

Rational Synthesis and Characterization of the Mixed-Metal Organometallic Polyoxometalates $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{18}]^-$ ($x = 0, 1, 5, 6$)

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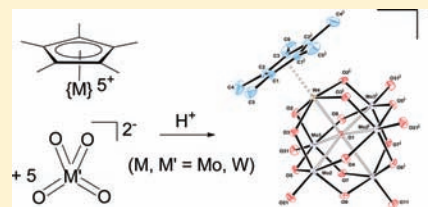
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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The reaction between the oxometallic complexes $\text{Cp}^*\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ and $\text{Na}_2\text{M}'\text{O}_4$ ($\text{M}, \text{M}' = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$) in a 1:10 molar ratio in an acidic aqueous medium constitutes a mild and selective entry into the anionic Lindqvist-type hexametallate organometallic mixed oxides $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{18}]^-$ [$x = 6$ (1), 5 (2), 1 (3), 0 (4)]. All of these compounds have been isolated as salts of $n\text{Bu}_4\text{N}^+$ (a), $n\text{Bu}_4\text{P}^+$ (b), and Ph_4P^+ (c) cations and two of them (1 and 3) also with the *n*-butylpyridinium ($n\text{BuPyr}^+$, d) cation. The compounds have been characterized by elemental analyses, thermogravimetric analyses, electrospray mass spectrometry, and IR spectroscopy. The molecular identity and geometry of compounds 1c, 2a, and 2c have been confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Density functional theory calculations on models obtained by replacing Cp^* with Cp (I–IV) have provided information on the assignment of the terminal $\text{M}=\text{O}$ and bridging $\text{M}-\text{O}-\text{M}$ vibrations.



INTRODUCTION

Materials based on mixed oxides are interesting for heterogeneous catalysis^{1–7} as well as for chromogenic materials.⁸ Their properties (reactivity, light absorption, etc.) may be fine-tuned by subtle modification of the nature and relative proportion of the different metals. Fine control of the composition and homogeneity of these materials, however, can only be partially achieved by the current techniques (sputtering and chemical vapor deposition) because it is difficult to control a mixed and homogeneous metal distribution at the atomic level.⁹ In order to facilitate this task, the use of single-source precursors is being sought, but this strategy, often making use of mixed-metal alkoxides, needs strictly controlled environments (inert atmosphere and reduced pressure) because the precursors suffer from hydrolytic sensitivity.^{10–18}

Polyoxometalates (POMs), in addition to being interesting molecular compounds in their own right,¹⁹ may also be considered as “molecular-scale” models of metal oxides and are useful for understanding the interaction of substrates and oxide surfaces in heterogeneous oxidation catalysis.^{20–22} POMs are interesting compounds because of their numerous potential applications especially in materials science and catalysis.²³ Although the elemental composition and morphological constitution of POMs can be precisely controlled,^{23,24} the synthesis of well-defined heterometallic POMs often suffers from serendipity and results in a random distribution of the different metals in the structure. Rational strategies that have

been employed to prepare heterometallic POMs are (i) the assembly of predefined polyatomic fragments sometimes performed in organic solvents and with air- and water-sensitive organometallic precursors and (ii) the grafting of simple organic fragments on lacunary oxoclusters.^{25–34} The use of hydrothermal methods starting from elementary bricks is another alternative strategy, the outcome of which is, however, largely affected by serendipity.^{31,35} POMs grafted with an organometallic fragment have attracted interest^{36–42} because the organometallic fragment may impart a different reactivity to the molecule with respect to the all-inorganic POMs, obtaining mixed-metal clusters under mild conditions (often using aqueous solutions). As illustrative examples, the reaction of Na_2MO_4 ($\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$) with $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$ or $[(\eta^6\text{-arene})\text{-RuCl}_2]_2$ in water or acetonitrile yielded the octanuclear compounds $[(\text{LM})(\text{M}'\text{O})(\mu\text{-O})_3]_4$ [$\text{LM} = \text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}$, (*p*- $\text{MeC}_4\text{H}_4\text{iPr}$) Ru for $\text{M}' = \text{Mo}$;^{36,37,40} $\text{LM} = (\text{C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{Ru}$, (*p*- $\text{MeC}_4\text{H}_4\text{iPr}$) for $\text{M}' = \text{W}$].⁴²

Recently, we have reported the use of $\text{Cp}^*\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ ($\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$), compounds that are stable in air and in aqueous solution in the entire pH range,⁴³ in combination with the inorganic salts $\text{Na}_2\text{M}'\text{O}_4$ ($\text{M}' = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$) in a 1:4 ratio, as precursors of the hexanuclear organometallic polyoxometallic complexes $\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{17}$ ($x = 0, 2, 4, 6$) in a selective, high-yielding,

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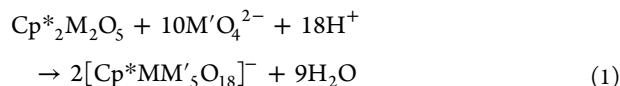
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room temperature aqueous reaction.^{44,45} The formula of these compounds may also be written as $[(\text{Cp}^*\text{M})_2(\text{M}'\text{O})_4(\mu_2\text{-O})_{12}(\mu_6\text{-O})]$. The relative positions of the M and M' atoms are perfectly defined by the nature of the starting materials, with the M element from the organometallic reagent ending up selectively in the (Cp*M) positions and the M' element from the inorganic reagent occupying selectively the (M'O) positions. Compared to the typical Lindqvist-type octahedral species $[\text{M}_6\text{O}_{19}]^{2-}$,^{46–48} two adjacent metallic atoms bear a Cp* ligand in place of a terminal oxido ligand, leading to a neutral compound.

In addition to being isoelectronic with the Lindqvist-type $[\text{M}_6\text{O}_{19}]^{2-}$ ion, these neutral organometallic POMs are also isoelectronic with the known $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ ion,^{49,50} which was best obtained as a Bu_4N^+ salt from $(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})[\text{MoCp}^*\text{O}_3]$ and $(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})_2[\text{Mo}_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OMe})_4\text{Cl}_2]$ in methanol in up to 40% yield.⁵⁰ It seemed interesting to enlarge the synthetic spectrum of our aqueous $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{O}_5/\text{M}'\text{O}_4^{2-}$ method to a stoichiometry of 1:10 for the rational synthesis of the $[(\text{Cp}^*\text{M})(\text{M}'\text{O})_5(\mu_2\text{-O})_{12}(\mu_6\text{-O})]^-$ (or $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$) ions, none of which has yet to be described except for the above-mentioned all-Mo example. We report in this paper the application of this strategy leading to the synthesis and characterization of the entire series of $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ ions (M, M' = Mo, W), obtained in the presence of a variety of different cations.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

a. Syntheses and Characterization. The reaction between $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ and $\text{M}'\text{O}_4^{2-}$ (M, M' = Mo, W) in a 1:10 molar ratio according to eq 1 selectively yields the anionic $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ complexes in good yield and purity. The reaction is carried out by mixing stoichiometric amounts of $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ (dissolved in MeOH) and $\text{Na}_2\text{M}'\text{O}_4$ (aqueous solution), yielding the products after adequate acidification. The ions quantitatively precipitate upon the addition of an appropriate organic halide salt. The cations used in this study are tetrabutylammonium **1a–4a**, tetrabutylphosphonium **1b–4b**, and tetraphenylphosphonium **1c–4c** or butylpyridinium in the case of compounds **1d** and **3d**. The compounds' color varies from orange through pale green to yellow depending on the Mo/W ratio (see Table 1). Compound **1a** has already been previously reported and characterized, including by a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study, but was synthesized by a different method in a lower yield (see the Introduction).⁵⁰ The selectivity of the synthetic strategy is worth noting: the reaction could have resulted, for instance, in a mixture of the previously reported $[\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{M}'_4\text{O}_{17}]$ compounds and the parent Lindqvist anions $[\text{M}'_6\text{O}_{19}]^{2-}$. This indicates the thermodynamic stability of the $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ anions with respect to a hypothetical fragment redistribution process.



