

Supporting Information

for

**Photoinitiated Multistep Charge Separation in Ferrocene-Zinc Porphyrin-  
Diiron Hydrogenase Model Complex Triads**

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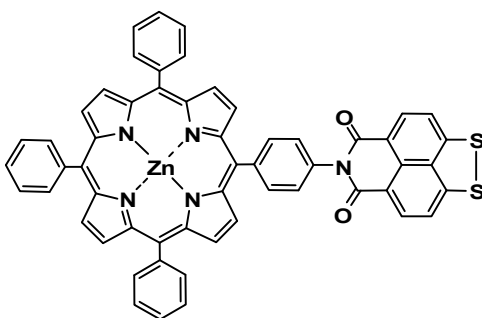
**General**

All commercial compounds were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without further purification. Solvents were ACS reagent grade, unless otherwise specified. Toluene, methylene chloride (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), tetrahydrofuran (THF) and *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) were dried using a Glass Contour solvent system. All reactions were performed in air-free conditions under nitrogen. Column chromatography was performed on standard silica gel, 60 angstrom, 32-63 μm (Sorbent Technologies). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III using TMS as an internal standard. Laser desorption mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Daltonics AutoFlex III MALDI-TOF, and high resolution electrospray ionization (HR-ESI) mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent 6210 LC-TOF. Characterization studies were performed at the Integrated Molecular Structure Education and Research Center (IMSERC) at Northwestern University.

## Synthesis

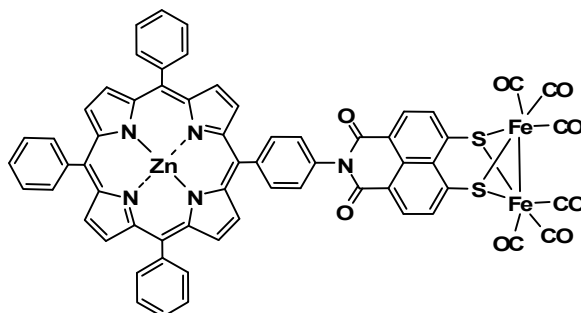
Starting materials 1,8-naphthalic anhydride-4,5-disulfide (NMA<sub>S</sub><sub>2</sub>),<sup>1</sup> 5-(*p*-aminophenyl)-10,15,20-triphenylporphyrin (TPP-NH<sub>2</sub>),<sup>2-4</sup> 5-phenyldipyrromethane<sup>5</sup> and 4-iodophenylferrocene (Fc-Ph-I)<sup>6</sup> were synthesized according to reported methods.

### ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub>:



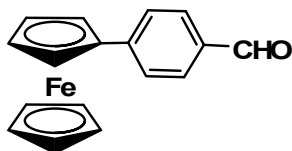
NMA<sub>S</sub><sub>2</sub><sup>1</sup> (0.056 g, 0.22 mmol), TPP-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.880 g, 0.14 mmol), Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.107 g, 0.49 mmol) and 40 mL of pyridine were added to a 100 mL round bottom flask and refluxed under N<sub>2</sub> for 72 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography was performed using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent to provide ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> in a 65% yield (0.085 g, 0.09 mmol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.08 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 8.92 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 8.90 (s, 4H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H), 7.75 (m, 9H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). MS (MALDI+): *m/z* 933.364 [M<sup>+</sup>], Calcd. 933.121 for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Zn.

**ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] (dyad 3):**



ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> (0.050 g, 0.05 mmol) was added to a 100 ml round bottom flask with 60 ml of THF. Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (0.035 g, 0.07 mmol) was added to the flask and the reaction was refluxed for 2 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography was performed using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent to provide ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] in a 45% yield (0.029 g, 0.02 mmol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.09 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 8.98 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 8.96 (s, 4H), 8.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.23 (m, 6H), 7.78 (m, 9H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, δ CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 206.74, 163.67, 150.25, 150.03, 143.50, 142.76, 135.64, 135.24, 134.48, 134.15, 133.23, 132.22, 132.07, 130.19, 129.71, 129.06, 128.25, 127.56, 126.77, 126.61, 126.58, 126.13, 125.31, 125.17, 121.36, 121.29, 119.79, 66.30. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* 1219.9604 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, Calcd. 1219.0074 for C<sub>62</sub>H<sub>37</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Zn.

