

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### A Physicochemical Examination of the Free Radical Scavenging Activity of Trolox: Mechanism, Kinetics and Influence of the Environment

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#### Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Table 1S. Gibbs free energies of reaction ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K. ....  | 3  |
| Table 2S. Gibbs free energies of reaction ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for neutral trolox in aqueous solution. ....  | 4  |
| Table 3S. Gibbs free energies of SET reactions ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for the neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution; aqueous vertical electron affinities ( $^{Aq}VEA$ , eV) and aqueous adiabatic electron affinities ( $^{Aq}AEA$ , eV) of the free radicals. .... | 5  |
| Table 4S. Gibbs free energies of activation ( $\Delta G^\ddagger$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K for neutral trolox in aqueous solution. ....  | 6  |
| Table 5S. Gibbs free energies of activation ( $\Delta G^\ddagger$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution.....  | 7  |
| Table 6S. Reorganization energies ( $\lambda$ , kcal/mol) and difference ( $-\lambda$ )- $\Delta G$ for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution.....  | 8  |
| Table 7S. Rate constants at 298.15 K, in $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ , for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.....  | 9  |
| Table 8S. Rate constants at 298.15 K, in $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ , for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution. ....   | 10 |
| Table 9S. Branching ratios ( $\Gamma$ , %)*, at 298.15 K, for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.....  | 11 |

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|---|----|
| Figure 1S. Linear correlation between the Gibbs energies of the SET reactions ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol) and the aqueous electron affinities, in eV, of the free radicals. (A)≡adiabatic ( $^{Aq}AEA$ ), B≡vertical ( $^{Aq}VEA$ )..... | 12 |
| Figure 2S. Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between trolox and $\cdot OH$ in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 13 |
| Figure 3S. Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between trolox and $\cdot OH$ in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....  | 14 |
| Figure 4S. Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between neutral trolox and $\cdot OH$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....  | 15 |
| Figure 5S. Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between neutral trolox and $\cdot OH$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 16 |
| Figure 6S. Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between anionic trolox and $\cdot OH$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....  | 17 |
| Figure 7S. Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between anionic trolox and $\cdot OH$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 18 |
| Figure 8S. Fully optimized transition states for the reactions between trolox and $\cdot OCH_3$ in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 19 |
| Figure 9S. Fully optimized transition states for the reactions between neutral trolox and $\cdot OCH_3$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....  | 20 |
| Figure 10S. Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between anionic trolox and $\cdot OCH_3$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.....   | 21 |
| Figure 11S. Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between anionic trolox and $\cdot OCH_3$ in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 22 |
| Figure 12S. Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of trolox with $\cdot OOH$ (R2) and $\cdot OCH_2$ (R4) in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å.....   | 22 |
| Figure 13S. Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of neutral trolox with $\cdot OOH$ (R2) and $\cdot OCH_2$ (R4) in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 23 |
| Figure 14S. Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of anionic trolox with $\cdot OOH$ (R2) and $\cdot OCH_2$ (R4) in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å. ....   | 23 |

**Table 1S.** Gibbs free energies of reaction ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K.

| <i>path</i> | R1 (I) | R1 (II) | R2 (I) | R2 (II) | R3 (I) | R3 (II) | R4 (I) | R4 (II) |
|-------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| SET         | 43.24  | -7.44   | 64.38  | 16.13   | 56.35  | 10.65   | 54.18  | 11.41   |
| HT-1a       | -39.60 | -43.51  | -5.70  | -10.40  | -22.52 | -26.97  | -4.75  | -10.22  |
| HT-2a       | -28.70 | -32.28  | 5.19   | 0.83    | -11.63 | -15.74  | 6.14   | 1.01    |
| HT-3a       | -29.36 | -31.41  | 4.53   | 1.69    | -12.28 | -14.88  | 5.49   | 1.88    |
| HT-6a       | -29.79 | -30.89  | 4.10   | 2.21    | -12.71 | -14.35  | 5.06   | 2.40    |
| HT-7        | -32.22 | -30.89  | 1.67   | 2.21    | -15.14 | -14.35  | 2.63   | 2.40    |
| HT-8        | -20.28 | -22.48  | 13.61  | 10.63   | -3.20  | -5.94   | 14.57  | 10.82   |
| HT-9a       | -16.82 | -19.54  | 17.07  | 13.57   | 0.26   | -3.00   | 18.03  | 13.75   |
| RAF-1       | -17.06 | -17.57  | 14.04  | 10.75   | 1.00   | -5.06   | 16.00  | 11.90   |
| RAF-2       | -12.61 | -13.34  | 17.03  | 15.26   | 6.16   | -0.65   | 15.35  | 14.98   |
| RAF-3       | -13.44 | -14.57  | 13.33  | 12.40   | -0.47  | -3.47   | 13.74  | 13.69   |
| RAF-4       | -14.34 | -12.82  | 14.80  | 13.98   | 3.89   | 0.30    | 16.38  | 13.16   |
| RAF-5       | -10.22 | -9.36   | 18.24  | 15.32   | 6.14   | 3.37    | 16.29  | 15.82   |
| RAF-6       | -15.00 | -15.67  | 16.21  | 11.05   | 2.43   | -2.26   | 16.86  | 11.71   |

(I) pentyl ethanoate solution, (II) aqueous solution  
R1  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OH, R2  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOH, R3  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH<sub>3</sub>, R4  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH=CH<sub>2</sub>

**Table 2S.** Gibbs free energies of reaction ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.

| <i>path</i> | R1     | R2    | R3     | R4    |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| SET         | -3.06  | 20.47 | 14.99  | 15.75 |
| HT-1a       | -42.05 | -8.57 | -25.14 | -8.39 |
| HT-2a       | -31.62 | 1.85  | -14.72 | 2.04  |
| HT-3a       | -31.88 | 1.59  | -14.97 | 1.78  |
| HT-6a       | -31.28 | 2.20  | -14.37 | 2.39  |
| HT-7        | -34.51 | -1.03 | -17.60 | -0.85 |
| HT-8        | -21.36 | 12.11 | -4.45  | 12.30 |
| HT-9a       | -18.89 | 14.58 | -1.98  | 14.77 |
| RAF-1       | -17.93 | 11.89 | -0.47  | 12.09 |
| RAF-2       | -13.90 | 15.37 | 2.90   | 11.58 |
| RAF-3       | -15.13 | 10.42 | -2.59  | 11.95 |
| RAF-4       | -15.17 | 14.00 | 2.70   | 13.59 |
| RAF-5       | -11.86 | 15.72 | 5.50   | 13.32 |
| RAF-6       | -15.46 | 14.33 | 2.72   | 15.17 |

R1  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OH, R2  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOH, R3  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH<sub>3</sub>, R4  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOCH=CH<sub>2</sub>

**Table 3S.** Gibbs free energies of SET reactions ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for the neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution; aqueous vertical electron affinities ( $^{Aq}VEA$ , eV) and aqueous adiabatic electron affinities ( $^{Aq}AEA$ , eV) of the free radicals.

