Swiss Nanoscience Institute Basel



Dye Sensitized Solar Cells (27027-01)

(Dienstag, 8:00-10:00 Departement Physik, Seminarzimmer 3.12)





Übersicht der Vorlesung

S N swiss	Über	sicht der Vorlesung
NANOS INSTITU	22.02.2011	allg. Einführung in die Solarenergie
	01.03.2011	Physikalische Grundlagen der Photovoltaik I
	08.03.2011	Physikalische Grundlagen der Photovoltaik II
	15.03.2011	(Fastnachtsferien)
	22.03.2011	Photochemische und photoelektrische Methoden der Energiewandlung
	29.03.2011	Aufbau der Farbstoffsolarzelle, vgl. org. Solarzelle
	05.04.2011	TiO ₂ Nanopartikel als Substrat der Frabstoffsolarzelle
	12.04.2011	Geeignete molekulare Farbstoffe zur Sensibilisierung
	19.04.2011	Funktionsweise und Alternativen für den Elektrolyten
	26.04.2011	(Osterferien)
	03.05.2011	(FANAS meeting)
	10.05.2011	Experimentelle Methoden zur Solarzellen-Charakterisierung
	17.05.2011	Experimentelle Methoden zur Solarzellen-Charakterisierung
	24.05.2011	Bau und Charakterisierung eigener Solarzellen
	31.05.2011	



Geeignete molekulare Farbstoffe zur Sensibilisierung

Molecular Engineering of Sensitizers for DSSC

- Ruthenium sensitizers
 - Effect of protons
 - Effect of cations
 - Device stability
 - Effect of alkayl chains
 - Molar extinction coefficient
- Organic sensitizers
 - Courmarine
 - Indoline
 - Carotenoides & Anthocyanins
 - SPV measurements



Seminars

Michael Liebetanz

Highly Efficient Light-Harvesting Ruthenium Sensitizer for Thin-Film Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells

Chia-Yuan Chen,[†] Mingkui Wang,[‡] Jheng-Ying Li,[†] Nuttapol Pootrakulchote,[‡] Leila Alibabaei,[‡] Cevey-ha Ngoc-le,[‡] Jean-David Decoppet,[‡] Jia-Hung Tsai,[†] Carole Grätzel,[‡] Chun-Guey Wu,^{†,*} Shaik M. Zakeeruddin,^{‡,*} and Michael Grätzel^{‡,*}

[†]Department of Chemistry, National Central University, Jhong-Li, 32001 Taiwan, ROC, and [‡]Laboratory for Photonics and Interfaces, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, CH 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

Heidi Potts

ChemComm

An element of surprise—efficient copper-functionalized dye-sensitized solar cells⁺

Takeru Bessho,^a Edwin C. Constable,^{*b} Michael Graetzel,^a Ana Hernandez Redondo,^b Catherine E. Housecroft,^b William Kylberg,^b Md. K. Nazeeruddin,^a Markus Neuburger^b and Silvia Schaffner^b

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RSCPublishing



Ruthenium Sensitizers

The dye is one of the key components of DSSCs, **harvesting the solar radiation** and converting it into electric current

- Sensitizer should be **panchromatic** (<920nm)
- Directionality of excited state
- Interlocking groups for grafting the dye on TiO₂

Most prominent: ruthenium complexes endowed by thiocyanate ligands

$$S=C=N^{\ominus} \longleftrightarrow S-C\equiv N$$

Resonance structures of SCN⁻ delocalized electrons

Why ruthenium?

- Octahedral geometry (usage of specific ligands!)
- Tunable properties of the complexes
- Stable and accessible oxidation states

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Protonating Ligands

Carboxylic acid (R-COOH)



Dihydroxy R-(OH)₂



Phosphorous acid (H₃PO₃)





Influence of Protonation



TBA: Tetrabutylammonium $(C_4H_9)_4N$

 $\phi_{M} \qquad \begin{array}{c} e\Delta_{gap} \\ -Q_{SC} \\ \chi_{S} \\ - \\ \delta_{gap} \\ + \\ \delta_{gap} \\ - \\ \varepsilon_{CBM}(\vec{r}) \\ eV_{N} \end{array}$

- Proton transfer from dye to TiO₂
- Development of a positive surface charge
- Electric field (surface dipole) enhances adsorption and current and assists electron injection from excited state
- Conduction band edge TiO₂ is shifted -> lower V_{oc}
- -> optimal degree of protonation



Influence of Protonation



Table 3.2 Photovoltaic performances based on different degrees of protons in sensitizers.

Sensitizer	No. of protons	$J_{\rm sc}~({\rm mA/cm^2})$	$V_{\rm oc}~({ m mV})$	Fill factor	Efficiency at AM 1.5
Complex (1)	4	19 ± 0.5	600 ± 30	0.65 ± 0.05	7.4
Complex (2)	2	17 ± 0.5	730 ± 30	0.68 ± 0.05	8.4
Complex [TBA] (1)3	1	16.8 ± 0.5	770 ± 30	0.72 ± 0.05	9.3
Complex (3)	0	13 ± 0.5	900 ± 30	0.7 ± 0.05	8.2



Cation Substitution



- Substitution of the TBA cations by Na
- Complex (4) shows highest ISC at all intensities
- Strong dependence on the used electrolyte (E1/E2)





Device stability





Light soaking: 50°C for 1000h

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Effect of Alkyl Chains



- Problem: water induced desorption
- Solution: hydrophopic ligands
- Also: suppression of recombination (5,6) (preventing triiodide from reaching the TiO₂
- Negative: retardation of regeneration reaction (4)

TO,





Effect of π -conjugated ligands

 C_6H_{19} plus incorporating π -conjugation bridge between the anchoring groups



- Increased molecular extinction coefficients
- Enhanced red response





Thiocyanato Ligands



- Tuning the spectral response
- Nearly panchromatic absorption
- With this complex an efficiency of 11.1% was achieved!
- But SCN is still the weakest part of the complex



Metal-free Organic Sensitizers

CN

0

(19)

COOH





Indoline





COOH

(18)

- Courmarine dyes reach efficiencies up to 7.7%
- Drastically increased
 molecular extinction coefficients
- Enhanced light harvesting properties due to acceptor CN group
- Indoline dyes reach efficiencies up to 9.03%
- Wide range of absorption (IPCE > 80%)



Structures of Carotenoids and Anthocyanins





Effect of Electrolytes on I-V Currves



Dr. Biljana Bozic-Weber Prof. Dr. Edwin C. Constable



CPD variations on TiO₂

Topography



_			
		109,3	nm
		90,0	
	_	80,0	
		70,0	
		60,0	
		50,0	
		40,0	
		30,0	
		20,0	
		9,4	

Contact Potential Difference



The nanoporous TiO_2 film deposited on FTO glass shows an inhomogeneous CPD

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Measurement of the Local Photoactivity

1,9







Under illumination (532nm) the CPD drops by 300mV. The process needs roughly 9s to establish an equilibrium. The value corresponds to the V_{oc} measured for the complete solar cell.



CPD Variations at Boundaries

Topography

Contact Potential Difference



Some boundaries between the sensitized TiO₂ particles showing an increased CPD value while others not.