# Computational Studies of the Magneto-structural Correlations in 

## a Manganese Dimer with Jahn-Teller Distortions

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## Experimental details

Commercial reagents and solvents were used without purification. Elemental analysis was determined by the Campbell Microanalytical Laboratory at the University of Otago.

## Synthesis of the dinuclear $\mathrm{Mn}^{\mathrm{II}}$ complex

The $\mathrm{Mn}^{\text {III }}$ dimer was serendipitously synthesised in low yield by reacting the ligand $\mathbf{L 3}$ in a 1:2:2 ratio with $\mathrm{Mn}\left(\mathrm{ClO}_{4}\right)_{2} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{ONa}$ in acetonitrile $(\sim 6 \mathrm{~mL})$ on a 0.087 mmol scale. The solution was stirred for 30-60 minutes, filtered and then left to evaporate. Black, fine, rod-shaped crystals were isolated by slow diffusion of diethyl ether into a jar containing the complex in solution. Anal. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{68} \mathrm{H}_{91.2} \mathrm{~N}_{5.2} \mathrm{O}_{26} \mathrm{Cl}_{4} \mathrm{Mn}_{2} \cdot 5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}: \mathrm{C} 47.01, \mathrm{H} 5.76, \mathrm{~N} 4.19 \%$; found: C 46.80, H 5.67, N 4.54 .


Figure S1. Structure of the di-oxime L3.

## Charge balance

Elemental analysis was consistent with the presence of four perchlorate anions per unit complex (Table 1). Three of these were located in the crystal structure, unfortunately the fourth could not be located from the difference map, but is present within the solvent mask.

Table S1. Balance of charges for the dinuclear complex (CCDC 2124835).

| Component | Charge |
| :--- | :--- |
| $2 \times \mathrm{Mn}^{3+}$ | +6 |
| $2 \times(\mathbf{L 1}$ or $\mathbf{L 2})$ | 0 |
| $4 \times \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}$ | -4 |
| $2 \times \mathrm{OH}^{-}$ | -2 |
| Total | 0 |

## X-ray crystallography

The X-ray data was collected using a Rigaku Spider diffractometer equipped with a Rigaku MM007 microfocus copper rotating anode X-ray source $(\mathrm{CuK} \alpha, \lambda=1.54178 \AA)$ with high-flux Osmic monochromating and focusing multilayer mirror optics, and a curved image plate detector. The sample mounted on a MiTeGen mylar loop using Fomblin ${ }^{\circledR}$ oil and cooled to 153 K using an Oxford Cobra cold stream. Data was collected using Crystal Clear and processed using FS PROCESS. ${ }^{1,2}$ The structure was solved by intrinsic phasing with SHELXT and refined with SHELXL using full-matrix leastsquares against $F^{2}$ in Olex2. ${ }^{3-5}$ Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms were calculated to their ideal positions unless otherwise stated and refined using a riding model with fixed $U_{i \text { iso }}$ values. There exists rotational disorder on a number of tert-butyl groups in the structure (67:33). A solvent mask containing $149 \mathrm{e}^{-}$in $700 \AA^{3}$, which is consistent with the presence of $1 \mathrm{ClO}_{4}^{-}$, 3 MeCN , and $4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (totalling $155 \mathrm{e}^{-}$), was modelled using the BYPASS protocol, as implemented in Olex $2 .{ }^{6}$

Table S2. Crystal data and structural refinement for the dinuclear $\mathrm{Mn}^{\text {III }}$ complex.

