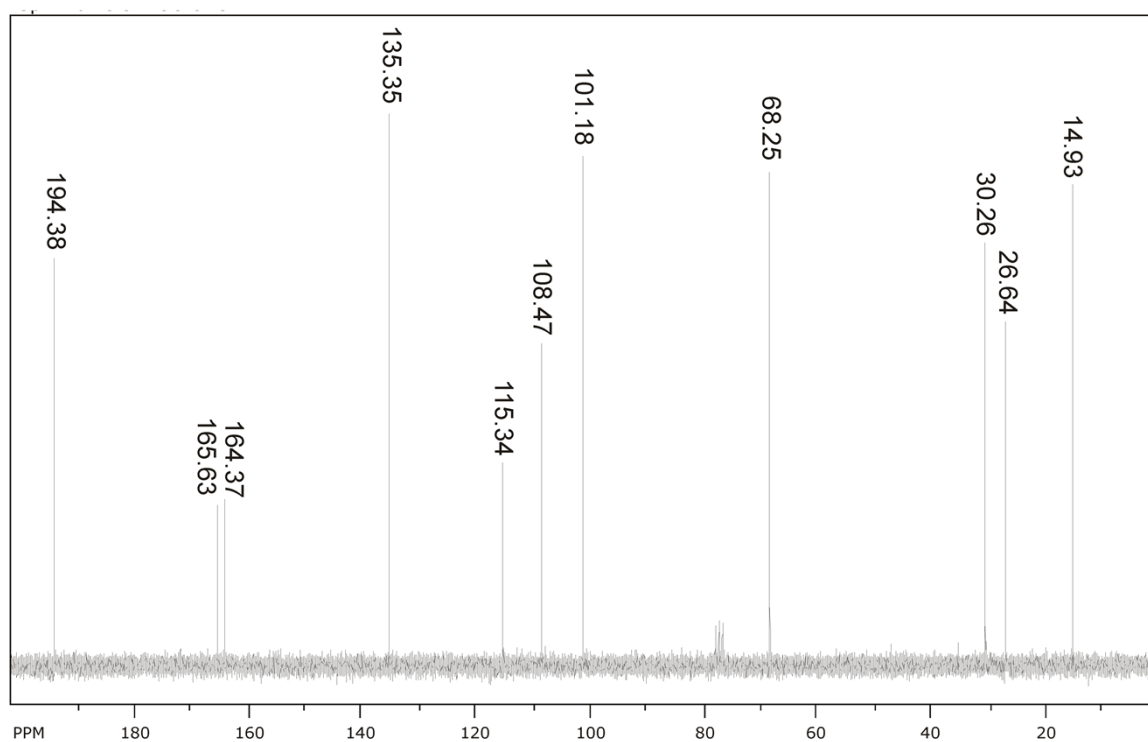


## Mn(II) acetate: An efficient and versatile oxidation catalyst for alcohols

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### Electronic supplementary information (ESI)



