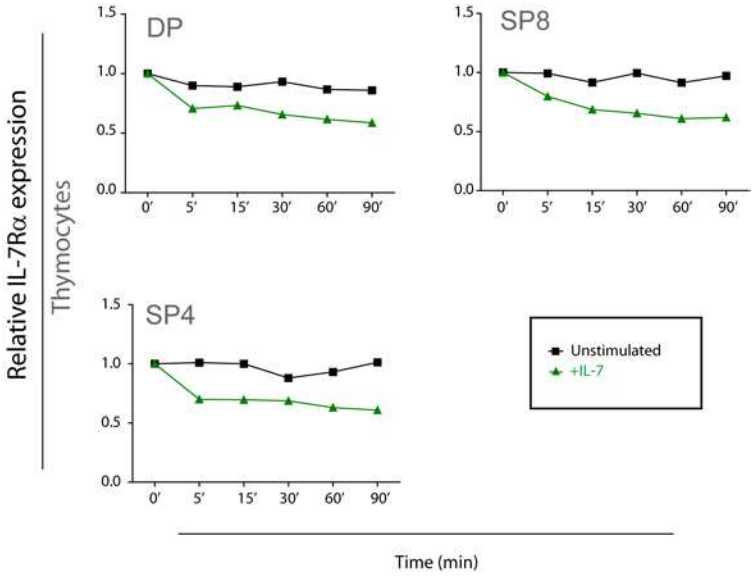
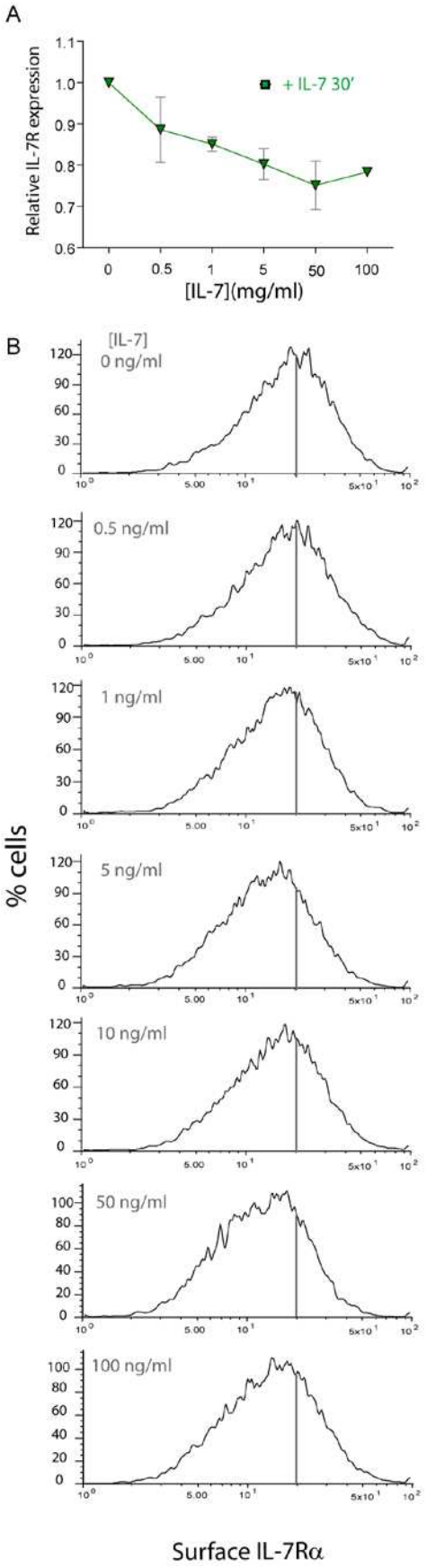
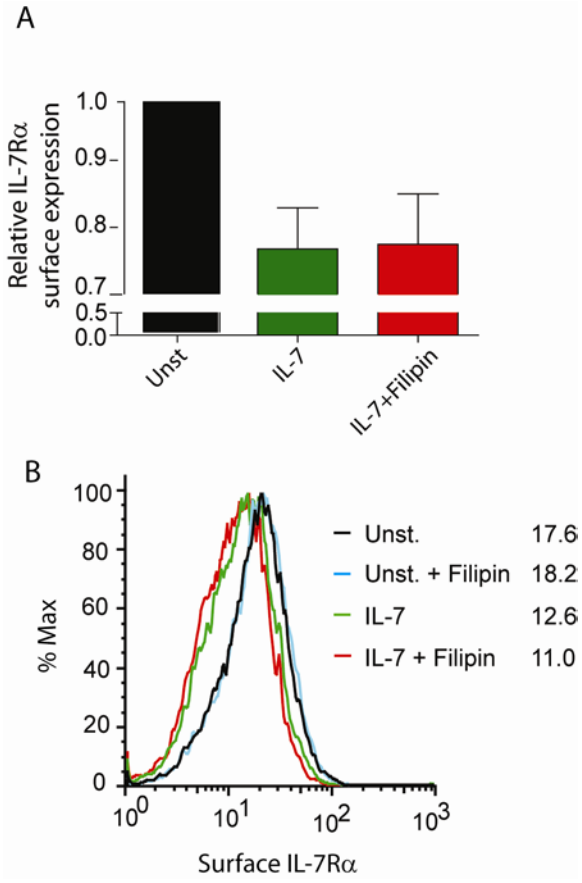
SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



