

Figure 1. ^6Li NMR spectra of 0.1 M $[^6\text{Li},^{15}\text{N}]\text{LDA}$ in 3:1 THF/pentane at $-115\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$: (A) with 0.5 equiv of $[^6\text{Li}]\text{pinacolate}$; (B) with 0.4 equiv of $[^6\text{Li}]\text{LiCl}$; (C) with 1.5 equiv of $[^6\text{Li}]\text{LiCl}$. The spins of ^6Li and ^{15}N are 1 and $1/2$, respectively.

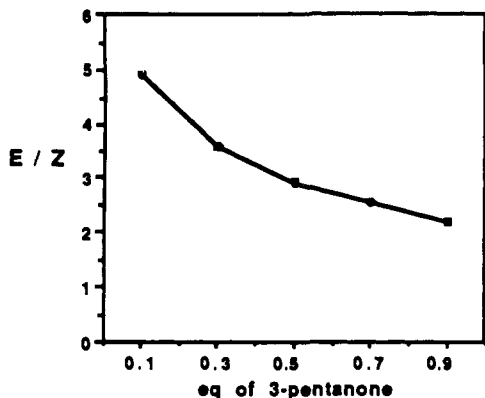


Figure 2.

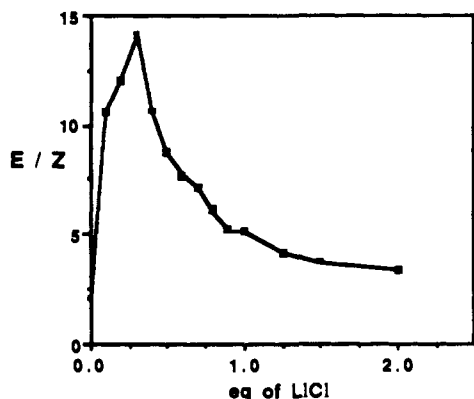


Figure 3.

with ketone enolates is both limited and structure dependent, but still may be of some practical consequence. The corresponding LDA/LiCl mixed aggregates are also observable and may have a substantial impact on the selectivity and reactivity of LDA. However, the approximate correlation of optimal concentrations of mixed aggregate **5** with maximal selectivities *must* be illusory; the continuously changing proportions of LDA, lithium enolate, and LiCl throughout the course of the enolization would result in a continuously changing structure distribution. Furthermore, studies of lithium 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidide reveal that added lithium salts can have a substantially greater (and more complex) influence on the structures and reactivities of highly hindered lithium amides.²⁰

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Support for a Dimer of Di- μ -oxo Dimers Model for the Photosystem II Manganese Aggregate. Synthesis and Properties of $[(\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2)_2(\text{tphpn})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$ ¹

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The task of elucidating the structure of the manganese aggregate in the oxygen-evolving complex of photosystem II (MnOEC), generally assumed to be the catalytic site of photosynthetic water oxidation, provides an interesting challenge for bioinorganic and biophysical chemists.²⁻⁶ Characteristics of this active-site complex include (i) a nuclearity of three or four manganese atoms, (ii) a broad low-field parallel polarization mode EPR absorption ($g_{\text{eff}} = 4.8$) at the S_1 oxidation level,⁴ (iii) multiline (19–21 lines, $g_{\text{eff}} = 2$) and $g_{\text{eff}} = 4.1$ EPR signals at the S_2 oxidation level,^{2,3} and (iv) at least two relatively short range Mn...Mn contacts (2.7 Å) as indicated by X-ray absorption spectroscopy.^{3,5,7} Furthermore, a peak in the Fourier transformed EXAFS data for MnOEC has been assigned to a 3.3-Å Mn...Mn interaction.^{5,7}

Complexes that contain the $[\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2]^{3+}$ core⁶ may be viewed as preliminary or "first-generation" models for the MnOEC because they possess Mn...Mn distances of 2.7 Å and 16-line EPR spectra. However, the aforementioned binuclear complexes are not fully

(1) Abbreviations used: tphpn = *N,N,N',N'*-tetrakis(2-pyridylmethyl)-2-hydroxypropane-1,3-diamine, MnOEC = manganese aggregate in the oxygen-evolving complex of Photosystem II, EXAFS = extended X-ray absorption fine structure, EPR = electron paramagnetic resonance.

