

# Kinetic Fingerprints of Catalysis by Subsurface Hydrogen

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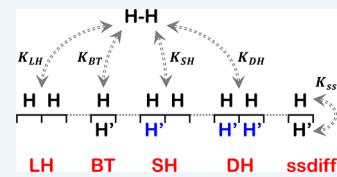
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## Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Mechanisms for catalytic  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange involving subsurface hydrogen,  $H'$  ( $D'$ ), have been analyzed to predict the ranges of reaction conditions over which the reaction orders,  $n_{H_2}$  and  $n_{D_2}$ , can be used to distinguish among the various possible mechanisms. Four different mechanisms and combinations thereof have been considered: a Langmuir–Hinshelwood (LH) model, a breakthrough model invoking direct reaction between surface  $H$  ( $D$ ) and subsurface  $H'$  ( $D'$ ), and two models invoking activation of  $H$  ( $D$ ) by  $H'$  ( $D'$ ). In parallel, the kinetics of  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange have been measured over 90  $Ag_xPd_{1-x}$  alloy film samples with a continuous range of compositions:  $x = 0 \rightarrow 1$ . For conditions with  $P_{H_2} \gg P_{D_2}$ , the reaction orders are found to be  $n_{H_2} \cong 0$  and  $n_{D_2} \cong 1$ . The value of  $n_{H_2} \cong 0$  is inconsistent with an LH mechanism under conditions with a hydrogen coverage of  $\theta \cong 1$ . A mechanism in which two subsurface  $H'$  ( $D'$ ) atoms promote recombinative desorption of  $H$  ( $D$ ) atoms on the surface is consistent with the observed reaction orders under conditions in which the coverages on the surface and in the subsurface are  $\theta \cong 1$  and  $\theta' \approx 0$ , respectively.

**KEYWORDS:** kinetics, catalysis, silver, palladium, alloy,  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange, hydrogen adsorption, subsurface hydrogen



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The ability of transition metals to adsorb  $H_2$  dissociatively on their surfaces, absorb  $H$  atoms into their subsurface, and allow  $H$  atom diffusion through their bulk makes them attractive for many applications such as hydrogen storage, hydrogen purification, and heterogeneous catalysis of many hydrogenation, dehydrogenation, and hydrogenolysis reactions.<sup>1–5</sup> For the most part, the framework for thinking about heterogeneous catalytic processes involving hydrogen has been that of Langmuir and Hinshelwood, in which adsorbed  $H$  atoms reside and react on the metal surface.<sup>6,7</sup> However, recently,  $H'$  atoms absorbed into the metal subsurface have been shown to play a very important role in heterogeneous catalysis,<sup>8,9</sup> particularly in the hydrogenation of alkenes and alkynes on metals such as Pd and Ni.<sup>10–18</sup> Consequently, both surface hydrogen (herein  $H$ ) and subsurface hydrogen (herein  $H'$ ) must be considered in describing the kinetics of catalytic reactions involving hydrogen transfer. Herein, we develop a framework for describing the catalytic kinetics of  $H'$  reacting via several mechanisms and apply this framework to understanding the kinetics of  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange ( $H_2 + D_2 \rightarrow 2HD$ ) on  $Ag_xPd_{1-x}$  alloys.

$Ag_xPd_{1-x}$  alloys are commonly used as catalysts for the hydrogenation of alkynes and alkenes<sup>19–21</sup> and as solid permeation membranes for the purification of hydrogen from gas streams.<sup>22–25</sup> Numerous studies of  $H_2$  on Pd surfaces have shown that it adsorbs with a negligible barrier to dissociation and a high heat of adsorption<sup>26–28</sup> and that it can be sorbed into the subsurface.<sup>29–31</sup> In contrast,  $H_2$  does not adsorb dissociatively onto Ag surfaces at room temperature and its adsorption has been predicted to be endothermic.<sup>32–35</sup> Nonetheless, alloying Ag with Pd yields hydrogen purification membranes and hydrogenation catalysts that are superior to pure Pd.<sup>19,20,23,36–39</sup>

The importance of subsurface  $H'$  in metallic catalysts is becoming increasingly well documented.<sup>8,9,12,20,27,35,39,40</sup> Recent studies using DFT have shown that  $H'$  in the first subsurface layer is much less stable than  $H$  adsorbed on the surface.<sup>27</sup> Among the transition metals, Pd is the only one in which subsurface  $H'$  atoms are energetically favorable with respect to gaseous  $H_2$ .<sup>7,35</sup> In order to model the kinetics of catalytic reactions on Pd and Pd-based alloys, the contribution of subsurface  $H'$  must be considered. In this work, we provide kinetic evidence for the participation of subsurface  $H'$  in the  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange reaction occurring on Pd–Ag alloy catalysts. More importantly, we have developed a framework for describing the kinetics of several postulated mechanisms that involve both surface  $H$  ( $D$ ) and subsurface  $H'$  ( $D'$ ).

The  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange reaction on Pd(111) and Pd nanoparticles has been studied recently by Savara et al. using molecular beam measurements of the catalytic reaction kinetics.<sup>8,9</sup> At temperatures in the range 200–300 K and under conditions in which  $P_{D_2} \gg P_{H_2}$ , they observed that the reaction order in  $P_{D_2}$  was  $n_{D_2} = 0$ , inconsistent with Langmuir–Hinshelwood (LH) kinetics that predict  $n_{D_2}^{LH} = -1$  for  $P_{D_2} \gg P_{H_2}$  and high total coverage,  $\theta \cong 1$ . At temperatures  $>300$  K in Savara's work, the reaction order was consistent with LH kinetics. They suggested that a mechanism involving participation of subsurface  $H'$  is active in the low-temperature regime. Direct evidence for the presence of subsurface  $H'$  and its participation in the  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange reaction was obtained from experiments using nuclear

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reaction analysis.<sup>41</sup> Studies of other catalytic processes including ethylene and acetylene hydrogenation on Pd and Pd–Ag alloys have implicated subsurface H' in the reaction mechanism and the resulting kinetics.<sup>20,42</sup>

In this study, the kinetics of the H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange reaction have been measured on Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> films with compositions spanning  $x = 0 \rightarrow 1$  over a wide range of reaction conditions:  $T = 333\text{--}593\text{ K}$ ,  $P_{\text{H}_2} = 30\text{--}3\text{ kPa}$ , and  $P_{\text{D}_2} = 30\text{--}0.03\text{ kPa}$ . Consistent with the aforementioned work,<sup>8,9</sup> our data show that the reaction order in  $P_{\text{H}_2}$  is  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  when  $P_{\text{H}_2} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}$ , inconsistent with a LH mechanism. In order to rationalize the observed kinetics, we have solved, in closed form, four kinetic models involving subsurface H' (D') in the H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange mechanism. We demonstrate that a mechanism in which two subsurface H' (D') atoms promote recombination of two H (D) atoms on the surface is consistent with the observed value of  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  when  $P_{\text{H}_2} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}$ .

## 2. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

The catalytic reaction kinetics for H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange were measured on Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> composition spread alloy films (CSAF) at 90 locations having different compositions in the range  $x = 0 \rightarrow 1$ .

**2.1. CSAF Preparation.** The CSAF samples were prepared by evaporative deposition of Pd and Ag onto a  $14 \times 14 \times 2\text{ mm}^3$  polished Mo substrate (Valley Design Corp.) using a rotatable shadow mask CSAF deposition tool that has been described in detail previously.<sup>43</sup> Mo was chosen as a substrate material because it does not alloy with Ag or Pd at the annealing and reaction temperatures.<sup>44–47</sup> The deposition rates from the Pd and Ag electron beam evaporation sources were controlled independently by the heating power and calibrated using a quartz crystal microbalance. The film thickness ( $\sim 100\text{ nm}$  in this work) was controlled by the deposition time. The positions and orientations of the shadow masks between the sources and the substrate resulted in opposing flux gradients of Pd and Ag across the substrate. CSAFs were deposited and then annealed (800 K for 1 h) under ultrahigh-vacuum conditions (UHV). These conditions are sufficient to induce film crystallization.<sup>45,48</sup>

**2.2. Characterization of CSAF Composition.** XPS analysis of the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF was performed in a ThetaProbe instrument (Thermo-Fisher Scientific Inc.) to map the local composition across the sample surface. The CSAF sample can be positioned by an automated stage in the ThetaProbe, allowing composition analysis at a set of predetermined points. Spatially resolved maps of the Ag 3d<sub>5/2</sub> and Pd 3d<sub>3/2</sub> XP spectra were obtained by lateral translation of the CSAF with its plane intersecting the source-analyzer focal point. The X-ray spot size was  $\sim 200\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  in diameter. The pass energy of the hemispherical energy analyzer was set to 40 eV. Atomic fractions of the components were estimated using the Avantage Data System software package, which contains a library of the binding energies and the relative intensities of XPS features from the pure metals.

