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#### Research paper

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#### **Research Paper**

# Synthesis, Crystal Structures, and Superoxide Dismutase Activity of Two New Multinuclear Manganese(III)-Salen-4,4'-Bipyridine Complexes

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Manganese(III)-salen complexes have been reported as superoxide dismutase mimics (mSOD) that can scavenge superoxide anion radicals. They are mononuclear complexes with a variety of salen ligands. Here, two new multinuclear manganese(III)-salen complexes with 4,4'-bipyridine (4,4'-bpy) as bridging ligand and  $ClO_4^-$  as axial ligand or  $PF_6^-$  as counter anion, respectively, are reported. The dimeric complex  $[{Mn(ClO_4)(salen)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]$  (1) was obtained from [MnCl(salen)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O and 4,4'-bipyridine which followed by addition of NaClO<sub>4</sub>. While the polymeric complex { $[Mn(salen)(4,4'-bpy)]PF_6$ }<sub>n</sub> (2) was prepared by the same procedure of 1, followed by addition of KPF<sub>6</sub> replacing NaClO<sub>4</sub>. Compounds 1 and 2 were characterized by elemental analysis, conductometry, infrared spectroscopy, electrospray-ionization mass temperature/variable spectrometry, and room temperature magnetic susceptibility measurements. The crystal structures of compounds 1 and 2 were determined by single crystal X-ray crystallography. Furthermore, in indirect SOD tests using riboflavin photoreduction, the polymeric compound 2 shows the slightly higher SOD activity with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1.6  $\pm$  0.2  $\mu$ M than the dimeric compounds 1 with an IC<sub>50</sub> of  $2.0 \pm 0.3 \mu$ M.

Keywords: manganese-salen-4,4'-bipyridine, dimeric, polymeric, superoxide dismutase, SOD, mimic, riboflavin, photoreduction

#### Introduction

Superoxide radical is a highly dangerous reactive oxygen species [1]. It may cause damage to human tissues that are often associated with various diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, neurodegenerative disorder, diabetic complication, stroke, inflammation, and reperfusion injuries [2, 3].

Normally, the enzyme superoxide dismutase (SOD) acts as a catalyst in the conversion of superoxide radicals to hydrogen peroxide and oxygen [4, 5]. However, if large amounts of superoxide radicals are present, the amount of SOD will not be adequate; therefore, uptake of an exogenous SOD is required. It was observed that the

use of natural SOD was not effective, caused immunogenicity and was also rather expensive, while the use of SOD mimics instead showed many advantages [3, 6].

Several manganese(III)-salen complexes (salen = N,N'-bis(salicylidene)-1,2-ethylenediamine) have been reported as SOD mimics with low toxicity [7]. They were obtained as mononuclear complexes with a variety of salen ligands. Several monomeric manganese(III)-salen complexes had been modified through substitution of their salen ring, such as [Mn(OMe-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], [Mn(OEt-salen)(OAc)], mimic to the normal (unsubstituted) one, i.e. [Mn(salen)OAc] and

[Mn(salen)Cl] [8, 9]. [Mn(salen)OAc] was included in the first compounds that have activity as SOD mimics. Its SOD mimic activity is expressed by  $IC_{50}$  of  $2.7 \pm 0.1 \mu M$  through non-enzymatic indirect method of photoreduction riboflavin-nitrobluetetrazolium SOD assay [10]. So far, no multinuclear manganese(III)-salen reported as SOD mimics.

Bridging ligands such as 4,4'-bipyridine (4,4'-bpy) facilitate the formation of dimeric or polymeric manganese(III)-salen complexes. However, in  $[Mn(salpn)(CH_3OH)(4,4'-bpy)]BPh_4$ (salpn = N,N'bis(salicylidene)-1,3-diaminopropane) [11], 4,4'-bpy does not act as a bridging ligand, and a mononuclear complex was obtained. With 3,3'-bpy, the polymeric complex  $[Mn(salen)(3,3'-bpy)]Tf_2N$ (Tf<sub>2</sub>N bis(trifluoro = methanesulfonyl)amide) was obtained [12].

