# Unexpected Chemoselectivity in the Schiff Condensation of Amines with $\eta^2(C,O)$ - $\eta^1(O)$ -Coordinated Aldehyde

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# **Experimental Section**

#### Materials and general methods

All operations were performed under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen using Schlenk and vacuum techniques. Dichloromethane and acetonitrile were distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub>. THF and diethylether were distilled from Na/benzophenone. Hexane was distilled from Na. Literature procedures for the preparation of starting materials are quoted in each case. Ligands and other reagents were purchased and used without purification unless otherwise stated. IR spectra in solution were recorded with a Perkin Elmer Spectrum RX I FT-IR instrument,

using cells with CaF<sub>2</sub> windows. All NMR solvents were stored over molecular sieves and degassed prior to use. <sup>1</sup>H NMR experiments were measured on a Bruker AV400 and ARX300 spectrometers. Chemical shift values are given in ppm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts are referenced to TMS, using solvents as an internal reference.

# Synthesis of [Cr<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>(pyC(H)=O)<sub>2</sub>] (2a)

To a solution of pyridine-2-carbaldehyde (0.071 g, 0.66 mmol) in THF (40 mL) was added  $[Cr(CH_3CN)_3(CO)_3]$  (**1a**)<sup>1</sup> (0.171 g, 0.66 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 20 min. After that, the green solution was concentrated in vacuo, layered with hexane (20 mL) and stored at -20 °C to afford black crystals of **2a**, one of which was used for X-ray analysis. Yield 0.130 g, 81%. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{10}Cr_2N_2O_8$ : C 44.46, H 2.07, N 5.76. Found: C 44.65, H 1.98, N 5.51%. IR (THF), v(CO): 1981 vs, 1920 m, 1865 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (Nujol), v(CO): 1973 vs, 1923 vs, 1899 s, 1867 vs, 1849 vs cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## Synthesis of [Mo<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>(pyC(H)=O)<sub>2</sub>] (2b)

A solution of  $[Mo(CO)_6]$  (0.200 g, 0.76 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 mL) was refluxed for 3h to form  $[Mo(CH_3CN)_3(CO)_3]$  (**1b**). Following the removal of solvent, a solution of pyridine-2-carbaldehyde (0.081 g, 0.76 mmol) in THF (30 mL) was added to the crude pale yellow solid. The mixture immediately turned deep green and it was stirred for 5 min. Addition of hexane and slow solvents evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound **2b** as dark green microcrystals. Yield 0.203 g, 93%. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{10}Mo_2N_2O_8$ : C 37.65, H 1.76, N 4.88. Found: C 37.51, H 1.64, N 4.79%. IR (THF), v(CO): 1987 vs, 1925 m, 1865 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (Nujol), v(CO): 1984 vs, 1928 vs, 1904 s, 1963 vs, 1844 vs cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (KBr), v(CO): 1977 vs, 1926 vs, 1904 s, 1860 vs, 1845 vs cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$ = 8.68 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.26 [td (8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.99 [d(8), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.62 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 6.73 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=O]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$ = 8.62 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.11 [td (8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.84 [d(8), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.46 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 6.62 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=O].

# Synthesis of [W<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>(pyC(H)=O)<sub>2</sub>] (2c)

To a solution of pyridine-2-carbaldehyde (0.041 g, 0.38 mmol) in THF (30 mL) was added  $[W(CH_3CN)_3(CO)_3]$ (1c) (0.149 g, 0.38 mmol) and the mixture was refluxed for 90 min. After that, the green mixture was concentrated, layered with hexane (20 mL) and after standing at -20 °C for three days, dark green crystals of compound 2c were obtained. Yield 0.106 g, 74%. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{10}N_2O_8W_2$ : C 28.83, H 1.34, N 3.74. Found: C 28.63, H 1.51, N 3.97%. IR (THF), v(CO): 1985 vs, 1917 m, 1865 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (Nujol), v(CO): 1980 vs, 1921 vs, 1894 s, 1959 vs, 1842 vs cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$ = 8.71 [d (5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.06 [td (8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.63 [d(8), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.35 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 6.77 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=O].

## Reaction of compound $[Mo_2(CO)_6(pyC(H)=O)_2]$ (2b) with $H_2N^nBu$ .

To a freshly prepared solution of  $[Mo_2(CO)_6(pyC(H)=O)_2]$  (**2b**) (0.218 g, 0.38 mmol),  $H_2N^nBu$  (0.056 g, 0.76 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature under CO atmosphere during 15 min. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo, and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound  $[Mo(CO)_4(pyC(H)=N^nBu)]$  (**4a**) as brown microcrystals. Yield 0.240 g, 85%. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>MoN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C 45.42, H 3.81, N 7.57. Found: C 45.21, H 3.70, N 7.33 %. IR (THF), v(CO): 2012 s, 1902 vs, 1889 sh, 1846 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), v (CO): 2015 s, 1908 vs, 1887 sh, 1837 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$  = 9.10 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.83 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=N], 8.17 [td(8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 8.11 [d(7), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.67 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 4.07 [t(7), 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 2.05 [q(7), 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 1.39 [m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 0.99 [t(7), 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$  = 9.08 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.63 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=N], 8.01 [td(8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.91 [d(8), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.52 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 4.02 [t(7), 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 2.02 [m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 2.02 [m, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>], 1.00 [t(7), 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>].

## Reaction of compound [Mo<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>(pyC(H)=O)<sub>2</sub>] (2b) with H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>Ph.

