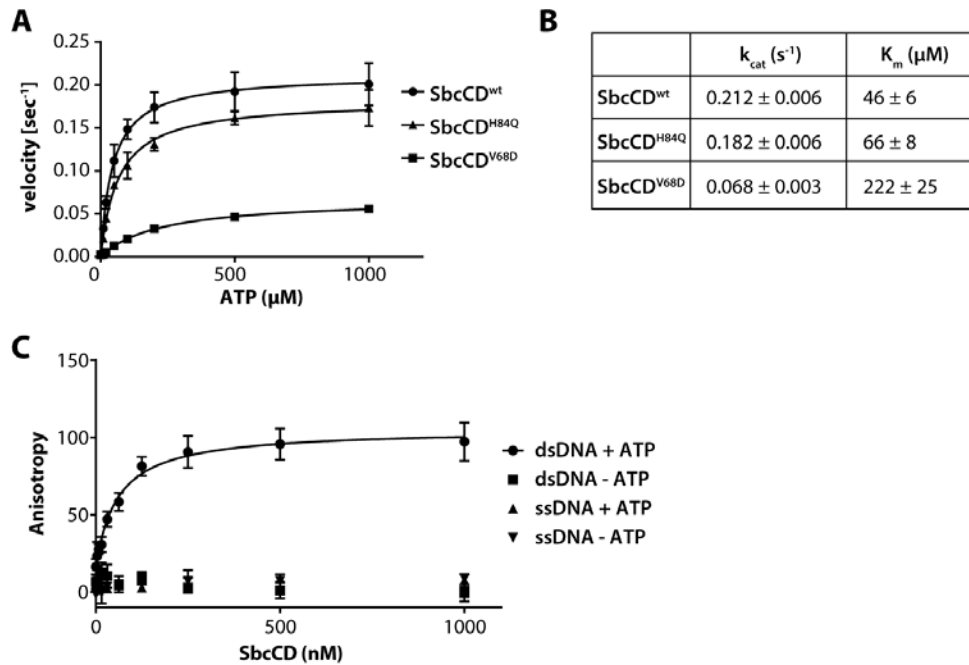


## Supplementary Data

### Supplementary Figure S1



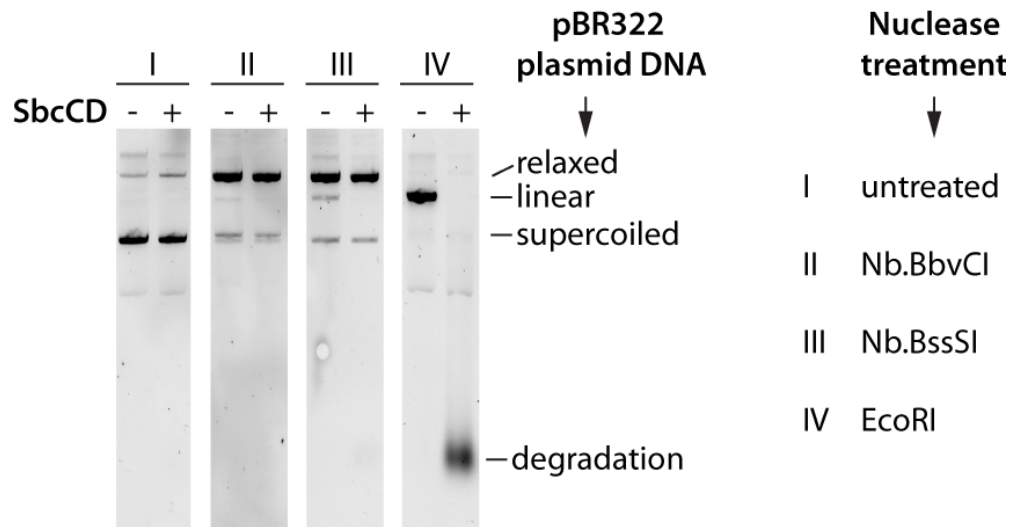
#### Steady-state ATPase kinetic for SbcCD variants and DNA binding properties of SbcCD<sup>H84S</sup>

(A) The steady-state ATPase rates of SbcCD variants were tested in the presence of 1  $\mu M$  60 bp DNA at and increasing ATP concentrations. The data were fit to a Michaelis-Menten equation, error bars represent the standard deviation of three measurements.

(B) Values were determined by fitting the data of (A) to a Michaelis-Menten equation. Errors represent the standard error of the fit.

(C) DNA binding of SbcCD<sup>H84S</sup> to 60 nucleotide DNA (ssDNA) and 30 bp DNA (dsDNA) was assayed in the presence of 5 mM  $MgCl_2$  and 1 mM  $MnCl_2$ . DNA concentration was kept at 5 nM and the SbcCD<sup>H84S</sup> concentration ranged from 2 to 1000 nM. Data points represent the change in fluorescence anisotropy and the data were fit to a 1 to 1 binding equation. Error bars represent the standard deviation from three experiments.

