

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Hydroxyl radical generation *via* photoreduction of a simple pyridine *N*-oxide by an NADH analogue

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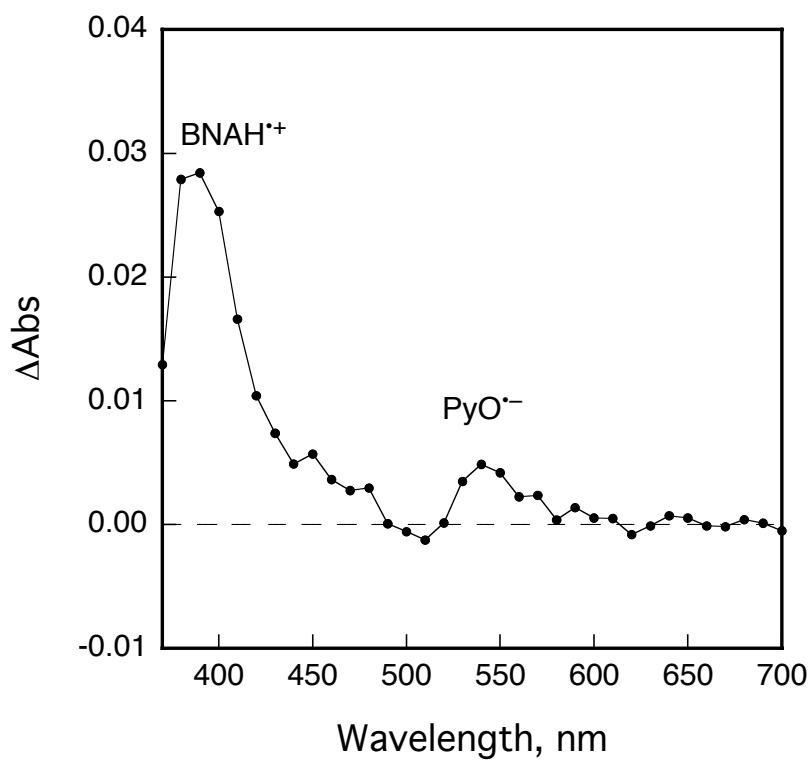
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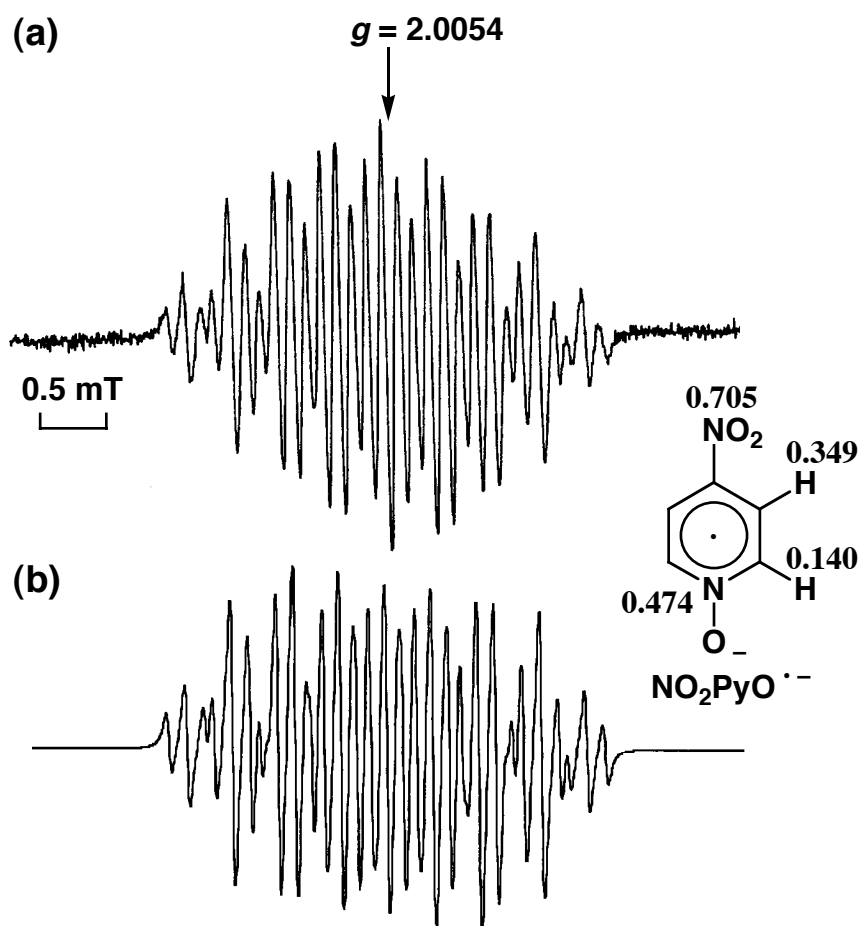
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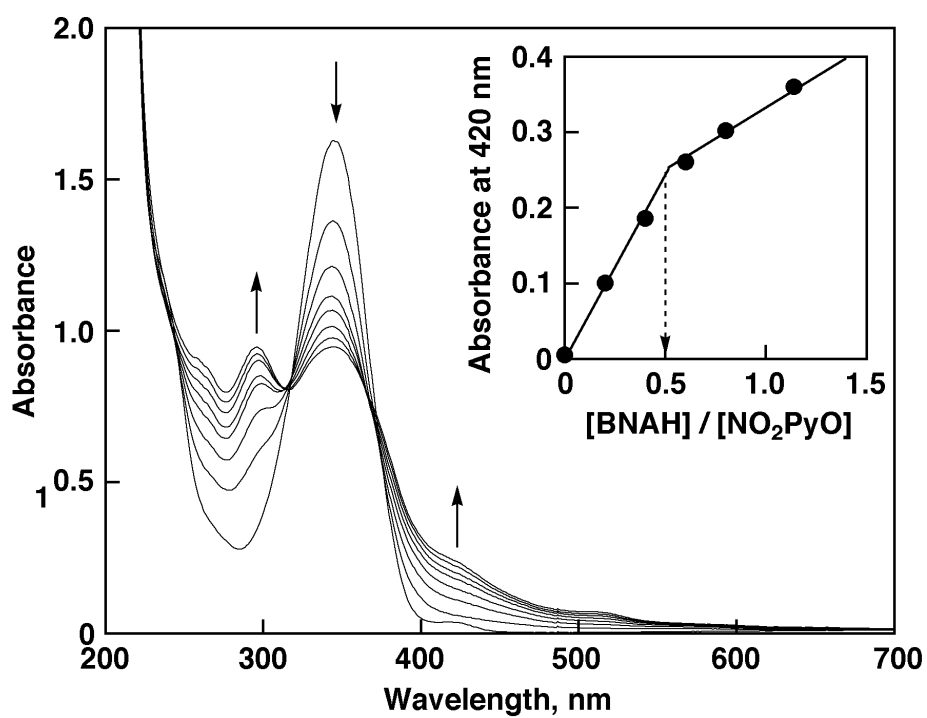
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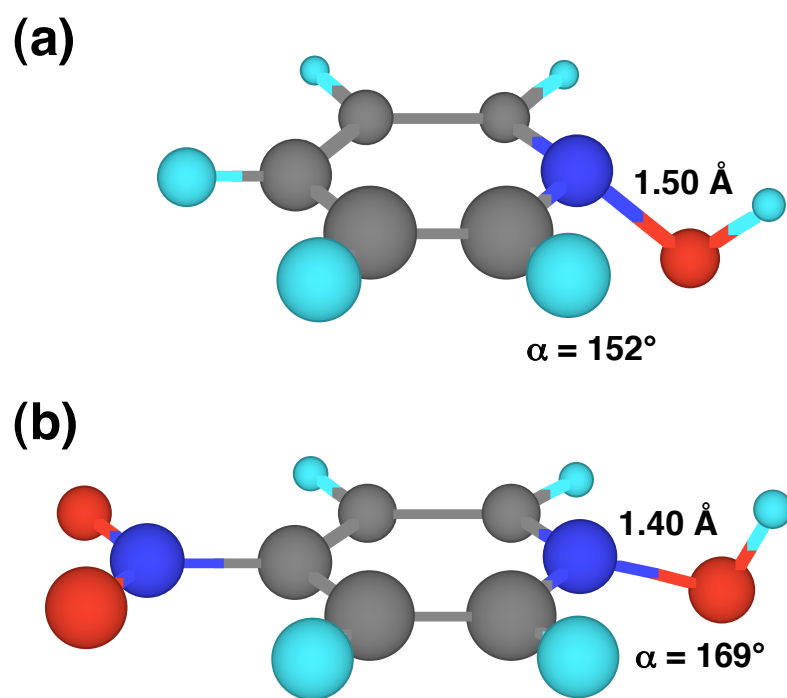
**Fig. S1** Transient absorption spectra observed by photoexcitation of a deaerated MeCN solution of BNAH ( $3.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ) and PyO ( $1.0 \times 10^{-1} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ) at  $4 \mu\text{s}$  after laser excitation ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 355 \text{ nm}$ ) at 298 K.



**Fig. S2.** (a) EPR spectrum of  $\text{NO}_2\text{PyO}^{\bullet-}$  generated by irradiation of a deaerated MeCN solution of  $\text{NO}_2\text{PyO}$  ( $1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ) and BNAH ( $1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ) at 298 K. (b) The computer simulation spectrum with the hfc values (in mT).



**Fig. S3.** Spectral change observed in the reaction of NO<sub>2</sub>PyO ( $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) with BNAH ( $5.0 \times 10^{-4}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) in deaerated MeCN under irradiation at  $\lambda = 340$  nm at 298 K.



**Fig. S4.** B3LYP/6-31G\* minimized structures of (a) PyOH<sup>+</sup> and (b) NO<sub>2</sub>PyOH<sup>+</sup> with the calculated nitrogen–oxygen bond distances and the out-of-plane bending angles,  $\alpha$ .