



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



1938-1

Workshop on Nanoscience for Solar Energy Conversion

27 - 29 October 2008

Power from the Sun: the Advent of Mesoscopic Solar Cells

Michael GRAETZEL
*EPFL, IPI, Departement de Chimie
CH-1015 Lausanne
Switzerland*

Power from the Sun The Advent of Mesoscopic Solar Cells

JOINT ICPT-KFAS Workshop on Nanoscience for
Solar Energy Conversion
Trieste Italy October 27-29, 2008

Michael Graetzel,
ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE DE LAUSANNE
Michael.Graetzel@epfl.ch

Acknowledgement Present LPI Members

PhD Students

Chen Peter
Moon Soo-Jin
Teuscher Joël
Wenger Sophie
Zhang Zhipan

Post-docs

Baranoff Etienne
El Roustom Bahaa
Evans Nicholas
Kay Andreas
Kuang Daibin
Lee Hyo Joong
Sivula Kevin
Thorsmølle Verner
Wang Deyu
Wang Mingkui

Technical & Administrative Staff

Comte Pascal
Duriaux Arendse Francine
Gonthier Ursula
Gourdou Nelly

Academic Visitors

Barroso Monica
Bessho Takeru
Cevey-Ha Ngoc Le
Jang Song-Rim
Le Formal Florian
Yoneda Eiji
Yum Jun Ho
Zakeeruddin Shaik Mohammed

Staff Scientists

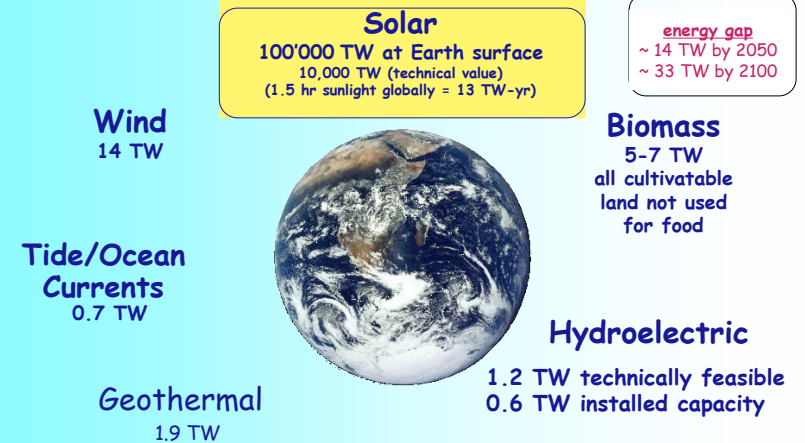
Graetzel Carole
Humphry-Baker Robin
Kalyanasundaram
Kuppuswamy
Liska Paul
Moser Jacques-E. (titled prof.)
Nazeeruddin Md. Khaja
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Renewable energy sources need to cover the supply gap

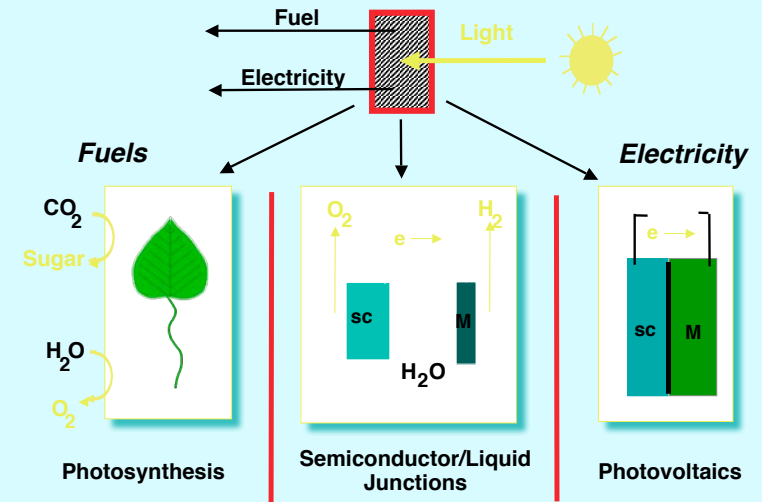


from Nate Lewis

THE SOLAR CHALLENGE

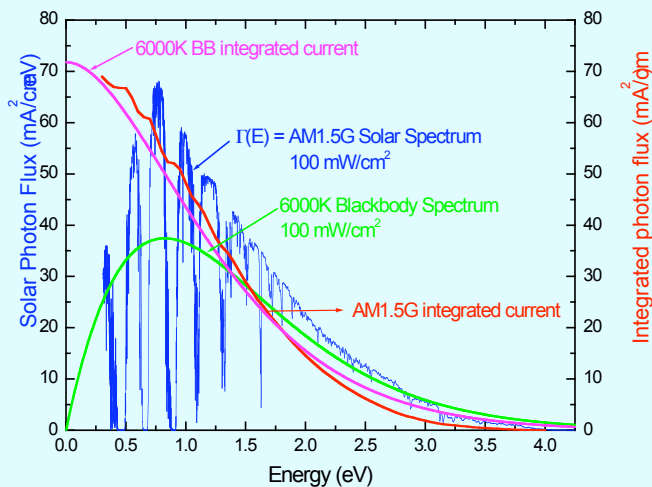
- With a projected global population of 12 billion by 2050 coupled with moderate economic growth, the total global energy consumption is estimated to be ~28 TW. Current global use is ~11 TW.
- To cap CO₂ at 550 ppm (twice the pre-industrial level), most of this additional energy needs to come from carbon-free sources.
- Solar energy is the largest non-carbon-based energy source (100,000 TW).
- However, it has to be converted at reasonably low cost.

Quantum Energy Conversion Strategies



THE SOLAR RESOURCE

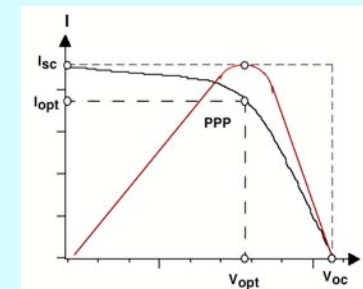
Solar Spectrum and Available Photocurrent



Correct device characterisation is essential

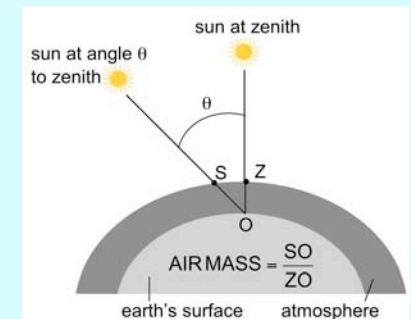
Power conversion efficiency

$$\eta = \frac{P_{\max}}{P_{\text{in}}} = \frac{I_{\text{sc}} \cdot U_{\text{oc}} \cdot FF}{P_{\text{in}}}$$

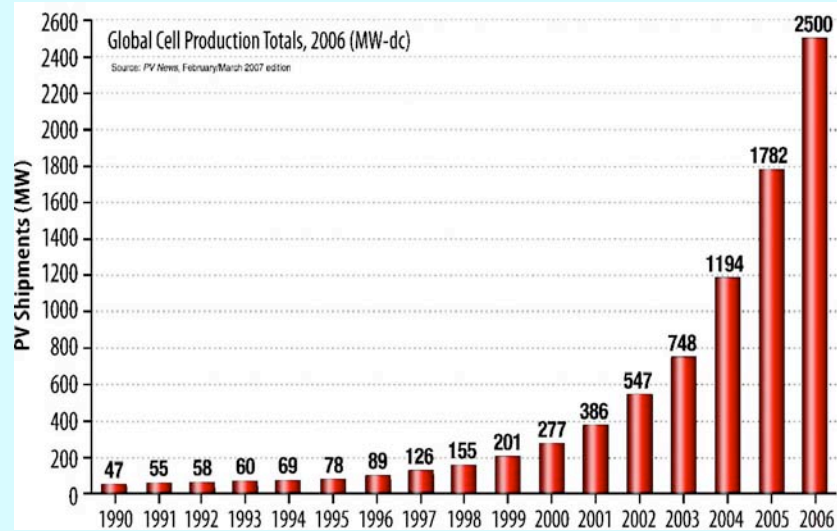


Characterisation Standard:

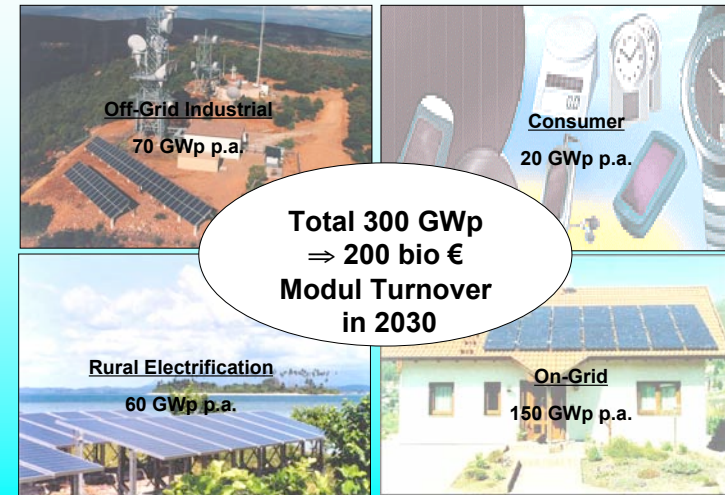
- intensity of 1000 W/m²
- spectral power distribution corresponding to AM1.5 = 1Sun
- temperature 298 K



The yearly shipments of PV cells are growing exponentially

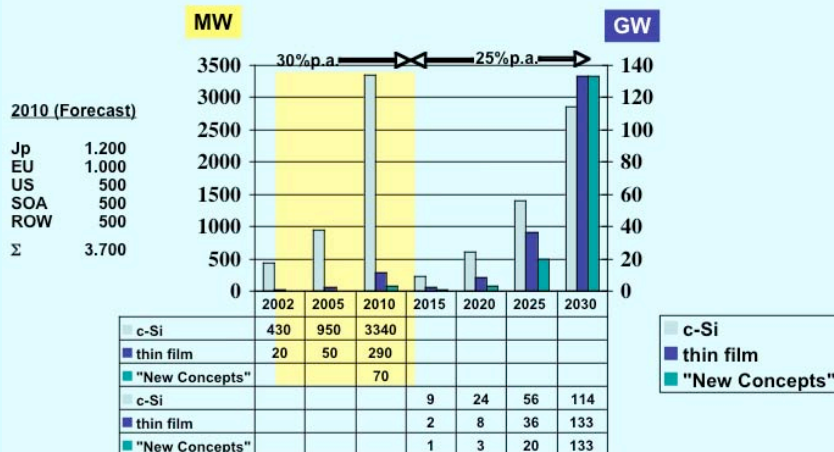


The market size in 2030 for the four main PV segments is projected to be 200 bio €