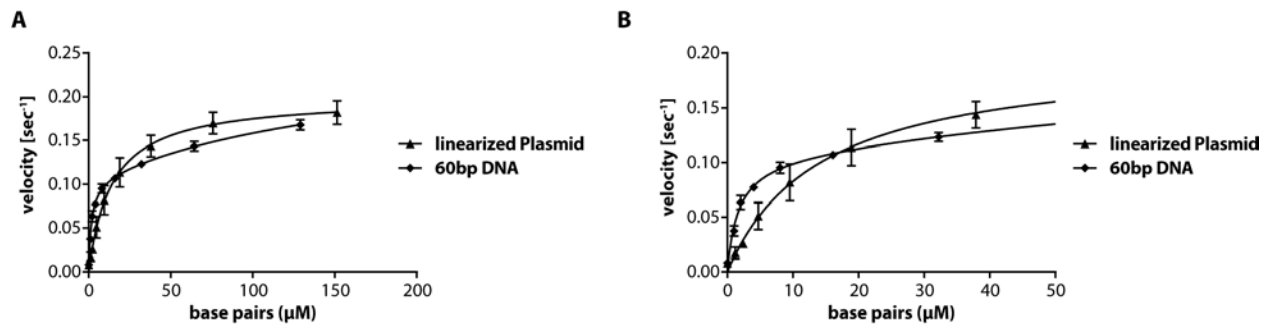
## Supplementary Figure S2



### SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> nuclease activities towards plasmid DNA

SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> (26 nM) nuclease activity was tested towards pBR322 plasmid DNA (1.7 nM) in the presence of 1 mM ATP, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C for 15 minutes. The pBR322 plasmid was site-specifically incised by the indicated nicking enzymes and EcoRI to create relaxed and linear substrates. Reaction products were separated by agarose gel electrophoresis and stained with GelRed.

### Supplementary Figure S3



#### ATP hydrolysis stimulation of the SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> complex by linear plasmid DNA and 60 bp DNA

(A and B) The ATP hydrolysis rates of SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> were measured in the presence of 1 mM ATP, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C. Linearized bacteriophage  $\Phi$ X174 Plasmid DNA (5386 bp in length) and 60 bp DNA were added with different concentrations. ATPase activation by linear plasmid DNA was fit to a Michaelis-Menten equation, activation by 60 bp DNA was fit to a one site and nonspecific binding curve using Prism (GraphPad). Error bars indicate the deviation from three replicates.

## Supplementary Table 1

### ATP hydrolysis and DNA binding by SbcCD

(A)  $K_d$  values were obtained from the anisotropy data in Figure 1C that were fit to a 1 to 1 binding equation. Errors represent the Standard Error of the fit.

(B) Values were determined by fitting the data of the ATP hydrolysis data from Figure 1B to a Michaelis-Menten equation.  $K_{act}$  indicates the DNA concentration at half-maximal velocity. Errors represent the Standard Error of the fit.

(C) Kinetic data that were obtained by fitting the data-points of Figure 1A to a Michaelis-Menten equation.  $k_{act}$  is the plasmid DNA concentration at half-maximum velocity of SbcCD<sup>wt</sup>. Errors represent the Standard Error of the fit.

**A**

| length | $K_d$ (nM)    |
|--------|---------------|
| 30 nt  | nd            |
| 20 bp  | $800 \pm 500$ |
| 25 bp  | $150 \pm 50$  |
| 30 bp  | $43 \pm 7$    |
| 35 bp  | $57 \pm 10$   |
| 40 bp  | $52 \pm 12$   |
| 45 bp  | $59 \pm 7$    |
| 50 bp  | $57 \pm 6$    |

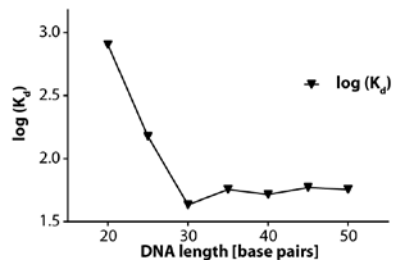
**B**

| length (bp) | $K_{act}$ (nM) | $k_{cat}$ (s <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| 20          | nd             | nd                           |
| 25          | nd             | nd                           |
| 30          | $1700 \pm 700$ | $0.14 \pm 0.03$              |
| 35          | $280 \pm 50$   | $0.120 \pm 0.008$            |
| 40          | $152 \pm 19$   | $0.108 \pm 0.004$            |
| 50          | $66 \pm 5$     | $0.117 \pm 0.002$            |
| 60          | $53 \pm 4$     | $0.105 \pm 0.002$            |

