



Figures and figure supplements

Unstructured regions in IRE1 $\!\alpha$ specify BiP-mediated destabilisation of the luminal domain dimer and repression of the UPR

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Figure 1. Fusion of ERdj4's J-domain to IRE1^{LD} promotes efficient BiP association thereby repressing IRE1 activity in cells. (A) Two dimensional plots of CHOP::GFP and XBP1s::Turquoise signals from CHO-K1 dual UPR reporter cells stably expressing the indicated IRE1 variants [IRE1 wild-type (wt), J-IRE1 *Figure 1 continued on next page*



Figure 1 continued

or J^{QPD}-IRE1 fusion; see *Figure 1—figure supplement 1A*, for schema of the alleles] from the endogenous *Ern1* locus untreated and treated with the ER stressor tunicamycin (Tm). Clones used for the analysis were derived from an IRE1 null (Δ IRE1) parental cell line. A representative data set out of three independent experiments is shown. Note the low XBP1::Turquoise intensity in stressed J-IRE1 rescued Δ IRE1 cells. (**B**) Two dimensional plots of mCherry and XBP1s::Turquoise signals of clones described in 'A' transiently transfected with a plasmid encoding the SubA protease, which cleaves BiP at its interdomain linker and an mCherry fluorescent transfection marker. The inactive SubA^{S272A} mutant was used as control. Representative data from nine biological repeats is shown. (**C**) Immunoblot (IB) of endogenous IRE1 and associated BiP recovered from the indicated cell lines by immunoprecipitation (IP) of IRE1. Quantification of the ratio of BiP to IRE1 signals in three independent experiments is shown on the right (mean ± standard deviation, n.s.: not significant, *: p<0.05, unpaired parametric Student's t test). BiP in input cell lysates is provided as loading control. (*Figure 1—source data 1*) (**D**) Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE gel of biotinylated IRE1^{LD} (IRE1^{LD}-bio) and a fusion of ERdj4's J-domain to IRE1^{LD} (J-IRE1^{LD}-bio, as in 'A') and BiP, both recovered on a streptavidin matrix from samples constituted as indicated. Protein concentrations were 5 μ M IRE1^{LD}-bio variants, 30 μ M BiP, 8 μ M ERdj4, and 2 mM ATP. Proteins were eluted in SDS sample buffer. A representative data set out of three independent experiments is shown. (**E**) Time-dependent change in donor fluorescence of the indicated IRE1^{LD} FRET pair incubated at t = 0 with the components shown to the right. IRE1^{LD} proteins were either labelled with the donor molecule Oregon green 488 (OG) or the acceptor molecule TAMRA (TMR). Protein concentrations were 0.2 μ M IRE1^{LD} FRET pair, 30 μ M BiP, 2.5 μ M ERdj4 and 2 mM ATP. A rep



Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Modification of the endogenous *Ern1* locus to introduce IRE1^{LD} variants. (A) Schematic description of the homologous recombination platform for creating IRE1-encoding alleles at the endogenous *Ern1* locus (ΔIRE1, *Kono et al., 2017*). Cas9-CRISPR guides generated a large in-frame deletion between exons 2 and 11 in the endogenous *Ern1* locus. In the resultant *Ern1* null cell line (ΔLD15) the locus can be targeted with a unique Cas9-CRISPR guide and appropriate repair templates containing an intron-free minigene consisting of exons 2–11 to generate IRE1^{LD} variants stably expressed from the endogenous *Ern1* locus to probe the effect of BiP binding to IRE1 activity in cells. The J-domain (or QPD mutant) of ERdj4 was fused N-terminally to IRE1^{LD}, whereby ERdj4's glycine-phenylalanine-rich (G/F) region was included as a flexible linker between both domains.



Figure 2. Binding of MPZ-N peptide to IRE1^{LD} does not promote IRE1^{LD} dimerisation. (A) Size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) elution profiles of TAMRA (TMR)-labelled wild-type IRE1^{LD} at the indicated concentrations in presence and absence of MPZ-N peptide. TMR fluorescence is plotted *Figure 2 continued on next page*