| CCDC number | 2124835 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Emp. formula | $\mathrm{C}_{74} \mathrm{Cl}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{108.2} \mathrm{Mn}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{8.2} \mathrm{O}_{30}$ |
| $M_{\mathrm{r}} / \mathrm{g} \mathrm{mol}{ }^{-1}$ | 1844.36 |
| $T / \mathrm{K}$ | 153 |
| Space group | $\mathrm{P} \overline{1}$ |
| Crystal system | Triclinic |
| $\mathrm{a} / \AA$ | $9.5605(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{b} / \AA$ | $15.8753(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{c} / \AA$ | $31.531(2)$ |
| $\alpha /{ }^{\circ}$ | $92.892(7)$ |
| $\beta /{ }^{\circ}$ | $93.983(7)$ |
| $\gamma /{ }^{\circ}$ | $98.707(7)$ |
| $V / \AA^{3}$ | $4710.0(4)$ |
| $Z$ | 2 |
| $D_{c} / \mathrm{g} \mathrm{cm}^{-3}$ | 1.300 |
| Crystal size $/ \mathrm{mm}$ | $0.45 \times 0.05 \times 0.04$ |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ | 3.882 |
| $F(000)$ | 1935.0 |
| $2 \theta$ Range $/{ }^{\circ}$ | $13.126-130.148$ |
| Reflections collected | 81849 |
| Data $\left(R_{\text {int }}\right) /$ restr. $/$ param. | $15384(0.1032) / 382 / 911$ |
| GooF | 1.099 |
| $R 1, w R 2(I>2 \sigma(I))$ | $0.1206,0.3141$ |
| $R 1, w R 2($ all data $)$ | $0.1959,0.3860$ |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text {max } / \text { min }}$ /e $\AA \AA^{-3}$ | $1.15 /-0.83$ |

## Calculation of distortion parameters

The $\Delta$ and $\rho$ parameters at Mn 2 for each geometry were calculated with the $x, y$ and $z$ axes assigned for type III complexes based on Figure 4, then recalculated with the $x, y$ and $z$ axes reassigned for type IV. The type (III or IV) was then assigned based on the requirement that $|\Delta|>|\rho|$, if both sets of values met this standard, the $\Delta$ and $\rho$ values with the greatest difference were selected. The values used for the calculations are presented in Tables S3 and S 4 . While previous publications have recommended assigning the axes such that $y>x,{ }^{7}$ the $y$ and $x$ axes were consistently assigned to the same atoms for each type as the $|\rho|$ values did not differ significantly depending on the assignment of these axes.

Table S3. Values for $x, y$ and $z$ used to calculate the elongation ( 4 ) and rhombicity ( $\rho$ ) parameters at the $\mathrm{Mn}^{\text {III }}$

| Geometry |  | Type | Mn1 |  |  |  |  | Mn2 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\boldsymbol{x}(\AA)$ | $\boldsymbol{y}(\AA)$ | $\boldsymbol{z}$ ( $\AA$ ) | $\Delta(\%)^{\text {a }}$ | $\rho(\%)^{\text {a }}$ | $\boldsymbol{x}(\AA)$ | $\boldsymbol{y}(\AA)$ | $z(\AA)$ | $\Delta(\%)^{\text {a }}$ | $\rho(\%)^{\text {a }}$ |
| 1 | (a) |  | IV | 3.837 | 3.830 | 4.547 | 18.6 | -0.2 | 4.231 | 4.308 | 3.793 | -11.2 | 1.8 |
|  | (b) | III | 3.850 | 3.894 | 4.629 | 19.6 | 1.1 | 3.830 | 4.131 | 4.453 | 11.9 | 7.9 |
|  | (c) | III | 3.842 | 3.912 | 4.584 | 18.2 | 1.8 | 3.892 | 4.060 | 4.465 | 12.3 | 4.3 |
| 2 | (a) | IV | 3.837 | 3.830 | 4.547 | 18.6 | -0.2 | 4.231 | 4.105 | 3.793 | -9.0 | -3.0 |
|  | (b) | III | 3.834 | 3.910 | 4.609 | 19.0 | 2.0 | 3.871 | 3.974 | 4.498 | 14.7 | 2.7 |
|  | (c) | III | 3.842 | 3.915 | 4.610 | 18.8 | 1.9 | 3.863 | 3.988 | 4.477 | 14.1 | 3.2 |
| 3 | (a) | IV | 3.837 | 3.830 | 4.547 | 18.6 | -0.2 | 4.109 | 4.308 | 3.793 | -9.9 | 4.8 |
|  | (b) | III | 3.844 | 3.896 | 4.630 | 19.6 | 1.3 | 3.850 | 4.083 | 4.382 | 10.5 | 6.0 |
|  | (c) | IV | 3.860 | 3.893 | 4.631 | 19.5 | 0.8 | 4.326 | 4.134 | 3.833 | -9.4 | -4.4 |
| 4 | (a) | IV | 3.837 | 3.830 | 4.547 | 18.6 | -0.2 | 4.109 | 4.105 | 3.793 | -7.7 | -0.1 |
|  | (b) | III | 3.833 | 3.910 | 4.607 | 19.0 | 2.0 | 3.891 | 3.948 | 4.380 | 11.8 | 1.5 |
|  | (c) | III | 3.843 | 3.908 | 4.600 | 18.7 | 1.7 | 3.865 | 3.965 | 4.383 | 11.9 | 2.6 |

centres of the calculated geometries of $\mathbf{1 - 4}$.
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Calculated from unrounded values for $x, y$ and $z$.

