

Studies on Peroxomolybdates

IX. The Crystal Structure of Potassium Diperoxoheptamolybdate(VI)
Octahydrate, $K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$

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The crystal structure of $K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$ has been determined from visually estimated X-ray reflexion intensities, using Patterson and Fourier methods, and refined by the least-squares technique to a final *R*-value of 0.097, based on 1593 observed reflexions.

The yellow crystals are orthorhombic, belonging to space group *C2cm*, with $a = 8.487(2)$ Å, $b = 19.047(5)$ Å, $c = 19.974(5)$ Å, $V = 3228.8$ Å³ and $Z = 4$.

The diperoxoheptamolybdate ion has the same general appearance as the normal heptamolybdate ion,¹⁰ the difference being that two peroxo groups replace two oxygen atoms, one at either end of the heptamolybdate ion. The molybdenum atoms which are coordinated to a peroxo group are thus surrounded by seven oxygen atoms. The geometry is pentagonal bipyramidal, the equatorial plane of the bipyramid containing five oxygen atoms, two of which belong to a peroxo group. The apical positions are occupied by one double-bonded and one weakly bonded oxygen atom. Molybdenum is displaced 0.31 Å out of the equatorial plane towards the double-bonded oxygen atom. Bond distances: Mo—O_{bridging} 1.76–2.49 Å, Mo—O_{peroxo} 1.86–1.96 Å, Mo=O 1.64–1.75 Å and (O—O)_{peroxo} 1.38 Å.

Baerwald¹ was, unwittingly, in 1885, probably the first to prepare crystals of peroxoheptamolybdates. He dissolved ammonium paramolybdate in an excess of hydrogen peroxide and evaporated the solution isothermally. He formulated the compound he obtained, however, $14NH_3 \cdot 18MoO_3 \cdot 3H_2O_2 \cdot 18H_2O$.

From the short historical review of ammonium peroxoheptamolybdates given by Hansson and Lindqvist,² it is obvious that the earlier contributions are rather confusing, since the conditions of formation were not studied and the formula of the paramolybdate was unknown until 1937 when Sturdivant³ showed the paramolybdate to be a heptamolybdate.

By varying the $MoO_3 : H_2O_2$ ratio or the temperature in solutions of paramolybdates, Gagliotti⁴ obtained crystals of varying peroxide content. It is,

however, possible to obtain peroxyheptamolybdates with stoichiometric compositions by choosing the conditions carefully. Stomberg and Trysberg⁵ have shown that the nature of the crystals formed by the isothermal evaporation of solutions, obtained by adding hydrogen peroxide and a strong acid to solutions of normal potassium molybdate, depends on the H_2O_2 :Mo ratio, the acidity and the temperature of the solution. When the H_2O_2 :Mo ratio is 0.1–0.8 and the pH 5.8–6.8, two peroxyheptamolybdates are obtained, one with orthorhombic and one with monoclinic symmetry. The structure of the orthorhombic peroxyheptamolybdate is described in this paper, while an investigation of the structure of the monoclinic compound is soon to be commenced. Some of the results of the present investigation have been published previously⁵ in a preliminary report.⁶

EXPERIMENTAL

Preparation of crystals. Crystals of $\text{K}_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ can be prepared by the method proposed by Trysberg⁷ in which 1.0 ml 8 M hydrogen chloride and 1.75 ml 6 M hydrogen peroxide are added to 20.0 ml 1.3 M potassium molybdate. The acidity of the solution is adjusted to pH=6.2. The yellow solution is set to evaporate at room temperature (below 25°C), yellow, rod-shaped crystals being eventually deposited.

