

Supporting Information

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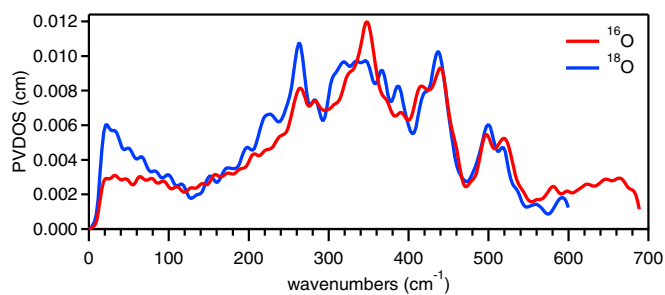


Fig. S1. NRVS spectra of the Fe(IV)₂ complexes of 1 with ¹⁶O (red) and ¹⁸O (blue) isotopes.

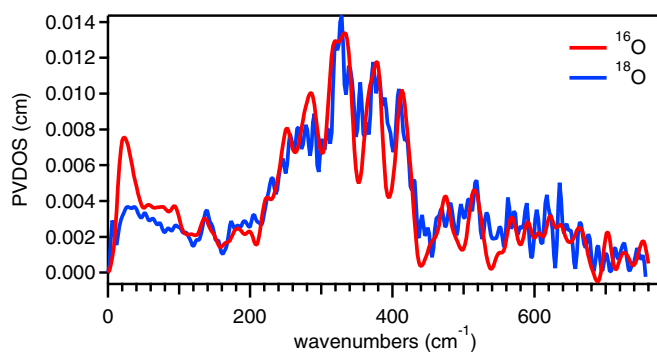


Fig. S2. NRVS spectra of the Fe(IV)₂ complexes of 2 with ¹⁶O (red) and ¹⁸O (blue) isotopes.

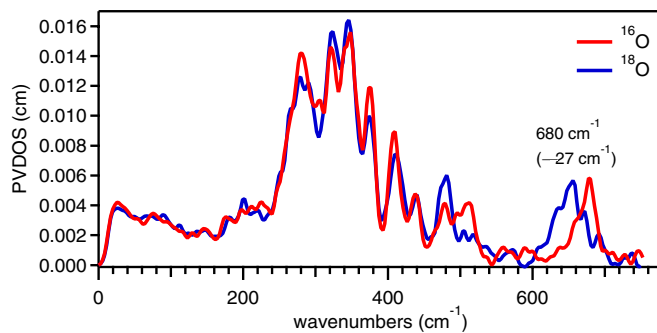


Fig. S3. NRVS spectra of the Fe(III)Fe(IV) complexes of 2 with ¹⁶O (red) and ¹⁸O (blue) isotopes.

