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Supplementary Information for:

Reaction between a haemoglobin model compound and hydrogen sulfide in aqueous solution

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## Instruments.

UV-Vis absorption spectra were measured using a Shimadzu UV-2400 spectrophotometer. Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra were recorded on a JES-TE200 ESR system (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). F-52 pH meter (Horiba Ltd., Kyoto, Japan) was used for pH measurements.

## Materials.

Water was distilled by Yamato Auto Still Glass Model WG250, and further purified by Millipore Simpack 1. NaSH (100 %) was purchased from Strem Chem. Inc. and was used as received. CO (99.999 %),  $O_2$  (99.999 %) and argon (99.999 %) gasses were purchased from Sumitomo Seika Chemicals. HemoCD3 was prepared as described in a previous study.<sup>1</sup> All other reagents were purchased and used as received.

## Preparation of NaSH solution.

A solution of NaSH was freshly prepared in the globe box under argon atmosphere. Deoxidized aqueous phosphate buffered solutions were prepared by three freeze-pump thaw cycles and brought into the globe box. The concentration of the NaSH aqueous solution was determined by iodometric titration:<sup>2</sup> 10 mL of aqueous NaSH solution was combined with 5 mL of aqueous I<sub>2</sub> solution (0.05 M) containing appropriate amount of KI (0.1 M) and starch (solution A). Then, aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution (0.1 M) was titrated for the solution A. The point where the blue solution turned colourless was considered to be the end point of the titration.

Redox reaction between  $I_2$  and  $I^{\scriptscriptstyle -}$  is shown in Eq 1.

$$I_2 + 2e^- \rightleftharpoons 2I^- (E^0 = 0.53 \text{ V})$$
 Eq 1

Equilibrium between  $I_2$  and  $I_3^-$  in the presence of KI is shown in Eq 2.

$$I_2 + KI \rightleftharpoons I_3^- + K^+$$
 Eq 2

NaSH and  $Na_2S_2O_3$  reduce  $I_2$  (Eq 3 and 4).

$$I_2 + \text{NaSH} \rightarrow \text{S} \downarrow + \text{NaI} + \text{HI} \qquad \text{Eq 3}$$
$$I_2 + 2\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow 2\text{NaI} + \text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_6 \qquad \text{Eq 4}$$

Therefore, the initial concentration of NaSH ([NaSH]<sub>o</sub>) in solution A is expressed as Eq 5.  $[I_2]_o$  and  $[I_3^-]_o$  represent the initial concentrations of  $I_2$  and  $I_3^-$ , respectively, in solution A.  $[I_2]$  and  $[I_3^-]$  represent the final concentration of  $I_2$  and  $I_3^-$ , respectively, in solution A, where NaSH is fully consumed.

$$[NaSH]_0 = ([I_2]_0 + [I_3^-]_0) - ([I_2] + [I_3^-])$$
Eq 5

 $[I_2]$  and  $[I_3^-]$  are expressed as shown in Eq 6,

$$[I_2] + [I_3] = x \cdot [Na_2S_2O_3] / 2v$$
 Eq 6

where  $[Na_2S_2O_3]$ , *x*, and *v* represent the concentration of the aqueous  $Na_2S_2O_3$  solution, titrated volume of  $Na_2S_3O_3$  solution, and the volume of solution A.

Eqs 5 and 6 are combined leading to Eq 7, which gives the [NaSH]<sub>0</sub> of the solution A.

$$[NaSH]_0 = ([I_2]_0 + [I_3]_0) - x \cdot [Na_2S_2O_3]/2v$$
 Eq 7

- 1. K. Watanabe, H. Kitagishi and K. Kano, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., 2013, 52, 6894-6897.
- 2. Hujii, H. Bunsekikagaku, 1972, 21, 1574-1579.

Structures of Py3OCD, Fe(III)TPPS and met-hemoCD3.





**Fig. S1** EPR spectra of the Fe(III)TPPS/(TMe- $\beta$ -CD)<sub>2</sub> complex (5.0 × 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in the presence of various amounts of NaSH (0 eq. (A); 1 eq. (B); 2 eq. (C); 3 eq. (D)) in phosphate buffer at pH 6 and 77 K.



Fig. S2 UV-Vis absorption spectral changes of met-hemoCD3 (5  $\times$  10<sup>-6</sup> M) upon addition of NaSH in phosphate buffer at pH 6 and 25 °C.



**Fig. S3** Progressive absorption spectral changes during spontaneous reduction of (SH<sup>-</sup>)-methemoCD3 ([met-hemoCD3 =  $5.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M]; [NaSH] =  $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) to Fe(II)-hemoCD3 in deoxidised phosphate buffer at pH 7 and 25 °C. The spectra were recorded at 5-min intervals.



**Fig. S4** UV-Vis absorption spectral changes of met-hemoCD3 ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M) upon addition of NaSH (0-100 eq.) in phosphate buffer at pH 6 and 25 °C under CO atmosphere.