# Electronic structure of transition metal-hydrides



Ronald Griessen Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam March 4, 2008

# $1^{st}$ reminder: the $H_2^+$ molecule ion



Schrödinger equation

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\,\Delta + V(\mathbf{R}_1 - \mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1)\right]\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon\psi(\mathbf{r})$$

Solution as linear combination of atomic wave functions

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = a \,\phi_{1s} \left( \mathbf{R}_1 - \mathbf{r} \right) + b \,\phi_{1s} \left( \mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{r} \right)$$

$$a(\varepsilon_{1s} - V) - bt = \varepsilon a$$
$$-at + b(\varepsilon_{1s} - V) = \varepsilon b$$

$$t \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{1}) \left| V(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{2}) \right| \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{2}) \right\rangle$$
$$V \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{1}) \left| V(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{2}) \right| \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{1}) \right\rangle$$

 $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{1s} - V \pm t$ 

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$$\begin{vmatrix} \varepsilon_{1s} - V - \varepsilon & -t \\ -t & \varepsilon_{1s} - V - \varepsilon \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

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Purpose of this lecture



# Bonding and antibonding states



# 2<sup>nd</sup> reminder: a linear chain of atoms

Solution of the Schrödinger equation for one electron in a crystal

$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{R}} \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R})$$

leads to the energy

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{k}} = E_{atomic} - \Delta V - t \sum_{\mathbf{R}_{nn}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}}$$

with

$$t \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r}) \, \middle| \, \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) \, \middle| \, \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}) \right\rangle$$

$$\Delta V \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r}) \right| \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) \left| \phi(\mathbf{r}) \right|$$

# s – energy band

$$\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = E_{atomic} - \Delta V - 2t \left[ \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{k_1 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{k_2 a}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{k_3 a}{2}\right) \right]$$





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# The tight-binding approximation

Schrödinger equation for one electron in a crystal

$$H\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\mathbf{k}}\Psi$$

Solution of the form

$$\mathcal{\Psi}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{R} \\ sumover \\ all atomic sites}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \sum_{j} c_{j} \varphi_{j}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R})$$

where  $\phi_j(\textbf{r-R})$  is an atomic wave function located at R which satisfies the atomic Schrödinger equation

$$H_{atomic}\varphi_j = E_j\varphi$$

3<sup>rd</sup> reminder: only *s*-states, but in 3D

Solution of the Schrödinger equation for one electron in a crystal

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{R}} \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R})$$

leads to the energy

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{k}} = E_{atomic} - \Delta V - t \sum_{\mathbf{R}_{nn}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}}$$

with

$$t = -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r}) \, \middle| \, \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) \, \middle| \, \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}) \right\rangle$$

 $\Delta V \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r}) \, \right| \, \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) \, \left| \, \phi(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle$ 





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# The tight-binding approximation

Schrödinger equation for one electron in a crystal

$$H \Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Solution of the form



where  $\phi_j(\textbf{r-R})$  is an atomic wave function located at R which satisfies the atomic Schrödinger equation

$$H_{atomic}\varphi_j = E_j\varphi_j$$



# Schrödinger equation in matrix form

Then

$$\left\langle \varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r}) \middle| H \middle| \Psi_{k}(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle = \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \sum_{j=1}^{L} c_{j} \left\langle \varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r}) \middle| H \middle| \varphi_{j}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \right\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{L} c_{j} \left[ \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \left\langle \varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r}) \middle| H \middle| \varphi_{j}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \right\rangle \right]$$

$$= E_{k} \sum_{j} c_{j} \left[ \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \left\langle \varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r}) \middle| \varphi_{j}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \right\rangle \right]$$

$$\cong E_{k} c_{m}$$

In matrix notation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \langle \varphi_{1}(\mathbf{r}) | H | \varphi_{1}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \rangle & \cdots & \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \langle \varphi_{L}(\mathbf{r}) | H | \varphi_{1}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \hline \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \langle \varphi_{1}(\mathbf{r}) | H | \varphi_{L}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \rangle & \cdots & \sum_{R} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} \langle \varphi_{L}(\mathbf{r}) | H | \varphi_{L}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}) \rangle \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} \\ \vdots \\ c_{L} \end{bmatrix} \cong E_{k} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} \\ \vdots \\ c_{L} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Schrödinger equation in a matrix form

Schrödinger equation in a matrix form. Multiply by an atomic function  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{r})$ 

$$\varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r})H\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\mathbf{k}}\varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r})\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

and integrate over real space

 $\langle \varphi_m(\mathbf{r}) | H | \Psi_k(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = E_k \langle \varphi_m(\mathbf{r}) | \Psi_k(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$ 

