

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

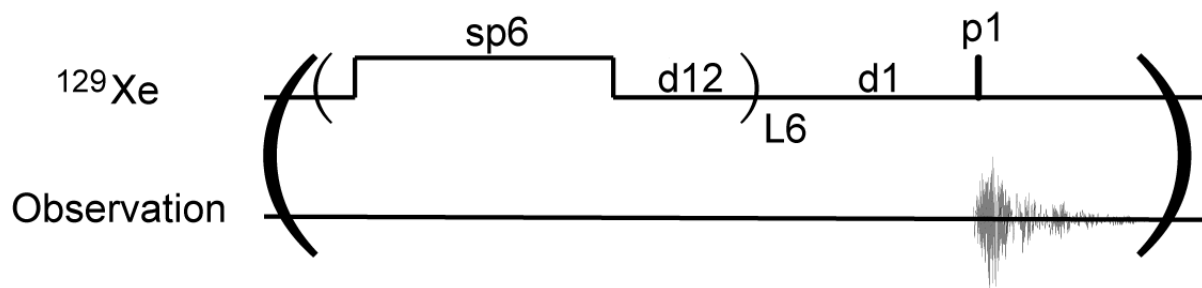
Bacterial spore detection and analysis using hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$   
chemical exchange saturation transfer (Hyper-CEST) NMR

