

# Molecular Catalyst for H<sub>2</sub>O oxidation / CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

## ~ model for oxidation (reduction) center for Artificial Photosynthesis

### 0. Introduction

**@ Photosynthesis** the process that converts solar energy to chemical energy which can be used by biological systems.

**@ Solar energy** abundant, totally huge --- but difficult to use whole energy  
 ⇨ broad spectral

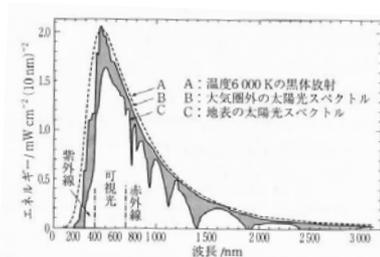


図 4.6 太陽エネルギーのスペクトル分布

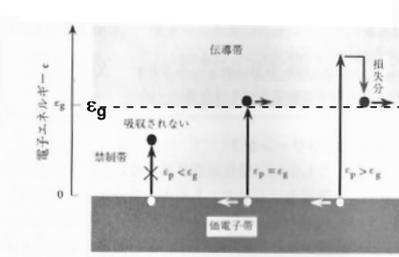


図 4.7 半導体の光吸収と禁制帯幅 ε<sub>g</sub>, 光子エネルギー ε<sub>p</sub> の関係

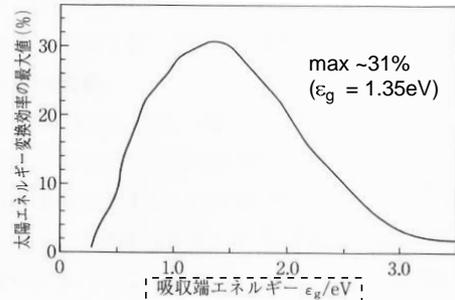


図 4.8 物質の吸収端エネルギーと太陽エネルギー変換効率の関係

< max conversion efficiency using solar light >

(吸収端)	(光化学系)	
• solar cell (silicon (ε <sub>g</sub> = 1.1eV) <25%)	→	<25%
• photosynthesis (antenna pigment (<690nm; ε <sub>g</sub> = 1.8eV) <24%)	× ( 2hν / 1e <sup>-</sup> : 4e <sup>-</sup> / 3ATP 4e <sup>-</sup> / 2NADPH <42%)	⇨ <10%
• water splitting (2H <sub>2</sub> O → O <sub>2</sub> + 2H <sub>2</sub> ) (<500nm)	× ( hν / 1e <sup>-</sup> : 4e <sup>-</sup> / 2H <sub>2</sub> 4e <sup>-</sup> / O <sub>2</sub> )	⇨ <8%

### @ Solar Energy Conversion

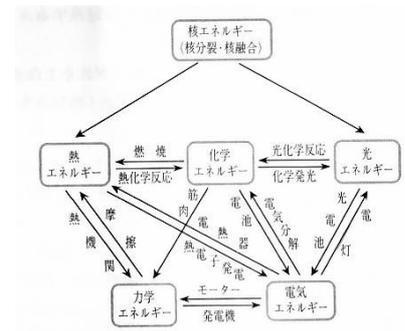
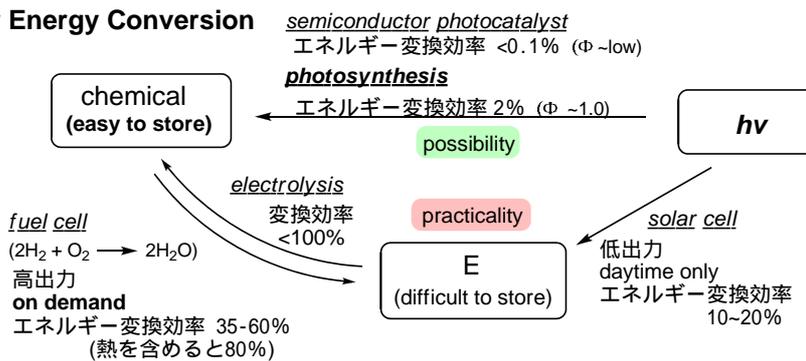


図 1.1 エネルギーのいろいろな形態と相互の変換

**Photosynthesis is a good model for converting solar energy to chemical energy without producing CO<sub>2</sub>.**

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## 1. About Photosynthesis

### 1-1. Green plants' photosynthesis

#### @ In chloroplast (葉緑体)

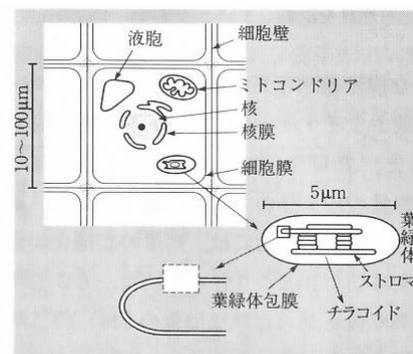
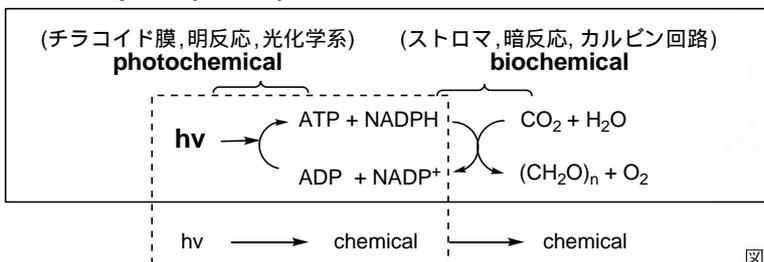
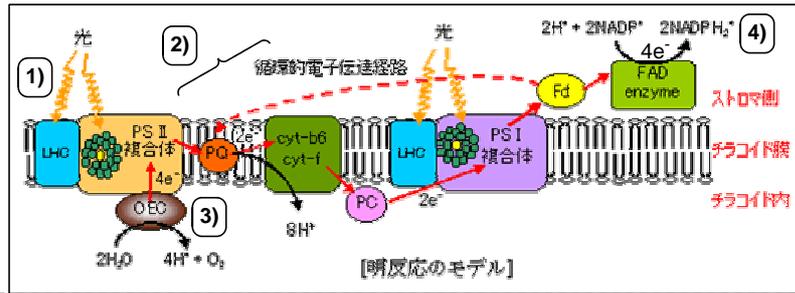
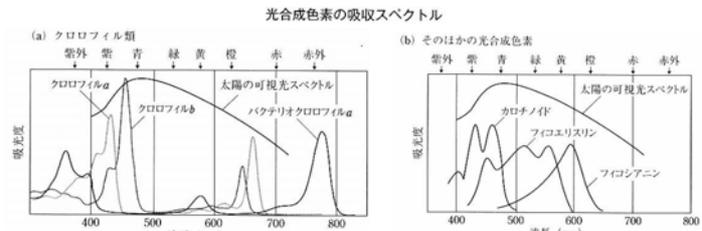
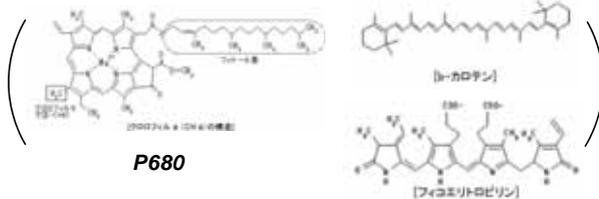


