

## Supporting information

for

### Molybdenum(II) complexes with *p*-substituted BIAN ligands: synthesis, characterization, biological activity and computational study

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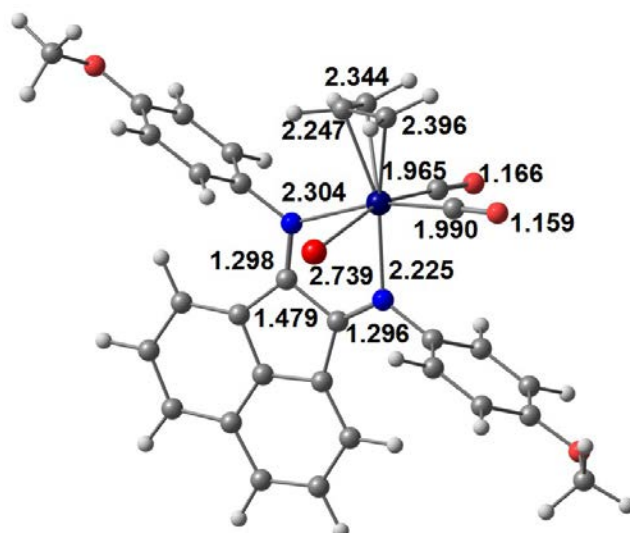
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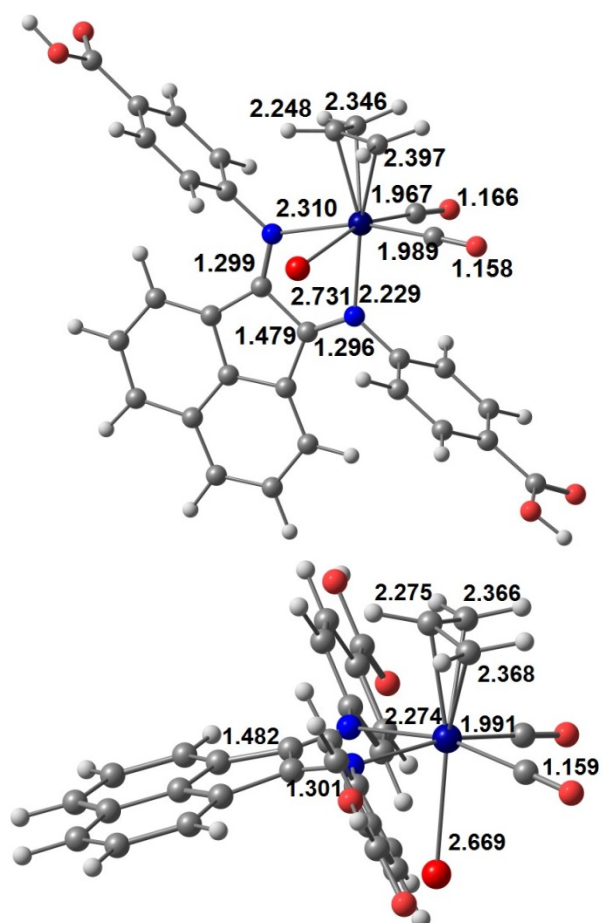
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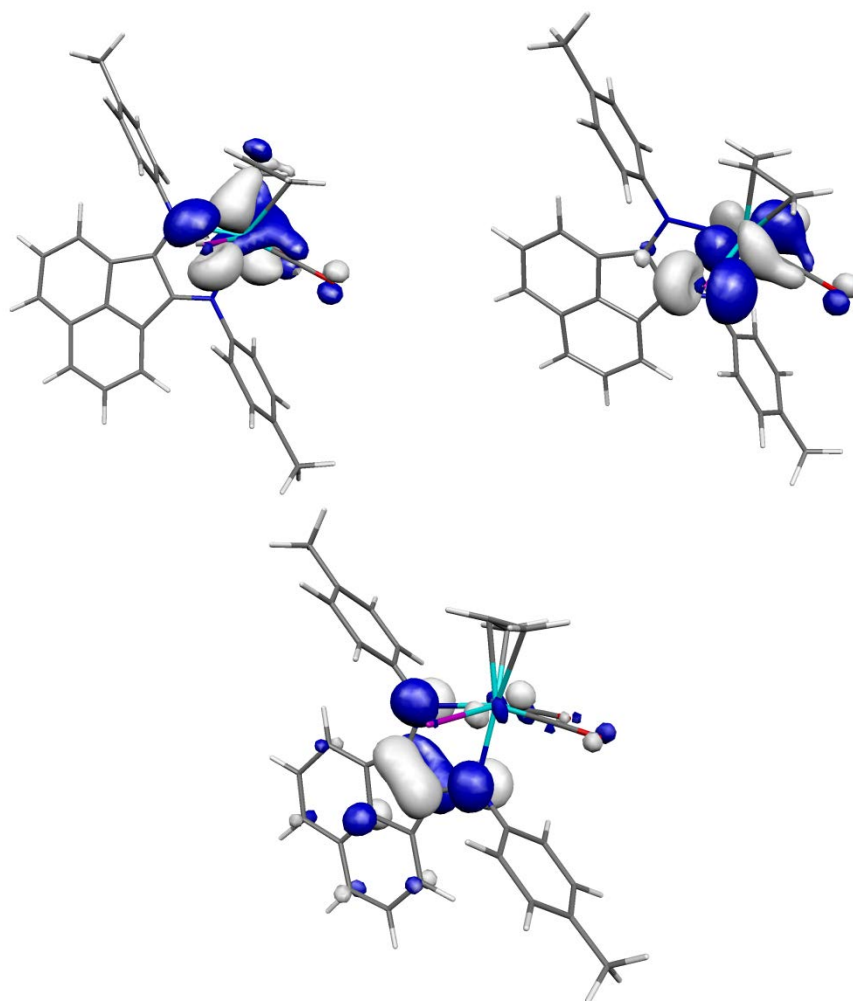
	Title	Page
<b>Figure S1</b>	DFT optimized structures of the axial isomer of complex <b>3a</b> with some relevant distances (Å).	2
<b>Figure S2</b>	DFT optimized structures of the two isomers of isomer <b>4</b> (axial, top; equatorial, bottom) with some relevant distances (Å).	2
<b>Figure S3</b>	HOMO-1 (top, left), HOMO (top, right) and LUMO (bottom) of complex [Mo( $\eta^3$ -C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )Br(CO) <sub>2</sub> (L2)] ( <b>2</b> ).	3
<b>Figure S4</b>	HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) of complex [Mo( $\eta^3$ -C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )Br(CO) <sub>2</sub> (L3)] ( <b>3a</b> ).	3
<b>Figure S5</b>	HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) of complex [Mo( $\eta^3$ -C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )Br(CO) <sub>2</sub> (L4)] ( <b>4</b> ).	4
<b>Figure S6</b>	HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) of complex [Mo( $\eta^3$ -C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )Br(CO) <sub>2</sub> (L5)] ( <b>5</b> ).	4
<b>Figure S7</b>	The HOMOs of complexes <b>1</b> , <b>2</b> , <b>3a</b> , <b>4</b> and <b>5</b> .	5
<b>Figure S8</b>	DFT optimized structures of the axial isomers of <b>1</b> and <b>1<sup>+</sup></b> with some relevant distances (Å).	5
<b>Table S1</b>	Crystal data and selected refinement details for <b>2</b> and <b>3c</b> .	6