The success of this synthesis, as well as that of the related neutral $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{17}$ compounds,⁴⁵ relies on the high stability of the Cp*M bond in $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ toward protonolysis at any pH.⁴³ Thus, it is possible to use the “Cp*M” moiety as an elementary building block, especially at low pH, because of the ionic splitting of $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ into $\text{Cp}^*\text{MO}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})^+$ and Cp^*MO_2^+ . The occurrence of this process was clearly demonstrated for the Mo system,^{43,51} and ¹H NMR evidence shows that it also takes place for the W system.⁵² Thus, the

Table 1

compound	M	M'	Bu ₄ N	Bu ₄ P	Ph ₄ P	BuPyr
1	Mo	Mo	1a, orange	1b, orange	1c, orange	1d, orange
2	W	Mo	2a, yellow	2b, yellow	2c, pale green	
3	Mo	W	3a, pale green	3b, pale green	3c, pale green	3d, pale green
4	W	W	4a, pale yellow	4b, pale yellow	4c, pale yellow	

syntheses performed herein can be considered as the assembly of individual organometallic $\{\text{Cp}^*\text{MO}_2\}^+$ fragments and inorganic $\{\text{M}'\text{O}_4\}^{2-}$ species, using specific stoichiometry and pH conditions. The products are stable in water at low pH. Three of the compounds were obtained in the form of single crystals; their molecular structures will be described in the next section.

The ¹H NMR spectra of the isolated salts in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) show the Cp* signal at δ 2.2 (when linked to Mo) or 2.4 (when linked to W), plus the resonances of the cation with suitable intensity for the 1:1 Cp*/cation stoichiometry. The ³¹P NMR spectrum of the phosphonium salts shows the expected cation resonance at δ 23.4 for Ph_4P^+ and 35.1 for Bu_4P^+ . The compounds show characteristic M=O and M–O–M vibrations in the IR spectrum. These will be analyzed in detail later in section d on the basis of the density functional theory (DFT) calculations. All compounds were also investigated in terms of their thermal behavior by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) in air. The salts with N-based cations (**a** and **d**) led to complete loss of the organic part, with formation of the mixed-metal trioxides $\text{M}_{x/6}\text{M}'_{1-x/6}\text{O}_3$ ($x = 0, 1, 5, 6$), with a relatively good match between experimentally observed and theoretical mass losses upon warming up to 500 °C. TGA of the salts with phosphonium cations (**b** and **c**) gave an indication of phosphorus loss or not depending on the anion (P_2O_3 is volatile at the temperatures used in the experiments), but a precise stoichiometry could not be established.

All anions were also investigated by mass spectrometry using an electrospray method. The spectrum in negative mode showed the expected molecular ion with an isotopic pattern in good agreement with the simulation; see Figure 1. Notably, metal compositions different from MM'_5 (for instance, $\text{M}_2\text{M}'_4$) were absent from the spectra of the mixed-metal products **2** and **3**. The fragmentation pattern is not identical for each type of anion, but as a general feature, we can observe a loss of the Cp* fragment to yield $[\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$, followed by the subsequent loss of both MO_3 and $\text{M}'\text{O}_3$.

b. X-ray Diffraction Studies. The PPh_4^+ salts of the $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]^-$ (**1c**) and $[\text{Cp}^*\text{WMo}_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ (**2c**) anions as well as the $n\text{Bu}_4\text{N}^+$ salt of $[\text{Cp}^*\text{WMo}_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ (**2a**) gave single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction analyses. The two tetraphenylphosphonium salts **1c** and **2c** are isomorphous and crystallize with one molecule of interstitial acetone. Compound **2a**, on the other hand, is not isostructural with the previously characterized $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]^-$ salt **1a**. The polyanions have the typical Lindqvist-type octahedral arrangement of the six metal atoms and bridging O atoms, with one $\{\text{Mo}=\text{O}\}^{4+}$ fragment in $[\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{19}]^{2-}$ being formally replaced by a $\{\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}\}^{5+}$ (in **1c**) or $\{\text{Cp}^*\text{W}\}^{5+}$ (in **2a** and **2c**) fragment. Views of the geometry of both anions are available in Figure 2. For compounds **1c** and **2c**, the asymmetric unit contains half of the anionic cluster (and half of the cation), with atoms Mo1,

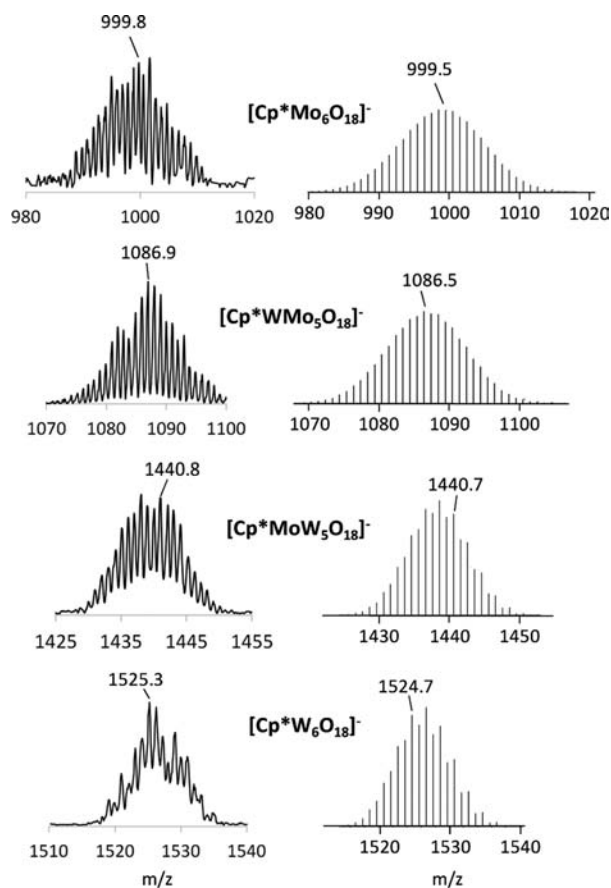


Figure 1. Experimental (left) and simulated (right) isotopic patterns for the $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{18}]^-$ ions measured for compounds **1a**, **2b**, **3b**, and **4c** by electrospray mass spectrometry (negative mode) in an acetone/methanol solution.

