



Modern Methods in Heterogeneous Catalysis Research

Solid State Aspects in Oxidation Catalysis

20th January 2012



How chemists like to see the world: Everything is molecular



1. Introduction



Top Catal (2008) 50:98–105

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

John Meurig Thomas

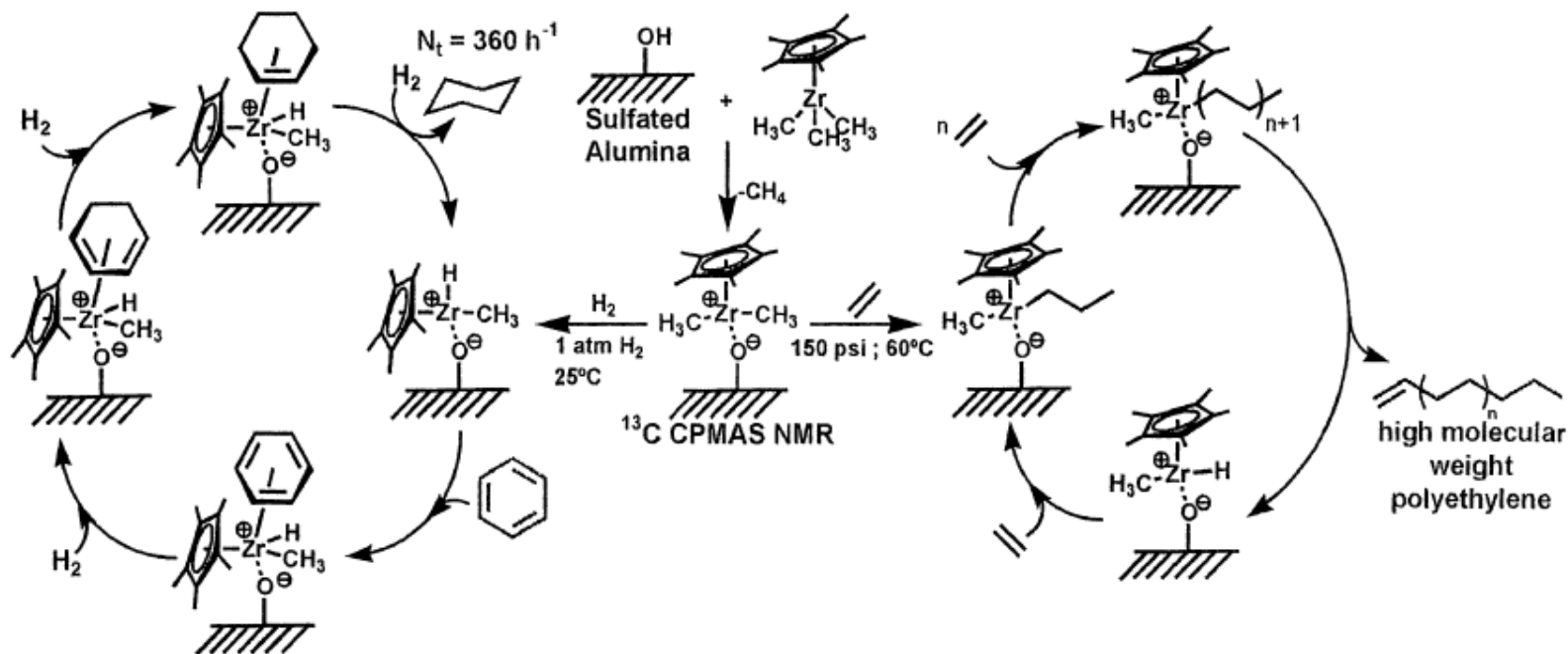


Fig. 2 Metallocene catalysts, used widely in homogeneous solution and typified by zirconocene, are also very efficient in hydrogenations and polymerizations when anchored as single sites on acidic alumina

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



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



1. Introduction



ANGEWANDTE CHEMIE

HERAUSGEGEBEN VON DER GESELLSCHAFT DEUTSCHER CHEMIKER

67. Jahrgang · Nr. 17/18 · Seite 433–540 · 7. September 1955

FORTSETZUNG DER ZEITSCHRIFT »DIE CHEMIE«

Neuere Gedanken zur Natur der heterogenen Katalyse

Von Prof. Dr. GEORG-MARIA SCHWAB¹⁾

Physikalisch-Chemisches Institut der Universität München

In letzter Zeit sind nähere Aufschlüsse über die Natur der Grenzflächenkatalyse durch die Anwendung der Festkörperphysik erreicht worden. Versuche an Legierungen haben gezeigt, daß die Aktivierung in einem Übergang von Elektronen entweder zum oder vom Katalysator besteht. Inzwischen haben diese Gesichtspunkte sich auch auf halbleitende Oxydkatalysatoren übertragen lassen. Die Chemisorption ist somit als Elektronenübergang deutbar. Verschiedene neuere Einzelfälle werden beschrieben.



1. Introduction



Dehydrogenation of formic acid with different bronze alloys: **activation energy** and **resistivity**

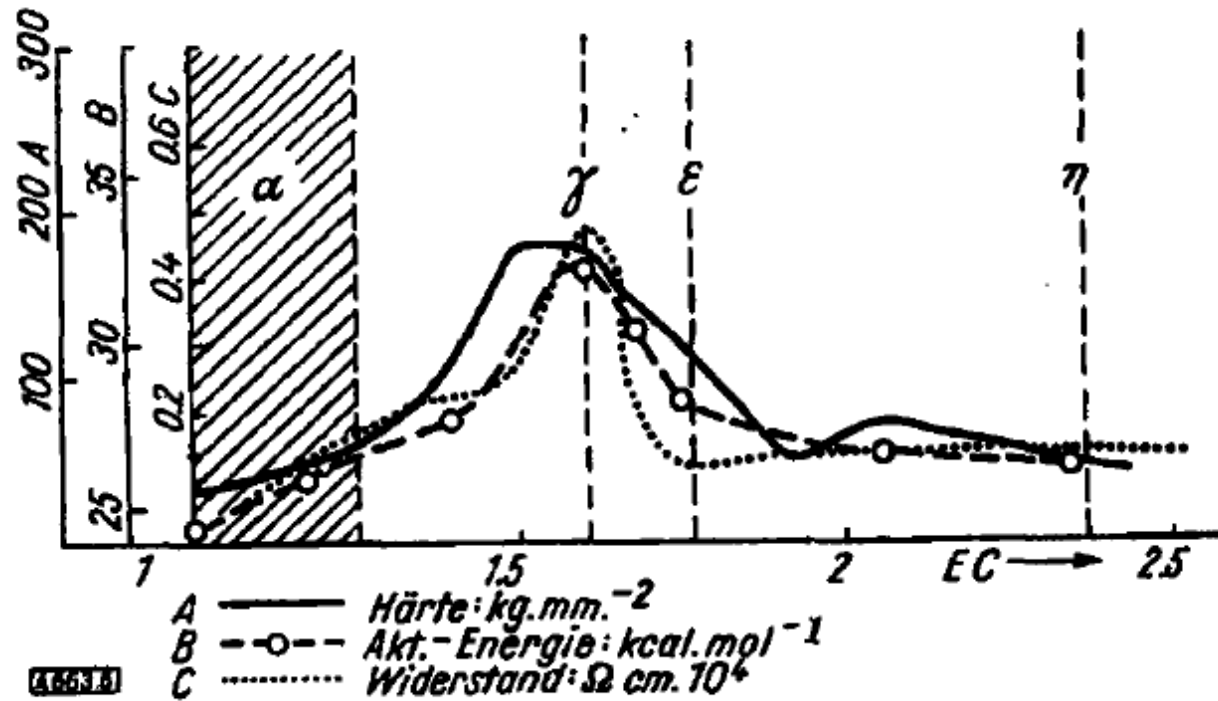


Bild 6

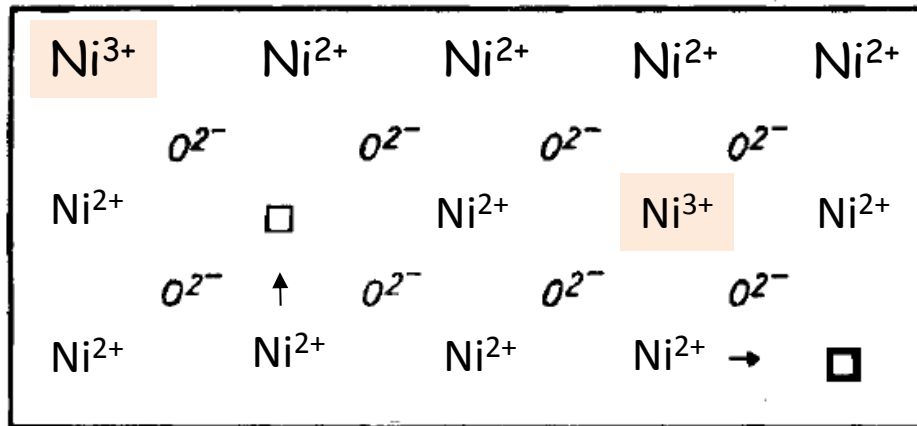
Aktivierungsenergie, Widerstand und Härte bei Bronzen verschiedener Elektronenkonzentration EC



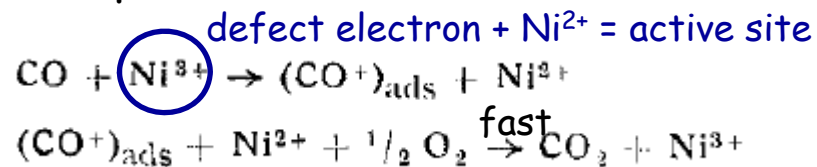
1. Introduction



Defect electrons (holes) in NiO (with O excess): **p-type semiconductor**

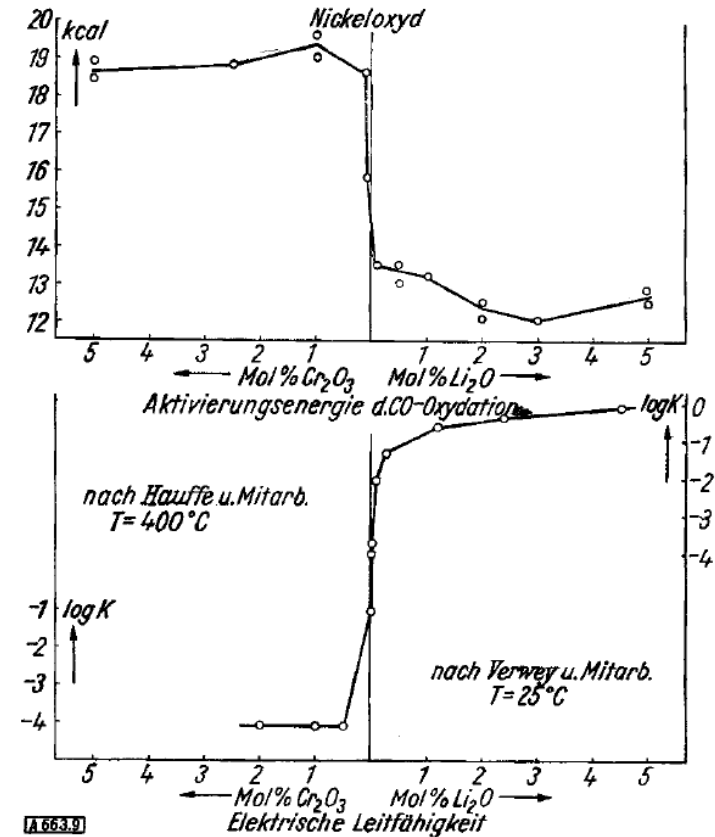


Explanation: donor reaction



→ CO chemisorption rate-determining

Increase of defect electrons by Li₂O, decrease by Cr₂O₃ addition:
 $\text{CO} + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$



A 663.99

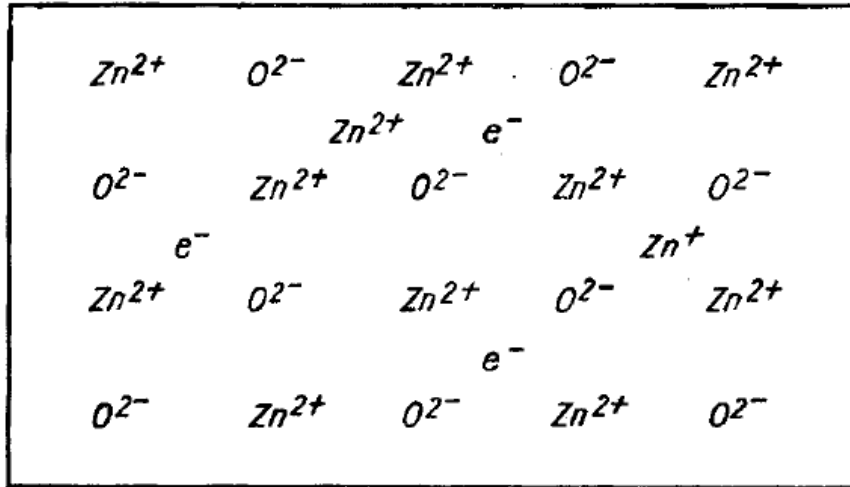
Bild 9
Leitfähigkeit und Aktivierungsenergie an dotiertem NiO



1. Introduction

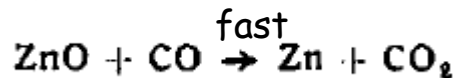
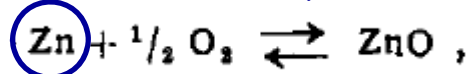


Excess electrons in ZnO (with Zn excess): **n-type semiconductor**



Explanation: acceptor reaction

Zn²⁺ + (1 or 2) quasi-free electrons = active site



→ Oxidation of active site rate-determining (strong influence of oxygen on rate)

Increase of quasi-free electrons by Ga₂O₃, decrease by Li₂O addition:
 $\text{CO} + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$

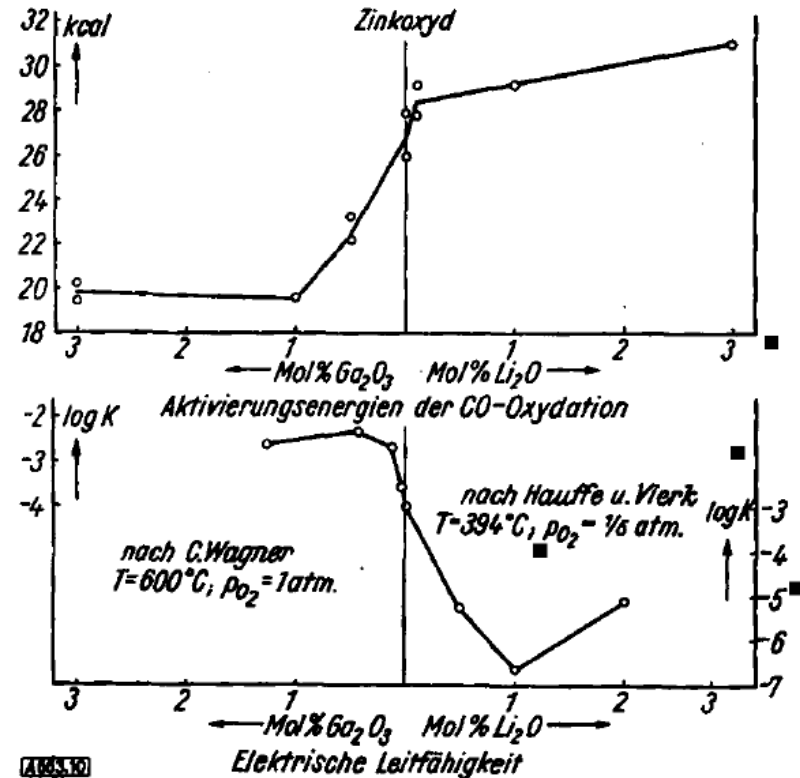


Bild 10
Leitfähigkeit und Aktivierungsenergie an dotiertem ZnO



1. Introduction



Kröger-Vink notation for point defects in crystals

F. A. Kröger, H. J. Vink, *Solid State Phys.* 1956, 3, 307

Precise description of point defects possible; differentiation between bulk vacancies, interstitials, surface vacancies, adsorbed ions etc.

