

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Redox Potentials and Electronic States of Iron Porphyrin IX Adsorbed on Single Crystal Gold Electrode Surfaces

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Table S1. The peak width of half height of anodic and cathodic peaks (V) and the peak separations (ΔE , V) of the high-potential (-0.20 V vs. NHE) and low-potential (-0.42 V) peaks in cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of FePPIX adsorbed on Au(111) single-crystal electrode at pH 11.7 at different scan rates (ν , V/s).

ν , V s ⁻¹	High-potential peaks (-0.20 V)			Low-potential peaks (-0.42 V)		
	Anodic peak-width	Cathodic peak-width	ΔE , V	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE , V
0.2	0.101±0.006	0.098±0.003	0.022	0.091±0.009	0.085±0.008	0.014
0.3	0.101±0.002	0.095±0.002	0.022	0.090±0.022	0.090±0.013	0.0
0.4	0.111±0.004	0.102±0.004	0.014	0.099±0.014	0.092±0.010	0.002
0.5	0.108±0.004	0.106±0.006	0.022	0.099±0.015	0.095±0.004	0.0
0.7	0.114±0.008	0.110±0.002	0.015	0.100±0.007	0.089±0.005	0.0
1.0	0.121±0.015	0.113±0.003	0.017	0.100±0.007	0.095±0.005	0.015

Table S2. The peak width of half height of anodic and cathodic peaks (V) and the peak separations (ΔE , V) of FePPIX adsorbed on basal plane graphite (BPG), edge-plane graphite (EPG) and glassy carbon (GC) electrodes with the midpoint potential of -0.39, -0.39, and -0.40 V at pH 11.7 at different scan rates (ν , V/s).

BPG			
ν , V s ⁻¹	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE , V
0.2	0.093±0.009	0.091±0.009	0.037
0.3	0.094±0.009	0.095±0.010	0.024
0.4	0.129±0.013	0.124±0.012	0.0
0.5	0.138±0.014	0.134±0.013	0.025
0.7	0.135±0.014	0.135±0.014	0.026
1.0	0.141±0.014	0.126±0.013	0.0
EPG			
ν , V s ⁻¹	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE , V
0.2	0.125±0.013	0.106±0.011	0.014
0.3	0.138±0.014	0.123±0.012	0.032
0.4	0.150±0.015	0.141±0.014	0.032
0.5	0.156±0.016	0.136±0.014	0.024
0.7	0.164±0.016	0.140±0.014	0.034
1.0	0.153±0.015	0.139±0.014	0.056
GCE			
ν , V s ⁻¹	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE , V
0.2	0.125±0.016	0.126±0.016	0.015
0.3	0.128±0.011	0.128±0.011	0.022
0.4	0.129±0.010	0.129±0.010	0.027
0.5	0.130±0.012	0.130±0.012	0.039
0.7	0.134±0.010	0.134±0.010	0.049
1.0	0.136±0.011	0.136±0.011	0.068

Table S3. Midpoint potentials ($E_{1/2}$, vs. NHE) of FePPIX reported in the literature at the different pH and the values calibrated to pH 11.7 according to the Nernst equation, ΔE (V) = -0.059 ΔpH .

pH^[ref.]	$E_{1/2}$, V	Functional materials	Supporting electrode	State of FePPIX	Ion strength	$E_{1/2}$ at pH 11.7, V
7.0^[1]	-0.140	/	11-amino-1-undecanethiol modified gold electrode	Chemically bonded	0.01 M, phosphate buffer	-0.420
7.4^[2]	-0.152	Graphene oxide nanosheets	Glassy carbon electrode	Physically adsorbed	0.1 M, phosphate buffer	-0.406
9.5^[3]	-0.280	/	Highly oriented pyrolytic graphite electrode	Physically adsorbed	0.1 M, Na ₂ B ₄ O ₇ buffer	-0.410
12.0^[4]	-0.439	/	Pyrolytic graphite electrode	Physically adsorbed	0.2 M, NaClO ₄ and NaOH buffer	-0.421
9.8^[4]	-0.299				0.1 M NaClO ₄ , 0.1 M carbonate buffer	-0.411
7.0^[4]	-0.129				0.1 M NaClO ₄ , 0.1 M phosphate buffer	-0.406

Table S4. The peak width of half height of anodic and cathodic peaks (V) and the peak separations (ΔE , V) of the high-potential and low-potential peaks in cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of FePPIX adsorbed on Au(110) and Au(100) single-crystal electrodes at pH 11.7 at different scan rates (ν , V/s).

