## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Tunneling Effect in Vitamin E Recycling by Green Tea** 

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Table S1  $k_r^{H}, k_r^{D}, k_s^{H}, k_s^{D}, 2k_d^{H}$  and  $2k_d^{D}$  values for reactions (1)–(3) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C.

Fig. S1 Rise-and-decay curves of  $[\alpha$ -Toc•] during reaction (2-H) and the subsequent reaction (3-H) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C, and the curves simulated according to eqns (9)–(16).

Fig. S2 Rise-and-decay curves of  $[\alpha$ -Toc•] during reaction (2-D) and the subsequent reaction (3-D) in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C, and the curves simulated according to those similar to eqns (9)–(16).

Fig. S3 Arrhenius plots of  $k_s^{H}$  and  $k_s^{D}$  values for reactions (2-H) and (2-D) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O, respectively.

Fig. S4 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGC-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S5 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S6 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S7 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and ECG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S8 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S9 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S10 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MR in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S11 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MC in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S12 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MG in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C.

Fig. S13 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^{H}$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O.

Fig. S14 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and ECG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O.

Fig. S15 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^{H}$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O.

Fig. S16 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^D$  values for reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O.

Fig. S17 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^{H}$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MC in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O.

Fig. S18 Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MG in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O.

Molecule			Reaction rate constant / M-1s-1			
		15	20	25	30	37 / °C
EC-H	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	$7.90 \times 10^{2}$	9.63×10 <sup>2</sup>	$1.20 \times 10^{3}$	1.46×10 <sup>3</sup>	$1.78 \times 10^{3}$
EC-D	$k_{\rm r}^{\rm D}$	_a	_a	$2.56 \times 10^{2}$	3.28×10 <sup>2</sup>	_ <i>a</i>
ECG-H	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	$2.38 \times 10^{3}$	$2.84 \times 10^{3}$	3.43×10 <sup>3</sup>	4.18×10 <sup>3</sup>	$5.22 \times 10^{3}$
ECG-D	$k_{\rm r}^{\rm D}$	_a	_a	_a	_ <i>a</i>	_ <i>a</i>
EGC-H	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	$2.00 \times 10^{4}$	$2.24 \times 10^{4}$	$2.41 \times 10^{4}$	$2.71 \times 10^{4}$	$2.98 \times 10^{4}$
EGC-D	$k_{\rm r}^{\rm D}$	_a	$2.23 \times 10^{3}$	2.49×10 <sup>3</sup>	3.00×10 <sup>3</sup>	$3.74 \times 10^{3}$
EGCG-H	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	$1.82 \times 10^{4}$	$2.02 \times 10^{4}$	$2.31 \times 10^{4}$	$2.50 \times 10^{4}$	$2.83 \times 10^{4}$
EGCG-D	$k_{\rm r}^{\rm D}$	_a	_a	4.49×10 <sup>3</sup>	5.30×10 <sup>3</sup>	6.89×10 <sup>3</sup>
MR	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	< 10 <sup>2</sup>	< 10 <sup>2</sup>	< 10 <sup>2</sup>	< 10 <sup>2</sup>	< 10 <sup>2</sup>
MC	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	3.30×10 <sup>3</sup>	3.96×10 <sup>3</sup>	4.48×10 <sup>3</sup>	5.38×10 <sup>3</sup>	6.32×10 <sup>3</sup>
MP	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	1.38×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.61×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.75×10 <sup>5</sup>	$1.87 \times 10^{5}$	1.88×10 <sup>5</sup>
MG	$k_{ m r}^{ m H}$	$1.47 \times 10^{3}$	$1.78 \times 10^{3}$	2.11×10 <sup>3</sup>	2.46×10 <sup>3</sup>	3.06×10 <sup>3</sup>
α-TocH	$k_{\rm s}{}^{\rm H}$	6.80×10 <sup>3</sup>	7.50×10 <sup>3</sup>	8.20×10 <sup>3</sup>	9.00×10 <sup>3</sup>	$1.00 \times 10^{4}$
α-TocD	$k_{\rm s}{}^{\rm D}$	$2.70 \times 10^{2}$	3.20×10 <sup>2</sup>	$4.00 \times 10^{2}$	4.55×10 <sup>2</sup>	5.45×10 <sup>2</sup>
α-Toc•	$2k_{\rm d}{}^{\rm H}$	$1.08 \times 10^{3}$	1.13×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.21×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.25×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.40×10 <sup>3</sup>
α-Toc•	$2k_{\rm d}^{\rm D}$	8.80×10 <sup>2</sup>	8.90×10 <sup>2</sup>	9.50×10 <sup>2</sup>	1.01×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.15×10 <sup>3</sup>