**2.3. Measurement of H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> Exchange Kinetics.** The H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange activity of the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAFs was measured using a high-throughput 100-channel microreactor array which has been described in detail elsewhere.<sup>49</sup> Reactants were continuously delivered to 100 isolated regions of the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF surface, and products were continuously withdrawn from each region for analysis using an Extrel quadrupole mass spectrometer. For this specific study, only 90 channels of the

reactor were in use because the inlet to 1 row of 10 reactors was blocked. Hence, only 90 different catalyst compositions were studied across the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF.

The Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> alloy composition dependent H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange activity of Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF was measured at atmospheric pressure and over a temperature range from 333 to 593 K. The H<sub>2</sub> inlet partial pressures spanned the range  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = 3.04\text{--}30.4\text{ kPa}$  and the D<sub>2</sub> inlet partial pressures spanned  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 0.03\text{--}30.4\text{ kPa}$  with Ar constituting the remainder of the gas flow. The temperature was increased in 20 K increments, and the reaction was allowed to reach steady state by waiting for 4 min at each temperature before beginning the analysis of the product gases from each of the 100 reactor channels.

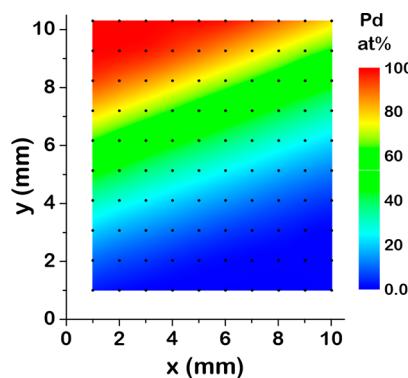
The composition of the reaction products was calculated by assuming that the mass spectrometer signals at  $m/z = 2, 3$ , and 4 amu obtained from the product gas samples were proportional to the H<sub>2</sub>, HD, and D<sub>2</sub> partial pressures. Baseline (0% conversion) signals at  $m/z = 2, 3$ , and 4 amu were collected by sampling the feed gas mixture directly without it contacting the CSAF surface. Note that at equilibrium, the composition of the product gases is given by

$$\frac{P_{\text{HD}}^2}{P_{\text{H}_2} P_{\text{D}_2}} = 4.16 \exp\left(\frac{-77.7}{T}\right) \quad (1)$$

where  $P_{\text{H}_2}$ ,  $P_{\text{D}_2}$ , and  $P_{\text{HD}}$  are the partial pressures of H<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, and HD, respectively, and  $T$  has units of K.<sup>50</sup> Thus, the reaction mixture never reaches 100% conversion of H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> into HD.

## 3. RESULTS

**3.1. Characterization of CSAF Composition.** The near-surface composition of the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF was mapped by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) as a function of position on the Mo substrate using a  $13 \times 13$  grid with 1 mm spacing. Although the CSAF is deposited onto a  $14 \times 14\text{ mm}^2$  Mo substrate, the region of interest is the  $10 \times 10\text{ mm}^2$  area spanned by the  $10 \times 10$  array of microreactors. The composition map of the area on the CSAF used for the measurement of catalytic reaction kinetics is shown in Figure 1. The CSAF has been

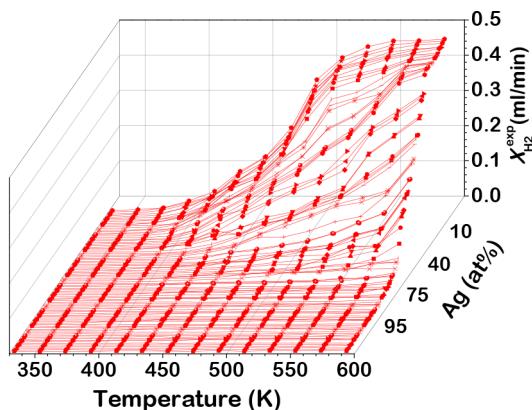


**Figure 1.** Pd composition (measured by XPS) versus position on the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> binary CSAF. Black dots represent XPS measurement points.

deposited such that the iso-composition lines are oriented at an angle with respect to the edge of the substrate which is aligned with the microreactor array. This tilted configuration of the CSAF ensures that each channel of the microreactor samples a different alloy composition. In the region sampled by the

microreactor array, the  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  CSAF spanned the composition range  $x = 0 \rightarrow 1$ .<sup>43,51</sup>

**3.2. H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> Exchange Activity on Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> CSAF.** H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange kinetics over the  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  CSAF were measured by feeding H<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, and Ar mixtures into the microreactor at a constant temperature, partial pressure, and flow rate while monitoring the product gas composition by mass spectrometry. Mass spectrometer signals were used to calculate conversion,  $X_{\text{H}_2}$ , for 90 different  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  compositions,  $x$ , at 14 different temperatures,  $T = 333$ –593 K, and 14 different flow conditions (see Supporting Information section 1, Table S1). The  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  binary CSAF displayed stable activity during the course of the experiments. Plots of  $X_{\text{H}_2}$  versus  $T$  for all 90 different  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  compositions are given in Figure 2 for one



**Figure 2.** H<sub>2</sub> conversion,  $X_{\text{H}_2}$ , versus  $T$  measured across  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  composition space. The inlet flow conditions in each channel were as follows:  $P_{\text{tot}} = 1$  bar,  $F_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = F_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 0.10$  mL/min, and  $F_{\text{Ar}}^{\text{in}} = 0.13$  mL/min ( $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 30$  kPa).

inlet flow condition ( $F_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = F_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 0.10$  mL/min/channel and  $F_{\text{Ar}}^{\text{in}} = 0.13$  mL/min/channel) at a total pressure of 1 bar. Similar data are provided in Supporting Information section 2 for all 14 reaction conditions. Across the CSAF, H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange activity increases with increasing  $T$  and decreasing Ag content,  $x$ , for all different inlet conditions.

**3.3. Reaction Order for H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> Exchange on Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub>.** The pressure dependence of the H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange rate over  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  alloys has been investigated across the temperature range  $T = 333$ –593 K by varying the inlet partial pressures  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  independently and measuring the outlet HD flow rate,  $F_{\text{HD}}^{\text{out}}$ . Figure 3a (dashed lines and colored symbols) shows the HD production rate versus  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  with  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} \ll P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = 30.4$  kPa measured at  $T = 413$  K on five different  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  compositions. Figure 3a (solid lines and black symbols) also shows the HD production rate on an alloy with  $x = 0.01$  at five temperatures in the range  $T = 333$ –413 K. Figure 3b shows the HD production rate versus  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$  with  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 0.03$  kPa for five alloy compositions and over the temperature range  $T = 333$ –413 K. Under all of these conditions, the conversion of D<sub>2</sub>, the limiting reagent, was <10%. When  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ , the reaction order with respect to  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  is  $n_{\text{D}_2} = 0.92$ , close to the first-order behavior predicted by LH kinetics. In contrast, the reaction order in  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$  when  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  is  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0.01$ , consistent with the measurements of previous studies<sup>8,9</sup> and inconsistent with classical LH kinetics at high

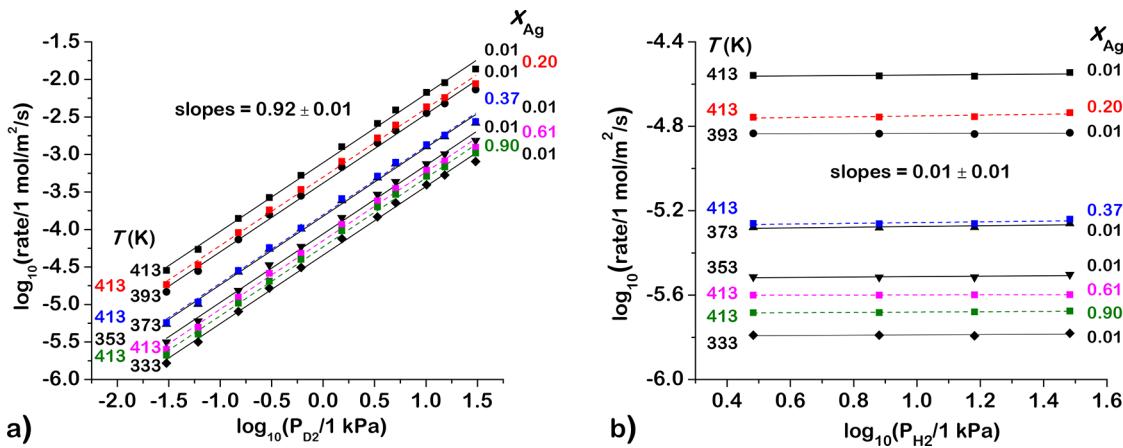
hydrogen coverages. With  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ , reaction orders of  $n_{\text{D}_2} \cong 1$  and  $n_{\text{H}_2} \cong 0$  were observed for all alloy compositions ( $x = 0$ –0.9) and temperatures ( $T = 333$ –413 K) at which conversions could be measured in the range  $0.1 < X_{\text{D}_2} < 0.0001$ .