Symbol	Type of defect
V_M''	Metal ion vacancy: vacant metal site with effective charge -2 (with respect to the ideal lattice)
V_X''	X ion vacancy: vacant X site with effective charge $+2$ (with respect to the ideal lattice)
M_M^x, X_X^x	Metal, respectively, X ion on their normal lattice position (neutral)
L_M'	L^+ dopant ion on metal site with effective charge -1 (with respect to the ideal lattice)
N_M^\bullet	N^{3+} dopant ion on metal site with effective charge $+1$ (with respect to the ideal lattice)
e'	(Quasi)-free electron in conduction band
h^\bullet	(Quasi)-free electron hole in valence band
M_i''	Interstitial metal ion with effective charge $+2$ (with respect to the ideal lattice)
X_i''	Interstitial X ion with effective charge -2 (with respect to the ideal lattice)
M_M'	Monovalent metal ion on M^{2+} -position (localised electron, only possible if the metal M has multiple valencies)
M_M^\bullet	Trivalent metal ion on M^{2+} -position (localised electron hole, only possible if the metal M has multiple valencies)

P. J. Gellings, H. J. M. Bouwmeester, *Catal. Today* 2000, 58, 1

Examples: Ni^{3+} in $Ni^{2+}O^{2-}$ on normal lattice position $\rightarrow Ni_{Ni}^\bullet$

Interstitial Zn^+ in $Zn^{2+}O^{2-} \rightarrow Zn_i^\bullet$



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



- 1) Proton conduction in oxides
- 2) Oxygen conduction in oxides

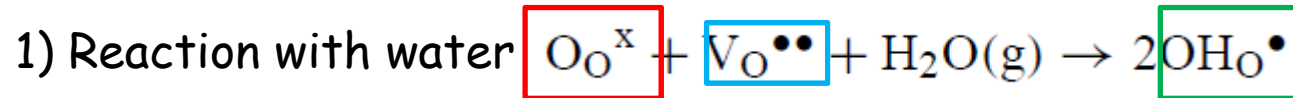


2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Formation of protonic defects:

Doubly ionized oxygen vacancy



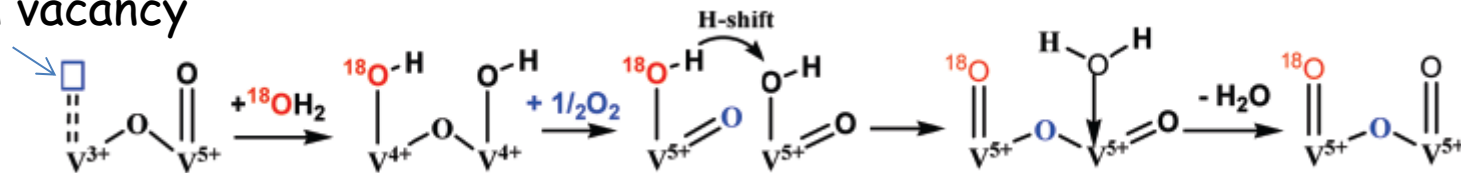
„normal“ lattice oxygen hydroxyl group on regular oxygen position

J. Phys. Chem. C 2010, 114, 3609–3613

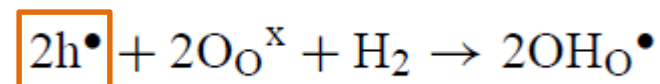
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Water Effect on the Electronic Structure of Active Sites of Supported Vanadium Oxide
Catalyst $\text{VO}_x/\text{TiO}_2(001)$

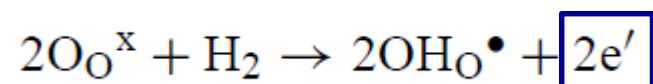
Oxygen vacancy



2) Reaction with hydrogen and **electron holes**



3) Reaction with hydrogen and formation of **free electrons**





2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Proton conduction mechanisms:

1) Proton hopping (Grotthuss mechanism): proton hops between adjacent oxygen ions (*large H⁺/D⁺ isotope effect*)



2) Hydroxyl-ion migration (vehicle mechanism): *negligible H⁺/D⁺ isotope effect*



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Example: Oxidation of propene to acrylic acid on MoVTeNbO_x (M2)

Catalysis Today 155 (2010) 311–318



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cattod



Electrical conductivity of a MoVTeNbO catalyst in propene oxidation measured in operando conditions

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2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides

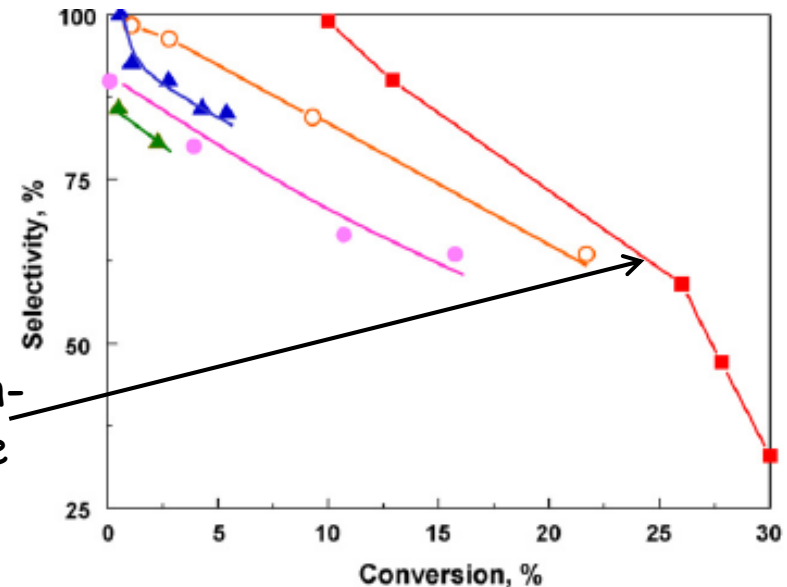
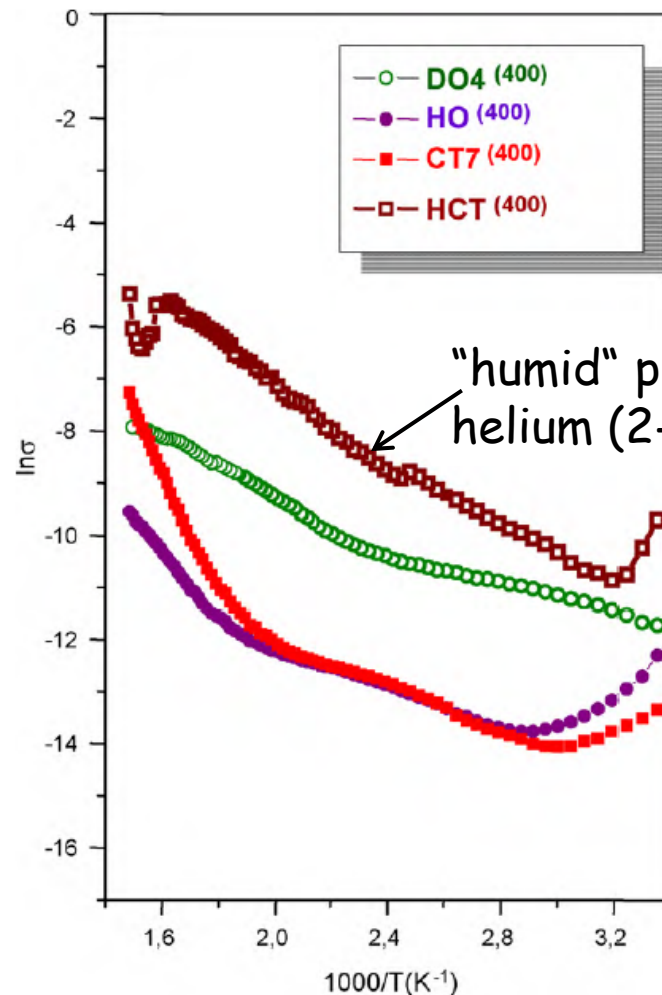


Fig. 7. Variation of selectivity to acrylic acid with propene conversion during various testing cycles: CT5⁽³⁵⁰⁾ (●); CT6⁽⁴⁰⁰⁾ (▲); CT7⁽⁴⁰⁰⁾ (○); HCT⁽⁴⁰⁰⁾ (■). For comparison, the selectivity achieved at 300 °C during the CT4⁽³⁰⁰⁾ experiment is also included (▲). (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of the article.)

The presence of **moisture** in the hydrocarbon–oxygen mixture fed on the pre-reduced oxide **increases the surface conductivity**. This can be tentatively explained by assuming that the **anion vacancies are partly filled with adsorbed water instead of oxygen** during the low (room) temperature flushing sequence. Part of these water species desorbs on heating, and another part is chemisorbed on further heating, **inhibiting extensive surface oxidation**.



- 1) Proton conduction in oxides
- 2) Oxygen conduction in oxides



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Oxygen conduction or **How is oxygen incorporated into oxides?**

Existing point defects (oxygen vacancies: $V_O^{\bullet\bullet}$, oxygen interstitials: $O_i^{\bullet\bullet}$, electronic point defects: h^{\bullet} , e') allow a finite compositional flexibility in a binary oxide MO with phase width $MO_{1-\delta}$

$$\Delta\delta/2 O_2 + MO_{1-\delta} \rightleftharpoons MO_{1-\delta+\Delta\delta}$$

Example: Fe-doped $SrTiO_{3-\delta}$ (quasi-binary due to fixed Sr/Ti ratio below 1200°C)

Table 1: Defect equilibria [Eqs. (2)–(7)] for Fe-doped $SrTiO_{3-\delta}$.

	Reaction ^[a]		Mass-action law
oxygen incorporation:	$1/2 O_2 + V_O^{\bullet\bullet} \rightleftharpoons O_O^x + 2h^{\bullet}$	(2)	$K_{ox} = \frac{[h^{\bullet}]^2}{\sqrt{pO_2}[V_O^{\bullet\bullet}]}$
Fe ^{3+/4+} redox reaction:	$Fe_{Ti}^x \rightleftharpoons Fe_{Ti}^{\bullet} + h^{\bullet}$	(3)	$K_{Fe} = \frac{[Fe_{Ti}^{\bullet}][h^{\bullet}]}{[Fe_{Ti}^x]}$
band-gap excitation:	$0 \rightleftharpoons e' + h^{\bullet}$	(4)	$K_{bg} = [e'][h^{\bullet}]$
Conservation conditions:			
iron mass balance:	$[Fe]_{tot} = [Fe_{Ti}^{\bullet}] + [Fe_{Ti}^x]$	(5)	
charge neutrality:	$2[V_O^{\bullet\bullet}] + [h^{\bullet}] = [Fe_{Ti}^{\bullet}] + [e']$	(6)	
	$2[V_O^{\bullet\bullet}] \approx [Fe_{Ti}^{\bullet}]$	(7)	

R. Merkle, J. Maier, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 3874–3894

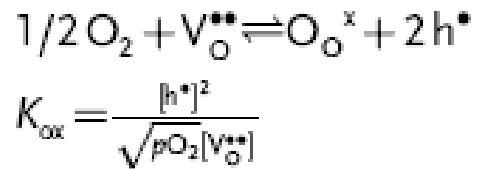


2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides

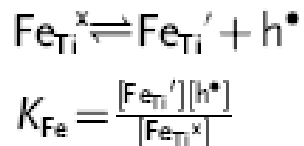


Phase diagram for $MO_{1-\delta}$

oxygen incorporation:



$Fe^{3+/4+}$ redox reaction:



band-gap excitation:

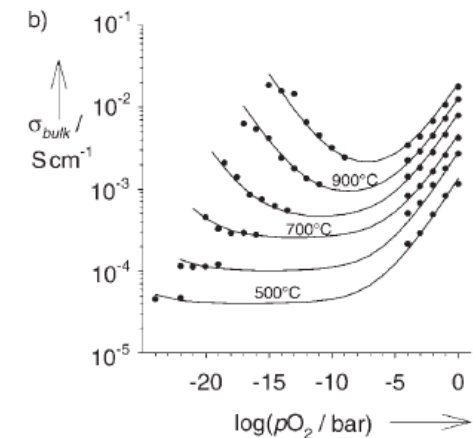
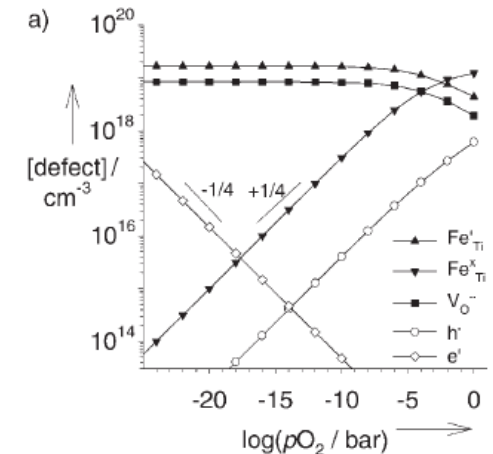
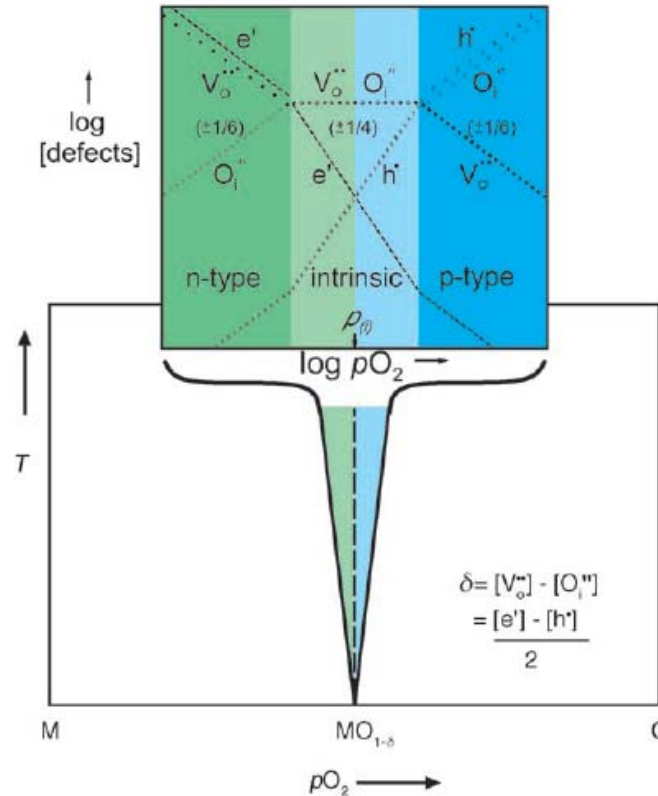
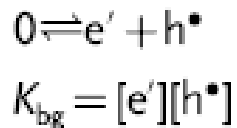


Figure 3. a) Point defect concentrations in Fe-doped (0.1 mol%) $SrTiO_3$ (700°C) calculated from the defect-chemical model.^[78] b) conductivity of a polycrystalline Fe-doped (0.1 mol%) $SrTiO_3$ sarr. In the pO_2 -independent region, the conductivity is predominantly (oxygen vacancies), whereas at very low and high pO_2 n- and p-type electronic conductivity prevails.

R. Merkle, J. Maier, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 3874–3894



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Reaction and transport of oxygen: kinetic limitations

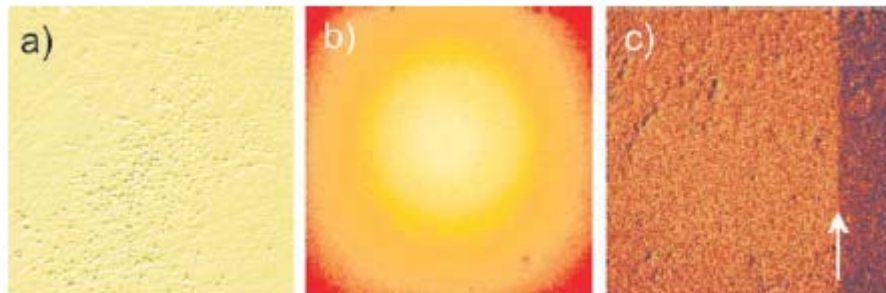
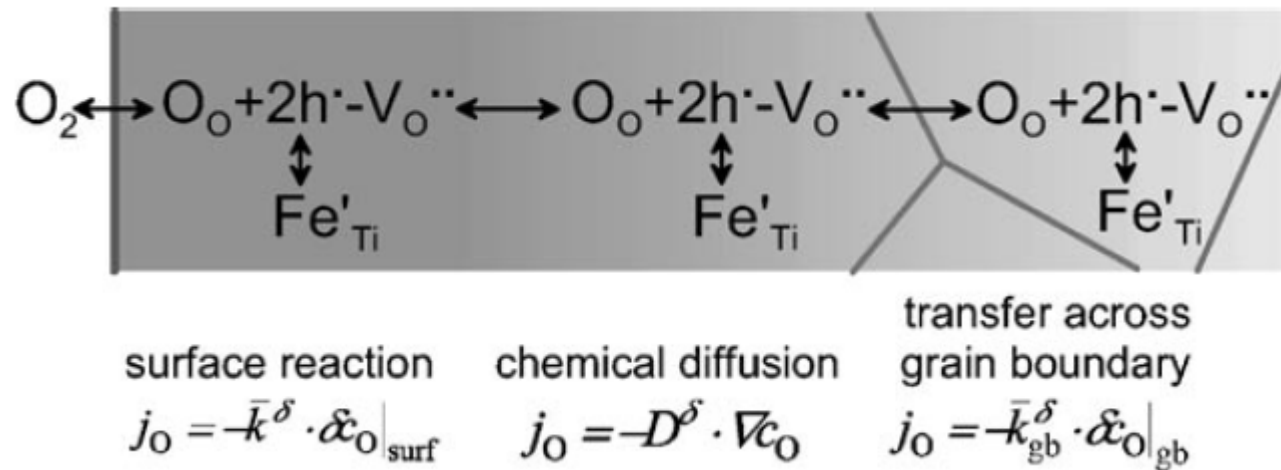


Figure 5. Spatially resolved oxygen concentration after a p_{O_2} change measured on Fe-doped SrTiO_3 .^[17,18,22,37] $[\text{Fe}]_{\text{tot}} = 0.3 \text{ mol\%}$, 650°C , sample dimensions $6 \times 6 \times 1 \text{ mm}$. The two large faces are glass sealed so that oxygen can enter only through the small faces. Bright color indicates a high oxygen vacancy concentration. a) single crystal, surface reaction is limiting; b) single crystal, bulk diffusion is limiting; c) 24° [001] symmetrical tilt bicrystal, blocking grain boundary (arrow indicates position of the grain boundary, oxygen diffuses in from the right-hand side).

