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# **Supplementary Information**

# Photochemical generation and reactivity of a new phthalocyanine-

## manganese-oxo intermediate

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#### **Experimental:**

### **Chemicals and Instrumentation**

All commercial reagents were of the best available purity and were used as supplied unless otherwise specified. Acetonitrile was obtained from Sigma Aldrich (HPLC grade) and passed through a dry alumina column prior to use. All organic substrates for kinetic studies were also purified by passing through a flash chromatography column of active alumina (Grade I) before use. H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (97% <sup>18</sup>O-enriched) and Mn<sup>III</sup>('Bu<sub>4</sub>-Pc)Cl (1) were directly obtained from Sigma-Aldrich and used as such. UV-vis spectra were performed on an Agilent 8454 diode array spectrometer using standard 1.0-cm quartz cuvettes. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis was performed on an Agilent HB-5 capillary columns. Electrospray ionization-mass spectroscopy (ESI-MS) data were collected using an Agilent 500 LC-MS Ion Trap System. Visible light was produced from a SOLA SE II light engine (Lumencor) configured with a liquid light guide (60-120 W).

#### Photochemical generation of manganese-oxo species 3

Treatment of compound **1** (typically  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with a 2-fold excess of Ag(ClO<sub>3</sub>) or Ag(NO<sub>2</sub>) in anaerobic CH<sub>3</sub>CN quickly formed the corresponding complexes **2**, as evidenced by UV-vis spectroscopy. When the solution of **2** was irradiated with visible light from a Solar engine (60 or 120 W) at ambient temperature, the formation of **3** was complete in *ca*. 1-2 min, which was monitored by UV-visible. The photochemical reactions became very slow or inert at higher concentrations of the precursor (>10<sup>-4</sup> M), apparently due to light blocking.

#### **Kinetic studies**

Reactions of oxo-species **3** with an excess of organic substrates (>10,00 equiv.) were conducted in an acetonitrile solution at  $23 \pm 2$  °C. The rates of the oxo group transfer reactions from **3** to substrates were monitored by the decay of the Q-band absorption band of the oxo-species **3**. The kinetic traces at  $\lambda_{max} = 620$  nm displayed good pseudofirst-order behavior for at least four half-lives, and the data gave pseudo-first-order observed rate constants,  $k_{obs}$ . Plots of these values against the concentration of substrate (final concentration) were linear and the slope gave the second-order rate constant, which is an average of 2-3 determinations consisting of **3** independent kinetic measurements. The standard deviations in Table 1 are  $2\sigma$ .

### General procedure for preparative reactions

Reactions for product analysis were carried out in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at a higher amount of **3** (*ca.* 10  $\mu$ mol) and a large excess of organic substrates (same molar ratio range as kinetic studies) in 20 mL vial and monitored by UV-vis spectroscopy for completion of the reaction. Oxidized products were well known and identified by GC-MS with Mass Spectral libraries for the MSD ChemStation (Agilent). Yields were calculated based on precursor **2a** used for generation of **3** (> 95%) by GC analysis of the spent reaction solutions with internal standard (1,2,4-trichlorobenzene or iodobenzene). The corresponding GC traces for oxidized products in Table 1 are listed below:











**Fig. S1.** UV-vis spectra of  $[Mn^{III}({}^{t}Bu_4Pc)]Cl(1)$  (2 x 10<sup>-5</sup> M, dashed line) and (A)  $[Mn^{III}({}^{t}Bu_4Pc)](ClO_3)$  (**2a**, solid), and (B)  $[Mn^{III}({}^{t}Bu_4Pc)](NO_2)$  (**2b**, solid) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution at room temperature.



**Fig. S2.** Time-resolved spectra for generating  $[Mn^{IV}({}^{t}Bu_{4}Pc)(O)]$  (3) by photolysis of 2b  $(2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  over 100 s with visible light (120 W) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 22 °C.



**Fig. S3.** (A) Time-resolved spectra of the one-electron reduction of  $[Mn^{IV}({}^{t}Bu_{4}Pc)(O)]$ (3) with triethylamine (0.1 M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN over 150 s. (B) Kinetic plot of observed rate constant versus the concentrations of trimethylamine with  $k_{ox} = (0.21 \pm 0.02) \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ .