



*The Abdus Salam*  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



**2269-16**

**Workshop on New Materials for Renewable Energy**

**17 - 21 October 2011**

**Molecular catalysts that oxidize water to dioxygen**

Xavier SALA  
*UAB*  
*Barcelona*  
*Spain*

# Molecular Catalysts that Oxidize Water to Dioxygen



ICTP, Miramare, Trieste, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2011

*Xavier Sala, UAB, Barcelona, Spain*

## *OUTLINE*

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1. INTRODUCTION
2. Ru-based WOCs: from the Blue Dimer to mononuclear species
3. Iridium WOCs
4. All-inorganic POM complexes
5. First-row transition-metal based WOCs
6. Heterogeneous WOCs
7. WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)
8. FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS

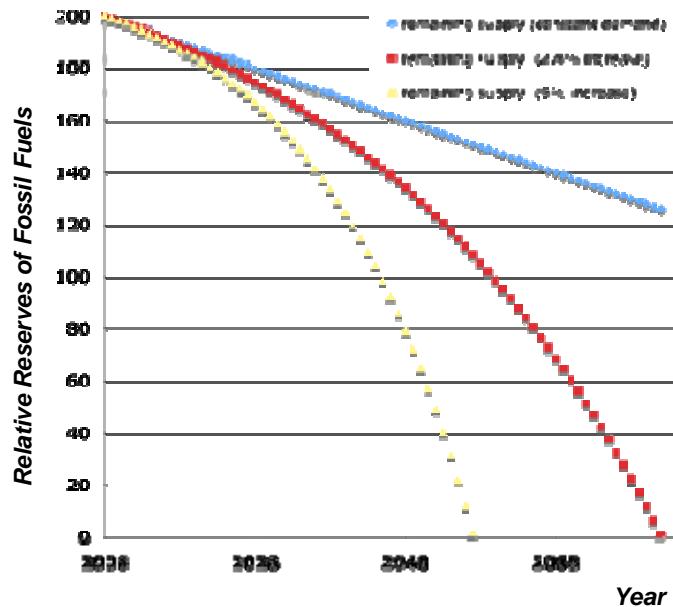
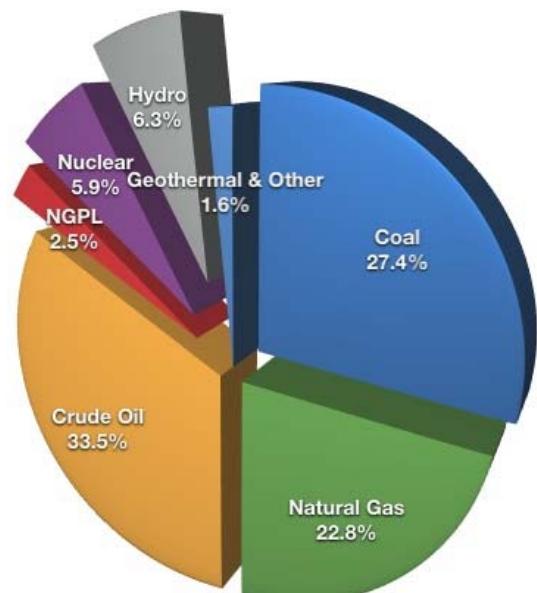
## *INTRODUCTION - Today's Energy Situation*

Global Energy Demand

2004: 14.5 TW

2050: 30-60 TW

x 2.5



*Exhausting profiles of oil products (2004)*, Exxon-Mobile.

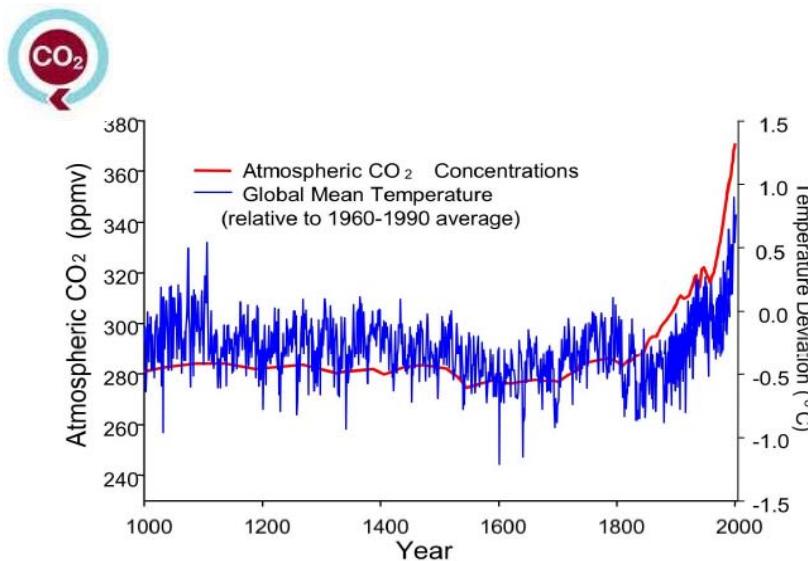
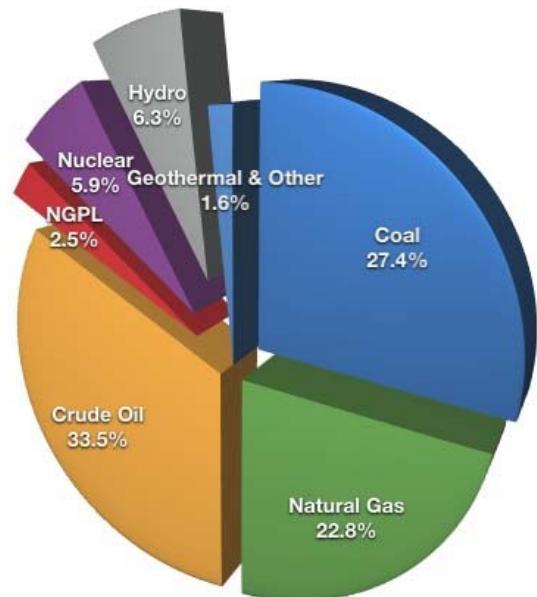
 *Solar Energy Utilization Workshop (2005)* US-DOE, Washington DC.

Menzel, A. et al. *Global Change Biology*, 2006, 12, 1-8.

## *INTRODUCTION - Today's Energy Situation*

Global Energy Demand

} 2004: 14.5 TW  
2050: 30-60 TW 



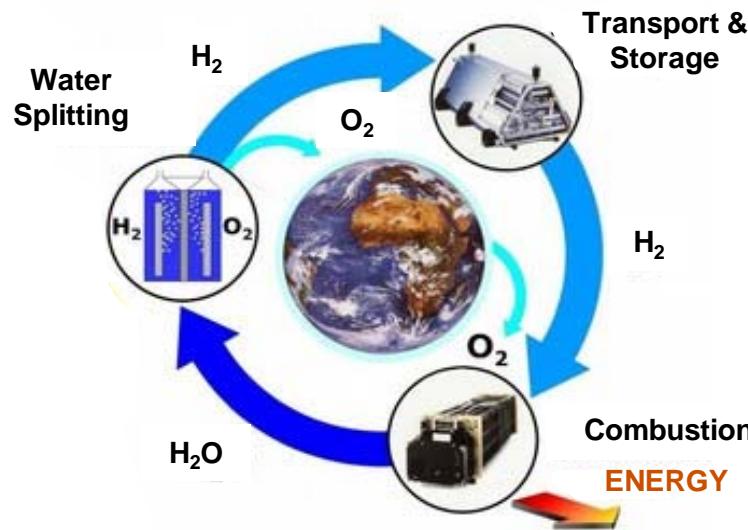
*Exhausting profiles of oil products (2004), Exxon-Mobile.*

 *Solar Energy Utilization Workshop (2005) US-DOE, Washington DC.*

Menzel, A. et al. *Global Change Biology*, 2006, 12, 1-8.

## *INTRODUCTION - H<sub>2</sub> as clean energy vector*

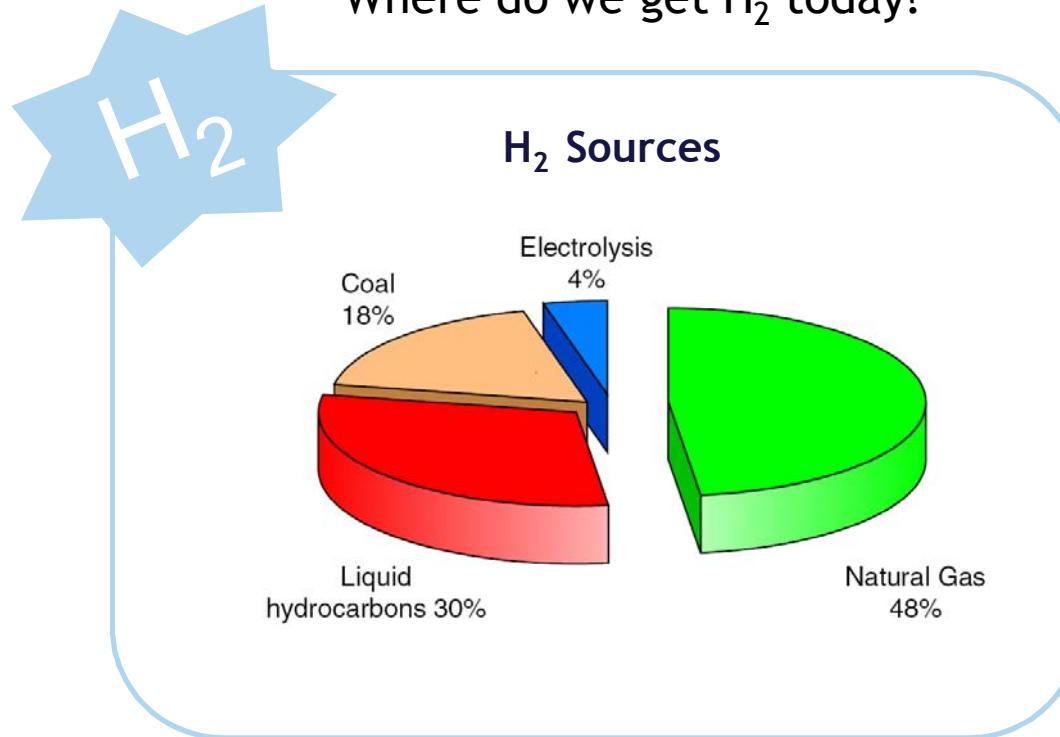
- ✓ High energy content/kg (3 x gasoline)
- ✓ Highest heating value per mass of all chemical fuels



- ✓ Combustion only releases energy and pure water (Clean & Carbon Free)

## *INTRODUCTION - Today's H<sub>2</sub> Sources*

Where do we get H<sub>2</sub> today?



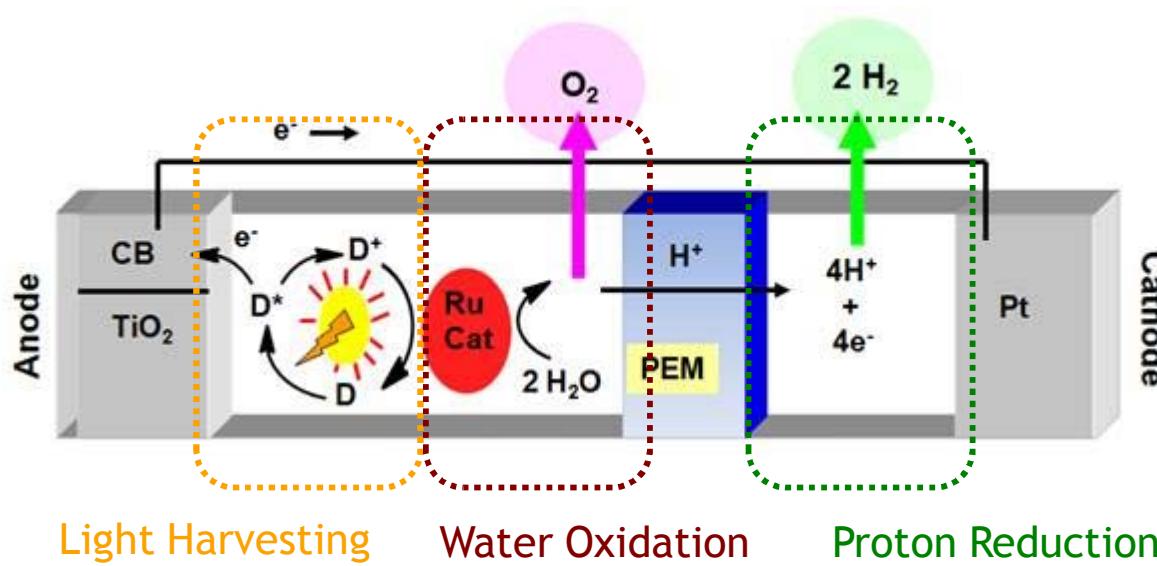
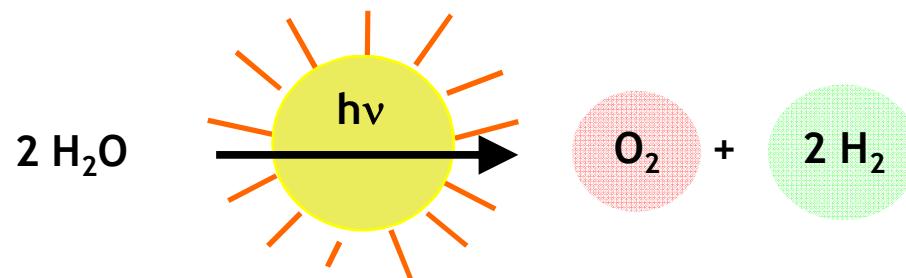
**96% comes from fossil fuels**



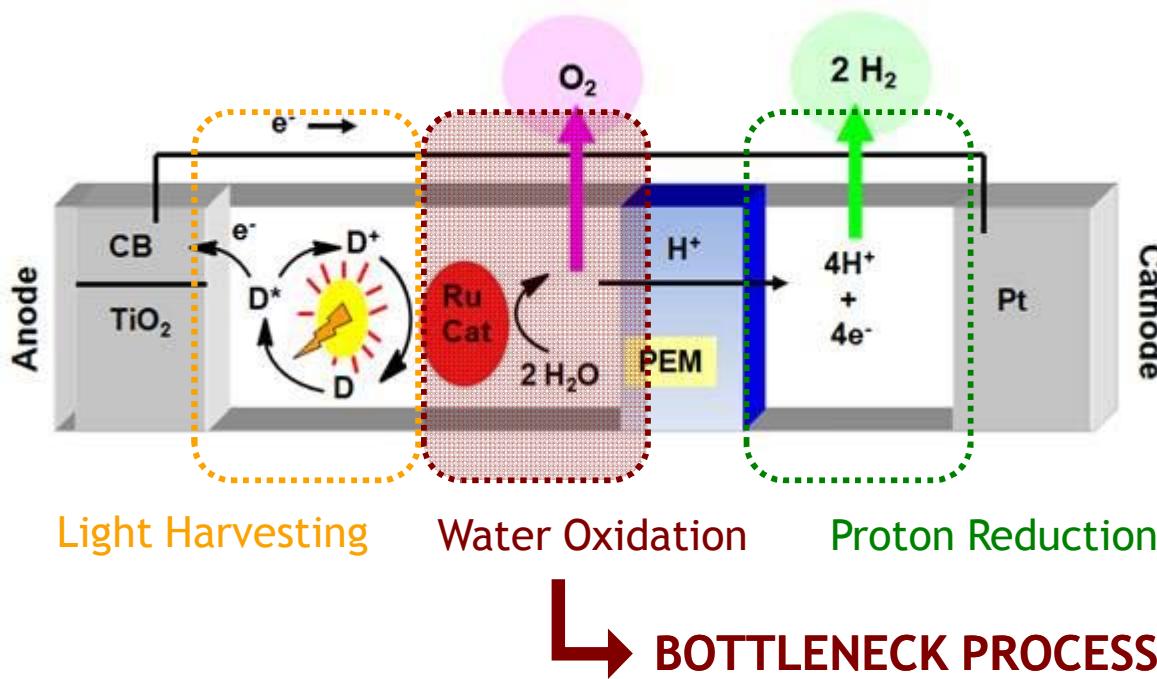
Eggert, A. et al. *Chem. Eng. News*, 2004, 82(41), 48-49

Freemantle, M. *Chem. Eng. News*, 2003, 81(3), 32-36

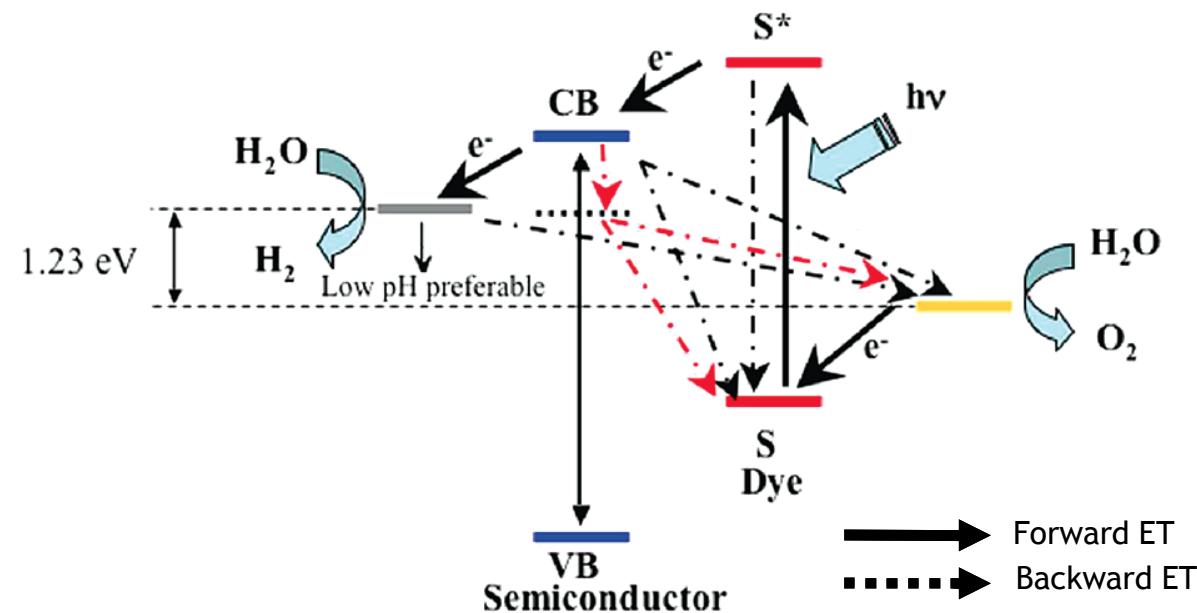
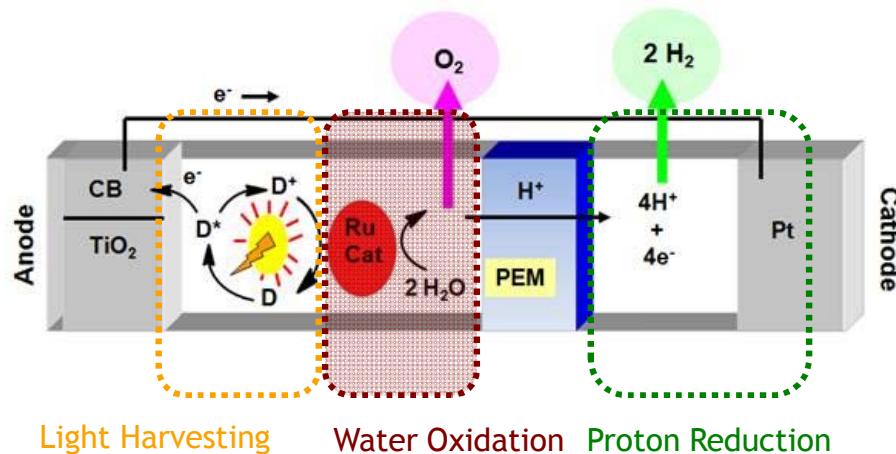
## INTRODUCTION - Water Splitting and PEC Cells



