

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Tuning of photo-redox behaviours, and thermodynamic and kinetic aspects of intercomponent energy transfer in trimetallic complexes of Ru(II) and Os(II) by exploiting their second coordination sphere**

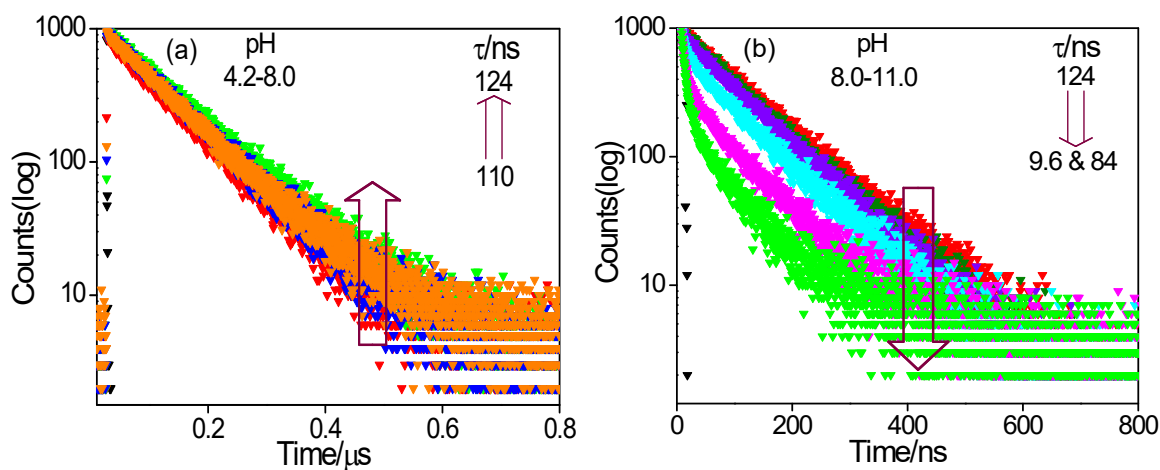
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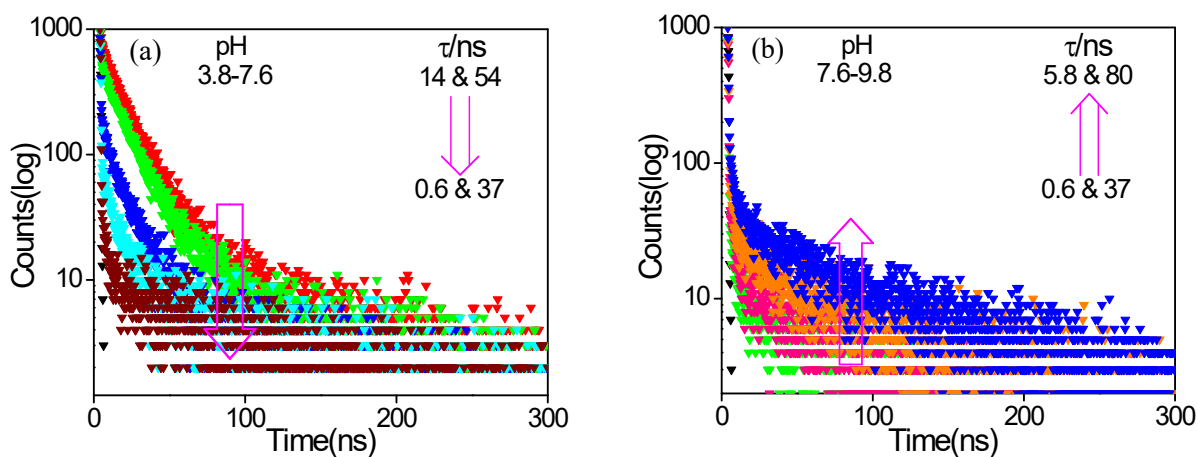
## Physical measurements

UV-vis absorption spectra were recorded using a Shimadzu UV 1800 spectrometer. Steady state luminescence spectra were acquired by a Horiba Fluoromax-4 spectrofluorometer. Luminescence quantum yields were determined using literature method taking  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$  as the standard. Luminescence lifetime measurements in nanosecond were carried out by using time-correlated single photon counting set up from Horiba Jobin-Yvon. The samples were excited at 490 nm using a nanosecond diode laser. The luminescence decay data were collected on a Hamamatsu MCP photomultiplier (R3809) and were analyzed by using IBH DAS6 software. Spectrophotometric titrations were carried out with a series of acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) solutions containing the same amount of complex ( $10^{-5}$  M) and pH adjusted in the range of 2.0-12. Robinson-Britton buffer was used in the study. The pH measurements were made with a Beckman Research Model pH meter. Steady state emission spectra also carried out at 77K in EtOH-MeOH (4:1, v/v) glass.