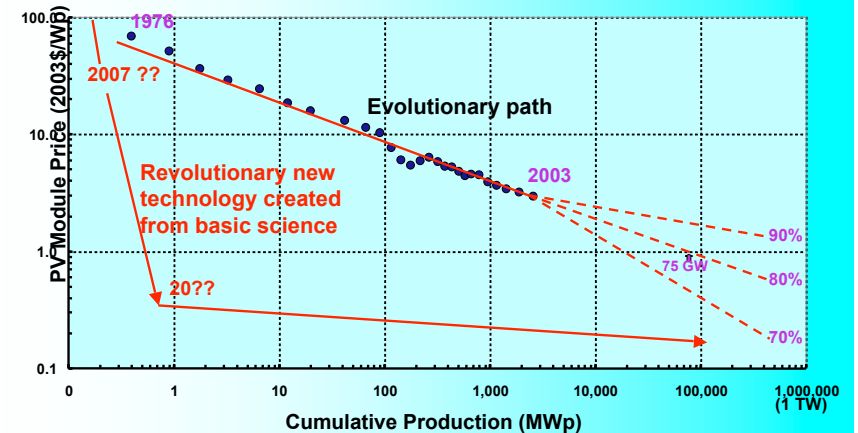
Courtesy Dr. Winfried Hoffman, CEO, RWE, SCHOTT Solar GmbH

Production Forecasts of Solar Modules Call for Contributions from Different Technologies



Courtesy Dr. Winfried Hoffman, CEO, RWE, SCHOTT Solar GmbH

Disruptive PV technology approach required to meet cost targets



From T. Surek, JCG, 2005

A new paradigm :

Mesoscopic solar cells
based on interpenetrating
network (bulk) junctions

Dye sensitized nanocrystalline solar cells lead the new PV generation

LETTERS TO NATURE

A low-cost, high-efficiency solar cell based on dye-sensitized colloidal TiO₂ films

Brian O'Regan* & Michael Grätzel†

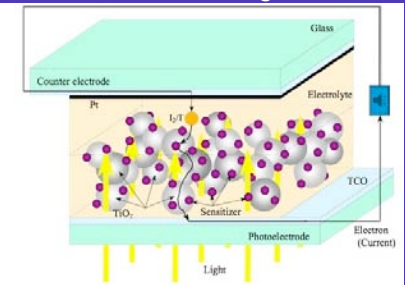
Institute of Physical Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology,
CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

THE large-scale use of photovoltaic devices for electricity generation is prohibitively expensive at present: generation from existing commercial devices costs about ten times more than conventional methods¹. Here we describe a photovoltaic cell, created from low-to medium-purity materials through low-cost processes, which exhibits a commercially realistic energy-conversion efficiency. The device is based on a 10- μm -thick, optically transparent film of titanium dioxide particles a few nanometres in size, coated with a monolayer of a charge-transfer dye to sensitize the film for light harvesting. Because of the high surface area of the dye, the device harvests a high proportion of the incident solar energy flux (46%) and shows exceptionally high efficiencies for the conversion of incident photons to electrical current (more than 80%). The overall light-to-electric energy conversion yield is 7.1–7.9% in simulated solar light and 12% in diffuse daylight. The large current densities (greater than 12 mA cm⁻²) and exceptional stability (sustaining at least five million turnovers without decomposition), as well as the low cost, make practical applications feasible.

* Present address: Department of Chemistry, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA.
† To whom correspondence should be addressed.

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NATURE PHOTONICS WEB RELEASE OCTOBER 2008

ARTICLES

Bifacial dye-sensitized solar cells based on an ionic liquid electrolyte

SEIGO ITO^{1,2*}, SHAIK M. ZAKEERUDDIN², PASCAL COMTE², PAUL LISKA², DAIBIN KUANG² AND MICHAEL GRÄTZEL²

¹Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences, Graduate School of Engineering, University of Hyogo, 2167 Shosha, Himeji, Hyogo 671-2280, Japan

²Laboratoire de Photonique et Interfaces, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, CH-1015, Lausanne, Switzerland

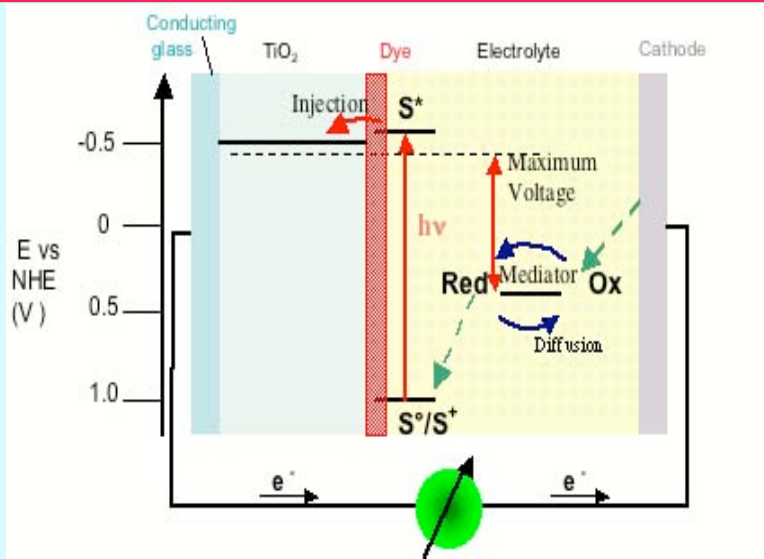
*e-mail: itou@eng.u-hyogo.ac.jp

Published online: 19 October 2008; doi:10.1038/nphoton.2008.224

Solar energy is a promising solution to global energy-related problems because it is clean, inexhaustible and readily available. However, the deployment of conventional photovoltaic cells based on silicon is still limited by cost, so alternative, more cost-effective approaches are sought. Here we report a bifacial dye-sensitized solar cell structure that provides high photo-energy conversion efficiency (~6%) for incident light striking its front or rear surfaces. The design comprises a highly stable ruthenium dye (Z907Na) in combination with an ionic-liquid electrolyte and a porous TiO₂ layer. The inclusion of a SiO₂ layer between the electrodes to prevent generation of unwanted back current and optimization of the thickness of the TiO₂ layer are responsible for the enhanced performance.



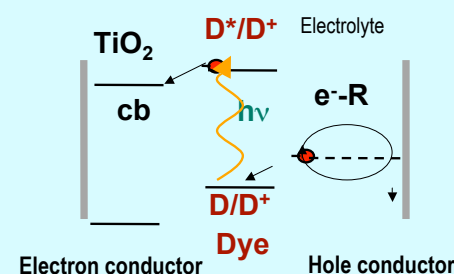
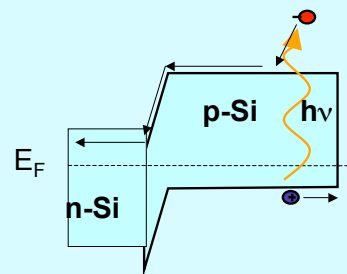
The dye sensitized solar cell (DSC) is the only photovoltaic cell using amolecules that generated charge carriers after photo-excitation without the need for excitonic transport



Dye sensitized solar cells separate light absorption from carrier transport

p-n junction photovoltaic cells

dye sensitized solar cells DSC



Charge separation by electric field at the p-n junction

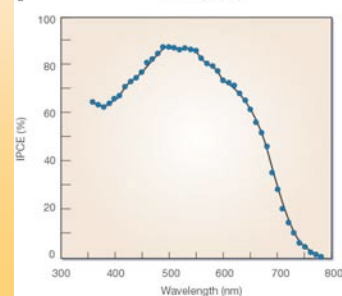
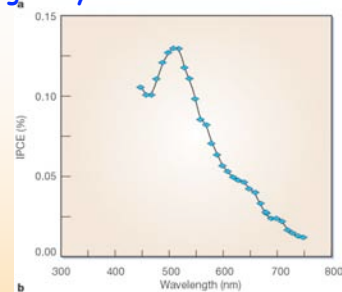
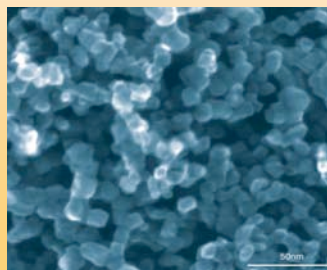
Charge separation by kinetic competition as in photosynthesis

A dye sensitized nanocrystalline film generates over 1000 times more photocurrent than a single crystal electrode

single crystal of anatase



Nanocrystalline anatase film



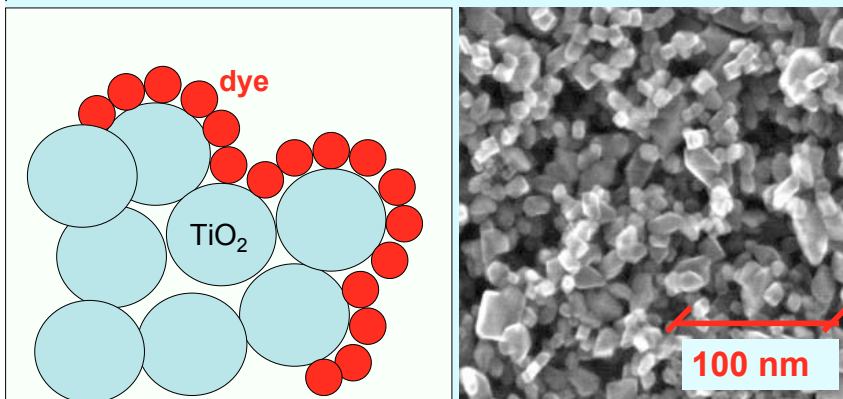
Dye sensitized nanocrystals achieve quantitative conversion of photons into electric current

The incident photon to electrical current conversion efficiency (external quantum efficiency) can reach close to 100 %

$$\eta = \eta_{abs} * \Phi_{inj} * \eta_{coll}$$

A key question is how electrons are quantitatively collected from the disordered network of nanoparticles.

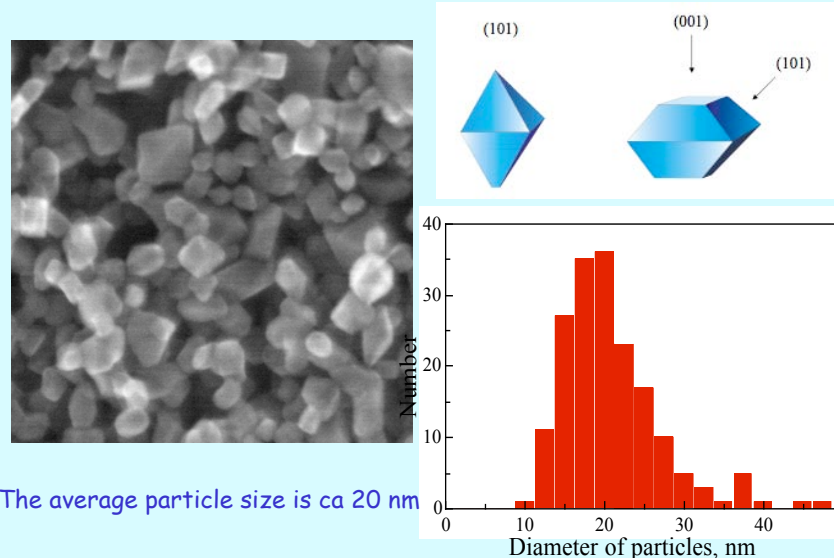
The collection of photo-generated electrons by the nanoparticle array is quantitative



The electrons and holes move in different phases and are separated by a phase boundary retarding their recombination

