

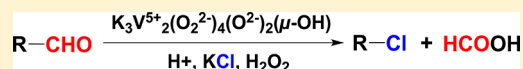
1 Decarbonylative Halogenation by a Vanadium Complex

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4 **S** Supporting Information

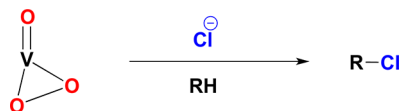
ABSTRACT: Metal-catalyzed halogenation of the C–H bond and decarbonylation of aldehyde are conventionally done in nature. However, metal-mediated decarbonylative halogenation is unknown. We have developed the first metal-mediated decarbonylative halogenation reaction starting from the divanadium oxoperoxo complex $K_3V^{5+}_2(O_2^{2-})_4(O^{2-})_2(\mu-OH)$ (**1**). A concerted decarbonylative halogenation reaction was proposed based on experimental observations.



11 ■ INTRODUCTION

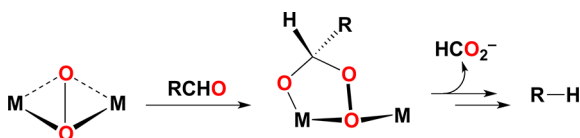
12 Halogenation occurs during biosynthesis of more than 4000
13 natural products that display biological activity of pharmaco-
14 logical interest including anticancer, antibacterial, antiviral,
15 antifungal, and antiinflammatory activities. Chlorination is the
16 predominant modification in nature, followed by bromination
17 and iodination. Vanadium-dependent haloperoxidases (V-
18 HPOs) are responsible for the majority of halogenation events
19 in marine natural products.¹ A common feature of the
20 haloperoxidases is generation of an η^2 -peroxo intermediate,
21 followed by the formation of vanadium-bound hypohalite,
22 which is responsible for electrophilic halogenation reactions
23 (Scheme 1).²

Scheme 1. Vanadium Oxoperoxo Catalyzed Halogenation in Nature



24 Like halogenation, aldehyde decarbonylation is another
25 significant event in nature. The heme–peroxo intermediate of
26 Cytochrome P450 catalyzes a number of C–C bond cleavage
27 reactions via aldehyde decarbonylation.³ Decarbonylation also
28 occurs during biosynthesis of alka(e)ne by cyanobacteria (AD)
29 in which a dinuclear nonheme–iron peroxo complex is the
30 putative active species (Scheme 2).^{3d,4} On a related note, an
31 unknown deformylase is also suggested for the DNA
32 demethylase activity.⁵

Scheme 2. Suggested Bimetallic Peroxo Species for Cyanobacterial AD



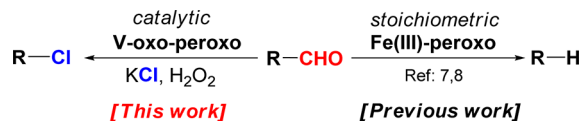
Although decarbonylation of aldehyde and halogenation of
the C–H bond are common in nature, metal-mediated
decarbonylative halogenation is unknown. Therefore, we set
out to develop a synthetic system that would deliver a
decarbonylative halogenation reaction. We postulated that a
divanadium oxoperoxo complex (Scheme 3, M = V) could be a

Scheme 3. Proposed Decarbonylative Halogenation Reactions



suitable species based on the following: (1) bioinspired
vanadium oxoperoxo complexes are known for halogenation
reaction (Scheme 4);^{2,6} (2) dimetallic peroxo species are

Scheme 4. Decarbonylative Halogenations by a Vanadium Catalyst



suggested to carry out a decarbonylation reaction in
cyanobacterial aldehyde decarbonylase (AD; Scheme 2).^{4b,c}
Notably, Nam and co-workers reported decarbonylation of
aldehyde by a nonheme–iron(III) peroxo complex.⁷ Valentine
also illustrated that a synthetic peroxoporphyrin complex,
[Fe^{III}(TMP)(O₂²⁻)][−], can promote direct nucleophilic attack
on an aldehyde.⁸

