

Accelerating mechanism development for heterogeneous catalysis

Sandia
Kyungjoo Kim
Habib N. Najm
Khachik Sargsyan

Cosmin Safta
Eric T. Phipps
Christian R. Trott
Judit Zádor

Postdocs
Eric D. Hermes
Maciej Gierada

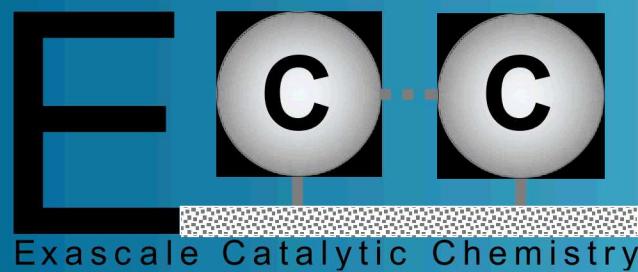
Argonne
David H. Bross
Branko Ruscic

PNNL
Eric J. Bylaska

External Advisory Board
Hannes Jónsson (U Iceland)
Gabor Somorjai (UC Berkeley)
Julia White (ORNL)

Northeastern
Richard H. West
Students
Nate Harms
Emily Mazeau
David Farina
Sai Krishna Sirumalla

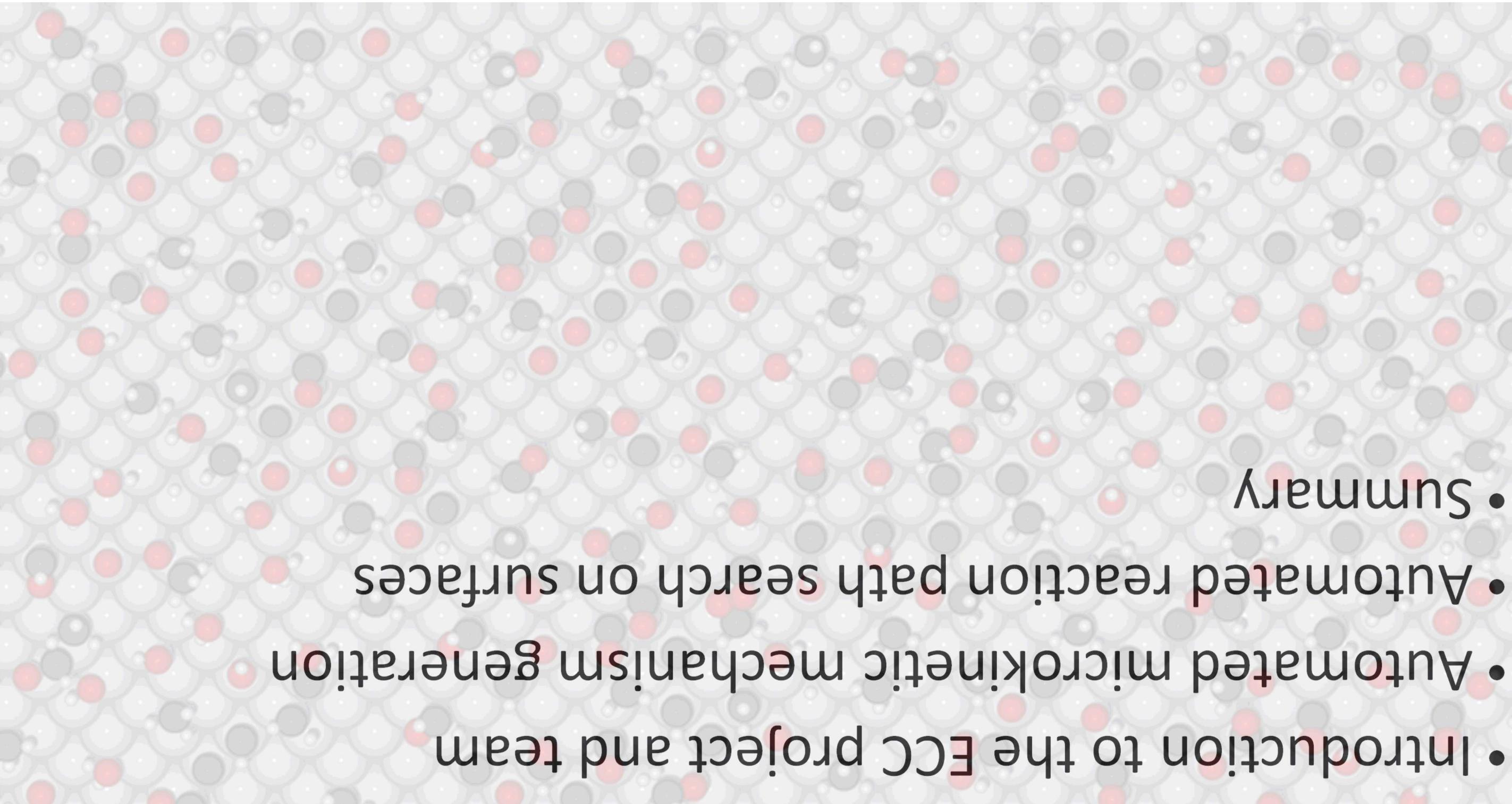
Brown
C. Franklin Goldsmith
Student
Katrin Blondal



ReaxPro Meeting
July 9, 2020
Virtual

Outline

- Introduction to the ECC project and team
- Automated microkinetic mechanism generation
- Automated reaction path search on surfaces
- Summary



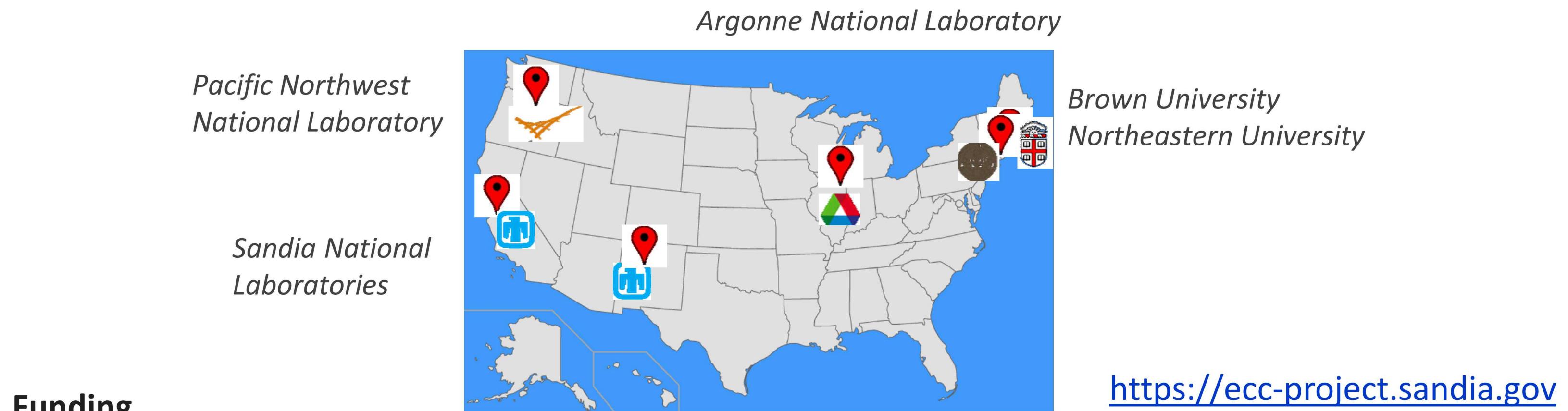
The Exascale Catalytic Chemistry (ECC) project

Goal

Develop an exascale-ready software ecosystem that enables the characterization of catalytic processes faster and more accurately.

