

Astronomical Complex Organic Molecules in different environments

1st Italian Workshop on Astrochemistry
March 10-11 2016
Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy

The rôle of surfaces in prebiotic chemistry

Piero Ugliengo

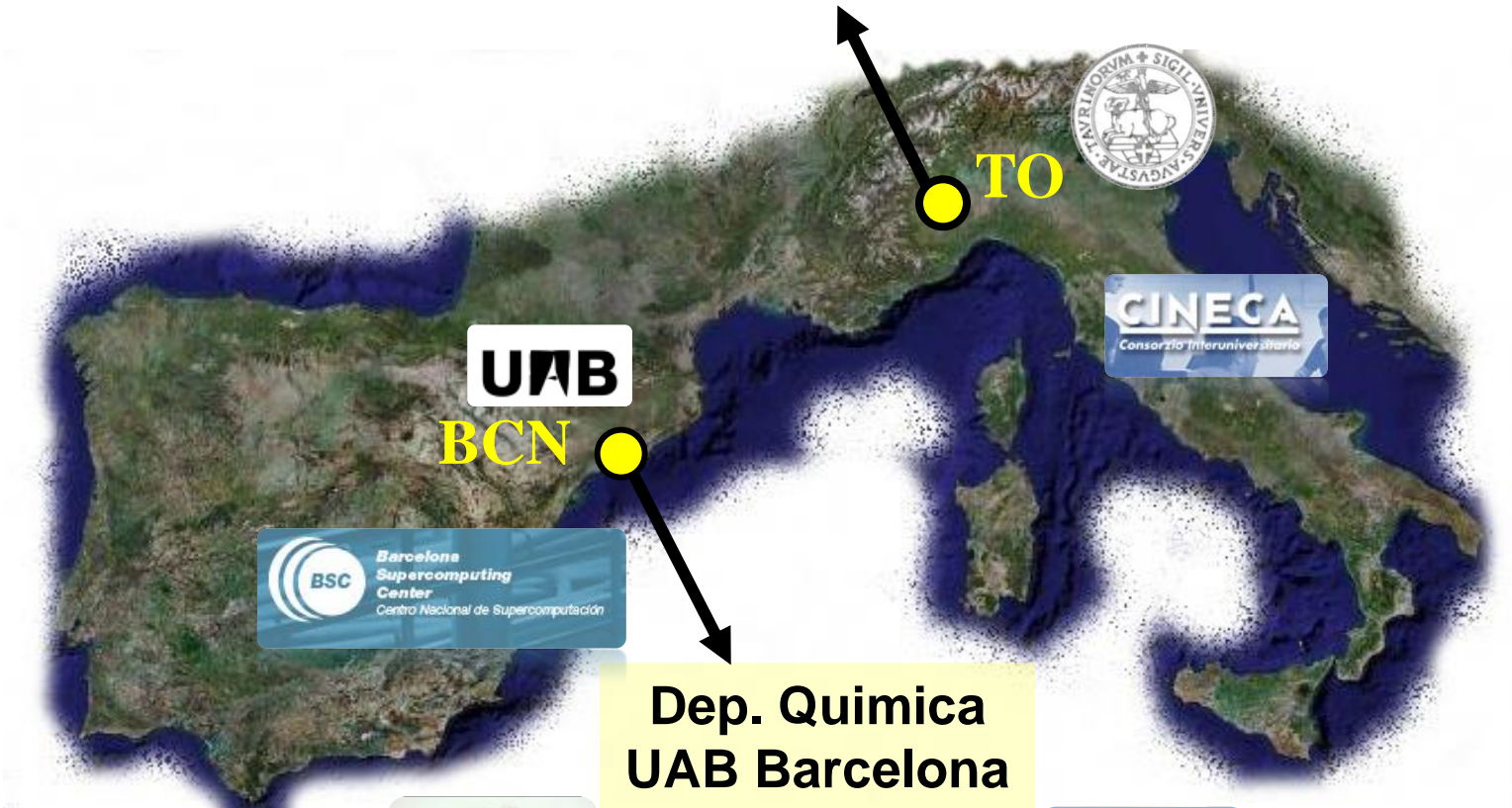
University of Torino Dip. Chimica

Via P. Giuria, 7 - Torino



A collaborative work

Dip. Chimica - NIS Centre – Torino University



J. Navarro



M. Sodupe



A. Rimola

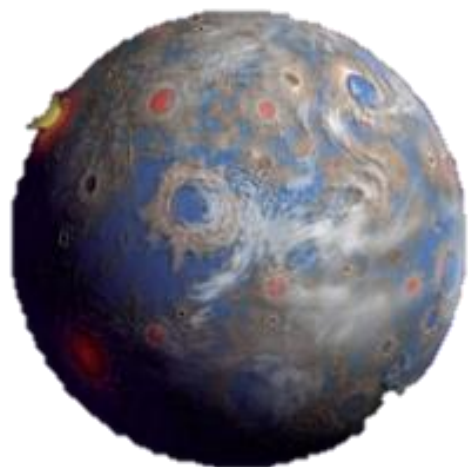
Chemical processes of prebiotic relevance



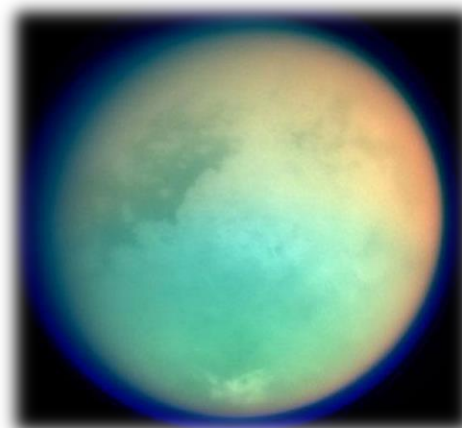
Chemistry in ISM (gas, dust)



Chemistry in Comets



Chemical evolution on
primordial Earth

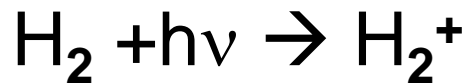


Chemistry on primordial
atmospheres (Titan)

Chemical scenarios

Homogeneous chemistry

Gas-phase reactions



Models of primordial atmospheres



Titan atmosphere

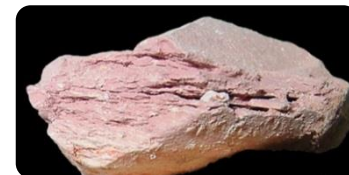
Heterogeneous chemistry



Reactions at the grain surfaces (**ice**, **olivine**, silica, PAH, IDP)



Reactions at the mineral surfaces (feldspar, clays, FeS₂, etc.)

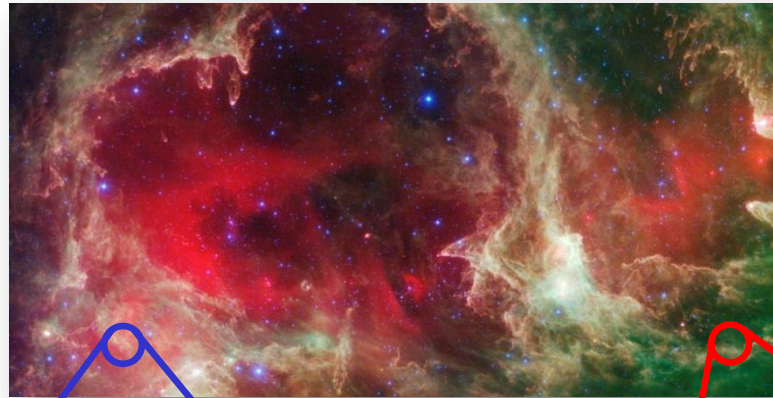


Can computer simulation contribute?