M4 (M = Mo, W), O1, O4, O8, O11, C3, and C6 sitting on a crystallographic mirror plane. The structure of **2a**, on the other hand, contains the entire molecule in the asymmetric unit, which therefore does not display any crystallographically imposed symmetry.

Table 2 reports the relevant bond distances (angles are in Table S1 in the Supporting Information). The numbering schemes used for the anions in compounds **1c** and **2c** are identical (with the metal atom M4 being Mo in **1c** and W in **2c**). The numbering scheme of the anion in **2a** is the same as that for the other two anions for what concerns the first half of the molecule, and only this half is described in Table 2 in comparison with the other two structures. The opposite half has metric parameters in close correspondence with the first one, in spite of the absence of crystallographic mirror symmetry in this case. A full table of bond distances and angles of **2a** is available in the Supporting Information (Table S1), and all distances are also displayed later in the DFT section. The $\text{Cp}^*\text{-M}$ distance is slightly shorter when M = W. All structurally equivalent M–O bonds have quite similar distances in the two compounds. The ideal C_{4v} symmetry of the ions, however, is broken by a distortion that renders the bridging Mo–O–Mo moieties asymmetric, and this distortion is more pronounced in compound **1** than in compound **2**. This distortion will be further discussed later in the DFT section. In addition, the central ($\mu_6\text{-O}$) atom is drawn closer to the Cp^* -bearing axial metal (Mo4 in **1c** and W4 in **2c**) and farther away

from the opposite axial Mo1 atom, with the distances to the equatorial Mo2 and Mo3 atoms being intermediate. This type of distortion is, however, less pronounced than that in the $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$ structure.⁴⁴

c. DFT Calculations. By analogy with the previously reported mixed-metal neutral compounds,⁴⁵ DFT geometry optimizations were carried out on the isoelectronic anionic $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ complexes in order to interpret the IR absorption spectrum in the M=O stretching region and to understand the effect of the metal nature on them. To save computational time, simplified models were used, where the Cp^* ligands were replaced by Cp rings. The models are numbered by roman numerals corresponding to the compounds numbering scheme: $[\text{CpMo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{18}]^-$ with $x = 6$ (**I**), 5 (**II**), 1 (**III**), and 0 (**IV**). If we consider free rotation of the Cp ligand linked to M, the cluster geometry can be idealized to C_{4v} . This is justified at least on the NMR time scale because the five methyl groups of the Cp^* ligands are equivalent in the ^1H NMR spectrum. In order to facilitate the discussion, the five (M=O) metals will be labeled according to their idealized symmetry equivalence: M' is used for the four equivalent equatorial metals and M'' for the axial metal trans to the M atom that bears the Cp ring. The terminal O atoms will be labeled O_t , the doubly bridging atoms O_b , and the central ($\mu_6\text{-O}$) atom O_c (see Scheme 1). No symmetry constraint was imposed to the ions during the geometry optimizations. The full Cartesian coordinates of the optimized geometries are available in the Supporting Information (Table S2), and relevant metric parameters are summarized in Table 3. For comparison, Table 3 reports also all distances of the three structures described in this contribution, as well as the previously described structure of **1a**.⁵⁰

The agreement between the experimental and calculated geometries for the $[\text{MM}'_4\text{M}''\text{O}_{18}]^-$ core in the case of **1/I** and **2/II** is generally quite good. The calculated distances to the terminal and bridging ligands are generally only slightly longer than the experimentally observed ones (the maximum deviation is 0.05 Å for M– $\text{O}_{b(M')}$ and M''– $\text{O}_{b(M)}$ in **I**), whereas the distances to the central O atom are slightly underestimated for M– O_c (by 0.01 Å). As for neutral compounds, the atom O_c is much closer to M than to M' and M'' and the calculations tend to place O_c even closer to M relative to the experimental structure. This discrepancy could, of course, be related to the use of the simplified model.

The experimentally observed asymmetry of the central $\text{MM}'_4\text{M}''\text{O}_{18}$ core is also shown in the optimized structure and decreases, in agreement with the experimental observations, upon replacing Mo with W atoms in the structure, tending toward the symmetric-limiting structure for the all-W member of the series. A trans-alternation pattern of long and short bond lengths in $\{\text{M}_4(\text{O}_b)_4\}$ rings yielding distorted octahedra, originally described for the parent Lindqvist anions,⁵³ is a common feature of POMs and is notoriously more pronounced for molybdates than for tungstates. However, formal replacement of a terminal oxo ligand by a Cp ring,⁵⁴ as in $[\text{CpTiM}_5\text{O}_{18}]^{3-}$, or an imido group,^{55,56} as in $[\text{M}_6\text{O}_{18}(\text{NAr})]^{2-}$ (M = Mo, W), appears to somewhat attenuate this irregularity. The introduction of a single W atom renders the structures of **2a** and **2c** very close to the symmetric limit, and the optimized anion structure (**II**) is also distorted very little. The reason for this trend is not quite clear, and its understanding goes beyond the scope of the present work. This trend has also been noted for the isoelectronic

