

Molecular Engineering of Sensitizers for Solar Cell Applications

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Synthesis

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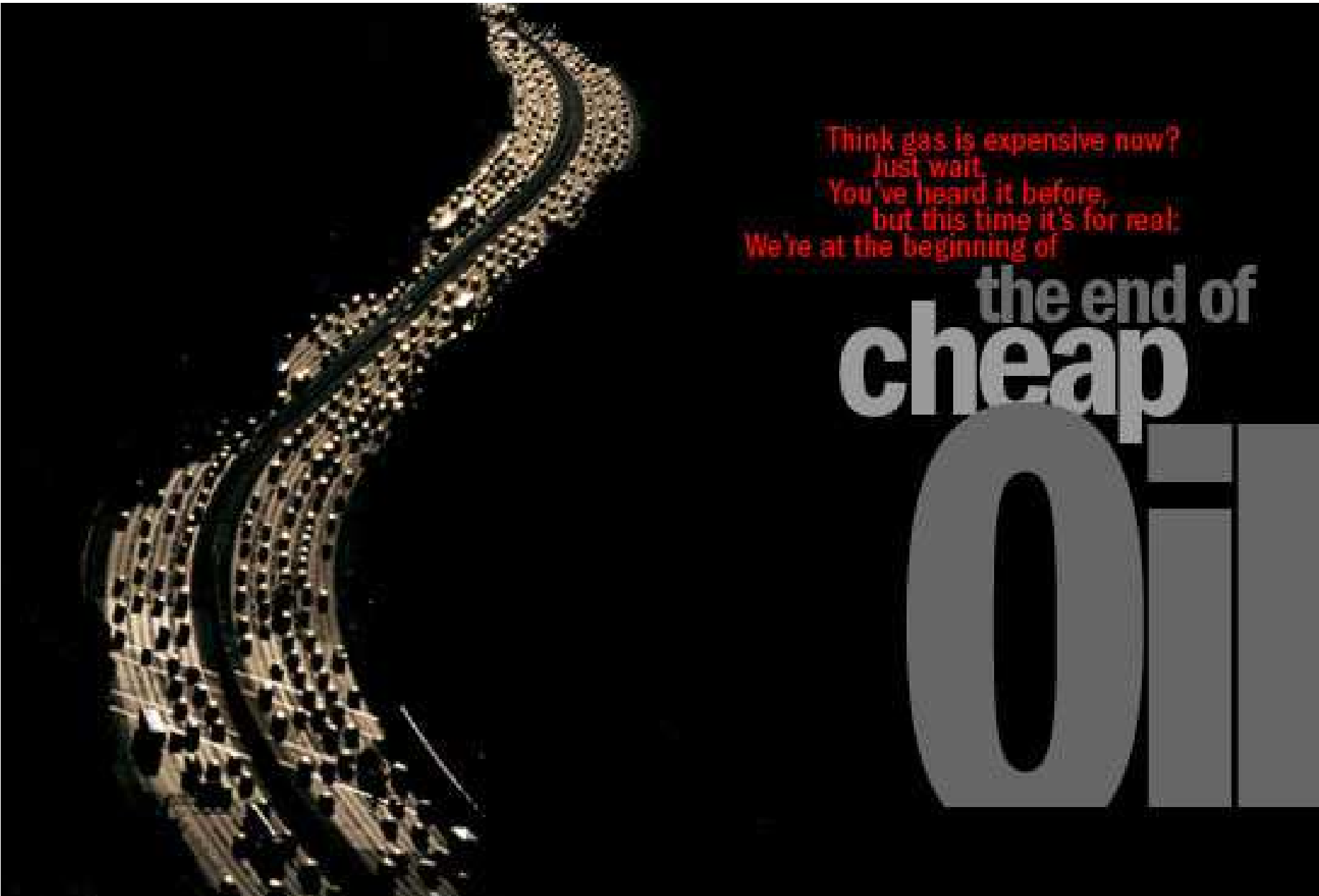
DFT Computational study

Prof. Filippo De Angelis,
Perugia, Italy

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EPFL

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Think gas is expensive now?
Just wait.
You've heard it before,
but this time it's for real:
We're at the beginning of

the end of
cheap
Oil

National Geography, June 2004

Real Outdoor Test of DSC Modules

■ Module Unit



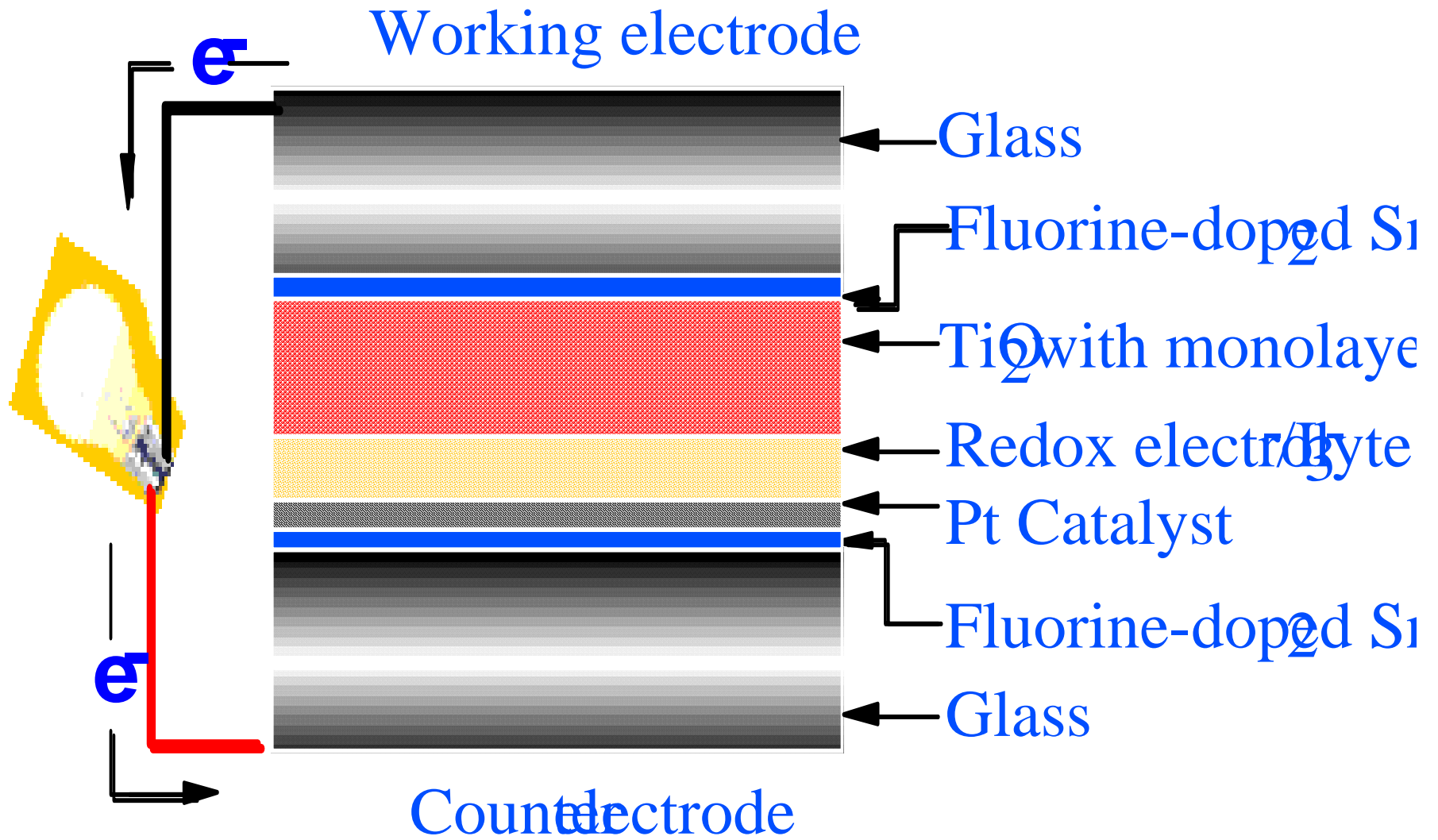
**Series connected
64 DSC cells**

■ Outdoor Test



**Kariya City at lat. $35^{\circ}10'N$,
Asimuthal angle: 0°
Facing due south, Tilted at 30°**

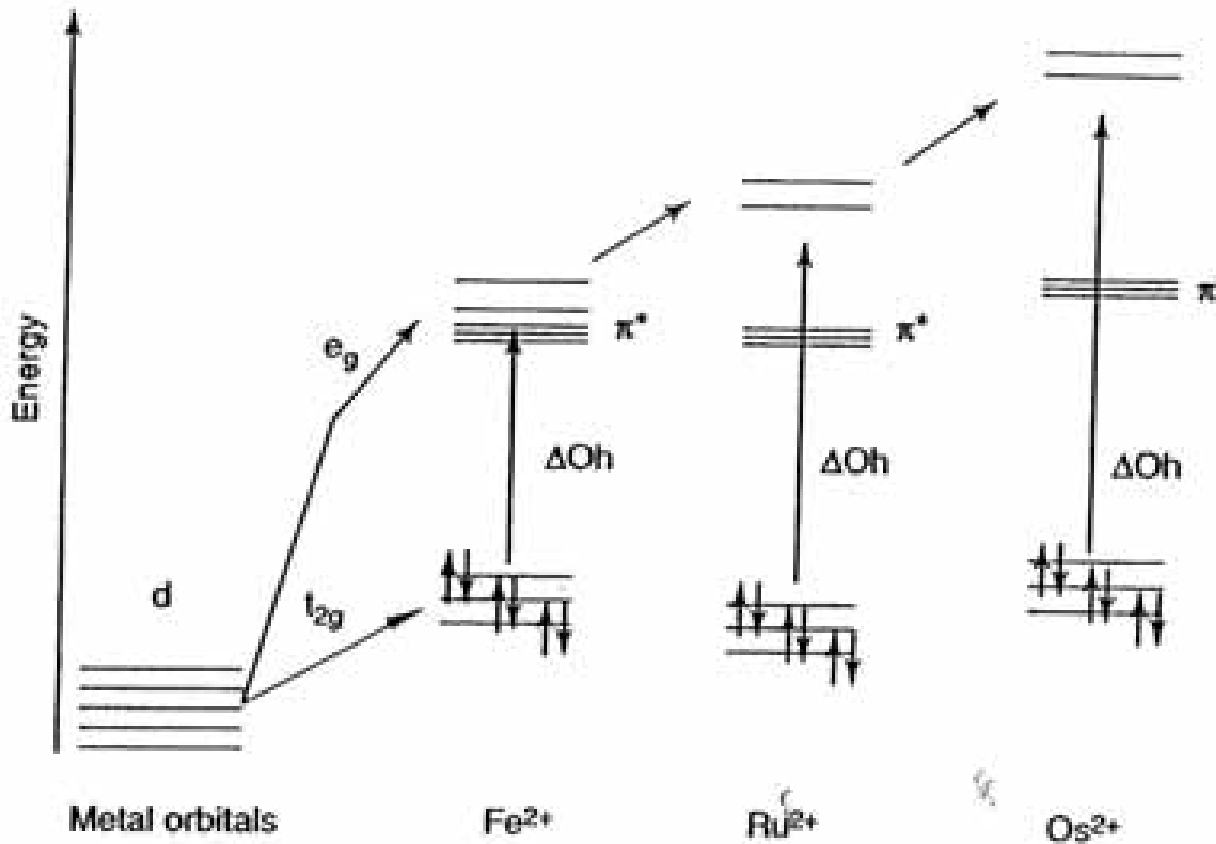
A cross section of the dye sensitized solar cell



Requirements of the Sensitizers

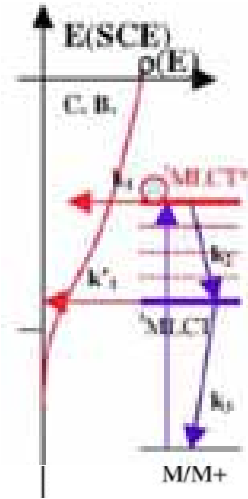
- ☐ The optimal sensitizer for the dye sensitized solar cell should be panchromatic, i.e. absorb visible light of all colors.
- ☐ It should possess suitable ground- and excited state redox properties (0.5 and -0.8 V vs.SCE)
- ☐ It should exhibit thermal and photochemical stability
- ☐ It must be firmly grafted to the semiconductor oxide surface and inject electrons into the conduction band with a quantum yield of unity.

Splitting pattern of d-orbital in an octahedral field for Fe^{2+} , Ru^{2+} and Os^{2+}



VIIB 8	VIIB 9	VIII 10
26 ■ Fe 55,85 Geleđis	27 ■ Co 58,93 Kobaltas	28 ■ Ni 58,69 Nikelis
44 ■ Ru 101,07 Rutenis	45 ■ Rh 102,91 Rodis	46 ■ Pd 106,42 Paladis
76 ■ Os 190,2 Osmis	77 ■ Ir 192,22 Iridis	78 ■ Pt 195,08 Platina

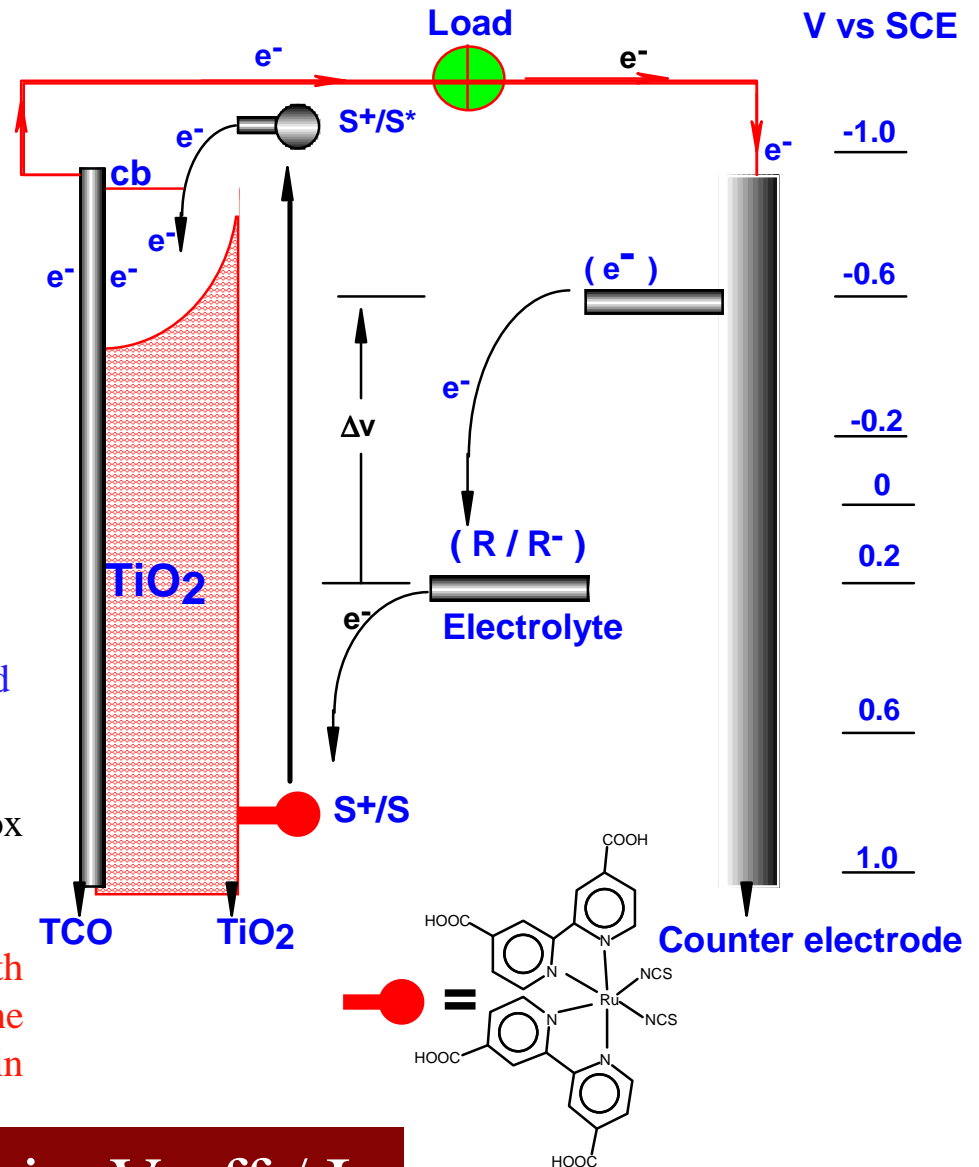
Operating Principles of the Dye-Sensitized Solar Cell



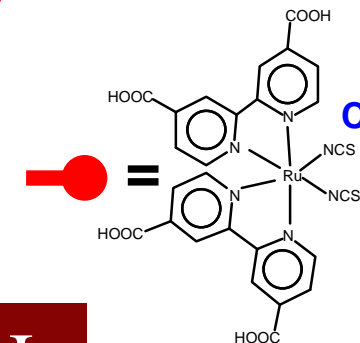
Electron injection from the excited dye into the TiO₂ conduction band (CB) is a very fast process *femtosecond* scale $\tau_1 < 20$ fs.

The reduction of the oxidized dye by the redox electrolyte's I⁻ ions occurs in about 10⁻⁸ seconds.

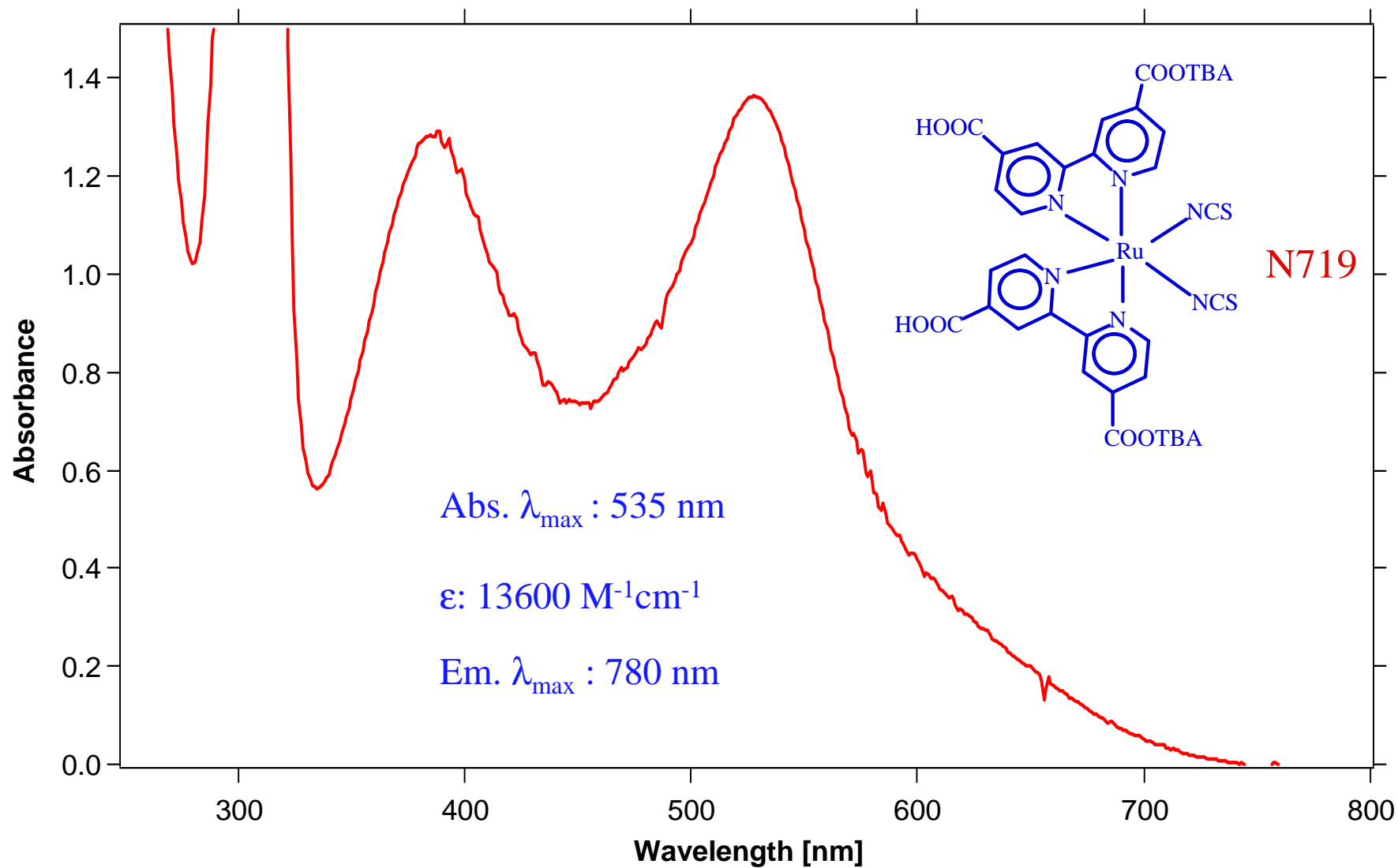
Recombination of photoinjected CB electrons with oxidized dye molecules or with the oxidized form of the electrolyte redox couple (I₃⁻ ions) occurs in *microseconds*.