Grains in molecular clouds

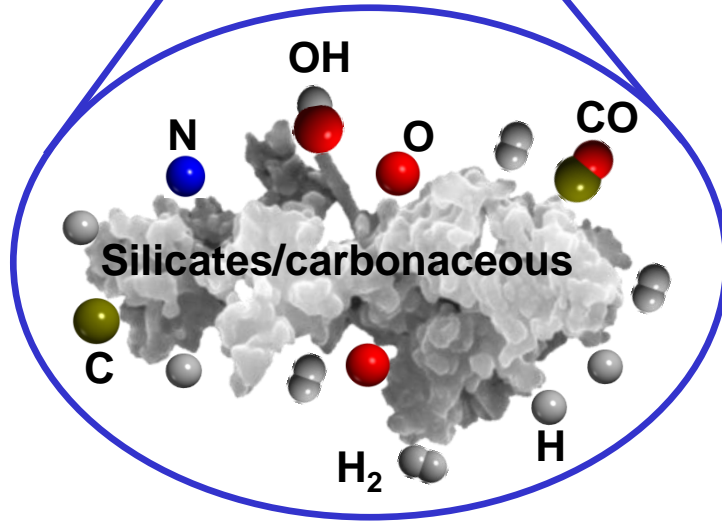
Diffuse Clouds

Dust
Particles
+
Gaseous
Atoms and
Molecules



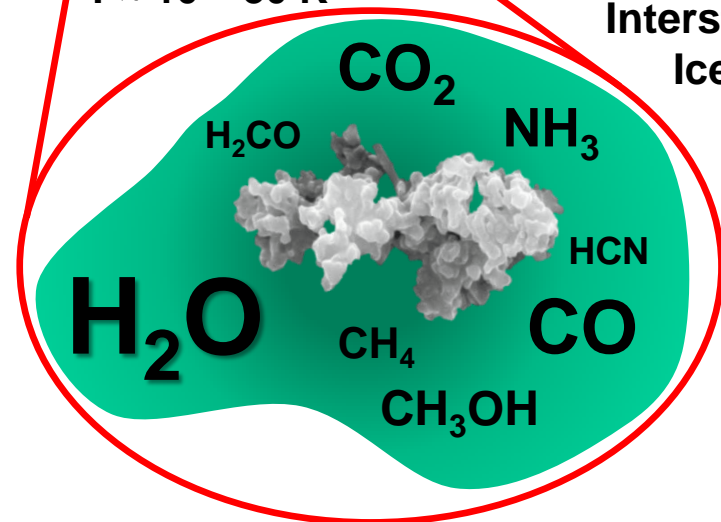
Celestial Valentine
W5 star-forming region
Portrait from NASA's
Spitzer Space Telescope

$n_{\text{at}} \approx 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 $T \approx 80 - 100 \text{ K}$



CORE

$n_{\text{at}} \approx 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 $T \approx 10 - 30 \text{ K}$



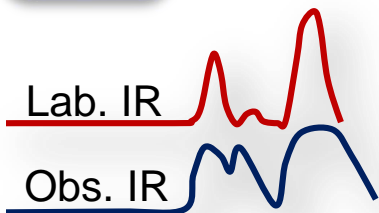
CORE+MANTLE

Dense Clouds

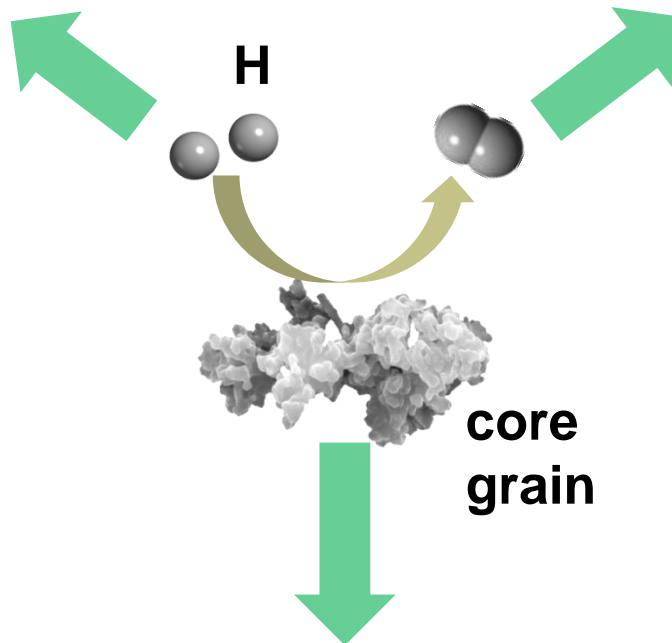
Dust
Particles
+
Interstellar
Ices

Current approaches to H₂ on interstellar dust

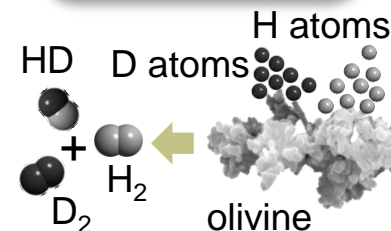
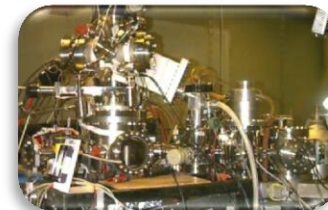
Spectroscopic Measurements



Molster, F. et al., *Space Sci. Rev.* **2005**, 119, 3-28



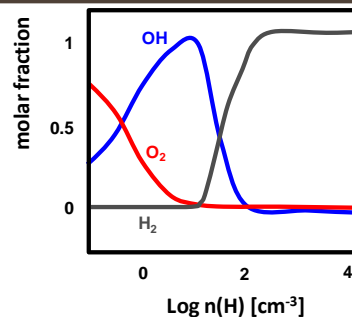
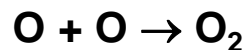
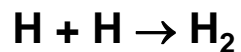
Chemical Reactivity



Perets, H. B. et al., *Astrophys. J. Lett.* **2007**, 661, L163-L166

Numerical Astrochemical Models

Rate Equation Models



Caselli, P. et al., *Astrophys. J.* **1998**, 495, 309-316

Relevance of chemical modeling

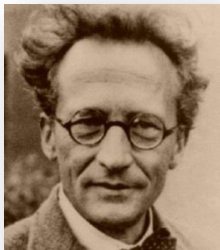
Spectroscopic Measurements
Chemical Reactivity Experiments
Numerical Astrochemical Models

