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Peroxin-Dependent Targeting of a Lipid Droplet-Destined Membrane Protein to ER-subdomains

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SUMMARY

Lipid droplets (LDs) are endoplasmic reticulum (ER)-derived lipid storage organelles uniquely encapsulated by phospholipid monolayers. LD membrane proteins are embedded into the monolayer in a monotopic hairpin-topology and therefore likely have requirements for their biogenesis distinct from those inserting as bitopic and polytopic proteins into phospholipid bilayers. UBXD8 belongs to a subfamily of hairpin-proteins that localize to both the ER and LDs, and are initially inserted into the cytoplasmic leaflet of the ER bilayer before partitioning to the LD monolayer. The molecular machinery responsible for inserting hairpin-proteins into membranes, however, is unknown. Here, we report that newly synthesized UBXD8 is posttranslationally inserted into discrete ER-subdomains by a mechanism requiring cytosolic PEX19 and membrane-integrated PEX3, proteins hitherto exclusively implicated in peroxisome biogenesis. Farnesylation of PEX19 uncouples ER/LD- and peroxisome targeting, expanding the function of this peroxin to an ER targeting pathway and suggesting a coordinated biogenesis of LDs and peroxisomes.

INTRODUCTION

Phospholipid bilayer membranes that ensheath cells and the organelles within them constitute a fundamental organizing principle of cellular life. Membrane-embedded proteins serve as conduits enabling selective permeability to solutes, as receptors transmitting signals between subcellular compartments, and as anchors segregating enzymes into functionally organized networks.

Not all organelles, however, are surrounded by lipid bilayers. Lipid droplets (LDs), cytoplasmic organelles that store metabolic energy as triglycerides (TG), are an exception to this principle of organelle architecture, as they are uniquely encapsulated by a phospholipid *monolayer*, which segregates their hydrophobic neutral lipid core from the aqueous cytosol¹. As a consequence of their aliphatic interiors, LDs are unable to accommodate bi- or

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

B.S. performed and analysed all experiments, prepared the figures and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. B.S. and R.R.K. jointly conceived the experimental design, interpreted the results and wrote subsequent drafts of the manuscript.

polytopic membrane proteins, and thus LD membrane proteins are integrated into the phospholipid monolayer monotonically through hydrophobic “hairpin” (HP) domains and expose all soluble domains to the cytosol².

The prevailing model of LD biogenesis posits that local TG accumulation within the ER membrane bilayer triggers the budding of a LD from the cytoplasmic leaflet¹. Several HP-proteins, including AUP1^{3,4}, GPAT4⁵, AAM-B and UBXD8^{6,7} exhibit a dual steady-state localization to LDs and the ER and are first integrated into the cytoplasmic leaflet of the ER membrane prior to localizing to LDs. Although the HP-domains of these proteins are necessary and sufficient for this dual localization, the molecular machinery by which HP-proteins are directed to and inserted into ER or LD membranes is unknown.

Most secreted and transmembrane proteins are directed to the ER by signal sequences that are engaged by signal recognition particle (SRP), which recruits ribosome-nascent chain complexes to ER-resident receptors, enabling cotranslational translocation of nascent polypeptides through the Sec61 translocon^{8,9}. By contrast, C-terminal tail-anchored (TA) proteins are inserted into the ER membrane by a posttranslational pathway consisting of the cytosolic transmembrane-domain recognition complex (TRC)^{10,11} and the ER-resident receptors WRB and CAML^{12,13}. Sequential transfer of TA-proteins from the initial recognition complex containing BAG6 to the membrane-embedded receptor complex is coordinated by cytosolic TRC40¹⁴.

In this study, we investigated the mechanism by which UBXD8, a HP-protein that partitions between the cytoplasmic leaflet of the ER and the LD monolayer^{6,7} and recruits the ATPase p97/VCP to membranes⁷, is targeted to and inserted into the ER. Our data reveal that UBXD8 is posttranslationally targeted to and inserted into the ER by a mechanism that is independent of the known SRP- or TRC-dependent pathways, but instead requires the peroxisome-biogenesis factors PEX19 and PEX3.

RESULTS

Posttranslational insertion of UBXD8 into ER membranes

To study the mechanisms underlying membrane insertion of HP-proteins, we synthesized ³⁵S-labeled, epitope-tagged UBXD8 in rabbit reticulocyte lysate (RRL) in the absence or presence of ER-derived rough microsomes (RMs) (Fig. 1a). Reactions were fractionated into soluble cytosolic proteins (S), peripheral membrane proteins released by extraction with sodium carbonate (P), and carbonate-resistant, membrane-integrated proteins (M). When translation was conducted in the presence of RMs, the majority of UBXD8 was detected in the membrane fraction (M) similar to the fractionation behaviour of an SRP-dependent signal anchor (SA) protein, invariant chain (Ii)¹⁵, and a tail-anchored (TA) protein, RAMP4op¹⁰. UBXD8 and RAMP4op were efficiently integrated into RMs when RMs were present during (cotranslational) or after termination (posttranslational) of protein synthesis. In contrast, Iiop was only cotranslationally integrated and glycosylated as expected for an SRP substrate (Fig. 1a). The opsin-tag contains a consensus N-glycosylation sequon that, upon ER membrane translocation, causes a ~2 kDa shift reflecting addition of an N-linked glycan. Iiop and RAMP4op were efficiently glycosylated when incubated with

RMs (Fig. 1a). However, no UBXD8 glycosylation was detected, irrespective of whether the opsin-tag was at the N- or C-terminus, consistent with it being inserted into RMs in its native HP-topology where both termini face the cytosol. Protease treatment of RMs caused the 50 kDa band corresponding to full-length UBXD8 to collapse into a single fragment with the expected size (~5 kDa) of the protected HP-domain (Fig. 1b, lanes 1–2), which sedimented with membranes after re-fractionation and was digested upon detergent-solubilisation of RMs, consistent with it being membrane-integrated (Fig. 1b, lanes 3–5). Thus, *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8 can be posttranslationally integrated into RMs with the same HP-topology as in ER and LD membranes.

The hydrophobic sequence in UBXD8 (amino acids 90-118) serves as a membrane HP-anchor⁶ that is necessary and sufficient for targeting UBXD8 to LDs *in vivo*^{16,17}. To assess the role of the HP-domain in posttranslational insertion, we deleted the hydrophobic region (UBXD8_{HP}) or used a minimal UBXD8 version consisting of the HP-domain plus flanking residues (UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄) and monitored membrane insertion *in vitro* (Fig. 1c). No UBXD8_{HP} was detected in the membrane fraction after *in vitro* translation/translocation whereas UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄ was efficiently inserted into RMs under co- and posttranslational conditions. A minor fraction of UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄ became glycosylated (Fig. 1c), resisted protease treatment, and was efficiently affinity captured following protease treatment irrespective of the position of the tags (Fig. 1d). Therefore, a fraction of this minimal HP-construct was fully translocated across the ER membrane *in vitro*. The majority of membrane-associated UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄, however, gave rise to a protease-resistant ~5 kD fragment (Fig. 1d, lanes 2, 8) that failed to bind to N- or C- terminal affinity-capture reagents (Fig. 1d, lanes 4, 6, 10, 12), indicating correct UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄ insertion into RMs in a HP-topology. Thus, the HP-domain is necessary and sufficient for posttranslational UBXD8 insertion into the ER membrane.

UBXD8 membrane insertion is independent of SRP and TRC40

Posttranslational membrane insertion of UBXD8 could suggest employment of the TRC40-mediated ER-targeting pathway. To test this possibility, we used recombinant WRBcc, a soluble fragment of the TRC40 receptor WRB that binds to substrate-loaded TRC40, to block membrane insertion of TA-proteins by competing with endogenous WRB¹². Inclusion of excess WRBcc in our *in vitro* translocation assays failed to alter UBXD8 insertion efficiency into RMs, despite substantially reducing the insertion of the TA-protein RAMP4op (Fig. 1e). Therefore, ER-insertion of UBXD8 is independent of the TRC40-WRB pathway.

To verify this conclusion and to assess the role of the canonical SRP pathway for UBXD8 insertion into RMs, we performed import assays using RMs that had been pre-treated with either N-ethylmaleimide or trypsin (Fig. 1f and Supplementary Fig. 1). Both conditions block SRP^{18,19} and TRC40/WRB-dependent protein insertion^{10,20}. While both treatments prevented insertion of the SRP substrate Iiop, neither interfered with UBXD8 insertion (Fig. 1f), establishing that UBXD8 integration is independent of the SRP and TRC40 pathways and, moreover, might not require ER-integrated proteins. Indeed, *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8 was present in buoyant fractions following incubation with protein-free liposomes,

similar to the behaviour of cytochrome *b5* (Fig. 1g), a protein known to insert into membranes independently of membrane-integrated proteins²¹. Association of UBXD8 with liposomes required the HP-domain as UBXD8_{HP} was retained in dense fractions upon sucrose gradient fractionation. Protease treatment of UBXD8-containing liposomes led to accumulation of a ~5 kDa protected fragment that bound to neither N- nor C-terminal affinity-capture reagents, indicating a correct HP-topology (Fig. 1h). Thus, UBXD8 can insert into membranes posttranslationally and independently of canonical SRP or TRC40 targeting pathways, protein-conducting channels or membrane protein receptors.

UBXD8 inserts into discrete ER-subdomains

If UBXD8 membrane insertion is independent of membrane-integrated proteins, how then, is its strict localization in cells to the ER and LDs⁷ established and/or maintained? We used immunofluorescence microscopy to determine into which membranes *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8 inserts in semi-permeabilised cells (Fig. 2a). Full-length UBXD8 (sUBXD8_{FLop}), but not sUBXD8_{HPop}, was recruited to discrete subcellular foci (Fig. 2b) that are strikingly different from the characteristic reticular distribution that endogenous UBXD8 exhibits in cells at steady-state. This punctate localization was not due to a general inability of proteins to insert into reticular ER in semi-permeabilised cells, since *in vitro* translated RAMP4op colocalised precisely with the ER marker calreticulin (Fig. 2c). By contrast, UBXD8 foci did not strictly colocalise with ER markers calreticulin (Fig. 2c) or calnexin (Fig. 2d) but exhibited a reticular pattern that closely followed the distribution of the ER (Fig. 2d and supplementary movie 1), suggesting UBXD8 insertion into distinct ER-subdomains. Indeed, immuno-electron microscopy (EM) of semi-permeabilised cells revealed labelling of sUBXD8_{FLop} at ER membranes and on ~150 nm diameter electron-dense structures continuous with ER membranes (Fig. 2e, arrows). sUBXD8_{FLop} failed to colocalise with LDs (Fig. 2f, g), indicating that newly synthesised UBXD8 preferentially inserts into ER-subdomains and not mature LDs. UBXD8 still inserted into foci after treatment with the long-chain fatty acyl CoA synthetase inhibitor, triacsin C (Fig. 2h), suggesting that neutral lipid synthesis is dispensable for recruitment of newly synthesized UBXD8 to ER-subdomains. These findings suggest that, while UBXD8 can spontaneously insert into protein-free membranes *in vitro*, it is specifically inserted into discrete ER-subdomains in semi-permeabilised cells before it distributes within the ER and eventually partitions to LDs. This implicates the existence of proteins specifying correct membrane targeting for nascent UBXD8 molecules.

