

## Supporting Information

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### **Iron(III) Complexes of N<sub>2</sub>O and N<sub>3</sub>O Donor Ligands as Functional Models for Catechol Dioxygenase Enzymes: Ether Oxygen Coordination Tunes the Regioselectivity and Reactivity**

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**Table S1.** Electrochemical Data <sup>a</sup> for [Fe(L)Cl<sub>3</sub>] and [Fe(L)(DBC)Cl] <sup>b</sup> in DMF Solution at 25.0 ± 0.2 °C at a Scan Rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> (CV) and 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup> (DPV)

| Complex                  | $E_{pc}$ (V) | $E_{pa}$ (V) | $E_{1/2}$ (V) |        | Redox process                       |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
|                          |              |              | CV            | DPV    |                                     |
| [Fe(L1)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.369       | -0.255       | -0.312        | -0.315 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -0.290       | -0.184       | -0.237        | -0.259 | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.460       | -0.380       | -0.420        | -0.421 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L1)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.330       | -0.178       | -0.254        | -0.261 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
| [Fe(L2)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.358       | -0.260       | -0.309        | -0.303 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -0.288       | -0.182       | -0.239        | -0.259 | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.466       | -0.386       | -0.426        | -0.420 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L2)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.288       | -0.168       | -0.228        | -0.243 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
| [Fe(L3)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.420       | -0.274       | -0.347        | -0.381 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -0.374       | -0.190       | -0.282        | -0.281 | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.480       | -0.394       | -0.437        | -0.439 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L3)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.368       | -0.188       | -0.278        | -0.277 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
| [Fe(L4)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.468       | -0.286       | -0.377        | -0.368 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -0.306       | -0.194       | -0.250        | -0.291 | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.464       | -0.376       | -0.420        | -0.419 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L4)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.380       | -0.194       | -0.287        | -0.281 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
| [Fe(L5)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.226       | -0.120       | -0.173        | -0.163 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -            | -            | -             | -      | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.198       | -0.110       | -0.154        | -0.143 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L5)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.252       | -0.140       | -0.196        | -0.181 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
| [Fe(L6)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.218       | -0.126       | -0.172        | -0.160 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -            | -            | -             | -      | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.220       | -0.130       | -0.175        | -0.159 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L6)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.268       | -0.156       | -0.212        | -0.187 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |

|                          |        |        |        |        |                                     |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| [Fe(L7)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.356 | -0.244 | -0.300 | -0.302 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -      | -      | -      | -      | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.350 | -0.222 | -0.286 | -0.281 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L7)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.340 | -0.220 | -0.280 | -0.285 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |
|                          |        |        |        |        |                                     |
| [Fe(L8)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | -0.370 | -0.262 | -0.316 | -0.297 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| H <sub>2</sub> DBC       | -      | -      | -      | -      | H <sub>2</sub> DBC –DBSQ            |
|                          | -0.356 | -0.246 | -0.301 | -0.299 | Fe <sup>III</sup> -Fe <sup>II</sup> |
| [Fe(L8)(DBC)Cl]          | -0.334 | -0.222 | -0.278 | -0.281 | DBC <sup>2-</sup> -DBSQ             |

<sup>a</sup> Potential measured vs. Ag(s)/AgNO<sub>3</sub> (0.01 M, 0.10 M TBAP); add 0.544 V to convert to NHE.

<sup>b</sup> Generated by adding one equivalent of H<sub>2</sub>DBC and two equivalents of triethylamine to complex [Fe(L)(Sol)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>3+</sup>.

**Table S2.** Cleavage Products **9 - 15** (Scheme 4) Obtained Upon Oxygenation and Rate of Oxygenation<sup>a</sup> Reactions of Iron(III)-Catecholate Adduct Generated in situ in DMF Solution.

| Complexes                | Intradiol (%)          | Extradiol (%)        | Other Products (%)                     | <i>E/I</i> ratio | Reaction rate<br>( $\times 10^{-2} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| [Fe(L1)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 16.5 ( <b>12</b> )     | 3.1 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.0 ( <b>14</b> )                      | 0.19             | 2.81 $\pm$ 0.03                                                     |
| [Fe(L2)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 10.6 ( <b>12</b> )     | 1.8 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | -                                      | 0.17             | 2.59 $\pm$ 0.04                                                     |
| [Fe(L3)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 13.4 ( <b>12</b> )     | 4.5 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.3 ( <b>14</b> )                      | 0.33             | 2.04 $\pm$ 0.01                                                     |
| [Fe(L4)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 8.1 ( <b>12</b> )      | 5.9 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.0 ( <b>14</b> )<br>1.4 ( <b>15</b> ) | 0.72             | 1.81 $\pm$ 0.02                                                     |
| [Fe(L5)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 10.2 ( <b>12</b> )     | 3.2 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.0 ( <b>14</b> )                      | 0.31             | 1.26 $\pm$ 0.01                                                     |
| [Fe(L6)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 16.5 ( <b>12, 13</b> ) | 4.0 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.7 ( <b>14</b> )                      | 0.24             | 1.42 $\pm$ 0.03                                                     |
| [Fe(L7)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 16.7 ( <b>12, 13</b> ) | 3.1 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | 1.8 ( <b>14</b> )                      | 0.18             | 0.92 $\pm$ 0.05                                                     |
| [Fe(L8)Cl <sub>3</sub> ] | 4.9 ( <b>12</b> )      | 2.0 ( <b>9, 11</b> ) | -                                      | 0.41             | 0.94 $\pm$ 0.06                                                     |

<sup>a</sup>  $k_{\text{O}_2} = k_{\text{obs}}/[\text{O}_2]$ . The solubility of O<sub>2</sub> in DMF is accepted to be 4.86 mM at 25 °C. The kinetic data were obtained by monitoring the disappearance of the lower energy DBC<sup>2-</sup>-to-iron(III) LMCT band.