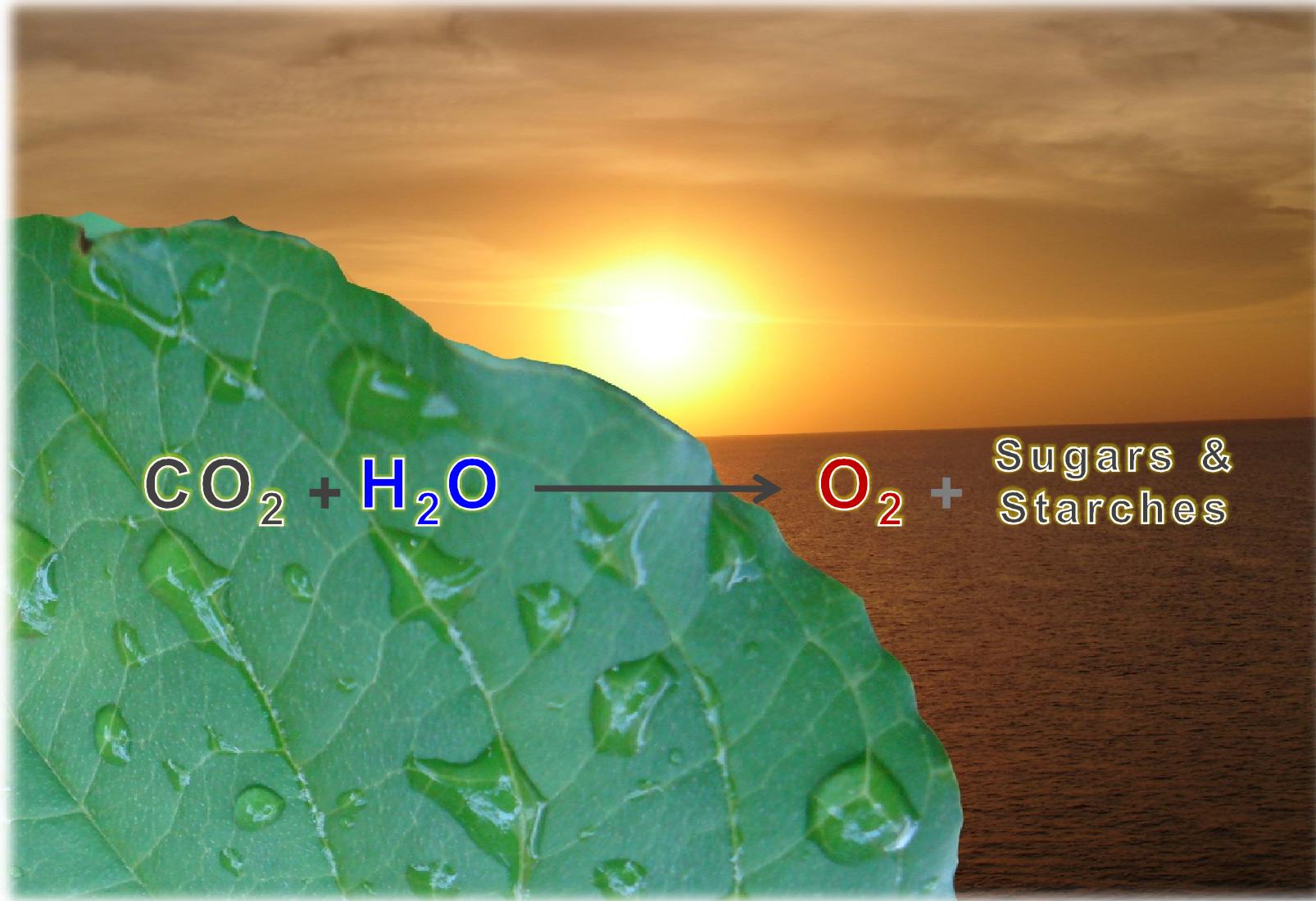
## INTRODUCTION - Water Oxidation: bottleneck process



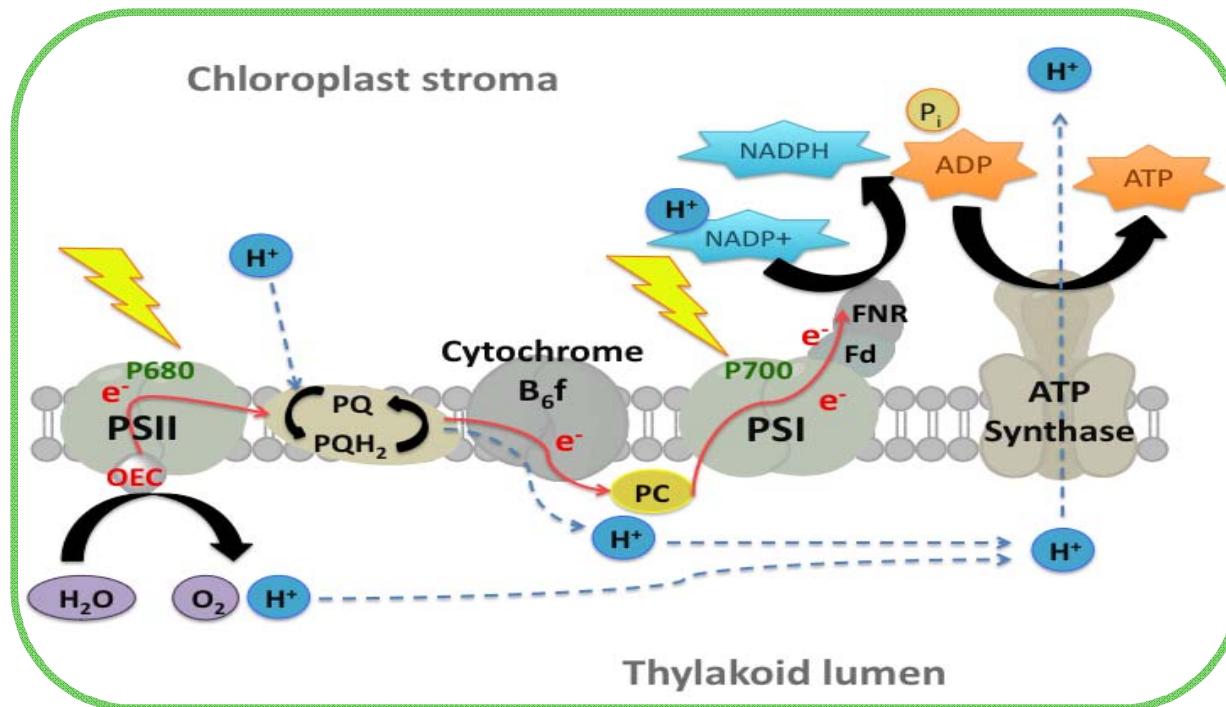
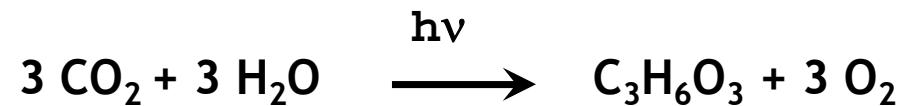
## INTRODUCTION - harmonic assembly and recombination



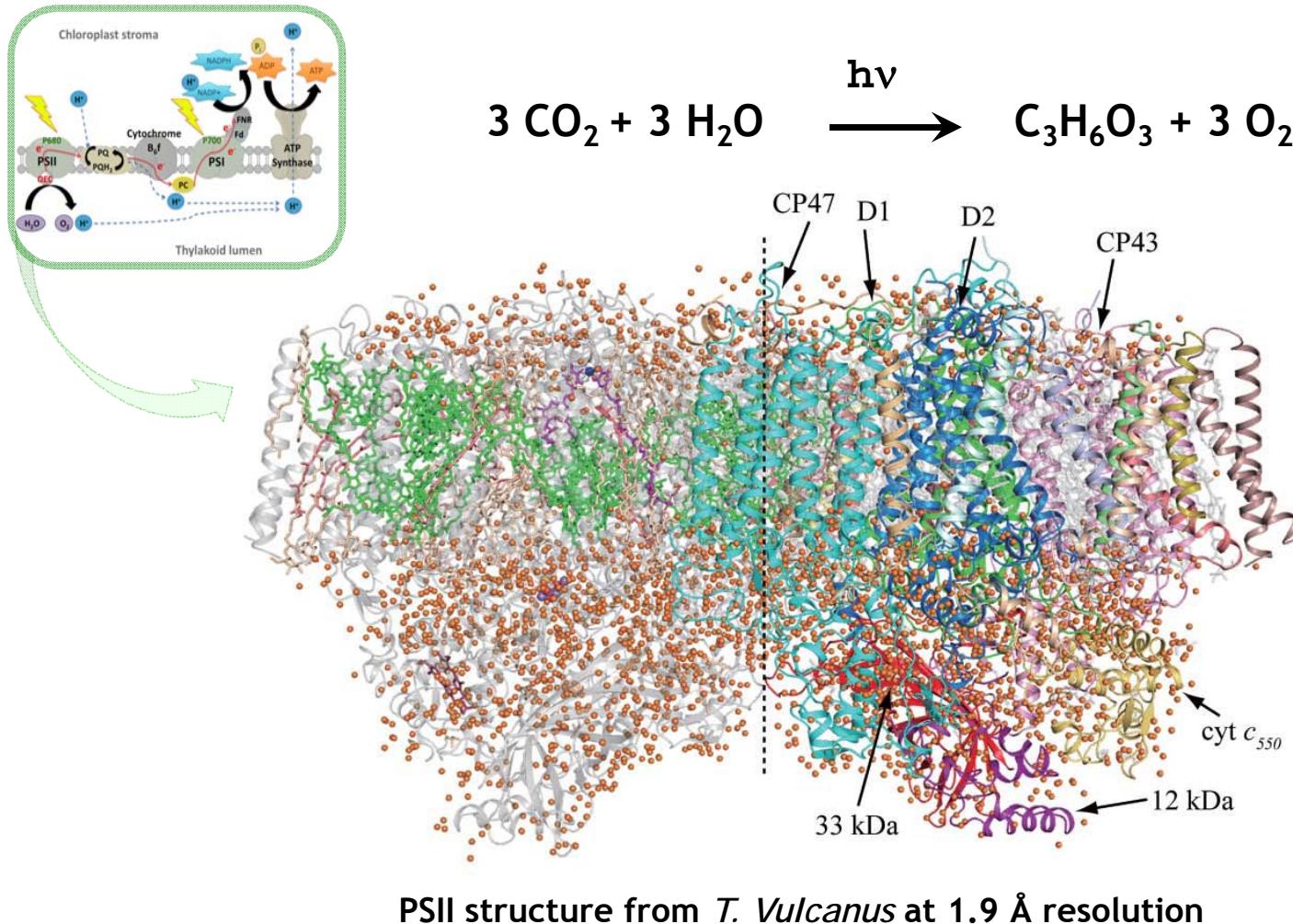
## *INTRODUCTION - How Nature gets its energy ?*



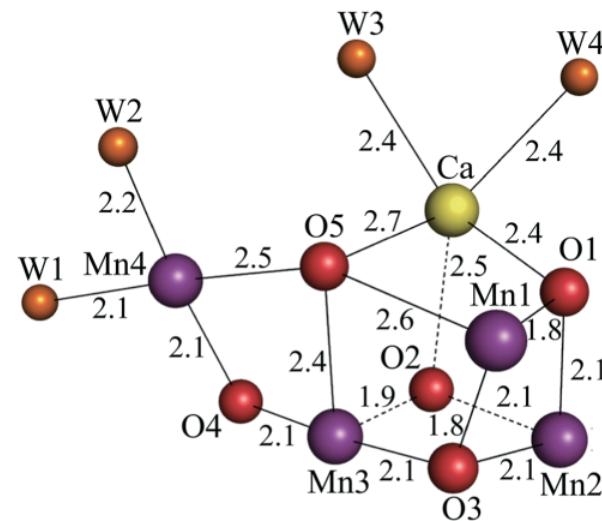
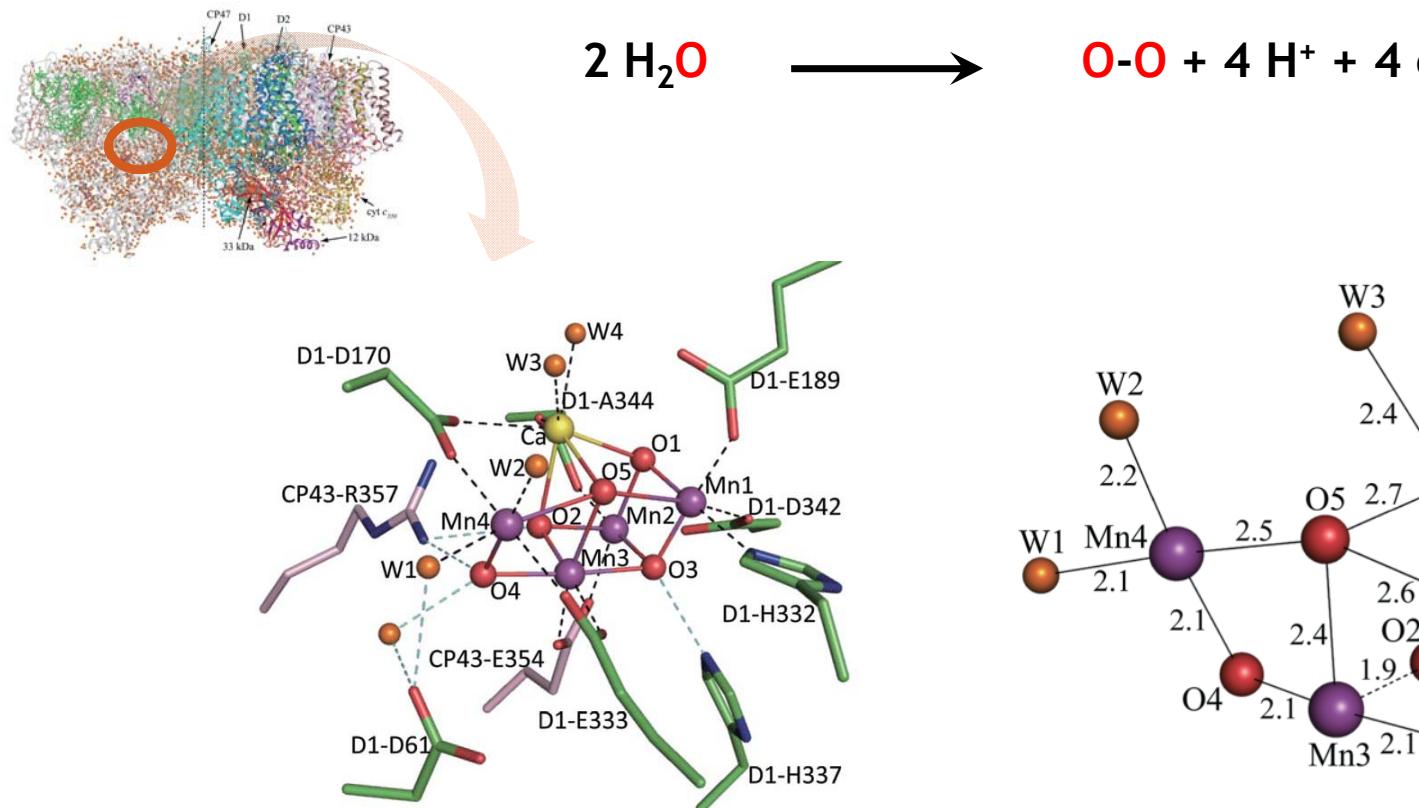
# INTRODUCTION - How Nature gets its energy ?



# INTRODUCTION - Can we get inspired by Nature ?



## INTRODUCTION - Oxygen evolving complex PSII



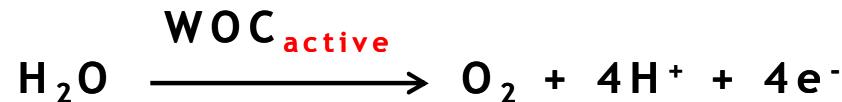
### Low MW Structural/Functional Models

Umena, Y.; Kawakami, K. et al. *Science*, 2011, 473, 55

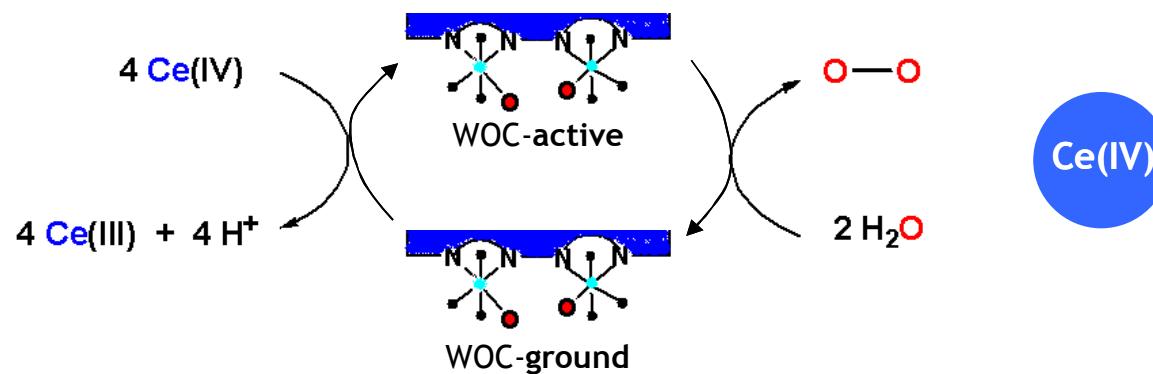
(i) Loll, B.; Kern, J.; Saenger, W.; Zouni, A.; Biesiadka, J. *Nature*, 2005, 438, 1040

Messinger, J.; Zouni, A.; Yachandra, V. K. et al. *Science*, 2006, 314, 821

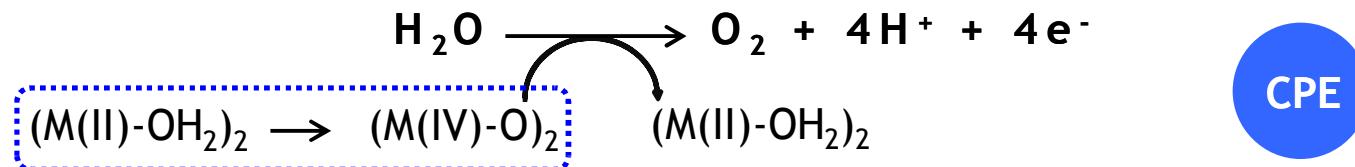
## INTRODUCTION - Oxidizing equivalents and $O_2$ measuring



- Chemical equivalents (preferably OSET)



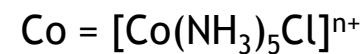
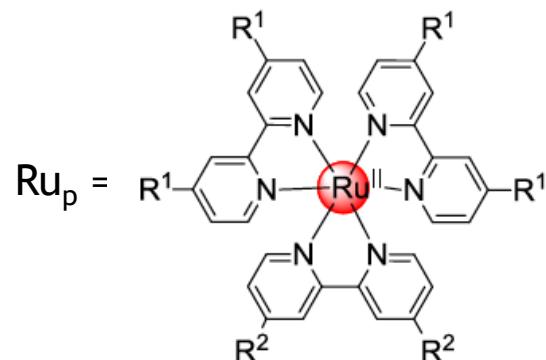
- Electrochemical equivalents (controlled potential electrolysis)



## *INTRODUCTION - Oxidizing equivalents and O<sub>2</sub> measuring*

- Photochemical equivalents (photosensitizers)

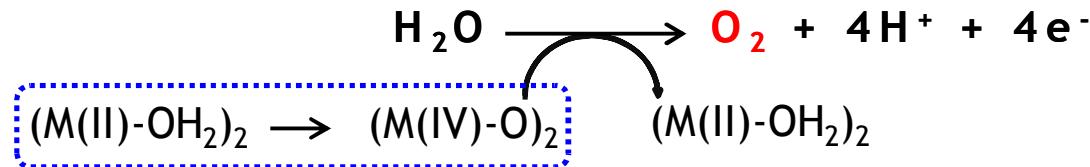
P\*



$\text{Ru}_c$  = WOC (reduced form)

$\text{Ru}_{AC}$  = WOC (active form)

