

Supporting Information

Membrane lipid composition directs the cellular selectivity of antimicrobial metallohelices

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57Fe Compound characterisation data

$\Delta_{\text{Fe}}\text{-}[\text{Fe}_2(R,R\text{-L}^1)_3]\text{Cl}_4\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($\Delta\text{-1}'$)

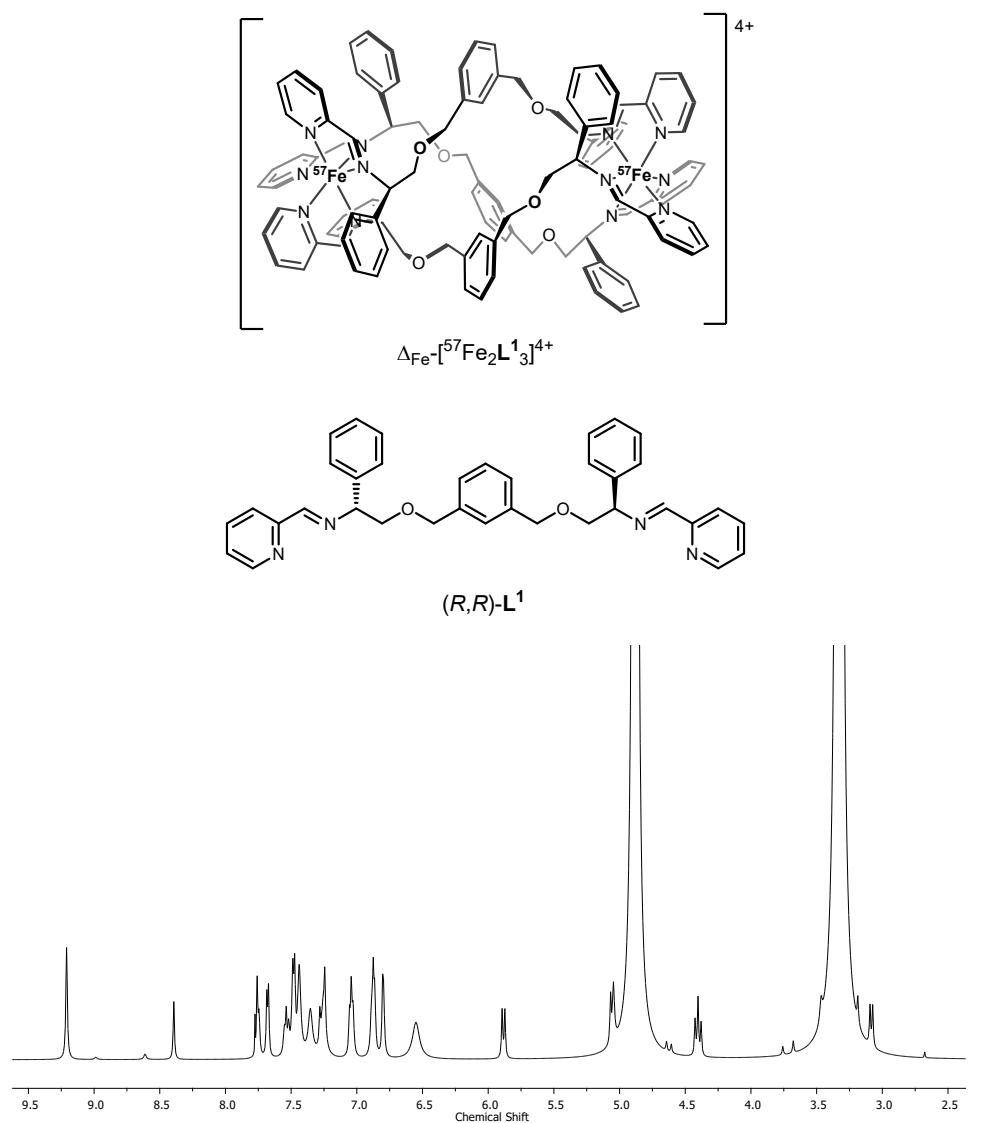


Figure S1. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD , 298 K) of $\Delta\text{-1}'$.

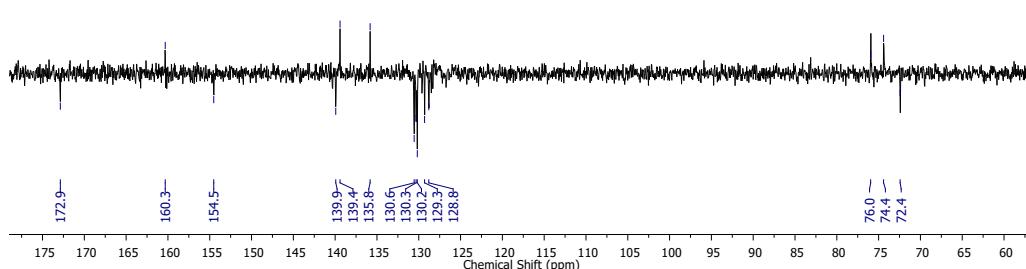


Figure S2. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ APT NMR (126 MHz, MeOD , 298 K) of $\Delta\text{-1}'$.

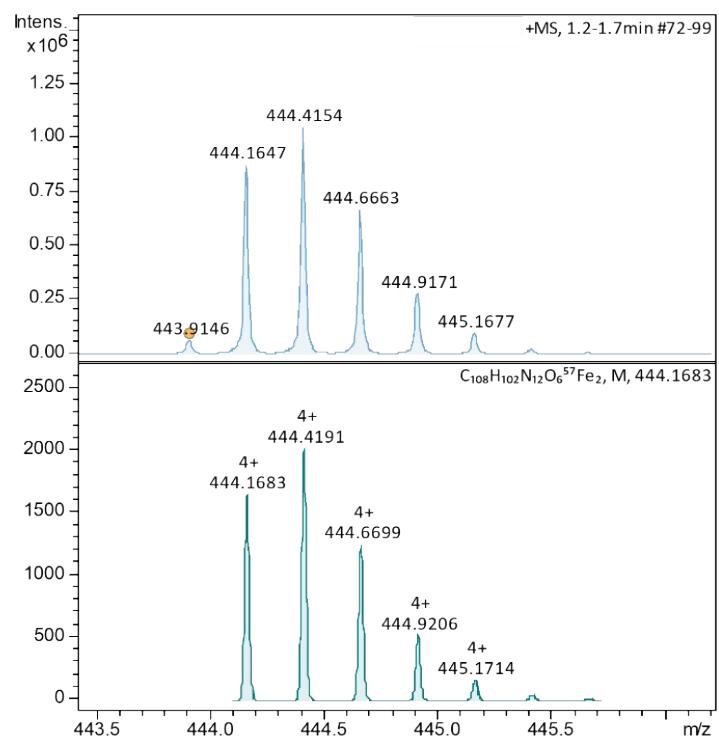


Figure S3. HRMS (+) of $\Delta\text{-I}'$, predicted (lower) and measured (upper) spectra.

