



*The Abdus Salam*  
*International Centre for Theoretical Physics*



**2269-17**

**Workshop on New Materials for Renewable Energy**

**17 - 21 October 2011**

**Ru-based water oxidation catalysts**

Xavier SALA  
*UAB*  
*Barcelona*  
*Spain*

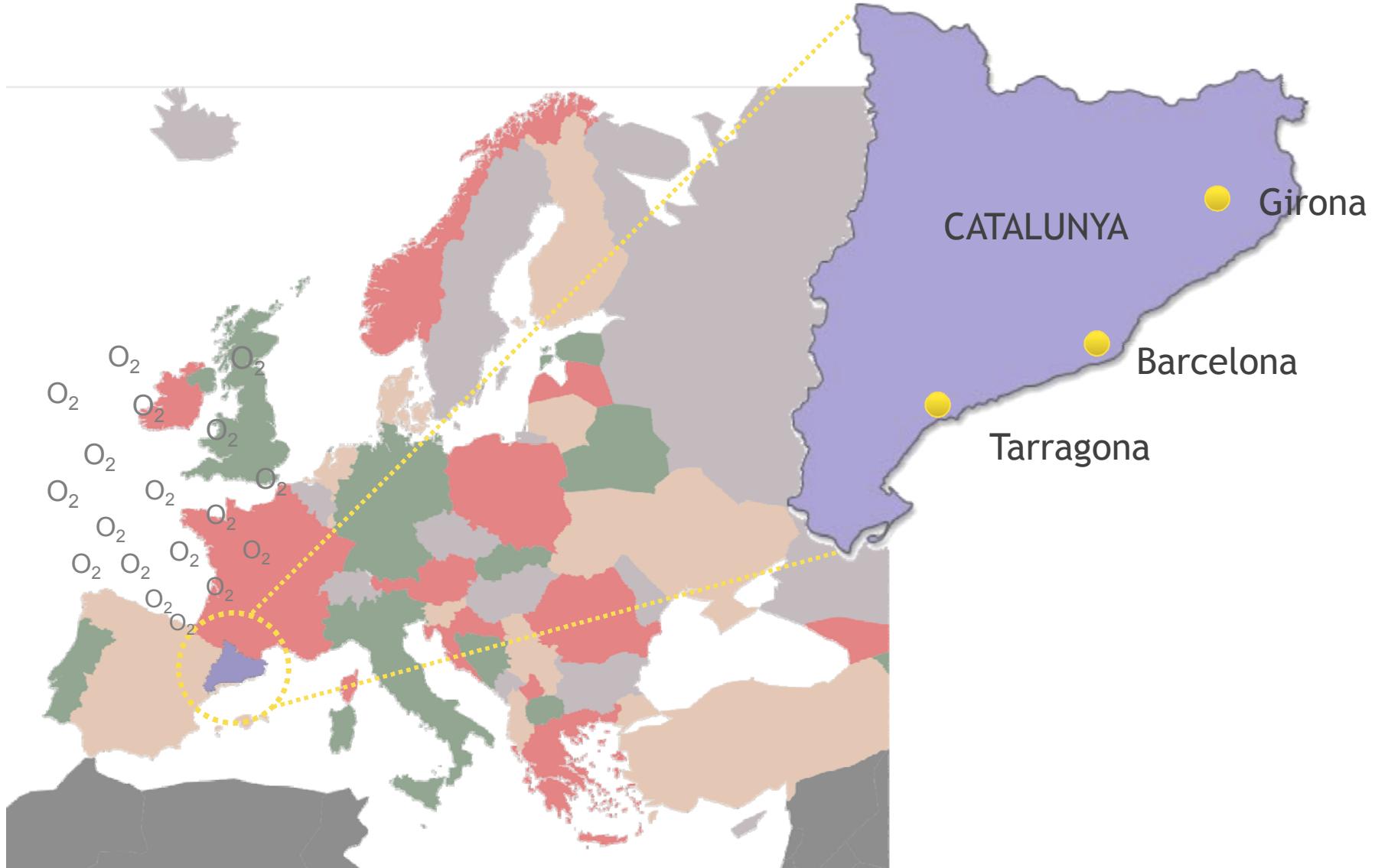
# Ru-Based Water Oxidation Catalysts



ICTP, Miramare, Trieste, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2011

*Xavier Sala, UAB, Barcelona, Spain*

# Where we are?





University of Girona

*Dr. M. Rodríguez and Dr. I. Romero*



Autonomous University of Barcelona

*Dr. Xavier Sala*

*Dr. Lluís Escriche*

*Dr. Jordi García-Antón*

Catalan Institute of Chemical Research

*Prof. Antoni Llobet*

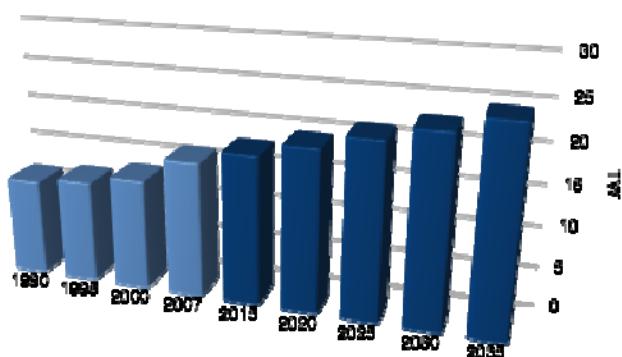
## **OUTLINE**

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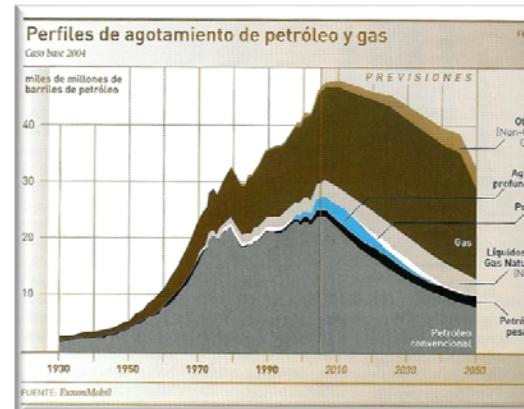
1. INTRODUCTION
2. DINUCLEAR HOMOGENEOUS WOCs
3. DINUCLEAR HETEROGENEOUS WOCs
4. TETRANUCLEAR HOMOGENEOUS WOCs
5. MONONUCLEAR WOCs: the  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$  case
6. CONCLUSIONS

## INTRODUCTION - Today's Energy Situation

Predicted Increase of  
the World's Energy  
Demand



Exhaustion of Fossil  
Fuels as a Low Cost  
Energy Source



Impact of  
Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> on  
the Planet



**URGENT NEED OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOURCES**

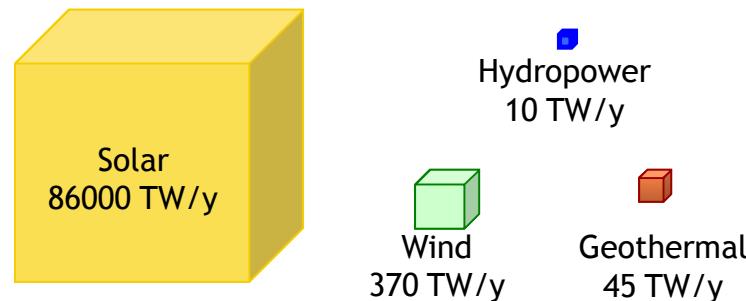
Exhausting profiles of oil products, **2004**, Exxon-Mobile.

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

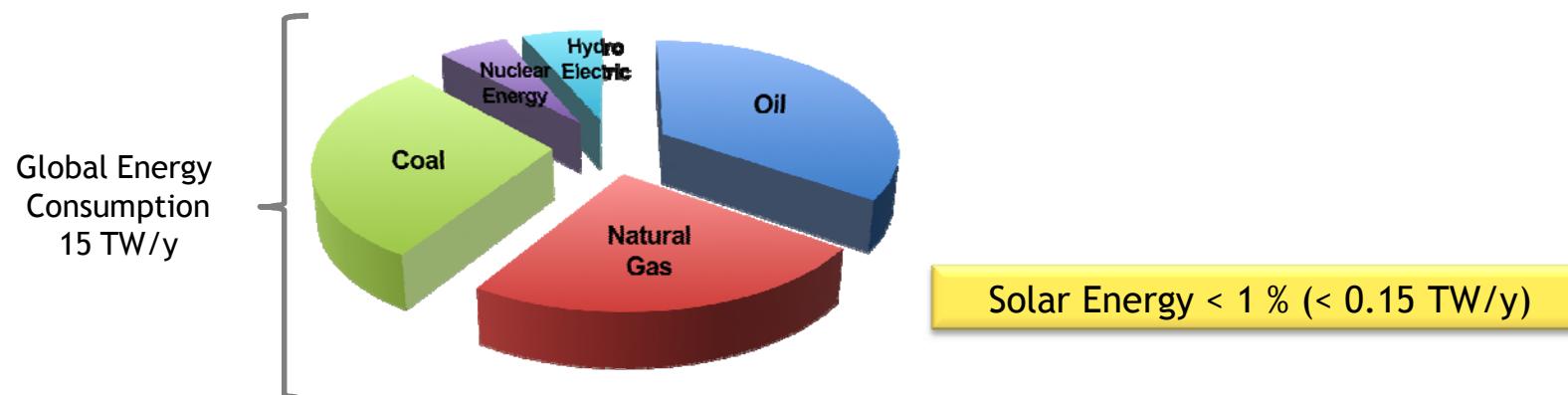
A. Menzel et al. *Global Change Biology*, **2006**, 12, 1-8.

## INTRODUCTION - Today's Energy Situation

### Available Renewable Energy



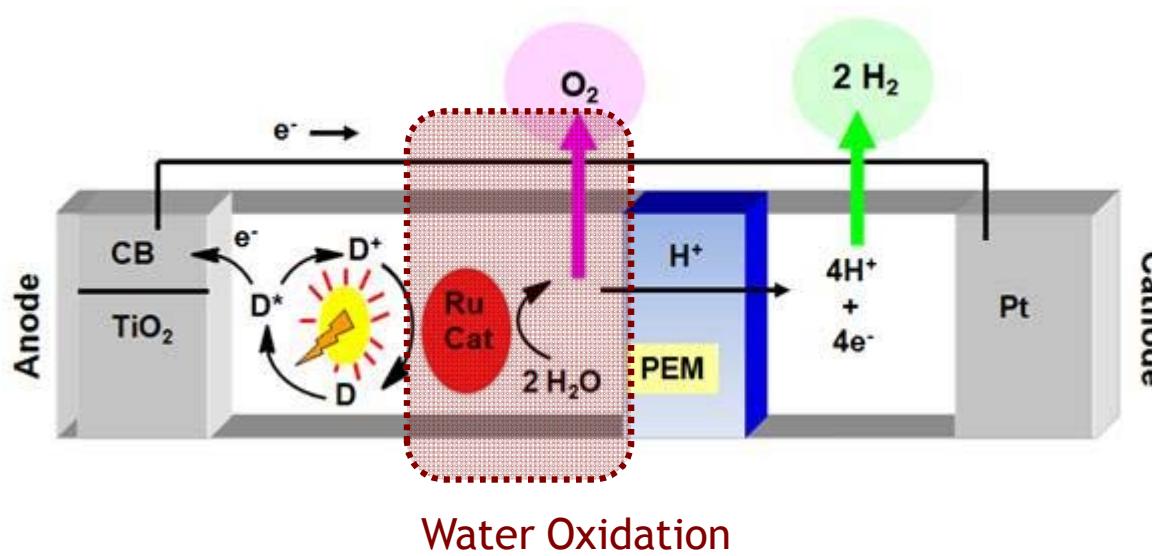
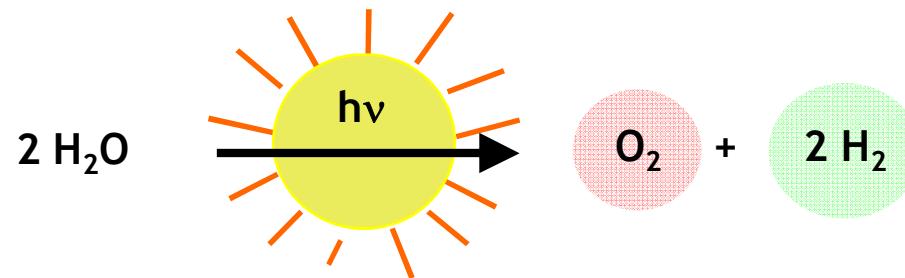
### Global Energy Consumption 2008



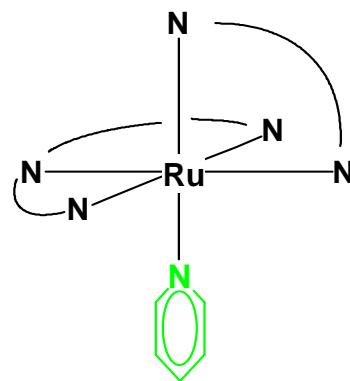
O. Morton et al. *Nature*, 2008, 454, 816.

BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2009.

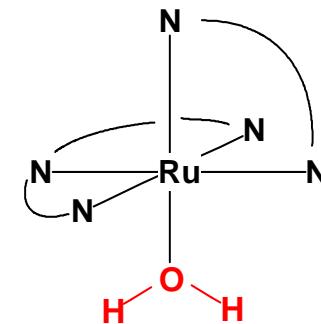
## INTRODUCTION - Water Splitting and PEC Cells



## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

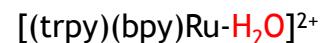
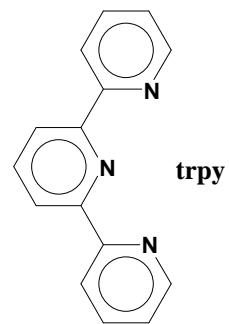
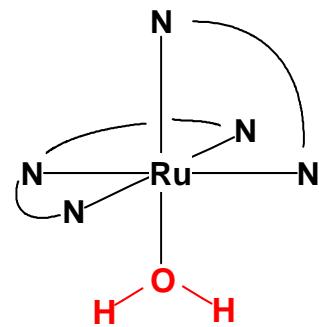
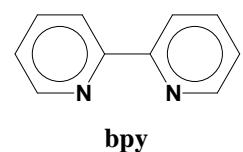


$E_{1/2}$  (III/II) = 1.20 V vs SSCE  
 $E_{1/2}$  (IV/III) = out of CV  
solvent range



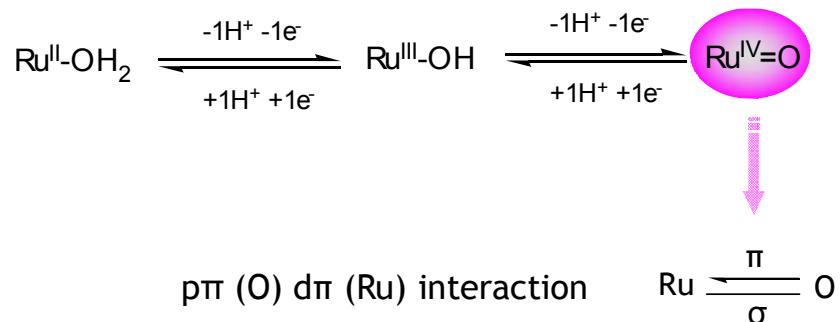
$E_{1/2}$  (III/II) = 0.49 V  
 $E_{1/2}$  (IV/III) = 0.62 V

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

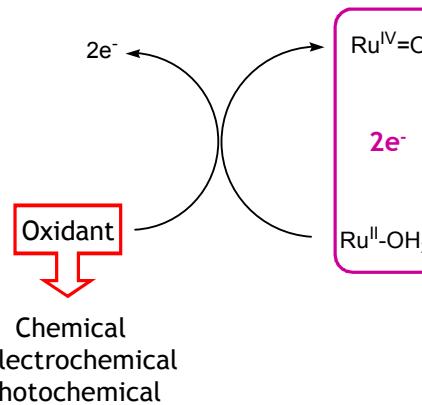


$$\begin{aligned}E_{1/2} (\text{III}/\text{II}) &= 0.49 \text{ V} \\ E_{1/2} (\text{IV}/\text{III}) &= 0.62 \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

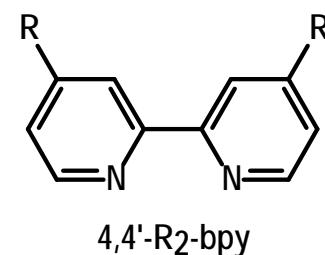
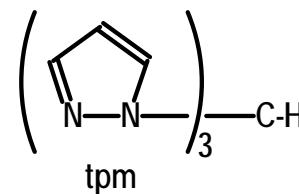
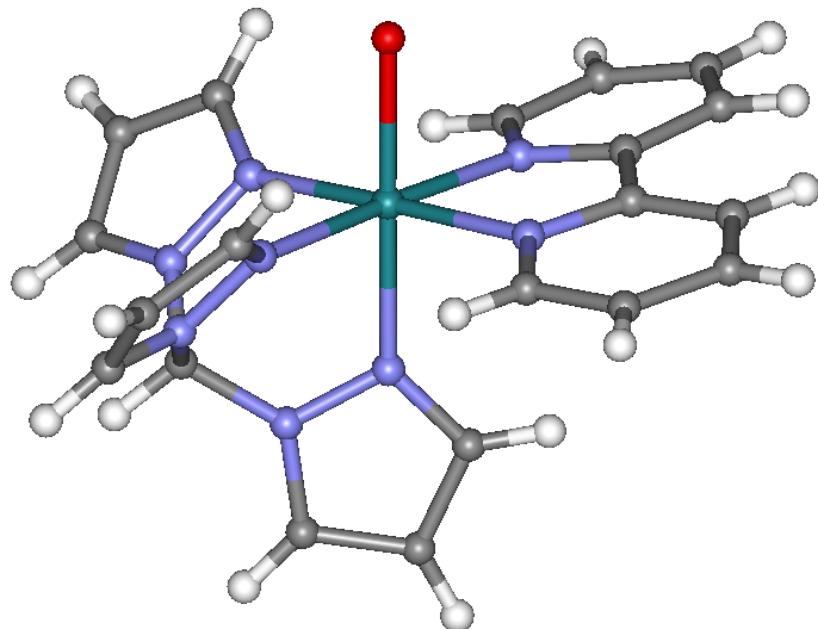
### ① Ru<sup>IV</sup> stabilization