# *INTRODUCTION - Oxidizing equivalents and O<sub>2</sub> measuring*



*Differential pressure manometry*



Total gas evolved

*On-line Mass spectrometry*



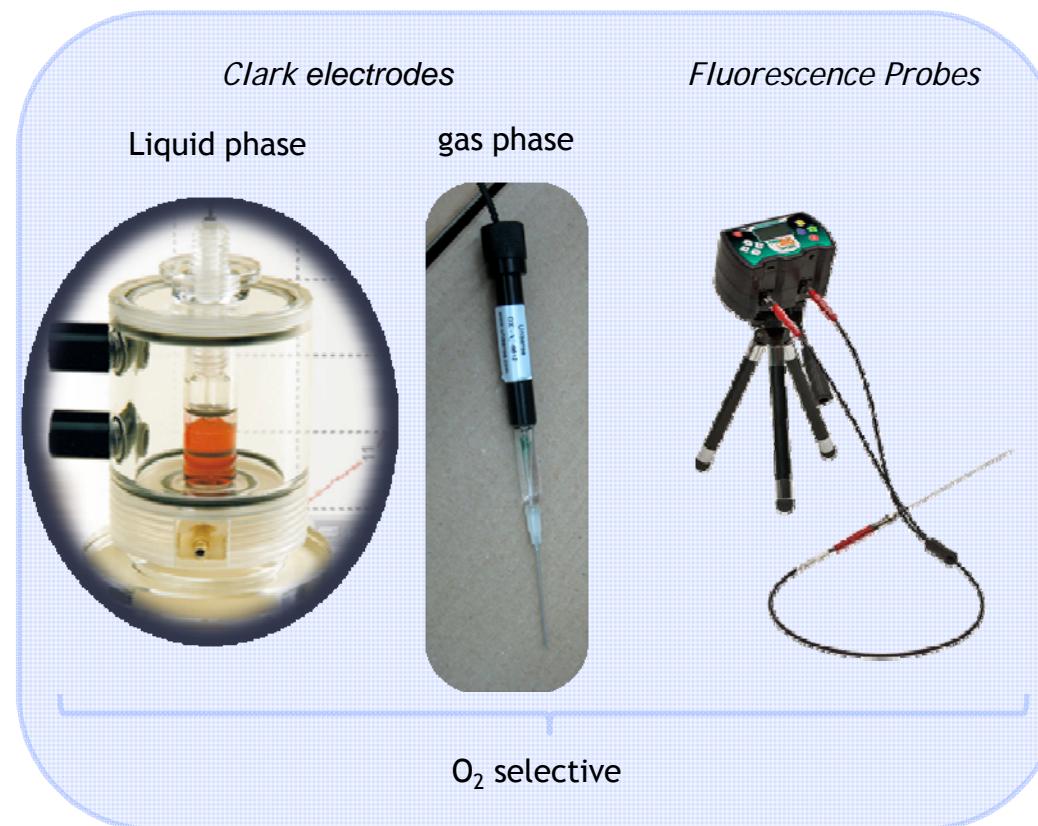
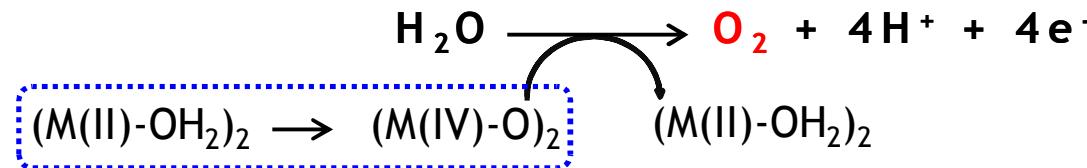
Gas composition

*Gas Chromatography*

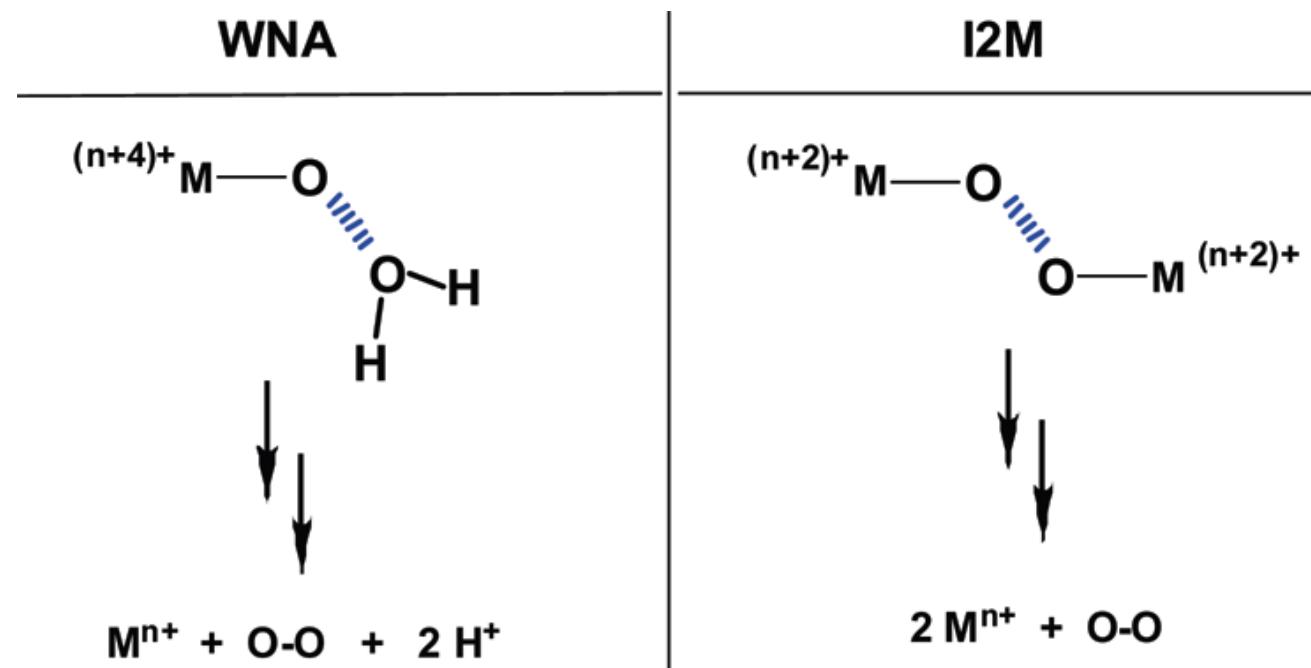


O<sub>2</sub> quantification

## *INTRODUCTION - Oxidizing equivalents and O<sub>2</sub> measuring*



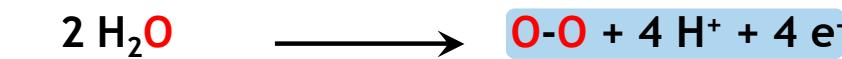
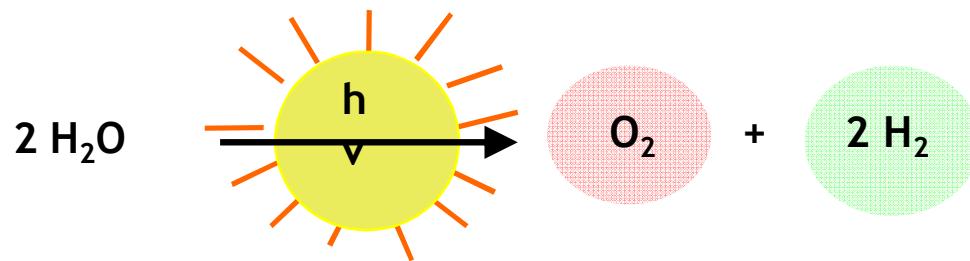
## INTRODUCTION - Common reaction mechanisms



## *OUTLINE*

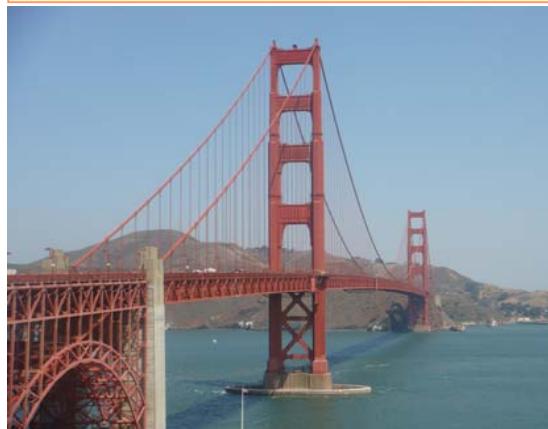
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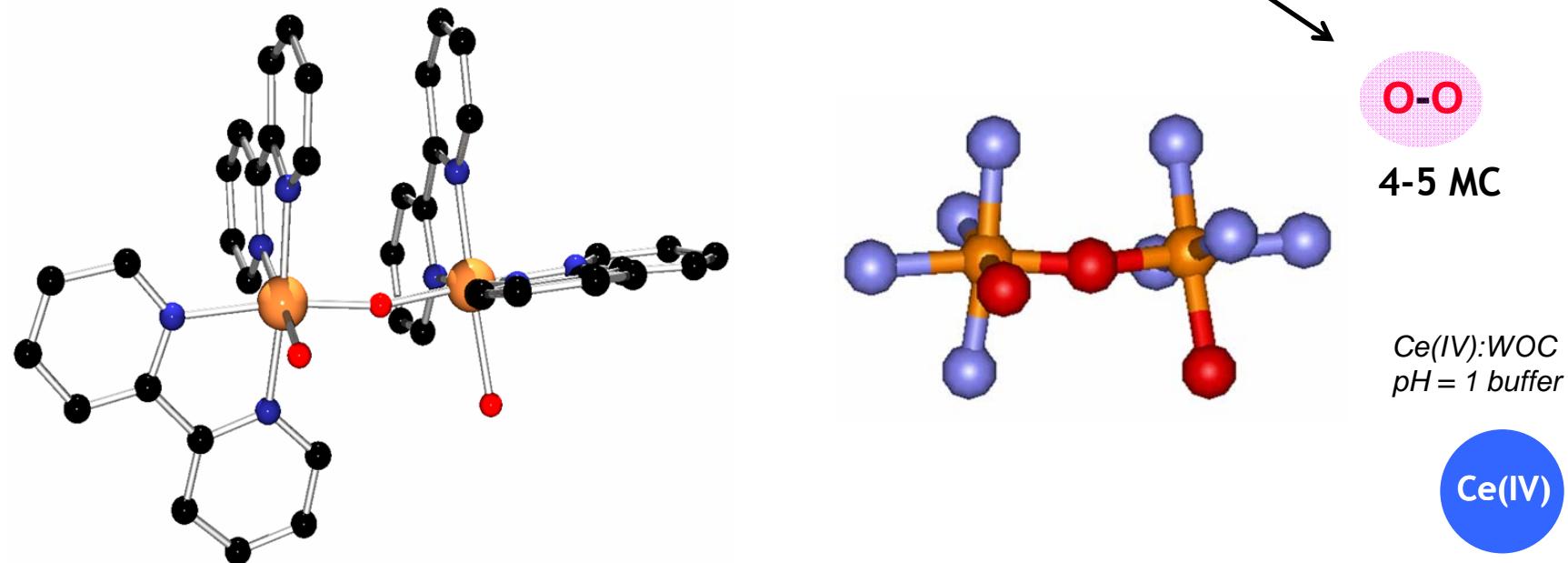
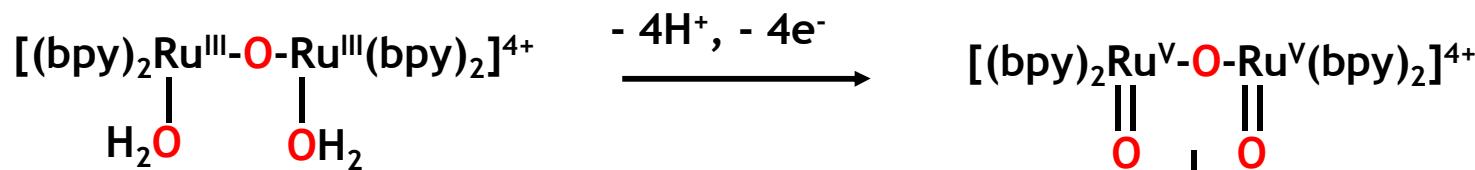


BL: Bridging Ligand



Electronic Coupling between Ru  
Interactions Through Space

## Ru-BASED WOCs: the Blue Dimer



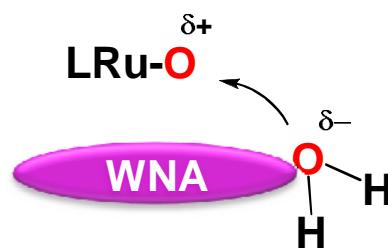
Gestern, S. W.; Samuels, G. J.; Meyer, T. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1982**, *104*, 4029

Gilbert, J. A.; Eggleston, D. S.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1985**, *107*, 3855

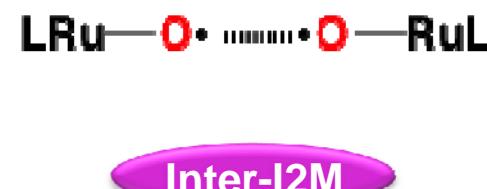


### O-O Coupling Pathways

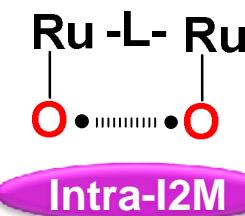
Water Nucleophilic Attack



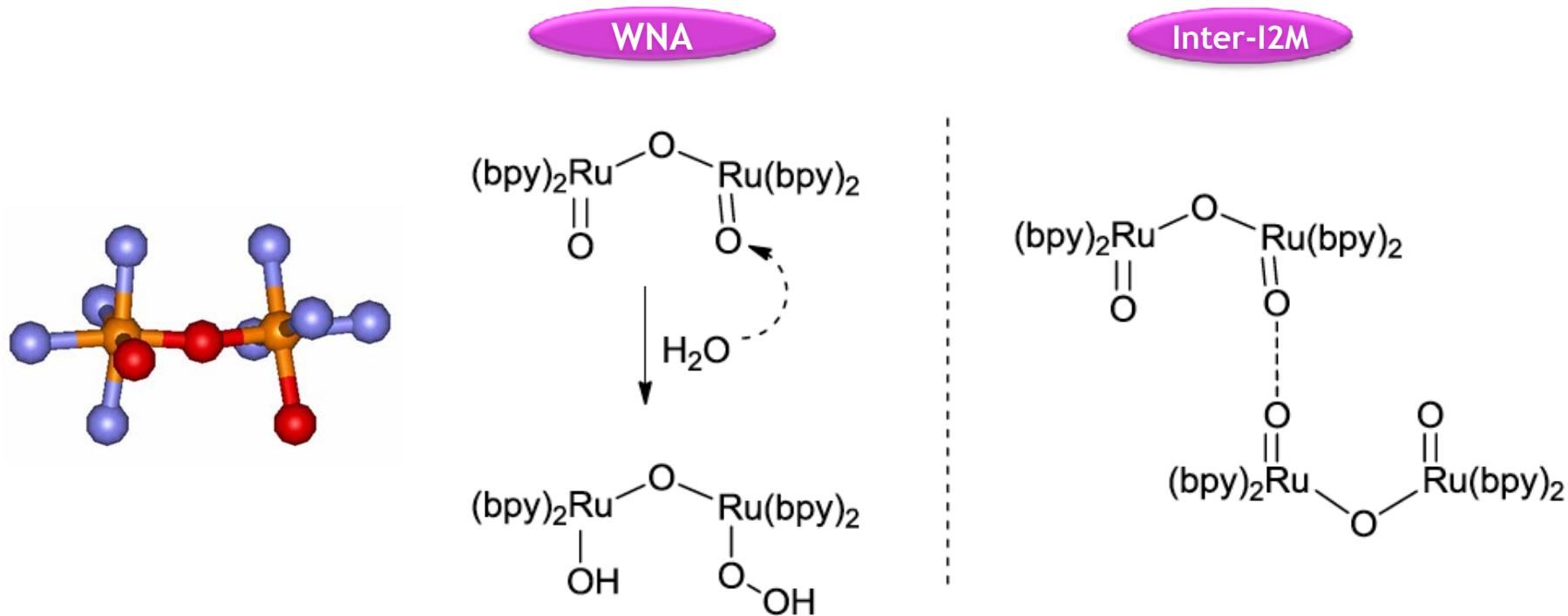
Intermolecular O-O Coupling



Intramolecular O-O Coupling

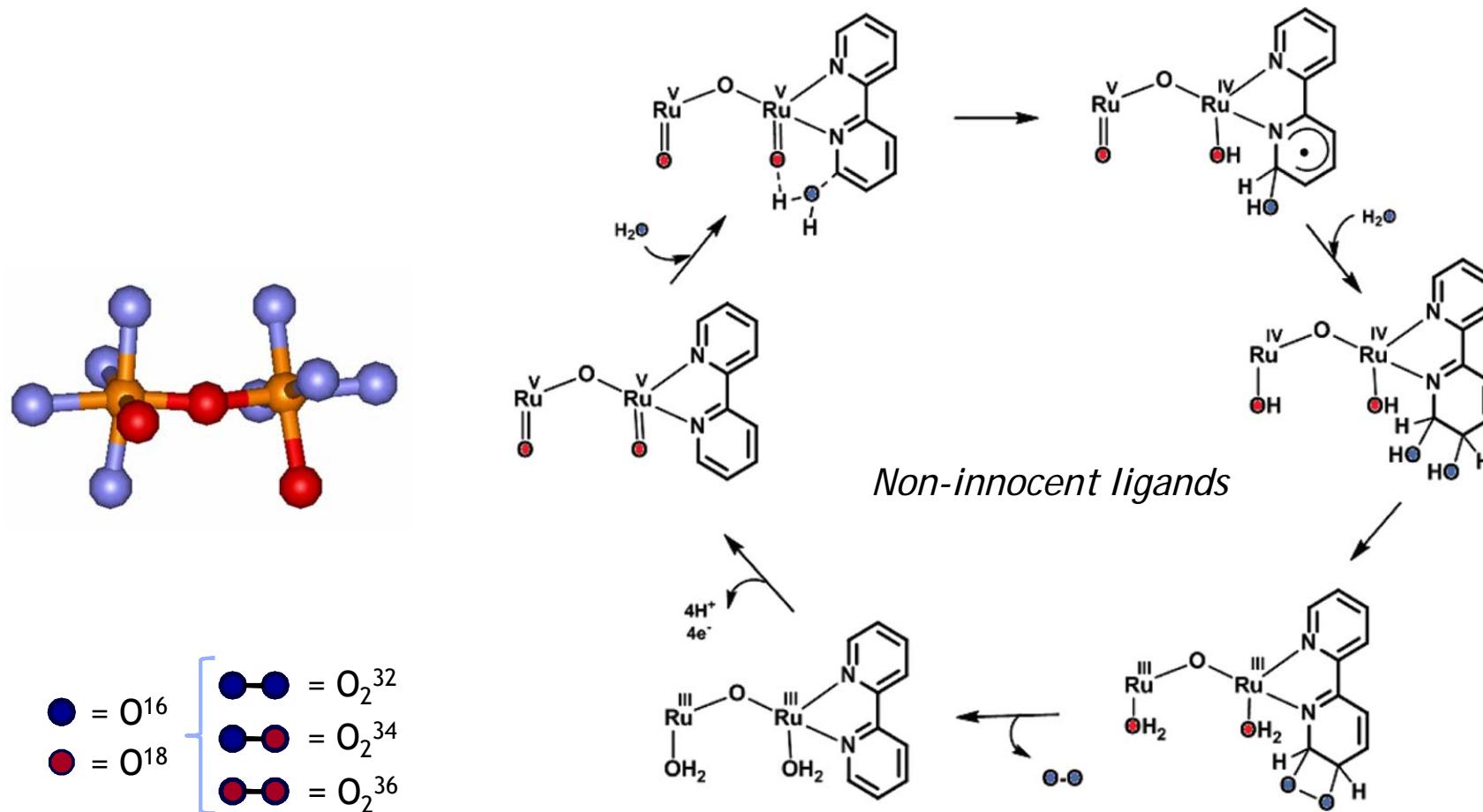


## Ru-BASED WOCs: O-O bond formation in the Blue Dimer

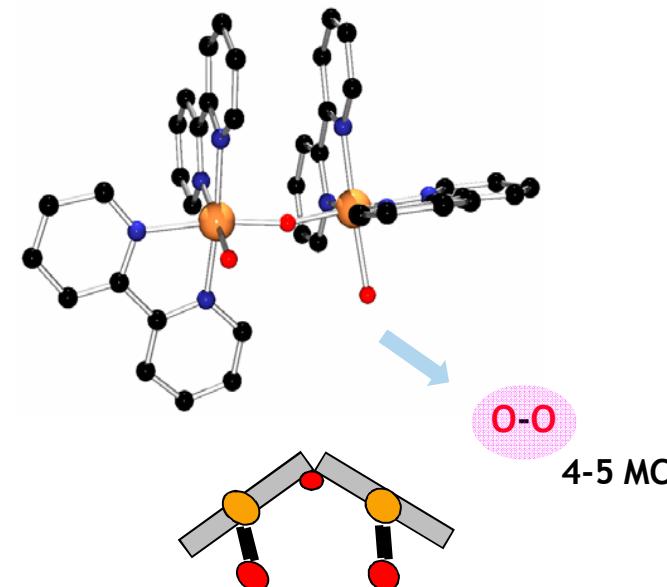
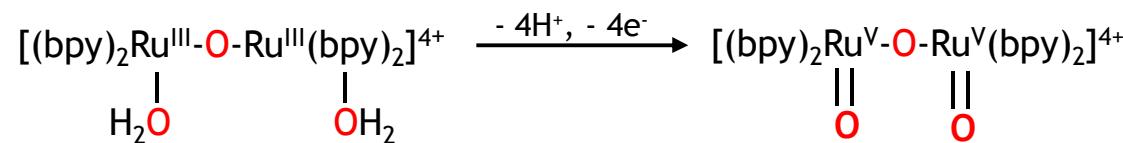


