

UV-Vis spectroscopy

Basic theory

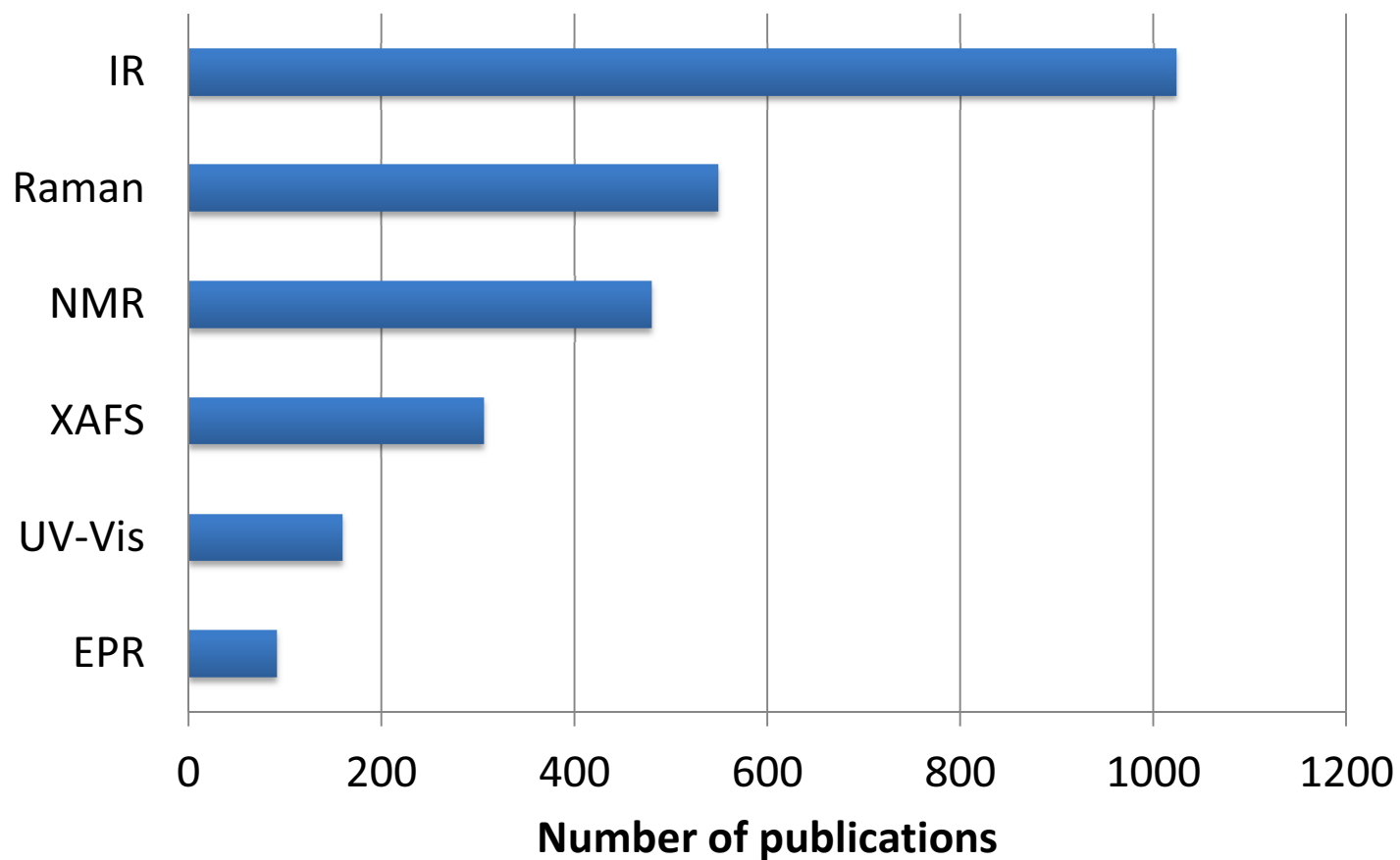
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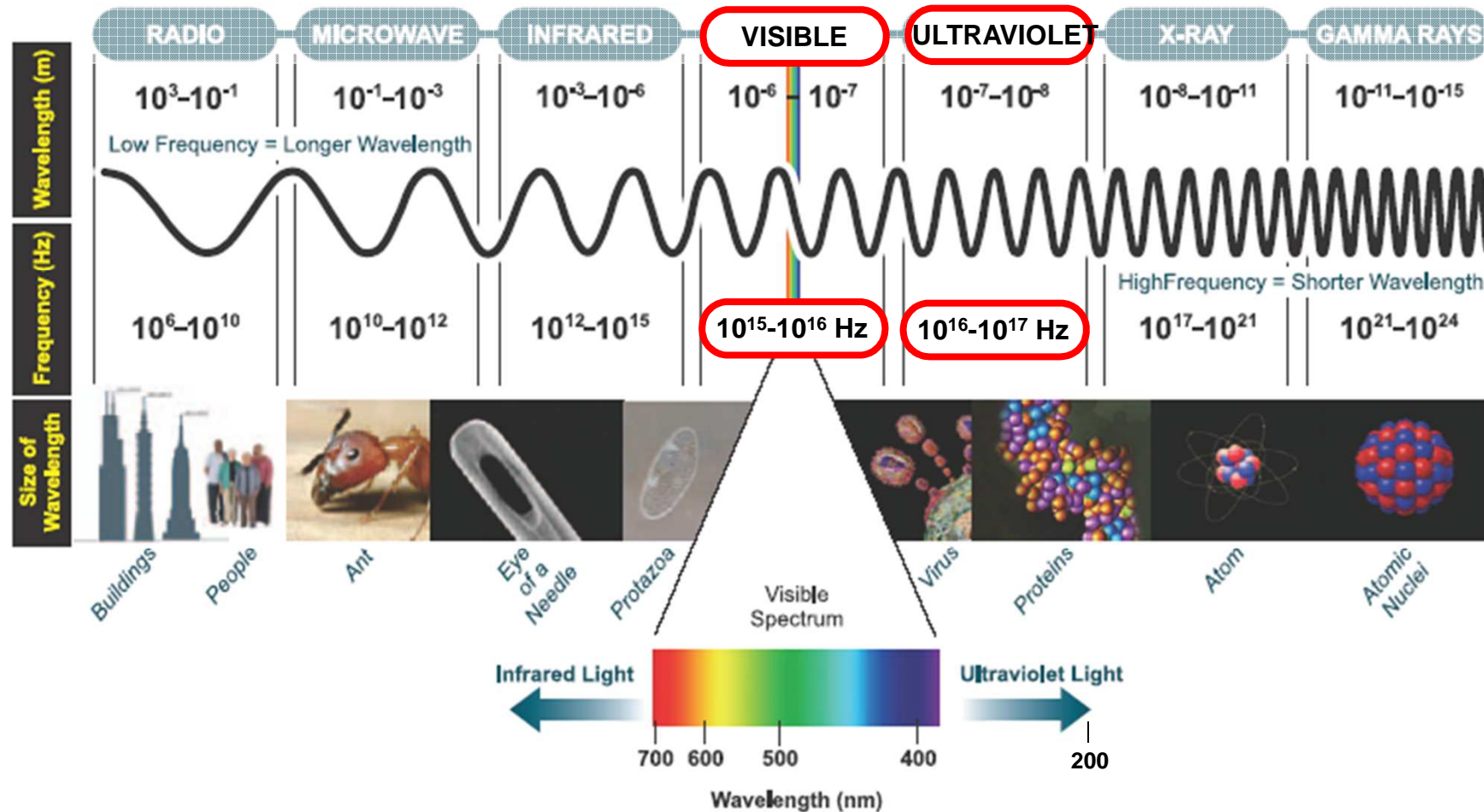
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Importance of UV-Vis in catalysis



Number of publications containing *in situ*, *catalysis*, and respective method
Source: ISI Web of Knowledge (Sept. 2008)

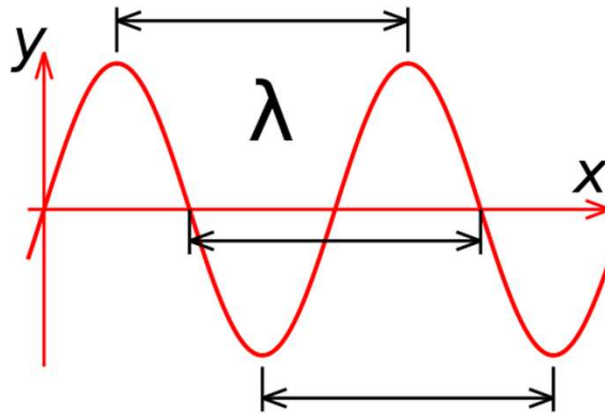
The electromagnetic spectrum



source: Andor.com

The 'energy' unit

- Typically, the wavelength (nm) is used
- the distance over which the wave's shape repeats



$$x \text{ nm} = 10'000'000 / x \text{ cm}^{-1}$$
$$y \text{ cm}^{-1} = 10'000'000 / y \text{ nm}$$

Is UV-vis spectroscopy popular?

pros

- economic
- non-invasive (fiber optics allowed)
- versatile (e.g. solid, liquid, gas)
- extremely sensitive (concentration)

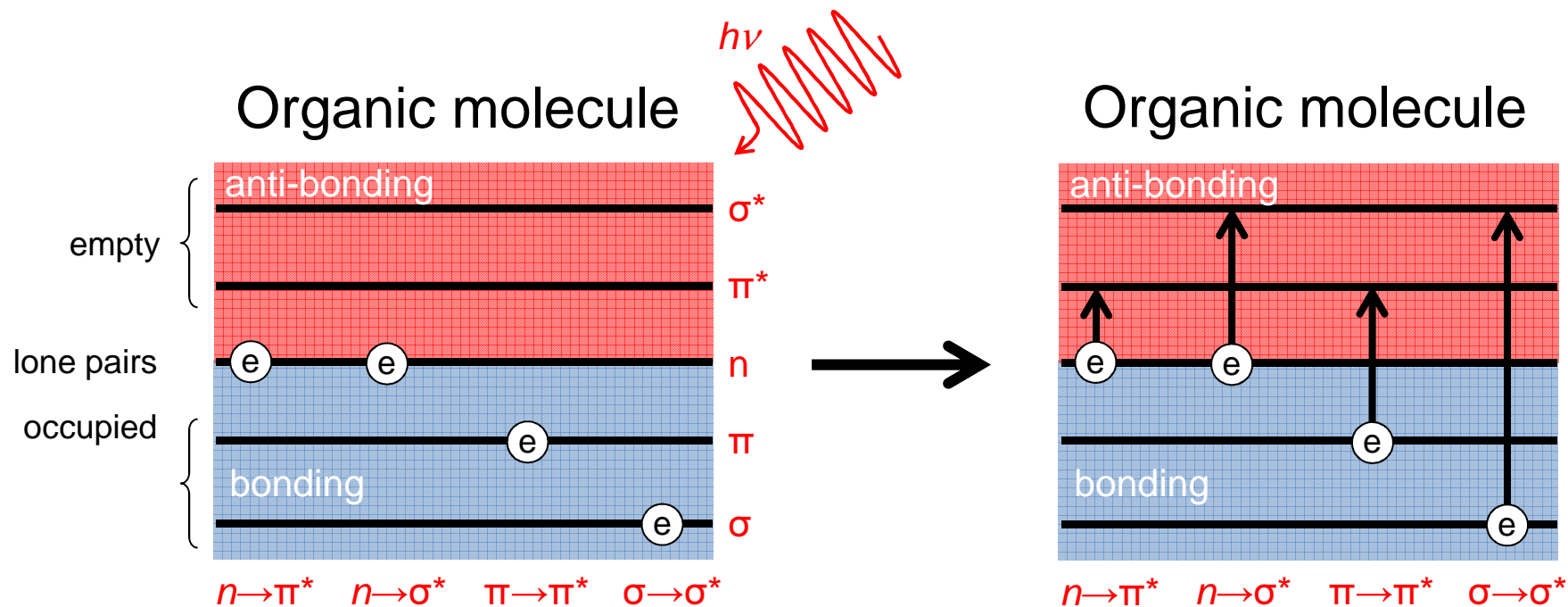
cons

- Broad signals (resolution)
- Time resolution (S/N)

What is UV-vis spectroscopy?

