

Supplementary Information

Single-molecule fingerprinting of protein-drug interaction using a funneled biological nanopore

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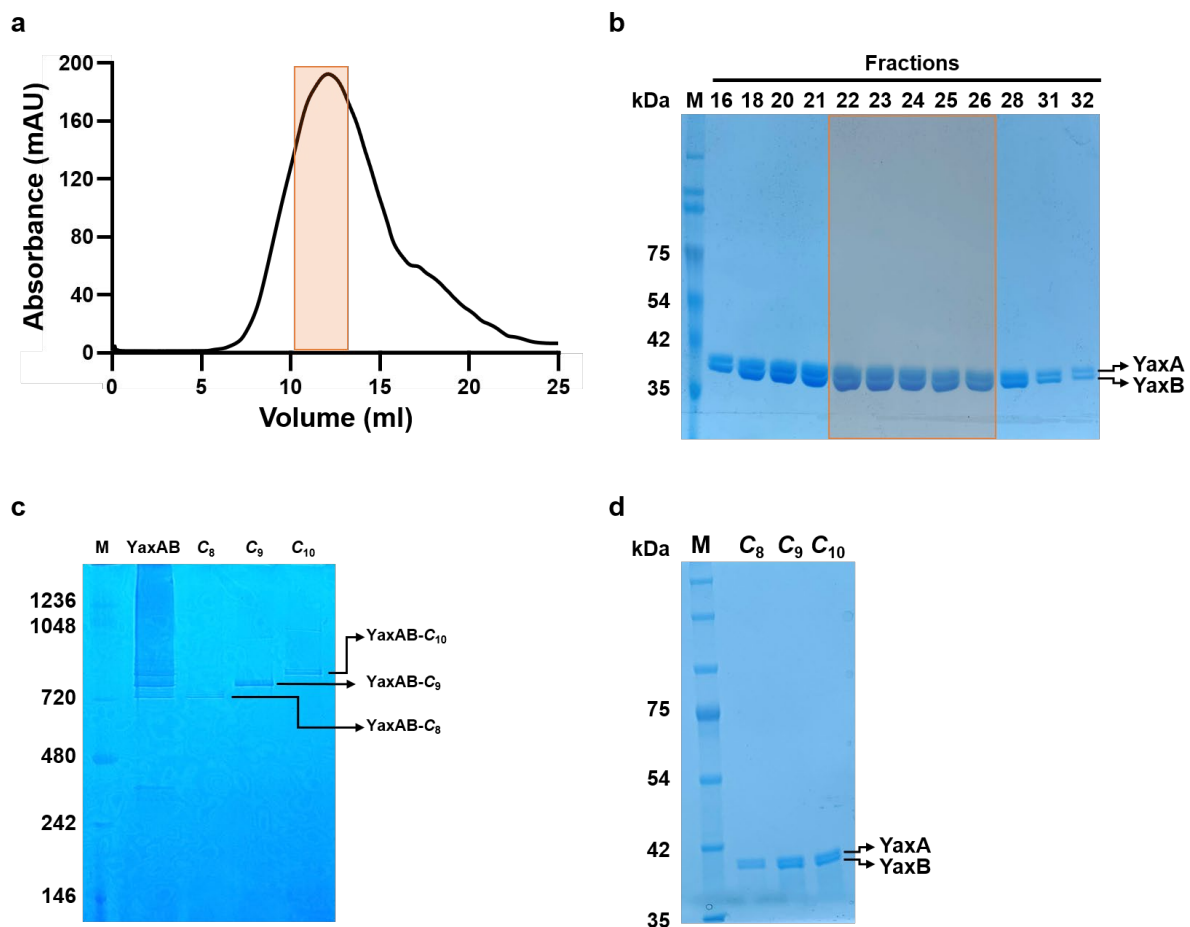
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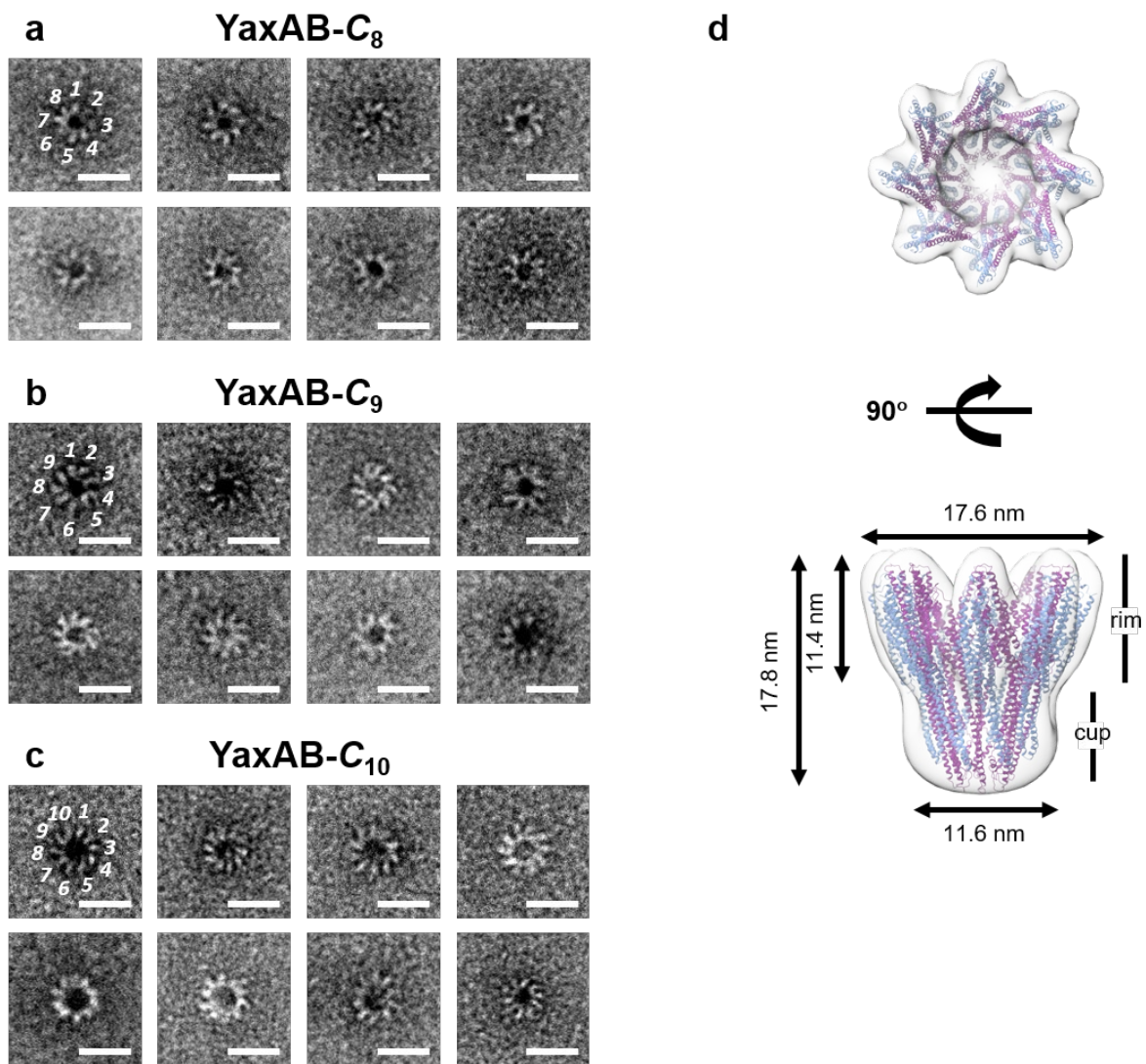
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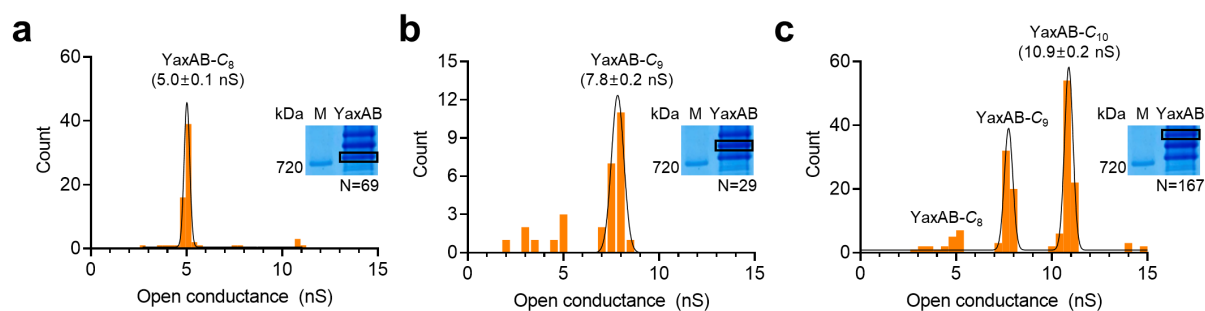
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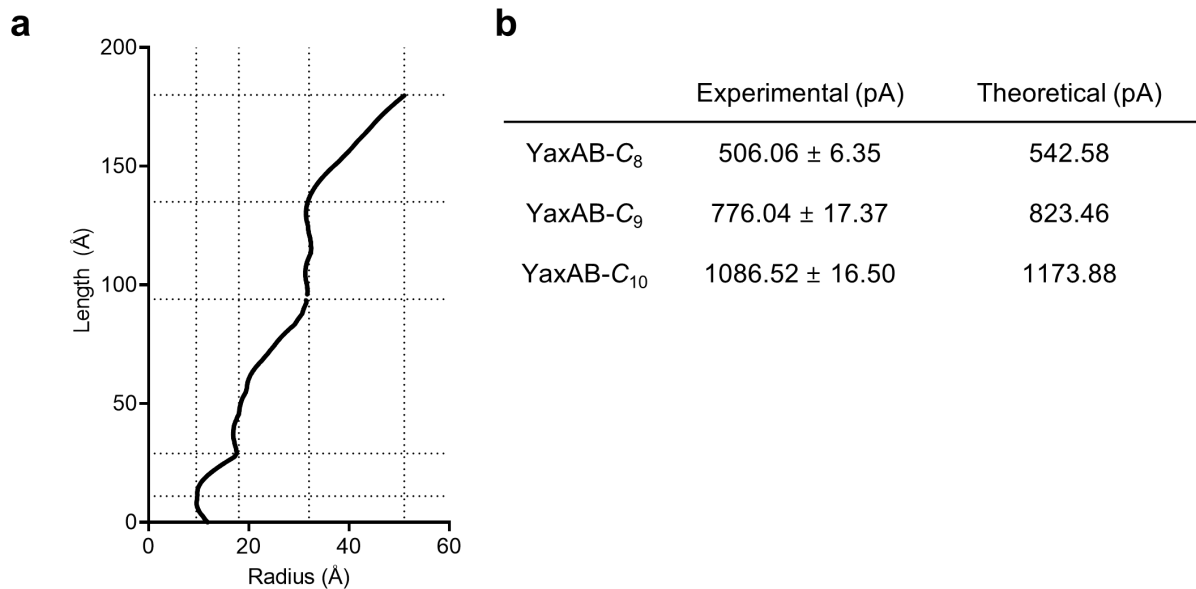
Supplementary Fig. 1: Purification of YaxAB pores. a-d. The chromatogram of size exclusion chromatography using the Superose 6 column (a) and SDS-PAGE gel image of purified YaxAB complex (b). (c) The native gel image of three YaxAB oligomeric states, YaxAB- C_8 (16-mer), YaxAB- C_9 (18-mer), and YaxAB- C_{10} (20-mer), separated via gel extraction. (d) The SDS-PAGE gel image of the three YaxAB oligomeric states (YaxAB- C_8 , YaxAB- C_9 , and YaxAB- C_{10}) extracted from gel. All gel images include a size marker (lane M). The representative PAGE result is shown ($n = 3$ independent replicates). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



