

# STAT3 promotes Programmed-Death Ligand 1 expression suppressing immune responses in breast cancer

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**Table S1.** List of cancer cell lines used in the study.

Cell Line	Tissue	Organism	Disease	Comments
MCF7 <sup>1</sup>	Mammary gland/breast	Human	Adenocarcinoma	Luminal
MDA-MB-231 <sup>1</sup>	Mammary gland/breast	Human	Adenocarcinoma	Triple-negative
BT549 <sup>1</sup>	Mammary gland/breast	Human	Ductal carcinoma	Triple-negative
SKRB3 <sup>2</sup>	Mammary gland/breast	Human	Adenocarcinoma	ER-/PR-/HER2+
4T1 <sup>3</sup>	Mammary gland/breast	Mouse	Animal stage IV human breast cancer	Originated from tumors developed in BALB/cfC3H mouse; highly metastatic; Triple-negative
MAC2A <sup>4</sup>	Lymphoid	Human	Anaplastic large cell lymphoma	ALK - negative
HDLM2 <sup>5</sup>	Lymphoid	Human	Hodgkin lymphoma	-

<sup>1</sup> Purchased from ATCC, USA; <sup>2</sup> A gift from Dan Grander's lab (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden); <sup>3</sup> Purchased from Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University, USA; <sup>4</sup> A gift from Dr. Marshal Kadin (Boston, MA, USA); <sup>5</sup> Purchased from DSMZ, Germany; **Abbreviations:** ER, estrogen receptor; PR, progesterone receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; ALK, Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase.

**Table S2.** List of antibodies used in the study.

Antibody	Cat. no	Species	Company	Method(s)
STAT3	#4904	Rabbit (79D7)	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot
pSTAT3 (Y705)	sc-8059	Mouse (B-7)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Western blot, IHC
pSTAT3 (Y705)	#9145	Rabbit (D3A7)	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot, IHC
PD-L1	#13684	Rabbit (E1L3N)	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot, IHC
PD-L1	#740-4859	Rabbit (clone SP263)	Ventana (Roche)	IHC
b- actin	A5441	Mouse	Sigma-Aldrich	Western blot
Anti-rabbit IgG (HRP-linked)	#7074	Goat	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot

Anti-mouse IgG (HRP- linked)	#7076	Horse	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot
Anti-biotin (HRP- linked)	#7075	Goat	Cell Signaling Technology	Western blot
<b>Antibodies</b>			<b>Company</b>	<b>Method</b>
CD163			Leica	
CD11c				
AlexaFluor 488			Life Technologies	Immunofluorescence
AlexaFluor 546				
DAPI			Invitrogen Corp	
<b>Antibodies</b>			<b>Company</b>	<b>Method</b>
CD11b (M1/70)				
CD45 (30-F11)				
Ly6C (AL-21)				
Ly6G (1A8)				
CD86 (GL1)				
CD11c (HL3)				
CD3 (500A2/145-2c11)				
CD8 (53-6.7)			BD Bioscience	Flow cytometry
CD4 (RM4-5)				
CD69 (H1.2F3)				
CD49b (HM ALPHA2)				
MHC class II (I-A/I-E)				
MHC class I (H-2K(d))				
CD25 (PC61)				
FoxP3 (MF23)				
F4/80 (BM8)				
MRC1 (C068C2)				
CD8a (53-6.7)			BioLegend	Flow cytometry
CD279 (29F.1A12)				
CD274 (10F.9G2)				

**Table S3.** List of primers, siRNA and shRNA target sequences used in the study.

Gene	Sequence (5'- 3')	Company	Method
<i>PD-L1</i> (human)	Forward: CTCCAAATGAAAGGACTCAC Reverse: TCCCTTTTTCTTAAACGGAAG	Sigma-Aldrich	RT-qPCR
<i>b-actin</i> (human)	Forward: GACGACATGGAGAAAATCTG Reverse: ATGATCTGGGTCATCTTCTC	Sigma-Aldrich	RT-qPCR
<i>pd-l1</i> (mouse)	Forward: CAAGTGAGAATGCTAGATGTG Reverse: TCCATCTTGAGTCTTTGGAC	Sigma-Aldrich	RT-qPCR
<i>18S rRNA</i> (mouse)	Forward: TTCCTTACCTGGTTGATCCTGCC Reverse: AGCCATTCGCAGTTTCACTGTAC	Sigma-Aldrich	RT-qPCR
siRNA <i>STAT3</i> (human)	GAGAUUGACCAGCAGUAUA	Dharmacon™ (Lafayette, CO, USA)	Transient transfection
shRNA <i>Stat3</i> (mouse) MISSIO N® Plasmid	NM_011486.3.1238s1c1 CCGGCCTGAGTTGAATTATCAGCTTCTCGAGAAGCTGATAATTCAACT CAGGTTTTTG	Sigma-Aldrich	Lentiviral vector transduction

**Abbreviations:** siRNA, small interfering RNA; shRNA, small hairpin RNA; RT-qPCR, real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction.