- Use of ultraviolet and visible radiation
- Electron excitation to excited electronic level (electronic transitions)
- Identifies functional groups ($-(\text{C}=\text{C})_n-$, $-\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{C}=\text{N}$, etc.)
- Access to molecular structure and oxidation state

Electronic transitions



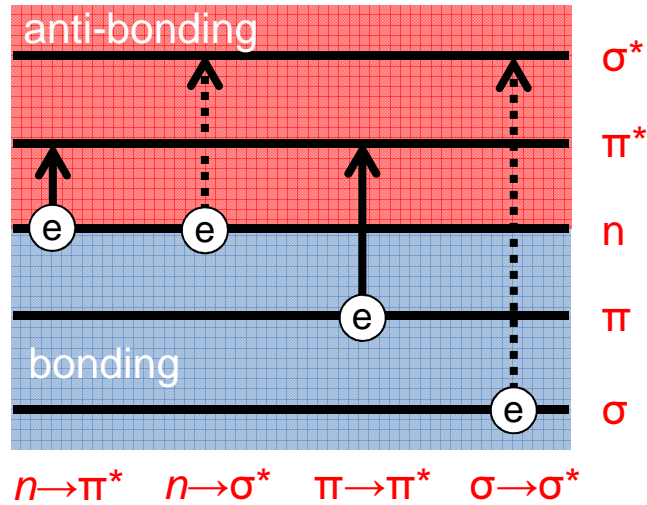
$$E = h\nu$$

$$\lambda = c/\nu$$

high e^- jump \rightarrow high E
high $E \rightarrow$ high ν

high $\nu \rightarrow$ low λ

Electronic transitions



$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$
high E , low λ (<200 nm)

$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$
150-250 nm, weak

$n \rightarrow \pi^*$
200-700 nm, weak

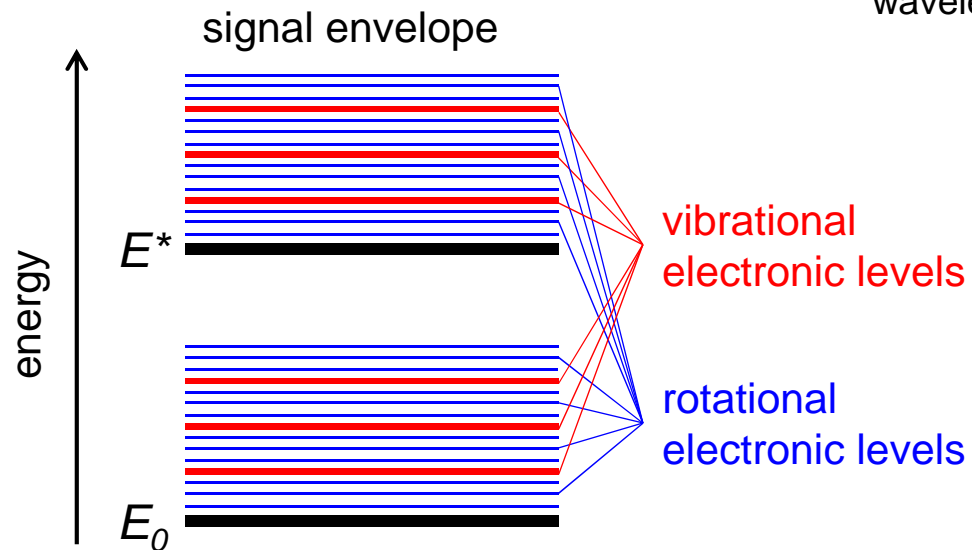
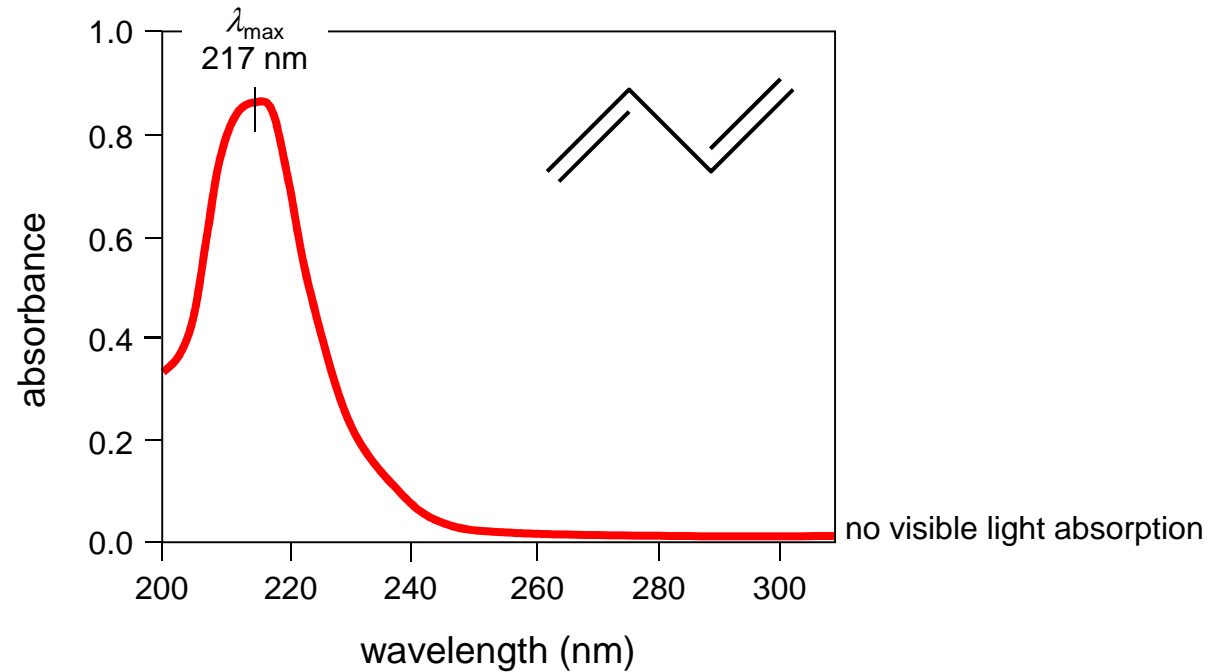
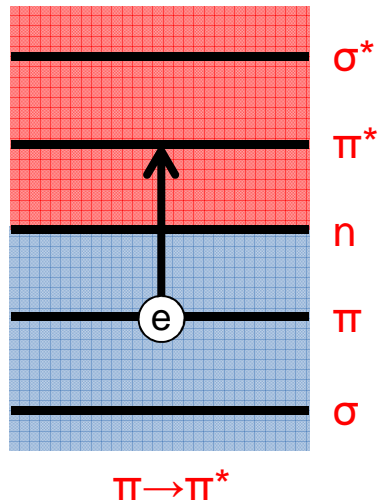
$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$
200-700 nm, intense

Condition to absorb light
(200-800 nm):

π and/or n orbitals

CHROMOPHORE

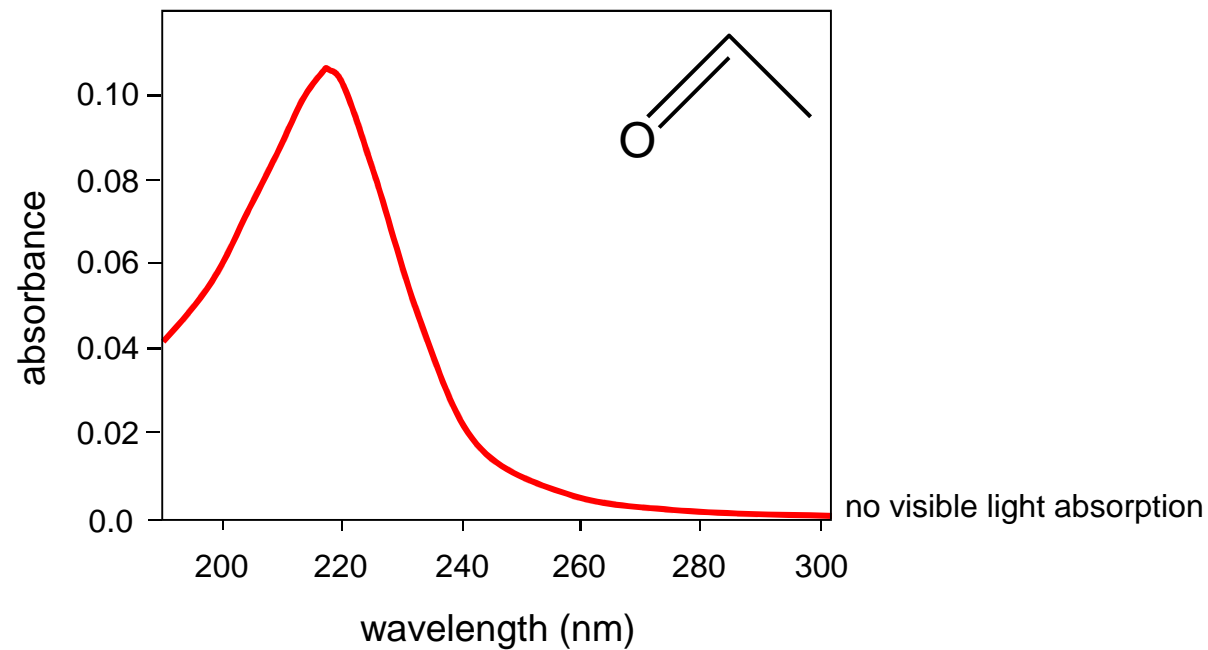
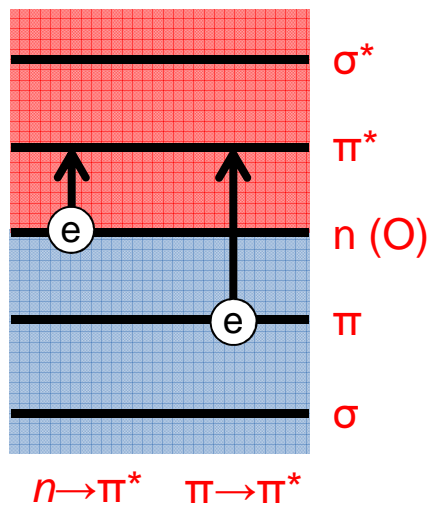
The UV spectrum



Q

How many signals do you expect from $\text{CH}_3\text{-CH=O}$?

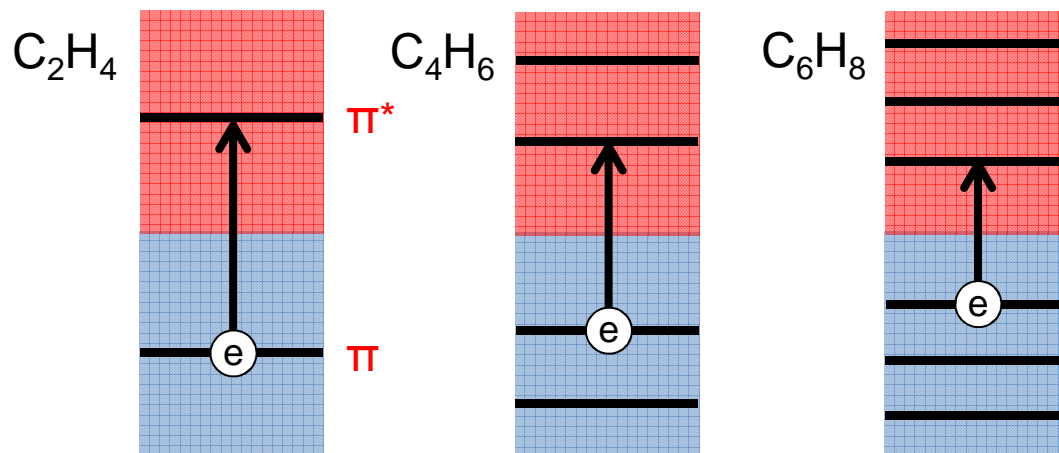
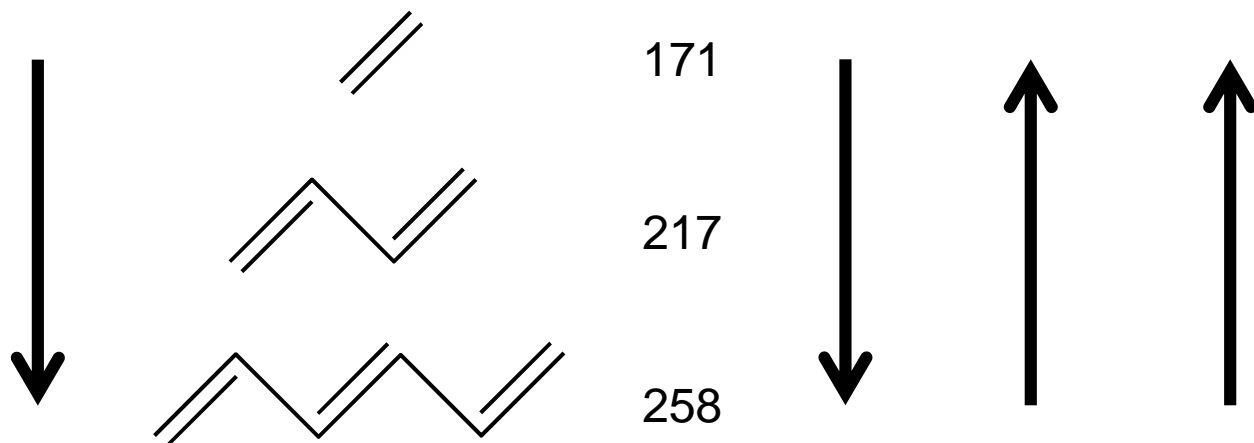
The UV spectrum