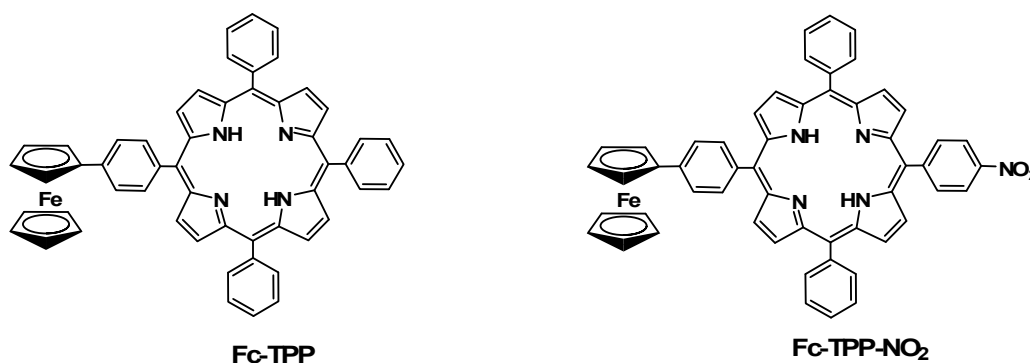
**Fc-Ph-CHO:**



*p*-Bromobenzaldehyde (0.518 g, 2.80 mmol) was added to a 100 ml round bottom flask with 50 ml of toluene. Sodium carbonate (4.759 g, 44.90 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II)

dichloride (0.060 g, 0.085 mmol) and ferroceneboronic acid (0.837 g, 3.64 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was heated at 90 °C under N<sub>2</sub> for 16 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and Fc-Ph-CHO (0.792 g, 2.73 mmol) was obtained in a 75% yield after column chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.97 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 4.05 (s, 5H). ESI-HRMS: *m/z* 290.040 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, Calcd. 290.039 for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FeO.

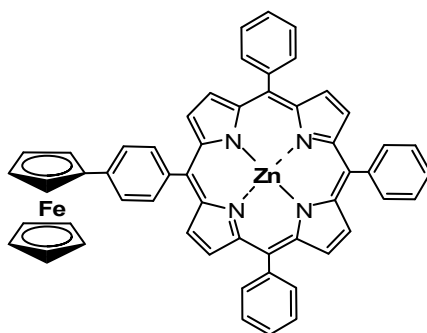
### Fc-TPP and Fc-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub>:



5-Phenyldipyrromethane (2.22 g, 10.0 mmol), Fc-Ph-CHO (1.450 g, 5.00 mmol), 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.755 g, 5.00 mmol) and 1000 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were added to a 2000 ml round bottom flask. Trifluoroacetic acid (1.37 ml, 17.80 mmol) was added slowly over 30 s. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine (3.00 ml, 18.00 mmol) was added followed by a solution of *p*-chloranil (3.700 g, 15.00 mmol) in THF (200 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for an additional 6 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography using 50/50 (*v/v*) hexanes/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent provided Fc-TPP (0.030 g, 0.07 mmol) in 2% yield. Fc-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub> (0.200 g, 0.07 mmol) was obtained using 30/70 (*v/v*) hexanes/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent in 8% yield (overall yield). Fc-TPP: <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.94 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H), 8.87 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H), 8.85 (s, 4H), 8.23 (m,

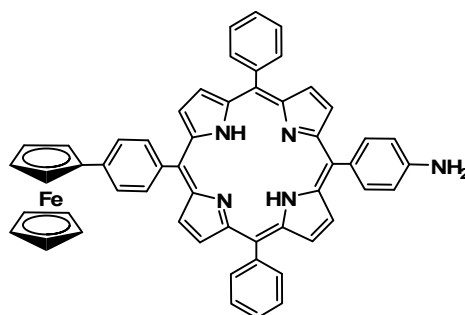
6H), 8.14 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.77 (m, 9H), 4.92 (t, 2H), 4.48 (t, 2H), 4.25 (s, 5H),  $-2.75$  (s, 2H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  799.095 [ $M^+$ ], Calcd. 798.244 for  $C_{54}H_{38}FeN_4$ . Fc-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub> <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.02-8.70 (m, 8H), 8.64 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 8.41 (dd,  $J = 2.7$  and 5.8 Hz, 2H), 8.23 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 4H), 8.13 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.77 (m, 6H), 4.92 (s, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 4.24 (s, 5H),  $-2.75$  (s, 2H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  844.274 [ $M^+$ ], Calcd. 843.229 for  $C_{54}H_{37}FeN_5O_2$ .