BAG6 and PEX19 bind to newly synthesized UBXD8 in the cytosol

To identify potential targeting factors of newly synthesized UBXD8, we translated UBXD8 in RRL in the absence of RMs, which should favour prolonged engagement with cytoplasmic proteins maintaining its insertion-competent state, and used affinity capture followed by LC-MS/MS identification of proteins that specifically bound insertion-competent UBXD8_{FL} but not UBXD8_{HP}. Two proteins, BAG6 and PEX19, were exclusively captured from UBXD8_{FL} pull-downs (Supplementary Table 1). To verify these interactions and to map the interaction sites within UBXD8, we translated UBXD8 deletion mutants *in vitro* and assessed the amount of PEX19 and BAG6 present in complex with UBXD8 by affinity isolation and immunoblotting (Fig. 3a). The UBXD8 HP-region was

both necessary and sufficient to engage PEX19 and BAG6. Because the deletion of the proline-rich sequence immediately preceding the annotated HP-region (UBXD8₅₃₋₉₀) reduced binding to PEX19 and BAG6 we extended the UBXD8 HP-deletion to include amino acids 53-111 for all subsequent experiments.

To test whether BAG6 and PEX19 bind to UBXD8 directly, we used chemical crosslinking to generate radiolabeled, covalent pre-insertion complex adducts of *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8, which were immunoprecipitated following protein denaturation (Fig. 3b). The BAG6 antibody precipitated high molecular weight (>250 kDa) crosslinked adducts containing UBXD8_{FL} (lane 4), while the PEX19 antibody captured adducts of ~80 kDa (lane 6). Neither antibody precipitated UBXD8₅₃₋₁₁₁ adducts. These findings confirm HP-domain-dependent interactions of UBXD8 with BAG6 and PEX19 and strongly suggest that they are direct.

To determine whether PEX19 and BAG6 bind UBXD8 in the same or in distinct complexes, we assessed their presence in affinity-isolated UBXD8 preinsertion-complexes fractionated on sucrose gradients (Fig. 3c). UBXD8_{FL} forms higher molecular weight complexes compared to UBXD8₅₃₋₁₁₁ and cofractionated with BAG6 in fractions 6–10, whereas PEX19 was associated with UBXD8_{FL} in fractions 3–6, indicating that UBXD8_{FL} forms distinct complexes with PEX19 and BAG6.

UBXD8 in fractions containing PEX19 was 2-fold more efficiently integrated into RMs than was UBXD8 in BAG6-containing fractions (Fig. 3d). Insertion competence correlated positively with the ratio of PEX19 to UBXD8 in individual fractions (Fig. 3e and Supplementary Fig. 2), suggesting that PEX19-containing complexes facilitate insertion of newly synthesized UBXD8 into ER membranes.

PEX19 specifies the subcellular localization of UBXD8

To test whether UBXD8 is a client for PEX19-mediated protein targeting in living cells, we overexpressed PEX19 appended with a nuclear localisation signal, NLS-PEX19, and monitored UBXD8 localisation (Fig. 4a). Re-direction of both, coexpressed sUBXD8_{op} as well as endogenous UBXD8 to the nucleus demonstrates that PEX19 is sufficient to re-localize UBXD8 in cells.

To determine whether PEX19 is required for ER localization of UBXD8, we generated *PEX19*^{-/-} cell lines by genome-editing (Supplementary Fig. 3a–c). Strikingly, the majority of endogenous UBXD8 in *PEX19*^{-/-} cells was mislocalised to mitochondria and colocalised with HSP60 (Fig. 4b, c). UBXD8 localization to ER and LDs was restored when PEX19 was reintroduced into these cells, confirming that its mislocalisation was caused by the absence of PEX19 (Supplementary Fig. 3d). Thus, PEX19 specifies steady-state ER-localisation of endogenous UBXD8.

PEX19 and PEX3 cooperate in UBXD8 insertion into ER-subdomains

To investigate how PEX19 targets newly synthesized UBXD8 to ER-subdomains, we tested the effect of recombinant PEX3_{N40}, a soluble variant of the membrane-resident PEX19-receptor PEX3²², which is required for membrane insertion of peroxisomal membrane

proteins (PMPs)²³, on the insertion of *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8 in semi-permeabilised cells. In the presence of excess PEX3 N40, but not WRBcc or MBP, sUBXD8_{FLop} was not inserted into ER foci but instead distributed more diffusely consistent with mitochondrial mislocalisation (Fig. 5a, *upper*). In contrast, RAMP4op insertion was unaffected by PEX3 N40 addition but sensitive to WRBcc (Fig. 5a, *lower*). These data establish an essential role for PEX19 in specifying insertion of newly synthesized UBXD8 into ER-subdomains, which we propose to be ER entry-sites for newly synthesised UBXD8.

PEX3 knock-down in wild-type cells (Fig. 5b) abolished the insertion of *in vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FLop} into foci after semi-permeabilisation (Fig. 5c), indicating that PEX3 is essential for correct UBXD8 insertion. In contrast, PEX19 knockdown did not affect sUBXD8_{FLop} insertion (Fig. 5b, c), likely because of the presence of RRL-derived PEX19 bound to *in vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FLop} (Fig. 3). Semi-permeabilised *PEX19*^{-/-} cells, however, were not competent for inserting *in vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FLop} into ER-subdomains (Fig. 5d), most likely because these cells are also depleted of PEX3 (Supplementary Fig. 3b), consistent with a PEX19 role in stabilizing PEX3²⁴. Thus, both cytosolic PEX19 and membrane-integrated PEX3 are required for correct targeting and insertion of UBXD8 into ER-subdomains.

UBXD8 ER insertion-sites colocalise with endogenous PEX3 but are distinct from mature peroxisomes

Since PEX19 and PEX3 are known to insert peroxisomal membrane proteins (PMPs) into peroxisomes, we investigated the spatial relationship of UBXD8 insertion-sites with peroxisomes in semi-permeabilised cells. Catalase-positive peroxisomes did not colocalise with UBXD8 foci but were found in close apposition (50–250 nm) in about half the cases (Fig. 6a–d). This relationship between UBXD8 insertion-sites and peroxisomes was confirmed with the peroxisomal membrane protein PEX14 (Supplementary Fig. 4).

In contrast, the majority (75%) of UBXD8 foci colocalised with endogenous PEX3 (Fig. 6e, f). However, we observed two distinct colocalisation phenotypes: While 44% of total UBXD8 foci colocalised with a single PEX3 focus, an additional 31% of UBXD8 foci colocalised with PEX3 and were also adjacent (50–250 nm) to an additional PEX3-positive but UBXD8-negative focus. PEX3 resides in peroxisomes and the ER^{25–28}. Since UBXD8 insertion-sites are positive for PEX3 but negative for catalase, our data suggest that UBXD8 is specifically inserted into PEX3-containing sites that are not peroxisomes, potentially corresponding to pre-peroxisomal ER²⁹.

To assess the role of mature peroxisomes in UBXD8 insertion into ER-subdomains, we depleted cells of PEX5, an essential peroxin for import of peroxisomal matrix proteins³⁰ (Supplementary Fig. 5a). Although these cells lacked mature peroxisomes (Supplementary Fig. 5b), no defect in the import of *in vitro* translated sUBXD8op after semi-permeabilisation was observed, indicating that mature peroxisomes are dispensable for UBXD8 insertion (Fig. 6g).

PEX19 farnesylation is essential for UBXD8 localisation to the ER and LDs

PEX19 is known to be farnesylated in cells but this posttranslational modification is dispensable for peroxisome biogenesis³¹. To test whether PEX19 farnesylation affects UBXD8 localisation, we overexpressed either PEX19_{WT} or the farnesylation-deficient mutant PEX19_{C296S} in wild-type cells and monitored the steady-state localization of endogenous UBXD8 by immunofluorescence (Fig. 7a–c). Overexpression of either PEX19_{WT} (Fig. 7a) or PEX19_{C296S} (Fig. 7b) did not disrupt the ER distribution of endogenous UBXD8, presumably because endogenous wild-type PEX19 is still present in these cells. Interestingly, however, overexpression of PEX19_{WT} led to pronounced accumulation of UBXD8 on LDs as revealed by BODIPY co-staining (Fig. 7a). We previously reported that UBXD8 accumulation on LDs results either from overexpression of UBXD8 or from induction of LD biogenesis by oleate treatment⁷. The observation that PEX19_{WT} overexpression induces endogenous UBXD8 accumulation on LDs in cells not loaded with oleate suggests that PEX19 is limiting for UBXD8 trafficking to LDs.

In striking contrast, PEX19_{C296S} overexpression in wild-type cells led to enrichment of UBXD8 in punctate structures that did not correlate with LDs (Fig. 7b), but colocalised with the peroxisome marker PMP70 (Fig. 7c). This dominant-negative effect of overexpressed PEX19_{C296S} on UBXD8 distribution in wild-type cells suggests that PEX19 farnesylation is essential to prevent delivery of UBXD8 to peroxisomes and to promote partitioning to ER sites from where it can be mobilized to LDs. Indeed, while stable expression of PEX19_{C296S} rescued peroxisome biogenesis in *PEX19*^{-/-} cells (Fig. 7d–f, Supplementary Fig. 6), it failed to complement PEX19 function on the localisation of endogenous UBXD8, which remained mislocalised to mitochondria as in *PEX19*^{-/-} cells (Fig. 7e, f). Moreover, a fraction of endogenous UBXD8 in *PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296S} cells was also present on peroxisomes (Fig. 7f), reflecting the profound mistargeting of UBXD8 to peroxisomes upon PEX19_{C296S} overexpression in wild-type cells (Fig. 7b, c). Additionally, we found that the amount of endogenous UBXD8 on LDs isolated from oleate-treated *PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296S} cells was strongly (~70%) reduced compared to wild-type cells (Fig. 7g, h). Together, these findings demonstrate an essential role for PEX19 farnesylation in directing UBXD8 to ER and LD membranes.

