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Siderophore-Mediated Mobilization of Manganese Limits Iron Solubility in Mixed Mineral Systems

[Kyounglim](https://pubs.acs.org/action/doSearch?field1=Contrib&text1="Kyounglim+Kang"&field2=AllField&text2=&publication=&accessType=allContent&Earliest=&ref=pdf) Kang[*](#page-11-0) and [Jasquelin](https://pubs.acs.org/action/doSearch?field1=Contrib&text1="Jasquelin+Pen%CC%83a"&field2=AllField&text2=&publication=&accessType=allContent&Earliest=&ref=pdf) Peña*

ABSTRACT: Recent laboratory and field studies show the need to consider the formation of aqueous Mn(III)-siderophore complexes in manganese (Mn) and iron (Fe) geochemical cycling, a shift from the historical view that aqueous Mn(III) species are unstable and thus unimportant. In this study, we quantified Mn and Fe mobilization by desferrioxamine B (DFOB), a terrestrial bacterial siderophore, in single (Mn or Fe) and mixed (Mn and Fe) mineral systems. We selected manganite (γ-MnOOH), $δ$ -MnO₂, lepidocrocite (γ -FeOOH), and 2-line ferrihydrite (Fe₂O₃·0.5H₂O) as relevant mineral phases. We found that DFOB mobilized Mn(III) as Mn(III)-DFOB complexes to varying extents from both Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides but reduction of $Mn(IV)$ to $Mn(III)$ was required for the mobilization of Mn(III) from δ -MnO₂. The initial rates of Mn(III)-DFOB mobilization from manganite and δ -MnO₂ were not affected by the presence of lepidocrocite but decreased by a factor of 5 and 10 for manganite and *δ*- $MnO₂$, respectively, in the presence of 2-line ferrihydrite. Additionally, the decomposition of Mn(III)-DFOB complexes through Mn-for-Fe ligand exchange and/or ligand oxidation led to $Mn(II)$ mobilization and $Mn(III)$

precipitation in the mixed-mineral systems (∼10% (mol Mn/mol Fe)). As a result, the concentration of Fe(III) mobilized as Fe(III)- DFOB decreased by up to 50% and 80% in the presence of manganite and δ -MnO₂, respectively, compared to the single mineral systems. Our results demonstrate that siderophores, through their complexation of Mn(III), reduction of Mn(III,IV), and mobilization of Mn(II), can redistribute Mn to other soil minerals and limit the bioavailability of Fe in natural systems.

KEYWORDS: *aqueous Mn(III), δ-MnO2, manganite, lepidocrocite, 2-line ferrihydrite, iron acquisition, siderophore, DFOB*

1. INTRODUCTION

Iron (Fe) and manganese (Mn) are the first and second most abundant redox-active elements in the Earth's crust, respec-tively.^{[1](#page-12-0),[2](#page-12-0)} Both trace metals are essential nutrients for all living organisms and their redox cycles impact numerous environmental processes, including nutrient cycling, $3,4$ soil carbon stabilization,^{[5,6](#page-12-0)} and contaminant (im)mobilization.^{[7](#page-12-0)-[9](#page-12-0)} In soils, Fe and Mn often co-occur as various Fe(III) and Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide phases.[10](#page-12-0) Due to their ubiquitous nature, large surface area, and high redox activity, these metal oxides inevitably interact through electron transfer between Fe(II) and $\text{Mn}(III, IV)$ oxyhydroxides^{[11](#page-12-0)} or surface catalyzed $\text{Mn}(II)$ oxidation by Fe(III) oxyhydroxides[.12](#page-12-0) Organic acids, which can promote ligand-promoted and reductive dissolution of Fe(III) and Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide phases, can provide another important link between the Fe and Mn cycles. 13 13 13

Laboratory studies have shown that Mn(III) species form through four processes: (1) abiotic and biotic oxidation of $Mn(III)$ to $Mn(III)$,^{[14](#page-12-0)} (2) comproportionation of $Mn(II)$ and $\text{Mn}(\text{IV})$ at the surface of $\text{Mn}(\text{IV})$ oxides, 15 15 15 (3) photo $^{16}/$ chemical^{17−[20](#page-12-0)} reduction of Mn(IV) oxyhydroxides, and (4)

ligand-promoted dissolution of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides.^{21-[23](#page-12-0)} Due to the rapid disproportionation of free Mn(III) ions to $Mn(II)$ and $Mn(IV)O₂$, these reactions are restricted to conditions where the solution pH is extremely low²⁴ or where $Mn(III)$ binding ligands are present.^{[25](#page-12-0)} Until recently, the prevalence and environmental significance of dissolved Mn(III) species had been ignored due to their low solubility and redox instability.[26](#page-12-0)−[28](#page-12-0) However, substantial amounts of aqueous Mn(III) complexed by organic and inorganic ligands have been found in natural systems, including in soil, $29,30$ sedi-ment,^{[31](#page-12-0),[32](#page-12-0)} estuarine,^{[33](#page-12-0)–[35](#page-12-0)} and marine^{36,[37](#page-12-0)} environments.

The most common class of Mn(III) binding ligands are those with a high affinity for Fe, known as siderophores.^{38,[39](#page-12-0)} Plants and microorganisms exude siderophores in response to Fe

Special Issue: [Environmental](https://pubs.acs.org/toc/aesccq/7/4?ref=pdf) Redox Processes and [Contaminant](https://pubs.acs.org/toc/aesccq/7/4?ref=pdf) and Nutrient Dynamics

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deficiency, which typically occurs at circumneutral pH and oxic conditions where Fe solubility is low.^{40,[41](#page-13-0)} The hydroxamate,^{[14,39](#page-12-0)} (amino)carboxylate, 37 catechol, 42 or phosphate 43 functional groups in siderophores form stable aqueous complexes with Fe(III). Though generally considered specific for Fe(III), nearly all siderophores have a similar or higher affinity for $Mn(III)$.^{[44](#page-13-0)} Duckworth and Sposito^{[14](#page-12-0)} showed that the bacterial siderophore, desferrioxamine B (DFOB), has comparable affinities for Mn(III) and Fe(III) and can mobilize Mn from Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide minerals as $Mn(III)$ -DFOB and $Mn(II)$.^{[22](#page-12-0),[45](#page-13-0)} Any siderophore-mediated mobilization of Mn(III) may simultaneously lower the pool of ligands available for Fe chelation and promote the redistribution of Mn. Additionally, as shown by the redox ladder in [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S1, the high reduction potential of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides may lead to ligand oxidation and thus inhibit siderophore-assisted Fe mobilization.

Despite the multiple pathways through which siderophores may impact Fe and Mn cycling, prior studies have focused only on siderophore-promoted mobilization of metals from single mineral systems. The extents of ligand competition, decomposition of the ligand and/or metal−ligand complexes, and steady-state concentrations of the metal complexes in the presence of multiple redox-active minerals are therefore unknown[.40](#page-12-0),[46](#page-13-0)[−][48](#page-13-0) In this study, we investigated the kinetics of Mn(III)-ligand, Mn(II), and Fe(III)-ligand mobilization by DFOB from single (Mn or Fe) and mixed (Mn and Fe) mineral systems composed by manganite (*γ*-MnOOH), $δ$ -MnO₂, lepidocrocite (*γ*-FeOOH), and/or 2-line ferrihydrite (Fe₂O₃· $0.5H_2O$).