R. Merkle, J. Maier, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 3874–3894

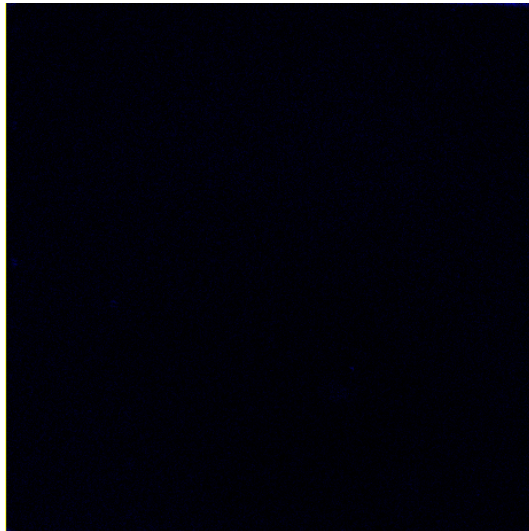


2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides

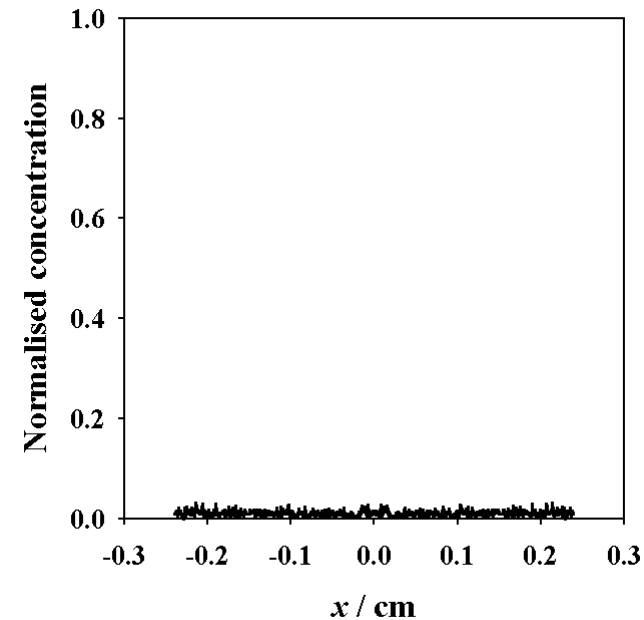


Fe-doped SrTiO₃ single crystal, **surface reaction is limiting**, T=923 K, pO₂: 0.01-→1 bar, t_{total}=24 h

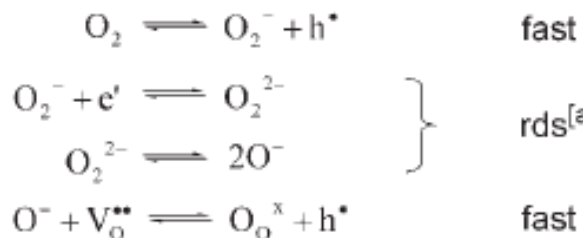
false-color image



concentration profile



Most probable surface reaction mechanism for Fe-doped SrTiO₃:



effective rate constant:

$$\bar{k}^s = 4 \frac{\mathfrak{R}_0}{RT} \frac{\partial \mu_{\text{O}}}{\partial c_{\text{O}}} = 4 \mathfrak{R}_0 \left(\frac{1}{[\text{V}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet}]} + \chi \frac{4}{[\text{h}^*]} \right)$$

exchange rate

$$\mathfrak{R}_0 = \sqrt{k\bar{k}[\widehat{\text{O}}_2^-][\text{e}'][\widehat{\text{O}}_2^{2-}]}$$

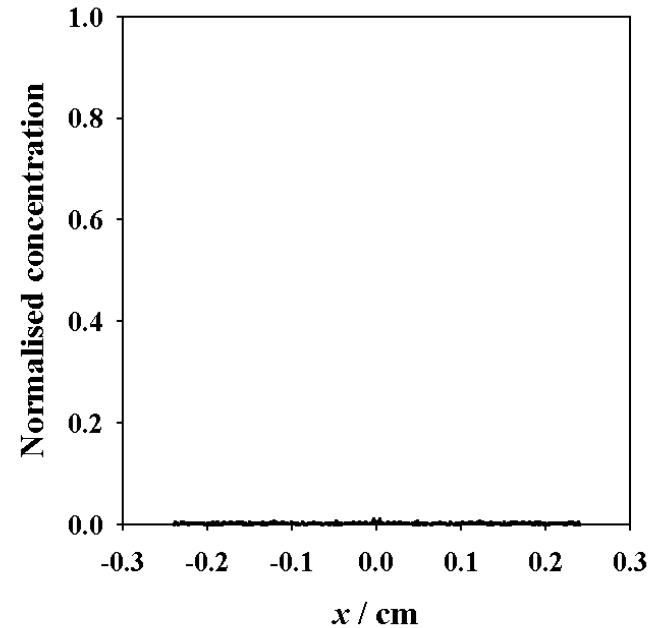
<http://www.fkf.mpg.de/maier/downloads.html>



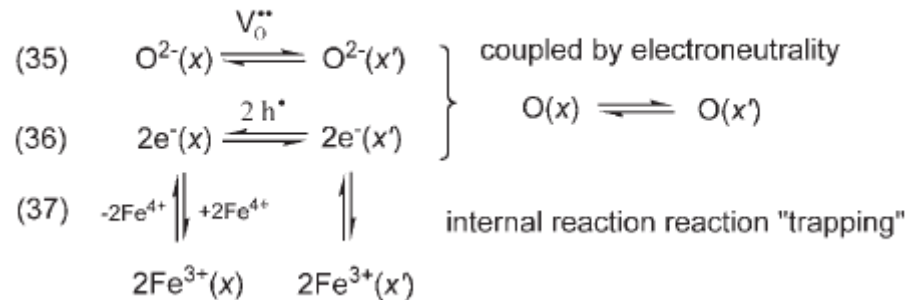
2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Fe-doped SrTiO₃ single crystal, **bulk diffusion is limiting**, T=823 K, pO₂: 0.1→1 bar, t_{total}=6300 s
 false-color image concentration profile



chemical diffusion in the bulk:



chemical diffusion coefficient:

$$D^{\delta} = \frac{\sigma^{\delta}}{4F^2} \frac{\partial \mu_{\text{O}}}{\partial c_{\text{O}}} = \frac{RT\sigma^{\delta}}{4F^2} \left(\frac{1}{[V_{\text{O}}^{\bullet\bullet}]} + \chi \frac{4}{[h^{\bullet}]} \right) \quad \sigma^{\delta} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{ion}} \sigma_{\text{con}}}{\sigma_{\text{ion}} + \sigma_{\text{con}}}$$

<http://www.fkf.mpg.de/maier/downloads.html>

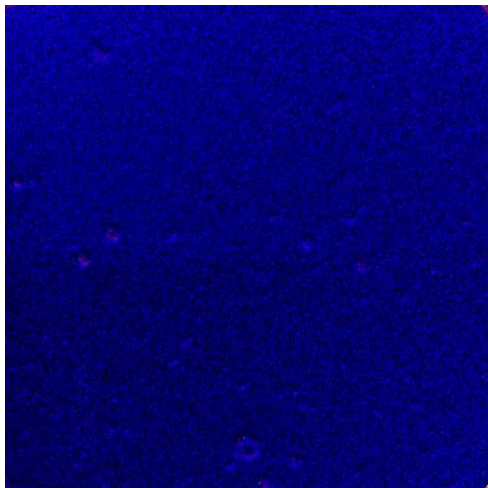


2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides

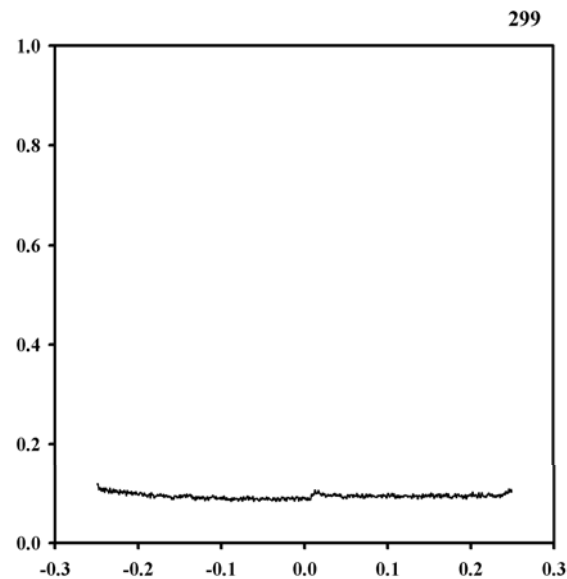


Fe-doped SrTiO_3 bicrystal, **blocking grain boundary**, $T=873$ K, $p\text{O}_2: 0.1 \rightarrow 1$ bar, $t_{\text{total}}=24$ h
7.5° tilt grain boundary

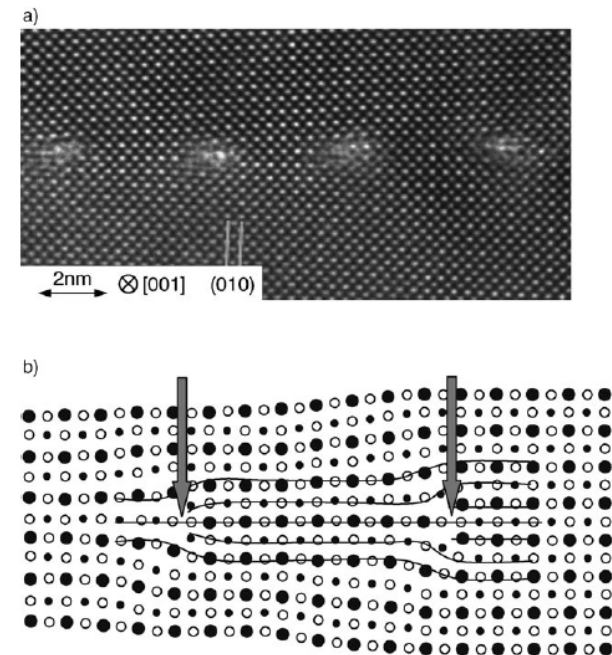
false-color image



concentration profile



HRTEM image, structural model



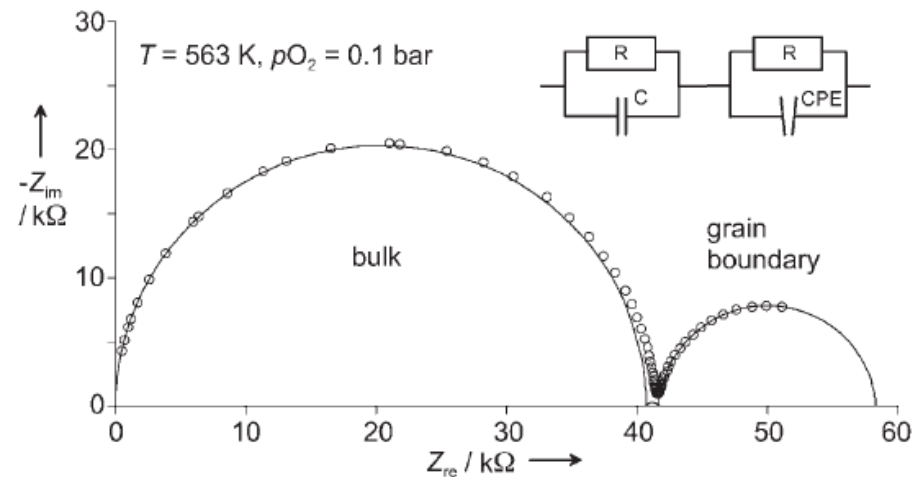
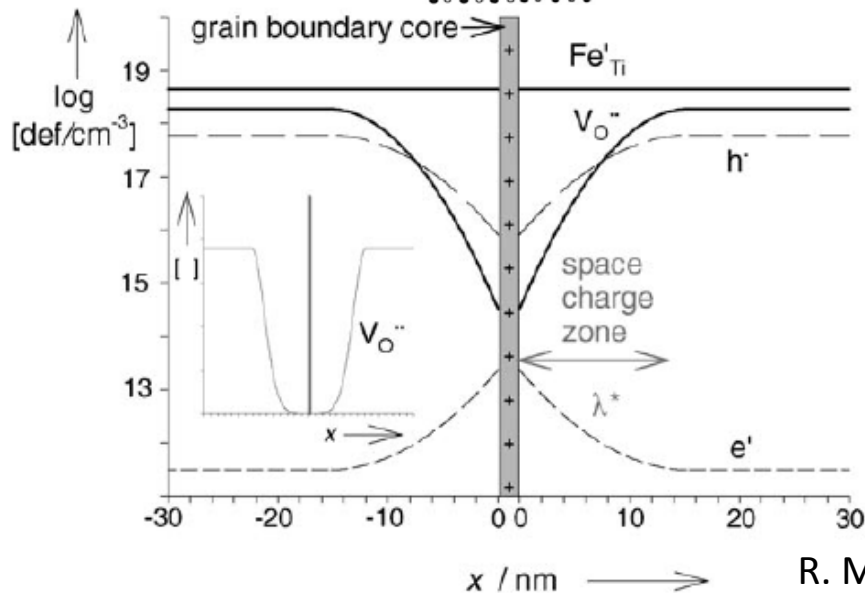
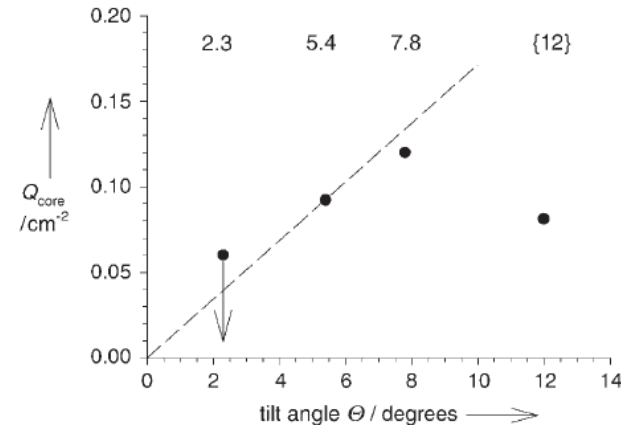
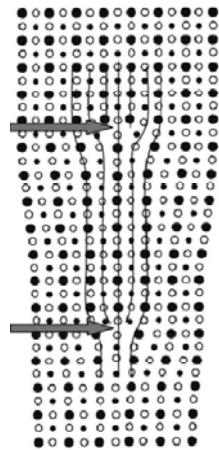
<http://www.fkf.mpg.de/maier/downloads.html>



2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Blocking grain boundary \rightarrow formation of space charge layers



R. Merkle, J. Maier, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 3874–3894

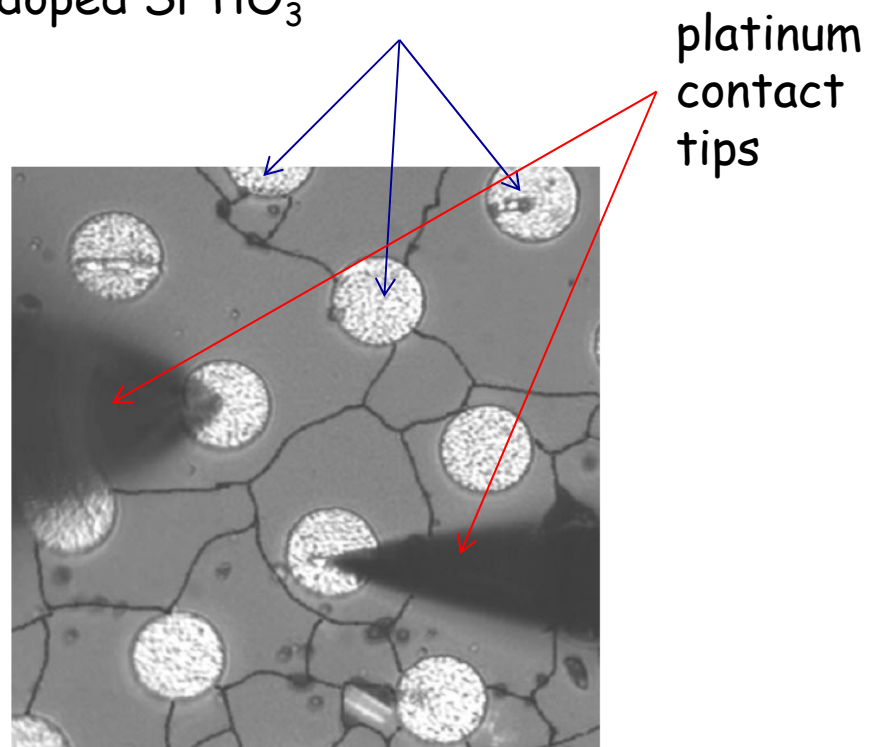


2. Electrical Conductivity in Solid Oxides



Localized Impedance Spectroscopy

array of circular gold *microelectrodes*
(20 μm diameter) on polycrystalline Fe-
doped SrTiO_3