LH kinetics predict that under low-pressure conditions at which the coverages are  $\theta_{\text{D}} \ll \theta_{\text{H}} \ll 1$ , the reaction orders should be  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  and  $n_{\text{D}_2} = 1$ , as we observe; however, at the pressures used, the coverage ought to be  $\theta \approx 1$ . This is supported by estimates in the next section that the hydrogen adsorption equilibrium constant ranges in value from  $K_{\text{LH}} = 3 \times 10^{-1}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  Pa<sup>-1</sup> over the range  $T = 333$ –413 K. In combination with  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = 30$  kPa, this leads to high coverages of adsorbed hydrogen,  $\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}} \gg 1$ . When  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and  $\theta_{\text{D}} \ll \theta_{\text{H}} \approx 1$ , the LH reaction orders should be  $n_{\text{H}_2} = -1$  and  $n_{\text{D}_2} = 1$ . The data in Figure 3 are clearly indicative of a mechanism other than LH.

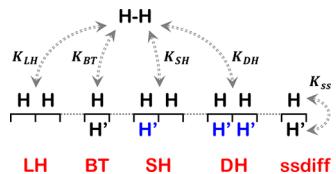
#### 4. DISCUSSION

In the following, we explore the kinetic consequences of several reaction mechanisms involving H' in the immediate subsurface layer, in order to reconcile the reaction orders observed in our experiments on  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  alloy surfaces (Figure 3) and those observed using molecular beam experiments on the Pd(111) surface and on supported Pd nanoparticles.<sup>8</sup> The key observation that  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  for  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and under conditions in which the total coverage of H and D atoms is expected to be  $\theta \approx 1$  suggests that the mechanism is not a simple LH process. Zero-order kinetics in LH surface reaction mechanisms are often associated with conditions under which the coverage of a reactant species saturates the surface,  $\theta \approx 1$ , and is insensitive to increases in that reactant partial pressure.<sup>4</sup> However, for bimolecular reactions in which two reactants are competing for adsorption sites, increasing the pressure of the high coverage reactant with  $\theta \approx 1$  results in displacement of the low-coverage reactant and, therefore, a negative reaction order with respect to the partial pressure of the high coverage species. This type of negative-order kinetics predicted by the LH mechanism is clearly not observed in H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange kinetics on our surfaces.

In the following, we consider the kinetic consequences on H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange of the five processes illustrated in Figure 4 and combinations thereof. At the left is the classical LH process in which gas-phase H<sub>2</sub>, HD, and D<sub>2</sub> are equilibrated with H and D atoms adsorbed on the surface. We use the standard LH assumptions of zero or one atom per site and no interactions between adsorbates. In addition, we ignore isotope effects on the adsorption equilibrium constant,  $K_{\text{LH}}$ , and on the adsorption and desorption rate constants,  $k_a^{\text{LH}}$  and  $k_d^{\text{LH}}$ . The breakthrough (BT) mechanism is one in which dissociative adsorption of H<sub>2</sub> leads directly to one H atom on the surface and an H' atom in the immediate subsurface. Equivalently, H<sub>2</sub> desorption results from direct recombination of a surface H with a subsurface H'. In the single-subsurface hydrogen (SH) activation mechanism, H<sub>2</sub> adsorbs and desorbs preferentially from adjacent sites on the surface having one H' atom in one of the two subsurface sites. The H' is colored blue in Figure 4 to indicate that it does not participate directly in the reaction. In the dual-subsurface hydrogen (DH) activation mechanism H<sub>2</sub> adsorbs and desorbs preferentially from adjacent sites on the surface having H' atoms in both of the subsurface sites. Finally, at the right of Figure 4 we depict a diffusion process by which H and H' atoms are



**Figure 3.** (a) HD production rates on five different  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  compositions and at five different temperatures plotted versus  $P_{\text{D}_2}$  with  $P_{\text{D}_2} \ll P_{\text{H}_2} = 30.4 \text{ kPa}$ . The reaction orders are all  $n_{\text{D}_2} \cong 1$ . (b) HD production rates on five different Pd compositions and at five different temperatures as a function of  $P_{\text{H}_2}$  with  $P_{\text{H}_2} \gg P_{\text{D}_2} = 0.03 \text{ kPa}$ . The reaction orders are all  $n_{\text{H}_2} \cong 0$ . The total conversions of the minority reaction component are all  $X_{\text{D}_2} < 0.1$ .



**Figure 4.** Surface–subsurface mechanisms for  $\text{H}_2$  (and  $\text{DH}$ ,  $\text{D}_2$ ) dissociative adsorption and recombinative desorption during  $\text{H}_2$ – $\text{D}_2$  exchange: Langmuir–Hinshelwood (LH), breakthrough (BT), single-subsurface hydrogen (SH), and dual-subsurface hydrogen (DH). At the right we depict surface–subsurface diffusive (ssdiff) transport of  $\text{H}$  ( $\text{D}$ ). The  $\text{H}'$  atoms depicted in blue influence the adsorption and desorption kinetics but do not participate in the reaction.

exchanged between the surface and the subsurface sites. The key point is that under steady-state catalytic conditions these processes establish equilibria among  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{D}_2$ , and HD in the gas phase,  $\text{H}$  ( $\text{D}$ ) adsorbed on the surface, and  $\text{H}'$  ( $\text{D}'$ ) absorbed into the subsurface.

The potential energy framework for considering the processes depicted in Figure 4 is shown in Figure 5. The free energy difference between gas-phase  $\text{H}_2$  and two adsorbed  $\text{H}$  atoms,  $\Delta E_{\text{ads}}$ , is given per atom. The free energy difference between a surface  $\text{H}$  ( $\text{D}$ ) and a subsurface  $\text{H}'$  ( $\text{D}'$ ) is  $\Delta E_{\text{ss}}$ . The LH, SH, and DH mechanisms all result in the adsorption of two atoms from the dissociative adsorption of  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{D}_2$ , or HD onto the surface. The only difference lies in the activation barriers, which are dictated by the number of  $\text{H}'$  atoms in the subsurface: zero, one, and two for the LH, SH, and DH mechanisms, respectively. In keeping with the assumptions of the Langmuir model for adsorption, in which there are no interactions between adsorbed species (either on the surface or in the subsurface), the adsorption free energies are identical for the LH, SH, and DH models. The subsurface  $\text{H}'$  influences the adsorption and desorption barriers and rate constants but not the adsorption energetics or equilibria;  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$ . This is probably a fairly good approximation under conditions in which the coverage of subsurface  $\text{H}'$  and  $\text{D}'$  is low,  $\theta' \ll 1$ , and therefore the average heat of adsorption across the surface is not significantly influenced by the subsurface  $\text{H}'$ . In section 4.6 we discuss the consequences of relaxing the assumption that  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$  and demonstrate that it would not affect the reaction order  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  when  $P_{\text{H}_2} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}$  and the total coverage on the

active sites with subsurface hydrogen is still  $\theta_{\text{H}} \approx 1$ . The other key relationship implicit in Figure 5 is that  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{BT}}$ .

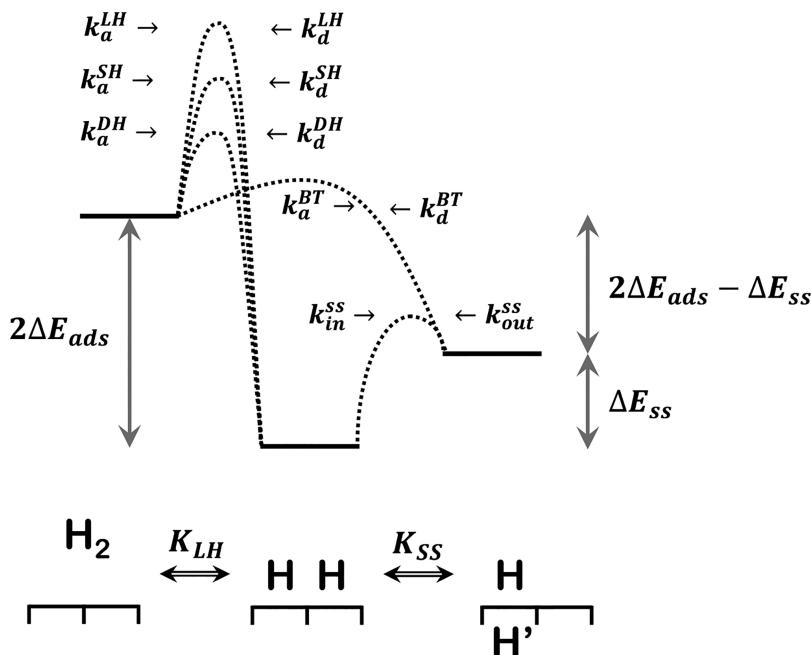
In the following four sections we describe the rate laws for catalytic HD production from mixtures of  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{D}_2$  in the gas phase as derived using the LH, LH+BT, SH+ssdiff, and DH+ssdiff models and standard steady-state assumptions for the coverages  $\theta_{\text{H}}$ ,  $\theta_{\text{D}}$ ,  $\theta'_{\text{H}}$ , and  $\theta'_{\text{D}}$ . Derivations of the rate laws are given in the Supporting Information for these four processes and for LH+ssdiff, pure BT, and BT+ssdiff processes. The notation “SH+ssdiff” implies a process involving both the SH mechanism for adsorption and desorption and the surface–subsurface diffusion process for transport of  $\text{H}$  into and  $\text{H}'$  out of the subsurface.

