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# **Supporting Information**

# Highly Efficient Oxidation of Various Thioethers Catalyzed by Organic Ligand Modified Polyoxomolybdates

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#### I. Supplementary experiments

#### Materials and methods

We used chemicals that were commercially purchased without further purification (Na2MoO4/Na2HPO3·5H2O/PABA/CoCl2·6H2O/MnCl2·2H2O/NiCl2·6H2O/ZnSO4·7H <sub>2</sub>O and CsCl were purchased from Energy Chemical and J&K Chemicals; Methyl phenyl/1-Methyl-4-(methylthio)benzene/1-Methoxy-4-(methylthio)benzene/4-Chlorothioanisole/4-Fluorothioanisole/benzyl sulfide/phenyl sulfide and 2-chloroethyl ethyl sulfide were purchased from Aladdin and Sigma-Aldrich). Elemental analyses (H and N) were performed on a Perkin-Elmer 2400 CHN elemental analyzer; P, Mo, Co, Mn and Cs were analyzed on a PLASMA-SPEC (I) ICP atomic emission spectrometer. We detected the IR spectra using KBr pellets as the background in the range 400-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> on an Alpha Centaur FT/IR spectrophotometer. TG analyses were performed in flowing N<sub>2</sub> at a heating rate of 10°C min<sup>-1</sup> on a Perkin-Elmer TGA7 instrument. The PXRD patterns of the samples were recorded on a Rigaku Dmax 2000 X-ray diffractometer with graphite monochromatized Cu-Ka radiation ( $\lambda$ = 0.154 nm) and 20 varying from 5° to 50°. The diffuse reflectivity spectra were performed on finely ground samples with a Cary 500 spectrophotometer equipped with a 110 mm diameter integrating sphere, which were measured from 200 to 800 nm. The GC analysis was performed with an Agilent HP6890 spectrometer with a flame ionization detector, which was used to monitor the conversion and selectivity. GC-MS at the final time point was used to confirm the identity of the products. The GC-MS spectra were measured on an Agilent HP6890/5973MSD spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectroscopy was also used to monitor conversation and ascertain the product. And <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra were collected on a 500 MHz Bruker Avance III system in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**CAUTION:** The simulant of CWAs CEES, is highly toxic and must be handled only by trained personnel using applicable safety procedures in a closed system or in a hood under good ventilation.

#### Synthesis of Cs<sub>3</sub>[AsMo<sub>6</sub>O<sub>21</sub>(PABA)<sub>3</sub>]·nH<sub>2</sub>O (5)

The synthetic procedure was similar to that used for **1** but without metal cations. The filtrate was kept undisturbed for two weeks under ambient conditions, and then light yellow crystals were isolated. FTIR data (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3367 (s), 1603 (s), 1539 (s), 1411 (s), 1278 (m), 1173(m), 1076(w), 926(m), 890 (w), 779 (m), 675 (s), 568(w), 448 (w).

#### **Synthesis of** {CoAsMo<sub>6</sub>(PABA)<sub>3</sub>}

The synthetic procedure was similar to that used for **1**, with the central hetero material Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (0.0216 g, 0.1 mmol) alone instead of As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (0.0197 g, 0.1 mmol). The filtrate was kept undisturbed for two weeks under ambient conditions, and then pink crystals were isolated. FTIR data (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3360 (s), 1607 (s), 1548 (s), 1413 (w), 1271 (m), 1178(m), 923(m), 894(s), 777 (w), 678 (m), 620(w), 512 (m).

#### Synthesis {CoTeMo<sub>6</sub>(PABA)<sub>3</sub>}

The synthetic procedur was similar to that used for **1**, with the central hetero material Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (0.0216 g, 0.1 mmol) alone instead of Na<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>3</sub> (0.022 g, 0.1

mmol). The filtrate was kept undisturbed for two weeks under ambient conditions, and then pink crystals were isolated. FTIR data (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3385 (s), 1604 (s), 1533 (s), 1406 (s), 1281 (w), 1178(m), 903(s), 768 (w), 728 (w), 637(s), 513 (w).

#### X-ray crystallography

A Bruker Smart CCD diffractometer with Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) was used to collect the crystallographic data of four compounds at 293 K or 220 K by  $\theta$ and  $\omega$  scan modes. The method of empirical absorption correction was adopted. SHELXTL-97 software was used to solve the structures of **1** and **2** and refine the data.<sup>1</sup> In **1** and **2**, most non-H atoms are refined anisotropically, and only some of water molecules were excepted. H atoms linked to the C and N atoms were were fixed in their ideal positions. To get reasonable thermal parameters and atom sites, some commands such as "isor" and "dfix" were utilized. Table S8 S9 summarizes the structural determination and crystallographic data for **1** and **2**.

