

Diiron hexacarbonyl complexes as potential CO-RMs: their CO-releasing initiated by the substitution reaction with cysteamine and structural correlation to the bridging linkage

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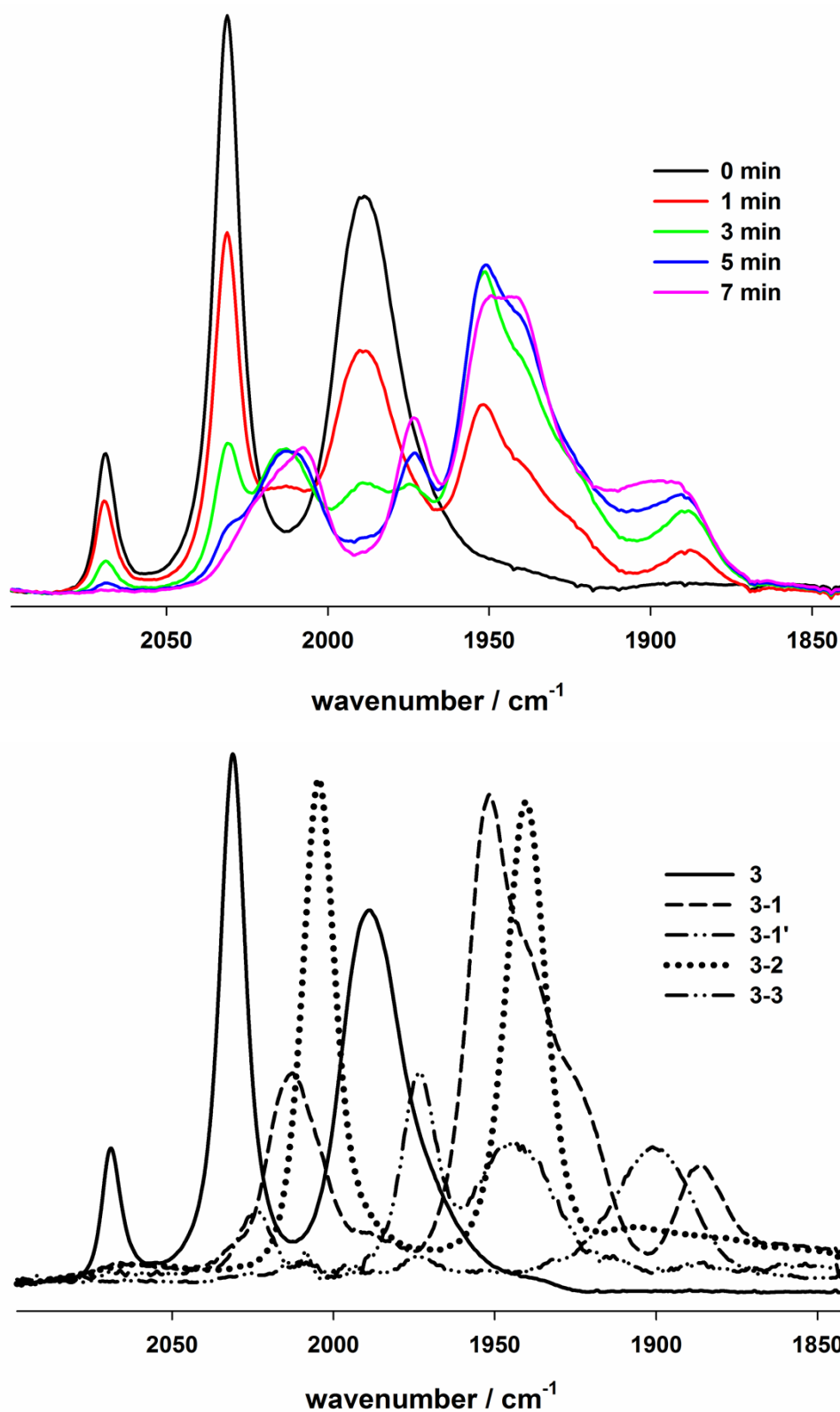


Fig. S1 Infrared spectral variation during the CO-releasing process of complex **3** ( $[3] = 0.011 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$  and  $[\text{CysA}] = 0.066 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ) (top) and the intermediates in the reaction mixture (bottom), when the reaction proceeded from 1 min to 7 min in

DMSO at 37 °C.