In describing and thinking about the pressure regimes over which the  $\text{H}_2$ – $\text{D}_2$  exchange reaction adopts different reaction orders with respect to the inlet pressures  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and  $P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  it is useful to understand how the adsorbate coverages  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_{\text{H}}$ ,  $\theta_{\text{D}}$ ,  $\theta'_{\text{H}}$ , and  $\theta'_{\text{D}}$  scale with  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$ ,  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ , and  $K_{\text{ss}}$ . As will be shown, the adsorbate coverages under all scenarios have the same functional form.

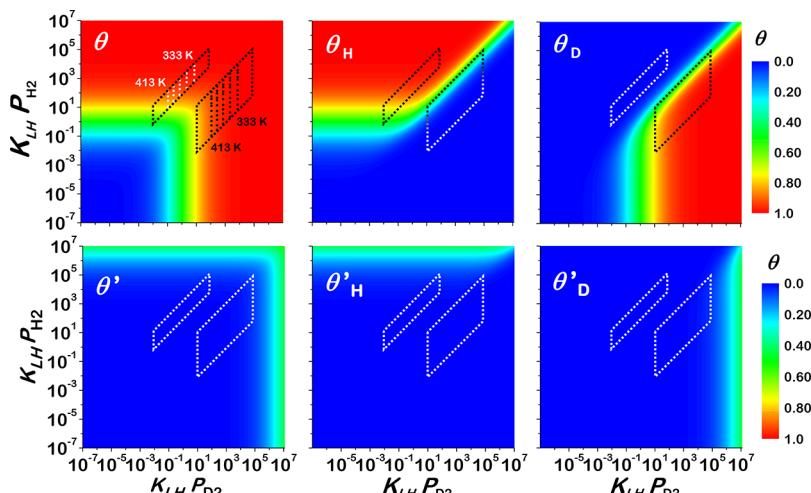
$$\theta = \frac{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}{\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}} \quad \theta_{\text{H}} = \theta \frac{P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \text{ and } \theta_{\text{D}} = \theta \frac{P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \quad (2)$$

$$\theta' = \frac{K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}{\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}} + K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}} \quad \theta'_{\text{H}} = \theta \frac{P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \text{ and } \theta'_{\text{D}} = \theta \frac{P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \quad (3)$$

These coverages are plotted against  $(K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}})$  in Figure 6. For purposes of representing the subsurface concentrations, we have chosen to use  $K_{\text{ss}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-4}$  at 413 K on the basis of the energy difference of 29 kJ/mol between  $\text{H}$  and  $\text{H}'$  calculated on the  $\text{Pd}(100)$  and  $\text{Pd}(111)$  surfaces.<sup>27</sup> The coverage ranges from  $\theta = 0$  (blue) to 1 (red) with a coverage of  $\theta = 0.5$  indicated by green. In the lower left quadrant of  $(K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}})$  space both coverages are  $\theta_{\text{H}}, \theta_{\text{D}} \ll 1$ . In the upper right quadrant  $\text{H}$  and  $\text{D}$  are competing for adsorption sites. In the lower right quadrant  $\theta_{\text{H}} \approx 0$  and  $\theta_{\text{D}} \approx 1$  and in the upper left quadrant  $\theta_{\text{D}} \approx 0$  and  $\theta_{\text{H}} \approx 1$ . With  $K_{\text{ss}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-4}$  the subsurface  $\text{H}'$  ( $\text{D}'$ ) coverage remains low until  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} = 10^7$  and/or  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}} = 10^7$ .



**Figure 5.** Potential energy diagram describing the equilibria and the kinetic barriers between relevant states:  $\text{H}_2$  in the gas phase (left), two adsorbed H atoms (middle), and an  $\text{H}'$  atom in the subsurface (right). The rate constants are  $k_a$  for  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption,  $k_d$  for  $\text{H}_2$  desorption,  $k_{in}$  for H atom surface to subsurface diffusion, and  $k_{out}$  for H atom subsurface to surface diffusion. The superscripts on the rate constants represent the four different  $\text{H}_2$ – $\text{D}_2$  exchange mechanisms: LH for Langmuir–Hinshelwood, BT for breakthrough, SH for single-subsurface  $\text{H}'$  promotion, and DH for dual subsurface  $\text{H}'$  promotion. The equilibrium constants are  $K_{\text{LH}}$  for  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption and  $K_{\text{ss}}$  for surface H to subsurface  $\text{H}'$  exchange.



**Figure 6.** Adsorbate coverages  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_H$ ,  $\theta_D$ ,  $\theta'$ ,  $\theta'_H$ , and  $\theta'_D$  versus  $(K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}})$ . A value of  $K_{\text{ss}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-4}$  was used to calculate the coverages of subsurface species. The points on the plot for  $\theta$  mark the estimated values of  $(K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}})$  at which measurements were made on the basis of estimated values of  $K_{\text{LH}} \approx 3 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-1}$   $\text{Pa}^{-1}$  over the temperature range 413–333 K. The parallelograms outline the regions in which measurements were made assuming a factor of  $10^{\pm 1}$  uncertainty in  $K_{\text{LH}}$ .

On the plot of  $\theta$  versus  $(K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}})$  in Figure 6 we have marked the points at which we have made measurements of the rates of  $\text{H}_2$ – $\text{D}_2$  exchange. These have required an estimate of the value of  $K_{\text{LH}}$  at temperatures in the range  $T = 333$ –413 K. These are based on measured values for the rate constants for dissociative adsorption and recombinative desorption of  $\text{H}_2$  on Pd ( $\alpha$ -hydride phase) during  $\text{H}_2$ – $\text{D}_2$  exchange.<sup>52</sup> The pre-exponential factors for dissociative adsorption and associative desorption are obtained from transition state theory as  $\nu_{\text{ads}} = 10^{-4}$   $\text{mol}/(\text{m}^2 \text{s Pa})$  and  $\nu_{\text{des}} = 10^6$   $\text{mol}/(\text{m}^2 \text{s})$ , respectively.<sup>53</sup> For Pd, activation barriers for dissociative adsorption  $\Delta E_{\text{ads}}^{\ddagger} = 0.12$  eV and associative

desorption  $\Delta E_{\text{des}}^{\ddagger} = 0.68$  eV were used.<sup>52</sup> The heat of adsorption of H on the Pd surface ( $\Delta E_{\text{ads}} = \Delta E_{\text{ads}}^{\ddagger} - \Delta E_{\text{des}}^{\ddagger}$ ) used in this study is in good agreement with the values reported in the literature.<sup>54–58</sup> These yield an estimated range of  $K_{\text{LH}} \approx 10^{-3}$ – $10^{-1}$  over  $T = 413$ –333 K. Also on the coverage plots in Figure 6 we outline the two regions that contain our measurement points assuming a factor of  $10^{\pm 1}$  uncertainty in  $K_{\text{LH}}$ . In the left-hand region we have measured  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  while  $K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and in the right-hand region we have measured  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  while  $K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \ll K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  (actually, we have measured  $n_{\text{D}_2}$  while  $K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg K_{\text{LH}} P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  but since subsequent discussion is all in terms of  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  we have

represented the right-hand region, which is equivalent to making the measurements of  $n_{H_2}$  while  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}} \ll K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}$ .

**4.1. Langmuir–Hinshelwood (LH) Mechanism.** The LH mechanism depicted at the left of Figure 4 involves the dissociative adsorption and recombinative desorption of  $H_2$ ,  $D_2$ , and HD on the surface with direct competition of H and D for adsorption sites. The steady-state equations describing the coverages of H and D atoms are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_H}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}(1 - \theta)^2 - 2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_H^2 + k_a^{\text{LH}}P_{\text{HD}}(1 - \theta)^2 \\ &\quad - 2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_H\theta_D \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_D}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}(1 - \theta)^2 - 2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_D^2 + k_a^{\text{LH}}P_{\text{HD}}(1 - \theta)^2 \\ &\quad - 2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_D\theta_H \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where  $k_a^{\text{LH}}$  and  $k_d^{\text{LH}}$  are the rate constants for *molecular* adsorption. The factors of 2 in the first two terms of each expression account for the fact that 2 H (D) atoms adsorb and desorb with each molecule of  $H_2$  ( $D_2$ ). The rate constants are assumed to be identical for both isotopes. Note that the rate for molecular desorption of HD,  $2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_D\theta_H$ , is also multiplied by 2 to give the appropriate rates for given coverages  $\theta_H$  and  $\theta_D$ . At equilibrium with  $P_{H_2} = P_{D_2}$ , one has  $P_{\text{HD}} = 2P_{H_2}$  and the rate of molecular adsorption of HD is twice that of  $H_2$ . Therefore, at equilibrium the rate of HD desorption must be  $r_{\text{HD}}^{\text{des}} = 2r_{H_2}^{\text{des}} = 2k_d\theta_H\theta_D$ , where  $\theta_H = \theta_D$ . Finally, the total coverage on the surface is given by

$$\theta = \theta_H + \theta_D \quad (6)$$

Under conditions of low  $H_2$ – $D_2$  conversion,  $P_{\text{HD}} \approx 0$ , HD adsorption can be ignored, and the HD formation rate is

$$r_{\text{HD}}^{\text{LH}} = 2k_d^{\text{LH}}\theta_H\theta_D \quad (7)$$

The coverages  $\theta_H$  and  $\theta_D$  can be calculated (see Supporting Information section 3) from the steady-state mass balance eqs 4–6 to yield the rate expression

$$r_{\text{HD}}^{\text{LH}} = \frac{2k_d^{\text{LH}}K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}}{(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}})^2} \quad (8)$$

The quantity  $K_{\text{LH}}$  is the equilibrium constant ( $K_{\text{LH}} = k_a^{\text{LH}}/k_d^{\text{LH}}$ ), and  $P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}$  and  $P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}$  are the inlet (or initial) partial pressures of  $H_2$  and  $D_2$ , respectively.

