

Electrochemical and Mechanistic Study of Structure–Activity Relationship of α -, β -, γ -, and δ -Tocopherol on Superoxide Elimination in *N,N*-Dimethylformamide through Proton-Coupled Electron Transfer

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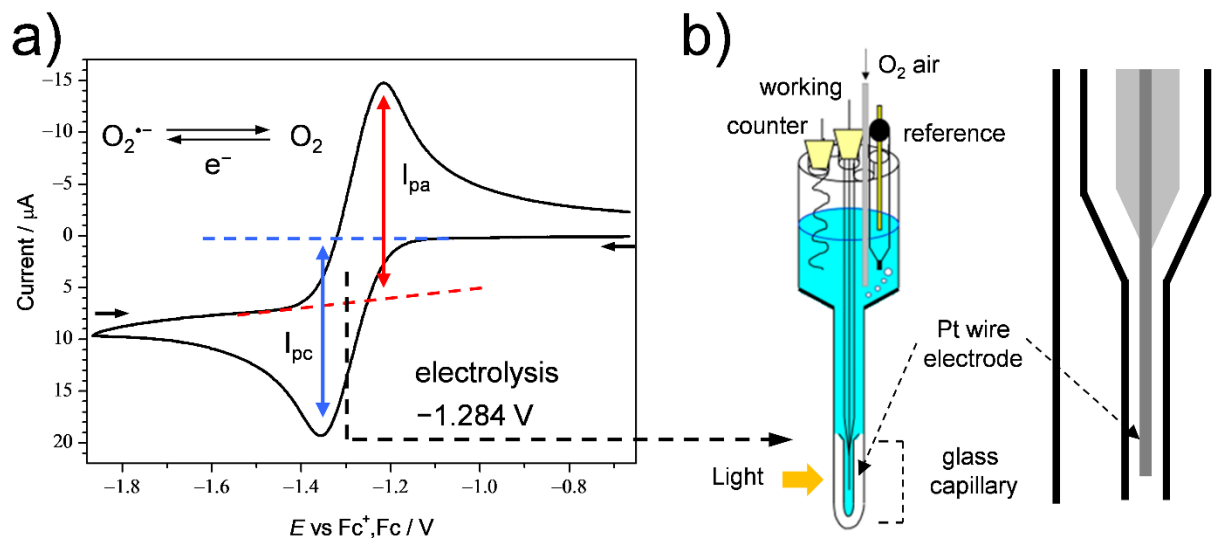


Figure S1. *In situ* electrolytic ESR spectral system. (a) Cyclic voltammograms of $\text{O}_2/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ for potential determination. (b) *In situ* ESR system, composed of an electrochemical ESR cell with a glass small tip, air tube for O_2 bubbling, and three electrode system using a 0.5-mm-diameter straight Pt wire sealed in a glass capillary as working electrode.

Table S1. Free energy changes ($\Delta G^\circ/\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$, 298.15 K) of ET between (a) TO^- and HO_2^\bullet (along intermolecular ET-PT), and between (b) TOH and HO_2^\bullet (along PCET), in DMF.

	$\alpha\text{-TO}^-/\alpha\text{-TOH}$	$\beta\text{-TO}^-/\beta\text{-TOH}$	$\gamma\text{-TO}^-/\gamma\text{-TOH}$	$\delta\text{-TO}^-/\delta\text{-TOH}$
TO^- and HO_2^\bullet	-50.3	-40.1	-38.6	-28.4
TOH and HO_2^\bullet	100.7	103.3	111.4	117.1

¹ ΔG° s were calculated using DFT at the (U)B3LYP/PCM/6-311+G(d,p) level. ² Electron transfer (ET), proton transfer (PT), proton-coupled electron transfer (PCET).

