

Supplementary Information for
The Design of Earth Abundant Metal Catalysts for Nitrous Oxide-Based Oxidations.
Part I. N₂O Coordination and Oxygen-Transfer to Metal

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The X,Y,Z coordinates for all computed structures are in a separate Mercury-readable SI file named: KN LM-N2O_XYZ.xyz

Preparation of *N,N'*-bis(salicylideneamino)ethanato)iron (II) [(Salen)Fe].

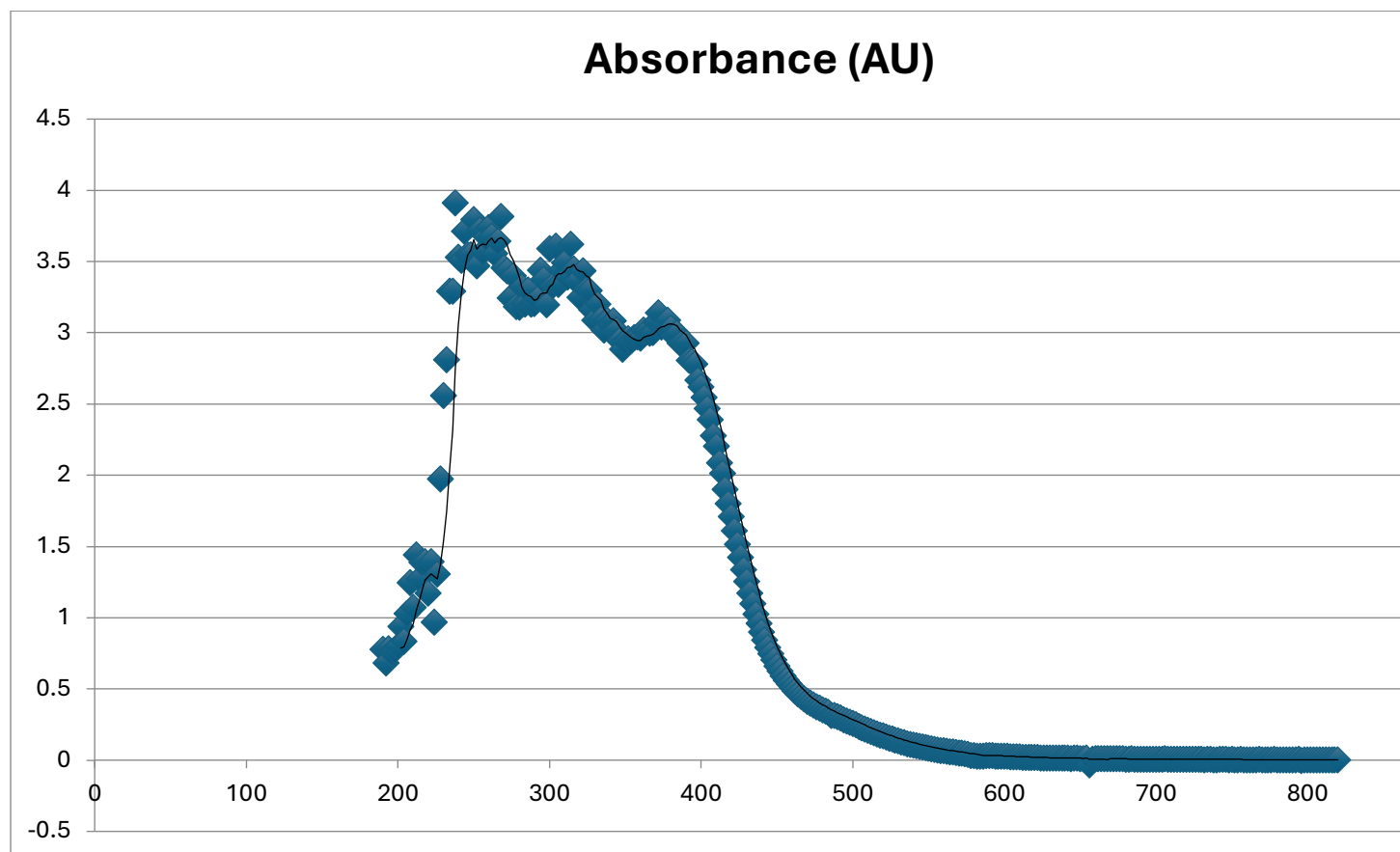
(Salen)Fe was prepared by the reaction of the *N,N'*-bis(salicylideneamino)ethane and iron(II) acetate in refluxing methanol under nitrogen by a literature method. (Earnshaw, A.; King, E. A.; Larkworthy, L. F. *J. Chem. Soc. A: Inorganic, Physical, Theoretical* **1968**, 5, 1048-52).