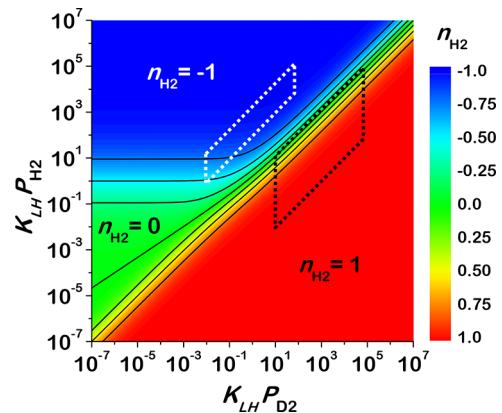
Extracting the reaction orders from the rate expression uses

$$n_{H_2} = \frac{d \ln r_{\text{HD}}}{d \ln P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}} \quad (9a)$$

and

$$n_{D_2} = \frac{d \ln r_{\text{HD}}}{d \ln P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}} \quad (9b)$$

The value of  $n_{H_2}$  calculated across  $(K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}})$  is shown as a contour plot in Figure 7. In the lower right half of the plot (red region),  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}} \ll K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}$  and the reaction order is  $n_{H_2} = 1$ . The value of  $\theta_D$  is insensitive to  $\theta_H$ , which is always increasing linearly



**Figure 7.** Reaction order in  $n_{H_2}$  versus  $(K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}, K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}})$  for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange via the LH mechanism. The dashed parallelograms demarcate the conditions within which our measurements were conducted.

with  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}$ . This is consistent with our observation (Figure 3a) that  $n_{D_2} = 0.92$  when  $P_{H_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}$ . Across the upper left region of Figure 7 where the color is changing from green to blue,  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}} \gg K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}$ . While the total coverage is low,  $\theta \cong \sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} \ll 1$ , the reaction order is  $n_{H_2} = 0$  because increasing  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}$  increases  $\theta_H \propto \sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}}$  but decreases  $\theta_D \propto 1/\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}^{\text{in}}}$  proportionately. Once the total coverage becomes high,  $\theta_H \approx 1$ , the reaction order drops to  $n_{H_2} = -1$  because increasing  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}$  cannot increase  $\theta_H$  further but decreases  $\theta_D \propto 1/K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2}^{\text{in}}$ .

Experimentally, we find that  $n_{H_2} \cong 0$  for all  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  compositions when  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2} \gg K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}$  (Figure 3b) and under conditions in which  $\theta \approx 1$ . However, the classical LH model predicts that  $n_{H_2} = -1$  under these conditions. A value of  $n_{H_2} \approx 0$  is only expected when  $\theta \ll 1$ , but this is not consistent with the conditions of our measurements. It has been suggested that subsurface  $H'$  species may participate in the  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange mechanism and lead to zero-order kinetics at high coverages,  $\theta$ .<sup>8,9</sup>

Savara et al. measured the reaction orders for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange on  $\text{Pd}(111)$  and supported Pd nanoparticles using molecular beam methods.<sup>8</sup> At  $T > 280$  K, they observed reaction orders consistent with the classical LH mechanism. However, at  $T < 280$  K and  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{H_2} \ll K_{\text{LH}}P_{D_2}$  (in their case), they observe a reaction order of  $n_{D_2} \approx 0$ , a result that is consistent with ours but not consistent with the predictions of a simple LH model. This transition with temperature is consistent with the conditions under which  $H'$  atoms are present in the subsurface. As such, they hypothesize that subsurface  $H'$  atoms influence the surface reaction mechanism. In the following sections, we analyze three different mechanisms for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange that involve subsurface hydrogen.

**4.2. LH Plus Breakthrough (LH+BT) Mechanism.** The BT mechanism is illustrated in Figure 4 and involves the adsorption of  $H_2$  depositing one H atom on the surface and the other  $H'$  atom directly into the subsurface. Desorption occurs by a reaction between a subsurface  $H'$  and a surface H to yield gas-phase  $H_2$ . The BT mechanism has been proposed and investigated by Savara et al. to explain their values of the reaction orders for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange on  $\text{Pd}(111)$  and supported Pd nanoparticles.<sup>8</sup> The pure BT model artificially constrains the system to have exactly  $\theta_H = \theta'_H$  and  $\theta_D = \theta'_D$ . We have solved this

model in section 5 in the Supporting Information. In this section we describe the more realistic coupled LH+BT model (as was also analyzed by Savara et al.) and its solution (section 7 in the Supporting Information). This model allows  $\theta_H \neq \theta'_H$  and  $\theta_D \neq \theta'_D$  and, in principle, it describes the transition from conditions in which the LH mechanism dominates the kinetics to conditions under which the BT mechanism dominates.

The solution for the LH+BT model defines total coverage of atoms on the surface and in the subsurface:  $\theta = \theta_H + \theta_D$  and  $\theta = \theta'_H + \theta'_D$ . The steady-state equations for the four species coverages  $\theta_H$ ,  $\theta'_H$ ,  $\theta_D$ , and  $\theta'_D$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_H}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{LH}P_{H_2}(1-\theta)^2 - 2k_d^{LH}\theta_H^2 + k_a^{LH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2 \\ &\quad - 2k_d^{LH}\theta_H\theta_D + k_a^{BT}P_{H_2}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') \\ &\quad - k_d^{BT}\theta_H\theta'_H + \frac{1}{2}k_a^{BT}P_{HD}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') \\ &\quad - k_d^{BT}\theta_H\theta'_D \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta'_H}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= k_a^{BT}P_{H_2}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') - k_d^{BT}\theta'_H\theta_H \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}k_a^{BT}P_{HD}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') - k_d^{BT}\theta'_H\theta_D \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_D}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{LH}P_{D_2}(1-\theta)^2 - 2k_d^{LH}\theta_D^2 + k_a^{LH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2 \\ &\quad - 2k_d^{LH}\theta_D\theta_H + k_a^{BT}P_{D_2}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') \\ &\quad - k_d^{BT}\theta_D\theta'_D + \frac{1}{2}k_a^{BT}P_{HD}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') \\ &\quad - k_d^{BT}\theta_D\theta'_H \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta'_D}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= k_a^{BT}P_{D_2}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') - k_d^{BT}\theta'_D\theta_D \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}k_a^{BT}P_{HD}(1-\theta)(1-\theta') - k_d^{BT}\theta'_D\theta_H \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Under conditions of low conversion,  $P_{HD} \approx 0$ , HD adsorption can be ignored, and the rate of HD formation is

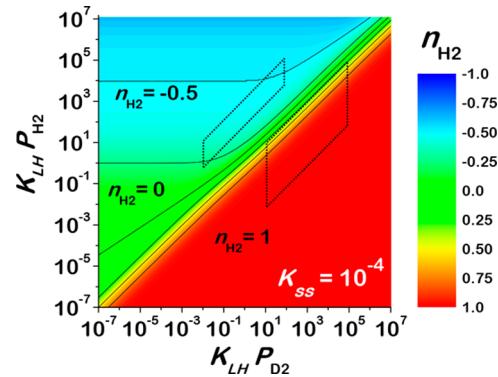
$$r_{HD}^{LH+BT} = 2k_d^{LH}\theta_H\theta_D + k_d^{BT}(\theta_H\theta'_D + \theta'_H\theta_D) \quad (14)$$

The coverages can be calculated from the steady-state mass balance equations 10–13 to yield the rate law

$$\begin{aligned} r_{HD}^{LH+BT} &= \frac{2k_d^{LH}K_{LH}^2P_{H_2}^{in}P_{D_2}^{in}}{(\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{in}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{in})^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{2k_d^{BT}K_{LH}K_{BT}P_{H_2}^{in}P_{D_2}^{in}}{(\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{in}} + K_{BT}P_{tot}^{in})(\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{in}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{in})} \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

The first term is the rate due to the LH mechanism, and the second is due to the BT mechanism. The BT+ssdiff model (see section 6 in the Supporting Information) yields a rate law that is

exactly equivalent to the second term in eq 15. Note that both terms have the same functional dependence on pressures. In illustrating the reaction orders, we have eliminated the contributions of the LH term and used only BT+ssdiff term. Inserting the BT+ssdiff term of eq 15 into eq 9a yields the reaction orders  $n_{H_2}$  and  $n_{D_2}$ . The value of  $n_{H_2}$  versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  are plotted for  $K_{ss} = K_{LH}/K_{BT} = 10^{-4}$  in Figure 8. With  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$ ,  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \gg$



**Figure 8.** Reaction order  $n_{H_2}$  versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange via the BT+ssdiff mechanism with  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$ . The dashed parallelograms demarcate the conditions within which our measurements were conducted. These data are shown for  $K_{ss} = 10^{-3}$ ,  $10^{-4}$ , and  $10^{-5}$  in section 10 in the Supporting Information.

