

Supplementary Information

Two multifunctional Cu(II) coordination complexes with mixed ligands as efficient catalysts for oxygen evolution reaction and photocatalytic degradation of methyl orange azo dyes

Yang-Hua Li^a, Yu-Qi Liu^{a*}, Si-Yu Dai^a, Nan-Hao Jin^{a,b}, Xin-Ying Wang^{a*}, Han Chen^a, Xiao-Ming Liu^a, Yue Zhao^a, Hui-Long Luo^c, Wei Li^{a,b}

The corresponding formula and calculation method

The Tafel plot can be calculated by the linear Tafel equation:

$$\eta = a \times \log(j) + b$$

where a is the Tafel slope, j and η are the catalytic current density and overpotential, respectively.

The electrochemically active surface area (ECSA) of the complexes has the following relationship to the electric double layer capacitance:

$$\text{EASA} = C_{\text{dl}}/C_s$$

The electrochemical double layer capacitance (C_{dl}) is calculated by measuring the relevant CV curves at different scan rates (10 to 50 mV/s) in a non-Faraday region. The value of C_{dl} is the slope of the plot of capacitive current as a function of scan rate. The C_s is the specific capacitance of an atomically smooth surface of the material.

The turnover frequency (TOF) value has been measured via equation:

$$\text{TOF} = j \times A / (4 \times F \times m / M)$$

where j is the current density (A cm^{-2}) at a given overpotential, A is the loading area of the electrode (cm^2), F is Faraday constant = 96485 (C mol^{-1}), m is the mass per square centimeter of the catalyst, and M is the molecular weight of the catalyst, respectively.

^a Faculty of Science, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Kunming 650500, P. R. China

^b Faculty of Metallurgical and Energy Engineering, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Kunming 650093, P. R. China

^c Faculty of Civil Engineering and Mechanics, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Kunming 650093, P. R. China

^{a*} Corresponding author. Faculty of Science, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Kunming 650500, P. R. China

According to the Kubelka-Munk function (F), the band gap can be calculated by the following equations:

$$F = (1 - R)^2 / 2R$$

$$(Fhv)^n = B(hv - Eg)$$

where R is the reflectance of an infinitely thick layer at a given wavelength, h is the Plank's constant, v is the frequency of light, Eg is the optical bandgap energy of the material, and factor B depends on the transition probability assumed to be as constant within the optical frequency range, $n = 2$ or $1/2$ represent the direct and indirect transition, respectively.

The degradation efficiency of MO is defined as follows:

$$\text{Degradation efficiency} = (1 - (C_t/C_0)) \times 100\%$$

Where C_0 and C_t are the concentrations of MO solution when photocatalytic reaction at time 0 min and t min, respectively.

