1 **Allosteric Disordering of eIF2B Regulates the Integrated Stress Response**
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Abstract

The ternary complex (TC), composed of translation initiation factor eIF2, GTP, and

initiator methionyl tRNA, delivers the first amino acid to the ribosome to initiate protein

synthesis. The activity of the decameric eukaryotic initiation factor 2B complex (eIF2B)

initiates TC assembly by catalyzing GDP to GTP exchange on eIF2, thereby setting the

TC levels in the cell. Stress-induced phosphorylation converts eIF2 from the substrate

of the GDP/GTP exchange reaction into an inhibitor (eIF2-P) of eIF2B. This conversion

reduces the cell's TC levels and induces the widespread reprogramming of translation

known as the Integrated Stress Response (ISR). Here, we chart an allosteric axis

running through eIF2B, revealing the importance of a protrusive α-helix in its β-subunit,

the 'latch-helix', that locks onto the α-subunit to induce eIF2B activity. eIF2-P binding

unhooks the latch-helix, opening eIF2B, which inhibits its GDP/GTP exchange activity.

Distinct viral proteins have convergently evolved to bind to eIF2Bα and stabilize the

latch-helix-bound active state. Using these insights, we generated ISR-ACTivating

compounds, ISRACTs, that stabilize eIF2B in its inhibited, unlatched state. Our study

thus highlights how state-transitions in eIF2B are regulated via long-range allostery.

Introduction

The eukaryotic translation initiation factor 2B (eIF2B) is a guanine nucleotide exchange factor (GEF) and gatekeeper of protein synthesis. It is a complex comprised of two tetramers containing the β-, γ-, δ-, and ε-subunits that further assemble into a decamer by binding the homodimeric α-subunit (*1–5*). When fully assembled, the eIF2B decamer catalyzes GDP ejection from its substrate, the heterotrimeric eukaryotic initiation factor 2 (eIF2; composed of α-, β-, and γ-subunits) (*4–7*), allowing for GTP binding to eIF2γ.

By catalyzing eIF2 nucleotide exchange, eIF2B facilitates the formation of the eIF2-GTP-methionyl-initiator tRNA "Ternary Complex" (TC). TC formation is a prerequisite for mRNA translation initiation as it delivers the first aminoacyl-tRNA to 40S ribosomal subunits scanning for AUG initiation codons (*8–12*). Stress-inducing perturbations, such as viral infection (*13, 14*), ribosome stalling and collisions (*15, 16*), secretory protein folding (*17, 18*) and trafficking imbalances (*19*), redox changes (*20, 21*), mitochondrial dysfunction (*22, 23*), hypoxia (*24, 25*), and amino acid/nutrient deficiencies (*26–32*), cause the activation of any of four eIF2 kinases (PKR, GCN2, PERK, and HRI). These kinases all phosphorylate eIF2α at a single site, serine 51, producing eIF2-P – a potent eIF2B inhibitor. This conversion of eIF2B's substrate, eIF2, into its inhibitor, eIF2-P, is the hallmark of the Integrated Stress Response (ISR) (*7, 21, 33–37*). As eIF2-P accumulates, TC levels diminish, which leads to a decline in translation initiation rates for all AUG-initiated transcripts.

While the ISR is characterized by a decline in general translation, a subset of transcripts with inhibitory upstream open reading frames (uORFs) are translated at higher rates, leading to enhanced accumulation of their protein products (*31, 38–41*), such as the transcriptional activator *ATF4* (*39, 42, 43*). The translation of these uORF-containing transcripts and the resulting transcriptomic changes enable cells to adapt to and counteract the stressful perturbation (*39, 44–47*). This broad reprogramming of protein synthesis rates is typically cytoprotective (*48, 49*), but chronic activation of the ISR can become maladaptive and is associated with pathologies that include leukodystrophy

(*50–54*), cancer (*24, 55–57*), and cognitive impairments caused by Alzheimer's disease

(*58–62*), traumatic brain injuries (*63*), and Down syndrome (*64*).

In these disease contexts, the drug-like small molecule ISRIB (*41, 49*) and its clinical

derivatives maintain protein synthesis rates despite elevated eIF2-P levels.

Mechanistically, ISRIB binds to eIF2B in a two-fold symmetric pocket formed at the

interface between two eIF2Bβ and two eIF2Bδ subunits proximal to the substrate eIF2

binding site. In doing so, ISRIB stabilizes the active "A"-state of the eIF2B decamer (*4,*

5, 65–67). The A-state is defined, in part, by the distance between the β- and δ-subunits

from opposing tetramers. When the cleft between these subunits is ~32 Å wide, the α-

subunit of eIF2 binds favorably and this positions the GDP-bound γ-subunit over the

catalytic eIF2B ε-subunit to drive nucleotide exchange. The inactive "I"-state of eIF2B is

induced by eIF2-P binding, which occurs at a distinct allosteric site between the α- and

δ-subunits more than 40 Å away from the ISRIB and eIF2 binding sites (*36, 37*). The I-

state is characterized by widening of the eIF2α binding pocket to ~35 Å, reducing

substrate binding affinity and guanine nucleotide exchange (*65, 66*).

ISRIB thus renders eIF2B resistant to inhibition by eIF2-P through allosteric stabilization

of the A-state (*65–67*). Although there are no known endogenous or exogenous ligands

that engage the ISRIB pocket, viruses inhibit the ISR via effector proteins that engage

at other sites on eIF2B (*68–71*). Viral suppression of the ISR promotes synthesis of viral

proteins despite activation of the innate sensors that lead to eIF2α phosphorylation (*13,*

14). The best-characterized example to date comes from studies of the Sandfly fever

Sicilian virus (SFSV) protein, NSs (*68–70*). NSs binds to eIF2B at a site that overlaps

with the eIF2-P inhibitor binding site, thereby sterically blocking eIF2-P binding.

However, rather than inducing the I-state as eIF2-P does, it allosterically promotes the

A-state conformation (*67, 69, 70*).

These observations inform current models of how eIF2-P activates a long-range

allosteric change through the eIF2B core to regulate eIF2B GEF activity, including the

discovery of the eIF2Bδ subunit's fulcrum-helix, which acts as a switch for propagating

changes in the angle between the eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ subunits (*67*). However, our

understanding of how information is relayed between the site of eIF2-P inhibitor binding,

the site of substrate binding, and the ISRIB-binding pocket in eIF2B is incomplete.

Furthermore, how diverse eIF2B ligands—including pharmaceuticals and pathogen

effector proteins—influence allosteric chain linkage despite their disparate and distant

binding sites remains poorly understood. Using structural, biochemical and

pharmacological approaches, we map the axis of coupled allosteric changes that

transmits information over the 40 Å distance between eIF2B's diverse binding sites. Our

analyses reveal a remarkable convergence in viral evolution where unrelated viruses

utilize dissimilar proteins to stabilize the A-state of eIF2B. We leverage the new

structural understanding of allosteric eIF2B regulation to develop small molecules,

ISRACTs, that target the ISRIB binding pocket to activate, rather than inhibit, the ISR.

Results

A short α-helix in eIF2Bβ allosterically competes with eIF2α-P binding

To gain mechanistic understanding of the conformational dynamics that govern eIF2B activity, we segmented and classified 569,415 single-particle cryo-EM images of eIF2B in its apo-form and subjected the images to 3D variability analysis (3DVA) (Table 1). Visualization of 3DVA highlighted motion trajectories of eIF2B consistent with the particle distributions (Fig. S1 and Movie S1). The trajectories included (1) the A- to I-state opening of the eIF2 substrate binding pocket between the two eIF2Bβγδε tetramers (Fig. 1A; Motion 1), (2) rotation of eIF2Bα away from eIF2Bβ/δ (Motion 2), and (3) swiveling of the eIF2Bγ beta-solenoid domains perpendicular to the tetramer rocking motion (Motion 3).

To estimate the probability of particle distribution within these states, and thus the energy barriers associated with conformational transitions, we performed heterogeneous 3D classification of all particles into 10 classes. This procedure yielded 8 distinct reconstructions and 2 noise classes. Unexpectedly, we found that ~10% of the particles yielded eIF2B completely in the I-state conformation, with (i) the substrate interfaces as far apart as eIF2-P bound eIF2B (distance of 35.5 Å versus 32.5 Å observed in the substrate-bound A-state, Fig. 1B-C), (ii) the ISRIB-binding pocket lengthened by 4.3 Å (Fig. S2A), (iii) the eIF2Bδ "fulcrum-helix", or switch-helix (*67*), positioned in its rotational I-state (Fig. S2B), and (iv) the dimer/dimer interface histidine βH160 in its resting I-state-characteristic rotamer position that precludes the A-state-stabilizing interface-zipper interaction (Fig. S2C; Movie S2), as first suggested in an I-state-inducing point mutant, βH160D (*72*).

Further inspection of the minority I-state fraction of eIF2B revealed missing density for a protrusive α-helix at the tip of eIF2Bβ. In the A-state, this short α-helix, henceforth referred to as the "latch-helix", bridges eIF2Bβ to eIF2Bα (colored in *cyan*, Fig. 1A, 1C; Movie S1). Density for the latch-helix is absent in reconstructions of the eIF2-P-bound I-state (Fig. 1A - C). These observations suggest that latch-helix binding to eIF2Bα could

be a driving force in the inactive (I-) to active (A-) state transition that "locks" eIF2B in

the A-state and hence must unhook to allow eIF2B to relax into the I-state. Notably, we

observed two 3D classes of eIF2B with defined density for the latch-helix only on one

half of the decamer; however, these classes are otherwise in the A-state (Fig. S2D,

Table 2). Thus, latch-helix ordering on only one of the two halves of eIF2B is sufficient

to drive the I- to A-state transition across the rest of the eIF2B complex.

The latch-helix comprises eIF2Bβ residues [108]SLHKLLT[114] within a flexible loop linking

two helices in the eIF2Bβ core (Fig. 1D). Latch-helix side chains of βL109, βL112, and

βL113 nestle into a hydrophobic pocket in eIF2Bα burying a surface area of

approximately 623 Å^2. Within the pocket, each latch-helix leucine 'bump' occupies a

unique 'hole' created by the specific orientation of eIF2Bα residues, highlighting the

importance of both the hydrophobic effect and geometric complementarity as drivers of

this interaction. A reanalysis of published hydrogen-deuterium exchange coupled to

mass spectrometry (HDX-MS) data (67) confirmed that the latch-helix is more solvent

protected in the bound A-state than in the unbound eIF2-P-induced I-state (Fig. S3).

Comparison of the latch-helix binding pocket in A-state eIF2B (*grey*) with an eIF2α-P-

bound I-state eIF2B (*red*) reveals the determinants of eIF2α-P-induced latch-helix

release (Fig. 1E). Specifically, the pocket occupied by latch-helix amino acid βL109 is

occluded by the C-terminus of eIF2Bα rotating inward to place αL303 in this space. Its

position is stabilized by the A- to I-state rearrangement of the adjacent fulcrum-helix

(*67*) (Movie S3). The rearrangement of eIF2Bα helices α4 and α5 and rotation of αF75

remodels the pocket further and precludes binding of latch-helix amino acids βL112 and

βL113. Accordingly, latch-helix and eIF2-P binding are mutually exclusive. Moreover,

interaction of eIF2α-P sterically blocks eIF2Bα from adopting the A-state conformation.

Together, these structures demonstrate how latch-helix engagement and the linked

movements in eIF2Bα govern eIF2B activity.

176   **Deletion of the latch-helix deactivates eIF2B allosterically and induces the ISR**

177   Next, we asked how the latch-helix regulates the conformation and catalytic GEF

178   activity of eIF2B. We observed that deletion of the latch-helix (ΔeIF2B$\beta_{100\text{-}116}$, hereafter

179   designated as eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$) resulted in an ~8-fold decrease in eIF2B GEF activity as

180   measured by *in vitro* nucleotide exchange ($t_{1/2}$WT = 2.3 +/- 0.3 min vs. $t_{1/2}\Delta$-latch = 18.4

181   +/- 2.4 min) (Fig. 2A). We found no difference in the sedimentation velocity between

182   eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (Fig. 2B), indicating that the loss of catalytic activity was not

183   due to defective eIF2B decamer assembly. We then assessed how eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ affects

184   ISR activation *in cellula*. To this end, we depleted endogenous eIF2Bβ with small

185   interfering RNA (siRNA) (Fig. 2C) and expressed siRNA-resistant epitope-tagged

186   *eIF2Bβ^{WT}* or *eIF2B$\beta^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$* (Fig. 2D). In line with the *in vitro* results, eIF2Bβ-depleted cells

187   expressing eIF2B$\beta^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ exhibited a robust ISR, indicated by ATF4 accumulation,

188   whereas eIF2Bβ^{WT} expressing cells did not (Fig. 2D). Together, the *in vitro* and *in*

189   *cellula* experiments demonstrate that the engagement of the latch-helix is required for

190   optimal eIF2B GEF activity.

191

192   Cryo-EM analysis allowed us to obtain a consensus structure of the eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

193   decamer at 2.1 Å (Fig. S4A-E). Comparison of the latch-helix binding pocket from this

194   structure to the I-state eIF2α-P-bound eIF2B^{WT} structure showed that eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ adopts

195   the I-state (Fig. 2E) with eIF2Bα and the eIF2Bδ fulcrum-helix in their characteristic I-

196   state conformations (Fig. S4F). Consequently, the eIF2α substrate binding pocket

197   opens by ~3 Å (Fig. 2F), readily explaining the loss of GEF activity described above

198   (Fig. 2A-D).

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200   We next 3D-classified the refined particles to probe the conformational spectrum of

201   eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. Reminiscent of the 3D classification results for the eIF2B^{WT} particles (see

202   Fig. 1C), we found that a small fraction of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ particles (~12%) classified into the

203   opposing state (A-like) from the majority consensus (I-state) (Fig. 2F). Contrasting this

204   minor class to a canonical A-state structure, we find that while the hallmarks such as

205   the eIF2α substrate-binding cleft distance and the fulcrum-helix are in an A-state

conformation, the latch-helix pocket of eIF2Bα remains in the I-state in the absence of

latch-helix engagement (Fig. S4E).

Importantly, comparison of the eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ α subunit conformation with multiple crystal

structures of eIF2Bα [(*73*, *74*); PDB: 3ECS, 7KMA] shows that eIF2Bα adopts the I-

state conformation as its *in crystallo* ground state (Fig. S5C). These observations

indicate that eIF2B decamer assembly itself does not induce the A-state unless and

until the latch-helix locks onto eIF2Bα. Thus, in the absence of the binding energy

provided by the eIF2Bβ latch-helix, eIF2Bα remains in its low-energy ground state. In

turn, the ground state of eIF2Bα favors the open and inhibited state of eIF2B, which

induces the ISR even in the absence of eIF2-P.

Viral effector proteins convergently evolved to suppress the ISR

The results presented so far indicate that during ISR activation, eIF2-P binding

promotes unbinding of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix by engaging with eIF2Bα (Fig. 1). By

contrast, the Sandfly fever Sicilian virus (SFSV) effector protein NSs hijacks the eIF2-P

binding pocket between eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ (*69*, *70*) but stabilizes an eIF2B A-state,

suggesting a conformation complicit with latch-helix ordering. Indeed, inspection of the

cryo-EM structures of NSs (*69*, *70*) (EMD-24535, EMD-31472) bound to eIF2B

confirmed the presence of an ordered eIF2Bβ latch-helix (Fig. S6).

We next considered if proteins encoded by other viruses might mimic the mechanism

exhibited by SFSV NSs to stabilize the latch-helix-bound state of eIF2Bα and eIF2Bβ to

suppress the ISR. For example, the Beluga whale coronavirus accessory protein 10

(Bw CoV-AcP10) was shown to bind to eIF2B and compete with eIF2-P (*71*). AcP10,

however, shares no sequence similarity with NSs, and the mechanism by which it

inhibits the ISR remained unknown. To address this knowledge gap, we expressed an

N-terminal MBP-tagged version of AcP10 in *E. coli* (Fig. S7A-B) and tested the purified

protein to see if it bound to eIF2B directly. Pulldown assays with recombinant eIF2Bα

dimers (α$_2$), eIF2B tetramers (βγδε), or eIF2B decamers (αβγδε)$_2$ *in vitro* indicated that

MBP-AcP10 bound directly only to fully assembled eIF2B decamers (Fig. 3A), indicating

that a competent AcP10-binding interface requires decamer assembly.