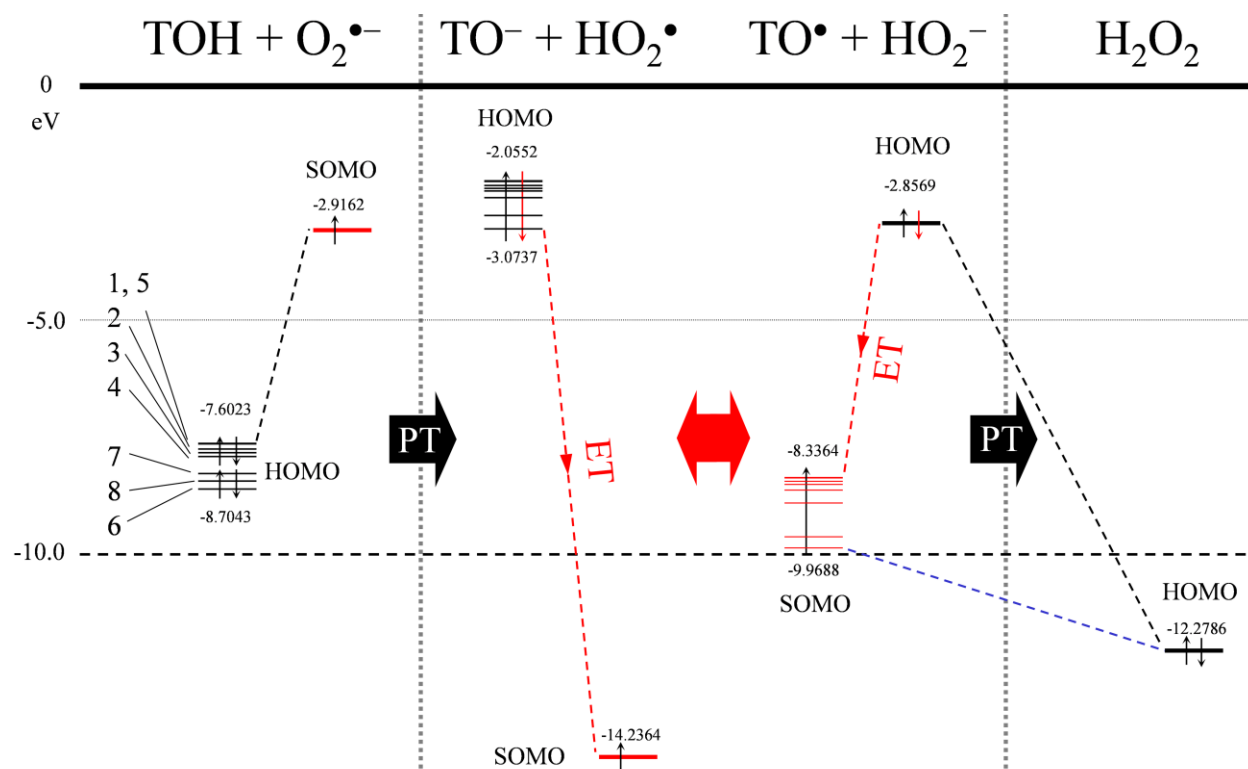


Figure S2. Change in highest occupied molecular orbital-lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (HOMO—LUMO) energies ($E_h/\text{a.u.}$) along the $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ elimination reaction (the first proton transfer (PT), electron transfer (ET), and the second PT) by (a–d) α -, β -, γ -, and δ -TOH, (e) 2,2,5,7,8-pentamethyl-6-chroman-6-ol, (f) homogentisic acid γ -lactone, (g) 2,3-dihydro-2,2-dimethyl-7-hydroxybenzofuran, and (h) trans-*para*-coumaric acid, calculated with the HF/6-311+G(d,p) method.