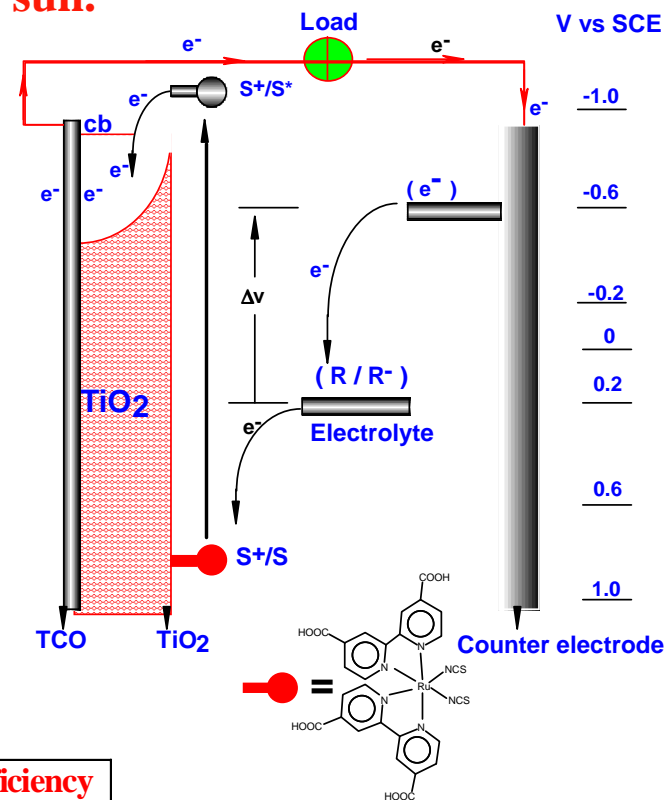
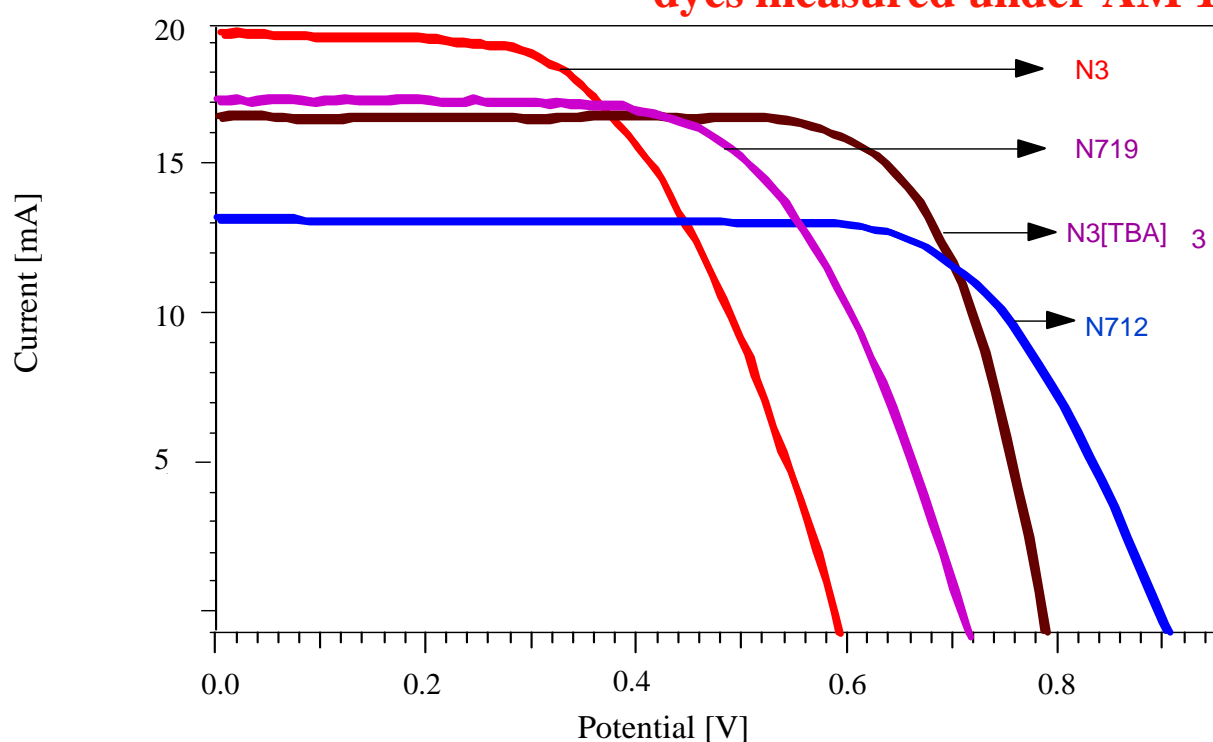
$$\eta = i_{ph} V_{oc} ff / I_s$$



Absorption Spectra of N719 Sensitizer

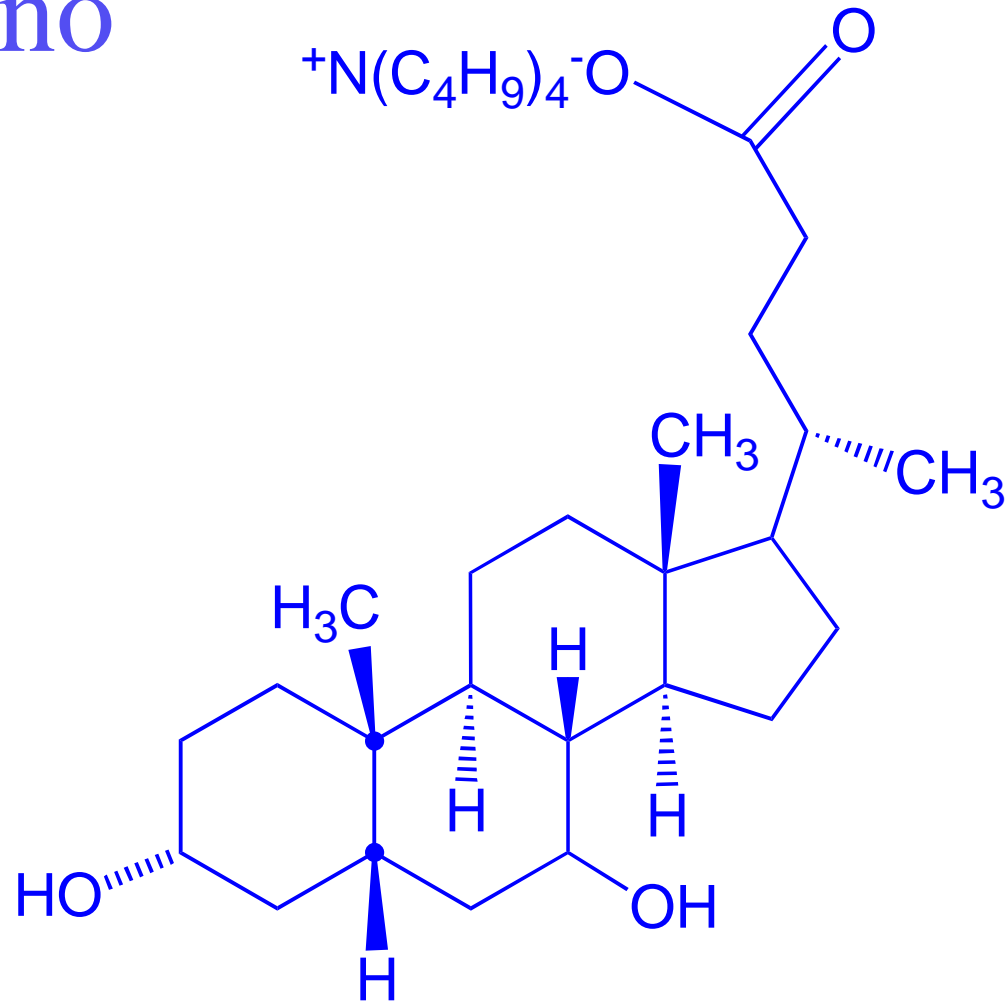


Photocurrent-voltage characteristics of nanocrystalline TiO₂ cell sensitized with N3 (4 protons), N719 (2 protons), N3[TBA]₃ (1 proton) and N712 (zero proton) dyes measured under AM 1.5 sun.



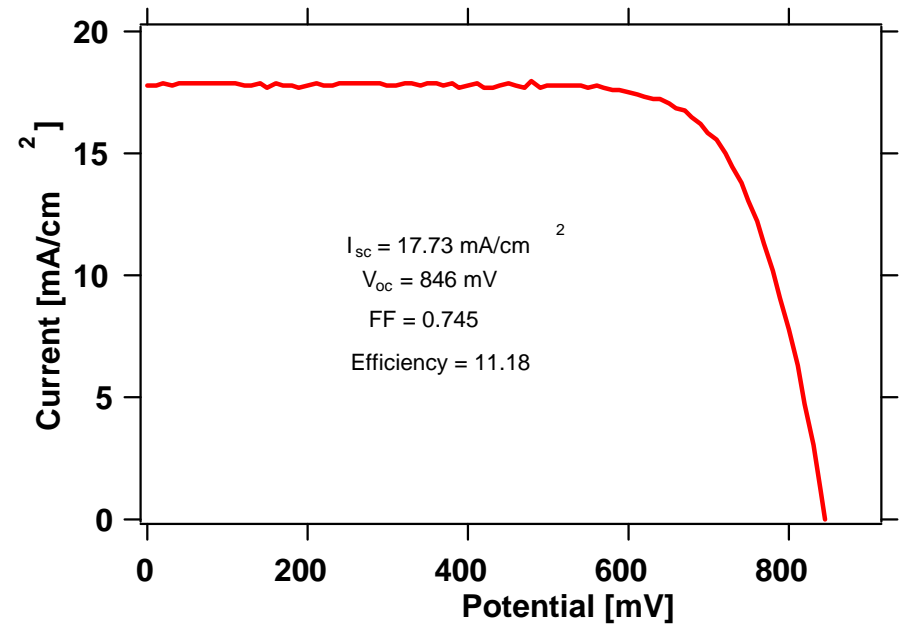
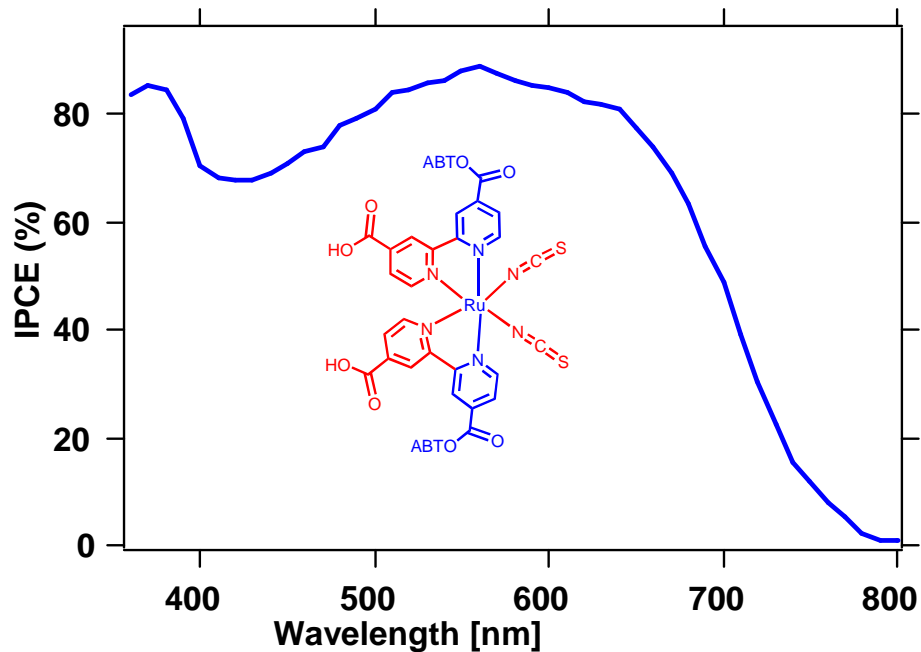
Sensitizer	Number of protons	Solvent for dye adsorption	Current mA/cm ²	Potential (mV)	Fill Factor	Efficiency at 1.5 AM
N3	4	1:1 CH ₃ CN+ <i>tert</i> -BuOH	19 ± 0.5	600 ± 30	0.65 ± 0.05	7.4
N719	2	1:1 CH ₃ CN+ <i>tert</i> -BuOH	16 ± 0.5	730 ± 30	0.70 ± 0.05	8.2
N712	0	C ₂ H ₅ OH	13 ± 0.5	900 ± 30	0.7 ± 0.05	8.2
N3[TBA] ₃	1	5:95 CH ₃ CN + <i>tert</i> -BuOH	17 ± 0.5	770 ± 20	0.73 ± 0.05	9.56
N3[TBA]	3	1:1 CH ₃ CN+ <i>tert</i> -BuOH	17 ± 0.5	700 ± 20	0.65 ± 0.05	7.7

TBA Cheno



Chenodeoxycholic acid
3α,7α-dihydroxy-5β-cholanic acid

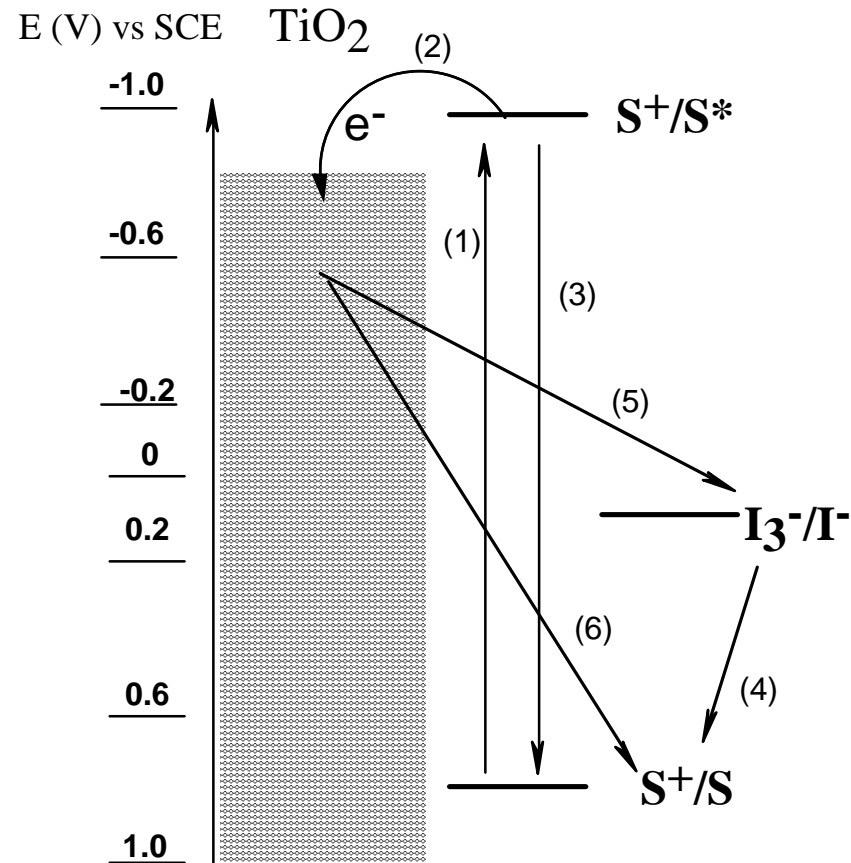
Conversion efficiency of 11.2 % have been reached under AM 1.5 sunlight



$$\eta = i_{ph} V_{oc} ff / I_s$$

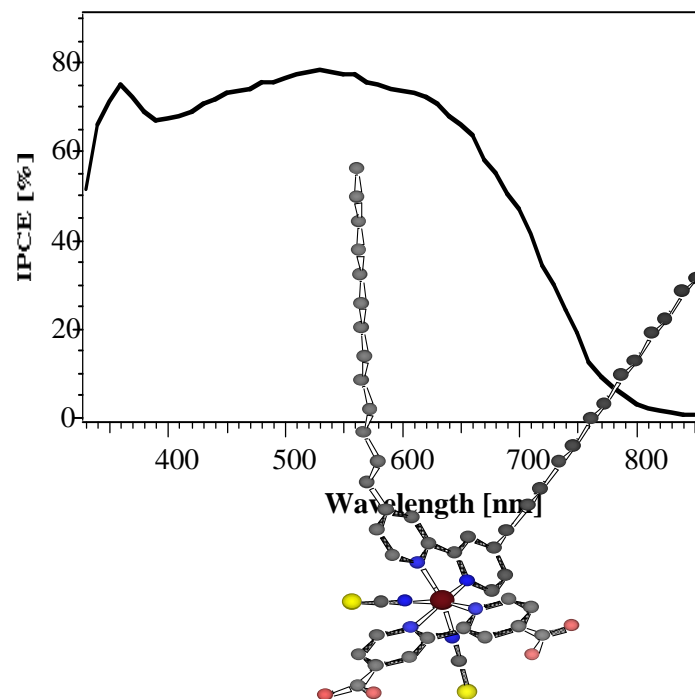
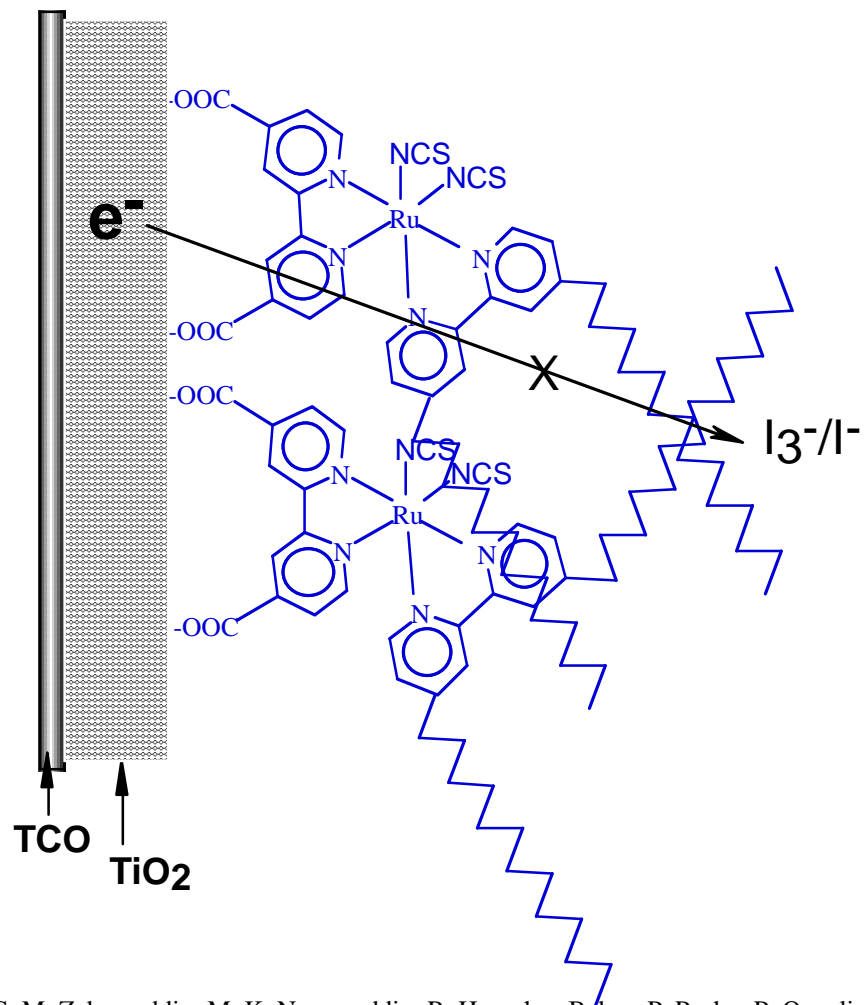
Nazeeruddin, Mohammad K.; De Angelis, Filippo; Fantacci, Simona; Selloni, Annabella; Viscardi, Guido; Liska, Paul; Ito, Seigo; Takeru, Bessho; Graetzel, Michael. JACS, 127, 16835, 2005.

Illustration of the interfacial charge transfer processes in nanocrystalline dye sensitized solar cell.



- (1) An excited state. (2) electron injection onto the conduction band of TiO_2 . (4) The oxidized sensitizer gets reduced by $\text{I}^- / \text{I}_3^-$ redox couple. (5) The injected electrons into the conduction band may react either with the oxidized redox couple or with oxidized dye molecule (6).

Pictorial representation of blocking of the oxidized redox couple I_3^- reaching onto the surface of TiO_2 for conduction band electrons using hydrophobic sensitizers, which forms aliphatic net work.