The graphs associated with the text

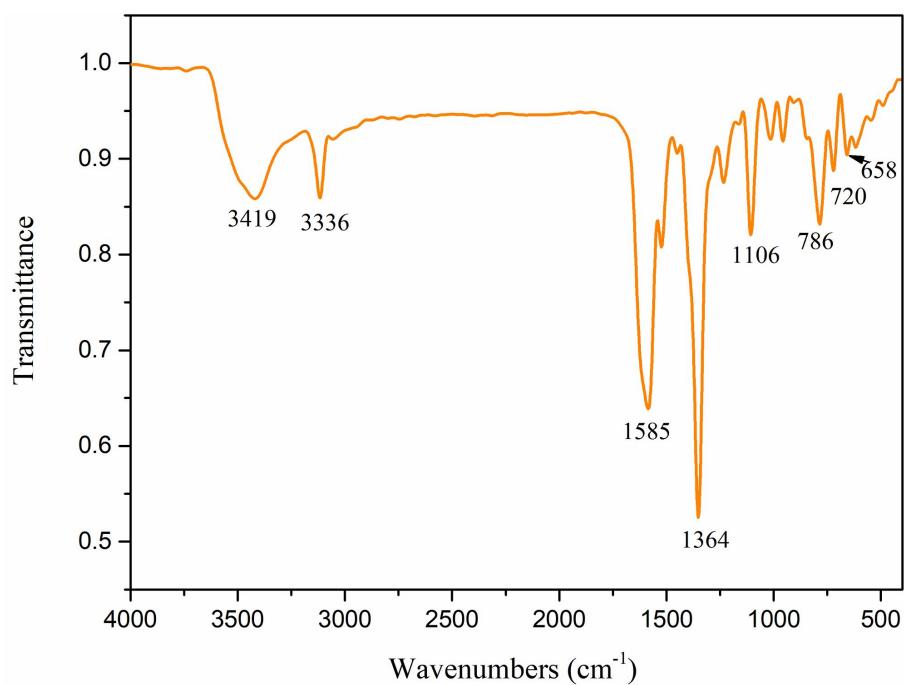


Fig. S1 The IR spectra for **1**.

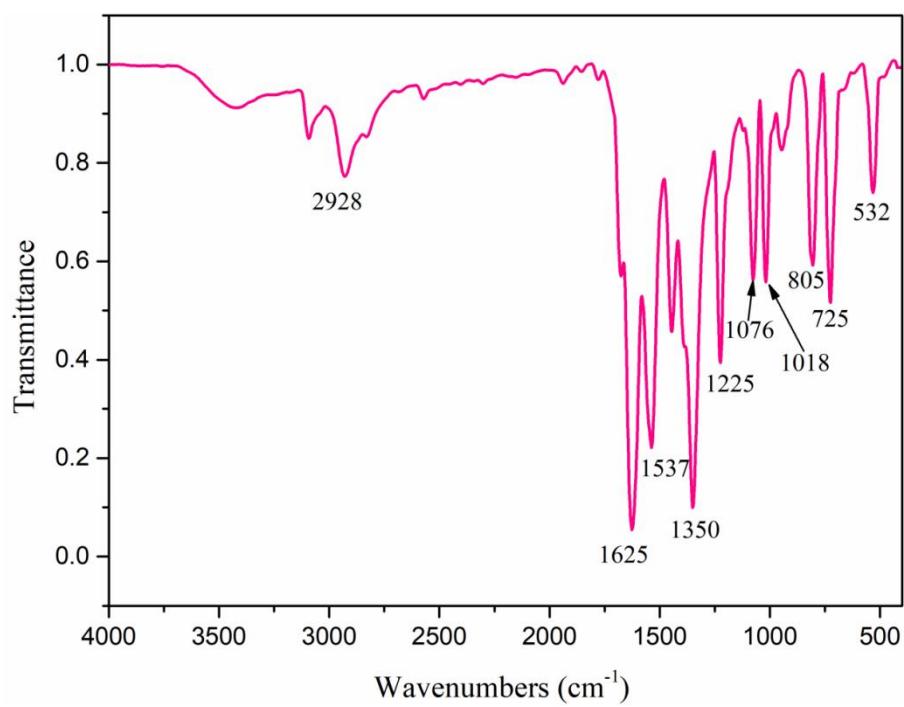


Fig. S2 The IR spectra for **2**.