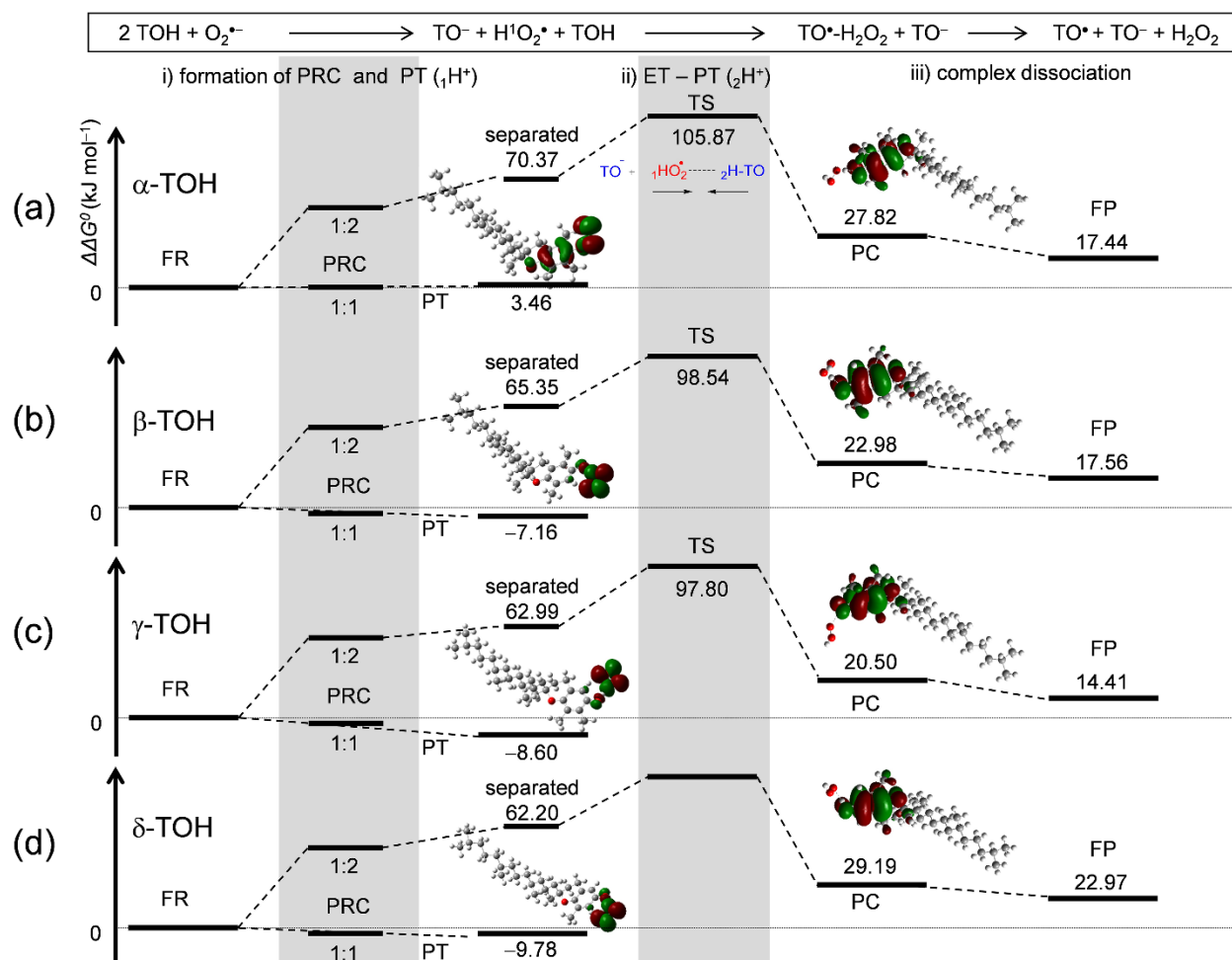


Figure S3. Energy profiles along PCET involving two PTs and one ET between two molecule of TOH (α -, β -, γ -, and δ -TOH) and $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ in DMF, calculated using DFT-(U)B3LYP/PCM/6-311+G(d,p) method. Activation energies (kJ mol^{-1}) of transition states (TS) were obtained for the 1:1 ET-PT pathway between TOH (α -, β -, and γ -TOH) and HO_2^{\bullet} .

