

## Acetonitrile ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) and methyl isocyanide ( $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ ) adsorption on Pt(111) surface: a DFT study

HAN Xin-yan (韩新艳), REN Jun (任 君), CAO Duan-lin (曹端林), ZHU Jia-ping (朱佳平)

(College of Chemical Engineering and environment, North University of China, Taiyuan 030051, China)

**Abstract:** The adsorption of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  on the Pt(111) surface at the 1/4 monolayer (ML) coverage has been carried out at the level of density functional theory for understanding hydrogenation processes of nitriles. The most favored adsorption structure for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  is the C—N bond almost parallel to the surface with the C—N bond interaction with adjacent surface Pt atoms. For  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , the most stable configuration is the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  locates at the face center cubic (fcc) site with the C-atom bonded to three Pt atoms. In addition, the HCN and HNC adsorption has been computed, and the adsorption pattern is nearly similar to the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , respectively. The adsorbed molecules rehybridize on the surface, becoming non-linear with a bent C—C—N or C—N—C angle. Furthermore, the binding mechanism of these molecules on the Pt(111) surface is also analyzed.

**Key words:** acetonitrile; methyl isocyanide; adsorption; Pt(111) surface; density functional theory(DFT)

CLD number: O647

Document code: A

Article ID: 1674-8042(2013)01-0097-06

doi: 10.3969/j.issn.1674-8042.2013.01.021

The catalytic hydrogenation of nitriles is an important route for the production of various lower-aliphatic amines that are widely used in the pharmaceutical, agriculture, textile, rubber and plastic industries. One important industrial process for their manufacture is the hydrogenation of the corresponding nitriles over transition metal catalysts, and the partially hydrogenated reaction intermediates (imines or Schiff bases) are highly reactive and usually form a mixture of primary, secondary and tertiary amines that leads to costly product separation processes. A widely used class of catalysts is skeletal Raney catalysts based on Co or Ni. Compared to other transition metals (e. g. Rh, Pd and Ru), Co is known to exhibit the highest selectivity to primary amines but generally provides relatively low activity. An ideal way to solve this problem is to improve the activity and selectivity in the production of amines. As reviewed by Volf and Pašek<sup>[1]</sup> and de Bellefon and Fouilloux<sup>[2]</sup>, the activity and selectivity for nitrile hydrogenation are affected by reaction conditions, nitriles and catalysts, of which the catalyst plays a decisive role in determining the reaction selectivity. There is consensus that the selectivity to primary amines is high over Ru and Ni, whereas Cu and Rh tend to form secondary amines and Pd and Pt have a high propensity to form tertiary amines<sup>[3,4]</sup>. Furthermore, the acid base properties of the catalyst support also have a strong effect on the selectivity<sup>[5,6]</sup>, because the acidic sites are partially

responsible for condensation reactions giving condensed amines<sup>[7,8]</sup>.

Acetonitrile ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) and its isomer, methyl isocyanide ( $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ ), have been relatively often used for determining geometrical structure and bonding configuration on single crystal metal surfaces<sup>[9-17]</sup>. Their application is based on the fact that these compounds are isoelectronic with CO (the most frequently applied probe molecule). While CO generally bonds on Group VIII metals via a synergistic bonding scheme with both donation from the metal into empty  $2\pi^*$  orbitals on CO and donation from the filled  $6\sigma$  orbital of CO to the metal, methyl isocyanide is a significantly weaker  $\pi$ -acid since its  $2\pi^*$  level lies much higher in energy than that of CO. Therefore, it is interesting, from a fundamental point of view, to compare the surface chemistry of these molecules. In addition, heterogeneous catalytic transformation of acetonitrile has rarely been investigated. Experimental studies on the ultra violet (UV) irradiation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  adsorbed on  $\text{TiO}_2$  in the presence of oxygen indicated<sup>[10]</sup> the formation of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , surface  $\text{CO}_3$  and surface isocyanate (NCO). The formation of surface  $\text{CH}_3\text{CONH}_2$ ,  $\eta^2(\text{N},\text{O})-\text{CH}_3\text{CONH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}(\text{a})$ ,  $\text{HCOO}(\text{a})$ ,  $\text{NCO}(\text{a})$  and CN-containing species was observed, when the UV irradiation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  adsorbed on  $\text{TiO}_2$  was performed in the absence of oxygen<sup>[11]</sup>.