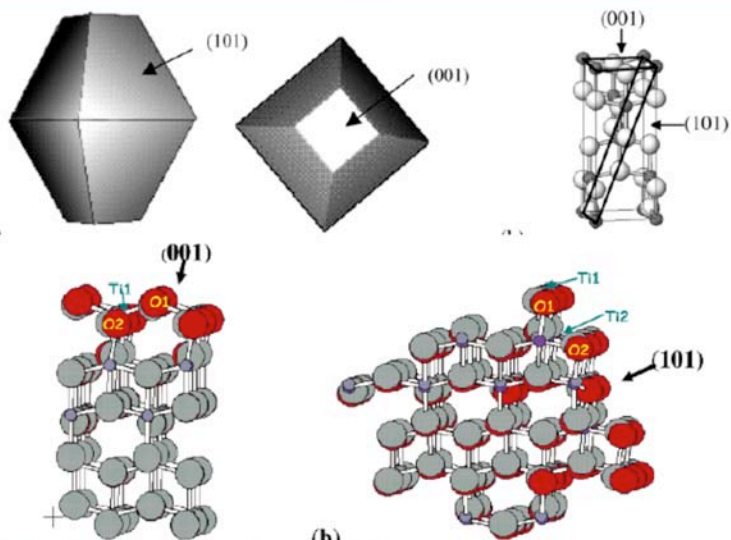
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Titania (anatase) nanoparticles show well faceted surfaces with preferred (101) orientation



The average particle size is ca 20 nm

(101) and (001) facets prevail on TiO₂ anatase nanocrystals

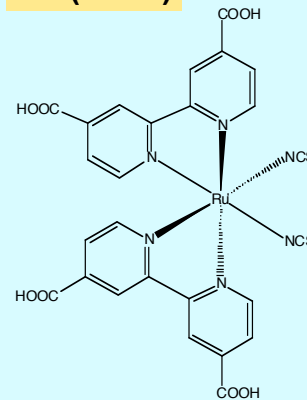


Red: atomic positions after surface relaxation

Olson et al. J. Phys. Chem. 2006, 110, 9995

Ruthenium complexes are widely used as sensitizers due to their extraordinary performance and excellent stability

N3 (N719)

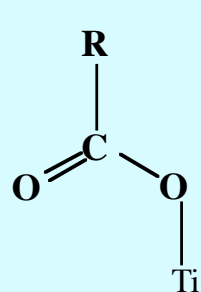


Spontaneous uptake of N3 sensitizer by a nanocrystalline TiO₂ film supported on conducting glass

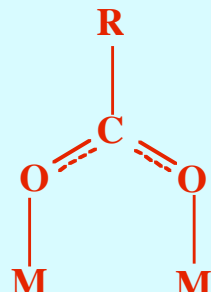


Nazeeruddin, M. K.; Kay, A.; Rodicio, I.; Humphry-Baker, R.; Mueller, E.; Liska, P.; Vlachopoulos, N.; Graetzel, M. J. American Chemical Society (1993), 115(14), 6382-90.

Anchoring of the carboxylate groups occurs by unidentate and bridging bidentate coordination to surface titanium ions



Unidentate

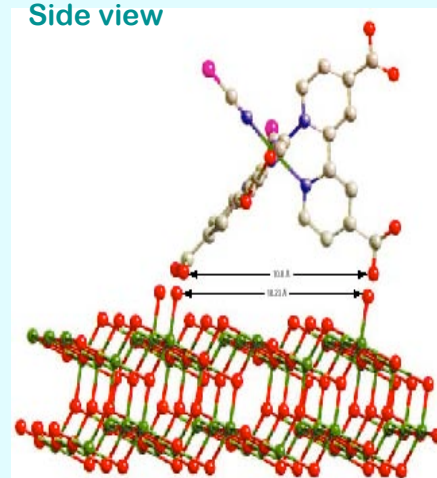


Bridging bidentate

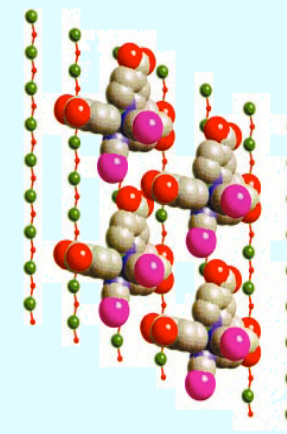
25

The $RuL_2(NCS)_2$ sensitizer is anchored to the (101) TiO_2 anatase surface through coordinative binding of two carboxyl groups to surface titanium ions.

Side view

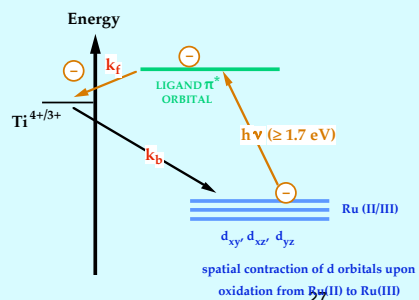
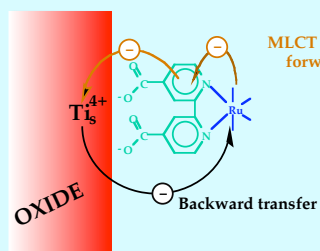


Top view



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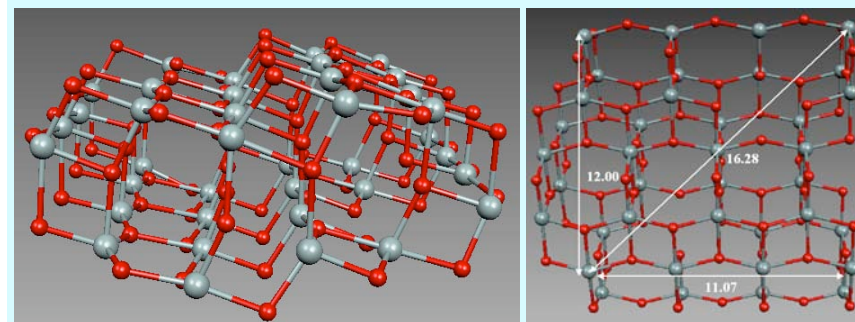
Photo Induced Heterogeneous Electron Transfer Cycle



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Time dependent DFT Modeling of TiO_2 nanoparticles produces correct band gap in water

Stoichiometric anatase $Ti_{38}O_{76}$ cluster of nanometric dimensions exposing (101) surfaces

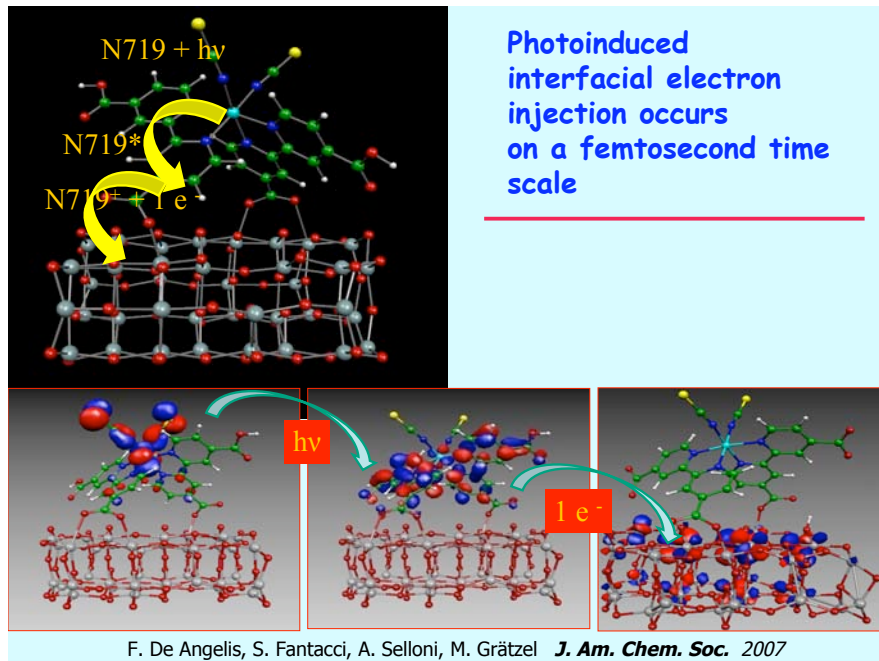


$B3LYP/3-21g^*$: 3.20 eV, $B3LYP/DZVP$: 3.13 eV

Experimental gap in aqueous solutions: 3.20 – 3.30 eV

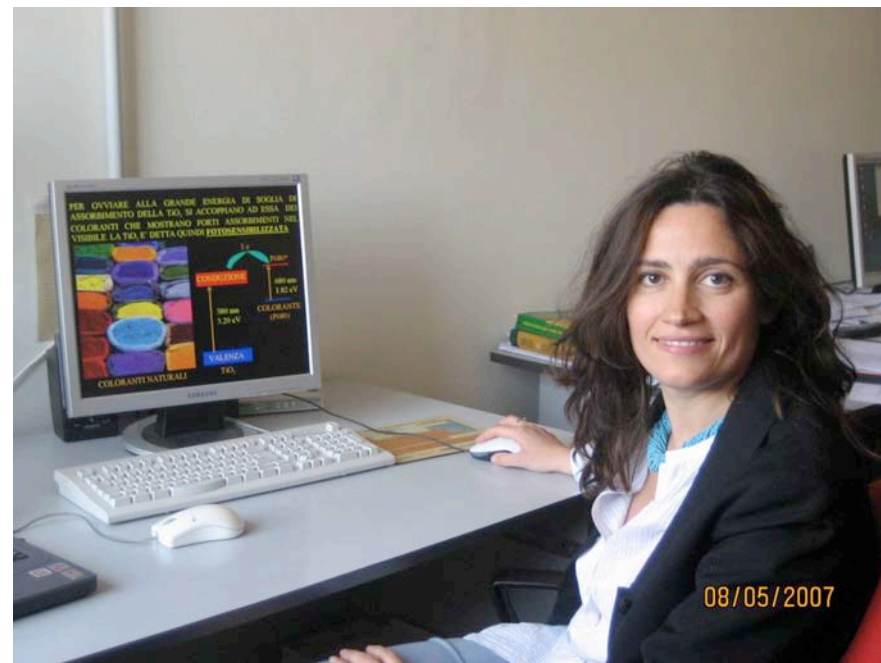
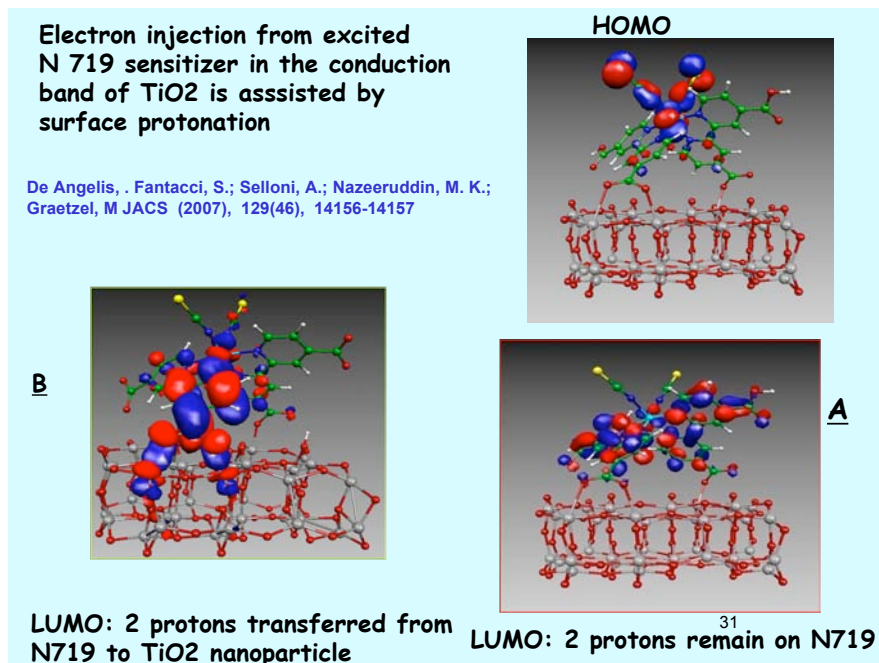
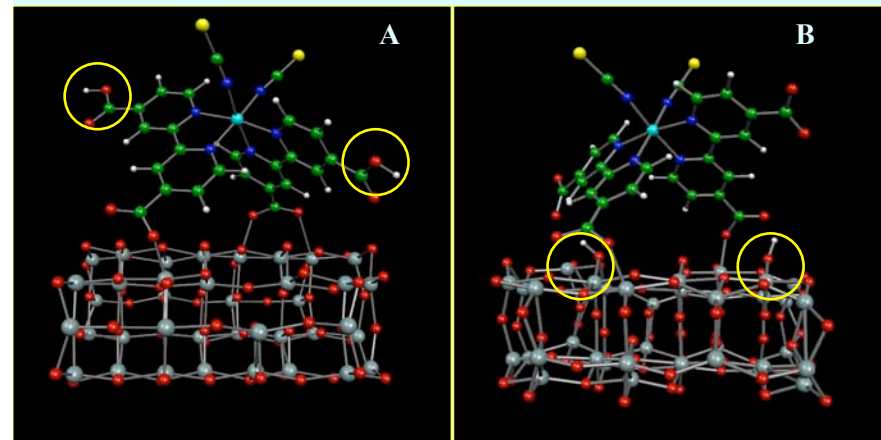
F. De Angelis, A. Tilocca, A. Selloni *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, 126, 15024