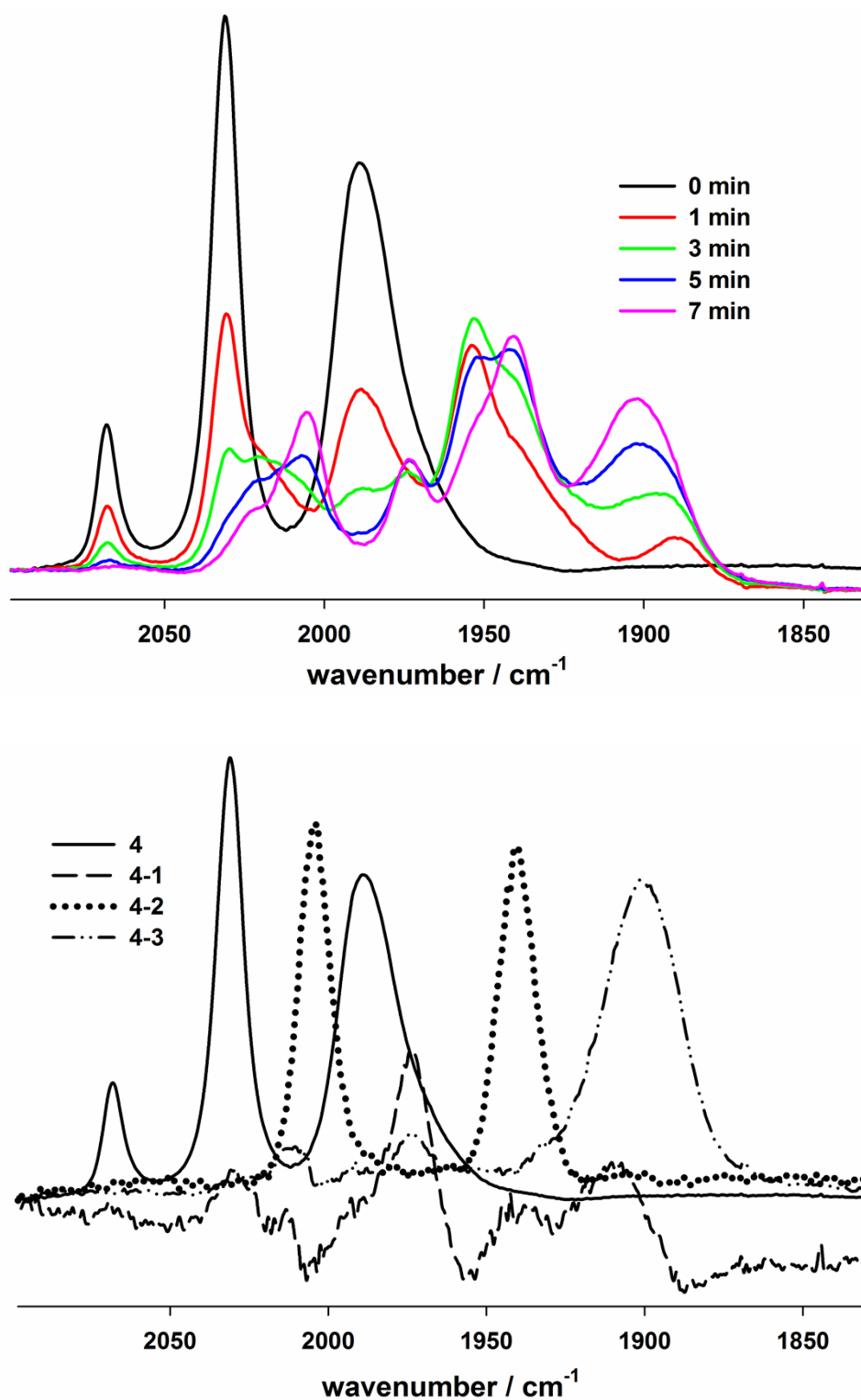


Fig. S2 Infrared spectral variation during the CO-releasing process of complex 4 ([4] = 0.011 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and [CysA] = 0.066 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) (top) and the intermediates in the

reaction mixture (bottom), when the reaction proceeded for 1 min (4-1), 3 min (4-2) and 7 min (4-3), respectively, in DMSO at 37 °C.

