

1 **Crowded environments tune the fold-switching in metamorphic**
2 **proteins**

3 Ning Zhang^{1,2,3,§*}, Wenyan Guan^{4,§}, Shouqi Cui^{1,2,3,5}, Nana Ai⁴

4 **Authors Institutional Affiliations**

5 ¹Qingdao Institute of Bioenergy and Bioprocess Technology, Chinese
6 Academy of Sciences, Qingdao 266101, China

7 ²Shandong Energy Institute, Qingdao 266101, China

8 ³Qingdao New Energy Shandong Laboratory, Qingdao 266101, China

9 ⁴Materials and Biomaterials Science and Engineering, University of
10 California, Merced, CA 95343, USA

11 ⁵University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100049, China

12

13

14 ***Corresponding Author**

15 Qingdao Institute of Bioenergy and Bioprocess Technology, Chinese
16 Academy of Sciences; Shandong Energy Institute; Qingdao New Energy
17 Shandong Laboratory, Qingdao 266101, China

18 Ning Zhang

19 Email: zhangn2022@qibebt.ac.cn

20 ORCID ID: 0000-0002-3590-3774

21

22

23

24

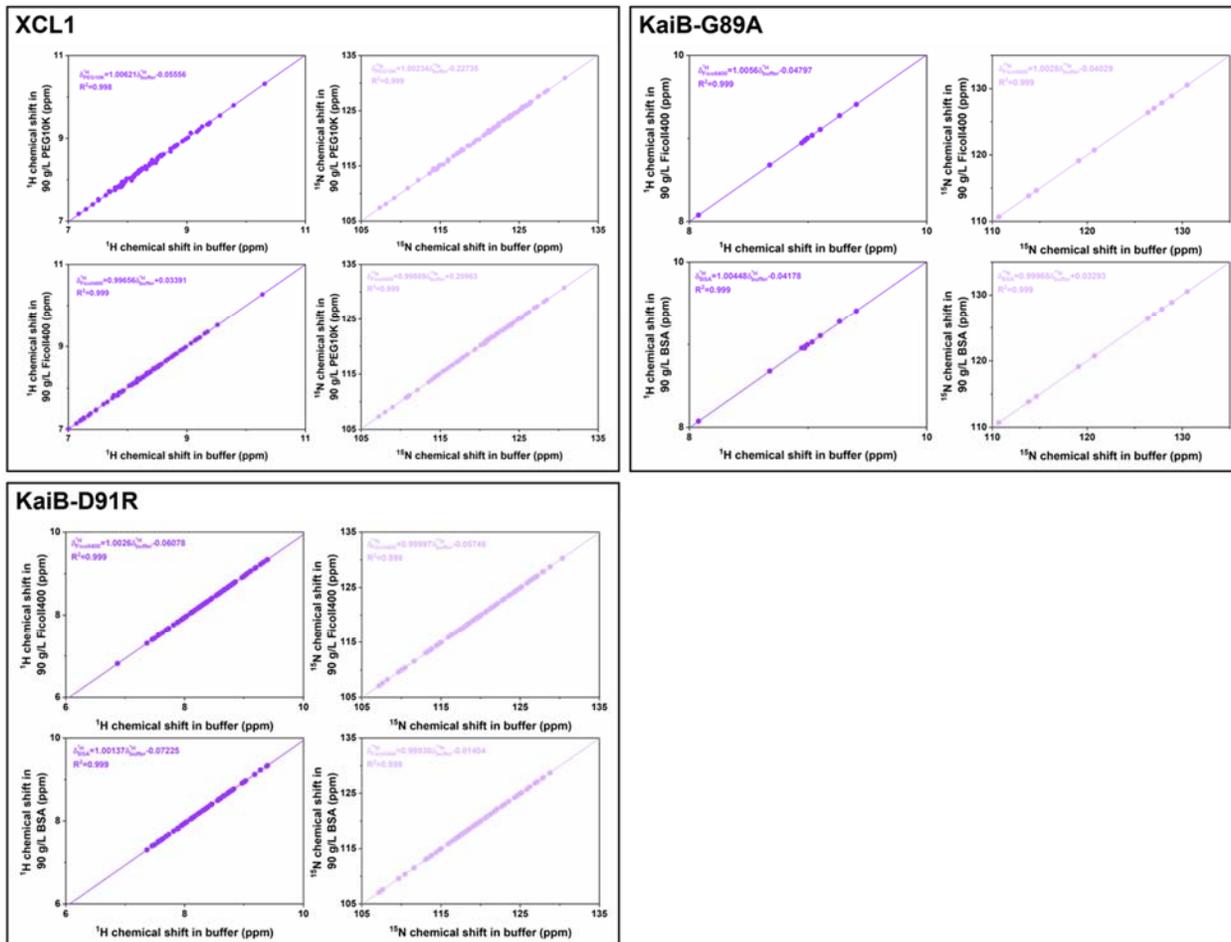
25 [§]Ning Zhang and Wenyan Guan contributed equally.

