## Octahedral Arrangement of Porphyrin Moieties around Hexarhenium(III) Cluster Cores: Structure of ( $\mu_3$ -Selenido)hexa-(5-(4-pyridyl)-10,15,20-tritolylporphyrin)-hexarhenium(III) (2 + )\*\*

Ai Itasaka<sup>[+]</sup>, Masaaki Abe, Takashi Yoshimura, Kiyoshi Tsuge, Masamitsu Suzuki, Taira Imamura,\* and Yoichi Sasaki\*

In memoriam Ai Itasaka

Hexanuclear rhenum(III) cluster complexes are the subject of extensive current studies[1-17] because of their redox and photoluminescent properties as well as the versatility of the design of the coordination environment around the hexarhenium cores,  $Re_6(\mu_3-E)_8$  (E = S, Se). The cores may be regarded as a giant octahedral center, since the six terminal ligands are oriented in such a manner that each pair of neighboring ligands are arranged vertically to each other. It is possible to mimic the chemistry of simple octahedral metal complexes by using the hexarhenium cluster core, as ligand substitution at the six terminal sites of the core can be controlled with respect to the number and geometrical arrangements of the terminal ligands. Examples are the preparation of a series of pyridine (py) complexes,  $[Re_6(\mu_3-S)_8Cl_n(py)_{6-n}]^{(2-n)+}$  (n=2-4), which included the isolation of two isomers (cis and trans) for n =2,[4, 13] and the bridge-chelate formation around the core by a long-chain bidentate ligand,  $(C_6H_5)_2P(CH_2)_6P(C_6H_5)_2$ .<sup>[14]</sup> Another important aspect of using a giant octahedral center is to arrange as many as six sterically bulky ligands around the core, something that is difficult around a single metal center. In the past few years, we have been studying the preparation and properties of some oligomeric porphyrins that are constructed through coordination of pyridylporphyrins to metalloporphyrins.<sup>[18-26]</sup> Although the octahedral arrangement of the porphyrin ligands is interesting as an important structural motif and also as a building block of certain supramolecular complexes, it is too bulky to make stable six-coordinate mononuclear metal complexes. We now show that the octahedral arrangement of porphyrins is possible by using the hexarhenium cores. The new com-

[\*] Prof. Dr. Y. Sasaki, Prof. Dr. T. Imamura, A. Itasaka<sup>[+]</sup>, Dr. M. Abe, Dr. T. Yoshimura, [+] Dr. K. Tsuge, M. Suzuki

Division of Chemistry

Graduate School of Science

Hokkaido University

Kita-ku, Sapporo, 060-0810 (Japan)

Fax: (+81)11-706-3447

E-mail: ysasaki@sci.hokudai.ac.jp, timamura@sci.hokudai.ac.jp

- [+] Deceased October 6, 2001.
- [++] Present address:

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering Gunma University

Tenjin-cho 1-5-1, Kiryu, Gunma 376-8515 (Japan)

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 $[Re_6(\mu_3-S)_8(H_2PyT_3P)_6]^{2+}$  1

 $[Re_6(\mu_3-S)_8(ZnPyT_3P)_6]^{2+}$  2

 $[Re_6(\mu_3-Se)_8(H_2PyT_3P)_6]^{2+}$  3

 $[Re_6(\mu_3-Se)_8(ZnPyT_3P)_6]^{2+}$  4

The complexes **1** and **3** containing free-base porphyrins were prepared by the substitution of 5-(4-pyridyl)-10,15,20-tritolylporphyrin for the solvent molecules in  $[Re_6(\mu_3-S)_8-(CH_3CN)_6]^{2+}$  and  $[Re_6(\mu_3-Se)_8(CH_3CN)_6]^{2+}$ , respectively, in chlorobenzene. Zinc(II) ions were introduced into the porphyrins in **1** and **3** by reacting them with zinc acetate in  $CH_2Cl_2$  to give **2** and **4**, respectively.