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A bright-yellow divanadium oxoperoxo complex, $K_3(V^{5+})_2(O_2^{2-})_4(O^{2-})_2(\mu-OH)$ [$K_3V_2O_{12}H_3$, **1**], was synthesized from V_2O_5/KOH at room temperature in 80% yield.⁹ The

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structure of complex **1** has been reported previously, which we have further confirmed by X-ray crystallography (Figure 1).^{9,10}

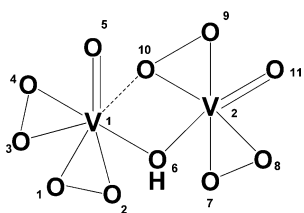
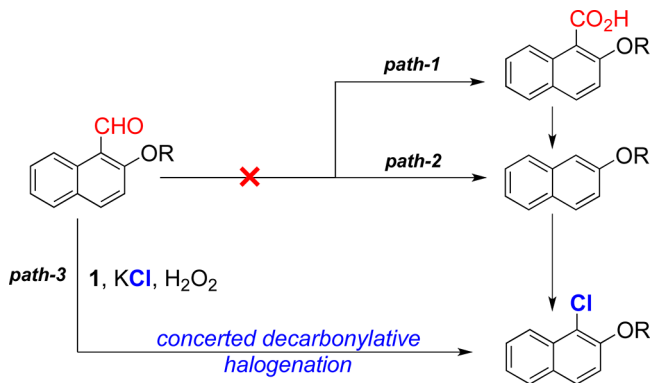


Figure 1. Structure of complex **1**.

In addition, we have characterized the compound by UV–vis ($\lambda_{\text{max}} \sim 320$ nm; $\epsilon \sim 1144$ M^{−1} cm^{−1}) and IR [$\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}} = 971$ cm^{−1}, $\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}} = 942$ cm^{−1}, and $\nu_{\text{O}-\text{O}} = 886$ and 869 cm^{−1}] spectroscopy.⁹ The ⁵¹V NMR spectra clearly suggested that two vanadium centers are inequivalent ($\delta = -731$ and -765 ppm), which can also be inferred from the X-ray structure.⁹

Unlike in the iron complexes,^{7,8} decarbonylation of aldehydes was *not* observed with **1**. Interestingly, when we reacted 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde with **1** in the presence of KCl (or KBr), we observed the formation of 1-chloronaphthalen-2-ol (Scheme 5 and Table 1, entry 1). Like 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde, 2-methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde also gave similar decarbonylative halogenated products (Scheme 5 and Table 1, entry 2).¹¹

Scheme 5. Reaction of **1** with 2-OR-naphthaldehyde



Although a methoxy (−OMe) or a hydroxy (−OH) group ortho to −CHO was successful (Scheme 6), bulkier substituents [R = allyl (−CH₂CH=CH₂), propargyl (−CH₂CCH), 2-chlorobenzyloxy (−OCH₂Ar)] failed to produce the desired decarbonylative chlorinated products. Such observations indicate that binding of the −OR group (Scheme 6) with the vanadium center is crucial for decarbonylative halogenation reactions.

Three possible pathways for decarbonylative halogenation of 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde (or 2-methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde) could be envisioned (Scheme 5): (path 1) oxidation of a −CHO moiety to form −CO₂H and subsequent decarboxylation to generate β-naphthol (or 2-methoxynaphthalene), which then can be chlorinated;¹² (path 2) decarbonylation of a −CHO moiety to generate β-naphthol (or 2-methoxynaphthalene) and chlorination (stepwise); (path 3) a concerted decarbonylative chlorination.

