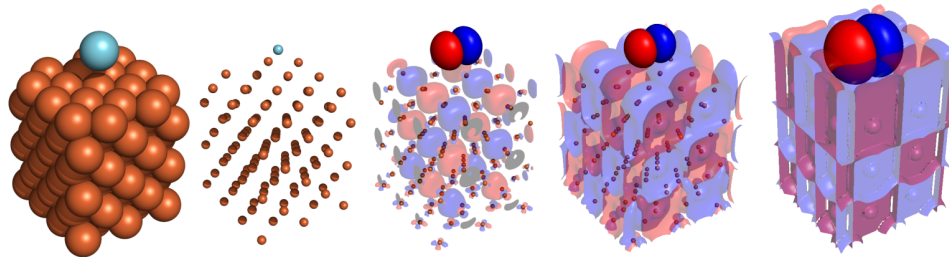


## Interpreting Ultrafast Electron Transfer on Surfaces with a Converged First-Principles Newns-Anderson Chemisorption Function

*FHI-aims Users and Developers Meeting, Hamburg, August 2-4th, 2023.*

Simiam Ghan, Elias Diesen, Christian Kunkel, Karsten Reuter and Harald Oberhofer



$$H_{\text{ad}} = \langle \psi_{\text{a}} | \hat{H} | \psi_{\text{d}} \rangle$$

# Density Functional Theory

- The workhorse of computational physics & chemistry[1]
- **Delocalized electronic structure**

- **Limited interpretability**

## Interpretative Schemes

- Charge analysis: Mulliken, Bader, Hirshfeld
- Bond-order analysis: Mulliken [2], COOP, COHP
- PDOS, LDOS, MODOS

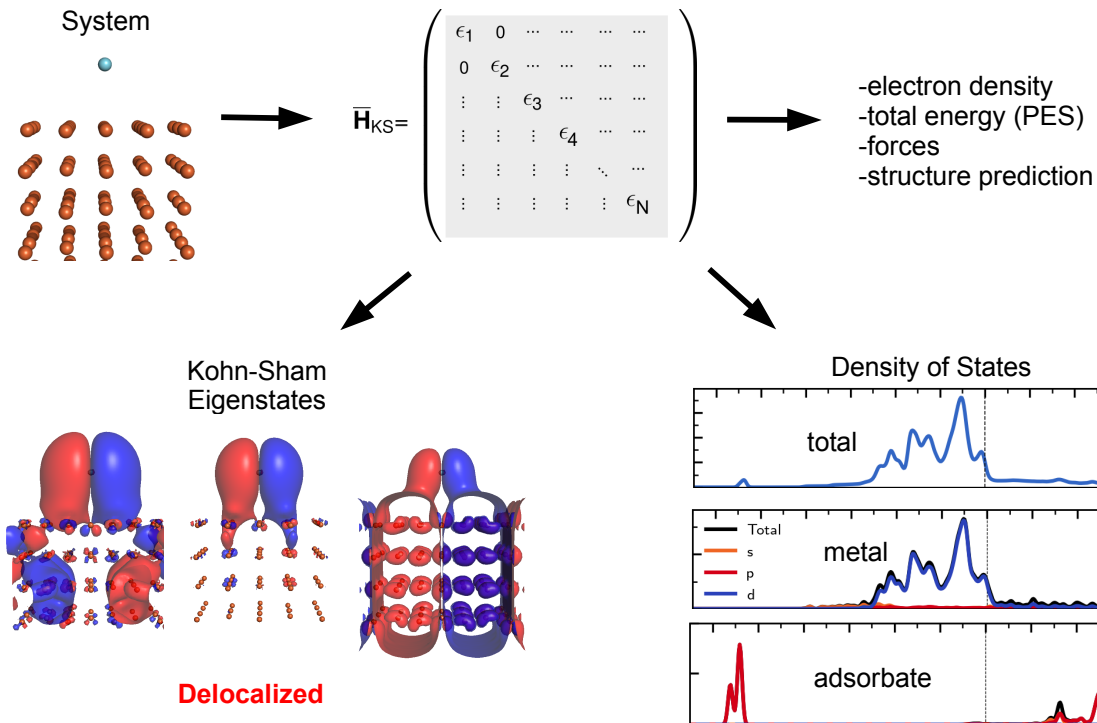
## Localization Schemes

- Wannier, LMO (→ correlated methods)
- SPADE (→ QM/MM embedding)
- Diabatization (→ charge transfer)
- +U Projector functions

→ local properties  
→ chemical insight

**Non-unique, qualitative,  
non-convergent**

## Adiabatic Representation



[1] W. Kohn, L.J. Sham, Physical Review (1965) (71,000 citations)

[2] R. Mulliken, JCP (1955) (11,000 citations)

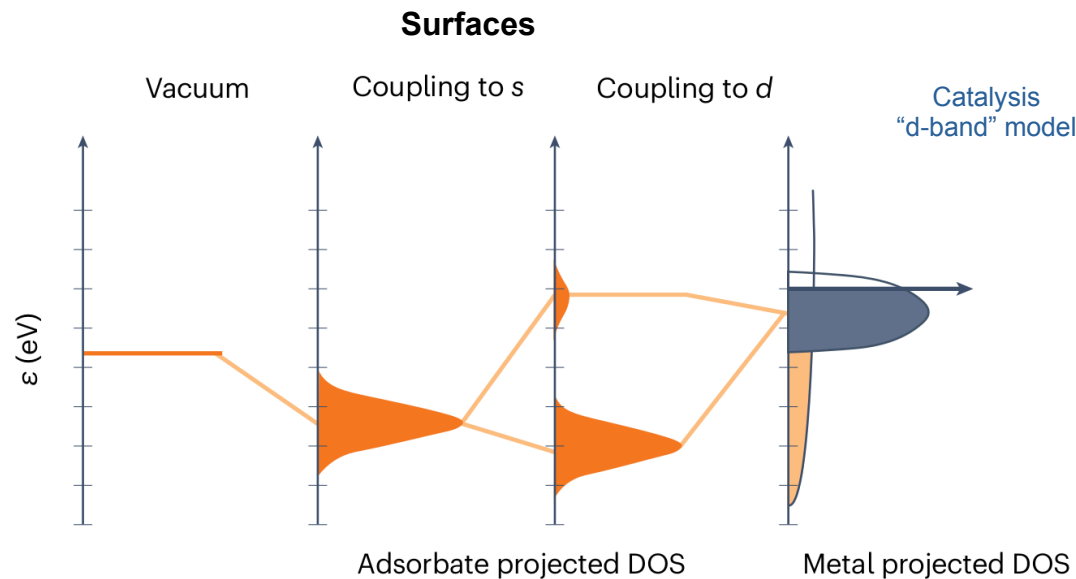
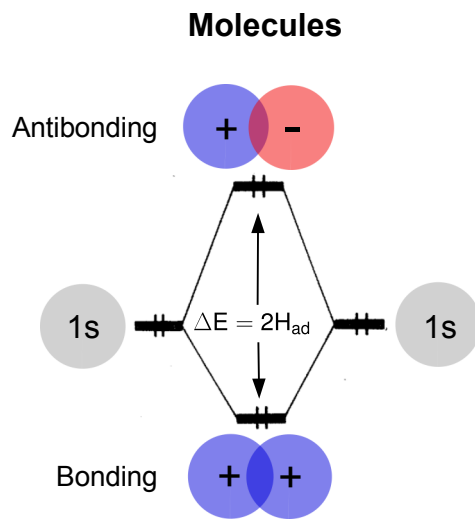
# Electronic Coupling $H_{ad}$