The structure of 3-(SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was determined by single-crystal X-ray structure analysis.<sup>[27]</sup> Figure 1 shows the remarkable structure of 3. Six H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P groups coordinate to the [Re<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> core through the pyridyl group. The bond lengths and angles in the [Re<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> core reveal that the rhenium selenide cluster core has virtually  $O_h$  symmetry as in other hexarhenium chalcogenide complexes. [3, 7-14, 28-34] The complex ion has a cystallographically imposed inversion center. In addition, six H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P groups are arranged essentially in a C<sub>3</sub> manner around the [Re<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> core (Figure 1). Therefore, the complex ion in the crystal has virtual  $S_6$  symmetry. Because the  $H_2PyT_3P$  group itself has  $C_{2h}$  symmetry in the highest symmetrical form and can rotate freely around the Re-N bond without mutual steric interactions, the most symmetric structure of the complex ion should be  $D_{3d}$ ,  $D_{2h}$ , or  $D_{2d}$ . The  $S_6$ structure is derived from the  $D_{3d}$  structure by a slight rotation of the porphyrin ligands. Thus, the ideal  $D_{3d}$  structure seems to be distorted by the effect of crystal packing. The cation 3 represents the remarkable class of compounds with six porphyrins in one molecule, the structure of which has been resolved by X-ray structure analysis.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra in CDCl<sub>3</sub> of the complexes show that all six porphyrin ligands in each complex are equivalent at room temperature. Temperature dependence of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **1** is complicated by proton exchange within the porphyrin rings and a possible kinetic rotational barrier of the Re–N bond.

Visible absorption spectra of the new complexes in  $CH_2Cl_2$  are dominated by strong absorption bands of the porphyrin ligands. All the complexes display a strong Soret band at 422–423 nm with  $\varepsilon=2.5\times10^5\,\mathrm{mol^{-1}\,dm^{-3}}$  per ligand, which may be compared with the corresponding band of the free porphyrin at 418 nm ( $\varepsilon=5.0\times10^5\,\mathrm{mol^{-1}\,dm^{-3}}$ ). The band in the complexes is somewhat broader than that of the free ligand, which suggests appreciable electronic interactions among the ligands. The four Q bands in the region  $500-700\,\mathrm{nm}$  were observed for the complexes 1 and 3, the number of Q bands reduced to two on introduction of  $\mathrm{Zn^{II}}$  centers into the porphyrin ring (2 and 4).

Cyclic voltammograms of the complexes in  $CH_2Cl_2$  show the redox waves of the porphyrin moieties in the range -2.0–

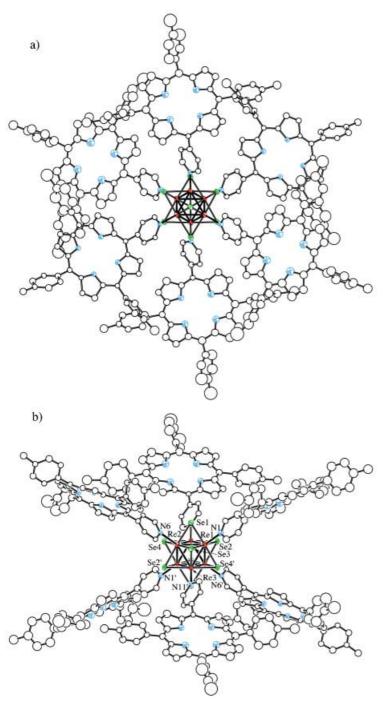
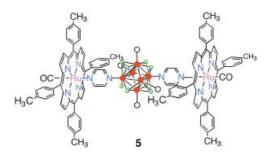


Figure 1. Structure of **3** in **3**-(SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>· CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>· 1.6 C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub> (ORTEP drawing; thermal elipsoids at the 30 % probability level). a) Top view, b) side view. Red: rhenium, blue: nitrogen, green: selenium. The crystallographically imposed inversion center is at the center of the Re<sub>6</sub> octahedron. Selected interatomic distances [Å] and bond angles [°] around the central core: Re-Re: 2.571(2) – 2.606(2) (av 2.582); Re-Se: 2.486(4) – 2.501(3) (av. 2.483); Re-N: 2.14(2) – 2.20(3) (av 2.16); Re-Re-Re<sub>(60)</sub>: 59.42(6) – 60.76(5) (av 60.00); Re-Re-Re<sub>(90)</sub>: 89.48(7) – 90.52(7) (av. 90.00); Re-Se-Re: 62.1(1) – 63.4(1) (av 62.7); Se-Re-Se<sub>(90)</sub>: 89.3(1) – 90.6(1) (av 90.0); Se-Re-Se<sub>(180)</sub>: 176.4(1) – 177.1(2) (av 176.7); Se-Re-N: 90.3(7) – 93.1(7) (av 91.7).