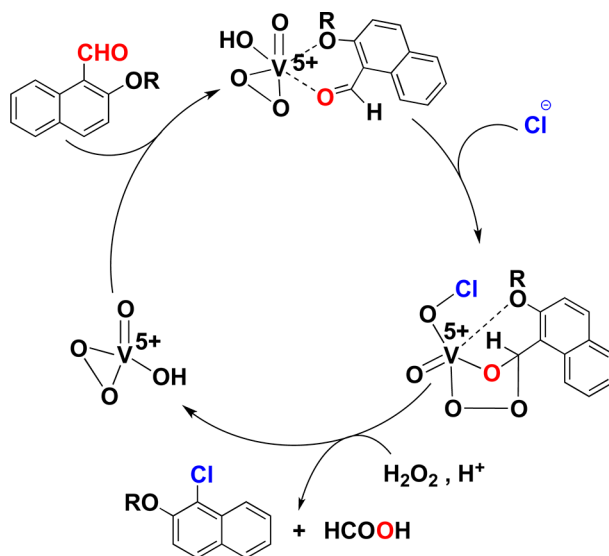
However, 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde failed to generate even a trace of 2-hydroxy-1-naphthoic acid (path 1) or β-

Table 1. Decarbonylative Chlorination by the Vanadium Complex **1**^a

$\text{R}-\text{CHO} \xrightarrow[6-18 \text{ mol\% } \mathbf{1}]{\text{KCl, H}_2\text{O}_2} \text{R}-\text{Cl} \quad (\text{Isolated})$			
Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield (%)
1			63
2			50 48 (6 h)
3			5
4			12
5			22
6			25 ^a

^aA total of 0.5 mmol of substrate, KCl (12 mmol), citrate–phosphate buffer (1.5 mL), 6.5 equiv of 30% H₂O₂, 1.22 M HCl (1.5 mL), acetone (1 mL), room temperature, 24 h. Recovered starting materials are accounted for in the mass balance. GC yield. H₂SO₄/KCl can also be used with catalyst **1** for decarbonylative chlorination reaction.⁹

Scheme 6. Concerted Decarbonylative Chlorination Reactions



88 naphthol (path 2) with or without KCl (Scheme 5). We found
89 that 2-hydroxy-1-naphthoic acid can be decarboxylated (with or
90 without KCl) and 1-chloronaphthalen-2-ol can be generated in
91 the presence of KCl (Scheme 5).⁹ Also, 2-methoxy-1-naphthoic
92 acid can be decarboxylated and/or chlorinated to form 1-
93 chloro-2-methoxynaphthalene. We further found that β -
94 naphthol or 2-methoxynaphthalene produced the desired
95 chlorinated product (with or without KCl and with or without
96 catalyst **1**).⁹

97 On a similar note, 2-methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde did not
98 produce any 2-methoxy-1-naphthoic acid or 2-methoxynaph-
99 thalene (Scheme 5). On the basis of these experimental
100 observations, we propose a *concerted* decarbonylative chlorina-
101 tion reaction by **1** (Schemes 5 and 6).

102 The role of H_2O_2 was probed for the proposed trans-
103 formation. It was concluded that hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) is
104 required for the (re)generation of vanadium oxoperoxo species
105 $[\text{V}^{5+}(\text{O}^{2-})(\text{O}_2^{2-})]^+$. Without H_2O_2 , a decarbonylative halo-
106 genated product was not detected. The Amount of desired
107 decarbonylative chlorinated product formation increases while
108 using up to 3.25 mmol of H_2O_2 . Any further increase of the
109 H_2O_2 amount is detrimental for product formation. Apart from
110 acetone, methanol (42% for entry 1 in Table 1) and ethanol
111 (44% for entry 1 in Table 1) were also used as the solvent, and
112 acceptable yields of the desired products were obtained.⁹ Note
113 that the formation of acetone peroxide, a well-known
114 explosive,¹³ cannot be ruled out completely while using acetone
115 as the solvent.

