

## **Supporting Information**

# **Convenient Detection of Thiol Functional Group Using H/D Isotope Sensitive Raman Spectroscopy**

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## EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Thiophenol (99+%) was purchased from Spectrochem Pvt. Ltd. 1-ethanethiol (99+%) and deuterated water (99.8%) were purchased from Acros Organics. 1-butanethiol (99%), 1-octanethiol (98.5%), 1-dodecanethiol (98+%), cysteamine hydrochloride, cystamine, L-cysteine hydrochloride, L-cystine, N-acetyl cysteine, chloroform-D (99.8+%) and HPLC grade methanol (99.8+%) were purchased from Aldrich chemical company. Glutathione and glutathione disulfide (extrapure) were purchased from SRL Pvt. Ltd. Methanol-D4 (99.8+%) was purchased from Merck Germany. All reagents were used without any further purification. The single distilled water was further distilled twice by using Borosil distillation setup and this triply distilled water was used for sample preparation.

The neat deuterated samples for PhSH and C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH (as in Fig. 2a & 2b in main text) are prepared by dissolving the crude (liquid) compounds in 10 equivalents of CD<sub>3</sub>OD, and then by evaporating the solvent by rotary evaporation. The Raman spectra of the deuterated species of other alkyl thiols (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>SH and C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>SH) were recorded in solutions of CD<sub>3</sub>OD. The spectrum of CD<sub>3</sub>OD is subtracted from the solution spectra to get the spectra of the deuterated compounds. Similarly the spectra for the protonated thiols are acquired in CH<sub>3</sub>OH. Data in water are obtained by dissolving the compounds in H<sub>2</sub>O or D<sub>2</sub>O (for isotopic substitution).

A Kr<sup>+</sup> laser (Sabre Innova, model SBRC-DBW-K) from Coherent and a spectrograph with 1.5 mm slit width (model Trivista 555) fitted with an electronically cooled Pixis CCD from Princeton Instruments are used to collect the Raman data. The excitation wavelength used in the Raman experiments is 482.5 nm and the power applied

on the sample is around 30 mW. Spectra of liquid alkylthiols (both neat and solution) are recorded in NMR tubes.

All NMR spectra were recorded on the Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer at room temperature.

All the DFT calculations were performed on the Inorganic-HPC cluster at IACS using the Gaussian 03 software package.<sup>1</sup> The geometries were optimized with the spin-unrestricted formalism using both the BP86 functional and the 6-311G\* basis set. Frequency calculations were performed on each optimized structure using the same basis set to ensure that it was a minimum on the potential energy surface. The Raman spectra are calculated using the Raman key word in Gaussian 03 package.

## **<sup>1</sup>H NMR**

**PhSH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 3.51 (s, 1H).

**PhSH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.25-7.06 (m, 5H).

**C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.37 (t, 1H), 1.31 (t, 3H).

**C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 2.50 (q, 2H), 1.29 (t, 3H).

**C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 2.50 (q, 2H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.27 (m, 11H), 0.87 (t, 3H).

**C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 2.48 (q, 2H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.24 (m, 10H), 0.89 (t, 3H).

**Glutathione:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.59 (t, 1H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.85 (t, 1H), 2.97 (q, 2H), 2.58 (m, 2H), 2.98 (m, 2H).