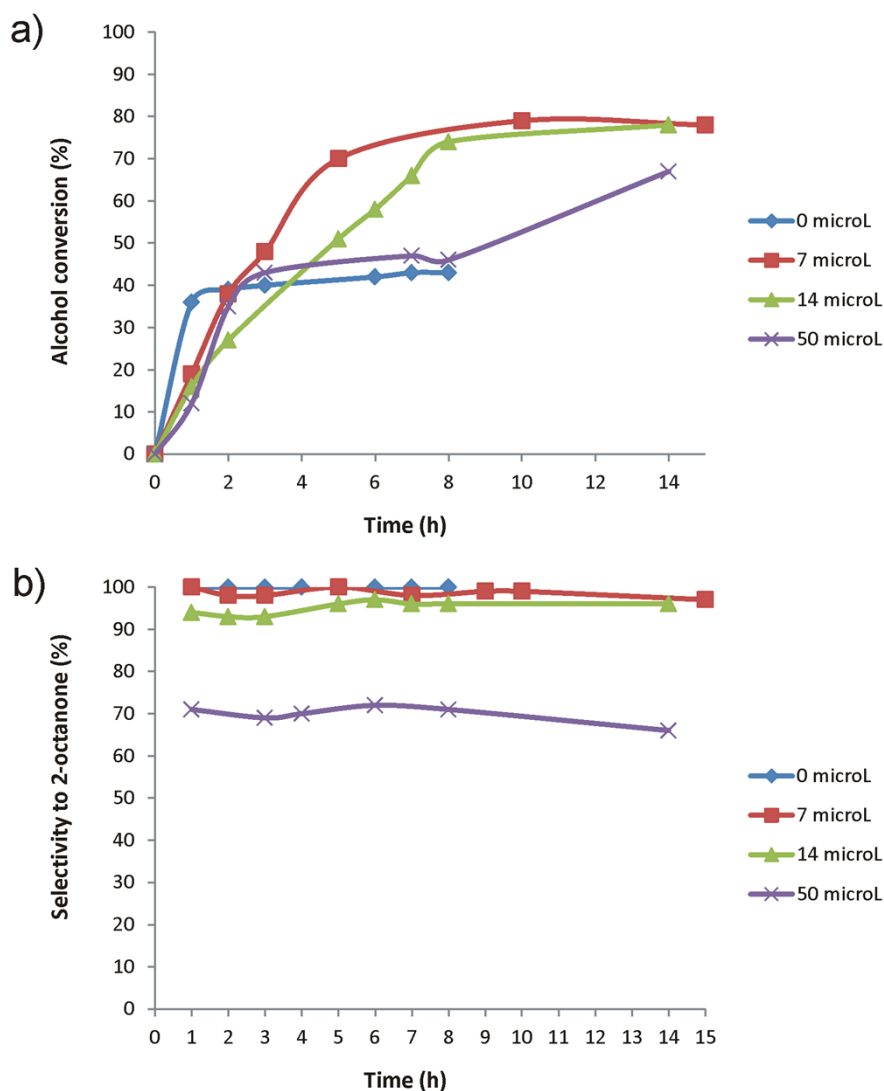
**Fig. S1** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 2-hydroxy-4-[2-(ethylthio)ethoxy]benzaldehyde measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**Table S1**

Effect of TFA amount on the oxidation of 1-octanol and 2-octanol by a system based on Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/tBuOOH.<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Substrate	Main product	TFA amount (μL)	Alcohol conversion (%)	Selectivity (%)
1	2-octanol	2-octanone	0	46	>99.9
2			7	87	>99.9
3			25	67 <sup>b</sup>	78
4			50	59 <sup>c</sup>	74
5	1-octanol	1-octanoic acid	0	25	92
6			7	60	>99.9
7			25	42 <sup>d</sup>	67
8			50	34 <sup>e</sup>	50

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol substrate, 1.8 mol% Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 313 μL tBuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 7 μL TFA, 1.5 mL CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 80 °C, 21 h. <sup>b</sup> 19% of side products (hexanoic acid, heptanoic acid, 2,5-hexanedione, octan-2-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate). <sup>c</sup> 21% of side products (hexanoic acid, heptanoic acid, octan-2-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate). <sup>d</sup> 21% of octyl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate and 5% of octyl acetate formed. <sup>e</sup> 34% of octyl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate and 8% of octyl acetate formed.



**Fig. S2** a) Conversion and b) selectivity of the oxidation reaction of 2-octanol with different TFA amounts (from 0 to 50  $\mu\text{L}$ ). Reaction conditions: 1 mmol of 2-octanol, 1.8 mol% of  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2$ , 1.5 mL of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 313  $\mu\text{L}$  of *t*BuOOH, 80  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

**Table S2**

Effect of carboxylic acid additive on the oxidation of 2-octanol by a system based on  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2/t\text{BuOOH}$ .<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Acid additive	Alcohol conversion (%)	Selectivity to 2-octanone
1	TFA, 7 $\mu\text{L}$	87	>99.9
2	acetic acid, 400 $\mu\text{L}$	66 <sup>b</sup>	87

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol 2-octanol, 1.8 mol%  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2$ , 313  $\mu\text{L}$  *t*BuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 1.5 mL  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 80  $^\circ\text{C}$ , 21 h. <sup>b</sup> Side products: 7% hexanoic acid, 3% octan-2-yl acetate.

