## Sensing behavior of sumanene-functionalized bis(terpyridine) Ruthenium(II) complexes

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Ru(terpy)<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> (terpy = 2,2':6',2"-terpyridine) has gained much attention as functional templates in supramolecular chemistry. Addition of the ion sensing units on the terpyridine unit will change the whole physical property and bring the opportunity to be utilized as a photosensor system. In this context, we introduced sumanene, a bowl-shaped  $\pi$ -conjugated molecule,<sup>1</sup> which recently reported to show significant and selective interaction to Cs<sup>+</sup>,<sup>2</sup> as an ion trapping site to the ruthenium complex.

Four kinds of terpyridiyl ligands L1-L4 (Fig. 1a) were synthesized by Kröhnke reaction and Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction from formylsumanene, bromosumanene and benzaldehyde. Complexation of the ligands with RuCl<sub>2</sub>(DMSO)<sub>4</sub> or RuCl<sub>3</sub> in EtOH/CHCl<sub>3</sub> followed by the counterion exchange with NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> yielded the symmetric disumanenyl complexes (C1, C2), and unsymmetrical ones (C3, C4). The absorption spectra of all the complexes showed two intense bands at around 300 nm corresponding to the ligand-centered (LC) state. Their emission spectra were also studied at room temperature to find that all the complexes exhibited one broad emission band at 400–500 nm under the excitation wavelength of 300 nm. Noteworthy is that unsymmetrical complexes showed another emission peak at 530 nm (Fig. 1b). We further focused on their cation recognition property in MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O solution to find their Li<sup>+</sup> sensing ability and the effect of counter anion. (Fig. 1c).

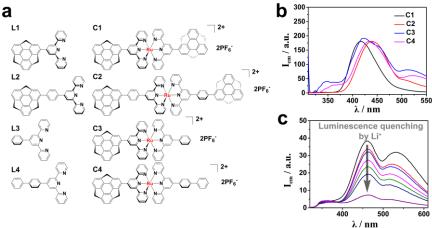


Figure 1. a) Structure of L1-L4 and C1-C4. b) PL spectra of C1-C4. c) Li<sup>+</sup> titration study with C4.
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