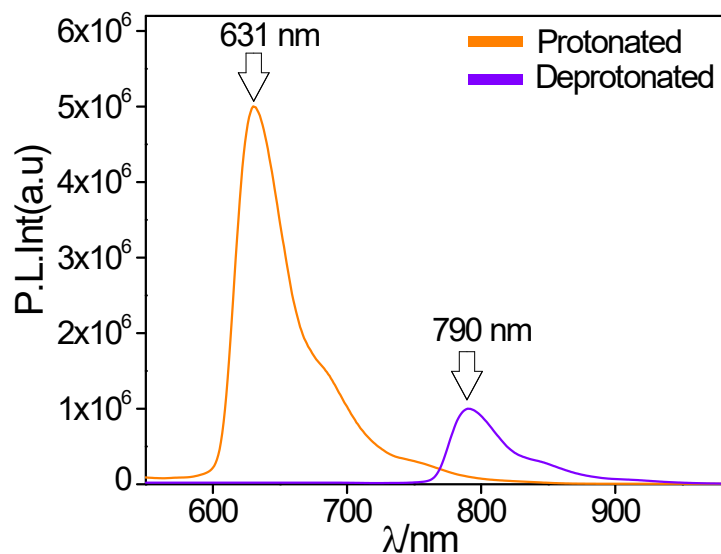
The electrochemical measurements were carried out with a BAS epsilon electrochemistry system. A three-electrode assembly comprising a Pt (for oxidation) or glassy carbon (for reduction) working electrode, Pt auxiliary electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference electrode were used. Both cyclic voltammetry (CV) and square wave voltammetric (SWV) measurements were carried out in argon purged acetonitrile-water (1:10, v/v) solution of the complexes (*ca.* 1 mM) at 25°C and the concentration of the supporting electrolyte (TEAP) was maintained at 0.1 M. The scan rate of acquiring CV was 100 mV/s, while SWV was acquired at a scan rate of 25 mV/s. All of the potentials reported in this study were referenced against the Ag/AgCl electrode, which under the given experimental conditions gave a value of 0.36 V for the ferrocene/ferrocenium couple.



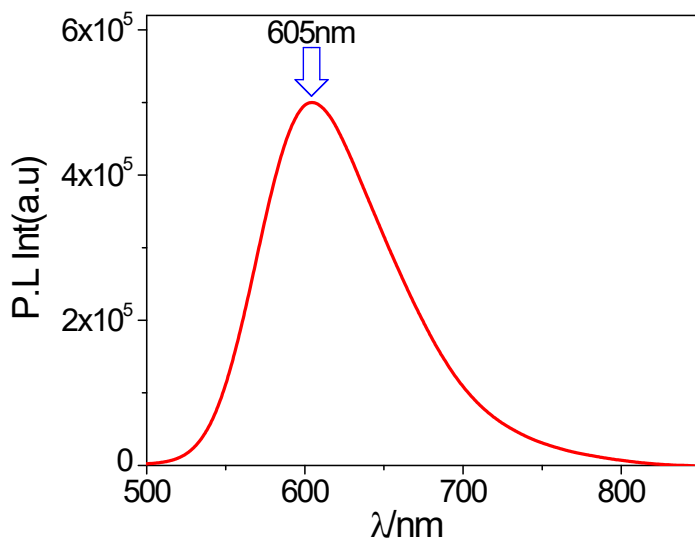
**Fig. S1** pH dependent luminescence decays of RuOsRu ( $4H_2$ ) in acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) buffer. The insets show the extent of lifetime change in the studied pH domain. The solution is excited with 490 nm light using a nanosecond diode laser and emission decay is monitored at 733 nm.