**C**

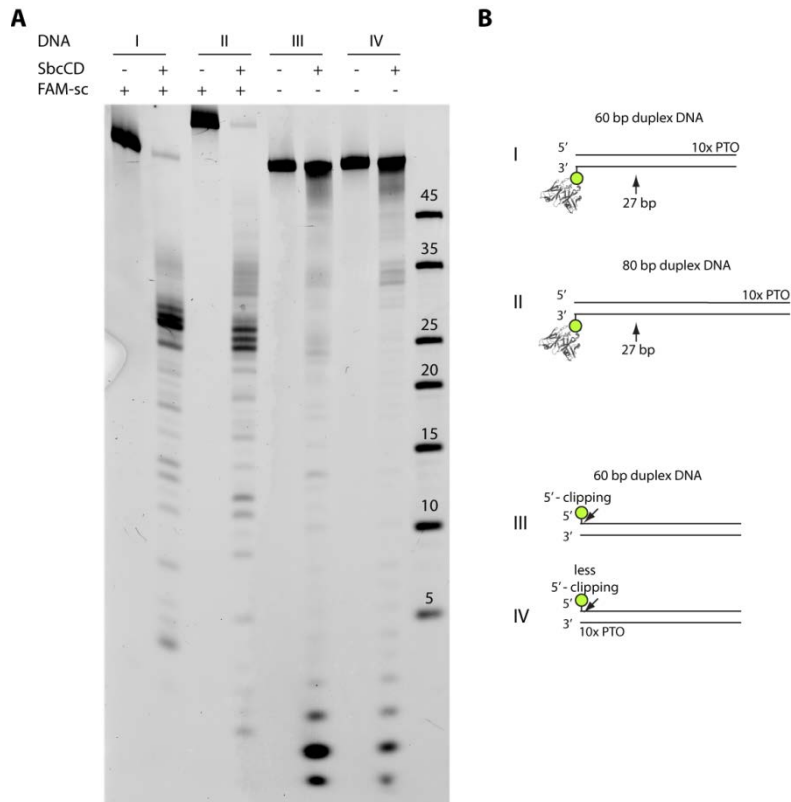
| Plasmid                      | single stranded   | supercoiled       | nicked          | linear            |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| $k_{cat}$ (s <sup>-1</sup> ) | $0.010 \pm 0.001$ | $0.072 \pm 0.006$ | $0.21 \pm 0.02$ | $0.200 \pm 0.007$ |
| DNA-Activation               | 1.3               | 9                 | 26              | 25                |
| $k_{act}$ (nM)               | nd                | $4.7 \pm 1.1$     | $10.8 \pm 2.1$  | $2.6 \pm 0.3$     |

### Supplementary Figure S4



Logarithmic representation of SbcCD's  $K_d$  values (from Supplementary Table 1)

## Supplementary Figure S5

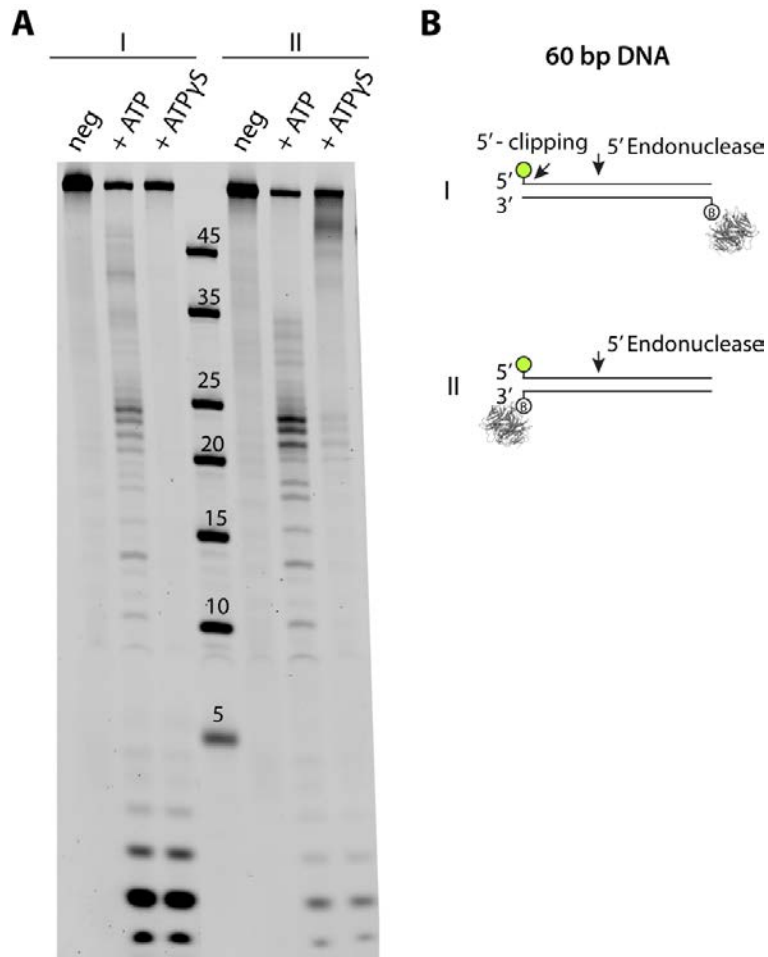


### Nuclease activity of SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> towards 60 and 80 bp DNA and phosphorothioate protected 5' labeled DNA.