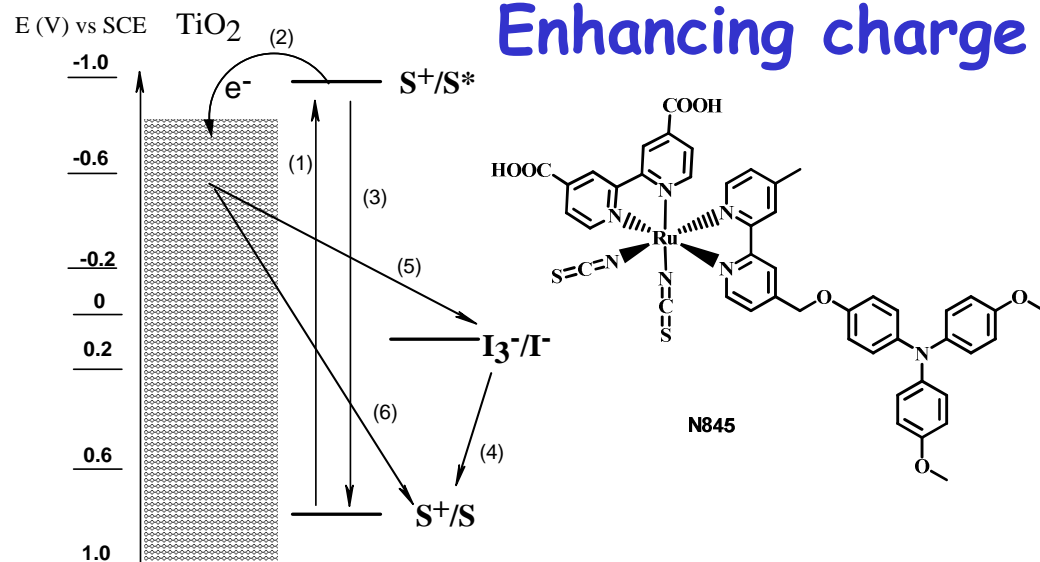


S. M. Zakeeruddin, M. K. Nazeeruddin, R. Humphry-Baker, P. Pechy, P. Quagliotto, C. Barolo, G. Viscardi, M. Grätzel, *Langmuir* 2002, **18**, 952

P. Wang, S. M. Zakeeruddin, J. E. Moser, M. K. Nazeeruddin, T. Sekiguchi, M. Grätzel, *Nat. Mater.* 2003, **2**, 402

M. K. Nazeeruddin, S. M. Zakeeruddin, J.-J. Lagref, P. Liska, P. Comte, C. Barolo, G. Viscardi, K. Schenk, M. Graetzel *Coord. Chem. Rev.* 248 (13-14): 1317-1328 (2004)

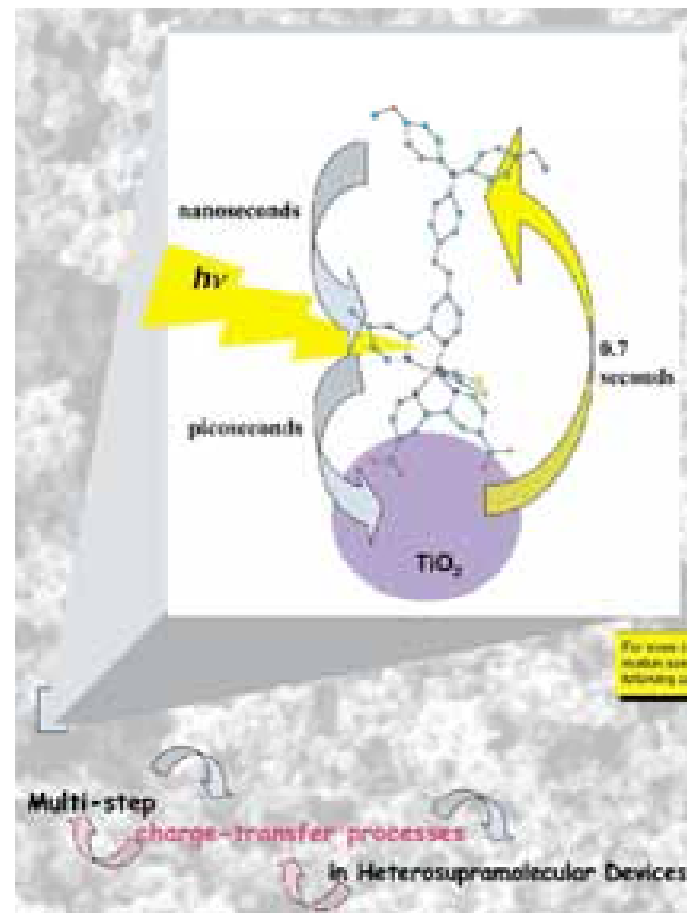
Enhancing charge separation



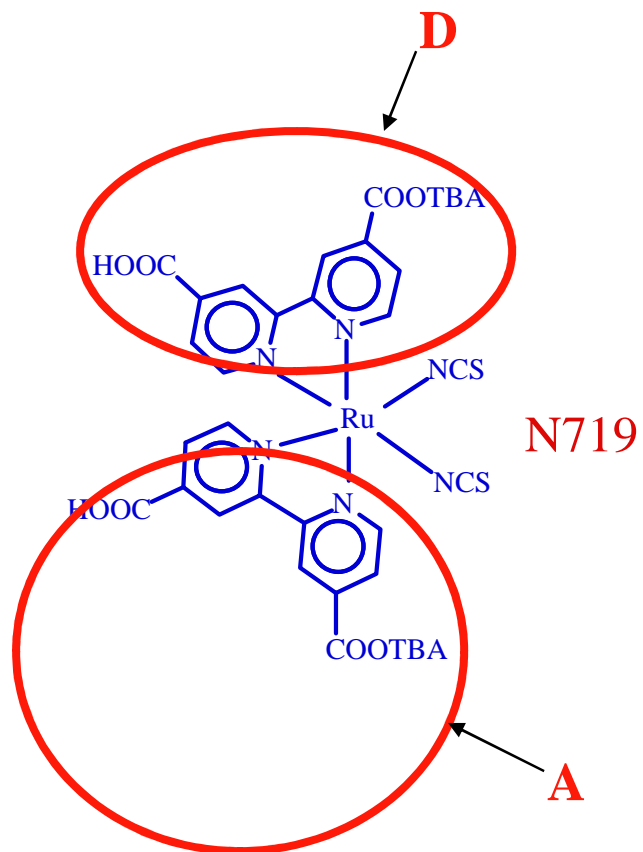
triarylamine moiety

1000-fold retardation of the recombination dynamics in comparison with N-719!

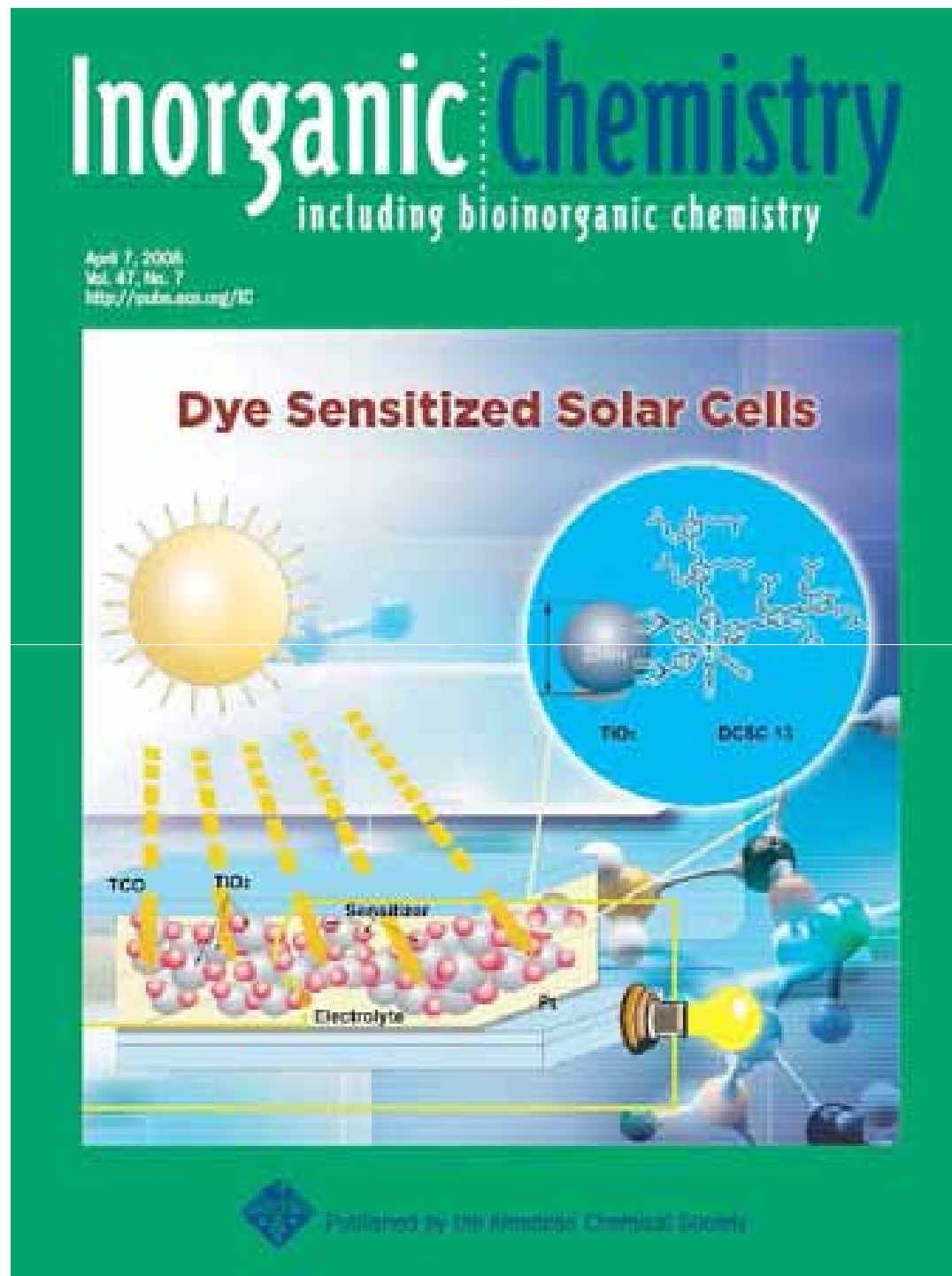
4 Å increase in distance between the cationic center of charge and the TiO₂ surface respect to N-719



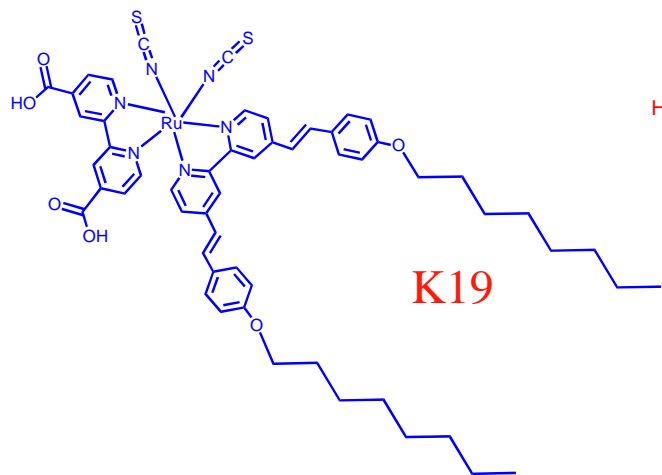
New Sensitizers with π -extended donor ligands



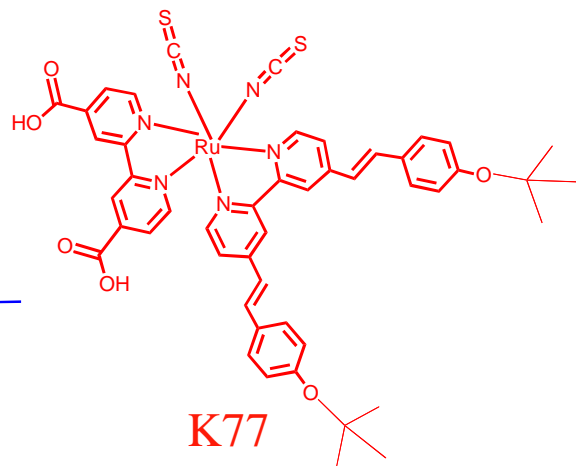
Ko et al. Inorganic Chemistry, Vol. 47, No. 7, 2008, 2267



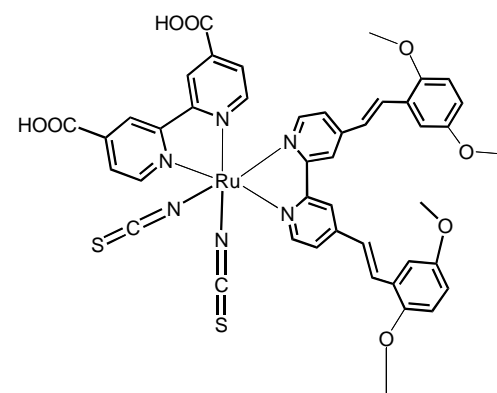
Sensitizers with π -extended donor ligands