Target systems

Catalytic systems on ideal catalysts with coupled gas-phase and heterogeneous chemistry.



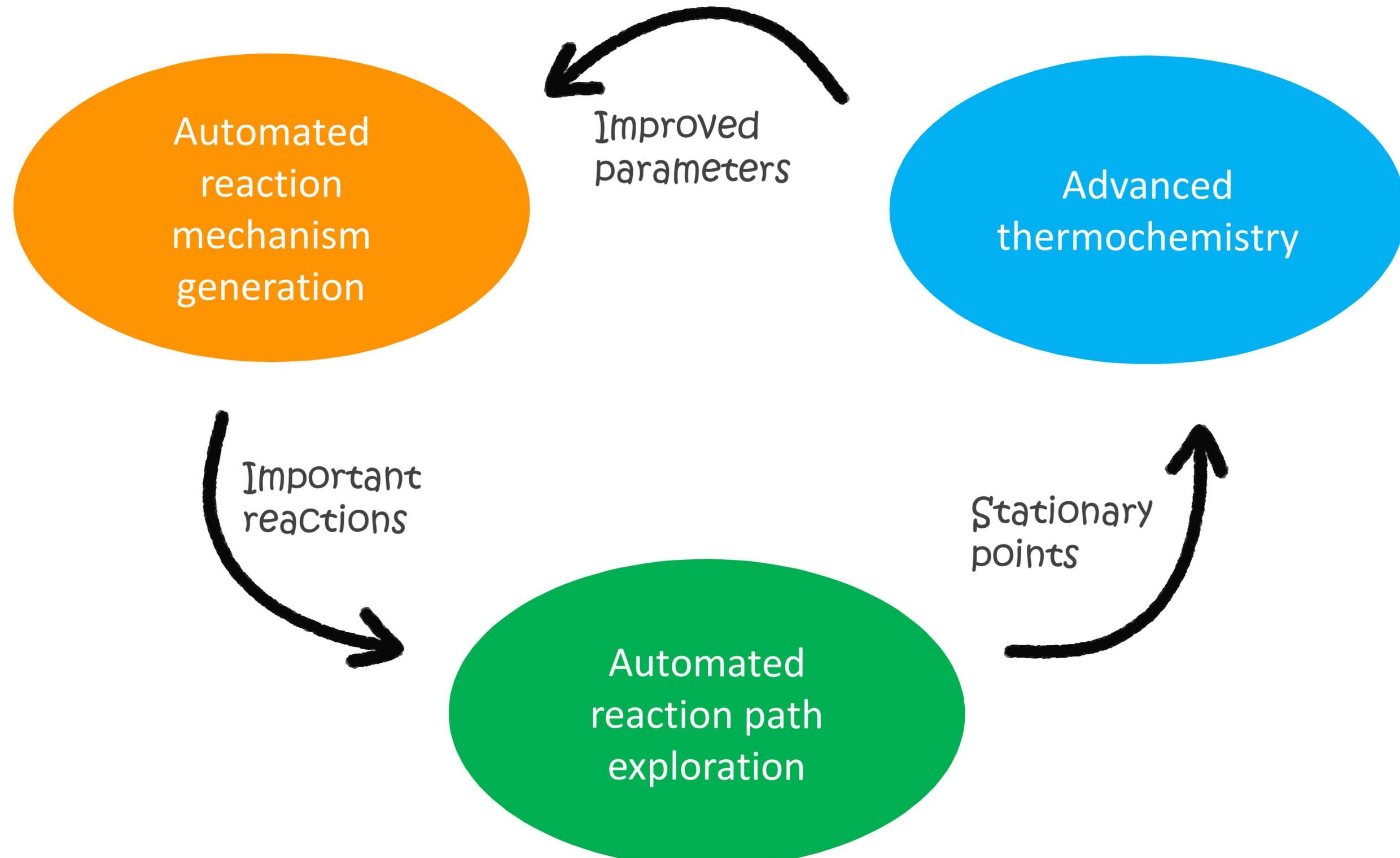
<https://ecc-project.sandia.gov>

Funding

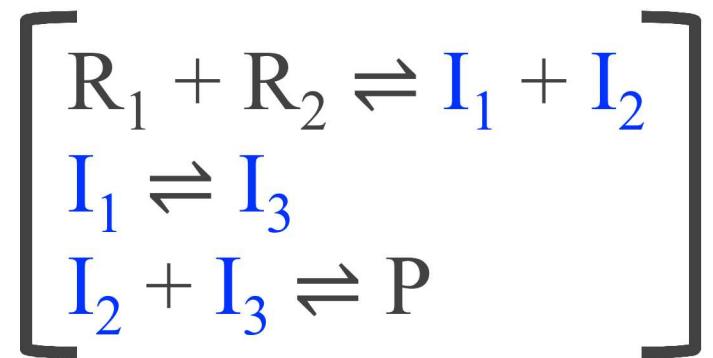
2017-2021

US Department of Energy, Basic Energy Sciences, Computational and Theoretical Chemistry program

Coupled computational tools will help accelerate mechanism development for catalysis



Let's use computers to build microkinetic mechanisms!



- The mechanism grows exponentially with the size of the reactants/products
- The number of possible pathways to be considered is orders of magnitude higher

Code needs to

1. represent species
 - *use chemical graph theory*
2. propose new reactions
 - *use reaction families*
3. estimate thermodynamic + kinetic properties
 - *use precompiled databases and estimation methods*
4. keep only the important reactions
 - *use flux-based algorithm*