(A) SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> was assayed in the presence of 1 mM ATP( $\gamma$ S), 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C. 60 and 80 bp DNA were protected by a single chain fragment that binds to Fluorescein dyes (FAM-scFv) to generate a protein protein blocked DNA end and assay the endonuclease activity (DNA I and II). Protection of the complementary strand by phosphorothioates (PTO) reduces the 5' clipping activity by approximately 3-fold.

(B) DNA substrates are schematized that were used in (A).

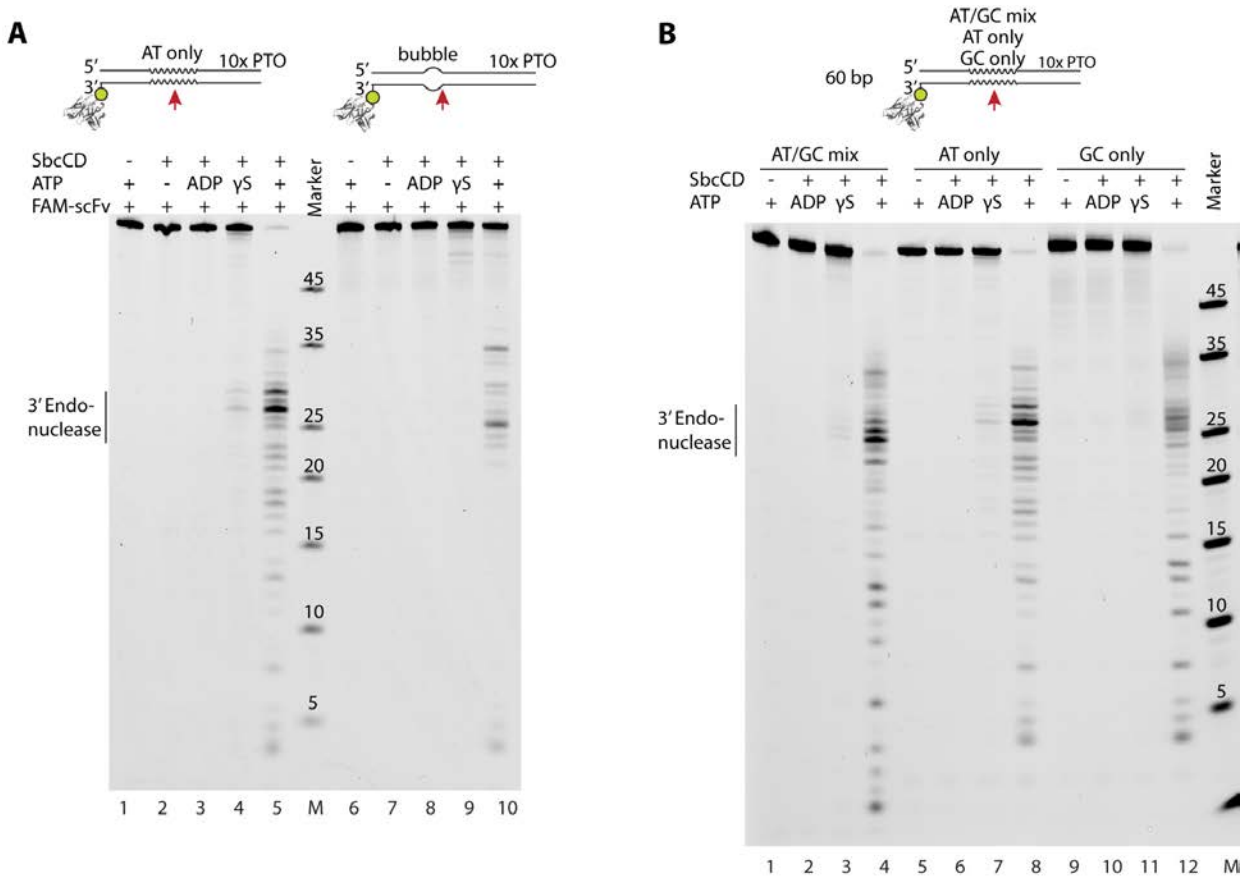
Supplementary Figure S6



Nuclease activity of SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> towards 5' labeled 60 bp DNA

(A) SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> was assayed in the presence of 1 mM ATP( $\gamma$ S), 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C with 5' labeled 60 bp DNA. The 5' endonuclease activity remains in the presence of biotin-Streptavidin blocks on the opposite strand