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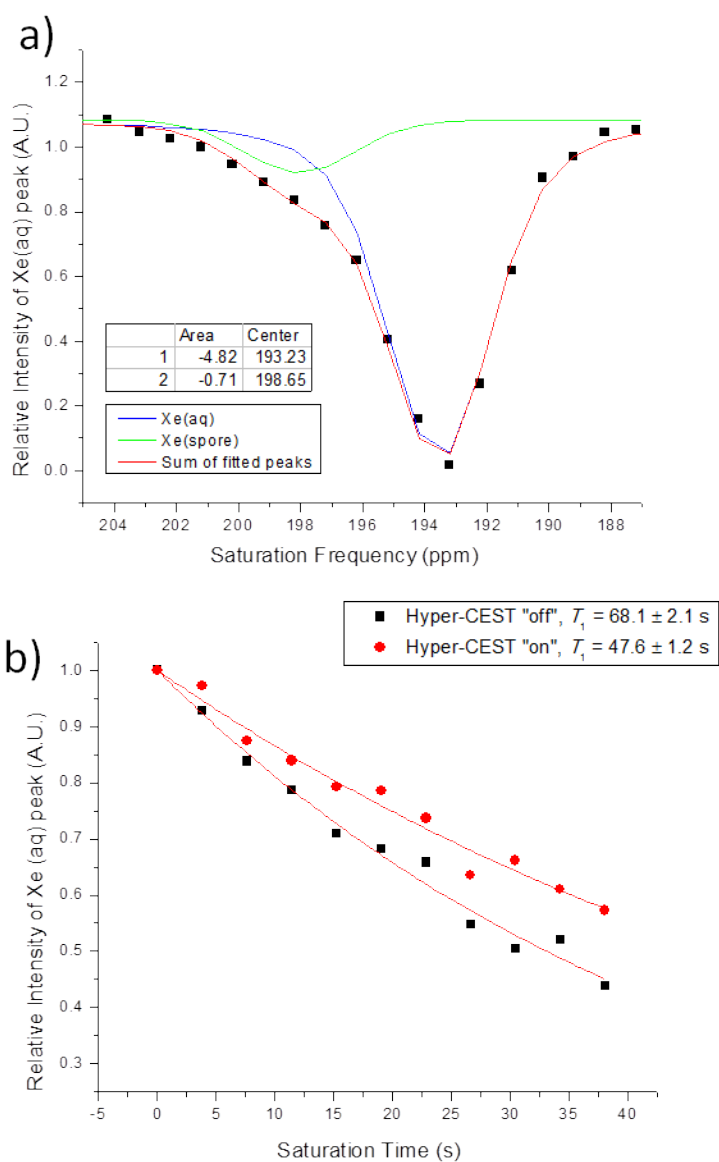
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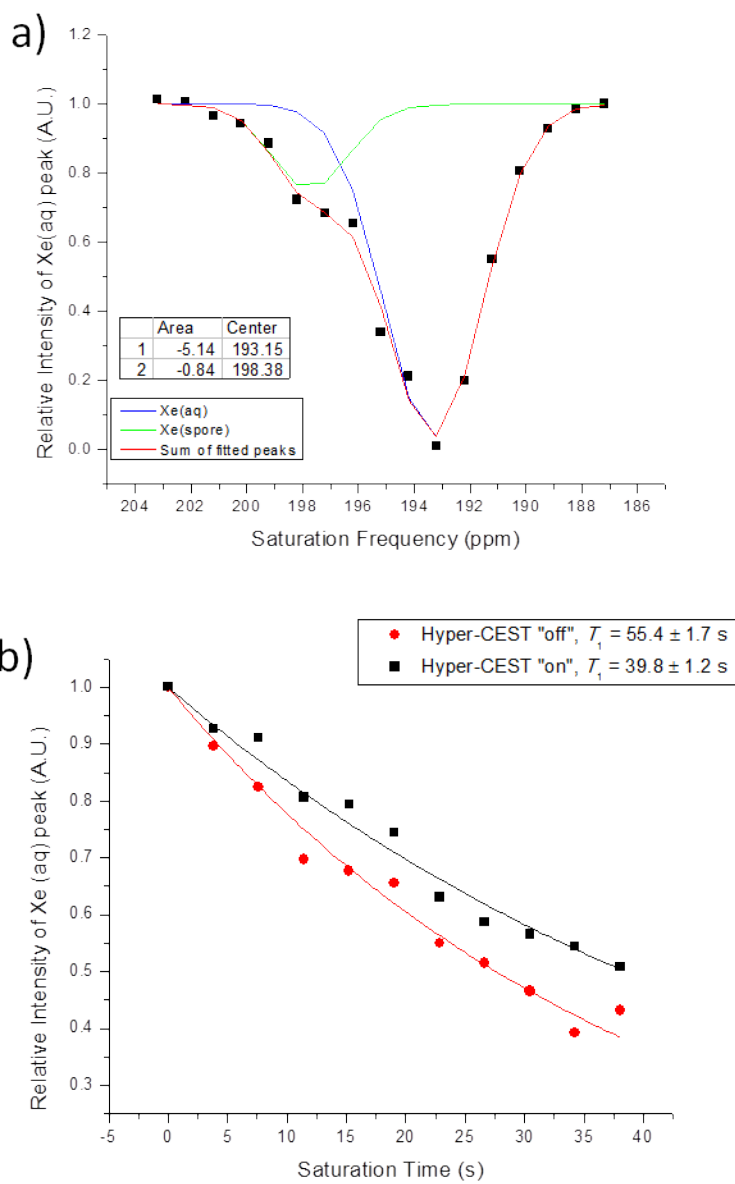
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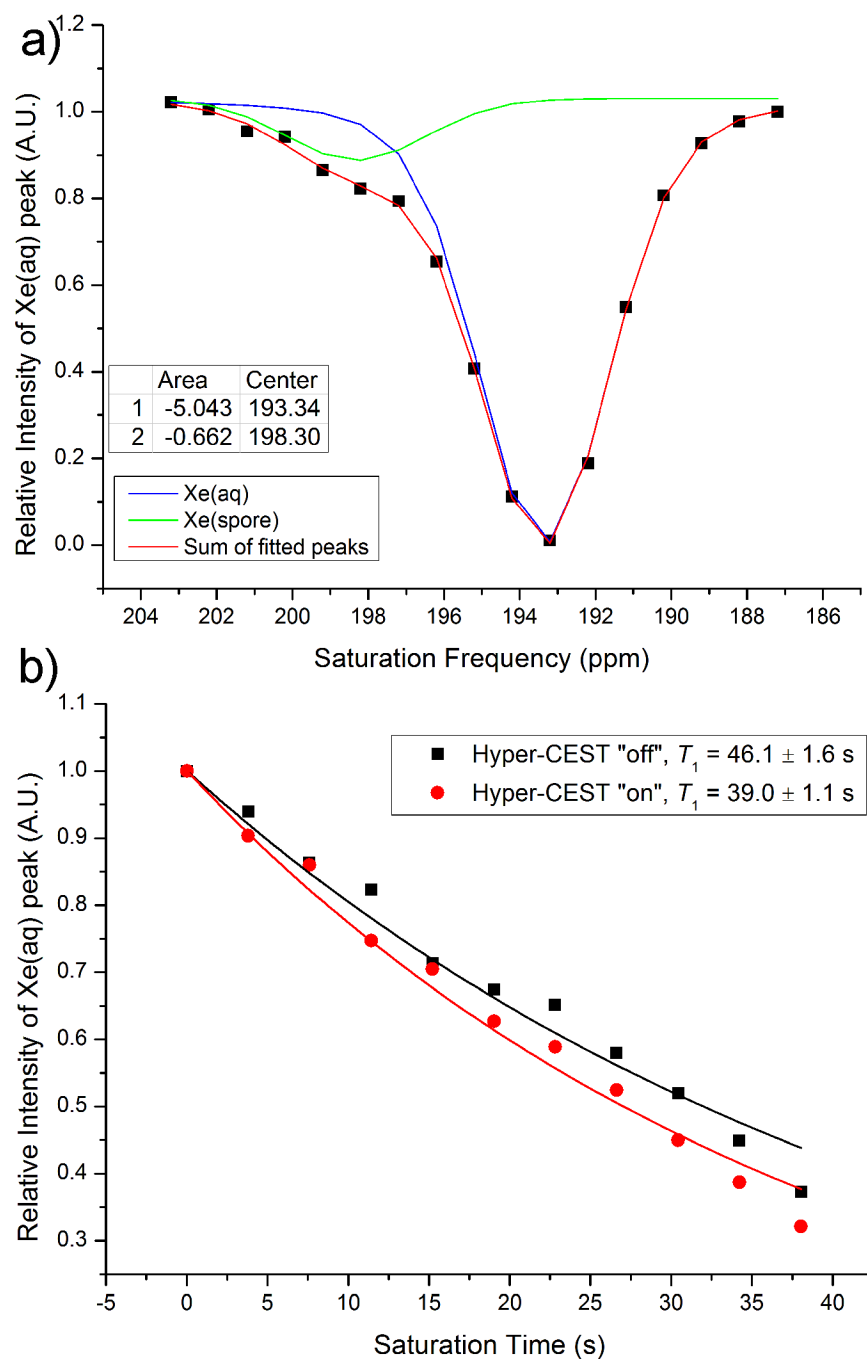
**Figure S1.**  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  Hyper-CEST pulse sequence. Components of the pulse sequence include: sp6, 180-degree saturation pulse (DSnob shaped) tuned at pre-selected frequencies, 0.8 - 2.6 ms; d12, delay between saturation pulses, 0.02 - 20 ms; d1, delay before 90-degree excitation pulse, 0.5 - 1.5 s; p1, 90-degree excitation pulse, 26 ms; L6, number of saturation cycles, 0 – 2000. For Hyper-CEST profile experiments, sp6 frequency is systematically changed; for depolarization rate experiments, L6 is increased in fixed step widths in each experiment.



