

# Synthesis and Characterization of Metal-Centered, Six-Membered, Mixed-Valent, Heterometallic Wheels of Iron, Manganese, and Indium\*\*

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Dedicated to Professor Helmut Hartung on the occasion of his 70th birthday

**Abstract:** Heptanuclear metal-centered, six-membered, mixed-valent, heterometallic wheels **1–3** of iron, manganese, and indium were prepared in a one-pot reaction from *N*-benzyl-diethanolamine ( $H_2L^1$ ), cesium carbonate,  $[PPh_4]_2[MnCl_4]$ , and  $FeCl_3$  or  $InCl_3$ . All three complexes were characterized by the combination of elemental analysis, FAB mass spectroscopy, X-ray diffrac-

tion and cyclic voltammetry. and in the case of **1** additionally by Mössbauer spectroscopy. In **1**, four  $Mn^{II}$  ions in the

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periphery are arranged in pairs alternating with one  $Fe^{III}$  ion each, with an  $Fe^{III}$  ion located in the center. In **2**, three  $Mn^{II}$  ions alternate with three  $In^{III}$  ions, whereas in **3**, four  $In^{III}$  ions are arranged in pairs and alternate with one  $Mn^{II}$  ion each. In **2** and **3** an  $Mn^{II}$  ion is encapsulated in the center.

## Introduction

After the discovery of single-molecule magnets (SMMs),<sup>[1]</sup> synthetic chemists met the challenge to develop new high-spin oligonuclear transition-metal complexes. As a result, numerous homonuclear metallic wheels have been report-

ed.<sup>[2]</sup> However, the chemistry of heterometallic wheels is still in its infancy. So far only carboxylate ligand systems are known to form heterometallic wheels,<sup>[3]</sup> but recent theoretical studies suggest that heterometallic wheels may show interesting quantum-coherence phenomena.<sup>[4]</sup> Since homometallic complexes containing *N*-substituted diethanolamine ligands have been the main source for new SMMs,<sup>[5]</sup> it is therefore desirable to develop a method for the synthesis of heterometallic *N*-substituted diethanolamine complexes of various nuclearities and structural motifs.

Previously, we reported on the synthesis of the anionic and neutral mixed-valent manganese wheels  $\{Mn^{II}_C[Mn^{III}_3Mn^{II}_3Cl_6(L^1)_6]\}^-$  ( $H_2L^1 = N$ -benzyl-diethanolamine) and  $\{Mn^{II}_C[Mn^{II}_2Mn^{III}_4Cl_6(L^2)_6]\}$  ( $H_2L^2 = N$ -*n*-butyl-diethanolamine), respectively.<sup>[6,7]</sup> We also observed that the neutral  $\{Mn_7\}$  is ferromagnetically coupled, resulting in a high-spin ground state, and exhibits SMM behavior as well as quantum tunneling of the magnetization.<sup>[7]</sup> This exciting result prompted us to generate new mixed-valent, metal-centered, heptanuclear, six-membered heterometallic anionic and neutral wheels, containing paramagnetic  $Fe^{III}$  or diamagnetic  $In^{III}$  in addition to  $Mn^{II}$  ions. Herein, we report the successful construction and characterization of the heterometallic wheels  $[PPh_4]\{Fe^{III}_C[Fe^{III}_2Mn^{II}_4Cl_6(L^1)_6]\}$  (**1**),  $[PPh_4]\{Mn^{II}_C[Mn^{III}_3In^{III}_3Cl_6(L^1)_6]\}$  (**2**), and  $\{Mn^{II}_C[Mn^{II}_2In^{III}_4Cl_6(L^1)_6]\}$  (**3**).

