



# **FHI-aims** *Tutorial Series 2021*

## ***Ab initio* thermodynamics: Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical Method**

Yuanyuan Zhou (周院院)

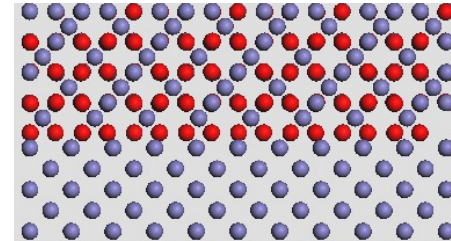
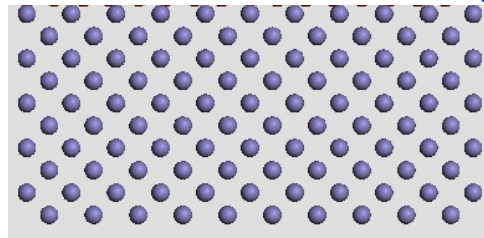
DTU Copenhagen, Denmark

# The problem to be addressed

Macroscopic regime



Atomistic level



*Ab initio* thermodynamics:

- *Ab initio* atomistic thermodynamics (aiAT)
- Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical method (REGC)
- Computational hydrogen electrode (CHE)

# Thermodynamics

**Thermodynamics** studies macroscopic systems  
i.e. composed of a large number of particles

## Thermodynamic equilibrium



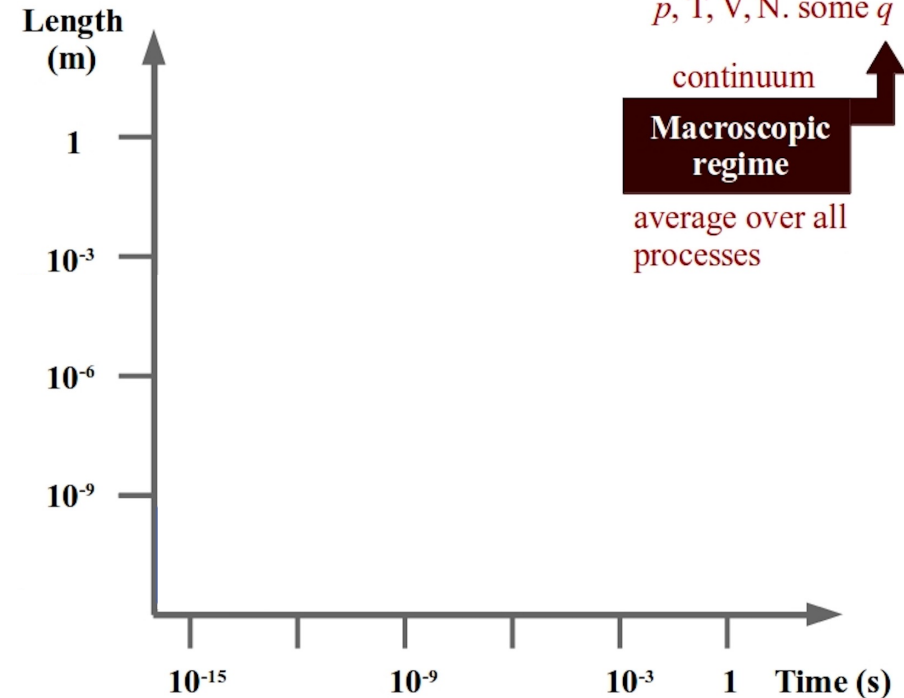
## Thermodynamic potentials

$$\text{Internal energy } U = \int \left( TdS - pdV + \sum_i \mu_i dN_i \right)$$

$$\text{Enthalpy } H = U + pV$$

$$\text{Helmholtz free energy } F = U - TS$$

$$\text{Gibbs free energy } G = U + pV - TS$$



# Bridge between microscopic and macroscopic

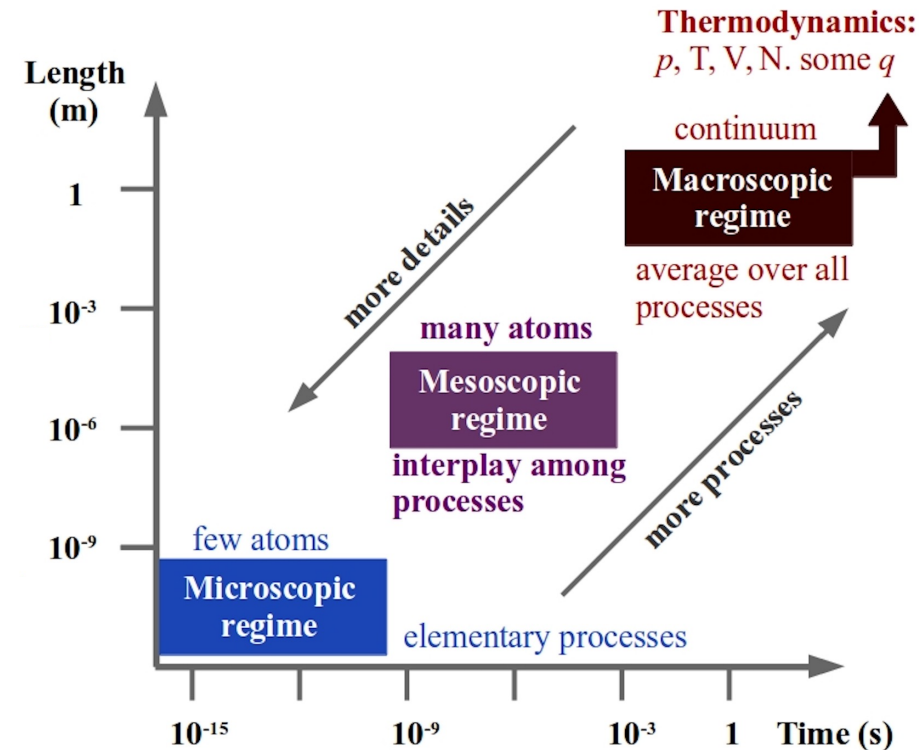
$$S = k_B \ln \Omega$$

$\Omega$  : Number of microstates  
in a given macrostate

This is only a **postulate** but it works:

1> in equilibrium  $\Omega \rightarrow \max$ ,  $S \rightarrow \max$

2>  $\Omega$  is multiplicative,  $S$  is additive



# Bridge between microscopic and macroscopic

$$S = k_B \ln \Omega$$

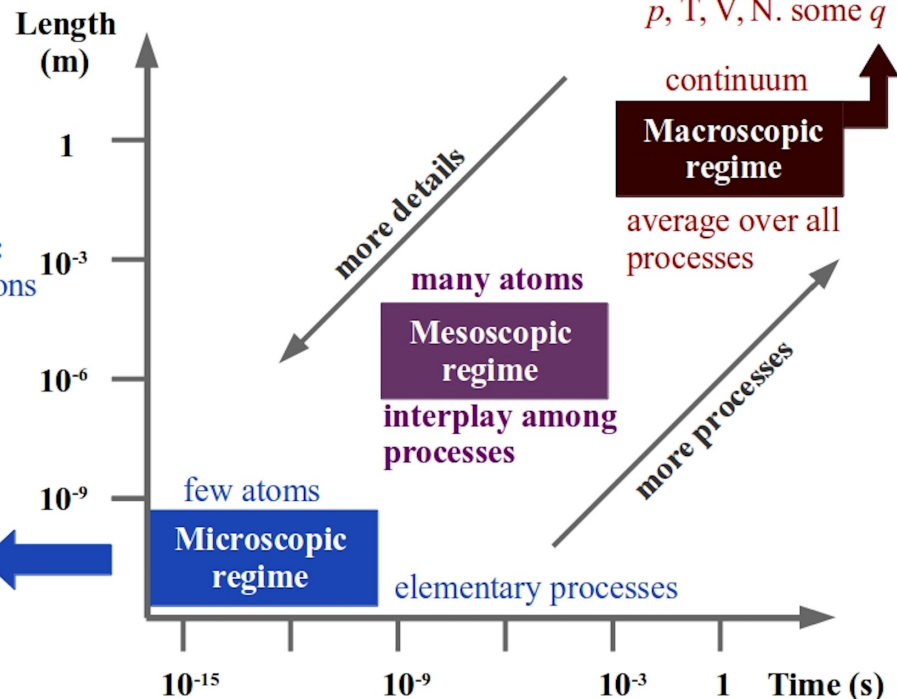
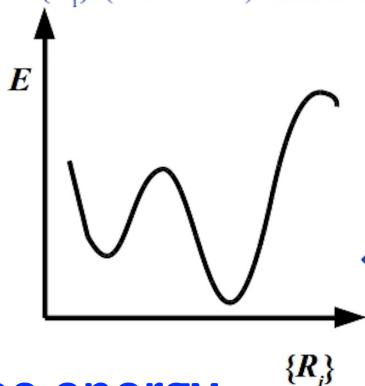
$$F = -k_B T \ln Z = -\beta \ln Z$$

Classical statistics for nuclei

$$Z = \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int dR e^{-\beta U(R)}$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2\pi m k_B T}}$$

Potential Energy Surface:  
 $E\{\mathbf{R}_i\}$  ( $3N \rightarrow 1$ ) dimensions



Probabilistic interpretation of free energy

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) &= \rho(E) dE = \frac{dE}{Z} \Omega(E) e^{-\beta E} = \frac{dE}{Z} e^{-\beta E + \ln \Omega} \\ &= \frac{dE}{Z} e^{-\beta(E - TS)} = \frac{dE}{Z} e^{-\beta F(E)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{P(E1)}{P(E2)} = e^{-\beta [F(E1) - F(E2)]}$$

$$Z = \frac{1}{N!} z^N \quad z = z^{\text{trans}} z^{\text{rot}} z^{\text{vib}} z^{\text{el}} z^{\text{conf}} z^{\text{nucl}}$$

**Translational:**

$$z^{\text{trans}} = \left( \frac{2\pi m k_B T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} V \quad \text{Particle mass}$$

**Rotational:**

$$z^{\text{rot}} = 8\pi^2 \left( \frac{2\pi k_B T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (I_A I_B I_C)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{Non-linear molecules}$$

**Rotational inertia of a rigid molecule**

$$z^{\text{rot}} = \frac{8\pi^2 I_A k_B T}{h^2} \quad \text{linear molecules}$$

**Vibrational:**

$$z^{\text{vib}} = \prod \left[ e^{-\frac{h\nu_i}{2k_B T}} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{h\nu_i}{2k_B T}} \right)^{-1} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Vibrational frequencies} \\ \text{Harmonic oscillator} \end{array}$$

**Electronic:**

$$z^{\text{el}} = \sum (2s_i + 1) e^{-\frac{E_i}{k_B T}} \approx (2s_0 + 1) e^{-\frac{E_0}{k_B T}}$$

**Conformational:**

$$z^{\text{conf}} = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

Symmetry number

**Polyatomic molecules**

$$\sigma = N$$

Symmetry operations

**Diatomic molecules**

$\sigma = 1$  heteroatomic

$\sigma = 2$  homoatomic

**Nuclei:**

In most practical cases, we can neglect the interaction between nuclear spins

$$\mu(T, p) = \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial N} \right)_{T, p} = \frac{\partial}{\partial N} \left( -k_B T \ln Z + pV \right)_{T, p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(T, p) = & -k_B T \ln \left[ \left( \frac{2\pi m}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (k_B T)^{\frac{5}{2}} \right] + k_B T \ln p \\ & - k_B T \ln \left( \frac{8\pi^2 I_A k_B T}{\sigma h^2} \right) - k_B T \ln (2s_0 + 1) \\ & + E^{\text{DFT}} + \frac{h\nu}{2} + k_B T \ln \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

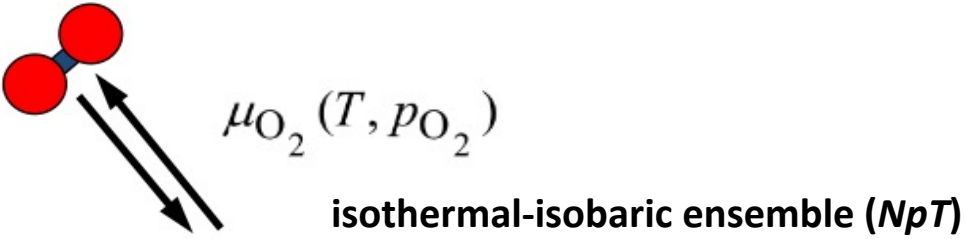
## Relation between $T$ , $p$ and $\mu$

$$pV = Nk_B T$$

$$\mu(T, p) = \begin{aligned} & -k_B T \ln \left[ \left( \frac{2\pi m}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (k_B T)^{\frac{5}{2}} \right] + k_B T \ln p \\ & - k_B T \ln \left( \frac{8\pi^2 I_A k_B T}{\sigma h^2} \right) - k_{k_B} T \ln(2s_0 + 1) \\ & + E^{\text{DFT}} + \frac{h\nu}{2} + k_B T \ln \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} \right) \end{aligned} \quad \Delta\mu(T, p)$$



# Ab initio atomistic thermodynamics (aiAT)

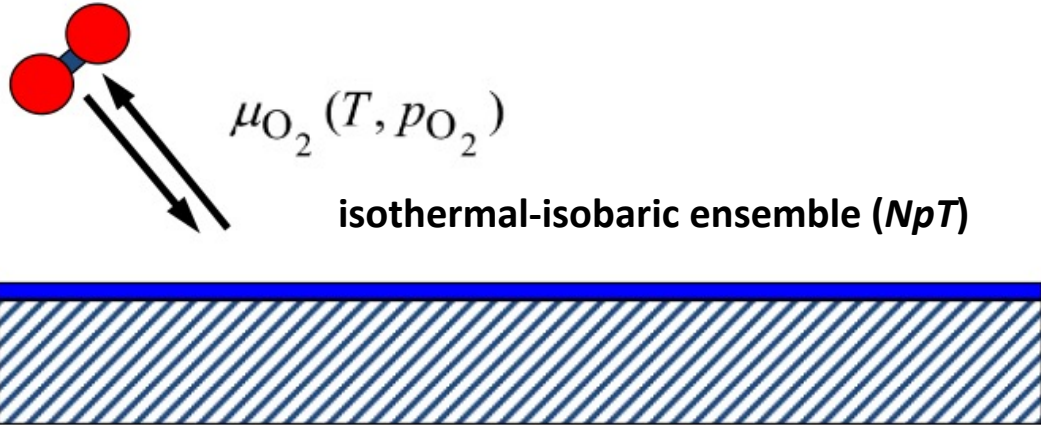


## The Gibbs free energy of adsorption

$$\Delta G^{ad}(T, p_{O_2}) = G^{surf} - G^{clean} - N\mu_{O_2}(T, p_{O_2})$$

[1] Statistical Mechanics, D. A. McQuarrie, (2000)  
[2] Weinert and Scheffler, Mater. Sci. Forum 25 (1986)  
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## The Gibbs free energy of adsorption

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From partition function  $Q$

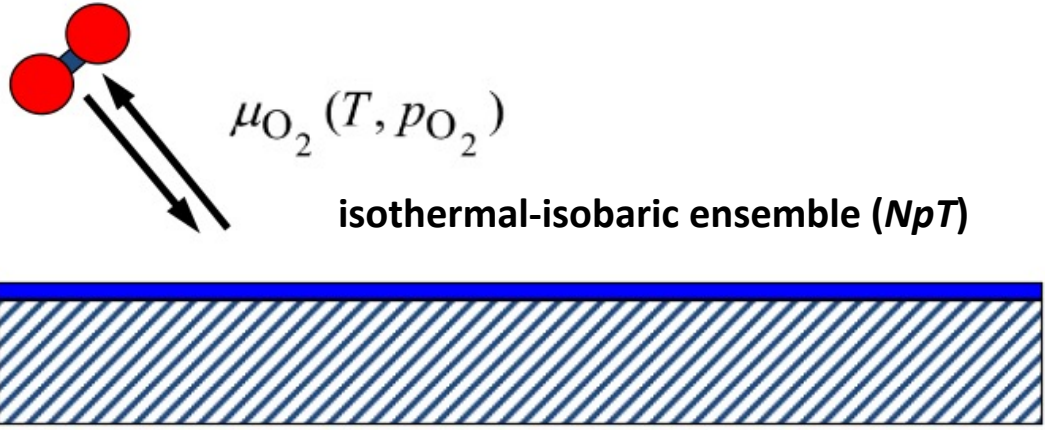
Gibbs free energy  $G(T, p) = -k_B T \ln Q + pV$

For ideal gas

$$Q = \frac{1}{N!} q^N \quad q = q^{\text{trans}} q^{\text{rot}} q^{\text{vib}} q^{\text{el}} q^{\text{conf}} q^{\text{nuc}}$$

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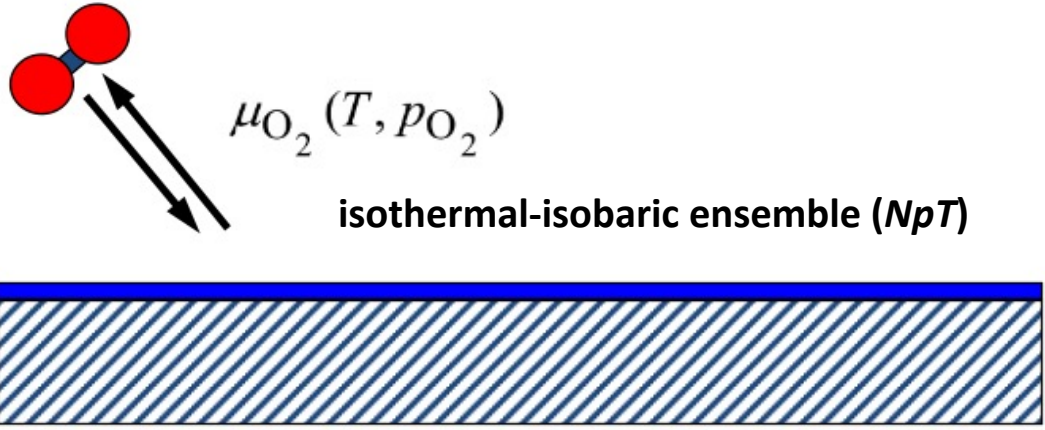
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$$G(T, p) = E^{\text{total}} + F^{\text{trans}} + F^{\text{rot}} + F^{\text{vib}} + F^{\text{conf}} + pV$$

- $E^{\text{total}}$  → DFT
- $F^{\text{trans}}$  } discarded for solids
- $F^{\text{rot}}$  }
- $F^{\text{vib}}$  → canceled out or treated at harmonic approximation
- $F^{\text{conf}}$  → neglected
- $pV$  → neglected