|                      | $H_2Tx$ | $HTx^-$ | $Tx^{2-}$ | $^{Aq}VEA$ | $^{Aq}AEA$ |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|------------|------------|
| $\cdot OH$           | -3.10   | -7.44   | -34.37    | 5.55       | 5.53       |
| $\cdot OCH_3$        | 12.03   | 7.69    | -19.25    | 4.81       | 4.87       |
| $\cdot OCCl_3$       | -42.84  | -47.18  | -74.11    | 6.49       | 7.25       |
| $\cdot OCH_2CHCH_2$  | 10.66   | 6.32    | -20.62    | 4.88       | 4.93       |
| $\cdot OOH$          | 18.29   | 13.95   | -12.98    | 4.14       | 4.60       |
| $\cdot OOCH_3$       | 20.22   | 15.88   | -11.05    | 4.04       | 4.51       |
| $\cdot OOCH_2Cl$     | 12.25   | 7.91    | -19.03    | 4.34       | 4.86       |
| $\cdot OOCHCl_2$     | 3.41    | -0.93   | -27.86    | 4.71       | 5.24       |
| $\cdot OOCCL_3$      | -2.26   | -6.60   | -33.54    | 4.95       | 5.49       |
| $\cdot OOCHCH_2$     | 15.75   | 11.41   | -15.53    | 4.22       | 4.71       |
| $\cdot OOCH_2CHCH_2$ | 19.42   | 15.08   | -11.85    | 4.05       | 4.55       |
| $ArO\cdot$           | 15.94   | 11.60   | -15.33    | 4.59       | 4.70       |
| $DPPH\cdot$          | 12.35   | 8.01    | -18.93    | 4.85       | 4.86       |
| $Br_2\cdot^-$        | 4.98    | 0.64    | -26.30    | 4.98       | 5.17       |
| $SO_4\cdot^-$        | -28.40  | -32.74  | -59.67    | 6.06       | 6.62       |
| $NO_2\cdot^-$        | -2.72   | -7.06   | -33.99    | 4.45       | 5.51       |
| $N_3\cdot^-$         | -1.01   | -5.35   | -32.29    | 5.51       | 5.43       |
| $2dG^{*+ (a)}$       | -10.32  | -14.66  | -41.59    | 5.53       | 5.84       |

<sup>(a)</sup> 2'-deoxyguanosine radical cation

**Table 4S.** Gibbs free energies of activation ( $\Delta G^\ddagger$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.

| <i>path</i> | R1    | R2    | R3    | R4    |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SET         | 0.64  |       |       |       |
| HT-1a       | ~0.00 | 12.62 | ~0.00 | 8.49  |
| HT-2a       | 6.59  |       | 14.40 |       |
| HT-3a       | 5.56  |       | 12.09 |       |
| HT-6a       | 6.83  |       | 13.00 |       |
| HT-7        | 5.01  | 20.10 | 12.99 | 19.15 |
| HT-8        | 7.23  |       | 16.37 |       |
| HT-9a       | 9.05  |       | 18.10 |       |
| RAF-1       | 1.70  |       | 9.39  |       |
| RAF-2       | 3.04  |       |       |       |
| RAF-3       | 3.30  |       | 12.15 |       |
| RAF-4       | 1.60  |       |       |       |
| RAF-5       | 3.61  |       |       |       |
| RAF-6       | 3.44  |       |       |       |

R1  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OH, R2  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOH, R3  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH<sub>3</sub>, R4  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOCH=CH<sub>2</sub>

**Table 5S.** Gibbs free energies of activation ( $\Delta G^\ddagger$ , kcal/mol), at 298.15 K, for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution.

|                      | $H_2Tx$ | $HTx^-$ | $Tx^{2-}$ |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| $\cdot OH$           | 0.63    | 0.02    | 30.23     |
| $\cdot OCH_3$        | 12.22   | 7.72    | 3.55      |
| $\cdot OCCl_3$       | 2.96    | 5.05    | 25.14     |
| $\cdot OCH_2CHCH_2$  | 10.72   | 6.46    | 4.74      |
| $\cdot OOH$          | 18.30   | 14.17   | 0.30      |
| $\cdot OOCH_3$       | 20.24   | 15.96   | 0.66      |
| $\cdot OOCH_2Cl$     | 12.99   | 9.58    | ~0.00     |
| $\cdot OOCHCl_2$     | 6.90    | 4.43    | 0.97      |
| $\cdot OOCCL_3$      | 4.04    | 2.19    | 2.55      |
| $\cdot OOCHCH_2$     | 15.91   | 12.10   | 0.10      |
| $\cdot OOCH_2CHCH_2$ | 19.42   | 15.27   | 0.60      |
| $ArO\cdot$           | 16.64   | 11.68   | 0.89      |
| $DPPH\cdot$          | 12.91   | 8.02    | 4.92      |
| $Br_2\cdot^-$        | 6.10    | 3.27    | 4.80      |
| $SO_4\cdot^-$        | 0.65    | 1.89    | 19.63     |
| $NO_2\cdot^-$        | 6.79    | 4.79    | 0.05      |
| $N_3\cdot^-$         | 1.07    | ~0.00   | 35.93     |
| $2dG^{*+ (a)}$       | 0.37    | ~0.00   | 13.58     |

<sup>(a)</sup> 2'-deoxyguanosine radical cation

**Table 6S.** Reorganization energies ( $\lambda$ , kcal/mol) and difference  $(-\lambda)-\Delta G$  for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution.

|                      | $\lambda$ |         |           | $(-\lambda)-\Delta G$ |              |              |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                      | $H_2Tx$   | $HTx^-$ | $Tx^{2-}$ | $H_2Tx$               | $HTx^-$      | $Tx^{2-}$    |
| $\cdot OH$           | 7.45      | 6.76    | 6.45      | -4.35                 | 0.68         | <b>27.92</b> |
| $\cdot OCH_3$        | 9.35      | 8.67    | 8.36      | -21.38                | -16.36       | 10.89        |
| $\cdot OCCl_3$       | 25.48     | 24.80   | 24.49     | 17.36                 | <b>22.38</b> | <b>49.63</b> |
| $\cdot OCH_2CHCH_2$  | 9.17      | 8.48    | 8.17      | -19.83                | -14.80       | 12.45        |
| $\cdot OOH$          | 18.61     | 17.93   | 17.61     | -36.90                | -31.88       | -4.63        |
| $\cdot OOCH_3$       | 18.91     | 18.23   | 17.91     | -39.13                | -34.11       | -6.86        |
| $\cdot OOCH_2Cl$     | 19.93     | 19.25   | 18.94     | -32.18                | -27.16       | 0.09         |
| $\cdot OOCHCl_2$     | 20.22     | 19.54   | 19.22     | -23.63                | -18.61       | 8.64         |
| $\cdot OOCCL_3$      | 20.44     | 19.76   | 19.44     | -18.18                | -13.15       | 14.09        |
| $\cdot OOCHCH_2$     | 19.23     | 18.55   | 18.24     | -34.98                | -29.96       | -2.71        |
| $\cdot OOCH_2CHCH_2$ | 19.53     | 18.85   | 18.53     | -38.95                | -33.93       | -6.68        |
| $ArO\cdot$           | 10.51     | 9.82    | 9.51      | -26.45                | -21.42       | 5.82         |
| $DPPH\cdot$          | 8.10      | 7.42    | 7.10      | -20.45                | -15.42       | 11.82        |
| $Br_2\cdot^-$        | 12.46     | 11.78   | 11.47     | -17.44                | -12.42       | 14.83        |
| $SO_4\cdot^-$        | 21.02     | 20.34   | 20.02     | 7.38                  | 12.40        | <b>39.65</b> |
| $NO_2\cdot^-$        | 32.38     | 31.69   | 31.38     | -29.66                | -24.64       | 2.61         |
| $N_3\cdot^-$         | 6.13      | 5.44    | 5.13      | -5.12                 | -0.09        | <b>27.16</b> |
| $2dG^{*+ (a)}$       | 15.01     | 14.32   | 14.01     | -4.69                 | 0.33         | <b>27.58</b> |