図 5.2 光合成の起こる場 (細胞→葉緑体→チラコイド膜の拡大)



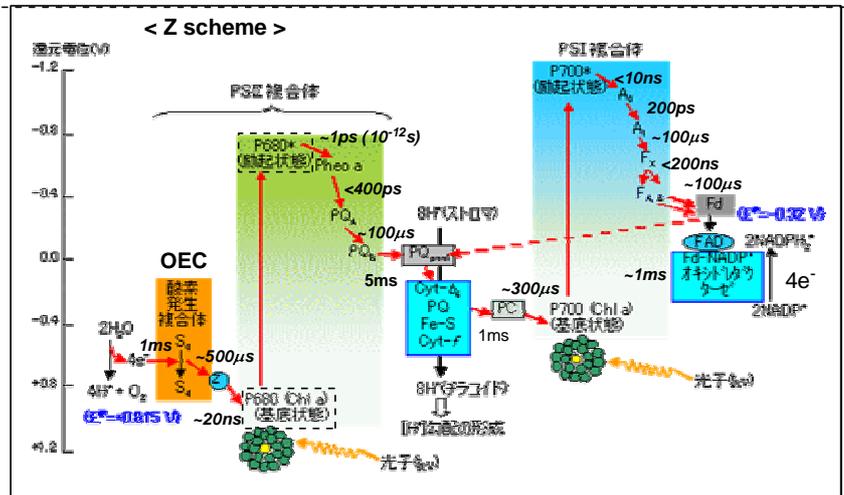
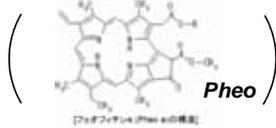
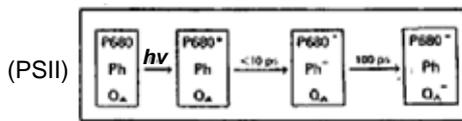
1) Light is gathered efficiently by LHC (Light Harvesting Complex)

- chlorophyll +
- pheophytin
- carotenoid
- phycobilin etc.

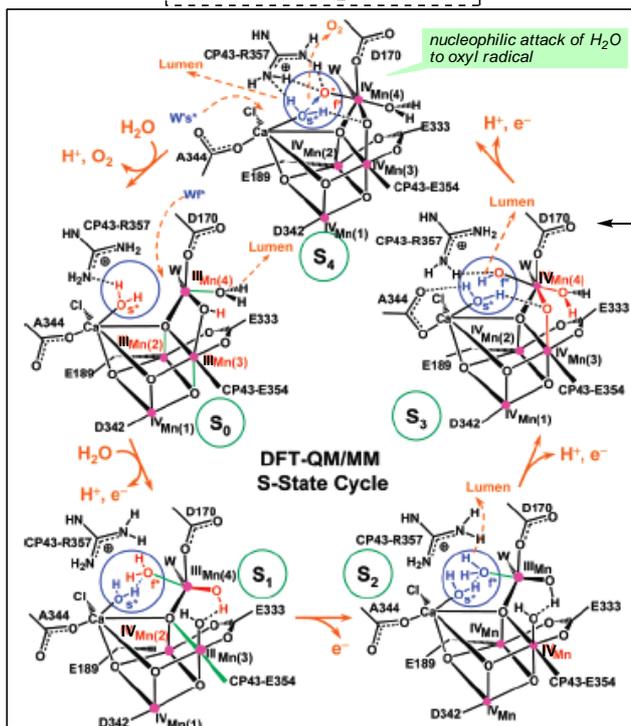
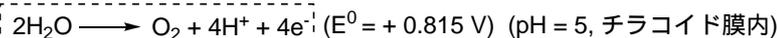


2) In reaction center, photoenergy is stored in a charge-separation (CS)

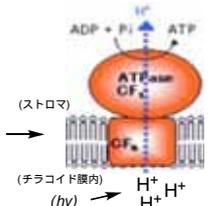
> to avoid charge recombination (CR) very fast electron transfer occurs.



3) H<sub>2</sub>O is 4 electron oxidized by OEC (Oxygen Evolving Complex, Mn-cluster) and O<sub>2</sub> is generated



(H<sup>+</sup> gradient is generated and used for ATP synthesis)



- Mn<sub>3</sub>CaO<sub>4</sub>Mn complex
- Rate 50 molecule O<sub>2</sub> / s

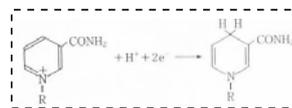
Catalytic cycle of water splitting suggested by DFT QM/MM models of the OEC of PSII.