Average
Data

Lack of
Atomic-Scale
Information

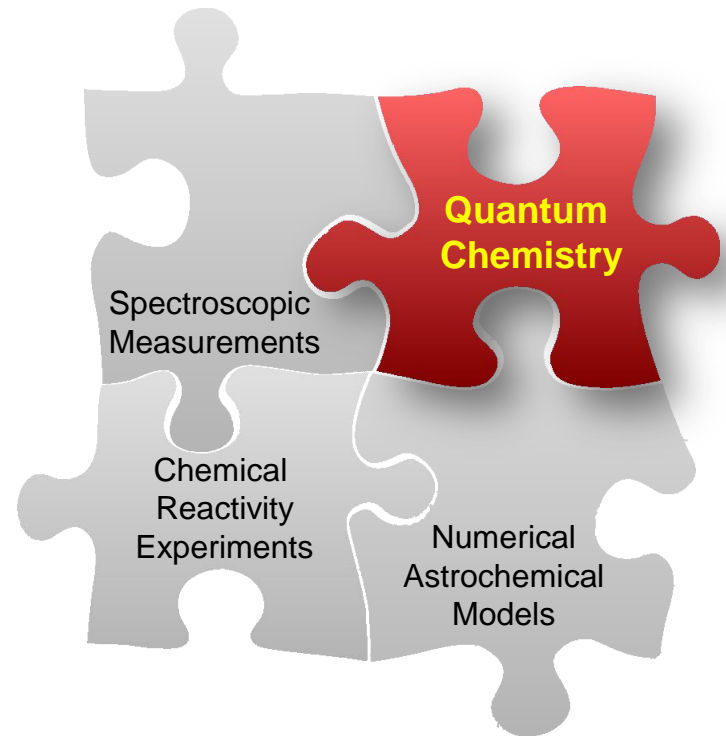
Molecular Simulations
Based on QUANTUM
MECHANICAL METHODS

The Schrödinger Equation



$$\hat{H}\Psi = E\Psi$$

“If we can solve this equation we know everything about the systems”



The ab-initio simulation: attacking the SE

Schrödinger equation



$$\hat{H}\Psi_i(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2, \dots, \vec{x}_N, \vec{R}_1, \vec{R}_2, \dots, \vec{R}_M) = E_i \Psi_i(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2, \dots, \vec{x}_N, \vec{R}_1, \vec{R}_2, \dots, \vec{R}_M)$$

$$\hat{H} = T_e + T_n + V_{en} + V_{ee} + V_{nn}$$

Hartree-Fock
(thousands atoms)



Møller-Plesset:
(MP2 ~ 60-200 atoms)

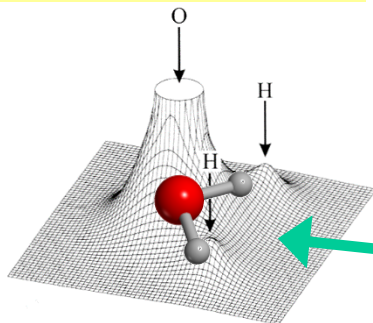


CI-SD, CCSD, CCSD(T)
(CCSD(T) ~ 10-90 atoms)

Density Functional Methods



HK1964



H₂O: 10 e⁻ and 3 nuclei

$$\Psi_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_{10}; \mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_3)$$

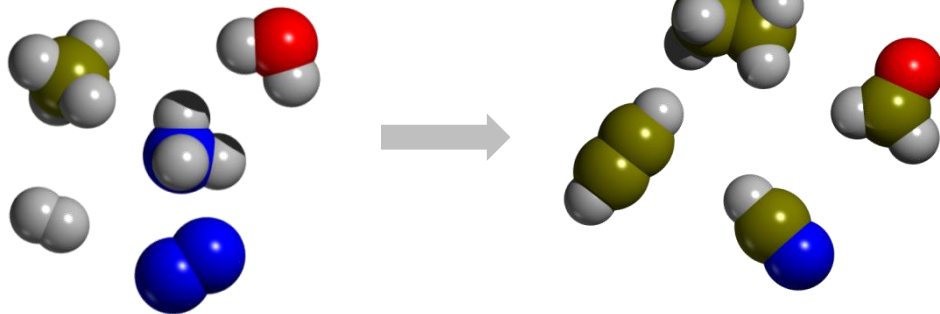
$$\rho(x, y, z) \longleftrightarrow E = F[\rho(x, y, z)]$$

$\rho(x, y, z)$ is a function of **three spatial variables** irrespective of the system complexity and contains all relevant ingredients of a given physical system. F is unfortunately unknown.

$$F[\rho] = \text{B-LYP} \quad \text{B3-LYP} \quad \text{PW91} \quad \text{PBE} \quad \dots$$

From molecules to crystals and surfaces

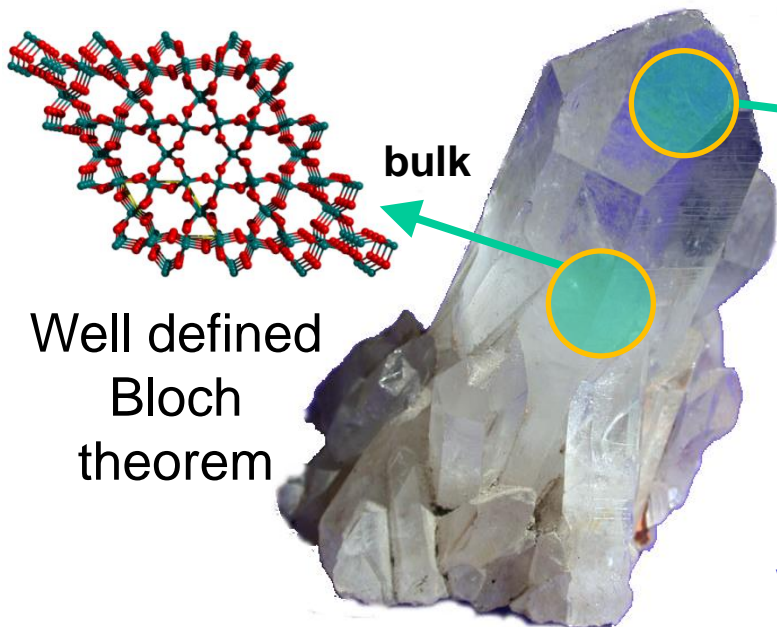
Gas-phase processes



DFT
MP2
CCSDT(T)
Locate TS
Gaussian09, ORCA, Gamess...

accuracy ↓

Crystals and surfaces

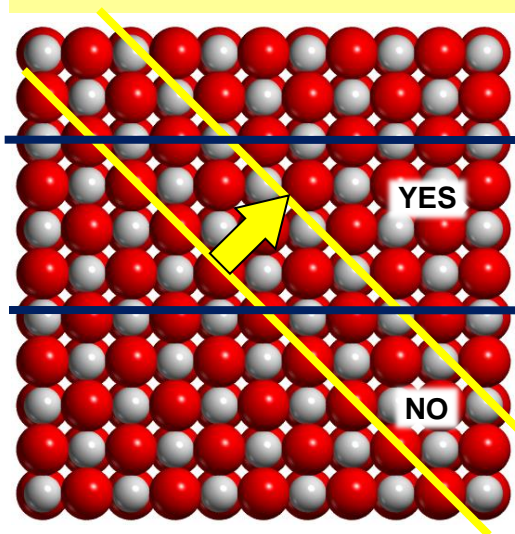


? Bonds cuts. How?
? How to terminate?
? Reconstruction?

