

the presence of an overlapping and intensely absorbing MLCT band in the  $W(CO)_5(4-CNpy)$  complex is also an important factor in reducing the efficiency of LF population and, hence,  $^3LF$  photochemistry.

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## Similarity of the Electronic Properties of the Monophosphate Tungsten Bronzes

Enric Canadell,<sup>\*,†</sup> Myung-Hwan Whangbo,<sup>\*,‡</sup> and Idris El-Idrissi Rachidi<sup>†</sup>

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The electronic structures of the perovskite-type tungsten oxide (W–O) layers of the monophosphate tungsten bronzes (MPTB) were examined by performing tight-binding band calculations. Our study shows that all known MPTB phases have one- and two-dimensional metallic bands regardless of the difference in the thickness of their W–O layers and in their octahedral distortions. Concerning this dimensionality of the electronic properties, the bond valence sum analysis is found to give erroneous predictions. We examine the origin of this failure and also that of the remarkable similarity in the MPTB electronic structures.

The monophosphate tungsten bronzes (MPTB) contain perovskite-type layers made up of  $WO_6$  octahedra, and these tungsten oxide (W–O) layers are interlinked by  $PO_4$  tetrahedra.<sup>1,2</sup> The thickness of these W–O layers increase with the number of  $WO_6$  octahedra (per unit cell) used to form the layers. The MPTB phases have either pentagonal or hexagonal tunnels between the W–O layers, and they are called the  $MPTB_p$  and  $MPTB_h$  phases, respectively. The latter invariably occur with alkali-metal atoms Na or K, which reside in the hexagonal tunnels.<sup>2</sup> The third members of the  $MPTB_p$  and  $MPTB_h$  series,  $(WO_3)_6(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$  and  $A_x(WO_3)_6(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$  ( $A$  = alkali metal), are similar in structure to the Magnéli phases<sup>3</sup>  $\gamma-Mo_4O_{11}$  and  $\eta-Mo_4O_{11}$ , respectively, except that  $PO_4$  tetrahedra are replaced by  $MoO_4$  tetrahedra in the Magnéli phases. The latter exhibit resistivity anomalies,<sup>4</sup> which originate from the electronic instability associated with the partially filled bands of their perovskite-type Mo–O layers.<sup>5</sup> Since the MPTB phases possess isostructural W–O layers, they are also expected to show similar electronic instabilities. In fact, the third member of the  $MPTB_p$  series,  $(WO_3)_6(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , exhibits resistivity anomalies<sup>6</sup> strikingly similar to those of  $NbSe_3$ , a well-established charge-density-wave (CDW) material.<sup>7</sup>

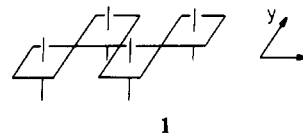
As will be discussed later, each perovskite-type W–O layer of the  $MPTB_p$  series contains two d electrons per unit cell, regardless of its thickness. This electron counting is slightly modified in the  $MPTB_h$  phases due to the alkali-metal atoms in their hexagonal channels. Thus, the MPTB phases provide a number of W–O layers with different average oxidation states of W. The crystal structures of the MPTB series reveal that the octahedral distortions in their W–O layers are not uniform even among those layers with a same thickness. In understanding the electronic properties of the MPTB phases, it is necessary to examine how their electronic structures are related to the crystal structure, the octahedral distortion, and the average oxidation state of W. In the present study, we investigate the electronic structures of all MPTB phases with known crystal structures by performing tight-binding band calculations<sup>8</sup> based upon the extended Hückel method.<sup>9</sup> The atomic parameters employed in the present study are taken from our previous work.<sup>10</sup>

### Crystal Structure

Nearly all MPTB phases have two perovskite-type W–O layers per unit cell.<sup>1,2</sup> Thus, the general formulas for the  $MPTB_p$  phases can be written as  $(WO_3)_p(WO_3)_q(PO_2)_4$ , and those for the  $MPTB_h$  phases as  $A_x(WO_3)_p(WO_3)_q(PO_2)_4$  ( $A$  = Na, K). The indices  $p$  and  $q$  are even or odd integers, which are equal to the number of  $WO_6$  octahedra (per unit cell) used to form the W–O layer.

