

Metal alkynyl
wires and
devices

Ren
Research
2021

Sustainable
chemistry

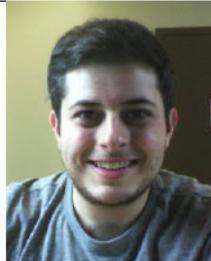
State of the Ren Lab

- ◆ 4 graduate students
- ◆ Publications: 140+ since 2005
- ◆ Current Support (ca. \$350k/yr)
 - ◆ NSF CHE-1764347: Sustainable Metal Alkynyl Chemistry
 - ◆ NSF CHE-1609151: Photo-electro CO_2 fixation
 - ◆ Discretionary Funds
- ◆ Looking for 2 new students



Currently: Four graduate students, two undergrads and one progressive radical

Recent Ph.D.s (2010 -)

				
Darryl Boyd, 2010 Scientist , Naval Res Lab	Steven Cummings, 2012, Faculty , Howard Univ	Will Forrest, 2012 Scientist , Merck	Julia Savchenko, 2013; Scientist , Urban Mining	Leslie Villalobos, 2013; Faculty , Broward Coll.
				
Yang Zhang, 2013 Scientist , Saint-Gobain	Zhi Cao, 2014 Faculty , Chin. Acad Sci.	Dylan Thompson, 2014; Faculty , Concordia Univ	Tim Cook, 2016 Faculty , Wabash Coll.	Sarah Robey, 2017 Sr. Engineer , Intel
				
Eileen Judkins, 2017 Analyst , Northrop Grumman	Sean Natoli, 2017 Scientist ; Proctor & Gamble	Susie Banziger, 2019 Scientist , Corteva	Adharsh Raghavan, 2020, Postdoc , Univ Pennsylvania	

Spotlights on Recent Ph.D.s



Darryl Boyd

2016 - NOBCChe Ferguson
Young Scientist Award

2018 ACS Talented 12

2020 Purdue Distinguished
Early Career Alumni



Sean Natoli

2018 Burroughs
Wellcome Fund
Award

2019 CAS Future
Leaders



Susie Banziger

2016 Arthur Kelly
Teaching Award

2018 Cagiantas
Fellowship

Area I: Sustainable Organometallics as (Opto)-Electronic Materials

- ◆ Monodisperse oligo(Ru_2 -alkynyl) as electronic wires
- ◆ Metal-cyclam acetylide compounds as photonic wires
- ◆ Active materials for molecular devices
- ◆ Photoactive dendrimers & bio-markers



Ashley
Schumann



Lyndsy Miller

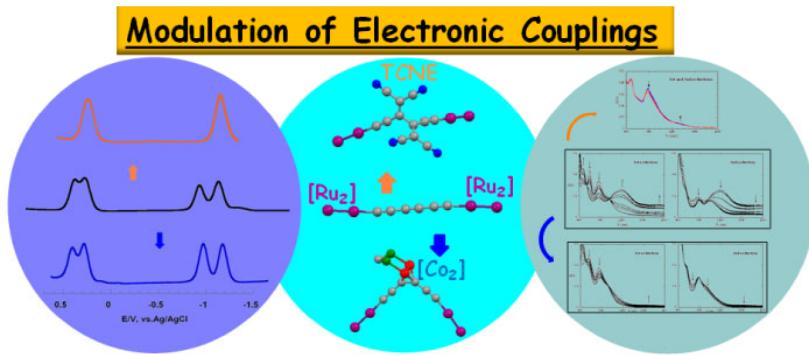


Reese
Clendening



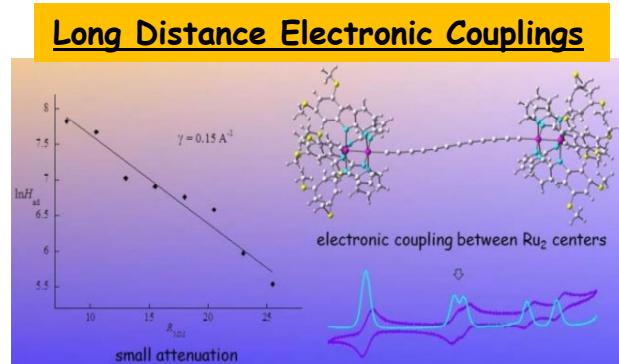
Leo Rodriguez

Area I: Selected (old) Examples



Successful modulation of electronic coupling within Ru₂-C₆-Ru₂ systems through insertion of organic and organometallic fragments.

(JACS, 2011, 133, 15094)



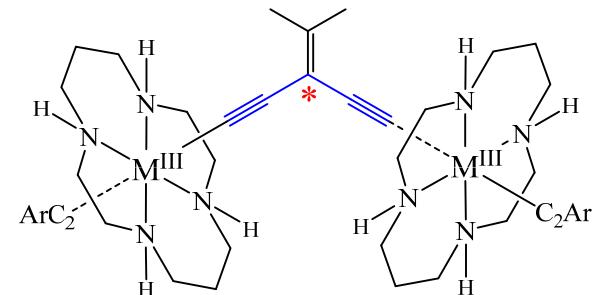
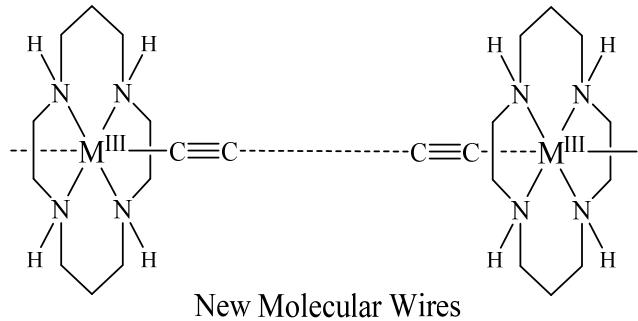
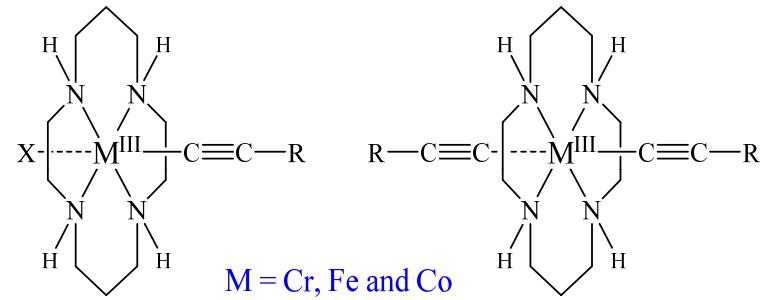
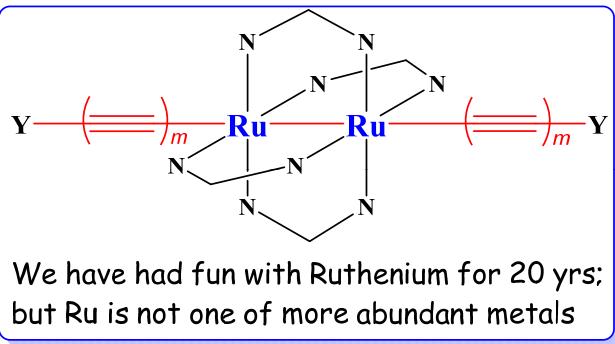
Electronic couplings within Ru₂-C_{2m}-Ru₂ systems have been determined using voltammetry and spectroelectrochemistry, and a small attenuation constant (γ) determined.

(JACS, 2014, 136, 12174)

Other readings

- (1) Ren, T., *Organometallics* 2005, 24, 4854.
- (2) Xu, G.-L.; Crutchley, R. J.; DeRosa, M. C.; Pan, Q.-J.; Zhang, H.-X.; Wang, X.; Ren, T., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2005, 127, 13354.
- (3) Mahapatro, A. K.; Ying, J.; Ren, T.; Janes, D. B., *Nano Lett* 2008, 8, 2131.
- (4) Ying, J.-W.; Liu, I. P.-C.; Xi, B.; Song, Y.; Campana, C.; Zuo, J.-L.; Ren, T., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2010, 49, 954.

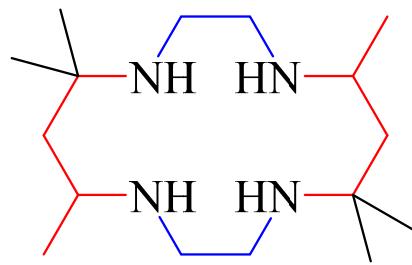
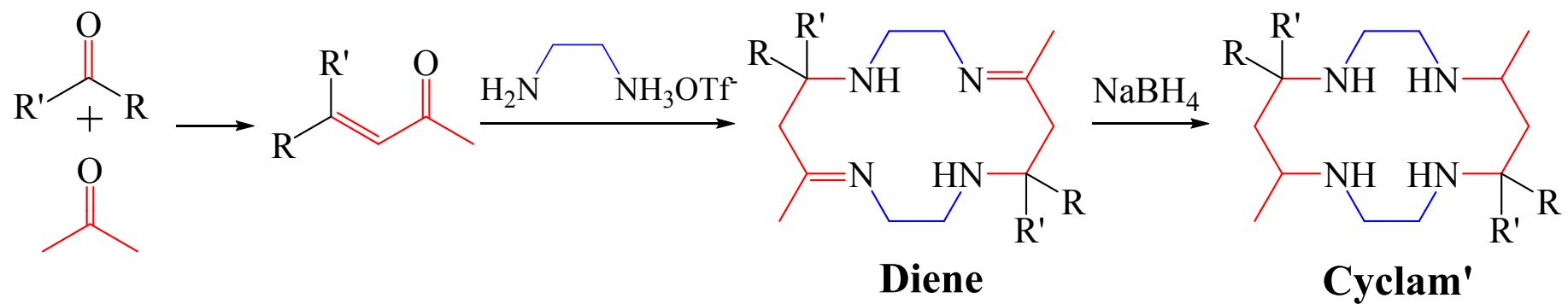
Area I, Present: Ru to 3d Metals



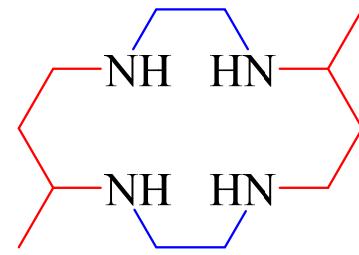
- NSF CHE-1764347: Sustainable Metal Alkynyl Chemistry

Sustainable Ligand Chemistry

(C-substituted cyclam - inexpensive)



HMC

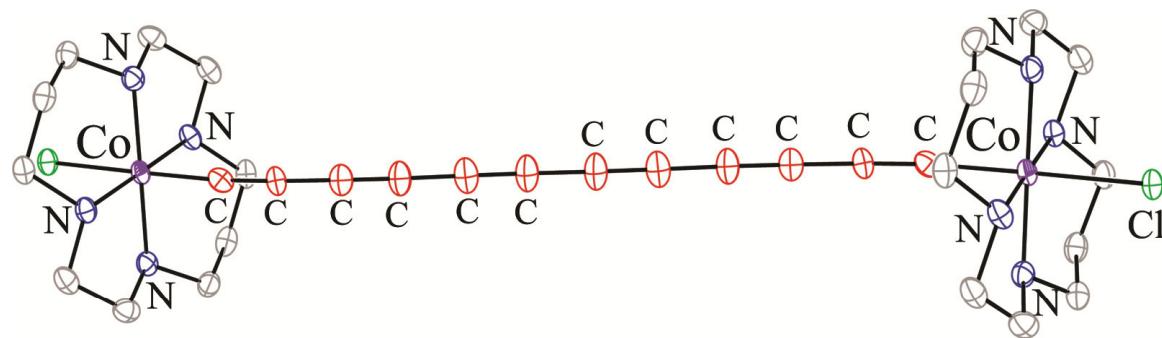
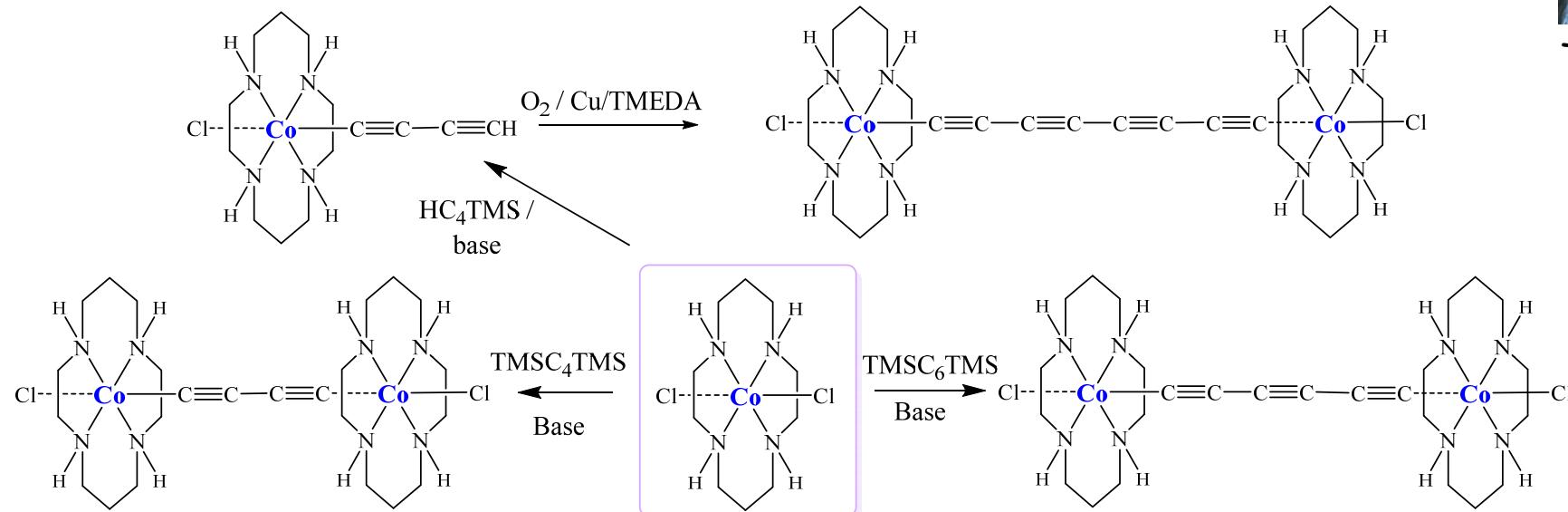


