

Synthesis and structure characterization of two new lithium–heptamolybdates

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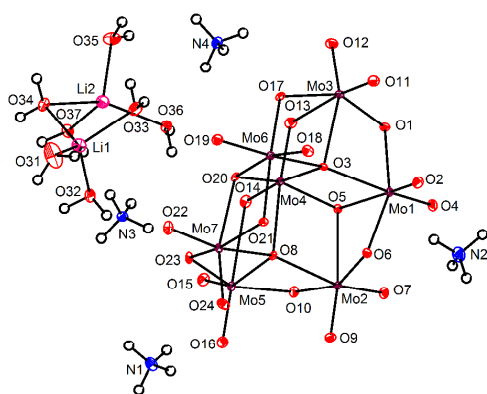
Savita S. Khandolkar^a, Christian Näther^b, Wolfgang Bensch^b, Bikshandarkoil R. Srinivasan^a,
^aDepartment of Chemistry, Goa University, Goa 403206, India

Email: srini@unigoa.ac.in Telephone: 0091-(0)832-6519316; Fax: 0091-(0)832-2451184

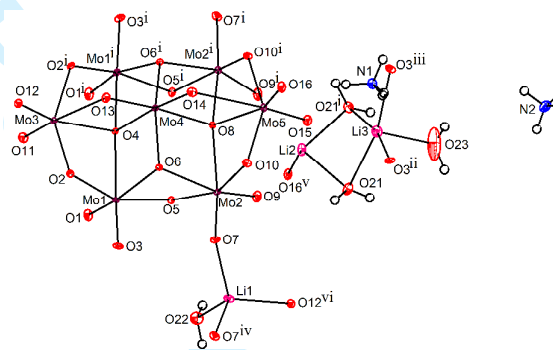
^bInstitut für Anorganische Chemie, Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel
 Max-Eyth Straße 2, D-24098 Kiel, Germany

Graphical Abstract

Synthesis, spectroscopy and structural characterization of two new lithium–heptamolybdates are reported.



$(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$



$(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4](\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Synthesis and structure characterization of two new lithium–heptamolybdates

Savita S. Khandolkar^a, Christian Näther^b, Wolfgang Bensch^b, Bikshandarkoil R. Srinivasan^a,

^aDepartment of Chemistry, Goa University, Goa 403206, India

Email: srini@unigoa.ac.in Telephone: 0091-(0)832-6519316; Fax: 0091-(0)832-2451184

^bInstitut für Anorganische Chemie, Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel

Max-Eyth Straße 2, D-24098 Kiel, Germany

Abstract

The synthesis, crystal structures, IR, UV-Vis, ⁷Li NMR spectra, electrochemical investigations and conductivity studies of two new lithium-heptamolybdates viz. (NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄]·H₂O **1** and (NH₄)₃[Li₃(H₂O)₄(μ₆-Mo₇O₂₄)]·2H₂O **2** are reported. In **1**, the unique (NH₄)⁺ cations and [Li₂(H₂O)₇]²⁺ cations are charge balanced by the heptamolybdate anion. In **2** the [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ anion is coordinated to three unique Li⁺ ions via a μ₆-hexadentate binding mode resulting in the formation of a two dimensional (2-D) [Li₃(H₂O)₄(μ₆-Mo₇O₂₄)]³⁻ anionic complex, charge neutralised by three (NH₄)⁺ ions. The cations, anions and the lattice water molecules in **1** and **2** are linked by several weak H-bonding interactions.

Keywords: Lithium; Heptamolybdate; counter anion; μ₆-hexadentate ligand; H-bonding interactions

1. Introduction

The study of polyoxometalates (POMs) is a topical area of research in view of their diverse structures and interesting properties [1, 2]. Although several POM's with high metal nuclearity for example {Mo₃₆₈}, {Mo₂₄₈}, {Mo₁₇₆} {Mo₁₅₄} etc. with interesting structure types like hedgehog or wheel shape are known for molybdenum [3], the low nuclearity POM's viz. [Mo₆O₁₉]²⁻, [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ and [Mo₈O₂₆]⁴⁻ still continue to be of considerable research interest. Of the POM's containing less than 10 Mo atoms, the heptamolybdate [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ ion is an extensively studied species by several research groups [4-34] in view of its facile formation by acidification of an aqueous molybdate [MoO₄]²⁻ solution to pH = 6. These studies reveal the structural flexibility of heptamolybdate and have resulted in the discovery of a rich and diverse chemistry demonstrating the ability of [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ to exist in a variety of environments viz. in combination with organic ammonium cations and or metal complex cations (Table S1). In all these structurally characterized compounds, the primary function of [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ is a charge balancing anion for the organic or metal-organic cation. In addition, heptamolybdate can also function as a pure inorganic ligand, binding to metals via the terminal oxygen atoms (entry Nos. 2 to 33 in Table S1). In a recent report we have shown that the acidic nature of heptamolybdate can be exploited for the synthesis of new *s*-block metal heptamolybdates by reacting it with an appropriate base. Using this strategy we recently reported on the synthesis of a heptamolybdate bridged dimagnesium compound [Mg(H₂O)₅(μ₂-Mo₇O₂₄)Mg(H₂O)₅]²⁻[10]. Since no structurally characterized lithium compound containing [Mo₇O₂₄]⁶⁻ is reported in literature till date, we have used the same synthetic methodology namely reaction of heptamolybdate with a basic reagent (LiOH) for the synthesis of the first examples of lithium-heptamolybdates. The results of these investigations describing the synthesis, crystal structure, spectral characteristics and

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4 electrochemistry of $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** and $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6-$
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6 $\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2** are described in this report.
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9 10 11 **2. Experimental**

12 13 **2.1. Materials and methods**

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15 All chemicals were used as purchased from the commercial sources without any further
16 purification. Infrared spectra of the samples diluted in KBr were recorded in the 4000 – 400
17 cm^{-1} region using a Shimadzu (IR Prestige-21) FT-IR spectrometer, at a resolution of 4 cm^{-1} .
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19 Raman spectra were recorded using 785 nm radiation for excitation on an Agiltron
20 PeakSeeker Pro Raman instrument in the range 4000–200 cm^{-1} . The UV-Visible absorption
21 spectra were recorded using a UV-3600 Shimadzu UV-Vis spectrophotometer. X-ray powder
22 patterns were measured on a Rigaku Miniflex II powder diffractometer using Cu-K_α radiation
23 with Ni filter. Thermal studies of **1** and **2** were carried out in a temperature controlled electric
24 furnace at 600 °C. ^7Li NMR spectra of **1** and **2** were recorded in D_2O with lithium chloride
25 as a reference in a Bruker 500 MHz FT-NMR spectrometer. Conductivity measurements
26 were carried out at 30°C using Digital conductivity meter model-LT-16 LABTRONICS with
27 a standard conductometric cell composed of two platinum black electrodes calibrated with
28 KCl solution. Cyclic voltammetry was performed in Electrochemical Workstation-CH
29 Instrument (Inc. CHI6107), under inert atmosphere by using platinum as working electrode,
30 platinum wire as counter electrode and saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as the reference.
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32 The redox properties of the aqueous solutions of **1** and **2** were studied using 0.2 M KCl
33 solution as supporting electrolyte at a scan rate of 0.03 Vs^{-1} in the potential region -2.0 V to
34 2.0 V. For comparison, $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was investigated under identical conditions.
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5 **2.2. Synthesis of $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** and**
6 **$(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4\{\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}\}]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2****
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8 Ammonium heptamolybdate (1.236 g, 1 mmol) was taken and crushed with lithium
9 hydroxide (0.083 g, 2 mmol) using a mortar and pestle for ~ 5 min, resulting in the evolution
10 of ammonia. The reaction mixture was then transferred into a beaker containing 20 mL of
11 distilled water and was heated on a water bath till the volume of the solution is reduced to
12 half. At this stage the pH of the solution was ~5. The reaction mixture was then filtered and
13 the colorless filtrate was kept aside for crystallization at room temperature. Colourless
14 crystals separated out after a week and when kept for further crystallization, **1** was obtained
15 in 74% yield.
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17 The use of 3 mmol of LiOH in the above procedure with 1 mmol of ammonium
18 heptamolybdate followed by work up afforded crystals of compound **2** in 78% yield.
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20 Compound **1**: Anal. Found (Calcd.) % NH_4 , 5.35 (5.61); % Mo, 51.87 (52.23).
21

22 Molar conductivity (λ_m) (0.02 M): 1119 $\text{S cm}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1}$.
23

24 IR data: 3500-2500, 2878, 2814, 1641, 1410, 837, 884, 653, 570, 487 cm^{-1} ; Raman data: 936
25 (ν_1), 888, 361, 234 cm^{-1} ; UV- Vis data : 208 nm.
26

27 Compound **2**: Anal. Found (Calcd.) % NH_4 , 4.13 (4.36); % Mo, 53.90 (54.21).
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29 Molar conductivity (λ_m) (0.02 M): 953 $\text{S cm}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1}$.
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31 IR data: 3500-2500, 2804, 1659, 1419, 893, 819, 644, 579, 477 cm^{-1} ; Raman data: 936 (ν_1),
32 888, 361, 234 cm^{-1} ; UV- Vis data : 208 nm.
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49 **2.3 Crystal structure determination**

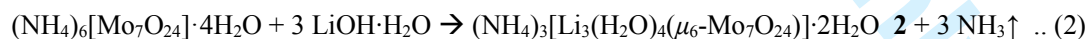
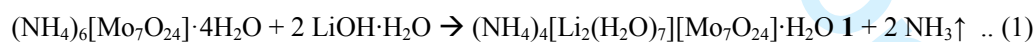
50 The intensity data for **1** and **2** were collected with an Image Plate Diffraction System (IPDS-
51 1) from STOE. The structures were solved with direct methods using SHELXS-97 [35] and
52 refinement was done against F^2 using SHELXL-97 [35]. All non-hydrogen atoms were
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refined anisotropically. The O-H and N-H, H atoms were located in difference map, their bond lengths were set to ideal values and afterwards they were refined using a riding model. A numerical absorption correction was performed ($T_{\min/\max}$: 0.5782/0.6971) (**1**) ($T_{\min/\max}$: 0.5742/0.6545) (**2**). One lattice water molecule (O38 in **1** and O24 in **2**) is disordered and was refined using a split model. The H atoms on O38 and O24 could not be located. Technical details of data acquisition and selected refinement results are listed in (Table 1).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Synthetic aspects

The synthesis of lithium-heptamolybdate compounds **1** and **2** was carried out by a base promoted cation exchange reaction between $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (acid) with $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (base). The synthetic protocol involves a solid state reaction of grinding stoichiometric amounts of $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ with $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and then bringing it into aqueous solution followed by crystallization (equations 1 and 2). The reaction involves replacement of $(\text{NH}_4)^+$ cation by Li^+ with displacement of the weaker base ammonia by the strong base lithium hydroxide keeping intact the $\{\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}\}$ core. It is interesting to note that despite the use of a strong base LiOH , due to the removal of ammonia, the final reaction medium is acidic pH ~ 5 , which is essential for the isolation of heptamolybdate.



The slow evaporation of aqueous solutions results in the formation of crystalline products of **1** and **2**. The phase purity of **1** and **2** was confirmed by comparing their respective calculated and experimental powder patterns (Figure S1). The presence of lithium in both compounds was initially identified by flame test and the ammonium and molybdenum content were determined gravimetrically following standard procedures [36]. Pyrolysis at 600 °C showed

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4 mass losses of 17.6 % and 15.8% for **1** and **2** respectively in reasonable agreement with the
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6 calculated mass loss (19.3 % and 15.0 %) yielding probable residual compositions
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8 $\{\text{Mo}_7\text{Li}_2\text{O}_{22}\}$ for **1** and $\{\text{Mo}_7\text{Li}_3\text{O}_{22.5}\}$ for **2**. Based on the gravimetric analysis of $(\text{NH}_4)^+$, Mo
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10 and the residue obtained on pyrolysis, the $\text{NH}_4^+:\text{Li}$ ratio for **1** and **2** was inferred as 4:2 and
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12 3:3 respectively. Thus by changing the stoichiometry of the reactants two heptamolybdates
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14 containing different amounts of Li are formed.
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17 18 19 **3.2. Description of the crystal structures of 1 and 2**

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21 The compounds $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** and $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
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23 **2** are the first examples of structurally characterized lithium-heptamolybdates. Compound **1**
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25 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$ with all atoms located in general positions.
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27 Its crystal structure consists of four unique ammonium cations, two crystallographically
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29 independent Li atoms and seven coordinated water molecules making up a $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ unit,
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31 an unique $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ anion, and a disordered lattice water molecule O38 (Figure 1). The
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33 geometrical parameters of the $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ are in normal range (Table S2). The unique Li^+
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35 cation (Li1) is coordinated to four water molecules (O31 to O34) at Li1-O distances ranging
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37 from 1.888(10) to 1.959(10) Å (Table 2). The O-Li1-O bond angles between $94.9(4)^\circ$ and
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39 $121.2(5)^\circ$ indicate distortion of the $\{\text{LiO}_4\}$ tetrahedron. For Li2, three Li-O bond lengths
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41 range from 1.926(10) to 2.032(10) Å for the water molecules (O35 to O37) and the fourth Li-
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43 O34 bond is at a slightly longer distance of 2.115(10) Å (Table 2) due to the μ_2 -bridging
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45 bidentate coordination mode of O34 resulting in a water bridged dinuclear cationic complex
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47 of formula $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ (Figure S2). Unlike Li1, the O-Li2-O angles scatter in a very wide
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49 range viz. $91.1(4)^\circ$ to $147.8(5)^\circ$. A scrutiny of the structure of **1** reveals that the ammonium
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51 cations, $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ complex and the $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ anion are interlinked by three varieties of
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53 H-bonding interactions namely O-H \cdots O, N-H \cdots O, O-H \cdots N (Table S3). The coordinated
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4 water molecules are involved in intramolecular and intermolecular O–H···O interactions with
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6 surrounding heptamolybdates (Figure 2). The unique NH_4^+ cations “N1” “N3” and “N4” are
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8 H bonded to three heptamolybdates via different numbers of N–H···O interactions while “N2”
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10 is H bonded to two heptamolybdates (Figure 3). It is interesting to note that all H atoms of the
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12 NH_4^+ cations are involved in N–H···O bonding (Figure S3). The net result of the H-bonding,
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14 is the arrangement of the $(\text{NH}_4)^+$ and $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ cations and $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ anions in **1** in
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16 alternating layers (Figure 4 and Figure S4).
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21 Compound **2** crystallizes in the centrosymmetric orthorhombic space group *Pnma* and its
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23 crystal structure consists of three unique $(\text{NH}_4)^+$ cations, an independent $[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6-$
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25 $\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]^{3-}$ anionic unit with Mo3, Mo4, Mo5 and Li2 atoms located on a mirror plane and a
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27 disordered lattice water molecule (O24) (Figure 5). In **2** the geometrical parameters of the
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29 heptamolybdate ion are in the normal range (Table S4) and comparable to those observed for
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31 **1**. The anion plays a dual role viz. charge balancing counter ion and pure inorganic ligand
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33 binding to Li. A μ_6 -hexadentate binding mode also found in the structure of
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35 $\text{Na}_7[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}](\text{OH})\cdot 21\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [7] is observed for $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ (Figure 6) by considering Li–O
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37 bond distances up to 2.150 Å [37]. This binding mode results in the extension of crystal
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39 structure in two dimensions (Figure 7). The unique Li1 is bonded to three symmetry related
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41 heptamolybdate anions (O7, O7^{iv}, O12^{vi}) and to a coordinated H₂O (O22) at Li–O distances
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43 ranging from 1.885(10) to 2.001(10) Å. The O–Li1–O bond angles vary from 104.3(3)° to
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45 119.3(5)° indicate a severe distortion of the $\{\text{Li1O}_4\}$ tetrahedron. In contrast, Li2 has bonds
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47 to two symmetry related water (O21 and O21ⁱ) molecules and to the O16^v atom of the
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49 heptamolybdate anions. The O21 (μ_2 -bridging type) also functions as a ligand for Li3 which
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51 is additionally bonded to two symmetry related heptamolybdate anions via O3ⁱⁱⁱ and O3ⁱⁱ and
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4 a O23 of water resulting in tri- and penta-coordination around Li2 and Li3 respectively
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6 (Figure S5). The bridging nature of O21 leads to a $\{\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3\}^{2+}$ unit covalently bonded to
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8 the heptamolybdate moiety. The O-Li2-O angles vary from $84.5(3)^\circ$ to $103.3(4)^\circ$ while those
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10 around Li3 range from $81.0(4)^\circ$ to $166.0(5)^\circ$. The Li-O distances range from 1.885(10) to
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12 2.150(8) Å (Table 2). Since all the unique Li^+ ions are coordinated to $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$, the entire
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14 unit can be considered as a heptamolybdate supported trilithium trianionic species of formula
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16 $[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]^{3-}$. In addition, Li-O (heptamolybdate) contacts are also observed at
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18 longer distances of 2.270, 2.370 and 2.397 Å which seem to be too long for significant
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20 interactions [37] and therefore are not considered.
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24 The $[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]^{3-}$ complex is stabilised by extensive hydrogen bonding
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26 interactions. The inability to locate one $(\text{NH}_4)^+$ cation as well as the disorder of the lattice
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28 water molecules precludes a detailed description of the hydrogen-bonding situation. Relevant
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30 H-bonding interactions are given as Supplementary data (Table S5, Figure S6 & S7).
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33 34 3.3. Structural aspects of heptamolybdates

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36 Based on a comparative study of the structural features of thirty one heptamolybdates we had
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38 shown that the heptamolybdate anion is structurally flexible and all heptamolybdates isolated
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40 from acidic media contain at least one lattice water molecule [4]. In the present analysis of
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42 structural characteristics covering a total of fifty four heptamolybdates (Table S1) the same
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44 property is observed namely that all heptamolybdate compounds listed in Table S1 contain at
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46 least one lattice water molecule. A majority of these compounds crystallize in
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48 centrosymmetric space groups with only four (entry nos. 1 to 4) crystallizing in non-
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50 centrosymmetric space groups. In all the compounds listed in Table S1, the heptamolybdate
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52 functions as a charge balancing anion. In addition the heptamolybdate acts as a ligand by
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54 coordinating to a *s*, *d* or *f* block metal in many compounds (entry nos. 2-33). In these
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heterometallic compounds, it is interesting to note that the denticity of $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ varies from monodentate (entry No. 2 to 5) to hexadentate in the Li-heptamolybdate **2**. Of the two mixed cationic compounds described in this work, it is noted that in the ammonium rich compound **1** (four $(\text{NH}_4)^+$ ions) the heptamolybdate functions as a counter anion. In the alkali-metal rich heptamolybdates like $\text{Na}_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 14\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [5] and $\text{Cs}_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [6] higher denticities of 15 and 43 are observed for the purely inorganic $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ ligand (Figure S8). In $\text{NaCs}_5[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [25] a total of 31 bonds are formed between the alkali metal cations and the heptamolybdate ligand (Figure S8). The high denticities of $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$ in these cases can be attributed to i) the oxophilic nature of the *s*-block metals and ii) high coordination number of 9 or more usually observed for Cs.