The UV spectrum

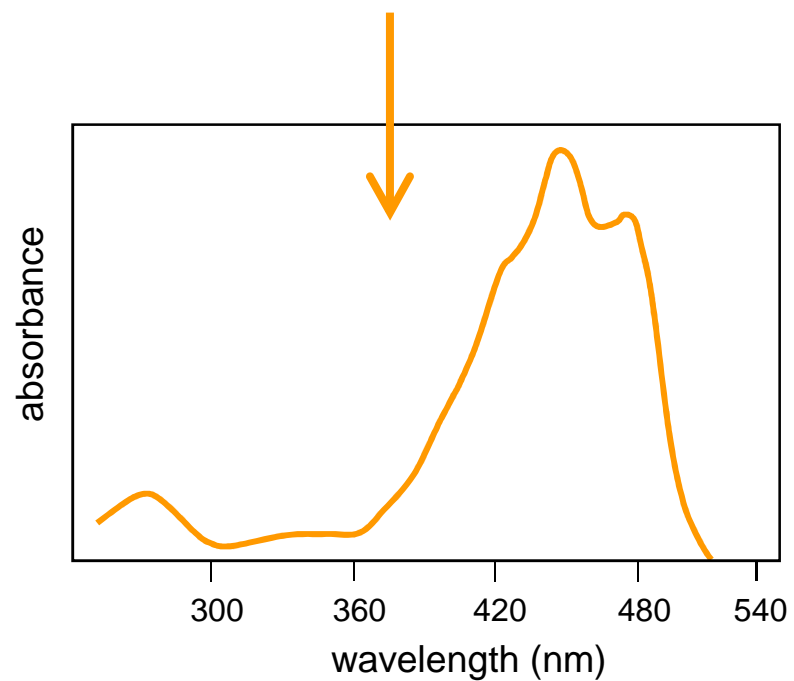
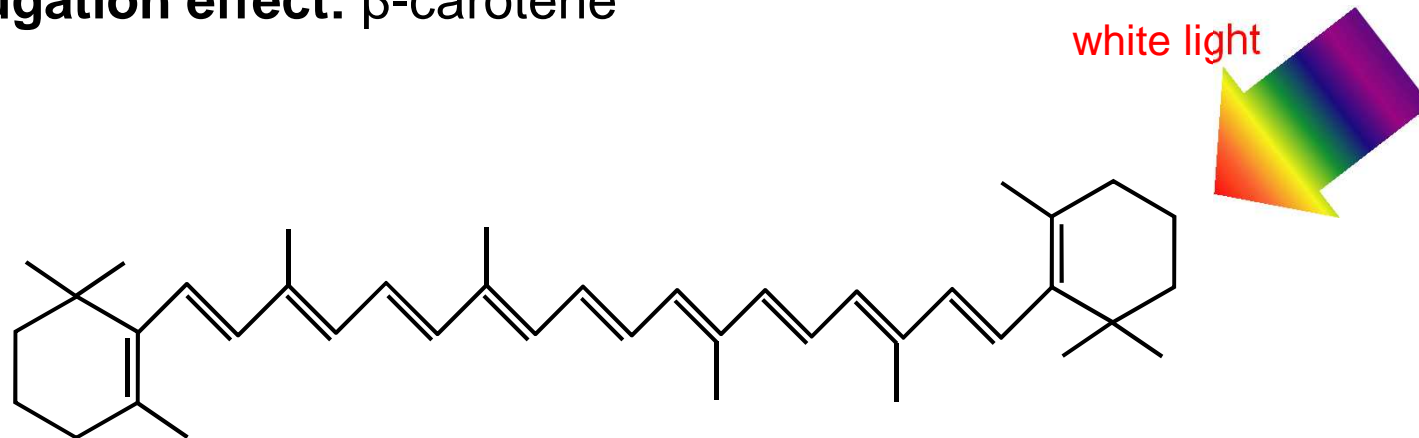
■ Conjugation effect

delocalisation



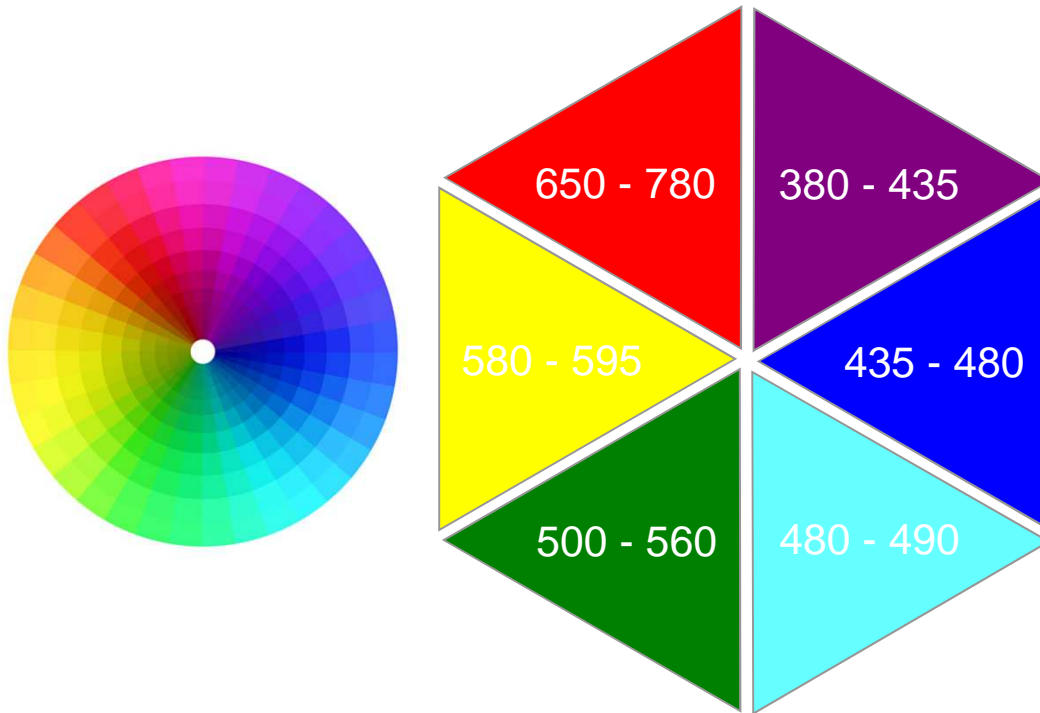
The UV spectrum

- Conjugation effect: β -carotene



The UV spectrum

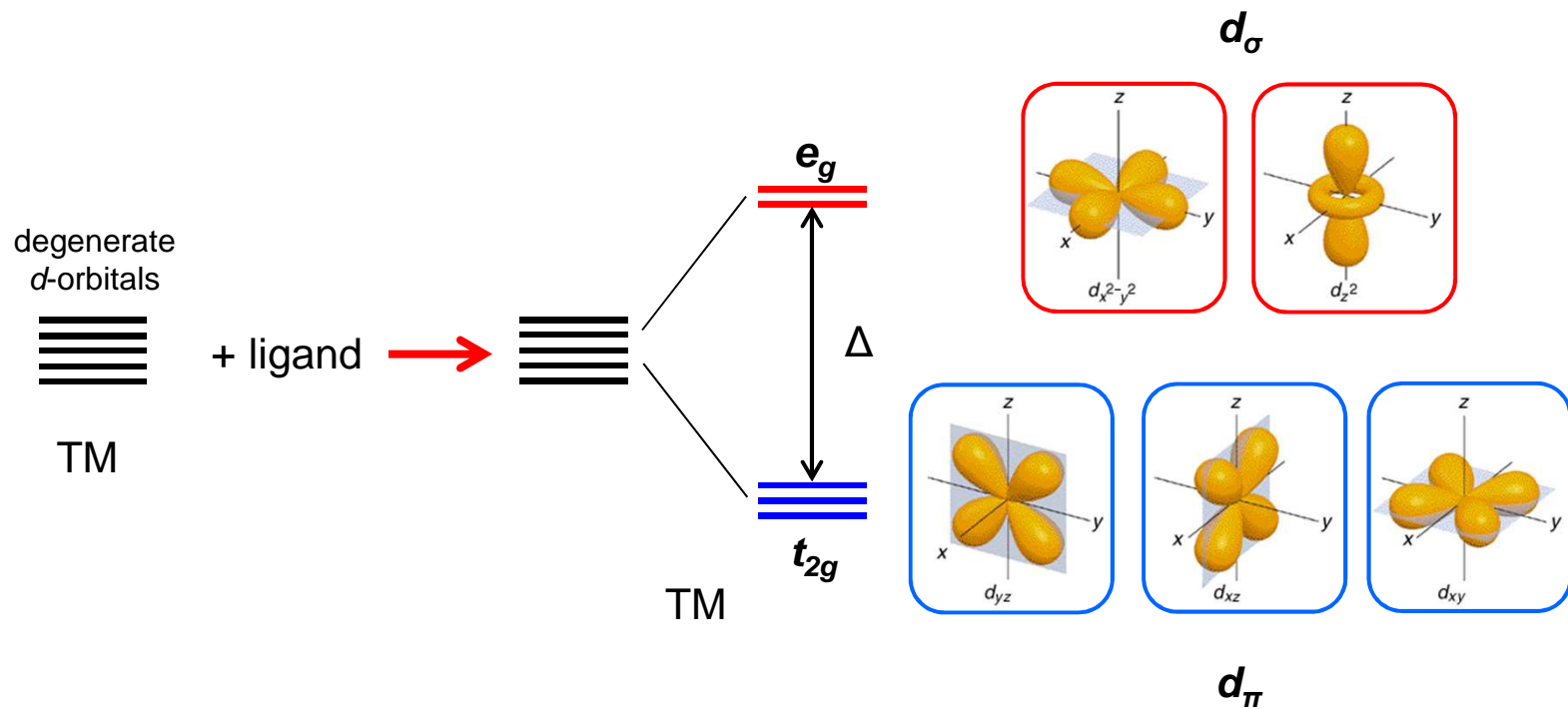
■ Complementary colours



If a colour is absorbed by white light, what the eye detects by mixing all other wavelengths is its complementary colour

Inorganic compounds

- UV-vis spectra of transition metal complexes originate from
 - Electronic *d-d* transitions