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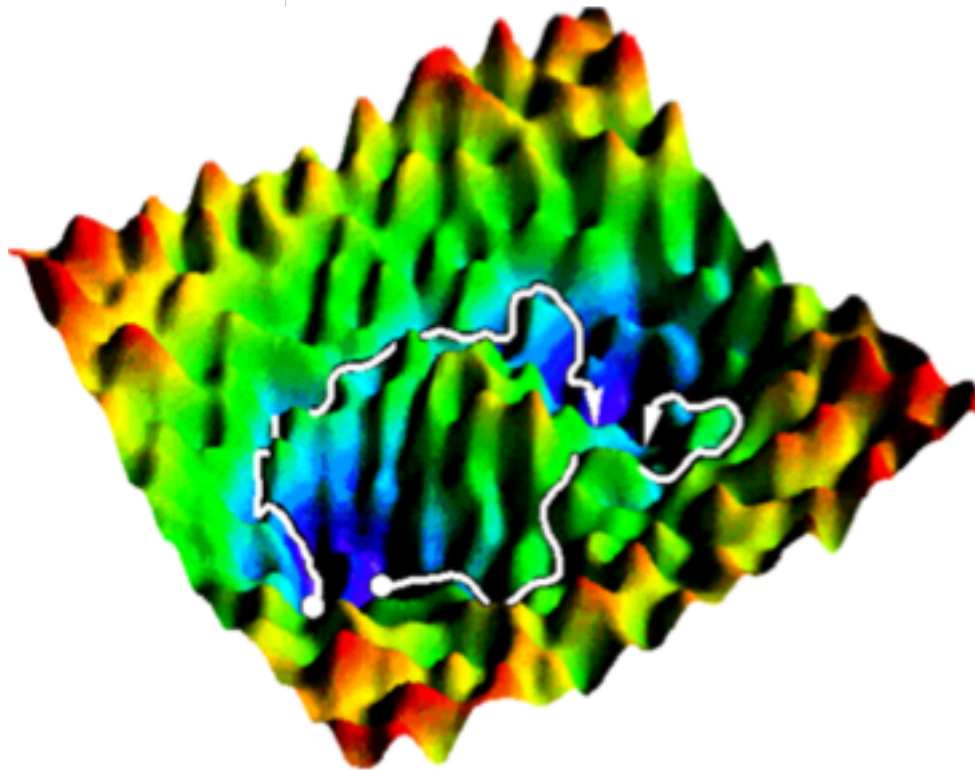
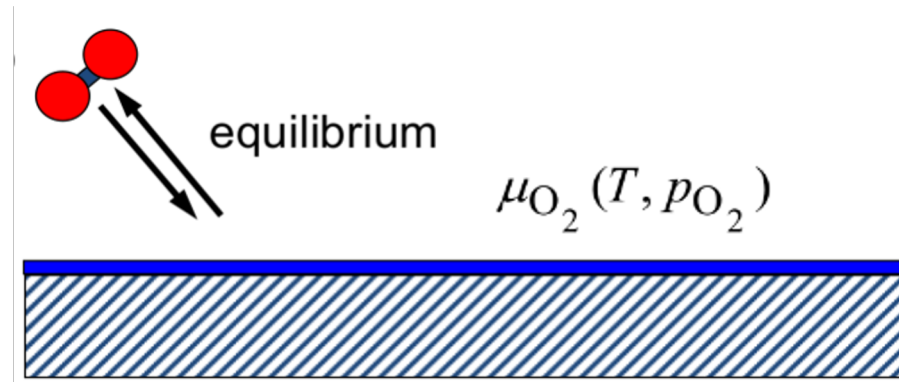
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## An unbiased sampling of the configurational and compositional space

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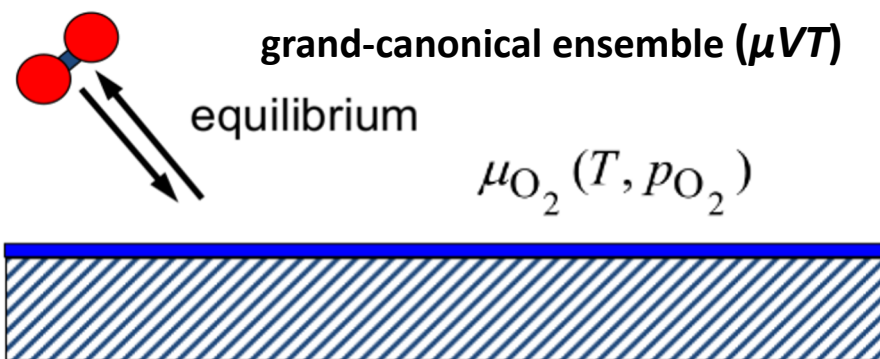
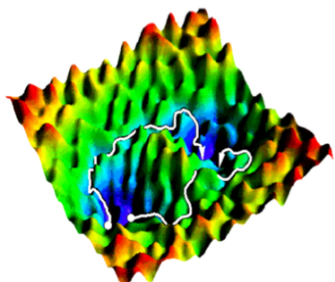
# An effective sampling in phase space



- Numerous minima
- Large free-energy barriers
- Slow-diffusion issues

# An effective sampling in phase space: Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical

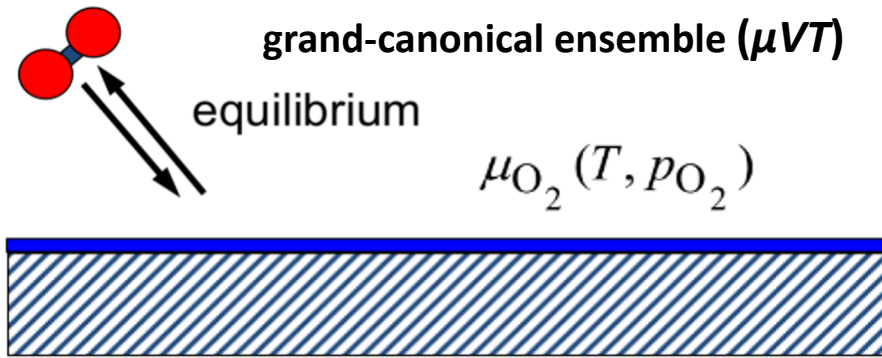
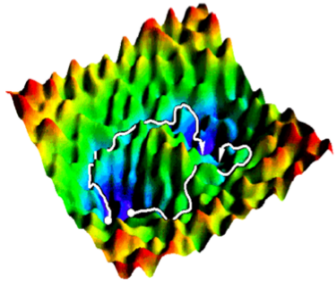
- **Slow-diffusion issues**



- ✓ **Statistical average over adsorption/desorption processes**
- ✓ **Generation of possible defects by atoms' insertion or removal**
- ✓ **Circumventing dissociation barrier**
- ✓ **Straightforward extension to multi-component systems**

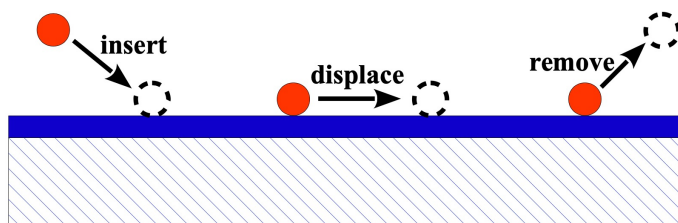
# An effective sampling in phase space: Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical

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## Realization of the Markov chain



Probability density  $\mathcal{N}_{\mu, V, T}(\mathbf{R}; N) \propto \frac{e^{(\beta\mu N)} V^N}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} e^{-\beta E(\mathbf{R}; N)}$

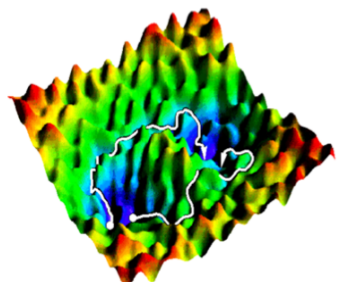
$$P_{(N \rightarrow N+1)} = \min \left[ 1, \frac{V}{\Lambda^3 (N+1)} e^{-\beta[\mu - E_{N+1} - E_N]} \right]$$

$$P_{(N \rightarrow N-1)} = \min \left[ 1, \frac{\Lambda^3 N}{V} e^{-\beta[\mu + E_{N-1} - E_N]} \right]$$

$$P_{(\mathbf{r} \rightarrow \mathbf{r} + \Delta \mathbf{r})} = \min \left[ 1, e^{-\beta[E(\mathbf{r} + \Delta \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}^{N-1}) - E(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}^{N-1})]} \right]$$

# An effective sampling in phase space: Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical

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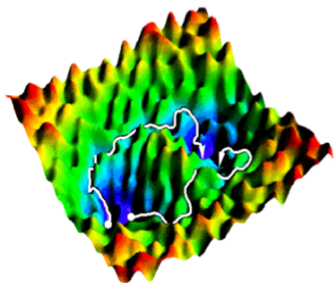
- ✓ Adding bias to Hamiltonian:
  - metadynamics
  - umbrella sampling
  - accelerated molecular dynamics} appropriate collective variables  
convergence criterion
  
- ✓ A generalized ensemble:
  - simulated tempering
  - multicanonical sampling
  - parallel tempering (replica exchange) → Known weight factor} Not priori known probability  
weight factor



# An effective sampling in phase space: Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical

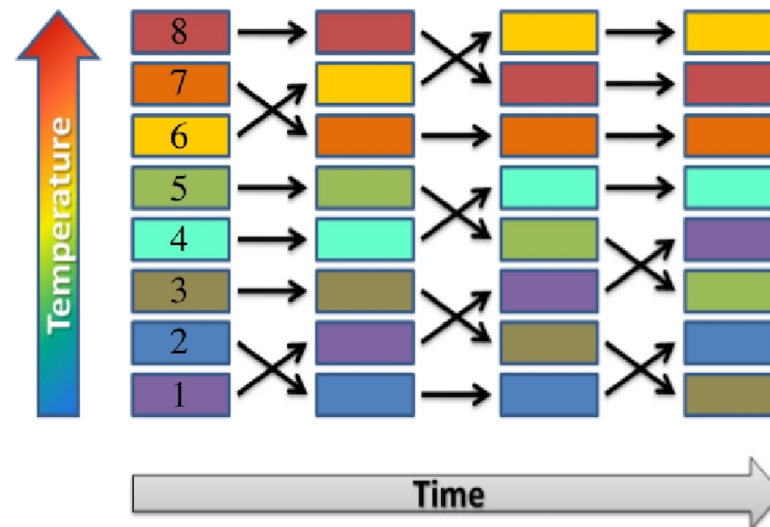
- Numerous minima
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parallel tempering (replica exchange) → Known weight factor



Low T: thoroughly sampling in the local minimas

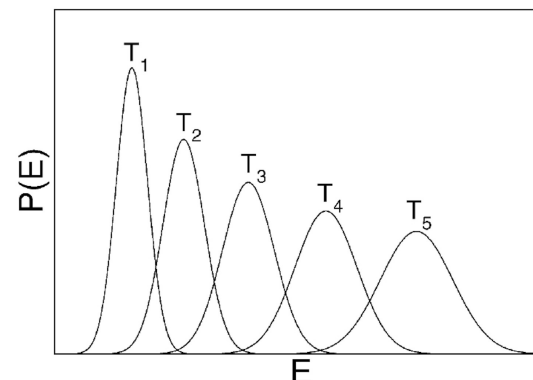
High T: jumping between minimas (basins)



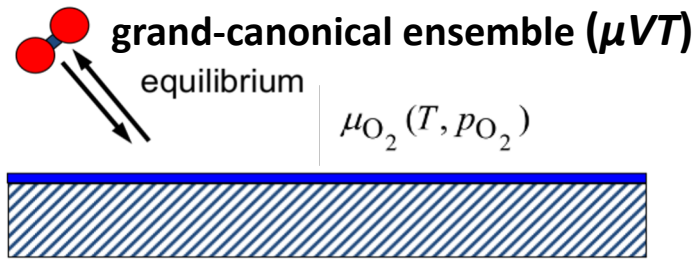
Partition function of extended  $NVT$  ensembles

$$Q_{\text{extended canonical}} = \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{1}{\Lambda_l^{3N} N!} \int d\mathbf{R} e^{-\beta_l E(\mathbf{R}; N)}$$

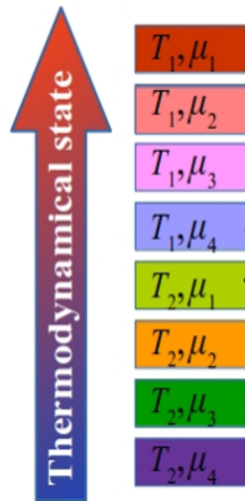
$$P_{[\beta_i \rightarrow \beta_j]} = \min [1, e^{-(\beta_j - \beta_i)(E(\mathbf{R}_i) - E(\mathbf{R}_j))}]$$



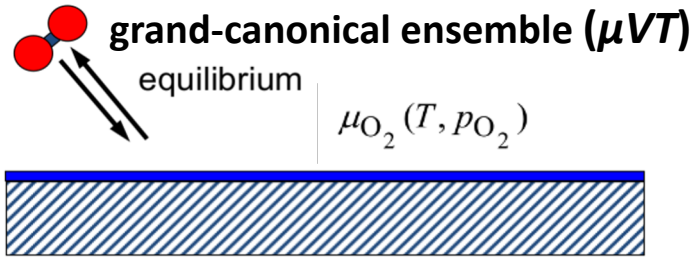
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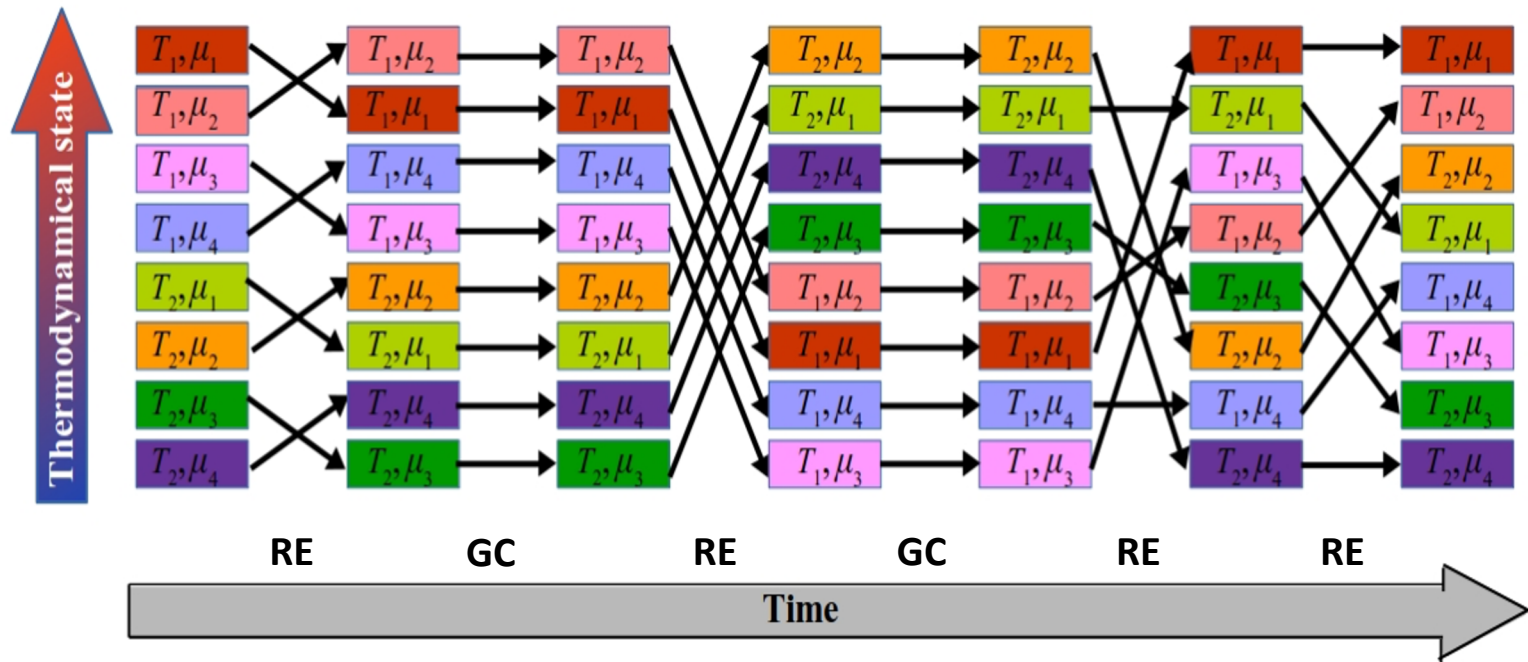
- ✓ Statistical average over adsorption/desorption processes
- ✓ Generation of possible defects by atoms' insertion or removal
- ✓ Circumventing dissociation barrier
- ✓ Kinetic barrier
- ✓ Straightforward extension to multi-component systems
- ✓ REGC coupled with molecular dynamics or monte carlo



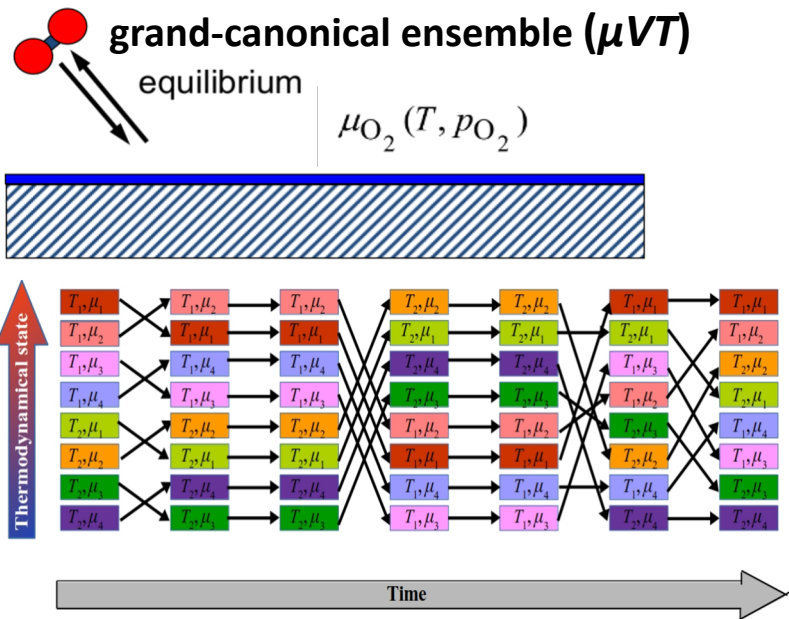
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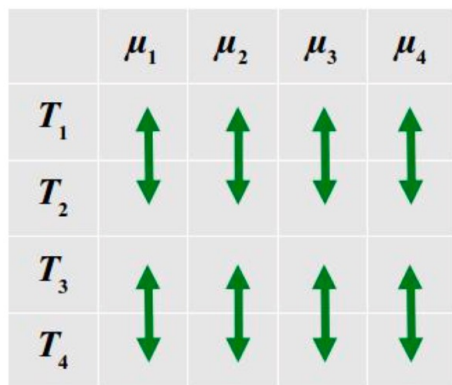
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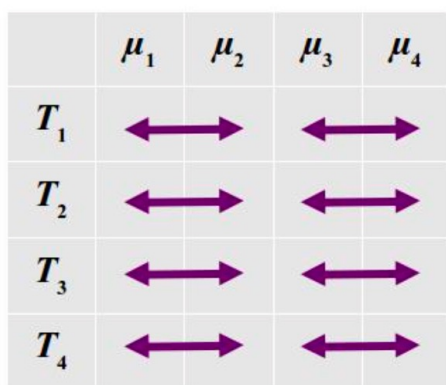
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## 2D schematic of REGC