Binstead, R. A.; Chronister, C. W.; Meyer, T. J., et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2000, 122, 8464  
Yamada, H.; Siems, W. F.; Koike, T.; Hurst, J. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, 126, 9786

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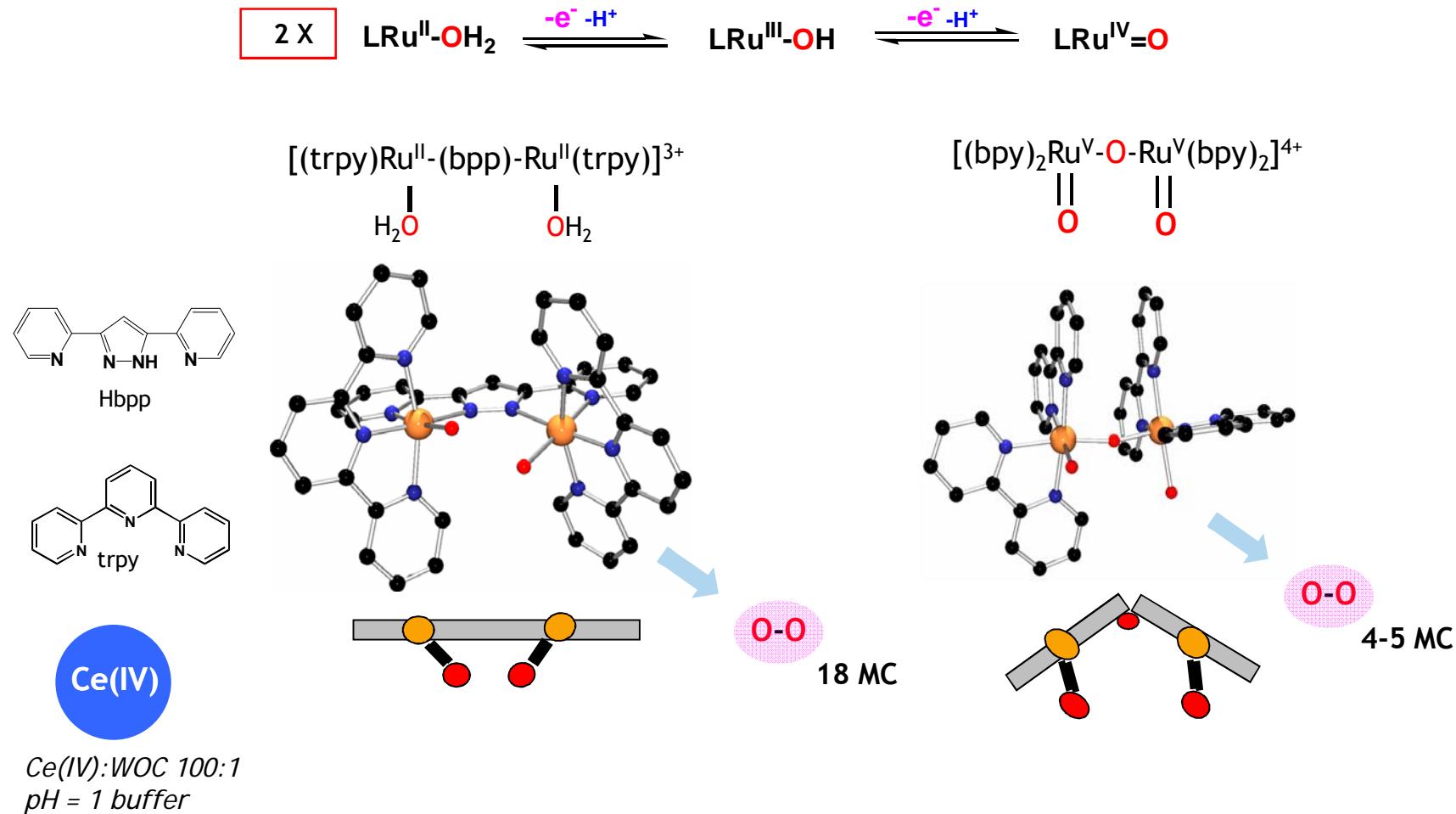


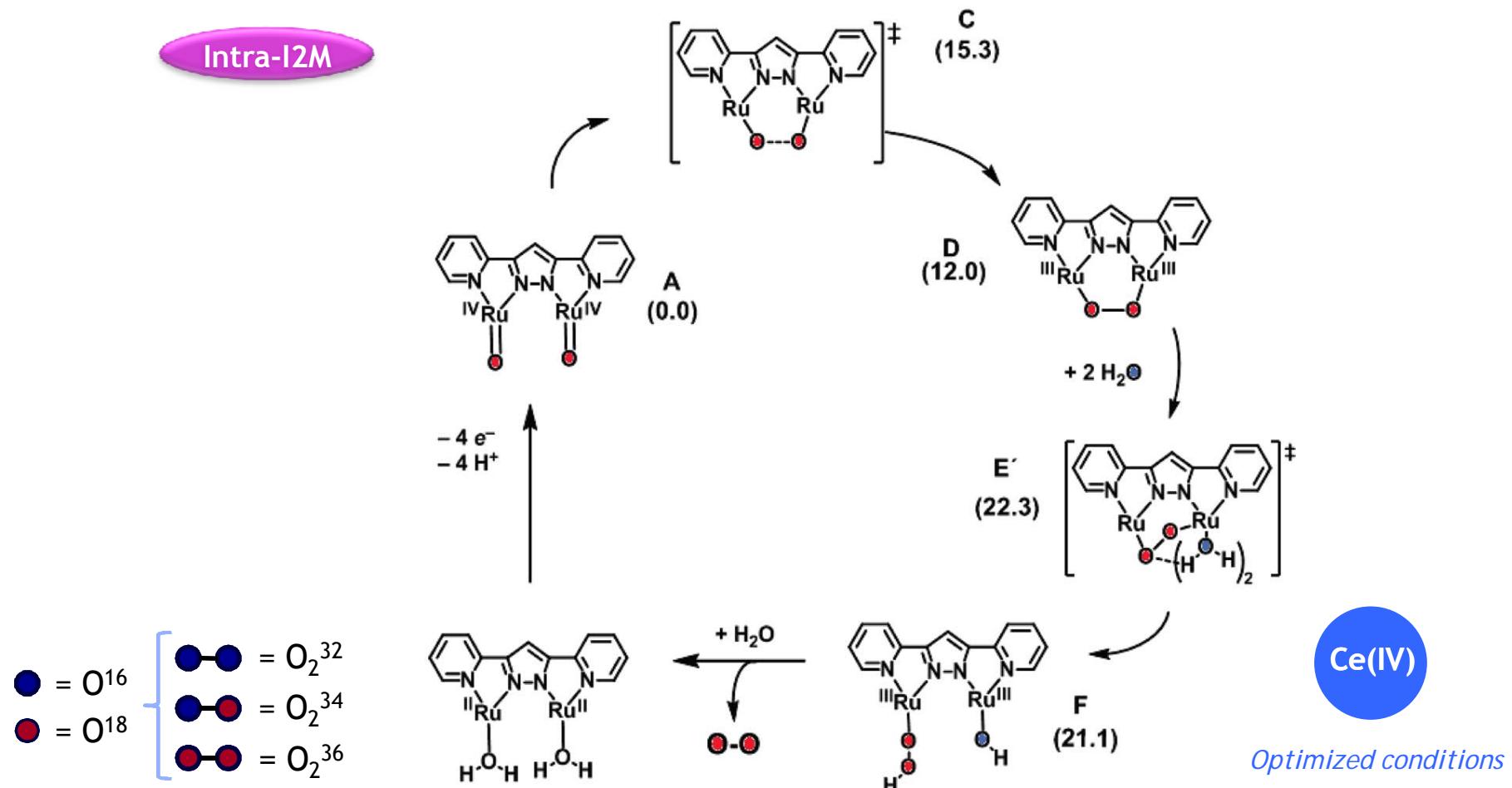
## Ru-BASED WOCs: the Blue Dimer vs. Hbpp complexes



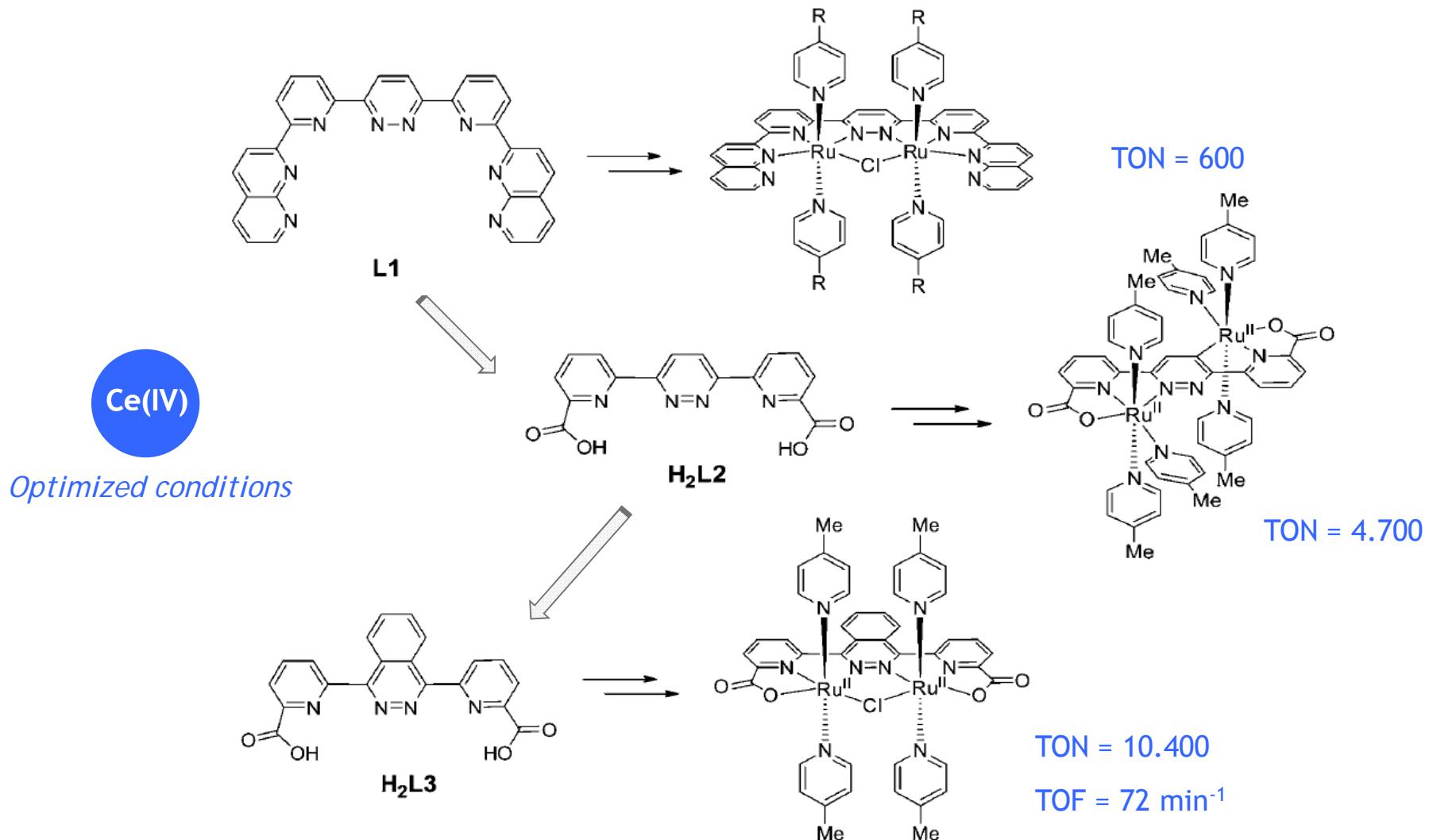
Ce(IV):WOC 100:1  
pH = 1 buffer

## Ru-BASED WOCs: the Blue Dimer vs. Hbpp complexes





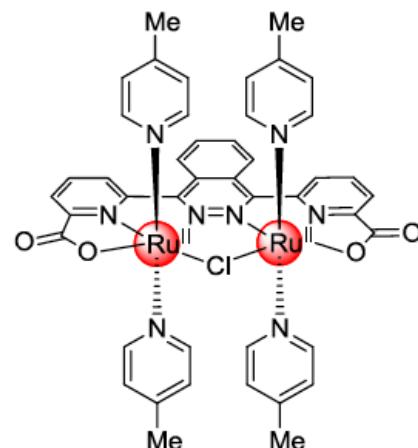
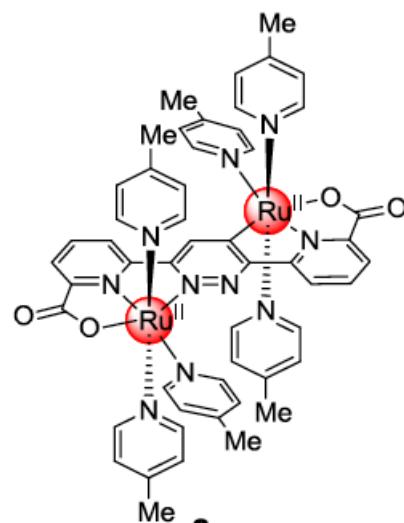
## Ru-BASED WOCs: other key dinuclear systems



■ Deng, G.; Thummel, R. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2008**, *47*, 1835  
■ Xu, Y.; Akermark, B.; Sun, L. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2009**, *48*, 2717

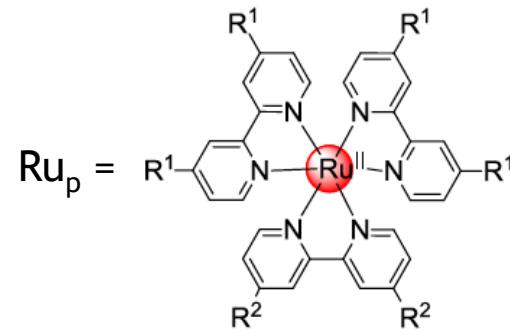
## Ru-BASED WOCs: other key dinuclear systems

P\*



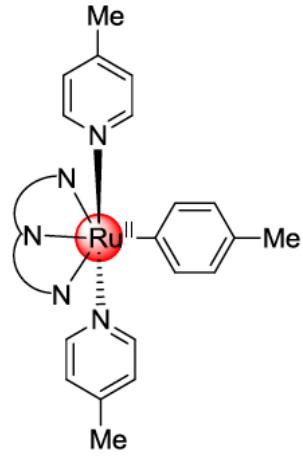
TON = 60  
TOF = 6 min<sup>-1</sup>

Co = [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>Cl]<sup>n+</sup>

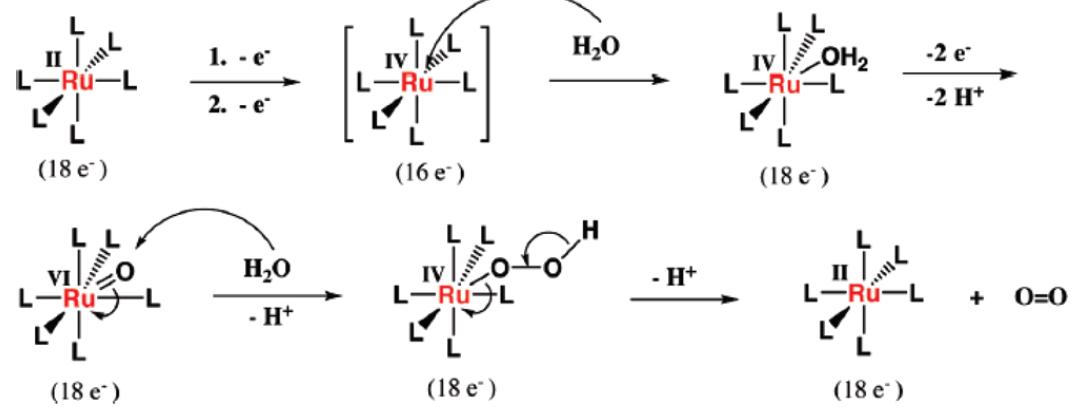


## Ru-BASED WOCs: mononuclear systems

Ce(IV)

