

## Supplemental Information

### **Selenocysteine Substitution into a Class I Ribonucleotide Reductase**

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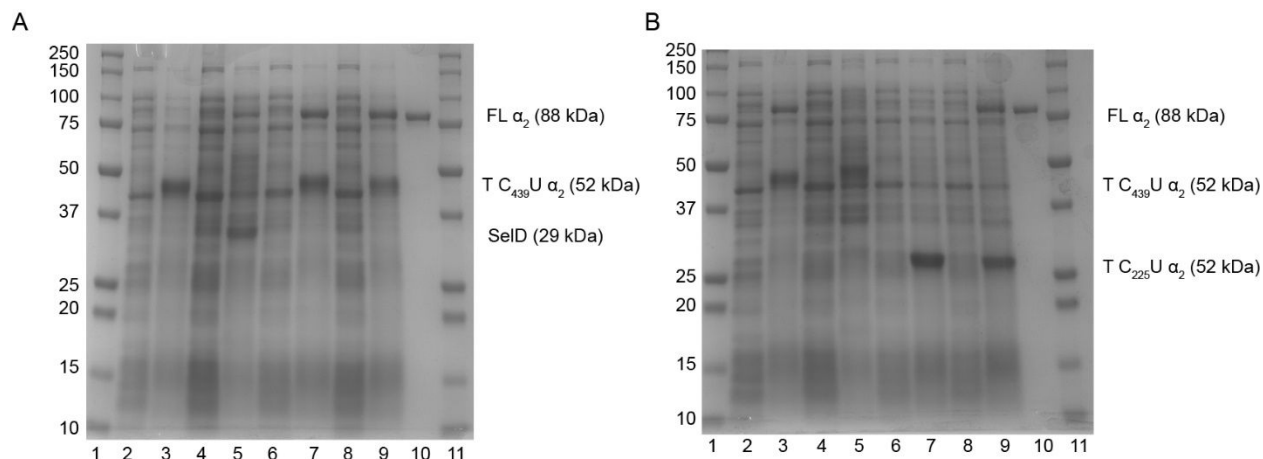
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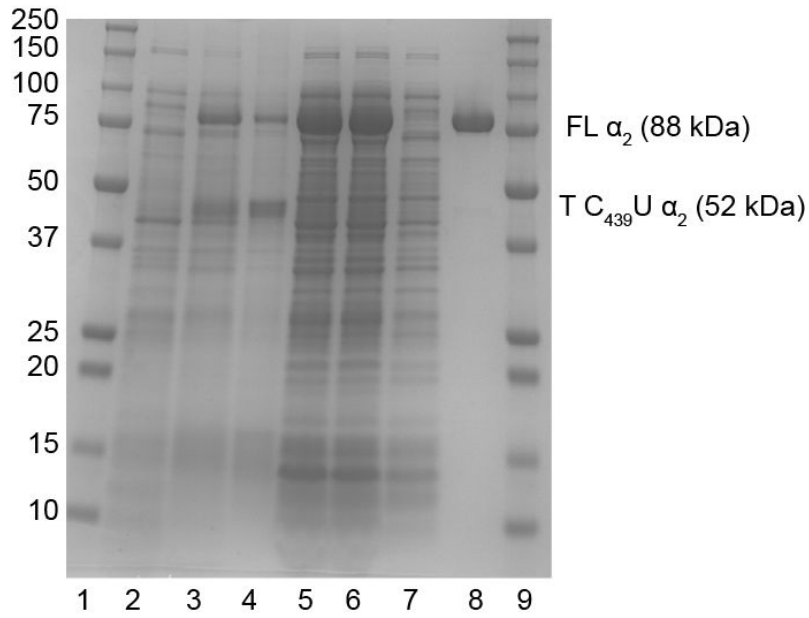
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**Figure S1.** SDS-PAGE analysis of IPTG/arabinose dependence of  $C_{439}U$  and  $C_{225}U$  expression in ME6 cells. General conditions as follows; 10 mL culture inoculated with a single colony from freshly prepared plates, 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  ampicillin, 50  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  kanamycin, 30  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{Na}_2\text{SeO}_3$  in LB media. Arabinose (ara) added at  $\text{OD}_{600} = 0.5$ , IPTG added at  $\text{OD}_{600} = 0.8$ . Cells grown at 37  $^\circ\text{C}$  shaking at 200 rpm until  $\text{OD} = 0.5$  reached, then temperature dropped to 30  $^\circ\text{C}$  and grown for an additional 20 h. Pre- and post-induction cell samples were collected at  $\text{OD} = 0.5$  and  $\text{OD} = 4-6$  respectively. **A**  $C_{439}U$  expression as a function of induction conditions. *Lane 1*, molecular weight marker; *lane 2*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0% (w/v) ara pre-induction; *lane 3*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0% ara post-induction; *lane 4*,  $C_{439}U$  0 mM IPTG/0.1% ara pre-induction; *lane 5*,  $C_{439}U$  0 mM IPTG/0.1% ara post-induction; *lane 6*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.1% ara pre-induction; *lane 7*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.1% ara post-induction; *lane 8*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.2% ara pre-induction; *lane 9*,  $C_{439}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.2% ara post-induction; *lane 10*, authentic wt  $\alpha_2$  standard; *lane 11*, molecular weight marker. FL = full length; T = truncated. **B** *Lane 1*, molecular weight marker; *lane 2*,  $C_{439}U$  0.4 mM IPTG/0.2% ara pre-induction; *lane 3*,  $C_{439}U$  0.4 mM IPTG/0.2% ara post-induction; *lane 4*,  $C_{439}U$  0 mM IPTG/0 % ara pre-induction; *lane 5*,  $C_{439}U$  0 mM IPTG/0% ara post-induction; *lane 6*,  $C_{225}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0% ara pre-induction; *lane 7*,  $C_{225}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0% ara post-induction; *lane 8*,  $C_{225}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.1% ara pre-induction; *lane 9*,  $C_{225}U$  0.2 mM IPTG/0.1% ara post-induction; *lane 10*, authentic wt  $\alpha_2$  standard; *lane 11*, molecular weight marker.