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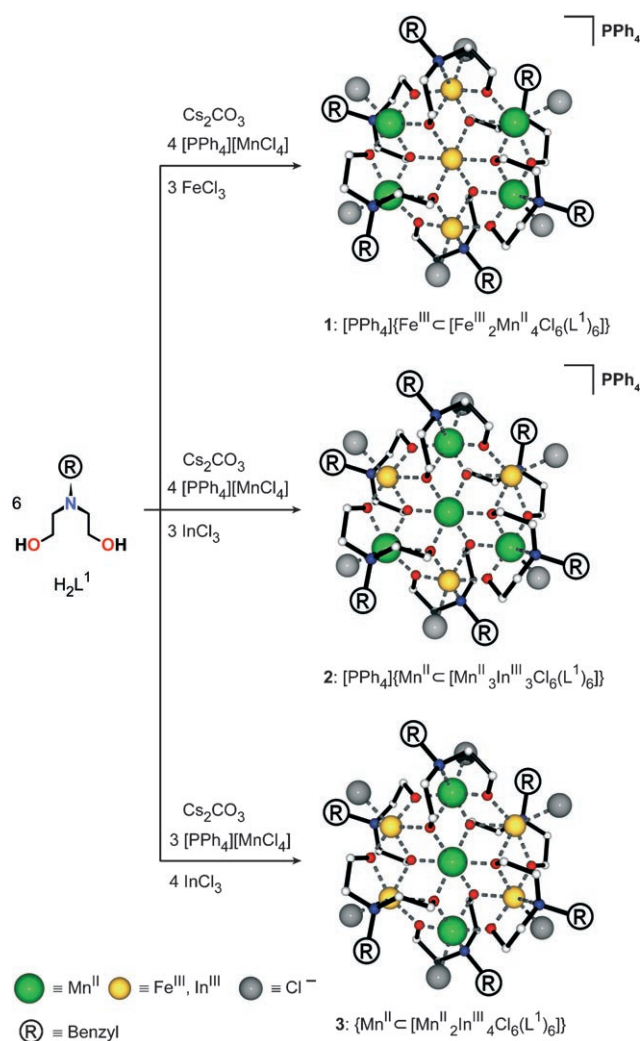
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## Results and Discussion

The heterometallic wheels **1–3** can be prepared conveniently in a straightforward one-pot reaction (Scheme 1). For this



Scheme 1. Synthesis of heterometallic wheels **1–3**.

purpose, *N*-benzyl diethanolamine ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}^1$ ) was deprotonated with cesium carbonate in acetonitrile at room temperature. Subsequent addition of a clear solution of a mixture of four equivalents of  $[\text{PPh}_4][\text{MnCl}_4]$  and three equivalents of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  resulted in a pale-yellow reaction mixture, which changed to brown-yellow while being stirred for seven days. Filtration of this mixture and further workup of the filtrate afforded the anionic wheel **1** in a moderate yield. The anionic indium–manganese wheel **2** was obtained similarly, only by replacing  $\text{FeCl}_3$  with  $\text{InCl}_3$ . On the other hand, the neutral indium–manganese wheel **3** resulted from the addition of a solution of a 3:4 mixture of  $[\text{PPh}_4]_2[\text{MnCl}_4]$  and  $\text{InCl}_3$  in acetonitrile to the deprotonated ligand and followed by workup of the resulting violet-gray suspension. In all cases

one has to follow carefully the procedures given in the Experimental Section.

All three complexes were characterized by elemental analysis, FAB mass spectrometry, cyclic voltammetry, single-crystal X-ray diffraction and in the case of **1** Mössbauer spectroscopy. In the solid state under  $\text{N}_2$  at ambient temperature, **1–3** are stable for prolonged periods of time, while they decompose at around  $200^\circ\text{C}$ . All these compounds are soluble in THF,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , and DMF. The mass spectra indicated that the anionic wheels **1** and **2** remained unchanged even in solution for more than two weeks. However, the neutral wheel **3** decomposed partially in solution after two weeks, resulting in the formation of an all-indium wheel  $[\text{In}^{\text{III}}_6\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6]$ , as identified by mass spectrometry. Therefore, due to the long time necessary for growing crystals suitable for X-ray analysis, instead of pure **3**, inevitably only pink-gray crystals composed of {54% **3**·46%  $[\text{In}^{\text{III}}_6\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6]$ ·3.5  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ } could be isolated.

The molecular structures of **1–3** were determined by low-temperature X-ray crystal structure analyses.<sup>[8–11]</sup> In principle, the anionic wheels **1** and **2**, and the neutral wheel **3** show the same structure. Both **1** and **2** crystallize in the triclinic space group  $P\bar{1}$ , with the unit cells consisting of two independent molecules situated on crystallographic inversion centers. Due to the high molecular symmetry of **1**, the X-ray structure does not allow us to distinguish between  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  sites. However, the location of the metal ions given for **1** is in accordance with the results obtained from cyclic voltammetry and Mössbauer spectroscopy, which in turn resulted in the best refinement values. The  $\{\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}\text{C}[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}_4\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6]\}^-$  ion (**1**<sup>−</sup>) is a  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$ -centered wheel and consists of two  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and four  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  ions located in the corners of a regular hexagon (Figure 1); tetraphenylphosphonium is the counterion.