Only **DFT** (B3LYP with CRYSTAL09)
Harder to locate TS
VASP, CPMD, QMespresso, CRYSTAL09, CP2K

Termination at surfaces: ionic, covalent, molecular crystals

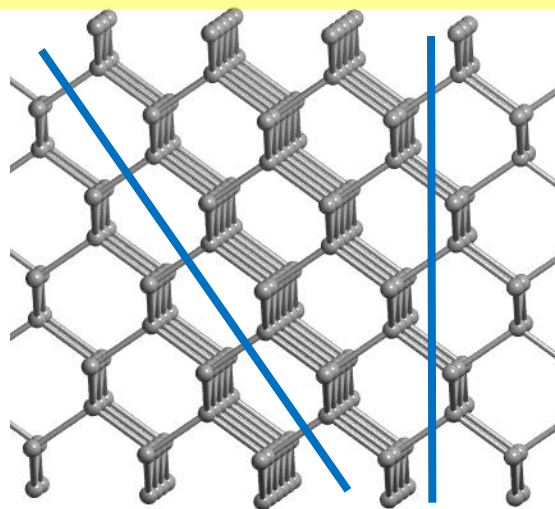
IONIC



Surfaces exhibiting net dipole across the surface are **unstable** (yellow lines)

Cations at the surface tend to move inwards. The reverse for anions. (surface relaxation)

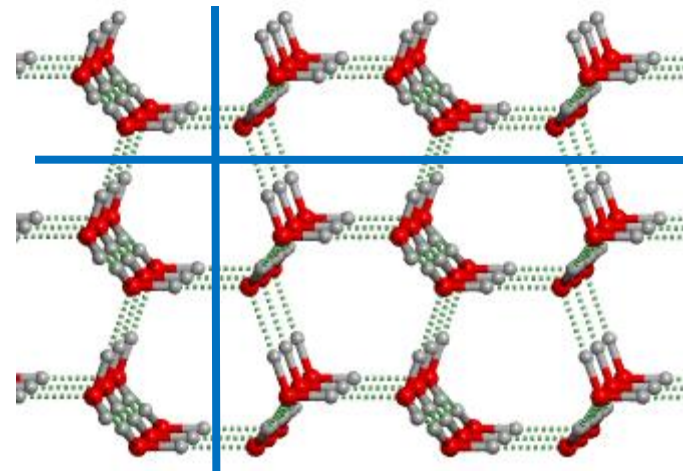
COVALENT



Cutting bonds leave unsatisfied dangling bonds which are **very reactive**

Dangling bonds tend to self-heal by surface reconstruction

MOLECULAR



Only inter-molecular bonds are cut. **No dangling bonds** left.

Large molecular displacements may stabilize polar surfaces

Quantum mechanical codes for periodic systems

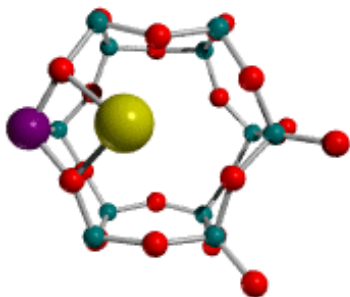


Treatment of 0D, 1D,
2D and 3D structures

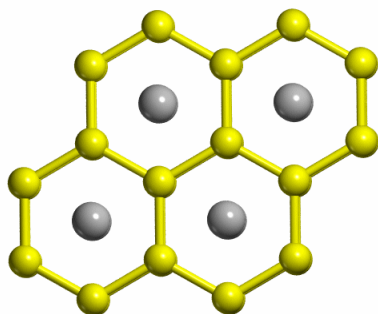
HF, LDA, GGA, HYBRID

Gaussian Basis Set

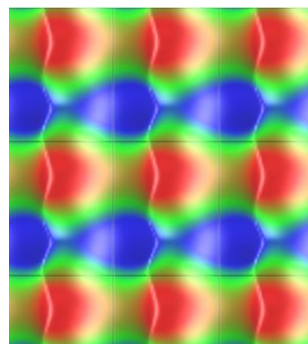
www.crystal.unito.it



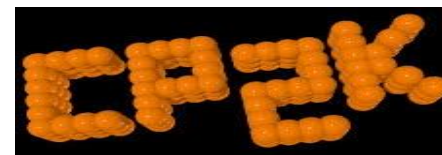
Geometry
Optimizations



Frequency
Calculations



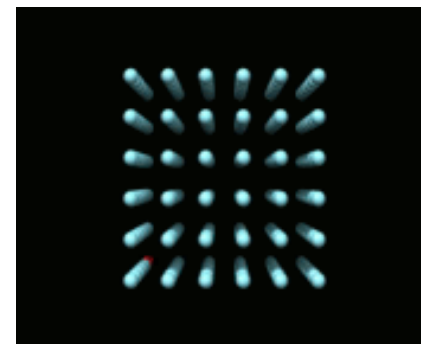
Electrostatic
Potential Maps



Treatment of 3D structures
Gaussian and
Plane Waves
approaches

HF, LDA, GGA,
HYBRID, MP2,
RPA...

www.cp2k.org

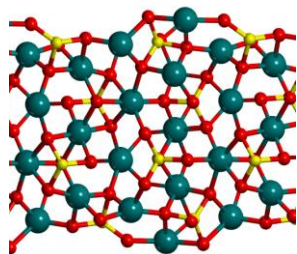


Molecular
Dynamics



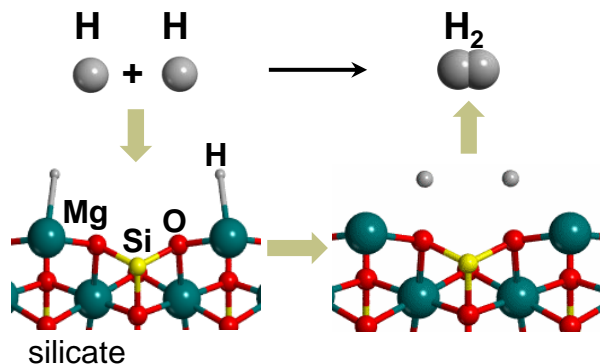
Questions to be addressed by QM methods

Physicochemical properties of the silicates

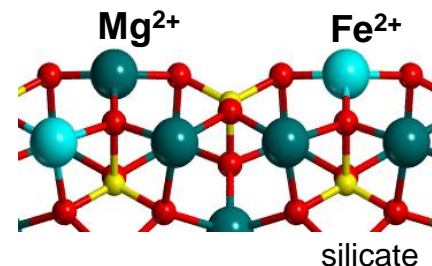


- Structural
- Electronic
- Vibrational
- Dielectric

Which are the actual mechanistic steps?



What is the effect of metal ions?

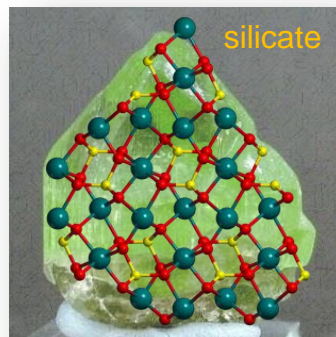
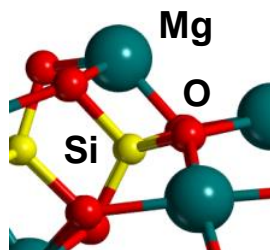


Mg²⁺: [Ne]

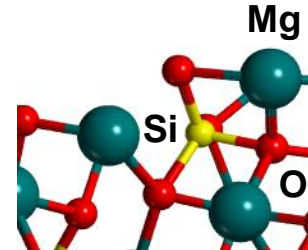
Fe²⁺: [Ar] 3d⁶

How important is the role of surface morphology?