**Figure S2.** SDS-PAGE analysis of C<sub>439</sub>U purification. *Lane 1*, molecular weight marker; *lane 2*, pre-induction ME6 cells; *lane 3*, 20 h post-induction ME6 cells; *lane 4*, cell lysate debris; *lane 5*, cell lysate supernatant; *lane 6*, DNA precipitation supernatant; *lane 7*, Ni-NTA column flow-through at 50 mM imidazole; *lane 8*, eluted C<sub>439</sub>U  $\alpha_2$  (250 mM imidazole); *lane 9* molecular weight marker. FL = full length; T = truncated.

**Table S1.** Selenium quantitation in C<sub>439</sub>U, C<sub>225</sub>U, wt, and C<sub>439</sub>S  $\alpha_2$  under various expression conditions.

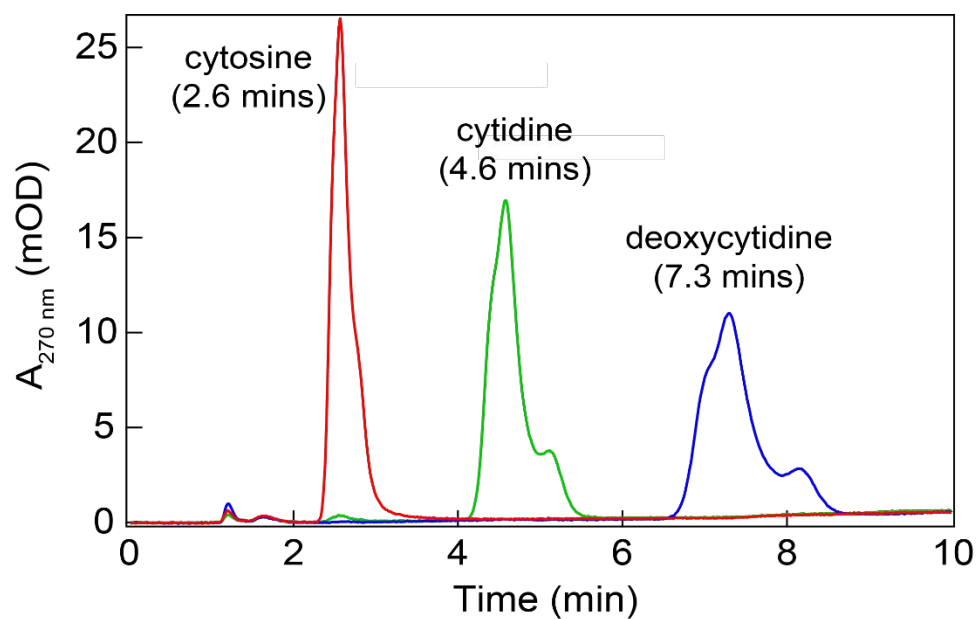
Protein	Expression Conditions	Yield (mg/g)	[Se]/[ $\alpha$ ]
C <sub>439</sub> U	100 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 1 mM IPTG	9	0.54 (0.06)
C <sub>439</sub> U	100 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 0.5 mM IPTG	4	0.70 (0.06)
C <sub>439</sub> U	30 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 0.25 mM IPTG	1-2	1.0 (0.1)*
C <sub>225</sub> U	30 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 0.25 mM IPTG	0.5	0.82 (0.07)
wt	30 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 0.25 mM IPTG	3.5	0.006 (0.002)
C <sub>439</sub> S	30 $\mu$ M Na <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> 0.1% Arabinose 0.25 mM IPTG	3.0	0.002 (0.003)