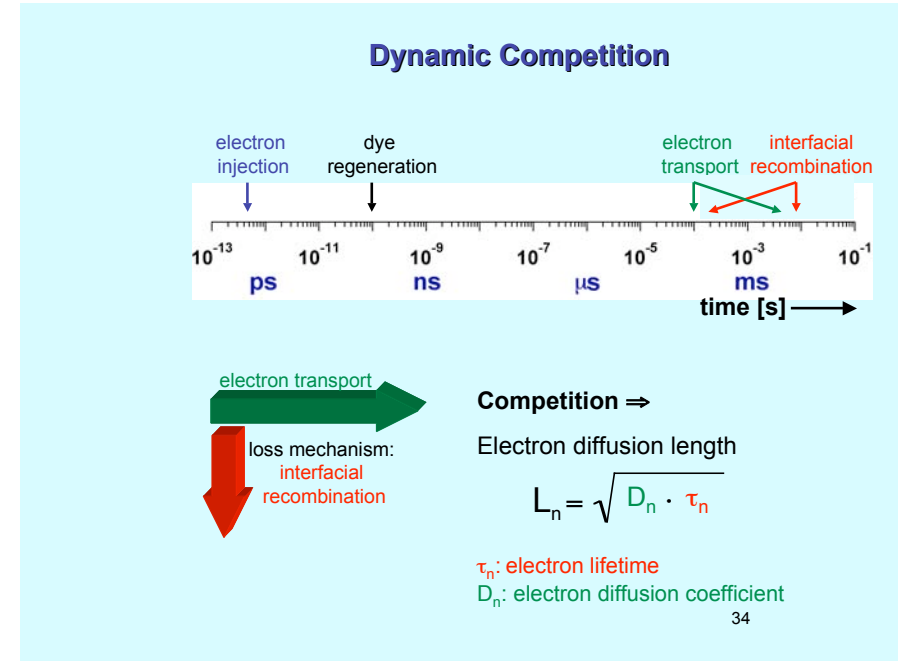
28



MD and DFT calculations provide important insight into sensitizer interaction with surface

Two prototypical configurations of N719/TiO₂ were examined:
(A) The two protons are located on the dye or (B) on the TiO₂





The electron diffusion length exceeds largely the film thickness

$$L_n = \sqrt{D\tau}$$

Typical values for high performance ($\eta > 10\%$) cells at V_{mpp} :

$D = 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$, $\tau = 1 \text{ s}$, $L = 100 \mu\text{m}$

The film thickness is less than 30 micrometer

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The solar to electric power conversion efficiency of the DSC in full AM 1.5 sun light validated by accredited PV calibration laboratories has presently reached over 11 %.

Chiba, Y., Islam, A.; Watanabe, Y.; Komiya, R.; Koide, N.; Han, L..
Dye-sensitized solar cells with conversion efficiency of 11.1%.
 Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Part 2: Letters & Express Letters (2006), 45(24-28),

Ongoing research

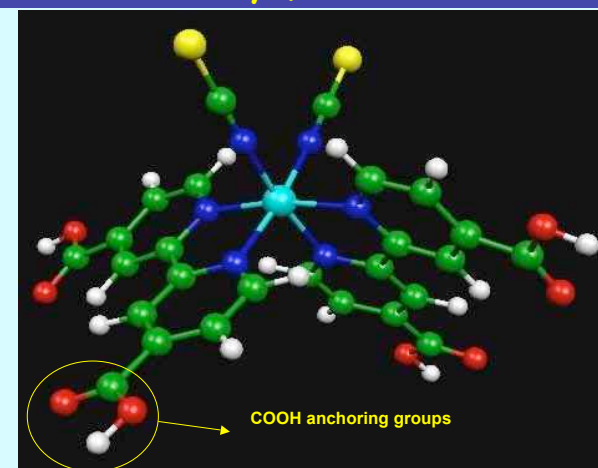
- Advanced nanostructures
- Light induced charge separation
- **new sensitizers**
- new redox mediators
- Solid state heterojunctions
- Quantum dot cells
- redox active ionic liquids
- tandem devices

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the work horse of the DSC is the N3 (or N719) ruthenium dye,

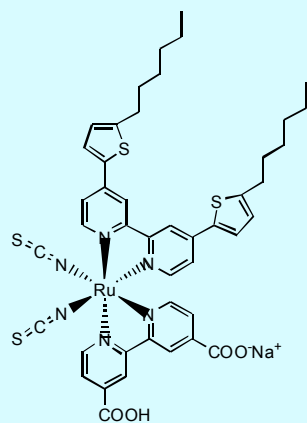


Dr. Md. K. Nazeeruddin
Senior Scientist and
Adjoint scientifique
LPi/EPFL Lausanne

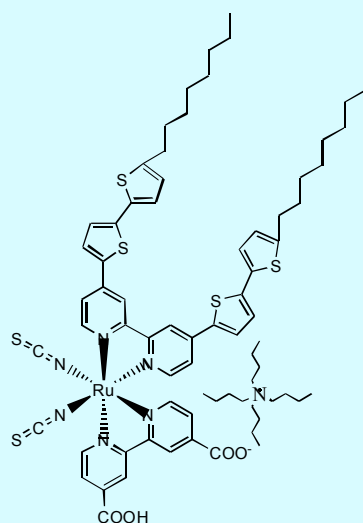


Nazeeruddin, M. K.; Kay, A.; Rodicio, I.; Humphry-Baker, R.; Mueller, E.; Liska, P.; Vlachopoulos, N.; Graetzel, M. J. American Chemical Society (1993), 115(14), 6382-90.

C101

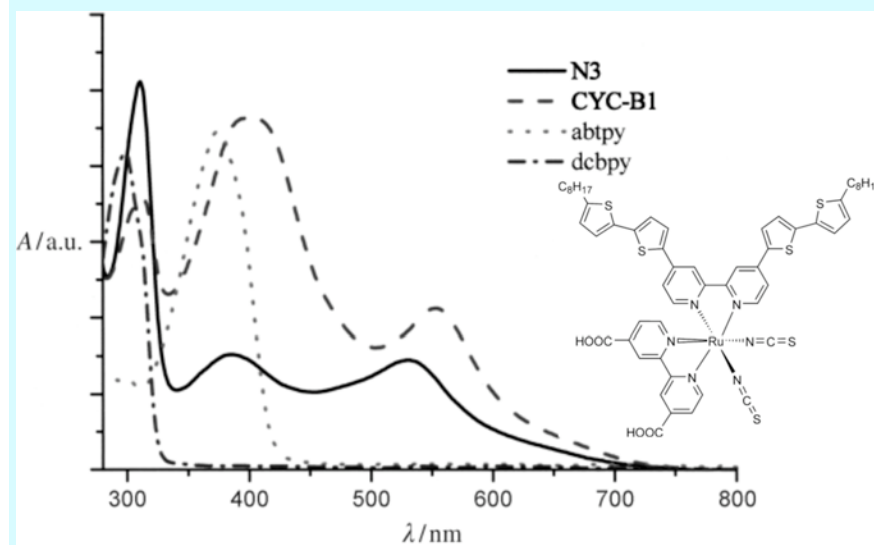


Z991



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Takeru. B



Chen, Chia-Yuan; Wu, Shi-Jhang; Wu, Chun-Guey; Chen, Jian-Ging; Ho, Kuo-Chuan
Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. (2006), 45, 5822-5825.

