

## A Co(II)-Ru(II) dyad relevant to light-driven water oxidation catalysis.

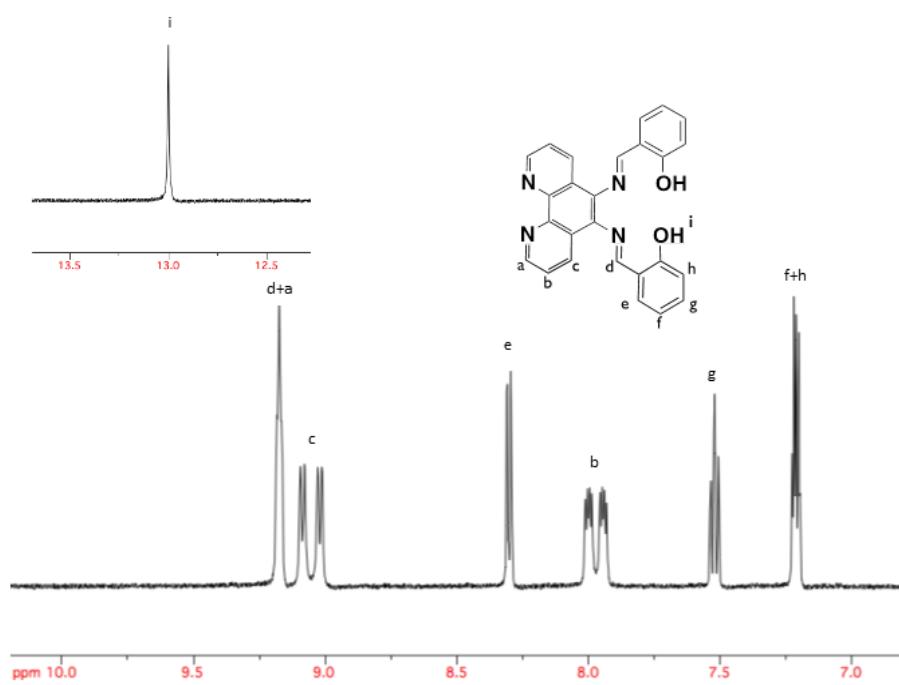
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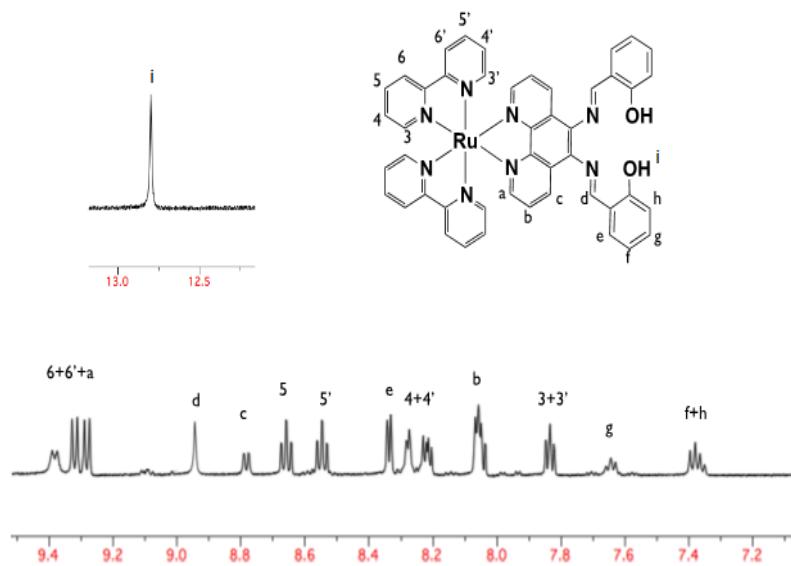
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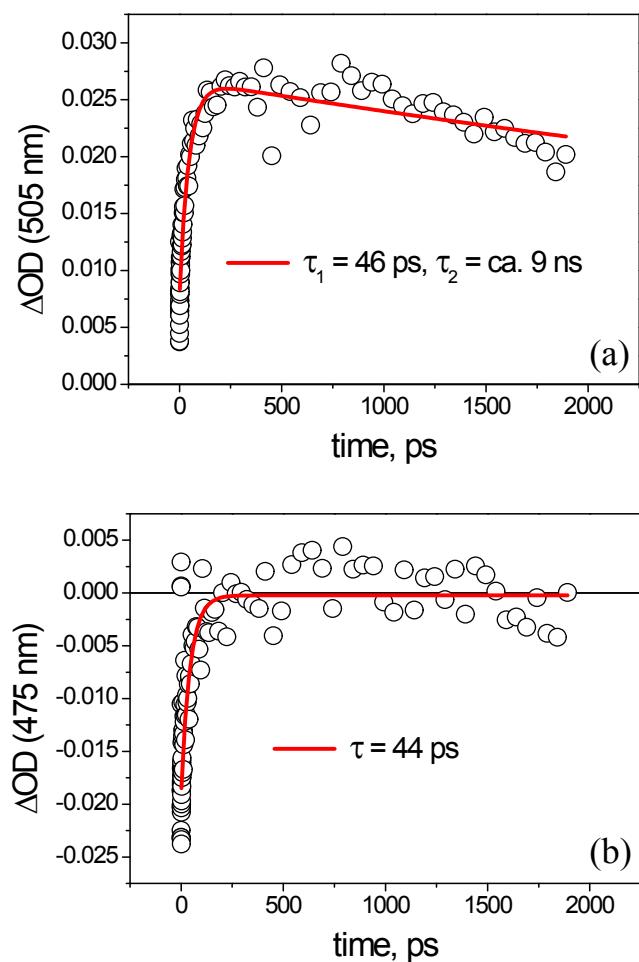
<sup>\*</sup>These authors contributed equally to the paper.