Analysis. Crystals of the potassium diperoxyheptamolybdate used in this investigation were analyzed by Trysberg.⁷ (Found: K 15.8; Mo 45.5; $\text{O}_{\text{peroxide}}$ 3.65; H_2O 10.8. Calc. for $\text{K}_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22-x}(\text{O}_2)_x \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ with $x=1.67$; K 15.9; Mo 45.4; $\text{O}_{\text{peroxide}}$ 3.65; H_2O 11.0.) The analysis indicates nine water molecules in the formula, while the X-ray analysis is more consistent with eight water molecules. It is possible to obtain crystals of the compound with $x=2$. The X-ray data were, however, collected from a crystal of the compound with $x=1.67$.⁶ For simplicity we formulate the compound $\text{K}_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

X-Ray methods. For the single crystal work multiple-film (5 films) equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken of a crystal of approximate dimensions $0.5 \times 0.12 \times 0.12$ mm³ with rotation about [100] (layer lines 0–7) and [010] (layer line 0), using $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation.

The relative intensities of the reflexions were estimated visually by comparison with a standard scale (obtained by the rotating sector method) and were corrected for absorption, extinction, Lorentz and polarization effects. Errors due to anomalous dispersion were taken into consideration but the correction did not affect the result. The $|F_o|$ -values were brought on to an absolute scale by comparison with the finally calculated structure factors. A total of 1593 independent reflexions was obtained.

Computing methods. Absorption, extinction, Lorentz and polarization corrections, Fourier summations, structure factor least-squares refinements, calculations of interatomic distances and angles, calculations of planes to fit sets of atoms and plotting of the crystal structure were performed on the electronic computer IBM 360/65, using the set of crystallographic programmes, viz. DATAP2, DRF, LALS, LINUS, DISTAN, PLANEFIT, and ORTEP, in use at this department.⁸

The atomic scattering factors for potassium, molybdenum, and oxygen used in the calculations of the structure factors were taken from Vol. III of the *International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography*, 1962.

CRYSTAL DATA

Crystal data have been reported previously by Stomberg.⁹ $\text{K}_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is orthorhombic with

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= 8.487(2) \text{ \AA} \\
 b &= 19.047(5) \text{ \AA} \\
 c &= 19.974(5) \text{ \AA} \\
 V &= 3228.8 \text{ \AA}^3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z &= 4 \\
 D_{\text{obs}} &= 3.08 \text{ g/cm}^3 \\
 D_{\text{calc}} &= 3.01 \text{ g/cm}^3 \\
 \text{Space group} &= C2cm
 \end{aligned}$$

STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

Atomic positions. Owing to the relatively large number of interatomic vectors, a comparison of the vector set with that obtained for the normal heptamolybdate ion, the structure of which has been determined by Lindqvist¹⁰ and later confirmed by Shimao¹¹ (Fig. 1), was thought worth-while.

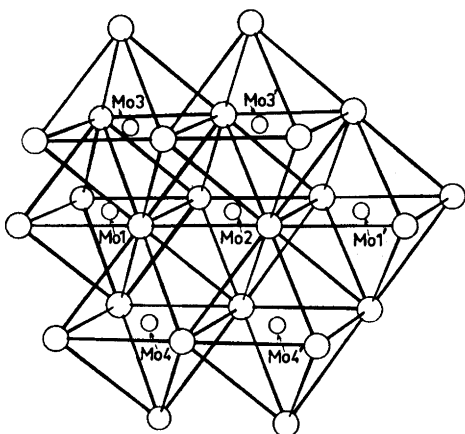


Fig. 1. Idealized structure of the heptamolybdate ion, showing the octahedral arrangement of ligands about molybdenum.

The coordinates of some dominant peaks in the Patterson synthesis are listed in Table 1a together with the observed peak heights and lengths of interatomic vectors. In Table 1b some interatomic distances within the heptamolybdate ion are given.¹⁰ As is apparent from the two tables, there are obvious similarities in vector lengths. The relative orientation of the vectors was also found to be comparable. It therefore seemed likely that the molybdenum atoms were arranged in the same way in the peroxyheptamolybdate as in the normal heptamolybdate. Comparison between expected and observed lengths of vectors indicates that the three molybdenum atoms Mo(1)–Mo(2)–Mo(1') are situated in a straight line parallel to the *c*-axis. Judging from the appearance of the heptamolybdate ion, it is obvious that the correct space group is *C2cm*, with Mo(2) occupying the four-fold position *4b* and the remaining molybdenum atoms occupying three eight-fold positions *8c*. At this stage the *z*-coordinates of all molybdenum atoms were known. The *x*-coordinates were obtained by identifying interatomic vectors Nos. III and V (Table 1b) with Patterson peaks Nos. 4 and 5 (Table 1a), respectively. (Owing to the symmetry of space group *C2cm*, the *x*-coordinate of Mo(2) is fixed at zero.) By identifying Patterson vectors with corresponding expected vectors between molybdenum atoms