V. S. Batista et al. (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2008, 130, 3428.)

(Dashed arrows indicate transformations leading to the following S state in the cycle.)  
 The circles highlight substrate water molecules.

cf) There are many possibilities.  
 (*Chem. Rev.* 2001, 101, 21) (*Chem. Rev.* 2006, 106, 4455)

4) NADP<sup>+</sup> is 2 electron reduced and NADPH is generated at the end (it is used for CO<sub>2</sub> reduction in some biochemical cycle...etc)

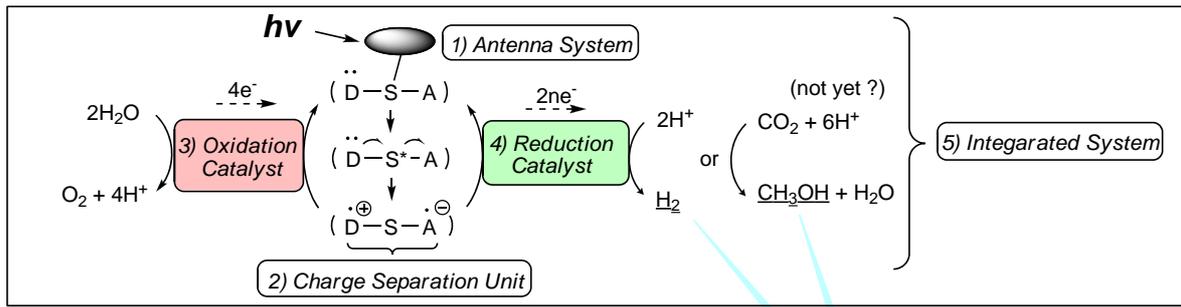


(E<sup>0</sup> = -0.32 V) (pH = 8, チラコイド膜外)

# 1-2. Toward artificial photosynthesis

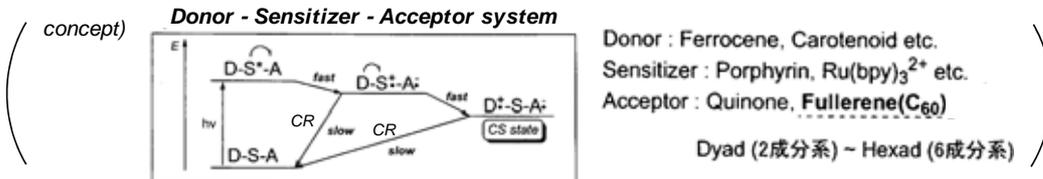
- > omitting further biochemical energy conversions (Of course, they are interesting research areas.)
- > using H<sub>2</sub>O as electron donor (H<sub>2</sub>O oxidation) is reasonable.
- > making useful chemical energy (for human) at the reduction center is desirable.

## @ simple molecular system for artificial photosynthesis



< requirement > (See Lit. Dr. Oisaki (M1))

- (1) → • possessing high absorption in visible light "Harvesting Device of Visible Light"
- stable toward photo-decomposition
- (2) → • properly long lifetime (τ) "Photoenergy Storage Device Possessing CS Ability"
- sufficiently high energy content
- higher quantum yield (Φ), higher energy conversion efficiency

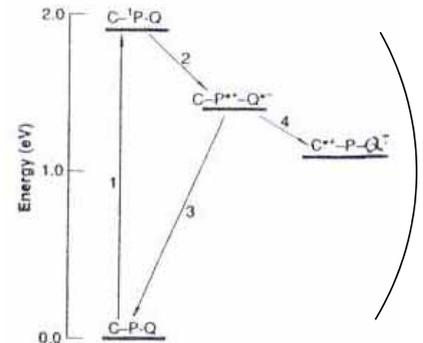
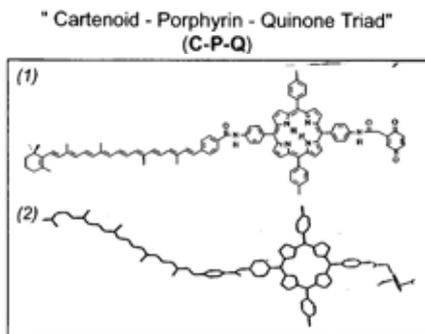


# pioneering work

by T. A. Moore, D. Gust et al  
(Nature 1984, 307, 630-632)

lifetime = 300ns (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) / 3μs (CH<sub>3</sub>CN) /  
(τ) = 2.5μs (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> sat. with nBu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub>)

quantum yield (Φ) = -0.04 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>3</sub>CN) /  
-0.25 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> sat. with nBu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub>)



# progressive work by S. Fukuzumi et al.

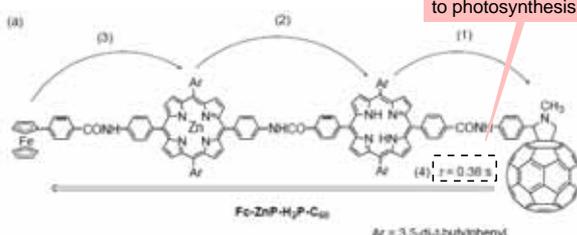
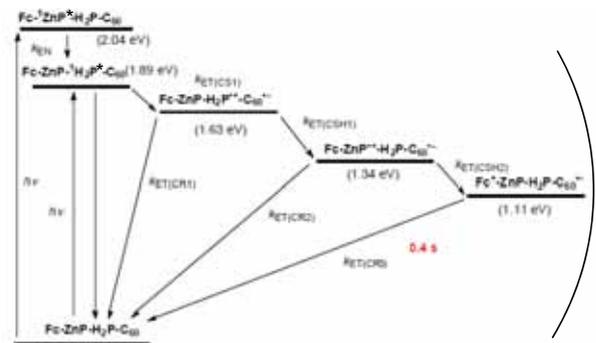


図9. 4分子連結系: (a) Fe-ZnP-H<sub>2</sub>P-C<sub>60</sub>; (1)-(3)は多段階電子移動による電荷分離過程, (4)は電荷再結合過程を示す (JACS, 2001, 123, 6617).

comparable in CS life time to photosynthesis center

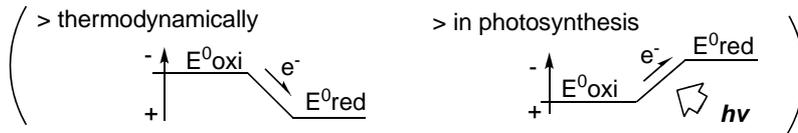
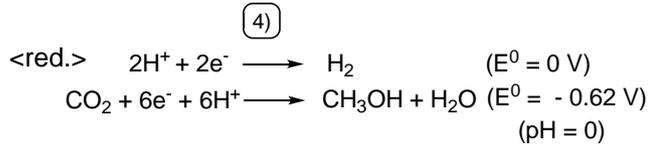
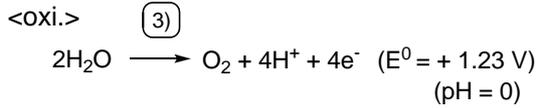


