## **Supporting Information**

## Ligand Stabilization of Manganocene Dianion – In Defiance of the 18-Electron Rule

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**Table S1**. Optimized Energy values in a.u for all possible spin states. "n" denotes neutralstate, "a" denotes anionic state, "d" denotes dianionic state, and "t" denotes trianionic state.The most stable spin states have been shown in red.

Structure (central atom,ligand and charged state)	Singlet	Doublet	Triplet	Quartet	Quintet	Sextet
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(n)$	-	-1538.0022	-	-1537.9981	-	-1538.0234
Mn(C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (a)	-1538.0341	-	-1538.0037	-	-1538.0312	-
Mn(C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (d)	-	-1537.9319	-	-1537.9311	-	-1537.9348
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2$ (t)	-1537.7624	-	-1537.7333	-	-1537.7552	-
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(n)$	-	-	-	-2460.3187	-	-2460.3513
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(a)$	-2460.5180	-	-2460.4916	-	-2460.5268	-
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(d)$	-	-2460.5116		-2460.5524	-	-2460.5374
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(t)$	-2460.3761	-	-2460.4341	-	-2460.4456	
Mn(C <sub>5</sub> (BO) <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (n)	-	-	-	-2533.3186	-	-2533.3495
Mn(C <sub>5</sub> (BO) <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (a)	-2533.5163	-	-2533.4898	-	-2533.5248	-
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(d)$	-	-2533.5048	-	-2533.5387	-	-2533.5232
Mn(C <sub>5</sub> (BO) <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (t)	-2533.3699	-	-2533.4109	-	-2533.4166	

**Table S2.** Optimized Energy values in Hatree for the most stable spin state. "n" denotes neutral state, "a" denotes anionic state, "d" denotes dianionic state, and "t" denotes trianionic state.

Molecule	Optimized Energy values in (Hartree)	Stable spin state	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(n)$	-1538.0234	Sextet	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(a)$	-1538.0341	Singlet	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(d)$	-1537.9348	Sextet	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(t)$	-1537.7624	Singlet	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(n)$	-2460.3513	Sextet	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(a)$	-2460.5268	Quintet	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(d)$	-2460.5524	Quartet	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(t)$	-2460.4456	Quintet	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(n)$	-2533.3495	Sextet	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(a)$	-2533.5248	Quintet	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(d)$	-2533.5387	Quartet	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(t)$	-2533.4166	Quintet	

**Figure S1**. NBO charge distribution for a)  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2$  neutral b)  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2$  anion c)  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2$ dianion d)  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2$ trianion e)  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2$  neutral f)  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2$  anion g)  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2$ dianion h)  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2$ trianion i)  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2$  neutral j)  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2$  anion k)  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2$ dianion l)  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2$ trianion



**Figure S2**.Molecular Orbital Energy diagram a)Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(H)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with up spin b) Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(BO)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with up spin c) Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(CN)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with up spin d) Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(H)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with down spin e) Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(BO)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with down spin f) Mn(C<sub>5</sub>(CN)<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>dianion with down spin.



	Spin	n up	Spin down		
Molecule	HOMO	LUMO	HOMO	LUMO	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(n)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 74	Mn: 82	C <sub>1</sub> : 77	C <sub>1</sub> : 81	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(a)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 76	Mn: 96	-	-	
$Mn(C_5H_5)_2(d)$	Mn: 82	C <sub>1</sub> : 51	C <sub>1</sub> : 71	Mn: 81	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(n)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 58	C <sub>1</sub> : 52	CN: 47	CN: 49	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(a)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 74	C <sub>1</sub> : 68	C <sub>1</sub> : 81	C <sub>1</sub> : 56	
$Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(d)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 44	C <sub>1</sub> : 52	CN: 51	CN: 48	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(n)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 66	C <sub>1</sub> : 79	C <sub>1</sub> : 51	C <sub>1</sub> : 40	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(a)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 77	C <sub>1</sub> : 78	C <sub>1</sub> : 58	C <sub>1</sub> : 67	
$Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(d)$	C <sub>1</sub> : 94	Mn: 50	C <sub>1</sub> : 73	C <sub>1</sub> : 62	

**Table S3**: The fragment which contributes the most to the various energy levels have been mentioned. The values are given in percentage. The Carbon atom of the ring is denoted by  $C_{1}$ .

**Table S4**: The table gives the contribution of the various ligands (H, CN, BO) to the various spin up MO for the molecules  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2(n,a,d)$ ,  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(n,a,d)$  and  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(n,a,d)$  respectively in the various charged states (n: neutral; a: mono-anion; d: dianion)

МО	Mn(C	Mn(C	Mn(C	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>					
energy	<sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	$(CN)_{5})_{2}$	$(CN)_{5})_{2}$	$(CN)_{5})$	$(BO)_{5})_{2}$	$(BO)_{5})_{2}$	$(BO)_{5})_{2}$
levels	(n)	(a)	(d)	(n)	(a)	(d)	(n)	(a)	(d)
LUMO+5	-	-	-	24	14	44	6	6	16
LUMO+4	-	-	-	31	12	20	1	9	15
LUMO+3	-	-	-	24	20	51	13	14	6
LUMO+2	-	-	-	25	30	37	13	16	8
LUMO+1	-	-	-	42	26	30	17	8	8
LUMO	-	-	-	42	21	45	17	21	4
HOMO	-	-	-	32	20	19	22	13	3
HOMO-1	-	2	-	30	48	27	21	21	19
HOMO-2	-	-	-	42	12	31	10	18	16
HOMO-3	-	-	-	48	28	55	10	25	17
HOMO-4	-	2	-	30	20	52	46	17	5
HOMO-5	-	2	-	50	35	10	2	11	9

