

General Information

It becomes obvious that there are a lot of molecules containing sulfane sulfurs such as persulfides and polysulfides in living body. These molecular species are involved in production, storage and release of hydrogen sulfide, which is recognized as an important physiological mediator. Furthermore, recent studies reveal that persulfides and polysulfides may control intracellular signal transduction through s-sulphydration of proteins, and function *in vivo* as anti-oxidants which have much higher reducing activity than glutathione reduced form and cysteine.

Sodium polysulfides (Na₂S_n) are sulfane sulfur donors which have simple structures, and exist as hydrogen polysulfides in an aqueous solution depending on pH. These reagents are necessary for research and analysis of sulfane sulfurs *in vivo*.

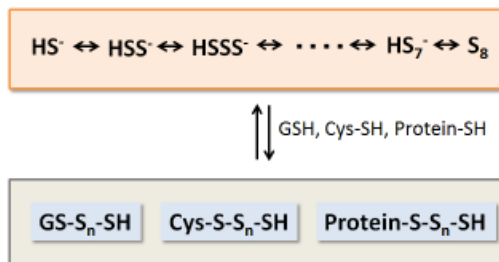
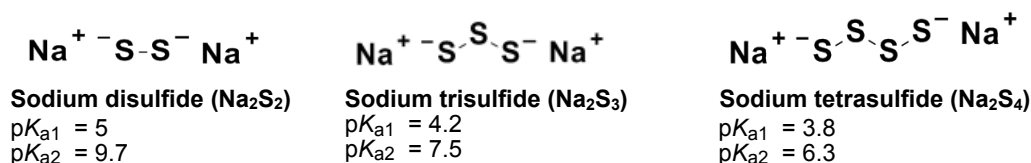


Fig. 1 Chemical species containing sulfane sulfurs



※ The pK_a values were referred to the following article.
 J. Gun *et al.*, "Electrospray Ionization Mass Spectrometric Analysis of Aqueous Polysulfide Solutions",
Microchim. Acta, **2004**, 146, 229

Fig. 2 Structures of Sodium polysulfides (Na₂S_n) and the pKa values

Contents

- SB02 -SulfoBiotics- Sodium disulfide (Na₂S₂) : 100 mg x 5
 SB03 -SulfoBiotics- Sodium trisulfide (Na₂S₃) : 100 mg x 5
 SB04 -SulfoBiotics- Sodium tetrasulfide (Na₂S₄) : 100 mg x 5
 SB13 -SulfoBiotics- Sodium Polysulfide Set : Na₂S₂, Na₂S₃, Na₂S₄ 100 mg each

Storage Condition

Store at 0-5 °C
 *Open the cap after reaching to room temperature because they are moisture sensitive.
 Store at 0-5 °C under nitrogen gas, and use up the reagent early after opening.

Preparation of Solutions

- 1) Prepare 100 mmol/l Na₂S_n aqueous solution with ddH₂O purged with nitrogen gas.
 *100 mmol/l Na₂S_n aqueous solution ; Na₂S₂ 11 mg/ml, Na₂S₃ 14.2 mg/ml, Na₂S₄ 17.4 mg/ml
 * Purge ddH₂O with nitrogen gas for longer than thirty minutes to prevent oxidation of Na₂S_n.
- 2) Dilute the 100 mmol/l Na₂S_n aqueous solution to an appropriate concentration depending on your experiment.
 * Use 100 mmol/l Na₂S_n aqueous solutions and the diluents as soon as they have been prepared.

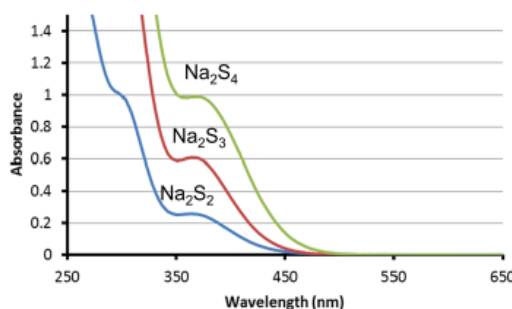


Fig. 3 UV spectra of 1 mmol/l Na₂S_n aqueous solution

Experimental
Example 1

- Reducing activity of hydrogen polysulfides -

- 1) 10 μl of 10 mmol/l Na_2S_n aqueous solution was added to 1 ml of 20 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ WST-8 (PBS) solution.
- 2) The solution was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes, transfer 100 μl of the solution to each well, and measure the absorbance at 450 nm using a microplate reader.

* WST-8 is a highly water-soluble tetrazolium salt developed by Dojindo Laboratories, and gives a yellow-color formazan dye by reduction.