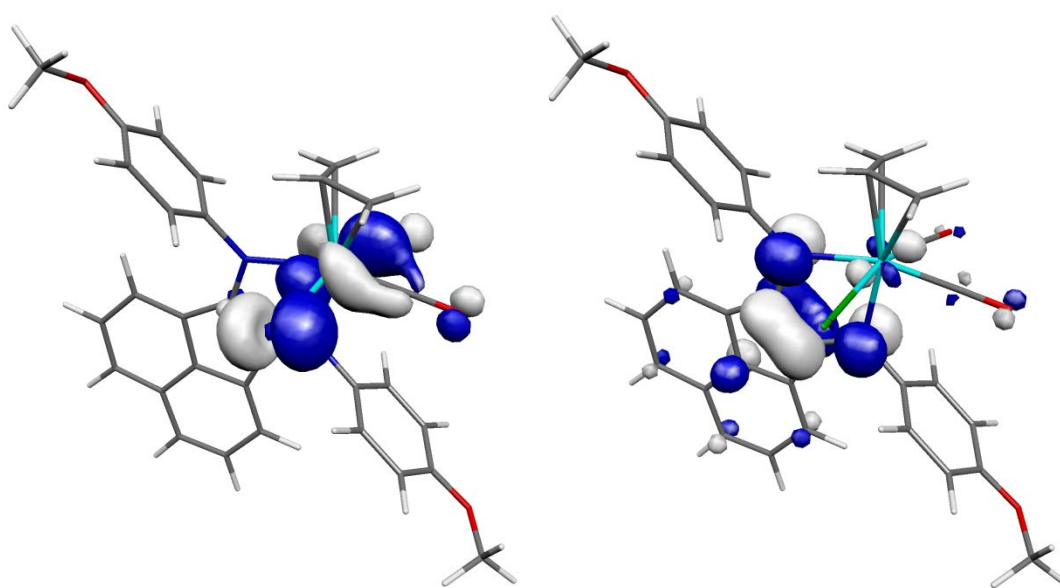
**Figure S1.** DFT optimized structures of the axial isomer of complex **3a** with some relevant distances (Å).