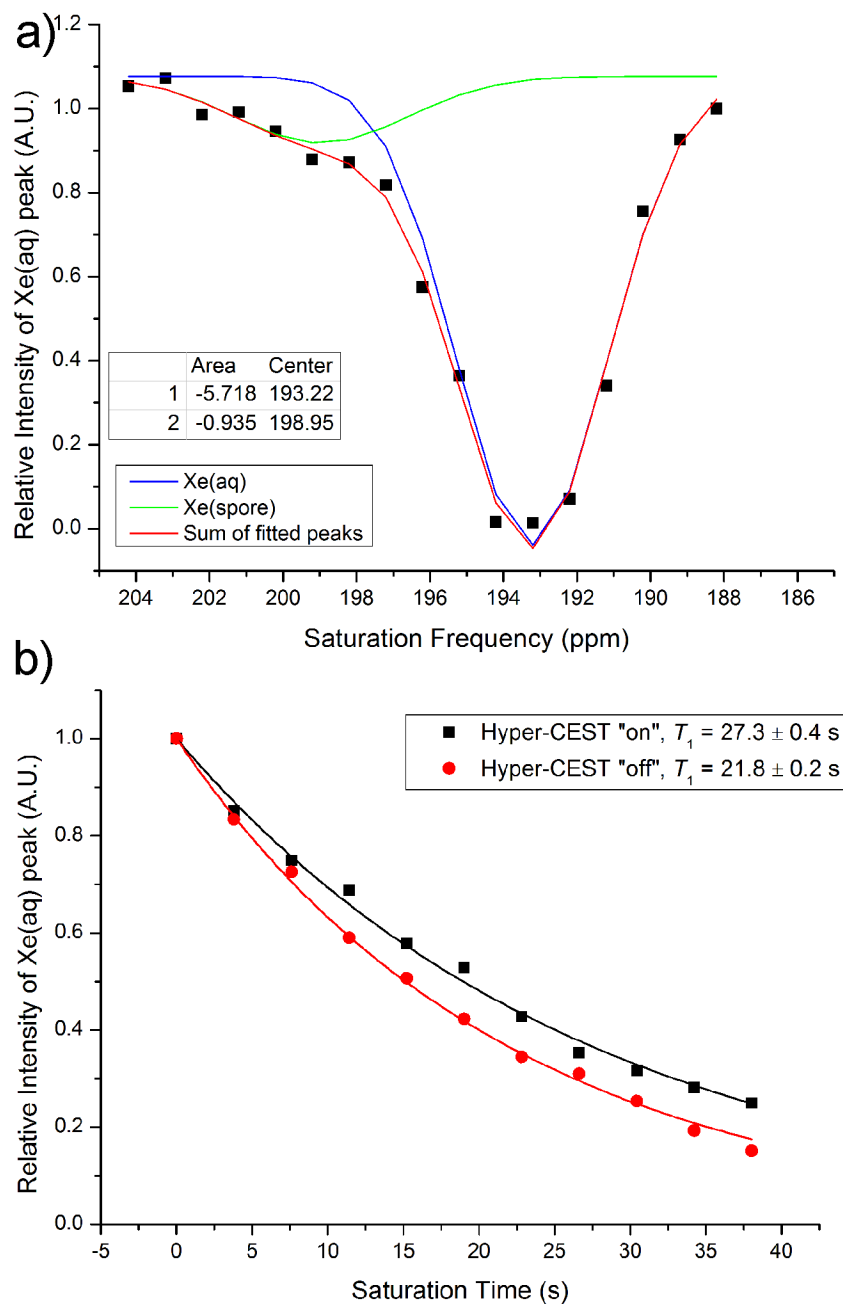
**Figure S2.** (a) Hyper-CEST profile of *B. anthracis* Sterne-JAB-13 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL with 300 pulse cycles for saturation exchange; (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of the same spore sample as in (a).