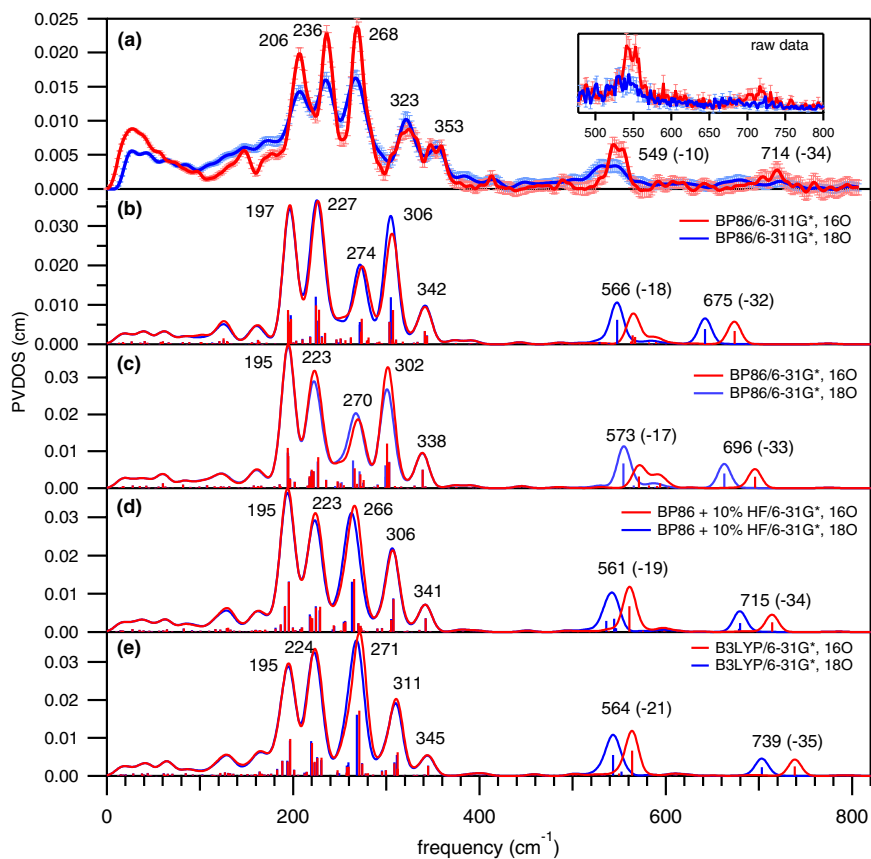


Fig. S4. PVDOS of the Fe(III)_2 precursor of **1** obtained by (A) experiment and DFT calculations using (B) pure BP functional and 6-311G* basis set, (C) pure BP functional and 6-31G* basis set, (D) 10% HF/90% BP functional and 6-31G* basis set, and (E) 20% HF/80% BP functional (i.e., B3LYP) and 6-31G* basis set. Frequencies are denoted with $^{16/18}\text{O}$ isotopic shifts in parentheses. Compared with the data in (A), the simulation in (B) shows over- and underestimated energies for the symmetric and anti-symmetric $\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O}$ stretch, respectively, and the intensity of the peak at 274 cm^{-1} is underestimated. The simulation in (C) shows that using the double-zeta basis set reproduces the simulation in (B) although stretch ($>500\text{ cm}^{-1}$) and bend ($<400\text{ cm}^{-1}$) modes are up- and down-shifted, respectively, compared with (B). Addition of 10% HF exchange (C vs. D) improves the energies of the $\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O}$ stretches and the intensity of the peak at 266 cm^{-1} , although using 20% HF exchange in (E) overestimates the energy of the anti-symmetric $\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O}$ stretch.

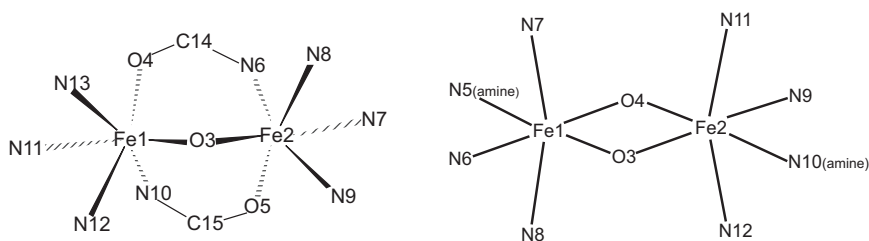


Fig. S5. Core structures of **1** (Left) and **2** (Right) and their atomic numbering schemes.

