

Supplementary Material

Modelling the decamerisation cycle of PRDX1 and the inhibition-like effect on its peroxidase activity

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Data and code availability

All data and code required to reproduce the simulations and results presented in this paper are available from GitHub: <https://github.com/Rohwer-Lab/Barry2023>

The GitHub page also provides instructions for running the simulations online and for setting up a local computational environment on your own device.

1 Models

The various models used in this study are listed in **Table S1** and their associated reactions and parameters are summarised in **Table S2**.

Table S1: Descriptions of the models used in this study.

Model	Description
Prx decamerisation	Prx association and dissociation reactions.
ITC Prx with decamerisation	Prx association and dissociation reactions and a trigger for periodically “injecting” Prx.
RBC Prx Model A [1]	Red blood cell model of H ₂ O ₂ metabolism by several enzymes as described in Benfeitas et al 2014.
RBC Prx Model B [1]	Red blood cell model of H ₂ O ₂ metabolism by several enzymes with Prx inhibition by sequestration as described in Benfeitas et al. 2014.
RBC Prx Model A with decamerisation	Red blood cell model of H ₂ O ₂ metabolism by several enzymes as described in Benfeitas et al. 2014, augmented with Prx decamer association, dissociation, and peroxidase reactions.
Prx decamerisation dilution	Prx association and dissociation reactions and a trigger for diluting Prx.
HRP Prx	Horse radish peroxidase competition assay model containing peroxidase reactions for HRP as well as Prx.
HRP Prx with decamerisation	Horse radish peroxidase competition assay model containing peroxidase reactions for HRP and Prx, as well as Prx decamer association, dissociation, and peroxidase reactions.
Prx cycle	Prx, Trx, H ₂ O ₂ , and NADPH species with reactions for Prx dimer peroxidase, Trx regeneration by TRR, and sulfinic Prx regeneration by Srx.
Prx cycle with decamerisation	Prx, Trx, H ₂ O ₂ , and NADPH species with reactions for Prx dimer peroxidase, Prx decamer peroxidase, Trx regeneration by TRR, and sulfinic Prx regeneration by Srx, as well as Prx decamer association and dissociation reactions.

Table S2: Stoichiometry, rate equations and model parameters used in the simulations. Peroxiredoxin (Prx) sites are represented as: SH, reduced; SOH, sulfenilated; SS, disulfide bridge; SO2H, sulfinitated. Models: α , Prx decamerisation; β , ITC with Prx decamerisation; γ , Prx decamerisation dilution; ε , HRP-Prx; ζ , HRP-Prx with decamerisation; η , Prx cycle; θ , Prx cycle with decamerisation.