Table 1a. Coordinates of some dominant peaks in the Patterson synthesis, together with observed peak heights and lengths of interatomic vectors.

Peak No.	<i>u</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>w</i>	Peak height (arbitrary units)	Length of interatomic vector (Å)
1	0	0	0	999	0
2	0	0	0.17	347	3.34
3	0.14	0.22	0	115	4.28
4	0.15	0.14	0.09	95	3.40
5	0	0	0.34	94	6.81
6	0.29	0.08	0.09	82	3.35

Table 1b. Some interatomic distances within the heptamolybdate ion. In the last column the corresponding Patterson vectors for the peroxyheptamolybdate ion are given.

Vector No.	Defining atoms	Length of vector (mean value) (Å)	Relative weight	Patterson vector No.
I	Mo(1)–Mo(2)	3.36	4	2
II	Mo(1)–Mo(3)	3.32	2	9
III	Mo(1)–Mo(4)	3.32	2	6
IV	Mo(3)–Mo(4)	4.28	2	4
V	Mo(1)–Mo(1')	6.83	1	7

occupying positions $8c$ of space group $C2cm$ the y -coordinates were obtained. The molybdenum parameters thus are:

	Position	x	y	z
Mo(1)	$8c$	0.0	0.135	0.08
Mo(2)	$4b$	0	0.135	1/4
Mo(3)	$8c$	0.29	0.06	0.165
Mo(4)	$8c$	0.14	0.275	0.165

A Fourier summation of the observed structure factors in which the phases of the Fourier coefficients were determined by the contributions from the molybdenum atoms alone was undertaken. This showed large peaks at the above positions and minor peaks, which were taken to be potassium and water sites. Probable coordinates for the oxygen atoms surrounding the molybdenum atoms according to the heptamolybdate model were also found. On introducing these atoms into a structure factor calculation an R -value of 0.25 was obtained. Since the crystal under investigation contained 1.67 peroxy groups per heptamolybdate ion instead of the stoichiometric amount 2, there were assumed to be, on average, 0.165 oxygen atoms and 0.835 peroxy groups at each peroxy group site.

Structure refinement. The structure was refined by the structure factor least squares method using 1593 observed reflexions. For each reflexion the weight w was computed according to $w = (a + |F_o| + c|F_o|^2 + a|F_o|^3)^{-1}$ with $a = 10.0$, $c = 0.005$, and $d = 0$. Anisotropic temperature parameters were included

Table 2a. Atomic coordinates (expressed as fractions of the cell edges) and isotropic thermal parameters for $K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$, with the standard deviations of the last significant figures in parentheses. Space group $C2cm$, $Z = 4$.

