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MacMillan Group Meeting

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this talk does not contain synthetic applications of photoredox catalysis

instead it focuses on how and why the photocatalysts work and why we use the ones we do



Common Transition Metal Photocatalysts: the "Big 4"









 $Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$

lr(ppy)₃

Ir(ppy)₂(dtbbpy)²⁺

Ir[dF(CF₃)ppy)₂(dtbbpy)⁺

<i>E</i> (M+/M*) = -0.81 V	<i>E</i> (M+/M*) = -1.73 V	<i>E</i> (M+/M*) = -0.96 V	$E (M^+/M^*) = -0.89 V$
<i>E</i> (M*/M ⁻) = +0.77 V	<i>E</i> (M*/M ⁻) = +0.31 V	<i>E</i> (M*/M ⁻) = +0.66 V	<i>E</i> (M*/M ⁻) = +1.21 V
$\tau = 1.1 \ \mu S$	$\tau = 1.9 \ \mu s$	$\tau = 0.56 \ \mu s$	$\tau = 2.3 \ \mu s$
λ_{abs} = 452 nm	λ_{abs} = 375 nm	λ_{abs} = 410 nm	λ_{abs} = 380 nm
λ_{em} = 652 nm	λ_{em} = 518 nm	λ_{em} = 581 nm	λ_{em} = 470 nm
Φ_{em} = 0.095	Φ_{em} = 0.38	$\Phi_{em} = 0.094$	Φ_{em} = 0.68

For very useful reviews see:

Tucker, J. W.; Stephenson, C. R. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, 77, 1617

Prier, C. K.; Rankic, D. A.; MacMillan, D. W. C. Chem. Rev. 2013, 113, 5322

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*Ru(bpy)*₃²⁺

lr(ppy)₃

Ir(ppy)₂(dtbbpy)²⁺

Ir[dF(CF3)ppy)2(dtbbpy)*

these common photocatalysts can be divided 2 major ways

homoleptic (all ligands same) vs.

heteroleptic (different ligands)

ruthenium vs. iridium

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Photocatalyst Comparison: Homoleptic vs. Heteroleptic

most significant difference is in the location of HOMO and LUMO of excited state



Thompson, M. E. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 7377

Malliaras, G. G. and Bernhard, S. et al. Chem. Mater. 2005, 17, 5712

moving from ruthenium to iridium has a profound effect on photophysical properties



Ir complexes are less electron-rich than the

corresponding Ru ones

increased LFSE leads to larger HOMO-LUMO gap: more photonic input large SO coupling improves MLCT efficiency: allows use of heteroleptic complexes

enhanced electrophilicity, LFSE and SO coupling manifest in a variety of ways

Iocation on periodic table affects d-electron count



while Ru is in the +2 state, Ir must be more oxidized to reach the low-spin d⁶ state characterized as substitutionally inert

increased charge and electronegativity affects redox potentials:



 $Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$ – weaker oxidant, stronger reductant

$lr(bpy)_{3^{3+}}$ – similar reductant, much stronger oxidant

Flynn Jr., C. M. Demas, J. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1974, 96, 1979

Dixon, I. M.; Collin, J. P.; Sauvage, J.-P.; Flamigni, L.; Encinas, S.; Barigelletti, F. Chem. Soc. Rev. 2000, 29, 385

biggest difference: ability to support orthometalated (ppy-type) ligands



- moving from bpy to ppy increases e⁻ density enormously
- extreme donation necessitates e⁻ deficiency to stabilize
- additionally, asymmetric ligand field disrupts SO coupling, making MLCT less efficient with Ru (low quantum yield, Φ)



1 LX, little stabilization

 $\Phi_{\text{em}} \,{\sim}\, \mathbf{0}$







2 LX, 2x CO stabilization

 $\Phi_{em} < 10^{-4}$

3 LX, Ir³⁺ stabilization

 Φ_{em} = 0.38

Li, E. Y.; Cheng, Y.-M.; Hsu, C.-C.; Chou, P.-T.; Lee, G.-H. Inorg. Chem. 2006, 45, 8041

Bomben, P. G.; Robson, K. C. D.; Sedach, P. A.; Berlinguette, C. P. Inorg. Chem. 2009, 48, 9631

unlike Ru, Ir can support multiple LX ligands and promote efficient MLCT



Photocatalyst Synthesis: Ruthenium



 $Ru(bpy)_3(PF_6)_2$

Evans, I. P.; Spencer, A.; Wilkinson, G. J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans. 1973, 204

Campagna, S.; Puntoriero, F.; Nastasi, F.; Bergamini, G.; Balzani, V. Top. Curr. Chem. 2007, 280, 117

Photocatalyst Synthesis: Iridium Homoleptic



Thompson, M. E. *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 7377 Dedeian, K.; Djurovich, P. I.; Garces, F. O.; Carlson, G.; Watts, R. J. *Inorg. Chem.* **1991**, *30*, 1685

Photocatalyst Synthesis: Iridium Heteroleptic



McGee, K. A.; Mann, K. R. Inorg. Chem. 2007, 46, 7800

Malliaras, G. G. and Bernhard, S. et al. Chem. Mater. 2005, 17, 5719



Photon Absorption and Generation of Excited State

a short-lived singlet excited state rapidly converts to a long-lived triplet



Damrauer, N. H.; Cerullo, G.; Yeh, A.; Boussie, T. R.; Shank, C. V.; McCusker, J. K. *Science* **1997**, *275*, 54 Juris, A.; Balzani, V.; Barigelletti, F.; Campagna, S.; Belser, P.; Von Zelewsky, A. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1988**, *84*, 85

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Jablonski diagram highlights ennumerates relaxation pathways



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Jablonski diagram highlights ennumerates relaxation pathways