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МО	Mn(C	Mn(C	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>	Mn(C <sub>5</sub>
energy	<sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	$(CN)_{5})_{2}$	$(CN)_{5})_{2}$	(CN) <sub>5</sub> )	(BO) <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	$(BO)_{5})_{2}$	$(BO)_{5})_{2}$
levels	(n)	(d)	(n)	(a)	(d)	(n)	(a)	(d)
LUMO+5	-	-	33	55	37	12	16	11
LUMO+4	-	-	32	54	17	12	13	7
LUMO+3	2	-	32	22	17	11	8	12
LUMO+2	2	-	30	23	19	3	6	9
LUMO+1	-	-	45	22	43	28	14	5
LUMO	-	-	49	23	48	28	16	14
HOMO	-	-	47	7	51	6	15	10
HOMO-1	-	-	42	30	19	7	15	12
HOMO-2	-	-	40	23	32	27	8	14
HOMO-3	1	-	38	13	22	29	22	19
HOMO-4	4	-	30	27	22	47	34	18
HOMO-5	5	2	44	35	38	2	30	26

**Table S5**: The table gives the contribution of the various ligands (H, CN, BO) to the various spin down MO for the molecules  $Mn(C_5H_5)_2(n,a,d)$ ,  $Mn(C_5(CN)_5)_2(n,a,d)$  and  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2(n,a,d)$  respectively in the various charged states (n: neutral; a: mono-anion; d: dianion)

**Figure S3:** HOMO for a) Spin up  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2^{2-}$  b) Spin down  $Mn(C_5(BO)_5)_2^{2-}$ 



a

Table S6.NICS values in ppm

dis from centre	$e(Å) C_6H_6$	5 C <sub>5</sub> B	O <sub>5</sub> - C <sub>5</sub>	5CN2- C2H2-
0	-8.0379	-12.9864	-12.6854	-15.7059
0.1	-8.1467	-13.025	-12.6631	-15.6271
0.2	-8.4554	-13.1236	-12.5934	-15.3955
0.3	-8.9059	-13.2389	9 -12.4685	-15.0248
0.4	-9.417	-13.315	-12.2781	-14.5341
0.5	-9.9025	-13.2997	-12.0123	-13.9445
0.6	-10.2883	-13.1557	-11.6644	-13.2763
0.7	-10.5227	-12.8665	-11.2329	-12.5468
0.8	-10.5804	-12.4352	-10.7227	-11.7715
0.9	-10.4604	-11.8798	-10.1453	-10.965
1	-10.1801	-11.2278	-9.5172	-10.1424
1.1	-9.7685	-10.5101	-8.8579	-9.3193
1.2	-9.2594	-9.7572	-8.1876	-8.511
1.3	-8.6866	-8.996	-7.5249	-7.7315
1.4	-8.0804	-8.2484	-6.8851	-6.9926
1.5	-7.4658	-7.531	-6.2799	-6.3026
1.6	-6.8621	-6.8549	-5.7167	-5.6671
1.7	-6.2832	-6.2268	-5.1998	-5.0881
1.8	-5.7379	-5.6496	-4.7302	-4.5655
1.9	-5.2314	-5.1237	-4.3068	-4.0971
2	-4.7657	-4.6472	-3.9269	-3.6794
2.1	-4.3408	-4.2173	-3.5869	-3.3081
2.2	-3.9551	-3.8304	-3.283	-2.9787
2.3	-3.6063	-3.4827	-3.0112	-2.6866
2.4	-3.2916	-3.1703	-2.7677	-2.4274
2.5	-3.0081	-2.8897	-2.549	-2.1973
2.6	-2.7526	-2.6375	-2.352	-1.9927
2.7	-2.5226	-2.4107	-2.1742	-1.8104
2.8	-2.3152	-2.2066	-2.0131	-1.6478
2.9	-2.1281	-2.0227	-1.8667	-1.5025

3	-1.9592	-1.8568	-1.7333	-1.3724
3.1	-1.8065	-1.7069	-1.6114	-1.2557
3.2	-1.6682	-1.5714	-1.4997	-1.1508
3.3	-1.5428	-1.4487	-1.3972	-1.0564
3.4	-1.429	-1.3374	-1.3027	-0.9713
3.5	-1.3254	-1.2363	-1.2156	-0.8945
3.6	-1.2311	-1.1444	-1.1351	-0.8249
3.7	-1.1451	-1.0608	-1.0606	-0.7619
3.8	-1.0665	-0.9844	-0.9915	-0.7047
3.9	-0.9945	-0.9148	-0.9274	-0.6527
4	-0.9286	-0.8511	-0.8679	-0.6053
4.1	-0.8681	-0.7928	-0.8126	-0.562
4.2	-0.8126	-0.7394	-0.7612	-0.5226
4.3	-0.7614	-0.6904	-0.7134	-0.4864
4.4	-0.7143	-0.6455	-0.669	-0.4533
4.5	-0.6709	-0.6041	-0.6277	-0.423
4.6	-0.6308	-0.5661	-0.5894	-0.3951
4.7	-0.5937	-0.531	-0.5537	-0.3695
4.8	-0.5593	-0.4987	-0.5206	-0.3459
4.9		-0.4689	-0.4898	-0.3241