The **1**<sup>−</sup> ion possesses a crystallographically imposed inversion symmetry. Each peripheral iron and manganese atom

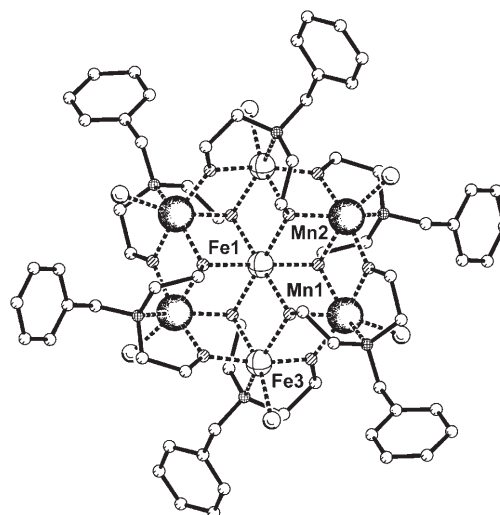


Figure 1. Pluton presentation of the molecular structure of **1**<sup>−</sup> with the numbering of the metal centers. Mn: dots, Fe: cross, C: shade, N: net, O: diagonal, Cl: segment. H atoms and solvent molecules omitted for clarity.

exhibits a distorted octahedral coordination geometry composed of one nitrogen, one chloride, two  $\mu_2$ -, and two  $\mu_3$ -oxygen donors. The doubly deprotonated ( $L^1$ )<sup>2-</sup> ligands act as tridentate clamps, which link one Fe<sup>III</sup> and two Mn<sup>II</sup> in the periphery each through  $\mu_2$ - and  $\mu_3$ -oxygen atoms. In other words, the three Fe<sup>III</sup> ions are located along the diameter of the wheel, and in the periphery pairs of Mn<sup>II</sup> ions alternate with Fe<sup>III</sup> ions. The central Fe<sup>III</sup> ion has a distorted octahedral coordination with respect to the six inner  $\mu_3$ -O donors (Fe1–O distances: 2.203(4)–2.213(5) Å).

When the mass spectrum of [PPh<sub>4</sub>][Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>2</sub>Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] (**1**) is compared with its all-manganese counterpart [NEt<sub>4</sub>][Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>3</sub>Mn<sup>III</sup><sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>],<sup>[6]</sup> the peaks of **1** increase distinctly by three units with respect to the corresponding peaks of the all-manganese wheel. However, the isotopic distribution for Fe and Mn differs slightly (Figure 2).

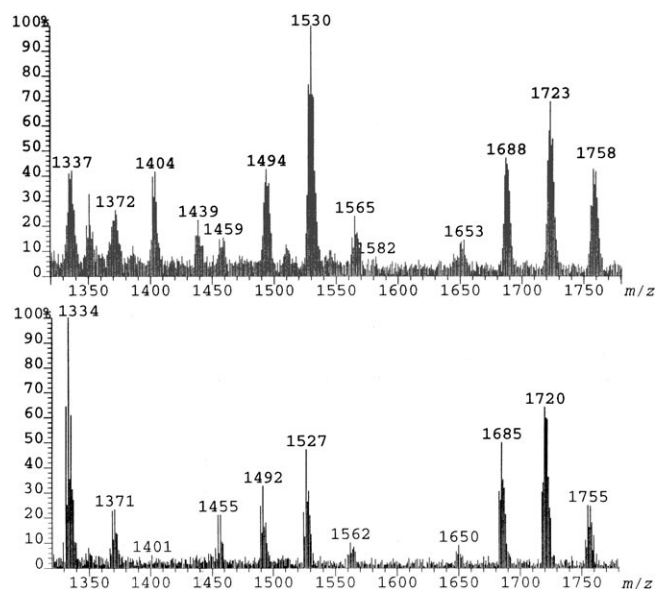


Figure 2. FAB-mass spectra of **1** (top) and [NEt<sub>4</sub>][Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>3</sub>Mn<sup>III</sup><sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] (bottom).

