

## Supplementary Materials for

### **An unprecedented insight into the catalytic mechanism of copper nitrite reductase from atomic-resolution and damage-free structures**

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## Supplementary Materials and Methods

### Low dose (0.5 MGy) nitrite-bound SRX structure at 1.48 Å resolution

#### Crystallization and crystal treatment

Crystal used for low dose (0.5 MGy) nitrite-bound SRX structure was grown in 1.6 M Ammonium sulfate and 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 5.5) and soaked in same nitrite and cryoprotectant solution as the damage-free nitrite-bound structure: 200 mM NaNO<sub>2</sub>, 2.5 M Ammonium sulfate and 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 5.5) for 30 seconds and then transferred for 30 seconds into a cryoprotectant solution consisted of 200 mM NaNO<sub>2</sub>, 3.3 M Ammonium sulfate, 20.3% sucrose and 50 mM HEPES buffer (pH 5.5)) for the same time before being cryocooled by plunging into liquid nitrogen.

#### Data collection, processing and refinement

Data collection was carried out on BL41XU at SPring-8 using a Dectris EIGER X 16M detector at a wavelength of 0.80000 Å, with a total dose of 0.5 MGy (calculated using RADDOSE-3D(59)) set as a parameter before collection took place. Data at SPring-8 was processed using XDS(51) and CCP4 packages(54) using the automated data processing pipeline: KAMO(52). Refinement was performed with REFMAC5(53). Manual model rebuilding was performed using Coot(55) with ligands added to weighted electron density maps and waters added after each stage of refinement. Data collection and refinement statistics are shown in Table S1.