DISCUSSION

Posttranslational protein integration into membranes implies that biosynthesis on cytosolic ribosomes is mechanistically uncoupled from membrane insertion and raises the question of how organelle-specific UBXD8 targeting within a cellular context is achieved. Selective targeting requires favoured delivery to the correct target membrane and prevention of promiscuous integration into inappropriate membranes. In this study we identified PEX19 and BAG6 as direct HP-domain-specific binding partners of newly synthesized UBXD8 and provide three lines of evidence supporting the conclusion that PEX19 specifies correct targeting of UBXD8 to ER membranes in cells. First, misdirecting PEX19 to the nucleus leads to nuclear accumulation of UBXD8. Second, in the absence of PEX19 endogenous UBXD8 is mislocalized to mitochondria, consistent with our observation that UBXD8 can insert into protein-free membranes and with studies showing that other posttranslationally

inserted membrane proteins can accumulate in mitochondrial membranes when their respective organelle targeting pathways are disrupted^{32–34}. Third, blocking PEX19 function with a soluble fragment of PEX3 in semi-intact cell import-assays prevents insertion of *in vitro* synthesized UBXD8 into ER-subdomains and also causes mitochondrial mislocalisation.

The role for BAG6 in UBXD8 biogenesis is less clear. This multifunctional chaperone has been implicated in a variety of cellular processes including ER-membrane targeting, protein quality control, and ERAD^{14,35–37}. BAG6 could contribute to UBXD8 targeting independently of or in collaboration with PEX19, or alternatively, could participate in UBXD8 turnover (Supplementary figure 7). Further investigation is required to assess these possibilities.

PEX19 and PEX3 are essential for *de novo* peroxisome biogenesis at the ER and for posttranslational insertion of PMPs into peroxisomal membranes^{30,38}. PEX3 can be biosynthetically inserted into the ER^{25–27}, where it concentrates in a discrete subdomain termed the preperoxisomal ER (pER)^{28,29}. Preperoxisomal vesicles bud from the pER in a process dependent on PEX3's interaction with PEX19^{24,39,40} and a PEX3 function in intra-ER sorting and packaging of PMPs has been suggested⁴⁰. Our finding that newly synthesized UBXD8 inserts into PEX3-containing ER-subdomains, leads us to speculate that the pER may have a more general role; perhaps as an ER-domain specialized for sorting of membrane proteins that are targeted to the ER by non-canonical insertion pathways. Our data establish that PEX19 farnesylation, which is dispensable for peroxisome biogenesis³¹, is essential for UBXD8 insertion into the ER and LD partitioning. It may therefore serve to segregate HP-anchored proteins destined for LDs from bilayer-spanning peroxisomal proteins. Further studies will reveal whether and how this covalent lipid modification influences PEX19's association with PEX3-containing ER-subdomains.

LDs and peroxisomes both originate from the ER membrane and have complementary roles in lipid metabolism⁴¹. LDs store neutral lipids and hydrolyse them into fatty acids, which are further metabolised in peroxisomes. Conversely, peroxisomes uniquely synthesize ether lipids, which account for up to 20% of the neutral lipid content of LDs and are absent from LDs in cells lacking peroxisomes^{42,43}. LDs and peroxisomes are spatially associated and their juxtaposition with the ER⁴⁴ suggests that all three organelles are intimately coupled to balance lipid storage and consumption. Our finding that peroxisomal proteins and LD-destined HP-proteins share targeting machinery raises the hypothesis that LD and peroxisome biogenesis may be mechanistically coordinated in the ER. We previously reported that UBXD8 positively regulates LD abundance by controlling the activity of the major lipase on LDs⁷. Thus, coordinating the biogenesis of such a protein with peroxisome biogenesis could allow mutual control of metabolic functions fulfilled by these organelles that have to act in concert during metabolic change.

METHODS

Reagents

Canine pancreas rough microsomes were a gift from Bernhard Dobberstein and stored at 2 eq/ μ l in RM buffer (250 mM sucrose, 50 mM Hepes/KOH pH 7.6, 50 mM KOAc, 2 mM Mg(OAc)₂, 1 mM DTT). Purified WRBcc and MBP was a kind gift from Fabio Vilardi and have been described earlier⁴⁵.

Plasmids and antibodies

Expression constructs for RAMP4op and Ctb5op were a gift from Bernhard Dobberstein and are described elsewhere⁴⁶. UBXD8 constructs used in this study are derived from previously published UBXD8 expression plasmids⁴⁷ that were used as templates for PCR-based cloning using primers either encoding an s-tag (MKETAAAKFERQHMS) or an opsin-tag (GPNFYVPFSNKTG) as well as either an XbaI or a NotI restriction site. PCR products were digested with the indicated enzymes and ligated into an empty pCDNA3.1(-) vector cut with the same enzymes. UBXD8 constructs lacking internal amino acid sequences (HP, 53-90, 53-111) were generated by primer-extension overlap PCR. Following digestion of the parental plasmid DNA by DpnI the PCR reaction was transformed into E. coli DH5alpha, positive clones identified by restriction digest/sequencing and then subcloned into an empty pCDNA3.1(-) vector using XbaI and NotI. Similarly, to introduce a *PreScission protease* cleavage site preceding the C-terminal S-tag in UBXD8 constructs, primers encoding the amino acid sequence LEVLFQGP were used for primer extension overlap PCR. pRK5rs-Iiop⁴⁸ was used for cloning Iiop into pCDNA3.1(-) by PCR and ligation of the XbaI/NotI fragment. PEX19 expression constructs are derived from a cDNA clone (Thermo clone ID: 2820701) and cloned into pCDNA3.1(-) by generating PCR products with XbaI/NotI restriction sites. The reverse primer used to generate PEX19_{C296S} encoded the G887C mutation. To generate N-terminally NLS-tagged PEX19, a forward primer encoding the amino acid sequence MAPKKKRVGDGS was used. To generate N-terminally hexa-histidine-tagged PEX3_{N40} for bacterial expression and purification we used a PEX3 cDNA (true clone origene SC117821), a forward primer encoding an NcoI restriction site followed by caccaccaccaccaccac encoding six consecutive histidines and complementary to the authentic PEX3 sequence lacking the first 40 amino acids as well as a reverse primer encoding an NotI restriction site. The PCR product was cloned into a pET21d vector using the indicated enzymes.

All constructs were verified by sequencing and detailed sequence information will be made available upon request.

The mouse monoclonal anti-opsin (R2-15; 1:1000 IB, 1:300 IF, 3 μ l IP), rabbit anti-PEX3⁴⁹ (1:1000 IB, 1:100 IF) and rabbit anti-BAG6⁵⁰ (1:1000 IB; 5 μ l IP) antibodies were kindly provided by Bernhard Dobberstein, Gabriele Dodt and Stephen High, respectively. Antibodies against calnexin (ADI-SPA-865, Enzo Life Sciences; 1:2000 IB, 1:300 IF), calreticulin (ADI-SPA-680, Enzo Life Sciences, 1:1000 IB, 1:100 IF), PEX19 (ab137072, Abcam; 1:1000 IB, 1:100 IF, 5 μ l IP), PDI (ADI-SPA-891, Enzo Life Sciences; 1:1000 IB, 1:100 IF), UBXD8 (16251-1-AP, PTG; 1:1000 IB, 1:100 IF), PMP70 (NBP2-36770, Novus

Biologicals; 1:200 IF), Catalase (D4P7B, Cell Signaling; 1:1000 IB, 1:500 IF), tubulin (T6199, Sigma-Aldrich; 1:10000 IB), PEX14 (10594-1-AP, PTG; 1:100 IF), PEX5 (12545-1-AP, PTG; 1:1000 IB), ATGL (21385, Cell signalling; 1:2000 IB) and HSP60 (sc-1052; Santa Cruz Biotechnology, 1:50 IF) are commercially available. IRDye secondary antibodies (926-68020, 926-68021, 926-32211, 926-32214, Licor) were used for immunoblotting (1:15000) and donkey-derived, Cy3-, Alexa488- or Cy5- conjugated secondary antibodies (715-165-151, 711-165-152, 715-545-151, 711-545-152, 705-485-147, 715-175-151, Jackson Immunoresearch) for immunofluorescence (1:1000).

***In vitro* transcription/*in vitro* translation**

All mRNAs were generated from PCR products using the RiboMax large-scale RNA production system T7 supplemented with m7G cap analogue (Promega), DNase I digested, and purified using Microspin G-25 columns (GE Healthcare) according to manufacturer's instructions. Proteins were translated in rabbit reticulocyte lysate (RRL; Promega) either supplemented with complete amino-acid mix or, to synthesize radiolabeled proteins, with amino-acid mix lacking methionine and (³⁵S)-protein labelling mix from Perkin Elmer (11 µCi/µl) for 45 min at 30 °C.

Protein insertion assays into RMs, liposomes and semi-permeabilised cells

For cotranslational protein insertion, 0.2 eq/µl RMs were present during the *in vitro* translation reaction, whereas for posttranslational insertion RMs were added for 30 min after the translation reaction was stopped by addition of 2.5 mM puromycin. Soluble proteins (fraction S) were separated from membranes by centrifugation (100000 ×g, 5 min) through a sucrose cushion. Peripheral proteins were released from these membranes with 0.1 M carbonate pH 11.0 (fraction P) and membrane-integral proteins (fraction M) re-isolated by centrifugation (130000 ×g, 10 min). Proteins from all fractions were precipitated by adding 2 volumes saturated ammonium sulfate and analysed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography.

Liposomes were generated from egg PC (L-α-phosphatidylcholine; Avanti Polar Lipids) in liposome buffer (50 mM Hepes/KOH pH 7.6, 50 mM KOAc, 2 mM Mg(OAc)₂ pH 7.5) to a final concentration of 8 mg/ml and an average diameter of 100 nm by extrusion. 0.5% Texas-Red DHPE (Invitrogen) was incorporated to visualize the liposome-containing fractions. Liposomes were posttranslationally added to the *in vitro* translation reaction to a final concentration of 0.8 mg/ml PC and incubated for 30 min. For liposome flotation, a 12 µl reaction was mixed with 236 µl liposome buffer containing 50% sucrose, overlaid with 500 µl liposome buffer containing 30% sucrose and 250 µl liposome buffer, centrifuged in a TLS-55 for 3h at 162000 ×g and 4 °C. 4 fractions (300, 200, 200, 300 µl) were collected from top to bottom, supplemented with 50 µg insulin as a carrier and proteins precipitated with ammonium sulfate followed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography.

For protein insertion into semi-permeabilised cells, cells were seeded onto glass cover slips and semi-permeabilised by 0.003% digitonin in S-buffer (250 mM sucrose, 20 mM Hepes/KOH pH 7.4, 2.5 mM Mg(OAc)₂, 25 mM KCl, 2.5 mM EGTA, 1 mM DTT, protease inhibitors) for 5 min. After washing out the cytosol, *in vitro* translation reactions were added to the cells posttranslationally for 30 min, non-inserted proteins removed by washing in S-

buffer and cells fixed with 4% formaldehyde in PBS. Proteins of interest were detected by standard immunofluorescence protocols or samples processed for immuno-electron microscopy.