116 Next we have explored the scope of this decarbonylative
117 chlorination reaction (Table 1). Various substituents such as
118 $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{OMe}$, $-\text{Br}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, and $-\text{NO}_2$ were tolerated. Without
119 catalyst **1**, desired decarbonylative halogenated products were
120 not observed. The low yield of the electron-withdrawing nitro
121 analogue is likely due to an unfavorable electrophilic aromatic
122 substitution reaction (Table 1, entry 3). Trichloroarene was
123 generated with amino analogues (entry 6) because of the strong
124 *o*- and *p*-directing ability of the $-\text{NH}_2$ functional. Control
125 experiments with either aniline or 2-chloroaniline as the
126 substrate produced 2,4,6-trichloroaniline (40%). Thus, in the
127 case of 2-aminobenzaldehyde (entry 6), a combination of a
128 decarbonylative chlorinated reaction and electrophilic chlorina-
129 tion led to the formation of 2,4,6-trichloroaniline. Note that
130 trihalogenation of aniline under acidic conditions has previously
131 been reported in the literature.¹²

132 A monomeric vanadium oxoperoxo species, $[\text{V}^{5+}(\text{O}^{2-})-$
133 $(\text{O}_2^{2-})]^+$ (^{51}V NMR, δ -543 ; IR, 960 cm^{-1} for $\nu_{\text{V=O}}$ and
134 878 cm^{-1} for $\nu_{\text{O-O}}$; UV-vis, $\lambda_{\text{max}} \sim 330\text{ nm}$; Figure 2), was

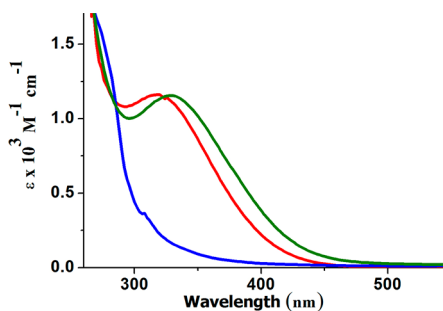
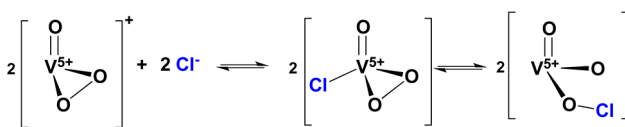
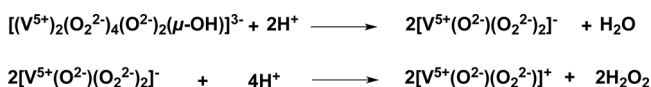


Figure 2. UV-vis spectra of **1** (red, $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 320\text{ nm}$), the formation of $[\text{V}^{5+}(\text{O}^{2-})(\text{O}_2^{2-})]^+$ species from **1** (green, $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 330\text{ nm}$), and the catalytically inactive species after completion of the reaction (blue).

detected and characterized under the reaction conditions.^{9,14,15} This species is likely to be responsible for the *concerted* decarbonylative halogenation reactions (Scheme 6). Note that a structurally related dimeric complex, $(\text{NH}_4)_4[(\text{V}^{5+})_2(\text{O}_2^{2-})_4(\text{O}^{2-})_2(\mu\text{-O}^{2-})]$, is known to generate such a monomeric V^{5+} complex in acidic conditions.^{9,15} Further, a V^{5+} species, $\text{V}^{5+}(\text{O}^{2-})(\text{O}_2^{2-})(-\text{OH})$, has previously been suggested in the literature as the active species formed under acidic conditions.^{6a,16,17}

Hypochlorite (OCl^-) formation under the present reaction conditions (with catalyst **1**; Scheme 7) was proposed based on detailed reports with a structurally related compound, $(\text{NH}_4)_4[\text{V}^{5+}_2(\text{O}_2^{2-})_4(\text{O}^{2-})_2(\mu\text{-O}^{2-})]$.¹⁵

Scheme 7. Formation of Vanadium Hypochlorite



Similar to cyanobacterial AD,^{4,18} formic acid was detected and quantified (yield 52%) from decarbonylative halogenation of 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde (63%; Table 1, entry 1) by **1** (Scheme 6).⁹ At the end of the catalytic reactions (Table 1), ^{51}V NMR of the resulting solution was found to contain V^{5+} species. The IR data showed two characteristic peaks at 937 cm^{-1} ($\nu_{\text{V=O}}$) and 887 cm^{-1} ($\nu_{\text{O-O}}$), indicating the existence of a vanadium oxoperoxo moiety. All of these observations are consistent with the proposed mechanism in Scheme 6.⁹ Such a V^{5+} state is also maintained in V-HPOs throughout the catalytic cycle.^{1,2}

