Roles of basicity and steric crowding of anionic coligands in catechol oxidase like activity of Cu(II)-Mn(II) Complexes.

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Fig. S1. Representative IR spectrum of Complex 1.



Fig. S2. Representative IR spectrum of Complex 2.



Fig. S3. Representative IR spectrum of Complex 3.



Fig. S4. Representative IR spectrum of Complex 4.



Fig. S5. Representative IR spectrum of Complex 5.



Fig. S6. Magnetisation plots of complexes 1–5.



Fig. S7. Cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of 10^{-3} M solution of CuL (left) and complexes 1-5 (right) in acetonitrile at room temperature and a scan rate of 100 mV/Sec, using TBAP as supporting electrolyte.



Fig. S8. Increase in the 3,5- DTBQ band at around 398 nm after adding equal volumes of 2 x 10^{-3} M of 3,5-DTBC to a 2 x 10^{-5} M acetonitrile solution of complexes **2** and **4**. The spectra were recorded at 3 min interval for 30 min.



Fig. S9. Increase in the 3,5- DTBQ band at around 398 nm after adding equal volumes of 2 x 10^{-3} M 3,5-DTBC to a 2 x 10^{-5} M acetonitrile solution of complex **5**. The spectra were recorded at 3 min interval for half an hour.



Fig. S10. Plots of rate *vs*. substrate concentration for complex 4. The insets show the corresponding Lineweaver-Burk plot.



Fig. S11. Plots of rate *vs.* substrate concentration for complex 5. The insets show the corresponding Lineweaver-Burk plot.



Fig. S12. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 1.



Fig. S13. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 2.



Fig. S14. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 3.



Fig. S15. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 4.



Fig. S16. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 5.



Fig. S17. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 1 with 3,5-DTBC.



Fig. S18. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 3 with 3,5-DTBC.



Fig. S19. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 4 with 3,5-DTBC.



Fig. S20. Representative ESI mass spectrum of complex 5 with 3,5-DTBC.



Fig. S21. Plot of H₂O₂ estimation of complexes 1–5.

Complex and catechol solutions were prepared and mixed as needed for kinetic studies. After an hour, the pH of the solution was brought to 2 by acidifying it with H₂SO₄. Simultaneously an equal volume of water was added, to restrain any further oxidation. The quinone (3,5-DTBQ) formed as product was extracted thrice with dichloromethane. Furthermore, 1 mL of a 10% solution of KI and three drops of 3% solution of ammonium molybdate were added to the aqueous layer and formation of I^{3–} was monitored spectrophotometrically by growth of its characteristic absorption band at $\lambda = 353$ nm ($\varepsilon = 26000$ M⁻¹cm⁻¹).



Fig. S22. Increase in the 3,5-DTBQ band at around 398 nm after adding equal volumes of 2 x 10^{-3} M 3,5-DTBC to an acetonitrile solution of complex **2** (2 x 10^{-5} M) + CH₃COONa (4 x 10^{-5} M). The spectra were recorded at 3 min interval for half an hour.



Scheme S1: Proposed Mechanism for Catalytic Oxidation of 3,5-DTBC to 3,5-DTBQ by Complex 1.



Scheme S2: Proposed Mechanism for Catalytic Oxidation of 3,5-DTBC to 3,5-DTBQ by Complex 4.



Scheme S3: Proposed Mechanism for Catalytic Oxidation of 3,5-DTBC to 3,5-DTBQ by Complex 5.

Table S1. Dimensions	s (distances, (Å	A) & Angle	s (°))	, in the metal	coordination	spheres of 1	1 and 2
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M–L	1	2A	2B
Cu(1)–O(11)	1.976(2)	1.955(4)	1.952(4)
Cu(1)–O(31)	1.924(2)	1.945(4)	1.947(4)
Cu(1)–N(19)	1.977(2)	1.970(5)	1.981(5)
Cu(1)–N(23)	2.001(2)	1.983(5)	1.983(5)
Cu(1)–O(41)	2.218(2)	2.418(5)	
Mn(1)–O(11)	2195(2)	2.173(4)	2.171(4)
Mn(1)–O(31)	2.199(2)	2.186(4)	2.159(4)
Mn(1)–O(43)	2.127(2)	2.197(4)	2.192(5)