Model	Stoichiometry	Rate or trigger condition	Value
α β γ ε ζ η θ			
Decamer association and dissociation			
α β γ ε ζ	θ $Prx_{dec. all SH} \rightarrow 5 \cdot SH_{-}SH \uparrow$	$Prx_{dec. all SH} \cdot k_{off} - SH_{-}SH^5 \cdot k_{on}$	$k_{off} = 102 \text{ s}^{-1}$ [this study] $k_{on} = 93.0 \text{ }\mu\text{M}^{-4} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ [this study]
	ζ θ $Prx_{dec. with SS} \rightarrow 5 \cdot Prx_{dim.} \uparrow^*$	$k_{disso} \cdot Prx_{dec. with SS}$	$k_{disso} = 10000 \text{ s}^{-1}$
Sulfenilation			
	ζ θ $Prx_{dec. with SH} \rightarrow Prx_{dec. with SOH} \uparrow$	$nSH_{sites} \cdot k_{sulfe} \cdot Prx_{dec. with SH} \cdot H_2O_2$	$k_{sulfe dec} = 100 \text{ M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ [2]
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SH + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SH_{-}SOH$	$2 \cdot k_{sulfe} \cdot SH_{-}SH \cdot H_2O_2$	$k_{sulfe dim} = 1.0 \text{ }\mu\text{M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SOH + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SOH_{-}SOH$	$k_{sulfe} \cdot SH_{-}SOH \cdot H_2O_2$	
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SS + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SOH_{-}SS$	$k_{sulfe} \cdot SH_{-}SS \cdot H_2O_2$	
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SO_2H + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SOH_{-}SO_2H$	$k_{sulfe} \cdot SH_{-}SO_2H \cdot H_2O_2$	
Sulfinitation			
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SOH + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SH_{-}SO_2H$	$k_{sulfi} \cdot SH_{-}SOH \cdot H_2O_2$	$k_{sulfi} = 0.012 \text{ }\mu\text{M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ [3]
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SOH + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SOH_{-}SO_2H$	$2 \cdot k_{sulfi} \cdot SOH_{-}SOH \cdot H_2O_2$	
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SS + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SS_{-}SO_2H$	$k_{sulfi} \cdot SOH_{-}SS \cdot H_2O_2$	
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SO_2H + H_2O_2 \rightarrow SO_2H_{-}SO_2H$	$k_{sulfi} \cdot SOH_{-}SO_2H \cdot H_2O_2$	
Disulphide-bridge formation			
	ζ θ $Prx_{dec. with SOH} \rightarrow Prx_{dec. with SS} \uparrow$	$nSOH_{sites} \cdot k_{disulf form} \cdot Prx_{dec. with SOH}$	$k_{disulf form} = 1.7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ [3]
ε ζ η θ	$SH_{-}SOH \rightarrow SH_{-}SS$	$k_{disulf form} \cdot SH_{-}SOH$	
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SOH \rightarrow SOH_{-}SS$	$2 \cdot k_{disulf form} \cdot SOH_{-}SOH$	
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SS \rightarrow SS_{-}SS$	$k_{disulf form} \cdot SOH_{-}SS$	
ε ζ η θ	$SOH_{-}SO_2H \rightarrow SS_{-}SO_2H$	$k_{disulf form} \cdot SOH_{-}SO_2H$	
Disulphide-bridge reduction			
η θ	$SH_{-}SS + TrxSH \rightarrow SH_{-}SH + TrxSOH$	$k_{disulf red} \cdot SH_{-}SS \cdot TrxSH$	$k_{disulf red} = 0.21 \text{ }\mu\text{M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ [2]
η θ	$SOH_{-}SS + TrxSH \rightarrow SH_{-}SOH + TrxSOH$	$k_{disulf red} \cdot SOH_{-}SS \cdot TrxSH$	
η θ	$SS_{-}SS + TrxSH \rightarrow SH_{-}SS + TrxSOH$	$2 \cdot k_{disulf red} \cdot SS_{-}SS \cdot TrxSH$	
η θ	$SS_{-}SO_2H + TrxSH \rightarrow SH_{-}SO_2H + TrxSOH$	$k_{disulf red} \cdot SS_{-}SO_2H \cdot TrxSH$	
Thioredoxin regeneration			
η θ	$TrxSOH + NADPH \rightarrow NADP + TrxSH$	$k_{cat} \cdot TrxR \cdot (NADPH \cdot TrxSOH) / (TrxSOH \cdot NADPH + K_{M,NADPH,TrxR} \cdot TrxSOH + NADPH \cdot K_{M,TrxSOH} + K_{M,NADPH,TrxR} \cdot K_{M,TrxSOH})$	$TrxR = \frac{V_{Max,TrxR}}{k_{cat}} = 0.14 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ [1] SM $k_{cat} = 73 \text{ s}^{-1}$ [1] SM $K_{M,NADPH,TrxR} = 6.0 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ [4] $K_{M,TrxSOH,TrxR} = 1.83 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ [5]
ε ζ	HRP oxidation $HRP + H_2O_2 \rightarrow compound_I$	$k_{HRP} \cdot HRP \cdot H_2O_2$	$k_{HRP} = 11.0 \text{ }\mu\text{M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ [2]
β	ITC injection $Prx_{dec.} \rightarrow \frac{(Prx_{dec.} \cdot vol_{cell} + inj_{dec.} \cdot vol_{inj.})}{(vol_{cell} + vol_{inj.})}$	$\frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot \cos(\frac{time_{sim} - 1}{inj_{interval}})}{inj_{interval}} > 0.999999999$	$vol_{inj.} = 1.6 \text{ }\mu\text{l}$ [6] $inj_{interval} = 200 \text{ s}$ (based on [6])
β	$Prx_{dim.} \rightarrow \frac{(Prx_{dim.} \cdot vol_{cell} + inj_{dim.} \cdot vol_{inj.})}{(vol_{cell} + vol_{inj.})}$	$\frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot \cos(\frac{time_{sim} - 1}{inj_{interval}})}{inj_{interval}} > 0.999999999$	
Conserved moieties			
α β γ ε ζ η θ	$Prx_{dim.} = SH_{-}SH + SH_{-}SOH + SH_{-}SS + SH_{-}SO_2H + SOH_{-}SOH + SOH_{-}SS + SOH_{-}SO_2H + SS_{-}SS + SS_{-}SO_2H + SO_2H_{-}SO_2H$		
	ζ θ $Prx_{total} (dim.) = 5 \cdot Prx_{dec.} + Prx_{dim.} \uparrow$		
ε ζ	$HRP_{total} = HRP + compound_I$		
η θ	$Trx_{total} = TrxSH + TrxSOH$		

† $Prx_{dec.}$ is a placeholder for the multitude of Prx decamer species.

* specific $Prx_{dim.}$ product species depends on the dissociating $Prx_{dec.}$.

2 Processing isothermal titration calorimetry data

The ITC apparatus has several limitations, which need to be considered when analysing the heat traces. The problem of extracting an exponential decay signal from the pulse signal detected by a delayed receiver has been solved by a Laplace transform using Tian’s equation [7, 8]:

$$b_{deconv}(t) = g_{experimental}(t) + \frac{dg_{experimental}(t)}{dt} \cdot \tau_r \quad (1)$$

with b_{deconv} as the real $\mu\text{cal}/\text{sec}$, $g_{experimental}$ as the reading of $\mu\text{cal}/\text{sec}$ from the adiabatic cell and τ_r as the time delay between the heat release by reagents and the adiabatic cell reading. The ITC trace of Figure 1C in [6] was transformed by finding the derivative of each data point and using a τ_r of 20 s from the documentation of the VP (Microcal, Northampton, MA) calorimeter. **Figure S1 a** shows the transformation of a single peak with a fast initial reaction where the majority of the heat of dissociation is released. This reaction is followed by a slower reaction which takes place over the rest of the injection period. The curve between these two reactions suggests a third reaction may be present. In order to compensate for errors in determining ΔH , the data were normalised to the area under the curve of each injection peak. Starting with the full trace (**Figure S1 b**), data after the CTC injection were removed, yielding the final peaks used for fitting (**Figure S1 c**). The digitised data were interpolated for each data point to facilitate fitting to *in silico* data.

When using Tian’s equation, the data points taken between the injection and τ_r are unreliable [9]. Furthermore, the process of interpolating data can introduce a heat peak a few seconds before each injection. To avoid these issues, the data points between 5 s before each injection and 20 s after each injection were filtered out, leaving a final trace that was used for fitting (**Figure S1 d**).