**Table S3**

Effect of solvent on the oxidation of 2-octanol by a system based on Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/tBuOOH.<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Solvent	Alcohol conversion (%)	Selectivity to 2-octanone
1	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	87	>99.9
2	EtOAc	38 <sup>b</sup>	43
3	toluene	38 <sup>c</sup>	70

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol substrate, 1.8 mol% Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 313 μL tBuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 7 μL TFA, 1.5 mL solvent, 80 °C, 21 h. <sup>b</sup> Side products: 23% octan-2-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate, 13% hexanoic acid, 5% heptanoic acid, 10% octanediones. <sup>c</sup> Side products: 8% heptanoic acid, 8% octan-2-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate. Also formed large amounts of benzaldehyde and benzoic acid as well as traces of benzyl alcohol from the oxidation of toluene (2-octanone/benzaldehyde/benzoic acid/benzyl alcohol ratio 1:1.7:2.4:0.4).

**Table S4**

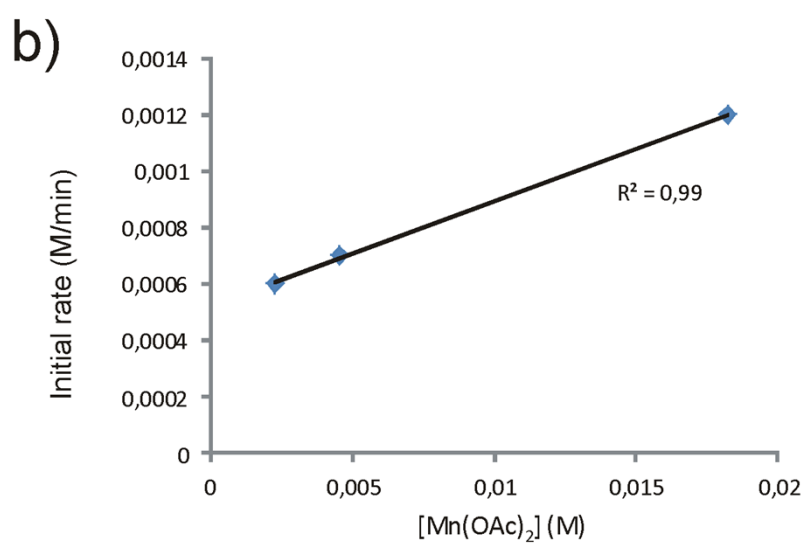
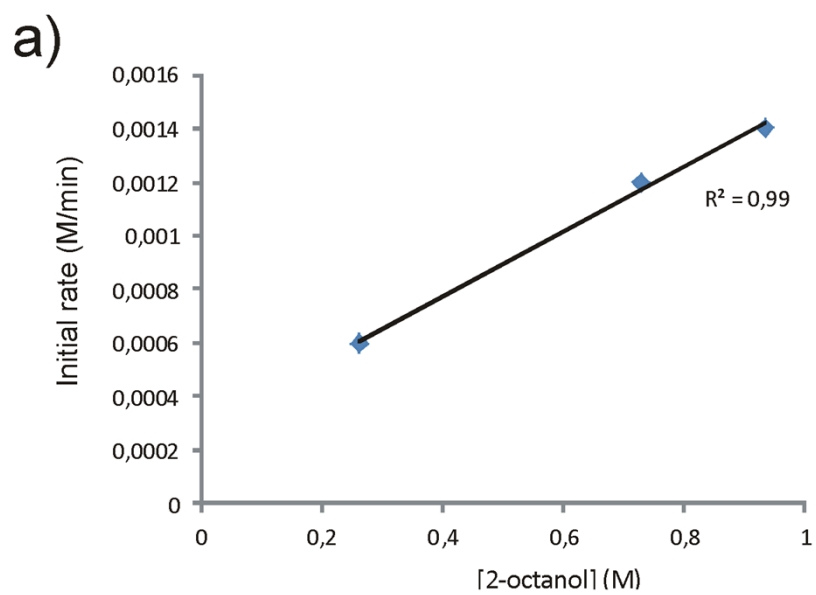
Reaction rate constants (*k*) obtained with different concentrations of 2-octanol. See Fig. 3 for the experimental conditions.