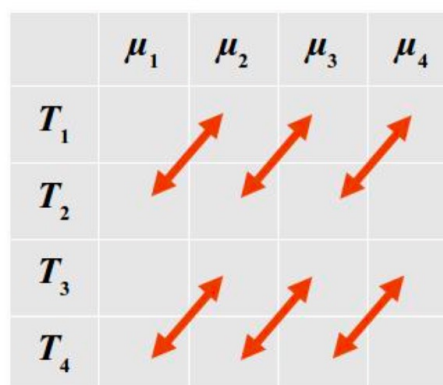
swap different T



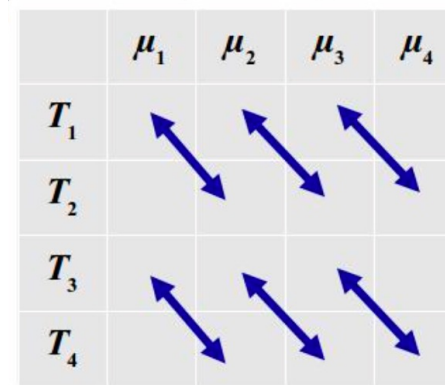
swap different  $\mu$



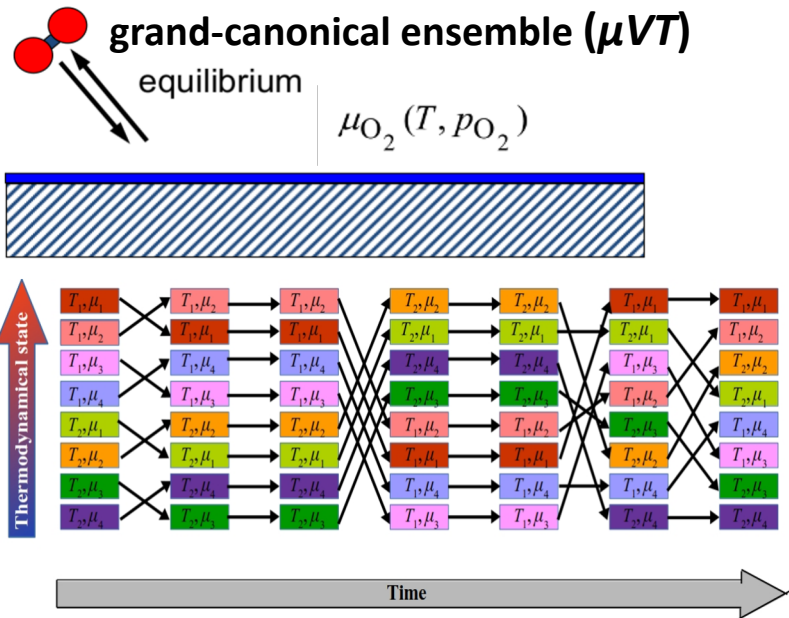
swap cross left



swap cross right

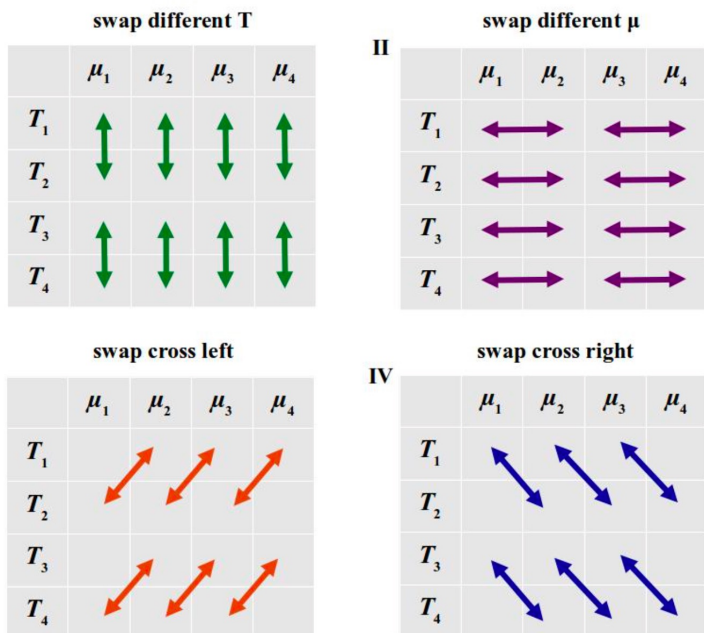


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## 2D schematic of REGC

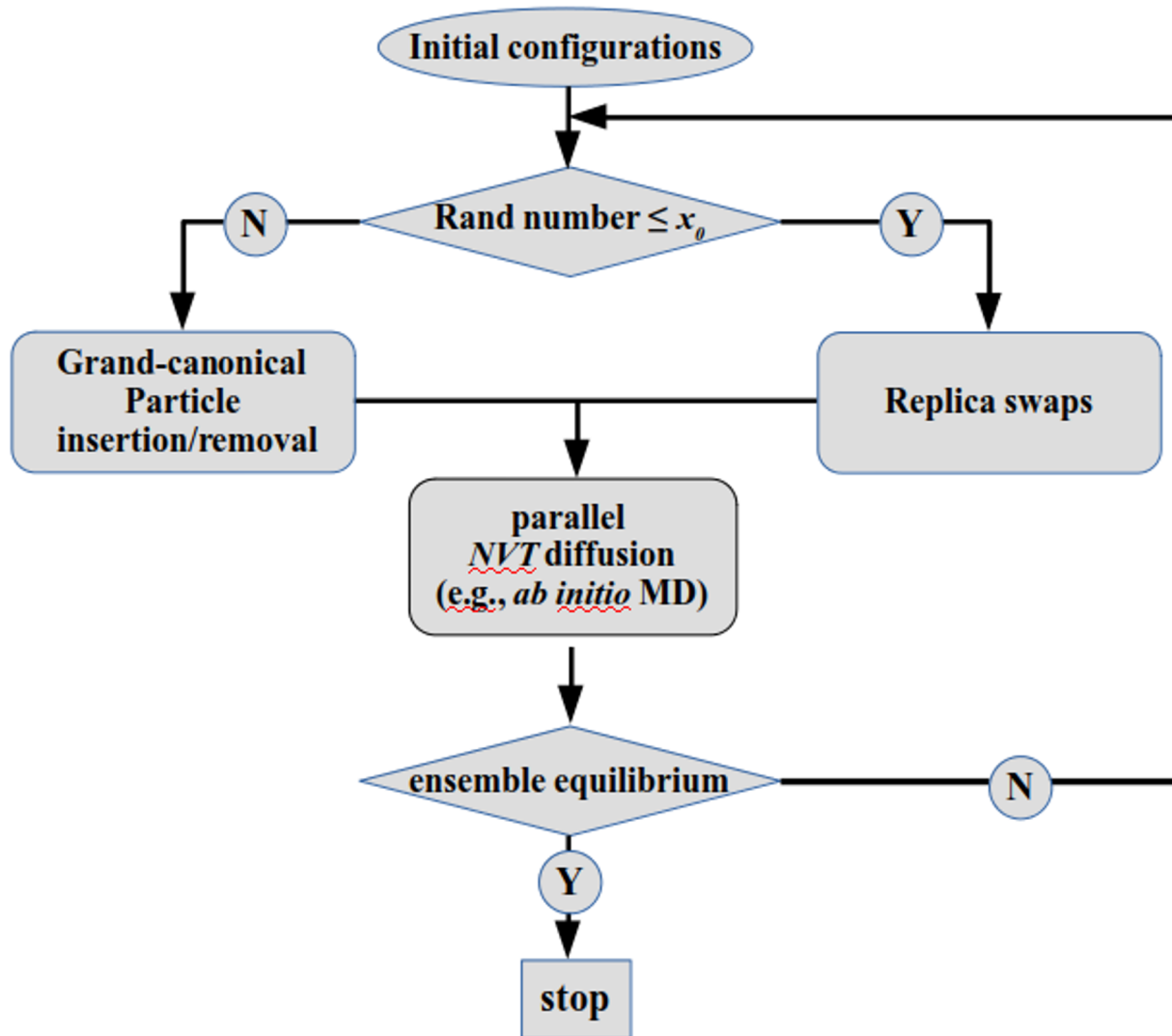


## Partition function of extended $\mu VT$ ensembles

$$Q_{\text{extended}} = \prod_{l=1}^L \prod_{m=1}^M \frac{e^{\beta_l \mu_m N_{l,m}} V^{N_{l,m}}}{\Lambda_l^{3N_{l,m}} N_{l,m}!} \int d\mathbf{R} e^{-\beta_l E(\mathbf{R}; N_{l,m})}$$

$$P_{[(\beta_l, \mu_m, \mathbf{R}_i) \rightarrow (\beta_k, \mu_o, \mathbf{R}_j)] \rightarrow [(\beta_l, \mu_m, \mathbf{R}_j) \rightarrow (\beta_k, \mu_o, \mathbf{R}_i)]} = \min \left[ 1, \left( \frac{\beta_l}{\beta_k} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}(N_{l,m} - N_{k,o})} \times e^{[-(\beta_l - \beta_k)(E(\mathbf{R}_j) - E(\mathbf{R}_i)) + (\beta_l \mu_m - \beta_k \mu_o)(N_{l,m} - N_{k,o})]} \right]$$

# Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical Scheme

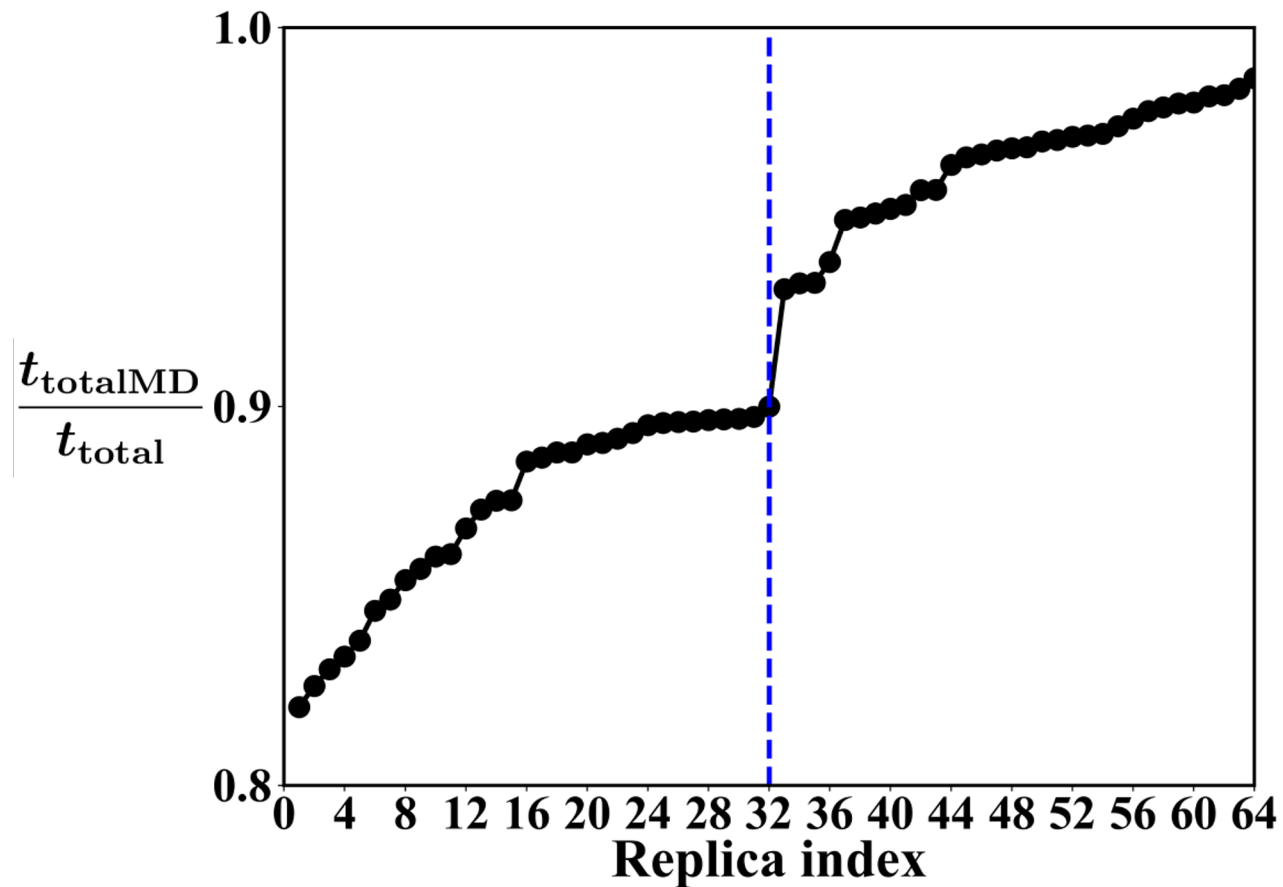


Zhou, Scheffler and Ghiringhelli, Phys. Rev. B 100, (2019)

<https://gitlab.com/zhouyuanyuan/fhi-panda>

Shirts and Chodera, J. Chem. Phys. 12 (2008)

# Scalability of REGC with FHI-aims



A REGCMD simulation of Si(100) system with 64 replicas.

This was performed on 10 240 cores (160 core for the MD run of every replica)

# Free energy from probabilities: a posteriori

**Free energy**  $F_i(\mu, T) = -k_B T \ln(P_i(\mu, T))$  probability  $\beta = 1/k_B T$

$$= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$$

**Ensemble average**  $\langle A(\mathbf{R}) \rangle_{\mu, \beta, i} = \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) A(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$

**partition function**  
 $c(\mu, \beta)$



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 $c(\mu, \beta)$

**Reduced potential function for the GC ensemble**  $U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta[E(\mathbf{R}) - \mu N(\mathbf{R})]$

**Grand-canonical density function**  $q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \exp[-U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)]$

**Multistate Bennett acceptance ratio (MBAR) approach estimates**  $c(\mu, \beta)$

$$\hat{c}_{l,m} = \sum_{i=1}^{\Omega_{l,m}} \frac{q(\mathbf{R}_{i,l,m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}{\sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{m=1}^M \Omega_{l,m} \hat{c}_{l,m}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{i,l,m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

**$L \times M$  thermodynamic states  
in REGC simulation**

$$\langle A(\mathbf{R}) \rangle_{\mu, \beta, i} = \sum_{n=1}^{\Omega_i} \frac{A(\mathbf{R}_n) c_{\mu, \beta}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_n; \mu, \beta)}{\sum_{l,m} \Omega_{l,m,i} c_{\mu_m, \beta_l}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{l,m,i}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

**in the MBAR formalism**

Zhou, Scheffler and Ghiringhelli, Phys. Rev. B 100, (2019)

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# Free energy from probabilities: a posteriori

**Free energy**  $F_i(\mu, T) = -k_B T \ln \overbrace{P_i(\mu, T)}^{\text{probability}}$   $\beta = 1/k_B T$

$$= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$$

**Ensemble average**  $\langle A(\mathbf{R}) \rangle_{\mu, \beta, i} = \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) A(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{\sum_i A_i e^{-\beta U_i}}{\sum_i e^{-\beta U_i}} = \sum_i A_i P_i$

**Reduced potential function for the GC ensemble**  $U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = [E(\mathbf{R}) - \mu N(\mathbf{R})]$

**Grand-canonical density function**  $q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \exp[-U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)]$

**Ergodic hypothesis: ensemble average equal to time average**

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\sum_i E(\mathbf{R}_i; \mu, \beta) e^{-\beta U(\mathbf{R}_i; \mu, \beta)}}{c(\mu, \beta)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} NC_v &= \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T} = -\frac{1}{k_B T^2} \frac{\partial E}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{1}{k_B T^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left( \frac{\sum_i E_i e^{-\beta U_i}}{c(\mu, \beta)} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{k_B T^2} \left[ \frac{(\sum_i E_i e^{-\beta U_i})^2}{c^2(\mu, \beta)} - \frac{\sum_i E_i^2 e^{-\beta U_i}}{c(\mu, \beta)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{k_B T^2} (\langle E^2 \rangle - \langle E \rangle^2) \end{aligned}$$

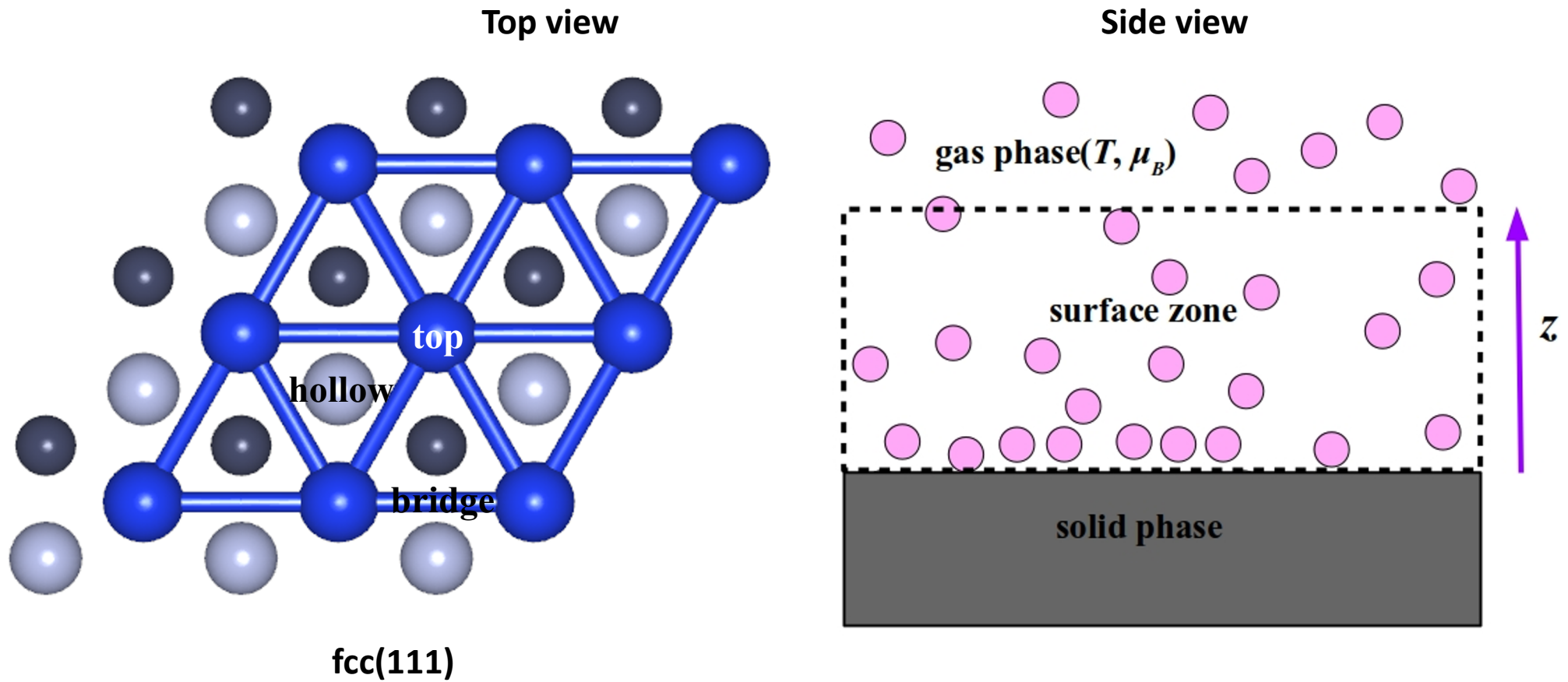
# Results

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**Proof of concept: Two-component Lennard-Jones surface**