R. Merkle, J. Maier, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 3874–3894



Insertion: Impedance spectroscopy



3. Impedance Spectroscopy

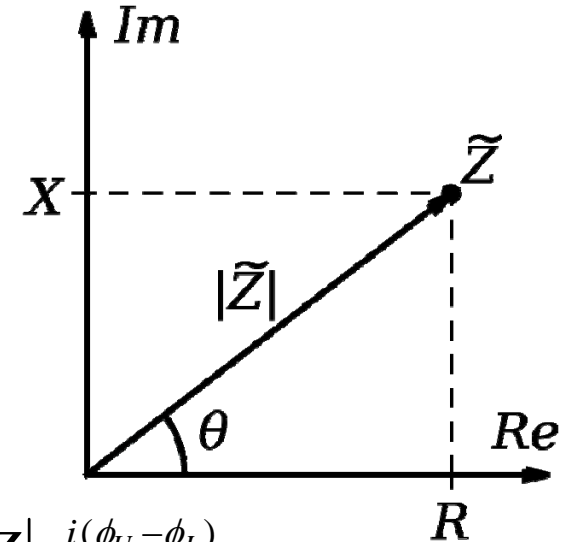


Impedance measurements (measurement at alternating voltages):

$$U(t) = \hat{U} e^{i(\omega t + \phi_U)}$$

$$I(t) = \hat{I} e^{i(\omega t + \phi_I)}$$

$$\text{Impedance } [\Omega]: |Z| = \frac{\hat{U}}{\hat{I}} = \sqrt{R^2 + X^2}$$



Complex impedance: $Z = R + iX = |Z| e^{i\theta} = |Z| e^{i(\phi_U - \phi_I)}$

Resistance Reactance

Phase difference between voltage and current

Ohm's law: $U = IZ = I|Z| e^{i\theta}$



3. Impedance Spectroscopy



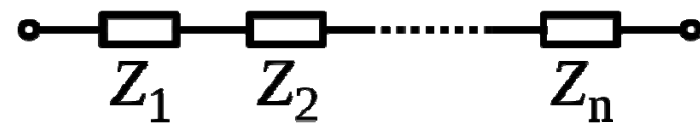
Impedance of an ideal resistor: $Z_R = R$

Impedance of an ideal inductor: $Z_L = i\omega L = \omega L e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}$

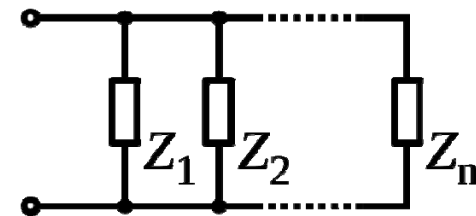
Impedance of an ideal capacitor: $Z_C = \frac{1}{i\omega C} = \frac{1}{\omega C} e^{i(-\frac{\pi}{2})}$

Total impedance calculated by using rules for combining impedances in series and parallel:

Series combination: $Z_{\text{tot}} = Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_n$



Parallel combination: $1/Z_{\text{tot}} = 1/Z_1 + 1/Z_2 + \dots + 1/Z_n$





3. Impedance Spectroscopy



Impedance spectroscopy (IE): Sinusoidal voltage, frequency variation (typically between 10^6 and 10^{-3} Hz)

According to Ohm's law the impedance of a sample can be calculated by complex division of the voltage and current

Looking for an "equivalent circuit" with certain impedance elements that describes best the frequency-dependent behavior of the sample

The impedance elements are related to certain physico-chemical properties, e.g. electrochemical double layer between electrode and electrolyte ions (Helmholtz layer) can be described by a capacitor



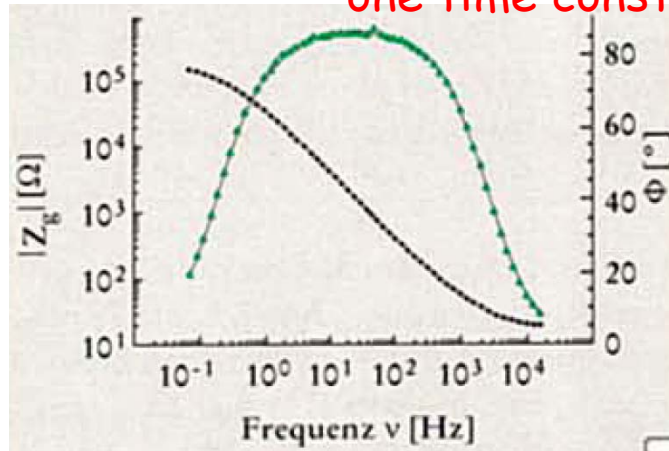
3. Impedance Spectroscopy



Bode plot (phase angle θ vs. frequency)

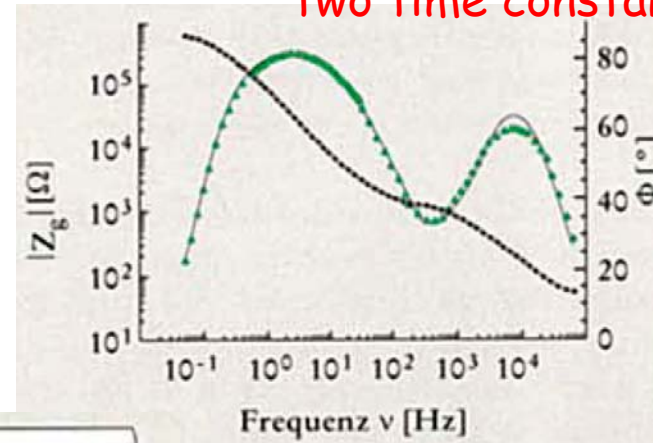
e.g. oxide layer on Al

one time constant ($\tau = R C$)

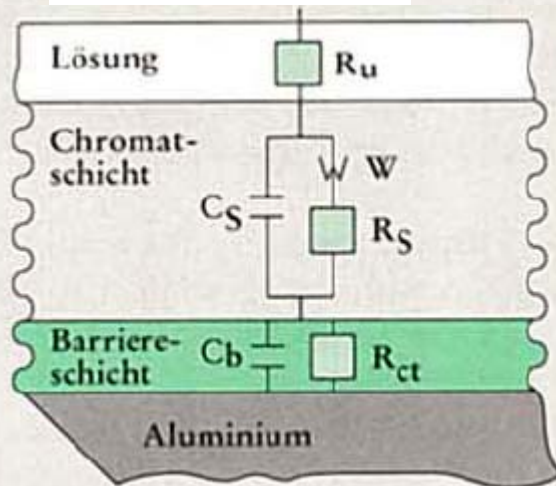


e.g. chromate layer on oxide layer on Al

two time constants



Equivalent circuit:



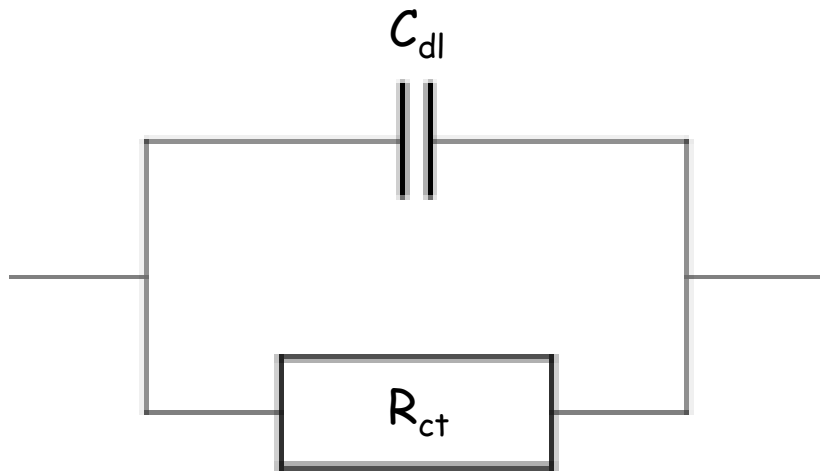
D. Ende, K.-M. Mangold, *ChiuZ* 1993, 3, 134



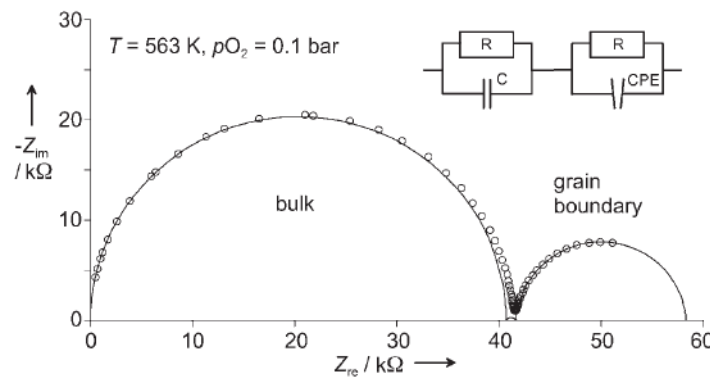
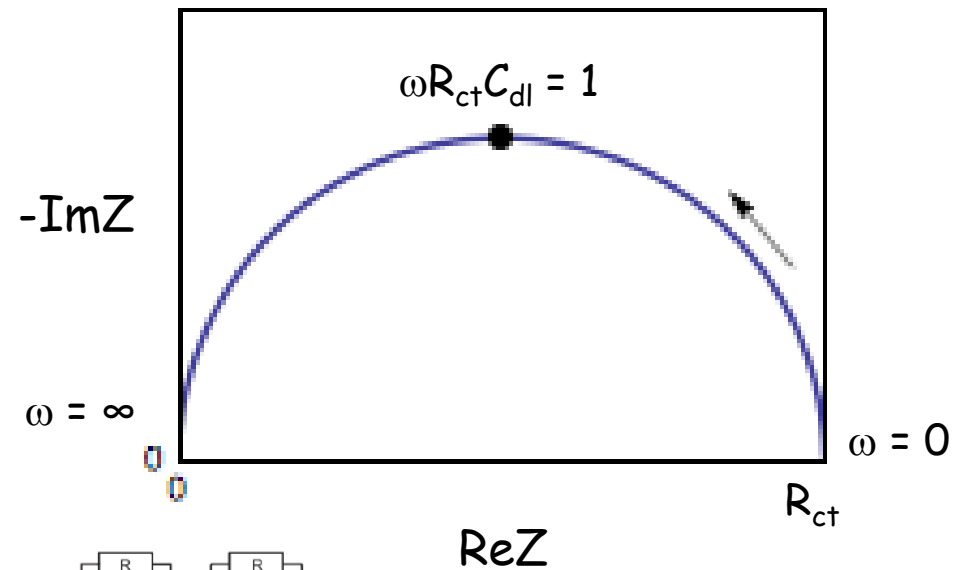
3. Impedance Spectroscopy



Simplified equivalent circuit for a redox reaction:



Corresponding Nyquist diagram for RC parallel circuit:

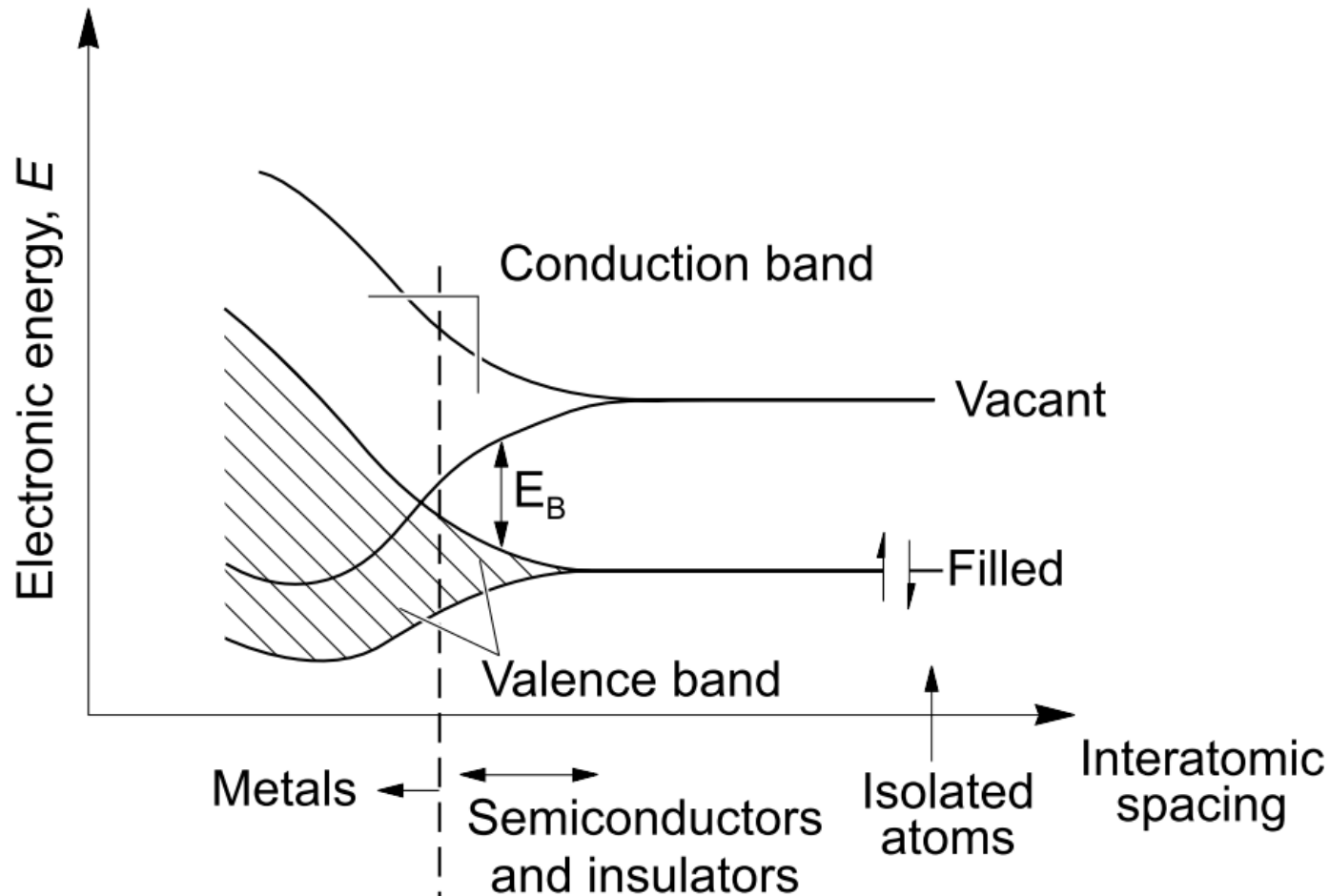




The Physicist's View of a Solid



4. The Physicist's View of a Solid



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



4. The Physicist's View of a Solid



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

Fermi-Dirac distribution (for an electron gas):

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

E ...Energy

k_B ...Boltzmann constant

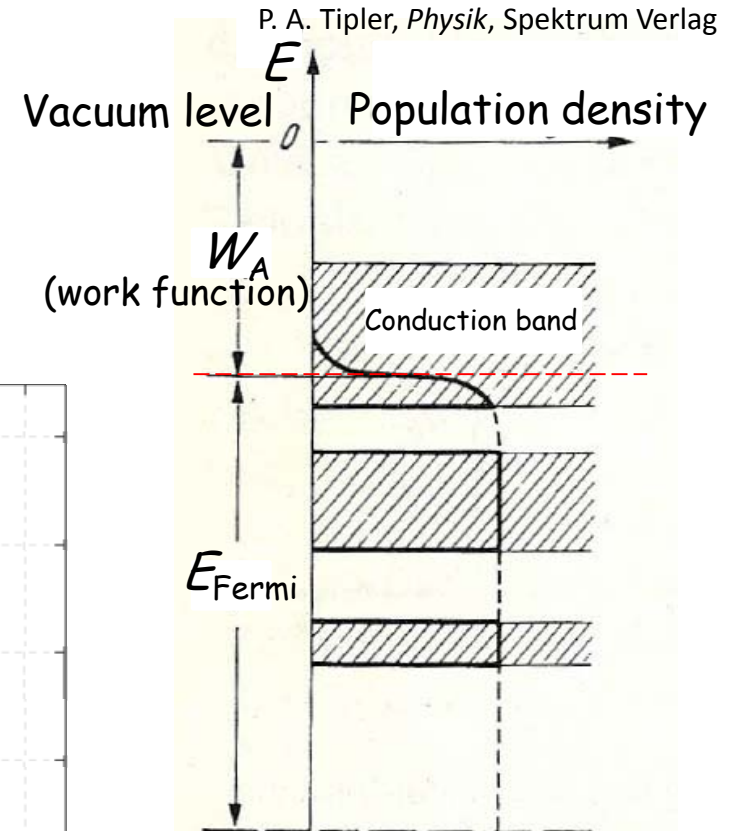
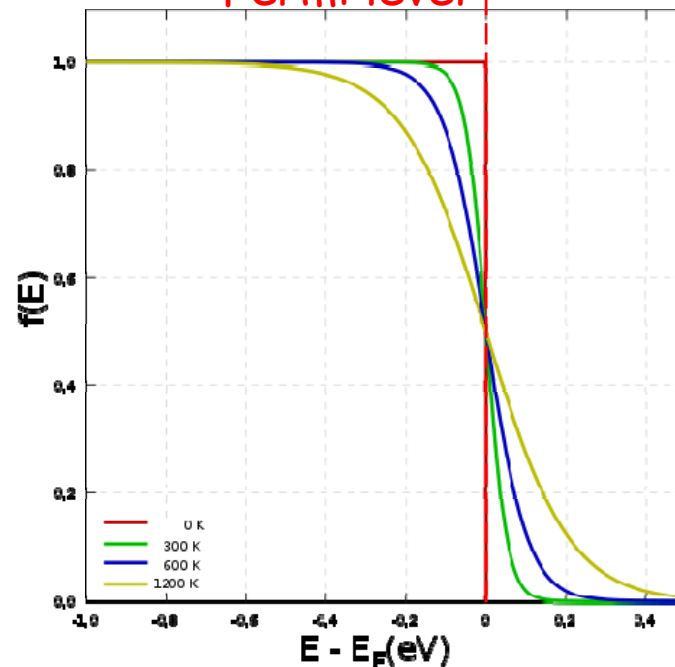
T ...Temperature

μ ...(Electro-)Chemical potential

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

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

= Fermi level !