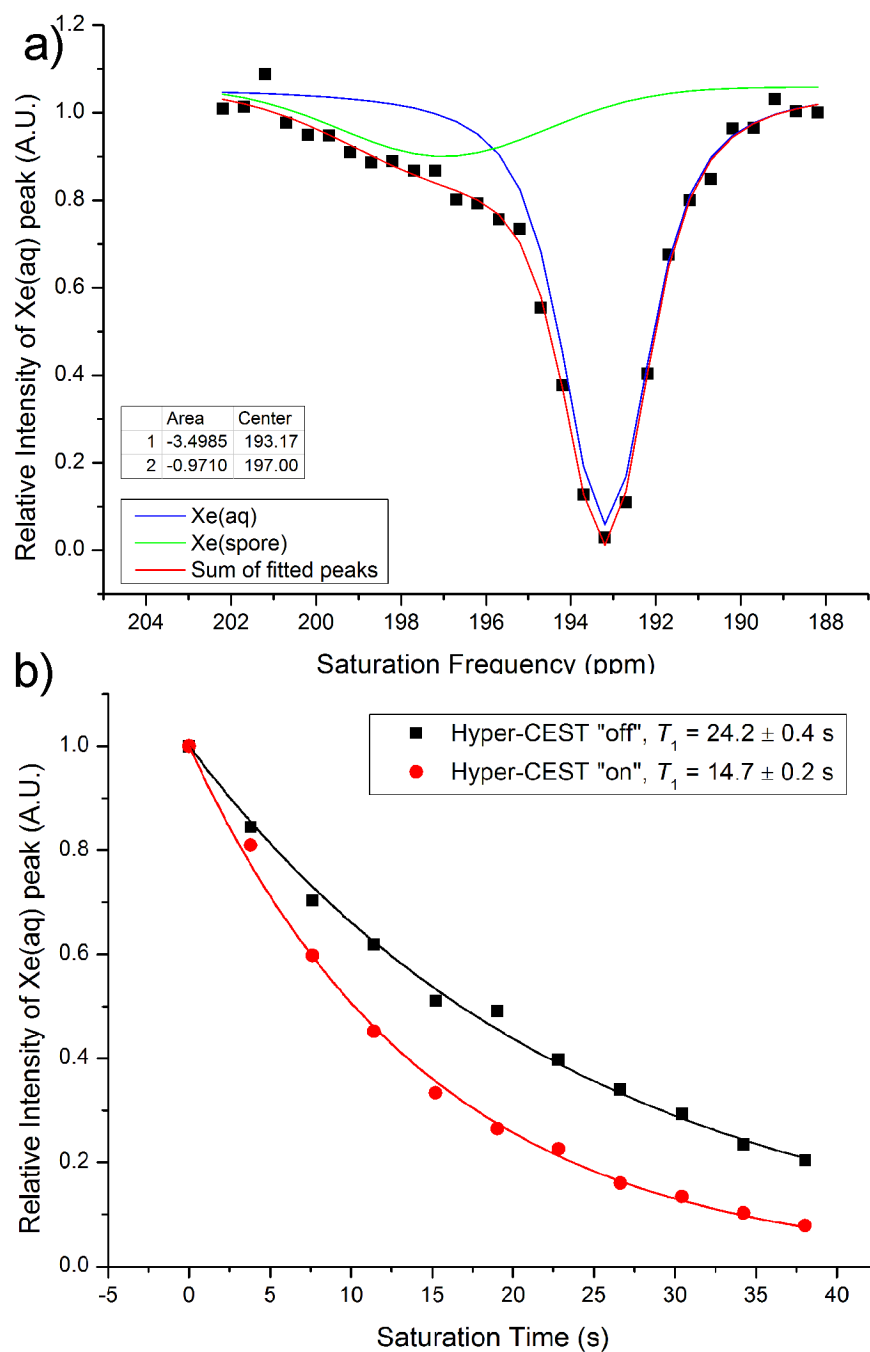
**Figure S3.** (a) Hyper-CEST profile of *B. anthracis* RG56 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL with 300 pulse cycles for saturation exchange; (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. anthracis* RG56 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL.



