

## Electronic Supplementary Information

For

### Oxidative photoreactivity of mono-transition-metal functionalized lacunary Keggin anions

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#### 1. Instrumentation

**UV-Vis spectroscopy:** UV-Vis spectroscopy was performed on a Shimadzu UV-2450 spectrophotometer, Varian Cary 50 spectrophotometer or Varian Cary 5G spectrophotometer. All systems were used with standard cuvettes ( $d = 10.0$  mm).

**FT-IR spectroscopy:** FT-IR spectroscopy was performed on a Shimadzu IRPrestige-21 FTIR spectrophotometer including a Golden Gate ATR unit. Signals are given as wavenumbers in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  using the following abbreviations: vs = very strong, s = strong, m = medium, w = weak and b = broad.

**Cyclic Voltammetry (CV):** CV was performed using an Ivium CompactStat potentiometer using glassy carbon working electrode and platinum wire as counter electrode and pseudo-reference electrode. Ferrocene was used as internal reference. Dry solvent were used with  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  as the electrolyte.

**Elemental analysis:** Elemental analysis was performed on a Euro Vector Euro EA 3000 Elemental Analyzer.

**General remarks:** All chemicals were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, ABCR or ACROS and were of reagent grade. The chemicals were used without further purification unless stated otherwise. Monolacunary tungstate - based Keggin clusters  $(\alpha\text{-}[\text{M}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{SiW}_{11}\text{O}_{39}]^{n-})$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Co}^{2+}, \text{Cu}^{2+}, \text{Ni}^{2+}, \text{Mn}^{2+}$ ) were prepared according to a modified literature procedure based on C. M. Tourné, G. F. Tourné, S. A. Malik and T. J. R. Weakley, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, 1970, **32**, 3875–3890.

#### 2. Synthetic section

**Synthesis of  $(n\text{Bu}_4\text{N})_6[\alpha\text{-M}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{SiW}_{11}\text{O}_{39}]$ :** 1.0 g (0.31 mmol)  $\text{K}_8[\alpha\text{-SiW}_{11}\text{O}_{39}] \cdot 13\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.00 eq.) was dissolved in water and 1.05 molar equivalents the respective transition metal nitrate salt was

added. The mixture was stirred and heated to 55 °C for 1.5 hours. After cooling to room-temperature, 1.09 g (3.38 mmol) of  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$  (1.09 eq.) were added to the reaction mixture. The pH was set to pH = 3 using aqueous  $\text{HNO}_3$  (2M). After 20 min. the precipitate was filtered off, washed with water and dried in a desiccator. Compound purity was verified using UV-Vis-spectroscopy, FT-IR-spectroscopy, CHN elemental analysis and ICP-OES.

**Photocatalytic measurements:** The standard basic blue 41 photooxidation was carried out as follows: a N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF) solution of the respective cluster (4.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and basic blue 41 (20.0  $\mu\text{M}$ ) was prepared. The homogeneous solution was irradiated with a custom-built LED irradiation setup (standard light source:  $\lambda = 390 \text{ nm}$ ,  $P_{\text{nominal}} = 3 \text{ W}$ ). BB41 photooxidation was detected spectrometrically by following the decrease of the characteristic absorption signal at  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 625 \text{ nm}$ . De-aerated experiments were performed by flushing the sample with Ar for 10 min prior to the experiment in a glove box. Hydroxyl radical scavenging experiments were performed by adding ethanol (200  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to the solution.

**Cyclic Voltammetry:**  $E_{1/2}$  from cyclic voltammetry of  $\{\text{MW}_{11}\}$  in DMF vs.  $\text{Fc}/\text{Fc}^+$ , containing 0.1 M  $(n\text{Bu}_4\text{N})\text{PF}_6$ . Scan rate = 1000 mV/S. Unless stated otherwise, redox-processes were quasi-reversible.

$\{\text{MW}_{11}\}$	$E^{\text{I}}_{1/2} / \text{V}$	$E^{\text{II}}_{1/2} / \text{V}$	$E^{\text{III}}_{1/2} / \text{V}$	$E^{\text{IV}}_{1/2} / \text{V}$
$\{\text{CoW}_{11}\}$	+0.11	-0.55	-1.43	
$\{\text{CuW}_{11}\}$	-0.74	-1.42	-1.69	
$\{\text{MnW}_{11}\}$	-1.39	-2.04		
$\{\text{NiW}_{11}\}$	-1.45	-2.46		