## Supplementary Figure S7



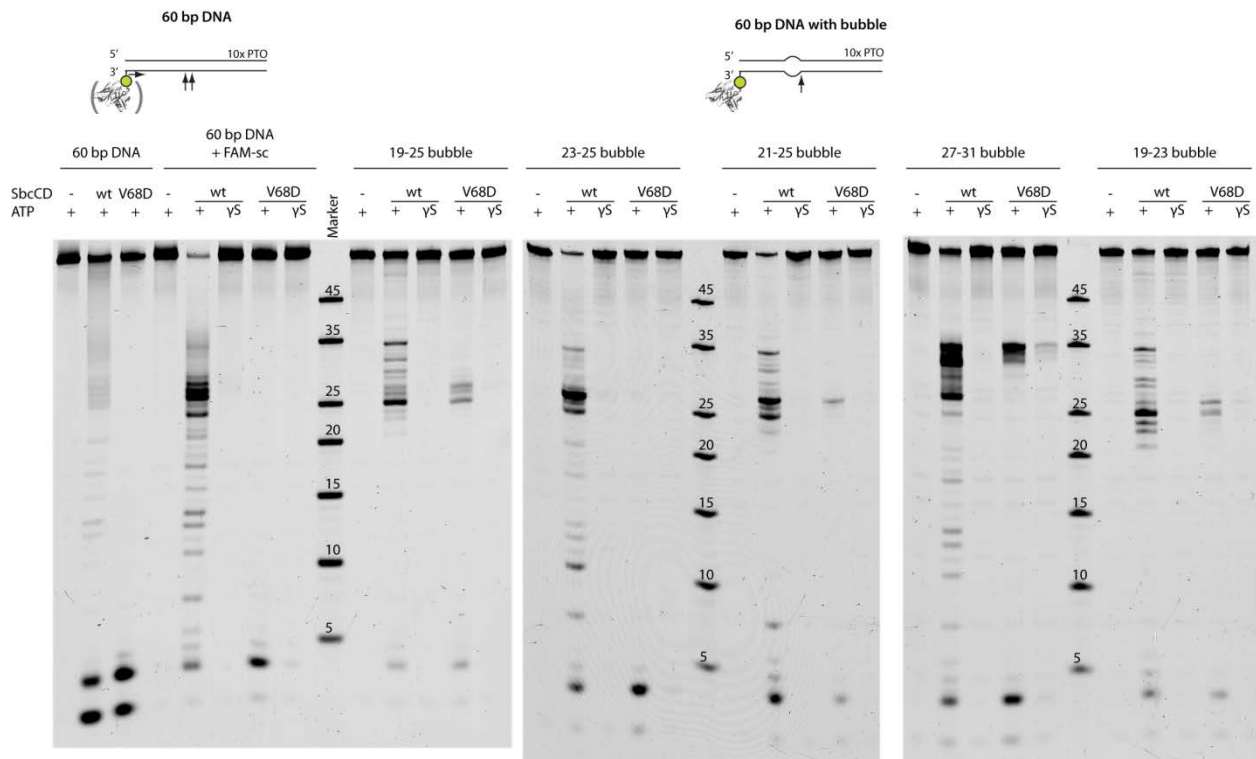
### SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> has endonuclease activity on a protein-blocked 60 bp DNA in the presence of non-hydrolysable ATPγS

(A) SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> was assayed in the presence of 1 mM ATP(γS) or ADP, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C. SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> has endonuclease activity on a protein-blocked 60 bp duplex DNA in the presence of ATP and maintains a fractional endonuclease activity with non-hydrolysable ATPγS. On a 60 bp DNA containing a bubble from position 19-23 (relative to the dye) endonuclease activity is observed with ATP but not with ATPγS.

(B) SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> was assayed as in (A), but with 60 bp DNA that contained different local AT/GC contents from position 15 - 29 relative to the dye. SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> endonuclease activity has a slight preference for AT-only substrates in the presence of ATPγS.



## Supplementary Figure S8

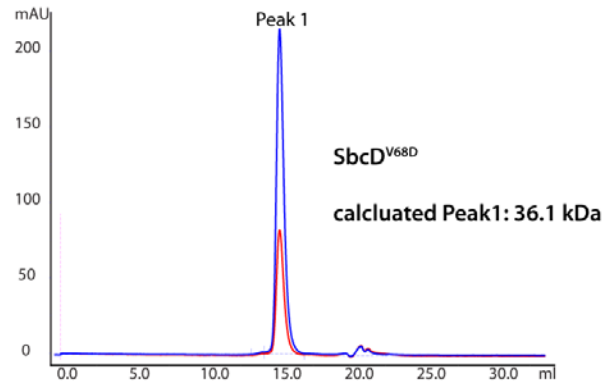
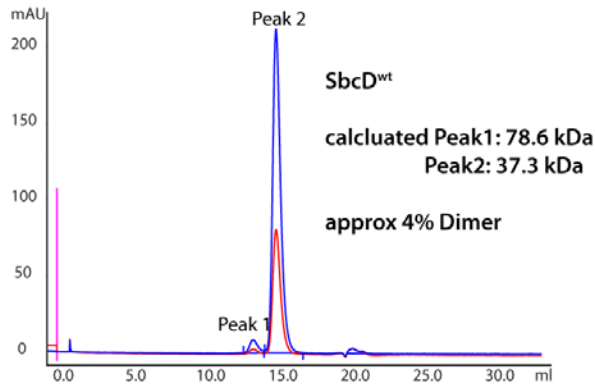


### Nuclease activity of SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> and SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup> towards 60 bp DNA with pre-melted stretches

