# **Supporting Information**

# An Fe complex for <sup>19</sup>F magnetic resonance-based reversible redox sensing and multicolor imaging

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# **Experimental Methods**

# General

Solvents and chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, VWR, and Fisher Scientific and used as received. Iron(II) tetrafluoroborate was purchased from Strem Chemicals as a 40–45% aqueous solution and assumed to be 40%. Iron(II) tetrafluoroborate was opened, stored, and used in a Coy anaerobic chamber. All water used in experiments, synthesis and purification was Milli-Q grade water. Human serum (Sigma-Aldrich # H4522) was sourced from human male AB plasma. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (Cambridge, MA). All deoxygenated solvents were freeze-pump-thawed unless specified otherwise. Reverse-phase C18 chromatography was performed on a Biotage Isolera One. UV-vis spectra were obtained using an Agilent Technologies Cary 6 UV-vis Spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were measured on either an Agilent MR400 DDR2 NMR with an Agilent OneProbe 5 mm HX with autotuning and Z-gradient (400, 100, 376 MHz, respectively) or a Bruker Avance III HD 500 Mhz with a Prodigy dual 5 mm probe (500, 125, 470 MHz, respectively). <sup>19</sup>F  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  relaxation times were measured with an Agilent MR400 DDR2 NMR. The chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were calibrated to the solvent peak and <sup>19</sup>F NMR was calibrated to CFCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = 0$  ppm). The determination of <sup>1</sup>H  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  relaxivities was performed on a Pulsar 60 MHz benchtop NMR spectrometer (Oxford Instruments) operating at 37 °C. LC-MS and high-resolution Electrospray Ionization (ESI) mass spectral analyses were performed by the Mass Spectrometry Facility in the Department of Chemistry at UT Austin. Electrochemistry experiments were performed at the Center for Electrochemistry at UT Austin on a CHI 660D electrochemical workstation. All buffers contained double their concentration of KNO<sub>3</sub> to maintain the same ionic strength. <sup>19</sup>F MR images were obtained in the Biomedical Imaging Center at UT Austin using a Bruker BioSpin Pharmascan 70/16 magnet (Karlsruhe, Germany) with a single loop 8 mm surface coil (282.2 MHz) from Doty Scientific.

# **Cyclic voltammetry**

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) measurements for a 1 mM solution of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  in deoxygenated 0.1 M KCl adjusted to pH 5 with deoxygenated 1 M HCl were recorded using scan speeds ranging from 50 – 400 mV/s. A three-electrode cell was used, including a glassy carbon working electrode, a Ag/AgCl reference electrode containing 3 M KCl, and a platinum wire as auxiliary electrode.

# Molar absorptivity

To measure the molar absorptivity, a 25 mM DMSO stock solution of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  was added to Milli-Q grade water until a final concentration of 100  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> (0.4% DMSO) was obtained. Serial dilutions (20  $\mu$ M – 80  $\mu$ M) of the 100  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  were made using 0.4% DMSO in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub>. The absorbance at 310 nm of each solution was determined and plotted against the respective concentration to obtain the molar absorptivity  $\varepsilon = 3280 M^{-1} cm^{-1}$  with an R<sup>2</sup> value of 0.9994.

## Iron content measurements

Solution-mode ICP-MS analysis was performed on an Agilent 7500ce. 10  $\mu$ L Fe complex solution (25 mg/mL) was diluted to 1.00 mL with TraceMetal grade nitric acid (Fisher Scientific, 67 - 70%, Fe < 1 ppb). The complexes were digested for 24 h and then diluted to 2% v/v HNO<sub>3</sub> for ICP-MS

analysis. A calibration curve was prepared for Fe concentration in the range of 1 - 1000 ppb. Sc was used as internal standard for analysis.