<sup>(a)</sup> 2'-deoxyguanosine radical cation



**Table 7S.** Rate constants at 298.15 K, in  $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ , for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.

| <i>path</i>    | R1              | R2              | R3              | R4              |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SET            | 8.14E+09        |                 |                 |                 |
| HT-1a          | 1.91E+09        | 3.45E+03        | 1.72E+09        | 3.70E+06        |
| HT-2a          | 2.39E+08        |                 | 4.47E+03        |                 |
| HT-3a          | 8.57E+08        |                 | 1.29E+05        |                 |
| HT-6a          | 1.67E+08        |                 | 3.29E+04        |                 |
| HT-7           | 1.11E+09        | 2.28E-02        | 1.64E+04        | 1.14E-01        |
| HT-8           | 5.98E+07        |                 | 9.67E+01        |                 |
| HT-9a          | 4.31E+06        |                 | 1.65E+01        |                 |
| RAF-1          | 1.90E+09        |                 | 1.61E+06        |                 |
| RAF-2          | 1.86E+09        |                 |                 |                 |
| RAF-3          | 1.84E+09        |                 | 1.54E+04        |                 |
| RAF-4          | 1.90E+09        |                 |                 |                 |
| RAF-5          | 1.79E+09        |                 |                 |                 |
| RAF-6          | 1.82E+09        |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Overall</b> | <b>2.36E+10</b> | <b>3.45E+03</b> | <b>1.29E+09</b> | <b>3.70E+06</b> |

R1  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OH, R2  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOH, R3  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH<sub>3</sub>, R4  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOCH=CH<sub>2</sub>

**Table 8S.** Rate constants at 298.15 K, in  $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ , for the SET reactions of neutral ( $H_2Tx$ ), mono-anionic ( $HTx^-$ ), and di-anionic ( $Tx^{2-}$ ) forms of trolox in aqueous solution.

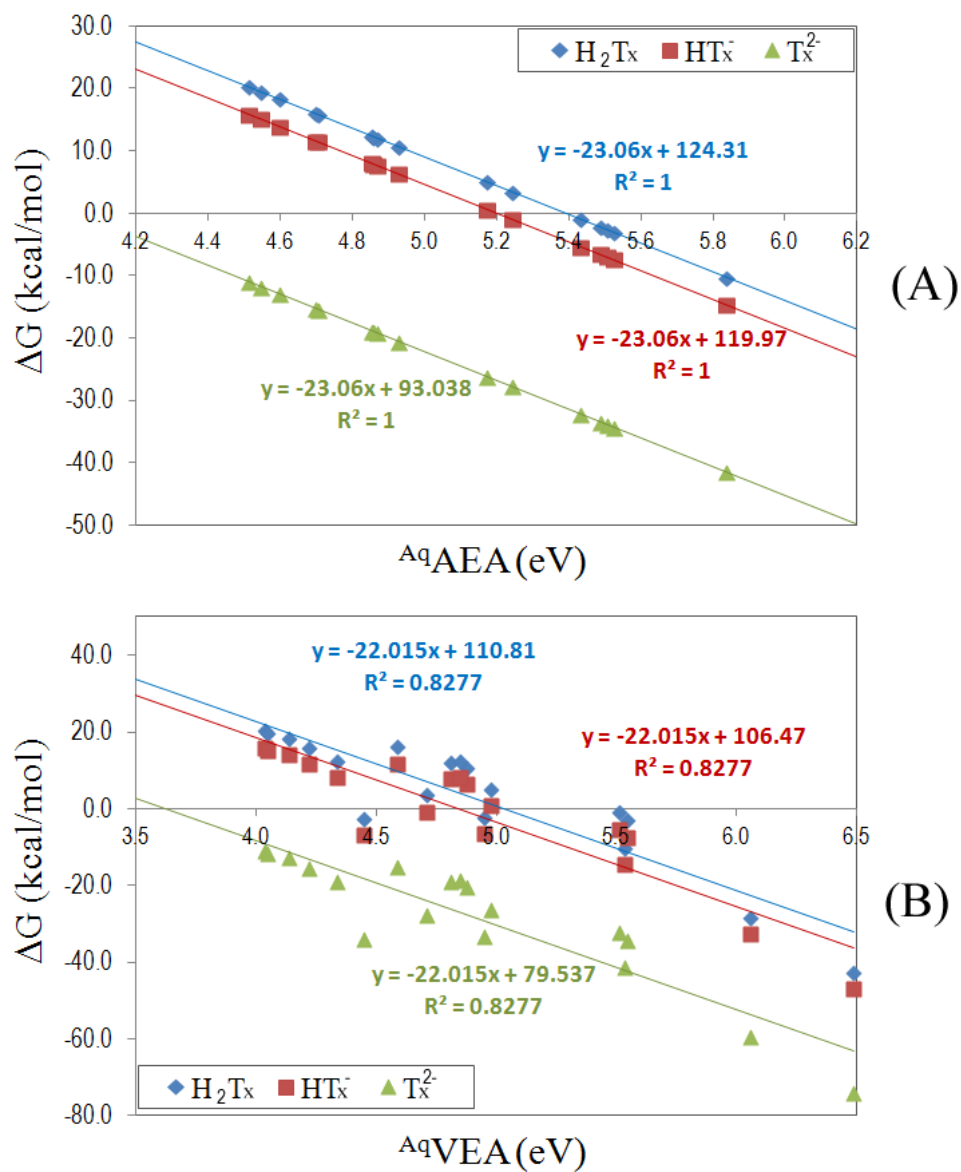
|                      | $H_2Tx$         | $HTx^-$         | $Tx^{2-}$       |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $\cdot OH$           | <b>8.14E+09</b> | <b>8.16E+09</b> | 4.32E-10        |
| $\cdot OCH_3$        | 6.85E+03        | <b>1.37E+07</b> | <b>5.21E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OCCl_3$       | <b>6.42E+09</b> | <b>1.06E+09</b> | 2.30E-06        |
| $\cdot OCH_2CHCH_2$  | 8.61E+04        | <b>1.13E+08</b> | <b>1.63E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOH$          | 2.40E-01        | 2.52E+02        | <b>7.94E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCH_3$       | 8.98E-03        | 1.25E+01        | <b>7.70E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCH_2Cl$     | 1.87E+03        | 5.91E+05        | <b>7.63E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCHCl_2$     | <b>5.35E+07</b> | <b>2.40E+09</b> | <b>7.53E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCCL_3$      | <b>3.57E+09</b> | <b>7.19E+09</b> | <b>6.91E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCHCH_2$     | 1.36E+01        | 8.42E+03        | <b>7.65E+09</b> |
| $\cdot OOCH_2CHCH_2$ | 3.60E-02        | 3.98E+01        | <b>7.55E+09</b> |
| $ArO\cdot$           | 3.91E+00        | 1.70E+04        | <b>7.48E+09</b> |
| DPPH $\cdot$         | 2.15E+03        | <b>8.18E+06</b> | <b>1.27E+09</b> |
| $Br_2\cdot^-$        | <b>2.04E+08</b> | <b>5.85E+09</b> | <b>1.52E+09</b> |
| $SO_4\cdot^-$        | <b>7.62E+09</b> | <b>7.43E+09</b> | 2.54E-02        |
| $NO_2\cdot^-$        | <b>6.45E+07</b> | <b>1.54E+09</b> | <b>7.87E+09</b> |
| $N_3\cdot^-$         | <b>7.81E+09</b> | <b>7.86E+09</b> | 2.83E-14        |
| $2dG^{*+ (a)}$       | <b>7.39E+09</b> | <b>7.40E+09</b> | 6.93E+02        |