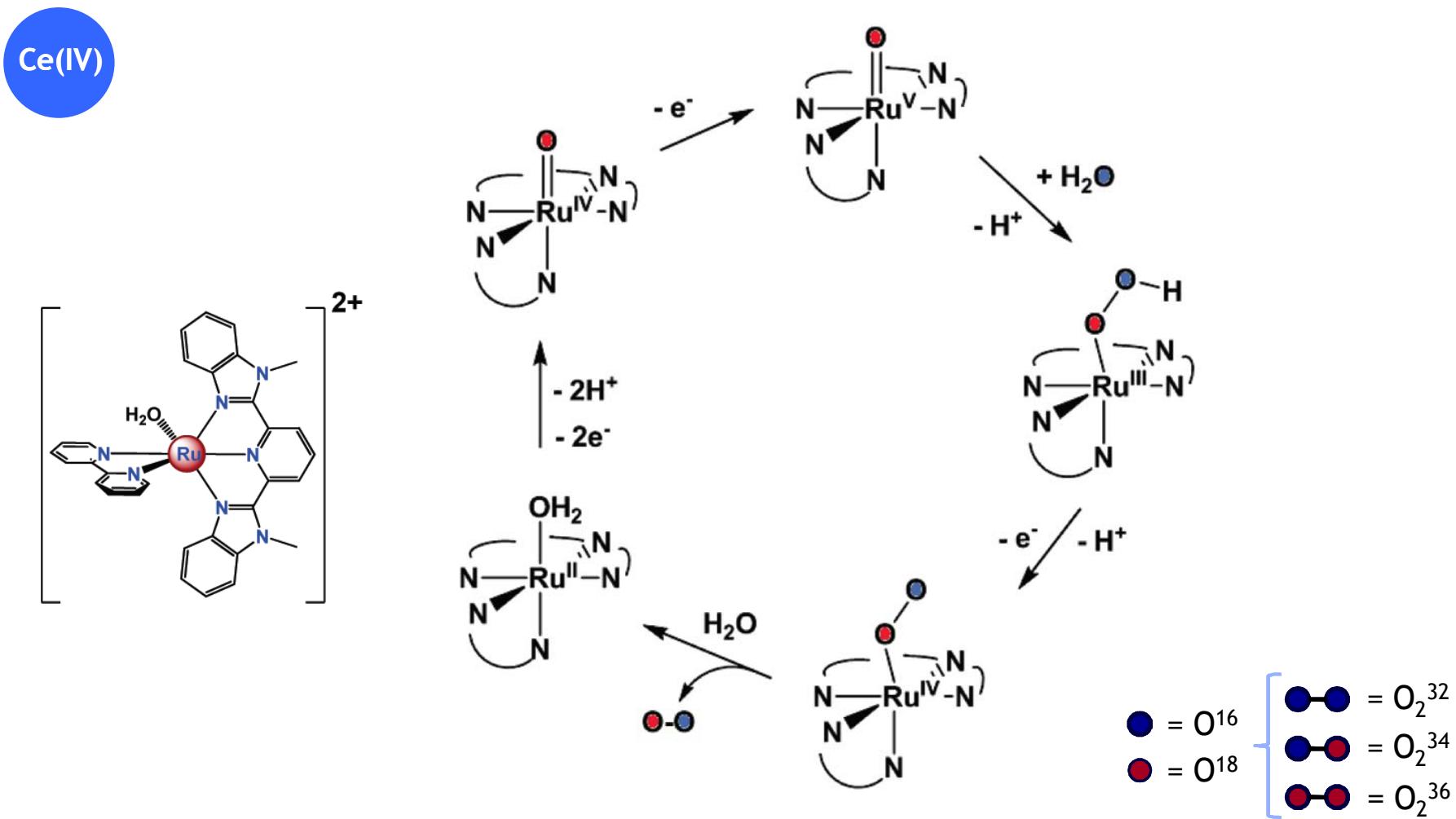


Ru(II)-N6



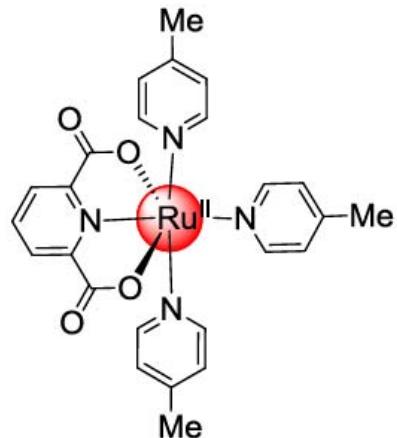
TON = 89 (22h)

## Ru-BASED WOCs: mononuclear systems



i Conception, J. J.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2008, 130, 16462  
 Conception, J. J.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2010, 132, 1545

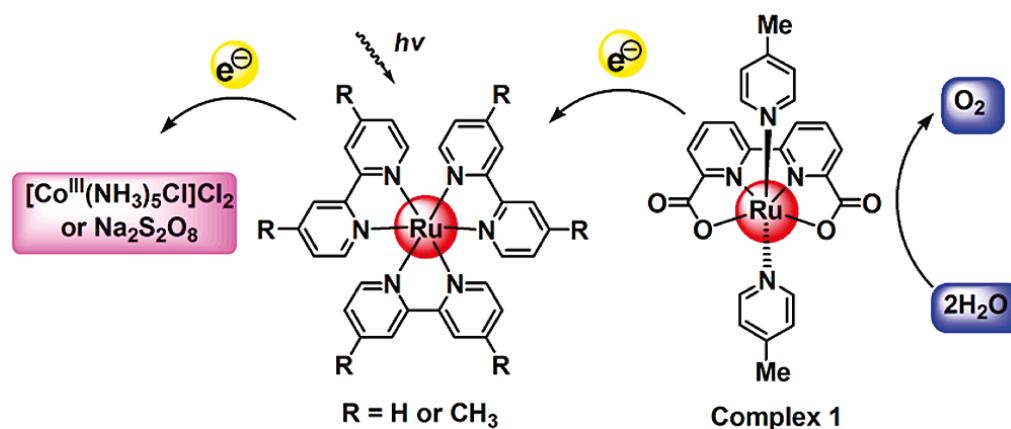
## Ru-BASED WOCs: mononuclear systems



Ce(IV)

TON = 2000

TOF 2500 min<sup>-1</sup>



P\*

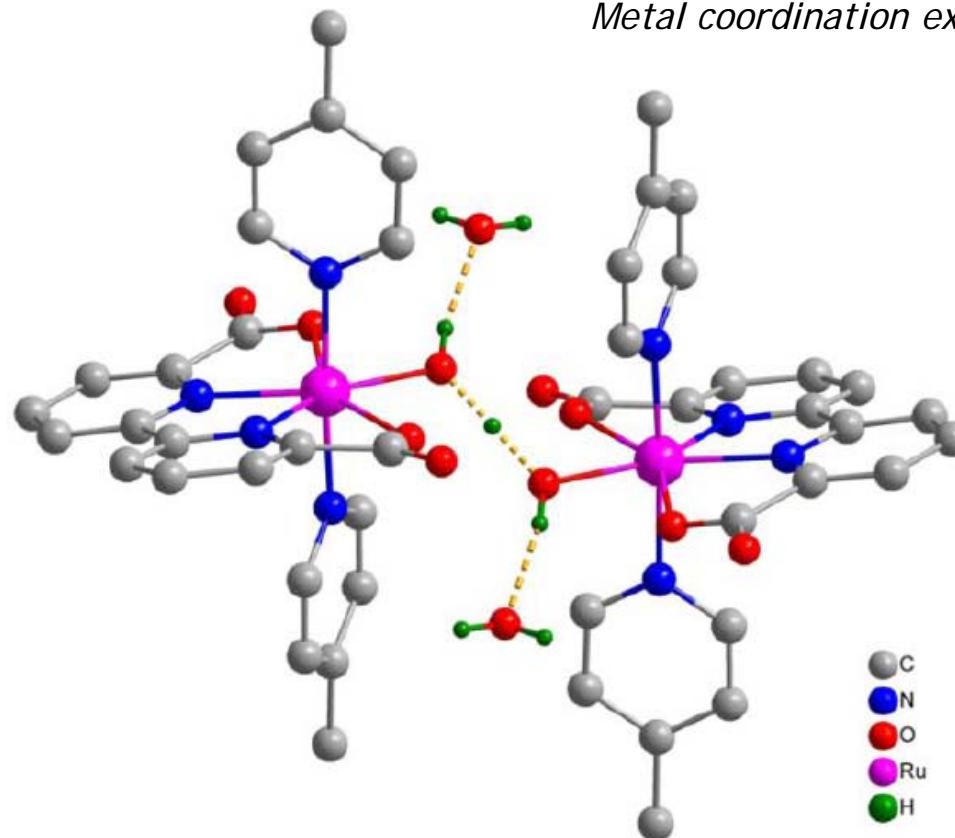
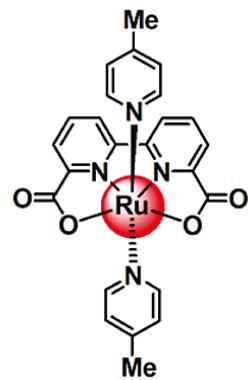
TON = 100

TOF 3.7 min<sup>-1</sup>

i

Duan, L.; Sun, L. et al. Chem. Eur. J. 2010, 16, 4659

Duan, L.; Sun, L. et al. Inorg. Chem. 2010, 49, 209



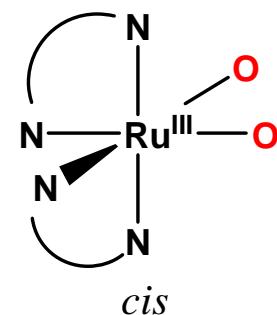
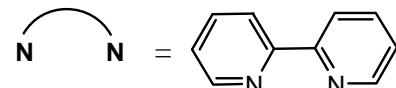
*Metal coordination expansion to 7*



Duan, L.; Sun, L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 10397.

Nyhlén, J.; Åkermark, B.; Sun, L. Privalov, T. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 1773

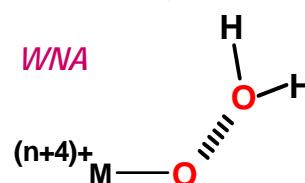
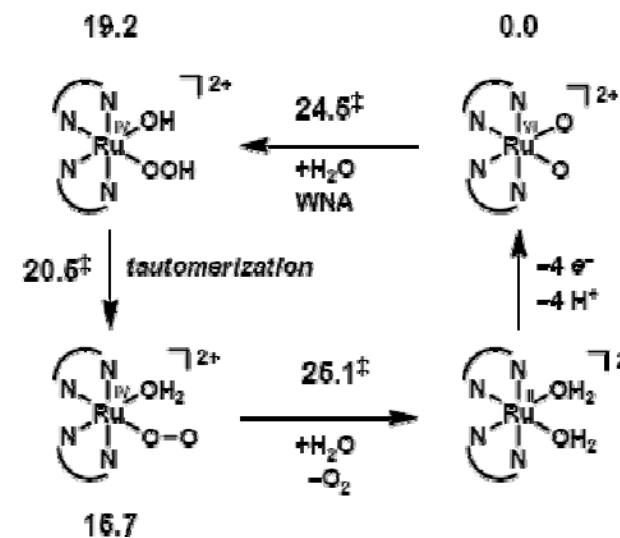
Ce(IV)



TON = 6

TOF = 1.2 min<sup>-1</sup>

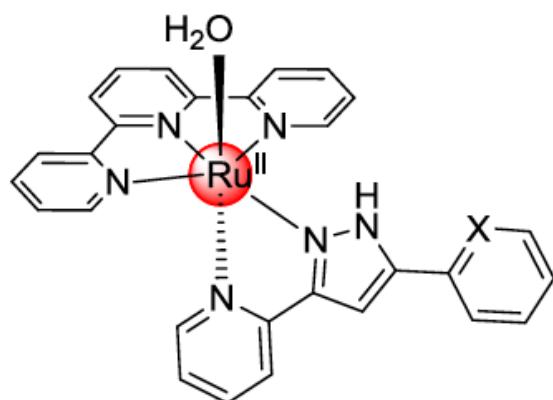
$\text{O}_2$  labelling +



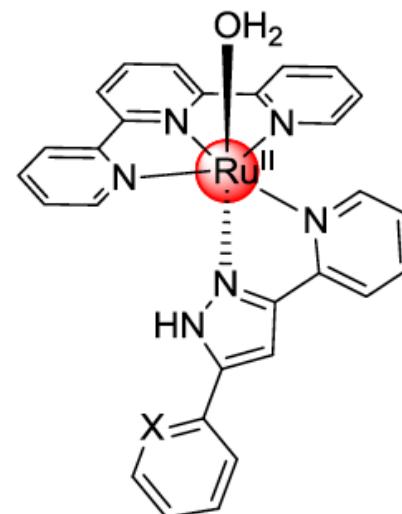
Ce(IV)

CPE

P\*



*In*-Hppp, X = CH  
*In*-Hbpp, X = N



*Out*-Hppp, X = CH  
*Out*-Hbpp, X = N

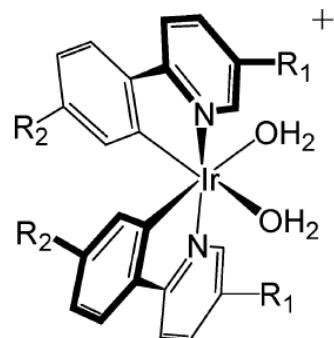


## *OUTLINE*

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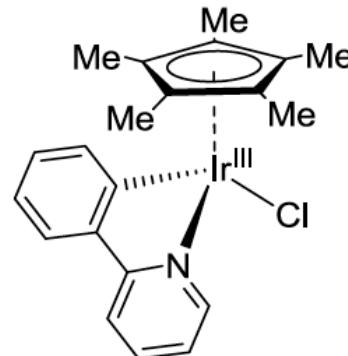
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## Iridium WOCs: active and robust



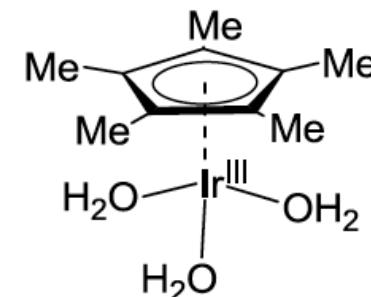
TON = 2760 ( $\approx$  one week)  
TOF = 0.27 min<sup>-1</sup>

Bernhard, S. et al. *ACIE* 2008, 130, 210.



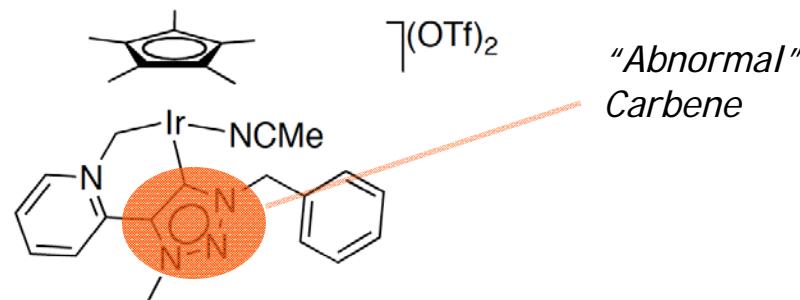
TON = > 1500 (5.5h)  
TOF = 54 (init.) to 0.1 min<sup>-1</sup>

Crabtree, J.; Brudvig, G. W. et al. *JACS* 2009, 131, 8730  
and *JACS* 2010, 132, 16017.



TON = > 1500 (5.5h)  
TOF = 0.1 min<sup>-1</sup>

Ce(IV)



TON = 10.000 (5 days)  
TOF = 1.39 min<sup>-1</sup>

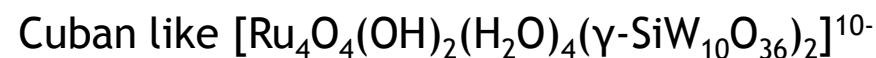
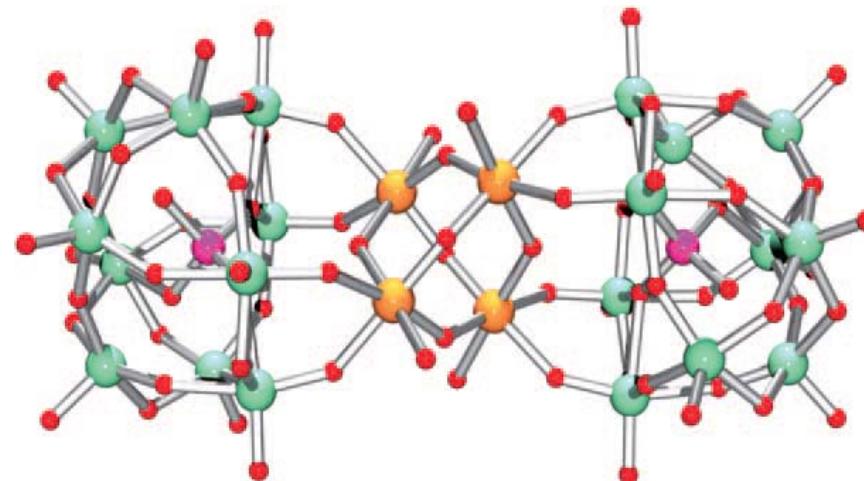
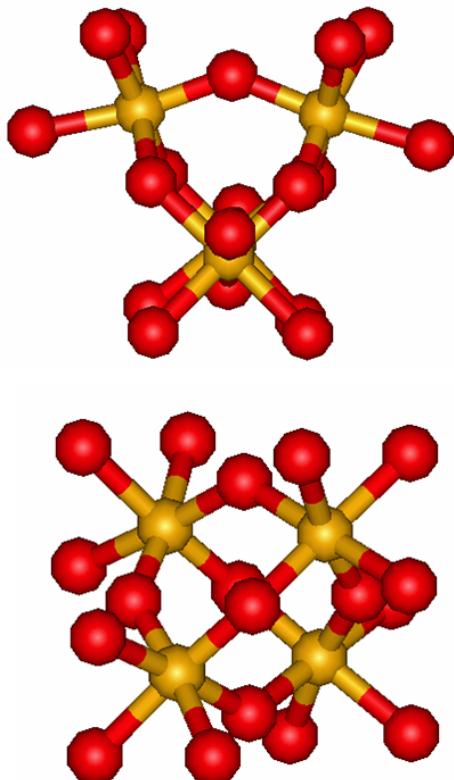
Albrecht, M. et al. *ACIE* 2011, 4, 238.

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## All-inorganic POM WOCs: ruthenium



