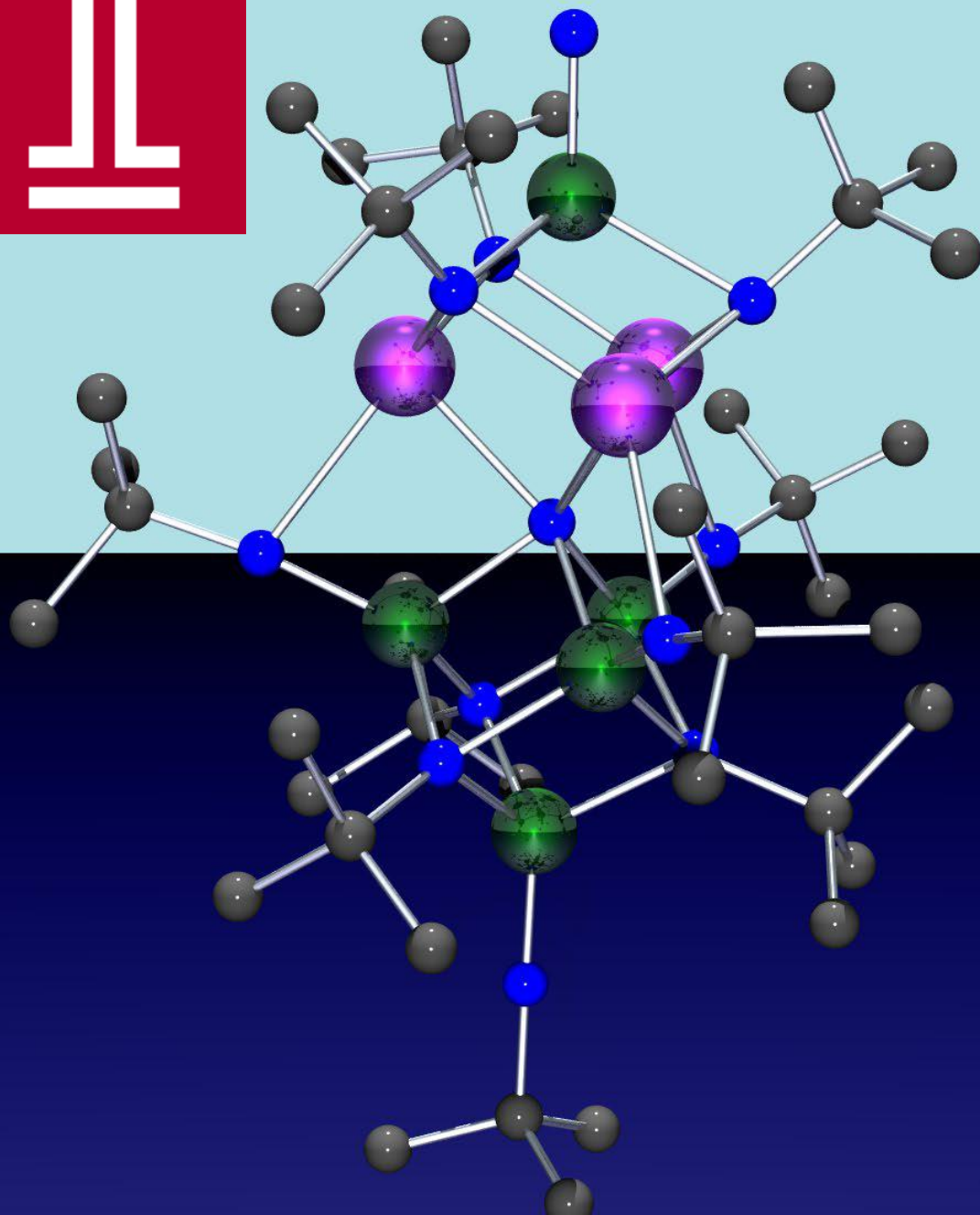
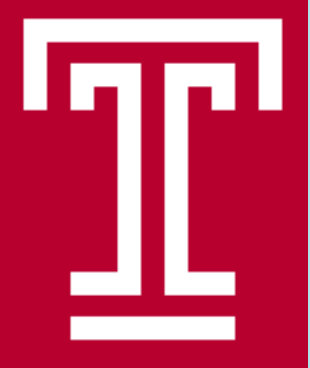


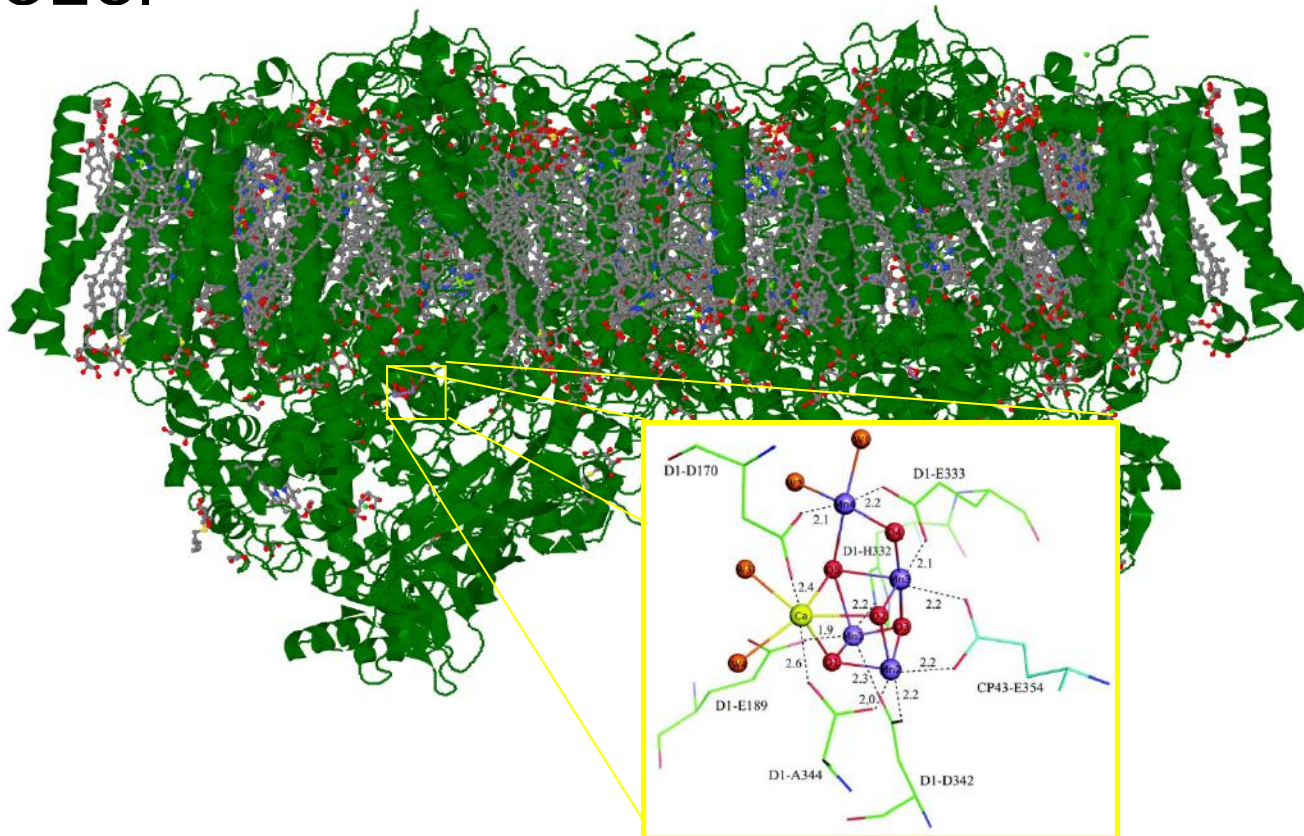


Geometrically flexible
synthetic manganese-oxygen
and manganese-nitrogen
cubane clusters as reactive
biomimics of the oxygen
evolving complex of
photosystem II