Atom	x	y	z	B (\AA^2)
Mo(1)	0.0547(6)	0.1404(1)	0.0818(1)	
Mo(2)	0 ^a	0.1338(1)	1/4	
Mo(3)	0.3167(6)	0.0584(1)	0.1674(1)	
Mo(4)	0.1828(6)	0.2716(1)	0.1672(1)	
K(1)	0.6657(22)	0	0	4.7(2)
K(2)	0.8253(17)	0.3534(5)	1/4	2.9(2)
K(3)	0.5366(12)	0.4046(3)	0.1041(3)	3.4(1)
K(4)	0.5504(14)	0.2056(4)	0.0329(3)	3.8(1)
O(1)	-0.091(5)	0.084(2)	0.029(2)	4.4(6)
O(2)	-0.130(6)	0.154(2)	0.033(2)	5.4(8)
O(1,2)	-0.143(12)	0.114(5)	0.043(4)	0.7.(12)
O(3)	-0.120(4)	0.119(1)	0.180(1)	3.1(4)
O(4)	0.172(4)	0.159(1)	0.019(1)	3.6(4)
O(5)	0.187(3)	0.159(9)	0.168(1)	1.9(3)
O(6)	0.131(3)	0.047(1)	0.108(1)	2.4(3)
O(7)	0.009(4)	0.239(1)	0.108(1)	3.4(4)
O(8)	0.121(5)	0.053(2)	1/4	3.0(5)
O(9)	0.018(4)	0.235(1)	1/4	1.6(4)
O(10)	0.447(4)	0.088(2)	0.111(1)	4.1(5)
O(11)	0.409(4)	0.088(1)	1/4	2.3(4)
O(12)	0.340(4)	-0.032(1)	0.171(1)	3.7(5)
O(13)	0.328(4)	0.280(1)	0.112(1)	3.3(4)
O(14)	0.303(4)	0.273(1)	1/4	2.4(5)
O(15)	0.091(3)	0.354(1)	0.174(1)	2.5(3)
O(16)	0.508(6)	0.412(2)	1/4	4.4(7)
O(17)	0.602(7)	0.213(2)	1/4	4.7(8)
O(18)	0.266(4)	0.480(2)	0.138(1)	4.8(6)
O(19)	0.953(4)	0.405(1)	0.050(1)	3.9(5)
O(20)	0.711(4)	0.280(1)	0.133(1)	3.9(5)

^a Arbitrarily fixed.

Table 2b. Anisotropic temperature parameters β_{ij} (with the standard deviations of the last significant figures in parentheses). The expression used is $\exp -(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + \beta_{12}hk + \beta_{13}hl + \beta_{23}kl)$.

Atom	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Mo(1)	0.0100(5)	0.00178(5)	0.00179(5)	0.0001(1)	0.0002(1)	0.00029(4)
Mo(2)	0.0057(6)	0.00128(6)	0.00174(6)	-0.0002(1)	0	0
Mo(3)	0.0104(5)	0.00143(5)	0.00181(5)	0.0007(1)	0.0003(1)	0.00009(4)
Mo(4)	0.0077(5)	0.00149(5)	0.00208(5)	0.0004(1)	0.0003(1)	0.00024(4)

Table 4. Continued.

	-O(5)	152(1)		-O(11)	87(1)
	-O(6)	81(1)		-O(12)	156(1)
	-O(7)	123(1)	O(6) - Mo(3) - O(8)		82(1)
O(2) - Mo(1) - O(3)		86(2)		-O(10)	99(1)
	-O(4)	95(2)		-O(11)	151(1)
	-O(5)	150(1)		-O(12)	90(1)
	-O(6)	123(2)	O(8) - Mo(3) - O(10)		163(1)
	-O(7)	81(2)		-O(11)	72(1)
O(3) - Mo(1) - O(4)		177(1)		-O(12)	90(1)
	-O(5)	72(1)	O(10) - Mo(3) - O(11)		102(1)
	-O(6)	81(1)		-O(12)	107(1)
	-O(7)	80(1)	O(11) - Mo(3) - O(12)		102(1)
O(4) - Mo(1) - O(5)		106(1)	O(5) - Mo(4) - O(7)		73(1)
	-O(6)	101(1)		-O(9)	72(1)
	-O(7)	97(1)		-O(13)	95(1)
O(5) - Mo(1) - O(6)		76(1)		-O(14)	90(1)
	-O(7)	76(1)		-O(15)	154(2)
O(6) - Mo(1) - O(7)		198(1)	O(7) - Mo(4) - O(9)		83(1)
O(3) - Mo(2) - O(3')		106(2)		-O(13)	101(1)
	-O(5)	82(1)		-O(14)	154(1)
	-O(5')	172(1)		-O(15)	90(2)
	-O(8)	101(1)	O(9) - Mo(4) - O(13)		165(1)
	-O(9)	102(1)		-O(14)	73(1)
O(5) - Mo(2) - O(5')		90(1)	O(9) - Mo(4) - O(15)		87(1)
	-O(8)	78(1)	O(13) - Mo(4) - O(14)		100(1)
	-O(9)	75(1)		-O(15)	107(2)
O(8) - Mo - O(9)		141(2)	O(14) - Mo(4) - O(15)		99(1)