Experimental Procedure for Fe(Salen) Reaction with N₂O

Approximately 50 mg of dark red brown Fe(Salen) was transferred under nitrogen in an inert atmosphere box into a 150 mL Fisher-Porter thick-walled glass vessel fitted with a stir bar and then capped with a rubber septum. After transferring the vessel out of the box, 5 mL of dry N₂-saturated methylene chloride was injected through the septum with N₂ purging. The septum was replaced quickly with a N₂O-purging reactor head which was then attached to the glass reactor. Several cycles of N₂O pressurization/venting cycles were carried out as the reactor pressure was raised gradually to 90 psig with magnetic stirring; after a few hours an orange-rust colored solid gradually formed. After stirring at rt for 48 hr the N₂O was vented and the orange solid was allowed to settle. Under a N₂-purge the red supernatant solution was drawn off by syringe, and the orange solid (approx. 25 mg) was dried under an N₂ flow for characterization and storage. UV-Vis (CH₂Cl₂, λ) 250 nm, 314 nm, 386 nm; ESI-MS (MeOH or CH₂Cl₂), M/e 322.0405 [C₁₆H₁₄N₂O₂Fe⁺=(Salen)Fe⁺], 675.0985 [C₃₂H₂₉N₅O₅Fe₂⁺= (Salen)₂Fe₂(NO)H⁺], 689.0782 [C₃₂H₂₉N₆O₅Fe₂⁺=(Salen)₂Fe₂(N₂O)H⁺]; each of these ions appeared as a cluster of peaks with the appropriate iron isotopic signature, ⁵⁴Fe (6%), ⁵⁶Fe (92%), ⁵⁷Fe (2%). Initial efforts to grow X-ray quality crystals of this product were unsuccessful. UV-Vis and ESI-MS (experimental and simulated) spectra are on following pages.

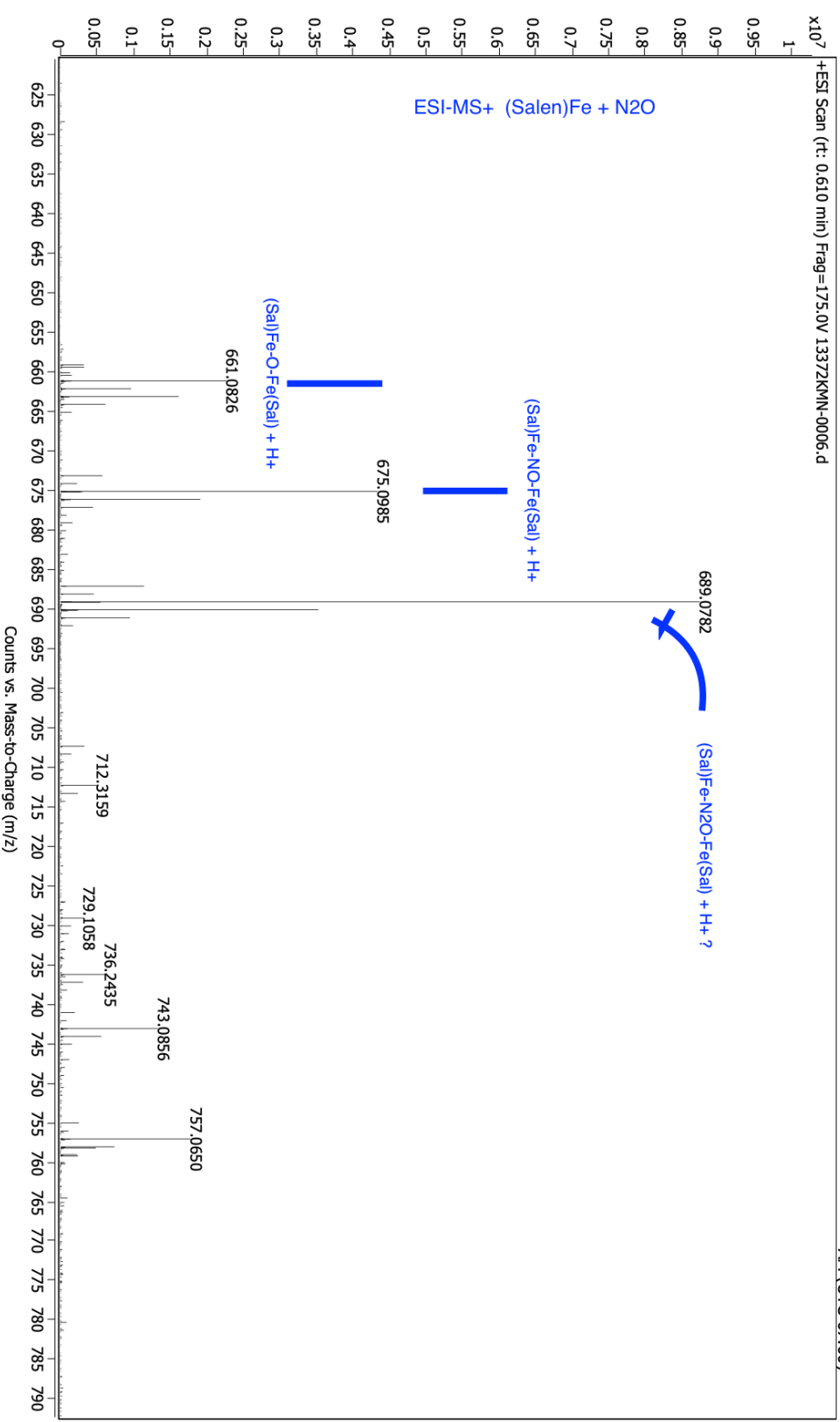
A control experiment in which an Fe(Salen) solution in methylene chloride was stirred in air did not show a similar color change nor formation of a precipitate.

UV-Vis spectrum: Fe(Salen) + N₂O rxn and soln in CH₂Cl₂



Spectrum Plot Report

Name	KN-7-10	Rack Pos.	Instrument	Operator
Inj. Vol. (µl)	5	Plate Pos.	IRM Status	
Data File	13372KMN-0006.d	Method (Acq)	Comment	
		Pos-Loop-SF-6546.m		
			G6546A QTOF	
			Success	
			0.01X	
			Acq. Time (Local)	
				7/10/2024 10:24:17
				AM (UTC-07:00)



Simulated MS for (Salen)₂Fe₂(N₂O)H⁺