Pre-treatment of RMs

For trypsin-treatment, pelleted RMs were resuspended in 20 µg/ml trypsin (Promega, sequencing grade) freshly dissolved in PSB (50 mM Hepes/KOH pH7.4, 100 mM KOAc, 2 mM Mg(OAc)₂) and incubated for 1h on ice. The reaction was stopped by adding 20 µg/ml aprotinin (SIGMA) and 2 mM PMSF and incubation on ice for 15 min. RMs were collected by centrifugation through a 500 mM sucrose cushion in PSB, washed in aprotinin- and PMSF-containing PSB and re-collected by centrifugation through a sucrose cushion. For NEM-treatment, pelleted RMs were resuspended in PSB containing 2 mM NEM and incubated for 30 min at 25 °C. The reaction was quenched with 20 mM DTT and RMs collected by centrifugation through a 500 mM sucrose cushion in PSB.

In both cases the final RM pellet was resuspended in RM buffer to a final volume equal to the starting material and stored in aliquots at -80°C after flash freezing. As controls, RMs were treated as outlined above without adding trypsin or NEM, respectively.

Protease-protection assays

After protein insertion into RMs, membranes were resuspended in 50 mM Hepes/KOH pH 7.6, 50 mM KOAc, 2 mM Mg(OAc)₂ and incubated with 2 mg/ml Proteinase K (Invitrogen) for 45 min at 30 °C. Digestion was stopped by adding 5 mM PMSF and samples were either directly added to boiling SDS-sample buffer, further fractionated by centrifugation through a sucrose cushion containing 5 mM PMSF (130000 ×g, 10 min), or subjected to affinity purification after protein denaturation in boiling SDS (1% in Tris/HCl pH 8.0) and 1:10 dilution with 1% Triton X-100, 100 mM NaCl, 50 mM Hepes pH 7.4.

For digestion of proteins inserted into liposomes, proteinase K was added to the *in vitro* insertion reaction and liposomes isolated by flotation as described. Proteins in the liposome-containing top fraction were either TCA precipitated in presence of 0.5% Triton X-100 as a carrier or affinity isolated after solubilisation with 1% Triton X-100 in 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA. Proteins were analysed by autoradiography after separation on 12% BisTris NuPAGE precast gels with MES buffer (Invitrogen).

Analyses of UBXD8 pre-insertion complexes by S-affinity isolation, chemical crosslinking and sucrose gradient fractionation

S-tagged UBXD8 variants were translated in RRL (40 µl reaction volume) in the absence of membranes, the reaction stopped by addition of 2.5 mM puromycin and diluted with 900 µl PBS. UBXD8 complexes were affinity isolated using S-agarose beads (Novagen). After washing in cleavage buffer (20 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT, 0.5 mM EDTA) proteins were eluted from the beads by addition of SDS-sample buffer and heating at 65 °C for 10 min. Presence of UBXD8, PEX19 and BAG6 in the purified complexes was assessed by immunoblotting following SDS-PAGE.

For chemical crosslinking, radiolabeled UBXD8 variants were translated in RRL as described above. After diluting the reactions with 10 volumes PBS, they were incubated with 250 mM BMH crosslinker (Pierce), or DMSO as a negative control, for 30 min at 25°C. The reactions were quenched with 20 mM DTT, supplemented with 10 mM Tris/HCl pH7.5 and proteins denatured by adding 1% SDS and heating for 10 min at 55 °C. After diluting the reaction 10fold with IP buffer A (10 mM Tris/HCl pH7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 0.4% Triton X-100) proteins were immuno-precipitated. After washing the beads with IP buffer A, IP buffer B (10 mM Tris/HCl pH7.5, 500 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 0.2% NP-40) and 10 mM Tris/HCl pH7.5 proteins were eluted with SDS-sample buffer and incubation at 65 °C for 10 min followed by SDS-PAGE and visualization by autoradiography.

To separate UBXD8 pre-insertion complexes, 100 µl *in vitro* translation reactions were layered onto 2 ml 5–20% sucrose gradients (in 50 mM Hepes/KOH pH7.4, 100 mM KOAc, 2 mM MgCl₂) and centrifuged for 5 h at 55000 rpm at 4 °C in a TLS-55 rotor. Ten fractions (200 µl each) were collected from the top, diluted with 900 µl PBS and subjected to S-affinity purification, SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting as described above. For membrane insertion assays, radiolabeled UBXD8 complexes were separated on sucrose gradients, 100 µl of each fraction supplemented with 8 eq RMs for 30 min at 30 °C, and insertion reactions fractionated into soluble (S), peripheral (P) and membrane-integrated proteins (M). UBXD8 amounts in the individual S and M fractions were quantified by densitometry and relative amounts in the M fraction compared to the sum of S and M calculated. For regression analyses, protein amounts of affinity-isolated UBXD8 and associated PEX19 and BAG6 in the individual sucrose gradient fractions were quantified from a parallel immunoblotting experiment by densitometry and plotted against UBXD8 membrane insertion efficiency.

Cell culture and transfection

HeLa Kyoto cells⁵¹ were cultivated at exponential growth rates in DMEM containing 4.5 g/L glucose and glutamine (Corning) supplemented with 10% FCS (Gemini) at 37°C and 5% CO₂ and regularly tested for the absence of mycoplasma. No cell lines used in this study were found in the database of commonly misidentified cell lines that is maintained by ICLAC and NCBI Biosample. We did not attempt to authenticate our cell lines. Fugene 6 (Promega) was used for transient plasmid- and Lipofectamine 2000 (Life Technologies) for transient siRNA-transfections according to manufacturer's instructions. Two individual *Silencer Select* pre-designed siRNAs specific for PEX3, PEX19 and PEX5, respectively, and a scrambled siRNA control were used at a final concentration of 3.3 nM (Life Technologies; IDs: s16154, s16156, s11612, s11613, s11630, s11632, 4390843). After 4h of siRNA transfection cells were supplemented with fresh medium. Cells were then either grown for additional 72h before further processing (PEX3 and PEX19 knock-down) or 48h later seeded for a second round of siRNA transfection and processed 120h after the first transfection (PEX5 knock-down).

For LD induction, cells were treated with 200 µM oleic acid in complex with 0.2% BSA in standard medium for 16h. To deplete LDs from cells 10 µM triacsin C was added to cells for 16h.

For generating clonal *PEX19*^{-/-} cell lines stably expressing PEX19_{C296S}, selection medium (DMEM / 10% FBS / 500 µg/ml geneticin) was added to cells 48h post-transfection. Pools stably expressing PEX19_{C296S} were seeded for clonal selection after 2 weeks. Single cell-derived clones were isolated, individually expanded under selection pressure and analysed by immuno-fluorescence and -blotting.

Immunoblotting

For quantitative immunoblotting, cells were harvested in PBS, lysed in 1% Triton X-100, 50 mM Hepes pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSE, Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitors (Roche) for 15 min on ice and samples cleared by centrifugation (16000 ×g, 10 min, 4°C). Protein concentration was determined by BCA assay (Pierce), equal protein amounts separated by SDS-PAGE, followed by wet-transfer onto nitrocellulose membranes. 5% skim milk in TBS-T was used to block unspecific binding and to dilute antibodies. IRDye secondary antibodies (LiCor) were used for signal detection by Odyssey imaging (LiCor). Band intensities were quantified by densitometry using either ImageJ or Image Studio Lite software (LiCor).

Immunofluorescence

For immunofluorescence, cells were seeded onto glass coverslips (#1.5 high precision), fixed with 4% formaldehyde in PBS for 20 min and permeabilised with 0.1% Triton X-100 for 10 min. Unspecific binding sites were blocked with either 1% BSA or 3% BSA/ 5% FBS in PBS followed by antibody incubation in the same solution. BODIPY 493/503 (Invitrogen) was used at 5 µg/ml to stain LDs. Specimen were mounted on glass slides using Fluoromount G (EMS) or slow fade gold (Invitrogen) and analysed using a Zeiss Axiolmager.M1 microscope with PlanApochromat oil objectives (63x or 100x/ 1.4 N.A.) and appropriate filter sets. Usually 8 individual z-sections in 300 nm intervals were collected using a CoolSNAP HQ camera (Photometrics). Where indicated, images were deconvolved using the Slidebook software and the nearest neighbour setting. Individual datasets were normalized for brightness/contrast and merged, and pseudo-colored pictures generated using ImageJ software. Micrographs were cropped and assembled using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

For structured illumination microscopy, specimens were examined with the Deltavision OMX Blaze 3D-SIM microscope equipped with 3 emCCD (Photometrics, Evolve 512) and an U-PLANAPO SIM objective (100x/1.42 N.A.). Individual z-sections of 125 nm were taken, reconstructed and aligned using the SoftWoRx software. Parameters for channel alignment were verified on the same day by calibration with fluorescent beads. For assessment of colocalisation, fluorescence intensity profiles were plotted and intensity peak distances measured using Image J. All SIM micrographs have a pixel size of 40.35 nm.

Electron Microscopy

After protein insertion into semi-permeabilised cells, cells were fixed with 4% formaldehyde/PBS for 20 min, washed in PBS, and quenched with 50 mM glycine/PBS for 5 min. After washing in PBS, unspecific binding sites were blocked with 3% BSA/ 5% FBS/ PBS for 20 min followed by incubation with anti-opsin antibodies for 1h. Fluoro-nanogold,

which is a 1.4 nm nanogold particle and Alexa Fluor 488 fluorophore coupled to an affinity-purified Fab' fragment (Nanoprobes, Cat. 7202) was used as a secondary probe in a 1:300 dilution. Specific labelling of sUBXD8op insertion sites as seen with conventional immunofluorescence was verified by examining a parallel sample by fluorescence microscopy. For ultrastructural characterization specimens were fixed in 4% PFA/ 2% glutaraldehyde/ 0.1M Cacodylate. Gold-particles were enhanced for 6 min using GoldEnhance EM Plus (Nanoprobes) followed by post-fixation in 1% OsO₄ for 1h and *en bloc* staining with 1% uranyl acetate over night. After dehydration samples were embedded into Epon resin and 80 nm ultra-thin sections collected on carbon-coated copper grids. Contrasting was performed with a 1:1 mix of 3% uranyl acetate and acetone for 30 sec followed by lead citrate staining (0.2%) for 3 min. Specimens were examined with a Joel, JEM1400 transmission electron microscope equipped with a Gatan Orius 10.7 megapixel CCD camera at 120kV.

