

## EINLADUNG

zum Vortrag  
von

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### Organic Molecules at Oxide Surfaces

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**Dienstag, 22. März 2011, um 17.30 Uhr**

Ort: Lise-Meitner-Hörsaal, Fakultät für Physik, Universität Wien,  
1090 Wien, Strudlhofgasse 4 / Boltzmannngasse 5, 1. Stock

*Barrierefreier Zugang: Boltzmannngasse 5, Lift, 1. Stock rechts über den Gang zum Hintereingang des Hörsaals*

**Abstract:**

We have studied the adsorption of a variety of aromatic organic molecules on TiO<sub>2</sub> rutile (110) and anatase (101) surfaces using a combination of STM, photoemission spectroscopy, and accompanying DFT calculations performed by collaborators.

We have found that the electronic structure of catechol (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>) is intimately related to its bonding configuration. In particular, a bi-dentate species induces a gap state on rutile (110), while the monodentate species does not [1]. The molecule switches back-and-forth between a bidentate and monodentate state via facile transfer of hydrogen transfer to and from the TiO<sub>2</sub> surface. Hydrogen also plays a key role in the diffusion of catecholates across the surface [2].

We have also investigated the adsorption of aniline (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>) and azobenzene (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N=NH<sub>5</sub>C<sub>6</sub>) with the goal to better understand the role of TiO<sub>2</sub> in the catalytic synthesis of nitroaromatics. We found that both molecules form the same superstructure on rutile (110) as well as anatase (101) surfaces, suggesting that TiO<sub>2</sub> is instrumental in cleaving the N=N double bond of azobenzene.

A short overview of ongoing and planned experiments on other oxide surface will also be presented.

[1] S.-C. Li et al., JACS 131 (2009) 980 - 984

[2] S.-C. Li et al., Science 328 (2010) 882 - 884

[3] S.-C. Li and U. Diebold, JACS 132 (2010) 64 - 66

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