Isocyanide adsorption has been studied previously

\* Received date: 2012-09-21

Foundation item: Natural Science Foundation of Shanxi Province (No. 2009011014)

Corresponding author: REN Jun(junren2003@sxicc.ac.cn)

on various metal surfaces. On Pt(111) surface<sup>[12,14]</sup>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN was found to adsorb weakly to the surface in a parallel structure (through both the terminal carbon and the nitrogen), and CH<sub>3</sub>NC was found to bond strongly in an upright structure with the terminal carbon bonded to two metal atoms. Acetonitrile (methyl cyanide) was investigated further on Pt(111)<sup>[13]</sup> and again found to adsorb parallel to the surface with a possible interaction between the  $\beta$ -hydrogens and the surface. The conclusion that CN axis is parallel to the bridge and the adsorption energy is the largest are also calculated by Alexis Markovits and Christian Minot<sup>[14]</sup>. On supported Pt/SiO<sub>2</sub>, similar results were found for both compounds. On powdered Au, isocyanides were bound weakly to the metal in a linear structure with the terminal carbon bonded to one metal atom. Isocyanides were found to adsorb strongly on Ni(111) and Ni(100) in a parallel structure<sup>[15-17]</sup>. On Rh(111) surface<sup>[16]</sup>, the isocyanide bonds strongly also in a parallel structure at low coverage. On supported Rh/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>[17]</sup>, the isocyanide was found to stand up again. Finally, on Ag(311)<sup>[18]</sup>, isocyanides bond weakly in a parallel or close to parallel orientation. So, the adsorption of cyanide on the metal surface has not been investigated systematically.

Quantum chemical methods have become new tools for investigating the structure of active surfaces and determining reaction mechanisms. With recent development, density functional theory (DFT) is capable of providing qualitative and, in many cases, quantitative insights into surface science and catalysis. In this paper, we report a systematic DFT study on CH<sub>3</sub>CN and CH<sub>3</sub>NC adsorption on Pt(111) in order to get insight into their surfaces and structures. Furthermore, the aim of the present work is to determine the surface species formed on Pt(111) and to detect the gas products during the interaction of acetonitrile with noble metal catalysts. This study would be helpful to find an effective catalyst in breaking of C—N bond of cyanide compounds.

## 1 Methods and models

All calculation are done with the Cambridge sequential total energy package<sup>[19]</sup>. DFT calculation within the generalized gradient approximation (GGA) using the Perdew, Burke and Ernzerhof (PBE) functional<sup>[20]</sup> was carried out to study nitromethane adsorption on the surfaces of Pt(111). Ionic cores were described by the ultrasoft pseudopotential<sup>[21]</sup>, and the Kohn-Sham one-electron states were expanded in a plane wave basis set up to 340 eV. The difference of the adsorption energy at the level of cutoff between 340 and 360 eV was about 0.02 eV. A Fermi smearing of 0.1 eV was

utilized. Brillouin zone integration was approximated by a sum over special  $k$ -points chosen using the Monkhorst-Pack scheme<sup>[22]</sup>. A spin-restricted approach was used for clean surface models since polarization effects were found to be negligible. The convergence criteria for structure optimization and energy calculation were set to (a) self-consistent field (SCF) tolerance of  $2.0 \times 10^{-6}$  eV/atom, (b) energy tolerance of  $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  eV/atom, (c) maximum force tolerance of 0.05 eV/Å, and (d) maximum displacement tolerance of  $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$  Å.  $A_4 \times 4 \times 1$   $k$ -grid sampling within the Brillouin zones was used in the  $p(2 \times 2)$  unit cell and a vacuum region of 15 Å. We also tested the  $k$ -point sampling by using the  $5 \times 5 \times 1$  Monkhorst-Pack meshes for the unit cell, and the change in energy is less than 0.03 eV. Although the PBE functional can give reliable optimized geometry, it tends to overbind adsorbate on metal surface<sup>[23,24]</sup>. We further carried out the RPBE single point energy calculations on the PBE optimized geometries and use the RPBE energy for discussion.