**S1-S7:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of thiols**

**Fig. S1. PhSH in  $\text{CDCl}_3$**

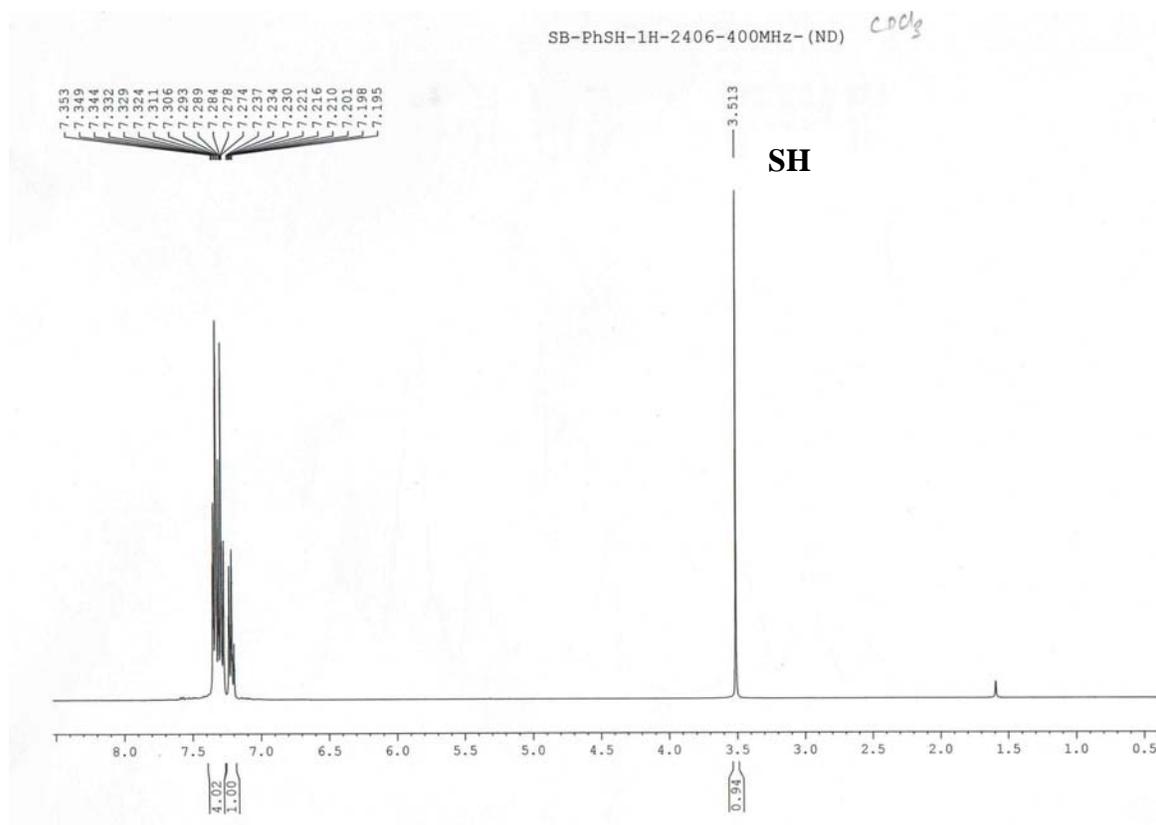


Fig. S2. PhSH in CD<sub>3</sub>OD