Au(110)						
ν , V s ⁻¹	High-potential peaks			Low-potential peaks		
	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V
0.2	0.127±0.022	0.145±0.031	0.001	0.085±0.033	0.101±0.045	0.034
0.4	0.187±0.031	0.183±0.005	0.002	0.010±0.023	0.105±0.013	0.010
0.5	0.191±0.004	0.190±0.002	0.005	0.093±0.010	0.092±0.011	0.070
0.7	0.185±0.013	0.184±0.002	0.012	0.099±0.015	0.101±0.020	0.040
1.0	0.202±0.003	0.203±0.003	0.015	0.107±0.018	0.105±0.021	0.010
Au(100)						
ν , V s ⁻¹	High-potential peaks			Low-potential peaks		
	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V
0.2	0.102±0.003	0.089±0.011	0.020	—*	—*	—*
0.4	0.110±0.006	0.094±0.008	0.020	0.093±0.002	0.084±0.006	0.030
0.5	0.107±0.012	0.099±0.004	0.024	0.106±0.008	0.100±0.005	0.013
0.7	0.112±0.009	0.106±0.001	0.022	0.103±0.004	0.103±0.004	0.042
1.0	0.123±0.001	0.114±0.006	0.032	0.108±0.010	0.104±0.005	0.0
Au(poly)						
ν , V s ⁻¹	High-potential peaks			Low-potential peaks		
	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V	Anodic peak width	Cathodic peak width	ΔE, V
0.2	0.163±0.016	0.142±0.014	0.032	0.120±0.012	0.105±0.011	0.037
0.4	0.202±0.010	0.184±0.010	0.034	0.162±0.016	0.109±0.009	0.022
0.5	0.192±0.008	0.174±0.008	0.039	0.141±0.012	0.106±0.007	0.012
0.7	0.193±0.010	0.178±0.009	0.044	0.138±0.010	0.108±0.008	0.012
1.0	0.194±0.010	0.194±0.010	0.022	0.138±0.010	0.108±0.009	0.019

*Peaks are too small that values can be determined.

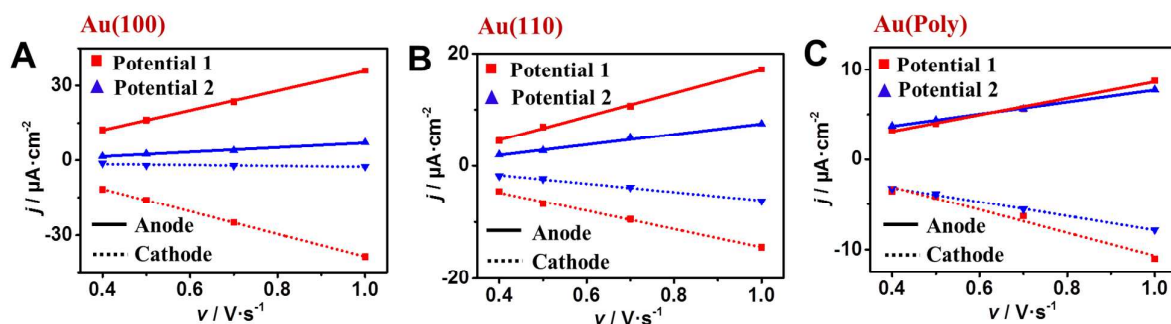


Figure S1. Anodic and cathodic peak current densities (j) versus scan rates (v) of FePPIX on Au(100) (A), Au(110), and Au(poly) (D) electrodes. 10 μ M FePPIX, 5 mM NaClO₄ pH 11.7.

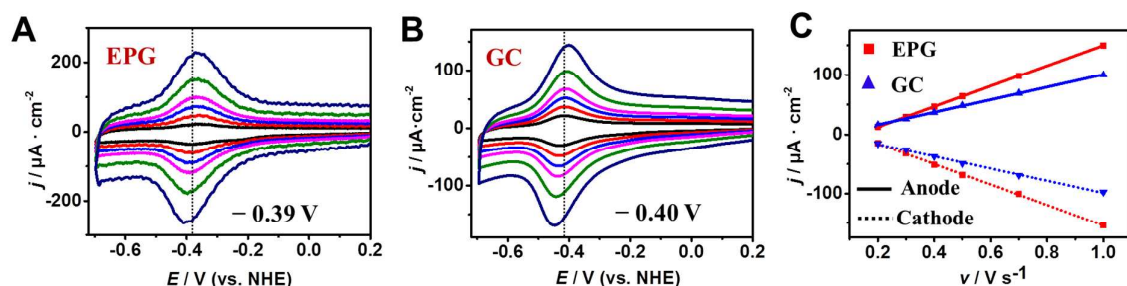


Figure S2. (A – C) CVs of EPG (A) and GC (B) electrodes in 10 μ M hemin, 5 mM NaClO₄ pH 11.7. Scan rates, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.7, and 1.0 V s⁻¹. (C) Cathodic and anodic j – v plots for EPG and GC electrodes, respectively.