### ② Catalytic activity



## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group



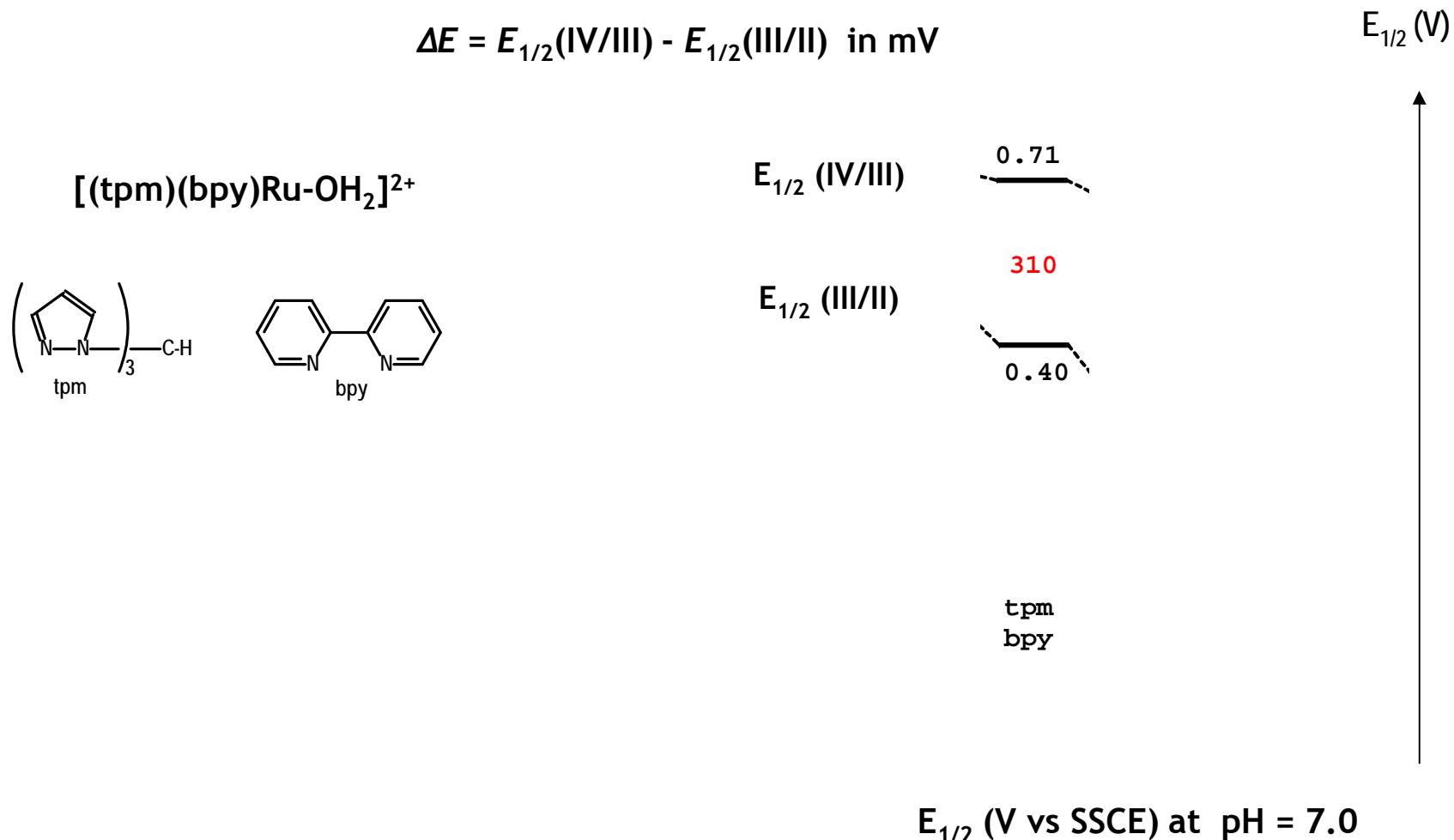
R=H,bpy  
R=NH<sub>2</sub>,b-NH<sub>2</sub>  
R=NO<sub>2</sub>,b-NO<sub>2</sub>



Llobet, A. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1994** 221, 125-131.

Sala, X.; Rodríguez, M.; Romero, I.; Llobet, A. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2007** 110, 7751-7759.

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

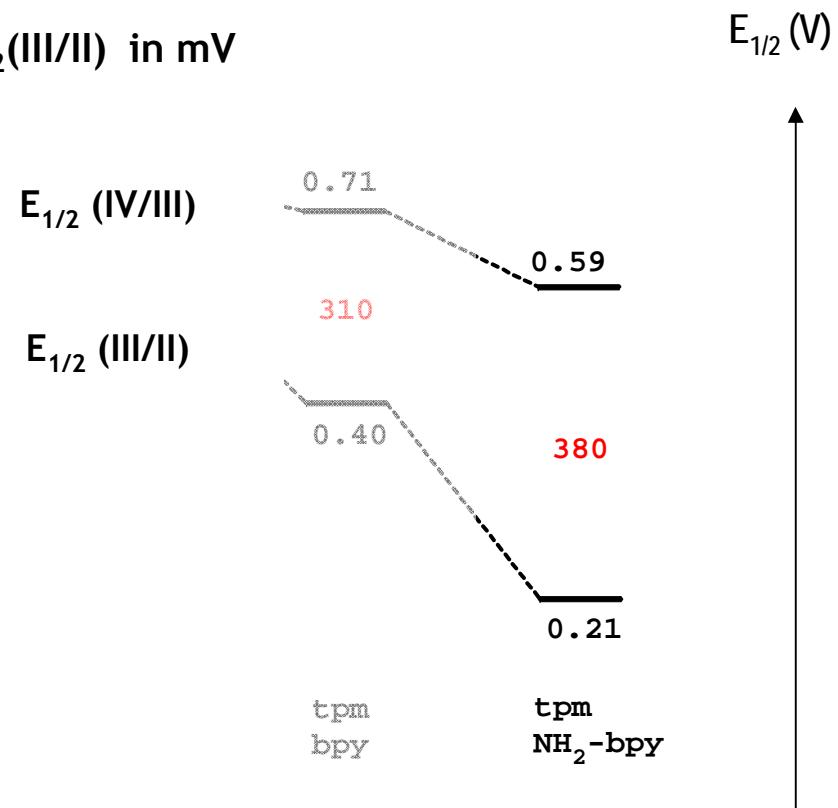
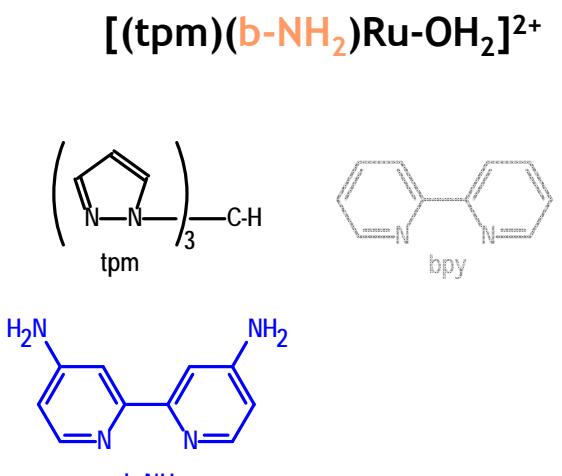


Llobet, A. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1994** 221, 125-131.

Sala, X.; Rodríguez, M.; Romero, I.; Llobet, A. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2007** 110, 7751-7759.

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

$$\Delta E = E_{1/2}(\text{IV}/\text{III}) - E_{1/2}(\text{III}/\text{II}) \text{ in mV}$$



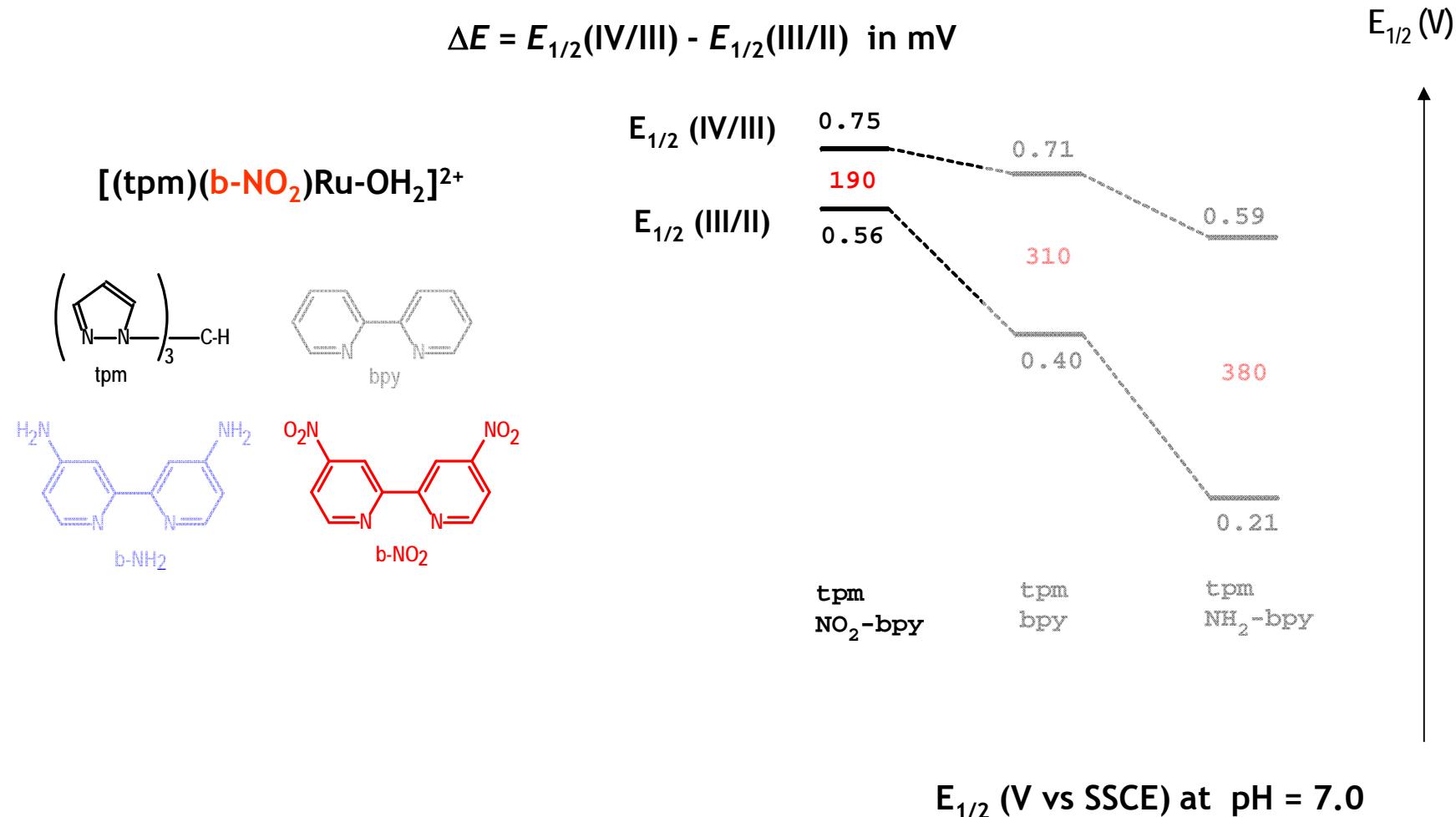
$E_{1/2}$  (V vs SSCE) at pH = 7.0



Llobet, A. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1994** 221, 125-131.

Sala, X.; Rodríguez, M.; Romero, I.; Llobet, A. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2007** 110, 7751-7759.

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

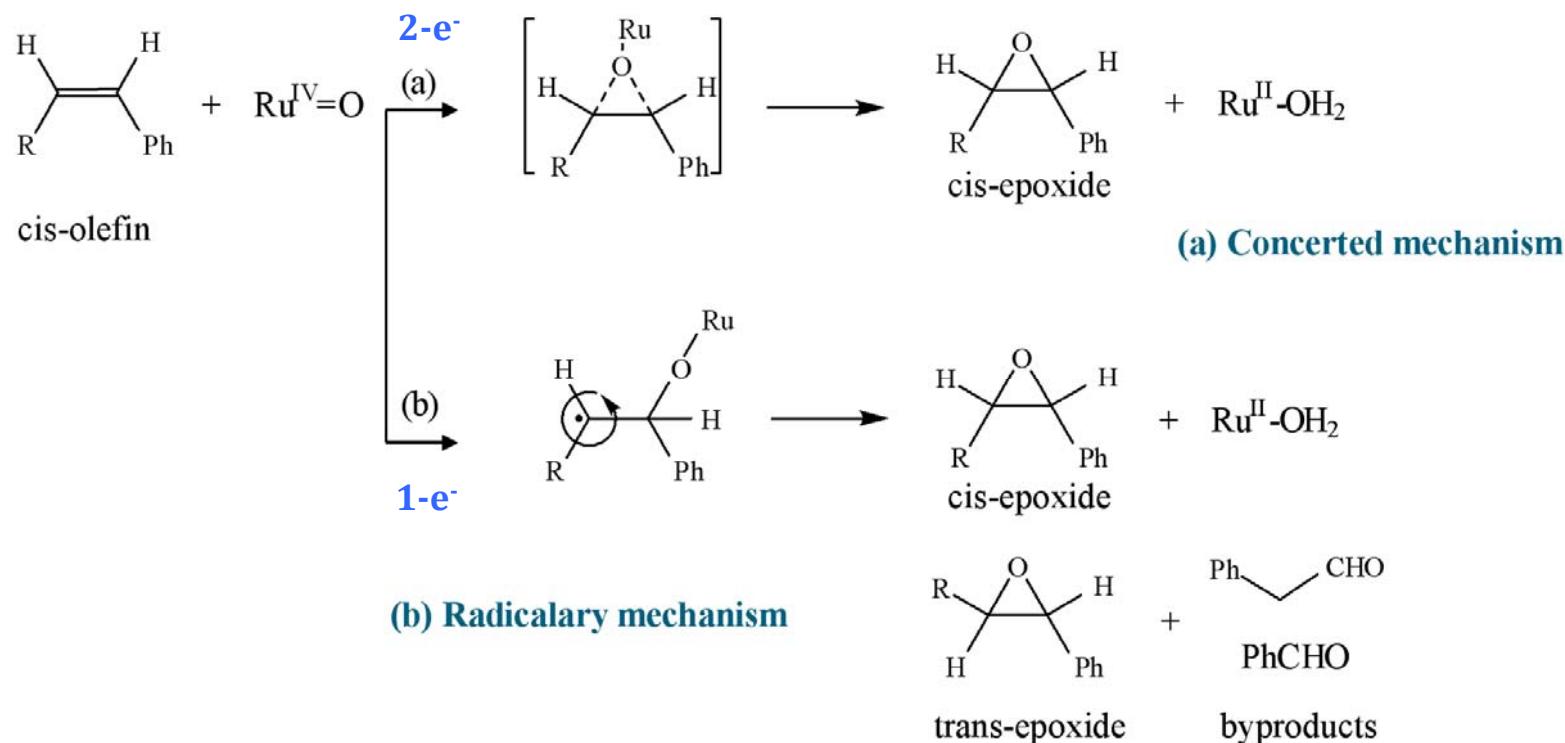


Llobet, A. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1994** 221, 125-131.

Sala, X.; Rodríguez, M.; Romero, I.; Llobet, A. et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2007** 110, 7751-7759.

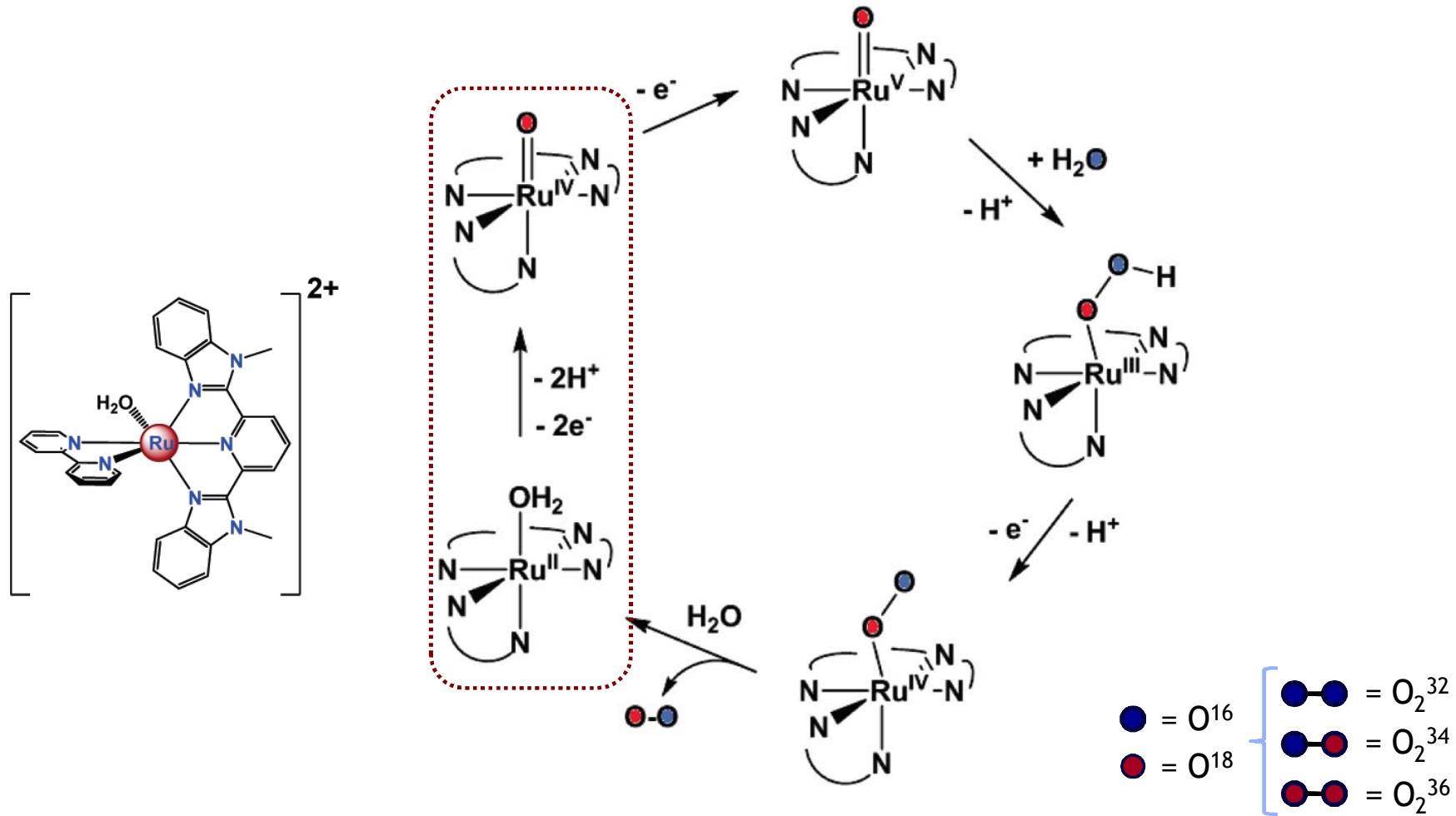
## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