3.4. IR, UV-Vis and ^7Li NMR spectral studies

It is interesting to note that the IR as well as the Raman spectra of compounds **1**, **2** and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Figure S9) are very similar. In all three compounds a broad and strong absorption signal is observed in the region $3500\text{--}2500\text{ cm}^{-1}$ attributable to the $-\text{OH}$ and $-\text{NH}$ vibrations of the water molecules and ammonium cations respectively. The presence of H_2O and (NH_4^+) in all three compounds can also be evidenced by the bands at 1641 and 1410 cm^{-1} for **1** and 1659 and 1419 cm^{-1} for **2** and 1650 and 1406 cm^{-1} for $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, assignable to the O-H and N-H bending vibrations [38]. The symmetric stretching vibration ν_1 of the MoO_6 unit is observed as an intense band in the Raman spectrum at 936 cm^{-1} [39] whereas the doubly degenerate asymmetric stretching mode ν_2 occurs as an intense signal at 884 and 893 cm^{-1} in **1** and **2** respectively (Figure S10). The IR spectra of the residues obtained by pyrolysis of **1** and **2** indicate the disappearance of signals due to water and ammonium cations (Figure S11).

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4 The nearly identical UV-Vis spectra of **1**, **2** and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ showing a signal
5 centred around 208 nm also confirms the presence of the heptamolybdate core in **1** and **2**
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The nearly identical UV-Vis spectra of **1**, **2** and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ showing a signal centred around 208 nm also confirms the presence of the heptamolybdate core in **1** and **2** (Figure S12). It is interesting to note that both **1** and **2** exhibit nearly identical ^7Li NMR spectra in D_2O (Figure 8). Both compounds exhibit a single ^7Li chemical shift at 0.1376 ppm and 0.1385 ppm respectively for **1** and **2** which is in close agreement with the reported ^7Li chemical shift (0.006 ppm) for $\text{Li}_6[\alpha\text{-P}_2\text{W}_{18}\text{O}_{62}]$ [40]. The chemical shift data indicate that in **1** and **2** the Li^+ ions are equivalent and do not have different chemical surroundings as observed in the solid state structures for the unique Li^+ ions. Hence, the observation of a single chemical shift can be explained due to the hydration of Li^+ ions in solution (D_2O). This explanation gains more credence from the electrochemical and conductivity studies described below.

3.5. Electrochemistry, conductivity measurements and photochemical studies

The cyclic voltammogram of compounds **1** and **2** as well as $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ exhibit a single cathodic response below -1.0 V (Figure 1) with $E_{1/2}$ values -0.579, -0.537 and -0.538 V measured versus SCE respectively for **1**, **2** and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ accompanied by peak separations ΔE of 0.152 V, 0.147 V and 0.160 V respectively. The $E_{1/2}$ values for **1** and **2** and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ can be readily explained for an electrochemical event centred on the anionic heptamolybdate which is formed due to hydrolysis of **1** and **2**, in addition to the hydrated Li^+ ions. It is interesting to note that the Li-heptamolybdates **1** and **2** described in the present study differ from the recently reported $(\text{hmtH})_2[\{\text{Mg}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5\}_2\{\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}\}]\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (hmt = hexamethylenetetramine) [10] in that the latter compound exhibits the same electrochemical event at -0.780 V. However no other electrode process is observed till -2.0 V for **1** or **2** indicating that the hydrated Li^+ cations do not undergo any electrochemical change.

The formation of hydrated Li^+ ions is also revealed by the conductivity measurements for various concentrations of **1** and **2** (Table 3). The molar conductivity values show an increase with dilution indicating the facile dissociation of **1** and **2** in dilute solution to produce hydrated Li^+ , NH_4^+ and heptamolybdate ions. The high molar conductivity values (1119 and 935 $\text{S cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$ for **1** and **2**) indicate the presence of the above mentioned ionic species in the 0.02 M solution of **1** and **2**, while the differences in the molar conductivity data can be attributed to the presence of different concentrations of ammonium and lithium (4:2 in **1** and 3:3 in **2**) per mole of heptamolybdate in solution.

It is well documented that heptamolybdates charge balanced by organic cations exhibit interesting photochemistry [4, 41]. Recently we have shown that the dimagnesium-heptamolybdate $(\text{hmtH})_2[\{\text{Mg}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5\}_2\{\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}\}]\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [10] can be irradiated by exposure to sunlight and thus can be used as a photocatalyst. In order to study the photochemical properties, similar experiments were performed by irradiation of **1** or **2** in solid state (or in aqueous solution), but no photochemically induced changes were observed. This differing behaviour can be explained by presence of an organic cation $(\text{hmtH})^+$ in the dimagnesium-heptamolybdate unlike the Li-heptamolybdates **1** or **2**.

4. Conclusion

Two new Li-heptamolybdates viz. $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** and $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2** have been synthesized by a base promoted cation exchange reaction and have been characterized by spectroscopy and single crystal structures. The heptamolybdate moiety is coordinated to Li in the mixed cationic compound **2** which has more Li content compared to **1** in which Li is not bonded to $[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{6-}$. It will be of interest to study the structural features of Li-rich $\{\text{Li}_6\}$ or Li-deficient $\{\text{Li}(\text{NH}_4)_5\}$ heptamolybdates

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4 in order to understand the bonding nature of the anion in such compounds. Efforts in this
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6 direction are underway.
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10 11 **Supplementary material (SI)**

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13 Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this article
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15 have been deposited with FIZ-Karlsruhe as supplementary publication no. CSD 430331 (**1**)
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17 and CSD 430332 (**2**) and can be obtained free of charge, on writing to FIZ, Hermann-von-
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19 Helmholtz-Platz 1, D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany (Fax: 0049-7247-808-
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21 259), or Email: crysdata@fiz-karlsruhe.de. Additional figures related to the crystal structure
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23 and spectral data of **1** and **2** are available as supplementary data for this article and can be
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25 found in the online version.
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Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for (NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄]·H₂O **1** and (NH₄)₃[Li₃(H₂O)₄(μ₆-Mo₇O₂₄)]·2H₂O **2**

Empirical formula	H ₃₂ Li ₂ Mo ₇ N ₄ O ₃₂ 1	H ₂₄ Li ₃ Mo ₇ N ₃ O ₃₀ 2
Formula weight	1285.76	1238.62
Temperature	200(2) K	200(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, <i>P2₁/n</i>	Orthorhombic, <i>Pnma</i>
Unit cell dimensions	<i>a</i> = 10.5894(8) Å, <i>b</i> = 15.8542(8) Å, <i>c</i> = 18.7820(11) Å <i>β</i> = 101.473(9)°	<i>a</i> = 14.0745(10) Å, <i>b</i> = 10.8681(6) Å, <i>c</i> = 17.2459(11) Å <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = <i>γ</i> = 90°
Volume	3090.2(4) Å ³	2638.0(3) Å ³
Z, Calculated density	4, 2.764 mg/m ³	4, 3.119 mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	2.866 mm ⁻¹	3.344 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	2464	2352
Crystal size	0.13 x 0.11 x 0.07 mm ³	0.11 x 0.09 x 0.08 mm ³
θ range for data collection	2.21° to 28.00°	2.36° to 28.00°
Limiting indices	-13 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 13, -20 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 20, -24 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 24	-18 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 18, -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 13, -22 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 22
Reflections collected /unique	38500/ 7408 [R(int) = 0.0491]	20151/ 3327 [R(int) = 0.0431]
Observed reflections	6720	2944
Completeness θ = 28.00°	99.5%	99.3%
Absorption correction	Numerical	Numerical
Refinement method	Full- matrix least-squares on F ²	Full- matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	7408 / 0 / 416	3327 / 0 / 229
Goodness of fit on F ²	1.059	1.067
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0427, wR2 = 0.1112	R1 = 0.0309, wR2 = 0.0745
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0470, wR2 = 0.1143	R1 = 0.0366, wR2 = 0.0768
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.295 and -1.553 e.Å ⁻³	0.895 and -1.504 e.Å ⁻³

Table 2. Selected bond lengths and angles (Å, °)

Bond Lengths		Bond angles			
(NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄]·H₂O 1					
Li1-O31	1.888(10)	O31-Li1-O32	121.2(5)	O37-Li2-O36	98.5(4)
Li1-O32	1.904(10)	O31-Li1-O33	116.2(5)	O35-Li2-O34	107.6(4)
Li1-O33	1.953(11)	O32-Li1-O33	104.5(5)	O37-Li2-O34	91.1(4)
Li1-O34	1.959(10)	O31-Li1-O34	115.6(5)	O36-Li2-O34	147.8(5)
Li2-O35	1.926(10)	O32-Li1-O34	100.2(5)		
Li2-O37	1.998(10)	O33-Li1-O34	94.9(4)		
Li2-O36	2.032(10)	O35-Li2-O37	106.6(5)		
Li2-O34	2.115(9)	O35-Li2-O36	99.0(4)		
(NH₄)₃[Li₃(H₂O)₄(μ₆-Mo₇O₂₄)]·2H₂O 2					
Li1-O22	1.885(10)	O22-Li1-O7	104.3(3)	O23-Li3- O3 ⁱⁱ	97.5(4)
Li1-O7	1.905(6)	O22-Li1-O7 ^{iv}	104.3(3)	O23-Li3- O3 ⁱⁱⁱ	97.5(4)
Li1-O7 ^{iv}	1.905(6)	O7-Li1-O7 ^{iv}	119.3(5)	O3 ⁱⁱ - Li3- O3 ⁱⁱⁱ	96.7(4)
Li1-O12 ^{vi}	2.001(10)	O22-Li1-O12 ^{vi}	112.2(5)	O23-Li3- O21	93.8(4)
Li2-O16 ^{vii}	2.048(10)	O7-Li1-O12 ^{vi}	108.3(3)	O3 ⁱⁱ - Li3-O21	166.0(5)
Li2-O21	2.036(7)	O7 ^{iv} -Li1-O12 ^{vi}	108.3(3)	O3 ⁱⁱⁱ - Li3-O21	90.00(13)
Li2-O21 ⁱ	2.036(7)	O21 ⁱ -Li2-O21	86.6(4)	O23-Li3- O21 ⁱ	93.8(4)
Li3-O3 ⁱⁱ	2.094(7)	O21 ⁱ -Li2-O16 ^v	103.3(4)	O3 ⁱⁱ -Li3- O21 ⁱ	90.00(13)
Li3-O3 ⁱⁱ	2.094(7)	O21-Li2-O16 ^v	103.3(4)	O3 ⁱⁱⁱ -Li3- O21 ⁱ	166.0(5)
Li3-O21 ⁱ	2.150(8)	O23-Li3-O3 ⁱⁱ	97.5(4)	O21-Li3-O21 ⁱ	81.0(4)
Li3-O21	2.150(8)				
Li3-O23	2.067(12)				

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms for compound **2**: i) 1+x, y, z ii) 1/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z iii) 1-x, 1-y, 1-z iv) 1-x, 1-y, 1-z v) 1+x, y, z vi) -1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z.

Table 3. Specific conductivity (K) and molar conductivity (λ_m) data

Molar Concentration (M)	Specific conductivity (K) (in S cm ⁻¹)		Molar conductivity (λ _m) (S cm ² mol ⁻¹)	
	Compound 1	Compound 2	Compound 1	Compound 2
0.1	0.040	0.037	400	371
0.08	0.038	0.038	481	444
0.06	0.036	0.032	600	542
0.04	0.031	0.027	798	685
0.02	0.022	0.019	1119	953

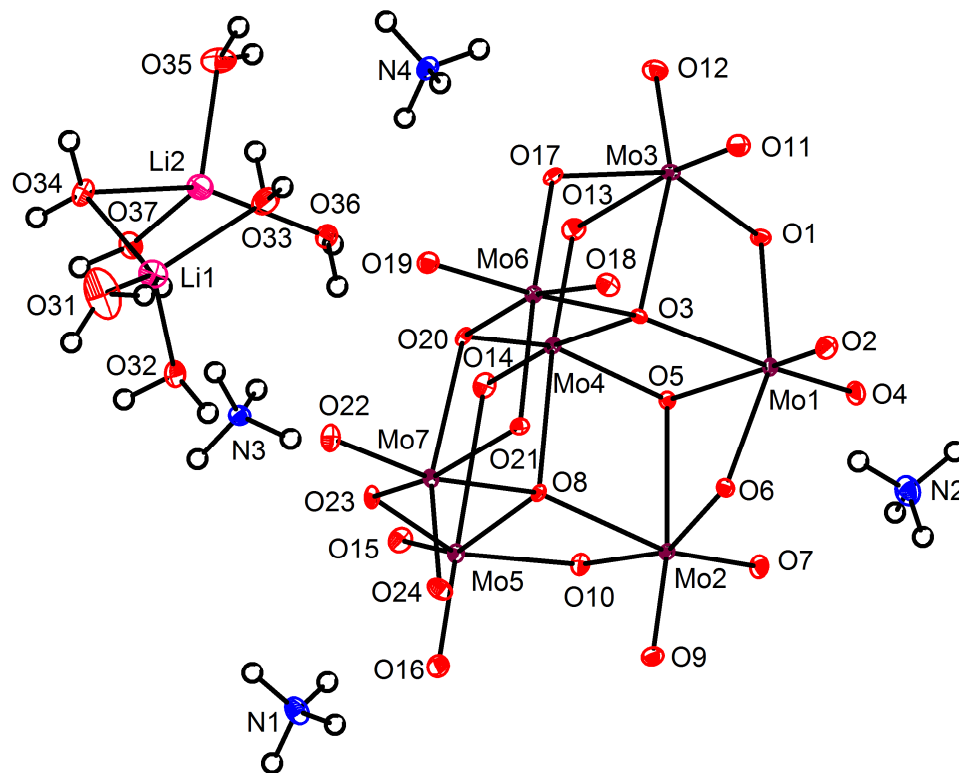


Figure 1. Crystal structure of $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** showing atom labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level excepting for H atoms, which are shown as circles of arbitrary radius. The disordered lattice water (O38) molecule is not shown.