**Fc-ZnTPP (dyad 4):**



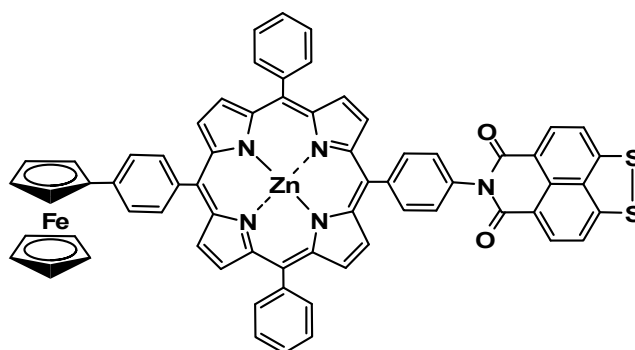
Fc-TPP (0.03 g, 0.04 mmol) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (50 ml) were added to a 100 ml round bottom flask. Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.041 g, 0.19 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (15 ml) was added and the reaction was stirred for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was then washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate. Column chromatography using 30/70 (v/v) hexanes/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent gave Fc-ZnTPP. (0.027 g, 0.03 mmol) in a 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.04 (d,  $J = 4.6$  Hz, 2H), 8.97 (d,  $J = 4.6$  Hz, 2H), 8.95 (s, 4H), 8.23 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 6H), 8.15 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.76 (m, 9H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 4.25 (s, 5H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  860.609 [ $M^+$ ], Calcd. 860.158 for  $C_{54}H_{36}FeN_4Zn$ .

### Fc-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub>:



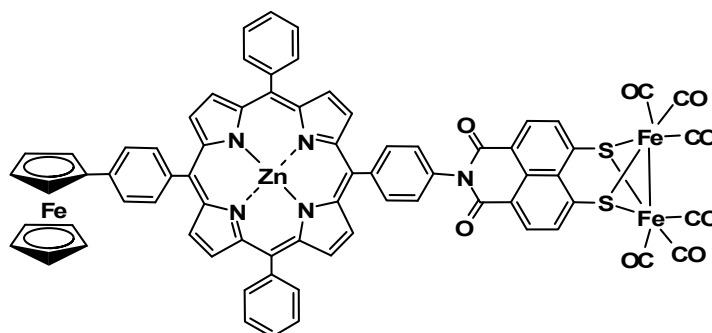
Fc-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub> (0.330 g, 0.39 mmol), concentrated HCl (20 mL) and SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.680 g, 3.00 mmol) were added to a 100 ml round bottom flask. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 45 min and then heated at 65 °C for 30 min. The solution was cooled in ice and concentrated ammonia was added to neutralize the acid. Chloroform (500 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 1 hour. The layers were separated and the organic layer was washed twice with H<sub>2</sub>O. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Fc-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.187 g, 0.23 mmol) was obtained in 65% yield after column chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.00-8.80 (m, 8H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 6H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 4.92 (s, 2H), 4.47 (s, 2H), 4.24 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 5H), 4.04 (bs, 2H), -2.75 (s, 2H). MS (MALDI<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 814.307 [M<sup>+</sup>], Calcd. 813.255 for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>39</sub>FeN<sub>5</sub>.

### Fc-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub>:



NMAS<sub>2</sub><sup>1</sup> (0.072 g, 0.26 mmol), Fc-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.150 g, 0.18 mmol), Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.141 g, 0.64 mmol) and 40 mL of pyridine were added to a 100 ml round bottom flask and refluxed under N<sub>2</sub> for 72 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography was performed using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent to provide Fc-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> in a 65% yield (0.134 g, 0.120 mmol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.20-8.90 (m, 8H), 8.49 (m, 2H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 8.15 (m, 2H), 7.90-7.72 (m, 8H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (m, 2H), 4.91 (s, 2H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 4.24 (s, 5H). MS (MALDI+): *m/z* 1117.154 [M<sup>+</sup>], Calcd. 1117.118 for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>39</sub>FeN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Zn.