Figure 2 continued

against elution time (see: *Figure 2—source data 1*). (B) SEC elution profiles (as in 'A'), but with protein absorbance at 280 nm (A₂₈₀) plotted against elution time. The inset is a zoom into the segment of the chromatogram encompassing the IRE1^{LD} proteins, whose absorbance is dwarfed by the peak of free peptide (eluting at ~24 min). The heterogenous peaks eluting between 15 and 20 min in the sample loaded with 1 mM MPZ-N peptide, likely reflected peptide oligomerisation (see: *Figure 2—source data 1*). (C) Cartoon representation of the IRE1^{LD} dimer (PDB: 2HZ6) is shown on the left with coloured secondary structures (cyan for helices, red for sheets and magenta for loops). The Gln105 side chain is shown as sticks, a closer view of which is shown on the top right. The bottom right panel shows a similar view of the Gln105Cys mutant (crystallised here), which forms a disulphide bond, covered with clear electron density (black mesh represents the 2mFo – DFc map, contoured at 1.0 σ , including density within 2 Å of the cysteine residues). (D) Anisotropy of FAM labelled MPZ-N peptide (100 nM) in presence of increasing concentrations of either wild-type IRE1^{LD} or disulphide-linked dimeric IRE1^{Q105C SS}. Shown are data from three independent experiments (mean ± SD). Curve fitting was performed in Prism GraphPad 7.0 using *Equation 2* in Materials and methods (see: *Figure 2—source data 2*).



Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Biochemical properties of disulphide-linked dimeric IRE1^{LD Q105C SS} and monomeric variants used to study MPZ-N's interaction with IRE1^{LD}. (A) Size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) elution profiles of wild-type (wt) and monomeric IRE1^{LD W125A} and IRE1^{LD P108A} Figure 2—figure supplement 1 continued on next page



Figure 2—figure supplement 1 continued

proteins at the indicated concentrations. Protein absorbance at 280 nm (A_{280}) is plotted against elution time. Note the delayed peak elution times of the IRE1^{LD} monomeric variants. The observation that IRE1^{LD} wt and IRE1^{LD W125A} variants eluted in a single peak yet shifting to later elution times with decreasing protein concentrations suggests that these proteins existed in a monomer-dimer exchange regime that is faster than the time scale of SEC. By contrast, IRE1^{LD P108A} was monomeric at all tested concentrations. (**B**) Cartoon representation of the IRE1^{LD} dimer interface with protomers in light and dark grey (PDB: 2HZ6). Residues that were mutated to create the monomeric variants IRE1^{LD W125A} and IRE1^{LD P108A} are located in close proximity to the dimer interface and are shown in orange or pink sticks, respectively. (**C**) Coomassie stained non-reducing SDS-PAGE gel of wt IRE1^{LD} and disulphide-linked IRE1^{LD Q105C SS}. (**D**) Scatter plot of the melting temperature (T_m) of the indicated IRE1^{LD} proteins (at 5 μ M) in absence or presence of the reducing agent TCEP or increasing concentrations of MPZ-N peptide measured by differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF) is depicted on the left. Shown are the data points of three independent experiments [mean \pm standard deviation (SD)] with monomeric IRE1^{LD W125A} and IRE1^{LD P108A}, wt IRE1^{LD} and a disulphide-linked dimeric IRE1^{LD Q105C SS} or its reduced version IRE1^{LD Q105C SH}. Statistical analysis for indicated conditions was performed in comparison to wt IRE1^{LD Q105C SS}. The root-mean squared deviation (RMSD) over 227 C^α atoms is 0.46 Å.



Figure 2—figure supplement 2. Implications of the distance constraint arising from the paramagnetic relaxation enhancement (PRE) experiments with IRE1^{LD} and an MPZ-proxyl-labelled peptide (*Karagöz et al., 2017*) to the possible modes of peptide binding. (A) Cartoon representation of the IRE1^{LD} *Figure 2—figure supplement 2 continued on next page*