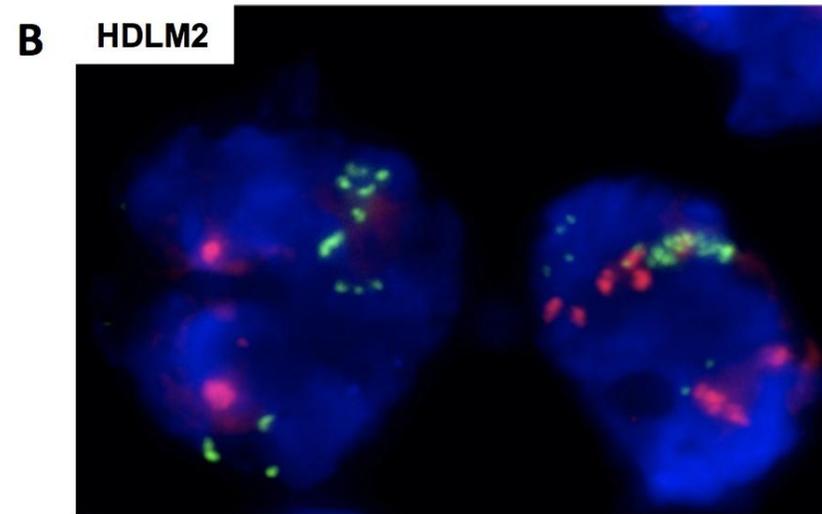
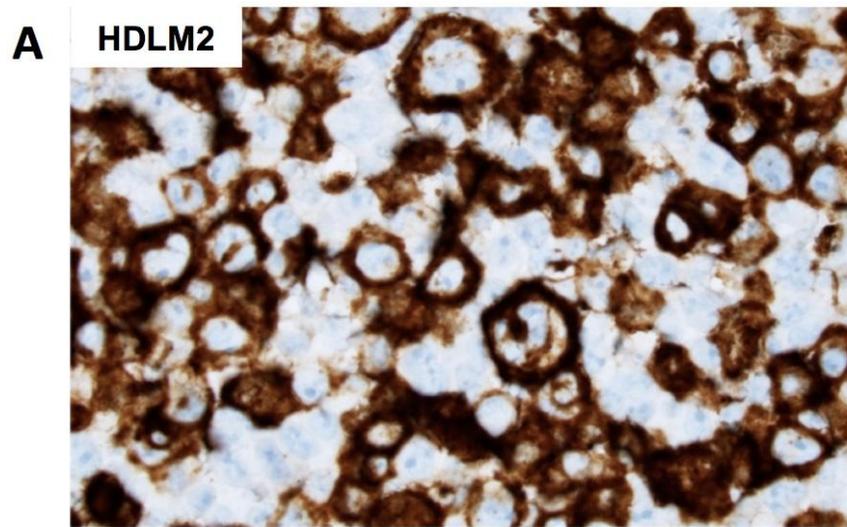
**Table S4.** Correlation of PD-L1 protein expression in tumor, immune and total cells\* with pSTAT3 protein expression in human breast cancer patients. Fisher's exact test was used for the statistical analyses. (\* either tumor or immune cells).

	PD-L1 IHC Expression in Tumor Cells			PD-L1 IHC Expression in Immune Cells			PD-L1 IHC Expression in Total Cells		
	Positive	Negative	<i>p</i> -Value	Positive	Negative	<i>p</i> -Value	Positive	Negative	<i>p</i> -Value
pSTAT3-high (n=41)	22	19	0.66	24	17	0.08	26	15	0.19
pSTAT3-low (n=42)	20	22		16	26		20	22	

**Table S5.** Correlation of PD-L1 protein expression in tumor cells with grade and Ki67 status in human breast cancer patients.

