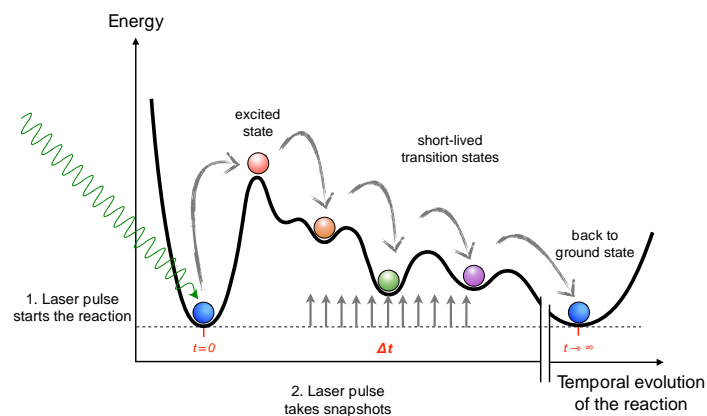


# Ultrafast X-ray Spectroscopies at the European XFEL



Frederico Alves Lima  
European XFEL – FXE

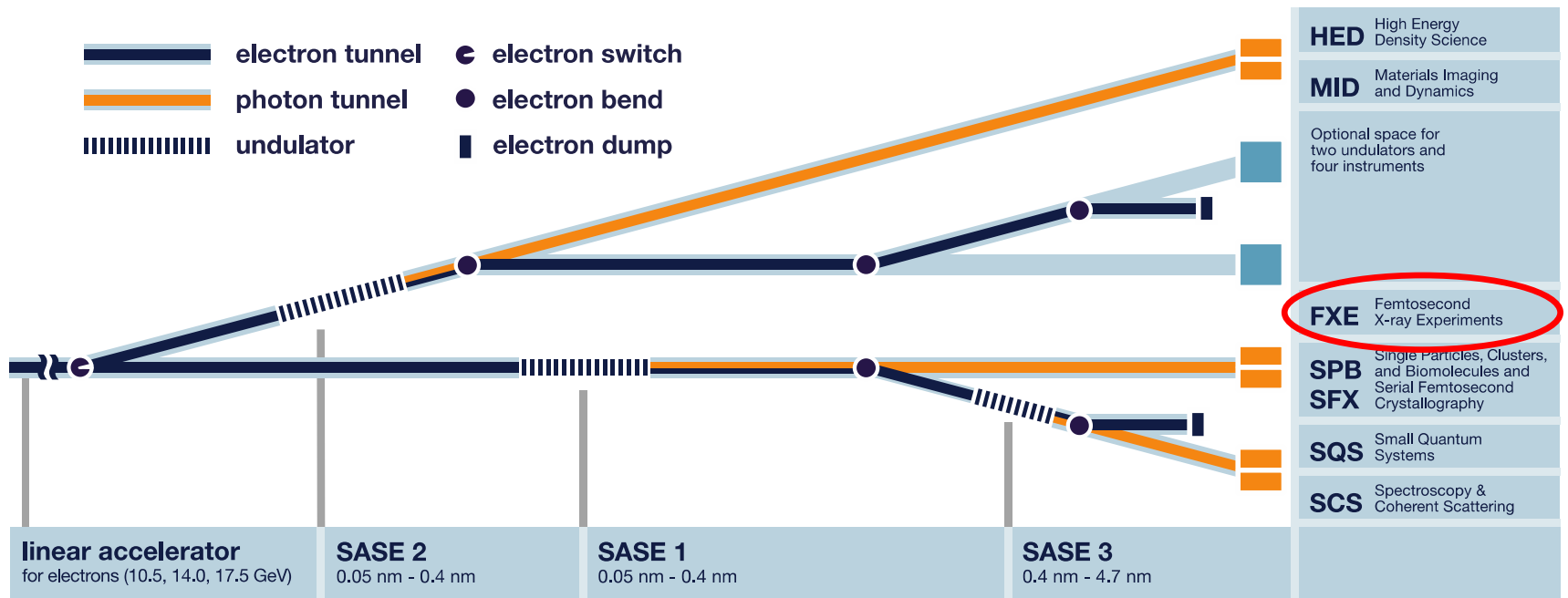
Workshop on Chemical Dynamics and Energy, 11.12.2019



# The European XFEL

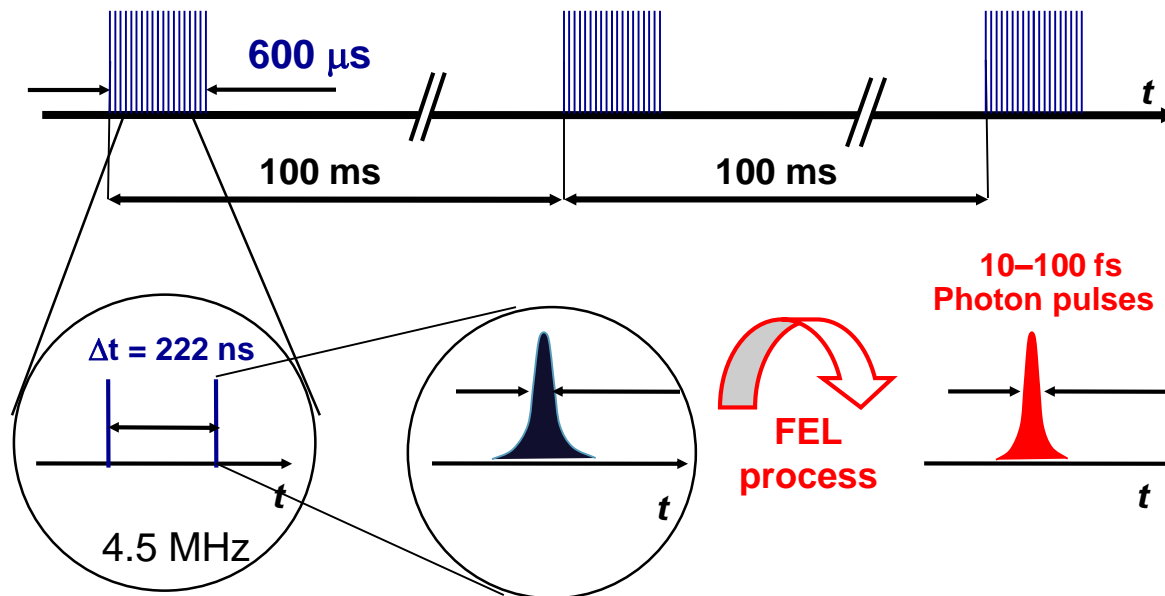


# The European XFEL



# EuXFEL: radiation time structure

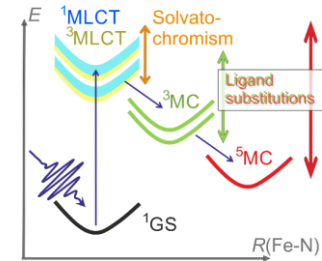
**Electron bunch trains**  
(with up to 2700 bunches, 0.1–1 nC)



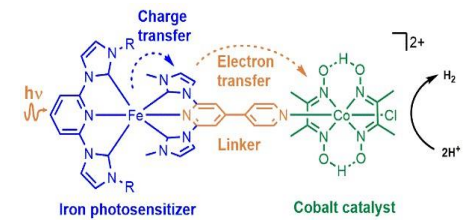
**Up to 27 000 pulses/s**

## Scientific cases

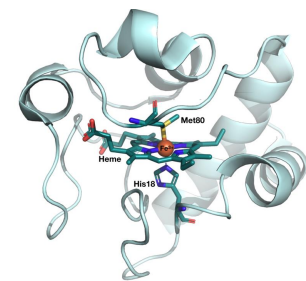
- Manipulating and mapping out the potential energy surface (PES) landscape in Fe(II)-based complexes