<sup>(a)</sup> 2'-deoxyguanosine radical cation

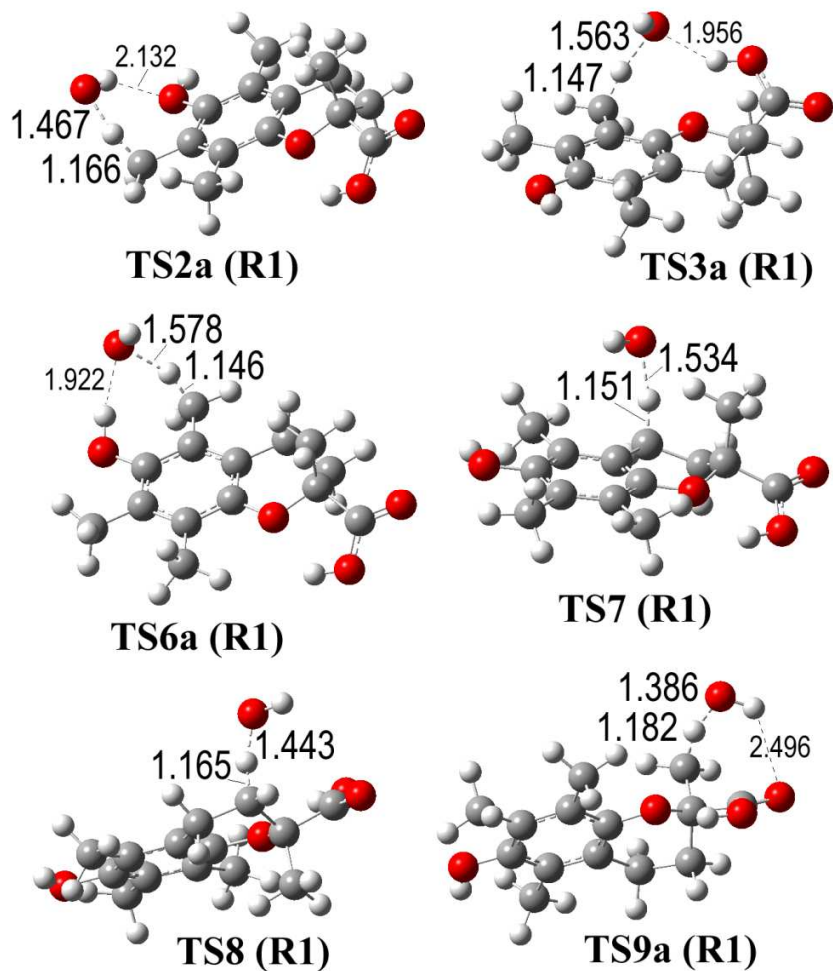
**Table 9S.** Branching ratios ( $\Gamma$ , %)\*, at 298.15 K, for neutral trolox in aqueous solution.

| <i>path</i> | R1    | R2      | R3    | R4      |
|-------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| SET         | 34.50 |         |       |         |
| HT-1a       | 8.09  | ~100.00 | 99.89 | ~100.00 |
| HT-2a       | 1.01  |         | ~0.00 |         |
| HT-3a       | 3.63  |         | 0.01  |         |
| HT-6a       | 0.71  |         | ~0.00 |         |
| HT-7        | 4.69  | ~0.00   | ~0.00 | ~0.00   |
| HT-8        | 0.25  |         | ~0.00 |         |
| HT-9a       | 0.02  |         | ~0.00 |         |
| RAF-1       | 8.07  |         | 0.09  |         |
| RAF-2       | 7.89  |         |       |         |
| RAF-3       | 7.78  |         | ~0.00 |         |
| RAF-4       | 8.07  |         |       |         |
| RAF-5       | 7.57  |         |       |         |
| RAF-6       | 7.70  |         |       |         |

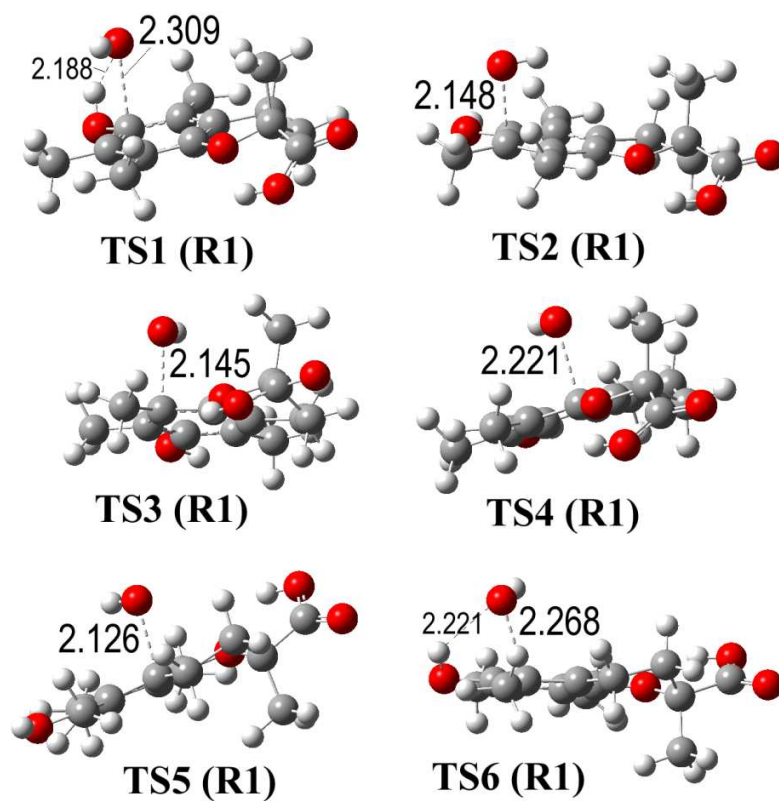
R1  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OH, R2  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOH, R3  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OCH<sub>3</sub>, R4  $\equiv$   $\cdot$ OOCH=CH<sub>2</sub>  
calculated as  $\Gamma_i = (k_i/k_{overall}) \times 100$



