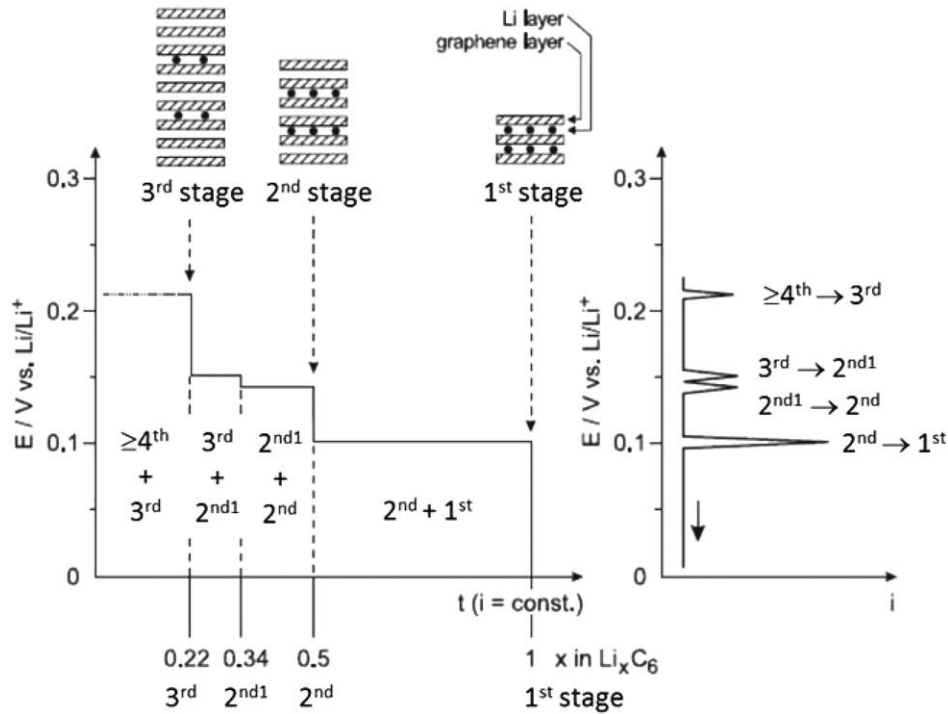


## Methodology

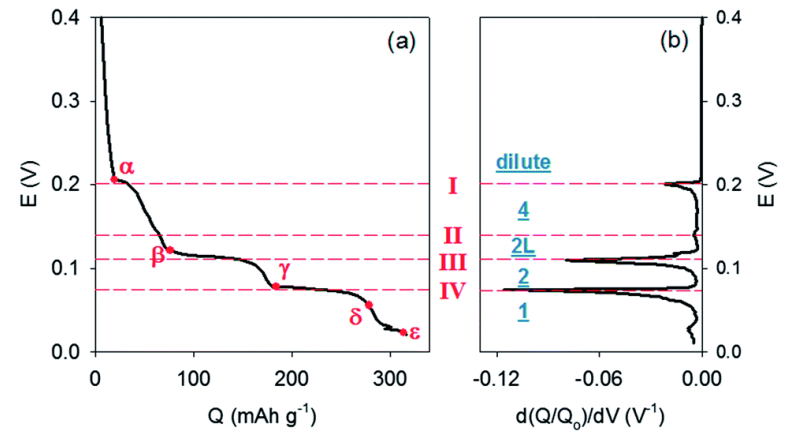
1.  $V_{OC}$  for 6 h
2. cccv: 30 cycles
  - constant current
  - constant voltage
3. cyclic voltammetry: 0.1 mV/s
4. constant voltage for 1 h
5.  $V_{OC}$  until dismount



## Stage intercalation of Li



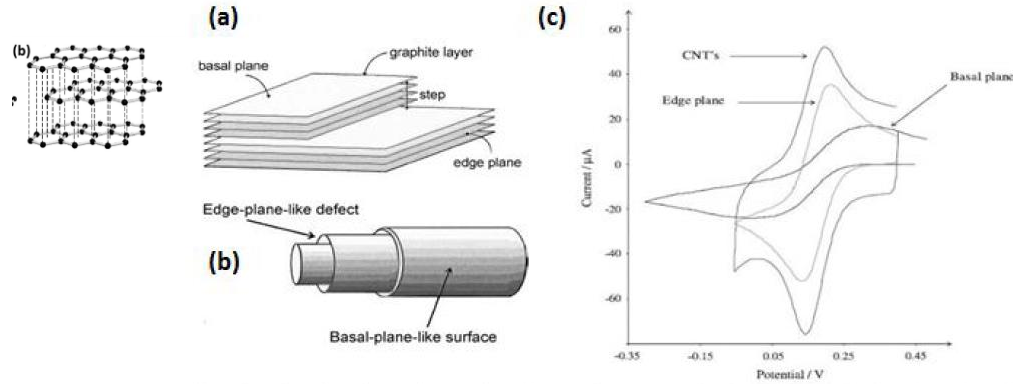
## Chronopotentiostatic measurement



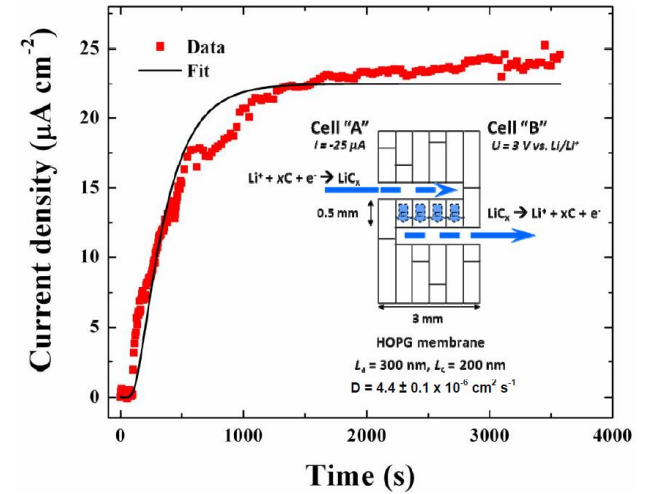
a) Chronopotentiometric profile of lithiation of natural graphite

b) Differential capacity with respect to potential

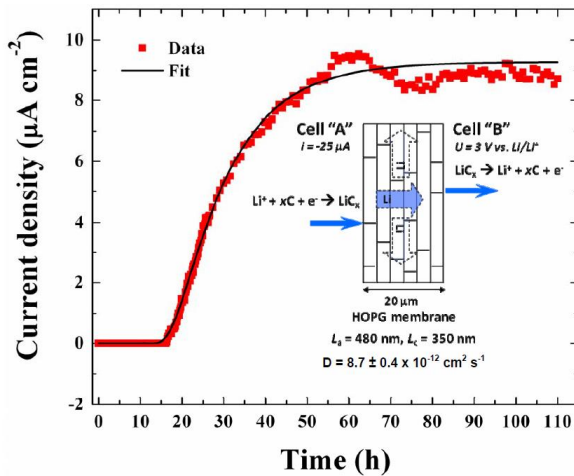
The current corresponds to the de-intercalative flux of lithium-ions from the HOPG membrane into the electrolyte



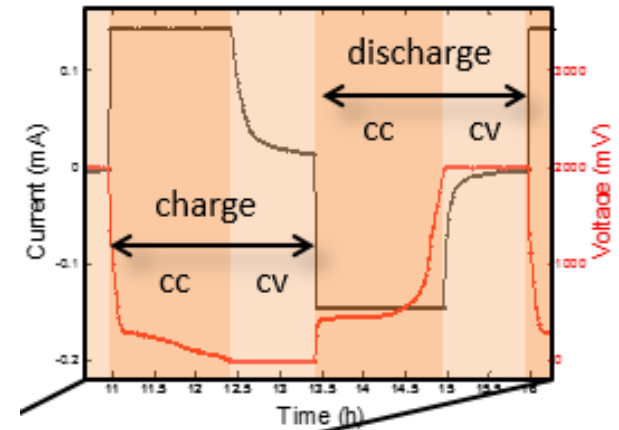
## Edge-plane configuration



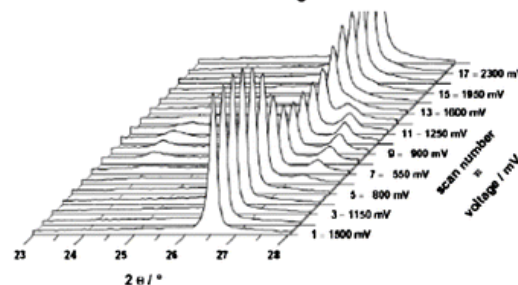
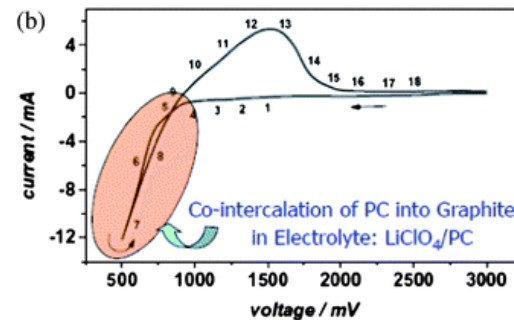
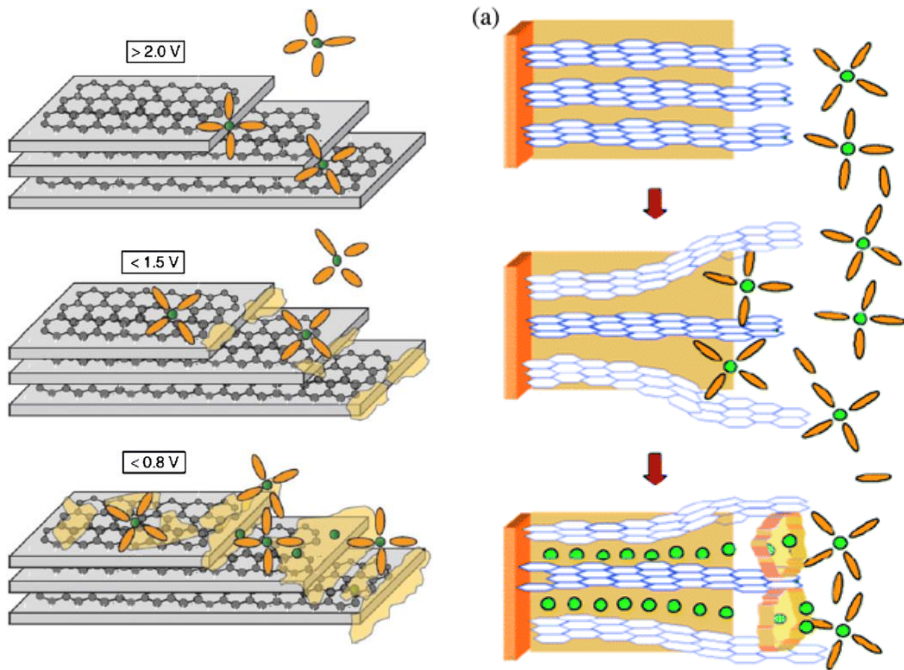
## Basal-plan configuration