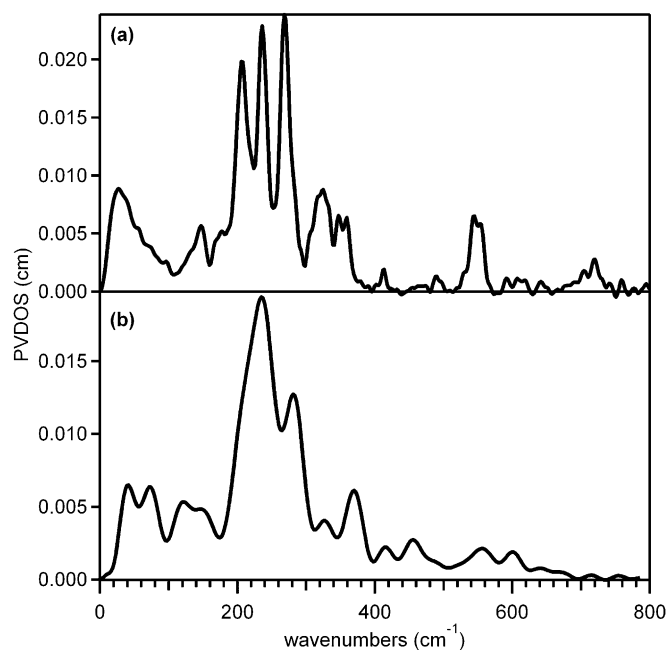


Fig. S8. Experimental NRVS spectra of high-spin Fe(III)₂ complexes with (A) a mono-oxo bridge (reproduced from Fig. 2C) and (B) a di-hydroxo bridge ([Fe₂(μ-OH)₂(6Me₂-BPP)₂]²⁺, reproduced from ref. 1). Considering that variation in the Fe oxidation state causes only minor changes in NRVS spectra and using the di-hydroxo structure to model a di-oxo core, the data on these high-spin Fe(III)₂ complexes experimentally support the DFT predictions for the high-spin Fe(IV)₂ analogs of **1** and **2** (Fig. 7). Spectrum (A) shows a more split-peak pattern for the mono-oxo structure, and spectrum (B) shows a merged-feature at 200~300 cm⁻¹ with a small peak at ~370 cm⁻¹ for the di-hydroxo structure.

1. Park K, et al. (2013) NRVS and DFT study of peroxo-bridged biferric complexes: Structural insight into peroxy intermediates of binuclear non-heme iron enzymes. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 52:1294–1298.

Table S1. Comparison with other vibrational spectroscopic data for **1**

Fe(III)-μO-Fe(III) species	$\nu_s(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})/\text{cm}^{-1}$, ^a	$\nu_{as}(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})/\text{cm}^{-1}$, ^b	Fe-μO-Fe/ ^c
1	549 (-10)	714 (-34)	114
[Fe ₂ (μO)(tacn) ₂ (OAc) ₂] ²⁺ (ref. 1)	540 (-17)	749 (-33)	119
[Fe ₂ (μO)(N3) ₂ (OBz) ₂] ²⁺ (ref. 2)	537	745 (-45)	119
[Fe ₂ (μO)(HBpz ₃) ₂ (OAc) ₂] (ref. 3)	528 (-17)	749 (-30)	124

¹⁸O isotopic shifts are given in parentheses. Each abbreviation indicates the following: tacn, 1,4,7-triazacyclononane; OAc, acetate; N3, bis(2-benzimidazolylmethyl)amine; OBz, benzoate; and HBpz₃, hydrotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate.

^aThe frequencies of the symmetric Fe-μO stretch obtained from rR spectroscopy except for the NRVS data of **1**.

^bThe frequencies of the antisymmetric Fe-μO stretch obtained from IR spectroscopy except for the NRVS data of **1**.

^cFe-μO-Fe angle obtained from X-ray crystal structures. Ref. 2 showed that $\nu_s(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})$ and $\nu_{as}(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})$ are directly and inversely proportional to Fe-μO-Fe angle, respectively. Given this relation, the NRVS data of **1** are consistent with the rR and IR data of related species.

1. Spool A, et al. (1985) Electronic and vibrational spectroscopic analysis of the (μ-oxo)bis(μ-carboxylato)diiron(III) core: a study of [Fe₂O(O₂CCH₃)₂(TACN)₂]²⁺. *Inorg Chem* 24:2156–2162.
2. Sanders-Loehr J, et al. (1989) Electronic and Raman spectroscopic properties of oxo-bridged dinuclear iron centers in proteins and model compounds. *Inorg Chem* 111:8084–8093.
3. Armstrong W, et al. (1984) Assembly and characterization of an accurate model for the diiron center in Hemerythrin. *J Am Chem Soc* 106:3653–3667.

