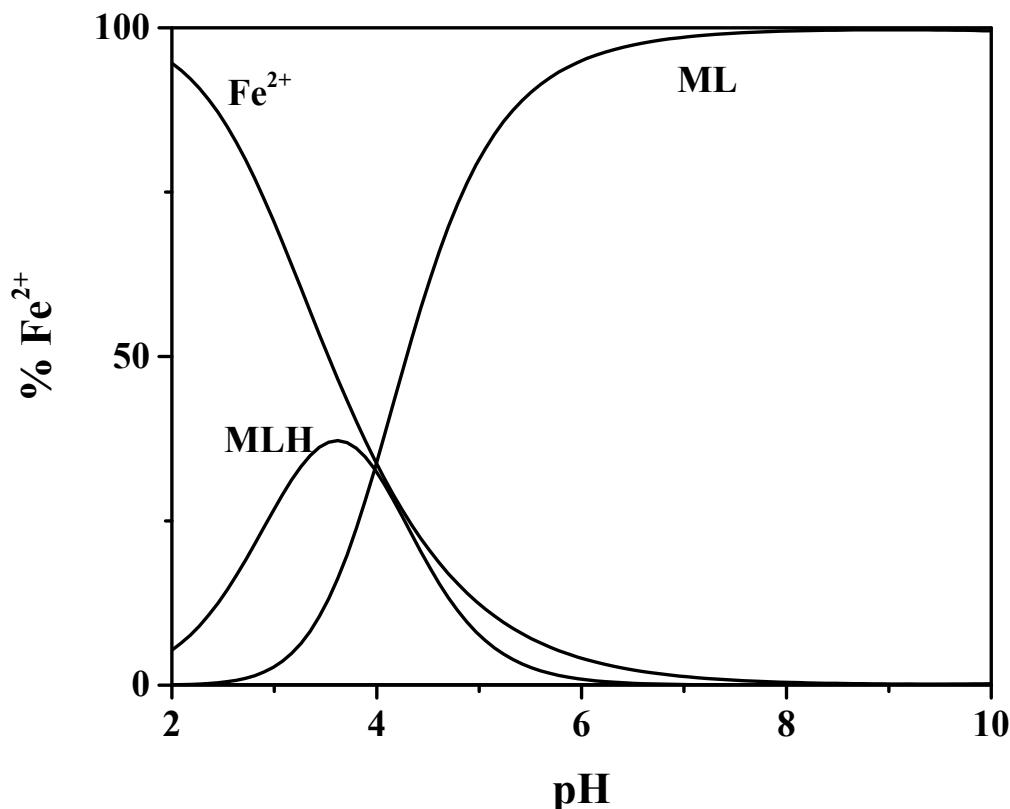
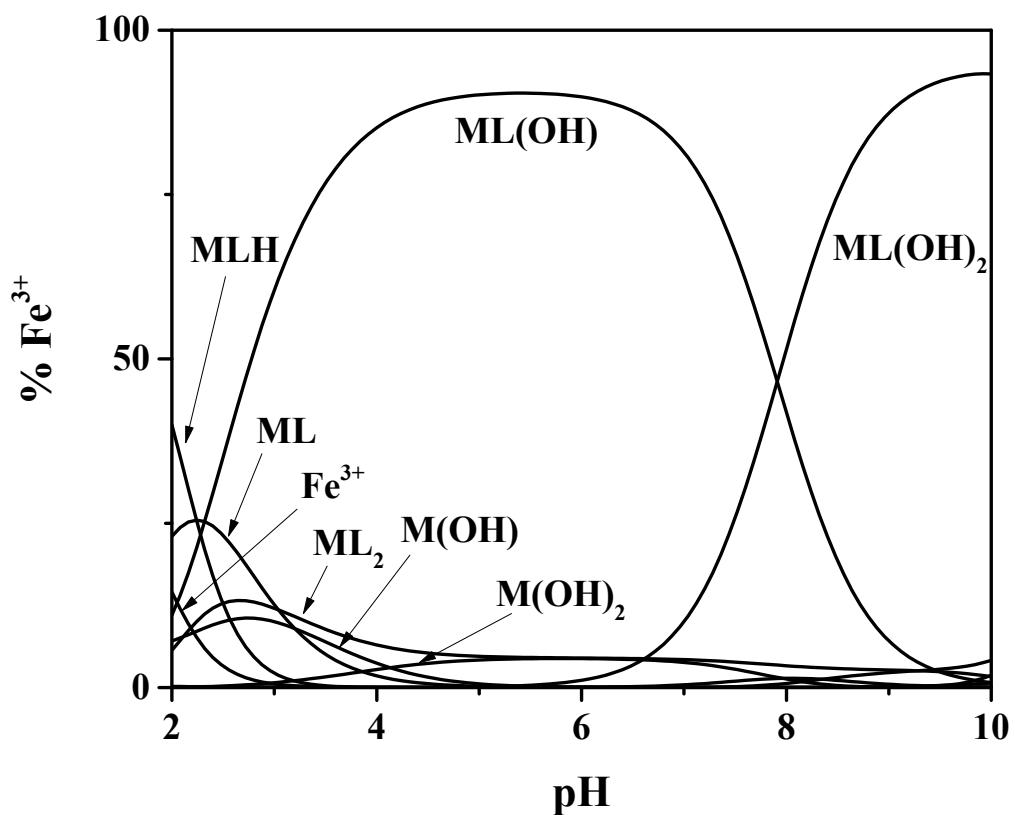