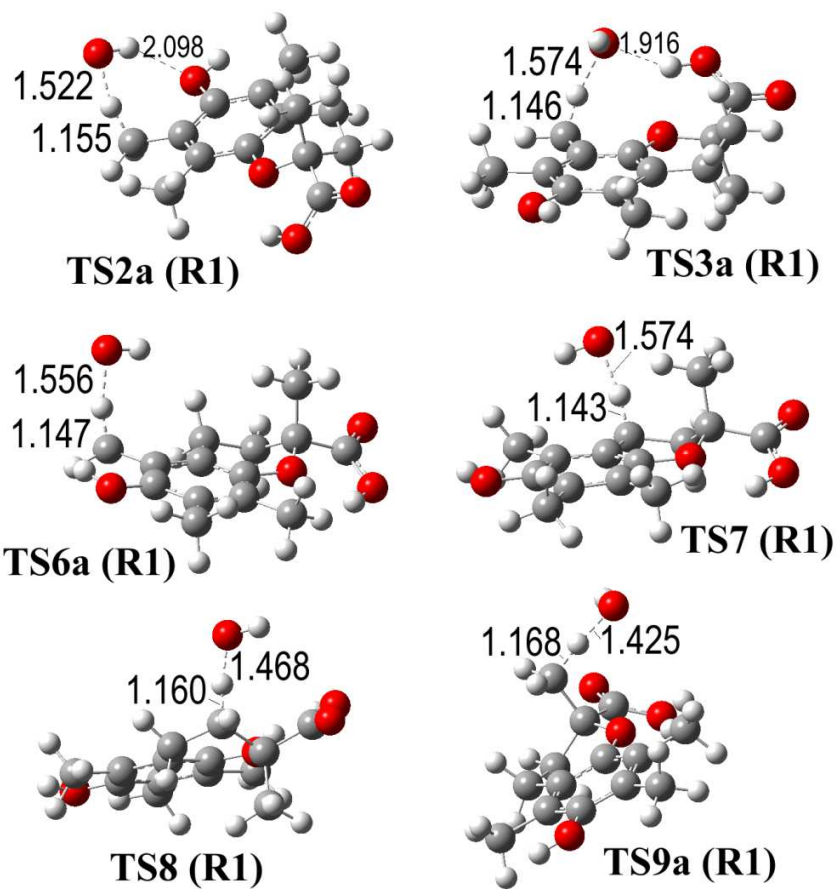
**Figure 1S.** Linear correlation between the Gibbs energies of the SET reactions ( $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol) and the aqueous electron affinities, in eV, of the free radicals. (A) $\equiv$ adiabatic ( $AqAEA$ ), B $\equiv$ vertical ( $AqVEA$ ).



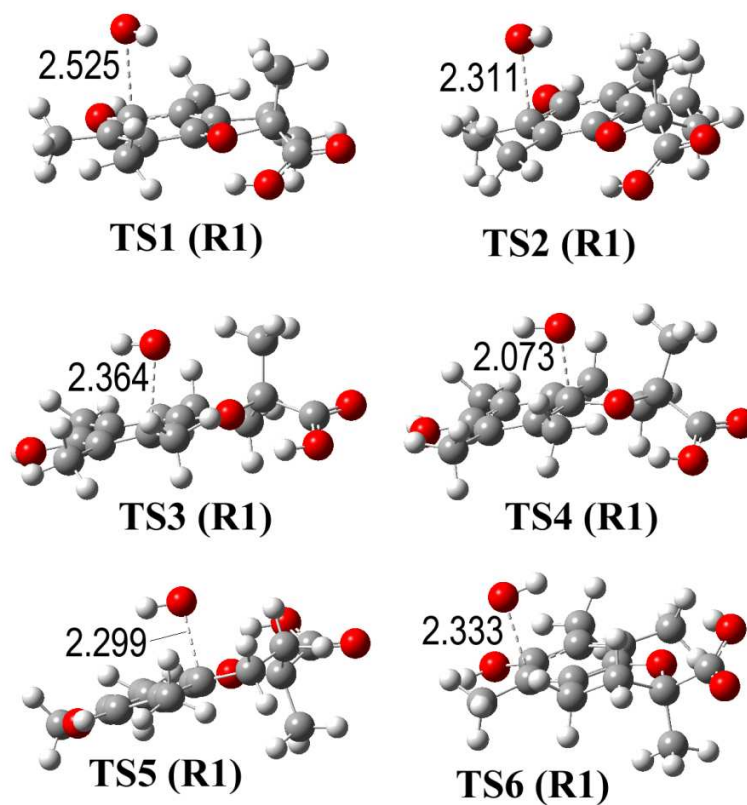
**Figure 2S.** Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å.