- A useful local property:
  - bonding, charge transfer
- a important *qualitative* descriptor
  - Not an observable
  - Not uniquely defined
  - Usually approximated

**Coupling**  $H_{ad} = \langle \psi_a | \hat{H} | \psi_d \rangle$

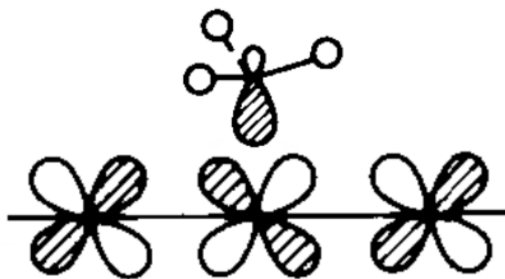
**Overlap**  $S_{ad} = \langle \psi_a | \psi_d \rangle$

“Hopping term”  
“Transfer integral”  
“matrix element”

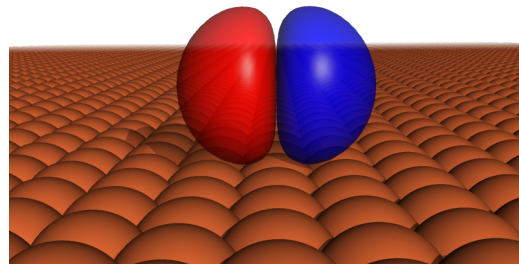


Mie Andersen, Nature Catalysis (2023).  
J. Nørskov, B. Hammer, Surface Science (1995).

Can we calculate electronic coupling from DFT  
*quantitatively*?



Qualitative Model (1988)



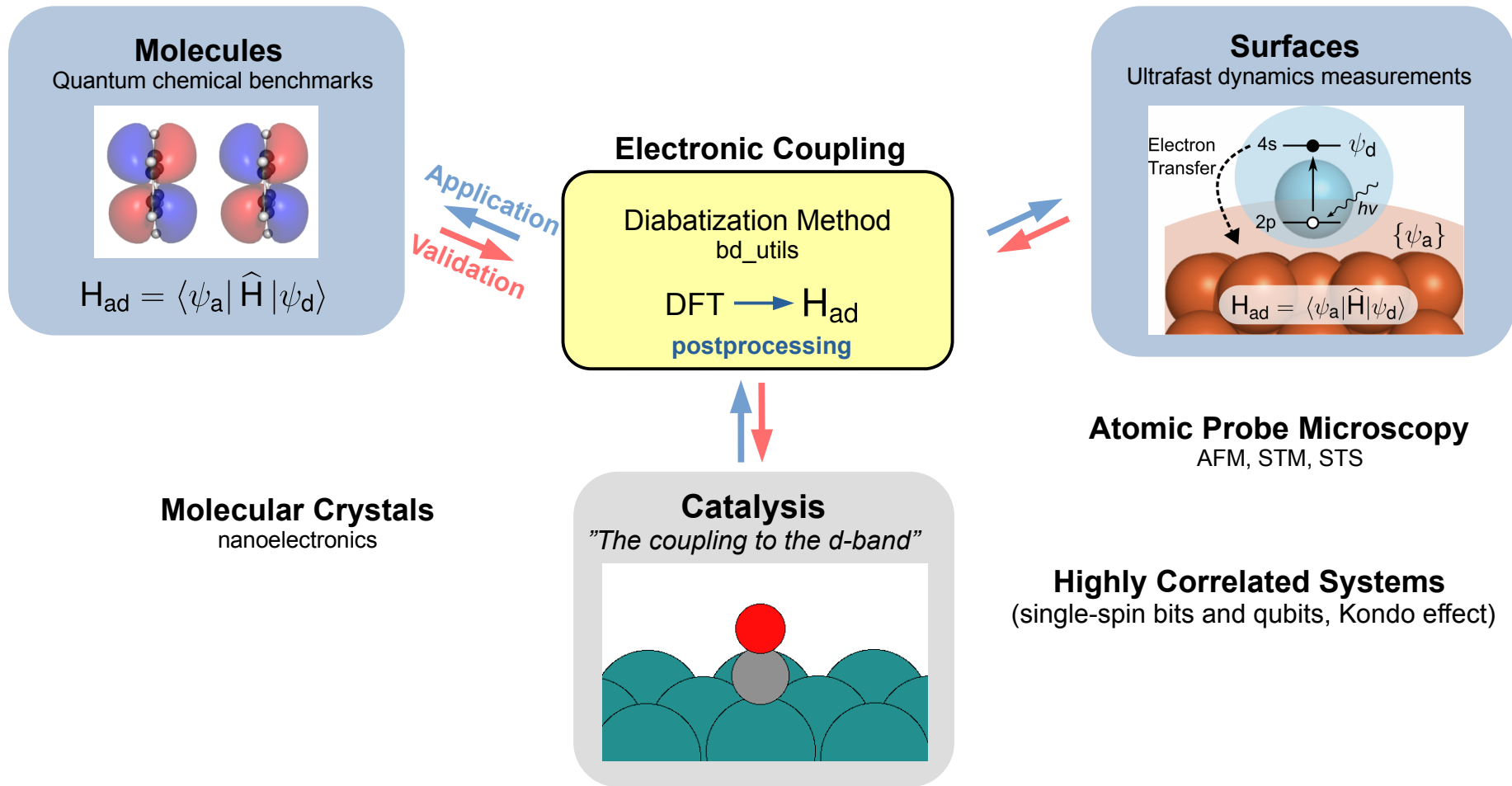
$$H_{ad} = \langle \psi_a | \hat{H} | \psi_d \rangle$$

$$S_{ad} = \langle \psi_a | \psi_d \rangle$$

Quantitative Method (2023)

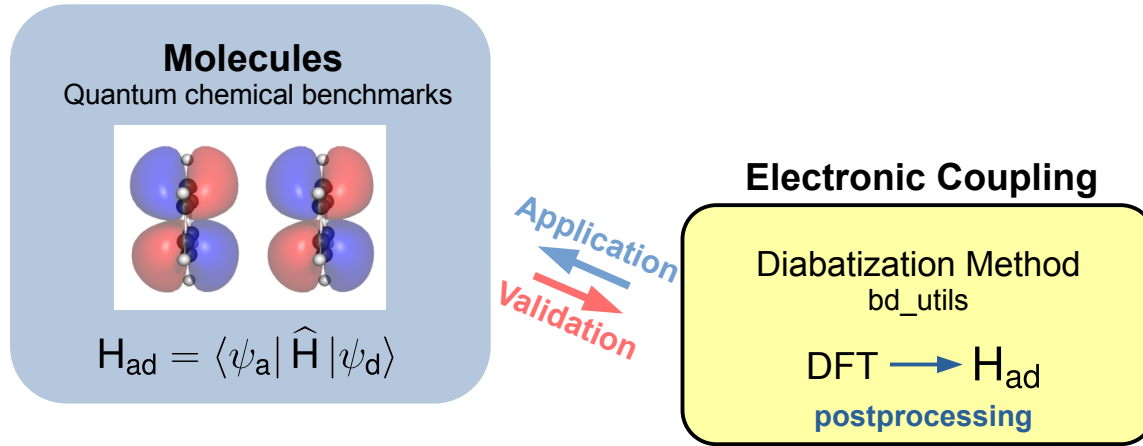
# Outline

- A method to calculate electronic couplings quantitatively from DFT.



