Mechanistic insight into light-dependent recognition of Timeless by *Drosophila* Cryptochrome

Changfan Lin^{1,3}, Connor M. Schneps¹, Siddarth Chandrasekaran¹, Abir Ganguly², and Brian R. Crane^{1*}

¹ Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 USA

 ² Institute for Quantitative Biomedicine, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854 USA
 ³ Current Address: Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125

Contents

Index for Supplemental Information2
Figure S1: Domain maps for CRY and TIM fusion proteins
Table S1: Primer sequences for Q5 polymerase-based mutagenesis and DNA construct sequences
Figure S2: CRYΔ binds TIM in 1:1 molar ratio10
Figure S3: Multiplex imaging of TIM and CRY bands11
Figure S4: UV-Vis and cw-ESR Spectra of H377A and H378A variants12
Figure S5: Field swept echoes, primary DEER traces, background subtractions,
and corrected signals of H377A and H378A variants13
Figure S6: Gaussian function fitting (DD) to the time domain traces14
Table S2: Detailed Restrained DD fitting statistics
Table S3: Percent undocked for Ala variants using linear combination fit15
Figure S7: SVD and time domains and distance distributions16
Figure S8: DEER data and fitting statistics for H377L,EN17
Table S4: Gibson Assembly master mix



Figure S1: Domain maps of fusions proteins used in this study, Related to Figures 1-4. (A) CLIP-CRY (in pAC5.1), (B) TIM-SNAP-HA (in pAC5.1), CLIP-CRY-SNAP (in pAC5.1) and (D) CRY with sortase tag (in pET28a(+)) fusion proteins made for this study.

Table S1 Primer sequences for Q5 polymerase-based mutagenesis and DNA constructsequences, Related to Figure 1.

Primer name	Sequences
H378A-	ATGGCTCCACgccACGCTGCGCAAC
Forward	
H378K-	ATGGCTCCACaagACGCTGCGCAAC
Forward	
H378R-	ATGGCTCCACcgcACGCTGCGCAAC
Forward	
H378N-	ATGGCTCCACaacACGCTGCGCAAC
Reverse	
H378Q-	ATGGCTCCACcagACGCTGCGCAAC
Forward	
H378L-	ATGGCTCCACCtgACGCTGCGCAAC
Reverse	
H3/8F-	ATGGUTCUAUTECAUGUTGUGUAAU
Forward	
H3/8-	CCCTCGGCCAGGAGTTGT
A Forward	GGGAIGGEICGECGEACGEIGEGEAACAEEG
A-F01Walu	ТСССССАССАСТТСТССС
Η377Δ_	GGGATGGCTCactCATACGCTGCGCAAC
Forward	
H377L-	GGGATGGCTCctgCATACGCTGCG
Forward	
H377-	TCGGCCAGGAGTTGTCGC
Reverse	
Kozak	АААААТGG
sequence	
3x myc- CLIP-	ATGGAGCAGAAGCTGATCTCAGAGGAGGACCTGGGAGGAGGAGAACAAAA
CRY in	ATTAATAAGTGAAGAAGACCTGGGCGGCGGCGAGCAGAAGCTGATCTCAG
pAC5.1 vector	AGGAGGACCTGGGAGGAGGAGGAGGACAAAGACTGCGAAATGAAGCGCACC
	ACCCTGGATAGCCCTCTGGGCAAGCTGGAACTGTCTGGGTGCGAACAGGG
	CCTGCACCGTATCATCTTCCTGGGCAAAGGAACATCTGCCGCCGACGCCG
	TGGAAGTGCCTGCCCAGCCGCCGTGCTGGGCGGACCAGAGCCACTGATC
	GTCATCAGCGAGAGAGCCACCTGGCCGCCCTGGTGGGGCAATCCCGCCGCCAC
	CGCCGCCGTGAACACCGCCCTGGACGGAAATCCCCGTGCCCATTCTGATCC
	CCTGCCACCGGGTGGTGCAGGGCGACAGCGACGTGGGGGCCCTACCTGGGC
	GGGCTCGCCGTGAAAGAGTGGCTGCTGGCCCACGAGGGCCACAGACTGGG

