

# Rotational state and ortho-para conversion of H<sub>2</sub> on solid surfaces

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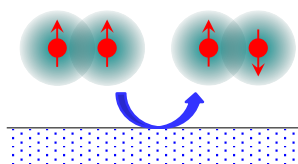
Co-workers:

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T. Sugimoto

E. Arguelles, W.A. Dino

KF, TS, Prog. Surf. Sci. 88 (2013) 279.



## Spin-isomers: rotational state

Conversion time in gas phase

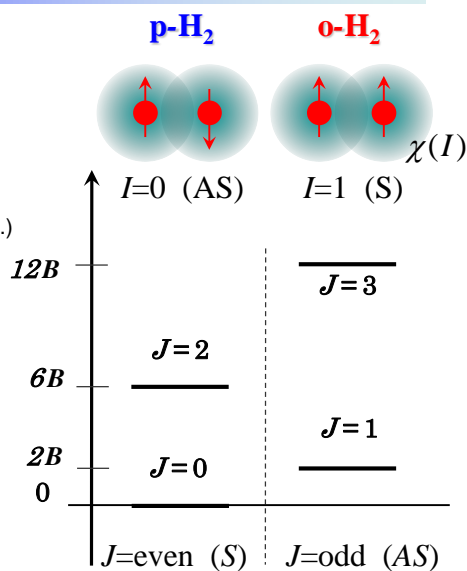
$$\tau(\text{gas}) \approx 10^{20} \text{ s } (> 13.7 \text{ by})$$

(K. Pachucki et al., PRA 77 (2008) 030501.)

Conversion via interaction with

{

 H, H<sup>+</sup>  
 Solid surfaces



## Surface-catalyzed op conversion

$\gamma$ : collision rate

$S$ : sticking probability

LT ortho to para

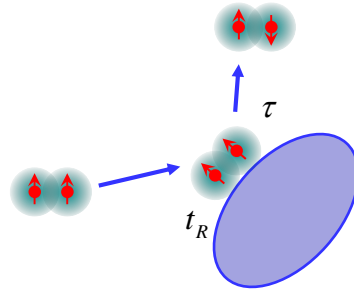
conversion probability:  $P$

$$P = S\gamma \frac{\tau^{-1}}{t_R^{-1} + \tau^{-1}}$$

$$t_R = t_0 \exp\left(\frac{E_d}{kT}\right)$$

$$t_0 \approx 10^{-11} - 10^{-13}$$

... , but not as simple as thought



$t_R$ : residence time

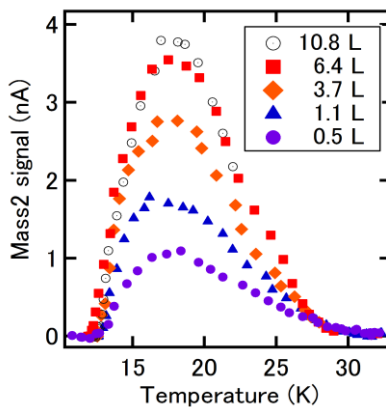
$E_d$ : desorption energy

$\tau$ : op conversion time

Prog. Surf. Sci. 88 (2013) 279.

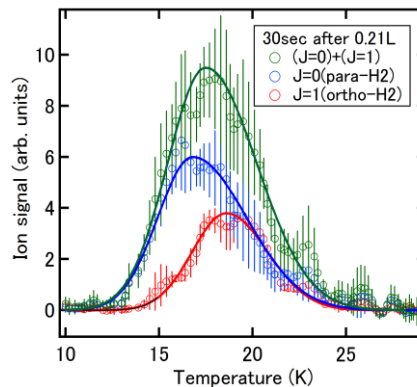
## Temperature-Programmed Desorption (TPD)

Ag(111)



$T_d \sim 17$  K

$E_d = 28$  meV



$J$ -selective detection

Time evolution of o/p ratio

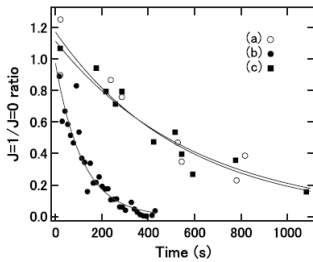
T. Sugimoto, KF, PRL 112, 146101 (2014).

