## **Supporting Information**

## [FeFe]-hydrogenase oxygen inactivation is initiated at the H cluster 2Fe subcluster

Kevin D. Swanson,<sup>§†</sup> Michael W. Ratzloff,<sup>§‡</sup> David W. Mulder,<sup>‡</sup> Jacob H. Artz,<sup>†</sup> Shourjo Ghose,<sup>†</sup> Andrew Hoffman,<sup>†</sup> Spencer White,<sup>†</sup> Oleg A. Zadvornyy,<sup>†</sup> Joan B. Broderick,<sup>†</sup> Brian Bothner,<sup>†</sup> Paul W. King<sup>\*</sup>,<sup>‡</sup> and John W. Peters<sup>\*</sup>,<sup>†</sup>

+Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717, United States ‡Biosciences Center, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, Colorado 80401, United States



**Figure s1.** FTIR spectra of CrHydA1  $H_{ox}$ -CO before (a), and after (b) 2 h exposure to 24.2%  $O_2$  at 4 °C. CrHydA1 concentration 70 mg<sup>-1</sup> ml<sup>-1</sup>. The principle vCO peaks are colored as Hox-CO (black),  $H_{ox}$  (red),  $O_2$  damaged (purple), unassigned (cyan).

**Figure S2**. FTIR spectra of  $O_2$  titration of NaDT-treated CrHydA1. (a) After 2 h of exposure to 0.002%  $O_2$ . (b) After 2 h exposure to 2%  $O_2$ . While there are additional features that may be a result of the interaction of NaDT and  $O_2$ , similar trends are observed here as seen in  $H_{ox}$  experiments. The growth of  $H_{ox}$ -CO and of signals assigned to  $O_2$  damage, (1825 and/or 2025 cm<sup>-1</sup>) are seen here. The vCO and vCN peaks are color-coded as;  $H_{ox}$ -CO (black),  $H_{ox}$  (red),  $H_{red}$ -NaDT (magenta)  $O_2$  damaged (purple), unassigned (cyan).



**Figure S3**. FTIR time-course of non-O<sub>2</sub> treated CrHydA1 under N2 atmosphere. CrHydA1 (59 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was buffer exchanged by G-25 into NaDT-free buffer as described in the Experimental Section, but minus the O<sub>2</sub> injection. Time (min) is indicated on the right of the spectra. The increase in the H<sub>ox</sub> specific 1940 cm<sup>-1</sup> vCO peak along with the decrease in the H<sub>red</sub> vCO peaks at 1891 and 1933 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicates auto-oxidation of a small fraction of residual H<sub>red</sub>.



**Figure S4.** FTIR spectra of O<sub>2</sub> titration of H<sub>ox</sub> CrHydA1. (a) H<sub>ox</sub> CrHydA1 at 45 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> (red) and after 133 min exposure to 0.01% O<sub>2</sub> (black), (b) H<sub>ox</sub> CrHydA1 at 40 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> (red) and after 120 min exposure to 1% O<sub>2</sub> (black), (c) H<sub>ox</sub> CrHydA1 at 40 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> (red) and after 120 min exposure to 10% O<sub>2</sub> (black).



**Figure S5.** FTIR spectral time course of the 2Fe subcluster in Cal that was exposed to  $0.28\% O_2$ . Cal was prepared in the  $H_{0x}$  state and exposed to  $0.28\% O_2$  at 4 °C with magnetic stirring. Aliquots were removed at the time intervals indicated on the right (in min, with increasing time from bottom to top), and analyzed by FTIR. The red dashed lines and arrows indicate the appearance of *v*CO peaks assigned to the  $H_{0x}$ -CO state of Cal (2016 and 1807 cm<sup>-1</sup>).



**Figure S6** CrHydA1 (10 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was exposed to ~0.1% O<sub>2</sub> for 2 h. The enzyme activity was monitored by gas chromatography, after the activity decayed to 50  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup> mg<sup>-1</sup> the sample was allowed to equilibrate in an anaerobic Coy chamber for 30 min. The enzyme was then subjected to a trypsin digest and analyzed by mass spectrometry as described in the Experimental Section of the manuscript. Peptides were searched for by nonspecific cleavage, which increased coverage, likely due to fragmentation during HPLC and ionization.<sup>1</sup> No peptides were identified when using a nonspecific cleavage search against a non-CrHydA1 protein sequence. (a) Sequence coverage of CrHydA1 (60%) with modifications indicated at the bottom right of the coverage map. (b) Mass spectra of the peptide fragment that corresponds to sulfenic acid and site 169. (c) Annotated spectrum with alignment.