Figure S1

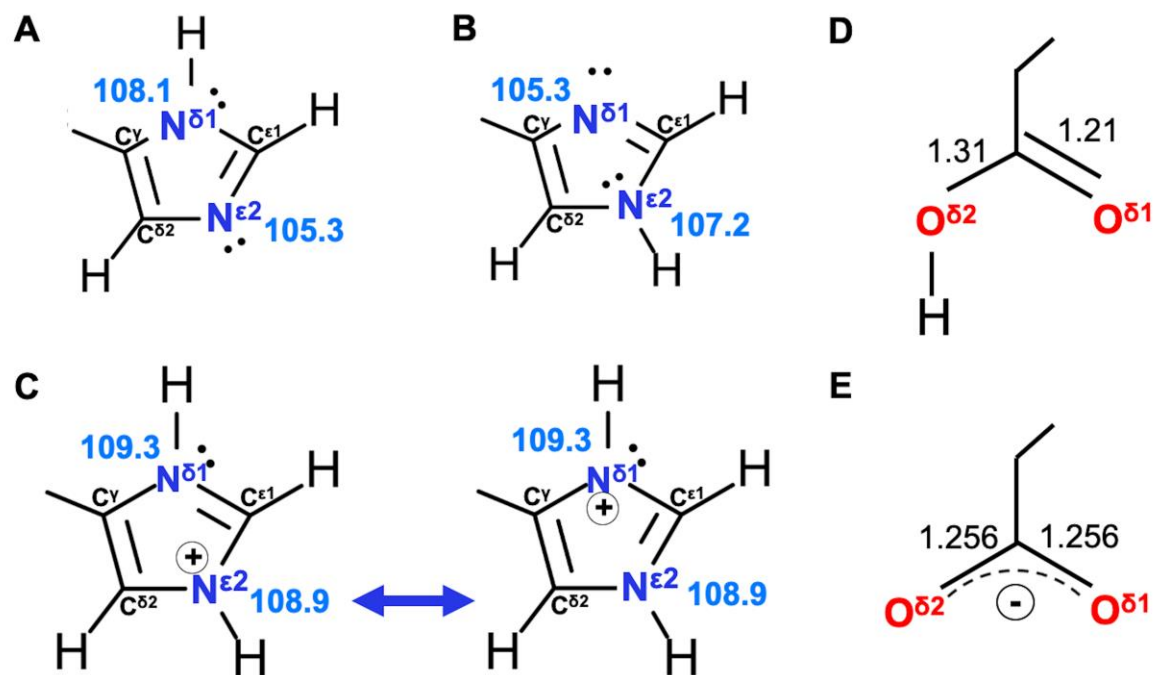
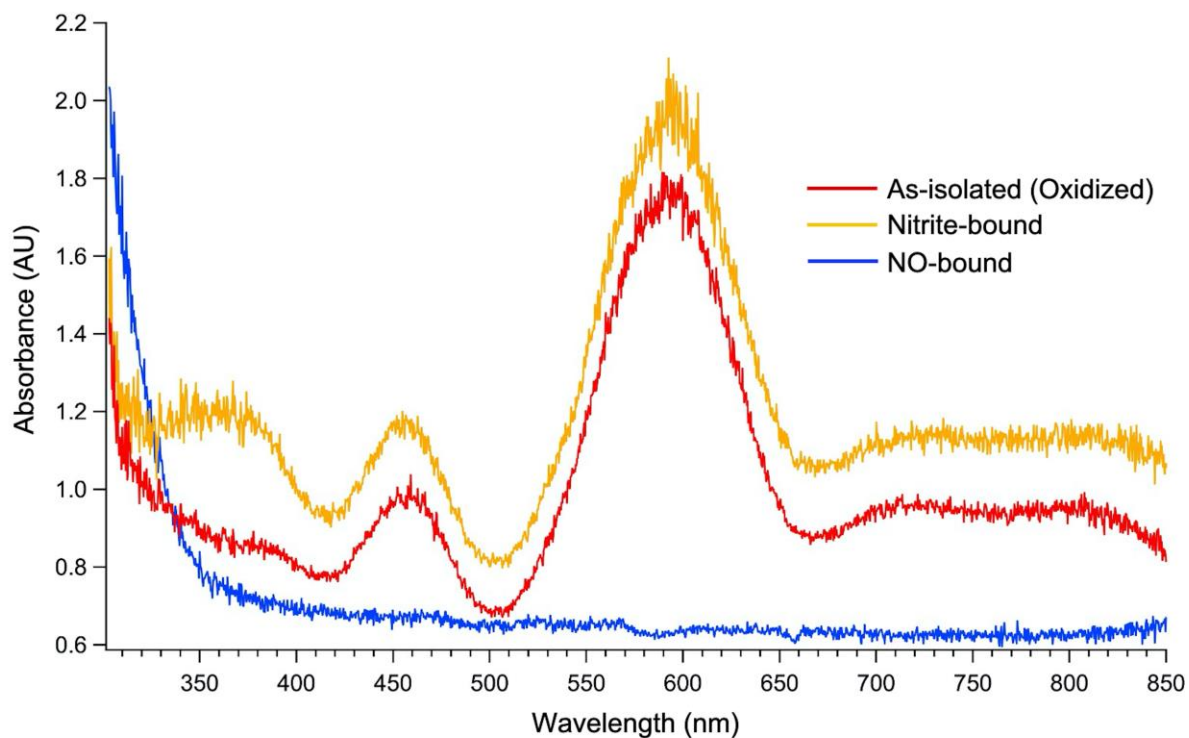


Fig. S1. Electronic states of the imidazole rings and Aspartates.

(A) Neutral charge -  $N^{\delta 1}$  atom is protonated. (B) Neutral charge -  $N^{\epsilon 2}$  atom is protonated. (C) Positively charged imidazole ring with both N atoms protonated: the value of the C-N-C angle based on analysis of the CSD database is shown in blue. (D) Positively charged aspartate. (E) Negatively charged aspartate. Bond lengths values and data are from the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD; <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>)(36, 32).

**Figure S2**



**Fig. S2. UV/vis absorption spectra from  $Br^{2D}NiR$  crystals prior to X-ray exposure at SACLA.**

The band at ~590 and 455nm clearly shows that T1Cu is in  $Cu^{2+}$  state. In nitrite soaked crystal (yellow orange), the band at ~360 is from nitrite charge transfer.