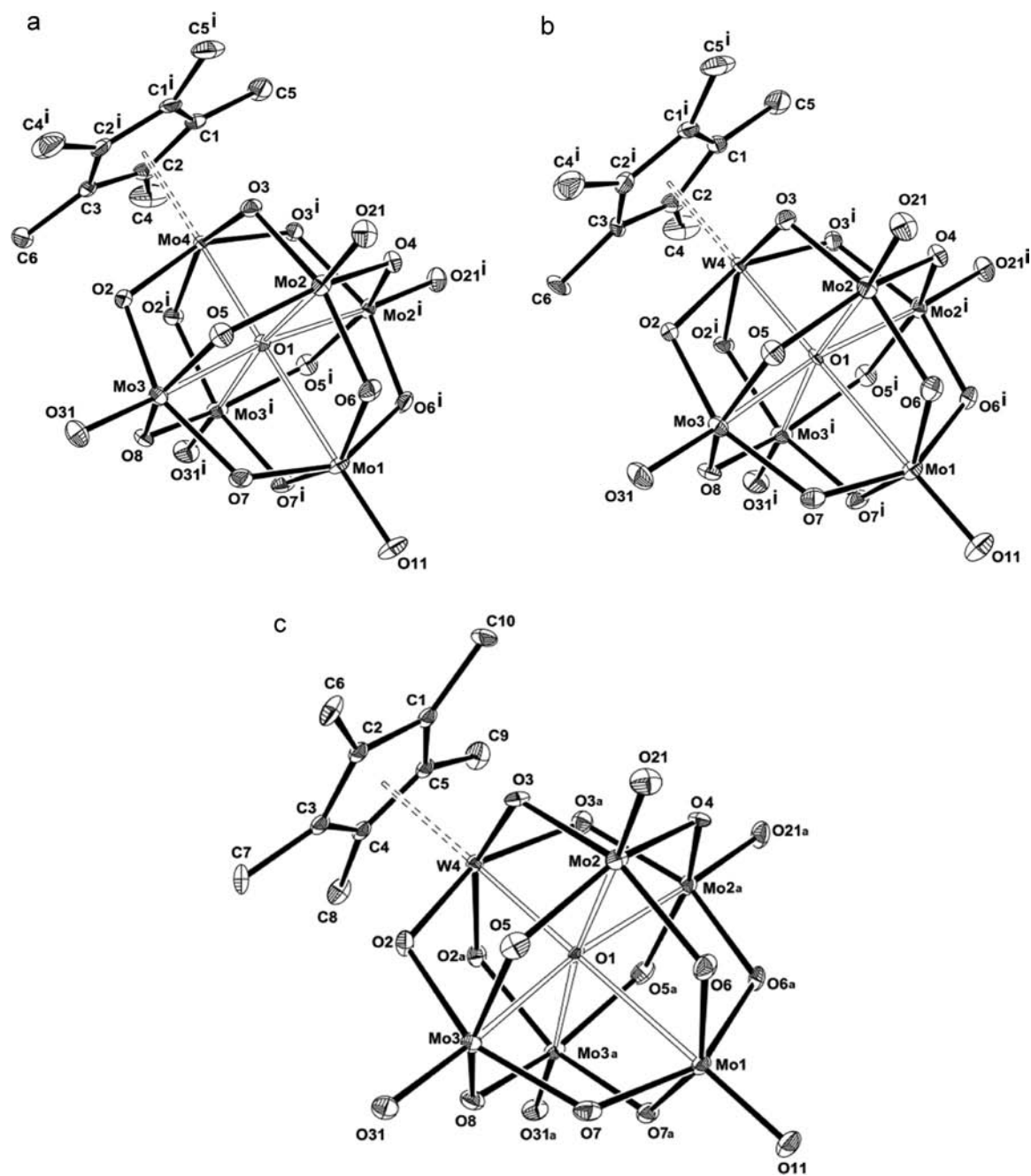


Figure 2. ORTEP views of the $[\text{Cp}^*\text{MMo}_5\text{O}_{18}]^-$ ions: (a) $M = \text{Mo}$ in compound **1c**; (b) $M = \text{W}$ in compound **2c**; (c) $M = \text{W}$ in compound **2a**. The ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level, and the Cp^* H atoms are not shown.

$\text{Cp}^*_2\text{Mo}_x\text{W}_{6-x}\text{O}_{17}$ series.⁴⁵ However, close analysis of this asymmetry for compounds **1/I** reveals interesting features. The asymmetry is most clearly visible in the distances between the O_b and metal atoms. The two experimental structures and optimized geometry, however, exhibit three different kinds of asymmetry. Focusing first on the $M'-\text{O}_b-M''$ moieties, the structure of **1a**, although of low quality, shows that the four independent $M'-\text{O}_{b(M')}$ distances have a narrow spread around their average, 1.96(2) Å, and the same is true for the $M''-\text{O}_{b(M'')}$ distances, 1.86(2) Å, while these two averages are very different from each other. For the structure of **1c**, on the other hand, the asymmetry is manifested within each set of structurally equivalent distances. The optimized distances in **I** follow the same trend as **1c**. For the $M'-\text{O}_b-M'$ moieties, however, the

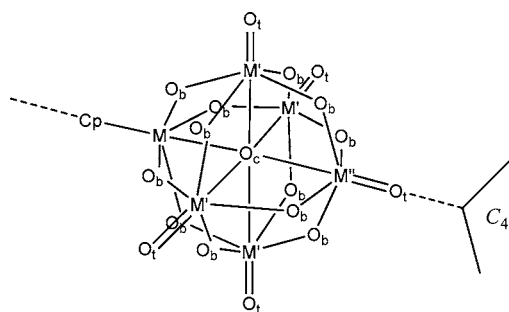
situation is quite different. There is an insignificant distortion in both experimental structures [averages of 1.94(2) Å for **1a** and 1.930(2) Å for **1c**], whereas the calculated distances in **I** yield two very different sets of four distances each, with averages 1.841(4) and 2.049(7) Å. Finally, the $M-\text{O}_b-M'$ moieties show the same type of distortion in all three geometries, namely, two sets of two different distances for each structurally equivalent $M-\text{O}_{b(M)}$ and $M'-\text{O}_{b(M')}$ set, with the difference between the short and long sets being smaller for **1a** [0.04(2) and 0.03(2) Å], intermediate for **1c** [0.057(2) and 0.038(2) Å], and greater for **I** [0.11(1) and 0.110 Å]. This analysis clearly shows that there is a driving force for the POM structure to distort away from maximum symmetry, not solely related to the crystal packing. However, the crystal packing (nature of the

Table 2. Relevant Bond Lengths [Å] for All Structures^a

	1c (M4 = Mo)	2c (M4 = W)	2a (M4 = W)
Mo1–O1	2.504(3)	2.512(4)	2.502(7)
Mo1–O6	1.923(2)	1.914(4)	1.894(8)
Mo1–O7	1.878(2)	1.899(4)	1.911(8)
Mo1–O11	1.673(3)	1.669(5)	1.688(8)
Mo2–O1	2.3285(19)	2.335(3)	2.343(7)
Mo2–O3	1.908(2)	1.898(3)	1.911(8)
Mo2–O4	1.9287(15)	1.933(3)	1.939(7)
Mo2–O5	1.928(2)	1.931(4)	1.950(8)
Mo2–O6	1.890(2)	1.894(3)	1.918(8)
Mo2–O21	1.679(2)	1.678(4)	1.667(7)
Mo3–O1	2.3391(19)	2.346(3)	2.338(6)
Mo3–O2	1.870(2)	1.883(3)	1.912(8)
Mo3–O5	1.933(2)	1.941(4)	1.947(8)
Mo3–O7	1.928(2)	1.908(3)	1.898(9)
Mo3–O8	1.9317(15)	1.937(3)	1.957(7)
Mo3–O31	1.674(2)	1.671(4)	1.683(7)
M4–O1	2.109(3)	2.104(4)	2.136(7)
M4–O2	1.974(2)	1.958(3)	1.925(7)
M4–O3	1.917(2)	1.931(3)	1.934(8)
M4–C ₁	2.092(2)	2.085(2)	2.105(4)

^aThe bond angles are provided in the Supporting Information (Table S1). C₁ = Cp* ring centroid.

Scheme 1. Atom Labeling Scheme Used in Table 3



cation) has the effect of driving this distortion in different directions. The effect of packing forces is also revealed by the discrepancy in the experimental structures (Table 2) between the W4–C₁ distances in compounds 2a and 2c.

