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Supplementary Materials

A mono-oxo-bridged binuclear iron(III) complex with a Fe-O-Fe

angle of 180.0° and its catalytic activity for hydrogen evolution

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Table of Contents

1.	Physical measurements
2	Fig. S1 . IR spectra of the ligand, H ₂ bpc, and the iron complex, [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe- O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)].
3	Fig. S2 . IR spectra of the iron complex in solid and in DMF (0.05 M).
4	Fig. S3. ¹ H NMR spectrum of the ligand, H ₂ bpc in DMSO. 1) 7.690 ppm; 2) 10.860 ppm; 3) 8.813 ppm; 4) 8.167 ppm; 5) 8.086 ppm; 6) 8.673 ppm.
5	Fig. S4. ¹ H NMR spectrum of the iron complex in DMSO.
6	Fig. S5. Raman spectra of the iron complex.
7	Fig. S6. Magnetic behavior of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ under varying temperature. The solid line represents the result of the fitting of the parameters of Eq. (1) with the data.
8	Fig. S7. UV-Vis spectra of the iron complex (0.235 mM), H ₂ bpc (0.235 mM) and FeCl ₃ (0.235 mM) in DMF.

9	Fig. S8. Cyclic voltammograms of 0.516 mM [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-
	Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)], or FeCl ₃ in 0.10 M of [n-Bu ₄ N]ClO ₄ CH ₃ CN solution at a
	glassy carbon electrode and a scan rate of 100 mV/s, Ag/AgNO3 reference
	electrode, Fc internal standard (*).
10	Fig. S9. Scan rate dependence of precatalytic waves for a 5.16 mM solution of
	[(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] (0.10 M [<i>n</i> -Bu ₄ N]ClO ₄), at scan rates from 50
	to 300 mV/s.
11	Fig. S10. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] (1.2 mM)
	with varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu ₄ N]ClO ₄ DMF solution at a glassy
	carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO ₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).
	Fig. S11. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] (1.2 mM)
	with 0.67 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of $[n-Bu_4N]ClO_4$ DMF
12	solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO3 reference electrode, Fc
	internal standard (*)
	Internal standard (*).
	Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H2O)] (1.2 mM)
	Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of $[n-Bu_4N]ClO_4$ DMF
13	Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of $[n-Bu_4N]ClO_4$ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO ₃ reference electrode, Fc
13	Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of $[n-Bu_4N]ClO_4$ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO ₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM)
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S14. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2
13	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S14. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.67 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄
13 14 15	 Fig. S12. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.0 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S13. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.33 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*). Fig. S14. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] (1.2 mM) with 1.67 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu₄N]ClO₄ DMF solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).

16	Fig. S15. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] (1.2 mM)
	with 2.50 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu ₄ N]ClO ₄ DMF
	solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO ₃ reference electrode, Fc
	internal standard (*).
	Fig. S16. Cyclic voltammograms of [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] (1.2 mM)
	with 3.30 mM acetic acid at varying scan rate in 0.10 M of [n-Bu ₄ N]ClO ₄ DMF
	solution at a glassy carbon electrode and Ag/AgNO3 reference electrode, Fc
	internal standard (*).
18	Fig. S17. ¹ H NMR spectra of a DMSO solution of (a) 0.598 mM
	$[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)];$ (b) 0.598 mM $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-$
	Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] with 0.025 M acetic acid; (c) 0.025 M acetic acid.
19	Fig. S18. UV-Vis spectra of a DMF solution of 0.598 mM [(H ₂ O)(bpc)Fe-O-
	Fe(bpc)(H ₂ O)] with or without acetic acid (14.1 mM).

Physical measurements

IR spectra were obtained as KBr pellets on a Bruker 1600 FT-IR spectrometer from 4000 to 400 cm⁻¹. NMR analyses were carried out by using a Bruker AV-500 instrument. UV-vis spectra were measured on a Hitachi U-3010. Measurements and analyses for the chemical compositions and valence states of the photocatalysts were carried out by ESCALAB 250 Xi X-photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) with monochromatic Al K α (1486.6 eV) X-ray sources. A Quantum Design SQUID Magnetometer MPMS XL-7 was used to investigate magnetic behavior of the iron complex. ESR spectra of the iron complex were taken on a Bruker Elexsys II E500 ESR spectrometer. Mössbauer spectrum of [(H₂O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H₂O)] was measured on a Wss-10 Mössbauer spectrometer. Electrochemical measurements and analysis were conducted by using a CHI-660E electrochemical analyzer using a threeelectrode cell in which a glassy carbon electrode (1 mm in diameter) is the working electrode, a saturated Ag/AgNO₃ electrode is the reference electrode, and a platinum wire is the auxiliary electrode. For organic media, 0.10 M [$(n-Bu)_4N$]ClO₄ was selected as a supporting electrolyte.



Fig. S1. IR spectra of the ligand, H_2 bpc, and the iron complex, $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$.



Fig. S2. IR spectra of the iron complex in solid and in DMF (0.05 M).



Fig. S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of the ligand, H₂bpc in DMSO. 1) 7.690 ppm; 2) 10.860 ppm; 3) 8.813 ppm; 4) 8.167 ppm; 5) 8.086 ppm; 6) 8.673 ppm.



Fig. S4. ¹H NMR spectrum of the iron complex in DMSO.



Fig. S5. Raman spectra of the iron complex.



Fig. S6. Magnetic behavior of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ under varying temperature. The solid line represents the result of the fitting of the parameters of Eq. (1) with the data.



Fig. S7. UV-Vis spectra of the iron complex (0.235 mM), H_2 bpc (0.235 mM) and FeCl₃ (0.235 mM) in DMF.



Fig. S8. Cyclic voltammograms of 0.516 mM $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$, or FeCl₃ in 0.10 M of $[n-Bu_4N]ClO_4$ CH₃CN solution at a glassy carbon electrode and a scan rate of 100 mV/s, Ag/AgNO₃ reference electrode, Fc internal standard (*).





Fig. S9. Scan rate dependence of precatalytic waves for a 5.16 mM solution of $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ (0.10 M [*n*-Bu₄N]ClO₄), at scan rates from 50 to 300 mV/s.



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Fig. S18. UV-Vis spectra of a DMF solution of 0.598 mM $[(H_2O)(bpc)Fe-O-Fe(bpc)(H_2O)]$ with or without acetic acid (14.1 mM).