## **Supporting Information for**

# Assembly and Properties of Heterobimetallic Co $^{\rm II/III}/Ca^{\rm II}$ Complexes with Aquo and Hydroxo Ligands

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### Crystallography

*General Methods.* Data collections were performed on a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer. The APEX2<sup>1</sup> program package was used to determine the unit-cell parameters and for data collection (25 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data unless otherwise stated). The raw frame data were processed using SAINT<sup>2</sup> and SADABS<sup>3</sup> to yield the reflection data files. Subsequent calculations were carried out using the SHELXTL<sup>4</sup> program. The analytical scattering factors<sup>5</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analyses. The structures were solved by direct methods and refined on F<sup>2</sup> by full-matrix least-squares techniques.

Structure of  $Me_4N[Co^{II}MST]$ . A blue crystal of approximate dimensions 0.09 x 0.22 x 0.37 mm was mounted on a glass fiber. The diffraction symmetry was 2/m and the systematic absences were consistent with the monoclinic space group  $P2_1/n$  that was later determined to be correct. Hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. At convergence, wR2 = 0.0886 and Goof = 1.035 for 482 variables refined against 10021 data (0.74Å), R1 = 0.0335 for those 8583 data with I > 2.0 $\sigma$ (I).

Structure of  $Me_4N[Co^{II}MST(OH_2)]$ . A purple crystal of approximate dimensions 0.04 x 0.19 x 0.47 mm was mounted on a glass fiber (30 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). The diffraction symmetry was 2/m and the systematic absences were consistent with the monoclinic space groups Cc and C2/c. It was later determined that space group C2/c was correct.. Hydrogen atoms H(1) and H(2) were located from a difference-Fourier map and refined (x,y,z and U<sub>iso</sub>). The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. Carbon atoms C(35)-C(37) were disordered and included using multiple components with partial site-occupancy-factors. Carbon atom C(34) was refined as two components with identical constrained coordinates and thermal parameters (EXYZ and EADP)<sup>4</sup>. At convergence, wR2 = 0.0853 and Goof = 1.028 for 531 variables refined against 9573 data (0.74Å), R1 = 0.0328 for those 8063 data with I > 2.0\sigma(I).

Structure of  $[Co^{II}MST(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II} \subset 15 crown5 - (OH_2)]OTf$ . A pink crystal of approximate dimensions 0.12 x 0.17 x 0.47 mm was mounted on a glass fiber (20 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). There were no systematic absences or any diffraction symmetry other than the Friedel condition. The centrosymmetric triclinic space group *P*-1 was assigned and later determined to be correct. Hydrogen atoms H(1), H(2), H(13C) and H(13D) were located from a difference-Fourier map and refined (x,y,z and U<sub>iso</sub>) with d(O-H) = 0.85Å. The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. Least-squares analysis yielded wR2 = 0.1387 and Goof = 1.080 for 683 variables (4 restraints) refined against 13265 data (0.74Å), R1 = 0.0461 for those 11313 data with I > 2.0 $\sigma$ (I). There were several high residuals present in the final difference-Fourier map. It was not possible to determine the nature of the residuals although it is probable that dichloromethane solvent was present. The SQUEEZE routine in the PLATON<sup>6</sup> program package was used to account for the electrons in the solvent accessible voids.

Structure of  $[Co^{III}MST(\mu-OH)Ca \subset 15 crown5]OTf \cdot DCM$ . A brown crystal of approximate dimensions 0.09 x 0.24 x 0.34 mm was mounted on a glass fiber. There were no systematic absences or any diffraction symmetry other than the Friedel condition. The centrosymmetric triclinic space group *P*-1 was assigned and later determined to be correct. Hydrogen atoms were either located from a difference-Fourier map and refined (x,y,z and U<sub>iso</sub>) or were included using a riding model (mixed refinement). There was one molecule of dichloromethane solvent persent. At convergence, wR2 = 0.0996 and Goof = 1.035 for 937 variables refined against 13276 data (0.74Å), R1 = 0.0346 for those 11430 data with I > 2.00(I).