The presence of counter anions also contributes to the structural aspects of manganese(III)-salen complexes. With chloride or acetate anions, usually mononuclear complexes were obtained. However, when perchlorate  $(CIO_4^-)$  and hexafluorophosphate  $(PF_6^-)$  anions are involved, dimeric complexes were formed [13-16].

Here, we report the synthesis and characterization of manganese(III)-salen multinuclear complexes containing 4,4'-bpy bridging ligand and  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  axial ligand or  $\text{PF}_6^-$  counter anion. This study is neded to investigate the effect of multinuclear structural to SOD activity. The SOD activity of the two resulting complexes was studied.

#### Experimental

#### **Materials and Methods**

Chemicals including solvents used without further purification in the preparation and characterization of manganese(III)-salen complexes have been purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Elemental analyses (C, H, N) were carried out using a Vario EL III from elemental analyzer system GmbH. Conductivities of 10<sup>-3</sup> M solutions in methanol were measured on a HANNA Instruments HI 8819W Professional ATC conductivity meter. Infrared spectra (400 - 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>) were recorded as KBr pellets on a PerkinElmer System 2000 FTIR spectrometer. Electrospray ionization mass spectra (ESI-MS) were obtained on a Bruker Daltonics ESQUIRE 3000Plus (ESI-Ion Trap MSn) spectrometer. Magnetic susceptibilities at room-temperature were measured using a Magnetic Susceptibility Balance (MSB) from Sherwood Scientific. Temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility measurements on powders were carried out using an MPMS 7XL SQUID magnetometer (Quantum Design) over the temperature range 2–330 K at an applied magnetic field of 1.0 Tesla.

#### Synthesis

#### H<sub>2</sub>salen

The ligand H<sub>2</sub>salen was prepared salicylaldehyde and ethylenediamine in ethanol following the published procedure [17]. A yellow solid was formed during the reaction (yield 80-88%). Anal. calc. for  $C_{16}H_{16}N_2O_2$  (268.31): C, 71.62; H, 6.01; N, 10.44; found: C, 71.60; H, 6.05; N, 10.44 %. Conductivity (in methanol)  $\Lambda_M = 0 \ \mu S$ . IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(O-H) 3425 (m), v(C=N) 1636 (vs), v(C-O) 1283 (s). ESI [MS]: *m/z* 269 [H<sub>2</sub>salen+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### [MnCl(salen)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O

The compound was prepared from manganese(II) chloride tetrahydrate and H<sub>2</sub>salen in ethanol according to the published procedure [18]. Upon standing at room temperature for 3 days, brown-black crystals formed. These were isolated by filtration, washed with water and ethanol, and dried in the air. Yield 75-90%. Anal. calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClMnN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (392.72): C, 48.93; H, 4.62; N, 7.13; found: C, 48.36; H, 4.34; N, 7.13 %. Conductivity (in methanol)  $\Lambda_{\rm M} = 0.17$  mS. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(O-H) 3426 (m), v(C=N) 1634 (vs), v(C-O) 1292 (s). ESI [MS]: *m/z* 321.9 [Mn(salen)]<sup>+</sup>. Magnetic moment:  $\mu_{\rm eff} = 5.22 \ \mu_{\rm B}$ .

#### $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bpy)](1)$

The complex was prepared from [MnCl(salen)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.39 g, 1 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) and 4,4'-bipyridine (0.31 g, 2 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) at 50 °C. During the reaction, an aqueous solution of  $NaClO_4$  (1 g in 5 mL) was added and then the solvent was reduced slowly. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was filtered to remove any unwanted precipitate. Upon standing at room temperature for 3 days, brown-black crystals were formed. These were isolated by filtration, washed with methanol, and dried in air. Yield 70-88%. Anal. calc. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>36</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Mn<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (997.55): C, 50.57; H, 3.64; N, 8.42; found: C, 50.23; H, 3.25; N, 8.45 %. Conductivity (in methanol)  $\Lambda_{\rm M} = 0.24$  mS. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(O-H) 3417 (m), v(C=N) 1621 (vs), v(C-O) 1287 (s). ESI [MS]: 677.0  $[Mn(salen)(4,4'-bpy)_2+CH_3CN]^+;$ m/z743.0  $[Mn_2(salen)_2(ClO_4)+H]^+$ . Magnetic moment:  $\mu_{eff} = 6.86 \mu_B$ .

