

# SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGES IN HYDROGEN STORAGE: BREAKTHROUGH AT UVa

Adam Phillips and Bellave Shivaram

University of Virginia

- Introduction
  - Background and Calculations
  - Experimental Results
  - Outlook and Broader Impact
- Experimental Methods
- 
- ```
graph LR; A[Background and Calculations] --> C[Experimental Results]; B[Experimental Methods] --> A; B --> C;
```



National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

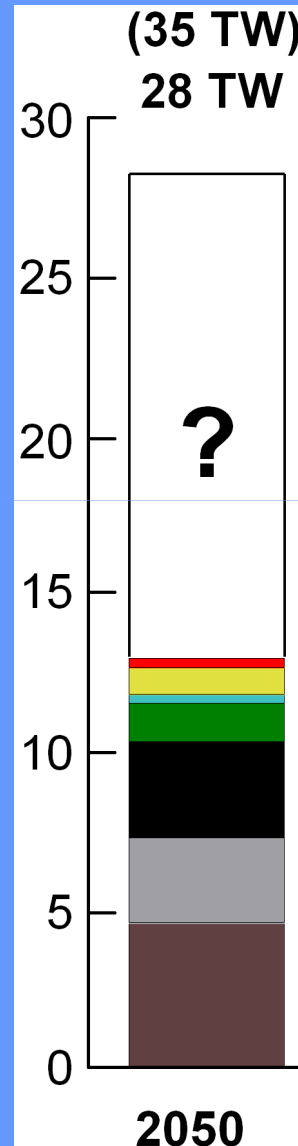
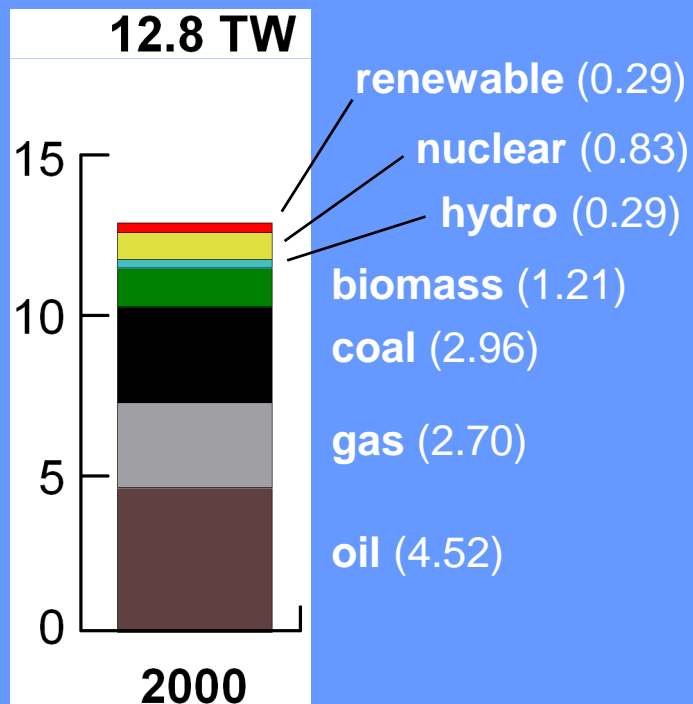


UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA



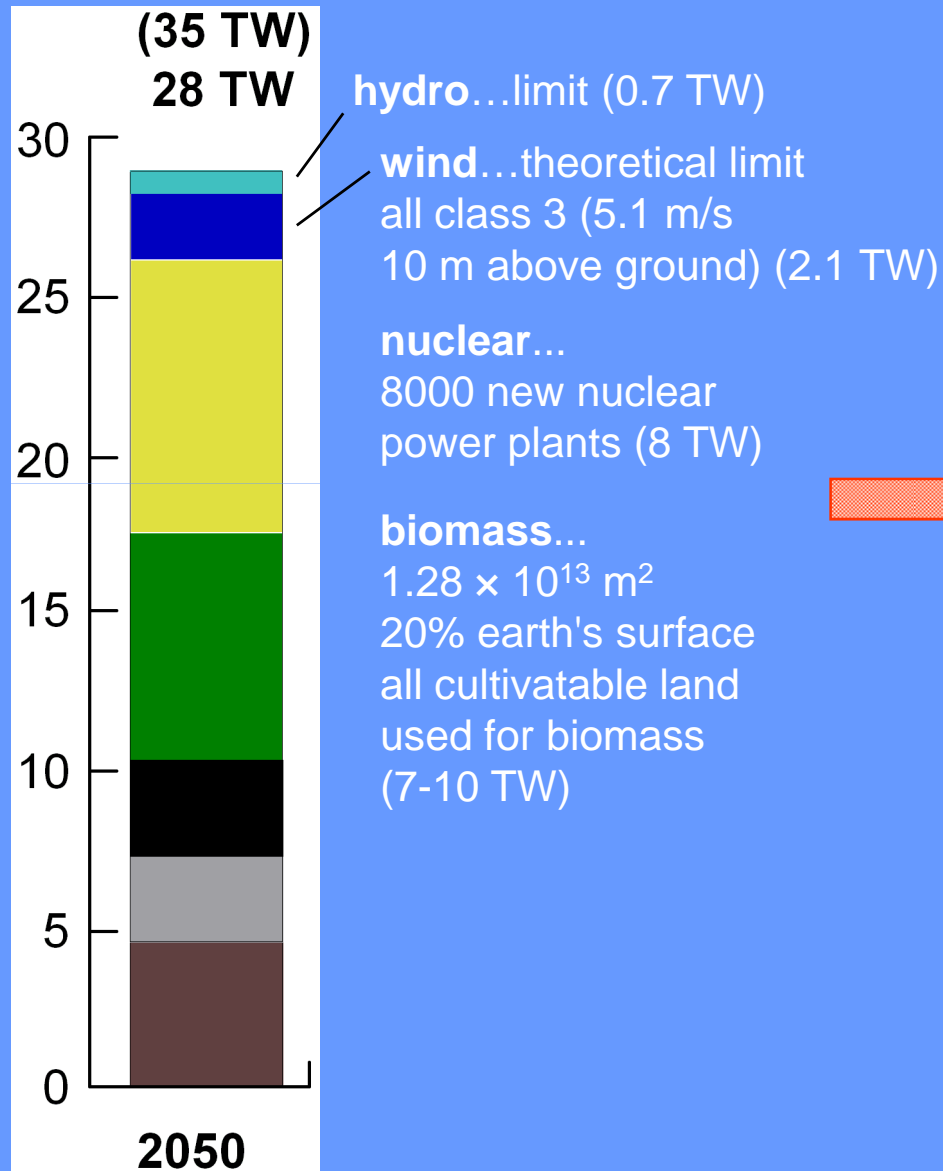
# Global Energy Inventory

Lewis (Caltech) and Nocera (MIT)  
*PNAS Perspective*, 2006



# Future Global Energy Inventory?

Nocera, *Daedalus*, 2006



...BUT there is hope

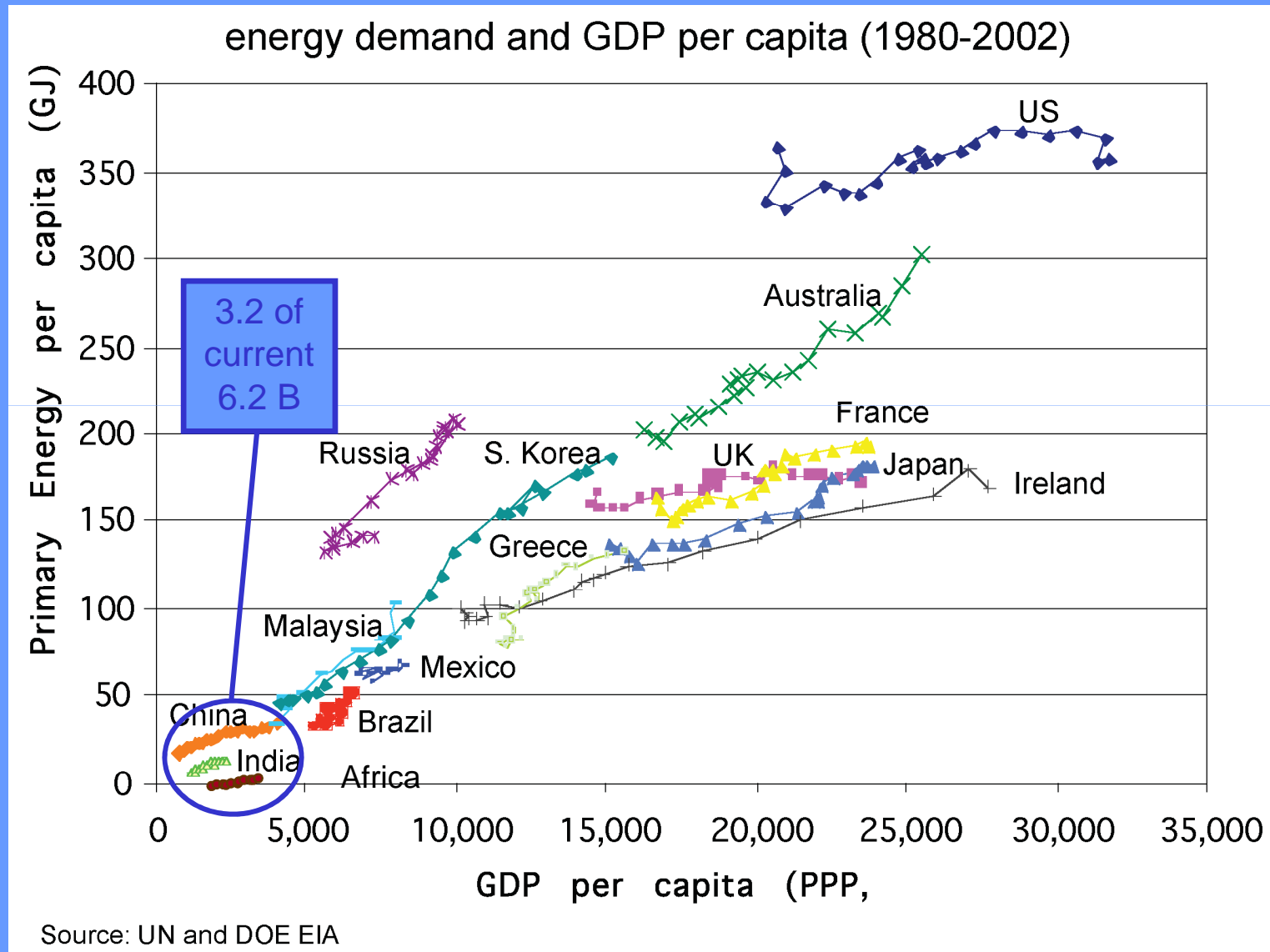
**Solar energy is a source of sufficient scale to meet global future energy needs**

**solar energy**

- more sun hits surface in 1 hr, than energy used in one year



# Energy Use Per Person in Different Countries



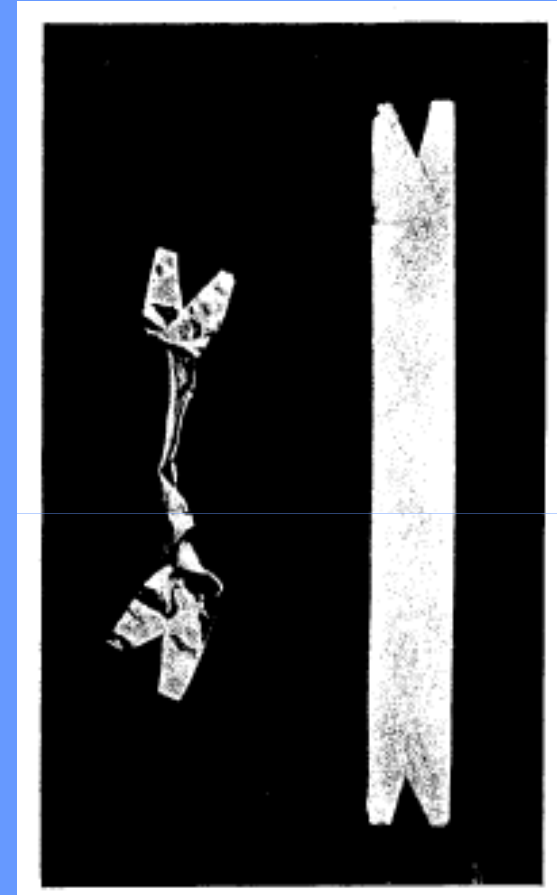


# Some “Sociological” Remarks

- ◆ Need for energy is so enormous that conventional, long-discussed sources will not be enough
- ◆ Current technologies not enough, need new science to take care of the future energy demands
  - renewable energy research is not an engineering problem...needs to be tackled as a basic science problem...materials, catalysis and new modes of reactivity or chemical bonds
- ◆ Physics and Chemistry are THE central sciences of energy ( light capture, conversion and storage in bonds or new materials).

## The “Basic Physics” of Hydrogen in Materials

- Hydrogen Embrittlement: Pd-Ag
- Metal Insulator Transition:  $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-H}$
- Superconductivity: Pd-H
- Ortho - Para conversion rates
- Spin Polarized Hydrogen – BEC in
- High Pressure Hydrogen – Metallic  $\text{H}_2$



Pure Pd and Pd-25% Ag alloy same size specimens after 30 cycles of heating and cooling in  $\text{H}_2$  atmosphere.



# Hydrogen Storage: The “Grand Challenge”

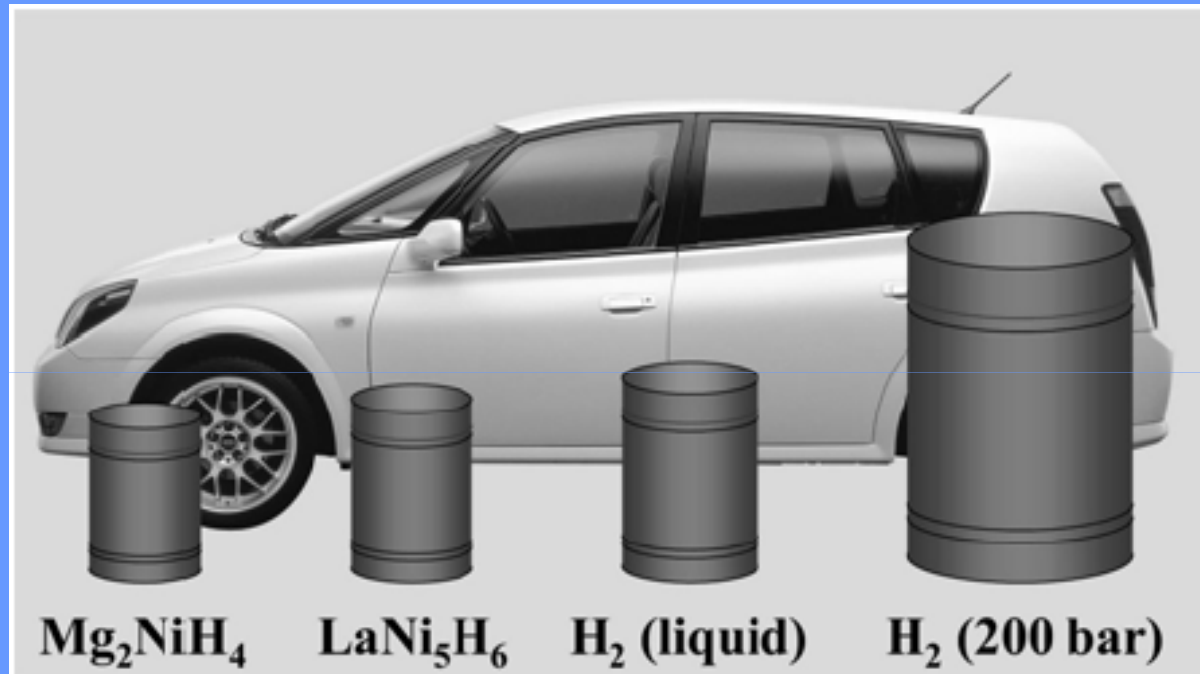
**Goal: On-board hydrogen storage for > 300 mile driving range and meet all performance (wt, vol, kinetics, etc.) , safety and cost requirements.**

These  
Are  
System  
Targets



| Examples of Targets               | 2010                                   | 2015                                 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| System Gravimetric Capacity (net) | 6 wt.%<br>(2.0 kWh/kg)                 | 9 wt.%<br>(3.0 kWh/kg)               |
| System Volumetric Capacity (net)  | 1.5 kWh/L<br>(45 g/L)                  | 2.7 kWh/L<br>(81 g/L)                |
| Storage System Cost               | \$4/kWh<br>(~\$133/kg H <sub>2</sub> ) | \$2/kWh<br>(\$67/kg H <sub>2</sub> ) |
| Min. Full Flow Rate               | 0.02 g/s/kW                            | 0.02 g/s/kW                          |
| Refueling Time (for 5 kg)         | 3 min                                  | 2.5 min                              |
| Cycle Life (Durability)           | 1000 cycles                            | 1500 cycles                          |

QUIZ #1: What is it that is striking about the following picture ?



## Desirable Characteristics of an Ideal Material

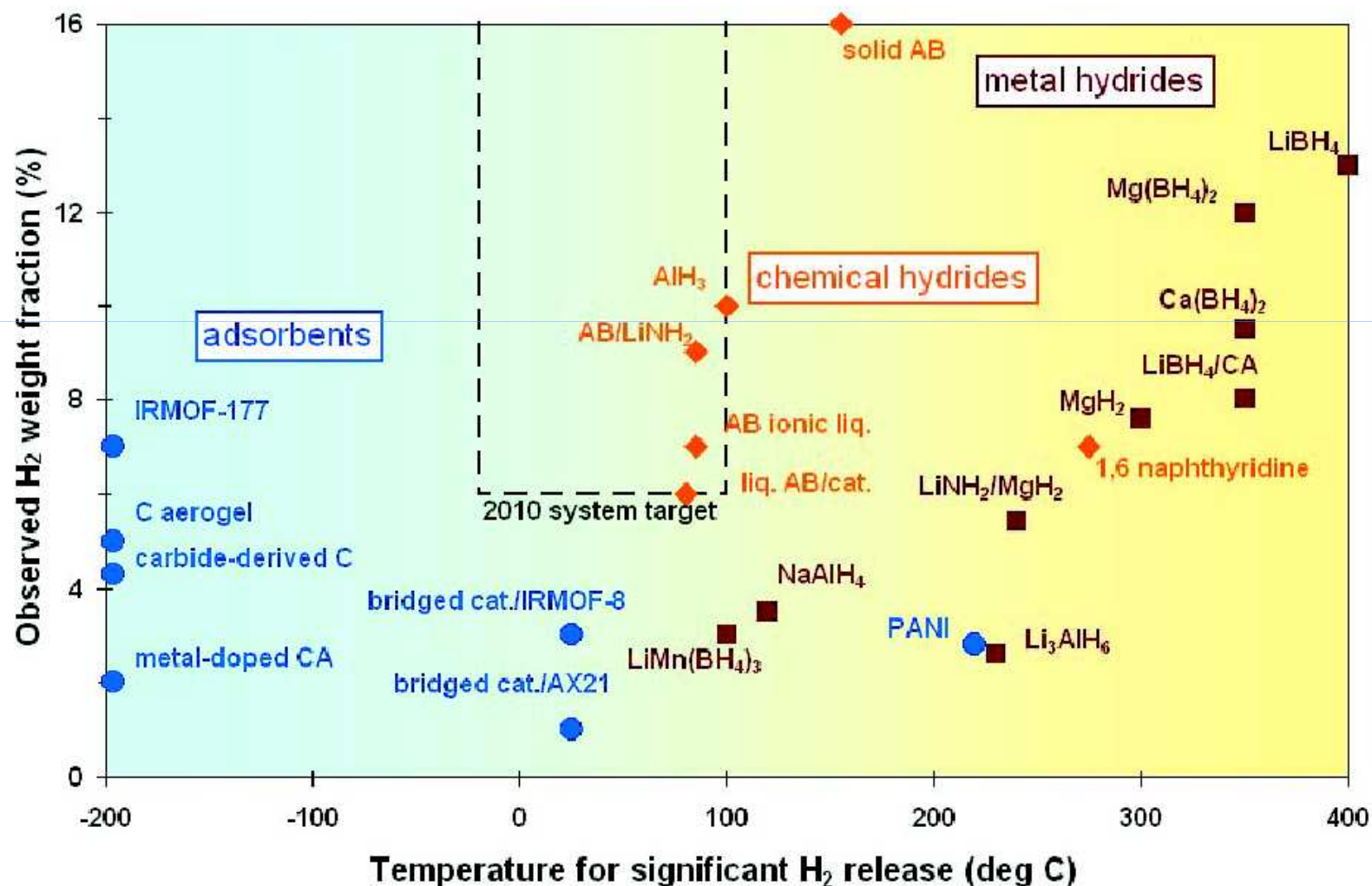
- High capacity absorption at room temperature (volumetric as well as gravimetric).
- Desorption at moderate temperatures
- Rapid kinetics
- Zero degradation with repeated cycling.