Usually  $p$  and  $q$  are identical, thereby leading to the formulas  $(WO_3)_{2m}(PO_2)_4$  and  $A_x(WO_3)_{2m}(PO_2)_4$  ( $m$  = integer). However, they can be different as in the case of  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , which should be distinguished from  $(WO_3)_5(WO_3)_5(PO_2)_4$ .

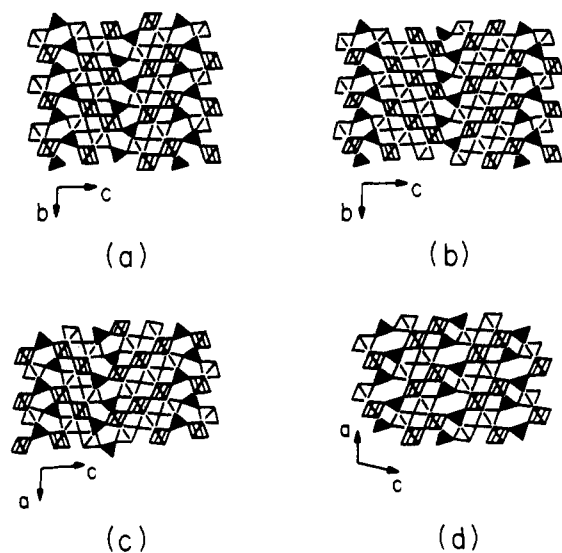
The general structural patterns of the perovskite-type W–O layers may be described in terms of the W–O layer with  $p = 4$ . Diagram 1 shows a perspective view of the  $W_4O_{21}$  unit made up



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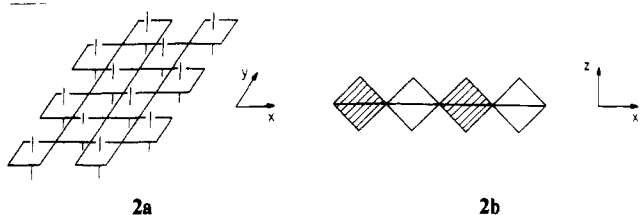
<sup>\*</sup> Université de Paris-Sud.

<sup>†</sup> North Carolina State University.

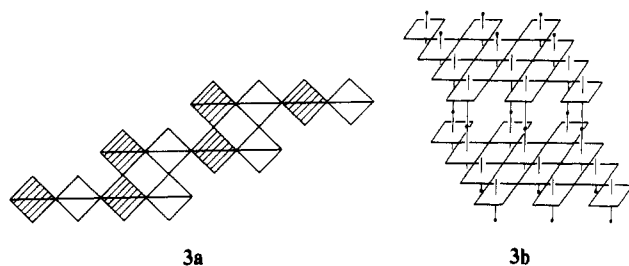


**Figure 1.** Projection view of representative MPTB phases: (a)  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ; <sup>1a</sup> (b)  $(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ; <sup>1b</sup> (c)  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ; <sup>1c</sup> (d)  $\text{Na}_x(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ; <sup>2b</sup>

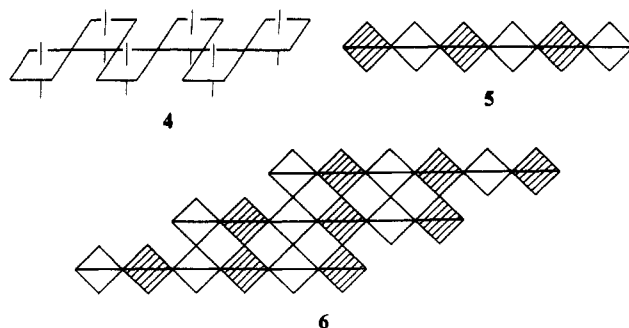
of four  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra by sharing corners. These  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{21}$  units may be condensed to form a  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{18}$  chain **2a**, which can be



represented by a projection view **2b** along the chain direction. Finally, the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{18}$  chains can be condensed to form a  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layer **3a**, in which the first octahedron of one  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{18}$  chain (in the



projection view **2b**) shares its axial oxygen atom with the third octahedron of the adjacent  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{18}$  chain [i.e., (13)-condensation]. A perspective view of **3a** is given by **3b**, which shows that it is a step layer with each  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{18}$  chain as a step. Likewise, one can condense the  $\text{W}_6\text{O}_{31}$  units (**4**) to construct a  $\text{W}_6\text{O}_{26}$  chain **5**, and



the  $\text{W}_6\text{O}_{22}$  layer **6** is obtained by the (13)-condensation of the  $\text{W}_6\text{O}_{26}$  chains **5**. The structural patterns of the  $\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{22}$  layers of the Magnéli phases  $\gamma\text{-Mo}_4\text{O}_{11}$  and  $\eta\text{-Mo}_4\text{O}_{11}$ <sup>3</sup> are identical with those of the  $\text{W}_6\text{O}_{22}$  layer shown in **6**. Figure 1 shows projection

