

## Supplementary material for

### **Ru-Based Donor-Acceptor Photosensitizer that Retards Charge Recombination in a p-type Dye-sensitized Solar Cell**

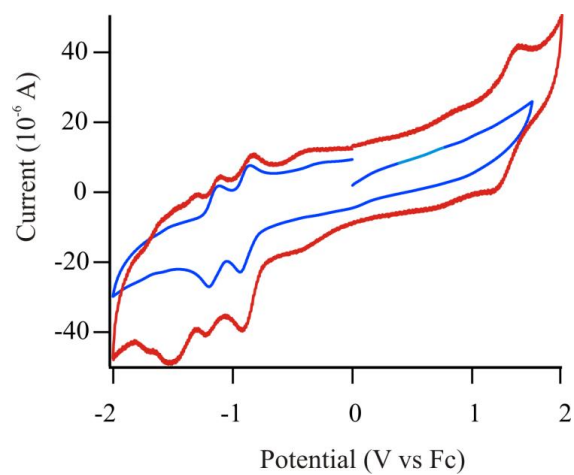
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**Figure S1** : cyclic voltammograms of NMI (blue line), [Ru(dcb)<sub>2</sub>(NMI-phen)] (red line) in acetonitrile solution with TBAPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte and all the potentials are referenced relative to Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>.

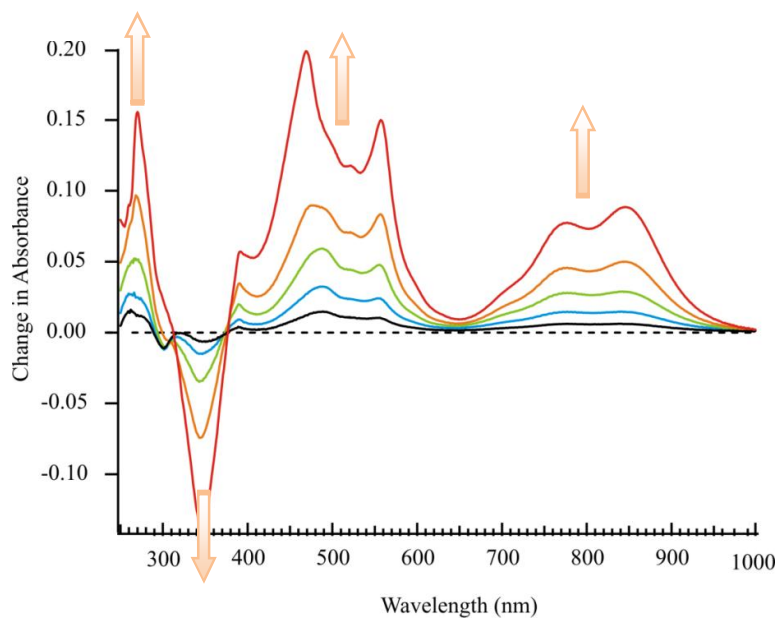


Figure S2 : absorption spectra of NMI in one minute intervals with an applied potential of -1.0V in acetonitrile at room temperature.