26

27

28

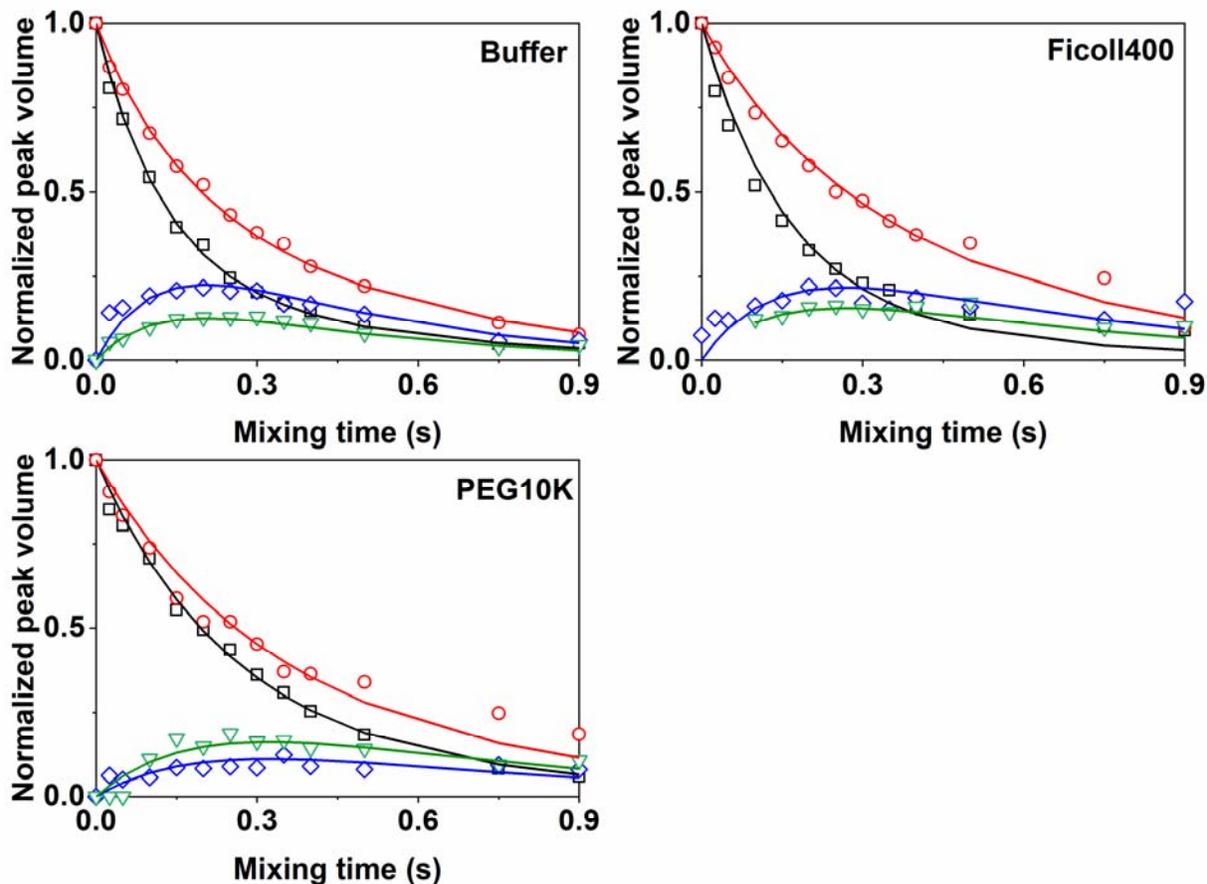
29



30
31

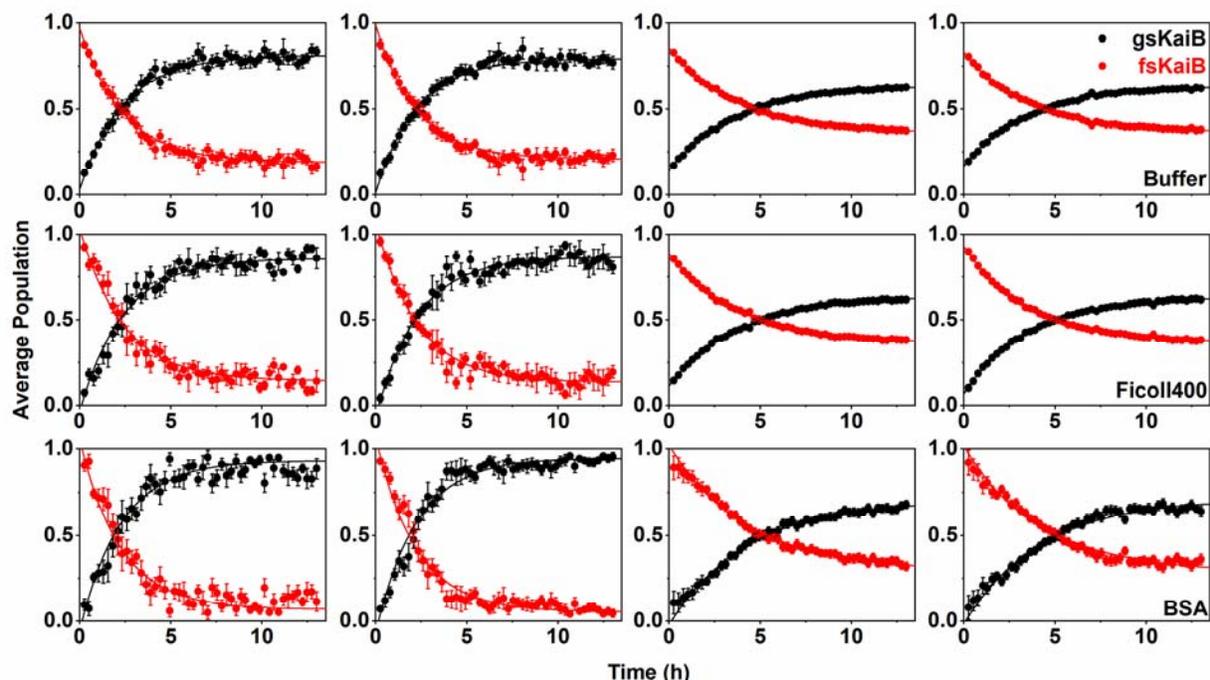
32 **Fig. S1 | ¹H and ¹⁵N Chemical shifts comparisons.** Perfect linear regression (all slopes
33 equal to ca. 1) between ¹H (¹⁵N) chemical shifts in buffer and that in crowded conditions.
34 Dark purple and light purple are corresponding to the ¹H chemical shift comparison and
35 ¹⁵N chemical shifts comparison, respectively.

36



37
 38 **Fig. S2 | The kinetics and thermodynamics of XCL1 metamorphosis in dilute buffer**
 39 **and crowded conditions.** Normalized ZZ-exchange peak volume plots for residue Gly44
 40 of XCL1 in buffer, Ficoll400 and PEG10K. Black squares and red circles correspond to
 41 the Ltn10-like and Ltn40-like XCL1, respectively. Blue diamonds and green triangles
 42 correspond to forward interconversion from Ltn10-like XCL1 to Ltn40-like XCL1 and
 43 reverse interconversion from Ltn40-like XCL1 to Ltn10-like XCL1, respectively.

