

Universität  
Basel

# Dye- sensitized Solar Cell

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Molecular and Carbon based electronic systems

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# Outline

1. Introduction
2. The Construction of Dssc
3. The Mechanisum of Dssc
4. Key Efficiency parameters of Dssc
5. Advantages/ disadvantages
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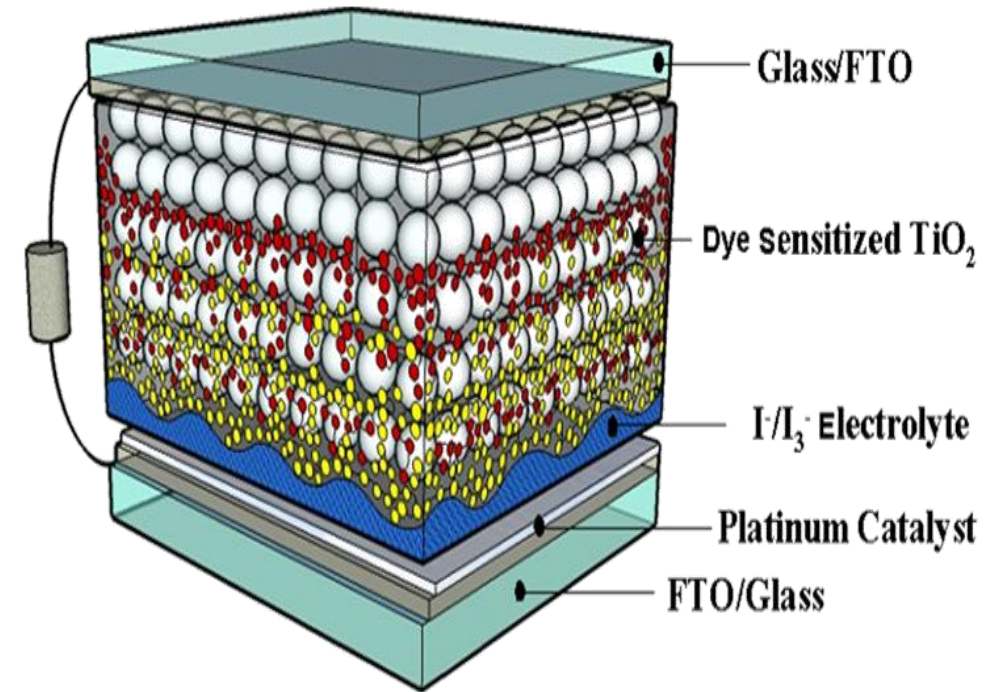
# Introduction:

- 1960 ( discover)
- 1972 ( the demonstration and discussion)
- 1988 ( Invetation by **Brain O Regan and Micheal Grätzel**)
- 1991 ( the first efficiency)
- 2010 ( prize)



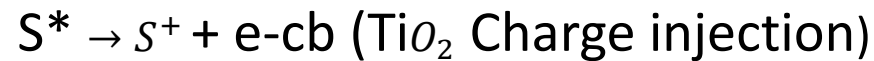
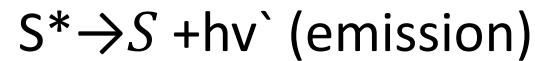
## The Construction of DSSc

- Fluoride- doped tin- dioxide ( $\text{SnO}_2:\text{F}$ )
- titanium oxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ )
- photosensitive (ruthenium-polypyridine dye)
- iodide electrolyte
- platinum metal