*Structure of*  $[Co^{III}MST(OH2)]$ •*DCM*. An orange crystal of approximate dimensions 0.04 x 0.10 x 0.29 mm was mounted on a glass fiber (60 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). There were no systematic absences nor any diffraction symmetry other than the Friedel condition. The centrosymmetric triclinic space group *P*-1 was assigned and later determined to be correct. Hydrogen atoms H(1) and H(2) were located from a difference-Fourier map and refined (x,y,z and

U<sub>iso</sub>). The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. There was one molecule of dichloromethane solvent present. At convergence, wR2 = 0.0894 and Goof = 1.016 for 477 variables refined against 9099 data (0.75Å), R1 = 0.0382 for those 6795 data with I >  $2.0\sigma(I)$ .

	Me <sub>4</sub> N[Co <sup>11</sup> MST]	Me <sub>4</sub> N[Co <sup>II</sup>	[Co <sup>11</sup> (μ-	[Co <sup>III</sup> MST(OH <sub>2</sub> )]	[Co <sup>III</sup> (μ-
		$MST(OH_2)]$	OH <sub>2</sub> )Ca <sup>11</sup> OH <sub>2</sub> ]OTf	$\bullet CH_2Cl_2$	OH)Ca <sup>II</sup> ]OTf•CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
formula	C37H57CoN5O6S3	C37H59CoN5O7S3	C44H69CaCoF3N4O16S4	$C_{33}H_{47}CoN_4O_7S_3{\scriptstyle \bullet }CH_2Cl_2$	$C_{45}H_{68}CaCl_2CoF_3N_4O_{15}S_4$
FW	822.99	841.00	1194.28	851.78	1260.18
T (K)	88(2)	143(2)	88(2)	88(2)	88(2)
crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic
space group	$P2_1/n$	C2/c	P-1	P-1	P-1
a (Å)	21.1381(8)	26.5997(15)	9.4438(4)	7.6668(4)	11.2366(6)
b (Å)	9.0319(3)	9.6741(5)	17.4810(7)	14.8717(8)	15.2439(7)
c (Å)	21.2593(8)	31.4984(18)	17.5309(7)	17.4049(9)	17.5369(9)
α (deg)	90	90	73.4591(4)	92.5600(7)	71.8050(6)
β (deg)	95.0347(4)	90.3563(6)	88.5336(4)	96.5047(7)	84.3928(6)
γ (deg)	90	90	85.2907(5)	101.7540(7)	77.3591(6)
Z	4	8	2	2	2
V (Å3)	4043.1(3)	8105.3(8)	2765.0(2)	1925.67(18)	2783.1(2)
d <sub>calcd</sub> (Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.352	1.378	1.434	1.469	1.504
Indep. Reflections	10021	9573	13265	9099	13276
R1	0.0335	0.0328	0.0461	0.0382	0.0346
wR2	0.084	0.0803	0.1336	0.0799	0.0945
GOF	1.035	1.028	1.08	1.016	1.035

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for the Co-MST complexes.



**Figure S1**. (A) UV-vis spectrum of  $[Co^{II}MST]^-$  (blue) and after the addition of 1 equiv  $Ca(OTf)_2/15$ -crown-5 (dotted grey). (B) UV-vis spectrum of  $[Co^{II}MST(OH_2)]^-$  (black) and  $[Co^{II}(\mu - OH_2)Ca^{II}OH_2]^+$  (grey). Conditions: ~10 mM, DCM, 1 cm path length cell.



**Figure S2**. (A) The titration of a mixture of 0.5 mM  $[Co^{II}MST]^{-}$  (DCM) and 1 equiv Ca(OTf)<sub>2</sub>/15crown-5 (black) with water was followed by UV-vis spectroscopy in a 1 cm cuvette. The light grey lines correspond to 0.33, 0.50, 0.66, and 1.00 (dark grey) and up to 1000 equiv (dashed black line) of water. (B) FTIR spectra of the vOH region for Me<sub>4</sub>N[Co<sup>II</sup>MST] (blue), Me<sub>4</sub>N[Co<sup>II</sup>MST(OH<sub>2</sub>)]•2H<sub>2</sub>O (black) and  $[Co^{II}(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II}OH_2]OTf$  (grey).