CONCLUSION

In summary, we have developed the first metal-mediated decarbonylative halogenation reaction starting from the divanadium oxoperoxo complex **1**. A *concerted* decarbonylative halogenation reaction was proposed based on experimental observations. Characterization of the intermediates and a detailed understanding of the reaction mechanism is presently underway in our laboratory.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Reagent Information. Unless otherwise stated, all of the reactions were carried out at room temperature in a 20 mL screw-capped reaction tube. Chemicals and solvents were purchased from Aldrich, Merck, and Alfa Aesar. A gradient elution using petroleum ether and ethyl acetate was performed, based on Merck Aluminum TLC sheets (silica gel 60F₂₅₄).

Analytical Information. All isolated compounds were characterized by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy, high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS), and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS). IR spectra were recorded on a Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectrophotometer with samples prepared as KBr pellets. NMR spectra were recorded either on a Bruker 400 MHz or on a Varian 400 MHz instrument. Copies of the ^1H , ^{13}C , and ^{51}V NMR spectra are attached at the end of this document. All ^1H NMR spectra were reported in units of parts per million (ppm) and measured relative to the signals for residual chloroform (7.26 ppm) in a deuterated solvent, unless otherwise stated. All ^{13}C NMR spectra were reported in ppm relative to CDCl_3 (77.23 ppm), unless otherwise

186 stated, and all were obtained with ^1H decoupling. All ^{51}V NMR spectra
187 were recorded in D_2O and reported in ppm relative to NH_4VO_3
188 (-573.27 ppm). All GC analyses were performed on an Agilent 7890A
189 GC system with a flame ionization detector using a J&W DB-1 column
190 ($10\text{ m} \times 0.1\text{ mm i.d.}$). All GC-MS analyses were done by an Agilent
191 7890A GC system connected with a 5975C inert XL EI/CI MSD
192 (with a triple-axis detector).

193 **Preparation of $\text{K}_3\text{V}_2\text{O}_{12}\text{H}_3$ (1).**⁹ A solution of V_2O_5 (1.82 g, 10
194 mmol) in 20 mL of distilled water was taken in a 100 mL round-
195 bottomed flask and heated to 50 – 60°C . Then KOH (2.3 g, 41 mmol)
196 was added to the reaction mixture, and 1 mL of H_2O_2 (30%) was
197 added to ensure dissolution. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at
198 0°C , and 6 mL of 30% H_2O_2 was added dropwise. Then it was
199 warmed to room temperature and stirred for 6 h. The resulting
200 mixture was filtered through sintered glass under reduced pressure,
201 washed with cold water twice, and dried under vacuum. From the
202 aqueous filtrate part, some amount of the complex was recovered by
203 recrystallization. The yield of the desired product was 80% (3.28 g). 1
204 was crystallized from a saturated solution of water.

205 **General Reaction Procedure (A) for the Reaction Setup.**
206 Vanadium catalyst **1** (40 mg, 18 mol %) was taken in a 20 mL reaction
207 tube along with 1.5 mL of a 1.22 M HCl solution and 1.5 mL of a
208 citrate-phosphate buffer solution. Then KCl (12 mmol, 0.895 g) and
209 aldehyde (or alcohol) (0.5 mmol) were added, followed by 1 mL of
210 acetone. Subsequently, 30% H_2O_2 (330 μL , 3.25 mmol) was added to
211 the resulting reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred at
212 room temperature. After 24 h, CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL) was added to the
213 reaction mixture and an organic component was extracted ($2 \times 50\text{ mL}$
214 of CH_2Cl_2). The organic extract was combined, dried over Na_2SO_4 ,
215 and concentrated under reduced pressure in a rotary evaporator. The
216 crude product thus obtained was further purified by column
217 chromatography.

