### **ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

# Easily accessible bifunctional Zn(salpyr) catalysts for the formation of organic carbonates

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#### **Contents:**

NMR spectra and mass spectra of new complexes:	<b>S2</b>
Spectroscopic data and NMR/IR spectra of cyclic carbonates 10a-10l:	812
Additional IR, <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of products from Figure 4:	S25
Further X-ray crystallographic images of complexes 4 and 6	S27
<sup>1</sup> H NMR comparison between Zn(salpyr) 1 and its N-methylated form 6:	S29

### NMR SPECTRA AND MASS SPECTRA OF NEW COMPLEXES:



Figure 1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of monoimine salt 3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.



# Figure 2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of monoimine salt 3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (126 MHz) at RT.



Figure 3. Mass spectrum (ESI+, MeOH) of monoimine salt 3.



**Figure 4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of nonsymmetrical Zn(salpyr) complex **4** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.





Figure 5. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of nonsymmetrical Zn(salpyr) complex 4 in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (126 MHz) at RT.



Figure 6. Mass spectrum (MALDI+, pyrene) of nonsymmetrical Zn(salpyr) complex 4.



**Figure 7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of alkylated Zn(salpyr) complex 7 in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.









Figure 9. Mass spectrum (MALDI(+), dctb) of alkylated Zn(salpyr) complex 7.



**Figure 10.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of benzylated Zn(salpyr) complex **8** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.









Figure 12. MALDI(+) mass spectra (dctb) of benzylated Zn(salpyr) complex 8.



**Figure 13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of alkylated Ni(salpyr) complex **9** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.









Figure 15. MALDI(+) mass spectrum (dctb) of alkylated Ni(salpyr) complex 9.



#### SPECTROSCOPIC DATA AND NMR/IR SPECTRA OF CYCLIC CARBONATES 10a-10l:



#### [10a]: 4-butyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.76 – 4.66 (m, 1H), 4.53 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.2, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.3, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.90 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 1.30 (m, 4H), 0.94 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.1 Hz, 3H). IR Neat: 1786 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

## [10b]: 4-(but-3-en-1-yl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  5.80 (m,1H), 5.10 (m, 1H), 5.06 (m, 1H), 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.54 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.6, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.35 – 2.12 (m, 2H), 2.02 – 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.86 – 1.72 (m, 1H). IR Neat: 1784 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

#### [10c]: 4-phenyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 5.68 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.3, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.5, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.6, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.9 Hz, 1H). IR Neat: 1775 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> J.-L. Jiang, F. Gao, R. Hua, X. Qiu, J. Org. Chem., 2005, 70, 381.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Z. Zhu, A. G. Einset, C.-Y. Yang, W.-Y. Chen, G. E. Wnek, *Macromolecules*, 1994, 27, 4076.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Y. Ren, J.-J. Shim, *ChemCatChem*, 2013, **5**, 1344.

#### [10d]: 4-chloromethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  5.02 – 4.94 (m, 1H), 4.61 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.9, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.8, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.83 – 3.71 (m, 1H). IR Neat: 1780 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

## [10e]: 4-butoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.86 – 4.77 (m, 1H), 4.49 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 – 3.58 (m, 2H), 3.52 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.65 – 1.51 (m, 2H), 1.37 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 7.4 Hz, 3H). IR Neat: 1787 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

### [10g]: 4-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO):  $\delta 5.25$  (t, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.83 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 4.49 (dd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 8.3, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (dd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 8.2, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (ddd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 12.6, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 5.3, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (ddd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 12.7, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 5.4, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH}$  = 3.4 Hz, 1H). IR Neat: 1766 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

#### [10h]: 4,5-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 4.38 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 1.45 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 5.9 Hz, 6H). IR Neat: 1796 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

# [10i]: 4-((prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)methyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 4.91 – 4.82 (m, 1H), 4.52 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.3, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 15.9, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 15.9, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 10.7, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 10.7, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (t, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 2.4 Hz, 1H). IR Neat: 1781 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> J. Sun, L. Han, W. Cheng, J. Wang, X. Zhang, S. Zhang, *ChemSusChem*, 2011, 4, 502.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Y. Patel, J. George, S. M. Pillai, P. Munshi, *Green Chem.*, 2009, **11**, 1056.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> K. Matsumoto, Y. Sato, M. Shimojo, M. Hatanaka, *Tetraehedron: Asymmetry.*, 2000, **11**, 1965.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> C. J. Whiteoak, N. Kielland, V. Laserna, E. C. Escudero-Adán, E. Martin, A. W. Kleij, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2013, **135**, 1228.