DMC

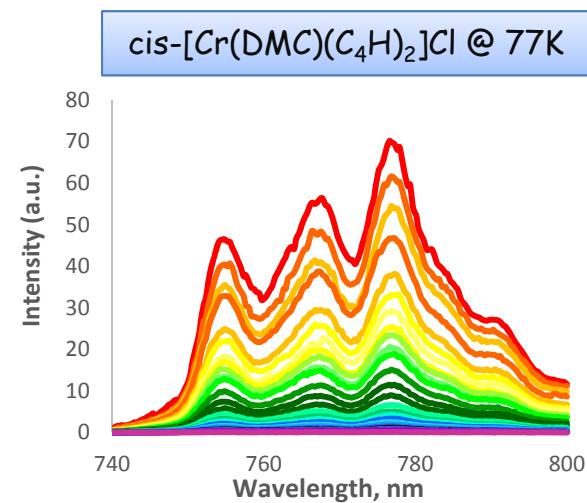
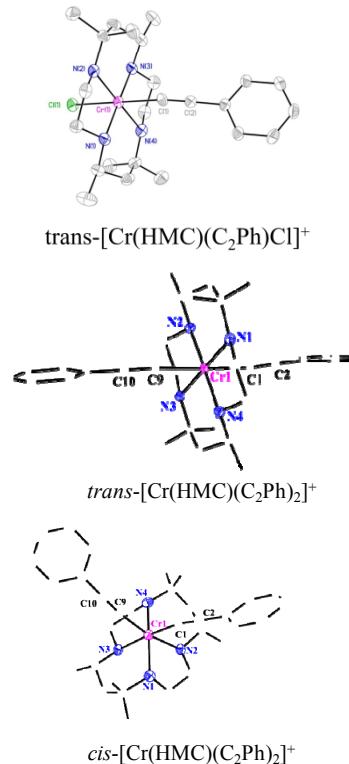
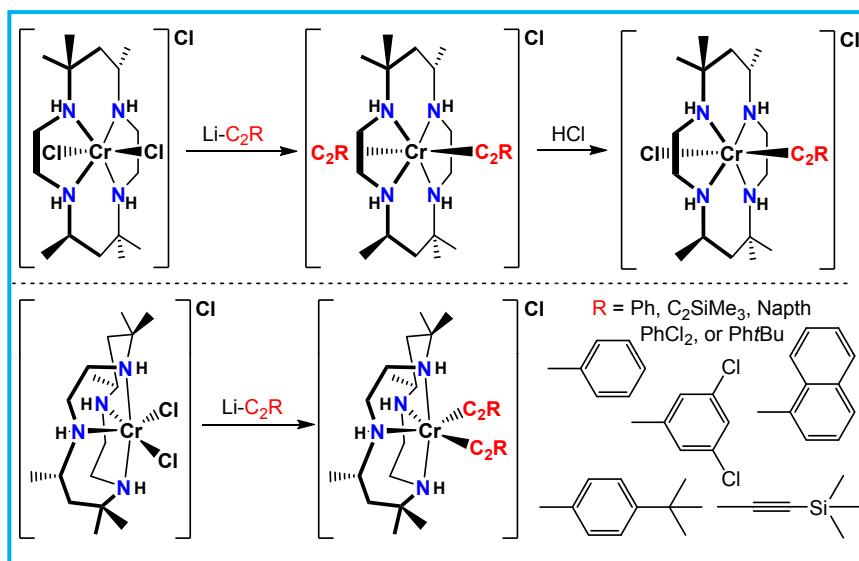
Recent examples: $[Co^{III}(cyclam)]_2(\mu-C_{2n})$



Tim Cook



Cr^{III}(HMC) & Cr^{III}(DMC) Complexes

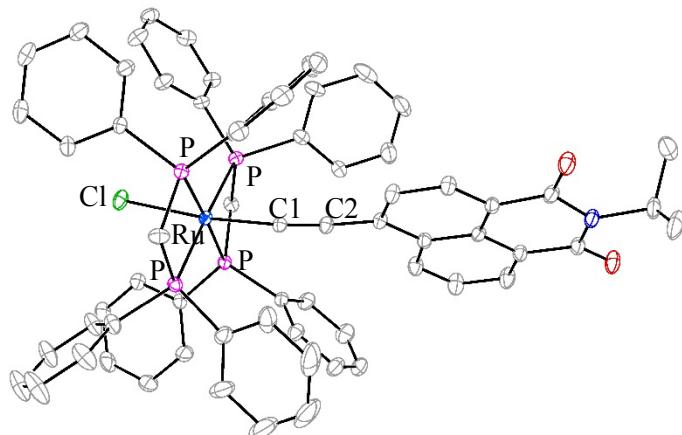


- In contrast to cyclam complexes, *cis*-/*trans*- $[\text{Cr}(\text{HMC})\text{Cl}_2]^+$ complexes readily convert to the corresponding bis-alkynyls while retaining their configuration
- Cr^{III} bis-alkynyls display vibronic structuring in their absorption spectra and are phosphorescent from the ${}^2\text{T}_{1g}$ excited state
- Bis-alkynyl complexes can undergo acid degradation to form mono-alkynyl complexes - an important intermediate in the synthesis of dissymmetric bis-alkynyls

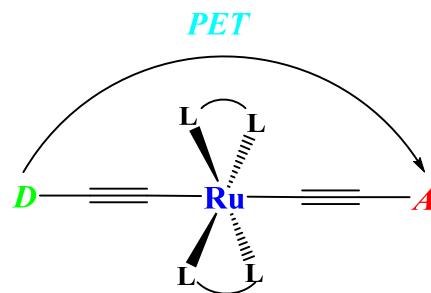
Area I Return of the Padawan (Ru)



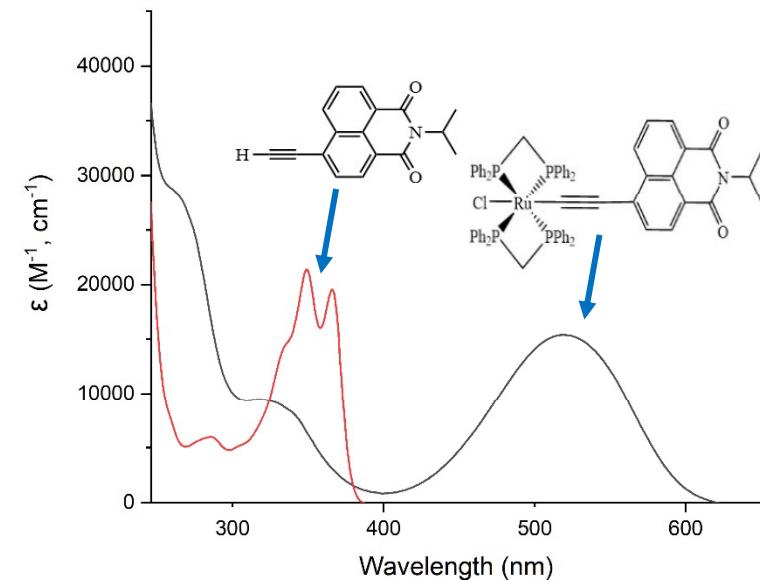
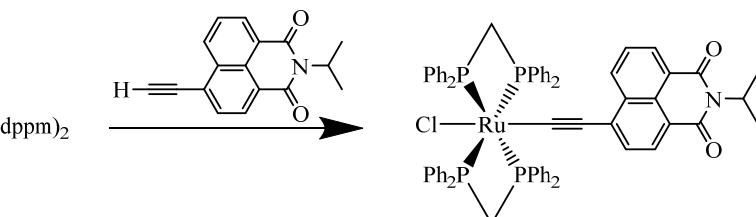
Lyndsy



M: Ru-C1: 1.988 Å; Ru-Cl: 2.465 Å; C1-C2: 1.214 Å

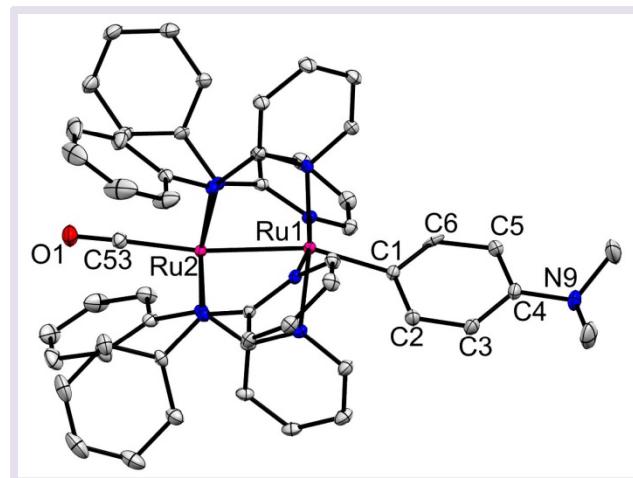
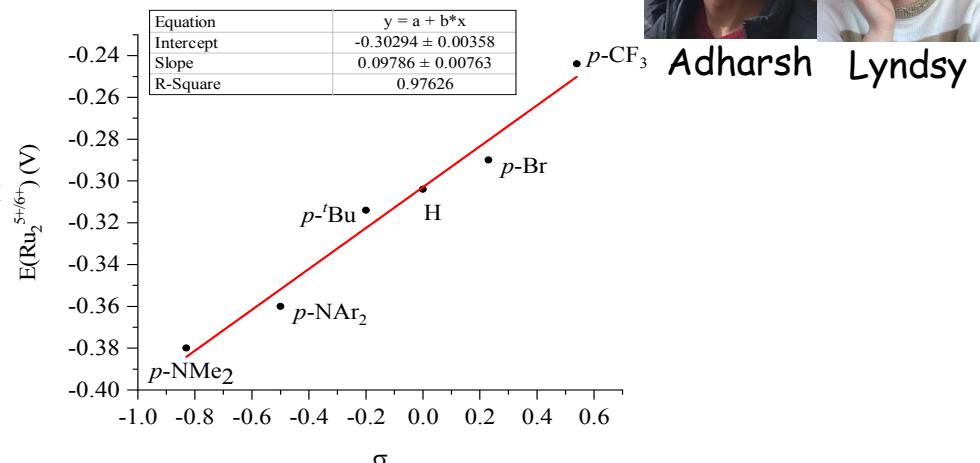
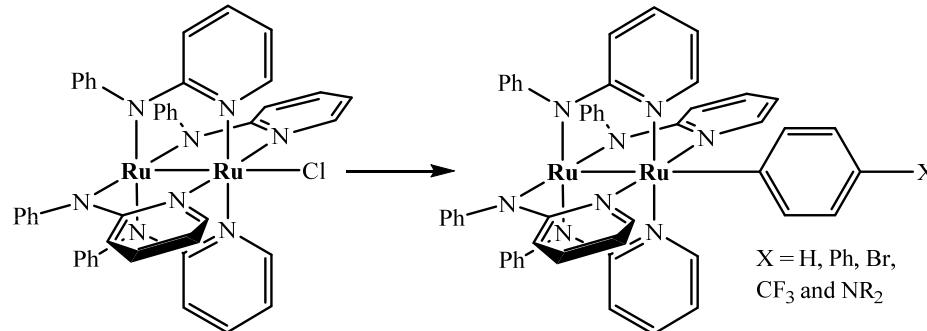


Future: Photo-induced electron transfer dynamics

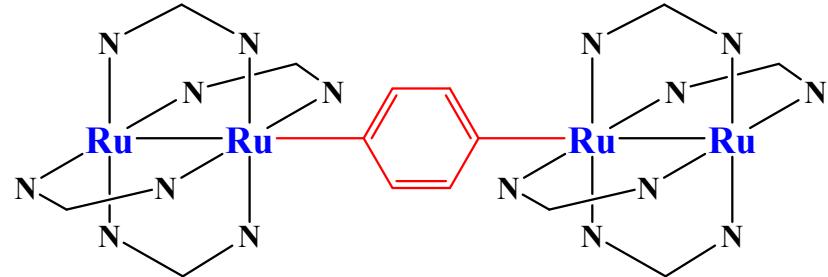


- MLCT dominates Vis spectrum;
- *d-d* band not detected
- *D-B-A* under construction