- Dynamics of light conversion in iron based photosensitizers

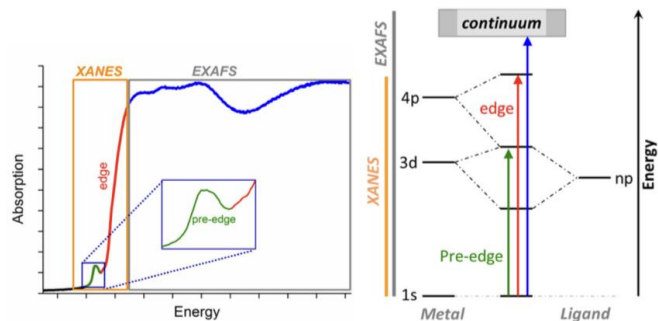


- Electron transfer and doming in ferric heme proteins

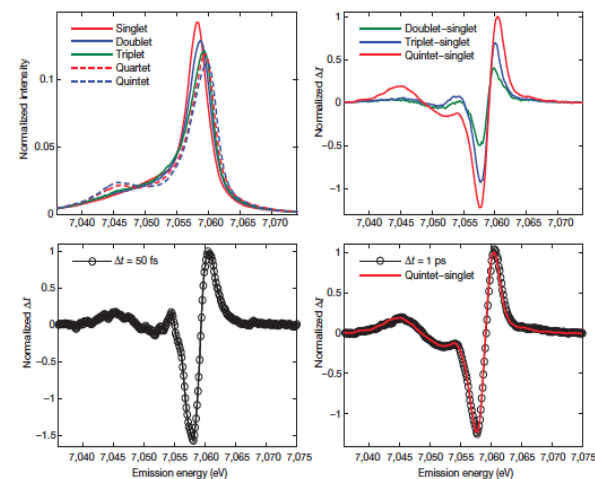
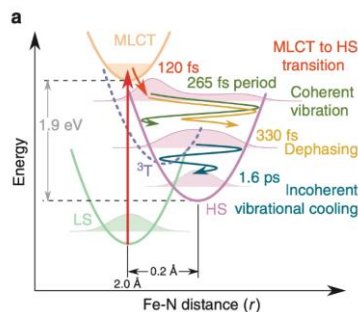
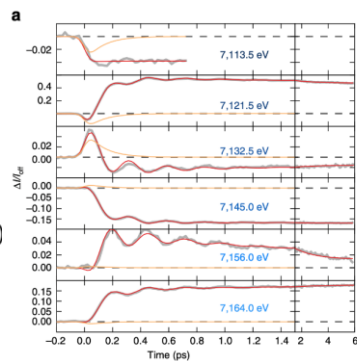
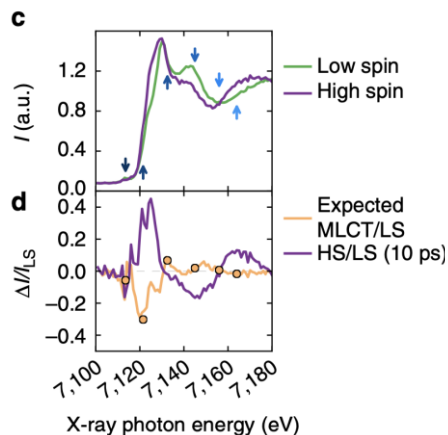
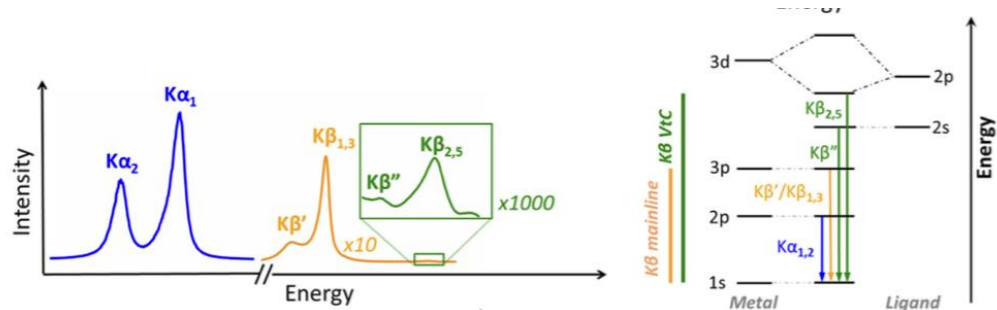