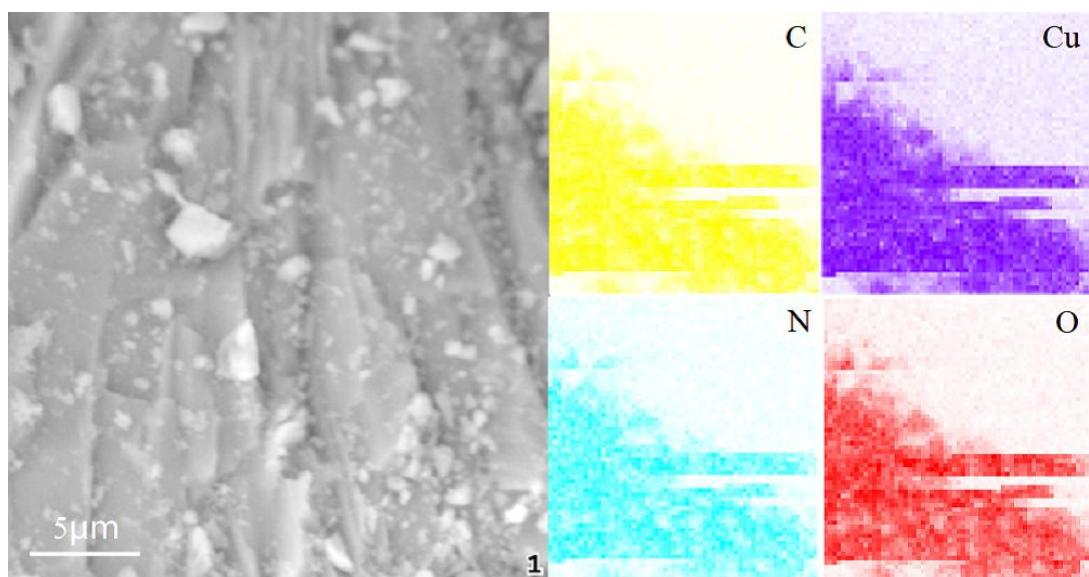


Fig. S3 EDS mapping images of **1**.

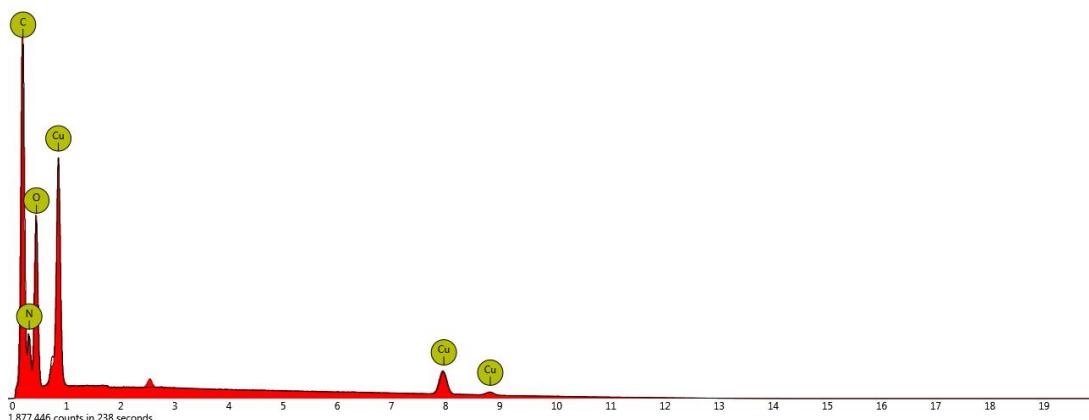


Fig. S4 EDX spectrum of **1**.