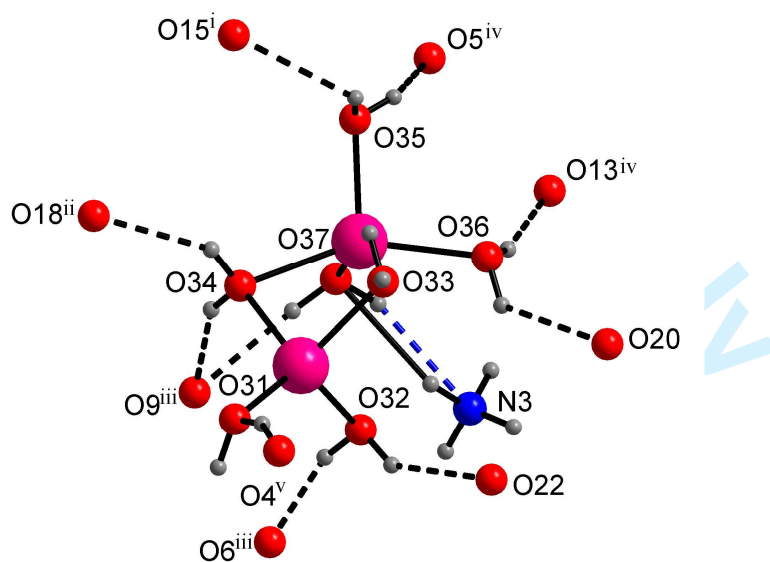


Figure 2. The hydrogen bonding situation around $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ cationic unit in **1** showing intramolecular and intermolecular O-H...O interactions (black dotted lines). One intramolecular O-H...N interactions is represented by a blue dotted line. Symmetry codes: i) $1+x, y, z$ ii) $1/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z$ iii) $3/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z$ iv) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$ v) $1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z$.

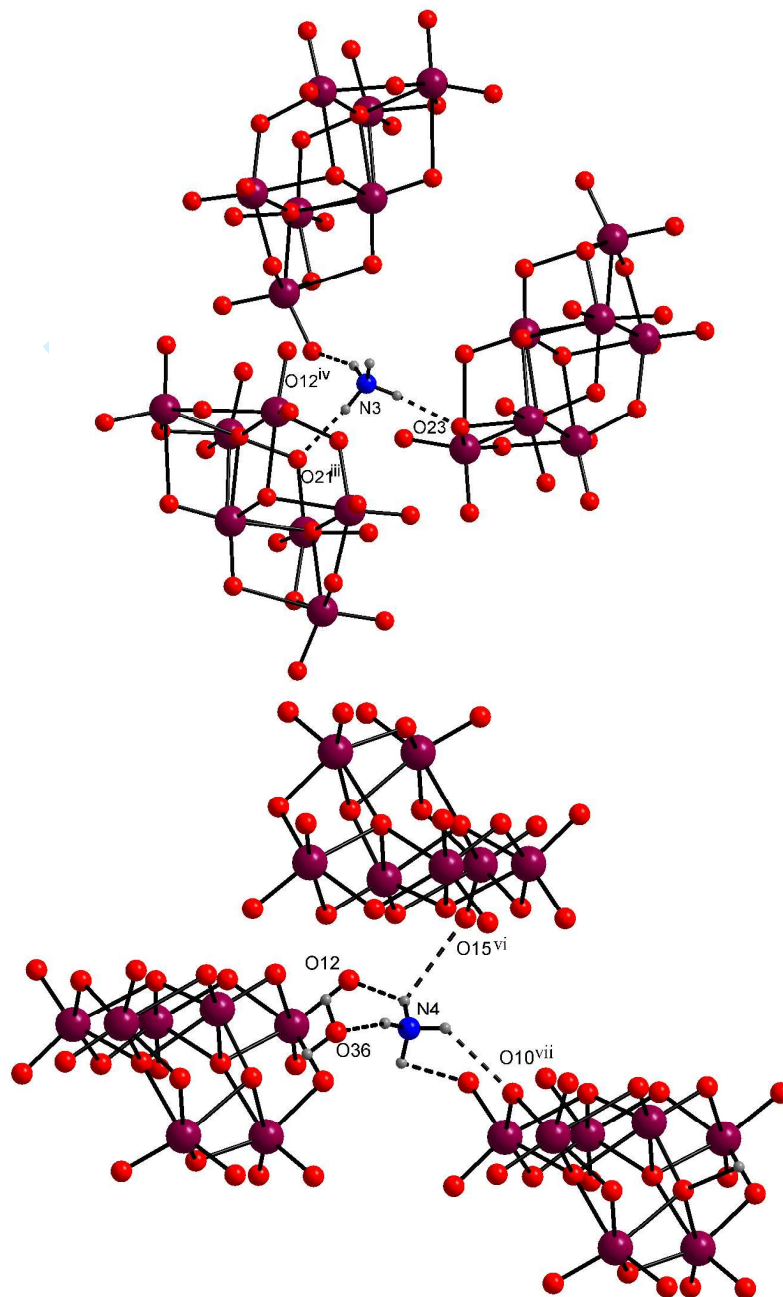


Figure 3. The hydrogen bonding situation around ammonium cations 'N3' (top) and 'N4' (bottom) showing intramolecular and intermolecular N-H...O interactions (black dotted lines). Symmetry codes: iii) 3/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z vi) -1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z vii) 1+x, y, z. (For H-bonding surroundings of N1 & N2 see **Figure S3**)

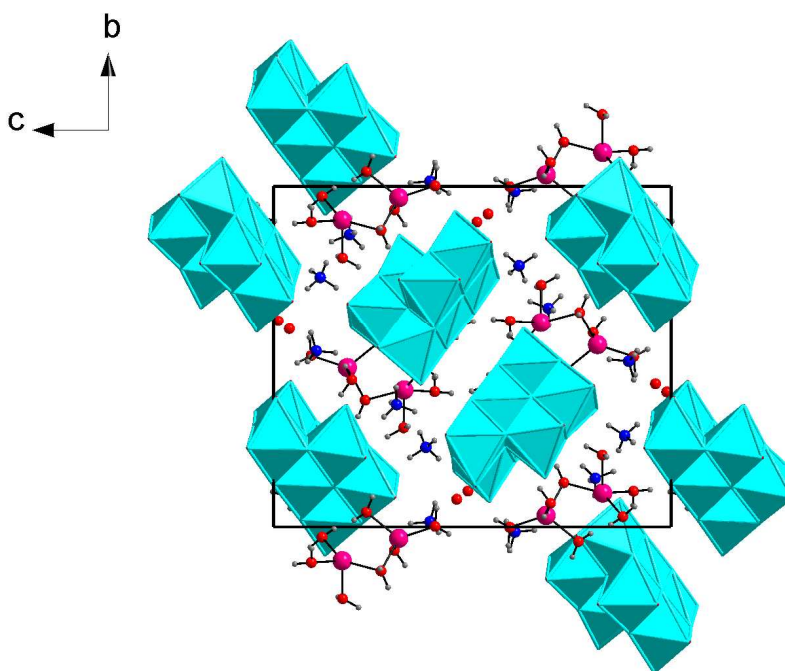


Figure 4. The unit cell packing viewed along 'a' axis showing alternating layers of cations and anions in $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1**. Anions are shown as polyhedra. For clarity, lattice water molecules as well as H-bonding interactions are not shown. (See also **Figure S4**)

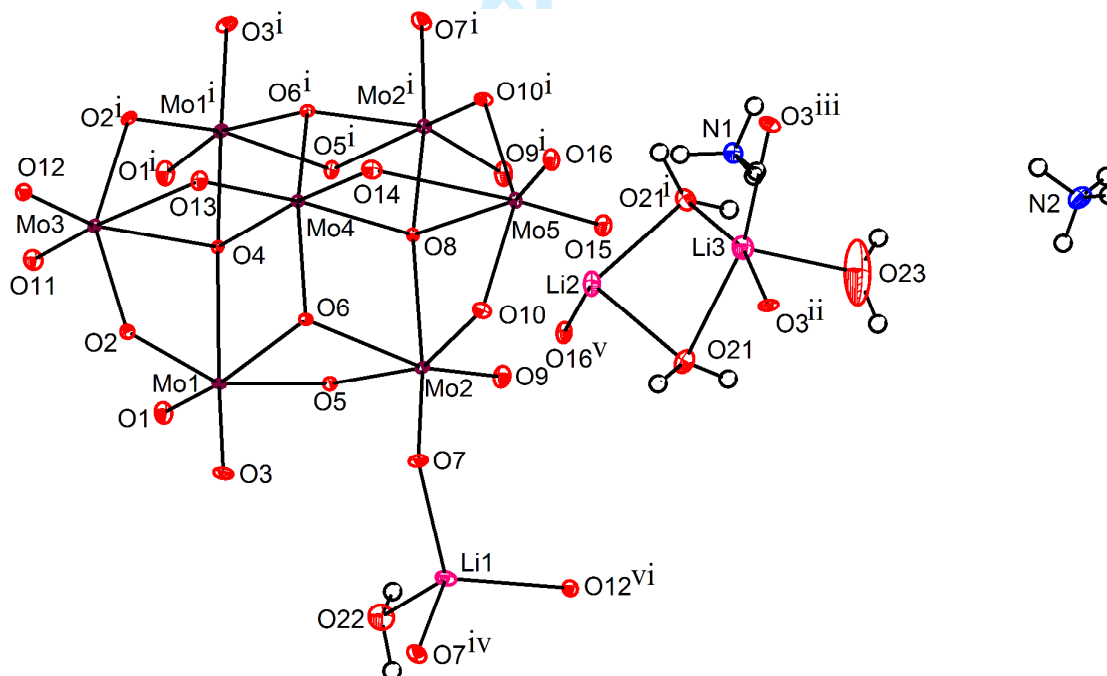


Figure 5. Crystal structure of $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2** showing atom labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level excepting for H atoms, which are shown as circles of arbitrary radius. The disordered lattice water (O24) molecule is not shown. Symmetry code: i) $1+x, y, z$ ii) $1/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z$ iii) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$ iv) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$ v) $1+x, y, z$ vi) $-1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z$.

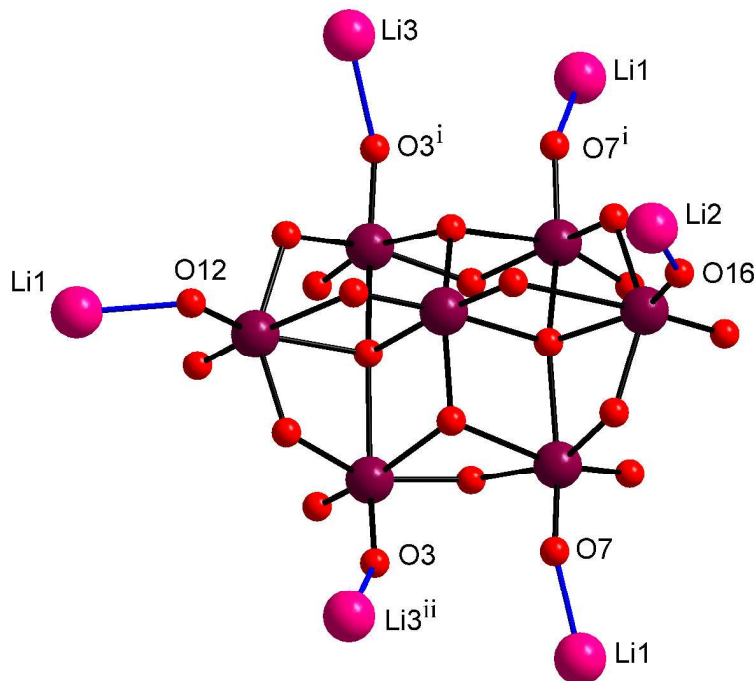


Figure 6. The μ_6 -hexadentate binding mode of $\{\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}\}^{6-}$ ligand in **2**. Li-O bonds are shown in blue. Symmetry code: i) $x, 1/2-y, z$ ii) $x, 3/2-y, z$.

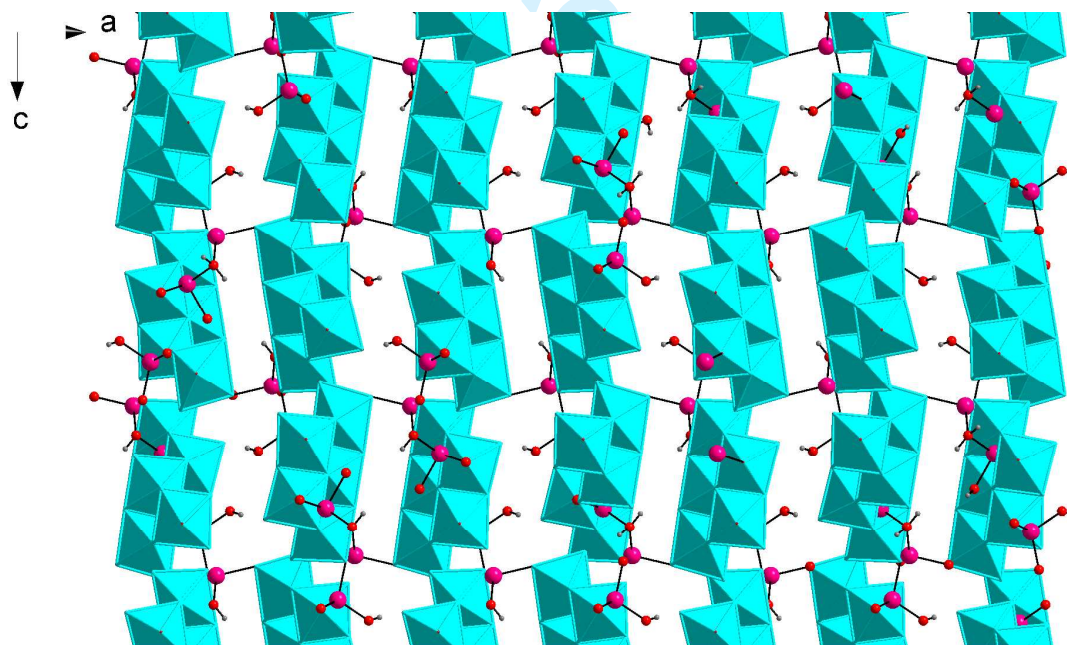


Figure 7. A view along ' b ' axis showing the two-dimensional structure formed by Li-O-Mo linkages in **2**. Colour code: Li, pink; O, red; H, medium grey; heptamolybdate anions are shown as polyhedra.

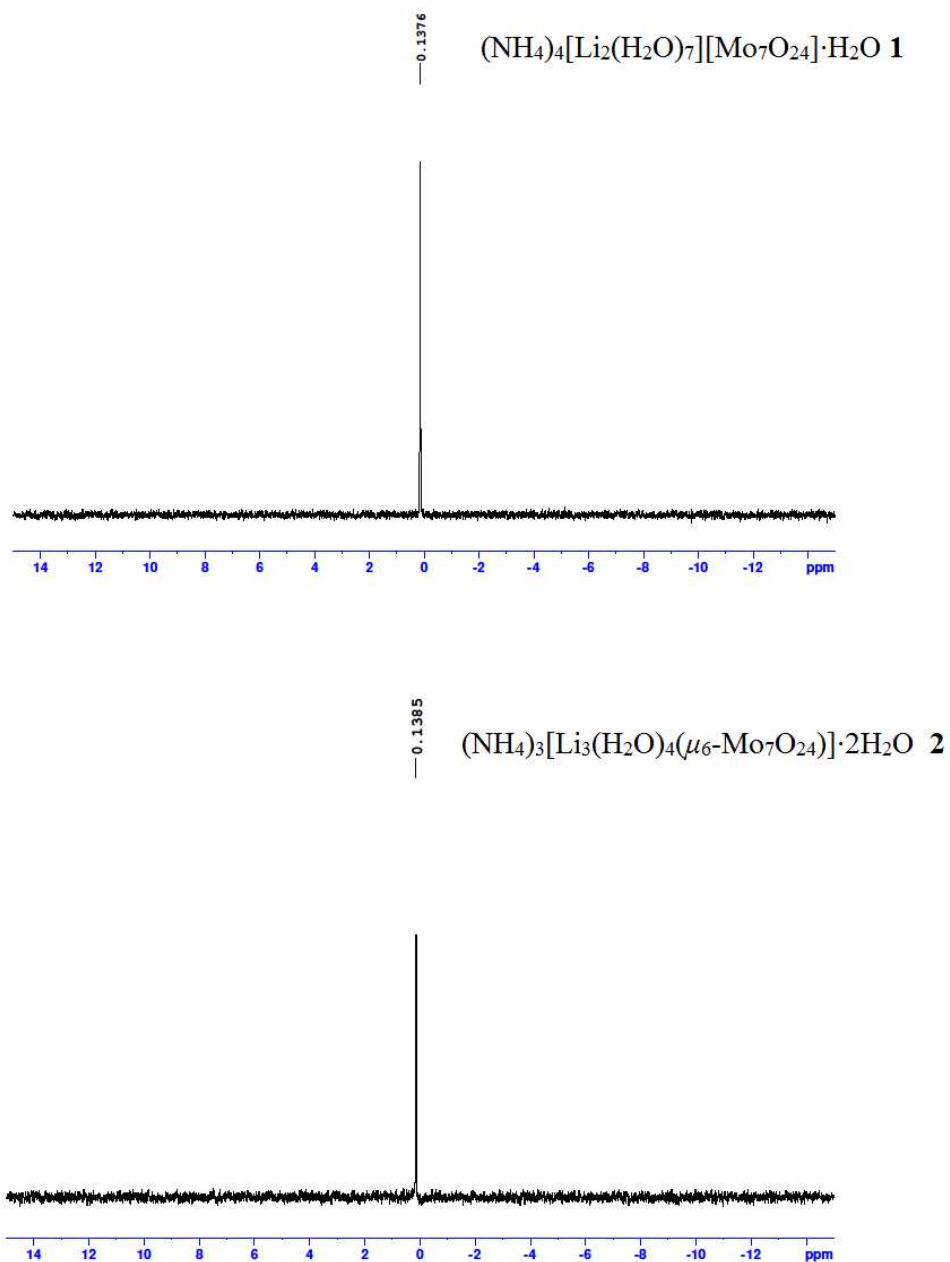


Figure 8. ^7Li NMR spectra of **1** (top) and **2** (bottom) in D_2O with lithium chloride as reference.