## CCCV or GCPL cycling methods over CC only



## EC / PC cycling difference

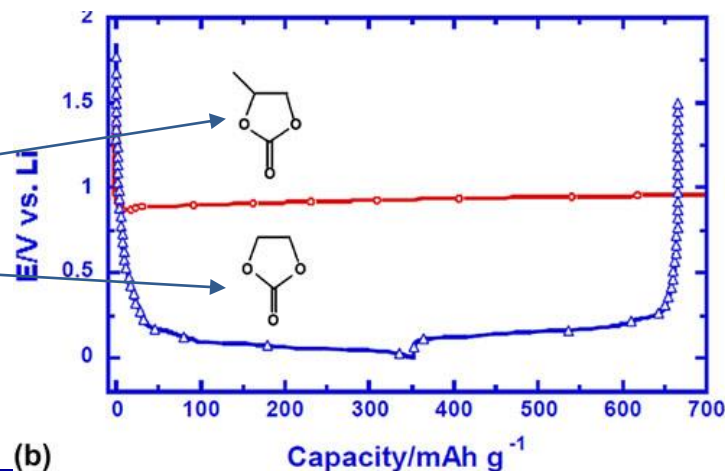


SEI formation from the co-intercalated species

Direct consequence

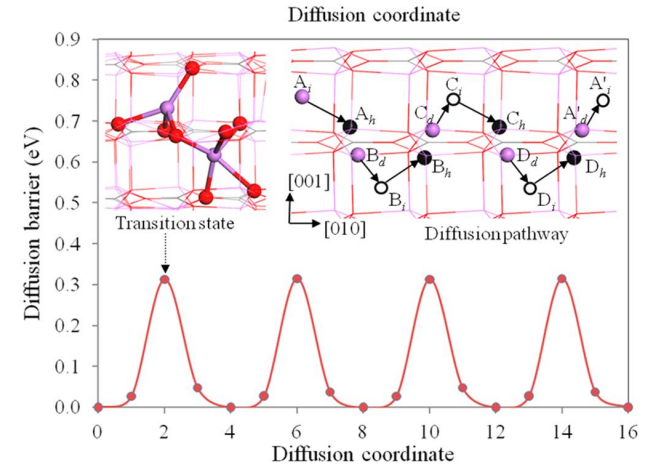
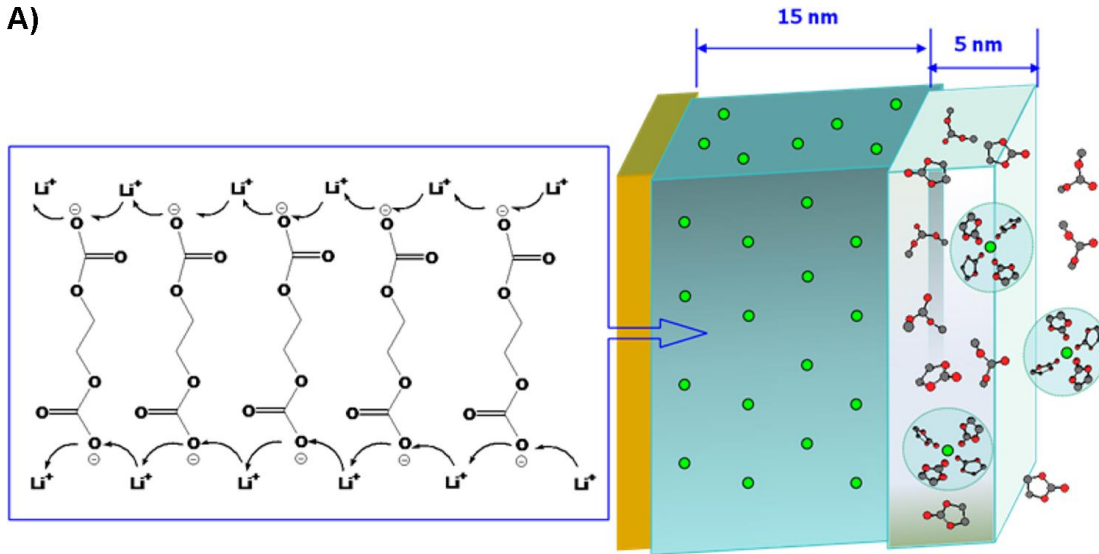
PC: Do not co-intercalate

EC: Co-intercalate



# Li-ion migration through the SEI

A)



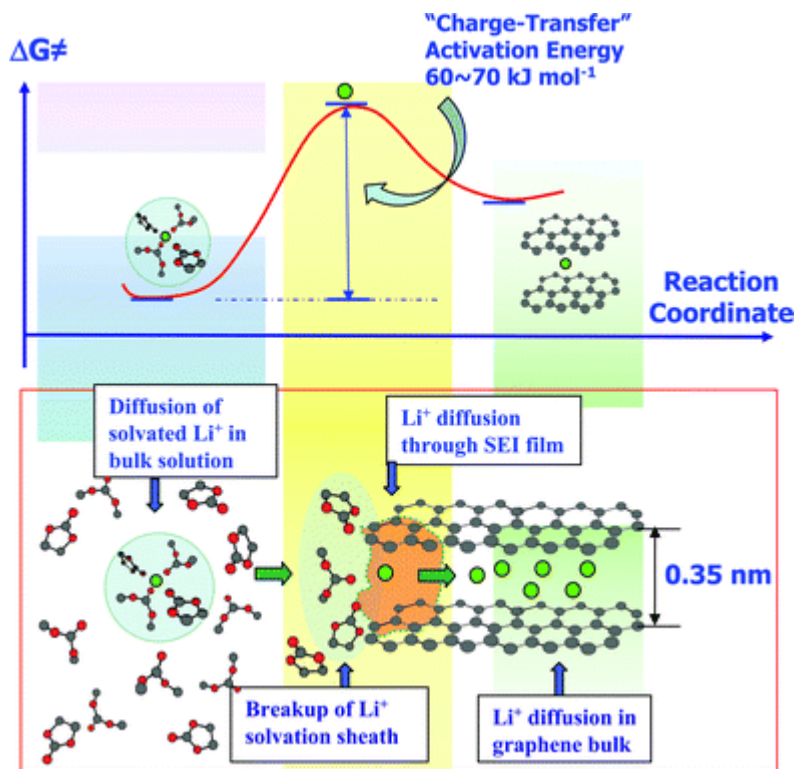
The SEI allows Li-ion migration.

Electronic insulating / Ionic conductor

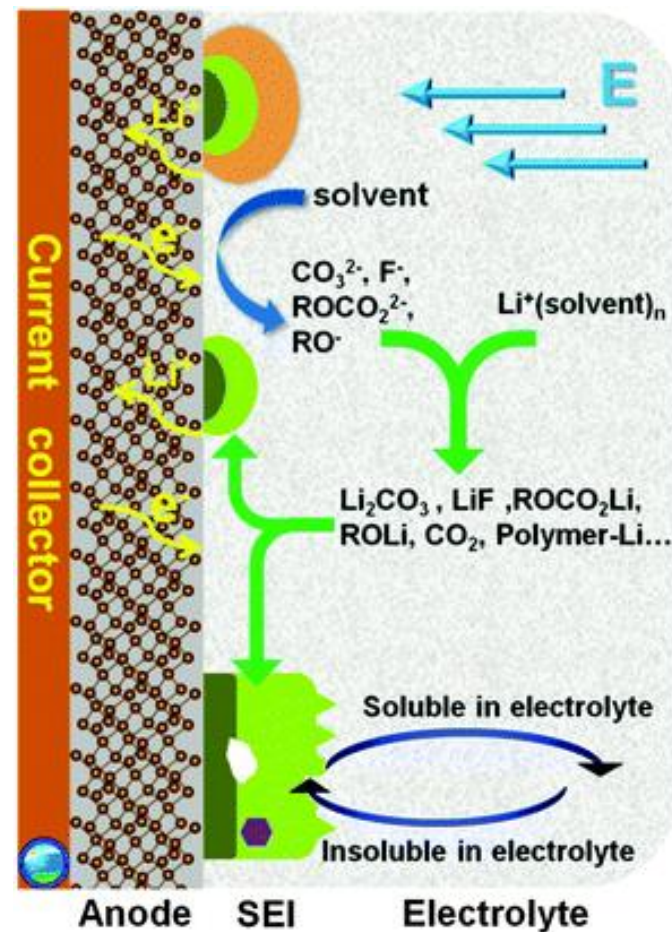
Studies using Li isotope substitution suggested that the SEI function like a “cation-exchanger” via a “Grothaus-like” conducting mechanism.



The formed SEI can deposit on the surface of the electrode, dissolve and drift in the electrolyte. The overall charge transport process:



Combined with



## Electrode–Electrolyte Interface in Li-Ion Batteries: Current Understanding and New Insights

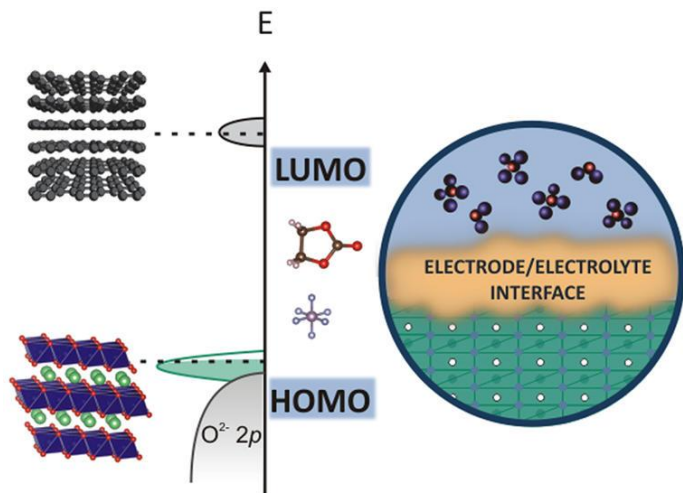
Magali Gauthier,<sup>†,‡</sup> Thomas J. Carney,<sup>‡,§</sup> Alexis Grimaud,<sup>†,‡</sup> Livia Giordano,<sup>†,‡,⊥</sup> Nir Pour,<sup>†,‡</sup> Hao-Hsun Chang,<sup>†,‡</sup> David P. Fenning,<sup>‡,||</sup> Simon F. Lux,<sup>∇</sup> Odysseas Paschos,<sup>¶</sup> Christoph Bauer,<sup>¶</sup> Filippo Maglia,<sup>¶</sup> Saskia Lupart,<sup>¶</sup> Peter Lamp,<sup>¶</sup> and Yang Shao-Horn<sup>\*,†,‡,§,||</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Research Laboratory of Electronics, <sup>‡</sup>Electrochemical Energy Laboratory, <sup>§</sup>Department of Materials Science & Engineering, and <sup>||</sup>Department of Mechanical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, United States

<sup>⊥</sup>Dipartimento di Scienza dei Materiali, Università di Milano-Bicocca, Via Roberto Cozzi 55, 20125 Milan, Italy

<sup>∇</sup>BMW Group Technology Office USA, 2606 Bayshore Parkway, Mountain View, California 94043, United States

<sup>¶</sup>BMW Group, Petuelring 130, 80788 München, Germany

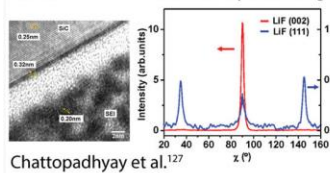


There is still limited understanding on what EEI layers consist of, by what mechanisms they are formed, and how they influence EEI properties and battery performance.