(110) surface

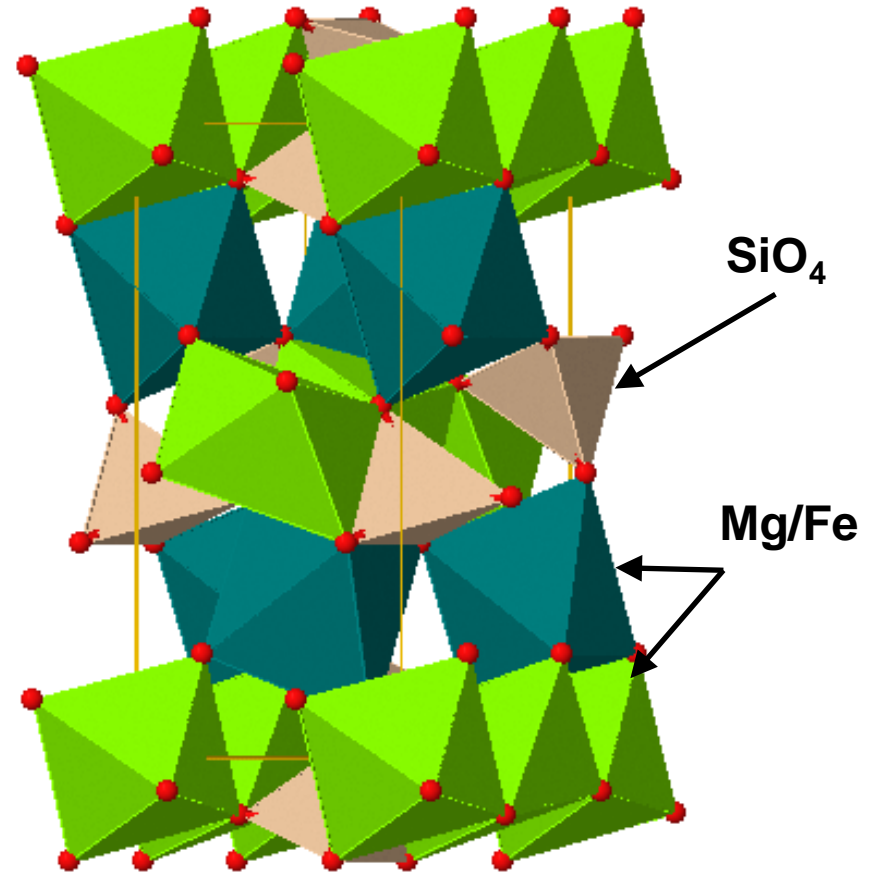
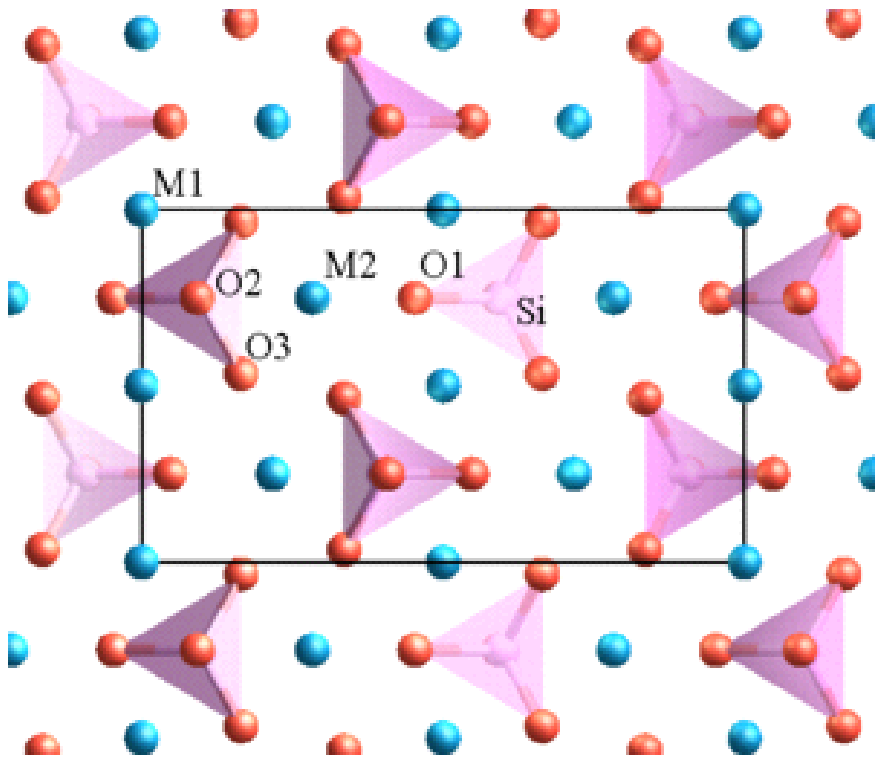


(001) surface



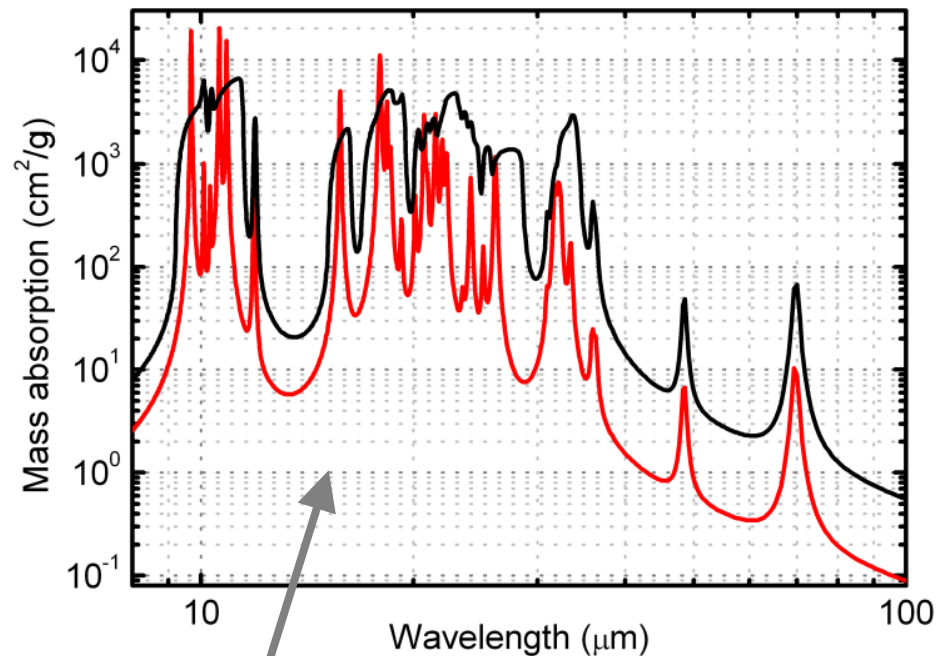
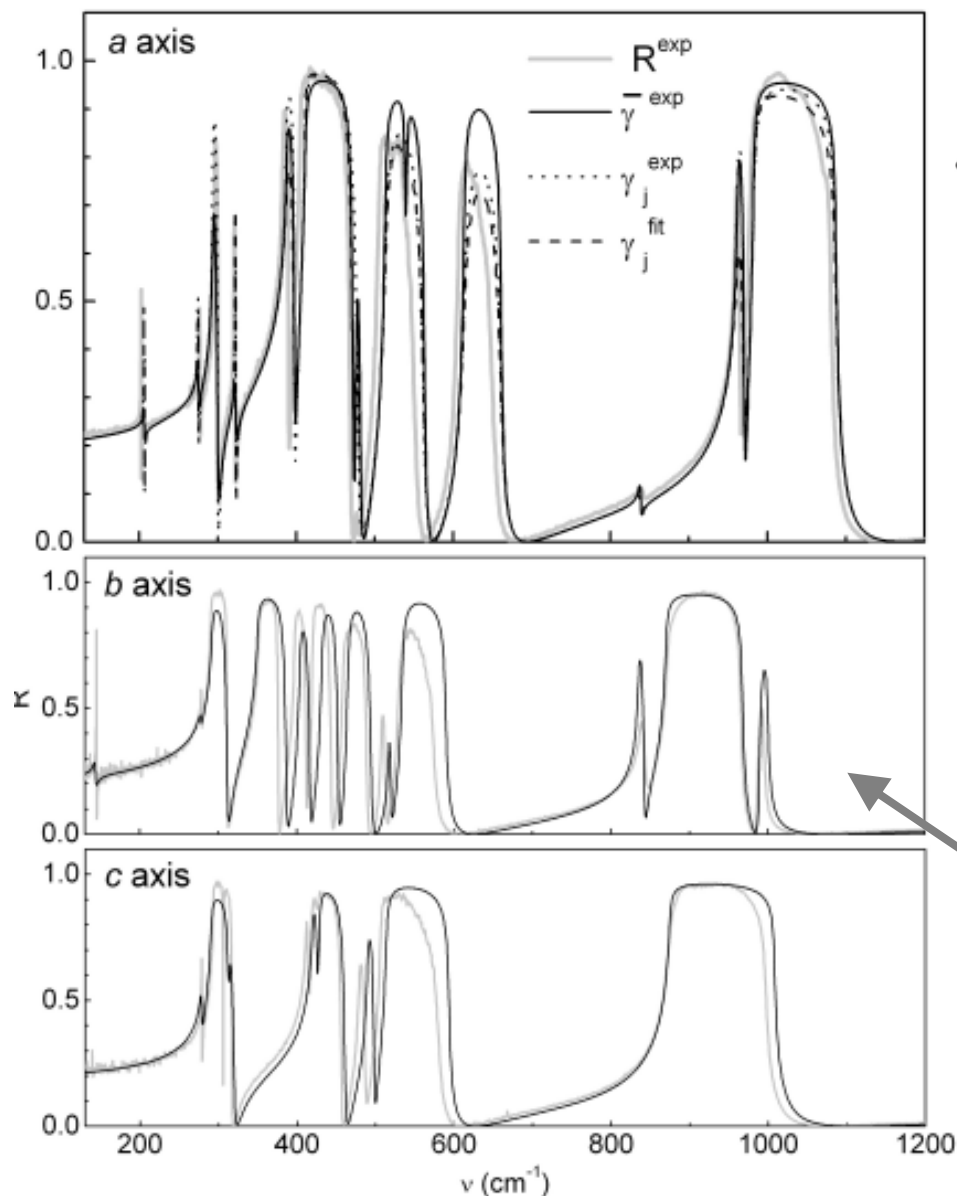
Periodic approach to core grain simulation