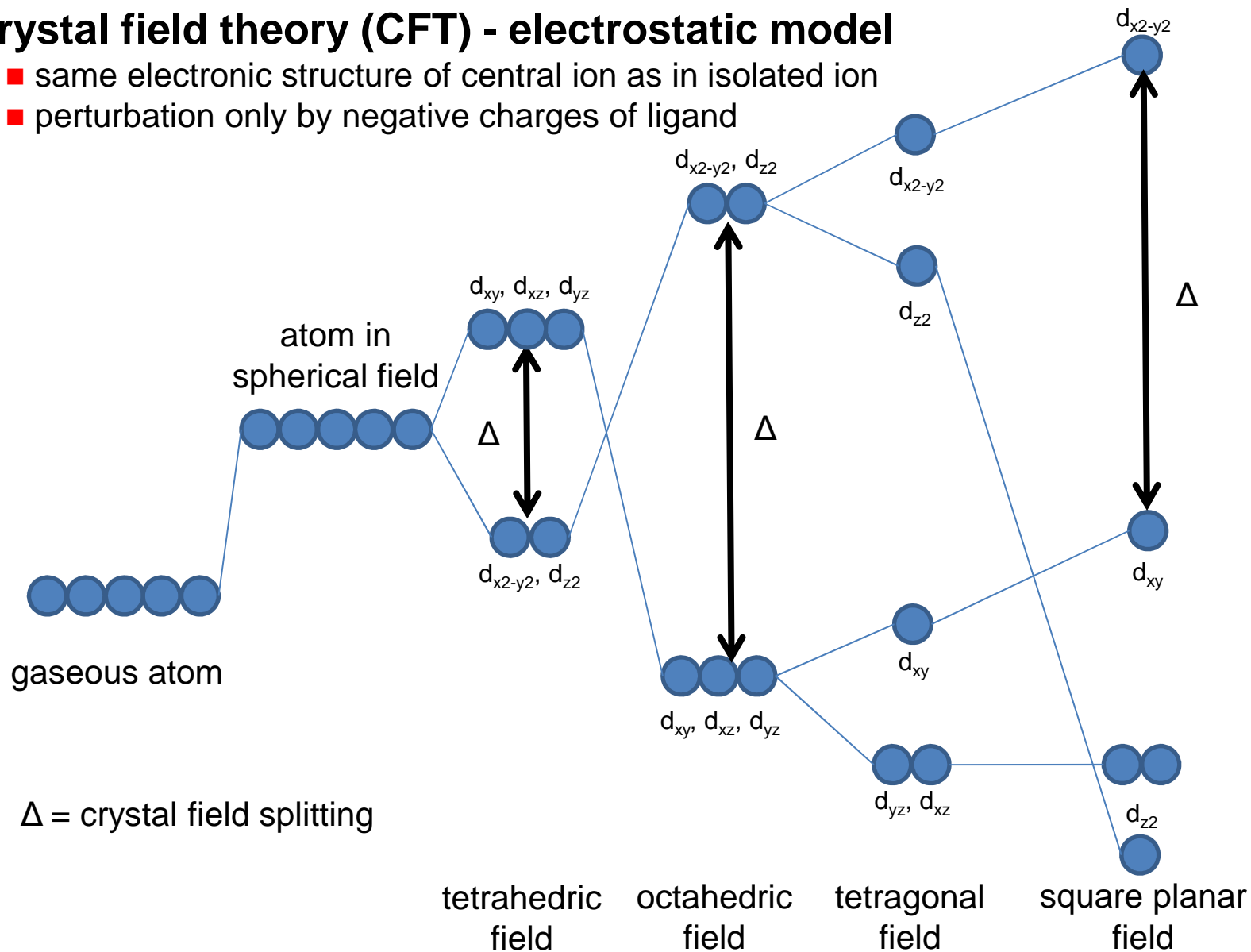


■ ...

Inorganic compounds

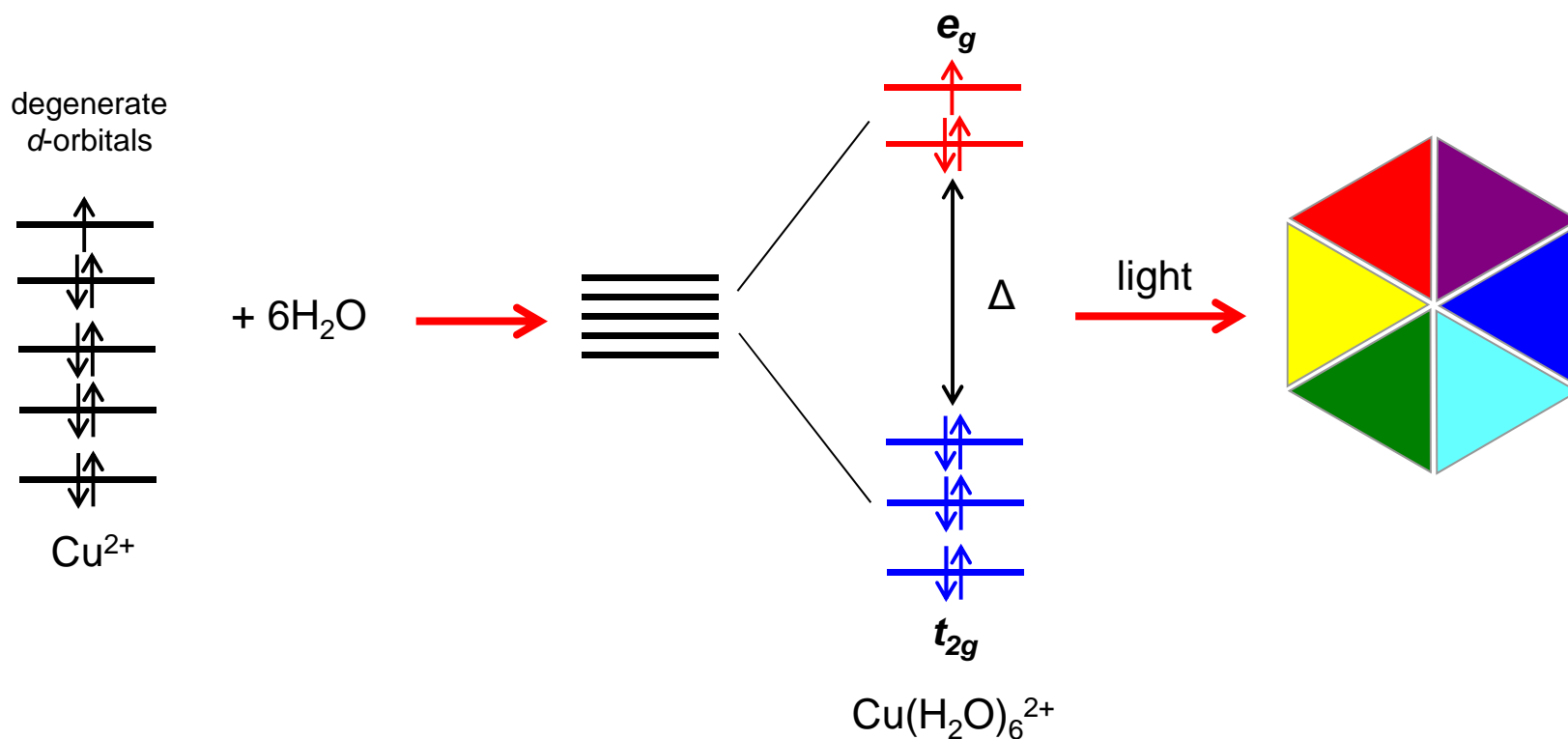
■ Crystal field theory (CFT) - electrostatic model

- same electronic structure of central ion as in isolated ion
- perturbation only by negative charges of ligand



Inorganic compounds

■ *d-d* transitions: $\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{2+}$



- Yellow light is absorbed and the Cu^{2+} solution is coloured in blue (ca. 800 nm)
- The greater Δ , the greater the E needed to promote the e^- , and the shorter λ
- Δ depends on the nature of ligand, $\Delta_{\text{NH}_3} > \Delta_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$

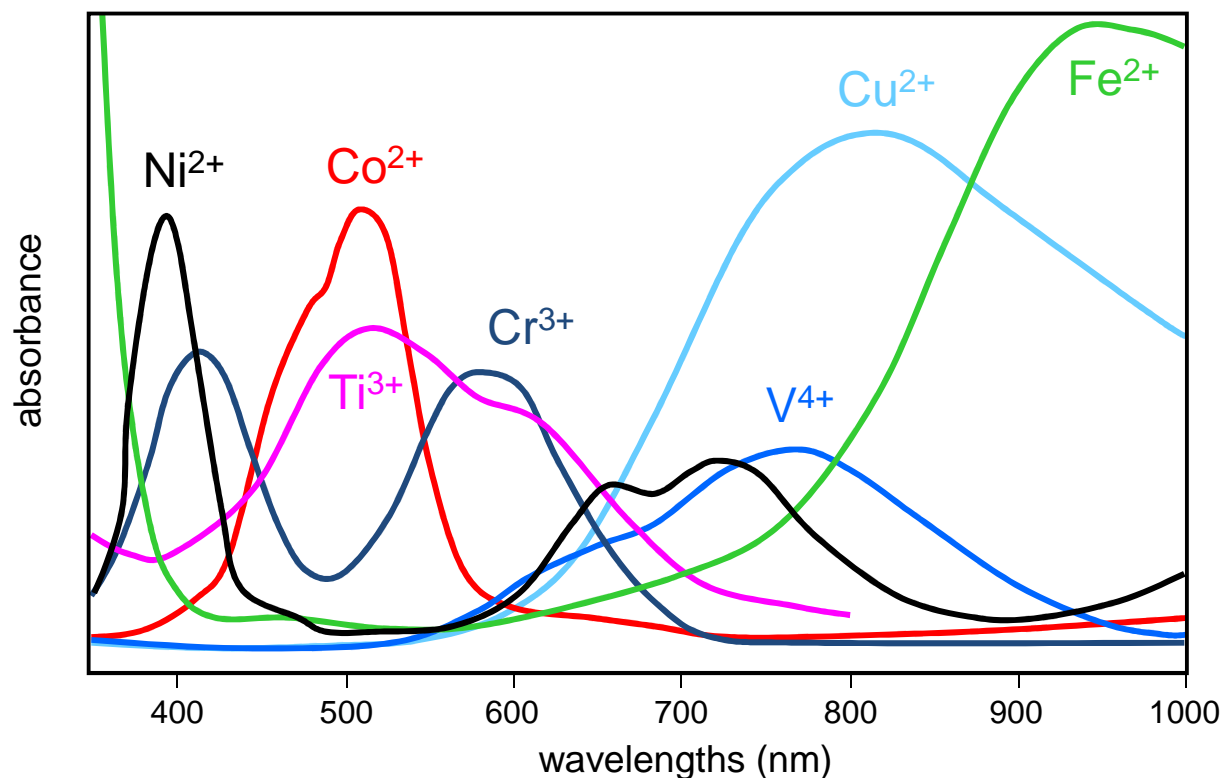
Inorganic compounds

■ $\text{TM}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{n+}$

elec. config. TM

gas complex

$3d^1$	t_{2g}^1	$\text{Ti}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{3+}$
$3d^2$	t_{2g}^2	$\text{Ti}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{3+}$
$3d^3$	t_{2g}^3	$\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{3+}$
$3d^4$	$t_{2g}^3 e_g^1$	$\text{Cr}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{2+}$
$3d^5$	$t_{2g}^3 e_g^2$	$\text{Mn}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{2+}$
$3d^6$		
$3d^7$		
$3d^8$		
$3d^9$	$t_{2g}^6 e_g^3$	$\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{2+}$



d-d transitions: $\epsilon_{\text{max}} = 1 - 100 \text{ Lmol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$, **weak**

Inorganic compounds

- ***d-d* transitions:** factors governing magnitude of Δ
 - **Oxidation state of metal ion**
 - Δ increases with increasing ionic charge on metal ion
 - **Nature of metal ion**
 - Δ increases in the order $3d < 4d < 5d$
 - **Number and geometry of ligands**
 - Δ for tetrahedral complexes is larger than for octahedral ones
 - **Nature of ligands**
 - spectrochemical series

$I^- < Br^- < S^{2-} < SCN^- < Cl^- < NO_3^- < N_3^- < F^- < OH^- < C_2O_4^{2-} < H_2O < NCS^- < CH_3CN < py < NH_3 < en < bipy < phen < NO_2^- < PPh_3 < CN^- < CO$

Inorganic compounds

- ***d-d* transitions:** selection rules

spin rule:

$$\Delta S = 0$$

on promotion, no change of spin

Laporte's rule:

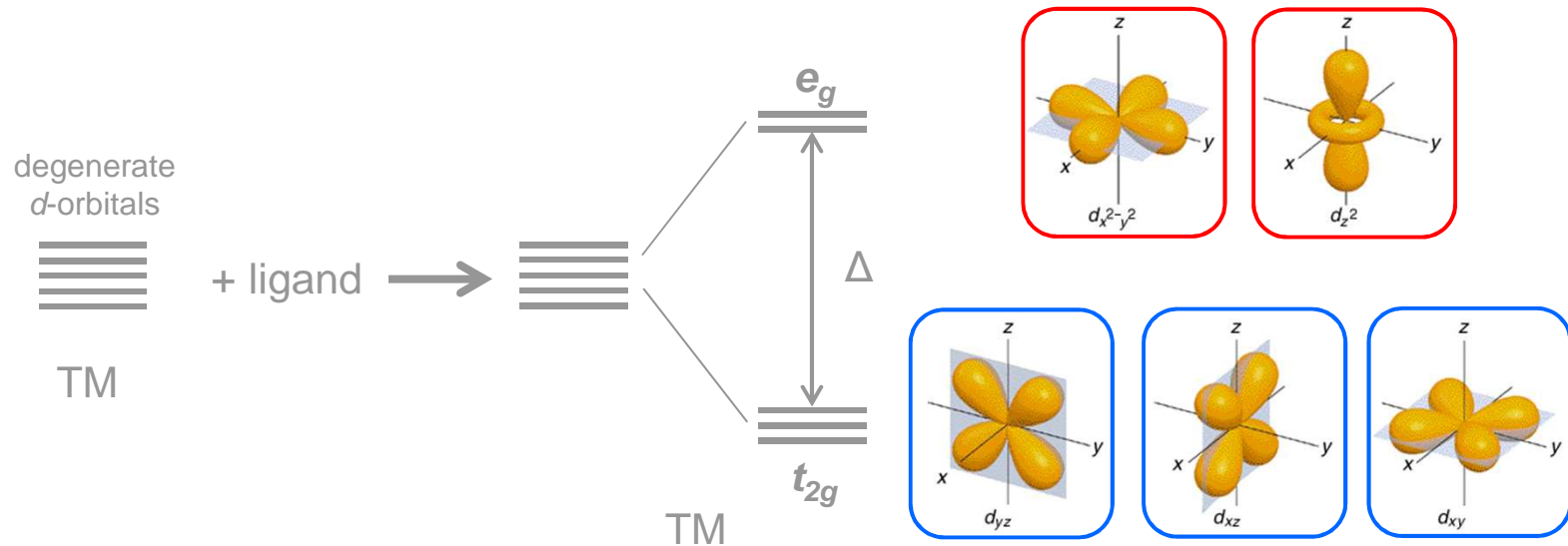
$$\Delta l = \pm 1$$

d-d transition of complexes with center of symmetry are forbidden

- Because of selection rules, colours are faint ($\epsilon = 20 \text{ Lmol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$).