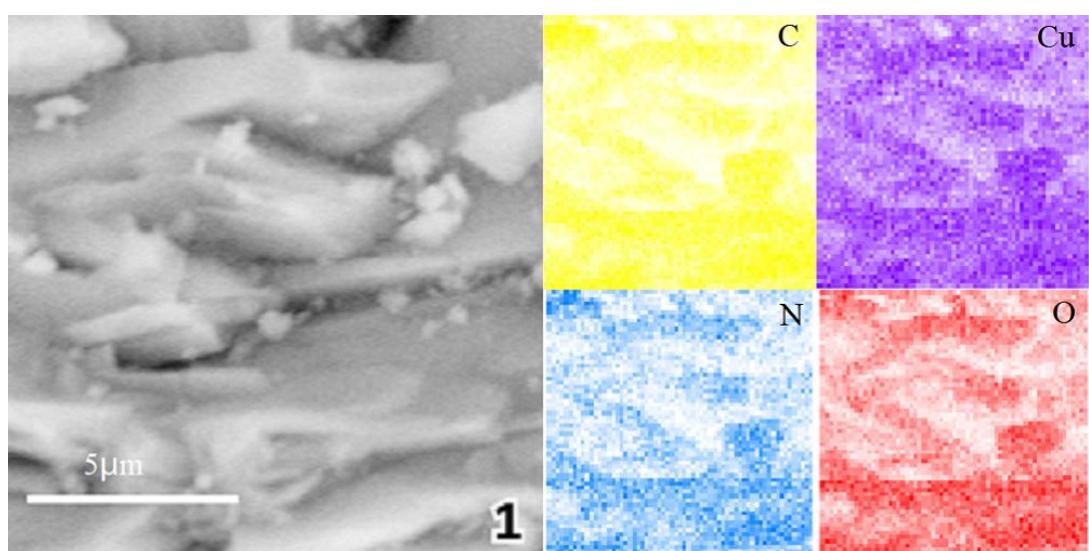


Fig. S5 EDS mapping images for **2**.

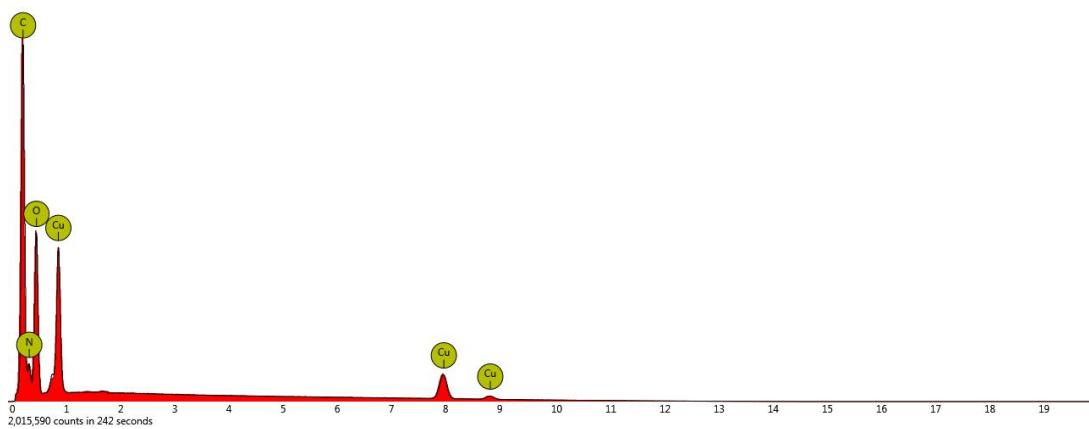


Fig. S6 EDX spectrum of **2**.

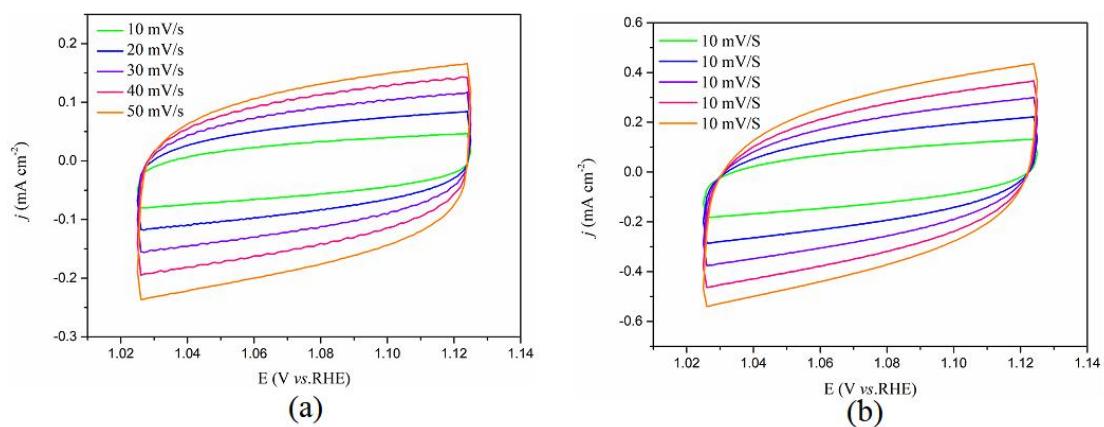


Fig. S7 Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curve in a non-Faraday region. (a) Corresponds to **1**. (b)

Corresponds to **2** .