M1, M2 = Mg, Fe



Forsterite($x=0$)/Fayalite($x=2$) $\text{Mg}_{2-x}\text{Fe}_x\text{SiO}_4$

Reflectance spectrum of crystalline forsterite Mg_2SiO_4



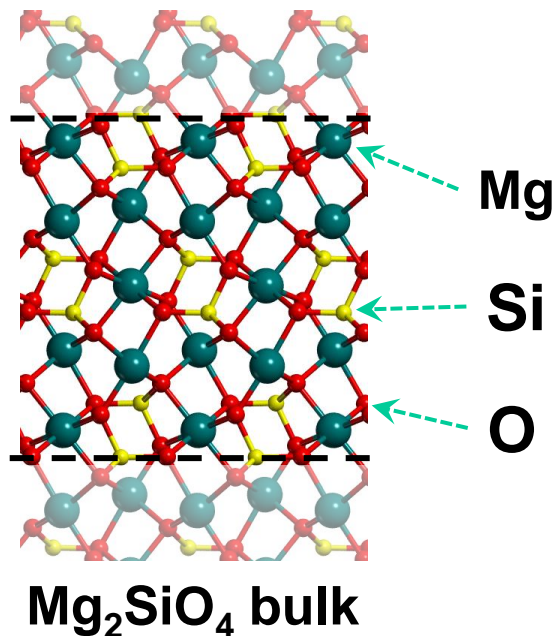
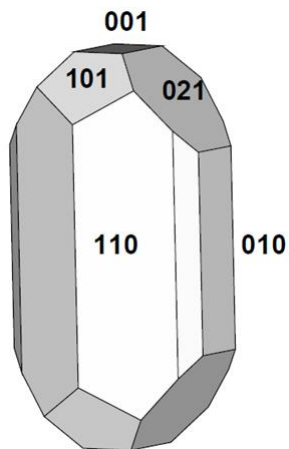
B3LYP mass adsorption spectrum
(**red**: spherical; **black**: continuous
distribution of ellipsoids)

B3LYP reflectance spectra with
different damping factors γ

M. De La Pierre *et al*, *J. Comp. Chem.*, (2011),
32, 1775.

Crystalline surfaces of forsterite Mg_2SiO_4

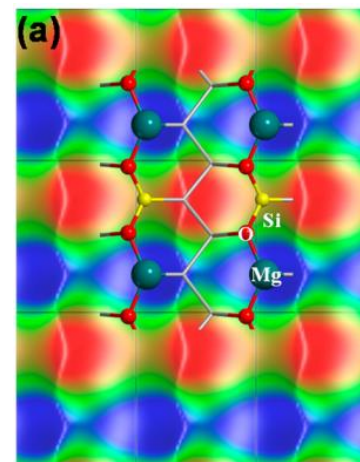
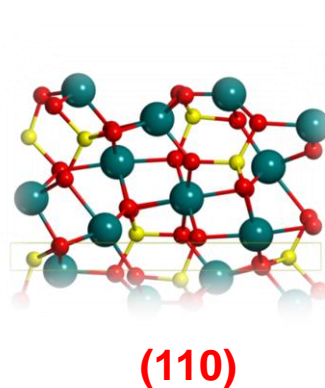
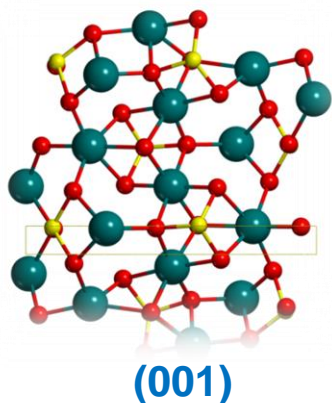
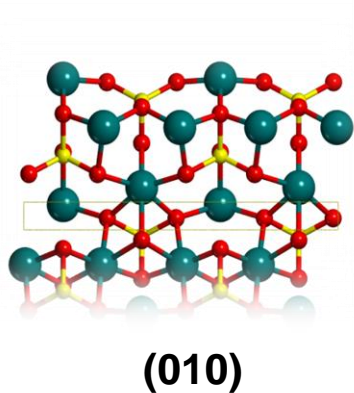
Crystal morphology of Forsterite



Surface energies of Mg_2SiO_4 surfaces

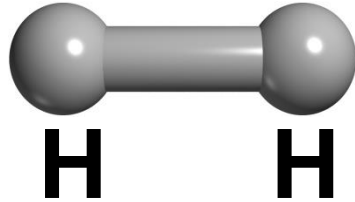
Surface	γ (J m^{-2})
(010)	1.22
(101)	1.78
(001)	1.78
(021)	1.90
(110)	2.18