## H<sub>2</sub> o-p conversion time: physisorption

Ag: diamag. metal

O<sub>2</sub>: spin triplet

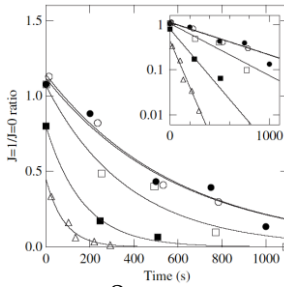
Amorphous Ice  
diamag. insulator



$\tau \approx 700$  s

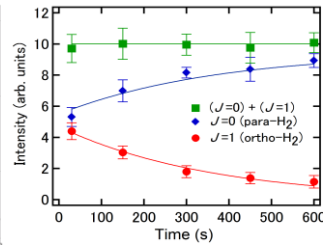
### Mechanism

Electron  
exchange  
(Ilisca model)



$\tau \approx 8$  s

Magnetic-field-  
induced  
(Wigner model)



$\tau \approx 400$  s

Electric-field-  
induced

(PRL 90 (2003) 096103; PRB 79 (2009) 085408; Nat. Phys. 7 (2011)307)

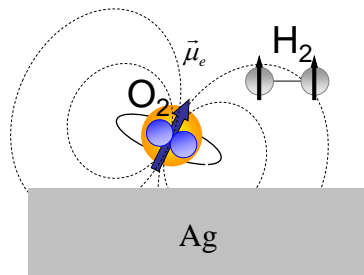
## H<sub>2</sub> op conversion mechanism

✓ Magnetic-field induced

Inhomogeneous  
magnetic field

$\tau \approx 10$  s

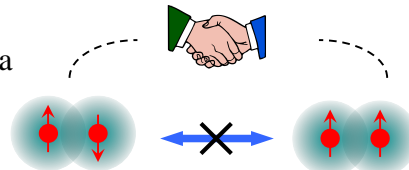
▶ Different torques for  
the two protons



✓ Electronic mechanism

$\tau \approx 100 - 1000$  s

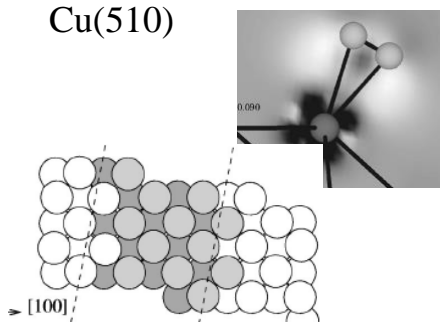
Inter-mixing between ortho and para  
in the excited states



(E. Ilisca, Prog. Surf. Sci. 41 (1991) 217.)

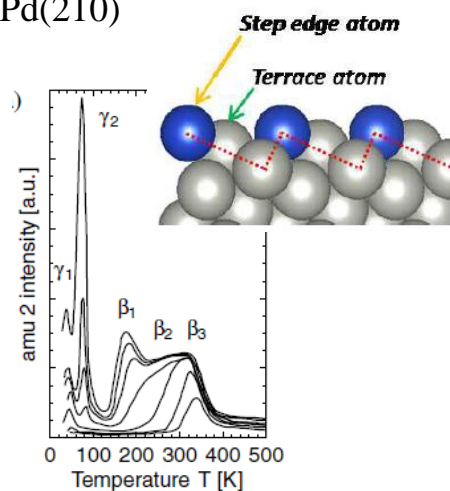
# Strongly bound H<sub>2</sub>: molecular chemisorption

Cu(510)



L. Bengtsson et al., PRB 61, 16921 (2000)

Pd(210)



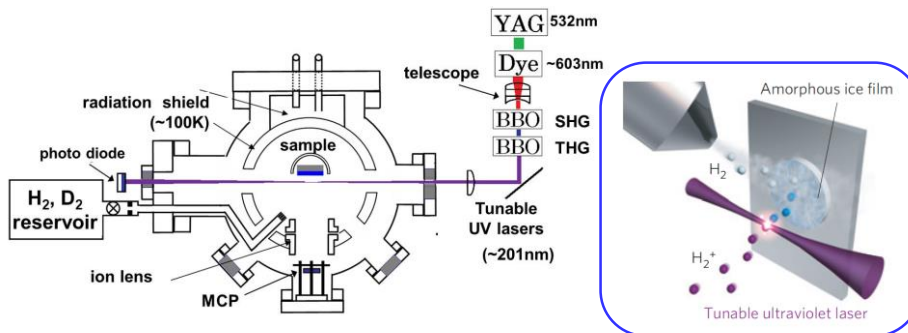
P. K. Schmidt et al., PRL 87, 096103 (2001).