The cyclic voltammogram (CV) of **1** exhibits four quasi-reversible oxidation waves, each involving a one-electron-transfer process corresponding to the Mn<sup>II</sup>/Mn<sup>III</sup> redox couples (Figure 3, Table 1). The peak current of all four waves increases linearly with the square root of the scan speed, indicating that the oxidation reactions are diffusion controlled processes. This result suggests that in **1** all the four redox-active Mn<sup>II</sup> ions are located at the periphery of the ring and one Fe<sup>III</sup> ion is placed at the center. To ensure that the fourth wave does not result from an oxidation of one of the peripheral Fe<sup>III</sup> ions, the CV of the all-iron wheel [Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>6</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>[21]</sup> was recorded under identical conditions as control experiment. However, it did not give any Fe<sup>III</sup>/Fe<sup>IV</sup> oxidation waves in the given range. It is worth mentioning that in multisweep experiments under thin-layer conditions,

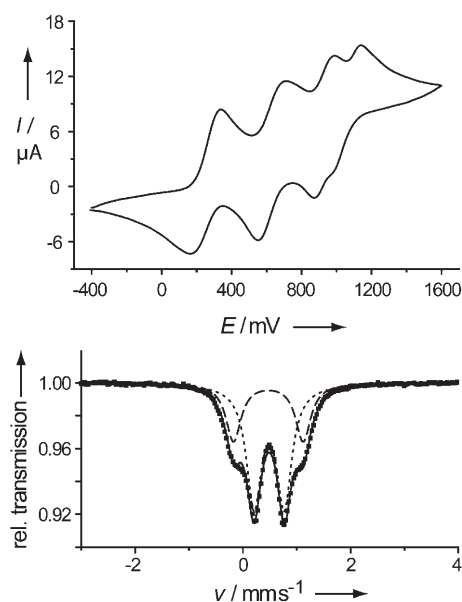


Figure 3. Top: Cyclic voltammogram of **1**,  $T=20^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\nu=100\text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . Bottom: Mössbauer spectrum of **1**,  $T=-193^\circ\text{C}$ , squares: experiment, solid: simulation, dotted: peripheral Fe<sup>III</sup>, dashed: central Fe<sup>III</sup>.

Table 1. Half-wave potentials ( $E_{1/2}$  vs. NHE) of **1–3**.

	$E_{1/2}$ [mV]			
	I	II	III	IV
<b>1</b>	260	636	930	1063
<b>2</b>	205	541	742	–
<b>3</b>	330	531	–	–

all four redox waves of **1** revealed complete reversibility over several cycles.

The Mössbauer spectrum of **1** at  $-193^\circ\text{C}$  and  $B=0\text{ T}$  exhibits two quadrupole doublets with an area ratio of 1:2 for the three Fe<sup>III</sup> ions (Figure 3). The doublet with a quadrupole splitting of  $\Delta E_Q=0.56(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$ , an isomeric shift of  $\delta=0.49(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$ , and a linewidth of  $\Gamma=0.34(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$  is consistent with the two peripheral high-spin Fe<sup>III</sup> species (relative intensity: 67(3)%), whereas the doublet with the quadrupole splitting of  $\Delta E_Q=1.29(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$ , the isomeric shift of  $\delta=0.47(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$ , and a linewidth of  $\Gamma=0.34(3)\text{ mm s}^{-1}$  corresponds to the central high-spin Fe<sup>III</sup> species (relative intensity: 33(3)%). Thus, the Mössbauer data totally match the proposed placement of the iron ions in structure **1**.

The structure of the **2**<sup>-</sup> ion (molecule symmetry  $C_3$ ) is similar to that of centrosymmetric **1**<sup>-</sup>. In **2**<sup>-</sup> the six-membered ring consists of three Mn<sup>II</sup> and three In<sup>III</sup> ions chelated by one nitrogen, one chloride, two  $\mu_2$ -, and two  $\mu_3$ -oxygen donors. Unequivocal localization of the Mn<sup>II</sup> and In<sup>III</sup> ions in **2**<sup>-</sup> by X-ray analysis is not possible. Each metal site in the ring is composed of 50% Mn<sup>II</sup> and 50% In<sup>III</sup> ions (Figure 1S in the Supporting Information). However, the central metal was unambiguously characterized as Mn<sup>II</sup>. It has a distorted octahedral coordination and is surrounded by six inner  $\mu_3$ -O

donors. The Mn1–O distances (2.212(4)–2.241(4) Å) are in the range commonly found for six-coordinate Mn<sup>II</sup>-centered wheels.<sup>[6,7]</sup>

