



Figures and figure supplements

Calcium depletion challenges endoplasmic reticulum proteostasis by destabilising BiP-substrate complexes

Steffen Preissler et al



Figure 1. ER Ca²⁺ depletion-dependent trafficking of TCR α -based reporter proteins. (A) Schematic representation of reporter proteins and detection principles. Signal sequence (SS); FLAG-M1 epitope tag; mouse T-cell antigen receptor α chain (mTCR α); transmembrane domain of the interleukin-2 *Figure 1 continued on next page*



Figure 1 continued

receptor α subunit (TM^{IL2R α}); monomeric Turquoise (Tg); endoplasmic reticulum (ER); plasma membrane (PM). (B) Flow cytometry analysis of TCR α cell surface exposure. CHO-K1 cell lines stably expressing TCRa or glycosylation-deficient TCRa-N/Q were left untreated or exposed to Thapsigargin (Tg) for 3 hr before analysis. Dot plots of a representative experiment are shown, along vertical and horizontal guides to facilitate comparisons between the different plots. Graph: reporter surface exposure is plotted as the ratio between the FLAG-M1 and Turquoise median fluorescence signal (derived from all the cells scanned, relative to a data point of TCR α in untreated cells arbitrarily set to 1). Bars represent mean \pm SD of the median signal from three independent experiments. Figure 1-source data 1. (C) Co-immunoprecipitation (IP) of TCRα reporter proteins with BiP from stable CHO-K1 cell lines (as in 'B') analysed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting. Where indicated cells were treated with Tg for 3 hr prior to lysis. ATP was depleted from samples during lysis to stabilise BiP-substrate interactions except from the sample marked with 'ATP' to which additional ATP was added instead. Graph: quantification of TCRa and TCRa-N/Q signals normalised to BiP after IP from untreated (-Tg) and Tg-treated (+Tg) cells and mean of differences ± SD from four independent experiments. A two-tailed, paired, parametric t-test was performed. (D-E) Flow cytometry analysis as in 'B'. (D) Cells were treated for 3 hr, as indicated, before analysis [untreated (Unt); tunicamycin (Tm); 2-deoxyglucose (2DG)]. Figure 1-source data 2. (E) Cells were exposed to the compounds indicated. After 3 hr, the medium was replaced by medium containing the same compounds without (red) or with additional Tq (blue) for further 3 hr before analysis. Samples 9 and 10 (yellow bars) contained the same amount of Tq before and after medium exchange. PERK inhibitor (PERK.). Bars: mean ± SD from three independent experiments. Figure 1-source data 3. (F) Flow cytometry analysis of a UPR reporter CHO-K1 cell line (S21) carrying a predominantly PERK-controlled CHOP::GFP marker and a predominantly IRE1-controlled XBP1::Turquoise marker. The cells were treated for 6 hr, as indicated. Median fluorescence signals relative to untreated cells are shown. Bars: mean ± SD from three independent experiments. Figure 1-source data 4.



Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Brefeldin A blocks exposure of the T-cell antigen receptor α (TCR α) reporter on the cell surface. Dot plots of a representative flow cytometry analysis of CHO-K1 cells stably expressing TCR α or TCR α -N/Q after treatment with thapsigargin (Tg) and brefeldin A (BFA) for 3 hr, as indicated.



Figure 1—figure supplement 2. Time course of exposure of the T-cell antigen receptor α (TCR α) reporter on the cell surface during ER Ca²⁺ depletion. Dot plots of a representative flow cytometry analysis of CHO-K1 cells stably expressing TCR α or TCR α -N/Q after treatment with thapsigargin (Tg) for indicated periods. Graph: reporter surface exposure is given as the ratio between the FLAG-M1 and turquoise median fluorescence signal relative to untreated cells. Bars: mean ± SD bars are shown from three independent experiments. Source data are provided in **Supplementary file 1**.