TON = highly stable, no deactivation

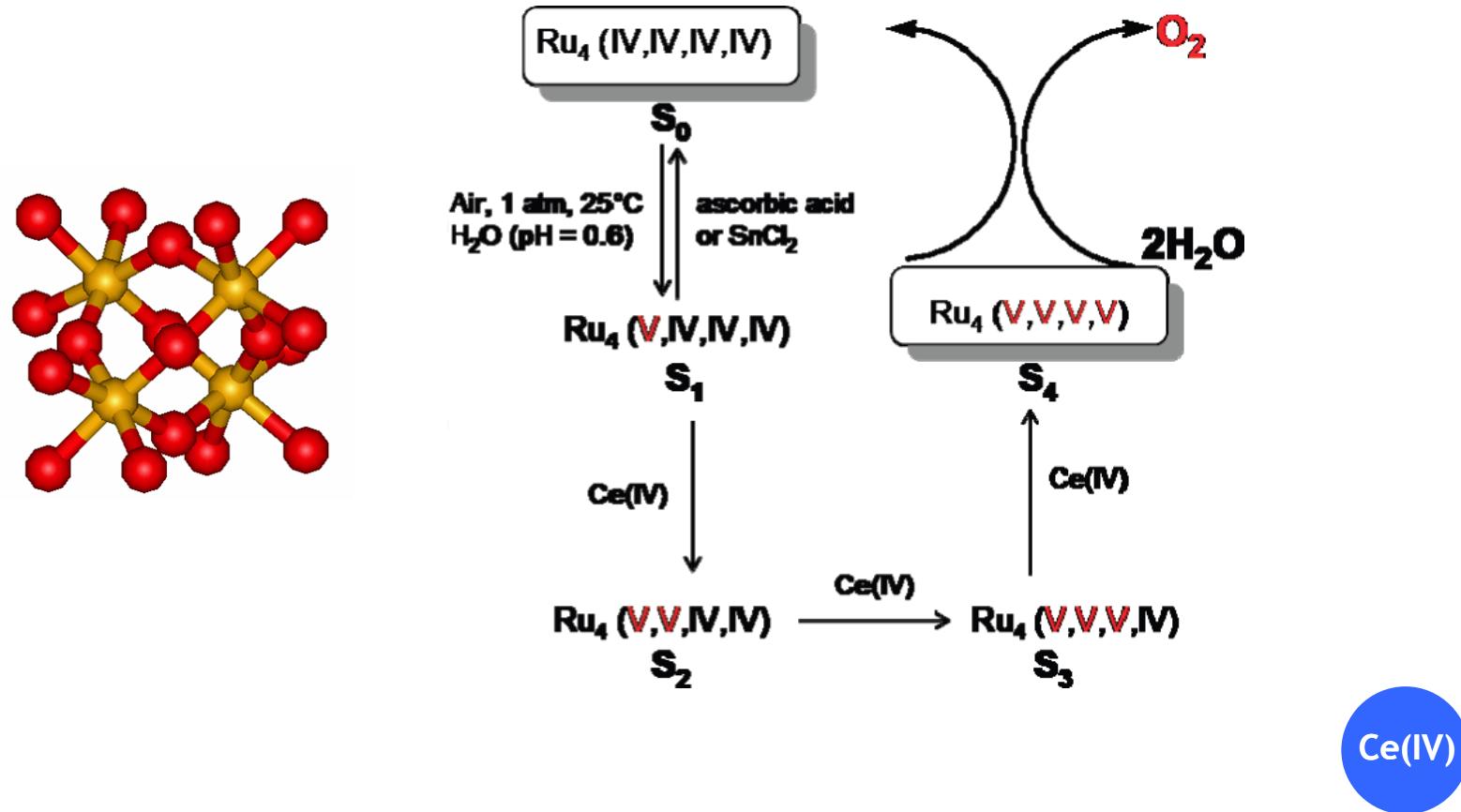
TOF =  $7.5 \text{ min}^{-1}$

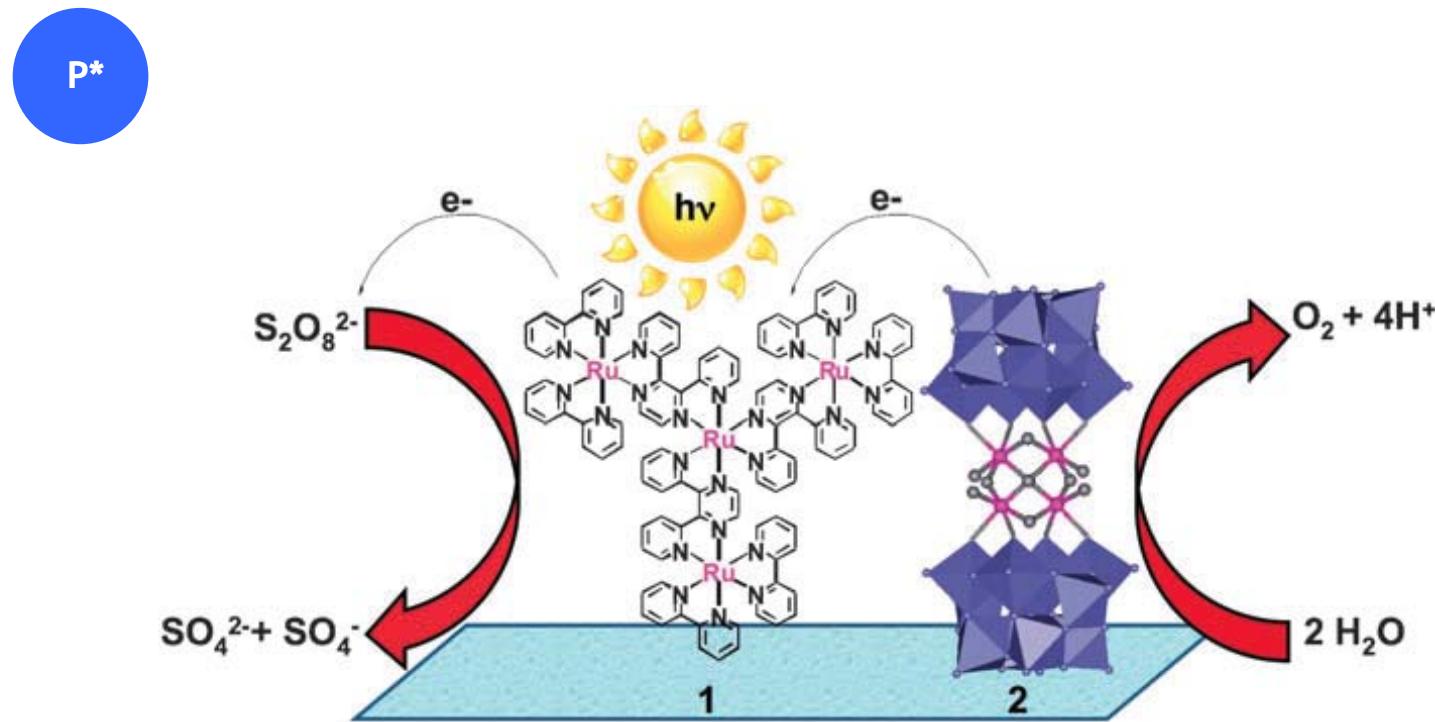
Ce(IV)



Sartorel, A.; Bonchio, M. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 5006.  
Geletii, Y. V.; Hill, C. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 3896

## All-inorganic POM WOCs: ruthenium



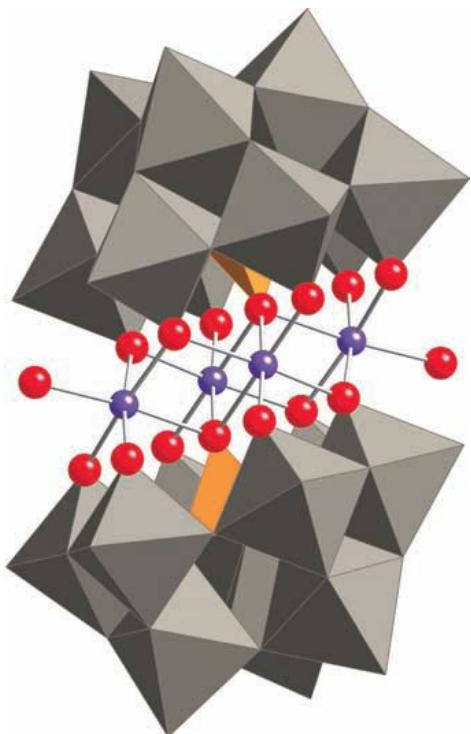


$P^*$  collects a broad range of the EM spectra

Fast Hole Scavenging of the Ru-POM

$$\phi = 0.3$$

## All-inorganic POM WOCs: cobalt



Cuban like, B-type  $[\text{Co}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\alpha\text{-PW}_9\text{O}_{34})_2]^{10-}$



TON = very stable

TOF =  $\geq 300 \text{ min}^{-1}$  (init.)

TON and TOF highly pH dependant



TON =  $\geq 220$

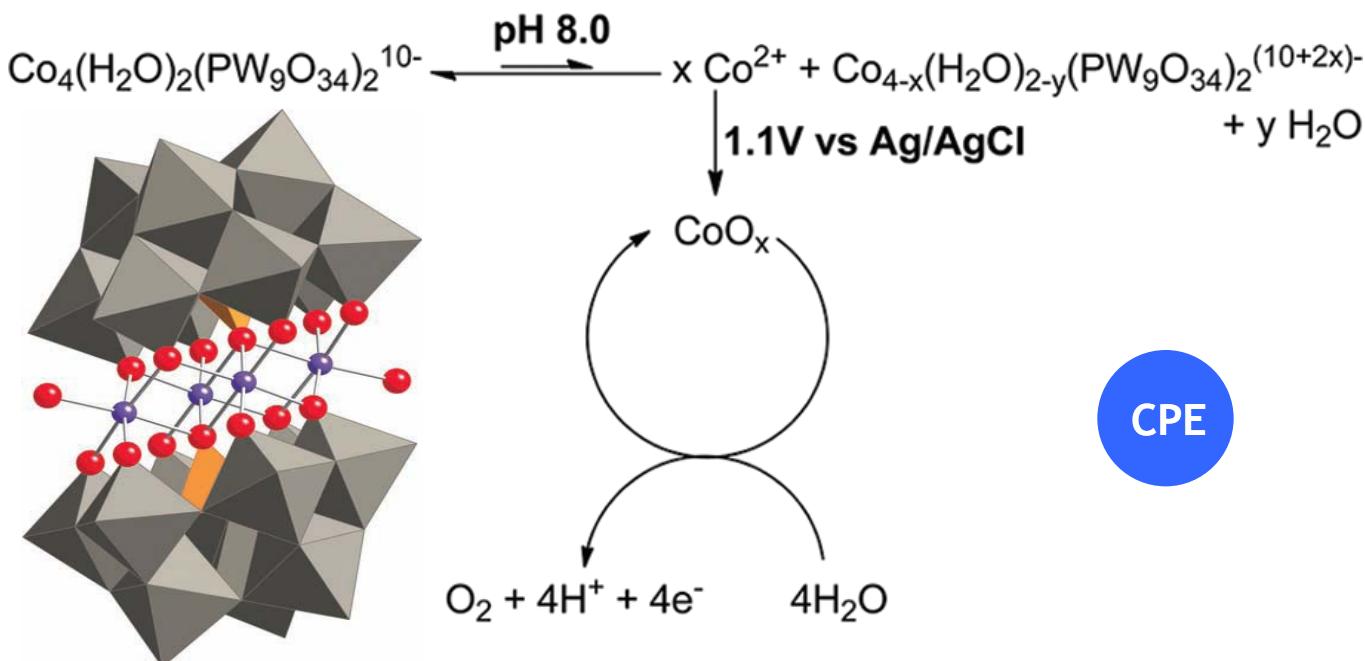
$\phi = 0.15$



Yin, Q.; Hill, C. et al. *Science* 2010, 328, 342

Huang, Z.; Hill, C.; Lian, T. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, 133, 2068

## All-inorganic POM WOCs: cobalt



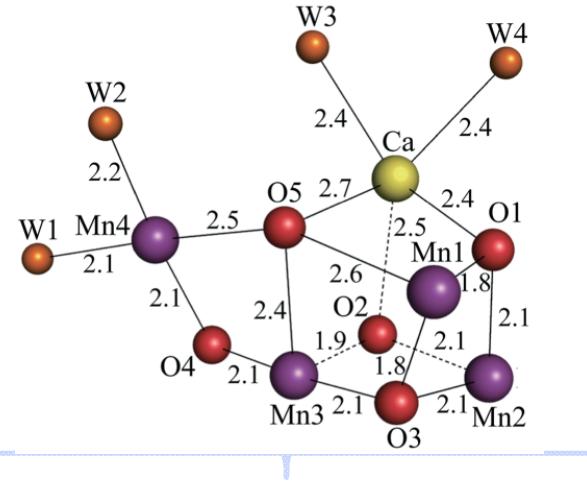
CPE

## *OUTLINE*

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1. INTRODUCTION
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6. Heterogeneous WOCs
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8. FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS

## First row transition-metal based WOCs: manganese



Crabtree and Brudvig et al.

TON = 4 (6h)

TOF = 0.01 min<sup>-1</sup>



Yagi, et al.

TON = 17 (6h)

TOF = 0.05 min<sup>-1</sup>



Yagi, et al.

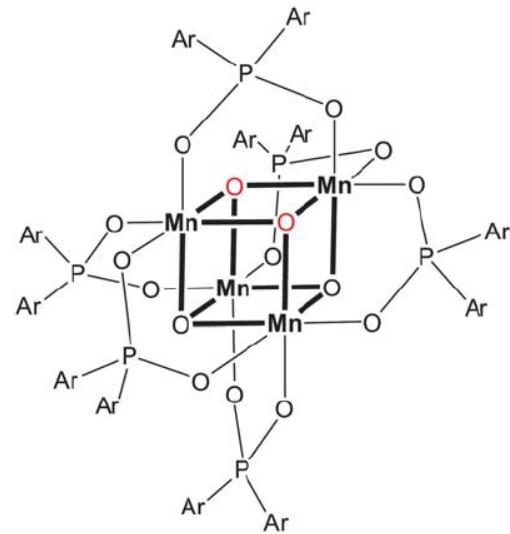
TON = 4 (17h)

TOF = 0.003 min<sup>-1</sup>



Limburg, J.; Crabtree, R. H.; Brudvig, G. W. et al. *Science* **1999**, 283, 1524  
Yagi, M. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 8084 and *Chem. Commun.* **2010**, 46, 8594

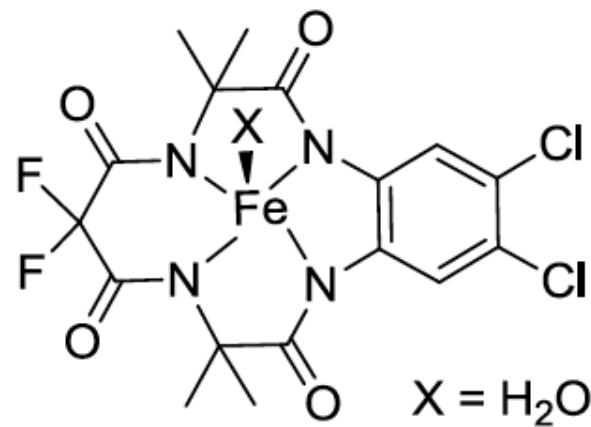
## *First row transition-metal based WOCs: manganese*



Dismukes, G. C.; Spiccia, L. et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2009**, 42, 1935.

Brimblecombe, R.; Dismukes, G. C.; Spiccia, L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, 132, 2802.

## *First row transition-metal based WOCs: iron*



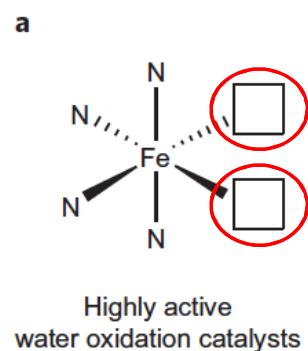
TON = 11

TOF = 78 min<sup>-1</sup>

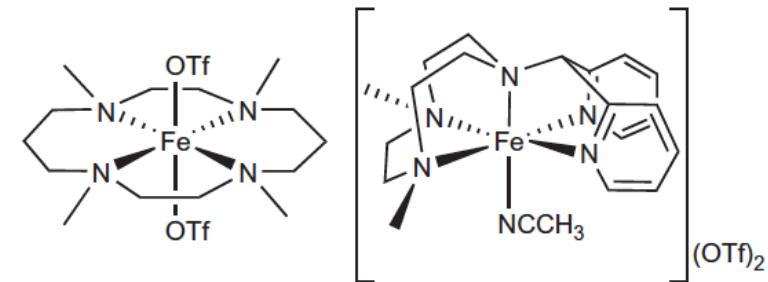
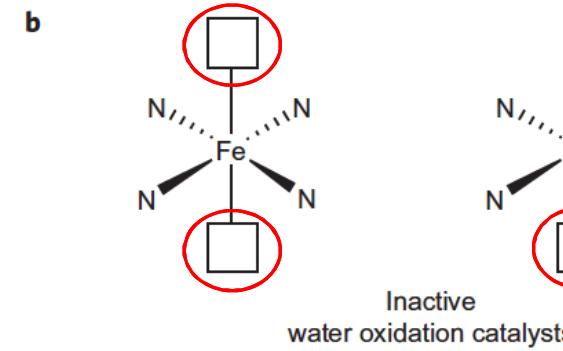
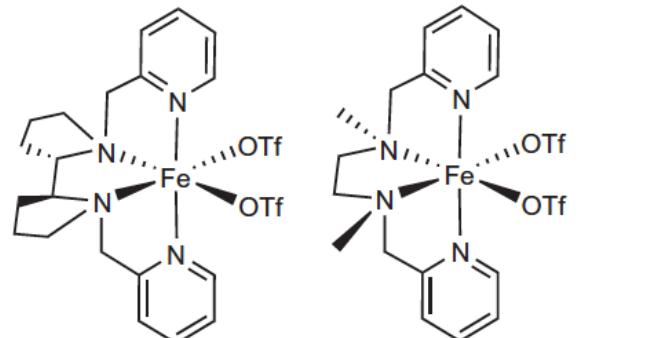
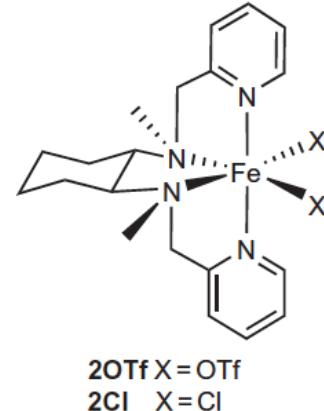
*Fast and Cheap*

Ce(IV)

## First row transition-metal based WOCs: iron

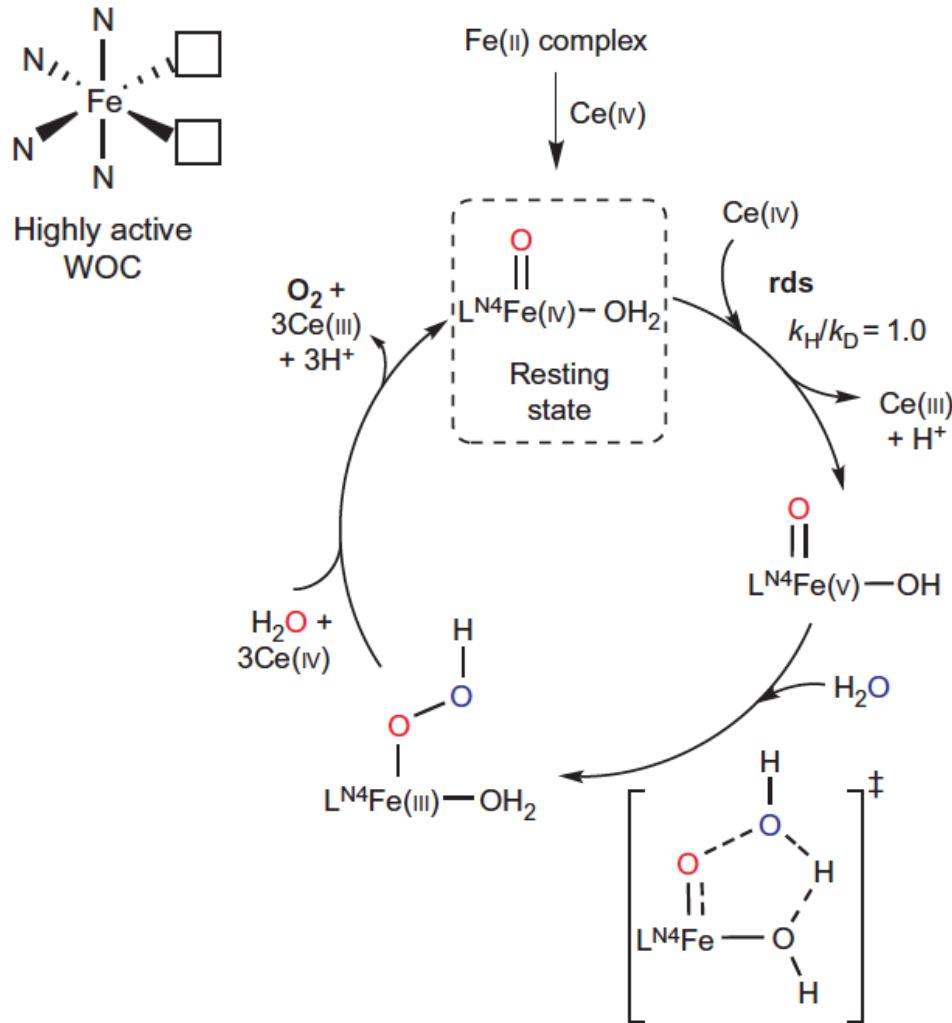


1Mn M=Mn  
1Fe M=Fe  
1Co M=Co  
1Ni M=Ni

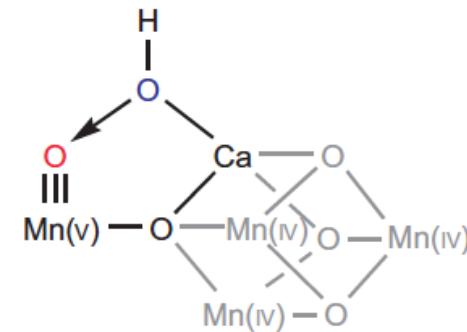


$\text{TON}_{\max} = \geq 1.050$   
 $\text{TOF}_{\max} = 3.7 \text{ min}^{-1}$

## First row transition-metal based WOCs: iron

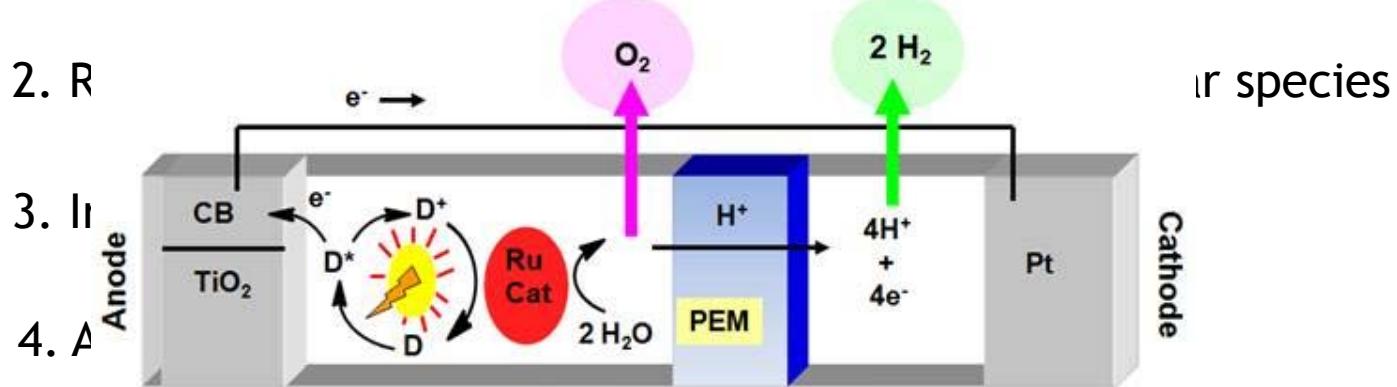


	Relative abundance (%)		
	$^{16}O_2$	$^{16}O^{18}O$	$^{18}O_2$
Observed	88.40	11.23	0.37
Theoretical	88.36	11.28	0.36