The crystals of **1** and **2** are homogeneous, whereas **3** co-crystallizes with [In<sup>III</sup><sub>6</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>].<sup>[8]</sup> The mixed crystal which contains the two neutral complexes share a single site on an inversion center and thus exhibit crystallographically imposed centrosymmetry. In **3**, an Mn<sup>II</sup> ion occupies the center of the ring in a distorted octahedral coordination, while two Mn<sup>II</sup> and four In<sup>III</sup> ions, chelated by one nitrogen, one chloride, two μ<sub>2</sub>-, and two μ<sub>3</sub>-oxygen donors, form a six-membered ring. The peripheral Mn<sup>II</sup> and In<sup>III</sup> ions in **3** are distributed over all the metal sites. However, with a significant preference of two positions out of the six being occupied by Mn<sup>II</sup> ions (distribution of Mn<sup>II</sup> over the three independent ring positions is 26:14:14), suggesting the three Mn<sup>II</sup> ions are located along the diameter of the wheel. The distances between the central Mn<sup>II</sup> ion and the inner μ<sub>3</sub>-O donor atoms range from 2.330(3) to 2.405(3) Å and are significantly longer than those in **2**<sup>-</sup> as well as in other Mn<sup>II</sup>-centered wheels.<sup>[6,7]</sup> This might be due to superposition of the two molecular wheels **3** and {In<sub>6</sub>}, which in turn resulted in only an average distance for each Mn–O bond. The second component of the crystal structure is composed of [In<sup>III</sup><sub>6</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] and forms basically the same structure as **3**, but featuring exclusively In<sup>III</sup> ions in the six-membered ring and an empty ring center (Figure 2S in the Supporting Information).

Complex **2** exhibits three quasi-reversible waves (Figure 4, Table 1) that are attributed to the subsequent oxidation of three Mn<sup>II</sup> ions located at the periphery of the ring. Similar results have already been observed for mixed-

valent {Mn<sub>7</sub>}<sup>-</sup> ionic wheels, in which the three Mn<sup>II</sup> and three Mn<sup>III</sup> ions are alternately positioned in the ring.<sup>[6]</sup> Analogously, we also favor an identical configuration for **2**. This arrangement is also supported by Coulomb's law.

The CV of **3** typically exhibits two quasi-reversible one-electron Mn<sup>II</sup>/Mn<sup>III</sup> redox waves. This is consistent with two Mn<sup>II</sup> ions being located at the rim. The *E*<sub>1/2</sub> values of **3** are more positive than those of the neutral complex {Mn<sub>7</sub>}.<sup>[7]</sup> As expected, the central Mn<sup>II</sup> ions in both **2** and **3** did not undergo oxidation in the given potential range.<sup>[6,7,12]</sup> In successive-scan experiments, all the redox waves of **2** and **3** showed complete reversibility over several cycles. The large potential displacement (several hundred mV) between the individual oxidation reactions indicates a strong electronic coupling in solution between the crystallographically equivalent manganese ions.

## Conclusion

In summary, we have presented new heterometallic, heptanuclear, metal-centered, six-membered, mixed-valent anionic wheels [PPh<sub>4</sub>]{Fe<sup>III</sup>}[Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>2</sub>Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] (**1**) and [PPh<sub>4</sub>]{Mn<sup>II</sup>}[Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>3</sub>In<sup>III</sup><sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] (**2**), and neutral wheel {Mn<sup>II</sup>}[Mn<sup>II</sup><sub>2</sub>In<sup>III</sup><sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>] (**3**). The structures of the complexes **1–3** were solved by the combination of FAB-mass spectrometry, single-crystal X-ray analysis, cyclic voltammetry, and Mössbauer spectroscopy. In **1**, four Mn<sup>II</sup> ions in the periphery are arranged in pairs alternating with one Fe<sup>III</sup> ion each, whereas in **2**, three Mn<sup>II</sup> ions alternate with three In<sup>III</sup> ions and in **3** four In<sup>III</sup> ions are arranged in pairs alternating with one Mn<sup>II</sup> ion each. The center of **1** is occupied by an Fe<sup>III</sup> ion, whereas in the center of **2** and **3**, an Mn<sup>II</sup> ion is located. The new method can be used conveniently to generate a variety of heterometallic wheels with predetermined metal ratios, previously not possible.