Jablonski diagram
similar to an MO diagram, except the levels refer to ground state and

excited state energy, rather than HOMO and LUMO energy



Juris, A.; Balzani, V.; Barigelletti, F.; Campagna, S.; Belser, P.; Von Zelewsky, A. Coord. Chem. Rev. 1988, 84, 85

Intermolecular Quenching: Single Electron Transfer

excited photocatalyst has extra energy (1.5 – 3 eV) and can do productive chemistry



Prier, C. K.; Rankic, D. A.; MacMillan, D. W. C. Chem. Rev. 2013, 113, 5322

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energy transfer allows excitation of molecules that do not have favorable redox potentials
 unlike electron transfer, relaxation of T₁ (excited state) to S₀ (ground state) occurs in a single step
 energy transfer can occur via 2 potential mechanisms (Förster transfer or Dexter transfer)

Tucker, J. W.; Stephenson, C. R. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 1617 Prier, C. K.; Rankic, D. A.; MacMillan, D. W. C. *Chem. Rev.* **2013**, *113*, 5322

major differences are how substrates are engaged and distance from which transfer occurs

Förster Energy Transfer – vibrational relaxation/collision mechanism

occurs through space (1 – 10 nm)



- T₁ and substrate form "encounter complex"
- T₁ relaxes through vibrational motion; this energy is funneled into a vibrational mode of the substrate
- electron is transferred from HOMO to LUMO

major differences are how substrates are engaged and distance from which transfer occurs





quantum mechanical laws require overlap of *Ru's emission spectrum and sub's ground state UV-Vis spectrum

Dexter Energy Transfer – simultaneous, double electron transfer mechanism



Scholes, G. D. Annu. Rev. Phys. Chem. 2003, 54, 57 Scandola, F.; Indelli, M. T.; Chiorboli, C.; Bignozzi, C. A. Top. Curr. Chem. 1990, 158, 73

major differences are how substrates are engaged and distance from which transfer occurs





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Dexter Energy Transfer – simultaneous, double electron transfer mechanism

occurs through physical contact (< 0.01 nm)</p> LUMO π^* LUMO subject to standard rules of π* electron transfer (ie Marcus Theory), but no spectral t_{2g} HOMO HOMO overlap is required $Ru^{\parallel}(S_0)$ *Ru^{||} (T₁) sub *sub

Scholes, G. D. Annu. Rev. Phys. Chem. 2003, 54, 57

Scandola, F.; Indelli, M. T.; Chiorboli, C.; Bignozzi, C. A. Top. Curr. Chem. 1990, 158, 73



photocatalysts necessitate the use of visible light, making spectroscopy the principle form of analysis

ground state studies – photocatalyst's physical properties

UV-Vis spectroscopy

- Absorbance (measures HOMO-LUMO gap and other electronic transitions)
- Emission (measured 90° from light source; measures phosphorescence and therefore energy of the triplet excited state T₁)



Cyclic Voltammetry

- measures redox potentials of the photocatalyst's ground state
- with emission data, can be converted to the excited state



photocatalysts necessitate the use of visible light, making spectroscopy the principle form of analysis

UV-Visible absorbance spectra of 2 common photocatalysts

 $Ru(bpy)_3Cl_2$ – Absorbance and Emission



I note the change in energy (ΔE) from absorbance to emission – stabilization energy from ISC

Kalyanasundaram, K. Coord. Chem. Rev. 1982, 46, 159

King, K. A.; Spellane, P. J.; Watts, R. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 1431

cyclic voltammetry of lr(ppy)₃ provides redox values for ground state



strong reductants have $E_{1/2}$ (M⁺/*M) < -1.5, strong oxidants have $E_{1/2}$ (*M/M⁻) > +1.2

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photocatalysts necessitate the use of visible light, making spectroscopy the principle form of analysis

excited state studies – what the photocatalyst is reacting with, and how

Stern-Volmer Analysis

- measures quantity of emitted photons in presence and absence of a possible quencher
- determines what the excited photocatalyst is reacting with, and to what degree



- uses time-resolved laser pulses to measures the lifetime of each unpaired electron in T₁ excited state
- in the presence of a quencher, electron transfer can be distinguished from energy transfer





Stern-Volmer phosphorescence quenching identifies quencher

because ISC is so favorable after the MLCT, there are 3 major decay pathways (from Jablonski diagram)



Stern-Volmer phosphorescence quenching identifies quencher



Stern-Volmer analysis makes quencher identification trivial

Hager, D.; MacMillan, D. W. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 16986

Transient Absorption Spectroscopy primer

- 2 light sources are used:
 - excitation laser tuned to
 MLCT absorption band
 - white absorption light –
 full visible spectrum
- laser excites sample with a
 10 ns pulse; absorption at
 chosen λ every 10 ns thereafter
- first record "difference spectra" to identify the excited photocatalyst's (T₁) signature absorptions



difference spectra (aka spectroelectrochemistry) shows how oxidation or reduction changes absorbances

- a voltage is applied to the photocatalyst, recording UV-Vis spectra along the way
 - spectrum of the parent photocatalyst is subtracted out



Oxidative Difference Spectrum

difference spectra (aka spectroelectrochemistry) shows how oxidation or reduction changes absorbances

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profile of a transient absorption (TA) spectrum

fast laser pulse excites the photocatalyst in absence of quencher, exponential (1st order) decay is observed



Images courtesy of Daniela M. Arias-Rotondo, McCusker Group, Michigan State University







four limiting scenarios: no quenching, energy transfer, oxidative/reductive electron transfer



"T₁", τ = 1100 ns (10⁻⁹)

four limiting scenarios: no quenching, energy transfer, oxidative/reductive electron transfer



Images courtesy of Daniela M. Arias-Rotondo, McCusker Group, Michigan State University