Table S2. Comparison with other vibrational spectroscopic data for 2

Fe(III)-(μO) ₂ -Fe(IV) species	$\nu_s(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})/\text{cm}^{-1}$	
	¹⁶ O	¹⁸ O
<u>2</u>	680	653
[Fe ₂ (μO) ₂ (TPA) ₂] (ClO ₄) ₃	666.1	633.9; 641.9 (637.9)
[Fe ₂ (μO) ₂ (3-Me ₃ -TPA) ₂] (ClO ₄) ₃	667	644; 628 (636)
[Fe ₂ (μO) ₂ (5-Me ₃ -TPA) ₂] (ClO ₄) ₃	676.7; 655.7 (666.2)	635

Values in parentheses indicate the center of a Fermi doublet. Except for the NRVs data of 2, the frequencies of the Fe-μO stretch were obtained from rR data reported in ref. 1. Each abbreviation indicates the following: TPA, Tris(pyridyl-2-methyl)amine; 3-Me₃-TPA, Tris(3-methylpyridyl-2-methyl)amine; and 5-Me₃-TPA, Tris(5-methylpyridyl-2-methyl)amine.

1. Wilkinson EC, et al. (1998) Raman signature of the Fe₂O₂ "diamond" core. *J Am Chem Soc* 120:955–962.

Table S3. First-coordination sphere structures of X-ray crystal and DFT-optimized models of 1

<u>1</u>	$\nu_s(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})/\text{cm}^{-1}$							
	Xtal	BP/6-311G*	BP/6-31G*	B3LYP/6-31G*	10% HF/90% BP + 6-31G*			
	Fe ³⁺ ₂	Fe ³⁺ ₂	Fe ³⁺ ₂	Fe ³⁺ ₂	Fe ³⁺ ₂	Fe ³⁺ Fe ⁴⁺	Fe ⁴⁺ ₂	hs <u>1</u>
Distance (Å)								
Fe1-O3	1.794	1.765	1.758	1.794	1.780	1.748	1.707	1.779
Fe1-O4	2.000	2.059	2.035	2.021	2.022	1.902	1.894	1.845
Fe1-N10	2.092	2.076	2.071	2.108	2.090	1.956	1.960	2.157
Fe1-N11	2.242	2.214	2.215	2.280	2.260	2.019	2.050	2.095
Fe1-N12	2.161	2.168	2.173	2.188	2.174	1.968	1.970	1.984
Fe1-N13	2.154	2.192	2.188	2.187	2.177	1.975	1.984	2.142
Fe2-O3	1.796	1.765	1.758	1.793	1.780	1.748	1.788	1.780
Fe2-O5	2.014	2.052	2.035	2.021	2.021	1.900	1.880	1.845
Fe2-N6	2.086	2.072	2.070	2.110	2.090	1.956	1.921	2.157
Fe2-N7	2.231	2.216	2.217	2.281	2.262	2.068	2.003	2.095
Fe2-N8	2.152	2.177	2.173	2.188	2.175	1.975	1.941	1.984
Fe2-N9	2.162	2.189	2.186	2.187	2.175	1.991	1.965	2.142
Fe1...Fe2	3.007	3.056	3.022	3.056	3.027	3.103	3.101	3.153
Angle (°)								
Fe1-O3-Fe2 (°)	113.7	120.0	118.5	116.8	116.5	125.2	125.0	124.7

Relevant structural formula and numbering scheme are shown in Fig. S5.