Supplementary Figure 1. IL-7 induces rapid IL-7Rα down-regulation in primary thymocytes: Primary thymocytes were isolated and cultured in the presence or absence of IL-7 (50ng/ml) in culture medium for the indicated time and subsequently analyzed by flow cytometry for surface IL-7Rα expression, as described in 'Materials and Methods'. Thymocytes were incubated with anti-CD4 FITC-conjugated and CD8 APC-conjugated antibodies to determine the double positive (DP), CD4 single positive (SP4) and CD8 single positive (SP8) sub-populations. Relative IL-7Rα expression was calculated as the geometric mean intensity of fluorescence normalized to the zero (unstimulated) time point. Results are representative of two independent thymuses.



Supplementary Figure 2. IL-7 induces surface IL-7Rα downregulation in a dose-dependent manner. (A) HPB-ALL cells were cultured in the presence of increasing doses of IL-7 (0 to 100ng/ml) in culture medium for 30 minutes and subsequently analyzed by flow cytometry for surface IL-7Rα expression, as described in 'Materials and Methods'. Relative IL-7Rα expression was calculated as the geometric mean intensity of fluorescence normalized to the zero (unstimulated) time point. Data are mean±sem from two independent experiments. **(B)** Representative flow cytometry histograms of IL-7Rα surface expression in HPB-ALL cells stimulated for 30 minutes with IL-7 at the indicated concentrations. The vertical line in each histogram was arbitrarily set at the same value in all histograms to facilitate their visual comparison.



Supplementary Figure 3. IL-7-induced-IL-7Rα internalization is lipid-raft independent. (A) HPB-ALL cells were cultured in the presence or absence of IL-7 (50ng/ml), with or without pre-treatment (1h) with the lipid-raft inhibitor Filipin (5µg/ml). Samples were analyzed by flow cytometry for surface IL-7Rα expression, as described in 'Materials and Methods'. Relative IL-7Rα expression was calculated as the geometric mean intensity of fluorescence normalized to the zero (unstimulated) time point. Data are mean±sem from two independent experiments. **(B)** Representative flow cytometry histogram overlay of IL-7Rα surface expression in HPB-ALL cells stimulated for 30 minutes with IL-7 (50ng/ml), with or without 1h of pre-treatment with Filipin (5µg/ml). The indicated values correspond to the geometric mean intensity of fluorescence for each condition.