## **Supplementary Information for:**

# Abrupt spin crossover in iron(III) complexes with aromatic anions

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## IR spectroscopy





Figure S1 IR spectra of [Fe(qsal-X)<sub>2</sub>]OTs·nH<sub>2</sub>O.

#### **Solution magnetic studies**

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR studies to determine the magnetic susceptibility of [Fe(qsal-X)<sub>2</sub>]OTs were recorded at 298 K in d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO with TMS added as an internal standard against a reference of DMSO on a 300 MHz Bruker FT-NMR spectrometer following a modified Evan's method. The reference solvent was placed in a co-axial insert with the solution of the complex in a standard NMR tube. The mass susceptibility was calculated using:

$$\chi_{\rm g} = \chi_{\rm o} + \frac{3\Delta v}{4\pi v_o c}$$

where  $\chi_0$  = the mass susceptibility of DMSO (-0.629 x 10<sup>-6</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>·g<sup>-1</sup>),  $\Delta \upsilon$  (Hz) is the paramagnetic shift of the reference,  $\upsilon_0$  is the operating RF frequency of the NMR spectrometer (300.13 x 10<sup>6</sup> Hz) and *c* is the concentration of the solution in g·cm<sup>-3</sup>. The mass susceptibility was then converted to molar susceptibility ( $\chi_M$ ). Diamagnetic corrections were applied and by multiplication with the measurement temperature (298 K)  $\chi_M$ T was determined.



Figure S2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of [Fe(qsal-X)<sub>2</sub>]OTs in d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO showing the TMS shift.

| Table S1 Selected | <sup>1</sup> H NMR data c | of <b>1-2</b> in d <sup>6</sup> -DMSO | at 298 K. |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|

| Compound                       | Concentration (g/cm <sup>3</sup> ) | Δν (Hz) | χ <sub>M</sub> T (cm³⋅mol⁻¹⋅K) | %HS |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-----|
| [Fe(qsal-Br) <sub>2</sub> ]OTs | 0.01                               | 150.05  | 2.59                           | 55  |
| [Fe(qsal-I) <sub>2</sub> ]OTs  | 0.01                               | 175.25  | 3.03                           | 66  |

## X-ray crystallographic studies

|  | <b>1</b> ·H <sub>2</sub> O            | <b>1</b> ⋅H <sub>2</sub> O             | <b>2·2</b> H <sub>2</sub> O           |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
|  | 103 K                                 | 293 K                                  | 103 K                                 |
| Formula                                    | $C_{39}H_{27}Br_2FeN_4O_5S\cdot H_2O$ | $C_{39}H_{27}Br_2FeN_4O_5S{\cdot}H_2O$ | $C_{39}H_{27}I_2FeN_4O_5S\cdot 2H_2O$ |
| Formula weight                             | 897.39                                | 897.39                                 | 1008.85                               |
| Crystal system                             | Orthorhombic                          | Orthorhombic                           | Orthorhombic                          |
| Space group                                | Pca2 <sub>1</sub>                     | Pca21                                  | Pca2 <sub>1</sub>                     |
| a/Å  | 12.3433(8)                            | 12.4432(3)                             | 12.7045(3)                            |
| b/Å  | 14.3546(8)                            | 14.6561(4)                             | 14.1173(3)                            |
| <i>c</i> /Å                                | 19.2425(14)                           | 19.1005(13)                            | 20.3416(14)                           |
| α/°  | 90                                    | 90                                     | 90                                    |
| β/°  | 90                                    | 90                                     | 90                                    |
| γ/°  | 90                                    | 90                                     | 90                                    |
| Τ/Κ  | 103                                   | 293                                    | 103                                   |
| Cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                 | 3409.4(4)                             | 3483.3(3)                              | 3648.3(3)                             |
| Z  | 4                                     | 4                                      | 4                                     |
| Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> ) | 7.346                                 | 7.190                                  | 17.621                                |
| Reflections collected                      | 18081                                 | 19306                                  | 17087                                 |
| Independent reflections                    | 2928                                  | 8805                                   | 5211                                  |
| <b>R</b> <sub>int</sub>                    | 0.1447                                | 0.1167                                 | 0.0791                                |
| Max. and min.<br>transition                | 1.000/0.091                           | 1.000/0.192                            | 1.000/0.350                           |
| Restraints/parameters                      | 235/464                               | 21/383                                 | 85/486                                |
| Final <i>R</i> indices<br>[/>2σ(/)]:       | 0.0859/0.1901                         | 0.0773/0.2198                          | 0.0622/0.1516                         |
| R1,wR2                                     |                                       |  |                                       |
| CCDC                                       | 1920841                               | 1920840                                | 1920842                               |

**Table S2** Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters for [Fe(qsal-X)2]OTs•nH2O complexes.



Figure S3 PXRD of [Fe(qsal-Br)<sub>2</sub>]OTs·H<sub>2</sub>O.



Figure S4 PXRD of [Fe(qsal-I)<sub>2</sub>]OTs·2H<sub>2</sub>O.



**Figure S5** View of the Type A and Type B  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions in [Fe(qsal-I)<sub>2</sub>]OTs·2H<sub>2</sub>O **2**·2H<sub>2</sub>O.



#### **DSC and TGA studies**

Figure S6 DSC plot for [Fe(qsal-Br)<sub>2</sub>]OTs.



Figure S7 TGA studies of [Fe(qsal-X)<sub>2</sub>]OTs.