Inorganic compounds

- UV-vis spectra of transition metal complexes originate from
 - Electronic *d-d* transitions



- Charge transfer

Inorganic compounds

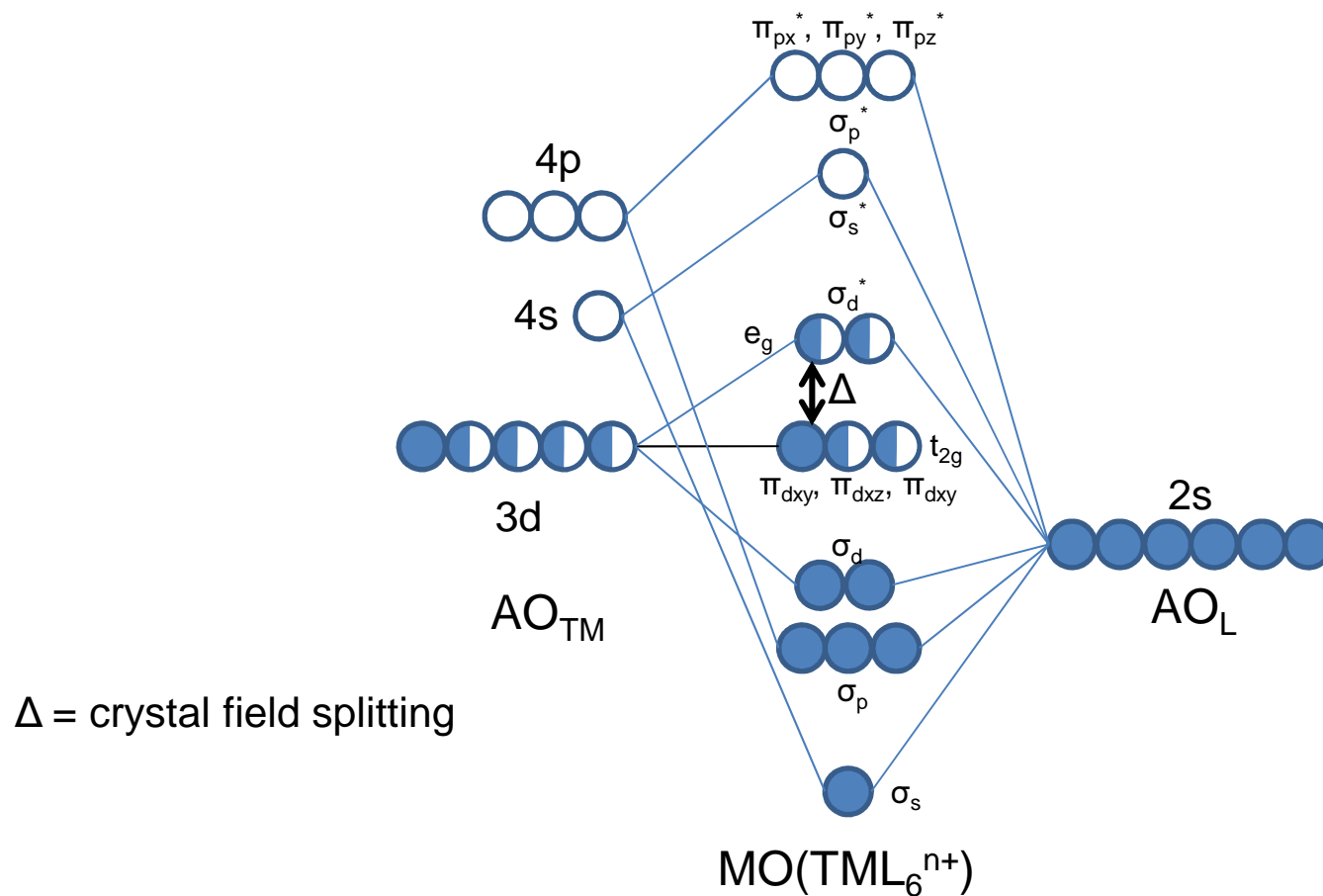
■ Charge transfer complex

- no selection rules → intense colours ($\epsilon=50'000 \text{ Lmol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$, **strong**)
- Association of 2 or more molecules in which a fraction of electronic charge is transferred between the molecular entities. The resulting electrostatic attraction provides a stabilizing force for the molecular complex
- **Electron donor**: source molecule
- **Electron acceptor**: receiving species
- CT much weaker than covalent forces
- **Ligand field theory** (LFT), based on MO
 - Metal-to-ligand transfer (MLCT)
 - Ligand-to-metal transfer (LMCT)

Inorganic compounds

■ Ligand field theory (LFT)

- involves AO of metal and ligand, therefore MO
- what CFT indicates as possible electronic transitions ($t_{2g} \rightarrow e_g$) are now: $\pi_d \rightarrow \sigma_{dz^2}^*$ or $\pi_d \rightarrow \sigma_{dx^2-y^2}^*$



Inorganic compounds

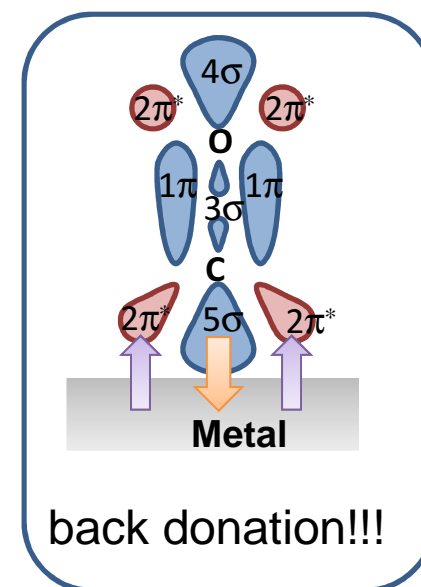
■ Ligand field theory (LFT)

■ LMCT

- ligand with high energy lone pair
- or, metal with low lying empty orbitals
- high oxidation state (also d^0)
- M-L strengthened

■ MLCT

- ligands with low lying π^* orbitals (CO, CN^- , SCN^-)
- low oxidation state (high energy d orbitals)
- M-L strengthened, π bond of L weakened



CO adsorption on
precious metals

UV-Vis spectroscopy

Instrumentation Examples for catalysis

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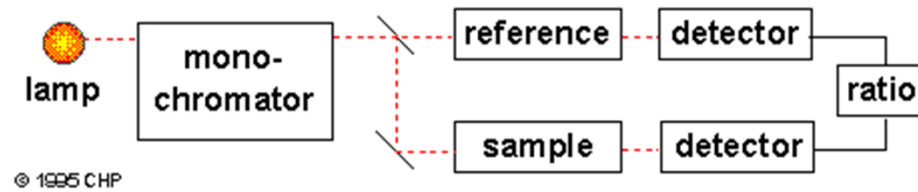
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Instrumentation

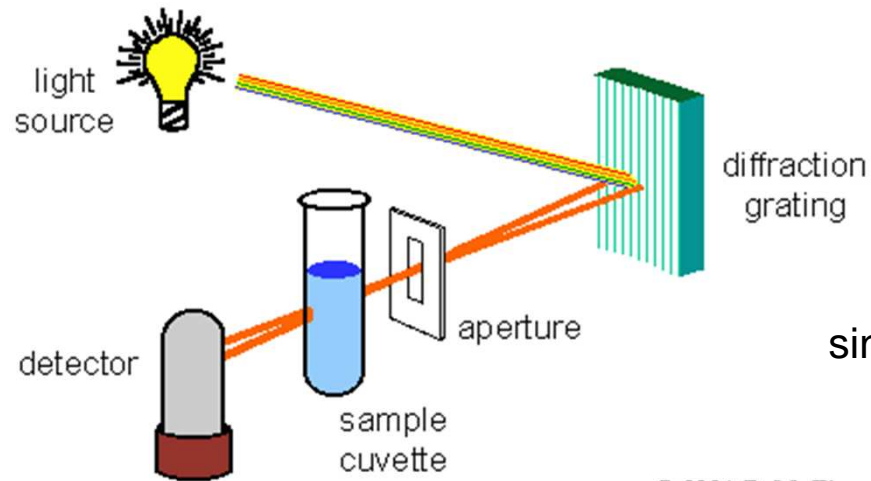
■ Dispersive instruments

Measurement geometry:

- transmission
- diffuse reflectance



double beam spectrometer

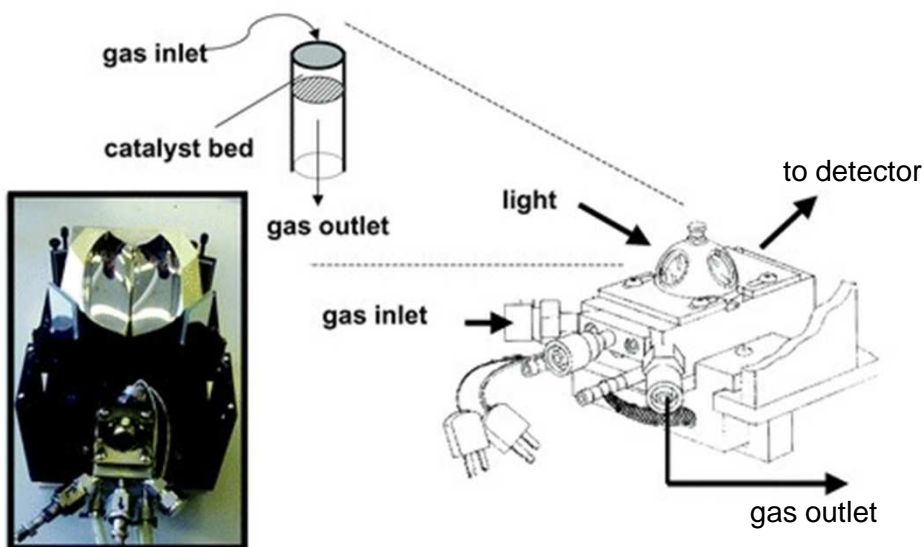


single beam spectrometer

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In situ instrumentation

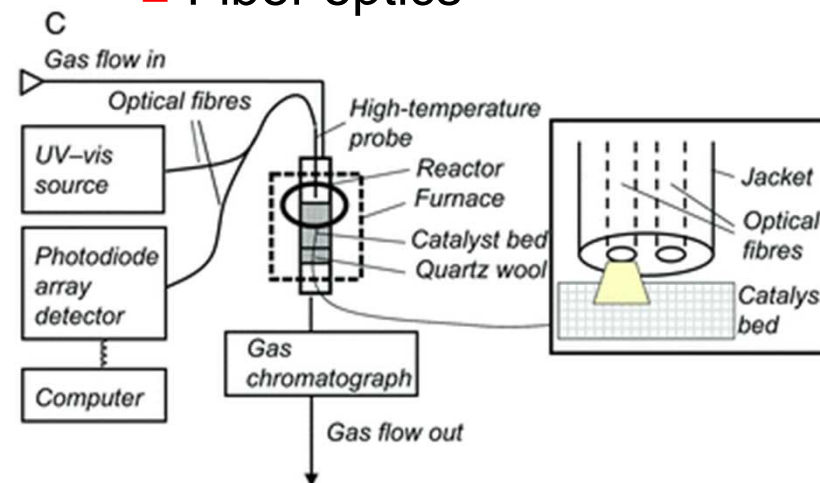
■ Diffuse reflectance (DRUV)



- ✓ - 20% of light is collected
- gas flows, pressure, vacuum

- ✗ - long meas. time
- spectral collection (λ after λ)
- different parts of spectrum do not represent same reaction time!!!