(1) König S., Zeller M., Peter-Katalinic J., Roth J., Sorg C., Vogl T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. Mass Spectrom. 2001, 12, 1180

**Figure s7.** Titration of  $O_2$  inactivated of CrHydA1 with HydF<sup>EG</sup> showing restoration of activity of activation of oxygen inactivated CrHydA1. Excess of HydF<sup>EG</sup> to CrHydA1 is required to reach high levels of activation presumably due to the low occupancy of the activating element (2Fe sublcuster) on HydF when HydF is heterologously expressed in *E. coli* as previously described (McGlynn, S. E.; Shepard, E. M.; Winslow, M. A.; Naumov, A. V.; Duschene, K. S.; Posewitz, M. C.; Broderick, W. E.; Broderick, J. B.; Peters, J. W., *FEBS Lett.* **2008**, 582 (15), 2183-2187.).



Treatment	Mole ratio (O <sub>2</sub> :CrHydA1)	Final O2 Headspace (%, SD = +/- 0.15*%)	Time (min)	Figure	Experiment
	0.06	0.01	133	Figures 2a and 3	FTIR
H <sub>ox</sub>	5.07	1.02	120	Figure S4	FTIR
	50.43	10.15	120	Figure S4	FTIR
H <sub>ox</sub> -CO	39.3	2.47	120	Figure 2b	FTIR
	392.99	24.69	120	Figure Sı	FTIR
H <sub>red</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>	1.25	0.02	120	Figure 2c	FTIR
H <sub>red</sub> -DT	0.06	0.002	120	Figure S <sub>2</sub>	FTIR
	1.25	0.05	120	Figure 2d	FTIR
	51.05	2.06	120	Figure S <sub>2</sub>	FTIR
H <sub>ox</sub>	0.06	0.001	120	Figures 5b and 5c	UV-Vis
	1000	17	120	Figures 5b and 5c	UV-Vis
	17,647	300	180	Figures 5b and 5c	UV-Vis

Table S1. Summary of O<sub>2</sub> concentrations and O2:CrHydA1 molar ratios for FTIR experiments.

Table S2. Average and standard deviation values of %O<sub>2</sub> used for O2 treatments.

Vial	Injection volume (µL)	<sup>a</sup> O <sub>2</sub> (nmol)	<sup>b</sup> Molarity (mol <sup>-1</sup> L <sup>-1</sup> O <sub>2</sub> )	<sup>c</sup> pO₂ (atm)	<sup>d</sup> O <sub>2</sub> (%)
1	50	14	3 E-04	0.0069	0.84
2	50	15	3 E-04	0.0072	0.88
3	50	12	2.4 E-04	0.0059	0.71
4	50	15	3 E-04	0.0070	0.85
5	50	19	4 E-04	0.0090	1.10
Average $\pm$ SD		$15 \pm 2$			$0.88 \pm 0.14$

<sup>a</sup> The O<sub>2</sub> peak area from GC was converted to nmol O<sub>2</sub> based on a O<sub>2</sub> standard curve. <sup>b</sup> Molarity=O<sub>2</sub> (nmol)/injection volume ( $\mu$ L).

<sup>c</sup>  $pO_2=nRT/V$ , where n/V is "molarity", T=298K. <sup>d</sup>  $\%O_2=pO_2$ /barometric pressure. Barometric pressure was 0.82 atm in Golden, CO.

## Table S3. FTIR time-course fits and experimental conditions used to calculate O2 induced transitions in Cal and CrHydA1.