Figure 2. Effect of Ca^{2+} on BiP's ATPase activity. (A) Schematic representation of BiP's chaperone cycle. Unfolded substrate protein (red); nucleotide binding domain (NBD); substrate binding domain (SBD); interdomain linker (grey); orthophosphate (P_i); J-domain protein (JDP); nucleotide exchange factor (NEF). (B) ATP hydrolysis by purified BiP measured with a NADH-based ATPase assay. All samples contained 10 mM MgCl₂ and 1 μ M BiP. Where indicated CaCl₂ (3 mM) and wild-type (J) or mutant J-domain (J^{QPD}) were added (both at 2 μ M). Bars: mean ± SD from four independent experiments. ****p<0.0001, 95% CI -0.002605 to -0.001912; two-tailed, unpaired, parametric *t*-test. *Figure 2—source data 1*. (C) ATPase activity of BiP measured by detection of ATP hydrolysis product (P_i) accumulation using a malachite green-based assay. All samples contained 3 mM MgCl₂ and 2 mM ATP. CaCl₂ was titrated (0–1.6 mM). Where indicated samples contained 0.5 mM (red) and 1 mM (blue) ADP. Bold symbols represent mean values ± SD derived from individual data points (staggered dots). Best-fit lines are shown. *Figure 2—source data 2*.



Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Effect of Ca^{2+} on BiP's ATPase activity measured by a NADH-based assay. ATP hydrolysis by purified BiP measured with a NADH-based ATPase assay that detects ADP production. All samples contained 10 mM MgCl₂. Where indicated CaCl₂ (3 mM) and wild-type (J) or mutant J-domain (J^{QPD}) were added. (A) Same as *Figure 2B* but with higher protein concentrations. Bars: mean ± SD from three independent experiments. (B) Slopes of time-dependent NADH signals (absorbance at 340 nm; A₃₄₀) of experiments shown in 'A' and *Figure 2B*. The value of the 'buffer only' control reaction was subtracted in each experiment. Bars: mean ± SD from at least three independent experiments. Note: the reaction velocity correlates with the BiP concentration.



Figure 3. Differential effect of Ca^{2+} on ATP and ADP binding to BiP. (A) Representative plot of fluorescence against time of pre-formed complexes of MABA-ADP and BiP (each 1.3 μ M) challenged at t = 0 with excess of MgATP (1.5 mM) to reveal nucleotide release. All solutions contained 3 mM MgCl₂. CaCl₂ (1 mM) and Grp170 (1.3 μ M) were added at t = -1 hr or t = 0 as indicated. Graph: mean MABA-ADP dissociation rate constants (k_{off}) ± SD from three independent experiments (the curved lines connecting conditions 1 and 4 as well as 3 and 5 emphasise the effect of Ca²⁺ on the activity of Grp170). *Figure 3—source data 1*. (B) MABA-ADP dissociation rates from BiP plotted against [CaCl₂] of a representative experiment. The experiment was performed as in 'A'. All samples contained MgCl₂ (3 mM). CaCl₂ was present at increasing concentrations during nucleotide binding (solution A). The half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) of CaCl₂ (mean ± SD) was calculated from three independent experiments. **p=0.0036, 95% CI -0.02899 to -0.01086; ****p<0.0001, 95% CI -0.07659 to -0.06222; two-tailed, unpaired, parametric t-test. *Figure 3—source data 2*. (C) Effect of Ca²⁺ on affinities of nucleotides for BiP. The dissociation rates of MABA-ADP and MABA-ATP from wildtype or ATPase-impaired T229A mutant BiP were measured as in 'A', whereby either MgCl₂ or CaCl₂ (1 mM) were present throughout the experiment (solutions A and B). The association rate constants (k_{on}) were calculated based on the rate constants (k_{off}/k_{on}). Nucleotide-free proteins were used. Bars: mean ± SD. All the data points from ≥ 3 independent experiments are shown. Source data and a summary of the calculated values are presented in *Figure 3—source data 3*.



