

Insight into Functional Membrane Proteins by Solution NMR: The Human Bcl-2 Protein – A Promising Cancer Drug Target

Ameeq Ul Mushtaq¹, Jörgen Ådén¹, Tobias Sparrman¹, Mattias Hedenström¹, Gerhard Gröbner¹

¹ Department of Chemistry, Umeå University, SE-901 87 Umeå, Sweden

Correspondence to: gerhard.grobner@chem.umu.se

Supplementary Information

Supplementary Figure 1: Temperature stability of Bcl-2 and Bcl-2 truncated variants in DPC/NMR buffer monitored by CD.

Supplementary Figure 2: ¹H-¹⁵N-TROSY spectra of Bcl-2 protein in DPC/NMR buffer above and below CMC.

Supplementary Figure 3: ³¹P NMR spectra of Bcl-2 protein in DPC/NMR buffer above and below CMC.

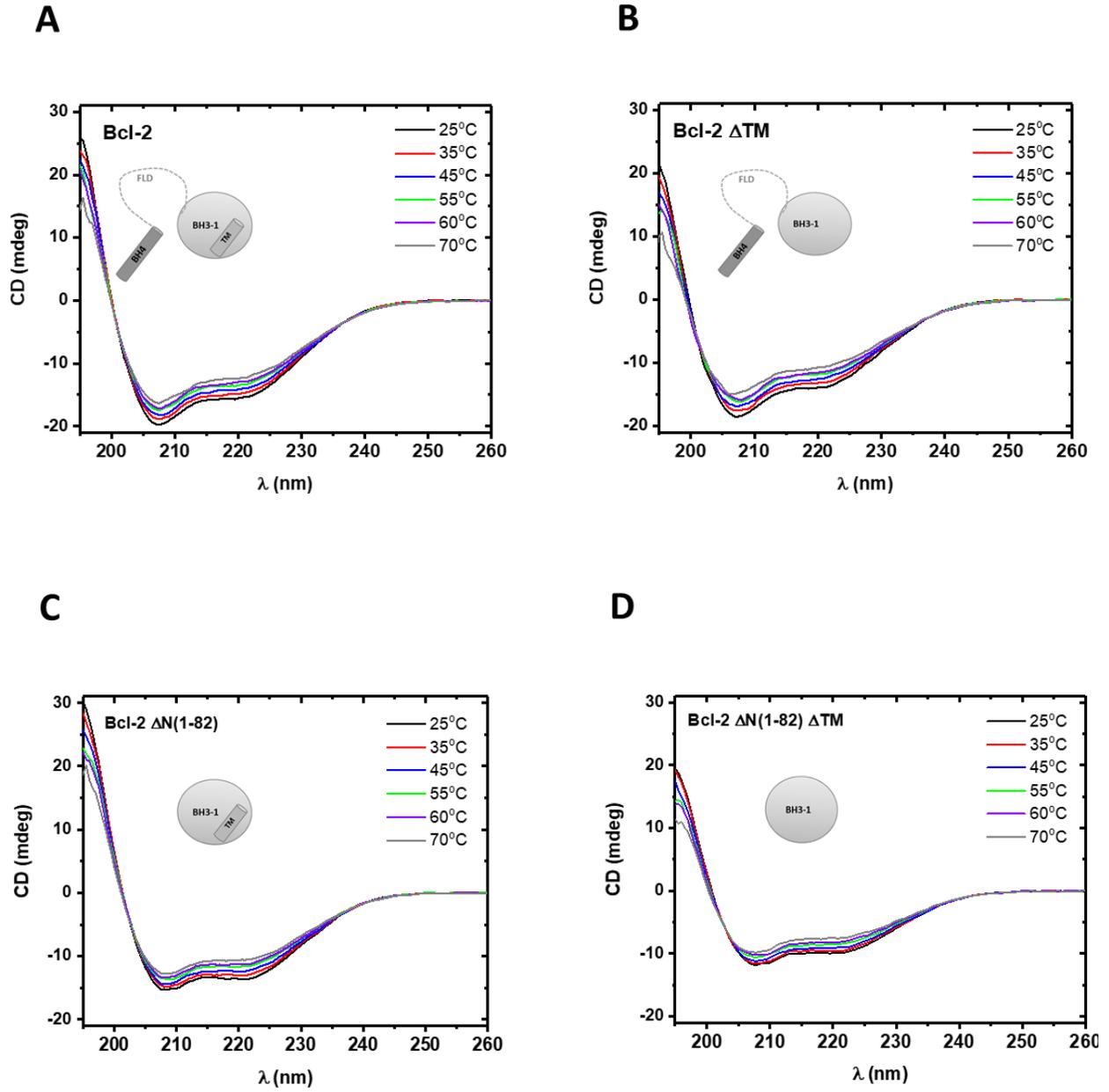
Supplementary Figure 4: NMR spectra of soluble and DPC titrated Bcl-2 ΔTM in NMR buffer