Cu(1)–Mn(1)	3.1151(4)	3.1193(7)	3.1200(6)
O(11)-Cu(1)-O(31)	83.96(7)	85.2(2)	84.6(2)
O(11)-Cu(1)-N(19)	87.98(8)	89.3(2)	89.5(2)
O(31)-Cu(1)-N(19)	169.13(8)	174.1(2)	170.5(2)
O(11)-Cu(1)-N(23)	160.35(8)	168.1(2)	173.8(2)
O(31)-Cu(1)-N(23)	90.19(8)	89.7(2)	89.8(2)
N(19)-Cu(1)-N(23)	95.03(9)	95.3(2)	95.9(2)
O(31)-Cu(1)-O(41)	92.34(7)	86.8(2)	
O(11)-Cu(1)-O(41)	96.18(7)	87.8(2)	
N(19)-Cu(1)-O(41)	95.78(8)	95.0(2)	
N(23)-Cu(1)-O(41)	102;80(8)	102.6(2)	
O(31)-Mn(1)-O(11)	72.83(6)	74.53(14)	74.57(14)
O(43)-Mn(1)-O(11)	87.01(7)	90.70(16)	88.65(17)
O(43)-Mn(1)-O(31)	91.23(7)	90.86(16)	88.40(17)

M-L	
Cu(1)-O(11)	1.925(4)
Cu(1)-O(31)	1.909(4)
Cu(1)-N(19)	1.985(5)
Cu(1)-N(23)	1.949(5)
Mn(1)-O(41)	2.039(19)
Mn(1)=O(11)	2109(4)
Mn(1)-O(1W)	2.209(17)
Mn(1)-O(31)	2.289(4)
Cu(1)-Mn(1)	3.1165(11)
O(11)-Cu(1)-O(31)	82.3(2)
O(11)-Cu(1)-N(19)	89.6(2)
O(31)-Cu(1)-N(19)	162.9(2)
O(11)-Cu(1)-N(23)	167.1(2)
O(31)-Cu(1)-N(23)	90.5(2)
N(19)-Cu(1)-N(23)	100.1(2)
O(41)-Mn(2)-O(11)\$1	101.7(5)
O(41)-Mn(2)-O(11)	101.0(5)
O(11)-Mn(2)-O(11)\$1	146.2(2)
O(11)-Mn(1)-O(1W)	112.9(5)
O(11)\$1-Mn(1)-O(1W)	92.6(5)
O(41)-Mn(1)-O(31)\$1	96.3(5)
O(11)-Mn(1)-O(31)\$1	83.6(2)
O(11)-Mn(1)-O(31)	69.8(2)
O(41)-Mn(1)-O(31)	167.7(5)
O(1W)-Mn(1)-O(31)	104.5(5)
O(31)-Mn(1)-O(31)\$1	74.9(3)

Table S2. Dimensions (distances, (Å) & Angles (°)) in the metal coordination spheres of $\mathbf{3}$

O(1W)-Mn(1)-O(31)\$1	162.5(5)	
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Symmetry element 1 = 1 - x, y, 3/2 - z

Table S3. Selected Bond Lengths (Å) & Angles ($^{\circ})$) of the disordered c	complexes 4 and 5	j.
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M-L	4	5
Cu(1)–O(11)	1.894(6)	1.914(6)
Cu(1)–O(31)	1.926(5)	1.938(6)
Cu(1)–N(19)	1.964(7)	1.945(7)
Cu(1)–N(23)	1.971(8)	1.974(8)
Cu(2)–O(41)	1.894(6)	1.901(7)
Cu(2)–O(61)	1.938(5)	1.924(6)
Cu(2)–N(49)	1.968(6)	1.946(8)
Cu(2)–N(53)	1.983(7)	1.998(10)
Mn(1)–O(71)	2.079(5)	2.108(7)
Mn(1)–O(61)	2.118(5)	2,114(6)
Mn(1)–O(31)	2.126(6)	2.119(6)
Mn(1)–O(1)	2.164(6)	2.183(7)
Mn(1)–O(41)	2.273(5)	2.234(6)
Mn(1)–O(11)	2.326(6)	2.346(6)
Cu(2)–Mn(1)	3.129(2)	3.110(2)
Cu(1)–Mn(1)	3.171(2)	3.142(2)
O(41)–Cu(2)–O(61)	81.4(2)	81.9(3)
O(41)–Cu(2)–N(49)	90.7(2)	91.5(3)
O(61)-Cu(2)-N(49)	171.5(3)	171.9(3)
O(41)-Cu(2)-N(53)	167.0(2)	167.5(3)
O(61)-Cu(2)-N(53)	87.3(3)	87.9(3)
N(49)-Cu(2)-N(53)	100.9(3)	99.2(4)
O(11)-Cu(1)-O(31)	81.0(2)	82.4(3)
O(11)-Cu(1)-N(19)	91.6(2)	91.3(3)
O(31)–Cu(1)–N(19)	170.7(3)	170.4(3)