- 2-electron vs. 1-electron oxidation  $\longrightarrow$  SELECTIVITY



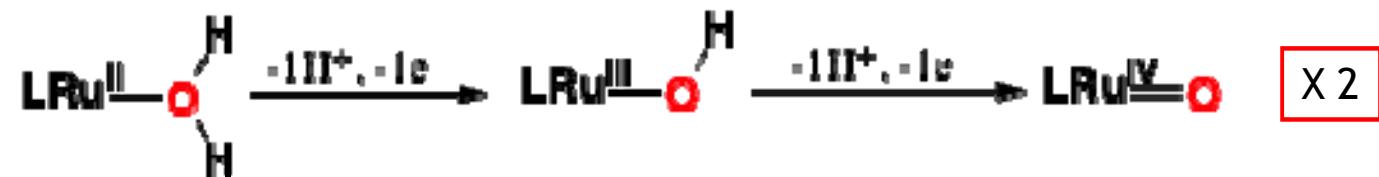
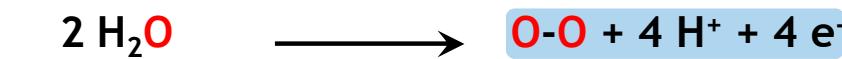
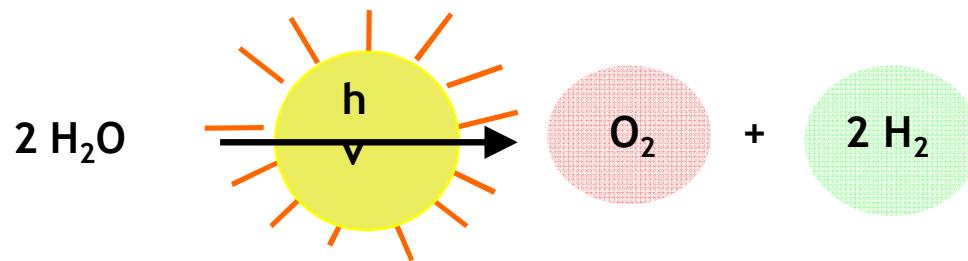
 Masllorens, E.; Llobet, A. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 5306.  
Che, C.-M. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, 63, 7715

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group

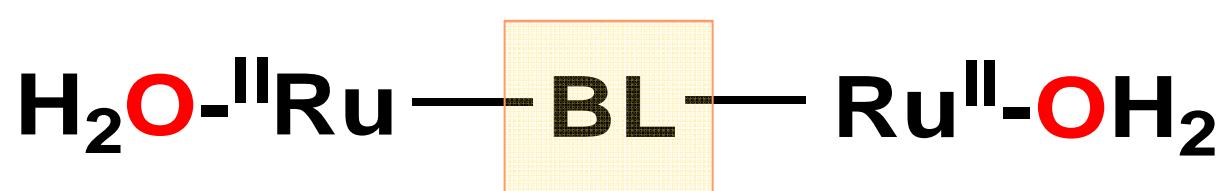


**i** Conception, J. J.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2008, 130, 16462  
Conception, J. J.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2010, 132, 1545

## INTRODUCTION -The Ru=O Group and WO



## *INTRODUCTION -Dinuclear Ru-OH<sub>2</sub> complexes*



BL: Bridging Ligand



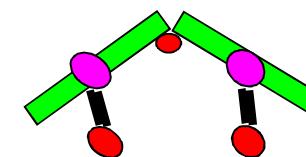
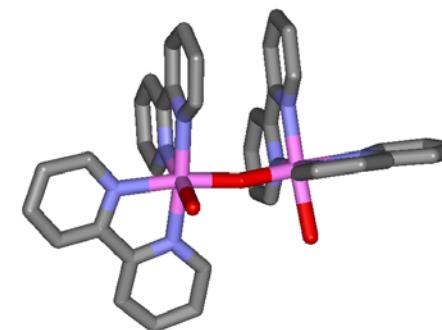
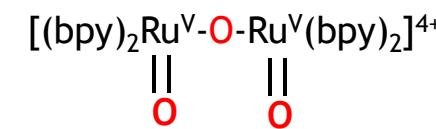
Electronic Coupling between Ru  
Interactions Through Space

## **OUTLINE**

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6. CONCLUSIONS

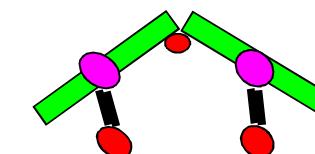
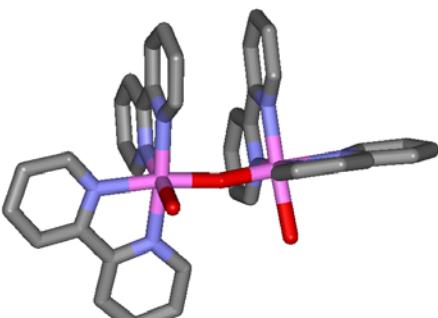
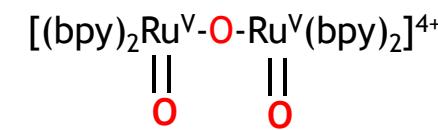
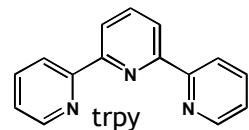
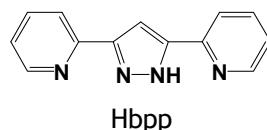
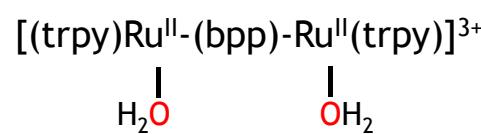
## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes



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

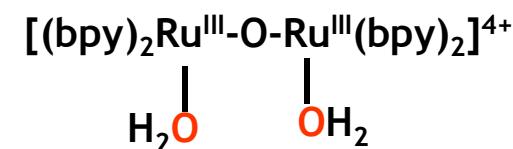
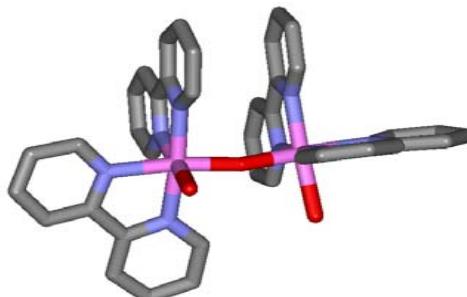
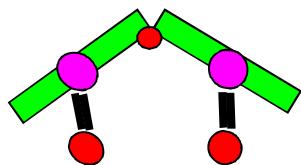
Gilbert, J. A.; Eggleston, D. S.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1985**, *107*, 3855

## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes



## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes

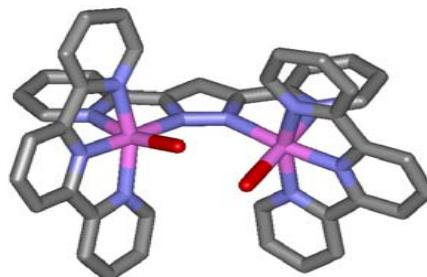
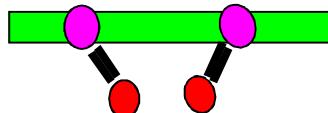
1 mM Cat/100 mM Ce(IV)/0.1 M triflic acid/RT



	$k_{\text{O}_2} (\text{s}^{-1})$	TON	Eff (%)
Blue dimer	$4.2 \times 10^{-3}$	4-5 (25)	16-20
Hbpp	$1.4 \times 10^{-2}$	18.5 (25)	74



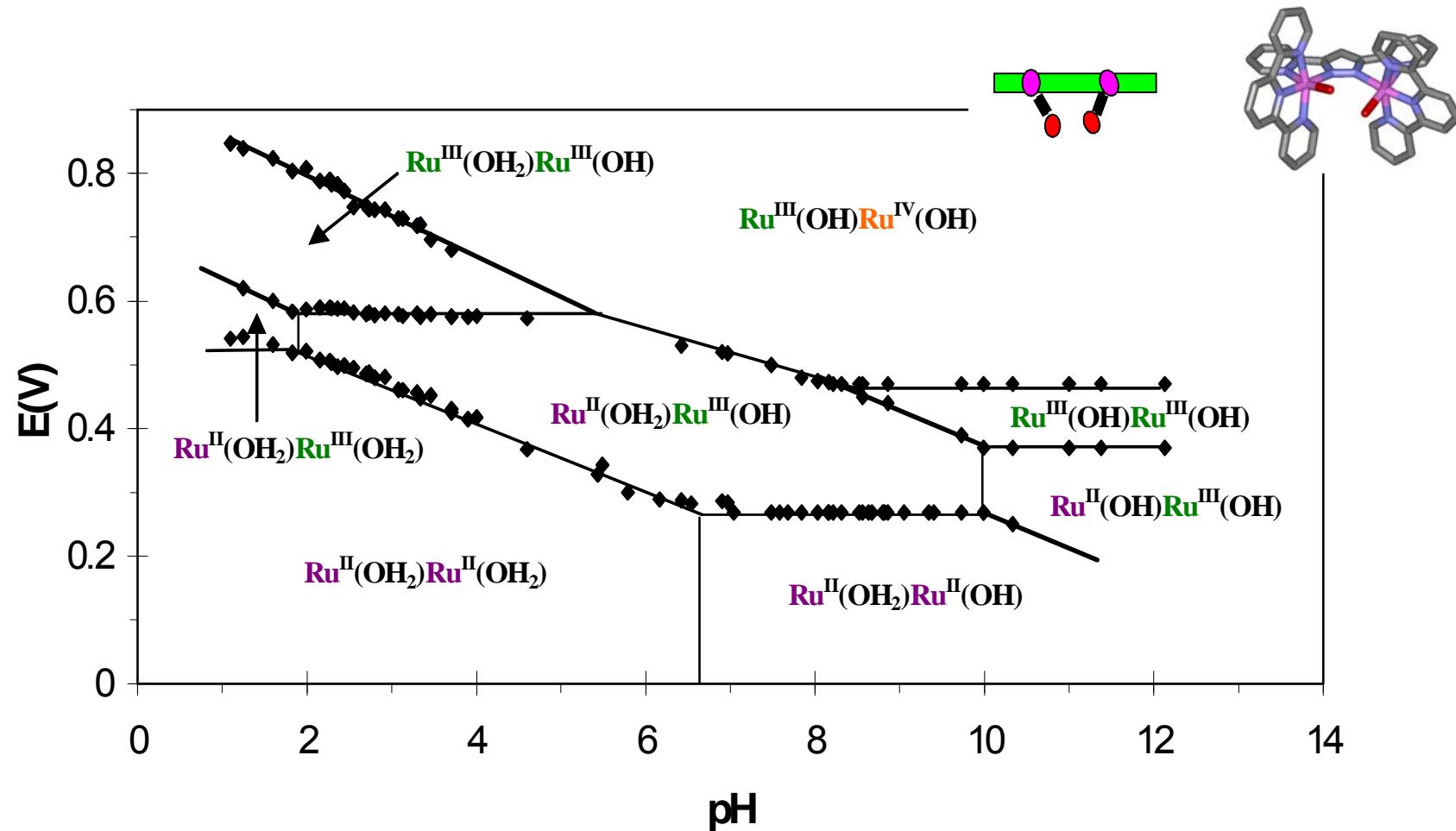
WOC : Ce(IV) 1:100



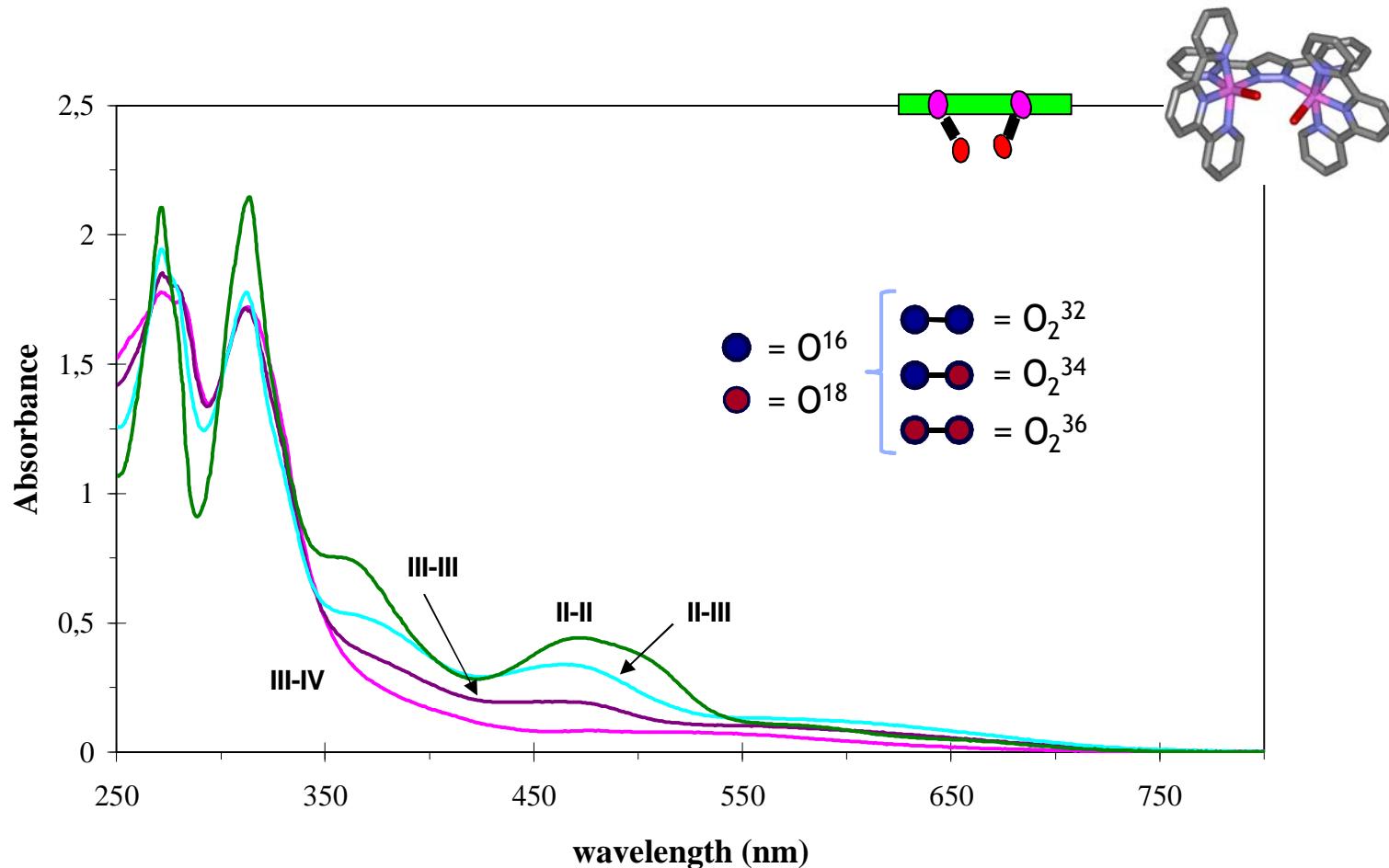
Gilbert, J. A.; Eggleston, D. S.; Meyer, T. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1985, 107, 3855

Sens, C., Llobet, A., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, 126, 7798

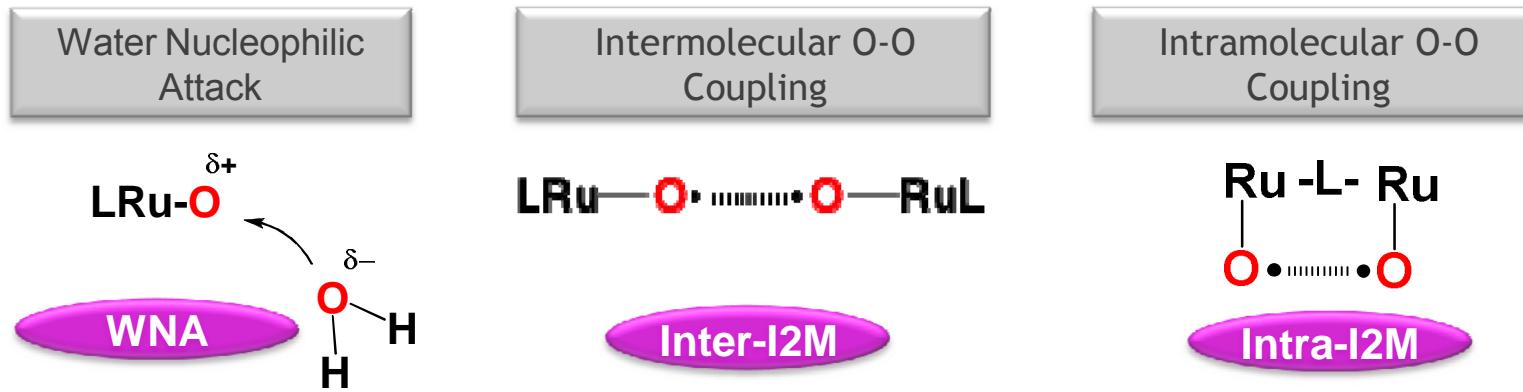
## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes - ECHEM



## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes - UV-vis



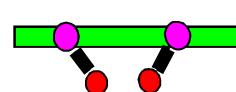
### O-O Coupling Pathways



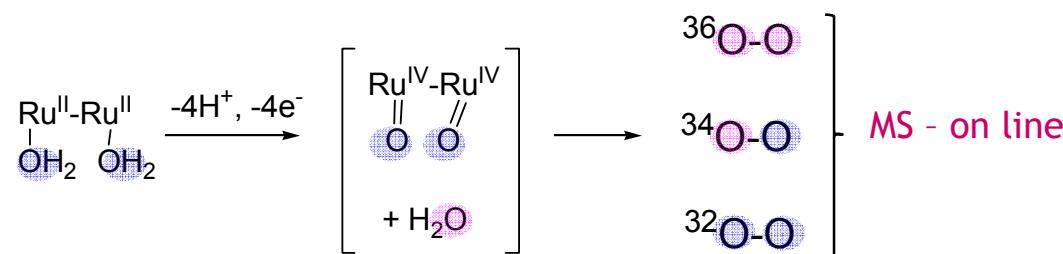
T. J. Meyer et al., *Inorg. Chem.* 2003, 42, 8140.