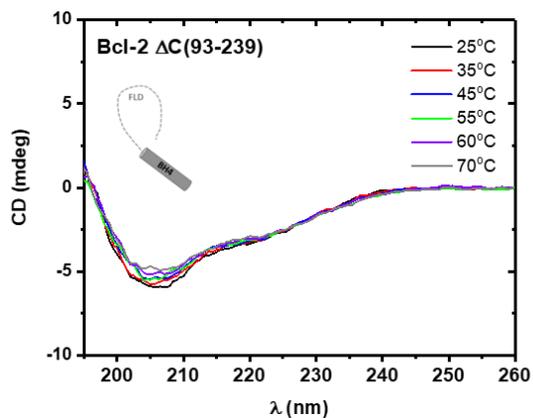
Supplementary Figure 5: (A-E): *In vitro* binding assays on full-length Bcl-2, Bcl-2 ΔTM, Bcl-2 ΔN (1-82) and Bcl-2 ΔN (1-82) ΔTM constructs.

Supplementary Figure 6: Schematic diagram of Bcl-2 ΔTM showing truncation constructs.

Supplementary Table I: Binding fragments identified by ¹⁹F NMR screening.

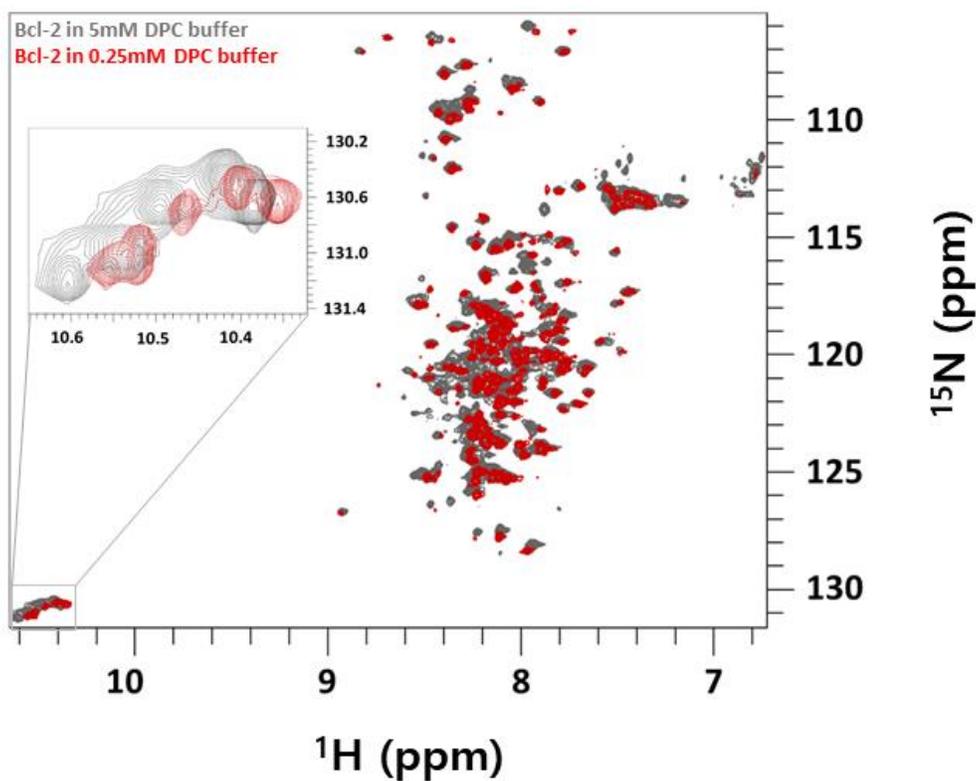
Supplementary Figure 1. Temperature stability of Bcl-2 and Bcl-2 truncated variants in DPC monitored by CD.