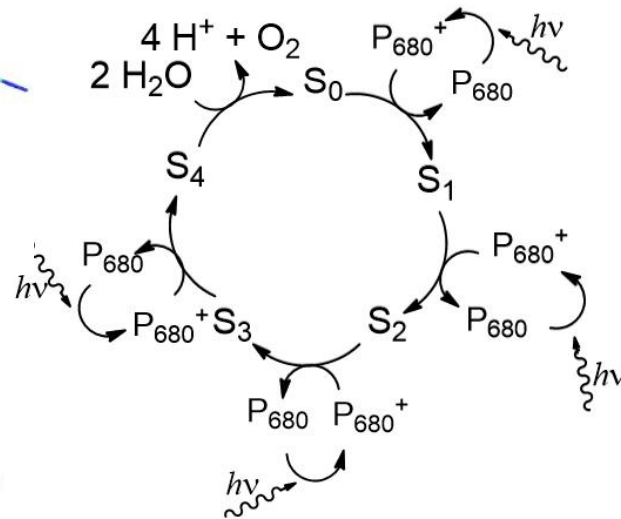
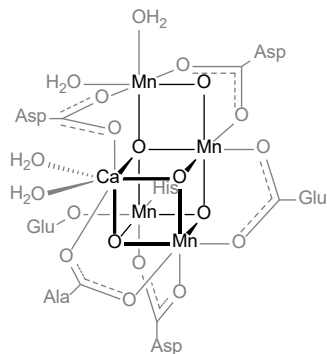
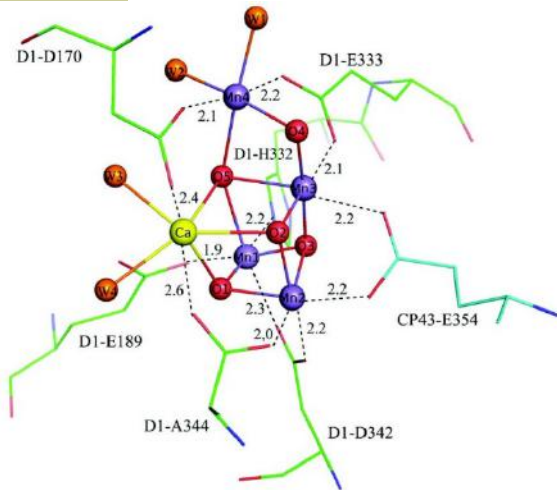
SciMeetings
ACS Spring 2020
Michael J. Zdilla
Temple University

Photosystem II

- Photosystem II: Nature's water oxidation catalyst.
- Active site contains a unique Mn-Ca-O cluster, the OEC.



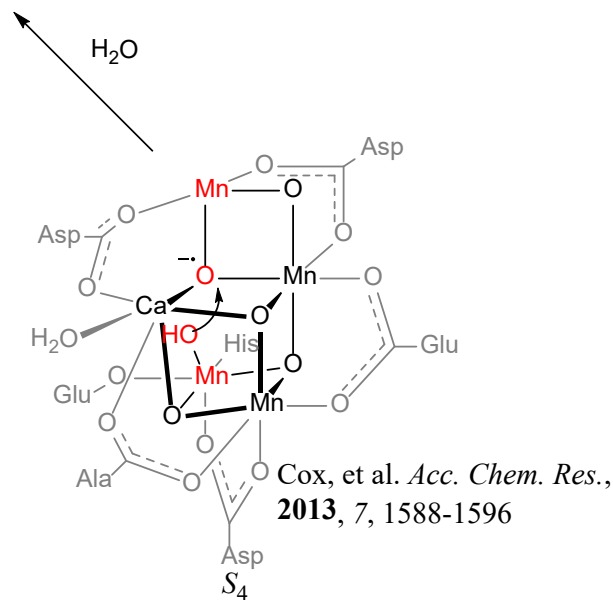
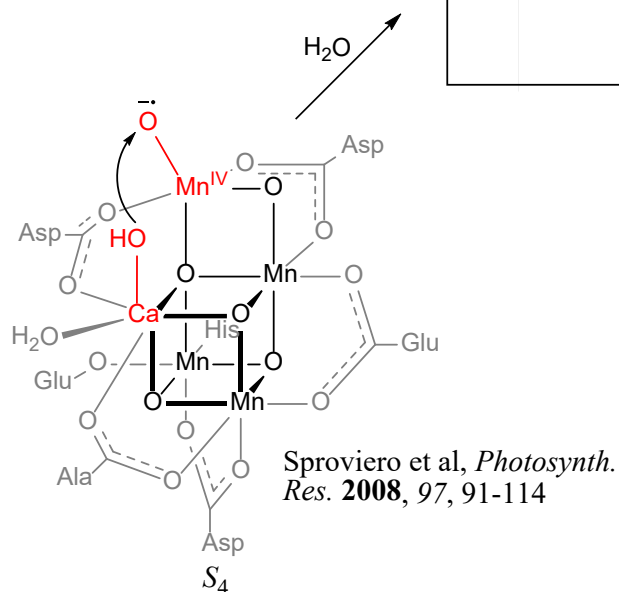
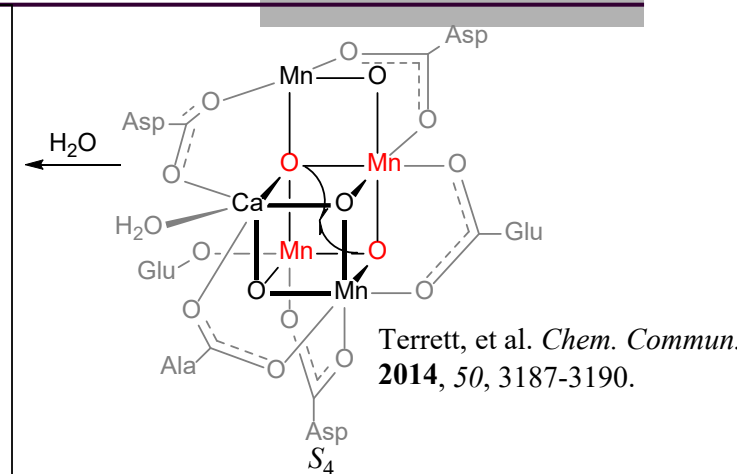
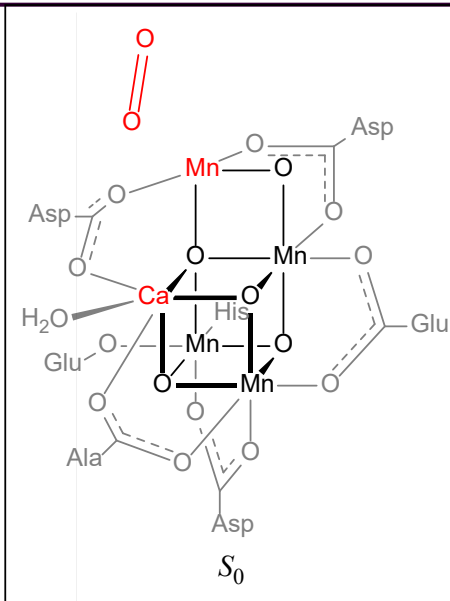
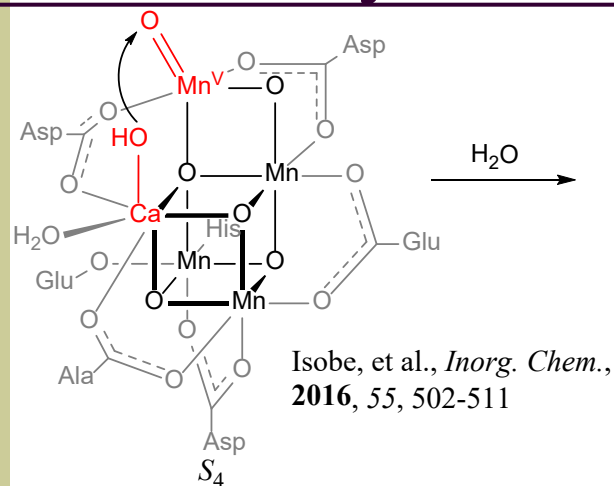
Photosystem II-photon driven water oxidation



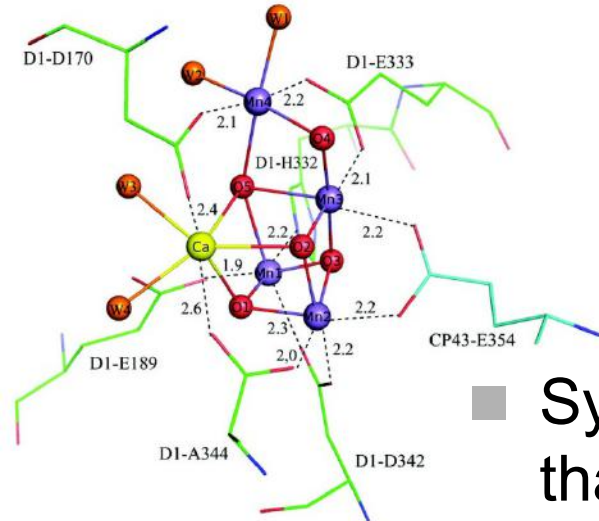
The Kok Cycle

- The OEC operates by a 5-step photooxidation cycle
- Red photons excite oxidation of chlorophyll P₆₈₀
- P₆₈₀ in turn oxidizes the OEC (S_n)
- S₄ oxidizes water to O₂ to close the cycle.

Proposed mechanisms of O-O bond formation from theory are shown below. There is not currently a consensus.