## Reduction of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> with cysteine, dithiothreitol, and glutathione

All solvents and solutions used for this experiment were deoxygenated and experiments were performed in an air-free cuvette. A 25 mM DMSO stock solution of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  was added to Milli-Q grade water until a final concentration of 25  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> (0.1% DMSO) was obtained. The UV-vis absorption spectrum was scanned. Additional samples were prepared such that the final concentrations of all components were 25  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$ , 125  $\mu$ M reducing agent (cysteine, dithiothreitol (DTT), or glutathione (GSH)), and 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> (0.1% DMSO). Samples were scanned every five minutes until three similar absorption spectra were obtained. The experiment was repeated with a final concentration of 625  $\mu$ M reducing agent. To determine if one equivalent of cysteine was sufficient to reduce  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$ , a 100  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  was prepared in 5 mM HEPES (0.8% DMSO) with and without 100  $\mu$ M cysteine and scanned every five minutes until three similar absorption spectra were obtained.

## Kinetic evaluation of the reduction of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> with cysteine and oxidation with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

All solvents and solutions used for this experiment were deoxygenated. The kinetic experiments were performed under pseudo first-order conditions with 25  $\mu$ M of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> and excess cysteine (150–350  $\mu$ M). The reactions were conducted in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> at room temperature. Cysteine stocks were freshly made in acidic water (~ pH 5.4) for each measurement and used within 5 minutes to slow possible formation of disulfide bonds. The absorbance of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> was monitored by UV-vis every 6 seconds between 220—550 nm for 10 minutes. The natural log of the absorbance change at 310 nm was plotted against time to obtain the pseudo first-order rate constant from the slope of a linear regression. The pseudo second-order constant was obtained by plotting the pseudo first-order rate constants as a function of cysteine concentration.

Oxidation with hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ) was evaluated in degassed 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> at room temperature. Solutions of cysteine and  $H_2O_2$  were freshly made before each measurement. 25  $\mu$ M solutions of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> were prepared in an anaerobic chamber in air-free cuvettes and their absorbance measured. 25  $\mu$ M of cysteine was added by syringe via the septa and absorbance measurements were taken until three similar readings were obtained. Subsequently,  $H_2O_2$  (1–10 eq.) was added and measurements were recorded every 6 seconds until the absorbance stabilized.

# Atmospheric oxidation of Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> monitored by UV-vis

This experiment was setup in an anaerobic chamber using degassed solutions and solvents.

The aerobic oxidation  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  was measured using UV-vis spectroscopy. A 25 mM aqueous stock of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  was diluted into 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> to give 100  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . An absorption spectrum was measured, and the air-free cuvette was opened to atmospheric air. Absorption spectra were measured at regular intervals over 18 h and the changes plotted.

# Kinetic stability of $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ and $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$ in the presence of biologically relevant metal ions

**Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>:** This experiment was performed in an anaerobic chamber using degassed solutions and solvents. A 25 mM D<sub>2</sub>O stock of **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub>, was diluted into 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) to make five 1.2 mM solutions containing 100 mM NaCl, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, or 100  $\mu$ M ZnCl<sub>2</sub>. Half of each sample was diluted with D<sub>2</sub>O to give 20% D<sub>2</sub>O and 1 mM **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> solution and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were obtained for each mixture. The remaining half of the five mixtures were incubated at 37 °C for 24 h and their <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded after diluting with D<sub>2</sub>O (20% D<sub>2</sub>O total).

**Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>:** A 25 mM DMSO stock of **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>** was used to prepare 5 samples such that the final concentrations of all species were 100  $\mu$ M **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>** in 43.75 mM HEPES (0.4% DMSO) with their respective ions: 100 mM NaCl, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, or 100  $\mu$ M ZnCl<sub>2</sub>. Their UV-vis absorption was taken, and all samples were incubated at 37  $\underline{^{\circ}C}$  for 24 hours and their absorbances were remeasured.