■ Fiber optics

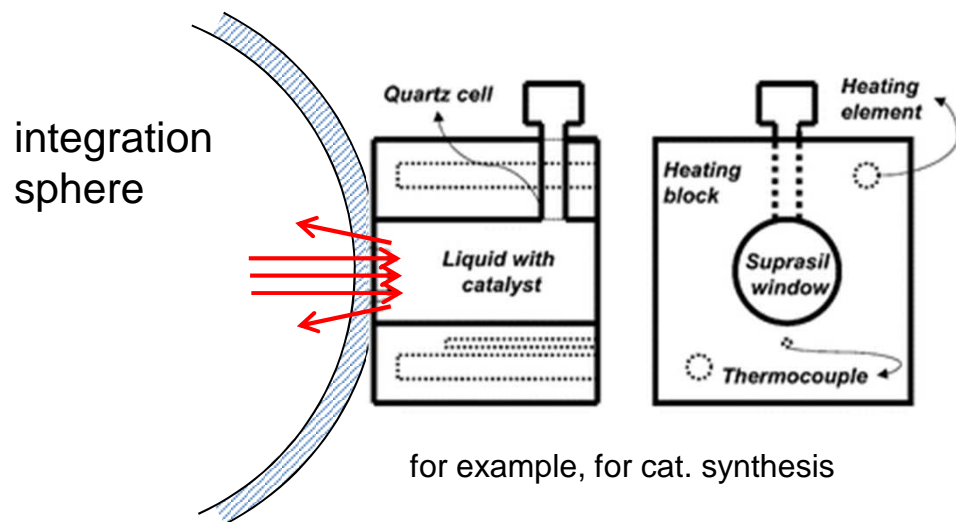
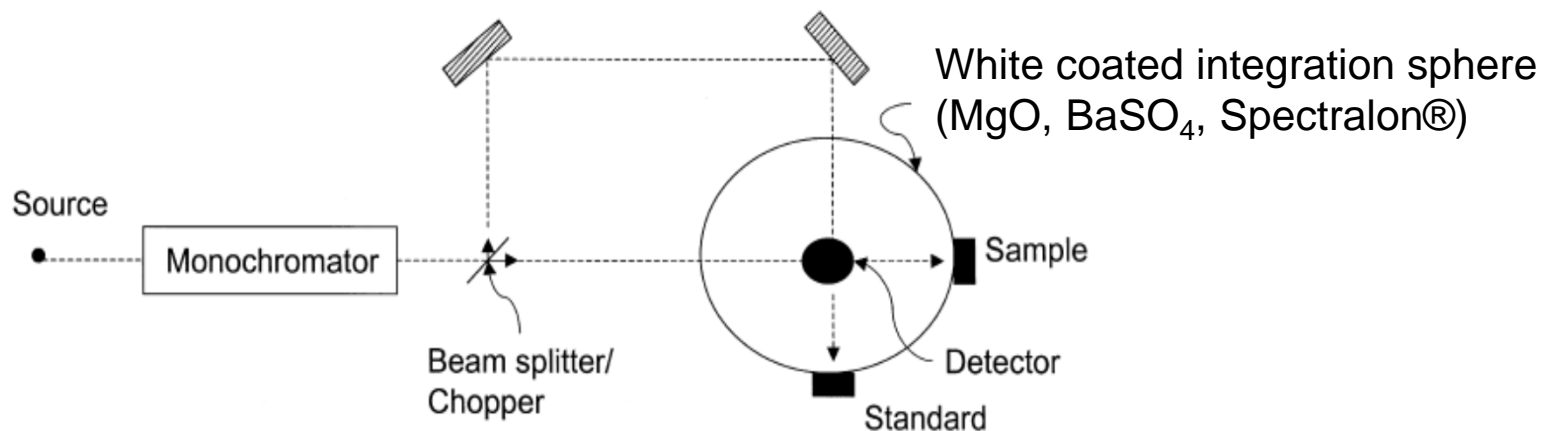


- ✓ - time resolution (CCD camera)
- [spectra collected at once]
- coupling to reactors

- ✗ - no NIR (no optical fiber > 1100 nm)
- long term reproducibility (single beam)
- Limited high temperature (ca. 600°C)

In situ instrumentation

■ Integration sphere



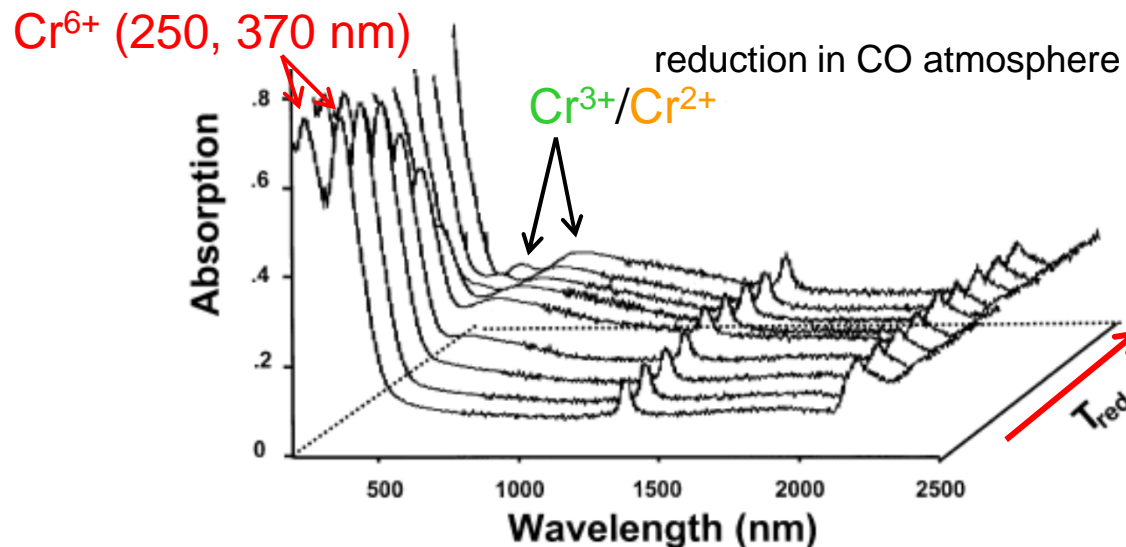
- > 95% light is collected
- high reflectivity
- wide range of λ
- only homemade cells

Examples

■ Determination of oxidation state: 0.1 wt% Crⁿ⁺/Al₂O₃

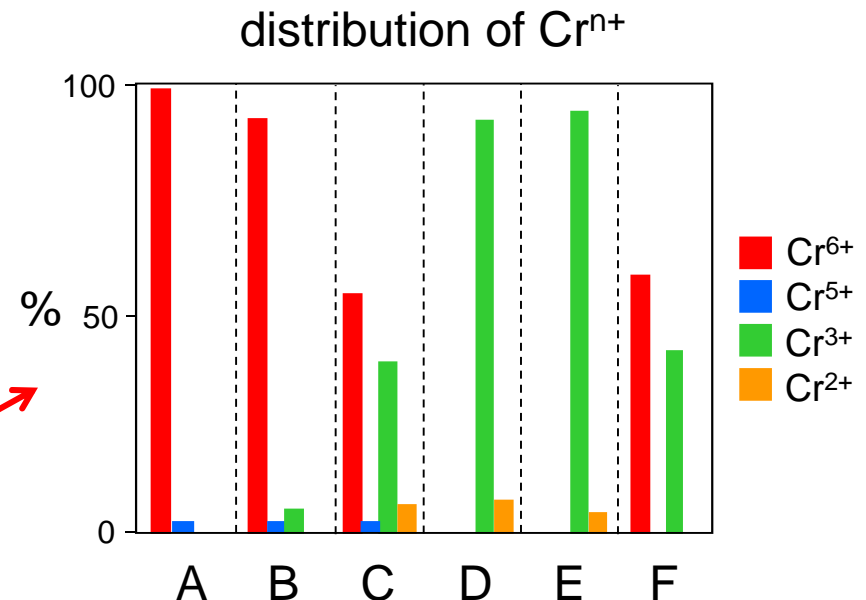
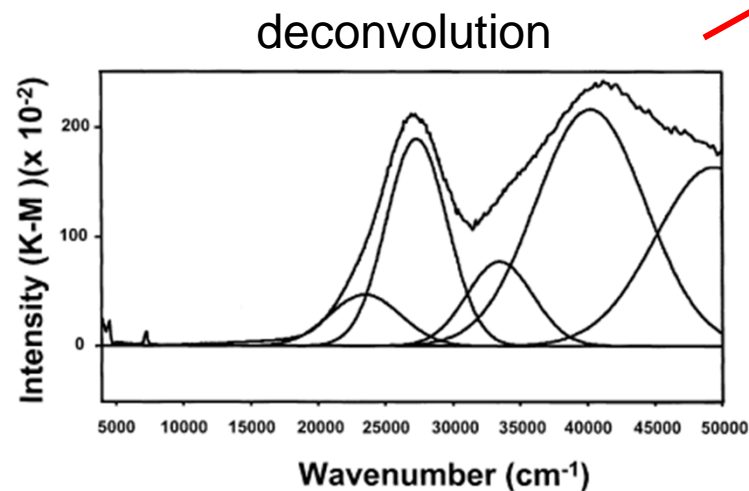
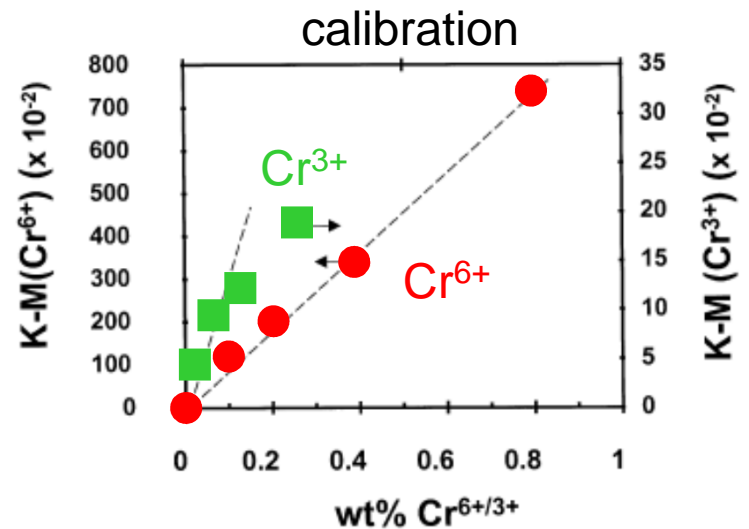
Compound	Coordination geometry and oxidation state	Absorption bands (nm) ^a	Color
K ₂ CrO ₄ (solution)	T _d , Cr ⁶⁺	440 (sh, vw), 370 (s), 275 (s)	Yellow
K ₂ CrO ₄ (solid)	T _d , Cr ⁶⁺	459 (s), 340 (s), 265 (s), 229 (s)	Yellow
K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇ (solution)	T _d , Cr ⁶⁺	440 (w), 352 (s), 255 (s)	Orange
K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇ (solid)	T _d , Cr ⁶⁺	526 (s, br), 332 (s), 262 (s), 229 (s)	Orange-red
Cr(NO ₃) ₃ ·9H ₂ O (solution)	O _h , Cr ³⁺	575 (s), 410 (s), 303 (s)	Green
Cr(NO ₃) ₃ ·9H ₂ O (solid)	Dist O _h , Cr ³⁺	575 (s), 410 (s), 304 (s), 263 (sh)	Green
Cr(H ₂ O) ₆ ²⁺ (solution)	O _h , Cr ²⁺	769 (s)	Blue
K ₂ CrCl ₄ (solid)	Distorted T _d , Cr ²⁺	1430 (s)	Blue
Cr ₂ O ₃ (solid)	Distorted O _h , Cr ³⁺	714 (sh), 645 (sh), 595 (s), 461 (s), 351 (s), 274 (s)	Green

^as: strong; m: medium; w: weak; vw: very weak; sh: shoulder; br: broad.