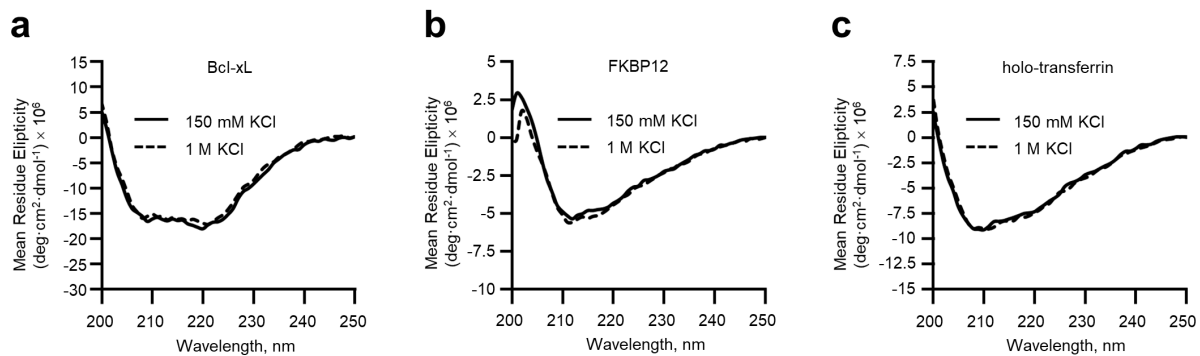
Supplementary Fig. 2: Negative-staining electron microscopy (EM) image of YaxAB pore and the structure of YaxAB-C₈. **a-c.** Top view of YaxAB-C₈ (**a**), YaxAB-C₉ (**b**), and YaxAB-C₁₀ (**c**) pores cropped from raw micrographs of EM. The representative microscopy image is presented ($n = 2$ independent replicates). Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **d.** 3D volume and structural model of YaxAB-C₈ highlighting views along the C₈ symmetry axis and side views of the YaxAB-C₈ pore. YaxA and YaxB are colored blue and purple, respectively. Scale bar = 25 nm.



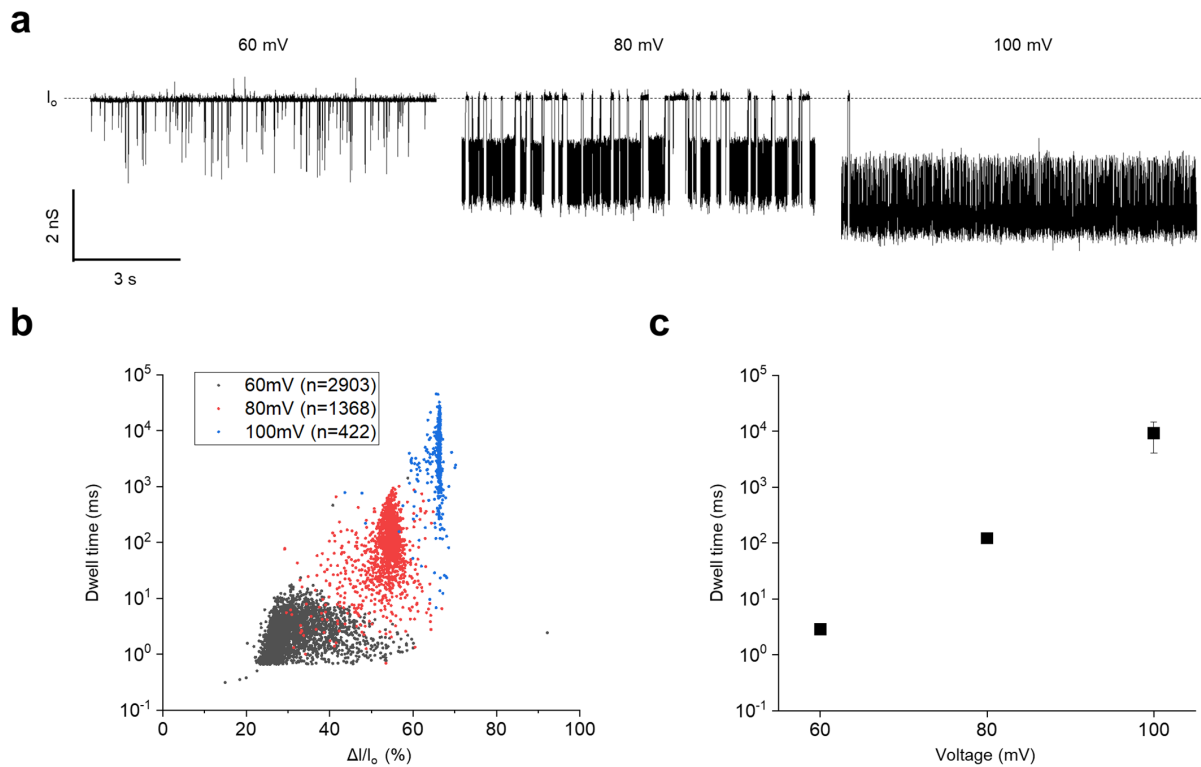
Supplementary Fig. 3: Open conductance distributions of YaxAB nanopores. a-c. Three types of YaxAB pore protein were collected from three separate bands on the blue native gel (4-16 %). Each conductance histogram was derived from nanopore experiments using YaxAB-C₈ (a), YaxAB-C₉ (b), or YaxAB-C₁₀ (c) (black box). Conductance of each pore was recorded at 100 mV (*cis* side) in 1 M KCl at pH 7.5. In total, 265 nanopores were tested for pore insertion. All gel images include a size marker (lane M).



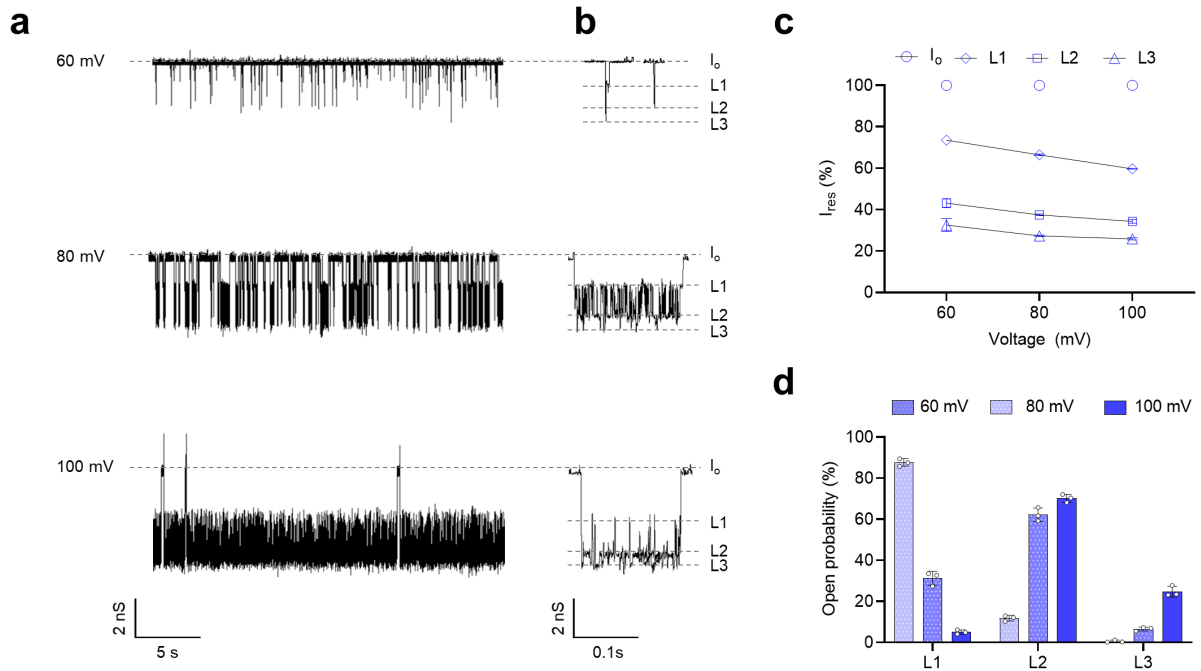
Supplementary Fig. 4: Electrophysiological characterization of YaxAB nanopores. a. Radius and length of the YaxAB-C₈ nanopore were estimated using the program HOLE. **b.** Comparison between experimental and theoretical ionic currents of each pore. At an applied voltage of 100 mV, experimental and theoretical ionic currents were well-matched. The theoretical ionic currents were calculated from the inverse of the total resistance (R_{pore}) for funnel geometry of each pore, derived from YaxAB models (Equation 3, Methods section).



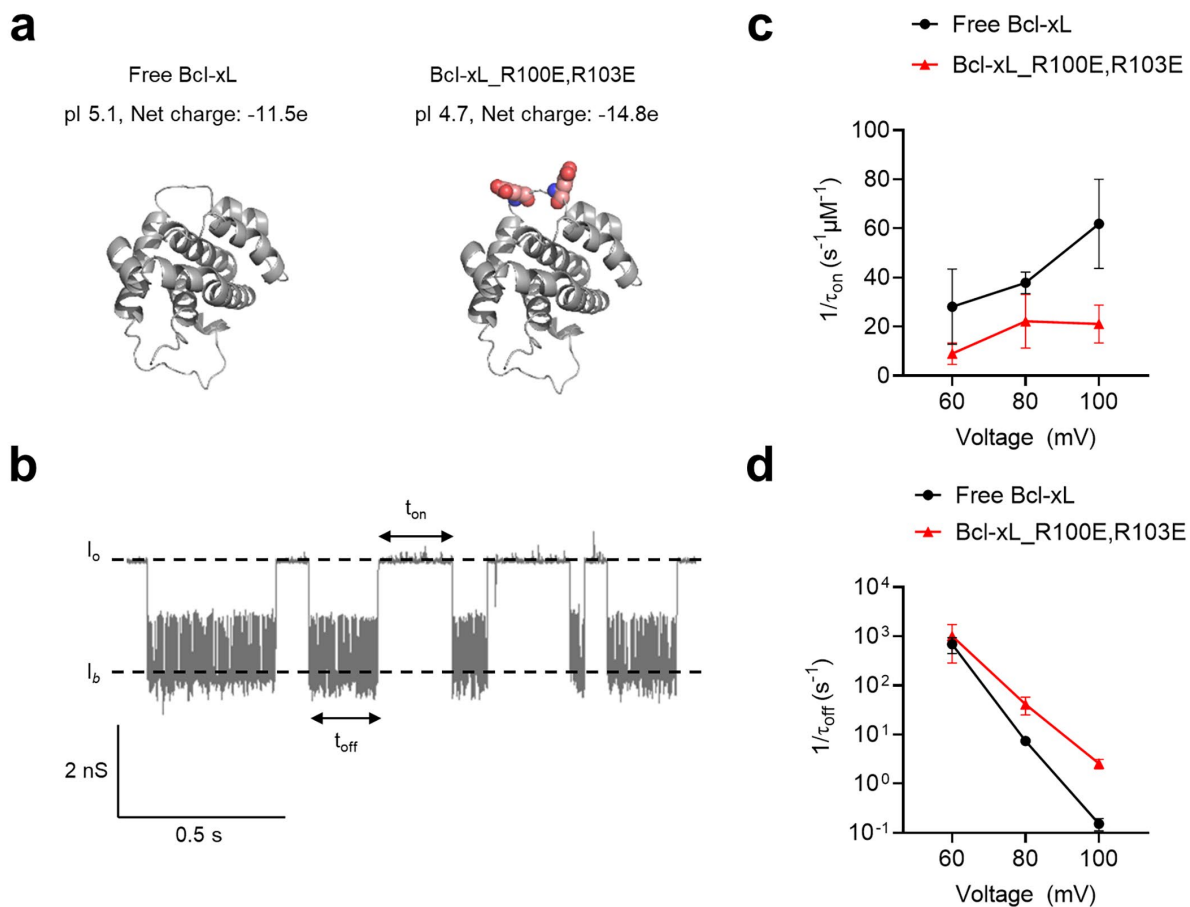
Supplementary Fig. 5. The circular dichroism (CD) analysis of protein analytes. a-c. The CD spectra of Bcl-xL (a), FKBP12 (b), and holo-transferrin (c) in the nanopore measurement buffer containing 150 mM and 1 M KCl.