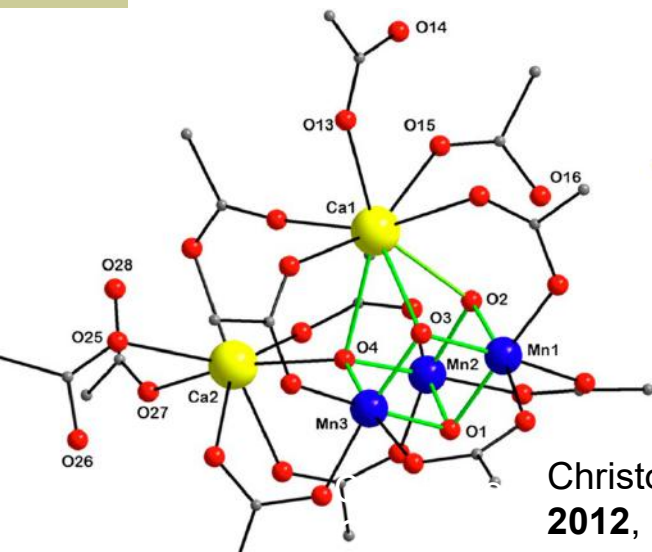
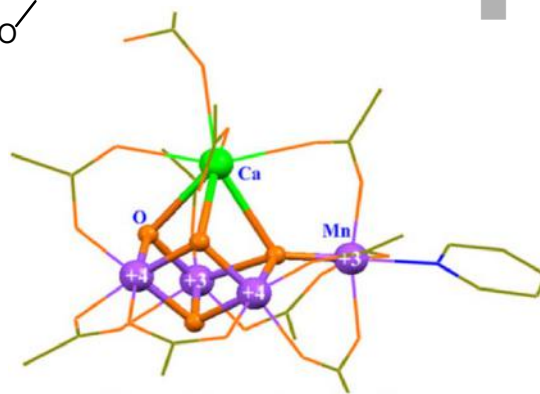
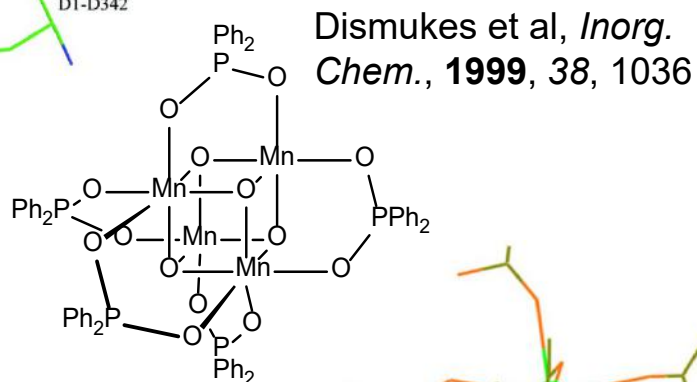
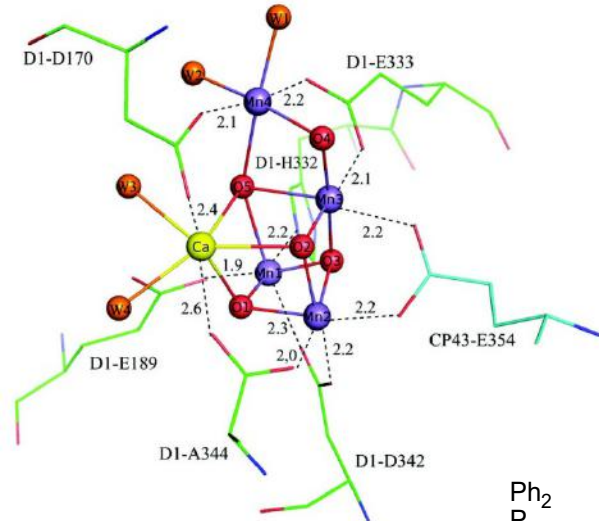


Modeling the OEC

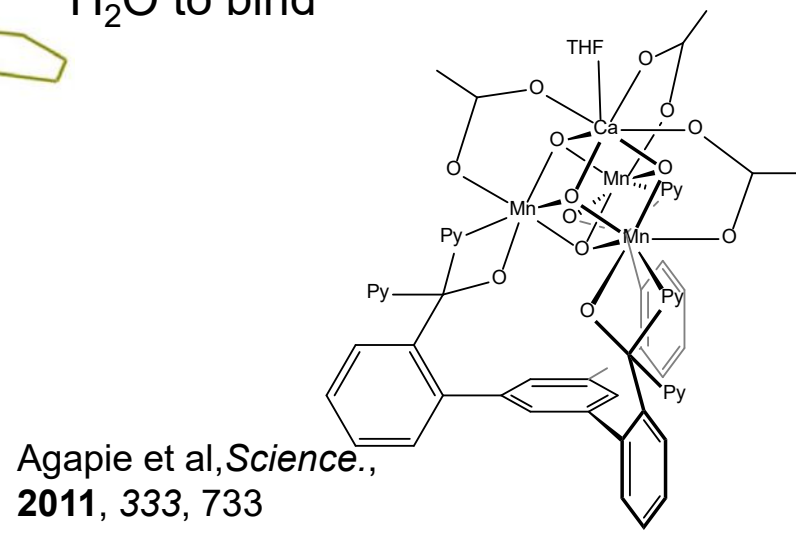


- Synthetic model complexes are one tool that may be used to examine potential reaction mechanisms.
- A model complex can never prove the mechanism of an enzyme, but they may be used to probe the reasonableness of certain mechanistic proposals.
- Many structural models are known, but functional models are rarer. Some examples are shown on the next page. Structural and functional models remain an important goal.

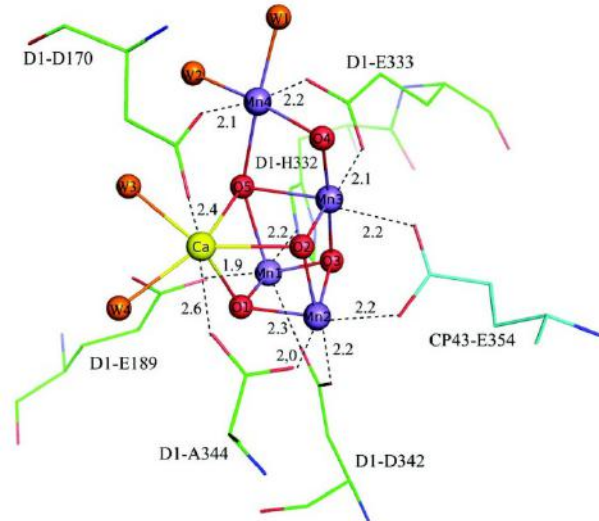
Structural models of the OEC



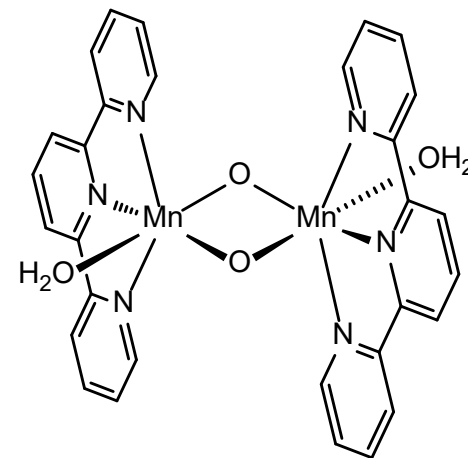
- These excellent structural models are useful for comparisons and calibrations to biophysical data, but do not show much biomimetic reactivity.
- This may be due to their being highly constrained by multidentate ligands, and 6-coordinate, leaving no place for H₂O to bind



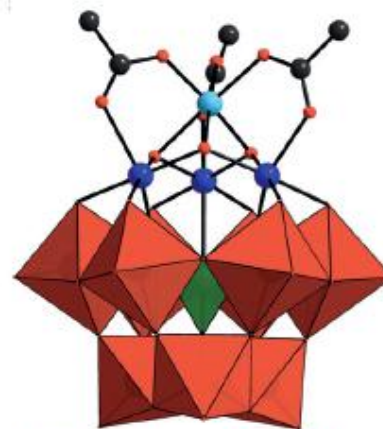
Functional models of the OEC



- Functional models typically use motifs dissimilar from biology, limiting translation of findings to biological system.



Brudvig et al, *Science.*,
1999, 283, 1524

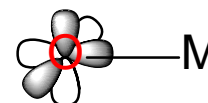
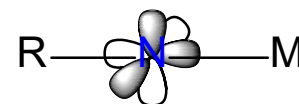


$[Mn^{III}_3Mn^{IV}O_3(CH_2COO)_3SiW_9O_{34}]^{6-}$

Bonchio et. Al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 11182 – 11185