Examples

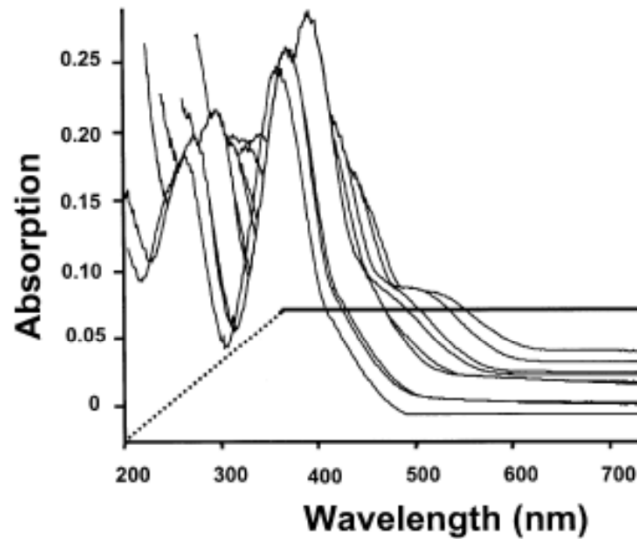
■ Determination of oxidation state: 0.1 wt% Crⁿ⁺/Al₂O₃



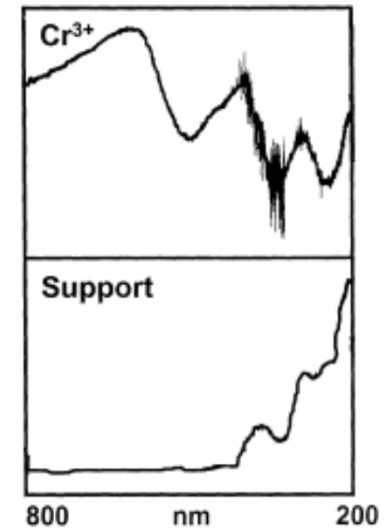
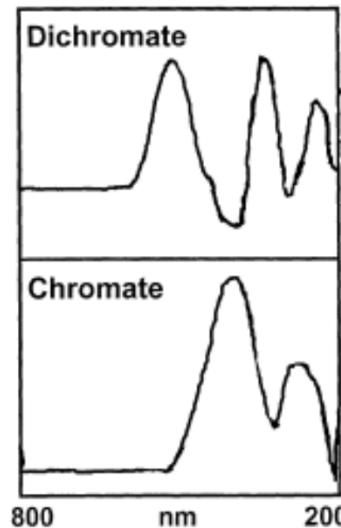
A: calc. 550°C
 B: red. 200°C
 C: red. 300°C
 D: red. 400°C
 E: red. 600°C
 F: re-calc. 550°C

Examples

■ Determination of oxidation state: 0.2 wt% Crⁿ⁺/SiO₂



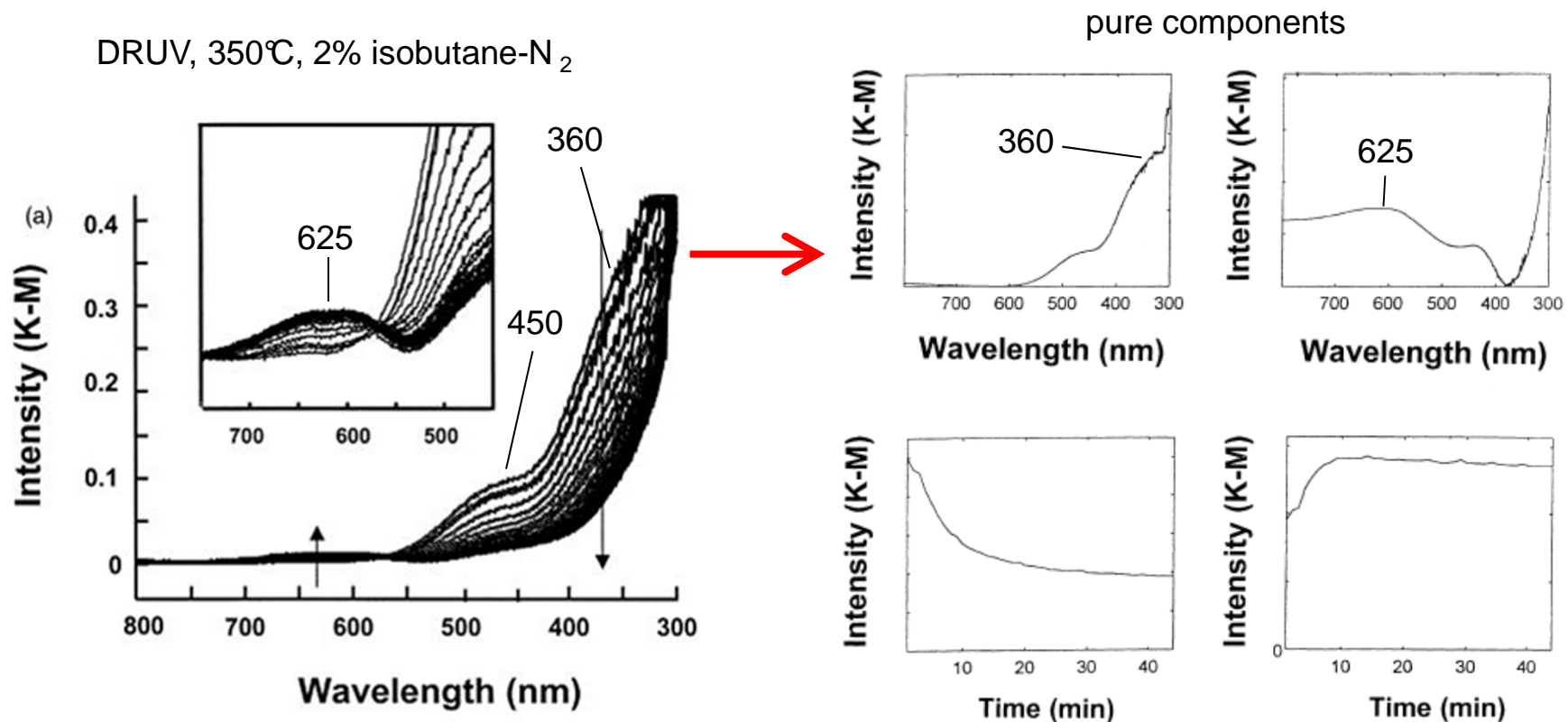
*chemometrics** PCA, principal component analysis
FA, factor analysis
PLS, partial least squares
own routines...



* decomposition into pure components
(including noise)