# Tools and observables: time-resolved X-ray spectroscopy

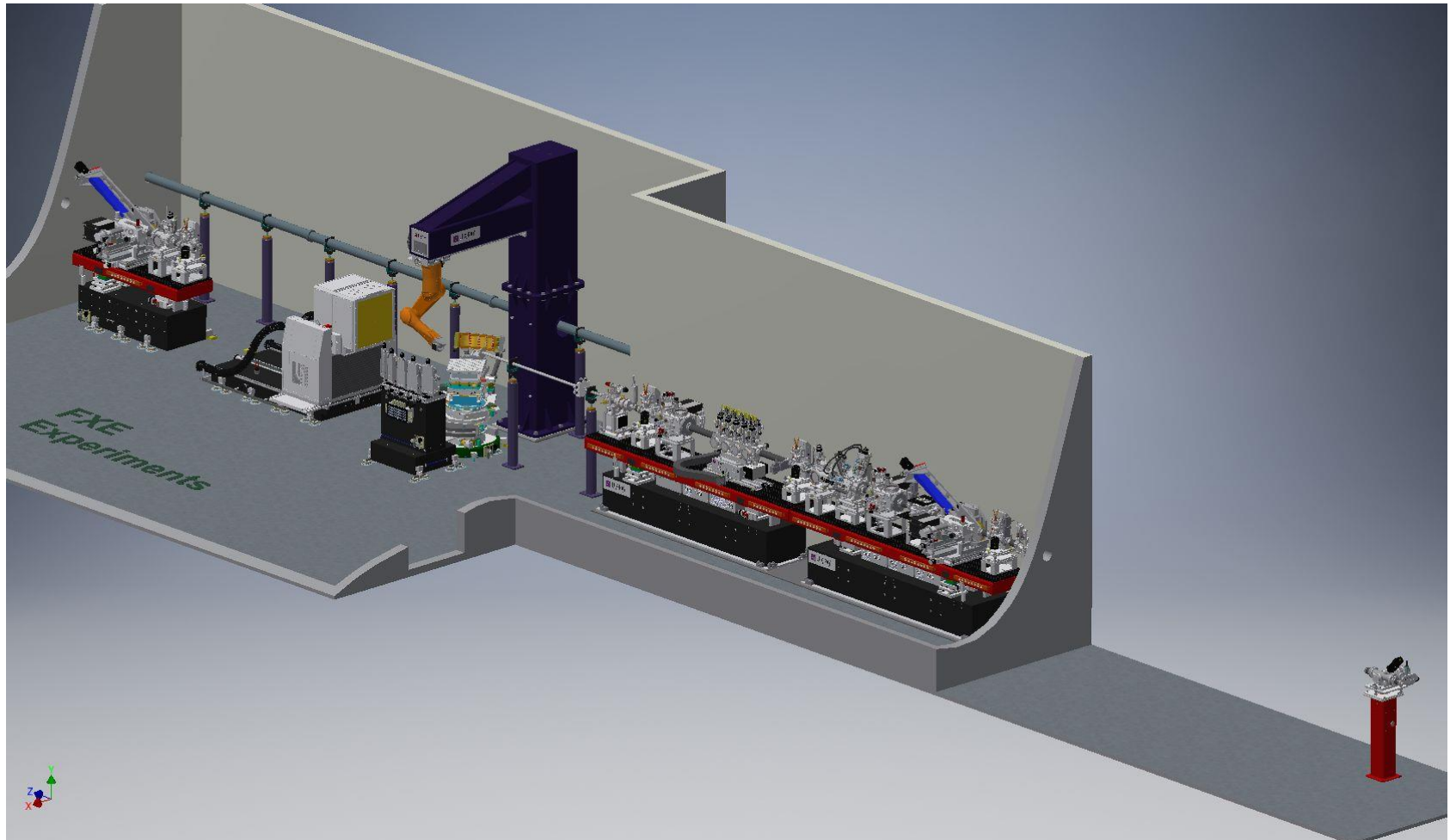
XAS



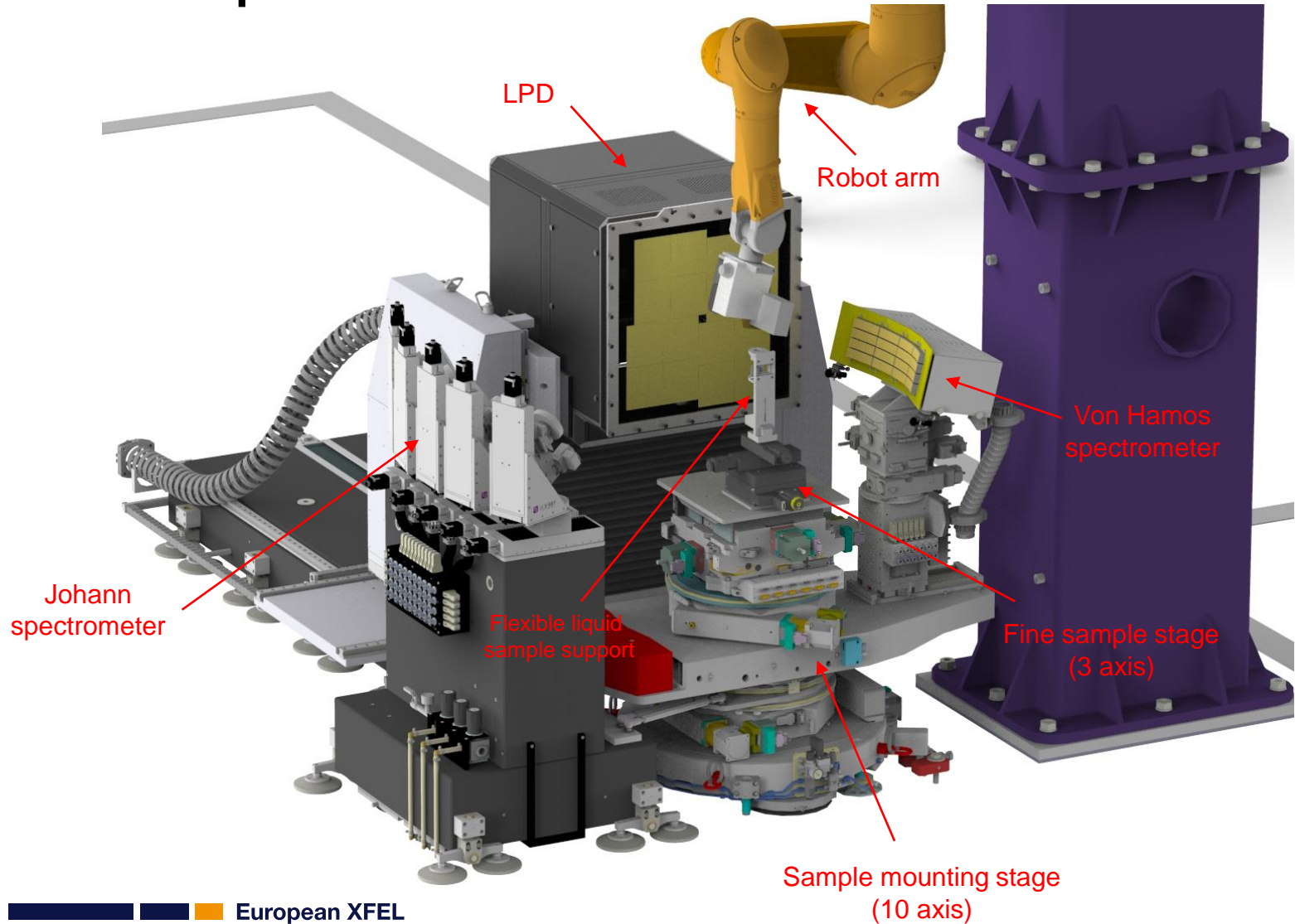
XES

Spin crossover dynamics of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ Kowalska, J. K., Lima, F. A., *et al.*, *Isr. J. Chem.*, **56**, 9-10 (2016) 803W. Zhang *et al.*, *Nature*, **509** (2014) 345H. Lemke *et al.*, *Nature Comm.*, **8**, (2017) 15342

# FXE Instrument Overview

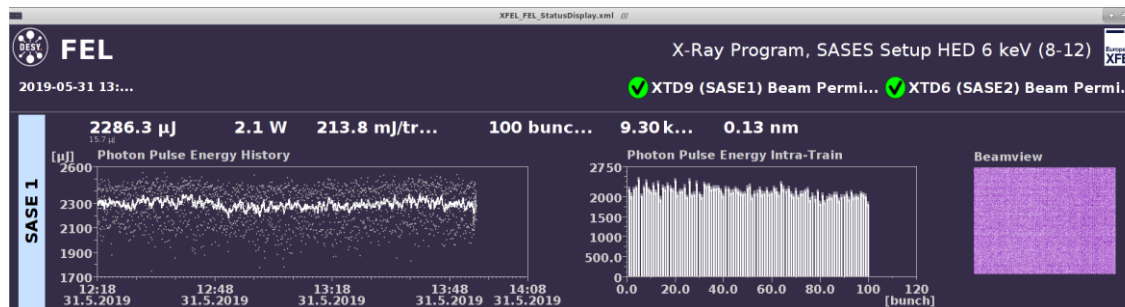
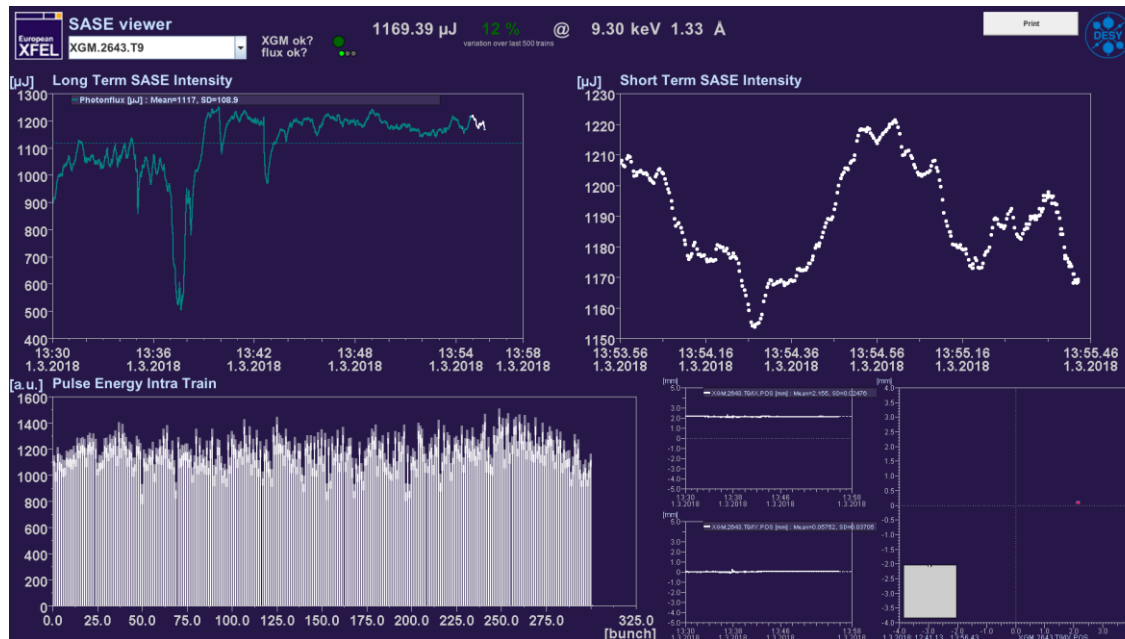