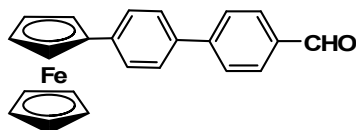
**Fc-ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] (triad 1):**



Fc-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> (0.100 g, 0.09 mmol) was added to a 100 ml round bottom flask with 60 ml of THF. Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (0.059 g, 0.12 mmol) was added to the flask and the reaction was refluxed for 2 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and Fc-ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] (0.056 g, 0.040 mmol) was obtained in a 45% yield after column chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.13-8.95 (m, 8H), 8.60 (dd, *J* = 2.2 and 5.2 Hz, 2H), 8.55 (dd, *J* = 2.3 and 5.2 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 6.3, 4H), 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.86-7.72 (m, 8H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.89 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 4.23 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, δ CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 205.77, 162.56, 149.22, 142.43, 141.71, 139.24, 137.56, 134.56, 134.20, 133.56, 133.41, 135.05, 132.21, 131.18, 131.07, 129.15, 128.67, 126.50, 125.68,

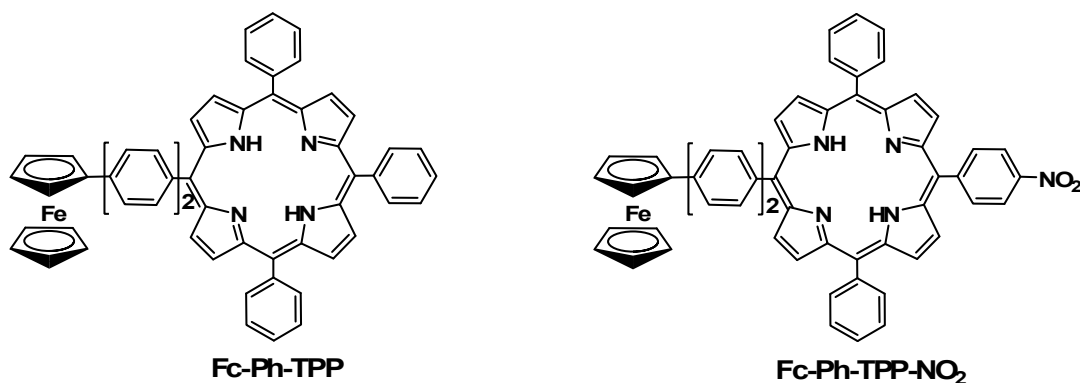
125.60, 125.06, 124.16, 123.20, 120.25, 118.69, 84.01, 68.81, 68.27, 65.75, 52.46. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  1403.9567  $[M+H]^+$ , Calcd. 1403.0049 for  $C_{72}H_{45}Fe_3N_5O_8S_2Zn$ .

### Fc-Ph<sub>2</sub>-CHO:



4-Formylbenzeneboronic acid (1.770 g, 11.80 mmol), Fc-Ph-I (2.250 g, 5.80 mmol),  $Ba(OH)_2$  (2.586 g, 8.20 mmol) and palladium(II)acetate (0.440 g, 1.96 mmol) were combined in a 100 ml round bottom flask with DMF (50 ml). The reaction mixture was refluxed under  $N_2$  for 48 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and Fc-Ph<sub>2</sub>-CHO (1.276 g, 3.49 mmol) was obtained in a 60% yield after column chromatography using 40/60 (v/v) hexanes/ $CH_2Cl_2$  as the eluent.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  ( $CDCl_3$ ): 10.08 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.59 (s, 4H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 4.43 (s, 2H), 4.13 (s, 5H). ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  366.073  $[M+H]^+$ , Calcd. 366.070 for  $C_{23}H_{18}FeO$ .