**SUCH A MATERIAL DOES NOT EXIST TODAY !**

**SO, WHAT ARE THE MATERIALS THAT DO EXIST AN  
HOW GOOD ARE THEY ?**



# Progress: Material Capacity vs. Temperature



Originally Posted: Sat, 2 Aug 20:33 EDT

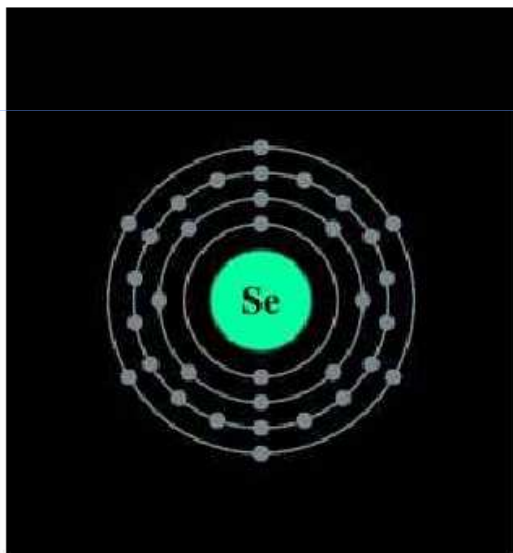
## Fill My Valence Electron Shell

Date: 2008-08-02, 8:33PM EDT

A little about me: My name is <sup>Hydrogen</sup>~~Selenium~~, but you can just call me <sup>H2</sup>~~Se~~. I take good care of myself- <sup>2.0</sup>~~78.96~~ amu and disease free. I've been ionized before, but I'm not really into that anymore.

I'm looking for someone to really bond with. Covalently. I <sup>can</sup>~~want~~ to be in a truly stable relationship. but I am not interested in that. Do you have what I need?

I'm not just looking for another Bromine. I want someone who will treat me ~~like a princess~~ and together we can ~~become noble~~ <sup>with high energy</sup> save the world.



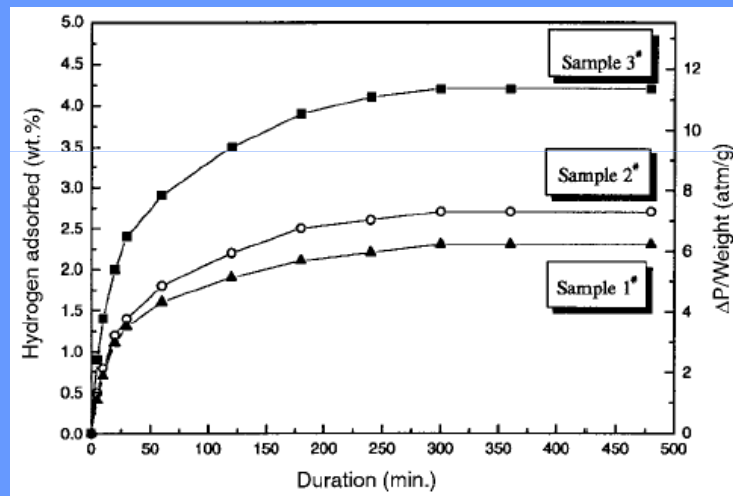
- Location: Unknown
- it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

PostingID: 780731449

## “Coloring” Research

### Hydrogen Storage in Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes at Room Temperature

C. Liu,<sup>1</sup> Y. Y. Fan,<sup>1</sup> M. Liu,<sup>1</sup> H. T. Cong,<sup>2</sup> H. M. Cheng,<sup>1\*</sup>  
M. S. Dresselhaus,<sup>3\*</sup>



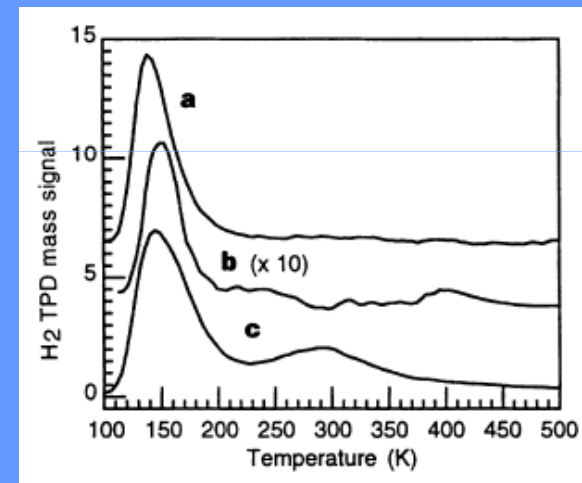
Science, 286, 1127,  
1999.

### Storage of hydrogen in single-walled carbon nanotubes

A. C. Dillon\*, K. M. Jones\*, T. A. Bekkedahl\*,  
C. H. Kiang†, D. S. Bethune† & M. J. Heben\*

\* National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden,  
Colorado 80401-3393, USA

† IBM Research Division, Almaden Research Center, 650 Harry Road, San Jose,  
California 95120-6099, USA



Nature, 386, 377, 1997

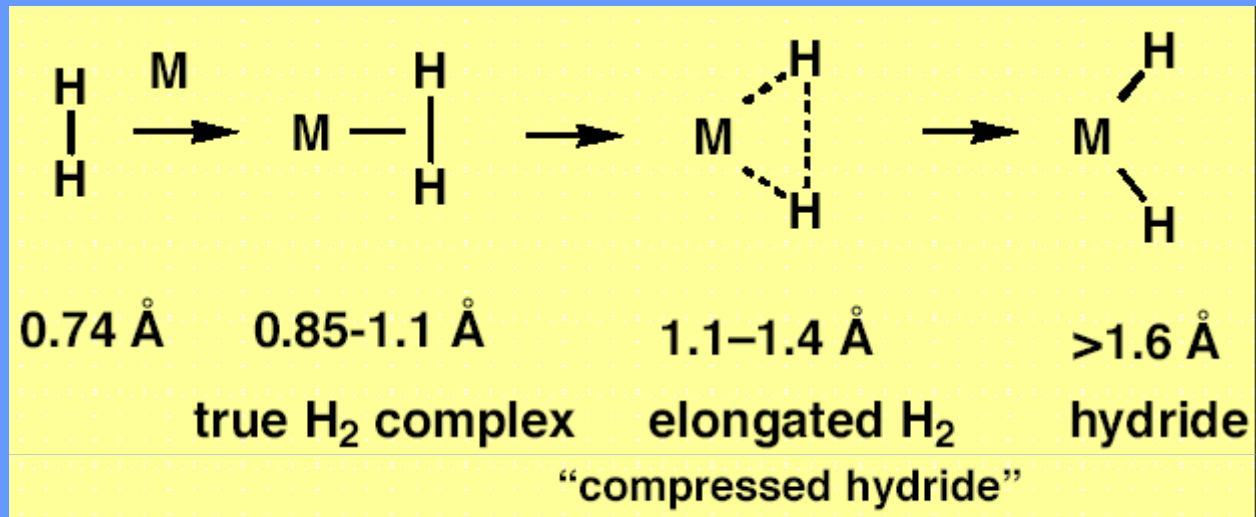
But Co is used as catalyst for making CNT's.



# Some More Sociological Remarks

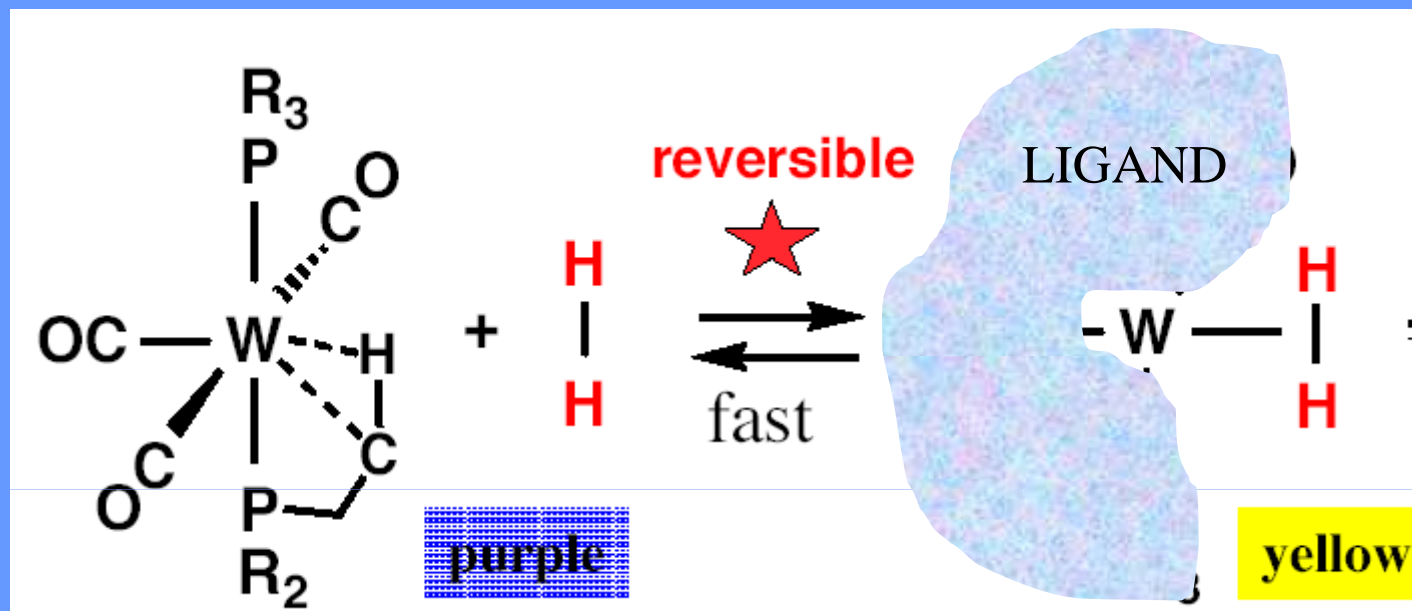
- “NANO” – is highly interdisciplinary.
- Involves interplay of physics, chemistry, materials science etc.
- Hydrogen storage research is a good example of this interplay (as you will see).

## H-H Bond distances



- Continuous range possible
- Another way to characterize the “ideal” storage material

## Kubas Complex - 1984



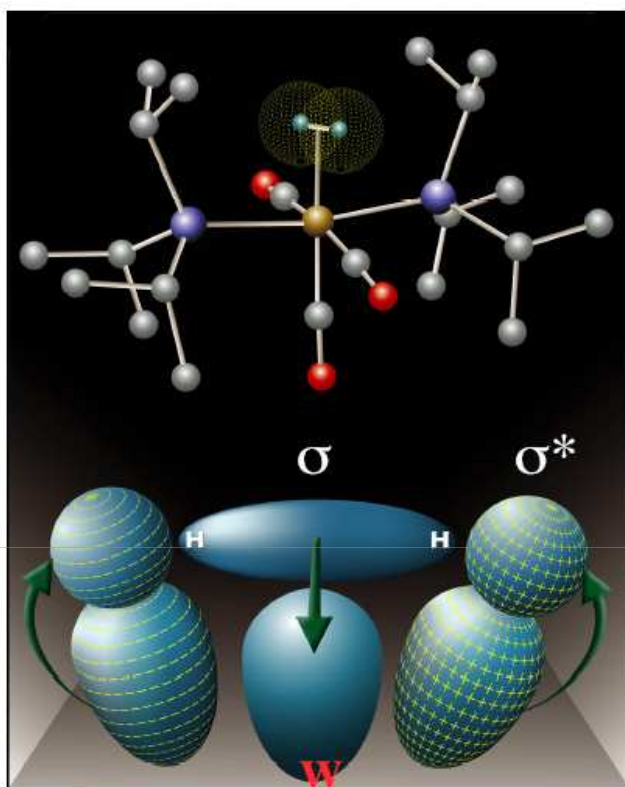
What is a  
“complex”?

Some 562 of these “complexes” are known today

In all of them only 1 H<sub>2</sub> is reversibly absorbed – with the exception of one where 2 H<sub>2</sub> molecules participate...

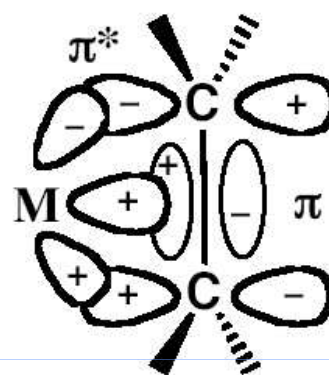
SPECIAL BRANCH OF ORGANO-METALLIC CHEMISTRY



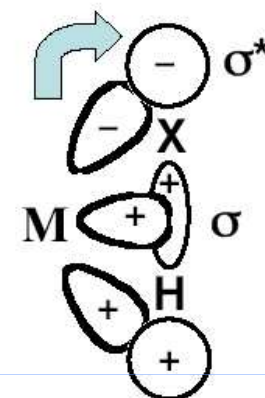


Bonding in  $\text{W(CO)}_3(\text{P}^i\text{Pr}_3)_2(\text{H}_2)$ :  
*donation of the bonding  $\sigma$  electrons*  
*in  $\text{H}_2$*  to a filled metal d orbital and  
 backdonation to the antibonding  
 orbital ( $\sigma^*$ ) of  $\text{H}_2$

**backdonation** is critical in stabilizing  
 $\text{H}_2$  and other  $\sigma$  complexes



M- $\pi$  bond  
 olefin complex

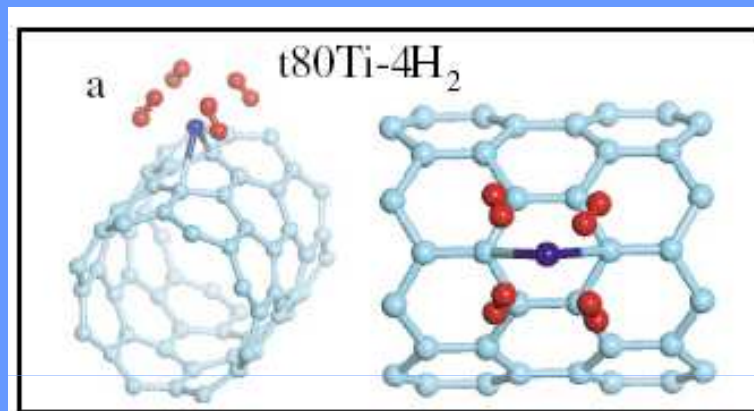
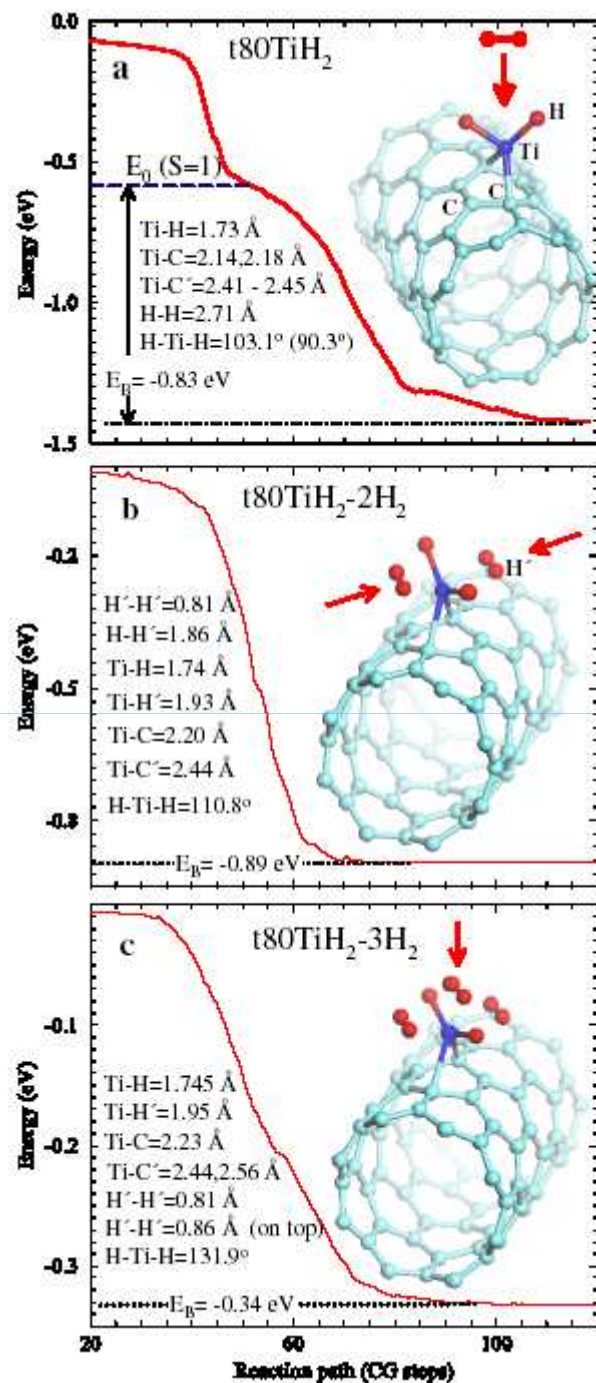


M- $\sigma$  bond  
 X = H, C, Si, etc

Hay, P. J. *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **1984**, 103, 466.

**Titanium-Decorated Carbon Nanotubes as a Potential High-Capacity Hydrogen Storage Medium**T. Yildirim<sup>1</sup> and S. Ciraci<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>NIST Center for Neutron Research, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, USA<sup>2</sup>Physics Department, Bilkent University, 06800 Bilkent, Ankara, Turkey

(Received 5 November 2004; published 5 May 2005)

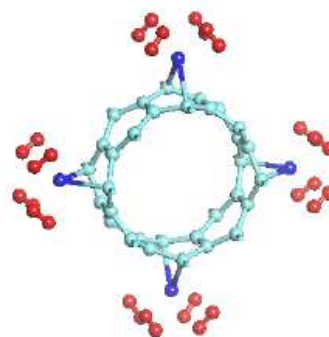
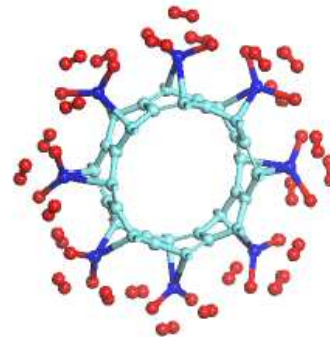
 $t80Ti-4H_2$ .