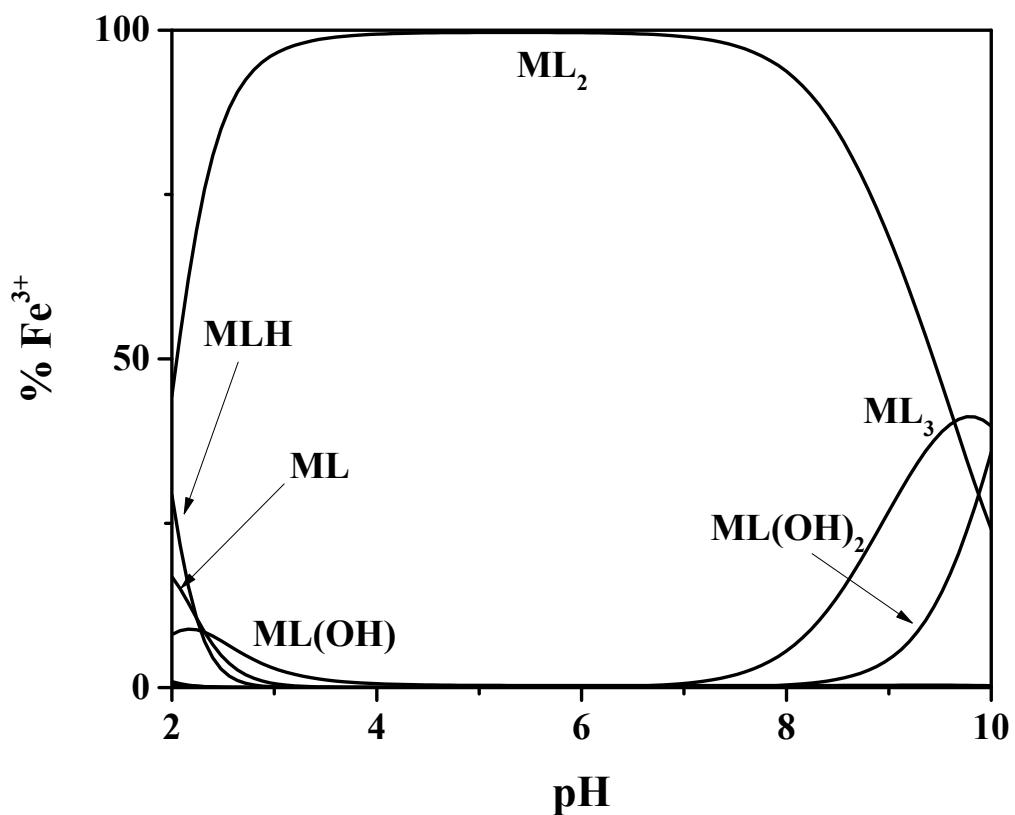
## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL



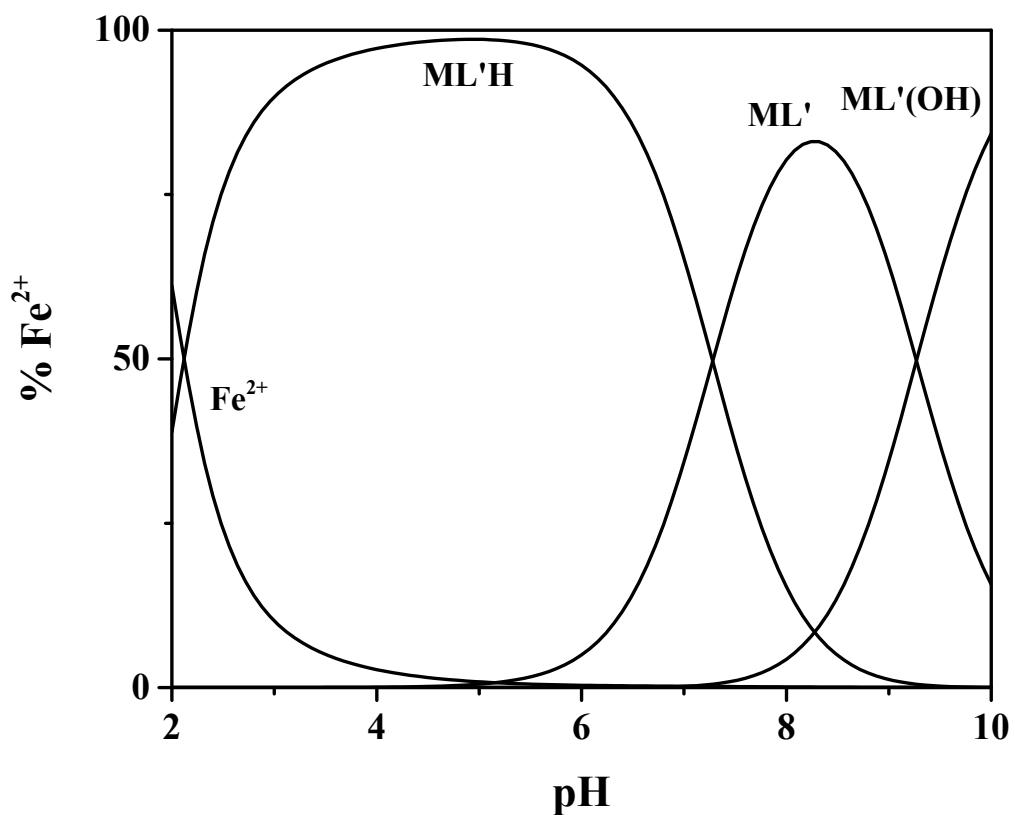
**Figure S1.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL_qH_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/8\text{-HQA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .



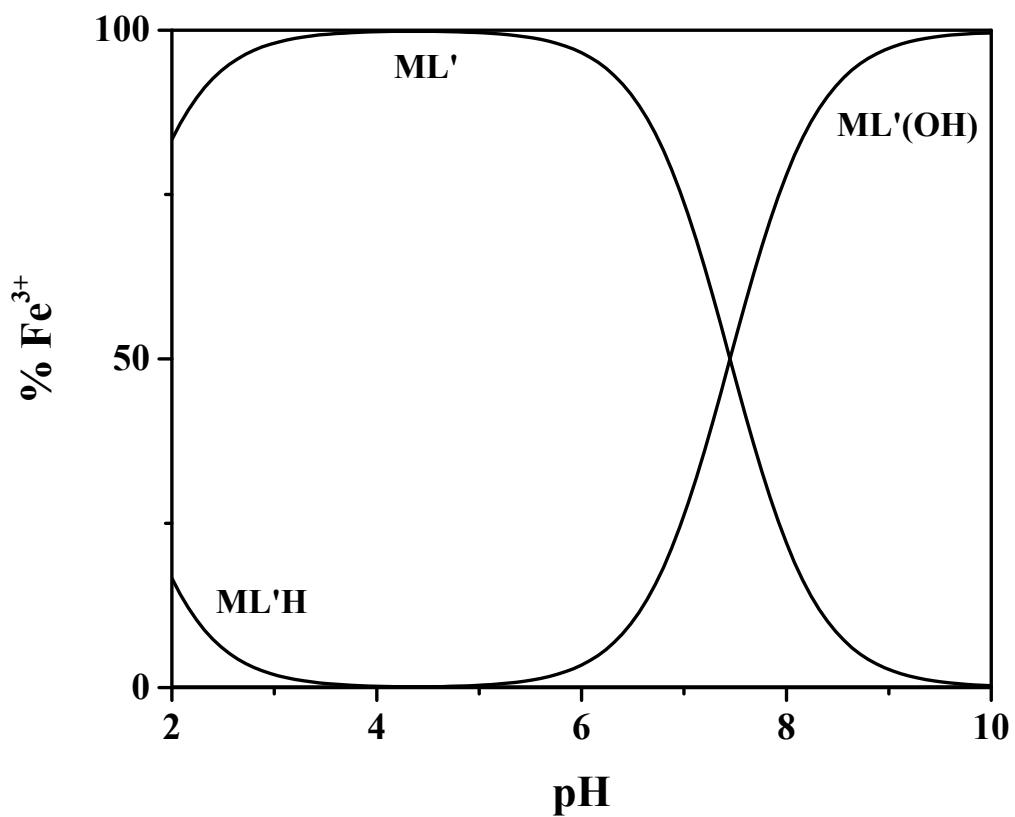
**Figure S2.** Distribution diagram of  $\text{M}_p\text{L}_q\text{H}_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/8\text{-HQA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{3+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .



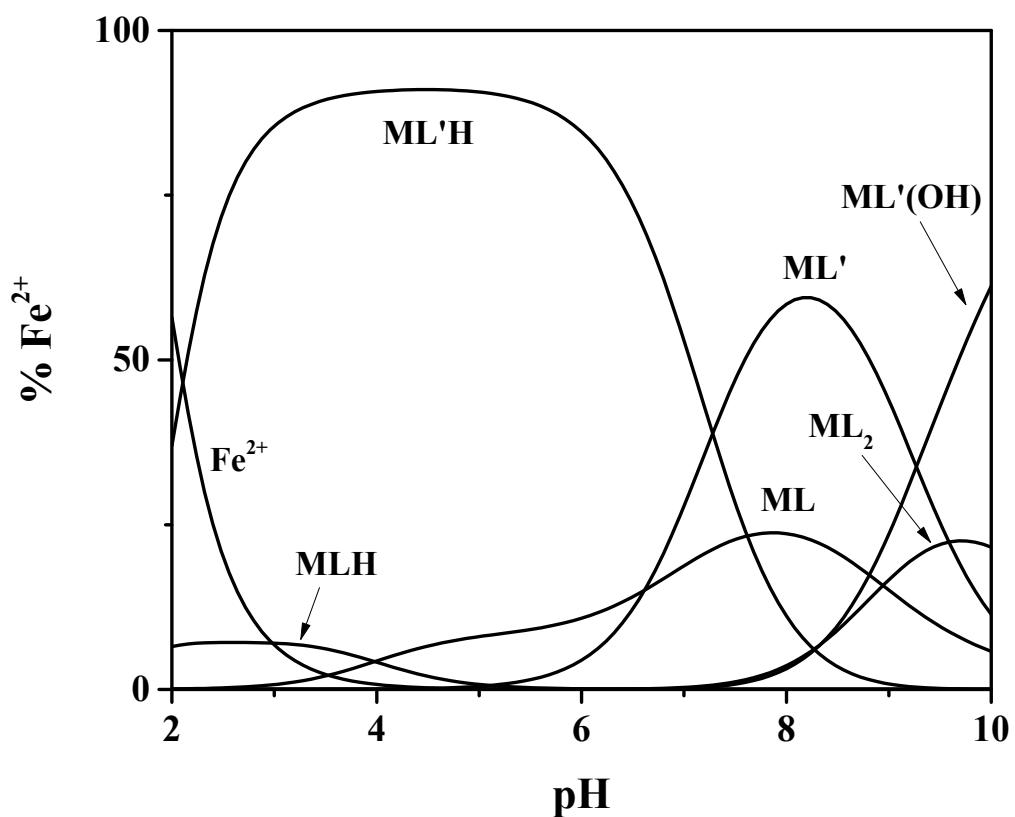
**Figure S3.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL_qH_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $Fe^{3+}/8-HQA$  system, in  $KCl_{(aq)}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8-HQA} = 1.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{Fe^{3+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ , considering the  $ML_3$  species in the model.