# Outline

- A method to calculate electronic couplings quantitatively from DFT.

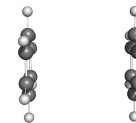


# Calculating Electronic Coupling for Molecules



output hamiltonian\_matrix  
output overlap\_matrix

Benzene Dimer



acceptor donor

## Diabatization

- 1) Run DFT
- 2) Project upon some localized states “diabats”
- 3) Read the couplings  $H_{ad}$

Diabats are **non-unique**

Method	Diabatic States
Projection-Operator Diabatization (POD) [1]	block eigenstates
Fragment-orbital DFT (FODFT) [2]	isolated fragment MOs
Constrained DFT (CDFT) [3]	constrained diabats

## Projection-Operator Diabatization

**Adiabatic Form**

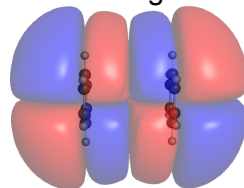
$$\bar{H}_{KS} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \epsilon_2 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \epsilon_3 & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \epsilon_4 & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \epsilon_N \end{pmatrix}$$

**Diabatic Form**

$$\bar{H}_{diag} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{a1} & 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \epsilon_{a2} & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \epsilon_{d1} & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & \epsilon_{d2} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

$H_{KS} = \begin{pmatrix} H_{aa} & H_{ad} \\ H_{da} & H_{dd} \end{pmatrix}$   
 $S = \begin{pmatrix} S_{aa} & S_{ad} \\ S_{da} & S_{dd} \end{pmatrix}$

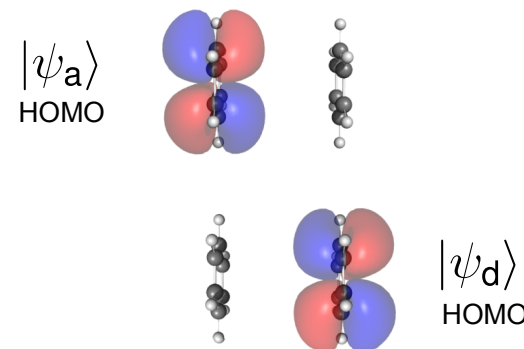
Kohn-Sham eigenstates



$|\psi_{KS}\rangle$  HOMO

Couplings!

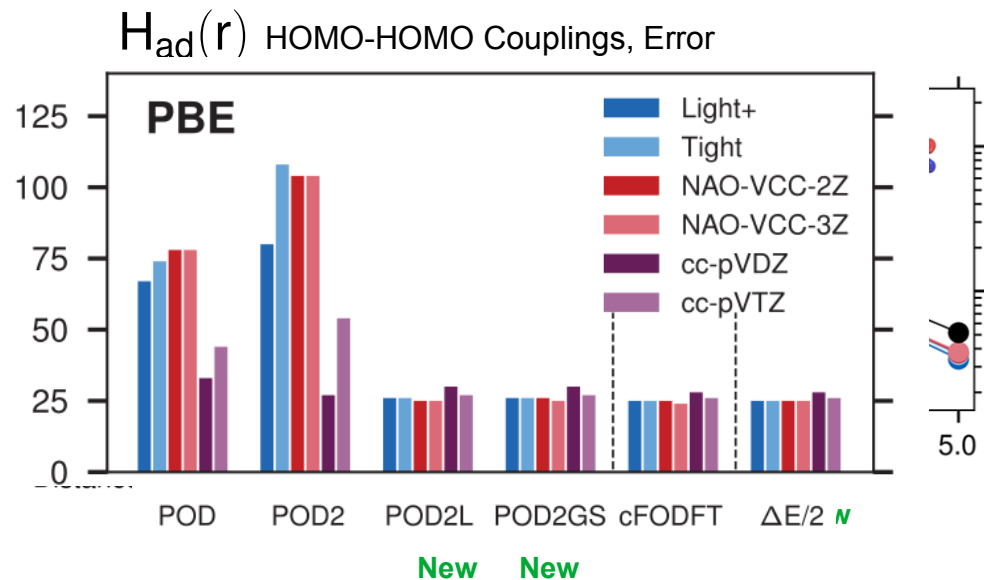
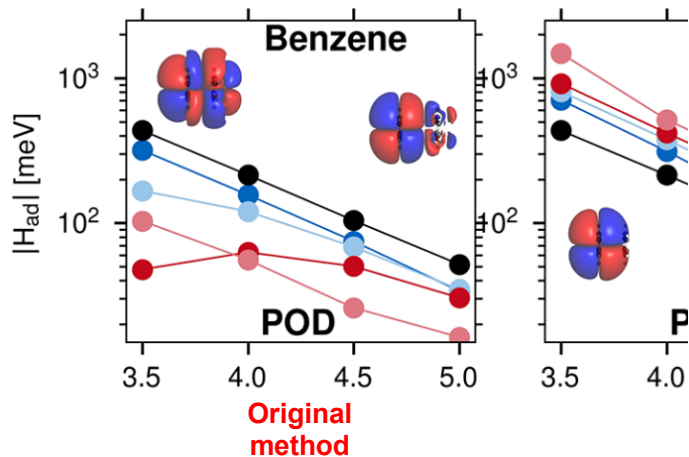
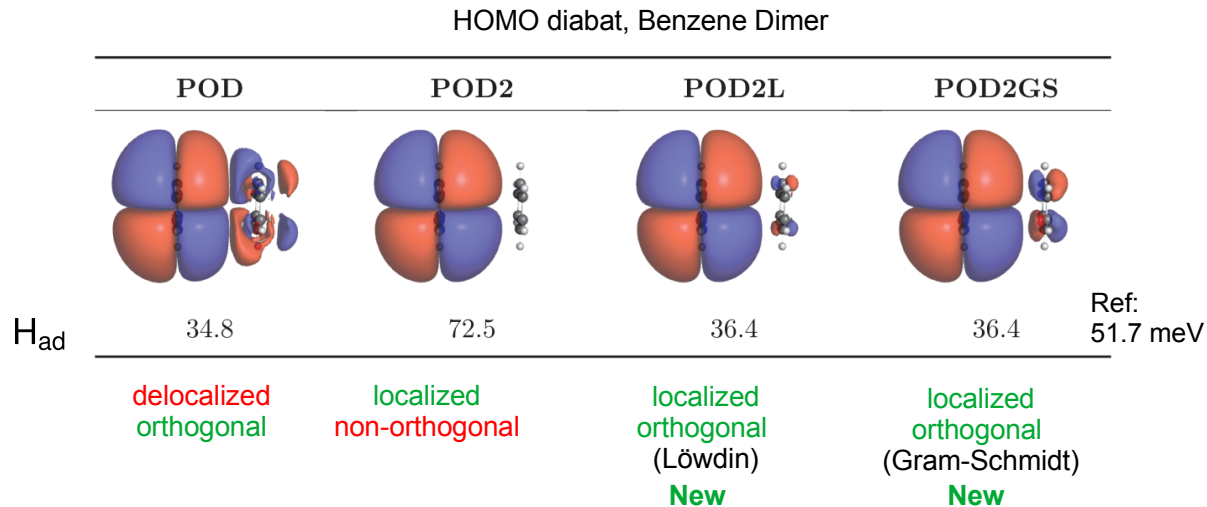
Diabatic States