Figure 3—figure supplement 1. Dissociation BiP•MABA-ADP complexes formed in the presence of either Mg²⁺ or Ca²⁺. Representative plot of fluorescence against time of complexes of MABA-ADP and BiP (each 1.3 μ M) formed in the presence of either MgCl₂ or CaCl₂ (each 3 mM). Excess of MgATP (1.5 mM) without or with Grp170 (1.3 μ M) was added at t = 0 to reveal nucleotide release. Graph: mean MABA-ADP dissociation rate constants (k_{off}) ± SD from three independent experiments. Final concentrations after mixing are given. Note: the stronger stimulatory effect of Grp170 compared to **Figure 3A** may be due to variations in the experimental conditions. Source data are provided in **Supplementary file 2**.



Figure 4. Ca²⁺ affects ATP-dependent dissociation of substrates from BiP. (A) A representative plot of the Bio-Layer interferometry (BLI) signal against time. The individual steps of the experiment (I-VII) are indicated: following an initial equilibration step (I) biotinylated wild-type or QPD mutant J-domain protein was immobilised corresponding to an interference signal difference of ~0.4 nm (II). After a wash step (III) the sensors were saturated with biotinylated P15 BiP substrate peptide (IV). After a stable baseline signal was established (V) the sensors were transferred into solutions containing BiP to measure association in the presence of ATP (VI). Dissociation of BiP from the sensor was measured in protein-free solutions containing either ADP or ATP (VII). The composition of solutions in steps VI and VII as well as the concentrations of the variable components are indicated. (A) MgCl₂ and/or CaCl₂ were present where indicated. Dashed lines represent single exponential fit curves. Graph: mean dissociation rate constants ± SD from three independent experiments. *Figure 4—source data 1*. (B) Same as 'A' but with identical solutions for all sensors in step VI and varying solution compositions in step VII. In the additional step (VIII) the sensors were introduced into solutions containing ATP and MgCl₂. ****p<0.0001, 95% CI -0.00174311, two-tailed, unpaired, parametric t-test. *Figure 4—source data 2*. (C) Same as 'B' (reactions 3 and 4) with Grp170 present in step VII where indicated. *Figure 4—source data 3*.



Figure 5. Ca^{2+} selectively stabilises BiP-ADP compared with cytoplasmic Hsp70s. (A) Representative plot of fluorescence against time of complexes of MABA-ADP and indicated full-length Hsp70 chaperones (each 1.3 µM) formed without or with $CaCl_2$ (1 mM) (dBiP, *Drosophila* BiP). All solutions contained MgCl₂ (3 mM). Excess of MgATP (1.5 mM) was added at t = 0 to reveal MABA-ADP release. Final concentrations are given. Graph: mean MABA-ADP dissociation rate constants ± SD from four independent experiments. *Figure 5—source data 1*. (B–C) A representative plot of the Bio-Layer interferometry (BLI) signal against time. The experiments were performed as in *Figure 4A* with the indicated Hsp70s. Dissociation of Hsp70s from the sensor was measured in protein-free solutions (VII). The composition of solutions in steps VI and VII as well as the concentrations of the variable components are indicated. (B) Analysis of eukaryotic Hsp70s. Dashed lines represent single exponential fit curves. Graph: mean dissociation rate constants ± SD from three independent experiments. *Figure 5—source data 2*. (C) Same as 'B' but with *E. coli* DnaK. *Figure 5—source data 3*.