We also note that the effect of the metal nature on the distortion of the octahedral M₆(O_b)₁₂ scaffold is also quite evident for the parent [M₆O₁₉]²⁻ Lindqvist anions (M = Mo, W). Statistical analysis of all of the salts of these two dianions for which a structure is reported in the Cambridge Structural Database shows a greater average distortion for the Mo structure relative to the W structure. Of the 77 Mo structures, the difference between the maximum and minimum Mo–O_b distances (Δ) goes from zero (for the hydrated NEt₄⁺ salt, where the dianion sits on a crystallographic *m3m* position)⁵⁷ to a maximum of 0.22 Å (for a crown-ether-containing ammonium salt)⁵⁸ with an average Δ of 0.104 Å over the entire set. In the most distorted structure, two equal sets of short, 1.85(2) Å, and long, 2.01(3) Å, Mo–O_b distances can be identified like for the [Cp*Mo₆O₁₈]⁻ structures analyzed here. For the 70 W structures, on the other hand, the average Δ is reduced to 0.060 Å. Like for the [Cp*MM'₄M''O₁₈]⁻ ions analyzed in this contribution, the nature of the cation and consequent packing forces seem to greatly influence the degree of distortion because both undistorted Mo structures (see above) and very

distorted W structures (such as the Et₄N⁺ salt with Δ = 0.21 Å)⁵⁹ exist. It can be concluded that this structural motif has a natural tendency to distort from the maximum symmetry, but the potential energy surface along this distortion is rather flat, allowing a great degree of control to be exerted by the crystal packing. The greater average distortion for the Mo structures is probably caused by the weakness of the Mo–O_b bonds relative to the W–O_b bonds.

The trends of the bond distances, beyond the above-discussed asymmetry, due to the change of M or M'/M'' along the series of structures I–IV can be divided into primary (distances to the metal being changed) and secondary (distances to M due to a change of M'/M'', or vice versa) effects. The calculations show trends similar to those already observed for the neutral [Cp₂M₂M'₂M''₂O₁₇] analogues.⁴⁵ The primary effect is relatively important in the M–Cp distance (Δ = 0.013 from I to II and 0.012 from III to IV), but a secondary effect in the same distance is also notable (Δ = –0.011 from I to III and –0.012 from II to IV). In other words, the M–Cp distance is lengthened on going from Mo to W but is shortened when the M'/M'' atoms are changed from Mo to W. On going from Mo to W, the terminal M'/M''=O_t distances show a slight primary lengthening and no significant secondary effects. Conversely, M–O_c and M''–O_c show a primary shortening and a slight secondary lengthening, whereas no large effects are visible in the M'–O_c distances.

d. IR Characterization. IR spectroscopy is a good characterization tool for symmetrical polyanions. For the Lindqvist M₆O₁₉²⁻ anions (M = Mo, W), the number of observed vibrations is determined by their O_h symmetry^{60,61} and a correlation between the experimental and calculated vibrations could be established.⁶² As was already discussed above, the symmetry of the POM cluster in compounds 1–4 is reduced at best to C_{4v} (considering Cp* as a rapidly rotating ligand). The observed structures, backed up by the DFT calculations, show, however, a further symmetry reduction to C_s, which is more pronounced for the Mo-rich compounds.

The observed (for 1a–4a) and calculated (for I–IV) IR spectra in the metal–oxygen stretching region are shown in Figure 3 (see the Experimental Section for the list of frequencies), and the calculated frequencies, symmetry labels, and assignments are listed in Table 4. Views of the normal modes are shown in the Supporting Information (Table S3). As was found for all POM derivatives, the terminal M'=O_t and M''=O_t vibrations have higher frequency (observed, 950–1000 cm⁻¹; calculated, 1020–1050 cm⁻¹) than the M–O_b–M vibrations (observed 750–890 cm⁻¹, calculated 780–850 cm⁻¹). Some contribution of Cp C–H bending modes is found to mix with the lowest-frequency vibration (840–960 cm⁻¹). There is a rather good match between the calculated and observed spectra (Figure 3), with the frequency shift certainly being related the computational method and/or to the model (Cp vs Cp*). This gives us confidence in the reported band assignment.

The trends of the calculated frequencies as the metal atoms are changed are amenable to a detailed analysis. First of all, the structural distortion away from the idealized C_{4v} symmetry, even for system I, where this distortion is more pronounced (see the previous section), is not significantly reflected in the shape of the normal modes. For instance, the pseudodegenerate E-type modes, which split into A' + A'' in C_s symmetry, remain practically degenerate (maximum difference: 1 cm⁻¹). Therefore, the labels of the higher-symmetry C_{4v} point group are used

Table 3. Selected Bond Distances for the Geometry-Optimized Models I–IV and a Comparison with the Experimental Structures of 1c and 2c^a

system	1a ^b	1c (M, M', M'' = Mo)	I (M, M', M'' = Mo)	2a (M = W; M', M'' = Mo)	2c (M = W; M', M'' = Mo)	II (M = W; M', M'' = Mo)	III (M = Mo; M', M'' = W)	IV (M, M', M'' = W)
M–Cp	2.08(3)	2.092(2)	2.150	2.105(4)	2.085(2)	2.163	2.139	2.151
M'=O _t	1.65(2)	1.674(2)	1.688	1.667(7)	1.678(4)	1.687	1.701	1.701
	1.67(2)		1.688	1.675(7)		1.687	1.701	1.701
	1.68(2)	1.679(2)	1.688	1.676(7)	1.671(4)	1.687	1.701	1.701
	1.68(2)		1.688	1.683(7)		1.687	1.701	1.701
M''=O _t	1.62(2)	1.673(3)	1.681	1.688(8)	1.669(5)	1.681	1.696	1.696
M–O _c	2.14(1)	2.109(3)	2.074	2.136(7)	2.104(4)	2.067	2.127	2.103
M'–O _c	2.33(1)	2.328(2)	2.378	2.338(6)	2.335(3)	2.369	2.365	2.369
	2.33(1)		2.382	2.338(6)		2.372	2.366	2.370
	2.33(1)	2.339(2)	2.383	2.343(7)	2.346(3)	2.379	2.367	2.370
	2.34(2)		2.386	2.353(6)		2.380	2.368	2.375
M''–O _c	2.48(1)	2.504(3)	2.609	2.502(7)	2.512(4)	2.629	2.585	2.602
M–O _{b(M)}	1.87(2)	1.917(2)	1.886	1.921(7)	1.931(3)	1.910	1.915	1.918
	1.88(2)		1.890	1.925(8)		1.921	1.923	1.927
	1.91(2)	1.974(2)	1.995	1.934(7)	1.958(3)	1.946	1.947	1.940
	1.94(2)		2.009	1.952(8)		1.964	1.962	1.951
M'–O _{b(M)}	1.90(2)	1.870(2)	1.881	1.906(8)	1.883(3)	1.910	1.914	1.921
	1.92(2)		1.881	1.911(8)		1.927	1.926	1.930
	1.93(2)	1.908(2)	1.990	1.912(8)	1.898(3)	1.951	1.947	1.942
	1.95(2)		1.990	1.918(8)		1.962	1.954	1.950
M'–O _{b(M')}	1.90(2)	1.928(2)	1.837	1.933(8)	1.931(3)	1.924	1.924	1.926
	1.92(2)		1.838	1.936(7)		1.924	1.925	1.926
	1.93(2)	1.929(2)	1.843	1.939(7)	1.933(4)	1.924	1.926	1.927
	1.94(2)		1.845	1.947(8)		1.925	1.929	1.927
	1.94(2)	1.932(2)	2.043	1.949(7)	1.937(4)	1.935	1.929	1.930
	1.95(2)		2.044	1.950(8)		1.935	1.931	1.931
	1.96(2)	1.933(2)	2.051	1.957(8)	1.941(3)	1.936	1.932	1.932
	1.96(2)		2.059	1.957(7)		1.937	1.934	1.933
M'–O _{b(M'')}	1.94(2)	1.890(2)	1.875	1.898(9)	1.894(3)	1.902	1.906	1.910
	1.95(2)		1.883	1.913(8)		1.912	1.913	1.916
	1.97(2)	1.928(2)	1.968	1.918(8)	1.908(3)	1.934	1.930	1.928
	1.97(2)		1.976	1.919(8)		1.950	1.941	1.935
M''–O _{b(M)}	1.84(2)	1.878(2)	1.875	1.894(8)	1.899(4)	1.895	1.903	1.907
	1.85(2)		1.880	1.902(8)		1.909	1.913	1.913
	1.86(2)	1.923(2)	1.963	1.911(8)	1.914(4)	1.932	1.929	1.926
	1.87(2)		1.975	1.915(8)		1.943	1.937	1.932