**Application: Si(100) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level**

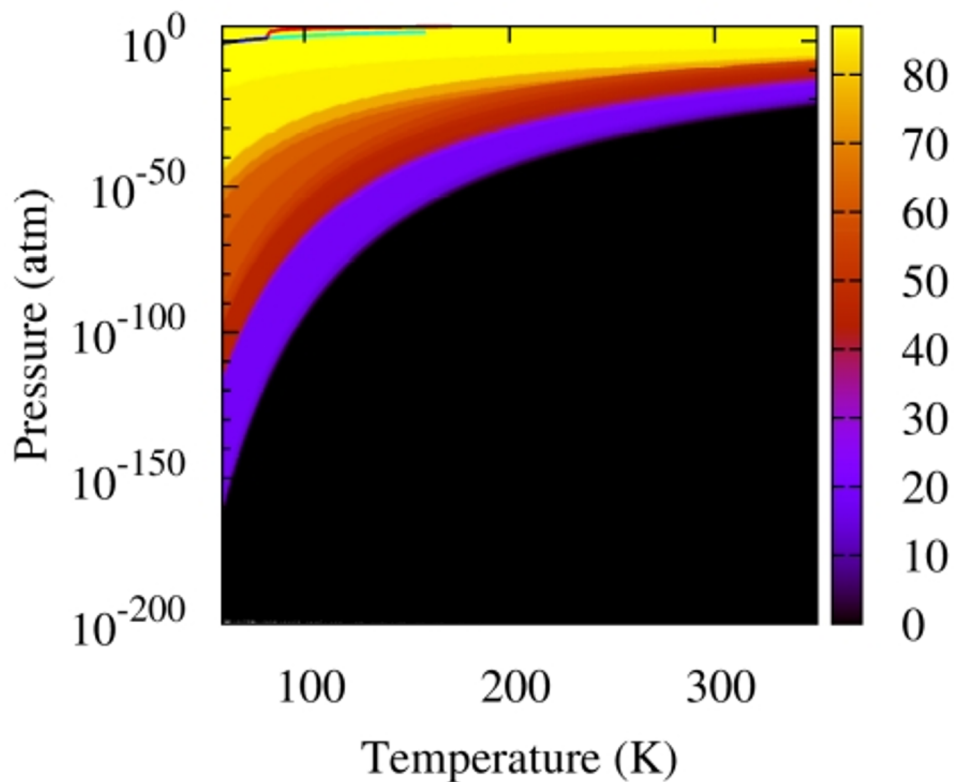
# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface



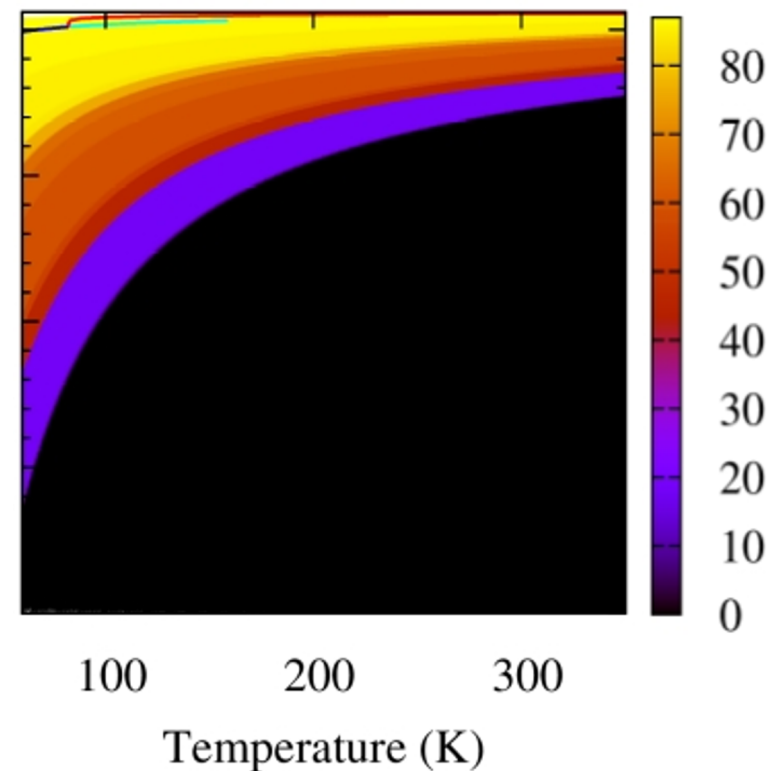
REGC: 10 temperatures and 16 chemical potentials

# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface

REGC+ MBAR



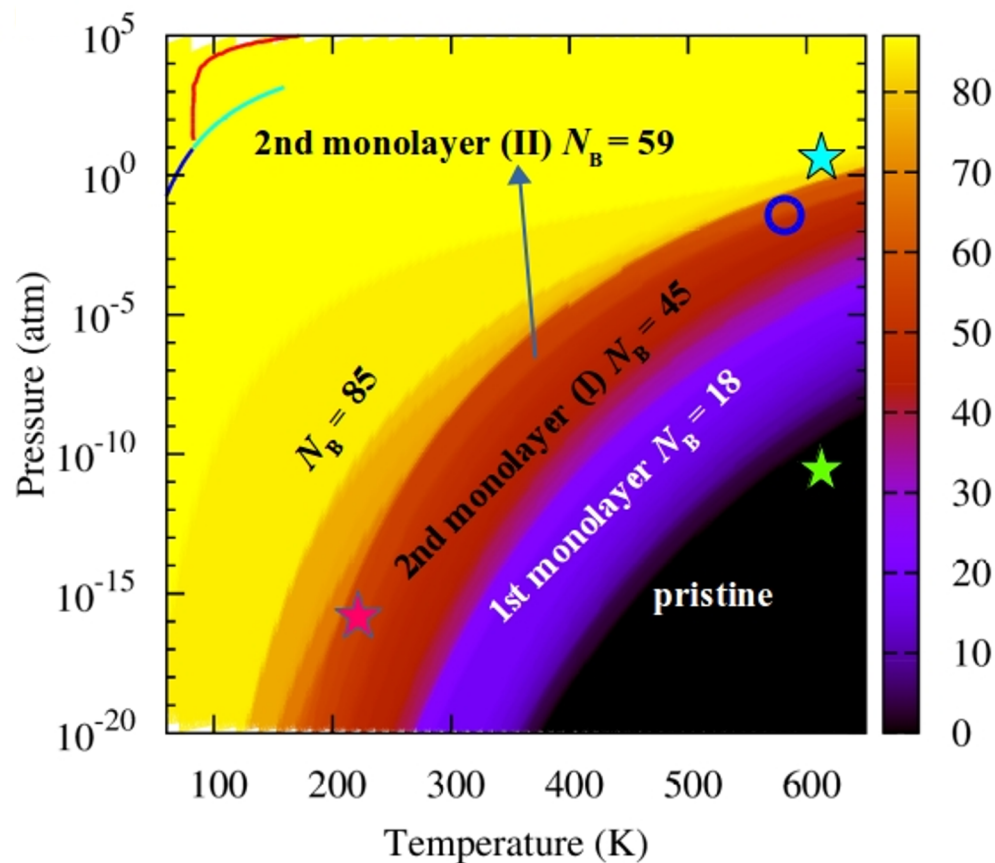
REGC(minimum-energy-structures) +aiAT



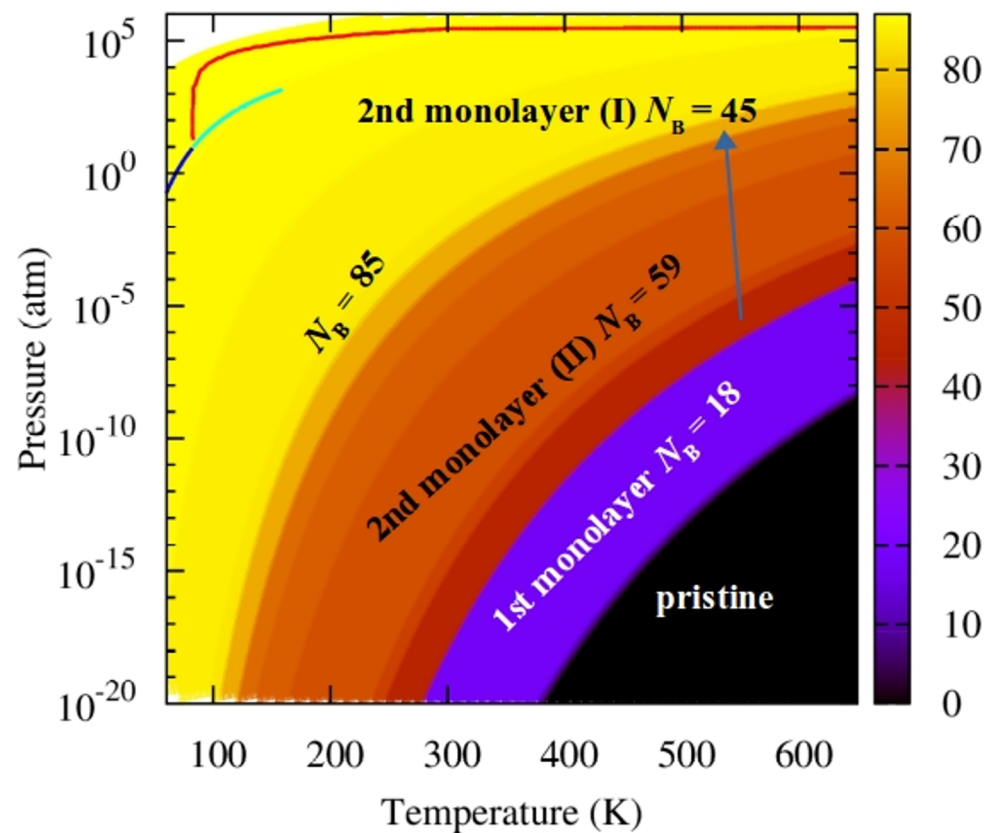
$$\mu(p, T) = k_B T \ln(p/p_0)$$

# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface

REGC+ MBAR



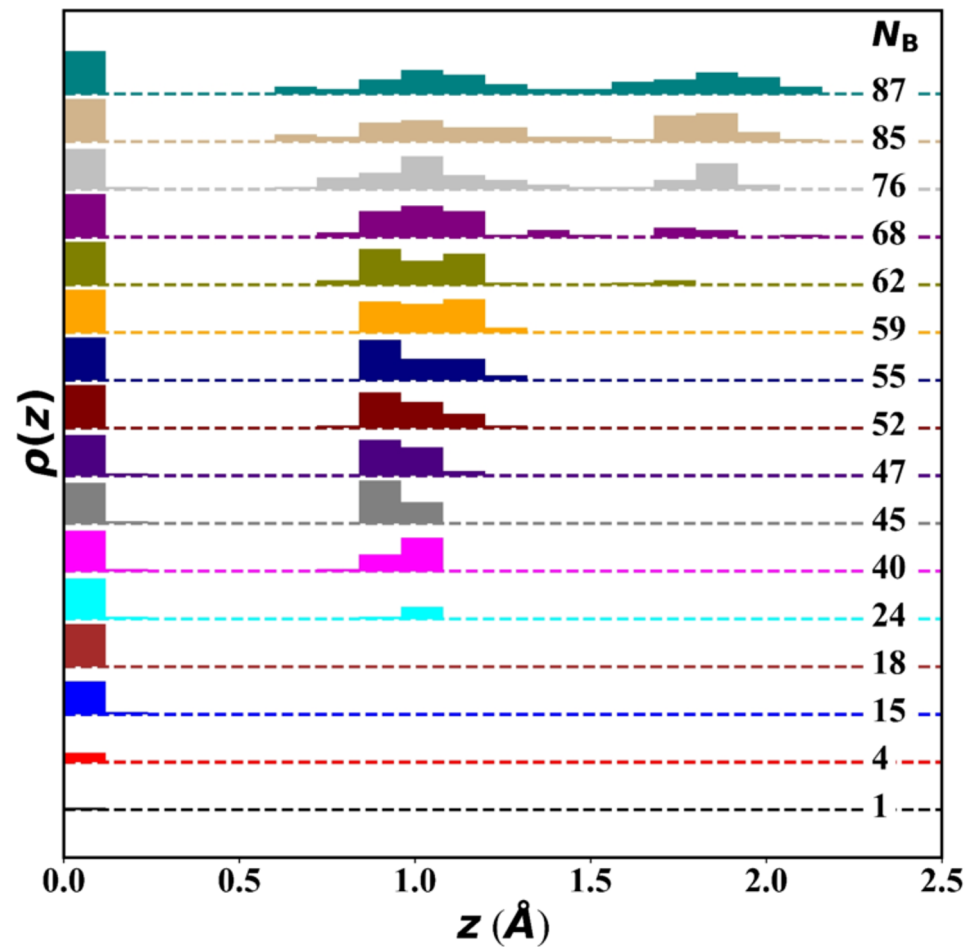
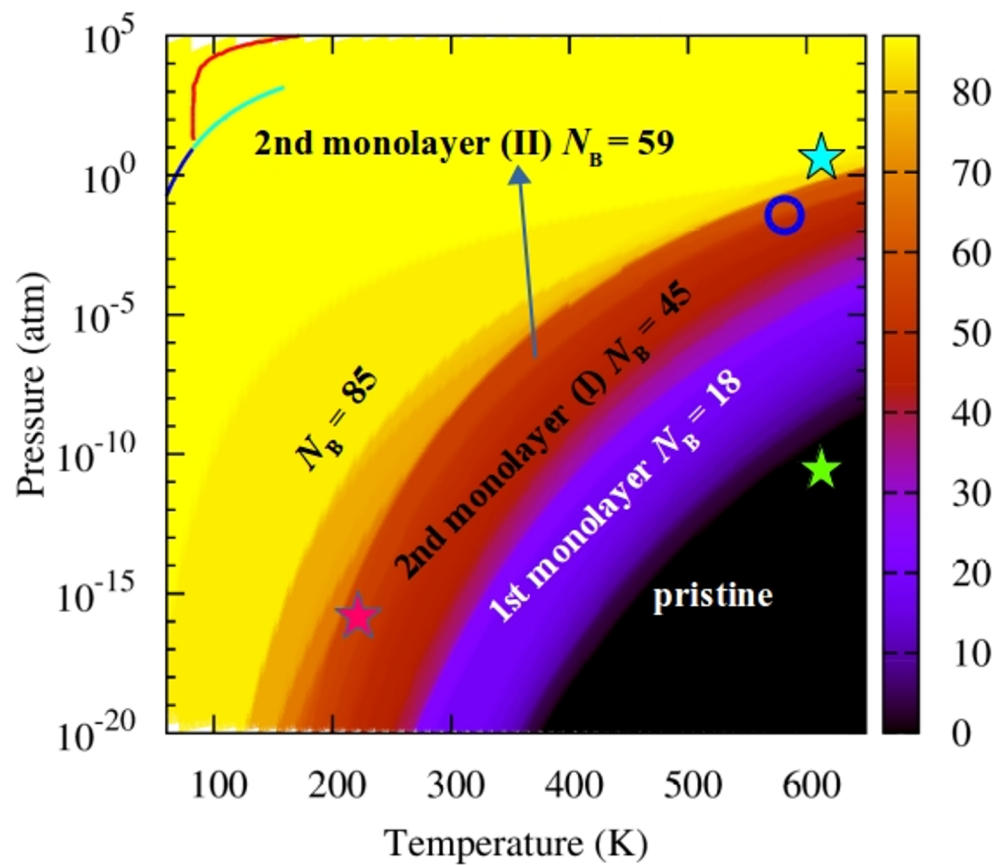
REGC(minimum-energy-structures) + aiAT



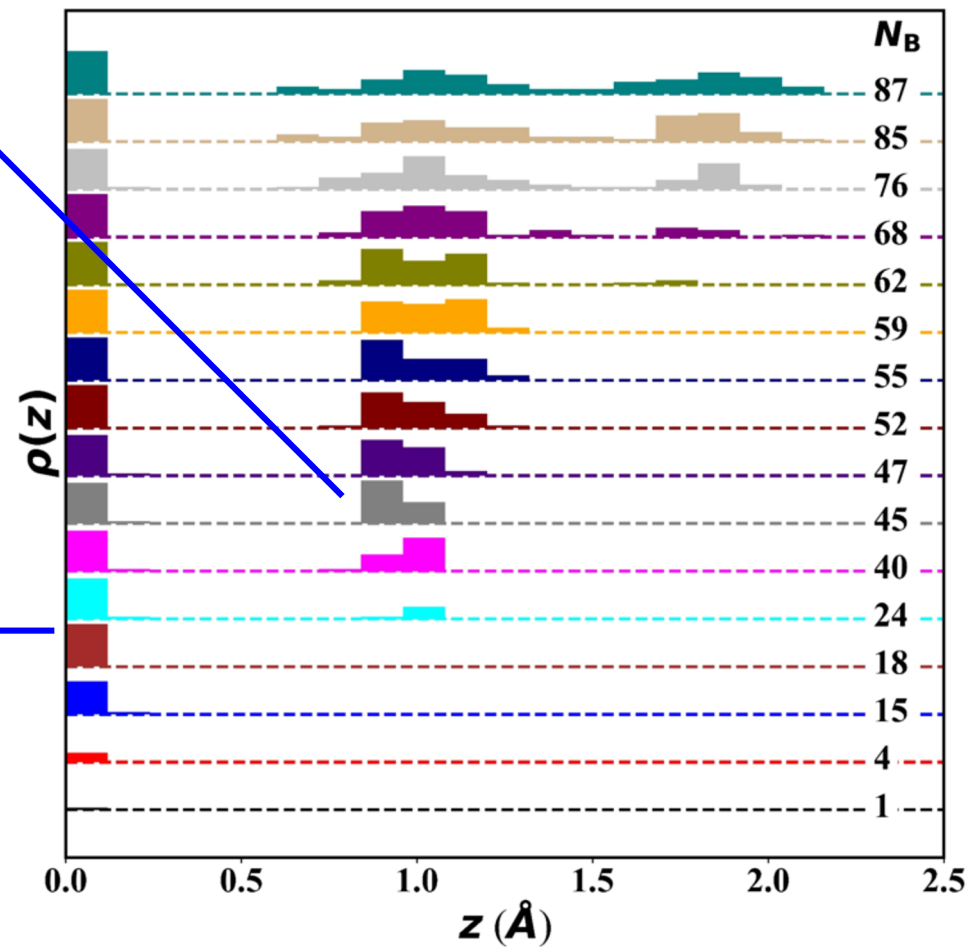
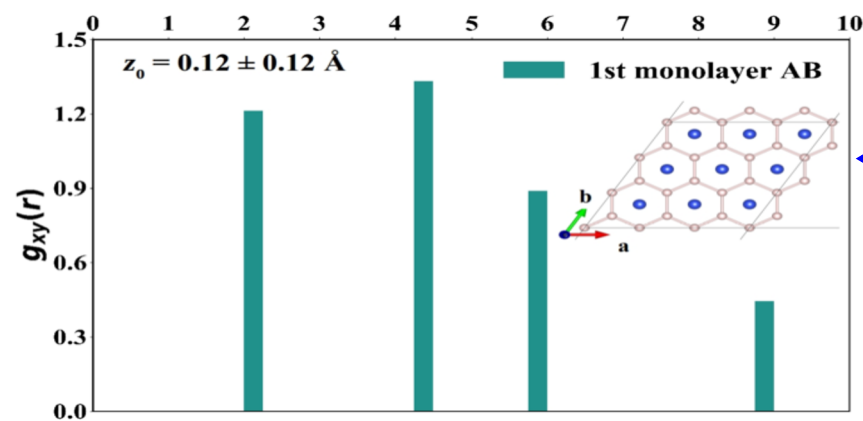
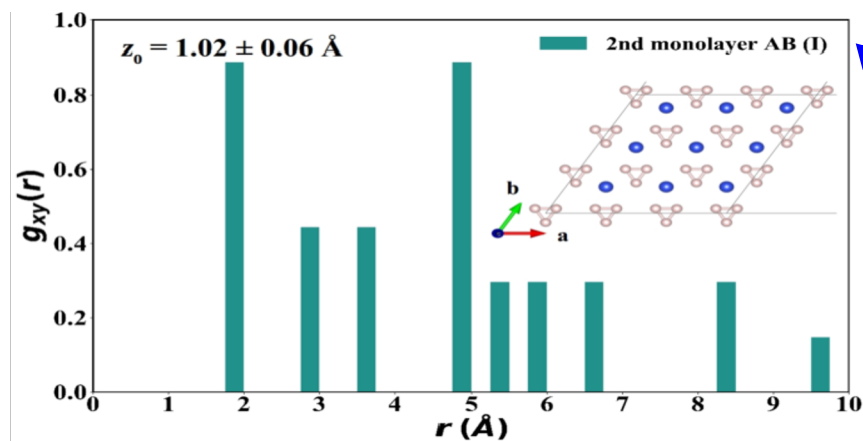
$$\mu(p, T) = k_B T \ln(p/p_0)$$

# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface

REGC+ MBAR

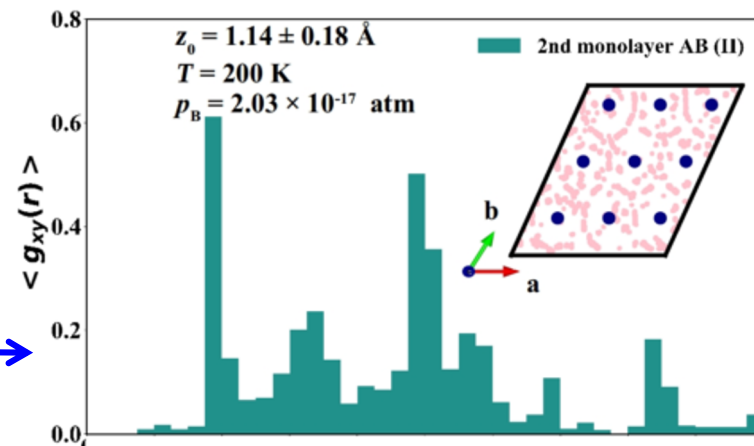
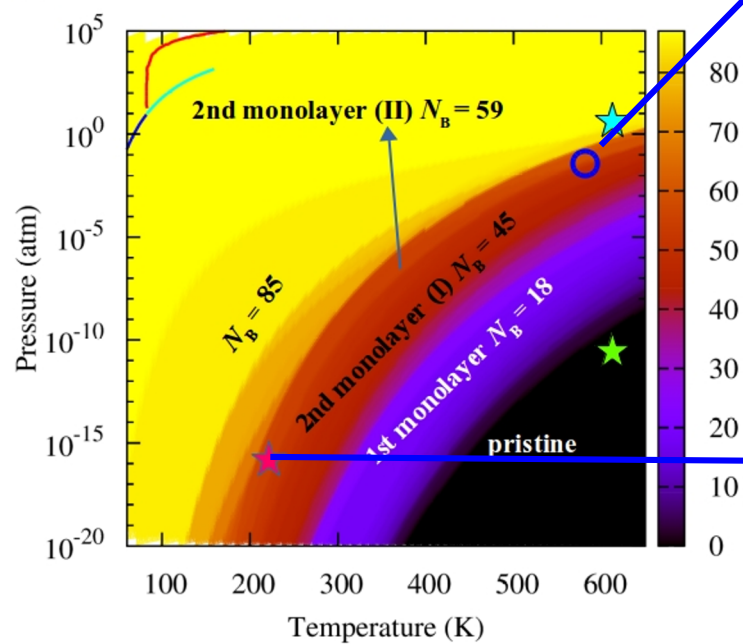
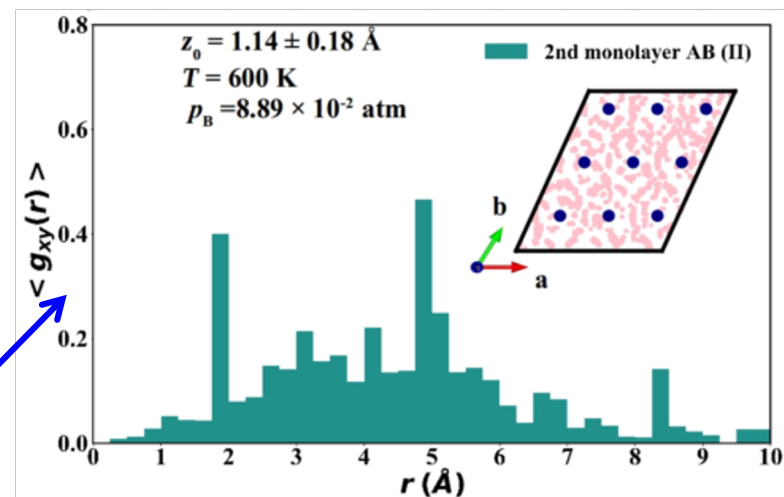
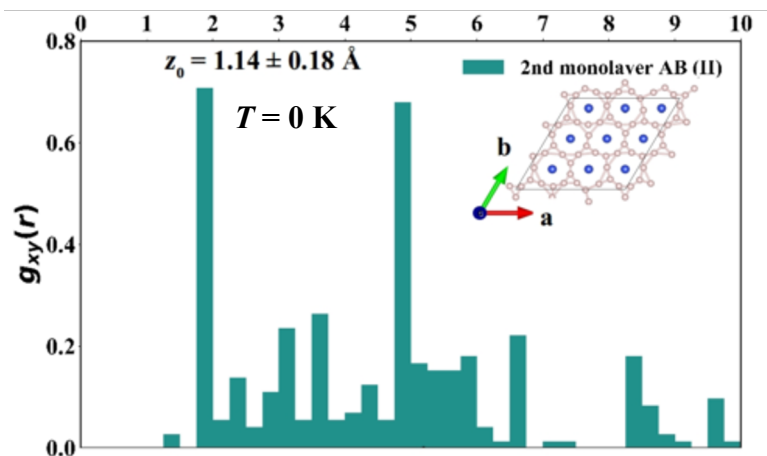


# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface



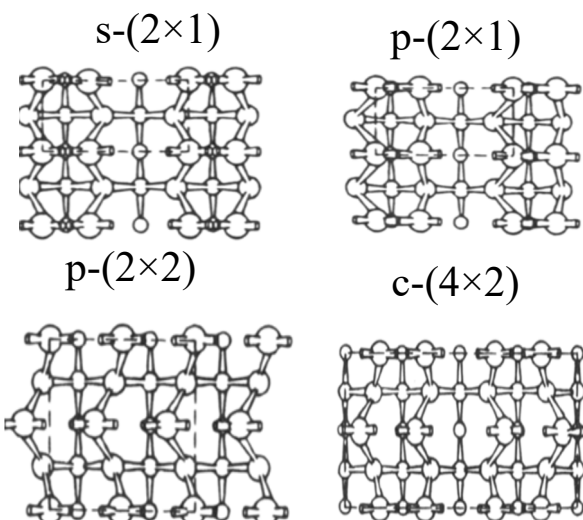


# Two-component Lennard-Jones surface

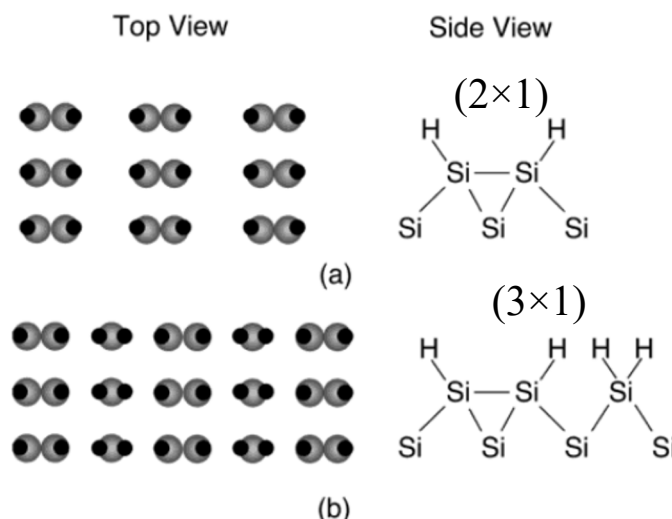


# Si(100) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level

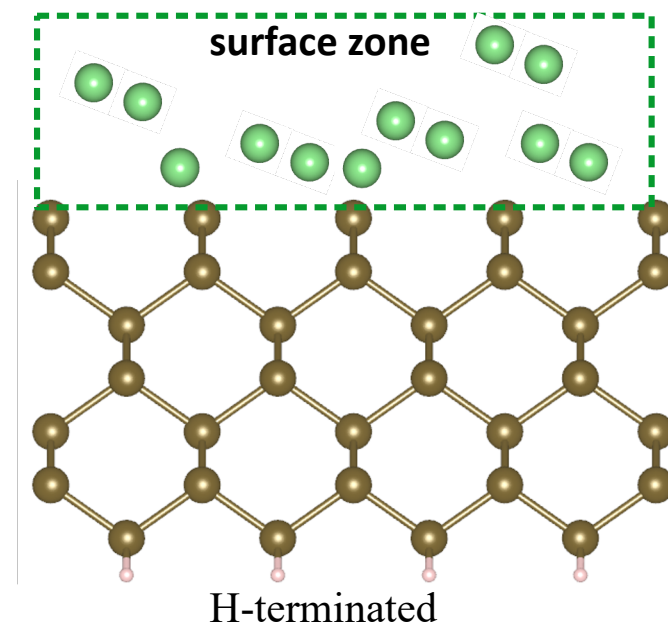
## reconstruction



## adsorption



## Model systems: (4×4) and (3×3) supercell



*ab initio* molecular dynamics

xc: PBE+vdW<sup>TS</sup>

basis setting: light

stochastic velocity-rescaling thermostat

Using D<sub>2</sub> instead of H<sub>2</sub> during the simulation



- [1] C. Manzano, et al., Phys. Rev. B., 83, 201302 (2011)
- [2] J. J. Boland, Adv. Phys., 42, 129 (1993)
- [3] Chabal and Raghavachari, Phys. Rev. Lett 100, 1055 (1985)
- [4] Blum, et al., Comput. Phys. Commun. 180, 2175 (2009)
- [5] Perdew, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 3865 (2008)
- [6] Tkatchenko, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett, 201, 073005 (2009)
- [7] Bussi, et al., J. Chem. Phys. 126, 014101 (2007)
- [8] Zhou, et al., unpublished

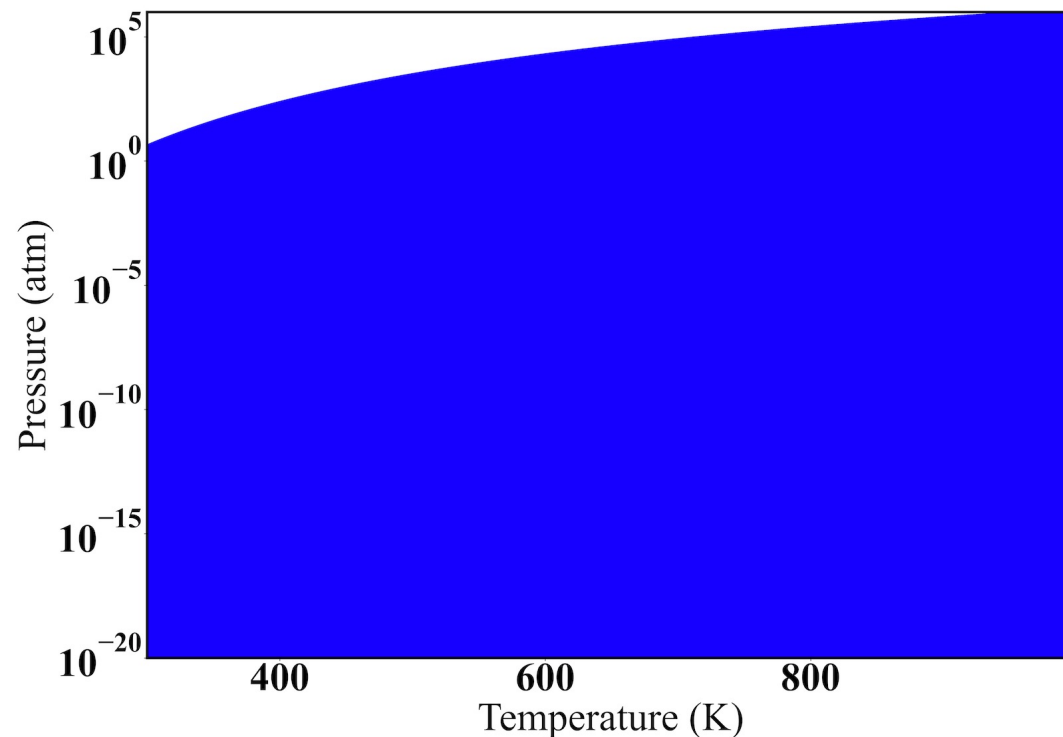
# Quantitative calculation of *ab initio* phase boundaries

$$C_{v, (T, p_{\text{H}_2})} = \frac{\langle E^2 \rangle_{(T, p_{\text{H}_2})} - \langle E \rangle_{(T, p_{\text{H}_2})}^2}{k_B T^2}$$

$$\langle E \rangle_{\mu, \beta} = \sum_{n=1}^{\Omega} \frac{E(\mathbf{R}_n) c_{\mu, \beta}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_n; \mu, \beta)}{\sum_{l, m} \Omega_{l, m} c_{\mu_m, \beta_l}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{l, m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

in MBAR formalism

Every 1 K and 0.01 eV interval



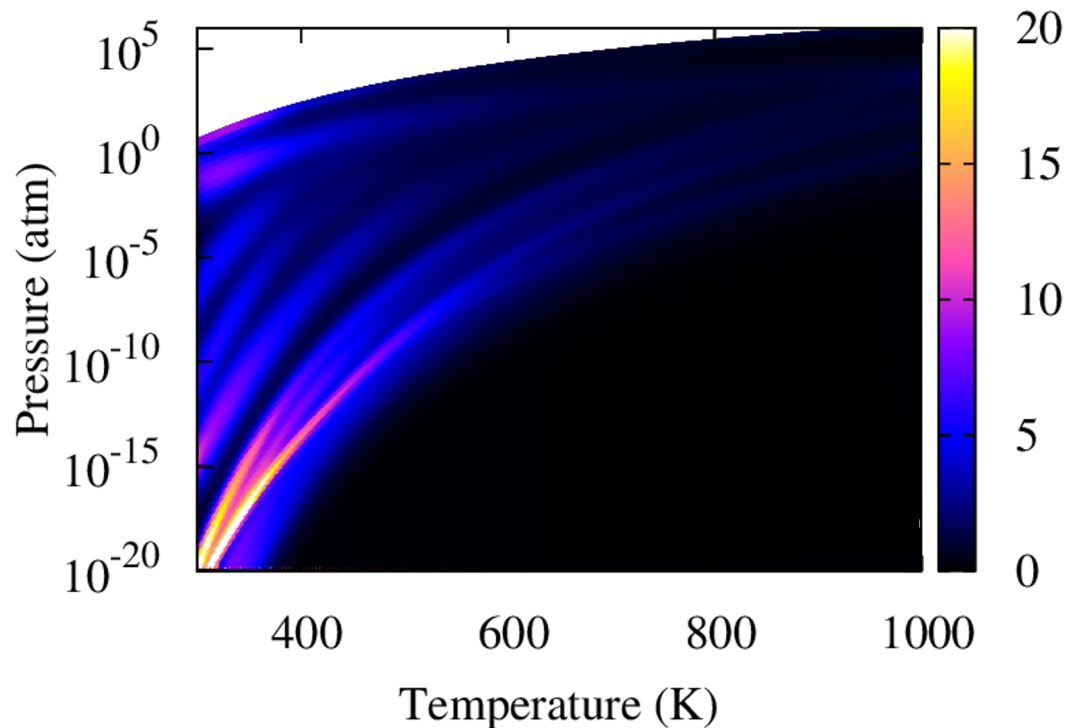
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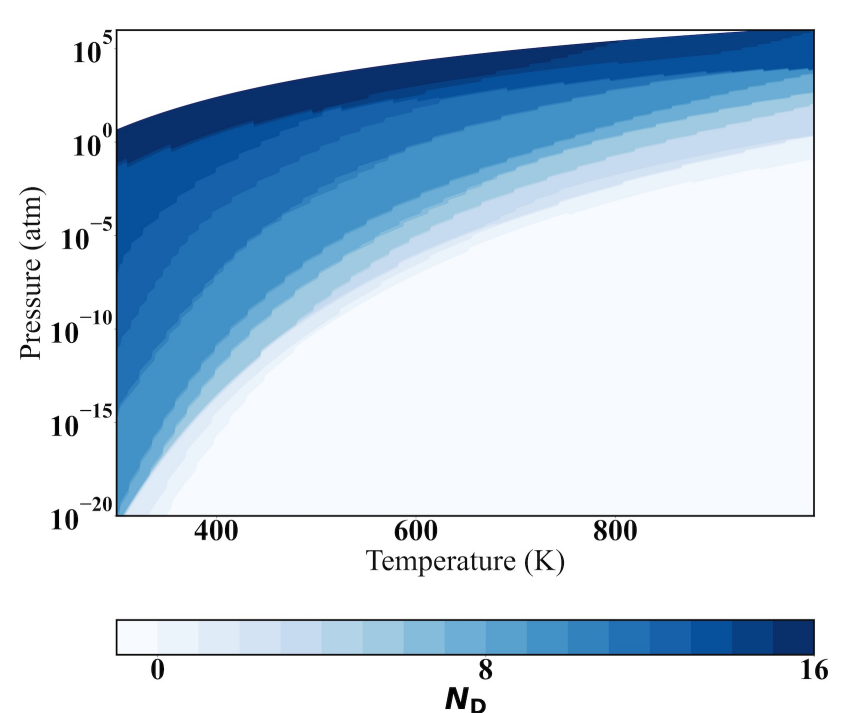
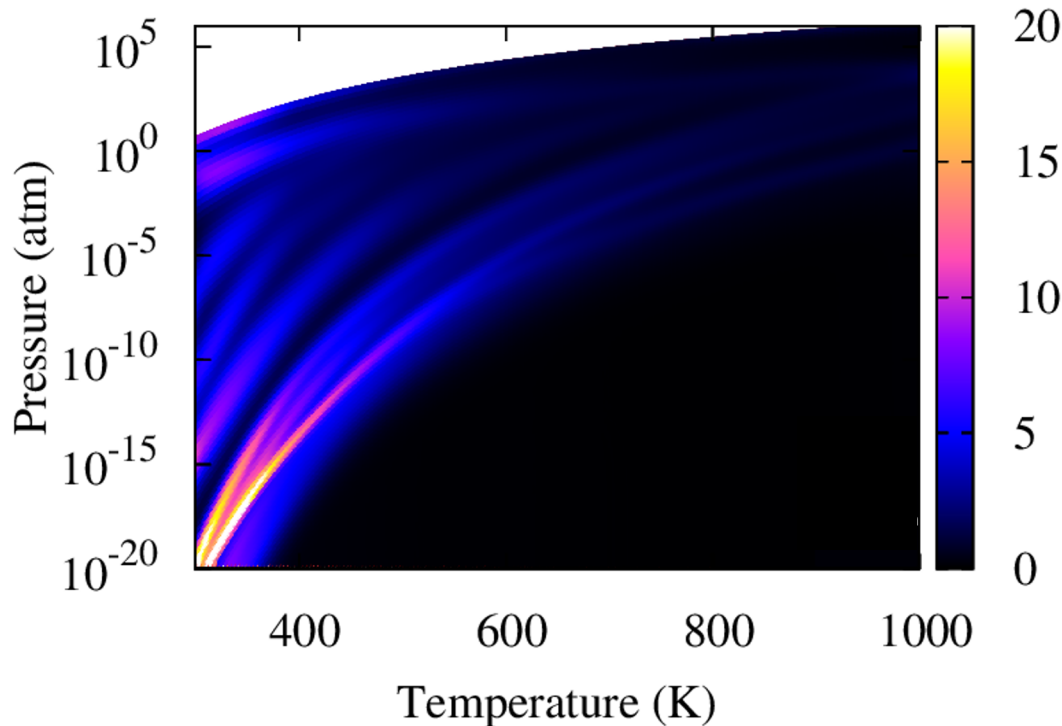
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in MBAR formalism

$$\begin{aligned} F_i(\mu, T) &= -k_B T \ln P_i(\mu, T) \\ &= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)} \end{aligned}$$