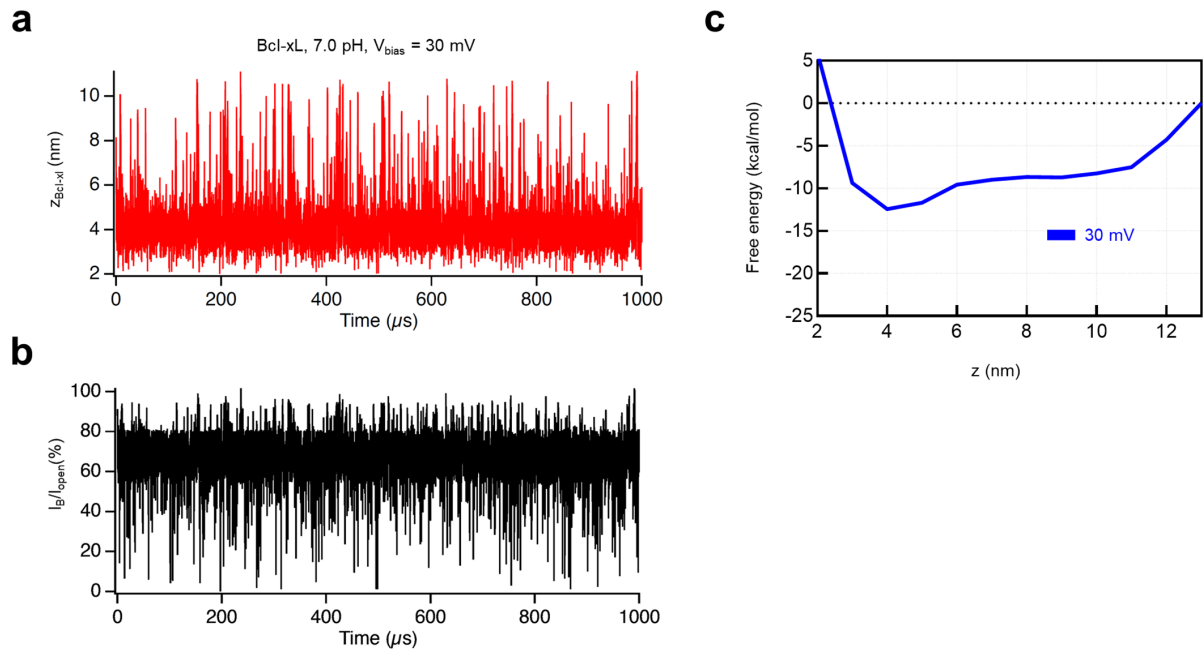
Supplementary Fig. 6: Measurement of dwell times of Bcl-xL using YaxAB nanopores at different voltages. **a.** Representative current traces of Bcl-xL at various applied voltages (60, 80, and 100 mV). **b.** The scatter plot of dwell time vs. relative current blockades ($\Delta I/I_0$) of nanopore events obtained at 60 mV (black), 80 mV (red), and 100 mV (blue). **c.** The voltage-dependence on dwell times of nanopore events obtained from Bcl-xL. The mean values of dwell times at 60, 80 and 100 mV are 2.85 ± 0.30 ms, 120.93 ± 12.45 ms, and 9292.96 ± 5200.98 ms, respectively. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates for each engaged voltage. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



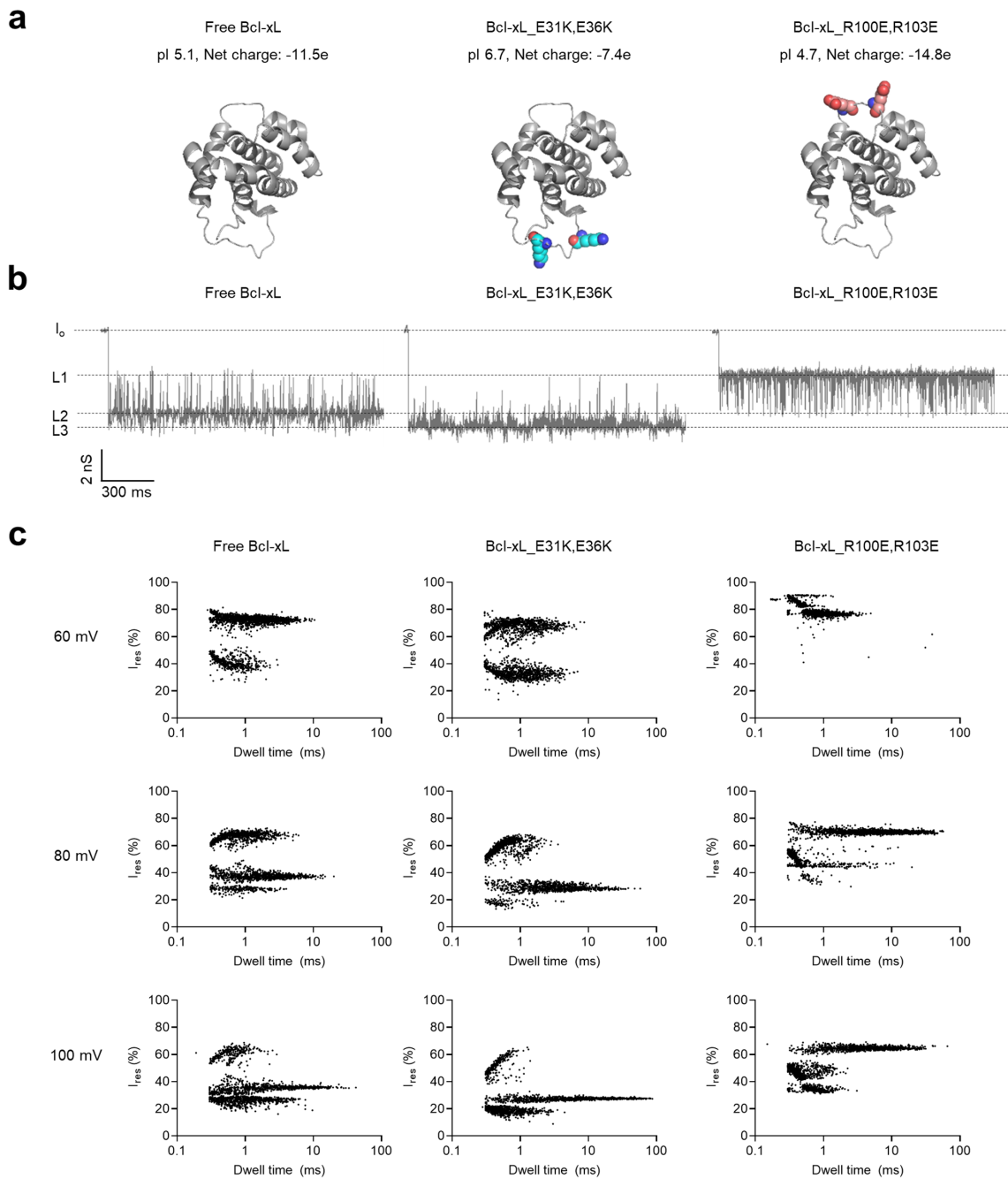
Supplementary Fig. 7: Current blockade analysis of Bcl-xL using YaxAB nanopores at different voltages. **a.** Representative current traces of Bcl-xL trapped by a YaxAB nanopore with engaged voltages (60, 80, and 100 mV) and a 1 kHz filter. I_o indicates open current of the nanopore, and each ionic current levels are L1, L2, and L3, respectively. Residual current (I_{res}) gradually decreased with voltage increase until 100 mV. **b.** Representative nanopore events exhibiting vibration signals. **c.** Residual current of Bcl-xL trapped by YaxAB nanopore decreased with voltage increment (60 to 100 mV). Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates for voltages (60, 80, and 100 mV). The ratio of residual current of L1 to L3 levels at different voltage biases; L1 ($73.54 \pm 1.08\%$), L2 ($43.14 \pm 2.19\%$), and L3 ($32.54 \pm 3.14\%$) at 60 mV; L1 ($66.43 \pm 0.36\%$), L2 ($37.44 \pm 0.42\%$), and L3 ($27.33 \pm 0.28\%$) at 80 mV; L1 ($59.72 \pm 0.17\%$), L2 ($34.26 \pm 0.87\%$), and L3 ($25.85 \pm 0.52\%$) at 100 mV. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **d.** Open probability of each peak level in Bcl-xL as a function of engaged voltages. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates for each engaged voltage. The open probability of L1 to L3 current levels at different voltage biases: L1 ($87.62 \pm 1.82\%$), L2 ($11.82 \pm 1.37\%$), and L3 ($0.57 \pm 0.54\%$) at 60 mV; L1 ($31.25 \pm 3.38\%$), L2 ($62.18 \pm 3.29\%$), and L3 ($6.58 \pm 0.92\%$) at 80 mV; L1 ($5.04 \pm 1.05\%$), L2 ($70.19 \pm 1.95\%$), and L3 ($24.76 \pm 2.6\%$) at 100 mV. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