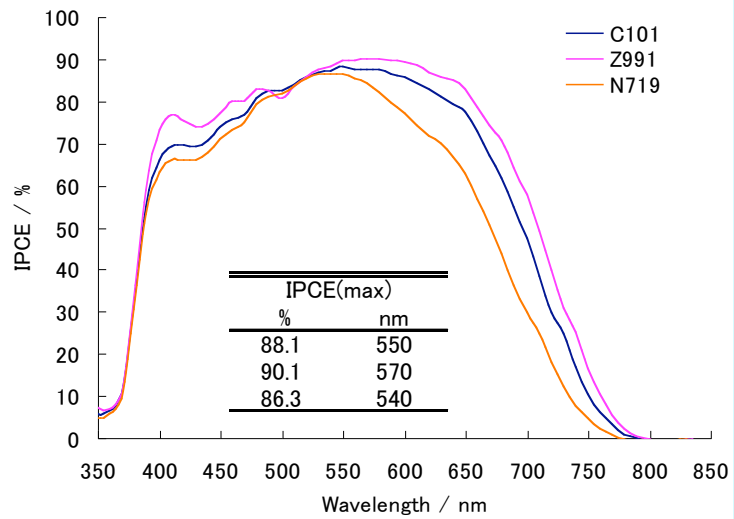
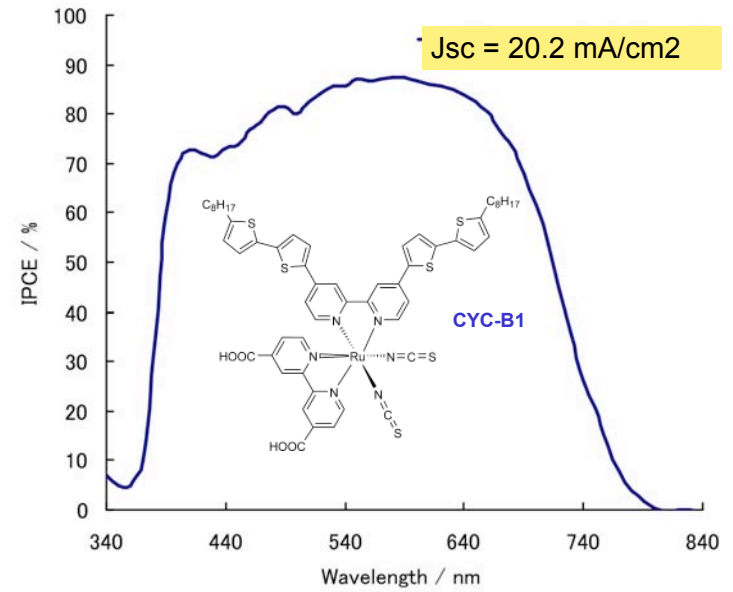
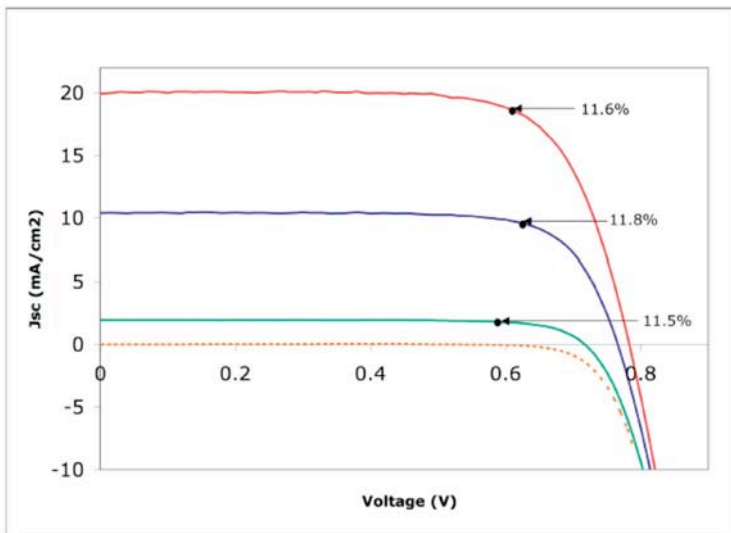


Figure. Comparison of IPCE curve with Z960 electrolyte from C101(blue), Z991(pink) and N719(orange) sensitizer, respectively. 8.4(DSL18)+4.8(CCIC400) TiO₂ film was used as semiconductor.

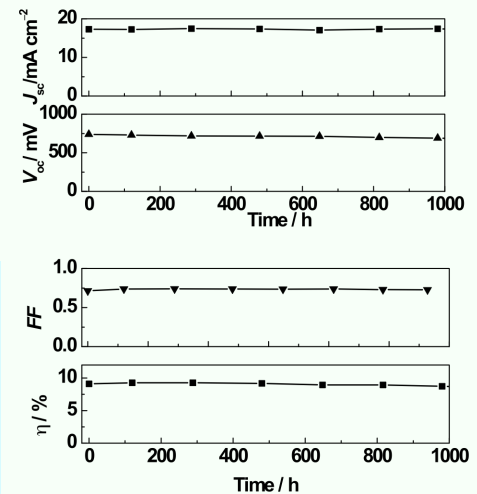
Takeru. B



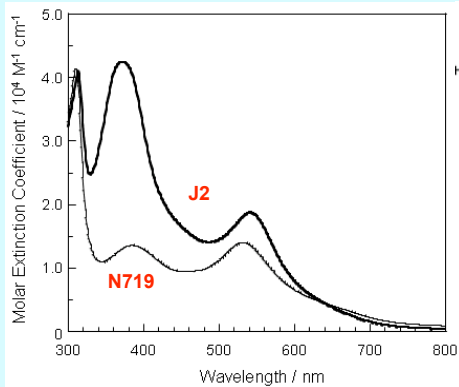
In collaboration with Professor; Wu, Chun-Guey;
Department of Chemistry, National Central University, Jung-Li, Taiwan



The C101 sensitizer maintains outstanding stability at efficiency levels over 9 percent under light soaking at 60°C with a non-volatile electrolyte



The New Dye "J2" developed by SIIT



Adsorption spectra of J2 and N719

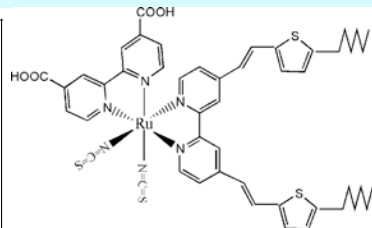
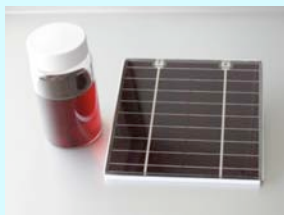
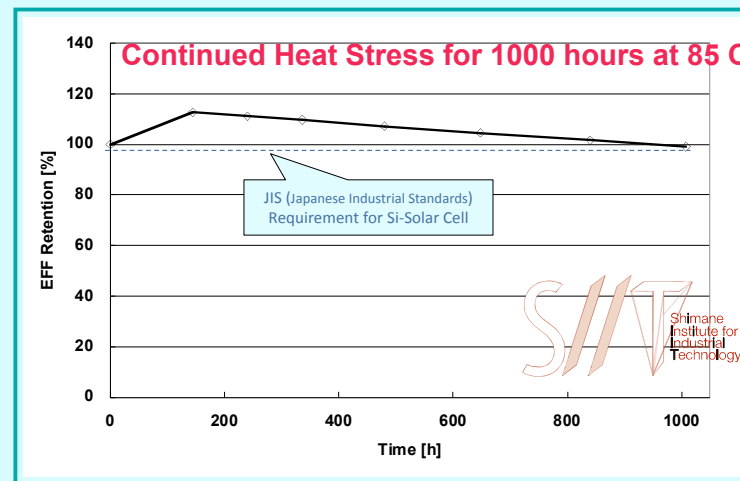


Fig.2 Structure of J2 dye



Courtesy Professor Katsumi Yoshino

High temperature stability reached on the module scale



Courtesy A. Yoshino, Shimane Institute of Technology

Development of Large Size Dye-Sensitized Solar Cell Modules with High Temperature Durability

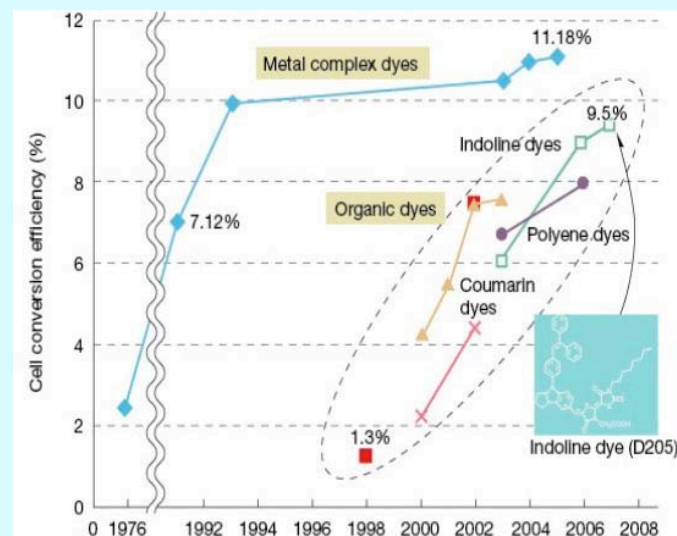
Shuji NODA, Kazuhide NAGANO, Eiji INOUE, Toshio EGL, Takeshi NAKASHIMA, Naoto IMAWAKA, Masahiro KANAYAMA, Shiro IWATA, Kunihiro TOSHIMA, Keiko NAKADA and Katsumi YOSHINO

Shimane Institute for Industrial Technology (JAPAN)



The Shimane Institute for Industrial Technology (SIIT) is an organization whose purpose is to provide technical assistance to corporations in Shimane Prefecture that carry out pioneering research and development for the creation of new industries, and to work for the improvement of industrial competitiveness.

Organic dyes are catching up in conversion efficiency



Source: Tetsuo Nozawa *Nikkei Electronics Asia* -- July 2008, 48

Organic push-pull sensitizers are catching up

J|A|C|S

ARTICLES

Published on Web 04/18/2008

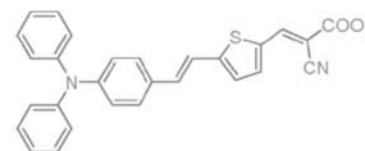
Molecular Engineering of Organic Sensitizers for Dye-Sensitized Solar Cell Applications

Daniel P. Hagberg,[†] Jun-Ho Yum,[§] HyoJoong Lee,[§] Filippo De Angelis,^{||} Tannia Marinado,[‡] Karl Martin Karlsson,[†] Robin Humphry-Baker,[§] Licheng Sun,^{*,†} Anders Hagfeldt,^{*,‡} Michael Grätzel,[§] and Md. K. Nazeeruddin^{*,§}

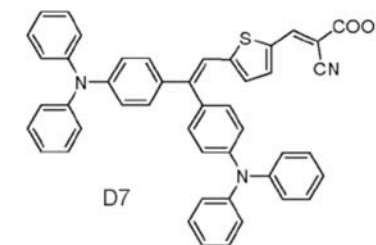
Organic Chemistry and Physical Chemistry, Center of Molecular Devices, Royal Institute of Technology, Teknikringen 30, 10044 Stockholm, Sweden, Laboratory for Photonics and Interfaces, Institute of Chemical Sciences and Engineering, School of Basic Sciences, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland, and Istituto CNR di Scienze e Tecnologie Molecolari (ISTM), c/o Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Perugia, Via Elce di Sotto 8, I-06123, Perugia, Italy

Received January 4, 2008; E-mail: lichengs@kth.se; hagfeldt@kth.se; mdkhaja.nazeeruddin@epfl.ch

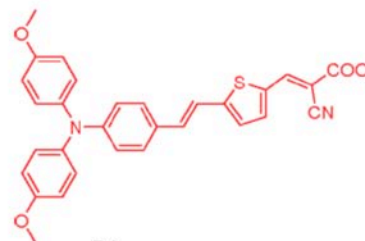
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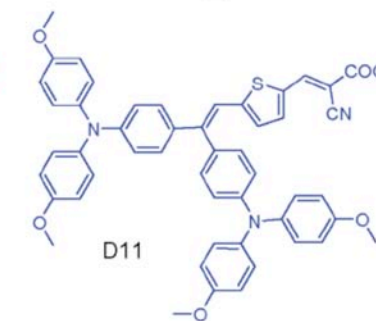
D5



D7

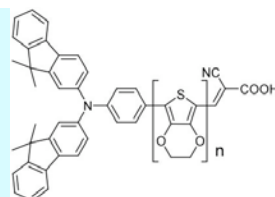
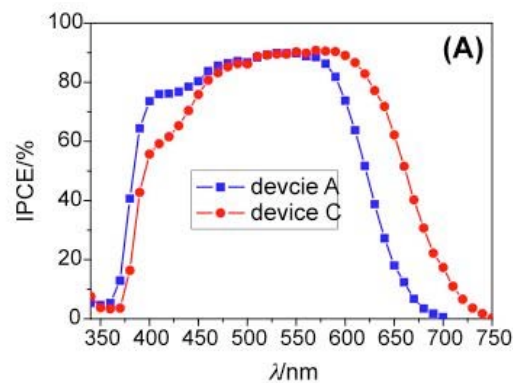


