

**ELECTRONIC SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Reaction of hydrogen peroxide with superoxide in**

**$[(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\mu\text{-O}_2)\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{NH}_3)_5]^{5+}$ : A mechanistic study**

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Table S1.</b> Stoichiometric results for the oxidation of $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ by <b>1</b> .	S2
<b>Figure S1.</b> Kinetic profile at 670 nm for the reduction of <b>1</b> with $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .	S3
<b>Table S2.</b> Some representative first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of hydrogen peroxide by the title complex <b>1</b> .	S4
<b>Figure S2.</b> Effect of acidity on first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ by <b>1</b> .	S5
<b>Table S3.</b> Some representative first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of phenol by the title complex <b>1</b> .	S6
<b>Figure S3.</b> Effect of mol % $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ on first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of phenol by the title complex <b>1</b> .	S7

**Table S1.** Stoichiometric results for the oxidation of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> by **1**.

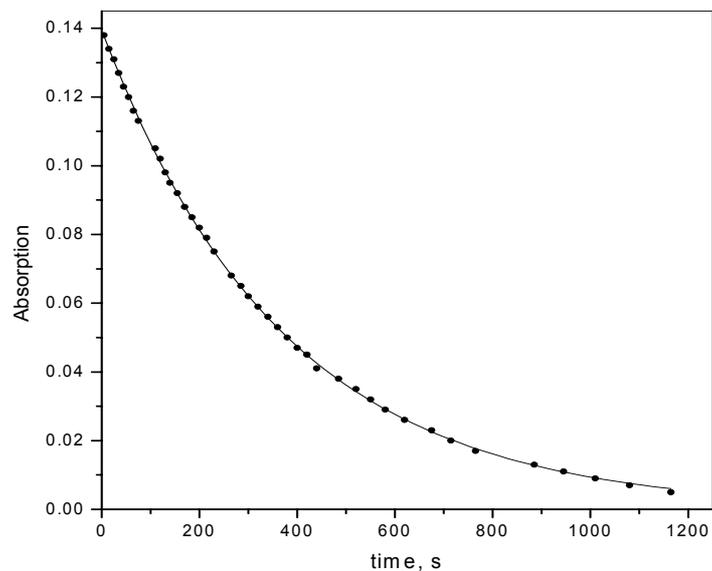
[ <b>1</b> ], mM	[H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ], mM	[H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ] left, mM	$\Delta[\mathbf{1}]/\Delta[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]$
5.0	7.0	4.4	1.92 <sup>a</sup>
7.0	10.0	6.2	1.84 <sup>b</sup>
5.5	7.0	4.2	1.96 <sup>c</sup>
4.5	7.0	4.8	2.04 <sup>d</sup>

Average:  $1.94 \pm 0.10$

<sup>a</sup> at  $I = 0.1$  M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>), pH = 5.07, T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.20 M, T = 25.0 °C.

<sup>b</sup> at  $I = 0.2$  M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>), pH = 5.23, T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.30 M, T = 25.0 °C.

<sup>c,d</sup> at  $I = 0.5$  M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>), pH = 5.34, T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.40 M, T = 25.0 °C.



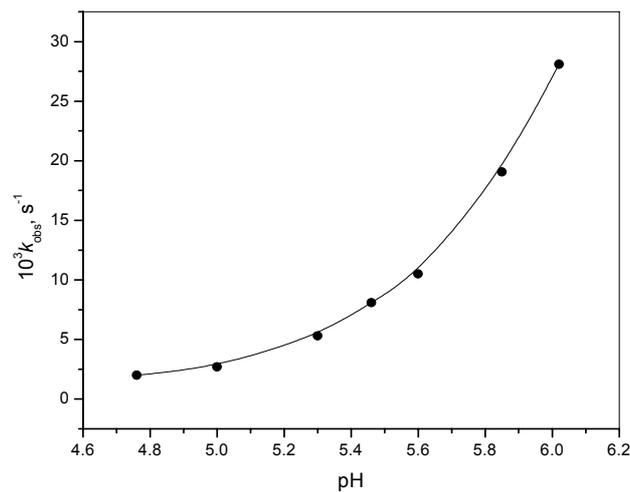
**Figure S1.** Kinetic profile at 670 nm for the reduction of **1** (0.20 mM) with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (0.50 M) at pH 5.01 (T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.20 M), I = 0.50 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>); T = 25.0 °C. The solid line is the first-order fit of the experimental values (shown in solid circles).