The CCDC reference numbers for compounds 1 and 2 are 1949665 and 1949666.

## **I**. Supplementary structure figures



**Fig. S1.** ORTEP drawing of **1** with thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability. Free water molecules are omitted for clarity. (color code: Co light blue, Mo purple, P light yellow, O red, N blue, C black).



Fig. S2. IR spectra for compounds 1-4.



Fig. S3. IR spectrum and EDS data for compound 5.



Fig. S4. a) IR spectra for  $\{CoAsMo_6(PABA)_3\}$ ; b) IR spectra for  $\{CoTeMo_6(PABA)_3\}$ .

**IV**. UV-Vis spectroscopy



Fig. S5. UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectra of compounds 1-4.



Fig. S6. Thermogravimetric plots of compounds 1-4.



Fig. S7. a, b) The calculated and experimental PXRD patterns for compounds 1 and 2.



Fig. S8. The comparison of the experimental PXRD among compounds 1-4.



#### **VI.** Kinetics Study

Fig. S9 a, b, c, d) Kinetic analysis of methyl phenyl sulfide oxidation for compounds  $1-4 (\ln(C_t/C_0))$  versus reaction time,  $C_t$  and  $C_0$  represent the concentration of methyl phenyl sulfide at some time and at the starting time).

#### **VI**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data



Fig. S10 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for methyl phenyl sulfide.



Fig. S11 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for methyl phenyl sulfoxide.



Fig. S12 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for methyl phenyl sulfone.



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of methyl phenyl sulfide at 4 min.



Fig. S14 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of methyl phenyl sulfide at 8 min.



Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of methyl phenyl sulfide at 16 min.



Fig. S16 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of methyl phenyl sulfide at 20 min.







Fig. S18 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for CEESO.



Fig. S19 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for CEESO<sub>2</sub>.



Fig. S20 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of CEES at 6 min.



Fig. S21 <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data for oxidation of CEES at 12 min.

## **WI**. Catalytic oxidation study for various organic sulfides

catalysts	Time	Oxidant	Temperature	Conversion	Sulfoxide	refs
	(min)		(°C)	(%)	selectivity (%)	
1	20	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	25	99	98.0%	This work
2	20	$H_2O_2$	25	96.3	97.1%	This work
3	20	$H_2O_2$	25	98.3	97.6%	This work
4	20	$H_2O_2$	25	97.3	97.4%	This work
$\{Cu_3(ptz)_4(Co_2Mo_{10})\}$	240	TBHP	40	99	100	33
$\{[Cu(mIM)_4]V_2O_6\}$	240	UHP	40	98.7	100	34
$V^{V}{}_{17}V^{IV}{}_{12}(C_6H_8O_4)_8$	60	TBHP	25	98	91	30
P <sub>2</sub> W <sub>15</sub> -Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	35	$H_2O_2$	25	95	99	25a
PW <sub>12</sub> @Al-MCF <sub>en</sub>	45	$H_2O_2$	25	100	92	19
$\{As_4W_{40}O_{140}(Ru_2(Ac)_2)\}$	60	$H_2O_2$	50	97.4	87	29a
SBA-15/K <sub>6</sub> P <sub>2</sub> W <sub>18</sub> O <sub>62</sub>	60	$H_2O_2$	25	96.9	98	20
PDDA-SiV <sub>2</sub> W <sub>10</sub>	300	$H_2O_2$	25	100	91	24

Table S1. Comparison of methyl phenyl sulfide oxidation in heterogeneous manner

by different materials based on POMs in recent years

 Table S2. Oxidation of 1-Methyl-4-(methylthio)benzene to the corresponding

 sulfoxide and sulfone. <sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

$H_3C$ S Cataly $H_2O_2$	<sup>st</sup> H <sub>3</sub> C−√S″ +	H <sub>3</sub> C	
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>
1	20	98.4	97.5
{CoAsMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	96.2	91.4
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	95.1	92.6

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol 1-Methyl-4-(methylthio)benzene, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

 Table S3. Oxidation of 1-Methoxy-4-(methylthio)benzene to the corresponding

 sulfoxide and sulfone. <sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

Н <sub>3</sub> СО-	$ S \xrightarrow{\text{Catalyst}}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2} \text{H}_3\text{CO} - \langle \rangle $		
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>
1	20	98	96.5
{CoAsMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	95.4	92.1
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	95	91.1