Figure 2—figure supplement 2 continued

dimer with protomers in light and dark grey (PDB: 2HZ6). The two helices flanking the MHC-like groove are coloured in blue. The isoleucines (IIe) whose peaks were suppressed or broadened upon introduction of the spin-labeled MPZ peptide are highlighted in red and yellow, respectively (from Figure 5 in Karagöz et al., 2017, doi.org/10.7554/eLife.30700.016). The incorporated spin label causes broadening of Ile peaks in a range of 10 to 25 Å or entirely erases them within distances of <10 Å (Gottstein et al., 2012). Therefore, the broadening of peaks observed in the NMR spectra of IRE1^{LD} serves as a distance constraint, positioning the labelled residue of the MPZ peptide within 10 Å of Ile186 (in red). The blue mesh of 10 Å diameter centred on Ile186 depicts the distance constrain on the proxyl-labelled Cys5 of the MPZ peptide (LIRYCWLRRQAALQRRISAME). (B). As in 'A', but with two extra spheres centred at Ile186 with diameters of 26 Å (yellow meshes) and 58 Å (grey meshes) to show the possible location of the MPZ peptide in either helical or extended conformation, respectively. Also shown is the 8-residues-long peptide (magenta) present in the yeast IRE1^{LD} crystal structure (Credle et al., 2005, PDB: 2BE1, superimposed onto the human model) and a superimposed peptide (cyan) found in the PERK^{LD} structure (Wang et al., 2018, PDB: 5V1D). Note: There are 16 residues between Cys5 and the C-terminus of the MPZ peptide. If extended, the peptide is free to sample a sphere with a radius of ~48 Å from Cys5. Given that the PRE experiments place Cys5 of the peptide anywhere within 10 Å of IRE1^{LD} Ile186, if extended, the peptide is free to explore the entire space encompassed by the grey mesh. Even if constrained to assume a compressed helical conformation, the peptide could be found anywhere within the yellow mesh. The numerous perturbations to the NMR spectrum arising from the presence of unlabelled peptide may reflect either the consequences of a peptide-IRE1^{LD} interaction or an induced conformational change in the IRE1^{LD} (as noted by Karagöz et al., 2017). Therefore, they do not constrain the location of the peptide. Constraint is provided by the PRE experiments, noted above, but these are not incompatible with the peptide binding outside the MHC-like groove.



Figure 3. Identification of flexible regions in IRE1^{LD} that are important for the regulation of IRE1 activity in cells. (A) Left panel shows a bar diagram of the percentage of amide hydrogen exchange (%ex) of the indicated by IRE1^{LD} segments after 30 and 300 s incubation in D₂O. The amino acids (aa) *Figure 3 continued on next page*



Figure 3 continued

covered by the peptic fragments are indicated on the left. Exchange was corrected for back exchange using a fully deuterated IRE1^{LD} preparation. Protein concentration was 5 µM. Shown are the data of three independent experiments (mean ± standard deviation). Right panel shows a cartoon of the IRE1^{LD} dimer (PDB: 2HZ6) with the left protomer coloured according to %ex at 30 s (areas with no sequence coverage are uncoloured). The location of the putative loop (residues 308–357) and the tail (residues 390–444) are schematically represented as dotted lines (see: *Figure 3—source data 1*) (B) Schematic description of a directed in vivo CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis strategy to probe regions of IRE1^{LD} for their relevance to regulating activity in CHO-K1 cells. Cas9 guides (red triangles) targeted sites across the *Ern1* genomic locus encoding the protein's region of interest. Transfection of individual or pairs of guides resulted in a collection of mutations (insertions and deletions, depicted as blue and red lines). Cell harbouring rare derepressing mutations of IRE1 (blue) were selected by fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) gated on XBP1s::Turquoise high and CHOP::GFP low signals. The resultant clones were isolated and genotyped. (**C**) Left panel is a histogram of XBP1s::Turquoise intensity of CHO-K1 dual UPR reporter cell populations transfected with guide-Cas9 encoding plasmids targeting a putative unstructured loop (aa 308–357) within IRE1^{LD} (identified in 'A'). XBP1s:: Turquoise bright cells within population 0 were collected by FACS (FACS1) yielding population 1, followed by a second round of enrichment for bright cells (FACS2 yielding population 2). Population 2 was treated with the IRE1 inhibitor 4µ8c to select against clones exhibiting IRE1-independent reporter activity. The final population was genotypically analysed (representative sequences are shown on the right). Frameshift mutations are coloured in blue and Cas9 cut sites are indicated below.



Figure 3—figure supplement 1. IRE1's tail region is involved in maintaining the repressed state of IRE1 in vivo. (A) Schematic representation of IRE1. The signal peptide (SP), luminal domain (LD), comprised of a structured core (CLD) and an unstructured tail, the transmembrane (TM) domain and the cytosolic effector domains are indicated with their corresponding amino acid (aa) resides below. (B) Representative sequences of clones that were selected as described in *Figure 3C* after transfection of cells with guide-Cas9 encoding plasmids targeting IRE1's tail (residues 368–444). Frameshift mutations are coloured in blue and Cas9 cut sites are indicated by arrowheads below.