Preparation of unchelated clusters of reduced coordination number

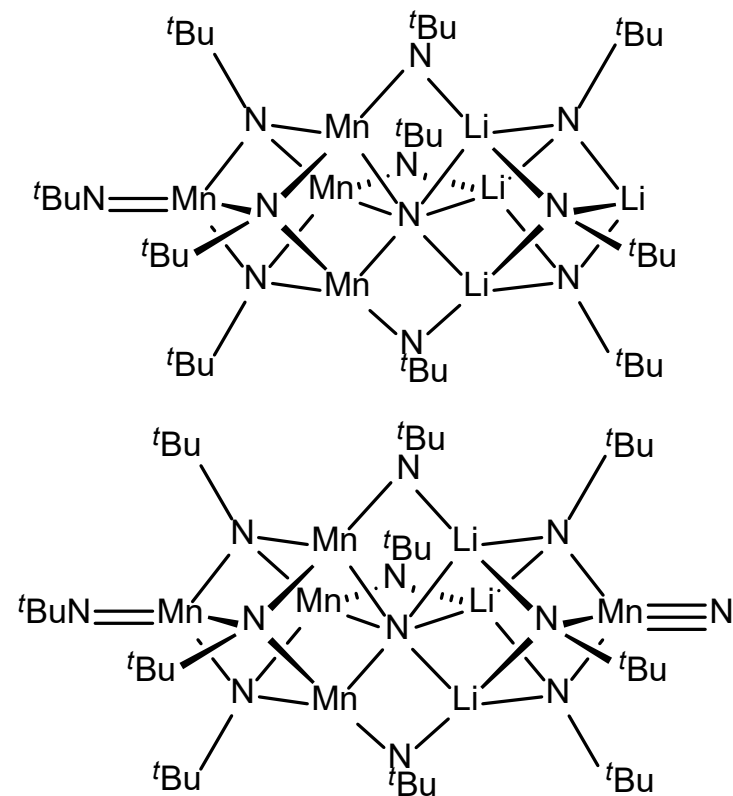
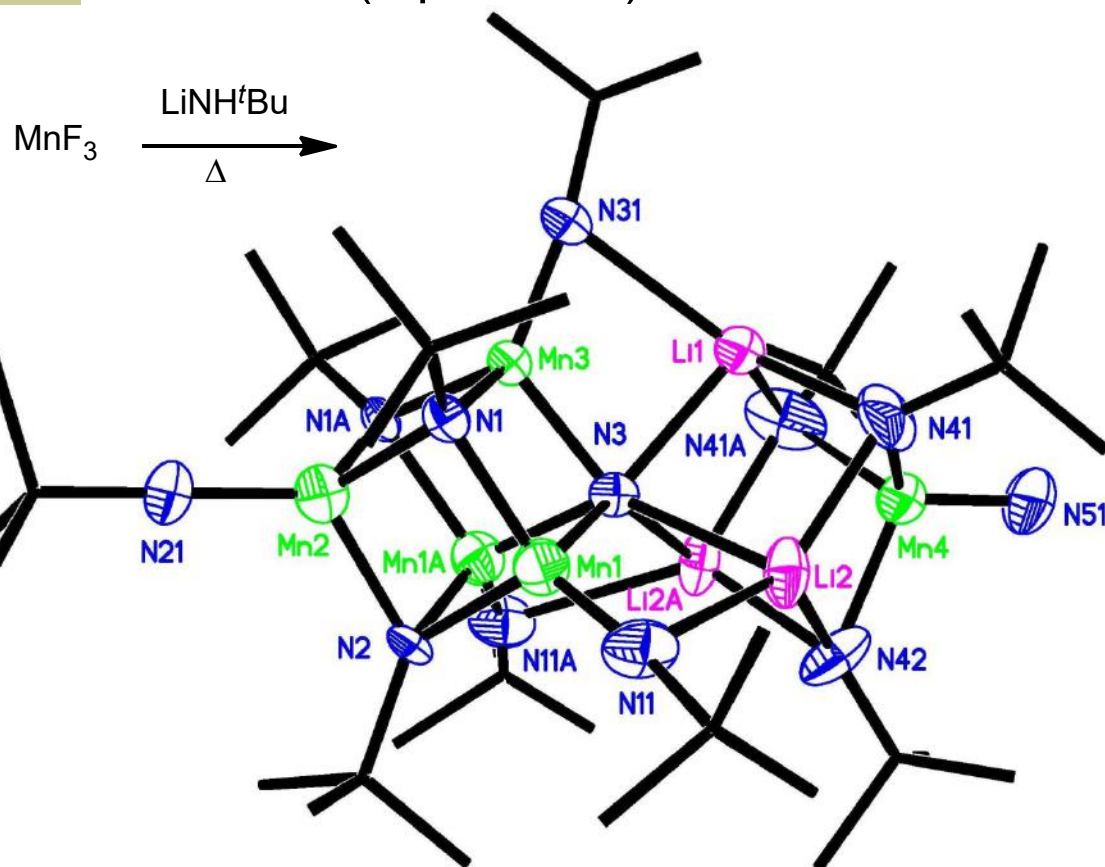
- Our approach: lower-coordinate clusters with minimal chelation.
- Imide as a surrogate of oxide to control cluster geometry
 - Isolobal
 - Charge
 - Heteroatom size
 - Sterically and electronically tunable R-group
- This motifs may show O-based biomimetic chemistry, or show biomimetic chemistry via the oxene-nitrene analogy (below)



OH_2	OH^-	O^{2-}	$\text{HO}-\text{OH}$	$\text{O}=\text{O}$
RNH_2	RNH^-	RN^{2-}	$\text{RHN}-\text{NHR}$	$\text{RN}=\text{NR}$
(water/amine)	(hydroxide/amide)	(oxide/imide)	(peroxide/hydrazine)	(dioxygen/diazene)

Heterocubane with pendant Mn

- Prepared by a simple metathesis reaction, involving somewhat chaotic redox chemistry, giving the two shown products in a 9:1 ratio (top:bottom)



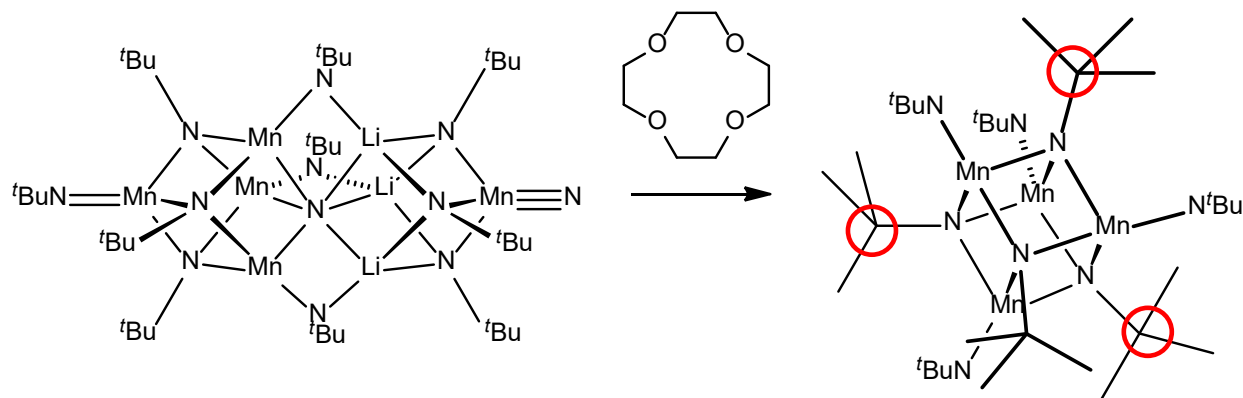
Removal of Li from dicubane

- To improve relevance to the OEC, we sought to remove the Li ion (and replace with Ca). We can remove Li^+ using crown ether either.
- Crystallographic problem: Non-positive displacement parameters on three carbons. This means the computer “thinks” these are heavy atoms, which is hard to explain.
- More on this later.

Shiva Vaddypally

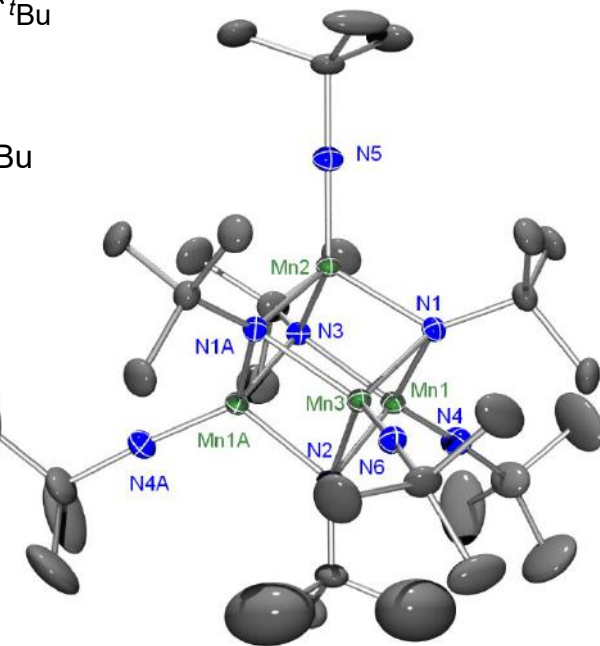
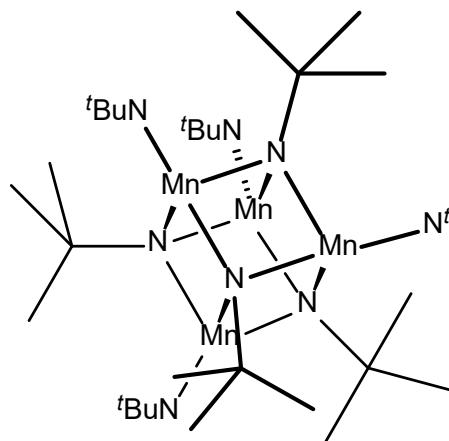
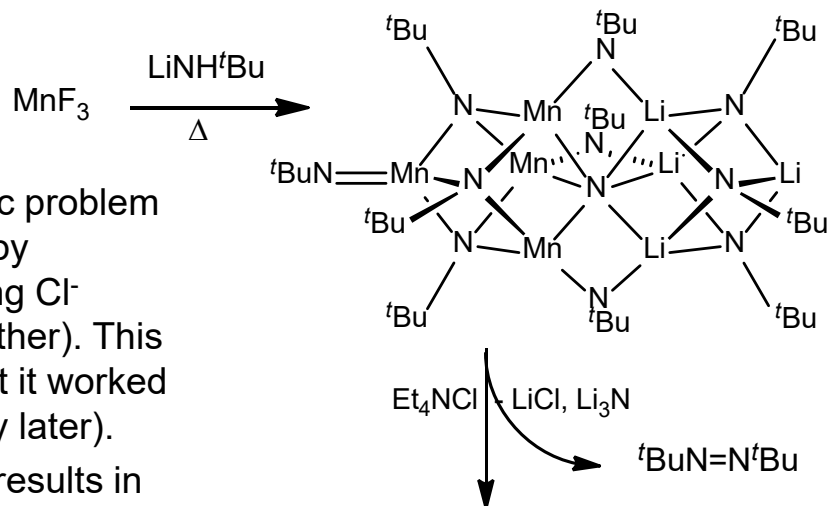