Large-scale affinity-purification and mass spectrometry of UBXD8 preinsertion complexes

Large-scale (1 ml) *in vitro* translation reactions without mRNA or supplemented with mRNAs of opUBXD8_{FL}PPs or opUBXD8_{HP}PPs encoding a *PreScission* protease cleavage site (LEVLFQGP) preceding the C-terminal S-tag were carried out for 45 min at 30°C and terminated by adding 2.5 mM puromycin. Potential aggregated protein species and ribosomes were removed by centrifugation (260000 ×g, 30 min) and opUBXD8-PPs-complexes isolated on S-agarose beads. Beads were extensively washed in a spin column format with cleavage buffer (20 mM Tris/HCl pH7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT, 0.5 mM EDTA) and incubated in 2 bed volumes cleavage buffer supplemented with 8 units *PreScission* protease (GE Healthcare) for 4h at 8 °C with shaking. Proteins were eluted from the column by centrifugation (2 min at 200 ×g) and incubated with glutathione sepharose beads to retain GST-tagged *PreScission* protease during a second elution. Proteins in the final eluates were precipitated by TCA and separated by SDS-PAGE. Whole lanes were excised from the gel, cut into pieces and subjected to in-gel tryptic digestion, peptide extraction and subsequent peptide identification by LC-MS/MS.

Expression and purification of recombinant HIS-tagged PEX3 N40

Expression of N-terminally hexa-histidine-tagged PEX3 N40 was induced in *E. coli* Rosetta (DE3) cells (Novagen) with 1 mM IPTG at 0.5 OD₆₀₀ for 16h at 18°C. Cells were pelleted and resuspended in buffer A (20 mM Tris/HCl pH8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 10 mM imidazole) and cells lysed by adding 0.5 mg/ml lysozyme, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSF, and Complete protease inhibitors (Roche) for 30 min. After addition of 10 mM MgCl₂ and 10 µg/ml DNase I, the lysate was cleared by centrifugation (90000 ×g for 30 min) and loaded onto a HisTrap HP column (GE Healthcare). After washing with 30 column volumes (CV) buffer A containing 500 mM NaCl and with 20 CV of buffer A, proteins were eluted with a linear imidazole gradient over 10 CV using buffer A and buffer B (20 mM Tris/HCl pH8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 500 mM imidazole). Fractions containing PEX3 N40 were subjected to ultra-filtration and buffer exchange to 20 mM Tris/HCl pH8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM DTT and protein purity of greater than 95% was assessed by SDS-PAGE and coomassie staining.

Generation of PEX19 knock-out cell lines by CRISPR/Cas9-based genome-editing

HeLa Kyoto cells lacking endogenous PEX19 were generated by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing according to Ran *et al.*⁵² and protocols published by the Zhang lab (rev20130212 at <http://www.genome-engineering.org/crispr/>). In brief, we used an online CRISPR design tool (<http://crispr.mit.edu/>) to select four individual guide RNA sequences targeting exon1 or exon 2 of genomic PEX19 and designed the following oligos accordingly:

PEX19-Exon1-guide1: caccGTGTCGGGGCCGAAGCGGAC and
aacGTCCGCTTCGGCCCCGACAC;

PEX19-Exon1-guide2: caccgTGTCGGGGCCGAAGCGGACA and
aacGTCCGCTTCGGCCCCGACAc;

PEX19-Exon1-guide3: caccgTGAGGAAGGCTGTAGTGTCG and
aacCGACTACAGCCTTCCTCAc;

PEX19-Exon2-guide1: caccGGGCCCCAGAAGAGATCGCC and
aacGGCGATCTTCTGGGGCCC;

Oligos were phosphorylated, annealed and cloned into pX330 (Addgene) using BbsI. CRISPR constructs were verified by sequencing and transfected into cells using Fugene 6 (Roche). After 48h, transfected cells were diluted to select clonal cell lines, which were screened for the absence of PEX19 by immunoblotting using anti-PEX19 antibodies (Abcam) and by immunofluorescence using anti-catalase antibodies to verify the absence of peroxisomes. At least two individual clonal cell lines derived from each gRNA were used to verify PEX19-mediated effects on UBXD8-insertion into semi-permeabilised cells and on endogenous UBXD8 localization.

Cellular fractionation of lipid droplets

Four sub-confluent 10 cm dishes of oleate-loaded cells were harvested in ice-cold PBS, resuspended and incubated for 10 min in hypotonic lysis medium (HLM; 20 mM Tris/HCl pH7.4, 1 mM EDTA) containing 250 mM sucrose and Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitors (Roche), and lysed by passing ten times through a 25G1/2 needle. The post-nuclear supernatant (5 min, 500 $\times g$) was adjusted to a final concentration of 20% sucrose, overlaid with HLM and centrifuged for 1h at 172000 $\times g$ and 4°C in a TLS-55 rotor. The buoyant LD fraction was collected using a tube slicer (Beckman), the cytosolic fraction by pipetting and the membrane-containing pellet washed three times with HLM. Proteins in the LD fraction were solubilized for 20 min in 2% Triton X-100 at 65 °C, precipitated with 10% TCA and washed twice with acetone. Equivalent percentages of cytosolic and membrane fractions were analysed next to TCA-precipitated LD proteins by SDS-PAGE and quantitative immunoblotting.

Data availability

All data supporting the findings of this study are available without undue qualification from the corresponding author on request.

Statistics and reproducibility

Uncropped scans of all gels are available in supplementary Figure 8.

Experiments used for statistical quantification were repeated independently three times (n=3) and normalised to values obtained from WT cells. The mean and the standard error of the mean are displayed as bar graph with error bars.

Micrographs, autoradiographs and immunoblots shown are representative for at least two independent experiments as depicted in the individual figure legends. For assessment of sUBXD8op foci colocalisation with endogenous proteins at least 50 foci, as depicted in the individual figure legends, were analysed from a representative single experiment. The experiment itself was repeated at least once. For genome-edited *PEX19*^{-/-} cells nine independent clonal cell lines were characterized with similar results. For *PEX19*^{-/-} cell lines stably expressing PEX19_{C296S} three independent clonal cell lines were analysed with similar results.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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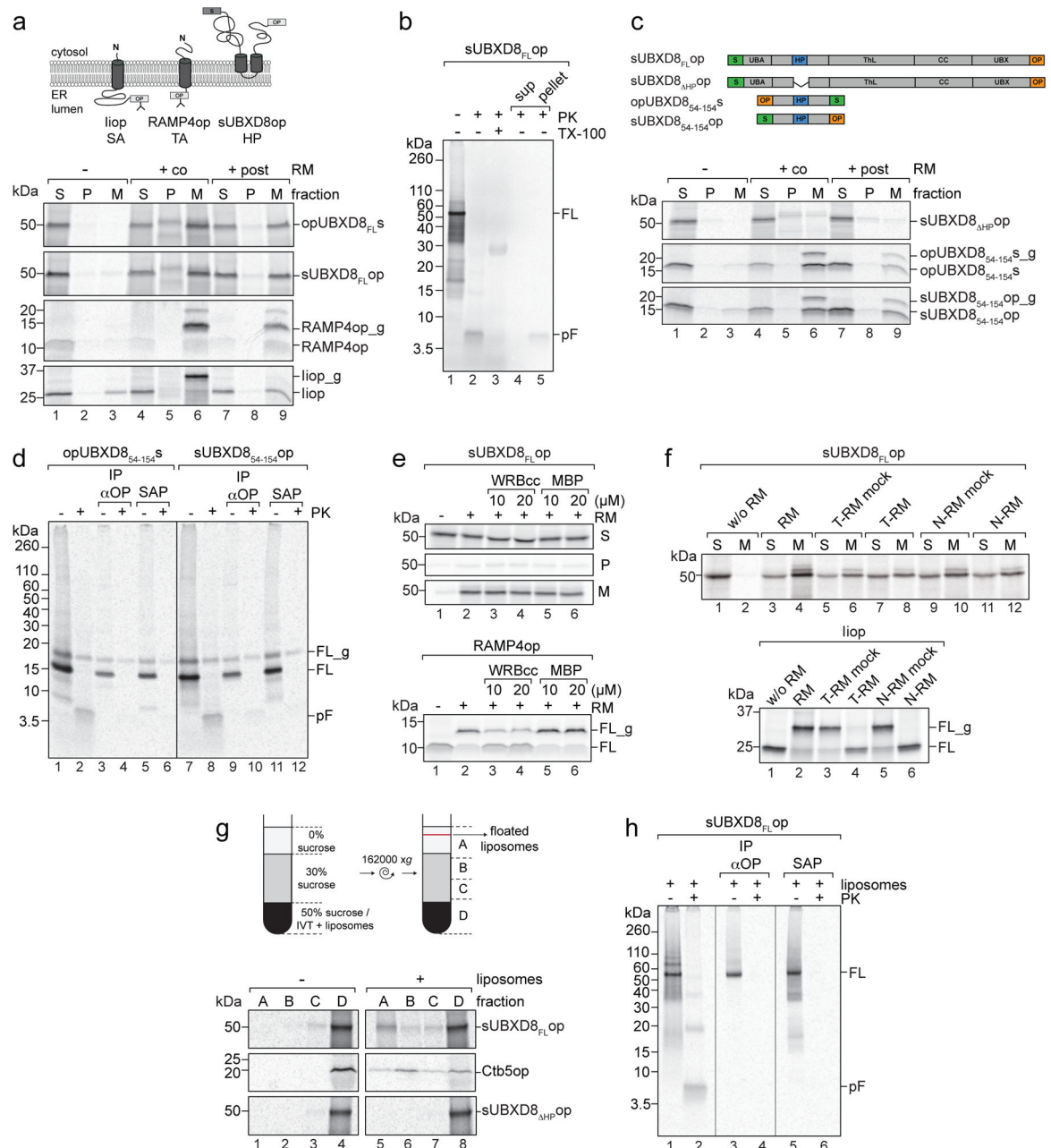


Figure 1. UBXD8 is posttranslationally inserted into membranes by a non-canonical ER-targeting pathway

Indicated mRNAs were translated in RRL and membrane insertion monitored after incubation with RMs or liposomes by SDS-PAGE/autoradiography.

a) UBXD8 is posttranslationally inserted into RMs. *Upper*. Membrane topologies of opsin (op)-tagged signal-anchored (SA) invariant chain (liop), opsin-tagged tail-anchored (TA) RAMP4op, and opsin- and S-tagged UBXD8. Opsin-tag glycosylation sites are indicated. *Lower*. Proteins were synthesized *in vitro* without RMs (–), when RMs were present during translation (+co) or added after translation (+post). Membrane insertion was assessed by

fractionation into soluble (S), carbonate-labile, peripheral membrane proteins (P) and carbonate-resistant, integral membrane proteins (M). *_g*, glycosylated.

b) Verification of UBXD8 topology. Proteinase K (PK) treatment of RMs with posttranslationally inserted full-length (FL) sUBXD8op in absence or presence of Triton X-100 (TX-100). Lanes 4+5: Refractionated samples. pF: protected fragment; sup: supernatant.

c) HP-domain is necessary and sufficient for posttranslational UBXD8 insertion into RMs. *Upper*: Constructs used. *Lower*: *in vitro* translation/translocation of radiolabeled proteins as in (a).

d) Verification of UBXD8₅₄₋₁₅₄ topology as in (b). Samples were precipitated with anti-opsin antibodies (IP α OP) or S-affinity purified (SAP).

e) TRC40 pathway-independent UBXD8 insertion. Posttranslational protein insertion into RMs in absence or presence of recombinant WRBcc or MBP. sUBXD8_{FL}op (*upper*) was fractionated as in (a) and RAMP4op (*lower*) analysed directly. *_g*, glycosylated.

f) UBXD8 insertion persists after covalent modification of RMs. sUBXD8_{FL}op (*upper*) and Iiop (*lower*) were cotranslationally incubated with RMs pre-treated with trypsin (T-RM) or N-ethylmaleimide (N-RM). sUBXD8_{FL}op was fractionated as in (a) and Iiop analysed directly. *_g*, glycosylated.

g) UBXD8 associates with protein-free liposomes. Posttranslational liposome addition to *in vitro* translations followed by density gradient fractionation. *Upper*: Paradigm. *Lower*: Analysis of sUBXD8_{FL}op, sUBXD8_{HPop} and opsin-tagged cytochrome b5 (Ctb5op).

h) UBXD8 HP-domain is inserted into liposomes. Posttranslational sUBXD8_{FL}op insertion into liposomes as in (g) followed by protease digestion as in (d).