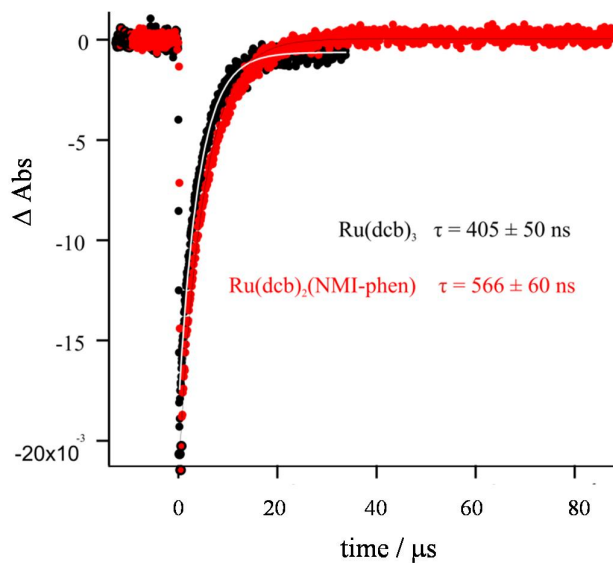
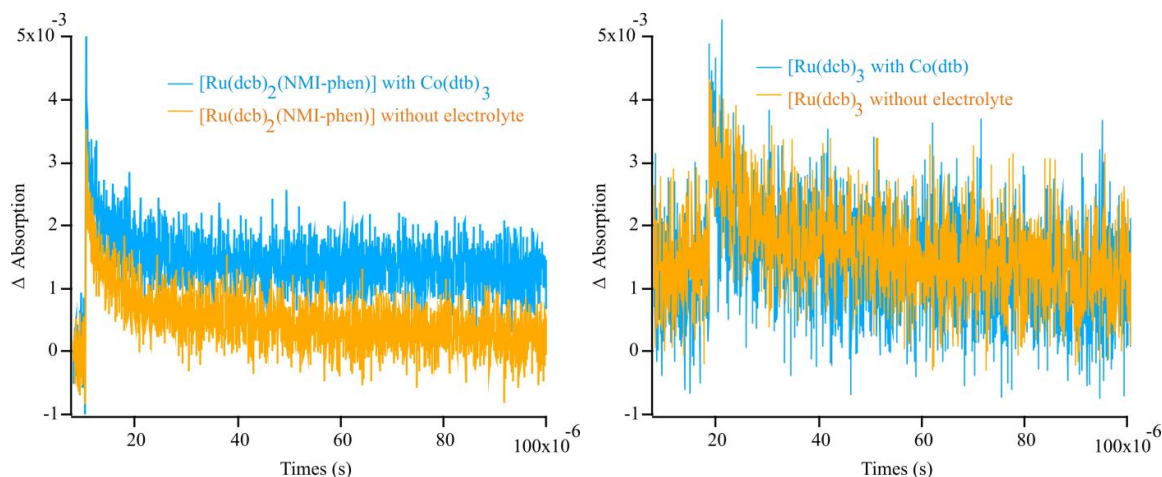
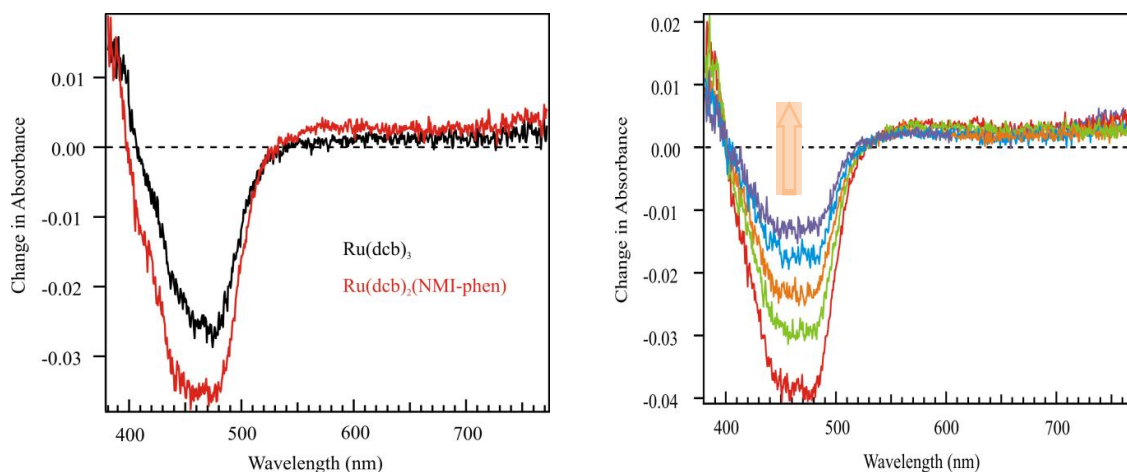


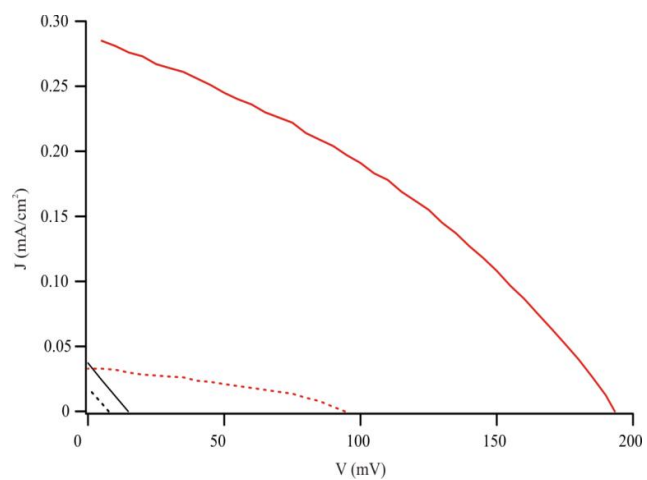
Figure S3 : Excited state lifetime measurements from ground state bleach recovery after excitation at 470 nm in room temperature degassed acetonitrile/water solution for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_3]$  (black dots) and  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]$  (red dots). The slightly longer excited state lifetime for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]^{2+}$  can be attributed to the somewhat different electronic effects of phen and dcb ligands.



**Figure S4 :** (left plot) Abs kinetics (pump = 460 nm, probe = 510 nm) at room temperature for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]^{2+}$  on NiO with (blue) and without (yellow)  $\text{Co}(\text{dtb})_3$  in acetonitrile. (right plot) Abs kinetics excited at (pump = 460 nm, probe = 510 nm) room temperature for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_3]^{2+}$  on NiO with (blue) and without (yellow)  $\text{Co}(\text{dtb})_3$  in acetonitrile. Parameters for the fits are listed in tables 3 (yellow, without redox active electrolyte) and 4 (blue, with  $\text{Co}(\text{dtb})_3$ ).



**Figure S5 :** (left plot) Transient absorption for  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_3]^{2+}$  (black line) and  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]^{2+}$  (red line) 100 ns after excitation at 470 nm in degassed acetonitrile, (right plot) Transient absorption spectra of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]^{2+}$  in a degassed acetonitrile/water solution 100 ns (red), 200 ns (green), 300 ns (orange), 400 ns (blue) and 500 ns (purple) after excitation. In solution, there is no significant difference in behavior between the two complexes and no indication of reduction of the NMI unit in  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]^{2+}$ .



**Figure S6** : Current-voltage characteristics of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_3]$  (black line),  $[\text{Ru}(\text{dcb})_2(\text{NMI-phen})]$  (red line) respectively recorded under AM 1.5 (full line) and in the dark (dashed line).