$\Lambda_{\text{Fe}}\text{-}[\text{Fe}_2(\text{S},\text{S}-\text{L}^1)_3]\text{Cl}_4\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($\Lambda\text{-}\mathbf{1}'$)

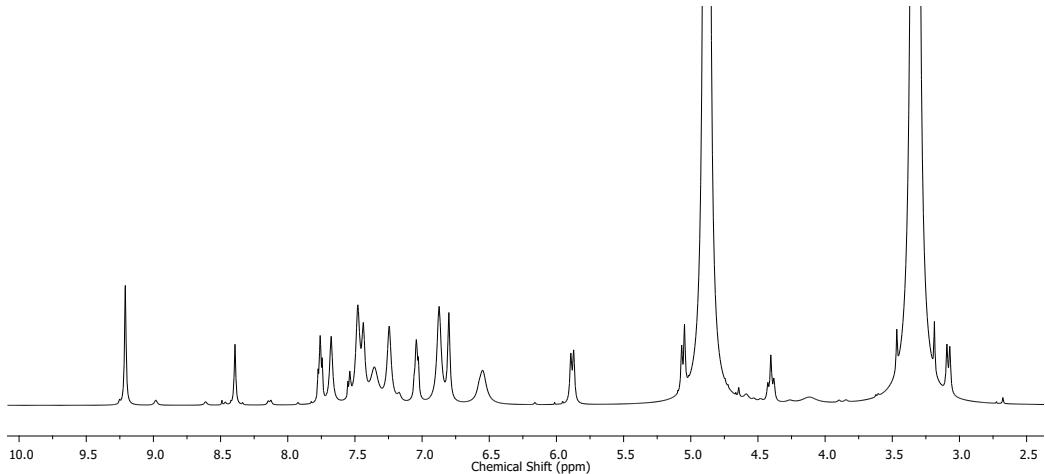
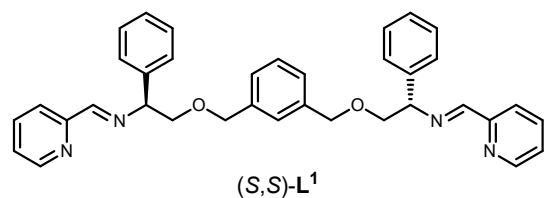
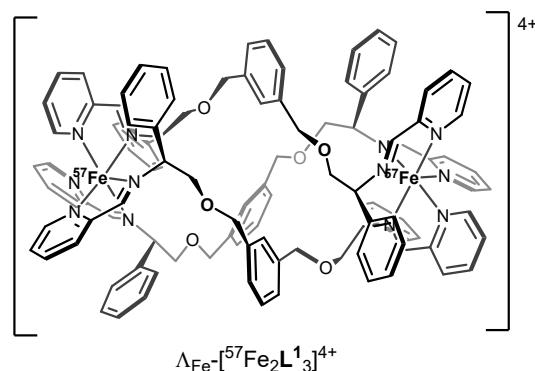


Figure S4. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD, 298 K) of $\Lambda\text{-}\mathbf{1}'$.

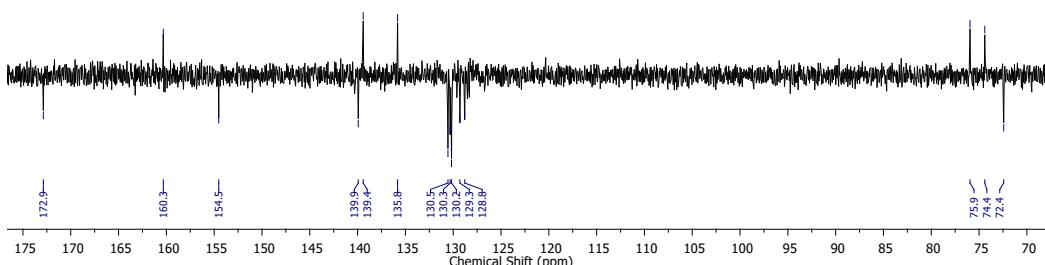


Figure S5. $^{13}\text{C}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$ APT NMR (126 MHz, MeOD, 298 K) of $\Lambda\text{-}\mathbf{1}'$.

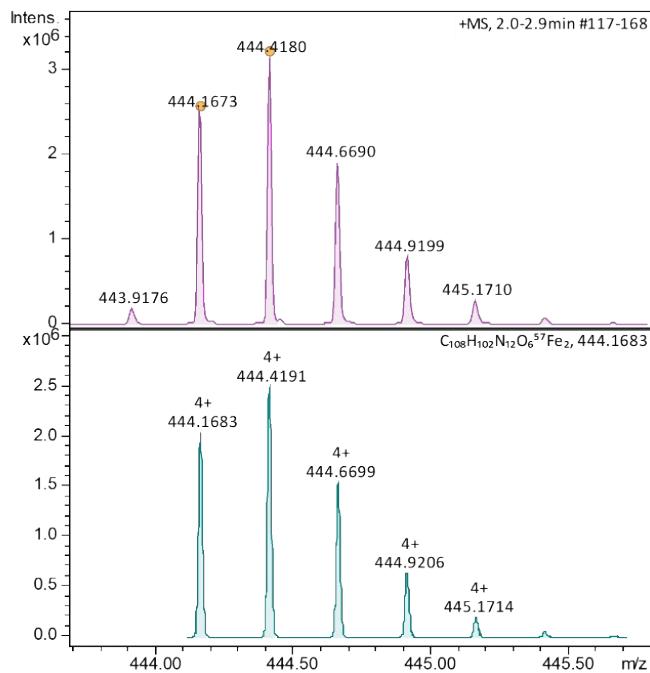


Figure S6. HRMS (+) of $\Lambda\text{-1}'$, predicted (lower) and measured (upper) spectra.