Table S5. Electroactive Coverages of FePPIX Adsorbed on the Different Electrodes. 5 mM NaClO₄, pH 11.7.

Electrodes	Γ , mol cm ⁻² , and Ratio to Full Monolayer*	
	High-potential	Low-potential
Au(111)	$3.7(\pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$, 20%	$5.1(\pm 1.5) \times 10^{-12}$, 3.0%
Au(100)	$4.0(\pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$, 25%	$2.7(\pm 1.7) \times 10^{-12}$, 1.5%
Au(110)	$2.7(\pm 0.5) \times 10^{-11}$, 15%	$5.5(\pm 1.5) \times 10^{-12}$, 3.0%
Au(poly)	$1.3(\pm 0.2) \times 10^{-11}$, 7.6%	$8.7(\pm 0.2) \times 10^{-12}$, 5.1%
BPG	—	$1.8(\pm 0.8) \times 10^{-12}$, 100%
EPG	—	$2.0(\pm 0.5) \times 10^{-12}$, 100%
GC	—	$1.3(\pm 0.2) \times 10^{-10}$, 80%

*Theoretical full monolayer, 1.7×10^{-10} mol cm⁻² assuming closest packing of 1.0×1.0 nm² FePPIX molecules.

The Laviron equation³⁹, with a transfer coefficient $\alpha = 0.5$ and peak separation $\Delta E_p > 200$ mV was applied:

$$\Delta E_p = 4 \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \frac{1/2}{m} \quad (\text{S1})$$

m is defined as $m = \frac{RTk_s}{F\nu}$, F is Faraday's constant, $96485 \text{ A s mol}^{-1}$. R the gas constant, $8.314 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, n the number of electrons transferred (unity for the Fe(III)/(II) couple), ν the scan rate, V s^{-1} , and k_s the electron transfer rate constant (s^{-1}).

By plotting m^{-1} against ν , k_s is determined by the slope.

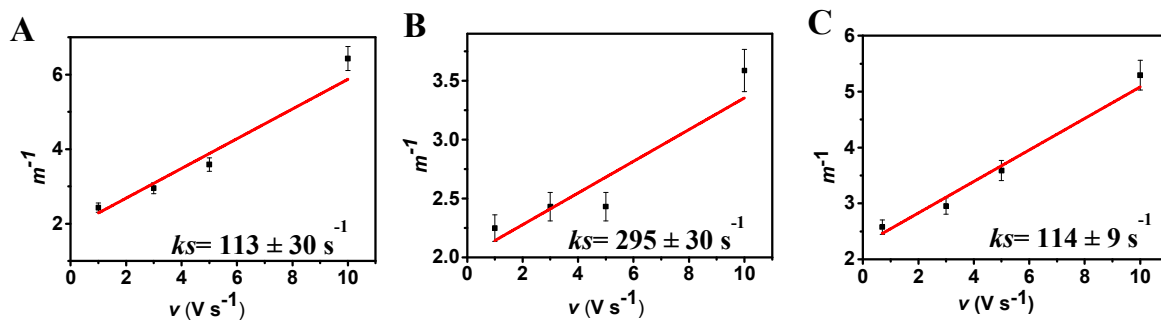


Figure S3. Calculations of k_s (s^{-1}) for FePPIX adsorbed on Au(111) and BPG surfaces. Plots of m^{-1} versus ν (V s^{-1}) for the high-potential peaks at -0.20 V (A) and low-potential peaks at -0.42 V (B) of FePPIX on Au(111), and -0.39 V on BPG (C).

Table S6. Computed DFT (TPSSh-D3/def2-TZVPP) energies of optimized penta-coordinated FePPIX models with distal OH⁻ axial ligand, -Fe(OH⁻). HS = high-spin, LS = low-spin. The formal electrostatic charge on the iron center (Q), the single-point electronic ground state energies in units of hartree ($E/def2-TZVPP$), dispersion corrections in units of hartree ($D3$ correction), the high-spin/low-spin energy gap in KJ/mol ($\Delta E_{(HS-LS)}$) where a positive number signifies that low-spin is favored, and the vertical ionization energies and electron affinities (λ , hartree) used for computing reorganization energies (λ , KJ/mol).