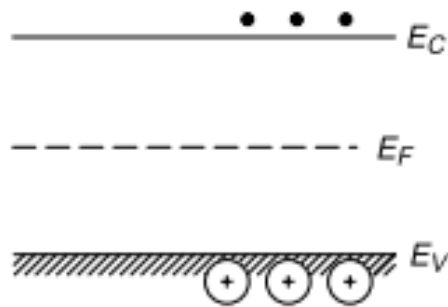
The Fermi curve determines the population of occupied states, independent of the existence of states in the regarded E region



4. The Physicist's View of a Solid

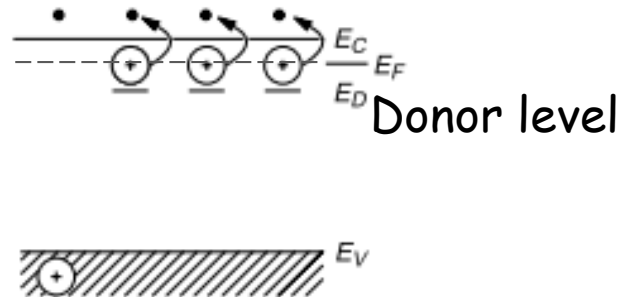


Intrinsic semiconductor

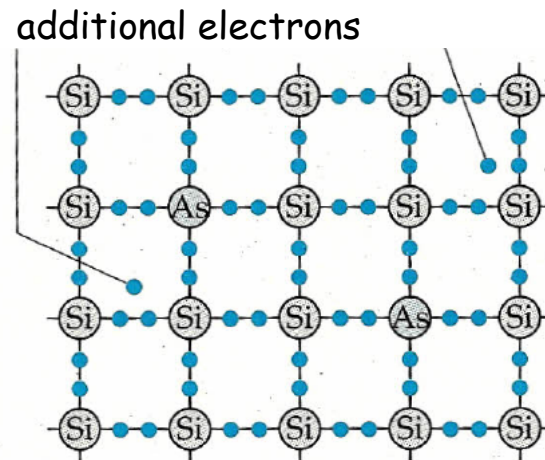


e.g. Si (band gap at 300 K = 1.12 eV)

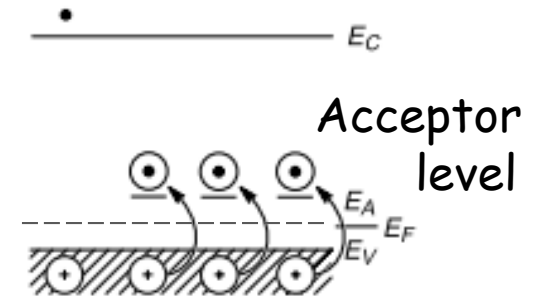
(Extrinsic) n-type semiconductor



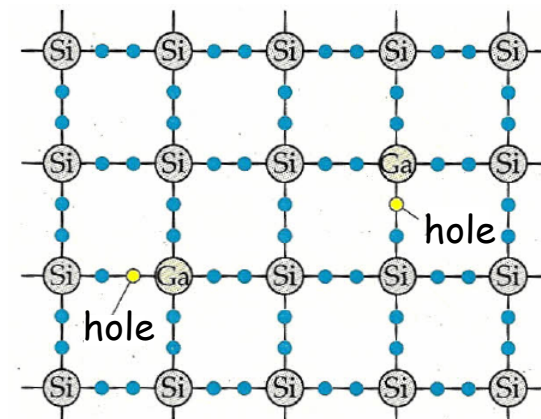
e.g. As-doped Si



(Extrinsic) p-type semiconductor



e.g. Ga-doped Si



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



Space charge region

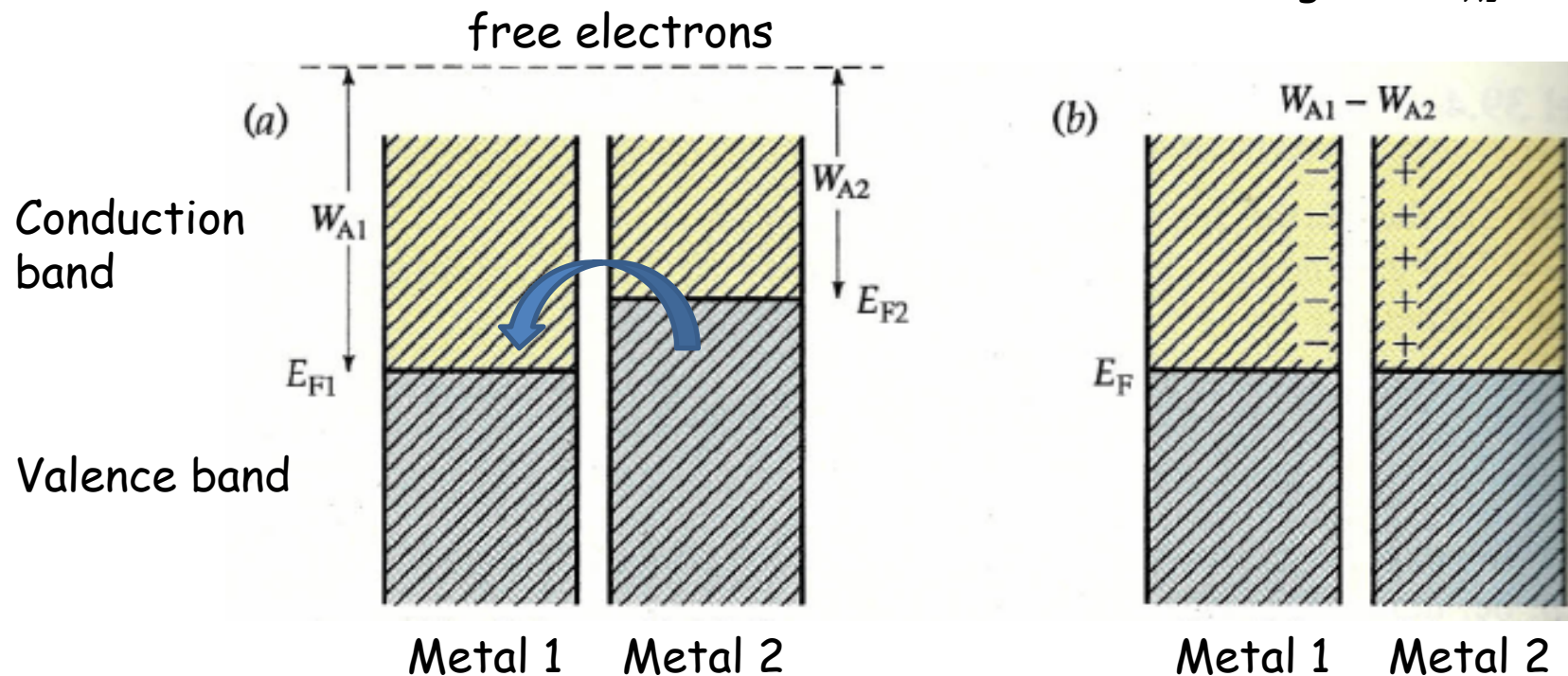


4. The Physicist's View of a Solid



✘ Metals

$$\text{Contact voltage} = (W_{A1} - W_{A2}) / e$$



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

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

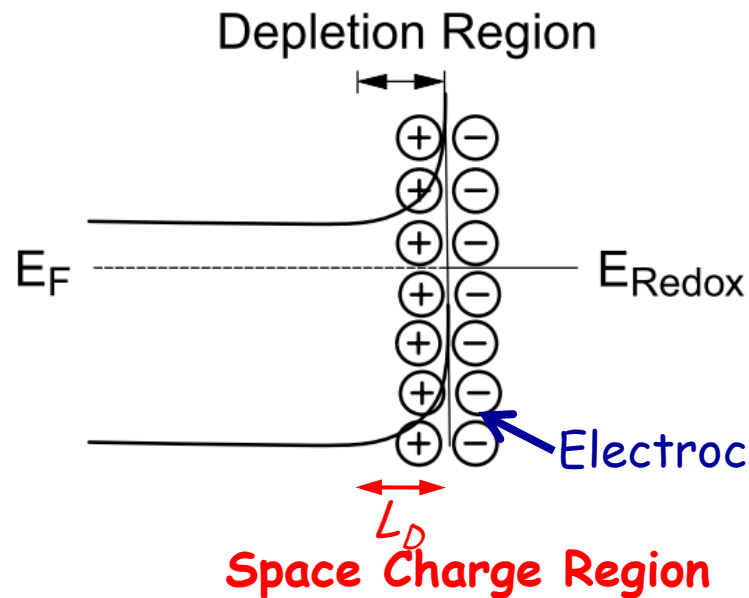


4. The Physicist's View of a Solid

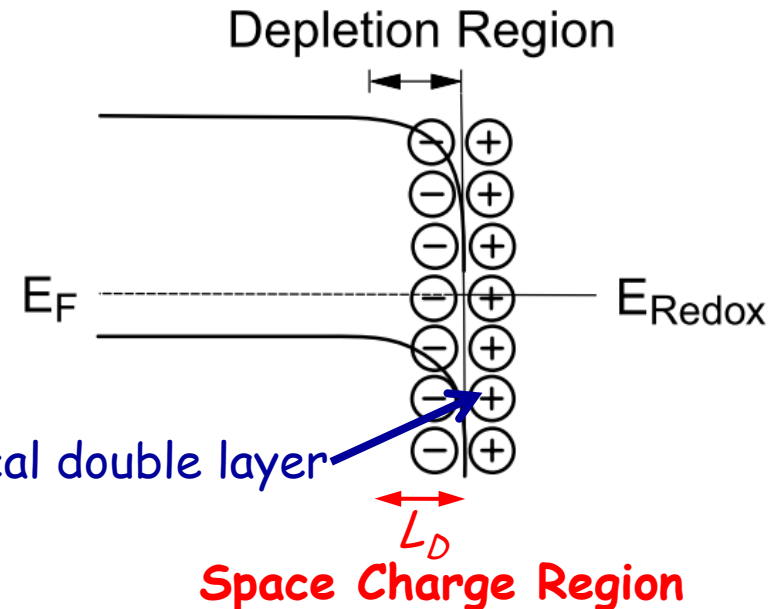


x Semiconductors

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 μm

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

ϵ ...Dielectric permittivity of crystal; q ...Electron charge; n_i ...Concentration of charge carriers in intrinsic semiconductor

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



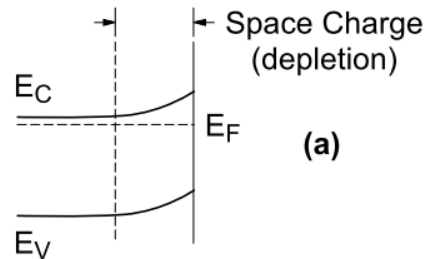
4. The Physicist's View of a Solid



External Potential Control

Effect of varying the applied potential (E) on the band edges in the interior of an n-type semiconductor.

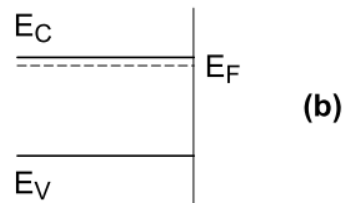
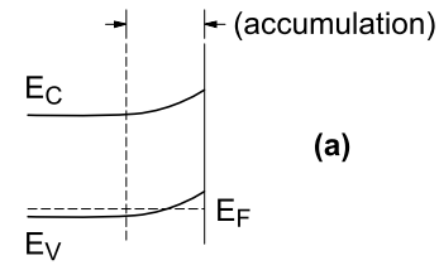
- a) $E > E_{fb}$, b) $E = E_{fb}$, c) $E < E_{fb}$.



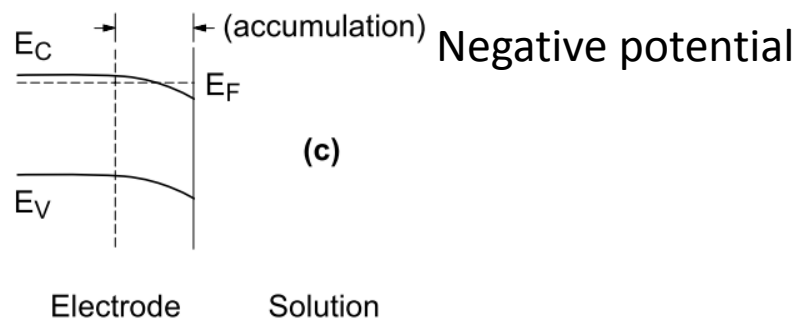
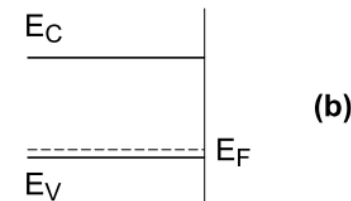
Effect of varying the applied potential (E) on the band edges in the interior of a p-type semiconductor.

- a) $E > E_{fb}$, b) $E = E_{fb}$, c) $E < E_{fb}$.