$\Delta_{\text{Fe}}\text{-}[\text{Fe}_2(R,R-\text{L}^2)_3]\text{Cl}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($\Delta\text{-}\mathbf{2}'$)

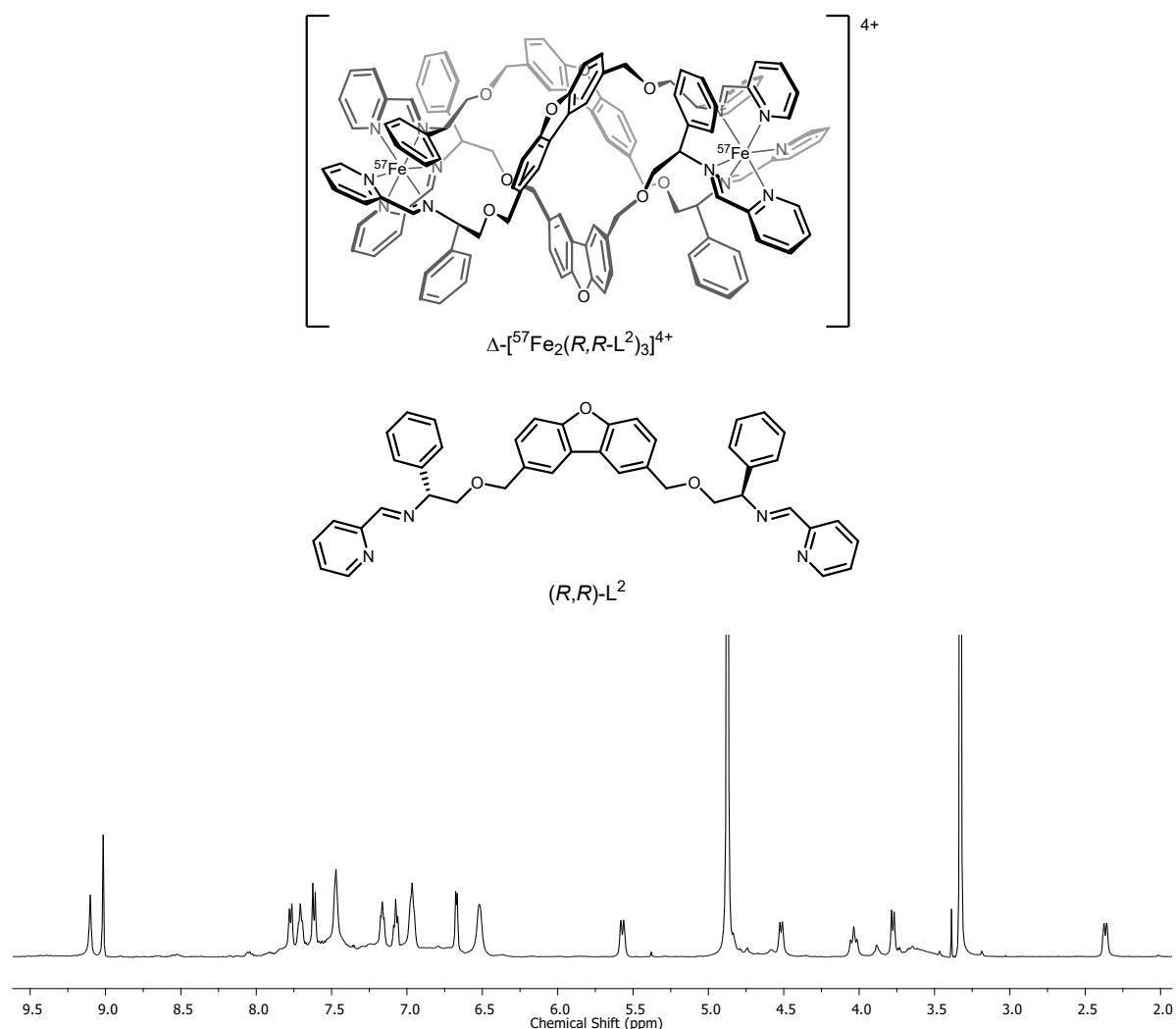


Figure S7. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD, 298 K) of $\Delta\text{-}\mathbf{2}'$.

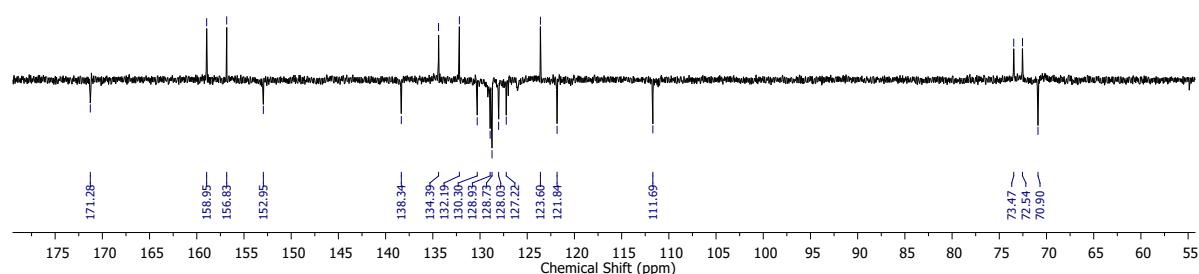


Figure S8. $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ APT NMR (126 MHz, MeOD, 298 K) of $\Delta\text{-}\mathbf{2}'$.

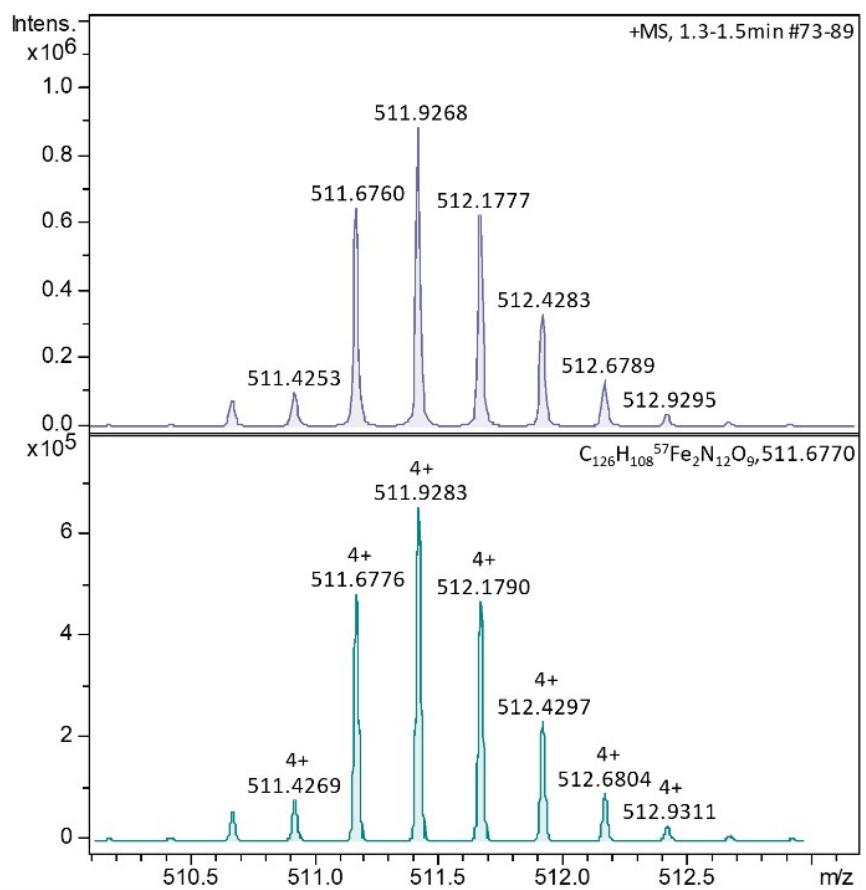


Figure S9. HRMS (+) of $\Delta\text{-}2'$, predicted (lower) and measured (upper) spectra.