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol 1-Methoxy-4-(methylthio)benzene, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

ci–	$ = S \frac{\text{Catalyst}}{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2} \text{Cl} = \langle $		
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>
1	20	97.8	95.7
$\{CoAsMo_6(PABA)_3\}$	20	95.1	92
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	96	90

 Table S4. Oxidation of 4-Chlorothioanisole to the corresponding sulfoxide and sulfone. <sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol 4-Chlorothioanisole, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

 Table S5. Oxidation of 4-Fluorothioanisole to the corresponding sulfoxide and sulfone. <sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

$F \longrightarrow S \xrightarrow{Catalyst}_{H_2O_2} F \longrightarrow S \xrightarrow{O}_{F} + \xrightarrow{O}_{S} \xrightarrow{O}_{S}$					
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>		
1	20	98.6	96.5		
{CoAsMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	94	89.0		
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	93.1	88.8		

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol 4-Fluorothioanisole, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

Table S6. Oxidation of benzyl sulfide to the corresponding sulfoxide and sulfone.

$S \xrightarrow{Catalyst} O \xrightarrow{S} O \xrightarrow{S} O$					
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>		
1	20	98.1	94.3		
$\{CoAsMo_6(PABA)_3\}$	20	95.1	87.9		
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	94.4	86.9		

<sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol benzyl sulfide, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

**Table S7.** Oxidation of phenyl sulfide to the corresponding sulfoxide and sulfone.

 <sup>a</sup>Selectivity to sulfoxides, the byproduct was sulfone

$ \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\$					
Compound	Time (min)	Con.(%)	Sel.(%) <sup><i>a</i></sup>		
1	20	95.1	92.9		
$\{CoAsMo_6(PABA)_3\}$	20	90.7	87.5		
{CoTeMo <sub>6</sub> (PABA) <sub>3</sub> }	20	90	87		

Reaction conditions: 0.25 mmol phenyl sulfide, 2.5  $\mu$ mol material, 0.25 mmol naphthalene (internal standard), 0.3 mmol H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 0.5 mL ethanol at room temperature for 20 min

# **IX.** X-Ray Single Crystallography Result

Complex	1	2
formula	$C_{42}H_{99}N_6O_{83}Mo_{12}Cs_4CoP_2Na_2\\$	$C_{42}H_{103}N_6O_{85}Mo_{12}Cs_4MnP_2\\$
formula weight	3866.04	3852.10
T (K)	293(2)	293(2)
crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> -1
a (Å)	11.6777(7)	11.7189(5)
b (Å)	12.4217(7)	12.3672(5)
c (Å)	18.5662(12)	18.6001(8)
α (°)	74.791(4)	74.667(2)
β (°)	85.539(4)	85.523(2)
γ (°)	84.253(4)	84.148(2)
U (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2582.0(3)	2582.54(19)
Ζ	1	1
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	2.486	2.477
reflections collected	9055	9064
independent reflections	7296	7449
R(int)	0.0391	0.0338
GOF on F <sup>2</sup>	1.010	1.028
$R_1^a [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0483	0.0540
$wR_2{}^b\left[I{>}2\sigma(I)\right]$	0.1208	0.1509
R <sub>1</sub> (all data)	0.0625	0.0657
wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1300	0.1613

Table S8. Crystal data and structure refinement for  $1 \mbox{ and } 2$ 

	(	Compound 1	
Mo(1)-O(14)	1.706(5)	Mo(2)-O(15)	2.230(6)
Mo(3)-O(18)	1.706(6)	Mo(4)-O(1)	2.311(6)
Mo(5)-O(9)	1.917(6)	Mo(6)-O(3)	2.300(5)
Co(1)-O(18)	2.150(7)	Co(1)-O(19)	2.137(7)
O(1)-P(1)-O(22)	110.5(3)	O(1)-P(1)-O(3)	109.5(3)
	(	Compound 2	
Mo(1)-O(4)	1.709(7)	Mo(2)-O(21)	2.346(6)
Mo(3)-O(3)	1.717(7)	Mo(4)-O(1)	2.322(6)
Mo(5)-O(2)	2.308(6)	Mo(6)-O(21)	2.329(6)
Mn(1)-O(3)	2.127(8)	Mn(1)-O(4)	2.186(8)
O(21)-P(1)-O(2)	110.3(3)	O(1)-P(1)-O(2)	110.1(3)

Table S9. Selected distances (Å) and angles (°) for 1 and 2  $\,$ 

## X. References

1 a) G. M. Sheldrick, *SHELXL 97, Program for Crystal Structure Refinement, University of Gőttingen,* Germany, 1997; b) G. M. Sheldrick, *SHELXL 97, Program for Crystal Structure Solution, University of Gőttingen,* Germany, 1997.