H-H 0.84 Å

Ti-H 1.9 Å

Ti-C 2.17 Å

Ti-C' 2.4 Å

**a**  $C_8TiH_8$  (5.3 wt% )**b**  $C_4TiH_8$  (7.7 wt% )

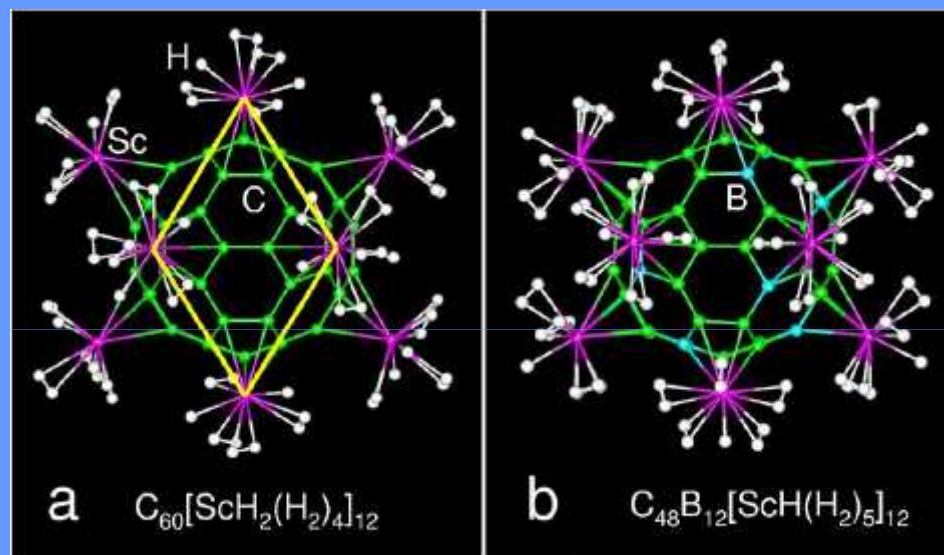
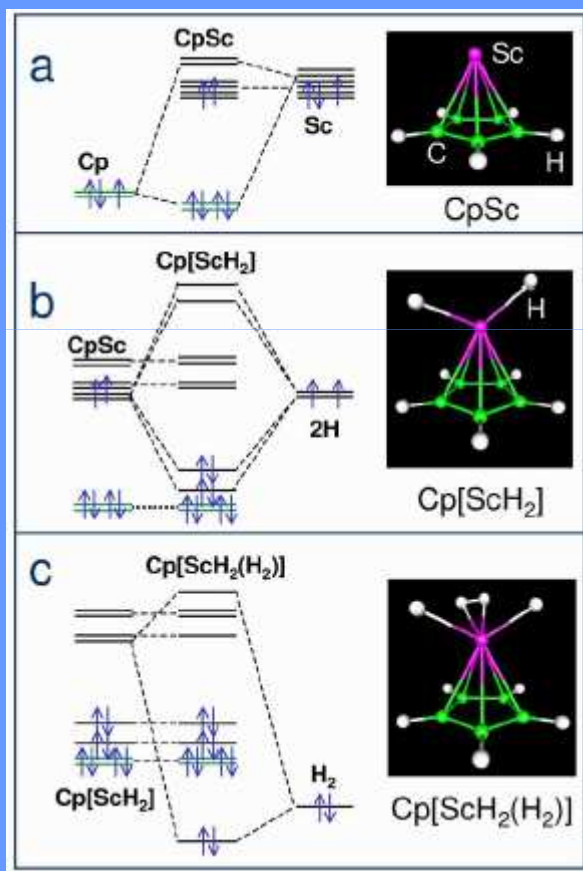


## Hydrogen Storage in Novel Organometallic Buckyballs

Yufeng Zhao, Yong-Hyun Kim, A. C. Dillon, M. J. Heben, and S. B. Zhang

*National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, Colorado 80401, USA*

(Received 8 December 2004; published 22 April 2005)



C<sub>60</sub> ~7 %

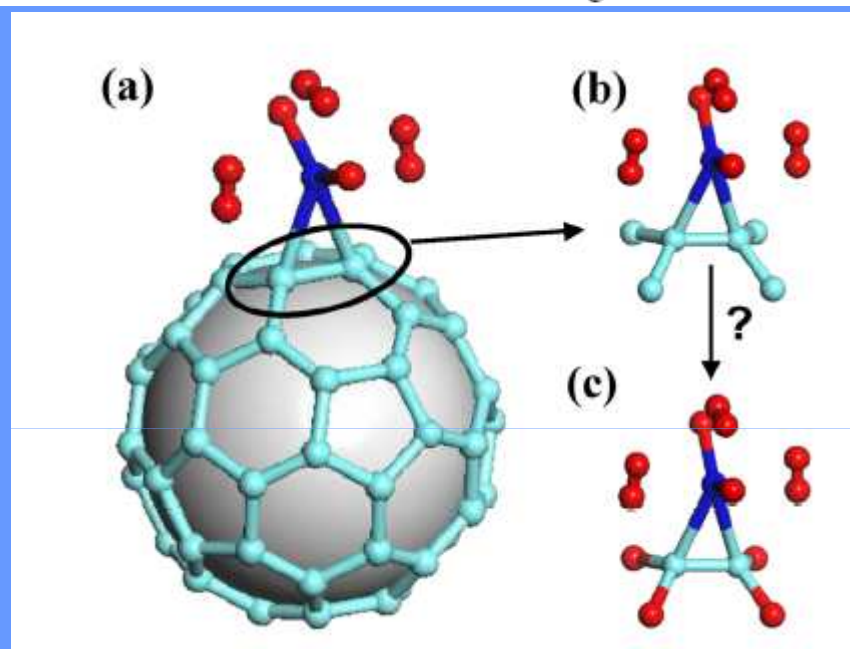
C<sub>48</sub>B<sub>12</sub>  
~8.7 %

TABLE I. Calculated consecutive binding energies of H<sub>2</sub> molecules (in eV/H<sub>2</sub>). In the case of buckyballs, twelve H<sub>2</sub> were added per calculation. A similar trend with the Cp ring case in the table suggests that the procedure is justified.

|                                                     | 1st H <sub>2</sub> | 2nd H <sub>2</sub> | 3rd H <sub>2</sub> | 4th H <sub>2</sub> | 5th H <sub>2</sub> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cp[ScH <sub>2</sub> ]                               | 0.29               | 0.28               | 0.46               | 0.23               |                    |
| C <sub>60</sub> [ScH <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>12</sub>   | 0.30               | 0.35               | 0.42               | 0.26               |                    |
| C <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> [ScH] <sub>12</sub> | 0.31               | 0.35               | 0.30               | 0.33               | 0.24               |

# Transition-Metal-Ethylene Complexes as High-Capacity Hydrogen-Storage Media

E. Durgun,<sup>1,2</sup> S. Ciraci,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> W. Zhou,<sup>3,4</sup> and T. Yildirim<sup>3,4</sup>

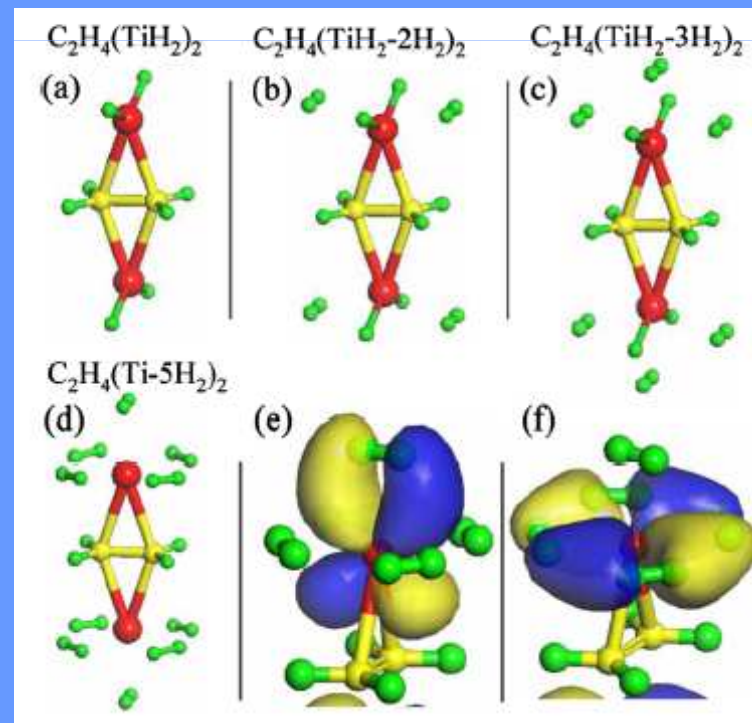
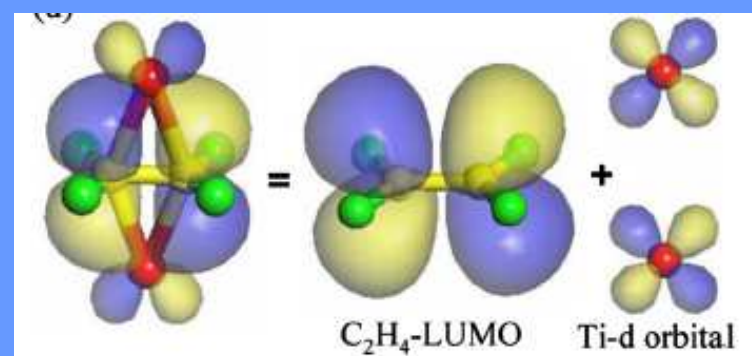


Bonding of single Ti to  $C_2H_4$  – no energy barrier.

First  $H_2$  adsorbed dissociatively

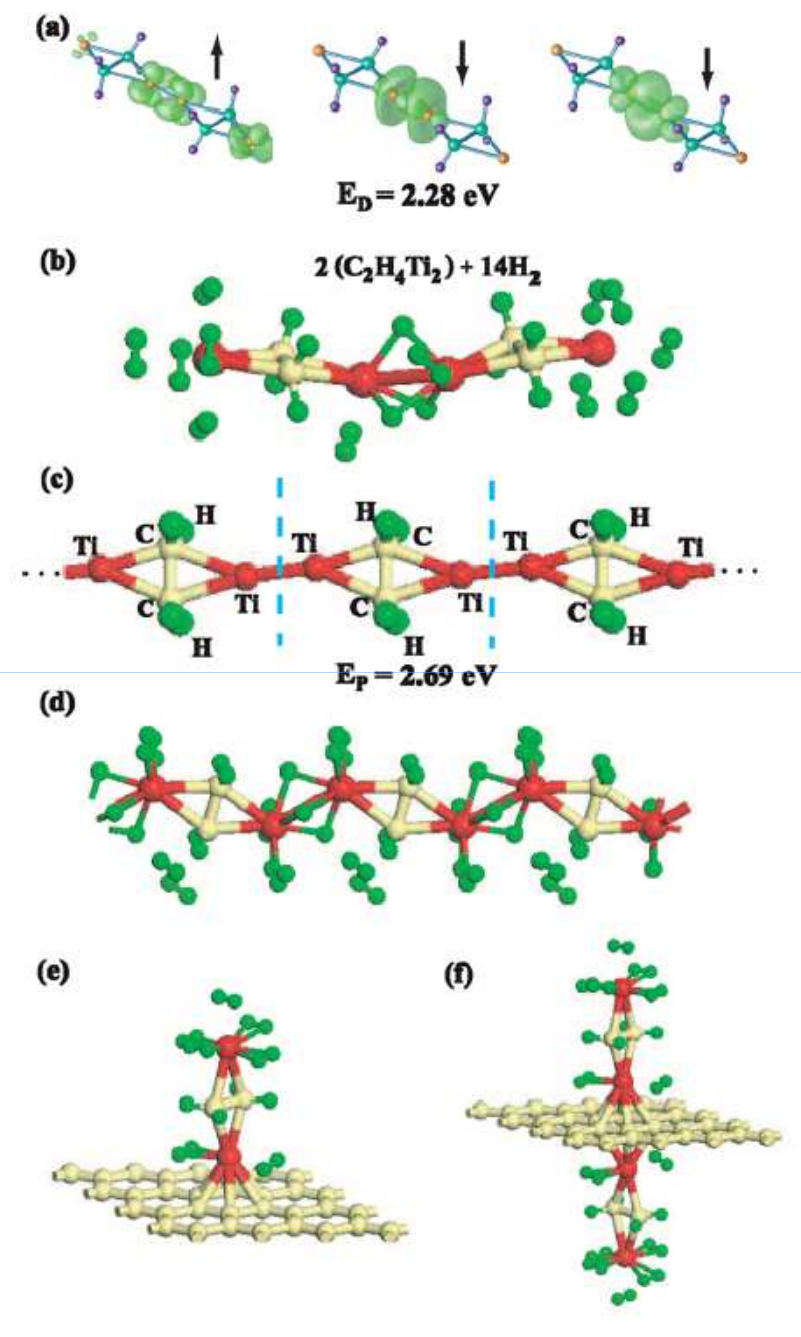
Add 4 more molecularly

$H-H \sim 0.85 \text{ \AA}$



# Dimerization and polymerization of $\text{Ti}_2\text{-C}_2\text{H}_4$

REDUCES #  $\text{H}_2$  ADSORBED!



Proposals to prevent dimerization

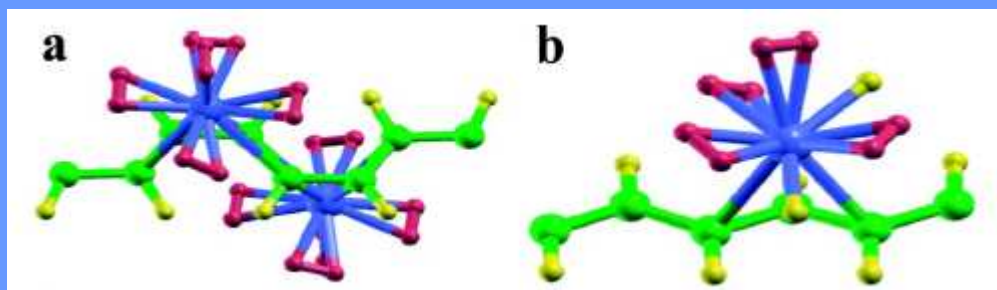


# Combinatorial Search for Optimal Hydrogen-Storage Nanomaterials Based on Polymers

Hoonkyung Lee, Woon Ih Choi, and Jisoon Ihm\*

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, FPRD, and Center for Theoretical Physics, Seoul National University, Seoul 151-747, Korea*

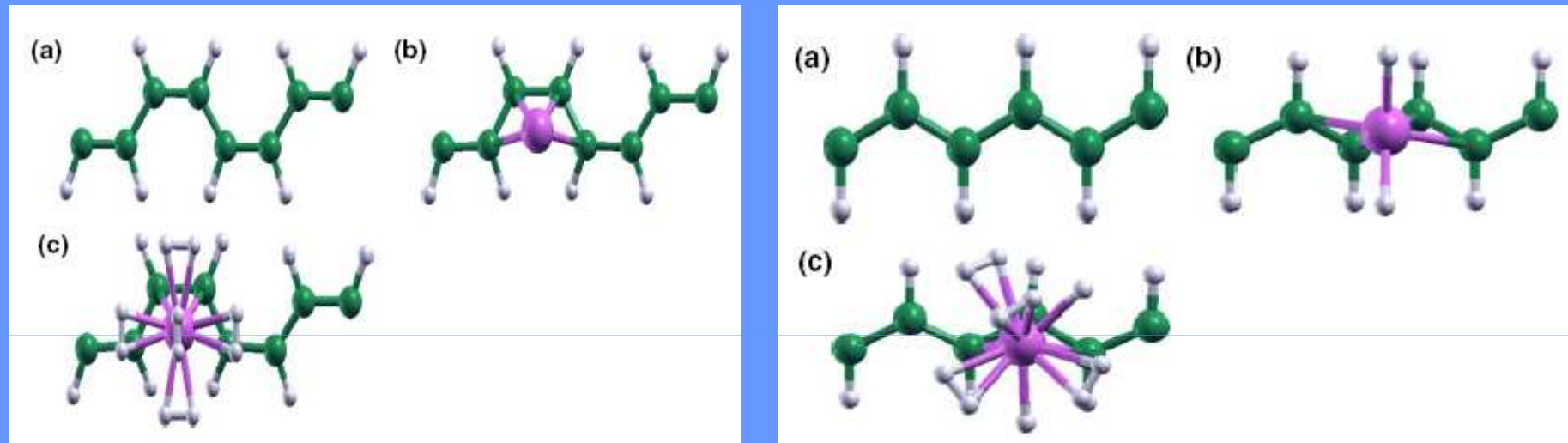
(Received 24 March 2006; published 4 August 2006)



| Materials                                        | $N_{\text{ads}} - N_{\text{des}}$ | $N_{\text{use}}/N_{\text{max}}$ | $G_{\text{use}}/G_{\text{max}}$ (wt %) | $V_{\text{use}}/V_{\text{max}}$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>cis</i> -PA                                   | 5.00 – 1.84                       | 3.16/5                          | 7.6/12                                 | 63/100                                               |
| PPY                                              | 3.00 – 0.05                       | 2.95/3                          | 4.9/5                                  | 33/34                                                |
| PANI-out                                         | 3.00 – 0.96                       | 2.04/3                          | 4.1/6                                  | 31/46                                                |
| C <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> Sc <sub>12</sub> | 2.68 – 0.02                       | 2.66/5                          | 4.7/8.8                                | 23/43                                                |
| CNT                                              | 1.95 – 0.35                       | 1.60/3                          | 4.1/7.7                                | Not available                                        |

# *Ab initio* study of dihydrogen binding in metal-decorated polyacetylene for hydrogen storage

Hoonkyung Lee, Woon Ih Choi, Manh Cuong Nguyen, Moon-Hyun Cha, Eungook Moon, and Jisoon Ihm\*


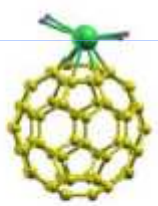

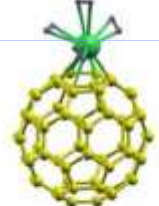



| Materials                     | ZPE | $N_{\text{ads}} - N_{\text{des}}$ | $N_{\text{use}}/N_{\text{max}}$ | $G_{\text{use}}/G_{\text{max}}$<br>(wt %) |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Ti-decorated <i>cis</i> -PA   | Yes | 5.00–1.91                         | 3.09/5                          | 7.4/12                                    |
| Sc-decorated <i>cis</i> -PA   | Yes | 0.86–0.00                         | 0.86/5                          | 2.1/12                                    |
| Ti-decorated <i>trans</i> -PA | Yes | 2.57–0.10                         | 2.47/4                          | 6.2/10                                    |
| Sc-decorated <i>trans</i> -PA | Yes | 1.90–0.05                         | 1.85/5                          | 4.4/12                                    |

# Calcium as the Superior Coating Metal in Functionalization of Carbon Fullerenes for High-Capacity Hydrogen Storage

Mina Yoon,<sup>1,2</sup> Shenyuan Yang,<sup>3,2</sup> Christian Hicke,<sup>4</sup> Enge Wang,<sup>3</sup> David Geohegan,<sup>1</sup> and Zhenyu Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>

TABLE I. Hydrogen binding energies (in eV) for  $MC_{60}$  ( $M = \text{Ca}, \text{Sr}$ ). For Ca, the GGA and LDA results are also compared.

|       |                                                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ca    | 0.222                                                                             | 0.214                                                                              | 0.233                                                                               | 0.206                                                                               | 0.204                                                                               |
| (LDA) | 0.413                                                                             | 0.396                                                                              | 0.415                                                                               | 0.376                                                                               | 0.385                                                                               |
| Sr    | 0.200                                                                             | 0.192                                                                              | 0.202                                                                               | 0.181                                                                               | 0.179                                                                               |

# Even More Sociological Remarks

- How come all these PRLs are only “theory” ?
- Is it yet another “quirk” of our funding system ?

Encouraging Predictions from calculations!

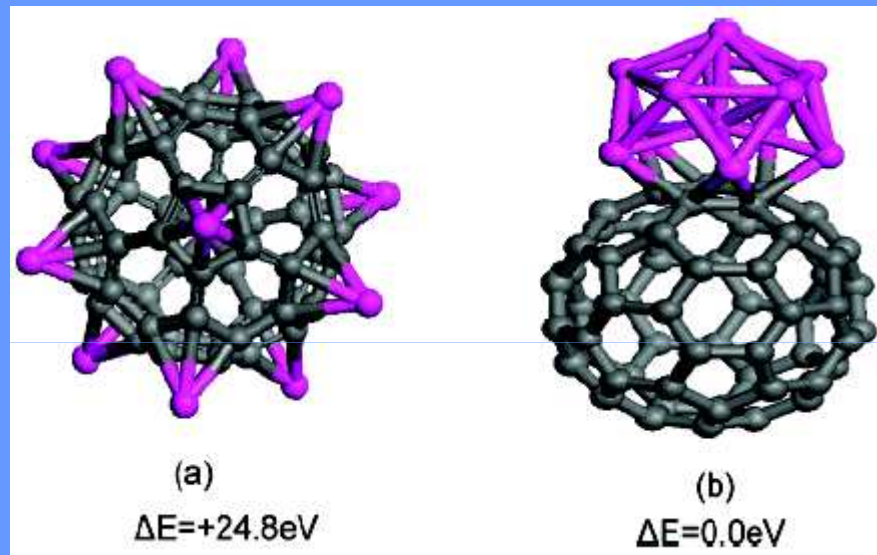
But tempered, again by theorists.....

# Agglomeration or Clustering Problems – Guidelines from Theory

## Clustering of Ti on a C<sub>60</sub> Surface and Its Effect on Hydrogen Storage

Qiang Sun,<sup>†</sup> Qian Wang,<sup>†</sup> Puru Jena,<sup>\*,†</sup> and Yoshiyuki Kawazoe<sup>‡</sup>

*Physics Department, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia 23284, and Institute for Material Research, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan*



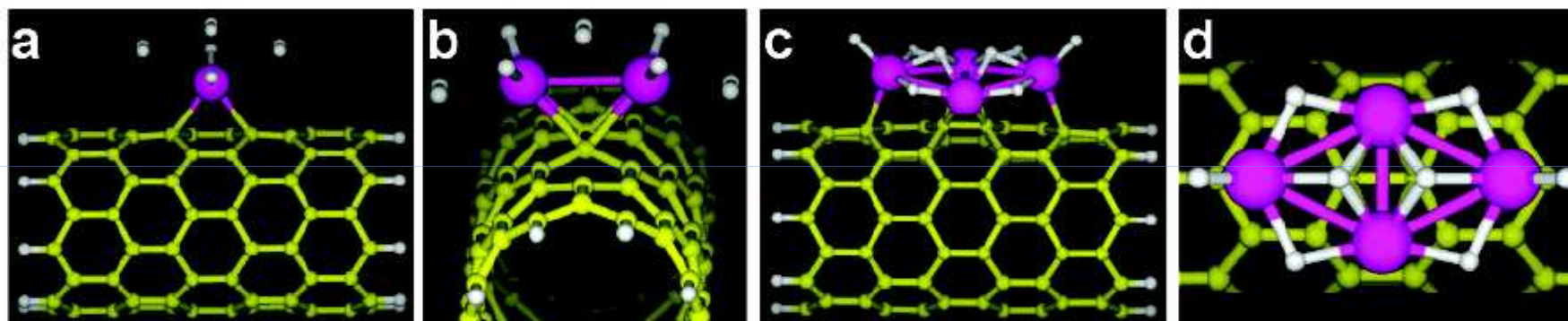
The clustering of Ti atoms on the carbon nanostructures not only significantly changes the nature of hydrogen bonding but also greatly reduces the weight percentage of hydrogen storage.