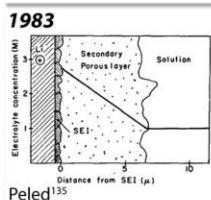
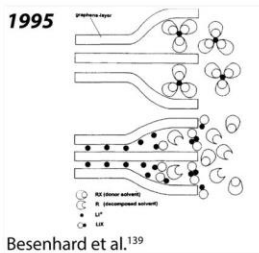
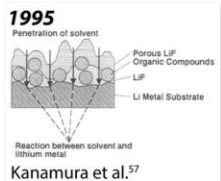
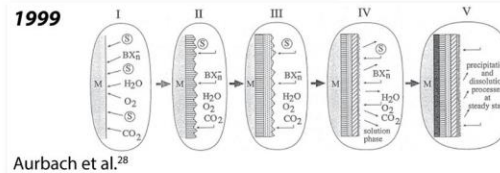
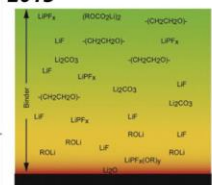
Although the well-known mosaic model of the SEI on lithium and graphite described is well accepted in the community, it has not been fully experimentally established and enough challenged.

# Knowledge evolution on the EEI on the Anode and the Cathode side

2012 In situ X-ray scattering

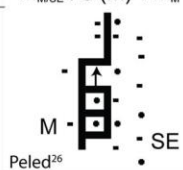
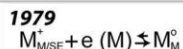


2013



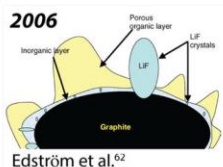
1985  $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$  and polymers on lithium (FTIR/XPS/XRD)  
Nazri and Muller<sup>54,66</sup>

1987 Lithium alkyl carbonates as main SEI component on Li (FTIR/XPS), Aurbach et al.<sup>137</sup>

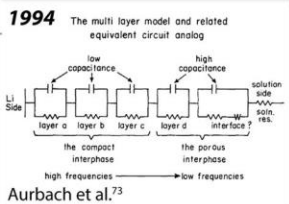
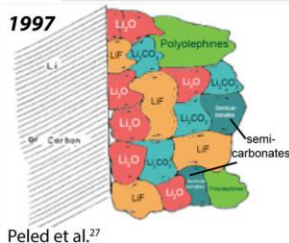


1970 1977 Microscopic observation of surface film on lithium soaked in electrolyte, Dey et al.<sup>138</sup>

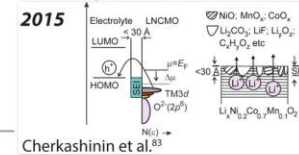
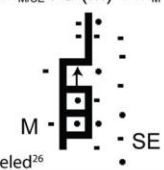
2010



2000



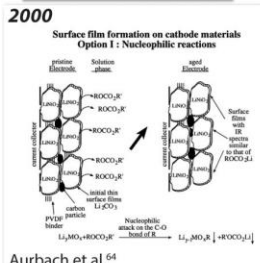
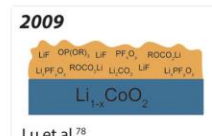
1994 The multi layer model and related equivalent circuit analog  
Aurbach et al.<sup>73</sup>



2014  $\text{LiMn}_{1.2}\text{Ni}_{0.5}\text{O}_4$  cathode Exposed to electrolyte  $\rightarrow$   $\text{LiMn}_{1.2}\text{Ni}_{0.5}\text{O}_4$  cathode  
In situ neutron reflectometry  
Browning et al.<sup>81</sup>

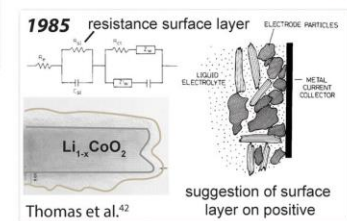
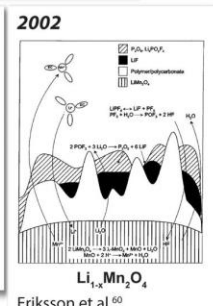
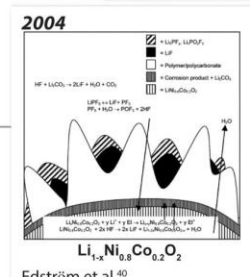


2010



1998 Evidence of ROCO<sub>2</sub>Li on the surface of  $\text{Li}_{1-x}\text{MO}_2$  and  $\text{Li}_{1-x}\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_4$  electrodes by FTIR  
Aurbach et al.<sup>192</sup>

1996 Detection of species with carboxylate groups on  $\text{Li}_{1-x}\text{CoO}_2$  by in situ FTIR  
Kanamura et al.<sup>191</sup>



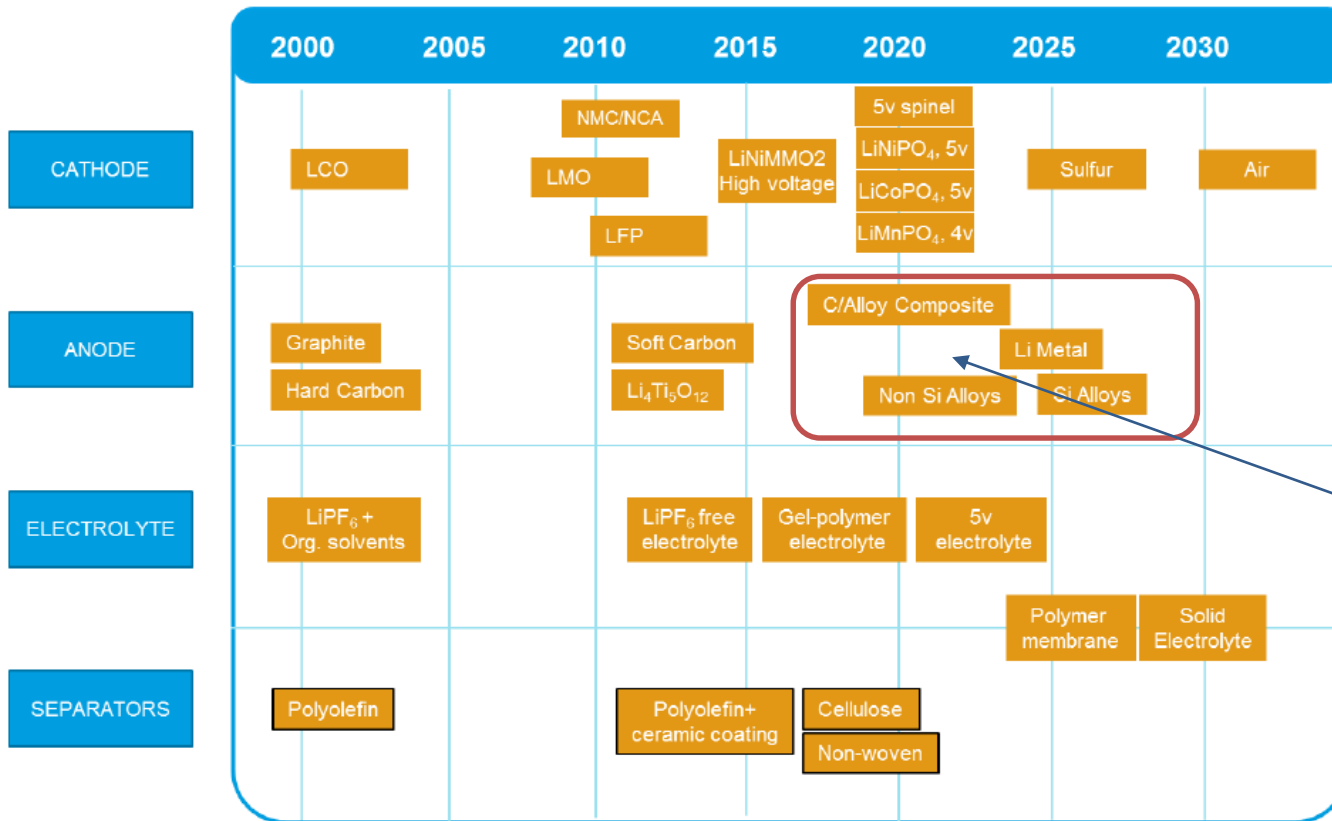
1990

1980

## Some concluding words

There is a need to study model electrode surfaces such as thin films, which allows for investigating the reactivity of the electrolyte with the active material surface alone.

Guided by these questions, researchers will be able to elucidate reaction mechanisms at the EEI and develop design principles to predict and control the interfaces of Li-ion batteries.



Si, Sn, etc...  
semiconductors

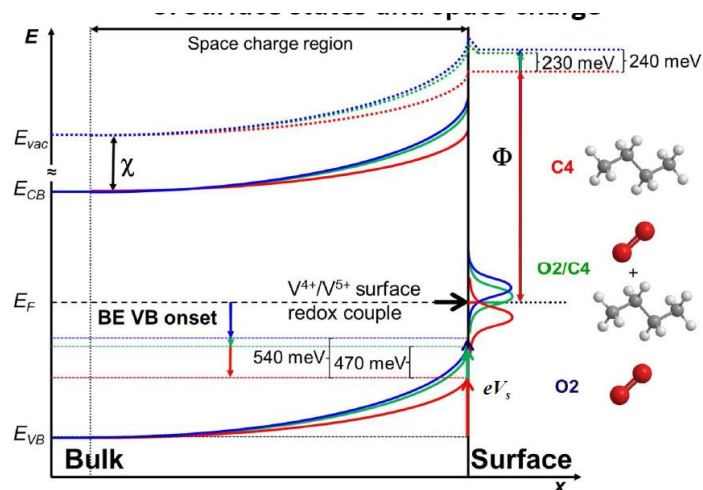
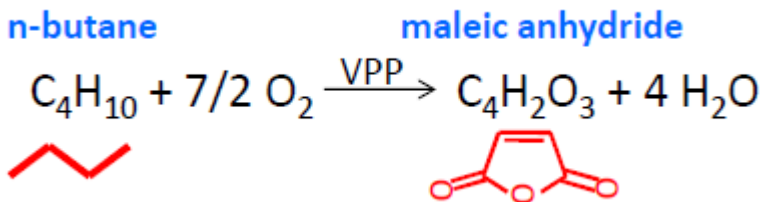
23

Charge transport in semiconductors....?

