

Chemical Reviews

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Surfaces and Interfaces: Introduction

This thematic issue collects seven reviews that offer no more than a glimpse of the incredible breadth of this area of chemistry. Richard Haglund provides a discussion of an exciting new development in nuclear magnetic resonance on surfaces, a technique surely destined to find its way from physics departments into chemistry laboratories. Paul Houston and Robert Merrill review the dynamics of vibrational energy transfer in gas-surface interactions. The implications for surface reactivity will be particularly interesting to chemists. Arthur Hubbard's article on electrochemistry at well-characterized surfaces contains a wealth of information on organization of surfaces and in the adsorbed layers and its impact on our understanding of electrochemical reactions. Kevin Ashley and Stan Pons survey a blossoming related area, infrared spectroscopy of species on the surfaces of electrodes. Two quite different views of the double layer are provided in the twin articles by Robert de Levie and Zdeněk Samec. The former deals with the mercury-water interface, the latter with the interface between two immiscible electrolyte solutions. Last but not least, a brief summary of metal complexation at liquid-liquid interfaces by Henry Freiser, a subject of immense practical importance, concludes the list.

As with all our issues, we are deeply indebted to the authors for the many hours of painstaking effort and to the reviewers for their thoughtful, unacknowledged, and yet so important contribution.

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