## Clustering of Sc on SWNT and Reduction of Hydrogen Uptake: *Ab-Initio* All-Electron Calculations

Pavel O. Krasnov,<sup>†</sup> Feng Ding,<sup>†</sup> Abhishek K. Singh, and Boris I. Yakobson\*

*Department of Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science, and Department of Chemistry, Rice University, Houston, Texas 77005*

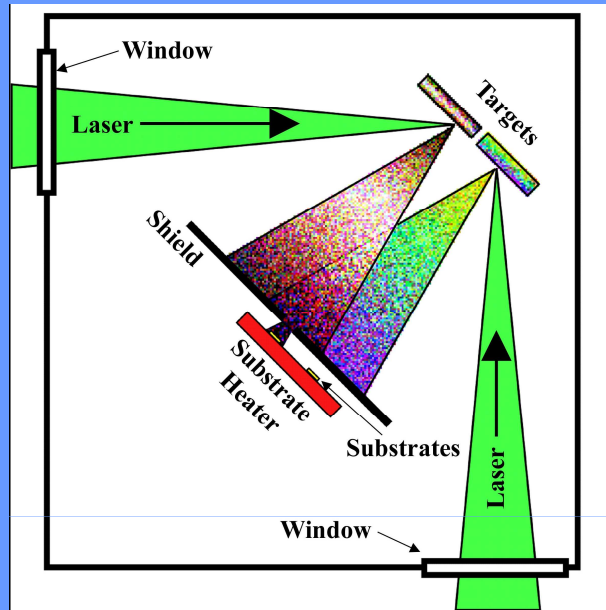
17980 *J. Phys. Chem. C*, Vol. 111, No. 49, 2007



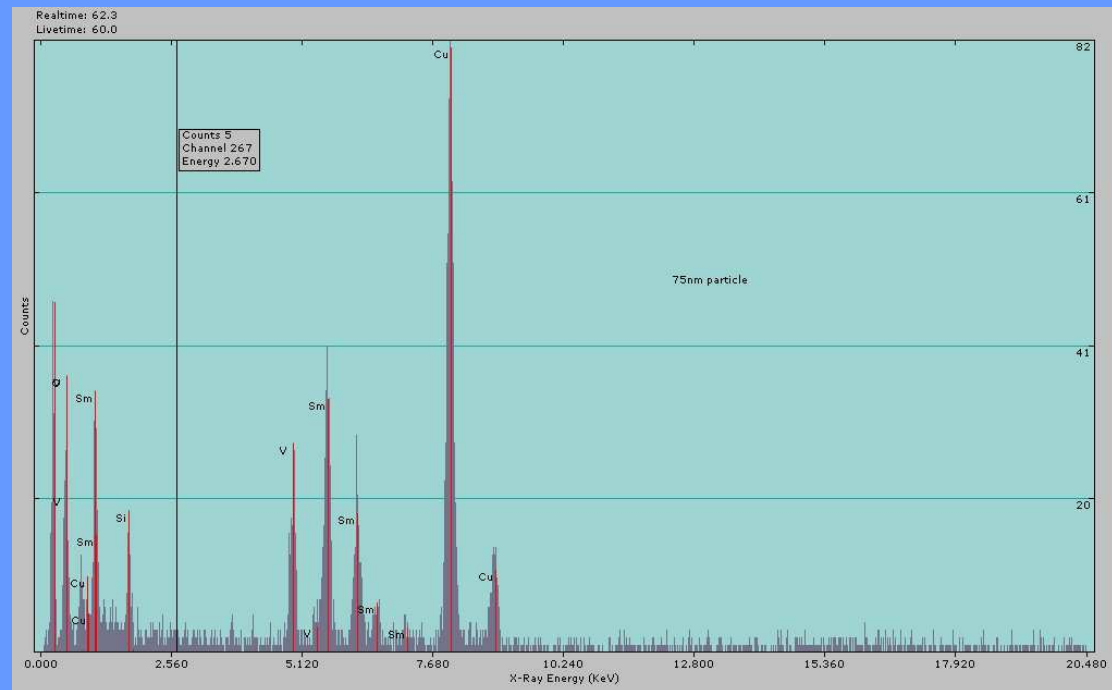
**Figure 4.** Hydrogen uptake on aggregated  $\text{Sc}_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, 4$ ) clusters on (8,0) SWNT. (d) is the top view of (c).

# DIGRESSION ON EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

# Synthesis of Nanoparticles - PLD



Sm-V, V, Nb, Nb-Al etc.

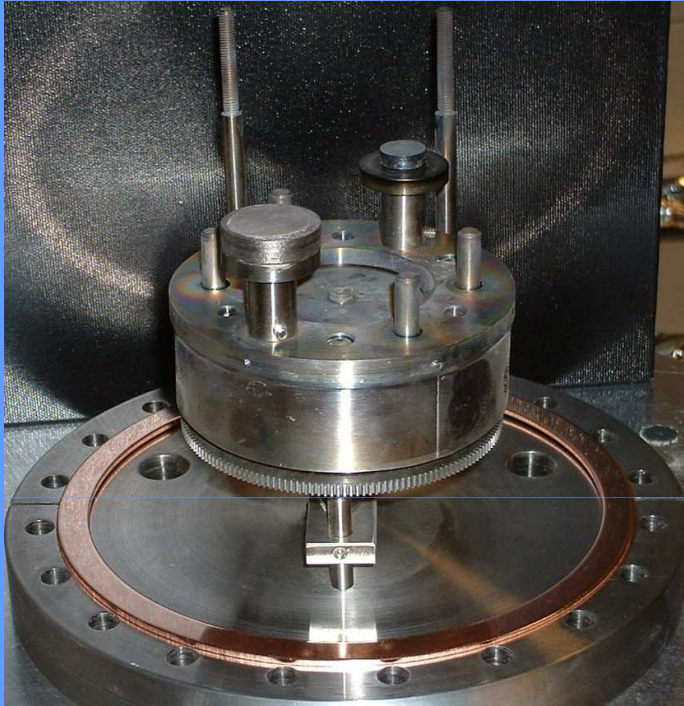




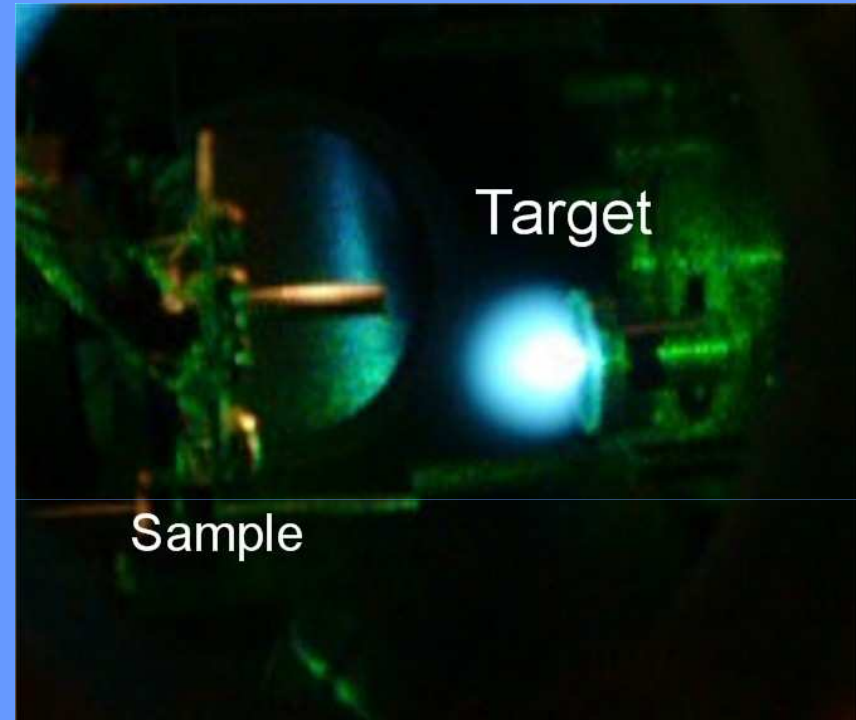
# Pulsed Laser Deposition Apparatus



# P.L.D. Basics



Rotating Target



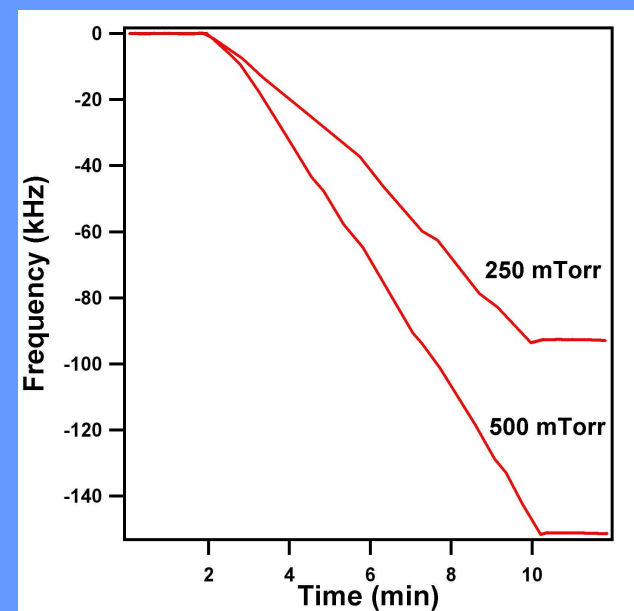
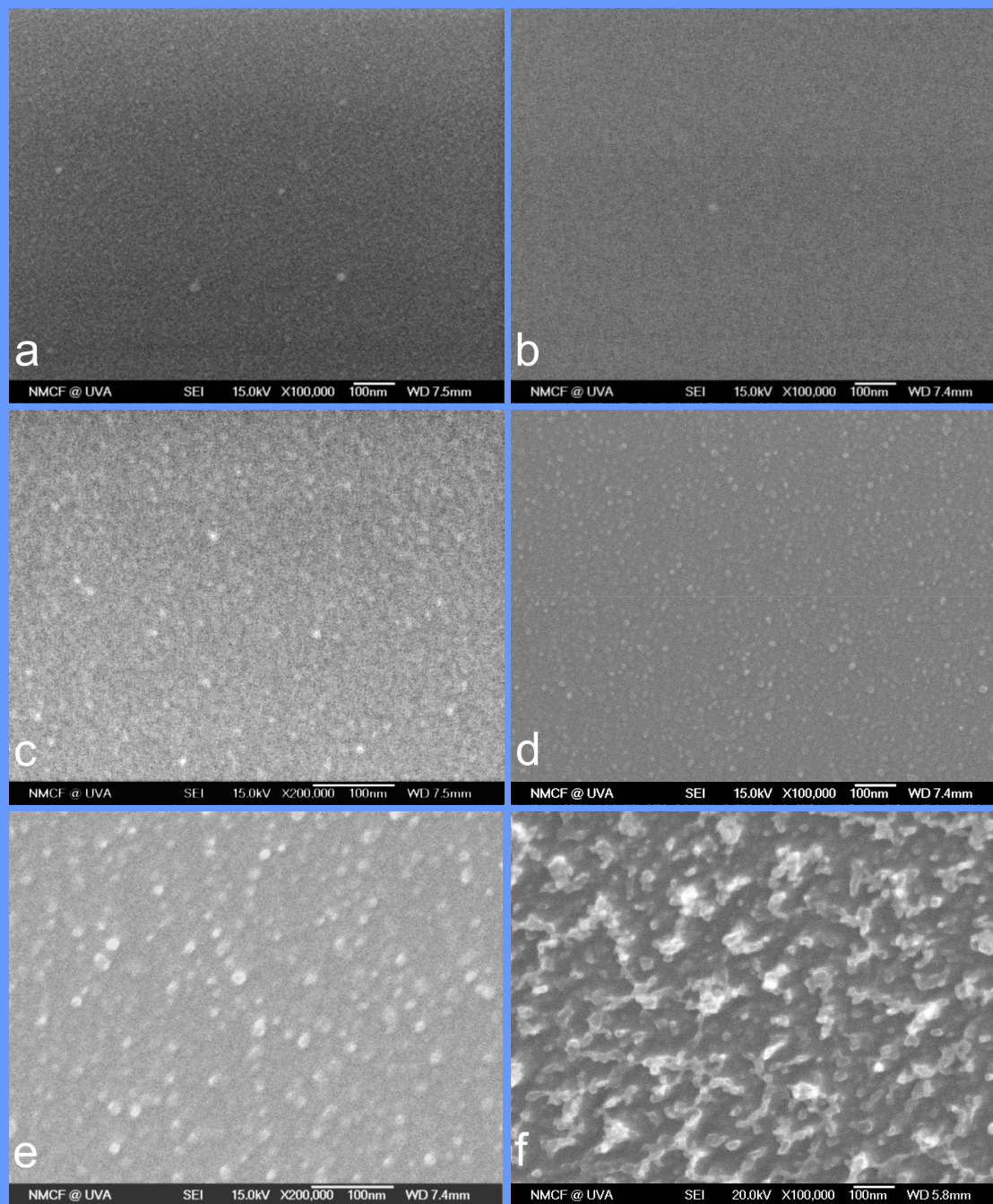
Visible Plume

Mostly Neutrals – but also some ions are produced

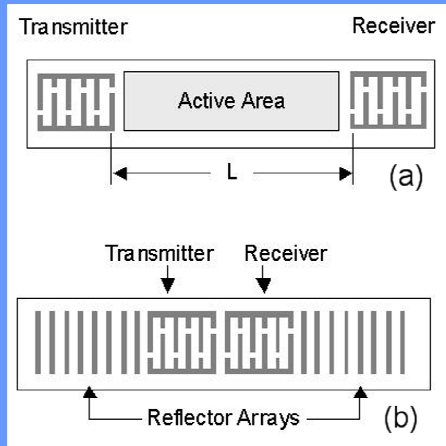
Nd – YAG laser, 10 Hz., 15-60 kJ/m<sup>2</sup>

PLD “denominations”

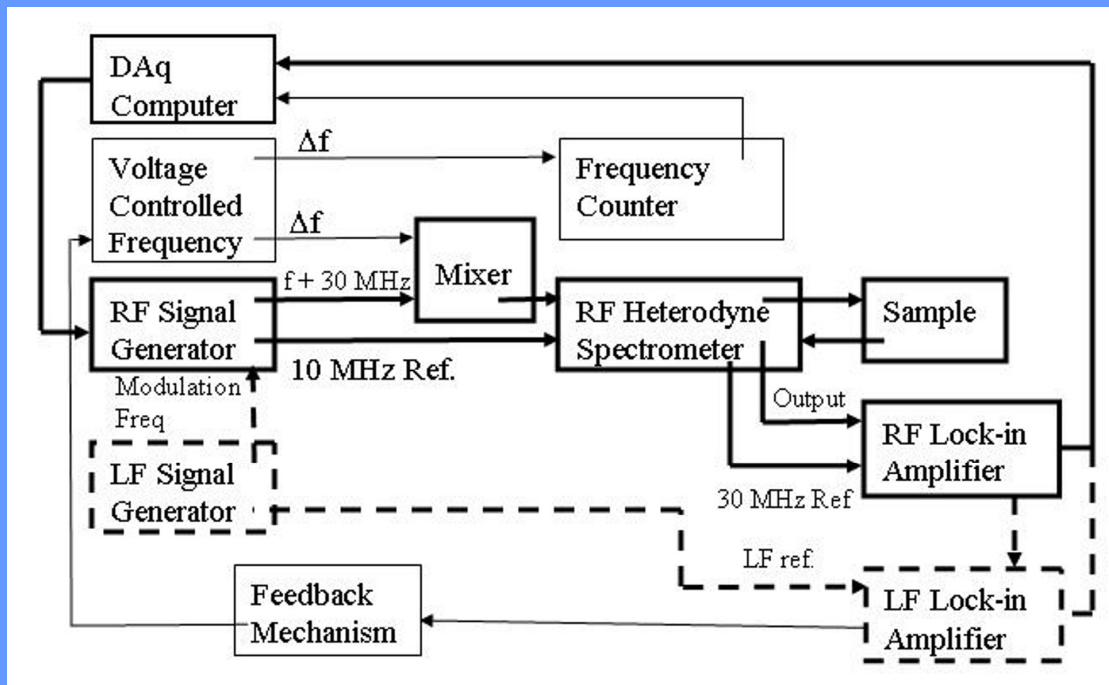




# Sensing with Surface Acoustics

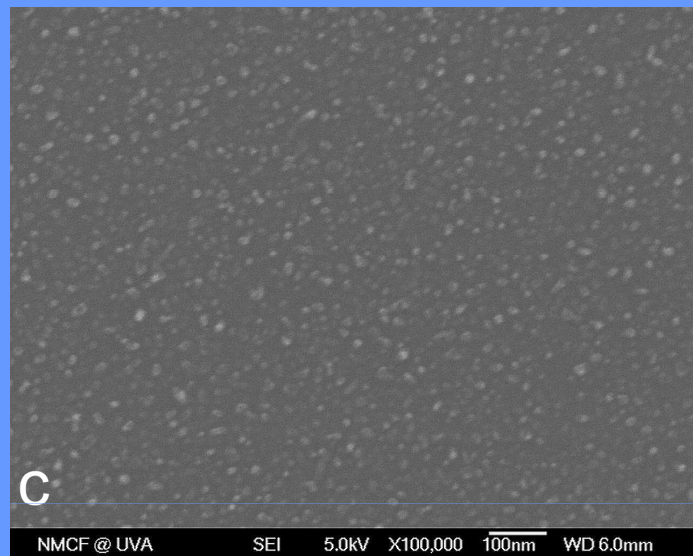


$$\frac{\Delta f}{f_0} = -c_m f_0 \frac{\Delta m}{A} + \text{part from conductivity changes}$$

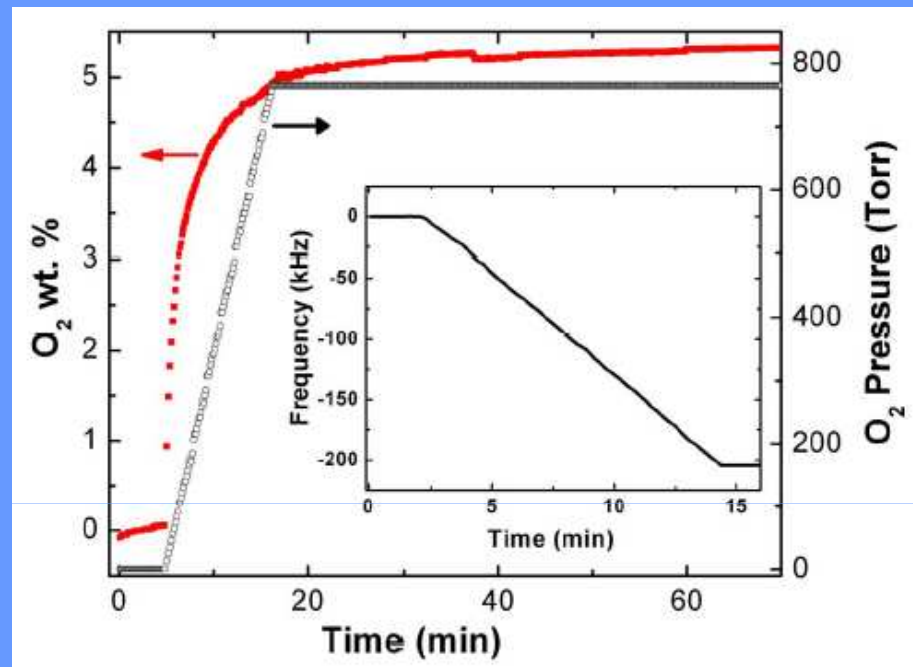


A.B. Phillips and B.S. Shivaram, Rev. Sci. Inst., **79**, 013907, 2008

# Sensing with Surface Acoustics



Through SEM measurements of nanoparticles on Si and TEM grids we measure directly the average radius  $r = 7.32 \pm 1.09$  nm.