- (3) →  $2\text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{O}_2 + 4\text{H}^+ + 4\text{e}^-$  (reaction itself difficult)
- (section 2)
- multi-electrons donor (acceptor)
- stable under highly oxidizing (reducing) conditions

- (4) →  $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{H}_2$
- (section 3)
- $\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{e}^- + 6\text{H}^+ \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

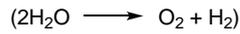
- (5) → • appropriate oxidation-reduction potential at both site
- (section 4)
- minimum energy loss
- higher energy conversion efficiency / lower cost than bio-photosynthesis totally

@ occurring reaction

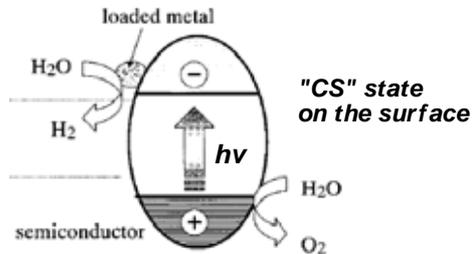


cf) semiconductor photocatalyst (section 4)

simple system for water splitting by  $h\nu$



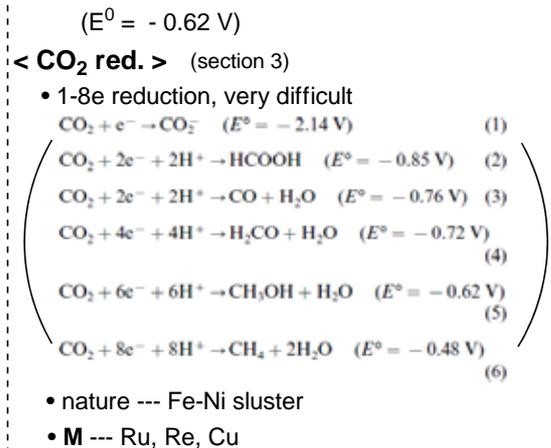
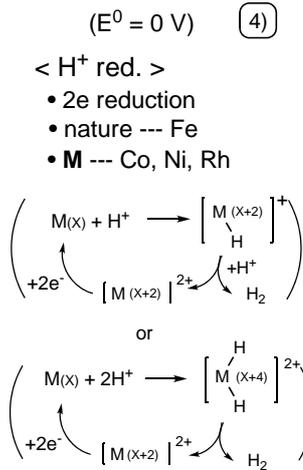
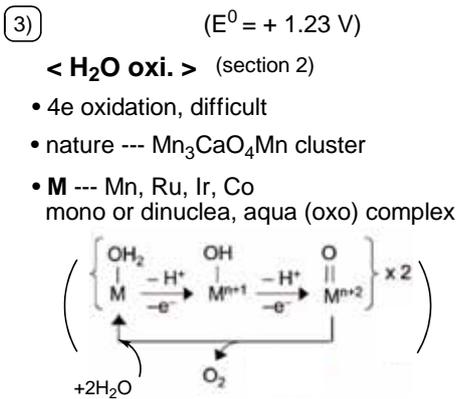
- bad response for visible light ( $\lambda > 500 \text{ nm}$ )
- low quantum yield ( $\Phi$ ) < 10% (low energy conversion efficiency)



@ molecular catalyst

Homogeneous, simple catalyst is hardly applied.

- a) multi-electrons donor (acceptor) at one catalytic cycle
  - b) stable under highly oxidizing (reducing) conditions which causes most chemical functional groups to degrade
  - c) high efficiency
  - d) cheap, easily prepared
- are desirable

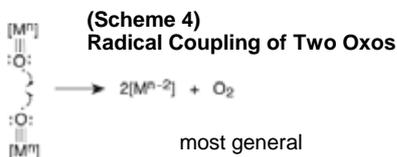
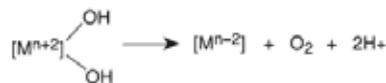


< combining oxi. and red. > (section 4)  
 • finding appropriate mediator

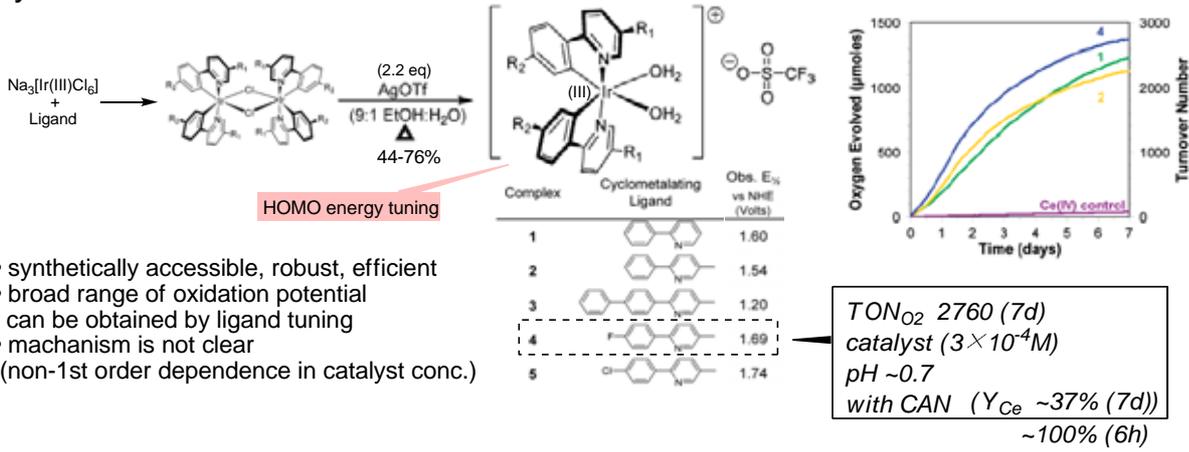
cf) mechanistic possibilities of  $\text{O}_2$  evolving from metal oxos (PNAS, 2006, 103, 15729.)



(Scheme 5) Reductive Elimination of bis Hydroxos or bis  $\mu$ -Oxos unknown







- synthetically accessible, robust, efficient
- broad range of oxidation potential can be obtained by ligand tuning
- mechanism is not clear (non-1st order dependence in catalyst conc.)

