## Abstract

The subject of the presented work is the synthesis, as well as spectroscopic and structural investigation of vanadium- and zinc complexes of polydentate ligands with alcoholate- and tetrazolate functional groups. Variation of the reaction conditions allowed excellent control over the nuclearity and charge of the vanadium complexes. For the 2,6-substituted pyridinediols (R = H, pydimH<sub>2</sub>;  $R = CH_3$ , pydipH<sub>2</sub>; R = Ph, pyphenH<sub>2</sub>), all three examples of the so called oxido-pincer-ligands possessing an ONO-donorset, anionic complexes  $[VO_2(ONO)]^-$  (with alkali metal as counter ion) could be obtained. For the ligands  $pvdip^{2-}$ and  $pyphen^{2-}$  subsequent conversion into neutral [VOCl(ONO)]-type complexes was accomplished and monitored using NMR-spectroscopy. It could be shown, that this conversion follows a pathway via binuclear [V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>(ONO)<sub>2</sub>] complexes. Investigations into electrochemistry and EPR-spectroscopy showed the formation of a mixed-valent species upon one electron reduction of  $[V_2O_3(pyphen)_2]$  with strong delocalisation of the electron. In contrast, the analogous compounds of  $pydip^{2-}$  and  $pydim^{2-}$  showed strong localisation of the electron at one vanadium centre. Additionally, a series of tetrazole-ligands (2tetrazolepyridine, 2,6-ditetrazolepyridine, PytzH;  $PydtzH_2$ and 8-hydroxo-2tetrazolequionoline, HyChtzH<sub>2</sub>) was synthesised and the ligands were successfully reacted with vanadium, titanium and zinc. The resulting complexes were characterised using NMR, IR- and UV/Vis-spectroscopy. Importantly, the free tetrazole ligands as well as the resulting complexes showed emission. This was studied in detail. A special focus was laid on the NNNpincer ligand PydtzH<sub>2</sub>, which is a bioisosteric analogue of the ONO-pincer ligand PydicH<sub>2</sub> (2,6-pyridine dicarboxylic acid) with similar physiochemical properties. Interestingly, Pydtz<sup>2-</sup> did not show very similar reactivity towards Titanium, Vanadium and Zinc compared to  $pydic^{2-}$ . The compounds  $Na[Zn(Pydtz)_2] \cdot 6H_2O$  and  $K[VO_2(Pydtz)(H_2O)](CH_3OH)$  represent the first known complexes of  $Pydtz^{2-}$  that were structurally characterised, and the latter is the first known metal complex of a chelating tetrazole ligand containing an early transition metal. Moreover, the chiral bidentate ON-ligands (2-fenchyl-pyridine, fenpyH and menthyl-pyridine, menpyH) were employed in the synthesis of the compound  $[Zn(menpy)_3][ZnCl_4]$ , containing the chiral  $[Zn(menpy)_3]^{2+}$  complex, as well as  $[V_3O_6(phenpy)_3]$ . Both structures were determined by single crystal x-ray diffraction.