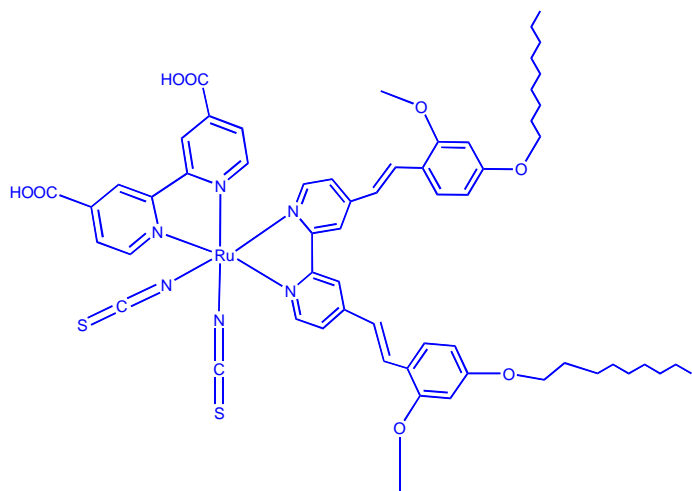
K19



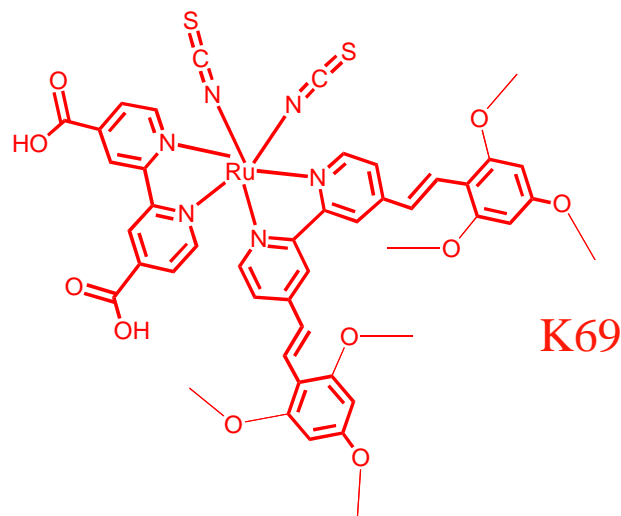
K77



N945



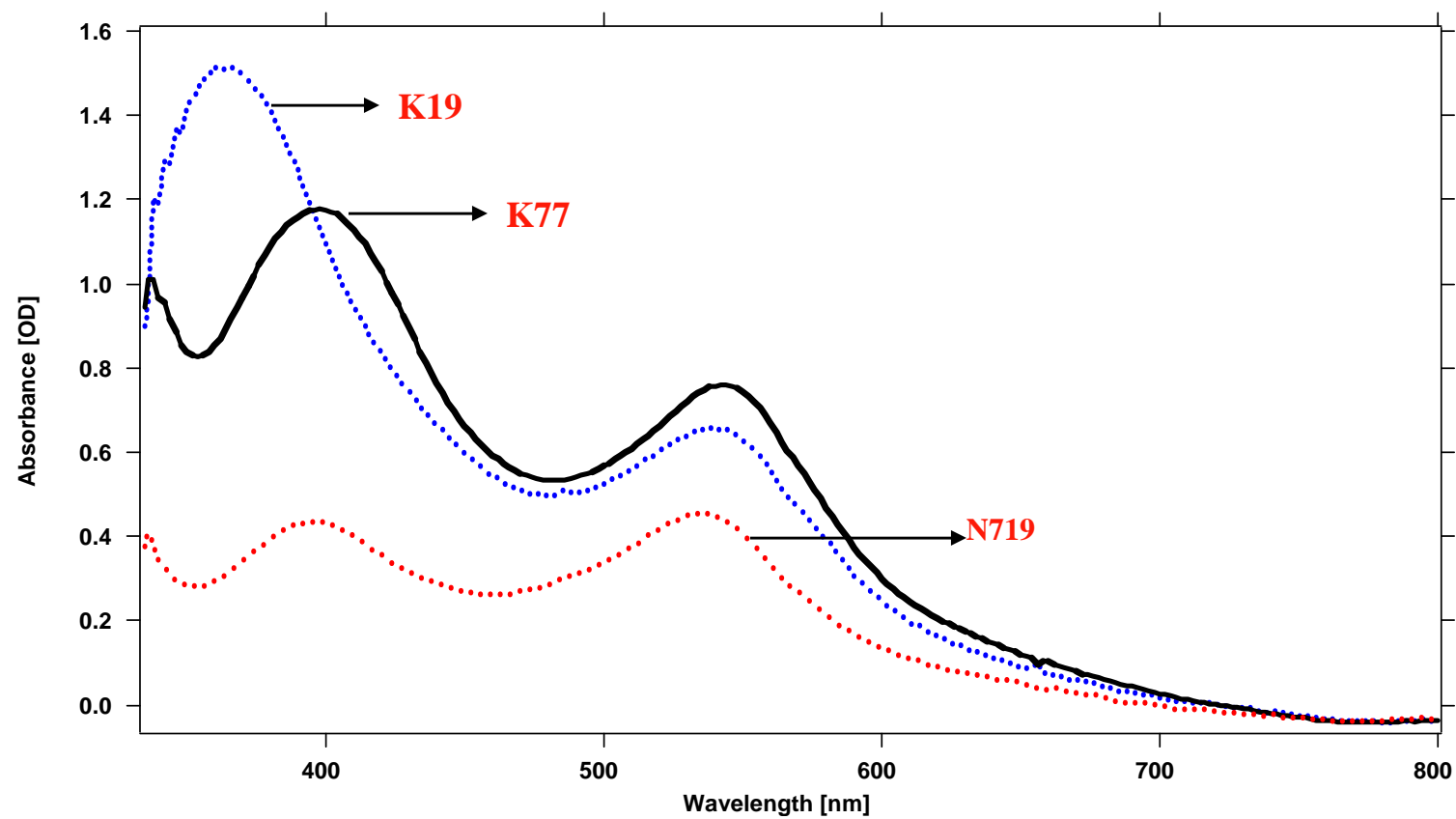
K66



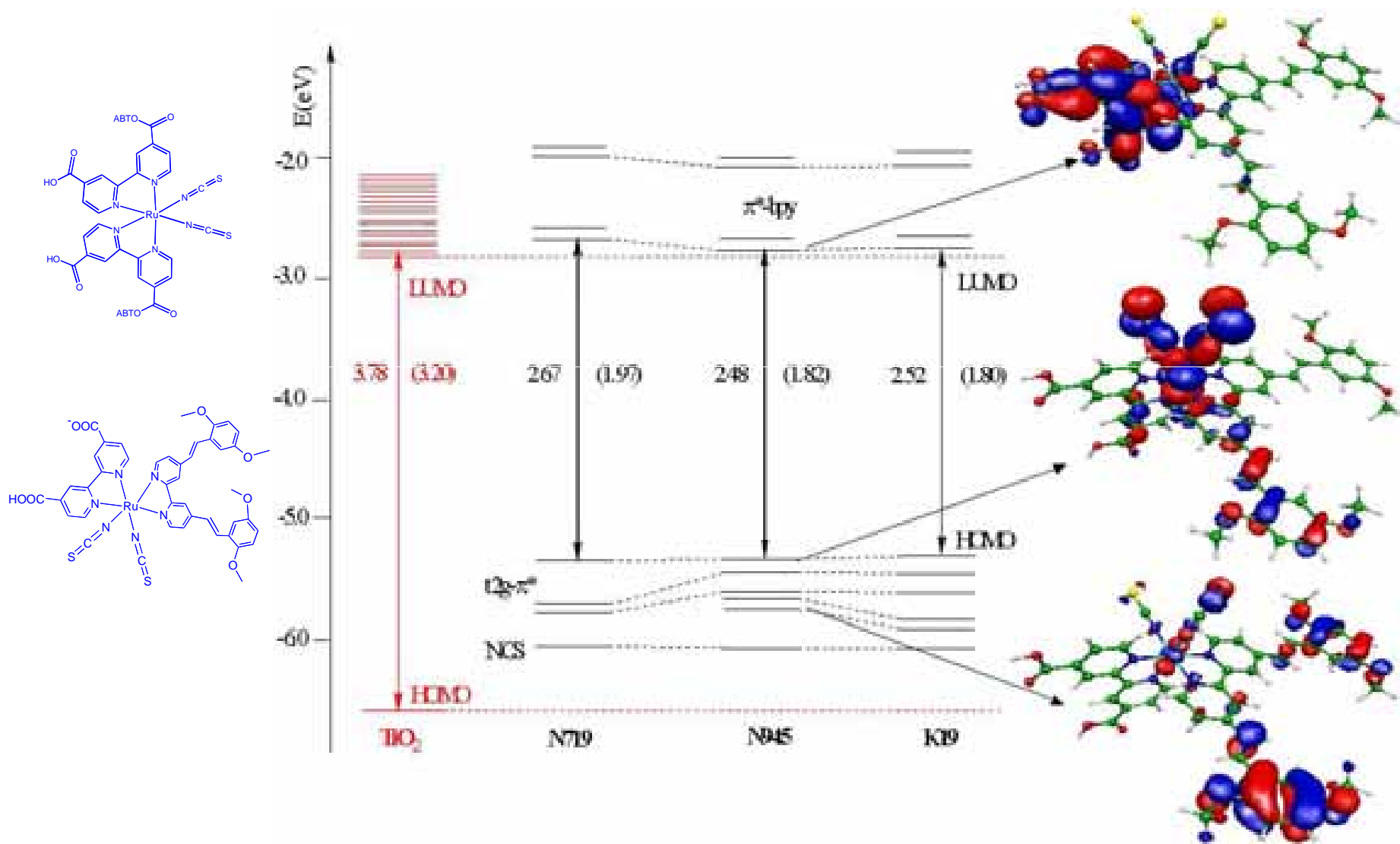
K69

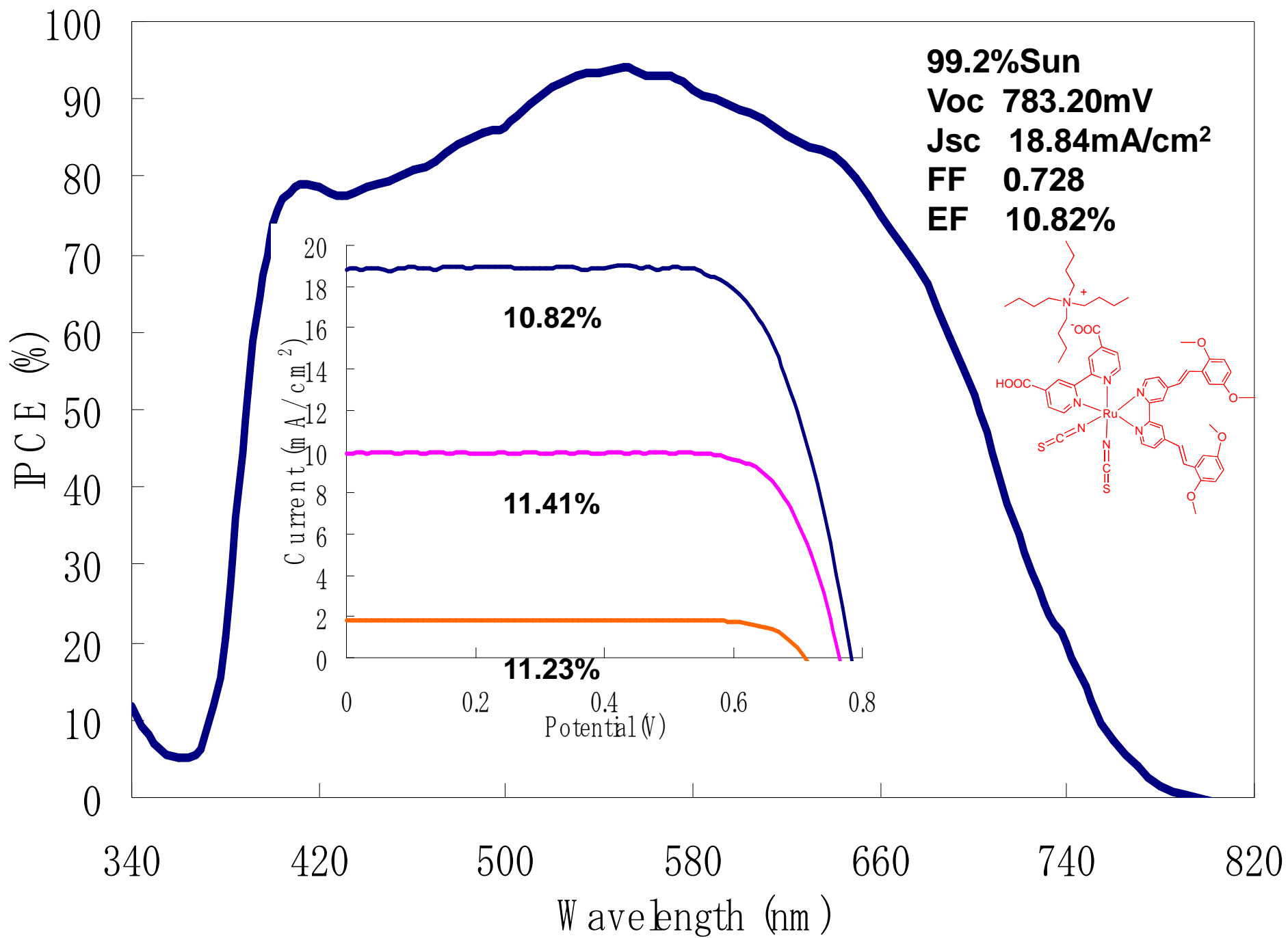
Inorg. Chem. 45, 787-797, 2006.

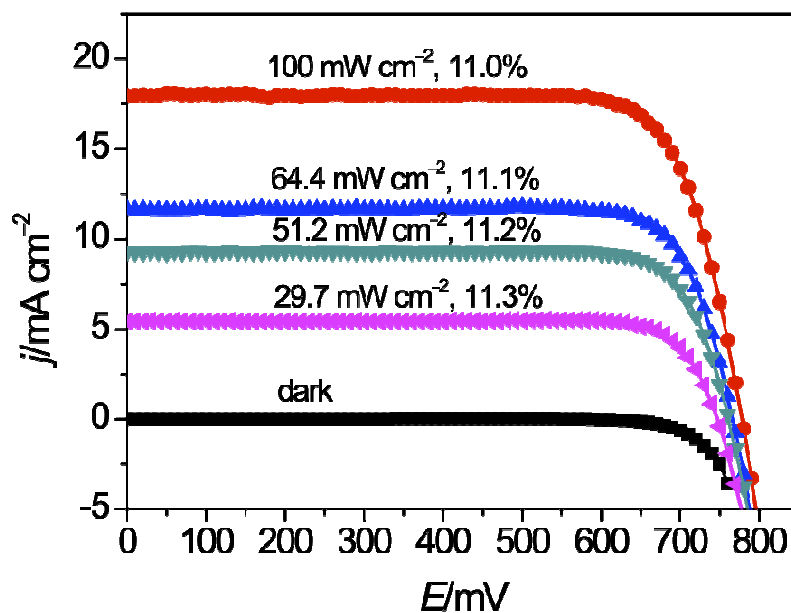
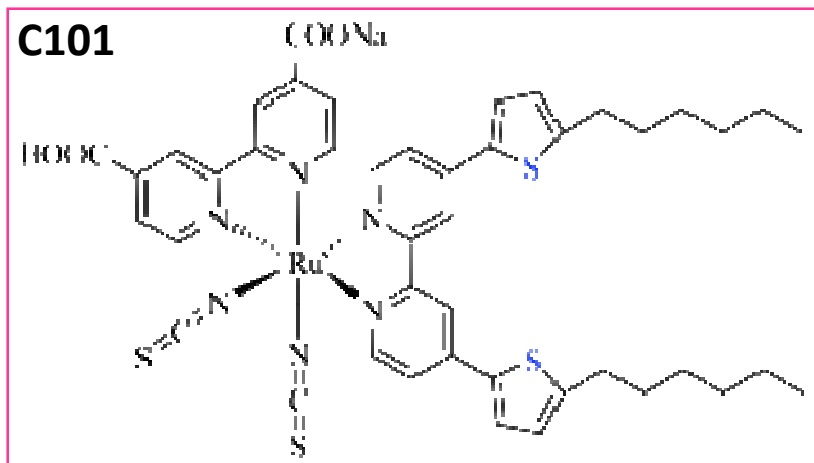
Comparison UV-Vis spectra of N719 (red), K19 (blue) and K77 (black)



Molecular orbital energy diagram of N719, N945 and K19 compared to that of a TiO₂ nanoparticle model







Note: 7+5 film, overnight

Dye solution: 300 μM C101

and 300 μM cheno in AN/t-BuOH

Electrolyte: Z960

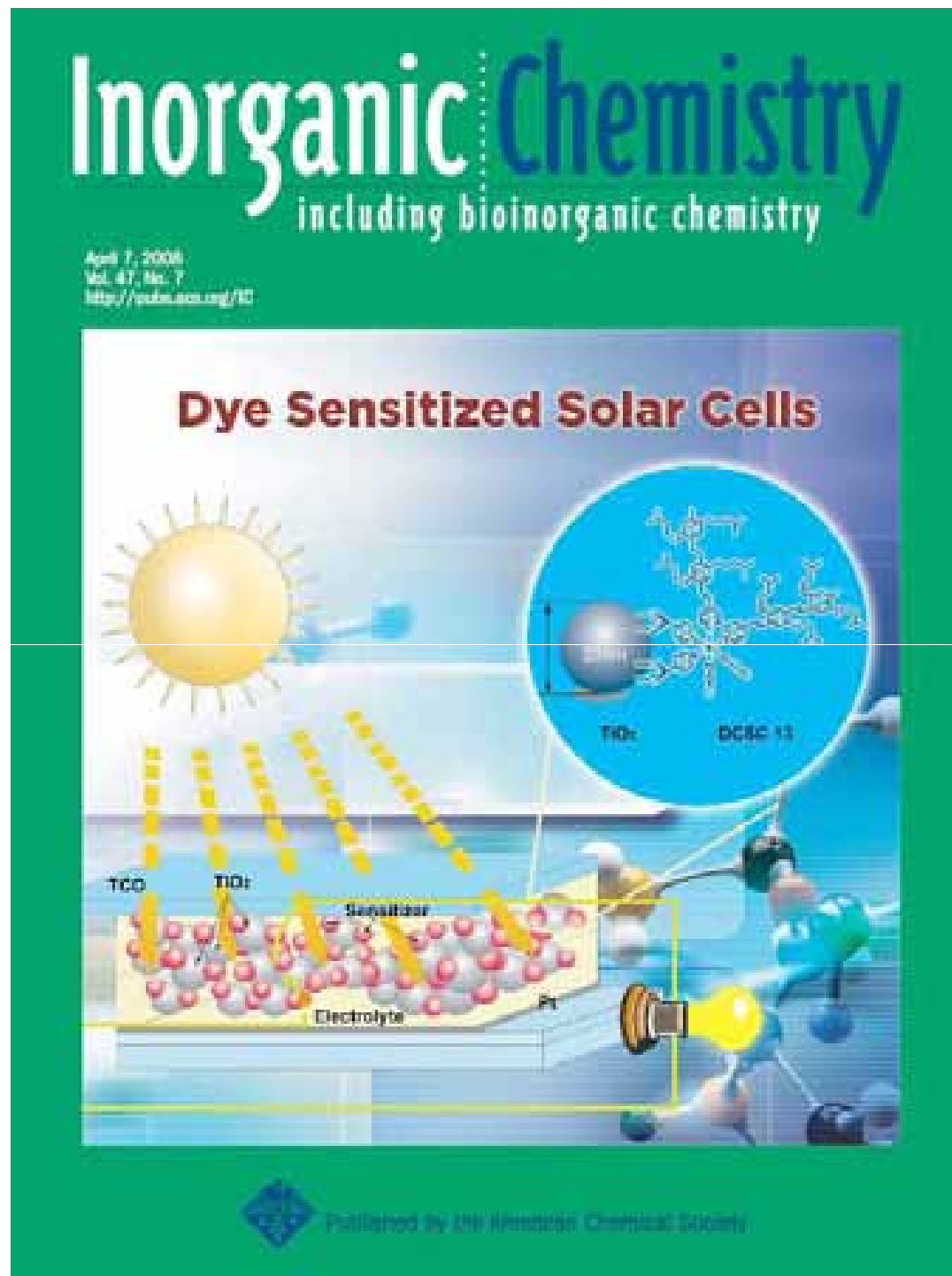
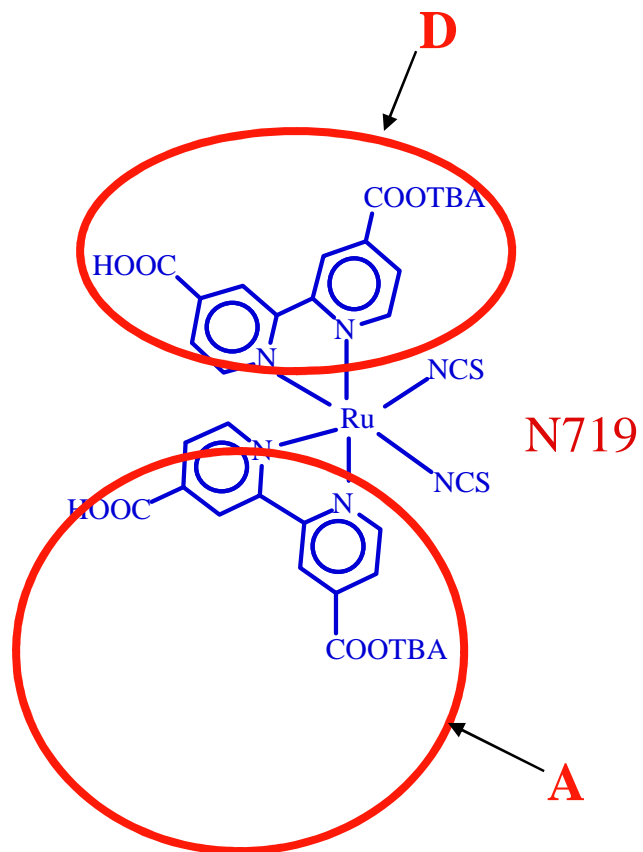
$$J_{sc} = 17.94 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$$

$$V_{oc} = 778 \text{ mV}$$

$$ff = 0.785$$

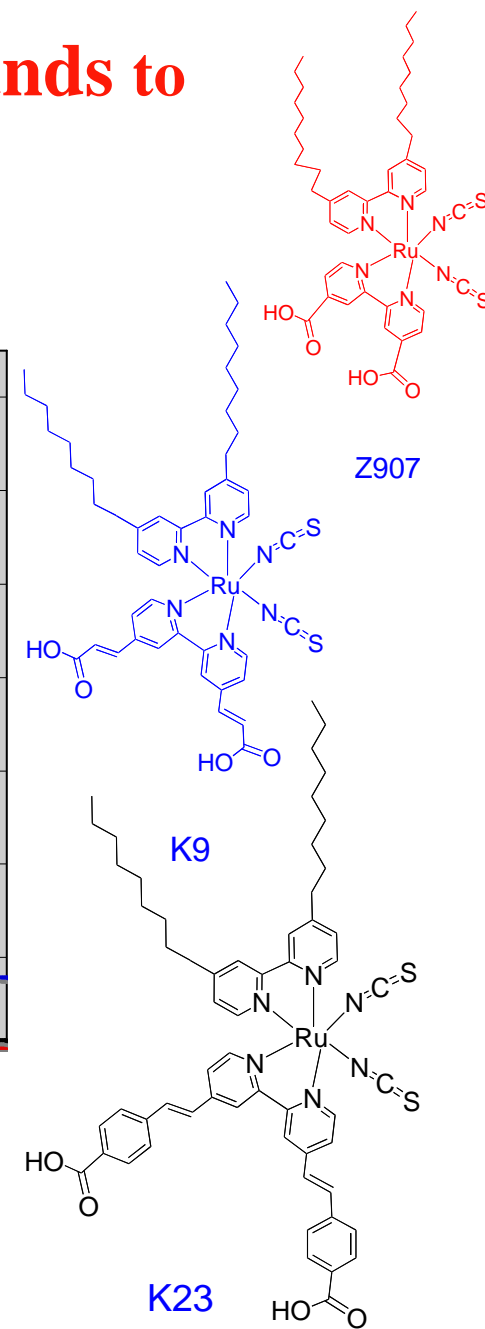
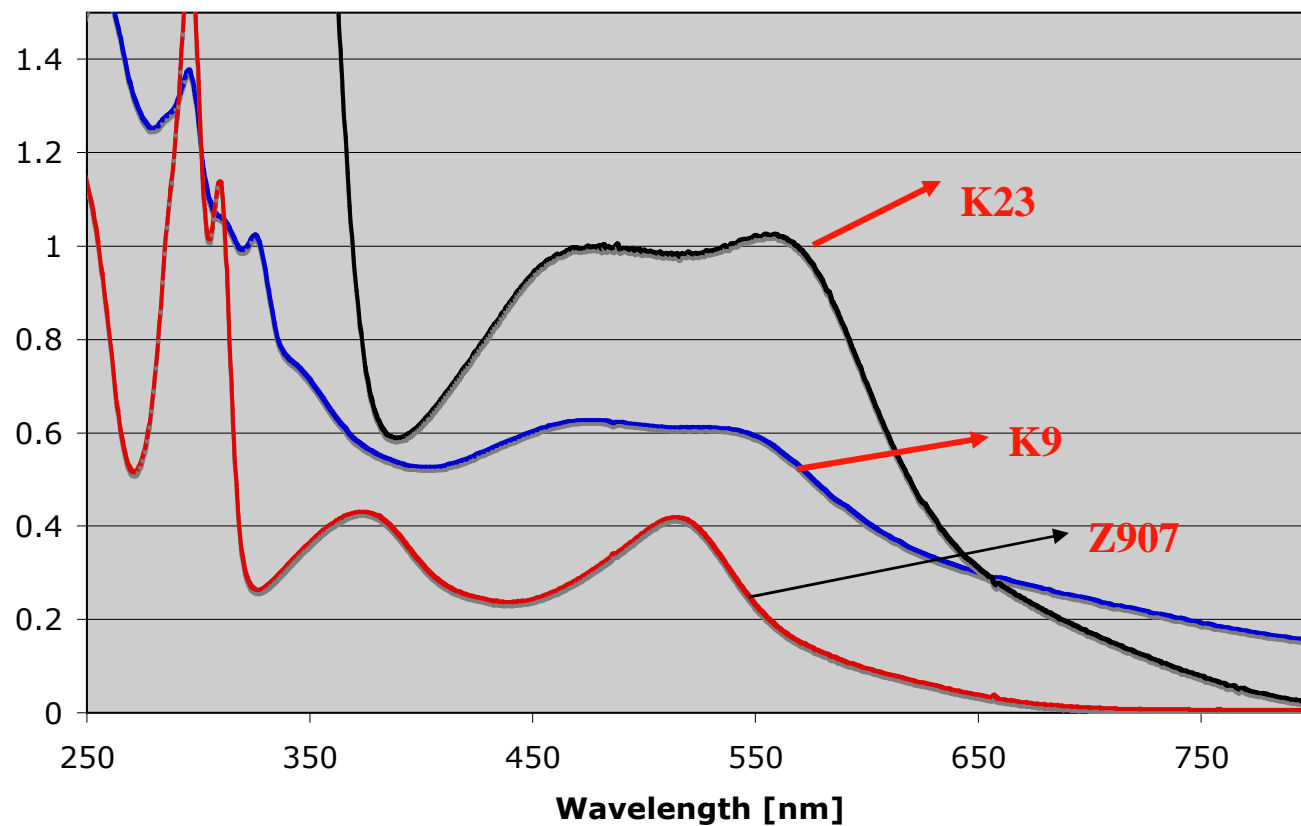
$$\eta = 11.0\%$$

New Sensitizers with π -extended acceptor ligands

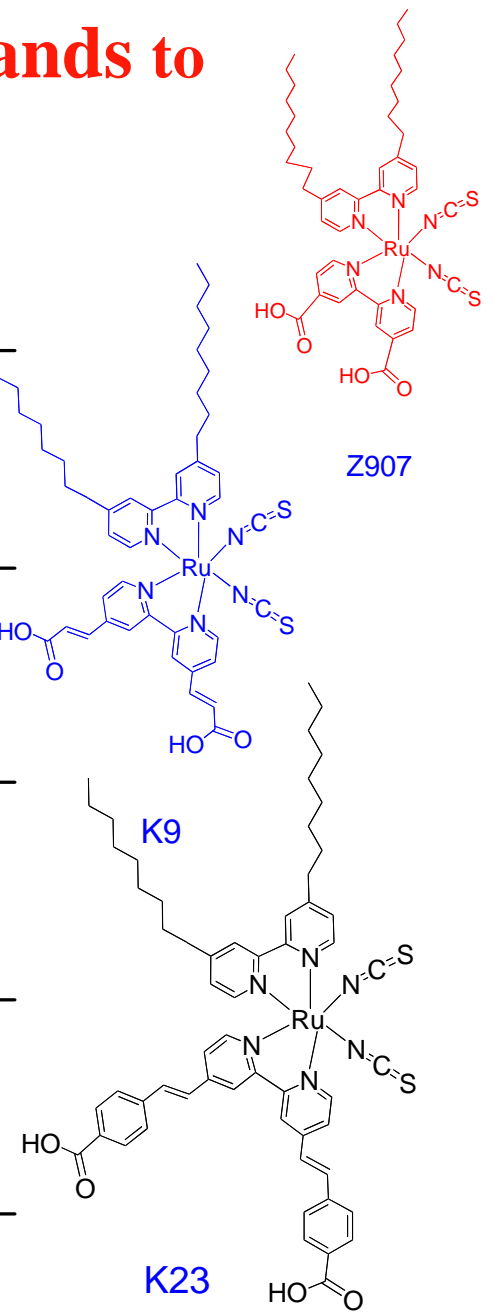
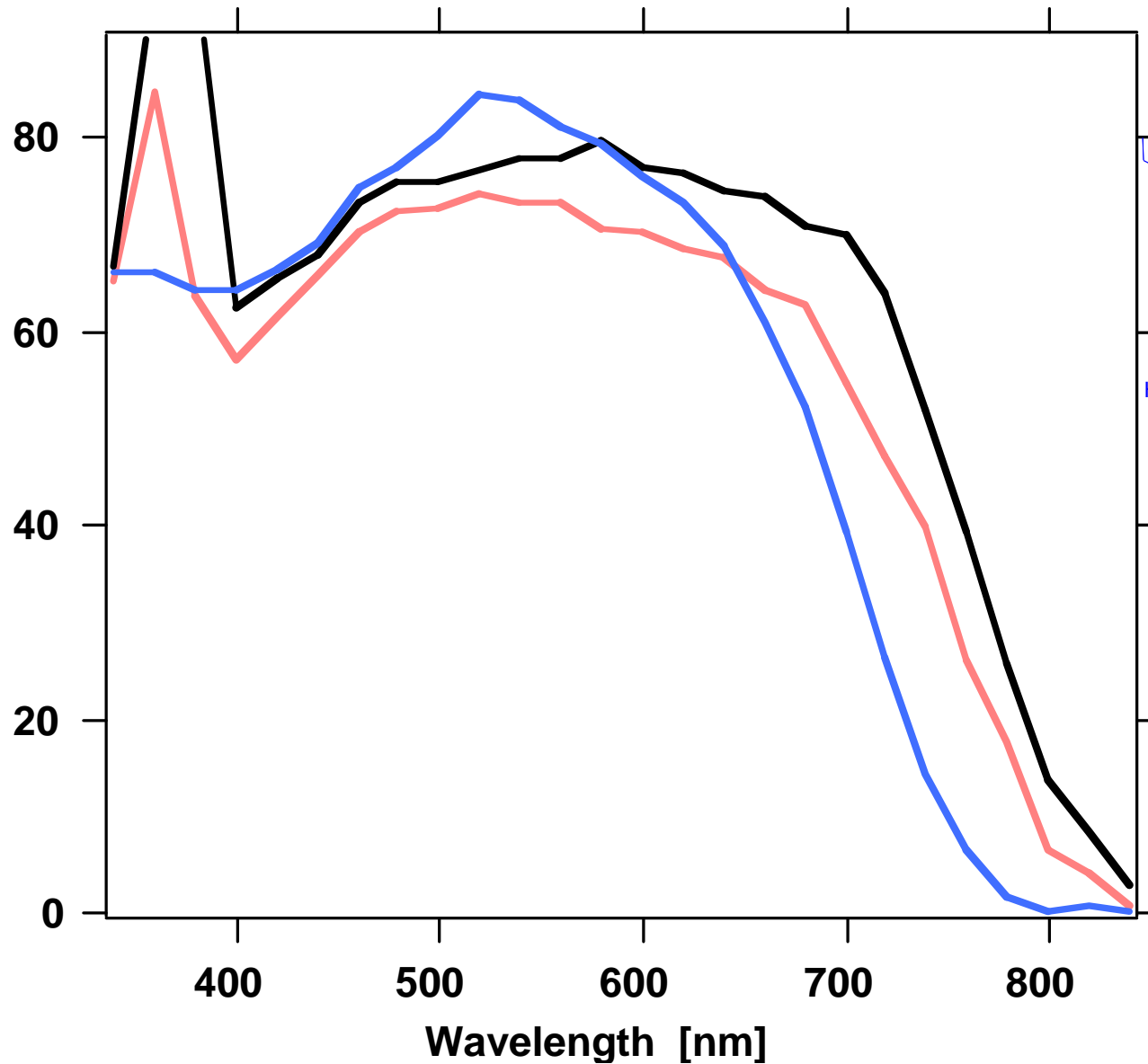