	CAAGCCTGGGCTGGGT
	TGATTTGGTTTCGCCATGGATTGCGCCTCCATGATAATCCCGCTCTATTG
	GCCGCCCTCGCCGATAAGGATCAGGGTATAGCCCTAATTCCCGTTTTCAT
	ATTCGATGGAGAGAGTGCAGGTACCAAGAATGTGGGTTACAATCGGATGC
	GTTTCCTCCTGGACTCGTTGCAGGACATCGATGATCAGCTACAGGCGGCA
	ACTGATGGACGTGGACGCCTCCTGGTCTTCGAGGGCGAACCGGCTTATAT
	CTTCCGCCGGCTACATGAGCAAGTGCGTCTGCACAGGATTTGCATAGAGC
	AGGACTGCGAGCCAATTTGGAATGAGCGCGATGAAAGCATCCGTTCTCTA
	TGTCGGGAGCTGAATATCGACTTTGTCGAGAAGGTATCACACACGCTTTG
	GGATCCGCAATTGGTGATTGAGAGACCAATGGTGGCATTCCACCGCTGACCT
	ACCAAATGTTCCTGCACACGGTGCAAATTATTGGGGCTTCCACCGCGTCCC
	ACCGCCGATGCTCGACTAGAAGACGCCACCTTTGTCGAGCTGGACCCCCGA
	CTTCTCCCCAACTCTTAACTTCTTCCACCACCTCCCCACCCCCC
TIM-SNAP-	
HA IN PAC5.1	
vector	
	GGATACTCGTCAATCTGACGGTGCCGGTGGAGTGCCTCTTCTCCGTGGAC
	AICAGCAIGIGAGCACICIGCAAAAACTACITAGCCICIGGTICGAAGCC

TCTCTGTCGGAGAGCTCTGAGGATAATGAGAGTAATACCTCGCCCCCAA
ACAGGGCAGTGGCGATTCCAGCCCCATGCTGACCTCTGATCCTACCTCTG
ATTCCTCGGACAATGGCAGCAATGGCCGTGGCATGGGCGGTGGCATGCGG
GAAGGAACAGCGGCCACTTTGCAGGAGGTCAGCCGCAAGGGTCAGGAGTA
TCAGAACGCCATGGCCAGAGTGCCAGCGGATAAGCCCGATGGCTCCGAAG
AGGCCAGCGATATGACGGGGAACGACAGCGAGCAGCCTGGATCGCCGGAG
CAATCGCAGCCCGCCGGCGAGTCCATGGATGATGGAGATTACGAGGACCA
GAGACACAGGCAACTGAACGAGCATGGCGAAGAGGATGAAGATGAGGACG
AAGTGGAGGAGGAAGAGTACCTACAATTGGGCCCAGCCTCGGAGCCCCTA
AACTTAACACAACAACCAGCTGACAAGGTCAACAACACTACCAACCCAAC
GTCCAGTGCGCCACAAGGCTGCCTGGGCAATGAGCCATTCAAGCCACCAC
CTCCTCTGCCAGTCAGAGCCTCCACCTCGGCACACGCTCAAATGCAGAAG
TTCAACGAATCGTCCTACGCGTCCCACGTATCTGCGGTCAAATTGGGCCA
AAAGTCCCCACATGCCGGCCAGCTCCAGCTGACCAAGGGCAAGTGTTGTC
CACAGAAGCGGGAATGCCCCTCCTCGCAGTCGGAGCTATCGGATTGCGGT
TATGGCACCCAGGTGGAAAATCAGGAATCCATTTCCACCTCCAGCAACGA
CGATGATGGGCCGCAGGGCAAGCCGCAGCACCAGAAGCCTCCGTGTAACA
CGAAGCCACGGAATAAACCACGGACGATTATGTCGCCAATGGACAAAAAG
GAGCTTAGACGCAAAAAACTGGTCAAGCGCAGCAAAAGCAGCCTCATCAA
CATGAAGGGTCTGGTACAGCACCCCCCCCCCGATGATGACATCTCCCAATC
TGCTGAAGGAATTCACCGTGGATTTCCTCCTCAAGGGTTACAGCTATCTG
GTGGAGGAACTGCACATGCAACTGCTTTCCAATGCGAAGGTGCCCATTGA
CACATCGCACTTCTTCTGGCTGGTCACCTACTTCCTGAAGTTTGCCGCCC
AACTGGAGCTGGATATGGAGCACATCGACACTATTCTCACCTACGATGTT
TTGAGCTACTTGACCTATGAGGGTGTGTCCCTATGTGAGCAACTGGAACT
GAATGCCCGACAGGAGGGCAGTGACCTGAAGCCCTATCTAAGGCGAATGC
ACTTGGTGGTGACGGCCATCCGGGAGTTCCTCCAGGCCATTGATACGTAC
AACAAAGTGACTCATCTGAACGAGGACGACAAAGCCCATTTGAGGCAGCT
TCAGCTGCAGATTAGCGAAATGTCCGATCTGAGGTGCCTTTTTGTGCTTC
TGCTGAGGCGTTTCAATCCCAGCATTCATTCCAAGCAGTATCTTCAGGAT
CTGGTGGTTACCAATCACATCCTCCTACTCATTCTGGACAGTTCGGCCAA
ACTTGGTGGATGTCAAACCATTCGCCTGTCGGAGCACATTACACAGTTTG
CCACGCTGGAGGTGATGCACTACTATGGCATTCTGTTGGAGGACTTCAAC
AACAACGGAGAGTTTGTCAATGACTGCATCTTCACCATGATGCATCACAT
CGGTGGCGATCTGGGCCAGATTGGGGGTTCTATTTCAACCAATTATTTTGA
AAACCTATTCAAGAATTTGGGAAGCGGACTATGAACTGTGCGATGACTGG
TCTGATCTTATCGAGTATGTGATTCACAAGTTCATGAATACTCCTCCGAA
GTCGCCACTCACCATTCCTACAACTTCCTTGACGGAAATGACCAAGGAAC
ACAACCAGGAGCATACCGTTTGCTCTTGGTCGCAGGAGGAAATGGACACA
CTTTATTGGTATTATGTGCAGAGCAAGAAGAACAACGATATTGTGGGAAA
GATAGTTAAGCTCTTCAGCAACAACGGCAACAAGCTGAAAAACCAGGATTT
CTATTATCCAACAACTTTTGCAACAAGACATTATCACCCTGTTGGAATAC
GATGACCTGATGAAGTTCGAGGATGCGGAGTATCAGAGAACTTTGCTGAC
AACTCCCACTTCCGCAACAACAGAGTCTGGAATTGAGATTAAGGAGTGCG
CCTACGGCAAACCCTCAGATGATGTTCAGATCCTGCTGGACCTGATCATT
AAGGAAAACAAGGCGCAGCATTTGTTATGGCTGCAAAGGATCCTCATTGA
GTGCTGCTTCGTTAAACTGACCCTGCGGAGTGGTCTCAAGGTTCCGGAAG
GCGATCACATCATGGAGCCGGTGGCCTACCACTGCATCTGCAAGCAGAAG