**Table S2.** Some representative first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of hydrogen peroxide by the title complex **1** (0.2 mM) at  $T = 25.0$  °C,  $T_{\text{OAc}} = 0.20$  M.<sup>a</sup> Calculated  $k_{\text{obs}}$  values on the basis of eqn. (6) are shown in parenthesis.

pH	[H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ], M	<i>I</i> , M	10 <sup>3</sup> $k_{\text{obs}}$ , s <sup>-1</sup>
4.76	0.50	0.50	1.71 (1.54)
5.01	0.50	0.50	2.70 (2.74)
5.30	0.50	0.50	5.30 (5.34)
5.46	0.50	0.50	8.10 (7.71)
5.60	0.50	0.50	10.5 (10.7)
5.85	0.50	0.50	19.1 (18.9)
6.02	0.50	0.50	28.1 (28.0)
5.01	0.20	0.50	1.20 (1.09)
5.01	0.30	0.50	1.70 (1.64)
5.01	0.40	0.50	2.20 (2.19)
5.01	0.60	0.50	3.20 (3.28)
5.01	0.70	0.50	3.70 (3.83)
5.01	0.50	1.0	2.71 (2.74)
5.01	0.50	1.5	2.80 <sup>b</sup> (2.74)

<sup>a</sup> Under the experimental conditions, the superoxo complex, **1**, suffered practically no self-decomposition. We verified that in blank runs without H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, absorbance of **1** decreased by less than 1% of its initial value.

<sup>b</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> $k_{\text{obs}} = 2.82$  and  $2.73$  s<sup>-1</sup> at  $T_{\text{OAc}} = 0.30$  and  $0.50$  M respectively.



**Fig. S2** Effect of acidity on  $k_{\text{obs}}$  for the oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (0.50 M) by **1** (0.2 mM),  $T_{\text{OAc}} = 0.20$  M,  $I = 0.50$  M ( $\text{NaClO}_4$ ),  $T = 25.0$  °C. The solid line is the fit of the experimental values (shown in solid circles) drawn on the basis of eqn. 6.

pH	[phenol], mM	<i>I</i> , M	$10^3 k_{\text{obs}}$ , s <sup>-1</sup>
4.34	2.0	0.50	0.61
4.78	2.0	0.50	1.96
5.04	2.0	0.50	2.93
5.42	2.0	0.50	6.76
5.61	2.0	0.50	9.58
5.84	2.0	0.50	18.3
5.04	4.0	0.50	5.13

**Table S3.** Some representative first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the oxidation of phenol by the title complex **1** (0.2 mM) at T = 25.0 °C, T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.20 M

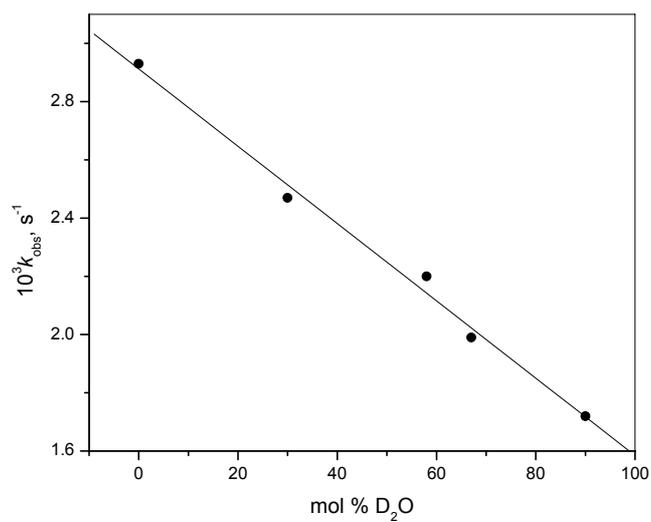
5.04	6.0	0.50	7.86
5.04	8.0	0.50	9.72
5.04	10.0	0.50	12.9
5.04	2.0	0.50	2.47 <sup>a</sup>
5.04	2.0	0.50	2.20 <sup>b</sup>
5.04	2.0	0.50	1.99 <sup>c</sup>
5.04	2.0	0.50	1.72 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> at 30% D<sub>2</sub>O content

<sup>b</sup> at 58% D<sub>2</sub>O content

<sup>c</sup> at 67% D<sub>2</sub>O content

<sup>d</sup> at 90% D<sub>2</sub>O content



**Fig. S3** Effect of mol % D<sub>2</sub>O on  $k_{\text{obs}}$ , [1] = 0.20 mM, [phenol] = 2.0 mM, pH/pD = 5.01, T<sub>OAc</sub> = 0.20 M, I = 0.50 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>), T = 25.0 °C.

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