+1.7 V versus Ag/AgCl. The redox potentials of the Re<sub>5</sub><sup>III</sup>Re<sup>IV</sup> process for the Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -S)<sub>8</sub> and Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -Se)<sub>8</sub> complexes shift towards positive potentials on increasing the number of pyridyl ligands in place of the terminal halides. The cyclic voltammogram of the Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -Se)<sub>8</sub> complex **3** exhibits a

shoulder at the positive side of the porphyrin second oxidation wave at +1.33 V (versus Ag/AgCl), which may be ascribed to the core oxidation. [4, 13] The voltammogram of the free ligand displays two reversible reduction waves and one reversible and one irreversible oxidation wave in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Upon coordination of the porphyrin ligand to the hexarhenium core, these waves show only a small shift. The second oxidation wave becomes reversible. There is no sign of the splitting in each wave, which suggests no significant redox interaction among the porphyrin ligands both for the oxidation and the reduction processes. It has been found previously that the hexarhenium core can mediate redox interactions of coordinated ligands as exemplified by the splitting of the reduction waves of the ligands L (4-cyanopyridine, pyrazine, 4,4'-bipyridine, etc.) coordinated to the apices of the hexarhenium(III) core.[13] It may be that the perpendicular orientation of the pyridyl group and the porphyrin ring in 1-4 prevents effective redox communication among the porphyrin-ring parts of the six ligands.

We have also prepared new complexes, 5, [35] 6, and 7 (where  $H_2$ ttp = 5,10,15,20-tetra(tolyl)porphyrin; pz = pyrazine; bpy = 4,4'-bipyridine; Scheme 1) in which the



Scheme 1. Schematic structure of 5.

redox waves of the two ttp ligands do not show any sign of splitting, while those of the bridging pyrazine or 4,4′-bipyridine show small splitting ( $\Delta E = 0.14 \text{ V}$ ). Here also perpendicular orientation of the bridging pyrazine ligand and the porphyrin ring in 5–7 would be relevant.

*trans*-[Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -S)<sub>8</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>{( $\mu$ -pz)Ru(CO)(ttp)}<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> 5

*trans*-[Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -S)<sub>8</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>{( $\mu$ -bpy)Ru(CO)(ttp)}<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> **6** 

cis-[Re<sub>6</sub>( $\mu_3$ -S)<sub>8</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>{( $\mu$ -bpy)Ru(CO)(ttp)}<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> **7** 

Hexarhenium(III) complexes are known to be photoluminescent. [3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 36-40] The new porphyrin complexes **1-4** are also emissive, but the short lifetimes for **3**-(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and the shape of double-maximum emission spectrum suggested that the emission originates from the porphyrin moieties.

The successful arrangement of porphyrin ligands in the octahedral arrangement around the hexarhenium(III) core makes further design of the supramolecular architecture

possible. The work to introduce porphyrins with more than two pyridyl moieties around the hexarhenium(III) core, as well as to bring various metal ions into the porphyrins in the present complexes, is underway.

## **Experimental Section**

UV/Vis absorption spectra were recorded on a Hitachi U3410 and U3000 spectrophotometer. Cyclic voltammetry was performed with a BAS-50W potentiostat and a software package. The working and counter electrodes were a glassy-carbon disk and a platinum wire, respectively. Cyclic voltammograms were recorded at a scan rate of  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . The reference electrode was Ag/AgCl against which the half-wave potential of ferrocene/ferrocunium ion (Fc/Fc+;  $E_{1/2}$ (Fc+ $^{+0}$ )) was 0.43 V.  $^{1}$ H NMR spectra were recorded at 22  $^{\circ}$ C on a JEOL JNM-EX270 NMR spectrometer.