218 **Preparation of 2-Methoxy-1-naphthoic acid.**^{9,19,20} A solution
219 of 2-hydroxy-1-naphthoic acid (0.376 g, 2 mmol) in 10 mL of dry
220 acetone was taken in a 100 mL two-neck round-bottomed flask.
221 Potassium carbonate (0.828 g, 6 mmol) was added to the flask. The
222 reaction mixture was heated at 60°C , and Me_2SO_4 (0.378 mL, 4
223 mmol) was added dropwise by syringe. The resulting reaction mixture
224 was refluxed overnight. It was cooled to room temperature, filtered
225 through a funnel plugged with cotton/Celite, and washed with
226 acetone/ethyl acetate. The organic filtrate was combined, dried over
227 Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated. Methyl 2-methoxy-1-naphthoate (0.410 g,
228 95% yield) was isolated by column chromatography (5% ethyl acetate
229 in petroleum ether). The brown oily ester was refluxed for 12 h with
230 40% NaOH (5 mL) to generate the naphthoic acid derivative. The
231 reaction mixture was neutralized with 10 N HCl at room temperature,
232 and the organic part was extracted with ethyl acetate ($3 \times 50\text{ mL}$). The
233 organic extract was combined, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated
234 under reduced pressure in a rotary evaporator. The desired compound,
235 2-methoxy-1-naphthoic acid (0.307 g, 80%), was isolated by column
236 chromatography (40% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether). ^1H NMR
237 (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.02–4.11 (s, 3H), 7.24–7.28 (d, 1H), 7.29–
238 7.35 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.61 (m, 1H),
239 7.79–7.84 (m, 1H), 7.94–8.00 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.34–8.42 (d, $J =$
240 8.6 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 57.35, 113.00, 115.11,
241 124.72, 124.84, 128.42, 128.47, 129.11, 131.76, 133.61, 155.91. GC-
242 MS: m/z 202.1 ($[\text{M}]^+$).

243 **Preparation of a Nitro Derivative of 2-Methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde.**⁹
244 A solution of 2-methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde (1 g, 5.37
245 mmol) was taken in a 100 mL round-bottomed flask, and it was kept at
246 -5°C in an ice bath. Then concentrated HNO_3 (10 mL, $d = 1.47$) was
247 added portionwise so that the temperature did not rise above -5°C
248 (addition was continued for 35 min portionwise). The mixture was
249 stirred for another 1 h at room temperature and poured into ice-cold
250 water. The yellow precipitate was filtered off and subsequently washed
251 with ethyl acetate. The organic filtrate was collected. The aqueous part
252 was also extracted with ethyl acetate ($2 \times 50\text{ mL}$) to recover the
253 organic component. Organic extracts were combined, dried over
254 Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure in a rotary
255 evaporator. Finally, 2-methoxy-6-nitro-1-naphthaldehyde (0.496 g,

40%) was isolated by column chromatography using ethyl acetate in 256
petroleum ether. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.12–4.15 (s, 3H), 257
7.46–7.51 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.21–8.27 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.30–
258 8.37 (m, 2H), 8.69–8.73 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 9.38–9.43 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz,
259 1H), 10.83–10.90 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3):
260 δ 56.98, 114.85, 122.53, 123.09, 124.75, 126.77, 127.23, 134.86,
261 139.16, 166.14, 191.47. GC-MS: m/z 231.1 ($[\text{M}]^+$). 262