Sensitizers with π -extended acceptor ligands to enhance spectral response

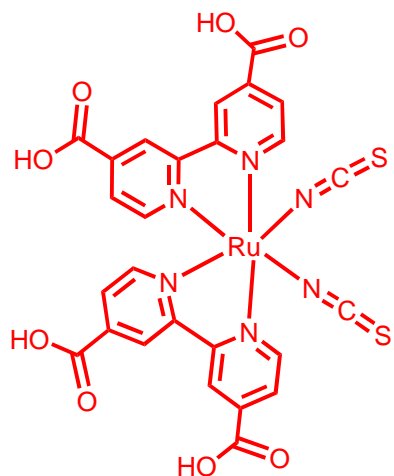
Absorption spectra of Z907, K9 and K23



Sensitizers with π -extended acceptor ligands to enhance spectral response



New Sensitizers with extended π -system



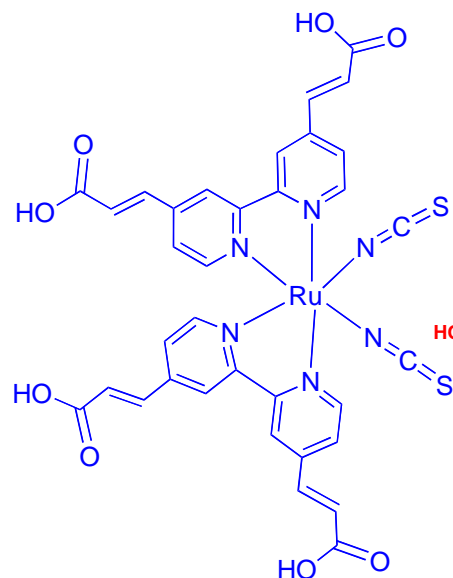
N3

λ_{\max} 535 nm

$\epsilon = 13800 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$

Em. λ_{\max} : 780 nm

$E_{\text{ox}} = 0.85$ (irrev)



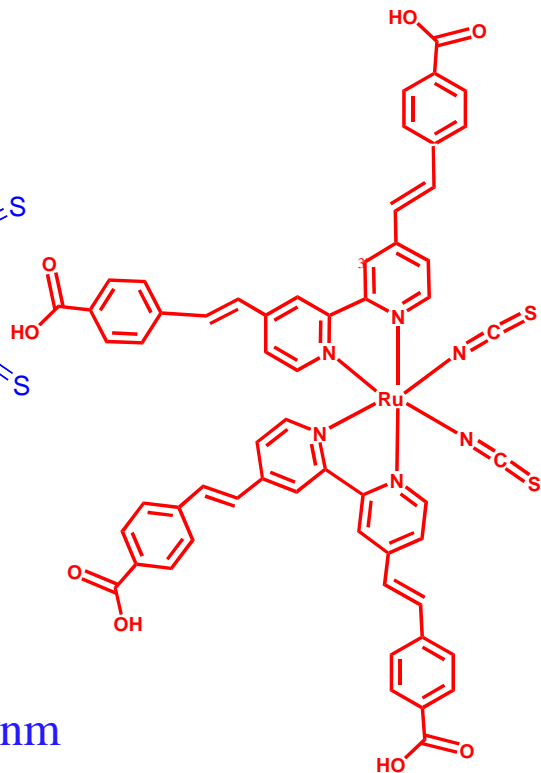
K-8

Abs. λ_{\max} : 555 nm

ϵ : $17600 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$

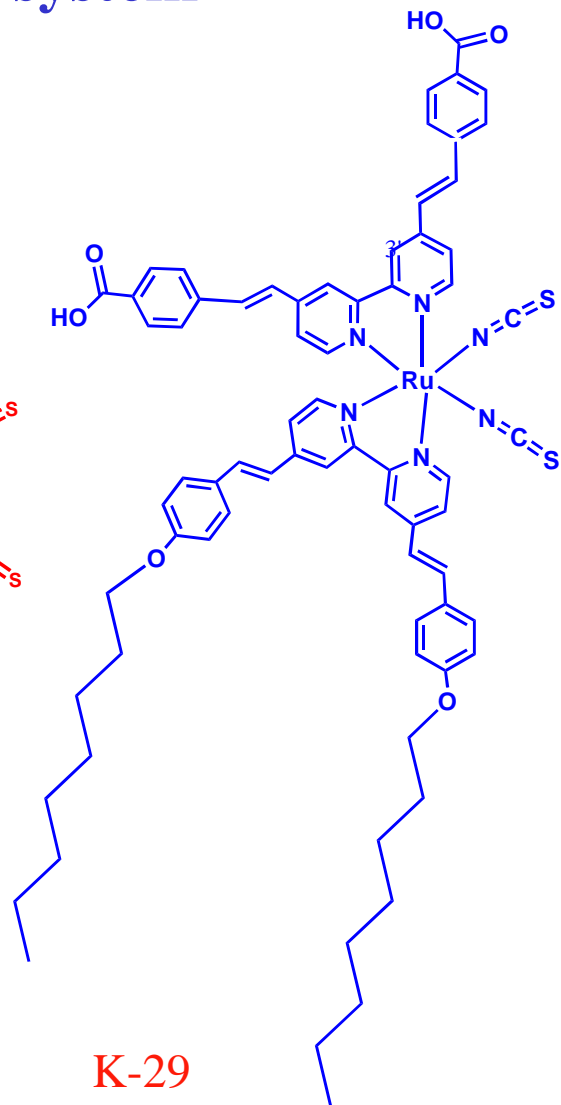
Em. λ_{\max} : 840 nm

$E_{\text{ox}} = 0.77$ (rev)



K-27

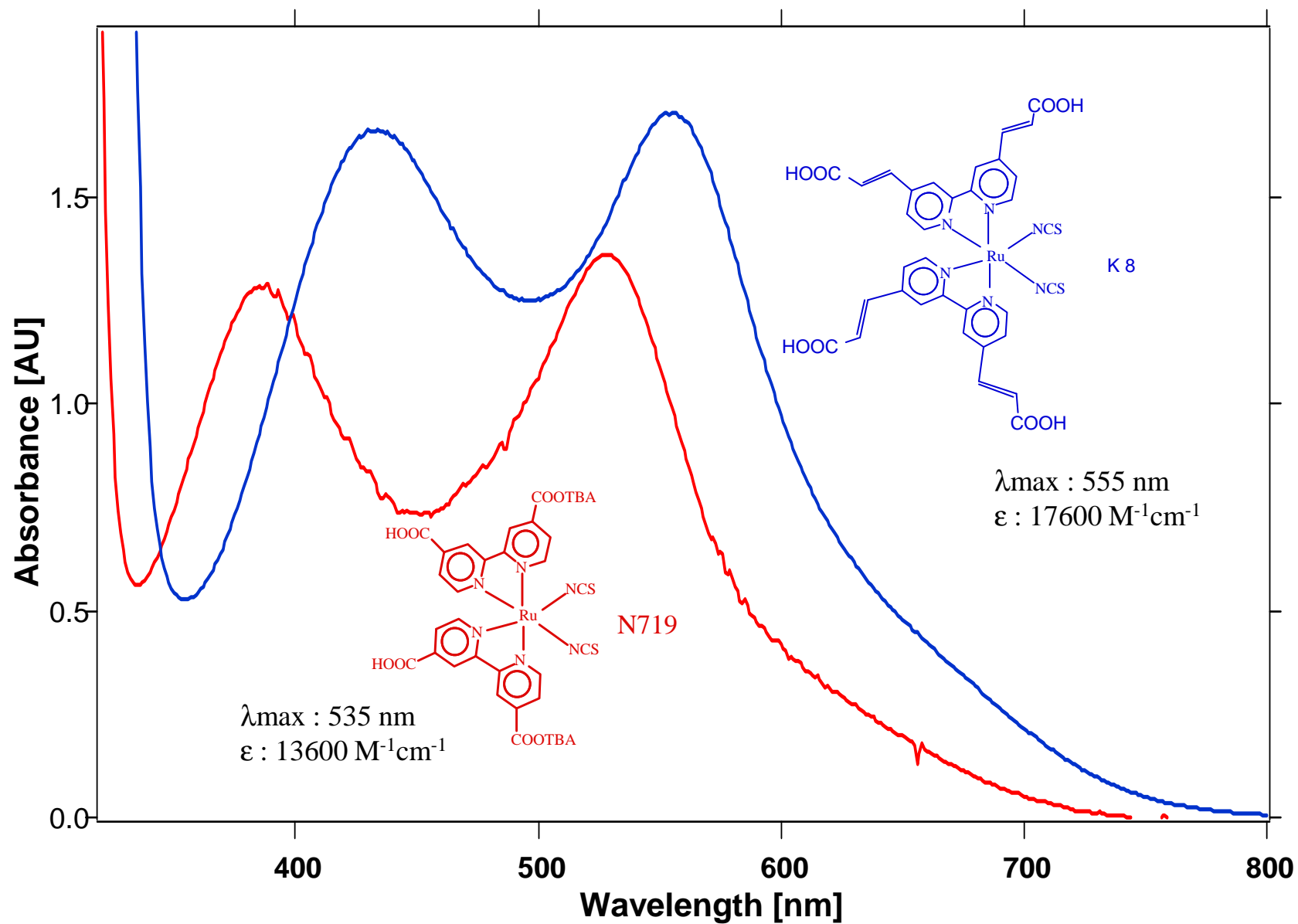
Abs. λ_{\max} : 566 nm



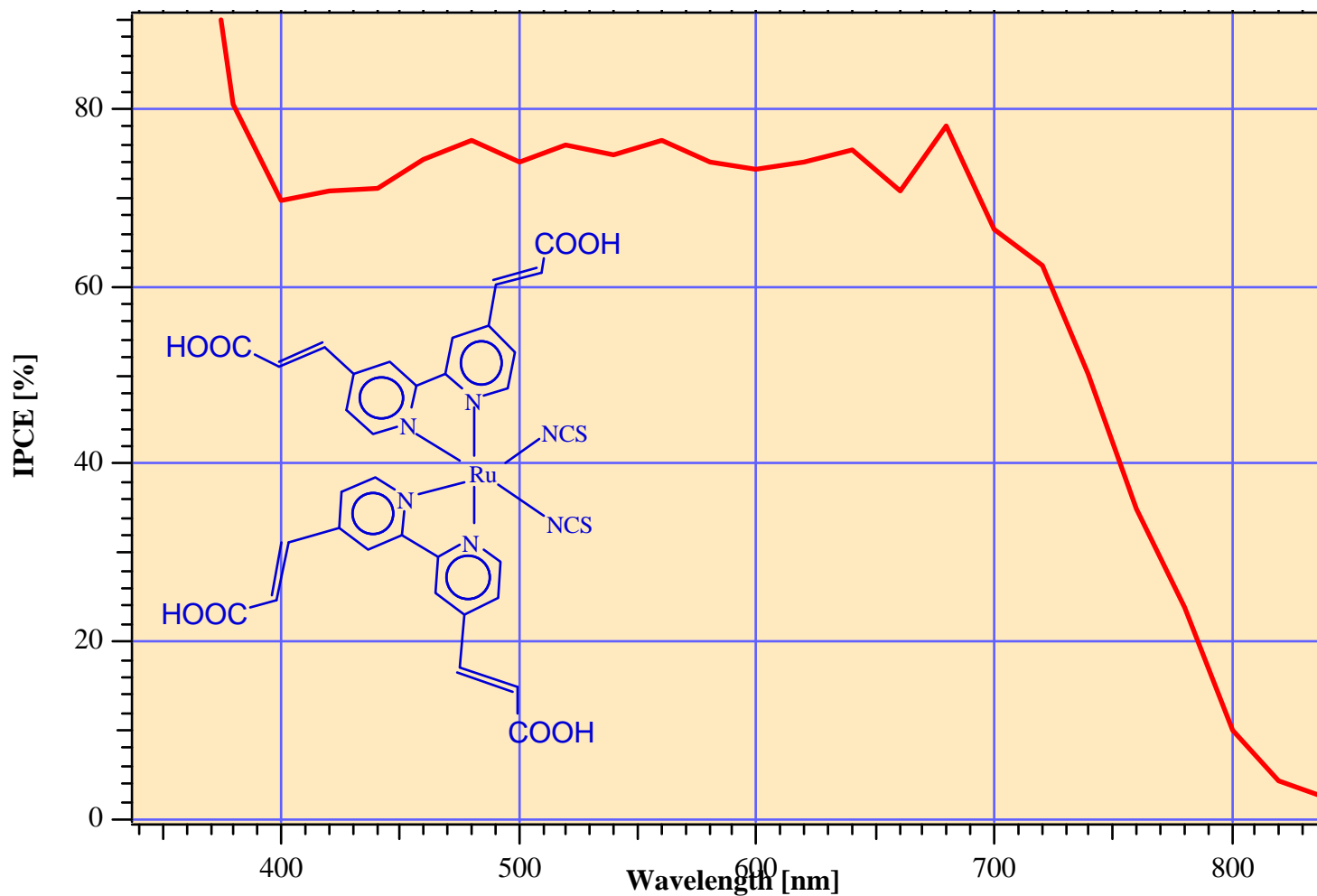
K-29

Abs. λ_{\max} : 575 nm

UV/Vis Spectra of N719 and K8 Sensitizers



Incident Photon to Current Conversion Efficiency of K 8 Sensitizer

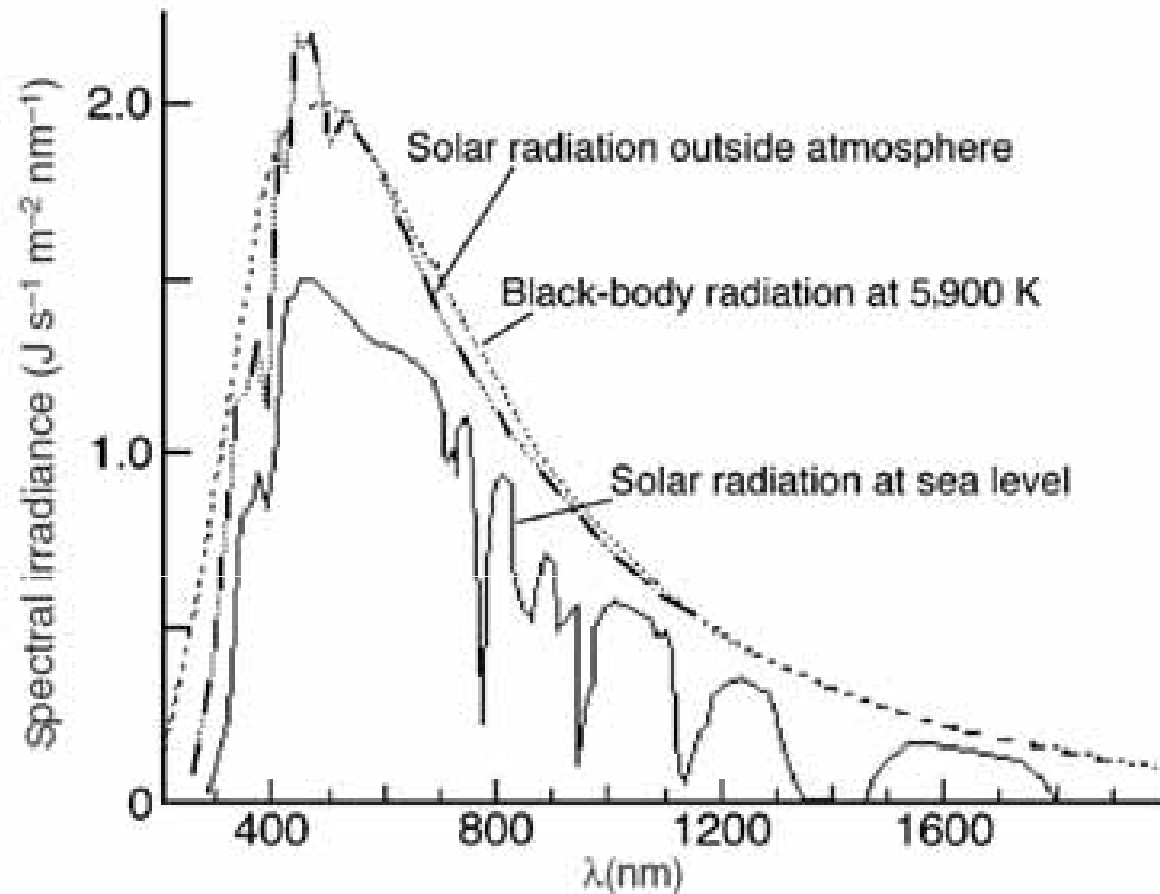


Solar AM 1.5 (1000 W/cm²) is 18 - 19 mA/cm²

M. K. Nazeeruddin, C. Klein, P. Liska, M. Graetzel, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2005**, 249, 1460

C. Klein, M. K. Nazeeruddin, P. Liska, D. Di Censo, N. Hirata, E. Palomares, J. R. Durrant, M. Graetzel, *Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, 44, 178

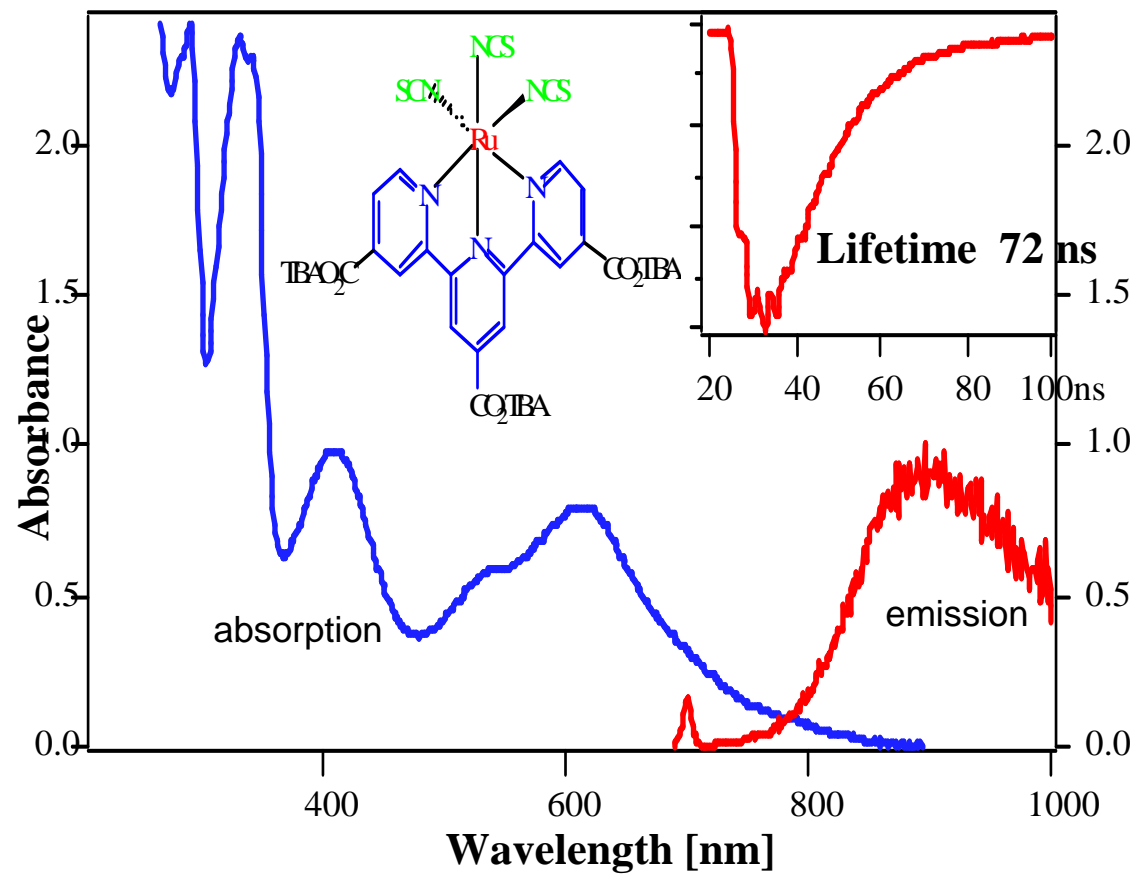
Spectral irradiance of the Sun at mean Earth-Sun separation



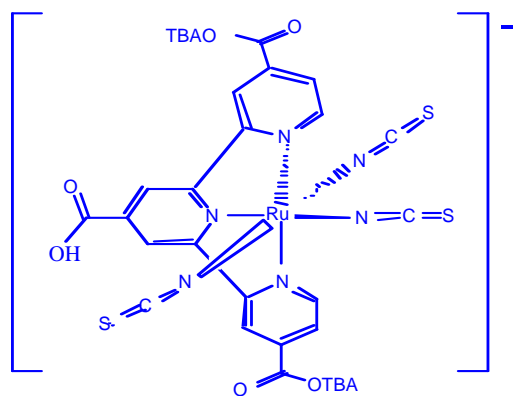
One factor that limiting further improvement of DSC is lack of energy capture by dyes in the IR region.