	TCCATTCCGGTGGTGCAGTGGAACAACGAGCAATCCACTACGATGCTGTA
	CCAGCCTTTTGTTCTCCTGCTCCACAAGCTGGGCATTCAGCTGCCGGCGG
	ΛΨĊΨΛĊĊĊΛĊΨĊĊĊĊΛΛΛΛΛΛĊĊΨĊĊĊΛĊſſĊſſĬĊſĊŎſĬĊſĬĊĊŎŎſĬŎſĬŎſ
	GTGGATCTCGGCGATACCGAGGAGCTGGCCCTTATACCCGAGGTGGATGC
	GGCCGTGGAGAAGGCACACGCCATGGCATCCACGCCATCGCCCAGCGAGA
	TTTTCGCGGTTCCCAAGACGAAGCACTGCAACTCGATCATCAGATACACA
	CCAGATCCCACGCCTCCAGTGCCCAACTGGCTGCAGTTGGTCATGCGCAG
	CAAATGCAATCATCGCACAGGTCCGTCTGGTGATCCCAGCGATTGCATTG
	GCTCCTCGTCGACAACCGTGGACGATGAGGGATTTGGCAAGTCCATCAGT
	GCAGCCACTTCGCAGGCGGCGAGCACCTCCATGAGCACGGTTAATCCCAC
	AACCACTTTGAGCCTGAACATGCTAAACACCTTCATGGGAAGCCACAACG
	AGAACAGCAGCAGTTCTGGTTGCGGGGGGCACCGTCTCCCTGTCCATG
	GTGGCTCTGATGAGCACCGGCGCGGCGGCGGGGGGGGGG
	ССТССА В ВТССАТСТССВСССССССССССССССССССС
	λεεπλλλεες λαιοιουλουκουστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστισ
	ACGATCGACTTGAGCGAACCGAGATCCGGGTGCCCCACTATCACCTCGAG
	GGTGGCTCAGGAATGGACAAAGACTGCGAAATGAAGCGCACCACCCTGGA
	TAGCCCTCTGGGCAAGCTGGAACTGTCTGGGTGCGAACAGGGCCTGCACC
	GTATCATCTTCCTGGGCAAAGGAACATCTGCCGCCGACGCCGTGGAAGTG
	CCTGCCCCAGCCGCCGTGCTGGGCGGACCAGAGCCACTGATGCAGGCCAC
	CGCCTGGCTCAACGCCTACTTTCACCAGCCTGAGGCCATCGAGGAGTTCC
	CTGTGCCAGCCCTGCACCACCCAGTGTTCCAGCAGGAGAGCTTTACCCGC
	CAGGTGCTGTGGAAACTGCTGAAAGTGGTGAAGTTCGGAGAGGTCATCAG
	CTACAGCCACCTGGCCGCCTGGCCGGCAATCCCGCCGCCACCGCCGCCG
	TGAAAACCGCCCTGAGCGGAAATCCCGTGCCCATTCTGATCCCCTGCCAC
	CGGGTGGTGCAGGGCGACCTGGACGTGGGGGGGCTACGAGGGCGGGC
	CGTGAAAGAGTGGCTGCTGGCCCACGAGGGCCACAGACTGGGCAAGCCTG
	GGCTGGGT GGGCGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG
	GGTCATCACCATCACCATTGA
	ATGGAGCAGAAGCTGATCTCAGAGGAGGACCTGGGAGGAGGAGAACAAAA
SNAP in	ΔΨΤΑΔΤΑΔΩΤΩΑΔΩΑΔΩΑCΑCCTCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC
nAC5 1 voctor	
pAC5.1 vector	
	GTCATCAGCGAGAGCCACCTGGCCGCCCTGGTGGGCAATCCCGCCGCCAC
	CGCCGCCGTGAACACCGCCCTGGACGGAAATCCCGTGCCCATTCTGATCC
	CCTGCCACCGGGTGGTGCAGGGCGACAGCGACGTGGGGCCCTACCTGGGC
	GGGCTCGCCGTGAAAGAGTGGCTGCTGGCCCACGAGGGCCACAGACTGGG
	CAAGCCTGGGCTGGGTGGCTCAGGAATGGCCACGCGAGGGGCGAATG

