Organometallic derivatives of Rh- and Ir-substituted polyoxotungstates with Keggin structure: reactivity screening by electrospray ionization mass-spectrometry

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Received (in XXX, XXX) Xth XXXXXXXX 200X, Accepted Xth XXXXXXXX 200X First published on the web Xth XXXXXXXX 200X DOI: 10.1039/b000000x

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Experimental details

In all cases, tetrabutylammonium (TBA) salts were obtained as final products by adding an excess of TBABr to the reaction solutions with consequent collecting, washing precipitates with H₂O and drying *in vacuo*. Stock solutions of $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ and $[PW_{11}O_{39}Ir(H_2O)]^{4-}$ were obtained according to published procedures (see ref. 7 and 9 inthe article).

Reactions of $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5}$ **with phenylacetate and malonate.** In both cases, either solution of pre-synthesized $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5}$ (ref. 7 of the article) or stoichiometric amounts of K₇[PW₁₁O₃₉] and RhCl₃·3H₂O were used. The concentration of POM was 17 mM. After adding an excess (up to 15-fold molar ratio) of the organic acid, pH was adjusted by solution of KOH; then solutions were placed in Teflon-lined Parr digestion bomb and heated (17h at 120°C for phenylacetic acid and 12h at 100°C for malonic acid). Then the Bu₄N salts **1** and **2** were precipitated. Analysis: for (Bu₄N)₅[PW₁₁O₃₉Rh(CH(COOH)₂)] (1) calc. C, 24.3; H, 4.5; N, 1.7 %. Found: C, 24.1; H, 4.4; N, 1.7 %. (Bu₄N)₅[PW₁₁O₃₉Rh(CH(Ph)COOH)] (2) calc. C, 25.6; H, 4.6; N, 1.7%. Found: C, 25.4; H, 4.8; N, 1.6 %.

Reactions of $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ and $[PW_{11}O_{39}Ir(H_2O)]^{4-}$ with Me₃SnCl. To the solutions containing corresponding polyoxoanions, a stoichiometric amount of Me₃SnCl were added. Solutions were placed in Teflon-lined Parr digestion bomb and heated (10h at 100°C for Rh complex and 14h at 100°C for Ir complex). Then the Bu₄N salts were precipitated. ESI-MS show the presence of **6** and **7** together with unreacted POM.

Reactions with boronic acids. A stoichiometric amounts of phenyl- and ferrocenylboronic acid were added to solutions of pre-synthesized $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ with stirring. In the case of phenylboronic acid, the solution was kept at 40-50 °C for 2-5 h. In the case of ferrocenylboronic acid, the color of solution started to change for brownish green almost immediately; reaction was considered to complete after 2h. Then the Bu₄N salts were precipitated. The ESI-MS and optimization of the synthesis with PhB(OH)₂ are discussed in the text.

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Dalton Transactions This journal is The Royal Society of Chemistry 2012

Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry

A Q-TOF premier mass spectrometer with an orthogonal Z-spray electrospray source (Waters, Manchester, UK) was used. The temperature of the source block was set to 100 °C and the desolvation temperature to 120 °C. A capillary voltage of 3.3 kV was used in the negative scanmode and the cone voltage was set to 5 V to control the extent of fragmentation of the identifiedspecies. TOF mass spectra were acquired in the W-mode operating at a resolution of ca. 15000(FWHM). Mass calibration wasperformed using a solution of sodium iodide in isopropanol:water (50:50) from m/z 50 to 3000.Solid samples as tetrabutylammonium salts (see experimental details) were dissolved in acetonitrile to an estimated concentration of 5 x 10⁻⁵ M (based on the initial amount of $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ or $[PW_{11}O_{39}Ir(H_2O)]^{4-}$) and were infused via syringe pump directly connected to the ESI source at a flow rateof 10 µL/min. The observed isotopic pattern of each compound perfectly matched the theoreticalisotope pattern calculated from their elemental composition using the MassLynx 4.1 program.



Figure S1. Simulated (top) and experimental (bottom) isotopic pattern distributions for identified species derived from the $[PW_{11}O_{39}(RhCl)]^{5-}$ anion. TBA denotes tetrabutyalmoniumcation.



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(top). Expanded regions are displayed in the m/z 900-1500 range a), m/z 1530-1820 range and m/z 2180-2500 range c). TBA denotes tetrabutyalmoniumcation.



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Figure S6. Simulated (top) and experimental (bottom) isotopic pattern distributions for identified species derived from the $[PW_{10}Sn_2O_{40}]^{4-}$ anion. TBA denotes tetrabutyalmoniumcation.



Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectra of the reaction mixture between $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ and PhB(OH)₂ (area corresponding to aryl group)



Figure S8. ¹³C NMR spectra of the reaction mixture between $[PW_{11}O_{39}RhCl]^{5-}$ and PhB(OH)₂ (area corresponding to aryl group)