**Table I.** Oxidation States of the  $\text{W}_I$  and  $\text{W}_{II}$  Atoms in the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  Layers Calculated by the Bond Valence Sum Rule

compd	oxidn state	
	$\text{W}_I$	$\text{W}_{II}$
$(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$	5.82	5.18
$(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$	5.28	5.82
$\text{Na}_{1.5}(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$	5.24	5.38

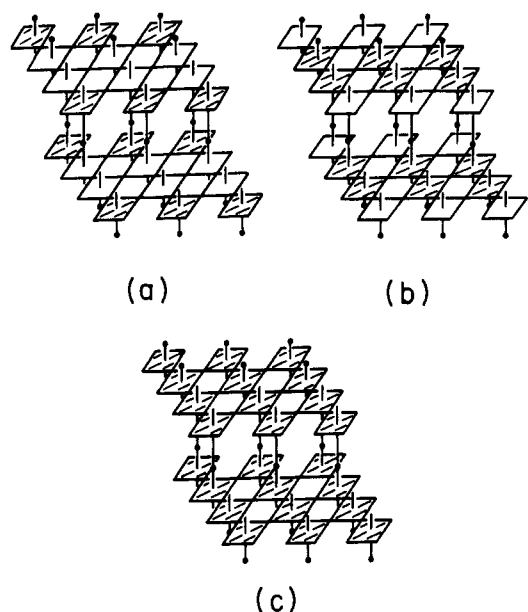
views of four representative MPTB phases,  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ,  $(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ,  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$ , and  $\text{Na}_x(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$ , where the filled triangles refer to the  $\text{PO}_4$  tetrahedra.

### Dimensionality of the Electronic Properties Predicted by the Bond Valence Sum Analysis

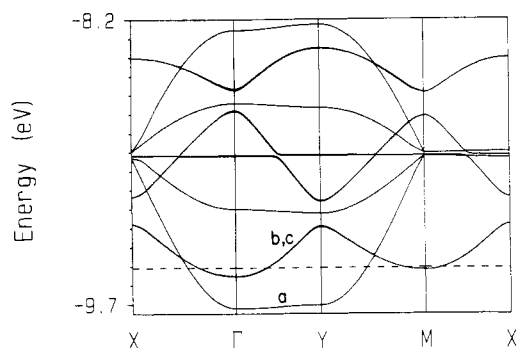
For complex oxide metals with large unit cells but with a few d electrons per unit cell (e.g., the MPTB phases and molybdenum oxides<sup>11</sup>), it is important to know which portions of the crystals contain the d electrons and hence are largely responsible for their electrical conductivities. Empirically, this question has been answered by the bond valence sum analysis,<sup>12</sup> which allows one to estimate the oxidation state of a metal on the basis of the metal-oxygen bond lengths it makes with the surrounding oxygen atoms. For example, the bond valence sum analyses on  $\text{K}_{0.9}\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$ ,<sup>13</sup>  $\text{Li}_{0.9}\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$ ,<sup>14</sup>  $\text{Mo}_4\text{O}_{11}$ ,<sup>3a</sup> and  $\text{K}_{0.3}\text{MoO}_3$ <sup>15</sup> predict that only certain  $\text{MoO}_6$  octahedra of their Mo-O layers can have d electrons, in good agreement with the band electronic structure calculations.<sup>5,11,16</sup> In addition, the analysis for  $\text{Li}_{0.9}\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$ <sup>14</sup> shows that the d-electron containing  $\text{MoO}_6$  octahedra form chains separated by the  $\text{MoO}_6$  octahedra without d electrons. Consequently,  $\text{Li}_{0.9}\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$  is predicted<sup>14</sup> to be a one-dimensional (1D) metal despite its three-dimensional (3D) crystal lattice. This prediction is in good agreement with the band electronic structure calculations<sup>16b</sup> and the experiment.<sup>14</sup>