Half of the sun's energy reaching earth's lies above 700 nm and one third beyond 1000 nm

**Absorption and Emission (ex = 700 nm)
of Trithiocyanato (4,4',4''-tricarboxy-2,2';6,2''-terpyridine)Ruthenium(II)
complex in MeACN**

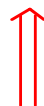


Separation of Linkage Isomers of Trithiocyanato (4,4',4''-tricarboxy-2,2';6,2''-terpyridine)Ruthenium(II)



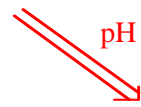
Isomer 1

pH = 5



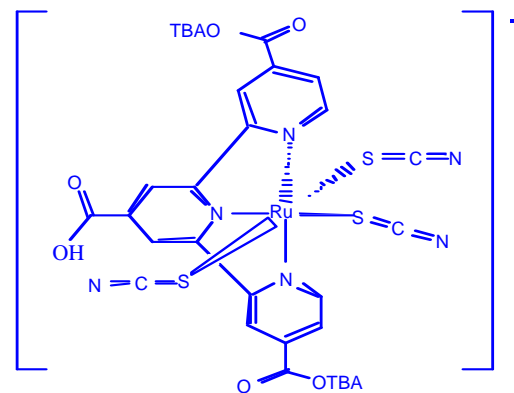
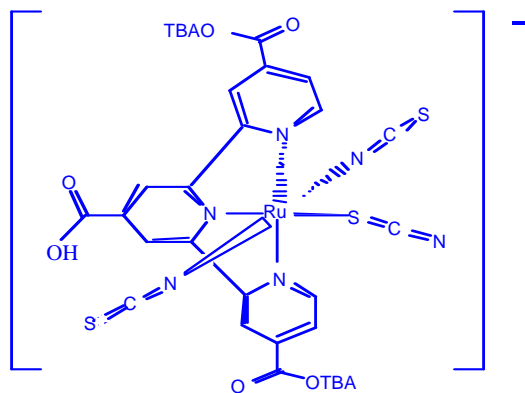
pH = 4.5

pH = 3.8

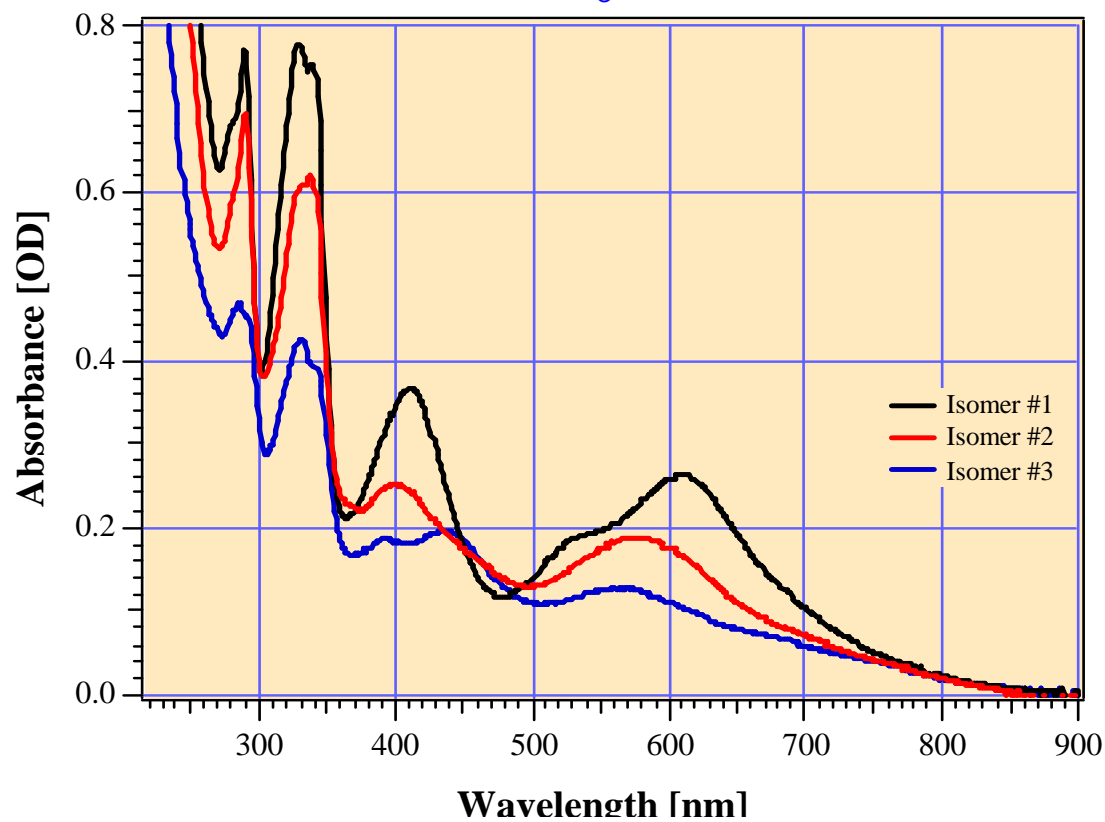
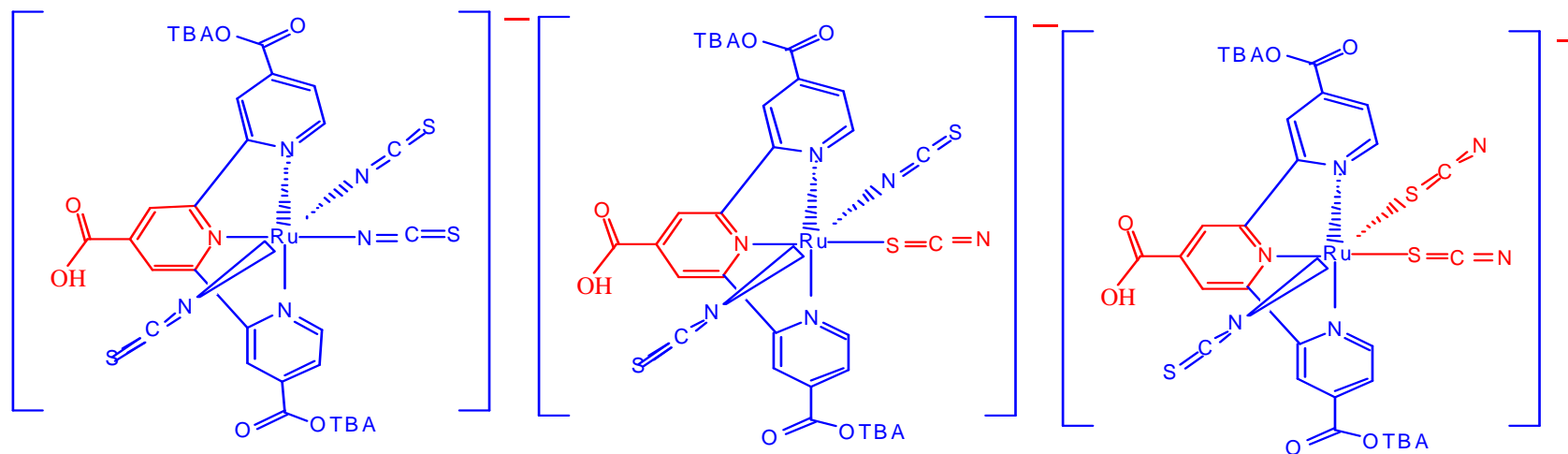


Isomer 2

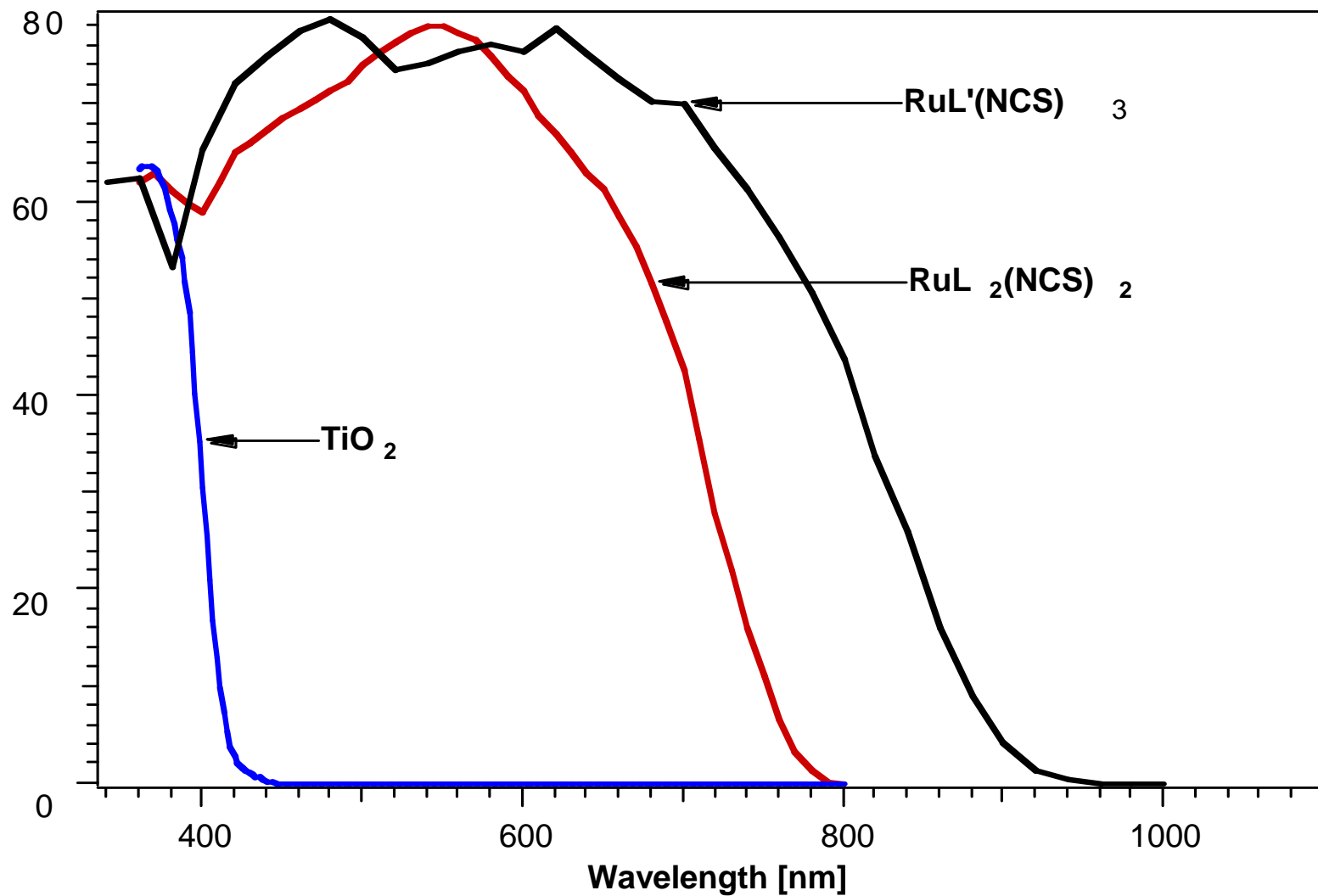
Isomer 3



Isomers of the Black dye



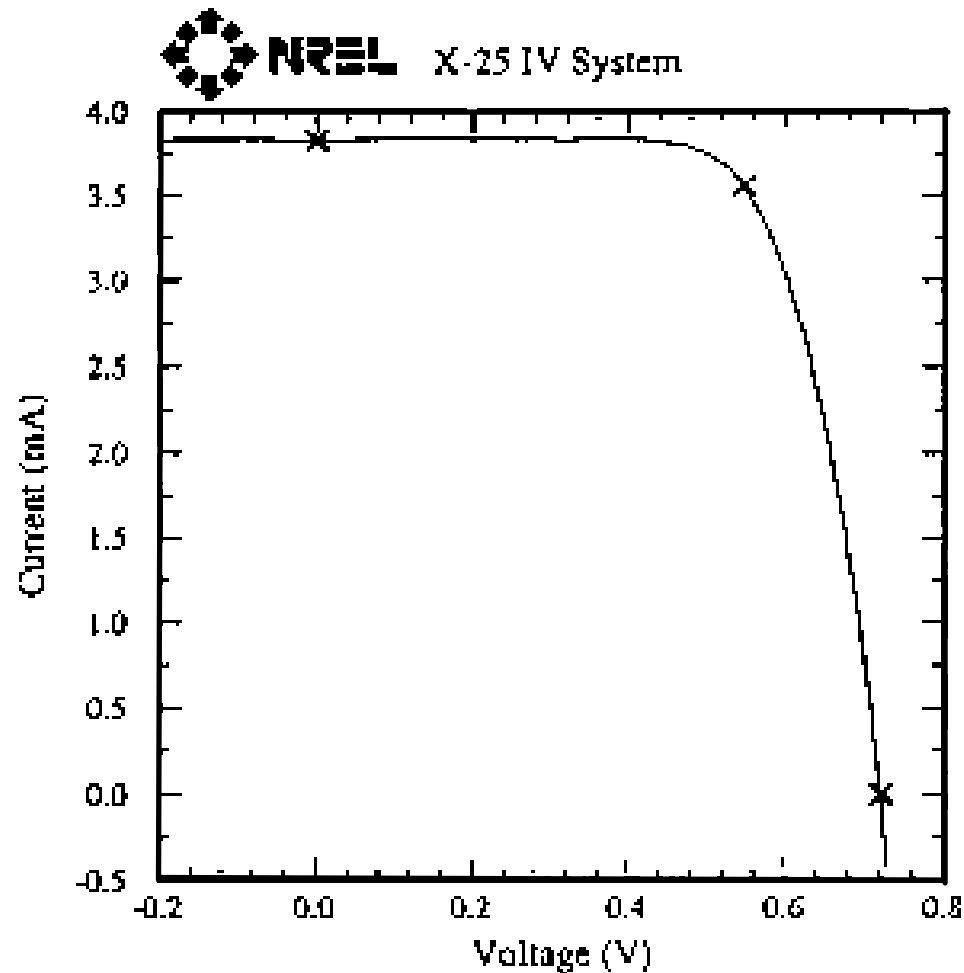
Photocurrent action spectrum of different ruthenium complexes attached to nanocrystalline TiO₂ films



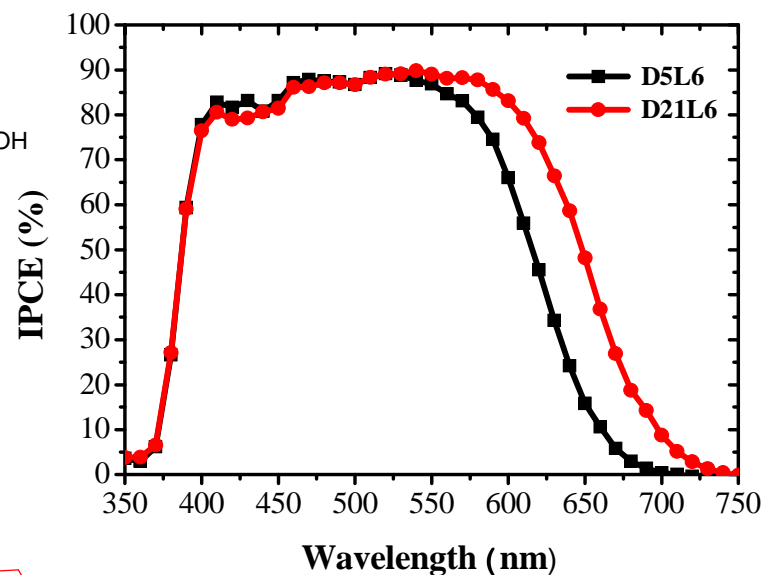
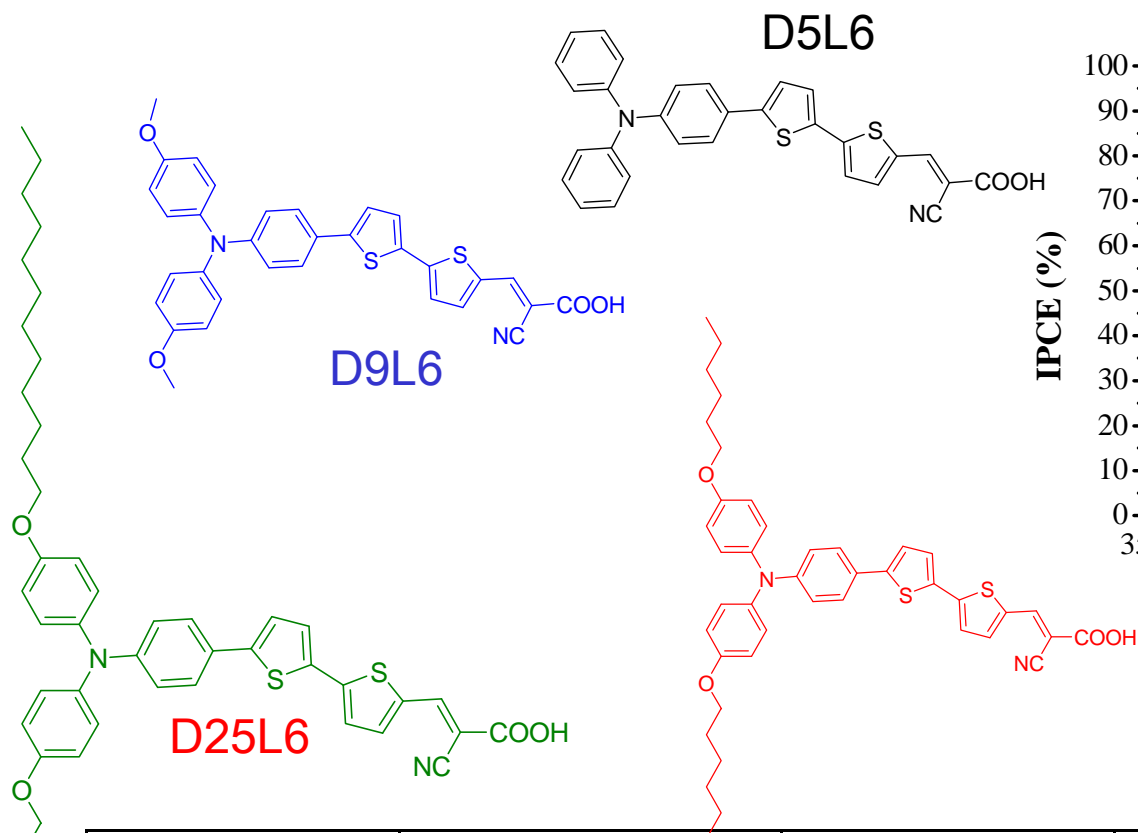
L = 4,4'-COOH-2,2'-bipyridine

L' = 4,4',4''-COOH-2,2':6',2''-terpyridine

Photocurrent-voltage characteristics of a nanocrystalline photoelectrochemical cell sensitized with the Black Dye



The results were obtained at the NREL calibration laboratory measured with an area of 0.1863 cm² and irradiance of 1000 Wm⁻². $V_{oc} = 0.72$ V, $J_{sc} = 20.53$ mAcm⁻²; fill factor = 70.41%; the efficiency = 10.4.