^aFor the definition of the symbols used, see Scheme 1. ^bFrom ref 50.

in Table 4 and in the discussion. Five terminal metal oxido (M'=O and M''=O) vibrations are expected and indeed found by the calculations (2A₁ + B₁ + E). The B₁ band, corresponding to $\nu_{as}(M'=O)$, is very weak because of the small overall dipole moment, whereas the E-type pair has the highest intensity. The two A₁-type vibrations correspond to the in-phase (stronger) and out-of-phase (weaker) elongations of the M'=O and M''=O bonds. Thus, only three major bands are essentially observed in this region. The calculated frequencies do not show significant trends as a function of the metal nature. Analysis of the bridging M_t–O–M_t vibrations (M_t = M, M', M'') is more complex because of more extensive vibrational coupling not only among structurally different bonds but also with vibration of other nature (notably Cp bending modes). The five most representative bands (2A₁ + B₁ + E) are listed in Table 4.

From the experimental spectra, only two $\nu(M=O)$ bands can be unambiguously determined, sometimes with shoulder-

ing. A comparison with the calculated spectra suggests that the strongest one is the E-type vibration, whereas the second most intense band is most probably the highest-frequency A₁-type band. Experimentally, the most significant effect on the spectrum in this region is seen for a change of the inorganic metal, whereas a change of the organometallic one produces hardly any difference.

CONCLUSIONS

We have presented here a new, rational, and facile synthesis of new organometallic group 6 Lindqvist-type polyanions of the type [Cp*MM'₅O₁₈][–] (M, M' = Mo, W). This family was previously represented only by the homometallic Mo member, obtained by two different and less efficient synthetic strategies. The thermal decomposition of these compounds (at least those with N-containing cations) yields the mixed-metal oxides M_x/6M'_{1–x}/6O₃ with a homogeneous distribution of the two

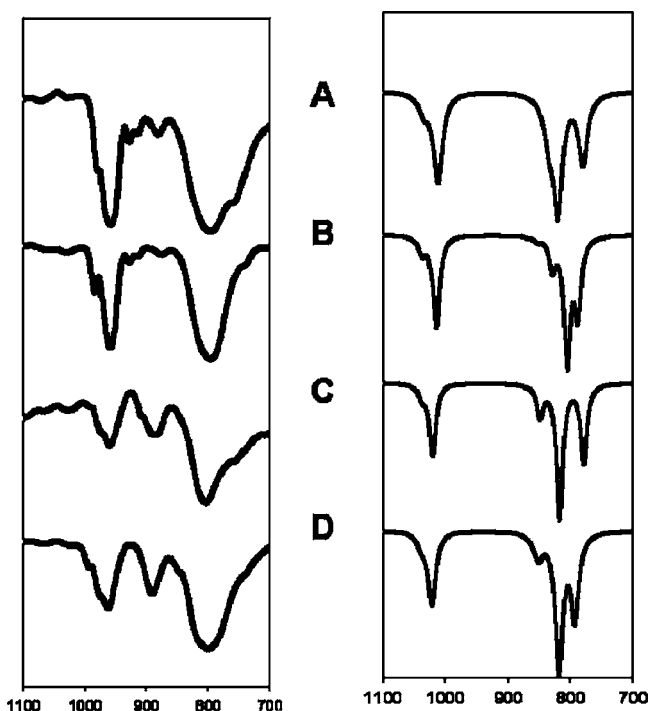


Figure 3. Experimental (left) and DFT-calculated (right) IR spectra in the Mo–O stretching region for compounds **1a/I** (A), **2a/II** (B), **3a/III** (C), and **4a/IV** (D). The range 700–1100 cm^{-1} corresponds to the higher frequencies observed for $\text{M}=\text{O}$ and $\text{M}-\text{O}-\text{M}$ vibrations.

metals, which may be of interest for the study of the metal influence in various applications.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All experiments were performed in air. Compounds $\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_2\text{O}_5$ and $\text{Cp}^*\text{W}_2\text{O}_5$ were synthesized according to the literature.⁶³ Water was deionized, and methanol (Carlo Erba, analytical grade) was used as received. Sodium molybdate and tungstate dihydrates ($\text{Na}_2\text{MO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$; $\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$), tetrabutylammonium bromide (Bu_4NBr), tetrabutylphosphonium bromide (Bu_4PBr), tetraphenylphosphonium bromide (Ph_4PBr), and *N*-butylpyridinium bromide (BuPyrBr) were purchased from Aldrich and used as received. Elemental analyses (C, H, and N) were performed by the LCC Analytical Service Laboratory. The IR spectra were recorded on KBr pellets at room temperature with a Mattson Genesis II FTIR spectrometer, and the data were processed with *WinFirst* software. The TGA measurements were carried out on a SDT Q600 V20.9 thermal analyzer. A quantity of each sample was placed into a Ni/Pt alloy crucible and heated at $0.83 \text{ K}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ under reconstituted air flow up to 500 K. An empty crucible was used as a reference. ^1H and ^{31}P NMR

spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DPX-200 spectrometer. Mass spectrometry (MS) analyses were performed at the “Service Commun de Spectrométrie de Masse” of Université Paul Sabatier on a Perkin Elmer API 365 mass spectrometer, in electrospray ionization mode and negative polarity.

General Synthetic Procedure of $\text{Cat}[\text{Cp}^*\text{MM}'_5\text{O}_{18}]$. The same procedure was used for all compounds. A total of 1 equiv of $\text{Cp}^*\text{M}_2\text{O}_5$ ($\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$) was dissolved in the minimum amount of methanol. In a second flask, 10 equiv of $\text{Na}_2\text{M}'\text{O}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}' = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$) were dissolved in the minimum amount of water. Both solutions were mixed without apparent change. Aqueous 1 M HNO_3 (18 equiv) was then added to the mixture, resulting in a color change (the color depends on the M/M' nature; see Table 1). The mixture was left to stir at room temperature for 2 h. The mixture salt with the desired amount (>3 equiv) dissolved in water was then added to the solution, leading to a precipitate of the expected compound. The product was filtered off, washed with small portions of water, methanol, and diethyl ether, and finally dried under a vacuum at 70°C .