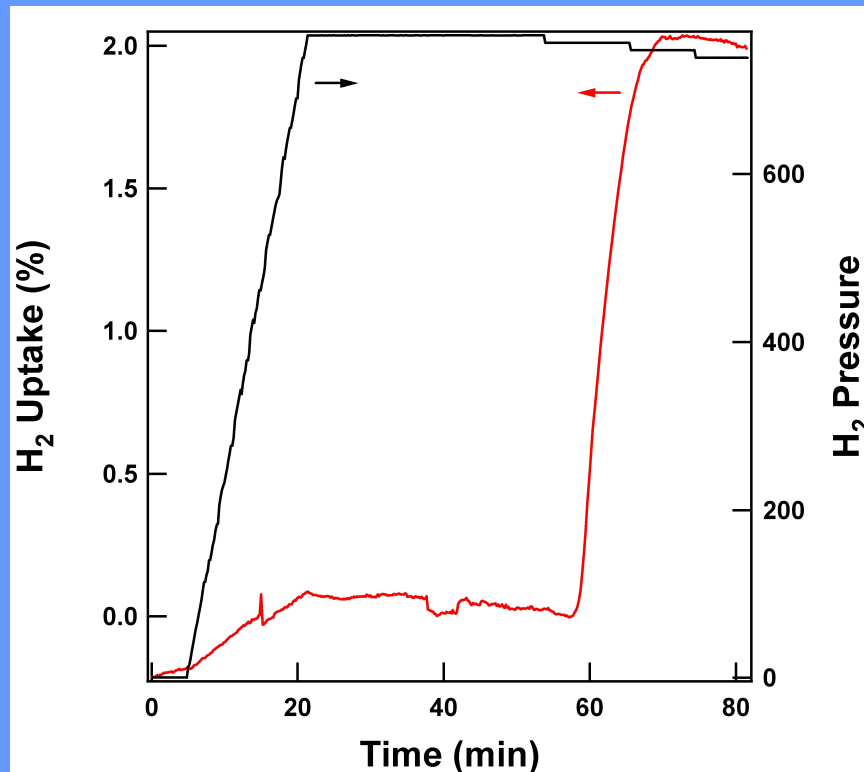


$$r = 7.63 \pm 0.18 \text{ nm for } V_2O_5$$

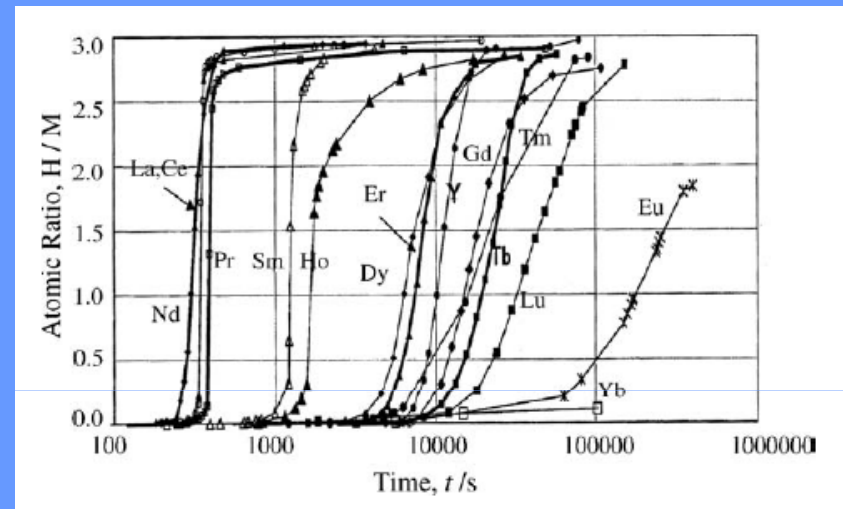
$$c_m = 4.42 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{MHz ng}$$

A.B. Phillips and B.S. Shivaram,  
Appl. Phys. Lett., **91**, 153109, 2007.

# Sensing with Surface Acoustics

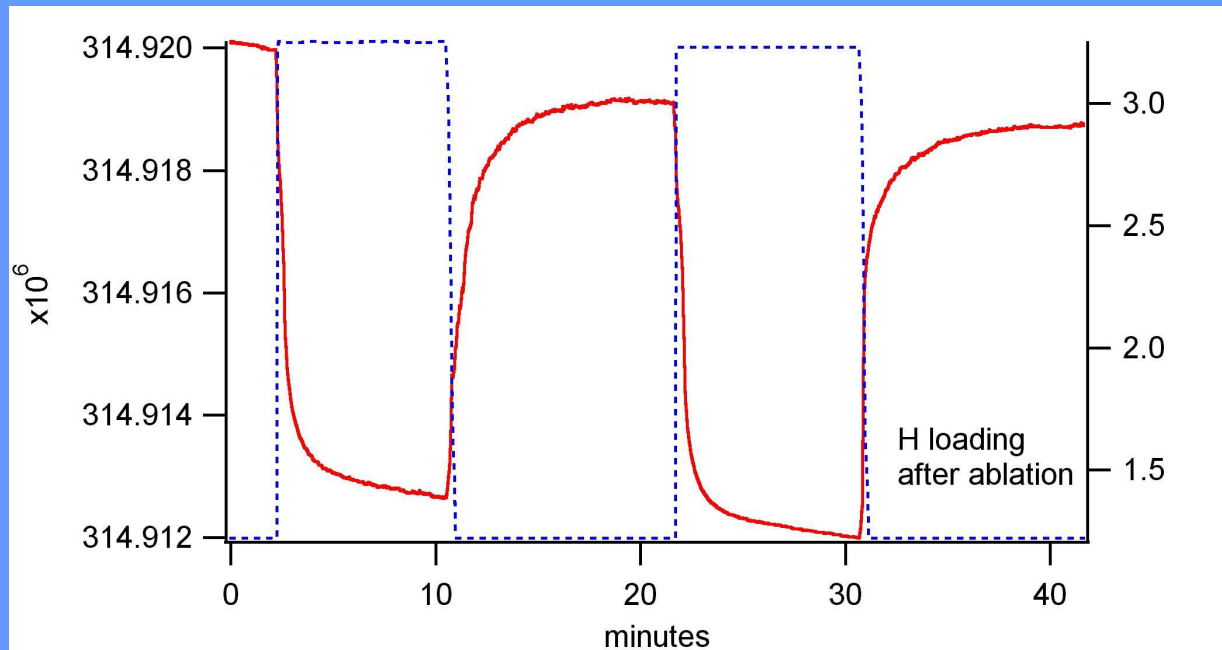


H<sub>2</sub> absorption in Sm nanoparticles  
Phillips & Shivaram, RSI, 2007.



*K. Hirano et al. / Journal of  
Alloys and Compounds,  
408–412, 351–354 (2006).*

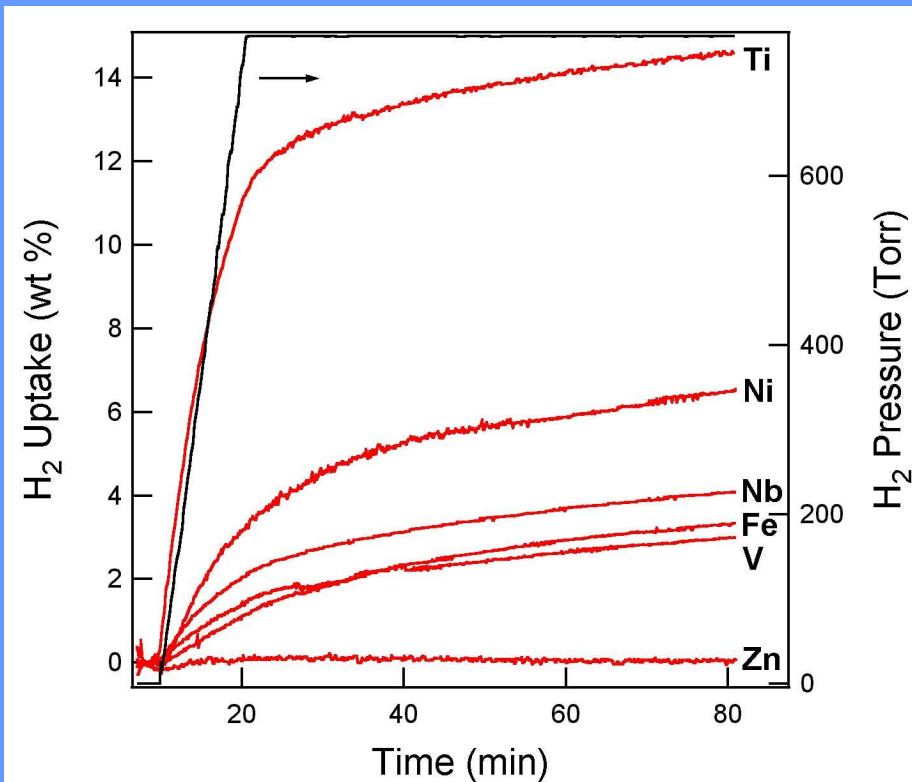
# Hydrogen Cycling in Vanadium Nanoparticles



A.B. Phillips, G. Myneni and B.S. Shivaram, AIP. Proc., 2003.

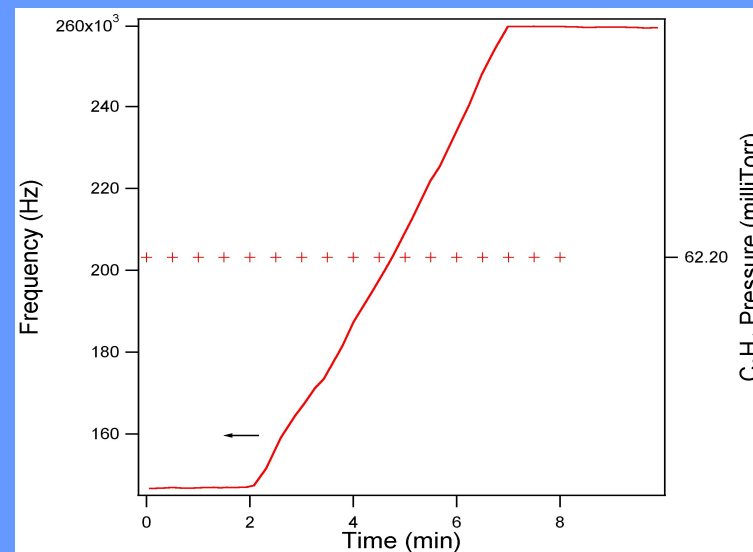
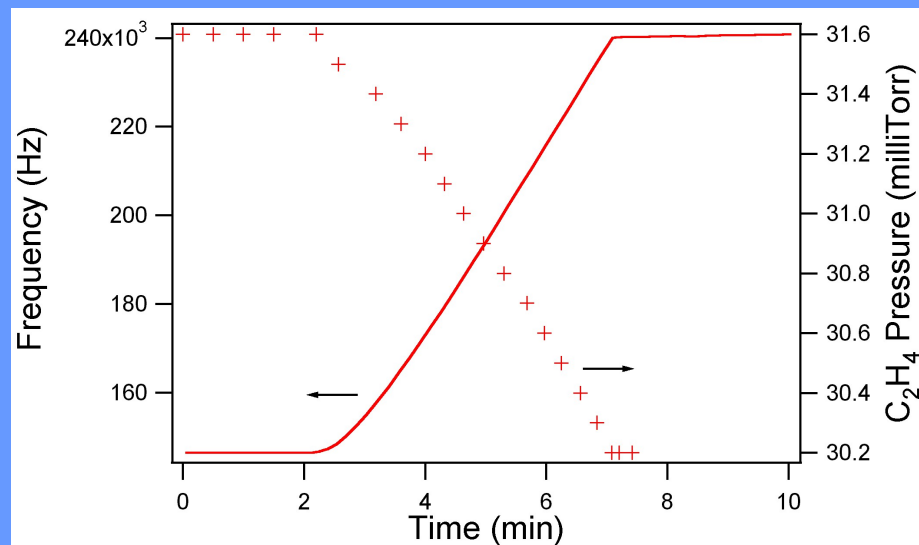
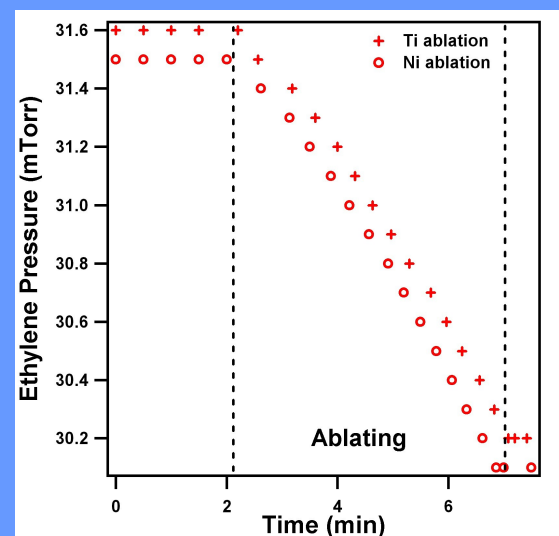
END OF  
DIGRESSION ON  
EXPERIMENTAL  
METHODS



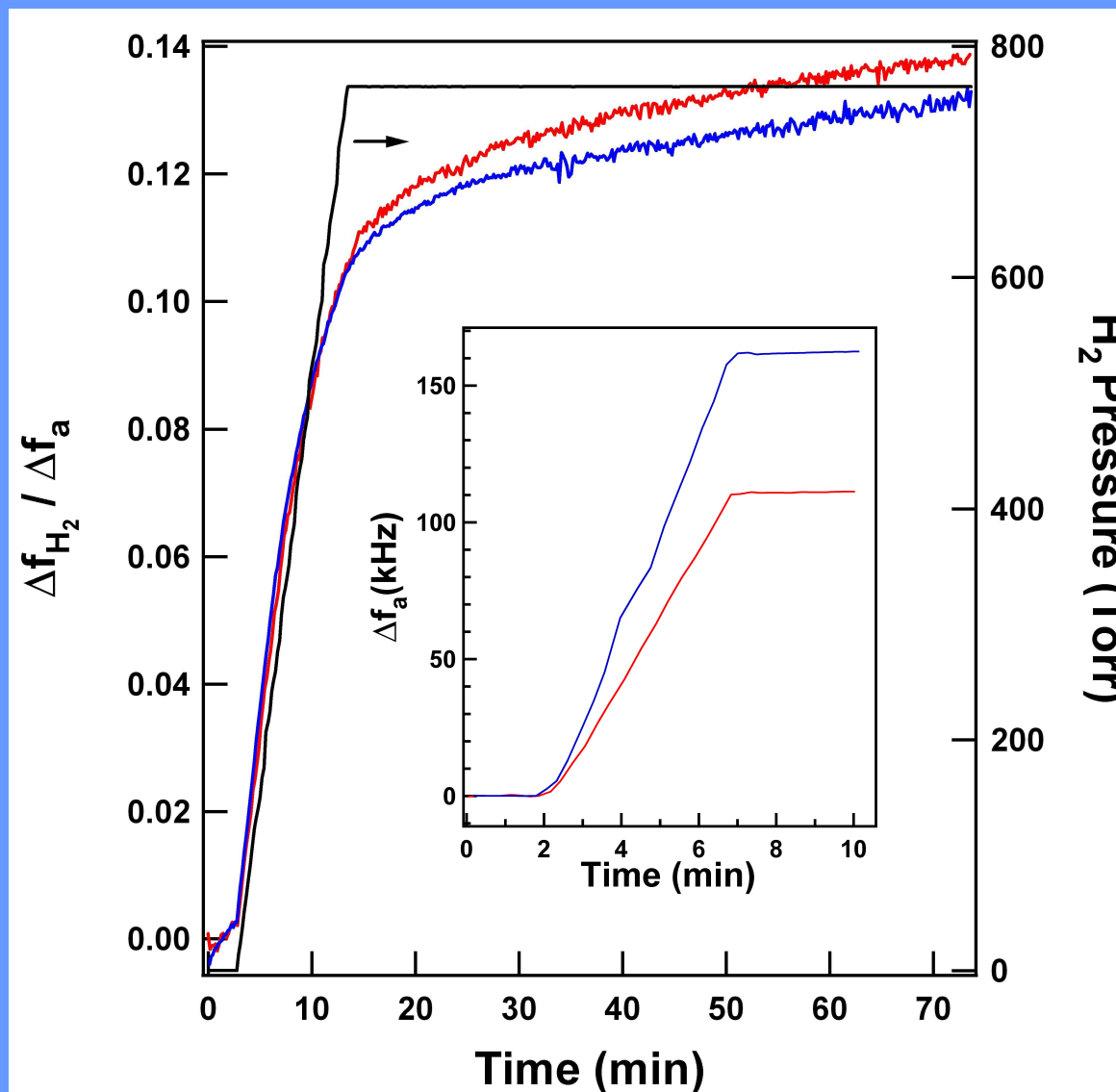


## Adam's experiments

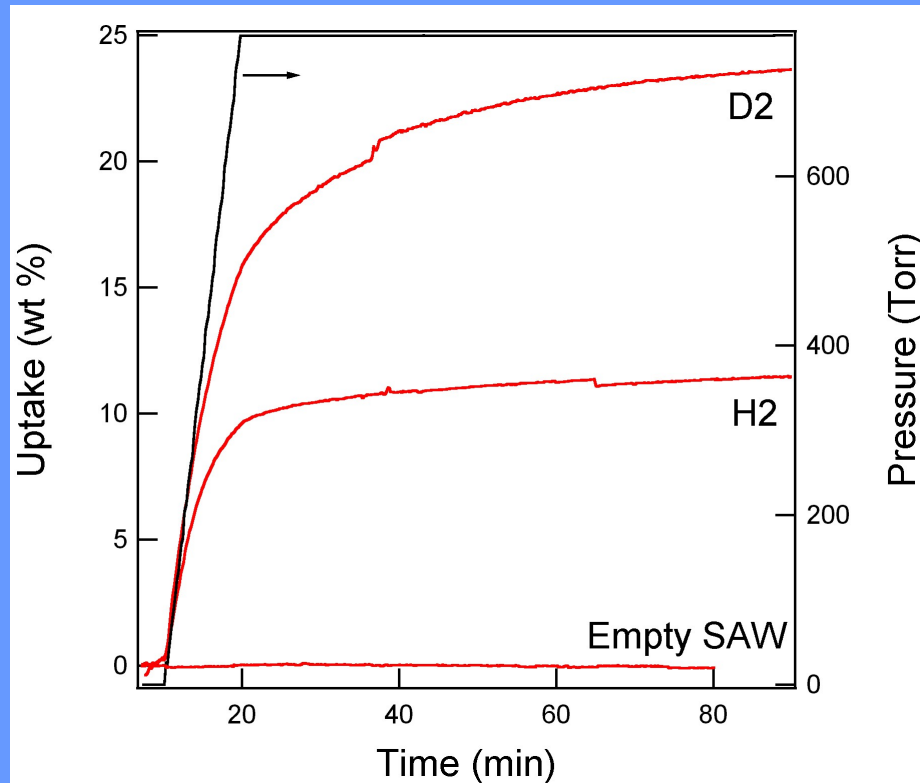
Ti and other TM ablated by laser in a UHV chamber in the presence of ethylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>).



# Acoustic Sensors at Different Frequencies Give The Same Result for H<sub>2</sub> Uptake

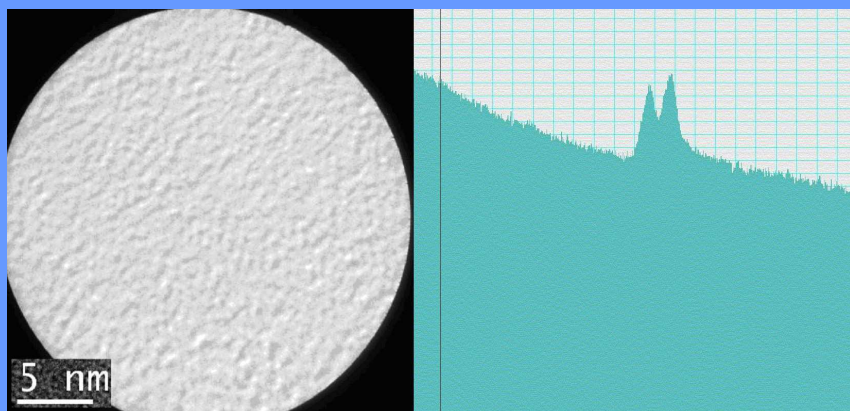


How do we know it really is hydrogen ( $H_2$ ) that is getting in ?