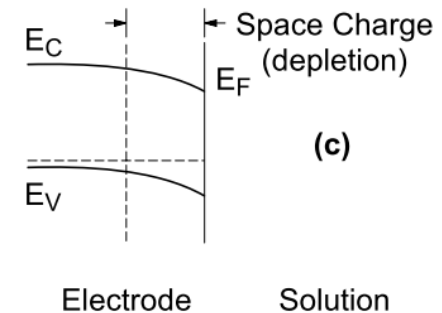
Positive potential



Flatband potential



Negative potential



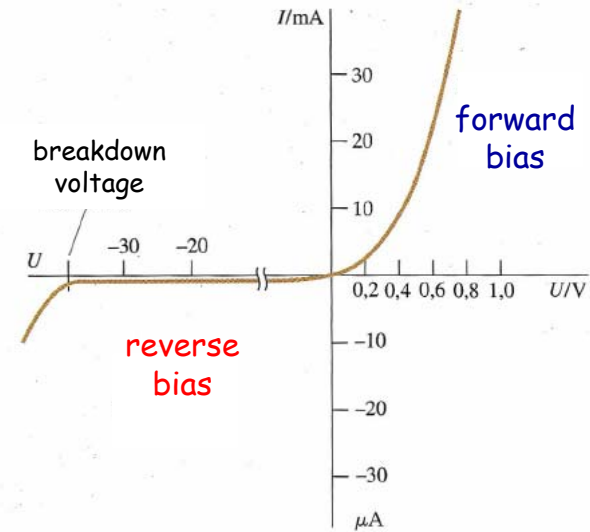
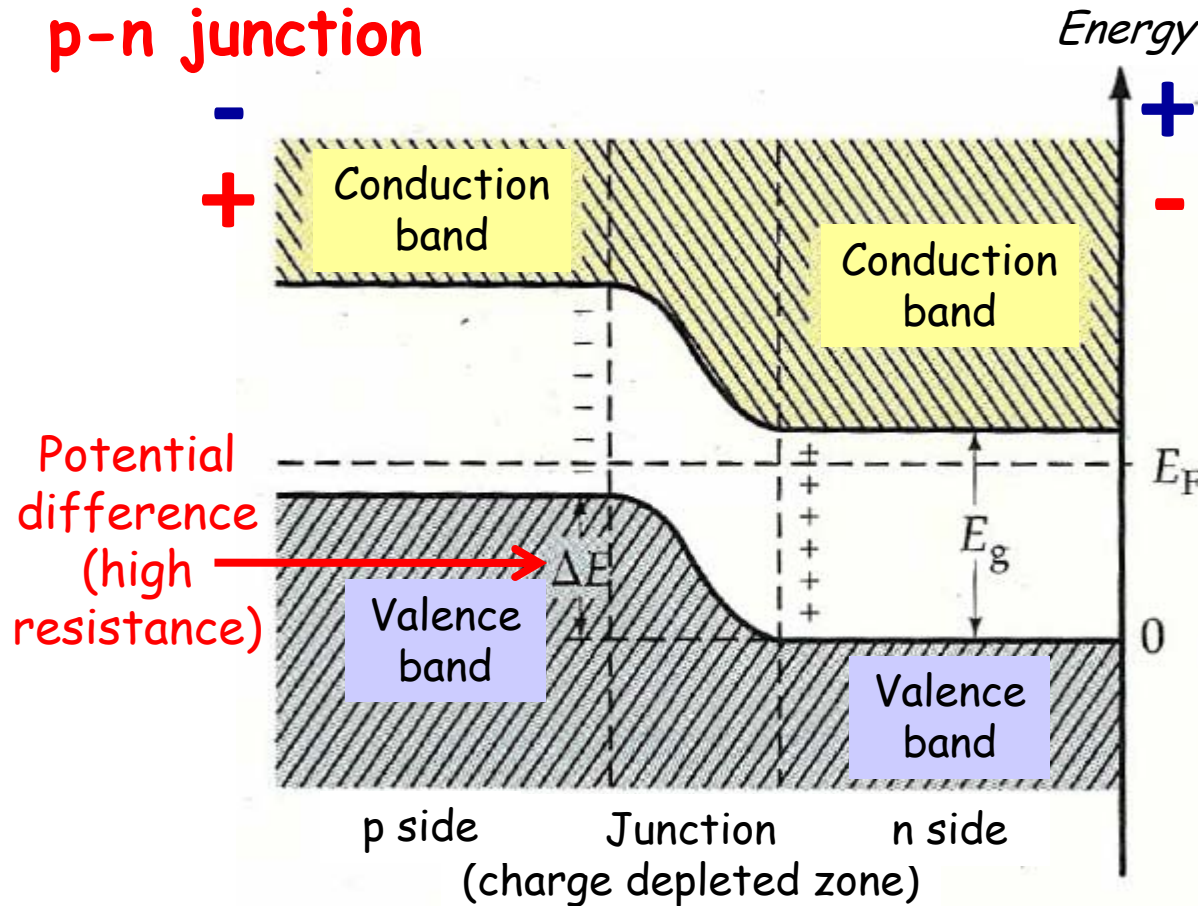
A. W. Bott, *Current Separations* 1998, 17, 87



4. The Physicist's View of a Solid



p-n junction



Electrons migrate to p side, holes migrate to n side until electrochemical potentials (Fermi energies) are equilibrated

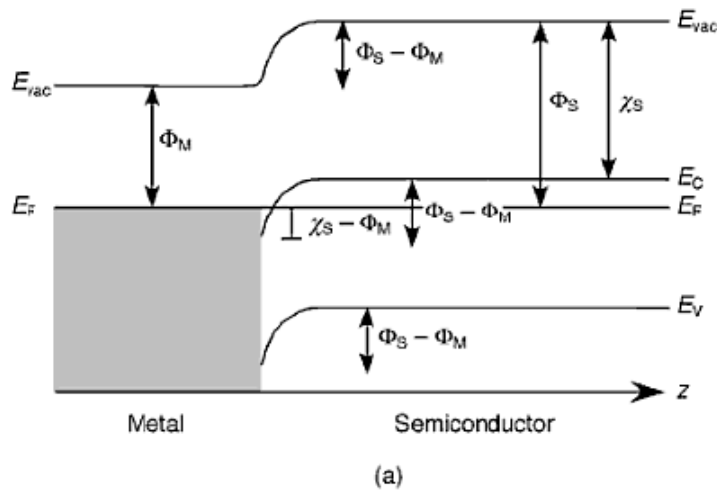
P. A. Tipler, *Physik*, Spektrum Verlag



4. The Physicist's View of a Solid

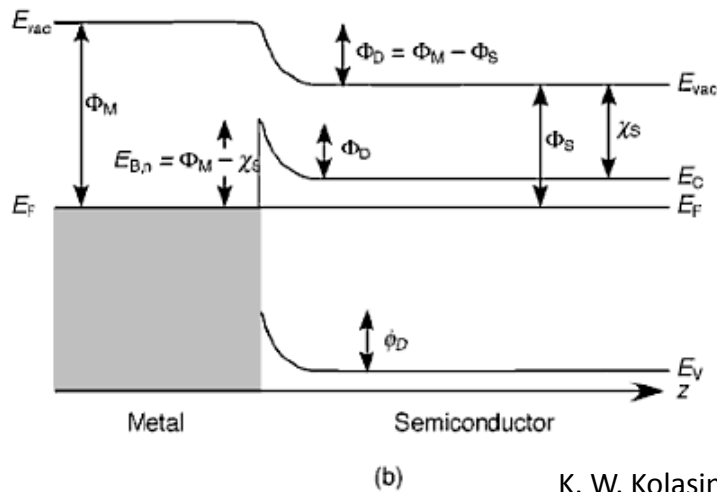


Metal-semiconductor junction (Schottky barrier)



Ohmic contact

Figure 1.17 Band bending in an n-type semiconductor at a heterojunction with a metal. (a) Ohmic contact ($\Phi_S > \Phi_M$). (b) Blocking contact (Schottky barrier, $\Phi_S < \Phi_M$). The energy of the bands is plotted as a function of distance z in a direction normal to the surface. Φ_S , Φ_M work function of the semiconductor and of the metal, respectively; E_{vac} , vacuum energy; E_C , energy of the conduction band minimum; E_F , Fermi energy; E_V energy of the valence band maximum. Redrawn from S. Elliott, *The Physics and Chemistry of Solids*. (1998) Copyright, with permission from John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.



Schottky barrier

K. W. Kolasinski, *Surface Science: Foundations of Catalysis and Nanoscience*, John Wiley & Sons 2008



Back to Chemistry...



5. Oxidation Catalysis

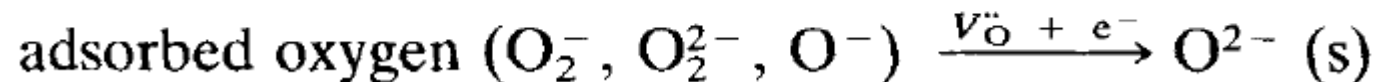
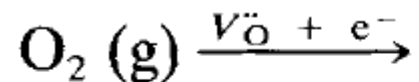


Oxidation catalysis with transition metal ions:

1) Oxidation of the substrate by the catalyst (being reduced)



2) Reoxidation of the catalyst (usually by gas phase oxygen)





5. Oxidation Catalysis



Experimental hints for the participation of “lattice” oxygen (oxygen covalently bound to the active transition metal ion) in the reaction:

- 1) Reaction runs (awhile) without gas phase oxygen present (riser reactor concept)
- 2) Different oxidation states of the transition metal are monitored in dependence on the partial pressures of reaction gases or on contact time
- 3) By using $^{18}\text{O}_2$ in isotope exchange experiments, first ^{16}O (from the catalyst) is found in the reaction product, and only after some time ^{18}O
- 4) After long $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ exchange, ^{18}O is found in the catalyst lattice (e.g. in ToF-SIMS experiments)
- 5) Conductivity changes upon reaction conditions, correlation between conductivity and activity/selectivity for differently doped semiconductors



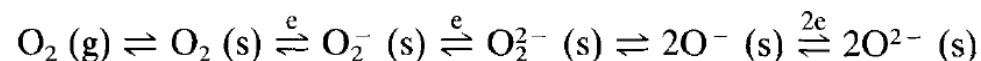
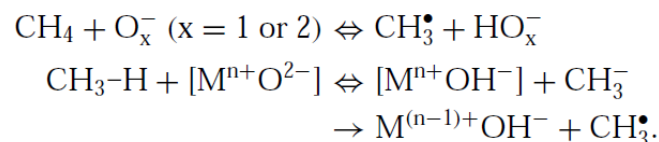
5. Oxidation Catalysis



Example:

JOURNAL OF CATALYSIS **168**, 315–320 (1997) The Effect of Oxygen-Anion Conductivity of Metal–Oxide Doped Lanthanum Oxide Catalysts on Hydrocarbon Selectivity in the Oxidative Coupling of Methane

Holger Borchert* and Manfred Baerns†



Oxygen-Anion Conductivity σ_{ion} and p-type Conductivity σ_p of La_2O_3 and Me^{n+} (1 at-%)-Doped La_2O_3 Catalysts

Catalyst	$\sigma_{\text{ion}}/\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$	$\sigma_p/\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$	$\sigma_{\text{ion}}/\sigma_p$
Sr^{2+} (1 at-%)/ La_2O_3	$2.2 * 10^{-4}$	$2.2 * 10^{-3}$	0.100
Zn^{2+} (1 at-%)/ La_2O_3	$8.5 * 10^{-6}$	$1.7 * 10^{-4}$	0.050
La_2O_3	$2.1 * 10^{-6}$	$9.8 * 10^{-5}$	0.021
Nb^{5+} (1 at-%)/ La_2O_3	$8.3 * 10^{-7}$	$6.2 * 10^{-5}$	0.013
Ti^{4+} (1 at-%)/ La_2O_3	$5.6 * 10^{-7}$	$1.9 * 10^{-5}$	0.029

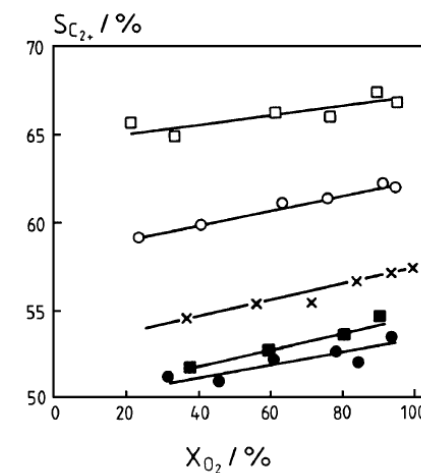
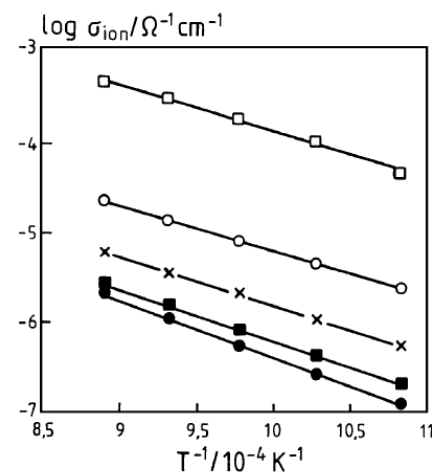


FIG. 1. Arrhenius plot of the dependence of oxygen-anion conductivity on temperature for La_2O_3 and Me^{n+} (1 at-%)/ La_2O_3 catalysts. Symbols Me^{n+} : Zn^{2+} (○), Sr^{2+} (□), Ti^{4+} (●), Nb^{5+} (■); La_2O_3 (×).



5. Oxidation Catalysis



Participation of "lattice oxygen" is often associated with the Mars-van Krevelen mechanism

Special Supplement to Chemical Engineering Science, vol. 8. 1954.

Oxidations carried out by means of vanadium oxide catalysts

P. MARS and D. W. VAN KREVELEN

Staatsmijnen in Limburg, Central Laboratory, Geleen, Netherlands

Summary—All technically interesting reactions carried out with vanadium oxide catalysts are marked by their highly exothermic character, which forms an impediment to the investigation of the kinetics of these processes. In the present study use was made of a fluid bed, in which the temperature is uniform. The oxidation of the following substances: benzene, toluene, naphthalene, and anthracene has been studied.

The partial pressures of the reacting substances were varied to the greatest possible extent. Both reaction components appeared to influence the reaction rate. A formula depicting this influence is derived. This formula may be interpreted by assuming two successive reactions, namely the reaction between the aromatic and the oxygen on the surface, and the re-oxidation of the partly reduced surface by means of oxygen.

The formula may be reduced to an equation by which also the data on the oxidation of sulphur dioxide by means of vanadium oxide catalysts found in the literature are well described.

Using kinetic data it is possible to determine the optimum temperature distribution in a fixed bed reactor used for the oxidation of sulphur dioxide and to make calculations of the ratio between the amounts of catalyst to be used in the various stages of a multiple-stage reactor. The results of these calculations have been compared with practical experience.

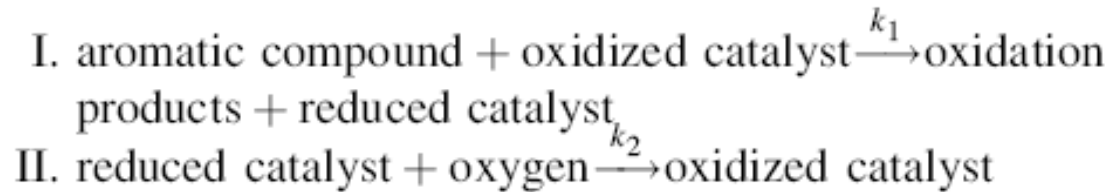


5. Oxidation Catalysis



Original derivation of the Mars-van Krevelen rate expression

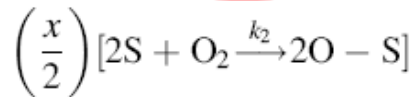
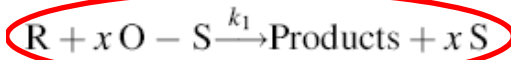
An analysis by *M.A. Vannice / Catalysis Today 123 (2007) 18–22*



- (1) the reaction in step I is first order with respect to the reactant and the fraction of sites covered by oxygen, θ ;
- (2) certain lattice O ions at the surface are involved in the oxidation reaction in step I;
- (3) only O ions (atoms) are assumed to exist on these sites (no reactant or products);
- (4) the rate of surface reoxidation (step II), i.e., O₂ adsorption, is proportional to $P_{\text{O}_2}^n$ and to the concentration of active sites not covered by oxygen, i.e., $1 - \theta$.