In order to describe the interaction between adsorbates and Pt-slab, we defined the adsorption energy as

$$E_{\text{ads}} = E(\text{adsorbates / slab}) - [E(\text{adsorbates}) + E(\text{slab})]. \quad (1)$$

where  $E(\text{slab})$ ,  $E(\text{adsorbates})$  and  $E(\text{adsorbates / slab})$  are the total energy of the optimized slab of the surface, gas-phase adsorbate and adsorbate-slab complex, respectively.

## 2 Results and discussion

### 2.1 CH<sub>3</sub>CN adsorption on Pt(111) surface

Initially, we checked that the properties of the isolated CH<sub>3</sub>CN were accurately reproduced. The calculated gas phase C—N and C—C bond lengths is 1.169 and 1.435 Å, respectively. The C—C—N angle is 179.5 Å in good agreement with experiment value (C—N: 1.158 Å, C—C: 1.460 Å, and C—C—N: 180.0 Å). The Pt(111) surface exhibits four high-symmetry adsorption sites as shown in Fig.1. The adsorbed species could be located on top, bridge, face center cubic kinds of (fcc) hollow or hexagonal close-packed (hcp) hollow sites, hereafter labeled  $t$ ,  $b$ ,  $f$  and  $h$ , respectively. We designated all possible adsorption structures for CH<sub>3</sub>CN on the surface, top, bridge, fcc hollow or hcp hollow, based upon the position of the N atom, only three relatively stable configuration were obtained in Fig.1. The calculated adsorption energies and structural parameters for CH<sub>3</sub>CN are listed in Table 1. In I (2-fold bridge site), CH<sub>3</sub>CN interacts

with two adjacent Pt atoms via the C—N bond and forms one Pt—N and one Pt—C bond and the C—N axis almost parallel to the surface. The C—N bond is elongated compared to free CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1.252 vs 1.15 Å) (Fig. 1). The C—C bond is stretched to 1.474 Å corresponding to gas phase calculated value 1.435 Å, and the C—C—N bond angle is reduced to 129.1 Å. The length of Pt—N and Pt—C bonds is 2.032 and 2.053 Å, respectively. These results are close to those reported for the acetonitrile adsorption on Ni(111)<sup>[25]</sup>, which showed that a rehybridization of the acetonitrile molecule into a sp<sup>2</sup> configuration. In II (top1 site), the acetonitrile molecule linearly adsorbed on the surface by one C atom atop on one Pt and it bonded to the surface only by the nitrogen atom with the C—N axis almost perpendicular to the surface. The C—N bond length is about 1.166 Å and the C—C—N bond angle is 178.7 Å. For the bridge adsorption, each of the possible bridge adsorption sites on the surface was considered, but the acetonitrile molecule adsorption configuration changed from bridge to top site during optimization (III, top2 site). The C—C bond length is about 1.667 Å. As given in Table 1, I is the

most stable adsorbed form with the largest adsorption energy (−0.48 eV), while II and III have lower adsorption energies (−0.33 and −0.30 eV).

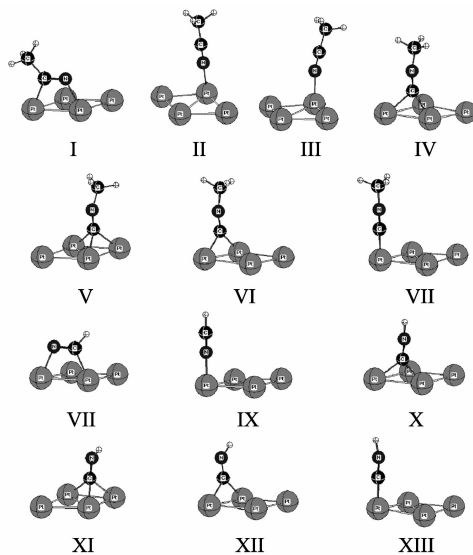


Fig. 1 Adsorption of CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CH<sub>3</sub>NC, HCN and HNC on Pt(111) surface at 1/4 ML

