

## Supporting Information

### Assembly of niobium-phosphate cluster and *in-situ* transition-metal-containing derivatives

Shufang Zhao, Zhijie Liang, Qiaohua Geng, Pengtao Ma, Chao Zhang, Jingyang Niu\* and Jingping Wang\*

Henan Key Laboratory of Polyoxometalate Chemistry, Institute of Molecular and Crystal Engineering, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan University, Kaifeng 475004, P. R. China.

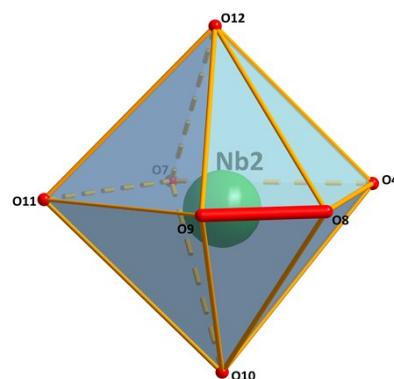


Fig. S1 The coordination environments of Nb2 of 1a.

Table S1 The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on 1a.

Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1	1.34	O7	2.04	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.92
O2 <sup>†</sup>	0.88	O8	1.90	O14 <sup>†</sup>	0.87
O3 <sup>†</sup>	0.89	O9 <sup>†</sup>	0.86	O15	1.81
O4	1.32	O10 <sup>†</sup>	0.90	O16	1.89
O5	1.89	O11	1.75	O17	1.32
O6	1.76	O12	2.03	O18	1.35

<sup>†</sup> represent peroxy oxygen atoms.

Table S2 The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on 2a.

Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1	1.92	O8	1.93	O15 <sup>†</sup>	0.83

O2	1.31	O9 <sup>†</sup>	0.87	O16*	0.33
O3	2.07	O10	1.81	O17	2.04
O4	1.68	O11	1.79	O18	1.71
O5	2.01	O12 <sup>†</sup>	0.86	O19 <sup>†</sup>	0.92
O6 <sup>†</sup>	0.87	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.87	O20*	0.31
O7	1.86	O14	1.32		

<sup>†</sup> and \* represent peroxy oxygen atoms, H<sub>2</sub>O groups, respectively.

**Table S3** The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on **3a**.

Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1 <sup>†</sup>	0.89	O7 <sup>†</sup>	0.80	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.87
O2 <sup>†</sup>	0.95	O8 <sup>†</sup>	0.87	O14 <sup>†</sup>	0.82
O3	1.97	O9 <sup>Ψ</sup>	1.27	O15 <sup>Ψ</sup>	1.28
O4	1.40	O10 <sup>Ψ</sup>	1.13	O16	1.88
O5	1.78	O11	2.03	O17	1.70
O6	1.87	O12	1.71	O18	1.88

<sup>†</sup> and <sup>Ψ</sup> represent peroxy oxygen atoms, mono-pronated groups, respectively.

**Table S4** The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on **4a**.

Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1 <sup>†</sup>	0.90	O7 <sup>†</sup>	0.86	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.90
O2 <sup>†</sup>	0.97	O8 <sup>†</sup>	0.85	O14 <sup>†</sup>	0.81
O3	1.98	O9 <sup>Ψ</sup>	1.29	O15 <sup>Ψ</sup>	1.25
O4	1.48	O10	1.84	O16	1.89
O5	1.83	O11	2.06	O17	1.68
O6	1.93	O12	1.69	O18	1.92

<sup>†</sup> and <sup>Ψ</sup> represent peroxy oxygen atoms, mono-pronated groups, respectively.