Thus, it is of interest to perform the bond valence sum analysis for the MPTB phases. The parameters needed for this analysis have been developed by Domengès et al.<sup>17</sup> We note that there are two nonequivalent W atoms ( $\text{W}_I$  and  $\text{W}_{II}$ ) in the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layers of  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$ ,  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$ , and  $\text{Na}_x(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$  ( $x = 1.5$ ) of Figure 1. Every  $\text{W}_I\text{O}_6$  octahedron shares five oxygen atoms with other  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra and one oxygen atom with a  $\text{PO}_4$  tetrahedra, while every  $\text{W}_{II}\text{O}_6$  octahedron shares three oxygen atoms with other  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra and three oxygen atoms with  $\text{PO}_4$  tetrahedra. Table I summarizes the oxidation states of the  $\text{W}_I$  and  $\text{W}_{II}$  atoms calculated for the three different  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layers by the bond valence sum analysis. For  $\text{Li}_{0.9}\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{17}$  and  $\text{Mo}_4\text{O}_{11}$ , it is reasonable to consider that the Mo atoms with oxidation state +5.7 or greater do not contain d electrons and those with oxidation state +5.4 or smaller have d electrons. According to this approximation, the d-electron-containing  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra are isolated in the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layer of  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$  (shaded octahedra in Figure 2a) but form a continuous chain in the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layer of  $(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_6(\text{PO}_2)_4$  (shaded octahedra in Figure 2b). On the other hand, all  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra are expected to have d electrons in the  $\text{W}_4\text{O}_{16}$  layer of  $\text{Na}_x(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{WO}_3)_4(\text{PO}_2)_4$  ( $x = 1.5$ ) (Figure 2c). Therefore,

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**Figure 2.** Perspective views of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers found in (a)  $(WO_3)_4-(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ , (b)  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , and (c)  $Na_{1.5}(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ . The shaded octahedra are predicted to contain d electrons by the bond valence sum analysis.



**Figure 3.** Dispersion relations of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands calculated for an ideal  $W_4O_{16}$  layer (dashed line refers to the Fermi level corresponding to 2 d electrons per unit cell).  $\Gamma = (0, 0)$ ,  $X = (a^*/2, 0)$ ,  $Y = (0, b^*/2)$ , and  $M = (a^*/2, b^*/2)$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  refer to the intra- and interchain directions, respectively.

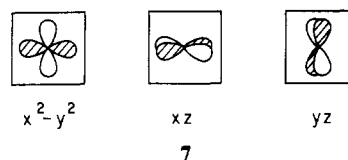
Figure 2 suggests that the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers are nonmetallic in  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ , are 1D metallic in  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , and are two-dimensional (2D) metallic in  $Na_{1.5}(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ .

### Band Electronic Structure

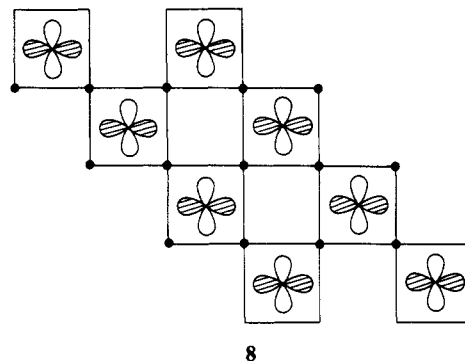
**A. Ideal  $W_4O_{16}$  Layer.** For the purpose of d-electron counting, the general formula of the MPTB phases may be written as  $A_x(WO_3)_p(WO_3)_q(PO_2)_4$ . With the formal oxidation states of  $A^+$ ,  $P^{5+}$ , and  $O^{2-}$ , the average oxidation state of W is given by  $6 - (4 + x)/(p + q)$ . Thus, a unit cell of an MPTB phase has  $4 + x$  electrons or, equivalently,  $2 + x/2$  electrons per W-O layer. Namely, there exist  $2 + x/2$  electrons per unit cell to fill the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands of a W-O layer.

Figure 3 shows the dispersion relations of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands calculated for an ideal  $W_4O_{16}$  layer made up of regular  $WO_6$  octahedra (with the average W-O distance of 1.916 Å), where the dashed line refers to the Fermi level appropriate for 2 electrons per unit cell. These  $t_{2g}$ -block bands are essentially identical in nature with those of an ideal  $Mo_4O_{16}$  layer examined in connection with the  $Mo_4O_{11}$  electronic structure.<sup>5</sup> The Fermi level of Figure 3 cuts the 1D band (i.e., band a) as well as the two nearly degenerate 2D bands (i.e., bands b and c). This result is obtained because bands b,c occur in the middle of band a. For the same reason, the Fermi level for any d-electron count between 2 and 4 per unit cell would make all bands a-c partially filled.