Table 1 Calculated adsorption energies ( $E_{\text{ads}}$ , eV) and structural parameters ( $d$ , Å and  $\theta$ , deg) for CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CH<sub>3</sub>NC, HCN and HNC adsorption on the Pt(111)-2×2 surfaces

	$E_{\text{ads}}$ (eV)	$d_{\text{C-C}}$ (Å)	$d_{\text{C-N}}$ (Å)	$d_{\text{N-Pt}}$ (Å)	$d_{\text{C-Pt}}$ (Å)	$d_{\text{C-H}}/d_{\text{N-H}}$	$\theta_{\text{C-C-N}}/\theta_{\text{C-N-C}}/\theta_{\text{H-C-N}}/\theta_{\text{H-N-C}}$
CH <sub>3</sub> CN		1.435	1.169			1.091–1.093	179.536
exp.		1.460	1.158			1.071	180.0
I: $b - \eta^2(\text{C,N})$	−0.48 <sup>a</sup> (−0.92) <sup>b</sup>	1.474	1.252	2.032	2.053	1.090–1.092	129.147
II: $t - \eta^1(\text{N})$	−0.33 <sup>a</sup> (−0.61) <sup>b</sup>	1.427	1.166		1.999	1.093–1.094	178.725
III: $t - \eta^1(\text{N}) - 1$	−0.30 <sup>a</sup> (−0.57) <sup>b</sup>	1.428	1.167	2.012		1.092–1.094	176.689
CH <sub>3</sub> NC			1.182, 1.404			1.092–1.094	179.706
exp.			1.167, 1.426				
IV: $f - \eta^3(\text{C})$	−1.57 <sup>a</sup> (−1.96) <sup>b</sup>		1.389, 1.210		2.109, 2.116, 2.135	1.094–1.096	178.913
V: $h - \eta^3(\text{C})$	−1.55 <sup>a</sup> (−1.94) <sup>b</sup>		1.387, 1.213		2.101, 2.125, 2.115	1.095–1.096	162.059
VI: $b - \eta^2(\text{C})$	−1.50 <sup>a</sup> (−1.92) <sup>b</sup>		1.393, 1.201		2.042, 2.031	1.094–1.095	169.516
VII: $t - \eta^1(\text{C})$	−1.48 <sup>a</sup> (−1.88) <sup>b</sup>		1.397, 1.177		1.883	1.092–1.094	172.315
HCN			1.165			1.069	178.718
exp.			1.156			1.064	180.0
VIII: $b - \eta^2(\text{C,N})$	−0.98 <sup>a</sup> (−0.58) <sup>b</sup>		1.249	2.040	2.024	1.093	126.357
IX: $t - \eta^1(\text{N})$	−0.53 <sup>a</sup> (−0.52) <sup>b</sup>		1.163	1.976		1.068	179.331
HNC			1.181			1.009	179.210
X: $f - \eta^3(\text{C})$	−2.12 <sup>a</sup> (−1.72) <sup>b</sup>		1.239		2.051, 2.066, 2.173	1.021	128.834
XI: $h - \eta^3(\text{C})$	−2.09 <sup>a</sup> (−1.70) <sup>b</sup>		1.236		2.164, 2.059, 2.083	1.109	129.768
XII: $b - \eta^2(\text{C})$	−2.08 <sup>a</sup> (−1.68) <sup>b</sup>		1.225		2.000, 2.028	1.020	129.662
XIII: $t - \eta^1(\text{C})$	−1.86 <sup>a</sup> (−1.57) <sup>b</sup>		1.179		1.874	1.005	167.563

<sup>a</sup>: Values are derived from the PBE functional.

<sup>b</sup>: Values in parentheses are derived from the RPBE functional.