## OUTLINE

### 1. INTRODUCTION



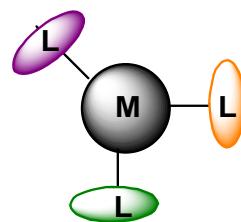
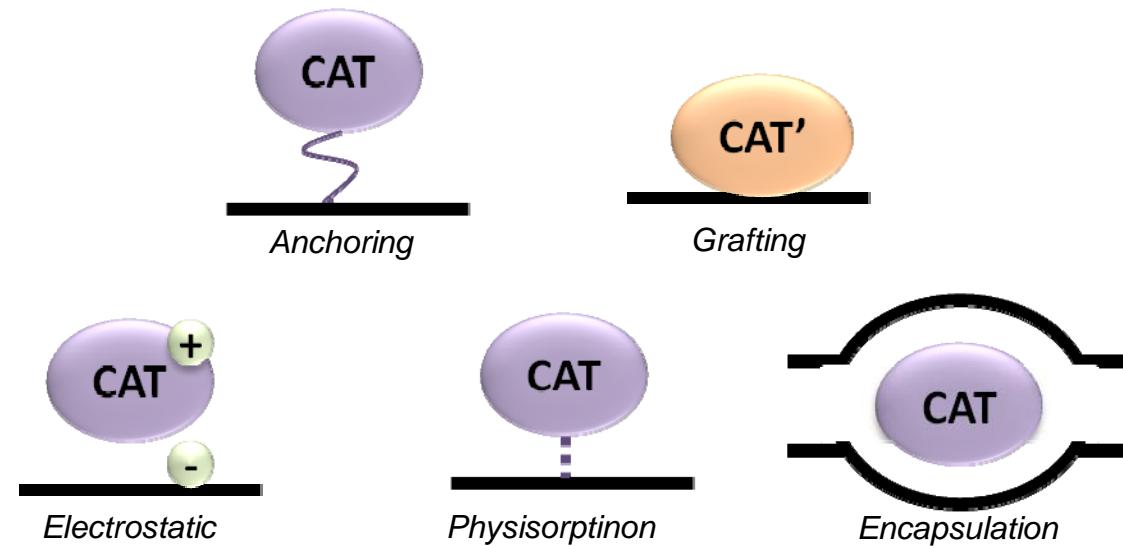
### 5. First-row transition-metal based WOCs

### 6. Heterogeneous WOCs

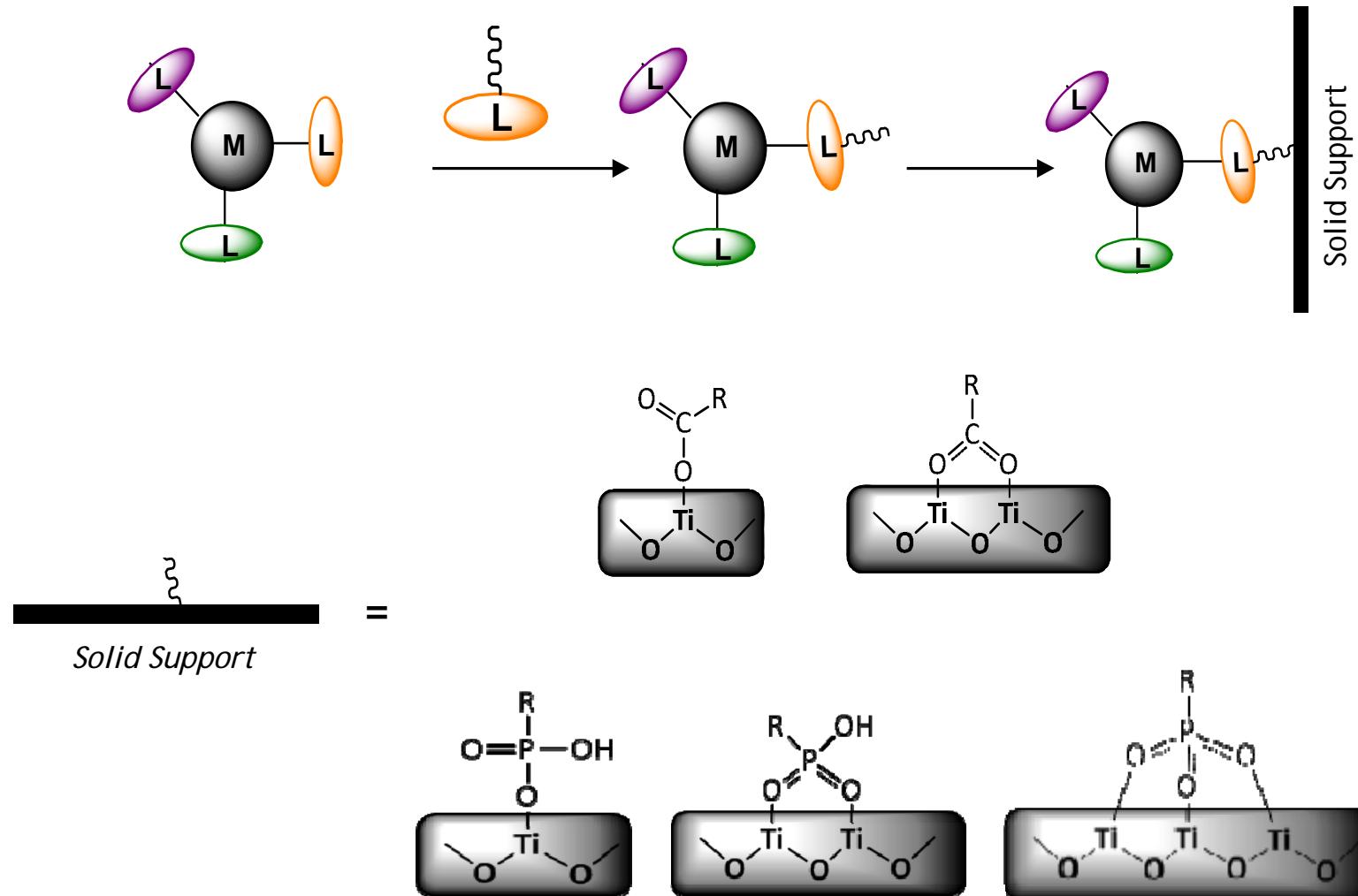
### 7. WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)

### 8. FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS

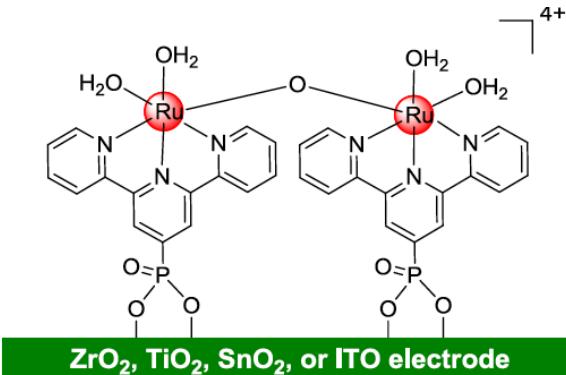
## Heterogeneous WOCs: covalent attachment



## Heterogeneous WOCs: covalent attachment

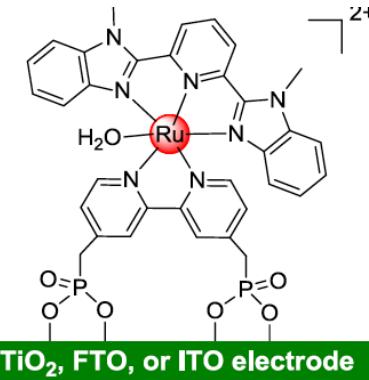


## Heterogeneous WOCs: covalent attachment



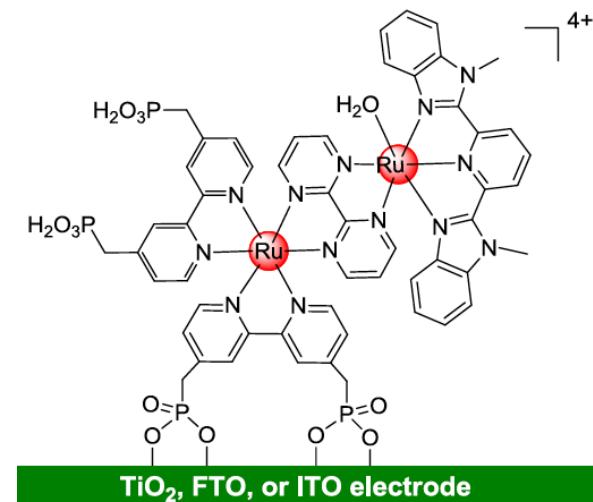
$\text{ZrO}_2$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{SnO}_2$ , or ITO electrode

Meyer, T. J. et al. *JACS* 2007, 129, 2446.



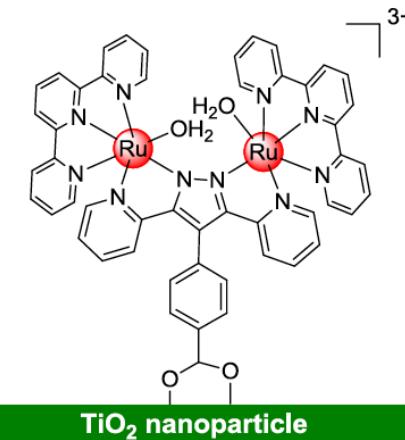
$\text{TiO}_2$ , FTO, or ITO electrode

Meyer, T. J. et al. *JACS* 2009, 131, 15580.



$\text{TiO}_2$ , FTO, or ITO electrode

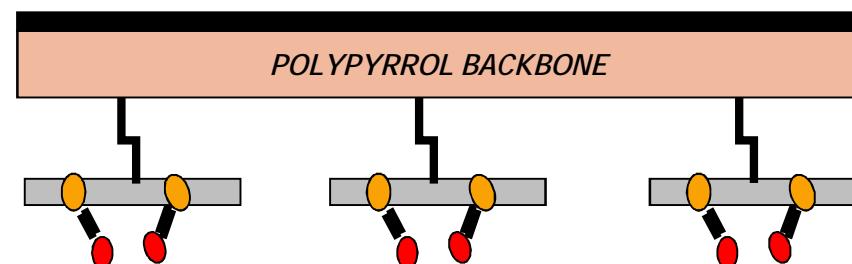
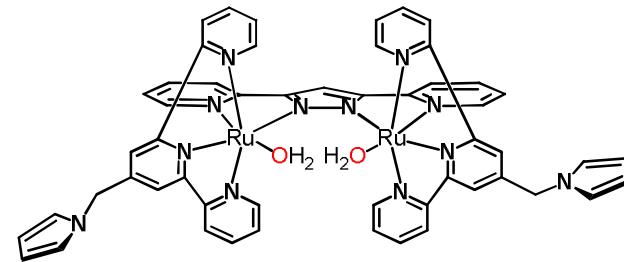
Meyer, T. J. et al. *ACIE* 2009, 48, 9473.



$\text{TiO}_2$  nanoparticle

Sala and Llobet et al. *ChemSusChem* 2009, 2, 321.

## Heterogeneous WOCs: electropolymerization

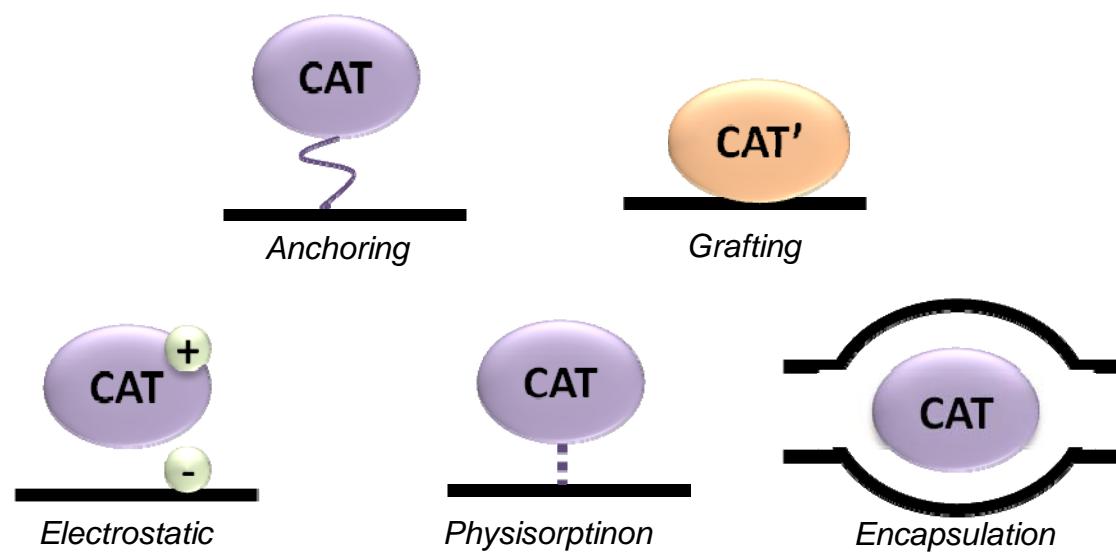


CPE

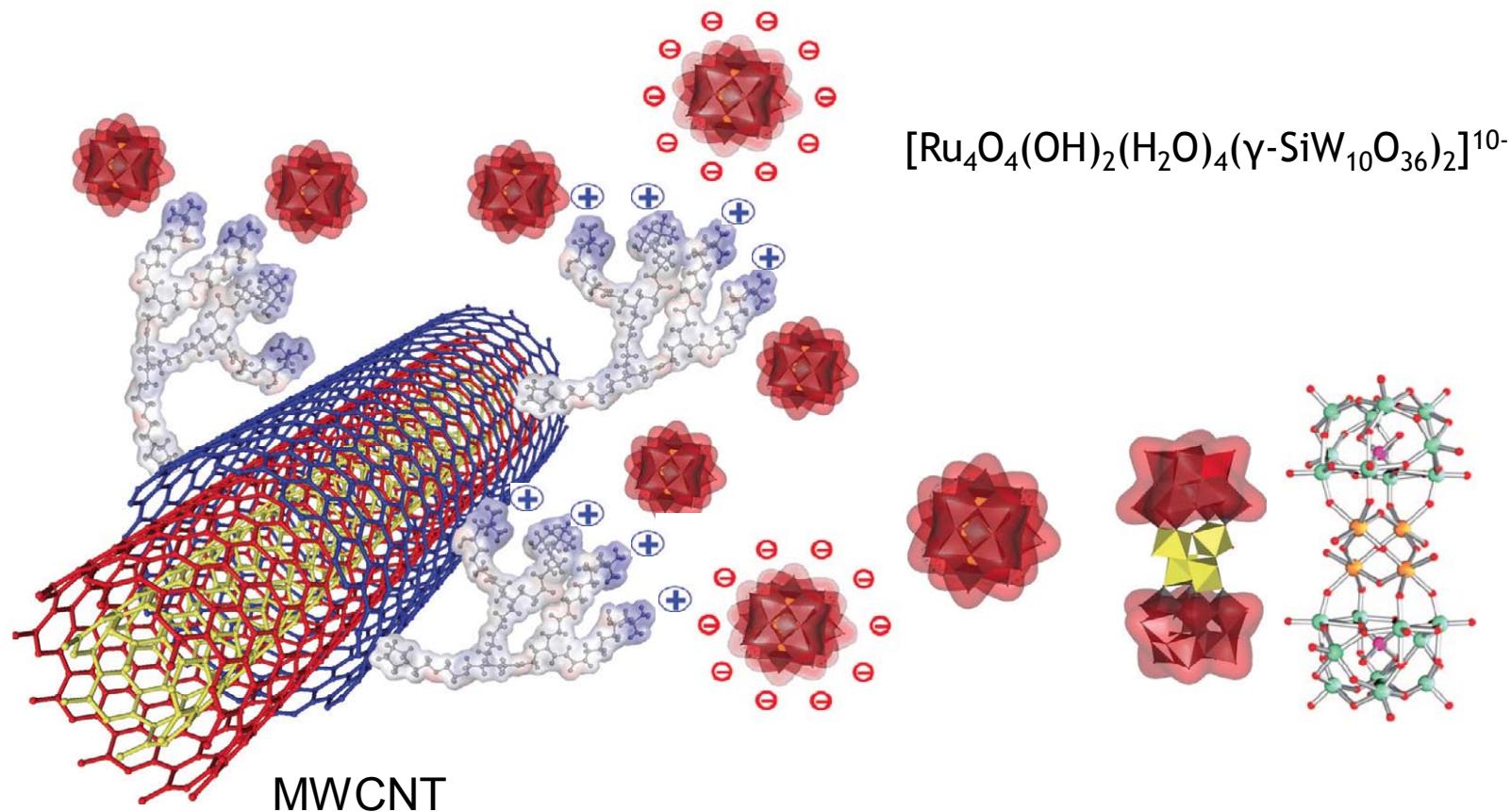
Ce(IV)

TON = 250 (18 in homog. Phase)  
TOF = 0.1 min<sup>-1</sup> (1 homog. Phase)

## Heterogeneous WOCs: electrostatic interaction



## Heterogeneous WOCs: electrostatic interaction



TOF = 0.6 min<sup>-1</sup> (1.17 V vs. NHE)  
5.1 min<sup>-1</sup> (1.42 V vs. NHE)

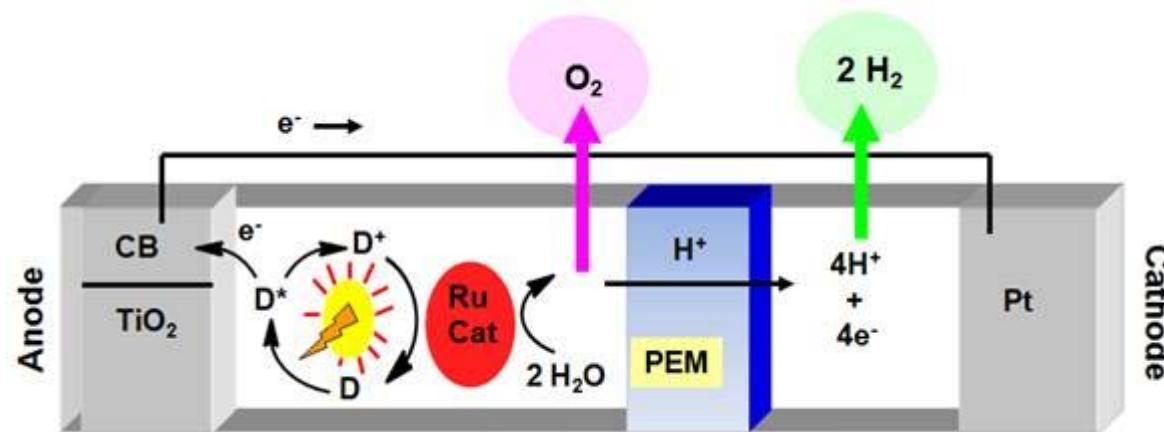
CPE

## *OUTLINE*

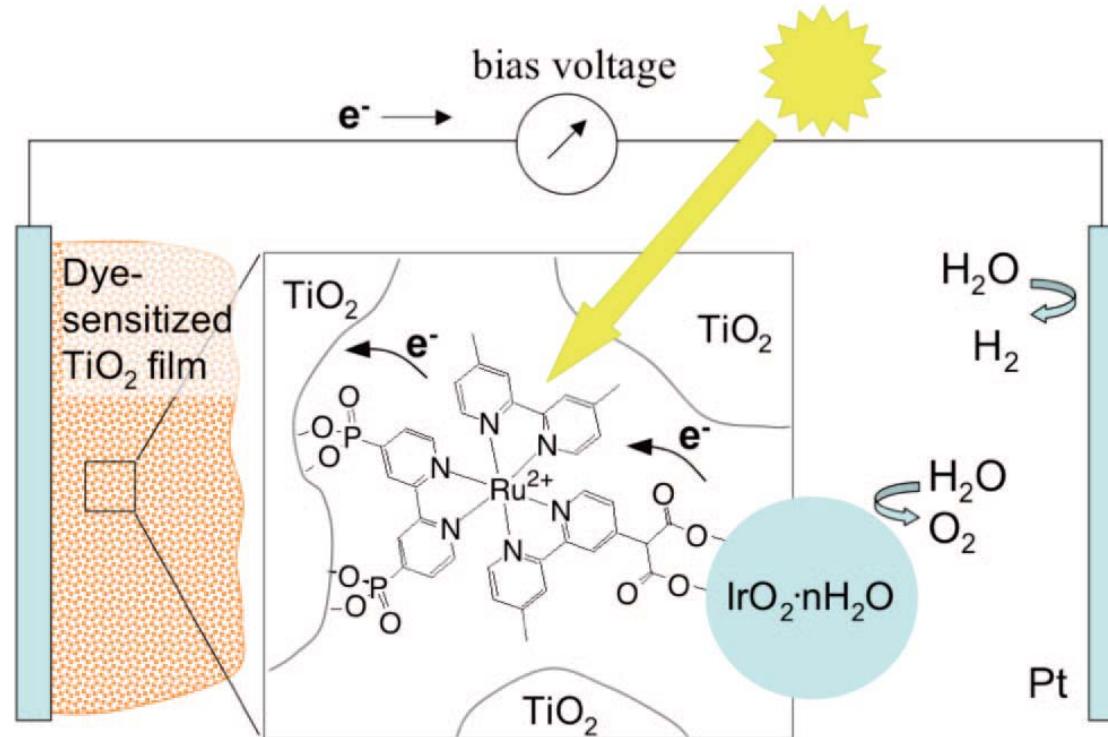
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## WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)



## WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)

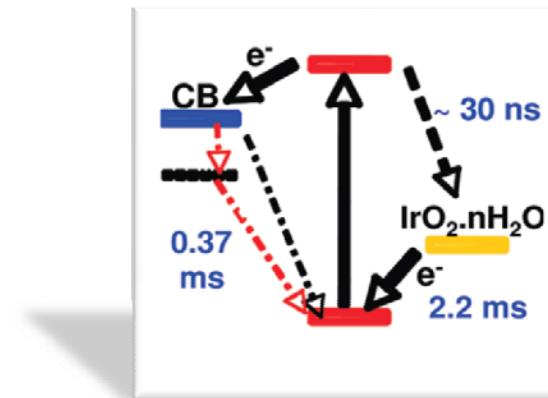
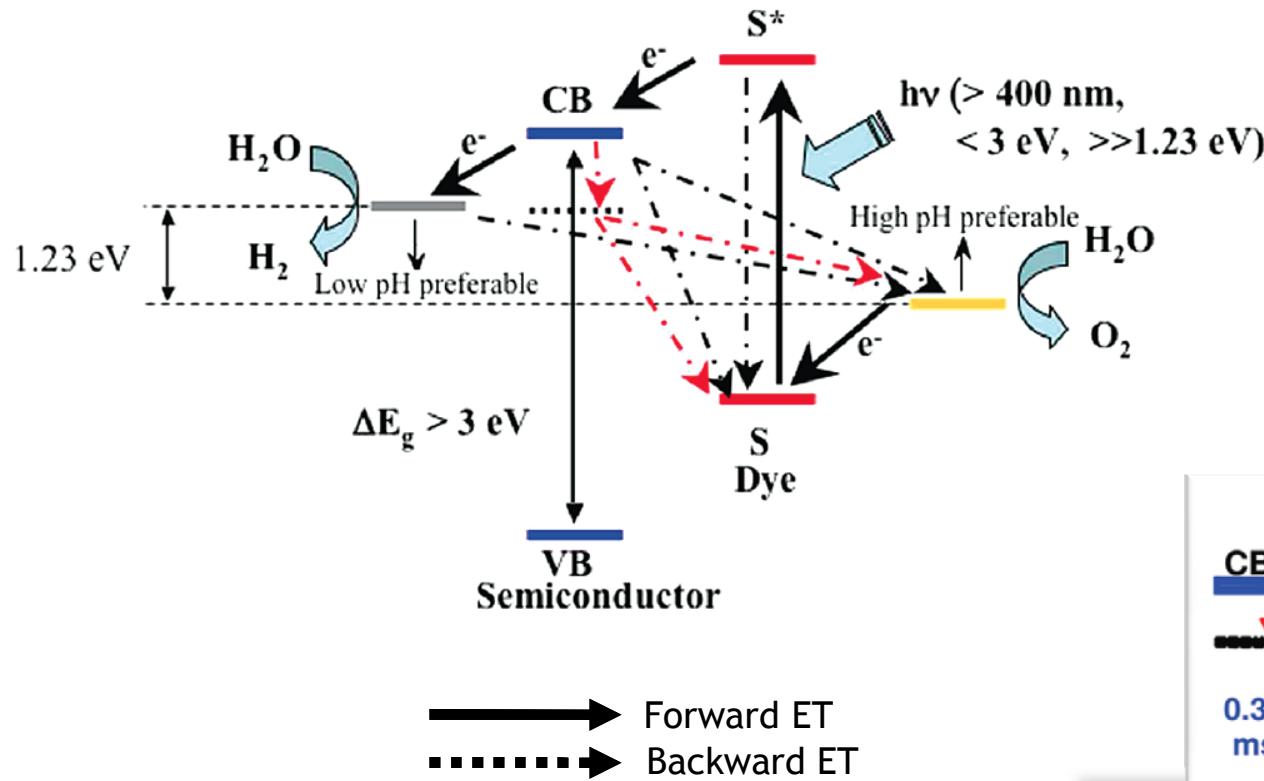


TON = 16 (per dye molecule)

Small bias needed

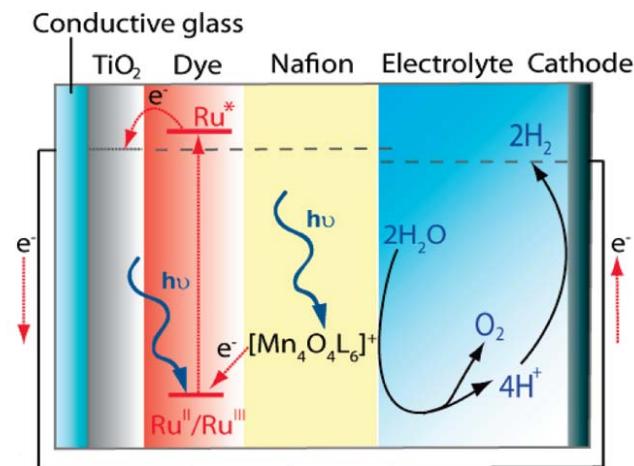
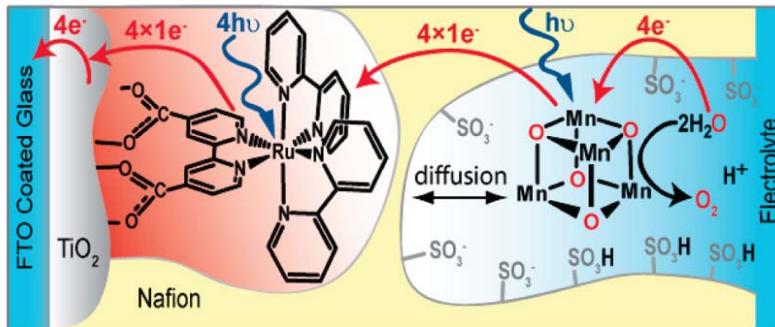
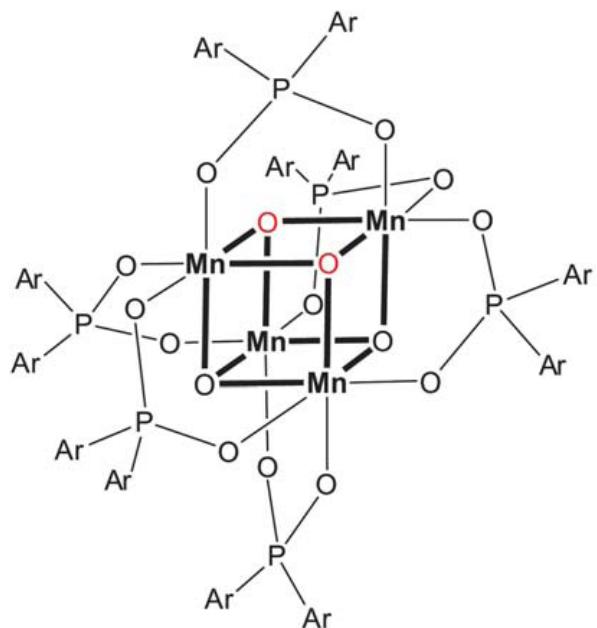
$\phi = 0.09$

## WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)



Backward ET one order faster

## First row transition-metal based WOCs: manganese

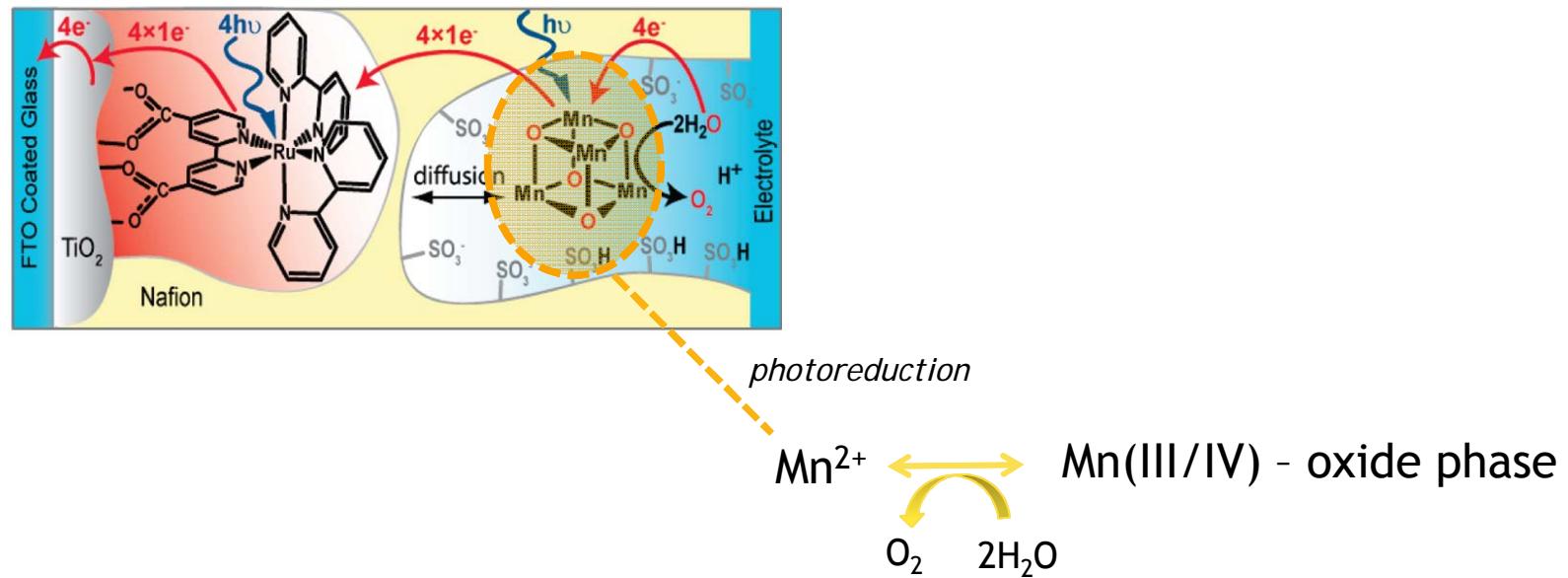


TON = 13 (per cluster molecule)

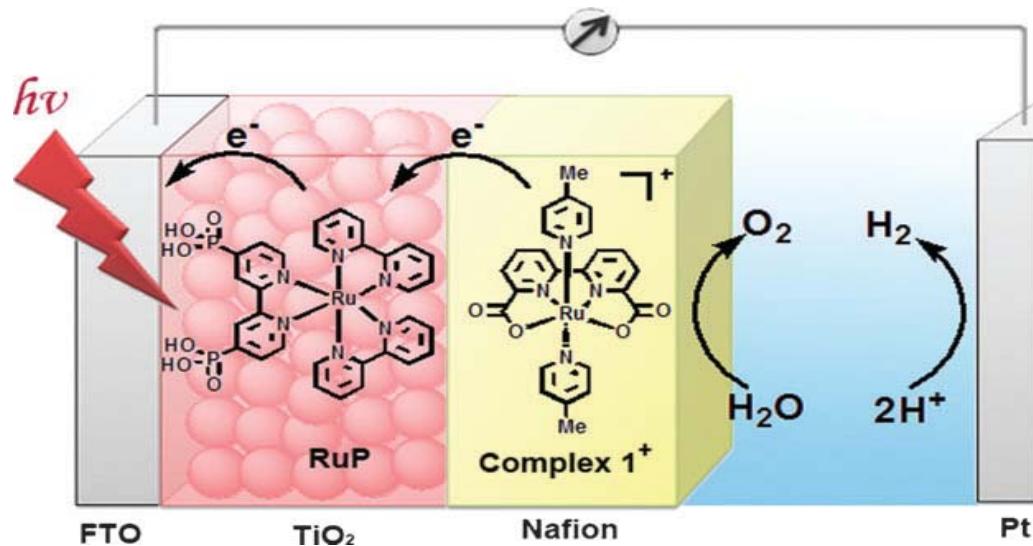
TOF = 0.83 min<sup>-1</sup>

No bias needed

## First row transition-metal based WOCs: manganese



## WOCs in Photoelectrochemical cells (PECs)



TON = 16

TOF = 0.45 min<sup>-1</sup>



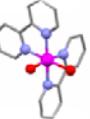
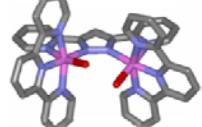
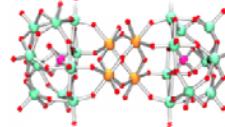
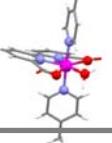
Li, L.; Sun, L. et al. *Chem. Commun.* 2010, 46, 7307

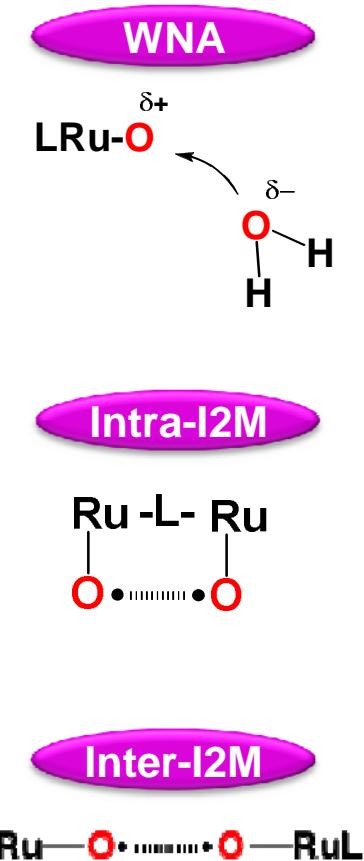
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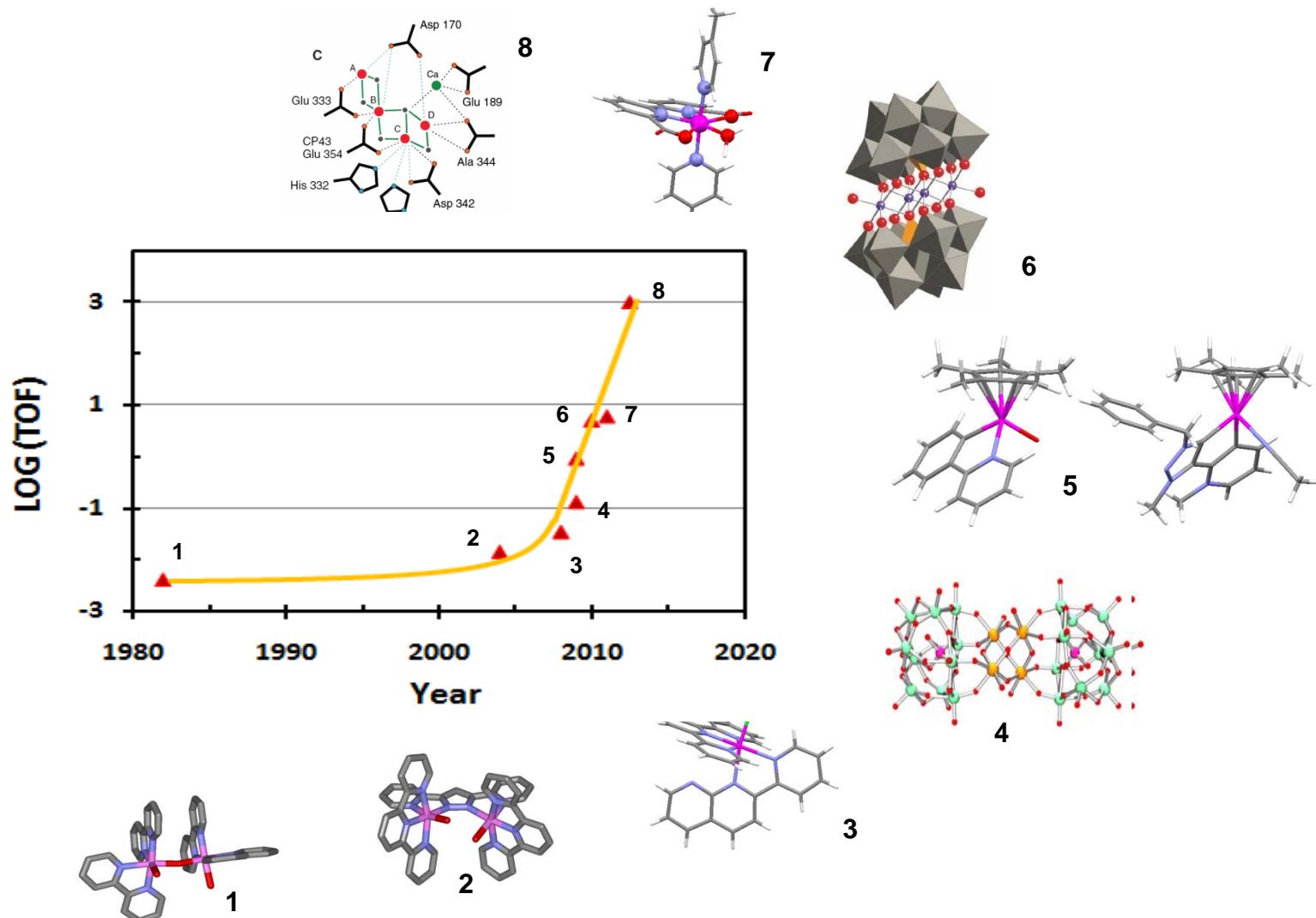
## WOCs MECHANISTIC SUMMARY

	Active Ox. State	Mechanism
	VI	WNA
	IV	Intra-I2M
	V	WNA
	IV	Inter-I2M



- The Nature of the Ru=O moieties in the corresponding active oxidation state
- The role of Bridging Ligand (e-coupling/through-space interactions)

## WOCs KINETICS SUMMARY



1. Meyer, JACS-1982; 2. Llobet, JACS-2004; 3. Thummel, IC-2008; 4. Hill&Bonchio JACS-ACIE-2008; 5. Albrecht-Crabtree-Brudvig, ACIE-2010-JACS-2009; 6. Hill, Science-2010

# Molecular Catalysts that Oxidize Water to Dioxygen



ICTP, Miramare, Trieste, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2011

*Xavier Sala, UAB, Barcelona, Spain*