for all molybdenum atoms. The refinement converged after about ten cycles to the parameters given in Table 2, the ultimate R -value being 0.097. Observed and calculated structure factors are given in Table 3. Calculated bond distances and angles with their standard deviations are given in Table 4 and some packing distances in Table 5. All bond distances were found to be within the normal range. The results obtained from the refinement were checked by calculating a three-dimensional electron density difference map. This showed only small residual maxima, the largest maximum having a magnitude of about 30 % of the height of an oxygen peak in the F_o -synthesis.

DESCRIPTION AND DISCUSSION

The crystal structure of $K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$, illustrated in Fig. 2, consists of diperoxoheptamolybdate(VI) ions, potassium ions, and lattice water molecules. As can be seen from the packing distances in Table 5, there are some short distances between water oxygen atoms and other oxygen atoms indicating possible hydrogen bonds. In the structure determination no evidence for a ninth water molecule, as suggested by the chemical analysis, was found. There is, however, space enough for another water molecule and a possible explanation might be that the ninth water molecule is statistically distributed. There is no regular oxygen co-ordination around the potassium ions.

Table 5. Packing distances in $K_4Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$. Distances less than 3.5 Å are included. The number in parentheses after the atom symbol denotes:

(1)	x	y	z	(5)	$\frac{1}{2}+x$	$\frac{1}{2}+y$	z
(2)	$1+x$	y	z	(6)	$-\frac{1}{2}+x$	$\frac{1}{2}+y$	z
(3)	$\frac{1}{2}+x$	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	\bar{z}	(7)	$-1+x$	y	z
(4)	$-\frac{1}{2}+x$	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	\bar{z}				

	Distance (Å)		Distance (Å)
K(1)(1)–O(1)(2)	2.67	K(4)(1)–O(13)(1)	2.84
–O(2)(2)	3.46	–O(19)(4)	2.81
–O(10)(1)	3.35	–O(20)(1)	2.80
–O(18)(3)	2.90	O(16)(1)–O(8)(5)	2.85
–O(19)(4)	2.74	–O(12)(5)	3.40
K(2)(1)–O(9)(2)	2.79	–O(14)(1)	3.16
–O(12)(5)	2.70	–O(18)(1)	3.31
–O(15)(2)	2.72	O(17)(1)–O(3)(2)	3.28
–O(16)(1)	2.92	–O(11)(1)	2.90
–O(17)(1)	3.27	–O(14)(1)	2.78
–O(20)(1)	2.90	–O(20)(1)	2.82
K(3)(1)–O(1)(3)	2.87	O(18)(1)–O(1)(5)	3.18
–O(2)(3)	3.28	–O(3)(5)	2.94
–O(4)(3)	2.97	–O(6)(5)	3.41
–O(6)(5)	2.82	–O(10)(6)	3.44
–O(12)(5)	3.15	–O(15)(1)	2.92
–O(13)(1)	2.96	–O(19)(7)	3.48
–O(16)(1)	2.93	O(19)(1)–O(4)(3)	3.02
–O(18)(1)	2.79	–O(7)(2)	3.41
–O(20)(1)	2.86	–O(10)(3)	3.22
K(4)(1)–O(2)(2)	2.89	–O(12)(5)	2.87
–O(2)(3)	3.36	–O(15)(2)	2.91
–O(4)(1)	3.35	O(20)(1)–O(2)(2)	3.39
–O(4)(3)	2.97	–O(4)(3)	3.27
–O(7)(3)	3.02	–O(7)(2)	2.69
–O(10)(1)	2.86	–O(13)(1)	3.28

