### ELECTRONIC SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Manganese and Iron PCP Pincer Complexes – The Influence of Sterics on Structure and Reactivity

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## Crystallographic Data

### Table S1. Details for the crystal structure determination of 2a, 3, 4

	2a	3	4
formula	C23H35MnO3P2	$C_{23}H_{36}BF_4MnO_3P_2$	C22H35BrFeO2P2
Fw, g mol <sup>-1</sup>	476.39	564.21	529.20
cryst.size, mm	0.25 x 0.25 x 0.2	0.15 x 0.15 x 0.04	0.52 x 0.24 x 0.10
color, shape	yellow, block	red, plate	yellow, block
crystal system	orthorhombic	monoclinic	orthorhombic
space group	Pbca (No. 61)	P2 <sub>1</sub> (No. 4)	Pbca (No. 61)
a, Å	10.6082(2)	9.8863(9)	16.2190(15)
b, Å	15.4709(3)	11.4370(10)	13.5863(12)
c, Å	28.6193(5)	11.5482(10)	21.3867(19)
α, °	90	90	90
β, °	90	95.448(3)	90
γ, °	90	90	90
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	4696.95(15)	1299.9(2)	4712.7(7)
Т, К	100	100	100
Z, Z'	8, 1	2, 1	8, 1
ρ <sub>calc</sub> , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.347	1.442	1.492
μ, mm <sup>-1</sup> (MoKα)	0.719	0.683	2.487
F(000)	2016	588	2192
absorption corrections, T <sub>min</sub> -T <sub>max</sub> multi-scan, 0.62 – 0.74		multi scan, 0.68 – 0.75	multi scan, 0.18 – 0.27
θ range, deg	34.92 - 2.39	33.16 - 2.51	32.602 - 2.175
no. of rflns measd	37035	34239	58434
Rint	0.00382	0.0636	0.0700
no. of rflns unique	10249	9908	8605
no. of rflns I>2σ(I)	8469	7963	6117
no.of params/restraints	270 / 0	329 / 1	261/0
$R(I > 2\sigma(I))^{a}$	0.0696	0.0411	0.0318
R (all data)	0.0414	0.0611	0.0638
wR (I > $2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0301	0.0747	0.0672
wR (all data)	0.0746	0.0816	0.0787
GooF	1.003	0.977	1.019
Diff.Four.peaks min/max, eÅ <sup>-3</sup>	-0.500 / 0.609	-0.622 / 0.457	-0.493 / 0.645
CCDC no.	2097016	2097017	2097018

	5b	5c
formula	C24H39FeO4P2	$C_{22}H_{35}FeO_2P_2$
Fw, g mol <sup>-1</sup>	509.34	449.29
cryst.size, mm	0.35 x 0.25 x 0.16	0.27 x 0.20 x 0.02
color, shape	green, brick	green, plate
crystal system	triclinic	orthorhombic
space group	P-1 (No. 2)	Pbca (No. 61)
a, Å	13.4933(18)	15.387(13)
b, Å	25.671(3)	14.266(11)
c, Å	38.134(5)	20.780(19)
α, °	86.404(5)	90
β, °	87.601(4)	90
γ, °	79.813(4)	90
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	12969(3)	4562(7)
Т, К	100	100
Z, Z'	20, 10	8, 1
ρ <sub>calc</sub> , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.304	1.308
μ, mm <sup>-1</sup> (ΜοΚα)	0.731	0.815
F(000)	5420	1912
absorption corrections, Tmin-Tmax	multi-scan, 0.49 – 0.42	multi-scan, 0.74 – 0.40
θ range, deg	30.17 - 1.07	22.54 - 2.18
no. of rflns measd	332470	5687
Rint	0.1159	0.0666
no. of rflns unique	75997	2968
no. of rflns I>2σ(I)	27731	2287
no.of params/restraints	2931 / 0	252 / 0
$R (I > 2\sigma(I))^{a}$	0.0593	0.0703
R (all data)	0.1698	0.0983
wR (I > $2\sigma(I)$ )	0.1446	0.1635
wR (all data)	0.1994	0.1784
GooF	0.996	1.133
Diff.Four.peaks min/max, eÅ <sup>-3</sup>	-0.629 / 1.421	-0.498 / 1.241
CCDC no.	2097019	2097020

Table S2. Details for the crystal structure determination of 5b and 5c

#### **EPR** Data



**Figure S1.** X-band EPR spectra of  $[Fe(\kappa^3 P, C, P-PCP^{CH2}-tBu)(CO)_2]$  (**5b**) (left) and  $[Fe(\kappa^3 P, C, P-PCP^{O}-tBu)(CO)_2]$  (**5c**) (right) in toluene glass at 100 K at a microwave frequency of 9.86 GHz. The red line represents a simulation with  $g_x = 2.051 g_y = 2.027 g_z = 2.010$ ,  $A_x = 45.0 G$ ,  $A_y = 39.3 G$ , and  $A_z = 48.5 G$  (**5b**) and  $g_x = 2.044 g_y = 2.034 g_z = 1.991$ ,  $A_x = 20.3 G$ ,  $A_y = 22.5 G$ , and  $A_z = 14.5 G$  (**5c**).



Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 1a (250 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )



Figure S3. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} APT NMR spectrum of 1d (63 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)



-33.61 -4500 4000 PtBu<sub>2</sub>Br PtBu<sub>2</sub> -3500 -3000 -2500 -2000 -1500 -1000 -500 -0 00 100 f1 (ppm) 0 -50 250 200 150 50 -100 Figure S5. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of 1d (101 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ )



Figure S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2a (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)





Figure S8.  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of 2a (162 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)





Figure S10 <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of 2b (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)





Figure S12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3 (600 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)







Figure S15. section of the HSQC NMR spectrum of 3 depicting the cross-peak of the agostic C-H bond





Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4 (600 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)





**Figure S19.** <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of **4** (243 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)