....,battery, gas sensors, PV, , catalysis, research,...

Most metal oxides are semiconductors and Oxidation catalysts are most often metal oxides.

A key application of charge transport in metal oxides are gas sensors

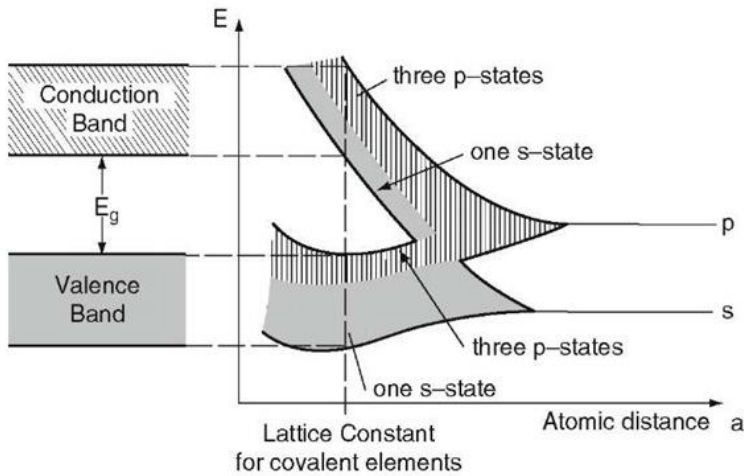


Semiconductors physics: From isolated molecules to energy band diagram

## Kronig-Penney model

Free electrons are affected by periodic lattice potential splitting of energy following Pauli exclusion principle

Energy bands for diamond versus lattice constant  
(*Covalent element!*)



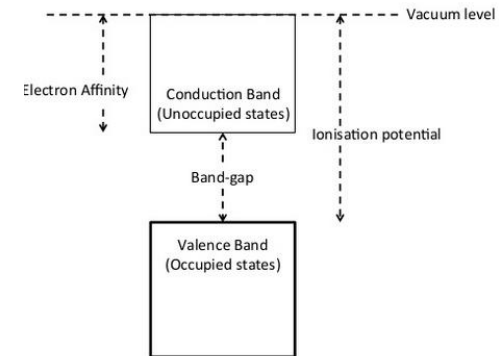
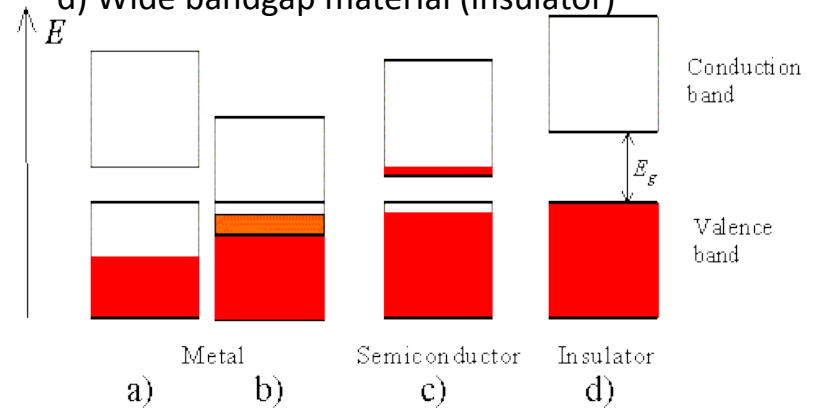
A further reduction of the lattice constant ( $<a_0$ ) causes the  $2s$  and  $2p$  energy bands to merge and split again into two bands

## Possible energy band diagrams of a crystal.

a-b) Metal: a half filled band, two overlapping bands

c) semiconductor: an almost full band separated by a small bandgap from an almost empty band

d) Wide bandgap material (insulator)



## Occupancy of electrons in a band is determined by Fermi-Dirac statistics

Fermi-Dirac distribution (for an electron gas):

$$f(E) = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{E - \mu}{k_B T}\right) + 1}$$

$$\mu(T = 0) = E_{\text{Fermi}}$$

$$f(E = \mu) = 1/2$$

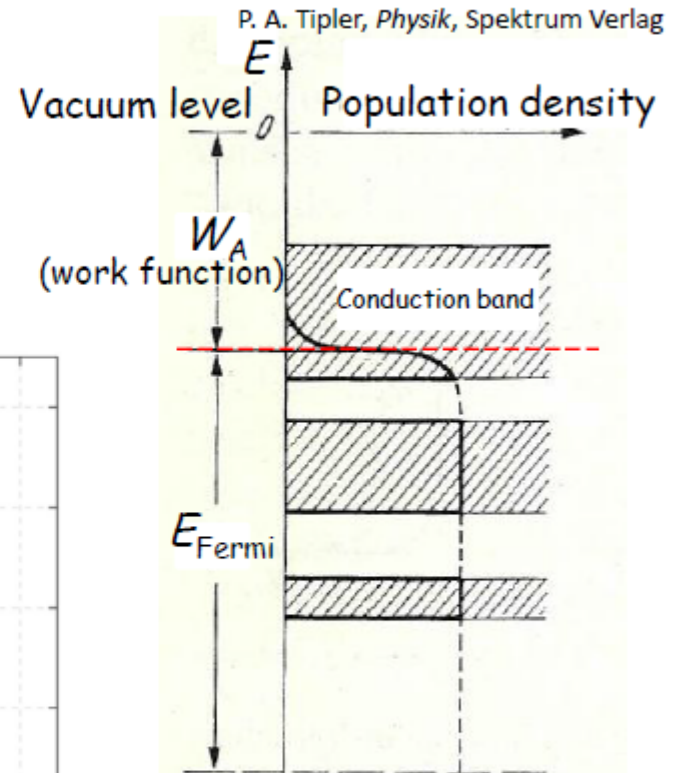
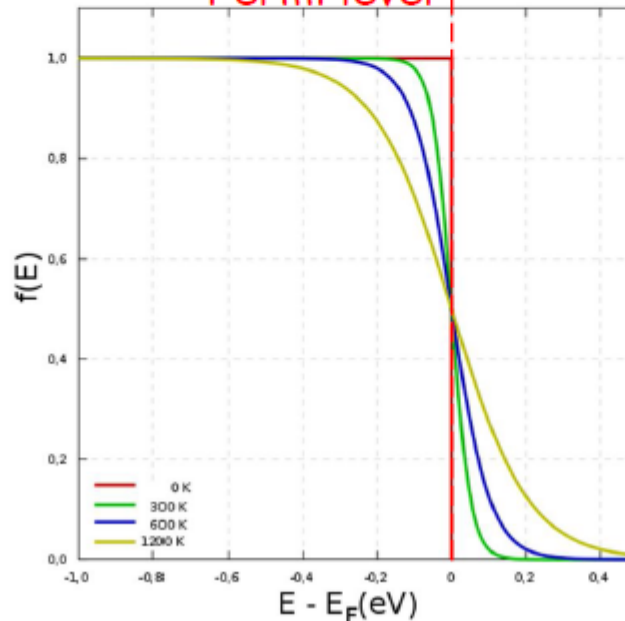
= Fermi level!

$E$ ...Energy

$k_B$ ...Boltzmann constant

$T$ ...Temperature

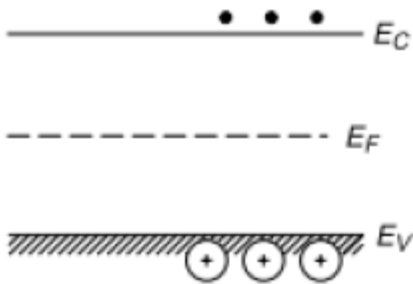
$\mu$ ...(Electro-)Chemical potential



The Fermi curve determines the population of occupied states, independent of the existence of states in the regarded  $E$  region

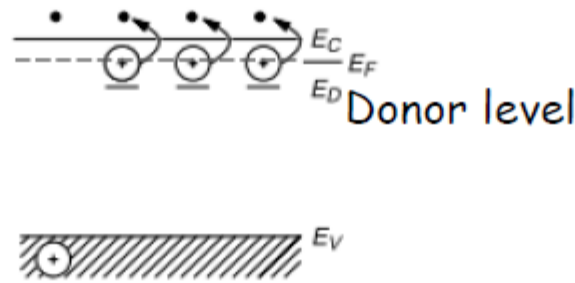


## Intrinsic semiconductor



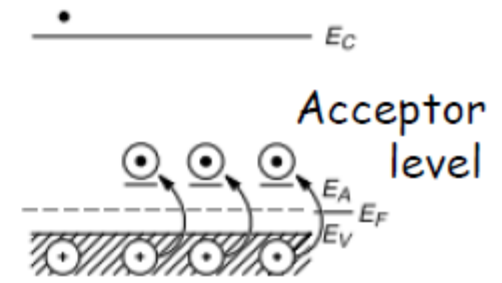
e.g. Si (band gap at 300 K = 1.12 eV)

## (Extrinsic) n-type semiconductor



e.g. As-doped Si

## (Extrinsic) p-type semiconductor



e.g. Ga-doped Si

Elemental semiconductors  
C (diamond), Si, Ge

B  
P-type dopant for C

B, Al, Ga, In  
P-type dopant for Si

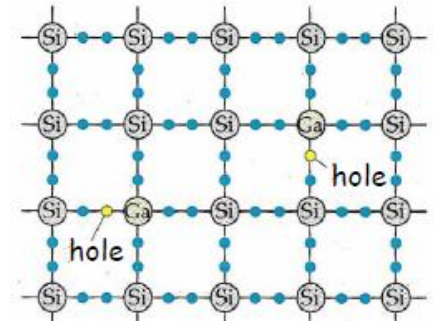
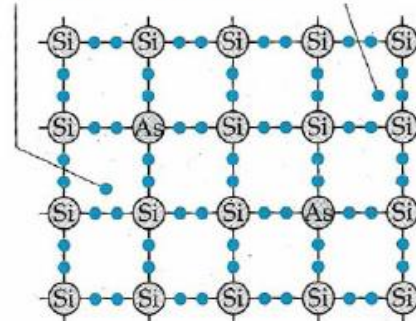
Al, Ga, In  
P-type dopant for Ge

	13	IIIA	14	IVA	15	VA
B	5	C	6	N	7	
Boron	10.81	Carbon	12.011	Nitrogen	14.0067	
	2p <sup>1</sup>		2p <sup>2</sup>		2p <sup>3</sup>	
Al	13	Si	14	P	15	
Aluminum	26.9815	Silicon	28.0855	Phosphorus	30.9738	
	3p <sup>1</sup>		3p <sup>2</sup>		3p <sup>3</sup>	
Ga	31	Ge	32	As	33	
Gallium	69.723	Germanium	72.61	Arsenic	74.92159	
	4p <sup>1</sup>		4p <sup>2</sup>		4p <sup>3</sup>	
In	49			Sb	51	
Indium	114.82			Antimony	121.75	
	5p <sup>1</sup>			5p <sup>3</sup>		

