## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Magnetic, electrochemical and spectroscopic properties of iron(III) aminebis(phenolate) halide complexes<sup>†</sup>

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### Additional electrochemical data

 $1a = FeCl[O_2NO]^{BuBuFurf}$ 

 $4b = FeBr[O_2NO]^{BuMeMeth}$ 

**Electrolytes:** 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> or NaBF<sub>4</sub> or NaPF<sub>6</sub> in acetonitrile. The dissolution of NaBF<sub>4</sub> and NaPF<sub>6</sub> in acetonitrile requires the a mixture of 1:10 (water:acetonitrile, v/v). The compound **1a** had dark purple colour and **4b** had dark-brown colour in LiClO<sub>4</sub>. However, both of the compounds were colourless in NaBF<sub>4</sub> and NaPF<sub>6</sub> electrolytes.

**Three-electrode system** included a working electrode (glassy carbon, platinum or gold) from Bioanalytical Systems (BAS) and a platinum wire as the counter electrode, and the Ag/AgCl reference electrode was connected to the system through a salt bridge. The measurements were taken using a CHinstruments 660A potentiostat and Ar gas was applied throughout the measurements.

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#### Table S1: DPV; Pt electrode

Initial E: 0 V; Final E: 1.25 V; Amplitude: 50 mV, Pulse width; 50 ms; Sample width: 17 ms; Pulse period: 0.2 s, Quiet time: 5 s; Sensitivity: 10 μA.

1a	4b
LiClO <sub>4</sub> Oxd. Peak 1 0.70 V; Peak 2 0.95 V	Peak 1 0.60 V; Peak 2 0.80 V
Red. Peak 1 0.72 V	Peak 1 0.47 V; Peak 2 0. 87 V
NaBF <sub>4</sub> Oxd. Peak 1 0.75 V; Peak 2 0.95 V	Peak 1 0.55 V; Peak 2 0.75 V; Peak 3 0.95 V
Red. Peak 1 0.65 V; Peak 2 0.75 V	Peak 1 0.65 V; Peak 2 0.75 V; Peak 3 0.95 V
NaPF <sub>6</sub> Oxd. Peak 1 0.35 V; Peak 2 0.70 V; Peak 3 0.95 V	Peak 1 0.30 V; Peak 2 0.55 V; Peak 3 0.90 V
Red. Peak 1 0.25 V; Peak 2 0.65 V; Peak 3 0.90 V	Peak 1 0.25 V; Peak 2 0.50 V; Peak 3 0.85 V

#### Table S2: DPV; Glassy carbon electrode

1a	4b
LiClO <sub>4</sub> Oxd. Peak 1 0.35 V; Peak 2 0.60 V; Peak 3 0.85 V	Peak 1 0.15 V; Peak 2 0.95 V
Red. Peak 1 0.45 V; Peak 2 0.90 V	Peak 1 0.10 V; Peak 2 0. 82 V

NaBF <sub>4</sub>	4 Oxd. Peak 1 0.65 V; Peak 2 0.95 V	Peak 1 0.60 V; Peak 2 0.785 V; Peak 3 1.15 V
	Red. Peak 1 0.60 V; Peak 2 0.90 V	Peak 1 0.55 V; Peak 2 0.80 V; Peak 3 1.10 V

 NaPF<sub>6</sub>
 Oxd. Peak 1 0.35 V; Peak 2 0.65 V; Peak 3 0.90 V
 Peak 1 0.40 V; Peak 2 0.65 V; Peak 3 1.15 V

 Red. Peak 1 0.30 V; Peak 2 0.60 V; Peak 3 0.85 V
 Peak 1 0.30 V; Peak 2 0.55 V; Peak 3 1.0 V

#### Table S3: CV; Pt electrode

# Initial E: open circuit potential; High E: 1.25 V, Low E: 0 V; Initial P/N: Positive; Scan rate: 100 mV; Sample interval: 1 mV; Quiet time: 5 s; Sensitivity: 10 µA.

 $E^{0} = (E_{ox} + E_{red})/2; \Delta E = E_{ox} - E_{red}; \Delta E_{fwhm}$ : Full-width at half-maximum, (Standard deviations in brackets, n=3).