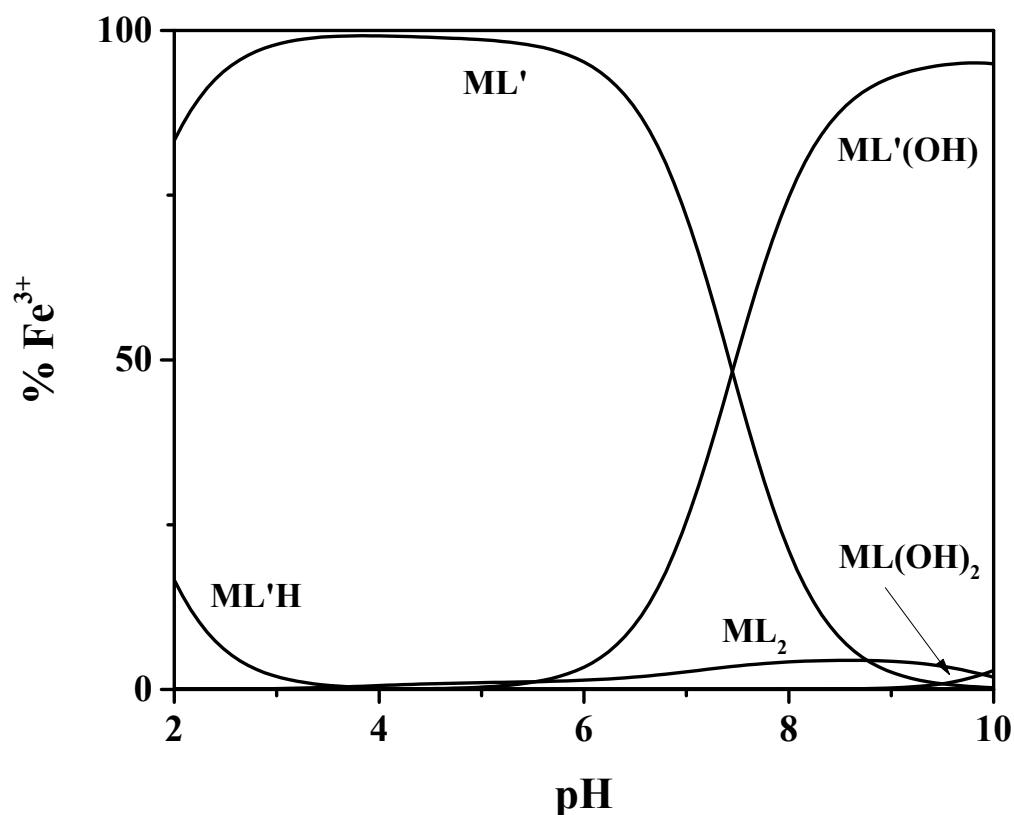
**Figure S4.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL'_qH_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{EDTA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{\text{EDTA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .



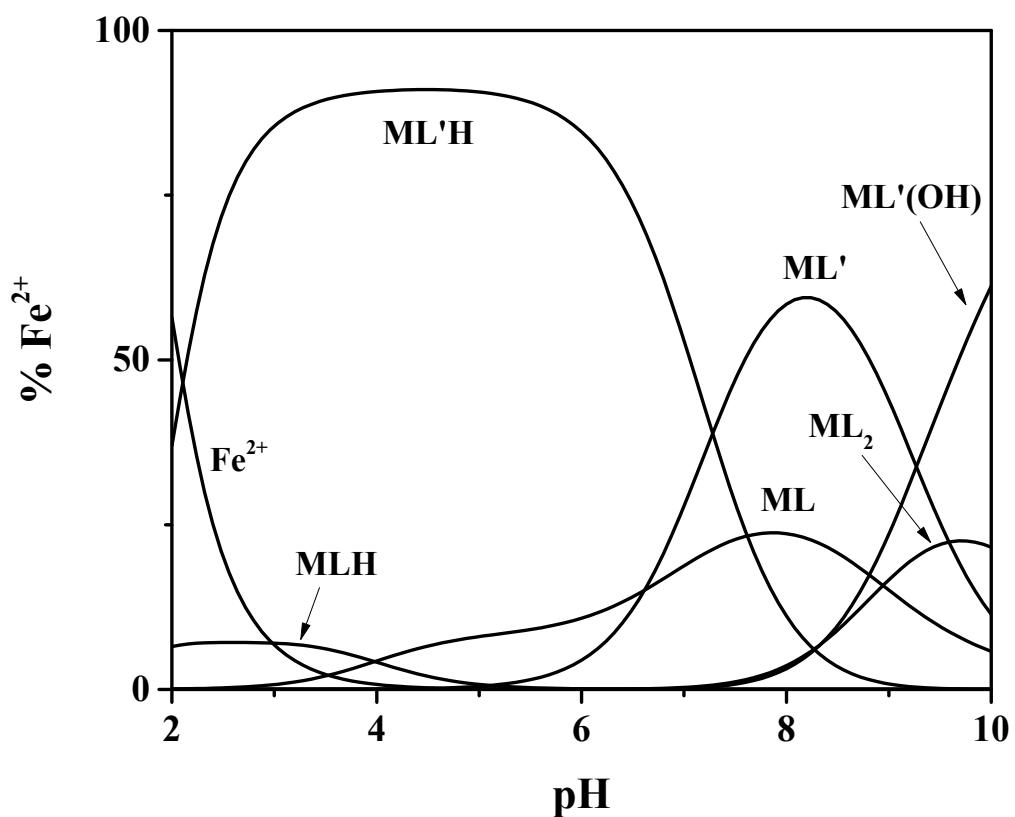
**Figure S5.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL'_qH_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $Fe^{3+}$ /EDTA system, in  $KCl_{(aq)}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{EDTA} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{Fe^{3+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .



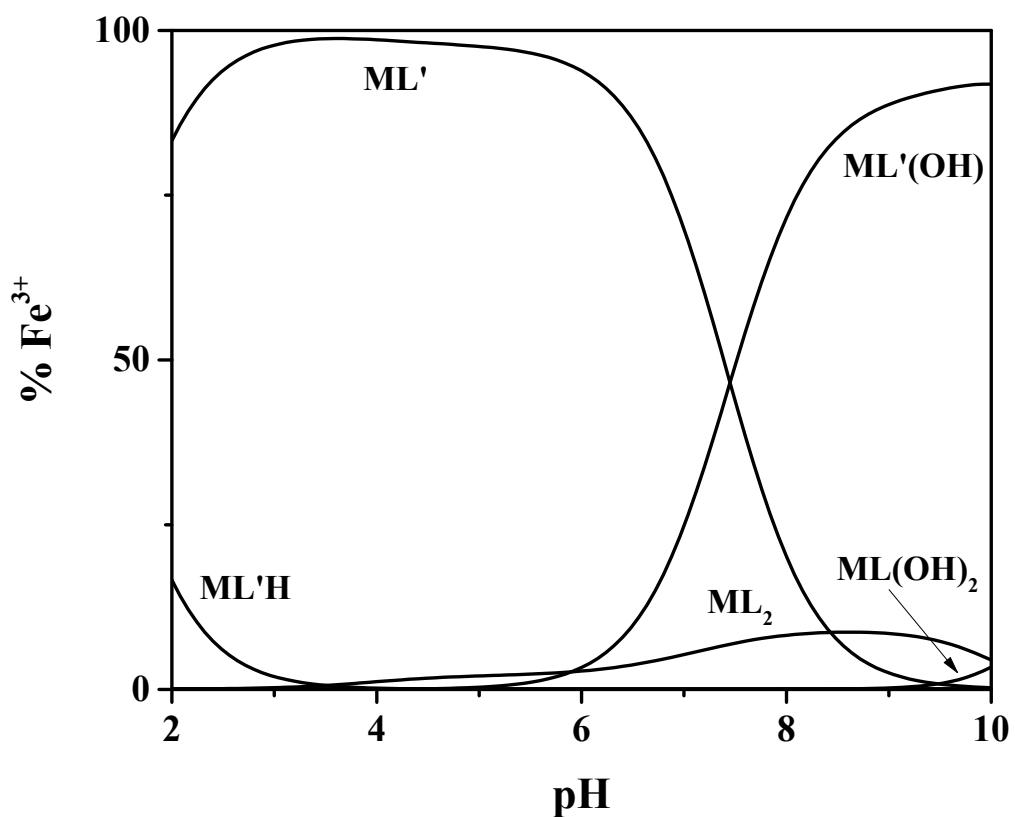
**Figure S6.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL_qL'_{q'}H_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/8\text{-HQA}/\text{EDTA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{EDTA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .  $L \equiv 8\text{-HQA}$ ,  $L' \equiv \text{EDTA}$ .