Several complications occur in ITC experiments, which need to be taken into consideration when fitting *in silico* to *in vitro* data. ITC injections produce heat peaks independently of chemical reactions, called heat of dilution, which are usually quantified in a control experiment that includes only one of the reaction components, and subsequently subtracted from the data. This control experiment is not viable when studying protein dissociation as a single component of a dissociation cannot be isolated. The approach followed by Barranco-Medina and co-workers in their experiments was to assume that no dissociation occurs after the CTC and to subtract those peaks from the data before analysis [6]. This was not required in our simulations, as we did not explicitly model heat of dilution. However, small amounts of heat generation can be seen in **Figure 3 e** and **f** of the main text. These are due to residual dissociation still occurring above the CTC; when modelling such an equilibrium with mass action, the concentration of dimers will keep increasing as more concentrated protein solution is injected, implying that dissociation still occurs, albeit at a much reduced rate.

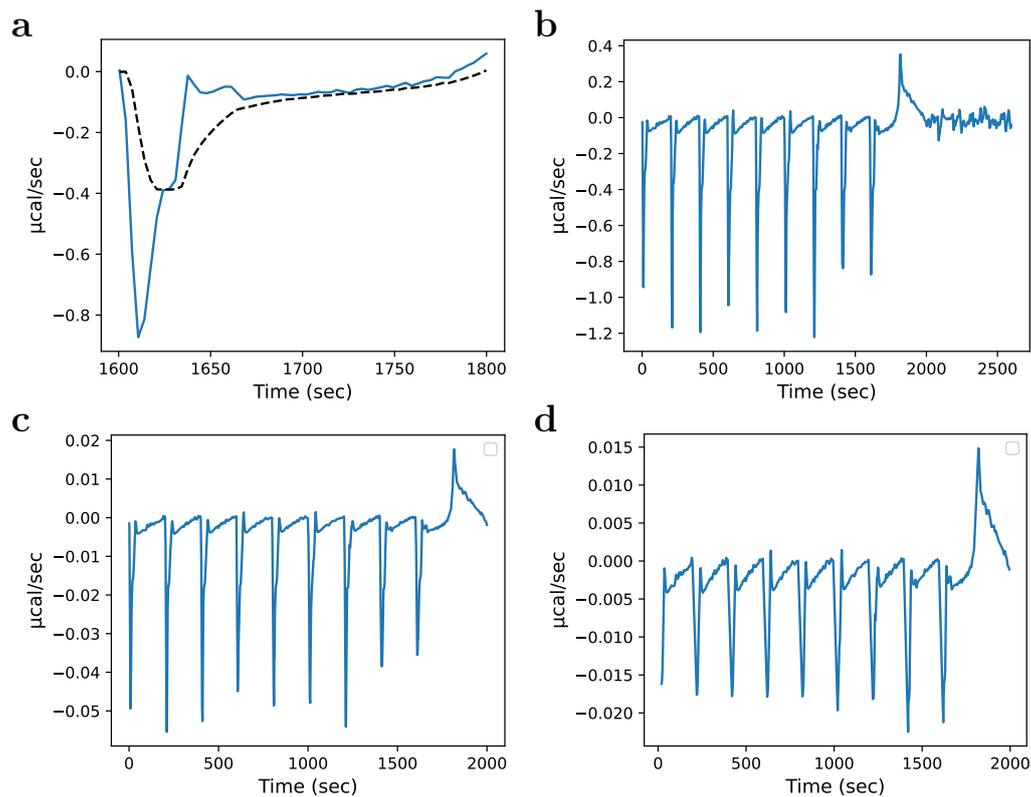


Figure S1: Processing of isothermal titration calorimetry data digitised from Figure 1C in Barranco Medina et al. [6]. **(a)** Comparison of (---) the original heat trace and (—) the Laplace transform of one heat peak as per Tian's equation [7, 8]. **(b)** Full trace of Laplace-transformed heat curves. **(c)** Data from (b) normalized to the area under the curve. **(d)** Data from (c) with data acquired between injection and machine delay filtered out (see text).

3 Algorithm for enumerating molecular states of peroxidase

A Python script was used to enumerate the species and peroxidase reactions of a Prx decamer by recursively “reacting” decamers and collating the degeneracy. The justification for the each type of degeneracy can be found in the main text. The goal of this script was to create a plain text file that contained the minimum set of rate and stoichiometric equations to describe the peroxidase reactions and subsequent dissociation of the Prx decamer. Below the logic of the script is described as a series of steps with an example.

Step 1: React substrate

The script begins with a substrate decamer and a reaction as <Input> and produces several product decamers as <Outputs> by “reacting” each viable site in the <Input> substrate decamer by the <Input> reaction. The reactions considered were: sulfenilation, $SH \rightarrow SOH$; condensation, $SOH \rightarrow SS$; or sulfinitation, $SOH \rightarrow SO_2H$. As an example, we show how the sites of a particular substrate decamer ($SH_SH_SH_SOH_SH_SH_SOH_SOH_SOH_SOH$) are “reacted” by sulfenilation (**Figure S2 a**).

Step 2: Mirror symmetry

Each <Output> of step 1 becomes an <Input> for step 2. Each dimer of the <Input> decamer is reoriented such that left-hand site conforms to the priority rules: $SH > SOH > SS > SO_2H$. By way of example, this is illustrated for the last <Output> from step 1, with the reoriented sites highlighted in blue (**Figure S2 b**). We assume that there is no cooperativity between dimer sites and their adjacent dimers. Each <Input> of step 2 results in one <Output> (perhaps unchanged), which becomes an <Input> for step 3.