D9



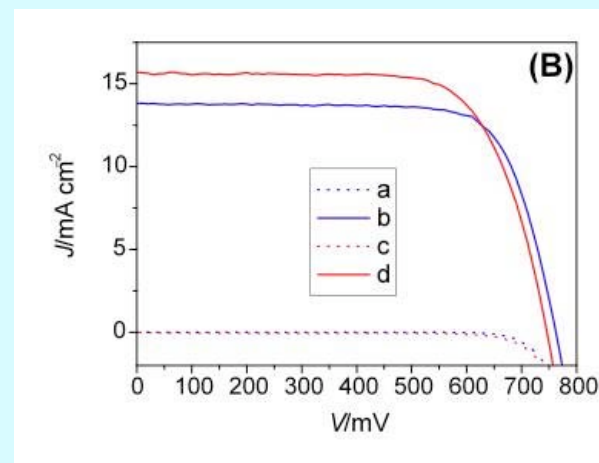
D11

D-II-A Dyes gaining red response



A: D-204 (n=1)
C: D-205 (n=2)

In collaboration with Peng Wang CAS Changchun



Red: D-204, blue: D205

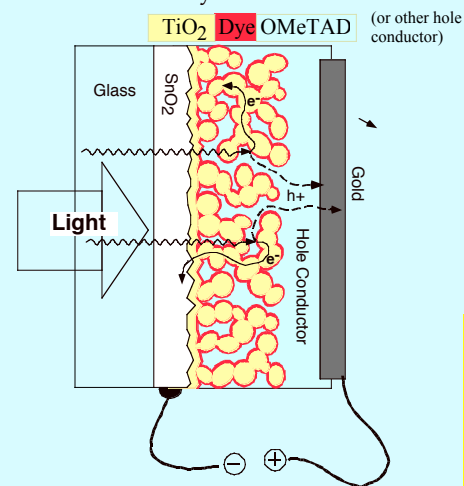
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Ongoing research

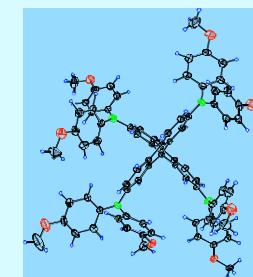
- Advanced nanostructures
- Light induced charge separation
- new sensitizers
- new redox mediators
- **Solid state heterojunctions**
- Quantum dot cells
- redox active ionic liquids
- tandem devices

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Solid State Dye Sensitized PV cell

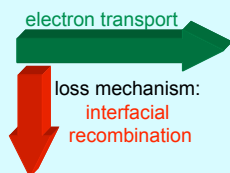
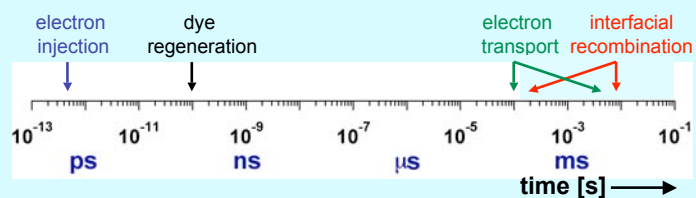


Spiro-OMeTAD



Glass transition temperature: 121 °C
 Melting Point: 246 °C
 Work function: 4.9 eV
 (CV in CH₂Cl₂. 110 mV vs. Fc/Fc⁺)
 Absorption maximum neutral:
 $\lambda_{\text{max}}=372 \text{ nm}$ ($\epsilon=40100$)
 Radical cation:
 $\lambda_{\text{max}}=511 \text{ nm}$ ($\epsilon=37400$)
 Mobility $\sim 1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ V/cm}$

Dynamic Competition



Competition \Rightarrow

Electron diffusion length

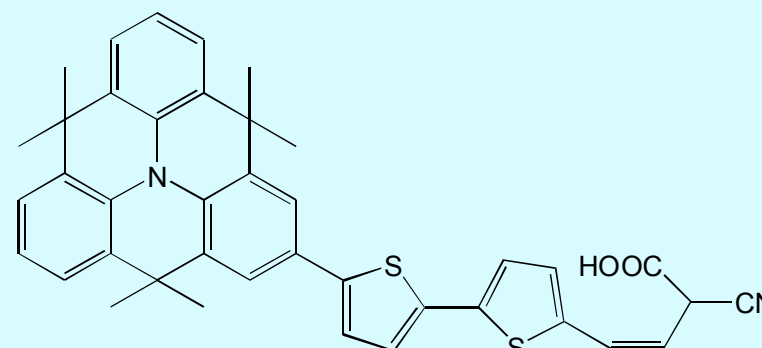
$$L_n = \sqrt{D_n \cdot \tau_n}$$

τ_n : electron lifetime

D_n : electron diffusion coefficient

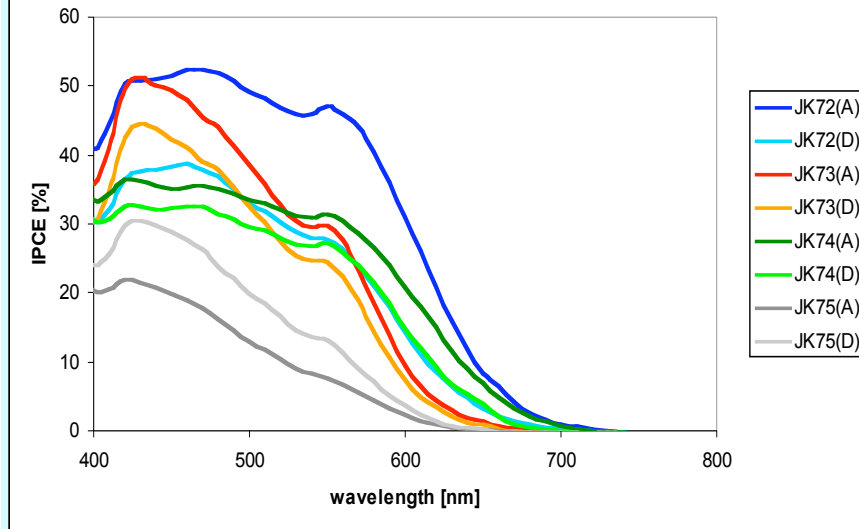
55

JK72



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Gain of red response in photocurrent by formation of JK72 dye aggregates

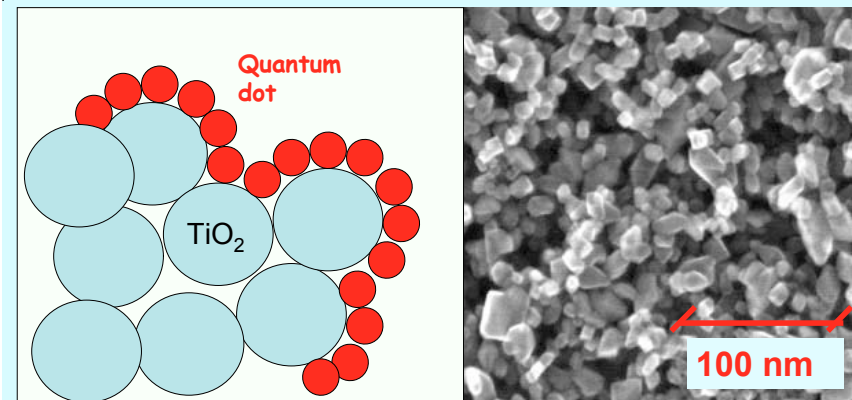


Ongoing research

- Advanced nanostructures
- Light induced charge separation
- new sensitizers
- new redox mediators
- Solid state heterojunctions
- **Quantum dot cells**
- redox active ionic liquids
- tandem devices

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Quantum dot sensitizers for mesoscopic solar cells

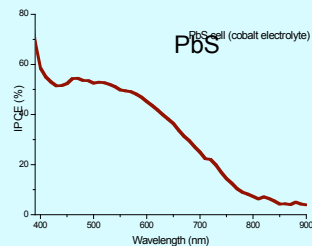
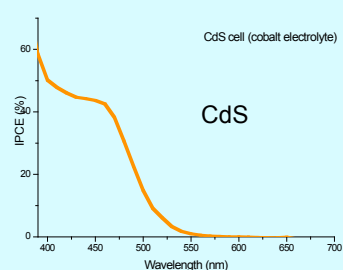
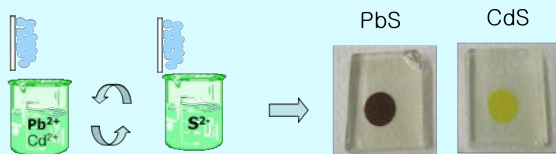


The electrons and holes move in different phases and are separated by a phase boundary

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Quantum dot sensitizers reach 60 percent IPCE

Direct deposition of PbS by CBD method



Data : Dr. Hy-Yoong Lee

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Ongoing research

- Advanced nanostructures
- Light induced charge separation
- new sensitizers
- new redox mediators
- Solid state heterojunctions
- Quantum dot cells
- redox active ionic liquids
- tandem devices

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Ionic Liquids (ILs) have attractive features

- **Thermal Stability;**
- **Non Flammability;**
- **High Ionic Conductivity;**
- **Negligible Vapor Pressure;**
- **Wide Electrochemical Window;**

Solid polymer/IL gels are formed by the addition of poly-(vinylidene fluoride-co-hexafluoropropylene) (PVDF-HFP)

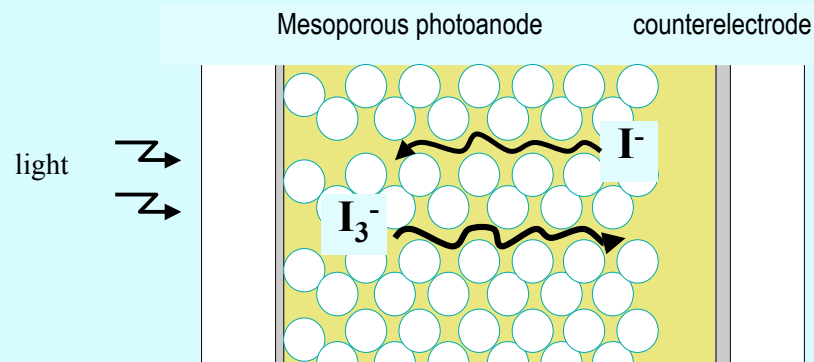
Wang, P; Zakeeruddin, S. M.; Exnar, I.; Graetzel, M..

High efficiency dye-sensitized nanocrystalline solar cells based on ionic liquid polymer gel electrolyte.

Chemical Communications (Cambridge, United Kingdom) 2002, 24, 2972-2973.

