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## Supporting information for

## Structural analysis and catalytic activity of tetranuclear metal carboxylate clusters with $[KZn_3(\mu_3-OH)(OOCCPh_3)_6]$ or $[Zn_4(\mu_4-O)(OOCCPh_3)_6]$ central motif

Rafał Petrus<sup>\*a</sup>, Józef Utko<sup>b</sup>, Piotr Sobota<sup>\*c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Chemistry, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, 23 Smoluchowskiego, 50-370

Wrocław, Poland

<sup>b</sup>Faculty of Chemistry, University of Wrocław, 14 F. Joliot-Curie, 50-383 Wrocław, Poland

<sup>c</sup> Łukasiewicz Research Network – PORT Polish Center For Technology Development, 147 Stablowicka, 54-066 Wrocław, Poland

Corresponding author:

Dr. Rafał Petrus, rafal.petrus@pwr.edu.pl

Prof. Dr. Piotr Sobota, piotr.sobota@port.org.pl

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## Crystallographic Data for Compounds 1-3.

Crystal	$1 \cdot 4 CH_3 CN \cdot 0.2C_6 H_{14}$	<b>1</b> · <b>2</b> ·3.58CH <sub>3</sub> CN·0.21C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>	3·5CH <sub>3</sub> CN
Chemical formula	C <sub>131.2</sub> H <sub>108.8</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>13</sub> Zn <sub>3</sub> K	$C_{130.42}H_{107.6}N_{4.58}O_{13}Zn_{3.08}K_{0.92}$	$C_{124}H_{96}N_2O_{13}Zn_4$
Formula Mass	2198.71	2184.33	2288.86
Crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic
Space group	Pī	Pī	Pī
a/Å	14.302(4)	14.301(4)	13.610 (3)
b/Å	15.362(5)	15.348 (4)	15.338 (4)
c/Å	27.872 (9)	27.869 (8)	29.649 (8)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	74.68 (3)	74.64 (3)	92.10 (3)
$\beta^{\circ}$	84.79 (3)	84.79 (3)	97.87 (3)
$\gamma^{\prime}$ °	66.28 (3)	66.31 (3)	112.25 (3)
Unit cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	5406 (3)	5401 (3)	5648(3)
Temperature/K	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)
Ζ	2	2	2
Radiation type	ΜοΚα	ΜοΚα	ΜοΚα
Absorption coefficient, $\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.767	0.781	0.907
No. of reflections measured	60695	71595	49124
No. of independent reflections	27833	23571	24365
No. of observed reflections $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	22907	19892	14784
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0282	0.0297	0.0525
Final $R_I$ values $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	0.0393	0.0404	0.0539
Final $wR(F^2)$ values $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	0.1134	0.1046	0.1167
Final $R_1$ values (all data)	0.0476	0.0515	0.0998
Final $wR(F^2)$ values (all data)	0.1166	0.1112	0.1279
Goodness of fit on $F^2$	1.104	1.037	0.927
Δρmax/eÅ <sup>-3</sup>	1.03	1.55	0.72
Δpmin/eÅ <sup>-3</sup>	-0.75	-1.03	-0.82

 Table S1. Crystal and data collection parameters for compounds 1-3.



**Figure S1.** Molecular structures of  $[KZn_3(\mu_3-OH)(Ph_3CCOO)_6(MeCN)]_{0.92} \cdot [Zn_4(\mu_4-O)(Ph_3CCOO)_6(MeCN)_2]_{0.08} \cdot 3.58MeCN \cdot 0.21C_6H_{14}$ ,  $(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3.58MeCN \cdot 0.21C_6H_{14})$ . Hydrogen atoms and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.







Figure S3. FTIR-ATR spectra of 1.2.



Figure S4. FTIR-ATR spectra of 3.



**Figure S5.** Comparison of PXRD patterns of **3** measured at 25 °C for the ground crystals (a), crystals without grounding and crystalline precipitate isolated from the reaction (c).



Figure S6. Comparison of PXRD patterns of 1 and 3 together with patterns of crystalline materials obtained by the heating of 1 for 24h in  $CH_3CN$  solution (pink), and reaction of 3 with  $Ph_3CCOOK$  (violet) or KOH (black).