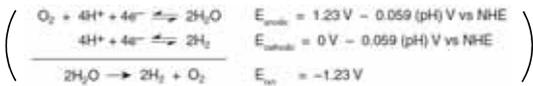
Next Challenge ~ without noble metal homogeneous photocatalytic water oxidation

2-4. New amorphous catalyst for water electrolysis

In Situ Formation of an Oxygen-Evolving Catalyst in Neutral Water Containing Phosphate and Co<sup>2+</sup>

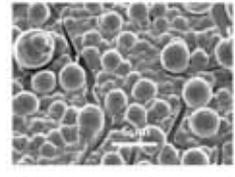
(Science 2008, 321, 1072)  
(Science (News this week) 2008, 321, 620)

Matthew W. Kanan and Daniel G. Nocera\*



Co(II)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
pH 7 (potassium phosphate buffer)  
E = +1.29V (@ITO)

continuous O<sub>2</sub> evolving from a dark coating on the ITO surface



(SEM image of coating)

utilize as electrochemical catalyst

> easily prepared, earth-abundant catalysts that oxidize water.

- (i) forming from **earth-abundant metal ions in aqueous solution**
  - (ii) a plausible pathway for self-repair
  - (iii) a carrier for protons in neutral water
  - (iv) the generation of O<sub>2</sub> at low overpotential, **neutral pH, 1 atm, and room temperature**
- "elements of natural photosynthesis"

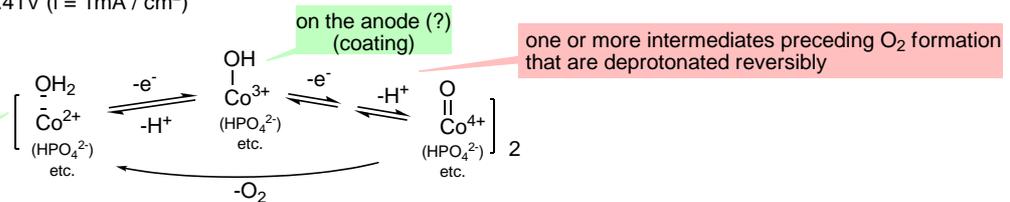
< other >

> O<sub>2</sub> (3.0mg, 95µmol) was produced by cat. (~0.2mg) in 10h  $\Rightarrow$  TON<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub> 143 (10h) (E = 1.29 V)  
(Rate<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>  $4 \times 10^{-3}$ /s) (触媒をCo<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>KO<sub>7</sub>Pと仮定)

> overpotential ( $\eta$ ) ~0.32V (i = 0.1mA / cm<sup>2</sup>) relatively low  
0.41V (i = 1mA / cm<sup>2</sup>)

> mechanism? (簡単のため)

in solution (?)



< Requirement for electrode in practical sense >

- > low overpotential  $\rightarrow$  過電圧( $\eta$ ): 電極電位とその反応の平衡電極電位との差 (ある程度の反応を進行させるのに必要)
- > neutral (pH ~7) (反応物質の吸着・電子授受・結合の開裂・表面拡散・新たな結合の形成・生成物の脱着などを総合した活性化エネルギーを反映)
- > without noble metal

表 7.1 水の電解に関する過電圧の概略値 (i = 0.1 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> のとき)

水素発生		酸素発生	
電極	過電圧の絶対値	電極	過電圧の絶対値
Pt	0.03 V	RuO <sub>2</sub>	0.1 V
Fe	0.3	Fe	0.3
Cu	0.4	Ni	0.4
Zn	0.8	黒鉛	0.4
Hg	0.9	Ag	0.4
Pb	1.0	Pt	0.6

so far...

- first-row spinel and perovskite metal oxides moderate overpotentials (<0.4V) concentrated basic solutions (pH > 13)
- precious metals and precious metal oxides similar efficiencies acidic conditions (pH < 1)

< Co<sup>2+</sup> >

Co<sup>2+</sup> + Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> in neutral phosphate solutions can catalyze water oxidation. (E<sup>0</sup> = +1.26V) ...but oxidized Co species were precipitated gradually.

V. Y. Shafirovich et al. (Nouv. J. Chim. 1980, 4, 81)  
C. Creutz, N. Sustin et al. (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1983, 105, 4832)

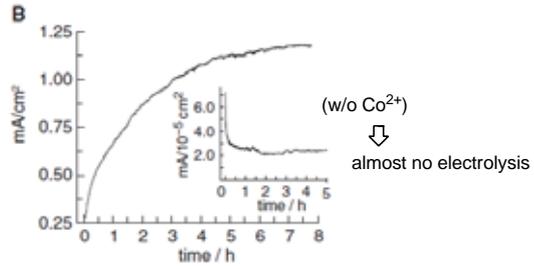
Can precipitation be exploited for electrolysis?

< This paper >

> Indium tin oxide (ITO) (a minimal background activity for O<sub>2</sub> production)

E = + 1.29 V  
 +  
 Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mM)  
 +  
 potassium phosphate (0.1 M, pH 7.0; KPi electrolyte)

↓  
 a dark coating on the ITO surface  
 effervescence becomes increasingly vigorous  
 (気泡) (same results with CoSO<sub>4</sub>, Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, or Co(OTf)<sub>2</sub>)  
 ↓  
 O<sub>2</sub>



(B) Current density profile for bulk electrolysis at 1.29 V (versus NHE) in 0.1 M KPi electrolyte at pH 7.0 containing 0.5 mM Co<sup>2+</sup>.

cf) >40 C are passed over 8 hours (all the Co<sup>2+</sup> → Co<sup>3+</sup> requires 1.9 C) ⇒ **in situ formation of an oxygen evolving catalyst**

< What is this coating ? >

> morphology

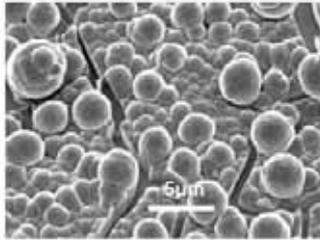


Fig. 2A. SEM image (30° tilt) of the electrodeposited catalyst after 30 C/cm<sup>2</sup> were passed in KPi (0.1 M, pH 7.0) containing Co<sup>2+</sup> (0.5 mM). The ITO substrate can be seen through cracks in the dried film.