Figure 4. Cells expressing IRE1^{LD} deletion variants exhibit a de-repressed IRE1 phenotype that correlates with less BiP bound to IRE1. (A) Bar diagram of median XBP1::Turquoise and CHOP::GFP signals from untreated and tunicamycin (Tm)-treated CHO-K1 dual UPR reporter cells with *Ern1* alleles encoding wild-type (wt) or the indicated deletion variants of IRE1 (Δ loop, missing residues 313–338, Δ tail, missing residues 391–444, or $\Delta\Delta$, missing both). Data from four independent experiments is shown [mean ± standard deviation (SD), **: p<0.01, ****: p<0.0001, one-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison test] (*Figure 4—source data 1*). (B) Representative immunoblot (IB) of endogenously-expressed wt or the IRE1 $\Delta\Delta$ deletion mutant (see 'A') and associated BiP recovered by immunoprecipitation (IP) of IRE1. BiP in input cell lysates is provided as a loading control. Quantification of the ratio of BiP to IRE1 signals after IP of three independent experiments is shown below (mean ± SD, *: p<0.05, ratio paired parametric Student's t test) (see: *Figure 4—source data 2*) (C) Left panel shows a representative immunoblot of the indicated IRE1 variants with glutathione S-transferase (GST) replacing the cytosolic domain. The proteins were introduced into CHO-K1 cells by transient transfection, and the associated endogenous BiP recovered by glutathione pull down. BiP in input cell lysates is provided as a loading control. Quantification of the ratio of BiP to IRE1 signals in the IP of three independent experiments are loading control. Quantification of the ratio of BiP to IRE1 signals to the right (mean ± SD, *: p<0.05, **: p<0.001, one-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison test).



Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Single or double deletion of a flexible loop and the tail within IRE1^{LD} de-repressed IRE1 basal activity. (A) Two dimensional contour plots of untreated and tunicamycin (Tm)-treated CHO-K1 CHOP::GFP and XBP1s::Turquoise dual UPR reporter cells expressing the indicated alleles (as in *Figure 4A*) analysed by flow cytometry. The measurements were performed after transient transfection of Cas9-CRISPR guides together with the respective repair templates yielding populations that had and had not undergone homologous recombination ('Analysis of mixed population'). Representative data from four independent experiments is shown. (B) Contour plot (as in 'A') of clonal cell lines expressing the same alleles used in the experiment shown in *Figure 4B*. Representative data from three biological repeats is shown.



Figure 5. Impaired BiP binding and monomerisation of IRE1^{LD ΔΔ} in vitro. (A) Left panel shows Bio-Layer Interferometry (BLI)-derived association (assoc.) and dissociation (dissoc.) traces of streptavidin sensors loaded with the indicated biotinylated ligands [a fusion of ERdj4's J-domain to IRE1^{LD} wild-type *Figure 5 continued on next page*



Figure 5 continued

(wt) or $\Delta\Delta$, as in *Figure 1D*] and exposed sequentially to the indicated solutions of analyte (containing wt BiP or the client-binding mutant BiP^{V461F}). A representative experiment of three independent repetitions is shown. The traces were subtracted against a background derived from a BLI sensor with no ligand and the BLI signals (displacement) were set to zero after the first washing step. Quantification of the dissociation rate constants k_{off} after association in presence of 0.15 μ M BiP and 2 mM ATP are shown to the right. Traces were fitted to a two-phase dissociation function in Prism GraphPad 7.0. Shown are the mean ± standard deviation (SD) of three independent repetitions (n.s.: not significant, unpaired parametric Student's t test). (B) Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE gel of biotinylated wt IRE1^{LD} (IRE1^{LD}-bio), double deleted IRE1^{LD} $\Delta\Delta$ (IRE1^{LD} $\Delta\Delta$ -bio) and BiP, recovered on a streptavidin matrix from samples constituted as indicated. 2 mM ATP was used during wash steps of the matrix when indicated. A representative data set is shown. Quantification of the ratio of BiP to IRE1 signals in the relevant samples after pull down from three independent experiments is shown on the right (mean ± SD, *: p<0.05, **: p<0.01, one-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison test). (C) Time-dependent change in donor fluorescence of the indicated IRE1^{LD} donor-labelled molecule. Protein concentrations were 0.2 μ M FRET pair, 30 μ M BiP, 2.5 μ M full-length ERdj4 (or its isolated J-domain) and 2 mM ATP. A representative experiment of three independent repetitions is shown. When indicated, the data points were fitted to a one-phase association function in Prism GraphPad 7.0; the initial velocity represents the slope of the curve at time point zero (mean ± SD, ***: p<0.001, unpaired parametric Student's t test) (see: Figure 5—source data 1).