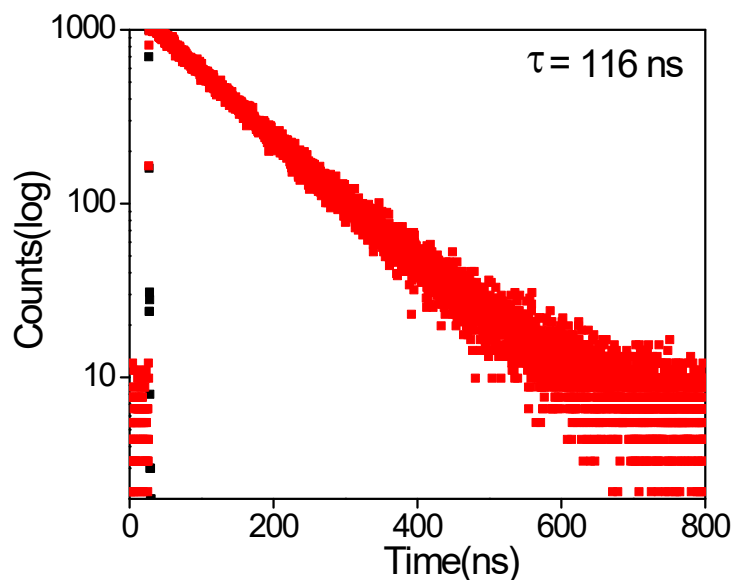
**Fig. S2** pH dependent luminescence decays of OsOsOs ( $5H_2$ ) in acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) buffer. The insets show the extent of lifetime change in the studied pH domain. The solution is excited with 490 nm light using a nanosecond diode laser and emission decay is monitored at 743 nm.



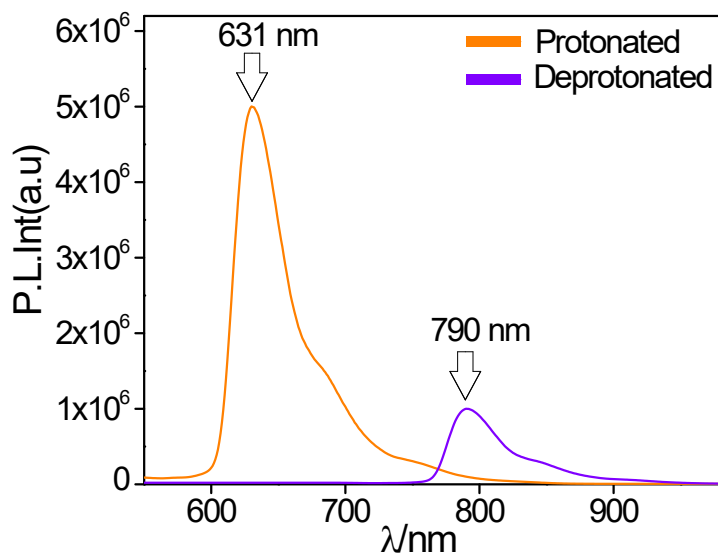
**Fig. S3** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of RuRuRu (**3H<sub>2</sub>**) in its protonated and deprotonated form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



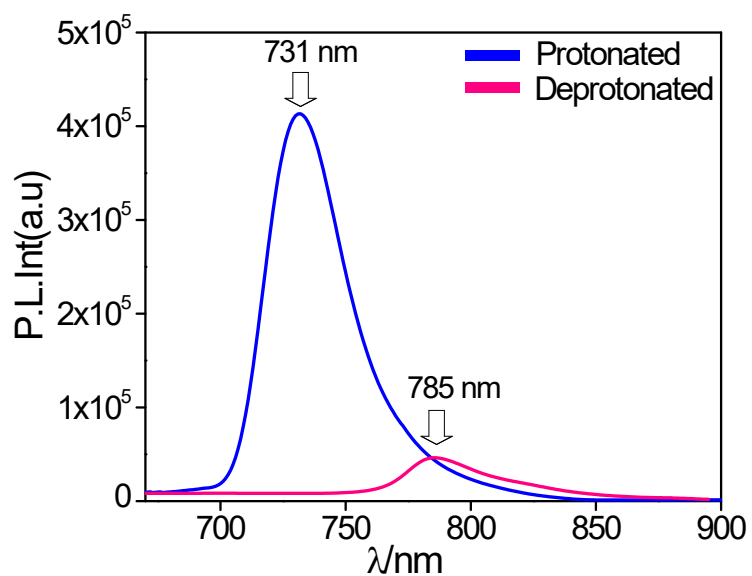
**Fig. S4** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of [(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Ru(d-HIm-t)]<sup>2+</sup> (**1H**) at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