To determine the interaction interface between AcP10 and eIF2B decamers, we solved

a 2.9 Å structure of this complex by cryo-EM (Fig S7). The interface was well-resolved

(Fig. 3B, Fig. S7C-F), allowing us to model two molecules of AcP10 bound to eIF2B.

Like the structurally unrelated SFSV NSs, AcP10 bound at the eIF2-P binding pockets,

forming symmetric interfaces between eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ on either side of the

decamer (Fig. 3B-C) (*69, 70*) (Fig. S7). Cross-linking mass spectrometry confirmed that

AcP10 interacts only with eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ (Fig S8). 3D classification revealed that

~24% of the particles were bound by one molecule of AcP10, while the remaining

particles had two AcP10 molecules bound. As expected and akin to NSs, the AcP10-

eIF2B structure exhibited an ordered eIF2Bβ latch-helix (Fig. 3B) and the fulcrum-helix

in its A-state conformation (Fig. S7F). These hallmarks are indicative of an A-state-

stabilized eIF2B with a productive eIF2α substrate-binding interface.

An intricate set of interactions between eIF2Bα and AcP10 anchors this viral effector to

eIF2B. AcP10 adopts a uridine-cytidine kinase fold, comprising a core of five-stranded

parallel β-sheets flanked on both sides by a pair of α-helices and additional α-helices

sitting above the core sheet structure together with a large β-hairpin loop. eIF2B is

engaged by AcP10 in a wedge-like manner by inserting its N and C-termini in-between

the concave surface formed by subunits eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ (Fig. 3D, S9A). A

stabilizing edge-to-face π-π interaction between the aromatic rings of AcP10 F30 and

Y31 intercalates F30 into the hydrophobic groove formed in eIF2Bα between helices α3

and α4. The AcP10 aromatic F30-Y31 dyad further engages eIF2Bα via a strong cation-

π interaction with the guanidinium moiety of αR46 on helix α3 (Fig. 3D; top right panel).

These interactions, in turn, stabilize the opposite face of helix α4, allowing for strong

interaction with the latch-helix.

A second aromatic dyad within AcP10, composed of Y207 and F210 at the C-terminus,

also latches onto eIF2Bα's C-terminal helix (Fig. 3D; bottom right panel). These

interactions likely prevent the eIF2Bα C-terminus from moving inward, thereby

stabilizing a conformation of the latch-helix pocket in eIF2Bα that is conducive for latch-

helix binding. Additionally, the AcP10 C-terminal helix packs parallel to the longest helix

in eIF2Bδ forming a large interface stabilized by H-bonds and the hydrophobic effect

(Fig. 3D; bottom left panel).

A salient feature of the AcP10-eIF2B interaction is the use of 'aromatic fingers' that

intercalate in between helices α3 and α4 of eIF2Bα (Fig. 3D, S10). This arrangement is

reminiscent of interactions observed between NSs and eIF2B. However, diverging from

AcP10, NSs projects both sets of its aromatic fingers on either side of the eIF2Bα helix

α3, effectively sandwiching this helix. AcP10, by contrast, extends a pair of aromatic

fingers to contact the surface patch of eIF2Bα just next to eIF2Bδ, as well as a set of

polar residues to contact eIF2Bδ. Indeed, AcP10 buries ~621 $Å^2$ and ~757 $Å^2$ of solvent

accessible area against subunits eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ, respectively, while NSs buries

~995 $Å^2$ and ~149 $Å^2$, explaining their high binding affinities to eIF2B.

To probe the influence of the eIF2B-contacting amino acids, we purified AcP10 mutants

carrying alanine substitutions on key residues and measured their ability to bind eIF2B

decamers *in vitro*. Pairwise mutations to AcP10 F30/Y31 and H193/H200, resulted in a

strong loss of binding to eIF2B (Fig. S9B; lanes 9-10), while mutations to AcP10 M196

and Y207/F210 had partial effects (Fig. S9B; lanes 11-12). An AcP10 D29A mutation

had no effect on binding. Next, we explored the functional importance of these residues

by measuring competitive eIF2B binding between AcP10 and eIF2α-P. First, we titrated

AcP10 against pre-formed BODIPY-GDP-eIF2 complexes in the presence or absence

of eIF2α-P and measured nucleotide exchange *in vitro*. As expected, eIF2B GEF

activity was strongly inhibited by eIF2α-P [Fig. 3E - condition 2; S9C - condition 6, (*65,*

66)]. The inhibition was completely reversed upon addition of AcP10 (Fig. 3E - condition

3; S9C - conditions 9-10). In accordance with our binding assays, AcP10 carrying

F30A/Y31A or H193A/H200A mutations did not rescue the inhibitory effect of eIF2α-P,

while mutations to AcP10 Y207/F210 had subtle effects (Fig. 3E). We note here that

even in the absence of eIF2α-P, AcP10 stimulated eIF2B GEF activity (Fig. S9C,

conditions 1-5). This is consistent with our observation that apo-eIF2B continuously

samples the A- and I-state conformations (Fig. 1, S1), leading us to reason that AcP10

binding strongly shifts the equilibrium to the A-state. Supporting this notion, 3D

variability analyses and multi-class cryo-EM reconstructions of eIF2B bound to AcP10

yielded no particles in the I-state (Fig. S7).

Second, we pre-incubated streptavidin-tagged eIF2B decamers with AcP10^{WT} or

AcP10$^{H193A/H200A}$ and then added purified eIF2α-P to the respective mixtures. We affinity

purified eIF2B-bound complexes and determined the relative amounts of eIF2α-P or

AcP10 that co-purified with eIF2B by immunoblotting. As expected, in reaction mixtures

containing only eIF2B and eIF2α-P, eIF2B bound efficiently to eIF2α-P (Fig. S9D, lane

4). In reaction mixtures containing eIF2B, AcP10^{WT} and eIF2α-P, eIF2B robustly bound

to AcP10 but failed to efficiently co-purify eIF2α-P (Fig. S9D, lane 5). AcP10$^{H193A/H200A}$

did not co-precipitate with eIF2B efficiently and did not prevent the interaction between

eIF2α-P and eIF2B (Fig. S9D, lane 6), corroborating the stabilizing role of these polar

residues in the AcP10-eIF2B interface ([71]).

Third, we transfected GFP-tagged versions of NSs, AcP10, or the AcP10 interface

mutants into HEK293T cells and tested their ability to inhibit the ISR induced by sodium

arsenite, a commonly used activator of the ISR-inducing kinase HRI ([20], [75]). AcP10

and NSs, but not the AcP10 interface mutants, strongly inhibited the accumulation of

ATF4 and restored nascent protein synthesis rates even as eIF2-P levels remained high

(Fig. 3F).

Together, these results indicate a remarkable convergence of evolutionary constraints

that have shaped how structurally unrelated effectors from distinct viruses inhibit the

ISR. BwCoV AcP10, like SFSV NSs, leverages molecular interactions involving

'aromatic fingers' combining strong hydrophobic and electrostatic components to

engage the same 'hotspot' groove between helices α3 and α4 of eIF2Bα (Fig. S10). In

doing so, both AcP10 and NSs hold eIF2Bα in the A-state with an open pocket for latch-

helix binding while occluding eIF2-P binding.

AcP10 compensates for the loss of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix.

We next tested whether AcP10 binding could restore the enzymatic function of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-}}$

$^{\text{latch}}$. To this end, we first established that AcP10 binds to both eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

decamers (Fig. S11), indicating that, as expected, the latch-helix is not required for

AcP10 binding. We then incubated wild-type AcP10 or interface mutants of AcP10 with

eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ decamers and assayed for enzymatic function *in vitro*. Remarkably, AcP10

accelerated the guanine-nucleotide exchange rate catalyzed by eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (Fig. 4A;

$t_{1/2}\Delta$-latch = 15.7 +/- 0.2 min vs. $t_{1/2}\Delta$-latch + AcP10 = 4.8 +/- 0.7 min). This restorative

effect was lost in reactions incubated with the AcP10 interface mutants (Fig. 4A).

Corroborating these data, GFP-AcP10, but not GFP-AcP10$^{F30A/Y31A}$, robustly reversed

ATF4 accumulation in *EIF2B2* depleted cells expressing eIF2Bβ$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (Fig. 4B-C).

Therefore, AcP10 binding compensates for the loss of the latch-helix and inhibits the

eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$-induced ISR.

To characterize this reaction, we determined the AcP10-eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ complex structure

by cryo-EM (Fig. S12A-D). These maps revealed that AcP10 bound to eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

through the eIF2-P binding pocket in the same manner as it did to eIF2B^{WT} (Fig. S12C).

Structures of apo-eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ overlaid onto AcP10-eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ indicated a pronounced

set of conformational changes in eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ upon AcP10 binding (Fig. 4D-F). First,

AcP10 induced a narrowing of the eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ substrate binding pocket from 36 Å to 33

Å, conducive to productive eIF2 substrate binding (Fig. S12E). Second, by seizing hold

of the groove between helices α3 and α4 of eIF2Bα, AcP10 reorients eIF2Bα to adopt

an A-state position relative to eIF2Bβ and δ (Fig. 4D). However, the eIF2Bα C-terminal

helix does not fully reset the latch-helix binding pocket to the wild-type A-state

conformation. Instead, the aromatic ring of αF75 shifts to occupy the hydrophobic

pocket of eIF2Bα that remains solvent-accessible upon loss of the latch-helix, thereby

mimicking the A-state stabilizing environment created by the latch-helix residue βL113

(Fig 4D-E). This compensatory shift of αF75 is further stabilized by the sidechain of

αR96 that reorients to sandwich the phenyl ring of αF75 in a cation-**π**-cation interaction

with αR103 (Fig. 4E). Third, the fulcrum-helix on eIF2Bδ rotates back to the A-state

conformation where δR517 engages in a salt bridge with αD298 (Fig. 4F).

Upon analysis of particles by 3D classification, we noted that an AcP10:eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ ratio

of 2:1 in solution yielded ~35% of particles that were bound by two AcP10 molecules,

while ~23% of the particles classified into an asymmetric structure decorated by a

single AcP10 molecule (Fig. S12B; Class 2). The remaining particles lacked AcP10

density. Despite asymmetric AcP10 binding, the reorientation of eIF2Bα and the switch

of the eIF2Bδ fulcrum-helix to the A-state conformation was symmetrical on either side

of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$, a conformational state identical to eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ bound by two molecules of

AcP10 (Fig. 4D-F, Fig. S12F). This observation further demonstrates that coaxing the

A-state on one side of the decamer cooperatively favors the A-state on the opposite

side. Thus, despite the loss of the latch-helix, AcP10 pushes the eIF2Bα$_2$ dimer uphill

from its ground I-state into an A-state conformation, leading to stabilization of

enzymatically active eIF2B.

Pharmacological regulation of eIF2B via the ISRIB pocket depends on latch-helix

interactions with eIF2Bα

While NSs and AcP10 access the eIF2-P binding pocket to regulate eIF2B, the small

molecule ISRIB functions as an ISR inhibitor by binding a distinct pocket formed by the

two-fold symmetry interface between the β- and δ- subunits in eIF2B, ~50 Å distant

from the binding sites of these viral effectors (*4, 5, 65, 66*). ISRIB enhanced the GEF

activity of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ three-fold, although it did not restore the activity to eIF2B^{WT} levels

(Fig. 5A), prompting us to ask how ISRIB-binding allosterically relates to the latch-helix.

To this end, we first measured the binding affinities of fluorescein-labeled ISRIB (FAM-

ISRIB) to both eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. FAM-ISRIB bound to eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ with an

approximate four-fold affinity decrease as compared to eIF2B^{WT} (eIF2B^{WT} K_d = 26 nM

+/- 0.5 nM; eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ K_d = 95 nM +/- 4.7 nM) (Fig. 5B). The structural basis for this

reduction in affinity becomes apparent when comparing the ISRIB-binding pocket

between the ISRIB-bound eIF2B^{WT} structure (PDB: 7L7G; *grey*) and the eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

structure (*colored*) (Fig. 5C). Specifically, the length of the binding pocket increases by

more than 4 Å, displacing the hydrophobic pockets that receive the two terminal

halogenated benzene rings of ISRIB (*76*). βH188 and δL179 from one half of eIF2B

also move apart from the other half, disfavoring the centered binding of ISRIB

orthogonal to the symmetry axis. The I-state conformation of the ISRIB-binding pocket

is further stabilized by the lever-like rotation of the adjacent βH160 from its trans-

interface zippering interaction with β'R228 ('prime' indicates an amino acid in the

opposing tetramer across the symmetry interface) (Fig. S2C, Movie S2), facilitating

opening of the clefts between eIF2Bβ and eIF2Bδ' from the opposite tetramer.

The lengthening of the ISRIB pocket observed in eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ suggested that the

corresponding lengthening of ISRIB might stabilize the I-state and pharmacologically

activate the ISR. Following this idea, we designed and synthesized ISRIB derivatives

that conformed to the longer pocket. To this end, we introduced two key modifications to

the glycolamide groups within ISRIB: (i) addition of a methylene group between the

amide and ether moieties; and (ii) addition of an aromatic group to the amide nitrogen

(based upon observations first reported by A. Zyryanova and D. Ron) (Fig. S13A). We

rationalized that modification (i) would increase the overall length of the molecule and

allow the terminal aryls to contact their cognate binding sites in the extended pocket,

while modification (ii) could potentially interact within the cleft that forms between

eIF2Bβ and eIF2Bδ' (Fig. 5C). We designed two molecules following this scheme,

named ISRACT-01 and ISRACT-02 (Fig. 5D). The primary difference between the two

compounds is the addition of the methylene extension on the opposing (ISRACT-01) or

same (ISRACT-02) side as the aromatic amide adduct.

To determine how these compounds fit within the I-state pocket, we determined cryo-

EM structures of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ bound to both compounds (Fig. S14A-F). Our

reconstruction of the ISRACT-01-bound eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ complex allowed unambiguous

modelling of the compound binding pose. Despite stabilizing the Δ-latch I-state

conformation as expected, the branching benzyl group that we introduced on ISRACT-

01 occupied a shallow surface groove in the space between residues βN162 and

βH188 rather than the β/δ' cleft as we had expected (Fig. 5E).

The consensus structure of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ in complex with ISRACT-02 similarly showed

prominent density for the compound but required 3D classification to resolve

heterogeneous states. We found that ~25% of the particles sorted into an I-state

decamer in which ISRACT-02 was bound in the same manner as ISRACT-01. By

contrast, reconstruction of the remaining ~75% of the particles revealed ISRACT-02

bound, surprisingly, to an A-state decamer with the aromatic pyridine facing the solvent

rather than inserting into the β/δ' cleft or occupying the pocket between βN162 and

βH188 (Fig. 5F).

Closer inspection revealed that in the I-state particles, the ISRACT-02 tertiary amide

was in the *trans* conformation, while in the unexpected A-state it was in *cis*. In contrast

to secondary amides where *trans* is energetically favored, in tertiary amides both *trans*

and *cis* states are expected to have similar prevalence in the free ligand and will

interconvert in solution. The remarkable dual activity of ISRACT-02 appears to be a

result of the *trans*-amide conformation end-to-end length being ~2.3 Å longer, which

better fits the I-state pocket (Fig. 5F, right). Conversely, from our observations, the *cis*-

amide conformation of ISRACT-01 binds eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ in the I-state, in which the *trans*-

amide conformation would be unable to bind.

These structures were corroborated by measurements of the binding affinities of the

FAM-derivatized ISRACT compounds toward eIF2B^{WT} or eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (Fig. S14I): FAM-

ISRACT-01 bound eIF2B^{WT} very weakly (K_d = not measurable with confidence), while it

bound eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ with high nanomolar affinity (K_d = 557 nM +/- 97 nM). As expected,

FAM-ISRACT-02 bound eIF2B^{WT} (K_d = 174 nM +/- 32.2 nM) with a two-fold higher

affinity compared to eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (K_d = 385 nM +/- 7.8 nM). Together with the structures,

these data indicate that ISRACT-01 represents a *bona fide* ISR ACTivator, while

ISRACT-02 can stabilize either the A- or I-state of eIF2B.

To characterize ISRACT-01 further, we next measured its effect on the GEF activity of

either eIF2B^{WT} or eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ *in vitro*. At saturating concentrations, ISRACT-01 did not

have an effect when incubated alone with either the active eIF2B^{WT} or the inactive

eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ complex (Fig. 5G; conditions 2 and 4). However, ISRACT-01 notably

potentiated the effect of limiting amounts of eIF2-P to decelerate nucleotide exchange

by eIF2B^{WT} (Fig. 5G; condition 6). These results underscore the notion that ISRACT-01

binding to eIF2B is facilitated by I-state stabilization, leading to a synergistic inhibition in

the presence of both eIF2-P and ISRACT-01.