N, P  
N-type dopant for C

P, As, Sb  
N-type dopant for Si, Ge

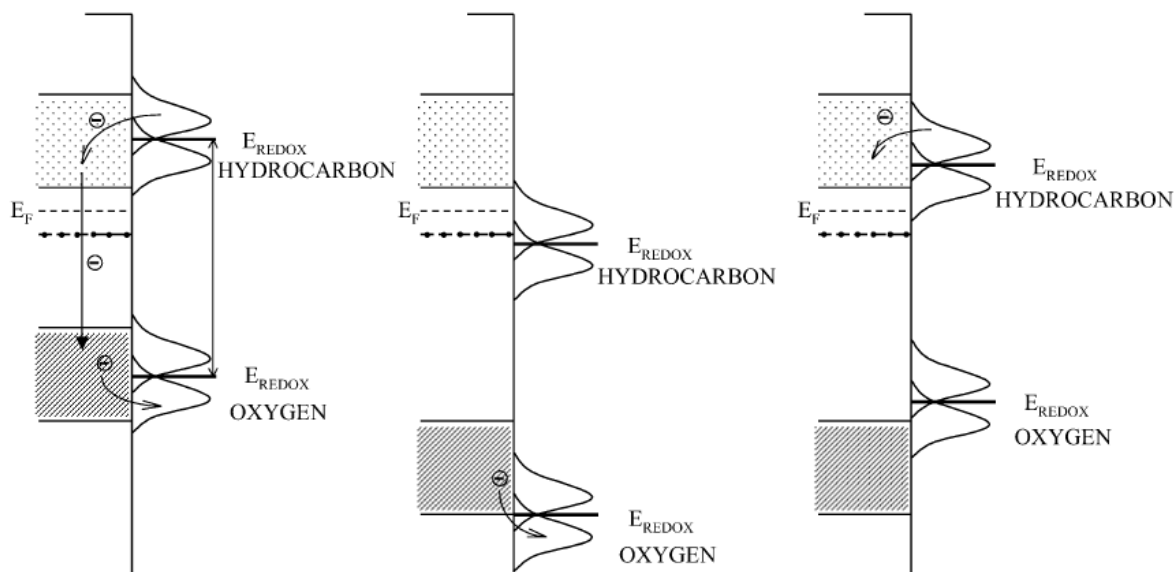
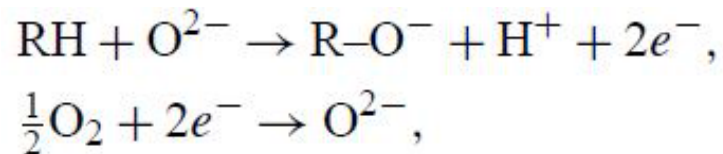
additional electrons



P. A. Tipler, *Physik*, Spektrum Verlag

Example: Oxidation of hydrocarbons

Note: Rigid band assumptions

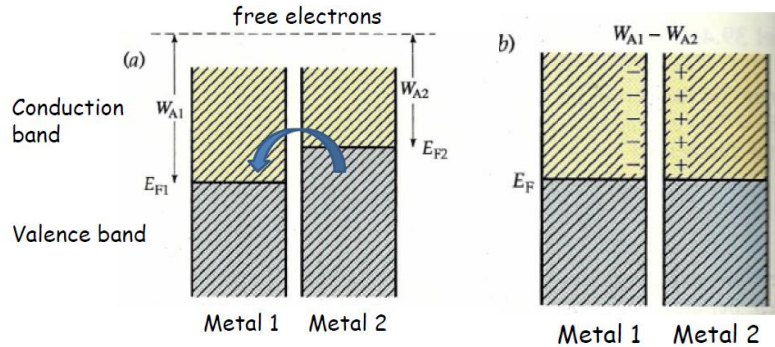


CATALYTIC OXIDATION OF HYDROCARBON MOLECULE CAN PROCEED

CATALYTIC OXIDATION OF HYDROCARBON MOLECULE CANNOT PROCEED, BECAUSE THE MOLECULE IS NOT ACTIVATED

CATALYTIC OXIDATION OF HYDROCARBON MOLECULE CANNOT PROCEED, BECAUSE THE CATALYST IS NOT REOXIDIZED

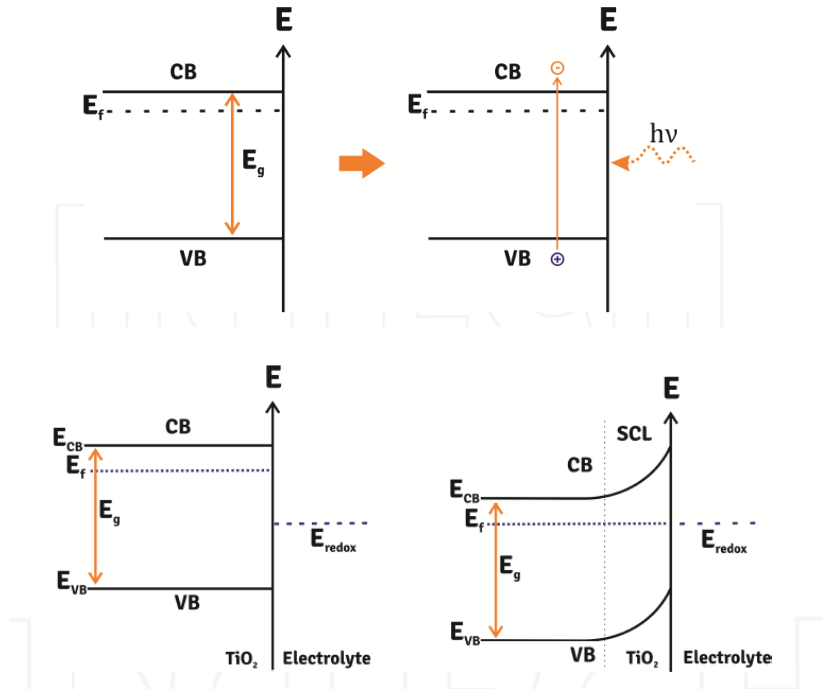
## For metals



a) Energy states of two different metals with different Fermi energies and work functions.

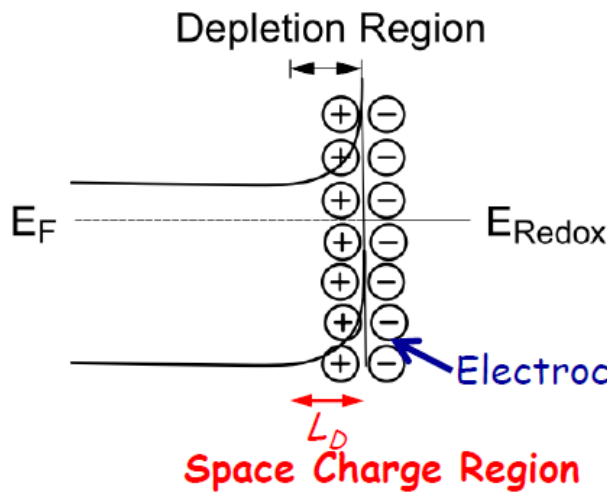
b) With contact, electrons will flow from the metal with higher Fermi energy (lower work function) to the one with lower Fermi energy (larger work function) until the Fermi levels of both metals are equalized

## For semiconductors

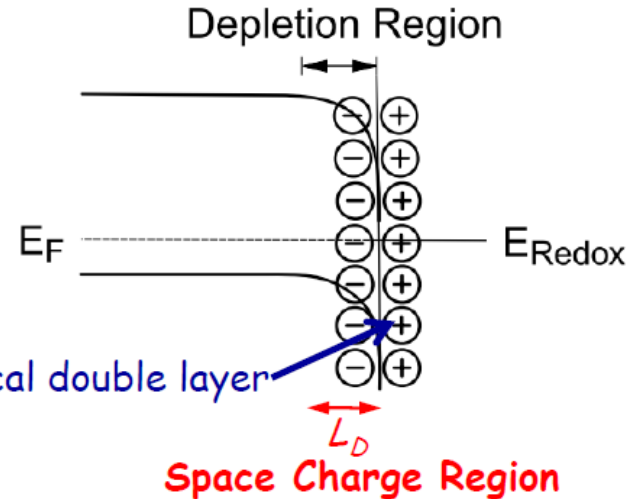


Energy band diagram for an **n-type semiconductor** before and after the equilibration of Fermi levels at the interface semiconductor/electrolyte, and the appearance of band-bending and the space charge layer (SCL)

n-type SC in contact with electrolyte



p-type SC in contact with electrolyte



**In metals:** penetration depth (space charge region to compensate surface charge) of only a few lattice constants (high concentration of free charge carriers)

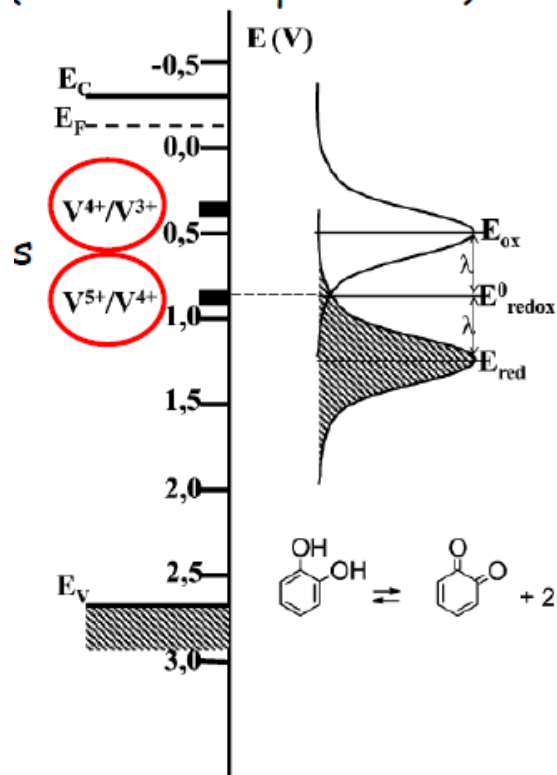
**In SCs:** Debye shielding,  $L_D$ , can amount from 10 nm to 1  $\mu\text{m}$

$$L_D = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon k_B T}{2\pi q^2 n_i}}$$

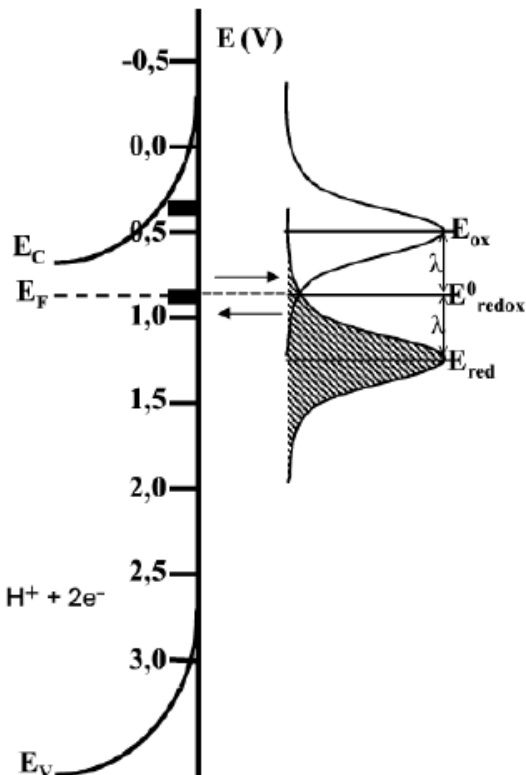
$\epsilon$ ...Dielectric permittivity of crystal;  $q$ ...Electron charge;  $n_i$ ...Concentration of charge carriers in intrinsic semiconductor

A. W. Bott, *Current Separations* 1998, 17, 87

## Flat band potential (no external potential)



## With external potential



When an external potential is applied, the energy levels of the solid become bent upwards, the Fermi level shifts below the V<sup>4+</sup> /V<sup>3+</sup> and V<sup>5+</sup> /V<sup>4+</sup> levels, and the electrons from these levels are moved into the conductivity band, leaving them in the vanadium 5+ state.