$K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$  and over the range where  $\theta_H \approx 1$  but  $\theta' \ll 1$ ,  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange has a reaction order of  $n_{H_2} = -1/2$ . The BT+ssdiff model predicts  $n_{H_2} = -1/2$  over the region in which we have measured  $n_{H_2} = 0$ .

**4.3. Single Subsurface H' Plus Surface–Subsurface Diffusion (SH+ssdiff) Mechanism.** The third mechanism explored to probe the effect of subsurface H' or D' species on the reaction orders for catalytic  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange postulates that a single subsurface H' atom promotes the recombinative desorption of  $H_2$  from the surface sites immediately above it (Figure 4). Similarly, adsorption onto a site with a single subsurface H' atom must be promoted (Figure 5). Promotion of hydrogen adsorption and desorption means a lowering of the barriers to these two processes relative to those on sites without subsurface H' atoms (i.e., the LH process; Figure 5). Promotion could also arise from destabilization of the H atoms relative to those on unpromoted sites. The mechanism for H transport into the subsurface to form H' is modeled as a parallel diffusion process with the equilibrium constant  $K_{ss}$ . The details of the combined SH+ssdiff model and its solution are given in section 8 in the Supporting Information.

The steady-state equations describing  $\theta_H$ ,  $\theta'_H$ ,  $\theta_D$ , and  $\theta'_D$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_H}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{SH}P_{H_2}(1-\theta)^2\theta' - 2k_d^{SH}\theta_H^2\theta' \\ &\quad + k_a^{SH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2\theta' - 2k_d^{SH}\theta_H\theta_D\theta' \\ &\quad - k_{in}^{ss}\theta_H(1-\theta') + k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_H(1-\theta) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{d\theta'_H}{dt} = 0 = k_{in}^{ss}\theta_H(1-\theta') - k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_H(1-\theta) \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_D}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{SH}P_{D_2}(1-\theta)^2\theta' - 2k_d^{SH}\theta_D^2\theta' \\ &+ k_a^{SH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2\theta' - 2k_d^{SH}\theta_D\theta_H\theta' \\ &- k_{in}^{ss}\theta_D(1-\theta') + k_{out}^{ss}\theta_D'(1-\theta) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{d\theta'_D}{dt} = 0 = k_{in}^{ss}\theta_D(1-\theta') - k_{out}^{ss}\theta_D'(1-\theta) \quad (19)$$

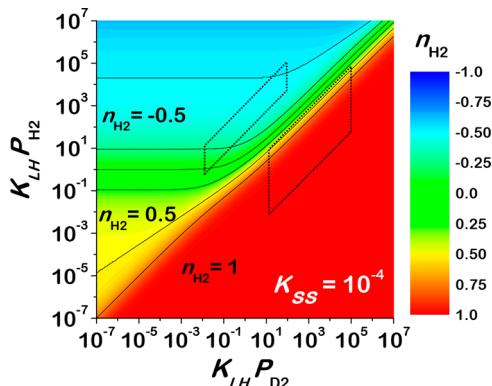
Under conditions of low conversion,  $P_{HD} \approx 0$ , HD adsorption can be ignored, and the HD formation rate is

$$r_{HD}^{SH+ssdiff} = 2k_d^{SH}\theta_H\theta_D\theta' \quad (20)$$

The coverages can be calculated from the steady-state mass balance [equations 16–19](#) and plugged into [eq 20](#) to give the rate expression

$$r_{HD}^{SH+ssdiff} = \frac{2k_d^{SH}K_{ss}K_{SH}^2P_{H_2}^{in}P_{D_2}^{in}}{\sqrt{K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}}(1 + \sqrt{K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}})^2(1 + K_{ss}\sqrt{K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}})} \quad (21)$$

where  $K_{SH}$  and  $K_{ss}$  are the equilibrium constants for adsorption and for surface–subsurface diffusion of H, respectively. Within the context of the Langmuir model for adsorption and valid for low values of  $\theta'_H$  we have  $K_{SH} \approx K_{LH}$ . Values of  $n_{H_2}$  calculated by inserting [eq 21](#) into [eq 9a](#) are plotted versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  in [Figure 9](#) for  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$  (see [section 10](#) in the Supporting



**Figure 9.** Reaction order in  $n_{H_2}$  versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  for  $H_2-D_2$  exchange via the SH+ssdiff mechanism with  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$ . The dashed parallelograms demarcate the conditions over which our measurements were conducted. These data are shown for  $K_{ss} = 10^{-3}, 10^{-4}$  and  $10^{-5}$  in [section 10](#) in the Supporting Information.

Information for plots with  $K_{ss} = 10^{-3}, 10^{-4}$ , and  $10^{-5}$ ). For  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \gg K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$  and low coverages,  $\theta \ll 1$ , the reaction order is  $n_{H_2} = 1/2$ . For  $\theta \approx 1$ , the SH-ssdiff model predicts  $n_{H_2} = -1/2$  over the region in which we measure  $n_{H_2} \approx 0$ . Clearly the SH-ssdiff model does not predict our observations.

**4.4. Dual Subsurface Hydrogen Plus Surface–Subsurface Diffusion (DH+ssdiff) Mechanism.** The fourth mechanism to capture the effect of the subsurface species and predict the reaction orders for catalytic  $H_2-D_2$  exchange reaction involves the promotion of adjacent H (D) by two adjacent H' (D') atoms in the immediate subsurface ([Figure 4](#)). This mechanism is coupled with the surface–subsurface diffusion of H(D).

The steady-state equations describing  $\theta_H$ ,  $\theta'_H$ ,  $\theta_D$ , and  $\theta'_D$  for the DH+ssdiff mechanism are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_H}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{DH}P_{H_2}(1-\theta)^2\theta'^2 - 2k_d^{DH}\theta_H^2\theta'^2 \\ &+ k_a^{DH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2\theta'^2 - 2k_d^{DH}\theta_H\theta_D\theta'^2 \\ &- k_{in}^{ss}\theta_H(1-\theta') + k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_H(1-\theta) \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

$$\frac{d\theta'_H}{dt} = 0 = k_{in}^{ss}\theta_H(1-\theta') - k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_H(1-\theta) \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\theta_D}{dt} &= 0 \\ &= 2k_a^{DH}P_{D_2}(1-\theta)^2\theta'^2 - 2k_d^{DH}\theta_D^2\theta'^2 \\ &+ k_a^{DH}P_{HD}(1-\theta)^2\theta'^2 - 2k_d^{DH}\theta_D\theta_H\theta'^2 \\ &- k_{in}^{ss}\theta_D(1-\theta') + k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_D(1-\theta) \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

$$\frac{d\theta'_D}{dt} = 0 = k_{in}^{ss}\theta_D(1-\theta') - k_{out}^{ss}\theta'_D(1-\theta) \quad (25)$$

Under conditions of low conversion,  $P_{HD} \approx 0$ , HD adsorption can be ignored, and the HD formation rate is

$$r_{HD}^{DH+ssdiff} = 2k_d^{DH}\theta_H\theta_D\theta'^2 \quad (26)$$

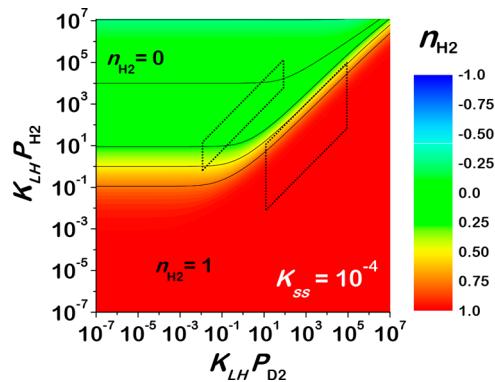
The coverages can be calculated from the steady-state mass balance [eqs 22–25](#). These yield the rate law

$$r_{HD}^{DH+ssdiff} = \frac{2k_d^{DH}K_{ss}^2K_{DH}^2P_{H_2}^{in}P_{D_2}^{in}}{(1 + \sqrt{K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}})^2(1 + K_{ss}\sqrt{K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}})^2} \quad (27)$$

The reaction rate orders with respect to H and D can be calculated by inserting [eq 27](#) into [eq 9a](#). The value of  $n_{H_2}$  has been plotted versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  in [Figure 10](#) for values of  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$ . The DH+ssdiff mechanism predicts  $n_{H_2} = 0$  over the region of  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  in which our measurements were made and are consistent with the result of our measurements.