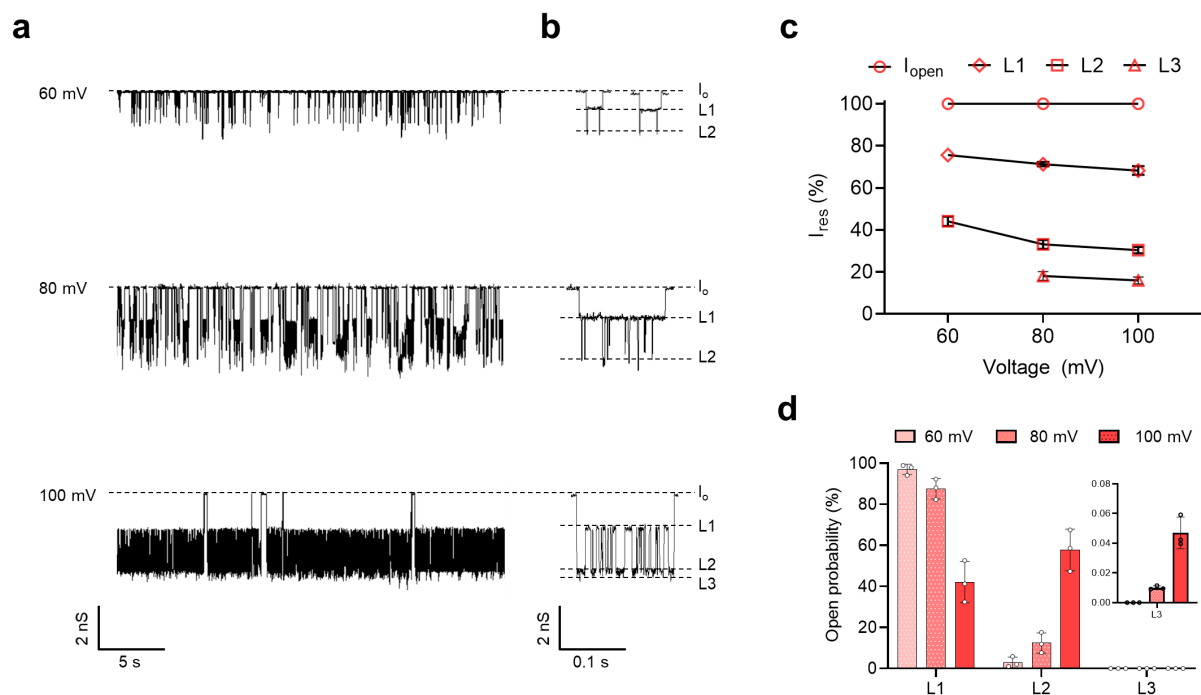
Supplementary Fig. 8: The capture rate and trapping event frequency of wild-type and mutant Bcl-xL measured by YaxAB nanopores at different voltages. **a.** Net-charge properties of wild-type and mutant Bcl-xL (Bcl-xL_R100E,R103E). The mutation sites are indicated as spheres (red and blue) in Bcl-xL structure (gray). **b.** The representative current trace of wild-type Bcl-xL at 80 mV with the definition of event parameter. The interevent interval (t_{on}) and the dwell time (t_{off}) are defined as marked on the current trace. The mean time constants (τ_{on} and τ_{off}) were derived by fitting exponential decay with histograms of t_{on} and t_{off} at the various applied voltage (60, 80, and 100 mV), respectively. **c.** Plots of capture rate ($1/\tau_{on}$) vs. applied voltage of wild-type Bcl-xL (black circle) and mutant Bcl-xL (red triangle). Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates for wild-type Bcl-xL at 60 and 80 mV, $n = 2$ independent replicates for wild-type at 100 mV. The value of $1/\tau_{on}$: free Bcl-xL, 28.14 ± 15.31 , 37.85 ± 4.38 , 61.84 ± 18.16 $s^{-1}\mu M^{-1}$; the mutant Bcl-xL, 9.01 ± 4.40 , 22.19 ± 10.92 , 21.10 ± 7.70 $s^{-1}\mu M^{-1}$ at different voltage biases (60, 80, and 100 mV). Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **d.** Plots of $1/\tau_{off}$ vs. applied voltage. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates. The value of $1/\tau_{off}$: free Bcl-xL, 691.47 ± 248.61 , 7.38 ± 0.85 , 0.15 ± 0.04 s^{-1} ; the mutant Bcl-xL, 1013.97 ± 729.04 , 41.15 ± 16.27 , 2.57 ± 0.56 s^{-1} at different voltage biases (60, 80, and 100 mV). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



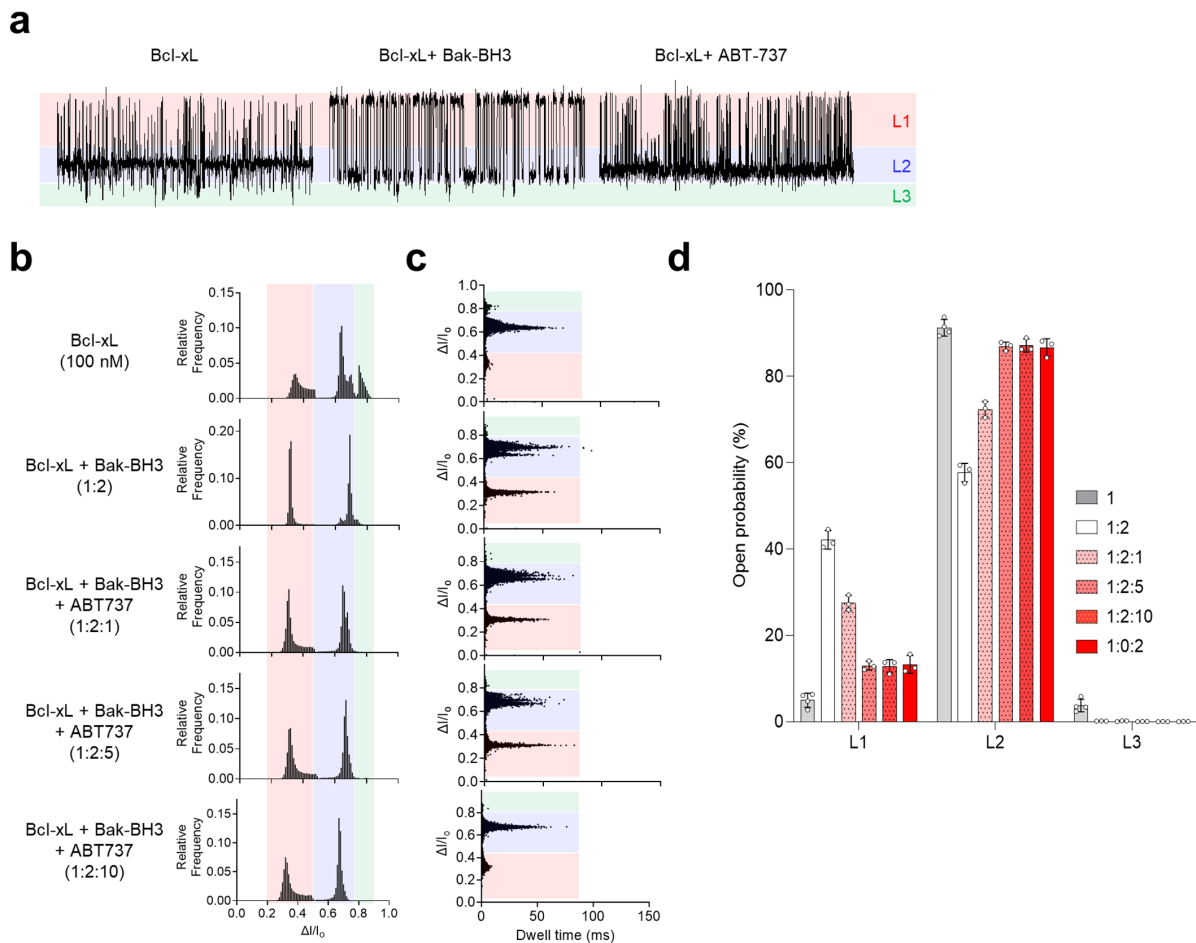
Supplementary Fig. 9: The Brownian dynamics simulation used to model Bcl-xL movement within a YaxAB nanopore. The position (a) and relative current blockade (b) of Bcl-xL were calculated by Brownian dynamics simulations performed at pH 7.0 at 30 mV. The condition was optimized to prove the presence of two levels of Bcl-xL in a YaxAB nanopore. (c) Free energy landscapes of Bcl-xL within a YaxAB nanopore at 30 mV.



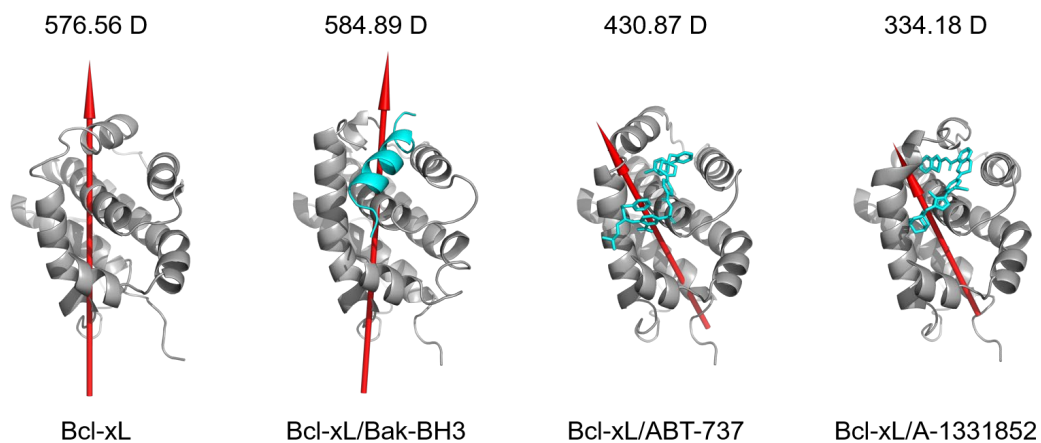
Supplementary Fig. 10: Distinctive current signal patterns of Bcl-xL and its mutants measured by YaxAB nanopores at different voltages. **a.** Bcl-xL and its variants (Bcl-xL_E31K,E36K as a positively charged mutant and Bcl-xL_R100E,R103E as a negatively charged mutant). The mutation sites are indicated as spheres (red and blue) in Bcl-xL structure (gray). **b.** Representative multi-level current blockades for each analyte measured at 100 mV. **c.** The scatter plot (I_{res} versus dwell time) for wild-type Bcl-xL and its variants at various voltages (60, 80, and 100 mV). All electrical current was filtered with a low-pass Bessel filter at 1 kHz with a sampling rate of 100 kHz. All of statistical analysis was performed over 2,000 events.



