## Electronic Supplementary Information For:

# Optical, Third Order Non-Linear Optical and Electrochemical Properties of Dipolar, Centrosymmetric and $\mathrm{C}_{2 \mathrm{v}}$ Organoimido Polyoxometalate Derivatives 

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## 1. Syntheses

Synthesis of ( $\left.\mathbf{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathbf{N}\right)_{4}\left[\mathbf{1 , 4}-\left(\mathbf{M o}_{6} \mathbf{O}_{\mathbf{1 8}} \mathbf{N}\right)_{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{C}_{6} \mathbf{H}_{4}\right]$ (4). A mixture of DCC (1,3-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide) $(0.52 \mathrm{~g}, 2.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, 1,4 -phenylenediamine $(0.11 \mathrm{~g}, 1 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\left(\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{19}\right](3.3 \mathrm{~g}, 2.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in DMSO ( 15 mL ). This was stirred and heated to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 hours. The solution was filtered into diethyl ether ( 50 mL ), producing an oily precipitate. This was washed with several portions of diethyl ether, producing a hard dark red solid. Recrystallization from hot acetonitrile afforded $\mathbf{3}$ as an orange-brown solid ( 1.135 g , mmol, $41 \%$ ). NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 7.14$ (s, $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ArH}-$ ortho/meta) 3.10 ( $p \mathrm{t}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.61 (quin, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.36 (sex, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 0.97 (t, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 48 \mathrm{H}$ ). $\delta_{\mathrm{c}}\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}\right)$; 117.89, $58.92,23.94,19.94,13.42,0.90$. Anal. Calcd (found) \% for $\mathrm{C}_{70} \mathrm{H}_{144} \mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{36}$ : C, 30.06 (29.95); $\mathrm{H}, 5.19$ (5.37); $\mathrm{N}, 3.00$ (3.11). $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}=691.3$ $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{36} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}\left(\mathrm{Bu} \mathrm{N}_{4}\right)\right]^{3-}$. FTIR (ATR)/cm ${ }^{-1} ; 975(\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{N}), 946(\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{O})$. UV-Vis (MeCN) $\lambda$, nm ( $\varepsilon$, $\left.\mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right): 272\left(84.6 \times 10^{3}\right), 425\left(69 \times 10^{3}\right)$.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathbf{N}\right)_{4}\left[\mathbf{1 , 4}-\left(\mathbf{M o}_{6} \mathbf{O}_{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{N}\right)_{2}\left(\mathbf{C}_{6} \mathbf{M e}_{4}\right)\right]$ (5) A mixture of DCC $(0.52 \mathrm{~g}, 2.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, $N, N, N^{\prime}, N^{\prime}$-Tetramethyl-p-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride ( $0.164 \mathrm{~g}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and ( $\left.\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{19}\right]$ ( $3.3 \mathrm{~g}, 2.4 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in DMSO ( 15 mL ). This was then stirred and heated slowly to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and left to reflux for 12 hours under argon gas. The solution was filtered into diethyl ether ( 50 mL ). The oily product was then washed again to remove 1,3-dicyclohexylurea (DCU) and other insoluble materials, further drying under vacuum and washings were necessary to get a solid product. This left a hard dark red solid which was recrystallized in hot acetone and left at room temperature for a few days to afford a dark brown solid ( $0.817 \mathrm{~g}, 0.286 \mathrm{mmol}, 35.8 \%$ ) NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD} 3 \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 3.10$ ( $p \mathrm{t}, J$ $=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 2.45 (s, 12H, ArMe-ortho/meta), 1.61 (quin, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.36 (sex, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 32 H ), $0.97(\mathrm{t}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 48 \mathrm{H})$. Anal. Calcd (found) $\%$ for $\mathrm{C}_{74} \mathrm{H}_{156} \mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{36}: \mathrm{C}, 31.10$ (31.24); H, 5.50 (5.62); N, 2.94 (3.05). $m / z=472.2\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{36} \mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right]^{4}$, $709.7\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{36} \mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{48} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right]^{3-}$, 1185.7 $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{36} \mathrm{C}_{42} \mathrm{H}_{84} \mathrm{~N}_{4}\right]^{-}$. FTIR (ATR)/cm ${ }^{-1}$; 945 (Mo-O), $972(\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{N})$. UV-Vis (MeCN) $\lambda(\varepsilon): 440(61.7 \times$ $10^{3}$ ), $214\left(75.7 \times 10^{3}\right)$.