	TGATTTGGTTTCGCCATGGATTGCGCCTCCATGATAATCCCGCTCTATTG
	GCCGCCCTCGCCGATAAGGATCAGGGTATAGCCCTAATTCCCGTTTTCAT
	ATTCGATGGAGAGAGTGCAGGTACCAAGAATGTGGGTTACAATCGGATGC
	GTTTCCTCCTGGACTCGTTGCAGGACATCGATGATCAGCTACAGGCGGCA
	ACTGATGGACGTGGACGCCTCCTGGTCTTCGAGGGCGAACCGGCTTATAT
	CTTCCCCCCCCCCTCCACATCACCACACCCCCCCCCCCC
	GGCGGAGAAACACAGGCCTTACTTCTGTTGGATGAGCGTCTTAAAGTGGA
	GCAGCATGCGTTTGAGCGTGGATTTTATCTGCCCAACCAGGCACTGCCCA
	ATATCCACGACTCGCCAAAATCGATGAGCGCCCATCTGCGCTTTGGTTGC
	CTTTCGGTACGTCGCTTCTACTGGAGCGTCCACGATCTCTTCAAGAATGT
	CCAGTTGCGCGCCTGTGTGCGGGGCGTTCAGATGACTGGCGGCGCGCACA
	TCACGGGACAGTTGATCTGGCGAGAGTACTTCTACACCATGTCGGTGAAC
	AATCCAAACTACGATCGCATGGAGGGCAATGACATCTGCCTGAGCATCCC
	GTGGGCTAAGCCGAACGAAAATCTCCTGCAGAGCTGGCGTTTAGGCCAAA
	CGGGATTCCCGCTCATCGACGGCGCCATGCGACAACTCCTGGCCGAGGGA
	TGGCTCCACCATACGCTGCGCAACACCGTGGCCACCTTTCTCACGCGCGG
	CGGTTTGTGGCAGAGCTGGGAGCATGGACTGCAGCACTTTCTGAAGTATC
	TGCTGGATGCGGATTGGTCGGTCTGCGCTGGCAACTGGATGTGGGTATCC
	AGCTCGGCGTTTGAAAGGCTGCTGGACTCCTCCCTGGTCACCTGCCCGGT
	GGCATTGGCCAAGCGACTTGATCCGGATGGCACCTACATCAAGCAGTACG
	TCCCGGAGTTGATGAATGTGCCCAAGGAATTTGTTCACGAGCCCTGGCGA
	ATGTCTGCCGAGCAGCAGGAGCAGTACGAGTGCCTGATCGGAGTCCATTA
	TCCGGAGCGGATCATTGATTTGTCCATGGCCGTAAAGCGAAACATGCTGG
	CCATGAAGTCTCTCCGAAATTCGCTGATCACCCCGCCGCCGCATTGCCGA
	CCATCCAACGAGGAGGAAGTGCGTCAGTTCTTCTGGCTGG
	GGGTGGCTCAGGAATGGACAAAGACTGCGAAATGAAGCGCACCACCCTGG
	ATAGCCCTCTGGGCAAGCTGGAACTGTCTGGGTGCGAACAGGGCCTGCAC
	CGTATCATCTTCCTGGGCAAAGGAACATCTGCCGCCGACGCCGTGGAAGT
	GCCTGCCCCAGCCGCCGTGCTGGGCGGACCAGAGCCACTGATGCAGGCCA
	CCGCCTGGCTCAACGCCTACTTTCACCAGCCTGAGGCCATCGAGGAGTTC
	CCTGTGCCAGCCCTGCACCACCCAGTGTTCCAGCAGGAGAGCTTTACCCG
	CCAGGTGCTGTGGAAACTGCTGAAAGTGGTGAAGGTTCGGAGAGGTCATCA
	CCTACAGCCACCTGGCCGCCCTGGCCGGCAATCCCGCCGCCACCGCCGCC
	GTGAAAACCGCCCTGAGCGGAAATCCCCGTGCCCATTCTGATCCCCTGCCA
	CCGGGTGGTGCAGGCCGACCTGGACCTGCGCGCGCCTACGAGGCCGCCCCGC
	CCGTGAAAGAGTGGCTGCTGGCCCACGACGCCACACACTGCCCAAAGCCC
Twin strop	
µ⊏ i ∠o vector	GCGNATGIGATIIGGTIICGCCATGGATIGCGCCICCAIGAIAAICCCGC