Figure 6 continued

of Ca²⁺ ions (green) by water (small spheres) and ADP in the nucleotide binding cleft. (**B**) Nucleotide and metal ion ligands of BiP(NBD)•Ca²⁺•ADP (as in 'A') and bovine Hsc70(NBD) •Mg²⁺•ADP (PDB 1BA1) or human Hsp70-2(NBD)•Mg²⁺•ADP•P_i (PDB 3I33) based on nucleotide alignment. ADP, inorganic phosphate (P_i), Ca²⁺ (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (**C**) MABA-ADP dissociation rates from the indicated NBDs plotted against [CaCl₂] of a representative experiment. The experiment was performed as in *Figure 3A*. All samples contained MgCl₂ (3 mM). CaCl₂ was present at increasing concentrations during NBD•MABA-ADP complex formation. Bars: the half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) of CaCl₂ (mean ± SD) was calculated from three independent experiments. *Figure 6—source data 1*. (**D**) Melting temperatures (*T*_m) of the indicated NBDs (at 5 µM) were measured by differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF) in the presence of MgCl₂ or CaCl₂ (each 6 mM) without or with ADP (4 mM). Top: representative melt curves with their negative first derivatives (RFU, relative fluorescence units). Left bar graph: mean *T*_m ± SD of three independent experiments. Right bar graph: difference in *T*_m (ΔT_m) between MgADP and CaADP containing samples. *Figure 6—source data 2*.



Figure 6—figure supplement 1. Structural details of nucleotide binding domains (NBDs) and their ligands. (A) Polder OMIT maps (grey mesh) of BiP, Hsp70, and Hsc70 NBD ligands omitting ADP (sticks), Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and water molecules (red spheres) contoured at 3.80 RMSD and including density within 1.6 Å of all atoms shown. (B) Ribbon diagram of NBDs of (i) BiP(NBD)• Ca^{2+} •ADP aligned with (ii) BiP(NBD)^{apo} (PDB 3LDN) (RMSD i vs. ii 0.75 over 336 C_{a}) and (iii) BiP(28-549)^{apo} (PDB 6HAB) (RMSD i vs. iii 0.776 over 311 C_{a}). The nucleotide is shown in surface representation and the Ca^{2+} ion (green sphere) is indicated. (C) Nucleotide and metal ion ligands of BiP(NBD)• Ca^{2+} •ADP and DnaK•Mg²⁺•ATP (PDB 4B9Q) based on nucleotide alignment. ADP, ATP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (D) Nucleotide alignment. ADP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (D) Nucleotide alignment. ADP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (D) Nucleotide alignment. ADP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (D) Nucleotide alignment. ADP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown. (D) Nucleotide alignment. ADP, Ca^{2+} (green sphere), and Mg²⁺ (grey sphere) are shown.



Figure 6—figure supplement 2. Characterisation of nucleotide binding domains (NBDs) of *Drosophila* BiP, DnaK, and Kar2. (A) MABA-ADP dissociation rates from the indicated NBDs plotted against [CaCl₂] of a representative experiment. The experiment was performed as in *Figure 3A*. All samples contained MgCl₂ (3 mM). CaCl₂ was present at increasing concentrations during NBD•MABA-ADP complex formation. Graph: the half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) of CaCl₂ (mean ± SD) was calculated from three independent experiments. Source data are provided in *Supplementary file 3*. (B) Melting temperatures (T_m) of the indicated NBDs (at 5 μ M) were measured by differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF) in the presence of MgCl₂ or CaCl₂ (each 6 mM) without or with ADP (4 mM). Top: representative melt curves with their negative first derivatives (RFU, relative fluorescence units). Left bar graph: mean $T_m \pm$ SD of three independent experiments. Right bar graph: difference in T_m (ΔT_m) between MgADP- and CaADP-containing samples. Source data are provided in *Supplementary file 4*.