Synthesis of ( $\left.\mathbf{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathbf{N}\right)_{4}\left[\mathbf{1 , 3 -}\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathbf{O}_{18} \mathbf{N}\right)_{2}\left(\mathbf{C}_{6} \mathbf{H}_{4}\right)\right]$ (6). A mixture of DCC ( $\left.0.52 \mathrm{~g}, 2.5 \mathrm{mmol}\right), 1,3-$ phenylenediamine $(0.11 \mathrm{~g}, 1 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\left(\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{19}\right](3.3 \mathrm{~g}, 2.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in DMSO $(15 \mathrm{~mL})$. This was then stirred and heated slowly at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 17 hours. The solution was filtered into diethyl ether ( 50 mL ), producing an oily precipitate. This was triturated several times with diethyl ether and dried in vacuo between washings, until a hard dark red solid was obtained. Recrystallization from hot acetone afforded $\mathbf{4}$ as an orange-brown solid ( $1.914 \mathrm{~g}, 0.68 \mathrm{mmol}, 68 \%$ ) NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 7.44(\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, ArH-meta), 7.15 (dd, 2H, ArH-ortho), 6.92 (s, 1 H, ArH-para) 3.10 ( $p \mathrm{t}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.61 (quin, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.36 (sex, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 0.97 (t, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 48 \mathrm{H}$ ). $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}(125 \mathrm{MHz}$, $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ ); 118.06, 58.92, 24.01, 19.97, 13.47, 0.896. Anal. Calcd (found) \% for $\mathrm{C}_{70} \mathrm{H}_{144} \mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{36}: \mathrm{C}$, 30.06 (30.07); H, 5.19 (5.21); N, 3.00 (3.06). $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}=691.7\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{36} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}\left(\mathrm{Bu} \mathrm{B}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)\right]^{3-}$. FTIR (ATR)/cm ${ }^{-}$ ${ }^{1} ; 976(\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{N}), 945(\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{O})$. UV-Vis $(\mathrm{MeCN}) \lambda, \mathrm{nm}\left(\varepsilon, \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right): 258\left(81.6 \times 10^{3}\right), 348\left(55.5 \times 10^{3}\right)$.

Synthesis of $\left(\mathbf{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{\mathbf{4}} \mathbf{N}\right)_{\mathbf{4}}\left[\mathbf{1 , 3 -}\left(\mathbf{M o}_{\mathbf{6}} \mathbf{O}_{\mathbf{1 8}}\right)_{\mathbf{2}}\left(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{6}} \mathbf{H M e} \mathbf{H}_{3}\right)\right]$ (7). A mixture of DCC $(0.52 \mathrm{~g}, 2.5 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,4,6-$ trimethyl-m-phenylenediamine $(0.152 \mathrm{~g}, 1 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\left(\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{19}\right](3.3 \mathrm{~g}, 2.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in DMSO ( 15 mL ). This was then stirred and heated slowley to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and left to reflux for 12 hours under argon gas. The solution was filtered into diethyl ether ( 50 mL ). The oily product was then washed again to remove DCU and other insoluble materials, further drying under vacuum and washings were necessary to get a solid product. This left a hard dark red solid which was recrystallized in hot acetonitrile. Further addition of diethyl ether was required to recrystallize afford an orange solid $(1.156 \mathrm{~g}, 0.407 \mathrm{mmol}, 40.7 \%)$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD} 3 \mathrm{CN}$ ): $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 6.92$ ( $\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ArH}-\mathrm{meta}$ ), 3.10 ( $p \mathrm{t}, J=8.6$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}), 2.93$ ( $\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, ArMe-o ortho/para), 2.63 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, ArMe-ortho), 1.62 (quin, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), 1.37 (sex, $J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 32 \mathrm{H}$ ), $0.96\left(\mathrm{t}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 48 \mathrm{H}\right.$ ). Anal. Calcd (found) $\%$ for $\mathrm{C}_{73} \mathrm{H}_{154} \mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{36}$ : C, 30.83 (30.95); H, 5.46 (5.57); N, 2.96 (3.03). FTIR (ATR)/cm ${ }^{-1}$; 947 (Mo-O), 974 (Mo-N). UV-Vis $(\mathrm{MeCN}) \lambda(\varepsilon): 361\left(49.1 \times 10^{3}\right), 257\left(68.0 \times 10^{3}\right)$.