#### ${[Mn(salen)(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]PF_6}_n \cdot 1.5MeOH \cdot 0.5H_2O(2)$

A similar procedure as stated above for **1** was used to prepare this complex, using KPF<sub>6</sub> (1 g in 15 mL) instead of NaClO<sub>4</sub>. Deep brown crystals were obtained; yield 65-85%. Anal. calc. for C<sub>27.5</sub>H<sub>29</sub>F<sub>6</sub>MnN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>P (679.46): C, 48.76; H, 3.78; N, 8.75; found: C, 48.21; H, 3.62; N, 8.69 %. Conductivity (in methanol)  $\Lambda_{\rm M} = 0.27$  mS. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(O-H) 3453 (m), v(C=N) 1602 (vs), v(C-O) 1289 (s). ESI [MS]: m/z 661 [Mn(salen)(4,4'bpy)(PF<sub>6</sub>)·1.5MeOH·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O + H]<sup>+</sup>. Magnetic moment:  $\mu_{\rm eff} = 4.8 \ \mu_{\rm B}.$ 

#### **SOD-Mimic Activity Assay**

The SOD-mimic activity of complexes 1 and 2 were evaluated using an indirect method of riboflavin photoreduction, which was described previously [10, 19]. The method involves the competitive reaction between the complex and reduced NBT (NBT = nitroblue tetrazolium) for O2<sup>--</sup> generated by riboflavin under illumination at room temperature (25 °C). The sample mixture (240 µL) contained the complex (11 different concentrations), 6 µM riboflavin (Thermo Scientific), 0.8 µM of N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylene-diamine (TMEDA) (Biorad) in 0.016 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) and 85  $\mu$ M NBT (Thermo Scientific). The reaction was stopped by switching off the light after 15 min (4 fluorescence tubes, Philips TLD/20 W, 20 cm distance) and the absorbance of reduced NBT was measured at  $\lambda$  560 nm with a Multiskan Go Thermo Fischer Scientific UV/Vis double beam spectrophotometer.

#### **Crystal Data Collection and Refinement**

The single crystal of 1 and 2 were obtained from methanol. Single crystal X-ray data were collected on a Gemini CCD diffractometer (Rigaku, Inc.) with graphitemonochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) and  $\omega$ scan rotation in the  $\theta$  range 2.412 to 30.414° (1) and 1.884 to 32.400° (2) at 130 K. Information regarding the crystallographic data collection and refinement parameters of the structures are compiled in Table 1 and respectively. Semi-empirical absorption Table 3, correction from equivalents was applied to the data. The structures were solved with SHELXT-2014 [20]. Disorderd solvent molecules and a minor disordered fraction of the  $PF_6^-$  anion in 2 were refined isotropically, whereas all other non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically by full-matrix least-squares techniques on  $F^2$  with SHELXL-2016 [21]. Except disordered moieties, all hydrogen atoms were located on difference Fourier maps calculated at the final stage of the structure refinement. The isotropic displacement parameter for H(17) and H(18) of compound 1 are fixed. The three methanol and one water molecule are highly disordered for symmetry reasons. The electron density of all solvent molecules has been confirmed with the SQUEEZE routine implemented in PLATON. The SQUEEZE electron count revealed 63 electrons for all disordered solvent molecules, which is in excellent agreement with the above given composition (3 MeOH + 1  $H_2O$  = 64 electrons). Solvent hydrogen donor-acceptor bonds (Table 5) are illustrated in Figure 4(b). The position of oxygen bonded hydrogen atoms was deduced from adjacent hydrogen acceptor atoms. Figures of crystal structures were drawn using the program Diamond-3 [22]. Selected bond lengths and angles for complexes 1 and 2 are listed in Tables 2 and 4.

CCDC 1579051 (1) and 1579052 (2) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via https://summary.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/structure-summary-form (or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: (+44)1223-336-033; or deposit@ccdc.cam.uk).