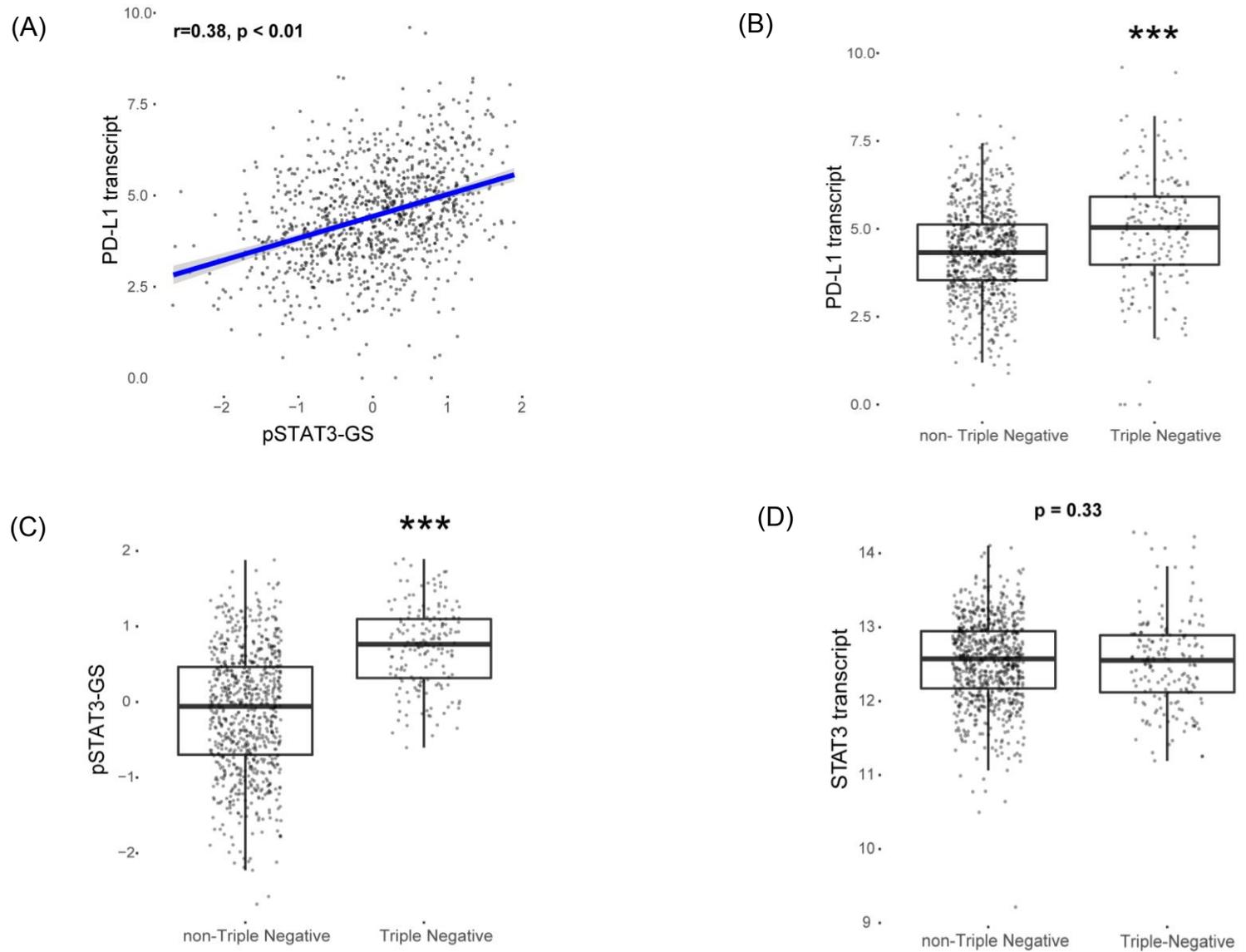
	PD-L1 IHC expression in tumor cells		
	Positive (n=23)	Negative (n=22)	<i>p</i> -value*
Grade 1-2	4	18	1.982e-05
Grade 3	19	4	
Ki67 <16%	2	12	0.00106
Ki67 ≥16%	20	9	

\* Fisher's exact test. For Ki67, there was one patient with unknown status.

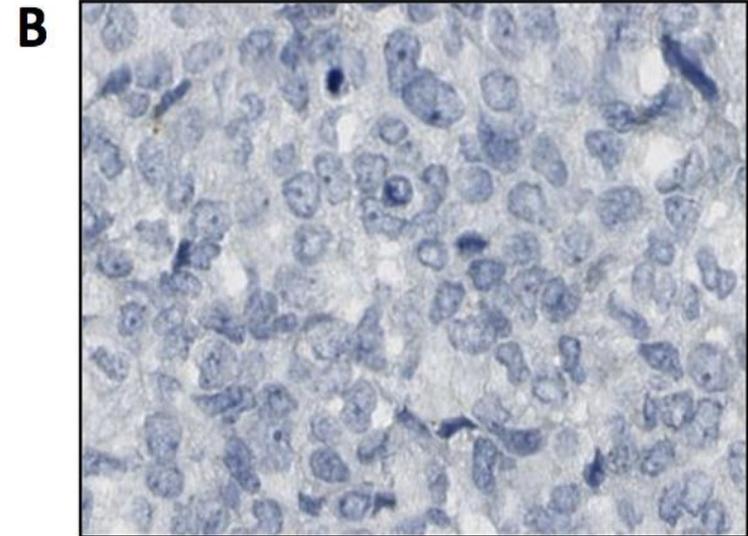
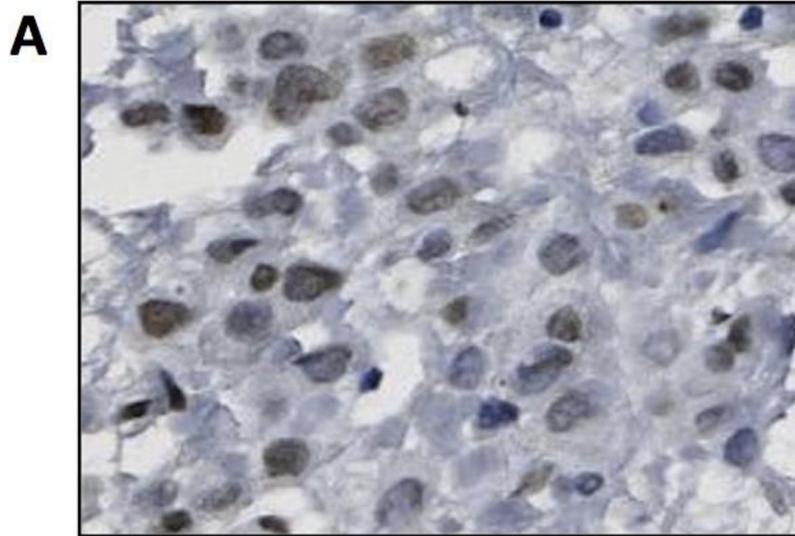


**Figure S1. Expression of PD-L1 and genetic alteration in control cell line.** **A.** High PD-L1 protein expression in immunohistochemistry on sections of FFPE cell pellets of HDLM2 Hodgkin lymphoma cell line (used as positive control). Original magnification: x200. **B.** Fluorescence in situ hybridization analysis for PD-L1 probe performed on HDLM2 cell blocks. The validated probe (green signal) cover the gene locus at 9p24.1. A centromeric chromosome 9 probe (CEN9, red signal) was used as a control. HDLM2 Hodgkin lymphoma cell line was used as positive control *PD-L1* gene amplification. Original magnification: x630.