Bruno, M. et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2014**, 118, 2498-2506



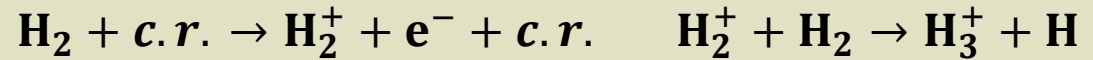
Relevance of the interstellar H₂

ASTROPHYSICAL

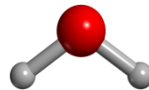
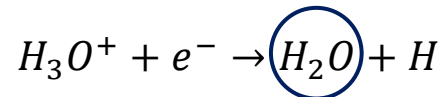
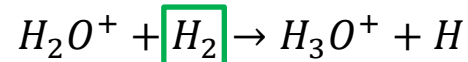
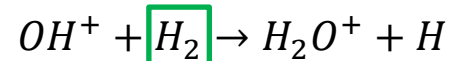
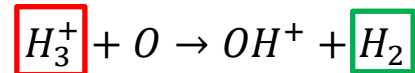


- The most abundant molecules in ISM
- An effective coolant for gases and m. clouds
- Does not form from gas-phase reaction
- **Does form on grains in m. clouds**

ASTROCHEMISTRY

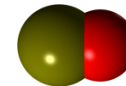
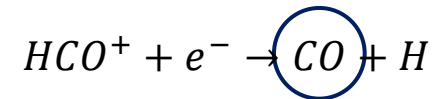
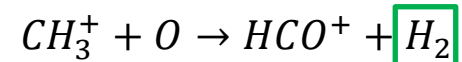
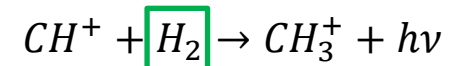
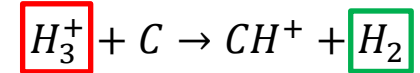


Chemistry of oxygen



Most abundant molecule in the SOLID-phase

Chemistry of carbon

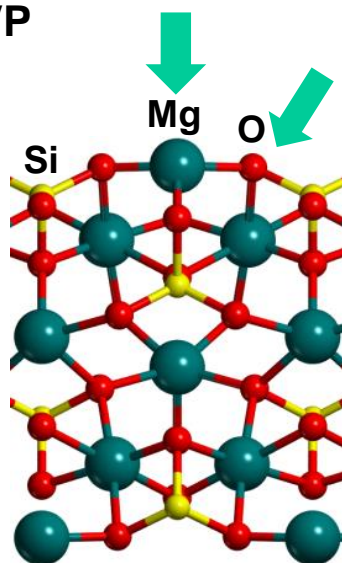


2nd most abundant molecule in the GAS-phase

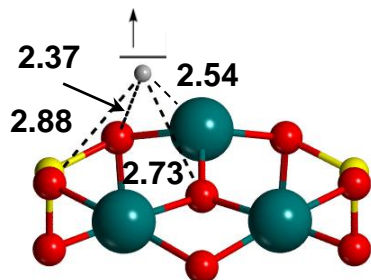
Adsorption of H at the (010) Mg_2SiO_4 forsterite

Geometry optimization: **B3LYP-D2*/DZVP**
 Energy refinement: **TZVP//DZVP**
 ZPE-corrected energies in **kcal/mol**
 BSSE corrected values

Navarro-Ruiz, J. et al.,
Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.
2014, 16, 17447-17457

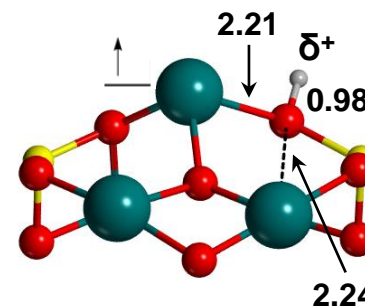


Phys-010-Mg1



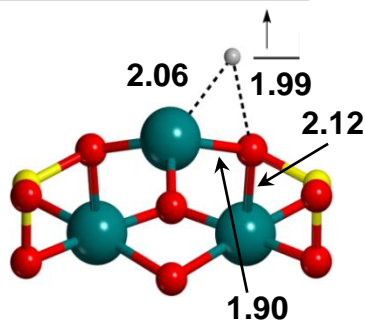
$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 \text{ -1.6}$$

Chem-010-O1



$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 \text{ -9.0}$$

Phys-010-Mg2

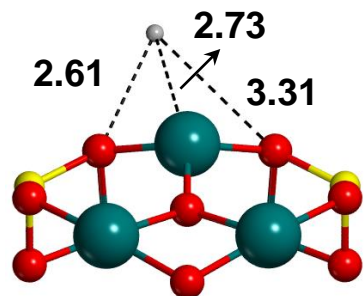


$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 \text{ -2.1}$$

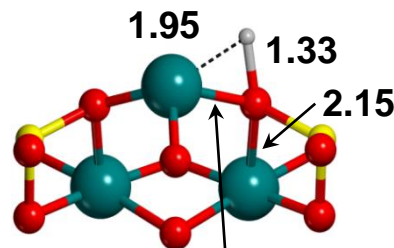
Electr. energy	Mg1	Mg2	O1
B3LYP-D2*	-3.3	-4.3	-16.7
BLYP-D2*	-3.0	-5.0	-15.8
BHLYP-D2*	-2.5	-1.9	-15.2
PBE-D2*	-4.3	-5.0	-18.7

Diffusion of H at the (010) Mg₂SiO₄ forsterite

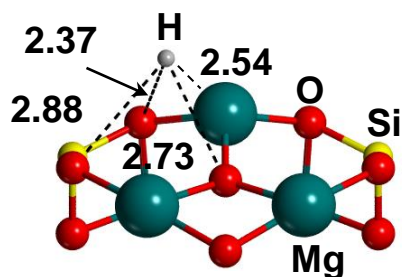
ZPE-corrected B3LYP-D2*/TZVP//B3LYP-D2*-DZVP in kcal/mol



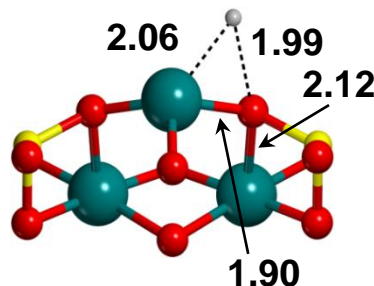
010-TS_{Mg1→Mg2}



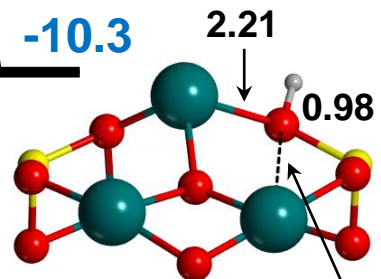
010-TS_{Mg2→O1}



010-Mg1



010-Mg2



010-O1

Fo + H

0.0

-2.2

1.9

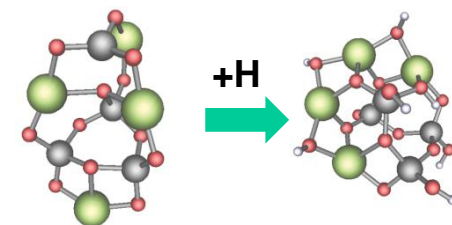
4.1

-2.6

3.8

6.4

-10.3



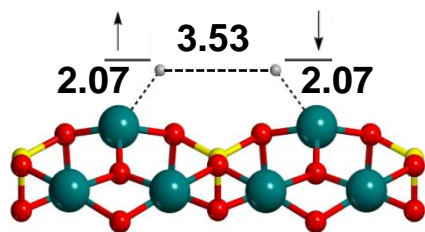
Method	$\Delta E(H_{\text{jump}})$
B3LYP-D2*	4.1
Kerkeni	0.14-4.8
Goumans	1.6
Exp.	0.57