E

Supplementary Figure 1. A-E) Far-UV CD spectra of full-length Bcl-2 protein compared to truncated variants in 5mM DPC in NMR buffer (20 mM NaPi, 20 mM NaCl, 2 mM TCEP, pH 6.0), recorded at increasing temperatures between 25°C and 70°C. **A)** CD spectra of 5 μ M full-length Bcl-2, **B)** 5 μ M Bcl-2 Δ TM, **C)** 5 μ M Bcl-2 Δ N(1-82), **D)** 5 μ M Bcl-2 Δ N(1-82) Δ TM, and **E)** 5 μ M Bcl-2 Δ C(93-239). All shown spectra are averages of 10 individual scans with subtracted buffer backgrounds.

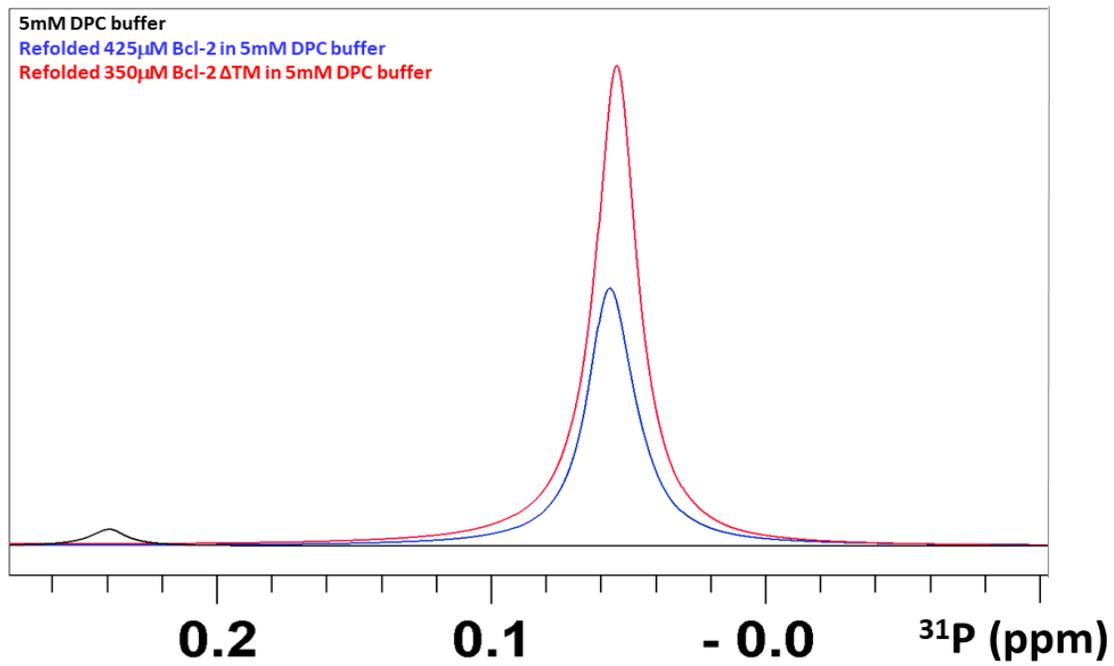
Supplementary Figure 2. NMR spectra dependence on CMC of DPC: spectra above and below CMC of DPC.