2-octanol (mmol)	[2-octanol] (M)	<i>k</i> (M/min)	R <sup>2</sup>
0.5	0.263158	0.0006	0.97
1.5	0.728509	0.0012	0.99
2.0	0.935454	0.0014	0.99

**Table S5**

Reaction rate constants (*k*) obtained with different concentrations of Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>. See Fig. 3 for the experimental conditions.

Mn(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (mol%)	[Mn(OAc) <sub>2</sub> ] (M)	<i>k</i> (M/min)	R <sup>2</sup>
0.45	0.002276	0.0006	0.99
0.90	0.004552	0.0007	0.98
3.60	0.018207	0.0012	0.99



**Fig. S3** The initial oxidation rate depends linearly on the concentration of (a) 2-octanol and (b) Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S6**Oxidation of various alcohols with a Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/tBuOOH system under argon.<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Substrate	Main product <sup>b</sup>	Time (h)	Alcohol conv. (%) [in air]	Select. (%) [in air]
1	2-octanol	2-octanone	1.5	12 [25]	>99.9 [>99.9]
2	1-phenyl-1-propanol	1-phenyl-1-propanone	2	39 [40]	>99.9 [>99.9]
3	benzyl alcohol	benzaldehyde	8	40 [67]	83 [52]
4	4-nitrobenzyl alcohol	4-nitrobenzaldehyde	4	29 [42]	>99.9 [>99.9]
5	1-naphthalenemethanol	1-naphthaldehyde  (1-naphthoic acid for the reaction done in air)	8	35 [68]	80 [74]
6	4-chlorobenzyl alcohol	4-chlorobenzaldehyde	4	59 [62]	73 [74]
7	2-thiophenemethanol	2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde	15	93 [93]	70 [67]

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol alcohol substrate, 18 μmol Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 313 μL tBuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 7 μL TFA, 1.5 mL CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 80 °C, Ar atmosphere. <sup>b</sup> Side products formed under Ar. Entry 3: 7% benzoic acid. Entry 5: 7% 1-naphthoic acid. Entry 6: 16% 4-chlorobenzoic acid. Entry 7: 13% 2-thiophenecarboxylic acid, 15% 2-methylthiophene.

**Table S7**Oxidation of hydrocarbons with the Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/tBuOOH system under argon.<sup>a</sup>