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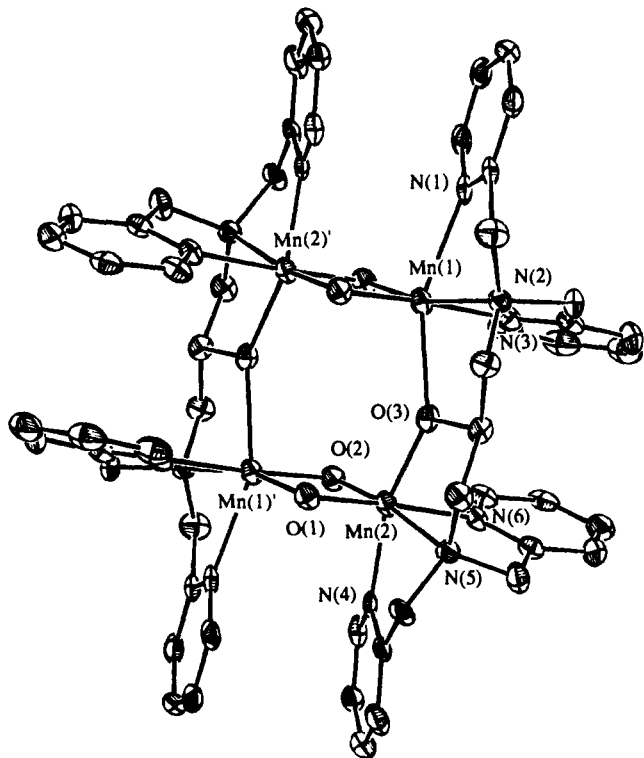


Figure 1. Structure of $[(\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2)_2(\text{tphpn})_2]^{4+}$ (**1**), showing the 50% probability thermal ellipsoids and atom-labeling scheme. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Primed atoms are related to unprimed ones by an inversion operation. Selected interatomic distances (Å) and angles (deg) are as follows: Mn(1)–O(1'), 1.821 (4); Mn(1)–O(2'), 1.838 (5); Mn(1)–O(3), 2.295 (5); Mn(1)–N(1), 2.297 (6); Mn(1)–N(2), 2.120 (5); Mn(1)–N(3), 2.045 (6); Mn(2)–O(1), 1.799 (4); Mn(2)–O(2), 1.782 (4); Mn(2)–O(3), 1.929 (5); Mn(2)–N(4), 2.030 (6); Mn(2)–N(5), 2.067 (5); Mn(2)–N(6), 2.053 (5); Mn(1)–Mn(2'), 2.654 (1); Mn(1)–Mn(2), 3.971 (2); Mn(1')–O(1)–Mn(2), 94.3 (2); Mn(1')–O(2)–Mn(2), 94.3 (2); Mn(1)–O(3)–Mn(2), 140.0 (2).

accurate mimics for the MnOEC, and we conjectured that one possible way to more closely match the properties of the native system would be to couple two such dimers together by use of a spanning polydentate ligand, thereby enforcing an interdimer interaction. Klein, Sauer, and co-workers have suggested that the MnOEC may consist of a dimer of di-oxo-bridged dimers.⁷ Here, we report the synthesis and properties of one such "dimer-of-dimers" structural type: $[(\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2)_2(\text{tphpn})_2]^{4+}$ (**1**). Complex **1** does indeed represent the first example of the target structural type mentioned above; a linked pair of $\{\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2\}^{3+}$ cores. The remarkable similarity between the parallel polarization mode EPR spectrum of **1** and that of the MnOEC S_1 state lends support to the notion that the latter possesses a "dimer-of-dimers"-type electronic structure.

Our initial studies with the heptadentate ligand tphpn, which have been described elsewhere,⁸ provided interesting tetranuclear structural types $[(\text{Mn}_2(\text{tphpn})(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{H}_2\text{O}))_2]^{4+}$ (**2**)^{8a} and $[\text{Mn}_4\text{O}_2(\text{tphpn})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3)_2]^{3+}$ (**3**),^{8b} but only recently have we discovered reaction conditions that yield a complex that contains an intimately bridged pair of $\{\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2\}^{3+}$ cores, as shown in Figure 1. Vapor diffusion of acetone into a MeCN solution of **3** under ambient conditions yielded a crystalline material, which, on the basis of spectral analysis (see below), was deduced to be distinct from **3**. Samples of **1** suitable for elemental analysis,⁹ EPR spectroscopic characterization, and X-ray studies¹⁰ were

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(9) Elemental analysis of $1(\text{ClO}_4)_4$. Calcd for $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{58}\text{Cl}_4\text{Mn}_4\text{N}_{12}\text{O}_{22}$: C, 40.82; H, 3.68; Cl, 8.93; Mn, 13.84; N, 10.58. Found: C, 40.62; H, 3.66; Cl, 8.89; Mn, 13.6; N, 10.53.

