

## Supplementary Information

### **Synthetic engineering of a new biocatalyst encapsulating [NiFe]- hydrogenases for enhanced hydrogen production**

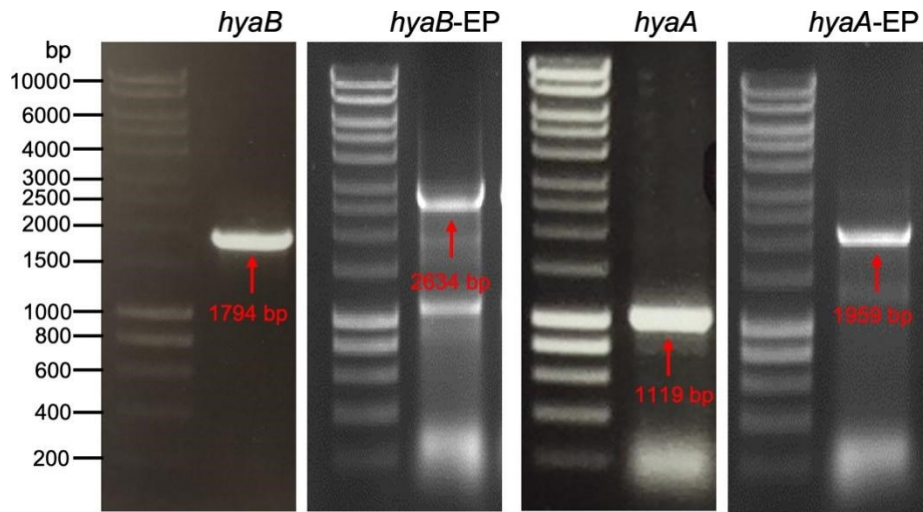
Qiuyao Jiang<sup>a</sup>, Tianpei Li<sup>a,b</sup>, Jing Yang<sup>a,c</sup>, Catherine M. Aitchison<sup>c</sup>, Jiafeng Huang<sup>a</sup>, Yu Chen<sup>a</sup>, Fang  
Huang<sup>a</sup>, Qiang Wang<sup>b</sup>, Andrew I. Cooper<sup>c</sup>, and Lu-Ning Liu<sup>a,d\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Systems, Molecular and Integrative Biology, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69  
7ZB, United Kingdom. Email: luning.liu@liverpool.ac.uk.

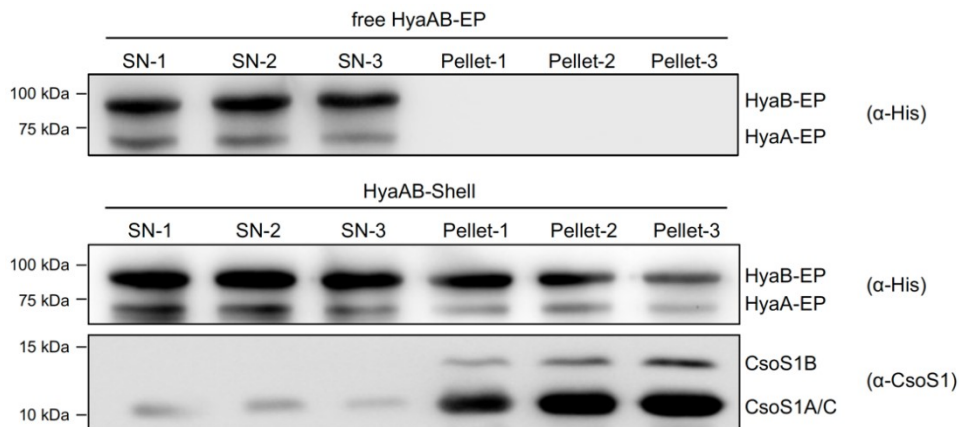
<sup>b</sup> State Key Laboratory of Crop Stress Adaptation and Improvement, School of Life Sciences,  
Henan University, Kaifeng 475004, China.

<sup>c</sup> Materials Innovation Factory and Department of Chemistry, University of Liverpool, Liverpool  
L7 3NY, United Kingdom.