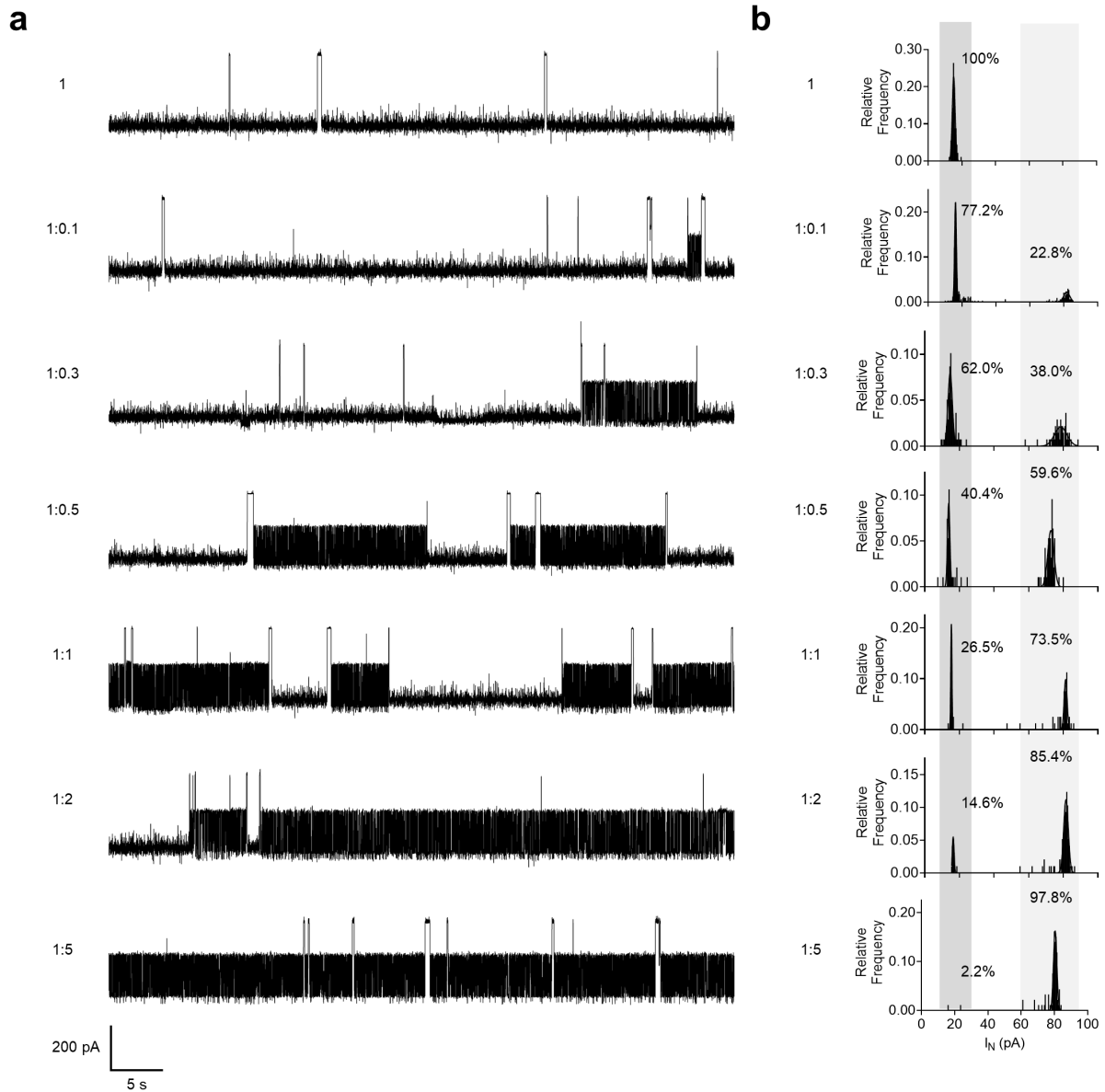
Supplementary Fig. 11: Current blockades analysis of Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex using YaxAB nanopores at different voltages. **a.** Representative current traces of the Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex trapped by a YaxAB nanopore with engaged voltages (60, 80, and 100 mV) and a 1 kHz filter. I_o indicates open current of the nanopore, and each ionic current levels are L1, L2, and L3, respectively. Residual current (I_{res}) gradually decreased with voltage increase until 100 mV. **b.** Representative nanopore events exhibiting vibration signals. **c.** Residual current of Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 trapped by the YaxAB nanopore decreased with voltage increment (60 to 100 mV). Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates at each engaged voltage. The ratio of residual current of L1 to L3 levels at different voltage biases; L1 ($75.67 \pm 0.17\%$) and L2 ($44.04 \pm 2.21\%$) at 60 mV; L1 ($71.28 \pm 1.02\%$), L2 ($33.10 \pm 2.06\%$), and L3 ($18.06 \pm 2.11\%$) at 80 mV; L1 ($68.24 \pm 2.06\%$), L2 ($30.32 \pm 1.50\%$), and L3 ($15.91 \pm 1.63\%$) at 100 mV. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **d.** Open probability of each peak level in Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 as a function of engaged voltages. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates at each engaged voltage. The open probability of L1 to L3 current levels at different voltage biases: L1 ($96.99 \pm 2.54\%$) and L2 ($3.01 \pm 2.54\%$) at 60 mV; L1 ($87.56 \pm 4.97\%$), L2 ($12.43 \pm 4.97\%$), and L3 ($0.01 \pm 0.001\%$) at 80 mV; L1 ($42.36 \pm 10.09\%$), L2 ($57.59 \pm 10.09\%$), and L3 ($0.05 \pm 0.01\%$) at 100 mV. Magnified open probability of L3 at three different voltages (inset). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



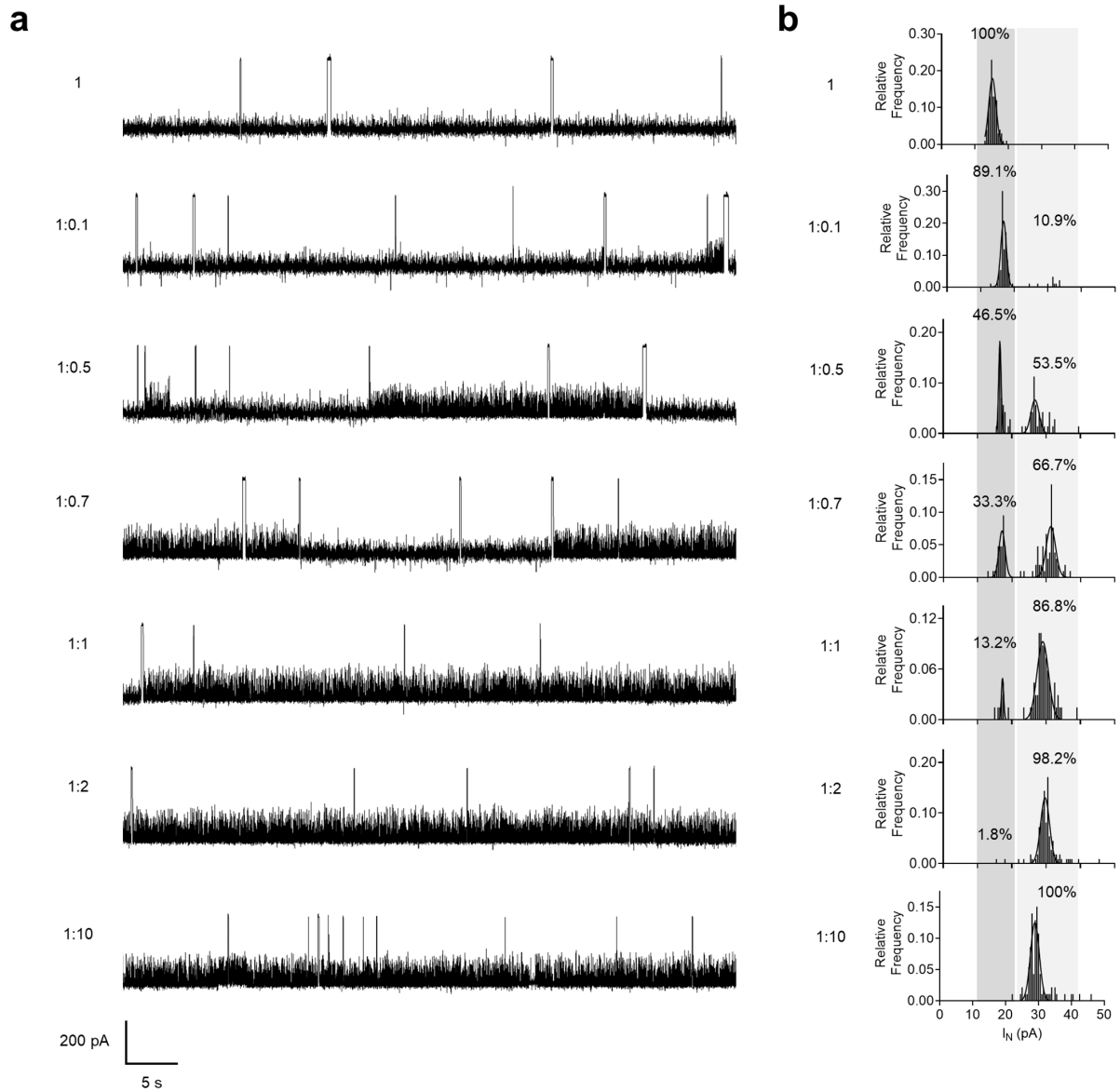
Supplementary Fig. 12: Current blockade-based analysis of Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 interaction inhibition by ABT-737 using YaxAB nanopores. **a.** Representative current traces from Bcl-xL, Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex (at the molar ratio of 1:2), and Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex in the presence of ABT-737 (at the molar ratio of 1:2:10 Bcl-xL:Bak-BH3:ABT-737). All current blockades were categorized by three current levels (L1, L2, and L3). **b.** Statistical histograms of open probability of L1 to L3 current levels. The Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex was titrated with ABT-737 at the molar ratios of 1:2:1, 1:2:5, and 1:2:10 to monitor the protein-protein interaction (PPI) inhibition by ABT-737. **c.** Scatter plots ($\Delta I/I_0$ vs. dwell time) of multi-level current blockades. All current traces were filtered using a Bessel (8-pole) 1 kHz filter. **d.** The Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 (1:2) complex was titrated with ABT-737 at the molar ratios of 1:2:1, 1:2:5, and 1:2:10. Open probability of the Bcl-xL/ABT-737 (1:0:2) complex without Bak-BH3 was included for comparison. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 4$ independent replicates for Bcl-xL; $n = 3$ independent replicates for the Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex; $n = 3$ for Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex in the presence of ABT-737. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. All electrical recordings were conducted in 1 M KCl at pH 7.5, with a 100 kHz sampling rate and a 10 kHz Bessel filter.



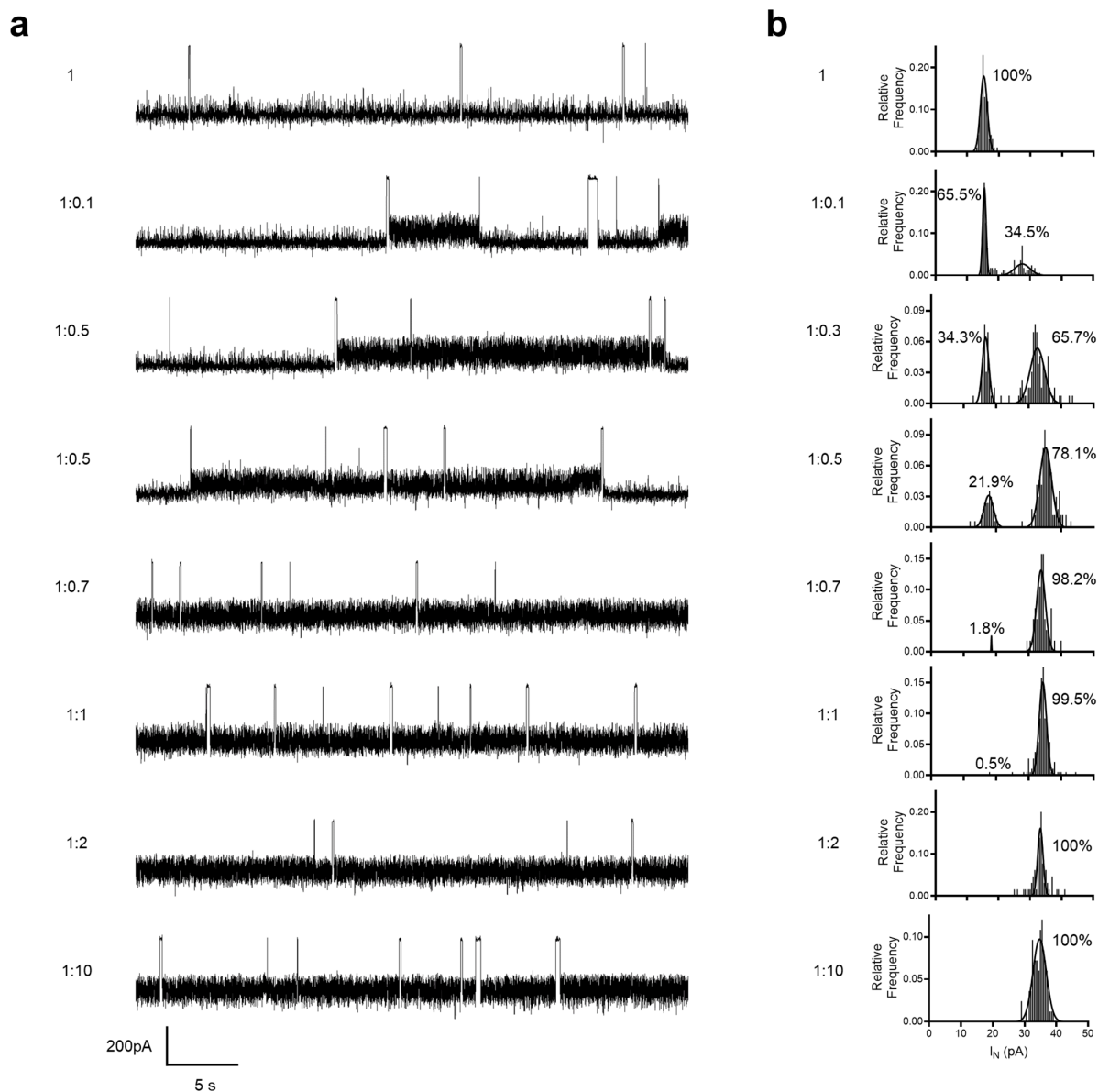
Supplementary Fig. 13: Orientation and strength of dipole moment for free Bcl-xL and three Bcl-xL complexes (Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3, Bcl-xL/ABT-737, and Bcl-xL/A-1331852). The dipole moments (Debye, D) were calculated by using a Discovery Studio software. The red arrows indicate the direction of the protein dipole. Bcl-xL and binders are shown in gray and cyan, respectively.