$\chi_i(\mathbf{R})$  : number of chemisorbed D ( $N_D$ )



# Quantitative calculation of *ab initio* phase boundaries

$$C_{v, (T, p_{H_2})} = \frac{\langle E^2 \rangle_{(T, p_{H_2})} - \langle E \rangle_{(T, p_{H_2})}^2}{k_B T^2}$$

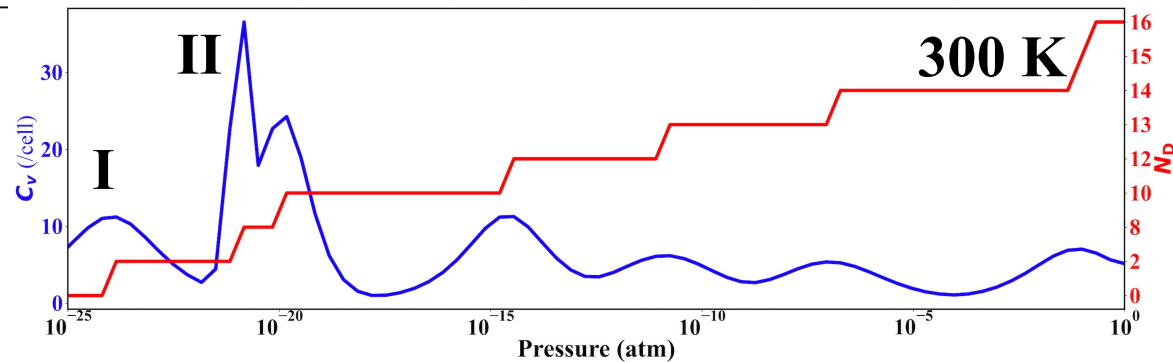
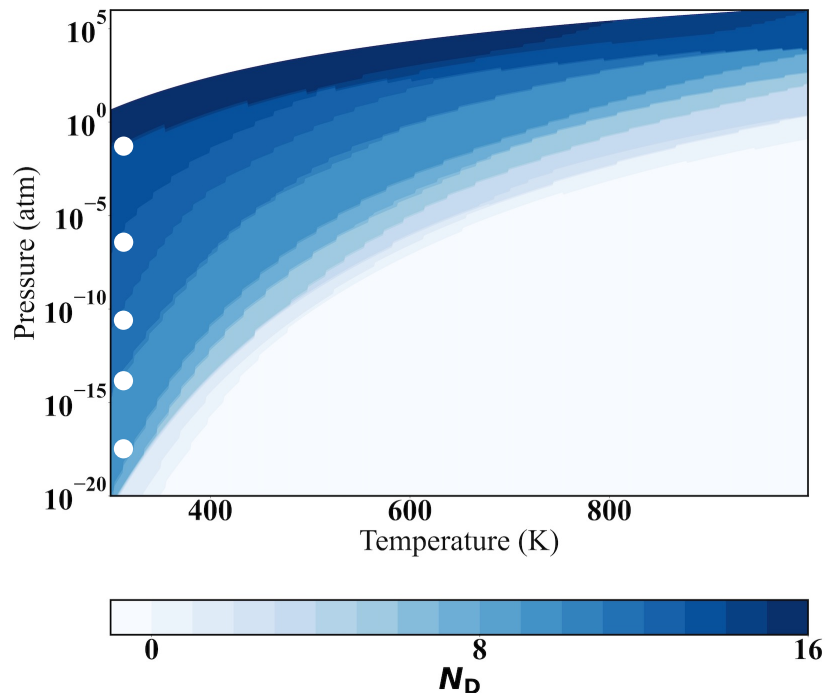
$$\langle E \rangle_{\mu, \beta} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\Omega} E(\mathbf{R}_n) c_{\mu, \beta}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_n; \mu, \beta)}{\sum_{l,m} \Omega_{l,m} c_{\mu_m, \beta_l}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{l,m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

in MBAR formalism

$$F_i(\mu, T) = -k_B T \ln P_i(\mu, T)$$

$$= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$$

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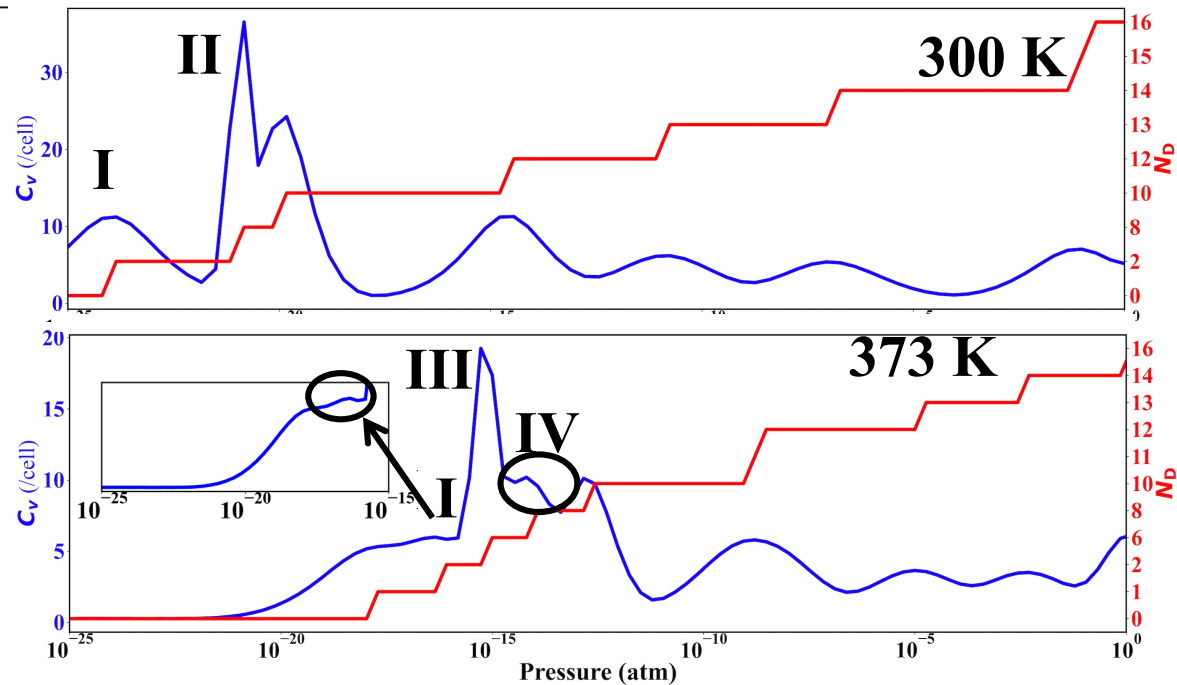
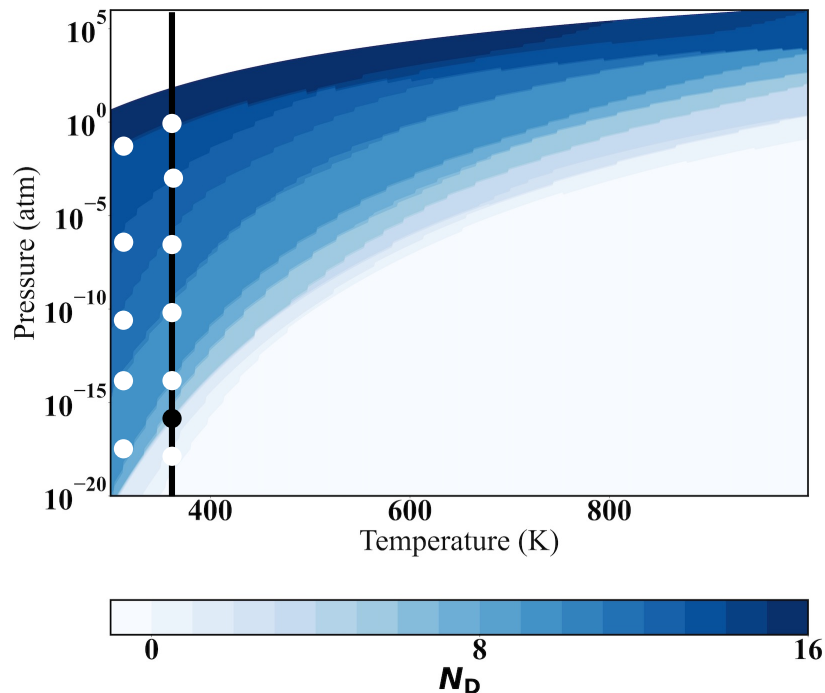
$$\langle E \rangle_{\mu, \beta} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\Omega} E(\mathbf{R}_n) c_{\mu, \beta}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_n; \mu, \beta)}{\sum_{l,m} \Omega_{l,m} c_{\mu_m, \beta_l}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{l,m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

in MBAR formalism

$$F_i(\mu, T) = -k_B T \ln P_i(\mu, T)$$

$$= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$$

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# Quantitative calculation of *ab initio* phase boundaries

$$C_{v, (T, p_{H_2})} = \frac{\langle E^2 \rangle_{(T, p_{H_2})} - \langle E \rangle_{(T, p_{H_2})}^2}{k_B T^2}$$

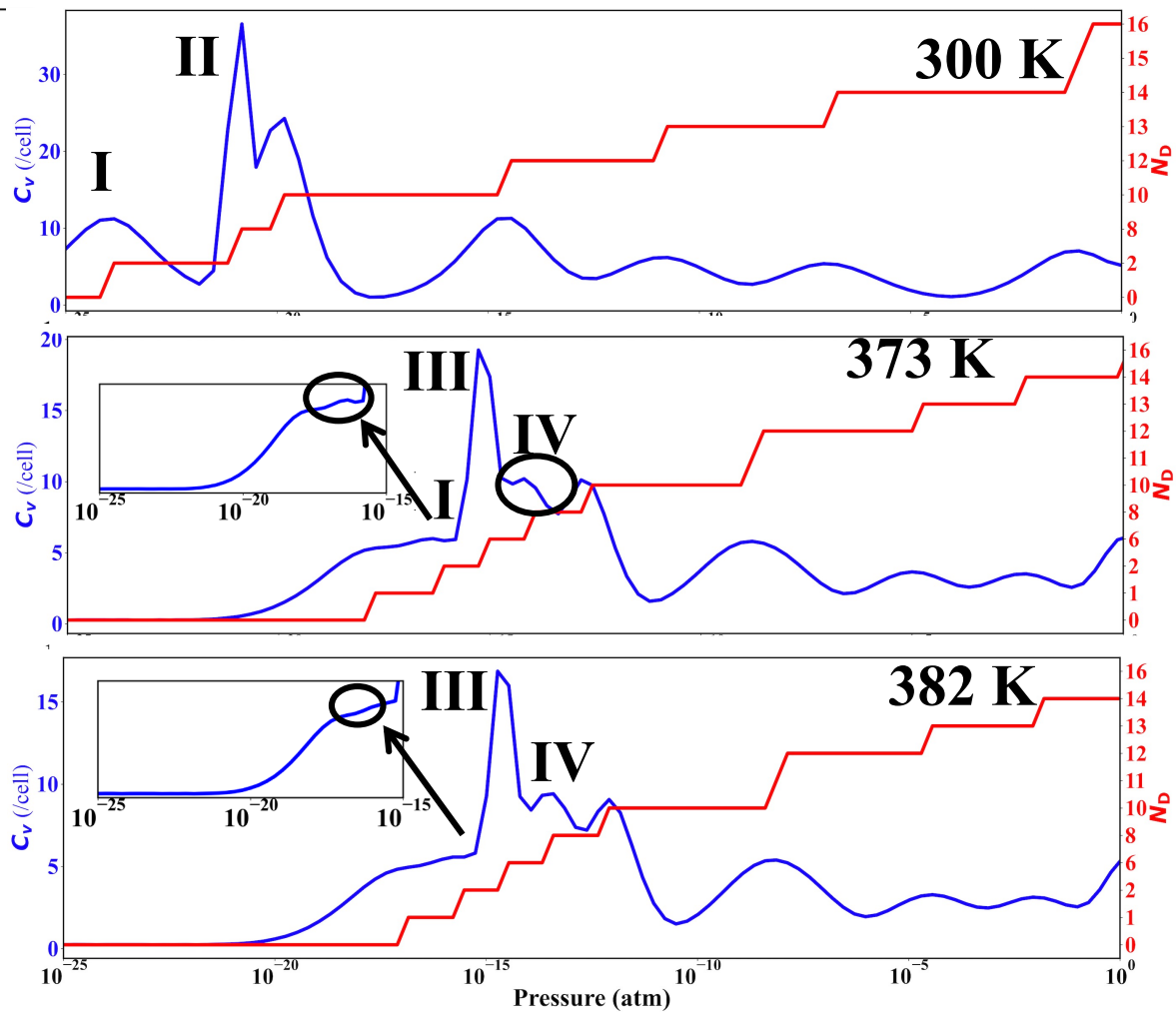
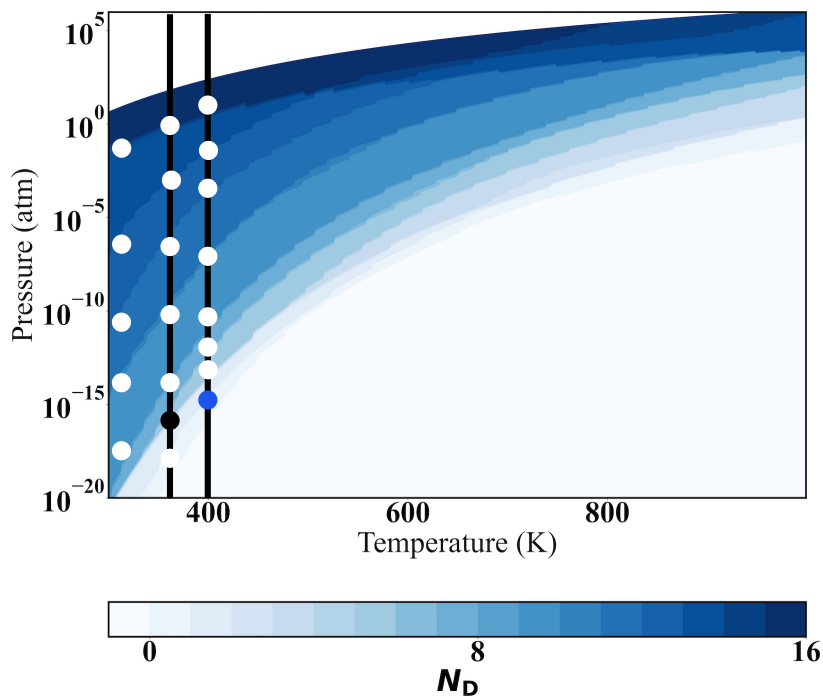
$$\langle E \rangle_{\mu, \beta} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\Omega} E(\mathbf{R}_n) c_{\mu, \beta}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_n; \mu, \beta)}{\sum_{l,m} \Omega_{l,m} c_{\mu_m, \beta_l}^{-1} q(\mathbf{R}_{l,m}; \mu_m, \beta_l)}$$

in MBAR formalism

$$F_i(\mu, T) = -k_B T \ln P_i(\mu, T)$$

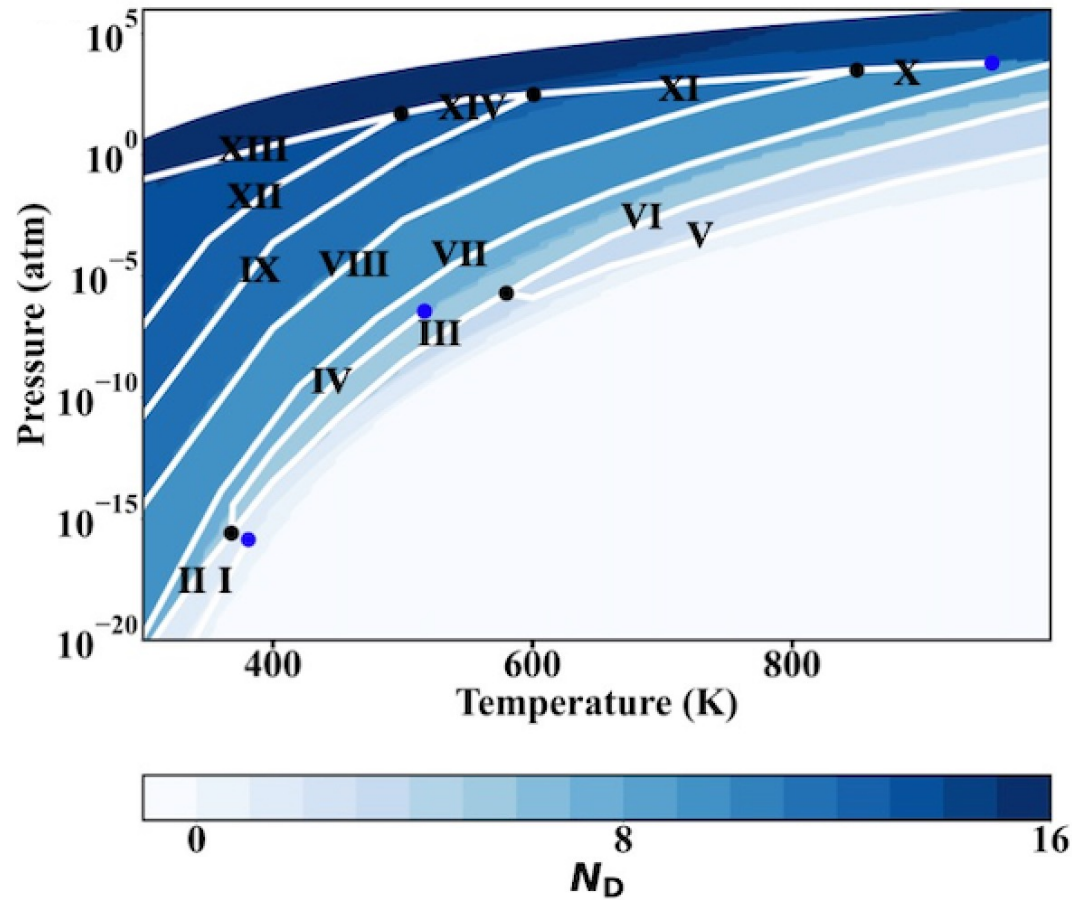
$$= -k_B T \ln \frac{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} \chi_i(\mathbf{R}) q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}{\int_{\Gamma} d\mathbf{R} q(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta)}$$