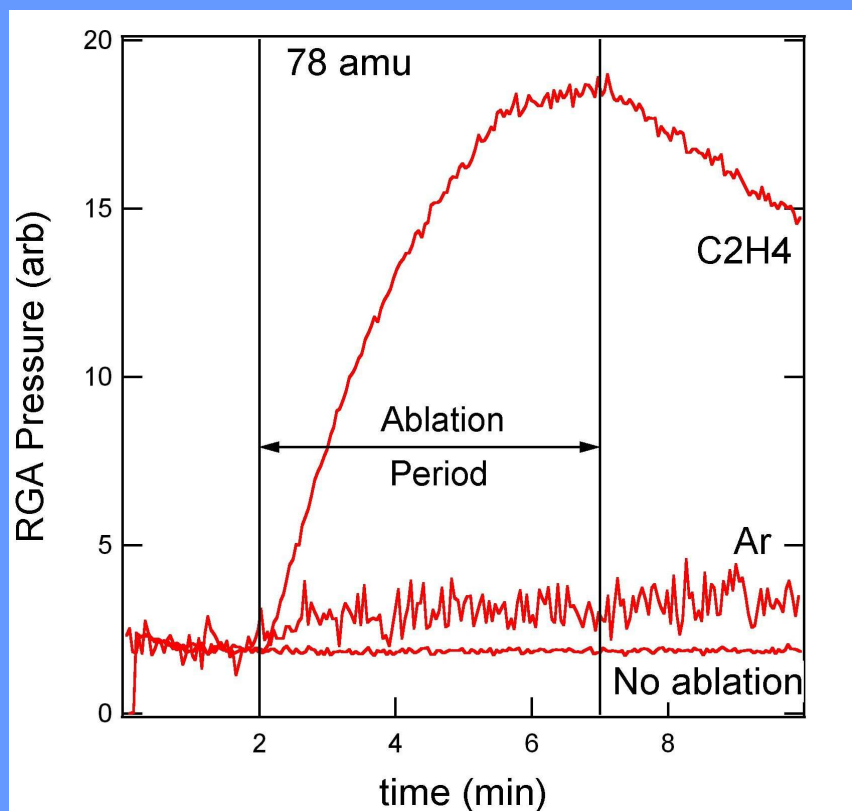


Independent exposure to  $D_2$  indicates doubling of mass accumulated on sensor.

## Other characterization experiments.



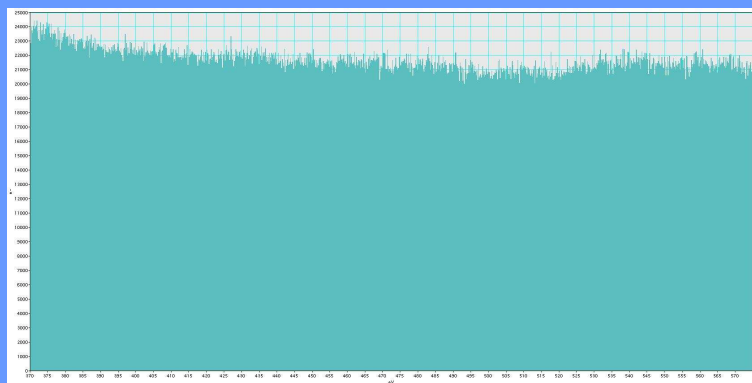
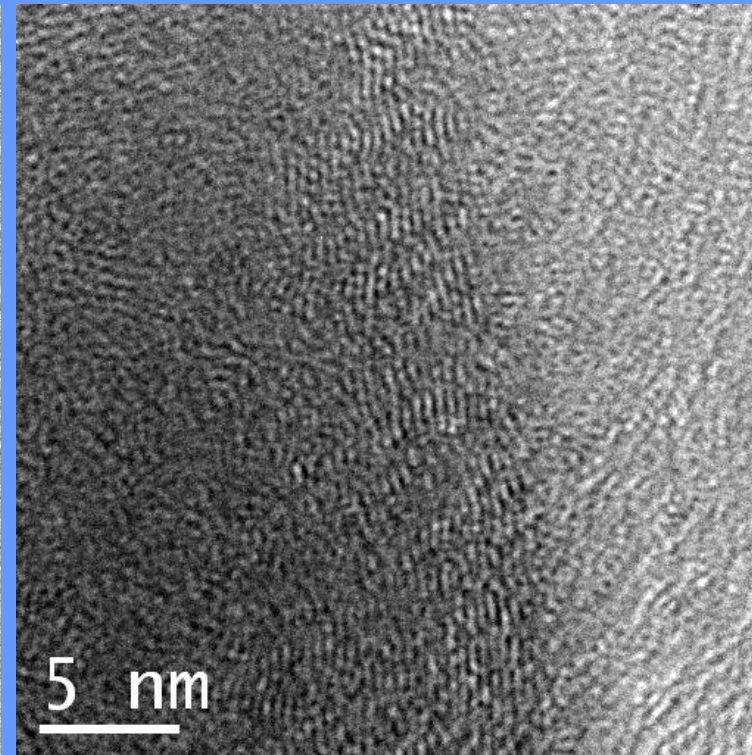
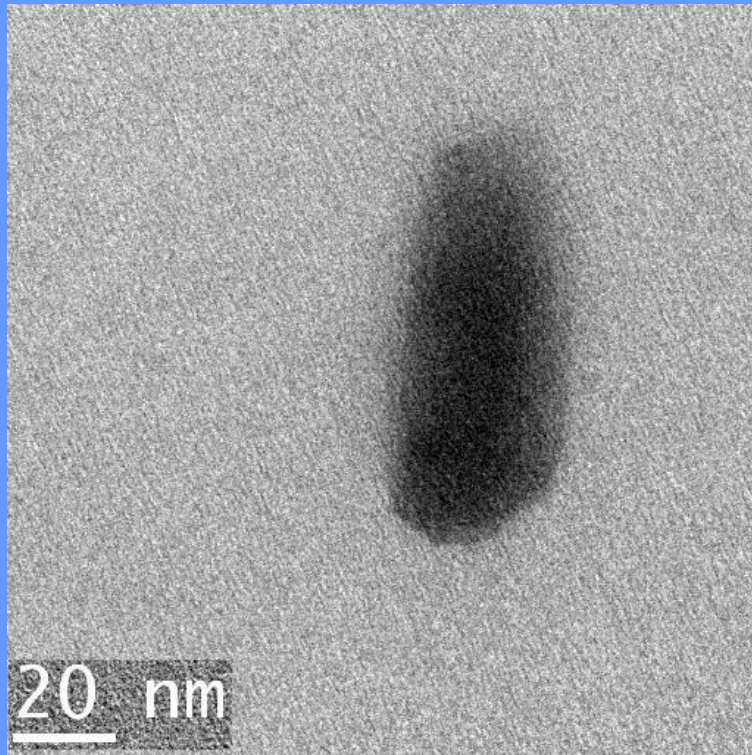
TEM characterization –  $\text{Ti}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)$



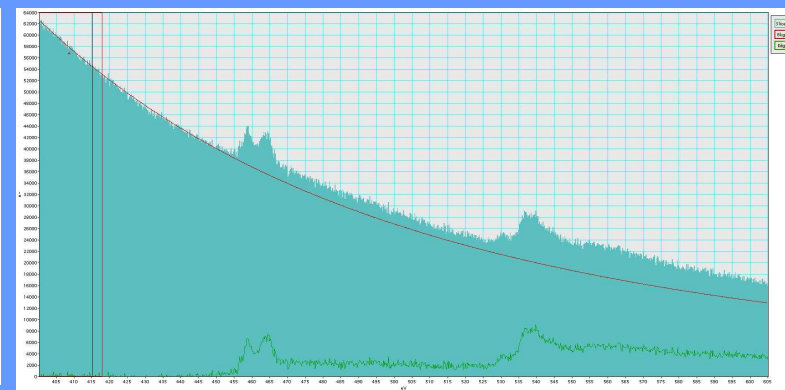
Gas phase characterization

$\text{Ti}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4) \equiv 76 \text{ amu}$

# HRTEM & EELS Spectra – Ti(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) Complex

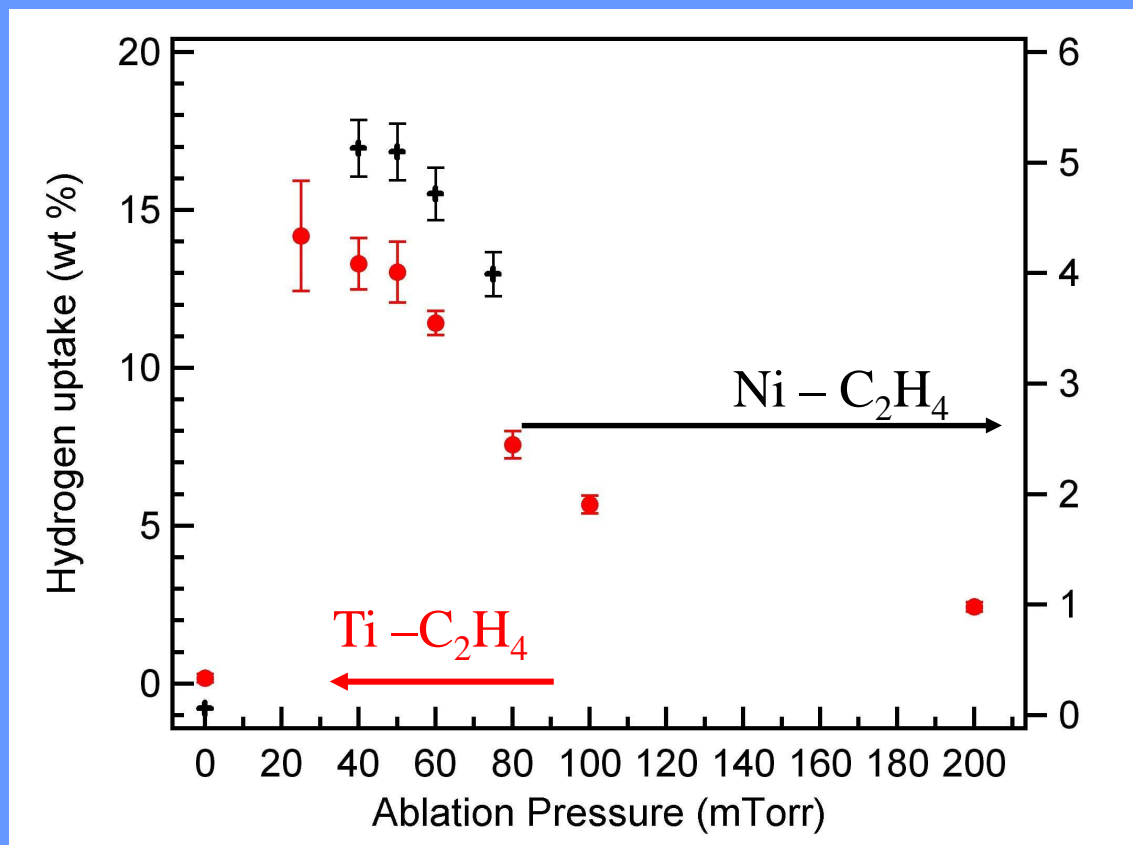


OUTSIDE THE PARTICLE



INSIDE THE PARTICLE

## Pressure Dependence of H<sub>2</sub> Uptake



T.E.M. indicates that nanoparticles (and hence clustering of metal atoms) are formed for ablations at ethylene pressures above 100 mtorr.

Reduced hydrogen uptake is consistent with cluster formation.



| Element    | Nb          | V           | Fe            | Zn | Ti          | Ni          |
|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| Experiment | $2 \pm 0.3$ | $1 \pm 0.3$ | $2.0 \pm 0.3$ | 0  | $5 \pm 0.4$ | $2 \pm 0.3$ |

Experiment

PRL **97**, 226102 (2006)

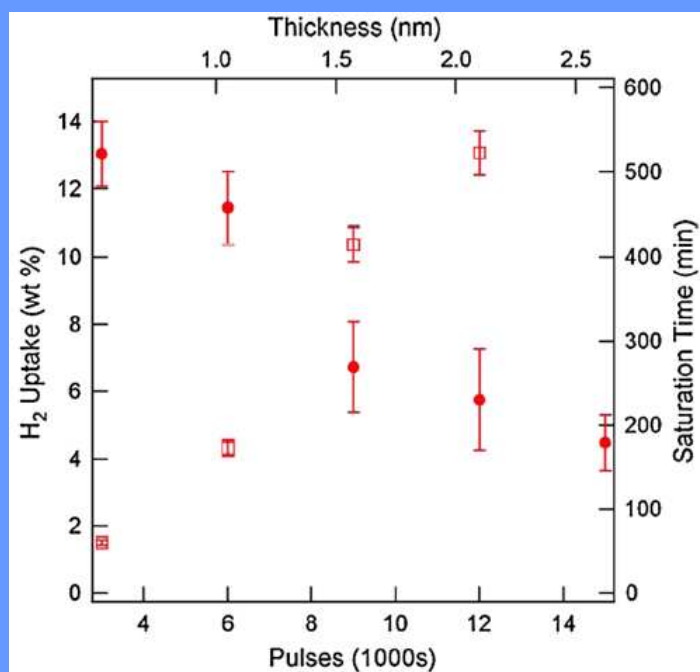
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
1 DECEMBER 2006

TABLE I. The binding energies (in eV) with respect to atomic and bulk energies of various metals ( $M$ ). The last two rows indicate the maximum number of  $H_2$  molecules bonded to each metal and its average binding energy (in eV).

| Property/ $M$        | Sc    | Ti    | V     | Cr    | Mn    | Fe    | Co    | Ni    | Cu    | Zn   | Zr    | Mo    | W     | Pd    | Pt    |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $E_B$ ( $M$ -atomic) | 1.39  | 1.47  | 1.27  | 0.05  | 0.37  | 0.83  | 1.30  | 0.70  | 1.41  | none | 1.69  | 0.37  | 1.18  | 1.56  | 1.78  |
| $E_B$ ( $M$ -bulk)   | -2.72 | -3.66 | -4.13 | -3.57 | -3.20 | -1.74 | -2.53 | -2.19 | -2.25 | -    | -4.44 | -5.84 | -7.18 | -2.24 | -3.56 |
| max $H_2/M$          | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5     | 3     | 2     | 2     | -    | 5     | 5     | 5     | 2     | 2     |
| $E_B$ (per $H_2$ )   | 0.39  | 0.45  | 0.43  | 0.35  | 0.34  | 0.26  | 0.41  | 0.87  | 0.14  | -    | 0.57  | 0.77  | 0.90  | 0.58  | 0.95  |

Th.



The samples we study are very thin  
– roughly a monolayer !



All of the numbers are based on the **assumption** that we are making purely  $\text{Ti}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)$ .

But there is a problem – we measure the majority species in our gas phase experiments as 78 amu not 76 amu !

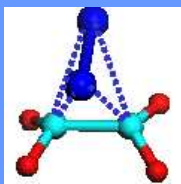
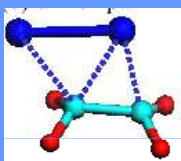
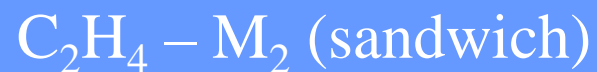
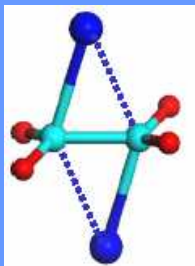
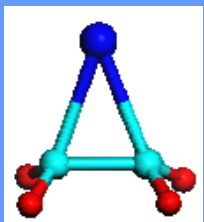
What is it that we are making in our chamber ?

DOES IT MATTER ?!

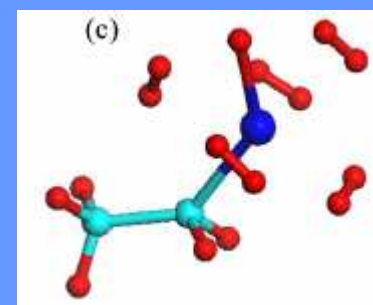
It is better that samples that are not “pure” and that they also exhibit large  $\text{H}_2$  absorption !

Follow Up work from NIST group....

Zhou et. al., PRB, Oct., 2007.



W. Zhou et. al., PRB,  
Oct 2007.

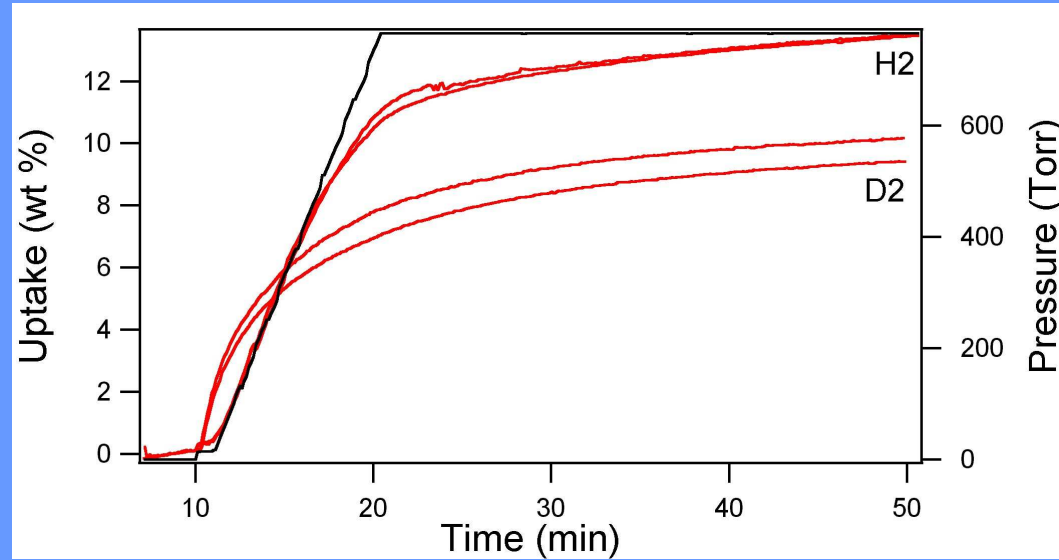


“Titanol”

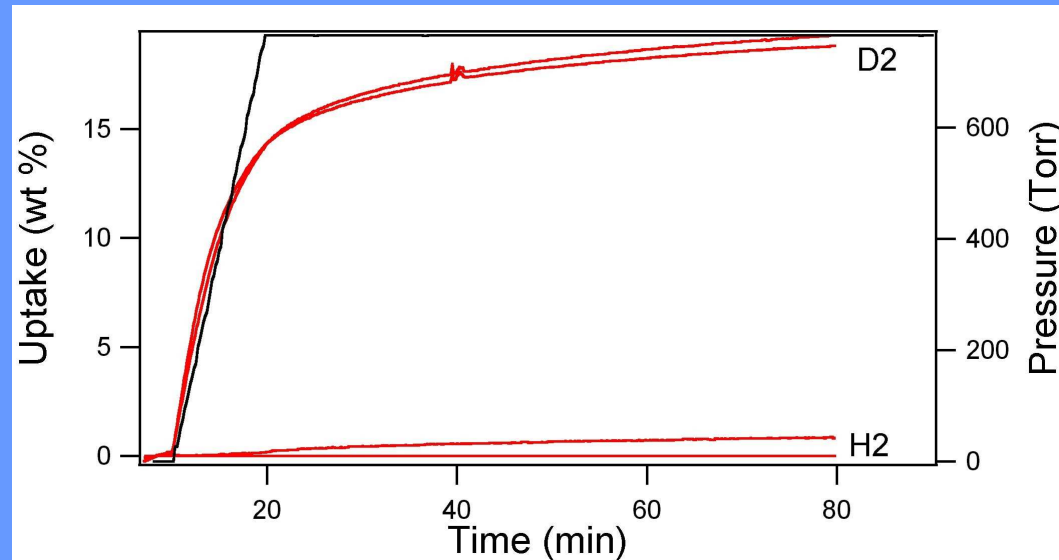
What about desorption ?

Is the  $\text{H}_2$  going to come out?