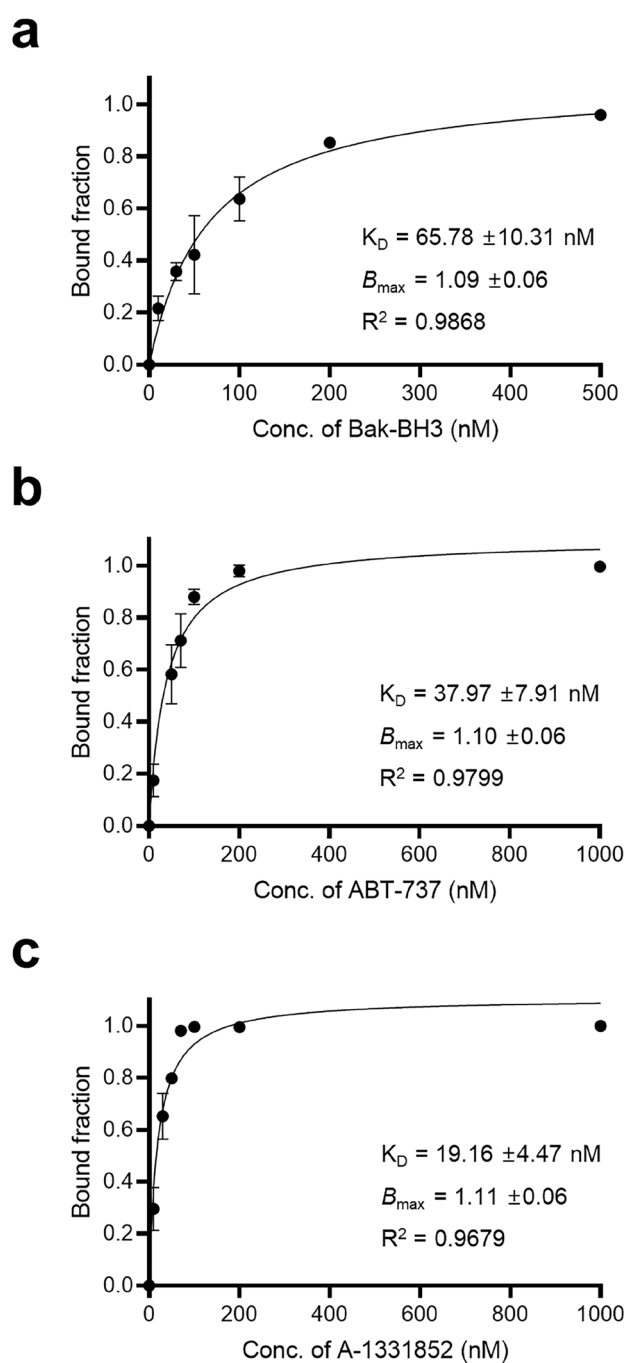
Supplementary Fig. 14: Current noise (I_N)-based analysis of nanopore events upon titration of Bcl-xL with Bak-BH3. a. Representative current traces obtained from titration of Bak-BH3 into Bcl-xL at the molar ratios of 1:0.1, 1:0.3, 1:0.5, 1:1, 1:2, and 1:5. **b.** Statistical histograms of I_N values for each titration point.



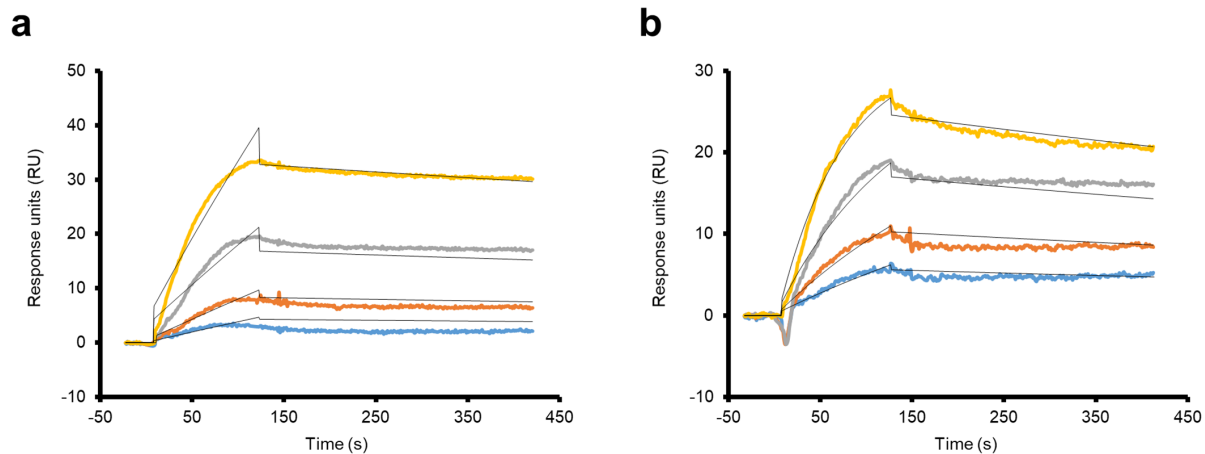
Supplementary Fig. 15: Current noise (I_N)-based analysis of nanopore events upon titration of Bcl-xL with ABT-737. a. Representative current traces obtained from titration of ABT-737 into Bcl-xL at the molar ratios of 1:0.1, 1:0.5, 1:0.7, 1:1, 1:2, and 1:10. **b.** Statistical histograms of I_N values for each titration point.



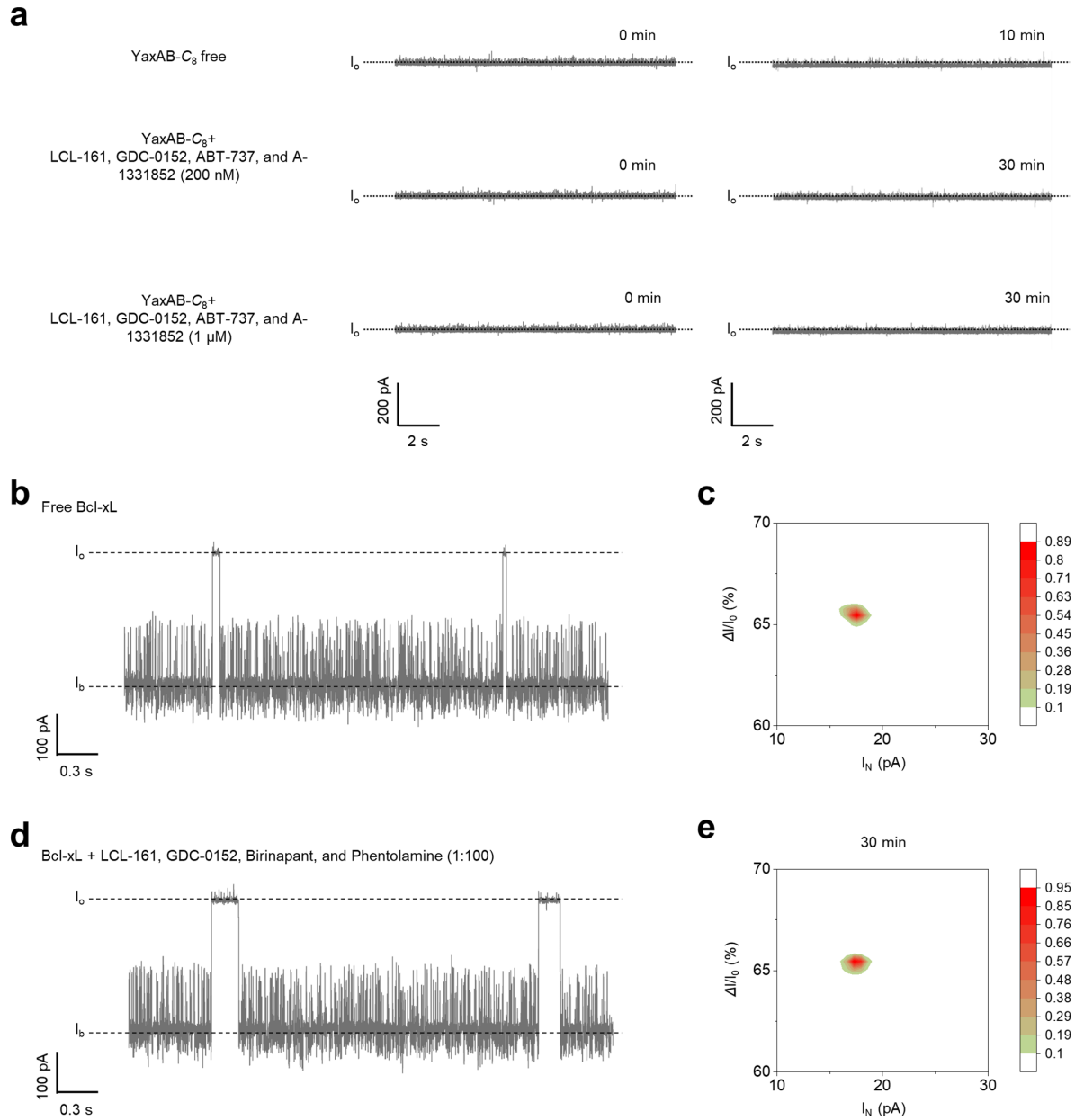
Supplementary Fig. 16: Current noise (I_N)-based analysis of nanopore events upon titration of Bcl-xL with A-1331852. a. Representative current traces obtained from titration of A-1331852 into Bcl-xL at the molar ratios of 1:0.1, 1:0.3, 1:0.5, 1:0.7, 1:1, 1:2, and 1:10. b. Statistical histograms of I_N values for each titration point.