Representative autoradiograph from a single experiment are shown. The experiments in panels a, b, c, g were repeated twice and those in panels d, e, f, h were repeated once with similar results. Uncropped scans of all gels are available in Supplementary Figure 8.

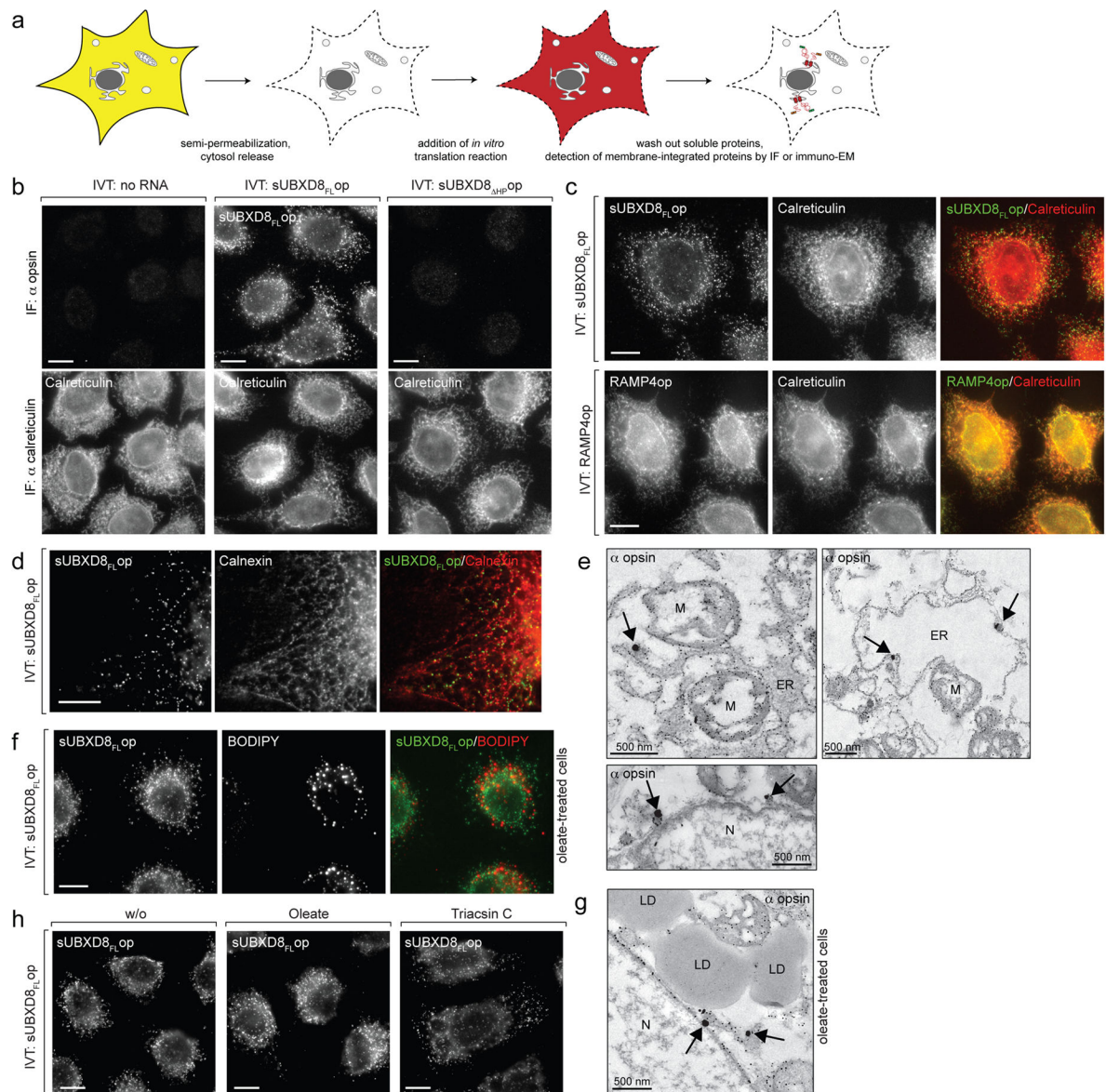


Figure 2. UBXD8 is inserted into ER-subdomains in semi-permeabilised cells

a) Experimental scheme: Cells grown on coverslips were semi-permeabilised to release cytosolic contents and incubated with *in vitro* translation reactions. Membrane-integrated proteins were detected by immunofluorescence (IF) microscopy (b, c, d, f, h) or by immunoelectron microscopy (EM) (e and g).

b) The HP-region in UBXD8 is required for membrane insertion in semi-permeabilised cells. IF using anti-opsin and anti-calreticulin (ER marker) antibodies as indicated.

c) Full-length sUBXD8op inserts into discrete foci. IF of *in vitro* translated RAMP4op and sUBXD8_{FL}op as in (b).

d) UBXD8 insertion sites align with the ER marker calnexin. IF of sUBXD8_{FL}op co-stained with anti-calnexin antibodies. A single z-section is shown. Supplementary movie 1 shows a full z-stack.

e) UBXD8 insertion sites are associated with the ER. Electron micrographs showing immunogold labelled sUBXD8_{FLop} using anti-opsin and fluoronogold-coupled antibodies after insertion into semi-permeabilised cells. Arrows indicate specific gold-labelling at ER membranes. Small gold particles attached to all membrane structures represent non-specific background labelling due to gold enhancement, which is also found in the control specimen to which no *in vitro* translated protein was added (not shown). N: nucleus; M: mitochondria. f – g) UBXD8 is not directly inserted into LDs. Before semi-permeabilisation and import of *in vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FLop}, cells were treated with oleate to induce LD formation and analysed (f) by IF with anti-opsin antibodies (BODIPY labels LDs) or (g) by EM as in (e). h) UBXD8 inserts into ER foci in LD-depleted cells. Cells were treated with triacsin C to inhibit neutral lipid synthesis and sUBXD8_{FLop} was detected by IF using anti-opsin antibodies.

Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment in panels a, b, c were repeated twice, in panels d, e were repeated thrice, and in panels f–h were repeated once, all with similar results.

Scale bars, 10 μ m unless indicated.

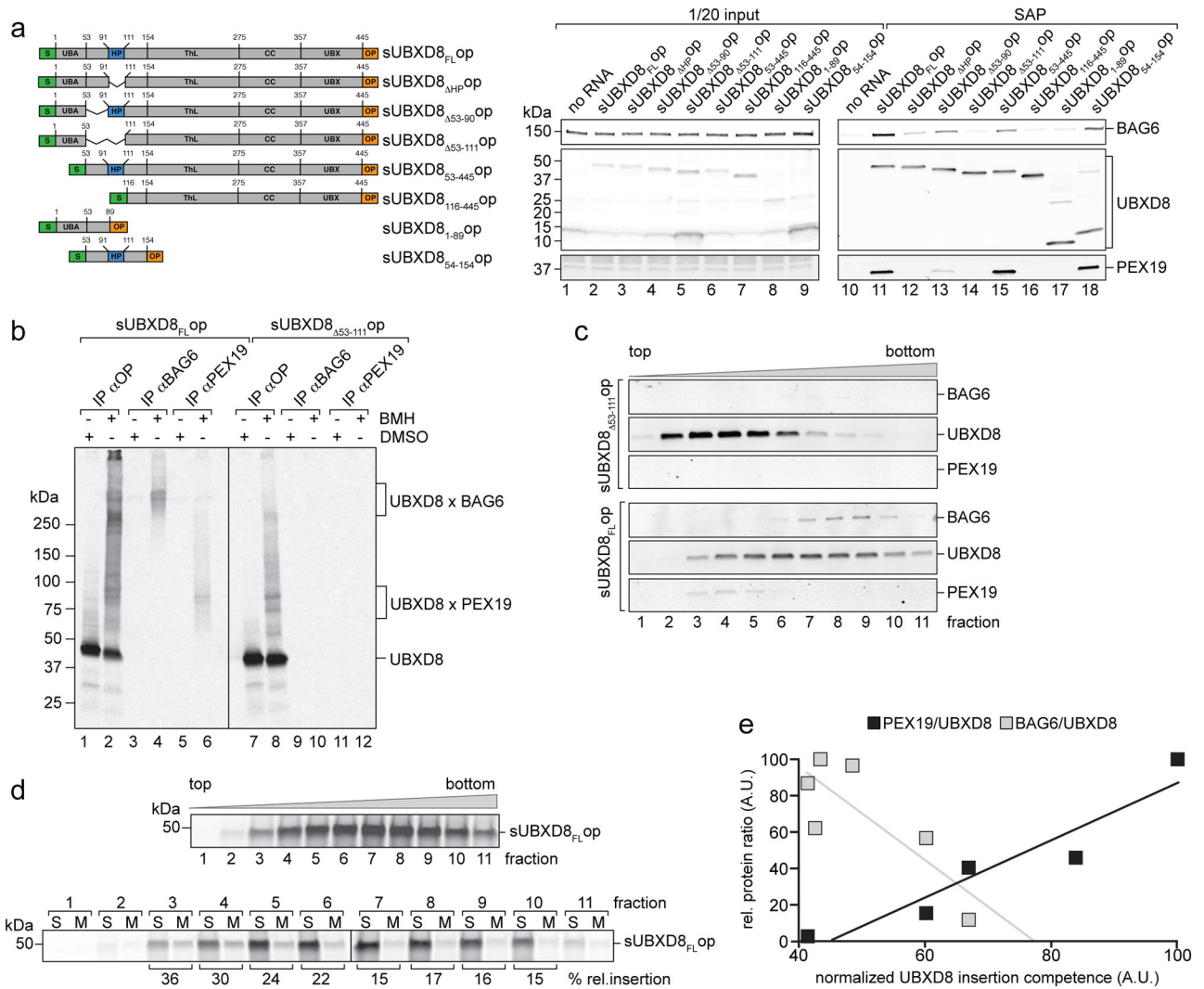


Figure 3. UBXD8 pre-insertion complexes contain PEX19 and BAG6

a) HP-dependent UBXD8 binding to BAG6 and PEX19. Indicated UBXD8 constructs (left panel) were translated in RRL in the absence of membranes, S-affinity purified (SAP) and analysed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting with opsin- (UBXD8), BAG6- or PEX19-specific antibodies. Lanes 1–9 show 1/20 of input reaction, lanes 10–18 show corresponding elution fractions.