 A. Llobet et al., *Acc. Chem. Res.* 2009, 42, 1944.

## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



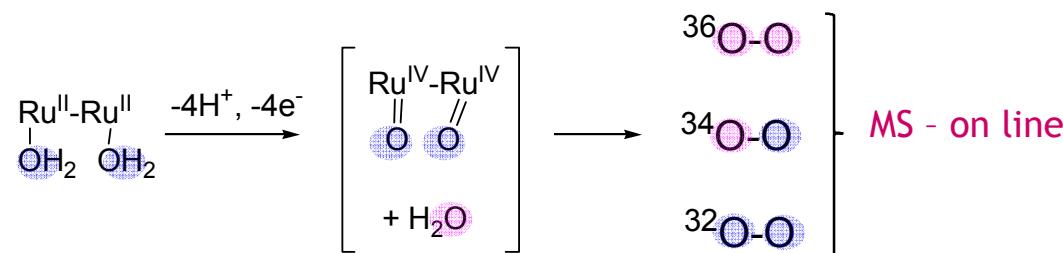
O<sub>2</sub>-evolution: cat with no labeling, solvent with O<sup>18</sup>



Entry	O <sup>18</sup> (%)	Exchange	WNA	Intra-I2M	Exp.
1	Cat, --	<sup>32</sup> O <sub>2</sub>			99,50
2	Solv, 12.00	<sup>34</sup> O <sub>2</sub>			0,47
3		<sup>36</sup> O <sub>2</sub>			0,03



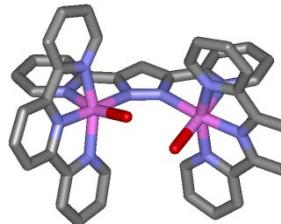
## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



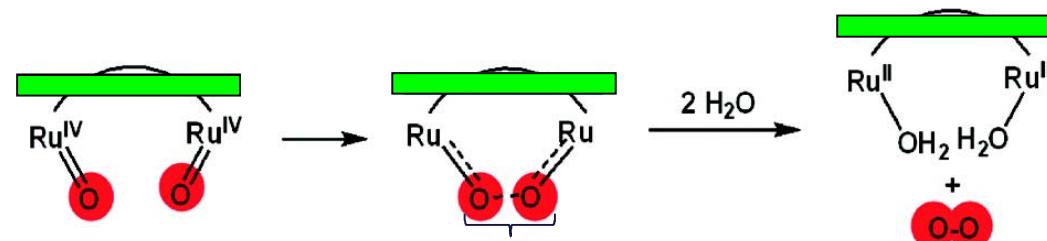
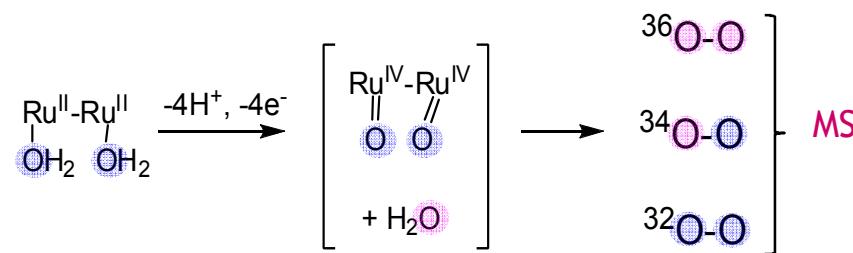
Entry	O <sup>18</sup> (%)	Exchange	WNA	Intra-I2M	Exp.
4	Cat, 16.13	<sup>32</sup> O <sub>2</sub>	77.60	74.60	70.34
5	Solv, 11.90	<sup>34</sup> O <sub>2</sub>	21.00	14.50	27.05
6		<sup>36</sup> O <sub>2</sub>	1.40	1.90	2.61



## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



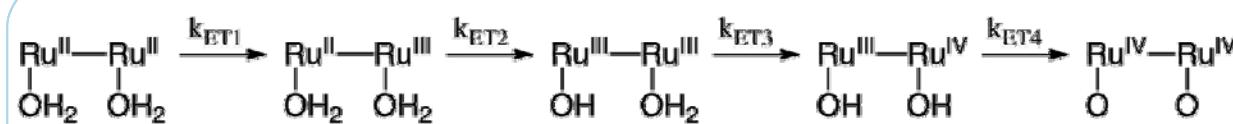
: mechanistic studies



100 % INTRA-molecular  
(1<sup>st</sup> direct evidence)

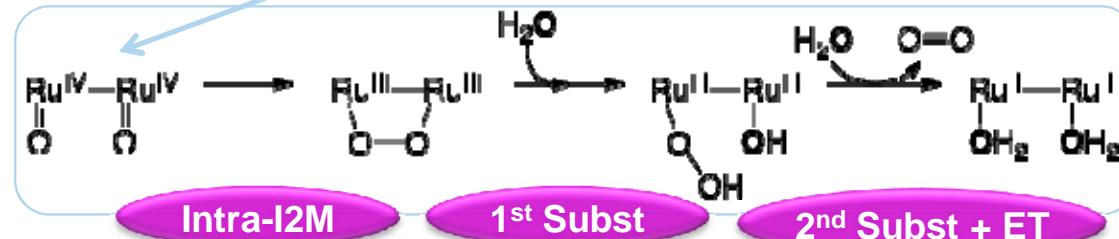
# HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation

## Electron Transfer Processes



$$k_{\text{ET}1} > k_{\text{ET}2} > k_{\text{ET}3} \gg k_{\text{ET}4}$$

## Intramolecular O-O bond formation Mechanism

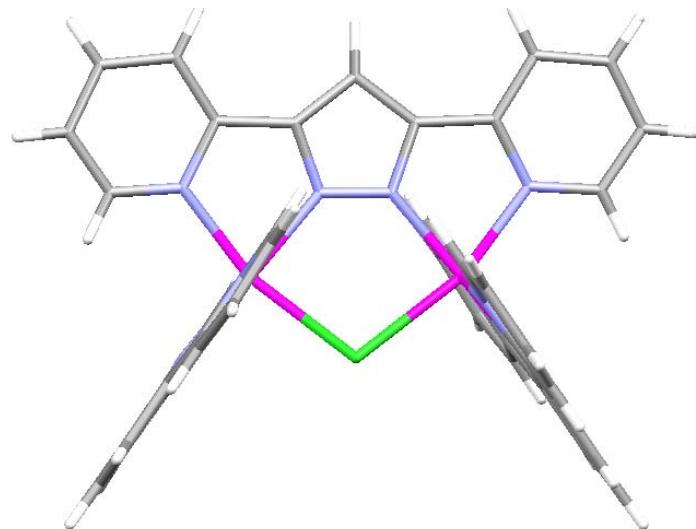


Romain, S.; Sala, X.; Llobet, A. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 2768-2769

Bozoglian, F.; Romain, S.; Llobet, Cramer, C.; Gagliardi, L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 2768-2769

## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes - Dynamic Behavior

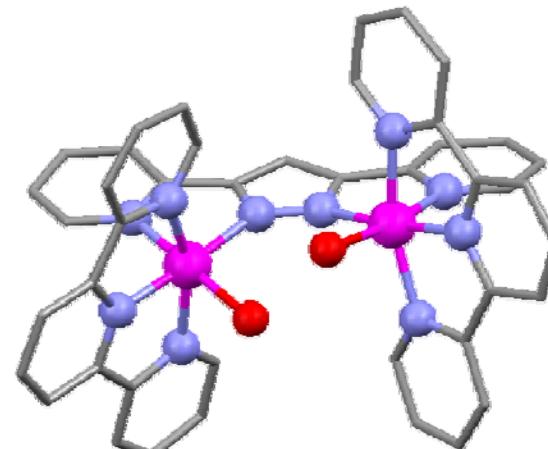
Rigid Molecule: NO dynamic behavior



$C_{2v}$  symmetry

$d(\text{Ru}-\text{Ru}) = 3.88 \text{ \AA}$

Flexible Molecule: dynamic behavior



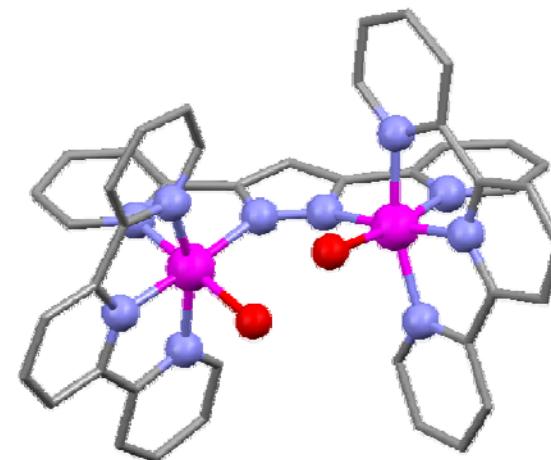
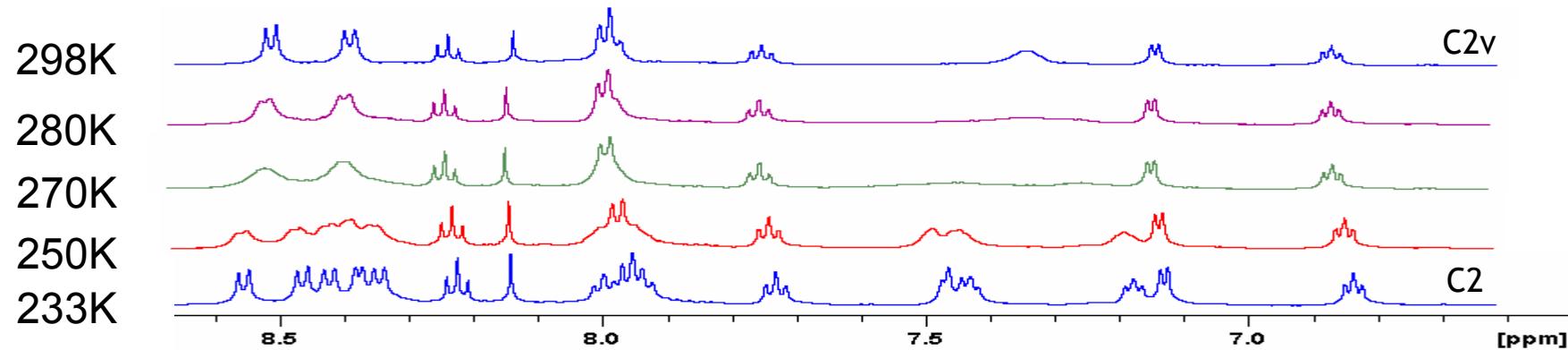
$C_2$  symmetry

$d(\text{Ru}-\text{Ru}) = 4.53 \text{ \AA}$

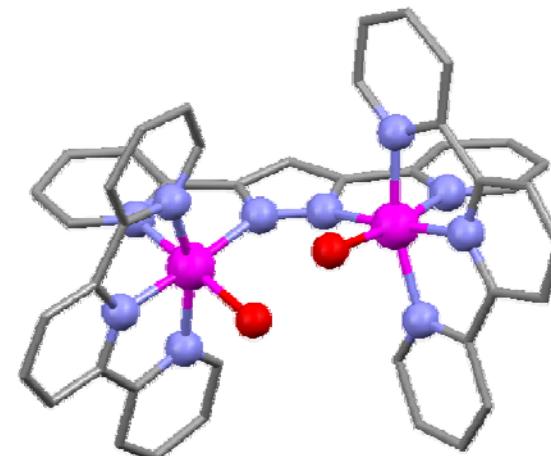
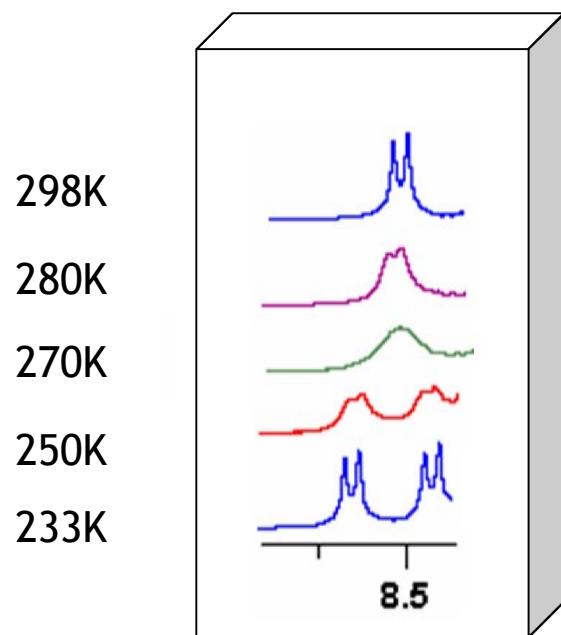
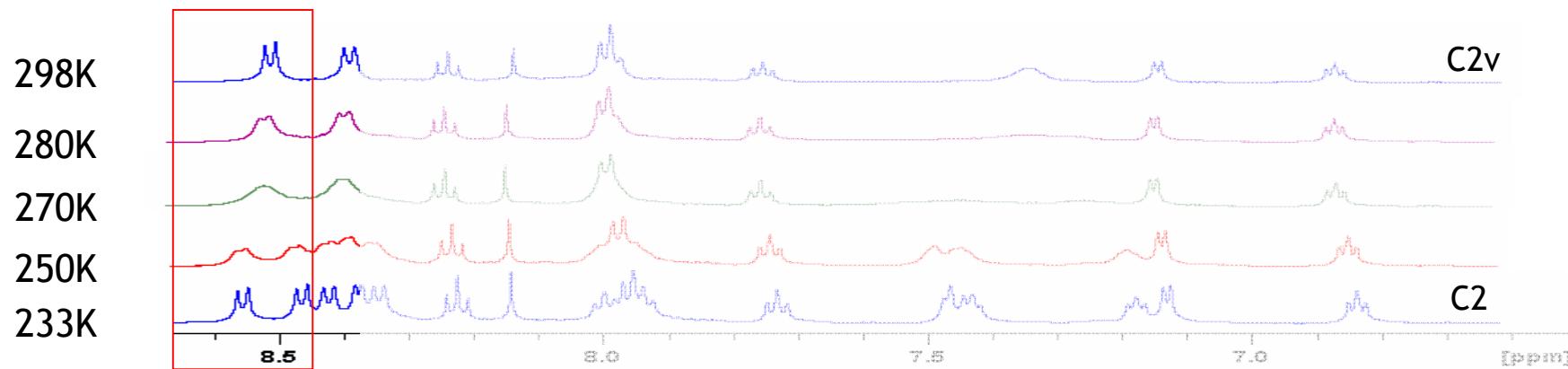


Planas, N.; Maseras, F.; Sala, X.; Llobet, A. et al. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2010, 1, 284.

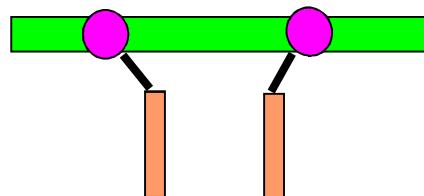
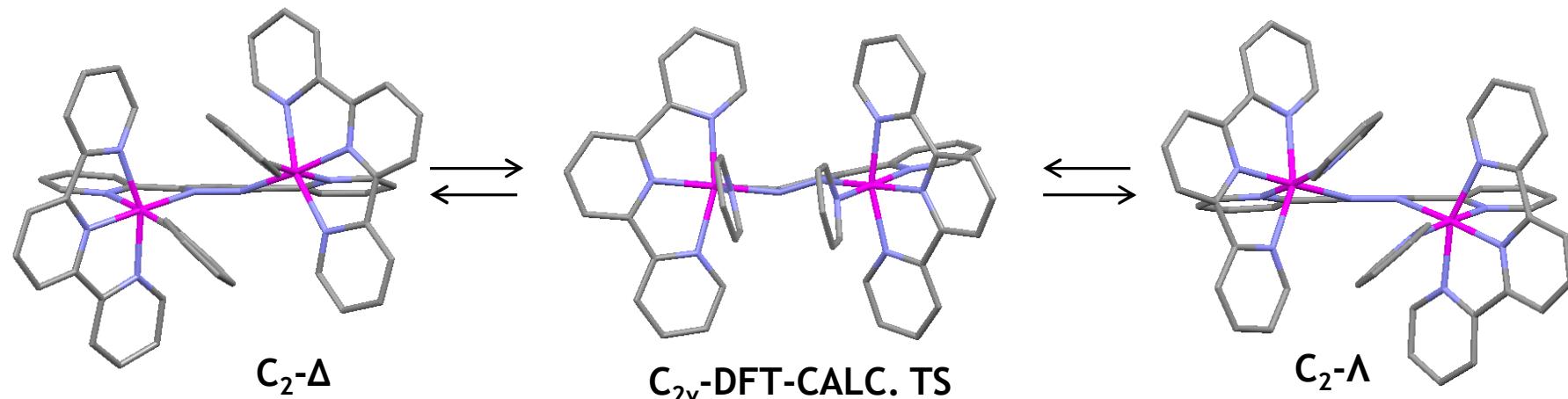
## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp c<complexes - Dynamic Behavior



## HOMOGENEOUS WOCs: Ru-Hbpp complexes - Dynamic Behavior

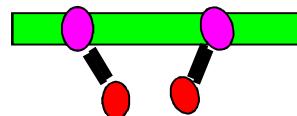


## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes - Dynamic Behavior

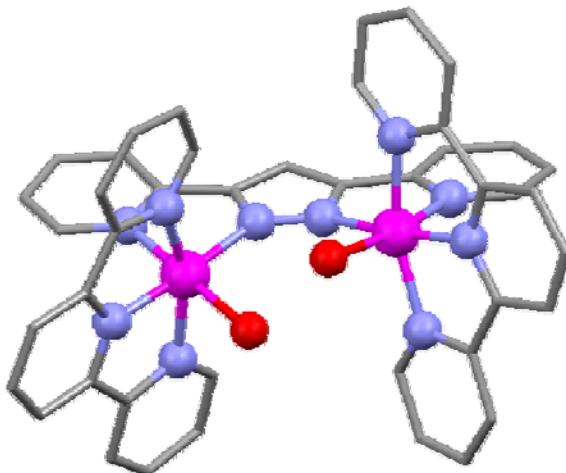


$L =$	$\Delta G^*$	kcal/mol
Py	10.0	
4-Me-py	10.8	
2,6-Me <sub>2</sub> -py	11.6	
MeCN, PhCN	14.1, 13 .8	
$\mu$ -OAc	< 3.2*	

## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes - Dynamic Behavior



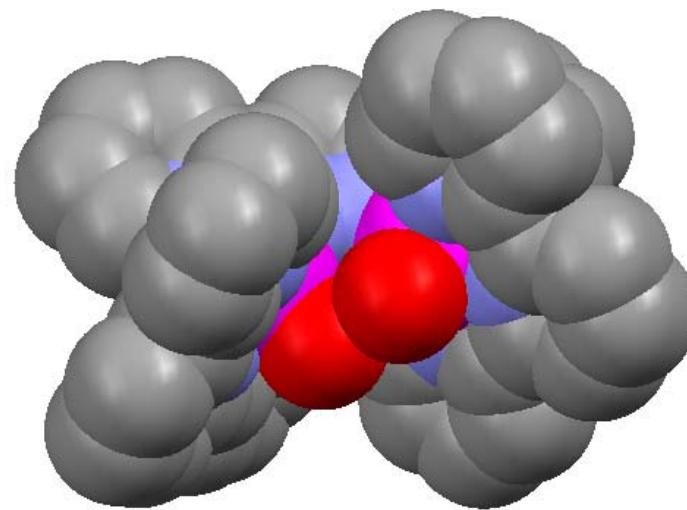
Flexible Molecule: Dynamic Behavior



$C_2$  symmetry

$$d(\text{Ru-Ru}) = 4.31 \text{ \AA}$$

$$d(\text{O-O}) = 2.23 \text{ \AA}$$



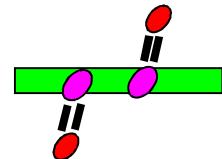
$\Delta G^*$  small

Avoids Ru-O-Ru formation

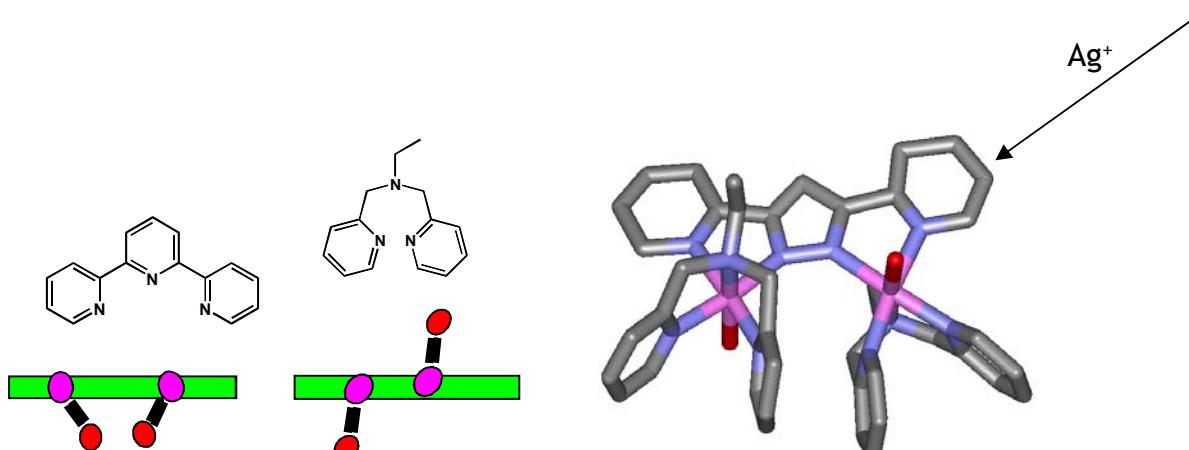
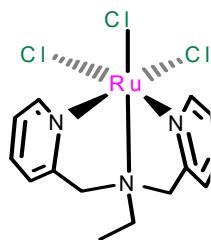
Favors intra-I2M O-O coupling



## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation

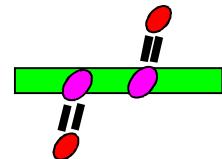


: *trans*- active sites - avoiding *the intramolecular pathway*

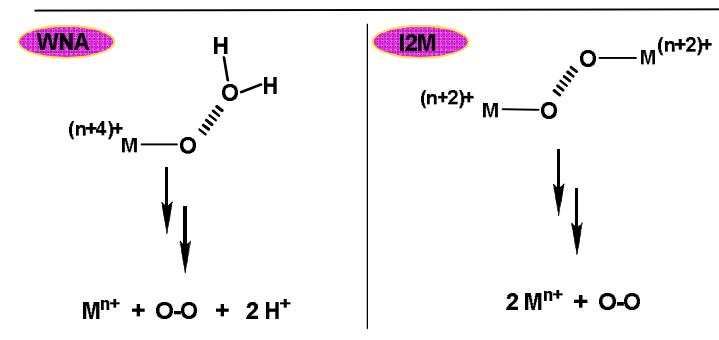
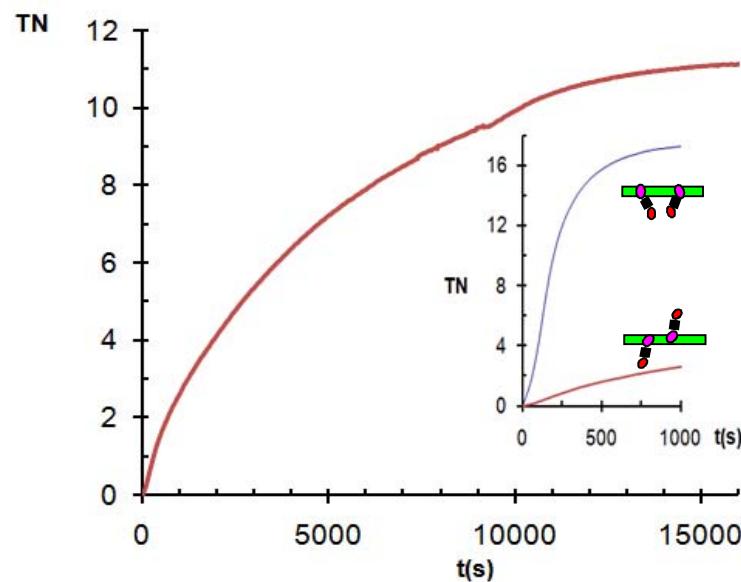
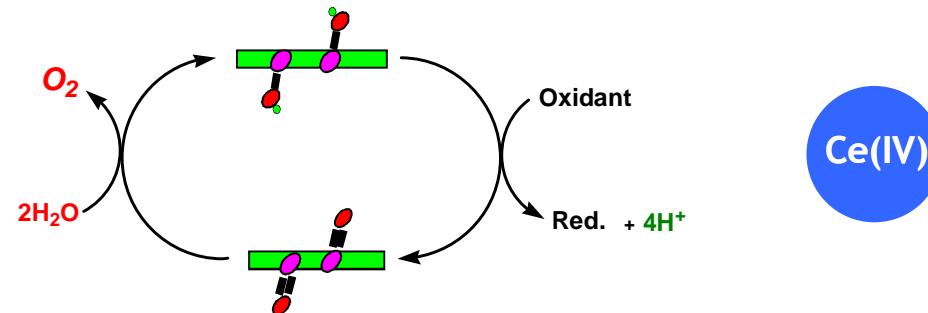


*up,down - (Ru<sup>III</sup>-OH)<sub>2</sub>*

## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



: *trans*- active sites - avoiding *the intramolecular pathway*

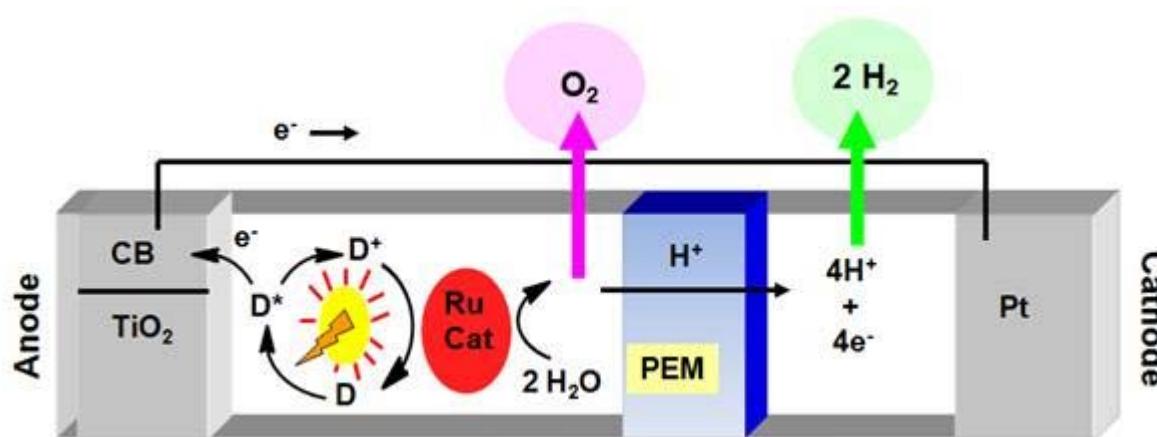
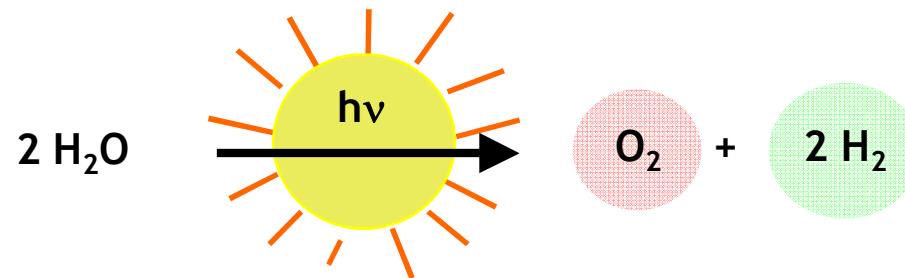


## **OUTLINE**

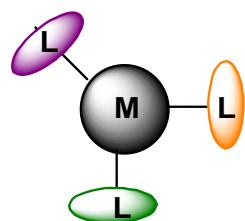
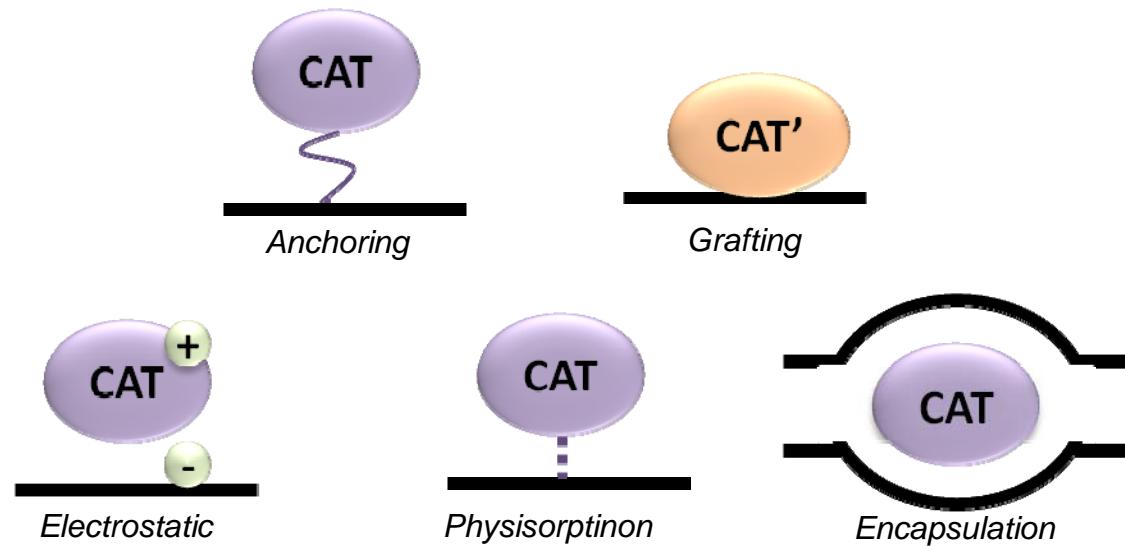
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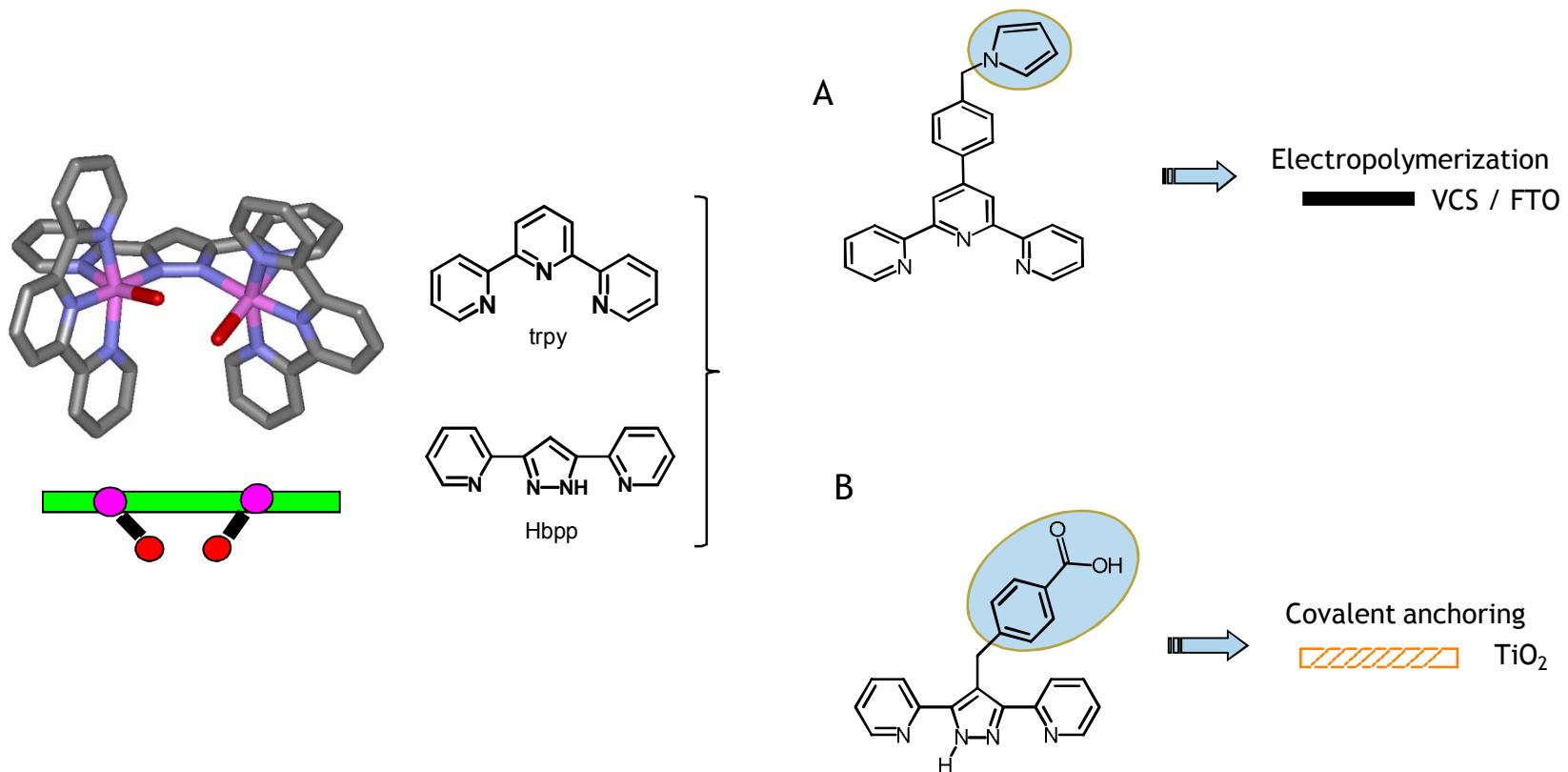
## HETEROGENEOUS WOC: toward a PEC for H<sub>2</sub> production



## HETEROGENEOUS WOC: Immobilization strategies

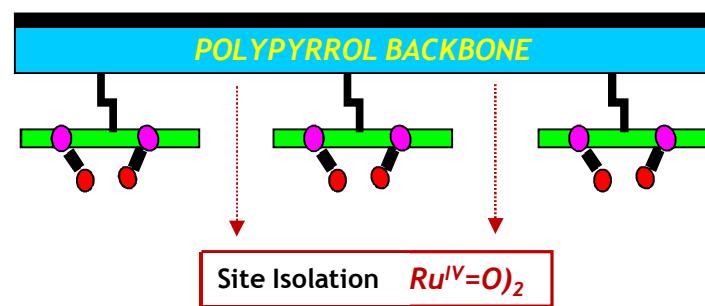
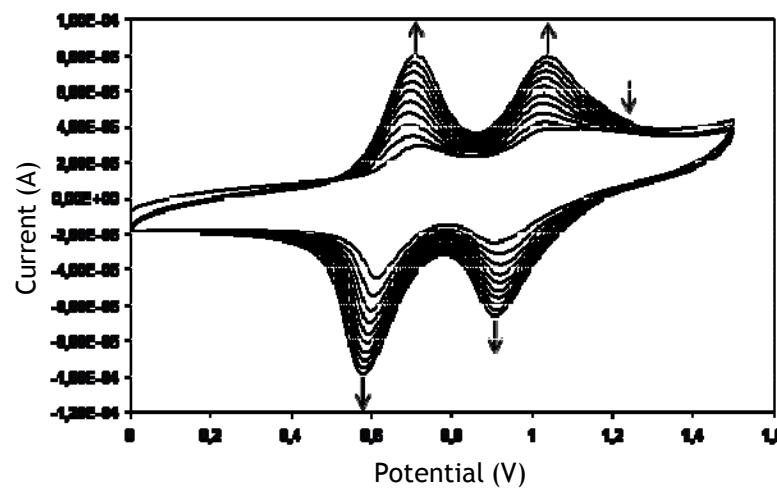
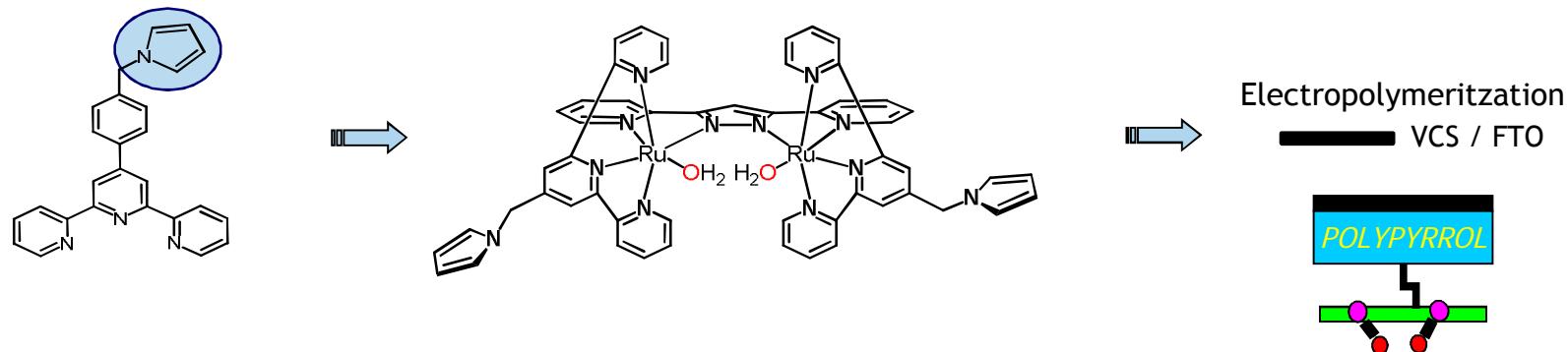


## HETEROGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: Immobilization strategies



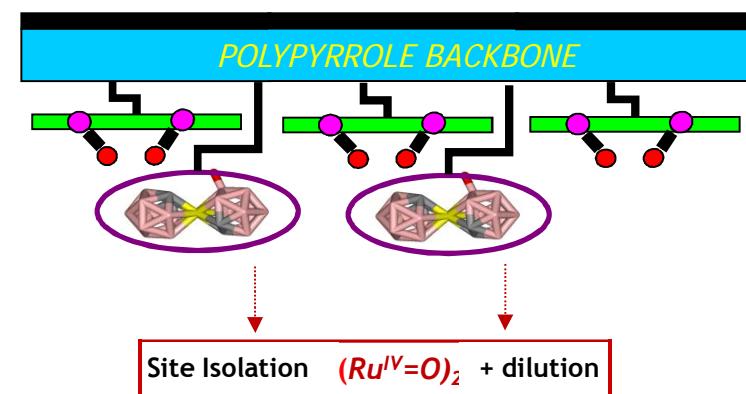
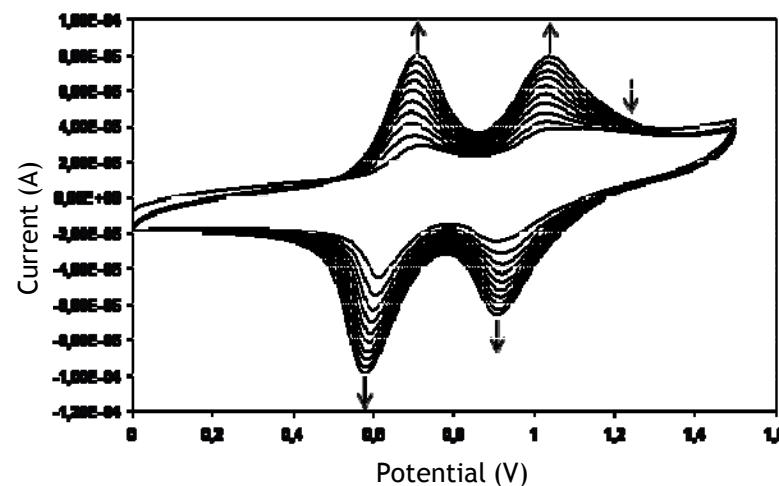
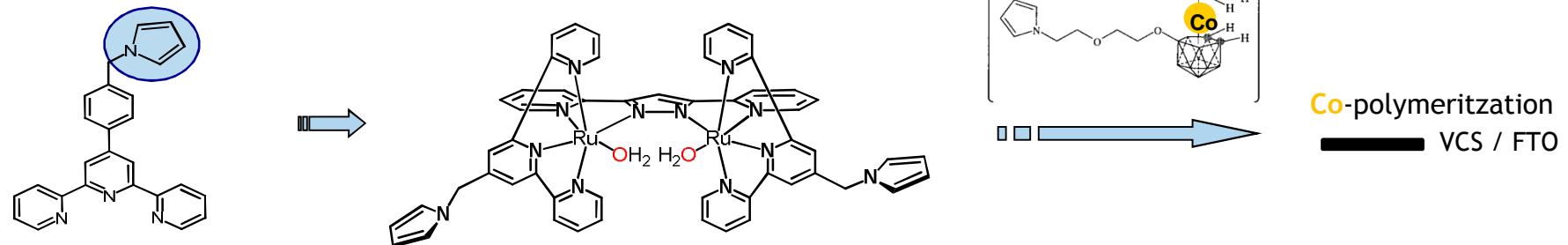
# Ru-Hbpp complexes: immobilization - ELECTROPOLYMERIZATION

A

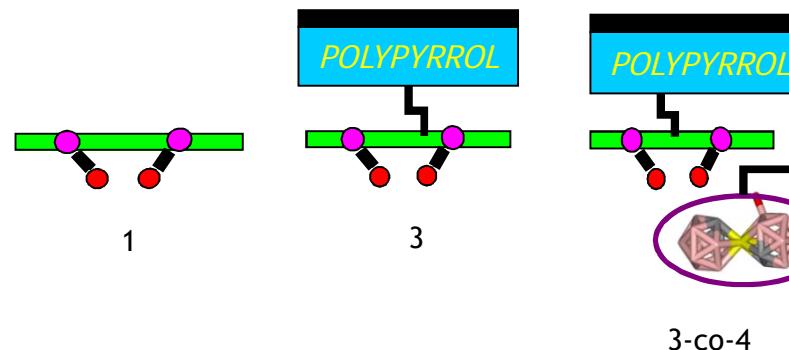


# Ru-Hbpp complexes: immobilization - ELECTROPOLYMERIZATION

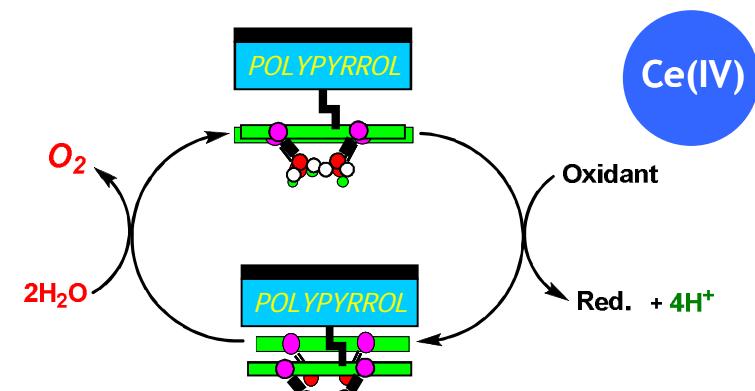
A



# Ru-Hbpp complexes: immobilization - ELECTROPOLYMERIZATION

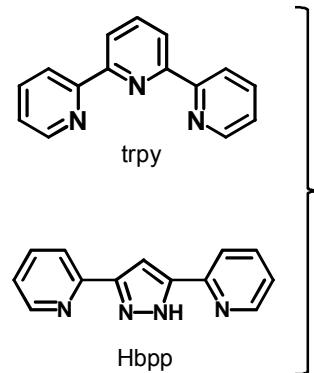
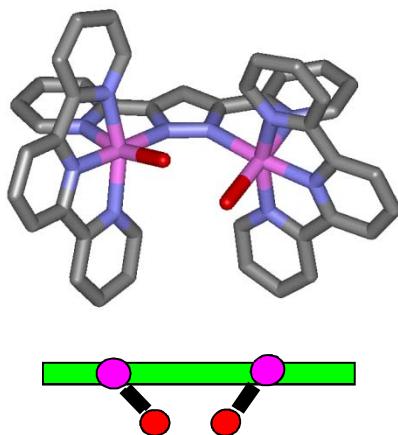


Cat	nmols Ru	mmols Ce(IV)	Ratio	TN	$\nu_{O_2} \times 10^2$
1	1828	186	102	18.6	2.5
1	167	857	5132	22.9	86
VCS/poly-3	3.1	3600	1162	41	0.62
FTO/poly-3	1.0	3600	3600	76	1.2
FTO/poly-(3-co-4)	0.5	3600	7200	250	1.1

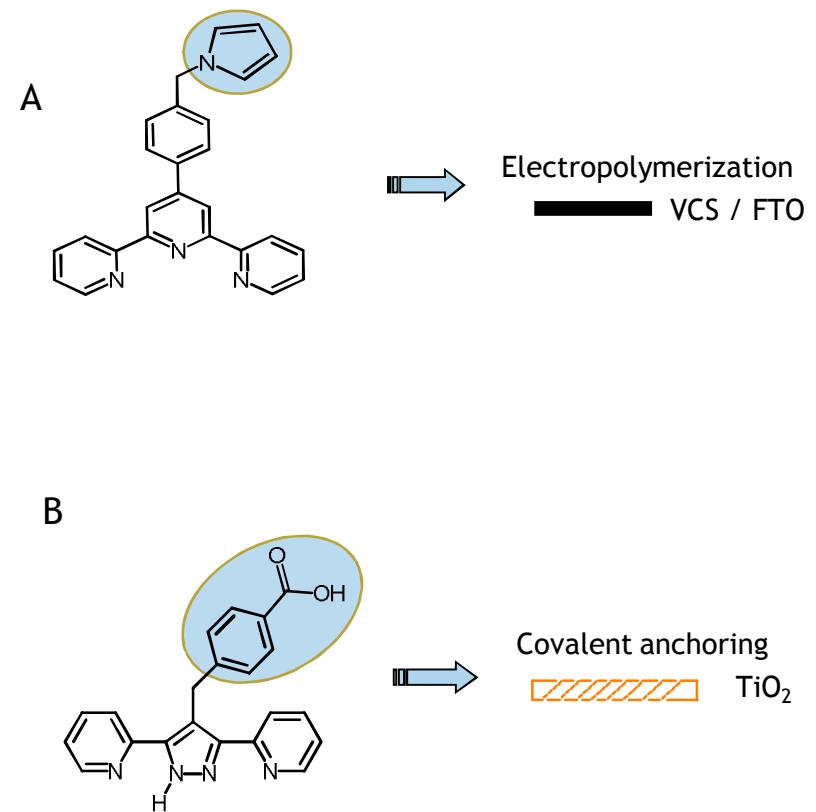


Max. TN reported in heterogeneous phase  
with a chemical oxidant (Ce<sup>IV</sup>)

## Ru-Hbpp complexes - IMMOBILIZATION STRATEGIES



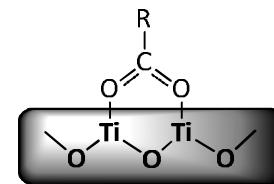
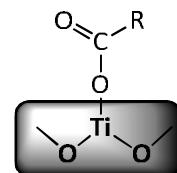
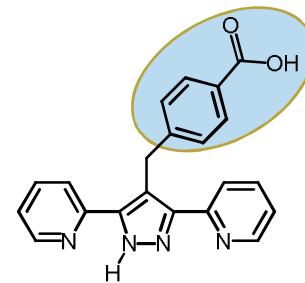
Sens, C., Llobet, A., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, 126, 7798



## Ru-Hbpp complexes: immobilization - COVALENT ANCHORING

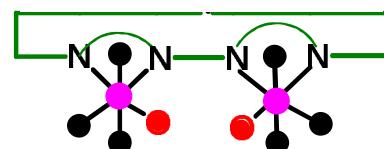
B

Covalent anchoring  
 TiO<sub>2</sub>



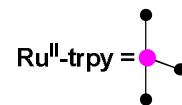
*Solid Support = TiO<sub>2</sub>*

*Ligand Modification*

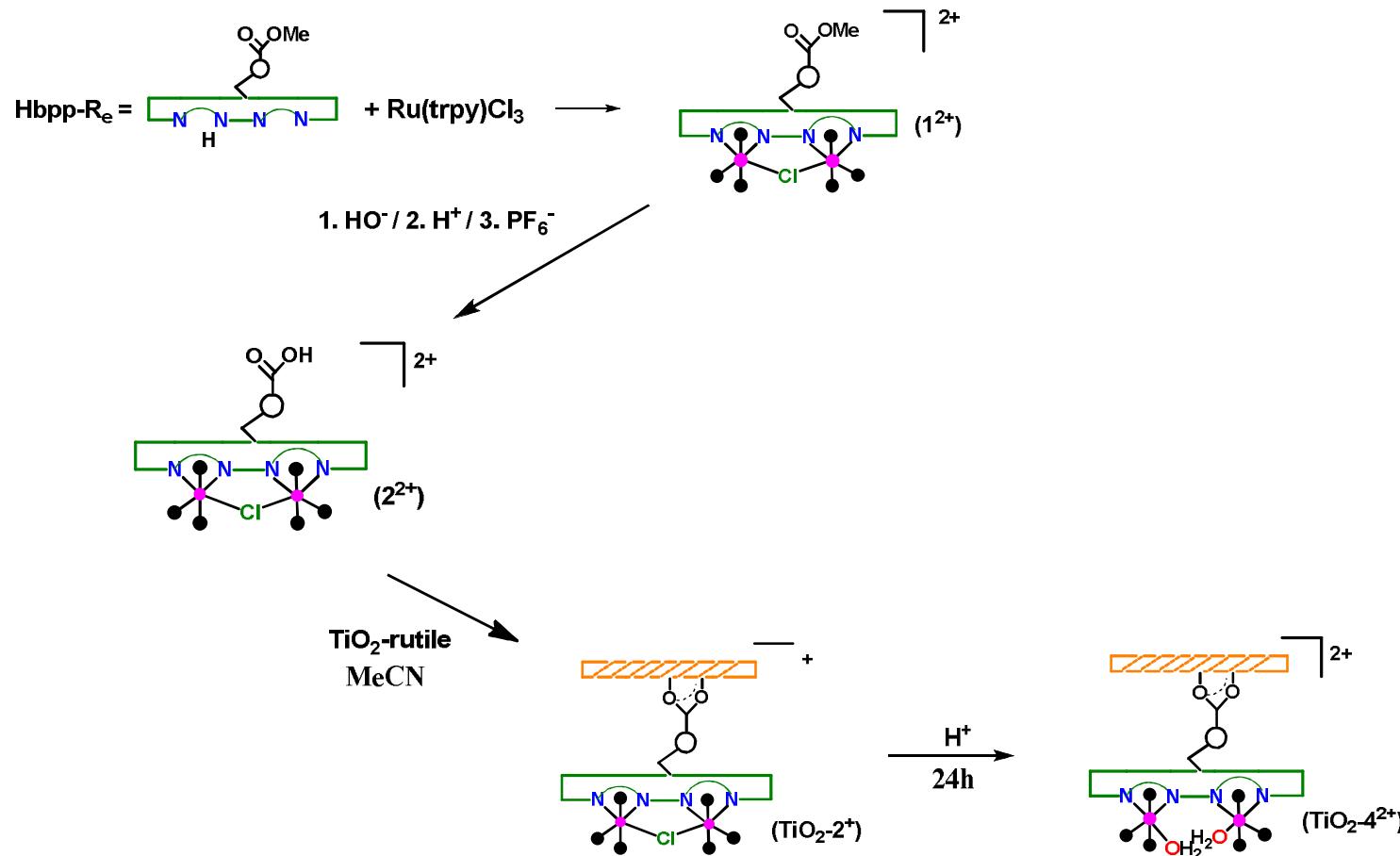


[Ru<sub>2</sub>(bpp)(trpy)<sub>2</sub>(OH<sub>2</sub>)]<sup>2+</sup>

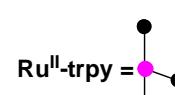
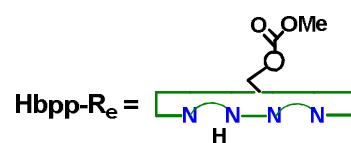
Hbpp =



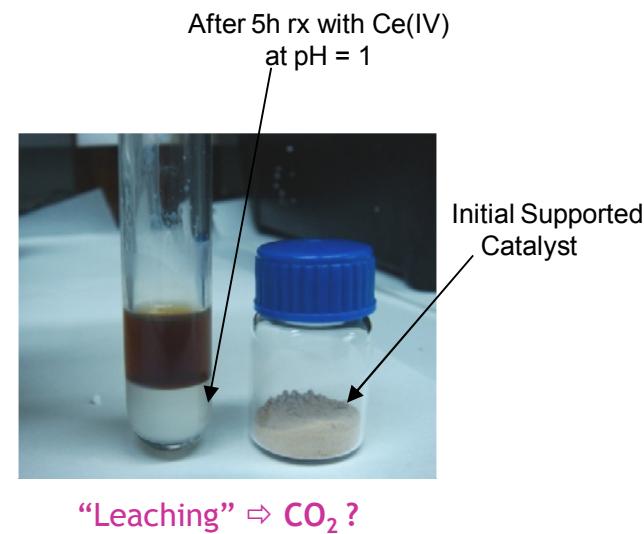
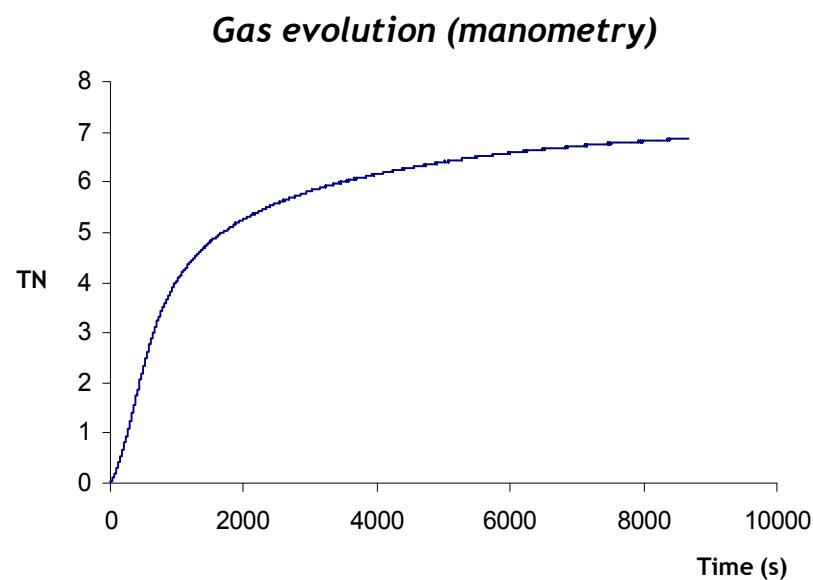
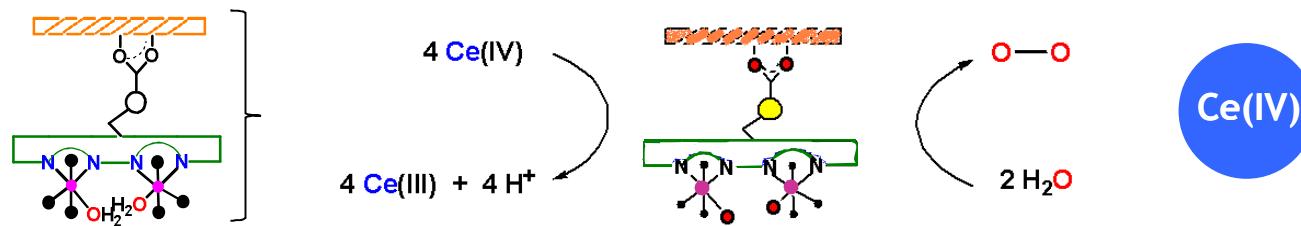
# Ru-Hbpp complexes: anchoring strategies - COVALENT ANCHORING



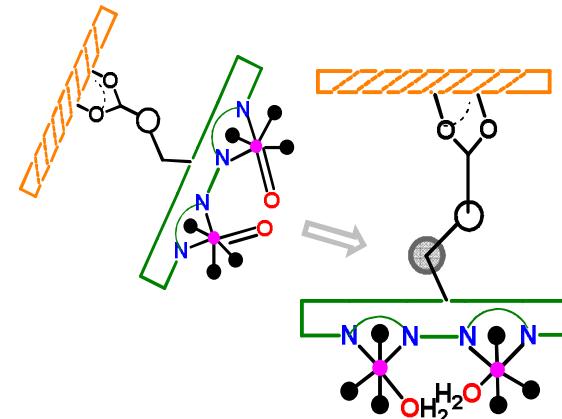
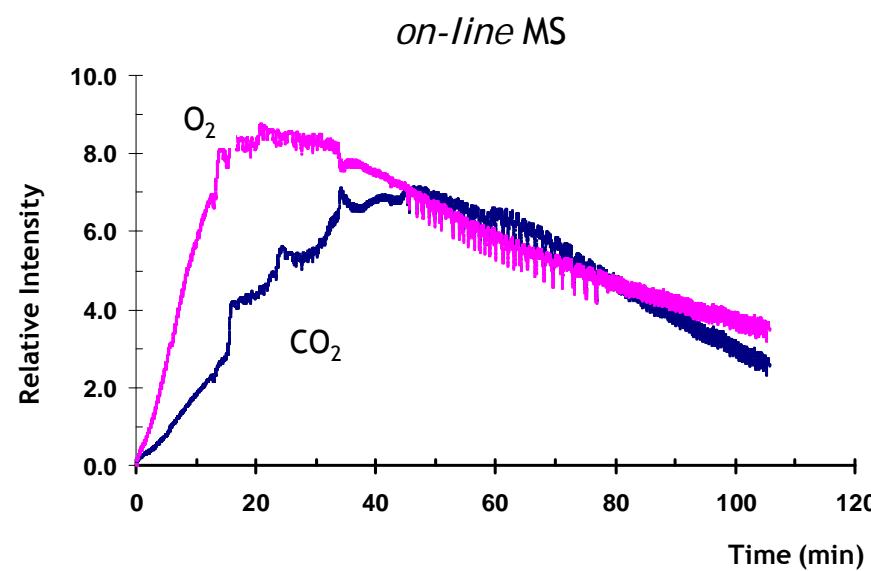
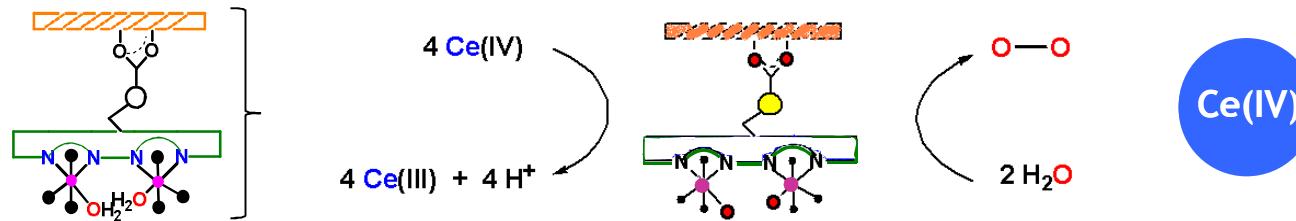
ChemSusChem 2009, 2, 321-329