Figure S3

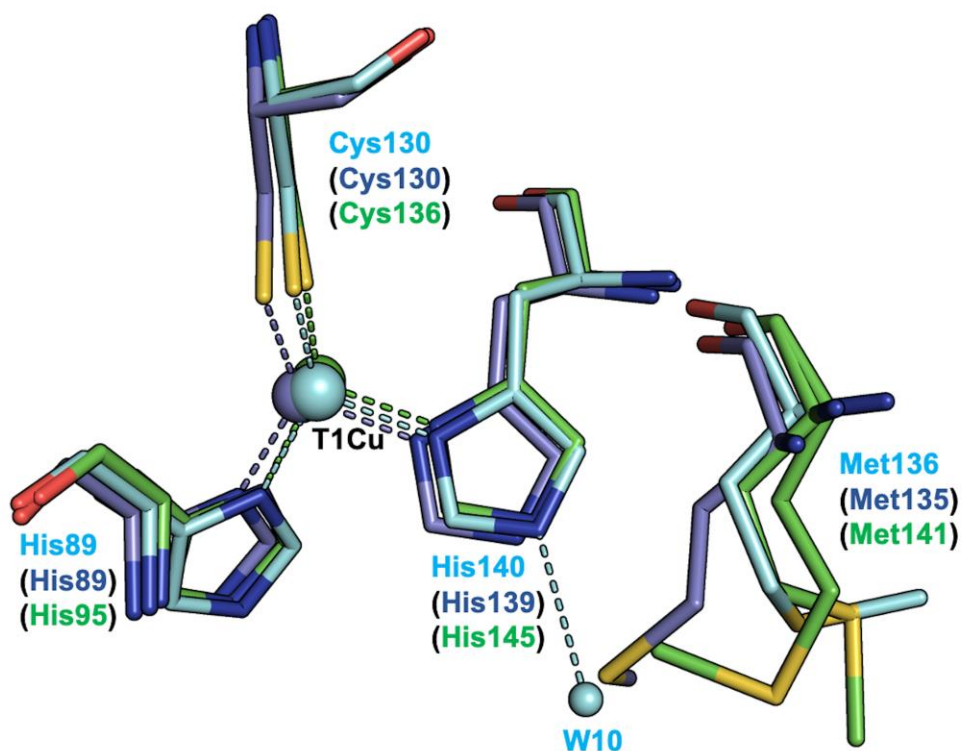
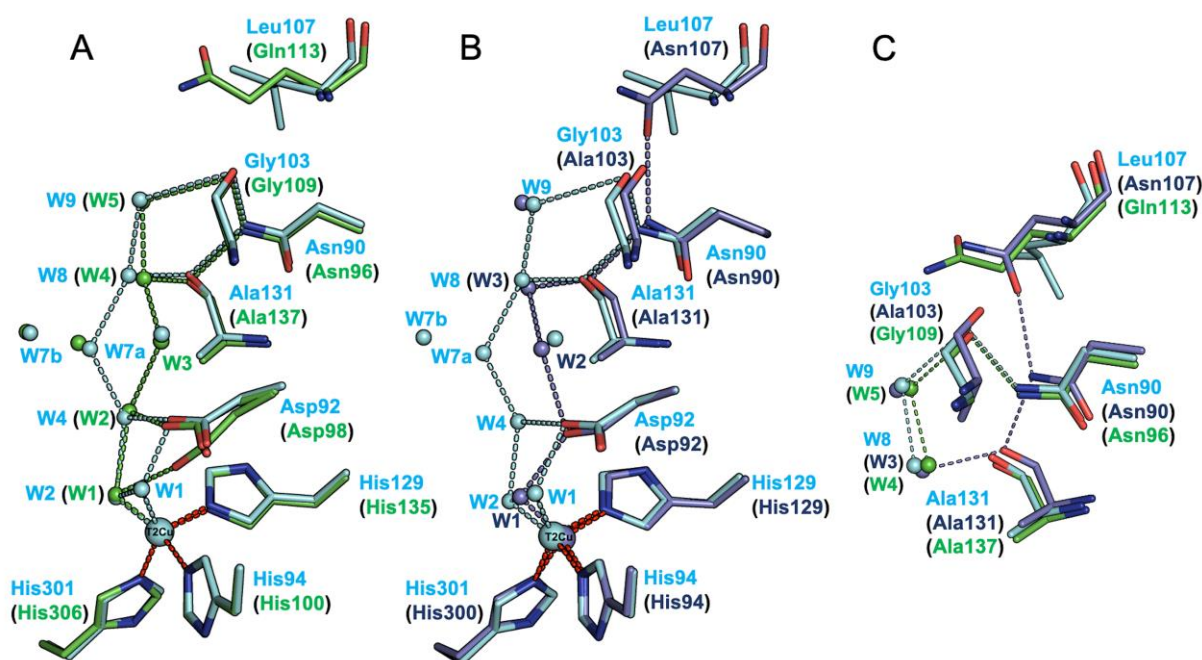


Fig. S3. Superposition of the T1Cu site in fully oxidized XFEL FRIC structures of *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR, blue *Ax*NiR and green *Ac*NiR showing structural difference of residue Met136.