The corresponding parameters of crystallographic data, selected bonds, angles and hydrogen bonds

Table S1 Crystallographic Data and Structural Refinements for **1-2**

Identification code	1	2
Empirical formula	C ₂₀ H ₂₀ CuN ₄ O ₇	C ₄₇ H ₅₃ Cu ₂ N ₁₁ O ₁₃
Formula weight	491.94	1107.08
Temperature/K	296.15	296.15
Wavelength	0.71073	0.71073
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	P21/n	C2/c
Unit cell dimensions	a = 0.85793(10) nm, α = 90 ° B = 1.00590(11) nm, β = 92.552(2) ° C = 2.4193(3) nm, γ = 90 °	a = 2.68482(18) nm, α = 90 ° b = 1.03399(7) nm, β = 125.809(10) ° c = 2.2165(2) nm, γ = 90 °
Volume/nm ³	2.0857(4)	4.9900(7)
Z	4	4
Calculate density/g/cm ³	1.567	1.474
Absorption coefficient/mm ⁻¹	1.099	0.928
F(000)	1012.0	2296.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.11 × 0.1 × 0.08	0.16 × 0.15 × 0.12
Theta range for data collection	3.37 ° to 50.028 °	3.37 ° to 50.028 °
Index range	-10 ≤ h ≤ 10, -11 ≤ k ≤ 11, -21 ≤ l ≤ 28	-29 ≤ h ≤ 31, -12 ≤ k ≤ 12, -26 ≤ l ≤ 26
Reflections collected	10336	12419
Independent reflection	3667 [R(int)= 0.0269, R(sigma) = 0.0327]	4395 [R(int) = 0.0336, R(sigma) = 0.0404]
Completeness to theta	99.7% (25.014 °)	99.8% (25.009 °)
Max. and min. transmission	0.631 and 0.741	0.682 and 0.746
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.077	1.058
Final R indices[I>2σ(I)]	R ₁ = 0.0434, wR ₂ = 0.1191	R ₁ = 0.0480, wR ₂ = 0.1269
R indexes (all data)	R ₁ = 0.0576, wR ₂ = 0.1334	R ₁ = 0.0704, wR ₂ = 0.1467
Largest diff. peak and hole/e·nm ⁻³	330 and -710	1010 and -400
CCDC number	2166017	2166018

Table S2 Selected Bond lengths (nm) and Angles ($^{\circ}$) for **1-2**

Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
Cu(1)–O(1)	0.1967(3)	Cu(1)–O(1W)	0.2295(3)
Cu(1)–O(4)#1	0.2013(2)	Cu(1)–N(1)#2	0.1991(3)
Cu(1)–N(4)	0.1985(3)	O(4)–Cu(1)#3	0.2013(2)
N(1)–Cu(1)#4	0.1991(3)		
O(1)–Cu(1)–O1W	98.55(12)	O(1)–Cu(1)–O(4)#1	159.42(11)
O(1)–Cu(1)–N(1)#2	90.61(13)	O(1)–Cu(1)–N(4)	89.08(13)
O(4)#1–Cu(1)–O1(W)	101.95(11)	N(1)#2–Cu(1)–O1(W)	94.94(12)
N(1)#12–Cu(1)–O(4)#1	89.42(12)	N(4)–Cu(1)–O(1W)	90.77(12)
N(4)–Cu(1)–O(4)#1	88.86(11)	N(4)–Cu(1)–N(1)#2	174.26(13)
Cu(1)–O(2)	0.1982(3)	Cu(1)–O(3)#1	0.2040(2)
Cu(1)–O(1)#2	0.2335(3)	Cu(1)–N(1)	0.2004(3)
Cu(1)–N(3)	0.1990(3)	O3–Cu(1)#3	0.2040(2)
O1–Cu(1)#2	0.2335(3)		
O(2)–Cu(1)–O(3)#1	162.64(11)	O(2)–Cu(1)–O(1)#2	109.56(11)
O(2)–Cu(1)–N(1)	88.43(12)	O(2)–Cu(1)–N(3)	89.28(12)
O(3)#1–Cu(1)–O(1)#2	87.68(10)	N(1)–Cu(1)–O(3)#1	89.67(12)
N(1)–Cu(1)–O(1)#2	89.71(12)	N(3)–Cu(1)–O(3)#1	91.44(12)
N(3)–Cu(1)–O(1)#2	94.44(12)	N(3)–Cu(1)–N(1)	175.74(13)