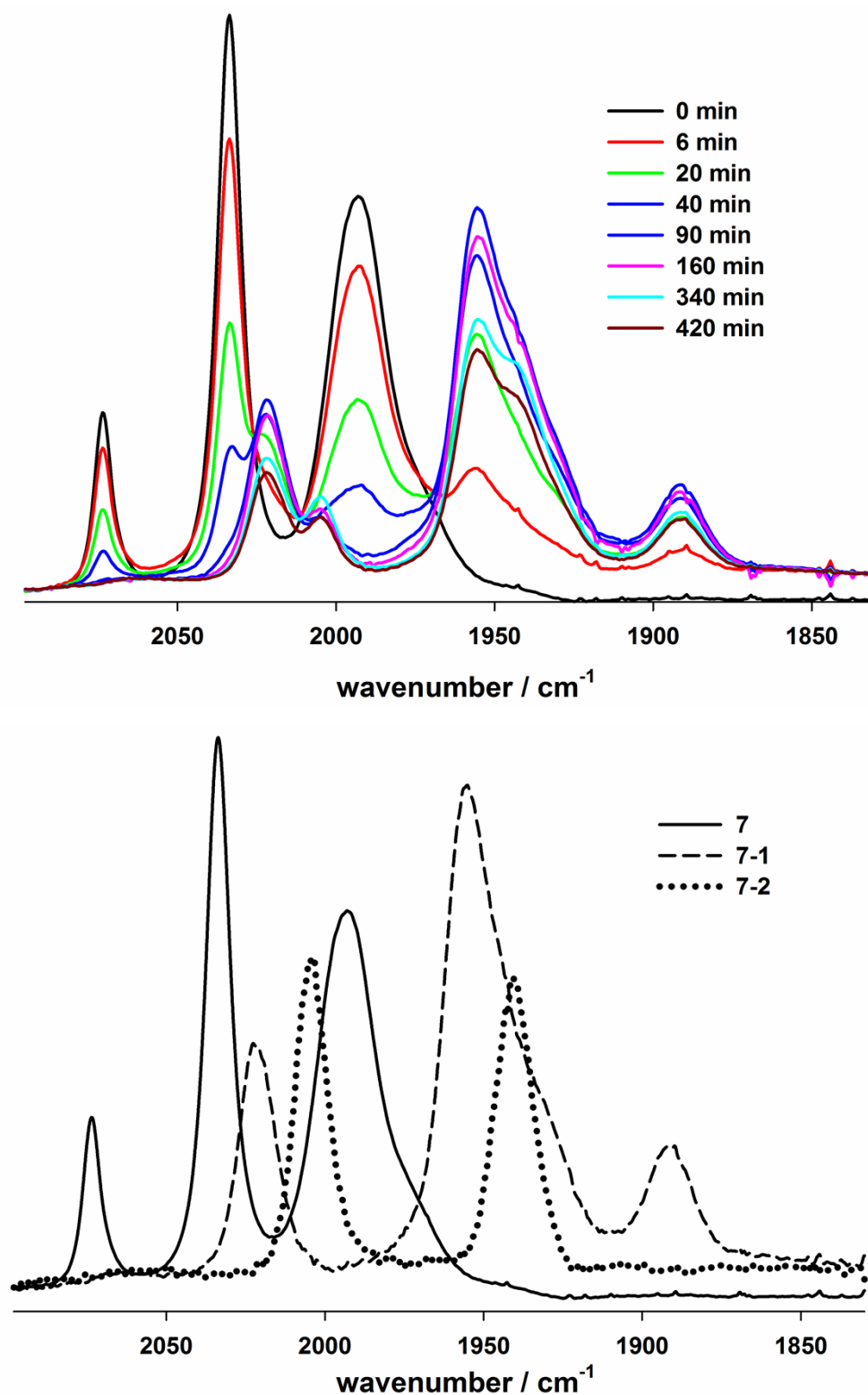


Fig. S3 Infrared spectral variation during the CO-releasing process of complex 7 ([7])

= 0.011 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and [CysA] = 0.066 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) (top) and the intermediates in the reaction mixture (bottom), when the reaction proceeded for 260 min (7-1) and 320 min (7-2), respectively, in DMSO at 37 °C.