Area I Future - Return of the Jedi (Ru_2)

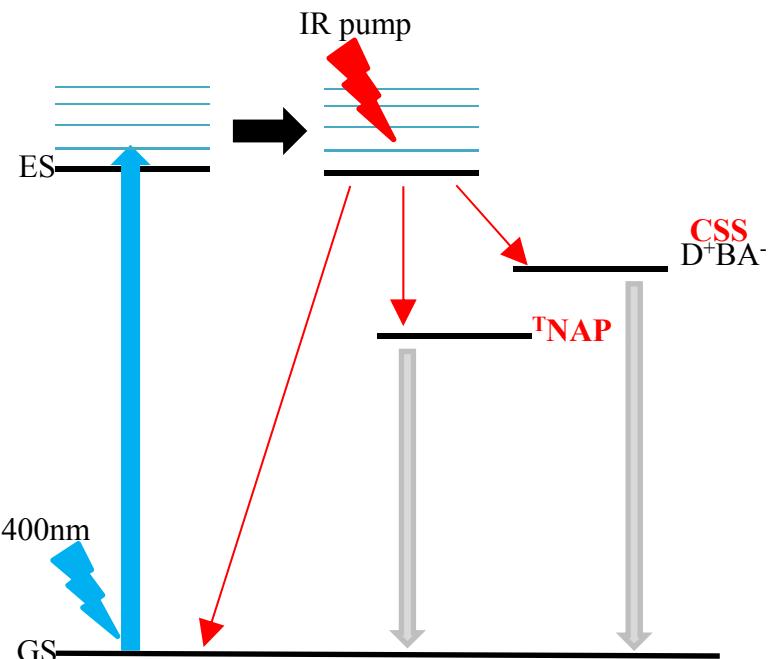
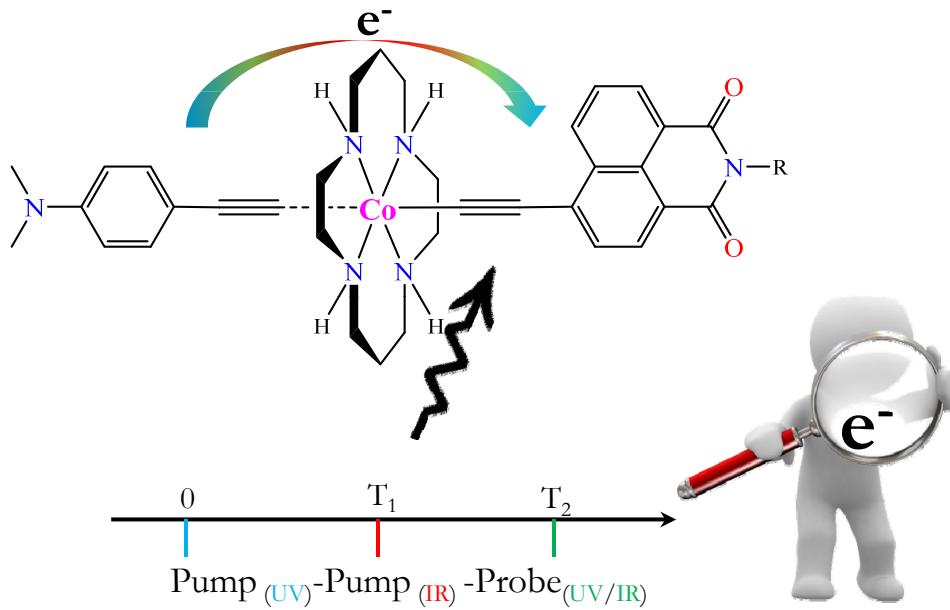


Unique CO complex on Ru₂



Challenge: Can we bridge two Ru₂ units and explore the electronic coupling mediated by the phenylene?

Area I Current - Donor-Bridge-Acceptor (D-B-A) and Photoinduced Electron Transfer

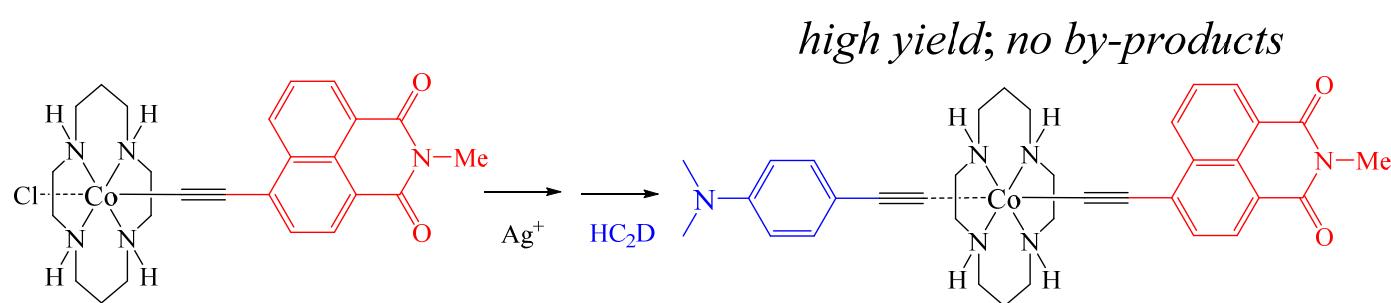
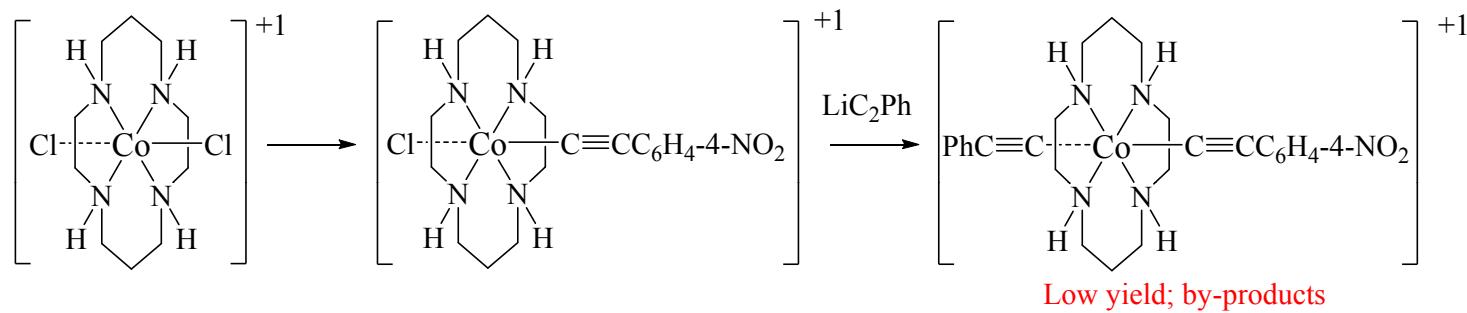


- Perturbation of vibrationally hot excited state (ES) results in dynamic decay to the ground state (GS)
- Likely decay pathway(s) through NAP triplet (^TNAP) and charge separated state (CSS)

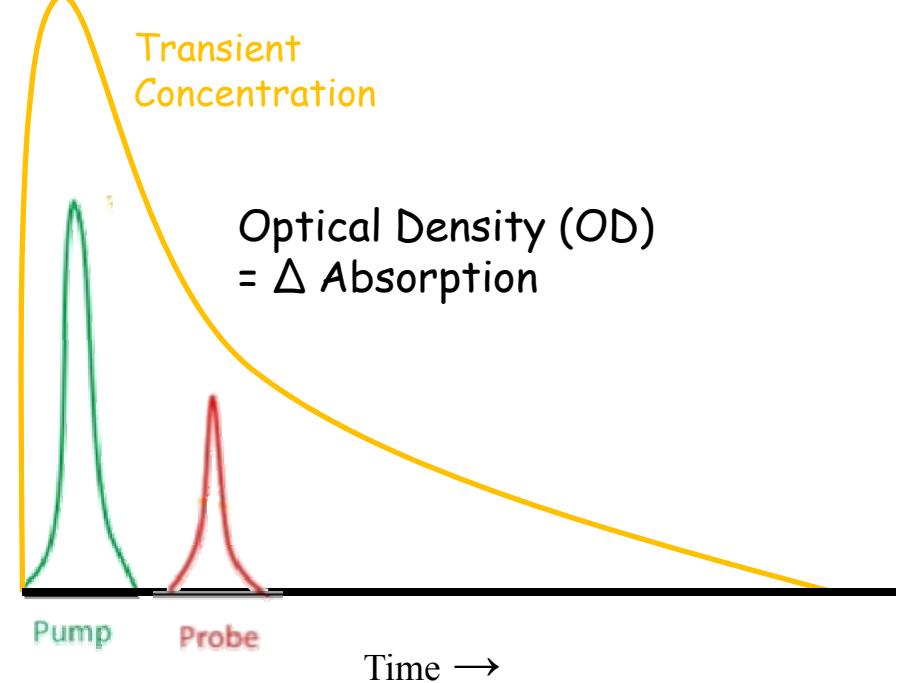
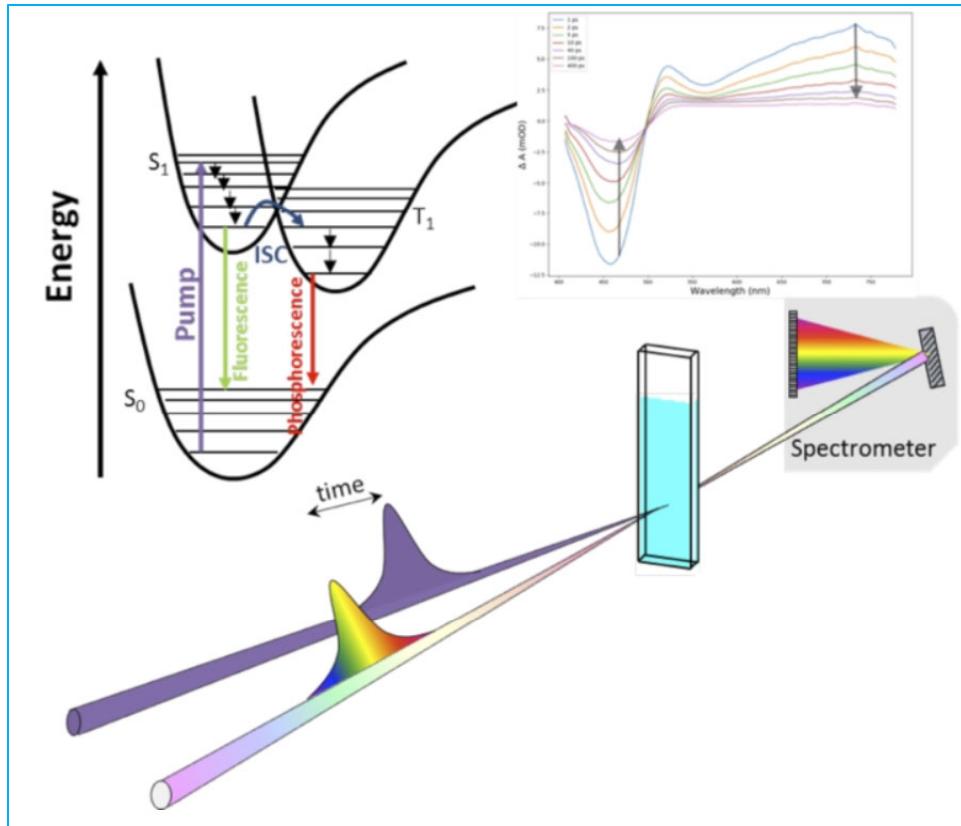
Area I Donor-Bridge-Acceptor based on Co(Cyclam)



Susie



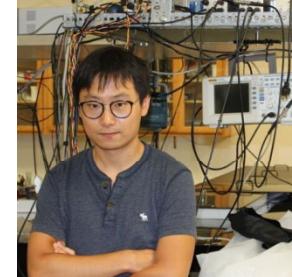
Transient Absorption (TA) Spectroscopy



<https://www.newport.com/f/transient-absorption-spectrometer>

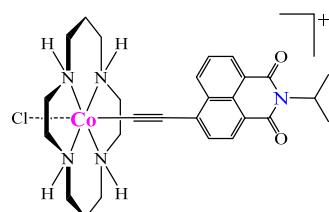
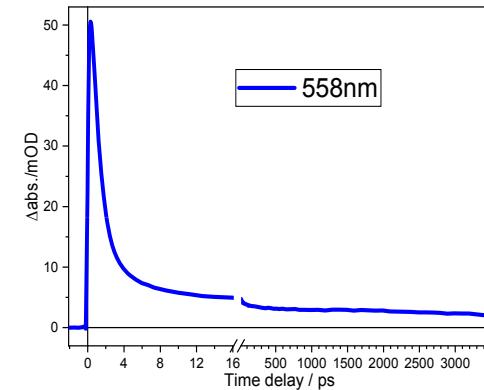
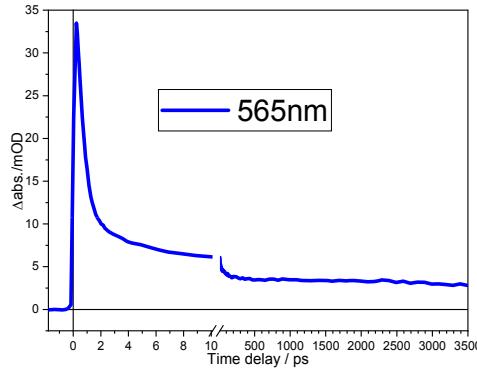
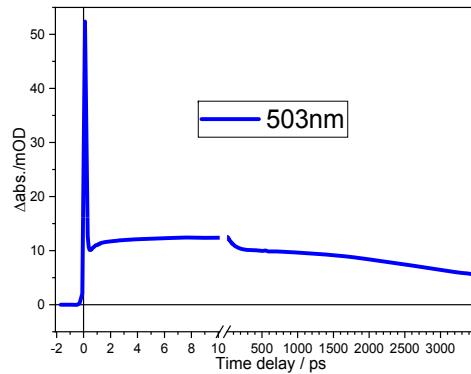