Make use of the orthogonality of the  $\phi_j(\textbf{r})$  located at the same atomic site,

#### $\left\langle \varphi_{m}\left(\mathbf{r}\right)\middle|\varphi_{j}\left(\mathbf{r}\right)\right\rangle =\delta_{mj}$

and quasi-orthogonality

$$\left\langle \varphi_{j}\left(\mathbf{r}\right)\middle|\varphi_{m}\left(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{R}\right)\right\rangle \cong\delta_{R=0}\delta_{jm}$$

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#### The potential

Close to a given atom the crystal potential resembles strongly the atomic potential

$$H = H_{atomic} + h$$





# Vanishing determinant

With the overlap integral

$$B_{mi}(\mathbf{R}) = \left\langle \varphi_{m}(\mathbf{r}) \middle| h \middle| \varphi_{i}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}) \right\rangle$$

The matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_m + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{11}(\mathbf{R}) & \cdots & \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{1L}(\mathbf{R}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{L1}(\mathbf{R}) & \cdots & E_j + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{LL}(\mathbf{R}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_L \end{bmatrix} \cong E_k \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_L \end{bmatrix}$$

A non-trivial solution exists if the determinant vanishes

$$E_{1} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{11}(\mathbf{R}) - E_{k} \quad \cdots \quad \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{1L}(\mathbf{R})$$

$$\vdots \quad \ddots \quad \vdots$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{L1}(\mathbf{R}) \quad \cdots \quad E_{j} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{LL}(\mathbf{R}) - E_{k} = 0$$

# Overlap integrals after Slater and Koster (1954)

(*l*, *m*, *n*) are the direction cosines of the lattice vector **R**. The fundamental overlap integrals are dd<sub> $\sigma$ </sub>, dd<sub> $\pi$ </sub> and dd<sub> $\delta$ </sub>



$3 l^2 m^2 dd\sigma + (l^2 + m^2 - 4 l^2 m^2) dd\pi + (n^2 + l^2 m^2) dd\delta$
$3 l^2 m^2 n  dd\sigma + ln(1-4 m^2)  dd\pi + ln(m^2-1)  dd\delta$
$3 l^2 mn \operatorname{dd}\sigma + (1-4 l^2) \operatorname{dd}\pi + mn(l^2-1) \operatorname{dd}\delta$
$(3/2)lm (l^2 - m^2) dd\sigma + 2lm (m^2 - l^2) dd\pi + (1/2)lm (l^2 - m^2) dd\delta$
$(3/2)mn (l^2 - m^2) dd\sigma - mn[1 + 2(l^2 - m^2)] dd\pi + mn[1 + (1/2)(l^2 - m^2)] dd\delta$
$(3/2)nl(l^2 - m^2) dd\sigma - nl[1 - 2(l^2 - m^2)] dd\pi - nl[1 - (1/2)(l^2 - m^2)] dd\delta$
$\sqrt{3} lm[n^2 - (1/2) (l^2 + m^2)] dd\sigma - 2\sqrt{3} lmn^2 dd\pi + (1/2)\sqrt{3} (1+n^2) dd\delta$
$\sqrt{3mn[n^2-(1/2)(l^2+m^2)]} dd\sigma + \sqrt{3mn(l^2+m^2-n^2)} dd\pi$
$-(1/2)\sqrt{3mn}(l^2+m^2) dd\delta$
$\sqrt{3ln[n^2-(1/2)(l^2+m^2)]} dd\sigma + \sqrt{3ln(l^2+m^2-n^2)} dd\pi$
$-(1/2)\sqrt{3ln}(l^2+m^2) dd\delta$
$(3/4)(l^2 - m^2)^2 dd\sigma + [l^2 + m^2 - (l^2 - m^2)^2] dd\pi + [n^2 + (1/4)(l^2 - m^2)^2] dd\delta$
$(\sqrt{3/2})(l^2 - m^2) [n^2 - (1/2)(l^2 + m^2)] dd\sigma + \sqrt{3n^2} (m^2 - l^2) ]dd\pi$
$+[(1+n^2)(l^2-m^2)] dd\delta$
$[n^2 - (1/2)(l^2 + m^2)]^2 dd\sigma + 3n^2 (l^2 + m^2) dd\pi + (3/4)(l^2 + m^2)^2 dd\delta$

#### Vanishing determinant

With the overlap integral

$$B_{mj}(\mathbf{R}) = \left\langle \varphi_m(\mathbf{r}) \middle| h \middle| \varphi_j(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}) \right\rangle$$