\* Three independent preparations under these conditions have been analyzed and the error in [Se]/[ $\alpha$ ] is significantly larger among triplicate samples of a single protein preparation (+/- 9%) than among the averages of the three preparations (+/- 2%).

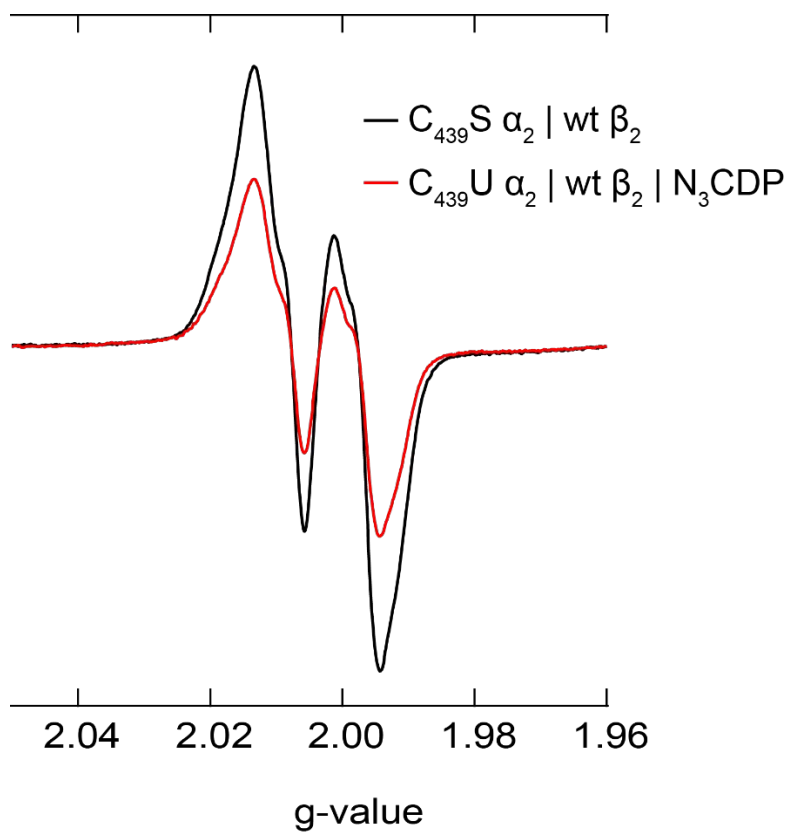
**Table S2.** Steady state and single turnover activity of wt, C<sub>439</sub>X, and C<sub>225</sub>X proteins (X = S, U).

Protein	Steady State (units)	Single Turnover
wt	1920 (30)	1.6 (0.2)
C <sub>439</sub> S	20 (20)	0.02 (0.02)
C <sub>439</sub> U	30 (20)	0.02 (0.01)
C <sub>225</sub> U	30 (20)	0.04 (0.04)
WT (-O <sub>2</sub> , +200 $\mu$ M DTT)	1900 (40)	11 (3)
C <sub>439</sub> U (-O <sub>2</sub> , +200 $\mu$ M DTT)	n.d.	0.24 (0.03)
C <sub>225</sub> U (-O <sub>2</sub> , + 200 $\mu$ M DTT)	n.d.	7.9 (0.9)