## Human serum stability of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>

A 25 mM DMSO stock of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  was directly diluted into human serum with 20% D<sub>2</sub>O or into 8% human serum, 72% 1X Minimum Essential Medium (MEM) containing Earle's salts, and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O to make 1 mM solutions. An initial <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was measured for each sample and the mixtures were incubated for 24 h at 37 °C. A final measurement was performed upon completion of the incubation stage.

# Reduction and pH stability studies of Fe<sup>II/III</sup> DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> monitored by <sup>19</sup>F NMR

All solvents and solutions used for this experiment were deoxygenated. Two solutions were prepared: the first contained 1 mM  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  in 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) with 20% DMSO and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O and the second contained the same as the first solution with 5 mM (five equivalents) of cysteine added. Two additional samples were prepared in 25 mM MES buffer (pH 6) for acidic stability studies. All NMR tubes were scanned after preparation and seven days later. To test the pH stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ , two samples were made: the first contained 1 mM  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) with 10% DMSO and 10% D<sub>2</sub>O and the second contained the same as the first solution except with 5 mM MES (pH 6) as the buffer. Both NMR samples were scanned upon preparation and two hours later.

## <sup>19</sup>F NMR relaxation time measurements

All solvents and solutions used for this experiment were deoxygenated and the samples were prepared in an anaerobic chamber. The <sup>19</sup>F  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  values of 1 mM solutions of the synthesized and the *in situ* generated **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> complexes were measured using a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. A DMSO stock of **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> and a D<sub>2</sub>O stock **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> were used to make samples. The *in situ* reduced complex was generated with five equivalents of freshly prepared dithiothreitol (DTT, dissolved in water) using a 25 mM stock of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>. Each sample contained 20% D<sub>2</sub>O, 4% DMSO in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). <sup>19</sup>F  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  were measured at 376 MHz using inversion recovery and Carr-Purcell-Meiboom-Gill (CPMG) pulse sequences, respectively.

## Determination of <sup>1</sup>H r<sub>1</sub> and r<sub>2</sub> relaxivities of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>

A DMSO stock of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  was diluted into PBS (1X, pH 7.4) at 0–1 mM concentrations and measurements were made at 37 °C. <sup>1</sup>H  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  relaxation times were measured at 60 MHz using inversion recovery and CPMG pulse sequences, respectively.

### **Redox reversibility experiments**

All solvents and solutions used for this experiment were deoxygenated and UV-vis experiments were performed in an air-free cuvette. Five samples were prepared such that they all contained 0.5 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> with 2% DMSO and 10% D<sub>2</sub>O. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (32 scans) and UV-vis (1:5 dilution with Milli-Q grade water to obtain 0.1 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>) spectra were obtained. Next, the four remaining samples were reduced with 1 equivalent cysteine and one of the samples was subjected to <sup>19</sup>F NMR and UV-vis after complete reduction. Then, the three remaining samples were oxidized with 10 eq H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and one of the samples was subjected to <sup>19</sup>F NMR and UV-vis after that, the two remaining samples were reduced with 12.5 eq cysteine and one of the samples was subjected to <sup>19</sup>F NMR and UV-vis after complete reduction. After that, the two remaining samples were reduced with 12.5 eq cysteine and one of the samples was oxidized with 50 eq H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and was subjected to <sup>19</sup>F NMR and UV-vis after complete rows oxidized with 50 eq H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and was subjected to <sup>19</sup>F NMR and UV-vis after complete oxidation. All UV-vis samples were diluted further to confirm their mass via LC-MS.