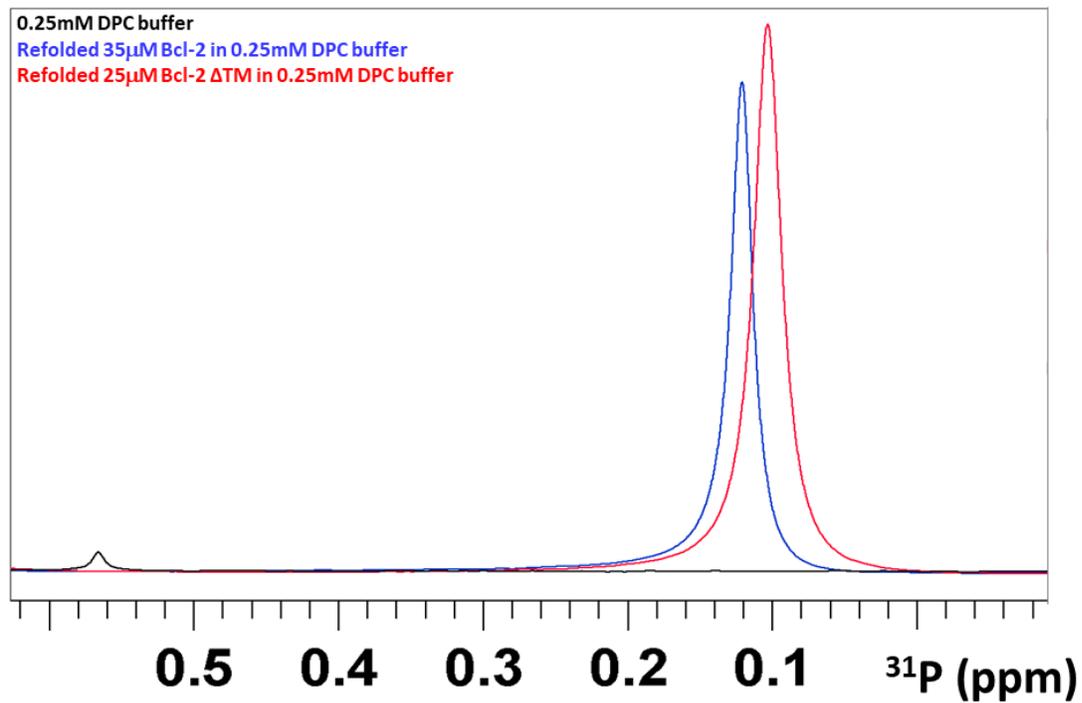
Supplementary Figure 2. Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra of 0.36mM ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 in 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer (gray) and 35 μM ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 in 0.25 mM DPC in NMR buffer (red); all at 310 K.

Supplementary Figure 3. ^{31}P NMR spectra of Bcl-2 protein in DPC micelles above and below CMC.

A



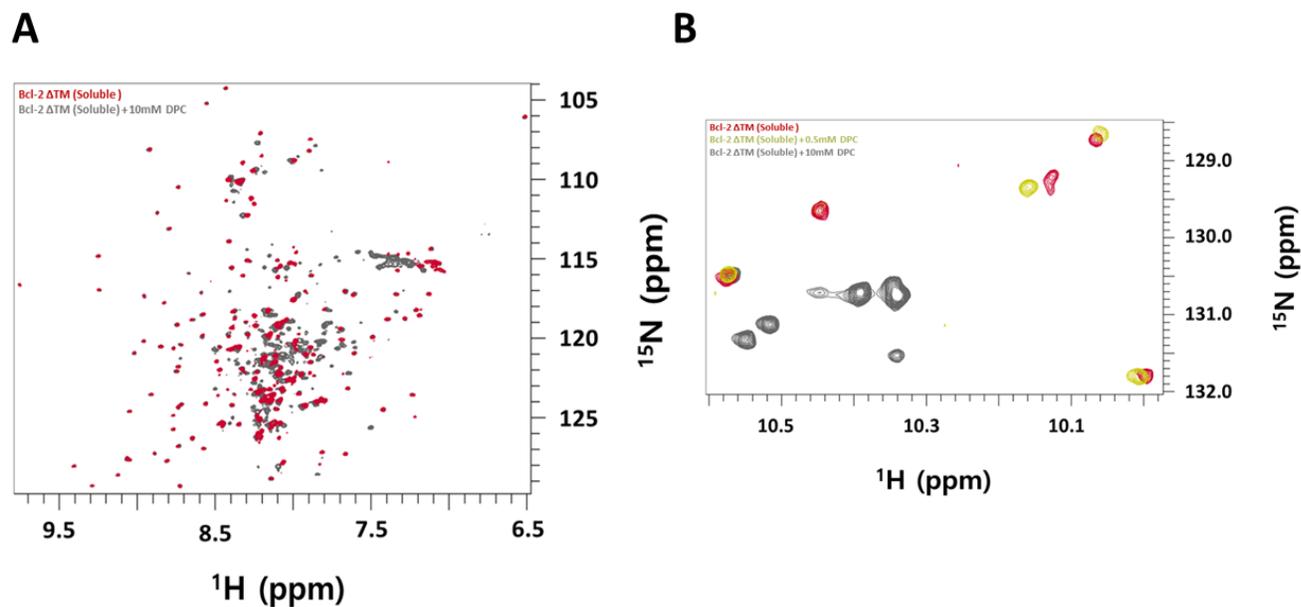
B



Supplementary Figure 3. (A) ^{31}P NMR spectra of reference 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer (black), 425 μM Bcl-2 and 350 μM Bcl-2 ΔTM in 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer (in blue and red, respectively) at 298 K.

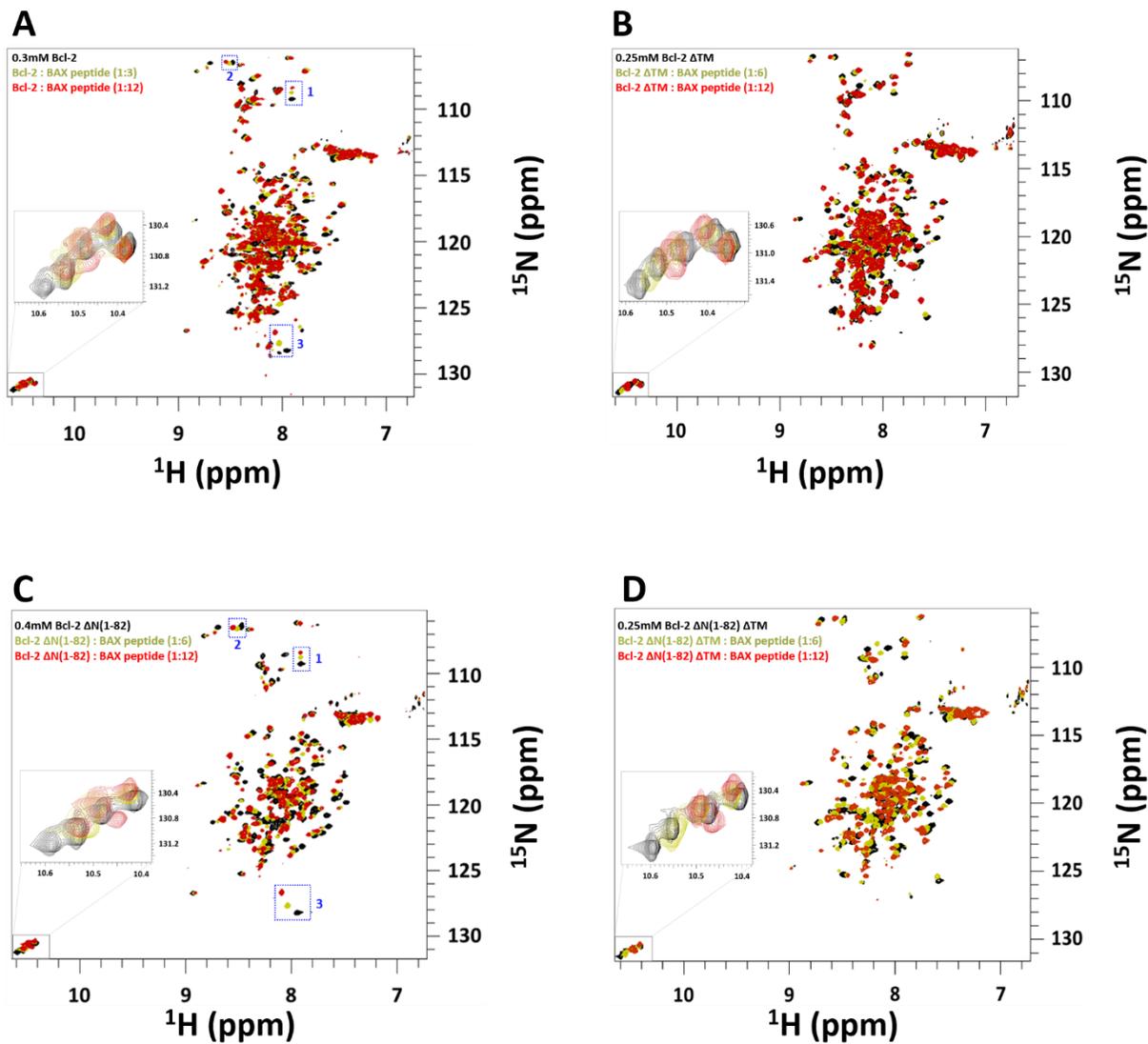
(B) ^{31}P NMR spectra of reference 0.25 mM DPC in NMR at pH 6.0 (black), 35 μM Bcl-2 and 25 μM Bcl-2 ΔTM in 0.25 mM DPC in NMR buffer (in blue and red, respectively). NMR spectra were acquired under proton decoupling using a ^{31}P pulse width of 12 μs duration and inter-scan delay of 5 s.

Supplementary Figure 4. Bcl-2 Δ TM soluble and DPC titrated (membrane-mimic environment) NMR spectra.



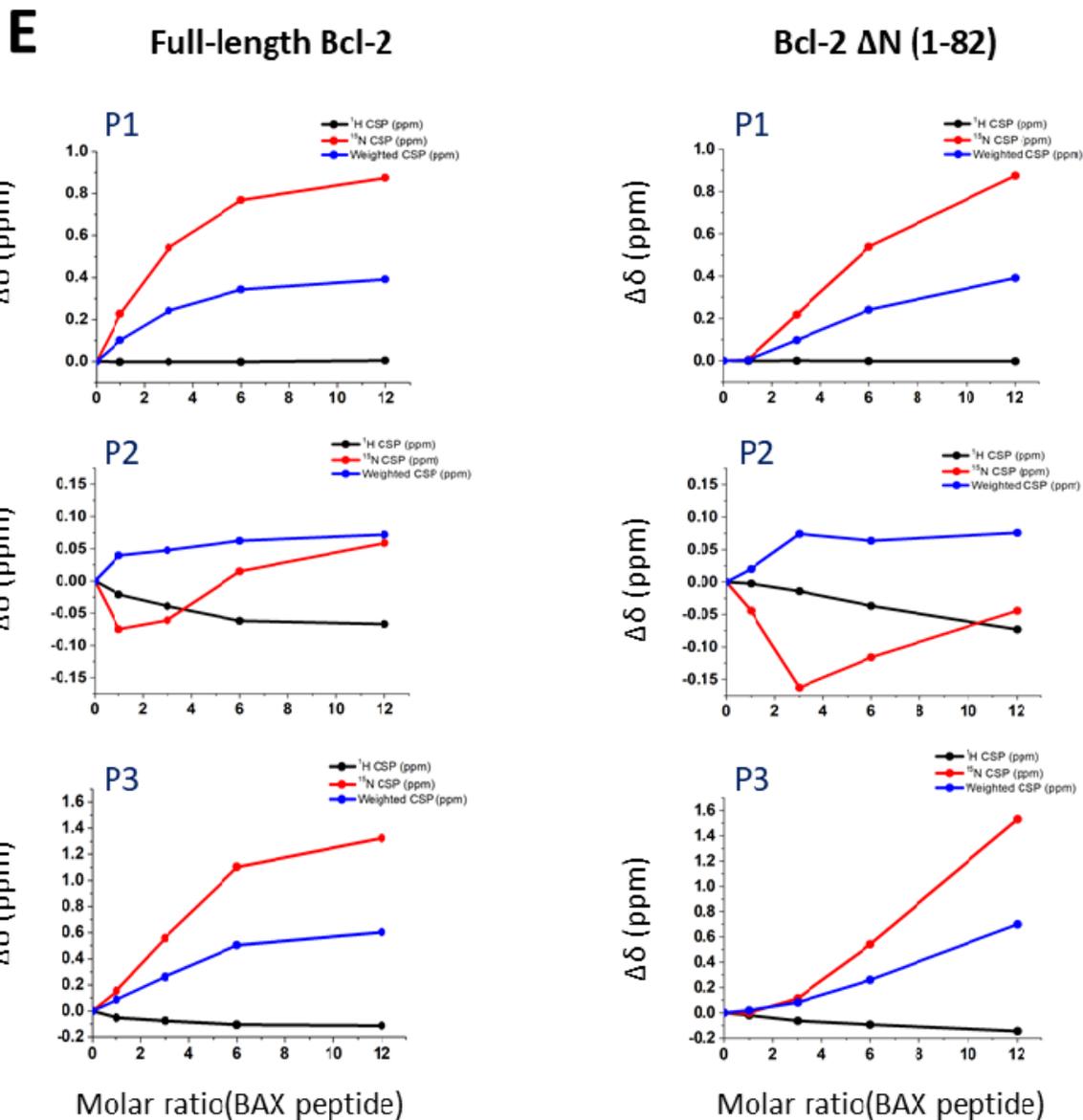
Supplementary Figure 4. (A) Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra of $40\ \mu\text{M}$ ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM in 20 mM NaPi, 20 mM NaCl, 2 mM TCEP at pH 6.0 (red), $40\ \mu\text{M}$ ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM in 10 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer (gray). (B) Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N TROSY-HSQC spectra showing side-chain tryptophan $^{15}\text{N}\epsilon^1\text{H}$ of $40\ \mu\text{M}$ ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM in NMR buffer (red), $40\ \mu\text{M}$ ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM in 0.5 mM DPC in NMR buffer (olive yellow), $40\ \mu\text{M}$ ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM in 10 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer (gray). All spectra acquired at 298 K.

Supplementary Figure 5 (A-E). *In vitro* binding assay on full-length Bcl-2, Bcl-2 Δ TM, Bcl-2 Δ N (1-82) and Bcl-2 Δ N (1-82) Δ TM constructs.



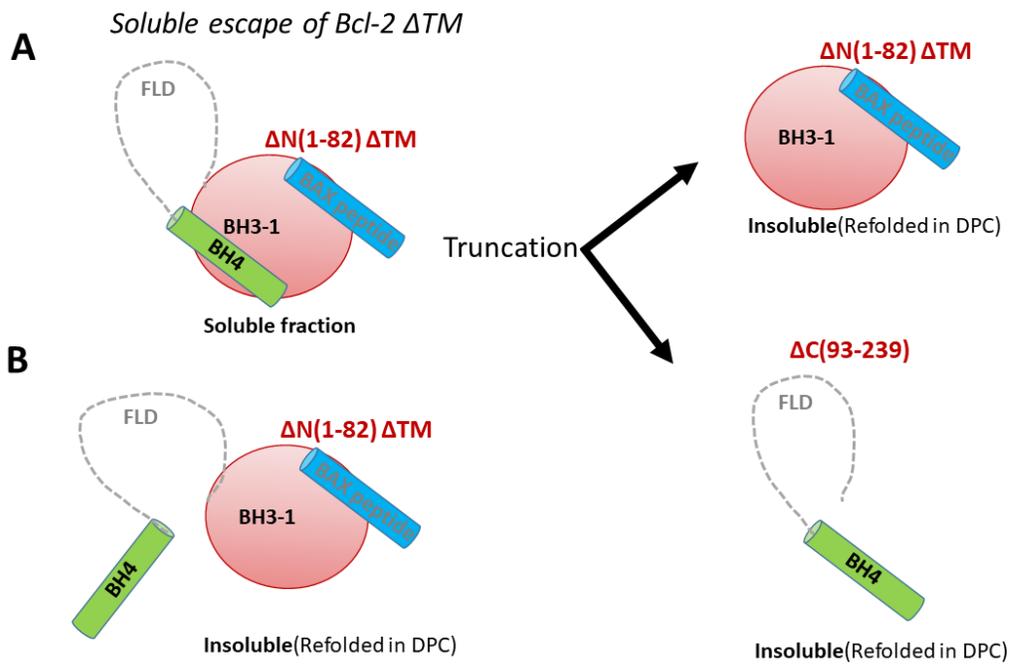
Supplementary Figure 5 (A-D). (A) Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra showing chemical shift perturbations (CSP's) observed in ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 upon titration with the Bax-BH3 peptide at 310K. In black is the spectrum of 0.3 mM Bcl-2 in 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer. Coloured in olive, yellow and red are the spectra of Bcl-2 with Bax-BH3 peptide added at 1:3 and 1:12 stoichiometry. (B) Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra showing chemical shift perturbations (CSP's) observed in the ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 Δ TM when titrated with Bax-BH3 peptide at 310 K. In black is the spectrum of 0.25 mM Bcl-2 Δ TM in 5 mM DPC micelles