## 2.2 CH<sub>3</sub>NC adsorption on Pt(111) surface

The interaction of isocyanides with transition

metals has been extensively studied in the context of organometallic chemistry. Recently, scanning tunneling microscopy (STM)<sup>[26]</sup> and reflection absorp-

tion infrared spectroscopy and temperature-programmed desorption (TPD)<sup>[27]</sup> were used to investigate the adsorption of methyl isocyanide ( $\text{CNCH}_3$ ) on the Pt (111) surface and its reaction to form methylaminocarbyne ( $\text{CNHCH}_3$ ). It indicated that methyl isocyanide is found to adsorb at on-topsites at low coverage and at both on-top and 2-fold bridge sites at higher coverage. In this section, we have mainly focused on the structure of the adsorbed molecule and the adsorption site. For  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  adsorption, Fig. 1 shows four adsorption forms (IV, V, VI and VII). In IV, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  locates at the fcc site with the C-atom bonded to three Pt atoms and the Pt—C bond lengths are 2.109, 2.116 and 2.135 Å, respectively. The C—C—N bond angle is 178.9 Å and the two C—N bond lengths are 1.210 and 1.389 Å, respectively. In V, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  is situated at hcp site by the C-atom adsorption and the length of the Pt—C bond is changed from 2.101 to 2.125 Å. The C—N bond is stretched about 0.044 and 0.22 Å, respectively. In V, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  adsorbed at the hcp site with the C-atom interaction with three Pt atoms

on the surface with three Pt—C distances of 2.101, 2.125 and 2.115 Å. The two C—N bond lengths are extended to 1.213 and 1.387 Å, respectively. The C—C—N bond angle is 162.1 Å. In VI, the carbon of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  bridges on two Pt atoms with Pt—C bond lengths of 2.042 and 2.031 Å and the C—N distances of 1.393 and 1.201 Å. In IV, the carbon of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  atop on one Pt atom with the C—N distances of 1.397 and 1.177 Å. In Table 1, IV is the most stable adsorption mode (−1.57 eV), followed by V (−1.55 eV), while VI and IV are much less stable (−1.50 and −1.48 eV). It is interesting to note that the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  adsorption on hcp site is similar to the fcc site due to the very small of the energy difference (−0.02 eV). Considering a possible equilibrium between the two states, the chance of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  adsorption on fcc and hcp sites is same thermodynamically. On this basis, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  should dissociate dominantly and directly on the two sites, while the bridge and top sites play a minor role.