Step 3: Rotational and Planar symmetry

During step 3, several candidate decamers are generated from the <Input> decamer but only one is advanced as the <Output>. To generate these candidates, the <Input> decamer is “rotated” through each possible orientation (**Figure S2 c**, left-hand branch). Each of the generated candidate decamers is then scored by summing the scores of its constituent dimers according to

$$score = \sum_{n=1}^5 n \times 10^{dim_{rank}}, \quad (2)$$

where n is the position of the dimer in the decamer (left-to-right) and dim_{rank} a 1–9 priority rank of each dimer according to **Table S3**.

Next, candidates are generated based on planar symmetry (**Figure S2 c**, right-hand branch). The <Input> decamer is “flipped” and reoriented for mirror symmetry as in step 2, and after this, the decamer follows the same rotation and scoring procedure as above.

After completion of step 3, each <Input> produces up to 10 candidate decamers of which the highest scoring candidate is selected as <Output>. This scoring system ensures that all orientations of a decamer that can be considered identical by the various forms of symmetry will have the same <Output> species.

Table S3: The rank of dimers used for scoring candidate decamers. Note the lack of score for *SS_SS* as decamers were modelled as dissociating immediately after formation of a single disulphide-bridge.

dimer	Rank
<i>SH_SH</i>	1
<i>SH_SOH</i>	2
<i>SH_SS</i>	3
<i>SH_SO2H</i>	4
<i>SOH_SOH</i>	5
<i>SOH_SS</i>	6
<i>SOH_SO2H</i>	7
<i>SS_SO2H</i>	8
<i>SO2H_SO2H</i>	9

Step 4: Collate degeneracy

As <Inputs>, step 4 takes the complete list of <Outputs> from step 1 after they have been individually processed through steps 2 and 3. Next, the degeneracy of the resulting <Outputs> is collated so that final set contains the unique reactions from the original <Inputs> as well a record of the number of multiples of each unique reaction (**Figure S2 d**). Later, the number of multiples will be used as a statistical factor in the rate equations for the associated reaction.

Step 5: Recursion

Finally, the process is applied recursively for sulfenilation and sulfination reactions but not for condensation reactions. To achieve this, the species in the <Output> of step 4 are recursively fed back into the script until there are no more viable sites for any reaction <Input> (sulfenilation or sulfination) in step 1. The script of the condensation reaction is not run recursively since the decamers were modelled as dissociating immediately after formation of a single disulphide bridge. Instead, the dissociation reactions for these species are enumerated.

Rate and stoichiometric reactions

With the substrate and product pairs enumerated, we were able to generate stoichiometric and rate equations for each reaction of the Prx decamer. These equations were incorporated in *.psc model files and formalised into ordinary differential equations for simulation using the PySCeS software [10].

Running this script for sulfenilation, sulfination and condensation reactions resulted in a network of some 9990 reactions, which was computationally prohibitive. We repeated the process for the sulfenilation and condensation reactions only, which resulted in a set of 270 reactions. As elaborated on in the main text, no kinetics are available for the difference between the sulfination rate constants of dimer and decamer, and moreover, disulphide-bridge formation is likely the main driver of decamer dissociation. We thus assumed that the reduced reaction set encompassed the relevant reactions of the Prx decamer, while still allowing for computationally manageable simulations of our analyses. Sulfination reactions, the sulfinated forms of Prx, and their reduction by Srx were thus modelled only at the dimer level.