Having identified the DH+ssdiff mechanism as the one that predicts  $n_{H_2} = 0$  for  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \gg K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$ , we can examine [eq 26](#) to understand the origin of our observed reaction order. By examining the coverages as shown in [Figure 6](#) and their expressions found in [Table 1](#), it is clear that  $\theta_H \approx 1$  under the measurement conditions and will be insensitive to increases in  $P_{H_2}^{in}$ . On the other hand,  $\theta_D \approx 0$  and scales proportionately to  $(P_{H_2}^{in})^{-1}$ , as expected in the LH mechanism. The key point is that  $\theta_D \propto (P_{H_2}^{in})^{-1}$  is compensated for by the subsurface coverage,  $\theta' \approx 0$ . The value of  $\theta'^2$  scales  $\propto P_{H_2}^{in}$ . Thus, in [eq 26](#) we have the terms  $\theta_H\theta_D\theta'^2 \propto (P_{H_2}^{in})^0$  and the prediction of  $n_{H_2} = 0$  for  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \gg K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$ . It is important to note that for extremely high values of  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}$  that are off scale on [Figure 10](#), the subsurface layer becomes saturated,  $\theta' \approx 1$ , and  $\theta'^2 \propto (P_{H_2}^{in})^0$  resulting in  $\theta_H\theta_D\theta'^2 \propto (P_{H_2}^{in})^{-1}$ : i.e., the recurrence of  $n_{H_2} = -1$  as in the LH mechanism.

**4.5. Summary of  $H_2-D_2$  Exchange Kinetics Involving Subsurface Hydrogen.** The adsorption isotherm expressions for the total coverages  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  as functions of  $P_{tot}^{tot}$  derived from



**Figure 10.** Reaction order in  $n_{H_2}$  versus  $(K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in}, K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in})$  for  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange via the DH+ssdiff mechanism with  $K_{ss} = 10^{-4}$ . The dashed tetrangles demarcate the conditions within which our measurements were conducted. These data are shown for  $K_{ss} = 10^{-3}$ ,  $10^{-4}$  and  $10^{-5}$  in section 10 in the Supporting Information.

the four  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange mechanisms and their combination with a surface–subsurface diffusion process are all given in Table 1.

**Table 1. Summary of the Calculated Surface and Subsurface Coverages Using the Seven Different  $H_2$ – $D_2$  Exchange Mechanisms Proposed<sup>a</sup>**

mech	$\theta^b$	$\theta'^b$
LH <sup>c</sup>	$\frac{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	0
LH+ssdiff	$\frac{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
BT <sup>d</sup>	$\frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
BT+ssdiff	$\frac{\frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{K_{ss}}}{\sqrt{\frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{K_{ss}} + \frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{K_{ss}}}}$	$\frac{K_{ss}K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{ss}K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{ss}K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
BT+LH	$\frac{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{BT}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
SH+ssdiff	$\frac{K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{ss}K_{SH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{ss}K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{ss}K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
DH+ssdiff	$\frac{K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{ss}K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{ss}K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{ss}K_{DH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$
common form <sup>b</sup>	$\frac{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$	$\frac{K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}{\sqrt{K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}} + K_{ss}K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}}$

<sup>a</sup>The step-by-step calculations for all these models can be found in the Supporting Information. The coverages of the individual species are given by  $\theta_H = \theta P_{H_2}^{in}/P_{tot}$  and equivalent expressions for  $\theta_D$ ,  $\theta'_H$ , and  $\theta'_D$ . <sup>b</sup>Note that the isotherms for both the surface species,  $\theta$ , and the subsurface species,  $\theta'$ , are identical for all reaction mechanisms given the relation among the equilibrium constants:  $K_{BT} = K_{ss}K_{LH}$ . The common form of the last row assumes  $K_{SH} = K_{DH} = K_{LH}$ . <sup>c</sup>The LH mechanism represents a special case in which  $K_{ss} = 0$ . <sup>d</sup>The BT mechanism represents a special case in which  $K_{ss} = 1$ .

It is important to note that in a batch reactor these hold for all extents of reaction because the total hydrogen pressure,  $P_{tot} = P_{H_2}^{in} + P_{D_2}^{in}$ , whether in the form of  $H_2$ , HD, or  $D_2$  is constant. In a flow reactor, the expression in Table 1 holds along the length of

the reactor independent of the degree of conversion of  $H_2$  and  $D_2$  conversion to HD. The expressions in Table 1 are parametrized by the equilibrium constants for the five processes defined in Figure 4 and by the potential energy diagram in Figure 5:  $K_{LH}$ ,  $K_{BT}$ ,  $K_{SH}$ ,  $K_{DH}$  and  $K_{ss}$ . It is important to appreciate that all of these expressions describe the same equilibrium and that they are all equivalent to one another. The common forms are given in the bottom row of Table 1. These hold because  $K_{BT} = K_{ss}K_{LH}$ . In the cases of the SH and DH mechanisms, the basic Langmuir assumption that species are noninteracting gives  $K_{LH} = K_{SH} = K_{DH}$ , which is a good assumption for low values of  $\theta'$  (consistent with the conditions of our measurements). The LH mechanism can be considered the special case of the subsurface hydrogen mechanism in which  $K_{ss} = 0$  and  $\theta' = 0$ . Likewise, the pure BT mechanism is the special case in which  $K_{ss} = 1$  and  $\theta' = \theta$ . The fact that all coverage expressions in Table 1 are equivalent should not be surprising, given that these equilibria must be path independent.

The rate laws for the different  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange mechanisms, in the limit of low conversion, are given in Table 2 in terms of the rate constants for hydrogen desorption,  $k_d$ , and in terms of the equilibrium constants  $K_{LH}$  and  $K_{ss}$ . In the case of the pure BT mechanism,  $K_{ss} = 1$ . The rate constants for hydrogen desorption are mechanism specific. In all of the rate expressions, the numerator is proportional to  $P_{H_2}^{in}P_{D_2}^{in}$ . The denominators are parametrized in terms of  $K_{ss}$  and  $K_{LH}P_{tot}^{tot}$ , where  $P_{tot} \approx P_{H_2}^{in} \gg P_{D_2}^{in}$  under the conditions of our experiments.

The fingerprints of subsurface  $H'$  in the kinetics of the  $H_2$ – $D_2$  exchange mechanism arise purely from the terms in the denominators of the rates laws. The rate laws for the LH and LH+ssdiff mechanisms are identical because the presence of  $H'$  has no influence on the surface reactions. Similarly, the LH and pure BT mechanisms have the same rate dependence because the pure BT mechanism enforces  $K_{ss} = 1$  and  $\theta = \theta'$ . Effectively,  $K_{BT} = K_{LH}$  for the purely BT mechanism. Note that the LH+BT mechanism yields a rate law with two terms, one equivalent to the LH mechanism and the other equivalent to the BT+ssdiff mechanism. Although surface–subsurface diffusion has not been explicitly considered in the LH+BT mechanism, the inclusion of the LH mechanism provides a pathway for redistribution of H and  $H'$ , allowing the surface and subsurface coverages to equilibrate. As can be seen from the coverage expressions in Table 1 and the rate laws in Table 2, they establish the same equilibrium as reached by the BT+ssdiff process; i.e., the equilibrium is path independent. These observations verify that the analysis of the various mechanisms considered in this work has been self-consistent.

Finally, the “fingerprints” of the various subsurface mechanisms evaluated herein are summarized in Table 3. The first two rows establish the four regimes of  $P_{tot}$  that yield the various possible values of  $n_{H_2}$  while the third and fourth rows give the regimes of adsorbate coverage,  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  corresponding to those operating conditions. The final four rows give the various value of  $n_{H_2}$  under conditions of  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \gg K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$  that one might expect to observe for the four reaction mechanisms compared in this work. In essence this summarizes the findings of Figures 7–10. For conditions of  $K_{LH}P_{H_2}^{in} \ll K_{LH}P_{D_2}^{in}$ , one always has  $n_{H_2} = 1$ . For extremely high pressures at which both the surface and the subsurface are saturated with hydrogen, all four mechanisms predict that  $n_{H_2} = -1$ . At intermediate conditions one can saturate the surface but not the subsurface resulting in pressure

**Table 2. Rate Laws for the Seven Different H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> Exchange Mechanisms Defined Using  $K_{\text{BT}} = K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}$  and  $K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}} = K_{\text{LH}}$ <sup>a</sup>**

mech	$r_{\text{HD}}$	rate law
LH	$2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}}$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)^2}$
LH+ssdiff	$2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}}$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)^2}$
BT	$k_{\text{d}}^{\text{BT}}(\theta_{\text{H}}\theta'_{\text{D}} + \theta'_{\text{D}}\theta_{\text{H}})$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{BT}}K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)^2}$
BT+ssdiff	$k_{\text{d}}^{\text{BT}}(\theta_{\text{H}}\theta'_{\text{D}} + \theta'_{\text{D}}\theta_{\text{H}})$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}k_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)}$
LH+BT	$2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}} + k_{\text{d}}^{\text{BT}}(\theta_{\text{H}}\theta'_{\text{D}} + \theta'_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}})$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{LH}}k_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)^2} + \frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{BT}}K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)}$
SH+ssdiff	$2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{SH}}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}}\theta'$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{SH}}K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(1 + \sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}\right)^2\left(\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}} + K_{\text{ss}}K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}\right)}$
DH+ssdiff	$2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{DH}}\theta_{\text{H}}\theta_{\text{D}}\theta'^2$	$\frac{2k_{\text{d}}^{\text{DH}}K_{\text{ss}}^2K_{\text{LH}}^2P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{\left(1 + \sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}\right)^2\left(1 + K_{\text{ss}}\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}\right)^2}$

<sup>a</sup>The derivation of each rate law and their explicit forms unconstrained by the previous equalities can be found in the Supporting Information.