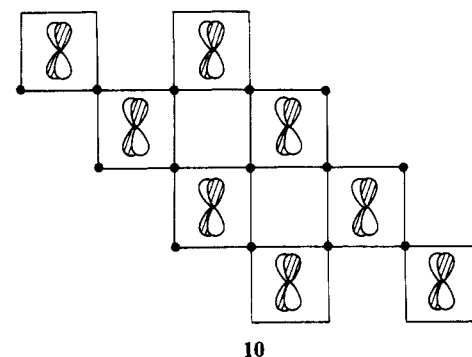
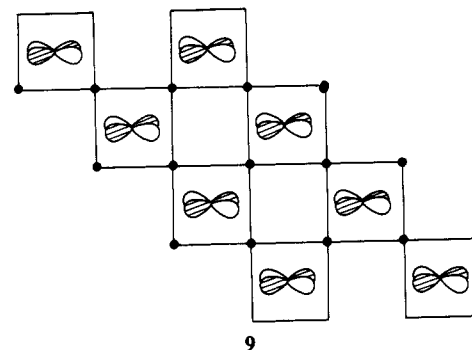
A band orbital analysis for why bands b,c occur in the middle of band a is discussed in detail elsewhere.<sup>5</sup> For our discussions that follow, we need to mention only briefly why, at  $\Gamma$ , the bottoms of bands b,c are close in energy to that of band a. An ideal  $WO_6$  octahedron has three  $t_{2g}$ -block levels shown in 7. At  $\Gamma$ , bands



a-c of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layer have no p-orbital contributions from the shared oxygen atoms both within and between the  $W_4O_{18}$  chains (i.e., the steps of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers). This can be shown in terms of the band orbitals of the  $W_4O_{18}$  chain: Shown in 8 is the orbital

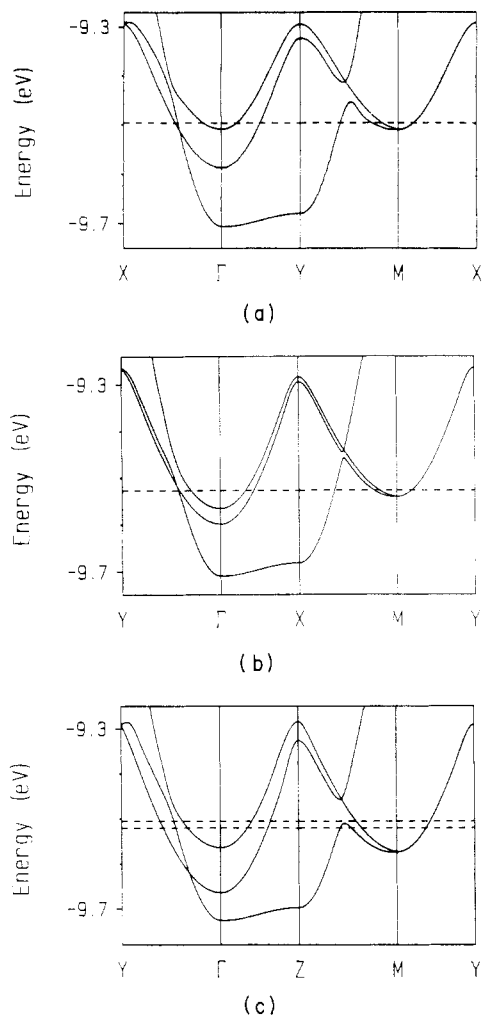


for band a, which is constructed from the  $\delta$  orbital (i.e.,  $x^2-y^2$  in 7) of  $WO_6$  octahedra. 9 and 10 are the orbitals for bands b and



c, respectively, which are constructed from the  $\pi$  orbitals (i.e.,  $xz$  and  $yz$  in 7). Since at  $\Gamma$  the shared oxygen atoms do not contribute their p orbitals to mix with the metal d orbitals, the band orbitals 9 and 10 are close in energy to 8. The bottoms of bands b,c are somewhat higher in energy than that of band a, due to the difference in the p-orbital contributions from the unshared oxygen atoms