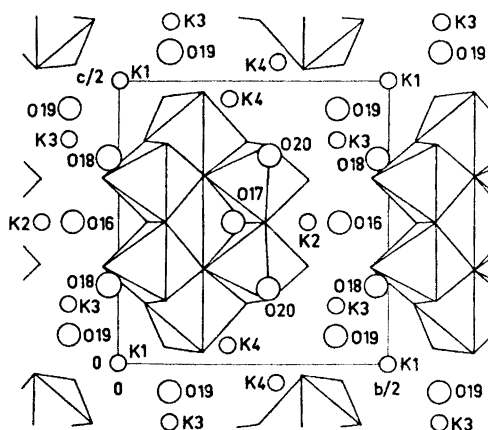


Fig. 2. The packing of the ions and water molecules in $K_4Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$ as viewed along the x -direction. The $[Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2]^{18-}$ ion is shown schematically.

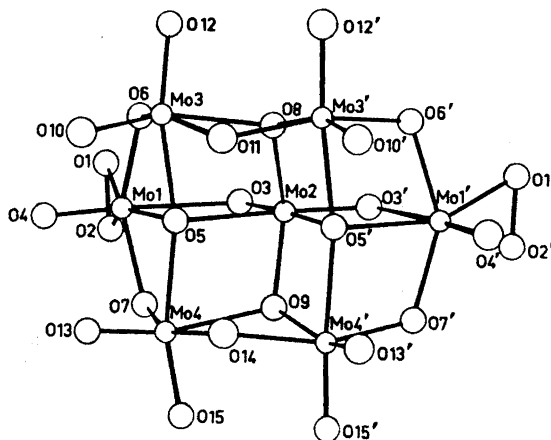


Fig. 3. The $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2]^{6-}$ ion.

The $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2]^{6-}$ complex ion is shown in Fig. 3. It is evident that the diperoxoheptamolybdate ion has the same general appearance as the normal heptamolybdate ion,¹⁰ the difference being that two peroxo groups replace two oxygen atoms, one at either end of the heptamolybdate ion. The two molybdenum atoms coordinated to the peroxo groups are 7-coordinated by the pentagonal bipyramidal arrangement of ligand atoms frequently encountered in transition metal peroxo compounds. The structure of the diperoxoheptamolybdate ion can be described as being built up from five octahedra and two pentagonal bipyramids. As can be seen from Fig. 4, the atoms O(3) and O(4) are apically situated, while O(1), O(2), O(5), O(6), and O(7) form the equatorial plane. The two oxygen atoms O(1) and O(2) of the peroxo group are situated at 1.91 Å, on the average, from the central molybdenum atom. This implies that these Mo–O bonds are single bonds and their lengths agree well with Mo–O_{peroxo} distances found in other 7-coordinated peroxomolybdates (see Table 6). The remaining three equatorial oxygen atoms are almost equally

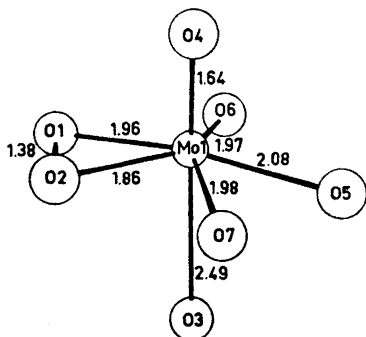


Fig. 4. The configuration about the 7-coordinated molybdenum atoms in the complex ion $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{22}(\text{O}_2)_2]^{6-}$.

Table 6. Comparison between corresponding distances in $K_2Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$ and other 7-coordinated peroxomolybdates.