- The film thickness gradually increases. At maximum activity, the film is >2μm thick.
- The x-ray powder diffraction pattern shows broad amorphous features. No peaks indicative of crystalline phases

> composition

- Energy-dispersive x-ray analysis (EDX) spectra  
 Co, P, K, and O as the principal elemental (2~3 : 1 : 1)
- Microanalytical elemental analysis  
 (Co:P:K) = (2.1 : 1.0 : 0.8)

> surface

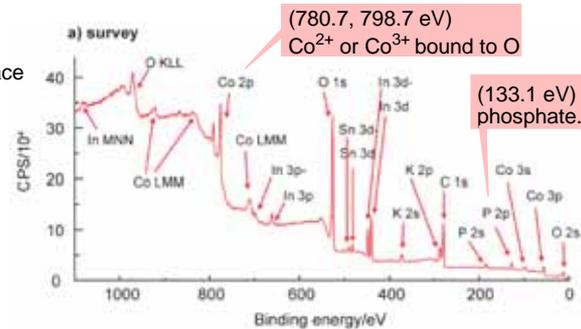
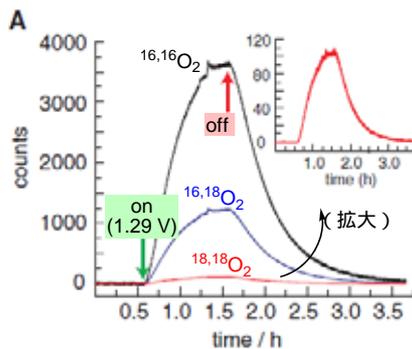


Fig. S2. XPS spectra of the electrodeposited film

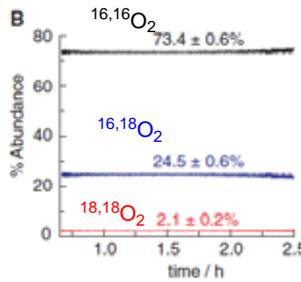
⇒ **an amorphous Co oxide or hydroxide incorporating a substantial amount of phosphate anion at a stoichiometric ratio of (Co : P : K) = (~2 : 1 : 1)**

< Is O<sub>2</sub> really derived from water ? >

• prepared catalyst coatings (1.3 cm<sup>2</sup>, stored under ambient laboratory conditions) were used following experiments.

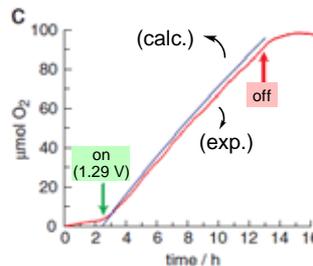


(Fig. 3A) Mass spectrometric detection of isotopically labeled O<sub>2</sub> during electrolysis of a catalyst film on ITO in a KPi electrolyte containing 14.6% <sup>18</sup>OH<sub>2</sub>.



(Fig. 3B) abundance of each isotope over the course of the experiment.

same as statistical abundances (72.9, 24.9, and 2.1%)



(Fig. 3C) O<sub>2</sub> production measured by fluorescent sensor (exp.) and by calculation (calc.)

Faradic efficiency ~ 100%.

all of the current was caused by 4e<sup>-</sup> oxidation of water to produce O<sub>2</sub>

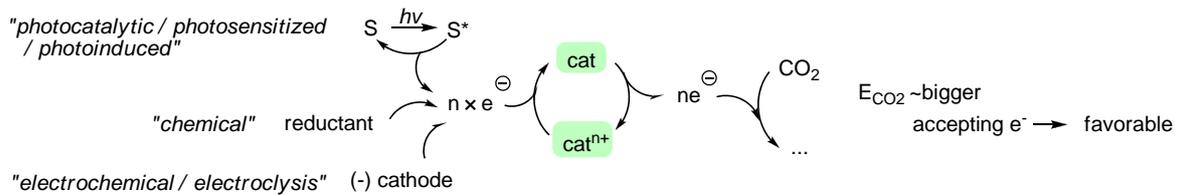
- phosphate is stable (<sup>31</sup>P NMR after stoichiometric(?) electrolysis).

⇒ **electrodeposited catalyst cleanly oxidizes H<sub>2</sub>O to O<sub>2</sub> in neutral KPi solutions.**

X線光電子分光 (X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy: XPS)

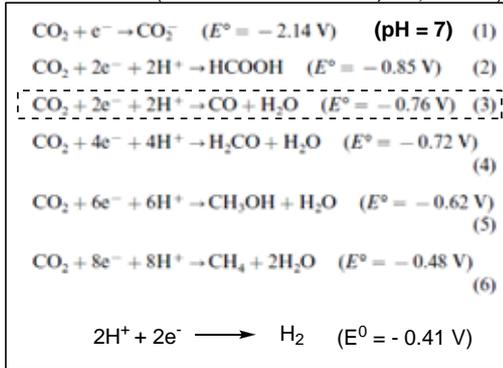
試料にX線を照射した時に起こる光電効果により放出される電子の運動エネルギーを測定することにより内殻電子の結合エネルギーを測定する手法がX線光電子分光 (X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy: XPS) である。表面に存在する原子種とその量、結合状態を知ることができる。具体的には、SAMなどの超薄膜の膜厚や分子の吸着形態などをXPSを用いて調べている。

### 3. CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction by Molecular Catalyst



#### 3-1. CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction

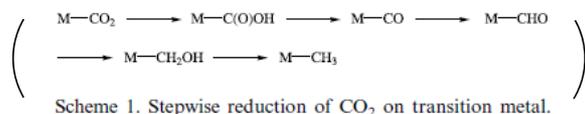
(Coord. Chem. Rev. 2002, 226, 211-218)



- (a) might be important for global warming
- (b) very difficult (multielectron transfer)
  - > more electron reduction, more energetically-favored
  - But **controlling number of electrons is difficult.**
- (c) **Reduction of protons to H<sub>2</sub> is competitive** (more thermodynamically favored)

#### transition metal catalyst

selective coordination of CO<sub>2</sub> to metal before reduction



Scheme 1. Stepwise reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> on transition metal.