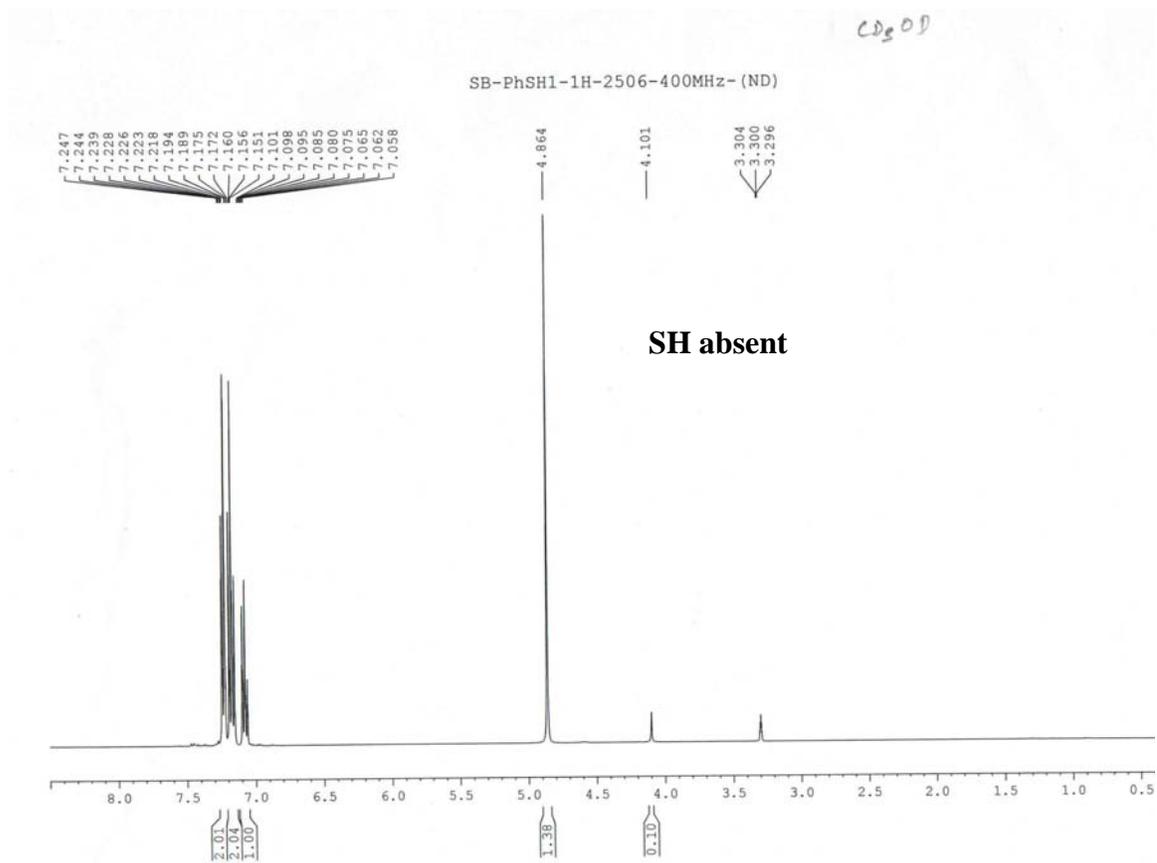


Fig. S3. C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

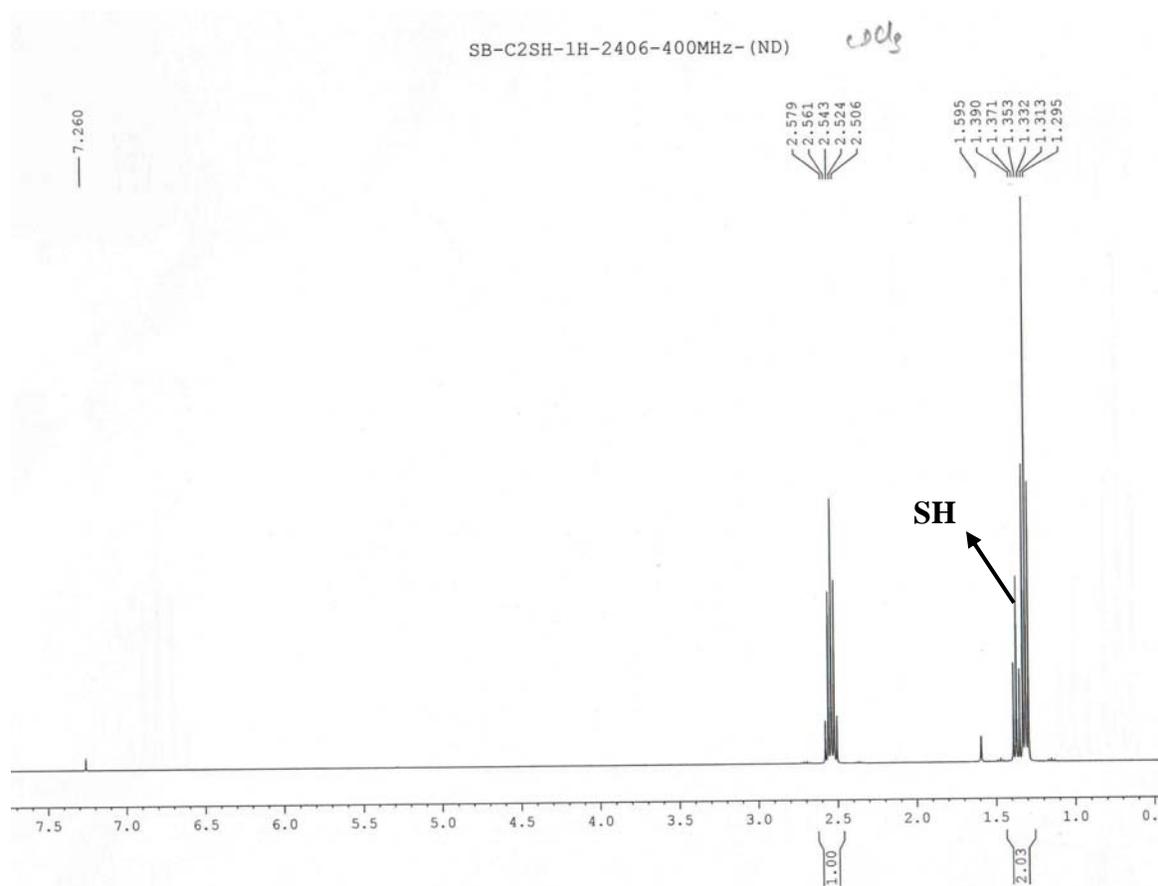


Fig. S4.  $C_2H_5SH$  in  $CD_3OD$

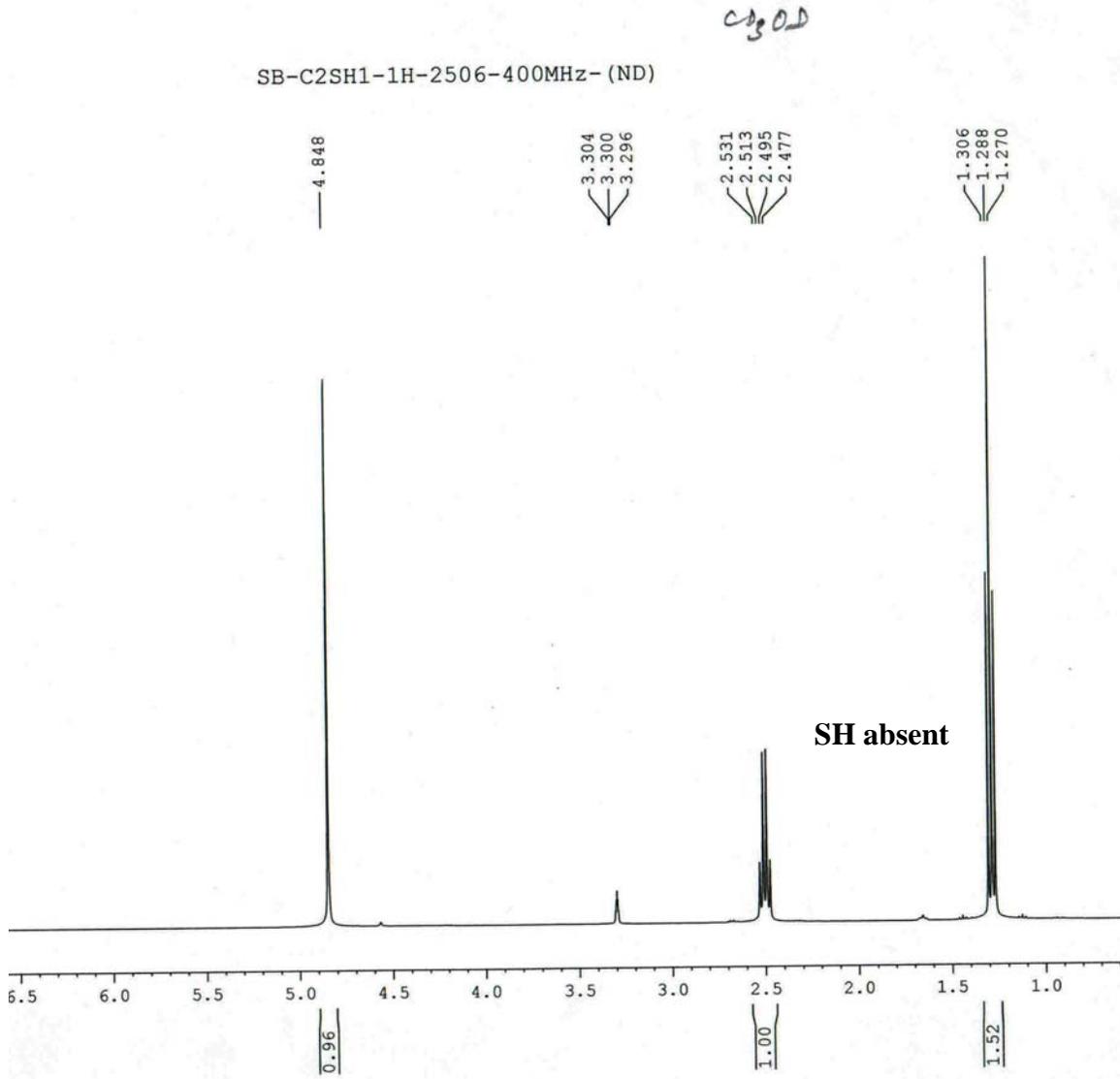