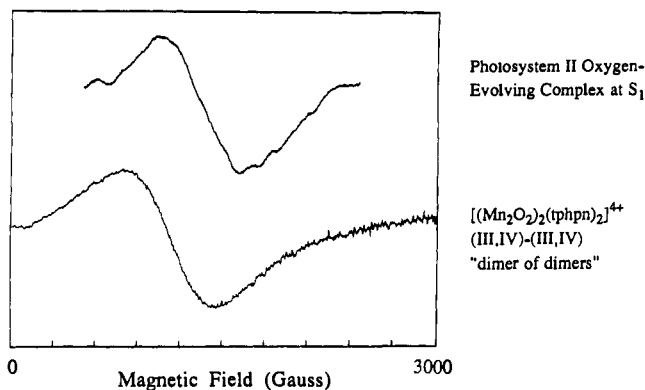


Figure 2. Top: Difference EPR spectrum of the spinach photosystem II S_1 state.⁴ Bottom: X-band ($\nu = 9.25$ GHz) EPR spectrum of $[(\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2)_2(\text{tphpn})_2]^{4+}$ in CH_3CN at 4.0 K employing parallel polarization geometry^{4,12} and the following spectrometer settings: microwave power, 22.5 mW; field modulation, 16 G; modulation frequency, 100 kHz.

obtained by recrystallization (CH_3CN) of material from the $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{acetone}$ reaction mixture. In the solid-state structure of $1(\text{ClO}_4)_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_3$, the cation, shown in Figure 1, resides on a crystallographic inversion center, and by inspection of the bond distances to Mn atoms it is apparent that the complex is a trapped mixed-valence species that is reasonably well-ordered in the crystal lattice. Charge considerations indicate that **1** consists of a pair of $\{\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}\text{Mn}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}_2\}^{3+}$ cores, and Mn–O_{oxo} bond distances require that Mn(1) and Mn(2) be assigned as Mn^{III} and Mn^{IV} ions, respectively.⁶ In contrast to the binding mode for tphpn in **2** and **3**, in which the tripodal termini of the ligand coordinate in a meridional fashion, in the structure of **1** the ligand binds in a facial manner.

Our observations indicate that the spectral properties of **1** are influenced by interactions between the two di-oxo-bridged dimers. For example, whereas compounds that contain a single $\{\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2\}^{3+}$ core have distinct visible features at 548–561 and 644–684 nm,⁶¹ complex **1** has a single broad shoulder at ~ 600 nm. In frozen CH_3CN solution, compound **1** is EPR-silent at X-band frequencies when the conventional (perpendicular polarization) spectrometer configuration is used at 77 K, in contrast to isolated binuclear species that display relatively intense 16-line spectra.⁶

Recently, Dexheimer et al. discovered⁴ an EPR signal associated with the Kok S_1 state¹¹ of photosystem II by using the parallel polarization spectrometer geometry.^{4,12} They proposed that this signal may arise from a low-lying $S = 1$ spin state. As we anticipated that compound **1** should have a low-lying $S = 1$ state,¹³

(10) X-ray analysis: Compound $1(\text{ClO}_4)_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_3$ crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, with $a = 13.605$ (4) Å, $b = 16.851$ (6) Å, $c = 15.445$ (5) Å, $\beta = 93.89$ (2)°, $V = 3533$ Å³, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.648$ g cm⁻³, and $Z = 2$. Data collection at 152 K out to 45° in 2θ using Mo $K\alpha$ radiation provided 3086 reflections with $I > 3\sigma(I)$. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by using 491 parameters to final R (R_w) values of 5.48% (6.48%).

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(13) It has been demonstrated that binuclear species containing the $\{\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_2\}^{3+}$ core have $S = 1/2$ ground states well separated from the first excited state.⁶ Thus at low temperature only the ground state is populated. For compound **1**, we speculated that perhaps in the low-temperature regime its magnetic properties could be modeled by an exchange interaction between two $S = 1/2$ dimers. This would yield overall $S = 0$ and $S = 1$ states of the tetranuclear complex, and if the alkoxide bridges provide for only relatively weak magnetic coupling, then the $S = 1$ state would certainly be low-lying. Support for this view of the electronic structure of **1** comes from preliminary magnetic susceptibility measurements. For example, at 60 K with a 5-kG applied magnetic field, compound **1** has a magnetic moment of 2.80 μ_B , in excellent agreement with the predicted value for an $S = 1$ complex (2.83 μ_B). Full details of the magnetic properties of **1** will be reported elsewhere. A related dimer-of-dimers electronic structure for the S_2 state of the MnOEC has been discussed by Brudvig and co-workers.¹⁴