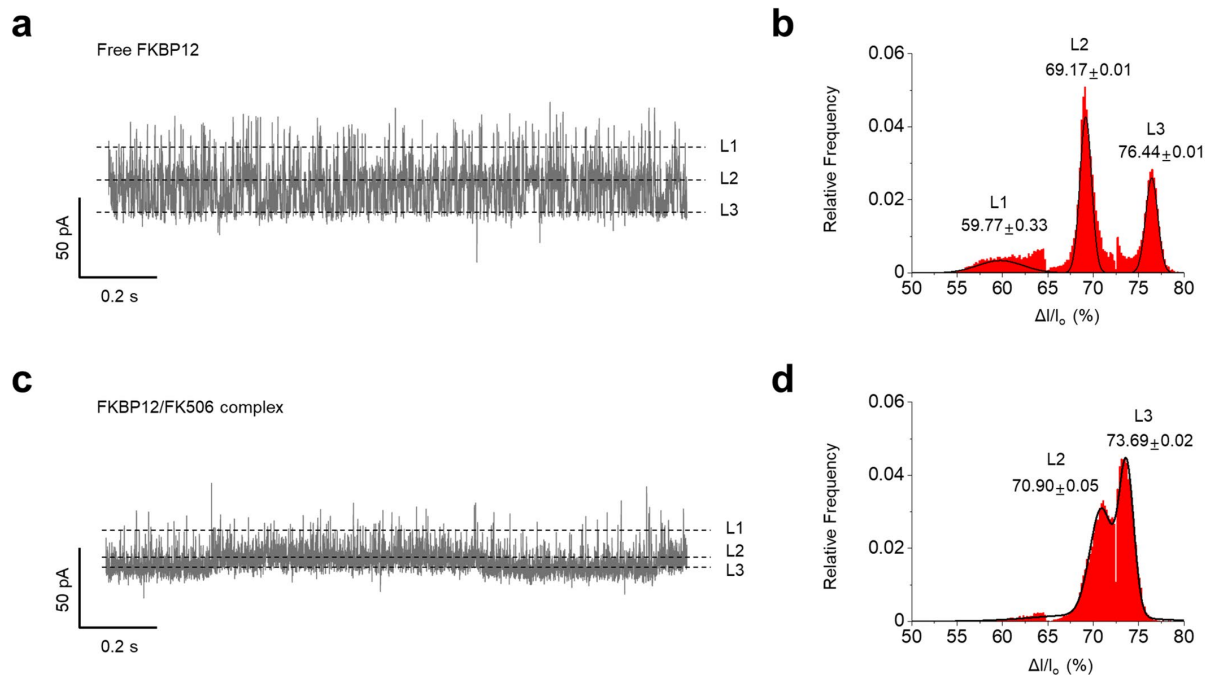
Supplementary Fig. 17: Current noise (I_N) analysis-based determination of Bcl-xL binding affinity for Bak-BH3 peptide, ABT-737, and A-1331852 using YaxAB nanopores. a-c. Hill diagrams (bound fraction vs. the concentration of ligand) of the Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3 complex (a), the Bcl-xL/ABT-737 complex (b), and the Bcl-xL/A-1331852 complex (c). Data are presented as mean \pm SEM, $n = 3$ independent replicates. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. All measurements were performed by applying 100 mV to the *cis* chamber in 1 M KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), and 1 mM EDTA, with sampling rate of 100 kHz using a 100 Hz Bessel filter. All analytes including Bcl-xL were added to the *cis* chamber.



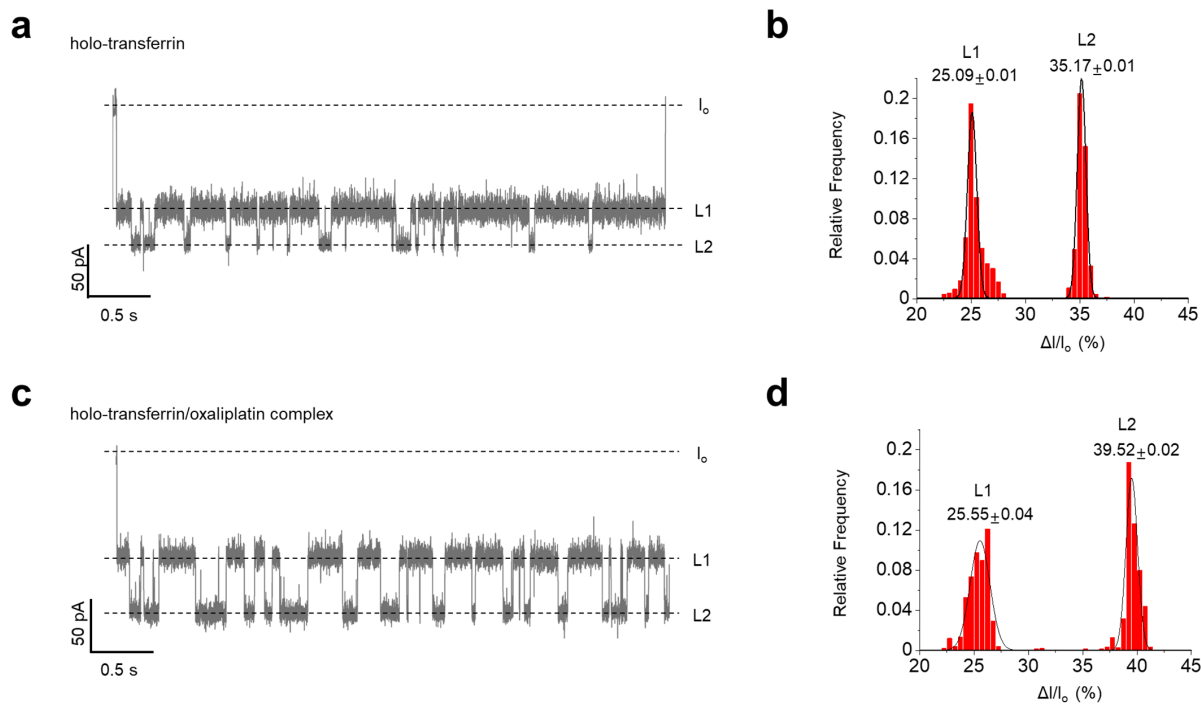
Supplementary Fig. 18. SPR analysis for interaction between Bcl-xL and small-molecule drugs. SPR sensorgrams are shown for binding of Bcl-xL with ABT-737 (a) and A-1331852 (b). The concentrations of small-molecule drugs used are 300 (yellow), 150 (gray), 75 (orange), and 37.5 nM (blue).



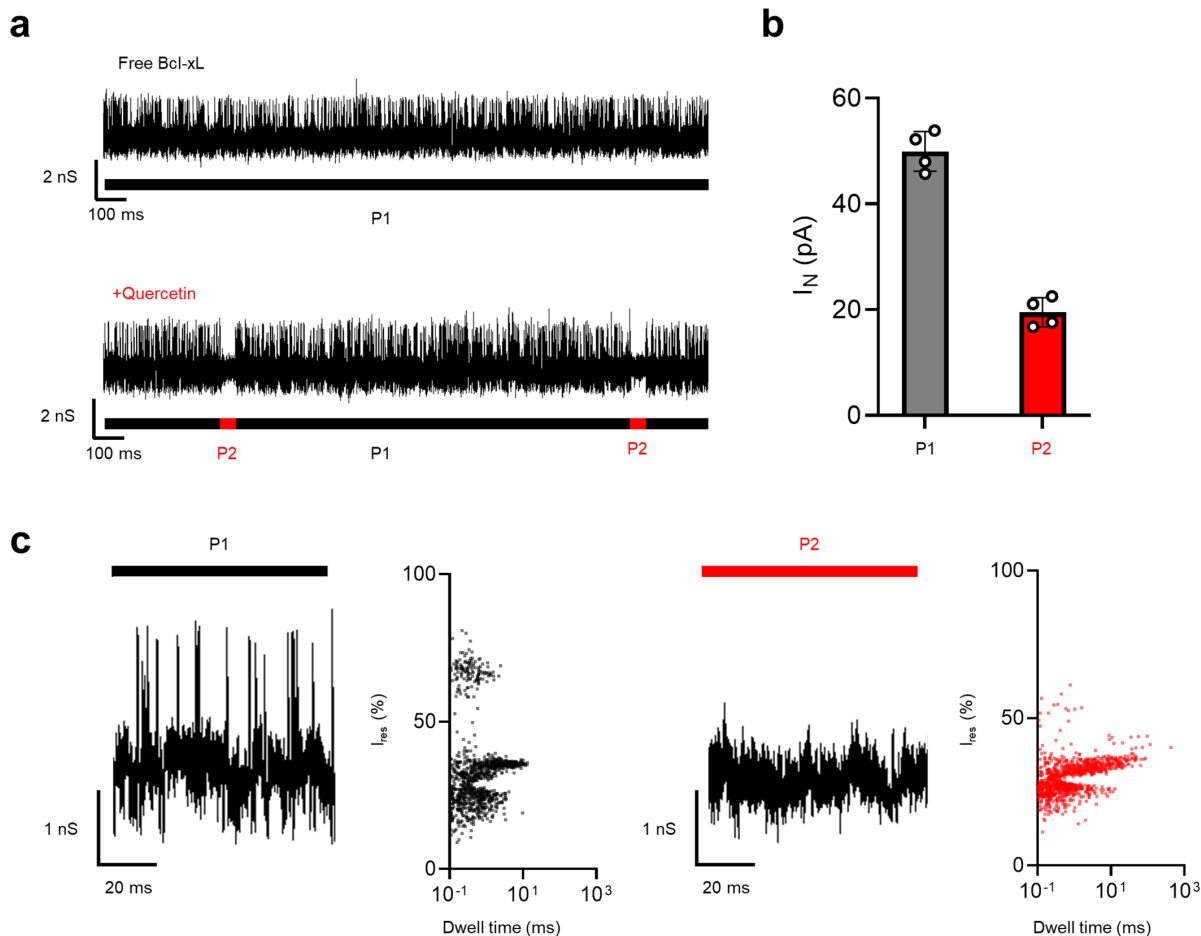
Supplementary Fig. 19. YaxAB nanopore measurements with non-specific small-molecule ligands. a. Representative current traces of free YaxAB- C_8 and YaxAB- C_8 with small-molecule non-binders (LCL-161, GDC-0152, ABT-737, and A-1331852) at 200 nM and 1 μ M. **b-e.** Representative multi-level current blockades (**b, d**) and 2D $\Delta I/I_0$ -versus- I_N density contour plot of free Bcl-xL and Bcl-xL with small-molecule non-binders (LCL-161, GDC-0152, Birinapant, and Phentolamine) at a molar ratio of 1:100 (**c, e**).



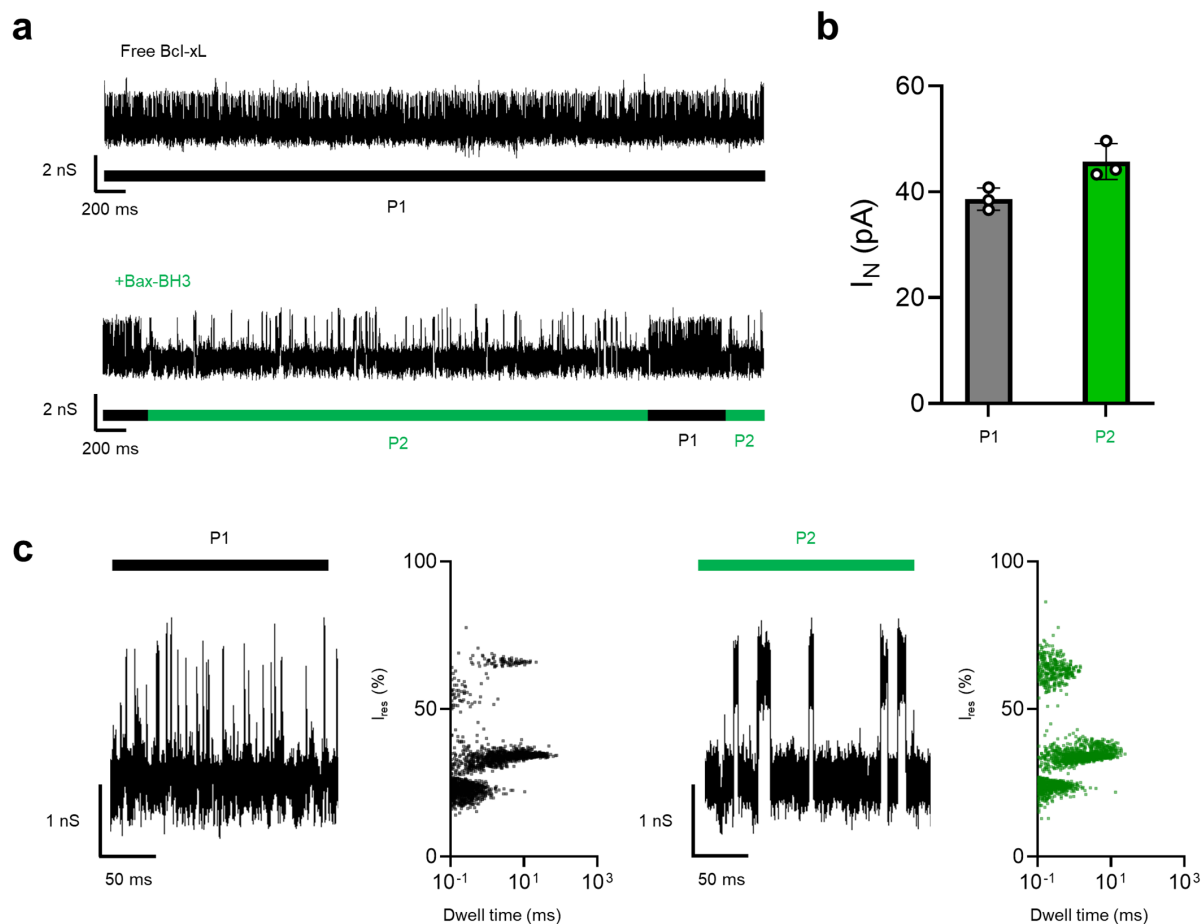
Supplementary Fig. 20: Detection of FKBP12/FK506 interaction using YaxAB nanopores.
a-b. Multi-level current blockades (**a**), and histogram of $\Delta I/I_0$ of free FKBP12 (**b**). **c-d.** Multi-level current blockades (**c**), and histogram of $\Delta I/I_0$ of FKBP12/FK506 complex (**d**).