1-(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: [Re<sub>6</sub>S<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>6</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>[41]</sup> (100 mg ; 5.58 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol) and H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P (218 mg, 3.35 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol) were heated under reflux in chlorobenzene (10 mL) for two days (the former was suspended in the solution), and then solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the solution was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column. After the elution of H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P with 0.4% CH<sub>3</sub>OH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the complex cation **1** was eluted with 3% CH<sub>3</sub>OH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The eluate was evaporated to dryness and the residue was dried in vacuo. Yield: 80 mg (26%); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>276</sub>H<sub>210</sub>N<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>8</sub>S<sub>8</sub>Re<sub>6</sub>: C 60.34, H 3.85, N 7.65; found: C 60.52, H 4.12, N 7.42; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  = -2.73 (s, 12H; NH); 2.68 (s, 36H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70 (s, 18H; CH<sub>3</sub>); 8.85 (s, 24H;  $\mu$ <sub>β</sub>), 9.00 (d, 12H;  $\mu$ <sub>β</sub>), 9.12 (d, 12H;  $\mu$ <sub>β</sub>); 8.09 (d, 36H;  $\rho$ -H); 7.54 (d, 36H; m-H); 10.47 (d, 12H; 2,6-H of py); 8.69 (d, 12H; 3,5-H of py).

**2-**(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: [Re<sub>6</sub>S<sub>8</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>6</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1-(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; 40 mg; 7.33 × 10<sup>-6</sup> mol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) and was added to Zn(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·2 H<sub>2</sub>O (9.7 mg; 4.40 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol) dissolved in minimum amount of CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The solution was heated under reflux for 1 h, and was evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through Celite. The complex was obtained by diffusing pentane to the solution. Yield: 36 mg (84%); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>276</sub>H<sub>198</sub>N<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>8</sub>S<sub>8</sub>Zn<sub>6</sub>Re<sub>6</sub>: C 56.43, H 3.40, N 7.15; found: C 56.39, H 3.61, N 7.09. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  = 2.68 (s, 36 H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70 (s, 18 H; CH<sub>3</sub>); 8.96 (s, 24 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.09 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.19 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>); 8.09 (d, 36 H; ο-H); 7.52 (d, 24 H; m-H), 7.55 (d, 12 H; m-H); 10.45 (d, 12 H; 2,6-H of py); 8.69 (d, 12 H; 3,5-H of py).

**3-**(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: [Re<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>6</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>[31]</sup> (100 mg; 4.61 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol) and H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P (180 mg, 2.77 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol) were heated under reflux in chlorobenzene (5 mL) for 20 h (the former was suspended in the solution), and then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the solution was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column. After the elution of unreacted H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P with 0.4% CH<sub>3</sub>OH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, **3** was eluted with 3% CH<sub>3</sub>OH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The eluate was evaporated and the residue was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/diethyl ether. The purple product was collected by filtration and washed with pentane and then dried in vacuo. Yield: 35 mg (12%); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>276</sub>H<sub>210</sub>N<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>8</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>Re<sub>6</sub>: C 56.48, H 3.61, N 7.16; found: C 56.59, H 3.87, N 7.03; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  = −2.74 (s, 12 H; NH); 2.68 (s, 36 H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70 (s, 18 H; CH<sub>3</sub>); 8.86 (s, 24 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.00 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.13 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>); 8.09 (d, 36 H; *o*-H); 7.54(d, 36 H; *m*-H); 10.72(d, 12 H; 2,6-H of py); 8.55(d, 12 H; 3,5-H of py).

3-(SbF $_6$ )2: This was prepared by using [Re $_6$ Se $_8$ (CH $_3$ CN) $_6$ ](SbF $_6$ )2 in place of [Re $_6$ Se $_8$ (CH $_3$ CN) $_6$ ](BF $_4$ )2. [42]

4-(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: [Re<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>PyT<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>6</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (3-(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; 100 mg;  $1.70 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) and was added to Zn(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·2 H<sub>2</sub>O (22 mg;  $1.02 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) dissolved in minimum amount of CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The solution was heated under reflux for 30 min, and was evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and filtered through Celite. The solid complex was obtained by diffusing pentane into the solution. Yield: 99 mg (93%); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>276</sub>H<sub>198</sub>N<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>8</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>Zn<sub>6</sub>Re<sub>6</sub>: C 53.04, H 3.19, N 6.72; found: C 52.76, H 3.35, N 6.59. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  = 2.67 (s, 36 H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.71 (s, 18 H; CH<sub>3</sub>); 8.96 (s, 24 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.09 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>), 9.21 (d, 12 H; H<sub>β</sub>); 8.09 (d,

36 H; o-H); 7.53 (d, 24 H; m-H), 7.55(d, 12 H; m-H); 10.71 (d, 12 H; 2,6-H of py); 8.57 (d, 12 H; 3,5-H of py). ESI-MS: m/z: 53 038  $[M-2(BF_4)]^{2+}$ .