# D<sub>2</sub> exchange reactions



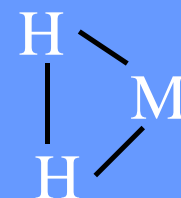
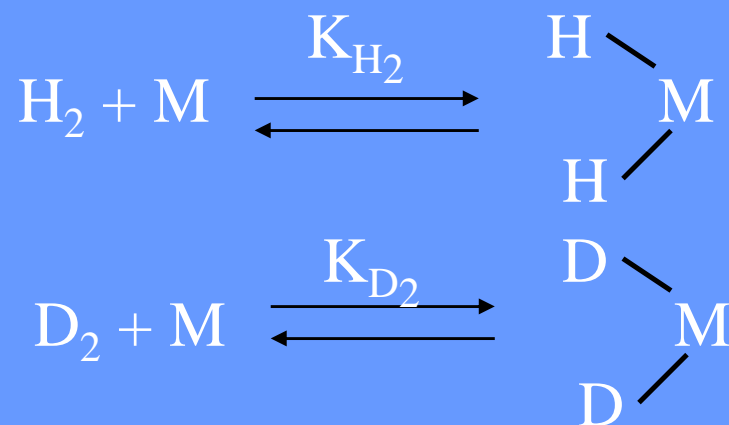
← H<sub>2</sub> then D<sub>2</sub>



← D<sub>2</sub> then H<sub>2</sub>

## Equilibrium Isotope Effect

- Free D-D bond is 1.8 kcal/mol stronger than free H-H bond.



$$\frac{K_{\text{H}_2}}{K_{\text{D}_2}} = \frac{[\text{MD}_2]}{[\text{MH}_2]}$$

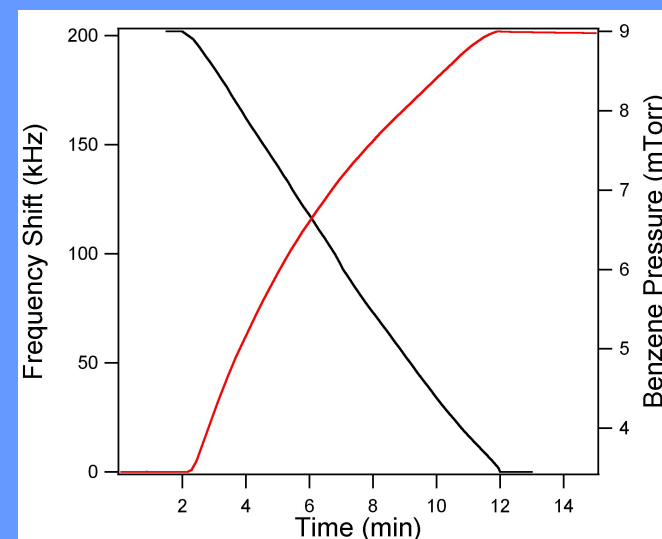
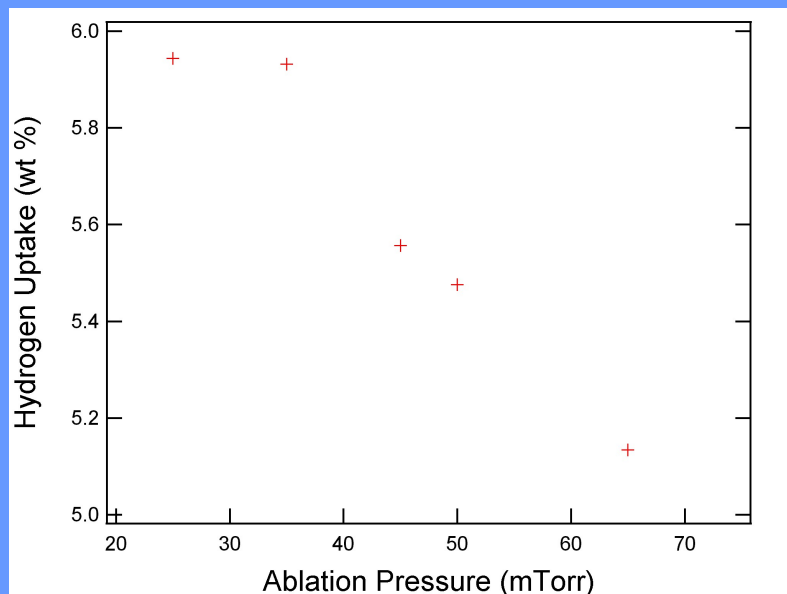
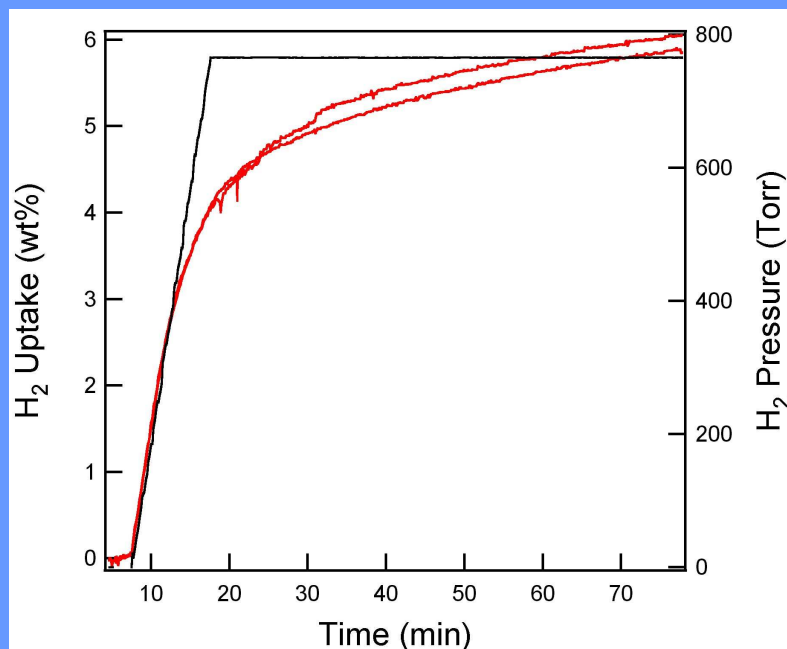
Bender &  
Kubas, 2000

| Metal Complex                                                          | Product<br>M(H) <sub>2</sub> or<br>M(η <sup>2</sup> -H <sub>2</sub> ) | K <sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> /K <sub>D<sub>2</sub></sub><br>= EIE | Temp<br>(°C) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| W(PMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> I <sub>2</sub>                       | W(H) <sub>2</sub>                                                     | 0.63                                                            | 60           |
| W(CO) <sub>3</sub> (PCy <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (N <sub>2</sub> )  | W(η <sup>2</sup> -H <sub>2</sub> )                                    | 0.70                                                            | 22           |
| Cr(CO) <sub>3</sub> (PCy <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (N <sub>2</sub> ) | Cr(η <sup>2</sup> -H <sub>2</sub> )                                   | 0.65                                                            | 22           |

# ORGANICS OTHER THAN ETHYLENE

# Hydrogen Absorption in Transition Metal – Benzene (Ring) Complexes

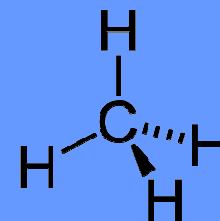
Benzene predicted to absorb ~ 6% by weight of hydrogen (Wecka et. al., J. Phys. Chem., 2008)





## OTHER RESULTS

- Methane runs - small ~1.8% immediate uptake of H<sub>2</sub>
- Furthermore there is a very small increase in pressure when ablating (~0.2 mtorr at 250 mtorr).
- Ti-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> complexes also absorb methane (~27%).
- TM-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> complexes – unstable to O<sub>2</sub>. But exposure to CH<sub>4</sub> appears to prevent oxidation.



# CON-CURRENT IMPORTANT WORK AT UVa

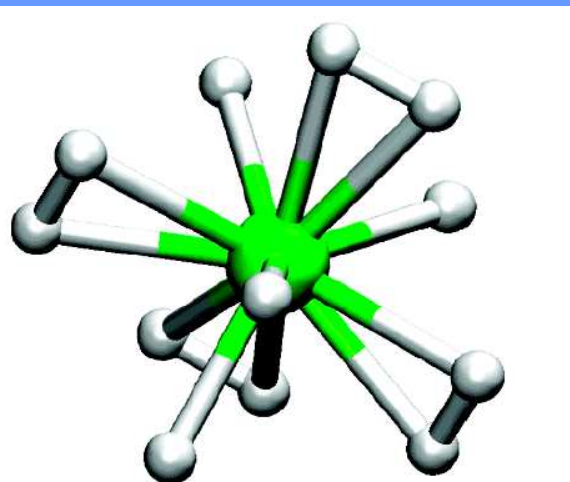
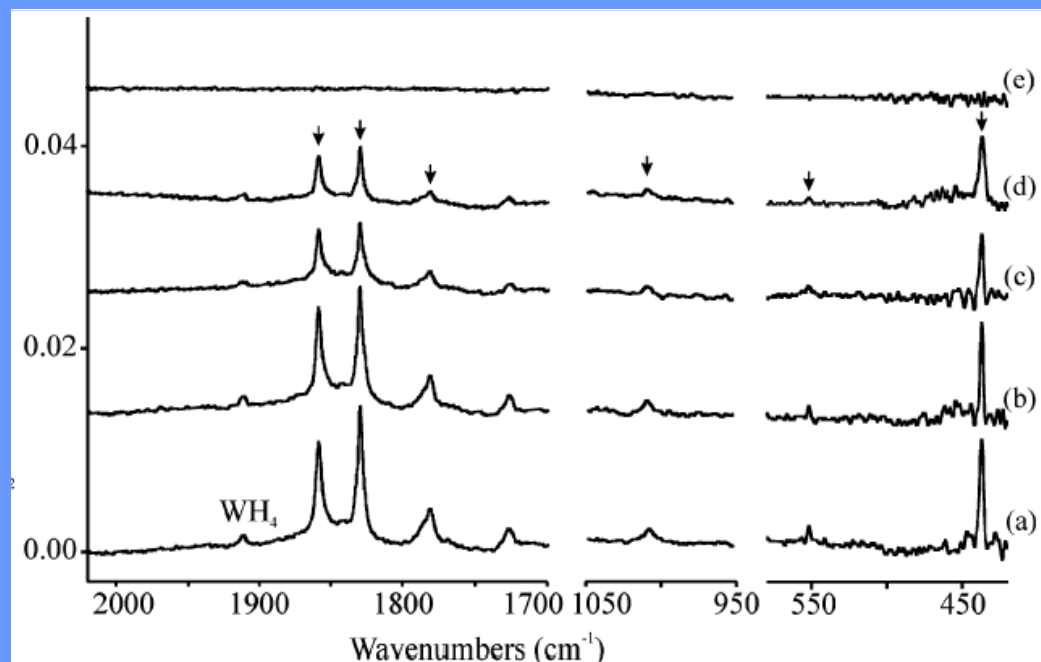


Figure 1. Structure of  $\text{WH}_4(\text{H}_2)_4$  computed at the DFT level of theory.

Prof. Lester Andrews' Laboratory - Chemistry

Xuefeng Wang, Lester Andrews, Ivan Infante, and Laura Gagliardi, **J. AM. CHEM. SOC.** **2008**, 130, 1972-1978.

Wt%  $\sim 8/188$



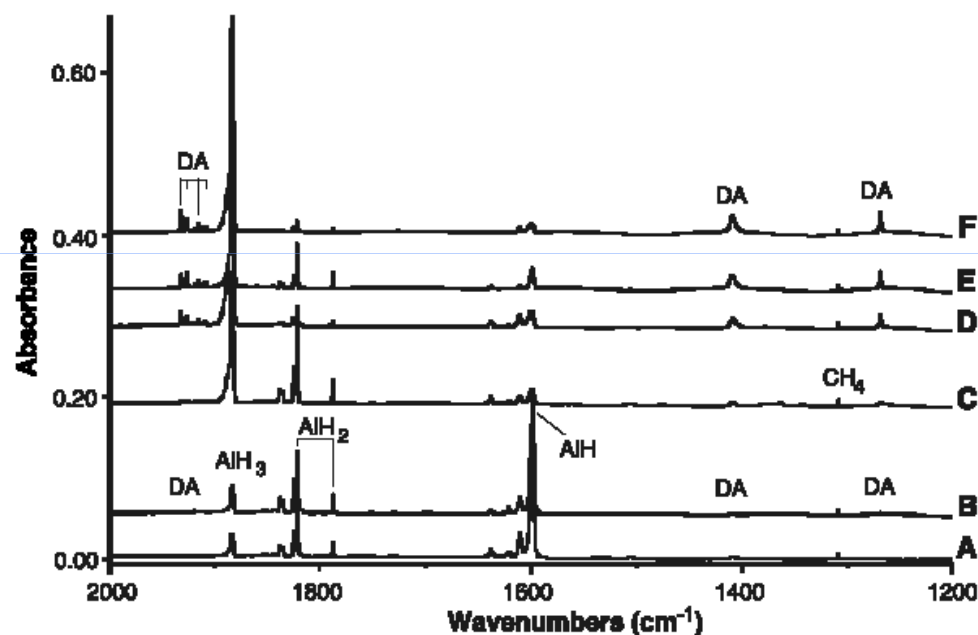
**Table 3.** Frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) Calculated at the DFT/BP86/TZVPP Level of Theory for  $\text{WH}_4(\text{H}_2)_4$  (Singlet State,  $D_{2d}$  Symmetry)

| obs freq <sup>a</sup> | calc freq | int <sup>b</sup> | symm <sup>c</sup> | mode description                         |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 437.2                 | 351       | 0                | b <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 414       | 171              | b <sub>2</sub>    | bending H <sub>2</sub> -W-H <sub>2</sub> |
|                       | 428       | 6 × 2            | e                 | bending H <sub>2</sub> -W-H <sub>2</sub> |
|                       | 499       | 0                | a <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
| 551.5                 | 539       | 0                | a <sub>2</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 565       | 38 × 2           | e                 | bending H-W-H                            |
|                       | 681       | 0                | b <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 748       | 8 × 2            | e                 | bending H-W-H <sub>2</sub>               |
|                       | 775       | 0                | a <sub>2</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 816       | 16 × 2           | e                 | bending H-W-H <sub>2</sub>               |
| 1007.6                | 842       | 0                | b <sub>2</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 871       | 0                | a <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 897       | 0                | b <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 1065      | 172 × 2          | e                 | bending H <sub>2</sub> -W-H <sub>2</sub> |
|                       | 1160      | 3                | b <sub>2</sub>    | bending H <sub>2</sub> -W-H <sub>2</sub> |
|                       | 1284      | 0                | a <sub>1</sub>    |                                          |
|                       | 1741      | 0                | b <sub>1</sub>    | asym stretch W-H <sub>2</sub>            |
| 1782.0                | 1767      | 0                | a <sub>2</sub>    | stretch W-H <sub>2</sub>                 |
|                       | 1790      | 40 × 2           | e                 | asym stretch W-H <sub>2</sub>            |
|                       | 1830.6    | 212              | b <sub>2</sub>    | sym stretch W-H                          |
|                       | 1859.3    | 53 × 2           | e                 | asym stretch W-H                         |
|                       | 1903      | 0                | a <sub>1</sub>    | totally sym stretch W-H                  |
| 2500                  | 2657      | 208 × 2          | e                 | stretch H-H                              |
|                       | 2683      | 11               | b <sub>2</sub>    | stretch H-H                              |
|                       | 2740      | 0                | a <sub>1</sub>    | totally sym stretch H-H                  |

# The Infrared Spectrum of $\text{Al}_2\text{H}_6$ in Solid Hydrogen

Lester Andrews\* and Xuefeng Wang

Science, **299**,  
2049, 2003.

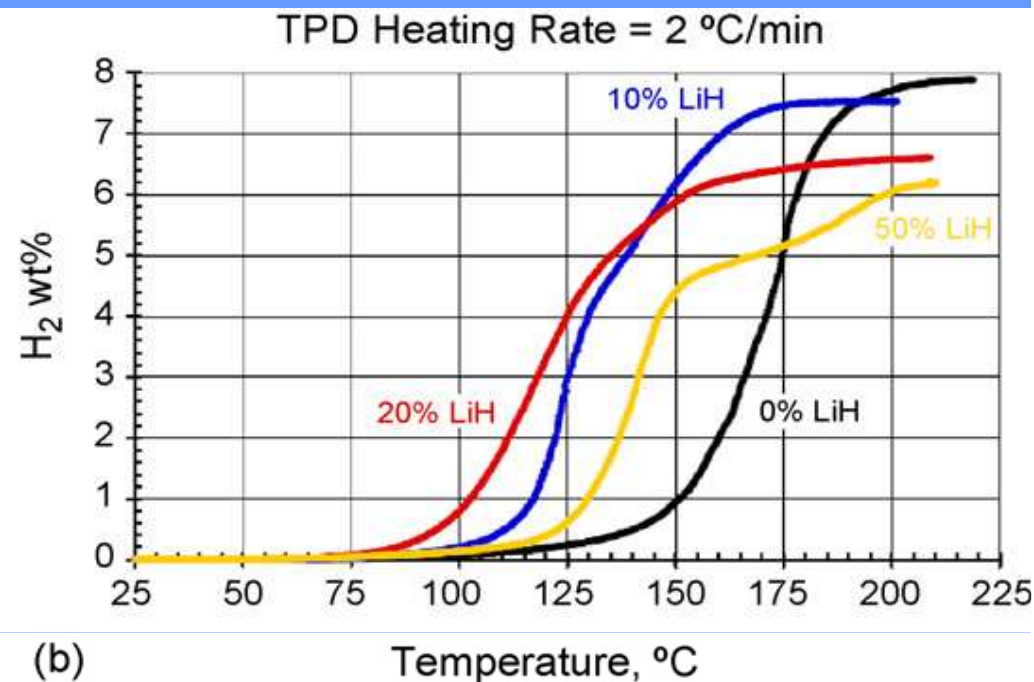
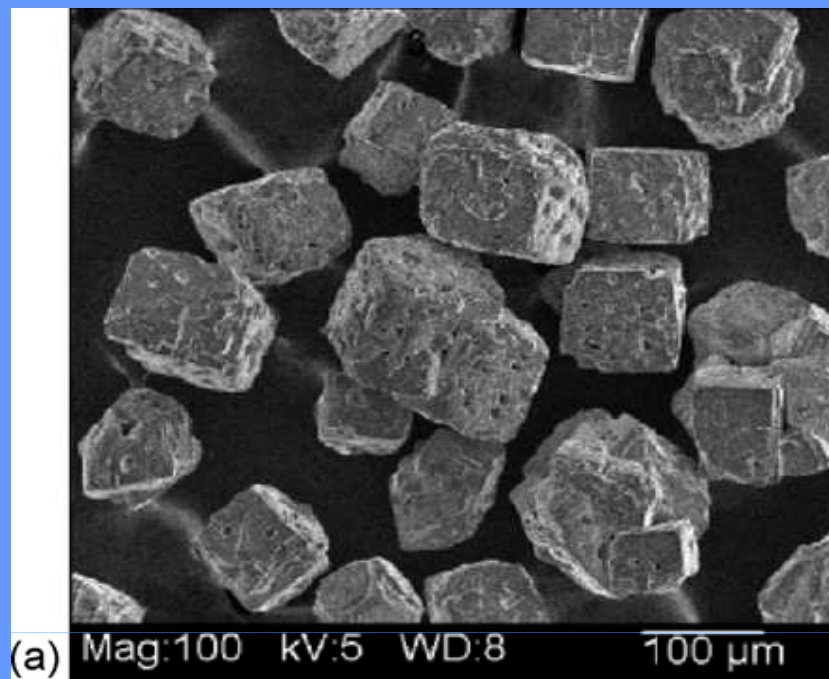


**Fig. 1.** IR spectra in the 2000 to 1200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region for laser-ablated Al atoms codeposited with pure hydrogen at 3.5 K. (A) Spectrum obtained from initial deposited sample. (B) Spectrum after annealing to 6.0 K. (C) Spectrum after irradiation at  $\lambda > 290$  nm. (D) Spectrum after irradiation at  $\lambda > 240$  nm. (E) Spectrum after annealing to 6.5 K. (F) Spectrum after a second irradiation at  $\lambda > 240$  nm.

**Table 1.** IR absorptions (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) observed from codeposition of laser-ablated Al atoms and pure  $\text{H}_2$  or  $\text{D}_2$  at 3.5 K. —, not observed.

| $\text{H}_2$ | $\text{D}_2$ | Identification          |
|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1932.3       | 1414.9       | DA                      |
| 1927.2       | 1413.4       | DA site                 |
| 1915.1       | 1402.9       | DA                      |
| 1909.1       | 1401.0       | DA site                 |
| 1883.7       | 1378.7       | $\text{AlH}_3$          |
| 1838.4       | 1346.1       | $\text{Al}_2\text{H}_4$ |
| 1835.8       | 1343.9       | $\text{Al}_2\text{H}_4$ |
| 1825.5       | 1306.4       | $\text{Al}_2\text{H}_4$ |
| 1821.9       | 1337.2       | $\text{AlH}_2$          |
| 1787.8       | 1293.1       | $\text{AlH}_2^-$        |
| 1638.1       | 1183.2       | $\text{AlH}_4^-$        |
| 1610.7       | 1169.6       | AlH site                |
| 1598.7       | 1163.1       | AlH                     |
| 1408.1       | 1028.5       | DA                      |
| 1268.2       | 919.7        | DA                      |
| 835.6        | 607.5        | DA                      |
| 777.9        | 561.8        | $\text{AlH}_3$          |
| 711.3        | 522.0        | $\text{AlH}_3$          |
| 702.4        | 510.6        | DA                      |
| 631.9        | —            | DA                      |

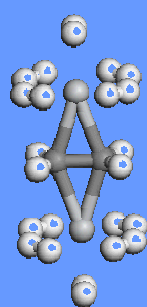
Wt% ~ 6/54~12%



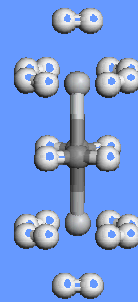
$\text{AlH}_3$  metal hydride particles and (b)  $\text{H}_2$  desorbed vs. temperature for  $\text{AlH}_3$  doped with  $\text{LiH}$ . The doped samples (yellow, blue, and red curves) show significantly lower temperatures of desorption than the undoped samples (black curve).