When tested in cells, we found that treatment with ISRACT-01 caused an increase in

the expression of ATF4 (Fig. 5H; *Eif2s1$^{S51/S51}$* panel). Furthermore, ISRACT-01

protected cells from apoptosis activated by tunicamycin, an N-linked glycosylation

inhibitor that causes ER stress and activation of the eIF2 kinase PERK (Fig. S15A). In

contrast, eIF2B activation with ISRIB accelerated tunicamycin-induced cell death, as

reported previously (*49*) (Fig. S15A). Polysome profiling of cells treated with ISRACT-01

showed an increase in the 60S and 80S ribosome subunit fractions accompanied by a

concomitant decrease in the heavier polysome fractions, phenocopying protein

synthesis defects observed during the ISR (*49*) (Fig. S15B,C). In line with the *in vitro*

GEF assays described above, ISRACT-01 treatments of cells deficient for eIF2α

phosphorylation (*Eif2s1$^{S51A/S51A}$*) (*77*) did not stimulate strong ATF4 accumulation (Fig.

5H; *Eif2s1$^{S51A/S51A}$* panel). Together, these observations indicate that ISRACT-01

binding alone is unable to displace the latch-helix. It is, however, sufficient to stabilize

the I-state in the presence of limiting amounts of cellular eIF2-P, thus enhancing a

cytoprotective ISR during tunicamycin-induced ER stress.

Discussion

The allosteric communication axes in eIF2B

The regulatory allosteric signaling axes described in this work explain how the antagonistic binding of substrate (eIF2) and inhibitor (eIF2-P) is communicated over the 40 Å distance along eIF2B's central interface. Four conformational elements aligned along two identical, symmetry-related axes operate in concert: (i) the latch-helix docking to its binding pocket in eIF2Bα, (ii) the rotation of the fulcrum-helix in eIF2Bδ, (iii) the βH160 tetramer-tetramer interface zipper, and (iv) the substrate eIF2 binding pocket (Fig. 6). We establish that discrete conformational changes in these four elements, synchronized both within- and across-axes, define the active-to-inactive A- to I-state transition in eIF2B (Movie S4). Two convergently evolved viral effectors exert their effect by locking eIF2Bα, and with it the entire eIF2B complex, into the A-state.

Comparing the parsed structure classes of unliganded eIF2B by cryo-EM 3D variability analysis, we demonstrate that apo-eIF2B exists in an equilibrium of A- and I-states, suggesting a relatively flat energy landscape between the two states. In the absence of an inhibitor, engagement of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix with the eIF2Bα latch-helix pocket biases the conformational equilibrium toward the A-state, which the viral effectors AcP10 and NSs further stabilize. By contrast, eIF2-P binding to eIF2B skews the equilibrium towards the I-state by stabilizing a remodeled latch-helix pocket. This interaction reorients eIF2Bα to drive the series of events along the allosteric axes that results in a widening of the substrate binding pocket to disfavor eIF2 binding. In doing so, eIF2-P binding stabilizes eIF2Bα in its intrinsic ground I-state conformation, as observed in crystal structures of eIF2Bα homodimers (Fig. S5C). Experimentally, the I-state can be further stabilized by a rationally designed ISR activator ISRACT-01 that, due to its increased length over the clinical ISR inhibitors based on ISRIB, buttresses the I-state-induced cleft between tetramer-tetramer interfaces.

Two mirrored allosteric axes connect the symmetry interface of the eIF2B complex. This observation expands the model of allosteric regulation proposed by Monod, Wyman, and Changeux (*78*) to include state-transitions of complexes formed by non-identical

subunits. The experiments with the viral effector AcP10 provide first evidence that

activation or inhibition of eIF2B on one side synchronizes the symmetry-related other

side of the complex (Fig. S12F). We pose that such asymmetric communication is likely

mimicked by eIF2B's interactions with its substrate, eIF2, whose binding positions

eIF2α as a tether between the two tetramers and hence stabilizes the A-state.

Evolutionary considerations of latch-helix mediated regulation

Based on sequence and structural homology, the α, β, and δ subunits of eIF2B are

evolutionarily related to archaeal aIF2B proteins (*79*). While eIF2Bδ has a large, flexible

N-terminal expansion, only eIF2Bβ evolved the latch-helix containing insertion between

helices α4 and α5 (Fig. S5A, S5D). Furthermore, analysis of eIF2Bβ sequences across

eukaryotes reveals remarkable conservation of the latch-helix with hydrophobic side

chains that likely fit snugly into the latch-helix pocket (Fig. S5B, S5D). Thus, it is

plausible that a latch-helix based regulatory node in eIF2B co-evolved with its role as a

GEF for eIF2 in eukaryotes. Notably, the amino acids defining the latch-helix binding

pocket in eIF2Bα are likewise conserved (Fig. S5E) and thus eIF2Bα emerges from this

and other studies (*73*) as a determinant of the allosteric modulation effected by

metabolites, viral effectors, and eIF2-P.

While the function of the closest related aIF2Bs have not been elucidated, two families

of proteins that are sequentially and structurally related to a/eIF2B are sugar phosphate

isomerases (*79–81*), and human eIF2Bα retains the capability to bind sugar phosphates

M6P and F6P *in vitro* (*73*). We show here that eIF2Bα dynamically closes its latch-helix

binding pocket in response to eIF2-P, inducing the I-state. The consensus structures for

M6P-bound eIF2Bα dimers and F6P-bound eIF2B decamers likewise adopt I-state

conformations. Indeed, in support of our findings, the latch-helix is unresolved in the

F6P-bound decamer, yet paradoxically, both M6P and F6P stimulate eIF2B activity *in*

vitro—an observation that remains unexplained. In addition to eIF2Bα, eIF2Bβ and δ

are also evolutionarily related to sugar phosphate binding proteins and may likewise

retain metabolite-binding properties that conceivably regulate eIF2B function.

Surprisingly, the viral protein AcP10 is agnostic to the presence of the latch-helix in
eIF2B (see Figs. 3-4). Through a series of intricate, precise, and evolutionarily
convergent interactions that rely on aromatic amino acid "fingers", both AcP10 and NSs
coerce the α-subunit of eIF2B to reorient to the A-state conformation (Figs. 3D; 4D-E,
S10). Viral protein use of aromatic fingers emerges as a compelling evolutionary means
to force productive interaction surfaces, as often observed in high-affinity interactions,
such as those mediated between antigens and antibodies (82, 83). Using this trick to
good effect, AcP10/NSs target eIF2B, activate the enzyme, and suppress the ISR.
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Considerations of small molecule ISR activators
While an increasing body of literature has focused on activating eIF2B for therapeutic
benefit with small molecules (49, 54, 63, 64, 84), the characterization of the eIF2B I-
state allowed us and others to design eIF2B inhibitors, ISRACTs, that target the same
pocket as the ISR inhibitor ISRIB. ISRACT-01, in particular, is a valuable tool to study
the ISR in cells by allowing specific ISR activation directly through eIF2B. This mode of
action distinguishes ISRACT-01 from other compounds that induce eIF2 kinase-
mediated increases in eIF2-P. Since kinases generally phosphorylate a spectrum of
substrate proteins, it is unlikely that ISR kinases only phosphorylate eIF2α (85, 86).
Rather, ISR kinases likely change the cell's phospho-proteome in yet uncharacterized
ways and hence alter the molecular environment in which the ISR ultimately exerts its
effects. Medicinally, further development of ISRACTs may serve as alternatives to ISR-
activating phosphatase inhibitors such as salubrinal (87) which has shown promise in
models of Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (88) and sickle-cell anemia (89), and the GCN2
kinase activator halofuginone that protects from diabetes in a model of diet induced
obesity (90).
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We note that the modifications introduced to the ISRIB backbone to generate ISRACT
impose some pharmacokinetic penalties. The binding pose of the added benzyl group
restricts the movement of residue βH188 on eIF2B, which is generally observed as a
mixture of rotamers, thereby potentially imposing an entropic penalty. Since the
discovery of ISRIB, the molecule has been optimized into a clinical candidate through

structure-activity relationship studies (*54*, *76*). Given their shared backbone, the

principles of improving ISRIB's pharmacological properties should be applicable to

ISRACT as well. Furthermore, our increased structural understanding of eIF2B and its

regulation via its allosteric signaling axes opens new ways to explore drugging

alternative pockets, such as the latch-helix binding pocket and/or the eIF2-

P/metabolite/viral effector binding pockets of the alpha subunit, for therapeutic benefit

as we learn with increasing precision how to modulate the ISR across biological scales.

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Competing interests: PW and DAA are inventors of ISRIB. A patent is held by the Regents of the University of California that describes ISRIB and its analogs. Rights to the invention have been licensed by UCSF to Calico. All authors affiliated with Altos Labs are option holders or shareholders in Altos Labs, Inc. All other authors declare no competing interests.

Data and materials availability: Cryo-EM density maps and associated models will be publicly available through the wwPDB with accession codes: PDB: 9Y3P, 9Y3U, 9Y3Q, 9Y3T, 9Y3V, 9Y3W, 9Y4B, 9Y5S, 9Y5R, 9Y5T, 9Y5U; EMD-72462, 72467, 72463, 72466, 72468, 72499, 72477, 72521, 72520, 72522, 72523. All other raw data are available upon request through data transfer agreements.

606 **<u>Supplementary Materials</u>**

607 Materials and Methods

608 Figs. S1 to S15

609 Tables S1 to S4

610 Movies S1 to S4

    Main Text Figure Legends

Fig 1. Disordering of a helical latch that bridges eIF2Bβ and eIF2Bα demarcates

the inactivation of eIF2B.

(A)(Top) Cryo-EM density of wild-type eIF2B(αβγδε)$_2$ in the apo, A-state with the

location of the latch-helix highlighted in cyan. (Bottom) Cryo-EM density of eIF2B in an

apo, I-state where the latch-helix is no longer resolvable. Direction of three trajectories

of motion identified by 3D variability analysis are indicated by **1**, **2**, and **3**, respectively

(see Supp movie S1) (B) Zoom-in on the eIF2 binding interfaces defined by residues

βN132 and δ'R250 (' indicates a subunit from the opposing half of eIF2B) from the eIF2

substrate-bound (PDB: 6O81, top) and the eIF2α-P inhibitor-bound (PDB: 9Y5R,

bottom) structures with the model of eIF2α (pink) from 6O81 overlaid. (C) (Left)

Distribution of eIF2B particles after 3D classification, as measured by the distance

between βN132 and δ'R250 in structures from 8 distinct 3D classes. (Right) Close-up

view of the eIF2B α-β interface from the cryo-EM structures of eIF2-eIF2B (EMD-0649),

eIF2α-P (EMD-72523), and representative A-state and I-state structures from 3D

classification. (D) Zoom-in of the latch-helix and its binding pocket with a transparent

surface representation of eIF2Bα colored by molecular hydrophobicity potential. Key

residues of eIF2Bα and eIF2Bβ are labeled according to the color of each subunit. (E)

The structural model of eIF2α-P (pink)-bound eIF2Bα (maroon) overlaid with a

transparent model of A-state apo eIF2Bα (gray) and eIF2Bβ latch-helix (blue).

Conformational changes of interest are indicated with dashed arrows and potential

steric clashes indicated by curved lines.

Fig 2. Removal of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix is sufficient to inactivate eIF2B.

(A) Guanine nucleotide exchange factor (GEF) activity as measured by BODIPY-GDP

loading onto eIF2, using 10 nM wild-type (eIF2B^{WT}) or β100-116 deletion (eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$)

eIF2B as the enzyme and 100 nM eIF2 as the substrate. The left panel shows a

representative time course readout of a 60-minute nucleotide exchange reaction. The

t$_{1/2}$ of nucleotide loading from three experiments are plotted and averaged in the right

panel. Data represent the mean±s.e.m (n$\geq$4). (B) Sedimentation velocity of WT and Δ-

latch eIF2Bβγδε in the presence or absence of eIF2Bα$_2$ as measured by analytical

ultracentrifugation. (C) Lysates of HEK293T cells transfected for 72 hours with either

non-targeting (siNT) or *EIF2B2*-targeting (si*EIF2B2*) siRNA were subjected to
immunoblotting using antibodies to eIF2Bβ and vinculin. Densitometry of the eIF2Bβ
blot intensity normalized to the intensity of Vinculin and plotted relative to the non-
targeting control. Data represent the mean±s.e.m (n=4). (D) Immunoblots and
quantifications of lysates of HEK293T cells co-transfected with either non-targeting
(siNT) or *EIF2B2*-targeting (si*EIF2B2*) knockdown siRNA and rescue plasmids
expressing siRNA resistant and mApple-FLAG tagged *eIF2Bβ^{WT}* or *eIF2Bβ$^{Δ-latch}$*. ATF4
mean fold changes are normalized to the amount of Vinculin measured by
densitometry. Data represent the mean±s.e.m (n=4). (E). The I-state cryo-EM structure
of eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$ (left) with a zoom-in view of the eIF2Bα latch-helix binding pocket in red
overlaid with the eIF2α-P bound I-state conformation in transparent grey (right). (F)
Distribution of eIF2B^{WT} (gray) and eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$ (black) particle conformations as
measured by the distance between residues βN132 and δ'R250 from structural models
fit into cryo-EM maps generated by 3D classification.
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Fig 3. Viral proteins AcP10 and NSs convergently evolved as activators of eIF2B
that order the latch-helix and outcompete eIF2-P to suppress the ISR.
(A) *In vitro* pulldowns of purified eIF2Bα$_2$ (200 nM), eIF2Bβδγε (400 nM) or
eIF2B(αβδγε)$_2$ (200 nM) with MBP-FLAG (1 µM) and MBP-AcP10 (1 µM).
Immunoblotting was performed using antibodies to eIF2B subunits and MBP. Data are
representative of three independent experiments. (B) Cryo-EM density of the AcP10-
eIF2B^{WT} complex showing two copies of AcP10 (orange) bound. (C) Comparison of the
binding locations on eIF2Bα/δ occupied by either eIF2α-P (top left), NSs (top right) or
AcP10 (bottom left). The bottom right panel depicts the overlay of the interface. eIF2Bα
- red; eIF2Bδ - yellow; eIF2α-P - violet; NSs - blue; AcP10 - orange. (D) Zoomed-in view
of the entire AcP10-eIF2B interaction interface (top left) with key interactions made by
AcP10 residues (clockwise from top right): F30/Y31 with eIF2Bα, Y207/F210 with
eIF2Bα, and H193/H200 with eIF2Bδ. Hydrogen bond, electrostatic, or cation–π
interactions are denoted by dashed lines. AcP10 - orange; eIF2Bα - red; eIF2Bδ -
yellow; eIF2Bβ latch-helix - light blue. (E) GEF activity as measured by BODIPY-GDP
unloading from eIF2 (100 nM) by eIF2B^{WT} decamers (10 nM) with or without the addition

of eIF2α-P (1 µM), MBP-AcP10 WT (1 µM) or MBP-AcP10 interface mutants (1 µM), as

indicated. Shown are mean±s.e.m. of $t_{1/2}$ values derived from a one-phase decay fit of

four replicates. (F) HEK293T cells were transfected for 24 hours with plasmids

expressing GFP-tagged AcP10, AcP10 interface mutants or NSs and treated with

sodium arsenite (50 µM) for 4 hours to induce the ISR. For a set of experiments, cells

were subjected to puromycin pulse-chase analyses to assess nascent protein synthesis

rates. Immunoblotting of lysates was performed using antibodies to puromycin, vinculin,

GFP, ATF4 and eIF2α-P. Puromycin pulse-chase (n=2) and ATF4/eIF2α-P

accumulation (n=4) assay samples were processed in parallel on separate gels.

Representative blots are shown.

Fig 4. AcP10 rescues the activity of eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$ and suppresses ISR activation in

eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$ mutant cells.

