## **Supplementary material**



**Figure S1.** A typical titration profile of 3.6  $\mu$ M Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP in 2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub> with 0.2 M NaOH ( $\theta = 25 \text{ °C}$ , l = 1 cm). The pH values of the solution were varied within the pH-range 9.7-13 (for the sake of clarity not all measured spectra are shown). **Inset:** The theoretical spectra of the protonated, (—), mono-deprotonated (—), and double deprotonated (—) species.



**Figure S2.** Time-dependent spectral changes of  $Mn^{III}TE-2$ -PyP in an anaerobic cell. **Left:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP] = 49  $\mu$ M, **pH** = **8** (0.05 M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>), *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -450 mV vs. Ag/AgCl. **Middle:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP] = 29  $\mu$ M, **pH** = **4** (0.05M CH<sub>3</sub>COONa), *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -450 mV vs. Ag/AgCl. **Right:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP] = 37  $\mu$ M, **pH** = **1.5**, *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -450 mV vs. Ag/AgCl. **Right:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP] = 37  $\mu$ M, **pH** = **1.5**, *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -450 mV vs. Ag/AgCl



**Figure S3.** Time dependent spectral changes of Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP in an anaerobic cell. **Left:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP] = 50  $\mu$ M, **pH** = 9 (0.025M Na<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>), *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -600 mV vs. Ag/AgCl. **Right:** Condition: [Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP] = 31  $\mu$ M, **pH** = 4 (0.05M CH<sub>3</sub>COONa), *I* = 0.1 M (NaCl),  $\theta$  = 25 °C, *l* = 0.1 cm, *E*<sub>cell</sub> = -600 mV vs. Ag/AgCl.



**Figure S4.** The theoretical spectra of the protonated (—) and deprotonated (—) species of Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP predicted according to the 2-species model. **Inset**: The theoretical spectra of the fully protonated (—), monodeprotonated (—), and fully deprotonated (—) species predicted according to the 3-species model.



**Figure S5.** A typical titration profile of 4  $\mu$ M Mn<sup>II</sup>TE-3-PyP in 2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub> with 0.2 M NaOH ( $\theta = 25$  °C, l = 1 cm). The pH values of solution were varied within the pH-range 10.5-13.0 (for the sake of clarity not all measured spectra are shown). **Inset:** The theoretical spectra of the protonated (—) and deprotonated (—) species predicted according to the 2-species model. Spectra obtained at pH < 10.5 are shown in Figure S8.



**Figure S6.** The theoretical spectra of  $Mn^{II}TE-3-PyP$  species obtained from the spectral changes observed in the spectroelectrochemical experiment at pH 9 (—) and in the pH-titration of  $Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{5+}$  in the presence of ascorbic acid recorded at pH 10.5. (—).



**Figure S7.** A typical titration profile of 4.8  $\mu$ M Mn<sup>IV</sup>TE-3-PyP in 2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>with 0.2 M NaOH ( $\theta = 25 \text{ °C}$ , l = 1 cm) in the presence of 0.1 mM [Mo(CN)<sub>8</sub>]<sup>3-</sup>. The pH values of the solution were varied within the pH-range 10.5-13. (for the sake of clarity not all measured spectra are shown). **Inset:** The theoretical spectra of the protonated (—) and deprotonated (—) species.



**Figure S8.** A typical titration profile of  $(4 \ \mu M \ Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP + 20 \ mM$  ascorbic acid + 0.5 mM [Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>3-</sup>) in 2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>with 0.2 M NaOH ( $\theta = 25 \ ^{\circ}C$ ,  $l = 1 \ mbox{cm}$ ). The pH values were varied within the pH-range 7.4-10.5 (for the sake of clarity not all measured spectra are shown). **Inset:** The theoretical spectra of  $(H_2O)_2Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{5+}$  (—) and  $(H_2O)_2Mn^{II}TE-3-PyP^{4+}$  (—).



**Figure S9.** A typical titration profile of 4.8  $\mu$ M Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP in 2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub> with 0.2 M NaOH ( $\theta$  = 25 °C, l = 1 cm) in the presence of 0.1 mM [Mo(CN)<sub>8</sub>]<sup>3-</sup> and 0.1 mM [Mo(CN)<sub>8</sub>]<sup>4-</sup>. The pH values of the solution were varied within the pH-range 8-10 (for the sake of clarity not all measured spectra are shown). **Inset:** The theoretical spectra of the reduced (—) and oxidized forms of MnTE-3-PyP (—).



**Figure S10.** van't Hoff plots for deprotonation constants of Mn<sup>III</sup>Ps,  $K_{a1}$  (**n**) and  $K_{a2}$  (**•**), I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>): **left:** Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-2-PyP, **right:** Mn<sup>III</sup>TE-3-PyP.



**Figure S11.** van't Hoff plots for deprotonation constants  $K''_{a1}$  of Mn<sup>IV</sup>Ps, I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>): Mn<sup>IV</sup>TE-2-Pyp ( $\bullet$ ).



**Figure S12.** Temperature dependence of the formal potential for the reduction of 1 mM octacyanomolybdate, I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>).