## 2. X-ray Crystallographic Details

Table S1 X-ray Crystallographic Data and Refinement Details for $\mathbf{4} \cdot \mathbf{2 M e C N}$

| Formula | $\mathrm{C}_{74} \mathrm{H}_{154} \mathrm{Mo}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{36}$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| $M$ | 2883.32 |
| cryst syst | Triclinic |
| space group | $P-1$ |
| $a / \AA$ | $11.5075(4)$ |
| $b / \AA$ | $12.0506(6)$ |
| $c / \AA$ | $19.3113(10)$ |
| $\alpha /$ deg | $76.208(5)$ |
| $\beta / \mathrm{deg}$ | $84.833(4)$ |
| $\gamma /$ deg | $85.902(3)$ |
| $U / \AA^{3}$ | $2586.7(2)$ |
| $Z$ | 1 |
| $T / \mathrm{K}$ | $140(2)$ |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ | 1.480 |
| Cryst. size $/ \mathrm{mm}$ | $0.20 \times 0.20 \times 0.05$ |
| Cryst. description | Orange plate |
| $\lambda / \AA$ | 0.71073 |
| No. reflns collected | 22102 |
| No. of indep. reflns $\left(R_{\text {int }}\right)$ | $11733[\mathrm{R}($ int $)=0.1114]$ |
| $\theta_{\text {max }}$ meg (completeness $)$ | $25.00(98.8 \%)$ |
| Reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$ | 4619 |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^{2}$ | 0.966 |
| final $R_{1}, w R_{2}[I>2 \sigma(I)]^{a}$ | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0877$, wR2 $=0.1432$ |
| (all data) | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.2043$, wR2 $=0.1946$ |
| Peak and hole/e $\AA^{-3}$ | 1.832 and -1.273 |



Figure S1 The asymmetric unit of $\mathbf{4} \cdot \mathbf{2} \mathrm{MeCN}$. Thermal ellipsoids are at the $30 \%$ probability level. Mo atoms are coloured purple; C, grey; O, red; N, blue; H atoms are represented by green circles of arbitrary radii.

## 3. Additional Electronic Absorption Spectra



Figure S2 UV-vis absorption spectra of dipolar hexamolybdate derivatives $\mathbf{1}$ to $\mathbf{3}$.



Figure S3 Top: Declines in UV-vis absorbance over time for compounds 4 and 5, monitored over 10 hours after adding a single drop of water to a 3 mL UV-vis cuvette. Bottom: Evolution of the underlying spectra over 10 hours after addition of water. The concentrations of $\mathbf{4}$ and 5 are $c a .10^{-5} \mathrm{M}$.

## 4. Cyclic Voltammograms and Deconvolution of Differential Pulsed Voltammetry



Figure S4 Cyclic voltammograms of 5 and $\mathbf{7}$ recorded at $100 \mathrm{mV} \mathrm{s}^{-1}$ in 0.1 M [NBu4][BF4] in acetonitrile. The small peaks close to -0.4 V are from $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{19}\right]^{2-}$ impurities.


Figure S5 Deconvolution of the differential pulsed voltammogram of 4.


Figure S6 Deconvolution of the differential pulsed voltammogram of 5


Figure S7 Deconvolution of the differential pulsed voltammogram of $\mathbf{6}$


Figure S8 Deconvolution of the differential pulsed voltammogram of 7

## 3. Z-Scan Data



Figure S9 Z-scan data curves (circles) and fits (solid lines) for dipolar compounds $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ (left) and corresponding plots of power versus change in transmittance (right). The non-linear absorbance of compound $\mathbf{1}$ was too weak to measure accurately.


Figure S10 Z-scan data curves (circles) and fits (solid lines) for centrosymmetric compounds $\mathbf{4}$ to $\mathbf{7}$.