Models	Oxidation and Spin states	Q	$E/def2-TZVPP$, hartree	$D3$ correction, hartree	$\Delta E_{(HS-LS)}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	λ , hartree	λ , kJ mol ⁻¹
Free	HS Fe(III)	-2	-3174.50629	-0.07967	3.0	-3174.62632	14.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-3174.62685	-0.07948	-30.3	-3174.50146	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-3174.50745	-0.08105		-3174.61443	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-3174.61533	-0.08091		-3174.50391	
Au 7 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4124.69279	-0.18670	70.9	-4124.82142	54.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4124.83305	-0.18837	92.3	-4124.70748	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4124.71980	-0.19444		-4124.84827	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4124.86821	-0.18455		-4124.71912	
carbon	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4250.52507	-0.19260	37.0	-4250.63701	64.8
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4250.65351	-0.19575	-33.9	-4250.52060	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4250.53917	-0.19645		-4250.64742	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4250.64060	-0.19514		-4250.53282	
Au 13 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4939.29410	-0.25911	17.0	-4939.43864	123.5
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4939.37872	-0.26183	129.7	-4939.19477	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4939.30058	-0.25932		-4939.25293	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4939.42811	-0.26216		-4939.25286	

Table S7. Computed DFT (TPSSh–D3/def2–TZVPP) energies of optimized hexa–coordinated FePPIX modes of Fe(*OH[−])(OH[−]). *Proximal axial ligand to the surface.

Models	Oxidation and Spin states	<i>Q</i>	<i>E/def2- TZVPP,</i> hartree	<i>D3 correction,</i> hartree	$\Delta E_{(HS-LS)},$ kJ mol^{−1}	$\lambda,$ hartree	$\lambda,$ kJ mol^{−1}
Free	HS Fe(III)	-2	-3250.47675	-0.08594	82.4	-3250.56933	47.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-3250.56764	-0.08415	39.9	-3250.45710	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-3250.50815	-0.08480		-3250.59463	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-3250.58282	-0.08484		-3250.50274	
Au 7 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4200.68789	-0.17438	56.7	-4200.80778	56.3
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4200.76700	-0.17204	193.8	-4200.61067	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4200.70947	-0.17187		-4200.82775	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4200.84081	-0.17696		-4200.70109	
carbon	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4326.46198	-0.18106	106.2	-4326.57874	60.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4326.57635	-0.18373	-4.2	-4326.45659	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4326.50242	-0.18181		-4326.59930	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4326.57475	-0.17932		-4326.49901	
Au 13 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.26621	-0.26217	53.5	-5015.38047	73.5
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-5015.38821	-0.25664	56.0	-5015.24905	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.28659	-0.25606		-5015.40010	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-5015.40954	-0.24950		-5015.26803	

Table S8. Computed DFT (TPSSh–D3/def2–TZVPP) energies of optimized hexa–coordinated FePPIX models with distal OH₂ and proximal OH[–], Fe(*OH[–])(OH₂).

Models	Oxidation and Spin states	<i>Q</i>	<i>E/def2- TZVPP</i>, hartree	<i>D3 correction</i>, hartree	$\Delta E_{(HS-LS)}$, kJ mol^{–1}	λ, hartree	λ, kJ mol^{–1}
Free	HS Fe(III)	-2	-3250.97834	-0.08862	44.5	-3251.09392	73.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-3251.10544	-0.08805	-18.5	-3250.97544	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-3250.99528	-0.08690		-3251.09743	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-3251.09840	-0.08674		-3250.98948	
Au 7 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4201.17730	-0.17335	70.0	-4201.31097	84.1
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4201.29915	-0.17304	42.7	-4201.12346	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4201.20396	-0.16938		-4201.31637	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4201.31543	-0.18340		-4201.17099	
carbon	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4326.98749	-0.18104	30.8	-4327.09814	73.4
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4327.08811	-0.19034	-2.8	-4326.95827	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4326.99923	-0.18194		-4327.10113	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4327.08706	-0.18027		-4326.99401	
Au 13 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.74239	-0.26720	51.3	-5015.87784	85.5
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-5015.87382	-0.26420	47.6	-5015.72674	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.80454	-0.26178		-5015.92453	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-5015.89197	-0.25305		-5015.73942	

Table S9. Computed DFT (TPSSh–D3/def2–TZVPP) energies of optimized hexa–coordinated FePPIX models with distal OH[–] and proximal OH₂, Fe(*OH₂)(OH[–]).