Knowing that the mobilization kinetics and the stability of Mn and Fe species depend on pH, mineral type, and mineral combination, we developed two hypotheses. First, we hypothesized that DFOB can mobilize Fe as Fe(III)-DFOB and Mn as both $Mn(III)$ -DFOB and $Mn(II)$, with $Mn(II)$ resulting from ligand-assisted reduction of Mn(IV) or Mn(III). Second, we hypothesized that Mn(III)-DFOB and Mn(II) may readsorb onto Fe(III) oxyhydroxides, leading to Mn precipitation. To test these hypotheses, we conducted dissolution and adsorption experiments where DFOB was added to suspensions of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides and/or Fe(III) oxyhydroxides at circumneutral pH. Additionally, to determine the oxidation state and local bonding environment of any Mn associated with the Fe(III) minerals, we collected Mn−K edge X-ray absorption (XA) spectra from (i) Fe(III) oxyhydroxides reacted with Mn(III)-DFOB and (ii) Fe(III) oxyhydroxides reacted with Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides and DFOB. Based on metal mobilization kinetics and dissolved and solid-phase speciation analyses in model laboratory systems, we elucidated the pathways through which siderophores can mobilize Fe and Mn in natural environments where these metals co-occur.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Materials. All chemicals were obtained from commercial sources ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S1) and used as received. Ultrapure water (resistivity >18.2 MΩ·cm, TOC< 2 ppb, Milli-Q, Millipore) was used to prepare all solutions and suspensions.

2.1.1. Mineral Preparation. The four minerals used in this study were chemically synthesized using established protocols. Manganite and δ -MnO₂ were synthesized according to Hens et al. 49 49 49 and Marafatto et al., 16 16 16 respectively. Lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite were synthesized according to Schwertmann and Cornell (2008) ,^{[50](#page-13-0)} as described in detail in Mørup et al.^{[51](#page-13-0)} and Schwertmann et al., 52 respectively. Lepidocrocite and 2-line

ferrihydrite were stored as aqueous suspensions and used within 1 month of being synthesized; δ -MnO₂ was also stored as an aqueous suspension. Manganite was stored as a dried powder in the freezer. Prior to use, the manganite powder was suspended in Mili-Q water and sonicated for 5 min to achieve particle dispersion.

2.1.2. Mineral Characterization. Mineral purity and crystallinity were determined by powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) using a Bruker AXS D8 Advance powder diffractometer (Cu K*α* radiation, l = 1.5406 Å) at 40 kV and 40 mA. Crystallographic phase and lattice constants were confirmed using Jade MDI software ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2). Mineral specific surface area (SSA) was determined by the Brunauer−Emmet−Teller (BET) method with nitrogen adsorption using a Gemini VII Surface Area Analyzer (Micromeritics Instrument Corp., Norcross, GA) [\(Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2). Finally, the average manganese oxidation numbers (AMON, [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2) of manganite and *δ*- $MnO₂$ were determined by a three-step titration^{16,[53,54](#page-13-0)} by using a Metrohm 906 Titrando titrator equipped with a Pt potentiometric electrode. Briefly, a reference solution of Mohr's salt (1 mM in 0.1% sulfuric acid) was titrated with KMnO₄ (1 mM) to count the total moles of Fe(II) ($V₀$: volume of KMnO₄ solution added to the reference solution). Second, the Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides were dissolved in a Mohr's salt solution of the same mass as the reference solution. This test solution was titrated with $KMnO₄$ to quantify the number of moles of Fe(II) oxidized during the reduction of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide minerals $(V_1:$ amount of $KMnO_4$ solution added to the sample solution). Third, excess pyrophosphate (PP, ∼225 mM) was added to the test solution and the pH was adjusted to 6.5 before titration with $KMnO_4$ to oxidize $Mn(II)$ to $Mn(III)$ and therefore determine the total amount of Mn in the sample $(V_2:$ volume of $KMnO_4$ solution added to the PP-containing test solution). The AMON value was then calculated as $2 \times [(2 +$ $5(V_0 - V_1)/(4 V_2 - V_1)$.⁵⁴

2.2. Chemical Analysis. *2.2.1. Dissolved Species.* Total dissolved Mn and Fe concentrations were measured by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS, Agilent-7900). In this study, the total dissolved Fe includes only Fe(III)-DFOB as determined from the agreement between ICP-MS and UV−vis spectrophotometry measurements of Fe-DFOB in control experiments while the total dissolved Mn includes $Mn(II)$ and $Mn(III)$ -DFOB. The dissolved $Mn(II)$ was calculated as the difference between total dissolved Mn and Mn(III)-DFOB, which was quantified by UV−vis spectrometry as described below. The instrument was equipped with a quartz spray chamber, a microMist concentric gas nebulizer, and nickel sampler and skimmer cones. The instrument was operated using a 1.0 L min⁻¹ flow rate of argon carrier gas in helium (He) mode; the He flow rate was maintained at 4.5 mL min⁻¹ to minimize polyatomic interferences. The limit of quantification, which was calculated as a 3.3× detection limit,^{[55](#page-13-0)} was $0.04 \mu g L^{-1} (0.67 \text{ nM})$ for Mn and 0.2 μ g L⁻¹ (4.4 nM) for Fe.

Aqueous concentrations of Fe(III)-DFOB, Mn(III)-DFOB, and Mn(III)-pyrophosphate (hereafter, Fe-DFOB, Mn-DFOB, and Mn-PP) were determined by UV−vis spectrophotometry (UV-2600, SHIMADZU). For Fe-DFOB, standard solutions were prepared by combining Fe(III) and DFOB solutions in a 1:1 ratio. The Fe-DFOB solution has a dark orange coloration with an absorbance maximum at 428 nm (ε_{428} = 2820 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) at pH 7.0 and 7.5 ($\varepsilon_{428} = 2831 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$; [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S3a). For Mn-DFOB, standard solutions were prepared by airoxidation of a Mn(II) solution in the presence of DFOB at pH 9.0. The Mn(II) to DFOB ratio was 1:1.1 in order to ensure that all of the oxidized $Mn(II)$ was complexed with DFOB.³⁷ The Mn-DFOB solution has a dark green coloration with an absorbance maximum at 310 nm (ε_{310} = 2230 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) at pH 7.0 and 7.5 ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S3b). The presence of Mn(II) did not interfere with the absorbance of Mn-DFOB (ε_{310} = 2244 M⁻¹ cm[−]¹ , [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S3c). However, Fe-DFOB, when present, interfered with Mn-DFOB quantification since both complexes absorb light at 310 nm [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S3d). In these samples, absorbance due to Mn-DFOB was calculated by subtracting the absorbance due to Fe-DFOB from the total absorbance. These calculations are described in [Text](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S1, with the relevant absorption coefficients tabulated in [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S3. For Mn-PP, standard solutions were prepared by the addition of a pyrophosphate solution to Mn(III)-acetate particles with a ratio of 20:1. The solutions were stirred vigorously under a $N_{2(g)}$ environment for 24 h and filtered prior to measurement. The Mn-PP solution has a light pink coloration with an absorbance maximum at 257 nm (ε_{257} = 6776 M^{−1} cm^{−1}) at pH 8.0 [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) [S3e](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf)). The presence of Mn(II) did not interfere with the absorbance of Mn-PP (ε_{257} = 6766 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2f).

Finally, the concentration of uncomplexed DFOB was determined by complexation of DFOB with Fe(III), where Fe(III) solution was added in a small excess over the ligand concentration to ensure complete complexation of DFOB by Fe. The excess Fe was allowed to precipitate overnight. The following day, the sample was filtered (0.22 *μ*m polyethersulfone (PES) filter) to remove any Fe(III) precipitates and the filtrate was analyzed by UV-vis spectrophotometry.