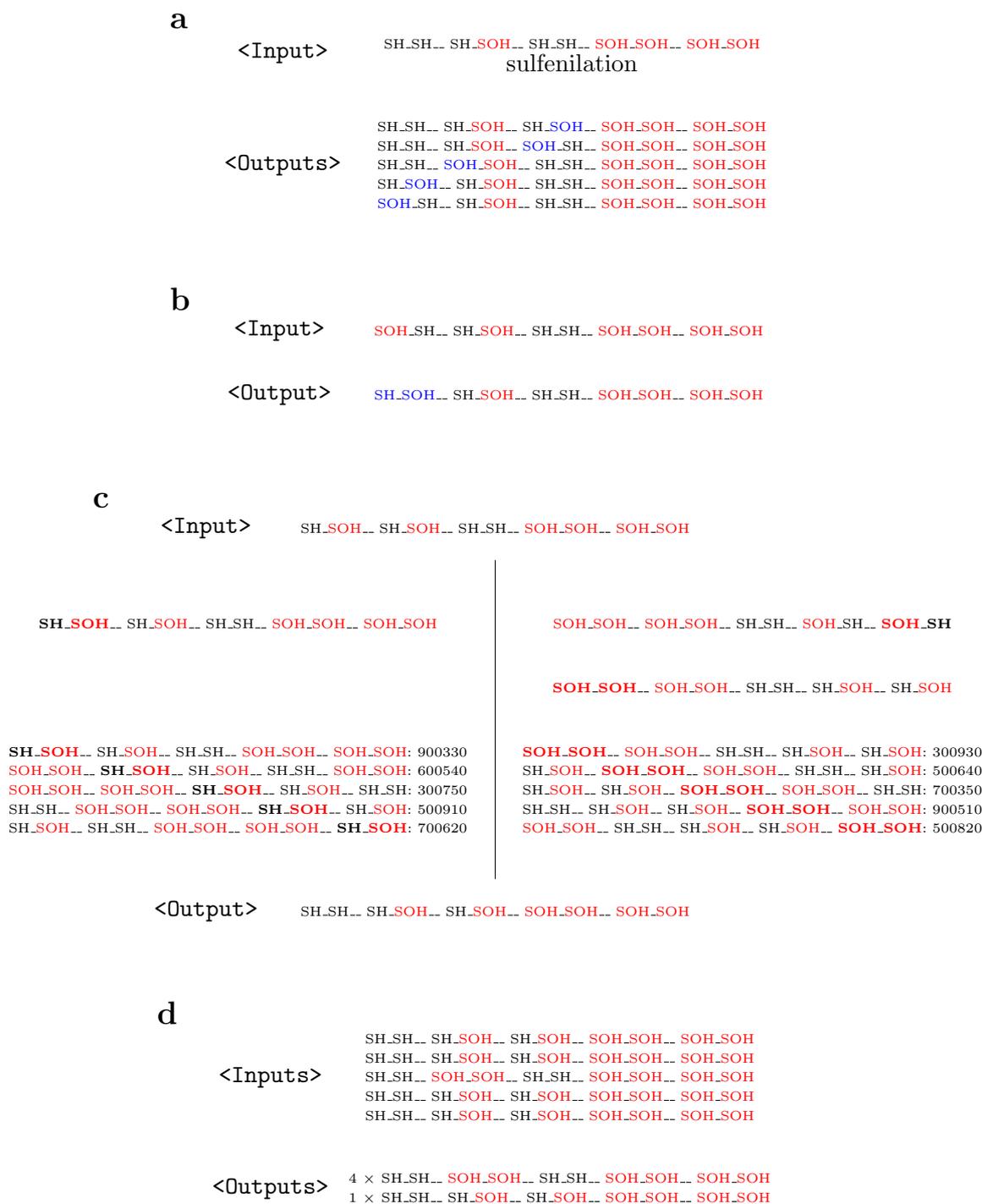


Figure S2: Example of the algorithm for enumerating the molecular states of decameric Prx. (a) Step 1, the SH sites in the substrate decamer are “reacted” to SOH (shown in blue). (b) Step 2, the “SOH_SH” dimer in the decamer is reoriented so that the left site follows the priority order of: $SH > SOH > SS > SO_2H$. (c) Step 3 left-hand side, the <Input> decamer is “rotated” through each possible orientation to generate 5 candidate decamers, each of which is scored by summing the scores of its constituent dimers. Right-hand side, the <Input> decamer is “flipped”, corrected for mirror symmetry as in (b), and then candidates are enumerated and scored as per the left-hand side. (d) Step 4, after processing by (b) and (c), the <Outputs> of (a) are collated for degeneracy.

4 Reproducing Benfeitas et al. 2014 analyses

Benfeitas and co-workers [1] published several model variants of the human PRDX2 system in the red blood cell together with analyses of the system. We used these models to compare the Prx system with and without Prx decamer association and dissociation in an *in vivo* context.

The code for a version of the RBC model of the PRDX2 system with an inhibitor (most closely corresponding to Model B in the original publication) was supplied in the supplementary material of [1]. We converted this model to the *.psc file format for use with the PySCeS software and renamed the species and reactions to maintain consistency with other models in this work. In order to replicate the analyses of “Model B” in [1], it was necessary to add a hydrogen peroxide bolus reaction. To replicate “Model A” in [1], the inhibition reactions in “Model B” were disabled. Finally, we created “Model A with decamerisation” by augmenting “Model A” with the decamerisation reactions determined by the algorithm described in **Figure S2** as well as the parameters summarised in **Table S2**.

We reproduce here several of the analyses in Benfeitas et al. [1], which compared “Model A” and “Model B” and included our “Model A with decamerisation”. The first point to note is that Figures 4–7 in [1] are nearly perfectly replicated in **Figure S3–Figure S6**, respectively, which validates our implementation of the original model code. The only exception, and one we are unable to explain, was GSH potential following a hydrogen peroxide pulse (**Figure S5 b**) where our simulations followed the same trend as the original publication but had different numerical values. Second, the results of our Model A with decamerisation most often agreed with the original Model A. A notable exception is the oxidation state of the Prx dimers (**Figure 6** in the main paper, as well as **Figure S3 b** and **d**), where Model A with decamerisation agrees more closely with Model B. The dimer oxidation state is the most important experimental observation against which the original model was validated, and this is the basis for our conclusion that Prx decamerisation can explain the inhibitory effect, which was included in Model B with an inhibited form for which there is no direct experimental evidence (see also **Section 3.7** and **Discussion** in the main paper).

