

## **Supporting Information for**

# **Oxygen-transfer Reactions of Molybdenum- and Tungstendioxo Complexes Containing h<sup>2</sup>-Pyrazolate Ligands**

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### Characterisation data for compounds 1 – 5.

**[MoO<sub>2</sub>Cl(h<sup>2</sup>-t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz)] (1):** 0.3 g (1.51 mmol) of [MO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] and 0.33 g (1.51 mmol) of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pzK gave 0.45 g (87%) of the yellow product. mp 125 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.12 (s, 18 H, t-BuH), 6.09 (s, 1 H, ring-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 160.94 (s, 4 C, α-C), 112.46 (s, 2 C, β-C), 32.09 (s, 4 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 30.05 (s, 12 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). IR (KCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 971, 941. MS-EI (m/z): 344 (M<sup>+</sup>), 329 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 165 (t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz - Me). Found: C, 38.3; H, 5.9; N, 8.3. Calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClMoN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 38.56; H, 5.59; N, 8.17.

**[MoO<sub>2</sub>(h<sup>2</sup>-t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz)<sub>2</sub>] (2):** 0.6 g (3.02 mmol) of [MO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] and 1.31 g (6.04 mmol) of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pzK gave 1.31 g (89%) of the slightly yellow product. mp 115 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.20 (s, 18 H, t-BuH), 6.21 (s, 1 H, ring-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 162.30 (s, 4 C, α-C), 107.08 (s, 2 C, β-C), 32.37 (s, 4 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 30.20 (s, 12 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). IR (KCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 951, 922. MS-EI (m/z): 488 (M<sup>+</sup>), 473 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 165 (t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz - Me). Found: C, 54.7; H, 8.0; N, 11.5. Calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>38</sub>MoN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 54.31; H, 7.87; N, 11.52.

**[MoO<sub>2</sub>(h<sup>2</sup>-t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-Brpz)<sub>2</sub>] (3):** 0.33 (1.68 mmol) of [MoO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] and 1.0 g (3.36 mmol) of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-BrpzK yielded 1.08 g (87 %) of slightly yellow crystals. 160 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.30 (s, 18 H, t-BuH), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 157.47 (s, 4 C, α-C), 98.51 (s, 2 C, β-C), 33.47 (s, 4 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 28.35 (s, 12 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). IR (KCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 985, 951, 924. MS-EI (m/z): 646 (M<sup>+</sup>), 631 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 588 (M<sup>+</sup> - t-Bu - H). Found: C, 40.6; H, 5.6; N, 8.6. Calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>36</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>MoN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 41.01; H, 5.63; N, 8.70.

**[WO<sub>2</sub>(h<sup>2</sup>-t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz)<sub>2</sub>] (4):** 0.5 g (1.45 mmol) of [WO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(dme)] and 0.63 (2.9 mmol) of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pzK gave 0.69 g (83%) of yellow crystals. mp 125 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.18 (s, 18 H, t-BuH), 6.44 (s, 1 H, ring-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 162.15 (s, 4 C, α-C), 108.57 (s, 2 C, β-C), 32.44 (s, 4 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 30.05 (s, 12 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). IR (KCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 996, 960. MS-EI (m/z): 574 (M<sup>+</sup>), 559 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 516 (M<sup>+</sup> - t-Bu), 165 (t-Bu<sub>2</sub>pz - Me). Found: C, 45.8; H, 6.6; N, 9.6. Calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>W: C, 46.00; H, 6.67; N, 9.75.

**[WO<sub>2</sub>(h<sup>2</sup>-t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-Brpz)<sub>2</sub>] (5)**: 0.63 g (1.68 mmol) of [WO<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(dme)] and 1 g (3.36 mmol) of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-BrpzK yielded 1.0 g (83%) of slightly yellow crystals. 150 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 1.28 (s, 18 H, t-BuH), 6.44 (s, 1 H, ring-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ) 157.47 (s, 4 C, α-C), 100.73 (s, 2 C, β-C), 33.61 (s, 4 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 28.25 (s, 12 C, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). IR (Nujol mull, KCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 967, 801, 726. MS-EI (m/z): 732 (M<sup>+</sup>), 717 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 635 (M<sup>+</sup>-Br -Me -2 H), 259 ([t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-BrPzH]<sup>+</sup>). Found: C, 35.85; H, 4.90; N, 7.44. Calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>W: C, 36.09; H, 4.96; N, 7.65.

### X-ray crystallography

Crystals of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>-4-BrpzH and the complexes **3** and **6** were taken from the solution, cover with oil and mounted on glass fibres at room temperature. Data were collected on a Stoe IPDS II-array detector system instrument with graphite-monochromated Mo-Kα radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ). The structures were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97<sup>[1]</sup> and refined against  $F^2$  on all data by full-matrix least-squares with SHELXL-97.<sup>[2]</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. All hydrogen atoms were included in the model at geometrically calculated positions and refined using a riding model.

[1] G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A* 1990, **46**, 467-473.