Sandeep (Sunny) Kondaveeti



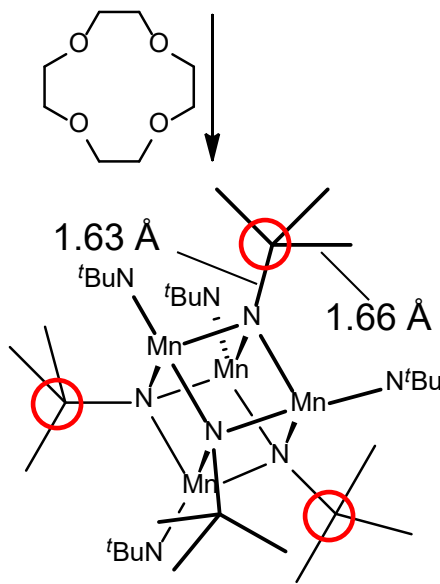
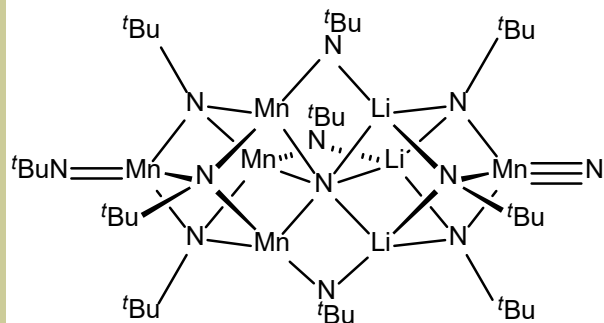
Mn-Li heterododicubane

- The crystallographic problem was circumvented by precipitating Li^+ using Cl^- (instead of crown ether). This made no sense, but it worked (we will explain why later).
- The removal of Li^+ results in an unstable anionic cluster, which triggers reductive elimination of azo-*tert*-butane to alleviate negative charge buildup on imide.
- The reductive elimination of $\text{tBuN=N}^t\text{Bu}$ from a $\text{Mn}^{\text{IV/V}}$ cubane cluster is a nitrene analog of the OEC oxygen evolution reaction

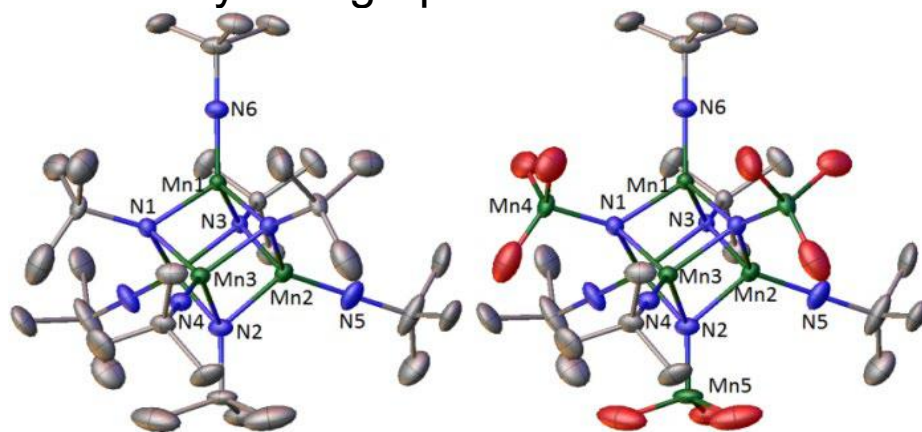


Vaddypally, S., et al. *Chem. Commun.*, **2014**, 50, 1061.
 Vaddypally, S., et al. *Inorg. Chem.* **2017**, 56, 3733.

Removal of Li from dicubane with crown ether: What happened?



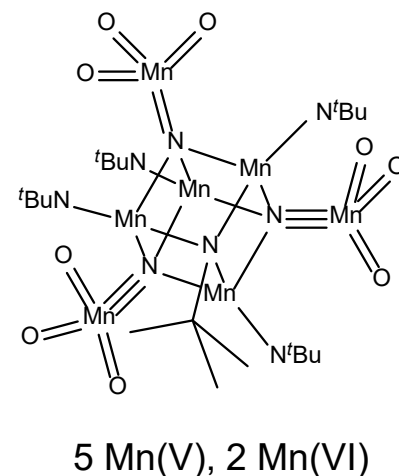
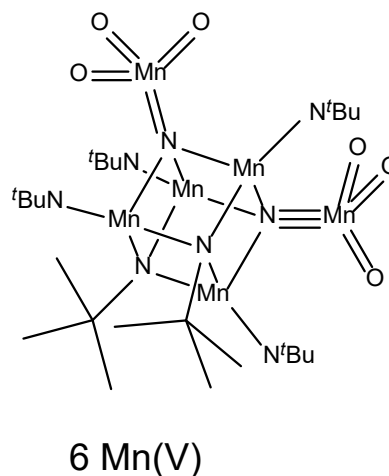
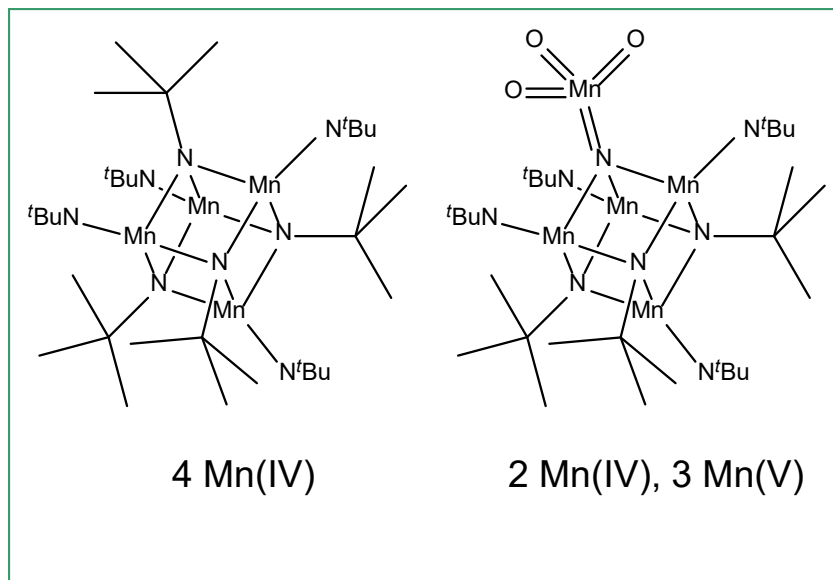
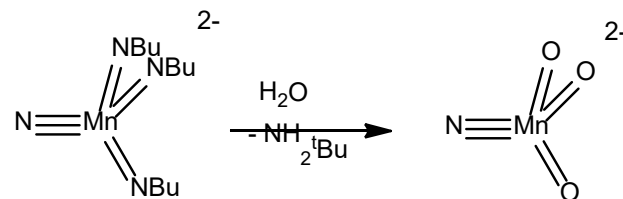
- Considering further the non-positive displacement parameters when crown ether was used
- We also noticed long bond lengths similar to permanganate. This is clearly not just a *tert*-butyl group.
- Structure modeled as a disordered mixture of *tert*-butyl imido ligands and nitridotrioxomanganese(VII) metalloligands gave an excellent crystallographic model.