Now these levels can mediate the transfer of electrons from the reacting molecules into the conductivity band of the solid and the oxidation reaction of catechol to o-quinon may take place.

**n-SC:**

DEPLETION

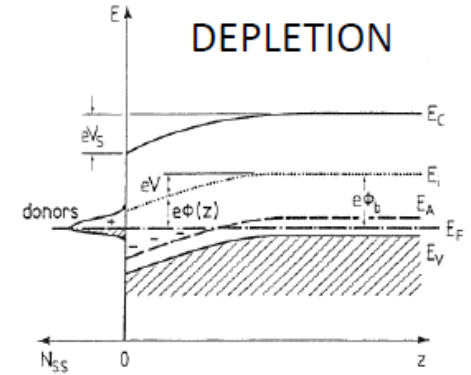
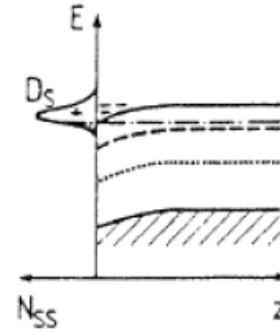
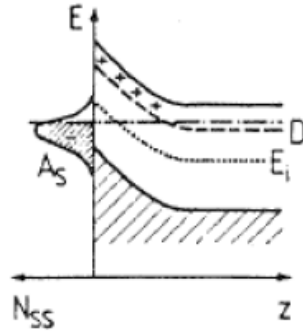
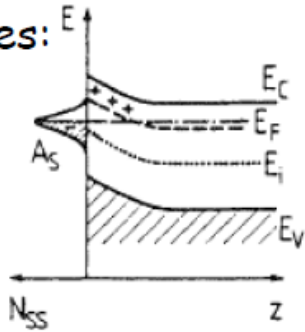
INVERSION

ACCUMULATION

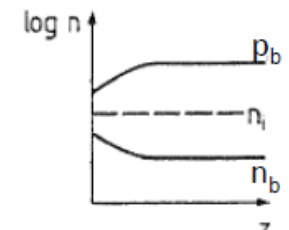
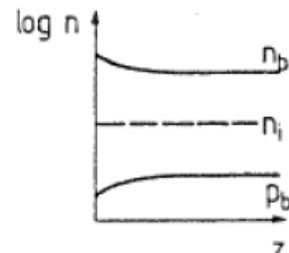
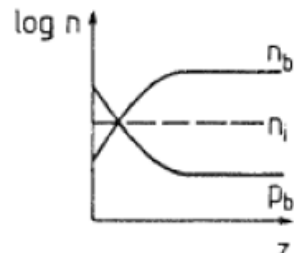
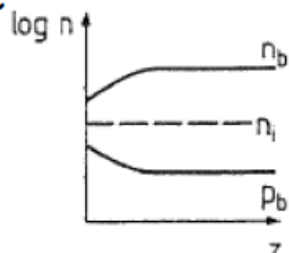
**p-SC:**

DEPLETION

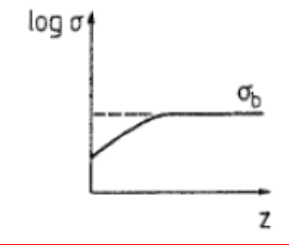
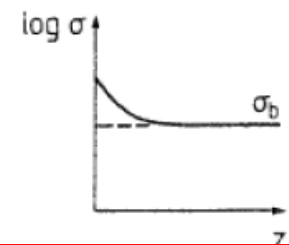
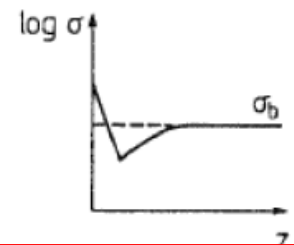
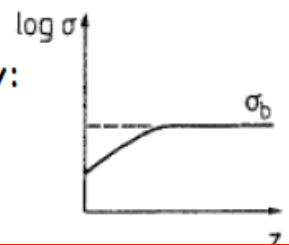
Band schemes:



Free charge carrier densities:



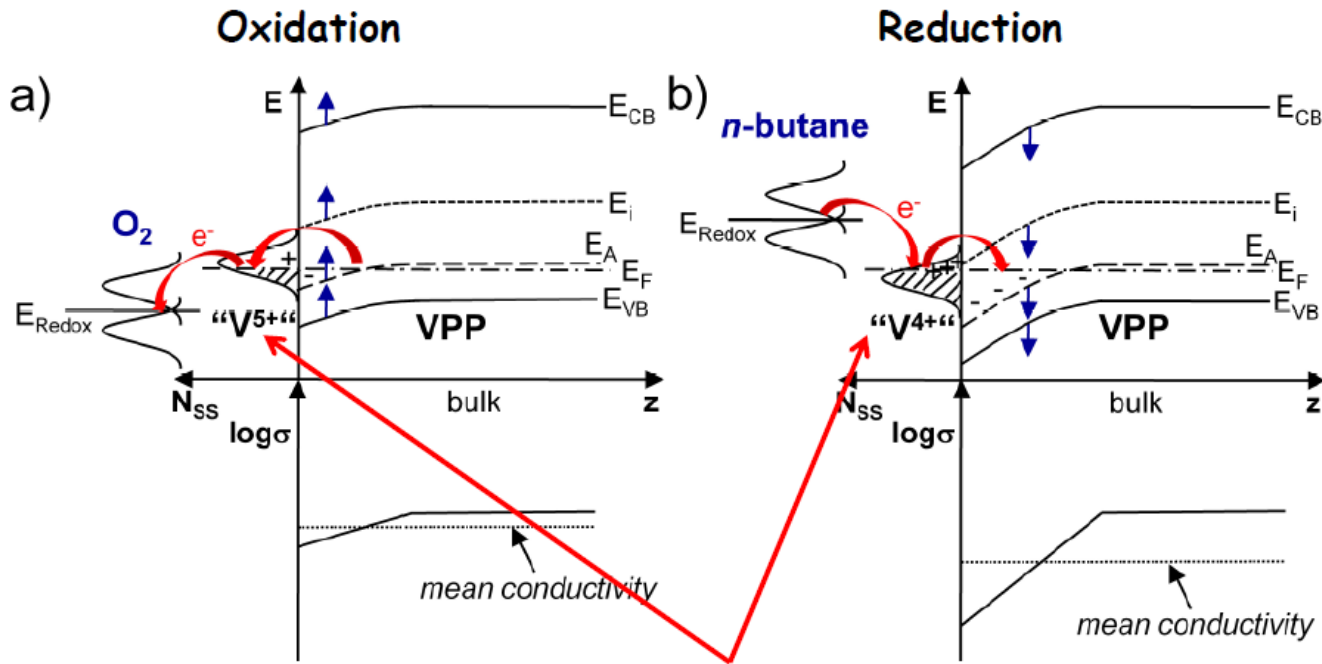
Local conductivity:



H. Lüth, *Solid Surfaces, Interfaces and Thin Films*, Springer 2001

## Adsorption (catalysis) at surface states:

p-type semiconductor (e.g.  $(VO)_2P_2O_7$  for butane oxidation to maleic anhydride)



**Local surface state = active (isolated single) site  $\rightarrow$  selective oxidation**

Band bending match the chemical potential of the adsorbate  
(reverse situation than with electrocatalysis of catechol)

After all this theory the motivation of the charge transport group is easier to define