A non-trivial solution exists if the determinant vanishes

$$\begin{vmatrix} E_{1} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{11}(\mathbf{R}) - E_{k} & \cdots & \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{1L}(\mathbf{R}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{L1}(\mathbf{R}) & \cdots & E_{j} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{LL}(\mathbf{R}) - E_{k} \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \varepsilon_{1s} + G - \varepsilon & -t \\ -t & \varepsilon_{1s} + G - \varepsilon \end{array} \right| = 0 \qquad t \equiv -\left\langle \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_1) \left| V(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_2) \right| \phi(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_2) \right\rangle$$

#### Overlap integrals after Slater and Koster (1954)

(*l*, *m*, *n*) are the direction cosines of the lattice vector **R**. The fundamental overlap integrals are dd<sub> $\sigma$ </sub>, dd<sub> $\pi$ </sub> and dd<sub> $\delta$ </sub>



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# Elementary overlap integrals



# *d-d* overlap integrals for FCC

Overlap integrals after Slater and Koster for the nearest-neighbours in the FCC lattice. The fundamental overlap integrals dd $\sigma$ , dd $\pi$  and dd $\delta$  are defined in Table.VI.1. The dd $\delta$  overlap integral are set equal to zero

B <sub>xy, xy</sub>	$3/4  dd\sigma$
B <sub>xy, xy</sub>	$1/2  dd\pi$
B <sub>xy, yz</sub>	0
B <sub>xy, yz</sub>	0
B <sub>xy, xz</sub>	0
B <sub>xy, xz</sub>	0
$B_{xy, x}^{2} - y^{2}$	0
$B_{yz, x}^{2} - y^{2}$	0
$B_{xz, x}^{2} - y^{2}$	0
$B_{xy, 3z-r}^{2^{2}2}$	0
$B_{yz, 3z-r}^{2}$	0
$B_{xz, 3z-r}^{2}$	0
$B_{x-y,x-y}^{2}$	ddπ
$B_{x-y}^{2} = \frac{2}{3z-r}^{2}$	$3/16dd\sigma + 1/4dd\pi$
$B_{37}^{2}$ $C_{37}^{2}$ $C_{37}^{2}$ $C_{7}^{2}$	$1/4  dd\sigma$
$B_{3z}^{2} - r, 3z^{2} - r^{2}$	$1/16~dd\sigma + 3/4~dd\pi$

for [110] for [101] and [011] for [011] for [101] and [011] for [011] for [101] and [011]

for [110] for [101] and [01 for [110] for [101] and [011]

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# For a FCC metal

$$E_{k} = E_{d} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}} B_{jj}(\mathbf{R})$$
$$= E_{d} + 2\sum^{*} \cos(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}) B_{jj}(\mathbf{R})$$

$$\begin{split} E_{xy,xy} &= E_d + 4dd\pi \cos(\frac{k_z a}{2}) + 3dd\sigma \\ E_{yz,yz} &= E_d + 3dd\sigma \cos(\frac{k_z a}{2}) + 2dd\pi \left(1 + \cos(\frac{k_z a}{2})\right) \\ E_{xz,xz} &= E_d + 3dd\sigma \cos(\frac{k_z a}{2}) + 2dd\pi \left(1 + \cos(\frac{k_z a}{2})\right) \\ E_{x^2 - y^2, x^2 - y^2} &= E_d + 4dd\pi + \left(\frac{3}{2}dd\sigma + 2dd\pi\right)\cos(\frac{k_z a}{2}) + \\ E_{3z^2 - r^2, 3z^2 - r^2} &= E_d + \left(\frac{1}{2}dd\sigma + 6dd\pi\right)\cos(\frac{k_z a}{2}) + dd\sigma \end{split}$$



#### Approximation

# Bands along $\Gamma X$





Determinant for **k** parallel to the z-axis if one considers only 1s- and 5d- states.



d-states only

#### Bands along ΓX











## s-d-hybridisation



# Influence of *s*-*d*-hybridisation



**X** 

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# Comparison



# For FCC metals $d_{xy}$ has the lowest energy



# You are now ready to understand this !





# Density of states of PdH



# Site projected density of states in PdH



# Influence of H on the density of states



# Site projected density of states in YH







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# Density of states of transition metal-hydrides

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# Schematic influence of H on DOS of PdH<sub>x</sub>





Low lying bands in YH<sub>n</sub>



## Why is $YH_3$ not a metal ?

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#### More than 24 theoretical papers !