(A) GEF activity as measured by BODIPY-GDP loading onto eIF2 (100 nM) by eIF2B^{WT}

(10 nM) with or without the addition of eIF2α-P (1 µM) or eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$ decamers (10 nM)

with or without the addition of MBP-AcP10 WT (1 µM) or MBP-AcP10 interface mutants

(1 µM), as indicated. Shown are mean±s.e.m. of $t_{1/2}$ values derived from a one-phase

association fit for four experimental replicates. (B) Immunoblots of HEK293T cell lysates

co-transfected with either non-targeting (siNT) or *EIF2B2*-targeting (si*EIF2B2*) siRNA

and rescue plasmids expressing siRNA resistant and mApple-FLAG tagged *eIF2Bβ$^{Δ\text{-}}$*

latch. (C) Fold changes in the levels of ATF4 normalized to the amount of Vinculin in cells

by densitometry. Data represent the mean±s.e.m (n=4). (D - F) The structural models

of eIF2Bα (top and middle panels) and eIF2Bδ (bottom panel) when AcP10 (orange) is

bound to eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$ (multi-colored) overlaid with A-state apo eIF2B^{WT} (blue) and I-state

apo eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$ (gray) with the latch-helix highlighted (cyan). Conformational changes of

interest are indicated with dashed arrows and denote I- to A- state-transition. The

cation–π–cation interaction in (E) is denoted with dashed lines.

Fig 5. The eIF2B pharmacophore is allosterically modulated by latch-helix

ordering.

(A) Guanine nucleotide exchange factor (GEF) activity as measured by BODIPY-GDP

loading, using 10 nM eIF2B^{WT} or eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (with and without 1 µM ISRIB pre-

incubation) as the enzyme and 100 nM eIF2 as the substrate. (B) Fluorescence

polarization based binding assay to measure binding of fluorescein conjugated ISRIB

(FAM-ISRIB) to eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. (C) Close-up view of the ISRIB binding pocket

of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ (colored) overlaid with a model of ISRIB in complex with eIF2B^{WT} (PDB:

7L7G) in gray. Key residues are shown as sticks and labeled by subunit color with (')

indicating residues from the opposite tetramer. The observed widening of the pocket is

indicated in red. (1) and (2) indicate major structural differences targeted for rational

design of eIF2B inhibitors. (D) Chemical structures of compounds ISRACT-01 and

ISRACT-02 with the modifications relative to ISRIB shown in red. Cis/trans

isomerization of ISRACT-02 around the amide bond are indicated by arrows. (E) Zoom-

in view of the ISRACT/ISRIB binding pocket from cryo-EM structures of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

bound to ISRACT-01 I-state shown as cartoons (left) and an alternate viewing direction

as surface view (right). (F) Structures of ISRACT-02 in complex with eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ in the I-

state (top) and A-state (bottom). Percent of particles per conformation are indicated to

the left. Alternate surface views on the right demonstrate the change in amide

isomerization and end-to-end length of ISRACT-02. (G) GEF activity of eIF2B^{WT} and

eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ upon treatment with 10 µM of ISRACT-01. eIF2B^{WT} inhibition was also

tested upon treatment with 50 nM eIF2-P, or 50 nM eIF2-P + 10 µM ISRACT-01. (H)

Immunoblots of mouse embryonic fibroblast lysates of *Eif2fs1$^{S51/S51}$* or *Eif2fs1$^{S51A/S51A}$*

cells treated with the indicated concentrations of ISRACT-01 or the ISRIB analogue

2BAct for 3 hours. Panels were cropped from the same gel. Representative blots from n

= 4 experiments are shown.

Fig 6. Latch-helix ordering propagates along an allosteric axis that links eIF2B's

substrate, inhibitor, and pharmacophore sites.

Model of eIF2B A- to I-state transition encompassing shifts in the conformational

equilibrium within the α, β, and δ core that are induced by eIF2-P, small molecules, and

effector proteins to regulate eIF2B activity. Arrows depict the conformational changes

imparted during I-state stabilization.

Supplementary Materials for
738
739 **Allosteric Disordering of eIF2B Regulates the Integrated Stress Response**
740
741 Udit Dalwadi, Advait Subramanian, *et al.*
742
743 *Corresponding authors: afrost@altoslabs.com, pwalter@altoslabs.com
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745
746 **The PDF file includes:**
747
748 Materials and Methods
749 Figs. S1 to S15
750 Tables S1 to S4
751 References
752
753 **Other Supplementary Materials for this manuscript include the following:**
754
755 Movies S1 to S4
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757 **Materials and Methods**
758
759 ***Protein expression and purification***
760 *eIF2Bβγδε tetramers*
761
Plasmids containing *E. coli* codon-optimized dual ORFs of eIF2Bβ&δ (His-tagged WT:
pAD025, His-Strep tagged WT: pPE-011, His-tagged Δ-latch: pAD028) and eIF2Bγ&ε
(pAD024) were transformed into OneShot BL21 Star (DE3) chemically competent cells
(Invitrogen). Following 1 h recovery in LB media, the entire transformation mixture was
used to inoculate 50 mL of LB media containing chloramphenicol and kanamycin and
grown overnight at 37 °C. 6 x 1 L of LB media (+chloramphenicol and kanamycin) were
inoculated with 12 mL each of the overnight culture and grown at 37 °C until the culture
reached an OD_{600} of 0.8. Expression was then induced by addition of IPTG to a final
concentration of 0.8 mM and continued for 20 hours at 16 °C. Cells were harvested by
centrifugation (10 minutes at 4000 x g) and stored at -80 °C or used immediately for
purification. Pellets were resuspended with 4 mL/g wet pellet of cold lysis buffer (40 mM
HEPES KOH pH 7.5, 250 mM KCl, 1 mM TCEP, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 15 mM Imidazole pH 8,
and 1 tablet/50 mL of cOmplete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche)). *E. coli*
were lysed by three consecutive cycles through an EmulsiFlex-C3 (Avestin)
homogenizer then cleared by centrifugation at 18,000 x g for 60 minutes at 4 °C. All
subsequent steps were carried out using an AKTA Pure FPLC (Cytiva) at 4 °C. The
clarified lysate was loaded onto a 5 mL HisTrap HP column equilibrated in HisTrap
buffer A (20 mM HEPES KOH pH 7.4, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 15 mM Imidazole, 1
mM TCEP), followed by washing with 5 CV of the buffer. Sample was then eluted from

the column over a 0-100% linear gradient into HisTrap buffer B (20 mM HEPES KOH
pH 7.4, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 300 mM Imidazole, 1 mM TCEP). Peak fractions
containing eIF2Bβγδε were pooled and applied to a MonoQ 10/100 GL column
equilibrated in IEX buffer A (20 mM HEPES KOH pH 7.4, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1
mM TCEP) and then washed with 5 CV of the buffer. Bound proteins were eluted using
a linear 0-100% gradient of IEX buffer B (20 mM HEPES KOH pH 7.4, 500 mM KCl, 5
mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM TCEP) over 10 CV. Peak fractions containing eIF2Bβγδε were
pooled, concentrated, and loaded onto a Superdex 200 Increase 10/300 column
equilibrated with SEC buffer (20 mM HEPES KOH pH 7.4, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$,
5% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP). The final purified sample was concentrated using a 100k
MWCO spin concentrator (Millipore), flash frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -80 C
until use. A typical yield was 3 mg of >95% pure tetramer from 6 L of *E. coli* culture.
793
794 *eIF2Bα dimers*
795
eIF2Bα dimers were initially purified as described previously (*65*). The following protocol
was employed to increase yield and purity of the final protein. A modified pRSF Duet
plasmid containing *E. coli* codon-optimized (His8-MBP-Thrombin cut site) tagged
eIF2Bα ORF (pPFE ALTOS-041) was transformed into OneShot BL21 Star (DE3)
chemically competent cells (Invitrogen) and grown on LB-Agar containing Kanamycin. A
single colony was used to inoculate a 100 mL overnight culture. 20 mL of the overnight
culture was used to inoculate 3 x 1 L of TB media (+Kanamycin) and the culture was
grown at 37 °C until the culture reached an OD_{600} of 0.8. Expression was then induced
by addition of IPTG to a final concentration of 0.8 mM and continued for 20 hours at 17
°C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation (17 minutes at 4000 x g) and stored at -80
°C or used immediately for purification. Pellets were resuspended with 100 mL of cold
lysis buffer (40 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 500 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP, 1 mM
PMSF, and 1 tablet/50 mL of cOmplete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche)).
E. coli were lysed by four consecutive cycles through an EmulsiFlex-C3 (Avestin)
homogenizer then cleared by centrifugation at 23,000 x g for 60 minutes at 4 °C. The
clarified lysate was incubated with 10 mL Cobalt IMAC resin (Takara) (equilibrated in
lysis buffer) and incubated for 1 hour with gentle rotation to allow batch binding. The
resin was applied to a gravity column and washed with 25 CV of lysis buffer containing
12.5 mM imidazole, and bound protein was eluted using 7 CV of lysis buffer containing
125 mM imidazole. The elution fraction was next incubated with 10 mL of equilibrated
Amylose resin (NEB) for 30 minutes with gentle rotation. The resin was washed with 5
CV Amylose wash buffer (40 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 300 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol) then
eluted with 5 CV of Amylose wash buffer supplemented with 50 mM maltose. The
eluted proteins were concentrated to 1 mL and purified further by size exclusion
chromatography using a HiLoad Superdex200 Increase 16/60 column equilibrated in
SEC buffer (20 mM HEPES-KOH pH 8, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.5 mM TCEP) on
an AKTA Pure instrument (Cytiva). The peak fractions containing His-MBP-eIF2Bα
were pooled and the His-MBP tag was then cleaved using thrombin for 96 hours at 4
°C. The resultant mixture was purified by size exclusion chromatography using a
HiLoad Superdex 75 16/60 column in SEC buffer. The peak fractions containing
cleaved protein were pooled and passed over a Cobalt IMAC-Amylose mixed slurry to

remove residual His-MBP fusions. The flow-through was collected, concentrated, flash
frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C until use. A typical yield was ~25 mg of
>99% pure protein from 3 L of *E. coli* culture.
830
831 *AcP10*
832
E. coli BL21 (DE3) cultures expressing His-MBP-AcP10 or corresponding mutant
plasmids were first cultured overnight at 37 °C. These overnight cultures were
subcultured (1:100) in LB medium, supplemented with the appropriate antibiotics, to
OD600 = 0.6. Protein expression was then induced with 1 mM IPTG and the culture was
grown at 16 °C overnight. The next day, the bacteria were centrifuged at 6,000 r.p.m. for
5 min at 4 °C, followed by incubation of the pellets in bacterial lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-
HCl pH 8, 300 mM NaCl, 5 mM Imidazole, 0.2 mM TCEP, 0.5 mM PMSF, 5% glycerol
and complete protease inhibitor) for 60 min on ice. The mixtures were then lysed by
three passes through an EmulsiFlex C3 high pressure homogenizer (Avestin). The
lysate was then cleared by centrifugation at 20,000 x g for 45 min at 4 °C. The
supernatant was applied onto a gravity column packed with TALON IMAC resin at 4 °C
to enable batch binding for 1 hour at 4 °C. The resin was washed with five column
volumes of wash buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 300 mM NaCl, 20 mM Imidazole, 0.1 mM
TCEP, 0.1 mM PMSF, 5% glycerol and cOmplete protease inhibitor). His-MBP-AcP10
was eluted with elution buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 300 mM NaCl, 200 mM
glutathione, 0.1 mM TCEP, and 5% glycerol) and concentrated at 4 °C using Amicon
Ultra centrifugal filters with repeated mixing to prevent aggregate formation. The purified
proteins were analyzed by SDS–PAGE and Coomassie brilliant blue staining. The
protein concentrations were calculated by measuring absorbance at 280 nm and
applying the Beer–Lambert law (A = εlc; ε = 82990). In certain cases, proteins were
further purified by gel filtration chromatography using a Superdex 200 column attached
to an AKTA Pure FPLC (Cytiva) and running buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0,
300 mM NaCl and protease inhibitor cocktail. Elution fractions containing protein were
analysed by their A280 spectra, SDS–PAGE and Coomassie brilliant blue staining.
857
858 *eIF2 and eIF2-P*
859
Heretotrimeric eIF2 was generated by co-expression of full length eIF2α, N-term FLAG-
Tev tagged eIF2β (2-333, K79R, K80R, K81R, K83R, K84R), eIF2γ (91-472), CDC123
in Expi293F cells. Equimolar ratios of codon-optimized plasmids (0.75 μg of each
plasmid per mL of cell culture) were diluted in Opti-MEM media (Gibco) to a final
concentration of 18 μg/mL. The diluted plasmids were then combined with an equivalent
volume of PEI at 0.12 mg/mL in Opti-MEM. The mixture was added dropwise to cells at
a density of ~3x10^6 cells/mL to transfect the plasmids. The cells were grown for 20
hours on an orbital shaker at 37 °C, 8% CO$_2$ at a speed of 125 rpm before addition of
Expi Enhancer to the culture. Cell pellets were harvested by centrifugation 72 h after
transfection. Pellets were resuspended with 5 mL/g lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES KOH
pH 7.4, 300 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl$_2$, 0.001 mM Triton X-100, 1 tablet/50 mL protease
inhibitor cocktail) and lysed by sonication (3 s on, 5 s off, 200 W for 100 cycles).
Lysates were clarified by two consecutive centrifugations for 30 mins at 20300 x g, 4

°C. The supernatant was incubated with anti-FLAG M2 affinity gel (Sigma) and bound
protein was eluted with 100 µg/ml of FLAG peptide. 1mM GDP was added to the
eluate and incubated for one hour. For phosphorylation, GST-PKR was added to the
solution at 1:20 (PKR:eIF2, w/w) and ATP was added to a final concentration of 1 mM.
The protein treated with/without PKR kinase was further purified by size exclusion
chromatography using a Superdex 200 Increase 10/300 GL (Cytiva) column and
concentrated by ultra-filtration (Amicon, MWCO 30 kD). The final protein was analyzed
using Phos-tag SDS-PAGE (Fujifilm) to determine the phosphorylation state, then flash
frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C until use.

eIF2α(NTD)-P

The coding sequence of the human eIF2α subunit N-terminal domain (residues 2-187)
with an N-term 6xHis-Tev cut site tag was codon optimized, synthesized, and cloned
into a pET28(a) vector. The plasmid was transformed into chemically competent
OneShot BI21 Star (DE3) *E. coli* and a single colony was picked to start an overnight
culture. Following overnight growth at 37 °C, the culture was used to inoculate 2 L
(1:250) of ZYP-5052 autoinduction media which was then grown for 20 hours at 20 °C.
Cell pellets were harvested by centrifugation for 10 mins at 4000 x g, washed once with
PBS and stored at -80 °C until use. Cells were resuspended in lysis buffer (20 mM Tris-
HCl pH 7.5, 500 mM NaCl, 20 mM imidazole, 1 mM PMSF, and 1 tablet/50 mL EDTA-
free protease inhibitor cocktail) and lysed by sonication using a Branson 450 sonifier
(pulses of 10 s on, 10 s off for 20 minutes at 60% power). Lysates were cleared by
centrifugation at 18000 x g for 30 min and passed through a 0.45 µm bottle-top filter
before loading onto an equilibrated HisTrap FF column (Cytiva) using an AKTA Pure
FPLC instrument. The column was then washed with 10 CV of eIF2α wash buffer (20
mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 500 mM NaCl) supplemented with 20 mM imidazole and a further
5 CV of buffer with 62.5 mM imidazole. Bound proteins were eluted with elution buffer
(wash buffer + 250 mM imidazole). The elution fraction was supplemented with 5 mM
MgCl$_2$ and 2.5 mM ATP (Sigma) then phosphorylated by addition of 5 µg recombinant
GST-PKR (Thermo) for 2 hours at 37 C with gentle stirring. The entire reaction was
syringe filtered (0.22 µm filter), concentrated to 1 mL, and purified further by size
exclusion chromatography using a Superdex 200 Increase pg 16/600 column.
Phosphorylation and purity of the final sample was evaluated by SDS PAGE using a
Phos-tag gel (Fujifilm). A typical yield was 2 mg of protein per liter of *E. coli* culture.