# Ru-Hbpp complexes: - Covalent anchoring - WATER OXIDATION



# Ru-Hbpp complexes: - Covalent anchoring - WATER OXIDATION

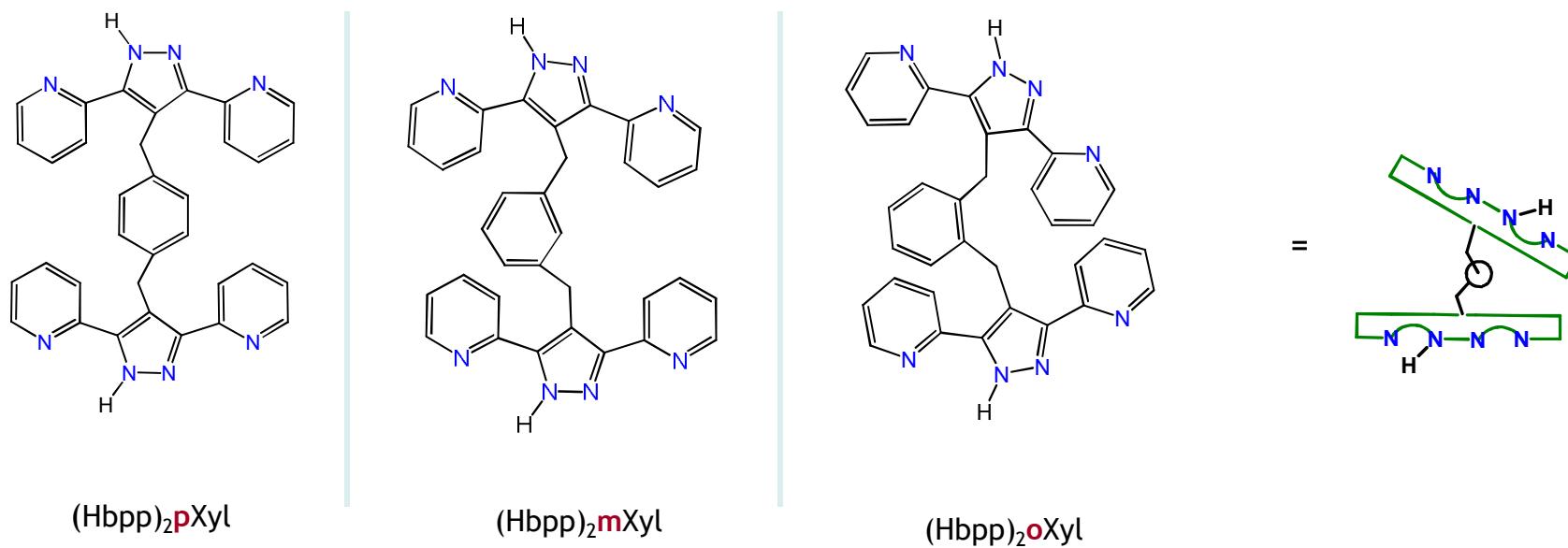
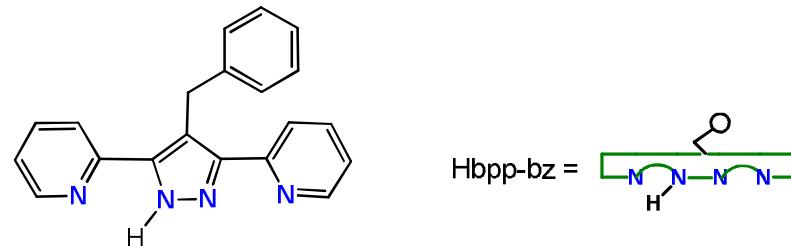


## **OUTLINE**

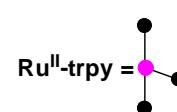
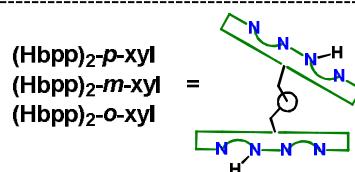
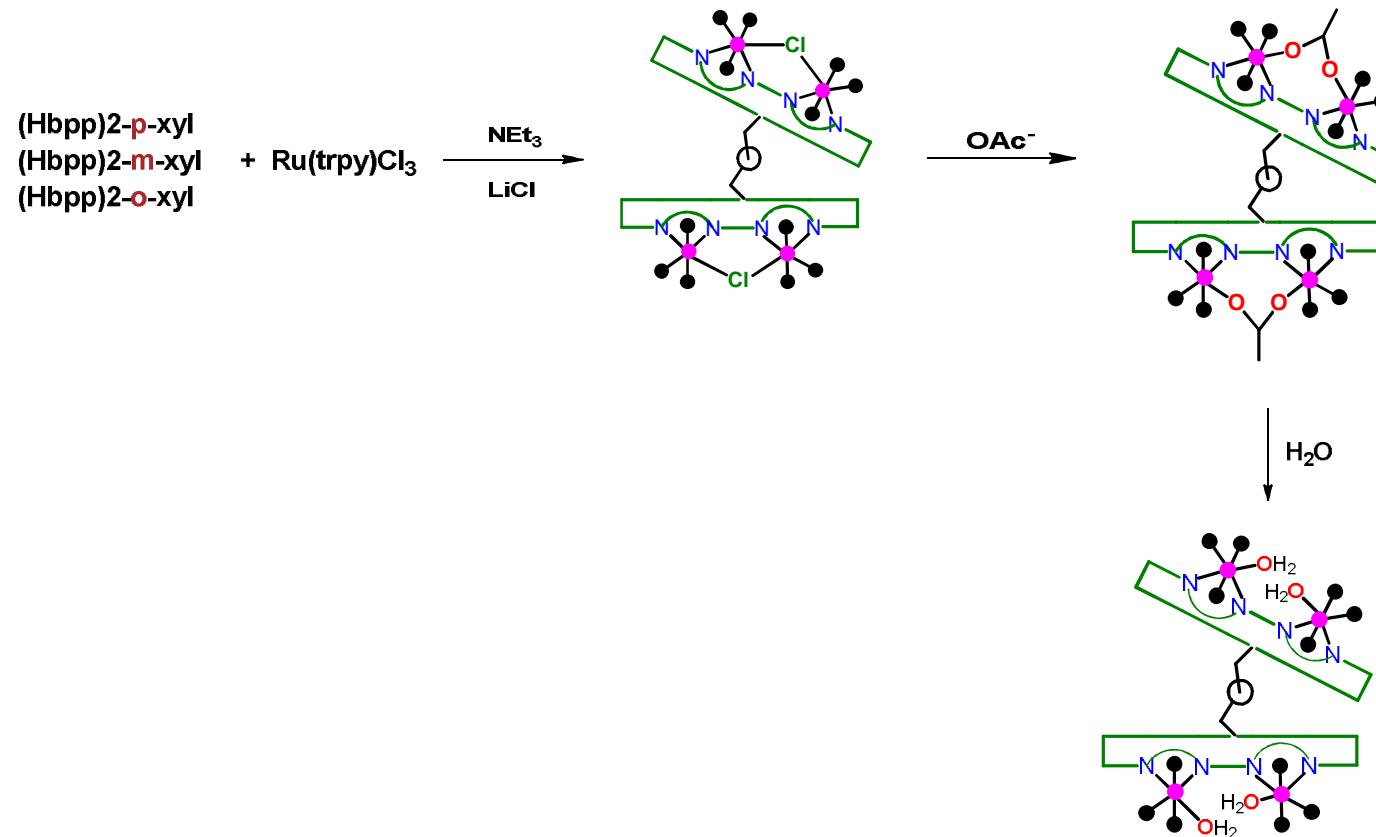
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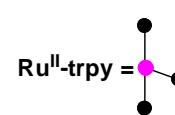
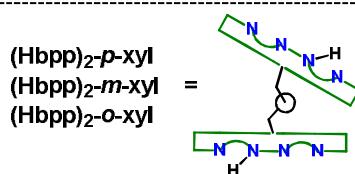
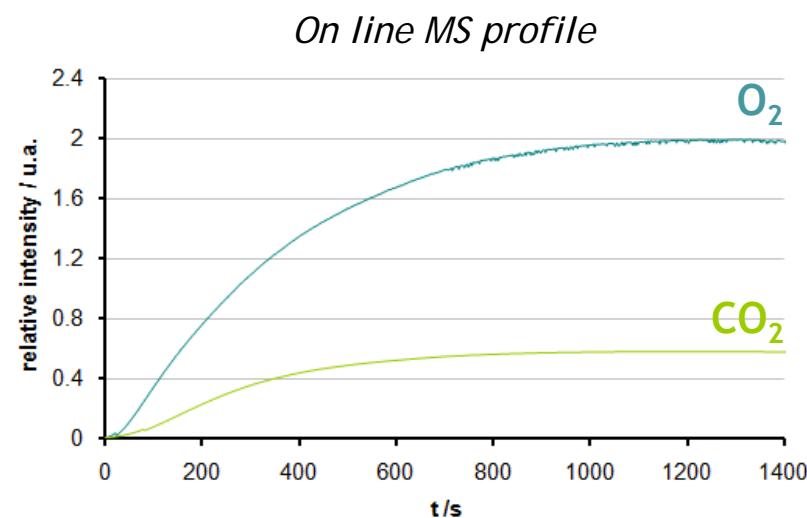
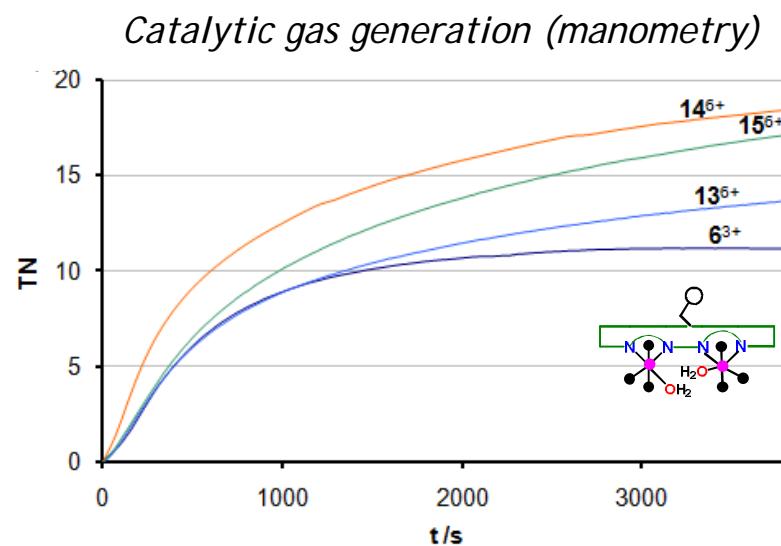
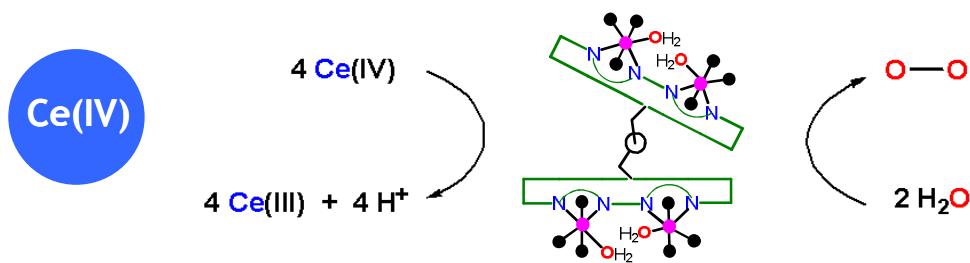
## Ru-Hbpp complexes: - O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> vs. NUCLEARITY



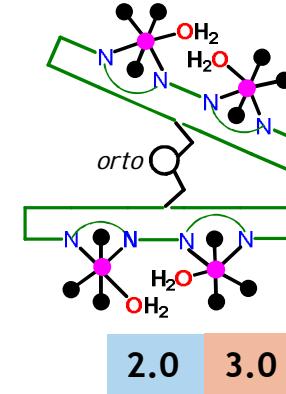
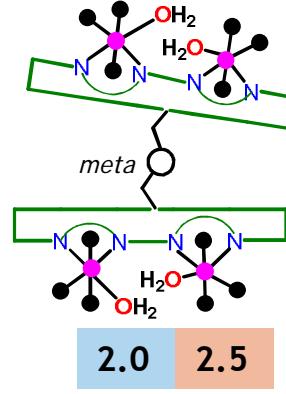
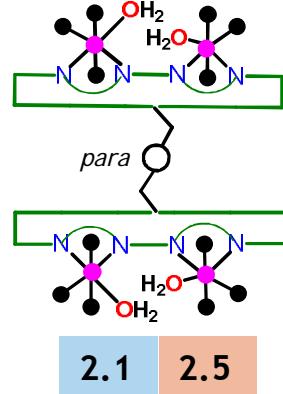
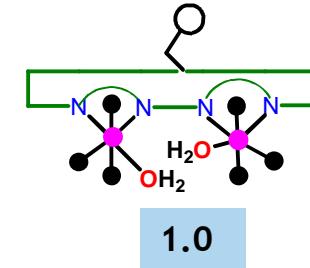
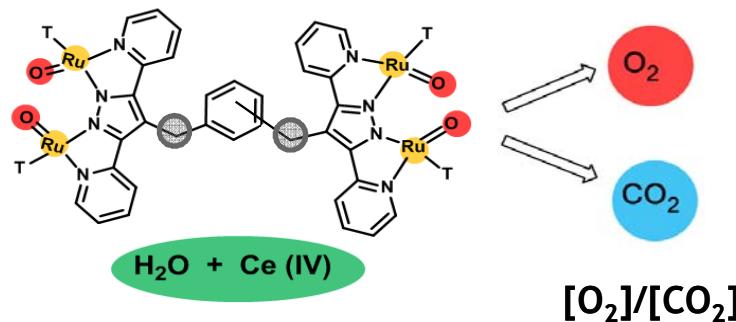
# Ru-Hbpp complexes: - O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> vs. NUCLEARITY



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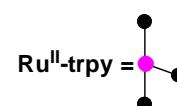
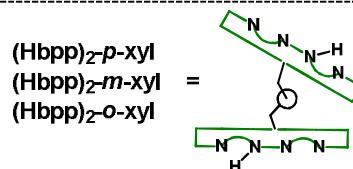
# Ru-Hbpp complexes: - O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> vs. NUCLEARITY



2.5

3.0

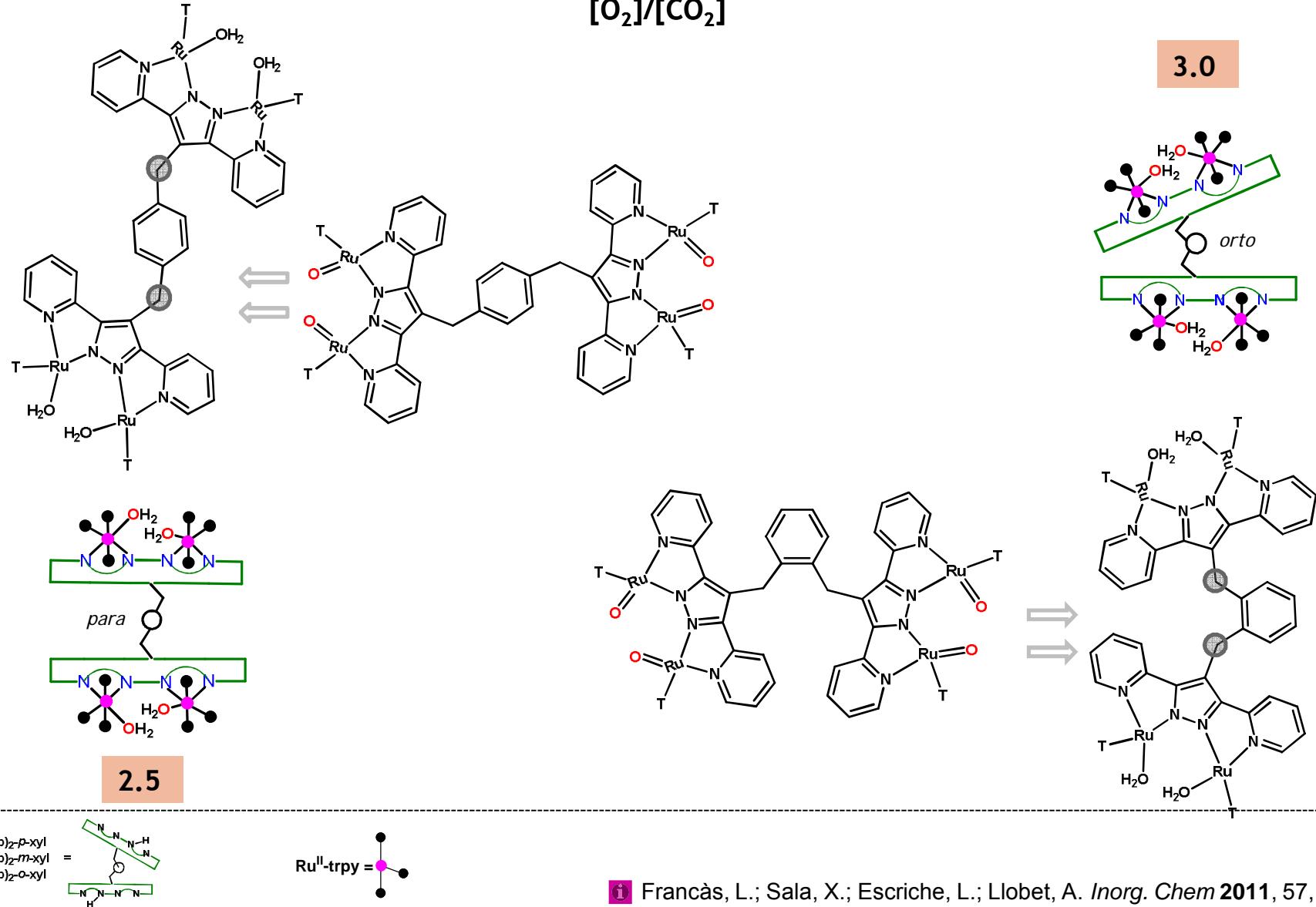
[CAT]=0.5mM, Ce/Ru=50 [CAT]=1mM, Ce/Ru=50