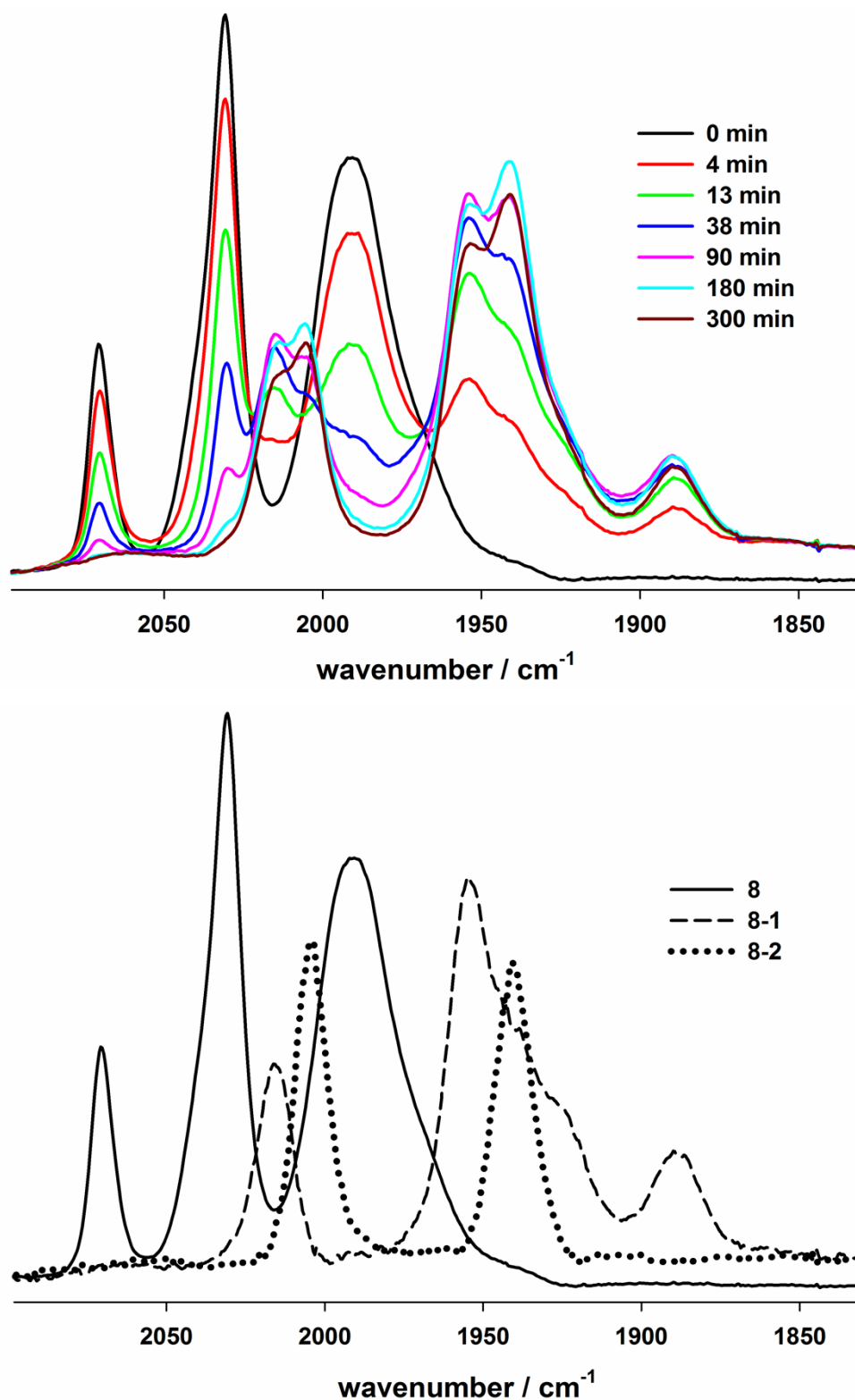


Fig. S4 Infrared spectral variation during the CO-releasing process of complex 8 ([8])

= 0.011 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and [CysA] = 0.066 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) (top) and the intermediates in the reaction mixture (bottom), when the reaction proceeded for 260 min (8-1) and 320 min (8-2), respectively, in DMSO at 37 °C.