2.2.2. Solid-Phase *Mn(III)*. Pyrophosphate (PP) extractions⁵⁶ were used to determine the concentration of solid-phase Mn(III) in $δ$ -MnO₂. Briefly, a PP solution was used to extract Mn(III) from the solid and the resulting Mn-PP complex was quantified by UV−vis spectrophotometry. Prior to analysis, the $δ$ -MnO₂ particles were washed with 0.1 M NaCl three times by centrifugation-resuspension cycles.^{[57](#page-13-0)} The washed particles were resuspended in a PP solution at a 1:20 Mn/PP ratio at pH 6.5 for 24 h in the dark. After 24 h, the suspension was filtered through a 0.22 *μ*m PES filter, and the solution was used for Mn−PP quantitation.

2.2.3. Manganese K-edge X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy. Manganese K-edge XA spectra for a subset of samples (see [Section](#page-4-0) 2.3.3) were collected at 77 K (LN2 cryostat) at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (BL 4-1) using a Si(220) ϕ = 90 monochromator crystal. The incident beam (1) mm in the vertical dimension) was detuned by 50% at 7000 eV. Monochromator energies were calibrated using a metal foil at 6539 eV (Mn). Manganese K-edge XA spectra were collected in fluorescence mode. Fluorescence yield spectra were measured using a solid-state passivated implanted planar silicon (PIPS) detector or a germanium (Ge) detector equipped with Z-1 filters (i.e., Cr for Mn). Data reduction was completed using standard procedures. Replicate scans (4−5) were averaged to improve the signal-to-noise ratio, and the dead-time was corrected when acquired using the Ge detector. No X-ray-induced changes were observed between replicate scans. X-ray absorption spectra were averaged, background subtracted $(E_0$ of 6550 for Mn), and normalized to 1 absorption unit using Sixpack.^{[58](#page-13-0)} The extracted extended X-ray fine structure (EXAFS) spectra were weighted by k3 and Fourier-transformed (FT) using a Kaiser−Bessel window with a dk value of 3 Å $^{-1}$. Both X-ray near edge structure (XANES) and EXAFS spectra were compared to reference spectra acquired from samples with Mn in known oxidation states. Manganese K-edge XANES and EXAFS spectra were subsequently analyzed by linear combination fitting (LCF) in Athena.^{[59](#page-13-0)}

2.2.4. DFOB and Oxidation Products. Liquid chromatography−mass spectrometry (LC−MS) was used to determine the DFOB concentration and to identify any DFOB oxidation products. For LC−MS analysis, the sample was diluted in H₂O and injected into a Phenomenex Kinetex C18 column (2.1 mm × 100 mm). Two solvents were used (Optima LC−MS grade, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA): $H_2O/0.1\%$ formic acid (A solution) and acetonitrile (B solution). A reverse phase gradient was run over 12 min, with the percentage of the B solution increasing from 5% to 90% at a flow rate of 250 *μ*L min[−]¹ . The HPLC eluent was monitored for positive and negative ions *via* separate LC runs using a Thermo Scientific Q-Exactive HF mass spectrometer (Bremen, Germany) operated in profile mode. Source parameters were 4.5 kV spray voltage, capillary temperature of 275 **°**C, and sheath gas setting of 15. Spectral data were acquired at a resolution setting of 60,000 fwhm (full width at half maximum) with the lockmass feature enabled, which typically results in a mass accuracy <2 ppm.

2.3. Dissolution and Adsorption Experiments. *2.3.1. Dissolution of Mn(III/IV)/Fe(III) Oxyhydroxide Minerals.* Dissolution experiments were carried out under ambient atmospheric conditions at constant temperature $(20 \pm 1 \degree C)$ in a 0.1 M NaCl background electrolyte. The ionic strength of 0.1 M NaCl was selected to avoid any changes in the reaction progress due to changes in the ionic strength of the solution upon DFOB addition or reaction product accumulation. All experiments were conducted in duplicate. The batch reactors (glass beaker, 100 mL) were wrapped in aluminum foil to prevent potential photo-reduction of Mn(III,IV)/Fe(III) oxyhydroxide minerals or photo-decomposition of the metal− ligand complexes. The reactor contents were mixed continuously with a magnetic stirrer and a Teflon-coated stirring bar. The pH was set by the addition of 10 mM HCl or NaOH and maintained constant $(\Delta pH = \pm 0.05)$ by using a pH STAT (Metrohm, 906 Titrando). The volumes of NaOH and/or HCl added for pH adjustment (less than 1 mL) were recorded and accounted for when calculating the concentrations of all dissolved species. We avoided the use of organic buffers for pH control because Good's buffers are recognized to reduce $\rm Mn (IV)$ and create $\rm Mn (III)$ in layer-type $\rm Mn$ oxides. 17,57,60 17,57,60 17,57,60 17,57,60 17,57,60 17,57,60

To begin an experiment, an aliquot of the mineral stock suspension was added to the background electrolyte at 90% of the final suspension volume. The suspension pH was adjusted to the desired value using 10 mM HCl or NaOH. After 1 h of equilibration, the final volume (50 mL) and suspension concentrations (1 mM Fe and/or Mn, 50 *μ*M DFOB, 0.1 M NaCl) were reached by the addition of DFOB from a stock solution (1 mM DFOB). The initial time $(t = 0)$ corresponds to the time of DFOB addition.

Samples were collected periodically over a period of 72 h and filtered through 0.22 *μ*m PES syringe filters. The filtrates (2.5 mL) were collected and split into two aliquots, such that one sample aliquot was acidified with trace metal grade $HNO₃$ for analysis of the total dissolved Mn and Fe concentrations and one sample aliquot was measured immediately to determine the Mn-DFOB and Fe-DFOB concentrations as described in [Section](#page-2-0) [2.2.1.](#page-2-0)

The initial rates of Mn-DFOB, Fe-DFOB, and Mn(II) mobilization were calculated by linear regression of the dissolved Mn-DFOB, Fe-DFOB, and Mn(II) concentration

Figure 1. Manganese (Mn) mobilization from (a) manganite and (b) δ -MnO₂ and iron (Fe) mobilization from (c) lepidocrocite and (d) 2-line ferrihydrite by 50 *μ*M DFOB as a function of time at pH 7.0 under oxic conditions in single and mixed mineral suspensions (1 mM Mn and 1 mM Fe, 0.1 M NaCl). Mobilized Mn(III) and Fe(III) are shown as Mn-DFOB (a and b) and Fe-DFOB (c and d), respectively. Complexed DFOB is shown as Mn-DFOB in Mn single mineral systems and the sum of Mn-DFOB and Fe-DFOB in mixed mineral systems (e and f). A different*y*-axis scale was used for (b) .

against time for the data points over which the increase of dissolved Mn and Fe was linear. The initial rates $(\mathrm{mol\ kg^{-1}\ h^{-1}})$ were normalized by the mass of mineral (kg) in the reactor. The rate of DFOB decomposition, instead, was modeled as a firstorder process with the rate coefficient calculated by linear regression of the log of the Mn-DFOB concentration against time.

2.3.2. Metal and Ligand Adsorption. Adsorption isotherms were measured for sorption of Mn(II) (0−500 *μ*M Mn(II); pH 7.0 and 7.5), DFOB (0−100 *μ*M; pH 7.0 and 7.5), Mn-DFOB (0−100 *μ*M; pH 7.0), and Fe-DFOB (0−100 *μ*M; pH 7.0) to Mn(III,IV) and Fe(III) oxyhydroxide minerals. Mineral suspensions were prepared as described in [Section](#page-3-0) 2.3.1. Experimental determination of Mn(II) adsorption onto *δ*- $MnO₂$ was not possible due to the fast oxidation of adsorbed $Mn(II)$ even under anoxic conditions^{[61,62](#page-13-0)} (data not shown). All experiments were carried out in duplicate at 20 ± 1 °C, in a 0.1 M NaCl electrolyte and under ambient atmospheric conditions, except Mn(II) adsorption experiments, which were conducted under a N₂-atmosphere to avoid surface oxidation of Mn(II).

