

The pressure of  $O_2$  gas required to give a particular coverage of adsorbed oxygen atoms on a silver surface at  $427^\circ C$  was 1 mbar. However, at  $527^\circ C$ , a pressure of 36 mbar was necessary to establish the same constant surface coverage.

- (7 points) Estimate the isosteric enthalpy of adsorption for  $O_2(g)$  on Ag.
- (3 points) Is  $O_2(g)$  chemisorbed or physisorbed on Ag? Why?

On a surface with dimensions 1.00 cm by 3.50 cm the first order reaction  $A(g) \rightarrow A(ads) \rightarrow B(g)$  has a rate of  $1.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

- (4 points) How would the rate of the reaction change if the dimensions of the two sides of the surface were each doubled? Why?
- (6 points) How do you reconcile your conclusion with the interest in the use of nanoscale materials for catalytic purposes?

The enzyme carbonic anhydrase catalyzes the reaction  $CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow HCO_3^- + H^+$ .

- (4 points) If 8.0  $\mu\text{g}$  of this enzyme (molar mass  $30.0 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ ) catalyzes the hydration of 0.146 g of  $CO_2$  in 30 s, estimate the turnover number.
- (6 points) For this enzyme, when  $CO_2$  is present in excess the Michaelis constant and turnover number are  $1.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$  and  $1 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , while in the presence of excess  $HCO_3^-$  they are  $2.6 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$  and  $4 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$  respectively. Determine ALL the rate constants for the elementary steps in the reaction mechanism.

The energy of adsorption,  $E_{ads}$ , can be measured by a technique called temperature programmed desorption (TPD). In a TPD experiment, the temperature,  $(T)$ , of the surface with bound adsorbate is changed according to the equation  $T = T_0 + \alpha t$ , where  $T_0$  is the initial temperature,  $\alpha$  is a constant that determines the rate at which the temperature is changed, and  $t$  is the time. A mass spectrometer is used to measure the concentration of molecules that desorb from the surface.

- (2 points) The analysis of TPD data depends on the kinetic model of desorption. Consider a first order desorption process  $M-S(s) \xrightarrow{k_d} M(g) + S(s)$ . Write an expression for the rate law for desorption.
- (8 points) Show that

$$\frac{d[M-S]}{dT} = -\frac{[M-S]}{\alpha} \left( \tau_0^{-1} e^{-E_{ads}/RT} \right),$$

where  $\tau_0$  is the vibrational lifetime.

Consider the reaction  $2CO(g) + O_2(g) \rightarrow 2CO_2(g)$  on a surface of platinum. On this surface  $O_2$  adsorbs dissociatively and  $CO$  molecularly.

- (4 points) Write a Langmuir-Hinshelwood (LH) mechanism for this reaction.
- (6 points) Obtain an expression for the rate of the reaction in terms of the partial pressures of the gases if the adsorption steps are instantaneously at equilibrium.