Met136 is flipped 180° away from T1Cu residue His140 (*Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR numbering), allowing a unique hydrogen bond to be formed with a new water (W10). *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR structure and numbering shown in cyan, *Ax*NiR structure and numbering shown in dark blue and *Ac*NiR structure and numbering shown in green.

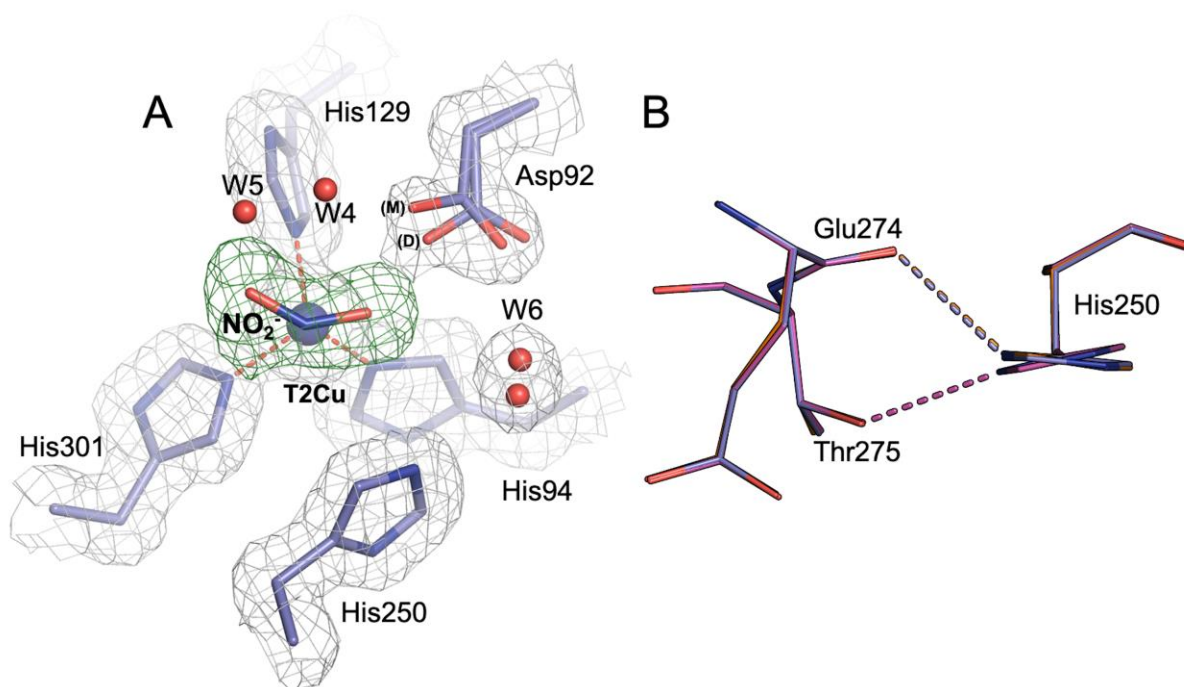
**Figure S4**



**Fig. S4. Comparison of the Asn90 proton channel in XFEL FRIC structures of *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR with atomic resolution structure of blue *Ax*NiR (pdb:10E1) and XFEL FRIC structure of green *Ac*NiR (pdb:6GSQ).**

*Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR XFEL FRIC structure and numbering shown in cyan, *Ax*NiR atomic resolution structure and numbering shown in dark blue and XFEL FRIC *Ac*NiR structure and numbering shown in green. (A) *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR (cyan) v *Ac*NiR (green) Asn90 channel is very similar in both (Asn-Gly-W-W(Ala)-W-W(Asp)-W(T2Cu)). In *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR half occupancy W7a is favored in the water network compared to W3 in *Ac*NiR due to weak hydrogen bond distance with the aligning water in *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR and W4. (B) *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR (cyan) v *Ax*NiR (dark blue) Asn90 channel shows a large difference with less waters making up the pathway in *Ax*NiR (Asn-Asn-Ala-W-W-Asp-W(T2Cu)). (C) Superimposed *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR with *Ax*NiR and *Ac*NiR showing the entrance residues to the Asn90 channel. In *Ax*NiR, Asn107 forms the entrance and is able to hydrogen bond to the essential residue Asn90 to constitute the network by hydrogen bonding to Ala131 (*Ax*NiR numbering) and then water in the pathway. In both *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR and *Ac*NiR, the entrance residues Leu107/Gln113 cannot form this hydrogen bond with Asn90, so instead Gly residues in both substitute this by forming a hydrogen bond between its carbonyl oxygen and Asn90 and then bulk solvent.

## Figure S5



**Fig. S5. T2Cu site and His250 (His<sub>CAT</sub>) rotation in additional low dose nitrite-bound *Br*<sup>2D</sup>NiR SRX structure at 0.5 MGy.**

(A) OMIT  $F_o-F_c$  electron density map, contoured at  $5\sigma$  level and colored green around nitrite molecule in 'L-shaped' position.  $2F_o-F_c$  electron density map contoured at  $1\sigma$  level shows Asp92 in two conformations of proximal position (main and distorted). Coordination to T2Cu is shown as red dashes. (B) Confirmation that His<sub>CAT</sub> rotation in atomic resolution SRX nitrite-bound structure was due to X-ray induced electron transfer after substrate binding: low dose 0.5 MGy SRX structure and damage-free SF-ROX structure are similarly rotated towards to residue Glu274 for suitable hydrogen bond formation, only rotation is seen in the atomic resolution SRX structure which has changed its hydrogen bond to residue Thr275. 0.5 MGy SRX structure is shown by purple sticks and dashes. XFEL FRIC structure is shown by orange sticks and dashes and atomic resolution SRX structure is shown as magenta sticks and dashes.

**Table S1. Data collection and refinement statistics**

	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR as isolated SRX 1</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR as isolated SF-ROX 1</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR nitrite-bound SRX 2</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR nitrite-bound SF-ROX 2</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR NO-bound SRX 3</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR NO-bound SF-ROX 3</b>	<b><i>Br</i><sup>2D</sup>NiR nitrite-bound low dose SRX 4</b>
<b>Data collection</b>							
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3
Cell dimensions							
a=b=c (Å)	106.72	107.01	106.79	106.95	107.47	106.87	107.57
Resolution (Å)	47.72-1.10 (1.12-1.10) *	31.0-1.30 (1.35-1.30) *	53.39-1.00 (1.02- 1.00) *	29.8-1.30 (1.35-1.30) *	48.06-1.19 (1.21-1.19) *	31.0-1.30 (1.35-1.30) *	48.15-1.48 (1.50- 1.48) *
R <sub>merge</sub>	0.069 (0.639)	N/A	0.079 (1.201)	N/A	0.061 (1.358)	N/A	0.094 (1.638)
R <sub>pim</sub> or R <sub>split</sub>	0.030 (0.436)	0.115 (0.777)	0.033 (0.731)	0.163 (1.126)	0.025 (0.572)	0.132 (0.340)	0.039 (0.667)
CC(1/2)	0.999 (0.630)	0.981 (0.332)	0.999 (0.388)	0.951 (0.016)	1.00 (0.508)	0.967 (0.472)	0.999 (0.541)
I / σI	11.7 (1.2)	5.4 (1.5)	10.8 (0.9)	4.1 (1.5)	16.7 (1.4)	7.1 (3.3)	10.8 (1.1)
Completeness (%)	99.8 (97.0)	100.0 (99.9)	99.9 (99.3)	99.9 (99.5)	99.9 (97.9)	100 (100)	99.9 (98.0)
Redundancy	6.0 (2.7)	121.0 (22.9)	6.3 (3.6)	73.4 (21.1)	6.8 (6.5)	148.1 (94.4)	6.9 (6.9)
Wilson B (Å <sup>2</sup> )	7.1	16.7	6.5	16.3	9.7	13.9	14.9
<b>Refinement</b>							
Resolution (Å)	30.00-1.10	30.91-1.30	30-1.00	29.68-1.30	30.00-1.19	30.87-1.30	48.15-1.48
No. reflections	162,670	94,957	216,821	99,687	131,757	94,625	65,659
R <sub>work</sub> / R <sub>free</sub>	0.125/0.148	0.151/0.206	0.126/0.143	0.156/0.206	0.123/0.126	0.135/0.180	0.147/0.176
No. atoms							
Protein	2739	2850	2776	2870	2814	2780	2930
Ligand/ion	93/2	55/2	112/2	101/2	155/2	154/2	123/2
Water	660	514	771	459	509	516	532
B-factors (Å <sup>2</sup> )							
Protein	13.2	23.33	11.77	22.95	16.69	18.47	20.83
Ligand/Cu	30.64/10.54	49.18/18.46	27.12/7.77	40.16/18.08	34.26/13.94	38.71/14.97	49.19/16.32
Water	33.02	38.95	39.94	36.84	37.79	34.41	49.19
R.m.s. deviations							
Bond lengths (Å)	0.015**	0.013	0.014**	0.015	0.015**	0.017	0.013
Bond angles (°)	2.26**	1.81	2.25**	1.90	2.25**	2.06	1.95
<b>PDB ID</b>	<b>6ZAR</b>	<b>6ZAS</b>	<b>6ZAT</b>	<b>6ZAU</b>	<b>6ZAV</b>	<b>6ZAW</b>	<b>6ZAX</b>