[1] I. Kondov, M. Thoss et al., Journal of Physical Chemistry C (2007)  
 [2] K. Senthilkumar, L. Siebbeles et al., Journal of Chemical Physics (2003)  
 [3] B. Kaduk, T. Van Voorhis et al., Chemical Reviews (2012)

# Hab11 Benchmark [1]

- **Problem:** original POD method **diverges** with basis set. [2]
- **Solution:** Improved Projection-Operator Diabatization methods. [3]
  - **POD2L, POD2GS: Accurate & Stable Couplings**

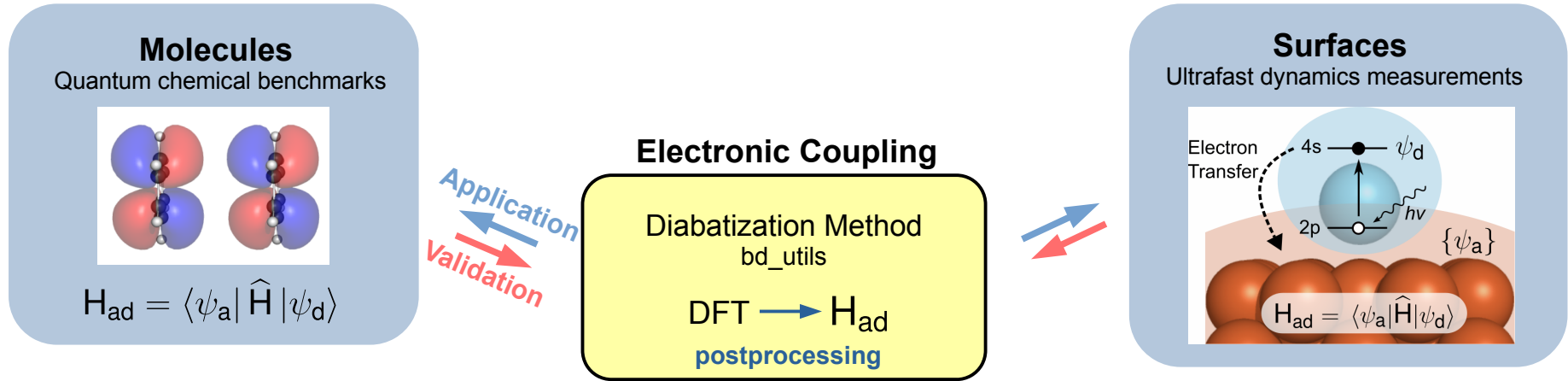


[1] A. Kubas, H. Oberhofer, J. Blumberger et al., JCP (2014).  
 [2] I. Kondov, M. Thoss et al., Journal of Physical Chemistry C (2007)  
 [3] S. Ghan, C. Kunkel, K. Reuter and H. Oberhofer, JCTC (2020).

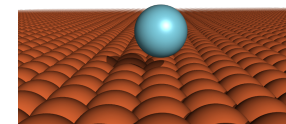
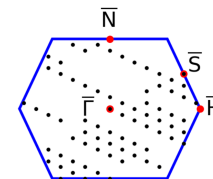


# Outline

- A method to calculate electronic couplings quantitatively from DFT.



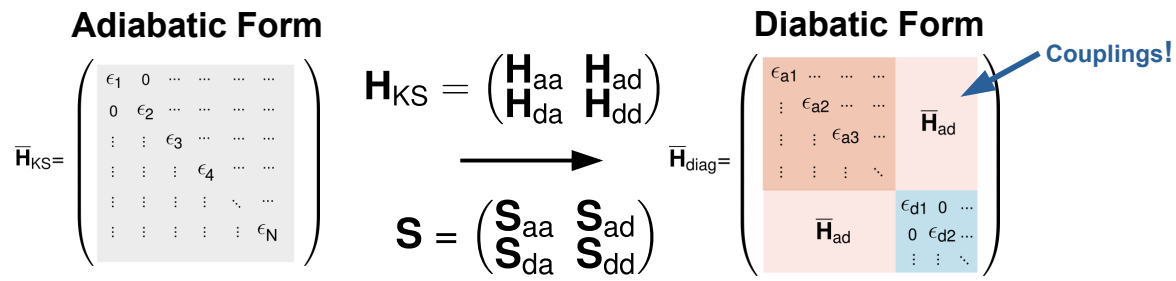
# Calculating Coupling on (Periodic) Surfaces



“What is the coupling of an adsorbate to the surface?”

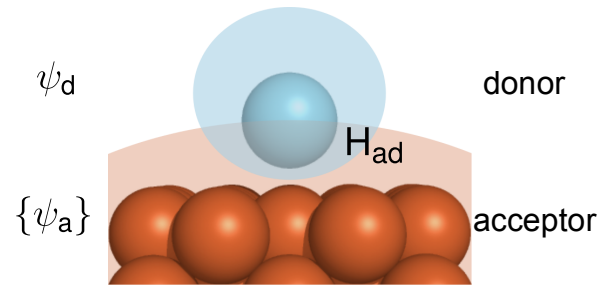
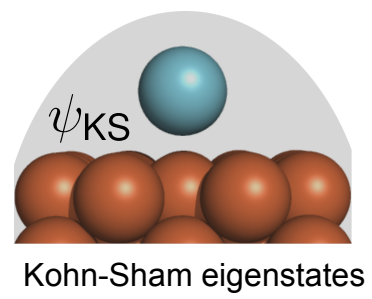
$$H_{ad,k} = \langle \psi_{a,k} | \widehat{H}_k | \psi_{d,k} \rangle$$

- Diabatization**  
in Periodic Boundary Conditions
- 1) Run DFT
  - 2) Partition the Hamiltonian (**at each k-point**)
  - 3) Project upon a local basis (diabats)
  - 4) Read the couplings  $H_{ad}$



Diabatic states are **non-unique**

Method Name	Acceptor	Donor
(frag <sub>a</sub> , POD <sub>d</sub> )GS	clean surface diabats	Block eigenstates
(frag <sub>a</sub> , frag <sub>d</sub> )GS	clean surface diabats	monolayer diabats



**How to Validate?**

# A first-principles Newns-Anderson Chemisorption Function

Newns-Anderson Model [1]

**Chemisorption Functions:**

Level shift: 
$$\Lambda(\epsilon) = \frac{P}{\pi} \int \frac{\Delta(\epsilon')}{\epsilon - \epsilon'} d\epsilon'$$

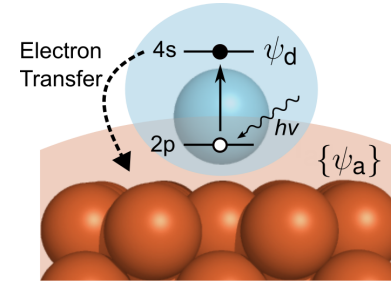
Line broadening: 
$$\Delta(\epsilon) = \pi \sum_a |H_{ad}|^2 \delta(\epsilon - \epsilon_a)$$

First-principles **Method:**

$$\Delta(\epsilon) = \frac{\pi}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \int_{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \sum_a^N |H_{ad,\mathbf{k}}|^2 g_{\sigma}(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_{a,\mathbf{k}}) d\mathbf{k}$$