Fig. S5. C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

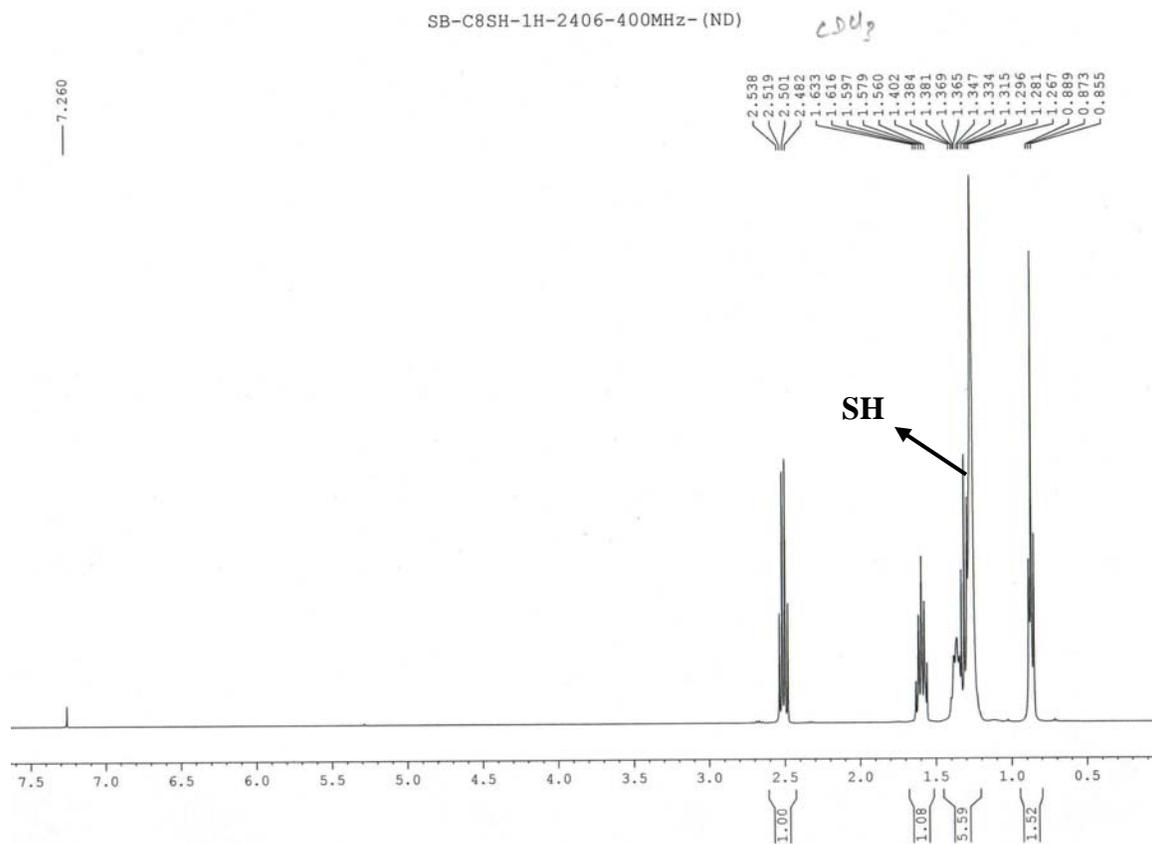
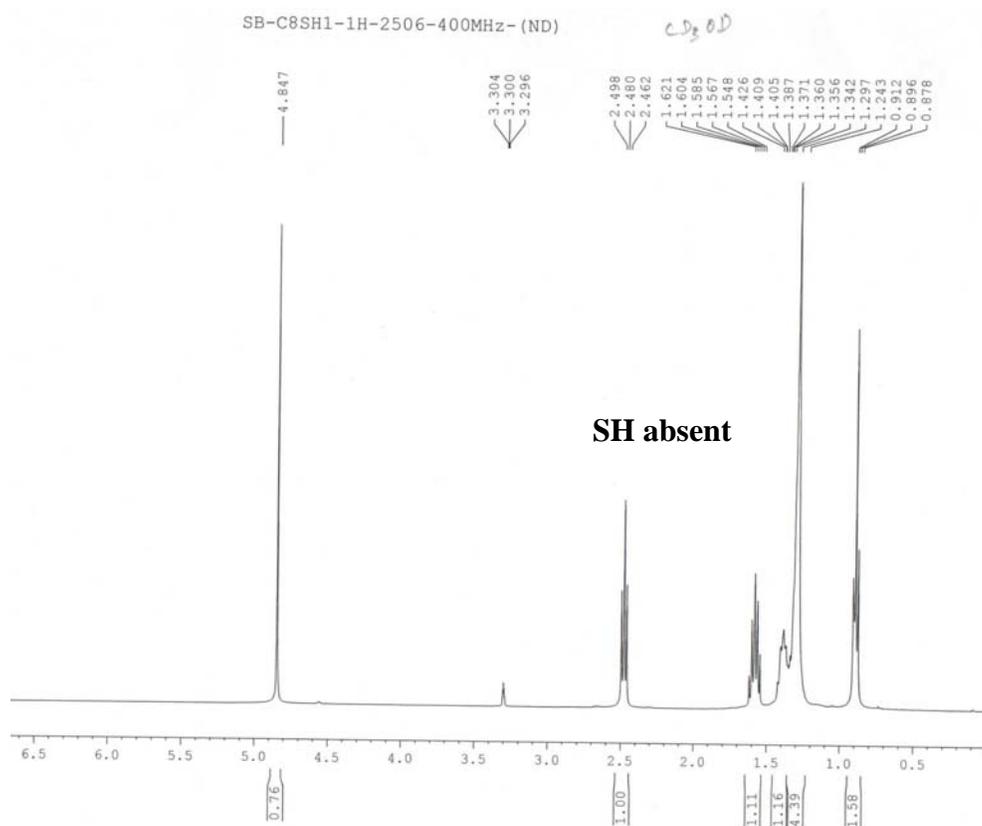
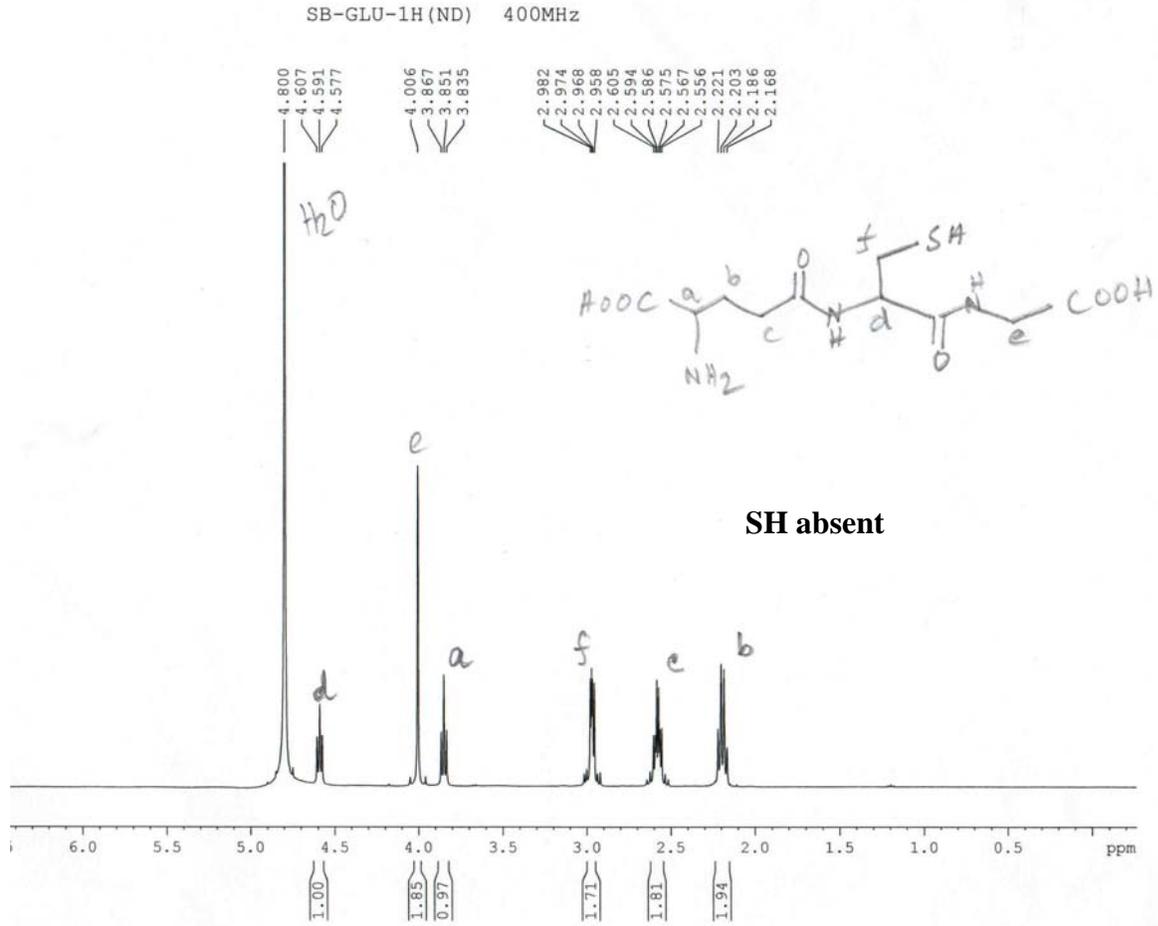