## 4. Additional Computational Data

Table S2: Effects of the exchange-correlation functional and basis set on selected equilibrium bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ of compound 4 . Calculations were performed in the gas phase.

| Functional /Basis set | Mo-N-C | Mo-N | N-C | Mo-O $_{\mathbf{c}}{ }^{a}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BP86/6-31G/SSD | 180 | 1.78 | 1.37 | 2.27 |
| $\mu \mathrm{~B} 97 \mathrm{XD} / 6-31 \mathrm{G} /$ SDD | 180 | 1.73 | 1.38 | 2.26 |
| BP86/def2TZVP | 180 | 1.77 | 1.36 | 2.23 |
| BP86/6-31G/LanL2DZ | 180 | 1.79 | 1.37 | 2.26 |
| $\omega$ B97XD/6-311+G(d,p)/LanL2DZ | 172 | 1.73 | 1.37 | 2.23 |
| $\omega$ ©B97XD/6-311+G(d,p) /LanL2TZ | 174.6 | 1.73 | 1.37 | 2.24 |
| Exp. | 160.8 | 1.714 | 1.43 | 2.21 |

## ${ }^{a}$ Central oxygen

Table S3. Selected, calculated geometric parameters for $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ at the $\omega$ B97XD/6-311+G(d,p) /LanL2DZ level of theory.

| Compound | $\mathbf{M o} \equiv \mathbf{N}-\mathbf{C}$ | $\mathbf{M o - N}$ | $\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{C}$ | $\mathbf{M o - O}_{\mathbf{c}}{ }^{a}$ | $\mathbf{M o = O}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | 154.2 | 1.76 | 1.36 | 2.18 | 1.69 |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 158.7 | 1.79 | 1.34 | 2.19 | 1.71 |

${ }^{a}$ Central oxygen

(2)
(3)


Figure S11: Calculated geometries of 2 and $\mathbf{3}$ at the $\omega$ B97XD/6-311+G(d,p) /LanL2DZ level of theory.

Table S4: Electronic transitions of $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ calculated at the the $\omega$ B97XD/6-311+G(d,p)/LanL2DZ level of theory.

| Compound | Experimental |  | Calculated |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\lambda_{\text {max }} /$ <br> nm | $E_{\text {max }} / \mathrm{eV}$ | $\lambda_{\text {max }} /$ nm | $\underset{\mathrm{eV}}{E_{\max }}$ | $f_{\text {os }}$ | Transition | $\begin{gathered} \text { Contr. } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| 2 | 414 | 2.98 | 444$363$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.789 \\ & 3.420 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.101 \\ & 2.055 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+1 } \\ \text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+6 } \\ \text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+7 } \\ \text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+10 } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 \\ 13 \\ 6 \\ 13 \end{gathered}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { HOMO-1 } \rightarrow \text { LUMO } \\ & \text { HOMO-2 } \rightarrow \text { LUMO } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \\ & 11 \end{aligned}$ |
| 3 | 385 | 3.20 | 382 | 3.25 | 1.889 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO | 80 |









Figure S12. Solvent phase frontier orbitals involved in the significant UV-vis transitions of 2.


Figure S13. Solvent phase frontier orbitals involved in the significant UV-vis transitions of $\mathbf{3}$.


Figure S14. Solvent phase frontier orbitals involved in the significant UV-vis transitions of 5.





Figure S15. Solvent phase frontier orbitals involved in the significant UV-vis transitions of 7.

Table S5. Experimental and Calculated Electronic Transitions of Compounds 7 at the $\omega$ B97X-D and CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)/LanL2DZ level of theory.

|  |  | $\omega \mathrm{B}$ | X-D |  |  |  | -B3LYP |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Exp. } \\ \lambda_{\max } / \mathrm{nm} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} E_{\max } / \\ \mathrm{eV} \end{gathered}$ | $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ <br> nm | $\begin{gathered} E_{\max } / \\ \mathrm{eV} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \lambda_{\max } / \\ \mathrm{nm} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $f_{\text {os }}$ | Transition | Contr. |
| 7 | 361 | 3.3826 | 366.54 | 3.2725 | 378.86 | 1.2952 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 | 0.12132 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6 | 0.30076 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+9 | 0.20317 |
|  |  | 3.4230 | 362.21 | 3.3276 | 372.60 | 0.1104 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO | 0.13772 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3 | 0.12925 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+7 | 0.31049 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+16 | 0.24494 |