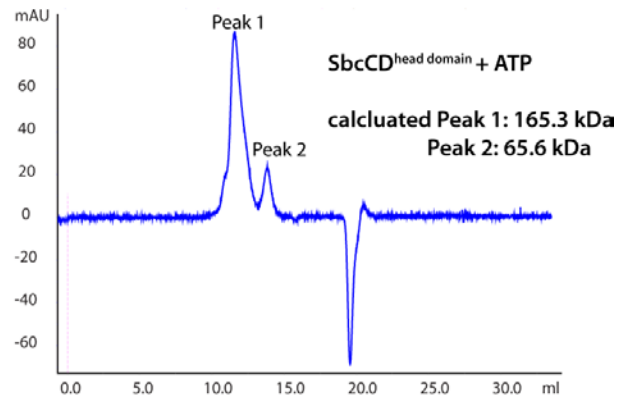
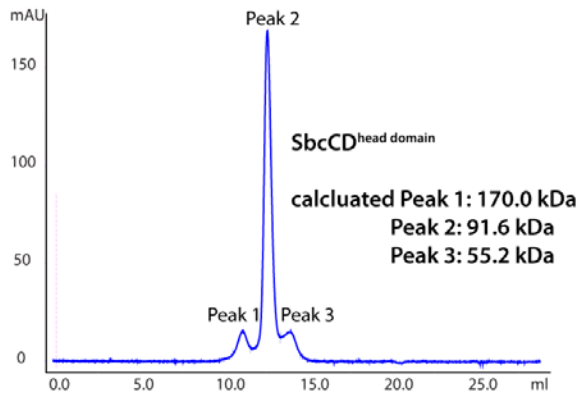
SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> and SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup> were assayed in the presence of 1 mM ATP( $\gamma$ S), 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C. All DNA substrates were 3' labeled with 6-FAM, the complementary strand was protected by 10x phosphorothioate (PTO) linkages to prevent exonucleolytic degradation by SbcCD. The position of the pre-melted stretches are indicated and relative to the dye position.

## Supplementary Figure S9

### A SbcD nuclease and capping domain Monomer: 37.7 kDa Dimer: 75.4 kDa



### B SbcD full length, SbcC 1-217, 856-end Heterodimer: 90.6 kDa Heterotetramer: 181.2 kDa

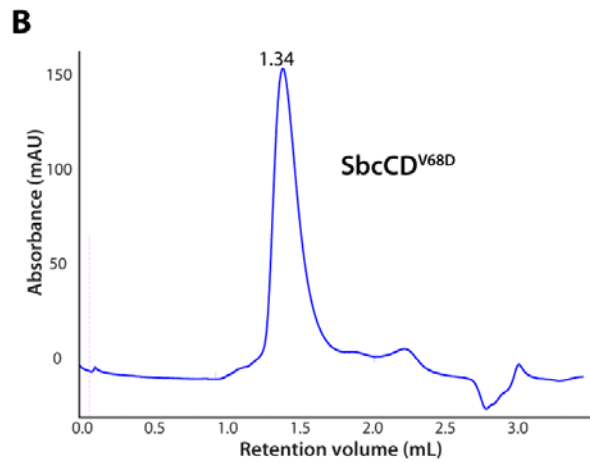
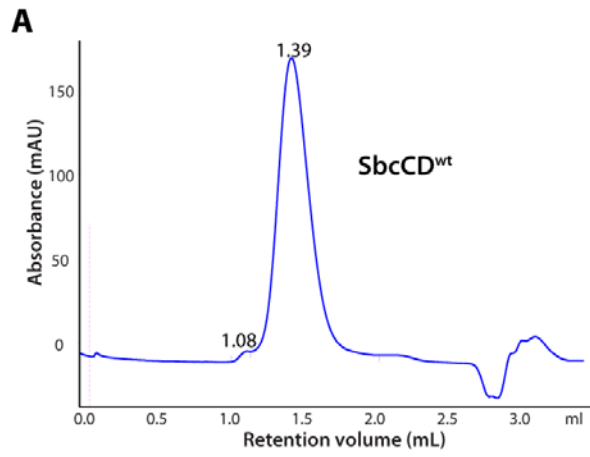


#### Right angle light scattering (RALS) analysis of SbcD nuclease and capping domain SbcCD head complex

(A) SbcD nuclease and capping domain mainly forms a monomer, 4% of SbcD is a dimer. The SbcD<sup>V68D</sup>-mutant induced a homogenous monomer of SbcD, therefore, a destabilization of the SbcD interface.

(B) Analysis of SbcD full length in complex with SbcC with shortened coiled-coils (SbcC<sup>SCC</sup>). SbcC<sup>SCC</sup>D mainly forms a heterodimer, 6% is forming a heterotetramer in the absence of ATP (left). The addition of 0.2 mM ATP in the running buffer induces the formation of a SbcCD-head domain heterotetramer (right).