TCTATTGGCCGCCCTCGCCGATAAGGATCAGGGTATAGCCCTAATTCCCG
TTTTCATATTCGATGGAGAGAGTGCAGGTACCAAGAATGTGGGTTACAAT
CGGATGCGTTTCCTCCTGGACTCGTTGCAGGACATCGATGATCAGCTACA
GGCGGCAACTGATGGACGTGGACGCCTCCTGGTCTTCGAGGGCGAACCGG
CTTATATCTTCCGCCGGCTACATGAGCAAGTGCGTCTGCACAGGATTTGC
ATAGAGCAGGACTGCGAGCCAATTTGGAATGAGCGCGATGAAAGCATCCG
TTCTCTATGTCGGGAGCTGAATATCGACTTTGTCGAGAAGGTATCACACA
CGCTTTGGGATCCGCAATTGGTGATTGAGACCAATGGTGGCATTCCACCG
CTGACCTACCAAATGTTCCTGCACACGGTGCAAATTATTGGGCTTCCACC
GCGTCCCACCGCCGATGCTCGACTAGAAGACGCCACCTTTGTCGAGCTGG
ACCCCGAGTTCTGCCGAAGTCTTAAGTTGTTCGAGCAGCTGCCCACGCCG
GAGCACTTCAATGTGTATGGAGACAACATGGGCTTCCTGGCCAAGATTAA
CTGGCGCGGCGGAGAAACACAGGCCTTACTTCTGTTGGATGAGCGTCTTA
AAGTGGAGCAGCATGCGTTTGAGCGTGGATTTTATCTGCCCAACCAGGCA
CTGCCCAATATCCACGACTCGCCAAAATCGATGAGCGCCCATCTGCGCTT
TGGTTGCCTTTCGGTACGTCGCTTCTACTGGAGCGTCCACGATCTCTTCA
AGAATGTCCAGTTGCGCGCCTGTGTGCGGGGGCGTTCAGATGACTGGCGGC
GCGCACATCACGGGACAGTTGATCTGGCGAGAGTACTTCTACACCATGTC
GGTGAACAATCCAAACTACGATCGCATGGAGGGCAATGACATCTGCCTGA
GCATCCCGTGGGCTAAGCCGAACGAAAATCTCCTGCAGAGCTGGCGTTTA
GGCCAAACGGGATTCCCGCTCATCGACGGCGCCATGCGACAACTCCTGGC
CGAGGGATGGCTCCACCATACGCTGCGCAACACCGTGGCCACCTTTCTCA
CGCGCGGCGGTTTGTGGCAGAGCTGGGAGCATGGACTGCAGCACTTTCTG
AAGTATCTGCTGGATGCGGATTGGTCGGTCTGCGCTGGCAACTGGATGTG
GGTATCCAGCTCGGCGTTTGAAAGGCTGCTGGACTCCTCCCTGGTCACCT
GCCCGGTGGCATTGGCCAAGCGACTTGATCCGGATGGCACCTACATCAAG
CAGTACGTCCCGGAGTTGATGAATGTGCCCAAGGAATTTGTTCACGAGCC
CTGGCGAATGTCTGCCGAGCAGCAGGAGCAGTACGAGTGCCTGATCGGAG
TCCATTATCCGGAGCGGATCATTGATTTGTCCATGGCCGTAAAGCGAAAC
ATGCTGGCCATGAAGTCTCTCCGAAATTCGCTGATCACCCCGCCGCCGCA
TTGCCGACCATCCAACGAGGAGGAAGTGCGTCAGTTCTTCTGGCTGG
ACCTGCCGGGTACGGGCTAA