Models	Oxidation and Spin states	<i>Q</i>	<i>E/def2- TZVPP</i>, hartree	<i>D3 correction</i>, hartree	$\Delta E_{(HS-LS)}$, kJ mol^{–1}	λ, hartree	λ, kJ mol^{–1}
Au 7 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4201.16202	-0.17222	46.3	-4201.30081	104.6
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4201.29040	-0.17200	45.4	-4201.11178	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4201.18091	-0.16767		-4201.17409	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4201.30770	-0.17093		-4201.17397	
carbon	HS Fe(III)	-2	-4326.97861	-0.17390	74.1	-4327.09277	84.5
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-4327.09391	-0.17541	26.7	-4326.97903	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-4327.00684	-0.17953		-4327.07516	
	LS Fe(II)	-3	-4327.10410	-0.17813		-4327.00358	
Au 13 atoms	HS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.75310	-0.27779	34.3	-5015.88302	80.4
	HS Fe(II)	-3	-5015.87382	-0.26767	104.3	-5015.71290	
	LS Fe(III)	-2	-5015.76617	-0.27546		-5015.89407	

Table S10. Reorganization Free Energies (λ , KJ mol⁻¹) of the Fe(III/II)PPIX Half Reactions Computed by DFT.

λ , kJ mol ⁻¹	Free	Carbon	Au 13-atom
-Fe (OH ⁻)	14	65	124
-Fe(*OH ⁻)(OH ⁻)	47	60	74
-Fe(*OH ₂)(OH ⁻)	73	73	85
-Fe(*OH ⁻)(OH ₂)	–	85	80

*The axial ligand proximal to the surface.

The reorganization energies in Table S9 do not correlate straightforwardly with the experimentally determined rate constants, Table 2. A “generic” rate constant form is thus^{5, 6},

$$k_s = \kappa \frac{\omega_{eff}}{2\pi} \exp\left[-\frac{\lambda}{4k_B T}\right]$$

where ω_{eff} is the effective vibrational frequency of all the nuclear modes reorganized, κ the electronic transmission coefficient, k_B Boltzmann’s constant, and T the temperature. $\kappa \ll 1$ in the diabatic limit of weak electronic coupling between FePPIX and the electrode, while $\kappa \rightarrow 1$ in the opposite, adiabatic limit of strong interaction.

Most of the experimental rate constants are in the range 100~300 s⁻¹, i.e. with only a three-fold variation. The activation energy difference, i.e. the difference between $\lambda/4$ of the low-potential processes differs by only 2-5 kJ or a 2-8 fold rate constant difference in favor of carbon. The observed difference is in fact the opposite with k_s of the low-potential process larger for gold than for carbon in spite of the larger computed value of λ . The observed differences are, however, too small that they can be estimated reliably by DFT.

The activation energy $\lambda/4$ for the same Fe(OH⁻) species on carbon (low-potential) and gold (high-potential) is 15 kJ higher for the latter than for the former. This larger difference could be caused by a stronger contribution from reorganization of the gold surface itself than of the carbon electrode. The difference would give a 500-fold higher rate constant for carbon than for gold, but the observed values are in fact almost the same.

The apparent discrepancies could still be caused by a more favorable electronic transmission coefficient, i.e. stronger electronic interaction of FePPIX on gold than on carbon, as suggested by the DFT calculations. The former could then belong to the adiabatic limit and the latter to the (weakly) diabatic limit.

Table S11. Computed zero point energy (ZPE) in units of hartree, Gibbs free energy (G), and entropy (S) corrections in KJ mol⁻¹ and KJ mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ to each electronic state of free FePPIX with different axial ligands.

Axial ligand	Oxidation and Spin state	<i>Q</i>	<i>ZPE</i> , hartree	<i>G</i> , kJ mol ⁻¹	<i>S</i> , kJ mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹
-OH	HS Fe(III)	-2	0.564546	1274.2	1.0357
	<u>HS Fe(II)</u>	-3	0.562531	1263.1	1.0650
	<u>LS Fe(III)</u>	-2	0.567396	1286.3	1.0104
	LS Fe(II)	-3	0.564368	1270.4	1.0447
-(OH)(OH)	HS Fe(III)	-3	0.575946	1291.5	1.1051
	HS Fe(II)	-4	0.573497	1285.4	1.1011
	<u>LS Fe(III)</u>	-3	0.578839	1297.1	1.1024
	<u>LS Fe(II)</u>	-4	0.575491	1297.4	1.0693
-(OH)(OH ₂)	HS Fe(III)	-2	0.588716	1324.5	1.1115
	<u>HS Fe(II)</u>	-3	0.585914	1322.9	1.0805
	<u>LS Fe(III)</u>	-2	0.591846	1341.7	1.0630
	LS Fe(II)	-3	0.588057	1317.9	1.1263

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