### **Magnetic moment determination**

The effective magnetic moment was determined based on a modified Evans' method.<sup>1, 2</sup> Two solutions were prepared: the first contained 5 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> in 5% 'BuOH in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, which was placed inside of a coaxial NMR tube insert, and the second contained 5% 'BuOH in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, which was placed inside of the NMR tube. Then, the NMR tube containing the coaxial insert was subjected to a 400 MHz NMR. The change in chemical shift between the two 'BuOH peaks was obtained and used to determine the effective magnetic moment ( $\mu_{eff}$ ):

$$\chi_g = \frac{(-3\Delta f)}{4\pi fm} + \chi_0 + \frac{\chi_0(d_0 - d_s)}{m}$$
(Eq. 1)

$$\mu_{eff} = 2.84(\chi_m T)^{1/2}$$
 (Eq. 2)

 $\chi_g$  is the mass susceptibility of the solute,  $\chi_0$  is the mass susceptibility of the solvent,  $\chi_m$  is the molar susceptibility,  $\Delta f$  is the frequency shift of the reference in Hz, f is the spectrometer frequency in Hz, m is the mass of the substance per mL of solution,  $d_0$  and  $d_s$  are the densities of the solvent and solution, and T is the temperature in K. The same procedure was used to measure the magnetic moment of Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> with the use of D<sub>2</sub>O instead of DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

## <sup>19</sup>F MR imaging

Four samples were prepared at a final volume of 250  $\mu$ L inside a 300  $\mu$ L Eppendorf tube using deoxygenated solvents in an anaerobic chamber. The first two samples contained 3 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in 1:1 DMSO:HEPES (pH 7.4, 25 mM final concentration) with and without one equivalent cysteine. The second two samples contained 5 mM **CuATSM-F**<sub>3</sub> in 3:1 DMSO:HEPES (pH 7.4, 25 mM final concentration) with and without one equivalent of sodium dithionite. All four samples were imaged using both the CF<sub>3</sub> (282.550 MHz) and the SF<sub>5</sub> (282.588 MHz) frequency. To obtain the reoxidized sample, the 3 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> tube was opened to atmospheric air and 20 equivalents H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was added and reimaged.

 $^{19}$ F MR images were obtained using a single loop 8 mm surface coil (282.2 MHz) from Doty Scientific. The coil was referenced to the CF<sub>3</sub> frequency using pure fomblin and to the SF<sub>5</sub>

frequency using 10 M 4-(pentafluorosulfanyl)aniline (compound **2**) in DMSO. After referencing, a single pulse of the reduced sample was obtained, and the frequency (in MHz) was corrected to match the complex. The following parameters were used during imaging:

CF<sub>3</sub>: Rapid acquisition with relaxation enhancement (RARE) pulse sequence, 1500 mms repetition time, 46 ms echo time, 300 averages, 7.667 ms echo spacing, rare factor 16, 90° flip angle, 10 mm slice thickness, 32x32 matrix, and a 40x40 mm<sup>2</sup> field of view. The total acquisition time was 15 minutes.

SF<sub>5</sub>: RARE pulse sequence, 300 ms repetition time, 46 ms echo time, 1500 averages, 7.667 ms echo spacing, rare factor 16, 20° flip angle, 10 mm slice thickness, 32x32 matrix, and a 40x40 mm<sup>2</sup> field of view. The total acquisition time was 15 minutes.

## **Synthesis**



Scheme S1 – Synthesis of Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> and Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>. Ligand <sup>t</sup>BuDO3A was synthesized following a literature procedure.<sup>3</sup>

# DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>

K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (266.7 mg, 1.93 mmol, 4 eq) and 2 (211.6 mg, 0.966 mmol, 2 eq) were added to 20 mL acetone. Then, a solution containing 1 (92.3 µL, 1.16 mmol, 2.4 eq) in 10 mL acetone was added dropwise to the first mixture. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for four hours before quenching the reaction with 30 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. The desired intermediate product (3) was extracted using ethyl acetate (3 x)30 mL ), washed with brine (3 x)30 mL ), dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , flame-dried flask before evaporating to dryness. Then, <sup>t</sup>BuDO3A<sup>3</sup> (250 and transferred to a mg, 0.486 mmol, 1 eq) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (81.2 mg, 0.967 mmol, 2 eq) were added to the flask, sealed, and the air was replaced with N<sub>2</sub> before adding 25 mL dry MeCN. The reaction was heated to 82 °C and stirred overnight. The reaction was cooled, filtered, and subjected to silica gel chromatography. The crude mixture was adsorbed onto silica gel and dry loaded onto the column before eluting with 100% DCM then 30:1 DCM:MeOH to remove less polar impurities. Finally, to isolate the desired 'Bu protected intermediate ('BuDO3ASF<sub>5</sub>), the column was eluted with 15:1 DCM:MeOH. Then, 'BuDO3ASF5 was transferred to a scintillation vial and 4 mL of a 1:1