$\chi_i(\mathbf{R})$  : number of chemisorbed D ( $N_D$ )





# Quantitative calculation of *ab initio* phase boundaries

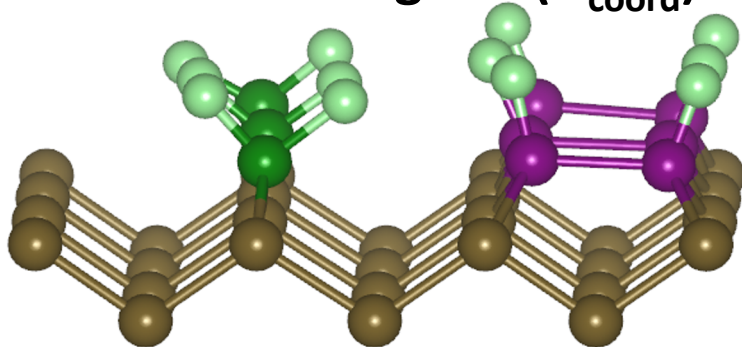


boundary	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII
$N_D$	0	2	2	6	2	4	8	10	12	10	12	13	14
$N_D$	2	8	6	8	4	6	10	12	13	14	15	14	16

# Descriptors for microstates

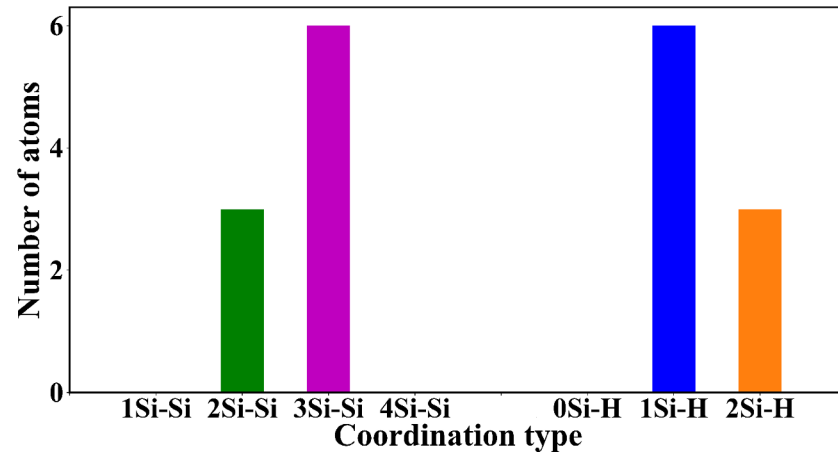
Number of chemisorbed hydrogen ( $N_D$ )

Coordination histogram ( $H_{\text{coord}}$ )



Si-Si bond length = 3.0 Å

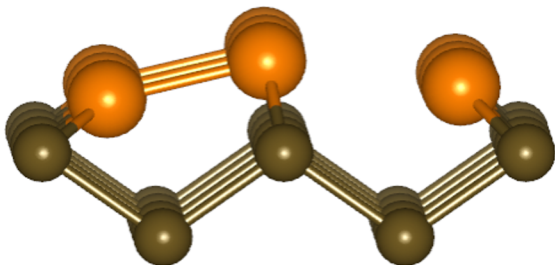
Si-H bond length = 2.0 Å



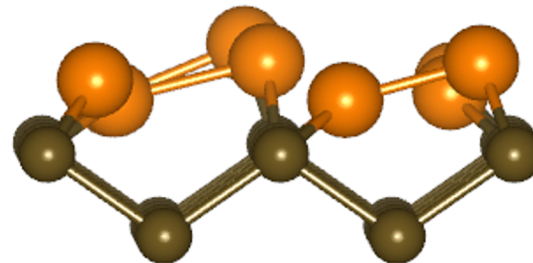
Coordination histogram is 0 3 6 0 0 0 6 3

Dimer type ( $\kappa_{\text{dimer}}$ )

$\kappa_{\text{dimer}} = 0$

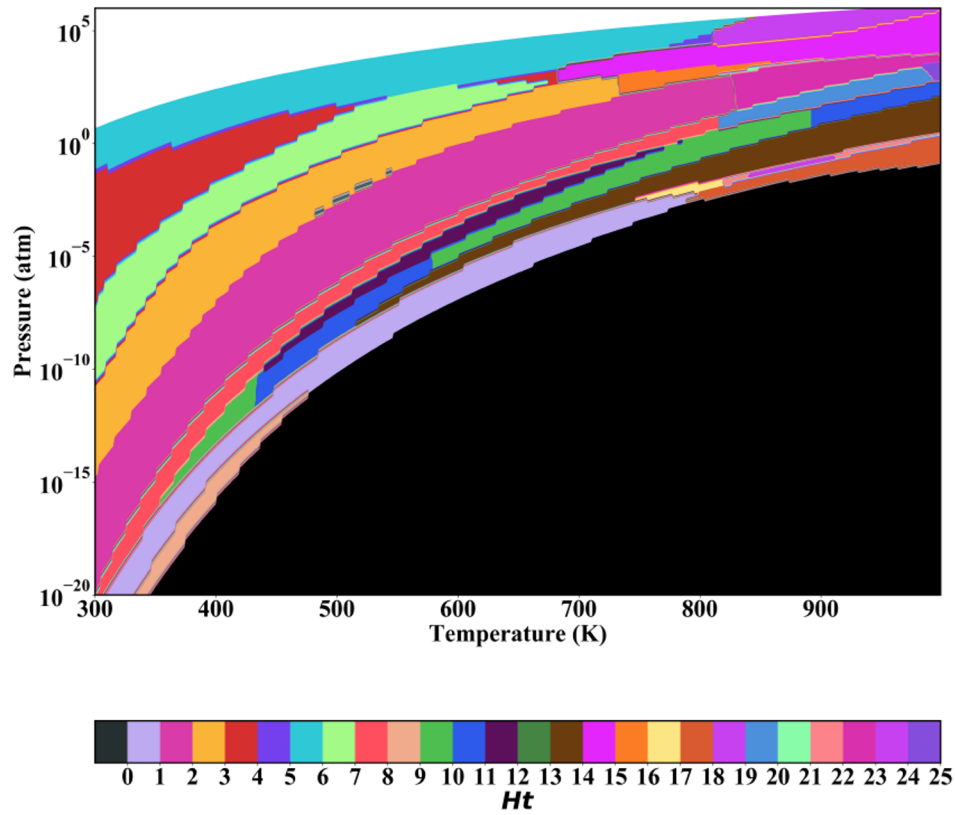


$\kappa_{\text{dimer}} = 1$

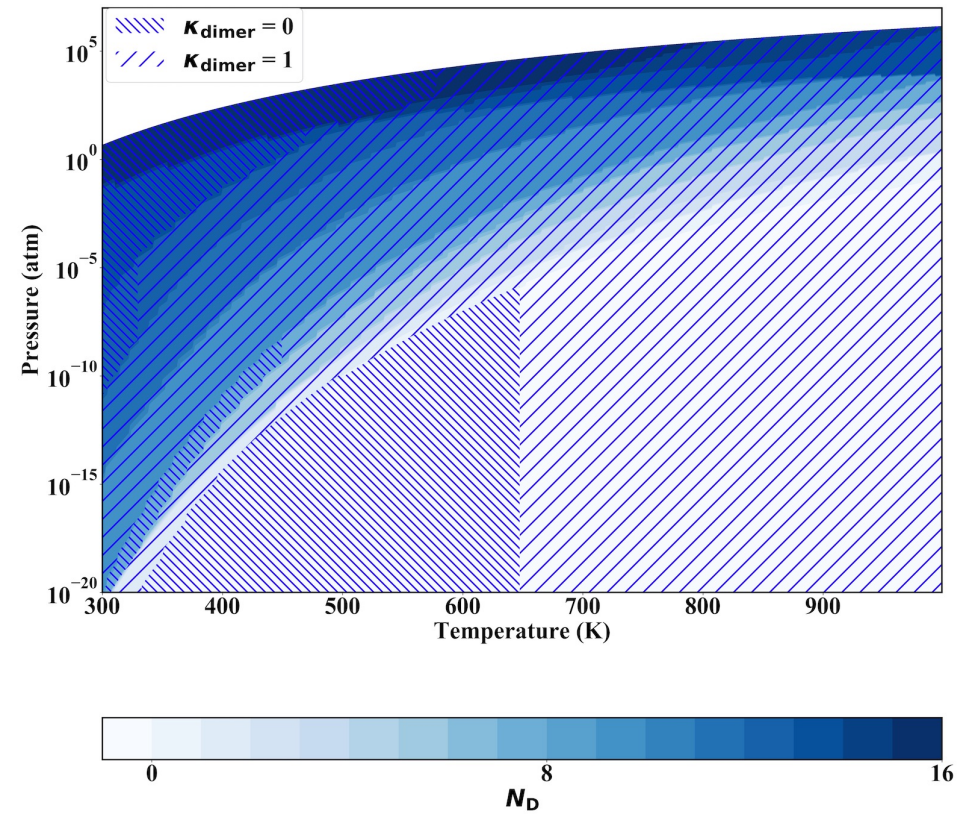


# Structural descriptors

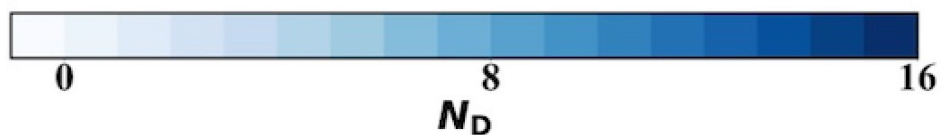
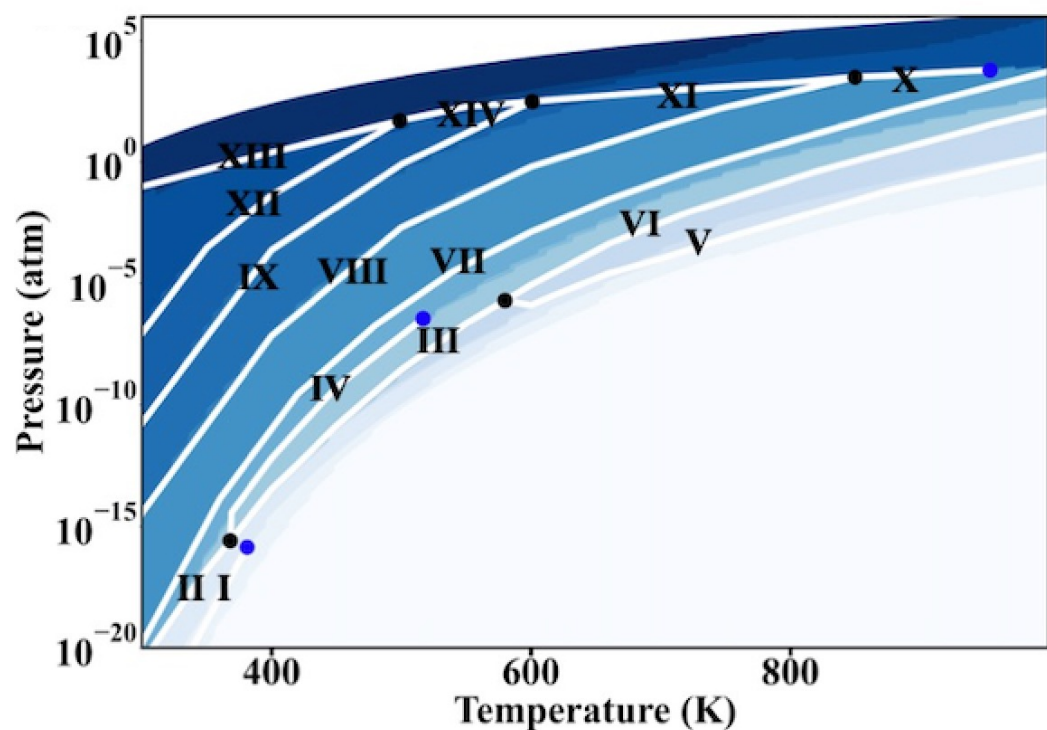
## Coordination histogram ( $H_{\text{coord}}$ )



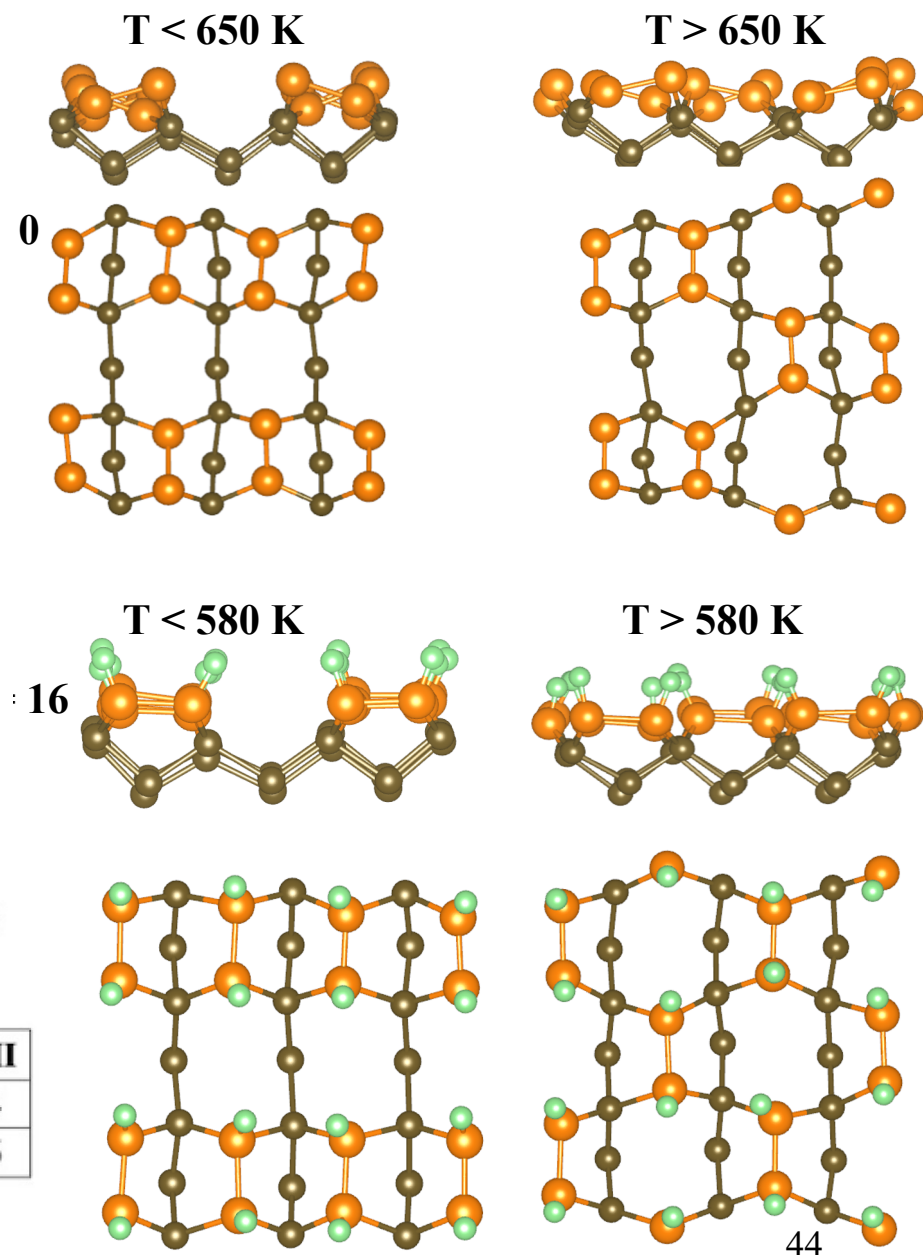
## Dimer type ( $\kappa_{\text{dimer}}$ )



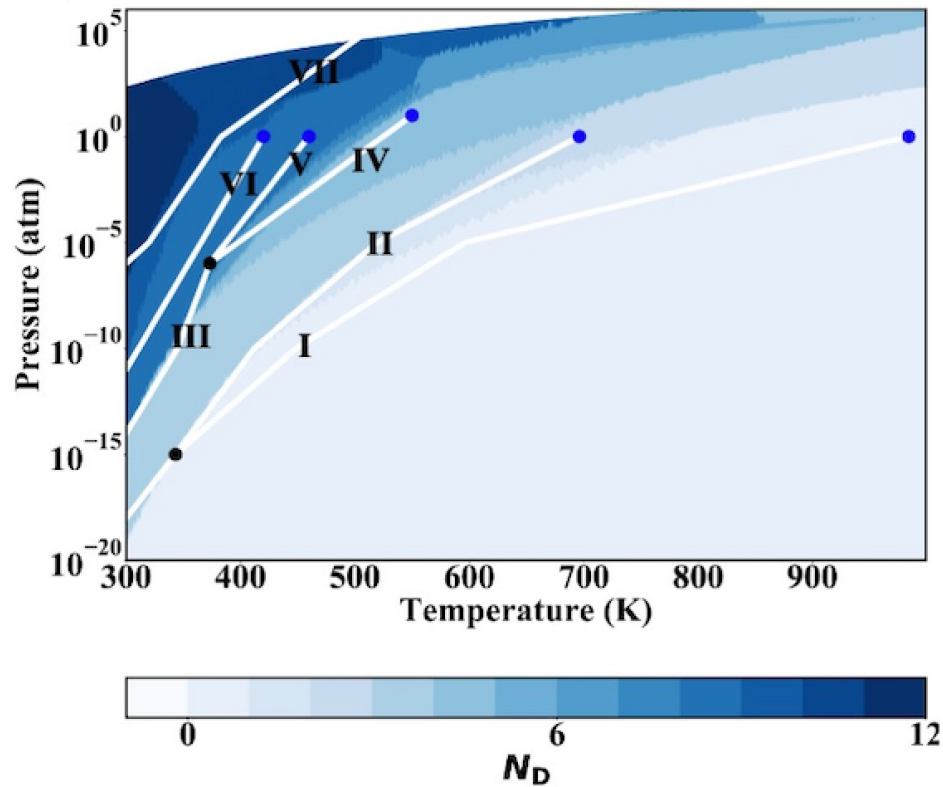
# Si(100)-(4×4) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level



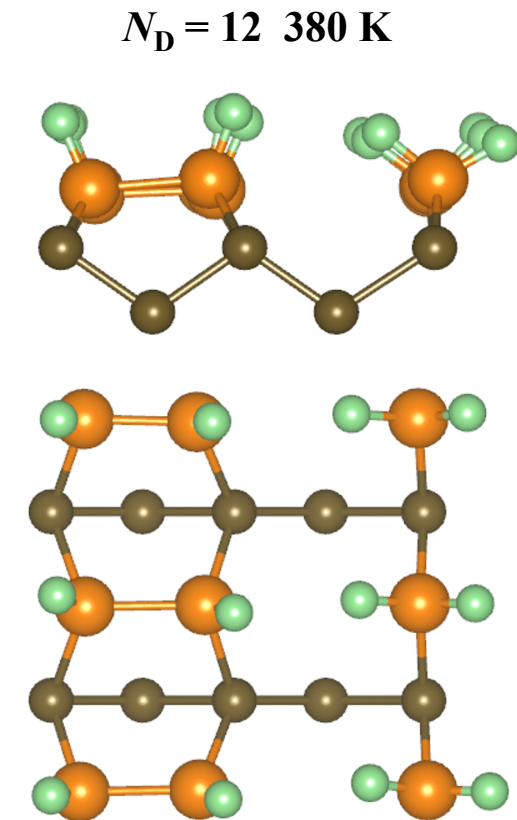
boundary	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII
$N_D$	0	2	2	6	2	4	8	10	12	10	12	13	14
$N_D$	2	8	6	8	4	6	10	12	13	14	15	14	16