# FXE: Sample interaction area

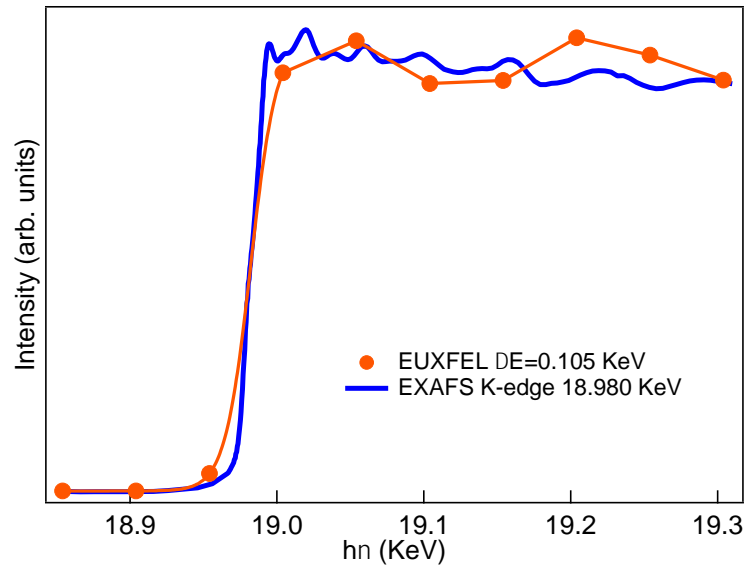




# Milestones: 300 pulses in a train at 1 MHz & >2mJ/pulse

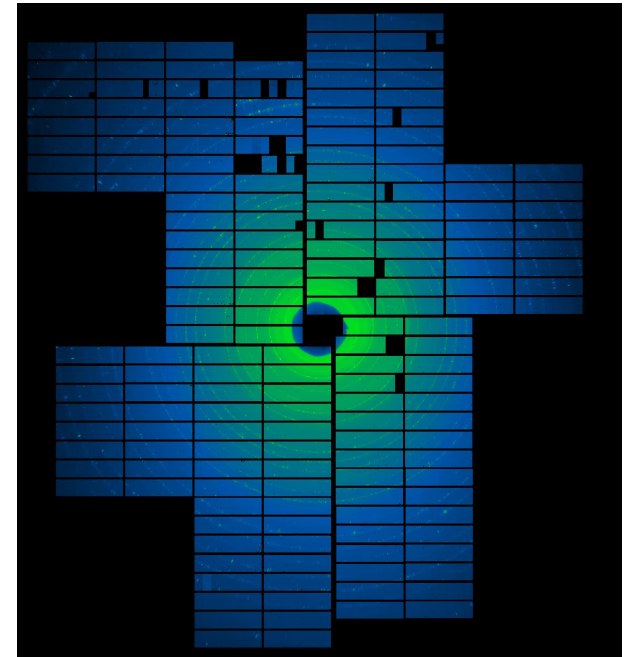


# Milestones: high photon energies

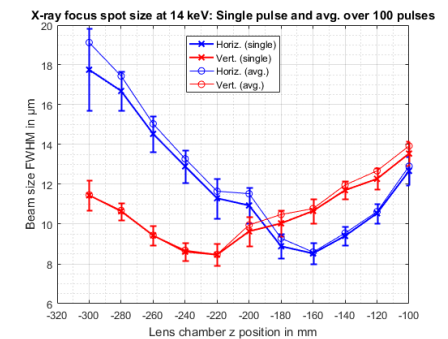


Nb K-edge ~19 keV

Unique opportunities at high X-ray energies!



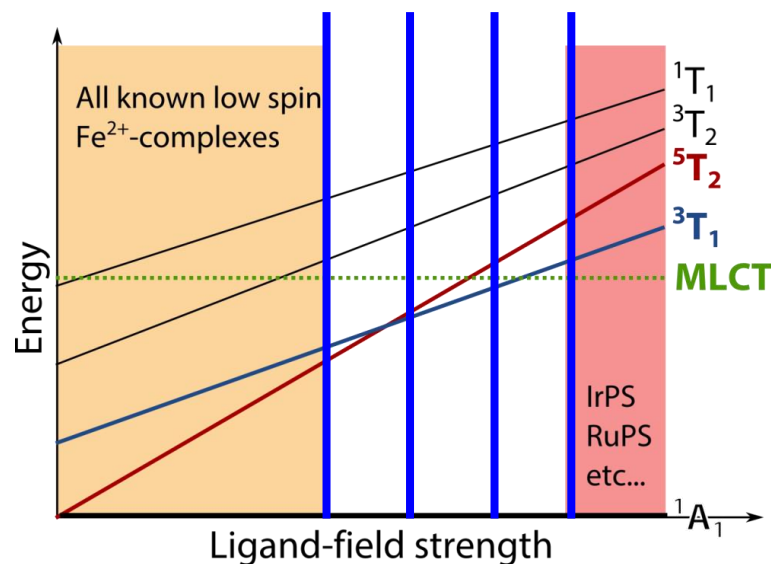
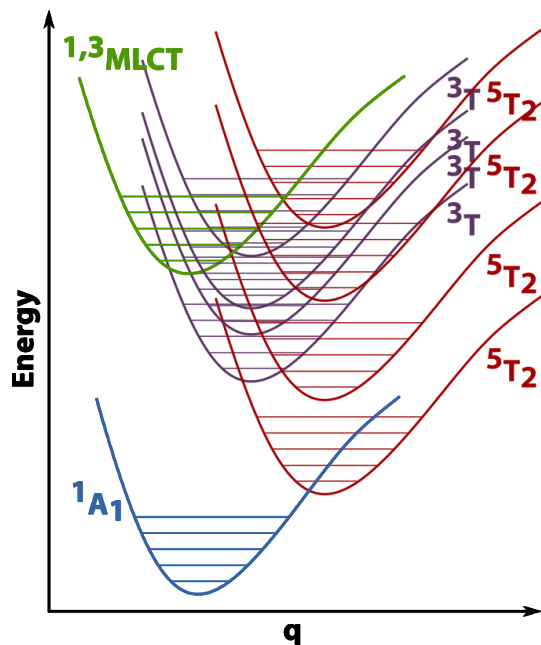
LaB<sub>6</sub> diffraction collected with LPD @ 14 keV



Beam size at sample: ~10  $\mu\text{m}$

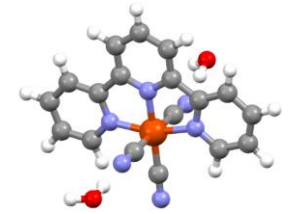
# Long-lived charge-separated excited states in Fe<sup>II</sup> complexes

Using solvent and DFT-optimized ligand substitution the PES landscape (in particular conical intersections) can be controlled and intramolecular relaxation rates can thus be modified.



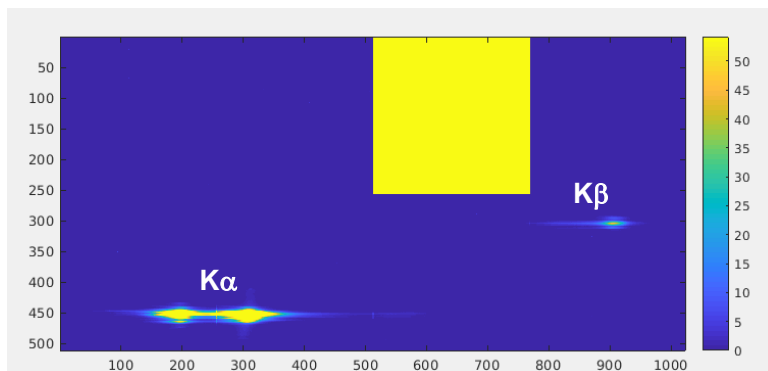
Perspective: Fe(II)-based photosensitizers in photovoltaics or molecular photocatalysis (*i.e.* H<sub>2</sub>O splitting)