## Experimental Section

**Materials and methods:** All reactions and manipulations were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere by using standard Schlenk techniques. HPLC grade solvents were obtained from ACROS and used without further purification. Infrared spectra were obtained from a Perkin–Elmer 1620 FT-IR spectrometer equipped with a 16PC FT-IR. FAB-MS spectra were recorded with a Micromass ZAB-Spec spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed with an EA 1110 CHNS-Microautomat. Cyclic voltammetric measurements were carried out using an EG&G Princeton Applied Research (PAR) model 264 A potentiostat coupled with a conventional three-electrode cell-assembly consisting of a glassy-carbon working electrode, a platinum-wire reference electrode, and a platinum-rod counter electrode. Measurements were made with approximate 10<sup>-3</sup> M solutions of the complexes in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> with 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate as a supporting electrolyte. Ferrocene was used as an internal standard [*E*<sub>1/2</sub>(F<sub>2</sub>/F<sub>1</sub>) = 410 mV vs. NHE].<sup>[13]</sup> The reversibility of the voltammograms and the number of electrons involved in the redox processes were determined as described in the literature.<sup>[14]</sup> The Mössbauer spectrum was recorded by a Mössbauer Cryostat, Oxford Instruments, equipped with a DTC2 temperature controller. A <sup>57</sup>Co in a Rh-matrix was used as the Mössbauer source and an alpha-iron foil was

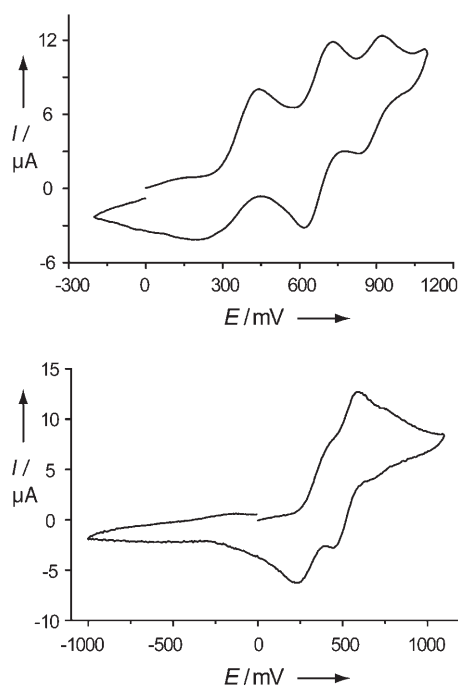


Figure 4. Cyclic voltammograms of **2** (top) and **3** (bottom) *T* = 20 °C, *ν* = 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.

used for calibration. *N*-Benzylidethanolamine ( $H_2L^1$ ) and  $[PPh_4]_2[MnCl_4]$  were prepared according to literature methods.<sup>[15]</sup>

**[PPh<sub>4</sub>][Fe<sup>III</sup>C[Fe<sup>III</sup>Mn<sup>IV</sup>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]] (1):** Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.37 g, 4.20 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>1</sup> (0.68 g, 3.50 mmol) were stirred in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (75 mL) for 2 h at 20 °C. A solution of  $[PPh_4]_2[MnCl_4]$  (2.03 g, 2.31 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (0.28 g, 1.73 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL) was added to this suspension. Immediately, the color of the mixture changed to pale yellow, and the mixture was stirred for a further 7 d. During this time, the color changed to brown-yellow. The reaction mixture was filtered through a cannula. The CH<sub>3</sub>CN filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, the resulting dry residue was treated with THF (50 mL), and insoluble PPh<sub>4</sub>Cl was removed by filtration. The remaining solution was concentrated to about 2 mL and treated with Et<sub>2</sub>O (25 mL). Brown-yellow microcrystals were collected, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.56 g (47%). X-ray quality crystals were grown (8 d) from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O (1:8 v/v) solvent mixture at -20 °C. IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3421, 3049, 3014, 2855, 1495, 1437, 1350, 1261, 1077, 981, 907, 803, 761, 724, 704, 668, 614, 526 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (FAB, *m*-NBA): *m/z* (%): 2061 (8) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 1758 (45) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1723 (65) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>5</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1688 (50) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1530 (100) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1494 (45) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1404 (45) [Mn<sub>3</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1337 (45) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1246 (70) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1118 (60) [Mn<sub>4</sub>FeCl<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 835 (95) [Mn<sub>3</sub>FeCl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>90</sub>H<sub>110</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Mn<sub>4</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>12</sub>P·H<sub>2</sub>O: C 51.01, H 5.34, N 3.98; found C 50.92, H 5.37, N 3.97.