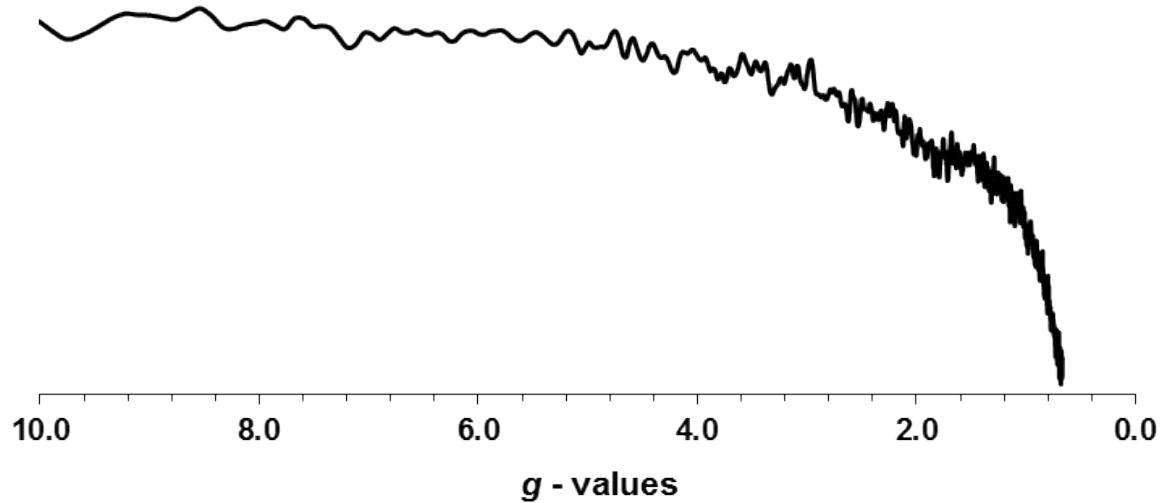
**Figure S7.** Distribution diagram of  $\text{M}_p\text{L}_q\text{L}'_{q'}\text{H}_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/8\text{-HQA}/\text{EDTA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{EDTA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{3+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .  $\text{L} \equiv 8\text{-HQA}$ ,  $\text{L}' \equiv \text{EDTA}$ .



**Figure S8.** Distribution diagram of  $M_pL_qL'_{q'}H_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $Fe^{2+}/8\text{-HQA}/EDTA$  system, in  $KCl_{(aq)}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 1.0 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{EDTA} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{Fe^{2+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .  $L \equiv 8\text{-HQA}$ ,  $L' \equiv EDTA$ .