1 Symmetry code: #1 = +x, 1+y, +z; #2 = 3/2-x, -1/2+y, 3/2-z; #3 = +x, -1+y, +z; #4 = 3/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z. **2** Symmetry code: #1 = +x, -1+y, +z; #2 = 3/2-x, 1/2-y, 1-z; #3= +x, 1+y, +z.

Table S3 Hydrogen-bonding Geometry of **1** (nm and $^{\circ}$)

D-H \cdots A	D-H	H \cdots A	[D \cdots A]	\angle D-H \cdots A
C1-H1 \cdots O2W#1	0.0929(5)	0.2589(5)	0.3300(7)	133.7(3)
C3-H3 \cdots O2#2	0.0930(5)	0.2637(3)	0.3515(6)	157.6(3)
C11-H11A \cdots O2W#2	0.0972(7)	0.2394(6)	0.3233(9)	144.3(4)
C11-H11B \cdots O5#2	0.0930(5)	0.2634(3)	0.3487(6)	152.8(3)
C13-H13 \cdots O5#3	0.0970(6)	0.2548(3)	0.3295(6)	133.9(4)
C17-H17 \cdots O2W#4	0.0930(4)	0.2863(7)	0.3642(8)	142.1(3)
C18-H18 \cdots O2W	0.0931(4)	0.2447(7)	0.3254(8)	154.0(3)
O2W-H2WA \cdots O5	0.1026(7)	0.1864(2)	0.2882(7)	170.8(4)
O2W-H2WB \cdots O5#5	0.1002(5)	0.1956(3)	0.2843(6)	146.1(4)
O1W-H1WB \cdots O2#6	0.847(3)	0.2055(4)	0.2832(4)	152.5(2)
O1W-H1WA \cdots O2	0.844(3)	0.2390(3)	0.2952(4)	124.6(2)

Symmetry code: #1 = -1/2+x, 1/2-y, 1/2+z; #2 = -1+x, 1+y, +z; #3 = 1-x, -y, 1-z; #4 = 2-x, -y, 1-z; #5 = 2-x, -1-y, 1-z; #6 = 3/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z.

Table S4 Hydrogen-bonding Geometry of complex **2** (nm and °)

D-H···A	D-H	H···A	[D···A]	\angle D-H···A
C14-H14A···O6#1	0.0960(5)	0.2392(5)	0.3188(7)	140.1(3)
C6-H6C···O6#2	0.0961(5)	0.2817(5)	0.3726(8)	157.8(4)
C4-H4···O5#3	0.0930(6)	0.2782(4)	0.3487(6)	133.3(3)
C12-H12···O4	0.0932(7)	0.2483(5)	0.3191(9)	132.8(3)
C8-H8···O1	0.0930(4)	0.2794(3)	0.3395(5)	123.3(3)

Symmetry code: #1 = 1-x, +y, 1/2-z; #2 = 1/2+x, 1/2-y, 1/2+z; #3 = 1-x, 1-y, 1-z.

Table S5 Comparison of the OER activities of copper complexes electrocatalysts

Catalyst	Overpotential (mV)	Electrolyte	Ref.
[L-Cu ^{II} -DMF]	650	0.10 M Carbonate buffer(pH = 10)	1
CuxS-2	530	0.1 M KOH	2
CuxS-3	430	0.1 M KOH	2
[Cu(N ₂ Py ₃)](BF ₄) ₂	831	0.10 M Phosphate buffer(pH = 11)	3
Cu ₂ L	630	0.1 M TBAP	4
Cu-CNTCPP	430	1 M KOH	5
1	500	1 M KOH	This work
2	360	1 M KOH	This work