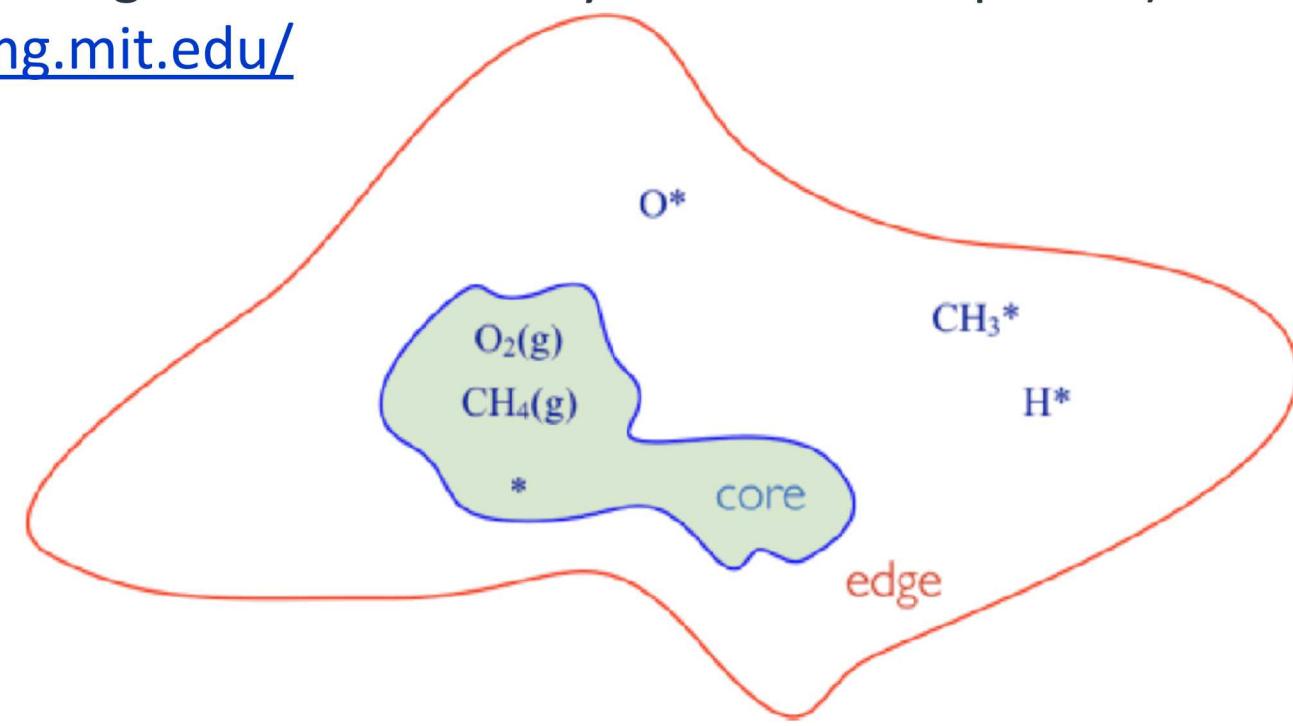
RMG-Cat



Building, running, and analyzing microkinetic models for gas/solid catalytic systems

Based upon Reaction Mechanism Generator (RMG)

- open source
- Python based
- developed for combustion
- mature (~50+ graduate-student years of development)
- <https://rmg.mit.edu/>



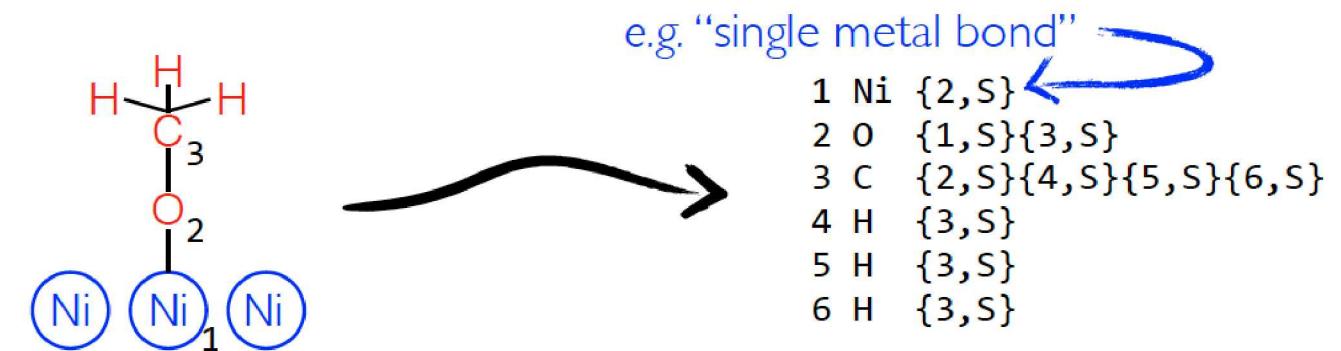
Richard H. West
Northeastern University



C. Franklin Goldsmith
Brown University

Reaction families for

- Adsorption
- Dissociation on surfaces
- Abstraction on surfaces



RMG-Cat can estimate thermochemistry of any adsorbate on any metal using Linear Scaling Relationships.

RMG generated a mechanism for methane oxidation on Pt(111)

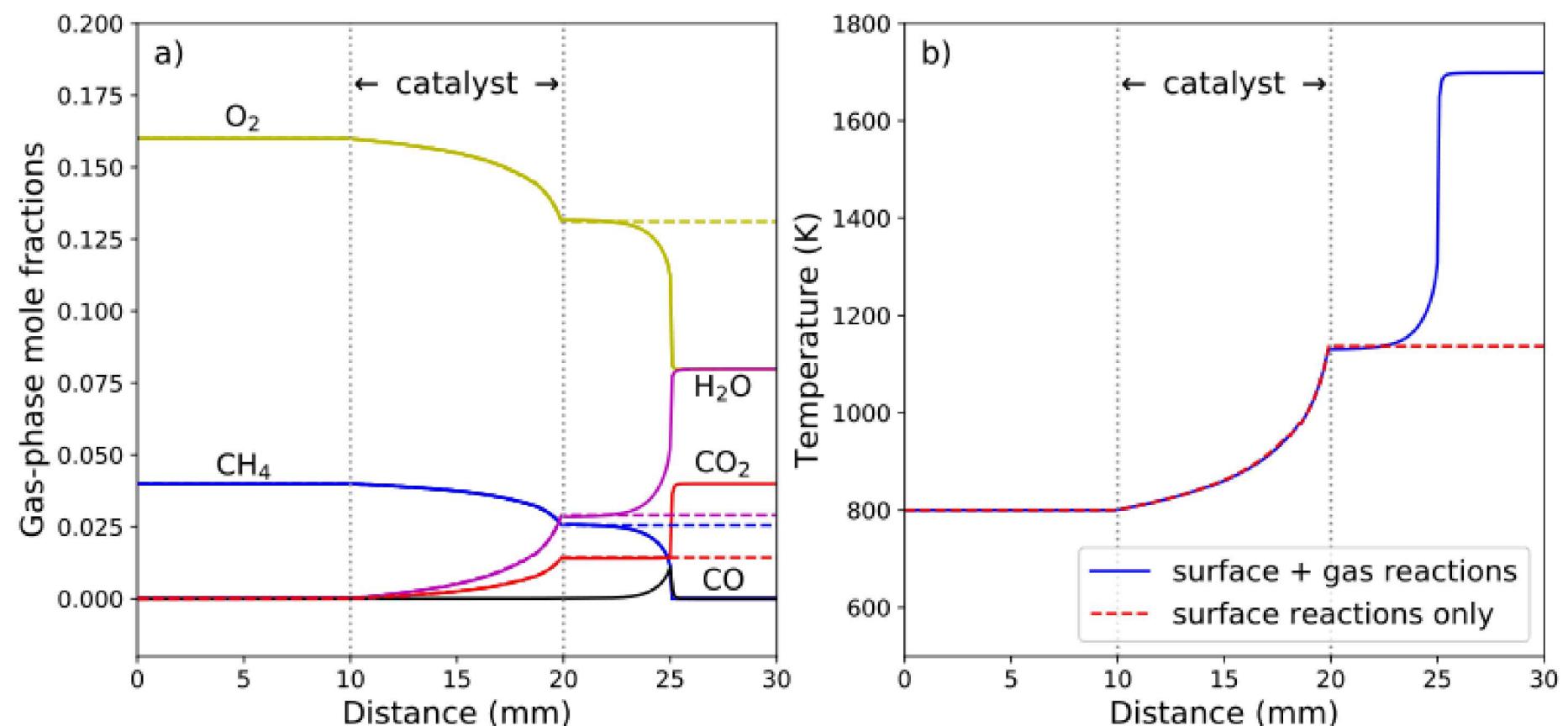
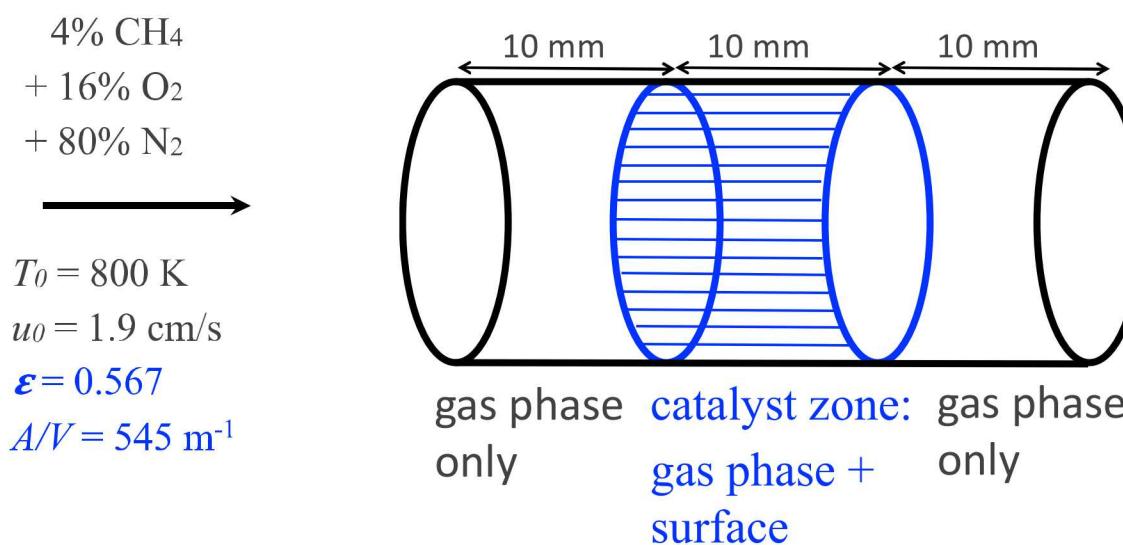
- fuel lean conditions for $T = 500, 1500, 1800$ K & $P = 1$ bar