Compound	Mo—O _{bridging} (Å)	Mo—O _{peroxo} (Å)	M=O (Å)	(O—O) _{peroxo} (Å)	Mo—equatorial plane (Å)	Ref.
$K_2[O(MoO(O_2)_2(H_2O))_2] \cdot 2H_2O$	1.92—1.93	1.94—1.98	1.66	1.46—1.53	0.38—0.39	12
$(pyH)_2[O(MoO(O_2)_2(H_2O))_2]$	1.91	1.96—1.98	1.68	1.44—1.46	0.40	13, 14
$(pyH)_2[(O_2)_2OMo(OOH)_2MoO(O_2)_2]$	2.05—2.39	1.92—1.96	1.67	1.47—1.48	0.40	13, 14
$K_2[MoO(O_2)_2(C_2O_4)]$		1.93—1.96	1.68	1.44—1.47	0.35	15
$(NH_4)_3F[MoO(O_2)F_4]$		1.91	1.67	1.36	0.23	16
$K_2[MoO(O_2)F_4] \cdot H_2O$		1.94—1.95	1.64	1.44	0.18	17
$K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$	1.97—2.49	1.86—1.96	1.64	1.38	0.31	This paper

Table 7. Comparison between corresponding distances in $K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$ and other heptamolybdates.

Defining atoms	Distances (Å) in			
	$(NH_4)_6Mo_7O_{24} \cdot 4H_2O$	$(NH_4)_6Mo_7O_{24} \cdot 4H_2O$	$K_6Mo_7O_{24} \cdot 4H_2O$	$K_6Mo_7O_{22}(O_2)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$
Mo(1)—Mo(2)	3.43	{ 3.35 3.48	{ 3.45 3.40	3.40
Mo(1)—Mo(3)	3.21	{ 3.21, 3.35	{ 3.20, 3.26	{ 3.21
Mo(1)—Mo(4)		{ 3.21, 3.27	{ 3.16, 3.19	{ 3.22
Mo(2)—Mo(3)	3.41	{ 3.29, 3.39	{ 3.42, 3.44	{ 3.47
Mo(2)—Mo(4)		{ 3.36, 3.45	{ 3.41, 3.38	{ 3.47
Mo(3)—Mo(3')	3.26	{ 3.27	{ 3.25	{ 3.30
Mo(4)—Mo(4')		{ 3.28	{ 3.24	{ 3.31
Mo(1)—(O(1), O(2))	1.74			{ 1.96 1.86
Mo(1)—O(3)	2.42			2.49
Mo(1)—O(4)	1.72			1.64
Mo(1)—O(5)	2.16			2.08
Mo(1)—O(6)	1.92			{ 1.97
Mo(1)—O(7)				{ 1.98
Mo(2)—O(3)	1.75			1.76
Mo(2)—O(5)	2.26			2.33
Mo(2)—O(8)	1.90			{ 1.86
Mo(2)—O(9)				{ 1.93
Mo(3)—O(5)	—		Mo—O, distances:	{ 2.20
Mo(4)—O(5)			1.51, 1.61—2.45, 2.62	{ 2.16
Mo(3)—O(6)	1.97			{ 1.99
Mo(4)—O(7)				{ 1.99
Mo(3)—O(8)	2.18			{ 2.34
Mo(4)—O(9)				{ 2.28
Mo(3)—O(10)	1.73			{ 1.68
Mo(4)—O(13)				{ 1.66
Mo(3)—O(11)	1.95			{ 1.91
Mo(4)—O(14)				{ 1.95
Mo(3)—O(12)	1.71			{ 1.73
Mo(4)—O(15)				{ 1.75
Ref.	22	10	23	This paper

remote from the central molybdenum atom (1.97–2.08 Å). The Mo(1)–O(4) bond, which is 1.64 Å, is significantly shorter, indicating considerable double bond character, while the Mo(1)–O(3) distance is significantly longer, *i.e.* 2.49 Å, and is thus a rather weak bond. The observed (O–O)_{peroxo} distance is rather short (1.38 Å) compared with the value 1.49 Å found in hydrogen peroxide and many metal peroxides (see Table 6 in Ref. 18). It cannot, however, be claimed to be significantly shorter since the e.s.d. is rather large, (0.06 Å), but short (O–O)_{peroxo} distances have been observed in several compounds, *e.g.* [CrO(O₂)₂py] (1.40 Å),¹⁹ [CrO(O₂)₂phen] (1.40 Å),²⁰ [CrO(O₂)₂dipy] (1.40 Å),²¹ and (NH₄)₃F[MoO(O₂)F₄] (1.36 Å).¹⁶ Comparison between corresponding distances in K₆Mo₇O₂₂(O₂)₂·8H₂O and other 7-coordinated peroxomolybdates is made in Table 6. The distances between atoms in the diperoxoheptamolybdate ion (except Mo–O_{peroxo}) agree well with corresponding distances in the normal heptamolybdates (see Table 7).

