

Electronic Supporting Information

Photophysical study of a family of $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2(\text{Me}_n\text{dpq})]^{2+}$ complexes in different solvents and DNA: a specific water effect promoted by methyl substitution

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Table S1. Photophysical properties of $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2(\text{dpq})]^{2+}$, **1**, in a range of solvents

	DMSO	MeCN	MeOH	EtOH	pH 7 tris buffer
$\lambda_{\text{max abs}}$ (nm)	450	447	446	446	448
$\epsilon^{\lambda_{\text{max}}}$ ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)	19500	19300	19100	19200	16100
$\lambda_{\text{max em}}$ (nm)	617	604	602	599	609
$\phi_{\text{aer}}^{\text{a}}$	0.038	0.012	0.019	0.016	0.019
τ_{aer} (ns)	423	155	167	170	250
$\phi_{\text{deg}}^{\text{a}}$	0.126	0.064	0.061	0.043	0.024
τ_{deg} (ns)	1360	760	602	351	335
$k_{\text{q}}[\text{O}_2]$ ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$) ^b	3.5×10^9	2.7×10^9	2.1×10^9	1.4×10^9	3.5×10^9
k_{r} (s^{-1})	9.3×10^4	7.2×10^4	1.0×10^5	1.2×10^5	7.1×10^4
k_{nr} (s^{-1})	6.4×10^5	1.2×10^6	1.6×10^6	2.7×10^6	3.0×10^6

^aRelative quantum yields compared to $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$, $\phi = 0.042$ in degassed aqueous solution and 0.028 in aerated aqueous solution. ^b $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2)$ evaluated using Stern-Volmer eq. $\tau_0/\tau = 1 + k_{\text{q}}\tau_0[\text{O}_2]$. Errors: $\lambda_{\text{max abs}} \pm 2$ nm, $\epsilon \pm 10\%$, $\lambda_{\text{max em}} \pm 2$ nm, $\phi_{\text{em}} \pm 0.005$, $\tau \pm 10\%$, $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2) \pm 2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$, k_{r} and $k_{\text{nr}} \pm 30\%$.

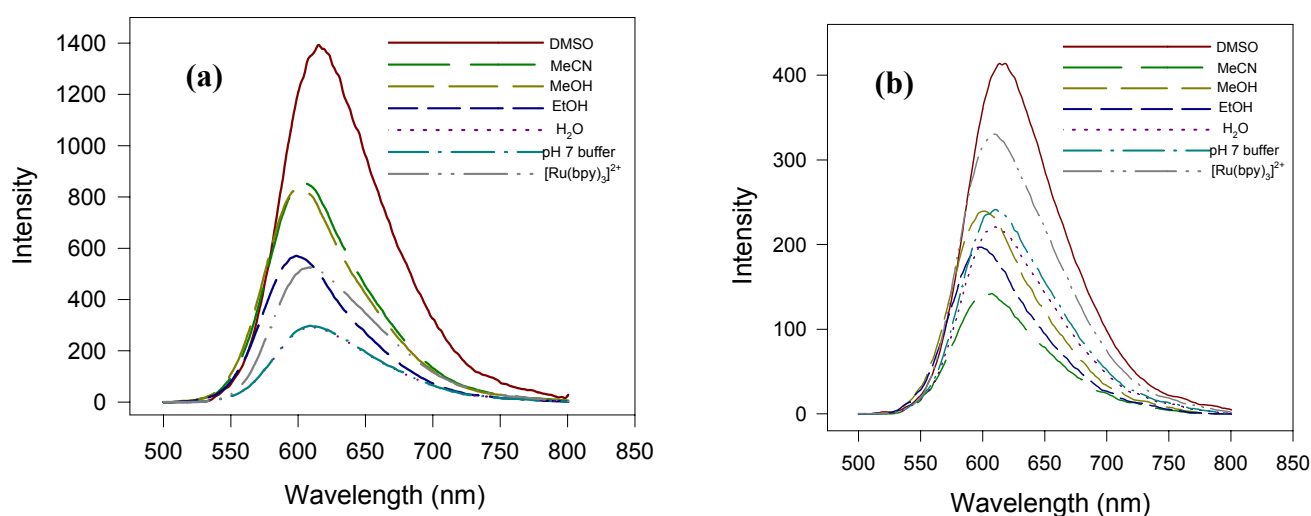


Figure S1. Emission spectra of **1** in degassed (a) and aerated (b) solutions. (Excitation at $\lambda_{\text{max abs}}$ of the MLCT band)