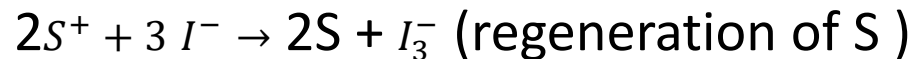


# The mechanism of DSSc:

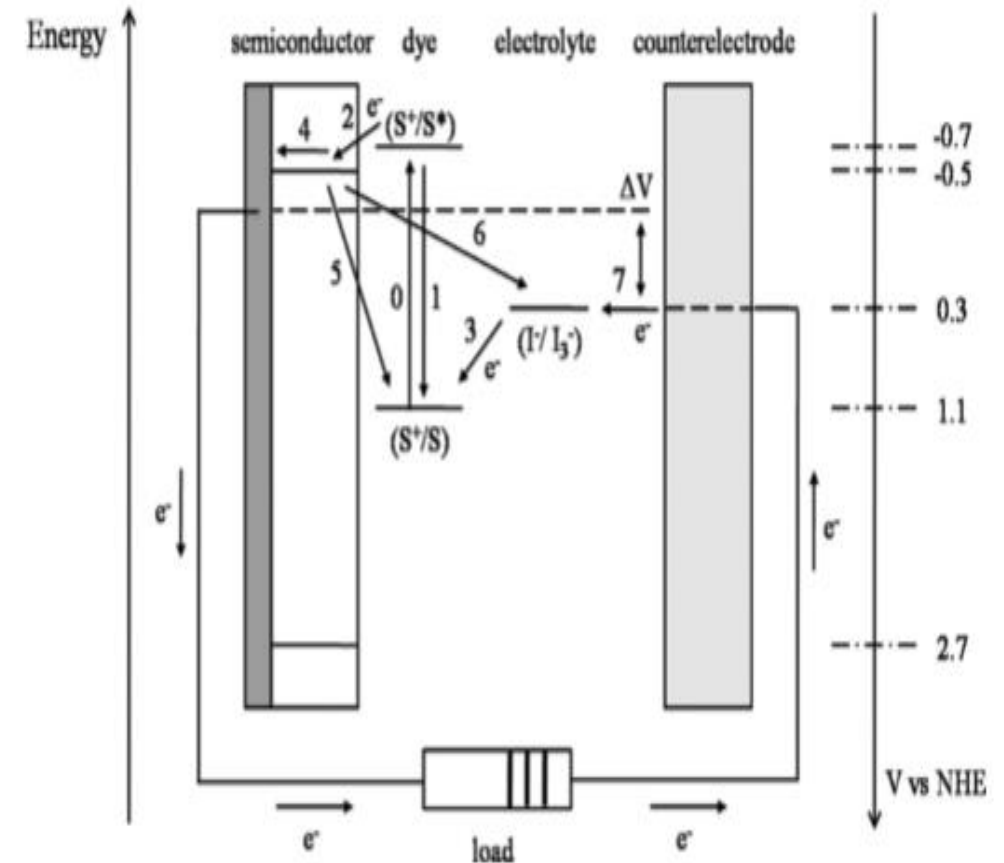
- **Reaction 1 and 2:** electron injection and excited state decay