$\Lambda_{\text{Fe}}\text{-}[\text{Fe}_2(\text{S},\text{S}-\text{L}^{\text{b}})_3]\text{Cl}_4\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($\Lambda\text{-2}'$)

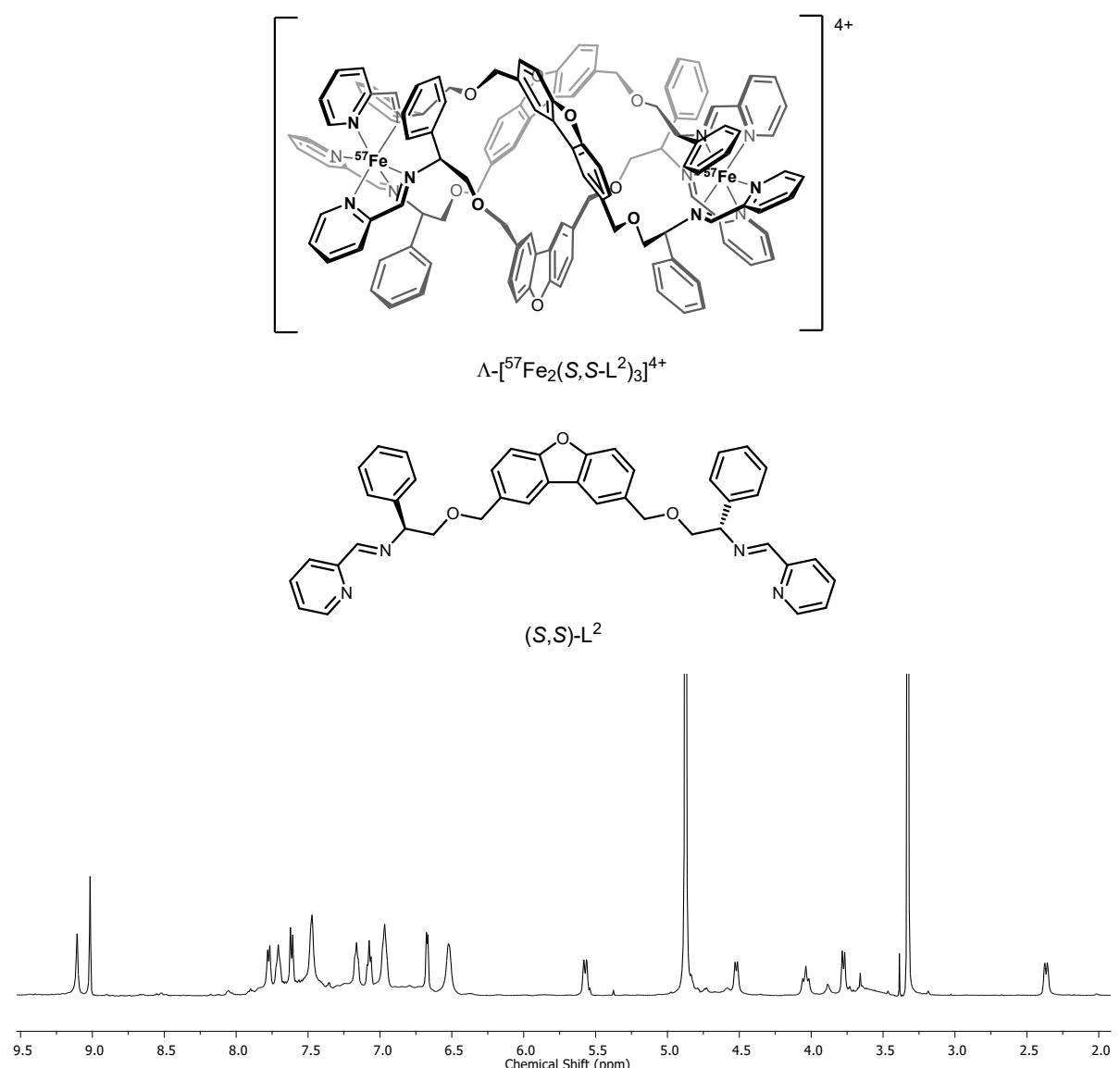


Figure S10. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD , 298 K) of $\Lambda\text{-2}'$.

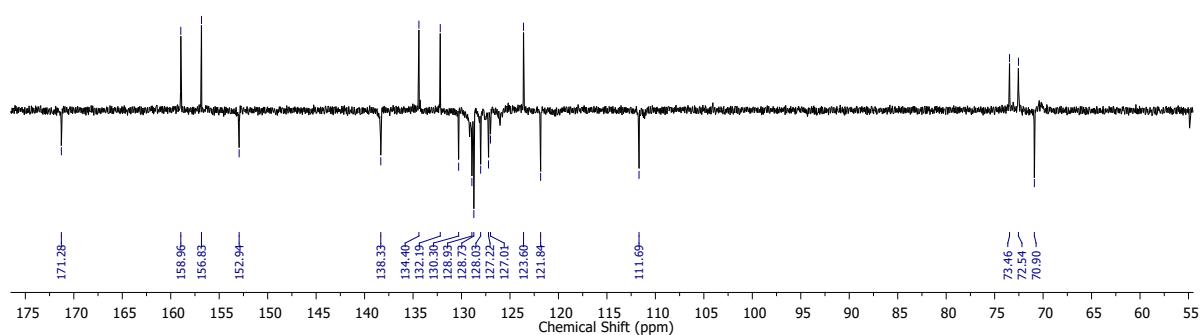


Figure S11. $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ APT NMR (126 MHz, MeOD , 298 K) of $\Lambda\text{-2}'$.

