

## Expanded View Figures

**Figure EV1. HDX-MS analysis of BAK-6H during oligomerisation on liposomes.**

- A, B Liposomes were incubated with BAK-6H and cBID at the indicated concentration prior to the analysis of BAK oligomerisation on BN-PAGE.
- C BAK peptide coverage following combined proteolysis with pepsin and *Aspergillus* Type XIII protease.
- D Example of time-dependent deuteration of BAK peptide. The increase in  $m/z$  of a BAK peptide (shown in red in C) due to incorporation with deuterium over time.

Source data are available online for this figure.

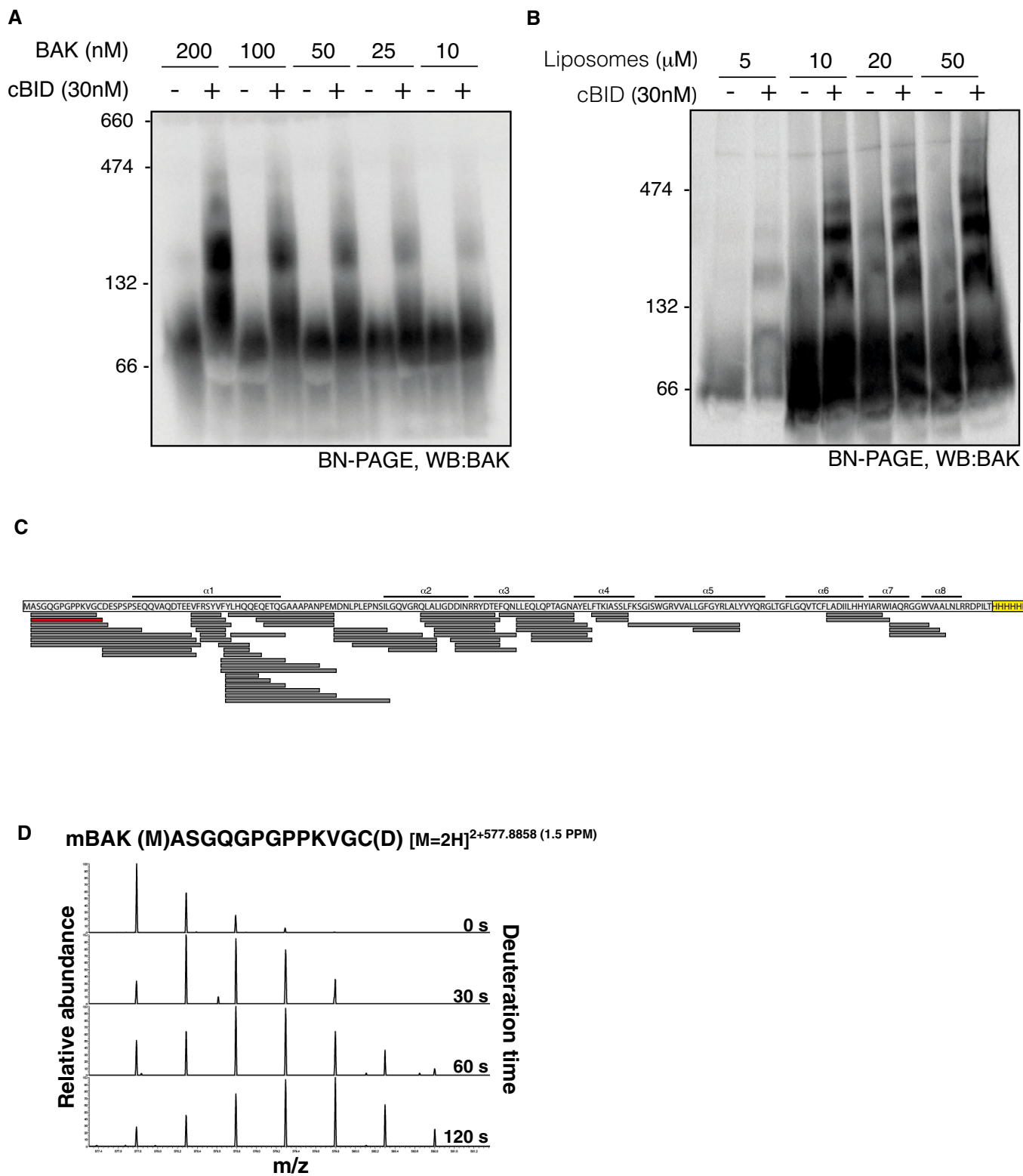
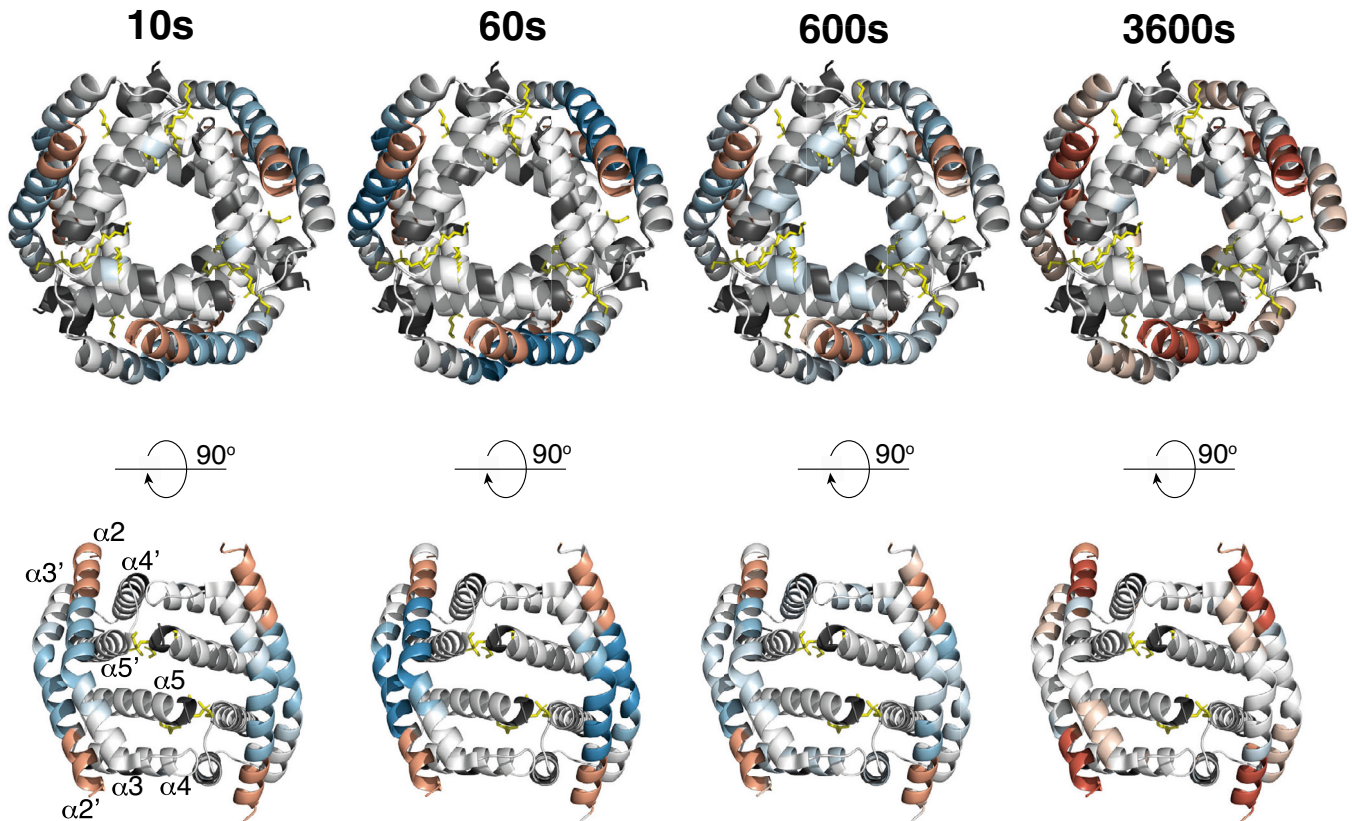


Figure EV1.



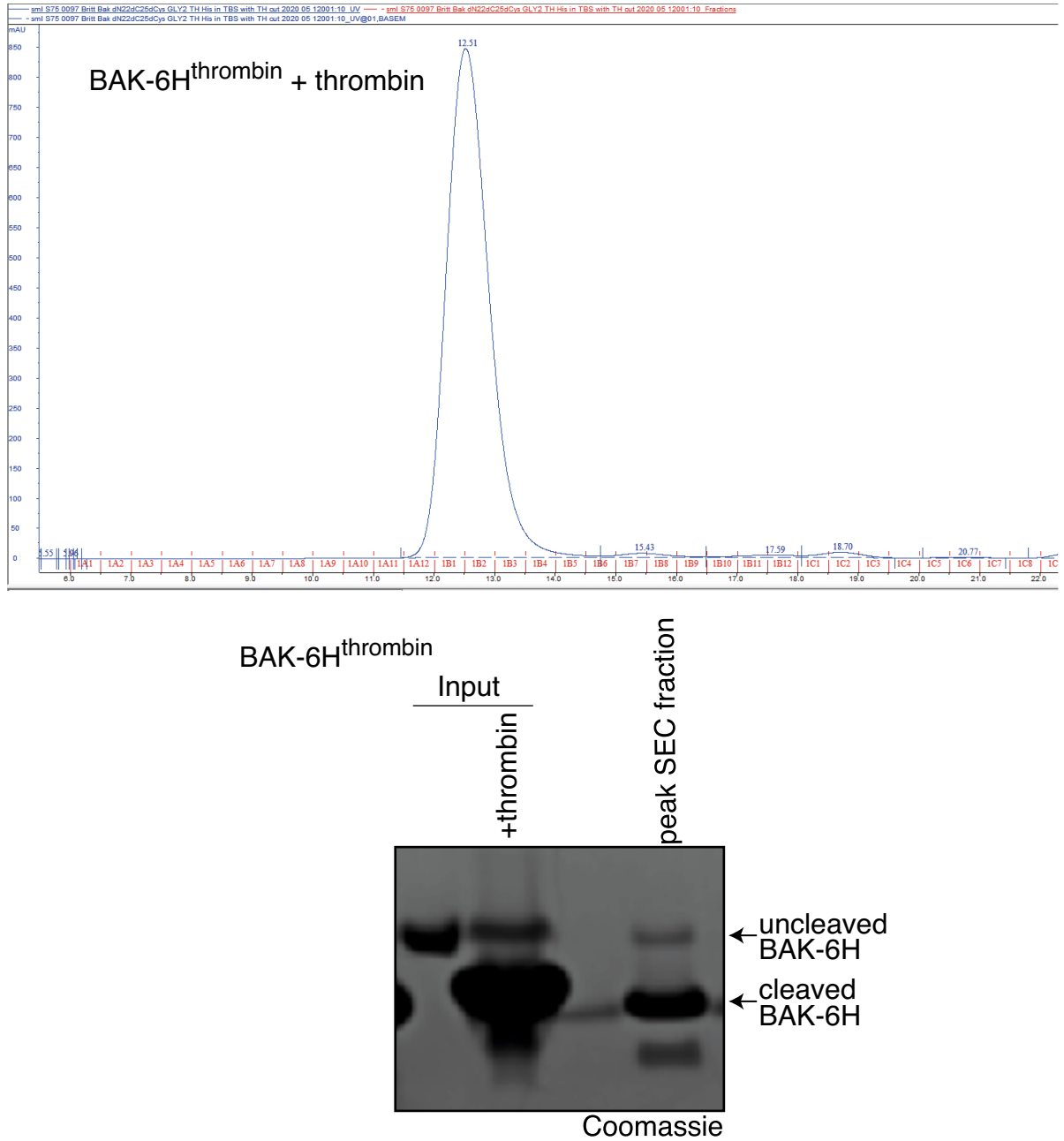
**Figure EV2. HDX-MS mapped onto hexameric BAK.**

Change in deuteration of BAK compared to inactive BAK is mapped onto the structure of hexameric BAK core dimers (trimer of  $\alpha 2$ - $\alpha 5$  homodimers) with bound *E. coli* lipids (yellow stick) (PDB:6UXM, Cowan et al, 2020). Colour coding as in Fig 2B. Lower panel is a  $90^\circ$  rotated view of the hexamer showing the uppermost 2 dimers only.

**Figure EV3. BAK BH4 mutants adopt an activated conformation without exogenous stimulus.**

*Bax*<sup>-/-</sup>*Bak*<sup>-/-</sup> MEFs expressing BAK, BAK( $\Delta$ Cys) or BAK( $\Delta$ Cys) with mutations in the BH4 domain were incubated with doxycycline (3 h) to induce BAK expression followed by incubation with BH3 mimetics where indicated (for 2 h) and conformation change of BAK was assessed by intracellular flow cytometry with an antibody that recognises activated BAK (G3172). FACS profiles from three independent experiments are shown.





**Figure EV4.  $\alpha$ 1-2 loop cleavage in recombinant BAK.**

Recombinant BAK-6H<sup>thrombin</sup> was cleaved with thrombin prior to size exclusion chromatography. Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE of input and the peak fraction reveals efficient loop cleavage.

Source data are available online for this figure.

**Figure EV5. BAK  $\alpha$ 1-2 loop cleavage does not inhibit cytochrome c release.**

- A FLAG-BAK or FLAG-BAK<sup>thrombin</sup> were stably expressed in *Bax*<sup>-/-</sup>*Bak*<sup>-/-</sup> MEFs and assessed by immunoblotting.
- B Cells from A were treated with combined BH3 mimetic drugs for 24 h and cell death was analysed by PI uptake. Data are mean  $\pm$  SD of three independent experiments.
- C Mitochondria-enriched fractions isolated from cells in A were incubated with cBID (10 nM) in the presence or absence of thrombin for the indicated times and membrane pellet (P) and supernatant (S) were separated and immunoblotted for cytochrome c or BAK (4B5). Data from two independent experiments are shown, third experiment is shown in Fig 5E.

Source data are available online for this figure.

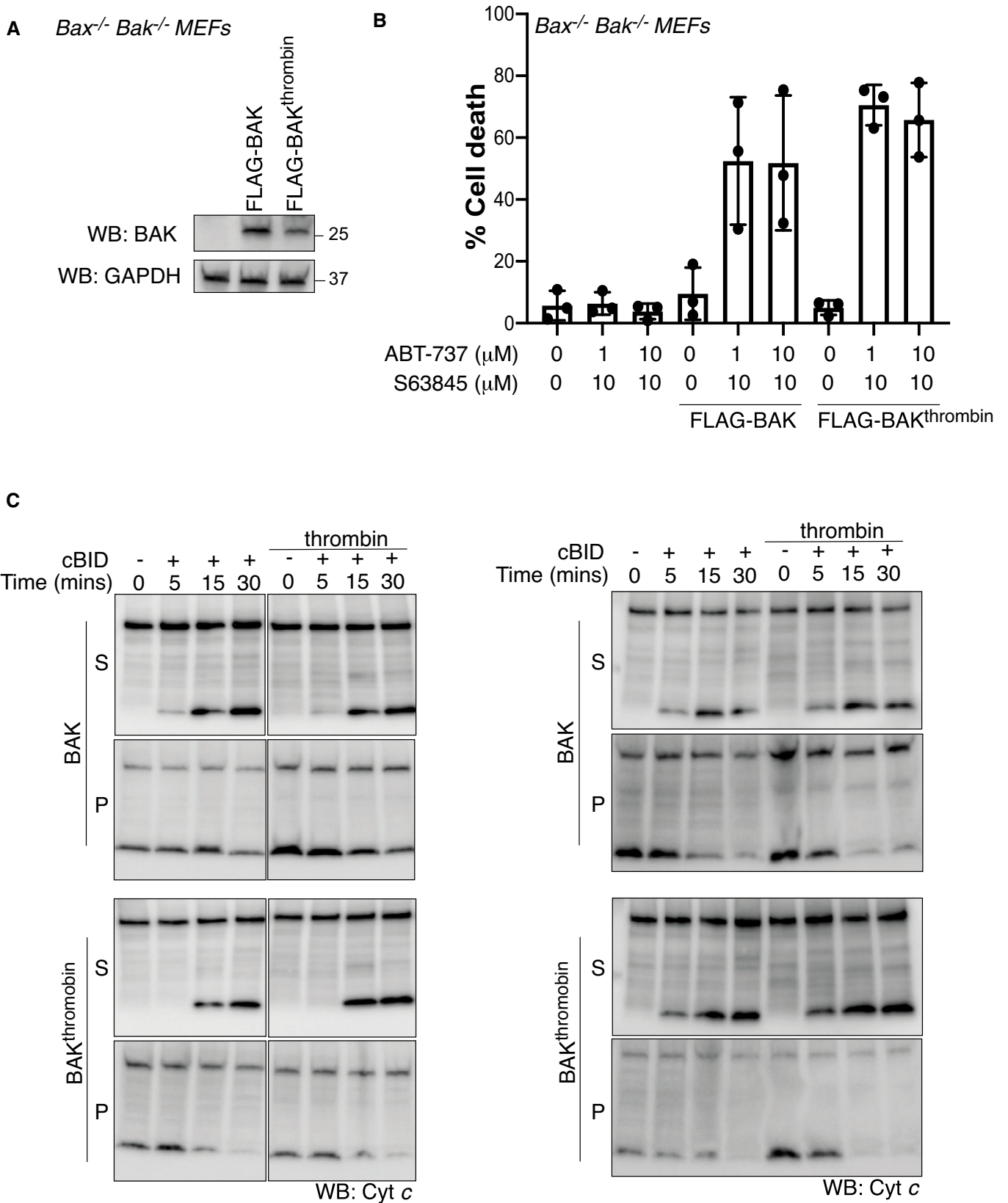


Figure EV5.