Figure S2: Stoichiometry of CRY binding to TIM, Related to Figure 2. (A) Representative Clear-Native (CN)-PAGE gel of purified CLIP-CRY:TIM-SNAP complexes after dye addition and labeling. Fluorescence detected and imaged by a ChemiDoc (BioRad). Samples on the left were only labeled with SNAP dye and samples on the right were labeled with CLIP dye. Known amount of a CLIP-CRY-SNAP fusion provides the standard for normalization. (B) Quantification of the normalized TIM and CRYA fluorescent signal. Error bars represent the SEM for n = 3.



Figure S3: Multiplex imaging of TIM and CRY bands, Related to Figures 2 and 3. (A) Lane 1-6 show TIM and CRY SWFTI signals on HA resin, whereas lane 7-9 show the signals in lysate samples. Lane 10-12 exhibit fluorescent signals from the internal standard CLIP-CRY-SNAP. To prevent fluorescence crosstalk, Lane 10 and 11 have the standard only mixed with CLIP dye, whereas lane 12 contains the standard with only SNAP dye. In lane 11 the standard was diluted to 10%. (B) The quantification of standard by purified SNAP proteins. The standard was diluted to 20% and mixed with SNAP dye.



Figure S4: Spectroscopy of CRY variants, Related to Figure 4. UV-Vis and cw-ESR spectra of His377 and His378 alanine variants in the dark and after 2-5 sec of blue light exposure at 440 nm. The left column are all variants in the WT background, while the right column is those in the L405E/C416N background. In UV-Vis (top half of each panel), all WT background variants produce the ASQ with a characteristic absorbance at 364 and 403 nm, while the L405E/C416N background variants produce the NSQ (broadband feature ~550-650 nm). Gaps in spectra are at the excitation laser wavelength; Time of irradiation for full reduction varies between 2-5 second depending on laser alignment with respect to the cuvette. cwESR (bottom half of each panel) spectra of all dCRY variants labeled at the C-terminus with a nitroxide label. All spectra were recorded at X-band in deuterated buffer. Broadened features in light-state spectra reflect overlapping flavin and nitroxide features.



Figure S5: Representative field swept echoes (FSE), primary DEER traces, background subtractions, and corrected signals of H377/H378 variants after light irradiation at Q-band, Related to Figure 4. Probe (nitroxide) and pump (flavin) pulses are marked by arrows blue and red arrows, respectively, and are separated by 84 MHz (~30G).