n.d., not determined

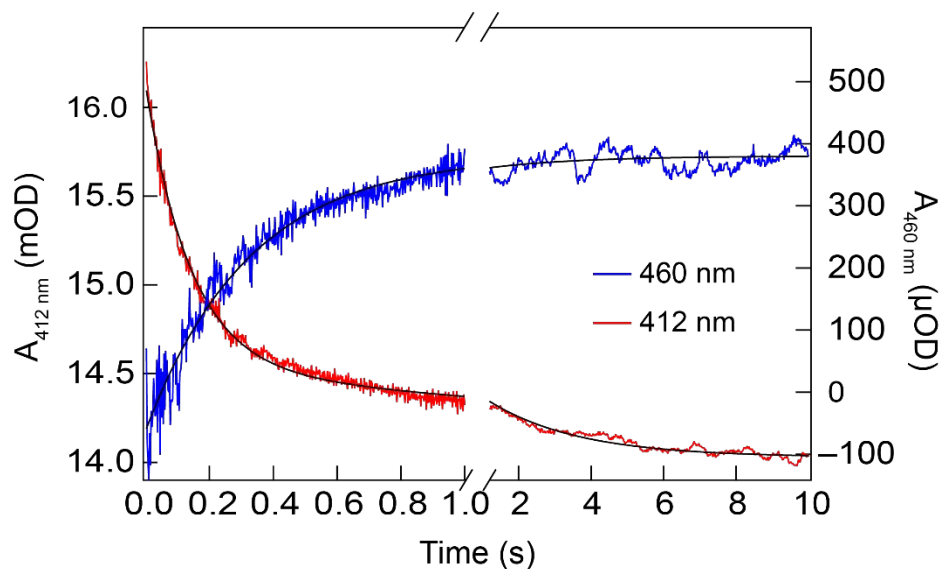


**Figure S3.** Individual HPLC standards for cytosine (red), cytidine (green), deoxycytidine (blue). Standards were prepared at 50  $\mu\text{M}$  in 5 mM  $\text{KP}_i$  pH = 6.8. Elution gradient is identical to that reported in the materials and methods.

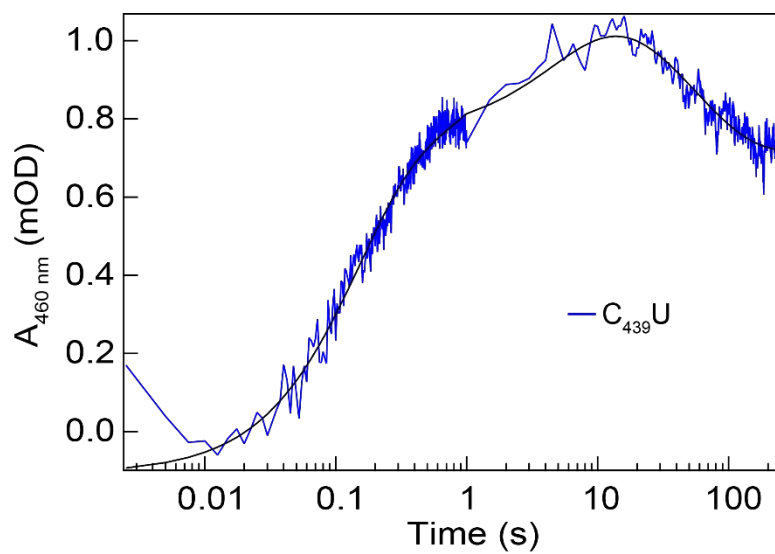


**Figure S4.** X-band EPR spectra of 50  $\mu M$  wt  $\beta_2$  with 50  $\mu M$   $C_{439}S \alpha_2$ , 1 mM CDP and 3 mM ATP (black) and 50  $\mu M$   $C_{439}U \alpha_2$ , 0.2 mM  $N_3CDP$  and 3 mM ATP (red). Spectra recorded at 80 K with 1 Gauss modulation amplitude, 100 kHz modulation frequency, and 20  $\mu W$  microwave power.