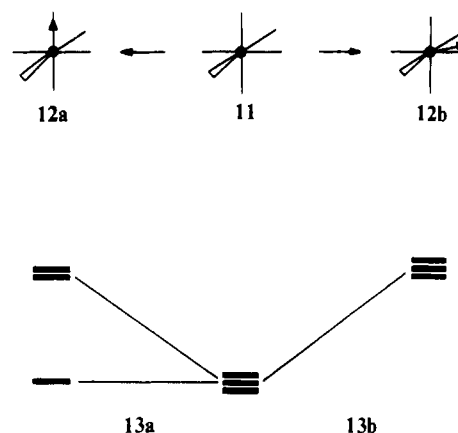
**B. Real  $W_4O_{16}$  Layers.** The dispersion relations of the bottom portions of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands calculated for the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers in  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ ,  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , and  $Na_x(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$  ( $x = 1.1-1.5$ ) are shown in Figure 4a-c, respectively. All these bands are very similar to those of the ideal



**Figure 4.** Dispersion relations of the bottom portions of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands calculated for the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers of (a)  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ , (b)  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ , and (c)  $Na_x(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ .  $\Gamma = (0, 0)$ ,  $X = (a^*/2, 0)$ ,  $Y = (0, b^*/2)$ , and  $M = (a^*/2, b^*/2)$ . The chain direction is given along  $\Gamma \rightarrow X$  in (a) but along  $\Gamma \rightarrow Y$  in (b) and (c). The dashed lines in (a) and (b) refer to the Fermi level corresponding to 2 d electrons per unit cell. In (c) the two dashed lines refer to the Fermi levels appropriate for 2.55 and 2.75 d electrons per unit cell (i.e.,  $x = 1.1$  and 1.5), respectively.

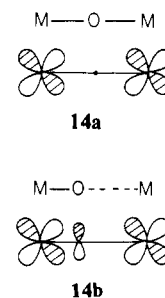
$W_4O_{16}$  layer shown in Figure 3, except that bands b,c are split in the real  $W_4O_{16}$  layers because of their octahedral distortions. The most important aspect of Figure 4 is that the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers of  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$  and  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$  have both 1D and 2D metallic bands, as does that of  $Na_x(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ . This is in sharp contrast to the prediction of the bond valence sum analysis discussed in the previous section. This failure of the bond valence sum analysis is striking, in view of its general success in the molybdenum oxide metals. The major reason for this failure is that the orbitals of bands a-c in the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers of  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$  and  $(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$  have nearly equal contributions from their  $W_I$  and  $W_{II}$  atoms, just as in the case of the corresponding bands in  $Na_x(WO_3)_4(WO_3)_4(PO_2)_4$ . In the following, we examine why this is the case.

**C. Octahedral Distortion and Bond Valence Sum Analysis.** A series of electronic structure studies on the molybdenum oxide metals have shown<sup>11,18</sup> that their lowest lying d-block bands are determined by the nature of the octahedral distortions. A regular  $MoO_6$  octahedron may be distorted to give one short Mo-O bond ( $11 \rightarrow 12a$ ) or more than one short Mo-O bond ( $11 \rightarrow 12b$ ). These distortions lead to the  $t_{2g}$ -level splitting shown in **13a** and



**13b**, respectively. Thus, for a perovskite-type Mo-O layer consisting of  $MoO_6$  octahedra **12a** and **12b**, the lowest lying  $t_{2g}$ -block bands are represented by the lowest lying  $t_{2g}$ -block level of every  $MoO_6$  octahedron **12a**.<sup>11,18</sup> In  $Mo_4O_{11}$ , all  $MoO_6$  octahedra have a distortion of type ( $11 \rightarrow 12b$ ). Of the three nonequivalent octahedra in the  $Mo_6O_{22}$  layer (**6**) of  $Mo_4O_{11}$ , one has a much stronger distortion than do the remaining two and therefore has high-lying  $t_{2g}$  orbitals. When those  $MoO_6$  octahedra with high-lying  $t_{2g}$  levels (i.e., the end two  $MoO_6$  octahedra of the  $Mo_6O_{26}$  step **5**) are removed, the  $Mo_6O_{22}$  layer **6** is simplified to become the  $Mo_4O_{16}$  layer **3**.<sup>3a,5</sup> That is, only the  $Mo_4O_{16}$  layer portion of the  $Mo_6O_{22}$  layer is expected to have d electrons. This orbital analysis is in agreement with the prediction of the bond valence sum analysis. The key point to note is that, of the three nonequivalent  $MoO_6$  octahedra, one has a much stronger distortion than do the remaining two. The existence of such a large difference in the extents of octahedral distortion is necessary for the prediction of the bond valence sum analysis to agree with that of band electronic structure calculations. This is not the case for the MPTB phases. In the case of the Magnéli phase  $Mo_8O_{23}$ <sup>19</sup> as well, the bond valence sum analysis fails<sup>20</sup> to predict the correct dimensionality of the  $Mo_8O_{23}$  electronic properties for similar reasons.