To a freshly prepared solution of  $[Mo_2(CO)_6(pyC(H)=O)_2]$  (2b) (0.218 g, 0.38 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>Ph (0.083 g, 0.76 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature under CO atmosphere during 15 min. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo, and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound  $[Mo(CO)_4(pyC(H)=NCH_2Ph)]$  (4b) as dark red microcrystals. Yield 0.267 g, 87%. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>MoN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C 50.51, H 2.99, N 6.93. Found C 50.69, H 3.09, N 6.71. IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), v(CO): 2016 s, 1910 vs, 1886 sh, 1837 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (THF), v(CO): 2012 s, 1906 vs, 1888 sh, 1845 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$  = 9.08 [d(5), sH, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 9.05 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=N], 8.17 [t(1), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 8.16 [d(1), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.66 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 7.49 [m, 2H, Ph], 7.42-7.32 [m, 3H, Ph], 5.26 [s, 2H, NCH<sub>2</sub>].

#### Reaction of compound [Mo<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>(pyC(H)=O)<sub>2</sub>] (2b) with H<sub>2</sub>N<sup>t</sup>Bu.

To a freshly prepared solution of  $[Mo_2(CO)_6(pyC(H)=O)_2]$  (**2b**) (0.218 g, 0.38 mmol),  $H_2N^tBu$  (0.056 g, 0.76 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature under CO atmosphere during 24 hours. If this reaction is carried out at refluxing temperature of THF it takes just 8 hours to compleat. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo, and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound  $[Mo(CO)_4(pyC(H)=N^tBu)]$  (**4c**) as dark red microcrystals. Yield 0.220 g, 78%. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{14}H_{14}MoN_2O_4$ : C 45.42, H 3.81, N 7.57. Found: C 45.57, H 3.66, N 7.66 %. IR (THF), v(CO): 2013 s, 1902 vs, 1885 sh, 1841 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta = 9.13$  [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.81 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=N], 8.17 [m, 2H, pyH<sup>4</sup>, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 8.11 [d(7), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 7.68 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 1.62 [s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>].

#### Synthesis of [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (3)

Pyridine-2-carbaldehyde (0.064 g, 0.60 mmol) was added to a solution of  $[Mo(CO)_4(NBD)]^2$  (NBD = norbornadiene) (0.180 g, 0.60 mmol) in THF (20 mL). The color of the solution changed immediately from yellow to deep blue. The solution was stirred for 30 min. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound **3** as black solid which was washed with hexane (2 x 10 mL). Yield 0.111 g, 59%. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>5</sub>MoNO<sub>5</sub>: C 38.12, H 1.60, N 4.44. Found: C 38.37, H 1.49, N 4.34 %. IR (THF), v(CO): 2018 s, 1909 vs, 1893 sh, 1848 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), v (CO): 2022 s, 1918 vs, 1893 sh, 1843 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$ = 10.26 [s, 1H, pyC(*H*)=O], 9.22 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.64 [d(8), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 8.39 [td(8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 7.77 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 8.20 [td(8, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.78 [m, 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>].

#### Reaction of compound $[Mo(CO)_4(pyC(H)=O)]$ (3) with $H_2N^nBu$ .

To a solution of  $H_2N^nBu$  (0.017 g, 0.23 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (**3**) (0.073 g, 0.23 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=N<sup>n</sup>Bu)] (**4**a) as brown microcrystals. Yield 0.055 g, 65%.

# Reaction of compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (3) with H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>Ph.

To a solution of  $H_2NCH_2Ph$  (0.025 g, 0.23 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (**3**) (0.073 g, 0.23 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=NCH<sub>2</sub>Ph)] (**4b**) as red microcrystals. Yield 0.060 g, 64%.

#### Reaction of compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (3) with H<sub>2</sub>N<sup>t</sup>Bu.

To a solution of  $H_2N^{t}Bu$  (0.017 g, 0.23 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (**3**) (0.073 g, 0.23 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=N<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**4**c) as dark red microcrystals. Yield 0.047 g, 55%.

#### Reaction of compound [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (3) with H<sub>2</sub>NPh.

To a solution of H<sub>2</sub>NPh (0.021 g, 0.23 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=O)] (**3**) (0.073 g, 0.23 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvents were evaporated in vacuo and the residue was washed with hexane (2 x 15mL). The resulting solid residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtered through kieselguhr. Addition of hexane and slow evaporation at reduced pressure gave compounds [Mo(CO)<sub>4</sub>(pyC(H)=NPh)] (**4d**) as dark purple microcrystals. Yield 0.057 g, 64%. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{16}H_{10}MoN_2O_4$ : C 49.25, H 2.58, N 7.18. Found: C 49.31, H 2.77, N 7.30 %. IR (THF), v(CO): 2013 s, 1905 vs, 1892 sh, 1850 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), v (CO): 2016 s, 1911 vs, 1889 sh, 1841 s cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, r.t.)  $\delta$ = 9.19 [d(5), 1H, pyH<sup>6</sup>], 8.98 [s, 1H, pyC(H)=N], 8.29 [d(7), 1H, pyH<sup>3</sup>], 8.24 [td(8, 1), 1H, pyH<sup>4</sup>], 7.76 [ddd(7, 5, 2), 1H, pyH<sup>5</sup>], 7.65 [m, 2H, Ph], 7.55 [m, 2H, Ph], 7.45 [m, 1H, Ph].

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Figure S5: IR spectrum in THF of compound 2a.



Figure S6: IR spectrum in THF of compound 2b.



Figure S7: IR spectrum in THF of compound 2c.



Figure S8: Thermal ellipsoid plots (30 % probability) of the structure of complex 2a.



Figure S9: Thermal ellipsoid plots (30 % probability) of the structure of complex 2c.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> D.P. Tate, W.R. Knipple, J.M. Augl, *Inorg. Chem.*, **1962**, *1*, 433-434. <sup>2</sup> E. W. Abel, M. A. Bennett, R. Burton, G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc.*, **1958**, 4559-4563.