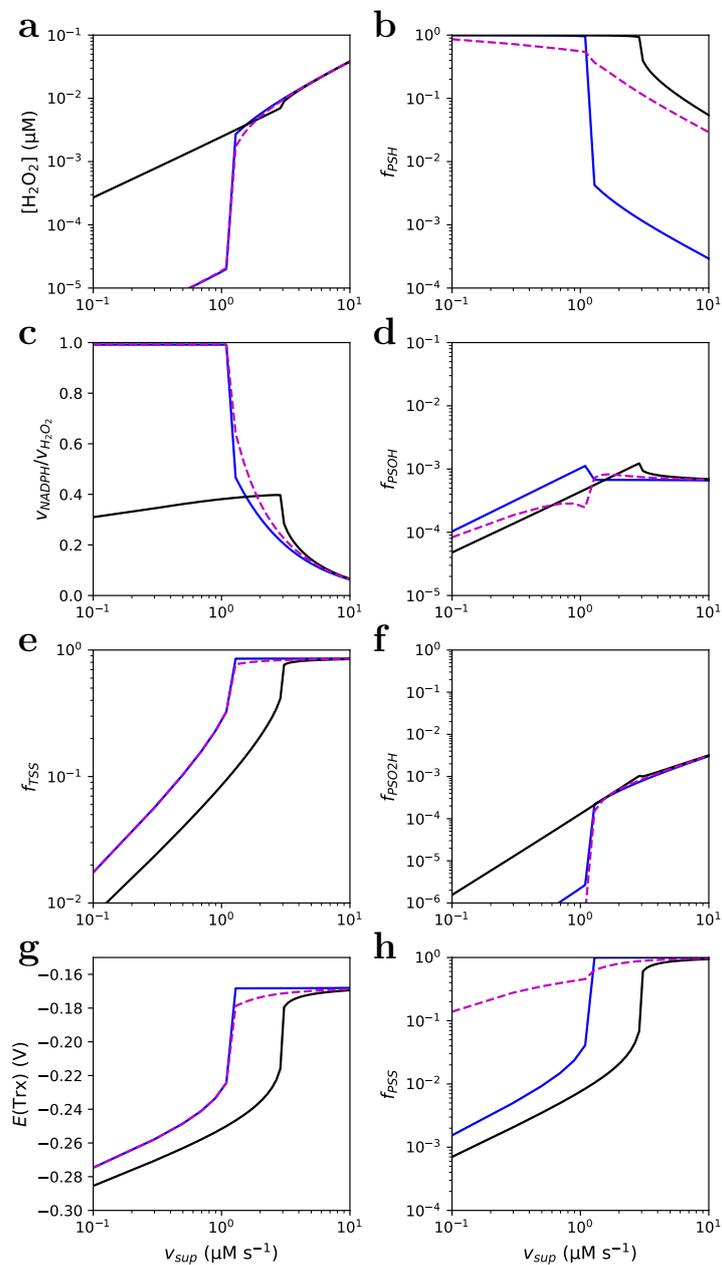


Figure S3: Reproduction of Figure 4 in [1]: Steady-state responses of alternative model designs of the Prx2 redox cycle in hydrogen peroxide metabolism to changes in H_2O_2 supply. (—) Model A; (—) Model B; (- -) Model A with decamerisation.

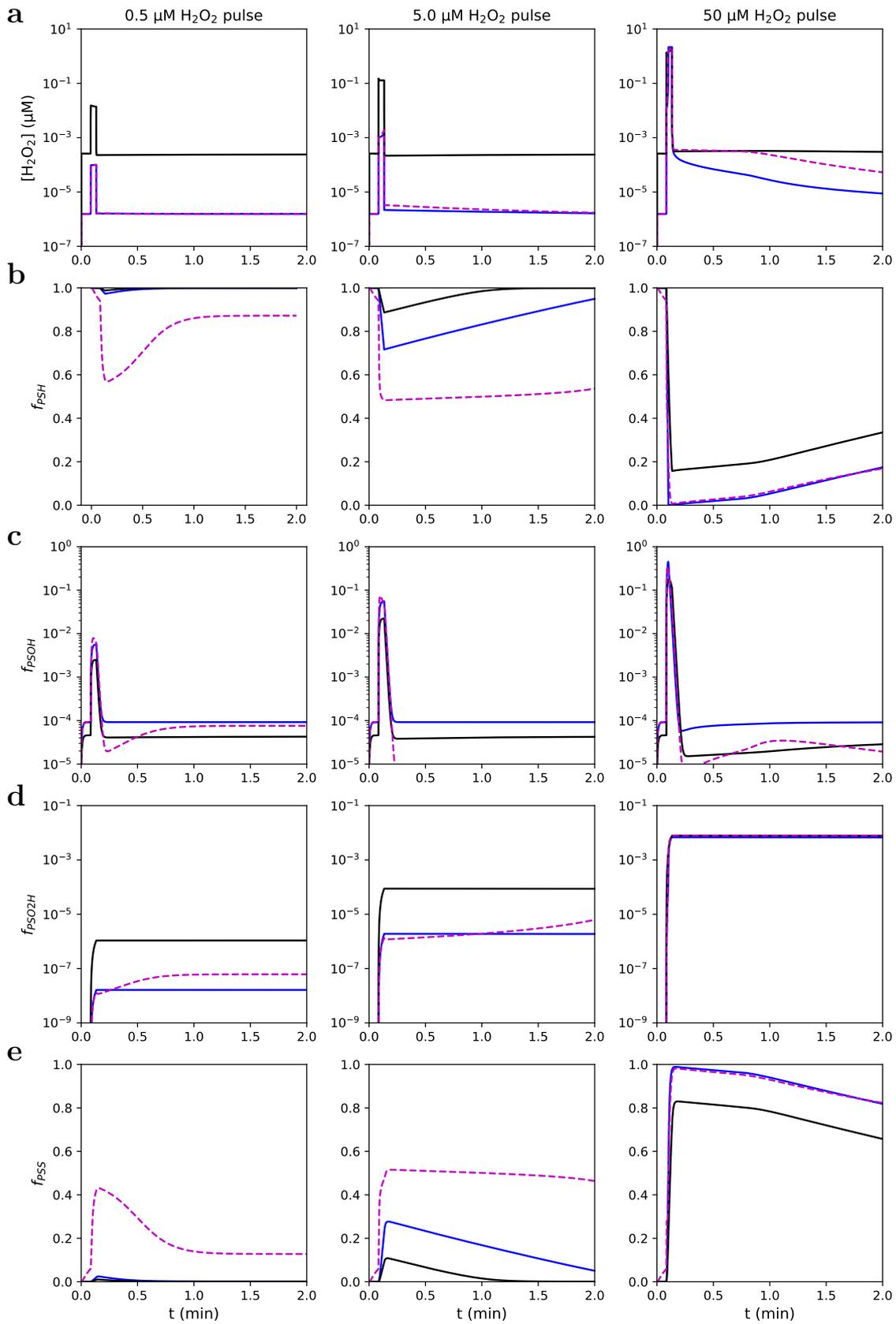


Figure S4: Reproduction of Figure 5 in [1]: Responses of intracellular hydrogen peroxide concentration and PRDX2 oxidation states to 3 s extracellular H_2O_2 pulses. (—) Model A; (—) Model B; (- -) Model A with decamerisation.