5. Oxidation Catalysis



where S represents an active site (a lattice surface vacancy).
Their derivation is as follows [1]. From step I:

$$r_R = k_1 P_R \theta \quad (4)$$

and from step II:

$$r_{O_2} = k_2 P_{O_2}^n (1 - \theta) \quad (5)$$

If the oxidation of one aromatic molecule requires β molecules of O_2 , then

$$r_R = \frac{r_{O_2}}{\beta} \quad (6)$$

and at steady state:

$$\beta k_1 P_R \theta = k_2 P_{O_2}^n (1 - \theta) \quad (7)$$

Consequently,

$$\theta = \frac{k_2 P_{O_2}^n}{\beta k_1 P_R + k_2 P_{O_2}^n}$$

- (2) → no elementary step, Eley-Rideal reaction very unlikely, multiple bond-breaking, multiple
- (3) intermediates, sequence of elementary steps needed
→ no intermediate species of final products included, only O ions considered

- (5) → kinetic gas theory allows only $n = 1$
→ only O_2 single-site adsorption represented (two-site adsorption: $(1 - \theta)^2$), however involvement of O lattice ions necessitates O_2 dissociation into atoms
→ severe inconsistency

Mars-van Krevelen rate equation:

$$(8) \rightarrow r_R = \frac{1}{1/k_1 P_R + \beta/k_2 P_{O_2}^n} = \frac{k_1 k_2 P_R P_{O_2}^n}{k_1 P_R + k_2 P_{O_2}^n}$$

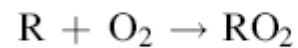
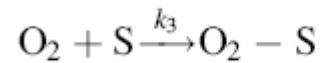
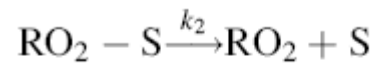
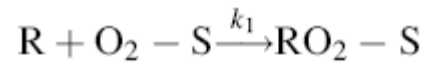


5. Oxidation Catalysis

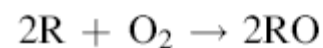
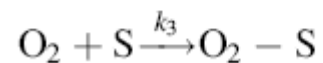
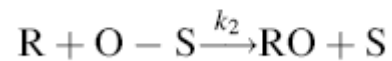
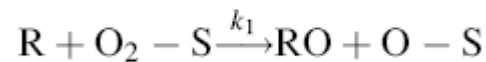


Alternative derivations by Vannice:

Simple elementary steps for adsorption of O_2 on a lattice vacancy (active site)



and



Mars-van Krevelen rate equation:

$$r_R = \frac{1}{1/k_1 P_R + \beta/k_2 P_{O_2}^n} = \frac{k_1 k_2 P_R P_{O_2}^n}{k_1 P_R + k_2 P_{O_2}^n}$$

$$r_R = \frac{k_1 k_3 P_R P_{O_2}}{k_1 P_R + k_3 P_{O_2}} \quad (n = 1)$$

$$r_R = \frac{2k_1 k_3 P_R P_{O_2}}{k_1 P_R + k_3 P_{O_2}}$$



5. Oxidation Catalysis



Simple elementary steps for **lattice O ions** involved in the reaction



The rate is $r_{\text{R}} = k_2 P_{\text{R}} \theta_{\text{O}}$ and at steady state:

$$\frac{d[\text{O} - \text{S}]}{dt} = 2k_1 P_{\text{O}_2} \theta_{\text{v}}^2 - k_2 P_{\text{R}} \theta_{\text{O}} = 0 \quad (31)$$

where θ_{v} is the fraction of empty sites and the overall site density, L , is incorporated into k_1 and k_2 . If only O atoms (ions) are included in the site balance, then

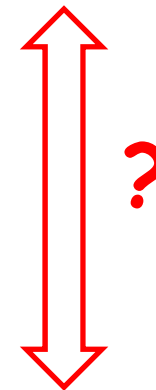
$$1 = \theta_{\text{O}} + \theta_{\text{v}} \quad (32)$$

and

$$\theta_{\text{O}} = \frac{2k_1 P_{\text{O}_2} (1 - \theta_{\text{O}})^2}{k_2 P_{\text{R}}} \quad (33)$$

Mars-van Krevelen rate equation:

$$r_{\text{R}} = \frac{1}{1/k_1 P_{\text{R}} + \beta/k_2 P_{\text{O}_2}^n} = \frac{k_1 k_2 P_{\text{R}} P_{\text{O}_2}^n}{k_1 P_{\text{R}} + k_2 P_{\text{O}_2}^n}$$



$$r_{\text{R}} = k_2 P_{\text{R}} \left(\frac{k_2 P_{\text{R}}}{4k_1 P_{\text{O}_2}} + \sqrt{\frac{k_2^2 P_{\text{R}}^2}{16k_1^2 P_{\text{O}_2}^2} + 1} \right)$$



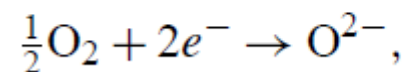
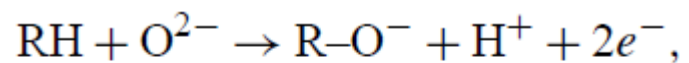
Unifying Physics and Chemistry and Catalysis; an Attempt



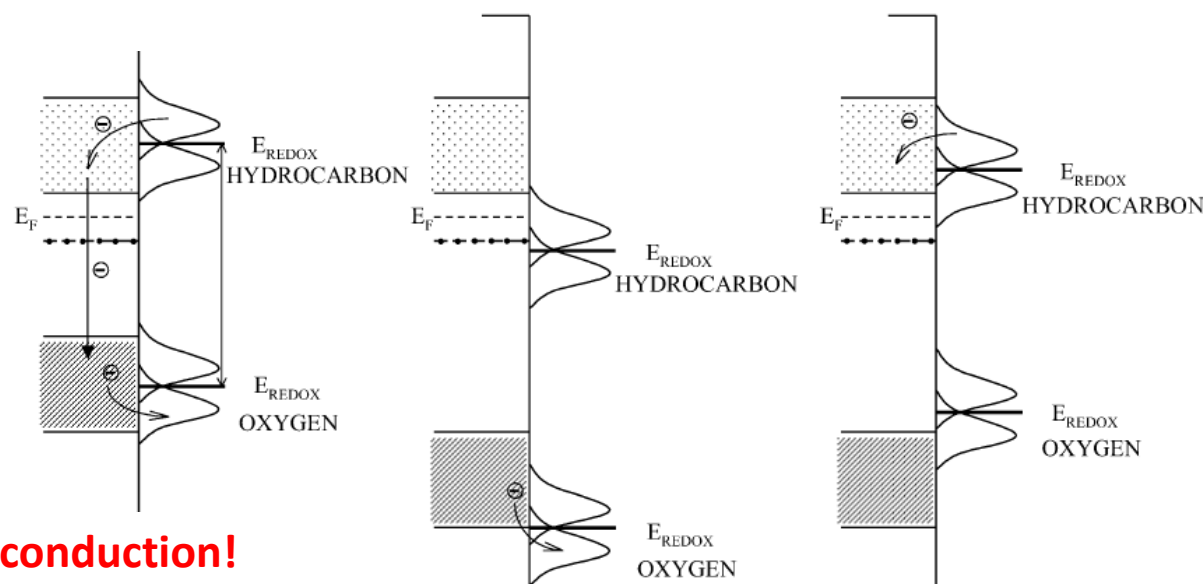
5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Selective oxidation of hydrocarbons, consideration of bands and frontier orbitals:



Rigid band assumption (no local surface states)



No site isolation → total conduction!

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

J. Haber, M. Witko, *J. Catal.* **2003**, *216*, 416-424



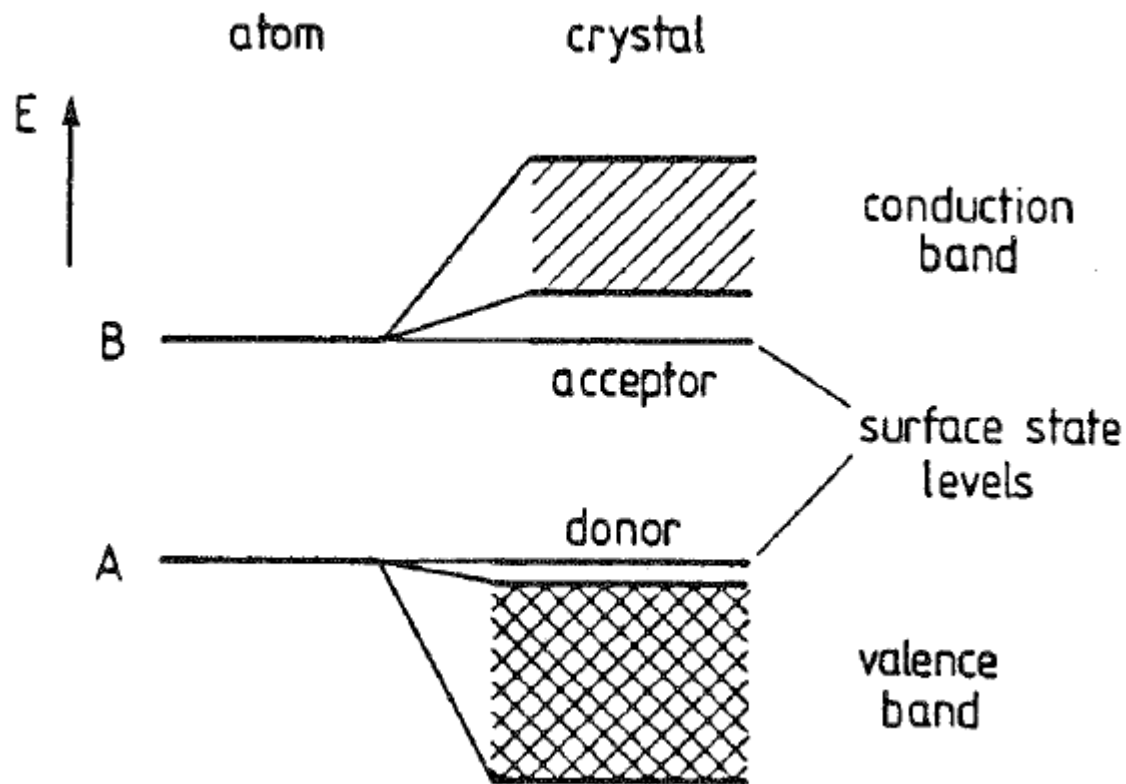
Surface States



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Surface states of a 3D crystal



Intrinsic surface states: On ideal surfaces (perfect termination with 2D translational symmetry)

Extrinsic surface states: On surfaces with imperfections (e.g. missing atom)

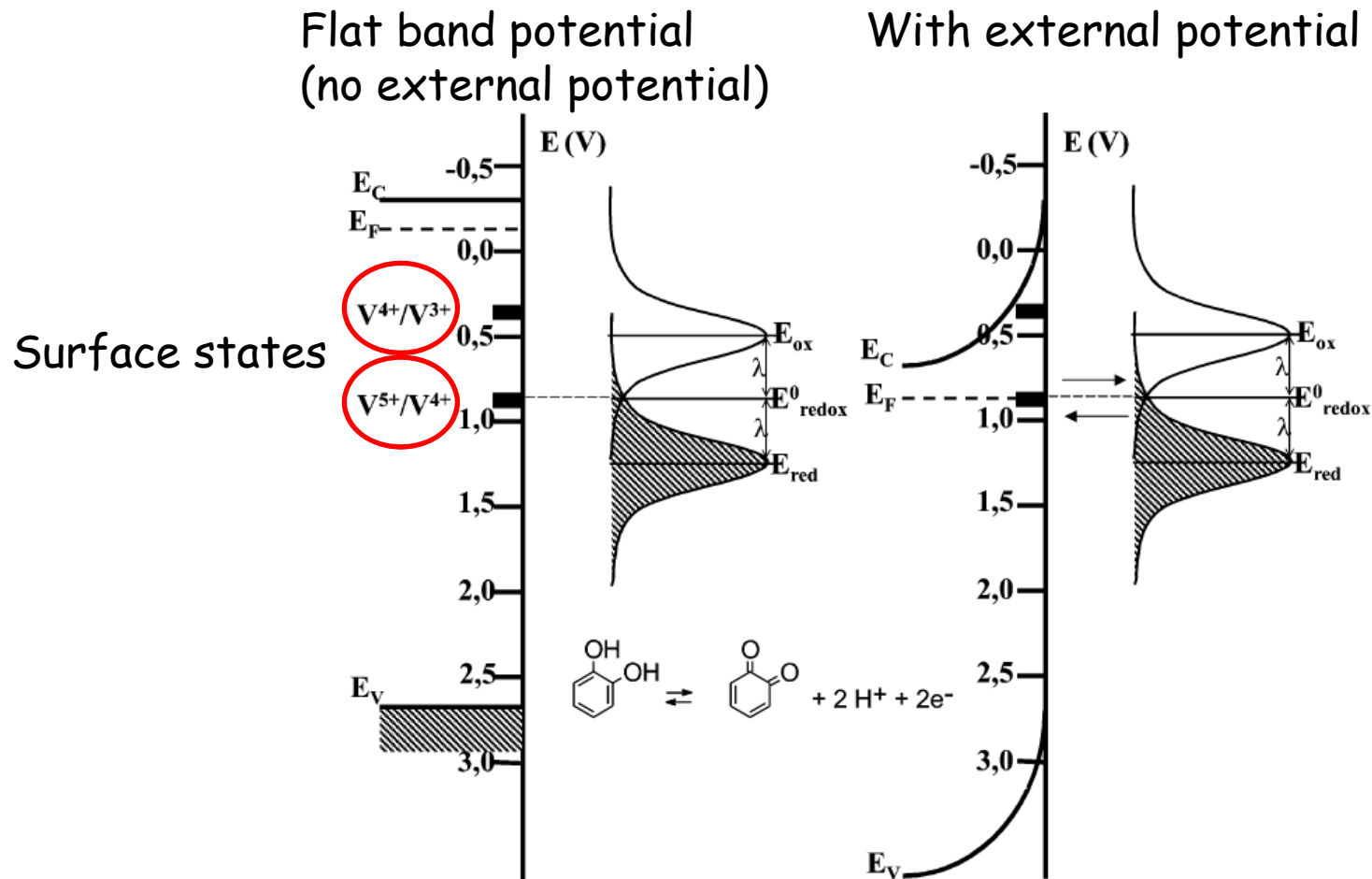
H. Lüth, *Solid Surfaces, Interfaces and Thin Films*, Springer 2001



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Electrocatalytic oxidation of catechol on vanadium-doped TiO_2 electrodes



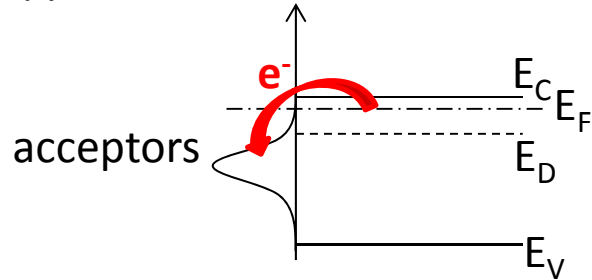
J. Haber, M. Witko, *J. Catal.* **2003**, 216, 416-424



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory

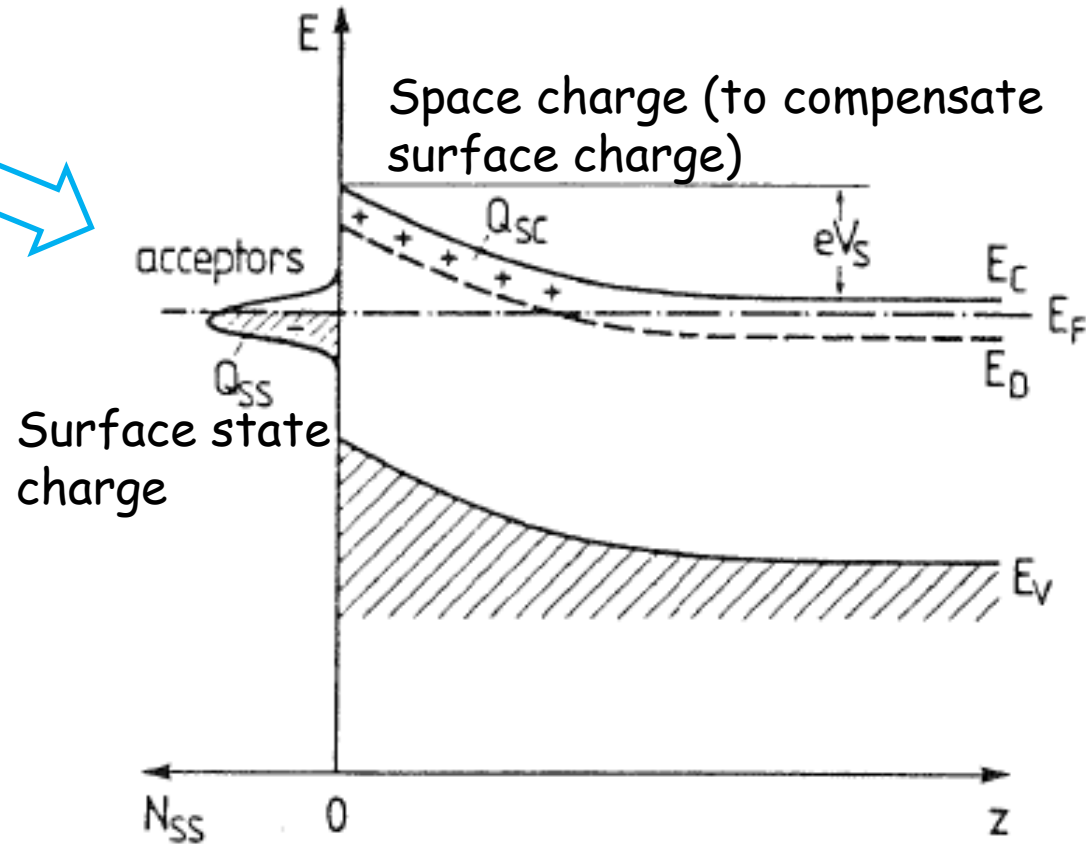


Hypothetical flatband situation:



Build-up of uncompensated negative charge in surface acceptor state → unstable

Formation of (depletion) space charge layer:



Neutrality condition $Q_{SS} = -Q_{SC}$ determines the Fermi level

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



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



n-SC:

DEPLETION

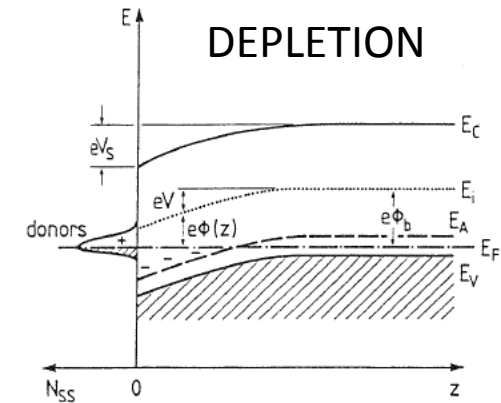
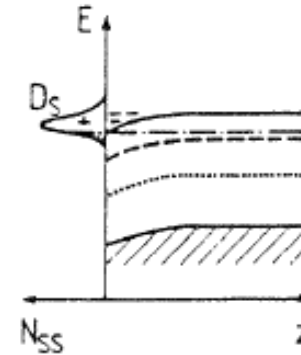
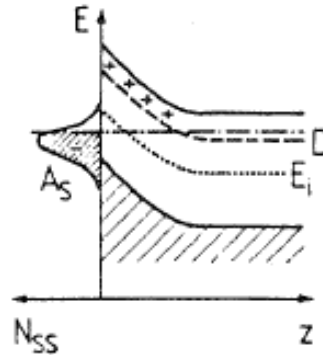
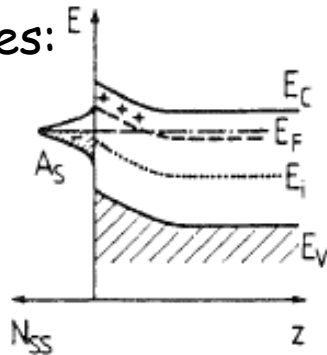
INVERSION

ACCUMULATION

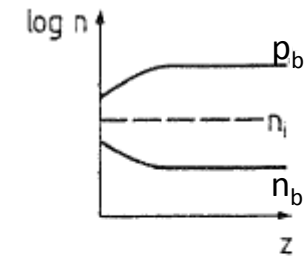
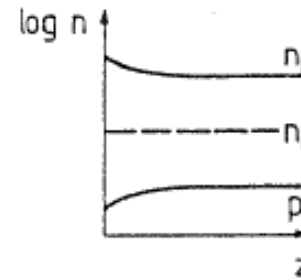
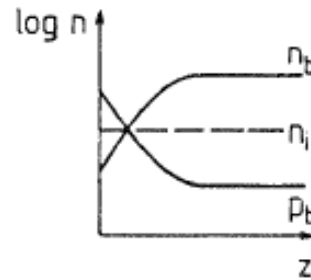
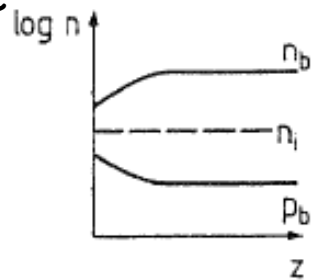
p-SC:

DEPLETION

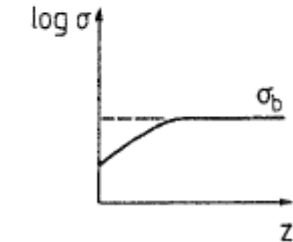
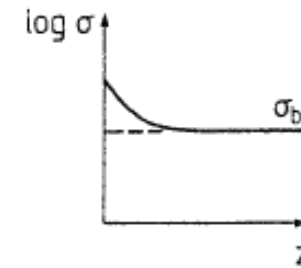
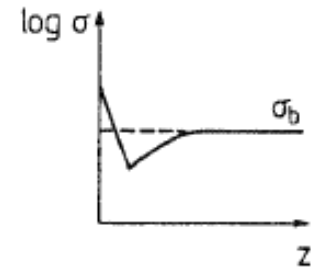
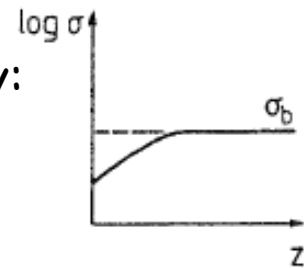
Band schemes:



Free charge carrier densities:



Local conductivity:



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

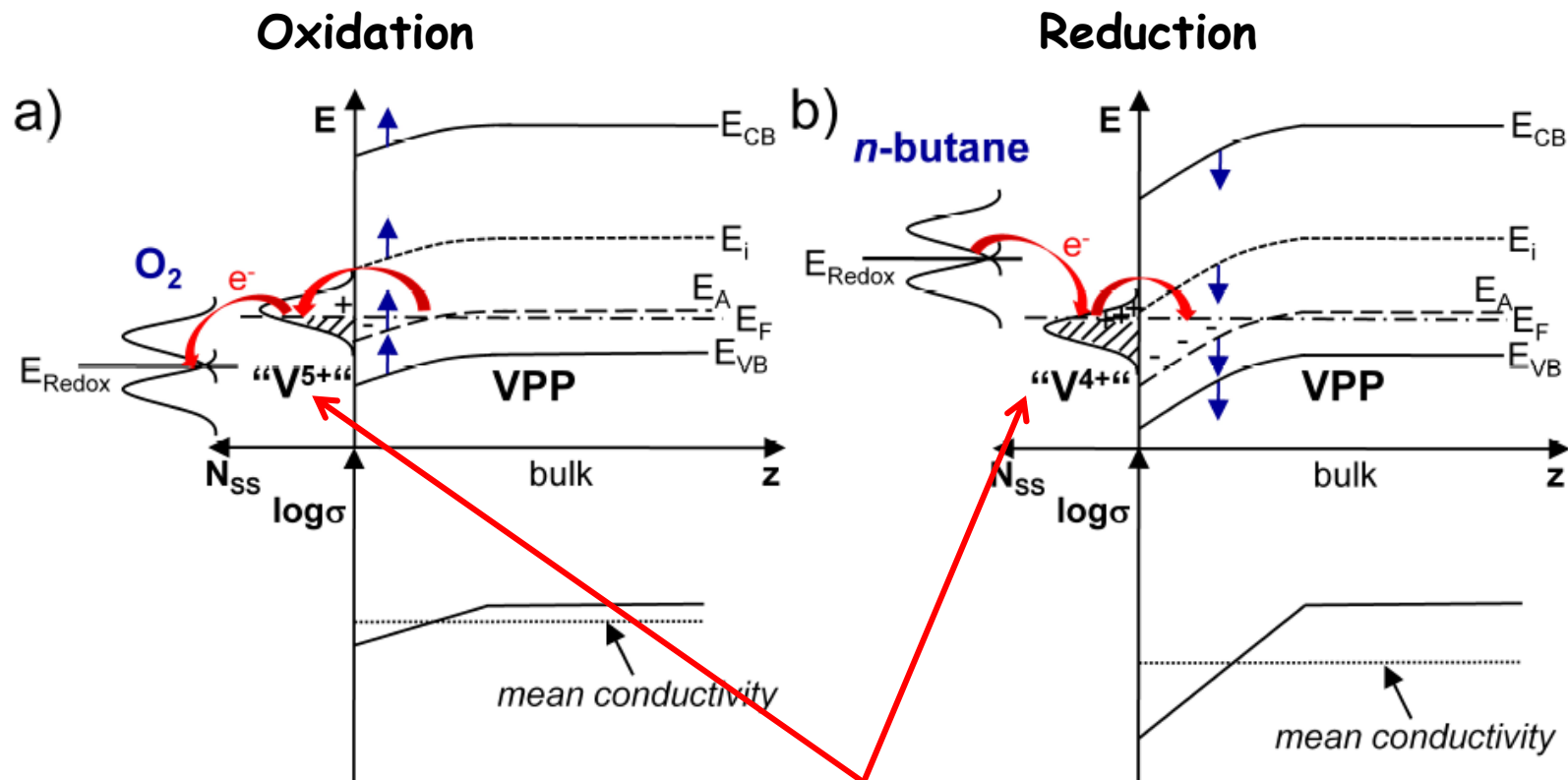


5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Adsorption (catalysis) at surface states:

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



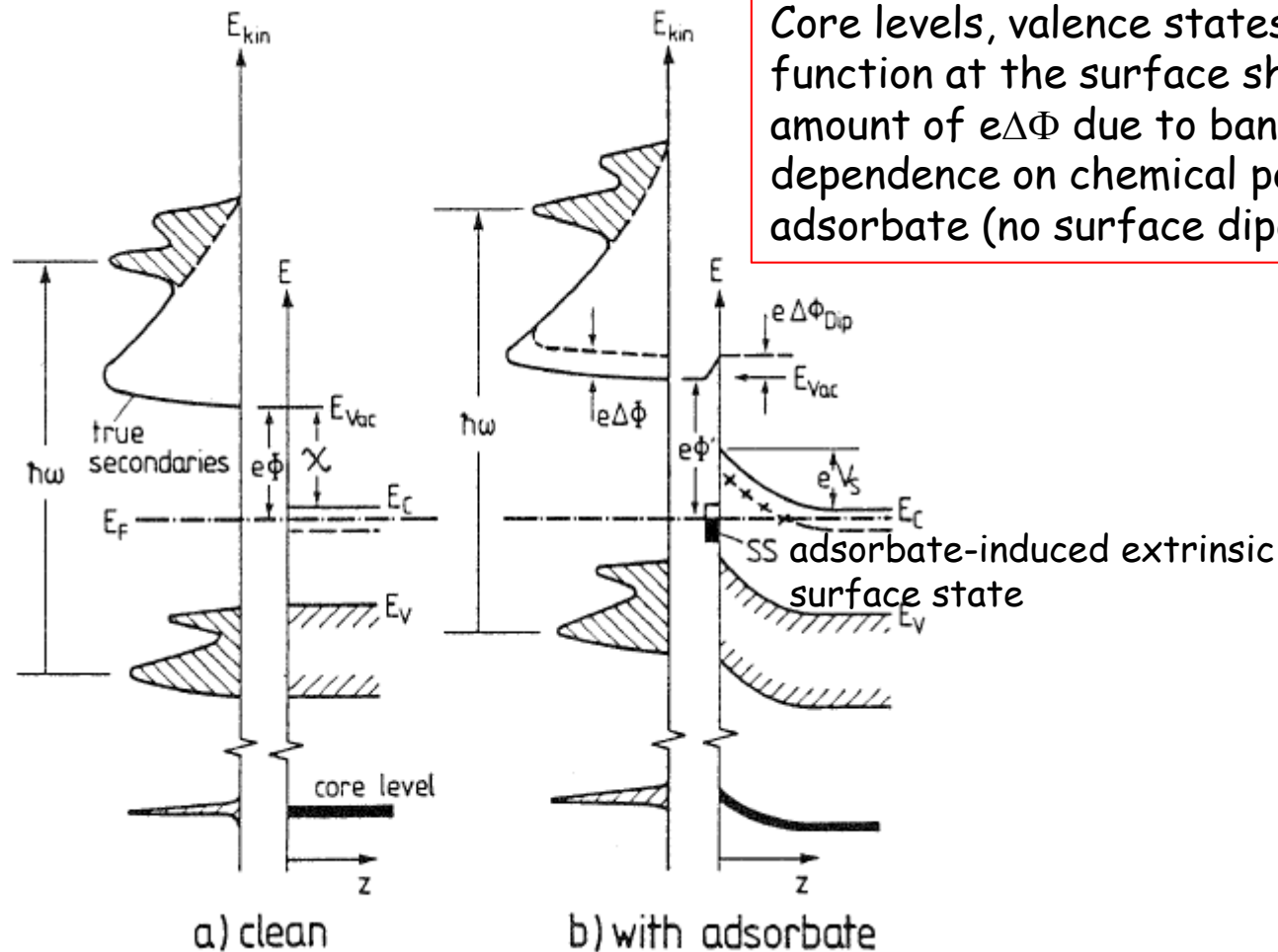
Local surface state = active (isolated single) site \rightarrow selective oxidation



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Spectroscopic evidence? → Photoemission spectroscopy



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



5. Oxidation Catalysis – Electronic Theory



Valence band spectra ($h\nu = 35$ eV) of In_2O_3 surface in dependence on P_{O_2}

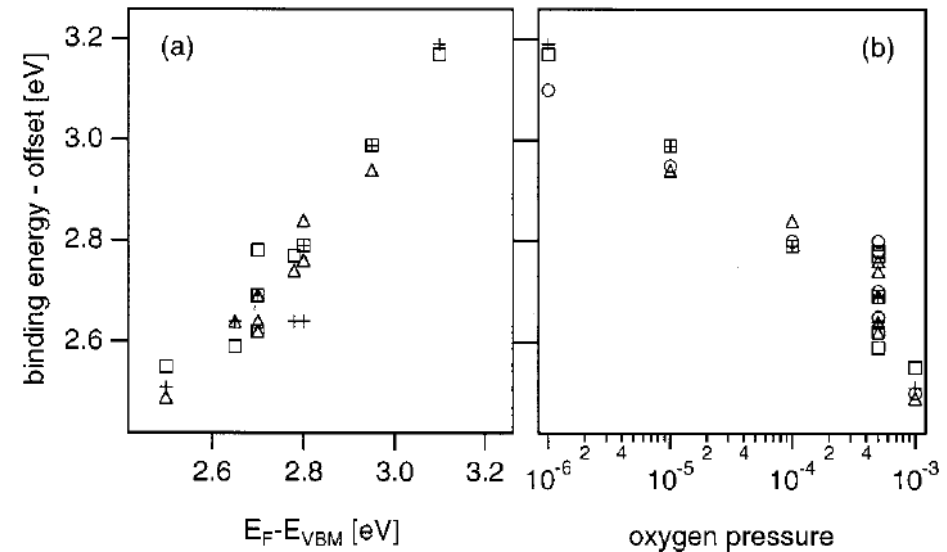
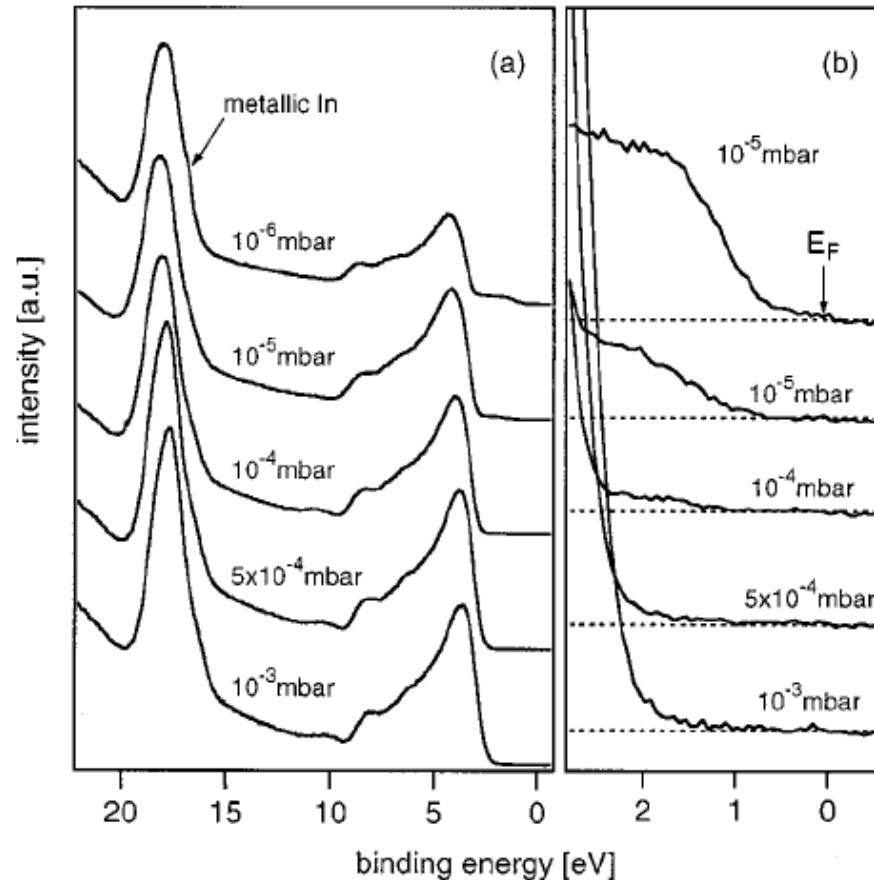


FIG. 3. Binding energies—offset of the valence band maximum (O), O 2p (+), secondary electron cutoff (□), and In 4d (Δ) of reactively evaporated In_2O_3 films. Offset values are 1.11 eV (O 2p), 13.93 eV (cutoff) and 16.16 eV (In 4d), respectively. The abscissa correspond to the binding energy of the valence band maximum of each film in (a) and to the oxygen pressure during deposition in (b). The parallel binding energy shifts of all levels is characteristic for a movement of the Fermi level and a constant ionization energy.

A. Klein, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2000**, *77*, 2009-2011



(Examples)

Reviews, e.g.:

- ✗ "Solid state aspects of oxidation catalysis": P. J. Gellings, H. J. M. Bouwmeester, *Catalysis Today* **2000**, 58, 1-53; *ibid.* **1992**, 12, 1-105
- ✗ "The role of redox, acid-base and collective properties and of crystalline state of heterogeneous catalysts in the selective oxidation of hydrocarbons", J. C. Védrine, *Top. Catal.* **2002**, 21, 97-106
- ✗ "In situ and operando spectroscopy for assessing mechanisms of gas sensing", A. Gurlo, R. Riedel, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 3826-3848

Surface physics and surface chemistry, e.g.:

- ✗ S. R. Morrison, "The chemical physics of surfaces", Plenum Press New York and London **1977** (surface physics and surface chemistry, includes chapter on heterogeneous catalysis)
- ✗ H. Lueth, "Solid surfaces, interfaces and thin films", Springer **2010**
- ✗ 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**