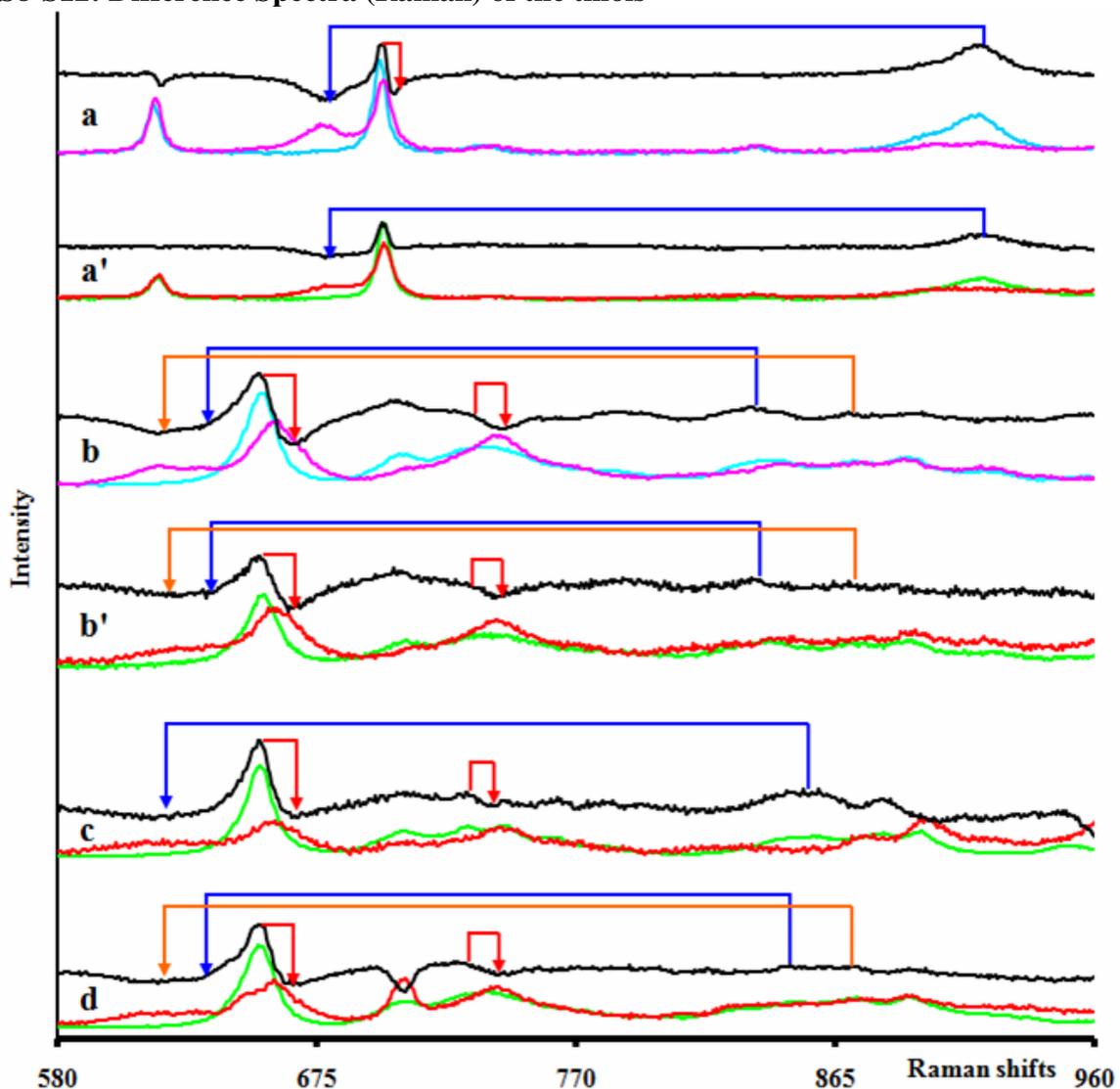
Fig. S6.  $C_8H_{17}SH$  in  $CD_3OD$



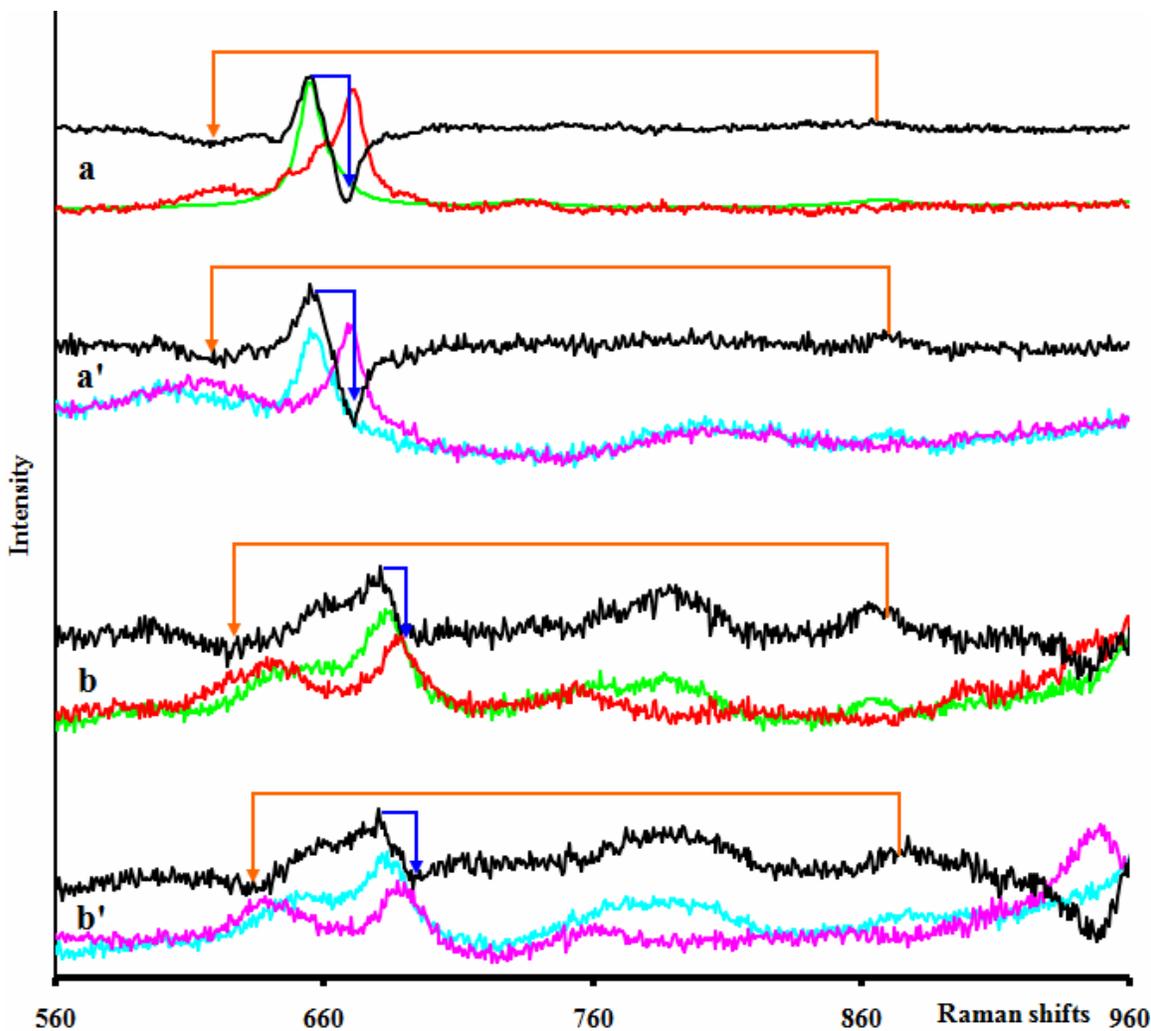
**Fig. S7. Glutathione in D<sub>2</sub>O**