Prof. Igor Rubstov

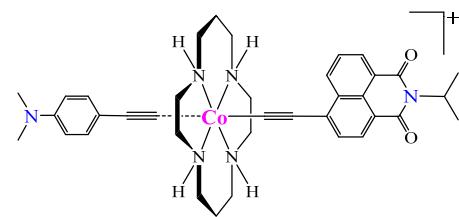


Xiao Li

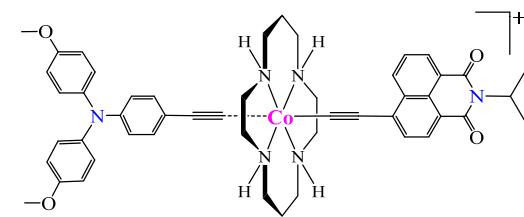
Transient kinetics: B-A and D-B-A



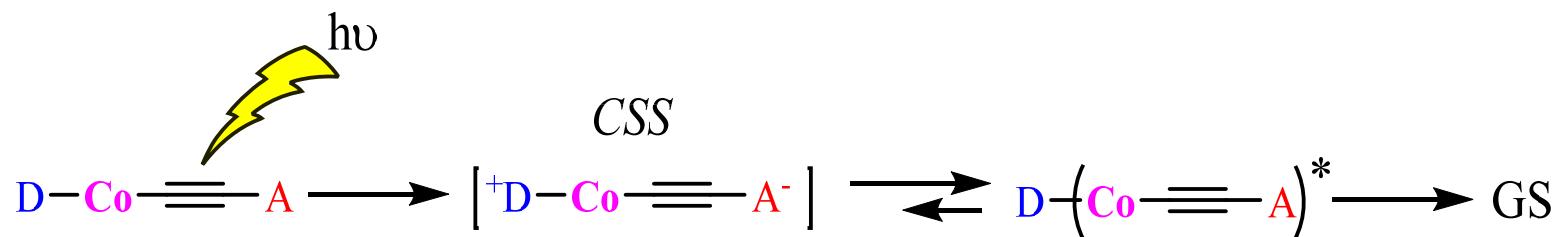
$[1]^+$



$[2a]^+$

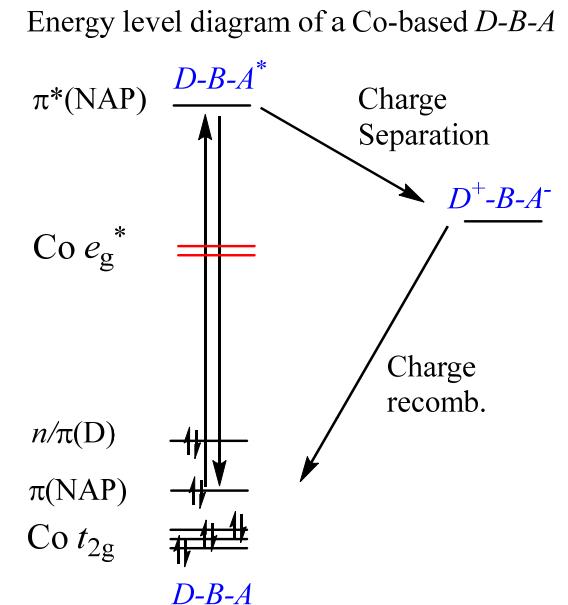
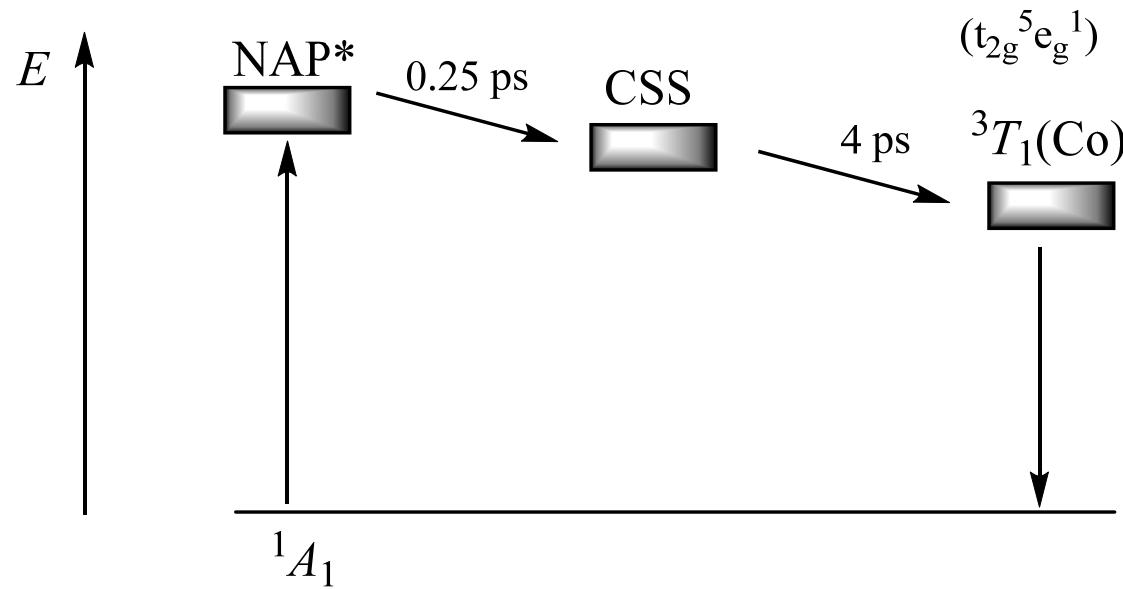


$[2d]^+$



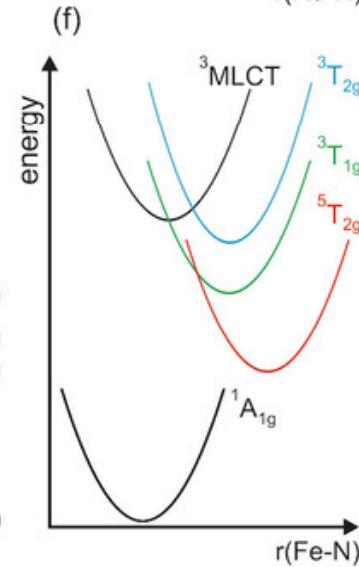
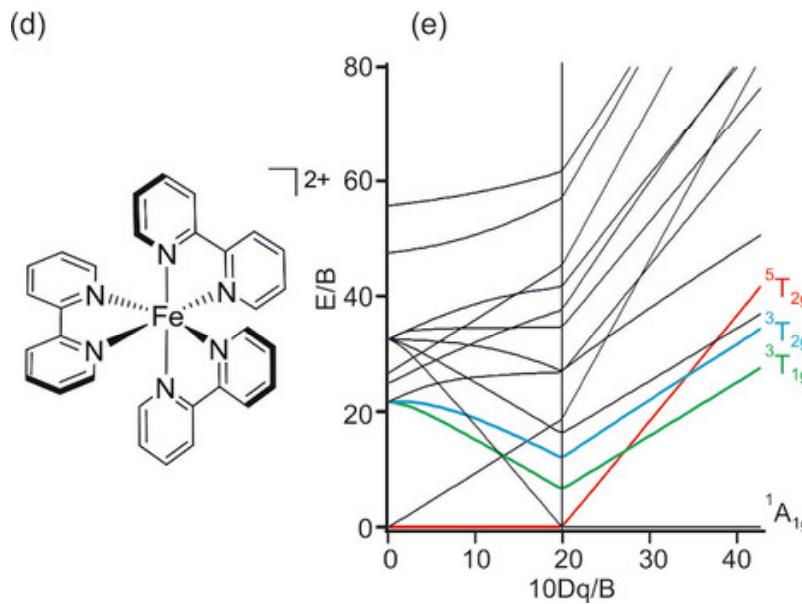
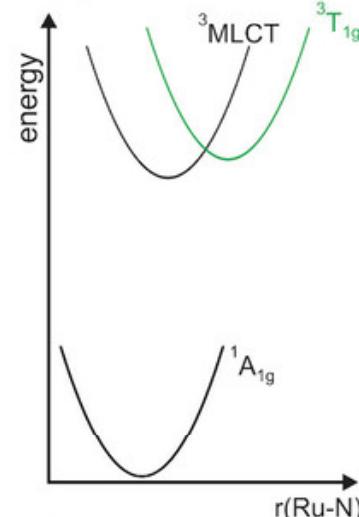
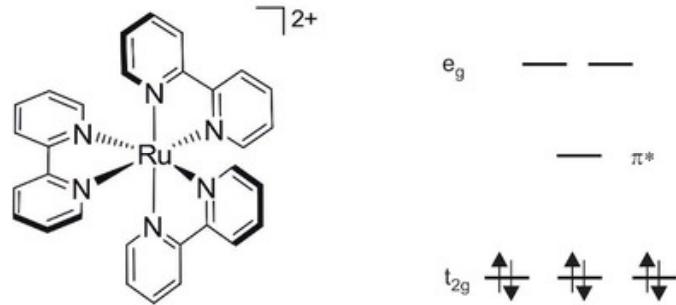
- Short event observed that decays rapidly to a long-lived state, observed in TA
- Long lived state (³Co) lifetime: **1 (5ns) < 2d (7ns) < 2a (10ns)**

Transient kinetics BIG PICTURE

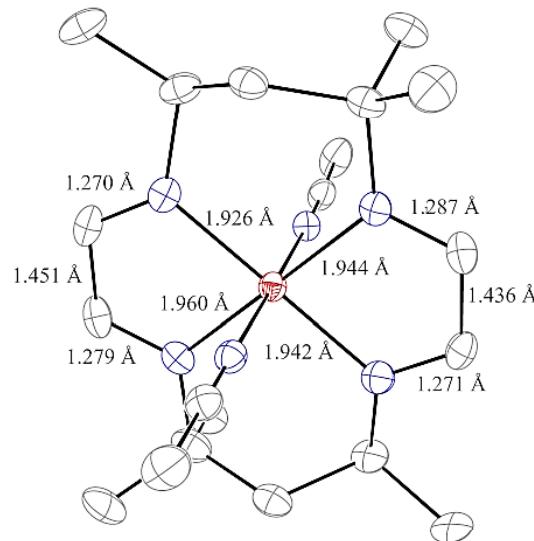
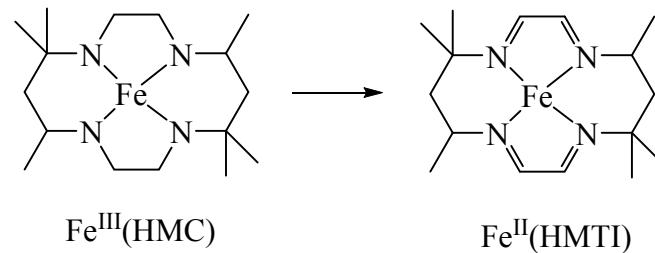


- Charge separated states are possible with stronger donor
 - Lifetime too short for vibrational pumping
- Long lived state is the low lying LF state **at Co** (deactivating state)
- Pushing up 3T_1 with stronger ligands to favor CSS?
- Metal-free $D\text{-}B\text{-}A$ dyads?