Adsorption experiments were initiated by adding an aliquot of the adsorptive to the mineral suspension (50 mL) contained in a glass beaker (100 mL). Samples were mixed by using a magnetic stirrer and a Teflon-coated stir bar. After a reaction time of 10 min, samples were filtered (0.22 *μ*m PES filter) and the filtrate was analyzed for the dissolved metal and metal−ligand concentrations as described in [Section](#page-2-0) 2.2.1. The q_{max} and K_D values [\(Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S6) were calculated by fitting a Langmuir model to the experimental data ([Figures](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) $S8-S11$).^{[63](#page-13-0)}

2.3.3. Samples for XAS Analysis. Two types of sample were used for X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) analysis [\(Section](#page-3-0) [2.2.3\)](#page-3-0): Type 1 samples were collected from experiments where Mn-DFOB was reacted with Fe(III) oxyhydroxides and Type 2 samples were collected from experiments where DFOB was reacted with Fe(III) oxyhydroxides in the presence of Mn(III/ IV) oxyhydroxides. These experiments were conducted at pH 7 on a pH STAT. For Type 1 samples, 1 mM Mn-DFOB was reacted with lepidocrocite or 2-line ferrihydrite (10 mM Fe, 0.1 M NaCl) for 10 days. For Type 2 samples, a dialysis membrane device with 1000 kDa molecular weight cutoff (Float-A-Lyzer, Spectrum Laboratory Products) was used to physically separate the Fe and Mn minerals. Mineral suspensions to final concentrations of 10 mM Mn and 10 mM Fe were added in two separate Float-A-Lyzer devices. Subsequently, the devices were submerged in a 100 mL reactor containing 0.1 M NaCl and 1 mM DFOB for 10 days. Parallel experiments for the analysis of dissolved species ([Section](#page-2-0) 2.2.1) were conducted under the same conditions as described in [Section](#page-3-0) 2.3.1 but without the Float-A-Lyzer devices.

After 10 days of reaction, the solids were collected for XAS analysis by filtration onto 0.45 *μ*m filter membranes (25 mm diameter, nitrocellulose filter; Millipore Sigma-Aldrich). The filter membranes were cut into 0.2×1.8 cm² rectangles, stacked, and sealed with Kapton tape. A sample mass of about 8.1 mg in a 0.36 cm² area was used in order to avoid self-absorption effects. The sealed samples were attached to an aluminum sample holder and stored at −20 °C until analysis to prevent any changes in the Mn redox state.

3. RESULTS

3.1. Ligand-Promoted Mn and Fe Mobilization. *3.1.1. Mn-DFOB Mobilization from Mn(III,IV) Oxyhydroxides: Effect of Fe(III) Oxyhydroxides.* [Figure](#page-4-0) 1a shows the mobilization of Mn-DFOB from manganite (1 mM Mn, AMON: 3.02) by 50 *μ*M DFOB in the absence and presence of lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite (1 mM Fe) at pH 7.0. Experiments conducted at pH 7.5 showed marginal differences in reaction rates and extent relative to pH 7.0 and hence are not discussed further ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S5a and Table S4). In the absence of the Fe(III) oxyhydroxide minerals, the Mn-DFOB concentration increased linearly during the first 2 h $(0.15 \text{ mol kg}^{-1} \, \text{h}^{-1})$ and reached a maximum concentration of 38 *μ*M after 4 h. With added lepidocrocite, the initial mobilization rate and maximum concentration of Mn-DFOB were comparable to the manganiteonly system ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4). With added 2-line ferrihydrite, the initial mobilization rate of Mn-DFOB (0.034 mol $\text{kg}^{-1}\,\text{h}^{-1})$ and the maximum concentration of Mn-DFOB (3.5 *μ*M) were suppressed by a factor of 4.4 and 10.9, respectively, compared to the manganite-only system. Furthermore, in comparison to the manganite-only treatment where the maximum Mn-DFOB concentration remained constant from 4 to 72 h, the Mn-DFOB concentration decreased to 15.8 and 0.25 *μ*M in the treatments with lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite, respectively. Finally, Mn-DFOB decomposition was faster in the presence of 2-line ferrihydrite (0.035 h[−]¹) than in the presence of lepidocrocite (0.012 h[−]¹) due to more favorable adsorption of Mn-DFOB complexes onto 2-line ferrihydrite than lepidocrocite ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4 and [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S10) and subsequent Mn-for-Fe metal exchange as discussed in [Section](#page-10-0) 4.2.

The mobilization kinetics of Mn-DFOB from δ -MnO₂ (1 mM Mn, AMON: 4.01) at pH 7.0 are shown in [Figure](#page-4-0) 1b. In the absence of Fe(III) oxyhydroxide minerals, the Mn-DFOB

concentration increased linearly over 2 h (0.029 mol kg⁻¹ h⁻¹) to a maximum concentration of 6.7 *μ*M. However, after 2 h, the Mn-DFOB concentration decreased over time $(0.023\,h^{-1}$, [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) [S4](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf)), which indicates that Mn-DFOB is unstable in the presence of δ -MnO₂. In the presence of the Fe(III) oxyhydroxides, the initial mobilization rates of Mn-DFOB were lower by a factor of 2.4 for the lepidocrocite $+\delta$ -MnO₂ and 9.6 for 2-line ferrihydrite $+ \delta$ -MnO₂ treatments ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4). Additionally, the maximum mobilized Mn-DFOB concentrations decreased by a factor of 2.0 and 6.4 for the lepidocrocite + δ -MnO₂ and 2-line ferrihydrite + δ -MnO₂ treatments, respectively, compared to the δ -MnO₂-only treatment. The decomposition rate coefficient of Mn-DFOB in the presence of 2-line ferrihydrite (0.020 h[−]¹) was smaller than in the presence of lepidocrocite $(0.075\;{\rm h}^{-1})$. After 72 h of reaction, the Mn-DFOB concentrations were low but measurable: 1.2, 0.02, and 0.3 μ M for δ -MnO₂-only, δ -MnO₂ + lepidocrocite, and δ -MnO₂ + 2-line ferrihydrite, respectively. Like in the manganite systems, the rates and the concentrations of Mn-DFOB mobilized at pH 7.0 and pH 7.5 were similar ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S5b and Table S4).

3.1.2. Fe-DFOB Mobilization from Fe(III) Oxyhydroxides: Effect of Mn(III, IV) Oxyhydroxides. In addition to Mn mobilization by DFOB, Fe mobilization from lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite was monitored in the kinetic experiments in order to assess the potential interference of Mn (both Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide and Mn-DFOB) on Fe mobilization by DFOB ([Figure](#page-4-0) 1c,d). In the lepidocrocite-only treatment, the Fe-DFOB concentration reached the maximum possible concentration of 50 μ M after 72 h [\(Figure](#page-4-0) 1c). For the first 2 h, the initial Fe-DFOB mobilization rate $(0.018 \, \mathrm{mol \, kg^{-1} \, h^{-1}})$ in the lepidocrocite + manganite treatment was comparable to the initial Fe-DFOB mobilization rate (0.022 mol kg⁻¹ h⁻¹) in the lepidocrocite-only treatment, indicating that manganite does not affect the initial kinetics of Fe-DFOB mobilization. However, after 2 h, the Fe-DFOB mobilization rate in the mixed mineral treatment slowed down. Additionally, the Fe-DFOB concentration measured at 72 h (22.2 *μ*M) was a factor of 2.3 smaller than in the lepidocrocite-only treatment. In the treatment with added δ -MnO₂, the initial mobilization rate of Fe-DFOB (0.0046 mol kg^{-1} h⁻¹) and the maximum concentration of Fe-DFOB (1.6 *μ*M) were lower by a factor of 4.8 and 31.2, respectively, than in the lepidocrocite-only system ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4).

