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## **Electronic Supporting Information**

## **Biomimetic oxidation of cyclic and linear alkanes: high alcohol selectivity promoted by a novel manganese porphyrin catalyst**

Vinicius Santos da Silva,<sup>a</sup> Warleson Cândido dos Santos Vieira,<sup>a</sup> Alexandre Moreira Meireles,<sup>a</sup> Geani Maria Ucoski,<sup>b</sup> Shirley Nakagaki,<sup>b</sup> Ynara Marina Idemori,<sup>a</sup> Gilson DeFreitas-Silva<sup>a</sup>

\*gilsonufmg@ufmg.br

<sup>a</sup>Departamento de Química, Instituto de Ciências Exatas, Universidade Federal de

Minas Gerais (UFMG), 31.270-901. Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil.

<sup>b</sup>Laboratório de Bioinorgânica e Catálise, Departamento de Química –Centro

Politécnico, Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR), 81.531-980. Curitiba, PR, Brazil.

## **\*Corresponding author:**

Prof. Gilson de Freitas Silva (G. DeFreitas-Silva) Departamento de Química – Instituto de Ciências Exatas – Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais Belo Horizonte, MG, 31270-901, BRAZIL Tel.: +55 31 3409 5772. Email address: gilsonufmg@ufmg.br

The brominated free-base porphyrin  $H_2[Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PP]$ , Figure S1,was obtained according to the methodology described by Rebouças et al 2002 [1]. Then, the porphyrin was characterized by UV-Vis spectroscopy (Figure S2) and <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Figure S4).



**Figure S1.** Structural representation of the brominated free-base porphyrin  $H_2Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PP (H_2Br_{12}Por)$ .



**Figure S2.** UV-vis spectrum of the (a) free-base porphyrin  $H_2T4$ (-OMe)PP ( $H_2P$ or, 3.15  $\times$  10<sup>-6</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>) and (b) brominated free-base porphyrin H<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>12</sub>T4(-OMe)PP (H<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>12</sub>Por) in  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ .

The spectrum of the  $H_2Br_{12}T4$ (-OMe)PP Figure S2 (b) reveals a bathochromic shift of the Soret band as compared to the spectrum of the freebase porphyrin  $H_2T4$ (-OMe)PP Figure S2 (a). This usually occurs upon bromination of free-base porphyrins and has been reported in the literature [2, 3].

Analysis of the  ${}^{1}H$  NMR spectra indicated that bromine atoms were introduced into one of the *-ortho* positions relative to the methoxy (-OCH<sub>3</sub>) substituents and into each of the β-pyrrole positions of the macrocycle.



**Figure S3.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $H_2T4$ (-OMe)PP ( $H_2P$ or) recorded at 400 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 <sup>o</sup>C. δ 8.86 (s, 8H, β-pyrrole) 8.15 (d, 4H, *ortho*-aryl), 8.07 (m, 8H, *meta*-aryl), 4.10 (s, 12H, methoxy) and -2.75 (s, 2H, pyrrole N-H).



**Figure S4.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $H_2Br_{12}T4$ (-OMe)PP ( $H_2Br_{12}Por$ ) recorded at 400 MHz, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C. δ 8.39 (d, 4H, *ortho*-aryl), 8.07 (m, 4H, *meta*-aryl), 7.35 (s, 4H, *ortho*aryl), and 3.98 (s, 12H,methoxy).

The compounds studied here were characterized by infrared spectroscopy, Figure S5.The results confirmed the formation of the second- and third-generation metalloporphyrins.



**Figure S5. FTIR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>T4(-OMe)PP (1), [Mn<sup>III</sup>T4(-OMe)PPCI] (2); and**  $[Mn^{III}Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PPCI]$  (3) in KBr pellets.

[Mn<sup>III</sup>T4(-OMe)PPCI] FTIR in KBr (cm<sup>-1</sup>): (1604)  $\delta$  C=C; (1294)  $\delta$  porphyrin skeleton; (1249) v C-O-C; (1173) v OCH<sub>3</sub>; (1004)  $\delta$  Mn-N. [Mn<sup>III</sup>Br<sub>12</sub>T4(-OMe)PPCI] FTIR in KBr (cm<sup>-1</sup>): (1594)  $\delta$  C=C; (1289)  $\delta$  porphyrin skeleton; (1272) v C<sub>β</sub>–Br; (1255) v C-O-C; (1175) v OCH<sub>3</sub>; (1004)  $\delta$  Mn-N.