 $(Bu_4N)_2$ -5,  $(Bu_4N)_2$ -6, and  $(Bu_4N)_2$ -7: The pyrazine (pz) complex,  $(Bu_4N)_2$ - $\{trans$ - $[Re_6S_8Cl_4(pz)_2]$  (20 mg, 0.0093 mmol),  $^{[13]}$  and  $[Ru(ttp)(CO)-(CH_3OH)]$  (15.4 mg, 0.00186 mmol) were dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL). The solution was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, toluene (4 mL) was then added, and was left for several days at room temperature to allow for evaporation. Purple crystals were obtained which were collected by filtration and washed with a mixture of  $CH_3CN$  and diethyl ether, and dried in vacuo. Yield of  $(Bu_4N)_2$ -5: 24 mg (69%). The  $\mu$ -4,4'-bipyridine analogues  $(Bu_4N)_2$ -6 and  $(Bu_4N)_2$ -7 were obtained similarly by using  $(Bu_4N)_2[trans$ - $[Re_6S_8Cl_4(4,4'$ -bipyridine)<sub>2</sub>] and  $(Bu_4N)_2[cis$ - $[Re_6S_8Cl_4(4,4'$ -bipyridine)<sub>2</sub>], respectively, in place of  $(Bu_4N)_2[trans$ - $[Re_6S_8Cl_4(pz)_2]$ .

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- [27] Diffusion of pentane into CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution of **3**-(SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> afforded thin fragile crystals, which were carefully mounted on a glass capillary and checked for singularity. Crystal data for **3**-(SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> · CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> · 1.6 C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub> (C<sub>285</sub>H<sub>2312</sub>N<sub>30</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>12</sub>Re<sub>6</sub>Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>):  $M_{\rm r}$  = 6367.67, triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$  (no. 2), a = 16.510(2), b = 24.023(5), c = 24.639(6) Å, a = 114.596(9),  $\beta$  = 103.752(3),  $\gamma$  = 97.584(4)°, V = 8330(2) ų, Z = 1;  $\rho_{\rm calcd}$  = 1.269 g cm<sup>-3</sup>; crystal dimensions  $0.25 \times 0.13 \times 0.05$  mm³;  $\mu$ (Mo<sub>Ka</sub>) =

 $3.27\,\mathrm{mm^{-1}}$ ;  $T = 98\,\mathrm{K}$ ,  $2\theta_{\mathrm{max}} = 54^{\circ}$ . Data were collected on a Mercury CCD area detector coupled with a Rigaku AFC-8S diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo<sub>Ka</sub> radiation (0.7107 Å) using CrystalClear (Rigaku Co.). Total reflections collected 30371. Data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. An empirical absorption correction was applied by using REQABA (min./max. transmission: 0.61/1.01). The structures were solved on a Silicon Graphics O2 computer system using teXsan, version 1.11 (Molecular Structure Co.). The initial position of rhenium atoms were determined by direct methods and other atoms were located using Fourier and difference Fourier techniques. Re, Sb, and Se atoms were refined anisotropically. Other non-hydrogen atoms were refined isotropically. With the exception of hydrogen atoms of crystal solvents, all hydrogen atoms were located at the calculated positions. One tolvl group was refined by using a rigid model. Full-matrix least-square refinement was employed against F. Final R and  $R_w$  values were 0.084 and 0.122 for 8842 observed reflections ( $I > 3.5\sigma(I)$ ) and 735 variable parameters. Max./min. residual electron density were 2.87/-1.60 e Å<sup>-3</sup>, both near Re atoms. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-170237. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44)1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.

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- [41]  $[Re_6S_8(CH_3CN)_6](BF_4)_2$  was prepared from  $(Bu_4N)_3[Re_6S_8I_6]$  in a manner similar to the  $\mu_3$ -Se analogue.<sup>[31]</sup>
- [42]  $[Re_6S_8(CH_3CN)_6](SbF_6)_2$  was prepared by the method used to prepare  $[Re_6Se_8(CH_3CN)_6](BF_4)_2^{[31]}$  but using  $AgSbF_6$  in place of  $AgBF_4$ .