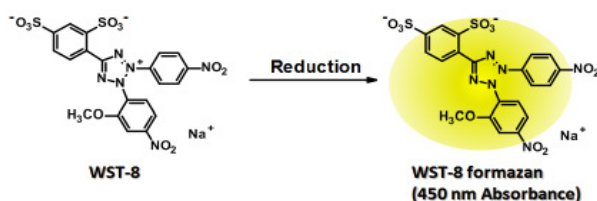


Fig. 4 Reduction of WST-8

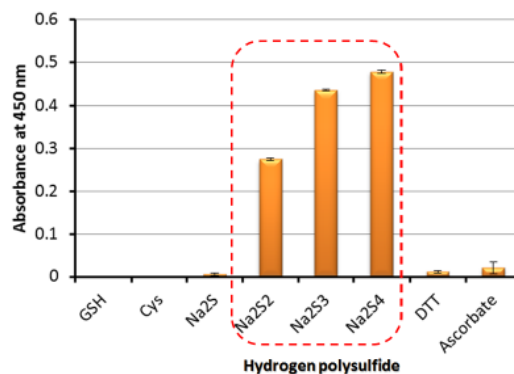


Fig. 5 Absorbances at 450 nm of WST-8 formazans produced with various reducing agents.

Hydrogen polysulfides gave high absorbances at 450 nm derived from WST-8 formazans. On the other hand, no absorbances at 450 nm were observed when glutathione reduced form (GSH) and cysteine (Cys) were used as reducing agents. These results show that hydrogen polysulfides have much higher reducing activity than the general reducing agents.

Experimental
Example 2

- Detection of sulfane sulfurs in cells treated with a sulfane sulfur donor (Na_2S_3) -

- 1) CHO cell suspensions prepared with serum-containing DMEM were inoculated in a 96-well black clear bottom plate to prepare 10^4 cells/well, and incubated in a humidified incubator (e.g., at 37°C , 5% CO_2) overnight.
- 2) The culture medium was discarded, and the cells were washed with a serum-free DMEM.
- 3) 100 μl of a 100 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ Na_2S_3 (serum-free DMEM) was added to the each well, and the cells were incubated for 15 minutes in the incubator.
- 4) The supernatant was discarded, and the cells were washed with a serum-free DMEM twice.
- 6) 100 μl of a 20 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ SSP4 (serum-free DMEM) was added to the cells, and the cells were incubated for 15 minutes in the incubator.
- 5) The supernatant was discarded, and the cells were washed with PBS twice.
- 6) 100 μl of PBS was added to the each wells, and the cells were analyzed under a fluorescence microscope.

* SSP4 (SB10; -SulfoBiotics- SSP4) is a novel fluorescent probe to detect sulfane sulfurs selectively.

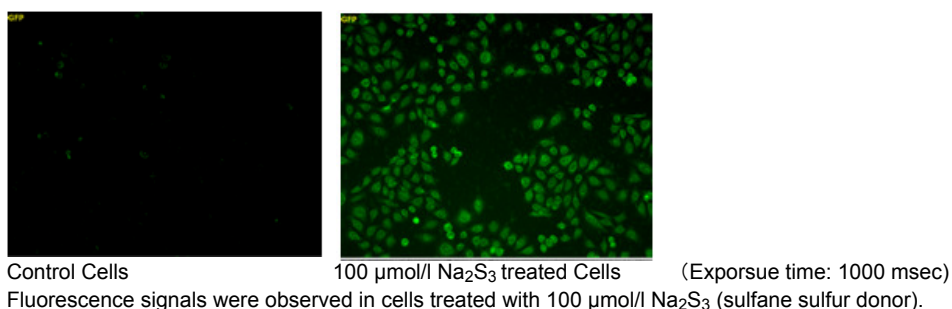


Fig. 6 Fluorescence images of sulfane sulfurs in cells treated with or without Na_2S_3

References

- 1) Y. Kimura, Y. Mikami, K. Osumi, M. Tsugane, J. Oka, and H. Kimura, *FASEB J.*, **2013**, 27, 2451.
- 2) S. Koike, Y. Ogasawara, N. Shibuya, H. Kimura, and K. Ishii, *FEBS Lett.*, **2013**, 587, 3548.
- 3) T. Ida, T. Sawa, H. Ihara, Y. Tsuchiya, Y. Watanabe, Y. Kumagai, M. Suematsu, H. Motohashi, S. Fujii, T. Matsunaga, M. Yamamoto, K. Ono, N. O. Devarie-Baez, M. Xian, J. M. Fukuto, and T. Akaike, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.*, **2014**, 111, 7606.

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