Figure S6: Time domain traces of all alanine variants and their respective fits carried out based on a restrained two-state model previously established with DD, Related to Figure 4. All ASQ forming variants (left) were fit with one component, while all NSQ forming variants (right) were fit using two components. Fittings were carried out as detailed in the **Methods**.

Variant	% Undocked	χ _v ² (error in fit)
H377A	100*	3.1**
H378A	100*	7.1**
H377A/H378A	100*	1.4
H377A/L405E/C416N	63 ± 1 49 ± 13 58 ± 5***	1.4 1.1 1.0
H378A/L405E/C416N	$\begin{array}{r} 17 \ \pm \ 0.3 \\ 32 \ \pm \ 6 \\ 29 \ \pm \ 4^{***} \end{array}$	24.** 1.0 0.9
H377A/H378A/L405E/C416N	42 ± 2 54 ± 30 39 ± 17***	1.0 1.4 1.0

Table S2: Details of restrained DD fittings, Related to Table 1 and Figure 4.

Table S2: Distance distributions obtained from one and two gaussian fittings of time domains by DD. Residual error χ_v^2 values are determined by DD and indicate the robustness of the fit to the data. The $\langle R \rangle$, σ with the short component listed first, and long component listed second. H377A, H378A, and H377A/H378A are all WT-like and were fit best using only the undocked component (*). The relatively high error (**) reflects the small amplitude and broad features of this component. Samples measured at pH 7 are indicated by (***).

Table S3: Percent undocked state for Ala variants using linear combination fit, Related to Figure 4.

Variant	% Undocked
H377A	100
H378A	100
H377A/H378A	100
H377A/L405E/C416N	50 ± 5*
H378A/L405E/C416N	16 <u>+</u> 1.3*
H377A/H378A/L405E/C416N	$36 \pm 6^{*}$

Table S3: Values determined by fitting the time domain traces of the H377A/H378A variants with a linear combination of the time domain traces of the WT & EN variant (described in the methods section). Uncertainty values obtained for n = 3 samples (*).



Figure S7: Analysis of alanine variant DEER data with the SVD and time-domain methods, Related to Figure 4. (**A**) Parent time trace components shown at top, followed by fits to experimental data to provide the component weights of Table S2. (**B and C**) Distance distributions obtained using the SVD method for all the alanine variants. The SVD fits qualitatively agrees with the DD and linear combination fits. The ASQ (WT background) forming variants (**B**) have larger distance peaks at ~35-45 Å corresponding to the undocked state. whereas the NSQ (EN background) forming variants (**C**) have peaks at both ~25-30 Å and 35-45 Å, thereby indicating a mixture of the docked and undocked states.



Figure S8: H377L/L405E/C416N DEER data, Related to Figure 4. (**A**) Field swept echo with probe and pump pulses marked with blue and red arrows, respectively. (**B**) Primary DEER trace along with background subtracted data, and corrected signals obtained from DD. (**C**) Time domain fitting using restrained two component fit ($\langle R \rangle$, σ the docked and undocked states are (29.3, 2.0 Å) and (39.5, 6.8 Å), respectively; χ_v^2 =0.4). (**D**) Distance distribution calculated by DD, corresponding to 44 ± 3% undocked. (**E**) Time domain fitting using the SVD method. (**F**) Distance distribution calculated by SVD. (**G**) Linear combination of time domain fit, corresponding to 42% undocking. (**H**) Table summarizing results of undocking from quantifiable fitting methods.

	Stock concentration (U/µL)	Final Concentration (U/µL)	Volume (µL)
Q5 reaction buffer	5 X	1.3 X	234
Q5 DNA polymerase	2	0.033	14.8
Taq DNA ligase	40	5.3	119.2
T5 Exonuclease (dilute with 1X NEbuffer 4)	0.5	0.005	9
PEG-8000	50%	6.7%	120.6
NAD⁺	50 mM (33.2 mg/ml)	1.3 mM	23.4
dNTPs	2.5 mM	0.27 mM	97.2
Water			282
		Total	900

Table S4: Gibson Assembly master mix, Related to Figures 2, 3 and 4.

Reagents all purchased from New England Biolabs, except PEG-8000 (Cat# HR21-535, Hampton Research) and NAD⁺ (Cat# 16077, Cayman Chemical).