# Femtosecond XES on $[\text{Fe}(\text{tpy})(\text{CN})_3]^-$ solutions

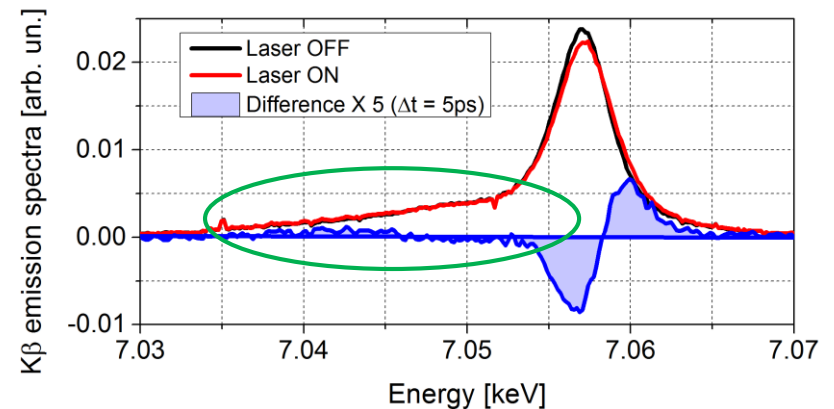
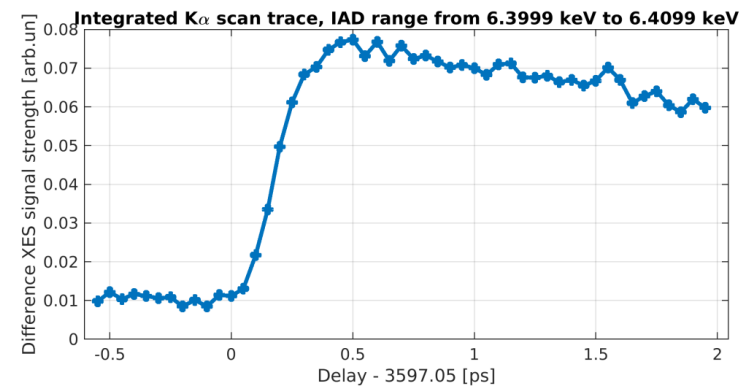


Substituting weak ligand field (LF) polypyridyl ligands, e.g. bipyridines or terpyridines, with electron-donating ligands, *i.e.* cyano groups, modifies the relative energies of MLCT and MC states and consequently extends the lifetime of the CT states (charge-separated states)

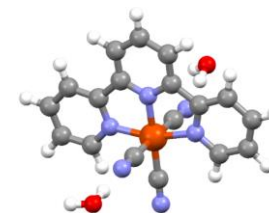
- Simultaneous detection of both iron  $K\alpha$  and  $K\beta$  emission
- Excellent temporal resolution
- High quality XES  $\rightarrow$  lineshape analysis



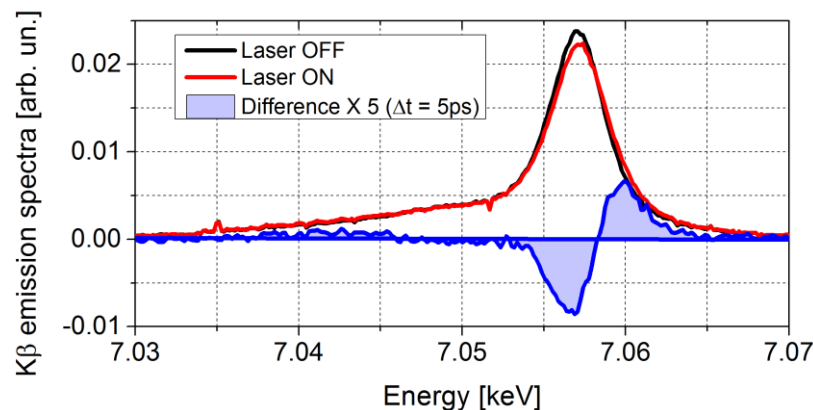
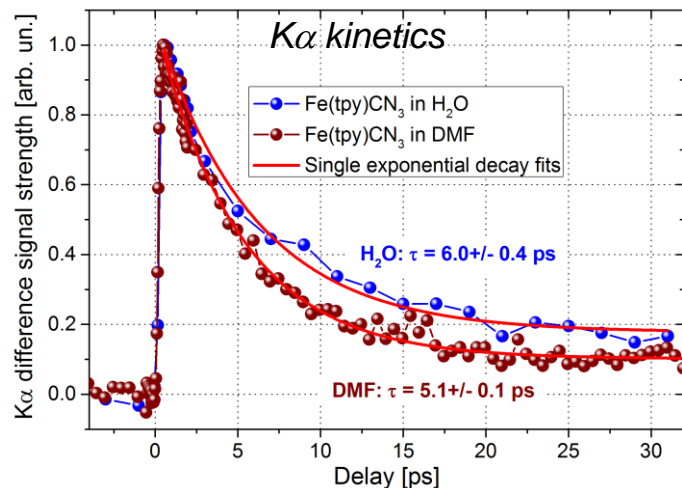
We are on our way!



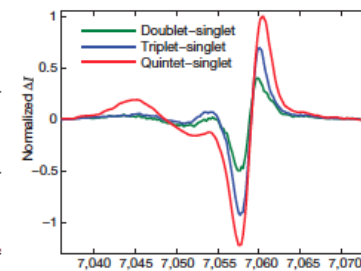
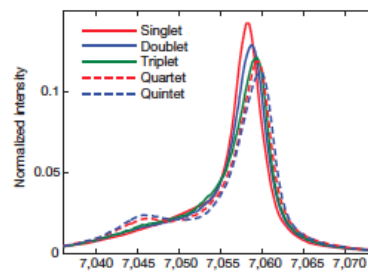
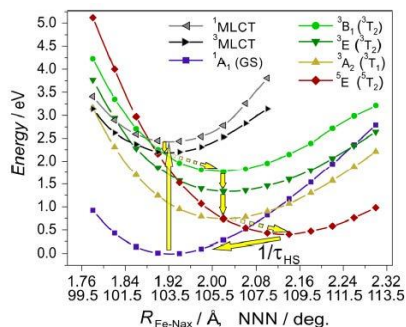
# Femtosecond XES on $[\text{Fe}(\text{tpy})(\text{CN})_3]^-$ solutions



XES kinetics agrees with intermediate spin state lifetime via (TD-)DFT and femtosecond optical spectroscopy.



Mixture of triplet and quintet states, but mostly triplet

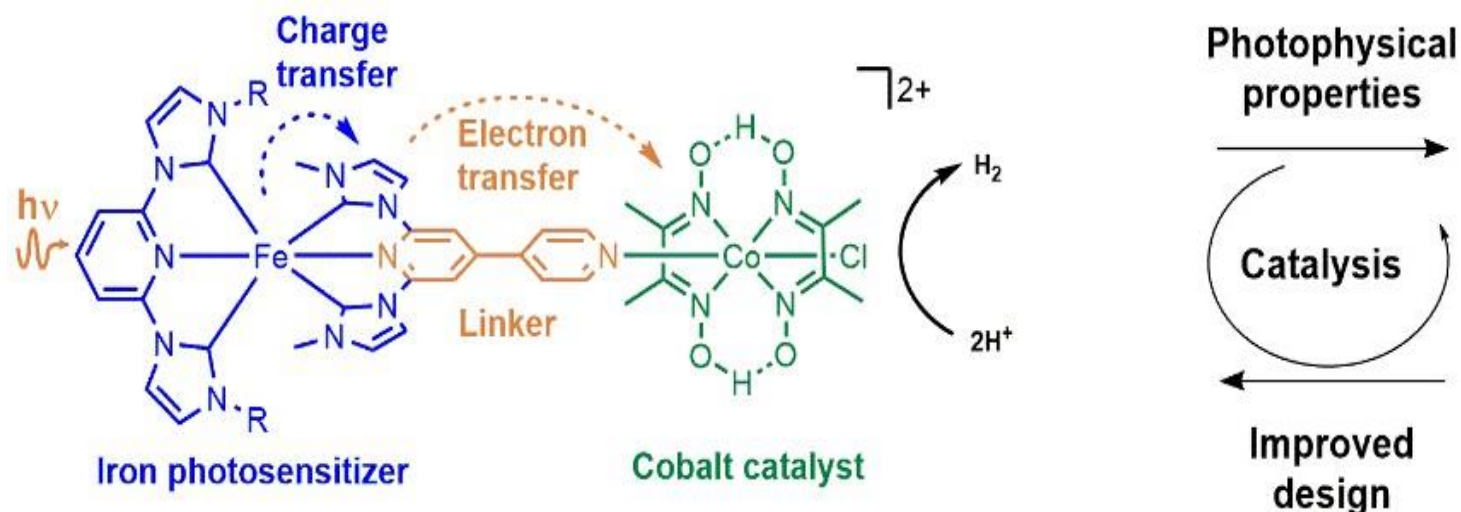


W. Zhang *et al.*, Nature, **509** (2014) 345

G. Vankó, *et al.*; J. Phys. Chem. C, (2015)

# Dynamics of light conversion in iron based photosensitizers

Iron-based photosensitizers present a drawback compared to Ru or Ir analogues due to short-lived MLCT states, which rapidly relax into long-lived MC states affecting efficient catalysis.