b) Direct interaction of UBXD8 with BAG6 and PEX19 assessed by chemical crosslinking. sUBXD8_{FLop} or sUBXD8_{Δ53-111op} were translated in RRL and treated with the crosslinker BMH, or DMSO, immunoprecipitated under denaturing conditions using the indicated antibodies and visualised by autoradiography. Mobilities of monomeric UBXD8 and crosslinked adducts for UBXD8-BAG6 and UBXD8-PEX19 are indicated.

c) Full-length UBXD8 forms distinct complexes with PEX19 and BAG6. sUBXD8_{FLop} or sUBXD8_{Δ53-111op} translated in RRL were fractionated on sucrose density gradients, UBXD8 complexes S-affinity purified from individual fractions and analysed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting using anti-opsin (UBXD8), -BAG6 and -PEX19 antibodies.

d – e) UBXD8 insertion competence correlates with PEX19 but not BAG6 association.

d) Sucrose gradient fractionation of radiolabeled sUBXD8_{FLop} complexes as described in (c) but analysed by autoradiography (*upper*). RMs were added to individual fractions and UBXD8 insertion competence quantified by densitometry after fractionation into soluble (S) and membrane-integrated (M) proteins as in Fig. 1 (*lower*).

e) Relative UBXD8 insertion competence into RMs as quantified in (d) was plotted against the relative protein amounts of PEX19 or BAG6 associated with UBXD8 in the individual sucrose gradient fractions. Immunoblot analysis and protein quantification of a parallel sucrose gradient fractionation is shown in Supplementary Fig. 2. Linear least-squares regression analysis of association with PEX19 ($R^2 = 0.89$) or BAG6 ($R^2 = 0.67$) vs. UBXD8 insertion competence. A.U.: arbitrary units.

Representative autoradiographs from a single experiment are shown. The experiments in panels a–d were repeated once with similar results. Uncropped scans of all gels are available in Supplementary Figure 8.

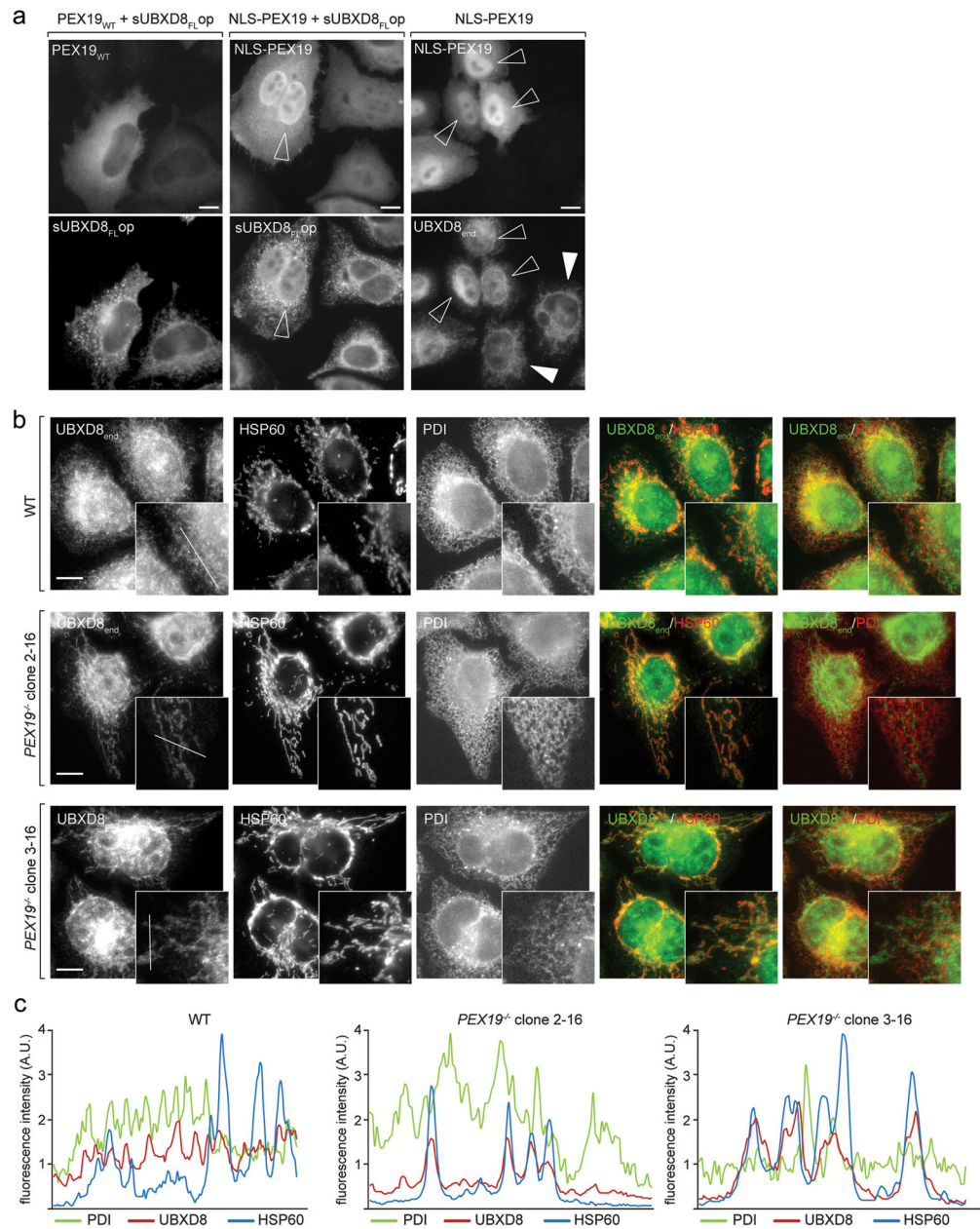


Figure 4. PEX19 specifies the subcellular localization of UBXD8

a) UBXD8 follows PEX19 redirected to the nucleus. Effect of wild-type (WT) or NLS-tagged PEX19 on co-expressed or endogenous UBXD8 localization assessed by IF microscopy. PEX19, sUBXD8_{FLop} and endogenous UBXD8 were detected using anti-PEX19, anti-opsin or anti-UBXD8 antibodies, respectively. Open arrowheads indicate transfected cells with high nuclear NLS-PEX19 accumulation. White arrowheads indicate non-transfected cells with reticular staining for endogenous UBXD8. Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results. All scale bars = 10 μ m.

- b) UBXD8 mislocalises to mitochondria in the absence of PEX19. Endogenous UBXD8 was detected by IF in WT cells or two different *PEX19*^{-/-} clonal cell lines using anti-UBXD8 antibodies. Results are representative of nine individual *PEX19*^{-/-} clonal cell lines derived from four different guide RNAs. Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results. Anti-HSP60 and anti-PDI antibodies stain mitochondria and ER, respectively. All scale bars = 10 μ m.
- c) Fluorescence intensity line profiles as depicted in UBXD8 insets in (b) reveal increased correlation of UBXD8 localization with mitochondria in *PEX19*^{-/-} cells. A.U.: arbitrary units. Representative line profiles from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

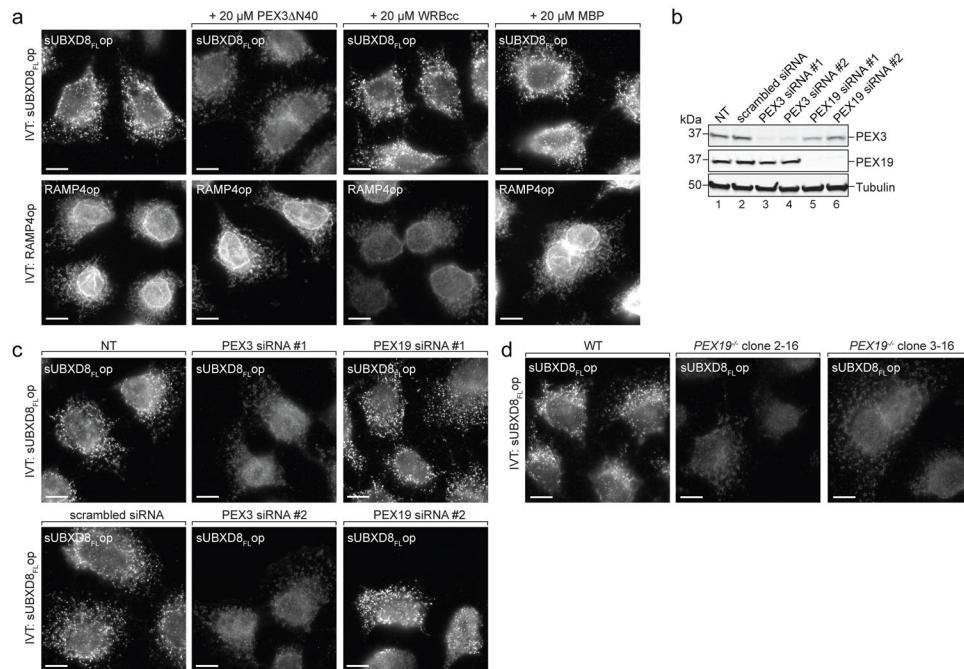


Figure 5. PEX19 and PEX3 are essential for UBXD8 insertion into ER-subdomains

a) UBXD8 insertion into ER foci is inhibited by competition with PEX3 N40. sUBXD8_{FL}op or RAMP4op were translated in RRL, incubated with semi-permeabilised wild-type (WT) cells in the presence of indicated purified proteins and detected by immunofluorescence (IF) as described in Fig. 2. Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results. All scale bars = 10 μm.

b–c) UBXD8 insertion into ER foci requires PEX3.

b) WT cells were transfected with indicated siRNAs and analysed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting with indicated antibodies. NT: non-transfected. Uncropped scans are available in supplementary Figure 8. Representative immunoblots from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated once with similar results.

c) *In vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FL}op was added to semi-permeabilised WT cells transfected with siRNA constructs as in (b) and analysed by IF. NT: non-transfected. Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated once with similar results. All scale bars = 10 μm.

d) UBXD8 insertion into ER foci requires PEX19/PEX3. *In vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FL}op was incubated with semi-permeabilised WT or two individual *PEX19*^{-/-} clonal cell lines and detected by IF as in Fig. 2. Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment was repeated once with similar results. All scale bars = 10 μm.