#### **Results and Discussion**

#### **Synthesis**

Compounds 1 and 2 were prepared from reaction between [MnCl(salen)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O and 4,4'-bpy to give deep brown solution, with further addition of a saturated NaClO<sub>4</sub> or KPF<sub>6</sub> solution, respectively. The crystal of compounds 1 and 2 have the similar deep brown colours, but 1 forms longer crystal than 2. The structures of both complexes were obtained by single crystal XRD.

#### **Crystal Structures**

#### $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bipyridine)](1)$

Compound 1 crystallized in the triclinic space group  $P\overline{1}$  (Table 1). It is a neutral centrosymmetric manganese(III) complex coordinated by salen, bipyridine and the perchlorate anion in a distorted octahedral fashion caused by the Jahn-Teller effect (Figure 1).

The four donor atoms of the tetradentate salen ligand, a Schiff base, occupy the equatorial plane [Mn-O

1.874(2) and 1.876(2) Å, and Mn-N 1.978(2) and 1.968(2) Å], while the axial bond lengths to an N donor atom in 4,4'-bpy [2.296(2) Å] and an O atom of perchlorate [2.433(2) Å] are longer (Table 2).

Table 1. Crystallographic data of  $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu - 4,4'-bpy)]$  (1).

Empirical formula	$C_{42}H_{36}Cl_2Mn_2N_6O_{12}$
Formula weight	997.55
T / K	130(2)
Wavelength / Å	0.71073
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	$P\overline{1}$
Unit cell dimensions:	
a / Å	8.3114(4)
b / Å	8.6461(5)
c / Å	14.7044(9)
α/°	77.959(5)
$\beta$ / °	79.477(5)
γ / °	85.071(5)
$\mathbf{V}$ / Å <sup>3</sup>	1014.8(1)
Z	1
$\rho_{calcd}$ / Mg m <sup>-3</sup>	1.632
Absorption coefficient / mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.829
F(000)	510
Crystal size / mm <sup>3</sup>	0.3 x 0.15 x 0.02
$\theta$ range for data collection / °	2.412 to 30.414
Reflections collected	10286
Independent reflections / R <sub>int</sub>	5493 (0.0482)
Completeness to $\theta = 28.285^{\circ} / \%$	99.9
Max. and min. transmission	1 and 0.75023
Data / restraints / parameters	5493 / 0 / 359
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.997
Final R indices $[I>2\sigma(I)]$	R1 = 0.0543,
	wR2 = 0.0996
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1043,
	wR2 = 0.1206

Largest difference in peak and hole /e·Å<sup>-3</sup> 0.584 and -0.880



Figure 1. ORTEP view of  $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]$  (1).

Table 2.	Selected	bond	lengths	(Å)	and	angles	(°)	in
	[{Mn(sal	en)(Cl	$O_4)_2(\mu - 4$	4,4'-1	bpy)]	(1).		

Mn(1)-O(1)	1.874(2)		
Mn(1)-O(2)	1.876(2)		
Mn(1)-N(2)	1.968(2)		
Mn(1)-N(1)	1.978(2)		
Mn(1)-N(3)	2.296(2)		
Mn(1)-O(3)	2.433(2)		
O(1)-Mn(1)-O(2)	94.13(9)	N(2)-Mn(1)-N(3)	94.20(9)
O(1)-Mn(1)-N(2)	172.64(9)	N(1)-Mn(1)-N(3)	98.85(9)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(2)	91.91(9)	O(1)-Mn(1)-O(3)	88.96(8)
O(1)-Mn(1)-N(1)	92.0(1)	O(2)-Mn(1)-O(3)	83.85(8)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(1)	173.1(1)	N(2)-Mn(1)-O(3)	87.51(9)
N(2)-Mn(1)-N(1)	81.7(1)	N(1)-Mn(1)-O(3)	93.21(9)
O(1)-Mn()-N(3)	90.60(9)	N(3)-Mn(1)-O(3)	167.93(8)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(3)	84.16(8)		

#### {[Mn(salen)( $\mu$ -4,4'-bipyridine)]PF<sub>6</sub>}<sub>n</sub>·1.5MeOH·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O (2)