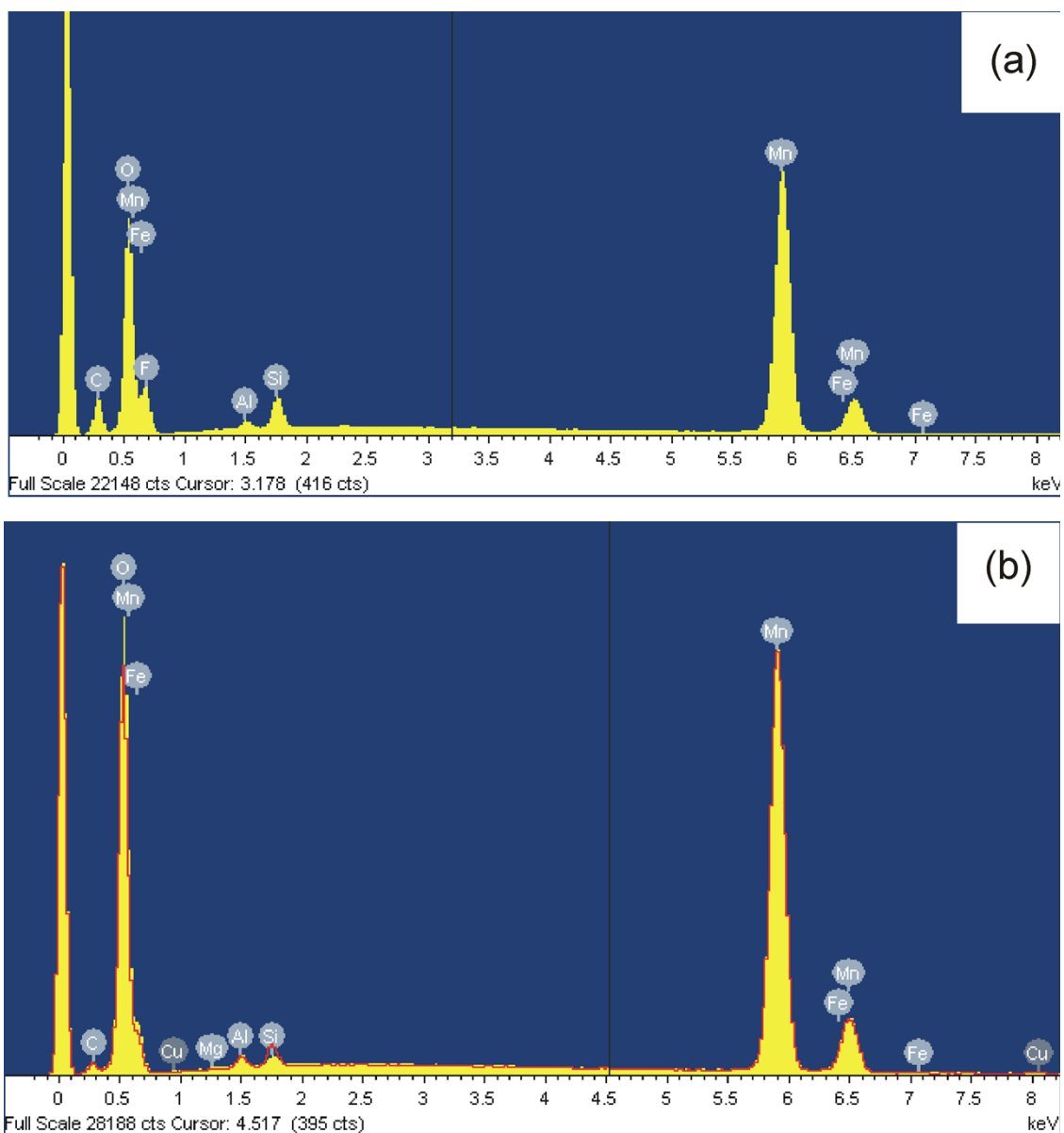
Entry	Substrate	Main product <sup>b</sup>	Substrate conversion (%)	Selectivity (%)
1	cyclooctane	cyclooctanone	32	44
2	isochroman	isochroman-1-one	47	>99.9
3	ethylbenzene	acetophenone	43	42

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol hydrocarbon substrate, 18 μmol Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 313 μL tBuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 7 μL TFA, 1.5 mL CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 70 °C, 16 h, Ar atmosphere. <sup>b</sup> Side products formed. Entry 1: 7% cyclooctene, 2% cyclooctanol, 9% unidentified compound. Entry 3: 10% benzaldehyde, 15% 1,1'-(oxydiethylidene)bisbenzene.

**Table S8**Oxidation of *N,N*-dimethylaniline (DMA) and *N,N*-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN with the Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/tBuOOH system.<sup>a</sup>