Figure 5—figure supplement 1. The $\Delta\Delta$ deletion does not affect the stability of the IRE1^{LD} dimer. (A) Bio-Layer Interferometry (BLI)-derived association (assoc.) and dissociation (dissoc.) traces of streptavidin sensors loaded with the indicated biotinylated ligands [wild-type (wt) or IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$}] and exposed sequentially to the indicated solutions of analyte. 2 μ M BiP, 6.8 μ M full-length ERdj4, or isolated J-domain and 2 mM ATP. A representative experiment of three independent repetitions is shown (processed as in *Figure 5A*). (B) As in *Figure 5A* but comparing the monomeric J-IRE1^{LD P108A} and the disulphide-linked J-IRE1^{LD Q105C SS} proteins as ligands on the sensor. A representative experiment of three independent repetitions. TMR fluorescence is plotted against elution time [note: fluorescent labelling was used to detect a signal at the low protein concentration (conc.) required to generate a pool of monomeric IRE1^{LD} (see: *Figure 5—source data 2*) (D) Plot of peak elution time points derived from 'C' against the protein concentration on a logarithmic scale for IRE1^{LD} and IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$}. Curve fitting was performed in Prism GraphPad 7.0 using a sigmoidal function and calculated K_{1/2 max} values are displayed underneath the curves.

6

4

2

0

-2

С

1

∆deuteron (IRE1^{LD mut} -IRE1^{LD wt})

100

IRE1^{LD}

Α





Figure 6. BiP-mediated monomerisation of IRE1^{LD ΔΔ} assessed by hydrogen exchange mass spectrometry (HX-MS). (A) Difference plot of deuteron incorporation comparing wild-type (wt) IRE1^{LD} with the monomeric mutants IRE1^{LD W125A} (orange trace) or IRE1^{LD P108A} (pink trace) after 30 s incubation in D₂O [see Table 2 for the amino acid (aa) sequence of the individual segments]. Protein concentration was 5 μM. Shown are data from three independent experiments [mean ± standard deviation (SD)]. Boxes 1 and 2 highlight regions of greater hydrogen exchange (HX) in the monomeric mutants compared to wt IRE1^{LD} that were analysed in presence of chaperones in 'C' (see Figure 6-source data 1). (B) Cartoon representation of the IRE1^{LD} dimer (PDB: 2HZ6) coloured according to the difference of deuteron incorporation between wt and IRE1^{LD P108A} after 30 s of incubation in D₂O (from 'A'). (C) Difference plot of the deuteron incorporation between the untreated sample and samples exposed to the indicated additives. The data for the same peptic peptides from wt IRE1^{LD} and the IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$} mutant are displayed separately. Protein concentrations were 5 μ M IRE1^{LD} (wt or $\Delta\Delta$ mutant), 30 μ M BiP (wt or V461F mutant), 6 μ M ERdj4 (wt or QPD mutant) and 2 mM ATP. Shown are the means \pm SD of three data sets acquired after 30 s incubation in D₂O (the corresponding 300 s data set is presented in Figure 6-figure supplement 1A and C) (see Figure 6-source data 2).

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Figure 6—figure supplement 1. HX-MS evidence for impaired BiP- and ERdj4-driven monomerisation of IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$}. (A) Difference plot of deuteron incorporation into the indicated peptic peptides of wild-type (wt) versus IRE1^{LD W125A} or wt versus IRE1^{LD P108A} after 300 s incubation in D₂O (as in *Figure 6—figure supplement 1 continued on next page*