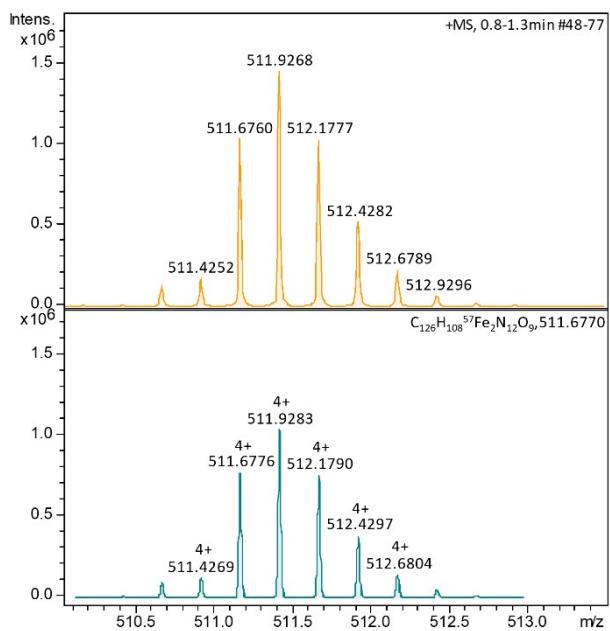


Figure S12. HRMS (+) of $\Lambda\text{-2}'$, predicted (lower) and measured (upper) spectra.

Antimicrobial bactericidal data

Table S1. Minimum bactericidal concentrations against Gram-negative – *E. coli* and Gram-positive – *S. aureus* bacteria, determined for $\Lambda\text{-}1$, $\Delta\text{-}1$, $\Lambda\text{-}2$, and $\Delta\text{-}2$.

| compound | MBC/ $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ (μM) | |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | <i>E. coli</i> ATCC 25922 | <i>S. aureus</i> 27853 |
| $\Lambda\text{-}1$ | 8 (3.9) | 32 (15.7) |
| $\Delta\text{-}1$ | 32 (15.7) | 64 (31.3) |
| $\Lambda\text{-}2$ | 64 (26.4) | 8 (3.3) |
| $\Delta\text{-}2$ | 64 (26.4) | 8 (3.3) |

Antimicrobial activity and cellular accumulation studies of ^{57}Fe -metallohelices

Table S2. Iron (^{57}Fe) cellular accumulation (ng ^{57}Fe per 10^8 cells) in *S. aureus* USA300 bacteria when dosed with at 8 mg mL^{-1} , MIC, and $0.5\times\text{MIC}$ concentrations for 20 h.

| Compound | MIC / $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ | Cellular accumulation of ^{57}Fe / ng per 10^8 cells | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|
| | | dose = 8 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ | dose = MIC | dose = 0.5MIC |
| $\Lambda\text{-}1'$ | 16 | 10.9 \pm 0.2 | 23.1 \pm 0.2 | 11.9 \pm 0.3 |
| $\Delta\text{-}1'$ | 16 | 10.0 \pm 0.2 | 19.0 \pm 0.3 | 9.55 \pm 0.23 |
| $\Lambda\text{-}2'$ | 2 | 186 \pm 6 | 47.7 \pm 1.4 | 25.0 \pm 0.8 |
| $\Delta\text{-}2$ | 2 | 195 \pm 1 | 51.3 \pm 1.5 | 25.6 \pm 0.6 |

Table S3. Iron (^{57}Fe) cellular accumulation (ng ^{57}Fe per 10^8 cells) in *E. coli* TOP10 bacteria when dosed with at 8 mg mL^{-1} , MIC, and $0.5\times\text{MIC}$ concentrations for 20 h.

| Compound | MIC / $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ | Cellular accumulation of ^{57}Fe / ng per 10^8 cells | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|
| | | dose = 8 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ | dose = MIC | dose = 0.5MIC |
| $\Lambda\text{-}1'$ | 2 | 138 \pm 4 | 36.0 \pm 2.2 | 18.3 \pm 0.2 |
| $\Delta\text{-}1'$ | 4 | 77.3 \pm 4.3 | 37.2 \pm 2.2 | 18.8 \pm 0.1 |
| $\Lambda\text{-}2'$ | 16 | 90.4 \pm 21.9 | 319 \pm 18 | 163 \pm 4 |
| $\Delta\text{-}2'$ | 16 | 98.1 \pm 8.4 | 335 \pm 12 | 178 \pm 7 |

DLS Data – Effect of metallohelices on model vesicle size

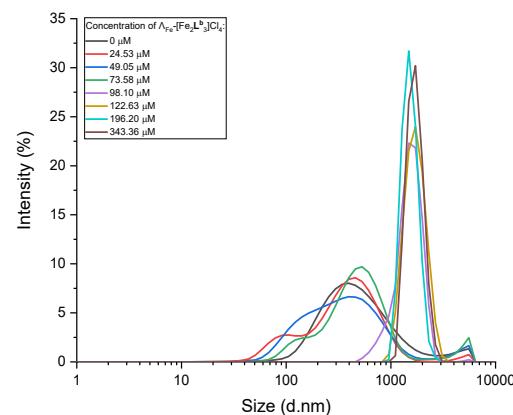


Figure S13 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of *E. coli* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 343 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

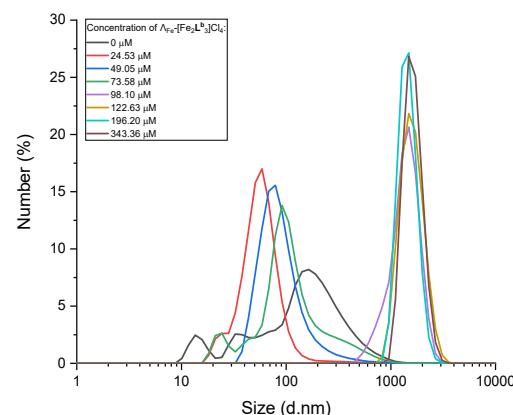


Figure S14 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number distribution (%) of *E. coli* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 343 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

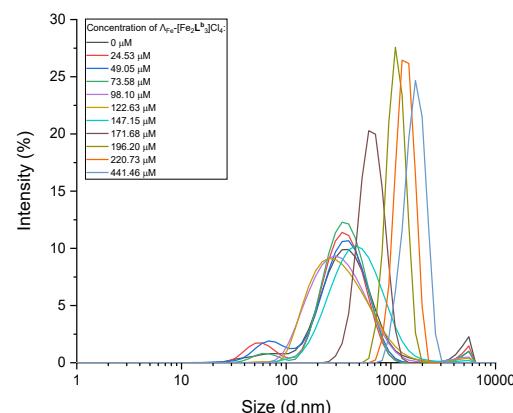


Figure S15 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of *S. aureus* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 441 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

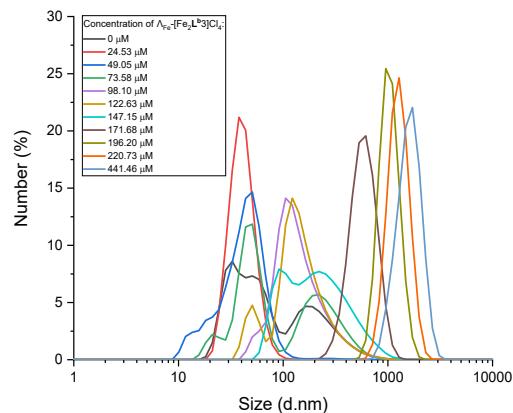


Figure S16 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number intensity (%) of *S. aureus* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 441 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

