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## Two-dimensional <sup>67</sup>Zn HYSCORE spectroscopy reveals that a Zn-Bacteriochlorophyll $a_{P}'$ dimer is the primary donor ( $P_{840}$ ) in the Type-1 reaction centers of Chloracidobacterium thermophilum

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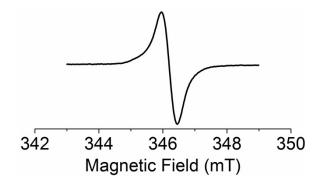
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## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

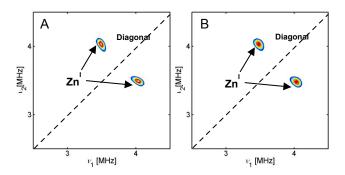
## **Table of contents:**

1- Continuous-wave and pulsed EPR spectra of Zn<sup>2+</sup>-protoporphyrin IX and C. thermophilum membranes 2 2- Electron charge density distribution in the P<sub>800</sub><sup>+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup>-protoporphyrin IX cation 3 3- Experimental and calculated hyperfine and quadrupolar parameters of the Zn<sup>2+</sup>protoporphyrin IX and dimeric  $Zn^{2+}$ -BChl  $g_F$  cation

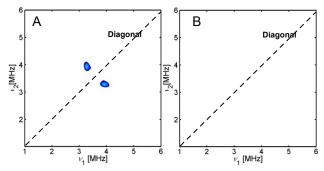
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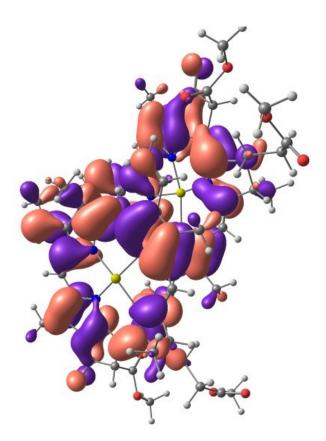
**Figure 1S.** Continuous-wave EPR spectrum of the  $Zn^{2+}$ -protoporphyrin IX cation at 50 K. The spectrum displays a signal at g=2.003. The cationic species was generated by cryogenic white light illumination of a 6 mM  $Zn^{2+}$ -protoporphyrin IX using ACN as a solvent.



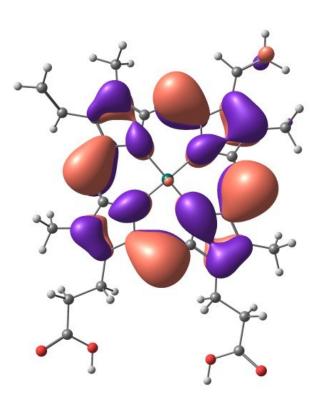
**Figure 2S. (A)** Experimental and **(B)** simulated 2D <sup>67</sup>Zn HYSCORE spectrum of the Zn<sup>2+</sup>-protoporphyrin IX cation at 5 K. The spectrum displays a pair of cross-peaks that are symmetric about the main diagonal that arise from the magnetic interaction of <sup>67</sup>Zn (nuclear spin, I = 5/2) with the unpaired electron spin (S =  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Zn<sup>2+</sup>-protoporphyrin IX cation.



**Figure 3S.** Comparison of the experimental 2D <sup>67</sup>Zn HYSCORE spectrum of **(A)** <sup>67</sup>Zn-labelled and **(B)** unlabelled *C. thermophilum* membranes containing RCs. Both of the plots are normalized by the same number of scans on samples with similar concentrations. The crosspeaks from the hyperfine interactions with the <sup>67</sup>Zn atom(s) that are observed in part **(A)** are a result of the high levels of isotopic enrichment of <sup>67</sup>Zn in the <sup>67</sup>Zn-labelled *C. thermophilum* membranes containing RCs.



**Figure 4S.** Electron charge density distribution in the singly occupied molecular orbital of the primary donor cation,  $P_{800}^+$ , of the heliobacterial RC that is comprised of a BChl  $g_F$  homodimer. The computational model is derived from the recent high-resolution X-ray crystal structure of the heliobacterial RC.<sup>3</sup>



**Table 1S**. Experimental  $^{67}$ Zn hyperfine (A) and quadrupolar (K) couplings for the Zn<sup>2+</sup>-protoporphyrin IX cation that were obtained from experimental 2D HYSCORE measurements.

Nucleus	A <sub>x</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>y</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>z</sub> (MHz)	A iso (MHz)	<b>K</b> (MHz)	η
Zn	0.77	0.84	0.88	0.83	0.80	0.23
	± 0.05	± 0.03	± 0.03	± 0.04	± 0.03	± 0.10

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Table 2S}. $^{67}$Zn hyperfine (A) and quadrupolar (K) couplings for the $Zn^{2+}$-protoporphyrin cation that are obtained from DFT calculations. \end{tabular}$ 

Nucleus	A <sub>x</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>y</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>z</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>iso</sub> (MHz)	<b>K</b> (MHz)	η
Zn I	0.77	0.84	0.88	0.83	1.28	0.06

**Table 3S**.  $^{67}{\rm Zn}$  hyperfine (A) and quadrupolar (K) parameters of the oxidized dimeric Zn²+-BChl  $g_F$  'cation that are obtained from DFT calculations.

Nucleus	A <sub>x</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>y</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>z</sub> (MHz)	A <sub>iso</sub> (MHz)	<b>K</b> (MHz)	η
Zn	0.52	0.64	0.71	0.62	1.35	0.14
Zn II	0.49	0.61	0.68	0.59	1.35	0.14