**Figure S2.** Correlation of PD-L1 transcript with pSTAT3-GS score (A) and expression patterns in TCGA Provisional database. Expression patterns of PD-L1 transcript (B), pYSTAT3-GS score (C) and STAT3 transcript (D) in triple-negative (TN) versus non-TN early breast cancer patients in TCGA Wilcoxon–Mann–Whitney test and Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient were used (\*,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ ).



**Figure S3. Expression of pSTAT3 protein in breast cancer patients.** Immunohistochemical staining for pSTAT3 (Y705) protein was performed in a subset of patients (n=83). Representative photos of A. high pSTAT3 protein expression in tumor cells and B. no pSTAT3 protein expression on whole tissue sections of FFPE breast cancer patient tumors. Original magnification: x400.



**Figure S4.** Correlations of CD163+ cell percentage (A, B) and CD163+ CD11c+ cell percentage (C,D) with tumor grade and proliferation status (Ki67) in human breast cancer patients. Wilcoxon–Mann–Whitney test was used (\*,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ ).

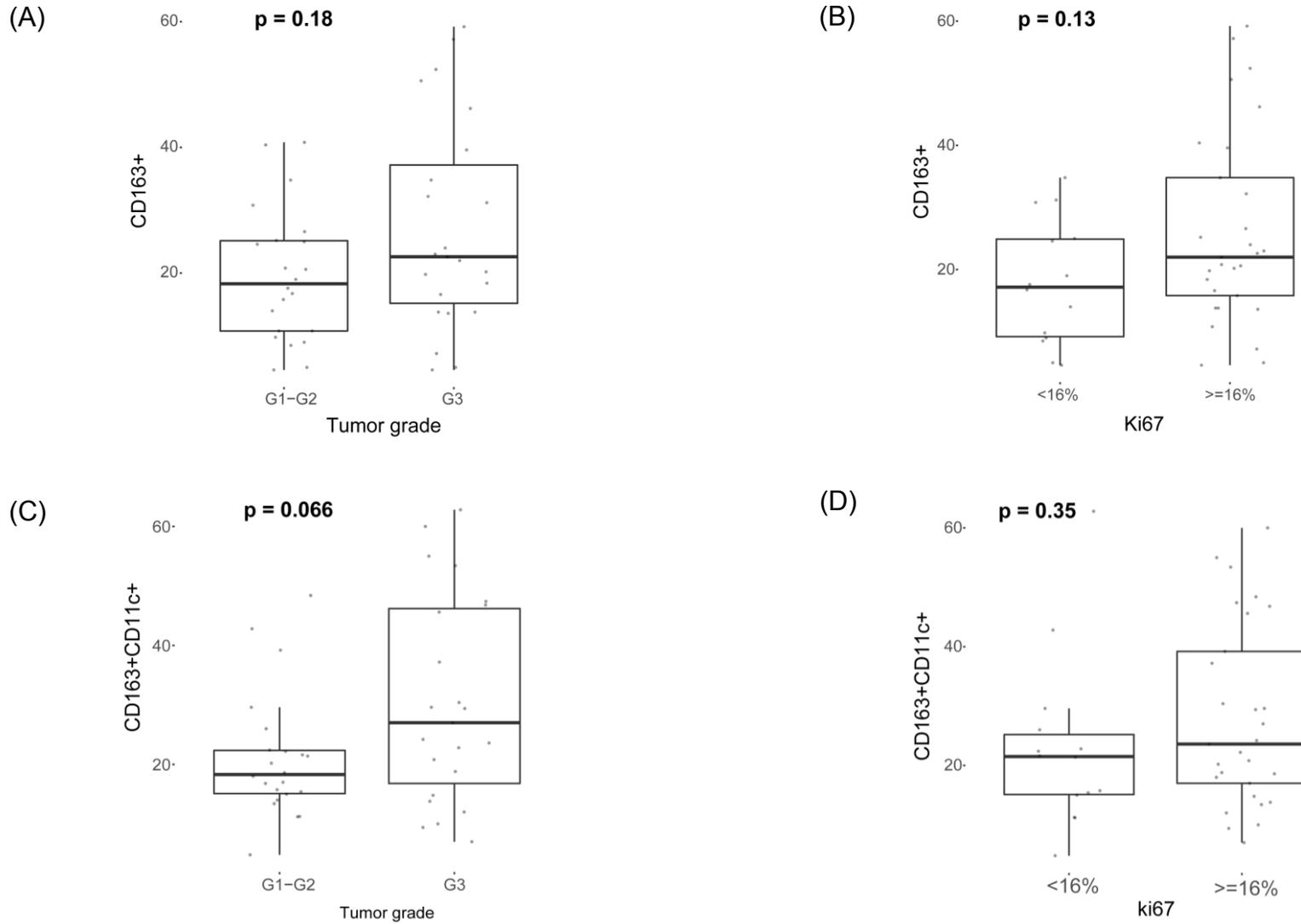


Figure S5. Gating strategies for macrophage panel MHC class II.