### Fc-Ph-TPP and Fc-Ph-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub>:

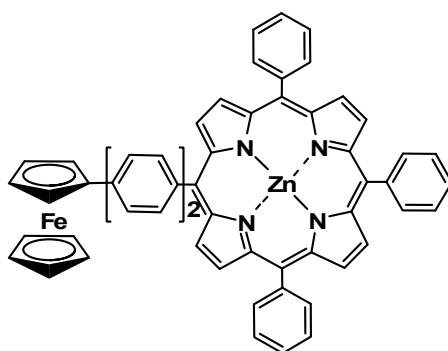


5-Phenyldipyrromethane (2.220 g, 10.0 mmol), Fc-Ph<sub>2</sub>-CHO (1.830 g, 5.0 mmol), 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.755 g, 5.00 mmol) and 1000 ml of  $CH_2Cl_2$  were added to a 2000 ml round bottom flask. Trifluoroacetic acid (1.37 ml, 17.80 mmol) was added slowly over 30 s. The



reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine (3.00 ml, 18.00 mmol) was added followed by a solution of *p*-chloranil (3.700 g, 15.00 mmol) in THF (200 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for further 6 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography using 50/50 (*v/v*) hexanes/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as the eluent provided Fc-Ph-TPP (0.030 g, 0.03 mmol) in 2% yield. Fc-Ph-TPP- $\text{NO}_2$  (0.200 g, 0.07 mmol) was obtained using 30/70 (*v/v*) hexanes/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as the eluent in 8% yield (overall yield). Fc-Ph-TPP:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.95 (d,  $J = 4.7$  Hz, 2H), 8.87 (d,  $J = 4.7$  Hz, 2H), 8.86 (s, 4H), 8.29 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 8.23 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 6H), 8.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.76 (m, 9H), 7.69 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 4.13 (s, 5H), -2.73 (s, 2H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  875.237 [ $\text{M}^+$ ], Calcd. 874.275 for  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{42}\text{FeN}_4$ . Fc-Ph-TPP- $\text{NO}_2$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.00-8.70 (m, 8H), 8.60 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 8.37 (dd,  $J = 2.3$  and 6.1 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 8.22 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.97 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.78 (m, 8H), 7.65 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 4.11 (s, 5H), -2.75 (bs, 2H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  920.012 [ $\text{M}^+$ ], Calcd. 919.260 for  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{41}\text{FeN}_5\text{O}_2$ .

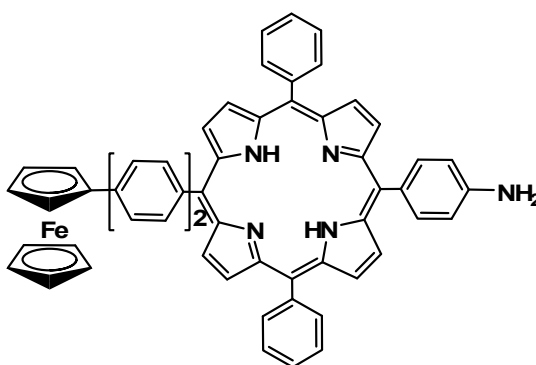
**Fc-Ph-ZnTPP (dyad 5):**



Fc-Ph-TPP (0.035 g, 0.04 mmol) and  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (50 ml) were added to a 100 ml round bottom flask.  $\text{Zn}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.041 mg, 0.19 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (15 ml) was added and the solution was stirred for 2 hours. The solution was then washed with water and dried over sodium sulfate.

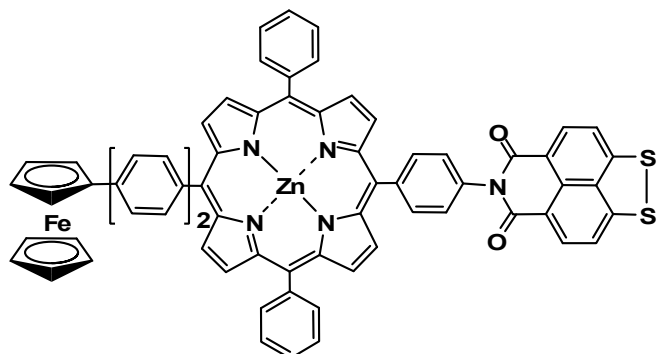
Column chromatography using 30/70 (v/v) hexanes/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as the eluent gave Fc-Ph-ZnTPP. (0.071 g, 0.07 mmol) in a 52% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.04 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 2H), 8.97 (d,  $J = 4.7$  Hz, 2H), 8.95 (s, 4H), 8.30 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 8.23 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 6H), 8.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.76 (m, 9H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 4.13 (s, 5H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  936.342 [ $\text{M}^+$ ], Calcd. 936.189 for  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{40}\text{FeN}_4\text{Zn}$ .