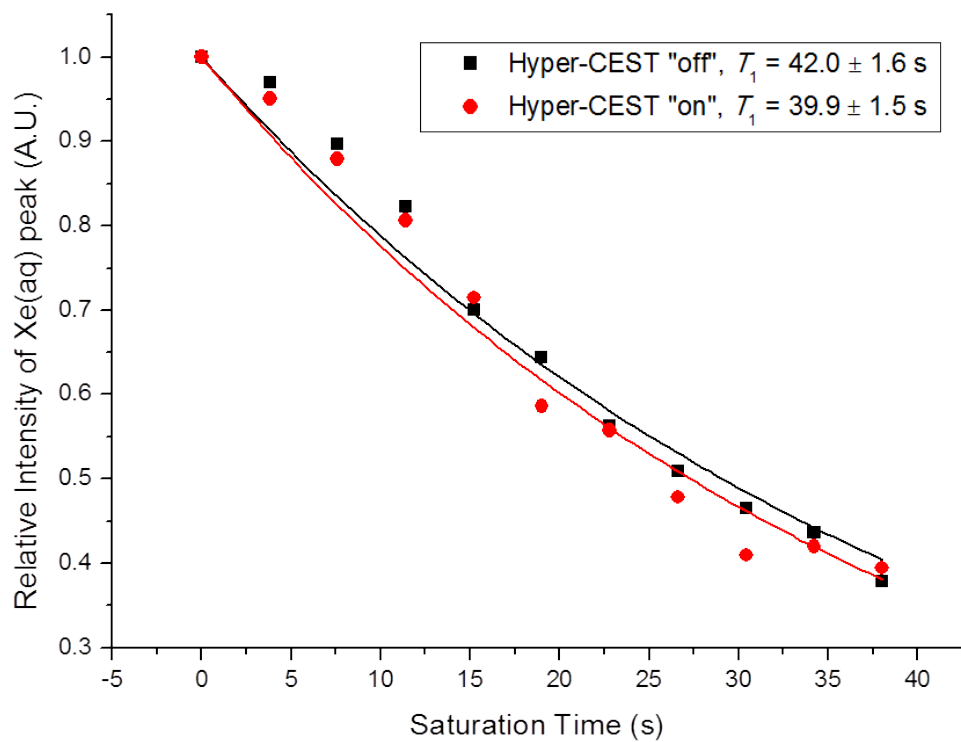
**Figure S4.** (a) Hyper-CEST profile of *B. subtilis* PY79 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL with 200 pulse cycles for saturation exchange; (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. subtilis* PY79 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL.



**Figure S5.** (a) Hyper-CEST profile of *B. subtilis* AD28 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL with 200 pulse cycles for saturation exchange; (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. subtilis* AD28 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL.