✓ Strong binding

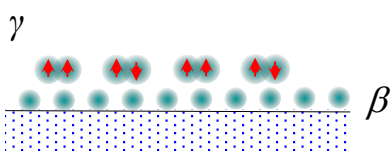
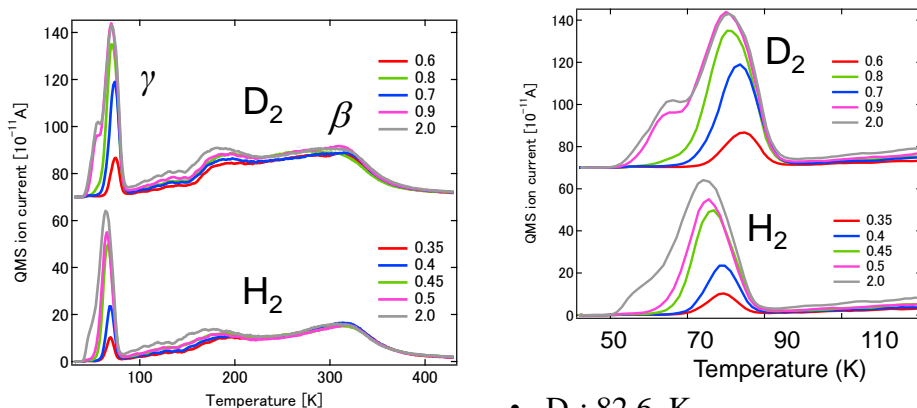
- op conversion?
- Rotational state?

## Experiment & theory

1. Sample: Pd(210) in UHV  
n-H<sub>2</sub> (o/p=3), p-H<sub>2</sub>, o-H<sub>2</sub> (separation with Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
Detection: REMPI via E,F
2. DFT & quantum simulation



## Pd(210) TPD: isotope dependence

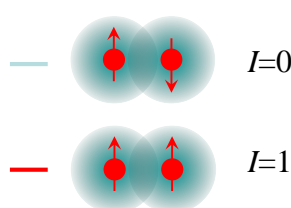
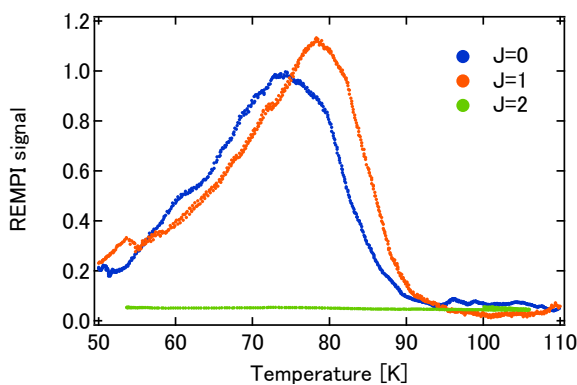


(S. Ohno et al., in prep.)

- $D_2$ : 82.6 K  
 $E_d \sim 213$  meV
- $H_2$ : 76.3 K  
 $E_d \sim 203$  meV

due to Zero-point energy

## State-selective TPD: Pd(210)



Redhead's analysis assuming  $\nu = 10^{13}$  [s<sup>-1</sup>]

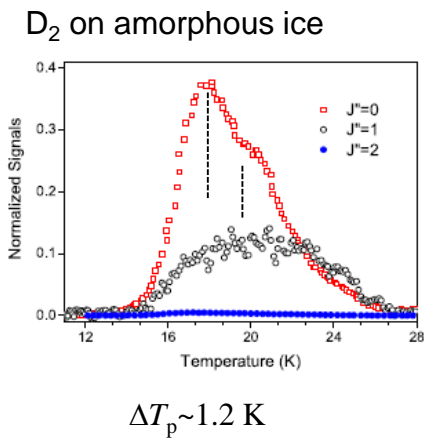
$$T_p = 74 \text{ K} \rightarrow \sim 195 \text{ meV}$$

$$T_p = 79 \text{ K} \rightarrow \sim 205 \text{ meV}$$

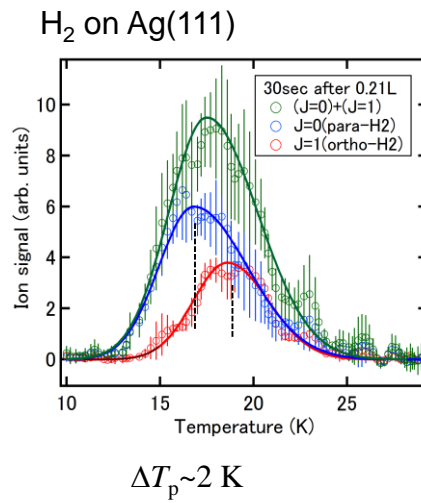
$$\Delta T_p = 5 \text{ K}$$

$$\rightarrow \Delta E = 10 \text{ meV}$$

(S. Ohno et al., in prep.)