Table S4. First-coordination sphere structures of X-ray crystal and DFT-optimized models of 2

<u>2</u>	$\nu_s(\text{Fe}-\mu\text{O})/\text{cm}^{-1}$			
	Xtal (<u>2</u>)	10% HF/90% BP + 6-31G*		
	Fe ³⁺ Fe ⁴⁺	Fe ³⁺ Fe ⁴⁺	Fe ⁴⁺ ₂	hs <u>2</u>
Distance, Å				
Fe1-O3	1.805	1.814	1.880	1.784
Fe1-O4	1.860	1.740	1.743	1.823
Fe1-N5	2.050	2.022	1.991	2.096
Fe1-N6	2.003	2.012	1.995	1.968
Fe1-N7	2.026	1.972	1.975	2.193
Fe1-N8	2.025	1.971	1.975	2.193
Fe2-O3	1.860	1.806	1.743	1.823
Fe2-O4	1.805	1.865	1.880	1.784
Fe2-N9	2.003	1.979	1.995	1.968
Fe2-N10	2.050	1.985	1.991	2.096
Fe2-N11	2.025	1.969	1.975	2.193
Fe2-N12	2.026	1.968	1.975	2.193
Fe1...Fe2	2.683	2.647	2.726	2.673
Angle, °				
Fe1-O3-Fe2	94.1	94.0	97.5	95.6
Fe1-O4-Fe2	94.1	94.4	97.5	95.6
O3-Fe1-O4	85.9	87.5	82.5	84.4
O3-Fe2-O4	85.9	84.1	82.5	84.4

Relevant structural formula and numbering scheme are shown in Fig. S5.

Table S5. Force constants obtained from NCA for low and high spin 1

Force constants	Internal coordinate	ls <u>1</u>	hs <u>1</u>
Bonds, mdyne/Å	Fe1-O3	2.6	2.0
	Fe1-O4	1.5	1.0
	Fe1-N10	0.85	0.40
	Fe1-N11	1.5	0.75
	Fe1-N12	1.5	0.75
	Fe1-N13	0.85	0.40
	O4-C14	6.0	6.0
	C14-N6	6.0	6.0
	Fe2-O3	2.6	2.0
	Fe2-O5	1.5	1.0
	Fe2-N6	0.85	0.40
	Fe2-N7	1.5	0.75
	Fe2-N8	1.5	0.75
	Fe2-N9	0.85	0.40
	O5-C15	6.0	6.0
	C15-N10	6.0	6.0
	Angles, mdyne·Å	Fe1-O3-Fe2	0.35
O3-Fe1-O4		0.35	0.65
O3-Fe1-N10		0.75	0.40
O3-Fe1-N12		0.75	0.65
O3-Fe1-N13		0.75	0.40
N11-Fe1-O4		0.75	0.65
N11-Fe1-N10		0.35	0.33
N11-Fe1-N12		0.65	0.65
N11-Fe1-N13		0.35	0.33
O4-Fe1-N10		0.75	0.40
O4-Fe1-N13		0.75	0.40
N10-Fe1-N12		0.35	0.35
N12-Fe1-N13		0.35	0.35
Fe1-O4-C14		0.40	0.35
Fe1-N10-C15		0.40	0.35
O4-C14-N6		1.4	1.2
O3-Fe2-O5		0.35	0.65
O3-Fe2-N6		0.75	0.40
O3-Fe2-N8		0.75	0.65
O3-Fe2-N9		0.75	0.40
N7-Fe2-O5		0.75	0.65
N7-Fe2-N6		0.35	0.35
N7-Fe2-N8		0.65	0.65
N7-Fe2-N9		0.35	0.35
O5-Fe2-N6		0.75	0.40
O5-Fe2-N9		0.75	0.40
N6-Fe2-N8		0.35	0.33
N8-Fe2-N9		0.35	0.33
Fe2-O5-C15		0.40	0.35
Fe2-N6-C14		0.40	0.35
O5-C15-N10	1.4	1.2	
Interactions	Fe1-O3/Fe1-O3-Fe2	0.05	-0.2
	Fe2-O3/Fe1-O3-Fe2	0.05	-0.2
	Fe1-O3/O3-Fe1-O4	0.10	0
	Fe2-O3/O3-Fe2-O5	0.10	0
	Fe1-O3/O3-Fe1-N12	0.20	0
	Fe2-O3/O3-Fe2-N8	0.20	0