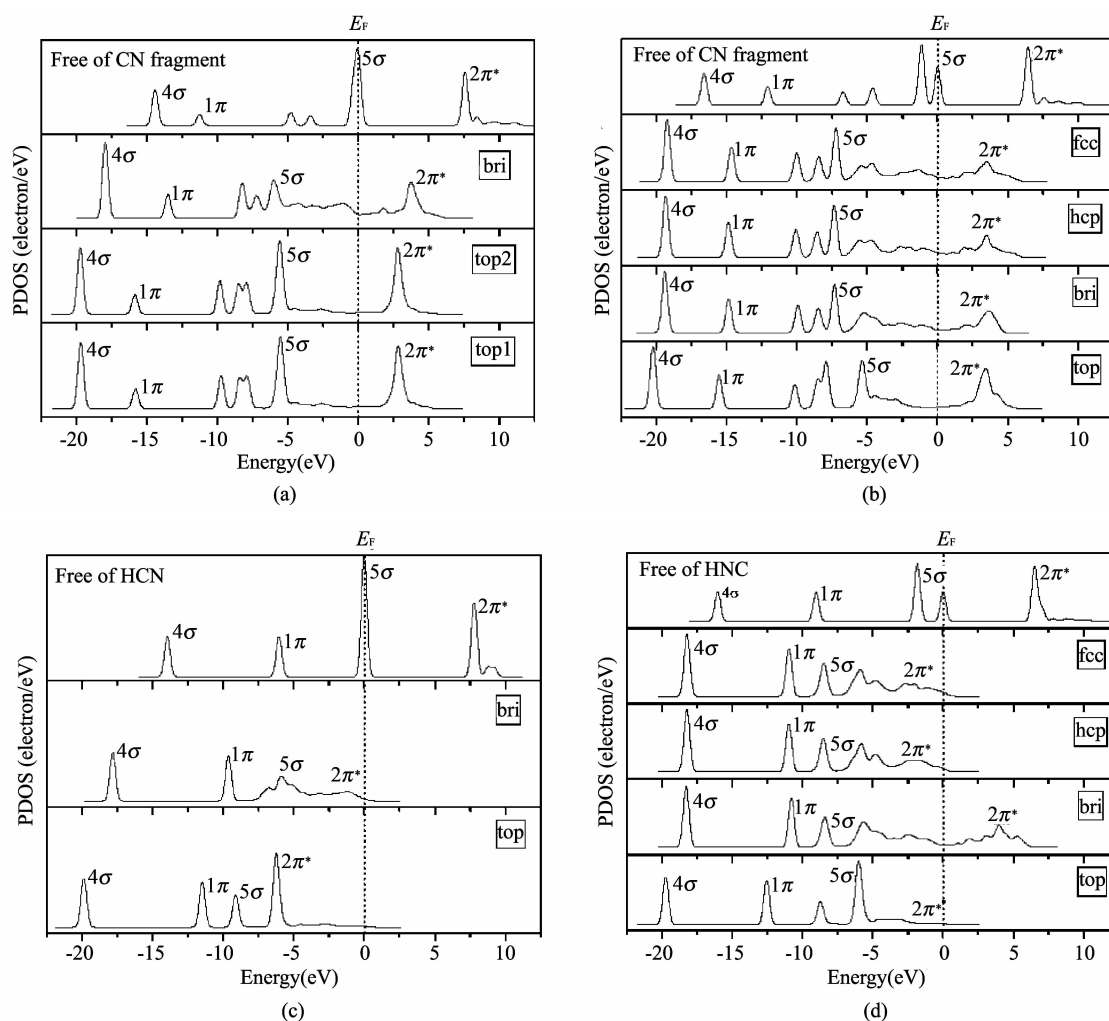


Fig. 2 PDOS of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (a),  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  (b),  $\text{HCN}$  (c) and  $\text{HNC}$  (d) adsorption on Pt(111) surface

## 2.3 HCN and HNC adsorption on Pt(111) surface

For comparison, HCN and HNC adsorption on Pt(111) surface have been computed, and the calculated adsorption energies and structural parameters for HCN and HNC are also showed in Table 1. Similarly to  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , the HCN adsorption on Pt(111) surface only has two configurations: top and parallel (VII and IX) at the low coverage 1/4ML. For the parallel adsorption VII, the  $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  bond parallel to Pt surface and the  $\text{H}-\text{C}-\text{N}$  bond angle change from  $180^\circ$  to  $126.3^\circ$ , the  $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  bond length was stretched to  $1.249 \text{ \AA}$  forming a di- $\sigma$  bonded  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{N}$  species with the adsorption energy of  $0.58 \text{ eV}$ . This result is a good agreement with previous experiment<sup>[28]</sup>. For the HNC adsorption, there are also four adsorption configurations on the Pt(111) surface (Table 1 and Fig. 2) (X, XI, XII, XIII). In these structures, X is the most stable adsorption form with the adsorption energy of  $1.72 \text{ eV}$ , while XIII is the least stable ( $1.57 \text{ eV}$ ).