**Figure 3S.** Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å.

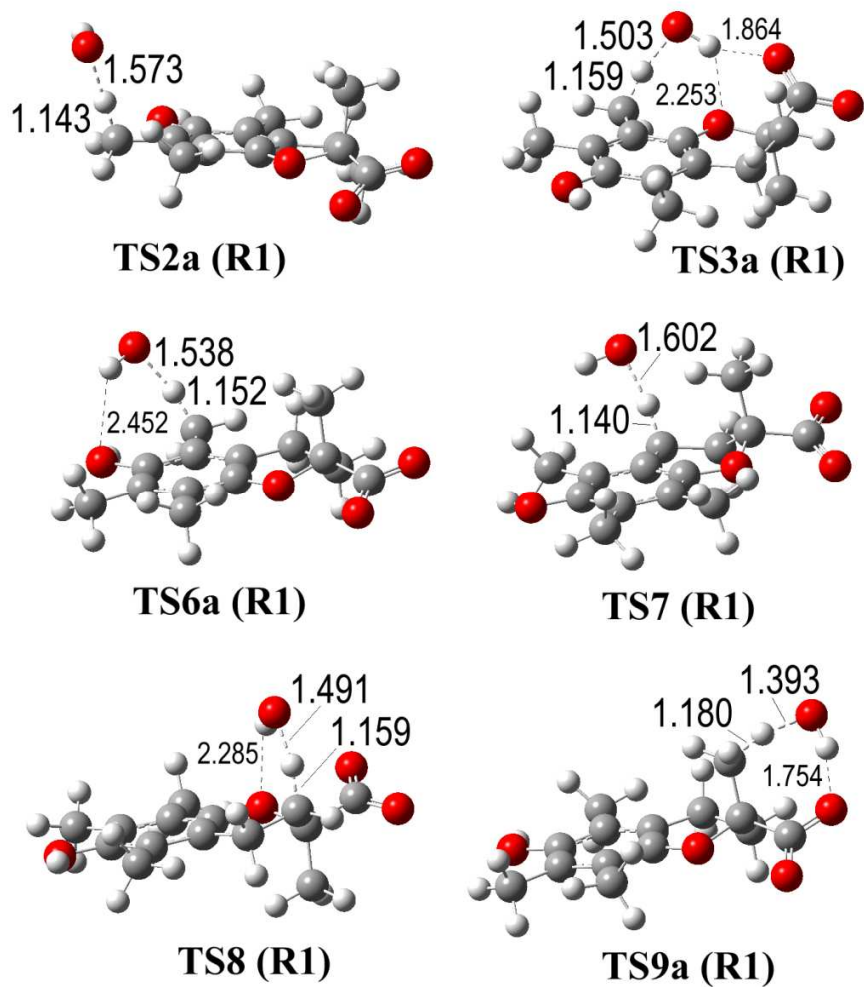


**Figure 4S.** Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between neutral trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.

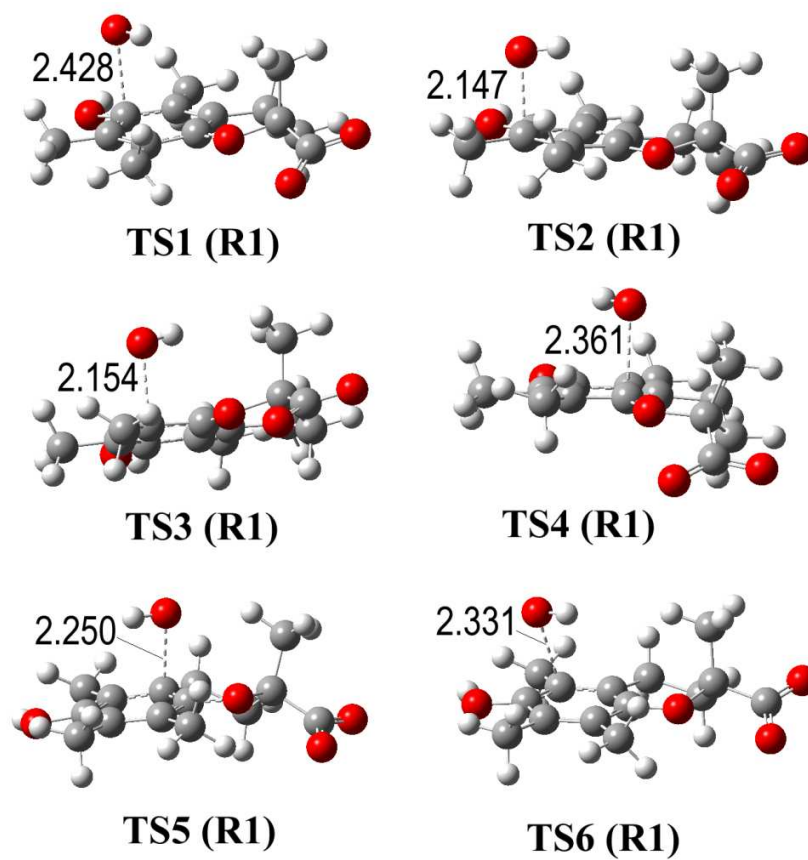


**Figure 5S.** Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between neutral trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.