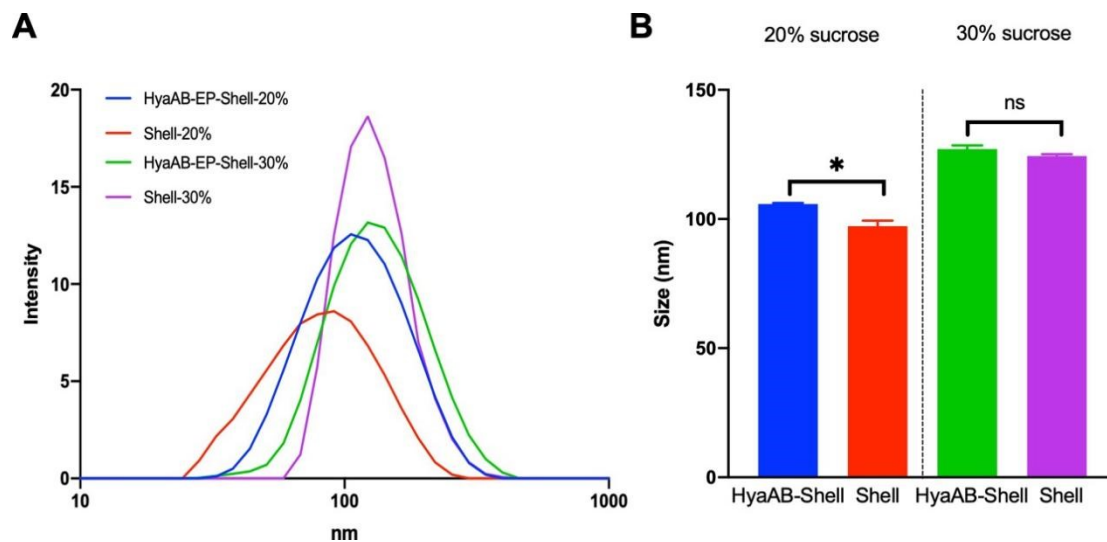
<sup>d</sup> College of Marine Life Sciences, and Frontiers Science Center for Deep Ocean Multispheres and  
Earth System, Ocean University of China, Qingdao 266003, China.



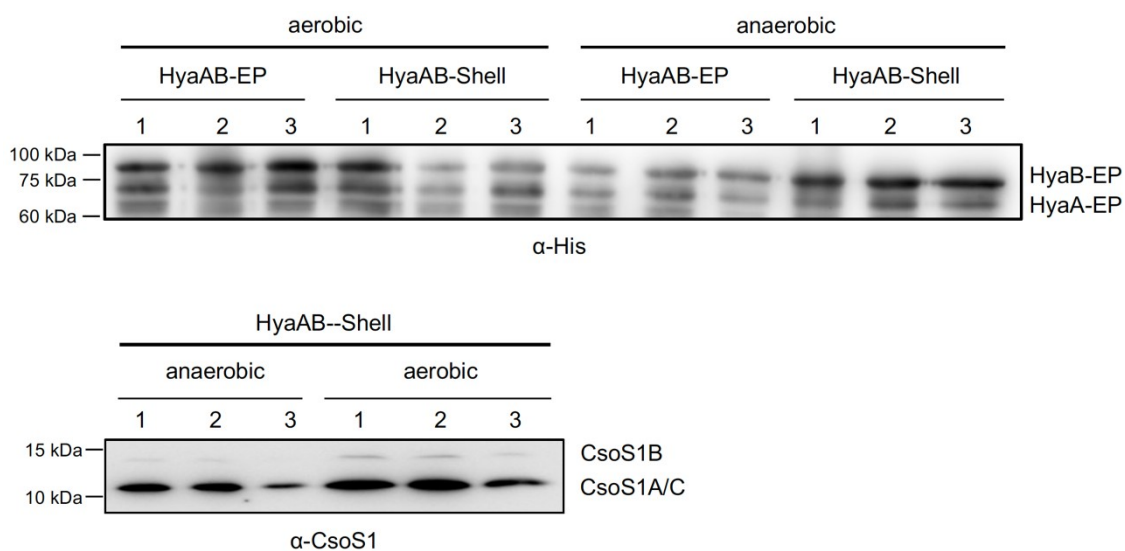
**Supplementary Figure 1. Construction of the vectors expressing EcHyd-1, verified by PCR (*hyaA*, *hyaB*, *hyaA-EP*, *hyaB-EP*).**