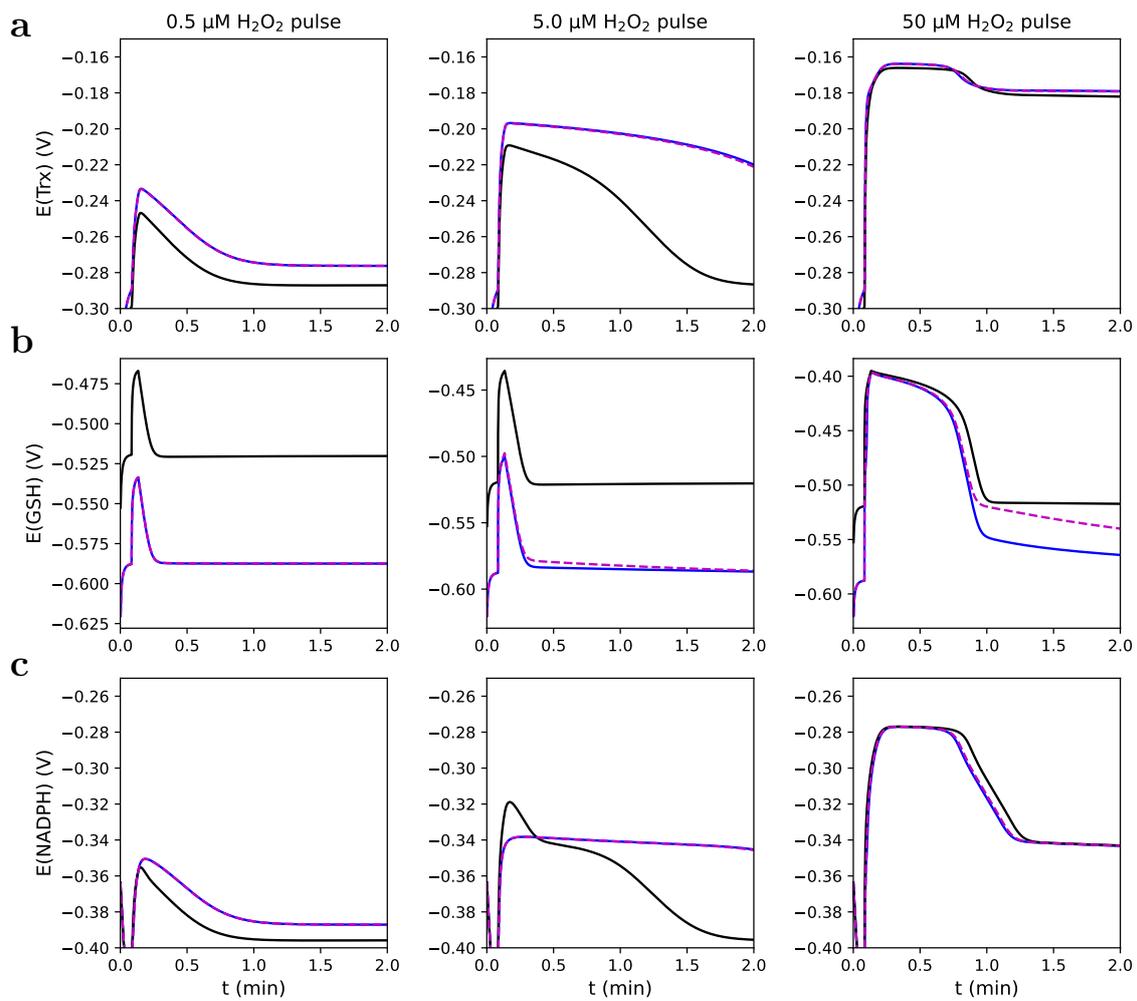


Figure S5: Reproduction of Figure 6 in in [1]: Responses of the potentials of redox pools to 3 s extracellular H_2O_2 pulses. (—) Model A; (—) Model B; (- -) Model A with decamerisation.

