

Electronic Supplementary Information for Dalton Transactions
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Spectroelectrochemical evidence for communication within a laterally-bridged di-manganese(III) bis-porphyrin

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Table S1 Redox potentials of **2** (vs the Fc⁺/Fc couple) measured using cyclic voltammetry at Pt working electrode.^a

CV Peak positions		$E_{1/2}$ /mV	Scan rate /mVs ⁻¹
Cathodic	Anodic		
~ -310	^b		200
-890	-820	-855	200
-1070	-1005	-1037	200
-1310	~ -1230	-1270	200
-920	-823	-871	400
-1097	-1007	-1052	400
1067	1147	1107	400

^a No *iR* compensation was applied.

^b No anodic peak was observed for this couple.

Table S2 Electronic absorption band positions ($\times 10^{-3}$ cm⁻¹) and molar absorption coefficients ($\times 10^{-4}$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) for dicopper(II) and dizinc(II) bis-porphyrins.

bis-porphyrin	Soret bands	Q bands
Cu ^{II} -Cu ^{II}	23.58 (5.50), 22.03 (5.40)	19.42 (4.84), 18.62 (4.84), 14.90 (4.40)
Zn ^{II} -Zn ^{II}	23.26 (5.54), 21.60 (5.52)	19.08 (4.85), 14.99 (4.33), 14.18 (4.30)

Table S3 Correlation table for a change in symmetry from D_{4h} to D_{2h} , C_{2v} , C_{2h} and C_s .

Molecular Symmetry				
D_{4h}	D_{2h}	C_{2v}	C_{2h}	C_s
a_{1g}	a_g	a_1	a_g	a'
a_{2g}	b_{1g}	a_2	b_g	a''
b_{1g}	a_g	a_1	a_g	a'
b_{2g}	b_{1g}	a_2	b_g	a''
e_g	b_{2g}	b_1	b_g	a''
	b_{3g}	b_2	a_g	a'
a_{1u}	a_u	a_2	a_u	a''
a_{2u}	b_{1u}	a_1	b_u	a'
b_{1u}	a_u	a_2	a_u	a''
b_{2u}	b_{1u}	a_1	b_u	a'
e_u	b_{2u}	b_2	b_u	a'
	b_{3u}	b_1	a_u	a''

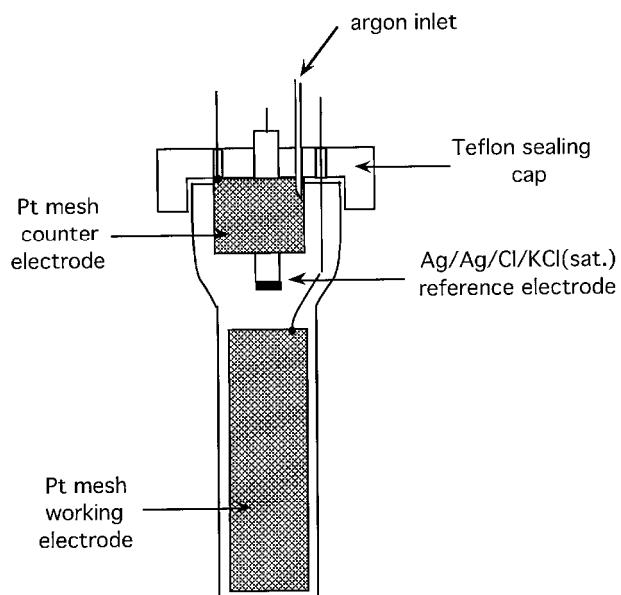


Fig. S1 Schematic representation of the UV-Vis spectroelectrochemical cell.

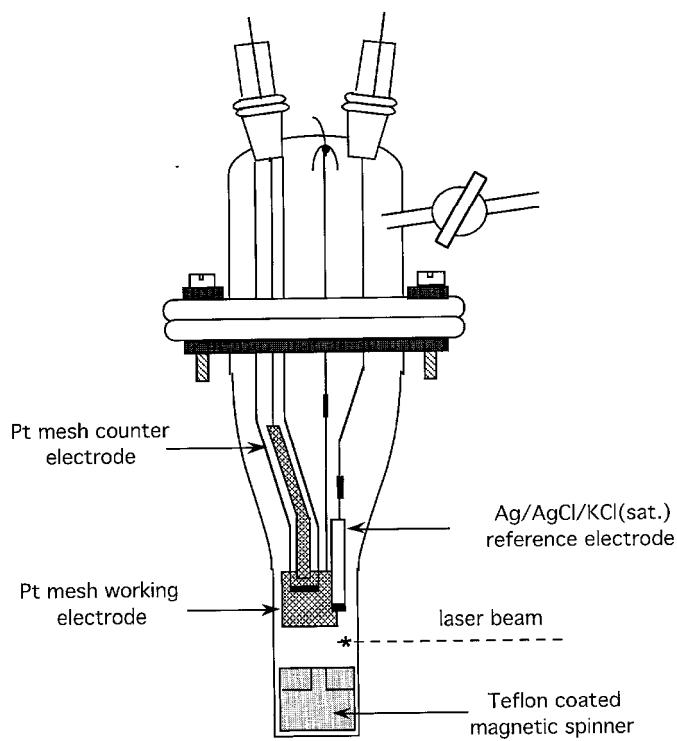


Fig. S2(a) Spectroelectrochemical Raman cell.