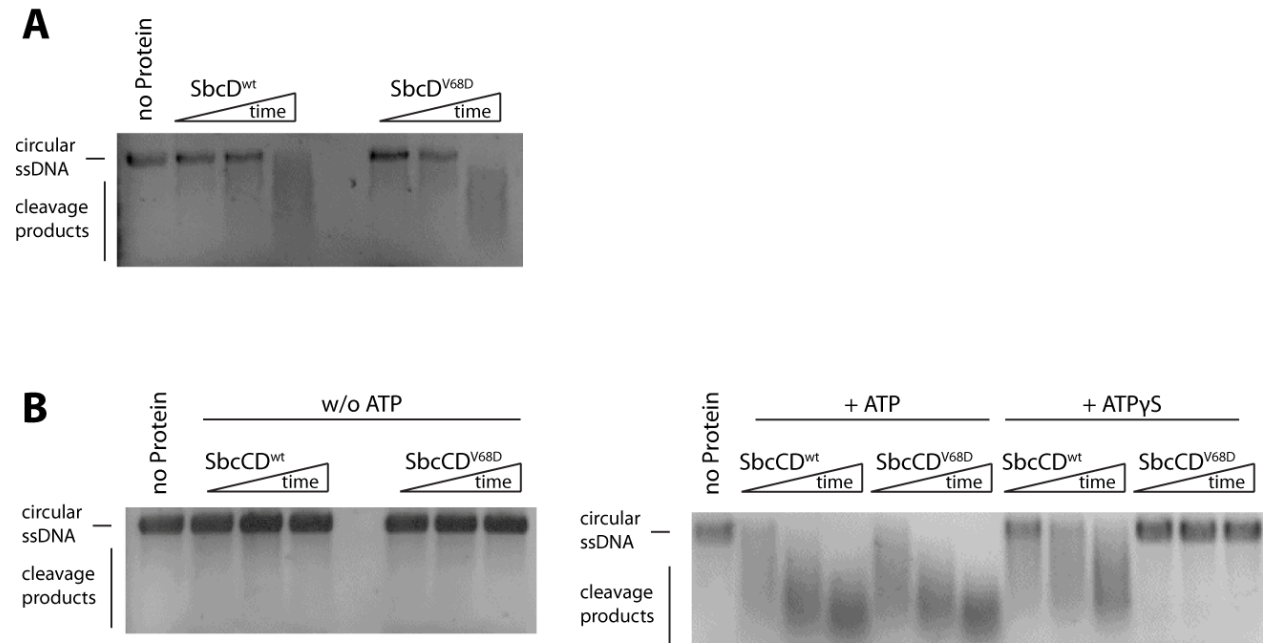
## Supplementary Figure S10



### Size-exclusion chromatography analysis of full-length SbcCD variants

(A and B)  $SbcCD^{wt}$  and  $SbcCD^{V68D}$  were analyzed on a Superose 6 5/150 size-exclusion exclusion column.

## Supplementary Figure S11

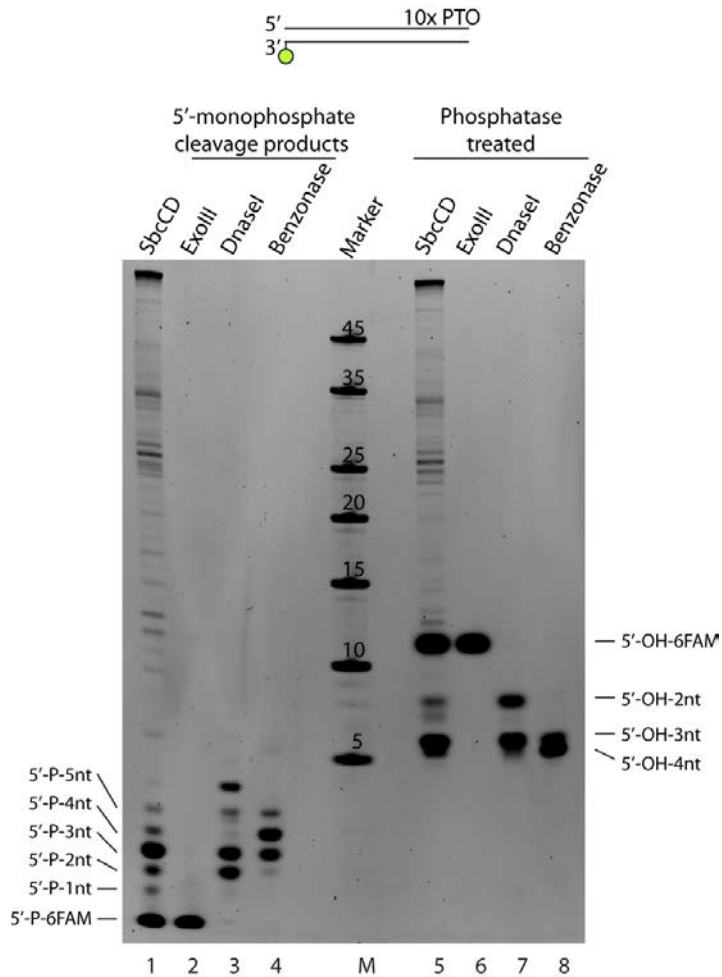


### ssDNA endonuclease activity of SbcD and SbcCD dimerization variants

(A) SbcD nuclease and capping domain variants were assayed with  $\Phi$ X174 Virion DNA in the presence of 1 mM  $MnCl_2$  at 37 °C. Samples were taken at 3, 7 and 20 minutes and then quenched. Reaction products were separated by agarose gel electrophoresis and post-stained with GelRed. Destabilizing the SbcD dimer interface does not affect endonuclease activity (top). Formation of a SbcD dimer by LisH enhances endonuclease activity (bottom).