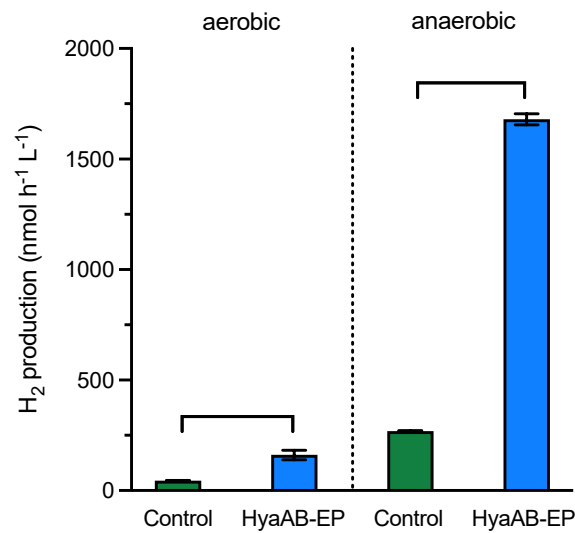
**Supplementary Figure 2. Encapsulation of HyaAB with recombinant  $\alpha$ -carboxysome shells.** Immunoblot analysis of the supernatants and pellets of cell extracts after 50,000 x g centrifugation from *E. coli* strains producing HyaAB-EP alone or co-expressing HyaAB-EP with  $\alpha$ -carboxysome shells (with three biological repeats), using anti-His and anti-CsoS1 antibodies, respectively.



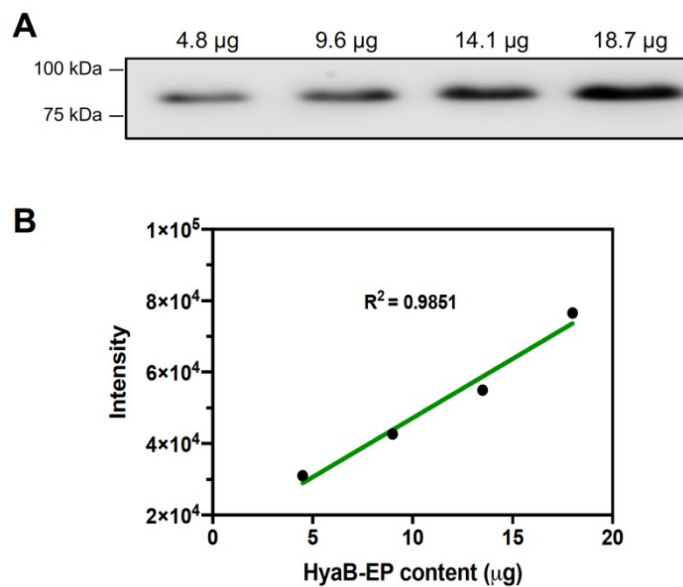
**Supplementary Figure 3. Comparison of the sizes of HyaAB-Shell assemblies and empty shells.** (A) Diameters of  $\alpha$ -carboxysome shells and HyaAB-Shell assemblies in the 20% and 30% sucrose fractions after sucrose gradient centrifugation, measured by Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS). (B) Average diameters of HyaAB-Shell catalysts and empty shells in the 20% and 30% sucrose fractions measured by DLS. Values represent mean  $\pm$  standard deviation,  $n = 3$  biologically independent experiments. *ns*, non-significant difference. \*  $p = 0.02$ , two-tailed unpaired t-test.