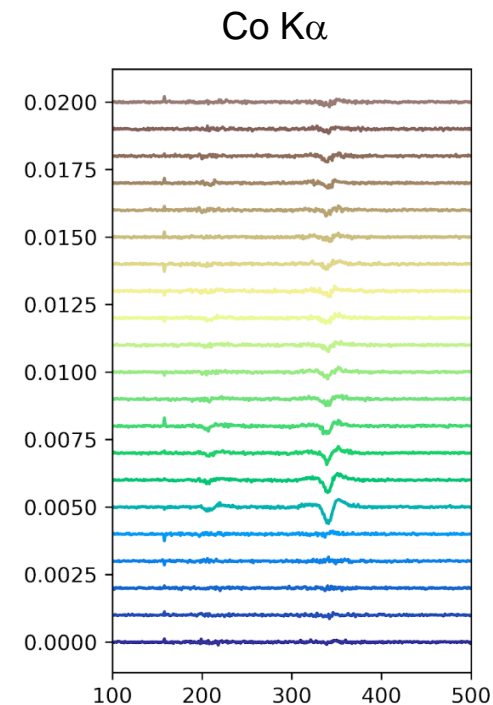
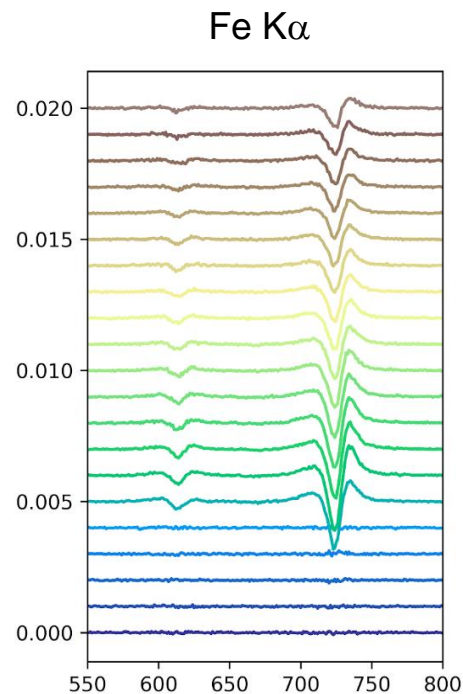
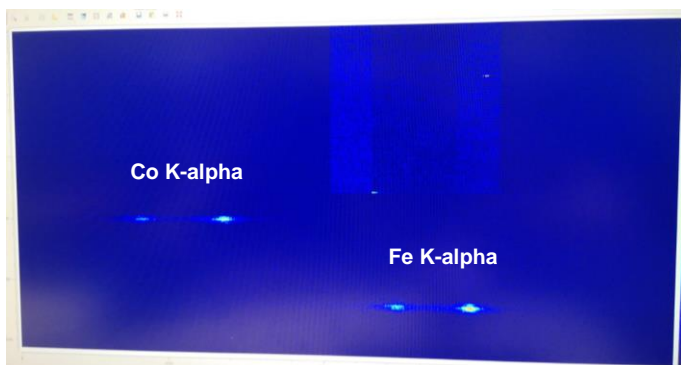
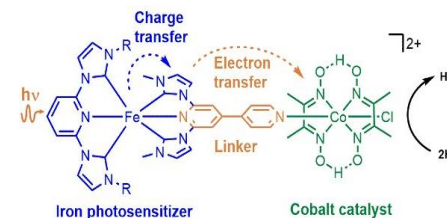


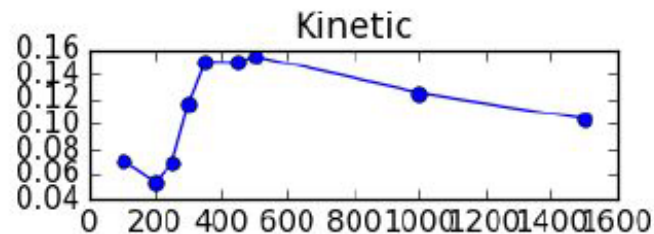
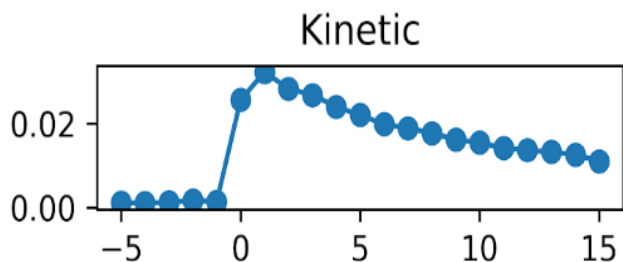
Perspective: Circumvent diffusion-controlled, hence inefficient charge transfer during charge injection in semiconductors or direct electron transfer in bimetallic dyads for photocatalytic proton reduction.

# Dynamics of light conversion in iron based photosensitizers

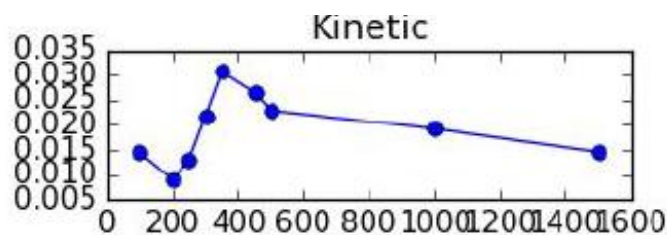
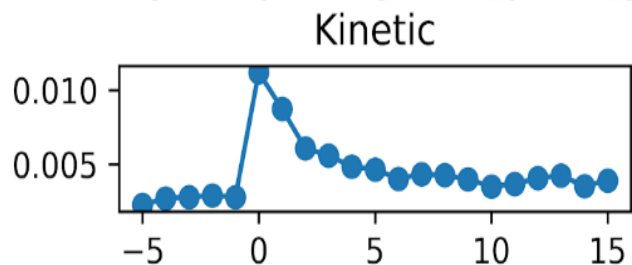
Does a long(er) MLCT lifetime implies on a more efficient charge transfer?