Scale bars = 10 μm.

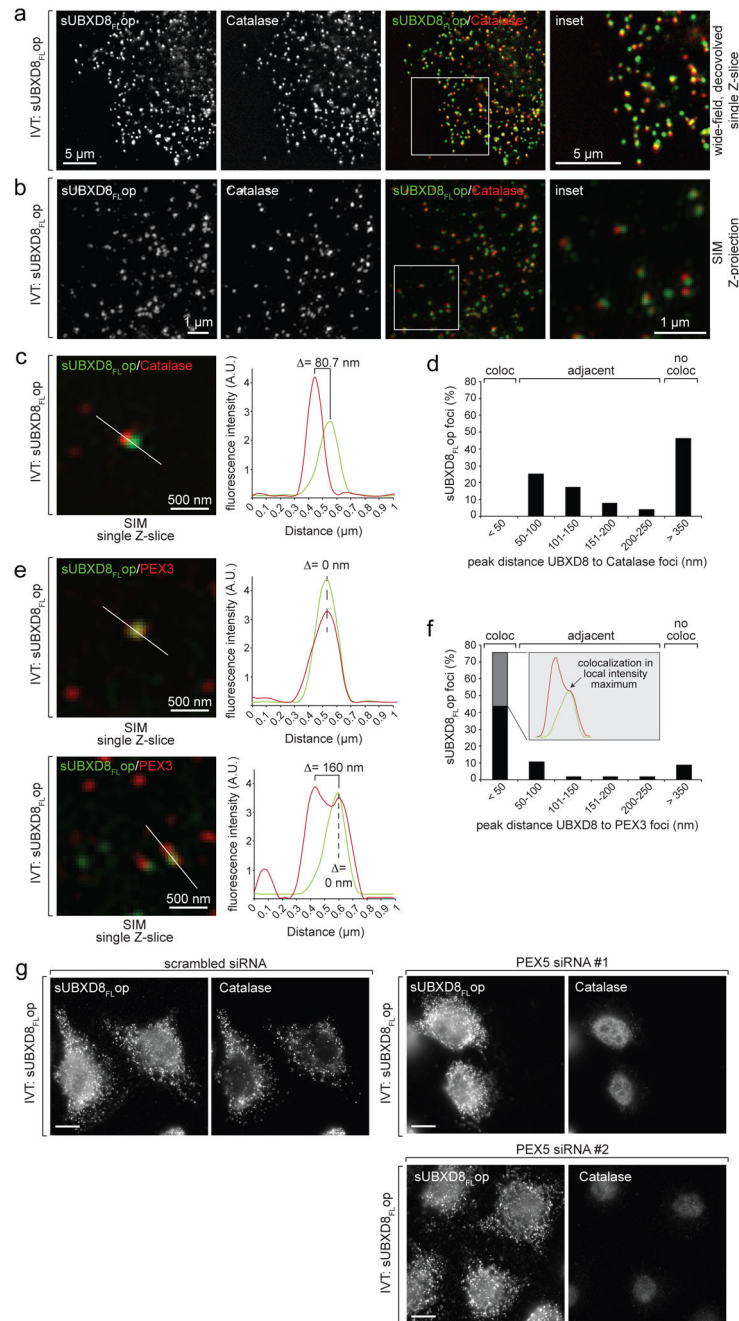


Figure 6. UBXD8 insertion sites co-localize with endogenous PEX3 but not with mature peroxisomes

a–d) UBXD8 insertion sites are in close proximity to but distinct from peroxisomes. *In vitro* translated sUBXD8_{FL}op was imported into semi-permeabilised wild-type (WT) cells and visualized by IF microscopy as in Fig. 2. Anti-catalase antibodies mark mature peroxisomes.

or SIM (b, c, e). Positions of insets are indicated by white boxes. A.U.: arbitrary units.

a) Representative single Z-slice from deconvolution wide-field microscopy.

b) Representative SIM Z-stack projection.

c) Representative SIM z-slice inset (*left*) and fluorescence intensity profile from indicated line scan (*right*) illustrates how colocalisation of sUBXD8_{FLop} foci with catalase-positive foci was quantified. Data are from a single cell image representative of >50 cells and at least 3 SIM images.

d) Quantification of the distances between sUBXD8_{FLop} foci and catalase-positive foci from SIM micrographs analysed as illustrated in (c).

e–f) Two distinct colocalisation phenotypes for sUBXD8_{FLop} foci with endogenous PEX3.

e) *Left*, two representative fields of single SIM z-slices after co-staining for sUBXD8_{FLop} and endogenous PEX3 are shown to illustrate either complete colocalisation (*upper*) or double foci with one colocalised spot adjacent to a PEX3-positive but sUBXD8_{FLop}-negative spot (*lower*). *Right*, fluorescence intensity profiles from indicated line scans as they were used to quantify colocalisation of sUBXD8_{FLop} foci with PEX3-positive foci in (f).

f) Quantification of the distances between sUBXD8_{FLop} foci and PEX3-positive foci obtained from line profiles of fluorescence intensity as in (e). Grey-shaded bar indicates percentage of sUBXD8_{FLop} foci that colocalised with PEX3 foci and were also found to be adjacent to sUBXD8_{FLop}-negative PEX3 foci within a distance of 50–250 nm.

g) Insertion of UBXD8 into ER foci is independent of mature peroxisomes. WT cells were transfected with indicated siRNAs for 120h, used for semi-permeabilisation and import of sUBXD8_{FLop}, and stained with anti-opsin or anti-catalase antibodies as indicated. Scale bars = 10 μ m.

Representative images from a single experiment are shown. The experiment in panel a was repeated 4 times, in panels b, d, f, once, and in panel g twice, with similar results. In panels d, f, 57 foci were analysed.

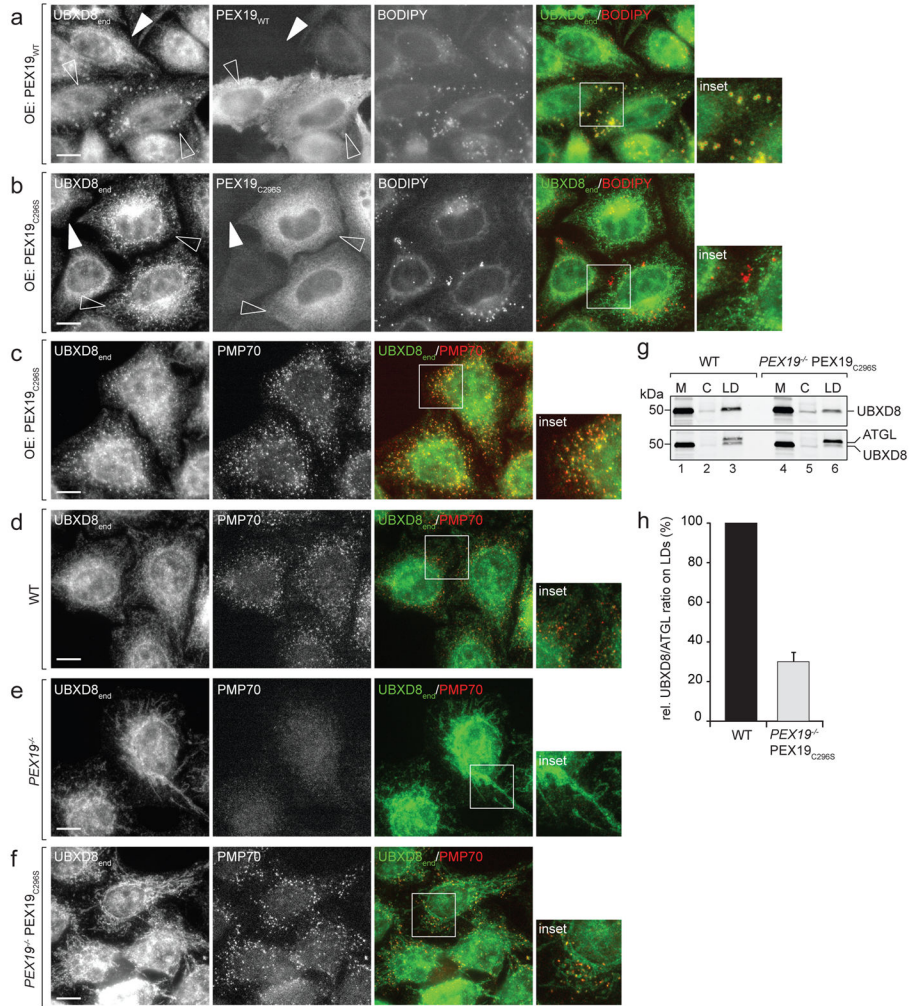


Figure 7. PEX19 farnesylation determines UBXD8 localization in cells

a–c) Dominant-negative effect of PEX19 farnesylation mutant on ER and LD targeting of endogenous UBXD8. Wild-type (WT) cells were transfected with either WT PEX19 (a) or with the farnesylation mutant PEX19_{C296} (b and c). PEX19, UBXD8 and PMP70 were detected by IF microscopy using antibodies and LDs were visualized using BODIPY staining. Insets show boxed regions; Open and white arrowheads indicate transfected and non-transfected cells, respectively. Scale bars = 10 μ m.

a) Overexpression of PEX19_{WT} in WT cells promotes trafficking of endogenous UBXD8 to LDs. Representative images from a single experiment are shown, the experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

b–c) Overexpression of PEX19_{C296} in WT does not promote trafficking of endogenous UBXD8 to LDs but instead causes mislocalisation to peroxisomes. Representative images from single experiments are shown, the experiments were repeated once with similar results.

d–f) Stable expression of PEX19_{C296} in *PEX19*^{-/-} cells rescues peroxisome biogenesis but not mitochondrial mislocalization of endogenous UBXD8.

WT cells, *PEX19*^{-/-} cells or *PEX19*^{-/-} cells stably expressing PEX19_{C296} (*PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296}) as indicated were analysed by IF microscopy using UBXD8- and PMP70-

specific antibodies. Insets show boxed regions; Scale bars = 10 μm . Representative images from single experiments are shown, the experiments were repeated once with similar results. Images in (f) are representatives of three individual clonal *PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296} cell lines. g-h) UBXD8 levels on LDs are severely reduced in *PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296} cells.

g) Oleate-treated WT and *PEX19*^{-/-} PEX19_{C296} cells were fractionated into membranes (M), cytosol (C) and LDs. A representative immunoblot from a single experiment is shown, the experiment was repeated twice with similar results. Membranes were first decorated with UBXD8-specific antibodies (*upper*) and then redecorated with anti-ATGL antibodies (*lower*). Uncropped scans are available in supplementary Figure 8.

h) Relative UBXD8 amounts in LD fractions compared to the LD-resident membrane protein ATGL were quantified by densitometry from immunoblots as shown in (g). n=3 independent experiments normalised to values obtained from WT cells. Mean \pm s.e.m. (=4.9%)..