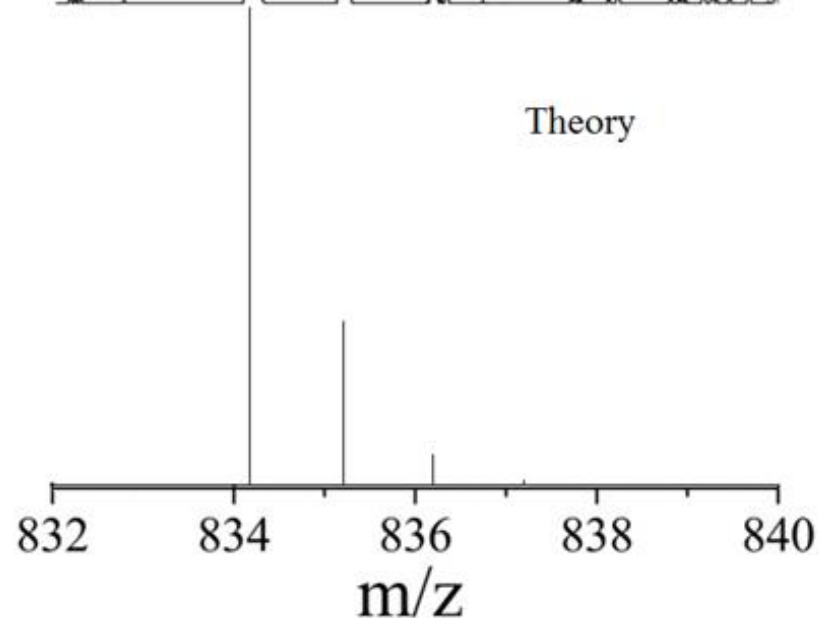
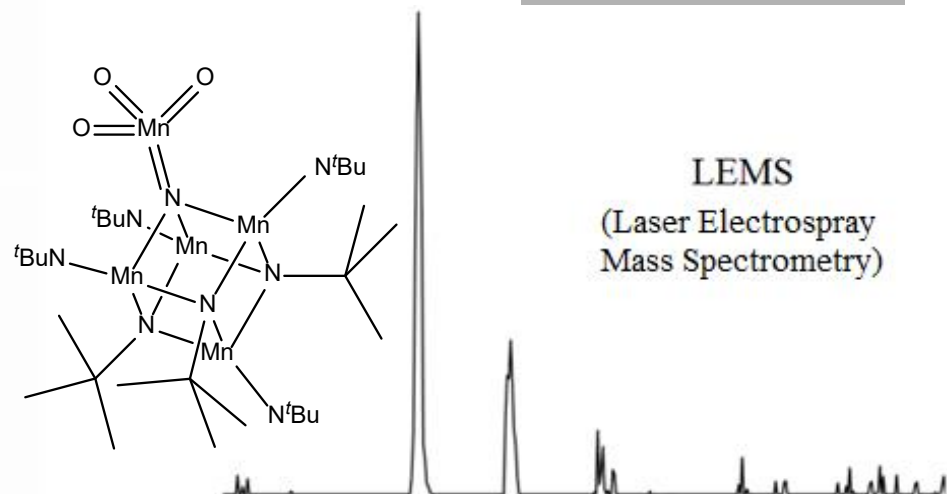
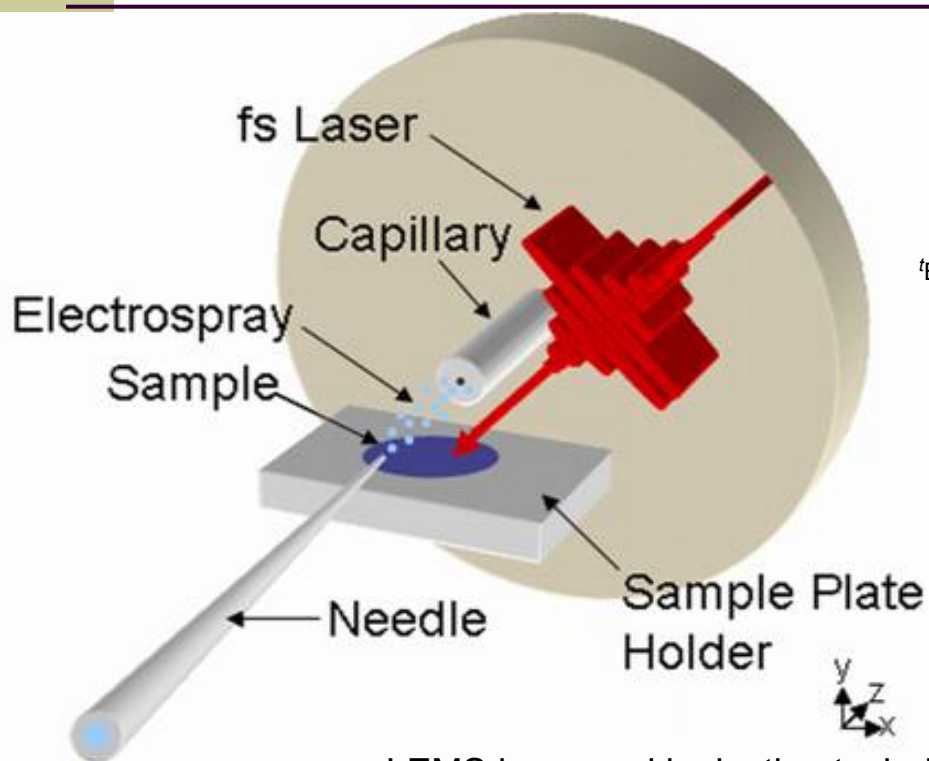
$R_1 = 2.84\%$

How did this happen? Where did oxygen come from?

- Li removed by crown ethers (wet).
- Protolysis of *tert*-butyl amide fragement of parent cluster gives $\text{MnO}_3\text{N}^{2-}$
- $\text{MnO}_3\text{N}^{2-}$ structurally comparable to *tert*-butyl, and incorporates randomly.
- Majority of the material is all-*t*-butyl (90%), and a single metalloligand (10%). Other species with several metalloligands are only present in traces.



Laser Electrospray Mass Spectrometry – LEMS for detection of metalloligand cluster

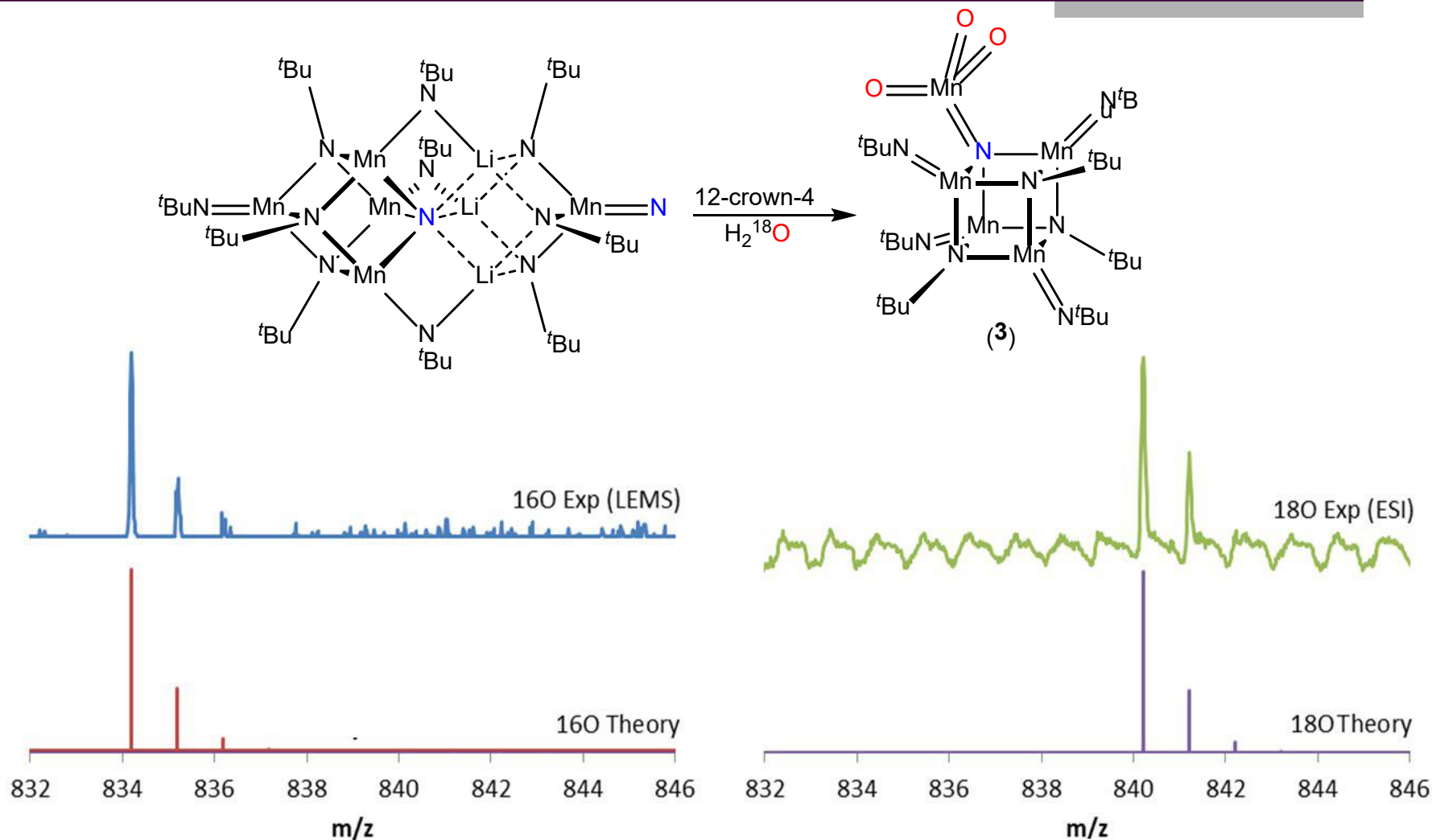


- LEMS is a novel ionization technique that uses a femtosecond laser to non-destructively vaporize a sample and deposit it onto the surface of charged electrospray droplets.
- Ideal for nonpolar molecules that are insoluble in normal electrospray solvents.