Table S2. Photophysical properties of $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2(\text{Medpq})]^{2+}$, **2**, in a range of solvents

	DMSO	MeCN	MeOH	EtOH	pH 7 tris buffer
$\lambda_{\text{max abs}}$ (nm)	452	447	446	446	448
$\epsilon^{\lambda_{\text{max}}}$ ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$)	19400	19300	19200	19500	16200
$\lambda_{\text{max Em}}$ (nm)	613	598	599	597	608
$\phi_{\text{aer}}^{\text{a}}$	0.040	0.012	0.011	0.013	0.035
τ_{aer} (ns)	390	140	150	147	465
$\phi_{\text{deg}}^{\text{a}}$	0.122	0.052	0.054	0.024	0.063
τ_{deg} (ns)	1267	603	482	270	803
$k_{\text{q}}[\text{O}_2]$ ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$) ^b	3.9×10^9	2.9×10^9	2.2×10^9	1.5×10^9	3.1×10^9
k_{r} (s^{-1})	9.6×10^4	8.5×10^4	1.1×10^5	8.9×10^4	7.9×10^4
k_{nr} (s^{-1})	6.9×10^5	1.6×10^6	2.0×10^6	3.6×10^6	1.2×10^6

^aRelative quantum yields compared to $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$, $\phi = 0.042$ in degassed aqueous solution and 0.028 in aerated aqueous solution. ^b $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2)$ evaluated using Stern-Volmer eq. $\tau_0/\tau = 1 + k_{\text{q}}\tau_0[\text{O}_2]$. Errors: $\lambda_{\text{max abs}} \pm 2$ nm, $\epsilon \pm 10\%$, $\lambda_{\text{max em}} \pm 2$ nm, $\phi_{\text{em}} \pm 0.005$, $\tau \pm 10\%$, $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2) \pm 2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$, k_{r} and $k_{\text{nr}} \pm 30\%$.

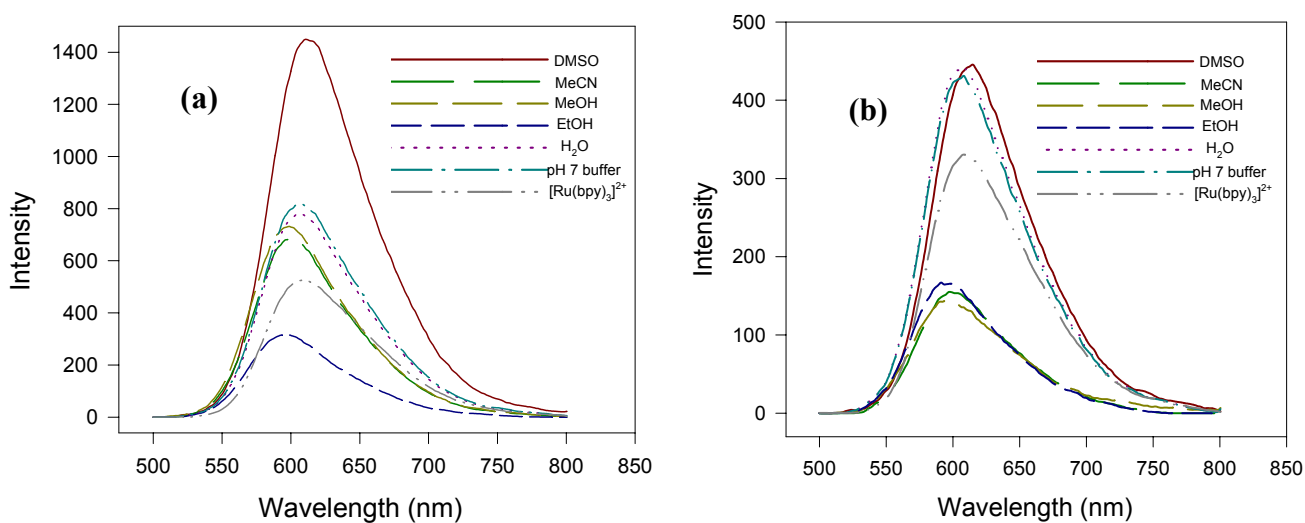


Figure S2. Emission spectra of **2** in degassed (a) and aerated (b) solutions. (Excitation at $\lambda_{\text{max abs}}$ of the MLCT band)

Table S3. Photophysical properties of $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2(\text{Me}_2\text{dpq})]^{2+}$, **3**, in a range of solvents