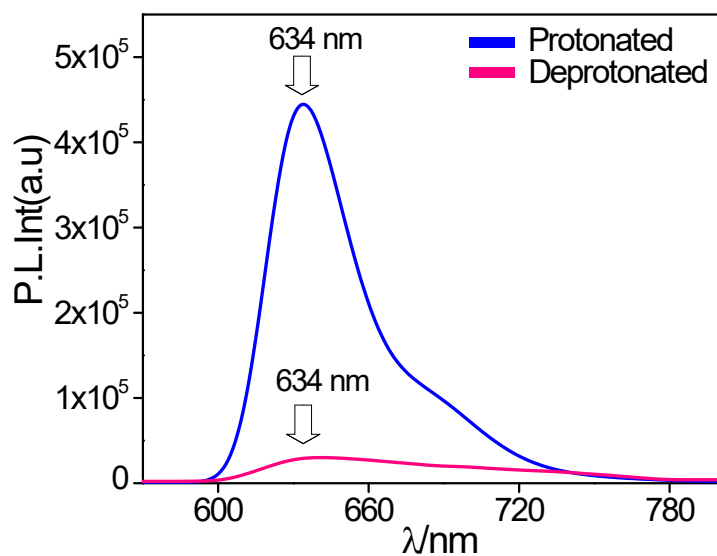
**Fig. S5** Luminescence decay of  $[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{d-HIm-t})]^{2+}(\mathbf{1H})$  in acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) buffer. The solution is excited with 450 nm light using a nanosecond diode laser and emission decay is monitored at 637 nm.



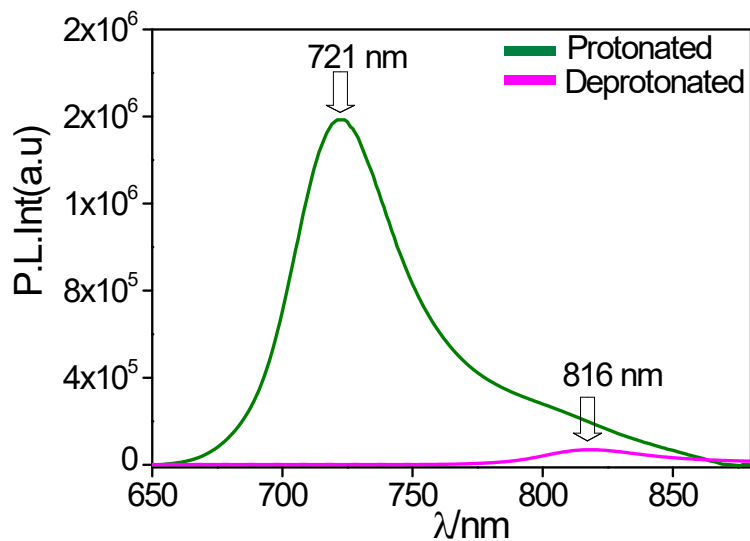
**Fig. S6** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of RuOsRu in its protonated ( $\mathbf{4H}_2$ ) and doubly deprotonated ( $\mathbf{4}$ ) form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



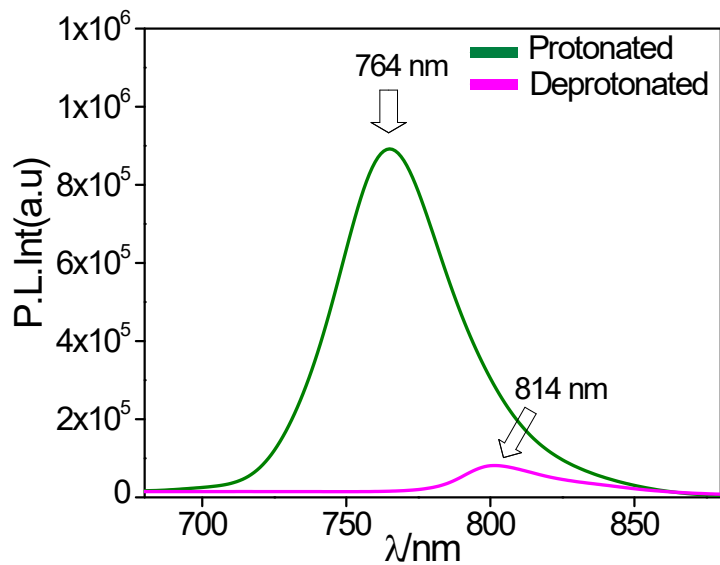
**Fig. S7** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of OsRuOs in its protonated (**6H<sub>2</sub>**) and deprotonated (**6**) form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