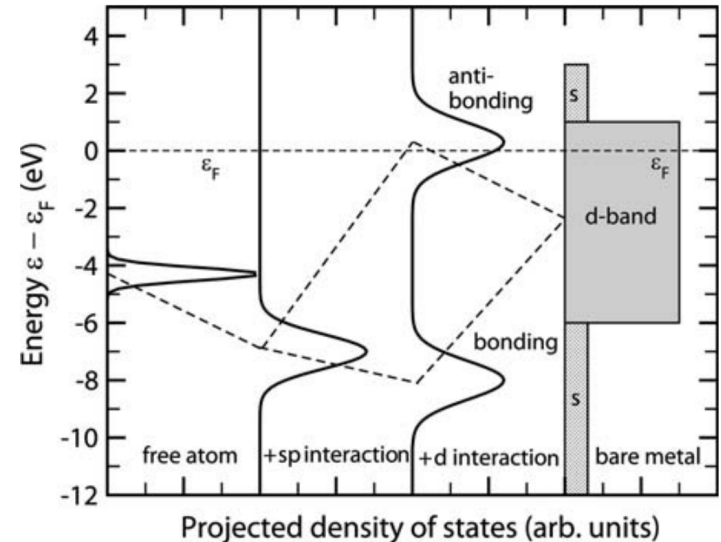
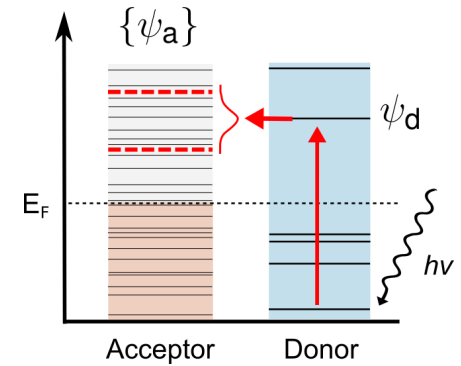
“coupling-weighted DOS”  
“WDOS”

**Electron Transfer Lifetime** 
$$\tau_d = \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta(\epsilon_d)}$$



**Core-hole clock spectroscopy**

Ar[4s\*] / Transition Metal  
Lifetime ~ 3 femtoseconds



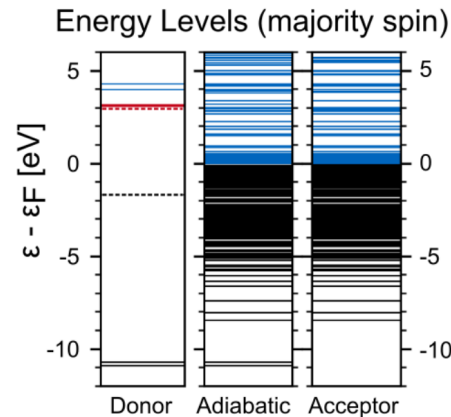
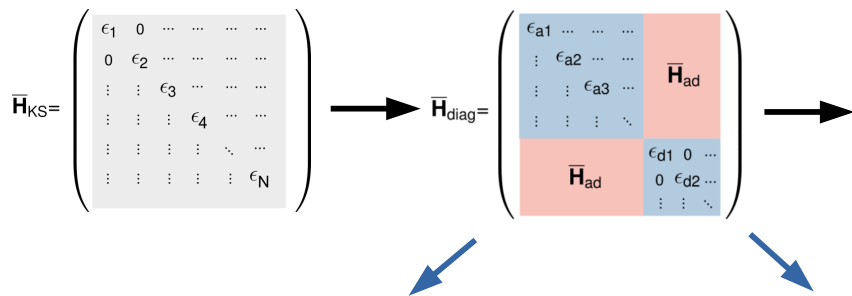
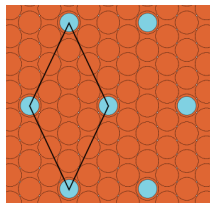
[1] D.M. Newns, *Self-Consistent Model of Hydrogen Chemisorption* Physical Review (1969) .

Axel Gross, *Theoretical Surface Science* (2009)

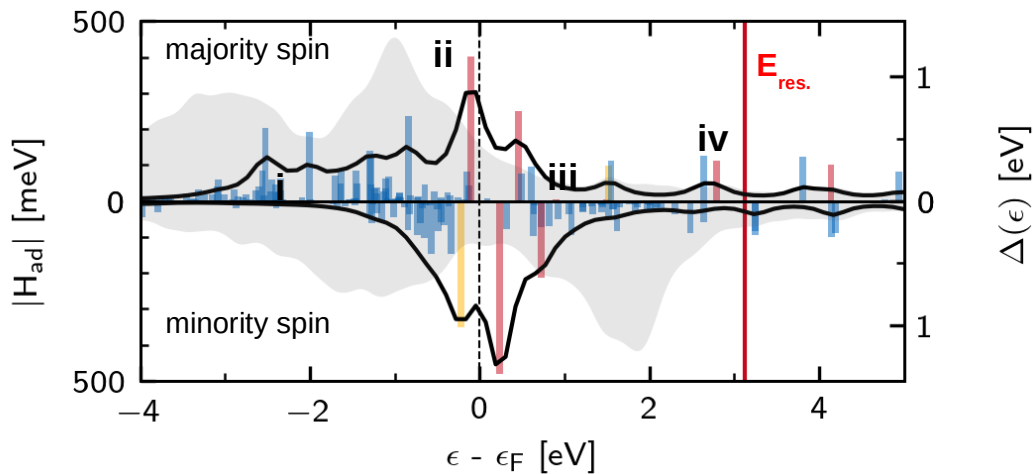
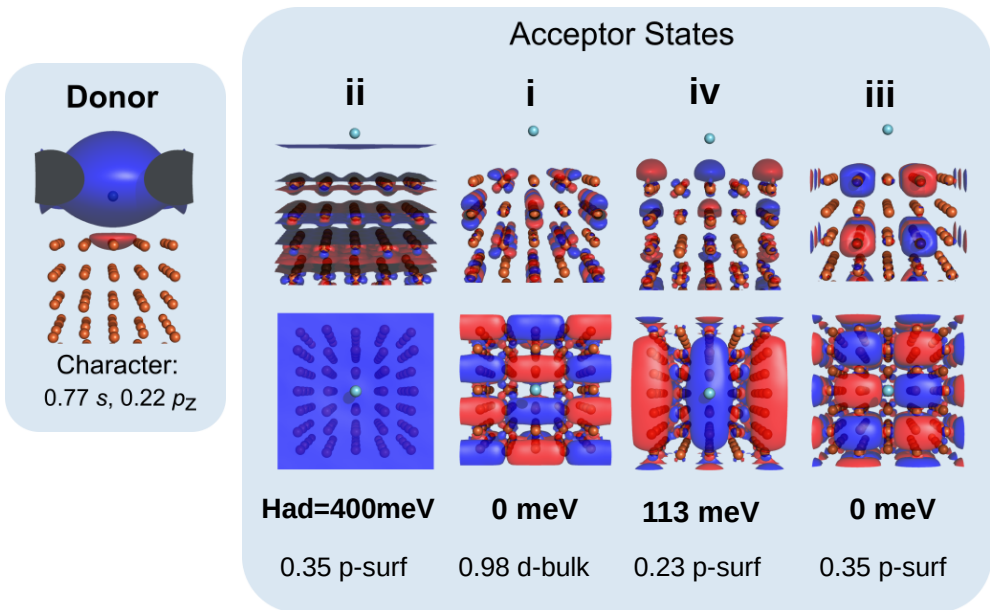
# Electronic coupling of Argon 4s (LUMO) on Fe(110)

- Properties at  $\mathbf{k}=\Gamma$ .