# Si(100)-(3×3) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level



boundary	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
$N_H$	0	2	4	4	7	9	10
$N_D$	1	4	9	7	9	10	12

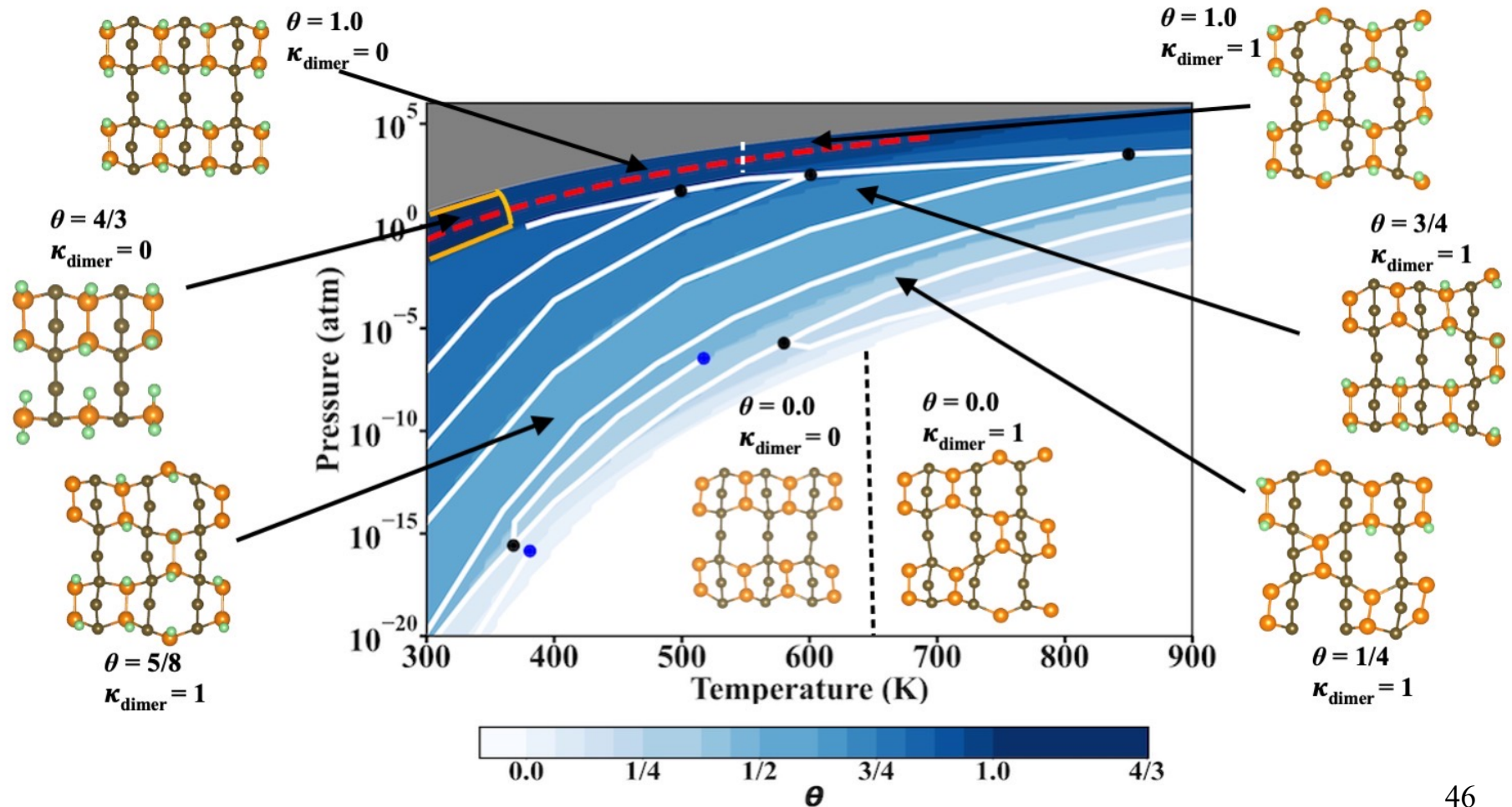


# Si(100) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level

Reduced potential function for the GC ensemble  $U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta[E(\mathbf{R}) - \mu N(\mathbf{R})]$

$$U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta \left[ E(\mathbf{R}) - E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}} - \mu N_{\text{D}}(\mathbf{R}) \right] / A^{\text{supercell}}$$

$E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}}$ : the potential energy of the unreconstructed Si(100) surface



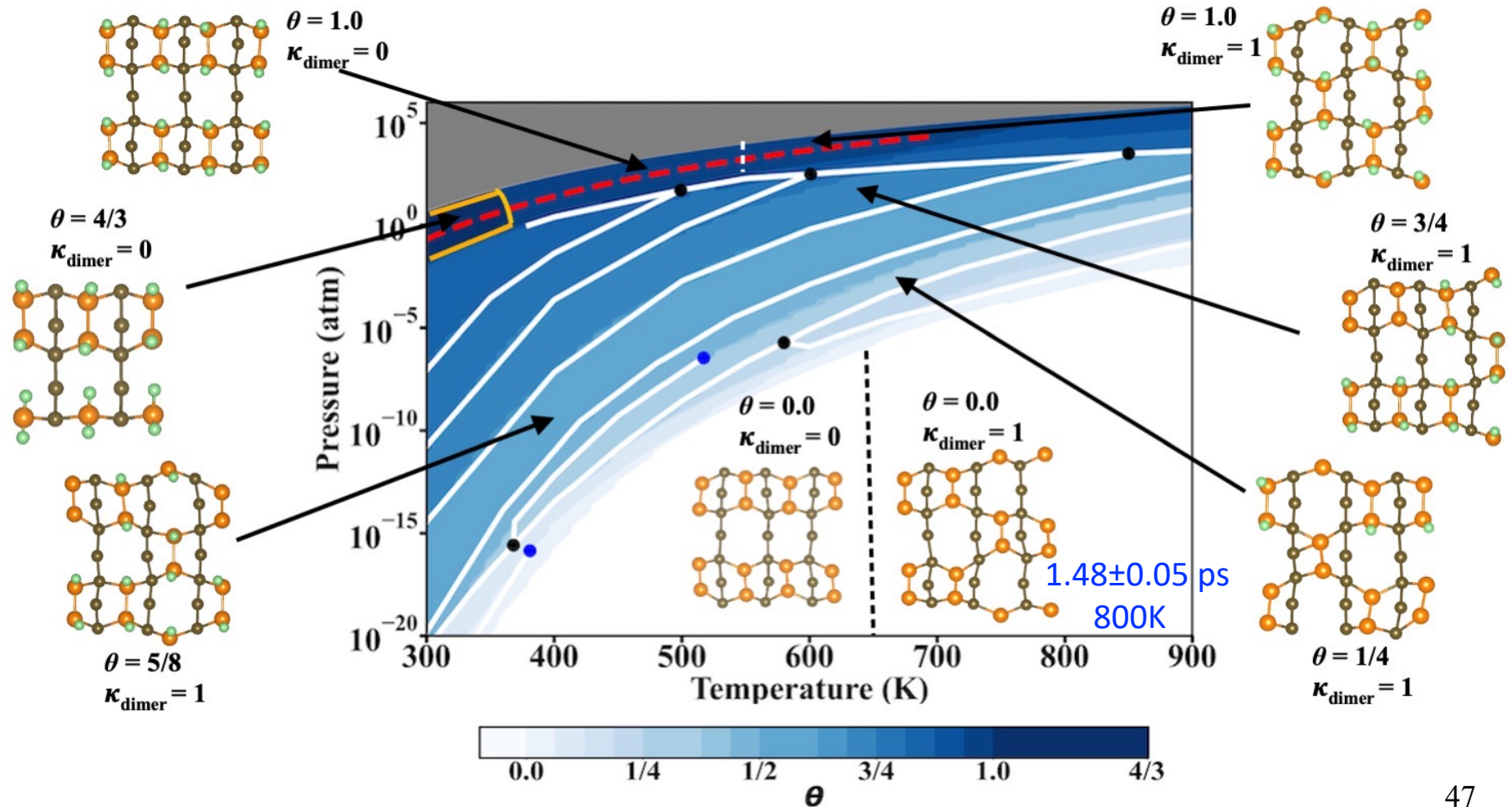
# Si(100) surface in contact with D<sub>2</sub> reactive atmosphere at *ab initio* level

Reduced potential function for the GC ensemble  $U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta[E(\mathbf{R}) - \mu N(\mathbf{R})]$

$$U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta \left[ E(\mathbf{R}) - E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}} - \mu N_{\text{D}}(\mathbf{R}) \right] / A^{\text{supercell}}$$

$E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}}$ : the potential energy of the unreconstructed Si(100) surface

Average bond lifetime:  $1.63 \pm 0.06$  ps, 800K



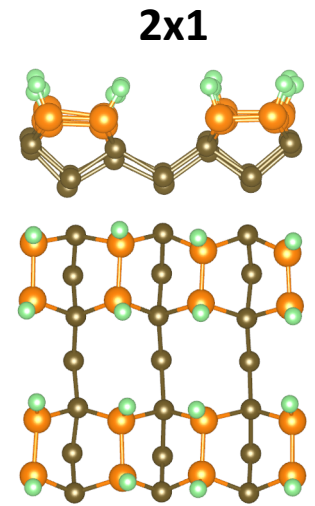
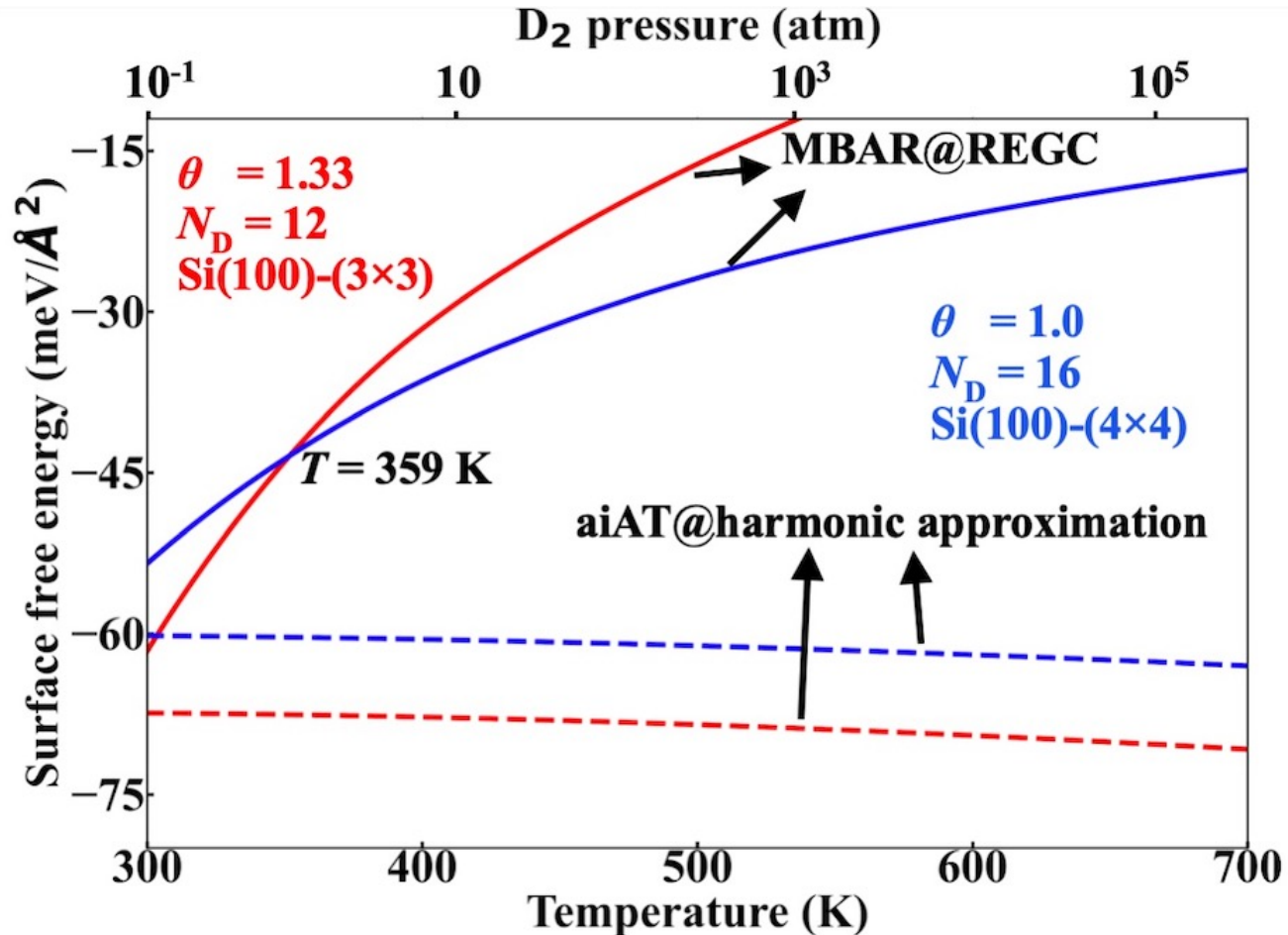
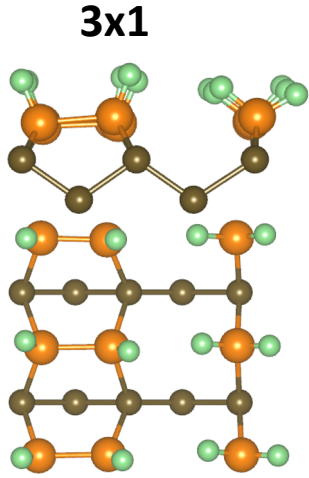
Adsorbed D slow the dynamics of dimer bonds

# REGC@MBAR vs. aiAT@harmonic approximation

Reduced potential function for the GC ensemble  $U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta[E(\mathbf{R}) - \mu N(\mathbf{R})]$

$$U(\mathbf{R}; \mu, \beta) = \beta \left[ E(\mathbf{R}) - E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}} - \mu N_{\text{D}}(\mathbf{R}) \right] / A^{\text{supercell}}$$

$E_{\text{unrecon}}^{\text{supercell}}$ : the potential energy of the unreconstructed Si(100) surface



Anharmonic contributions: dynamical restructuring of Si-Si dimers



# Thermodynamic overpotential

## Computational hydrogen electrode model

$$\Delta G_{\text{ads}} = \Delta E_{\text{ads}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} - T\Delta S$$

Chemical potential of  $\text{H}_2 \rightarrow 2(\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^-)$  is half of  $\text{H}_2$  when SHE is the reference potential

$$\Delta G_{\text{U}} = eU \quad \text{A bias effect of electron in the electrode}$$

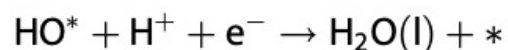
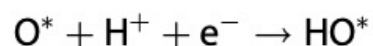
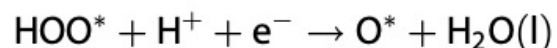
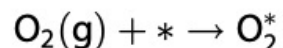
$$\Delta G_{\text{pH}} = -k_{\text{B}}T \ln[\text{H}^+] = -k_{\text{B}}T \ln 10 \times \text{pH} \quad \text{pH effect}$$

Solvent and dipole effect is neglected

$$\Delta G = \Delta E_{\text{ads}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} - T\Delta S - n(0.5G_{\text{H}_2} - \Delta G_{\text{U}} + \Delta G_{\text{pH}})$$

In an acid environment,  $\text{O}_2$  reduction the associative mechanism

### Elementary steps



# Thermodynamic overpotential

## Computational hydrogen electrode model

$$\Delta G_{\text{ads}} = \Delta E_{\text{ads}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} - T\Delta S$$

Chemical potential of  $\text{H}_2 \rightarrow 2(\text{H}^+ + \text{e}^-)$  is half of  $\text{H}_2$  when SHE is the reference potential

$$\Delta G_{\text{U}} = eU \quad \text{A bias effect of electron in the electrode}$$

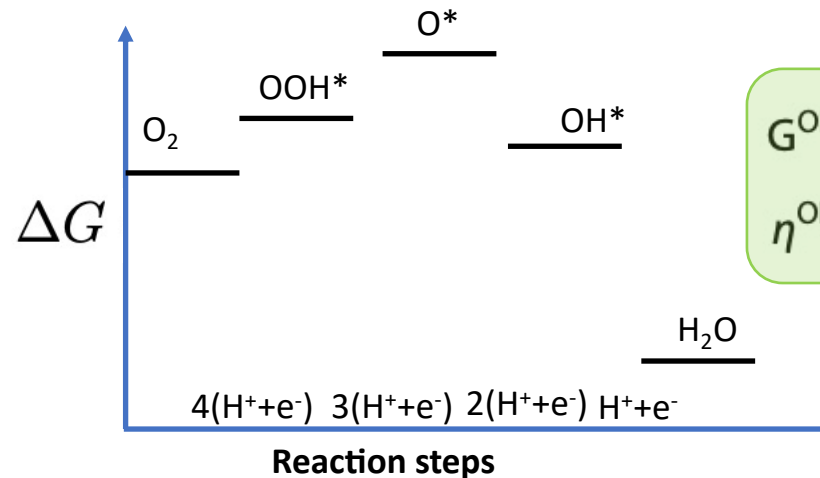
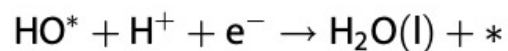
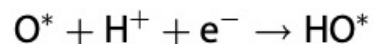
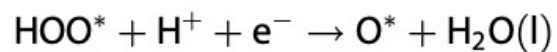
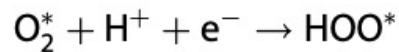
$$\Delta G_{\text{pH}} = -k_{\text{B}}T \ln[\text{H}^+] = -k_{\text{B}}T \ln 10 \times \text{pH} \quad \text{pH effect}$$

Solvent and dipole effect is neglected

$$\Delta G = \Delta E_{\text{ads}} + \Delta E_{\text{ZPE}} - T\Delta S - n(0.5G_{\text{H}_2} - \Delta G_{\text{U}} + \Delta G_{\text{pH}})$$

In an acid environment,  $\text{O}_2$  reduction the associative mechanism

Elementary steps



$$G^{\text{ORR}} = \min\{\Delta G_1, \Delta G_2, \Delta G_3, \Delta G_4\}$$

$$\eta^{\text{ORR}} = |G^{\text{ORR}}|/e - 1.23 \text{ V}$$

# Summary & outlook

***Ab initio* atomistic thermodynamics method:**

well-defined systems: screened structures

✓  $F^{\text{vib}}$  (quasi)-harmonic approximation

✓  $F^{\text{conf}}$  is negligible

**The Replica-Exchange Grand-Canonical *ab initio* Molecular Dynamics method:**

✓ to address surface composition and geometry at catalytic ( $T, p$ ) conditions.

to quantitatively determine *ab initio* phase boundaries.

✓ to calculate  $T$ - $p$  dependence of any (atom position dependent) observable.

✗ Fixed volume

✗ Insertion directly into the lattice (lattice expansion/change)

✗ Kinetics of reactions: combined with methods e.g., Markov state models

# Reference

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**Thank you for attention!**