# Supplemental data

#### Table S1

	<b>DnaK</b> (DnaJ, GrpE)		Ssa1p (Ydj1p)		ClpB		Hsp104	
GuHCl	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+
ATPase activity [turn-over; min-1]	14,8	13,9	5,9	4,8	3,4	17,2	19,6	8,3

TABLE S1. The influence of GuHCl on the ATPase activities of bacterial and yeast Hsp70 and Hsp100 chaperones. The ATPase activities of particular chaperones were measured in the absence or presence of GuHCl (5 mM) in a coupled enzymatic assay. Chaperone concentrations: 1  $\mu$ M DnaK (in the presence of 0.2  $\mu$ M DnaJ and 0.1  $\mu$ M GrpE); 3  $\mu$ M Ssa1p (in the presence of 1  $\mu$ M Yj1p); 4  $\mu$ M ClpB; 1  $\mu$ M Hsp104.





FIGURE S1. GuHCl stimulation of the ATPase activity of ClpB is casein-independent. In the presence of increasing concentrations of casein the ATPase activity of ClpB (1  $\mu$ M) was measured in the absence (filled circles) or presence of 5 mM GuHCl (open circles).





FIGURE S2. GuHCl inhibits the disaggregation of heat aggregated GFP by the bacterial KJE-ClpB chaperone system *in vitro*. *A*, heat-aggregated GFP (9  $\mu$ g) was incubated with the KJE-ClpB chaperone system (0.5  $\mu$ M ClpB, 1  $\mu$ M DnaK, 0.2  $\mu$ M DnaJ, 0.1  $\mu$ M GrpE). GFP reactivation was monitored in real-time in a spectrofluorometer (excitation and emission wavelengths: 395 nm and 510 nm, respectively). GFP reactivation was measured in the presence of increasing concentrations of GuHCl. The rate of reaction (increase in GFP fluorescence/s) was calculated from the slope of the linear part of each curve and plotted as a function of GuHCl concentration. *B*, GFP refolding rate was measured as in *A*. In the absence (filled circles) or presence of 5 mM GuHCl (open circles) over a range of ClpB concentrations.



FIGURE S3. GuHCl inhibits the removal of protein aggregates following heat stress. E. coli MC1000 (parent) and  $\Delta clpB$  strains were grown at 37°C to OD<sub>600</sub> = 0.3; GuHCl was then added to the final concentration of 20 mM and cultures were shifted to 50°C for 8 min. After heat-shock bacteria were returned to 37°C to allow protein disaggregation. At the indicated timepoints samples were taken (corresponding to 12 ml of culture of  $OD_{600} = 1$ ), rapidly cooled in an ice-water bath and cells were harvested by centrifugation for 10 min at 5000×g at 4°C. Pellets were resuspended in 2.5 ml of buffer K (10 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 6.8; 1 mM EDTA) and cell lysis was performed in an SLM Aminco French pressure cell. Cell lysates were centrifuged for 15 min at 2000×g, 4°C to eliminate intact cells. The insoluble cell fraction (containing membranes and protein aggregates) was isolated by subsequent centrifugation at 15000×g, 4°C for 20 min. Pellet fractions were resuspended in 400 µl of buffer K and centrifuged once more (20 min, 15 000×g, 4°C). After centrifugation the pellets were resuspended in 320 µl of buffer K, followed by addition of 80 µl of 10% (v/v) NP-40; protein aggregates were isolated by centrifugation (30 min, 15000×g, 4°C). The washing procedure was repeated to completely dissolve membranes. The detergent-insoluble fraction was washed with 400 ul of buffer K and centrifuged (30 min, 15000×g, 4°C). Pellets were resuspended in 65 µl of buffer K and then analyzed by SDS-PAGE (12.5%) followed by Coomassie Blue staining.



FIGURE S4. **Mutation D178S in ClpB does not influence the oligomeric state of the protein.** Sedimentation analysis of ClpBwt, ClpBD178S oligomerization. ClpBwt (*upper panels*) and ClpBD178S (*lower panels*) diluted in buffer U were loaded onto a glycerol gradient in buffer C supplemented with 5 mM ATP and (where indicated) with 5mM GuHCl. Sedimentation analysis of the proteins was performed (Beckman SW60 rotor; 15-45% (v/v) glycerol gradient; 46 000 rpm; 16 h; 4°C). The position of ClpBw and ClpBD178S in the gradients was visualized by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie Blue staining.



FIGURE S5. Mutation D179S in ClpB influences both the trypsin digestion pattern and the rate of digestion. Kinetics of the partial trypsin digestion of 4  $\mu$ g of ClpB (*upper panel*) and ClpB (D179S) (*lower panel*) in the presence of 2 mM ATP and the presence or absence of 5 mM GuHCl (as indicated). Reactions (10  $\mu$ l) were assembled and incubated at 30°C with 0.07  $\mu$ g of trypsin. At the indicated time points reactions were stopped by the addition of Laemmli buffer. Proteolysis products were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie Blue staining.



FIGURE S6. Hsp104 and Hsp104 (D184S) are present in yeast cells in similar amounts. Equal amounts of yeast strain  $\Delta hsp104$  carrying the plasmids pRS313-Hsp104 wt or pRS313-Hsp104(D184S) were collected and lysed. The samples were resolved by SDS-PAGE, followed by western blot analysis using anti-Hsp104 antibodies.