**Figure S9.** Distribution diagram of  $\text{M}_p\text{L}_q\text{L}'_{q'}\text{H}_r$  species as a function of pH in the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/8\text{-HQA}/\text{EDTA}$  system, in  $\text{KCl}_{(\text{aq})}$  at  $I = 0.2 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .  $c_{8\text{-HQA}} = 1.0 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{EDTA}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $c_{\text{Fe}^{3+}} = 0.5 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .  $\text{L} \equiv 8\text{-HQA}$ ,  $\text{L}' \equiv \text{EDTA}$ .



**Figure S10.** ESR spectra of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/8\text{-HQA}$  system 1:1  $c_L:c_M$  ratios. Experimental conditions:  $T = 100 \text{ K}$ ;  $\text{pH} = 7.0$ ,  $c_L = c_M = 1.0 \text{ mmol dm}^{-3}$ .

**Table S1.** Experimental details on the concentrations (in mmol dm<sup>-3</sup>) of potentiometric titrations on the Fe/8-HQA/EDTA systems

Fe (M)	8-HQA (L)	EDTA (L')	Ratio (M:L:L')	Fe (M)	8-HQA (L)	EDTA (L')	Ratio (M:L:L')
1.5	1.5	--	1:1:0	1.5	0.8	0.8	2:1:1
1.2	1.2	--	1:1:0	1.2	0.6	0.6	2:1:1
1.0	1.0	--	1:1:0	1.0	0.5	0.5	2:1:1
1.0	1.5	--	1:1.5:0	1.5	1.5	0.8	2:2:1
0.8	1.2	--	1:1.5:0	1.2	1.2	0.6	2:2:1
0.6	1.0	--	1:1.5:0	1.0	1.0	0.5	2:2:1
0.8	1.5	--	1:2:0	1.5	0.8	1.5	2:1:2
0.6	1.2	--	1:2:0	1.2	0.6	1.2	2:1:2
0.5	1.0	--	1:2:0	1.0	0.5	1.0	2:1:2
0.5	1.5	--	1:3:0	0.8	1.5	1.5	1:2:2
0.4	1.2	--	1:3:0	0.6	1.2	1.2	1:2:2
1.5	1.5	1.5	1:1:1	0.5	1.0	1.0	1:2:2
1.2	1.2	1.2	1:1:1	0.5	1.5	0.5	1:3:1
1.0	1.0	1.0	1:1:1	0.4	1.2	0.4	1:3:1
1.0	1.5	1.0	1:1.5:1	0.5	0.5	1.5	1:1:3
0.8	1.2	0.8	1:1.5:1	0.4	0.4	1.2	1:1:3
0.6	1.0	0.6	1:1.5:1	1.5	0.5	0.5	3:1:1
1.0	1.0	1.5	1:1:1.5	1.2	0.4	0.4	3:1:1
0.8	0.8	1.2	1:1:1.5	0.5	1.5	1.0	1:3:2
0.6	0.6	1.0	1:1:1.5	0.4	1.2	0.8	1:3:2
1.5	1.0	1.0	1.5:1:1	0.5	1.0	1.5	1:2:3
1.2	0.8	0.8	1.5:1:1	0.4	0.8	1.2	1:2:3
1.0	0.6	0.6	1.5:1:1	1.5	0.5	1.0	3:1:2
0.8	1.5	0.8	1:2:1	1.2	0.4	0.8	3:1:2
0.6	1.2	0.6	1:2:1	1.5	1.0	0.5	3:2:1
0.5	1.0	0.5	1:2:1	1.2	0.8	0.4	3:2:1

0.8	0.8	1.5	1:1:2		1.0	0.5	1.5	2:1:3
0.6	0.6	1.2	1:1:2		0.8	0.4	1.2	2:1:3
0.5	0.5	1.0	1:1:2		1.0	1.5	0.5	2:3:1
					0.8	1.2	0.4	2:3:1

**Table S2.** Experimental details of HESI-HRMS measurements.

Time (min)	Flow (mL min <sup>-1</sup> )	MS Acquisition	Valve
0	0.1		Waste
0.5	0.1	X	Waste → MS
0.6	0.02	X	MS
4	0.02	X	MS → Waste
4.1	1		Waste
5	1		Waste
5.1	0.2		Waste
5.5			Waste → MS
5.8			MS → Waste
6	0.2		Waste