O(11)-Cu(1)-N(23)	166.7(2)	164.8(3)
O(31)-Cu(1)-N(23)	88.1(3)	88.3(3)
N(19)-Cu(1)-N(23)	99.9(3)	99.3(3)
O(71)-Mn(1)-O(61)	106.8(2)	110.0(3)
O(71)-Mn(1)-O(31)	93.9(2)	92.7(3)
O(61)-Mn(1)-O(31)	150.4(2)	151.2(2)
O(71)-Mn(1)-O(1)	89.2(2)	87.7(2)
O(61)-Mn(1)-O(1)	96.4(2)	94.4(3)
O(31)-Mn(1)-O(1)	104.8(2)	104.3(3)
O(71)-Mn(1)-O(41)	95.4(2)	94.7(3)
O(61)-Mn(1)-O(41)	69.2(2)	70.4(3)
O(31)–Mn(1) – O(41)	88.4(2)	91.0(2)
O(1)-Mn(1)-O(41)	165.7(2)	164.5(3)
O(71)-Mn(1)-O(11)	160.3(2)	159.8(3)
O(61)-Mn(1)-O(11)	88.4(2)	85.2(2)
O(31)-Mn(1)-O(11)	67.6(2)	69.1(2)
O(1)-Mn(1)-O(11)	101.6(2)	104.9(2)
O(41)-Mn(1)-O(11)	78.0(2)	77.4(2)
Cu(1)-Mn(1)-Cu(2)	80.8(1)	81.30(3)

Table S4: Geometrical features of hydrogen bonding interactions (distances (Å) and angles(°))of Complex 2.

D–H…A	D–H	Н…А	D…A	∠D−H···A
O(1)-H(1)O(44A) ^a	0.82	2.39(2)	2.806(13)	112
O(1)-H(1)O(2)	0.82	1.93	2.62(2)	142
O(2)–H(2)O(1)	0.80	1.84	2.62(2)	166

where a = x, -1 + y, z

Table S5: Geometrical features of hydrogen bonding interactions (distances (Å) and angles(°)) of Complex **4**.

D–H···A	D-H	Н…А	D····A	∠D−H…A
O(1W)–H(1W)O(73)	0.85(2)	1.87(6)	2.622(8)	146(9)
O(1W)–H(2W)O(7W)	0.84(2)	2.04(10)	2.752(14)	142(15)
O(1W)–H(2W)O(6W)	0.84(2)	1.94(5)	2,75(3)	161(10)

Table S6: Geometrical features of hydrogen bonding interactions (distances (Å) and angles(°)) of Complex **5**.

D–H···A	D-H	H···A	D···A	∠D−H…A
O(1)–H(1)O(73)	0.85	1.81	2.626(10)	159
O(91)–H(91)O(1)	0.90	1.70	2.587(17)	170

Table S7: *J* parameter for all the reported complexes with a double phenoxo bridge according to the Spin-Hamiltonian $H=-2J \cdot S_1 S_2$, $(\alpha + \beta)/2$ and the torsion angle M(II)–O–Cu(II)–O.

CCDC name	<i>J</i> /cm ⁻¹	$(\alpha + \beta)/2/deg$	M(II)-O-Cu(II)-O torsion/deg
BICBIA	-15.9	102.66	9.01
BICCAT	-29.1	106.89	6.14
CEPPUL	-35.77	106.32	2.50
CEPPLIT	-24.2	105.04	12.47
CEPPOF	-22.77	103.45	10.29
CEPQAS	-19.83	100.19	2.42
DEXQUIT	-17.4	103.75	0.00

FAEPCU	-13.2	95.7	26.05
GAJXUM	-35.80	107.5	0.88
ILAKOV	-11.0	101.6	13.22
LEGJAI	-22.4	100.2	12.01
MIXLEL	-15.9	103.42	3.46
QEKFIW	-18.4	100.90	9.89
UNIPEJ	-30.0	100.47	8.52
VOBLAA	-48.9	105.98	3.42
YUVRAJ	-15.1	103.75	2.40
AGSD1	-13.5	101.5	6.2
AGSD2	-13.5	101.85	2.71
AGSD3	-12.6	102.32	3.63
AGSD4	-13.24	102.08	8.82
1	-8.54	97.16	23.32
2	-11.50	98.32	16.51
3	-19.83	98.40	25.11
4	-10.65	98.21	15.06
5	-10.27	98.30	17.90

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