Figure 6—figure supplement 1 continued

Figure 6A) (see **Figure 6—source data 1**). (B) Overlay of representative spectra showing the isotope cluster of peptic fragment 779.087³⁺ (residues 86–106) from wt or IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$}, untreated (black) or exposed to BiP, ERdj4 and ATP (red) after 300 s incubation in D₂O. Peaks arising from overlapping BiP peptides are coloured in grey. Note the stronger shift of the peaks towards higher m/z values (indicating an increased deuteron incorporation) in case of wt IRE1^{LD} in presence of BiP, ERdj4 and ATP. (C) Difference plot of the deuteron incorporation between the untreated sample and samples exposed to the indicated additives. The data for the same peptic peptides from wt and the IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$} mutant are displayed separately (as in **Figure 6C**, but after 300 s incubation in D₂O) (see **Figure 6—source data 2**) (D) Difference plot of deuteron incorporation into the indicated peptic peptides of wt versus IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$} mutant after 30 or 300 s incubation in D₂O as in **Figure 6A** (in absence of chaperones). Regions deleted in IRE1^{LD $\Delta\Delta$} are excluded from the difference plot.



Figure 7. Analysis of bimodally-distributed isotope clusters of IRE1^{LD} peptic peptides reveals active destabilisation of the IRE1^{LD} dimer by BiP. (A) Intensity distributions of the isotope clusters of peptide 655.273^+ (residues 297– 302) from IRE1^{LD}, untreated or exposed to BiP, ERDj4 and ATP (30 min at 30°C) following different incubation times in D₂O, as indicated. Curves are fits of the sum of two Gaussian distributions (Prism GraphPad 7.0, see **Equation 4** in Materials and methods). A representative plot of three independent experiments is shown. (see: **Figure 7—source data 1**) (B) Plot of time-dependent change in the fractional contribution of high mass species to the isotope clusters of peptide 655.273^+ (from 'A') calculated as described in **Figure 7—figure supplement 1A and B**. Shown are data points from three independent samples of IRE1^{LD} in presence and absence of BiP, ERdj4 and ATP. The curves were fitted to a one-phase association model in Prism GraphPad 7.0. Data for a second informative peptide is shown in **Figure 7—figure supplement 1C**. (C) Bar diagram of the transition rate constant k_{trans} extracted by analysis of bimodal distributions in the isotope clusters of peptic fragments 636.380^{2+} and 655.273^+ from IRE1^{LD} in presence and absence of BiP, ERdj4 and ATP (from **Figure 7B** and **Figure 7—figure supplement 1C**). All the data points from three independent experiments are shown and the mean ± standard deviation (**: p<0.01, *****: p<0.0001, one-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison test).

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Figure 7—figure supplement 1. Analysis of the bimodal distributions of the isotope clusters detected by HX-MS. (A) Shown are original spectra of peptic peptide 655.273^+ (residues 297–302) from monomeric IRE1^{LD P108A} (left panel) or wild-type IRE1^{LD} (right panel) at the indicated time point of incubation in D₂O. The contribution of the low (blue) and high (red) exchanging populations to the peaks was extracted by fitting the data to a two Gaussian distributions model (*Equation 4*). Unexchanged and 100% exchanged spectra are provided as references. (B) Plot of the two individual Gaussian distributions of the high (h) and low (l) exchanging populations deconvoluted computationally in Prism GraphPad 7.0 from the composite data *Figure 7—figure supplement 1 continued on next page*



Figure 7—figure supplement 1 continued

set shown in *Figure 7A* for each time point of incubation in D_2O . (C) Plot of time-dependent change in the fractional contribution of high mass species to the isotope clusters of peptic peptide 636.380²⁺ (residues 96–106). Shown are data points from three independent samples of IRE1^{LD} in presence and absence of BiP, ERdj4 and ATP (as in *Figure 7B*). The curves were fitted to a one-phase association model in Prism GraphPad 7.0.



Figure 8. Cartoon depicting features of BiP-mediated regulation of IRE1 activity. In stressed cells unfolded proteins compete for BiP, exposing IRE1^{LD} to a default dimeric active state, specified by the kinetics of the monomer-dimer equilibrium (left panel). In compensated cells BiP (assisted by ERdj4 and possibly other J-domain proteins, not shown) binds flexible regions of IRE1^{LD}. Engagement of these regions in the IRE1^{LD} dimer may favor active dimer disassembly by entropic pulling or allosterically induced conformational changes (right panel). BiP binding to the same flexible regions of the IRE1^{LD} monomer, may inactivate IRE1 by disfavoring re-dimerisation (right panel). The dynamic nature of BiP binding, which entails cycles for ATP hydrolysis-driven client engagement and nucleotide exchange-mediated release, ensures that IRE1 activity is kinetically coupled to the balance between unfolded protein load and folding capacity of the cell.