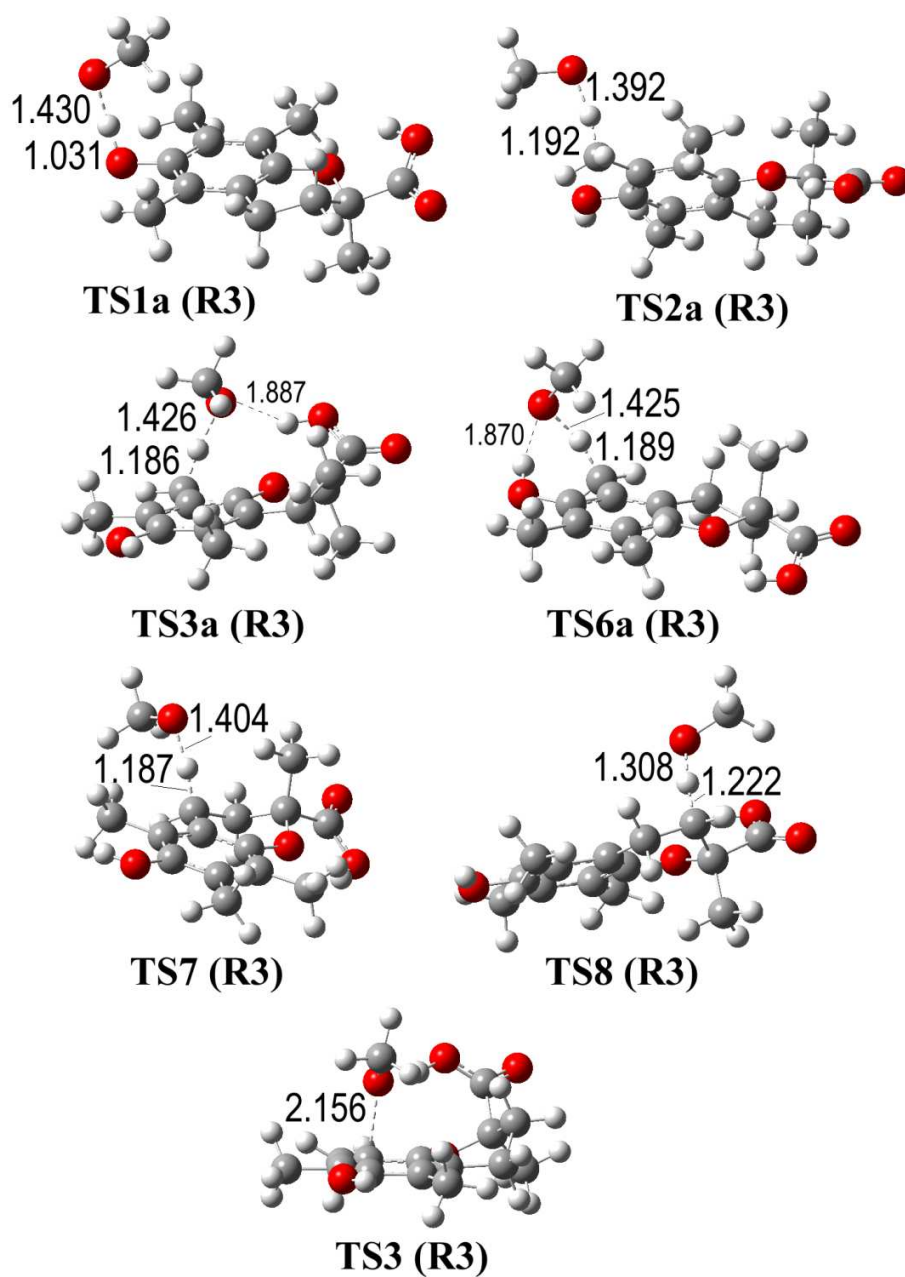




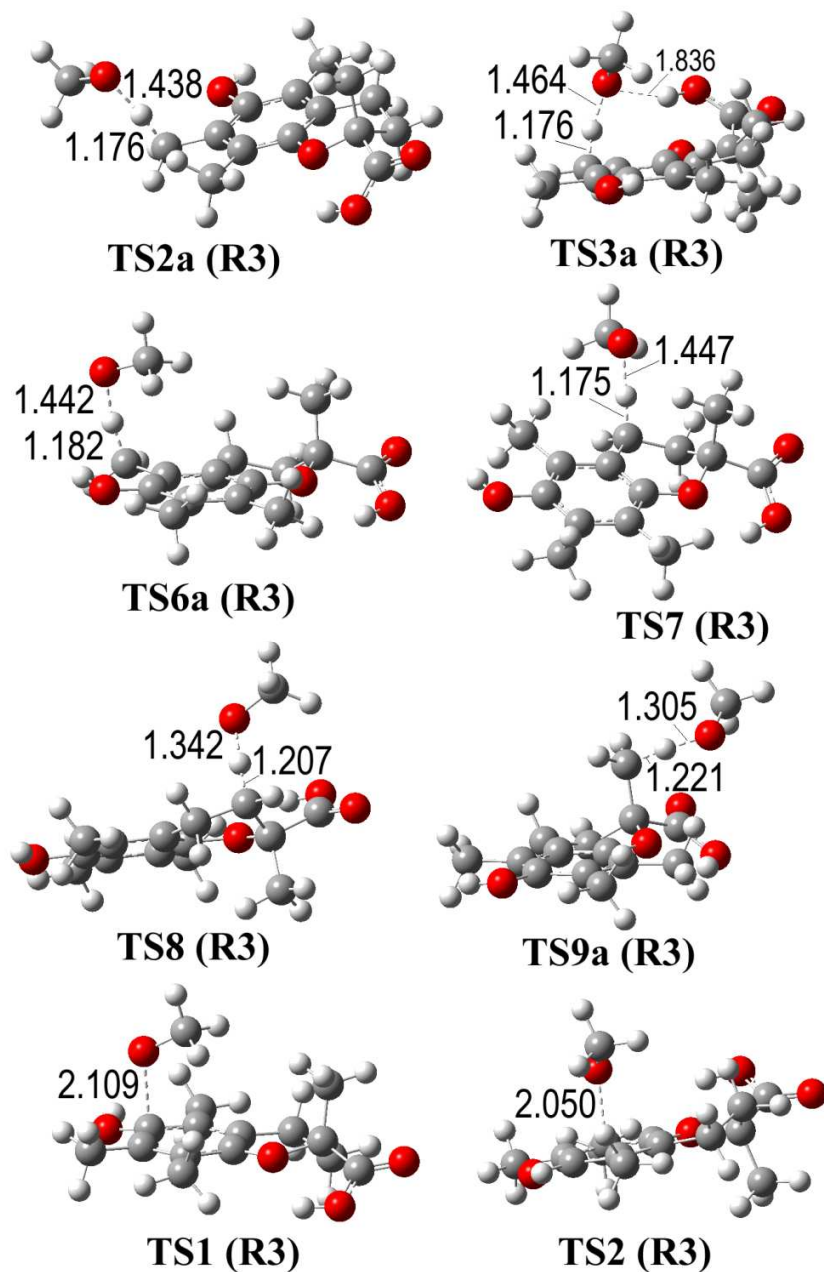
**Figure 6S.** Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between anionic trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



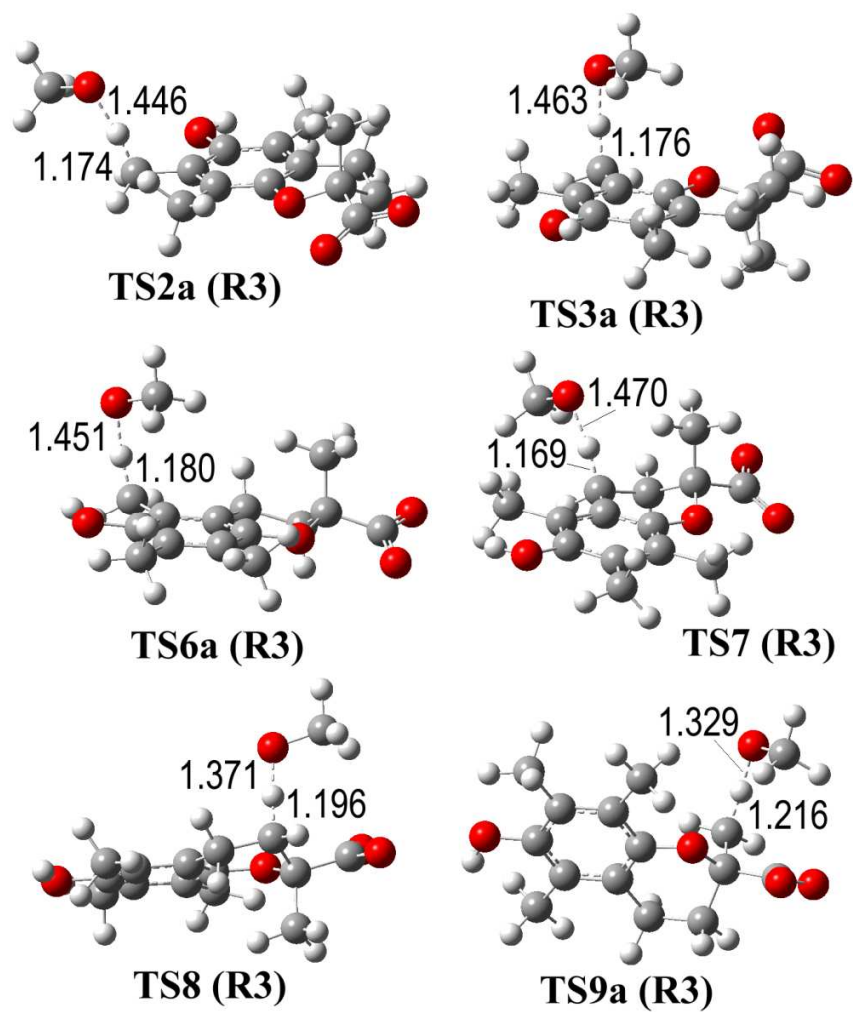
**Figure 7S.** Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between anionic trolox and  $\cdot\text{OH}$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