**Supplementary Figure 4. Immunoblot analysis of HyaAB-Shell and unencapsulated HyaAB.** Heterologously expressed *EcHyd-1* and  $\alpha$ -carboxysome shell proteins were determined using anti-6xHis-tag and anti-CsoS1A/C/B antibodies.



**Supplementary Figure 5.** *In vivo* hydrogen production of wild-type *E. coli* BL21(DE3) and *E. coli* cells expressing free HyaAB-EP after 16-hour induction under aerobic (left) and anaerobic (right) conditions. \*\*\*,  $p = 0.001$ , \*\*\*\*,  $p < 0.0001$ , two-tailed unpaired t-test. Error bars represent the standard deviation of the mean of three biological replicates.



**Supplementary Figure 6.** A linear correlation was observed between the quantitation of HyaB-EP by BCA protein assay kit and densitometric quantitation from immunoblot analysis. (A) Immunoblot analysis of free HyaB-EP using an anti-His antibody. Isolated free HyaB-EP at various protein concentrations were loaded onto SDS-PAGE gels for quantification by immunoblot analysis. (B) The linear relationship between HyaB-EP content quantified by BCA protein assay and immunoblot analysis based on three biologically independent experiments. Densitometric quantitation of HyaB-EP levels was determined by using ImageJ.

**Supplementary Table 1. Primers used in this study.** Overlap sequences for Gibson Assembly are underlined.

Primers	Nucleotide sequences	Note
pCDF-HyaB-FW	<u>CCATCACCATCATCACCACAGCCAGAGCACTCAGTACGAAACT</u>	amplification of <i>hyaB</i> (plasmid pCDF-HyaB)
pCDF-HyaB-RV	<u>TCGACTTAAGCATTATGCGGCCGATTAACGCACCTGCACGGAGATCAG</u> C	
pCDF-HyaA-FW	<u>GTTAAGTATAAGAAGGAGATATACACATCACCATCATCACCACATGAAT</u> AACGAGGAAACA	amplification of <i>hyaA</i> (plasmid pCDF-HyaAB)
pCDF-HyaA-RV	<u>CGCAGCAGCGGTTTCTTTACCAGACTCATGCCTGTTTATCCTC</u>	
pCDF-HyaB-EP-FW	<u>CCATCACCATCATCACCACAGCCAGAGCACTCAGTACGAAACT</u>	amplification of <i>hyaB</i> (plasmid pCDF-HyaB-EP)
pCDF-HyaB-EP-RV	ACGCACCTGCACGGAGATCAGCTCG	
pCDF-HyaB-EP-FW	<u>CGAGCTGATCTCCGTGCAGGTGCGTACGAGCACCCCAGAGCCC</u>	amplification of <i>csoS2</i> - Cterm (plasmid pCDF- HyaB-EP)
pCDF-HyaB-EP-RV	<u>AGCATTATGCGGCCGCAAGCTTCAACCGCGCGCGCCGCC</u>	
pCDF-HyaA-FW	<u>GTTAAGTATAAGAAGGAGATATACACATCACCATCATCACCACATGAAT</u> AACGAGGAAACA	amplification of <i>hyaA</i> (plasmid pCDF-HyaAB- EP)
pCDF-HyaA-RV	ACCCATTTGCGGAATATCGACCACG	
pCDF-HyaA-EP-FW	<u>CGTGGTCGATATTCCGCAAATGGGTACGAGCACCCCAGAGCCC</u>	amplification of <i>csoS2</i> - Cterm (plasmid pCDF- HyaB-EP)
pCDF-HyaA-EP-RV	<u>CGCAGCAGCGGTTTCTTTACCAGACTCGATCAACCGCGCGCGCCGCC</u>	
HyaB-seq-FW	GGATCTCGACGCTCTCCCT	Sequencing primers for pCDF-HyaB/pCDF-HyaB- EP
HyaB-seq-RV	CGATTATGCGGCCGTGTACAA	
HyaA-seq-FW	TTGTACACGGCCGATAATC	Sequencing primers for pCDF-HyaAB/pCDF- HyaAB-EP
HyaA-seq-RV	GCTAGTTATTGCTCAGCGG	