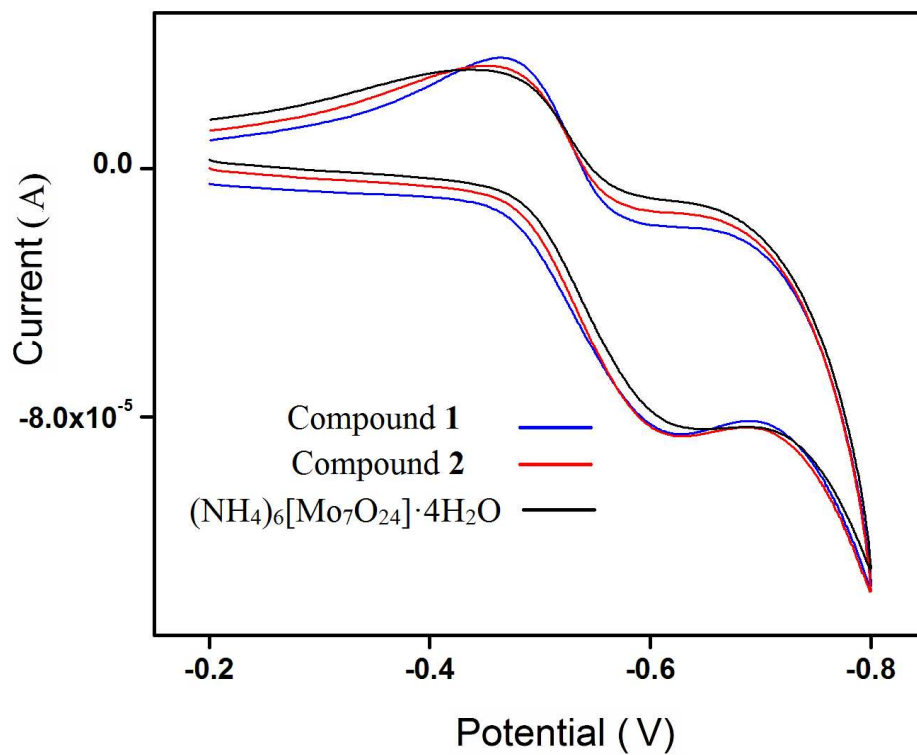


Figure 9. Cyclic voltammograms of 1, 2 and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ at scan rate of 0.03 V s^{-1} .

Synthesis and structure characterization of two new lithium–heptamolybdates

Savita S. Khandolkar^a, Christian Näther^b, Wolfgang Bensch^b, Bikshandarkoil R. Srinivasan^a,

^aDepartment of Chemistry, Goa University, Goa 403206, India

Email: srini@unigoa.ac.in Telephone: 0091-(0)832-6519316; Fax: 0091-(0)832-2451184

^bInstitut für Anorganische Chemie, Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel

Max-Eyth Straße 2, D-24098 Kiel, Germany

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL FOR ONLINE VERSION

Table S1. List of structurally characterized heptamolybdate compounds.

No	Compound	Space Group	Binding mode of {Mo ₇ O ₂₄ } ⁻⁶	Ref
1	(H ₂ DABCO) ₃ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>Cc</i>	Counterion	26
2	(2-ampH) ₄ [Co(H ₂ O) ₅ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·9H ₂ O	<i>Pna2₁</i>	Monodentate	9
3	[3-ampH] ₄ [{Zn(3-ampy)(H ₂ O) ₄ }Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>Cc</i>	Monodentate	15
4	[3-ampH] ₄ [{Co(3-ampy)(H ₂ O) ₄ }Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>Cc</i>	Monodentate	15
5	[2-ampH] ₄ [{Zn(H ₂ O) ₅ }Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·9H ₂ O	<i>Pnma</i>	Monodentate	15
6	Na(NH ₄)[bphH ₂] ₂ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·8H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/m</i>	Tridentate	8
7	(NH ₄) ₄ [Ru(DMSO) ₃ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·6.5H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Tridentate	14
8	(NH ₄) ₄ [Os(DMSO) ₃ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4.5H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Tridentate	14
9	(ImH) ₄ [Ca(H ₂ O) ₆ (μ-O) ₂ {Mo ₇ O ₂₄ }] ₂ ·2(Im)·3H ₂ O	<i>C2/m</i>	μ ₂ -bidentate	17
10	(NH ₄) ₆ H ₂ [Cu(C ₂ O ₄) ₂ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄)] ₂ ·9H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/m</i>	μ ₂ -bidentate	18
11	(hmtH) ₂ [{Mg(H ₂ O) ₅ } ₂ {Mo ₇ O ₂₄ }] ₂ ·3H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	μ ₂ -bidentate	10
12	(hmtH) ₂ [{Zn(H ₂ O) ₅ } ₂ {Mo ₇ O ₂₄ }] ₂ ·2H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	μ ₂ -tridentate	11
13	(hmtH) ₂ [Mn ₂ (H ₂ O) ₉ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·2H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	μ ₂ -tridentate	12
14	(hmtH) ₂ [Fe ₂ (H ₂ O) ₉ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·2H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	μ ₂ -tridentate	12
15	(NH ₄)[Cu(en) ₂][Na(en)Cu(en) ₂ (H ₂ O)(Mo ₇ O ₂₄)] ₂ ·4H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tridentate	19
16	(GuaNH ₂) ₇ Na[Co(H ₂ O) ₅ {Mo ₇ O ₂₄ }] ₂ ·8H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/c</i>	μ ₂ -tetradentate	13
17	[(CH ₃) ₄ N] _{1.33} [NH ₄] _{12.67} [La ₄ (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₁₆ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·12H ₂ O	<i>I4̄3d</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate	21
18	[NH ₄] ₁₄ [Ce ₄ (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₁₆ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·36H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate	21
19	[NH ₄] ₁₄ [Pr ₄ (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₁₆ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·29H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate	21
20	[(CH ₃) ₄ N] _{3.33} [NH ₄] _{10.67} [Sm ₄ (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₁₆ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·22H ₂ O	<i>I4̄3d</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate	21
21	[(CH ₃) ₄ N] _{3.33} [NH ₄] _{10.67} [Gd ₄ (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₁₆ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·16H ₂ O	<i>I4̄3d</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate	21
22	Na ₂ (hmtH ₂) ₂ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·9H ₂ O	<i>Pnma</i>	μ ₂ -pentadentate	16
23	[(hmtH) ₂] _{1.5} {(ahmtH) ₂] _{0.5} [[Na ₂ (H ₂ O) ₅ Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>Pnma</i>	μ ₂ -pentadentate	12
24	(NH ₄) ₂₈ [Ce ₈ (MoO ₄) ₂ (H ₂ O) ₃₁ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₈]·74H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate, μ ₄ -pentadentate	20
25	(NH ₄) ₂₆ [CoPr ₈ (MoO ₄) ₂ (H ₂ O) ₃₃ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₈]·54H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate, μ ₄ -pentadentate, μ ₄ -hexadentate	20
26	(NH ₄) _{11.9} [Nd _{4.7} (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₂₃ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·19H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate, μ ₄ -hexadentate	20
27	(NH ₄) _{11.9} [Pr _{4.7} (MoO ₄)(H ₂ O) ₂₃ (Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₄]·34H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₃ -tetradentate, μ ₄ -hexadentate	20
28	Na ₇ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄](OH)·21H ₂ O	<i>P2/n</i>	μ ₆ -hexadentate	7
29	Na ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·14H ₂ O	<i>Pca2₁</i>	μ ₁₁ -pentadecadentate	5
30	NaCs ₅ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·5H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₁₆ -hentriacontadentate	25
31	Cs ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·7H ₂ O	<i>P1̄</i>	μ ₁₈ -tritetracontadentate	6
32	K ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O [#]	<i>P2₁/c</i>	---	23

1	33	(NH ₄) ₃ [Li ₃ (H ₂ O) ₄ (μ ₆ -Mo ₇ O ₂₄)]·2H ₂ O	<i>Pnma</i>	μ ₆ -hexadentate	This work
2	34	(NH ₄) ₄ [Li ₂ (H ₂ O) ₇][Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	This work
3	35	(NH ₄) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/c</i>	Counterion	22
4	36	(2-ampH) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·3H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	24
5	37	(BuNH ₃) ₈ [(Mo ₇ O ₂₄)(MoO ₄)]·3H ₂ O	<i>P$\bar{1}$</i>	Counterion	4
6	38	(BuNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/c</i>	Counterion	Unpublished work
7	39	(BuNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·3H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	27
8	40	(PyrNH ₃) ₆ [(Mo ₇ O ₂₄) ₂]·2H ₂ O	<i>P$\bar{1}$</i>	Counterion	4
9	41	(PrNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·3H ₂ O	<i>P$\bar{1}$</i>	Counterion	4, 27
10	42	(PentNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·3H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	4, 27
11	43	(HexNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·3H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	27
12	44	(<i>t</i> -BuNH ₃) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·7H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	28
13	45	(TemedH ₂) ₃ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Counterion	29
14	46	(GuaNH ₂) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Counterion	30
15	47	(GuaNH ₂) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/c</i>	Counterion	31
16	48	(4- <i>ap</i> H) ₆ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·6H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/c</i>	Counterion	32
17	49	[UreaH] ₃ (NH ₄) ₉ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·5[Urea]·4H ₂ O	<i>Fddd</i>	Counterion	17
18	50	(dienH ₃) ₂ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Counterion	33
19	51	(dienH ₃) ₂ [Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·4H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/a</i>	Counterion	33
20	52	(NMe ₄) ₂ (NH ₄) ₈ [(Mo ₇ O ₂₂)(μ ₂ -O) ₂ (Mo ₇ O ₂₂)]·4H ₂ O	<i>P$\bar{1}$</i>	Counterion	34
21	53	(BuNH ₃) ₁₀ [(Mo ₇ O ₂₂)(μ ₂ -O) ₂ (Mo ₇ O ₂₂)]·5.5H ₂ O	<i>P2₁/n</i>	Counterion	4
22	54	[2,3-diampH] ₄ [Co(H ₂ O) ₆][Mo ₇ O ₂₄]·6H ₂ O	<i>C2/c</i>	Counterion	15

Abbreviations used: DABCO = 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; 2-amp = 2-aminopyridine; 3-amp = 3-aminopyridine; bpp = 1,3-bis(4pyridyl)propane; DMSO = dimethylsulfoxide; Im = imidazole; hmt = hexamethylenetetramine; en = ethylenediamine; GuaNH₂ = guanidinium; ahmt = *N*-(aminomethylene)hexamethylenetetramine; BuNH₂=butan-1-amine; PyrNH₂ = pyrrolidinium; PrNH₂= propan-1-amine; PentNH₂ = pentan-1-amine; HexNH₂ = hexan-1-amine; *t*-BuNH₂ = *tert*-butylamine; Temed = *N,N,N,N*-tetramethylethylenediamine; 4-*ap* = 4-aminopyridine; dien = diethylenetriamine.; 2,3-diamp = 2,3 diaminopyridine. # Potassium coordinates unavailable.

Table S2. Metric parameters of (Mo₇O₂₄)⁶⁻ in (Å) and angles (°) for (NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄]·H₂O 1.

Bond lengths

Mo(1)-O(2)	1.721(3)	Mo(4)-O(20)	1.897(3)
Mo(1)-O(4)	1.733(3)	Mo(4)-O(5)	1.899(3)
Mo(1)-O(6)	1.931(3)	Mo(4)-O(3)	2.267(3)
Mo(1)-O(1)	1.990(3)	Mo(4)-O(8)	2.282(3)
Mo(1)-O(3)	2.158(3)	Mo(5)-O(16)	1.722(3)
Mo(1)-O(5)	2.244(3)	Mo(5)-O(15)	1.742(3)
Mo(1)-Mo(3)	3.2110(5)	Mo(5)-O(10)	1.913(3)
Mo(2)-O(7)	1.713(3)	Mo(5)-O(23)	1.917(3)
Mo(2)-O(9)	1.721(3)	Mo(5)-O(8)	2.152(3)
Mo(2)-O(6)	1.944(3)	Mo(6)-O(18)	1.716(3)
Mo(2)-O(10)	1.991(3)	Mo(6)-O(19)	1.737(3)
Mo(2)-O(8)	2.149(3)	Mo(6)-O(21)	1.936(3)
Mo(2)-O(5)	2.284(3)	Mo(6)-O(17)	1.949(3)
Mo(3)-O(11)	1.722(3)	Mo(6)-O(3)	2.156(3)
Mo(3)-O(12)	1.728(3)	Mo(6)-O(20)	2.272(3)
Mo(3)-O(17)	1.924(3)	Mo(7)-O(24)	1.706(3)
Mo(3)-O(1)	1.926(3)	Mo(7)-O(22)	1.730(3)
Mo(3)-O(3)	2.159(3)	Mo(7)-O(21)	1.929(3)
Mo(3)-O(11)	1.722(3)	Mo(7)-O(23)	1.985(3)
Mo(4)-O(14)	1.740(3)	Mo(7)-O(8)	2.146(3)
Mo(4)-O(13)	1.757(3)	Mo(7)-O(20)	2.277(3)

Bond angles

O(2)-Mo(1)-O(4)	105.19(17)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(23)	97.74(15)
O(2)-Mo(1)-O(6)	96.99(15)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(23)	102.34(15)
O(4)-Mo(1)-O(6)	100.94(15)	O(10)-Mo(5)-O(23)	147.09(13)

1	O(2)-Mo(1)-O(1)	98.83(15)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(8)	106.04(14)
2	O(4)-Mo(1)-O(1)	92.52(15)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(8)	147.79(14)
3	O(6)-Mo(1)-O(1)	155.75(14)	O(10)-Mo(5)-O(8)	74.14(12)
4	O(2)-Mo(1)-O(3)	95.73(14)	O(23)-Mo(5)-O(8)	73.95(12)
5	O(4)-Mo(1)-O(3)	156.38(15)	O(18)-Mo(6)-O(19)	104.19(17)
6	O(6)-Mo(1)-O(3)	87.01(12)	O(18)-Mo(6)-O(21)	96.72(14)
7	O(1)-Mo(1)-O(3)	73.24(12)	O(19)-Mo(6)-O(21)	98.90(14)
8	O(2)-Mo(1)-O(5)	165.72(14)	O(18)-Mo(6)-O(17)	100.86(15)
9	O(4)-Mo(1)-O(5)	87.96(14)	O(19)-Mo(6)-O(17)	94.05(14)
10	O(6)-Mo(1)-O(5)	74.66(12)	O(21)-Mo(6)-O(17)	154.88(13)
11	O(1)-Mo(1)-O(5)	85.88(13)	O(18)-Mo(6)-O(3)	95.14(14)
12	O(3)-Mo(1)-O(5)	72.60(11)	O(19)-Mo(6)-O(3)	158.76(14)
13	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(9)	105.20(16)	O(21)-Mo(6)-O(3)	87.32(12)
14	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(6)	100.42(15)	O(17)-Mo(6)-O(3)	73.43(11)
15	O(9)-Mo(2)-O(6)	97.25(14)	O(18)-Mo(6)-O(20)	164.12(14)
16	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(10)	91.16(15)	O(20)-Mo(4)-O(3)	77.29(12)
17	O(9)-Mo(2)-O(10)	101.09(15)	O(5)-Mo(4)-O(3)	76.90(12)
18	O(6)-Mo(2)-O(10)	154.92(13)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(8)	82.91(14)
19	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(8)	155.21(14)	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(8)	171.88(13)
20	O(9)-Mo(2)-O(8)	96.50(14)	O(20)-Mo(4)-O(8)	76.92(12)
21	O(6)-Mo(2)-O(8)	88.38(12)	O(5)-Mo(4)-O(8)	75.98(12)
22	O(10)-Mo(2)-O(8)	72.74(12)	O(3)-Mo(4)-O(8)	88.30(10)
23	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(5)	88.73(14)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(15)	106.17(17)
24	O(9)-Mo(2)-O(5)	164.66(14)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(10)	98.55(15)
25	O(6)-Mo(2)-O(5)	73.49(12)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(10)	100.28(15)
26	O(10)-Mo(2)-O(5)	84.72(12)	O(19)-Mo(6)-O(20)	89.86(14)
27	O(8)-Mo(2)-O(5)	71.48(11)	O(21)-Mo(6)-O(20)	73.45(12)
28	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(12)	105.71(16)	O(17)-Mo(6)-O(20)	85.22(12)
29	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(17)	99.50(15)	O(3)-Mo(6)-O(20)	72.37(11)
30	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(17)	97.60(15)	O(24)-Mo(7)-O(22)	105.35(17)
31	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(1)	98.17(16)	O(24)-Mo(7)-O(21)	97.53(15)
32	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(1)	104.64(15)	O(22)-Mo(7)-O(21)	100.14(15)
33	O(17)-Mo(3)-O(1)	146.53(13)	O(24)-Mo(7)-O(23)	100.38(15)
34	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(3)	104.01(14)	O(22)-Mo(7)-O(23)	92.72(15)
35	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(3)	150.05(15)	O(21)-Mo(7)-O(23)	154.31(13)
36	O(17)-Mo(3)-O(3)	73.83(12)	O(24)-Mo(7)-O(8)	93.34(14)
37	O(1)-Mo(3)-O(3)	74.43(12)	O(22)-Mo(7)-O(8)	158.30(14)
38	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(13)	105.19(16)	O(21)-Mo(7)-O(8)	87.99(12)
39	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(20)	100.26(15)	O(23)-Mo(7)-O(8)	72.78(12)
40	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(20)	101.77(15)	O(24)-Mo(7)-O(20)	163.13(14)
41	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(5)	101.16(15)	O(22)-Mo(7)-O(20)	90.47(14)
42	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(5)	101.48(15)	O(21)-Mo(7)-O(20)	73.46(12)
43	O(20)-Mo(4)-O(5)	142.80(13)	O(23)-Mo(7)-O(20)	84.37(12)
44	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(3)	171.20(13)	O(8)-Mo(7)-O(20)	72.47(11)
45	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(3)	83.60(13)		

Table S3. Geometrical parameters of the O–H···O, O–H···N and N–H···O hydrogen bonds length (Å) and (°) in the crystal structure of (NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄]·H₂O **1**.