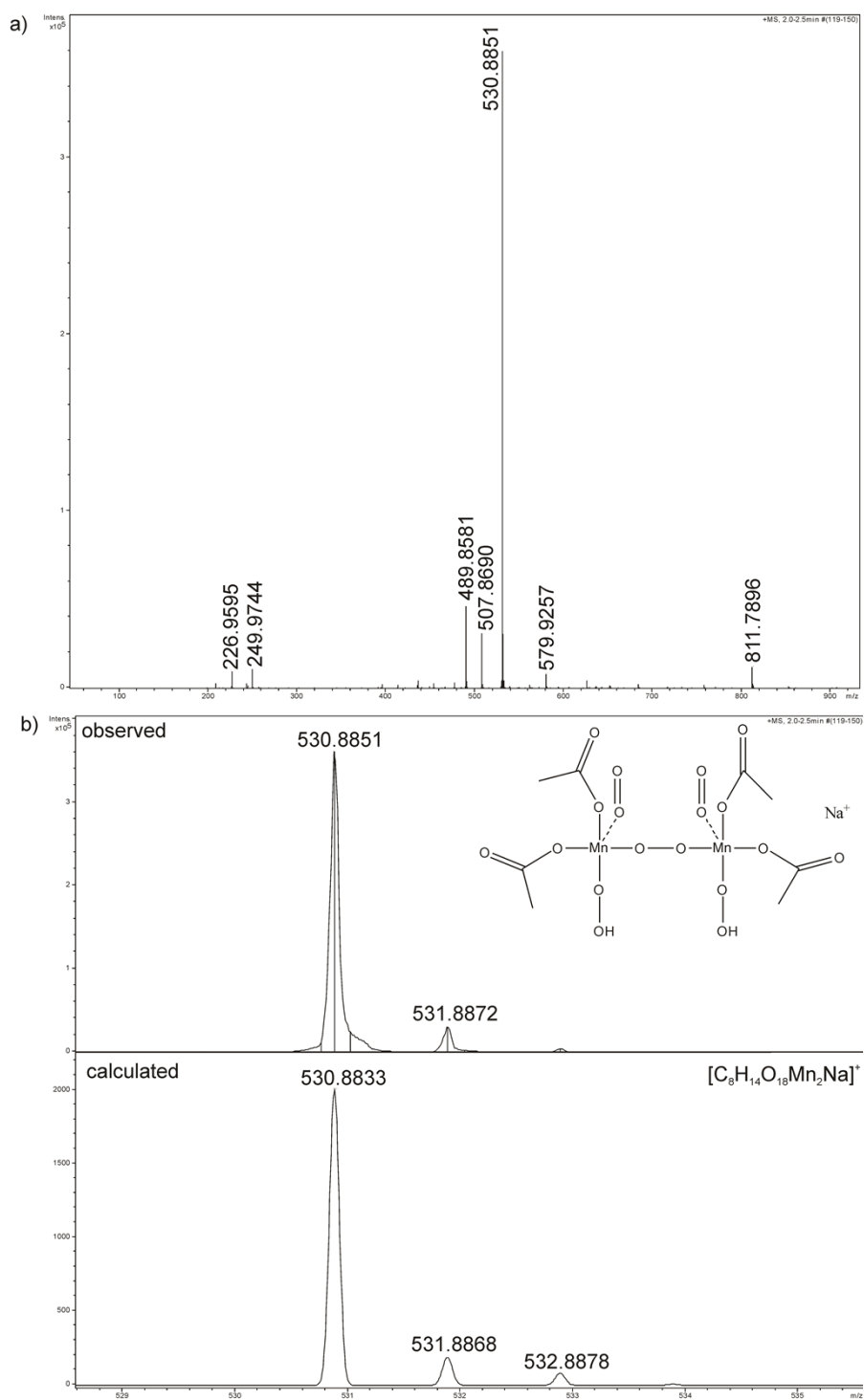
Entry	Substrate	Main product <sup>b</sup>	Substrate conversion (%)	Selectivity (%)
1	DMA	4-(methylamino)benzaldehyde	100	42
2	DMAP	<i>N</i> -methyl- <i>N</i> -(pyridin-4-yl)formamide	92	49

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1 mmol amine, 18 μmol Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 313 μL tBuOOH (2.5 equiv.), 7 μL TFA, 1.5 mL CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 70 °C, 16 h. <sup>b</sup> Side products. Entry 1: 40% 4-(dimethylamino)benzaldehyde, 4% *N*-(4-formylphenyl)-*N*-methylformamide, 7% *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylformamide, 7% *N*-methylaniline. Entry 2: 37% *N*-methylpyridin-4-amine, 5% 4-aminopyridine, 5% *N*-(pyridin-4-yl)formamide.