- **Reaction 3:** Regeneration of the oxidized dyes

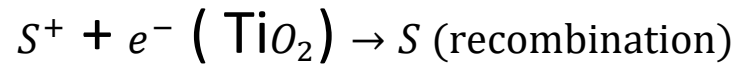


- **Reaction 4:** electron transport through the mesoporous oxide film

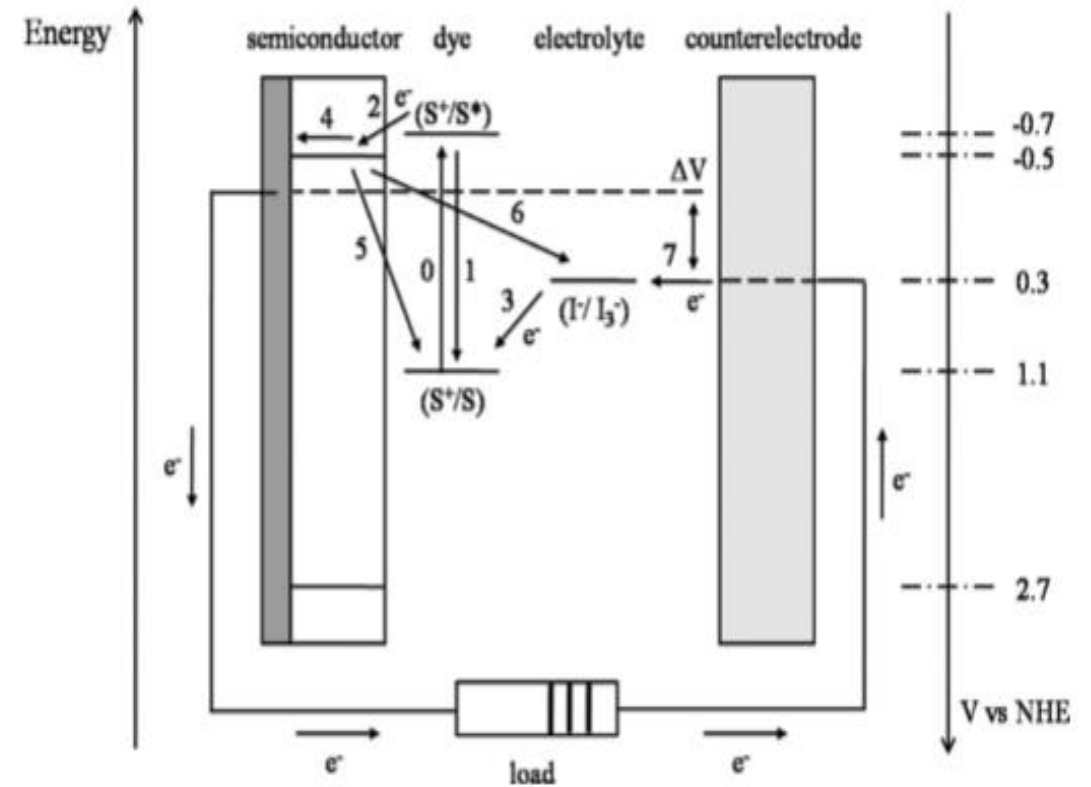




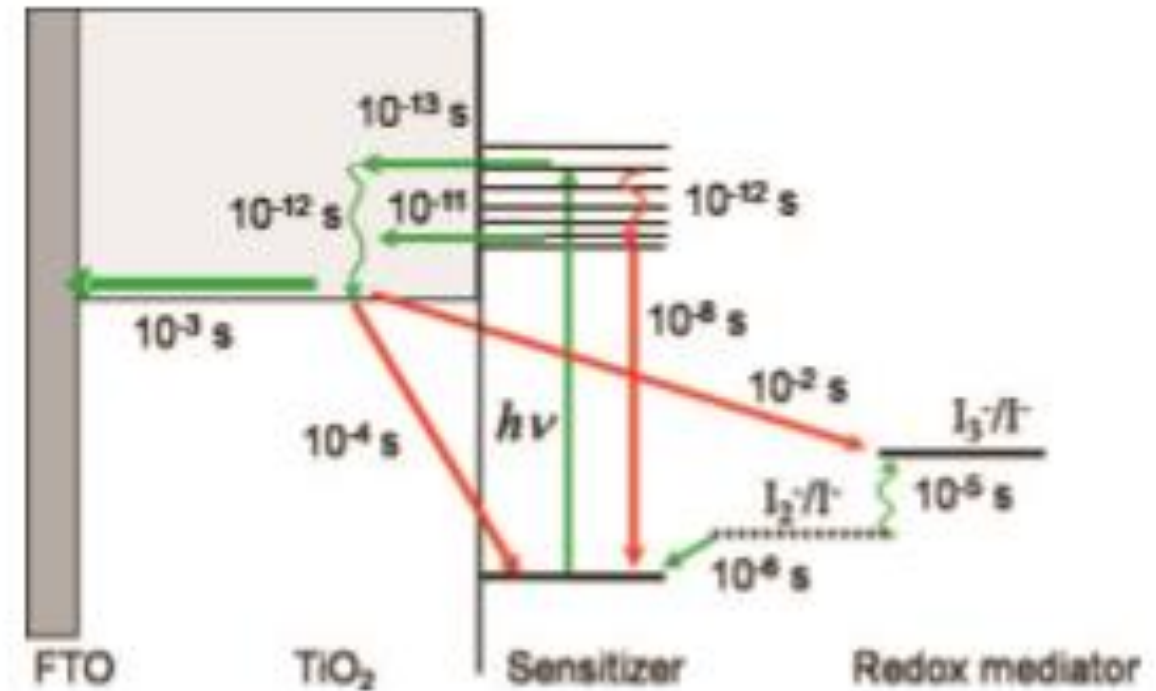
- **Reaction 5 and 6** : recombination of electrons in the semiconductor with oxidized dyes or electrolyte species



- **Reaction 7**: reduction of electron acceptors in the electrolyte at the counter electrode



The process of electron transfer taking place at the oxide/dye/electrolyte interface



