

Supporting information for:

**Time resolved *in situ* combined video/XANES/UV-Vis spectroscopy on the  
influence of X-rays on aqueous copper solutions**

J. Gerbrand Mesu, Andrew M. Beale, Frank M. F. de Groot and Bert M. Weckhuysen<sup>\*</sup>

Inorganic Chemistry and Catalysis, Department of Chemistry, Utrecht University

Sorbonnelaan 16, 3584 CA Utrecht, The Netherlands

### **ESI Movie S1**

*In situ* video movie during the exposure of an aqueous solution containing 100 mM of a Cu<sup>2+</sup>-histidine (1:2) complex at pH 3.4 to the X-ray beam. The movie is rendered at 2000% of the original speed. The beam enters the cuvette from approximately 50 % of the way up the right hand side of the image.

### **ESI Movie S2**

*In situ* video movie during the exposure of an aqueous solution containing 100 mM of a Cu<sup>2+</sup>-histidine (1:2) complex at pH 6.0 to the X-ray beam. The movie is rendered at 2000% of the original speed. The beam enters the cuvette from approximately 50 % of the way up the right hand side of the image.

### **ESI Movie S3**

*In situ* video movie during the exposure of an H<sub>2</sub>O:NMP (1:1) solution containing 20 mM of a Cu<sup>2+</sup>-neocuproine (1:2) complex to the X-ray beam. The movie is rendered at 2000% of the original speed. The beam enters the cuvette from approximately 50 % of the way up the right hand side of the image.

**Table S1.** Ligands, of which the copper complexes were tested for its susceptibility towards reduction under influence of the X-ray beam. The redox potentials, copper precursor salt type, copper concentration and metal-to-ligand ratio are indicated in the table.

Ligand	Reduction Potential (mV)	Counter anion	[Cu] in mM	Cu:L	Reduction Product
Neocuproine	+594	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	20	1:2	Cu <sup>+</sup>
Imidazole	+317	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:4	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:6	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	100	1:4	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	100	1:6	Cu <sup>0</sup>
Ammonium	+308	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	100	1:20	No Reduction
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:20	No Reduction
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	100	1:20	Cu <sup>0</sup>
Pyridine	+304	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:4	No Reduction
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:6	No Reduction
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	100	1:10	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	20	1:6	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	20	1:10	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	20	1:10	Cu <sup>0</sup>
Terpyridine	-80	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:2	No Reduction
		Cl <sup>-</sup>	20	1:2	No Reduction
Glycine	-160	Cl <sup>-</sup>	20	1:2	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:2	No Reduction
Histidine	-170	Cl <sup>-</sup>	100	1:2	Cu <sup>0</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	20	1:2	Cu <sup>0#</sup>
		SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	100	1:2	Cu <sup>0</sup> but slower than <sup>#</sup>