## 3 Electronic structure and density of states

Fig. 2 shows the total density of states of free CN fragment (for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (a) and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  (b)), free HCN and HNC, and the partial density of states (PDOS) of these species on the Pt(111) surface. The three peaks below the Fermi level ( $E_F=0$ ) are  $4\sigma$ ,  $1\pi$  (degenerated) and  $5\sigma$ , while the  $2\pi^*$  anti-bonding orbital is about  $7.5 \text{ eV}$  above the  $5\sigma$  orbital. After adsorption the  $4\sigma$  level does not change much and there is no discernable interaction with Pt. In contrast,  $1\pi$  and  $5\sigma$  levels undergo substantial reorganization. Compared with the PDOS of free CN fragment, HCN and HNC, both the  $5\sigma$  and  $2\pi^*$  bands shift downward primary due to the  $5\sigma-d$  donation and the  $d-2\pi^*$  back-donation with the Pt surface. The  $2\pi^*$  orbital, empty in the free CN fragment, HCN and HNC, is now partially occupied upon adsorption, resulting from interaction with the  $4s$  and  $3d$ -orbitals of the Pt surface. The partial charge transfer leads to the broadening of the  $2\pi^*$  band with an edge below the Fermi level and the significant elongation of the  $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  bond due to the anti-bonding nature of the  $2\pi^*$  orbital. In addition, the integral of DOS curve is computed. The peak next to the  $2\pi^*$  represents more than four electrons (the largest occupation of the degenerated  $1\pi$  is four electrons), so it is obvious that the  $5\sigma$  band shifts downward and overlaps with  $1\pi$  band. The  $1\pi$  band is thought to be localized in the total DOS and do not take part in the binding progress.

## 4 Conclusion

The adsorption of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , HCN and HNC on the Pt(111) surface has been computed at the level of density functional theory for understanding hydrogenation processes of nitriles. At the 1/4 ML low coverage, the most favored adsorption structure for  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  is the  $\text{C}-\text{N}$  bond almost parallel to the surface with the  $\text{C}-\text{N}$  bond interaction with adjacent surface Pt atoms. For  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , the most stable configuration is the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  locates at the fcc site with the C-atom bonded to three Pt atoms. For the HCN and HNC adsorption, the adsorption pattern is nearly similarly to the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , respectively.

The binding mechanism of CO to the Pt(111) surface at the 1/4ML is also analyzed by the DOS analysis. Compared with  $5\sigma$  and  $2\pi^*$  bands of the free CN fragment, HCN and HNC, the  $5\sigma$  band of the adsorbed  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , HCN and HNC shifts strongly downwards, and part of the  $2\pi^*$  bands of the adsorbed  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , HCN and HNC lies quite below the Fermi level. This indicates a charge transfer from the Pt(111) surface to the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$ , HCN and HNC. As a consequence,  $\text{C}-\text{N}$  bonds are activated.

## References

- [1] Volf J, Pašek J. Chapter 4 Hydrogenation of nitriles. *Studies in Surface Science and Catalysis*, 1986, 27: 105-144.
- [2] De Bellefon C, Fouilloux P. Homogeneous and heterogeneous hydrogenation of nitriles in a liquid phase: chemical, mechanistic, and catalytic aspects. *Catalysis Reviews: Science and Engineering*, 1994, 36(3): 459.
- [3] Barrault J, Pouilloux Y. Synthesis of fatty amines. Selectivity control in presence of multifunctional catalysts. *Catalysis Today*, 1997, 37(2): 137-153.
- [4] Huang Y Y, Sachtler W M H. On the mechanism of catalytic hydrogenation of nitriles to amines over supported metal catalysts. *Applied Catalysis A: General*, 1999, 182(2): 365-378.
- [5] Rode C V, Arai M, Shirai M, et al. Gas-phase hydrogenation of nitriles by nickel on various supports. *Applied Catalysis A: General*, 1997, 148(2): 405-413.
- [6] Gluhoi A C, Mărginean P, Stănescu U. Effect of supports on the activity of nickel catalysts in acetonitrile hydrogenation. *Applied Catalysis A: General*, 2005, 294(2): 208-214.
- [7] Verhaak M J F M, van Dillen A J, Geus J W. The selective hydrogenation of acetonitrile on supported nickel catalysts. *Catalysis Letters*, 1994, 26(1-2): 37-53.
- [8] Medina C F, Tichit D, Coq B, et al. Hydrogenation of acetonitrile on nickel-based catalysts prepared from hydrotalcite-like precursors. *Journal of Catalysis*, 1997, 167(1): 142-152.
- [9] Kishi K, Ikeda S. Adsorption of acetonitrile on evaporat-