Compound 2 is ionic and crystallizes in the triclinic space group  $P\overline{1}$  (Table 3) with one [Mn(salen)(4,4'bpy)]<sup>+</sup> cation and one  $PF_6^-$  anion in the asymmetric unit (Figure 4(a)). As illustrated in Figure 4(b), the manganese(III)-salen units are interconnected by bridging 4,4'-bpy ligands forming polymeric cationic chains along (010). Disordered co-crystallized solvent molecules (3MeOH and H<sub>2</sub>O) were located near a center of inversion (Figure 4(c)) and could be identified with the help of significant hydrogen donor-acceptor bonds (Table 5). As expected, the manganese(III) ion adopts a six-coordinated distorted octahedral coordination geometry (Table 4). The two pyridyl rings in 4,4'-bpy are rotated with respect to each other. The angle between the planes of the two crystallographically different pyridyl rings in 4,4'-bipyridine is 52.18(8)°. The four donor atoms of the salen occupied the equatorial plane [Mn-O 1.870(2) and 1.871(2) Å, and Mn-N 1.972(2) and 1.973(2) Å].

$(py) = \Gamma_6 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1.5)$	$-0.511_{2}O(2).$
Empirical formula	$C_{27.5}H_{29}F_6MnN_4O_4P$
Formula weight	679.46
T / K	130(2)
Wavelength / Å	0.71073
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P 1
Unit cell dimensions:	1 1
a / Å	8.9522(6)
b / Å	11.7888(4)
c / Å	15.4129(7)
α/°	105.939(3)
β/°	105.231(5)
γ/°	101.932(4)
$V / Å^3$	1439.3(1)
Z	2
$\rho_{calcd}$ / Mg m <sup>-3</sup>	1.568
Absorption coefficient / mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.595
F(000)	696
Crystal size / mm <sup>3</sup>	0.25 x 0.25 x 0.15
$\theta$ range for data collection / °	1.884 to 32.400
Reflections collected	16890
Independent reflections / R <sub>int</sub>	9371 (0.0341)
Completeness to $\theta = 28.285^{\circ} / \%$	100.0
Max. and min. transmission	1 and 0.97458
Data / restraints / parameters	9371 / 24 / 508
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.019
Final R indices $[I>2\sigma(I)]$	R1 = 0.0591,
	wR2 = 0.1324
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0937,
	wR2 = 0.1524
Largest difference in peak and	0.860 and -0.700



Table 4. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) in  $[Mn(salen)(\mu-4,4"-bpy)]PF_6 \cdot 1.5MeOH \cdot 0.5H_2O$  (2)

hole /  $e \cdot Å^{-3}$ 

Mn(1)-O(1)	1.870(2)		
Mn(1)-O(2)	1.871(2)		
Mn(1)-N(2)	1.973(2)		
Mn(1)-N(1)	1.972(2)		
Mn(1)-N(3)	2.368(2)		
Mn(1)-N(4)	2.372(2)		
O(1)-Mn(1)-O(2)	93.03(7)	N(2)-Mn(1)-N(3)	87.00(8)
O(1)-Mn(1)-N(2)	174.59(8)	N(1)-Mn(1)-N(3)	89.92(7)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(2)	92.29(8)	O(1)-Mn(1)-N(4)	89.57(7)
O(1)-Mn(1)-N(1)	92.21(8)	O(2)-Mn(1)-N(4)	91.11(7)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(1)	174.54(8)	N(1)-Mn(1)-N(4)	87.38(7)
N(2)-Mn(1)-N(1)	82.50(8)	N(2)-Mn(1)-N(4)	91.32(7)
O(1)-Mn(1)-N(3)	91.87(7)	N(3)-Mn(1)-N(4)	176.99(7)
O(2)-Mn(1)-N(3)	91.45(7)		

- Figure 4. (a) ORTEP view of the asymmetric unit of {[Mn(salen)(μ-4,4'-bpy)]PF<sub>6</sub>}<sub>n</sub>·1.5MeOH·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O
  (2) (H atoms and solvent molecules are omitted); (b) coordination polymer along (010);
  (c) solvent molecules located on (00<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>). The disordered fraction is transparent for clarity.
- Table 5. Hydrogen bond distances (Å) and angles (°) in  $\{[Mn(salen)(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]PF_6\}_n \cdot 1.5MeOH \cdot 0.5H_2O$ (2).