**Figure S3**. Cyclic voltammograms of [Co<sup>II</sup>MST]<sup>-</sup> (solid blue) and after the addition of 1 equiv Ca(OTf)<sub>2</sub>/15-crown-5 (dashed grey). Cobaltocenium (\*) was used as an internal reference. Scan rate 0.1 V/s; solvent, DCM; electrolyte, 100mM TBAP; analyte, 1mM complex at rt; working electrode, glassy carbon; reference electrode, silver wire; counter electrode, platinum wire.



**Figure S4**. EPR spectra (black) and simulations (dashed red) of  $[Co^{II}MST]^-(A)$ , simulation parameters: D = 2, E/D = 0.010,  $g_x = 2.247$ ,  $g_y = 2.210$ ,  $g_z = 2.004$ ,  $A_z = 96 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $[Co^{II}MST]^-$ + Ca(OTf)<sub>2</sub>/15-crown-5 (B), simulation parameters: D = 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, E/D = 0.049,  $g_x = 2.230$ ,  $g_y = 2.252$ ,  $g_z = 2.000$ ,  $A_z = 94 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $[Co^{II}MST(OH_2)]^-$  (C), simulation parameters: D = 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, E/D = 0.0236,  $g_x = 2.315$ ,  $g_y = 2.157$ ,  $g_z = 2.0437$ ,  $A_z = 90 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $[Co^{II}(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II}OH_2]^+$  (D), simulation parameters: D = 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, E/D = 0.030,  $g_x = 2.248$ ,  $g_y = 2.210$ ,  $g_z = 2.0252$ ,  $A_z = 98 \times 10^{-4}$ cm<sup>-1</sup>. All samples were prepared to be 6mM in concentration in DCM and recorded at 10K with the following experimental parameters: frequency 9.64 GHz, power 0.20 mW, modulation amplitude 9.02 G, time constant 20.48 s, conversion time 40.96 s. Inset show zoomed in view of the hyperfine structure and simulation.



**Figure S5**. UV-vis spectra of  $[Co^{III}H_3buea(OH)]^-$  (dashed black, DMA, 0.2 M, rt),  $[Co^{III}MST(OH_2)]$  (solid black, DCM, 0.2 M), and  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]^+$  (solid grey, DCM, 0.2 M). The  $[Co^{III}H_3buea(OH)]^-$  complex was synthesized using literature procedures.<sup>7</sup>.



**Figure S6**. Thermal ellipsoid diagram depicting the molecular structure of  $[Co^{III}MST(OH_2)]$ . The thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and only the hydrogen atoms of the aquo ligand are shown for clarity.



**Figure S7**. FTIR spectrum of a KBr pellet of  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]OTf$  showing the strong v(OH) at 3430 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S8**. UV-vis spectrum of  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]^+$  before (black) and 22 min after the addition of DPH (grey): the inset is a zoomed in view of the grey line (azobenzene (\*)). Conditions: A solution of  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]^+$  (4 mL, 400  $\mu$ M) was treated with a DCM solution of DPH (80  $\mu$ L, 0.29 M, ~10-20 equiv) and allowed to react in a 1 cm cuvette at 20 °C. The yield of azobenzene was 70% (based on unreacted DPH) determined by performing the experiment with  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]^+$  (1 mL, 5 mM) and DPH (9.2 mg, 0.05 mmol) in DCM- $d_2$  with toluene as an internal standard.



**Figure S9.** (A) EPR spectrum of  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH)Ca^{II}]^+$  before and after treatment with 10 equiv DPH (black). The product of the reaction was simulated (dashed red) using the same parameters used to simulate  $[Co^{II}(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II}OH_2]^+$  (Figure S4D). (B) For comparison, the EPR spectra of  $[Co^{II}(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II}OH_2]^+$  (grey) is overlaid with the product of the reaction between  $[Co^{III}(\mu-OH_2)Ca^{II}]^+$  and DPH (black). Experimental conditions are the same as used in Figure S4. Inset show a zoomed in view of the g = 2 region.

#### References

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