In comparison to the lepidocrocite treatments, the Mn- (III,IV) oxyhydroxides had a smaller effect on Fe-DFOB mobilization from 2-line ferrihydrite due to the fast kinetics of Fe-DFOB mobilization relative to Mn-DFOB mobilization. The initial Fe-DFOB mobilization rates from 2-line ferrihydrite were suppressed by a factor of 1.2 and 3.1 in the presence of manganite and δ -MnO₂, respectively [\(Figure](#page-4-0) 1d and [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4). In addition, the highest Fe-DFOB concentration in the 2-line ferrihydrite-only treatment was 38 *μ*M, which was smaller than the added DFOB concentration. This is due to the adsorption of DFOB (estimated adsorbed DFOB: 7 *μ*M) ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S9d) and (re)adsorption of Fe-DFOB (estimated adsorbed Fe-DFOB: 4.3 μ M) ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S11d). In the mixed mineral systems, the Fe-DFOB concentrations reached maximum values 31.2 and 12.4 $μ$ M in the manganite +2-line ferrihydrite and $δ$ -MnO₂ + 2-line ferrihydrite systems, respectively. The mobilized Fe-DFOB concentrations in the mixed mineral treatments were low but remained constant for 72 h, suggesting that the Fe-DFOB complex has higher stability than Mn-DFOB even in the presence of δ -MnO₂.

Figure 2. Manganese(II) mobilization by 50 *μ*M DFOB from (a) manganite and (b) δ -MnO₂ as a function of time at pH 7.0 under oxic conditions in the presence and absence of lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite (1 mM Mn, 1 mM Fe, 0.1 M NaCl). Note the difference in the *y*-axis scale for manganite (a) and δ -MnO₂ (b).

3.1.3. Metal-DFOB Mobilization in Mixed Mineral Systems. [Figure](#page-4-0) 1e shows the increase in metal-DFOB complexes over time for the treatments containing manganite. The kinetics and extent of metal-DFOB mobilization were similar in the manganite-only and lepidocrocite + manganite treatments but slower for the 2-line ferrihydrite + manganite treatment. Additionally, the metal-DFOB concentration measured at 72 h in these treatments accounted for only up to 76% of the added DFOB, suggesting a loss of more than 24% in the chelation ability of the added DFOB. In the treatment systems containing δ -MnO₂, the total metal-DFOB concentrations accounted for only up to 25% of the added DFOB, a factor of 3 lower than in the manganite systems ([Figure](#page-4-0) 1f). [Figure](#page-4-0) 1f also shows that the metal-DFOB concentrations were greater in the mixed mineral treatments than in the δ -MnO₂-only treatment, such that the metal-DFOB concentration increased from 1.0 to 1.6 and 12.6 μ M for δ -MnO₂-only, lepidocrocite + δ -MnO₂, and 2-line ferrihydrite + δ -MnO₂. Instead, the metal-DFOB concentrations decreased over time in the treatments that did not contain ferrihydrite (i.e., $δ$ -MnO₂-only, lepidocrocite + $δ$ -MnO₂) due to the oxidative decomposition of metal−ligand complexes, as discussed further in [Section](#page-10-0) 4.2.

3.2. Reductive Dissolution of Mn(III,IV) Oxyhydroxides: Effect of Fe(III) Oxyhydroxide Minerals. In all treatments containing Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides, the maximum metal-DFOB concentrations were lower than the added DFOB concentration ([Figure](#page-4-0) 1e,f) and the $Mn(II)$ concentration increased over time (Figure 2), indicating that a fraction of the added DFOB or metal-DFOB was oxidized by the Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides. In contrast, control experiments where manganite and δ -MnO₂ were reacted without DFOB at pH 7.0 showed negligible proton-promoted reductive dissolution ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4a) with less than 2.0 and 0.5 *μ*M Mn(II) measured in solution after 72 h of reaction.

In the manganite-only treatment, the dissolved $Mn(II)$ concentration increased over time after DFOB addition, albeit at an initial rate that was 7 times smaller than the Mn-DFOB mobilization rate (Figure 2a and [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4). Further, unlike the Mn-DFOB concentration, which plateaued after 4 h, the Mn(II) concentration increased slowly but continuously to a concentration of 22.4 *μ*M over the course of 72 h. In the presence of lepidocrocite, the Mn(II) mobilization rate (0.028 mol kg⁻¹ $\rm h^{-1})$ and total mobilized Mn(II) concentration were higher than in the manganite-only treatment. In the presence of 2-line ferrihydrite, instead, the Mn(II) mobilization rate (0.0058 mol

 $\rm kg^{-1}\,h^{-1})$ was 3.8 and 4.8 times lower than in the manganite-only and manganite + lepidocrocite systems, respectively. The lower $Mn(II)$ mobilization rate in the 2-line ferrihydrite + manganite treatment can be explained by the enhanced adsorption of DFOB onto the 2-line ferrihydrite [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S9d) and faster kinetics of Fe-DFOB mobilization compared to those for Mn-DFOB ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S7b), which makes DFOB unavailable for complexation by manganite. At pH 7.5, the Mn(II) mobilization rates were slower than at pH 7.0 due to readsorption and subsequent re-oxidation of $Mn(II)$ [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S6).

In treatments containing δ -MnO₂, the addition of DFOB generated Mn(II) as the dominant dissolved metal species (Figure 2b). In the δ -MnO₂-only treatment, the initial mobilization rate of Mn(II) (0.14 mol kg⁻¹ h⁻¹) was 5 times higher than the initial mobilization rate for Mn-DFOB. In the presence of lepidocrocite, both the Mn(II) mobilization rate $(0.42 \text{ mol kg}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1})$ and the maximum Mn(II) concentration (167 μ M) were 3 times larger than in the δ -MnO₂-only treatment, suggesting that the DFOB reacted with δ -MnO₂ can be oxidized by lepidocrocite. In contrast, in the presence of 2 line ferrihydrite, the initial Mn(II) mobilization rate (0.038 mol kg^{-1} h⁻¹) was 4 times smaller than in the δ -MnO₂-only treatment ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S4), as expected based on the faster kinetics of DFOB complexation of Fe than Mn. In comparison to the treatments at pH 7.0, the mobilization rates of $Mn(II)$ were consistently lower at pH 7.5.

3.3. Fate of DFOB. Changes in the DFOB concentration were measured for a subset of samples in the manganite-only and δ -MnO₂-only treatments as presented in [Figure](#page-7-0) 3. The aqueous concentrations of total DFOB $(DFOB_{[tot]} = [DFOB] + [Mn-$ DFOB]) calculated by mass balance are generally consistent with the LC−MS analysis for a subset of samples. For the manganite-only treatment, LC−MS analysisshowed 36 *μ*M Mn-DFOB, which indicates that of the added DFOB, about 70% acted as a Mn(III) binding ligand and 30% acted as a reducing agent. Given that 14 *μ*M DFOB was oxidized and 26 *μ*M Mn(II) was generated (22 *μ*M dissolved Mn(II) (Figure 2a) + 3.6 *μ*M adsorbed Mn(II) ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S8a)), we estimated that on average 2 moles of electrons were transferred to manganite per mole of DFOB ([Figure](#page-7-0) 3). In the δ -MnO₂-only treatment, at most 10% of the added DFOB formed Mn-DFOB, albeit for a short period of time [\(Figure](#page-4-0) 1b). Based on the maximum mobilized $Mn(II)$ concentration in the δ -MnO₂-only treatment (69 μ M Mn(II), Figure 2b, 2 moles of electrons transferred from DFOB to Mn(IV) per mole of Mn(II) generated) and solid-phase

Figure 3. Changes in DFOB concentration ($DFOB_{[tot]} = [DFOB] +$ [Mn-DFOB]) after reaction with manganite and δ -MnO₂ (1 mM Mn, 0.1 M NaCl) as a function of time at pH 7.0 under oxic conditions as calculated by mass balance or measured directly by LC−MS measurements. In both treatments, the DFOB concentration at $t = 0$ was 50 *μ*M.