eIF2α-P

eIF2α-P was purified as previously described (*36*). N-terminally 6x-His-tagged human
eIF2α was transformed into One-Shot BL21 Star (DE3) chemically competent *E. coli*
cells and eIF2α expression was induced with 1 mM IPTG. The culture was grown
overnight at 16°C. Cell pellets were then lysed using the EmulsiFlex-C3 in a buffer
containing 100 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 7.5, 300 mM KCl, 2 mM dithiothreitol (DTT), 5 mM
MgCl2, 5 mM imidazole, 10% glycerol, 0.1% IGEPAL CA-630, and protease inhibitor
cocktail. The lysate was clarified at 20,000 rpm for 45 min at 4°C. Clarified lysate was
loaded onto a AKTA Pure 5 ml His-Trap FF Crude column, washed in a buffer

containing 20 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 7.5, 100 mM KCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM DTT, 5 mM
MgCl2, 0.1% IGEPAL CA-630, and 20 mM imidazole, and eluted with 75 ml linear
gradient of 20 mM – 500 mM imidazole. The eIF2α-containing fractions were collected
and applied to a MonoQ HR 10/100 GL column equilibrated in a buffer containing 20
mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 100 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT, 5% glycerol, and 5 mM MgCl2 for
anion exchange. The column was washed in the same buffer, and the protein was
eluted with a gradient of 100 mM to 1 M KCl. eIF2α-containing fractions were
concentrated with an Amicon Ultra-15 concentrator with a 30 kDa molecular mass
cutoff. eIF2α was phosphorylated by incubating the concentrate with 1 mM ATP and 1
mg of PKR-GST enzyme (amino acids 252-551) per milligram of eIF2α overnight at
4°C. eIF2α-P was then purified on a Superdex 75 10/300 GL column equilibrated in a
buffer containing 20 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 100 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT, 5 mM MgCl2,
and 5% glycerol, and concentrated again using an Amicon Ultra-15 concentrator with a
10 kDa molecular mass cutoff and the protein was flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and
stored at -80°C. Samples were run on a 12.5% PhosTag gel to verify phosphorylation
status.
935
Cryo-EM sample preparation and data collection

eIF2B decamers were assembled on ice for 15 minutes by combining eIF2Bβγδε
tetramers (WT or Δ-latch) with eIF2Bα$_2$ at final concentrations of 12 µM and 9 µM,
respectively. Where applicable, ligands were added after complex assembly at the
following molar ratios to decamer: 3:1 eIF2α(NTD)-P, 2:1 MBP-AcP10, 15:1 ISRACT-01
(0.5% DMSO), 15:1 ISRACT-02 (0.5% DMSO). Following a 30-minute incubation on ice
with ligands, samples were vitrified using a Vitrobot Mark IV plunge freezer (Thermo)
set to 4 °C and 100% humidity. Quantifoil R 1.2/1.3, 300 mesh 25 nm gold grids were
glow discharged using an EasiGlow glow discharger (Pelco) for 30 s at 15 mA
immediately before use. 3.5 µL of sample was applied to a grid and excess liquid was
removed using dual-side blotting with a blot force of -5 for 1.5 s. The grids were
immediately plunged into liquid ethane then transferred to and stored in liquid nitrogen
until clipping and imaging. The apo-eIF2B^{WT}, eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10, eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$-ISRACT-01,
and eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$-ISRACT-02 datasets were collected using a Glacios TEM (Thermo)
operating at 200 keV while apo-eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$ and eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$-AcP10 datasets were
collected using a Titan Krios G4 TEM (Thermo) operating at 300 keV. Both microscopes
are equipped with Falcon 4i detectors and SelectrisX energy filters with a slit width of 10
eV. The microscope and data collection parameters for each dataset are provided in
Supplemental table 1.
955
Cryo-EM image analysis

The specific details of image analysis are displayed in supplemental figures S1
(eIF2B^{WT}), S4 (eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$), S7 (eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10), S12 (eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$-AcP10), S14
(eIF2B$^{Δ-latch}$-ISRACT-01, eIF2B$^{D-latch}$-ISRACT-02) and CryoSPARC workflow files are
available at https://github.com/udalwadi/latch-helix. For all datasets, patch-based global
and local motion correction, and patch CTF estimation were performed within
CryoSPARC live (Structura Biotechnology) using default settings. All subsequent image
analysis was carried out using CryoSPARC v4.2 or newer (*91*). For the apo eIF2B^{WT}

dataset, particles were initially picked with the blob picker using a particle diameter
range of 160-220 Å and minimum separation distance of 0.7 diameters. Particles were
extracted with a box size of 512 pixels and Fourier cropped to 400 pixels, then
subjected to 2D classification into 50 classes with default settings. 2D classes
resembling eIF2B were selected, then used for template-based particle picking for all
datasets in this study, with a particle diameter of 220 Å. For all datasets, template-
picked particles were extracted and subjected to one round of 2D classification to
remove non-particles then subjected to *ab initio* reconstruction and heterogenous
refinement into multiple classes. Particles from the best-refining classes were subjected
to homogenous refinement with global and local CTF-refinement to generate the
consensus map for each dataset. The refined particles were then subjected to 3D
classification and 3DVA, where applicable, and each 3D class was refined further by
homogenous refinement and used for subsequent model building.

Model building, refinement, and analysis

The initial apo eIF2B^{WT} A-state structural model was generated starting by global
relaxation of 7L7G into the map using ISOLDE (*92*) within UCSF ChimeraX (*93*) by
running the simulation with simple distance restraints enabled. Each chain and residue
were then manually refined to fit the experimental map and the residues comprising the
latch-helix were manually built and fit. This model was then used as a starting template
to build into all subsequent experimental maps containing eIF2B following the same
procedure. Models of ISRACT-01 and ISRACT-02 were imported to ChimeraX by their
SMILES codes, parameterized using ISOLDE and fit manually into observed cryo-EM
density. An AlphaFold prediction of the human uridine cytidine kinase UCK1 that shares
homology with AcP10 (*71*) was used as a template to build the structure into the
experimental density maps containing AcP10. A final refinement of all models was
carried out against half-maps using Servalcat (*94*) and the resulting statistics are
reported in **Supplemental table 1**. Experimental structures are deposited to the
wwPDB with accession codes PDB: 9Y3P, 9Y3U, 9Y3Q, 9Y3T, 9Y3V, 9Y3W, 9Y4B,
9Y5S, 9Y5R, 9Y5T, 9Y5U; EMD-72462, 72467, 72463, 72466, 72468, 72499, 72477,
72521, 72520, 72522, 72523. Measurements of all reported structural features were
done using the 'distance' command in ChimeraX between alpha-carbons of the
appropriate residues. All figures and movies including cryo-EM maps and models were
generated using ChimeraX.

Targeted reanalysis of hydrogen-deuterium exchange coupled to mass spectrometry on eIF2B to measure latch-helix dynamics

Hydrogen-deuterium exchange coupled to mass spectrometry (HDX-MS) datasets
generated by Lawrence *et al.* (*67*) were mined to obtain measurements of relative latch-
helix dynamics when eIF2B is in the apo-state compared to when it is stabilized in either
the A-state (apo-eIF2B versus eIF2B:NSs complex) or the I-state (apo-eIF2B versus
eIF2B:eIF2-P complex). The difference in deuteration levels (ΔD) of all detected
peptides (n = 5) corresponding to different regions within amino acids 108 - 141 of
eIF2Bβ at each exchange time point were plotted. Positive values represent peptides

with less deuteration (more solvent protection) in eIF2B complexes with NSs/eIF2-P
than in apo-eIF2B in isolation. Negative values represent peptides with more
deuteration (less solvent protection) in eIF2B complexes with NSs/eIF2-P than in apo-
eIF2B in isolation.
1013
In vitro guanine nucleotide exchange assay

The nucleotide exchange activity of eIF2B was measured as either the loading of
BODIPY-GDP to eIF2 ('loading') or subsequent exchange of GDP for BODIPY-GDP
('unloading') and the measurement is indicated in each relevant figure. Purified eIF2
(100 nM) was incubated with 100 nM BODIPY-FL-GDP (Thermo Fisher Scientific) in
assay buffer (100 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 7.5), 100 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM TCEP
and 1 mg/mL bovine serum albumin) to a volume of 500 µl in a black-walled 1.5-ml tube.
eIF2B decamers were assembled for >45 minutes at room temperature with a molar
ratio of eIF2Bβδγε tetramers to eIF2Bα dimers of 1.5 : 2.0. 10x concentrated GEF
mixes were assembled with 100 mM eIF2B and a 10x concentration of any ligand as
indicated in individual figures. 18 µL per well of the eIF2 - BODIPY-GDP - BSA mix was
added to 384-square-well, black-walled, clear-bottom polystyrene assay plates (Corning
#3766) and a baseline fluorescence intensity was measured for 30 seconds using a
Clariostar Plus (BMG LabTech) plate reader (λ_{Ex} 497 nm, λ_{Em} 525 nm). 2 µl of the 10×
GEF mixes were then spiked into the 384-well plate wells with a multichannel pipette to
achieve the final concentration of proteins and drugs as indicated in each figure.
Fluorescence intensity was recorded every 10 s for 60 min at room temperature. For
unloading assays, wells were spiked with 1 mM GDP after completion of the loading
reaction and fluorescence intensity measurement was resumed. Data collected were fit
to a first-order exponential association ('loading') or first-order exponential decay
('unloading') with Prism (GraphPad) and the reaction half-time after curve fitting are
reported as $t_{1/2}$.
1036
FAM-ISRIB fluorescence polarization affinity assay

All fluorescence polarization measurements were performed in 20 µl reactions with
2.5 nM FAM-ISRIB (Praxis Bioresearch) in FP buffer (20 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 7.5),
100 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$ and 1 mM TCEP) and measured in 384-well, non-stick black
plates (Corning, 3820) using a ClarioStar Plus (BMG LabTech) plate reader at room
temperature. Before the reaction setup, eIF2B decamers were assembled in FP buffer
at 10 µM using eIF2Bβδγε and eIF2Bα$_2$ in a 2:1.5 molar ratio for at least 1 h at 4 °C.
FAM-ISRIB, FAM-ISRACT-01, or FAM-ISRACT-02 were always first diluted to 2.5 µM in
100% NMP before dilution to 50 nM in 2% NMP and then added to the reaction (0.1%
NMP final). eIF2B decamers were serially diluted two-fold 10 times starting from 1.111
µM and the 18 µL of the dilutions were transferred to the 384-well assay plate. 2 µL of
the 50 nM fluorescent compound was then added to each well. The plate was incubated
at room temperature for 30 min before measurement of parallel and perpendicular
intensities (λ_{Ex} 482 nm, λ_{Em} 530 nm).
1051
Analytical ultracentrifugation

Analytical ultracentrifugation sedimentation velocity experiments were performed using
the Optima AUC (Beckman Coulter). Samples were loaded into cells in AUC buffer
(20 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 7.5), 150 mM KCl, 1 mM TCEP and 5 mM $MgCl_2$) at 1 µM for
eIF2Bβδγε tetramers and 0.75 µM for eIF2Bα dimers. A buffer-only reference control
was also loaded. Samples were then centrifuged in an AN 50 Ti rotor at 40,000 r.p.m. at
20 °C, and 280-nm absorbance was monitored for 100 scans every 100 s. Subsequent
data analysis was conducted with Sedfit using a non-model-based continuous c(S)
distribution and graphs were generated using Prism (GraphPad).
1061
In vitro immunoprecipitation assays

Assays were performed with a modified protocol from a previous report (*65*). For MBP-
tag pulldowns, purified His-MBP-AcP10, His-MBP-AcP10 mutants, eIF2B(αβδγε)$_2$,
eIF2Bβδγε, eIF2B(αβ$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$δγε)$_2$, eIF2Bβ$^{Δ\text{-latch}}$δγε and eIF2Bα$_2$ were incubated (with
gentle rotation at 4°C) with Amylose resin in Assay Buffer (20 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 7.5,
150 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM TCEP, 1 mg/ml bovine serum albumin (BSA), 5 mM
$CaCl_2$). After 1 h, the resin was pelleted by benchtop centrifugation and the supernatant
was removed. Resin was washed 3 times with 500 µl of ice cold Assay Buffer before
resin was resuspended in Elution Buffer (Assay Buffer with 5 mM EDTA and 200mM
Maltose) and incubated with gentle rocking for 30 minutes. The resin was then pelleted
and the eluate was incubated with Laemmeli buffer and boiled. Samples were analyzed
by Western Blotting.

1074
For eIF2B pulldowns, purified eIF2Bβδγε tetramers with a Strepavidin-eIF2Bβ were
used. Purified His-MBP-AcP10, His-MBP-AcP10 mutants and preassembled eIF2B^{WT}
decamers were first incubated (with gentle rotation at 4°C) in Assay Buffer (20 mM
HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM TCEP, 1 mg/ml bovine serum
albumin (BSA), 5 mM $CaCl_2$). After 1 h, eIF2α-P was added to the samples where
indicated for another hour at 4°C. Streptavidin-Sepharose resin was then added to the
mixtures and incubated for a further hour with gentle rotation. The resin was pelleted by
benchtop centrifugation and the supernatant was removed. Resin was washed 3 times
with 500 µl of ice cold Assay Buffer before the resin was resuspended in Elution Buffer
(Assay Buffer with 5 mM EDTA and 2.5 mM Desthiobiotin) and incubated with gentle
rocking for 30 minutes. The resin was then pelleted and the eluate was incubated with
Laemmeli buffer and boiled. Samples were analyzed by Western Blotting.
1087
1088 ***Crosslinking mass spectrometry of AcP10-eIF2B complexes***

1089 **PhoX crosslinking and protein digestion**
1090
His-MBP-AcP10 was incubated with the eIF2B decamer at a molar ratio of 5:1 for 1
hour at 25°C in a final volume of 40 µL. 10% of the input was removed for SDS-Page
analysis, and Disuccinimidyl Phenyl Phosphonic Acid (DSPP or PhoX) was added to
the remaining solution at a final concentration of 1mM. The crosslinking reaction was
carried out at 25°C for 1 hour before quenching with Tris pH 8.5 to a final concentration
of 20 mM. To check cross-linking efficiency, 2.5 µL of each sample (non-crosslinked

and crosslinked) was mixed with 2.5 µL of 2x Laemmli loading buffer containing 5 mM
TCEP (Bond-Breaker). Samples were then heated for 5 minutes at 95°C. 5 µL of the
prepared SDS-PAGE samples were loaded onto a 12-well stain-free 4-15% Criterion
gel. The gel was imaged under UV light using a Bio-Rad ChemiDoc system. Successful
crosslinking was determined by the upward shift of the AcP10 and eIF2B bands.
1102
Protein samples were reduced with 5 mM TCEP for 30 minutes at 37°C on a
ThermoMixer shaking at 1000 rpm. Alkylation was then performed using 15mM 2-
chloroacetamide for 30 minutes in the dark at 25°C on a ThermoMixer shaking at 1000
rpm. Excess 2-chloroacetamide was quenched by DTT at a final concentration of 10mM
and incubating for 30 minutes at 25°C. For protein precipitation, 300µL of cold acetone
was added to each sample and vortexed briefly, followed by overnight precipitation at
−30°C. Precipitated protein was centrifuged at 21,130 x g at 4°C for 20 minutes and
acetone was removed carefully without disturbing the pellet. Samples were airdried for
15 minutes at 25°C and resuspended in 25 µL of 8M Urea, 0.1M Tris pH 8.5. For
digestion, LysC was added at a 1:40 ratio of enzyme:protein sample and incubated at
25°C on a ThermoMixer at 1000rpm for 3 hours. To dilute the urea concentration down
to 1M before trypsin digestion, 175µL of 0.1M Tris pH 8.5 was added to each sample.
Trypsin was then added at a 1:40 enzyme:protein ratio and digested overnight at 25°C.
1116
1117 **Peptide C18 Clean-up and IMAC Enrichment**
1118
Digested peptides were brought to 1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) by adding 22.2 µL of
10% TFA in water. Samples were briefly vortexed, and droplets were collected by
centrifugation. 210µL of each sample was then transferred to a LoBind 96-well plate.
200µL of peptide sample was desalted by C18 clean-up performed on an AssayMAP
Bravo automated liquid handling system (Agilent Technologies; Santa Clara, Ca).
Peptides were eluted from the C18 cartridges with 25µL of 80% acetonitrile (ACN) in
0.1% TFA. Crosslinked peptides were enriched on the AssayMAP Bravo using 5µL
Fe(III)-NTA cartridges. The cartridges were primed with 200 µL of 0.1% TFA in ACN
and equilibrated with 200 µL of loading buffer (80% ACN/0.1% TFA). Peptides were
resuspended in a final volume of 210µL 80% ACN/0.1% TFA and 200µL was loaded
onto the cartridge. The cartridges were washed with 50 µL of 80% ACN/0.1% TFA, and
the crosslinked peptides were eluted with 25 µL of a 3:1 ratio of H_2O: NH_4OH into a 96-
well LoBind plate containing 25µL of 10% formic acid in H_2O to immediately neutralize
the pH. The plate was immediately dried using a speedvac and stored at -80°C. The
peptides were resuspended in 3% ACN:0.1% formic acid and identified by LC-MS/MS
analyses.
1135
1136 **Database Search**
1137
Spectral raw data files were first processed using MSFragger (version 4.0) with a
FASTA file combining the H. sapiens and E. coli proteomes (downloaded on April 11,
2024, UP000005640 and UP000000625) including the relevant fusion protein
sequences and a list of common contaminant proteins. Cysteine carbamidomethylation
(57.02146) was set as fixed modification. Methionine oxidation (15.9949), protein N-