**Fc-Ph-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub>:**



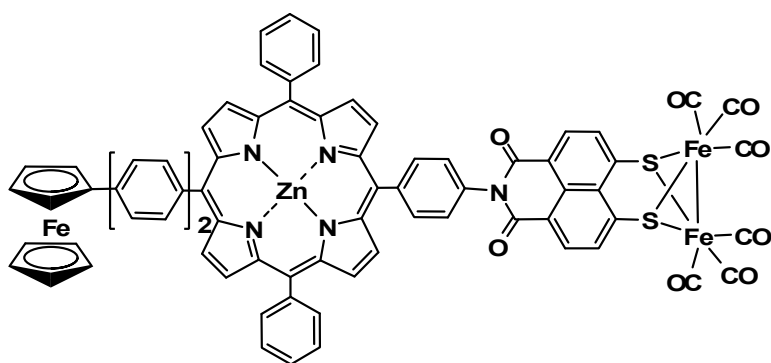
Fc-Ph-TPP-NO<sub>2</sub> (0.359 g, 0.39 mmol), concentrated HCl (20 mL) and SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.680 g, 3.00 mmol) were added to a 100 ml flask. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 45 min and then heated at 65 °C for 30 min. The solution was cooled in ice and concentrated ammonia was added to neutralize the acid. Chloroform (500 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 1 hour. The layers were separated and the organic layer was washed twice with H<sub>2</sub>O. The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Fc-Ph-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.226 g, 0.25 mmol) was obtained in 65% yield after column chromatography using  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as the eluent.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.00-8.80 (m, 8H), 8.29 (dd,  $J = 1.7$  and 6.5 Hz, 2H), 8.23 (m, 4H), 8.01 (m, 4H), 7.86 (dd,  $J = 1.7$  and 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (m, 6H), 7.70 (dd,  $J = 1.5$  and 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 4.13 (d,  $J = 1.3$  Hz, 5H), 4.04 (bs, 2H), -2.73 (s, 2H). MS (MALDI+):  $m/z$  890.496 [ $\text{M}^+$ ], Calcd. 889.286 for  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{43}\text{FeN}_5$ .

**Fc-Ph-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub>:**

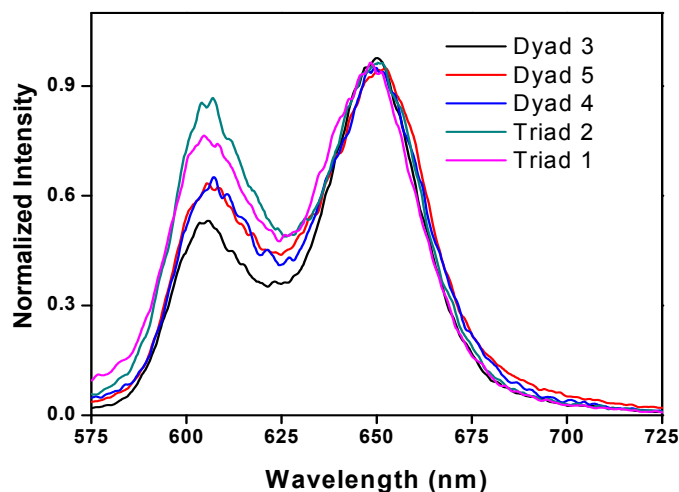


NMAS<sub>2</sub> (0.072 g, 0.22 mmol), Fc-Ph-TPP-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.160 g, 0.18 mmol), Zn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.141 g, 0.64 mmol) and 40 mL of pyridine were added to a 100 ml round bottom flask and refluxed under N<sub>2</sub> for 72 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent gave Fc-Ph-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> (0.145 g, 0.12 mmol) in a 70% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.18-8.92 (m, 8H), 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (d, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (m, 6H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (s, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.16 (s, 5H). MS (MALDI+): *m/z* 1193.404 [M<sup>+</sup>], Calcd. 1193.149 for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>43</sub>FeN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Zn.