**D. Common Features of the Electronic Structures of the Perovskite-Type W-O Layers.** In the ideal  $W_4O_{16}$  layer, the bottoms of bands b,c are close in energy to that of band a (Figure 3) because, at  $\Gamma$ , their symmetric metal-oxygen-metal (M-O-M) bridges do not allow the p-orbital contributions from the bridging oxygen atoms when the adjacent two metal orbitals have a same sign (see **14a**). If there were a strong M-O...M bond alternations

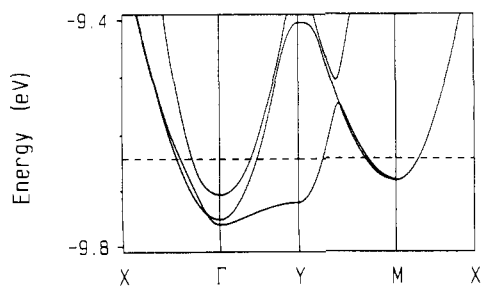


(as consequence of octahedral distortion), the bridging oxygen p orbital combines out-of-phase with the metal d orbital of the shorter M-O bond even if the adjacent two metal orbitals have the same sign (see **14b**). Such an antibonding interaction raises the energy of **14b** with respect to **14a**. In the case of the MPTB phases, the W-O...W alternations are weak so that the bonding pattern of their W-O...W bridges at  $\Gamma$  is similar to that of **14a**. Thus, in the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layers (Figure 4), the bottoms of bands a-c are represented by the  $W_I$  and  $W_{II}$  atoms

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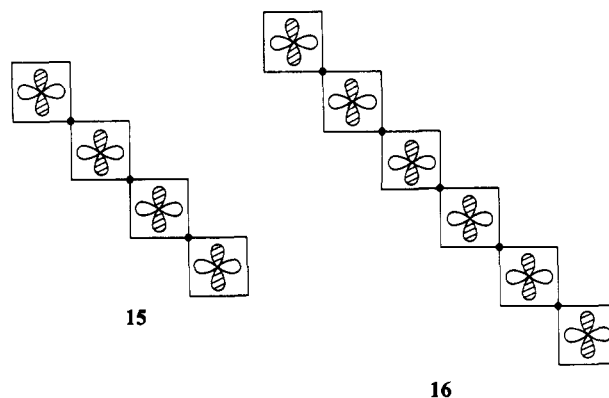
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**Figure 5.** Dispersion relations of the bottom portion of the  $t_{2g}$ -block band calculated for the  $W_6O_{22}$  layer of  $(WO_3)_6(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ . The dashed line refers to the Fermi level corresponding to 2 d electrons per unit cell.

almost equally. Lack of strong bridging p-orbital contributions also makes those three bands close in energy at  $\Gamma$  (from the viewpoint of the overall  $t_{2g}$ -block band dispersions).

In the perovskite-type  $W-O$  layers, the  $W$  atoms interact via the  $W-O-W$  bridges. Thus, a d-block band orbital in which contributions of the bridging oxygen p orbitals are absent would have an energy close to that of the atomic d level. This should be the case regardless of how many  $WO_6$  octahedra per unit cell are used to form a perovskite-type  $W-O$  layer. For example, band a of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layer is constructed from the orbital pattern 15 (in each  $W_4O_{18}$  step 2). Likewise, the corresponding band of the  $W_6O_{22}$  layer is constructed from the orbital pattern 16 (in each  $W_6O_{26}$  step 5). Since 15 and 16 have similar energies and similar nodal patterns, the resulting bands a of the  $W_4O_{16}$  and  $W_6O_{22}$  layers should be similar. According to the same reasoning, it is predicted that the bottom three  $t_{2g}$ -block bands of the  $W_4O_{16}$  layer should be similar to those of the  $W_6O_{22}$  layer or any other perovskite-type  $W-O$  step layer. Since the  $W-O$  step layer of the MPTB phases have between 2 and 4 d electrons per unit cell, it is also predicted that all MPTB phases should have both 1D and