263 **Preparation of 6-Bromo-2-methoxy-1-naphthaldehyde.**^{9,21}
264 Methylation of 6-bromo-2-naphthol was carried out by following the
265 methylation step described in the synthesis of 2-methoxy-1-naphthoic
266 acid. 6-Bromo-2-methoxynaphthalene (0.711 g, 3 mmol) was added in
267 10 mL of dry toluene along with *N*-methylformanilide (2.2 mL, 18
268 mmol) and phosphorus oxychloride (2.8 mL, 30 mmol) at room
269 temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 12 h at 100°C .
270 A solution of potassium acetate (4.57 g) in 15 mL of distilled
271 water was added to neutralize the resulting reaction mixture. 272
Subsequently, it was dried under reduced pressure in a rotary
273 evaporator, 30 mL of water was added, and it was extracted with ethyl
274 acetate ($2 \times 50\text{ mL}$). The organic extract was combined, dried over
275 Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure in a rotary
276 evaporator. The desired compound, 6-bromo-2-methoxy-1-naphthal-
277 dehyde (0.238 g, 30%), was isolated by column chromatography using
278 5% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether (silica gel, 60–120 mesh). ^1H
279 NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.96–3.98 (s, 3H), 7.14–7.24 (d, $J = 9.2$
280 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.62 (dd, $J = 9.3$ and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.86 (m, 2H),
281 9.05–9.15 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 10.75–10.80 (s, 1H). GC-MS: m/z
282 264.1 ($[\text{M}]^+$).

283 **Characterization of **1**.**⁹ FT-IR bands (KBr pellet, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}}$
284 = 971 cm^{-1} and $\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}_{11}}$ = 942 cm^{-1} for $\text{V}=\text{O}$ bonds; $\nu_{\text{O}-\text{O}}$ = 886 and
285 869 cm^{-1} for peroxy $\text{O}-\text{O}$ bonds. A $1.18 \times 10^{-4}\text{ M}$ solution of **1** was
286 prepared, and the UV-vis spectrum was taken, which showed an
287 absorption maximum at 320 nm with an absorption coefficient of $\epsilon \sim$
288 $1144\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$. The UV-vis feature is characteristic of oxoperoxo
289 species in the complex. After preparation of complex **1**, ^{51}V NMR
290 studies were done. ^{51}V NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ -731 , -765 . Our
291 findings matched well with the literature report.^{22,23} 292

293 **Characterization of $\text{VO}(\text{O}_2)^+$ in Solution.**⁹ Under our standard
294 reaction conditions, after the addition of H_2O_2 , the resulting solution
295 was tested by ^{51}V NMR, UV-vis, and FT-IR spectroscopy. The ^{51}V
296 NMR study showed a single peak at -543.7 ppm, while the UV-vis
297 spectrum showed an absorption maximum at 330 nm.¹⁴ FT-IR studies
298 showed two characteristic peaks at 960 cm^{-1} ($\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}}$) and 878 cm^{-1}
299 ($\nu_{\text{O}-\text{O}}$), indicating the presence of $\text{VO}(\text{O}_2)^+$ formation in solution.¹⁴

300 **Characterization of the Final Complex.**⁹ After decarbonylative
301 halogenation reaction, the aqueous part was dried properly and the IR
302 spectrum was taken. The IR data showed two characteristic peaks at
303 937 cm^{-1} ($\nu_{\text{V}=\text{O}}$) and 887 cm^{-1} ($\nu_{\text{O}-\text{O}}$), indicating the presence of
304 oxoperoxo in the final vanadium complex.²² After reaction, the
305 aqueous part was dried under reduced pressure in a rotary evaporator
306 and ^{51}V NMR was recorded in D_2O and reported in ppm relative to
307 NH_4VO_3 (-573.8 ppm). ^{51}V NMR showed peaks at -520.1 , -502.1 ,
308 and -423.6 ppm, which indicate the presence of a V^{5+} oxidation state
309 at the end of the catalytic cycle.²²

310 **Formic Acid Test.** Citric acid (0.5 g, 2.6 mmol) and acetamide (10
311 g, 169.5 mmol) were dissolved in 100 mL of isopropyl alcohol (**R1**).
312 Potassium acetate (30 g) was dissolved in 100 mL of distilled water.
313 The reaction of **1** with 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde was carried out
314 following general procedure A, using 1.5 mL of 0.75 M acid solutions
315 without adding citrate-phosphate buffer. From the reaction mixture,
316 0.5 mL of the aqueous part was taken and was neutralized by a KOH
317 solution; subsequently, 1 mL of **R1** and 1 drop of a potassium acetate
318 solution were added. Subsequently, acetic anhydride (3.5 mL) was
319 added. The solution was kept at room temperature until a red color
320 appeared. Then the red solution was diluted with isopropyl alcohol up
321 to 25 mL in a volumetric flask. The UV-vis spectrum was recorded
322 with this solution and compared with the red solution obtained from a
323 standard formate solution's color test. The molar extinction coefficient
324 is $212\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$. The yield of formic acid was calculated based on
325 UV-vis spectra (52%).⁹