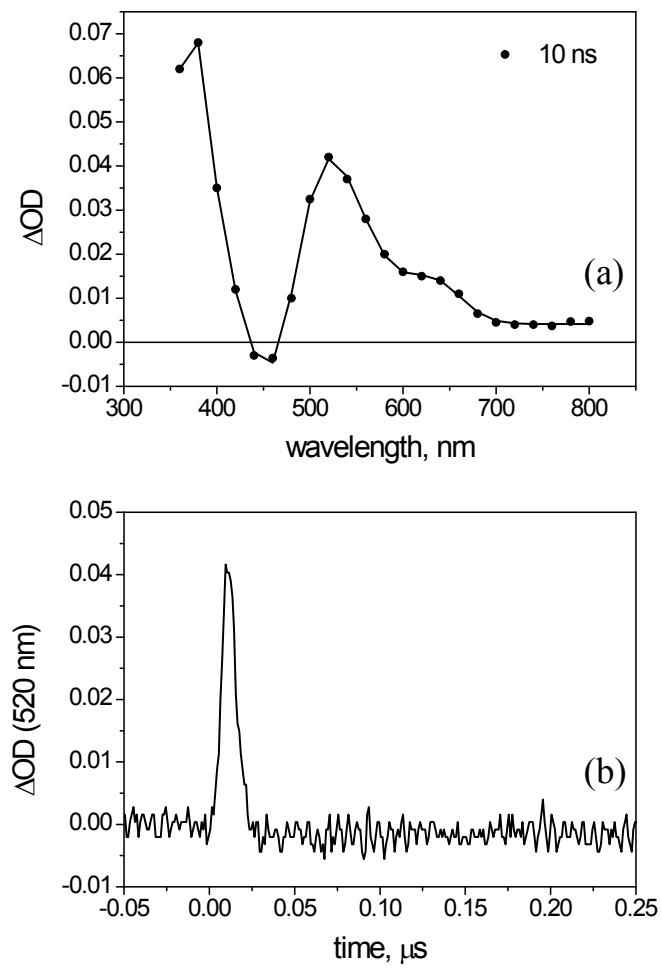
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz) spectra of (2) d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO.



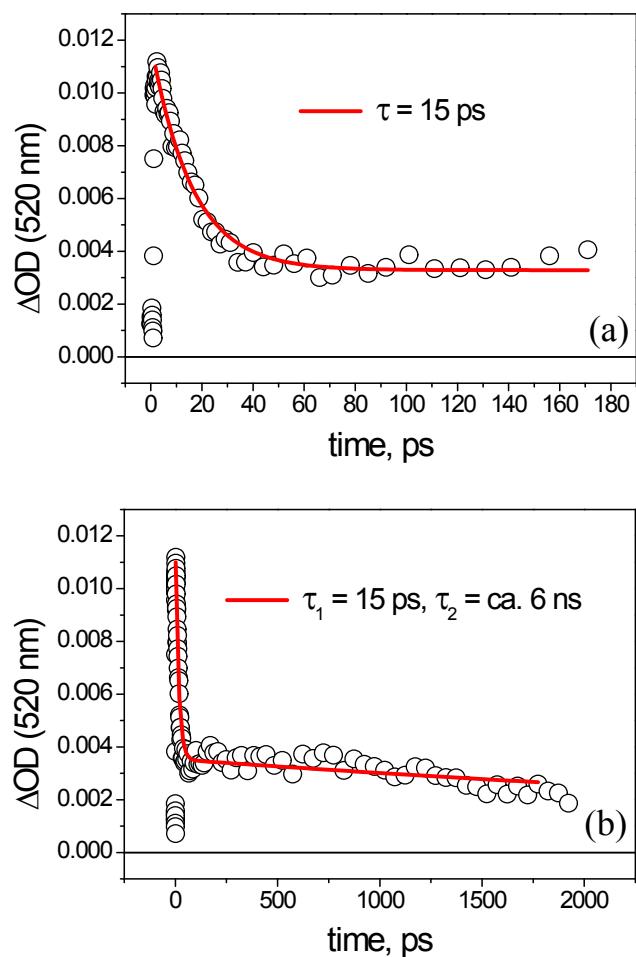
**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz) spectra of (3) d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO.