TFA:CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution was added to the vial and allowed to react overnight at room temperature. The next morning, the solvent was removed, and the dried crude product was suspended in 1 mL H<sub>2</sub>O and directly injected into a C18 reverse phase chromatography column. The desired product was purified using a 5% MeCN/95% H<sub>2</sub>O/0.1% formic acid to 100% MeCN /0.1% formic acid gradient (12 minute LC/MS Rt: 3.9 min). The product was isolated using 62% MeCN/38% H2O/0.1% formic acid. The product was lyophilized to remove solvents to obtain 180 mg **DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> (48%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 4H), 3.69 (s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 4H), 3.45 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 6H), 3.21—3.01 (m, 8H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, 25 °C): δ 171.18, 170.09, 169.61, 142.25, 126.39, 119.29, 59.61, 55.55, 54.73, 51.49, 50.96, 49.55, 49.35. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz; D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  85.67 (quintet, J = 149.5, 1F), 63.16 (d, J = 148.8, 4F). HR



ESI-MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>, MeOH): calculated for  $[C_{22}H_{32}F_5N_5O_7S + H]^+$  606.2015, found 606.2015.

## Synthesis of Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>

DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> (30 mg, 0.0495 mmol, 1 eq) was dissolved in 2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. Then, FeCl<sub>3</sub> (14.7 mg, 0.0906 mmol, 1.8 eq) and enough MeCN was added to fully dissolve all compounds. If necessary, the pH was adjusted to between 5-6 with 1 M NaOH. The mixture was allowed to react at 40 °C for 2 hours, then another 1.1 eq of FeCl<sub>3</sub> (7.4 mg, 0.0456 mmol) was added and reacted until all the ligand was metalated (another two hours; tracked via LC/MS). Upon completion, the solution was directly injected into a C18 reverse phase chromatography column. The desired product was purified using a 5% MeCN/95% H<sub>2</sub>O/0.1% formic acid to 100% MeCN/0.1% formic acid gradient (12 minute LC/MS Rt: 4.7 min). The product was isolated using 40% MeCN/60% H<sub>2</sub>O/0.1% formic acid. The product was lyophilized to obtain 24.5 mg Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> (75%) as a yellow solid. HR ESI-MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>, MeOH): calculated for  $[C_{22}H_{29}F_5FeN_5O_7S + Na]^+$  681.0950, found 681.0964. Iron content measured with ICP-MS calcd for 8.50% iron: found:  $8.54 \pm 0.09\%$ 

### Synthesis of Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub>

Synthesis of Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> was carried out in an anaerobic chamber with deoxygenated solvents and solutions. Purification was done quickly under air with highly nitrogen sparged solvents used to prime and elute the product column. The pH of the reaction was monitored with pH paper. A scintillation vial was charged with **DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> (0.0183 g, 0.0302 mmol, 1 eq), a stir bar, and 1 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O. The pH of the solution was raised to 6–7 with 1 M NaOH and heated with strong stirring to 37 °C in a water bath. Aqueous Fe(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (36.0  $\mu$ L of ~40%, ~ 0.0604 mmol, ~2 eq) was slowly added to the warm solution. The resulting yellow mixture was heated at 37 °C for 30 min. Subsequently, the pH of the warmed reaction mixture was slowly raised over 40 min to 6–7 with 1 M NaOH. The reaction was allowed to continue at this pH at 37 °C for 90 min. Excess iron was precipitated by raising the pH to  $\sim 8$  with 1 M NaOH and allowing the suspension to stir at 37 °C for 30 min. The mixture was loaded onto the top of a Biotage® Sfär C18 Duo column frit and pushed into the column bed with a nitrogen-filled syringe. The product was eluted with a gradient of water and methanol. Fractions collected were stored under nitrogen, quickly frozen and lyophilized to give 12.8 mg Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> as a white solid (64%). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (376 MHz;  $D_2O$ ):  $\delta$ 63.43 (d, J = 148.7 Hz). <sup>1</sup>H NMR see Fig. S25. HR ESI-MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>, MeOH): calculated for  $[C_{22}H_{30}F_5FeN_5O_7S + H]^+$  660.1209, found 660.1200. Iron content measured with ICP-MS calcd for 8.49% iron: found:  $8.51 \pm 0.02\%$ 