Number of crystals used for SRX structures – one,

Number of crystals used for SF-ROX structures – as isolated (40); nitrite-bound (28); NO-bound (55).

\* values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell.

\*\* number is from restrained refinement round



**Table S2. T1Cu bonding ligand distances (Å)**

	As-isolated SRX 1	Nitrite-bound SRX 2		NO-bound SRX 3	Nitrite-bound low dose SRX 4	As-isolated SF-ROX 1	Nitrite-bound SF-ROX 2	NO-bound SF-ROX 3
<b>T1Cu</b>		<b>T1Cu<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>T1Cu<sup>a</sup></b>					
His140N <sup>δ1</sup>	2.050(10)	2.284(10)	1.950(9)	2.11(2)	1.96	1.97	1.95	2.05
His89N <sup>δ1</sup>	2.057(9)	2.057(9)	2.037(8)	2.09(1)	2.02	1.96	1.96	2.03
Cys130S <sup>γ</sup>	2.172(4)	2.136(6)	2.184(4)	2.200(6)	2.16	2.13	2.11	2.20
Met145S <sup>δ</sup>	2.574(5)	2.341(6)	2.654(4)	2.489(7)	2.54	2.56	2.54	2.47

**Table S3. T2Cu bonding ligand distances (Å)**

	As-isolated SRX 1	Nitrite-bound SRX 2	NO-bound SRX 3	Nitrite-bound low dose SRX 4	As-isolated SF-ROX 1	Nitrite-bound SF-ROX 2	NO-bound SF-ROX 3
<b>T2Cu</b>							
His301N <sup>ε2</sup>	2.010(10)	2.006(8)	2.01(1)	2.06	2.06	2.05	1.98
His94N <sup>ε2</sup>	2.009(10)	1.993(8)	1.99(1)	2.01	2.00	1.98	2.01
His129N <sup>ε2</sup>	2.083(10)	2.028(7)	1.97(1)	2.07	2.14	2.05	1.96
W2	2.162(3)				2.05		
W1	1.940(3)				1.94		
W3	2.018(3)						
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O1</sup> b		2.127(61)		2.33		2.12	
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O2</sup> b		1.976(20)		1.92		1.92	
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>N</sup> b		2.376(23)		1.78		2.02	
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O1</sup> a		2.223(52)					
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O2</sup> a		2.134(16)					
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>N</sup> a		2.412(26)					
NO <sup>N</sup>			2.17(4)				2.47
NO <sup>O</sup>			2.07(3)				2.12
Wa							2.07

NO<sub>2</sub><sup>b</sup> - 'Top-hat' nitrite; NO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup> - 'Bent top-hat' nitrite