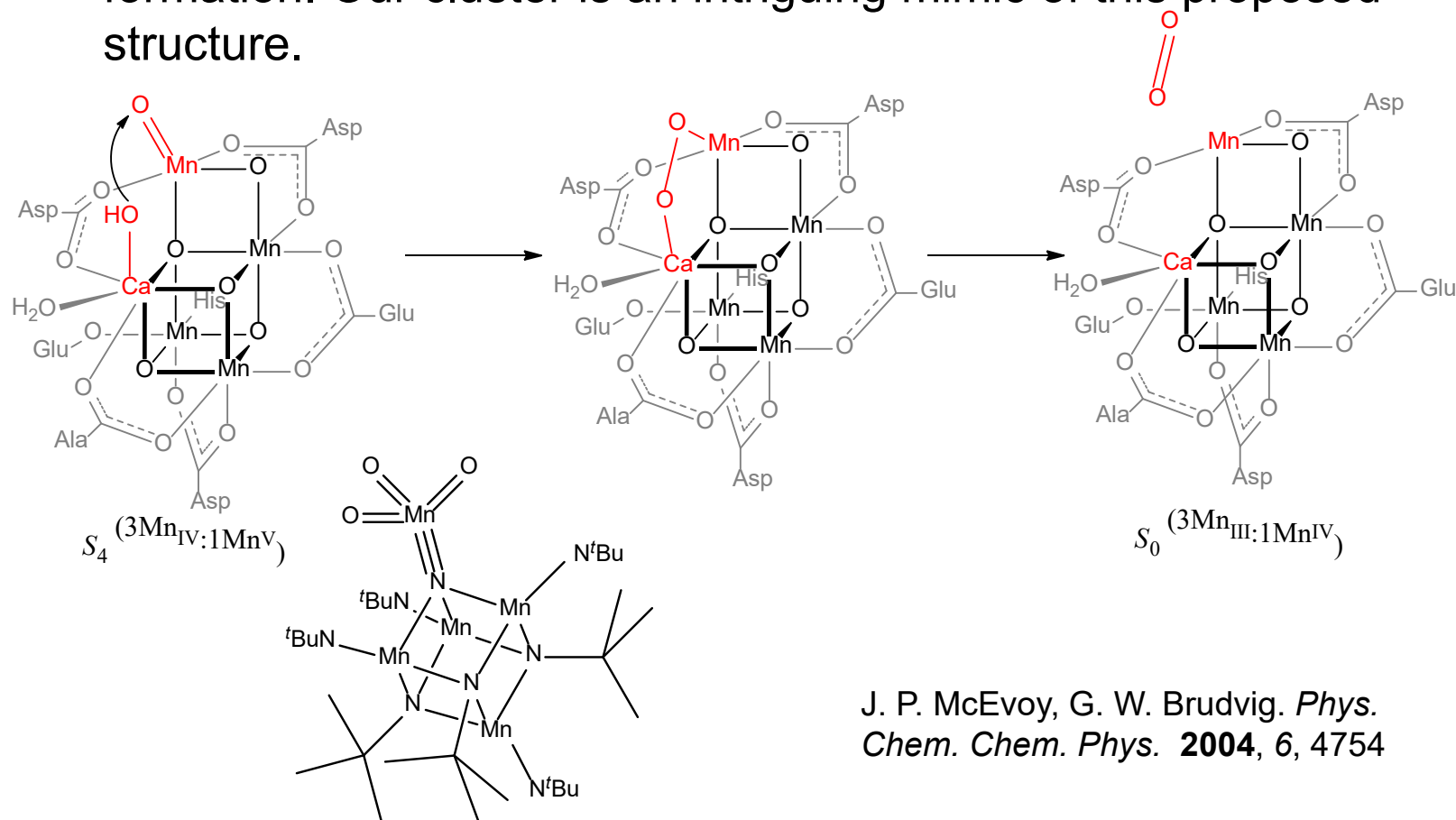
Robert J. Levis

Isotopic labelling with ^{18}O confirms water is the source of O



S_4 state as a high-valent Mn=O

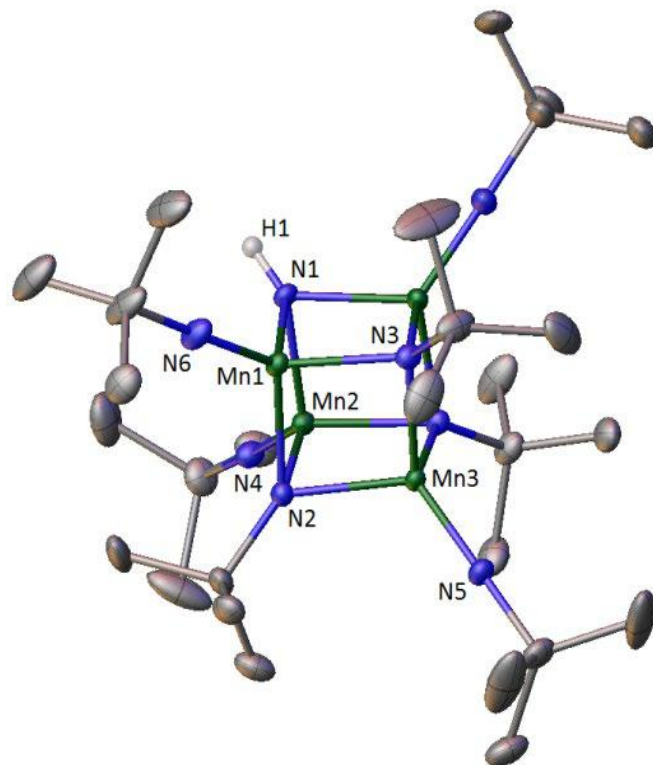
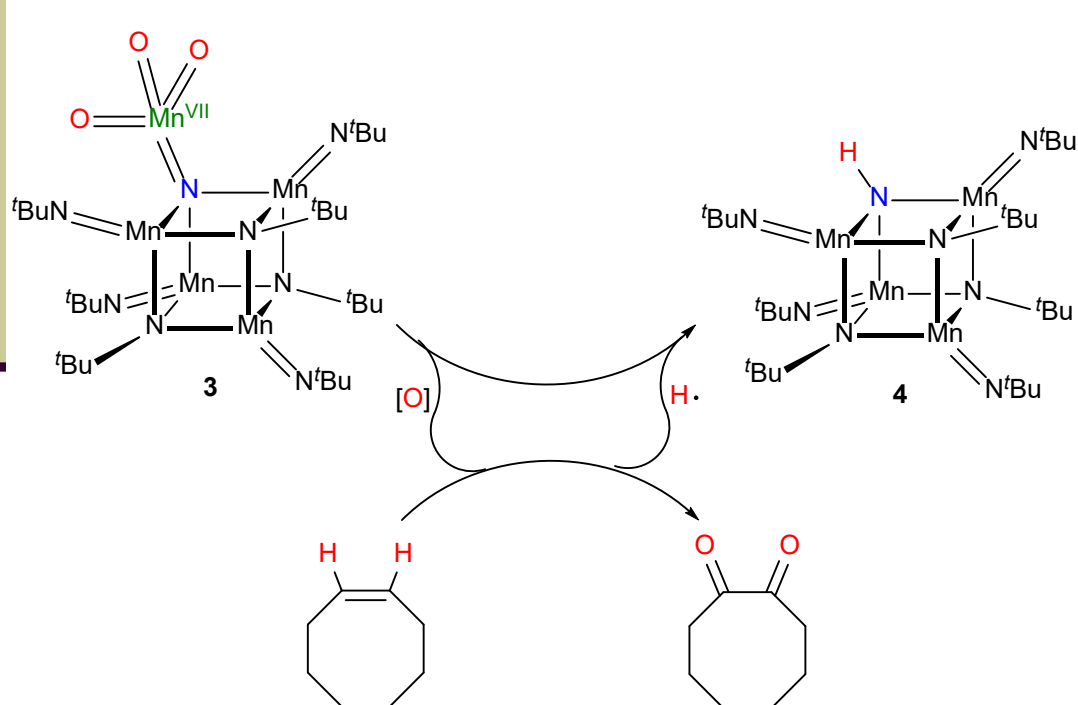
- Nucleophilic attack by Ca-bound hydroxide on high-valent Mn-O at dangler Mn is a popular mechanistic proposal for O-O bond formation. Our cluster is an intriguing mimic of this proposed structure.