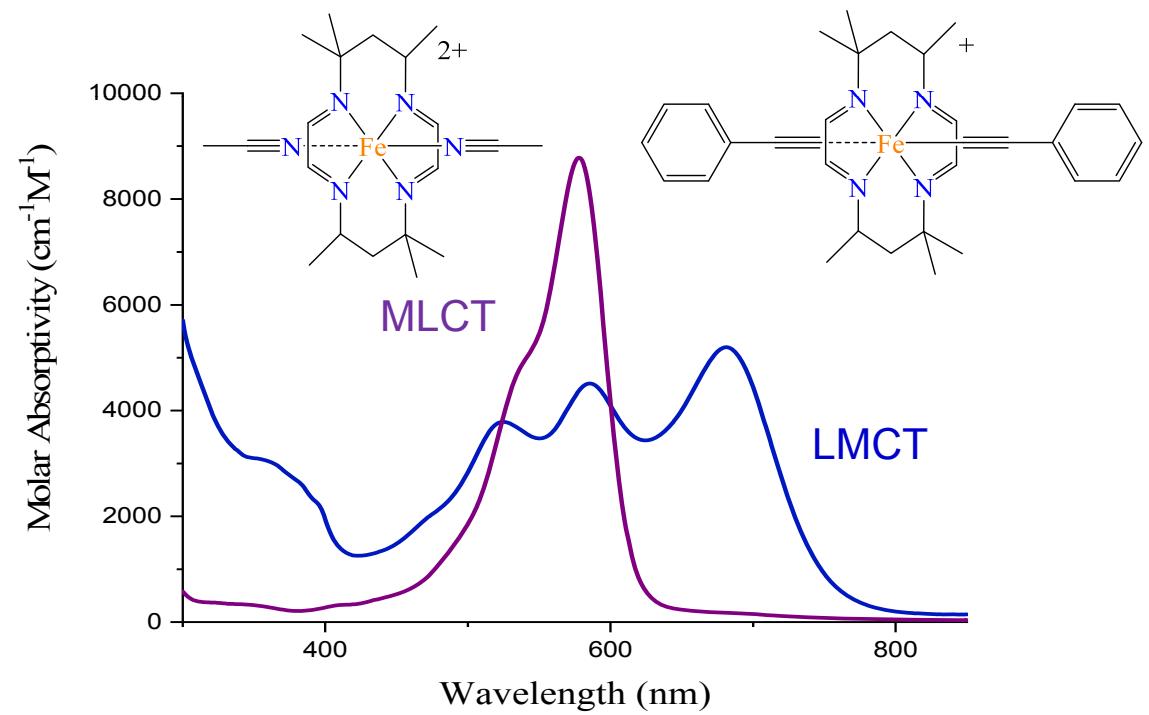
LF State - Public Enemy (of 3d Chromophore)



A New Hope: Tetraimine - LF State(s) Lifted



Ave. Fe-N (HMC): 2.11 Å
Ave. Fe-N (HMTI): 1.94 Å



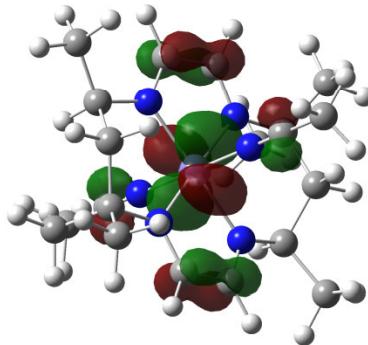
Unpublished Results

Raised LF State(s) - DFT Proof

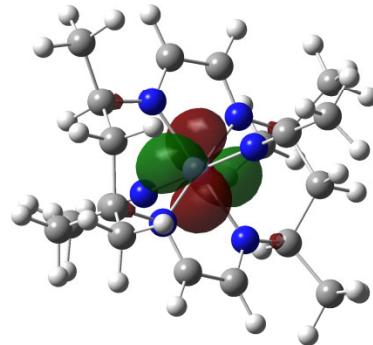


Reece

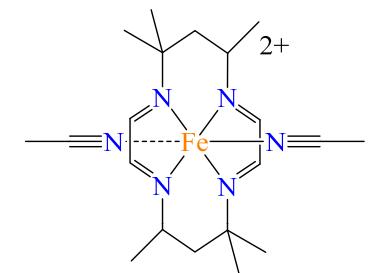
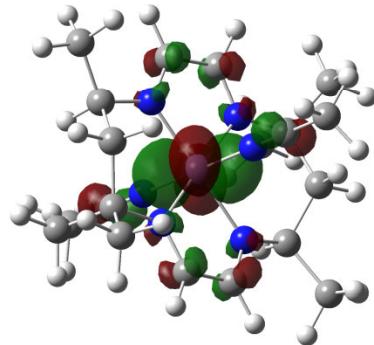
HOMO-2
(d_{xy})



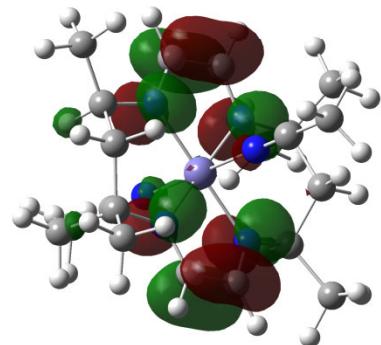
HOMO-1
(d_{xz})



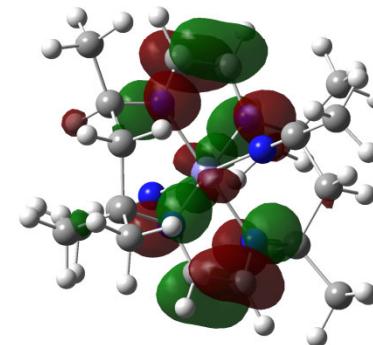
HOMO
(d_{yz})



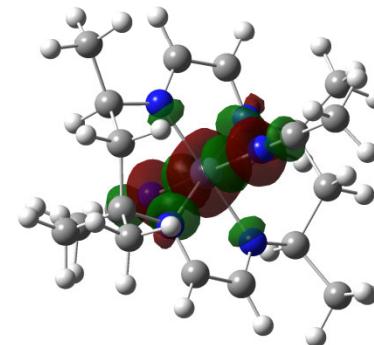
LUMO
($\pi^*(C=N)$)



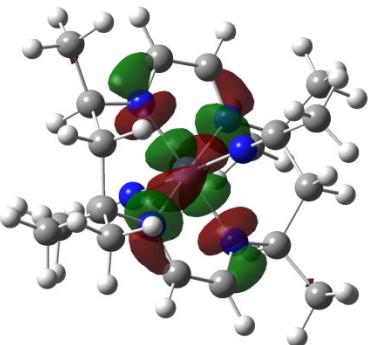
LUMO+1
($\pi^*(C=N)$)



LUMO+2
(d_{z2})

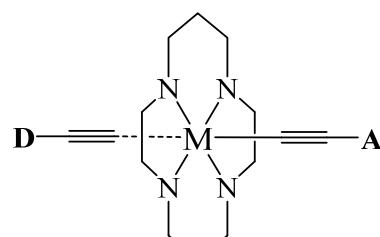


LUMO+3
(d_{x2-y2})

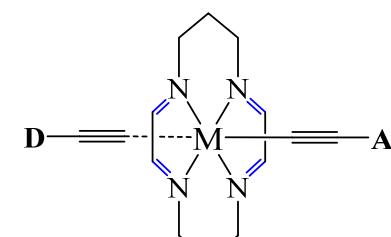
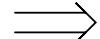


Unpublished Results

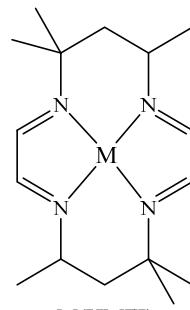
Area I Future: 3d Complexes of [14]-tetraene-N₄



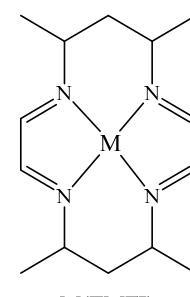
D-B-A dyad based on *cyclam*
NSF CHE-1764347



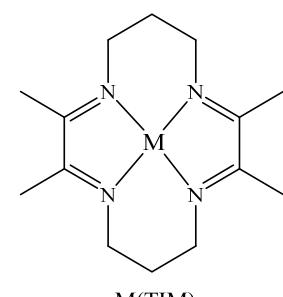
D-B-A dyad based on [14]-tetraene-N₄
Future NSF project



M(HMTI)



M(TMTI)



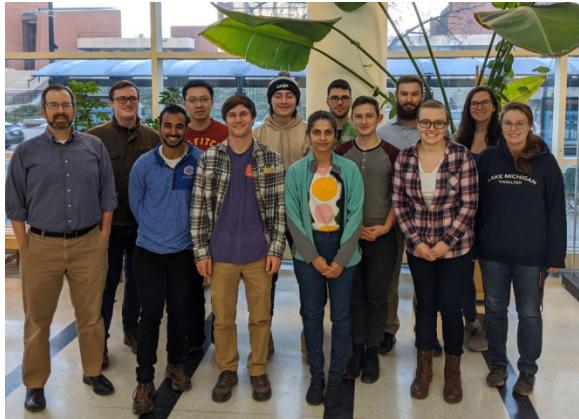
M(TIM)

Chart 2. Metal complexes tetra-imino macrocycles; M = Fe^{II/III} and Co^{III}

Goals

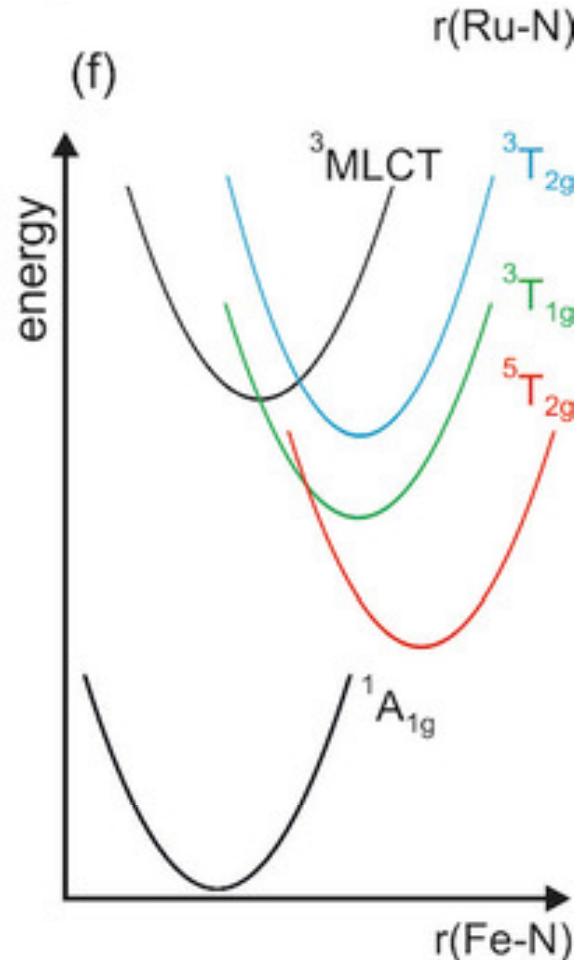
- Elucidate molecular and electronic structures of novel complexes
- Probing the dynamics of metal-ligand charge transfer (MLCT) and photo-induced electron (PET) states using fs transient spectroscopy and fs XANES spectroscopy
- In depth understanding of excited state electronic structures using CAS-SCF method
- Develop single electron transfer (SET) catalysts based on [14]-tetraene-N₄ complexes for selective hydrogenation, CO₂ reduction...

Area I Future: Mapping the Excited States



Prof. Josh Vura-Weis
UIUC

Determine the geometries of *the excited states* using the femto-second XANES (X-ray absorption near edge structure) technique.



Prof. Bess Vlaisavljevich
U. South Dakota

Calculate the excited state *potential surfaces* using the complete active space perturbation theory method (CAS PT2)

Area II: CO₂ Fixation (NSF CHE-1609151)

- ◆ Silica supported catalysts for water oxidation
- ◆ **Catalysts for CO₂ reduction and fixations**
- ◆ **Catalysis with non-precious metals (Fe, Cu, Co, and Ni)**



Ashley

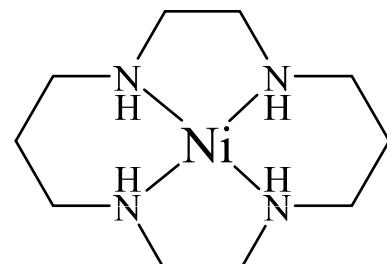
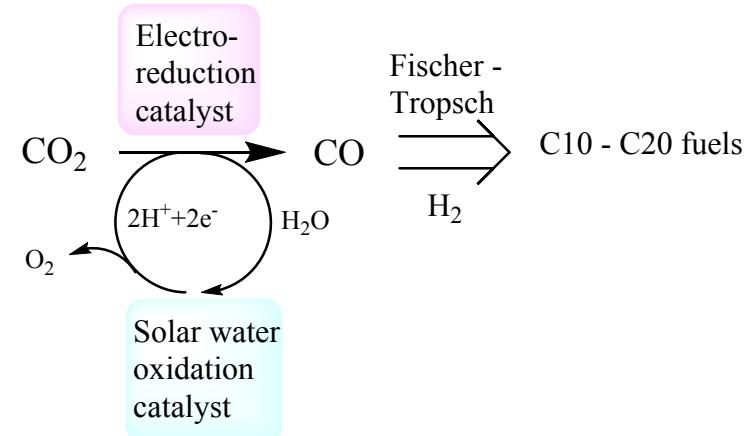