Figure 6—figure supplement 3. The surface-exposed second Ca^{2+} - binding site in BiP's NBD does not significantly contribute to the effect of Ca^{2+} on ADP release. (A) Ribbon diagram showing coordination of a surface-bound Ca^{2+} ion (green sphere) in the BiP(NBD) structure, involving contacts to the crystallographic neighbouring molecule (chain B; grey). Relevant water molecules (red spheres) as well as ADP (surface representation) and Ca^{2+} within the nucleotide binding cleft are indicated. A Ca^{2+} ion was also identified at the corresponding surface position in structures of Hsp70(NBD) and Hsc70 (NBD). In neither case does this Ca^{2+} ion participate in coordination of the nucleotide. (B) Dissociation of pre-formed complexes of MABA-ADP (1.3 μ M) and wild-type BiP or BiP mutants (each 1.3 μ M) after exposure to excess of MgATP (1.5 mM) without or with Grp170 (1.3 μ M). All solutions contained 3 mM MgCl₂. Where indicated CaCl₂ (1 mM) was present during complex formation. Mean MABA-ADP dissociation rate constants (k_{off}) ± SD from four independent experiments. Source Data.



Figure 7. Effect of Ca²⁺ on BiP oligomers in vitro. (A) Schematic representation of BiP oligomers. Unfolded substrate protein (red) and the distinct types of BiP protomers (A, B, and C) are shown. Oligomers are directional assemblies with minus (-) and plus (+) ends. The cleavage site for the BiP *Figure 7 continued on next page*



Figure 7 continued

linker-specific protease SubA (scissors) is only accessible on (+)-end protomer (C). The predicted inert BiP oligomer lacking the C protomer nucleotide binding domain (NBD; a result of SubA cleavage) is shown on the right. (B) Ribbon diagram of apo BiP^{T229A-V461F} oligomers formed by typical substrate interactions between protomers. Three protomers (labelled A-C according to 'A') are presented in different colours. Note the unusual C- to N-terminal engagement of BiP's interdomain linker as a substrate bound to the substrate binding domain (SBD) of an adjacent BiP molecule. (C) Size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) elution profile of BiP. BiP was incubated with ADP (1 mM) and where indicated treated with SubA before SEC. Monomeric (M), dimeric (D), and trimeric BiP (T) is indicated. Heterogenous high-molecular weight (HMW) BiP complexes elute early as a shoulder. Note that the peaks of proteolytic cleavage products originating from trimers and dimers (*) are shifted to later elution times. Also note the disappearance of BiP monomers and a new peak of the individual NBD and SBD after treatment with SubA. *Figure 7—source data 1*. (D) SEC elution profile as in 'C' of BiP and substrate peptide. BiP was incubated with trace amounts of fluorescently labelled substrate peptide (NR; Pep*) in the presence of ADP at indicated concentrations. Where indicated the samples were exposed at t = 0 to SubA for 30 min before SEC. Where indicated excess of ATP was added 10 min before SEC. Peptide bond absorbance at 230 nm (A₂₃₀) and the fluorescence signal of the labelled peptide were recorded separately. *Figure 7 source data 2*. (E) Representative plot of fluorescence against time of complexes of MABA-ADP and BiP or purified, stabilised BiP oligomers (each 1.3 μ M) formed in the presence of either MgCl₂ or CaCl₂ (each 3 mM). Excess of ATP (1.5 mM) without or with Grp170 (1.3 μ M) was added at t = 0 to reveal nucleotide release. Graph: mean MABA-ADP dissociation rate constants (k_{off}) ± SD from three independent ex



Figure 7—figure supplement 1. Structural features of oligomeric BiP. (A) Superposition of the asymmetric unit of a lid-truncated, ADP-bound oligomeric BiP (pink) onto the biological (dimeric) assembly of oligomeric apo-BiP protomers (light blue and green, as in *Figure 7B*) reveals a highly similar conformation. ADP is shown in stick form with its coordinating K^+ ion (yellow sphere) in the nucleotide binding domain (NBD). The isolated substrate binding domain (SBD) of DnaK, including the C-terminal lid structure in the closed conformation (dark blue; PDB 1DKZ), is also aligned and reveals only minor conformational differences to the lid-truncated SBD of oligomeric BiP. (B) Close-up view of the interdomain linker of one BiP protomer (green) bound to the SBD β subdomain of another BiP protomer as in 'A'. The surface of the linker-binding SBD is shown with translucent coulombic surface colouring. All residues participating in trans-protomer interactions are shown as sticks. Hydrogen bonds are highlighted with solid magenta pseudo bonds and van der Waals interactions are represented by cyan dashed pseudo bonds. Note that the majority of the linker side chains *Figure 7—figure supplement 1 continued on next page*