**Figure S1** – Normalized absorbance of 25  $\mu$ M **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> (0.1% DMSO) with 25 equivalents of reducing agents after five minutes.



**Figure S2** – Representative plot of absorbance changes of the reduction of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  (25  $\mu$ M) with cysteine (150  $\mu$ M) over 0 (red) to 216 seconds (green). Reaction performed in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S3** - <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of 1 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 50 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> with 20% DMSO and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm to show broadened doublet. The quintet was not visible.



**Figure S4** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of 1 mM **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sup>5</sup> in deoxygenated 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> with 10% DMSO and 10% D<sub>2</sub>O zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm. The quintet was not visible.



**Figure S5** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of 1 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) with five equivalents cysteine, 20% DMSO, and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm to show broadened doublet. The quintet was not visible.

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S6** – Oxidation of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  by  $H_2O_2$  as monitored by UV-vis. A) Representative plot of absorbance changes for the reaction between 25  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  with 100  $\mu$ M  $H_2O_2$ . Absorbance of solution of 25  $\mu$ M  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  at 310 nm in the presence of various equivalents of  $H_2O_2$  B) 1 equiv C) 4 equiv D) 10 equiv. All reactions performed in 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub>.

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S7** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of biologically relevant metal ions. UV-vis spectra of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  (100 µM) in 43.75 mM HEPES in the presence of 100 mM NaCl, 100 mM KCl, 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, or 100 µM ZnCl<sub>2</sub> before (black) and after (blue) incubation at 37 °C for 24 h.

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S8** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) before (bottom, blue) and after (top, red) 24 h incubation at 37 °C in 80% human serum and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O.

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S9** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{III}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) before (bottom, blue) and after (top, red) 24 h incubation at 37 °C in 8% human serum, 20% D<sub>2</sub>O and 72% 1X Minimum Essential Medium (MEM) containing Earle's salts.

![](_page_12_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S10** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of 1 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 50 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> and 25 mM MES (pH 6) with and without five equivalents cysteine. Each sample contains 20% DMSO and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O. Spectra are zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm to show broadened doublet. The quintet was not visible. All spectra were measured at least five minutes after preparation.

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S11** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of 1 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 50 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> and 25 mM MES (pH 6) with and without five equivalents cysteine. Each sample contains 20% DMSO and 20% D<sub>2</sub>O. Spectra are zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm to show broadened doublet. The quintet was not visible. All spectra were measured seven days after preparation and no special precautions were made to protect samples from air beyond closing the cap and sealing with parafilm.

![](_page_13_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S12** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of 1 mM **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated 5 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM KNO<sub>3</sub> and 5 mM MES (pH 6) with 10% DMSO and 10% D<sub>2</sub>O zoomed in between +60 and +67 ppm to show broadened doublet. The quintet was not visible. Samples were measured

directly after preparation ("After Preparation") and two hours after preparation ("After Two Hours").

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Figure S13** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of NaCl. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) in the presence of 100 mM NaCl in 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). Before (bottom, red) or after (top, green) 24 h incubation at 37 °C. Inset shows a close-up of the <sup>19</sup>F peaks for  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . 20% D<sub>2</sub>O was added before the measurements for locking.