Ar@c(2x6)/Fe(110)



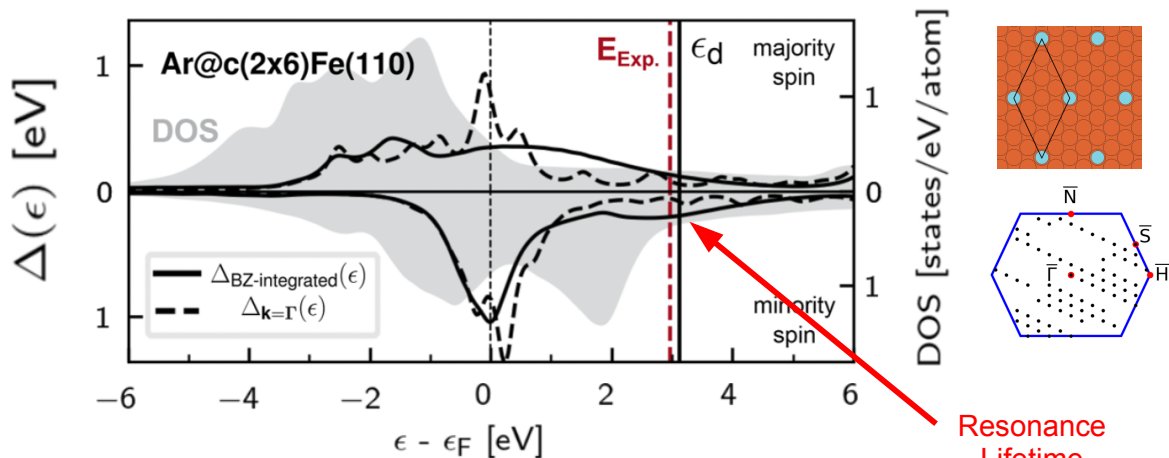
PBE+TSvdW  
Light Tier 4 / 6-311+G\*\*  
4x4x1 kgrid  
8 metal layers  
Ar\*[2p<sub>3/2</sub><sup>-1</sup>4s] half core hole  
force\_occupation\_projector



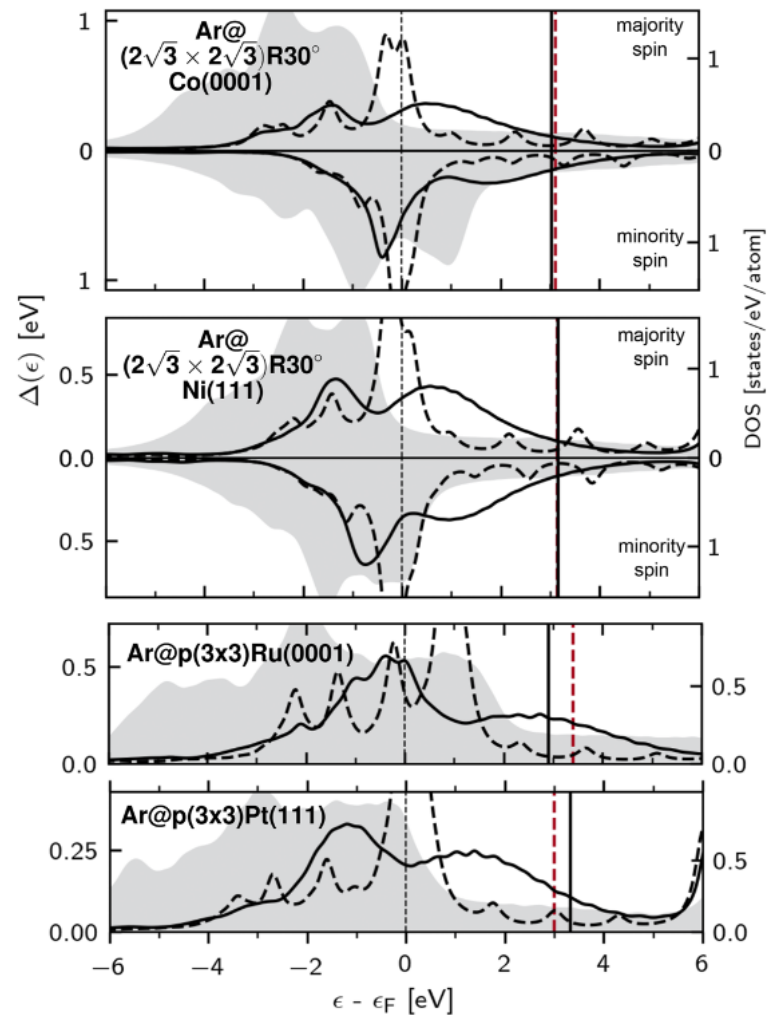
$$\Delta_{\mathbf{k}=\Gamma}(\epsilon) = \pi \sum_a^N |H_{ad,\mathbf{k}}|^2 g_\sigma(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_{a,\mathbf{k}})$$

# Chemisorption Function: $\text{Ar}^* [2p_{3/2}^{-1}4s]$ on Transition Metals

- Brillouin Zone averaging:  $12 \times 12 \times 1k$



$$\Delta(\epsilon) = \frac{\pi}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \int_{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \sum_a^N |H_{\text{ad},\mathbf{k}}|^2 g_{\sigma}(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_{a,\mathbf{k}}) d\mathbf{k}$$



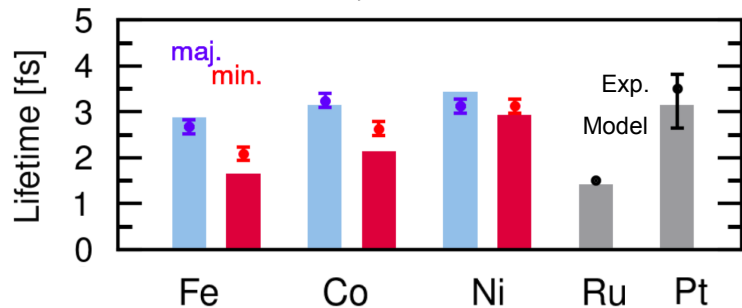
Resonance  
Lifetime  
Broadening

$$\tau_d = \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta(\epsilon_d)}$$

→ Electronic Couplings  
are validated.



Electron Transfer Lifetimes

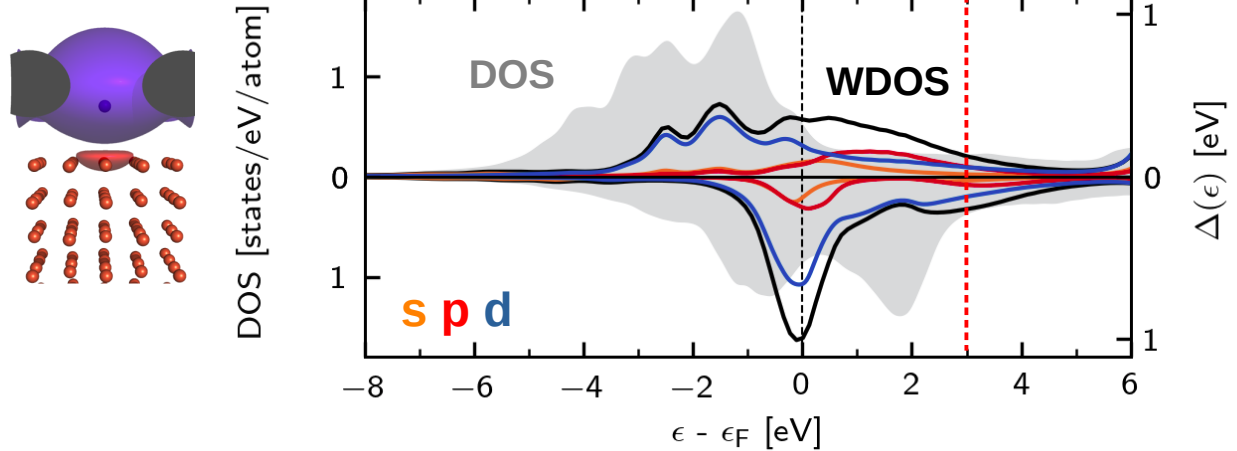


Ultrafast Core-hole-clock Measurements:

- [1] Ar/Fe,Co,Ni Blobner, Han, Kim, Wurth and Feulner, PRL (2014).
- [2] Ar/Ru Wurth, Menzel Chem. Phys. (2000).
- [3] Ar/Pt Karis, Nilsson PRL (1996).