- core:

- 21 adsorbates + 51 surface reactions
- 38 gas-phase species + 340 reactions

- edge:

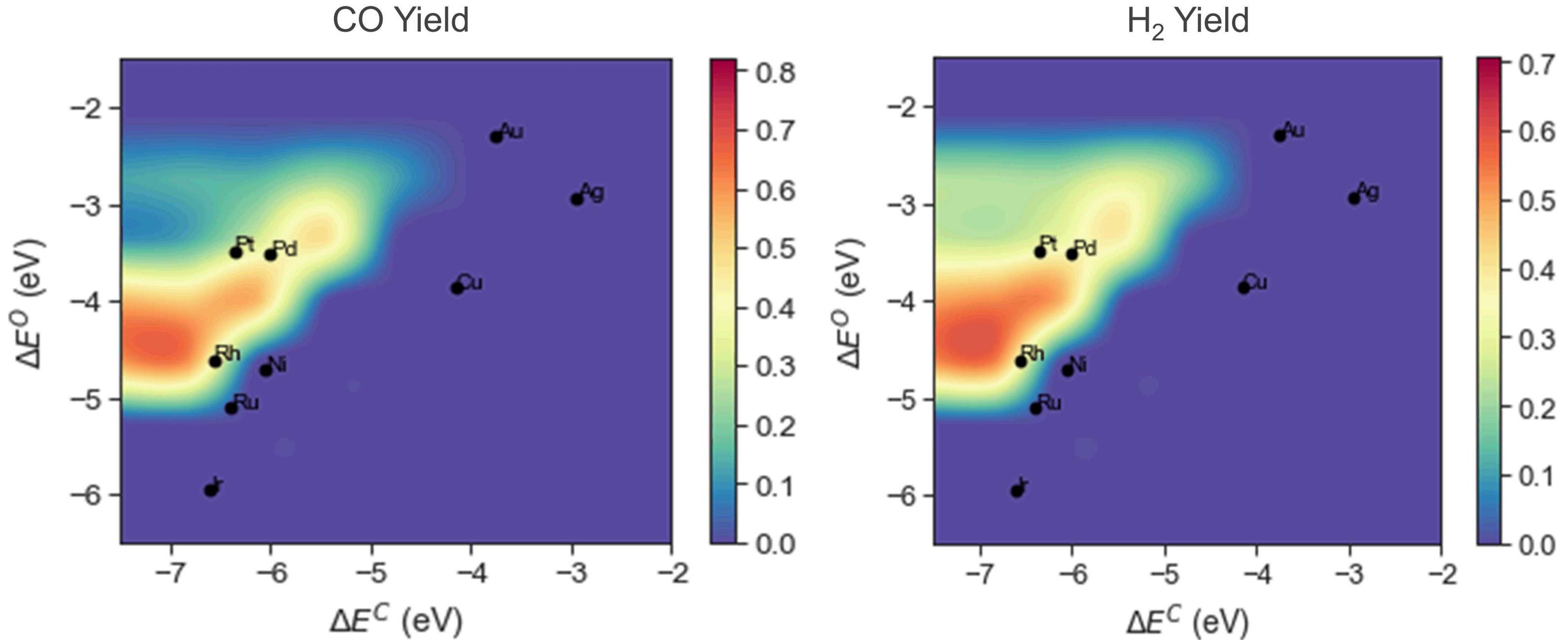
- 196 species + 298 reactions



We demonstrated the coupled gas-surface capabilities of RMG.
Such coupling is necessary to predict correct behavior.

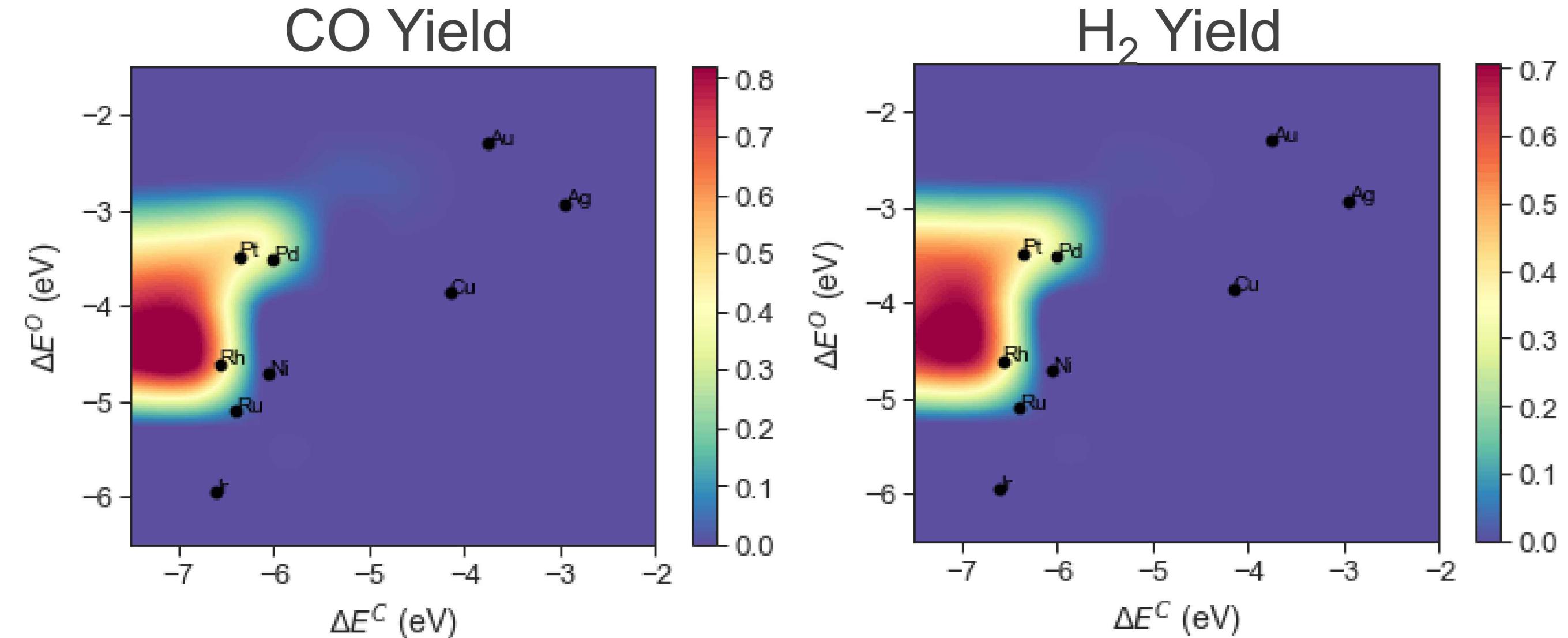
RMG allows systematic and automatic investigation of many metals