Mn(III) concentration (50 *μ*M, Figure 3, 1 mole of electron transferred from DFOB to $Mn(IV)$, we estimated that DFOB and/or DFOB oxidation products transferred approximately four electrons to $Mn(IV)$ or $Mn(III)$ in δ -MnO₂. These $Mn(II)$ an Mn(III) concentrations were corrected based on the measurement of reduced Mn in separate experiments using *δ*- $MnO₂$ and the mesylate salt present with the DFOB compound. We found that mesylate can generate up to 15 *μ*M solid-phase $Mn(III)$ but no $Mn(II)$. Finally, the discrepancy (up to 25%) between calculated and measured DFOB concentrations for early time points (Figure 3) may be due to the difficulty in quantifying adsorbed species, which themselves may undergo additional redox transformations.

The reaction of DFOB and manganite generated oxidized DFOB that gained an oxygen atom (577.3578 *m*/*z*, (561.3595 m/z (DFOB) + 15.9983 m/z (O)) as well as smaller molecules (around 300 *m*/*z*), however the intensities of these molecules were small [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S13). Instead, the reaction of DFOB and *δ*- $MnO₂$ generated various oxidation products, including smaller molecules (less than 100 *m*/*z*, Figure [S14b,c](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf)) and dimers (between 715 and 831 *m*/*z*, [Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S14e,f). Neither acetate nor succinate was detected in our LC−MS analyses, in contrast to previous studies that have proposed that DFOB can be oxidized to succinate and acetate by pyrolusite^{[64](#page-13-0)} and to acetate by goethite.^{[65](#page-13-0)}

3.4. Fate of Mobilized Mn-DFOB and Mn(II) in Mixed Mineral Systems. To examine the fate of Mn-DFOB and Mn(II) formed from the interaction of manganite and δ -MnO₂ with DFOB, we measured the Mn K-edge XA spectra from a

Figure 4. Manganese K-edge XANES spectra of (a) reference samples (MnSO4, bixbyite, groutite, manganite, and *δ*-MnO2) and experimental samples (1 mM Mn-DFOB added to 10 mM lepidocrocite and 10 mM 2-line ferrihydrite, and 1 mM DFOB added to 10 mM of lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite in the presence of manganite and δ-MnO₂). Linear combination fit results are shown by the dashed lines. Linear combination fit results to determine manganese speciation are shown in (b) for a sample where Mn-DFOB was added to Fe(III) oxyhydroxides and (c) for samples where DFOB was added to mixed mineral systems. The fitting error for each component is plotted as an error bar.

Figure 5. Synthesis of measured initial mobilization rates for (a and b) Mn-DFOB, (c and d) Mn(II), and (e and f) Fe-DFOB from (a and c) manganite, (b and d) δ-MnO₂, (e) lepidocrocite, and (f) 2-line ferrihydrite from current work and literature values. Current work: 1 mM Mn(III,IV) or Fe(III) oxyhydroxides, 0.1 M NaCl, and 50 *μ*M DFOB. Duckworth and Sposito: 0.1 g L[−]¹ *δ*-MnO2 and 0.7 g L[−]¹ manganite, 0.1 M NaCl, 10−20 mM acetate, MES, MOPS, and HEPES, and 100 μM DFOB. Peña et al.: 2 g L⁻¹ hausmannite, 0.1 M NaCl, 30 mM acetate, MES, MOPS, and HEPES buffer, and 100 M DFOB. Kang et al.: 0.1 g L[−]¹ lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite, 0.01 M NaCl, 5 mM MES, MOPS, and PEPES buffers, and 20 *μ*M DFOB. Mikutta and Kretzschmar: 0.5 g L^{−1} 2-line ferrihydrite, 0.01 M NaClO₄, and 10 *μ*M DFOB. Poggenburg et al: 0.2 g L^{−1} 2-line ferrihydrite, 0.01 M KCl, and 100 *μ*M DFOB.

subset of samples. The Mn K-edge XANES and EXAFS spectra from the experimental samples were compared to the spectra measured from *δ*-MnO2, manganite, groutite (*α*-MnOOH), bixbyite (Mn_2O_3) , and aqueous $Mn(II)$ $(MnSO_4)$ references ([Figure](#page-7-0) 4a). The Mn K-edge XANES spectra for the experimental samples and linear combination fits (LCFs) based on reference spectra are shown in [Figure](#page-7-0) 4a and summarized in [Figure](#page-7-0) 4b,c. The LCFs reproduced the experimental spectra with component sums of 100−104% and *R* factors <6.6 \times 10⁻³, showing that all Mn associated with lepidocrocite and ferrihydrite was Mn(III) ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S7). Thus, the interaction of Mn-DFOB with Fe(III) oxyhydroxides and interaction of DFOB with Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides and Fe(III) oxyhydroxides can redistribute Mn from Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides to Fe(III) oxyhydroxides.

In Type 1 samples, where we examined the fate of Mn-DFOB after the Mn-for-Fe metal exchange reaction, we found that the added 1 mM Mn-DFOB decomposed fully after 24 h [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) [S15\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) and that Fe-DFOB increased to 296 *μ*M for lepidocrocite and 644 *μ*M for 2-line ferrihydrite and then remained constant over 10 days. These results indicate that 30% (lepidocrocite) and 64% (2-line ferrihydrite) of the added Mn-DFOB underwent a Mn-for-Fe exchange reaction and that the remaining Mn-DFOB underwent oxidative decomposition. Of the 1 mM Mn-DFOB added, 261 and 188 *μ*M Mn were measured as dissolved Mn(II) in the lepidocrocite and 2-line ferrihydrite treatments, respectively. The remaining Mn precipitated onto the Fe(III) oxyhydroxide minerals as Mn(III). The Mn K-edge XANES spectra of these samples were most similar to manganite and groutite [\(Figure](#page-7-0) 4b and [Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S7).

Figure 6. Schematic figure that describes the results from current experimental systems. The fraction (%) of each species mobilized by DFOB was calculated for 4 and 72 h.