2D metallic bands. We have confirmed these predictions for all MPTB phases with known crystal structures. As a representative example, we show in Figure 5 the dispersion relations of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands calculated for the  $W_6O_{22}$  step layer in  $(WO_3)_6(WO_3)_6(PO_2)_4$ .

#### Concluding Remarks

Our study shows that all MPTB phases should have both 1D and 2D metallic bands, regardless of the difference in their  $W-O$  layer thickness. This remarkable similarity originates from the fact that the  $W-O$  layers of the MPTB have between 2 and 4 d electrons per unit cell, and thus, only the bottom three of the  $t_{2g}$ -block bands can be partially filled due to their overlapping. Our study also shows that predictions of a bond valence sum analysis can be erroneous when the extents of metal-oxygen-metal bond alternations do not have a wide variation, as in the case of the MPTB phases.

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Contribution from the Institut de chimie minérale et analytique, Université de Lausanne, 3, Place du Château, CH-1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

## Evidence for a Coordination Number Change along the Lanthanide Series: FT-IR Investigation of the Solvates $[Ln(NO_3)_3(DMSO)_n]$ in Anhydrous Acetonitrile<sup>1</sup>

Jean-Claude G. Bünzli,\* Jean-Pierre Metabanzoulou, Pascal Froidevaux, and Linpei Jin<sup>2</sup>

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The interaction between lanthanide nitrates and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) has been studied in anhydrous acetonitrile by FT-IR difference spectra. If  $R = [DMSO]_i/[Ln(III)]_i$  is kept low enough (typically  $<9$ ), nitrate ions do not dissociate and remain bonded in a bidentate fashion. A quantitative study of the  $\nu_7(S-O)$  and  $\nu_{22}(C-S)$  stretching modes has been performed for solutions generally 0.05 M in  $Ln(III)$ , with  $Ln = La$  (0.012 M), Ce, Pr, Sm, Gd, Dy, Ho, Tm (0.029 M), Yb, and Lu, and  $R$  between 0 and 6. Average coordination numbers CN of the  $Ln(III)$  ions are reported for various compositions of the solutions. The data for  $R = 6$ , along with the previously published data for Nd, Eu, Tb, and Er, point to a large variation along the series, from  $10.2 \pm 0.3$  for La to  $8.4 \pm 0.3$  for Lu. La is 10-coordinate, and the main changes occur between Sm and Gd (0.6 unit) and between Er or Tm and Yb (0.6 unit). The coordination numbers depend upon the DMSO concentration, the data obtained for  $R = 6$  being larger by approximately 0.5 unit than the coordination numbers determined for  $R = 3$ . Data for  $R = 3$  confirm the CN change in the Pr-Eu region, but the variation is smaller; the small change between Gd and Lu occurs very gradually. For  $R = 2-6$ , there is an equilibrium between 9- and 10-coordinate species for the lighter lanthanides and between 8- and 9-coordinate species for the intermediate and heavier ions. Apparent stability constants have been calculated; they vary between  $\log K_{10} = 2.2 \pm 0.1$  (La) to  $0.9 \pm 0.1$  (Sm) and  $\log K_9 = 1.8 \pm 0.1$  (Eu) to  $1.0 \pm 0.1$  (Lu).

#### Introduction

The 14 trivalent f-block ions, from Ce(III) to Lu(III), plus La(III), herein denoted  $Ln(III)$  ions, form an extended series of cations with the same formal charge and with similar chemical properties. The  $4f^n 5s^2 5p^6$  electronic configuration ensures that

the bonding and stereochemistry of  $Ln(III)$  complexes and solvates are largely determined by both the predominantly ion-dipole bonding interaction between  $Ln(III)$  and the ligands and the steric repulsion between coordinated ligands. In fact, coordination numbers ranging from 3 to 14 have been reported in the solid state.<sup>3,4</sup> Many aspects of the coordination chemistry of these ions

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(2) Present address: Department of Chemistry, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, PRC.

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