**Table S1**  $k_r^{H}$ ,  $k_r^{D}$ ,  $k_s^{H}$ ,  $k_s^{D}$ ,  $2k_d^{H}$  and  $2k_d^{D}$  values for reactions (1)–(3) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C

<sup>*a*</sup> Reliable data was not obtained.

**Fig. S1** Rise-and-decay curves of  $[\alpha$ -Toc•] during reaction (2-H) and the subsequent reaction (3-H) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C (red curves), and the curves simulated according to eqns (9)–(16) (black curves). In the simulation,  $k_s^H$  and  $2k_d^H$  are set to the values given in Table S1, and  $[ArO•]_0$  are set to 7.50×10<sup>-2</sup>, 7.60×10<sup>-2</sup>, 7.85×10<sup>-2</sup>, 8.15×10<sup>-2</sup> and 8.46×10<sup>-2</sup> mM at 15, 20, 25, 30 and 37 °C, respectively.  $[\alpha$ -TocH]\_0 = 6.33 mM and  $\varepsilon$  = 3420 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>.





**Fig. S2** Rise-and-decay curves of  $[\alpha$ -Toc•] during reaction (2-D) and the subsequent reaction (3-D) in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 15–37 °C (red curves), and the curves simulated according to those similar to eqns (9)–(16) (blue curves). In the simulation,  $k_s^D$  and  $2k_d^D$  are set to the values given in Table S1, and  $[ArO•]_0$  are set to 0.255, 0.240, 0.230, 0.218 and 0.215 mM at 15, 20, 25, 30 and 37 °C, respectively.  $[\alpha$ -TocD]\_0 = 2.12 mM and  $\varepsilon$  = 3420 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>.









**Fig. S3** Arrhenius plots of  $k_s^H$  and  $k_s^D$  values for reactions (2-H) and (2-D) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O and EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O (open and filled circles, respectively). The solid lines show the best-fitting lines by standard linear least-squares analyses.



Fig. S4 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGC-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [EGC-D] for the data shown with red, blue, green and black curves were  $3.96 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $7.92 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.19 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $1.58 \times 10^{-4}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S5 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [EC-H] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $3.57 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $7.14 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1.07 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $1.43 \times 10^{-3}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S6 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [EC-D] for the data shown with red, blue, green and black curves were  $3.44 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $6.88 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1.03 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $1.38 \times 10^{-3}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S7 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and ECG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [ECG-H] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $3.84 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $7.69 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.15 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $1.53 \times 10^{-4}$  M, respectively.



**Fig. S8** Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [EGCG-H] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $1.79 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $3.58 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $5.38 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $7.17 \times 10^{-5}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S9 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-D) and the competitive reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [EGCG-D] for the data shown with red, blue, green and black curves were  $3.20 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $6.39 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $9.56 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $1.28 \times 10^{-4}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S10 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MR in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [MR] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $9.18 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1.84 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.75 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $3.67 \times 10^{-3}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S11 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and MC in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [MC] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $1.07 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.14 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $3.20 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $4.27 \times 10^{-3}$  M, respectively.



Fig. S12 Decay curves of  $\alpha$ -Toc• absorbance at 429 nm during reaction (3-H) and the competitive reaction (1-H) with MG in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O at 25 °C. The prepared [MG] for the data shown with black, dark-grey, red and light-gray curves were  $6.44 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1.29 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $1.93 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $2.58 \times 10^{-3}$  M, respectively.



**Fig. S13** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EC-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.



**Fig. S14** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and ECG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.



**Fig. S15** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-H in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.



**Fig. S16** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^D$  values for reaction (1-D) between  $\alpha$ -Toc• and EGCG-D in EtOD/D<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.



**Fig. S17** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) with MC in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.



**Fig. S18** Arrhenius plot of  $k_r^H$  values for reaction (1-H) with MG in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid line shows the best-fitting line by a standard linear least-squares analysis.