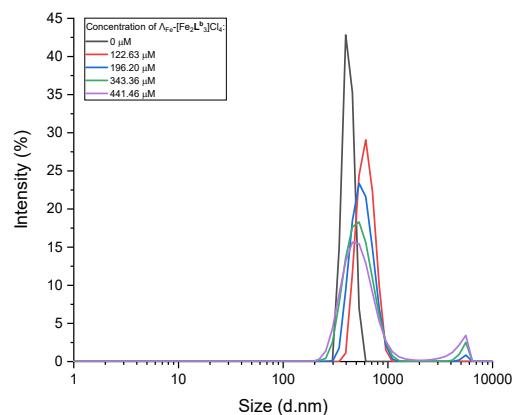


Figure S17 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of mammalian plasma membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 441 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

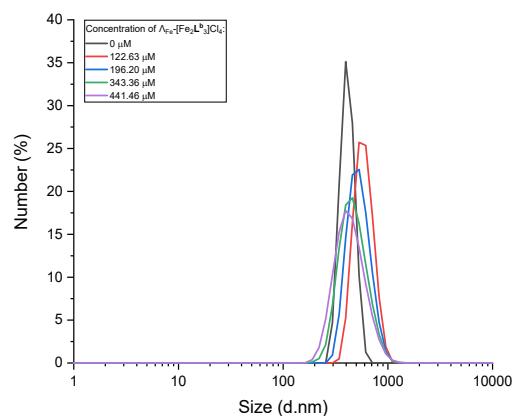


Figure S18 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number distribution (%) of mammalian plasma membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 441 μM of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ was added.

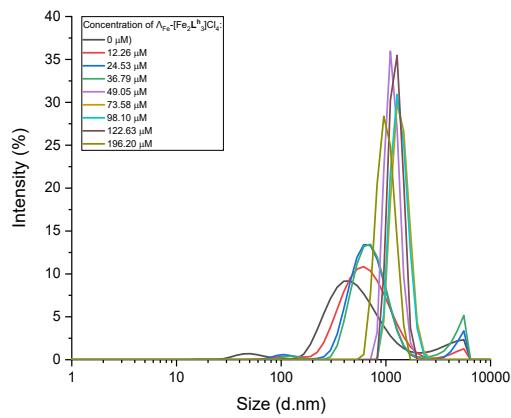


Figure S19 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of *E. coli* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~ 0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of $\Lambda\text{-2}$ was added.

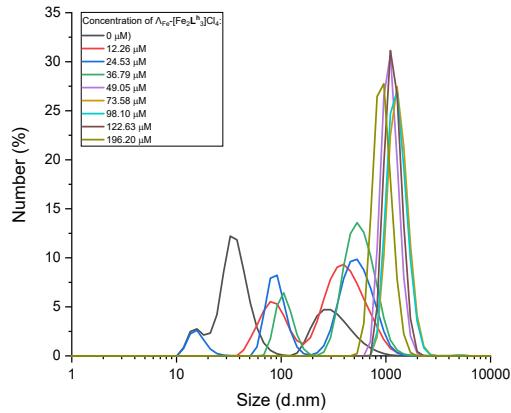


Figure S20 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number distribution (%) of *E. coli* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~ 0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of $\Lambda\text{-2}$ was added.

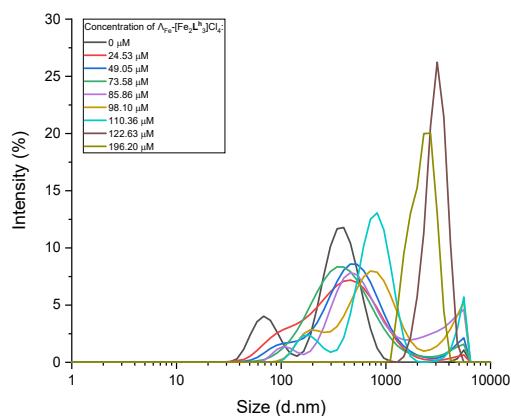


Figure S21 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of *S. aureus* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~ 0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of $\Lambda\text{-2}$ was added.

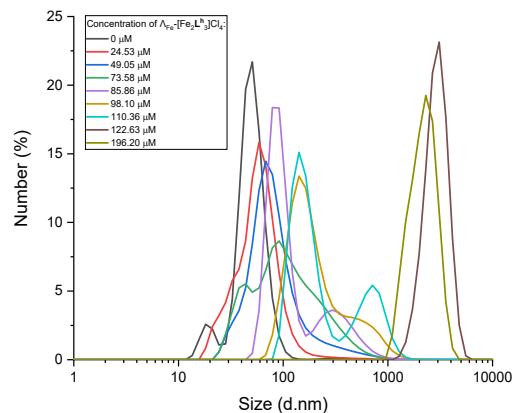


Figure S22 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number distribution (%) of *S. aureus* cytosolic membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of Λ -2 was added.

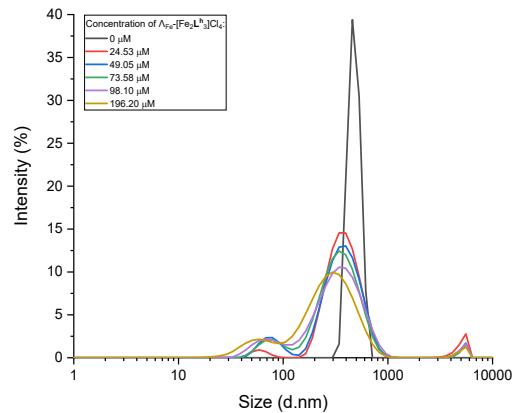


Figure S23 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the scattering intensity (%) of mammalian plasma membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of Λ -2 was added.

