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## **Supporting information**

to

Heme is responsible for enhanced singlet oxygen deactivation in cytochrome c

Andrej Hovan, Martin Berta, Dagmar Sedláková, Pavol Miskovsky, Gregor Bánó and Erik Sedlák



**Figure S1**. The pH dependence of the absorbance spectrum of cyt c (thin lines), from pH 7.4 to pH ~1.8. The arrow indicates changes in the absorbance spectrum of cyt c with pH decrease. The spectrum of apocyt c at pH 7.4 is shown by dashed line. The spectrum of apocyt c at pH 2.0 is identical with the one at pH 7.4 (data not shown).



**Figure S2**. The pH dependence of the apocyt *c* fluorescence spectrum (thin lines), from pH 7.4 to pH  $\sim$ 1.8. The arrow indicates changes in the fluorescence spectrum of apocyt *c* with pH decrease.



**Figure S3**. The pH dependence of the cyt *c* fluorescence spectrum (thin lines), from pH 7.4 to pH  $\sim$ 1.8. The arrow indicates changes in the fluorescence spectrum of cyt *c* with pH decrease.





**Figure S5**. The pH dependence of the absorbance spectrum of FMN, from pH 7.4 to pH  $\sim$ 1.8. The arrow indicates changes in the absorbance spectrum of FMN with pH decrease.



**Figure S6**. The pH dependence of the first order rate constants for FMN triplet state quenching in the pure solvent. The typical error of the presented points is around  $0.003 \times 10^6$  s<sup>-1</sup>.

**Table S1.** Lifetimes of FMN triplet state  $(\tau_T)$  and singlet oxygen  $(\tau_{\Delta})$  obtained in the presence of 100 mM cyt *c* and apocyt *c* and in the absence of proteins at pH 7.4 and pH 2. The lifetime values were evaluated from the transient absorption and the singlet oxygen phosphorescence experiments.

	рН 7.4			рН 2		
	no protei	100 μΜ	100 μM apocyt	no protei	100 μΜ	100 μM apocyt
	n	cyt c	С	n	cyt c	С
τ <sub>τ</sub> (μs)	2.88	2.33	1.31	2.55	1.39	1.39
	±0.01	±0.01	±0.01	±0.01	±0.01	±0.01
τ <sub>Δ</sub> (μs)	3.49	3.24	3.36	3.43	1.61	3.32
	±0.03	±0.03	±0.03	±0.03	±0.03	±0.03