- Simultaneous detection of both iron  $K\alpha$  and iron  $K\alpha$  emission
- No uncertainty about  $t_0$

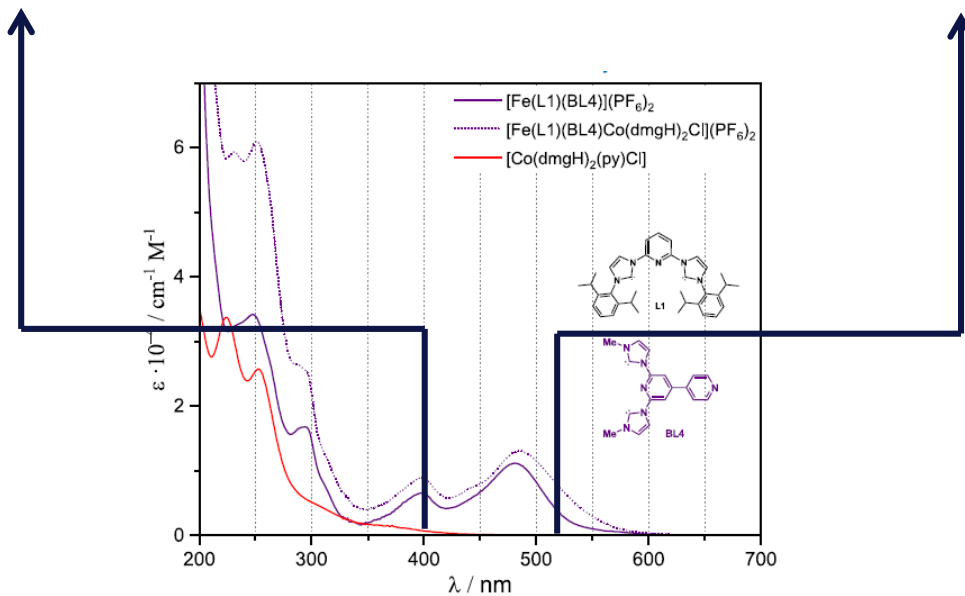




Fe K $\alpha$



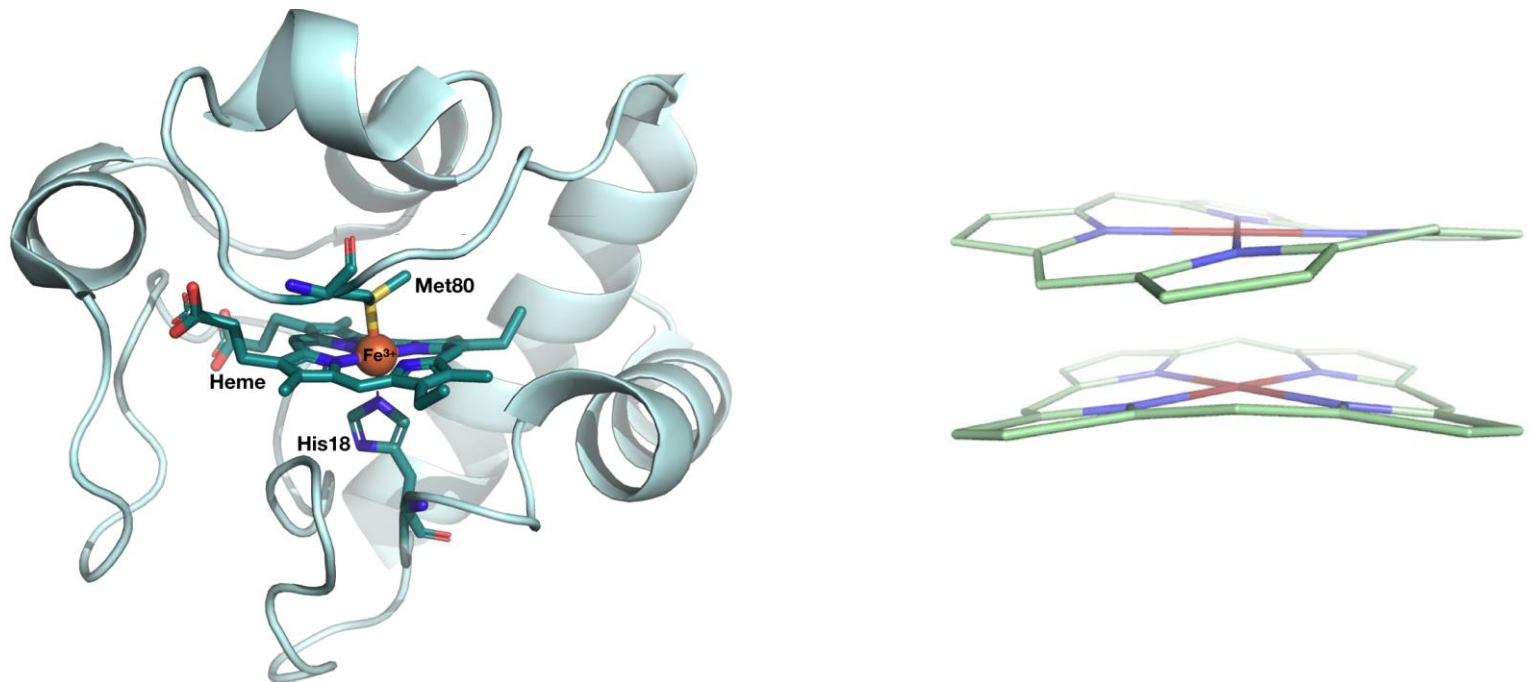
Co K $\alpha$





# Electron transfer and doming in ferric heme proteins

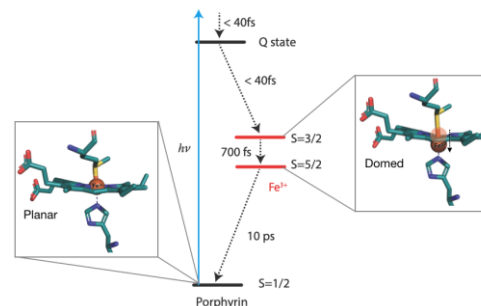
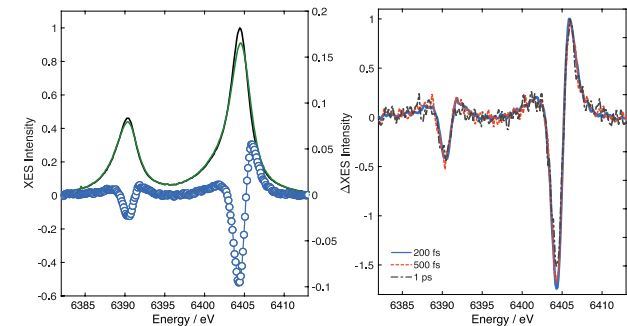
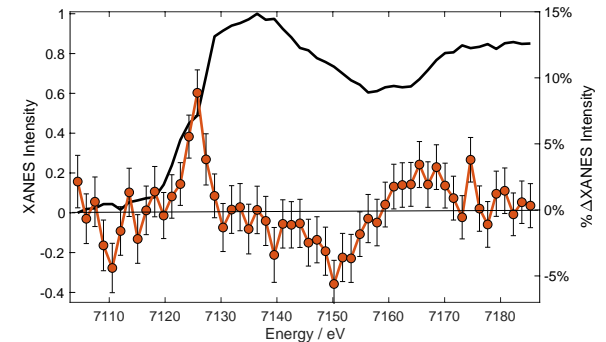
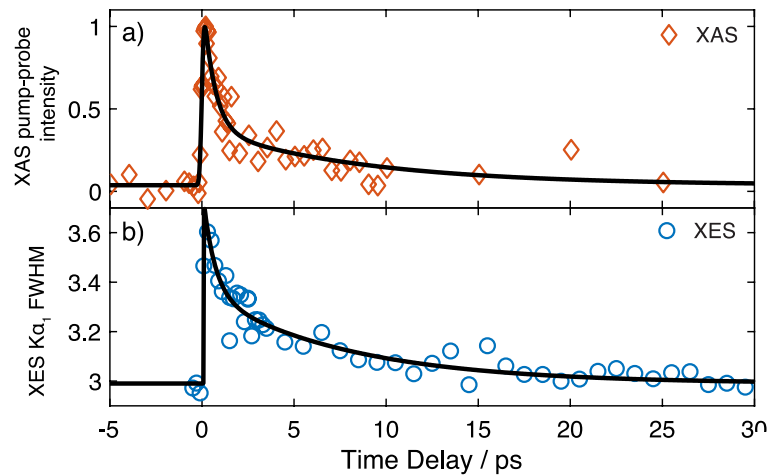
Heme structure ruffling  $\Leftrightarrow$  ability to tune the redox potential  $\Leftrightarrow$  relevant electron transfer properties in humans.