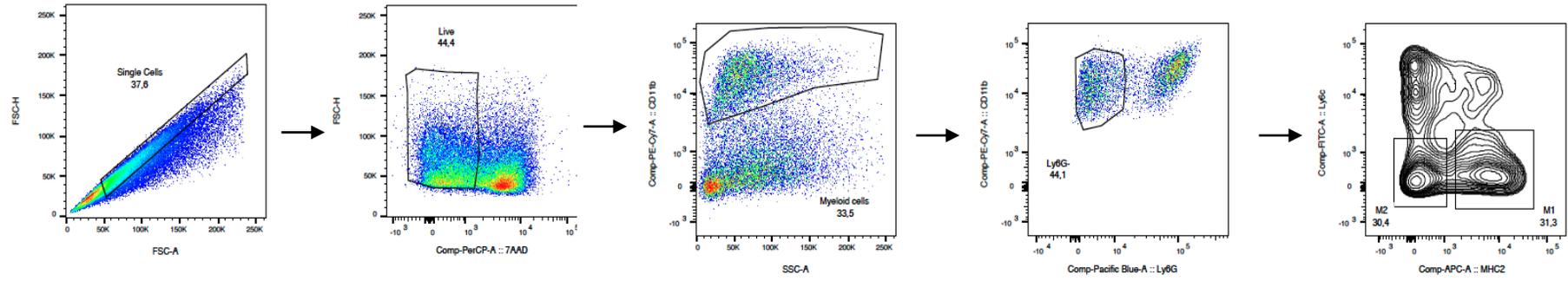
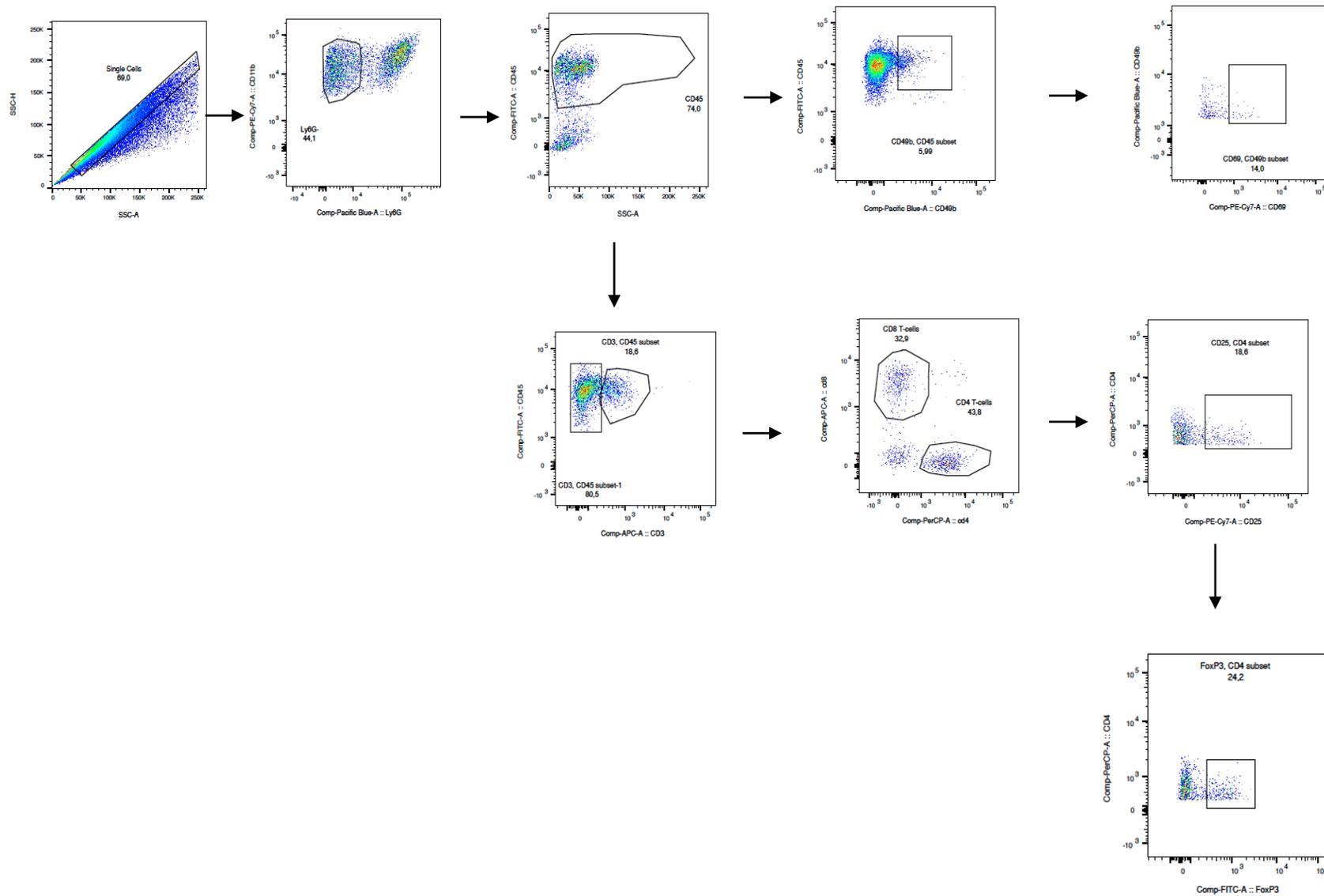
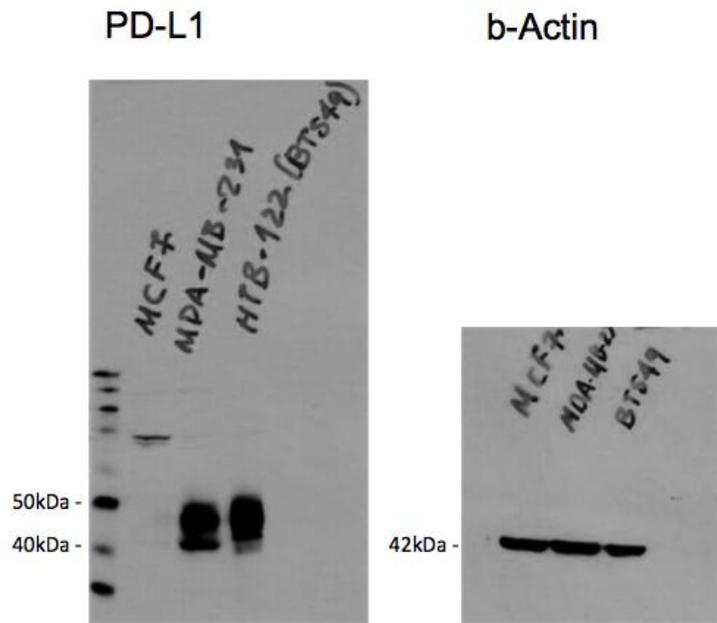


