

TIME-RESOLVED RELAXATION DYNAMICS OF NEAR-INFRARED EXCITED ELECTRONIC STATES IN TRANSITION METAL COMPLEXES.

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Sub-100 fs time-resolved, broadband transient absorption spectroscopy was employed to investigate ultrafast radiationless relaxation dynamics of near-infrared, metal-centered (MC), electronic excited states of several d^5 and d^9 transition metal complexes (e.g., CuCl_4^{2-} , CuBr_4^{2-} , IrBr_6^{2-} , IrCl_6^{2-} , etc.) in acetonitrile solution. The results yield insights into the topology of the involved potential energy surfaces, Jahn-Teller distortions, and the dynamics through conical intersections connecting the first excited and ground electronic states (energy gap, less than 8000 cm^{-1}). Furthermore, it was found that the addition of water to the solutions efficiently quenches the MC excited states via energy transfer.