Leo Rodriguez

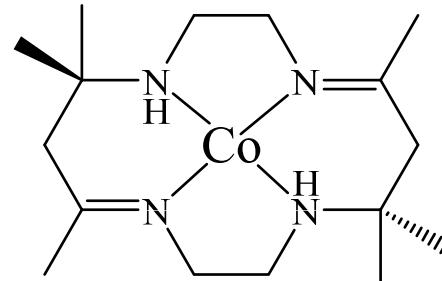
CO₂ Fixation - A Tera-ton Challenge

Chart 1

<i>Reaction</i>	<i>E^o/V (vs NHE)</i>
CO ₂ + e ⁻ → CO ₂ ⁻	-1.9
CO ₂ + 2H ⁺ + 2e ⁻ → HCO ₂ H	-0.61
CO ₂ + 2H ⁺ + 2e ⁻ → CO + H ₂ O	-0.53
CO ₂ + 4H ⁺ + 4e ⁻ → HCHO + H ₂ O	-0.20
CO ₂ + 4H ⁺ + 4e ⁻ → C + 2H ₂ O	-0.48
CO ₂ + 6H ⁺ + 6e ⁻ → CH ₃ OH + H ₂ O	-0.38
CO ₂ + 8H ⁺ + 6e ⁻ → CH ₄ + H ₂ O	-0.24



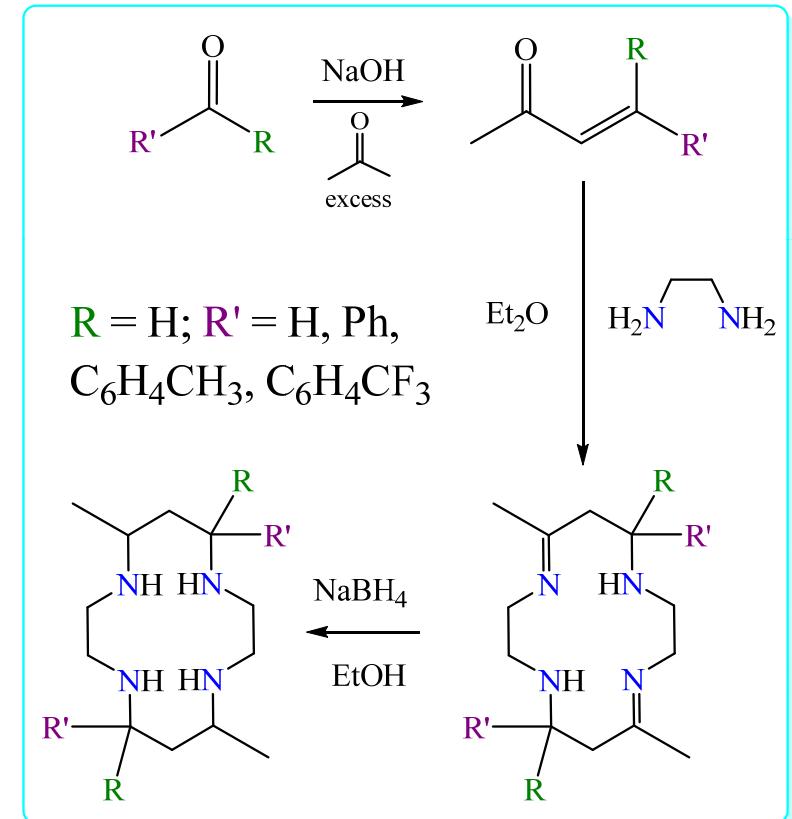
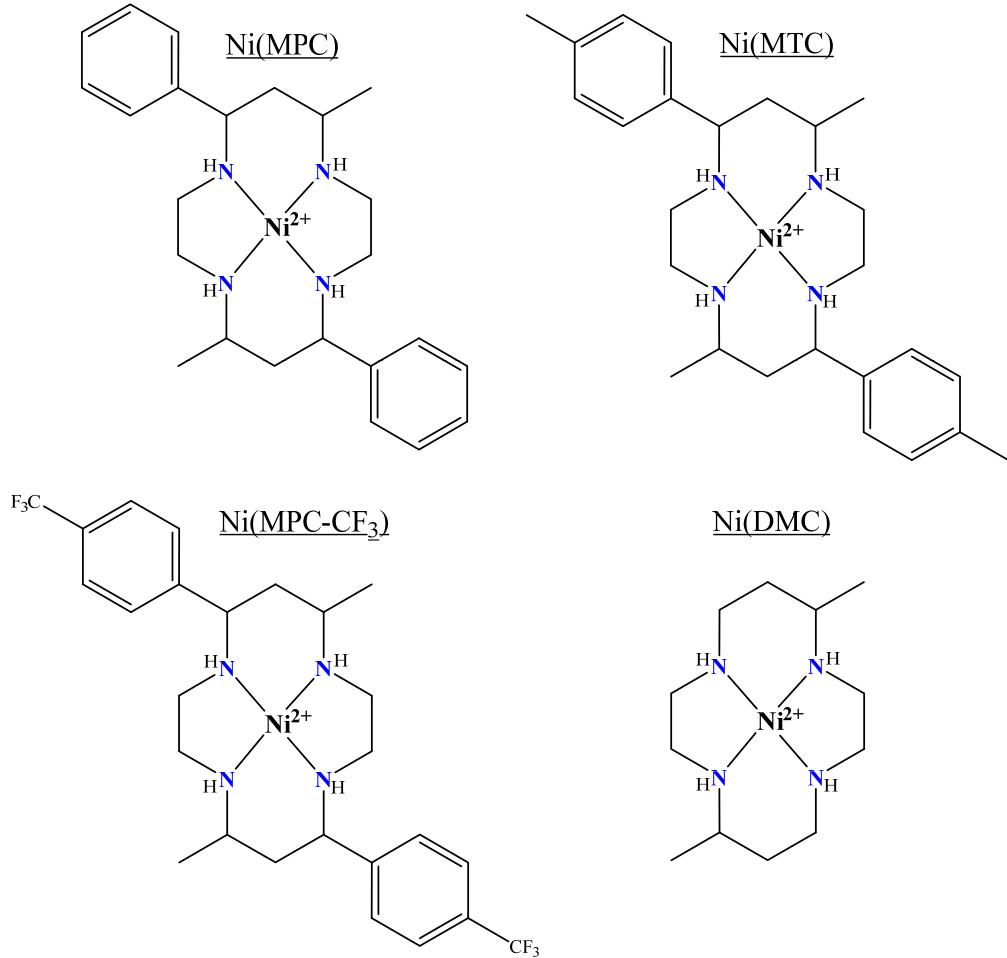
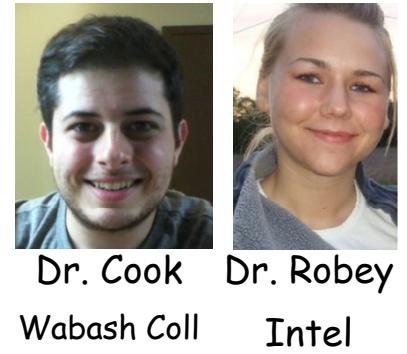
Ni²⁺(cyclam)



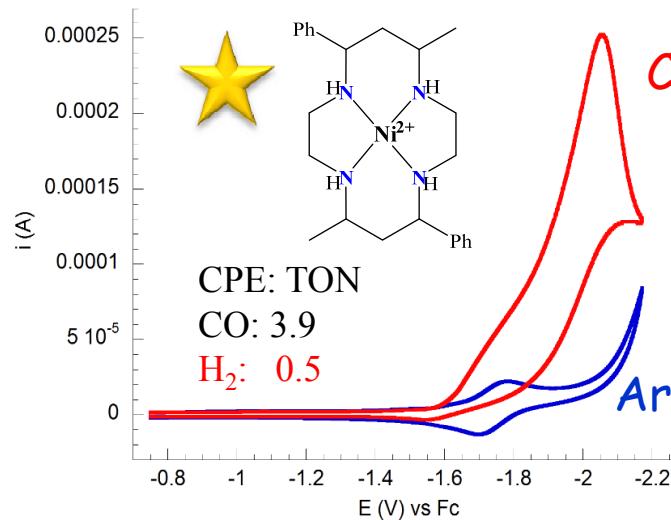
Co²⁺(HMD)

Two of the best electrocatalysts
for CO₂ reduction

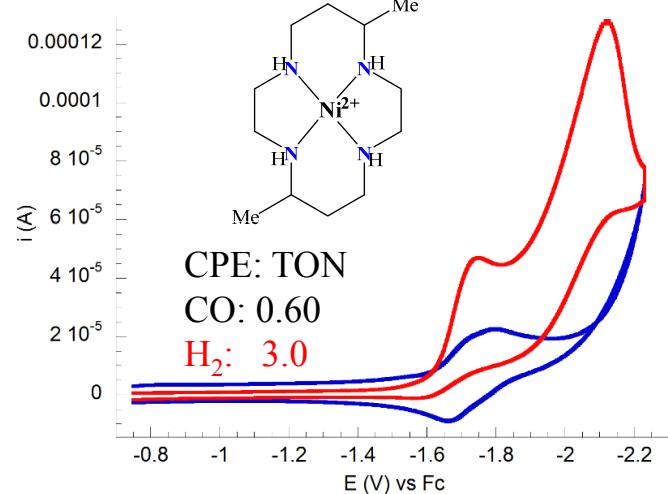
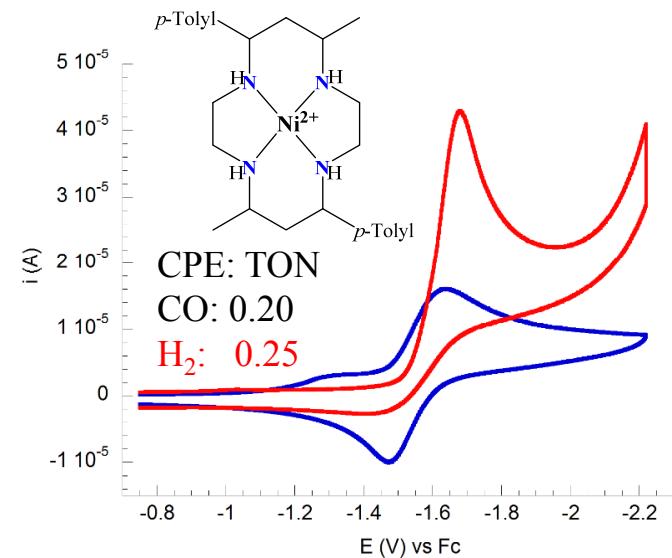
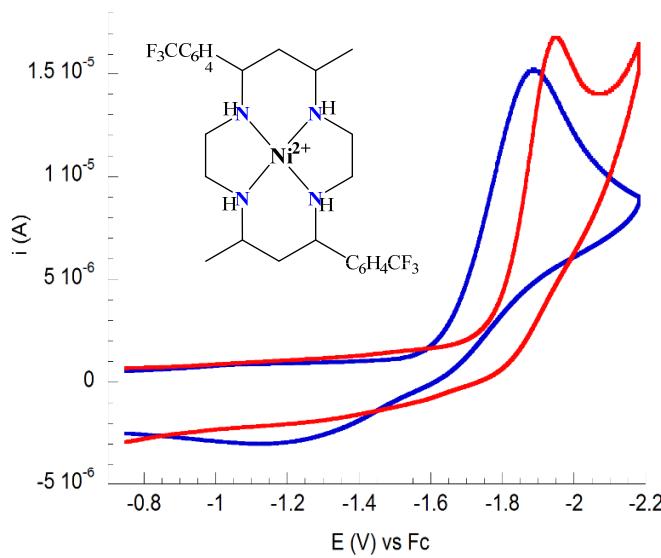
Improving a Functional Wheel: Cyclam'