D-H	d(D-H)	d(H···A)	<DHA	d(D···A)	A	Symmetry codes
O31-H1O	0.850	1.948	156.47	2.749	O4	[x-1/2, -y+3/2, z+1/2]
O32-H3O	0.850	1.865	163.66	2.691	O6	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
O32-H4O	0.850	1.989	145.03	2.729	O22	
O34-H7O	0.850	2.096	147.56	2.850	O18	[-x+1/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
O34-H8O	0.850	2.148	153.73	2.934	O9	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
O35-H9O	0.850	2.009	147.14	2.762	O5	[-x+1, -y+1, -z+1]
O35-H10O	0.850	2.355	2.896	O15		[x-1, y, z]
O36-H11O	0.850	2.029	161.32	2.847	O13	[-x+1, -y+1, -z+1]
O36-H12O	0.850	2.196	130.31	2.821	O20	
O37-H13O	0.850	2.023	168.83	2.861	O9	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
O37-H14O	0.850	2.205	144.83	2.941	N3	
N1-H1N1	0.900	2.222	155.45	3.064	O16	
N1-H2N1	0.900	2.075	160.67	2.939	O2	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
N1-H3N1	0.900	2.340	174.59	3.237	O1	[x+1/2, -y+3/2, z+1/2]
N1-H4N1	0.900	2.209	137.86	2.939	O11	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
N2-H2N2	0.900	2.394	123.46	2.986	O4	
N2-H2N2	0.900	2.623	136.08	3.330	O35	[-x+1, -y+1, -z+1]
N2-H3N2	0.900	2.280	143.19	3.049	O15	[-x+2, -y+1, -z+1]
N2-H4N2	0.900	2.130	147.77	2.931	O19	[x+1/2, -y+3/2, z-1/2]
N2-H1N2	0.900	2.107	150.51	2.925	O38	[x+1, y, z]
N3-H1N3	0.900	1.848	164.90	2.727	O21	[-x+3/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2]
N3-H3N3	0.900	1.952	157.88	2.806	O12	[-x+1, -y+1, -z+1]
N3-H4N3	0.900	1.886	162.86	2.759	O23	
N4-H1N4	0.900	2.140	165.00	3.019	O36	
N4-H3N4	0.900	2.209	129.81	2.870	O10	[x-1, y, z]
N4-H4N4	0.900	2.570	135.27	3.271	O15	[-x+1, -y+1, -z+1]
N4-H4N4	0.900	2.587	140.11	3.328	O12	

Table S4. Metric parameters of $(\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})^{6-}$ in (Å) and angles ($^\circ$) for $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 2.**Bond lengths**

Mo(1)-O(1)	1.720(3)	Mo(3)-O(13)	2.477(4)
Mo(1)-O(3)	1.721(3)	Mo(3)-O(12)	1.753(4)
Mo(1)-O(5)	1.939(2)	Mo(3)-O(2)#1	1.919(3)
Mo(1)-O(2)	1.965(2)	Mo(4)-O(14)	1.735(4)
Mo(1)-O(4)	2.2207(7)	Mo(4)-O(13)	1.745(4)
Mo(1)-O(6)	2.237(2)	Mo(4)-O(6)#1	1.900(3)
Mo(2)-O(9)	1.723(3)	Mo(4)-O(6)	1.900(3)
Mo(2)-O(7)	1.725(3)	Mo(4)-O(8)	2.259(3)
Mo(2)-O(5)	1.932(2)	Mo(4)-O(4)	2.280(3)
Mo(2)-O(10)	1.972(2)	Mo(5)-O(15)	1.709(4)
Mo(2)-O(8)	2.1457(9)	Mo(5)-O(16)	1.748(4)
Mo(2)-O(6)	2.249(2)	Mo(5)-O(10)	1.907(3)
Mo(2)-Mo(5)	3.1851(4)	Mo(5)-O(10)#1	1.907(3)
Mo(3)-O(11)	1.715(4)	Mo(5)-O(8)	2.158(3)
Mo(3)-O(2)	1.919(3)	Mo(2)#1-O(8)	2.1457(9)
Mo(3)-O(4)	2.118(3)		

Bond angles

O(1)-Mo(1)-O(3)	104.38(14)	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(12)	105.81(17)
O(1)-Mo(1)-O(5)	96.35(12)	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(2)#1	99.64(8)
O(3)-Mo(1)-O(5)	101.68(12)	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(2)#1	99.60(8)
O(1)-Mo(1)-O(2)	99.91(12)	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(2)	99.64(8)
O(3)-Mo(1)-O(2)	94.63(12)	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(2)	99.60(8)
O(5)-Mo(1)-O(2)	153.30(11)	O(2)#1-Mo(3)-O(2)	147.82(15)
O(1)-Mo(1)-O(4)	95.11(13)	Mo(2)#1-O(8)-Mo(2)	151.62(18)
O(3)-Mo(1)-O(4)	158.29(12)	Mo(2)#1-O(8)-Mo(5)	95.48(9)
O(5)-Mo(1)-O(4)	85.29(12)	Mo(2)#1-O(8)-Mo(4)	101.56(9)
O(2)-Mo(1)-O(4)	72.34(12)	Mo(2)-O(8)-Mo(4)	101.56(9)
O(1)-Mo(1)-O(6)	164.51(12)	Mo(5)-O(8)-Mo(4)	102.22(14)
O(3)-Mo(1)-O(6)	89.63(11)	Mo(5)-O(10)-Mo(2)	110.36(12)
O(5)-Mo(1)-O(6)	73.99(9)	Mo(4)-O(13)-Mo(3)	105.04(16)
O(2)-Mo(1)-O(6)	85.23(10)	O(2)-Mo(3)-O(13)	78.77(8)
O(4)-Mo(1)-O(6)	72.38(11)	O(4)-Mo(3)-O(13)	71.45(12)
O(1)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	88.62(10)	O(11)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	91.45(10)
O(3)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	128.60(9)	O(12)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	134.23(4)
O(5)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	126.45(8)	O(2)#1-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	34.93(7)
O(2)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	33.99(8)	O(2)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	119.22(7)
O(4)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	41.19(8)	O(4)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	43.669(17)
O(6)-Mo(1)-Mo(3)	87.66(7)	O(2)-Mo(3)-O(13)	78.77(8)
O(9)-Mo(2)-O(7)	107.37(14)	O(13)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)#1	83.11(6)
O(9)-Mo(2)-O(5)	96.05(12)	O(11)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	91.45(10)
O(7)-Mo(2)-O(5)	100.30(12)	O(12)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	134.23(4)
O(9)-Mo(2)-O(10)	101.60(11)	O(2)#1-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	119.22(7)
O(7)-Mo(2)-O(10)	91.96(13)	O(2)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	34.93(7)
O(5)-Mo(2)-O(10)	154.45(11)	O(4)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	43.669(17)
O(9)-Mo(2)-O(8)	91.27(14)	O(13)-Mo(3)-Mo(1)	83.11(6)

1	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(8)	158.31(13)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(13)	105.55(17)
2	O(5)-Mo(2)-O(8)	88.35(12)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(6)#1	100.34(8)
3	O(10)-Mo(2)-O(8)	73.04(12)	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(6)#1	101.77(8)
4	O(9)-Mo(2)-O(6)	160.14(12)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(6)	100.34(8)
5	O(7)-Mo(2)-O(6)	91.45(11)	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(6)	101.77(8)
6	O(5)-Mo(2)-O(6)	73.84(9)	O(6)#1-Mo(4)-O(6)	143.00(14)
7	O(10)-Mo(2)-O(6)	83.60(10)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(8)	84.11(15)
8	O(8)-Mo(2)-O(6)	71.74(11)	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(8)	170.33(15)
9	O(9)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	86.49(10)	O(6)#1-Mo(4)-O(8)	76.00(7)
10	O(7)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	125.87(9)	O(6)-Mo(4)-O(8)	76.00(7)
11	O(5)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	130.75(8)	O(14)-Mo(4)-O(4)	171.36(15)
12	O(10)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	34.15(8)	O(13)-Mo(4)-O(4)	83.09(14)
13	O(8)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	42.41(9)	O(6)#1-Mo(4)-O(4)	77.48(7)
14	O(6)-Mo(2)-Mo(5)	87.53(6)	O(6)-Mo(4)-O(4)	77.48(7)
15	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(4)	101.10(16)	O(8)-Mo(4)-O(4)	87.25(12)
16	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(4)	153.09(15)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(16)	106.44(17)
17	O(2)#1-Mo(3)-O(4)	75.59(7)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(10)	99.06(9)
18	O(2)-Mo(3)-O(4)	75.59(7)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(10)	101.04(8)
19	O(11)-Mo(3)-O(13)	172.55(16)	O(15)-Mo(5)-O(10)#1	99.06(8)
20	O(12)-Mo(3)-O(13)	81.64(14)	O(16)-Mo(5)-O(10)#1	101.04(8)
21	O(15)-Mo(5)-Mo(2)#1	91.21(10)	O(10)-Mo(5)-Mo(2)#1	115.79(7)
22	O(16)-Mo(5)-Mo(2)#1	136.06(4)	O(8)-Mo(5)-Mo(2)#1	42.11(2)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms.

#1 $x, -y+1/2, z$ #2 $-x+1/2, -y+1, z+1/2$ #3 $x-1/2, y, -z+3/2$ #4 $x, -y+3/2, z$ #5 $-x+1/2, -y+1, z-1/2$ #6 $x+1/2, y, -z+3/2$ #7 $-x+1/2, y-1/2, z-1/2$ #8 $-x+1, -y, -z+1$

Table S5. Geometrical parameters of the N-H...O and O-H...O, hydrogen bonds length (Å) and ($^{\circ}$) in the crystal structure of $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2**.

D-H	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	<DHA	d(D...A)	A	Symmetry codes
N1-H1N1	0.840	2.049	178.60	2.889	O16	
N1-H2N1	0.840	2.361	134.82	3.012	O3	[$-x+1/2, -y+1, z-1/2$]
N1-H2N1	0.840	2.361	134.82	3.012	O3	[$-x+1/2, y-1/2, z-1/2$]
N1-H3N1	0.840	2.018	163.48	2.833	O5	[$x-1/2, -y+1/2, -z+3/2$]
N2-H1N2	0.840	2.146	168.02	2.973	O9	[$-x+1, y-1/2, -z+1$]
N2-H2N2	0.840	2.175	130.25	2.792	O10	[$-x+1/2, y-1/2, z-1/2$]
N2-H3N2	0.840	2.292	141.54	2.995	O11	[$x, y, z-1$]
N2-H3N2	0.840	2.362	123.42	2.910	O1	[$x, -y+1/2, z-1$]
N2-H4N2	0.840	2.182	148.31	2.930	O12	[$x+1/2, y, -z+3/2$]
O21-H21A	0.880	1.998	144.79	2.764	O2	[$-x+1/2, -y+1, z-1/2$]
O21-H21B	0.880	2.470	121.86	3.028	O14	[$x+1/2, y, -z+3/2$]
O22-H22A	0.880	1.865	176.60	2.744	O1	[$-x+1, y+1/2, -z+2$]

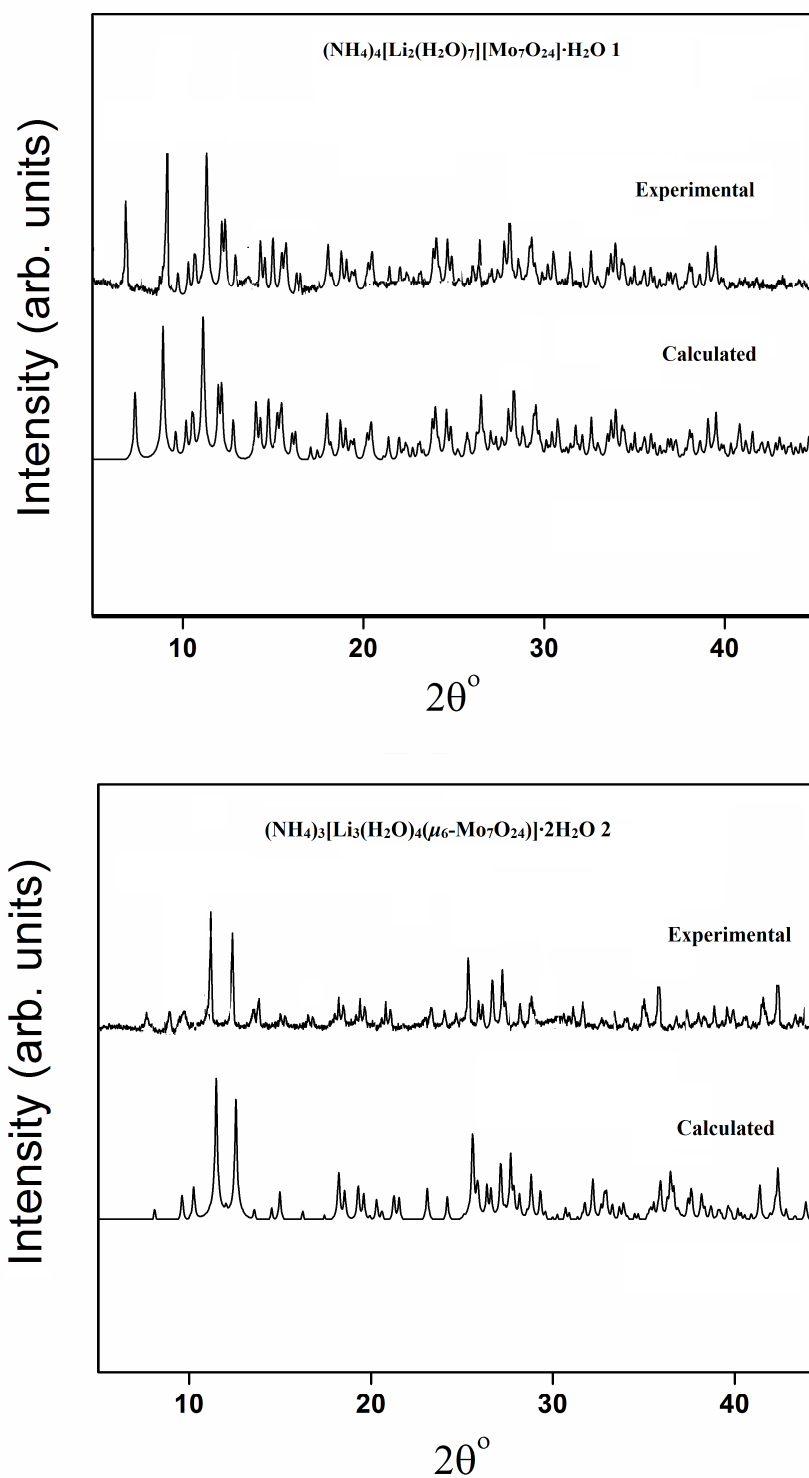


Figure S1. Calculated and experimental powder patterns of **1**(top) & **2** (bottom).