# [10j]: 8,8a-dihydro-3aH-indeno[1,2-d][1,3]dioxol-2-one<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 7.32 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 6.01 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.44 – 5.47 (m, 1H), 3.40 (m, 1H). IR Neat: 1773 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

# [10k]: 4-(morpholinomethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta \delta 4.88 - 4.78$  (m, 1H), 4.54 (dd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.5$ , <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.25 (dd, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH} = 8.7$ , <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.71 (t, <sup>3</sup> $J_{HH} = 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH} = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.69 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{HH} = 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.61 - 2.54 (m, 4H). IR Neat: 1784 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

#### **[101]: 1,4-di(oxiran-2-yl)butane**: <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.78 – 4.67 (m, 2H), 4.55 (dd, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.5, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>*HH*</sub> = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (dd,

 ${}^{2}J_{HH} = 8.9$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.90 – 1.40 (m, 4H). IR Neat: 1775 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> J.-L. Wang, J.-Q. Wang, L.-N. He, X.-Y. Dou, F. Wu, *Green Chem.*, 2008, **10**, 1218.

Figure 16. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-butyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10a] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 17. IR spectrum of 4-butyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10a].



**Figure 18.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-(but-3-en-1-yl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [**10b**] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 19. IR spectrum of 4-(but-3-en-1-yl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10b].



Figure 20. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-phenyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10c] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 21. IR spectrum of of 4-phenyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10c].



Figure 22. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-chloromethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10d] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 23. IR spectrum of 4-chloromethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10d].



Figure 24. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-butoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10e] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 25. IR spectrum of 4-butoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10e].



**Figure 26.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **[10g]** in DMSO (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 27. IR spectrum of 4-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10g].



**Figure 28.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-((prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)methyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **[10i]** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 29. IR spectrum of 4-((prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)methyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10i].



**Figure 30.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 8,8a-dihydro-3aH-indeno[1,2-d][1,3]dioxol-2-one **[10j]** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 31. IR spectrum of 8,8a-dihydro-3aH-indeno[1,2-d][1,3]dioxol-2-one [10j].



Figure 32. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-(morpholinomethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10k] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz)

at RT.



Figure 33. IR spectrum of 4-(morpholinomethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10k].



Figure 34. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1,4-di(oxiran-2-yl)butane [10l] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (300 MHz) at RT.



Figure 35. IR spectrum of 1,4-di(oxiran-2-yl)butane [101].



# ADDITIONAL IR, <sup>1</sup>H AND <sup>13</sup>C NMR SPECTRA OF PRODUCTS FROM FIGURE 4:

**Figure 36.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-*tert* butoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **[10f]** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (500 MHz) at RT.



**Figure 37.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 4-*tert* butoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **[10f]** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (126 MHz) at RT.







Figure 39. Mass spectrum (HR-MS) of 4-tertbutoxymethyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-one [10f].



# FURTHER X-RAY CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC IMAGES OF COMPLEXES 4 AND 6:

**Figure 40.** Part of the coordination polymer formed by complex **4** in the solid state through Zn-N(pyr) coordinative patterns. Color codes: Zn = green, O = red, N = blue.



**Figure 41.** Part of the packing diagram for complex **6**. Color codes: Zn = green, O = red, N = blue, I = yellow.



# <sup>1</sup>H NMR COMPARISON BETWEEN Zn(SALPYR) 1 AND ITS N-METHYLATED FORM 6:

**Figure 42**: Aromatic region of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum displayed for both 1 and 6 (acetone- $d_6$ ):