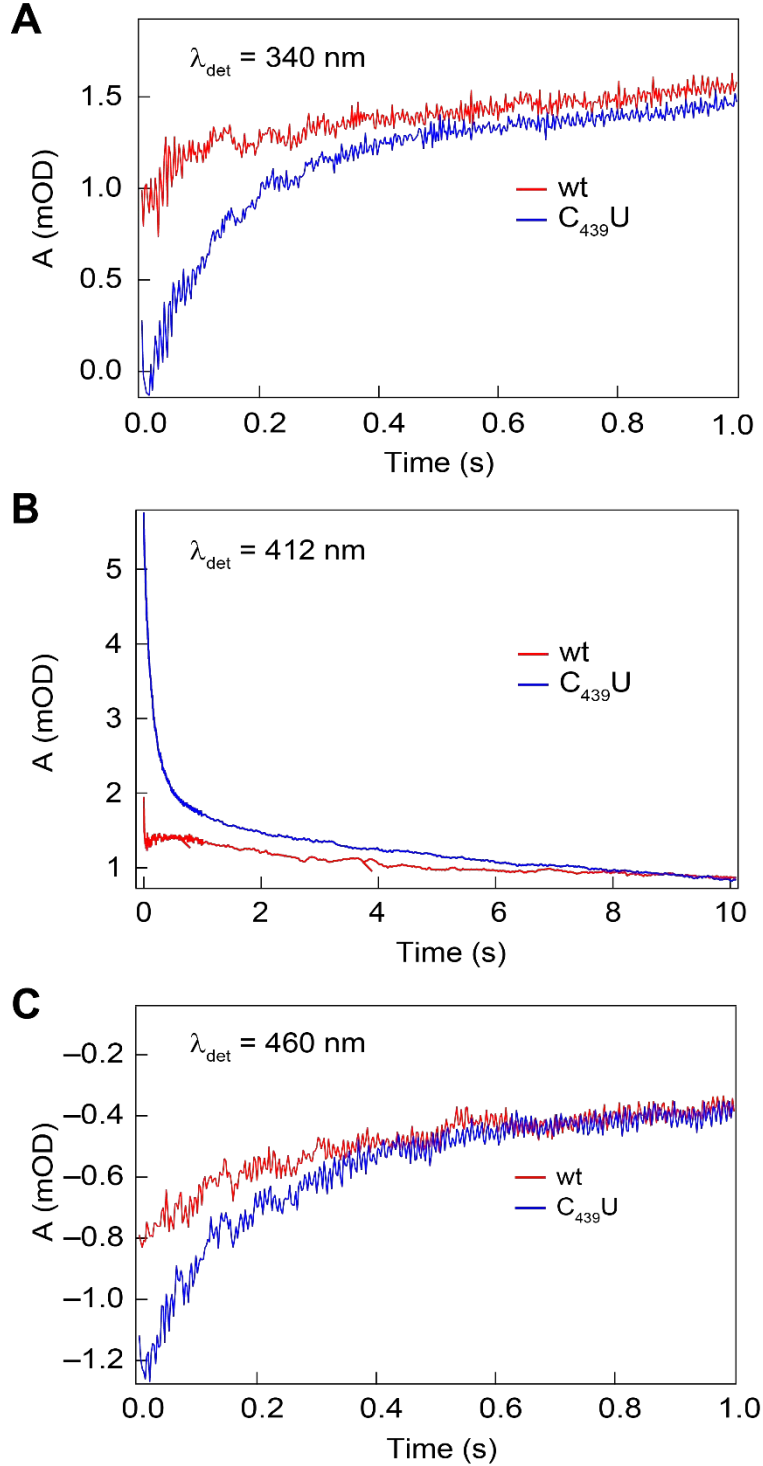




**Figure S5.** Stopped-flow UV-vis kinetic traces 412 nm (red, as reported in the main text), 460 nm (blue) and associated bi- and monoexponential fits respectively (black). Sample conditions identical to those of Figure 4 of the main text. The 460 nm transient was equally well fit by mono- or biexponential, likely due to the lower signal to noise, and thus the monoexponential fit is reported. The  $k_{\text{obs}} = 3.19 (0.05) \text{ s}^{-1}$  appears intermediate between the two observed rate constants for the fast ( $\sim 7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and slow ( $0.4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) phases for both 340 nm and 412 nm.



**Figure S6.** Long timescale stopped-flow kinetics for C<sub>439</sub>U (blue)  $\alpha_2$  mixing with wt  $\beta_2$  to a final concentration of 20  $\mu$ M  $\alpha_2\beta_2$ , 1 mM CDP and 3 mM ATP in assay buffer monitored at 460 nm.