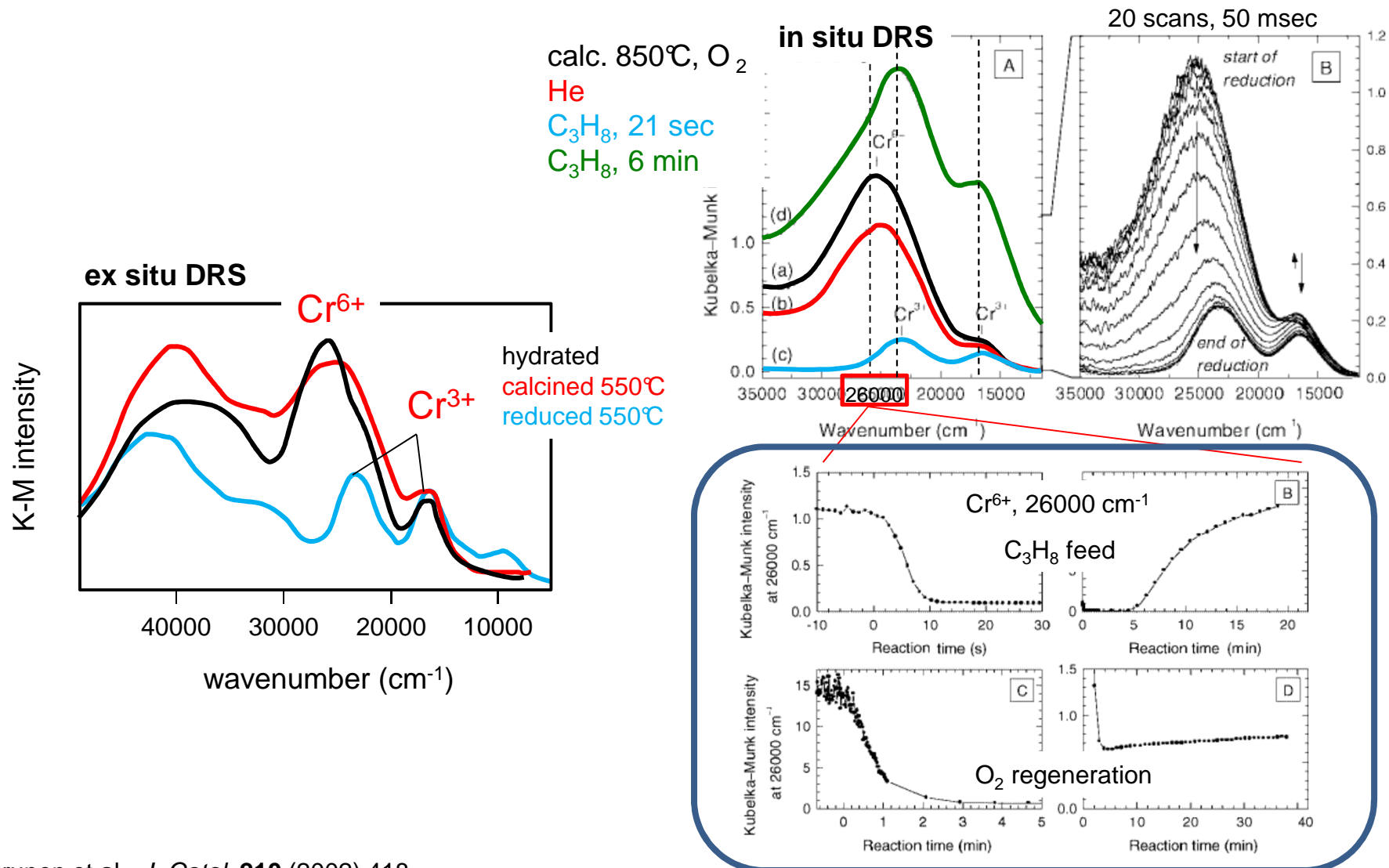
Examples

■ Determination of oxidation state: 0.5 wt% Crⁿ⁺/SiO₂



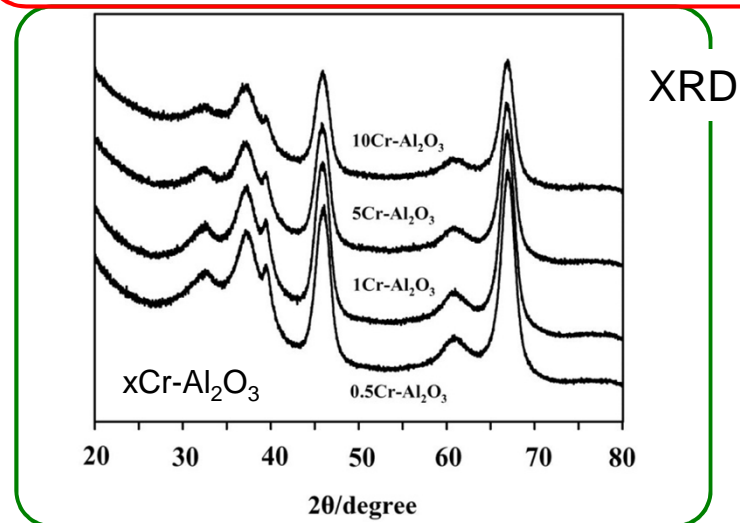
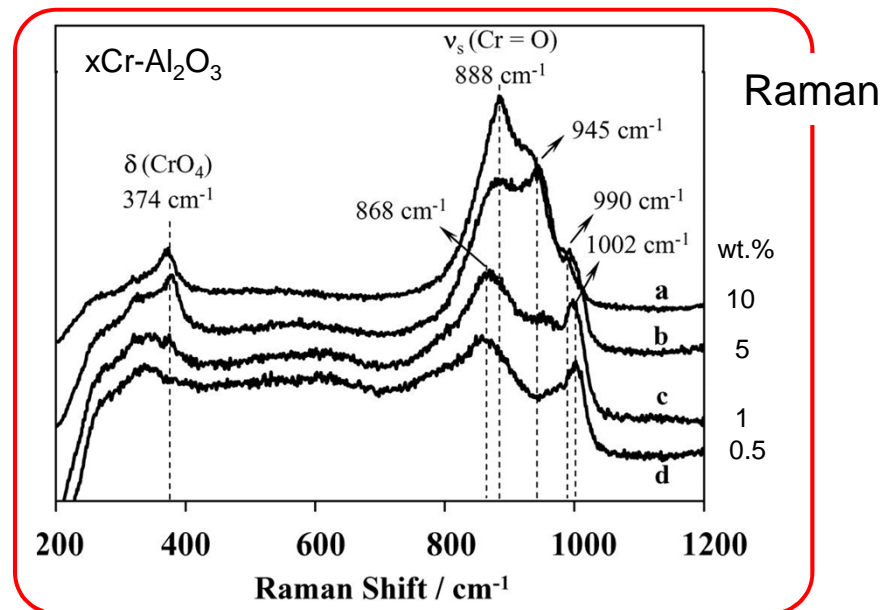
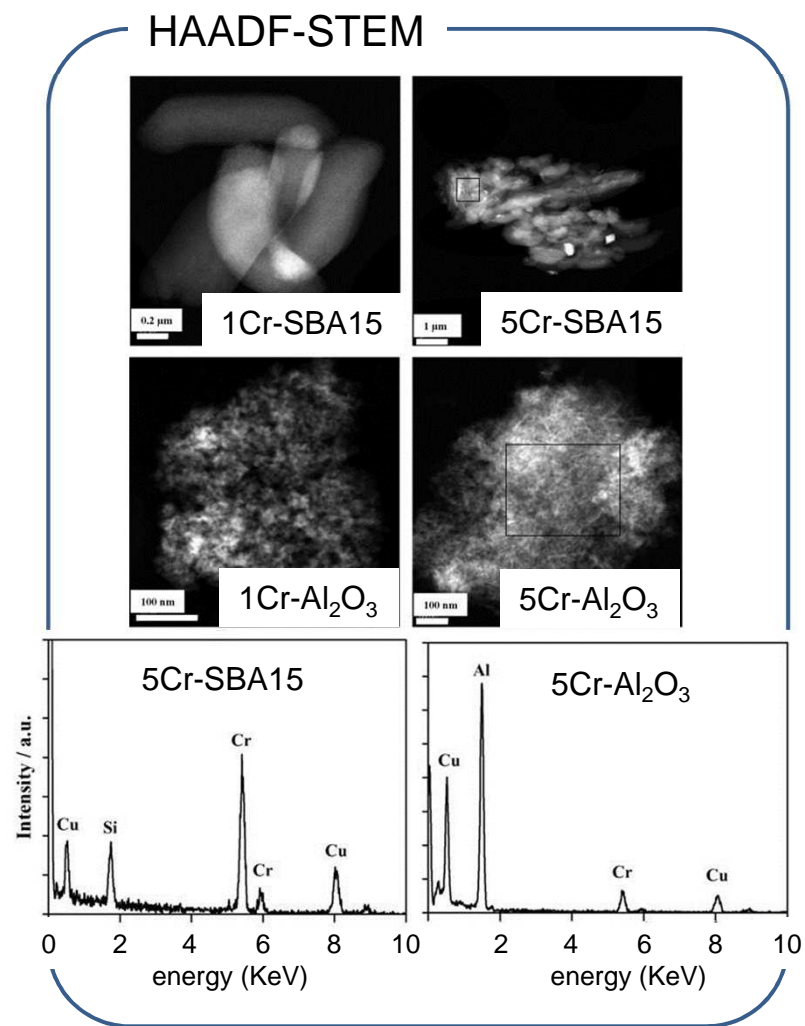
Examples

■ Determination of oxidation state: 4 wt% Crⁿ⁺/Al₂O₃



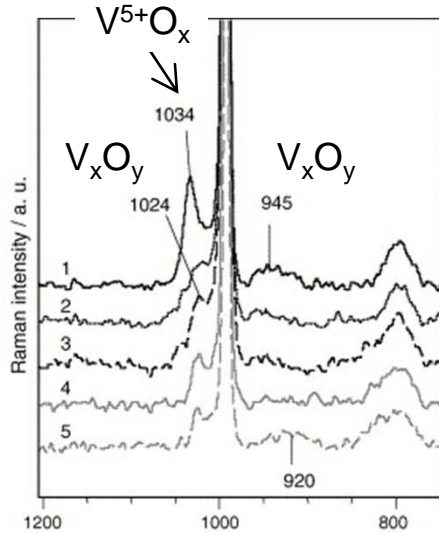
Examples

■ Comparison of techniques: x wt% Crⁿ⁺/support



Examples

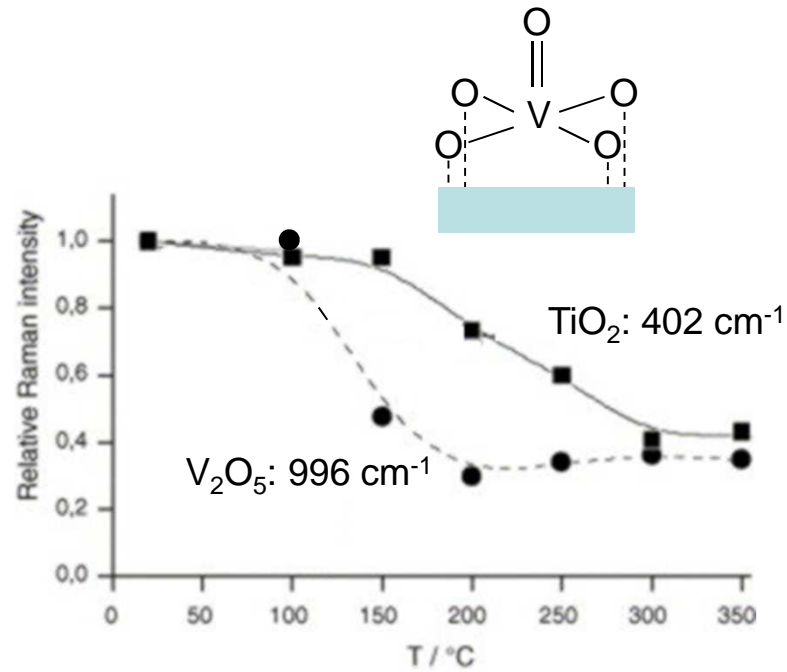
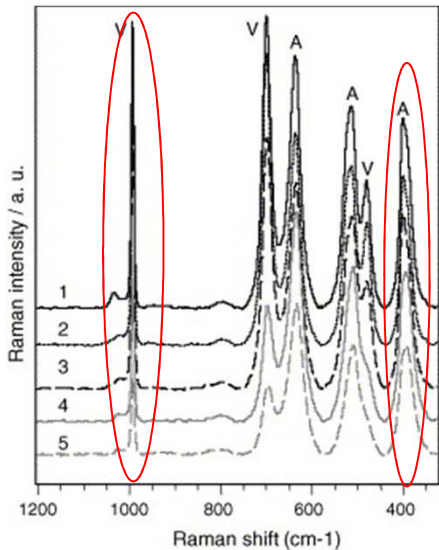
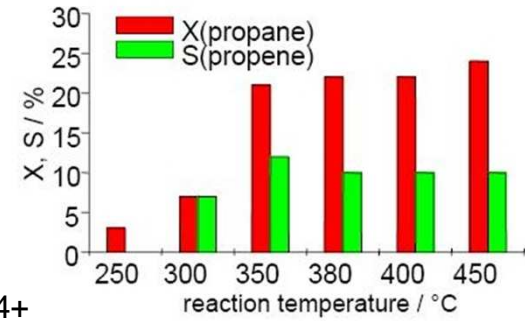
■ Reactivity of V/TiO₂ after oxidative treatment



air flow @ 450°C
 O₂/C₃H₈ @ 20°C
 @ 100°C
 @ 150°C
 @ 200°C

➔

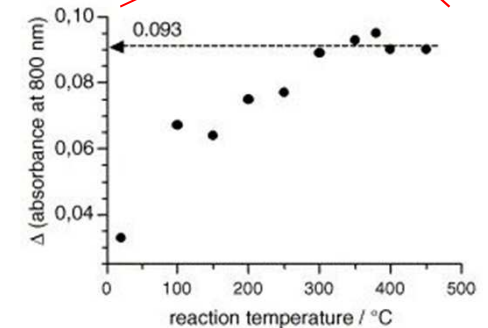
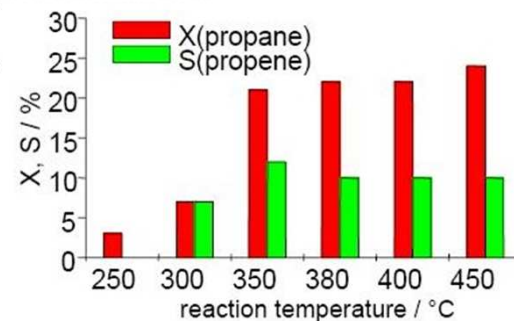
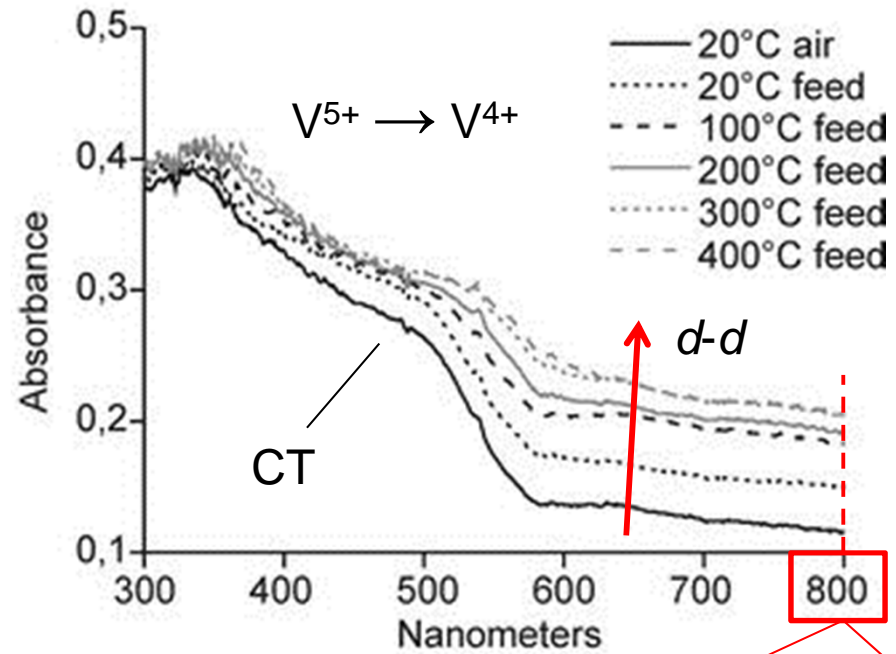
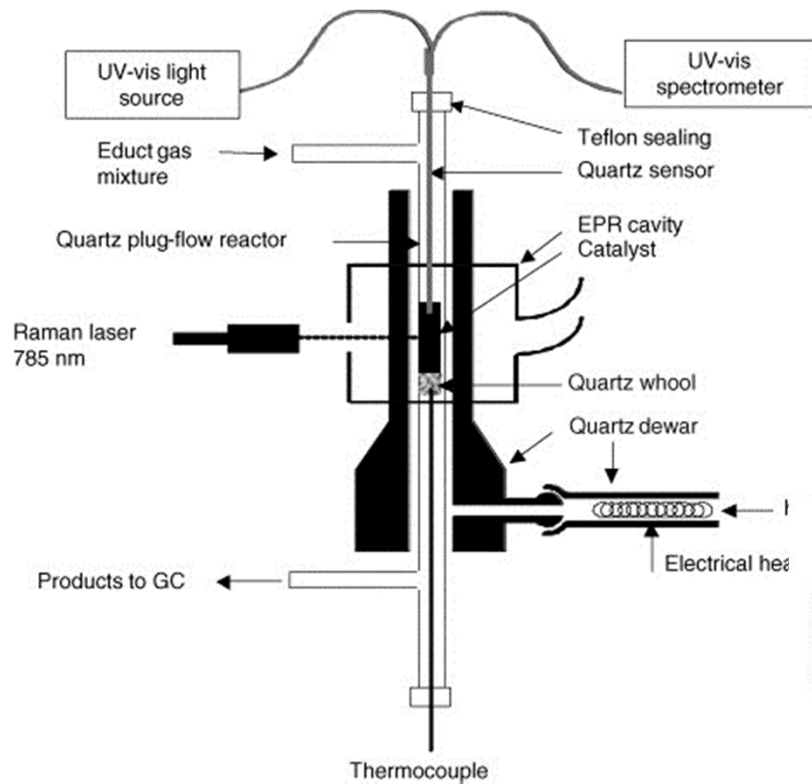
V⁵⁺ → V⁴⁺



Examples

■ Reactivity of V/TiO₂ after oxidative treatment

UV-vis: V⁵⁺ CT (UV)
V⁴⁺ d-d transitions (vis)



Examples

■ Determination of speciation: Fe species in Fe-ZSM5

