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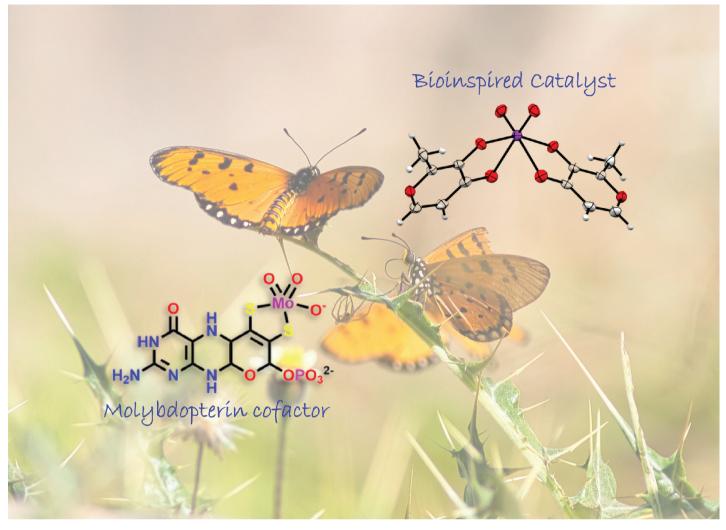


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Showcasing biomimicking research from Professor Nabanita Sadhukhan's laboratory, Department of Speciality Chemicals Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India.

Molybdenum-maltolate as a molybdopterin mimic for bioinspired oxidation reaction

A novel *cis*-dioxomolybdenum(vi)-maltolate [MoO<sub>2</sub>(Mal)<sub>2</sub>] was synthesized as a biomimetic model for molybdopterin cofactor. [MoO<sub>2</sub>(Mal)<sub>2</sub>] successfully catalyzes hypoxanthine to xanthine at room temperature in acetonitrile-water mixture. [MoO<sub>2</sub>(Mal)<sub>2</sub>] showed significant potential to catalyse other commercially valuable organic transformation reactions, namely controlled oxidation of toluene to benzaldehyde, and styrene to styrene oxide. Moreover, [MoO<sub>2</sub>(Mal)<sub>2</sub>] is a nontoxic compound exhibiting a prospect for application as a molybdenum supplement.