**Table S5** The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on **5a**.

Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1 <sup>†</sup>	0.83	O7	1.96	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.95
O2 <sup>†</sup>	0.88	O8 <sup>†</sup>	0.93	O14	1.86
O3	1.32	O9 <sup>†</sup>	0.86	O15	1.33
O4	1.51	O10	2.04	O16	1.95
O5	1.88	O11	1.74	O17	1.97
O6	2.11	O12 <sup>†</sup>	0.99	O18	1.76

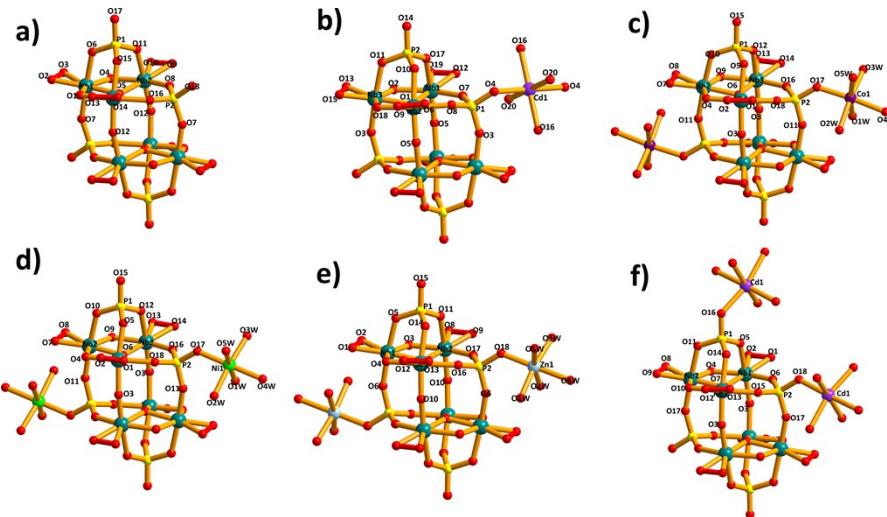
<sup>†</sup> represent peroxy oxygen atoms.

**Table S6** The bond valence sum calculations of all the oxygen atoms on **6a**.

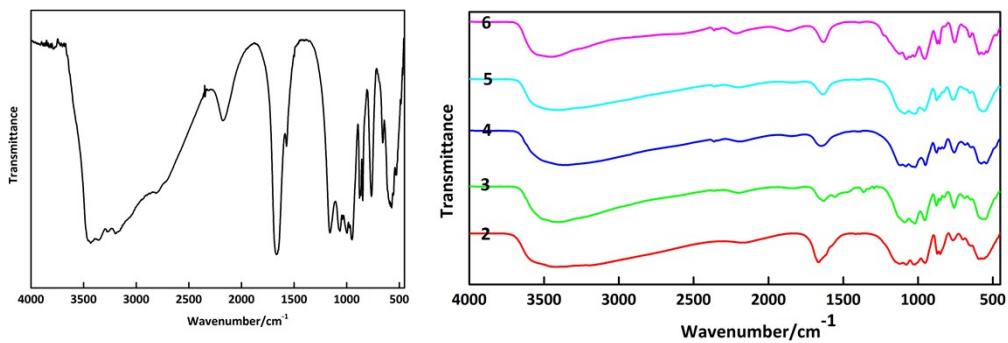
Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence	Atom	Bond valence
O1 <sup>†</sup>	0.86	O7	1.92	O13 <sup>†</sup>	0.95
O2 <sup>†</sup>	0.89	O8 <sup>†</sup>	0.84	O14	1.78
O3	2.00	O9 <sup>†</sup>	0.82	O15	1.89

O4	1.33	O10	1.51	O16	1.69
O5	1.76	O11	1.82	O17	2.04
O6	1.92	O12 <sup>†</sup>	0.99	O18	1.74

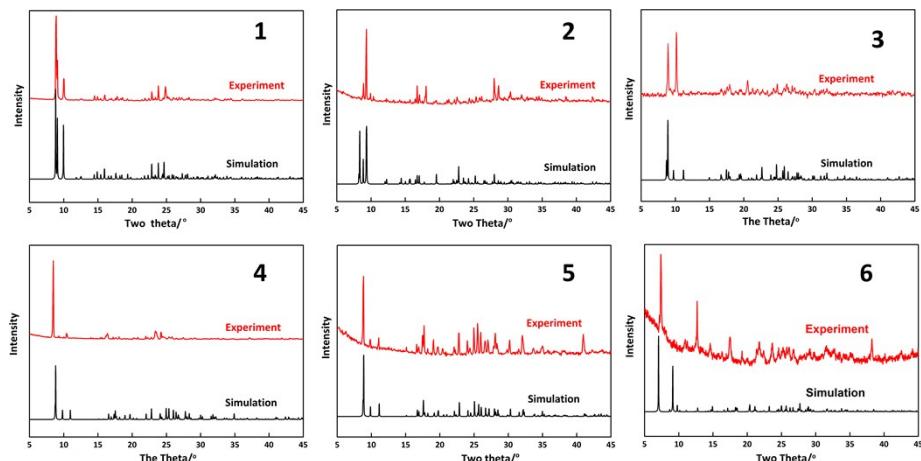
<sup>†</sup> represents peroxy oxygen atoms.



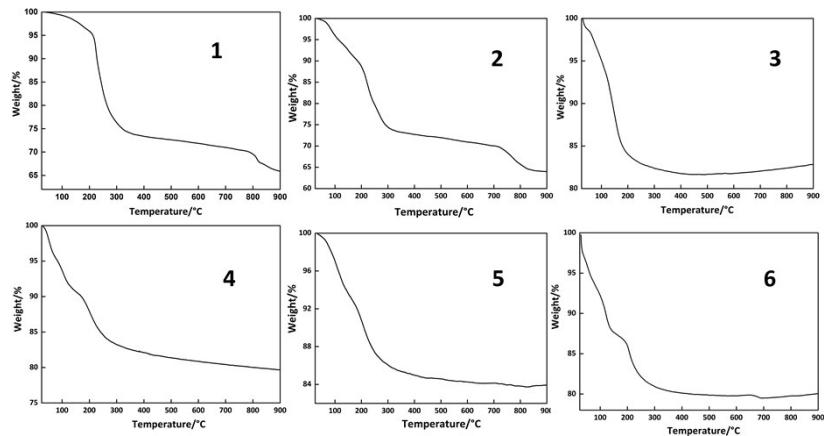
**Fig. S2** Ball-and-stick representations with atomic label of **1a–6a**.



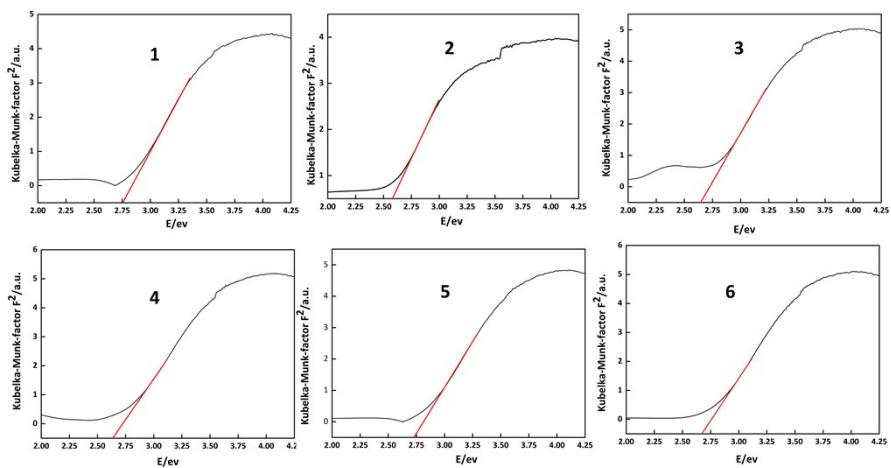
**Fig. S3** FT-IR spectra of **1–6** between 4000–450cm<sup>-1</sup>.