term acetylation (42.0106), phosphorylation (79.96633 on S, T, Y), and hydrolysed and
Tris-quenched PhoX crosslinker modifications (227.98238 and 331.0457 on K
respectively) were set as dynamic modifications. The proteins identified by MSFragger
were combined into a FASTA file to generate a searchable library that was
subsequently used with the XlinkX node 3.0 of the Proteome Discoverer 3.0 software
(Thermo Fisher Scientific) to identify crosslinked peptides using the noncleavable open
search algorithm. The analysis was performed using cysteine carbamidomethylation as
a fixed modification and methionine oxidation as a variable modification. PhoX
(+209.97181 Da) was set as the crosslinker modification on lysine residue while also
allowing protein N-terminus linkage with the following parameters: minimum peptide
length 5, missed cleavages 2, precursor mass tolerance 10 ppm, fragment mass
tolerance 20 ppm, and 5% FDR on CSM and cross-link levels. The crosslinks were
visualized using the xMAS plugin in ChimeraX.
1156
1157 ***Cell lines and cell culture***
1158
HEK293T (ATCC, CRL-3216), MEFs (gift from R. J. Kaufman, Sanford Burnham Prebys
Medical Research Institute) and BJ fibroblasts (ATCC, CRL-2522) were cultured in
DMEM-high glutamine medium. DMEM media was supplemented with 10% fetal bovine
serum and the cells were maintained at 37 °C and 5% CO_2. For the MEF and BJ
fibroblast cell cultures, the DMEM medium was further supplemented with penicillin–
streptomycin antibiotic, sodium pyruvate and non-essential amino-acid mixtures. The
HEK293T cells were seeded in poly-L-lysine–treated plates. The cells were cultured to
approximately 75–90% confluency for most experiments. Each cell line was routinely
screened for mycoplasma contamination by the Tissue Culture Hub at Altos-BAI.
HEK293T and BJ fibroblast cells from ATCC were authenticated by short-tandem-
repeat profiling.
1170
1171 ***Transfection***
1172
HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmid vectors using the TransIT-2020
transfection reagent for 24 hours. Lipofectamine RNAiMax was used to carry out siRNA
treatments in HEK293T cells for 72 hours. For co-expression of eIF2Bβ siRNA and
eIF2Bβ siRNA resistant plasmids, HEK293T cells were first transfected in suspension
with eIF2Bβ siRNA using Lipofectamine RNAiMax for 24 hours. The next day, the cell
culture media was replaced with fresh media containing the eIF2Bβ siRNA resistant
plasmid:TransIT-2020 mixture and cells were cultured for a further 48
hours. Expression or knockdown efficiencies were checked in parallel for every
experiment by immunoblotting. The eIF2Bβ siRNA sequence is provided in
Supplementary Table 3. Plasmids with ORFs expressing AcP10, AcP10 mutants, NSs
and siRNA resistant eIF2Bβ^{WT} and eIF2Bβ$^{Δ-latch}$ were sequenced and verified before
use. The ORF sequences are provided in Supplementary Table 3.
1185
1186 ***Puromycin pulse–chase assays***
1187

Assays were performed as previously reported (*95*). Cells were treated with 2 µg/ml
puromycin for 10 min, followed by puromycin wash out with PBS. The cells were chased
with complete medium with or without the indicated stressor for 50 min, washed with
PBS and lysed with RIPA buffer (1% Triton X-100, 20 mM Tris–HCl pH 8.0, 0.1% SDS,
0.05% sodium deoxycholate, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Na3VO4, 40 mM β-
glycerophosphate and 10 mM NaF). The lysates were then subjected to
immunoblotting.
1195
1196   ***ISR activation assays with sodium arsenite***
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1198   HEK293T cells were treated with 50 µM of sodium arsenite (LabChem Cat.
1199   No.LC229001) dissolved in DMEM media supplemented with 10% FCS for 4 hours to
1200   induce the ISR.
1201
1202   ***Cell-extract preparation and immunoblotting***
1203
Cells were washed three times with PBS and immediately collected at 4 °C in RIPA lysis
buffer containing phosphatase inhibitors (1% Triton X-100, 20 mM Tris–HCl pH 8.0,
0.1% SDS, 0.05% sodium deoxycholate, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Na3VO4, 40 mM β-
glycerophosphate and 10 mM NaF) and complete protease inhibitors (Roche). The
detergent-soluble supernatant fractions were immediately processed for SDS–PAGE
and immunoblotting with antibodies. A list of antibodies used in this study are provided
in Supplementary Table 4.
1211
IncuCyte caspase assay
BJ fibroblasts were seeded in 96-well plates with 100 µL EMEM (ATCC, 30-2003)
supplemented with 10% FBS (Omega Scientific, FB-01), 1x GlutaMAX (Thermo Fisher
Scientific, 35050061), and 1x MEM non-essential amino acid (Thermo Fisher Scientific,
11140035). The following day, the medium was changed to 80 µL of medium
supplemented either with ISRIB (200 nM), ISRACT-01 (3 µM), or the control medium
without ISRIB and ISRACT-01. After 4 hours of pre-incubation with ISRIB or ISRACT-
01, tunicamycin treatment was started by adding 20 µL of the medium supplemented
with tunicamycin (5 µM) and reagents for Incucyte analyses: Incucyte Caspase-3/7 Dye
for Apoptosis (Sartorius, 4804, 1:1000 dilution) and Incucyte Nuclight Rapid NIR Dye for
Live-Cell Nuclear Labelling (Sartorius, 4440, 1:1000 dilution). The final concentrations
of the compounds were 1 µM for tunicamycin, 160 nM for ISRIB, and 2.4 µM for
ISRACT-01. Immediately, the 96-well plates were placed in the Incucyte S3 Live-Cell
Analysis System (Sartorius), and the cells were recorded with the 10X objective every 2
hours for 5 days (excluding one time point every 24 hours). Using Incucyte Analysis
Software (Sartorius), Caspase 3/7 intensity of each well was obtained as the area with
the signal above a cutoff for Incucyte Caspase-3/7 Dye divided by the total cell count
obtained from the Incucyte Nuclight Rapid NIR Dye.
1230
Polysome profiling

Ribosome profiling was performed as we previously described with some modifications
(*64*). Briefly, we prepared fresh 12 ml of 10 – 50% (m/v) sucrose gradients [20 mM Tris-
HCl (pH 8), 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 150 mM KCl] in open-top Polyclear tubes (Seton Scientific,
9/16x3-3/4 inch) with gradient master that comes with the fractionator (Biocomp; we
used the long-cap protocol to accommodate the lysate volume). Gradients were kept at
4 °C for at least 30 min before use. WT mouse fibroblasts in 15-cm dishes at ~80%
confluency were treated with vehicle (DMSO), thapsigargin (50nM) or ISRACT-01
(10µM) for 30 min before subject to a wash with cold PBS and lysis in 3x polysome lysis
buffer [1x concentrations: 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8), 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 150 mM KCl, 1 mM
DTT, 1% NP-40, 100 µg/ml cycloheximide, and EDTA-free protease inhibitors (Roche
Indianapolis, IN)] and centrifuged at 14,000 rpm for 10 min at 4 °C. The supernatant
was transferred to a pre-chilled tube. We normalized the input amount by RNA
concentration measured by qubit (RNA broad range kit, Fisher Scientific). The
supernatant was layered onto sucrose gradient carefully. Gradients were centrifuged in
a SW-40Ti rotor at 40,000 rpm at 4 °C for 2 hr and then analyzed by piston gradient
fractionator (Biocomp) and the absorbance of the material was monitored and recorded
using Triax flow cell. Ribosome profile traces were then plotted using Prism
(GraphPad).
1250
1251 ***Chemical synthesis***

1252 Visual schematics of chemical synthesis are provided in Fig. S13. Data files of ^{1}H NMR,
1253 ^{13}C NMR, and LC-MS analyses of synthesized products are included as Data S1.
1254
1255 *ISRACT-01*
1256
Step 1. Tert-butyl N-[trans-4-[N-benzyl-2-(4-
chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]carbamate

To a stirred solution of tert-butyl N-[trans-4-(benzylamino)cyclohexyl]carbamate (3.00 g,
9.85 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and TEA (2.99 g, 29.6 mmol, 3.00 equiv) in DCM (30 mL) was
added 4-chlorophenoxyacetyl chloride (2.22 g, 10.8 mmol, 1.10 equiv) at 0 °C. The
reaction was stirred for 2 h at 0 °C. The reaction was quenched with water (40 mL). The
resulting mixture was extracted with DCM (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic layers
were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4. After filtration, the
filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give tert-butyl N-[trans-4-[N-benzyl-
2-(4-chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]carbamate (3.70 g, 79% yield) as a white
solid. LCMS (ES, m/z): 473.20, 475.20 [M+H]+

Step 2. N-benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-aminocyclohexyl]acetamide
hydrochloride

To a stirred solution of tert-butyl N-[trans-4-[N-benzyl-2-(4-
chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]carbamate (2.00 g, 4.23 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in ethyl
acetate (10 mL) was added HCl (4 M in 1,4-dioxane) (10.6 mL, 42.3 mmol, 10.0 equiv)
at 25 °C. The reaction was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C. The mixture was concentrated and
washed with Et_2O (20 mL) to give N-benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-

aminocyclohexyl]acetamide hydrochloride (1.5 g, 87% yield) as a white solid. LCMS
(ES, m/z): 373.20, 375.20 [M-HCl +H]$^+$

Step 3. 3-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-[N-benzyl-2-(4-
chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]propanamide

To a stirred solution of N-benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-
aminocyclohexyl]acetamide hydrochloride (2.00 g, 4.90 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and 3-(4-
chlorophenoxy)propanoic acid (1.18 g, 5.88 mmol, 1.20 equiv) in DMF (20 mL) was
added DIEA (1.88 g, 14.7 mmol, 3.00 equiv) and HATU (2.42 g, 6.37 mmol, 1.30 equiv)
at 25 °C. The reaction was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C. The reaction was purified by
reversed flash chromatography (column: C18 column, 120 g, 20-35 µm; mobile phase,
A: water (10 mM NH$_4$HCO$_3$) and B: ACN (0% to 75% gradient in 30 min); detector:
254/220 nm). The collected fraction was lyophilized to give 3-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-
[trans-4-[N-benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]propanamide (1.08 g, 36%
yield, 98.8% purity) as a white solid.

ISRACT-02

Step 1. 2-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-[(pyridin-4-
ylmethyl)amino]cyclohexyl]acetamide

To a stirred solution of 2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-aminocyclohexyl]acetamide (440
mg, 1.56 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in DCM (5.0 mL) was added 4-formylpyridine (168 mg, 1.56
mmol, 1.00 equiv) and AcOH (9.4 mg, 0.156 mmol, 0.10 equiv) at 25 °C. The reaction
was stirred for 0.5 h at 25 °C. Then STAB (996 mg, 4.68 mmol, 3.00 equiv) was added
and the mixture was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C. The reaction was quenched with water (20
mL). The mixture was extracted with DCM (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers
were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$. After filtration, the
filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by
silica gel column, eluting with PE/EA (1:2) to afford 2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-
[(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)amino]cyclohexyl]acetamide (300 mg, 50% yield) as a white solid.
LCMS (ES, m/z):374.15, 376.15 [M+H]$^+$

Step 2. 3-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-N-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-N-[trans-4-[2-(4-
chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]propanamide

To a solution of 2-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-[trans-4-[(pyridin-4-
ylmethyl)amino]cyclohexyl]acetamide (240 mg, 0.642 mmol, 1.00 equiv), 3-(4-
chlorophenoxy)propanoic acid (193 mg, 0.963 mmol, 1.50 equiv) in DCM (4.0 mL) was
added HOBt (173 mg, 1.28 mmol, 2.00 equiv) and EDCI (185 mg, 0.963 mmol, 1.50
equiv) at 25°C. The reaction was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C and concentrated under
reduced pressure. The residue was purified by reversed flash chromatography (column:
C18 column, 40 g, 20-35 µm; mobile phase, A: water (10 mM NH$_4$HCO$_3$) and B: ACN
(10% to 70% gradient in 40 min); detector: 254/220 nm). The collected fraction was
lyophilized to afford 3-(4-chlorophenoxy)-N-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-N-[trans-4-[2-(4-

chlorophenoxy)acetamido]cyclohexyl]propanamide (41.0 mg, 11% yield, 97.3% purity)
as a white solid.

Data Reproducibility

The number of replicates for each experiment are ≥ 2 and statistical parameters for
each experiment are listed in the corresponding figure legends. No statistical methods
were used to pre-determine sample sizes. Data distribution was assumed to be normal,
but this was not formally tested. Experimental design and data collection was
randomized. For each experiment with multiple conditions, recombinant protein
preparations or cultured cells were from the same batch and allocated at random in
test-tubes or culture dishes. The independent variable was controlled by direct
manipulation. All other sources of extraneous variability were controlled by
randomization or chance. As a collaborative study, each investigator was blinded from
experiments and data collection conducted by every other investigator. Data collection
and analysis by an individual investigator was however not performed blind to the
conditions of the experiments. For the densitometric analysis of western blots, protein
bands on membranes were captured on a BioRad Chemidoc Touch or a LI-COR
Chemidoc apparatus. The exposure times were varied to obtain appropriate signal
intensities of the protein bands. The intensities of each of the bands were quantitated
using the Image-J gel analysis tool.
1333

Supplementary Figure Legends

Fig S1. Cryo-EM analysis and structural modeling of eIF2B

(A) Representative micrographs from two datasets of apo-eIF2B. (B) Data processing pipeline employed for both datasets to generate a 2.6 Å consensus map of eIF2B. Steps prior to 2D classification were carried out using CryoSPARC live and all subsequent steps were done using CryoSPARC v4.4+. (C) 3D classification of particles used to generate the consensus map into 10 classes and subsequent homogenous refinement of volumes. Distribution of particles into each class are indicated below the class images. The reported interface distances were measured between Cα of βN132 (interface 3) and δR250 (interface 4) from structural models of eIF2B fit into every refined map using ISOLDE. Class 1 and Class 7 were designated A-state and I-state, respectively, and were used to generate images for figures within this manuscript. (D) A zoom-in of the density and model of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix with α-helix defining backbone H-bonds indicated by dashed lines. (E) Display of cryo-EM map quality surrounding the areas of interest used to evaluate A- to I-state conformational changes in the eIF2α binding interface, and the latch-helix binding pocket. (F) Fourier shell correlation after FSC mask auto-tightening within CryoSPARC between half-maps of the consensus, class 1, and class 7 maps. Frequency at a correlation of 0.143 was used to determine the map resolutions displayed.

Fig S2. Analysis of A- and I-state structural hallmarks of apo-eIF2B

(A) A zoomed-in view of the ISRIB-binding pocket of two classes of apo-eIF2B in the A-state (class 1; gray) and the I-state (class 7; colored). The location of ISRIB binding is overlaid on the class 1 structure from PDB:7L7G. The symmetry axis between two halves of eIF2B is indicated by a dashed red line and the difference in pocket width is indicated by the dashed arrow. (B) An isolated view of the fulcrum-helix from the class 1 (eIF2Bα: red, eIF2Bδ: tan) and class 7 (gray) structures aligned on the δ-subunit. Key residues and conformation switches are labeled within the panel. (C) A view along the eIF2B tetramer-tetramer interface of the class 1 (A-state, gray), class 7 (I-state, red), and H160D mutant (PDB: 7RLO, green) structures. The (') denotes subunits of the opposing tetramer of eIF2B. Arrow depicts conformational change in the H160 rotamer during A- to I- state-transition. (D) Cryo-EM structures of two asymmetrical 3D classes of apo-eIF2B viewed from opposite directions showing the lack of latch-helix density on one side. A- and I-state structural hallmarks of these classes are summarized in Table 2.

Fig S3. HDX-MS analysis of the eIF2B latch-helix.

The difference in the number of deuterons exchanged over time in five peptides encompassing amino acids of the eIF2Bβ latch-helix. apo:NSs - deuteration difference between apo-eIF2B versus NSs-bound eIF2B (A-state); apo:eIF2-P - deuteration difference between apo-eIF2B versus eIF2-P-bound eIF2B (I-state). Values > 0 indicate peptide protection (less deuteration) in the second listed state compared to the first listed state. Values < 0 indicate solvent exposure of peptide (more deuteration) in the second listed state compared to the first listed state.