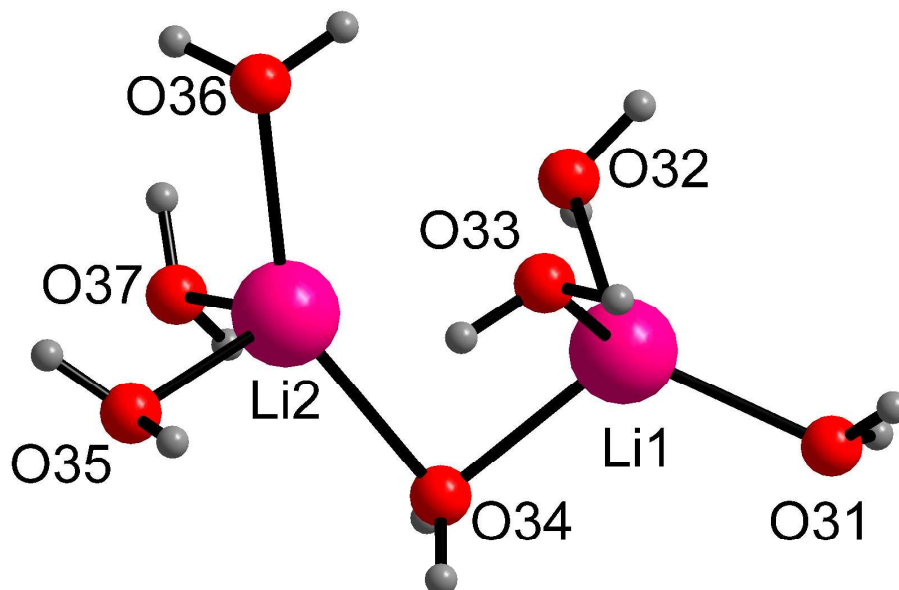


Figure S2. Coordination sphere of $\{\text{LiO}_4\}$ tetrahedra around Li1 and Li2 showing μ_2 -bridging bidentate coordination of O34 resulting in a water bridged dinuclear cationic unit $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ in **1**.

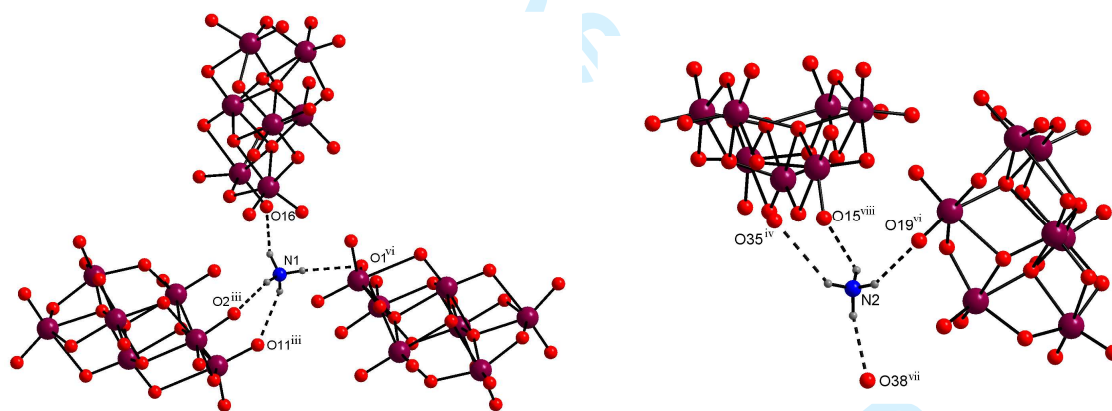


Figure S3. The hydrogen bonding situation around ammonium cations 'N1' (**left**) and 'N2' (**right**) showing intramolecular and intermolecular N-H...O interactions (black dotted lines). Symmetry codes: iii) $3/2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z$ iv) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$ vi) $-1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z$ vii) $1+x, y, z$ viii) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$.

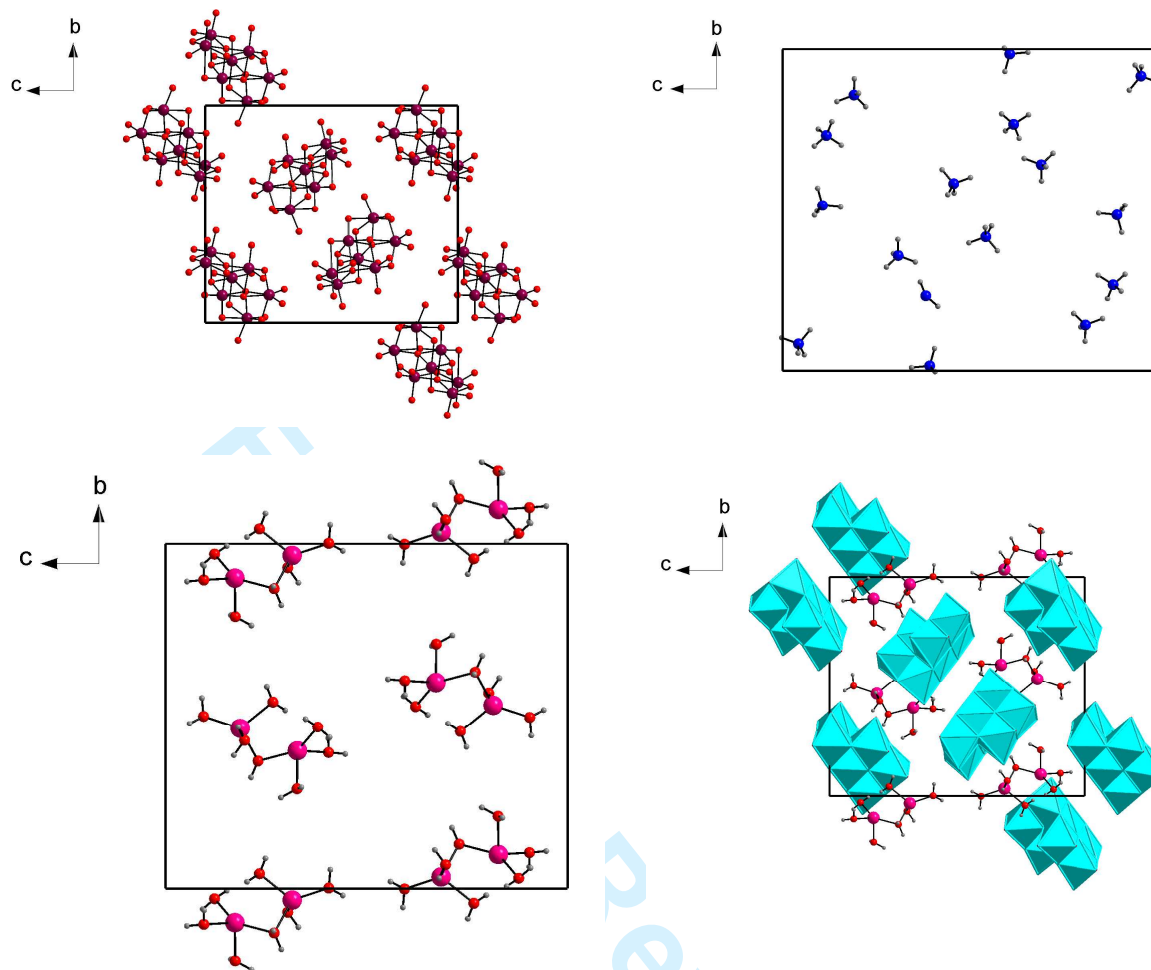


Figure S4. A view along 'a' axis of the unit cell packing showing only heptamolybdate anions (**top left**), ammonium cations (**top right**), $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^{2+}$ cationic unit (**bottom left**) and $[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]^{4-}$ unit (**bottom right**) in compound **1**. Colour codes: Mo, maroon; Li, pink; O, red; N, blue; H, medium grey; heptamolybdate anions are shown as polyhedra.

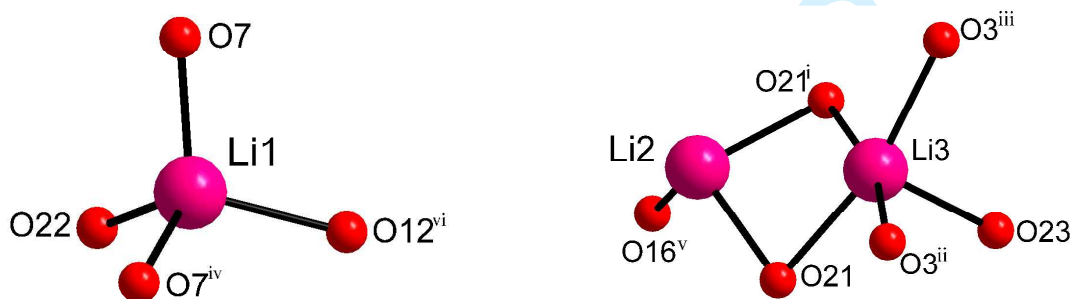


Figure S5. The coordination sphere of Li1 (**left**) and Li2, Li3 (**right**) in compound **2**. Symmetry codes: i) $x, 1/2-y, z$ ii) $x, 3/2-y, z$ iii) $-1/2+x, 1/2-y, 3/2-z$ iv) $1/2-x, 1-y, -1/2+z$ v) $1/2-x, -1/2+y, -1/2+z$ vi) $-1/2+x, 3/2-y, 1/2+z$.

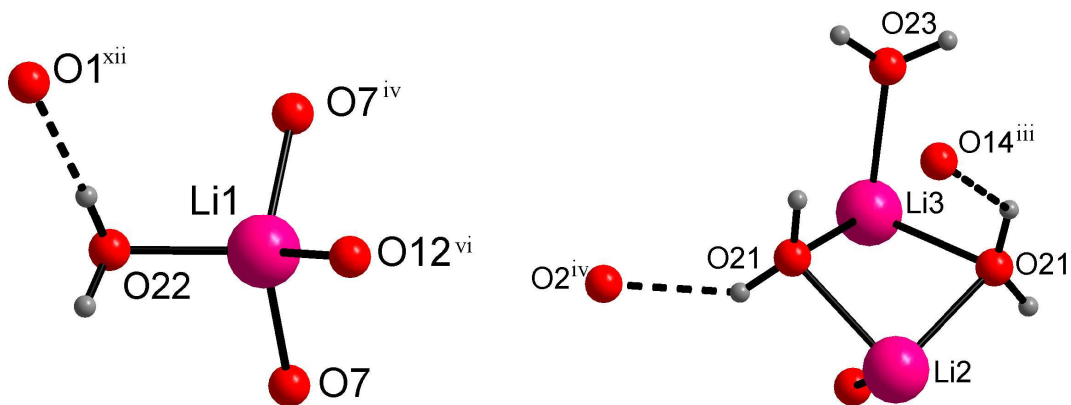


Figure S6. The hydrogen bonding situation around Li1 (**left**) and Li2, Li3 (**right**) showing O–H···O interactions (black dotted lines). Symmetry codes: iii) $-1/2+x, 1/2-y, 3/2-z$ iv) $1/2-x, 1-y, -1/2+z$ vi) $1/2-x, 1/2+y, 1/2+z$ xii) $1-x, -1/2+y, 2-z$.

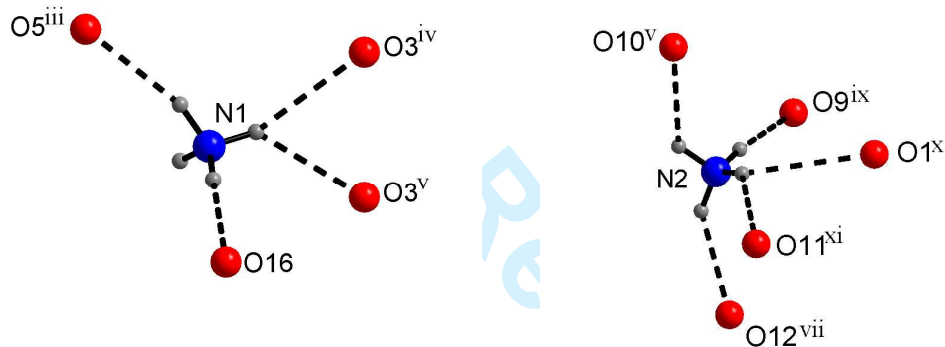
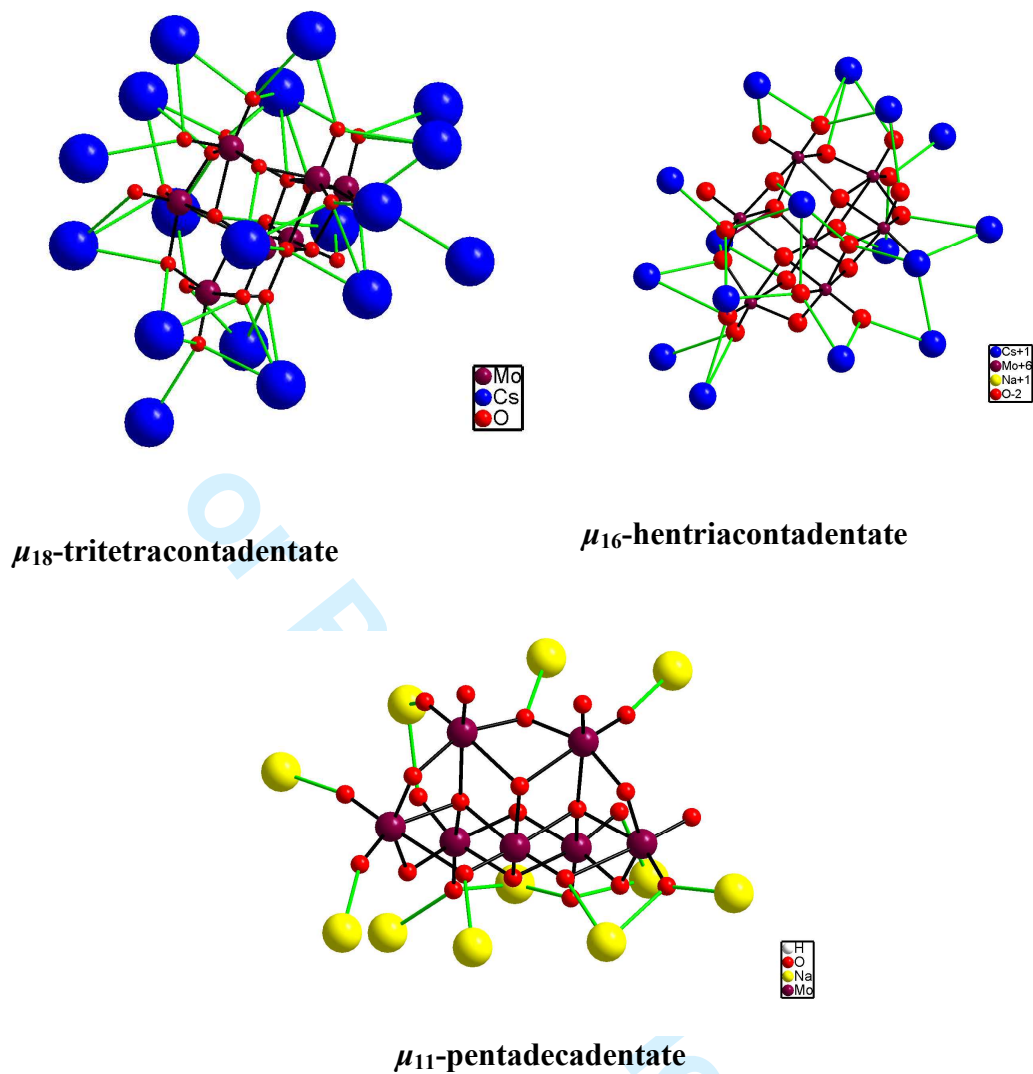


Figure S7. The hydrogen bonding situation around ammonium cations 'N1' (**left**) and 'N2' (**right**) shown by black dotted lines. Symmetry codes: iii) $-1/2+x, 1/2-y, 3/2-z$ iv) $1/2-x, 1-y, -1/2+z$ v) $1/2-x, -1/2+y, -1/2+z$ vii) $1/2+x, y, 3/2-z$ ix) $1-x, 1/2+y, 1-z$ x) $x, 1/2-y, -1+z$ xi) $x, y, 1+z$.



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Figure S8. The binding modes of heptamolybdate in $\text{Cs}_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (top left), $\text{NaCs}_5[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (top right) and $\text{Na}_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}] \cdot 14\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (bottom).