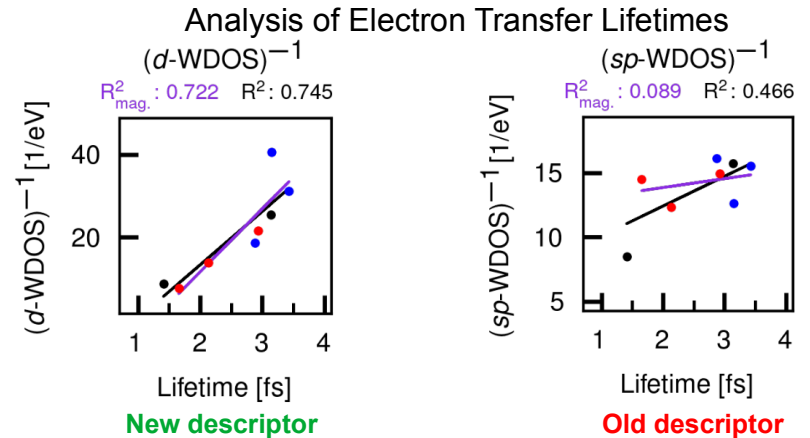
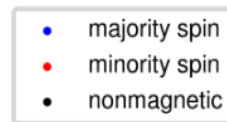
# Interpretation

- “What is the coupling of the adsorbate to the surface bands?”
  - What is the role of the d-band?
- How important are **phase effects**?



**New insight:** ET Lifetimes are determined by surface d-channel  
 -spin dependence  
 -surface dependence

**We can revisit coupling approximations in**  
 1) STM  
 2) Catalysis

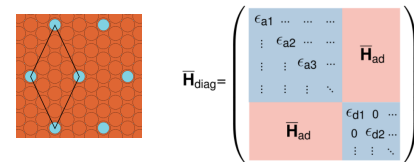


**Trivial phase effect**  
 (Tersoff-Hamann STM)  
 (d-band model, catalysis)

**non-trivial phase effect**  
 (Chen's Derivative Rules, STM)

# Role of Phase

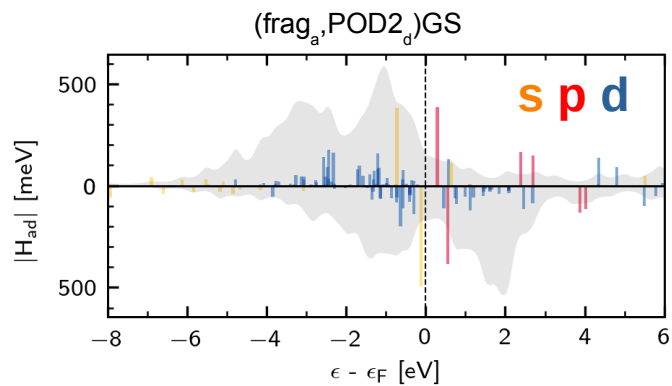
- Fragment versus POD2 diabats. *Orbital hybridization affects couplings.*



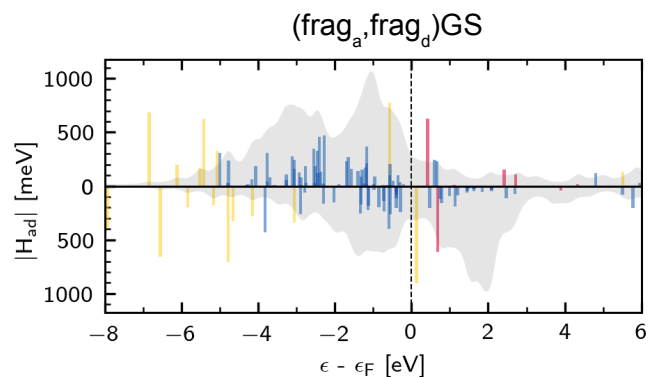
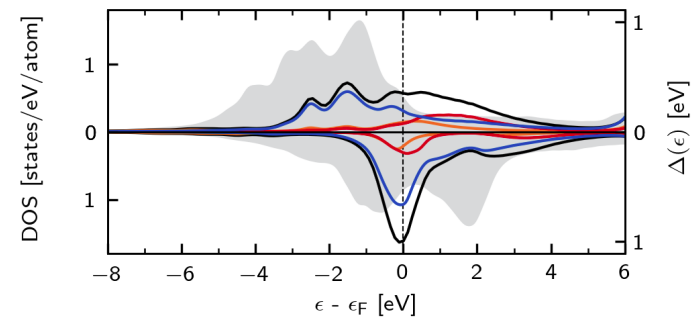
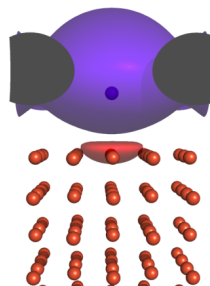
Electronic Couplings,  $\mathbf{k}=\Gamma$ .

Donor State

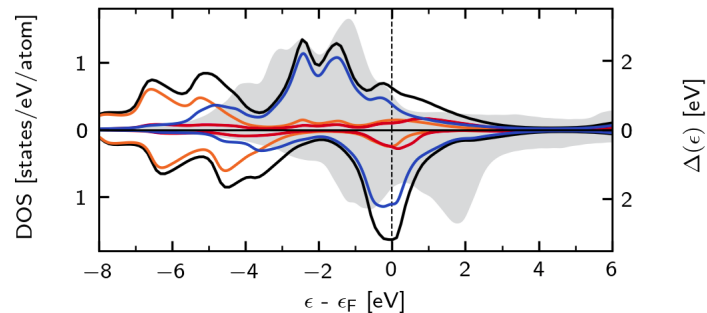
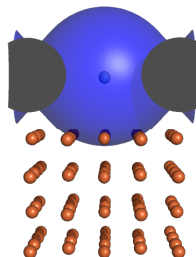
BZ-averaged Chemisorption Function,  $\mathbf{k}12 \times 12 \times 1$