[2] G. M. Sheldrick, University Göttingen

**Table 1.** Selected bond lengths [ $\text{\AA}$ ] and angles [ $^\circ$ ] for **3** and **6**

| <b>3</b>        | <b>6</b> , molecule 1 |                 | <b>6</b> , molecule 2 |                 |            |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Mo(1)-O(1)      | 1.685(3)              | Mo(1)-O(1)      | 1.656(2)              | Mo(2)-O(2)      | 1.642(2)   |
| Mo(1)-O(2)      | 1.686(3)              | Mo(1)-N(1)      | 2.337(3)              | Mo(2)-N(5)      | 2.313(3)   |
| Mo(1)-N(1)      | 2.050(3)              | Mo(1)-N(2)      | 2.183(3)              | Mo(2)-N(6)      | 2.188(3)   |
| Mo(1)-N(2)      | 2.214(3)              | Mo(1)-N(3)      | 2.143(3)              | Mo(2)-N(7)      | 2.139(3)   |
| Mo(1)-N(3)      | 2.206(3)              | Mo(1)-P(1)      | 2.539(1)              | Mo(2)-P(3)      | 2.547(1)   |
| Mo(1)-N(4)      | 2.032(3)              | Mo(1)-P(2)      | 2.549(1)              | Mo(2)-P(4)      | 2.555(1)   |
| O(1)-Mo(1)-O(2) | 105.22(17)            | P(1)-Mo(1)-P(2) | 172.09(3)             | P(3)-Mo(2)-P(3) | 172.85(3)  |
| O(1)-Mo(1)-N(2) | 140.07(14)            | N(1)-Mo(1)-P(1) | 83.46(8)              | N(5)-Mo(2)-P(3) | 83.97(8)   |
| O(2)-Mo(1)-N(3) | 140.35(15)            | N(1)-Mo(1)-P(2) | 90.17(8)              | N(5)-Mo(2)-P(4) | 91.11(8)   |
| O(1)-Mo(1)-N(4) | 107.85(15)            | N(2)-Mo(1)-P(1) | 86.84(8)              | N(6)-Mo(2)-P(3) | 87.41(8)   |
| O(2)-Mo(1)-N(4) | 103.89(15)            | N(2)-Mo(1)-P(2) | 90.67(8)              | N(6)-Mo(2)-P(4) | 91.57(8)   |
| O(1)-Mo(1)-N(1) | 102.87(14)            | N(1)-Mo(1)-N(3) | 118.79(10)            | N(5)-Mo(2)-N(7) | 119.00(10) |
| O(2)-Mo(1)-N(1) | 109.79(15)            | N(1)-Mo(1)-O(1) | 138.04(10)            | N(5)-Mo(1)-O(2) | 137.86(10) |
| O(1)-Mo(1)-N(3) | 98.23(14)             | N(3)-Mo(1)-O(1) | 103.12(11)            | N(7)-Mo(1)-O(2) | 103.08(11) |
| O(2)-Mo(1)-N(2) | 95.83(13)             |                 |                       |                 |            |
| N(1)-Mo(1)-N(3) | 95.20(13)             |                 |                       |                 |            |
| N(4)-Mo(1)-N(2) | 99.22(14)             |                 |                       |                 |            |
| N(1)-Mo(1)-N(2) | 37.37(12)             |                 |                       |                 |            |
| N(3)-Mo(1)-N(4) | 37.52(13)             |                 |                       |                 |            |

**Table 2.** Crystallographic data and structure refinement

|  | <b>3</b>  | <b>6</b>  |
|--|---|---|
| <i>M</i>   | 604.16  | 1413.61   |
| Formula  | C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>20</sub> Br <sub>2</sub> MoN <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>68</sub> H <sub>136</sub> Mo <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub> P <sub>4</sub> |
| <i>T/K</i>   | 133(2)  | 133(2)  |
| Crystal system   | Orthorhombic  | Monoclinic  |
| Space group  | <i>Pna2</i> <sub>1</sub>  | <i>P2</i> <sub>1</sub> /c   |
| <i>a</i> /Å  | 17.9568(11)   | 19.960(4)   |
| <i>b</i> /Å  | 15.4586(14)   | 21.596(4)   |
| <i>c</i> /Å  | 10.0275(6)  | 20.531(4)   |
| <i>a</i> /°  | 90  | 90  |
| <i>b</i> /°  | 90  | 116.65(3)   |
| <i>g</i> /°  | 90  | 90  |
| <i>U</i> /Å <sup>3</sup>                                     | 2783.5(3)   | 7910(3)   |
| <i>Z</i>   | 4   | 4   |
| <i>D</i> <sub>c</sub> / mg m <sup>-3</sup>                   | 1.442   | 1.187   |
| <i>m</i> /mm <sup>-1</sup>                                   | 3.361   | 0.441   |
| <i>F</i> (000)   | 1184  | 3040  |
| 2 <i>q</i> /Range/°  | 1.74 to 24.77   | 1.89 to 24.81   |
| <i>hkl</i> Ranges  | -20 to 21, -17 to 18,<br>-11 to 10  | -23 to 23, -25 to 25,<br>-24 to 24  |
| Measured reflections   | 15505   | 84117   |
| Unique reflections   | 4342 ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0394)  | 13544 ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.1083)   |
| Observed reflections [ <i>I</i> > 2 <i>s</i> ( <i>I</i> )]   | 3628  | 7706  |
| Data/restraints/parameters                                   | 4342/1/292  | 13544/0/793   |
| Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>                     | 0.962   | 0.732   |
| Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2 <i>s</i> ( <i>I</i> )] | <i>R</i> 1 = 0.0258<br><i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0417                                     | <i>R</i> 1 = 0.0319<br><i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0586   |
| <i>R</i> indices (all data)                                  | <i>R</i> 1 = 0.0350<br><i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0427                                     | <i>R</i> 1 = 0.0737<br><i>wR</i> 2 = 0.0646   |
| Largest diff. peak, hole/e Å <sup>-3</sup>                   | 0.564 and -0.477  | 0.414 and -0.369  |