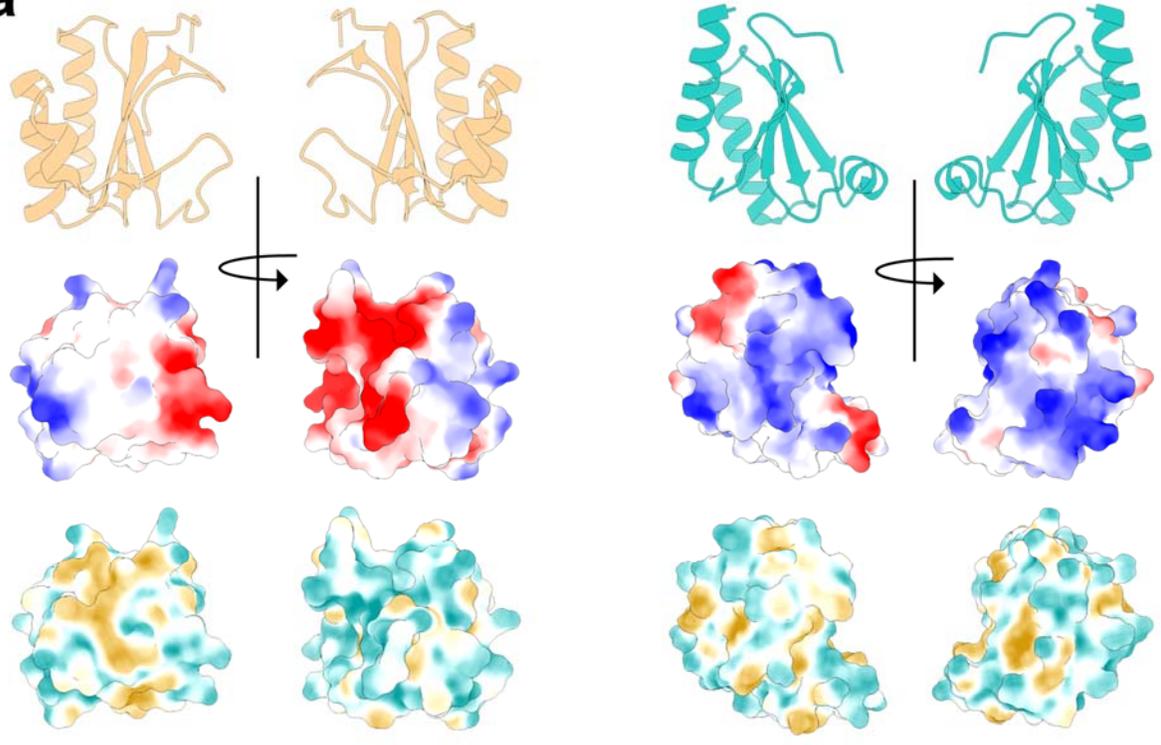
44
 45
 46
 47
 48
 49
 50
 51
 52
 53
 54