Cyclic Voltammetry & Controlled Potential Electrolysis Studies



[Ni(cyclam)]Cl₂
CPE: TON
CO: 0.55
H₂: 1.10

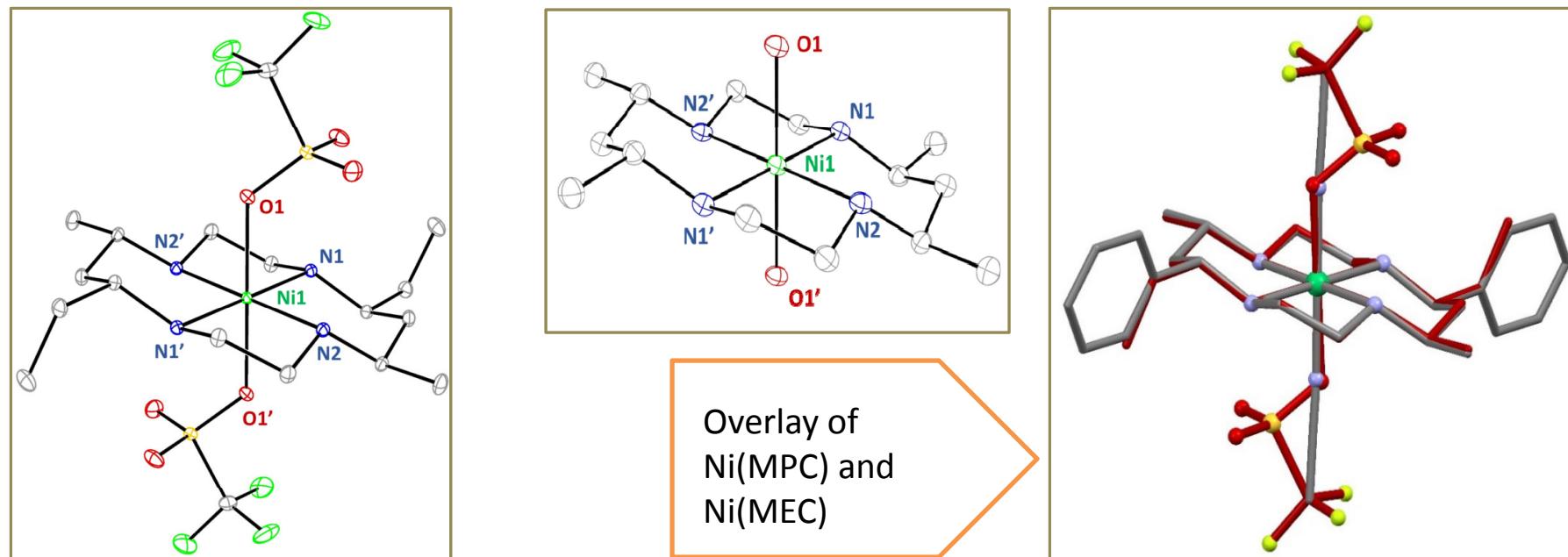
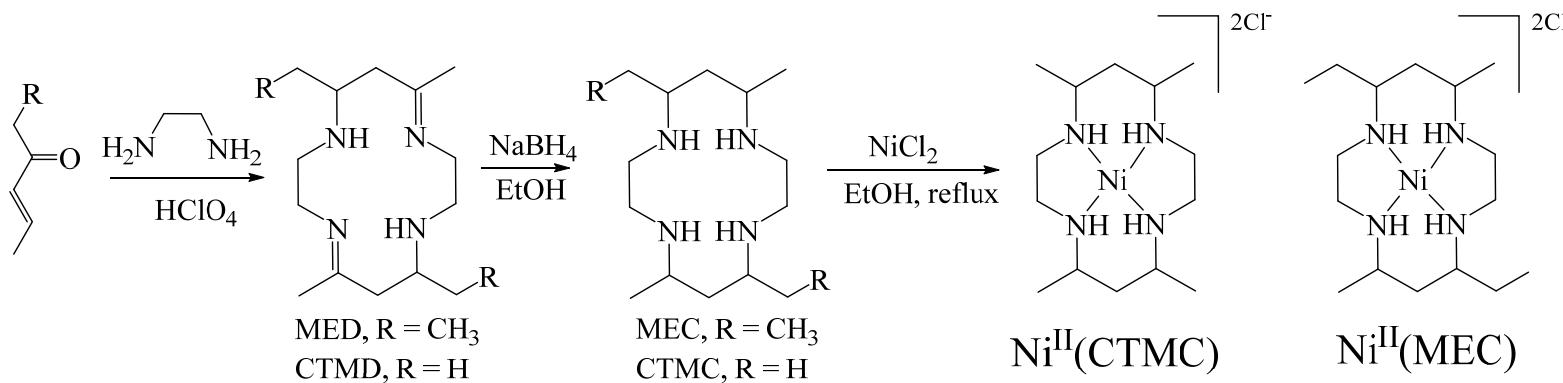


Conditions: MeCN / H₂O (4:1); CV scan rate: 100 mV/s; CPE time: 30 min

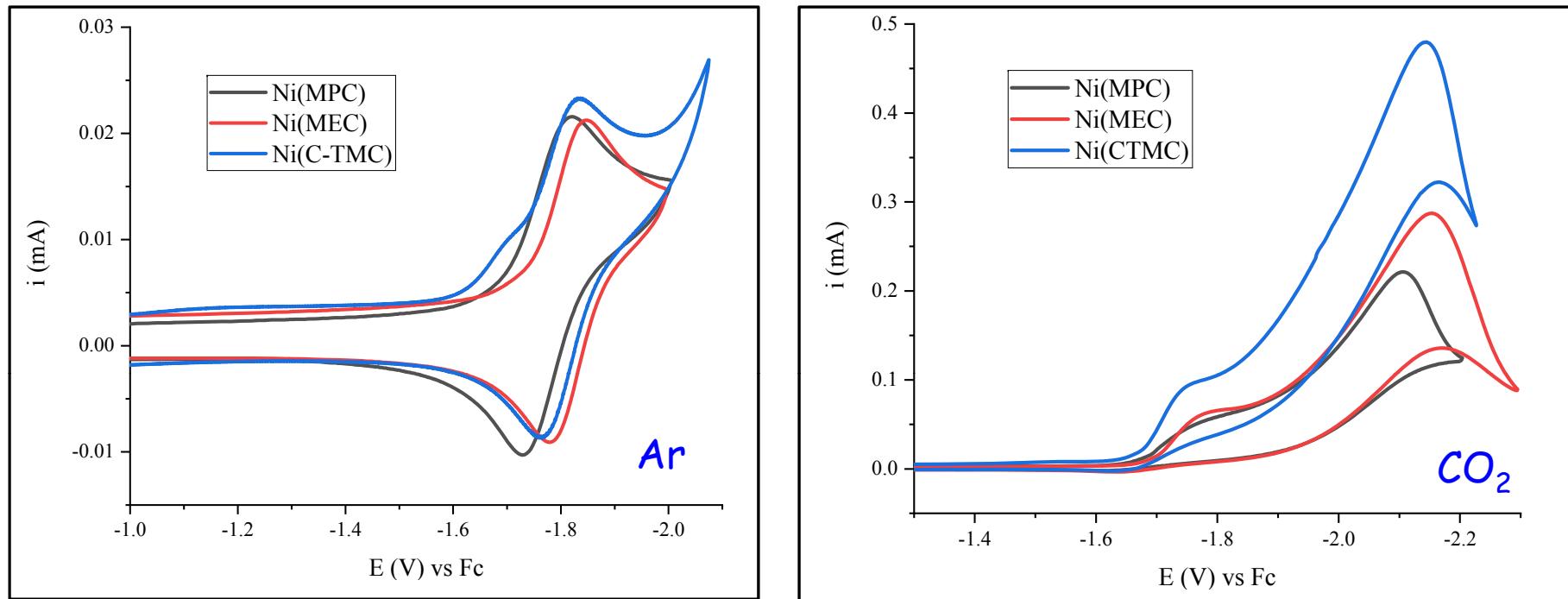
Current: Further Improvement of Ni(cyclam')



Brandon



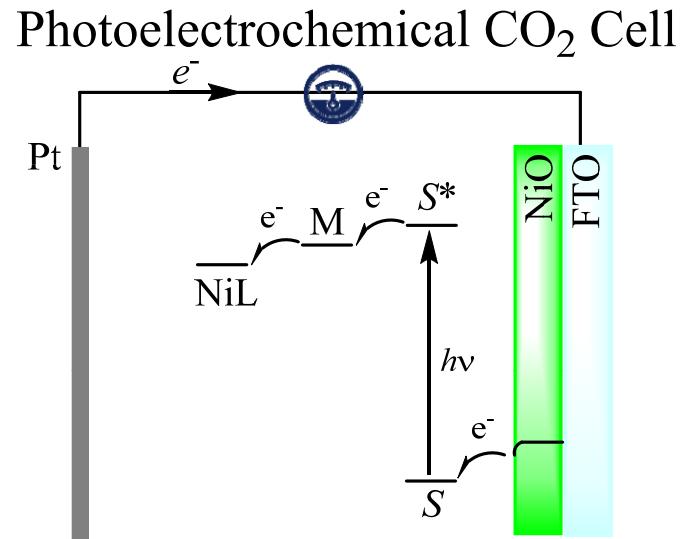
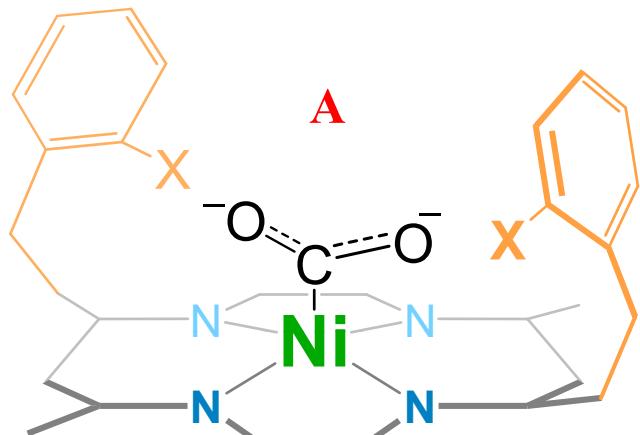
Performance of Ni(cyclam')



Conditions: MeCN / H_2O (4:1); CV scan rate: 100 mV/s

CPE, -1.72 V, 30 min	TON, CO	TON, H_2	FE, CO (%)	FE, H_2 (%)
Ni(MEC) ²⁺	7.3 ± 0.4	2.1 ± 0.9	57 ± 2	16 ± 7
Ni(CTMC) ²⁺	7.7 ± 0.3	1.7 ± 0.7	66 ± 1	15 ± 6
Ni(MPC) ²⁺	5.5	1.0	52	10
Ni(cyclam) ²⁺	2.2	2.4	35	38

Challenges: Chemical Selectivities & Solar Driven Reduction of CO₂

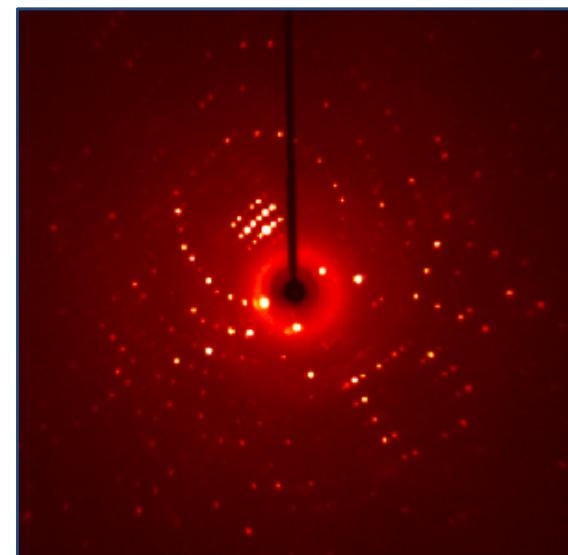
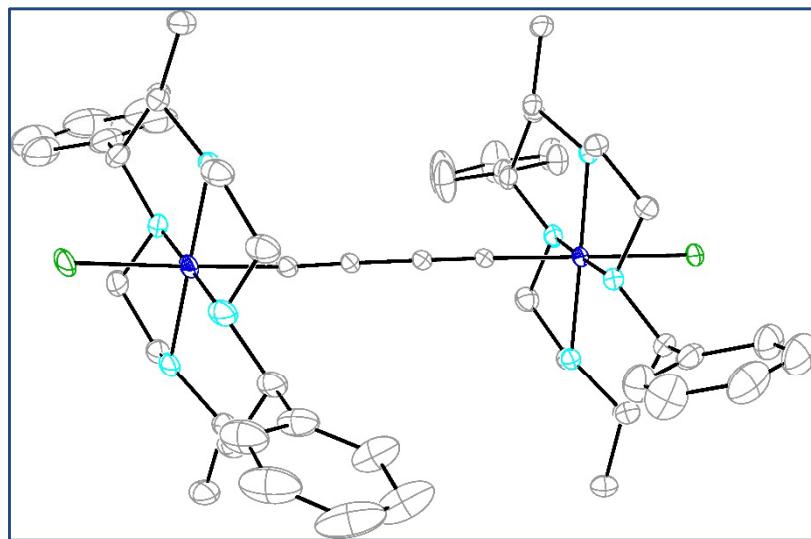


Goals

- Using “secondary coordination sphere” to reduce overpotential of CO₂ reduction; “X” in A can be either a positive charge to stabilize the transition state, or a proton donor to promote proton-coupled electron transfer
- Novel photosensitizers (free of precious-metals) are being developed to promote photo-electrochemical reduction of CO₂

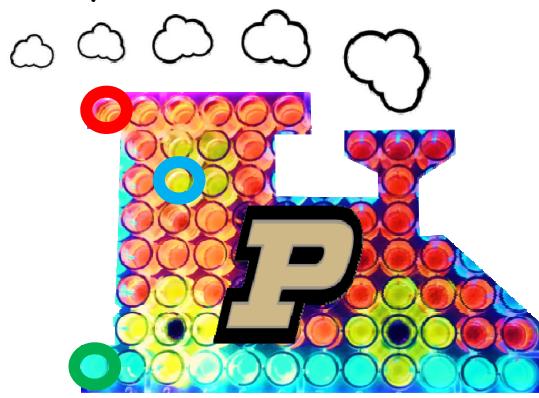
Techniques: X-ray Diffraction

- Structures of small molecules
 - Crystal growth, data collection and structure refinement
- Benefits
 - Low cost
 - Immediate usage
 - Publications
 - Skills transferrable to industry

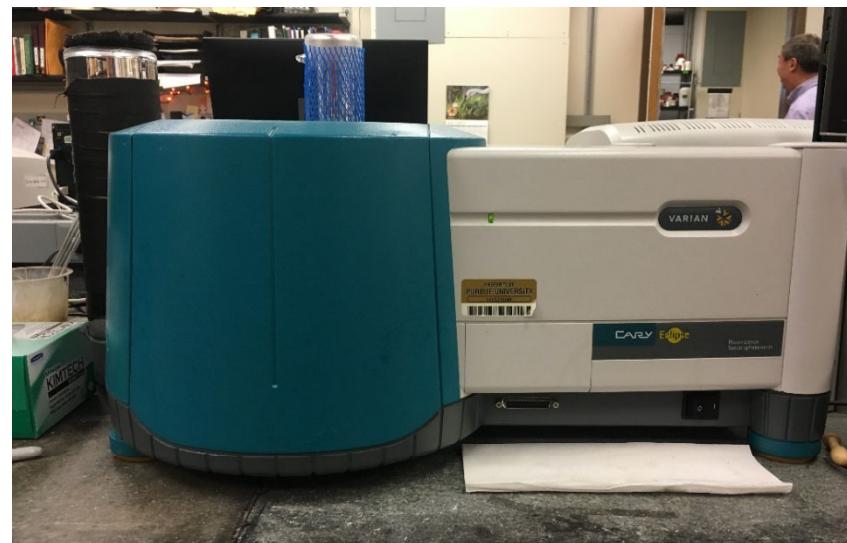
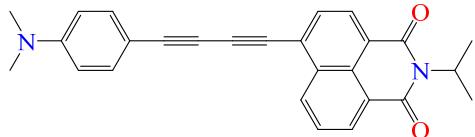
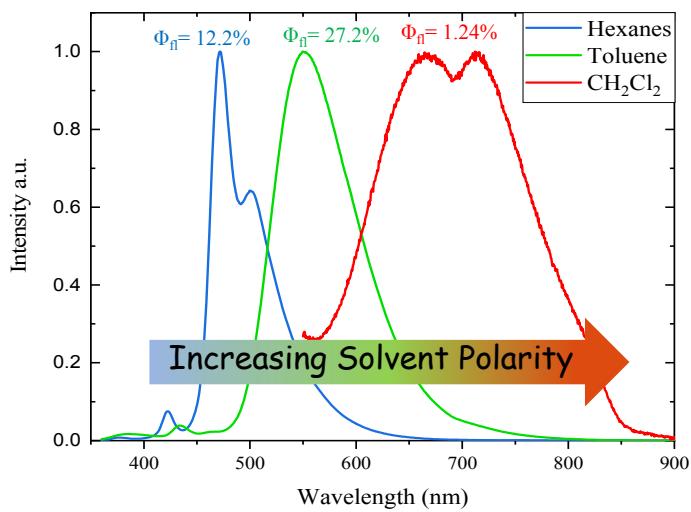
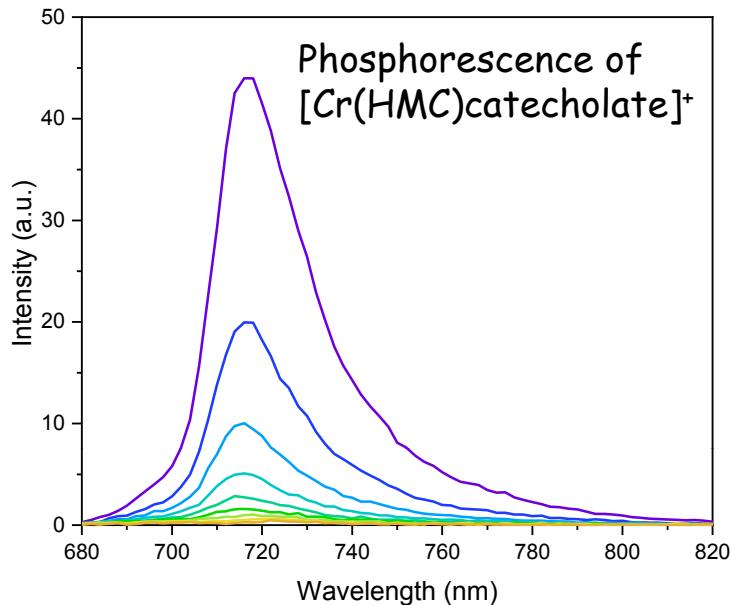


Techniques: Fluorescence and Phosphorescence

- Steady state emission
- Lifetime study (microseconds level)
- Emission quantum yields



Ashley



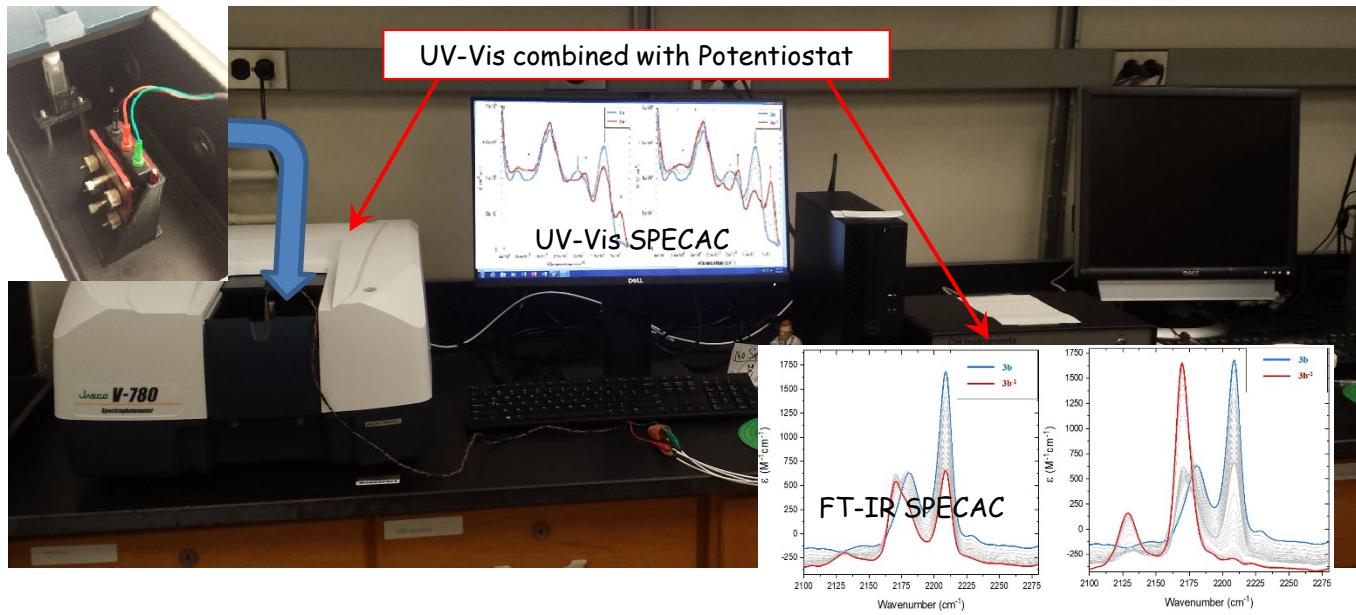
Fluorimeter equipped with Dewar for 77 K measurements

Techniques: UV-vis-NIR and FT-IR Spectro-echem

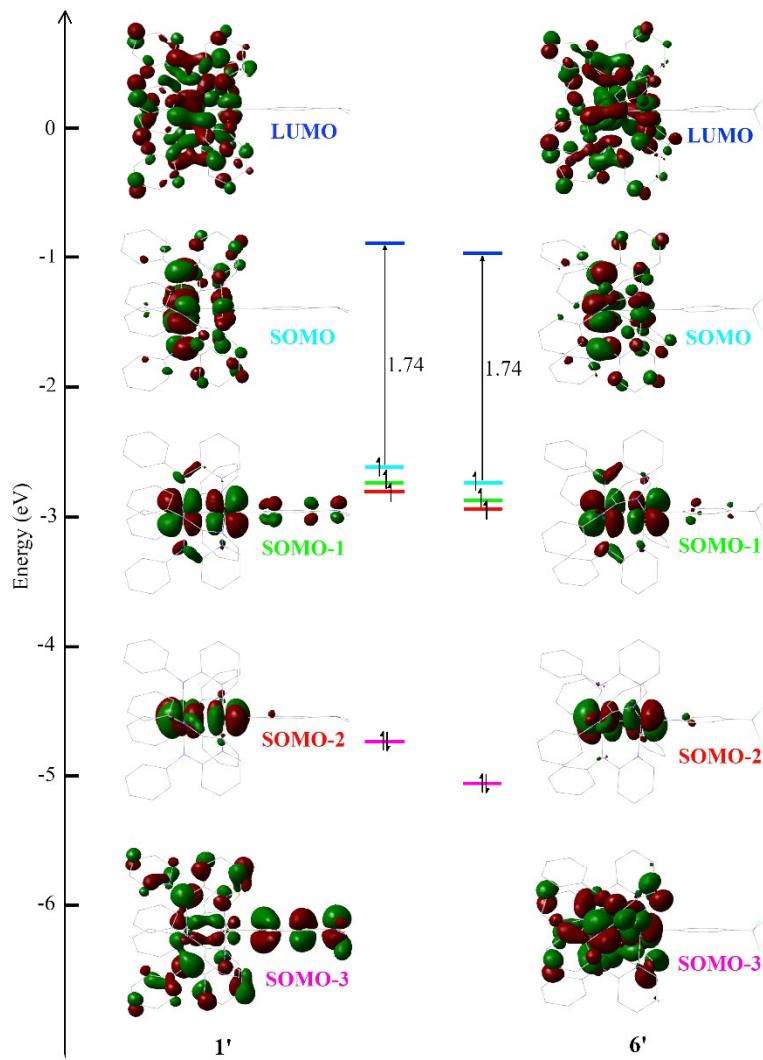
- Probing electronic spectroscopic features of unstable anionic / cationic species
- Quantifying electronic couplings
- Finger printing IR...



- 4000-600 cm⁻¹
- Multiple ATR Crystals
- 200-2200nm
- Integrating Sphere!
- 200-1600nm
- HIGH SENSITIVITY

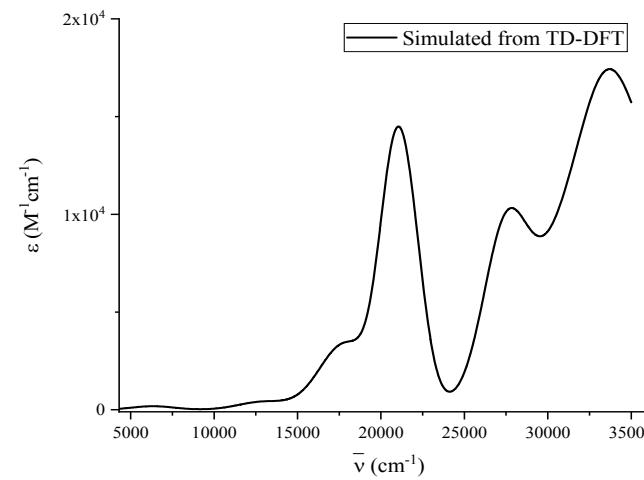


Techniques: DFT and TD-DFT studies

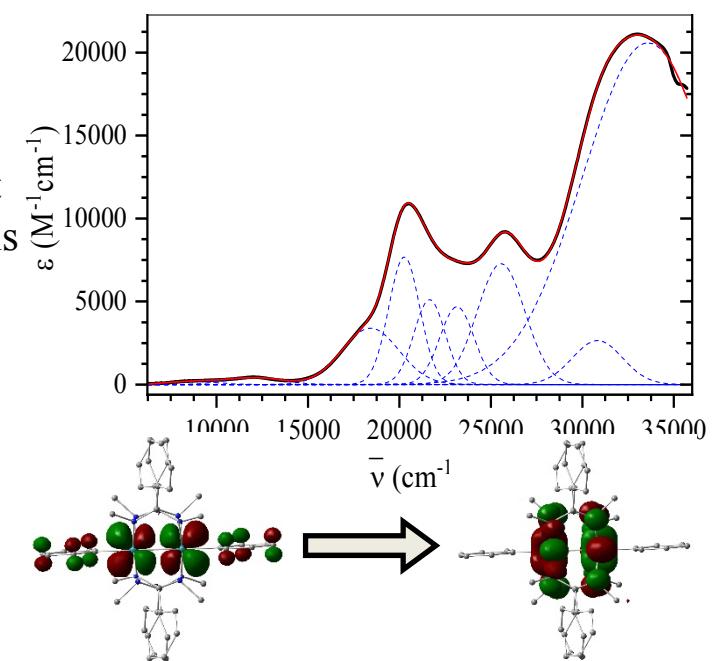


Ligand π -donor strength quantitatively and qualitatively studied by ground-state DFT

We own two
nodes on
Purdue's
BROWN Cluster



Deconvolution of
experimental
spectrum to extract
individual transitions



Natural Transition Orbitals depicting “where
the electron was and where it ended up”



Lyndsy

Techniques: Electro/Photochemistry



Cyclic voltammetry
for electronic and
kinetic properties



Controlled potential electrolysis
Gas tight cell for product analysis



Photocatalytic reduction
without external bias



In house GC for fast and
easy product analysis



Leo

Ph.D. Made Easy in Ren's

- 4 - 5 years
- Four ACS publications as the first author
 - *J. Am. Chem. Soc., Angew. Chem., Chem. Sci.*
 - *Organometallics, Inorg. Chem., Dalton Trans., Eur. J. Inorg. Chem., Bioconjugate*
- Two concurrent projects encouraged
- You and your research will be supported



Padawan #1 (your name here)



Padawan #2 (your name here)