Top Catal (2008) 50:98–105

### How Far is the Concept of Isolated Active Sites Valid in Solid Catalysts?

John Meurig Thomas

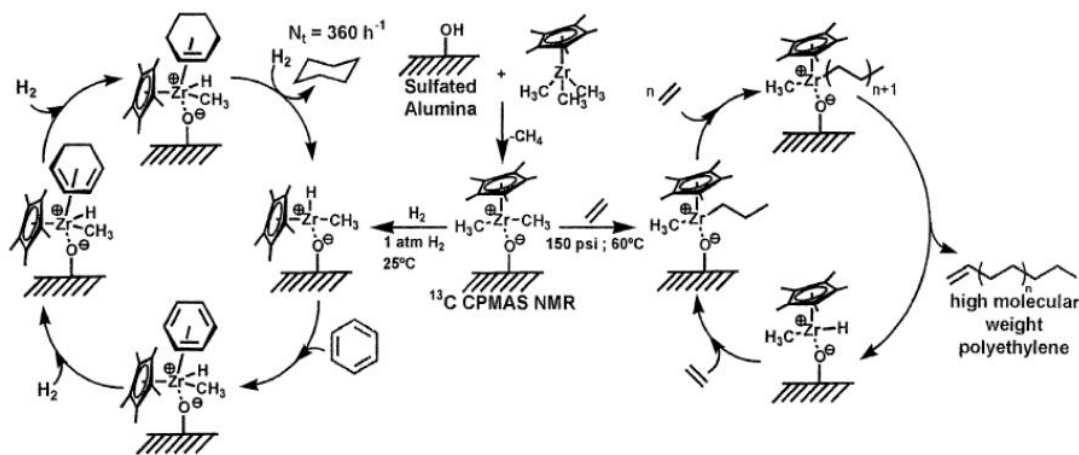


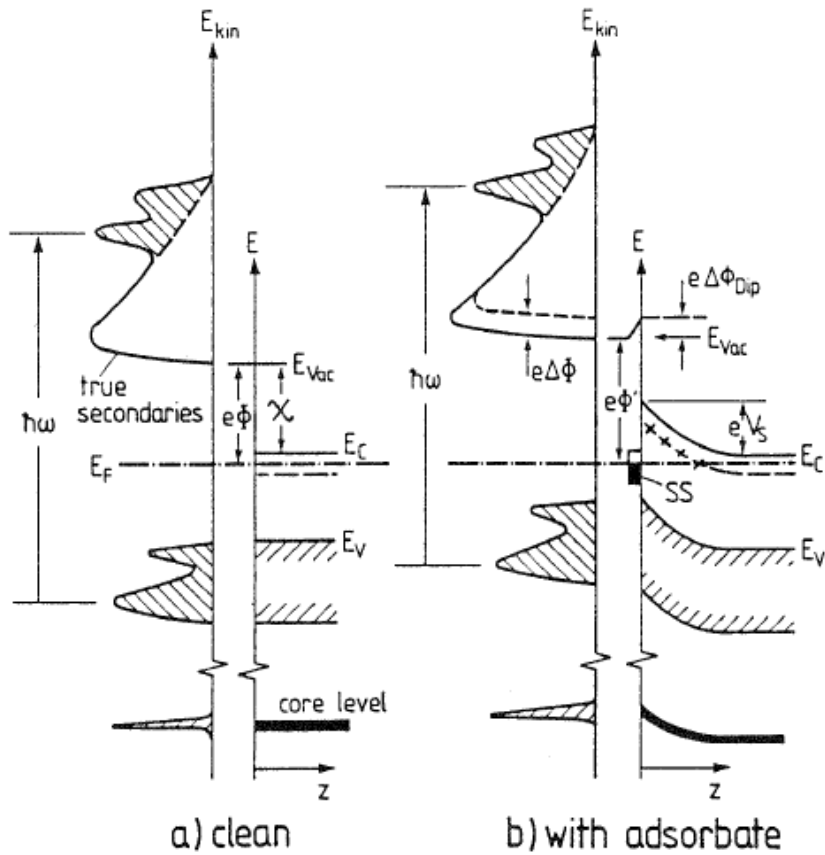
Fig. 2 Metallocene catalysts, used widely in homogeneous solution and typified by zirconene, are also very efficient in hydrogenations and polymerizations when anchored as single sites on acidic alumina

surfaces. (Taken, with kind permission from the work of TJ Marks, Northwestern University)

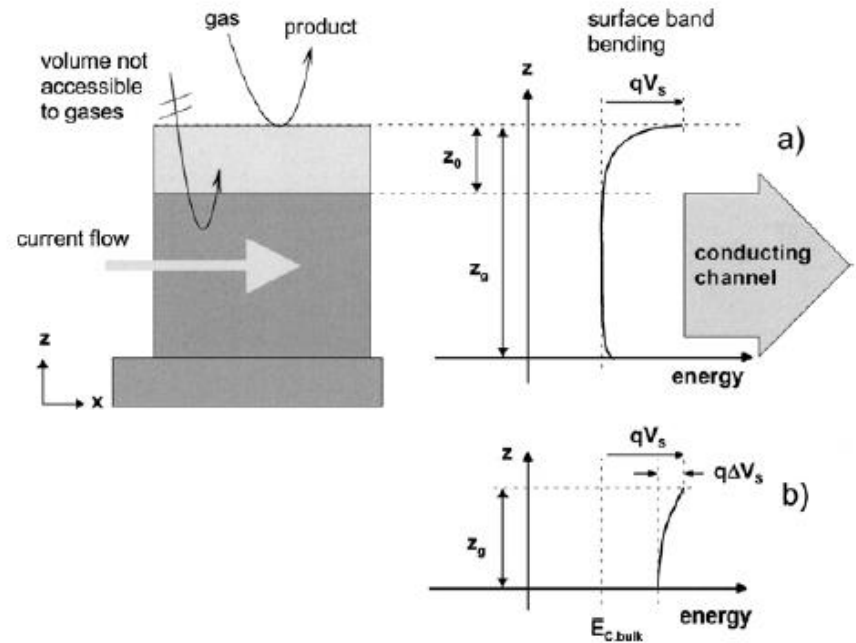
Solid State Aspects: Going underneath the surface and beyond the molecule