Enzyme	T (K)	Barometric	<sup>a</sup> [O <sub>2</sub> ]		<sup>b</sup> k (r	k <sub>Hox</sub>	
		Pressure (atm)	%	μM	∆1945 cm <sup>-1</sup>	<b>Δ1940 cm</b> ⁻¹	$(s^{-1} \mu M O_2^{-1})$
CaI	277	0.82	0.28	3.2	<b>2.2</b> X 10 <sup>-3</sup>		1.1 X 10 <sup>-5</sup>
CrHydA1	277	0.82	0.010	0.11		<b>2.0</b> X 10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.0 X 10 <sup>-4</sup>
CrHydA1	277	0.82	0.13	1.49		$2.1 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.4 \times 10^{-4}$

<sup>a</sup> molar concentration = [%  $O_2$ \*barometric pressure (atm)/(T(K)\*0.082056)]\*0.03181 <sup>b</sup> k (s<sup>-1</sup>) = -[ln(A)/A<sub>o</sub>)]/t (s). "A" is taken as the H<sub>ox</sub> specific peak at 1945 cm<sup>-1</sup> for CaI, and at 1940 cm<sup>-1</sup> for CrHydA1.

Table S4. Rate constants for  $O_2$  induced changes in CrHydA1 and CaI  $H_{ox}$  vCO peak intensities, and  $H_2$  evolution activities.

Enzyme	<sup>1</sup> k <sub>Hox</sub>	<sup>1</sup> k <sub>inact</sub>	<sup>2</sup> Ref k <sub>inact</sub>	²pH	²Temp
	$\Delta H_{ox} \nu CO$	H <sub>2</sub> evolution	H <sub>2</sub> evolution activity		(K)
	$(s^{-1} \mu M^{-1} O_2)$	activity	$(s^{-1} \mu M^{-1} O_2)$		
		$(s^{-1} \mu M^{-1} O_2)$			
CrHydA1	$(\Delta 1940 \text{ cm}^{-1})$	<b>2.0</b> X $10^{-4}$	4.3 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> (a)	This study, 8	This study, 277
	3.0 x 10 <sup>-4</sup>		2.2 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> (b)	Ref. a, 6	Ref. a, 283
				Ref. b, 6	Ref. b, 298
CaI	$(\Delta 1945 \text{ cm}^{-1})$	6.4 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.1 x 10 <sup>−6</sup> (b)	This study, 8	This study, 277
	1.1 X 10 <sup>-5</sup>		4 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (c)	Ref. b, 6	Ref. b, 298
				Ref. c, 7	Ref. c, 303

 ${}^{1}k_{\text{Hox}} = -[\ln(A/A_o)]/t/[O_2]$  (s<sup>-1</sup>µM<sup>-1</sup>O<sub>2</sub>). Fits and other parameters used to calculate  $k_{\text{Hox}}$  are listed in Table S<sub>3</sub>. "A" is the H<sub>ox</sub> absorption signal assigned to the 1940 or 1945 cm<sup>-1</sup> vCO peak for CrHydA1 and CaI, respectively. Reaction conditions; pH 8, 277K.

<sup>2</sup> (a) Goldet, G., et al. 2009. J. Am. Chem Soc. 131:14979. Reaction conditions; pH 6, 283K.

(b) Stripp, S.T., et al. 2009. P. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 106(41):17331. Reaction conditions; pH 6, 298K.

(c) Baffert et al. Ang. Chem. Int. Ed. 47(11):2052. Reaction conditions; pH 7, 303K.

	Table S <sub>5</sub> .	Data	collection	and ref	inement	statistics	for C	2 exposed	CrHydA
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Data Collection	CrHydAı
Wavelength (Å)	1.734
Unit cell parameters	
a, b, c (Å)	77.6, 71.0, 94.7
α, β, γ (°)	90.0, 91.9, 90.0
Space group	P 1 21 1
Resolution range (Å)	34.73-2.29
Total reflections	288694
Unique reflections	45032
R-merge(%)	11 (40*)
Ι/σ (Ι)	6.6 (3.1*)
Completeness (%)	96 (87*)
Redundancy	6.4 (5.9*)
Refinement	
Resolution limits (Å)	35-2.3
No of used reflections	39011
No of protein atoms	6282
R factor (%)	20.9
R free (%)	25.2
Ramachandran Favorite regions (%)	95.9
Ramachandran Allowed regions (%)	4.1
Ramachandran Outliers (%)	0.0
R.m.s. deviations from ideal values, bond lengths of refined atoms(Å)	0.019
Angels (Å)	2.09
Average B, all atoms (A <sup>2</sup> )	49.48
Wilson B-factor (A <sup>2</sup> )	25.6

\* Values in parentheses are for the highest resolution shell.