L. Amiaud et al., PRL 100, 056101 (2008)



T. Sugimoto, KF, PRL 112, 146101 (2014).

## Potential anisotropy

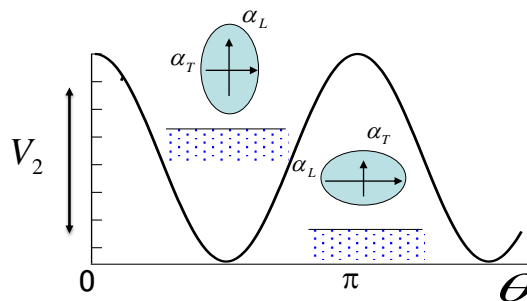
Potential: orientation-dependent

$$V_0(Z, \theta) + V_2(Z, \theta)P_2(\cos \theta)$$

Rotational motion:

$$\frac{J^2}{2I} > V_2$$

quantum rotor

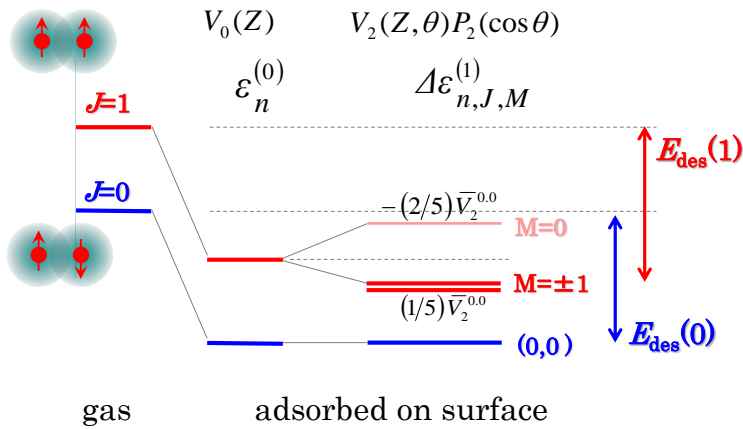


SS 152, 702 (1985); SS 175, L753 (1986)

## Effects of the anisotropic potential

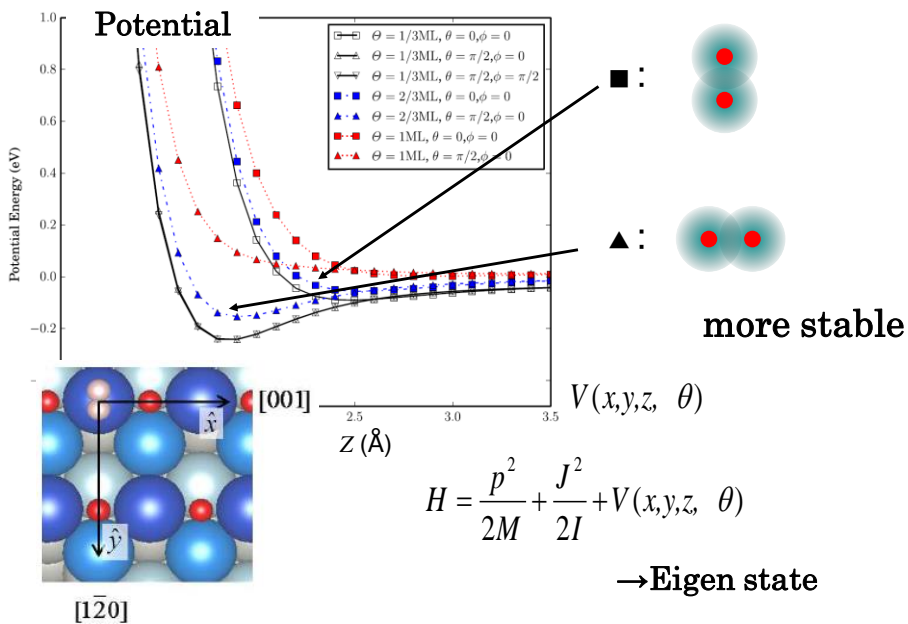
► Energy diagram: 1<sup>st</sup> order perturbation

$$V_0(Z, \theta) + V_2(Z, \theta)P_2(\cos \theta)$$



SS 152, 702 (1985); PRL 112, 146101 (2014).