Example: Synthesis gas on different metal surfaces



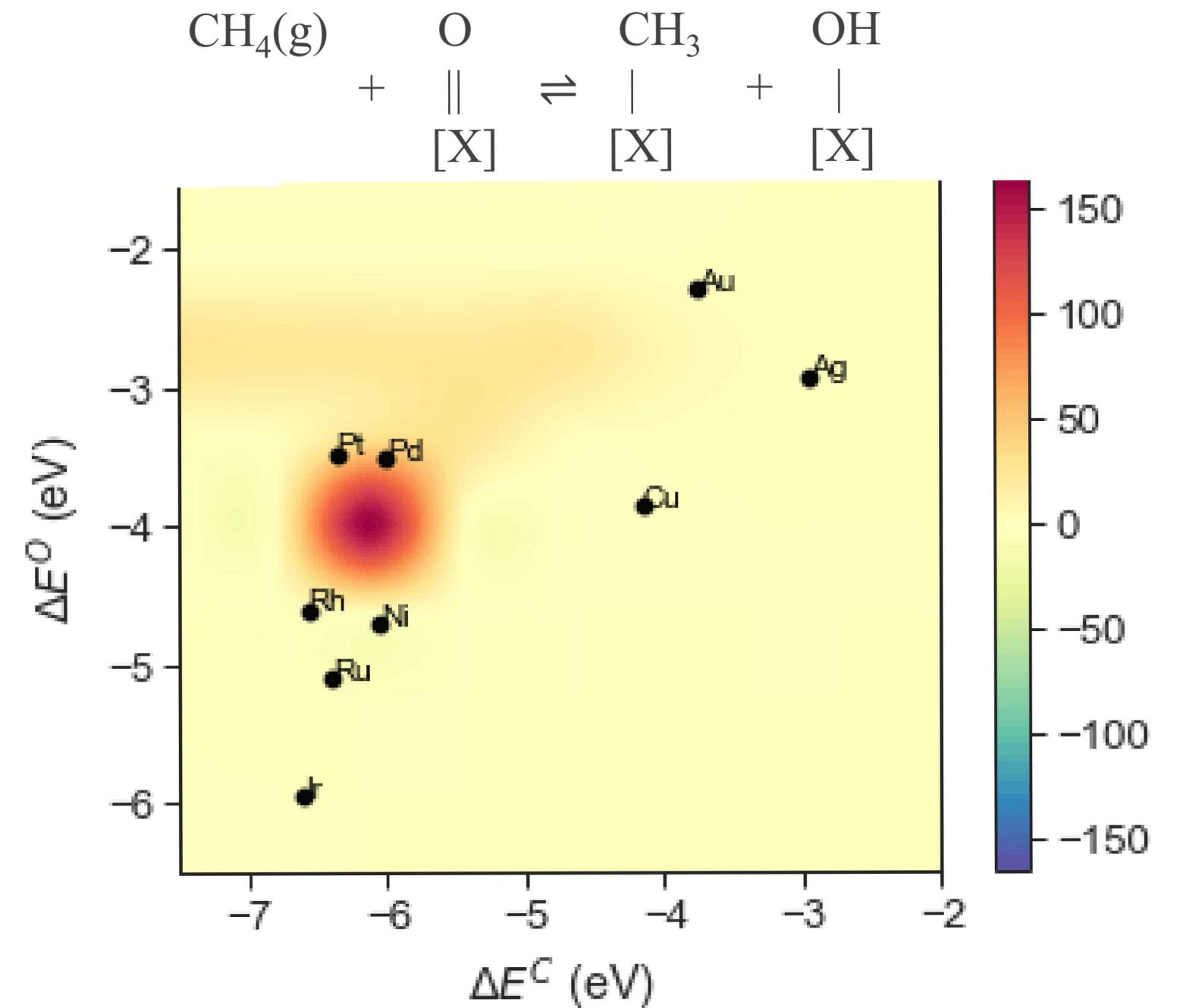
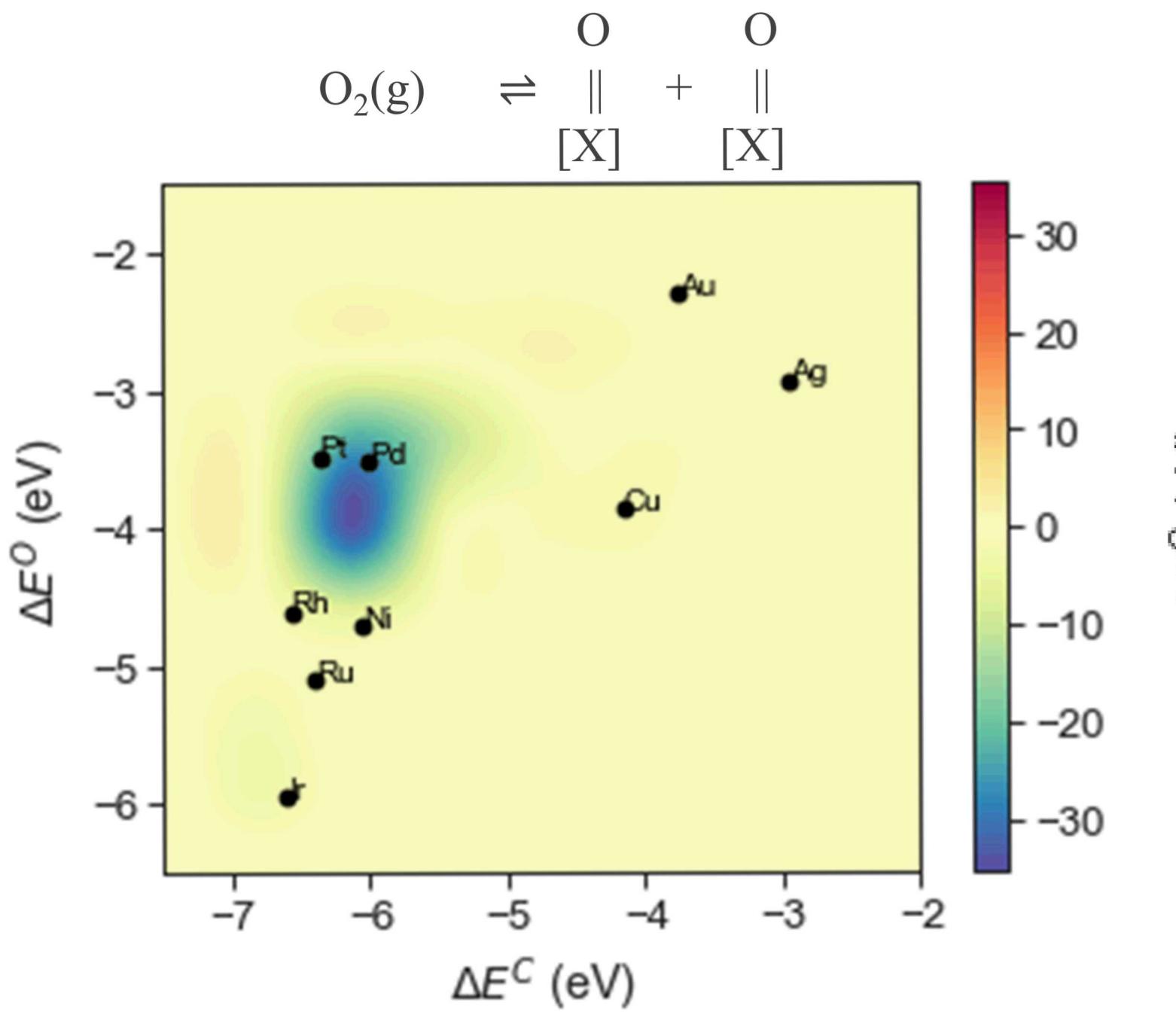
Some metals have higher selectivity but lower yield.