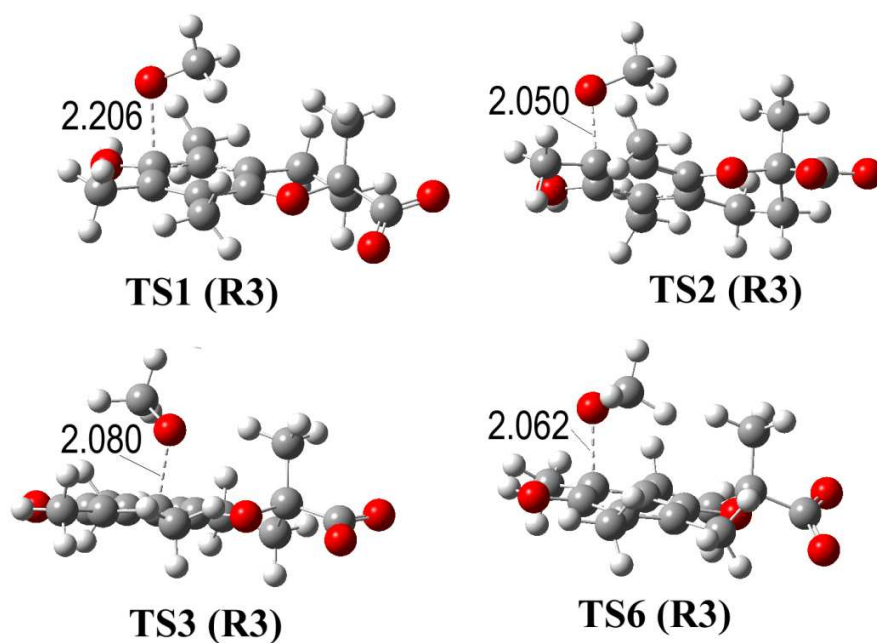
**Figure 8S.** Fully optimized transition states for the reactions between trolox and  $\bullet\text{OCH}_3$  in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å.



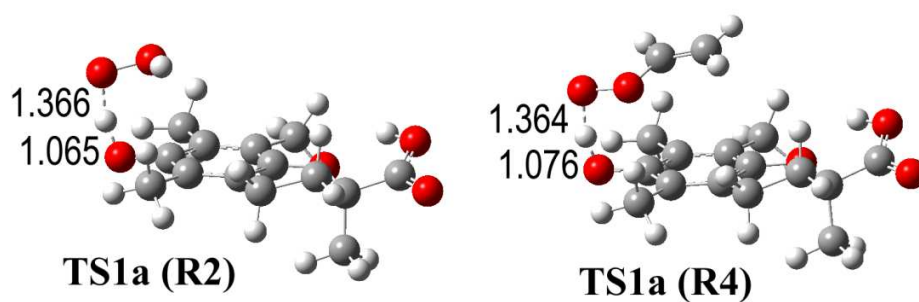
**Figure 9S.** Fully optimized transition states for the reactions between neutral trolox and  $\bullet\text{OCH}_3$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



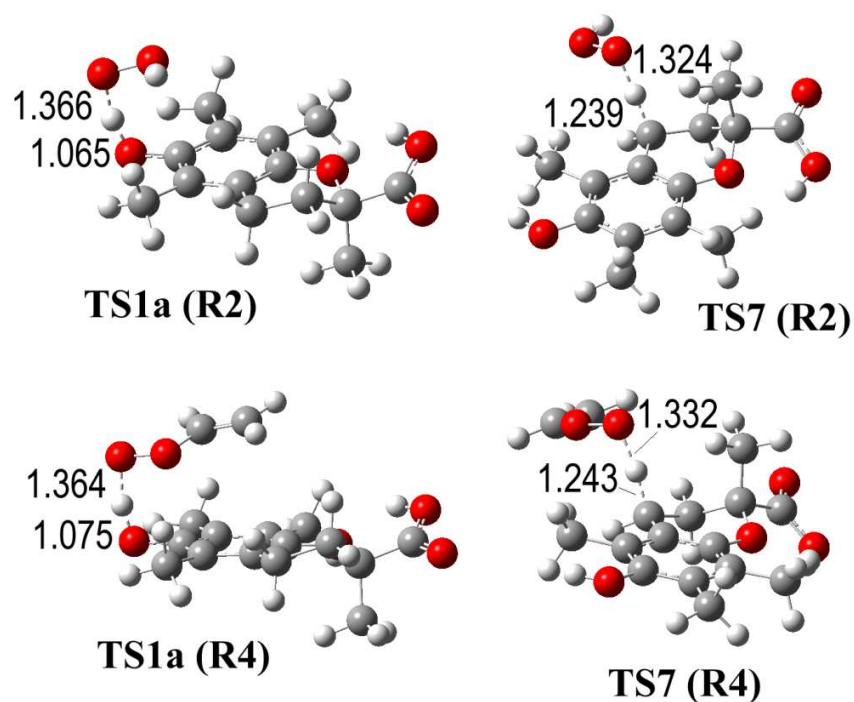
**Figure 10S.** Fully optimized transition states for the HT reactions between anionic trolox and  $\cdot\text{OCH}_3$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



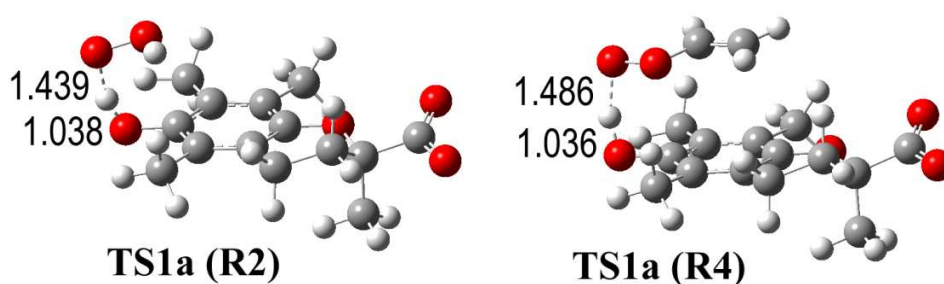
**Figure 11S.** Fully optimized transition states for the RAF reactions between anionic trolox and  $\cdot\text{OCH}_3$  in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



**Figure 12S.** Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of trolox with  $\cdot\text{OOH}$  (R2) and  $\cdot\text{OOCHCH}_2$  (R4) in pentyl ethanoate solution. Distances are reported in Å.



**Figure 13S.** Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of neutral trolox with  $\bullet\text{OOH}$  (R2) and  $\bullet\text{OOCHCH}_2$  (R4) in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.



**Figure 14S.** Fully optimized transition states for the reactions of anionic trolox with  $\bullet\text{OOH}$  (R2) and  $\bullet\text{OOCHCH}_2$  (R4) in aqueous solution. Distances are reported in Å.