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S14** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of KCl. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) in the presence of 100 mM KCl in 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). Before (bottom, red) or after (top, green) 24 h incubation at 37 °C. Inset shows a close-up of the <sup>19</sup>F peaks for  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . 20% D<sub>2</sub>O was added before the measurements for locking.

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S15** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of CaCl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) in the presence of 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> in 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). Before (bottom, red) or after (top, green) 24 h incubation at 37 °C. Inset shows a close-up of the <sup>19</sup>F peaks for  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . 20% D<sub>2</sub>O was added before the measurements for locking.

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S16** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of MgCl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) in the presence of 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> in 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). Before

(bottom, red) or after (top, green) 24 h incubation at 37 °C. Inset shows a close-up of the <sup>19</sup>F peaks for  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . 20% D<sub>2</sub>O was added before the measurements for locking.

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S17** – Kinetic stability of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in the presence of ZnCl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  (1 mM) in the presence of 100 mM ZnCl<sub>2</sub> in 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.4). Before (bottom, red) or after (top, green) 24 h incubation at 37 °C. Inset shows a close-up of the <sup>19</sup>F peaks for  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$ . 20% D<sub>2</sub>O was added before the measurements for locking.

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S18** – Atmospheric oxidation of 100  $\mu$ M **Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in deoxygenated HEPES (pH 7.4) over (red) 0–18 h (green). Minimal oxidation was observed.

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S19 – Chemical structure of CuATSM-F<sub>3</sub>.<sup>4</sup>

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S20** – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of 0.5 mM **CuATSM-F**<sub>3</sub> with one equivalent cysteine (black),<sup>4</sup> 0.5 mM **CuATSM-F**<sub>3</sub> with one equivalent sodium dithionite (green), 0.5 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> with one equivalent sodium dithionite, and 0.5 mM **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> with one equivalent cysteine. All samples were made in 3:2 d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO:HEPES (5 mM pH 7.4) and all solvents were deoxygenated. No signal is shown for **CuATSM-F**<sub>3</sub> with cysteine; however, a signal is shown for **CuATSM-F**<sub>3</sub> with sodium dithionite (in the CF<sub>3</sub> region) and both **Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> with cysteine and sodium dithionite (in the SF<sub>5</sub> region). Similarly, no signal is seen for the Fe complex in the CF<sub>3</sub> region as well as no signal is seen for the Cu complex in the SF<sub>5</sub> region.

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

**Figure S21** – <sup>19</sup>F MRI phantoms of 3 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> (left), 3 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> with one equivalent cysteine (middle), and 3 mM Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> with one cysteine then 20 equivalents of  $H_2O_2$  (right). All images were taken at the SF<sub>5</sub> frequency (282.588 MHz).

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S22** – <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **DO3ASF**<sub>5</sub> in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S23 – <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO at 25 °C. Spectrum shows peaks for MeOH (δ 48.59) and formic acid (δ 163.31).

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S24 – <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> in D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S25 – <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $Fe^{II}DO3ASF_5$  in D<sub>2</sub>O

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S26** – FIA ESI<sup>+</sup> HRMS of [**3** + H]<sup>+</sup>. A small aliquot of the extracted EtOAc mixture was diluted to obtain the HRMS report above.

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S27 – FIA ESI<sup>+</sup> HRMS of  $[^tBuDO3ASF_5 + Na]^+$ . A small aliquot of the DCM/MeOH mixture from the column was diluted to obtain the HRMS report above.

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure S28 – FIA ESI<sup>+</sup> HRMS of [DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> + H]<sup>+</sup>.

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

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Figure S29 – FIA ESI<sup>+</sup> HRMS of [Fe<sup>III</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

![](_page_24_Figure_3.jpeg)

Figure S30 – FIA ESI<sup>+</sup> HRMS of [Fe<sup>II</sup>DO3ASF<sub>5</sub> + H]<sup>+</sup>.

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