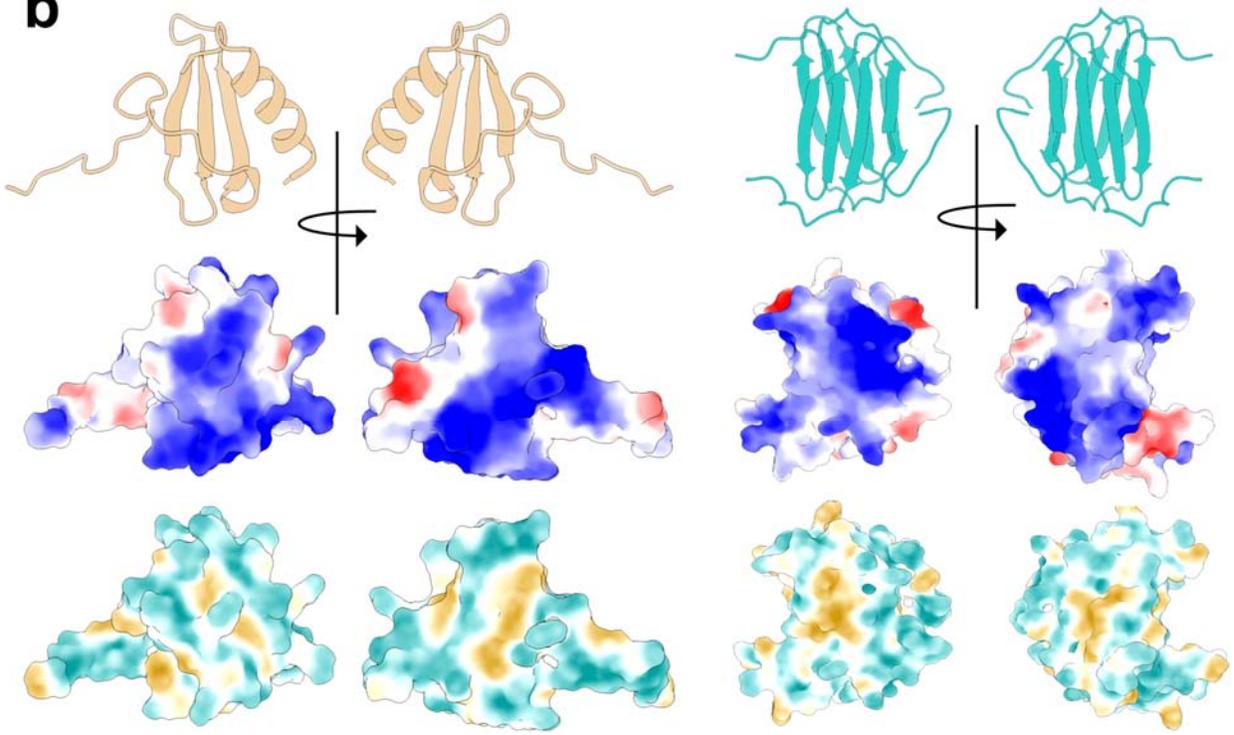
55
 56 **Fig. S3 | The kinetics and thermodynamics of KaiB metamorphosis in dilute buffer**
 57 **and crowded conditions. a,** The populations of gsKaiB (black dots) and fsKaiB (red dots)
 58 of KaiB^{G89A} (left two columns) and KaiB^{D91R} (right two columns) variants were calculated
 59 from averaged HSQC peak volumes of reporter residues in buffer (upper), Ficoll400
 60 (middle) and BSA (bottom) and are plotted as a function of time. All kinetic parameters
 61 and thermodynamic parameters were extracted by fitting these time courses of averaged
 62 peak volumes.

63
 64
 65
 66
 67
 68
 69
 70
 71
 72
 73
 74
 75
 76
 77

a



b



78
79
80

81 **Fig. S4 | The electrostatic and hydrophobic analysis of two native states of**
82 **metamorphic KaiB (a) and XCL1 (b).** **a**, top row: the ribbon diagram of gsKaiB (left, PDB
83 ID: 2QKE) and fsKaiB (right, PDB ID: 5JYT); middle row: the electrostatic potential
84 analysis of both KaiB states. Red for negative potential through the white to blue for
85 positive potential; bottom row: the hydrophobic analysis of both KaiB states. Dark cyan
86 corresponds to the most hydrophilic zone to white to dark golden represents most
87 hydrophobic surface. **b**, top row: the ribbon diagram of Ltn10-like XCL1 (left, PDB ID: 1J8I)
88 and Ltn40-like XCL1 (right, PDB ID: 2JP1); middle row: the electrostatic potential analysis
89 of both XCL1 states, red for negative potential through the white to blue for positive
90 potential; bottom row: the hydrophobic analysis of both XCL1 states. Dark cyan
91 corresponds to the most hydrophilic zone to white to dark golden represents most
92 hydrophobic surface. All calculations were carried out in ChimeraX.
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111

112 **Table S1 | van der Waals volume calculation and solvent-accessible surface area**
 113 **calculation**

GETAREA ¹			
Ltn10-like XCL1 (1J8I)	5334.51 Å ²	gsKaiB (2QKE)	6719.45 Å ²
Ltn40-like XCL1 (2JP1)	7698.96 Å ²	fsKaiB (5JYT)	6635.17 Å ²
ProteinVolume ²			
Ltn10-like XCL1 (1J8I)	6980.78 Å ³	gsKaiB (2QKE)	11019.23 Å ³
Ltn40-like XCL1 (2JP1)	12055.63 Å ³	fsKaiB (5JYT)	10193.09 Å ³

114

115

116

117 **Reference**

118

- 119 1. Fraczkiewicz R, Braun W. Exact and efficient analytical calculation of the
 120 accessible surface areas and their gradients for macromolecules. *Journal of*
 121 *Computational Chemistry* **19**, 319-333 (1998).
- 122 2. Chen CR, Makhatadze GI. ProteinVolume: calculating molecular van der Waals
 123 and void volumes in proteins. *BMC Bioinformatics* **16**, 101 (2015).

124