In Type 2 samples, where DFOB was added to the mixedmineral treatments using the Float-a-lyzer devices, we found that the added 1 mM DFOB increased Mn-DFOB concentration up to 650 $μ$ M from manganite and up to 115 $μ$ M from $δ$ -MnO₂. However, the mobilized Mn-DFOB concentrations decreased over time after they reached the maximum concentrations (Figure [S16a,b\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf), which suggests that the Mn-DFOB complexes decomposed, forming $Mn(II)$ ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S16e,f) and/or Mn precipitates. The spectra collected from the Mn precipitates associated with the Fe(III) oxyhydroxides were most similar to the groutite reference spectrum irrespective of the treatment type ([Figure](#page-7-0) 4c), which is consistent with previous research. 66 Thus, we found no relationship between short-range order of the Mn surface precipitates $(δ Å)$ and the host Fe oxyhydroxide phase. In other words, the Mn(III) surface precipitates were not isostructural with the host Fe phase (i.e., manganite onto lepidocrocite or hematite onto 2-line ferrihydrite). Consistent with the XANES analysis, the Mn K-edge EXAFS spectra matched most closely to the EXAFS spectrum from groutite ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S17a) although the LCFs were of lower quality with component sums of 82−95% and *R*-factor values of less than 2.5 × 10[−]¹ ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S8). Inspection of the Fourier transformed Mn Kedge EXAFS spectra shows that the mismatch between the experimental samples and reference minerals occur mainly at $R +$ $\Delta R > 4$ Å [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S17b). Together, these results suggest that the Mn(III) precipitates associated with the Fe(III) oxyhydroxides are less ordered than the reference minerals.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Synthesis of Mn and Fe Dissolution Rates. In [Figure](#page-8-0) [5](#page-8-0), we compare the measured rates of Mn-DFOB, Mn(II), and Fe-DFOB mobilization to published values. The Mn-DFOB mobilization rates from manganite were consistent with published values for hausmannite^{[45](#page-13-0)} and manganite^{[22](#page-12-0)} [\(Figure](#page-8-0) [5](#page-8-0)a), but an order of magnitude smaller than reported previously for δ -MnO₂ and biogenic MnO₂ by Duckworth and Sposito⁶ ([Figure](#page-8-0) 5b). The major difference between the work of Duckworth and Sposito and our work is their use of organic buffers to control pH (20 mM HEPES and MOPS). Organic buffers, such as HEPES, can reduce $Mn(IV)$ in δMnO_2 to Mn(III) and lead to the formation of Mn(III)-rich δ -MnO₂. [60,68](#page-13-0) The mobilization of Mn-DFOB from Mn(III)-rich δ -MnO₂ $(\leq 3.65)^{69}$ $(\leq 3.65)^{69}$ $(\leq 3.65)^{69}$ would be more favorable than mobilization of Mn-DFOB from δ -MnO₂ (AMON = 4) because *a priori* reduction of Mn(IV) is not required and because the lower reduction potential of Mn(III) -rich δ -MnO₂^{[70,71](#page-13-0)} limits the oxidative decomposition of DFOB and Mn-DFOB.

While the Mn-DFOB mobilization rates did not vary with pH, the Mn(II) mobilization rates decreased with increasing pH ([Figure](#page-8-0) 5c,d). The slower mobilization of Mn(II) with increasing pH can be attributed to the slower decomposition of Mn-DFOB,^{[14](#page-12-0)} slower rate of manganite reduction,^{[22](#page-12-0)} and enhanced adsorption and possible reoxidation of Mn(II) onto both Mn and Fe mineral surfaces ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S8). These rates are consistent with those published for manganite (Duckworth and Sposito, 2005 ^{[22](#page-12-0)} but are an order of magnitude smaller than those for hausmannite due to the presence of Mn(II) in hausmannite (AMON of 2.67) (Peña et al., 2007)^{[45](#page-13-0)} and the

higher solubility of hausmannite compared to manganite.^{[72](#page-13-0)} We also found that $Mn(II)$ mobilization from δ -MnO₂ was 5 times smaller than previously reported.⁶⁷ We expect that the higher rates reported previously can be explained by presence of $Mn(III)$ in δ -MnO₂ upon reaction with HEPES.^{[70](#page-13-0)} This suggests that the reduction of Mn(III) rather than the detachment of surface-associated $Mn(II)$ is the rate limiting step in $Mn(II)$ mobilization.

For the single Fe(III) oxyhydroxide mineral systems, the measured Fe-DFOB mobilization rates were in agreement with published values for lepidocrocite [\(Figure](#page-8-0) $5e)^{47}$ $5e)^{47}$ $5e)^{47}$ and varied slightly for 2-line ferrihydrite [\(Figure](#page-8-0) 5f). $47,73,74$ $47,73,74$ $47,73,74$ $47,73,74$ $47,73,74$ This small variation may arise from differences in the experimental design, including pH control, electrolyte concentration, and presence of oxygen. In the presence of Mn oxyhydroxides, we observed lower rates of DFOB-promoted dissolution of Fe oxyhydroxides, especially over short reaction times $(< 8 \text{ h})$. This result suggests that the Fe mobilization rates may be lower in natural environments where Fe and Mn oxyhydroxide minerals cooccur.

4.2. Mn and Fe Mobilization Mechanism by DFOB in Mixed Mineral Systems. A schematic showing the mechanisms of Fe and Mn mobilization in mixed mineral systems is presented in [Figure](#page-9-0) 6. As discussed below, the dominant metal mobilization mechanism varied based on the combination of mineral, such that ligand-promoted dissolution was dominant in the manganite systems and reductive dissolution was dominant in the δ -MnO₂ systems.

4.2.1. Manganite Systems. In the treatments containing manganite, ligand-promoted dissolution was the dominant metal mobilization mechanism ([Figure](#page-9-0) 6). In the manganiteonly treatment, at most 76% (38 *μ*M) of the added DFOB formed Mn-DFOB complexes ([Figure](#page-4-0) 1a) despite the fact that DFOB can bind $Mn(III)$ in a 1:1 ratio.^{[44](#page-13-0)} This result is consistent with previous studies, which showed that about 75% of the added DFOB formed Mn-DFOB from manganite 22 22 22 and hausmannite.[45](#page-13-0) The amount of Mn-DFOB mobilized from manganite at short times, however, was much lower with added 2-line ferrihydrite than added lepidocrocite.

Lepidocrocite and manganite are isostructural and have similar specific surface areas [\(Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2). However, the solubility of lepidocrocite ($log K_{sp}: 1.37$) is substantially lower than the solubility of manganite ($\log K_{\rm sp}$: 4.57), indicating greater lability of Mn than Fe upon DFOB adsorption. Additionally, DFOB can be oxidized by the manganite surface, which generates surface $Mn(II).$ ^{[22](#page-12-0)} Any $Mn(II)$ on the manganite surface potentially increases metal lability through electron delocalization between structural Mn(III) and Mn(II).^{[75](#page-13-0)} Greater lability of Mn(III) species associated with higher solubility of manganite as well as catalytic effect of electron excess on the mineral surface may govern the initial kinetics of ligand-promoted dissolution in the lepidocrocite and manganite mixed mineral system. On the other hand, the solubility of 2-line ferrihydrite (log K_{sp} : 4.89) and manganite are similar, but 2-line ferrihydrite has a higher specific surface area than manganite ([Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2). The larger specific surface area allows for 3 times more DFOB adsorption by 2-line ferrihydrite than manganite [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S9), thereby limiting the access of DFOB to the manganite surface and hindering the ligand-promoted dissolution of manganite. In both mixed-mineral systems, the mobilized Mn-DFOB concentration decreased over time due to the metal exchange reaction with Fe(III) oxyhydroxides [\(Figure](#page-9-0) 6).

Unlike Mn-DFOB, the Fe-DFOB concentration either increased continuously during 72 h (lepidocrocite) or remained constant once the maximum concentration was attained (2-line ferrihydrite) ([Figure](#page-4-0) 1c). Thus, Fe-DFOB complexes are stable against metal exchange reactions and/or oxidative decomposition by manganite. The lack of oxidative decomposition of Fe-DFOB can be explained by the lower reduction potential of the Fe-DFOB couple compared to Mn-DFOB, which renders Fe-DFOB stable in the presence of manganite ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S1).