in NMR buffer. In olive yellow and red are the spectra of Bcl-2 with Bax-BH3 peptide added at 1:6 and 1:12 stoichiometry. **(C)** Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra showing chemical shift perturbations (CSP's) observed in the ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 $\Delta\text{N}(1-82)$ when titrated with Bax-BH3 peptide at 310K. In black is the spectrum of 0.4 mM Bcl-2 $\Delta\text{N}(1-82)$ in 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer. In olive yellow and red are the spectra of Bcl-2 with Bax-BH3 peptide added at 1:6 and 1:12 stoichiometry. **(D)** Overlay of ^1H - ^{15}N -TROSY-HSQC NMR spectra showing chemical shift perturbations (CSP's) observed in the ^{15}N -labeled Bcl-2 $\Delta\text{N}(1-82)$ ΔTM when titrated with Bax-BH3 peptide at 310 K. In black is the spectrum of 0.25 mM Bcl-2 $\Delta\text{N}(1-82)$ ΔTM in 5 mM DPC micelles in NMR buffer. In olive yellow and red are the spectra of Bcl-2 with Bax-BH3 peptide added at 1:6 and 1:12 stoichiometry. The Figure inserts (zoomed boxes) show the tryptophan side-chain region of the respective NMR spectrum.



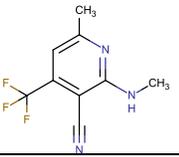
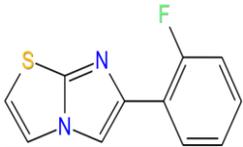
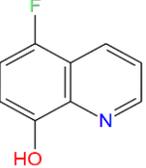
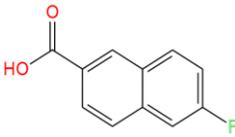
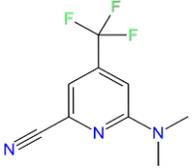
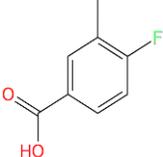
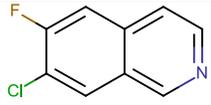
Supplementary Figure 5E. Plots showing the Chemical Shift Perturbation's (CSP's) of the ^1H -N protons (δH), ^{15}N amide nitrogen's (δN) and weighted ^1H - ^{15}N chemical-shift differences ($\Delta\delta_{\text{H-}^{15}\text{N}}$ (ppm) = $[(\delta\text{H})^2 + 0.2 \times (\delta\text{N})^2]^{1/2}$) of the backbone amide peaks (P1-3 highlighted as dashed boxes in Supplementary Figures 5A and 5C) of the Bcl-2 and Bcl-2 $\Delta\text{N}(1-82)$ upon titration with BH3 Bax peptide at Bax peptide/protein molar ratios of 0, 1, 3, 6 and 12, respectively.

Supplementary Figure 6. Schematic diagram of Bcl-2 Δ TM showing truncation constructs



Supplementary Figure 6. (A) Schematic diagram showing the truncation of (A) soluble and (B) insoluble Bcl-2 Δ TM, soluble Bcl-2 Δ TM fraction showing BH4 and BH3-1 domains packed together to form a soluble globular fold.

Supplementary Table 1. Binding fragments found in the ^{19}F screening

Hit	Structure	T ₂ response (%) ^a
1		45
2		55
3		30
4		30
5		50
6		30
7		30
8		25

^aThe observed signal reduction in the spin-echo experiment in samples with Bcl-2 compared to reference samples.