

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Protein crystal structures with ferrocene and ruthenocene-based enzyme inhibitors

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#### Materials and Methods

##### Production of recombinant human carbonic anhydrase (CA) II

Human recombinant CA II was expressed in *Escherichia coli* BL21(DE3) using the plasmid pACA-I (kindly provided by Prof Carol Fierke) and an in-house implementation of the auto-induction method<sup>1</sup>. After cell lysis, soluble protein was purified by anion exchange chromatography with Q-Sepharose resin. Protein quality was checked by SDS-PAGE throughout.

##### Crystallisation

The concentrated protein (18 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was subjected to co-crystallisation with ligands by the hanging drop vapour diffusion method, using a selection of ammonium sulfate containing conditions from our in-house factorial collection (2.6 or 2.9 M (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and 0.1 M MES pH 6.5 or 0.1 M glycine pH 9.5). Crystallisation droplets consisted of 3 µL protein, 2 µL reservoir and 1 µL ligand solution (60 mM in MeOH). Monoclinic crystals appeared after 1-2 weeks.

##### Protein X-ray crystallography

X-ray diffraction data were obtained under cryo conditions at the Australian Synchrotron beam line MX1 equipped with a Quantum ADSC CCD detector. Data were processed with MOSFLM<sup>2</sup> and SCALA from the CCP4 suite<sup>3</sup>. Crystal structures were determined using the isomorphous structure of native human CA II. Ligand constraints for cyclopentadienyl-substituted triazole benzenesulfonamides were obtained by PRODRG and manually edited to obtain the full

metallocene containing ligand topologies, guided by parameters obtained from small molecule structures (ferrocene: Fe-C distances 2.05 Å, staggered conformation of Cp rings; ruthenocene: Ru-C distances 2.29 Å, eclipsed conformation of Cp rings). Computational refinement of the ligand-bound crystal structures was carried out with CNS<sup>4</sup> or REFMAC<sup>5</sup>, interspersed with visual inspection and manual model building with O<sup>6</sup> and Coot<sup>7</sup>. The geometry of refined structures was evaluated with PROCHECK<sup>8</sup>.

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

Crystal	CA II:1	CA II:2	CA II:3	CA II:4
<b>Data collection</b>				
X-ray source	AS MX1	AS MX1	AS MX1	AS MX1
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub>
Cell dimensions: <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å); β (°)	42.4, 41.6, 72.2; 104.6	42.5, 41.6, 72.2; 104.8	42.5, 41.6, 72.3; 104.6	42.5, 41.6, 72.5; 104.9
Wavelength (Å)	1.509	0.9568	1.509	0.9568
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.5	2.2	1.6
<i>R</i> <sub>sym</sub>	0.078 (0.157)	0.059 (0.174)	0.077 (0.258)	0.069 (0.256)
Completeness	0.946 (0.924)	0.996 (0.985)	0.988 (0.954)	0.991 (0.943)
Redundancy	3.8 (3.8)	4.0 (3.9)	3.5 (3.3)	7.1 (5.7)
<b>Refinement</b>				
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.5	2.2	1.6
No. reflections: work / test	15173 / 780	37150 / 1969	11774 / 630	28932 / 1596
<i>R</i> <sub>work</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>free</sub>	0.187 (0.217) / 0.223 (0.235)	0.176 (0.192) / 0.201 (0.220)	0.186 (0.204) / 0.241 (0.275)	0.193 (0.214) / 0.203 (0.223)
No. atoms				
Protein	2049	2059	2049	2049
Ion	1 (Zn <sup>2+</sup> )	1 (Zn <sup>2+</sup> )	1 (Zn <sup>2+</sup> )	1 (Zn <sup>2+</sup> )
Ligand	26 (1), 12 (2x glycerol)	26 (2), 6 (glycerol)	26 (3), 12 (2x glycerol)	26 (4), 6 (glycerol)
Water	172	369	122	191
Average B-factors				
Protein (Å <sup>2</sup> )	16.3	5.57	23.8	15.0
Ion (Å <sup>2</sup> )	11.1	2.00	15.0	8.27
Ligand (Å <sup>2</sup> )	22.0 (1), 25.7 (glycerol)	12.7 (2), 10.3 (glycerol)	45.5 (3), 32.5 (glycerol)	24.4 (4), 23.3 (glycerol)
Water (Å <sup>2</sup> )	29.1	19.3	33.9	25.5
R.m.s deviations				
bond lengths (Å)	0.005	0.011	0.005	0.005
bond angles (°)	1.403	1.251	1.410	1.420
B-factor for bonded protein atoms	2.72	1.23	3.11	2.35
B-factor for bonded ligand atoms	2.11 (1), 3.24 (glycerol)	2.54 (2), 2.42 (glycerol)	4.56 (3), 4.93 (glycerol)	2.61 (4), 3.35 (glycerol)
Ramachandran plot <sup>a</sup>	0.870, 0.120, 0.009, 0.0	0.889, 0.106, 0.005, 0.0	0.880, 0.111, 0.009, 0.0	0.894, 0.106, 0.0, 0.0

Datasets were obtained from one crystal each. Values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell. Coordinates and structure factors have been deposited with the PDB accession codes: 3P55 (CA II:1), 3P3H (CA II:2), 3P44 (CA II:3) and 3P3J (CA II:4).

<sup>a</sup>Residues in most favoured regions, additional allowed regions, generously allowed regions, disallowed regions.

## References

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