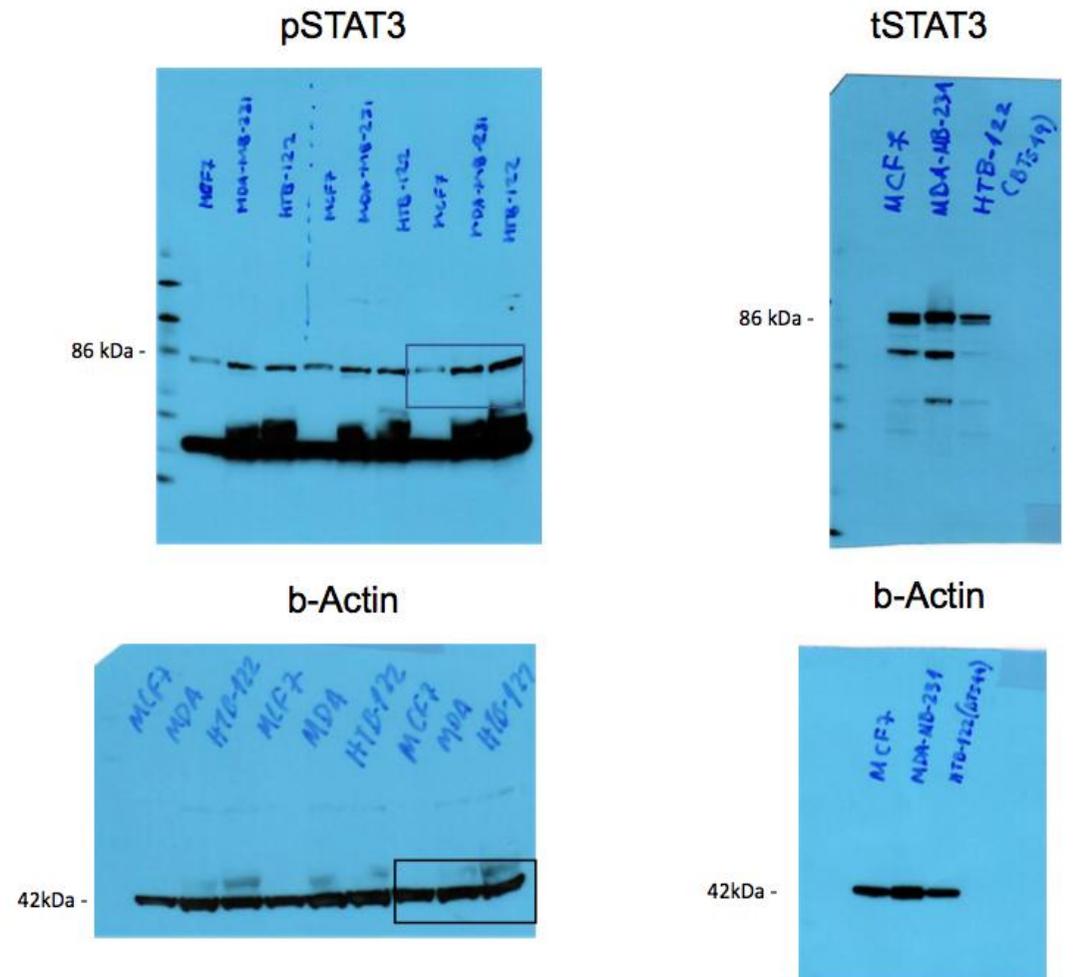
Figure S6. Gating strategies for lymphocytic panel.



