

## Supporting Information

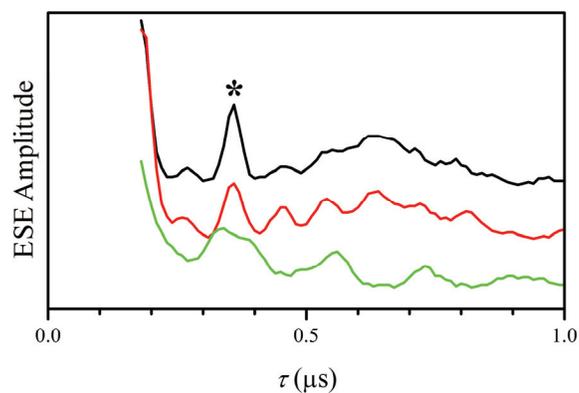
### **Pulsed ENDOR determination of relative orientation of g- and molecular frames of imidazole-coordinated heme center of iNOS**

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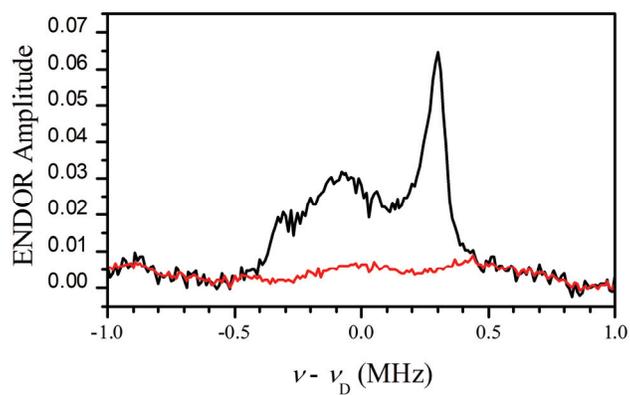
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**Figure S1.** Three-pulse (stimulated) ESE decays recorded for the imidazole-coordinated heme of human iNOS oxyFMN at the EPR turning points as a function of the time interval  $\tau$  between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pulses. Experimental conditions: mw frequency, 29.966 GHz; mw pulses,  $3 \times 11$  ns; time interval between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> mw pulses,  $T = 4 \mu\text{s}$ ;  $B_0 = 864.8$  mT ( $g_{\text{lf}}$ , black trace), 928.8 mT ( $g_{\text{if}}$ , red trace), and 1141.8 mT ( $g_{\text{hf}}$ , green trace); temperature, 10 K. The asterisk corresponds to  $\tau = 360$  ns used in Mims ENDOR measurements.



**Figure S2.** Mims ENDOR spectra of imidazole-coordinated heme in the human iNOS oxyFMN construct. Black and red traces correspond to the samples prepared with Im-D and Im-H, respectively. The spectra were normalized by the ESE signal amplitude without RF. Experimental conditions: mw frequency, 29.966 GHz;  $B_0 = 8928.8$  mT ( $g_{\text{ref}}$ ); mw pulses,  $3 \times 11$  ns; time interval between the first and second mw pulses,  $\tau = 360$  ns; time interval between the second and third mw pulses,  $T = 60$   $\mu$ s; RF pulse, 55  $\mu$ s; temperature, 10 K.

**Table S1.** The wavefunction coefficients describing the contributions of the  $d_{XY}$ ,  $d_{XZ}$  and  $d_{YZ}$  orbitals into the singly occupied orbital of the 1m-coordinated Fe(III) heme of iNOS as obtained from analysis of the principal g-values using the formalism of Taylor (Taylor, C. P. S. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* **1977**, *491*, 137; ref. 57 of the manuscript). The subscripts at the  $d$ -orbitals above and in the Table refer to the axes of the proper coordinate system. The proper quantization axis,  $Z_Q$ , for the Fe(III)  $d$ -orbital set corresponds to  $|g_{hf}| = 1.86$ , and thus coincides with the g-frame axis  $X_g$  as defined in the main text. The other two proper axes,  $X_Q$  and  $Y_Q$ , correspond to  $|g_{if}| = 2.52$  and  $|g_{if}| = 2.3$ , and *vice versa*. The ratio of the rhombic and tetragonal splittings is the same for all of the solutions,  $|V/\Delta| = 0.449$ . The values shown in the Table correspond to the assignment  $X_Q \rightarrow |g_{if}| = 2.52$  and  $Y_Q \rightarrow |g_{if}| = 2.3$ . Given the ENDOR results of this work, the “proper” orbitals  $d_{XY}$  and  $d_{XZ}$  are actually the  $d_\pi$  orbitals because their planes are perpendicular to the heme plane. The solutions with the opposite assignment of  $X_Q$  and  $Y_Q$  are similar (only the values of  $|a_{XZ}|$  and  $|a_{YZ}|$  have to be interchanged).

g <sub>x</sub>	g <sub>y</sub>	g <sub>z</sub>	$ a_{XY} $	$ a_{XZ} $	$ a_{YZ} $	$\Sigma a_{ij} ^2$
-2.52	2.3	-1.86	0.991	0.136	0.090	1.009
-2.52	2.3	1.86	0.659	0.599	0.569	1.117
-2.52	-2.3	1.86	0.054	1.074	0.108	1.168
2.52	2.3	1.86	0.061	0.182	1.148	1.355