Automated investigation of the effect of the inlet composition

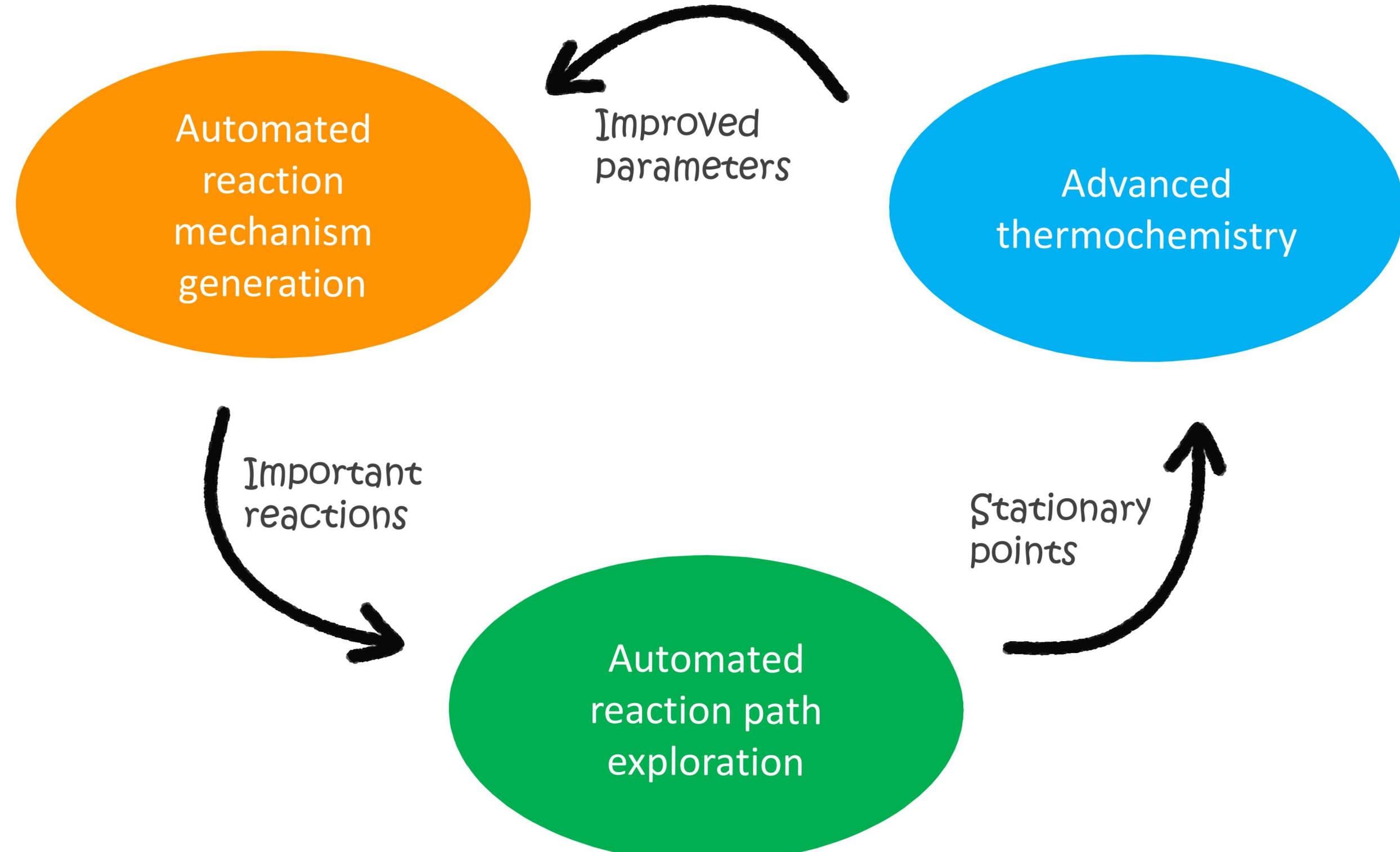


Not only does each metal affect yield,
feed gas composition does as well

Volcano plots for the sensitivity of a reaction on H₂ yield as a function of atomic binding energies