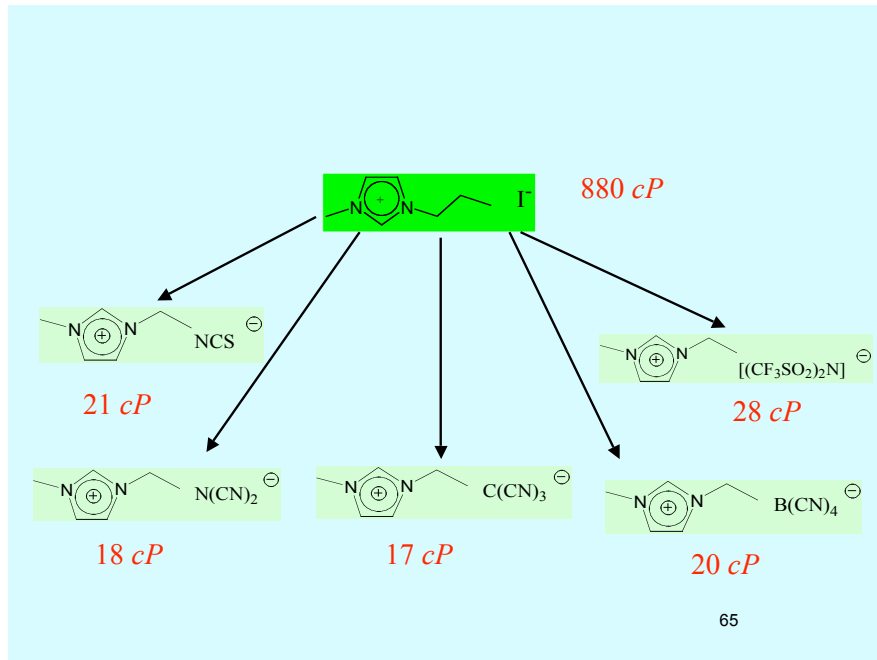
63

The light absorption-viscosity dilemma



Due the high viscosity of the ionic liquids, diffusion limitation of the photocurrent is expected under full sunlight

N. Papageorgiou, Y. Athanassov, M. Armand, P. Bonhôte, H. Pettersson, A. Azam, M. Grätzel, J. Electrochem. Soc. 1996, 143, 3099-3108



High-performance dye-sensitized solar cells based on solvent-free electrolytes produced from eutectic melts

YU BAI^{1*}, YIMING CAO^{1*}, JING ZHANG¹, MINGKUI WANG², RENZHI LI¹, PENG WANG^{1†}, SHAIK M. ZAKEERUDDIN² AND MICHAEL GRÄTZEL^{2†}

¹State Key Laboratory of Polymer Physics and Chemistry, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Changchun 130022, China
²Laboratory for Photonics and Interfaces, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, CH 1015, Lausanne, Switzerland
 *These authors contributed equally to this work
 †e-mail: peng.wang@ciac.jl.cn; michael.gratzel@epfl.ch

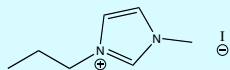
- New mixed ionic liquid (three compounds) with high conductivity
- Record conversion efficiency of 8.2%
- Excellent stability (1000h light soaking test)
- An interesting option for flexible cells

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Ionic liquids

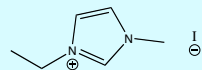
PMII

1-propyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide



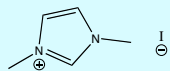
EMII

1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide



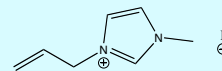
DMII

1,3-dimethylimidazolium iodide



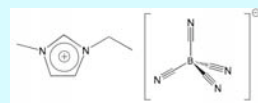
AMII

1-allyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide



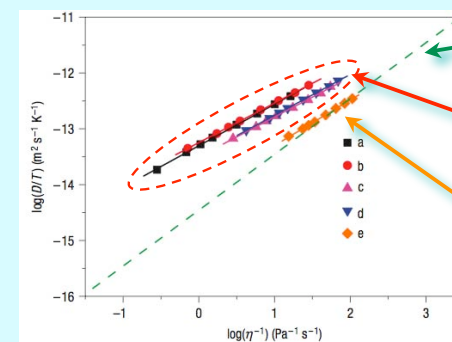
EMITCB

1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tetracyanoborate



Tri-iodide transport

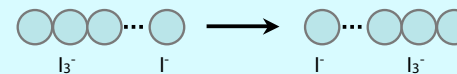
Fluidity (temp. dependent) vs. diffusion coefficient for I₃⁻



Stokes-Einstein relation for hydrodynamic I₃⁻ radius of 2.1 Å

Melts with high iodide concentration
 → Grotthus transport?

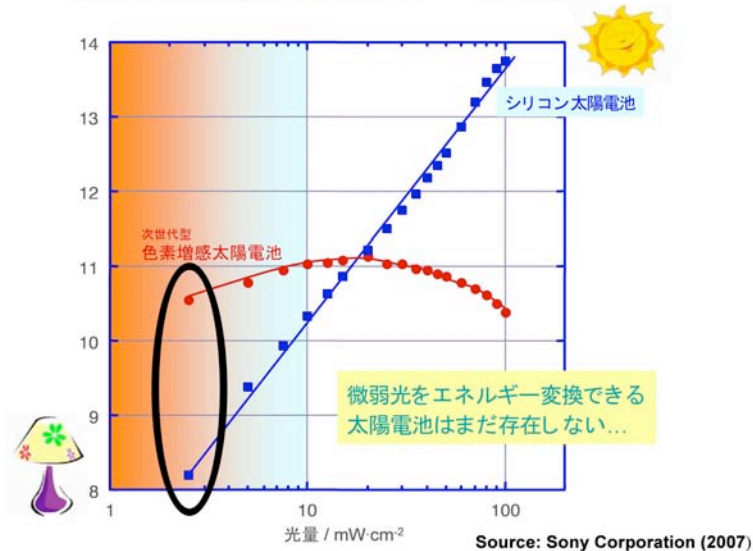
Melt with low iodide concentration



Grotthus bond exchange: enhanced diffusion coefficient

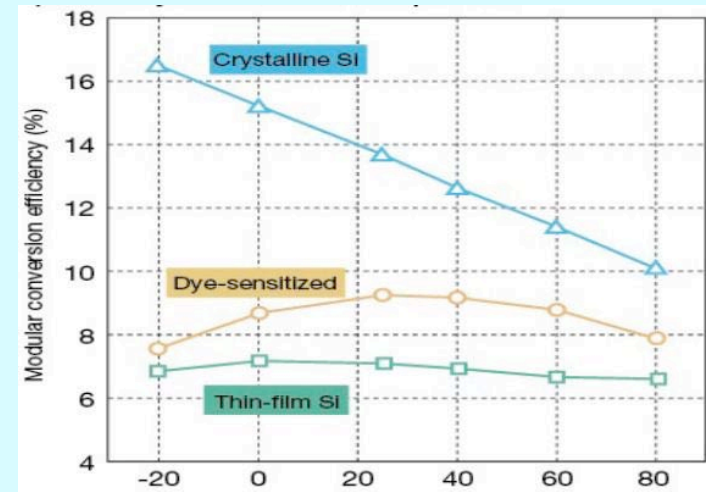
特徴 Dye sensitized solar cells outperform silicon at lower light levels

屋内希薄光エネルギーの利用



Dye sensitized solar cells deliver high overall performance

Effect of temperature on module conversion efficiency



Source: Tetsuo Nozawa, Nikkei Electronics Asia (July 2008), Data from Sony

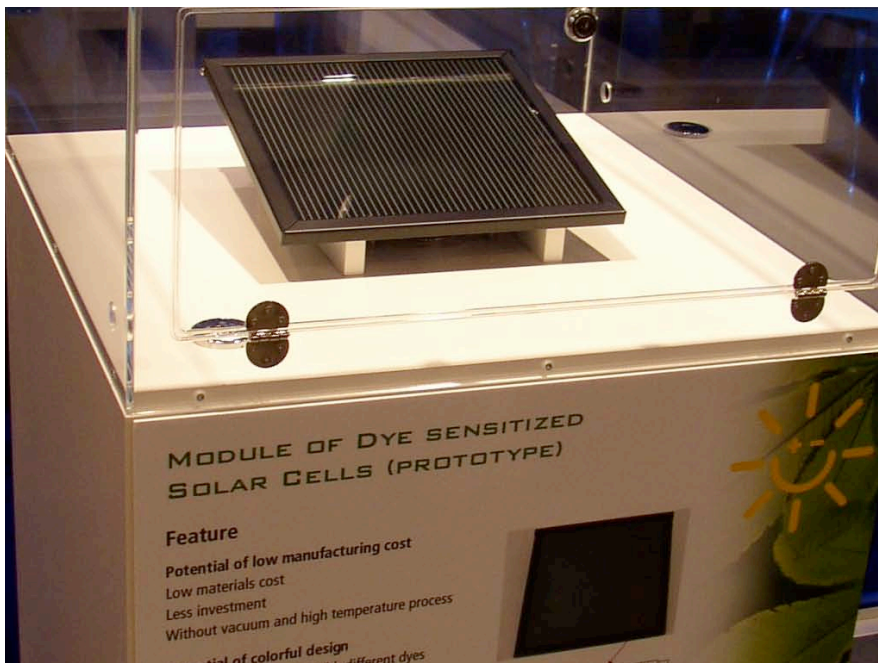
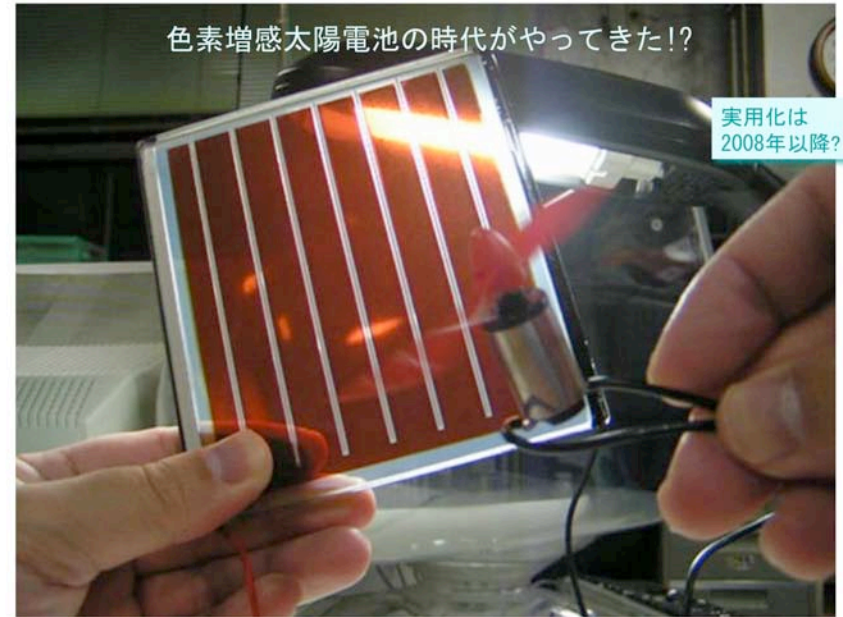
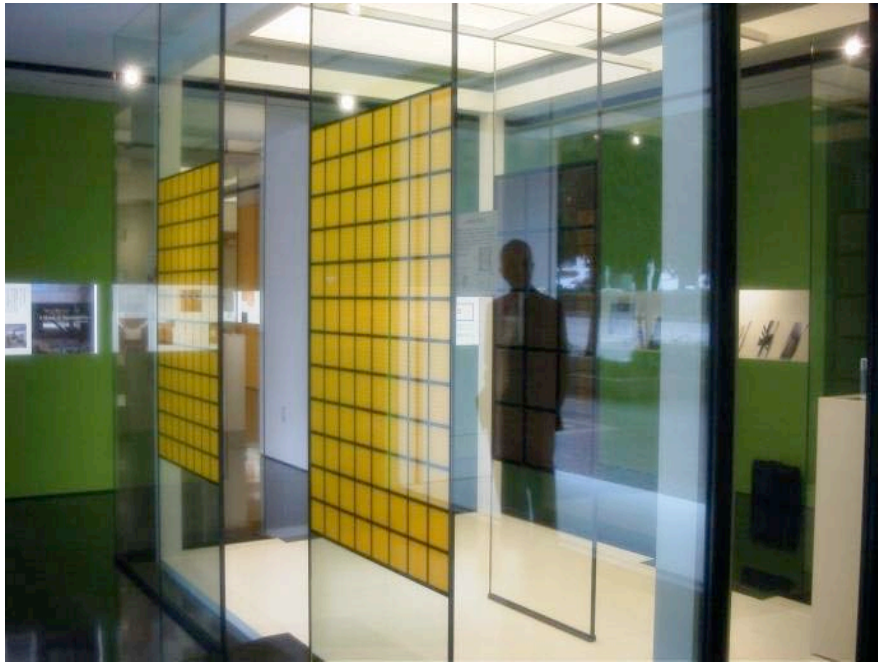
The DSC can meet future customer demands and needs