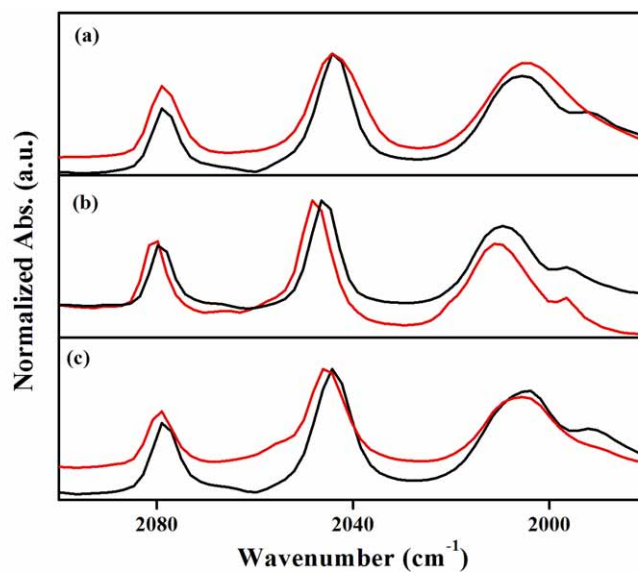
**Fc-Ph<sub>2</sub>-ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] (triad 2):**



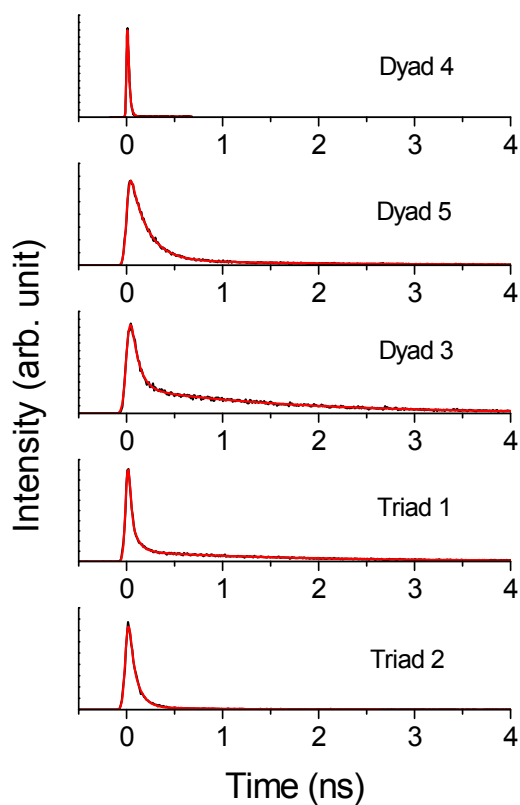
Fc-Ph-ZnTPP-NMIS<sub>2</sub> (0.107 g, 0.09 mmol) was added to a 100 ml round bottom flask with 60 ml of THF. Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (0.059 g, 0.12 mmol) was added to the flask and the reaction was refluxed for 2 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and Fc-Ph-ZnTPP-[NMI-Fe<sup>I</sup>-Fe<sup>I</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>] (0.066 g, 0.045 mmol) was obtained in a 50% yield after column chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the eluent. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.14-8.93 (m, 8H), 8.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.40 (dd, *J* = 2.3 and 6.0 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (m, 4H), 8.24 (m, 2H), 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.78 (m, 6H), 7.69 (m, 4H), 4.78 (m, 2H), 4.40 (m, 2H), 4.14 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, δ CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 206.73, 163.63, 150.23, 143.46, 142.73, 141.55, 139.81, 138.78, 138.12, 135.61, 135.21, 135.00, 134.11, 133.19, 132.15, 130.15, 129.67, 127.54, 127.17, 126.64, 126.09, 125.13, 124.83, 38.81, 121.34, 121.05, 119.78, 84.88, 69.71, 69.13, 66.55. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* 1479.9858 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, Calcd. 1479.0368 for C<sub>78</sub>H<sub>49</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Zn.



**Figure S1.** Normalized steady-state fluorescence spectra in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>ex</sub> = 530 nm.



**Figure S2.** IR spectra of (a) **3**, (b) **1** and (c) **2** in toluene (black) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (red).



**Figure S3.** Time-resolved fluorescence signals (data: black curves, fits: red curves) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Detection wavelength was 650 nm.

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