Francàs, L.; Sala, X.; Escriche, L.; Llobet, A. *Inorg. Chem.* 2011, 57, 2771

# Ru-Hbpp complexes: - O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> vs. NUCLEARITY

[O<sub>2</sub>]/[CO<sub>2</sub>]

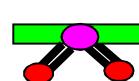


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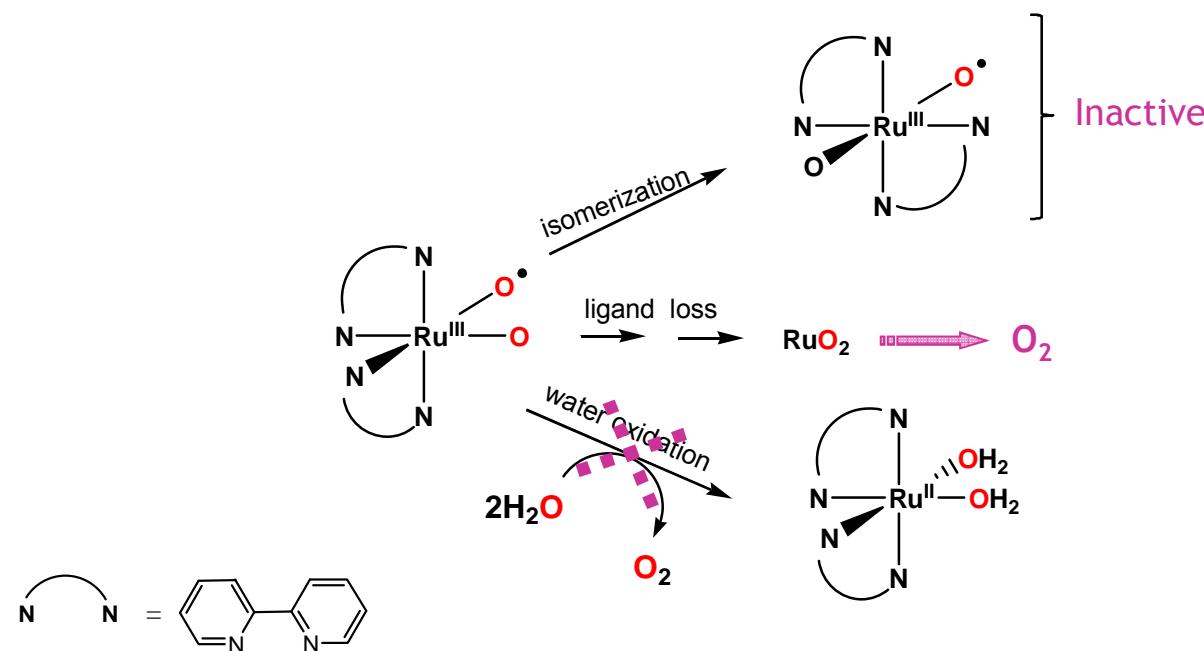
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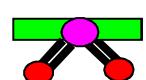
## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



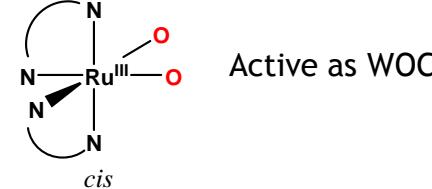
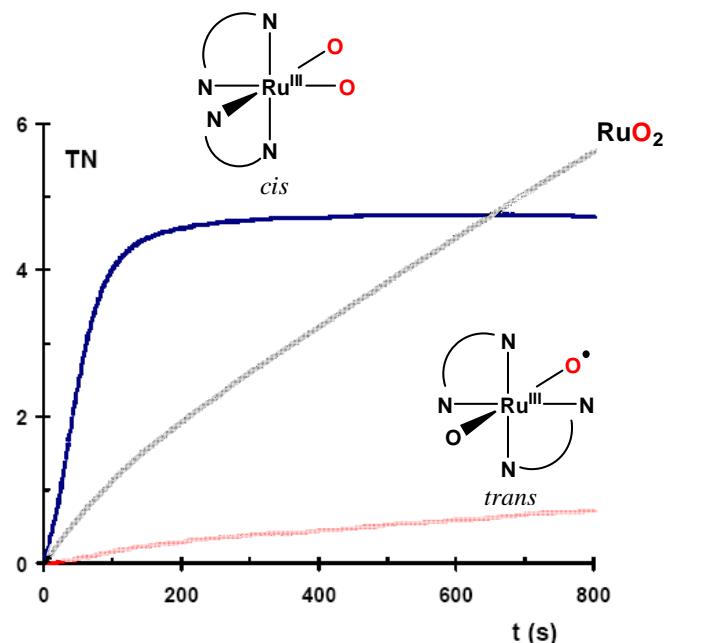
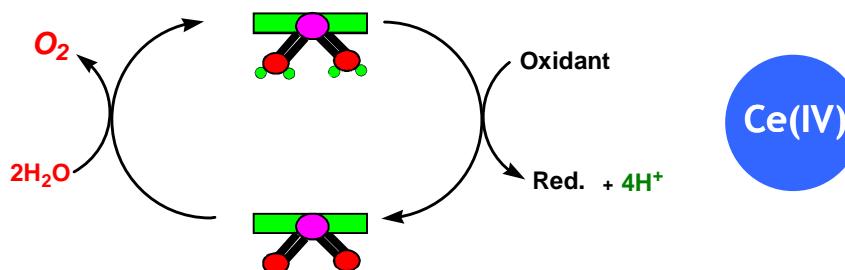
: *cis*-[Ru(bpy)(OH<sub>2</sub>)]<sup>2+</sup>, 20 years after - *O<sub>2</sub>*-generation mechanism



## HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



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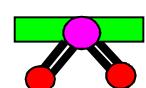
Active as WOC

- Interesting for studying the O-O bond formation pathways

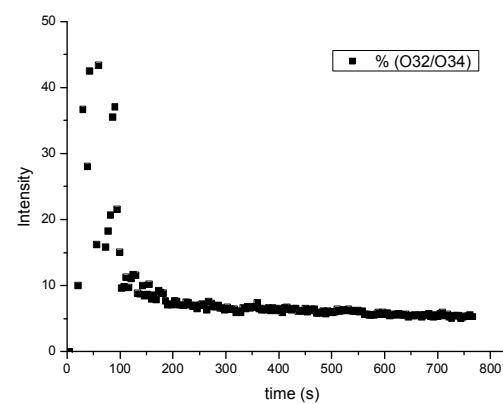
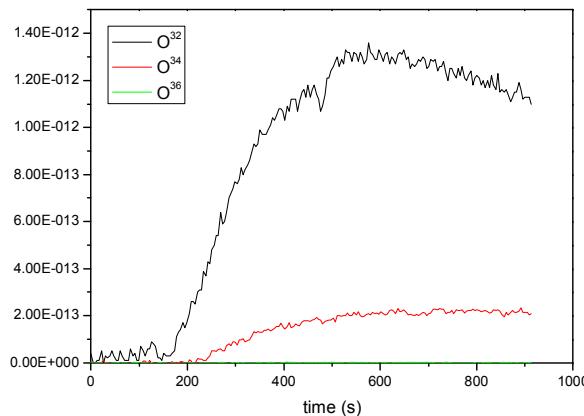


Sala, X.; Cramer, C.; Gagliardi, L.; Llobet, A. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2010, 49, 7745-7747

# HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation

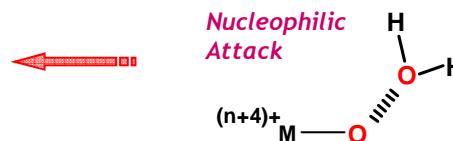


:  $O_2$ -generation mechanism - cat  $O^{16}$  /  $O^{18}$  and solvent  $H_2O^{16}$  /  $H_2O^{18}$

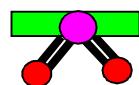


Entry	O <sup>18</sup> (%)	Exchange	NucA-T	IntraM-T	Exp.
4	Cat, 19.4	$^{32}O_2$	81.50	72.80	65.5
5	Solv, 9.7	$^{34}O_2$	17.50	25.30	31.3
6		$^{36}O_2$	0.9	1.90	3.8
					25.40
					1.3

1<sup>st</sup> direct evidence of a  
100% WNA for O-O bond formation

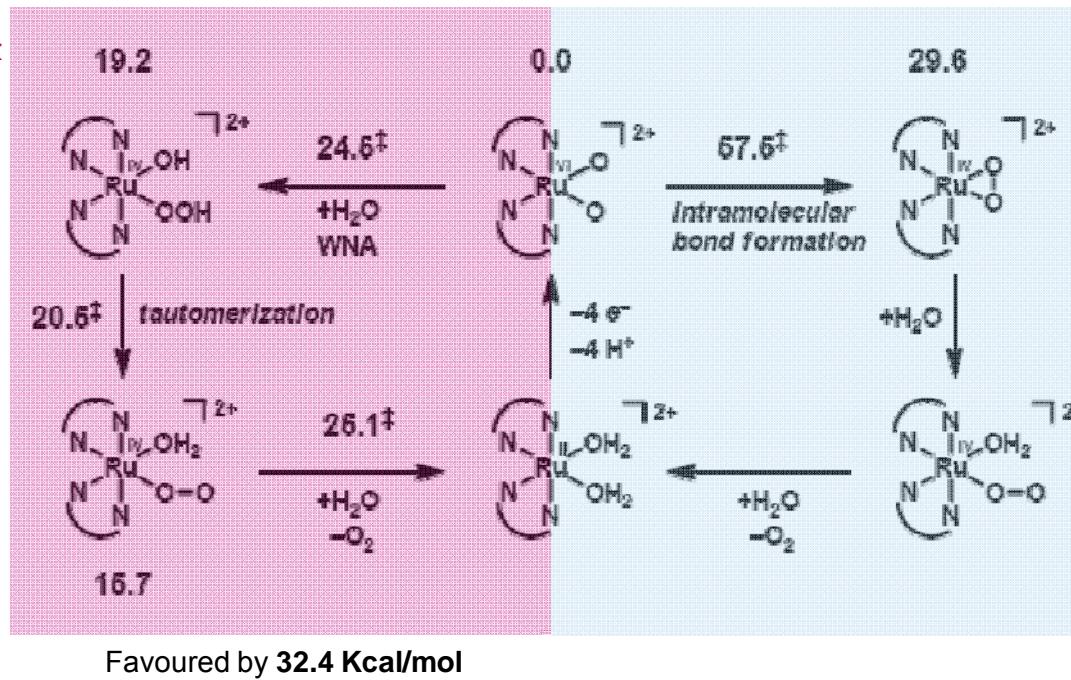


# HOMOGENEOUS WOC: Ru-Hbpp complexes: O-O bond formation



:  $O_2$ -generation mechanism - theoretical work

Nucleophilic Attack  
(WNA)



Intra-molecular



Sala, X.; Cramer, C.; Gagliardi, L.; Llobet, A. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2010, 49, 7745-7747

## **OUTLINE**

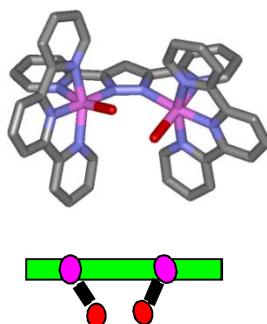
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1. INTRODUCTION
2. DINUCLEAR HOMOGENEOUS WOCs
3. DINUCLEAR HETEROGENEOUS WOCs
4. TETRANUCLEAR HOMOGENEOUS WOCs
5. MONONUCLEAR WOCs: the  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$  case
6. CONCLUSIONS

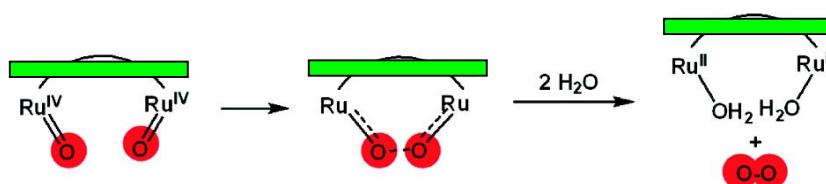
## CONCLUSIONS

### Ru-Hbpp Homogeneous WOCs

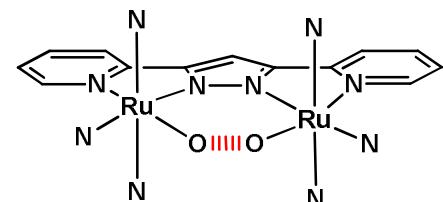
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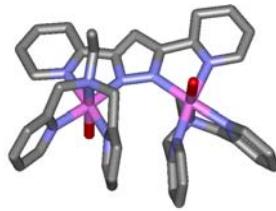


100 %  
INTRAmolecular

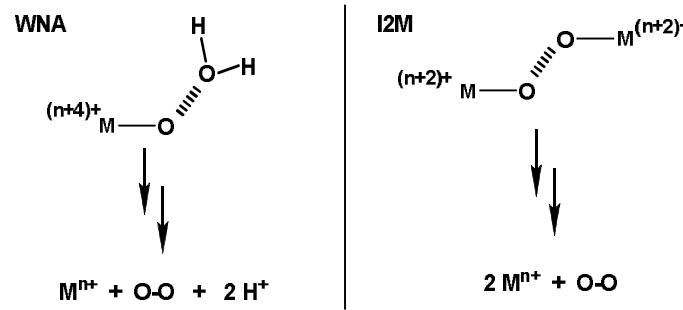


Dynamic Behaviour

2



}

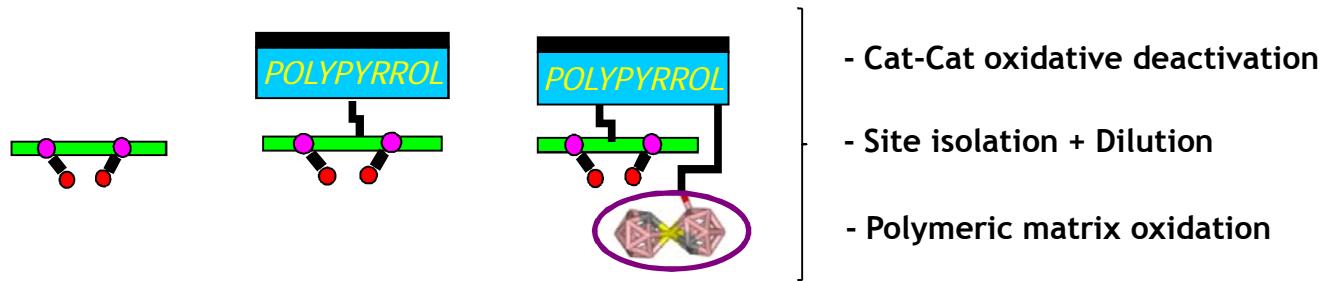


INTERM-IM2 or WNA

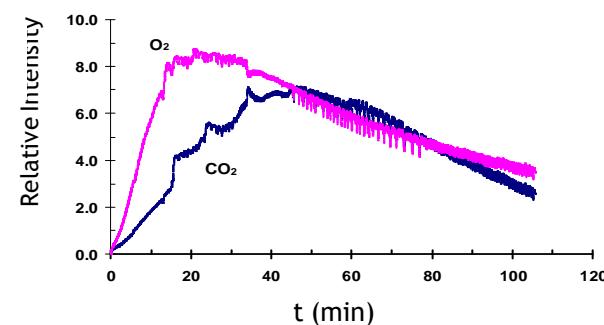
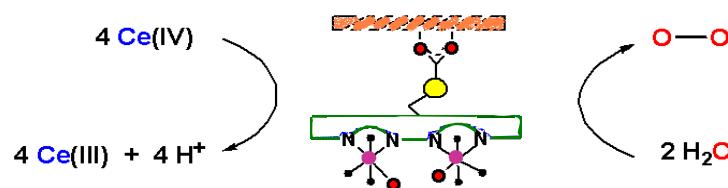
## CONCLUSIONS

### Ru-Hbpp Heterogeneous WOCs

#### 3 Electropolymerization (VCS / FTO)



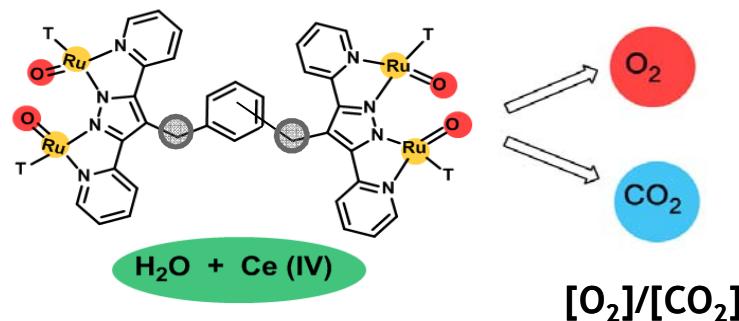
#### 4 Covalent anchoring ( $\text{TiO}_2$ )



## CONCLUSIONS

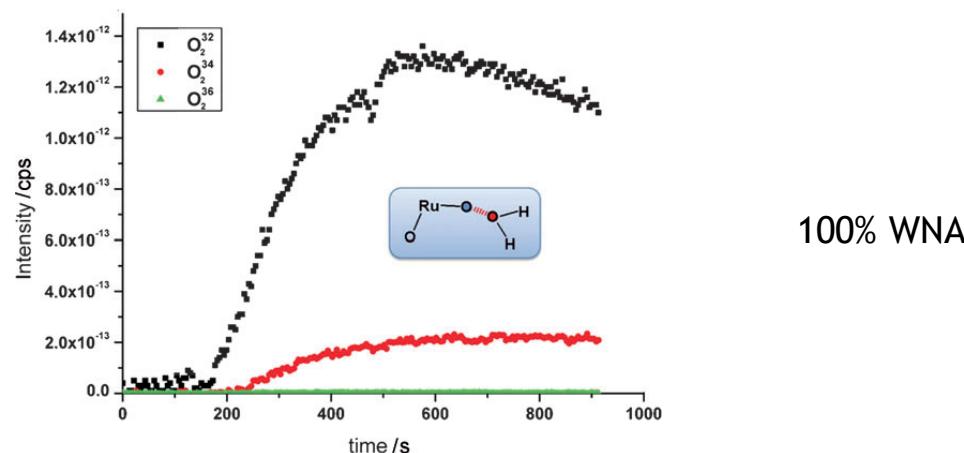
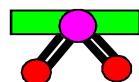
### Tetranuclear WOCs

#### 5 O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> ratio



### Mononuclear WOCs

#### 6 The [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>] case : O<sub>2</sub> formation



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# Ru Based Water Oxidation Catalysts



ICTP, Miramare, Trieste, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2011

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