# $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Ti}_2+10\text{H}_2$ : Distinctive Modes

H-H  
stretching  
modes

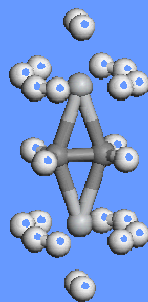


2881  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

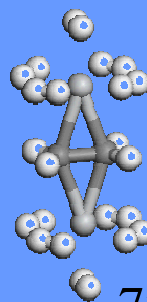


3343  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Ti-H<sub>2</sub>  
stretching  
modes



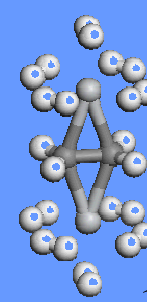
455



726

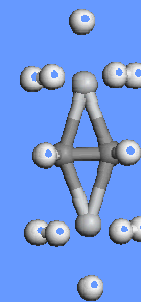
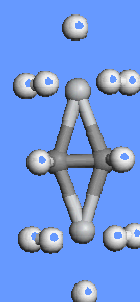
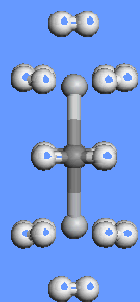


949



1466

Quasi-rigid  
modes

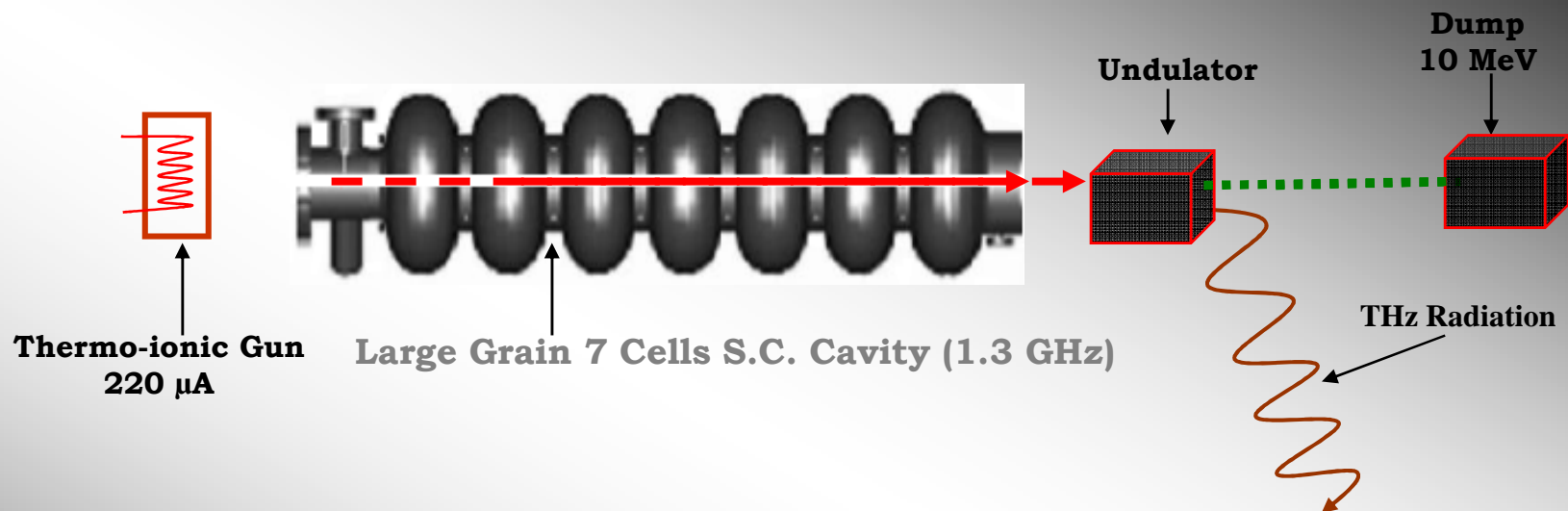


Tang.  $\perp$ C=C: 78  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

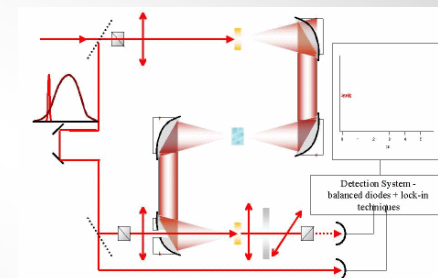
Tang. // C=C: 151  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Radial: 240  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

# Compact-Intense-Wideband Pilot THz Source



Large Grain Niobium Ingot Slice



Typical Application

## FUTURE WORK

- Spectroscopy – urgently needed !
- Test other predicted materials – there are lots of them - replace C with B etc.
- Size selection of ablated species – “magic numbers”
- Lighter elements – Li , B ?
- Compositionally Challenged Metal Alloys
- Desorption
- Recyclability ?
- Large scale production ???

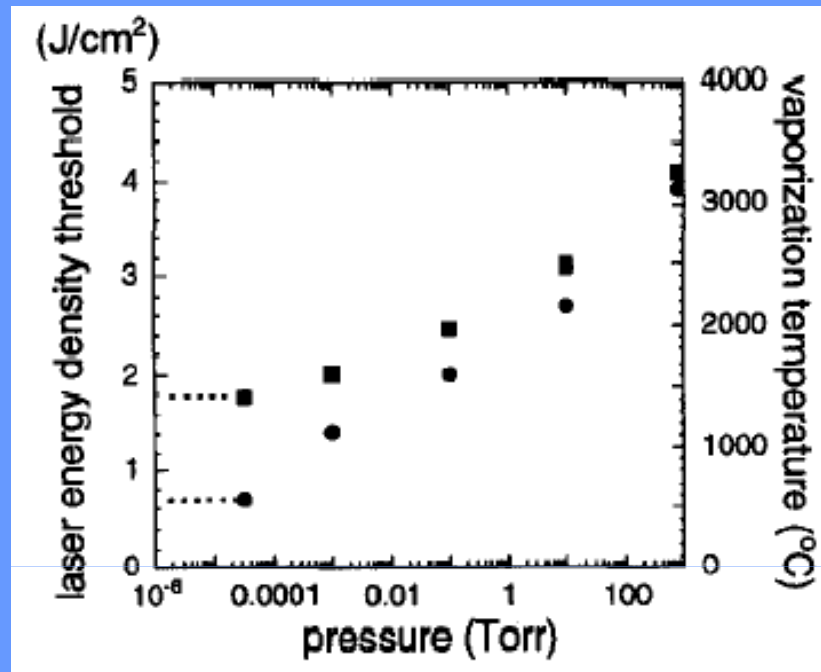


## BROADER IMPACT OF OUR WORK

- Hydrogen Storage - of course !
- Astro-chemistry – “Chemistry of the Universe”.
- Testing DFT – refinements needed to handle  $D_2$  vs  $H_2$  (biggest isotopic effect you can find).
- $H_2$  and  $D_2$  targets for nuclear physics
- Quantum Impurity Solids
- Alternate route towards metallic hydrogen

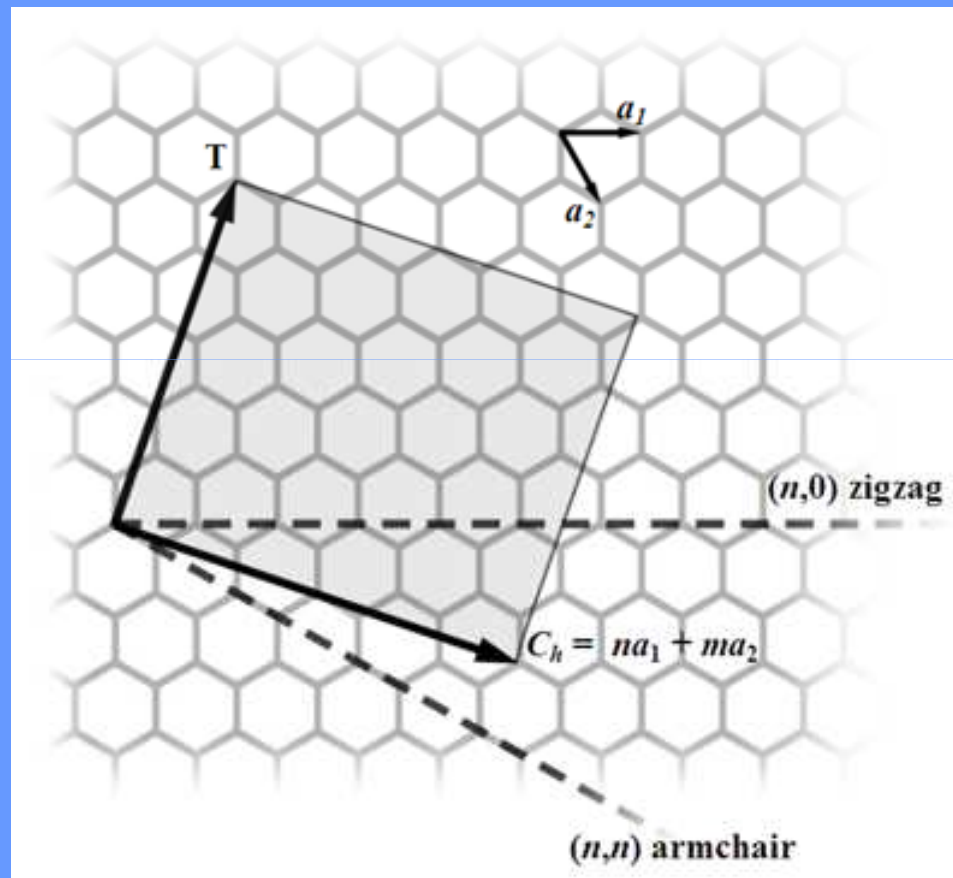
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

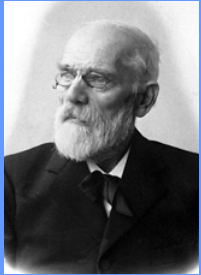
- A. B. Phillips (U. Toledo)
- G. Myneni (JLab)
- Lester Andrews (UVa)
- David Hinks (Argonne)
- Stu Wolf (UVa)
- Taner Yildirim and Wei Zhou (NIST)
- Tom Anuniwat (UVa)
- Anjali Manivannan (CMU)



Laser-energy-density threshold (circle) and vaporization temperature (square) versus pressure for silicon.

# Carbon Nanotube Nomenclature

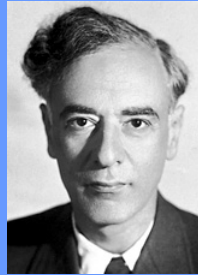




**1910** - "for work on the equation of state for gases and liquids"



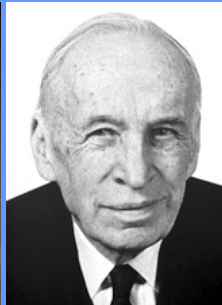
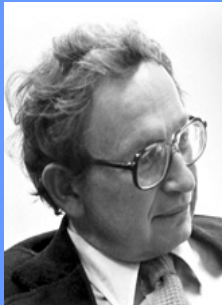
**1918** - "in recognition of the services he rendered to the advancement of Physics by his discovery of energy quanta"



**1962** - **Lev Davidovich Landau** "for his pioneering theories for condensed matter, especially liquid helium"



**2003** - "for pioneering contributions to the theory of superconductors and superfluids"

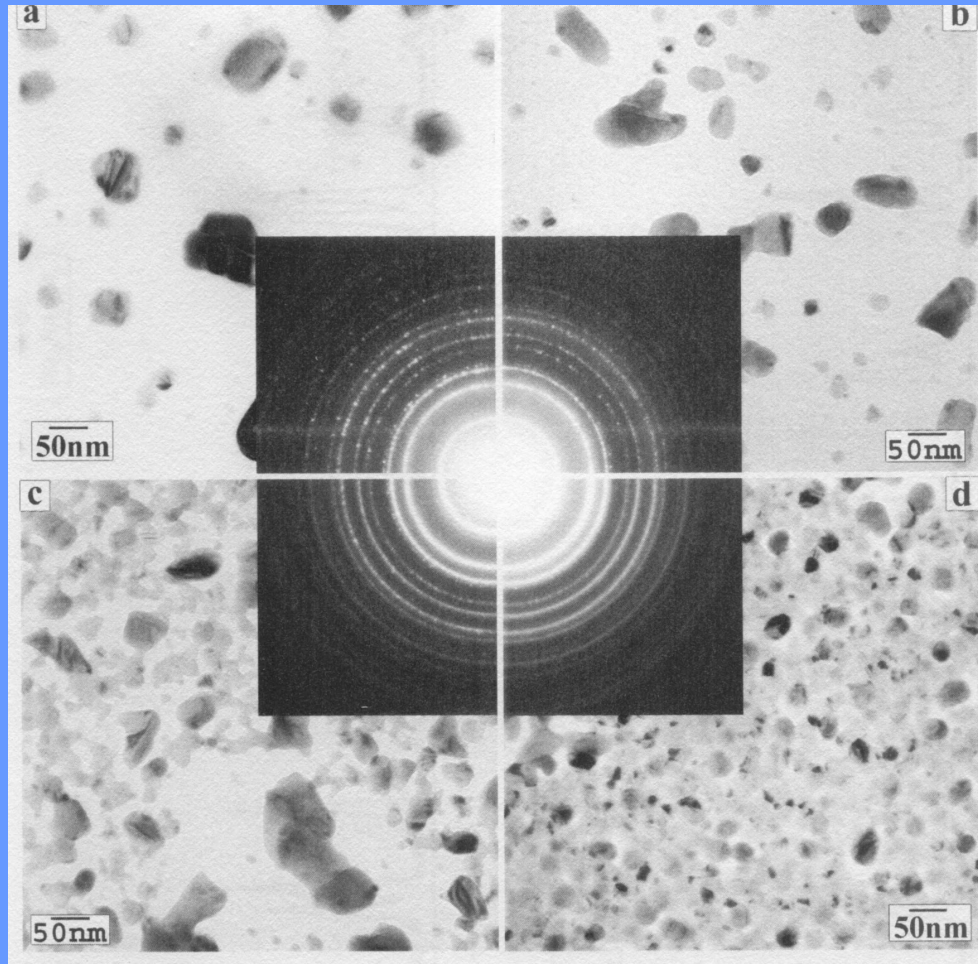


**1977** - "for their fundamental theoretical investigations of the electronic structure of magnetic and disordered systems"



**1972** "for their jointly developed theory of superconductivity, usually called the BCS-theory"

# Exposing nanoparticles to air does not destroy the original crystal structure

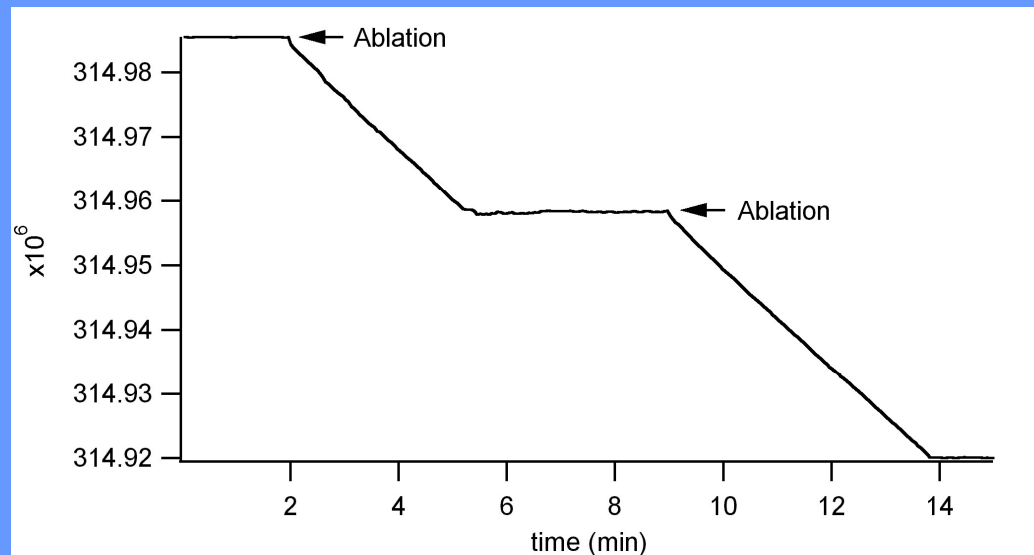
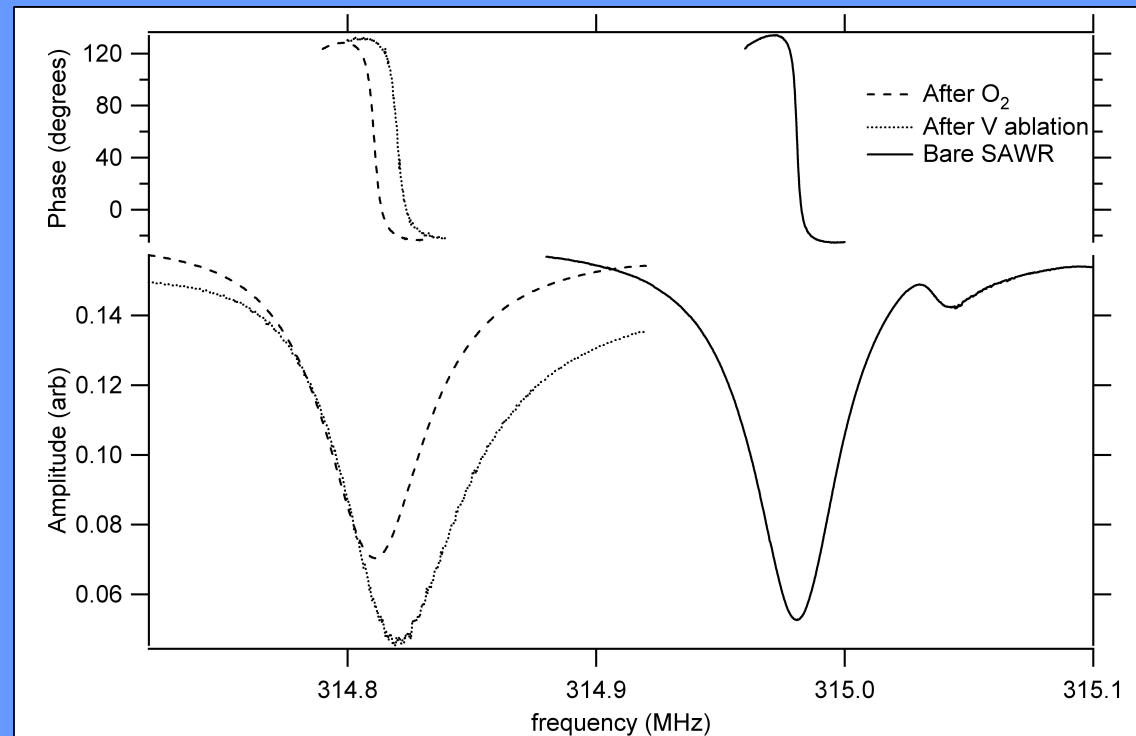


GaAsSb alloy  
nanoparticles, 550  
 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

0.7 J/cm<sup>2</sup> to 1.6  
J/cm<sup>2</sup> and 600 to  
900 pulses.

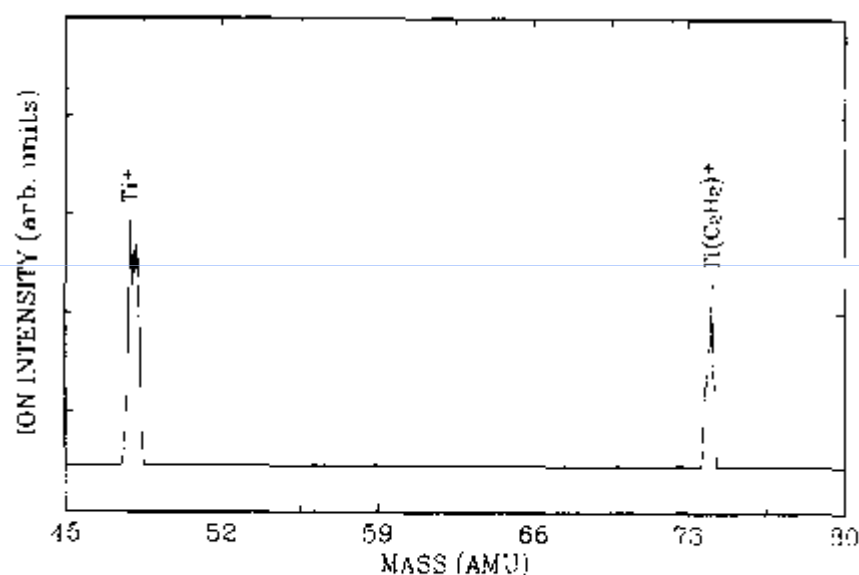


# Frequency Response of the Surface Acoustic Wave Sensor



## Chemistry and Kinetics of Primary Reactions of $\text{Ti}^+$ with $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , $\text{NH}_3$ , $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ , $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ , and $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$ at Thermal Energies

B. C. Guo, K. P. Kerns, and A. W. Castleman, Jr.\*



**Figure 2.** Mass spectrum resulting from the primary reaction of  $\text{Ti}^+$  with the ethylene molecule at an ethylene partial pressure of 0.08 mTorr. The peaks labeled are  $\text{Ti}^+$  and  $\text{Ti}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_2)^+$  from the primary reaction.