## First-principles calculations with DFT



$$H = \frac{p^2}{2M} + \frac{J^2}{2I} + V(x, y, z, \theta)$$

→ Eigen state

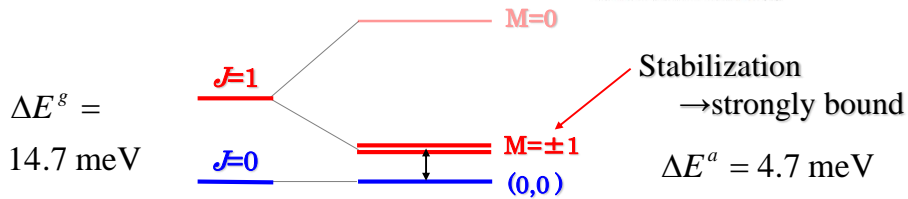
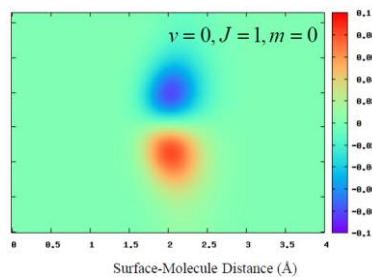
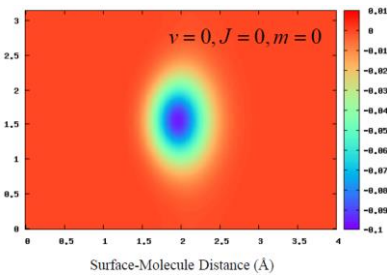
## Quantum simulation

$(J, M): E$

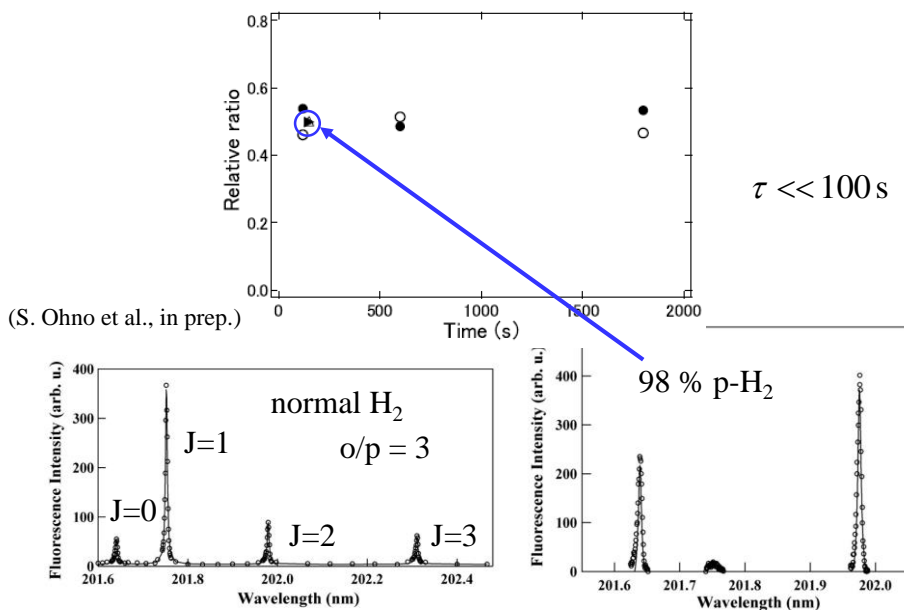
$(J=0, M=0): E=-202.3 \text{ meV}$

$(J=1, M=0): E=-150.0 \text{ meV}$

$(J=1, M=\pm 1): E=-197.6 \text{ meV}$



## Time evolution of ortho and para





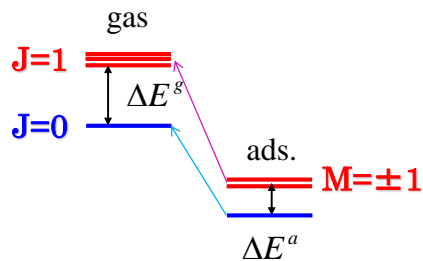
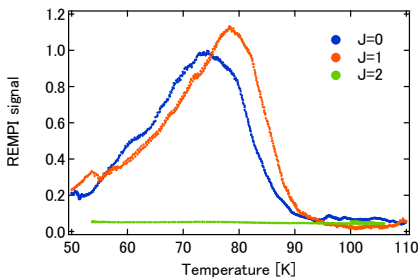
## Thermal desorption rate

$$I_J \cong \left( \frac{f_R^T}{f_R^A} \nu \right) \exp\left(-\frac{E_d}{kT}\right)$$