- ed nickel and palladium films studied by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy. *Surface Science*, 1981, 107(2/3): 405-416.
- [10] Zhuang J, Rusu C N, Yates Jr J T. Adsorption and photooxidation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  on  $\text{TiO}_2$ . *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, 1999, 103(33): 6957-6967.
- [11] Chuang C C, Wu W C, Lee M X, et al. Adsorption and photochemistry of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CONH}_2$  on powdered  $\text{TiO}_2$ . *Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics*, 2000, 2(17): 3877-3882.
- [12] Avery N R, Matheson T W. Adsorption and decomposition of methyl iso-cyanide on Pt(111). *Surface Science*, 1984, 143(1): 110-124.
- [13] Friend C M, Gavin R M, Muetterties E L, et al. Coordination chemistry of metal surfaces-carbon monoxide chemisorption states on Pt(111). *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 1980, 102(5): 1717-1719.
- [14] Alexis M, Christian M. Theoretical study of the acetonitrile flip-flop with the electric field orientation: adsorption on a Pt(111) electrode surface. *Catalysis Letters*, 2003, 91(3-4): 225-234.
- [15] Friend C M, Stein J, Muetterties E L. Coordination chemistry of metal surfaces. 2. Chemistry of acetonitrile and methyl isocyanide on nickel surfaces. *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 1981, 103(4): 767-772.
- [16] Semancik S, Haller G L, Yates J T. The adsorption and dissociation of methyl isocyanide on Rh(111). *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 1983, 78(11): 6970.
- [17] Cavanagh R R, Yates J T. Surface binding of an electronic analog to CO: Infrared evidence for  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  chemisorption on  $\text{Rh}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ . *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 1981, 75(3): 1551-1559.
- [18] Ceyer S T, Yates J T. Orientation of methyl isocyanide adsorbed on silver(311). *Journal of Physical Chemistry*, 1985, 89(18): 3842-3845.
- [19] Payne M C, Allan D C, Arias T A, et al. Iterative minimization techniques for ab initio total-energy calculations: molecular dynamics and conjugate gradients. *Reviews of Modern Physics*, 1992, 64(4): 1045-1097.
- [20] Milman V, Winkler B, White J A, et al. Electronic structure, properties, and phase stability of inorganic crystals: A pseudopotential plane-wave study. *International Journal of Quantum Chemistry*, 2000, 77(5): 895-910.
- [21] White J A, Bird D M. Implementation of gradient-corrected exchange-correlation potentials in Car-Parrinello total-energy calculations. *Physical Review B*, 1994, 50(7): 4954-4957.
- [22] Perdew J P, Burke S, Ernzerhof M. Generalized gradient approximation made simple. *Physical Review Letters*, 1996, 77(18): 3865-3868.
- [23] Vanderbilt D. Soft self-consistent pseudopotentials in a generalized eigenvalue formalism. *Physical Review B*, 1990, 41(11): 7892-7895.
- [24] Monkhorst H J, Pack J D. Special points for brillouin-zone integrations. *Physical Review B*, 1976, 13(12): 5188-5192.
- [25] Hammer B, Hansen L B, Nørskov J K. Improved adsorption energetics within density-functional theory using revised Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof functionals. *Physical Review B*, 1999, 59(11): 7413-7421.
- [26] ZHANG Ying-kai, YANG Wei-tao. Comment on Generalized gradient approximation made simple. *Physical Review Letters*, 1998, 80(4): 890-890.
- [27] Gardin D E, Barbieri A, Batteas J D, et al. Tensor LEED analysis of the  $\text{Ni}(111)\text{-p}(2 \times 2)\text{-CH}_3\text{CN}$  structure. *Surface Science*, 1994, 304(3): 316-324.
- [28] Katano S, Herceg E, Trenary M, et al. Single molecule observations of the adsorption sites of methyl isocyanide on Pt(111) by low temperature scanning tunneling microscopy. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, 2006, 110(41): 20344-20349.
- [29] Kang D H, Trenary M. Formation of methylaminocarbyne from methyl Isocyanide on the Pt(111) surface. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, 2002, 106(22): 5710-5718.
- [30] Trenary M, Jentz D, Mills P, et al. The surface chemistry of CN and H on Pt(111), *Surface Science*, 1996, 368(1): 354-360.