1380
Fig S4. Cryo-EM analysis and modeling of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$

(A) Representative micrograph from the dataset of apo eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. (B) Data processing pipeline employed to generate a 2.1 Å consensus map of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. Steps prior to 2D classification were carried out using CryoSPARC live and all subsequent steps were done using CryoSPARC v4.4+. The final consensus map is colored by local resolution following the legend to the left. (C) 3D classification of particles into 8 classes and subsequent heterogenous reconstruction of volumes. Distribution of particles into each class are indicated below the class images. The reported interface distances were measured between Cα of βN132 (interface 3) and δR250 (interface 4) from structural models of eIF2B fit into every refined map using ISOLDE. (D) Class 4 and Class 8 were designated I-state and A-like-state, respectively, and processed further by homogenous refinement. The maps are colored by local resolution following the legend at the bottom. (E) Analysis of cryo-EM map quality surrounding the areas of interest: the eIF2α binding interface, the latch-helix binding pocket, and the fulcrum-helix. (F) Fourier shell correlation after FSC mask auto-tightening within CryoSPARC between half-maps of the consensus, class 4, and class 8 maps. Frequency at a correlation of 0.143 was used to determine the map resolutions displayed.

Fig S5. Evolution of the latch-helix in eIF2Bβ steers the A-state stabilization of eIF2Bα.

(A) MSA of eIF2Bβ, δ, and α subunits generated using the PDB pairwise structural alignment tool and displayed in relation to eIF2Bβ secondary structure using ESPript3. (B) Structural model of human eIF2Bβ colored with a rainbow palette by secondary structure elements. N-terminus, C-terminus, and α-helices 4, 5, and the latch-helix are labeled. (C) Comparison of crystal structures of human mannose-6-phosphate-bound eIF2Bα (PDB: 7KMA, blue) and an archaeal eIF2B-related protein (PDB: 1VB5, violet) with cryo-EM structures of A-state eIF2Bα (olive) and I-state eIF2Bα (gray). Amino acids αL303 and αF75 are highlighted. Arrows chart A- to I-state transitions. (D) The sequences of eIF2Bβ from various eukaryotes and an evolutionarily related archaeal aIF2B aligned to human eIF2Bβ around the latch-helix using Clustal Omega. The alignments are displayed in relation to eIF2Bβ secondary structure using ESPript3. (E) Alignment of eIF2Bα residues comprising the latch-helix binding pocket (denoted with red arrows) aligned using Clustal Omega. The alignments are displayed in relation to eIF2Bα secondary structure using ESPript3.

Fig S6. Binding of NSs to eIF2B maintains latch-helix order

Cryo-EM structure of eIF2B (colored by subunit) in complex with the Sandfly Fever Sicilian Virus protein NSs (blue) (EMD-24535) showing an ordered latch-helix (cyan).

Fig S7. Purification of AcP10 and cryo-EM of AcP10-eIF2B^{WT} complex.

(A) SDS-PAGE and Coomassie staining analysis of overexpressed MBP-AcP10 purified from *E. coli*. (B) Gel filtration chromatogram of MBP-AcP10 purified using a Superdex200 Increase column. (C) Representative micrograph from the dataset of eIF2B^{WT}-MBP-AcP10. (D) Data processing pipeline employed to generate a 2.9 Å consensus map of eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10. Preprocessing represents the following analysis

done using CryoSPARC live: patch motion correction, patch CTF estimation, template
picking, particle extraction, and 2D classification. All subsequent steps were done using
CryoSPARC v4.4+. The non-uniform refined consensus and 3D classified maps are
colored in gray with density for AcP10 highlighted orange. (C) The final map of eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-}latch}$
with two copies of AcP10 bound (class 1) colored by subunit (left) and by local
resolution (right). (D) Particles from classes 1-4 were combined and refined further to
generate the eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10 structure. The final map is colored by subunit (left) and by
local resolution (right) following the displayed legend. (E) Fourier shell correlation after
FSC mask auto-tightening within CryoSPARC between half-maps of the final
reconstruction. Frequency at a correlation of 0.143 was used to determine the reported
resolution. (F) Analysis of cryo-EM map quality surrounding the areas of interest: the
latch-helix and the fulcrum-helix in the A-state. (G) Analysis of cryo-EM map quality and
model building surrounding key AcP10 residues as labeled. eIF2B subunits are colored
following the same scheme as panel (D).
1440
Fig S8. XL-MS mapping of the eIF2B-AcP10 complex
(A) Preassembled eIF2B decamers (3.75 µM) and MBP-AcP10 (7.5 µM) crosslinked
with PhoX (1mM) and subjected to SDS-PAGE electrophoresis followed by Coomassie
brilliant blue staining (n=3; Rep - Replicate). (B) Crosslinked samples from (A) were
analyzed by mass spectrometry. Crosslinks (dashed lines) across 3 replicates were
mapped onto the eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10 structure using the XMAS plugin in Chimera X. (C)
Schematic representation of the crosslinks between eIF2Bα and eIF2Bδ with AcP10.
Pseudobond distances were calculated based on the consensus structure of eIF2B
bound to AcP10 and measure the approximate bond distance created by the Pho-X
crosslinker accounting for molecular flexibility.
1451
Fig S9. AcP10 contacts the eIF2-P binding pocket in eIF2B and competes with
eIF2α-P.
(A) Schematic representation of the surface area on eIF2B buried by AcP10. AcP10
residues that contact eIF2B are highlighted. (B) *In vitro* pulldowns of preassembled
eIF2B(αβδγε)$_2$ (200 nM) with MBP-AcP10 or interface mutants (1 µM). Data are
representative of two independent experiments. (C) GEF activity as measured by
BODIPY-GDP unloading from eIF2 (100 nM) by eIF2B^{WT} decamers (10 nM) with or
without the addition of eIF2α-P (4 µM)/MBP-AcP10, as indicated. Shown are means.e.m.
of t$_{1/2}$ values derived from a one-phase decay fit for two experimental replicates. (D) *In*
vitro pulldowns of eIF2α-P (0.5 µM) incubated with/without MBP-AcP10^{WT} (2 µM) or MBP-
AcP10^{H193A,H200A} (2 µM) using preassembled StrepII-tagged eIF2B(αβδγε)$_2$ decamers
(200 nM). Data are representative of two independent experiments.
1464
Fig S10. Convergent evolution of viral ISR inhibitors at targeting a 'hotspot' on
eIF2B.
Zoomed-in views of the AcP10-eIF2B interaction interface (top left) compared with the
NSs-eIF2B interaction interface (top right). Key residues on AcP10 and NSs contacting
eIF2Bα are highlighted. In keeping with the schematic theme introduced in (*69*),
cartoons of the AcP10 and NSs aromatic 'fingers' grasping onto an eIF2Bα 'branch' are

shown. AcP10, in addition, presents polar 'knuckles' to buttress the adjacent eIF2Bδ
'branch'.
1473
1474 **Fig S11. AcP10 interacts with both eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$**
1475 (A) *In vitro* pulldowns of purified eIF2Bα$_2$ (200 nM), eIF2Bβδγε (400 nM), eIF2Bβ$^{Δ\text{-}}$
1476 ^{latch}δγε (400 nM), eIF2B(αβδγε)$_2$ (200 nM) or eIF2B(αβ$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$δγε)$_2$ with MBP-FLAG (1 μM)
1477 and MBP-AcP10 (1 μM). Data are representative of two independent experiments.
1478
Fig S12. Cryo-EM of the AcP10-eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ complex.
(A) Representative micrograph from the dataset of eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$-MBP-AcP10. (B) Data
processing pipeline employed to generate a consensus map of eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$-AcP10.
Preprocessing represents the following analysis done using CryoSPARC live: patch
motion correction, patch CTF estimation, template picking, particle extraction, and 2D
classification. All subsequent steps were done using CryoSPARC v4.4+. The
consensus map is colored in gray with density for AcP10 highlighted orange. (C) The
final map of eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ with two copies of AcP10 bound (class 1) colored by subunit
(left) and by local resolution (right). (D) Fourier shell correlation after FSC mask auto-
tightening within CryoSPARC between half-maps of the final reconstruction. Frequency
at a correlation of 0.143 was used to determine the reported resolution. (E) Models
were fit into volumes from class 1, 2, and 3 from 3D classification and the distance
between βN132 and δ'R250 were measured. eIF2 binding interface distances of
consensus models of eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ are indicated by dashed lines. (F)
Analysis of cryo-EM map quality and model building surrounding key AcP10 residues as
labeled for eIF2B bound symmetrically to two AcP10 molecules (class 1) and eIF2B
asymmetrically bound to one AcP10 molecule (class 2). Side 1 and Side 2 for class 2
are indicated above in panel (B). eIF2B subunits are colored following the same
scheme as panel (D).
1498
Fig S13. Chemical synthesis and diagnostics of ISRACT
(A) The chemical structure of ISRIB, represented as a scaffold with locations of
proposed modifications shown in red. (B) Schematic representation of the chemical
modifications which produce compounds ISRACT-01 and ISRACT-02. (C) Chemical
synthesis workflow employed to generate compound ISRACT-01. (D) Chemical
synthesis workflow used to produce compound ISRACT-02. A detailed protocol of
chemical synthesis is provided in Materials and Methods.
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Fig S14. Cryo-EM of ISRACT compounds in complex with eIF2B.
(A) Representative micrograph from the dataset of ISRACT-01 - eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$. (B) Data
processing pipeline employed to generate a consensus map of ISRACT-01 - eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$
complex which had minimal density for the compound in the binding pocket. Pre-
processing includes the following analysis done using CryoSPARC live: patch motion
correction, patch CTF estimation, template picking, particle extraction, and 2D
classification. All subsequent steps were done using CryoSPARC v4.4+. (C) 3D
classification of particles into 4 classes and subsequent homogeneous refinement
produced one volume with clear compound density. Distribution of particles into each
class are indicated below the class images. (D) Representative micrograph from the

dataset of ISRACT-02 - eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. (E) Data processing pipeline employed to generate a consensus map of ISRACT-02 - eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$ complex which had compound density in multiple conformations. Pre-processing includes the following analysis done using CryoSPARC live: patch motion correction, patch CTF estimation, template picking, particle extraction, and 2D classification. All subsequent steps were done using CryoSPARC v4.4+. (F) 3D classification of particles into 4 classes and homogeneous refinement produced two volumes with clear compound density. Classes 1 and 3 show clear separation of the two binding poses of the compound. Distribution of particles into each class are indicated below the class images. (G) Display of cryo-EM map quality surrounding the compounds in each indicated volume. (H) Fourier shell correlation after FSC mask auto-tightening within CryoSPARC between half-maps of the ISRACT-01 class 1, ISRACT-02 class 2, and ISRACT-02 class 3 structures. Reciprocal of frequency at a correlation of 0.143 was used to determine the map resolutions displayed. (I) Fluorescence polarization-based binding assay to measure binding of fluorescein conjugated ISRACT-01 and ISRACT-02 to eIF2B^{WT} and eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$. 2 to 2000 nM of eIF2B decamers were titrated against 2.5 nM of the fluorescent compounds.

Fig S15. ISRACT-01 promotes adaptation to ER-stress by augmenting cytoprotective ISR activation through inhibition of protein synthesis.
(A) BJ Fibroblasts pre-treated with 200 nM of ISRIB or 3 µM of ISRACT-01 for 5 hours followed by addition of 1 µM tunicamycin (Tm). Caspase 3/7 activation and cell counts were measured and reported as a ratio per well. (B) Polysome gradient analysis upon treatment with 50 nM thapsigargin. (C) Polysome gradient analysis upon treatment with 10 µM ISRACT-01.

Supplementary Movies

Movie S1. 3D variability analyses of eIF2B motion.

Movie S2. Conformational change in eIF2Bβ H160 during A- to I- state transition.

Movie S3. Rotation of fulcrum-helix stabilizes the remodeled I-state latch-helix pocket.

Movie S4. The allosteric signaling axis regulating eIF2B state-transitions.

Supplemental Table 1.1: Cryo-EM data collection, analysis, and refinement statistics of wild-type and Δ-latch eIF2B

	eIF2B^{WT}		eIF2B$^{\Delta\text{-latch}}$	
	A-state	I-state	I-state	A-state
	PDB: 9Y3P EMD-72462	PDB: 9Y3Q EMD-72463	PDB: 9Y3U EMD-72467	PDB: 9Y3T EMD-72466
Data collection and processing				
Microscope	Thermo Scientific Glacios TEM		Thermo Scientific Krios G4 TEM	
Magnification	130,000x			
Voltage (kV)	200		300	
Election exposure (e$^-$/Å^2)	50			
Defocus range (μm)	-0.6 to -1.6			
Pixel size (Å)	0.8936		0.9286	
Symmetry imposed	C1			
Initial particle images (no.)	890,578		907,870	
Final particle images (no.)	60,012	55,475	96,151	88,960
Map resolution (Å)	2.94	3.30	2.42	2.50
FSC threshold	0.143			
Map resolution range (Å)	2.52-38.2	2.50-42.7	2.05-31.8	2.03-35.7
Refinement				
Initial model used (PDB code)	7L7G	7L7G	7L7G	7L7G
Map sharpening B factor (Å^2)	56.3	56.8	47.2	48.4

Model composition				
Nonhydrogen atoms	28946	28563	28169	28492
Protein residues	3709	3709	3613	3657
Ligands	15	15	4	8
Root mean square deviations				
Bond lengths (Å)	0.008	0.0073	0.0078	0.0073
Bond anlges (°)	1.715	1.609	1.625	1.6
Validation				
MolProbity score	1.01	1.13	1.13	1.31
Clashscore	0.81	1.27	1.58	1.74
Poor rotamers (%)	1.27	0.94	1.18	1.32
Ramachandran				
Favoured (%)	96.95	95.86	97.03	95.89
Allowed (%)	3	4	3	4
Disallowed (%)	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.19

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Supplemental Table 1.2: Cryo-EM data collection, analysis, and refinement of wild-type and Δ-latch eIF2B bound to ligands

	eIF2B^{WT}-AcP10	eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ – AcP10		eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ – ISRACT-01	eIF2B$^{Δ\text{-}latch}$ – ISRACT-02	
	2 AcP10	2 AcP10	1 AcP10	I-state	A-state	I-state
	PDB: 9Y3V EMD-72468	PDB: 9Y4B EMD-72477	PDB: 9Y4W EMD-72499	PDB: 9Y5S EMD-72521	PDB: 9Y5T EMD-72522	PDB: 9Y5U EMD-72523
Data collection and processing						
Microscope	Thermo Scientific Glacios TEM	Thermo Scientific Krios G4 TEM		Thermo Scientific Glacios TEM		
Magnification	130,000x					
Voltage (kV)	200	300		200		
Election exposure (e$^-$/Å^2)	50					
Defocus range (μm)	-0.6 to -1.6					
Pixel size (Å)	0.8936	0.9286		0.8936		
Symmetry imposed	C1					
Initial particle images (no.)	1,805,332	867,729		2,714,171	2,376,924	
Final particle images (no.)	220,193	171,498	112,494	157,984	418,565	325,317
Map resolution (Å)	2.90	2.13	2.42	3.10	2.78	2.90
FSC threshold	0.143					
Map resolution range (Å)	1.93-34.8	2.08-27.8	2.05-31.7	1.92-39.6	1.93-30.6	1.93-35.0
Refinement						

Initial models used (PDB code)	7L7G, AF-Q9HA47-F1			7L7G		
Map sharpening B factor ($Å^2$)	100.5	37.4	43.6	82.3	87.4	85.2
Model composition						
Nonhydrogen atoms	32247	32179	30512	28748	28652	28658
Protein residues	4126	4076	3869	3650	3631	3634
Ligands	3	13	10	11	7	5
Root mean square deviations						
Bond lengths (Å)	0.0095	0.0081	0.0076	0.0081	0.0092	0.008
Bond anlges (°)	1.796	1.655	1.607	1.709	1.840	1.71
Validation						
MolProbity score	1.13	0.95	0.95	1.30	1.19	1.28
Clashscore	1.15	1.19	1.04	1.62	1.39	1.58
Poor rotamers (%)	1.48	0.76	0	1.5	1.51	1.50
Ramachandran						
Favoured (%)	97.02	97.4	97.2	96.16	96.9	96.3
Allowed (%)	3	3	3	4	3	4
Disallowed (%)	0.05	0	0.03	0.08	0.03	0.08