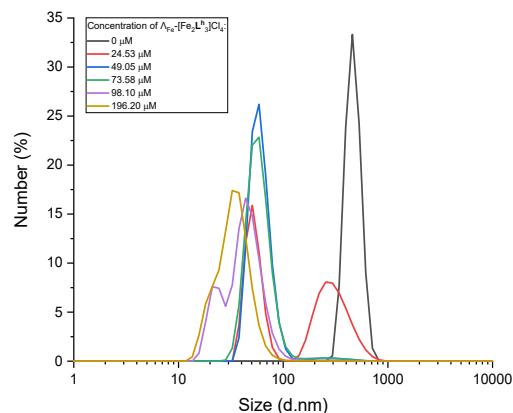
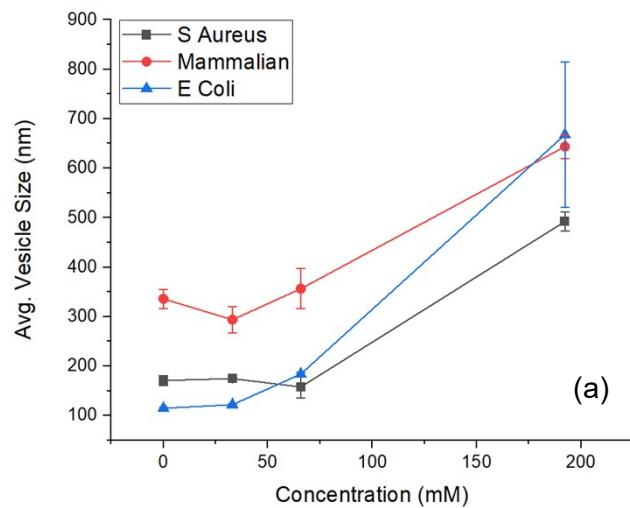
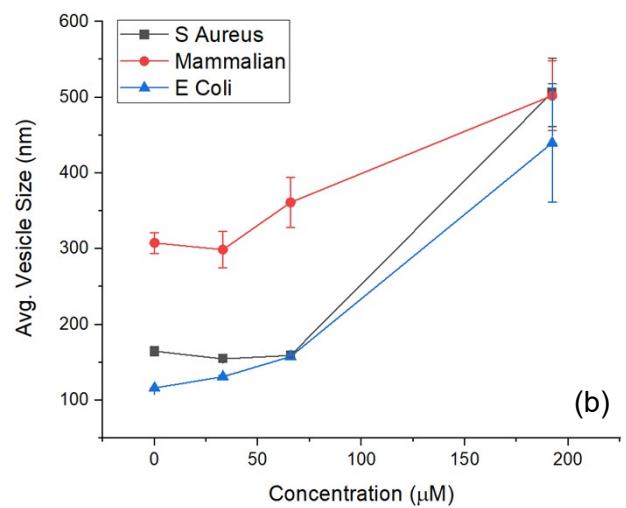


Figure S24 An overlay of the mean size (d/nm) distributions with regards to the calculated number distribution (%) of mammalian plasma membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.4 mM lipid) when 0 – 196 μM of Λ -2 was added.

DLS data– Comparing the effects of enantiomers of 1



(a)



(b)

Figure S25 The mean Z-average size of membrane-mimetic vesicles (~0.6 mM lipid) when 0 – 192 μ M of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ (a) or $\Delta\text{-1}$ (b) was added.

Similar effects on the vesicle size data was observed upon titration of $\Lambda\text{-1}$ and $\Delta\text{-1}$.

Zeta Potential Data – Effect of metallohelices on model vesicle surface charge

Table S4. *Bacteria model vesicles.* Zeta potential measurements of 0.5 mg mL⁻¹ unilamellar vesicles ([lipid] ~ 0.6 mM) plus 0-192 mM metallohelix in sodium phosphate buffer (25 mM, pH 7.4).

| [MH] / μM | Zeta Potential / mV | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------|--------------|---|-------------|--------------|
| | <i>E. coli mimetic unilamellar vesicles</i> | | | <i>S. aureus mimetic unilamellar vesicles</i> | | |
| | Λ -1 | Δ -1 | Λ -2 | Λ -1 | Δ -1 | Λ -2 |
| 0 | -50.2±1.3 | -52.3±1.9 | -48.5±1.0 | -64.1±1.2 | -64.1±0.4 | -62.8±0.4 |
| 33 | -25.1±1.1 | -26.8±1.2 | -28.0±0.6 | -52.4±2.8 | -53.9±3.2 | -50.8±2.1 |
| 66 | -19.8±0.4 | -17.0±0.4 | -8.4±3.5 | -46.4±2.0 | -41.5±1.2 | -47.3±1.4 |
| 192 | -10.8±0.2 | -12.9±0.3 | -8.3±0.3 | -27.6±3.9 | -21.2±0.5 | +6.9±0.3 |

Table S5. *Mammalian model vesicles.* Zeta potential measurements of 0.5 mg mL⁻¹ unilamellar vesicles ([lipid] ~ 0.6 mM) plus 0-192 mM metallohelix in sodium phosphate buffer (25 mM, pH 7.4).

| [MH] / μM | Zeta Potential / mV | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------|--------------|
| | <i>Mammalian mimetic unilamellar vesicles</i> | | |
| | Λ -1 | Δ -1 | Λ -2 |
| 0 | -5.7±0.1 | -8.1±0.4 | -5.5±0.3 |
| 33 | -4.7±0.3 | -6.2±0.7 | +14.7±0.4 |
| 66 | -1.5±0.1 | -5.0±0.4 | +18.3±0.8 |
| 192 | +4.6±0.5 | +2.0±0.9 | +21.3±0.7 |

Fitting Zeta potential data – Binding constants

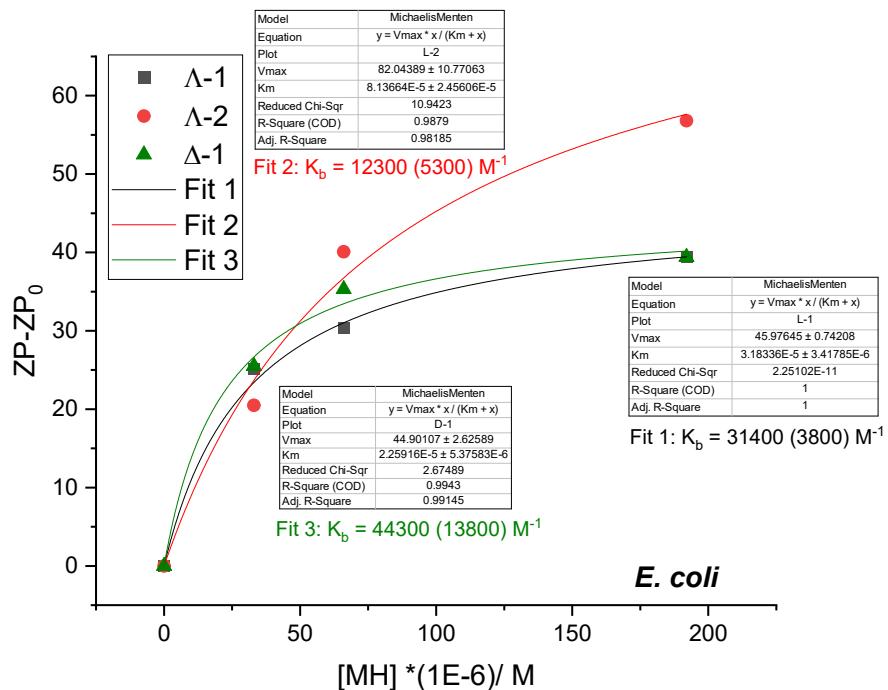


Figure S26 Fitting Zeta potential data. Zeta potential measurements of 0.5 mg mL^{-1} unilamellar *E. coli* vesicles ([lipid] $\sim 0.6 \text{ mM}$), following the addition of $0\text{-}192 \text{ mM}$ $\Lambda\text{-}1$, $\Lambda\text{-}2$, and $\Delta\text{-}1$, in sodium phosphate buffer (25 mM , pH 7.4).