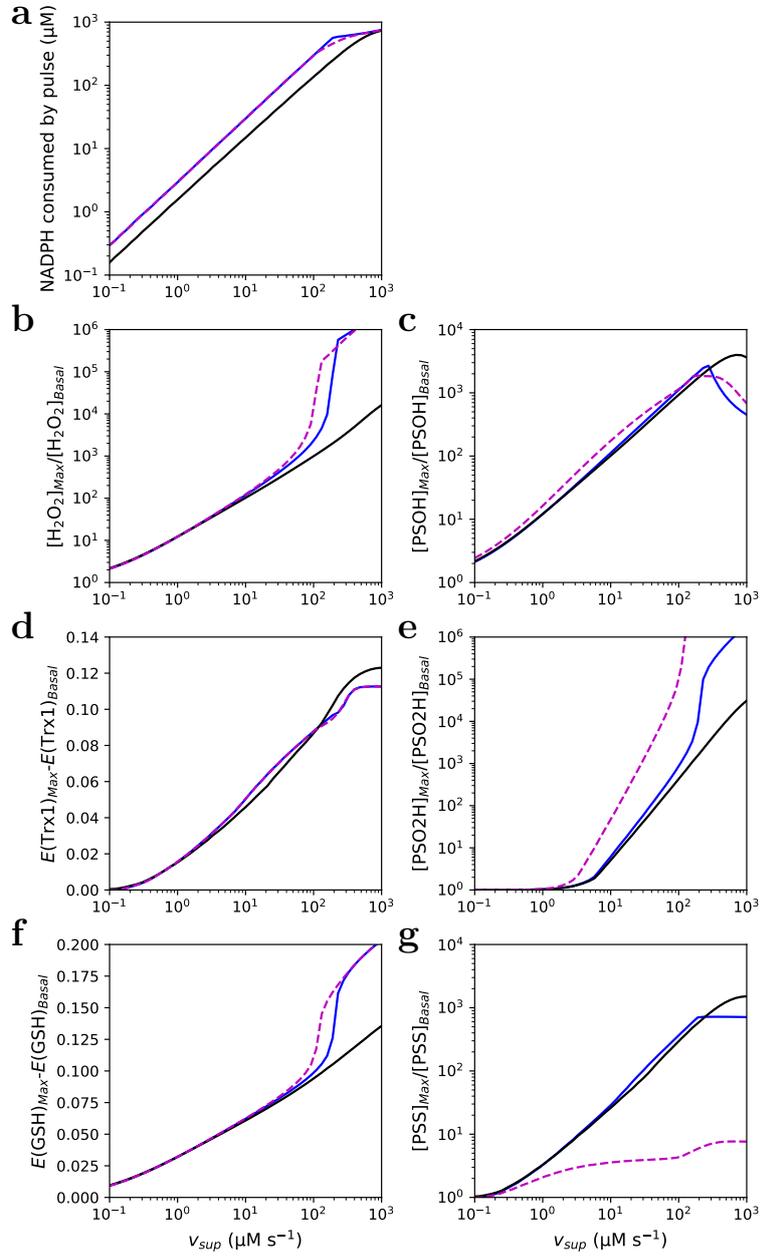


Figure S6: Reproduction of Figure 7 in [1]: Responses of intracellular variables as a function of the amplitude of a 3 s H_2O_2 supply pulse. (—) Model A; (—) Model B; (- -) Model A with decamerisation.

5 Time to equilibrium after dilution of PRDX1

Diluting a solution of Prx lowers the concentration and thereby causes Prx decamers to dissociate into dimers. Using simulations with our determined rate constants for the Prx decamer-dimer transition, we show that the time to reach equilibrium increases for greater dilution factors and is inversely related to the original solution concentration (**Figure S7**).

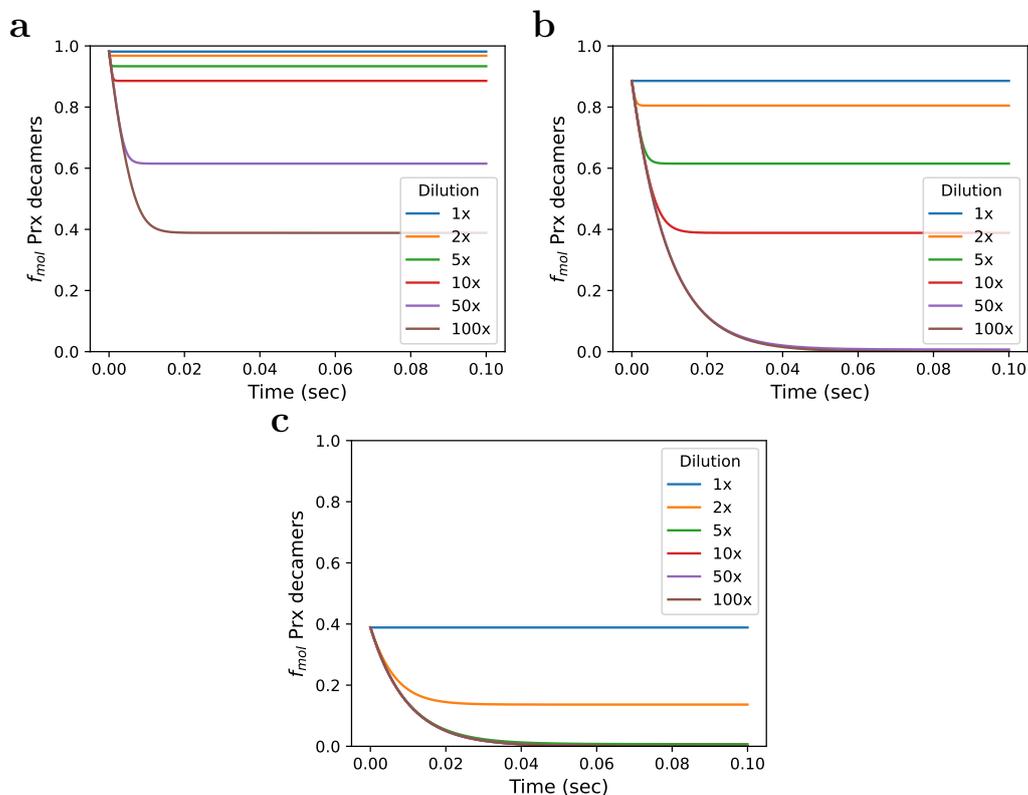


Figure S7: The time for Prx to reach equilibrium following dilution of (a) 100 μ M, (b) 10 μ M, (c) 1 μ M solutions. The dilution factor (fold-dilution) is indicated by the colours in the key.

References

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