J. P. McEvoy, G. W. Brudvig. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2004**, 6, 4754

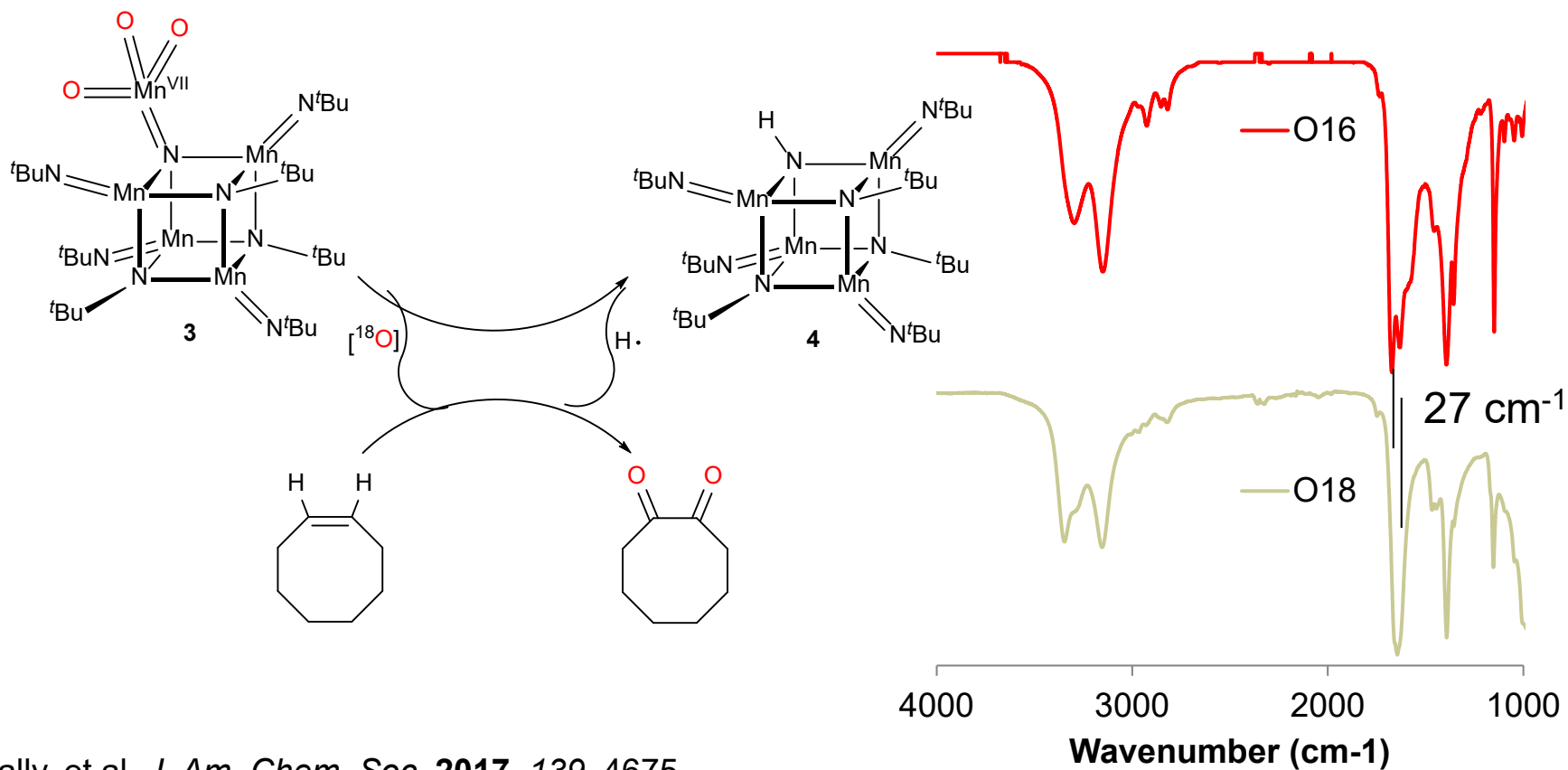
Reactivity of the Pendant Mn=O

- “Dangler” oxygens do not oxidize water to give detectable oxygens in our experiments, but they do react with olefins quantitatively to give deoxygenated products (permanganate-like reactivity).
- Oxygen is transferred from the cluster to the substrate.
- Hydrogen atom is transferred from the substrate to the cluster.



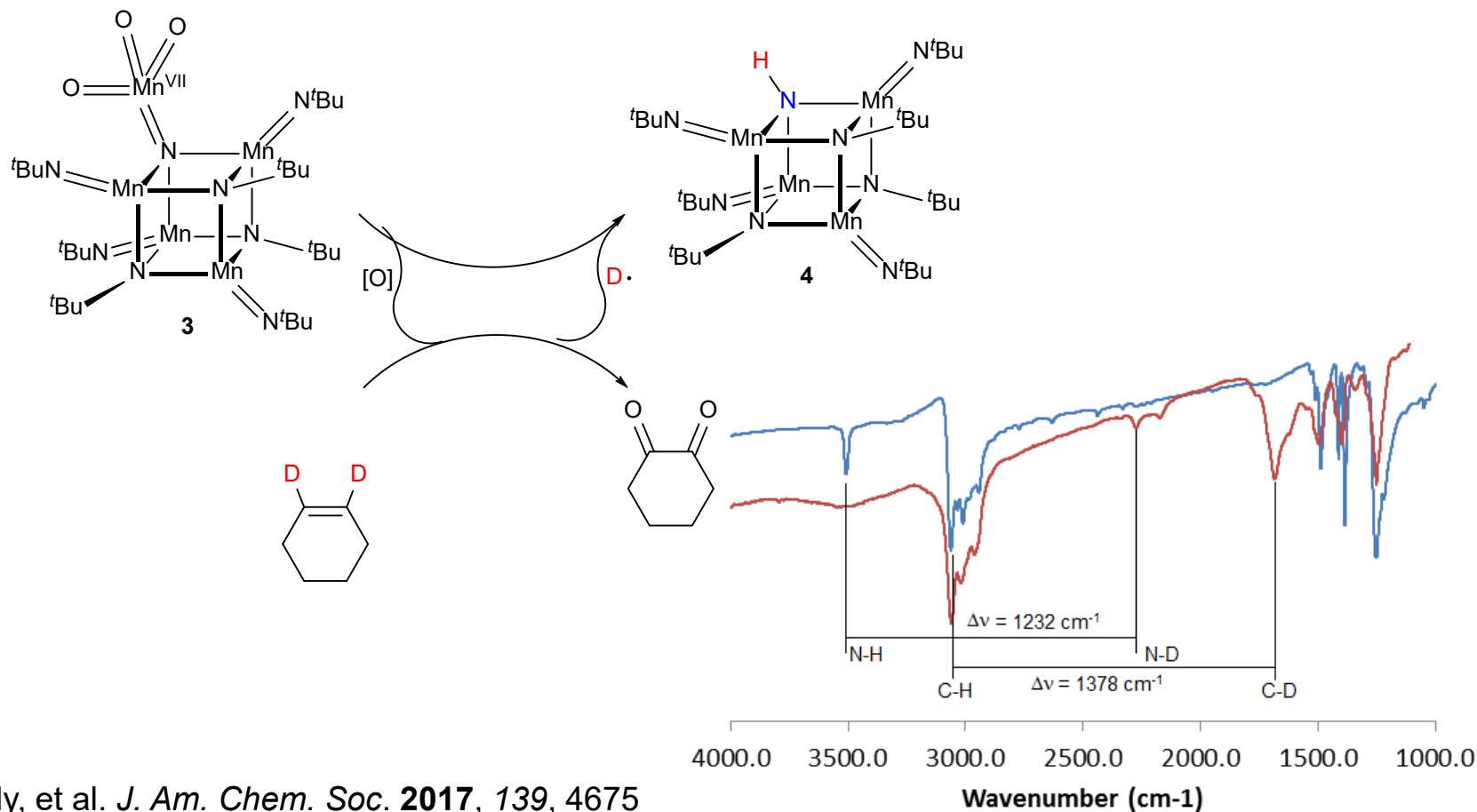
Reactivity of the Pendant Mn=O – Isotopic labelling

- Isotopic ^{18}O labelling shows transfer of cluster oxygen to the substrate ketone product.



Reactivity of the Pendant Mn=O – Isotopic labelling

- ^2D isotopic labelling illustrates transfer of substrate hydrogen atom to the cubane cluster



Concluding statements

- Lower-coordinate, unchelated manganese clusters show significant reactivity (though no water oxidation...yet).
- Future tests will try to “stack the deck” in favor of the nucleophilic attack mechanism to test its plausibility.
 - Reduce the Mn^{VII} cubane with dangler oxygen to a more bio-relevant Mn^{V}
 - Test reactivity with OH^- and H_2O to see if O_2 is formed
- Such experiments—fail or succeed—may shed light on the plausibility of the nucleophilic attack hypothesis.

The Zdilla Lab at Temple University



Research Professor
Shiva Vaddypally

Current Grad Students

Chris Absil
Megan Van Vliet
Ran Ding
Laura Sonnenberg

Birane Fall
Taylor Keller
Carl Lundell
James Allen

Connor Koellner
Ravneet Bhullar
Alex Bacon

Current Undergrads

Gobind Singh
Manish Bayana

Jacob Dewey
Alex Byrne

Funding



1800105

