Supporting Information

Synthetic manganese-calcium cluster similar to the catalyst of

Photosystem II: Challenges for biomimetic water oxidation

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Table S1 Selected bond lengths and bond angles around the metal ions in the crystal structure of **1**.

Bond	Length (Å)	Bond	Angle (°)
Mn1—Mn2	2.7448(8)	03-Mn1-02	87.88(11)
Mn1–Mn3	2.7281(9)	03-Mn1-01	85.74(11)
Mn2—Mn3	2.8548(9)	02-Mn1-01	85.22(10)
Mn1—Ca1	3.3990(10)	03—Mn1—02A	95.08(11)
Mn2—Ca1	3.3888(12)	02—Mn1—02A	96.51(11)
Mn2—Ca2	3.6079(16)	01—Mn1—02A	178.11(11)
Mn3—Ca1	3.3763(11)	03—Mn1—01J	89.09(11)
Mn3—Ca2	3.8038(19)	02—Mn1—01J	172.40(11)
Mn1-03	1.813(2)	01—Mn1—01J	87.61(11)
Mn1-02	1.844(2)	02A—Mn1—01J	90.70(11)
Mn1-01	1.890(2)	03-Mn1-01I	172.95(11)
Mn1—O2A	1.897(3)	02-Mn1-01I	87.92(10)
Mn1—01J	1.963(3)	01-Mn1-01I	88.27(11)
Mn1–01I	1.981(2)	02A-Mn1-01I	91.01(11)
Mn2-01	1.879(2)	01J-Mn1-01I	94.38(11)
Mn2-02	1.859(2)	04—Mn2—02	90.18(11)
Mn2-04	1.856(2)	04—Mn2—01	80.92(10)
Mn2—02G	1.898(3)	02—Mn2—01	85.10(10)
Mn2—O2F	1.908(3)	04—Mn2—02G	100.53(11)
Mn2–O2I	1.978(3)	02—Mn2—02G	169.10(11)
Mn3-01	1.895(2)	01—Mn2—02G	94.49(11)
Mn3-03	1.838(3)	04—Mn2—02F	99.38(11)
Mn3-04	1.863(2)	02—Mn2—02F	87.17(11)
Mn3—O2B	1.917(3)	01—Mn2—02F	172.27(11)
Mn3—O2H	1.919(3)	02G—Mn2—02F	93.05(12)
Mn3—O2J	1.982(3)	04—Mn2—02I	169.10(10)
Ca1—O2	2.444(2)	02—Mn2—02I	85.04(10)
Ca1—O3	2.483(3)	01-Mn2-02I	88.90(10)
Ca1—O4	2.574(3)	02G—Mn2—02I	84.06(11)
Ca1—O1A	2.531(3)	02F—Mn2—02I	90.18(11)
Ca1—O1B	2.304(3)	03—Mn3—04	91.64(11)
Ca1—O1C	2.354(3)	03—Mn3—01	84.88(11)
Ca1—O1D	2.400(3)	04—Mn3—01	80.30(10)
Ca1—O1E	2.420(3)	O3—Mn3—O2B	90.91(12)
Ca2—O4	2.379(2)	O4—Mn3—O2B	101.91(11)
Ca2—O1C	2.668(3)	04—Mn3—02H	95.19(11)
Ca2—O2C	2.427(3)	01—Mn3—02H	96.17(12)
Ca2—O1F	2.288(4)	O2B—Mn3—O2H	87.76(13)
Ca2—O1G	2.329(3)	03—Mn3—02J	86.13(12)
Ca2—O1H	2.331(4)	04—Mn3—02J	167.59(11)
Ca2—O1W	2.789(19)	01—Mn3—02J	87.34(11)
Ca1—Ca2	4.1094(16)	O2B—Mn3—O2J	90.35(12)
Ca2—Ca2 ⁱ	3.818(2)	O2H—Mn3—O2J	87.18(12)

Symmetry code: (i) -*x*+1, -*y*+1, -*z*+1.

Table S2. Parameters obtained by the simulation of the k^3 -weighted EXAFS spectra. The simulated spectra correspond to the Fourier-transformed EXAFS spectra shown in Fig. S7. To avoid over- parameterization, the Debye-Waller parameter (ó) was set to 0.067 Å. The amplitude reduction factor, S_0^2 , was fixed to 0.7. R-factor filtered was 15 and 14 for **1** and the operated sample, respectively.

sample		Mn-O	Mn-Mn	Mn-C	Mn-O	Mn-Ca
1	Distance [Å]	1.89± 0.01	2.77±0.01	2.91± 0.04	3.16± 0.05	3.29± 0.04
	Coordinati on number	6.4 ± 0.3	2.1 ± 0.4	4.5 ± 1.9	2.0 ± 1.9	0.9 ± 0.7
After operation	Distance [Å]	1.89± 0.01	2.81± 0.01			3.01± 0.01
	Coordinati on number	6.0 ± 0.3	3.0 ± 0.3			2.3±0.4







Fig. S1. Electronic distribution of frontier orbitals of **1**.



The HOMO-LUMO gap is 0.139 a.u. (3.79 eV)

Fig. S2 Frontier orbital energies of 1.



Fig. S3 XPS for **1** before water oxidation.



Fig. S4 XPS for **1** after the water-oxidation reaction. The amperometry was performed in the presence of **1** at 1.8 V in 25.0 mL of the phosphate buffer (1.0 M, pH=11.0).



Fig. S5 SEM images of **1** after water-oxidation reaction (a,b). EDX-mapping and spectrum for **1** after water oxidation. The amperometry was performed at 1.8 V for 1.5 hours.



Fig. S6 Mn *K*-edge XANES of Mn^{II}O, Mn^{II}CO₃, Mn₃O₄, Mn^{III}₂O₃, α -Mn^{III}₂O₃, Mn^{IV}O₂ and β -Mn^{IV}O₂ were measured as a reference to determine the oxidation state of **1** (initial compound) and after operation.



Fig. S7 k^3 -weighted $\chi(k)$ of EXAFS spectra of **1** (black) and the obtained compound at 1.8 V the phosphate buffer (1.0 M, pH=11.0; blue). The thick lines and the thin red lines show the experimental data and simulations, respectively. The fit parameters for the simulations are given in Table S3. Phase shift not corrected.