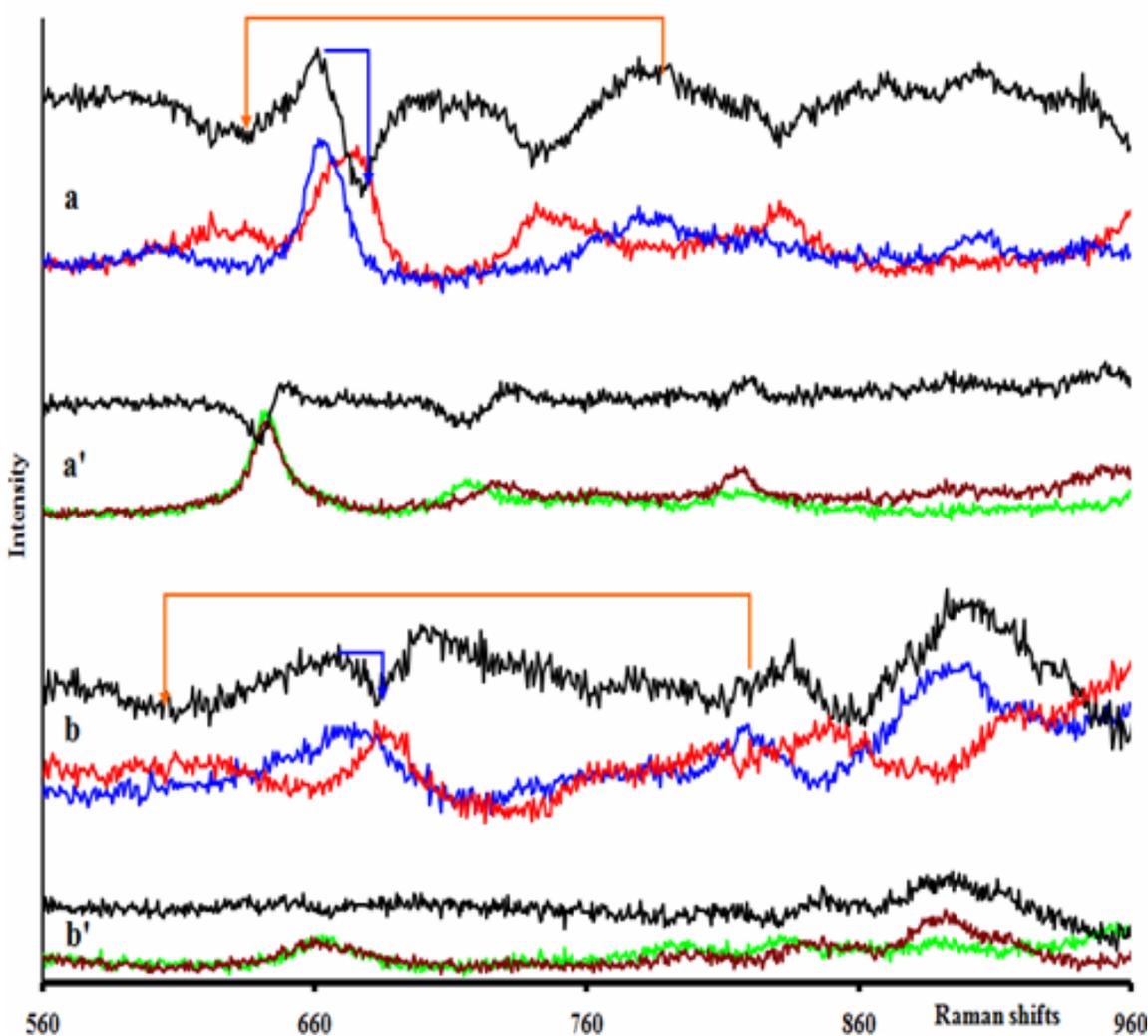
### S8-S12: Difference Spectra (Raman) of the thiols