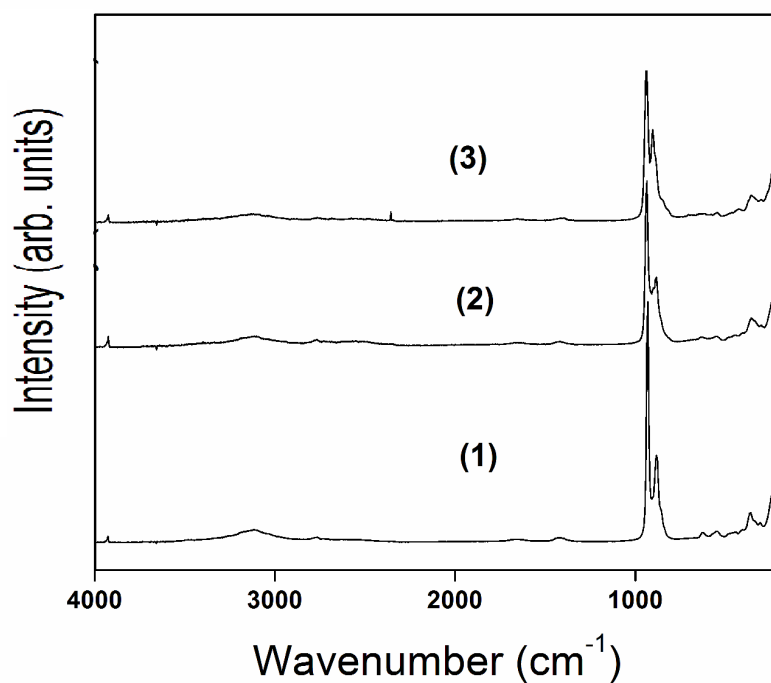
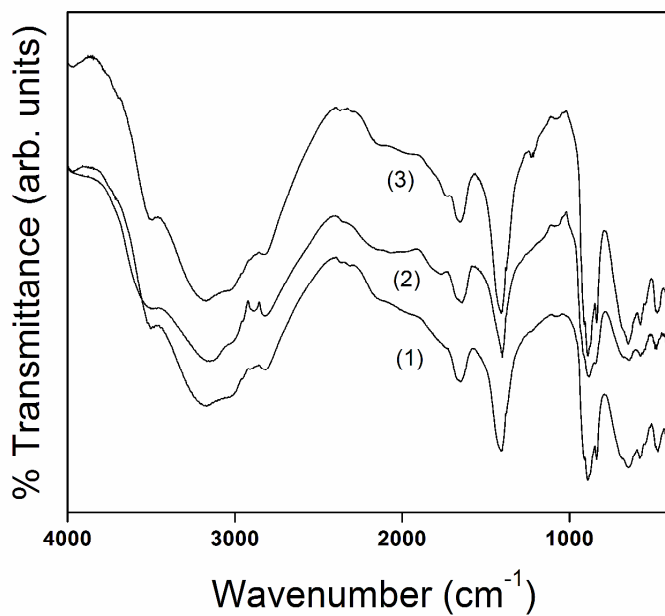


Figure S9. IR (**top**) and Raman spectra (**bottom**) of $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1), $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2) and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (3).

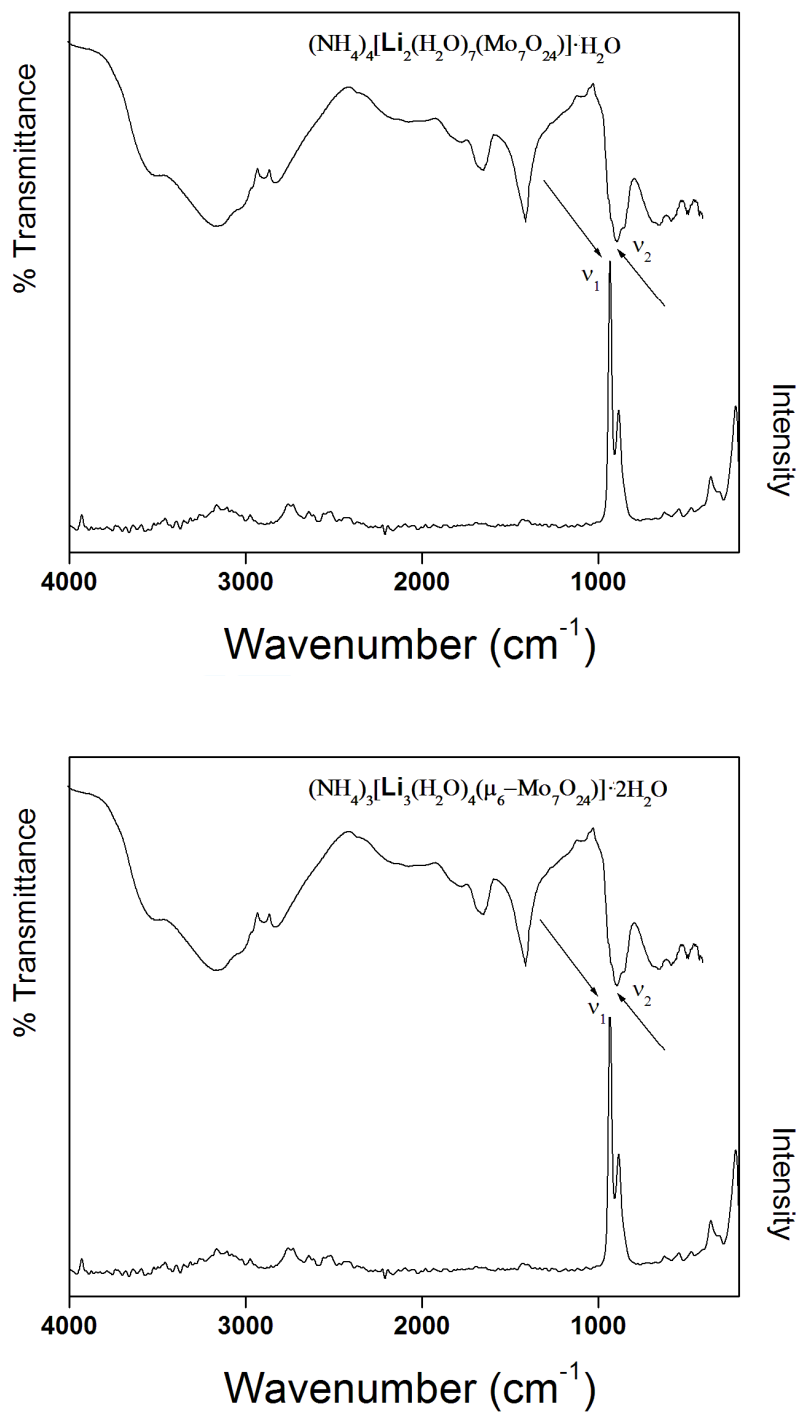
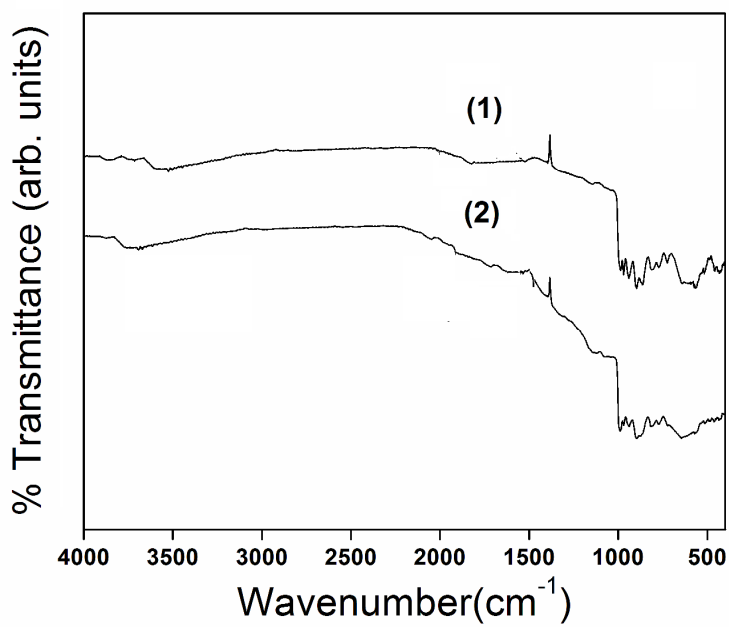
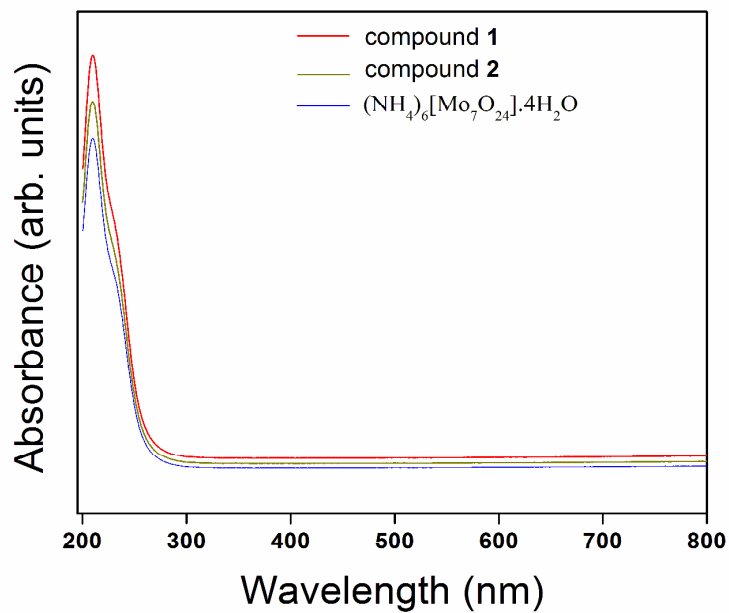


Figure S10. IR and Raman spectra of $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **1** (top) and $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ **2** (bottom).



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Figure S11. IR spectra of the residue obtained after heating $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{Li}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7][\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1), $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2) at 600 °C.



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Figure S12. UV-Vis spectra of compound 1, 2 and $(\text{NH}_4)_6[\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{24}]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

checkCIF/PLATON report (NH₄)₄[Li₂(H₂O)₇][Mo₇O₂₄].H₂O 1

You have not supplied any structure factors. As a result the full set of tests cannot be run.

THIS REPORT IS FOR GUIDANCE ONLY. IF USED AS PART OF A REVIEW PROCEDURE FOR PUBLICATION, IT SHOULD NOT REPLACE THE EXPERTISE OF AN EXPERIENCED CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC REFEREE.

No syntax errors found. CIF dictionary Interpreting this report

Datablock: srini903

Bond precision:	Mo- O = 0.0030 A	Wavelength=0.71073
Cell:	a=10.5894 (8) b=15.8542 (8) c=18.7820 (14)	
	alpha=90 beta=101.473 (9) gamma=90	
Temperature:	200 K	
	Calculated	Reported
Volume	3090.2 (4)	3090.2 (4)
Space group	P 21/n	P 21/n
Hall group	-P 2yn	-P 2yn
Moiety formula	Mo ₇ O ₂₄ , 7 (H ₂ O), O, 4 (H ₄ N), 2 (Li)	Mo ₇ O ₂₄ , 7 (H ₂ O), O, 4 (H ₄ N), 2 (Li)
Sum formula	H ₃₀ Li ₂ Mo ₇ N ₄ O ₃₂	H ₃₂ Li ₂ Mo ₇ N ₄ O ₃₂
Mr	1283.74	1285.76
Dx, g cm ⁻³	2.759	2.764
Z	4	4
Mu (mm ⁻¹)	2.866	2.866
F000	2456.0	2464.0
F000'	2409.00	
h, k, lmax	13, 20, 24	13, 20, 24
Nref	7442	7408
Tmin, Tmax	0.696, 0.818	
Tmin'	0.682	

Correction method= Not given

Data completeness= 0.995 Theta (max)= 28.000

R(reflections)= 0.0427 (6720) wR2(reflections)= 0.1143 (7408)

S = 1.059 Npar= 416

The following ALERTS were generated. Each ALERT has the format **test-name_ALERT_alert-type_alert-level**. Click on the hyperlinks for more details of the test.

Alert level B

PLAT430_ALERT_2_B Short Inter D...A Contact O11 .. O38 .. 2.74 Ang.
 PLAT430_ALERT_2_B Short Inter D...A Contact O11 .. O38' .. 2.80 Ang.

Alert level C

PLAT041_ALERT_1_C Calc. and Reported SumFormula Strings Differ Please Check
 PLAT043_ALERT_1_C Calculated and Reported Mol. Weight Differ by .. 2.02 Check
 PLAT052_ALERT_1_C Info on Absorption Correction Method Not Given Please Do !
 PLAT057_ALERT_3_C Correction for Absorption Required RT(exp) ... 1.18 Do !
 PLAT068_ALERT_1_C Reported F000 Differs from Calcd (or Missing)... Please Check

Alert level G

FORMU01_ALERT_1_G There is a discrepancy between the atom counts in the
 _chemical_formula_sum and _chemical_formula_moiety. This is
 usually due to the moiety formula being in the wrong format.
 Atom count from _chemical_formula_sum: H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32 Atom
 count from _chemical_formula_moiety:H30 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 FORMU01_ALERT_2_G There is a discrepancy between the atom counts in the
 _chemical_formula_sum and the formula from the _atom_site*
 data. Atom count from _chemical_formula_sum:H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 Atom count from the _atom_site data: H30 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32 CELLZ01_ALERT_1_G
 Difference between formula and atom_site contents detected. CELLZ01_ALERT_1_G WARNING:
 H atoms missing from atom site list. Is this intentional?
 From the CIF: _cell_formula_units_Z 4
 From the CIF: _chemical_formula_sum H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 TEST: Compare cell contents of formula and atom_site data

atom	Z*formula	cif sites	diff
H	128.00	120.00	8.00
Li	8.00	8.00	0.00
Mo	28.00	28.00	0.00
N	16.00	16.00	0.00
O	128.00	128.00	0.00

PLAT005_ALERT_5_G No Embedded Refinement Details found in the CIF Please Do !
 PLAT007_ALERT_5_G Number of Unrefined Donor-H Atoms 30 Report
 PLAT093_ALERT_1_G No s.u.'s on H-positions, Refinement Reported as mixed Check
 PLAT232_ALERT_2_G Hirshfeld Test Diff (M-X) Mo5 -- O14 .. 5.3 s.u.
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of >O38 is Constrained at 0.75 Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of <O38' is Constrained at 0.25 Check
 PLAT302_ALERT_4_G Anion/Solvent Disorder Percentage = 7 Note
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.75) in Resd. # 9 Check
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.25) in Resd. # 14 Check
 PLAT311_ALERT_2_G Isolated Disordered Oxygen Atom (No H's ?) 038 Check
 PLAT311_ALERT_2_G Isolated Disordered Oxygen Atom (No H's ?) 038' Check
 PLAT720_ALERT_4_G Number of Unusual/Non-Standard Labels 16 Note
 PLAT899_ALERT_4_G SHELXL97 is Deprecated and Succeeded by SHELXL 2014 Note

0 **ALERT level A** = Most likely a serious problem - resolve or explain 2

ALERT level B = A potentially serious problem, consider carefully

5 **ALERT level C** = Check. Ensure it is not caused by an omission or oversight 17

ALERT level G = General information/check it is not something unexpected

8 ALERT type 1 CIF construction/syntax error, inconsistent or missing data

6 ALERT type 2 Indicator that the structure model may be wrong or deficient

1 ALERT type 3 Indicator that the structure quality may be low

7 ALERT type 4 Improvement, methodology, query or suggestion

2 ALERT type 5 Informative message, check

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Publication of your CIF in IUCr journals

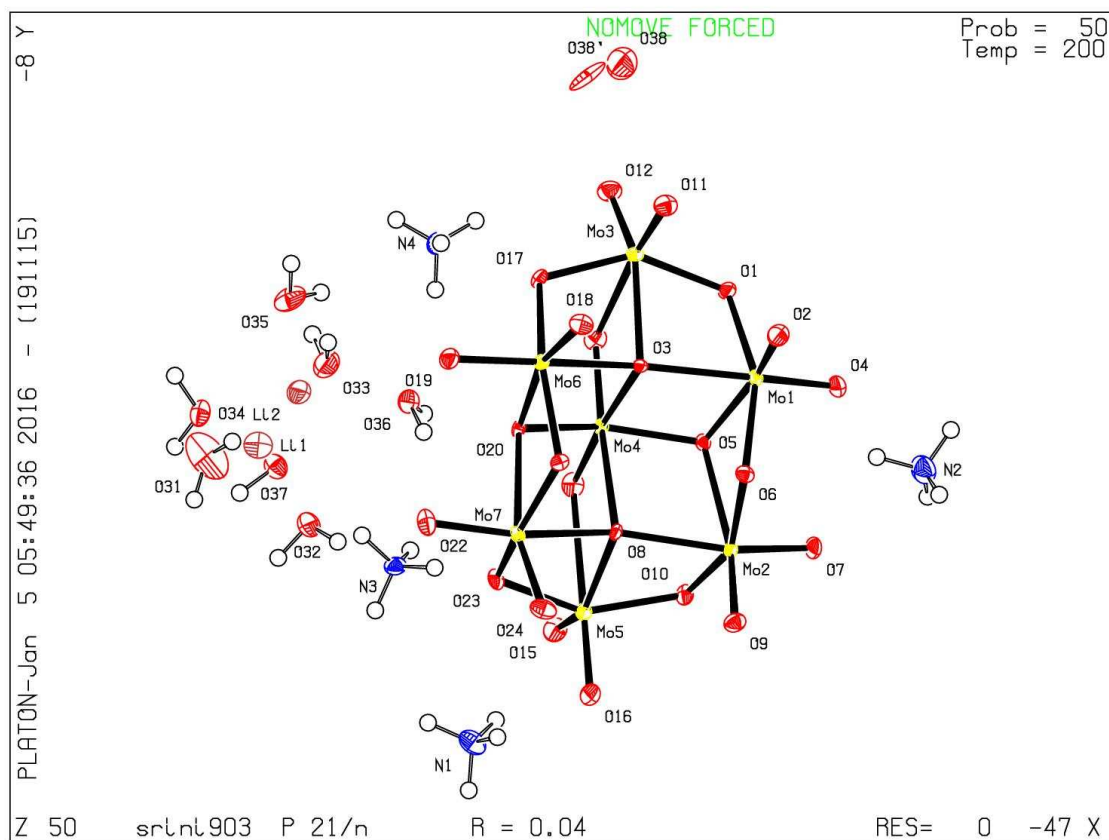
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PLATON version of 19/11/2015; check.def file version of 17/11/2015