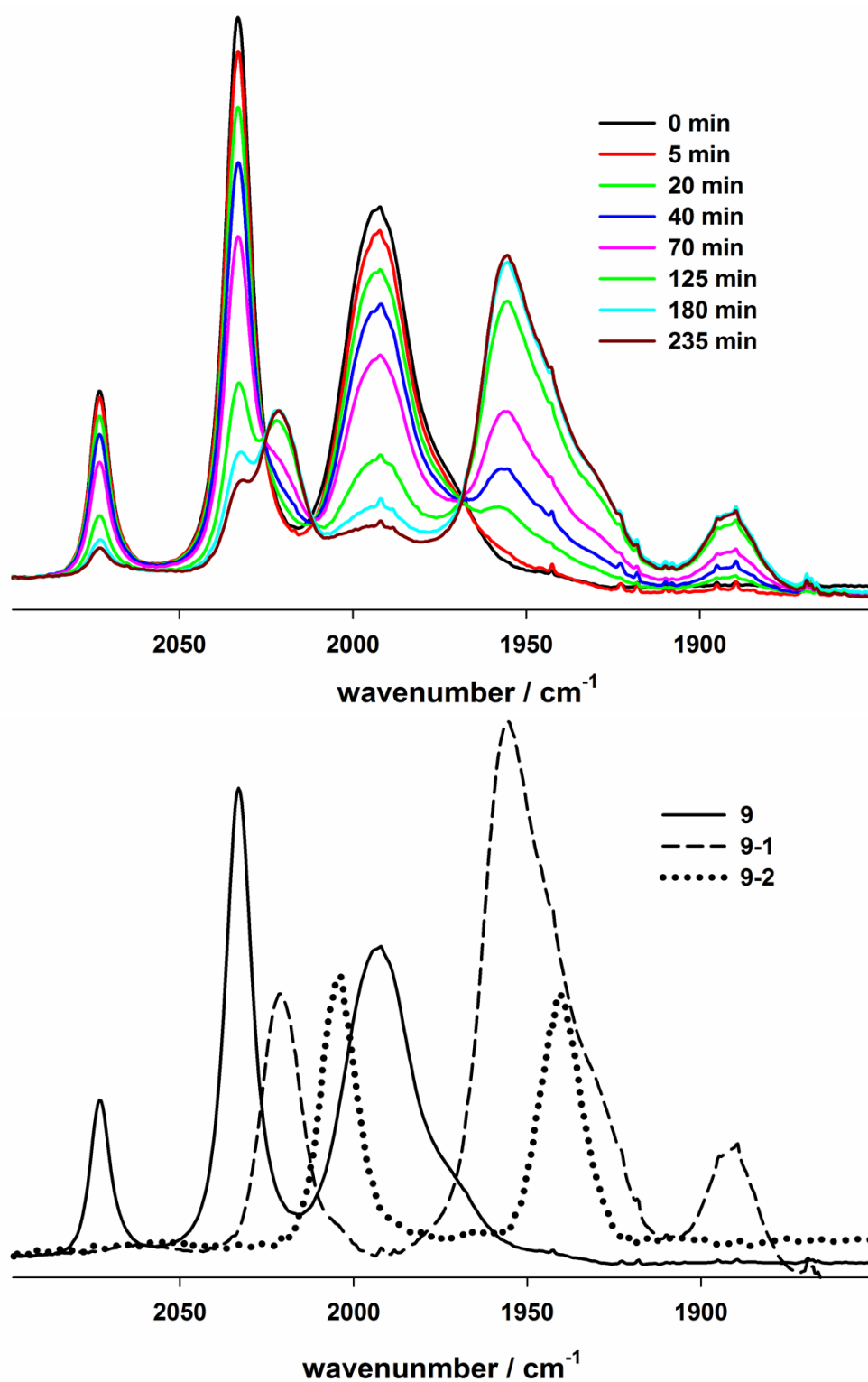


Fig. S5 Infrared spectral variation during the CO-releasing process of complex **9** ([**9**])

= 0.011 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and [CysA] = 0.066 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) (top) and the intermediates