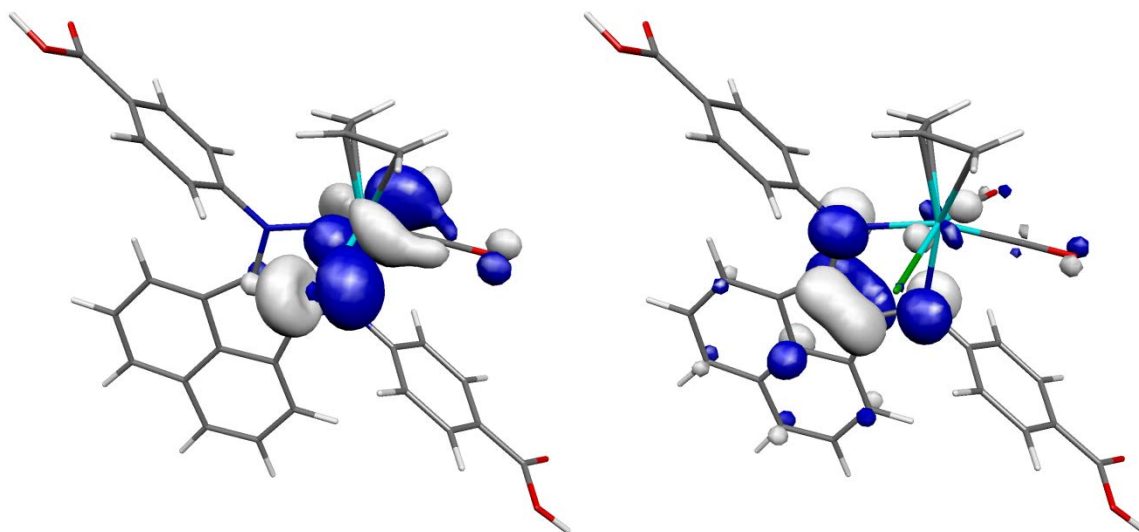
**Figure S2.** DFT optimized structures of the two isomers of isomer **4** (axial, top; equatorial, bottom) with some relevant distances (Å).



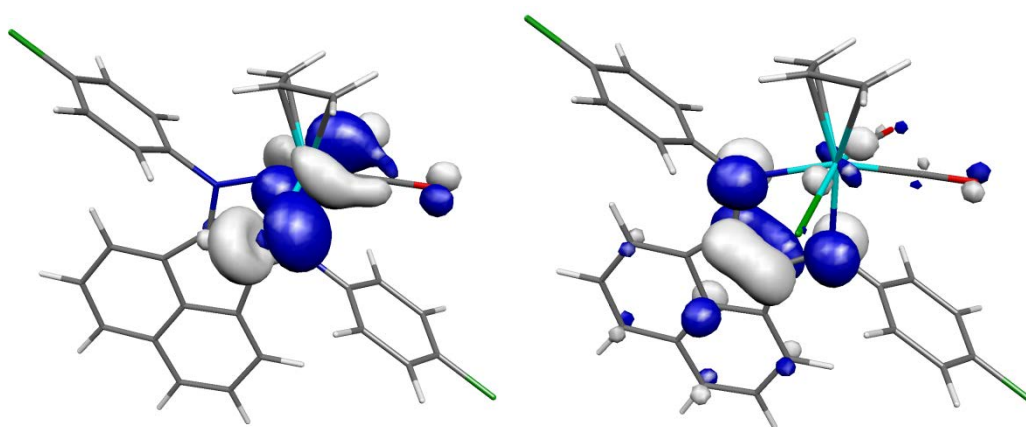
**Figure S3.** HOMO-1 (top, left), HOMO (top, right) and LUMO (bottom) of complex  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)\text{Br}(\text{CO})_2(\text{L}2)]$  (**2**).