Within the limits of experimental error all five equatorial atoms in the pentagonal bipyramid lie in a plane. The equation of this plane, **A**, as determined by the least-squares method, is

$$\mathbf{A}: \quad 0.6860 X + 0.1967 Y - 0.7005 Z = -0.6122$$

where *X*, *Y*, and *Z* are the atomic coordinates expressed in Å, referred to the original axes. The distances from certain atoms to the plane are:

A–O(1)	–0.01 Å	A–O(7)	0.05 Å
O(2)	–0.03	Mo(1)	0.31
O(5)	–0.05	O(3)	–2.16
O(6)	0.04	O(4)	1.94

The molybdenum atom is thus displaced 0.31 Å from the equatorial plane in the direction of the double-bonded oxygen atom, O(4). A similar displacement of the metal atom from the equatorial plane has been observed in a number of 7-coordinated transition metal oxoperoxo compounds. Some examples are cited in Table 6. The atoms Mo(1), Mo(1'), Mo(2), O(3), O(3'), O(4), O(4'), O(5), and O(5') all lie in a plane, the equation of which is

$$\mathbf{B}: \quad 0.2840 X - 0.9588 Y + 0.0063 Z = -2.4218$$

The distances of the atoms defining plane **B** from the plane **B** are:

B–Mo(1)	0.00 Å	B–O(4)	0.06 Å
Mo(1')	–0.04	O(4')	0.00
Mo(2)	–0.01	O(5)	0.00
O(3)	0.02	O(5')	–0.02
O(3')	0.00		

The distances of selected atoms from the plane **B** and the angle between the line connecting two opposite atoms and the plane **B** are given in Table 8. It can be noticed that the differences between corresponding distances are less than 0.1 Å and the angles differ less than 5° from a right angle, which indicates

Table 8. Some distances of selected atoms from the plane **B** (see text) and the angle between the line $X-Y$ and the plane **B**. X and Y denote atoms on opposite sides of the plane **B**.

Atom $X-Y$	Distance $B-X$ (Å)	Distance $B-Y$ (Å)	Angle (°)
Mo(3)–Mo(4)	2.14	2.08	88.8
O(1)–O(2)	0.68	0.69	85.2
O(6)–O(7)	1.90	1.91	90.0
O(8)–O(9)	1.78	1.79	87.3
O(10)–O(13)	1.90	1.89	88.7
O(11)–O(14)	1.84	1.80	87.7
O(12)–O(15)	3.84	3.79	89.0

that the plane **B** is approximately a mirror plane. The angle between the two mirror planes (the plane **B** and the plane with the equation $Z = 4.9935$) in the complex ion is 89.9° . From the above evidence it can be concluded that the complex ion has approximately C_{2v} symmetry, which is the most probable symmetry of the free ion in solution. In most 7-coordinated peroxo complexes, e.g. $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{F}[\text{MoO}(\text{O}_2)\text{F}_4]$,¹⁶ $[\text{Cr}(\text{O}_2)_2(\text{NH}_3)_3]$,²⁴ $\text{K}_3[\text{Cr}(\text{O}_2)_2(\text{CN})_3]$,²⁵ and $[\text{CrO}(\text{O}_2)_2(\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2)]$,²⁰ there is a mirror plane perpendicular to the equatorial plane. As the angle between the planes **A** and **B** is 89.9° this is the case here, too, within the limits of experimental error.

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