in the reaction mixture (bottom), when the reaction proceeded for 70 min (9-1) and 235 min (9-2), respectively, in DMSO at 37 °C.

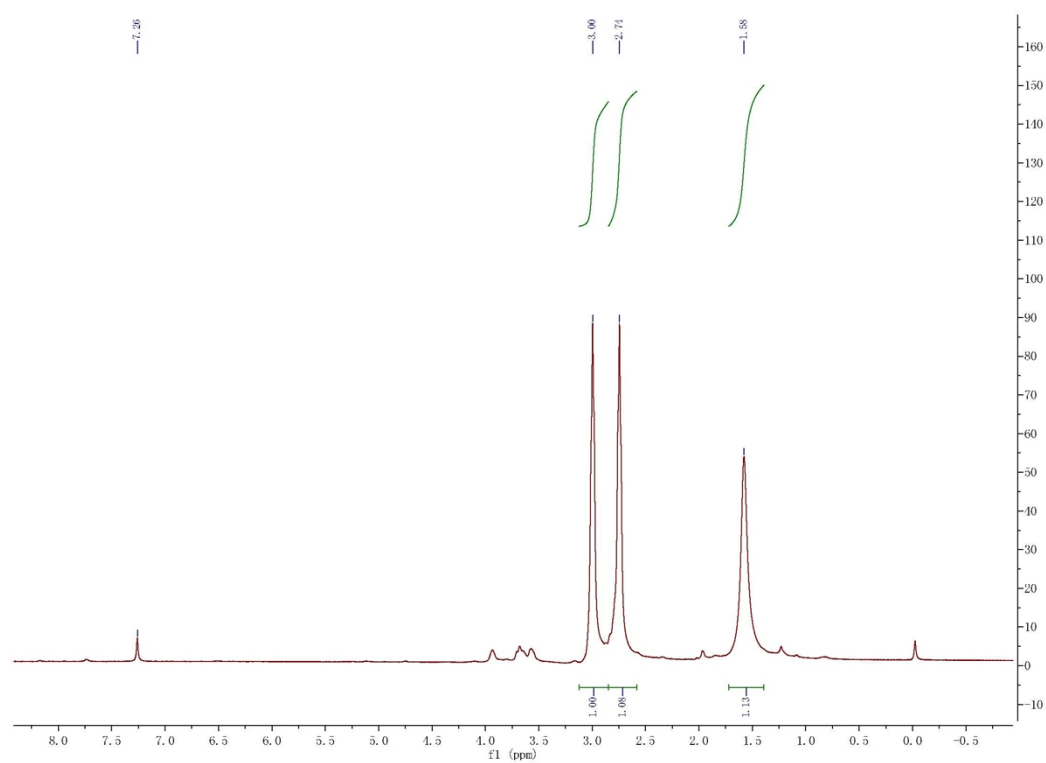


Fig. S6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the final decomposition product for complex **4** (CD<sub>3</sub>Cl).