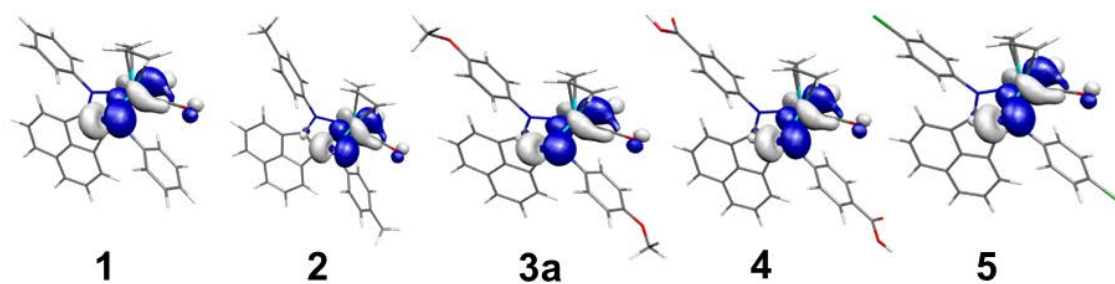
**Figure S4.** HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) of complex  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)\text{Br}(\text{CO})_2(\text{L}3)]$  (**3a**).



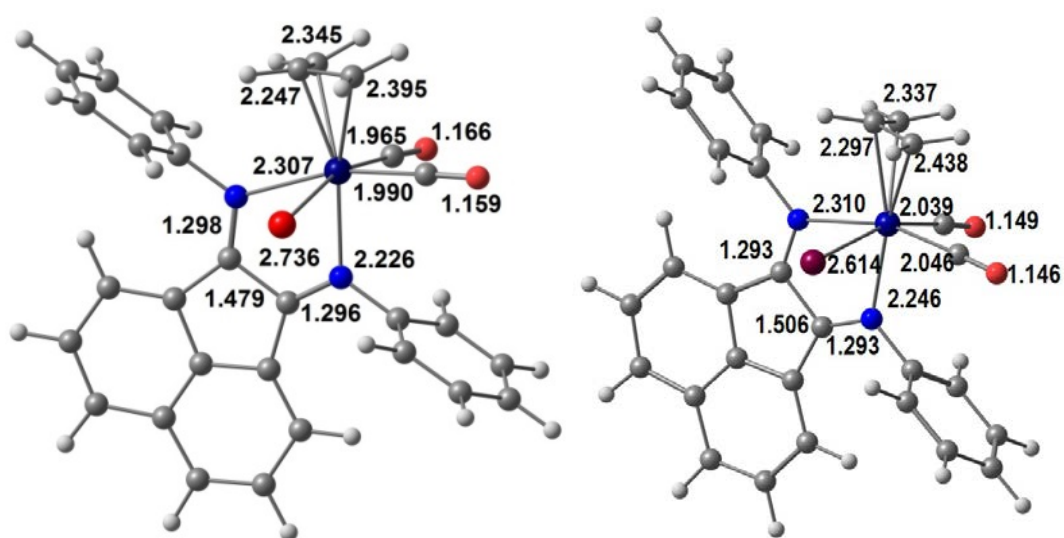
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**Figure S6.** HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) of complex  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)\text{Br}(\text{CO})_2(\text{L5})]$  (5).



**Figure S7.** The HOMOs of complexes **1**, **2**, **3a**, **4** and **5**.



**Figure S8.** DFT optimized structures of the axial isomers of **1** and **1<sup>+</sup>** with some relevant distances (Å).

**Table S1.** Crystal data and selected refinement details for **2** and **3c**.

Compound	<b>2</b>	<b>3c</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>31</sub> H <sub>25</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> BrMo	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>28</sub> F <sub>3</sub> MoN <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S
Formula weight	633.38	775.59
Temperature	150(2)	293(2)
Crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic
Space group	$P\bar{1}$	$P\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> /Å	10.2544(17)	9.9182(6)
<i>b</i> /Å	11.748(2)	13.4256(8)
<i>c</i> /Å	12.826(2)	14.5907(8)
$\alpha$ /°	78.519(9)	66.621(6)
$\beta$ /°	68.136(8)	71.534(5)
$\gamma$ /°	68.329(8)	72.517(5)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1329.24(4)	1657.12(19)
Z	2	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{cm}^3$	1.582	1.554
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	2.028	0.529
<i>F</i> (000)	636.0	788.0
2 $\theta$ range for data collection/°	6.516 to 49.998	5.306 to 49.996
Index ranges	-11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12, -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 13, -15 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 15	-11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 9, -15 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 10, -17 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 14
Reflections collected	12965	8078
Independent reflections, <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> , <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub>	4601, 0.0194, 0.0228	5726, 0.0134, 0.0183
Data/restraints/parameters	4601/12/379	5726/60/533
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.036	1.060
Final <i>R</i> indexes [ <i>I</i> ≥ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]		
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0203, 0.0512	0.0248, 0.0605
Final <i>R</i> indexes [all data]		
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0245, 0.0529	0.0278, 0.0616
Largest diff. peak/hole / eÅ <sup>-3</sup>	0.30/-0.34	0.36/-0.28