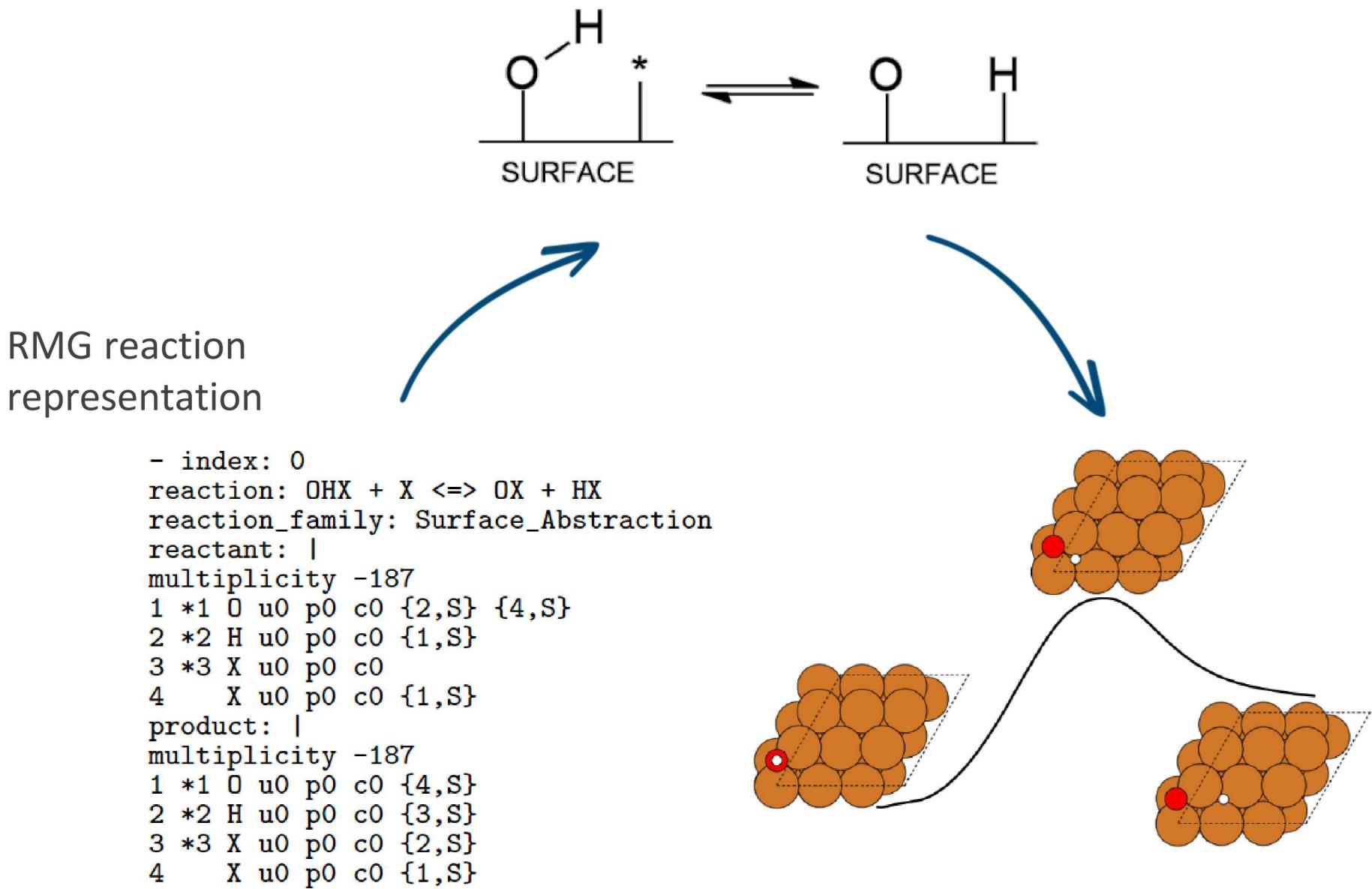


RMG-Cat works, but we have work to do



From formal catalytic reactions to *ab initio* kinetics

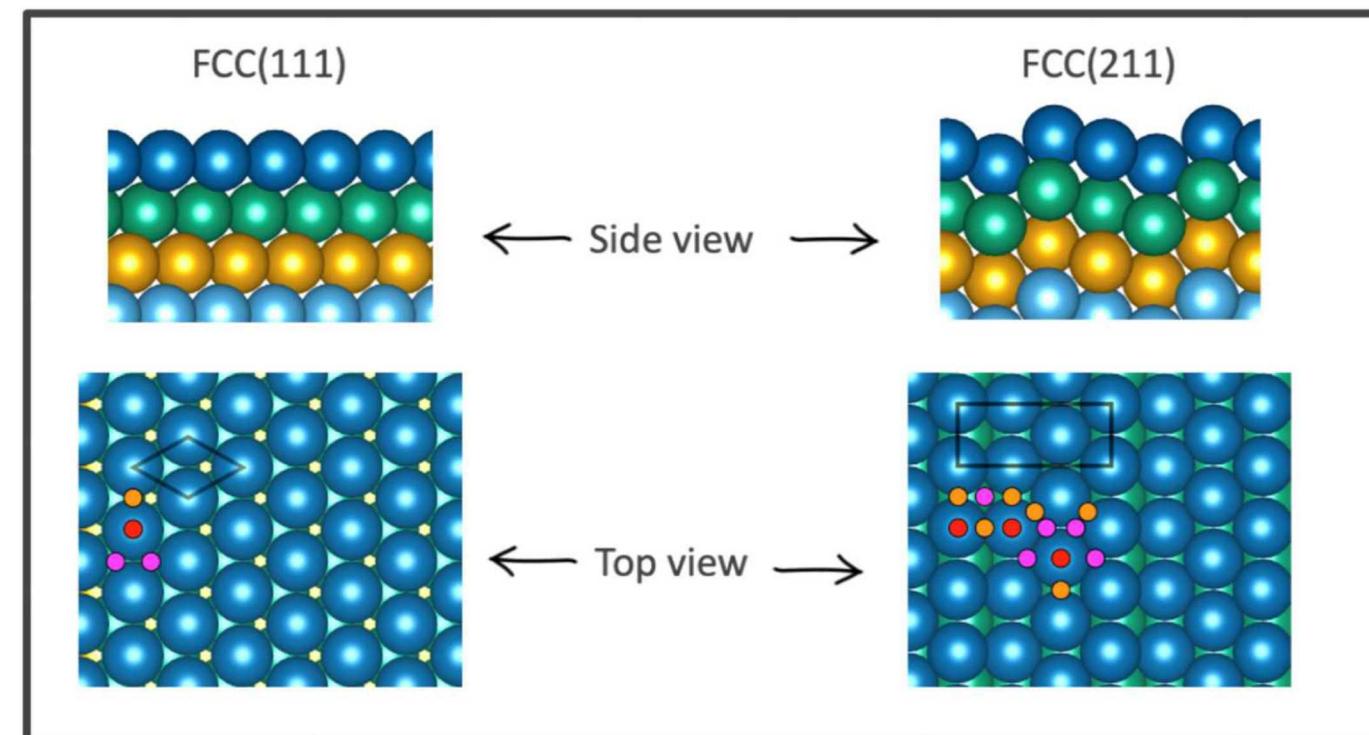
We need tools to take us from a proposed chemical reaction to a rate coefficient for gas/solid catalytic systems.



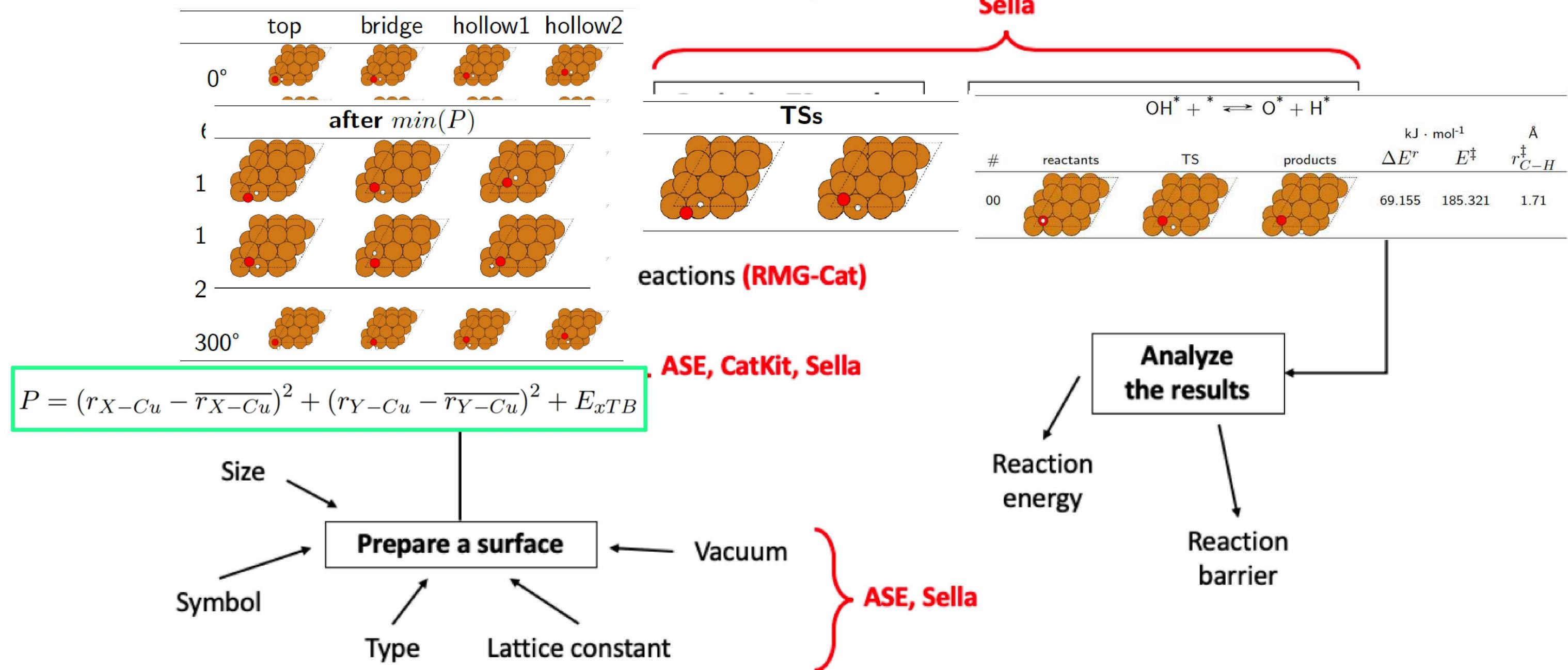
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Workflow for dissociation/association reactions



The workflow is ASE based.