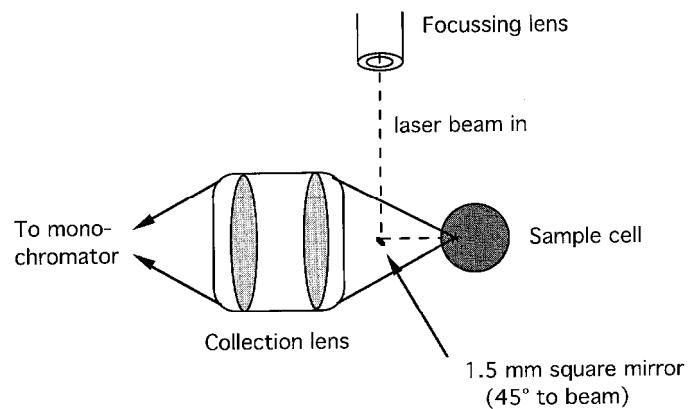


Fig. S2(b) Backscattering arrangement of the spectroelectrochemical Raman cell.

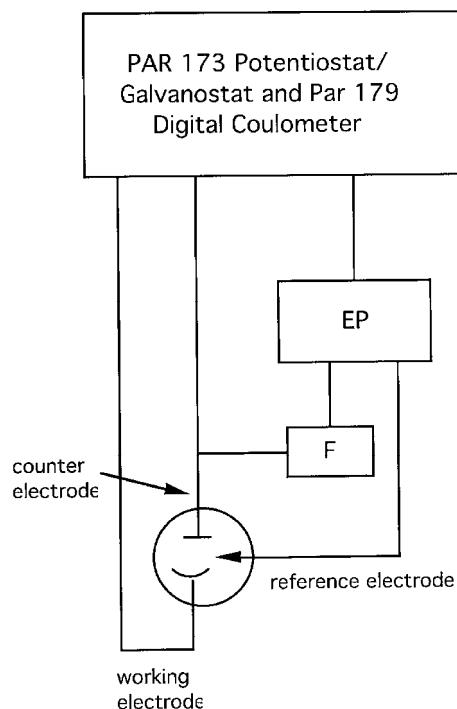


Fig. S2(c) Schematic representation of the electrochemical setup for bulk electrolysis. EP = electrometer probe and F = electrical filter.

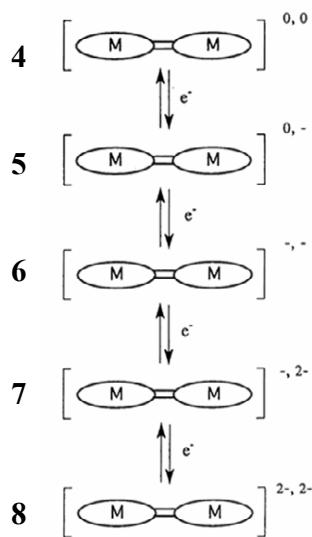


Fig. S3 The four electron transfer processes for bis-porphyrin complexes (drawn here in an abbreviated depiction), either in the free-base form or containing metal ions such as Mn(II), Cu(II) or Zn(II).

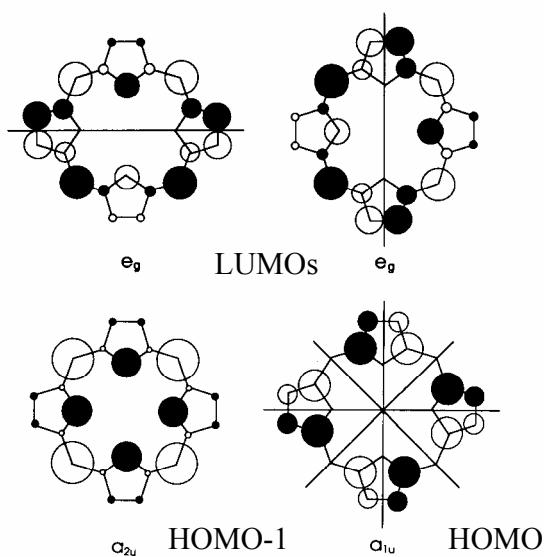


Fig. S4 Gouterman's four orbital model for simple porphyrin. Schematic representation of the two highest occupied molecular orbitals (HOMOs: a_{1u} and a_{2u}) and a degenerate pair of lowest unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMOs). Reproduced from reference 12.

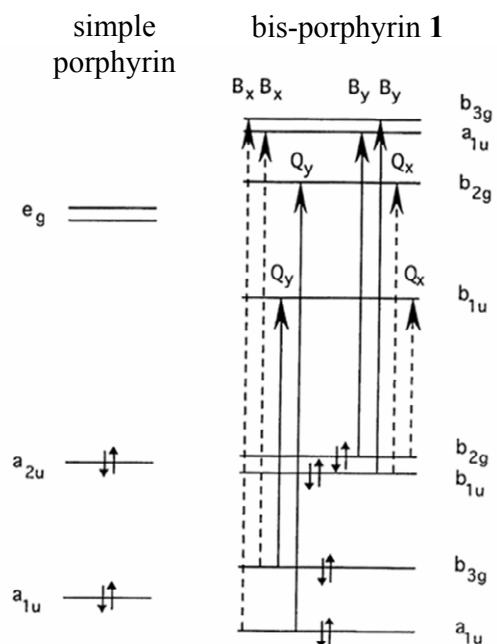


Fig. S5 Molecular orbital diagram and allowed transitions of simple porphyrin and free-base bis-porphyrin **1** as determined by extended Hückel calculations. Solid arrows represent y -polarised transitions and dashed arrows represent x -polarised transitions.