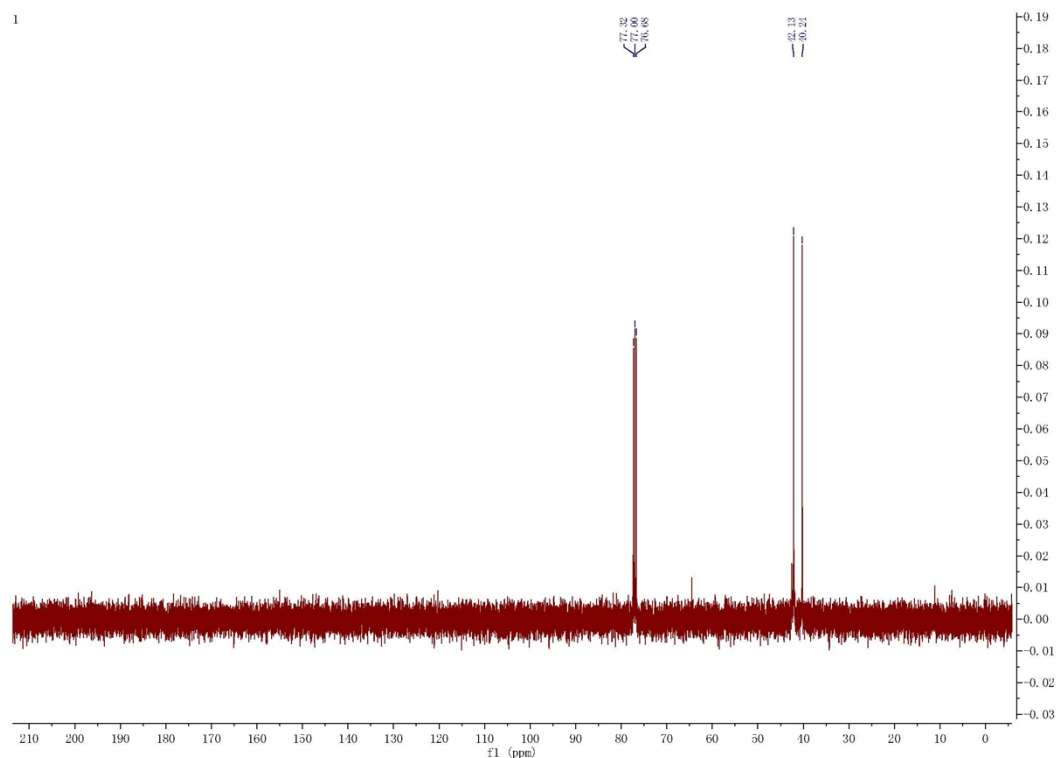


Fig. S7  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the final decomposition product for complex **4** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{Cl}$ ).

