SUPPORTING INFORMATION for:

Water oxidation catalysis upon evolution of Co(III) cubanes in aqueous media

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Content

¹H and ¹³C-NMR, ESI-MS of purified **1-X**.

UV-Vis evolution of **1-H** in 10 mM borate buffer, pH 8.

Hole scavenging analysis of **1-X** in 50:50 acetonitrile : 10 mM borate buffer, pH 8.

ESI-MS analysis of a photocatalytic reaction mixture.



		1	-10
			- 0
			- 9
			- 8
	_		- 8
			- 9
			- 22
			- 3
			- 2
			- 8
			100 90 f1 (ppm)
			110
			120
			130
		 _	140
			150
20			160
			170
			180
		 _	- 190
-			200













-0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 - 22 3.5 4.0 5.0 4.5 f1 (ppm) 5.5 - 0.9 6.5 2.0 - 22 8.0 8.5 9.0 9.5 10.0 10.5



















-0.5

- 8

0.5

1.0

1.5

2.0

2.5

3.0

3.5

4.0

5.0 4.5 f1 (ppm)

5.5

- 0.9

6.5

7.0

- 22

8.0

8.5

9.0

9.5

10.0

10.5











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UV-Vis evolution of **1-H** (5 mM) in 10 mM borate buffer, pH 8, over the course of 12 hours. Optical path of the cuvette: 1 mm.

Hole scavenging in 50:50 acetonitrile:10 mM borate buffer, pH 8 (50µM Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂, 5 mM

 $Na_2S_2O_8$, 0-100 µM **1-X** 1-H







































Х	σ	k _x (10 ⁸ M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	log (k _x / k _H)
Н	0	2.06 (± 0.05)	0
Me	-0.17	2.68 (± 0.10)	0.114
OMe	-0.27	3.73 (± 0.25)	0.258
<i>t</i> Bu	-0.2	2.30 (± 0.09)	0.048
Br	0.23	0.96 (± 0.07)	-0.331
COOMe	0.45	0.60 (± 0.03)	-0.534
CN	0.65	0.23 (± 0.02)	-0.954

Hammet plot



1-CN



a)



ESI-MS spectra (5 x 10⁻⁵ M in acetonitrile, + 0.1% formic acid) of a catalytic test carried out under the conditions reported in Table 1 Entry 4, recorded on aliquots sampled at different times (respectively: a) 0 min; b) 30 min; c) 60 min.).