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1567 **Supplemental Table 2: Apo eIF2B^{WT} 3D classification model A- and I-state**
1568 **analysis**

Class	Particles	Substrate interface		Fulcrum-helix		Latch-helix	
		Side 1	Side 2	Side 1	Side 2	Side 1	Side 2
1	54965	32.8	33.2	A-state	A-state	Present	Present
2	57555	33.4	33.5	A-state	A-state	Absent	Present
3	54977	33.4	33.1	A-state	A-state	Present	Present
4	55271	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	57477	32.7	33.5	A-state	A-state	Present	Absent
6	57885	33.1	33.0	A-state	A-state	Present	Present
7	59301	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	55468	35.7	35.4	I-state/ A-state	I-state/ A-state	Absent	Absent
9	59983	33.3	33.4	A-state	A-state	Present	Present
10	56533	33.9	33.6	A-state	A-state	Present	Present

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 Supplemental Table 3: siRNA and plasmid ORF sequences

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1573 **siRNA sequences**

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Gene target	siRNA/commercial product
Control siRNA	Mission siRNA Universal Negative control (Sigma-Aldrich Cat #SIC001)
EIF2B2	5'-CCAACATCATTGAGGCGAT-3' (SASI_Hs01_00046766/EIF2B2)

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1576 **Plasmid ORF sequences**

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Plasmid	ORF
siRNA resistant *eIF2Bβ^WT* *-synonymous mutations introduced for siRNA resistance are underlined.	ATGCCGGGATCCGCAGCGAAGGGCTCGGAGTTGTCAGAGAGGATCGAG AGCTTCGTGGAGACCCTGAAGCGGGGTGGTGGGCCGCGCAGCTCCGA GGAAATGGCTCGGGAGACCCTAGGGTTGCTGCGCCAGATCATCACGGA CCACCGCTGGAGCAACGCGGGGGGAGCTGATGGAGCTGATCCGCAGAG AGGGCAGGAGGATGACGGCCGCTCAGCCCTCCGAGACCACCGTGGGC AACATGGTGCGGAGAGTGCTCAAGATTATCCGGGAGGAGTATGGCAGA CTCCATGGACGCAGCGACGAGAGTGATCAGCAGGAGTCCCTGCACAAA CTGTTGACATCCGGAGGCCTAAACGAGGATTTCAGCTTCCATTATGCCC AACTCCAG<u>AGCAATATAATCGAAGCCATC</u>AATGAGCTGCTAGTGGAGCT GGAAGGGACAATGGAGAACATTGCAGCCCAGGCTCTGGAGCACATTCA CTCCAATGAGGTGATCATGACCATTGGCTTCTCCCGAACAGTAGAGGCC TTCCTCAAAGAGGCTGCCCGAAAGAGGAAATTCCATGTCATTGTAGCAG AGTGTGCTCCTTTCTGCCAGGGTCATGAAATGGCTGTGAATTTGTCCAAA GCAGGTATTGAGACAACTGTCATGACTGATGCTGCCATTTTTGCCGTTAT GTCAAGAGTCAACAAGGTGATCATTGGCACGAAGACCATCCTGGCCAAT GGGGCCCTGAGAGCTGTGACAGGAACTCACACTCTGGCACTGGCAGCA AAACACCATTCCACCCCACTCATCGTCTGTGCACCTATGTTCAAACTTTC TCCACAGTTCCCCAATGAAGAAGACTCATTTCATAAGTTTGTGGCTCCTG AAGAAGTCCTGCCATTCACAGAAGGGGACATTCTGGAGAAGGTCAGCGT GCATTGCCCTGTGTTTGACTACGTTCCCCCAGAGCTCATTACCCTCTTTA TCTCCAACATTGGTGGGAATGCACCTTCCTACATCTACCGCCTGATGAGT GAACTCTACCATCCTGATGATCATGTTTTA
siRNA resistant *eIF2Bβ^Δ-latch* *-synonymous mutations introduced for siRNA resistance are underlined.	ATGCCGGGATCCGCAGCGAAGGGCTCGGAGTTGTCAGAGAGGATCGAG AGCTTCGTGGAGACCCTGAAGCGGGGTGGTGGGCCGCGCAGCTCCGA GGAAATGGCTCGGGAGACCCTAGGGTTGCTGCGCCAGATCATCACGGA CCACCGCTGGAGCAACGCGGGGGGAGCTGATGGAGCTGATCCGCAGAG AGGGCAGGAGGATGACGGCCGCTCAGCCCTCCGAGACCACCGTGGGC AACATGGTGCGGAGAGTGCTCAAGATTATCCGGGAGGAGTATGGCAGA CTCCATGGACGCggaagtgggagcggaCTAAACGAGGATTTCAGCTTCCATTA TGCCCAACTCCAG<u>AGCAATATAATCGAAGCCATC</u>AATGAGCTGCTAGTG GAGCTGGAAGGGACAATGGAGAACATTGCAGCCCAGGCTCTGGAGCAC ATTCACTCCAATGAGGTGATCATGACCATTGGCTTCTCCCGAACAGTAGA GGCCTTCCTCAAAGAGGCTGCCCGAAAGAGGAAATTCCATGTCATTGTA GCAGAGTGTGCTCCTTTCTGCCAGGGTCATGAAATGGCTGTGAATTTGT

	CCAAAGCAGGTATTGAGACAACTGTCATGACTGATGCTGCCATTTTTGCC GTTATGTCAAGAGTCAACAAGGTGATCATTGGCACGAAGACCATCCTGG CCAATGGGGCCCTGAGAGCTGTGACAGGAACTCACACTCTGGCACTGG CAGCAAAACACCATTCCACCCCACTCATCGTCTGTGCACCTATGTTCAAA CTTTCTCCACAGTTCCCCAATGAAGAAGACTCATTTCATAAGTTTGTGGC TCCTGAAGAAGTCCTGCCATTCACAGAAGGGGACATTCTGGAGAAGGTC AGCGTGCATTGCCCTGTGTTTGACTACGTTCCCCCAGAGCTCATTACCC TCTTTATCTCCAACATTGGTGGGAATGCACCTTCCTACATCTACCGCCTG ATGAGTGAACTCTACCATCCTGATGATCATGTTTTA
AcP10	ATGAAACCCTATATTATTGGGATTTCCGGGATTAGTGGATCTGGTAAATC AACTTTTGCAGCCAATTTGAAAACTAAGTGTGGAGATTTTTACGCTGGGG ATGTTGTGATTATTAATTTAGATGGGTTTTATCGCAGCATTAATGAGGAC GATATGTGCCTTGTTAAAGCTGGTGAGTATAATTTTGATCATCCCTATGC AATAGATTTAGATCATGCACGTAGGTGTATTTCAGCTATAGCTGATGGCC ACCTTGTTGCAGTTCCTATTTATGATTTTGAGAAAAAGAAATGTGTTGGG CACTATGAGGTGAACAACCCTAGAGTAGTGATTGTGGAGGGAATACATG CACTCCACCCCAAGCTTTTTCCATTGTATGATATTACAGCATTTCTAGAG GTACCGATGAGTGTGGCACTTTCTAGACGTGCTGTTAGAGATAATAAAG AAAGAGGTAGAACACCAGAGGATACAGCAGAGATGTTCCGCAAATTTGT TCTCCCCATGTATAAATTACATGTTGAACCCAATGTTAAGAAGGCGGCCA TTCTTGTGAATGGACTAAACACTGGTGTTCATATTAATATGCTCTATGAGC ACATTAAGCCCCTATTGATTTATCCACGCTTT
AcP10 F30A Y31A	ATGAAACCCTATATTATTGGGATTTCCGGGATTAGTGGATCTGGTAAATC AACTTTTGCAGCCAATTTGAAAACTAAGTGTGGAGATGCGGCAGCTGGG GATGTTGTGATTATTAATTTAGATGGGTTTTATCGCAGCATTAATGAGGA CGATATGTGCCTTGTTAAAGCTGGTGAGTATAATTTTGATCATCCCTATG CAATAGATTTAGATCATGCACGTAGGTGTATTTCAGCTATAGCTGATGGC CACCTTGTTGCAGTTCCTATTTATGATTTTGAGAAAAAGAAATGTGTTGG GCACTATGAGGTGAACAACCCTAGAGTAGTGATTGTGGAGGGAATACAT GCACTCCACCCCAAGCTTTTTCCATTGTATGATATTACAGCATTTCTAGA GGTACCGATGAGTGTGGCACTTTCTAGACGTGCTGTTAGAGATAATAAA GAAAGAGGTAGAACACCAGAGGATACAGCAGAGATGTTCCGCAAATTTG TTCTCCCCATGTATAAATTACATGTTGAACCCAATGTTAAGAAGGCGGCC ATTCTTGTGAATGGACTAAACACTGGTGTTCATATTAATATGCTCTATGAG CACATTAAGCCCCTATTGATTTATCCACGCTTTTAA
AcP10 H193A H200A	ATGAAACCCTATATTATTGGGATTTCCGGGATTAGTGGATCTGGTAAATC AACTTTTGCAGCCAATTTGAAAACTAAGTGTGGAGATTTTTACGCTGGGG ATGTTGTGATTATTAATTTAGATGGGTTTTATCGCAGCATTAATGAGGAC GATATGTGCCTTGTTAAAGCTGGTGAGTATAATTTTGATCATCCCTATGC AATAGATTTAGATCATGCACGTAGGTGTATTTCAGCTATAGCTGATGGCC ACCTTGTTGCAGTTCCTATTTATGATTTTGAGAAAAAGAAATGTGTTGGG CACTATGAGGTGAACAACCCTAGAGTAGTGATTGTGGAGGGAATACATG CACTCCACCCCAAGCTTTTTCCATTGTATGATATTACAGCATTTCTAGAG GTACCGATGAGTGTGGCACTTTCTAGACGTGCTGTTAGAGATAATAAAG AAAGAGGTAGAACACCAGAGGATACAGCAGAGATGTTCCGCAAATTTGT TCTCCCCATGTATAAATTACATGTTGAACCCAATGTTAAGAAGGCGGCCA TTCTTGTGAATGGACTAAACACTGGTGTTGCTATTAATATGCTCTATGAG GCTATTAAGCCCCTATTGATTTATCCACGCTTT
AcP10 Y207A F210A	ATGAAACCCTATATTATTGGGATTTCCGGGATTAGTGGATCTGGTAAATC AACTTTTGCAGCCAATTTGAAAACTAAGTGTGGAGATTTTTACGCTGGGG ATGTTGTGATTATTAATTTAGATGGGTTTTATCGCAGCATTAATGAGGAC

	GATATGTGCCTTGTTAAAGCTGGTGAGTATAATTTTGATCATCCCTATGC AATAGATTTAGATCATGCACGTAGGTGTATTTCAGCTATAGCTGATGGCC ACCTTGTTGCAGTTCCTATTTATGATTTTGAGAAAAAGAAATGTGTTGGG CACTATGAGGTGAACAACCCTAGAGTAGTGATTGTGGAGGGAATACATG CACTCCACCCCAAGCTTTTTCCATTGTATGATATTACAGCATTTCTAGAG GTACCGATGAGTGTGGCACTTTCTAGACGTGCTGTTAGAGATAATAAAG AAAGAGGTAGAACACCAGAGGATACAGCAGAGATGTTCCGCAAATTTGT TCTCCCCATGTATAAATTACATGTTGAACCCAATGTTAAGAAGGCGGCCA TTCTTGTGAATGGACTAAACACTGGTGTTCATATTAATATGCTCTATGAGC ACATTAAGCCCCTATTGATTGCTCCACGCGCG
NSs	ATGATGAACAGCCAGTACATGTTTGACTACCCGGCAATTAACATTGATGT GAGGTGTCATAGACTCCTCTCCAGTGTGTCTTATGTTGCCTACAATAAAT TTCACACTCATGACGTTTCAACTTATGAGCATTGTGAAATACCACTAGAG AAGTTAAGACTTGGGTTTGGACGCAGAAACTCACTGGCTGACTTTTATTC CCTTGGAGAGTTGCCAGCTTCTTGGGGCCCAGCATGCTATTTTAGTTCT GTCAAGCCTATGATGTATACCTTCCAAGGTATGGCAAGTGACCTCTCCA GGTTTGACCTCACAAGTTTCTCTAGAAAGGGGCTGCCAAATGTCCTGAA GGCTCTTAGCTGGCCACTAGGTATCCCTGATTGTGAGATCTTTAGCATAT GCAGTGATAGATTTGTGAGAGGGCTACAAACAAGGGATCAGCTAATGTC TTACATTCTGAGAATGGGGGATTCACATAGCTTGGATGAGTGCATAGTTC AGGCACACAAAAAGATACTACAAGAAGCTAGGAGGTTGGGTCTTAGTGA TGAGCATTACAATGGATACGATCTATTTAGAGAGATAGGATCTCTGGTTT GTCTCAGACTTATCAATGCAGAGCCTTTTGACACTGCCTCCTCTGGGGA GGCACTTGATGTAAGAACAGTGATTAGATCCTATAGAGCAAGTGACCCTT CTACTGGCCTCACCGAGTATGGCAATTCTCTTTGGACCCCAATACACAGT CATGTGGATGAAAATGATGAGAGCTCGTCTGACTCTGACTT

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 Supplemental Table 4: Immunoblotting antibodies used in this study

Antibody	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
eIF2Bα Dilution: 1:3000	Proteintech	(Proteintech Cat# 18010-1-AP, RRID:AB_2261996)
eIF2Bβ Dilution 1:3000	Proteintech	(Proteintech Cat# 11034-1-AP, RRID:AB_2096016)
eIF2Bγ Dilution 1:3000	Proteintech	(Proteintech Cat# 11296-2-AP, RRID:AB_2096142)
eIF2Bδ Dilution: 1:3000	Proteintech	(Proteintech Cat# 11332-1-AP, RRID:AB_2277640)
eIF2Bε Dilution: 1:3000	Santa Cruz Biotech	(Santa Cruz Biotechnology Cat# sc-55558, RRID:AB_831253)
ATF4 Dilution 1:2000	Cell Signaling Technology	(Cell Signaling Technology Cat# 11815, RRID:AB_2616025)
Vinculin Dilution 1:5000	Abcam	(Cell Signaling Technology Cat# 11815, RRID:AB_2616025)
FLAG Dilution: 1:3000	Sigma	(Sigma-Aldrich Cat# F1804, RRID:AB_262044)
MBP Dilution: 1:2000	NEB	(New England Biolabs Cat# E8032, RRID:AB_1559730)
Puromycin	Millipore	

Dilution: 1:1000		(Sigma-Aldrich Cat# MABE343, RRID:AB_2566826)
eIF2α-P Dilution: 1:1000	Abcam	(Abcam Cat# ab32157, RRID:AB_732117)
eIF2α Dilution: 1:1000	Cell Signaling Technology	(Cell Signaling Technology Cat# 9722, RRID:AB_2230924)
GFP Dilution: 1:3000	Santa Cruz Biotech	(Santa Cruz Biotechnology Cat# sc-9996, RRID:AB_627695)
GAPDH Dilution: 1:10000	Proteintech	(Proteintech Cat# 60004-1-Ig, RRID:AB_2107436)

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1889

1890

A

A-State

eIF2Bγ   eIF2Bβ   eIF2Bδ

eIF2Bε

eIF2Bα   eIF2Bβ 'latch' helix

I-State

① ② ③

B

βN132   δR250

eIF2α

~32.5 Å
Productive substrate binding

~35.5 Å
Reduced substrate binding

C

2 eIF2α-bound

Apo A-State

Apo I-State

2 eIF2α-P-bound

Interface distance (Å)

% particles

D

Hydrophobicity potential
Less   More

F235   L303
L288   L109
F233   H110
L112   L71
K111   L113
I104   α4
F100   F75
T114   α5

E

eIF2Bα C-term

I-state eIF2Bα

L109   L303   eIF2α-P

L112   R57

L113   R54

I104   S51-P

F100   α4

F75   α4

A-State eIF2Bα

α5   α5

Figure 2

Figure 3

ISRIB and/or AcP10/NSs

eIF2-P ± ISRACT

A-state

I-state

ISRIB

β'H188

βE162

β'R228

βH160

δ'F452

β'D450

+3 Å

ISRACT

βH160 tetramer-tetramer interface lever

δR517

δE445

δL516

αD298

δF443

Fulcrum helix

Latch-helix

αL303

αF75

eIF2α-P

Latch-helix pocket