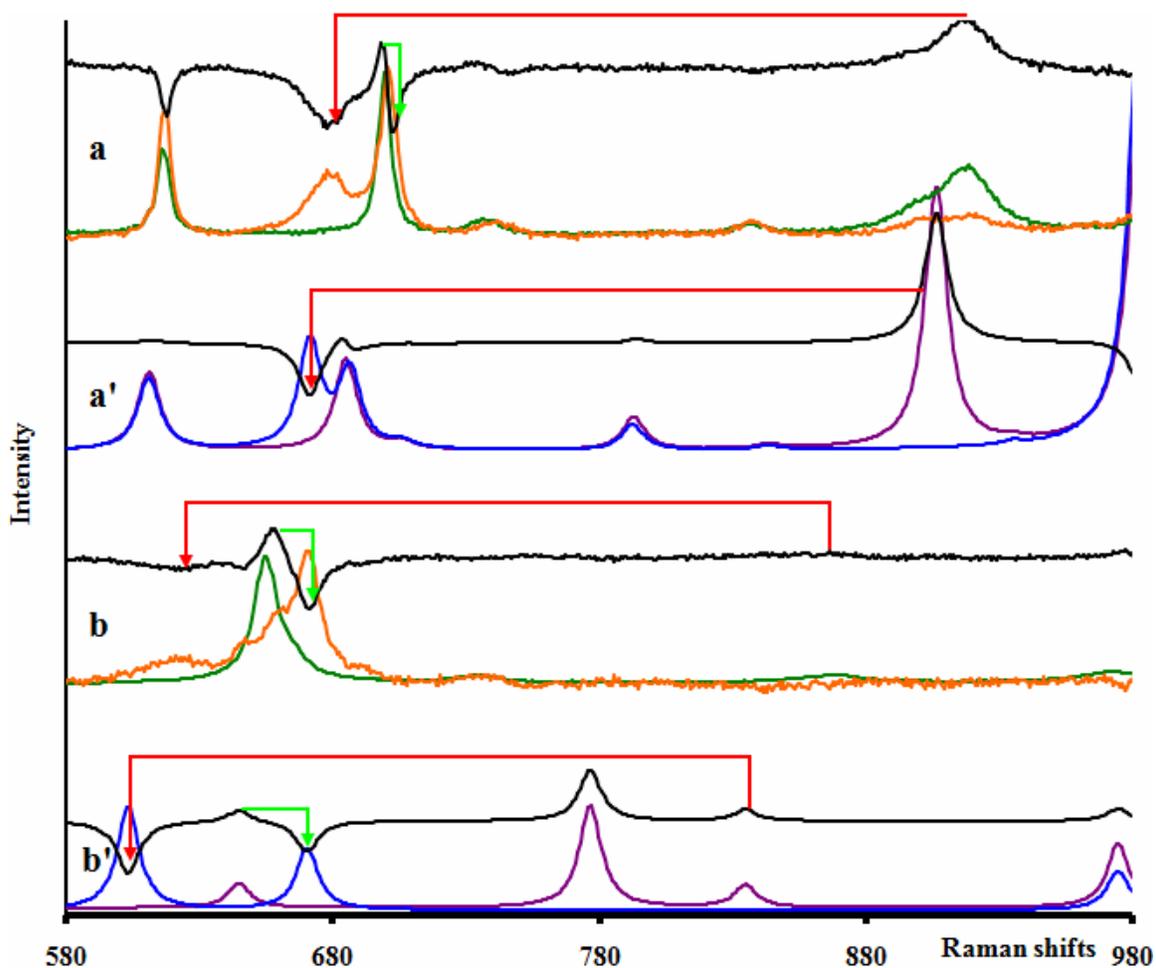
**Fig. S8.** The Raman spectra of (a) neat PhSH and PhSD; (a') PhSH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CD<sub>3</sub>OD; (b) neat C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH and C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SD (b') C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CD<sub>3</sub>OD; (c) C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>SH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CD<sub>3</sub>OD and (d) C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>SH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CD<sub>3</sub>OD. Sky blue and green spectra are for protonated species or solutions and pink and red spectra are for deuterated species or solutions. Black spectra represent the difference spectra of corresponding species. The blue and orange arrows represent the shift of  $\beta_{\text{CSH}}$  after deuteration and the red arrow represents the shift of  $\nu_{\text{CS}}$  for the same. Raman shifts are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



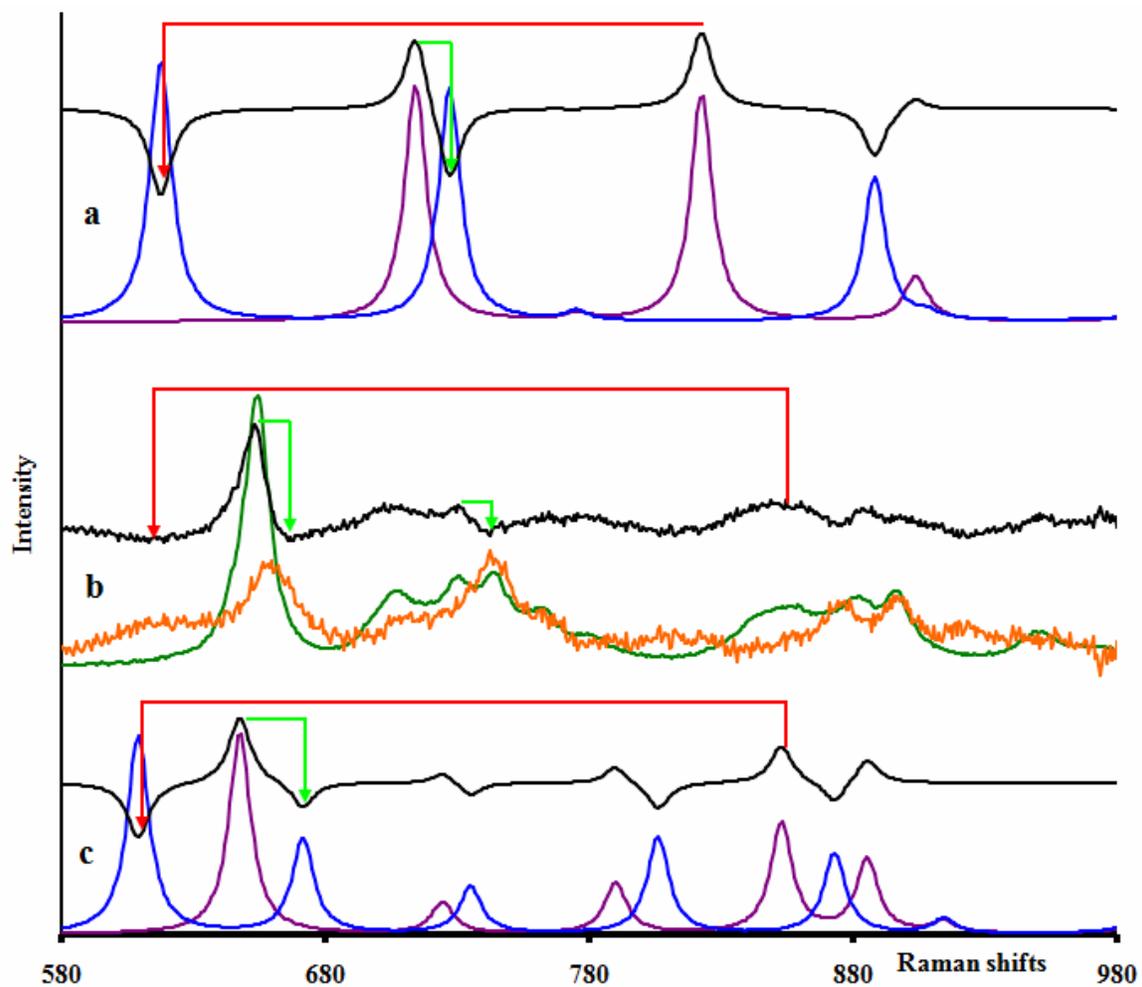
**Fig. S9.** The Raman spectra of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH in (a) CH<sub>3</sub>OH (green) and CD<sub>3</sub>OD (red) and in (a') H<sub>2</sub>O (sky blue) and D<sub>2</sub>O (pink), and of N-acetyl cysteine in (b) CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CD<sub>3</sub>OD and in (b') H<sub>2</sub>O and D<sub>2</sub>O (same colour code). Black spectra represent the difference spectra of corresponding species. The orange arrow represents the shift of  $\beta_{\text{CSH}}$  after deuteration and the blue arrow represents the shift of  $\nu_{\text{CS}}$  for the same. Raman shifts are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S10.** The Raman spectra of (a) cysteamine, (a') cystamine and of (b) glutathione, (b') glutathione (S-S) solubilized in H<sub>2</sub>O and D<sub>2</sub>O. Blue and red spectra corresponds to free thiols in H<sub>2</sub>O and D<sub>2</sub>O, respectively and brown and green spectra corresponds to disulphide in H<sub>2</sub>O and D<sub>2</sub>O, respectively. Black spectra represent the difference spectra of corresponding species. The orange arrow represents the shift of  $\beta_{\text{CSH}}$  after deuteration and the blue arrow represents the shift of  $\nu_{\text{CS}}$  for the same. Raman shifts are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S11.** The Raman spectra of (a) PhSH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH (green) and CD<sub>3</sub>OD (orange), of (a') PhSH (violet) and PhSD (blue) by theoretical predictions, of (b) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH in CH<sub>3</sub>OH (green) and CD<sub>3</sub>OD (orange) and of (b') C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SH (violet) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>SD (blue) by theoretical predictions. Black spectra represent the difference spectra of corresponding species. The red arrow represents the shift of  $\beta_{\text{CSH}}$  after deuteration and the green arrow represents the shift of  $\nu_{\text{CS}}$  for the same. Raman shifts are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S12.** The Raman spectra of  $C_4H_9SH$  in  $CH_3OH$  (green) and  $CD_3OD$  (orange). Theoretically predicted results in (a) trans conformation and in (c) gauche conformation. In theoretical spectra violet and blue represents the protonated and deuterated results, respectively. Black spectra represent the difference spectra of corresponding species. The red arrow represents the shift of  $\beta_{CSH}$  after deuteration and the green arrow represents the shift of  $\nu_{CS}$  for the same. Raman shifts are in  $cm^{-1}$ .