The novel third-generation brominated manganese porphyrin ( $MnBr_{12}Por$ ) was characterized by mass spectrometry (Figure S6).



**Figure S6.** Mass spectrum of  $[Mn^{III}Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PPCI]$ . Analysis conducted in CH<sub>3</sub>OH with the ESI-MS operating in the positive mode.

The peak at m/z 1734.07 is associated with the loss of chloride ion  $[Mn^IIIBr_{12}T4(-OMe)PP]^+$ . The simulation of the spectrum using program ChemCalc (http://www.chemcalc.org/; Figure S7) is in agreement with the experimental spectrum. The peak at 1690.14 is associated with the loss of one bromine atom and protonation of macrocycle [Mn<sup>III</sup>Br<sub>11</sub>T4(-OMe)PPCI + H<sup>+</sup>] which m/z corresponds to 1690.19. The peak at 1806.16 can be associated with  $[Mn^{\text{III}}Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PPCl + HCl + H^{+}]$ , which m/z is equal 1806.08.



**Figure S7.** Simulated mass spectrum for the  $[Mn^{\text{III}}Br_{12}T4(-OMe)PP]^+$  ion,  $C_{48}H_{24}N_{4}O_{4}Br_{12}Mn^{+}$ .



Table S1. Product yields obtained during the oxidation of *n*-hexane by PhIO or PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> catalyzed by MnP in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> under aerobic condition. Yields based on the oxidant.

Reaction conditions: [MnP or Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>] = 5 x 10<sup>-4</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>, [PhIO or PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub>] = 5 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>, MnP/Oxidant/n-hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 1:10:3630:15550, 25 °C, magnetic stirring, 90 min of reaction.<sup>1</sup>Yields based on the oxidant. 2-ol: 2-hexanol, 3-ol: 3-hexanol, 2-one: 2-hexanone and 3-one: 3-<br>hexanone. <sup>2</sup>The degree of catalyst destruction was calculated from the UV-Vis absorption spectra<br>recorded at the total moles products per mol catalyst.



**Table S2.** Product yields obtained during the oxidation of cyclohexane by PhIO or PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> catalyzed by MnP in  $CH_2Cl_2$  under aerobic condition. Yields based on the oxidant.

Reaction conditions: MnP or Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/Oxidant/cyclohexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 1:10:4650:15550, 25 °C, <br>magnetic stirring, 90 min of reaction. <sup>1</sup>Yields based on the oxidant. <sup>2</sup>The degree of catalyst destruction was calculated from the UV-Vis absorption spectra recorded at the end of the reaction. <sup>3</sup>The maximum error is  $\pm$  0.5% with confidence level of 95%.<sup>4</sup>Oxidant/cyclohexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 50:4650:15550.  ${}^{5}$ MnP/Oxidant/cyclohexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 1:50:50:23325.  ${}^{6}$ MnP/Oxidant/cyclohexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 1:50:4650:15550. <sup>7</sup>Selectivity for the alcohol was determined from the relation: Selectivity = 100  $\times$ [%Cy-ol / (%Cy-ol + %Cy-one)].  ${}^{8}TON =$  total moles products per mol catalyst.

**Table S3.** Product yields obtained during the oxidation of adamantane by PhIO or PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> catalyzed by MnP in  $CH_2Cl_2$  under aerobic condition. Yields based on the oxidant.



<u>Reaction conditions</u>: [MnP or Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>] = 5 x 10<sup>-4</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>, [PhIO or PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub>] = 5 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>, MnP/Oxidant/adamantane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molar ratio = 1:10:100:23325, 25 °C, magnetic stirring, 90 min. of reaction. <sup>1</sup>Yields based on the oxidant. 1-adol: 1-adamantanol, 2-adol: 2-adamantanol. <sup>2</sup>The degree of catalyst destruction was calculated from the UV-Vis absorption spectra recorded at the end of the reaction.<br><sup>3</sup>TON = total moles products per mol catalyst.



Figure S8. UV-vis transient spectra of (a) MnPor and (b) MnBr<sub>12</sub>Por in presence of PhIO in CH2Cl2. Condition of reaction: molar ratio: MnP:PhIO 1:10.



Figure S9. UV-vis transient spectra of (a) MnPor and (b) MnBr<sub>12</sub>Por in presence of PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> in  $CH_2Cl_2$ . Condition of reaction: molar ratio: MnP:PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> 1:10.

## **References**

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