Perspective: Better understanding of the structure deformations (ruffling vs. doming) in the high-spin state and its connections with the protein electron transfer properties.

# Electron transfer and doming in ferric heme proteins

- What are the structure and electronics of the excited-state(s)?
- Does a ligand detachment occur upon photoexcitation?
- Combined XAS (SwissFEL) and XES (Eu-XFEL)



# Acknowledgements



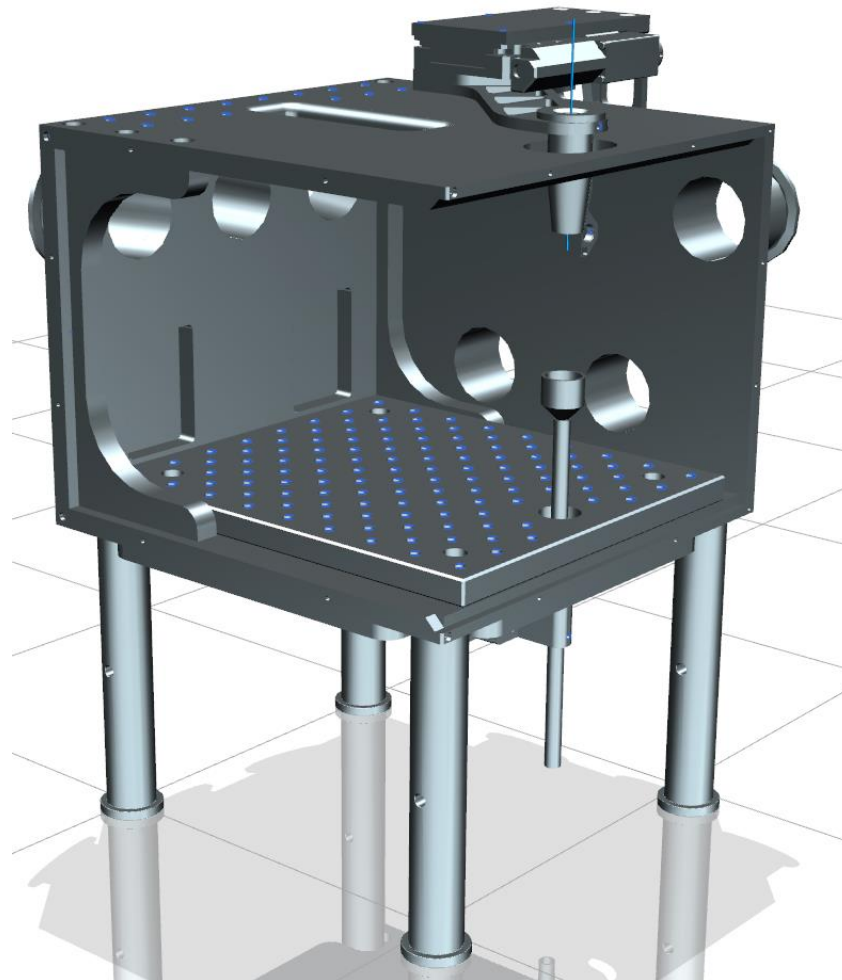


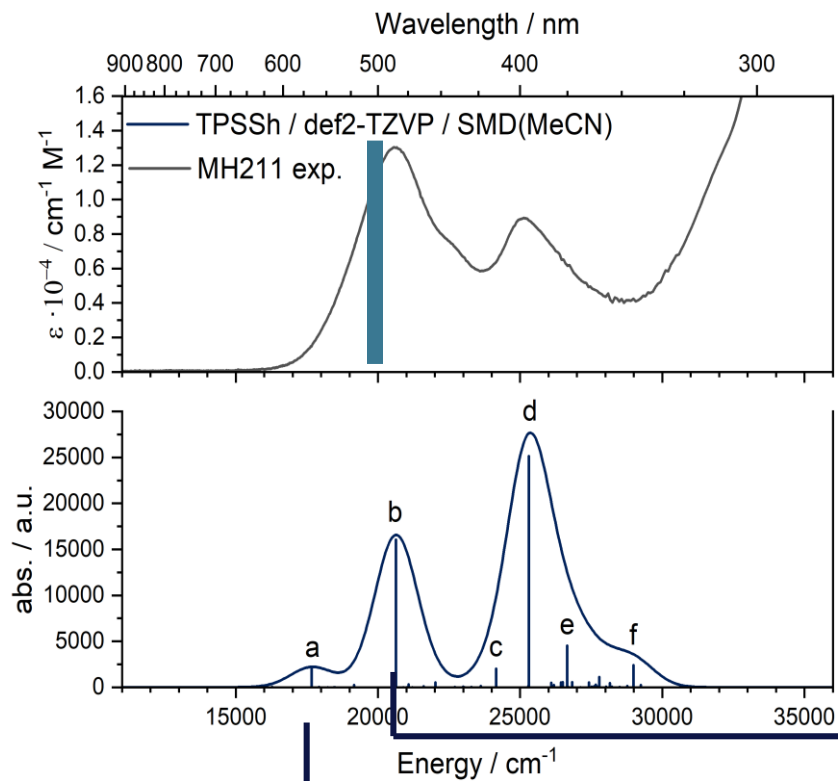
Thank You for Your Attention

# EXTRAS

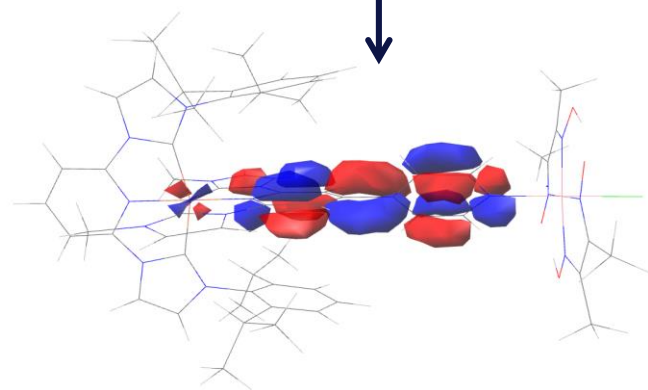
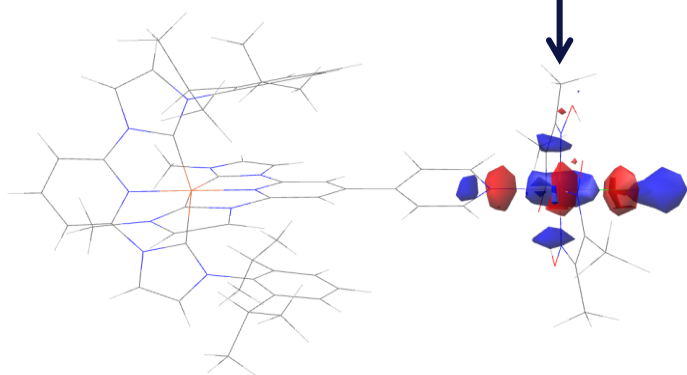
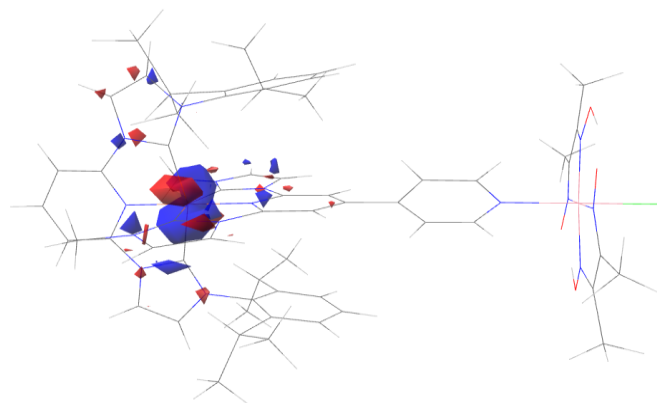


## Sample chamber for liquid experiments





TPSSh, def2-TZVP, SMD (Acetonitrile)



TPSSh, def2-TZVP, SMD (Acetonitrile)