**[PPh<sub>4</sub>][Mn<sup>II</sup>C[Mn<sup>III</sup>In<sup>III</sup>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]] (2):** Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.65 g, 2.02 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>1</sup> (0.33 g, 1.70 mmol) were stirred in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (50 mL) at 20 °C for 2 h. A solution of  $[PPh_4]_2[MnCl_4]$  (0.99 g, 1.13 mmol) and InCl<sub>3</sub> (0.19 g, 0.85 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL) was added to this suspension. Immediately, the color of the mixture changed to pale pink, and stirring was continued for 5 d. During this time, the color changed to red-brown. Further workup of this mixture, as in **1**, afforded red-brown microcrystalline **2**. Yield: 0.16 g (24%). Single crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of Et<sub>2</sub>O into a solution of **2** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> after 10 d. IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3439, 3055, 3018, 2856, 1620, 1494, 1435, 1347, 1299, 1104, 1074, 1045, 982, 901, 757, 702, 613, 525 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (FAB, *m*-NBA): *m/z* (%): 2274 (7) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 2238 (16) [M-Cl]<sup>+</sup>, 1936 (25) [Mn<sub>4</sub>In<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1900 (65) [Mn<sub>4</sub>In<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>5</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1865 (55) [Mn<sub>4</sub>In<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1741 (40) [Mn<sub>4</sub>In<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1519 (35) [Mn<sub>4</sub>In<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 1177 (65) [Mn<sub>4</sub>InCl<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 834 (100) [Mn<sub>4</sub>Cl(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>90</sub>H<sub>110</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>In<sub>3</sub>Mn<sub>4</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>12</sub>P: C 47.50, H 4.87, N 3.69; found C 47.75, H 4.40, N 3.62.

**[Mn<sup>II</sup>C[Mn<sup>III</sup>In<sup>III</sup>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]] (3):** H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>1</sup> (0.33 g, 1.70 mmol) was added to a suspension of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.65 g, 2.02 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (50 mL) at 20 °C. After stirring the suspension for 2 h, a solution of  $[PPh_4]_2[MnCl_4]$  (0.75 g, 0.85 mmol) and InCl<sub>3</sub> (0.25 g, 1.13 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL) was added. The color of the mixture changed to pale pink, and was stirred for a further 7 d. During this time, the color of the suspension changed to violet-gray. The suspension was filtered and the residue was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL). The extract was concentrated (2 mL), and treated with Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL). The precipitate was collected, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), dried in vacuo, and recrystallized by diffusion of pentane into the solution of **3** in CHCl<sub>3</sub> to give violet-gray microcrystals of **3**·CHCl<sub>3</sub> within 4 d. Yield: 0.24 g (39%). IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3439, 2968, 1915, 2856, 1620, 1380, 1258, 1089, 1045, 975 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (FAB, *m*-NBA): *m/z* (%): 1996 (65) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 1960 (80) [M-Cl]<sup>+</sup>, 1337 (100) [In<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>90</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>In<sub>4</sub>Mn<sub>3</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>12</sub>·CHCl<sub>3</sub>: C 37.54, H 4.27, N 3.92; found C 37.61, H 4.01, N 3.94.

Pink-gray crystals composed of [54% **3**·46% [In<sup>III</sup>Cl<sub>6</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>6</sub>]]·3.5 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, suitable for X-ray structure analysis were obtained after two weeks by slow vapor diffusion of pentane into a solution of **3**·CHCl<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