(B) SbcCD dimerization variants were assayed as in (A), dependent to the absence and presence of ATP( $\gamma$ S). SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> requires ATP binding for ssDNA processing. The presence of ATP $\gamma$ S induces ssDNA processing by SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> but not by SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup>.

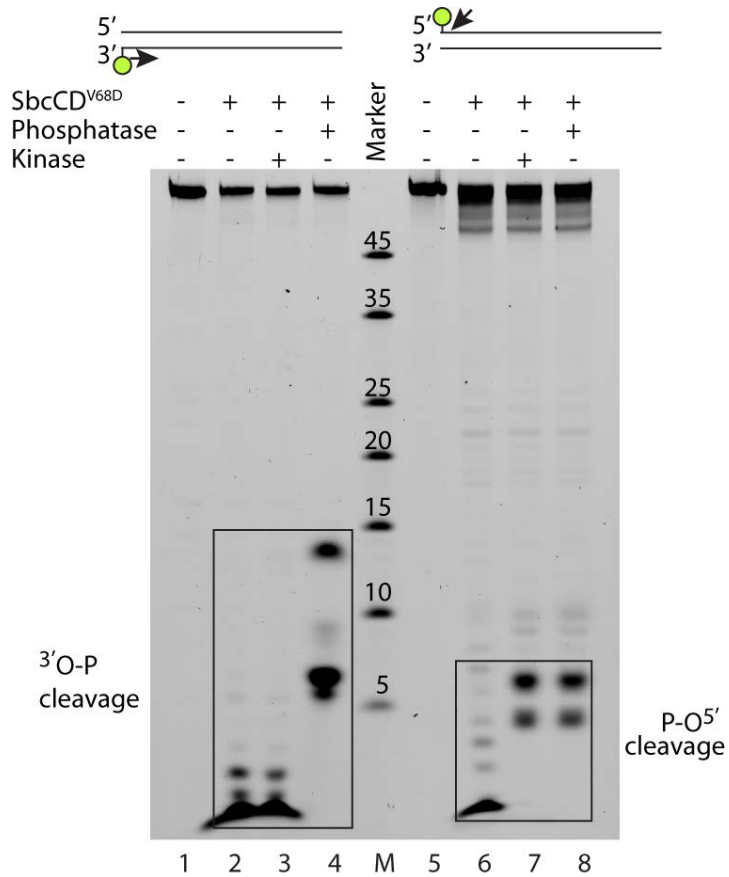
## Supplementary Figure S12



### Comparison of DNA cleavage reactions by SbcCD, ExoIII, DNase I and Benzonase®.

SbcCD<sup>wt</sup> was assayed with 3' 6FAM labeled 60bp DNA under standard nuclease-assay conditions (lane1). To verify 5'-monophosphate of SbcCD's 3'-exonuclease cleavage products, the identical DNA substrate was treated with ExoIII, Dnase I and Benzonase® (lanes 2-4). ExoIII catalyzes the stepwise removal of mononucleotides from 3' the terminus of duplex DNA and cleaves off the 6FAM-dye (58), Dnase I is an endonuclease that nonspecifically cleaves DNA to release di-, tri- and oligonucleotides (59,60), Benzonase® nonspecifically digests DNA into fragments ranging from 3 to 5 nucleotides (61). These nucleases produce 5'-monophosphorylated and 3'-hydroxylated ends. The nuclease reactions were treated with alkaline phosphatase (lanes 5-8), which induce a migration shift of all short nuclease products and verifies the 5'-monophosphate of SbcCD's 3'-exonuclease cleavage products. These data also show that SbcCD releases the terminal dye, followed by a release of fragments ranging from 1-5nts, with a major trinucleotide species.

### Supplementary Figure S13



#### **SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup> has same the exonuclease cleavage-polarity as SbcCD<sup>wt</sup>**

(A) SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup> was assayed in the presence of 1 mM ATP, 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> and 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C. The cleavage products of the quenched nuclease reactions were treated with T4 Polynucleotide Kinase or Antarctic Phosphatase to remove or add a phosphate to the DNA ends. The T4 Kinase also catalyzes the removal of 3'-phosphoryl groups from oligonucleotides and therefore induces an identical shift to the Antarctic phosphatase. The altered electrophoretic mobility indicates whether a phosphate is bound to the cleavage products. The mobility-shift pattern of SbcCD<sup>V68D</sup> is identical to SbcCD<sup>wt</sup>.