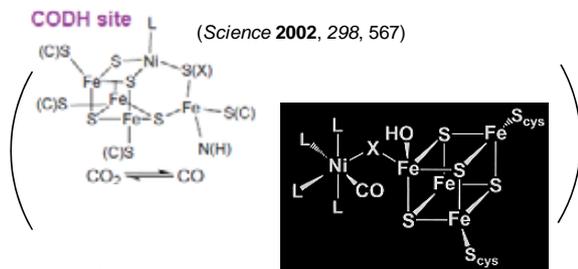
> d<sub>6</sub> metal (Ru(II), Re(I)) or Ni(II) is good for CO<sub>2</sub> to CO.  
 > Re(I) (CO)<sub>3</sub> is exceptionally good (acts as reduction-catalyst and photosensitizer)

#### 3-2. CO<sub>2</sub> to CO

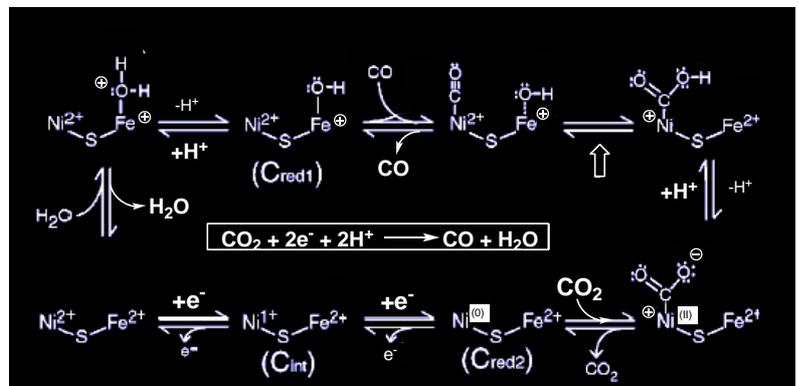
< In nature >

- > In *Moorella thermoacetica* (酢酸生産菌) [Ni-L-Fe<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub>] cluster (in carbon monoxide dehydrogenase/acetyl-CoA synthase (CODH/ACS))

bifunctional { reversible reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to CO  
 synthesis of acetyl-CoA from CO & CoA



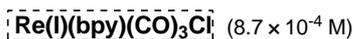
B. Wilson homepage (<http://research.uvsc.edu/wilson/CODH.htm>)



"CODH remains notably the most efficient catalyst for this reduction" (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 14688)

< Early example >

- > Re(I)(CO)<sub>3</sub> acts both as photosensitizer and as reduction catalyst

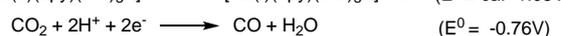
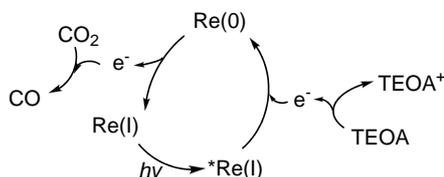


1 atm CO<sub>2</sub>, in DMF-TEOA((HOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>N) (5:1)  
 250W halogen lamp, >400nm, 4h  
 TON<sub>CO</sub> 30 quantum yield ?

J.-M. Lehn et al. (J. C. S. Chem. Commun. 1983, 536)

- efficient generation of CO, no detectable amount of H<sub>2</sub> (H<sub>2</sub> was formed in the absence of CO<sub>2</sub>)
- the activity of the system decreases slowly with time (due to labilization of ligand species)

(supposed cycle)



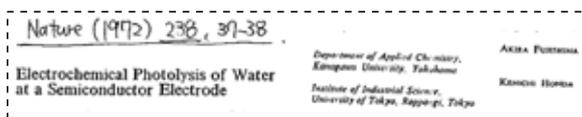


## 4. Integrated System

energy uptake oxi./red. reaction by  $h\nu$   
 $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as electron source

### 4-1. semiconductor material

> originally reported by Honda and Fujishima  
 $\text{TiO}_2$  ( $\lambda = 380\sim 413$  nm)

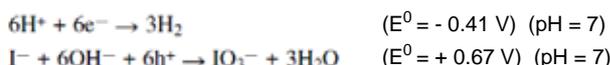


> many efforts toward improvements of semiconductor materials "one step mechanism"

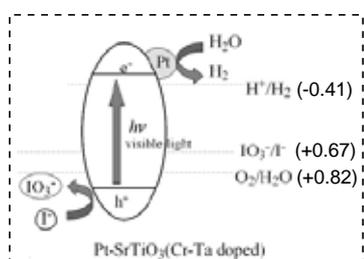
> first example of water splitting under **visible light** ( $\lambda > 420$  nm) "two step mechanism" "artificial Z scheme"

**Stoichiometric water splitting into  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  using a mixture of two different photocatalysts and an  $\text{IO}_3^-/\text{I}^-$  shuttle redox mediator under visible light irradiation** K. Sayama, H. Arakawa et al. (*Chem. Comm.* 2001, 2416.) Review (表面科学 2003, 24, 19.)

@ finding appropriate reversible electron donor ( $\text{I}^-$ ) is important

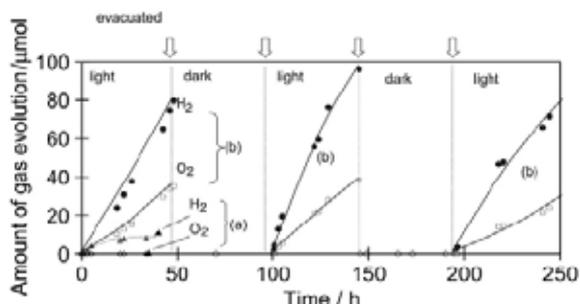


< red. >



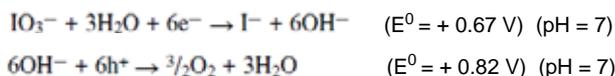
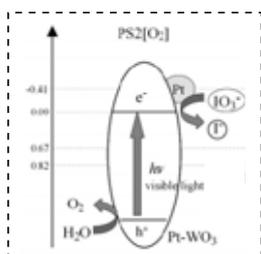
- Pt-loaded  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  (Cr-Ta doped) is best.  
Pt is co-catalyst  
no oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (only oxidation of  $\text{I}^-$ )
- The initial rate of  $\text{H}_2$  evolution was  $0.8 \mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$   
but the evolution rate decreased gradually and stopped after 20 h (**Fig. 1(a)**).  
Activity was recovered by replacing rxn. solution with a new NaI  
 $\text{H}_2$  formation was significantly suppressed ( $< 0.1 \mu\text{mol h}^{-1}$ )  
when a small amount of  $\text{NaIO}_3$  ( $0.1 \text{ mmol l}^{-1}$ ) was added

⇒ **accumulation of  $\text{IO}_3^-$  inhibits  $\text{H}^+$  reduction**  
(du to competitive  $\text{IO}_3^-$  reduction on Pt (?))