Figure 7—figure supplement 1 continued

occupy the hydrophobic surface of the substrate- binding groove and most polar bonds are to mainchain amide atoms of the β -sheet scaffold of the SBD. Moreover, the protomer whose SBD-bound linker is shown forms a number of additional interactions with the surface of the SBD β , in which it is engaged, outside of the canonical substrate- binding groove. These peripheral contacts may contribute to the orientation and stabilisation of the oligomeric BiP structure.

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Figure 7—figure supplement 2. Stability of purified BiP oligomers after cleavage with SubA assessed by size-exclusion chromatography. Size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) elution profile of BiP or purified BiP oligomers. BiP oligomers were isolated after cleavage by SubA and frozen. Thawed samples were exposed to ATP for indicated times before SEC analysis. As a control, uncleaved BiP was loaded. Note that purified BiP oligomers were stable in the presence of ATP. Source data are provided in *Supplementary file 6*. Panels 'ii – iv' represent different detailed views of the chromatogram shown in 'i'.



Figure 8. Ca²⁺-dependent alternative fates of BiP during nucleotide exchange. (A) High [Ca²⁺]^{ER} stabilises BiP•ADP•substrate complexes. The interaction of BiP with its substrates is driven by an ATPase-dependent chaperone cycle, whereby ATP binding triggers substrate release and ATP hydrolysis (to ADP and orthophosphate; P_i) induces high-affinity substrate binding (right cycle). ADP competes with ATP for binding to BiP during post-hydrolysis nucleotide exchange, causing ADP-to-ADP exchange cycles that delay substrate release. Because Ca²⁺ enhances the affinity of ADP for BiP, the substrate interaction-stabilising ADP-bound state of BiP is kinetically favoured by high [Ca²⁺]^{ER}, whereas a decline in [Ca²⁺]^{ER} accelerates ADP-to-ATP exchange and substrate release. A decrease in the ATP:ADP ratio also promotes ADP-to-ADP exchange and extension of BiP-substrate interactions (B) Observed redistribution of BiP upon ER Ca²⁺ depletion. At high [Ca²⁺]^{ER} (resting state; left panel), the concentration of unfolded proteins governs the formation of BiP-substrate interactions and competing oligomerisation. BiP oligomers are conformationally locked (functionally inactive) assemblies formed by ATP hydrolysis-dependent substrate interactions amongst BiP proteins. BiP also participates (both indirectly and by direct interaction with UPR signal transducers) in repression of UPR signalling. The restricted ability of oligomeric BiP to respond allosterically to ATP binding (and the resistance of oligomeric BiP to NEF-stimulated ADP release; not shown) kinetically stabilises oligomers at the expense of heterodimeric BiP-substrate complexes in the Ca²⁺-depleted ER (right panel). Faster substrate release from BiP at low [Ca²⁺]^{ER} and lower BiP availability (due to enhanced sequestration into oligomers) likely favours de-repression of UPR signalling.



Figure 8—figure supplement 1. A speculative model of the fitness-promoting features of the observed selective Ca^{2+} sensitivity of metazoan ER-localised Hsp70s. Upper panel: Bursts of physiologically entrained cellular activity (e.g. secretion; blue trace) triggered by bursts of signal-regulated ER Ca^{2+} depletion (orange trace) are coupled by BiP's special features to UPR activity (red trace). Whilst UPR activity is transient in such circumstances, the stability of the proteins encoded by many UPR target genes converts fleeting UPR signals to maintenance of a sustained increase in ER capacity (green trace). ER capacity is thus matched to organellar activity by a process that responds to a physiological stimulus without or with minimal perturbation to ER protein folding homeostasis (unfolded protein load; black dotted line).