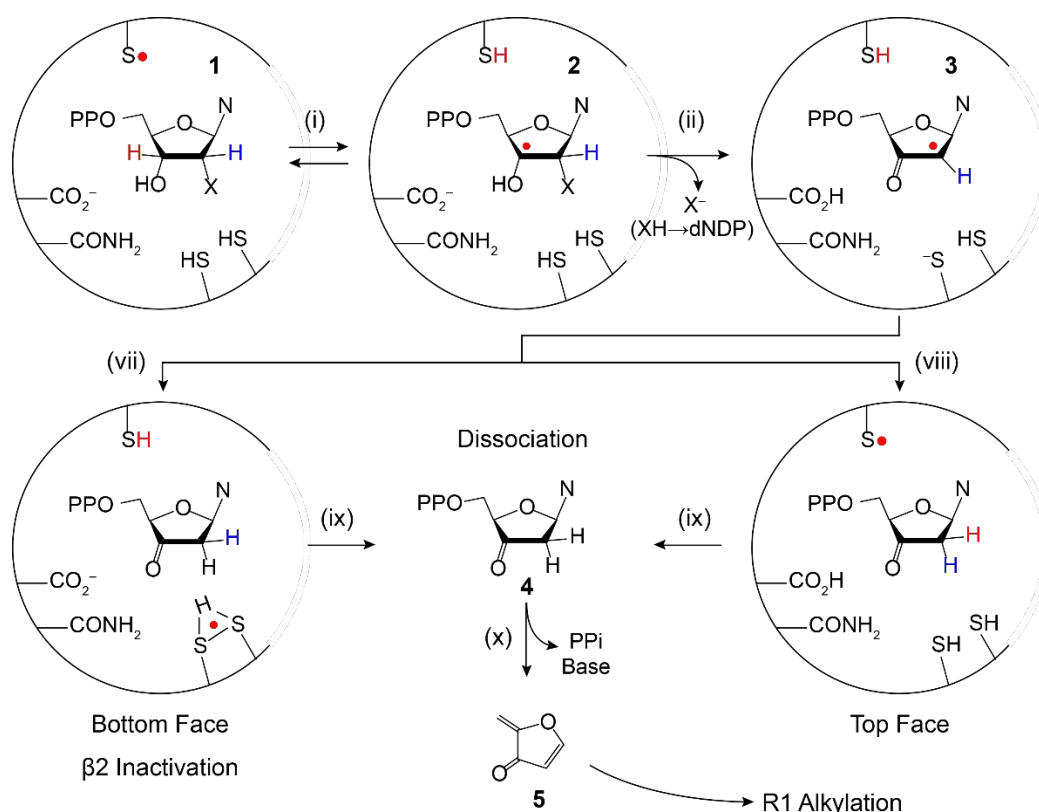
**Figure S7.** Stopped-flow kinetic comparison between wt (red) and  $C_{439}U$  (blue)  $\alpha_2$  mixing with wt  $\beta_2$  to a final concentration of  $20 \mu\text{M}$   $\alpha_2\beta_2$ , 1 mM CDP and 3 mM ATP in assay buffer. Transients recorded at **A** 340 nm, **B** 412 nm, and **C** 460 nm. The kinetics of induced absorption (**A** and **C**) and decay (**B**) were again described well by a biexponential function with statistically identical kinetics to those reported at  $10 \mu\text{M}$   $\alpha_2\beta_2$ .