**Table 3. Reaction Orders  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  for  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ , Predicted for H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> Exchange Mechanisms under Various Reaction Conditions<sup>a</sup>**

Reaction Conditions				
$\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}$	$\gg 1$	$\gg 1$	$\ll 1$	$\ll 1$
$K_{\text{ss}}\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}}P^{\text{tot}}}$	$\gg 1$	$\ll 1$	$\gg 1$	$\ll 1$
Coverages				
$\theta$	$\cong 1$	$\cong 1$	$\cong 0$	$\cong 0$
$\theta'$	$\cong 1$	$\cong 0$	$\cong 1$	$\cong 0$
Reaction Order in $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$				
$n_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{LH}}$	-1	n/a	n/a	0
$n_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{BT+ssdiff}}$	-1	-1/2	-1/2	0
$n_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{SH+ssdiff}}$	-1	-1/2	0	1/2
$n_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{DH+ssdiff}}$	-1	0	0	1

<sup>a</sup>The experimental conditions are consistent with  $\theta \cong 1$  and  $\theta' \cong 0$ . The measured value of  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0.01$  is consistent with the predicted value of  $n_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{DH}}$ .

regimes over which one can observe  $n_{\text{H}_2} = -1/2$  for the BT+ssdiff and for the SH+ssdiff mechanisms. Note that conditions consistent with the third column in which  $K_{\text{ss}} > 1$  seem unlikely to exist, since they imply that H' in the subsurface is energetically stable relative to H on the surface.<sup>27</sup> This would yield regimes in which the subsurface was saturated but the surface was not. Finally, at very low pressures at which neither the surface nor the subsurface are saturated, the various mechanisms exhibit  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  (BT+ssdiff), 1/2 (SH+ssdiff), and 1 (DH+ssdiff). Of these scenarios, it is clear that the DH+ssdiff model is the only one

consistent with our observations of  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  under conditions which yield a saturated surface and a low concentration of H' in the subsurface.

#### 4.6. Relaxation of the Assumption That $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$ .

The analysis performed above indicates that, among the mechanisms considered for H<sub>2</sub>–D<sub>2</sub> exchange on the Ag<sub>x</sub>Pd<sub>1-x</sub> alloys, the DH+ssdiff mechanism is the only one capable of predicting the reaction order  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  for  $K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg K_{\text{LH}}P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  and  $\theta \approx 1$ . It is important to note that, as with all such analyses, this work merely identifies the most likely mechanism among those considered. There must be others that would predict the observed reaction orders. Our analysis above has adhered strictly to the Langmuir assumption that adsorbed species are non-interacting, the simplest possible model. The only interactions are in the transition states to adsorption and desorption (Figure 5), whose energies are influenced by subsurface H' atoms. We have not considered the impact of coverage-dependent adsorption energetics. The justification for ignoring the possible coverage dependence of adsorption energetics is that over the range of conditions of our measurements of  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  there is very little coverage variation. The values of  $\theta \approx 1$  and  $\theta' \approx 0$  (Figure 6) over the range of conditions under which we have observed  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$ .

Strict adherence to the Langmuir model for adsorption mandates that  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$  (Figure 5) in that there should be no influence of H' on the energetics of H other than to influence kinetic barriers to H adsorption and desorption. Relaxing the assumption that  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$  does not affect the predictions regarding reaction order. To rationalize this, we will refer to H (or D) atoms adsorbed at promoted sites on the surface (with either H' or D' in the immediate subsurface) as H\* (or D\*). If  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$ , the fractional coverage on the

promoted site will be identical with that on the unprompted sites,  $\theta = \theta^*$ , because the adsorption energetics are identical on both sites. If the adsorption energetics on the promoted and unpromoted sites are different,<sup>57</sup>  $K_{\text{LH}} \neq K_{\text{SH}} \neq K_{\text{DH}}$ , and  $\theta \neq \theta^*$ . Under steady-state reaction conditions with  $\theta \approx 1$ , the reaction is desorption rate limited and the coverages on the surface are in pseudoequilibrium with the gas phase, as indicated in Table 1. The subsurface coverages  $\theta'$ ,  $\theta'_{\text{H}}$ , and  $\theta'_{\text{D}}$  are equilibrated with the surface coverages  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_{\text{H}}$  and  $\theta_{\text{D}}$  via the surface–subsurface equilibrium constant  $K_{\text{ss}}$ . In the same way, the coverages on the promoted sites  $\theta^*$ ,  $\theta^*_{\text{H}}$ , and  $\theta^*_{\text{D}}$  would be equilibrated with the surface coverages  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_{\text{H}}$ , and  $\theta_{\text{D}}$  via an equilibrium constant  $K^*$ . The solutions for the coverages  $\theta^*_{\text{H}}$  and  $\theta^*_{\text{D}}$  on the prompted sites have the same form as the solutions for  $\theta'_{\text{H}}$  and  $\theta'_{\text{D}}$  in the subsurface.

$$\theta^*_{\text{H}} = \frac{K^* K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}}{\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}} + K^* K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}} \left( \frac{P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \right) \quad (28)$$

and

$$\theta^*_{\text{D}} = \frac{K^* K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}}{\sqrt{K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}} + K^* K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}} \left( \frac{P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}}{P^{\text{tot}}} \right) \quad (29)$$

The reaction orders for the  $\text{H}_2\text{--D}_2$  exchange are dictated simply by the pressure dependence of the coverages. In the case of the DH+ssdiff mechanism, where the reaction occurs on the promoted sites, the rate is  $\propto \theta^*_{\text{H}} \theta^*_{\text{D}} \theta'^2$ . The promoted surface sites are saturated,  $\theta^* \approx 1$ , when  $K^* \sqrt{K_{\text{LH}} P^{\text{tot}}} \gg 1$ . Under these conditions and with  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$  we have  $\theta^*_{\text{H}} \propto (P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}})^0$ ,  $\theta^*_{\text{D}} \propto (P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}})^{-1}$  and  $\theta'^2 \propto (P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}})^1$ , leading to a net reaction order in  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}}$  of  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$ . Following the same reasoning, the reaction orders predicted for the other mechanisms analyzed using the assumption that  $K_{\text{LH}} = K_{\text{SH}} = K_{\text{DH}}$  will not change by relaxation of that assumption, provided that the presence of subsurface H' does not energetically destabilize adsorbed H to the point that the coverage on the promoted sites becomes  $\theta^* \ll 1$ .

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

The Langmuir–Hinshelwood (LH), breakthrough (BT), single-subsurface H' activation (SH), and dual-subsurface H' activation (DH) mechanisms for  $\text{H}_2\text{--D}_2$  exchange, coupled with surface–subsurface diffusion (ssdiff) of H and D, have been shown to have kinetically distinguishable rate laws. These exhibit reaction orders,  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  for  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ , across the range of possible reaction conditions that have values characteristic of each mechanism. This makes possible the experimental identification of the subsurface hydrogen mechanism active for  $\text{H}_2\text{--D}_2$  exchange. Our measurements on  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  alloys with  $x = 0\text{--}0.9$  and previously published results on the Pd(111) surface and on Pd nanoparticles reveal that  $n_{\text{H}_2} = 0$  for  $P_{\text{H}_2}^{\text{in}} \gg P_{\text{D}_2}^{\text{in}}$ . This is consistent with the dual-subsurface H' (D') activation mechanism (DH+ssdiff), in which two adjacent subsurface H' or D' atoms activate the recombinative desorption of adjacent pairs of H (D) atoms on the surface.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: [10.1021/acscatal.8b02168](https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.8b02168).

Conditions under which  $\text{H}_2\text{--D}_2$  exchange kinetics have been measured on  $\text{Ag}_x\text{Pd}_{1-x}$  alloys, graphical representation of all of the kinetic data, detailed analyses of the

steady-state kinetic equations describing the various mechanistic models considered in this study, and graphical representations of the reaction orders predicted for all four models for a range of values of the surface–subsurface H atom diffusion constant,  $K_{\text{ss}}$  (PDF)

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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