**Table S1.** Raman vibrational assignments of peak frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for neat thiols and for the solutions of thiols in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .

	Wave number ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )				Assignments
	SH	Neat	Solution		
		SD	$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	$\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$	
	617	617	617	617	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
<b>PhSH</b>	698	698	698	698	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
	918	680	918	680	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
			654	661	$\nu_{\text{CS-G}}$
<b><math>\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{SH}</math></b>			732	745	$\nu_{\text{CS-T}}$
			846,859	614	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	655	661	655	661	$\nu_{\text{CS-G}}$
<b><math>\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SH}</math></b>	739	743	739	743	$\nu_{\text{CS-T}}$
	840,873,893	618,634	840,873,893	630	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
			655	660	$\nu_{\text{CS-G}}$
<b><math>\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{25}\text{SH}</math></b>			739	742	$\nu_{\text{CS-T}}$
			850,872	612, 632	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	Alcoholic solution		Aqueous solution		
	$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	$\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{D}_2\text{O}$	
	654	671	656	671	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
<b><math>\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{SH}</math></b>	870	622	872	620	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	685	688	682	692	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
<b>N-ac-cysteine</b>	865	638	876	640	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	654	-	650	-	$\text{C=O def.}$

$\nu$  indicates the stretching mode,  $\beta$  indicates the in-plane bending mode and def. = deformation.

**Table S2.** Raman vibrational assignments and peak frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of thiols and their corresponding disulfides in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .

	Free thiol		Disulphide		
	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{D}_2\text{O}$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{D}_2\text{O}$	
<b>Cysteamine / Cystamine</b>	664	676	642	642	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
	785	632	-	-	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	785	742	-	-	sym- $\text{NH}_2$
	900	834	-	-	asym- $\text{NH}_2$
<b>Glutathione / Glutathione (S-S)</b>			730	719	
	673	689	662	662	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
	820	620			$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
	820	808	845	835	$\nu_{\text{C-CN}}$
	895	850	895	840	$\nu_{\text{CC}}, \nu_{\text{C-COO}^-}$

$\nu$  indicates the stretching mode,  $\beta$  indicates the in-plane bending mode.

**Table S3.** Theoretically calculated Raman vibrational assignments and peak frequencies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of an aromatic thiol and two aliphatic thios in their protonated and deuterated forms.

Wave number ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )								
PhSH		$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{SH}$		$\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{SH(T)}$		$\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{SH(G)}$		Assignments
SH	SD	SH	SD	SH	SD	SH	SD	
610	610	645	671	715	728	649	673	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
688	688	-	-	-	-	-	-	$\nu_{\text{CS}}$
908	672	835	604	823	618	852, 886	611	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$
-	-	-	-	-	-	725, 790	735, 805	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}, \gamma_{\text{CH}_2/\text{CH}_3}$
793	793	780	780	-	-	-	-	$\gamma_{\text{CH}/\text{CH}_2}$
-	-	-	-	904	888	-	-	$\beta_{\text{CSH/CSD}}$ and $\nu_{\text{CC}}$
-	-	-	-	-	-	886	872	$\gamma_{\text{CH}_2/\text{CH}_3}$

T and G represent the trans and gauche conformations, respectively,  $\nu$  indicates the stretching mode,  $\beta$  indicates the in-plane bending mode and  $\gamma$  indicates the rocking mode.

### Full Referene for Gaussian 03:

(1) Frisch, M. J. T., G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A. C., J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A. N., H.; Caricato, M.; Li, X.; Hratchian, H.; P.; Izmaylov, A. F. B., J.; Zheng, G.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M. T., K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y. K., O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Montgomery, J. A., Jr., P., J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E.; Kudin, K. N. S., V. N.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K. R., A.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M. R., N.; Millam, J. M.; Klene, M.; Knox, J. E.; Cross, J.; B.; Bakken, V. A., C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R.; E.; Yazyev, O. A., A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L. M., K.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J. D., S.; Daniels, A. D.; O.; Farkas; Foresman, J. B. O., J. V.; Cioslowski, J.; Fox, D. J., *Gaussian 03, C.02 2004*, Gaussian, Inc.: Wallingford, CT,.