Emerging and new applications call for:

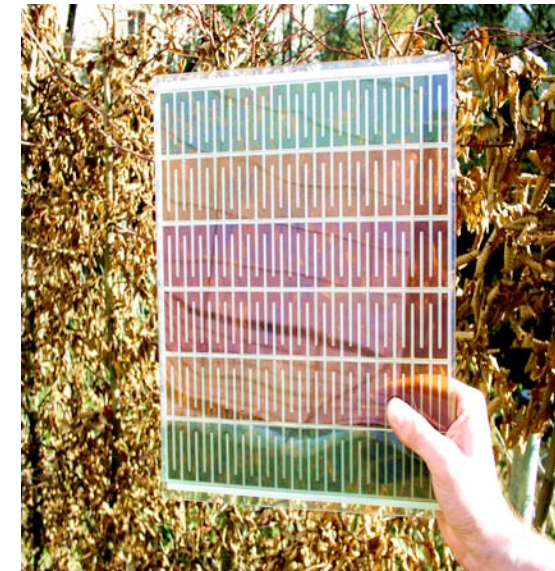
- Ease of building integration
- transparency and multicolor option (for power window application) *
- flexibility
- light weight
- Low production cost
- feedstock availability to reach terrawatt scale
- Short energy pay back time (< 1 year)
- enhanced performance under real outdoor conditions
- Bifacial cells capture light from all angles
- Tandem cell configurations boost efficiency over 15 %
- Outperforms competitors for indoor applications

* Unique selling proposition





Various colours in a series-connected dye solar cell module



Courtesy Dr. Andreas Hinsch, FHI, ISE Freiburg Germany



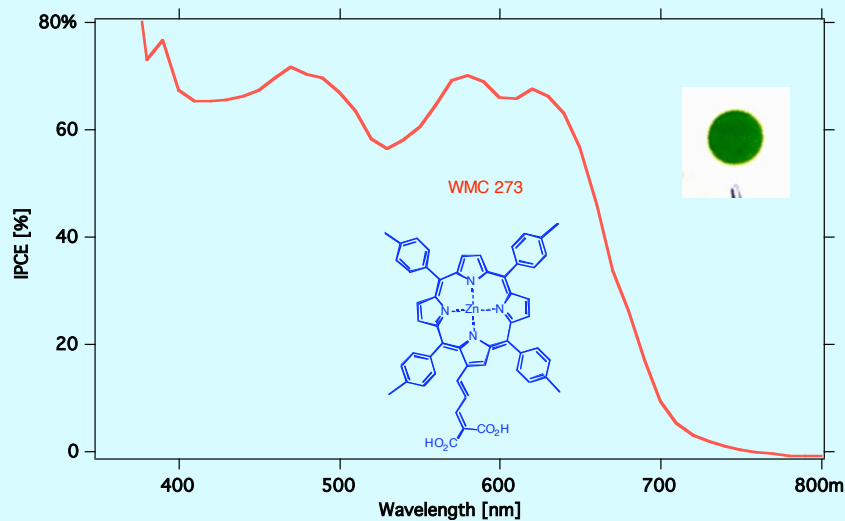
Courtesy Dr. Nam Gyu Park KIST

transparent, colorful, beautiful



Transparency: due to nano-sized (~20 nm) TiO₂ particle film
 Color: due to visible light absorption by dye
 * DSC costs lower than Si solar cell; 1/4 -1/5 of Si solar cell

green solar cells mimic the green leaf



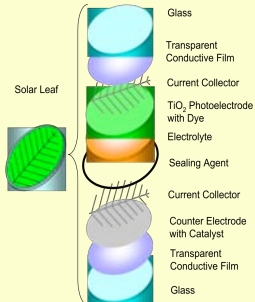
In collaboration with Professor David Officer, Univ.Wollongon,Australia



Artificial Plant with Leaves exhibited at EXPO 2005



Butterflies flutter and stop using the electricity generated by this plant under the intermittent lightings.



Leaf-shaped transparent DSC with four colors

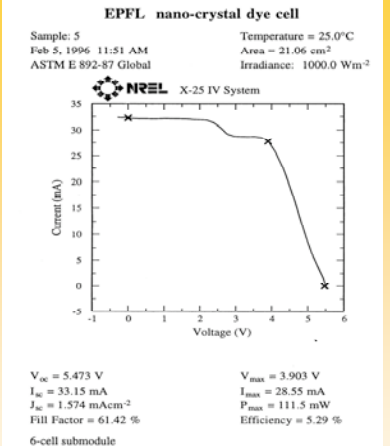
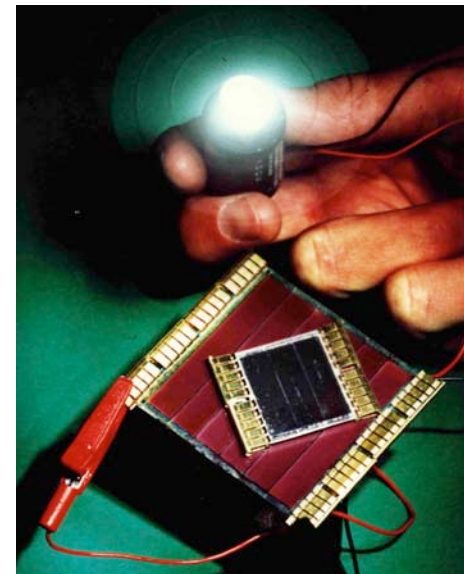
SC DEVELOPMENT GROUP, ENERGY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.

AISIN

AISIN SEIKI CO., LTD.
6th SEPTEMBER, 2006



Scale-up and production



A.Kay, M.Graetzel, Low cost PV modules based on dye sensitized nanocrystalline titanium dioxide and carbon powder. Solar En. Mat. Solar Cells 1996), 44(1), 99-17.

The first monolithic in series connected DSC modules showed a validated standard AM 1.5 G conversion efficiency of 5.3 %



Real Outdoor Test of DSC Modules

■ Module Unit

■ Outdoor Test



Series connected
64 DSC cells



Kariya City at lat. 35°10'N,
Azimuthal angle: 0°
Facing due south, Tilted at 30°

The Toyota Dream House



DSC
made by
AISIN-SEIKI



3) モジュール設置固定



8) バイオトイレ正面

G24I builds 120 MeW capacity plant for flexible DSC production in Wales

Adran Menter, Arloesi a Rhwyd
Department for Enterprise, Innovation
and Networks



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Tuesday, 17th October 2006

WORLD-LEADING SOLAR TECHNOLOGY FIRM TO INVEST IN WALES

A multi-million pound investment into a unique world-leading renewable energy technology is to create up to 300 jobs in South Wales, it was announced today (Tuesday, 17th October 2006).

G24 Innovations Ltd (G24I), a new UK registered company (whose major shareholder is Renewable Capital LP of the United States), is to manufacture dye sensitised solar cells – one of the latest, lightest, most efficient and least costly solar technologies in the world – at a 187,000 sq ft facility at Wentloog Park, Cardiff and plans to begin manufacturing early in 2007.

G24I's new cells will have potential application in a wide range of products although the initial market is expected to be for mobile consumer led products such as mobile phone chargers, smart textiles (incorporating the technology into fabrics), emergency and homeland security applications, MP3 players, laptop computers and handheld game consoles.

The company also believes there is an opportunity to integrate the cells in building products that can meet part of a building's energy requirements and further reduce carbon emissions.

Founders of G24I: Ed Stevenson and Robert Hertzberg (64th speaker of Californian State Assembly)

Additional News

The G24I plant in Cardiff has started production on June 21 (solstice), 2007



The first G24I product is a light weight flexible power supply for mobile telephones





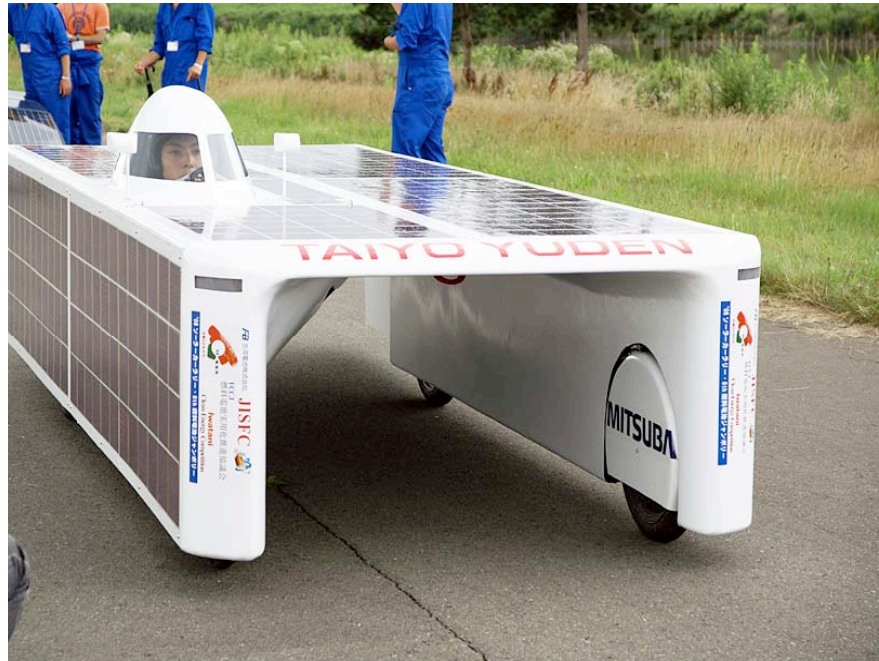
World first solar car, 1912 Baker Electric Brougham



Electric car: Tesla Roadster
AC induction motor, 200 kW, 35 kg,
6831 Li-cells 18650 (Ø 18 x 65 mm), 50 kWh, 450 kg
range 400 km per charge, acceleration to 100 km/h in 4 s
price \$ 92.000



<http://www.teslamotors.com>



The First Solar Car Driven by DSSC



Professor Uchida: <http://kuroppe.tagen.tohoku.ac.jp/~dsc>