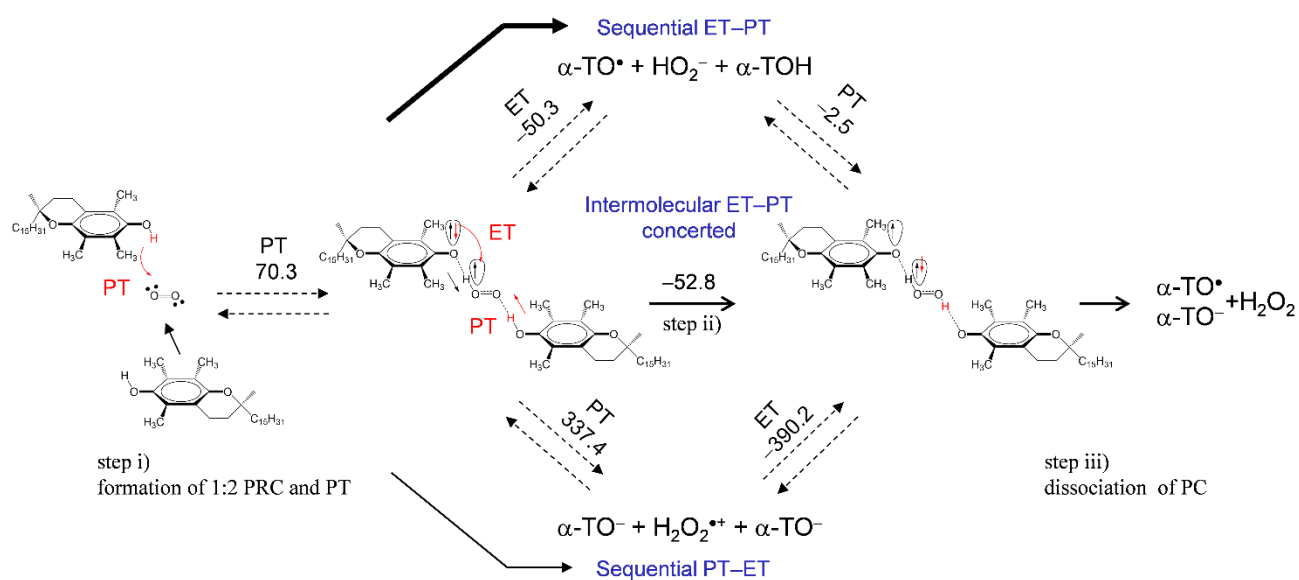


Figure S4. Plausible mechanism and the ΔG° s (kJ mol^{-1} , 298.15 K) for the PCET pathways between $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and $\alpha\text{-TOH}$ involving two PTs and one ET in DMF. The ΔG° s were calculated using DFT-(U)B3LYP/PCM/6-311+G(d,p) method.

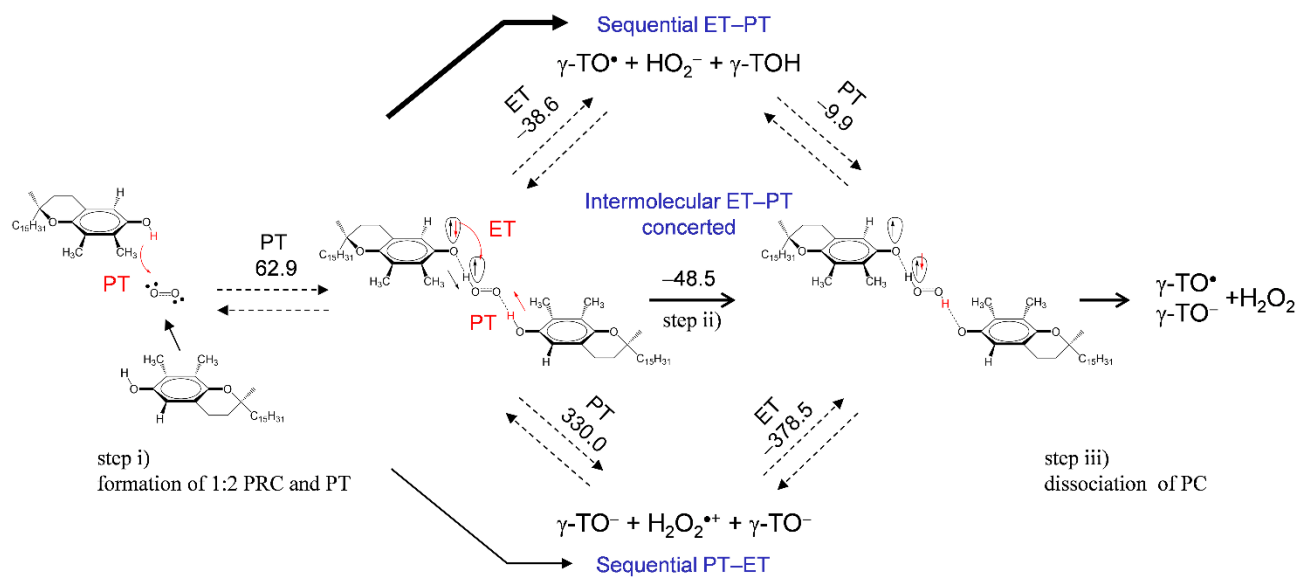


Figure S5 Plausible mechanism and the ΔG° s (kJ mol^{-1} , 298.15 K) for the PCET pathways between $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and $\gamma\text{-TOH}$ involving two PTs and one ET in DMF. The ΔG° s were calculated using DFT-(U)B3LYP/PCM/6-311+G(d,p) method.