D-H···A	d(D-H)	$d(H \cdots A)$	$d(D \cdots A)$	<(DHA)
O(3)-H(1O3) ···O(4)	0.98	1.72	2.650(1)	156.6
O(4)-H(1O4) ···O(5)	0.98	1.69	2.658(9)	171.8
O(5)-H(1O5) ···O(6)	0.98	2.03	2.914(9)	148.8

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 x,y+1,z #2 x,y-1,z

## Table 3. Crystallographic data of {[Mn(salen)( $\mu$ -4,4'-bpy)]PF<sub>6</sub>}<sub>n</sub>·1.5MeOH·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O (**2**).

#### **Magnetic Properties**

The magnetic properties of compound 1 were investigated by temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility measurements in the temperature range between 2 and 330 K and an external field of  $B = \mu_0 H =$ 1.0 T. Figure 5 shows the experimental data and the theoretical fit in the form of a  $\mu_{eff}$  versus T plot. At 330 K,  $\mu_{eff}$  is 6.92  $\mu_{B}$ , which is in good agreement with the presence of two high-spin  $Mn^{III}$  ions (S = 2). With decreasing temperature, the effective magnetic moment remains nearly constant down to 20 K. For lower temperatures, it decreases faster to a value of  $\mu_{\rm eff} = 5.39$  $\mu_{\rm B}$  at 2 K. This curve progression shows a weak antiferromagnetic exchange interaction between the two manganese(III) atoms. This is further corroborated by the continuous decrease of the  $\mu_{eff}$  values from 6.93  $\mu_B$  at 330 K to 5.39  $\mu_{\rm B}$  at 2 K.



Figure 5. Temperature dependence of  $\mu_{eff}$  for [{Mn(salen)(ClO<sub>4</sub>)}<sub>2</sub>(µ-4,4'-bpy)] (1) per dinuclear unit. The solid line represents the best theoretical fit to the spin Hamiltonian (eq. 1).

The temperature dependence of the magnetic susceptibility was simulated using the appropriate spin Hamiltonian (eq. 1), which includes the isotropic Heisenberg-Dirac-vanVleck exchange(HDvV), the single-ion zero-field splitting and the single-ion Zeeman interaction by using a full-matrix diagonalization approach.

$$\hat{H} = \left(-2J\hat{S}_{1}\hat{S}_{2}\right) + \mu_{B}\sum_{i=2}^{2} \left(g\hat{S}_{i}\hat{B}\right) + \sum_{i=2}^{2} D_{i}\left(\hat{S}_{zi}^{2} - \frac{1}{3}\left(S_{i}(S_{i}+1)\right)\right)$$
eq. 1

Scheme 1 illustrates the exchange coupling pathways used to model the susceptibility data for complex **1**. In this model, the exchange interaction between the neighboring Mn<sup>III</sup> ions are represented by  $J_{1/2}$ . The *g* values were considered to be identical for the two Mn<sup>III</sup> ions. A reasonable fit of the experimental susceptibility data was possible over the full range and led to  $J_{1/2} = -0.042 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $D = 2.38 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and g = 2.0.



Scheme 1. Magnetic exchange pathways used for simulation of the magnetic susceptibility data for the dinuclear subunits in  $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]$  (1).<sup>a</sup>

Table 6. Magnetic properties of  $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu - 4,4'-bpy)]$  (1).

Complex	g	$J [\mathrm{cm}^{-1}]$	$D [{\rm cm}^{-1}]$	TIP [cm <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> ]
2	2.0	$J_{1/2} = -0.042$	2.38	8.80 x 10 <sup>-5</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Parameters resulting from least-squares fit to be  $\mu_{eff}$  data under the spin Hamiltonian in eq. 1: J = coupling constant (H = $-2JS_1S_2$ ), g = g value, D = zero-field splitting parameter and TIP = temperature-independent paramagnetism.