Datablock srini903 - ellipsoid plot



checkCIF/PLATON report of $(\text{NH}_4)_3[\text{Li}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\mu_6\text{-Mo}_7\text{O}_{24})]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 2

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No syntax errors found. CIF dictionary Interpreting this report

Datablock: srini903

Bond precision: Mo- O = 0.0026 Å

Wavelength=0.71073

Cell: a=14.0745 (10)

b=10.8681 (6)

c=17.2459 (11)

alpha=90

beta=90

gamma=90

Temperature: 200 K

Volume Calculated

Reported

2638.0 (3)

2638.0 (3)

Space group

P n m a

P n m a

Hall group

-P 2ac 2n

-P 2ac 2n

1		Mo7 O24, H4 O2, 4 (H2 O),	Mo7 O24, H4 O2, 4 (H2
2	Moiety formula	3 (H4 N), 3 (Li)	O), 3 (H4 N), 3 (Li)
3	Sum formula	H24 Li3 Mo7 N3 O30	H24 Li3 Mo7 N3 O30
4	Mr	1238.62	1238.62
5	Dx, g cm-3	3.119	3.119
6	Z	4	4
7	Mu (mm-1)	3.344	3.344
8	F000	2352.0	2352.0
9	F000'	2304.92	
10	h, k, lmax	18, 14, 22	18, 14, 22
11	Nref	3352	3327
12	Tmin, Tmax	0.704, 0.765	
13	Tmin'	0.685	

16
17 Correction method= Not given

18
19 Data completeness= 0.993 Theta(max)= 28.000

20
21 R(reflections)= 0.0309(2944) wR2(reflections)= 0.0768(3327)

22
23
24 S = 1.067 Npar= 229

26
27 The following ALERTS were generated. Each ALERT has the
28 format **test-name_ALERT_alert-type_alert-level**.
29 Click on the hyperlinks for more details of the test.

Alert level A

PLAT417_ALERT_2_A Short Inter D-H..H-D H23A .. H24A .. 1.35 Ang.

Alert level B

PLAT213_ALERT_2_B Atom Mo4 has ADP max/min Ratio 4.2 oblate

Alert level C

PLAT052_ALERT_1_C Info on Absorption Correction Method Not Given Please Do !
 PLAT220_ALERT_2_C Large Non-Solvent O Ueq(max)/Ueq(min) Range 3.1 Ratio
 PLAT417_ALERT_2_C Short Inter D-H..H-D H21B .. H24A .. 2.14 Ang.

Alert level G

PLAT005_ALERT_5_G No Embedded Refinement Details found in the CIF Please Do !
 PLAT007_ALERT_5_G Number of Unrefined Donor-H Atoms 13 Report
 PLAT042_ALERT_1_G Calc. and Reported MoietyFormula Strings Differ Please Check
 PLAT093_ALERT_1_G No s.u.'s on H-positions, Refinement Reported as mixed Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of >024 is Constrained at 0.75 Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of <024' is Constrained at 0.25 Check
 PLAT302_ALERT_4_G Anion/Solvent Disorder Percentage = 20 Note
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.50) in Resd. # 8 Check
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.50) in Resd. # 9 Check
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.50) in Resd. # 10 Check
 PLAT720_ALERT_4_G Number of Unusual/Non-Standard Labels 7 Note
 PLAT899_ALERT_4_G SHELXL97 is Deprecated and Succeeded by SHELXL 2014 Note

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ALERT level B = A potentially serious problem, consider carefully

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ALERT level G = General information/check it is not something unexpected

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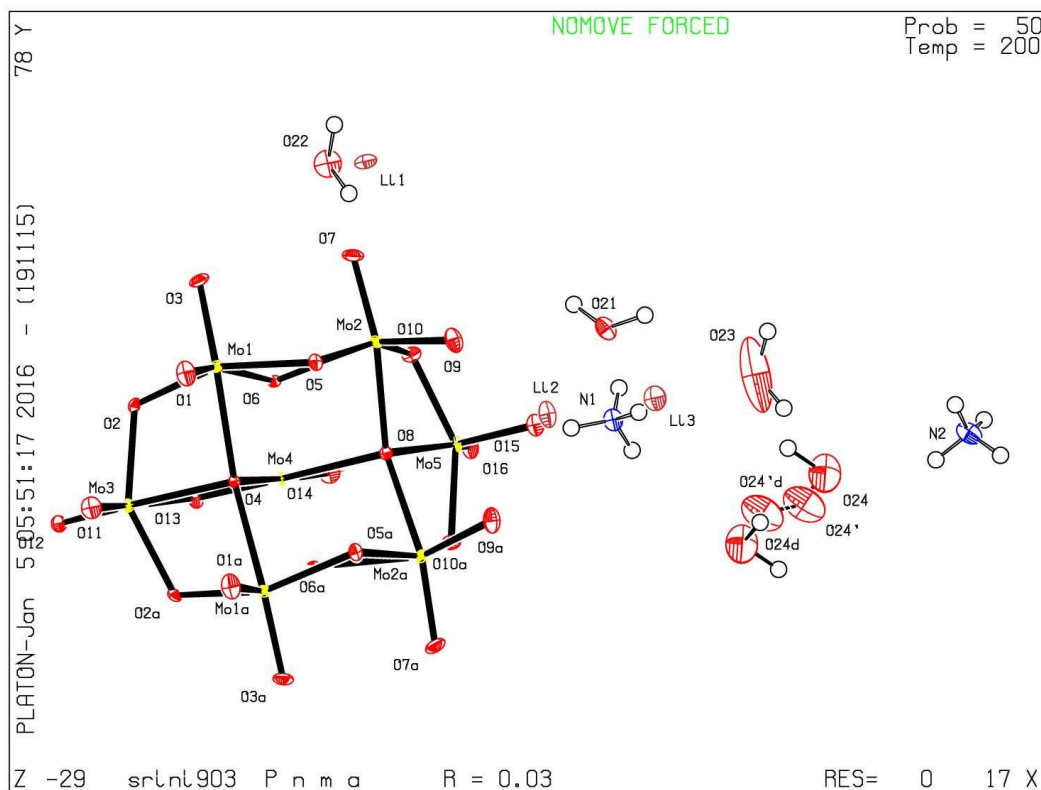
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23
24 Please refer to the *Notes for Authors* of the relevant journal for any special instructions relating to
25 CIF submission.
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29 **PLATON version of 19/11/2015; check.def file version of 17/11/2015**
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Datablock srini903 - ellipsoid plot



View Only

checkCIF/PLATON report

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No syntax errors found. CIF dictionary Interpreting this report

Datablock: srini903

Bond precision: Mo- O = 0.0030 A Wavelength=0.71073

Cell: a=10.5894(8) b=15.8542(8) c=18.7820(14)
 alpha=90 beta=101.473(9) gamma=90

Temperature: 200 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	3090.2(4)	3090.2(4)
Space group	P 21/n	P 21/n
Hall group	-P 2yn	-P 2yn
Moiety formula	Mo7 O24, 7(H2 O), O, 4(H4 N), 2(Li)	Mo7 O24, 7(H2 O), O, 4(H4 N), 2(Li)
Sum formula	H30 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32	H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
Mr	1283.74	1285.76
Dx, g cm ⁻³	2.759	2.764
Z	4	4
Mu (mm ⁻¹)	2.866	2.866
F000	2456.0	2464.0
F000'	2409.00	
h,k,lmax	13,20,24	13,20,24
Nref	7442	7408
Tmin,Tmax	0.696,0.818	
Tmin'	0.682	

Correction method= Not given

Data completeness= 0.995 Theta(max)= 28.000

R(reflections)= 0.0427(6720) wR2(reflections)= 0.1143(7408)

S = 1.059 Npar= 416

The following ALERTS were generated. Each ALERT has the format

test-name_ALERT_alert-type_alert-level.

Click on the hyperlinks for more details of the test.

Alert level B

PLAT430_ALERT_2_B Short Inter D...A Contact O11 .. O38 .. 2.74 Ang.
 PLAT430_ALERT_2_B Short Inter D...A Contact O11 .. O38' .. 2.80 Ang.

Alert level C

PLAT041_ALERT_1_C Calc. and Reported SumFormula Strings Differ Please Check
 PLAT043_ALERT_1_C Calculated and Reported Mol. Weight Differ by .. 2.02 Check
 PLAT052_ALERT_1_C Info on Absorption Correction Method Not Given Please Do !
 PLAT057_ALERT_3_C Correction for Absorption Required RT(exp) ... 1.18 Do !
 PLAT068_ALERT_1_C Reported F000 Differs from Calcd (or Missing)... Please Check

Alert level G

FORMU01_ALERT_1_G There is a discrepancy between the atom counts in the
 _chemical_formula_sum and _chemical_formula_moiety. This is
 usually due to the moiety formula being in the wrong format.
 Atom count from _chemical_formula_sum: H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 Atom count from _chemical_formula_moiety:H30 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 FORMU01_ALERT_2_G There is a discrepancy between the atom counts in the
 _chemical_formula_sum and the formula from the _atom_site* data.
 Atom count from _chemical_formula_sum:H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 Atom count from the _atom_site data: H30 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 CELLZ01_ALERT_1_G Difference between formula and atom_site contents detected.
 CELLZ01_ALERT_1_G WARNING: H atoms missing from atom site list. Is this intentional?
 From the CIF: _cell_formula_units_Z 4
 From the CIF: _chemical_formula_sum H32 Li2 Mo7 N4 O32
 TEST: Compare cell contents of formula and atom_site data

atom	Z*formula	cif sites	diff
H	128.00	120.00	8.00
Li	8.00	8.00	0.00
Mo	28.00	28.00	0.00
N	16.00	16.00	0.00
O	128.00	128.00	0.00

PLAT005_ALERT_5_G No Embedded Refinement Details found in the CIF Please Do !
 PLAT007_ALERT_5_G Number of Unrefined Donor-H Atoms 30 Report
 PLAT093_ALERT_1_G No s.u.'s on H-positions, Refinement Reported as mixed Check
 PLAT232_ALERT_2_G Hirshfeld Test Diff (M-X) Mo5 -- O14 .. 5.3 s.u.
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of >O38 is Constrained at 0.75 Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of <O38' is Constrained at 0.25 Check
 PLAT302_ALERT_4_G Anion/Solvent Disorder Percentage = 7 Note
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.75) in Resd. # 9 Check
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.25) in Resd. # 14 Check
 PLAT311_ALERT_2_G Isolated Disordered Oxygen Atom (No H's ?) O38 Check
 PLAT311_ALERT_2_G Isolated Disordered Oxygen Atom (No H's ?) O38' Check
 PLAT720_ALERT_4_G Number of Unusual/Non-Standard Labels 16 Note
 PLAT899_ALERT_4_G SHELXL97 is Deprecated and Succeeded by SHELXL 2014 Note

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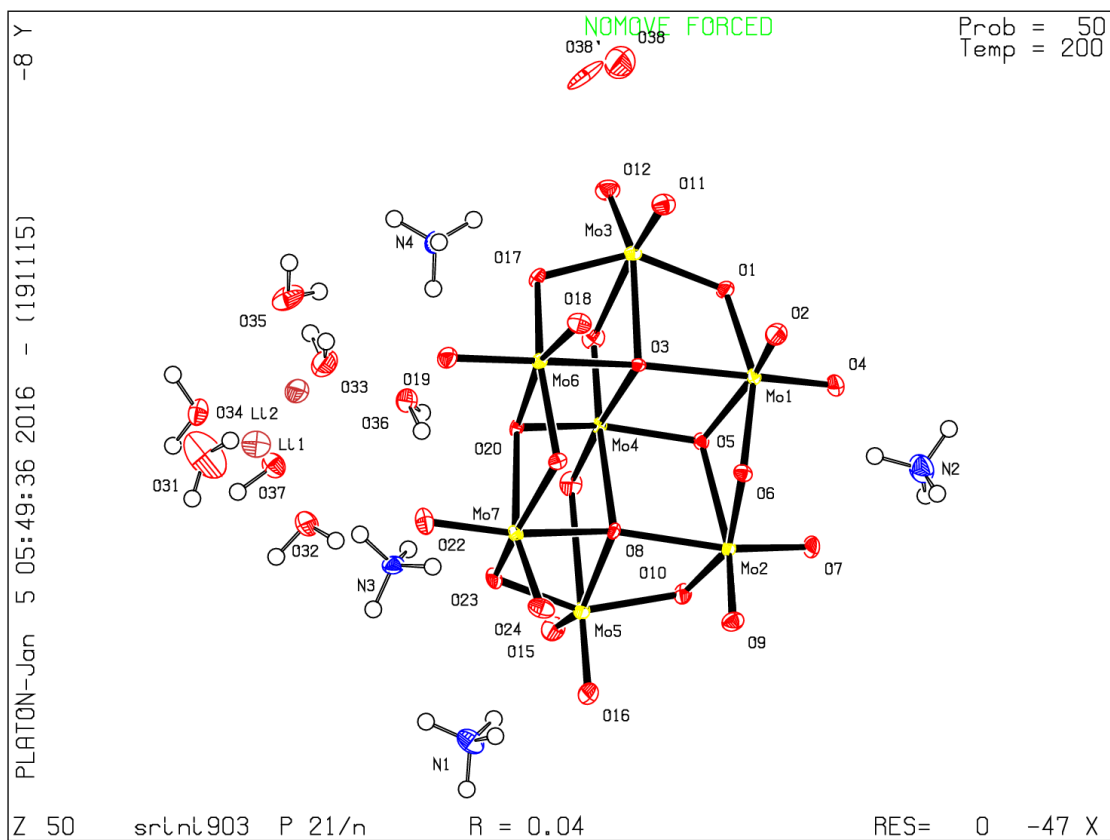
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Datablock srini903 - ellipsoid plot



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Datablock: srini903

Bond precision: Mo- O = 0.0026 A Wavelength=0.71073

Cell: a=14.0745(10) b=10.8681(6) c=17.2459(11)
 alpha=90 beta=90 gamma=90

Temperature: 200 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	2638.0(3)	2638.0(3)
Space group	P n m a	P n m a
Hall group	-P 2ac 2n	-P 2ac 2n
Moiety formula	Mo7 O24, H4 O2, 4(H2 O), 3(H4 N), 3(Li)	Mo7 O24, H4 O2, 4(H2 O), 3(H4 N), 3(Li)
Sum formula	H24 Li3 Mo7 N3 O30	H24 Li3 Mo7 N3 O30
Mr	1238.62	1238.62
Dx, g cm-3	3.119	3.119
Z	4	4
Mu (mm-1)	3.344	3.344
F000	2352.0	2352.0
F000'	2304.92	
h,k,lmax	18,14,22	18,14,22
Nref	3352	3327
Tmin,Tmax	0.704,0.765	
Tmin'	0.685	

Correction method= Not given

Data completeness= 0.993 Theta(max)= 28.000

R(reflections)= 0.0309(2944) wR2(reflections)= 0.0768(3327)

S = 1.067 Npar= 229

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Alert level B

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 PLAT220_ALERT_2_C Large Non-Solvent O Ueq(max)/Ueq(min) Range 3.1 Ratio
 PLAT417_ALERT_2_C Short Inter D-H..H-D H21B .. H24A .. 2.14 Ang.

Alert level G

PLAT005_ALERT_5_G No Embedded Refinement Details found in the CIF Please Do !
 PLAT007_ALERT_5_G Number of Unrefined Donor-H Atoms 13 Report
 PLAT042_ALERT_1_G Calc. and Reported MoietyFormula Strings Differ Please Check
 PLAT093_ALERT_1_G No s.u.'s on H-positions, Refinement Reported as mixed Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of >024 is Constrained at 0.75 Check
 PLAT300_ALERT_4_G Atom Site Occupancy of <024' is Constrained at 0.25 Check
 PLAT302_ALERT_4_G Anion/Solvent Disorder Percentage = 20 Note
 PLAT304_ALERT_4_G Non-Integer Number of Atoms (0.50) in Resd. # 8 Check
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Datablock srini903 - ellipsoid plot