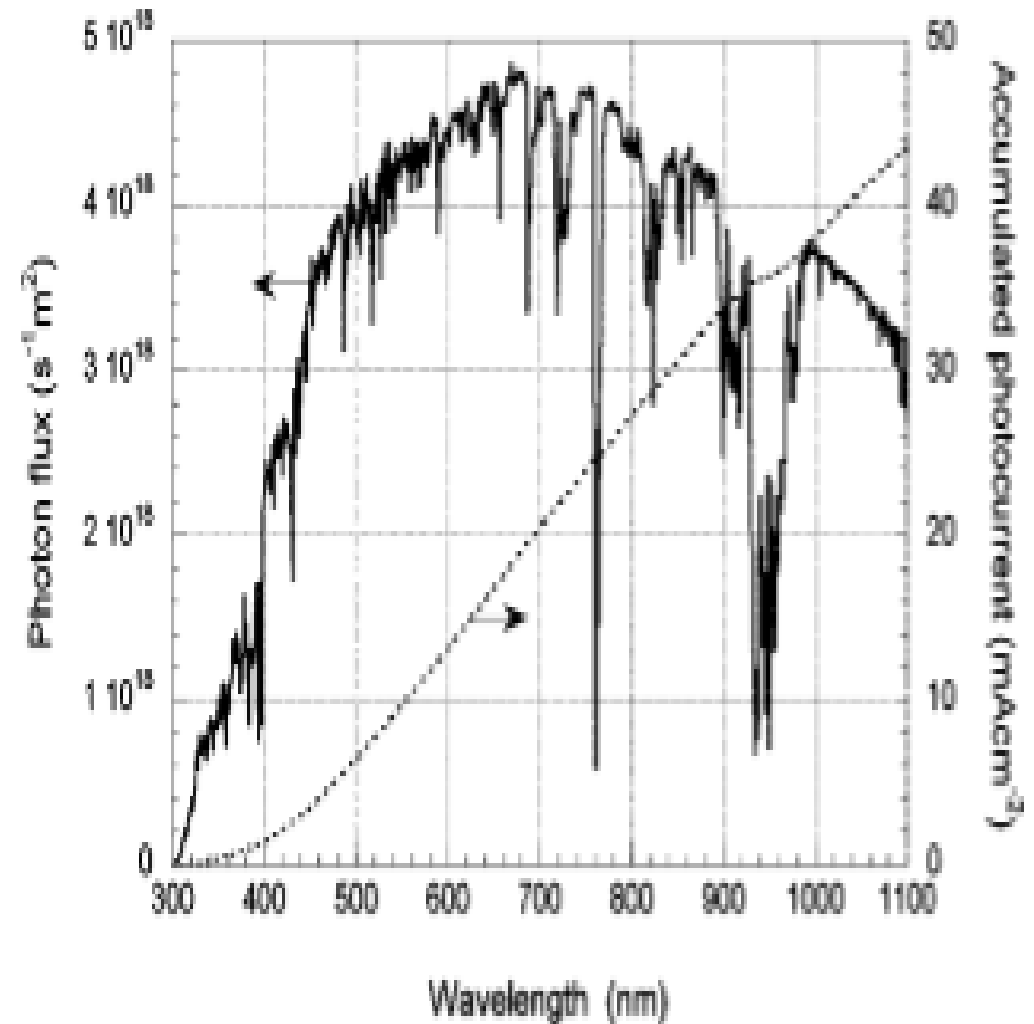
## Key efficiency parameters of a DSSc :

- Air mass (AM) =  $1/\cos\varphi$

$\varphi$  : is the angel of elevation of the sun

- The standard solar spectrum ( solar cells) :

AM 1.5 G (global) ,  $\varphi = 42$



The irradiance of the sun as a  
function of wavelength



## Key efficiency parameters of a DSSc :

$\eta$  : electrical energy conversion efficiency

$$\eta = \frac{P_{max}}{P_{in}} = \frac{I_{SC} \cdot V_{OC} \cdot FF}{P_{in}}$$

$I_{sc}$  : short circuit current

$V_{oc}$  : open circuit photovoltage

**FF**: filling factor

$P_{in}$  : the intensity of the incident light

the filling factor can assume values  
between 0 and less than 1

$$FF = P_{max} / J_{SC} V_{OC}$$

$$IPCE = \frac{J_{SC}(\lambda)}{e\phi(\lambda)}$$

( incident photon to current conversion efficiency)

e: elementary charge

$\phi$ : incident radiative flux ( $W/m^2$ )

# Advantages/disadvantages

## **Advantages :**

- Lightweight
- flexibility
- Some selling points

## **Disadvantage :**

- Liquid electrolyte
- Cost
- Electrolyte solution

# Present DSSc research and development

Researchers at Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne:

- New molecules (electrolyte)/liquid or gel
- At the cathode platinum → cobalt sulfide

last 5-10 years :

- liquid electrolyte → solid hole conducting material ( hybrid perovskite dye)
- Solid state DSSCs with 15% efficiency

## References:

- Fundamental Sciences:

Dye- Sensitized solar celles ( Edited by K.Kalyanasundaram)

- Materials concepts for solar cells:

Thomas Dittrich

- Dye sensitized solar cells:

Anders Hagfeld, Gerrit Boschloo, Licheng Sun, Lars Kloo,

Henrik Pettersson

Thank you