Electronic Supplemental Information for:

# Ligand-based Photooxidations of Dithiomaltolato Complexes of Ru(II) and Zn(II): Photolytic CH Activation and Evidence of Singlet Oxygen Generation and Quenching

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## SM1. Crystallographic Data for Httma

**Table S1.** Structural data for Httma, numbered as indicated in figure below, with two molecules re

 within the unit cell.

Bond	(Å)
S(1)-C(1)	1.6900(16)
S(2)-C(4)	1.6903(19)
S(2)-C(3)	1.7110(17)
O(1)-C(2)	1.3544(19)
C(1)-C(5)	1.421(2)
C(1)-C(2)	1.439(2)
C(2)-C(3)	1.372(2)
C(4)-C(5)	1.360(2)
C(3)-C(6)	1.499(2)

S(3)-C(7)	1.6901(16)
S(4)-C(10)	1.6892(18)
S(4)-C(9)	1.7094(17)
O(2)-C(8)	1.3550(19)
C(7)-C(11)	1.422(2)
C(7)-C(8)	1.441(2)
C(8)-C(9)	1.371(2)
C(10)- C(11)	1.356(2)
C(9)-C(12)	1.505(2)





### SM2.Comparison of crystallographic data for ttma moiety

Scheme S2. ttma numbering



Table S2A. Comparison of ttma bond lengths

Bond	Httma		4		1
S(1)-C(1)	1.6900(16)	1.6901(16)	1.732(3)	1.720(3)	1.70832
S(2)-C(4)	1.6903(19)	1.6892(18)	1.679(3)	1.679(3)	1.68526
S(2)-C(3)	1.7110(17)	1.7094(17)	1.686(3)	1.695(3)	1.69077
O(1)-C(2)	1.3544(19)	1.3550(19)	1.309(3)	1.301(3)	1.29534
C(1)-C(5)	1.421(2)	1.422(2)	1.410(4)	1.411(4)	1.42183
C(1)-C(2)	1.439(2)	1.441(2)	1.440(4)	1.452(4)	1.44574
C(2)-C(3)	1.372(2)	1.371(2)	1.409(4)	1.398(4)	1.40207
C(3)-C(6)	1.499(2)	1.505(2)	1.503(4)	1.500(4)	1.51495
C(4)-C(5)	1.360(2)	1.356(2)	1.374(4)	1.360(5)	1.33729

Table S2B. Statistical comparison of ring C-C bond lengths in ttma moieties.

	Httma	1	4
Total Values	8	4	8
Mean	1.39775	1.40173	1.40675
Standard deviation	0.03635	0.04652	0.03052
Variance	0.00132	0.00216	0.00093

Mean (M) = sum of X values / n (number of values); standard deviation (SD)=  $(\Sigma(X-M)^2/n-1)^{1/2}$ ; variance = (SD)<sup>2</sup>

### SM3. Photolytic dissociation of compound 1 at room temperature

**Photolysis of**  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  in H<sub>2</sub>O. Photolysis of  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  in H<sub>2</sub>O but in the absence of an electron transfer agent at room temperature leads to displacement of the ttma ligand to form the [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)(OH)]<sup>+</sup> complex, detected by UV-vis and ESI-MS analysis. This is not an unusual behavior for Ru(diimine)<sub>2</sub> complexes and there are several reports in the literature where these complexes form similar Ru(II)-aqua species in the presence of water (Figure S3).<sup>1,2,3</sup>



**Figure S3.** (Right) Sequential electronic spectrum of  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  during photolysis in CH<sub>3</sub>CN and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O. (Left) ESI-MS studies of  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  after photolysis (in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O) shows the formation of  $[Ru(bpy)_2(H_2O)(OH)]^+$  m/z = 490.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Petroni, A.; Slep, L. D.; Etchenique, R. *Inorg. Chem.* **2008**, *47*, 951-956.
 <sup>2</sup> Hurst, J. K. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2005**, *249*, 313-328.
 <sup>3</sup> Zhang, H.; Rajesh, C. S.; Dutta, P. K. J. Phys. Chem A. **2008**, *112*, 808-817



### SM4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR comparison of compounds 1, 3 and 4.

**Figure S4**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of complex **1**, **3** and **4** recorded in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at room temp. Spectrum of **3** is as isolated from flash-quench oxidation of **1** using  $Co(NH_3)_5Cl_3$ , and is identical to that determined for **3** isolated from dark oxidations of **1** using DDQ and IBX.

		U		
Complex	H1	H2	H avg	
Ru*tma	7.65	7.29	7.47	
1	7.97	7.52	7.745	
2	-	-	-	
3	8.05	7.76	7.905	
4	7.71	7.59	7.65	
4	8.41	7.55	7.98	

Table S4. NMR Peak Assignments



### SM5. MS analysis of soluble products obtained after photo-oxidations of 4.

**Figure S5**. Direct infusion mass spectra of **4** photolyzed in presence of  $Co(NH_3)_5Cl_3$  (**a**), DDQ (**b**), and simulated spectra with mass tolerance < 15ppm (**c**) of elemental composition identified by Thermo Xcalibur Qual Browser

#### SM6. Steady State Quenching Experiments of 1.

Quenching of the 410 nm fluorescence of  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  by methylviologen (MV<sup>2+</sup>) was investigated by steady state measurements. Five samples of the complex were prepared as MeOH/EtOH solutions with MV<sup>2+</sup> concentrations between 0 and 11 mM. Stern-Volmer plots of the observed decrease in emission intensity with an increase in the quencher concentration showed a good linear relationship with an intercept of 1. The oxidative-quenching rate constant  $k_q$  could be calculated using eq. 1, eq. 2 and the emission lifetime of the complex in the absence of quencher,  $\tau_{em}$ .



**Figure S6A** Left) Quenching of luminescent emission for  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  at 595 nm: solid line, emission intensity without addition of  $MV^{2+}$ ; dotted line, after addition of excess of  $MV^{2+}$ . Right) Stern-Volmer plot of quenching data.



**Figure S6B** Left: spectra showing quenching of  $Zn(ttma)_2$  (0.132 mM),  $\lambda_{em}$ = 450 nm with  $[MV]^{2+}$  (26.3  $\mu$ M, dotted line in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>3</sub>OH). Right: spectra showing increase in intensity of  $Zn(ttma)_2$ ,  $\lambda_{em}$ = 450 nm at 77 °K (dotted line, 26.3  $\mu$ M in EtOH/MeOH).

### SM7. Singlet oxygen quenching by compound 1.

Quenching of Singlet Oxygen by  $[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+$  Excitation wavelength: 532 nm. External sensitizer: Rose Bengal. For quenching of singlet oxygen in solution, we can use the modified Stern-Vollmer equation

 $k(obsd) = k_d + k_t [[Ru(bpy)_2(ttma)]^+]$ 

where  $k_d = \text{decay rate of singlet oxygen in the solvent (CD<sub>3</sub>OD), and <math>k_t = \text{total rate of singlet oxygen removal by [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(ttma)]+. The intercept of the plots of k(obsd) vs. [[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(ttma)]+] are therefore the decay rate of singlet oxygen in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, and the slope is the value of <math>k_t$ , i.e. the quenching rate of singlet oxygen by [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(ttma)]+. The average value of  $k_t$  obtained from the three plots below is  $k_t = 5.0 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$ .



#### Quenching of Singlet Oxygen by [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(ttma)]<sup>+</sup>