## Photochemical Formation of Tire-Shaped Molybdenum Blues: Topology of a Defect Anion, [Mo<sub>142</sub>O<sub>432</sub>H<sub>28</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>58</sub>]<sup>12-\*\*</sup>

Toshihiro Yamase\* and Petra V. Prokop

UV irradiation (corresponding to the  $O \rightarrow Mo$  ligand-to-metal charge-transfer photoexcitation) of isopolyoxomolyb-dates in aqueous solutions containing electron donors (such as alkylammonium cations, alcohols, and aliphatic carboxylates) results in formation of high-nuclearity mixed-valence species as a result of reduction self-assembly processes based on the dehydrative condensation at  $[Mo^{\nu}O_{5}(OH)]$  sites produced photochemically in the polyoxomolybdate lattice:  $^{[1,\,2]}$   $[Mo_{7}O_{24}]^{6-}$  and  $\beta\text{-}[Mo_{8}O_{26}]^{4-}$ , which are dominant species at pH levels of 5.4 and 3.3 respectively, are converted into  $[Mo_{14}O_{46}]^{10-}$  ( $\{Mo_{14}\}\}=[(Mo^{\nu}Mo_{6}^{VI}O_{23})_{2}]^{10-}$  and  $[H_{14}\text{-}Mo_{37}O_{112}]^{12-}=\{[H_{10}Mo_{12}^{V}O_{40}(Mo^{VI}O_{2})_{3}][H_{2}Mo_{6}^{V}Mo_{5}^{VI}O_{33}]_{2}\}^{12-}$ , respectively.

In our extension of the solution photolysis of isopolyoxomolybdates to  $[Mo_{36}O_{112}(H_2O)_{16}]^{8-}$  ( $\{Mo_{36}\}$ ), which is the dominant species at pH 1-2 and higher-Mo concentrations  $(\geq 10^{-2} \text{ M})$ , we found the photochemical formation of a variety of car-tire-shaped giant molybdenum blues. These were also formed by thermal reduction<sup>[3-8]</sup> of Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub> with reducing agents such as iron, ascorbic acid, NH2OH·HCl, N2H4·  $H_2SO_4$ , and  $Na_2S_2O_4$  under strongly acidic conditions (pH  $\approx$ 1). The structure of {Mo<sub>36</sub>} consists of a centrosymmetric arrangement of two {Mo<sub>18</sub>} subunits, each of which is viewed as a Mo<sub>7</sub>O<sub>24</sub> group encircled by edge- and corner-shared MoO<sub>6</sub> octahedra (Figure 1).<sup>[9]</sup> We describe here a diamagnetic blue 28-electron reduced species ({Mo<sub>142</sub>} 1a) produced photochemically through the degradative self-assembly of {Mo<sub>36</sub>} and discuss size and shape for the ring clusters derived from {Mo<sub>36</sub>} on the basis of the successive two-electron reduction dehydrative - condensation processes similar to the reductive dimerization of [Mo<sub>7</sub>O<sub>24</sub>]<sup>6-</sup> to {Mo<sub>14</sub>}.<sup>[1]</sup>

 $[Mo_{28}^VMo_{114}^{VI}O_{432}H_{28}(H_2O)_{58}]^{12-} \qquad \textbf{1a}$ 

The title anion (Figure 2 a) has been isolated as [NH $_3iPr$ ]<sup>+</sup> salt  $\mathbf{1}^{[10-12]}$  the structure of which is quite similar to that reported for Na $_{26}$ [Mo $_{28}^{V}$ Mo $_{114}^{VI}$ O $_{432}$ H $_{14}$ (H $_2$ O) $_{58}$ ]·ca. 300 H $_2$ O thermally produced in the Na $_2$ MoO $_4$ ·2 H $_2$ O/Na $_2$ SO $_4$ /N $_2$ H $_4$ · H $_3$ SO $_4$ /H $_2$ SO $_4$  system.<sup>[4]</sup>

 $[NH_3iPr]_{10}H_2[Mo_{28}^VMo_{114}^{VI}O_{404}(OH)_{28}(H_2O)_{58}]\cdot 90\,H_2O\quad \textbf{1}$ 

<sup>[\*]</sup> Prof. Dr. T. Yamase, Dr. P. V. Prokop Chemical Resources Laboratory Tokyo Institute of Technology 4259 Nagatsuta, Midori-ku Yokohama 226-8503 (Japan) Fax: (+81)45-924-5260 E-mail: tyamase@res.titech.ac.jp

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