**Table S4. Bond lengths and bond angles in atomic resolution structures, characteristic for protonation.**

Distances	As-isolated SRX 1	Nitrite-bound SRX 2	NO-bound SRX 3
<b>ASP<sub>CAT</sub></b>			
<b>Main Proximal</b>			
Occupancy	0.67	0.60	1.00
C <sup>Y</sup> -O <sup>δ1</sup> (Å)	1.25(3)	1.25(2)	1.24(3)
C <sup>Y</sup> -O <sup>δ2</sup> (Å)	1.26(3)	1.26(2)	1.28(3)
<b>Distorted proximal</b>			
Occupancy	0.33		
C <sup>Y</sup> -O <sup>δ1</sup> (Å)	1.25(7)		
C <sup>G</sup> -O <sup>δ2</sup> (Å)	1.29(8)		
<b>Gatekeeper</b>			
Occupancy		0.40	
C <sup>Y</sup> -O <sup>δ1</sup> (Å)		1.25(3)	
C <sup>Y</sup> -O <sup>δ2</sup> (Å)		1.26(3)	
<b>His<sub>CAT</sub></b>			
C <sup>ε1</sup> -N <sup>ε2</sup> -C <sup>δ2</sup> (°)	106.4(1.5)	109.4(0.9)	105.0(2.2)
C <sup>Y</sup> -N <sup>δ1</sup> -C <sup>ε1</sup> (°)	112.5(1.6)	114.0(0.9)	113.6(2.4)
<b>NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup></b>			
<b>Conformation B ('Top-hat')</b>			
Occupancy		0.40	
N-O1 (Å)		1.30(4)	
N-O2 (Å)		1.30(3)	
<b>Conformation A ('Bent top-hat')</b>			
Occupancy		0.60	
N-O1 (Å)		1.25(4)	
N-O2 (Å)		1.28(3)	
<b>NO</b>			
Occupancy			0.73
N-O (Å)			1.20(5)

e.s.d.s values to the last digit in brackets

**Table S5. Hydrogen-bond contact distances (Å)**

	As-isolated SRX 1	Nitrite-bound SRX 2		NO-bound SRX 3	Nitrite-bound low dose SRX 4	As-isolated SF-ROX 1	Nitrite-bound SF-ROX 2	NO-bound SF-ROX 3
<b>W1 - W2</b>	2.49					2.51		
<b>Asp92 Proximal O<sup>δ1</sup></b>								
- W1 (Main)	2.52					2.39		
- W3 (Distorted)	3.13							
- W4 (Main)	2.45	2.51		2.54	2.27	2.81	2.54	2.38
- NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O2</sup>		1.92 (TH)	3.42 (BTH)		2.36		2.25	
- NO <sup>O</sup>				2.48				2.56
- Wa								2.16
<b>Asp92 Proximal O<sup>δ2</sup></b>								
- W6 (Bridging water)	2.77	3.03		2.86	2.53	2.75	2.83	3.00
<b>His250 N<sup>δ2</sup></b>								
- W6 (Bridging water)	3.05	2.94		2.88	3.19	3.10	2.94	2.84
- NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O2</sup>		3.74 (TH)	3.06 (BTH)		3.39		3.17	
<b>His250 N<sup>δ1</sup></b>								
- Glu274 O	2.67	2.72		2.65	2.62	2.64	2.52	2.61
- Thr275 O <sup>Y1</sup>	3.09	2.79		2.89	2.95	3.07	2.97	2.80
<b>W<sub>G</sub> (with Asp92 Gatekeeper and 'top-hat' nitrite)</b>								
- W6		2.51						
- NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O2b</sup>		2.73						
- Leu100 O <sub>G</sub>		2.69						
<b>W4</b>								
- W2	2.98					2.62		
- W5		2.71						2.08
- NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O1</sup>		3.05 (TH)	3.12 (BTH)		2.89		3.11	
- NO <sup>N</sup>				2.65				2.74
<b>W5</b>								
- W3	2.98							
- NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>O</sup>		2.81 (TH)	2.71 (BTH)		2.07			
- NO <sup>N</sup>				2.02				2.07
<b>His140 - W10</b>	2.75	2.79		2.76	2.90	2.79	2.73	2.92

**TH** - 'Top-hat' nitrite position; **BTH** - 'Bent top-hat' nitrite position; **NO<sub>2</sub>b** - 'Top-hat' nitrite; **NO<sub>2</sub>a** - 'Bent top-hat' nitrite

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