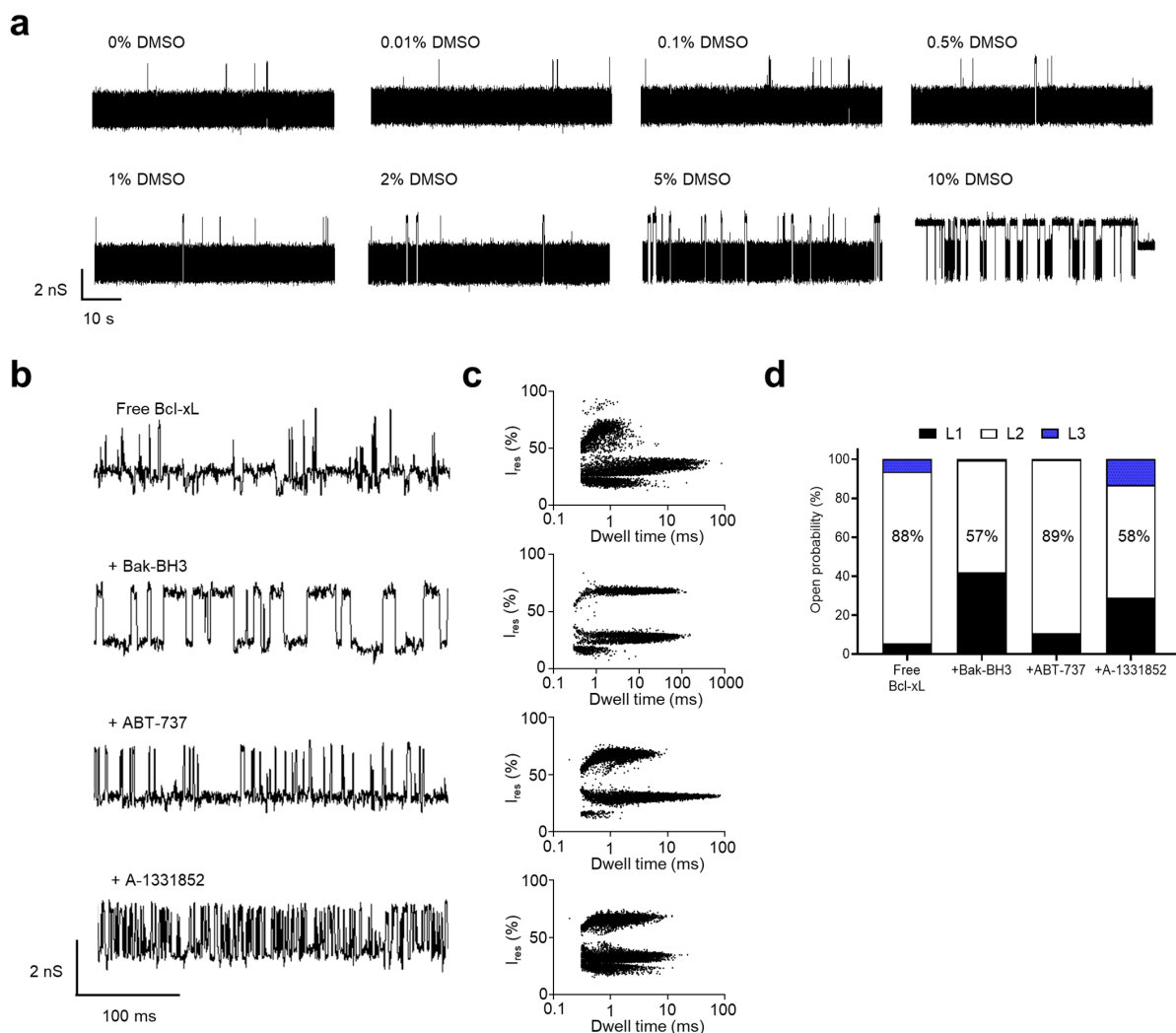
Supplementary Fig. 21: Detection of holo-transferrin/oxaliplatin interaction using YaxAB nanopores. **a-b.** Representative current traces showing multi-level current blockades (L1 and L2) (**a**), and histogram of $\Delta I/I_0$ of free holo-transferrin (**b**). **c-d.** Representative current traces showing multi-level current blockades (L1–L2) (**c**), and histogram of $\Delta I/I_0$ of the holo-transferrin/oxaliplatin complex (**d**).



Supplementary Fig. 22: Current blockade and noise analyses of Bcl-xL/Quercetin interactions using YaxAB nanopores. **a.** Representative current traces for free Bcl-xL and the addition of Quercetin. Current signal pattern P1 (black) is temporally transformed to P2 in the presence of Quercetin (red). **b.** Current noise (I_N) values of P1 and P2. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n=4$ independent replicates for Bcl-xL in the presence of Quercetin. The mean value of I_N : P1, 49.17 ± 4.21 pA; P2, 18.95 ± 3.12 pA. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **c.** Representative zoom-in current traces and corresponding scatter plot (I_{res} vs. dwell time) of Bcl-xL (P1) and the addition of Quercetin (P2). All current traces were recorded at +100 mV in 1 M KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5, with 1 μ M Bcl-xL in the presence of Quercetin (at 1:20 molar ratio).



Supplementary Fig. 23: Current blockade and noise analyses of Bcl-xL/Bax-BH3 interactions using YaxAB nanopores. **a.** Representative current traces for free Bcl-xL and the addition of Bax-BH3 peptide. Current signal pattern P1 (black) is temporally transformed to P2 in the presence of Bax-BH3 peptide (green). **b.** Current noise (I_N) values of P1 and P2. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, $n = 3$ independent replicates for Bcl-xL in the presence of Bax-BH3 peptide. The mean value of I_N : P1, 38.62 ± 2.09 pA; P2, 45.72 ± 3.39 pA. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **c.** Representative current traces and corresponding scatter plot (I_{res} vs. dwell time) of Bcl-xL (P1) and the addition of Bax-BH3 peptide (P2). All current traces were recorded at +100 mV in 1 M KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5, with 1 μ M Bcl-xL in the presence of Bax-BH3 peptide (at 1:100 molar ratio).



Supplementary Fig. 24: YaxAB nanopore measurements in the presence of DMSO. a. Representative current traces of Bcl-xL in the presence of DMSO at various concentrations (0 to 10 %). **b-c.** Representative multi-level current blockades (**b**) and scatter plots (I_{res} vs. dwell time) of Bcl-xL and three complexes, Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3, Bcl-xL/ABT-737, and Bcl-xL/A-1331852 complexes (**c**). **d.** Stacked columns for open probability of L1-L3 levels measured from current blockades of free Bcl-xL and its complexes.

Supplementary Table 1. Current-voltage (I-V) curves for YaxAB nanopores in symmetric salt conditions at pH 7.5*

Voltage (mV)	YaxAB-C ₁₀ , 1 M KCl		YaxAB-C ₉ , 1 M KCl		YaxAB-C ₈ , 1 M KCl	
	Current (pA)	S.D.	Current (pA)	S.D.	Current (pA)	S.D.
-100	-1165.8	23.8	-898.7	21.7	-639.1	9.0
-80	-928.0	28.3	-707.6	11.8	-501.8	5.3
-60	-687.7	18.1	-526.0	8.6	-369.3	3.8
-40	-453.6	16.3	-347.2	5.5	-241.4	1.2
-20	-223.4	11.2	-172.1	2.9	-117.9	0.7
0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20	227.2	4.0	167.2	3.2	113.2	1.0
40	450.6	7.4	328.5	5.7	220.9	2.9
60	668.9	10.7	484.9	9.4	321.4	3.5
80	881.0	14.2	633.5	11.9	416.6	5.5
100	1086.5	16.9	776.0	17.2	506.1	6.4

* The buffer contained 1 M KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), and 1 mM EDTA. Each current data represents the average value. Standard deviations are based on data in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Table 2. Current-voltage (I-V) curves for YaxAB nanopores in asymmetric salt conditions at pH 7.5*

Voltage (mV)	YaxAB-C ₁₀ , 2 M KCl in <i>trans</i>		YaxAB-C ₉ , 2 M KCl in <i>trans</i>		YaxAB-C ₈ , 2 M KCl in <i>trans</i>	
	Current (pA)	S.D.	Current (pA)	S.D.	Current (pA)	S.D.
-50	-646.9	44.9	-487.3	13.4	-349.3	34.8
-40	-522.8	34.7	-395.6	7.7	-282.5	28.4
-30	-402.3	22.8	-306.8	3.7	-221.8	21.1
-20	-282.9	14.0	-218.9	2.8	-161.2	15.7
-10	-170.5	11.5	-133.2	2.9	-105.4	9.0
0	-53.2	9.4	-49.7	3.8	-51.0	4.0
10	61.4	9.2	31.0	4.9	1.7	2.3
20	172.9	11.0	108.8	6.5	51.2	6.6
30	280.5	13.6	184.2	8.2	99.0	10.2
40	388.9	11.8	255.8	9.8	144.4	15.1
50	488.3	18.1	326.1	11.0	187.4	18.8

* The buffer contained either 2 M or 0.5 M KCl in 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5) and 1 mM EDTA. Each current data represents the average value. Standard deviations are based on data in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Table 3. Ion selectivity of YaxAB nanopores

Pore type	YaxAB-C ₁₀	YaxAB-C ₉	YaxAB-C ₈
Reversal potential (mV)	5.48 ± 0.14	7.65 ± 0.70	11.69 ± 0.14
P_{K^+}/P_{Cl^-}	1.47 ± 0.01	1.72 ± 0.09	2.34 ± 0.03

Data are presented as mean ± SD, n = 3 independent replicates. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Table 4. Molecular properties of Bcl-xL and its complexes

Molecule	M.W. (Da)	Excluded volume (Å ³)	Dipole moment (D)
Bcl-xL	20,781.0	24,301	576.56
Bcl-xL/Bak-BH3*	22,505.9	26,306	584.89
Bcl-xL/ABT-737	21,594.4	24,021	430.87
Bcl-xL/A-1331852	21,439.8	23,756	334.18

* PDB code: 1BXL