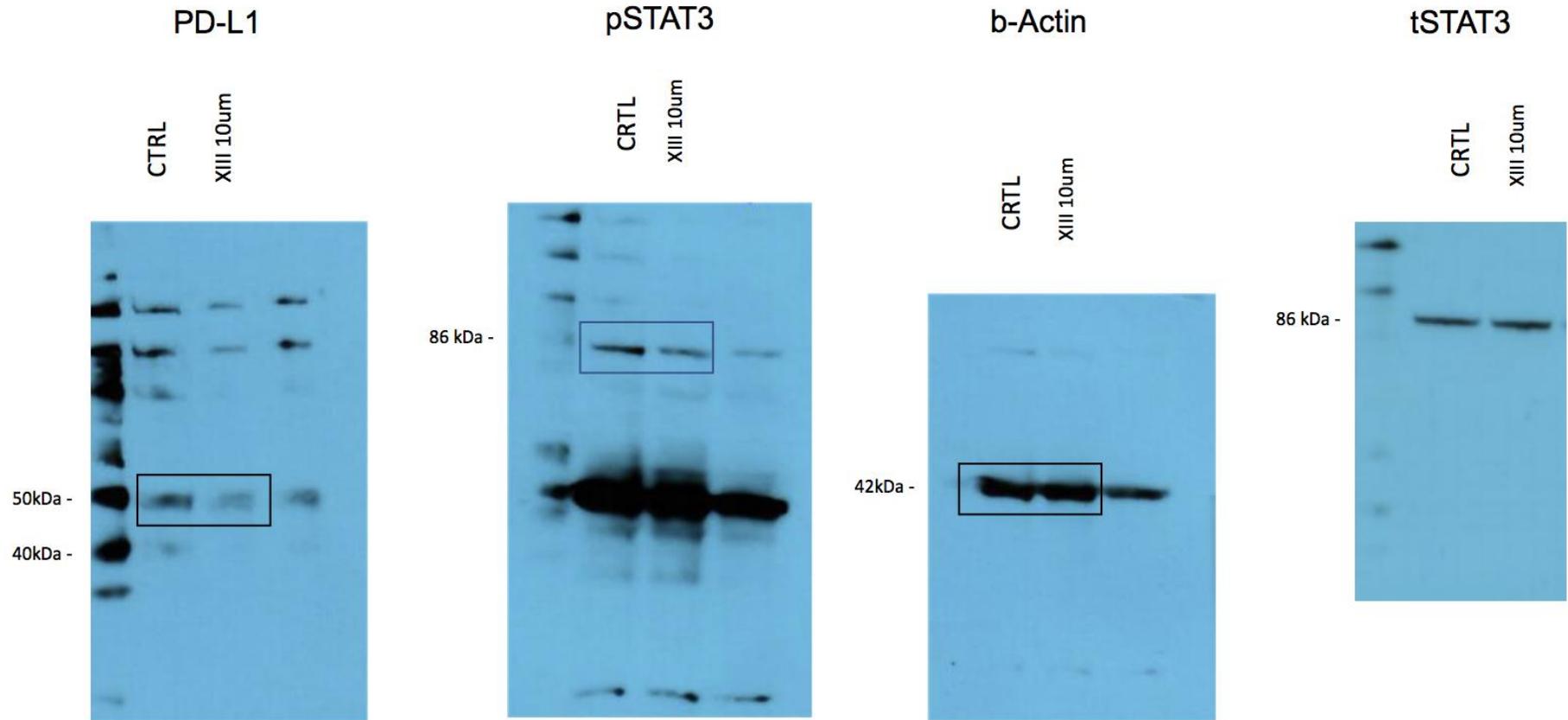
Western blots corresponding to Fig. 1A



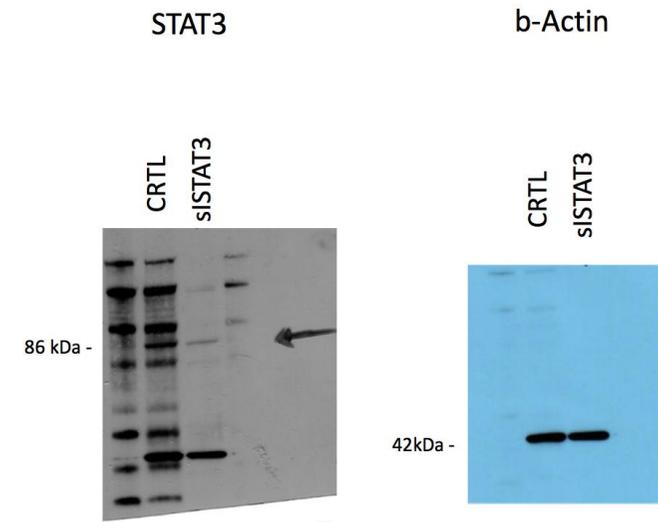
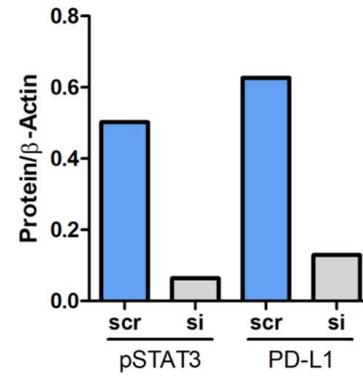
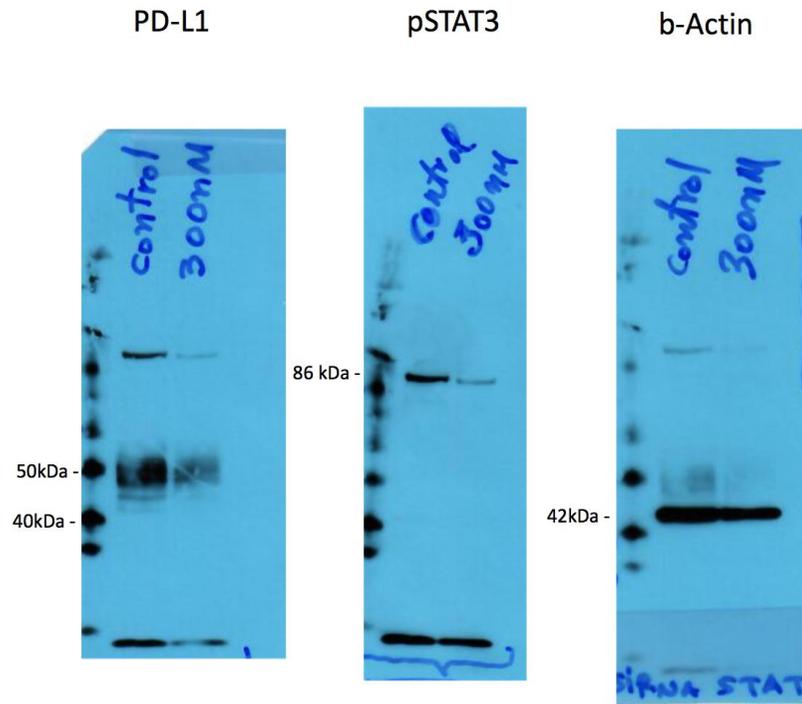
Western blots corresponding to Fig. 1B