#### **SOD-mimic Activity**

The mSOD activities of the three manganese(III)-salen complexes 1, and 2 were evaluated quantitatively using the indirect method of riboflavin photoreduction in the Riboflavin presence of TMEDA. was reduced photochemically in air generating superoxide anions, which in turn reduced NBT. The results of this assay indicated that approximately  $2.0 \pm 0.3 \mu M$  of compound 1 or  $1.6 \pm 0.2 \ \mu M$  of compound 2 was needed in order to inhibit 50% of the NBT photoreduction (termed as  $IC_{50}$ ). The degree of inhibition is increased in a concentrationdependent manner for the three compounds that allowed plotting IC<sub>50</sub> values (Table 7 and Figure 6).

No	Concentration	Inhibition (%)			
190.	( <b>µM</b> )	Complex 1	Complex 2		
1	0	0	0		
2	1	27	43		
3	2	50	57		
4	3	62	70		
5	4	74	75		
6	6	83	84		
7	10	89	93		
8	20	95	97		

Table 7.	The inhibition	percentage	of	complexes	1	and	2
	from the mSOI	D assay.					

These  $IC_{50}$  values are in the range of the  $IC_{50}$  of mSOD [6], which means that the superoxide anion radical scavenging effects of the two manganese(III)-salen complexes 1, and 2 were effectively inhibiting NBT reduction.



Figure 6. The mSOD activity curves of complexes 1 and 2, and the  $IC_{50}$  values.

The polymeric compound **2** shows the higher SOD activity than the dimeric compound **1**. The different  $IC_{50}$  values obtained from the riboflavin photoreduction mSOD assay clearly indicate that structural differences of the two complexes affect SOD activity. It seems that the polymeric structure is better at facilitating the redox cycle of the Mn<sup>III</sup>-Mn<sup>II</sup> ions in the superoxide dismutation than the dimeric structure and through the same method, both of the multinuclear complexes have better ativities than the mononuclear [Mn(salen)OAc] complex.

#### Conclusions

Two new multinuclear manganese(III)-salen complexes containing 4,4'-bipyridine bridging ligand and  $ClO_4^-$  axial ligand or  $PF_6^-$  counter anion, namely dimeric  $[{Mn(salen)(ClO_4)}_2(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]$  (1), and polymeric  $\{[Mn(salen)(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]PF_6\}_n$  (2), were prepared and structurally characterized. Their SOD mimic activity was determined and indicates that structural features affect SOD activity.

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Synthesis	Crystal Structure of : Research [{Mn(salen)(ClO <sub>4</sub> )} <sub>2</sub> (µ-4,4'-bpy)] (1)	
Deawati, Y., Onggo, D., Muyani, I., Hastiawan, I., Kurnia, D., Lonnecke, P.,	Coordination polymer along (010) of	
Schmorl, S., Kersting, B., Hey-Hawkins, E.	$\frac{\{[Mn(salen)(\mu-4,4'-bpy)]PF_6\}_n \cdot 1.5MeOH \cdot 0.5H_2O(2)}{\downarrow \downarrow $	
	6	
P		

Synthesis, Crystal Structures, and Superoxide Dismutase Activity of Two New Multinuclear Manganese(III)-Salen-4,4'-Bipyridine Complexes

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- So far, no multinuclear manganese(III)-salen reported as SOD mimics.
- Here, we report the synthesis and characterization of manganese(III)-salen multinuclear complexes containing 4,4'-bpy bridging ligand and ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> axial ligand or PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> counter anion. This study is neded to investigate the effect of multinuclear structural to SOD activity.
- Two new multinuclear manganese(III)-salen complexes containing 4,4'-bipyridine bridging ligand and ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> axial ligand or PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> counter anion, namely dimeric [{Mn(salen)(ClO<sub>4</sub>)}<sub>2</sub>(μ-4,4'-bpy)] (1), and polymeric {[Mn(salen)(μ-4,4'-bpy)]PF<sub>6</sub>}<sub>n</sub> (2), were prepared and structurally characterized. Their SOD mimic activity was determined and indicates that structural features affect SOD activity.