In the manganite systems, the $Mn(II)$ concentration increased slowly but continuously over the course of the experiment ([Figure](#page-6-0) 2a). A similar trend was observed by Duckworth and Sposito $(2005).^{22}$ $(2005).^{22}$ $(2005).^{22}$ These results suggest that oxidative decomposition of Mn-DFOB is more likely than oxidation of DFOB or oxidized DFOB fragments. Additionally, the total mobilized Mn(II) increased further in the presence of lepidocrocite, which may result from the lepidocrocite-induced decomposition of Mn-DFOB. Specifically, upon the adsorption of Mn-DFOB to lepidocrocite [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S10c), DFOB can participate in a metal exchange reaction given the higher stability constant of Fe-DFOB ($log K$: 33.0^{[47](#page-13-0)}) than Mn-DFOB ($log K$: 29.0¹⁴). Any Mn(III) liberated from the metal-exchange reaction can generate Mn(II) either through disproportionation of $Mn(III)$ or reduction of $Mn(III)$ to $Mn(II)$ coupled to ligand oxidation.

4.2.2. δ-MnO2 Systems. In the treatments containing *δ*- $MnO₂$, one of the strongest oxidants in aquatic and terrestrial systems, $76,77$ $76,77$ $76,77$ the dominant metal mobilization mechanism involved reductive dissolution of δ -MnO₂ [\(Figure](#page-9-0) 6) coupled to the oxidation of DFOB and Mn-DFOB. Due to the initial loss of DFOB by δ -MnO₂, at most, 25% of the added DFOB was able to form metal-DFOB complexes in the δ -MnO₂ systems. Additionally, the Mn-DFOB concentrations decreased substantially from their maximum values, even in δ -MnO₂-only system, confirming that Mn-DFOB is unstable in the presence $δ$ -MnO₂. Through LC−MS analyses, we found (i) that δ -MnO₂ destroys the hydroxylamine functional groups, which results in small organic fragments with no metal-binding capacity [\(Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) [S14b,c\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) and (ii) evidence for dimerization of the DFOB oxidation products (Figure [S14d,e\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf). In all δ -MnO₂ containing treatments, the remaining Mn-DFOB concentrations were in the submicromolar range, which are consistent with the concentration of aqueous Mn(III) detected in natural environ-ments.^{[30,33](#page-12-0),[34](#page-12-0),[36,37](#page-12-0)}

In the δ -MnO₂ systems, the initial Fe-DFOB mobilization rates and the total mobilized Fe-DFOB concentration decreased substantially due to the oxidative loss of DFOB but remained constant once formed, as expected since Fe-DFOB is stable against oxidative decomposition by Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides. The stability of Fe-DFOB is likely due to the marginal adsorption of Fe-DFOB onto the Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides (Figure [S11a,b\)](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) and lower redox potential of the Fe(III)- DFOB/Fe(II)-DFOB ($E_{1/2}$ in V vs NHE: -0.448)^{[78](#page-13-0)} couple relative to the manganite/Mn²⁺ and δ -MnO₂/Mn²⁺ couple ([Figure](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S1).

For Mn(II), we observed higher rates than for Mn-DFOB and/or Fe-DFOB mobilization [\(Figures](#page-4-0) 1 and [2](#page-6-0)). This result suggests that Mn(II) formation results more likely from the direct reduction of δ -MnO₂ by DFOB rather than Mn-DFOB. Because the δ -MnO₂ used in our study had an initial AMON value of 4.01 [\(Table](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf) S2), surface $Mn(III)$ is likely an intermediate that forms prior to the mobilization of $Mn(II)$.⁶⁹ Both AMON titrations and PP-extractions showed 10% Mn(III)

5. CONCLUSIONS

In this study, we examined metal−ligand complex formation, extent of ligand competition, and decomposition of ligand and metal−ligand complexes in mixed mineral systems containing Mn(III,IV) and Fe(III) oxyhydroxides. We showed that siderophores can increase aqueous Mn(III) concentrations in mixed-mineral systems, although the mechanism of Mn-DFOB formation varies with the type of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxide minerals. For manganite, Mn-DFOB complexes formed by ligand-promoted dissolution; while for *δ*-MnO₂, Mn-DFOB complexes formed upon reduction of surface Mn(IV) to Mn(III) by DFOB and subsequent detachment of Mn(III) by unoxidized DFOB. Importantly, we observed that the initial kinetics of metal mobilization were governed by Mn mobilization (Mn-DFOB and Mn(II)) rather than Fe mobilization. However, the mobilized Mn-DFOB decreased over time due to metal exchange reactions or oxidation reactions by Mn and Fe mineral surfaces. Our results demonstrate that siderophores can lead to outbursts of short-lived Mn(III) species, affecting the function of siderophores as well as Fe acquisition efficiency. This is of particular relevance to natural systems like the rhizosphere where soil minerals and root exudates co-exist.

Iron acquisition strategies that rely on siderophore exudation can be significantly hindered by the presence of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides. Our observations of Mn-DFOB concentrations in the δ -MnO₂ + 2-line ferrihydrite treatment are consistent with the nano- to submicromolar aqueous $Mn(III)$ concentrations concentrations commonly observed in terrestrial and aquatic environments, 37 where birnessite-like minerals and ferrihydrite are prevalent. Although the Mn-DFOB concentrations were low, we observed that Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides can limit Fe-DFOB mobilization due not only to competition with Mn(III) but also surface-catalyzed oxidative decomposition of DFOB. Siderophore decomposition is particularly significant in the context of biological Fe acquisition strategies. When plants and microbes experience Fe deficiency, they exude both siderophores and reductants. Reductant exudation can lower the redox potential of Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides and increase the solubility of both Mn(III) and Fe(III) without compromising the integrity of the siderophores. Further research is needed to evaluate this mechanism. Finally, because siderophores can increase both Mn(III) and Fe(III) solubility, the classification of siderophores solely as Fe binding ligands should be re-evaluated.

Our Mn K-edge XANES and EXAFS spectra showed the formation of Mn(III)-bearing precipitates on Fe(III) oxyhydroxides surfaces. The redistribution of Mn from Mn(III,IV) oxyhydroxides to Fe(III) oxyhydroxides, which was mediated through ligand-promoted and reductive dissolution of the Mn mineral and subsequent readsorption of Mn-DFOB and Mn(II), shows that siderophores can act as manganese vectors. This finding is relevant in various environments. For instance, siderophores have been implicated in the formation of Fe−

Mn nodules in sediments in marine environments.^{[79](#page-13-0)-[81](#page-14-0)} Furthermore, although Mn abundance is an order of magnitude lower than Fe abundance in soil, the impacts of Mn chemistry in soil biogeochemical cycles can be similar or greater than that of Fe. Our data suggest that siderophore-mediated redistribution of Mn can shift the surrounding redox environment toward more oxidizing conditions. In particular, Mn-coated/incorporated Fe(III) oxyhydroxides may have distinct sorption and oxidation properties from pure Fe(III) oxyhydroxides and thus affect the mobility and speciation of trace metal nutrients and contaminants as well as organic carbon.^{[82](#page-14-0)}

■ **ASSOCIATED CONTENT**

\bullet Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at [https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsearthspace](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271?goto=supporting-info)[chem.2c00271.](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271?goto=supporting-info)

Tables of chemicals used for this study, properties of synthetic Mn and Fe oxyhydroxides, extinction coefficient for Fe-DFOB and Mn-DFOB interferences, summary of experiments and mobilization rates, summary of AMON values and PP extracted Mn(III) concentrations, summary of adsorption experiments and the q_{max} and K_D values, and linear combination fitting for Mn K-edge XANES and EXAFS spectra, figures of redox ladder for Fe, Mn, and DFOB species, XRD patterns, absorbance of metal−ligand complexes under various conditions, adsorption isotherms, summary of the batch dissolution experiments, dissolution rates and decomposition coefficients, AMON and PP-extraction data, dissolution data at pH 7.5, LC−MS data, and wet chemistry data for XAS samples and EXAFS data, and discussion of procedure for calculating Fe-DFOB and Mn-DFOB interference [\(PDF](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.2c00271/suppl_file/sp2c00271_si_001.pdf))

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Notes

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