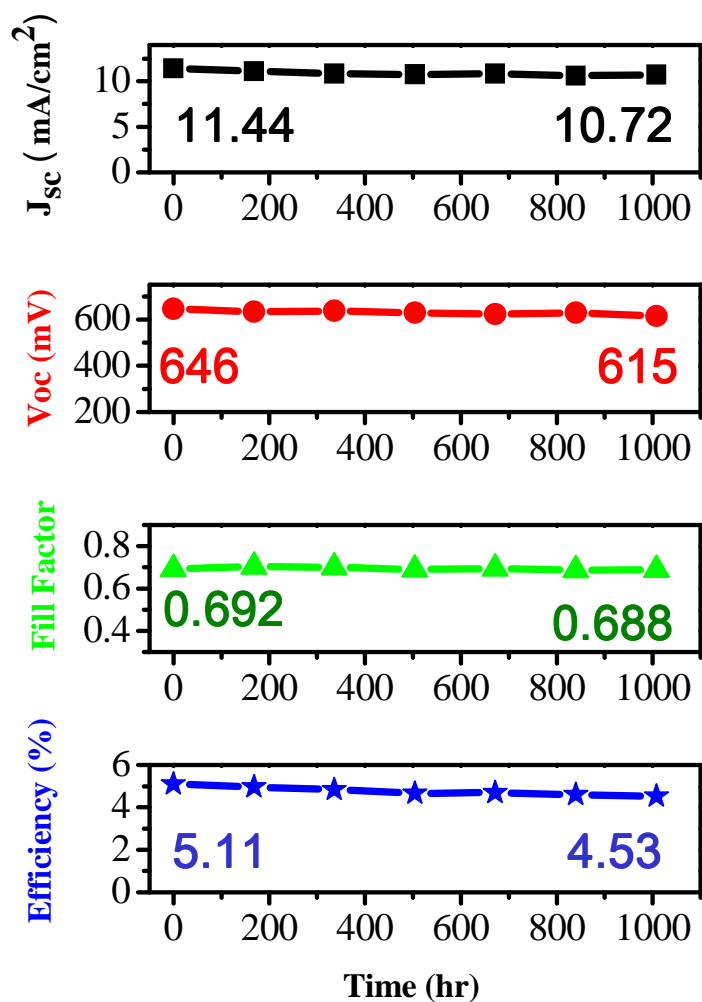


Dye	J (mA/cm ²)	V (mV)	FF	efficiency
D5L6	12.50	685	0.74	6.29
D9L6	13.36	641	0.70	6.08
D21L6	13.70	733	0.72	7.25
D25L6	13.73	745	0.69	7.05



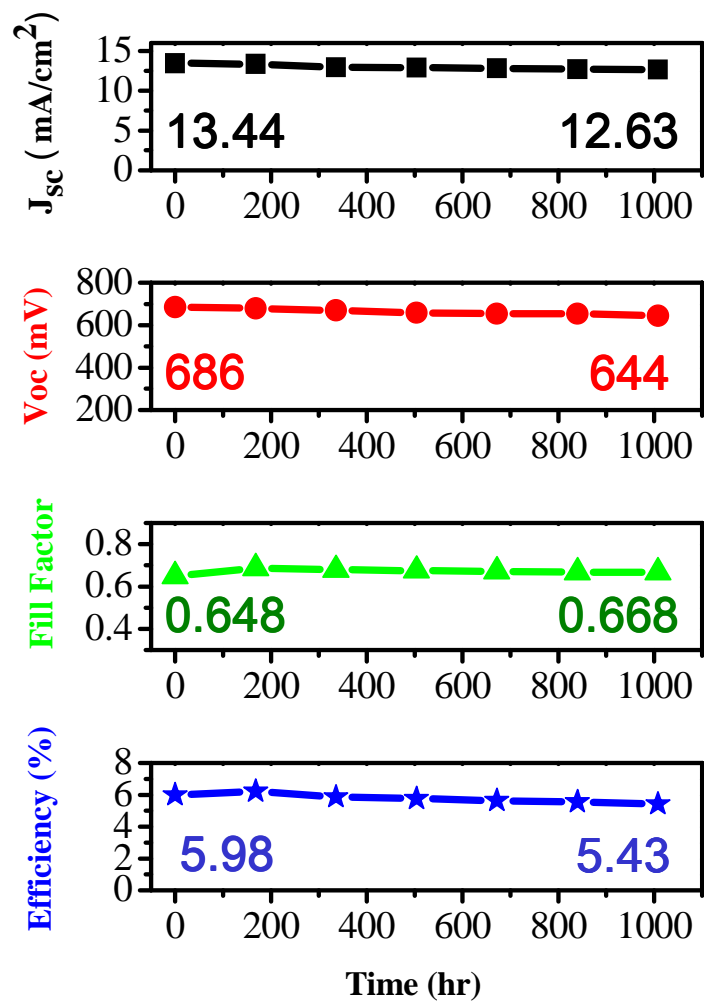
Stability with IL z655 under light soaking + 60 degree

D5L6



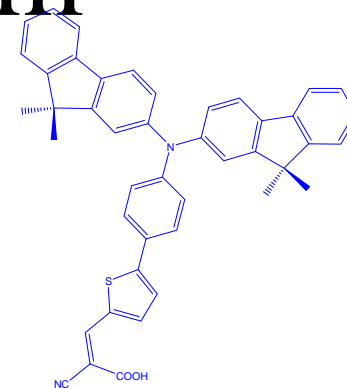
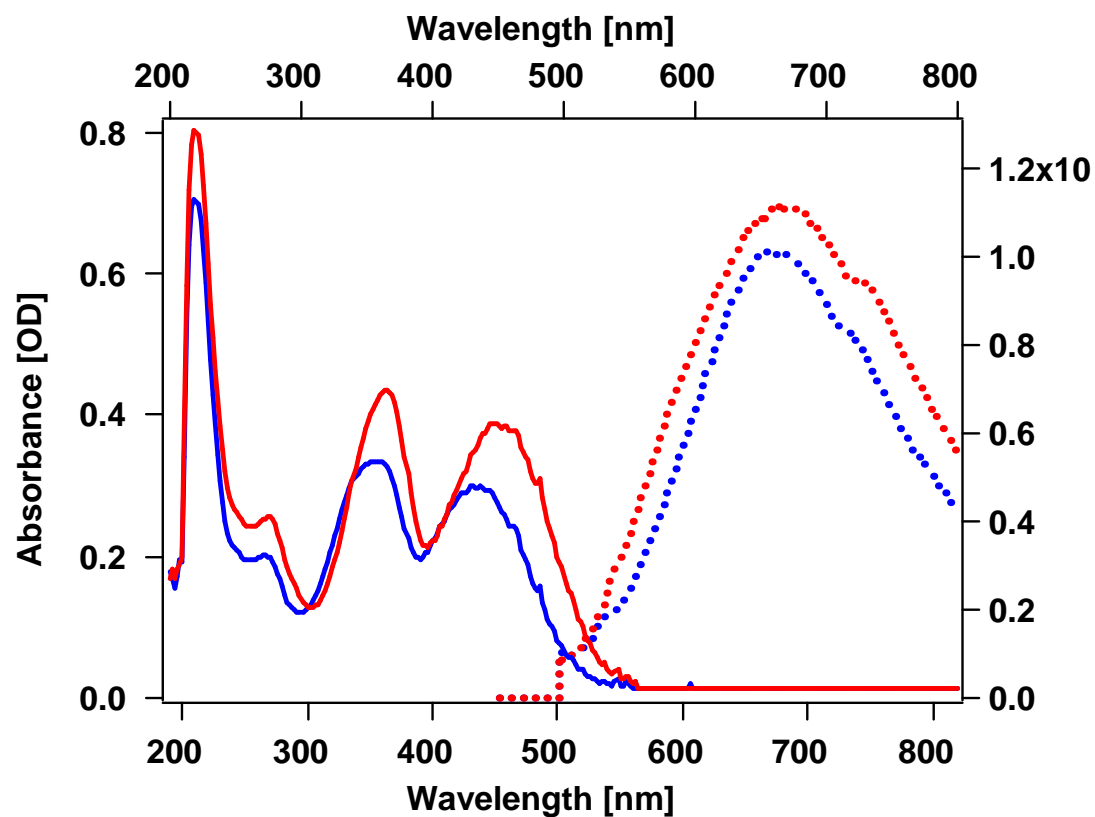
88%

D21L6



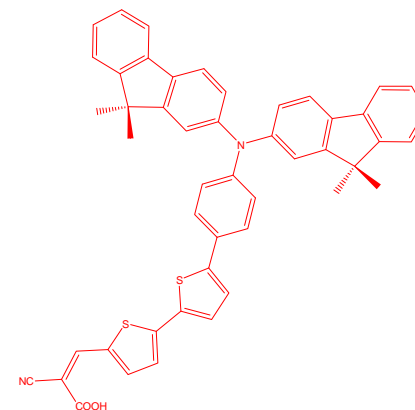
90%

Absorption spectrum



354 nm ($\epsilon = 34,000 \text{ dm}^3\text{mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)

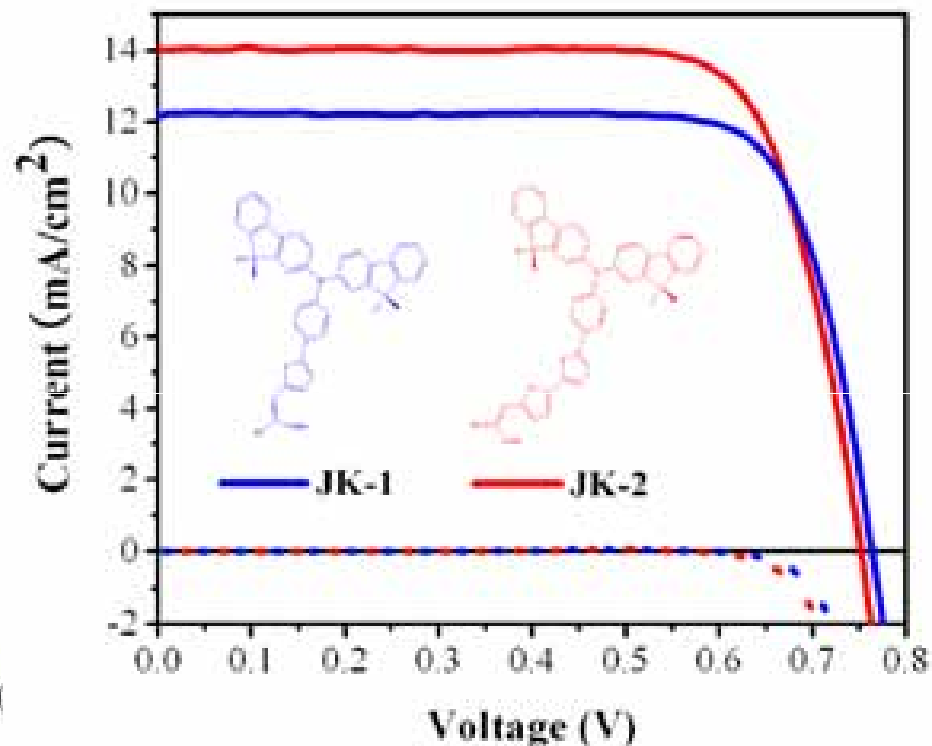
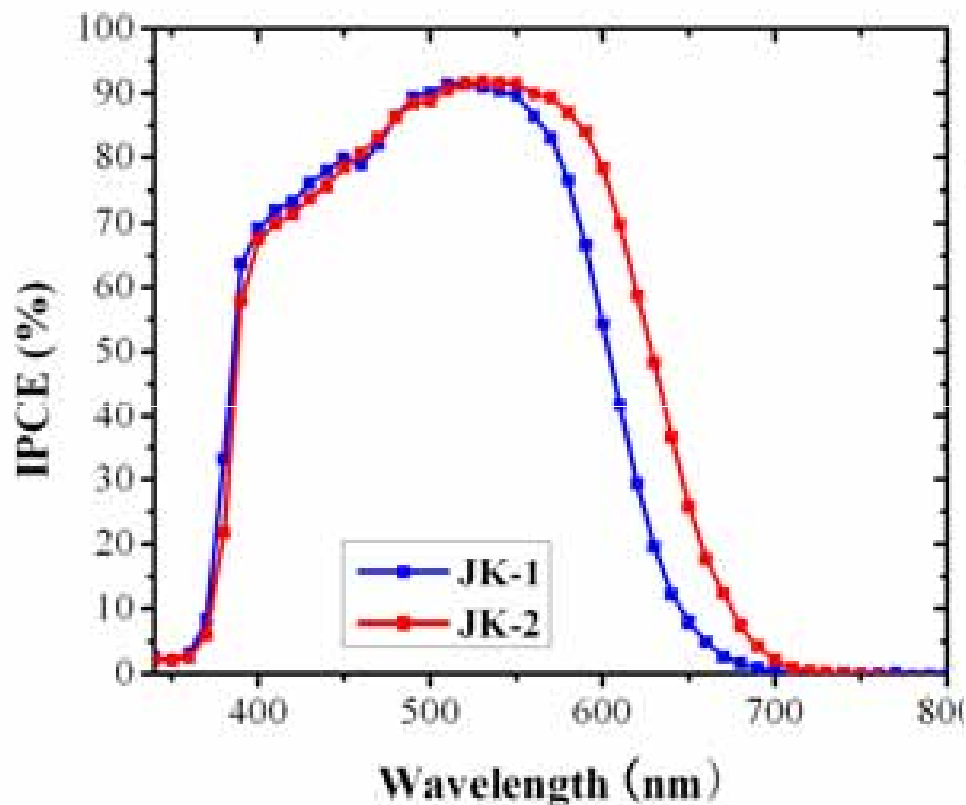
436 nm ($\epsilon = 30,000 \text{ dm}^3\text{mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)



364 nm ($\epsilon = 44,000 \text{ dm}^3\text{mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)

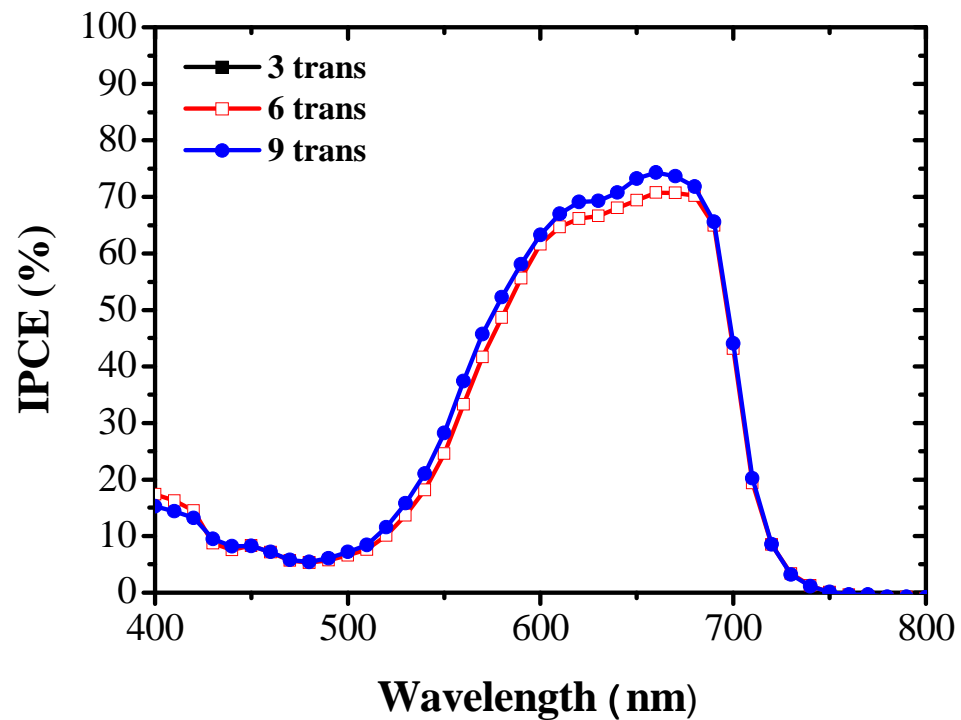
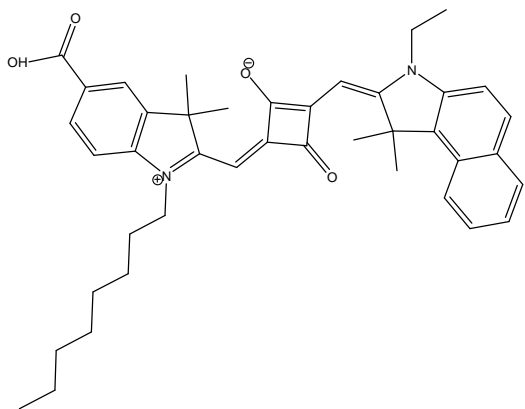
452 nm ($\epsilon = 39,000 \text{ dm}^3\text{mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)

IPCE and IV data of JK1 and JK2 dyes



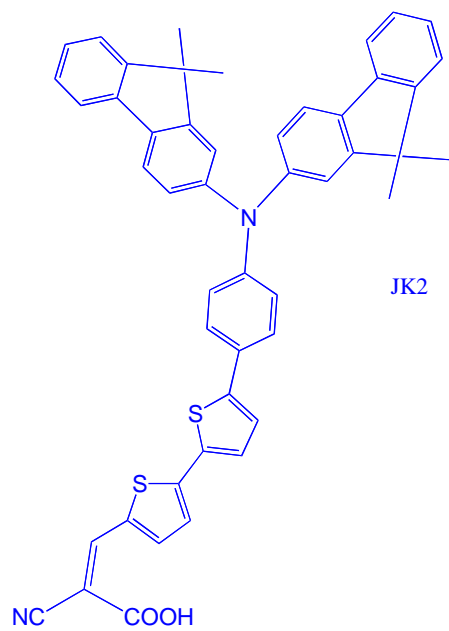
91 % IPCE

**power conversion 7.20% (JK-1)
and 8.01% (JK-2)**

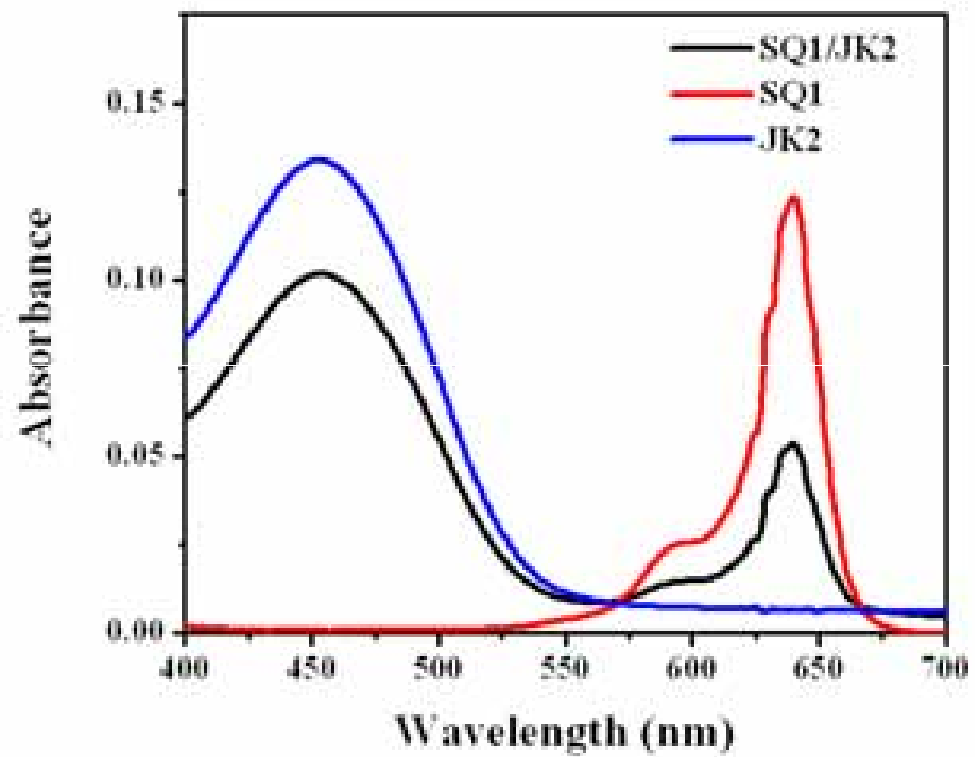
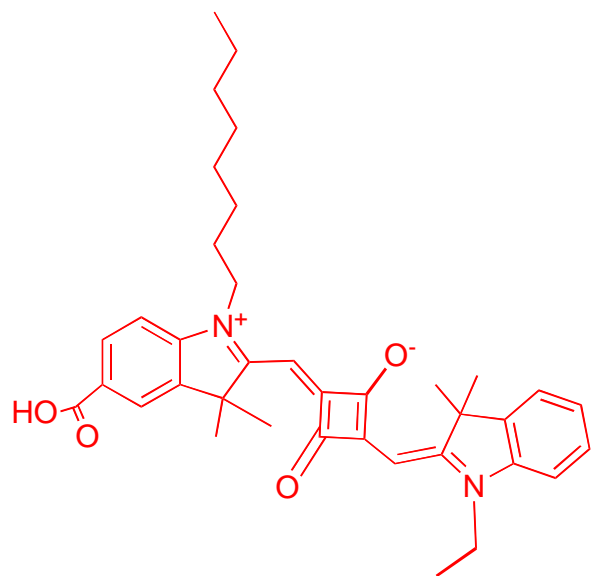