Rotational degeneracy ratio at initial and final states

$$\frac{I_{J=1}}{I_{J=0}} = R_a \frac{g_{J=1}^g / g_{J=1}^a}{g_{J=0}^g / g_{J=0}^a} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E^g - \Delta E^a}{kT}\right)$$

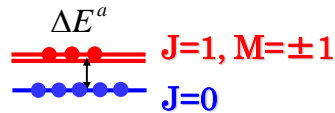
$R_a$  : population ratio



✓ If op conversion is fast,

ortho/para population ratio

$$R_a = \frac{g_{I=1}}{g_{I=0}} \frac{g_{J=1}^a}{g_{J=0}^a} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E^a}{kT}\right)$$



Desorption intensity ratio

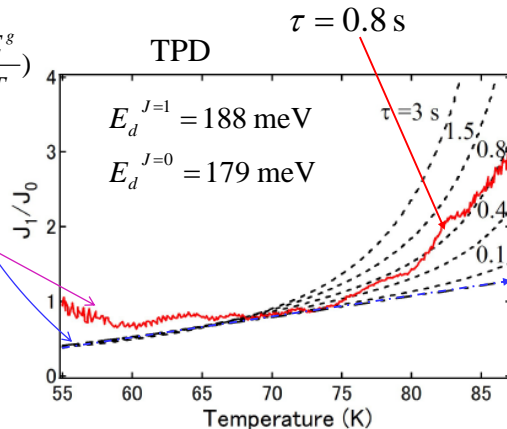
$$\frac{I_{J=1}}{I_{J=0}} = \frac{g_{I=1}}{g_{I=0}} \frac{g_{J=1}^g}{g_{J=0}^g} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E^g}{kT}\right)$$

✓ Simulation with  $\tau$

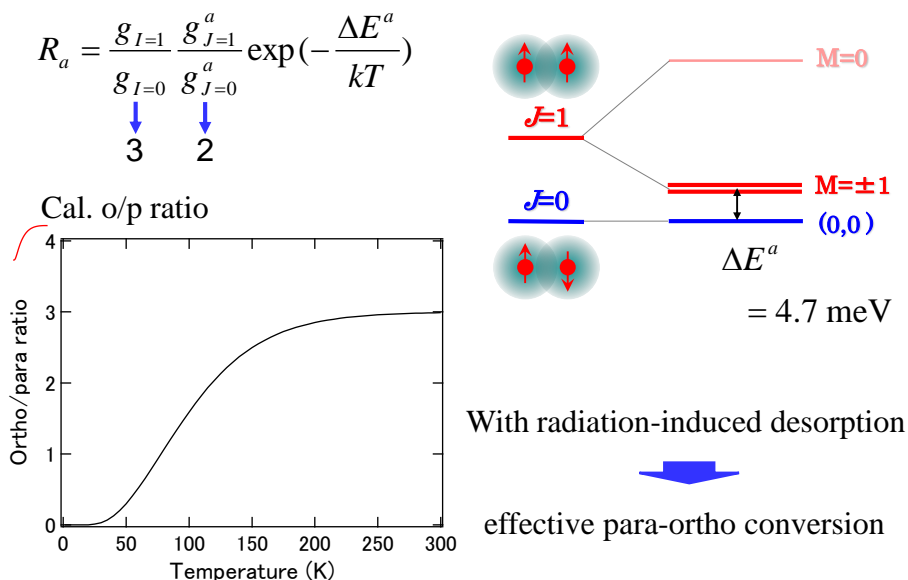
Thermal desorption  
of J=1 & J=0

Transition between  
of J=1 & J=0 with  $\tau$

(S. Ohno et al., in prep.)



## Ortho-para ratio on Pd(210)



## Summary

Rotational state and op conversion of H<sub>2</sub>  
 in molecular chemisorption on Pd(210)

- Potential anisotropy: preference of flat-lying orientation  
 → higher desorption temp. of J=1 than J=0
- Fast op conversion:  $\tau = 0.8$  s

Cf. physisorption

electronic mechanism:  $\tau \sim 100$ -1000 s

magnetic mechanism:  $\tau \sim 1$ -10 s

High ortho-para ratio  
 in the adsorption state on Pd(210)