Unconstrained Ar4s4pz

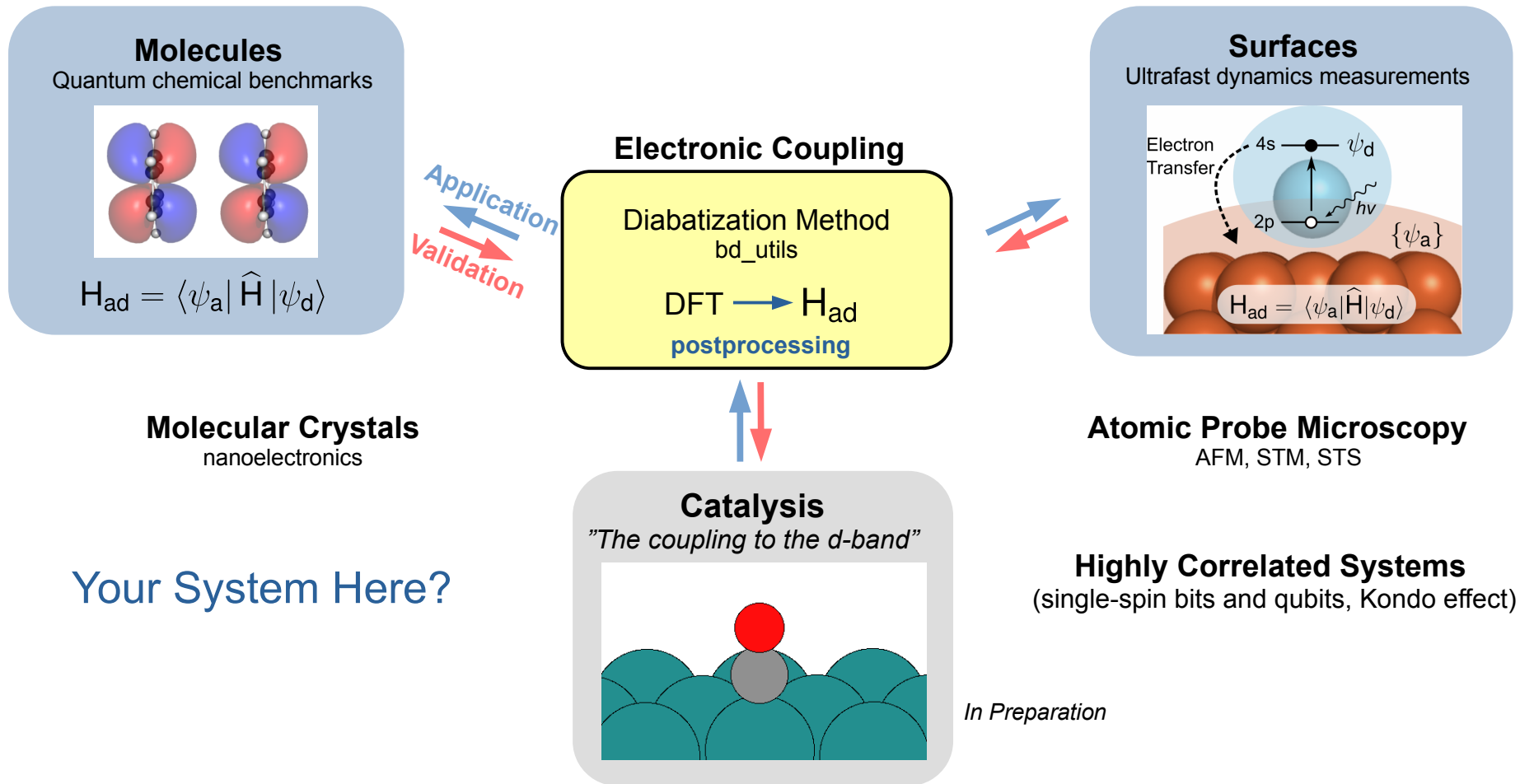


Constrained Ar 4s



# Outline

- A method to calculate electronic couplings quantitatively from DFT.



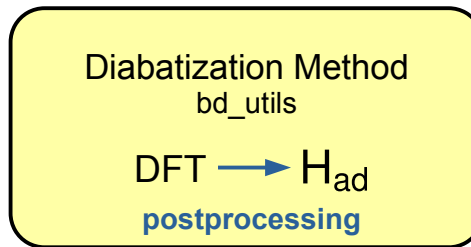


# Conclusions

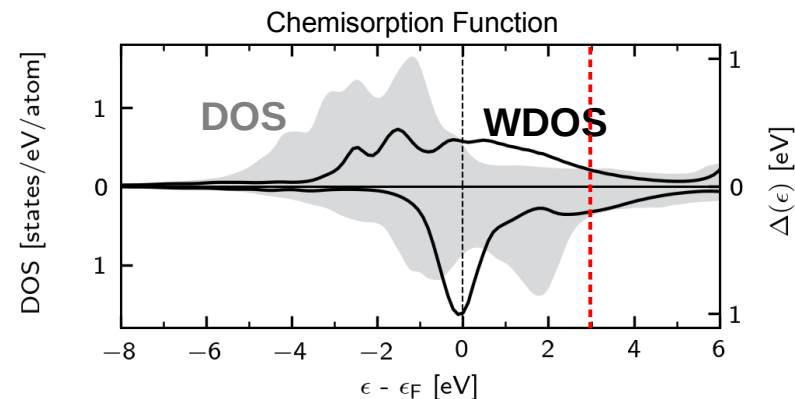
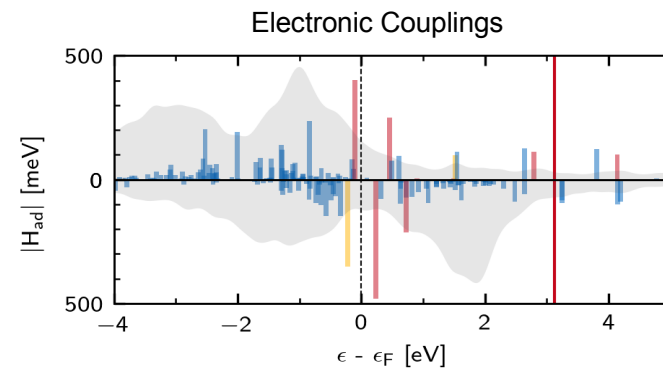
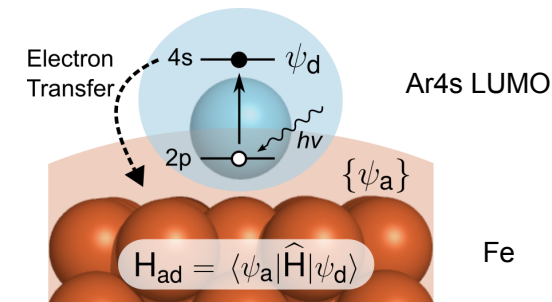
- We can calculate electronic coupling for molecules [1] and surfaces [2] from DFT.
- Couplings are accurate and highly interpretable.
  - **A new way to describe surfaces.**

- **Applications**

- Ultrafast dynamics
- Catalysis (d-band model)
- STM / AFM
- Highly Correlated systems (Kondo Physics)



Collaboration Welcome



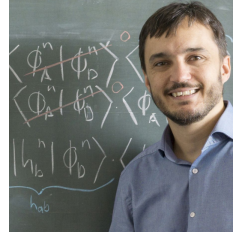
[1] *Improved Projection-Operator Diabatization Methods for the Calculation of Electronic Coupling Values*  
S. Ghan, C. Kunkel, K. Reuter and H. Oberhofer, Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation (2020).

[2] *Interpreting Ultrafast Electron Transfer on Surfaces with a Converged First-principles Newns-Anderson Chemisorption Function*  
S. Ghan, E. Diesen, C. Kunkel, K. Reuter and H. Oberhofer, Journal of Chemical Physics (2023) (Editor's Pick).

# Thank You



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(University of Bayreuth)



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Elias Diesen (FHI)

Peter Feulner (TUM)



Matthias Nest (TUM)  
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Georg Michelitsch  
Christoph Schober