Table S4. Values for $x, y$ and $z$ used to calculate the elongation ( 4 ) and rhombicity ( $\rho$ ) parameters at the $\mathrm{Mn}^{\text {III }}$

| $\mathbf{M n - O}(\mathbf{\AA})^{\mathbf{a}}$ | Type | Mn1 |  |  |  |  | Mn2 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\boldsymbol{x}(\AA)$ | $\boldsymbol{y}(\AA)$ | $z(\AA)^{\text {b }}$ | $\Delta$ (\%) ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | $\rho(\%)^{\text {c }}$ | $x(\AA)$ | $\boldsymbol{y}(\AA)$ | $z(\AA)$ | $\Delta$ (\%) ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | $\rho(\%)^{\text {c }}$ |
| 1.815 | IV | 3.860 | 3.856 | 4.629 | 20.0 | -0.1 | 4.324 | 4.320 | 3.630 | -16.0 | 0.1 |
| 1.865 | IV | 3.860 | 3.856 | 4.629 | 20.0 | -0.1 | 4.305 | 4.305 | 3.730 | -13.4 | 0.0 |
| 1.915 | IV | 3.856 | 3.860 | 4.629 | 20.0 | 0.1 | 4.293 | 4.291 | 3.830 | -10.8 | 0.0 |
| 1.965 | IV | 3.859 | 3.856 | 4.629 | 20.0 | -0.1 | 4.286 | 4.283 | 3.930 | -8.3 | -0.1 |
| 2.015 | III | 3.833 | 3.884 | 4.629 | 20.0 | 1.3 | 4.030 | 4.040 | 4.478 | 11.0 | -0.2 |
| 2.065 | IV | 3.857 | 3.856 | 4.629 | 20.0 | 0.0 | 4.339 | 4.320 | 4.130 | -4.6 | -0.4 |
| 2.115 | IV | 3.858 | 3.856 | 4.629 | 20.0 | 0.0 | 4.388 | 4.376 | 4.230 | -3.5 | -0.3 |

centres of the constrained geometries of the $\mathrm{Mn}^{\text {III }}$ dimer.
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Constrained $\mathrm{Mn} 2-\mathrm{O} 7$ and $\mathrm{Mn} 2-\mathrm{O} 8$ bond lengths. ${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ The Mn1-O1 and Mn1-O2 bond lengths were constrained to the same values for all complexes. ${ }^{\mathrm{c}}$ Calculated from unrounded values for $x, y$ and $z$.

## Unrestricted Corresponding Orbitals

(a)


$$
S_{\alpha \beta}=0.00
$$

(b)


$$
S_{\alpha \beta}=0.01
$$

(c)


Figure S2. Magnetic orbital pair 285 $\alpha / \beta$ for geometries 1(a)-(c).
(a)


$S_{\alpha \beta}=0.00$
(b)

(c)


$$
S_{\alpha \beta}=0.02
$$

Figure S3. Magnetic orbital pair 281 $\alpha / \beta$ for geometries 2(a)-(c).
(a)

(b)

(c)

$S_{\alpha \beta}=0.01$

Figure S4. Magnetic orbital pair 281 $\alpha / \beta$ for geometries 3(a)-(c).
(a)


$S_{\alpha \beta}=0.00$
(b)

(c)


Figure S5. Magnetic orbital pair 274 $\alpha / \beta$ for geometries 4(a)-(c).

(b)


(c)


(e)



Figure S6. Magnetic orbital $285 \alpha$ for the constrained geometries with $\mathrm{Mn}-\mathrm{O}_{\text {phenolate }}$ bond lengths constrained to (a) $1.815 \AA$, (b) $1.865 \AA$, (c) $1.915 \AA$, (d) $1.965 \AA$, (e) $2.015 \AA$, (f) $2.065 \AA$, (g) $2.115 \AA$.

## Spin Density



Figure S7. Spin density plot for 1(a).

## References

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