**Table S3.** Fitting parameters for SF UV-vis experiments.

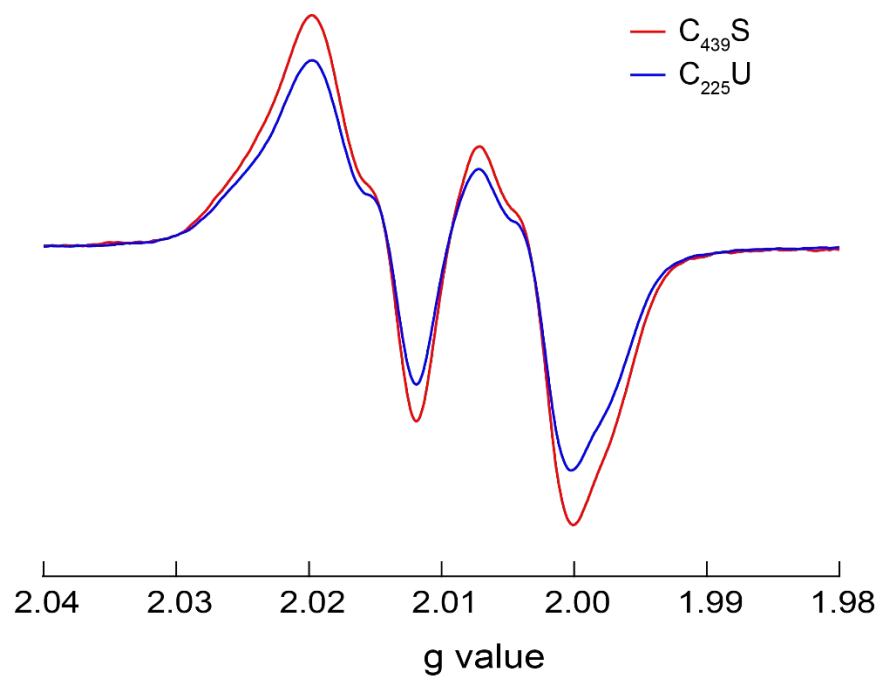
$\alpha$	$\lambda / \text{nm}$	$A_1 / \mu\text{OD}$	$k_1 / \text{s}^{-1}$	$A_2 / \mu\text{OD}$	$k_2 / \text{s}^{-1}$	$A_3 / \mu\text{OD}$	$k_3 / \text{s}^{-1}$
$C_{439}U^\#$	340	570 (20)	6.5 (0.3)	360 (20)	0.42 (0.03)		
	410	-1,580 (20)	7.1 (0.1)	-400 (40)	0.40 (0.01)		
	460	440 (10)	3.19 (0.05)				
$C_{439}U^*$	460	770 (10)	7.1 (0.2)	490 (20)	0.44 (0.04)	-430 (20)	0.044 (0.01)
WT*	340	520 (10)	2.9 (0.2)				
	412			-670 (10)	0.29 (0.01)		
	460	400 (10)	3.2 (0.1)				

<sup>#</sup> Experiments performed at 10  $\mu\text{M}$  final concentration.

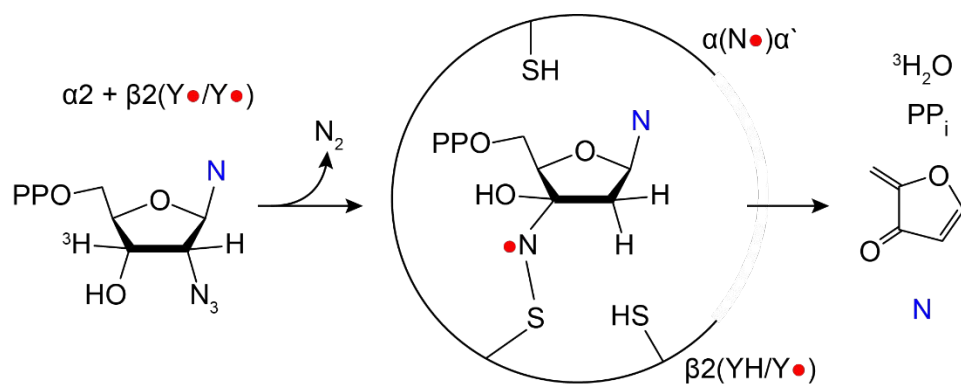
\* Experiments performed at 20  $\mu\text{M}$  final concentration.



**Figure S8.** Mechanism of inactivation of RNR by mechanism-based inhibitors 2'-deoxy-2'-X NDP (X = F or Cl). The mechanism of inactivation depend on the nature of substrate radical reduction (steps vii vs. viii). During radical substrate reduction from the top face,  $\alpha_2$  is inactivated through alkylation of the essential sulfhydryl groups by **5**, but the thiyl, and thus the essential  $Y_{122}^\bullet$  in  $\beta$ , are maintained. Conversely, reduction by the bottom face inactivates both  $\alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$  by trapping on the bottom face.



**Figure S9.** X-band EPR spectrum of 50  $\mu\text{M}$  wt  $\beta_2$  quenched at 10 s after mixing with 1 mM CDP, 3 mM ATP, and  $\text{C}_{225}\text{U}$  (blue) or  $\text{C}_{439}\text{S}$  (red)  $\alpha_2$ . Spectra recorded at 80 K with 1 Gauss modulation amplitude, 100 kHz modulation frequency, and 20  $\mu\text{W}$  microwave power.



**Figure S10.** Mechanism of RNR inhibition by  $N_3NDP$ .