Symmetrically equivalent structures are filtered between steps.

Geometry optimization is done with Sella, our own optimizer.

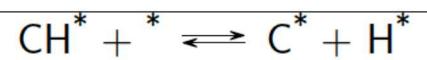
<https://github.com/grimme-lab/xtb>

<https://gitlab.com/ase/ase>

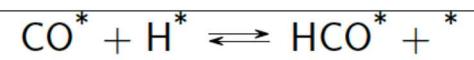
<https://github.com/SUNCAT-Center/CatKit>

<https://github.com/zadorlab/sella>

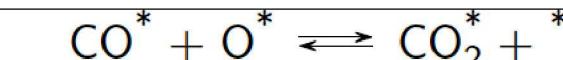
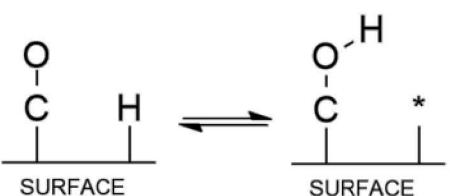
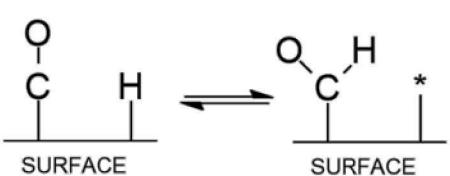
Further examples



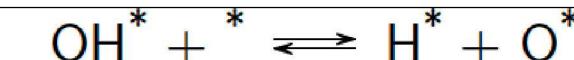
#	reactants	TS	products	kJ · mol ⁻¹		
				ΔE^r	E^\ddagger	$r_{\text{C}-\text{H}}^\ddagger$ Å
00				132.836	183.297	1.82
01				117.379	197.932	2.00



#	reactants	TS	products	kJ · mol ⁻¹		
				ΔE^r	E^\ddagger	$r_{\text{X}-\text{H}}^\ddagger$ Å
00				93.809	103.403	1.52
01				123.530	223.419	1.28
02				86.842	96.120	1.41



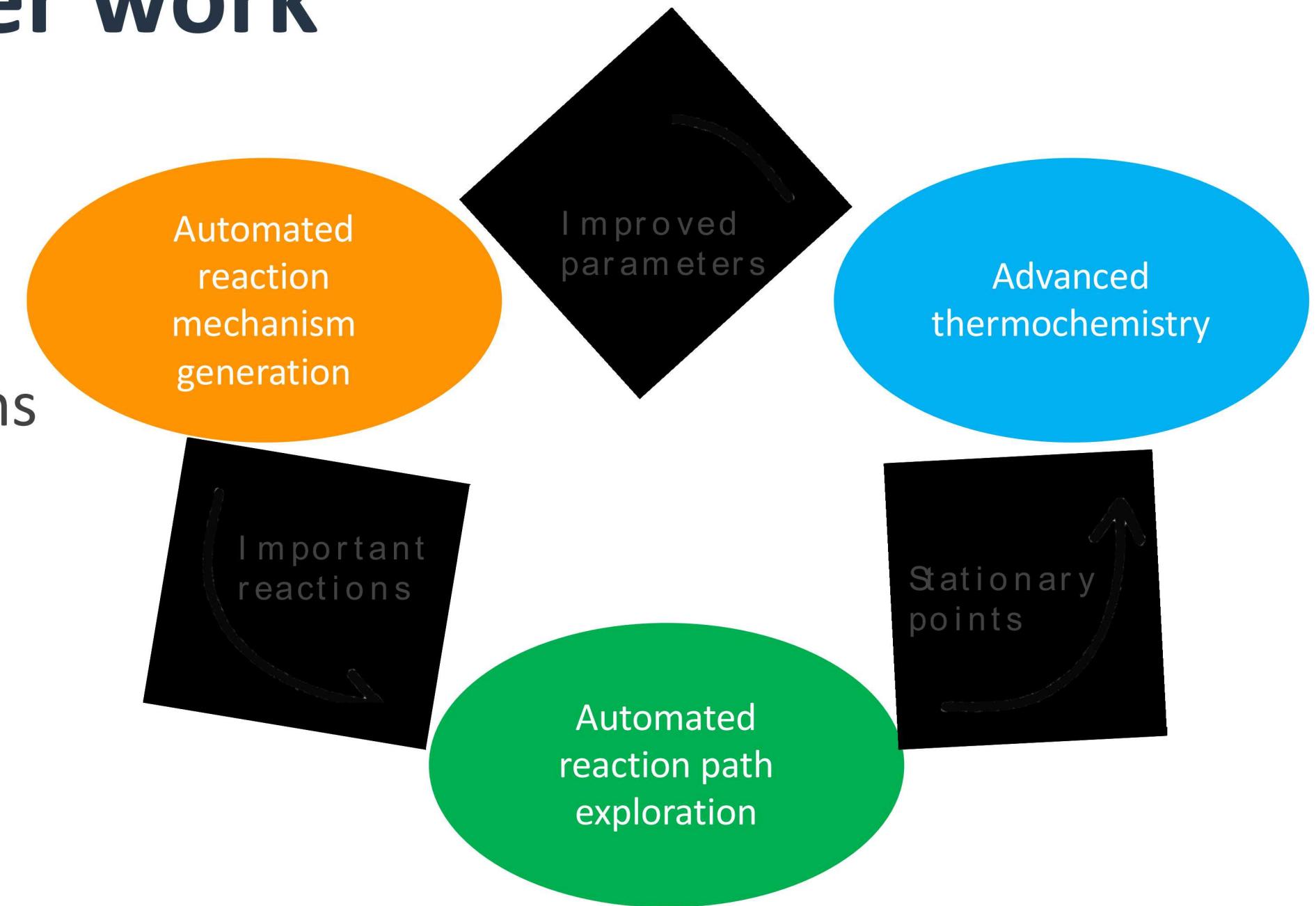
#	reactants	TS	products	kJ · mol ⁻¹		
				ΔE^r	E^\ddagger	$r_{\text{C}-\text{O}}^\ddagger$ Å
00				-111.682	50.449	1.77
01				-118.958	46.756	1.82



#	reactants	TS	products	kJ · mol ⁻¹		
				ΔE^r	E^\ddagger	$r_{\text{X}-\text{H}}^\ddagger$ Å
03				69.598	157.963	1.57
05				95.090	148.133	1.69
07				63.890	150.247	1.55
08				114.593	200.130	1.64
11				23.954	107.021	1.53

Summary and further work

- Coverage dependence
- Bifunctional materials, oxides
- Kinetic Monte Carlo simulations



- Extend methodology to other reaction types
- Scale the code