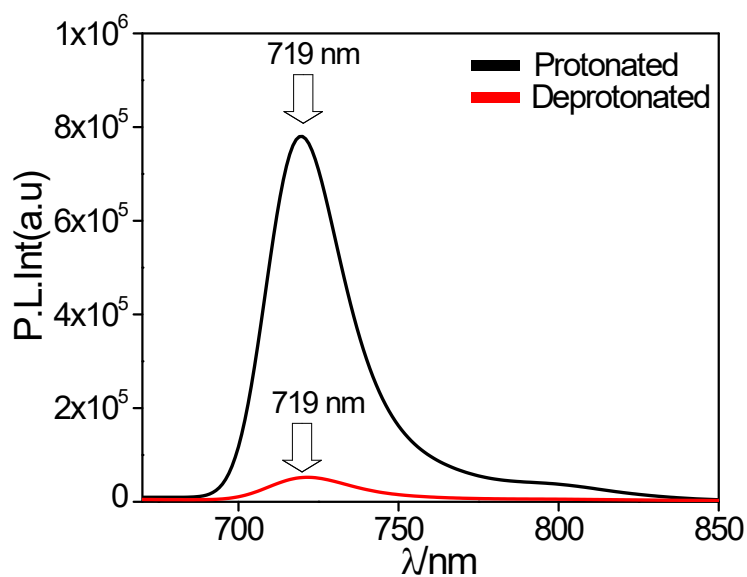
**Fig. S8** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{t-Him-d})_2]^{2+}$  in protonated and deprotonated form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



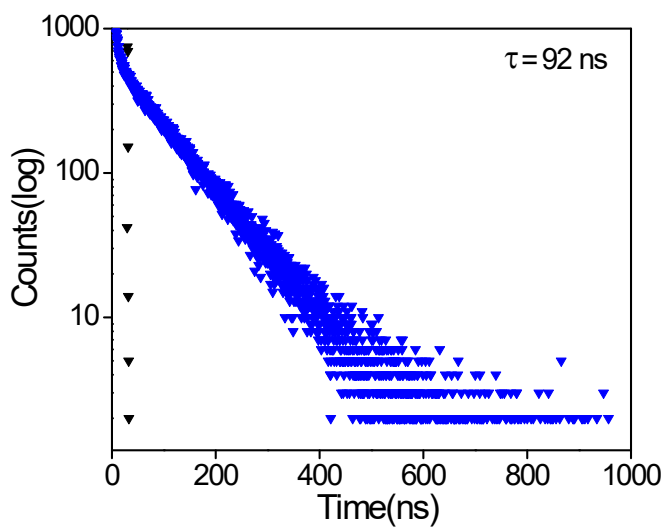
**Fig. S9** Luminescence spectra ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of OsOsOs in protonated (**5H<sub>2</sub>**) and deprotonated (**5**) form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



**Fig. S10** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of [(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Os(d-HIm-t)]<sup>2+</sup> in its protonated (**2H**) and deprotonated (**2**) form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).

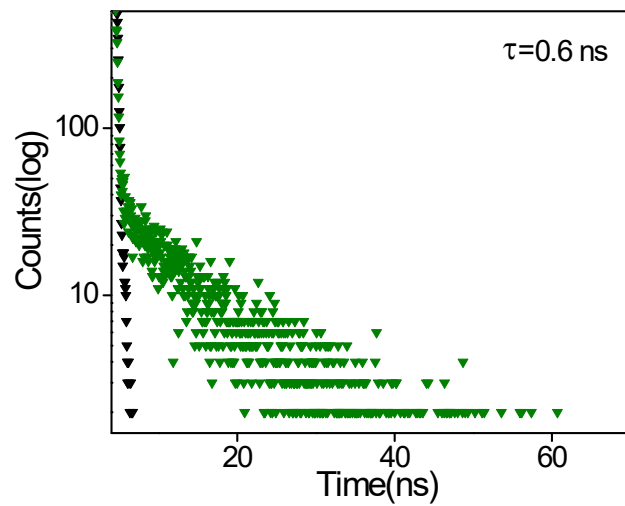


**Fig. S11** Luminescence spectrum ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm) of  $[\text{Os}(\text{t-Him-d})_2]^{2+}$  in its protonated and deprotonated form at 77 K in EtOH-MeOH (1:4, v/v).



**Fig. S12** Luminescence decay of  $[\text{Os}(\text{t-Im-d})_2]$  in acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) buffer. The solution is excited with 490 nm light using a nanosecond diode laser and emission decay is monitored at 738 nm.





**Fig. S13** Luminescence decay of [(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Os(d-HIm-t)] in acetonitrile-water (1:10 v/v) buffer. The solution is excited with 490 nm light using a nanosecond diode laser and emission decay was monitored at 774 nm.