		1a			4b		
		E <sup>0</sup>	ΔΕ	$\Delta E_{fwhm}$	E <sup>0</sup>	ΔE	$\Delta E_{fwhm}$
LiClO <sub>4</sub>	Peak 1	1175 (7)	50(8)	120(9)	535(12)	130(13)	110(12)
	Peak 2	860(1)	8(4)	130(12)	835(23)	70(11)	120(10)
NaBF <sub>4</sub>	Peak 1	625(14)	50(9)	120(14)	0.675(19)	0.150(13)	110(15)
	Peak 2	1050(18)	200(24)	80(13)	850(21)	200(12)	100(12)
NaPF <sub>6</sub>	Peak 1	725(9)	50(12)	110(12)	625(13)	50(16)	110(12)
	Peak 2	900(14)	100(11)	90(8)	900(12)	100(8)	100(15)
	Peak 3	1100(17)	100(9)	80(7)	1150(15)	120(16)	90(11)

#### Table S4: CV; Glassy carbon electrode

		1a			4b		
		E <sup>0</sup>	ΔE	$\Delta E_{fwhm}$	E <sup>0</sup>	ΔE	$\Delta E_{fwhm}$
LiClO <sub>4</sub>	Peak 1	375(10)	50(12)	90(7)	175(12)	50(13)	90(12)
	Peak 2	800(23)	100(19)	100(17)	775(28)	50(11)	90(15)
NaBF <sub>4</sub>	Peak 1	625(26)	50(16)	110(15)	825(24)	50(16)	100(13)
	Peak 2	925(19)	50(15)	100(14)	-		
NaPF <sub>6</sub>	Peak 1	375(24)	50(5)	100(10)	325(24)	50(7)	90(8)
	Peak 2	775(28)	150(18)	110(9)	875(25)	50(12)	100(7)
	Peak 3	1150(32)	100(21)	90(8)	1100(31)	125(12)	80(9)

**NOTE:** In general, CV measurements indicated a **pseudo-reversible redox process**, **which involved oneelectron**. The appearance of multiple peaks might be attributed to the different configurations of the complex in solution, that would allow the oxidation of the Fe core at varying potentials.



**Figure S1.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **1a** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at (a) 0.05 V/s, (b) 0.1 V/s, (c) 0.25 V/s, (d) 0.5 V/s, (e) 1 V/s, (f) 2 V/s using a glassy carbon electrode.



**Figure S2.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **1a** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at (a) electrolyte, (b) 0.01 V/s, (c) 0.05 V/s, (d) 0.1 V/s, (e) 0.25 V/s, (f) 0.5 V/s, (g) 1 V/s, (h) 2 V/s using a platinum electrode.



**Figure S3.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **4b** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at (a) electrolyte, (b) 0.01 V/s, (c) 0.05 V/s, (d) 0.1 V/s, (e) 0.25 V/s, (f) 0.5 V/s, (g) 1 V/s, (h) 2 V/s (i) 5 V/s using a glassy carbon electrode.



**Figure S4.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **4b** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at (a) electrolyte, (b) 0.01 V/s, (c) 0.05 V/s, (d) 0.1 V/s, (e) 0.25 V/s, (f) 0.5 V/s, (g) 1 V/s, (h) 2 V/s using a platinum electrode.



**Figure S5.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **1a** in 0.2 M NaBF<sub>4</sub> at (a) 0.05 V/s, (c) 0.1 V/s, (d) 0.25 V/s, (e) 0.5 V/s, (f) 1 V/s using a platinum electrode.



**Figure S6.** Scan rate dependence of 1 mM **1a** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at (a) 0.05 V/s, (c) 0.1 V/s, (d) 0.25 V/s, (e) 0.5 V/s, (f) 1 V/s using a gold electrode.

**NOTE:** As expected from the solution-based studies, the dependence of the compounds between the anodic peak height and scan rate on all the electrode materials and electrolytes showed a linear relationship, which indicated a **diffusion-controlled process**.



**Figure S7.** Cyclic voltammograms for 1 mM **1a** in (a) 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> and (b) 0.2 M NaPF<sub>6</sub> at 0.1 V/s using a platinum electrode.



**Figure S8.** Cyclic voltammograms for 1 mM (a) **1a** and (b) **4b** in 0.2 M NaBF<sub>4</sub> at 0.1 V/s using a glassy carbon electrode.



**Figure S9.** Cyclic voltammograms for 1 mM (a) **1a** and (b) **4b** in 0.2 M NaPF<sub>6</sub> at 0.1 V/s using a glassy carbon electrode.



**Figure S10.** Cyclic voltammoaggrams for (a) 1 mM **1a** and (b) electrolyte in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at 0.1 V/s using a glassy carbon electrode.ag/

**NOTE:** As observed in Fig. 10, the redox signals were overlapping with the strong Au oxidation signal (0.9-1.1 V vs. Ag/AgCl), the further measurements were not taken using gold electrodes.



**Figure S11.** Differential pulse voltammograms for 1 mM **1a** in 0.2 M LiClO<sub>4</sub> at 0.1 V/s with the oxidation scans using (a) a glassy carbon electrode, (b) a platinum electrode, blank electrolyte at (c) glassy carbon electrode and (d) platinum electrode; the reduction scans using (a') a glassy carbon electrode and (b') a platinum electrode, blank electrolyte at (c') glassy carbon electrode and (d') platinum electrode.



**Figure S12.** Differential pulse voltammograms for 1 mM 4b in 0.2 M NaPF<sub>6</sub> with the oxidation scans using (a) a glassy carbon electrode and (b) a platinum electrode.