$\text{Bu}_4\text{N}[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ (1a**).** Yield: 92%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 979sh, 957s, 796s. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{51}\text{O}_{18}\text{NM}_6$: C, 25.1; H, 4.1. Found: C, 25.1; H, 4.1. TGA [formal loss of Bu_4NCp^* ; % exptl (calcd)]: 30.5 (30.4). ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.96 (q, 12H, Me), 1.35 (m, 8H, CH_2), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH_2), 2.27 (s, 15H, Cp^*), 3.18 (m, 8H, CH_2). MS: m/z 999.8 (theor m/z 999.5), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]^-$.

$\text{Bu}_4\text{P}[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ (1b**).** Yield: 92%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 979sh, 967s, 916sh, 798s, 759sh. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{51}\text{O}_{18}\text{PM}_6$: C, 24.8; H, 4.1. Found: C, 25.0; H, 3.8. TGA [loss of four Bu and Cp^* ; % exptl (calcd)]: 28.3 (28.9). ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.94 (q, 12H, Me), 1.46 (m, 8H, CH_2), 2.20–2.30 (m, 16H, CH_2), 2.27 (s, 15H, Cp^*). ^{31}P NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 35.1.

$\text{Ph}_4\text{P}[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ (1c**).** Yield: 92%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 967s, 878s, 796s, 760sh. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_{18}\text{PM}_6$: C, 30.5, H, 2.6. Found: C, 30.2; H, 2.8. TGA [formal loss of Ph_4PCp^* ; % exptl (calcd)]: 35.3 (35.4). ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 2.27 (s, 15H, Cp^*), 7.6–8.2 (m, 15H, Ar). ^{31}P NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 23.6. Single crystals of this compound could be grown from acetone.

$\text{BuNC}_5\text{H}_5[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ (1d**).** Yield: 93%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 962 L, 782s, 757sh. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_{18}\text{NM}_6$: C, 20.1; H, 2.6. Found: C, 20.9; H, 2.5. TGA [formal loss of $(\text{BuNC}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Cp}^*$; % exptl (calcd)]: 24.5 (23.9). ^1H NMR (200 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.93 (q, 3H, Me), 1.31 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.20 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.27 (s, 15H, Cp^*), 4.61 (m, 2H, CH_2), 8.18 (m, 2H, CH_{pyr}), 8.63 (m, 1H, CH_{pyr}), 9.10 (m, 2H, CH_{pyr}).

$\text{Bu}_4\text{N}[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_5\text{WO}_{18}]$ (2a**).** Yield: 79%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 984sh, 954s, 797s. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{57}\text{O}_{19}\text{NM}_5\text{WO}_{18}$: C, 23.5; H, 3.9. Found: C, 24.1; H, 3.7. TGA [formal loss of Bu_4NCp^* ; exptl (calcd)]: 28.6 (28.4). ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.95 (q, 12H, Me), 1.34 (m, 8H, CH_2), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH_2), 2.41 (s, 15H, Cp^*), 3.19 (m, 8H, CH_2). Single crystals of this compound could be grown from acetone.

$\text{Bu}_4\text{P}[\text{Cp}^*\text{Mo}_5\text{WO}_{18}]$ (2b**).** Yield: 55%. IR (ν , cm^{-1}): 984sh, 961s, 796s, 721sh. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{51}\text{O}_{18}\text{PM}_5\text{W}$: C, 23.2; H, 3.8. Found: C, 23.6; H, 3.6. TGA [formal loss of Cp^* and four Bu; % exptl (calcd)]: 28.1 (27.0). ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.95 (q, 12H, Me), 1.47 (m, 8H, CH_2), 2.17 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.17 (s, 15H, Cp^*). ^{31}P NMR

Table 4. Calculated Vibrations (cm^{-1}) in the M–O Stretching Region with Relative Intensities (km/mol) in Parentheses

I	II	III	IV	symmetry	assignment
780 (842)	788 (903)	779 (949)	793 (1023)	A_1	$(\text{M}-\text{O}-\text{M})_s + \text{Cp}$
820 (703)	805 (769)	818 (824)	819 (843)	E	$\text{M}_t-\text{O}-\text{M}_t$
821 (715)	806 (756)	818 (824)	819 (842)		
835 (94)	813 (17)	836 (1)	838 (1)	B_1	$(\text{M}_t-\text{O}-\text{M}_t)_{as}$
835 (343)	829 (360)	849 (331)	851 (251)	A_1	$(\text{M}'-\text{O}-\text{M}')_s$
1011 (34)	1013 (26)	1019 (1)	1020 (5)	B_1	$(\text{M}'=\text{O})_{as}$
1012 (528)	1014 (536)	1020 (426)	1021 (426)	E	$\text{M}'=\text{O}$
1012 (498)	1015 (535)	1020 (425)	1022 (422)		
1021 (68)	1024 (82)	1027 (62)	1028 (64)	A_1	$(\text{M}'=\text{O})_s - (\text{M}'=\text{O})$
1035 (215)	1038 (199)	1038 (156)	1031 (149)	A_1	$(\text{M}'=\text{O})_s + (\text{M}'=\text{O})$

Table 5. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for All Compounds

	1c-(CH ₃) ₂ CO	2a	2c-(CH ₃) ₂ CO
empirical formula	C ₃₇ H ₄₁ Mo ₆ O ₁₉ P	C ₂₆ H ₅₁ Mo ₅ NO ₁₈ W	C ₃₇ H ₄₁ WMo ₅ O ₁₈ P
fw	1396.31	1329.23	1484.22
cryst syst	orthorhombic	monoclinic	orthorhombic
space group	<i>Pnma</i>	<i>P2₁/n</i>	<i>Pnma</i>
<i>a</i> , Å	14.8994(7)	11.8997(5)	14.9089(5)
<i>b</i> , Å	13.8507(7)	25.9172(13)	13.8674(5)
<i>c</i> , Å	21.2967(8)	12.7160(6)	21.3702(8)
α , deg	90	90	90
β , deg	90	90.405(5)	90
γ , deg	90	90	90
volume, Å ³	4394.9(3)	3921.6(3)	4418.2(3)
Z	4	4	4
<i>D</i> (calcd), Mg/m ³	2.110	2.251	2.231
abs coeff, mm ⁻¹	1.773	4.543	4.081
<i>F</i> (000)	2728	2568	2856
cryst size, mm ³	0.51 × 0.19 × 0.15	0.22 × 0.09 × 0.04	0.43 × 0.08 × 0.03
θ range, deg	2.90–26.37	2.82–26.02	2.89–26.37
reflns collected	24229	21362	24032
unique reflns [<i>R</i> (int)]	4682 [0.0233]	7429 [0.0773]	4709 [0.0574]
completeness, %	99.8	96.0	99.9
abs corn	multiscan	multiscan	multiscan
max/min abs	1.00000/0.722	0.8392/0.4348	1.00000/0.620
data/restraints/param	4682/0/310	7429/0/445	4709/0/310
GOF on <i>F</i> ²	1.138	1.067	0.976
<i>R</i> ₁ , <i>wR</i> ₂ [<i>I</i> > 2 σ (<i>I</i>)]	0.0271, 0.0621	0.0572, 0.1260	0.0332, 0.0733
<i>R</i> ₁ , <i>wR</i> ₂ (all data)	0.0355, 0.0674	0.0935, 0.1367	0.0543, 0.0809
residual density, e/Å ³	0.591 and -0.944	3.134 and -2.442	1.571 and -1.554

(DMSO-*d*₆): δ 35.2. MS: *m/z* 1086.9 (theor *m/z* 1086.5), [Cp*WMo₅O₁₈]⁻.

