## Supporting material: Large-scale surface reconstruction energetics of Pt(100) and Au(100) by all-electron DFT

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We here add supporting material for the methodological aspects of our work on large-scale reconstructed Au(100) and Pt(100) surfaces: A brief account of convergence aspects, and comparison of the reconstruction geometries found by us to the available literature data.

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## Methodological aspects:

As described in the main text, a  $(5\times N)$  plane (N>1) contains (N+5+1) additional atoms in the unit cell, compared to a  $(1\times 1)$  layer. In terms of total energies for individual surface slabs,  $E^{\rm slab}$ , and the total energy per atom in the bulk,  $E^{\rm atom,bulk}$ , the reconstruction energy  $\Delta E_{5\times N}$  (here defined to be positive if a reconstruction is favored) is

$$-\Delta E_{5\times N} = E_{5\times N}^{\text{slab}} - 5N E_{1\times 1}^{\text{slab}} - (N+6) E^{\text{atom,bulk}} \quad . \tag{1}$$

All DFT total energies are based on the LDA,[1] or the generalized gradient functional PBE.[2] We use fcc lattice parameters  $a_{\text{Au}}=4.055$  (4.169) Å and  $a_{\text{Pt}}=3.899$ (3.974) Å in LDA (PBE), respectively, computed for the highly converged tier 1 basis level (spdf g for Pt, spdf gh for Au [3]), and essentially converged already for  $(10\times10\times10)$  k-point grids. The tier 1 basis set level is also used to obtain converged geometry relaxation (residual forces  $<10^{-2} \text{ eV/Å}$ ) and total energies for all surfaces considered here. The convergence of our surface calculations is verified by explicit tests for  $(5\times1)$  approximants (a-c below): (a) Compared to (much larger) tier 2 basis sets, reconstruction energies are converged to better than  $0.003 \text{ eV}/1\times1$ . (b) Nine-layer slabs (four relaxed) yield an energy lowering of  $0.01 \text{ eV}/1 \times 1$  for Au and Pt. (c)  $0.01 \text{ eV}/1 \times 1$  accuracy is obtained by  $10 \times 10 \text{ k-point}$ grids in units equivalent to the  $1\times1$  cell. In our calculations with variable cell length N (data points in Fig. 2) of the main paper), we further reduce the k-grid noise by using  $2\times 2$  and equivalent k-grids for N < 20, and  $1\times 2$ and equivalent k-meshes for  $N \ge 20$ . In terms of the  $1\times1$  periodicity, this amounts to  $20\times10$  or denser grids throughout this work. Our overall accuracy is verified by explicit FP-LAPW [4] (5×1) calculations, yielding agreement within 0.01 eV/1×1.

## Comparison of reconstruction geometry characteristics to the available literature:

Table I compares some key surface geometry parameters from our study with the available diffraction experiments. The agreement is remarkable, especially since the most detailed study [5] used a surface-averaged  $(5\times1)$  model for Au(100), yielding a "hex" layer buckling inbetween

|                            | -// V        |             |              |                        |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------|
|                            | Au(100)      |             | Pt(100)      |                        |
|                            | This work    | Experiment  | This work    | ${\bf Experiment}$     |
| $b_1/d_{ m bulk}$          | 0.32(0.32)   | $0.275^{a}$ | 0.29(0.29)   | $\approx 0.2^b$        |
|                            |              |             |              | $0.25 \text{-} 0.38^c$ |
| $b_2/d_{ m bulk}$          | 0.044(0.044) | $0.069^{a}$ | 0.042(0.042) |                        |
| $d_{12}/d_{\mathrm{bulk}}$ | 1.21(1.22)   | $1.20^{a}$  | 1.20(1.20)   |                        |
| $d_{23}/d_{\mathrm{bulk}}$ | 0.99(0.98)   |             | 0.99(1.00)   |                        |

TABLE I: Averaged interlayer distances  $d_{ij}$  and peak-to-peak buckling amplitudes  $b_i$  for Au(100)-"(5×20)" and Pt(100)-"(5×25)" in LDA (PBE in brackets), compared to experiment: <sup>a</sup>SXRD, Refs. [5]; <sup>b</sup>LEED, Ref. [6]; <sup>c</sup>Helium atom scattering, Ref. [7].

our maximum and mimimum corrugations (see Fig. 3 of the main paper and its description there).

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