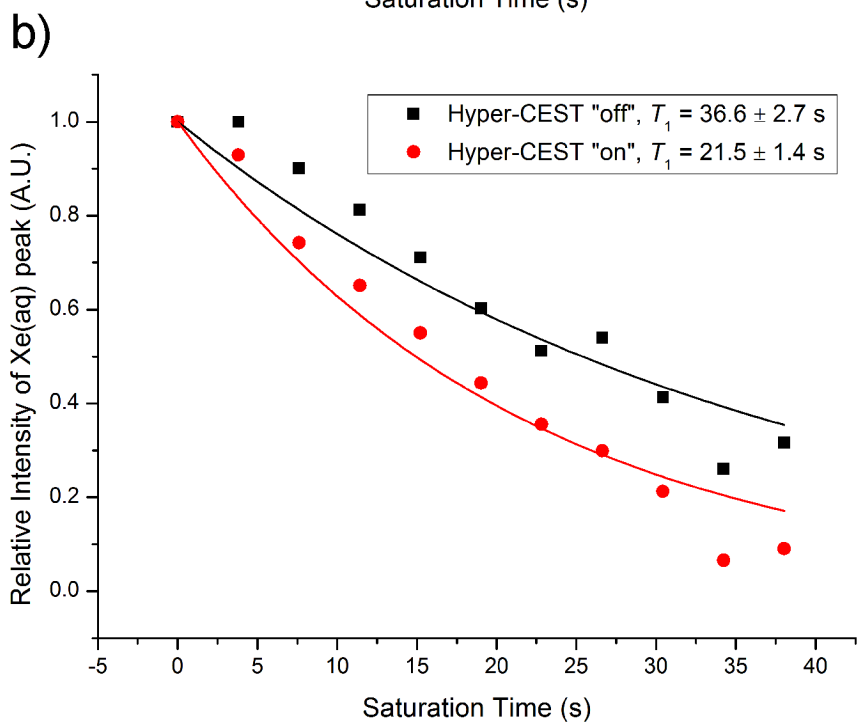
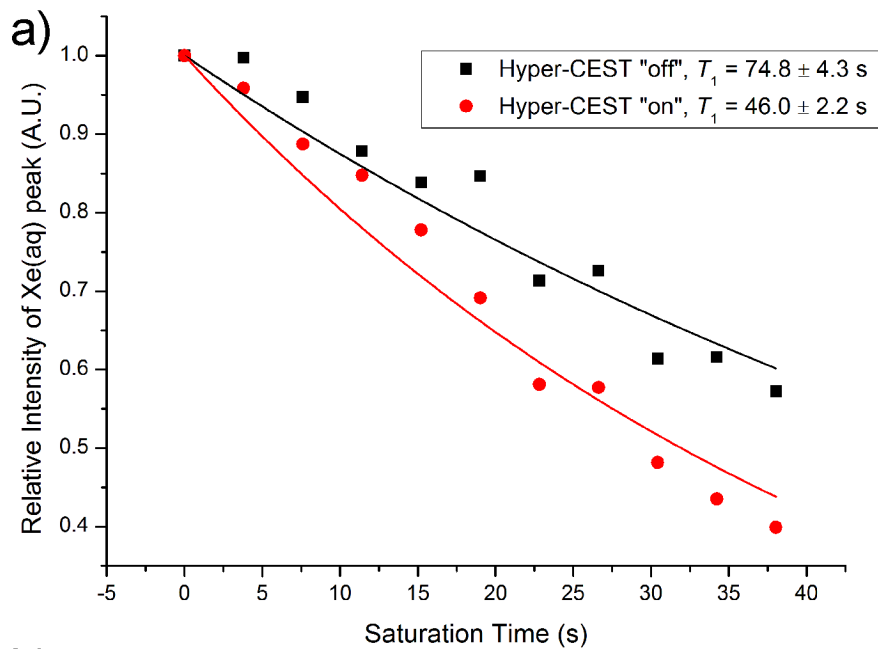


**Figure S6.** (a) Hyper-CEST profile of *B. subtilis* AD142 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL with 200 pulse cycles for saturation exchange; (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. subtilis* AD142 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL.



**Figure S7.** Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *wild type B. anthracis* (Sterne 34F2) spores at  $1.2 \times 10^7$  cfu/mL.





**Figure S8.** (a) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. subtilis* AD142 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^5$  cfu/mL;  
 (b) Hyper-CEST depolarization curve of *B. subtilis* AD142 spores at  $1.2 \times 10^6$  cfu/mL.