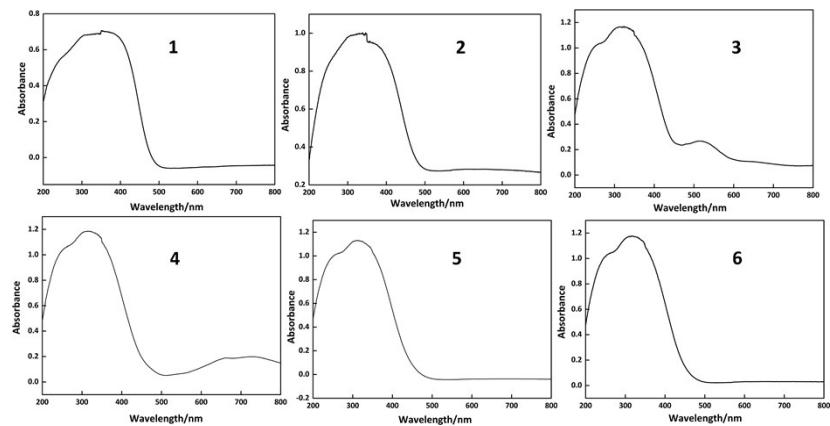
**Fig. S4** The simulated and experimental powder XRD pattern of the bulk products **1–6** (a–g). Simulation based on the single crystal X-ray diffraction data.



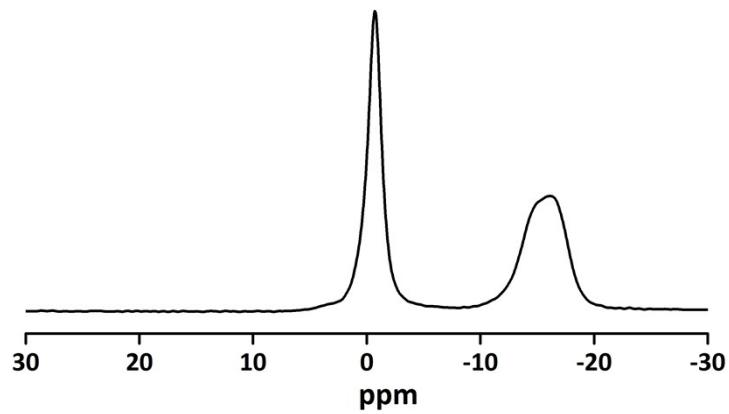
**Fig. S5** The TGA curves of **1–6** were measured in the range of 25–900 °C under nitrogen gas atmosphere with the heating rate of 10 °C/min.



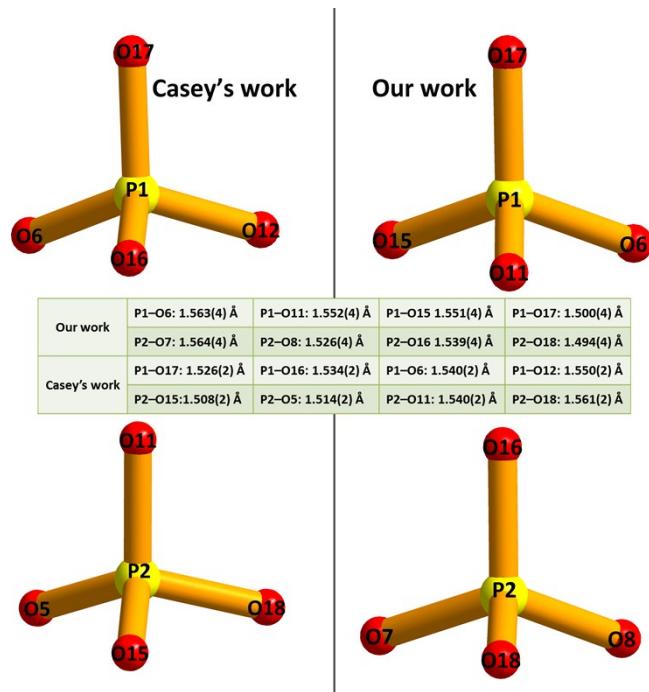
**Fig. S6** The diffuse reflectance UV-vis spectra of K-M function vs. energy (eV) of compounds **1–6**.



**Fig. S7** The solid UV/Vis spectra of **1–6**.



**Fig. S8** Soild state  $^{31}\text{P}$  MAS NMR of **1a**.



**Fig. S9** The connection patterns of  $\text{PO}_4$  groups and P–O lengths of  $\{\text{P}_4\text{Nb}_6(\text{O}_2)_6\text{O}_{24}\}$  by Casey's group and us.