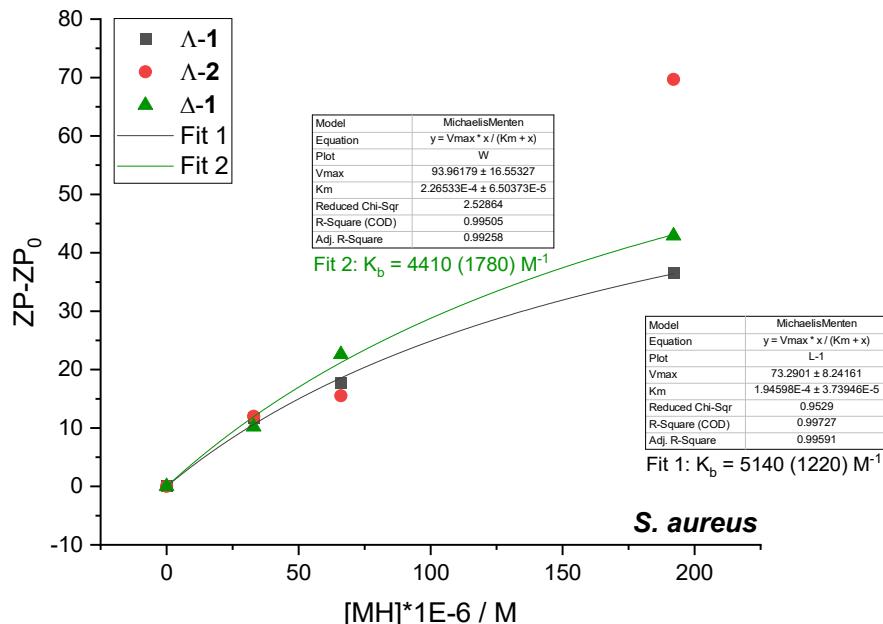


Figure S27 Fitting Zeta potential data. Zeta potential measurements of 0.5 mg mL^{-1} unilamellar *S. aureus* vesicles ([lipid] $\sim 0.6 \text{ mM}$), following the addition of $0\text{-}192 \text{ mM}$ $\Lambda\text{-}1$ and $\Delta\text{-}1$, in sodium phosphate buffer (25 mM , pH 7.4). It was not possible to fit the data following addition of $\Lambda\text{-}2$.

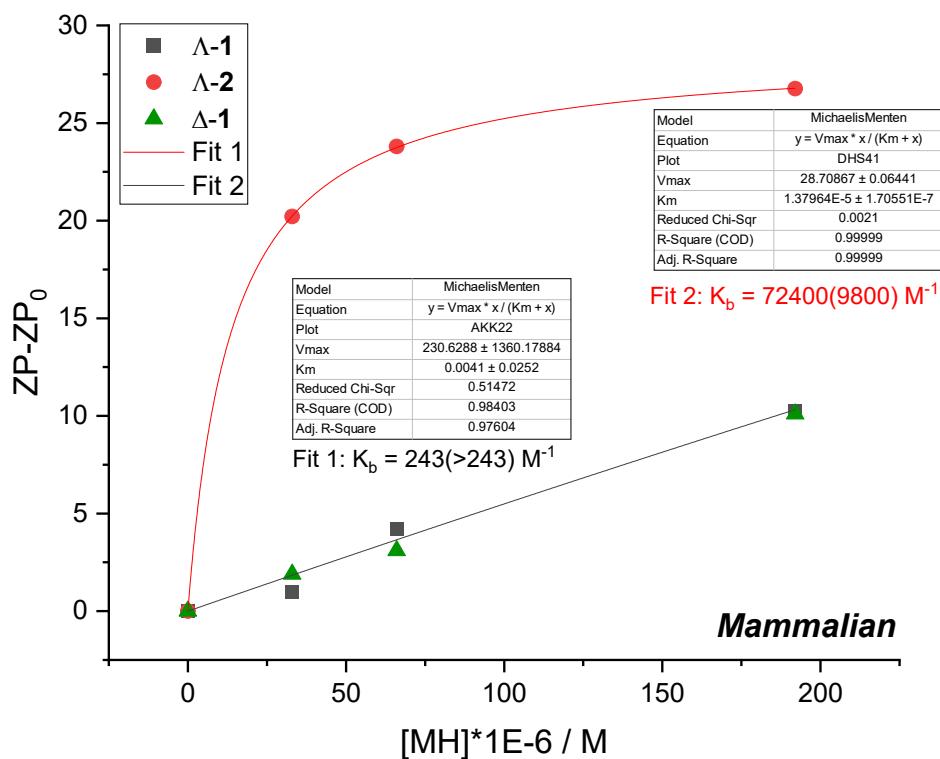


Figure S28 Fitting Zeta potential data. Zeta potential measurements of 0.5 mg mL^{-1} unilamellar mammalian vesicles ($[\text{lipid}] \sim 0.6 \text{ mM}$), following the addition of $0\text{-}192 \text{ mM } \Lambda\text{-1}$, $\Lambda\text{-2}$, and $\Delta\text{-1}$, in sodium phosphate buffer (25 mM , pH 7.4).

Table S6. Apparent Binding constants (K_{app}) of metallohelices with model membranes, estimated from zeta potential titrations

| | <i>E. coli</i> | <i>S. aureus</i> | Mammalian |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| $\Lambda\text{-1}$ | $3.1 \pm 0.4 \times 10^4$ | $5.1 \pm 1.2 \times 10^3$ | - ^a |
| $\Delta\text{-1}$ | $4.4 \pm 1.4 \times 10^4$ | $4.4 \pm 1.8 \times 10^3$ | - ^a |
| $\Lambda\text{-2}$ | $1.2 \pm 0.5 \times 10^4$ | - ^b | $7.2 \pm 1.0 \times 10^4$ |

^a Cannot fit data due to negligible changes in zeta potential

^b Cannot fit data – looks like two binding events