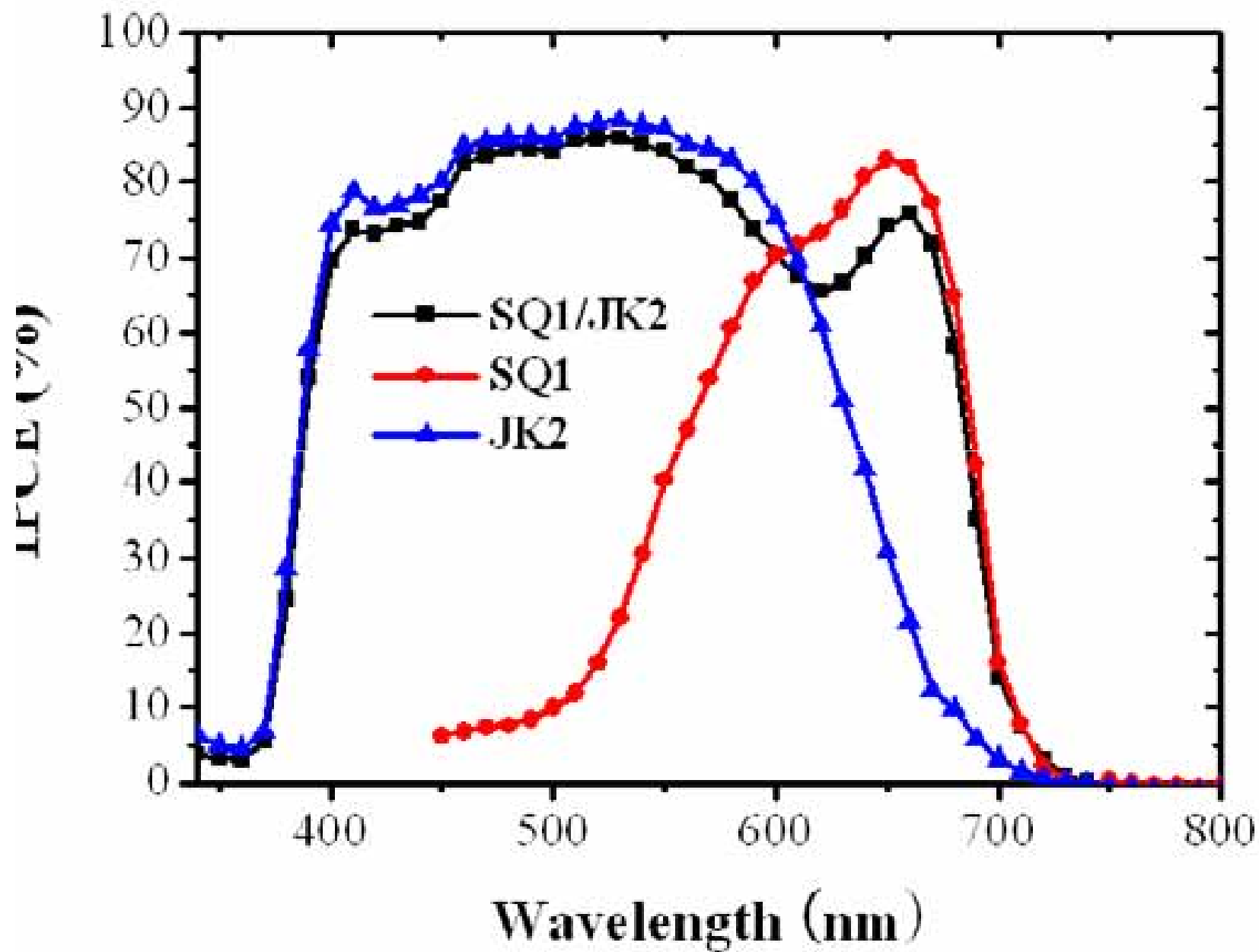
Thickness effect

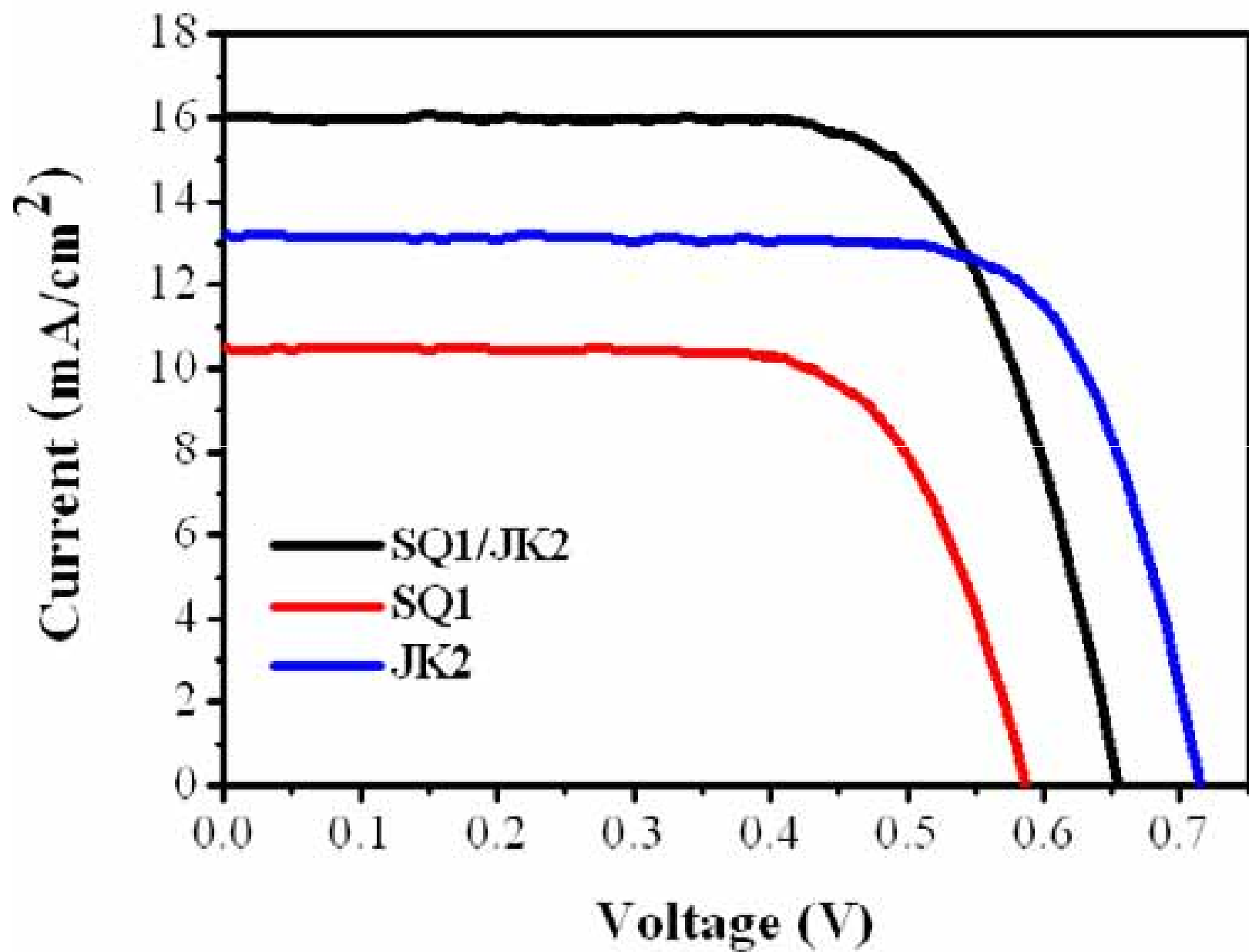
Film (μm)	J (mA/cm ²)	V (mV)	FF	efficiency
6 trans	9.31	645	0.661	4.00
9 trans	10.50	621	0.654	4.28
9 +5	11.4	667	0.72	5.40



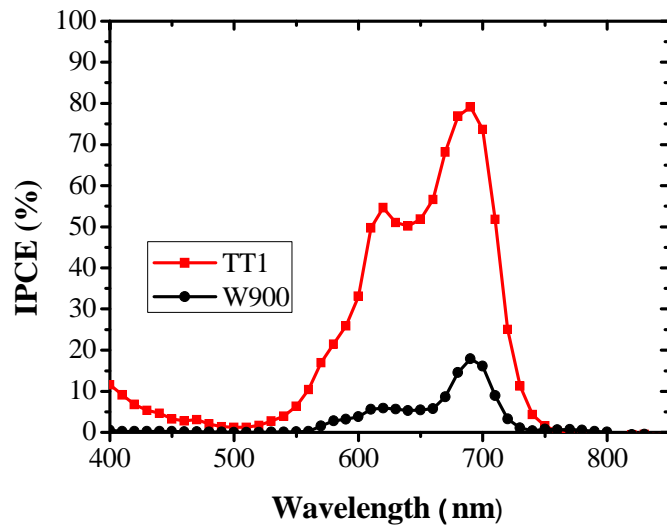
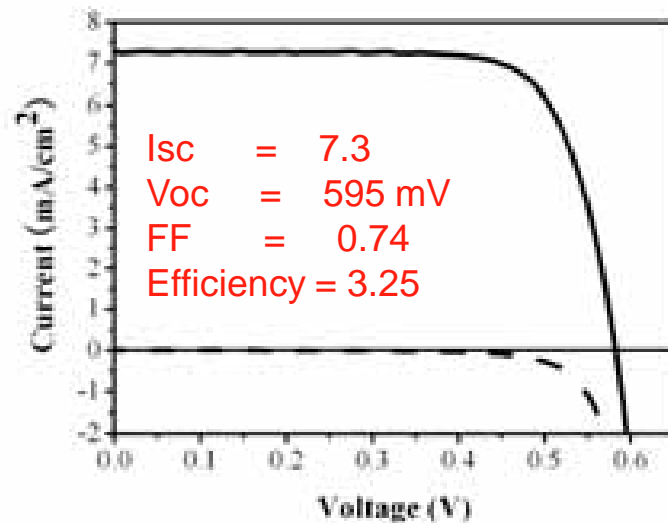
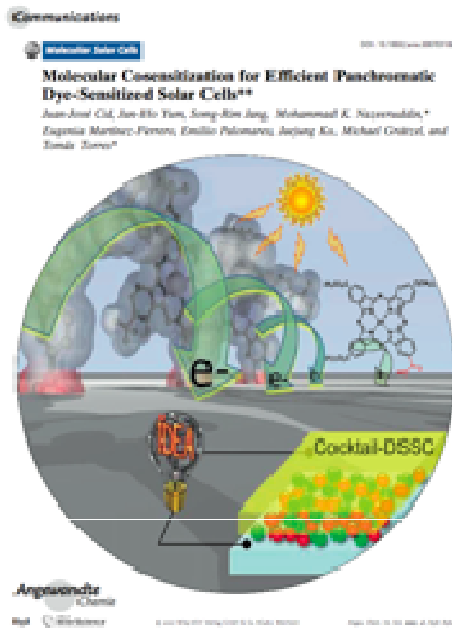
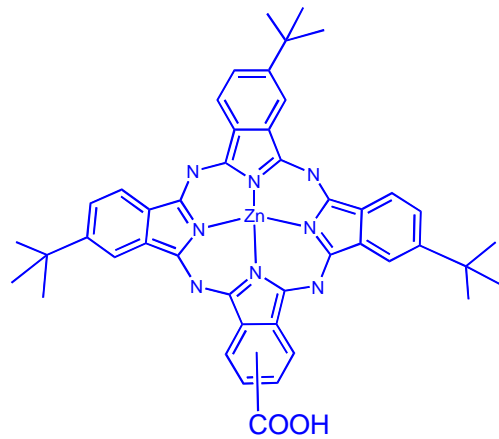
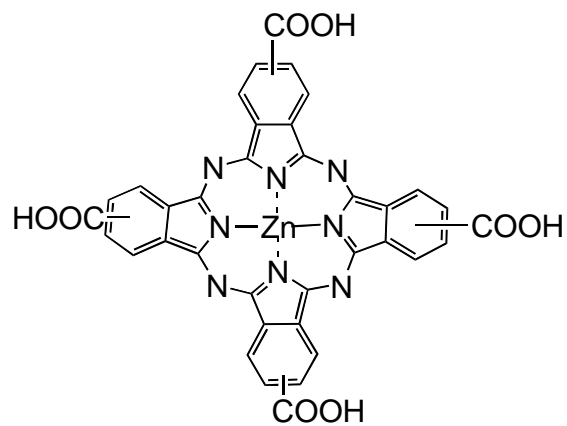
JK2

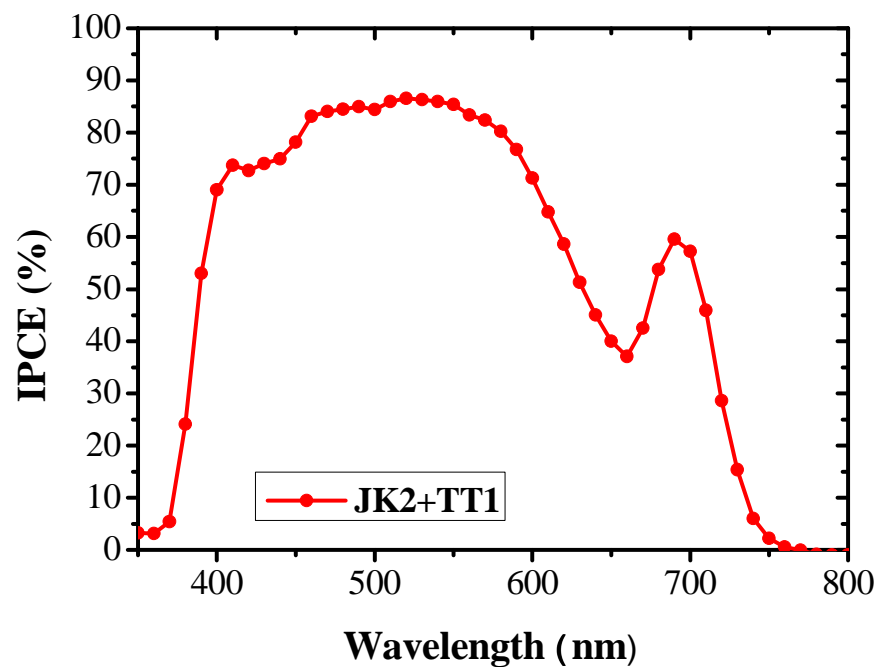
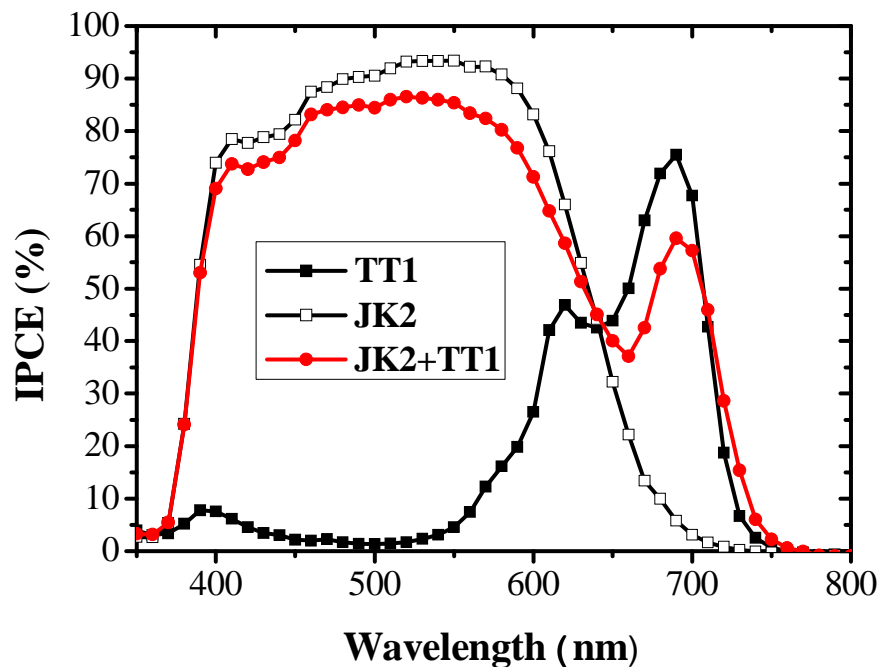




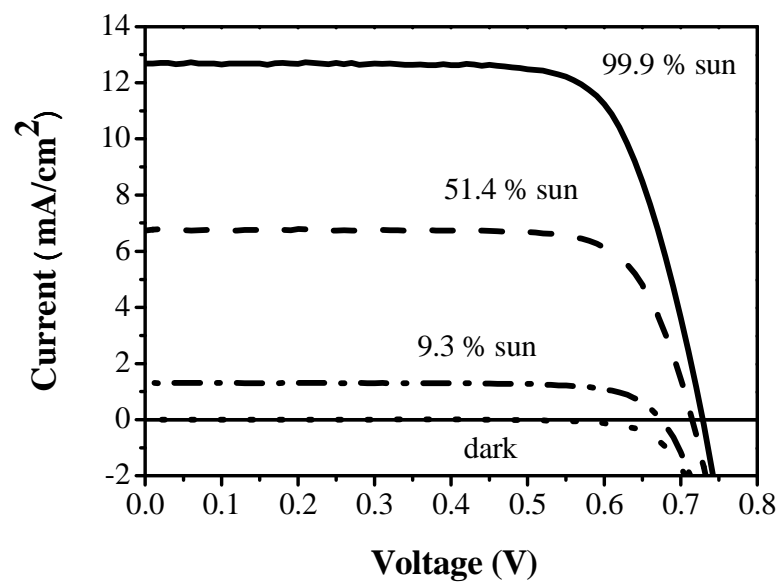
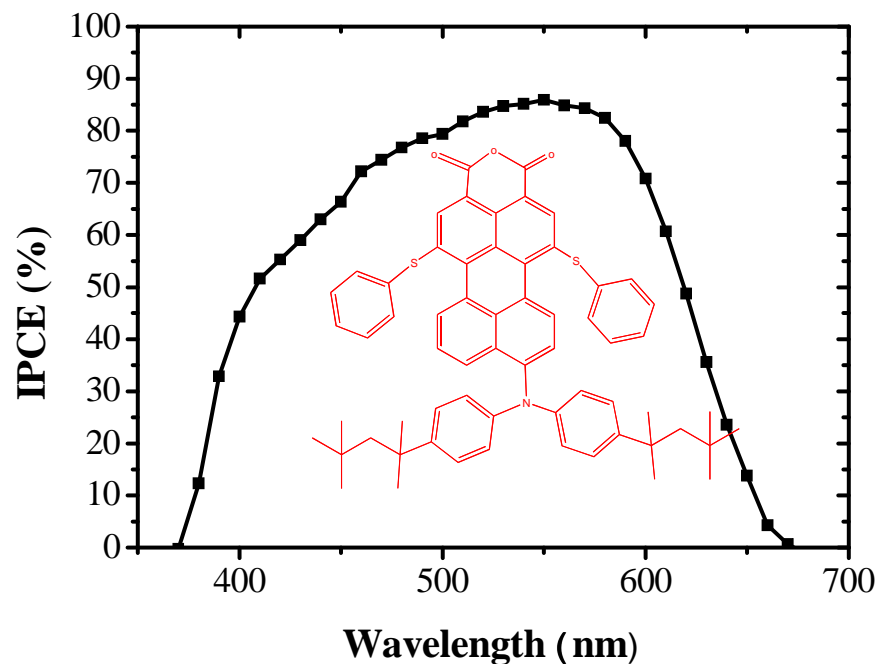
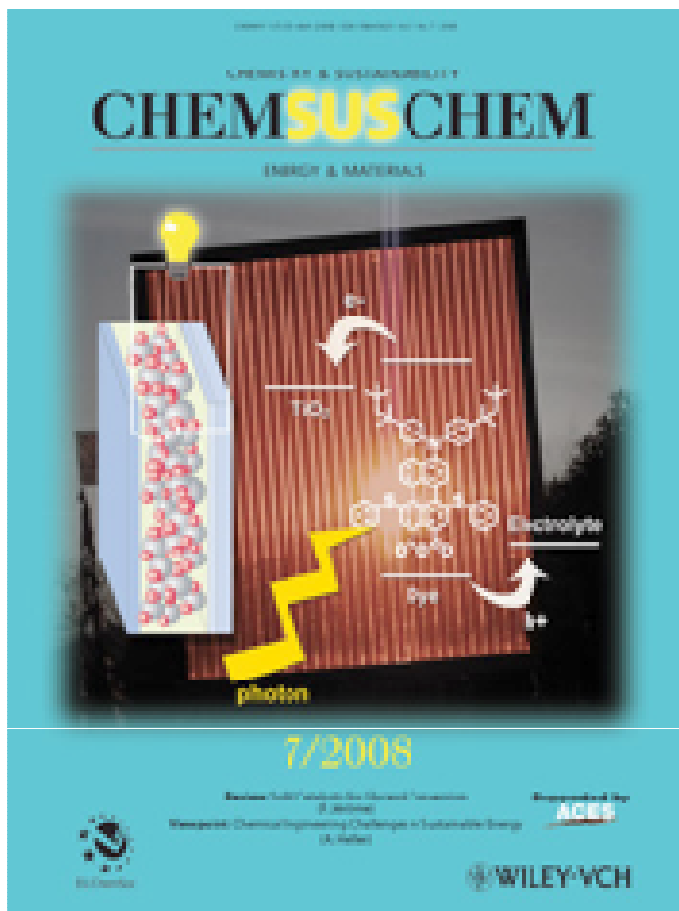


Zinc Phthalocyanine





Dye	J (mA/cm ²)	V (mV)	FF	efficiency
TT1	6.55	601.5	0.746	2.94
JK2	14.45	690.03	0.709	7.08
JK2+TT1	16.11	650.02	0.7	7.33
after 1 day	15.96	676.82	0.72	7.77



Light Intensity	J (mA/cm ²)	V (mV)	FF	efficiency
99.9 %	12.68	728	0.736	6.80
51.4 %	6.74	715	0.766	7.18

Effect of solvent on performance of BASF_ID94 at 1 sun
TiO₂: 6+4 μm; electrolyte A7117

Solvent	J (mA/cm²)	V (mV)	FF	efficiency
EtOH	3.75	641.0	0.740	1.77
DCM:AcN	10.30	651.0	0.723	4.85
CB	12.57	725.0	0.708	6.45
DCB	10.52	707.5	0.696	5.18
DMB	2.39	5079	0.725	0.88
BiCH	12.68	728.6	0.722	6.80
toluene	11.55	696.1	0.720	5.79
CCl ₄	12.28	718.9	0.714	6.31

IPCE of WMC 273