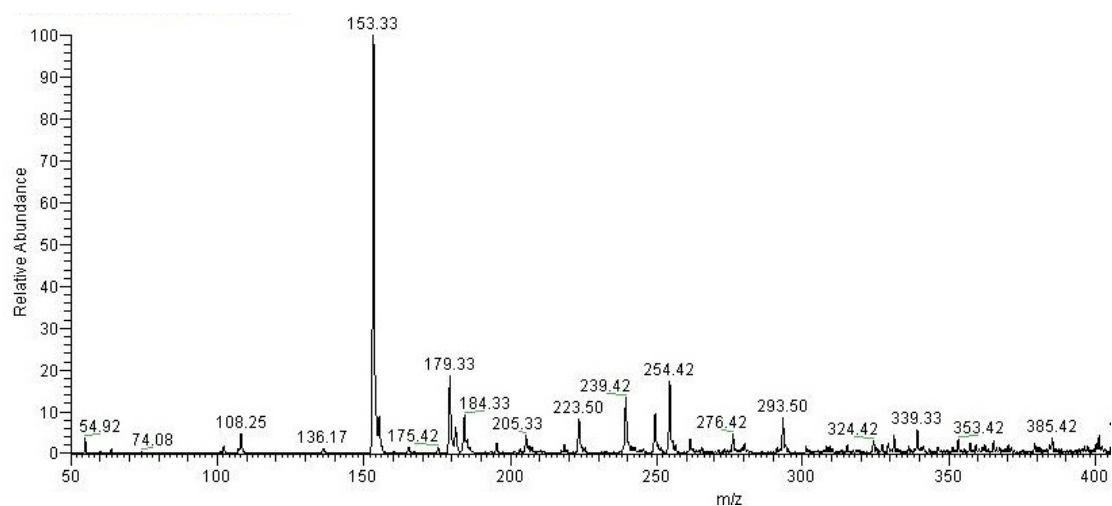
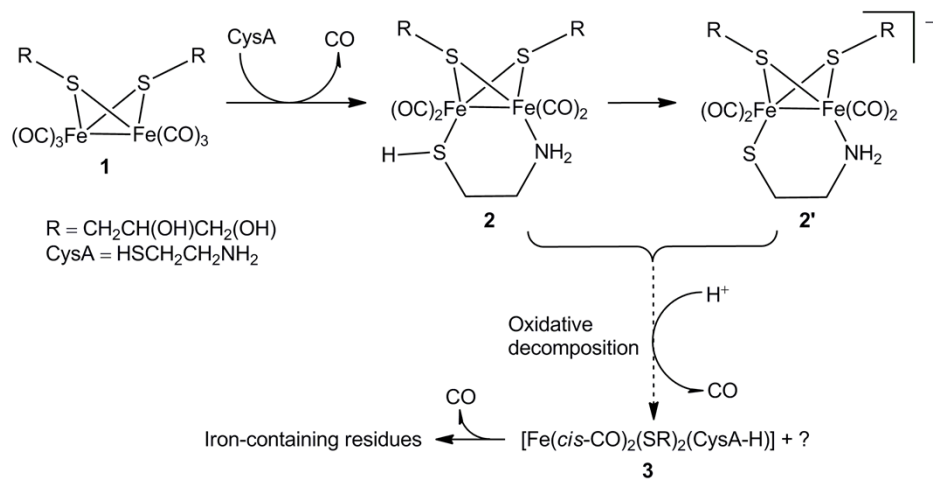


Fig. S8 Mass spectra of the final decomposition product for complex **4** (ESI, cation; the final decomposition product was obtained via the reaction of complex **4** with 6 equivalents of **CysA** under inert atmosphere at room temperature for 24 h).

Table S1 DFT calculation results and the  $k_{\text{obs}}$  of the compounds

| Complex  | Metal centre       | $k_{\text{obs}}$ | NAP charges (e) |
|----------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } |                  | -3.16876        |
| <b>2</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.806            | -3.17676        |
| <b>3</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.596            | -3.16479        |
| <b>4</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.537            | -3.16032        |
| <b>5</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.319            | -3.20218        |
| <b>6</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.108            | -3.20754        |
| <b>7</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.034            | -3.27582        |
| <b>8</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.026            | -3.26473        |
| <b>9</b> | {Fe <sub>2</sub> } | 0.022            | -3.25846        |



Scheme S1 Possible pathways of substitution-initiated CO-releasing from complex **4** by **CysA** under inert atmosphere <sup>41</sup>.