Ph₄P[Cp*Mo₅WO₁₈] (2c). Yield: 48%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 983sh, 958s, 883s, 795s. Anal. Calcd for C₃₄H₃₅O₁₈PMo₅W: C, 28.6; H, 2.5. Found: C, 25.9; H, 2.2. TGA [formal loss of Ph₄PCp*; % exptl (calcd)]: 31.9 (33.2). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.3 (s, 15H, Cp*), 7.6–8.1 (m, 15H, Ar). ³¹P NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 23.4.

Bu₄N[Cp*MoW₅O₁₈] (3a). Yield: 78%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 995sh, 961s, 886s, 805s. The compound was recrystallized from acetone, and its elemental analysis was carried out on crystals of [Bu₄N]-[Cp*MoW₅O₁₈]-acetone (C₂₉H₃₇O₁₉NMoW₅). Anal. Calcd: C, 20.0; H, 3.3. Found: C, 20.7; H, 3.6. TGA [formal loss of Bu₄NCp*; % exptl (calcd)]: 23.7 (22.5). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 0.96 (q, 12H, Me), 1.35 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH₂), 2.17 (s, 15H, Cp*), 3.19 (m, 8H, CH₂).

Bu₄P[Cp*MoW₅O₁₈] (3b). Yield: 80%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 956s, 796s. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₅₁O₁₈PMoW₅: C, 18.4; H, 3.0. Found: C, 19.0; H, 3.3. TGA [formal loss of Cp* and four Bu; % exptl (calcd)]: 23.4 (21.4). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 0.96 (q, 12H, Me), 1.46 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH₂), 2.17–2.21 (m, 23H, CH₂ + Cp*), ³¹P NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 35.1. MS: *m/z* 1440.8 (theor *m/z* 1440.7), [Cp*MoW₅O₁₈]⁻.

Ph₄P[Cp*MoW₅O₁₈] (3c). Yield: 95%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 960sh, 794s. Anal. Calcd for C₃₄H₃₅O₁₈PMoW₅: C, 23.0; H, 2.0. Found: C, 24.1; H, 1.8. TGA [formal loss of Ph₄PCp*; % exptl (calcd)]: 27.9 (26.6). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.4 (s, 15H, Cp*), 7.6–8.1 (m, 15H, Ar). ³¹P NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 23.6.

BuNC₅H₅[Cp*MoW₅O₁₈] (3d). Yield: 93%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 958sh, 804s. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₉O₁₈NMoW₅: C, 14.5; H, 1.9. Found: C, 15.0; H, 2.2. TGA [formal loss of BuNC₅H₅Cp*; % exptl (calcd)]: 19.5 (17.2). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 0.95 (q, 3H, Me), 1.32 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.20 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.27 (s, 15H, Cp*), 4.61 (m, 2H, CH₂), 8.21 (m, 2H, CH_{pyr}), 8.64 (m, 1H, CH_{pyr}), 9.12 (m, 2H, CH_{pyr}).

Bu₄N[Cp*W₆O₁₈] (4a). Yield: 83%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 991s, 960s, 892s, 798s. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₅₁O₁₈PW₆: C, 17.6; H, 2.9. Found: C, 18.7; H, 2.9. TGA [formal loss of Bu₄NCp* % exptl (calcd)]: 21.4 (21.3).

¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 0.96 (q, 12H, Me), 1.35 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH₂), 2.17 (s, 15H, Cp*), 2.37 (m, 8H), 3.21 (m, 8H, CH₂).

Bu₄P[Cp*W₆O₁₈] (4b). Yield: 94%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 991s, 960s, 890s, 800s. Anal. Calcd for C₂₆H₅₁O₁₈PW₆: C, 17.5; H, 2.9. Found: C, 19.6; H, 2.8. TGA [formal loss of Cp* and four Bu; % exptl (calcd)]: 20.0 (20.3). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 0.95 (q, 12H, Me), 1.46 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.59 (m, 8H, CH₂), 2.13–2.28 (m, 8H, CH₂), 2.40 (s, 15H, Cp*). ³¹P NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 35.1.

Ph₄P[Cp*W₆O₁₈] (4c). Yield: 77%. IR (ν , cm⁻¹): 990sh, 960s, 890s, 803s. Anal. Calcd for C₃₄H₃₅O₁₈PW₆: C, 21.9; H, 1.9. Found: C, 23.1; H, 1.7. TGA [loss of Ph₄PCp*; % exptl (calcd)]: 26.5 (25.4). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.4 (s, 15H, Cp*), 7.6–8.1 (m, 15H, Ar). ³¹P NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 23.6. MS: *m/z* 1525.3 (theor *m/z* 1524.7), [Cp*W₆O₁₈]⁻.

X-ray Analyses. A single crystal of each compound was mounted under inert perfluoropolyether at the tip of a glass fiber and cooled in the cryostream of a Bruker APEX II CCD diffractometer for **2a** or an Agilent Technologies XCALIBUR CCD diffractometer for **1c** and **2c**. Data were collected using the monochromatic Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71073). The structures were solved by direct methods (SIR97)⁶⁴ and refined by least-squares procedures on *F*² using SHELXL-97.⁶⁵ All H atoms attached to C atoms were introduced in the calculation in idealized positions and treated as riding models. The drawing of the molecules was realized with the help of ORTEP32.^{66,67} Crystal data and refinement parameters are shown in Table 5. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication CCDC 866670–866672. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge upon application to the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, U.K. [fax (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

Computational Details. The guess geometries for **I** and **II** were based on the crystallographically determined structures of **1a** and **2a**, replacing all Cp* CH₃ groups by H atoms. From the resulting optimized geometries, the starting geometries for **III** and **IV** were generated by changing the metal. All optimizations were carried out on

the isolated ions using the *Gaussian 03* suite of programs⁶⁸ with the B3LYP functional, which includes the three-parameter gradient-corrected exchange functional of Becke⁶⁹ and the correlation functional of Lee, Yang, and Parr.^{70,71} The standard 6-31G** basis set was used for the C, H, and O atoms, while the CEP-31G* basis set⁷² was adopted for the Mo and W atoms. Analytical frequency calculations were also run on the optimized geometries, yielding positive frequencies for all normal modes. The calculated IR spectra shown in Figure 3 were generated from the DFT-generated frequencies and intensities by applying Lorentzian functions and adjusting the line width to best fit the experimental spectra.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

■ Supporting Information

X-ray crystallographic data in CIF format and tables of bond lengths and angles, Cartesian coordinates, and calculated IR spectra. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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