Method	$\Delta E(H_{\text{phys}})$
B3LYP-D2*	-2.7
Kerkeni	-1.4/-5.8
Goumans	-2.5
Sidis	-3.2
Exp.	-1.0

Adsorption of a second H at the (010) Mg₂SiO₄ forsterite

ZPE-corrected B3LYP-D2*/TZVP//B3LYP-D2*-DZVP in kcal/mol

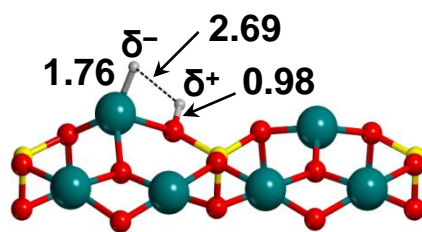
Phys-Mg-Mg



$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 -5.0$$

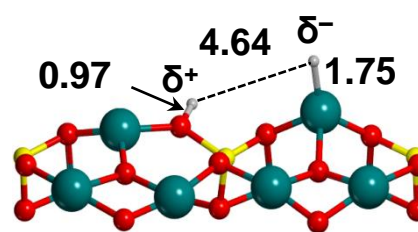
- ❖ 2H physisorbed states
- ❖ Spin densities on the H atoms

Chem-Mg-O



$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 -89.3$$

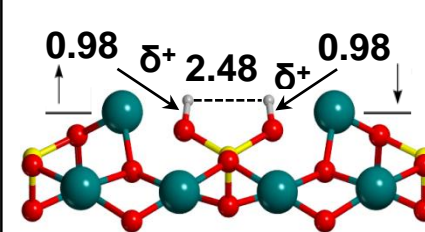
- ❖ O⁻...H⁺ proton and Mg⁺...H⁻ hydride character
- ❖ H bond between H⁻ and H⁺



$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 -71.3$$

- ❖ O⁻...H⁺ proton and Mg⁺...H⁻ hydride character

Chem-O-O

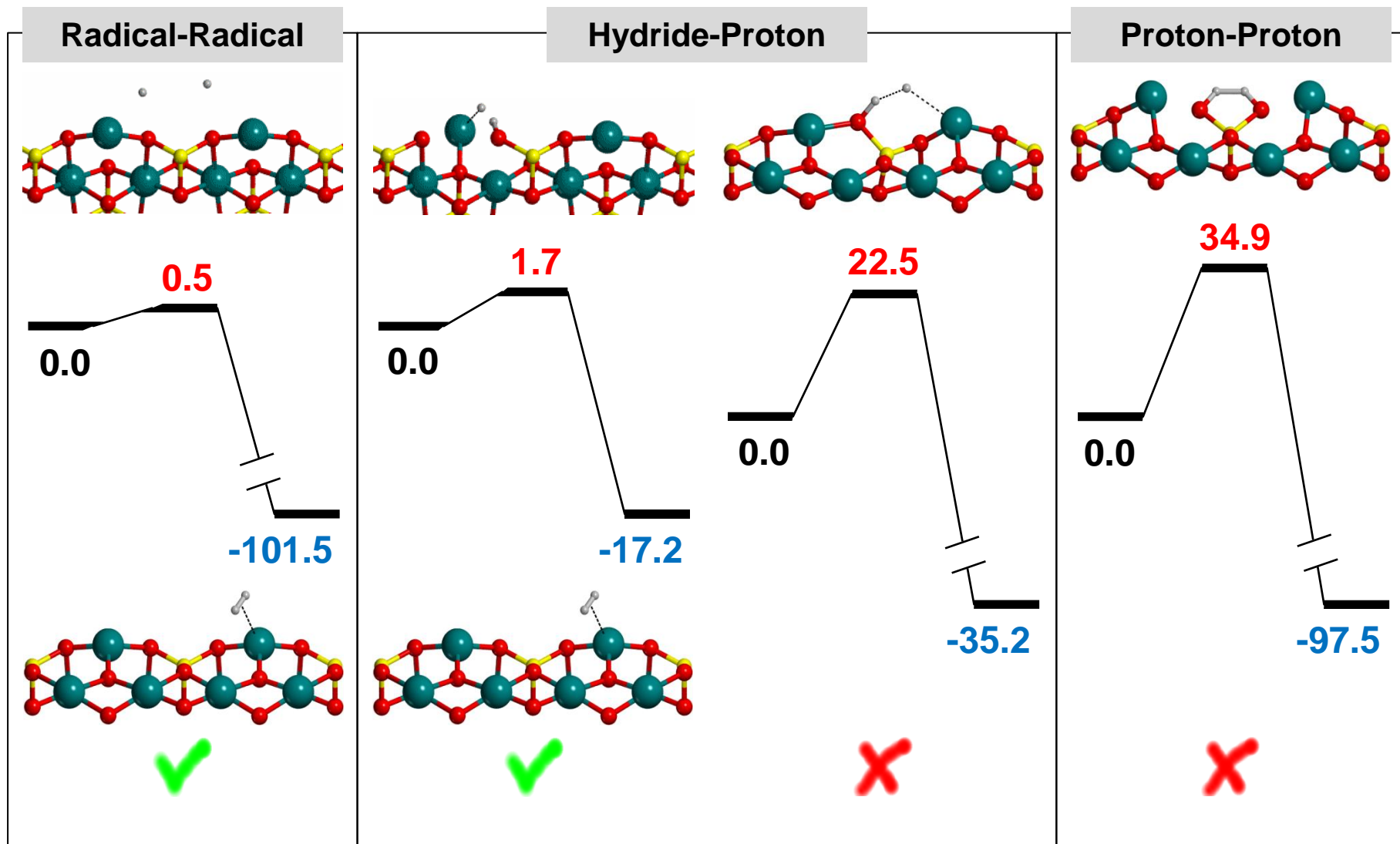


$$\Delta_{\text{ads}} U_0 -9.0$$

- ❖ 2H chemisorbed states
- ❖ Formation of a surface geminal Si-(OH)₂ groups
- ❖ Spin densities on the bare Mg atoms

L-H formation of H₂ at the (010) Mg₂SiO₄ forsterite

ZPE-corrected B3LYP-D2*/TZVP//B3LYP-D2*-DZVP in kcal/mol



Tunnel for H₂ formation at the (010) Mg₂SiO₄ forsterite

Rate Constants via classical Eyring Equation

$$k^{TST} = \frac{k_B T}{h} \frac{q^\ddagger}{q_{REACT}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta U_0^\ddagger}{RT}\right)$$

Tunneling Coefficients via Fermann & Auerbach Correction

$$\Gamma(T) = \exp\left(\frac{\Delta U_0^\ddagger}{k_B T}\right) \exp\left(\frac{2\pi\Delta U_0^\ddagger}{h\nu^\ddagger}\right) \left(1 + \frac{2\pi k_B T}{h\nu^\ddagger}\right)$$

Final Semi-classical Rate Constant

$$k^{SC-TST} = \Gamma(T) \times k^{TST}$$

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