**Figure S13.** Temperature dependence of the formal potential for the redox couple K, $2H^+/D$ , as assigned in Scheme 1, I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>): **left:** MnTE-2-PyP, **right:** MnTE-3-PyP.



**Figure S14.** Temperature dependence of the formal potential for the redox couple K,2H<sup>+</sup>/D *vs*. SHE, as assigned in Scheme 1, I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>): **left:** MnTE-2-PyP, **right:** MnTE-3-PyP.

| Table S1. | Thermodynamic data for | r the accessib | le redox couple | s of the studied | manganese   | porphyrin |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|
| complexes | obtained in 2 M NaClC  | 4. The values  | were calculated | l from absolute  | redox poten | tials.    |

| Couple   | Parameter                 | •                             |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Couple   | $\Delta H \pm \sigma^{a}$ | $\Delta S \pm \sigma^{\rm b}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-2-PyP^{4+} + 2H^+ + e^- \rightarrow (H_2O)_2Mn^{III}TE-2-PyP^{5+}$   | $-606 \pm 2$              | $21 \pm 7$                    |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-2-PyP^{4+} + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow (OH)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-2-PyP^{4+}$  | $-557 \pm 5$              | $-23 \pm 10$                  |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-2-PyP^{4+} + e^- \rightarrow (O)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-2-PyP^{3+}$   | $-509 \pm 8$              | $-85 \pm 21$                  |  |  |  |  |
| $[(O)(OH)Mn^{IV}TE-2-PyP^{4+}+2H^{+}+e^{-} \rightarrow (OH)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-2-PyP^{5+}$  | $-609 \pm 8$              | $14 \pm 21$                   |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-3-PyP^{4+}+2H^++e^- \rightarrow (H_2O)_2Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{5+}$   | $-598 \pm 4$              | $50 \pm 12$                   |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-3-PyP^{4+} + H^+ + e^- \rightarrow (OH)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{4+}$  | $-547 \pm 7$              | $-1 \pm 21$                   |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(H_2O)Mn^{IV}TE-3-PyP^{4+} + e^- \rightarrow (O)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{3+}$   | $-496 \pm 10$             | $-73 \pm 32$                  |  |  |  |  |
| $(O)(OH)Mn^{IV}TE-3-PyP^{4+}+2H^{+}+e^{-} \rightarrow (OH)(H_2O)Mn^{III}TE-3-PyP^{5+}$   | $-597 \pm 13$             | $58 \pm 40$                   |  |  |  |  |
| <sup>a</sup> <b>P</b> <sub>anation</sub> anthalnias are given in $k \mathbf{I}$ mol <sup>-1</sup> <sup>b</sup> <b>P</b> <sub>anation</sub> antronias are given in $\mathbf{I} \mathbf{V}^{-1}$ mol <sup>-1</sup> |                           |                               |  |  |  |  |

<sup>a</sup> Reaction enthalpies are given in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> Reaction entropies are given in J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>.

**Table S2.** The formal reduction potentials vs. SHE for all experimentally available redox couples assigned as in Scheme 1, obtained by the spectrophotometric pH titrations at  $\theta = 25$  °C, I = 2 M (NaClO<sub>4</sub>).

| Max <sup>X</sup> /Max <sup>X-1</sup>                  | Redox                | $E^{0^{\circ}}$ / V |            |                           |  |  |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| IVIN /IVIN  | couple               | MnTE-2-PyP          | MnTE-3-PyP | MnTnBu-2-PyP <sup>a</sup> |  |  |
|   | $D/B,H^+$            | -0.550              | -0.764     | -0.506                    |  |  |
| Mn(III)/Mn(II)  | $E,H^+/A$            | +0.789              | +0.632     | +0.875                    |  |  |
|   | F,2H <sup>+</sup> /A | +1.477              | +1.384     | +1.604                    |  |  |
|   | $F,H^+/B$            | +0.782              | +0.671     | +0.895                    |  |  |
|   | K,2H <sup>+</sup> /D | +1.910              | +1.915     | +1.800                    |  |  |
|   | K,H <sup>+</sup> /E  | +1.266              | +1.231     | +1.128                    |  |  |
| Mn(IV)/Mn(III)  | $L,3H^+/D$           | +2.569              | +2.624     | +2.497                    |  |  |
|   | $L,2H^+/E$           | +1.925              | +1.940     | +1.825                    |  |  |
|   | L,H <sup>+</sup> /F  | +1.237              | +1.189     | +1.095                    |  |  |
|   | $K/A,2H^+$           | +1.028              | +0.932     | +1.002                    |  |  |
| Mn(IV)/Mn(II)   | $L/A,3H^+$           | +0.680              | +0.575     | +0.647                    |  |  |
| $\operatorname{NIII}(1 \vee)/\operatorname{NIII}(11)$ | K/B,H <sup>+</sup>   | +1.357              | +1.286     | +1.350                    |  |  |
|   | K/B,2H <sup>+</sup>  | +1.009              | +0.930     | +0.995                    |  |  |

<sup>a</sup> Values taken from Reference 13.