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- [8] Suitable single crystals were embedded in protective perfluoro polyether oil and transferred to the cold gas stream of the diffractometer. Data were collected on a Bruker-Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer using  $\text{MoK}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ), and a graphite monochromator. A semi-empirical absorption correction based on multiple scans (SADABS)<sup>[16]</sup> was performed for  $1 \cdot 6.08 \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and the mixed crystal  $\{54\% \text{ 3} \cdot 46\% [\text{In}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6]\} \cdot 3.5 \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , while a Scalepack absorption correction was applied for  $2 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ . The structures were solved by direct methods, full-matrix least-squares refinements were carried out on  $F^2$  using either SHELXTL NT 6.12<sup>[17]</sup> or SHELXL-97.<sup>[18]</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. All hydrogen atoms in **1**, **2**, and **3** [ $\text{In}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6$ ] were geometrically positioned using a riding model with their isotropic displacement parameters being  $1.5 U(\text{eq})$  of the preceding C or N atom. Both the  $\text{PPh}_4^+$  ion and the  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  molecules in **1** are disordered. Two alternative sites for the  $\text{PPh}_4^+$  ion were refined to give occupancies of 78.3(5) and 21.7(5)%, respectively. The crystal structure contained approximately 6.08 molecules of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  spread over 11 different crystallographic sites. The remaining significant residual electron density maxima were to be found in close proximity of the disordered structure parts and indicate the presence of further disorder, which could not be resolved in a reasonable way. A number of restraints (SAME, DFIX, SIMU, ISOR) were applied in the treatment of the disorder. The  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  molecule in **2** was disordered, and two alternative sites were refined to 50:50%. An Mn/In atom disorder model with 50% occupation on each metal position of the six-membered ring was proposed. One  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  atom was found in the center of the ring. In the mixed crystal of (54% **3**·46% [ $\text{In}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6$ ])·3.5  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , the ratio of 54:46 was initially derived on the basis of the refined occupancy of 54% for the central  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  ion and proved to be consistent with a total of 4.92  $\text{In}^{\text{III}}$  and 1.08  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  ions in the ring resulting from a subsequent refinement of the ring atom occupancy factors. A number of crystals examined showed the same behavior with slightly different ratios of the two components. Two of the phenyl rings of the ligand were disordered with two alternative orientations of 57(2) and 43(2)% occupancy. The  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solvate molecules were also disordered. While one of the symmetrically independent  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  molecules occupied two alternative sites (64(2):36(2)%), the remaining solvate molecules were distributed over three sites with a resulting total occupancy of 75% (34.5(4):19.3(4):21.2(4)%). SAME and ISOR restraints were applied in their refinement. CCDC-285291 (**1**), CCDC-279215 (**2**), and CCDC-279216 (**3**) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).
- [9] Crystallographic data for  $1 \cdot 6.08 \text{ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\text{C}_{96.08}\text{H}_{122.16}\text{Cl}_{18.16}\text{Fe}_3\text{Mn}_4\text{N}_6\text{O}_{12}\text{P}$ ):  $M_r = 2614.99 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ,  $T = 100(2) \text{ K}$ , crystal size  $0.35 \times 0.17 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}^3$ , triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $a = 15.934(3)$ ,  $b = 16.300(1)$ ,  $c = 26.370(3) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 86.38(1)$ ,  $\beta = 88.28(2)$ ,  $\gamma = 61.50(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 6066.9(14) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.446 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\mu = 1.231 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ ,  $F(000) = 2677$ ,  $6.34 < 2\theta < 51.36^\circ$ , min/max transmission = 0.712/1.000, 78 848 collected reflections, 22 151 unique reflections [ $R(\text{int}) = 0.0511$ ], 13 516 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 1540 parameters,  $R1 = 0.0921$  [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ],  $wR2 = 0.2872$  (all data), largest diff. peak/hole  $1.709/-0.926 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ .
- [10] Crystallographic data for  $2 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{C}_{93}\text{H}_{129}\text{Cl}_8\text{In}_3\text{Mn}_4\text{N}_6\text{O}_{18.5}\text{P}$ ):  $M_r = 2505.81 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ,  $T = 173(2) \text{ K}$ , crystal size  $0.35 \times 0.25 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}^3$ , triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $a = 16.5135(4)$ ,  $b = 18.0023(3)$ ,  $c = 22.2813(6) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 101.475(1)$ ,  $\beta = 101.127(1)$ ,  $\gamma = 114.518(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 5617.0(2) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.482 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\mu = 1.306 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ ,  $F(000) = 2550$ ,  $5.02 < 2\theta < 50.04^\circ$ , min/max transmission = 0.6579/0.8282, 37 346 measured reflections, 19 628 unique reflections, 12 996 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 1216 parameters,  $R1 = 0.0619$  [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ],  $wR2 = 0.1979$  (all data), largest diff. peak/hole  $1.334/-0.869 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ .
- [11] Crystallographic data for 54% **3**·46% [ $\text{In}^{\text{III}}\text{Cl}_6(\text{L}^1)_6$ ])·3.5  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\text{C}_{69.50}\text{H}_{93.50}\text{Cl}_{16.50}\text{In}_{4.92}\text{Mn}_{1.62}\text{N}_6\text{O}_{12}$ ):  $M_r = 2443.61 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ,  $T = 100(2) \text{ K}$ , crystal size  $0.18 \times 0.18 \times 0.08 \text{ mm}^3$ , monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$ ,  $a = 16.936(2)$ ,  $b = 16.966(2)$ ,  $c = 16.234(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 90$ ,  $\beta = 107.604(8)$ ,  $\gamma = 90^\circ$ ,  $V = 4446.2(9) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.825 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\mu = 2.031 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ ,  $F(000) = 2421$ ,  $6.54 < 2\theta < 54.20^\circ$ , min/max transmission = 0.814/1.000, 104 036 collected reflections, 9796 unique reflections [ $R(\text{int}) = 0.0837$ ], 7116 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 678 parameters,  $R1 = 0.0352$  [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ],  $wR2 = 0.0776$  (all data), largest diff. peak/hole  $0.874/-0.817 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ .
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