## Photoemission spectroscopy

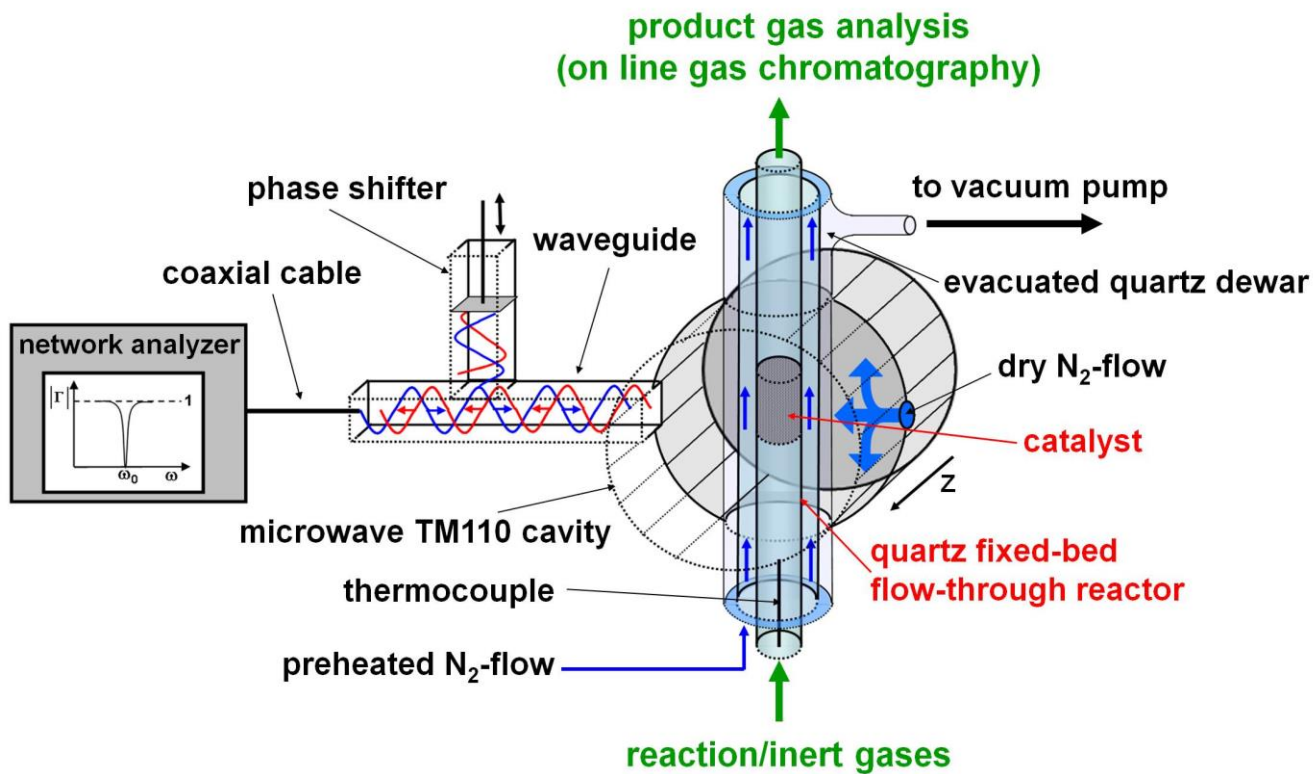


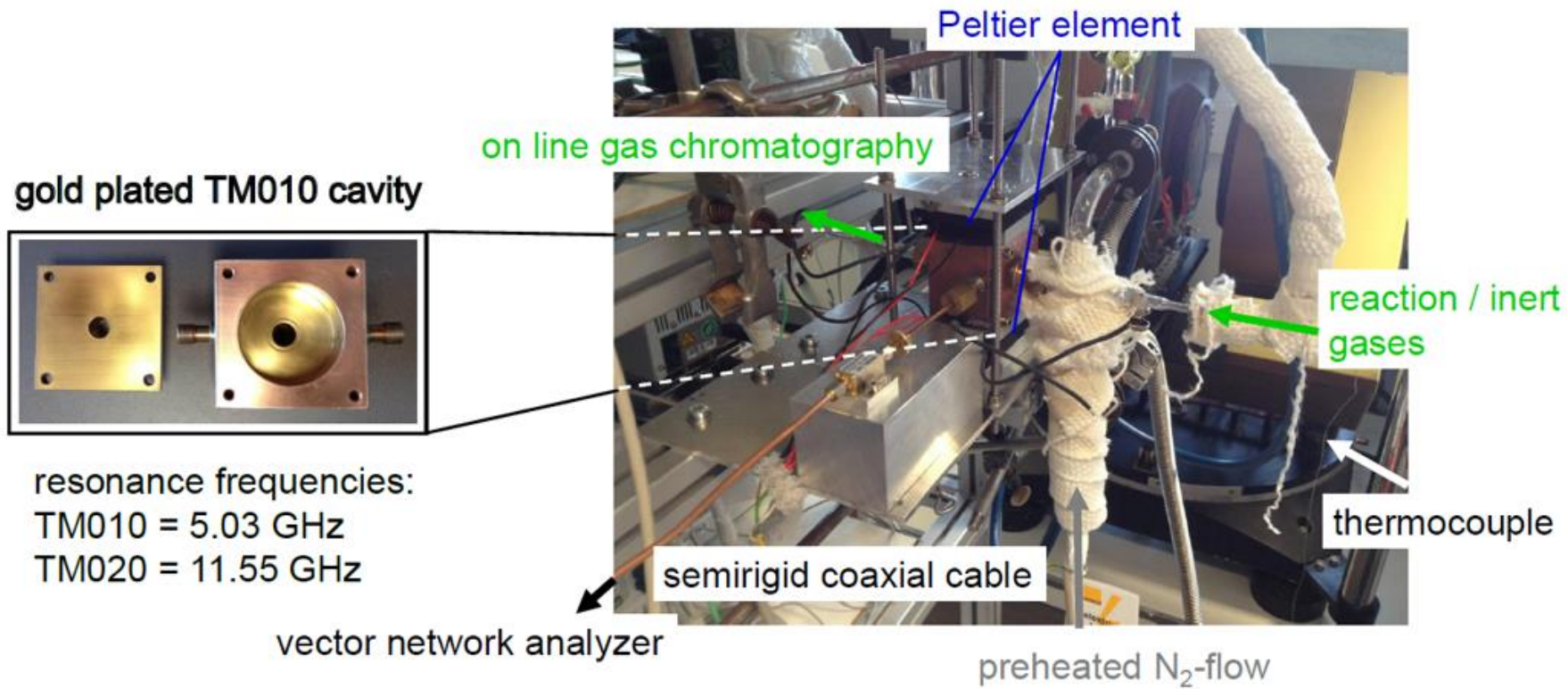
## Conductivity

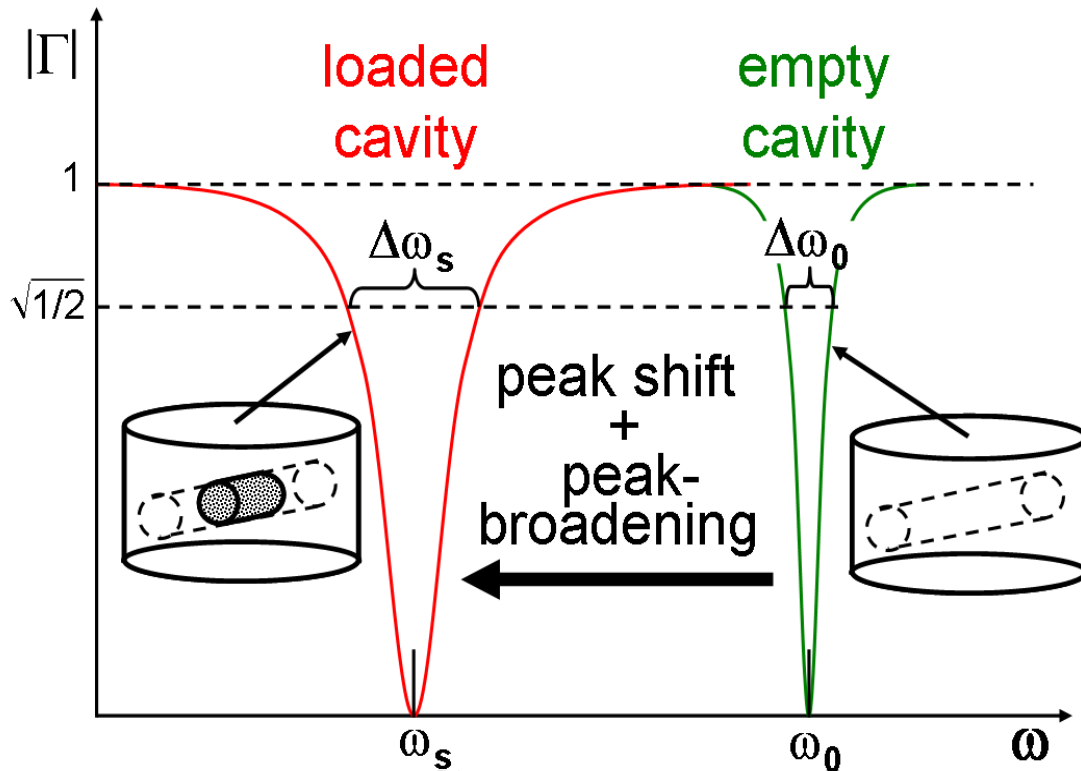


# Contactless conductivity measurements using the *microwave cavity*

## *perturbation technique*







Absolute value of the reflexion factor in case of critical coupling.

**Measured quantities:** resonance frequency  $\omega$  and resonance width  $\Delta\omega$

**Calculated sample properties:** complex permittivity  $\varepsilon$  and electrical conductivity  $\sigma$

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 + i\varepsilon_2$$

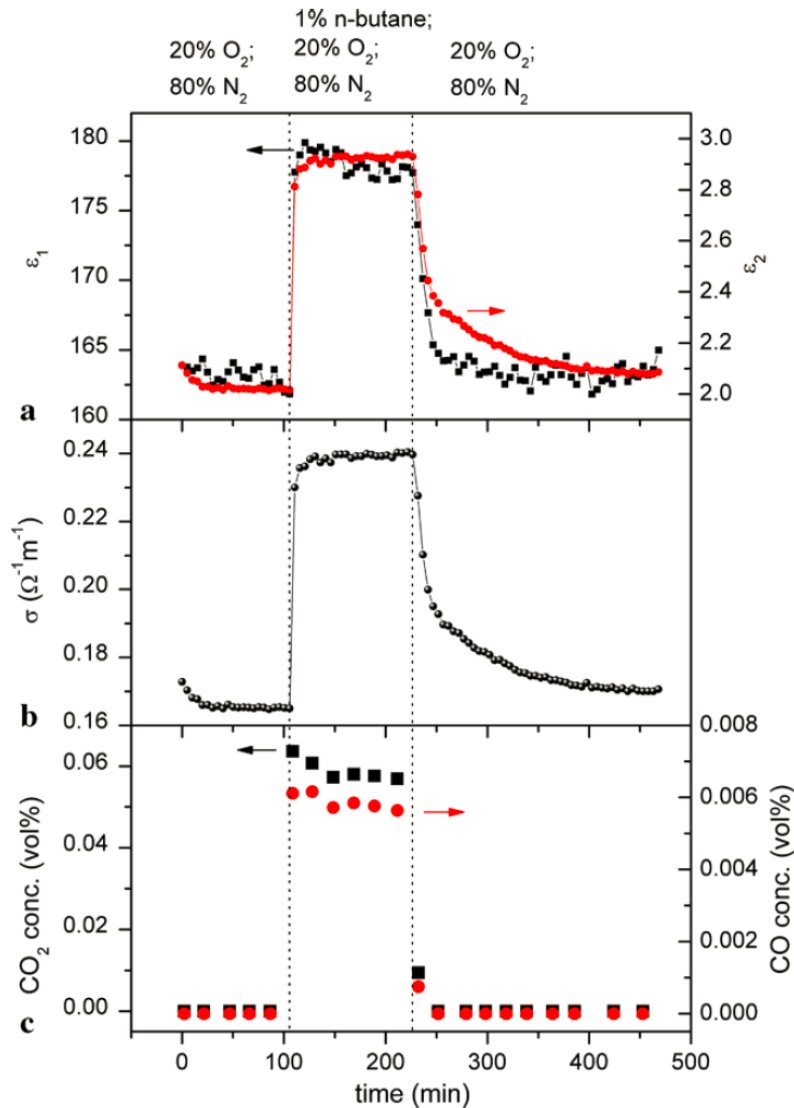
$$\frac{\omega_s - \omega_0}{\omega_0} = A(\varepsilon_1 - 1) \frac{V_s}{V_c}$$

$$\frac{\Delta\omega_s - \Delta\omega_0}{\omega_0} = A\varepsilon_2 \frac{V_s}{V_c}$$

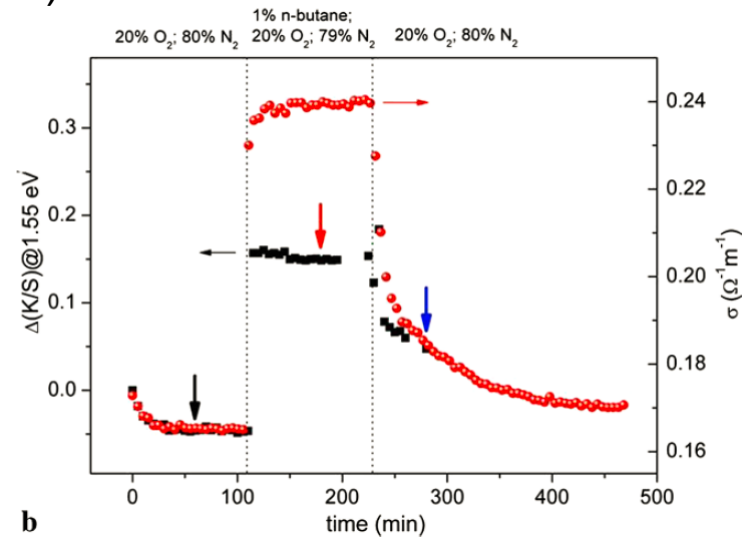
**contactless measurement of the conductivity:**  $\sigma = \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_2 \omega_s$

A: cavity constant;  $V_s$ : sample volume;  $V_c$ : cavity volume;  $\varepsilon_0$ : vacuum permittivity

# Charge Carrier Analysis of $V_2O_5$



**UV-Vis-NIR: absorption at 1.55 eV**  
 (3d<sup>1</sup>-conduction band transition of V<sup>4+</sup>):



*Correlation between conductivity and V oxidation state – NAP-XPS.*

- **Band bending and selectivity,**
- **See** C. Heine et al., *Appl. Phys. A* **2013**, 112, 289-296

(Examples)

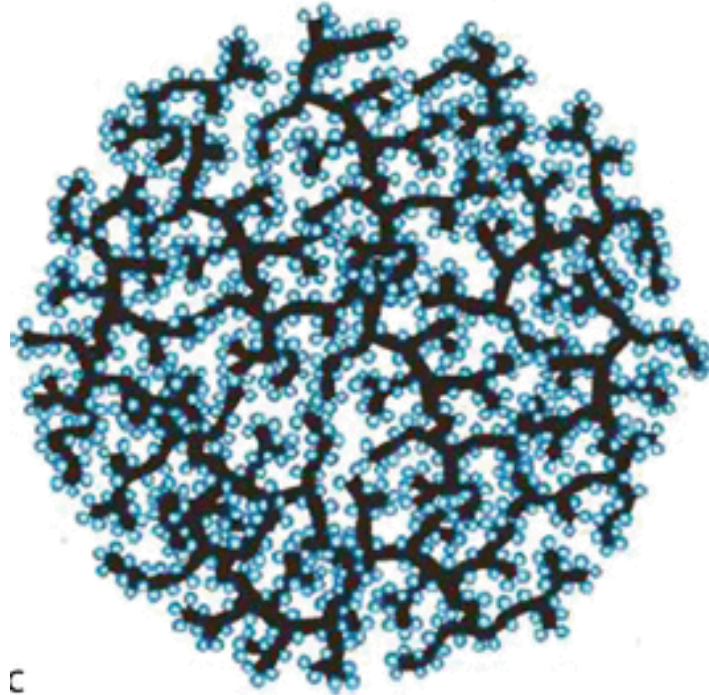
## Adsorption/catalysis on semiconductors, e.g.:

- × S. R. Morrison, "*The chemical physics of surfaces*", Plenum Press New York and London **1977** (semiconductor physics concepts of surfaces, includes chapter on heterogeneous catalysis)
- × F. F. Volkenshtein, "*The electronic theory of catalysis on semiconductors*"; Pergamon Press **1963**.
- × H. Lueth, "*Solid surfaces, interfaces and thin films*", Springer **2010**
- × H. Lueth, "*Space Charge Layer*", Springer Verlag **2001**
- × P. A. Cox, "*The electronic structure and chemistry of solids*", Oxford University Press **1989**
- × R. Hoffmann, "*Solids and surfaces : a chemist's view of bonding in extended structures*" VCH **1988**

## Fundamental textbooks, e.g.:

- × N. W. Ashcroft, N. D. Mermin, "*Solid state physics*", Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning **2009**
- × H. Ibach, H. Lueth, "*Solid-state physics : an introduction to principles of materials science*", Springer **2009**

# What about charge transport in Si / C anode



**Thank you !**