1-Chloro-2-hydroxynaphthalene (Table 1, entry 1). General procedure A was followed with 1% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as the eluent for column chromatography (silica gel, 100–200 mesh), and as a white solid (56 mg, 63%) was isolated. The starting material was recovered (16%). In a separate experiment, a 40% yield of 1-chloro-2-hydroxynaphthalene was obtained with 6 mol % catalyst **1**. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.94–6.02 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.32 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.70–7.74 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77–7.85 (dd, *J* = 8.2 and 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.06–8.10 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 113.46, 117.36, 122.90, 124.27, 127.70, 128.34, 128.56, 129.58, 131.18, 149.47. GC–MS: *m/z* 178.1 ([M]⁺).

1-Chloro-2-methoxynaphthalene (Table 1, entry 2). General procedure A using 6 mol % catalyst **1** was followed with 1% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as the eluent for column chromatography (silica gel, 60–120 mesh), and white crystals (50%, 46 mg) were isolated. The starting material was recovered (20%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.79–4.10 (s, 3H), 7.21–7.25 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.40 (m, 1H), 7.51–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.69–7.76 (m, 2H), 8.17–8.22 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 57.01, 76.88, 77.20, 77.51, 113.71, 116.87, 123.52, 124.40, 127.57, 128.08, 128.12, 129.58, 131.95, 152.62. GC–MS: *m/z* 192.1 ([M]⁺).

1-Chloro-2-methoxy-6-nitronaphthalene (Table 1, entry 3). General procedure A was followed with 1% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as the eluent for column chromatography (silica gel, 100–200 mesh), and a yellow powder (6 mg, 5%) was isolated. The starting material was recovered (80%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.97–4.23 (s, 3H), 7.42–7.49 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.97–8.03 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.28–8.36 (m, 2H), 8.76–8.79 (m, 1H). GC–MS: *m/z* 237.1 ([M]⁺). HRMS (ESI). Calcd for C₁₁H₈NO₃Cl: 238.0262. Found: 238.0271.

(2-Chloroethene-1,1-diyl)dibenzene (Table 1, entry 4). General procedure A was followed with 1% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as the eluent for column chromatography, and a yellow powder (14 mg, 12%) was isolated. Benzophenone (10%) was obtained as a byproduct, and the starting material was recovered (60%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.54–6.64 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.04–7.45 (m, 10H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 116.03, 127.87, 127.91, 128.12, 128.22, 128.27, 128.36, 128.41, 128.58, 130.02, 137.75, 140.30, 144.05. GC–MS: *m/z* 214.1 ([M]⁺). HRMS (ESI). Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀Cl₂O₂: 215.063. Found: 215.0635.

6-Bromo-1-chloro-2-methoxynaphthalene (Table 1, entry 5). General procedure A was followed with 5% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as the eluent for column chromatography, and a brownish powder (30 mg, 22%) was isolated. The starting material was recovered (65%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*): δ 3.94–4.08 (q, *J* = 4.0, 3.9, and 3.9 Hz, 3H), 7.21–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.84–7.96 (m, 1H), 7.98–8.10 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 57.09, 114.69, 117.11, 118.32, 125.53, 127.19, 130.02, 130.51, 130.60, 130.88, 152.92. GC–MS: *m/z* 272.1 ([M]⁺).

2,4,6-Trichloroaniline (Table 1, entry 6). General procedure A was followed for 24 h. After workup, the GC yield was determined using *n*-decane as the internal standard (25%). The unreacted starting material (43%) was determined by GC analysis. Product formation was confirmed by GC–MS [*m/z* 195 ([M]⁺)].

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Additional data, together with NMR characterization of the compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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