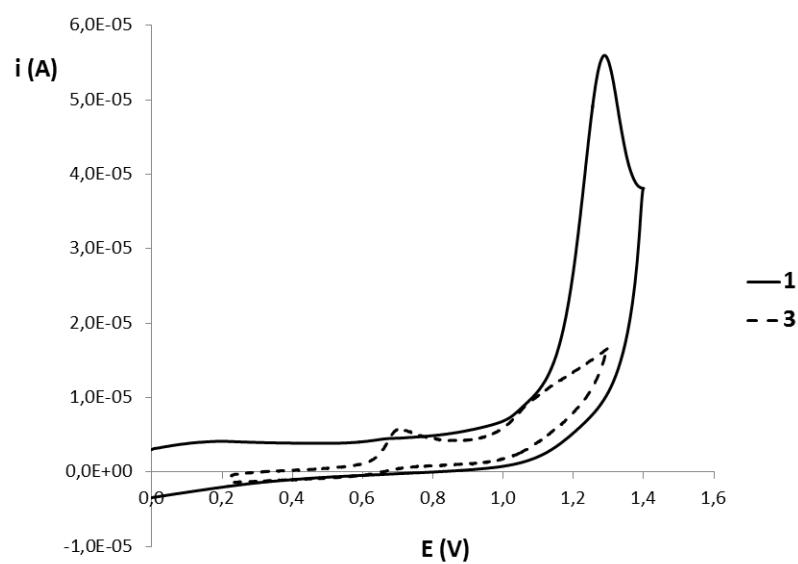
**Figure S3.** Kinetic analysis obtained by UFS (excitation at 400 nm) on **3** (a) at 505 nm and (b) at 475 nm.



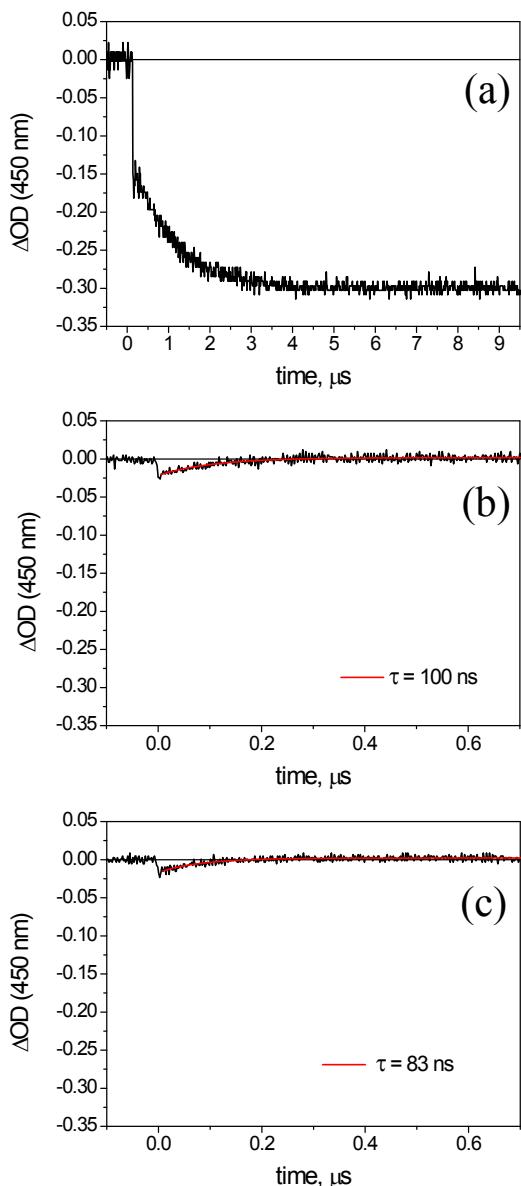
**Figure S4.** (a) Transient spectrum of **3** in acetonitrile at 10 ns time-delay obtained by laser flash photolysis (excitation at 355 nm); (b) kinetic profile of the transient recorded at 520 nm.



**Figure S5.** Kinetic analysis obtained by UFS (400-nm excitation) on **1** in acetonitrile at 520 nm: (a) 0-200 ps and (b) 0-2000 ps.



**Figure S6.** Cyclic voltammograms of 0.5 mM **1** and **3** under anodic scans in 0.2 M phosphate buffer, pH 7. Working electrode glassy carbon, counter electrode: platinum wire, reference electrode: Ag/AgCl (3 M NaCl); scan rate 20 mVs<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S7.** Kinetic analysis at 450 nm obtained by laser flash photolysis (355-nm excitation) in pH 7 phosphate buffer solutions (optically matched at the excitation wavelength) containing (a)  $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  and 5 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ , (b) **3** and 5 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ , and (c) **1** and 5 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ . The efficiency of the bimolecular excited-state quenching by persulfate, as determined by emission measurements, is comparable ( $\geq 90\%$ ) in the three cases.