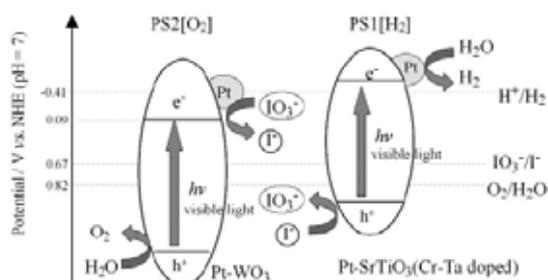
**Fig. 1** Reaction time course of the photocatalytic splitting of water into  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  under visible light ( $\lambda > 420$  nm, 3.1 W, window area:  $16 \text{ cm}^2$ ). (a) 0.2 g of Pt(0.3 wt%)- $\text{SrTiO}_3$  doped with Cr and Ta (both 1 mol% of Ti) was suspended in the NaI aqueous reaction solution ( $100 \text{ mmol l}^{-1}$ , 250 ml,  $\text{pH} = 7.0$ ). (b) Both 0.2 g of Pt(0.3 wt%)- $\text{SrTiO}_3$  doped with Cr and Ta (both 1 mol% of Ti) and 0.2 g of Pt(1 wt%)- $\text{WO}_3$  were suspended in the NaI aqueous reaction solution ( $100 \text{ mmol l}^{-1}$ , 250 ml,  $\text{pH} = 7.0$ ). The magnetic stirring was continued during the light irradiation and in the dark.

< oxi. >



- Pt loaded  $\text{WO}_3$  is best.  
no reduction of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (only reduction of  $\text{IO}_3^-$ )
- $\text{I}^-$  oxidation by  $\text{h}^+$  in the valence band was very slow.

< mixing both catalyst >



- $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$  gases evolved under visible light ( $>440$ nm) (**Fig.1(B)**)
- stoichiometric water splitting more than 250 h.
- added Pt- $\text{WO}_3$  effectively eliminated the  $\text{IO}_3^-$  ion by reduction to  $\text{I}^-$   
concentration of  $\text{I}^-$  ( $100 \text{ mmol l}^{-1}$ ) did not change  
formation of the  $\text{IO}_3^-$  was negligible

(merit) • 2回に分けて励起 ( $\Delta G$ が少なくて済む)  
• 組み合わせが可能

(drawback) •  $4\text{h}\nu / 2\text{e}^- / \text{H}_2$   
• low efficiency  
quantum efficiency  $\sim 0.1\%$  (420.7 nm)

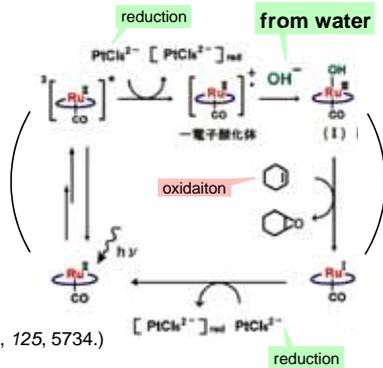
**Fig. 2** Speculated reaction mechanism for the water splitting using a mixture of Pt- $\text{SrTiO}_3$ , Pt- $\text{WO}_3$  and NaI aqueous solution.

## 4-2. Homogeneous Catalyst System

水を電子源とする光による二酸化炭素還元系の構築をめざし金属ポルフィリンと二酸化炭素還元能を有するレニウム錯体の連結系分子を新たに合成しその光化学挙動について検討した。(図 18)  
 金属ポルフィリンへのS2励起により、ポルフィリンからレニウム錯体への電子移動に続いて二酸化炭素還元による一酸化炭素の生成に成功した。

O. Ishitani et al. (CREST H17 report)

quantum yield ?  
 TON ?



H. Inoue et al.  
 (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 5734.)

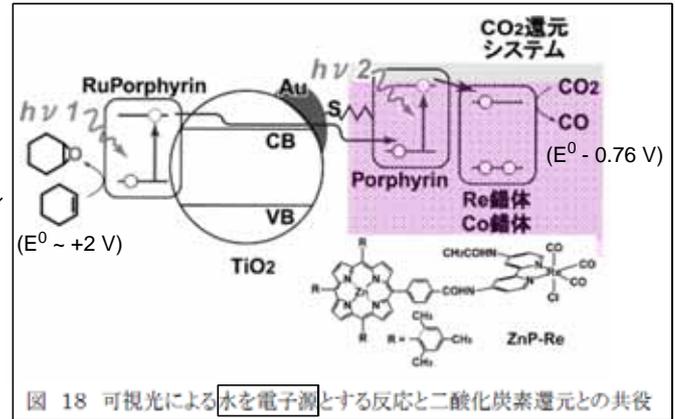


図 18 可視光による水を電子源とする反応と二酸化炭素還元との共役

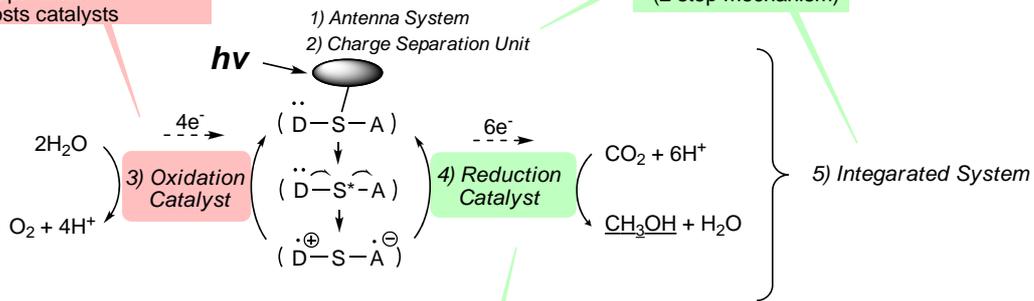
homogeneous, integrated system for H<sub>2</sub>O oxidation / XXX reduction is very rare.  
 big challenge in future

## @ Future Challenge ~ from molecular catalyst field

semiconductor is more practical (?)

- \* Photoinduced system
- \* New approaches
- \* Low costs catalysts

- artificial Z scheme (2 step mechanism)



- \* reduce CO<sub>2</sub> by 4 or 6 or 8 electrons with high selectivity
- \* New approaches
- \* Low costs catalysts

semiconductor ?  
 heterogeneous catalyst ? } in gas phase