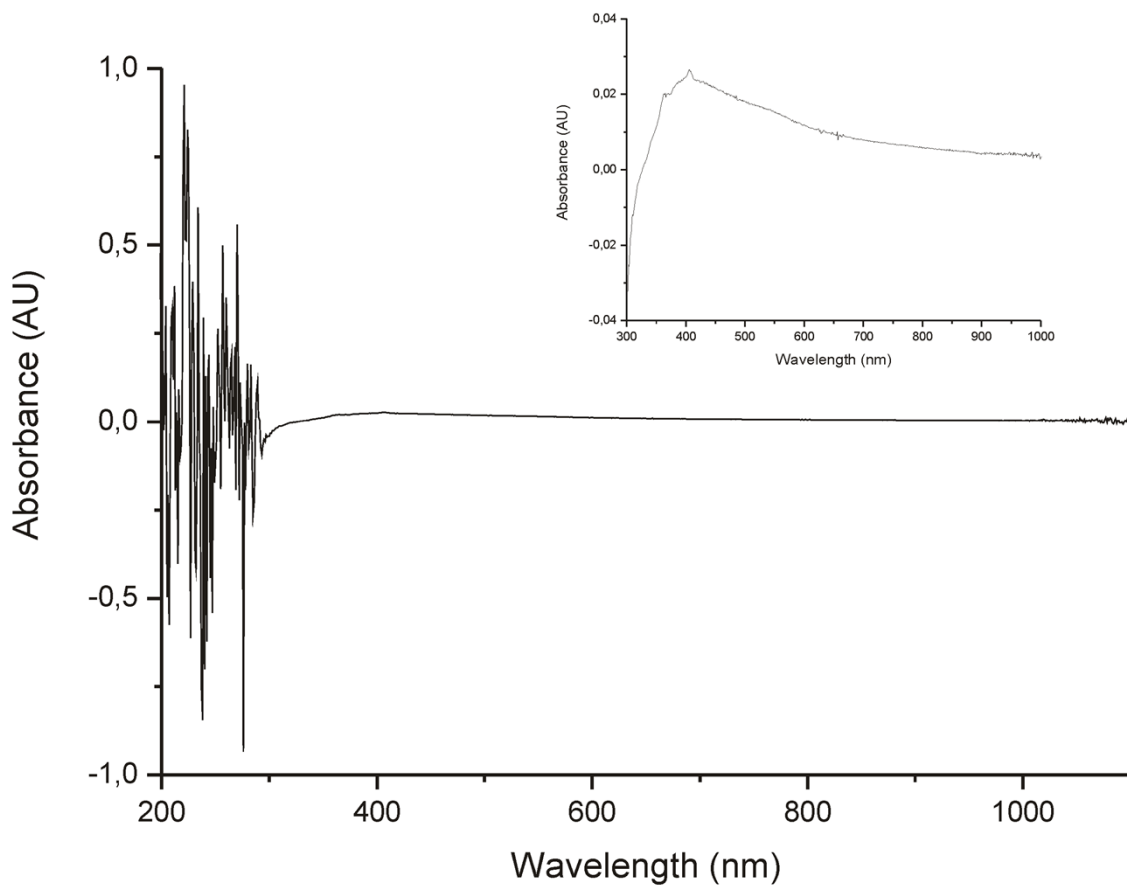


**Fig. S4** EDS spectra of (a) the black precipitate formed during the alcohol oxidation reaction in the absence of TFA and of (b) commercial  $\text{MnO}_2$  powder (Merck, 85-90%). The Mn/O  $K\alpha$  ratio for the powder isolated from the reaction mixture is 2.8. The theoretical Mn/O  $K\alpha$  ratio is 2.4 for  $\text{MnO}_2$  and 3.3 for  $\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$ .





**Fig. S5** a) HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>-TOF) spectrum of acetonitrile solution of Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, TFA and *t*BuOOH measured ca. 5 min after mixing all the components at room temperature. b) Observed and calculated isotopic patterns of 530 *m/z* species (error -3.391 ppm). Acquisition parameters: capillary exit 120 V, hexapole RF 100 V, skimmer 1 40 V, hexapole 1 22.8 V.



**Fig. S6** UV-Vis spectrum of the concentrated acetonitrile (1.5 mL) solution of  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2$  (13.2 mg, 0.03 mol/L), TFA (21  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.15 mol/L) and *t*BuOOH (313  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.4 mol/L) measured ca. 15 min after mixing all the components at room temperature. In the inset is shown the 300-1000 nm region. UV-Vis spectrum was measured with a Hewlett Packard 8453 spectrophotometer.