	DMSO	MeCN	MeOH	EtOH	pH 7 tris buffer
$\lambda_{\text{max abs}} \text{ (nm)}$	452	447	446	447	448
$\varepsilon^{\lambda_{\text{max}}} \text{ (M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}\text{)}$	19200	19000	19400	19200	15400
$\lambda_{\text{max Em}} \text{ (nm)}$	610	597	593	592	605
$\phi_{\text{aer}}^{\text{a}}$	0.042	0.011	0.014	0.010	0.041
$\tau_{\text{aer}} \text{ (ns)}$	376	122	137	141	545
$\phi_{\text{deg}}^{\text{a}}$	0.117	0.047	0.040	0.019	0.080
$\tau_{\text{deg}} \text{ (ns)}$	1199	544	425	270	1078
$k_{\text{q}}[\text{O}_2] \text{ (M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}\text{)}^{\text{b}}$	4.0×10^9	3.3×10^9	2.4×10^9	1.6×10^9	3.1×10^9
$k_{\text{r}} \text{ (s}^{-1}\text{)}$	9.8×10^4	8.6×10^4	9.4×10^4	7.0×10^4	7.4×10^4
$k_{\text{nr}} \text{ (s}^{-1}\text{)}$	7.4×10^5	1.8×10^6	2.3×10^6	3.4×10^6	8.5×10^5

^a Relative quantum yields compared to $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$, $\phi = 0.042$ in degassed aqueous solution and 0.028 in aerated aqueous solution. ^b $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2)$ evaluated using Stern-Volmer eq. $\tau_0/\tau = 1 + k_{\text{q}}\tau_0[\text{O}_2]$. Errors: $\lambda_{\text{max abs}} \pm 2 \text{ nm}$, $\varepsilon \pm 10 \%$, $\lambda_{\text{max em}} \pm 2 \text{ nm}$, $\phi_{\text{em}} \pm 0.005$, $\tau \pm 10 \%$, $k_{\text{q}}(\text{O}_2) \pm 2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$, k_{r} and $k_{\text{nr}} \pm 30\%$.

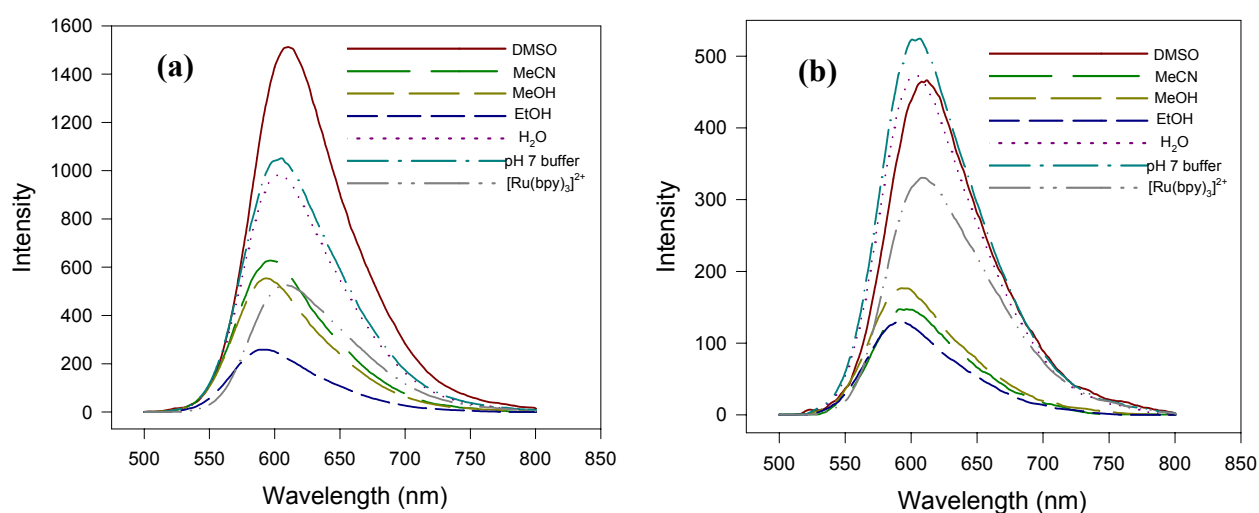


Figure S3. Emission spectra of **3** in degassed (a) and aerated (b) solutions. (Excitation at $\lambda_{\text{max abs}}$ of the MLCT band)