Table S6 Comparison of photocatalytic degradation of dyes by copper complexes

Catalyst	Type of dye	Initial concen tration of dye	light source	Degrad ation efficien cy (%)	Time (min)	Rate constant (min ⁻¹)	Eg(e V)	Ref.
CP1	MB	16 mg/L	visible light	93.7	30	0.05642	1.68	6
CP1	RhB	23.95m g/L	visible light	95.8	30	0.07684	1.68	6
CuOF	MO	0.1M	UV light	100	270	-	-	7
[Cu(NPT) ₂ (NO ₂ -B-DC)] _n	RhB	10 mg/L	UV light	95.72	160	-	-	8
[Cu(NPT) ₂ (NO ₂ -B-DC)] _n	MB	10 mg/L	UV light	95.49	160	-	-	8
[Cu(NPT) ₂ (NO ₂ -B-DC)] _n	MO	10 mg/L	UV light	31.93	160	-	-	8
[Cu(BMI-OPE)(Br-BDC)] _n	MO	10 mg/L	UV light	91	70	-	3.45	9
[Cu(BMI-OPE)(Br-BDC)] _n	MB	10 mg/L	UV light	91	70	-	3.45	9
Cu(pc) ₂ •2 H ₂ O	RhB	20 mg/L	UV light	97	8	-	-	10
Cu(pc) ₂ •2 H ₂ O	MO	20 mg/L	UV light	97	8	-	-	10
Cu(pc) ₂ •2 H ₂ O	RhB	20 mg/L	visible light	95	90	-	-	10
Cu(pc) ₂ •2 H ₂ O	MO	20 mg/L	visible light	90	55	-	-	10
1	MO	40 mg/L	visible light	96.2	150	0.02133	2.17	This work
2	MO	40 mg/L	visible light	90.8	150	0.01644	2.46	This work

References

- [1] F. Chen, N. Wang, H. Lei, D. Guo, H. Liu, Z. Zhang, W. Zhang, W. Iai, R. Cao, Inorganic Chemistry, 2017, 56, 13368-13375. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.inorgchem.7b02125>.
- [2] A. Singh, M. Trivedi, P. Singh, G. Kociok-Kohn, U. P. Azad, A. K. Singh, A. Kumar, New Journal of Chemistry, 2018, 42, 18759-18764. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C8NJ03992E>.
- [3] Z. Xu, Z. Zheng, Q. Chen, J. Wang, K. Yu, X. Xia, J. Shen, Q. Zhang, Dalton Trans, 2021, 50, 10888-10895. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D1DT01821C>.
- [4] S. Majumder, A. Abdel Haleem, P. Nagaraju, Y. Naruta, Dalton Transactions, 2017, 46, 9131-9139. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C7DT01594A>.
- [5] Z. Huang, M. Zhang, H. Lin, S. Ding, B. Dong, D. Liu, H. Wang, F. Dai, D. Sun, RSC Advances, 2018, 8, 40054-40059. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C8RA08338J>.
- [6] H. Jain, A. Joshi, C. N. Ramachandran, R. Kumar, ChemistrySelect., 2019, 4(17), 4952-4961. <https://doi.org/10.1002/slct.201900498>.
- [7] G. R. Reddy, S. Balasubramanian, RSC Advances, 2015, 5(66), 53979-53987. <https://doi.org/10.1039/C5RA07469J>.
- [8] L. Li, W. Ju, J. Tao, R. Xin, J. Wang, X. Xu, Journal of Molecular Structure, 1096, 142-146. Journal of Molecular Structure., 2015, 1096, 142-146. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molstruc.2015.04.025>.
- [9] L. Liang, C. Pan, J. Wang, Zeitschrift Für Naturforschung B, 2020, 75(4), 347-352. <https://doi.org/10.1515/znb-2019-0195>.
- [10] J. Ran, X. Li, Q. Zhao, Z. Qu, H. Li, Y. Shi, G. Chen, Inorganic Chemistry Communications, 2010, 13, 526-528. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.inoche.2010.01.028>.