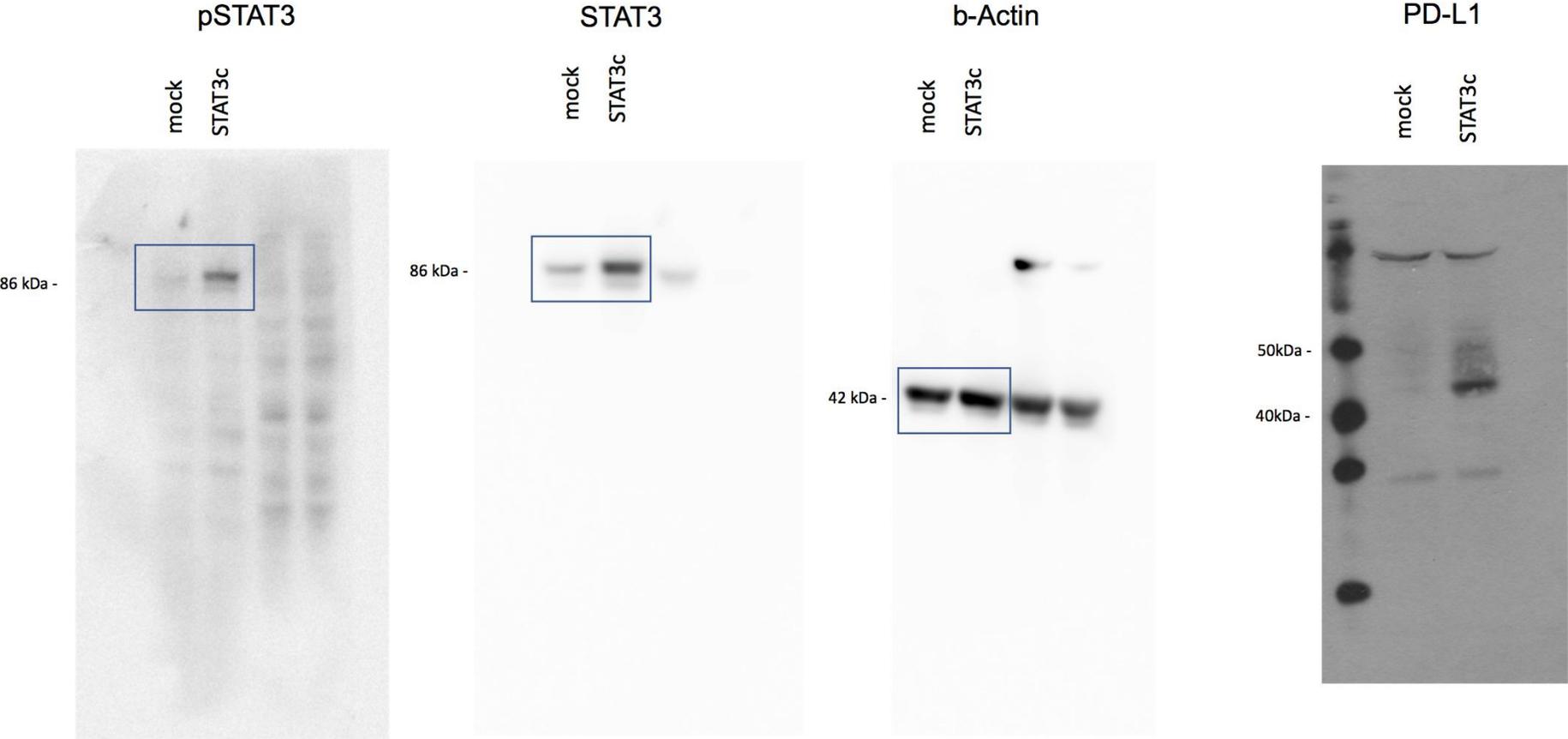
### Western blots corresponding to Fig. 2D



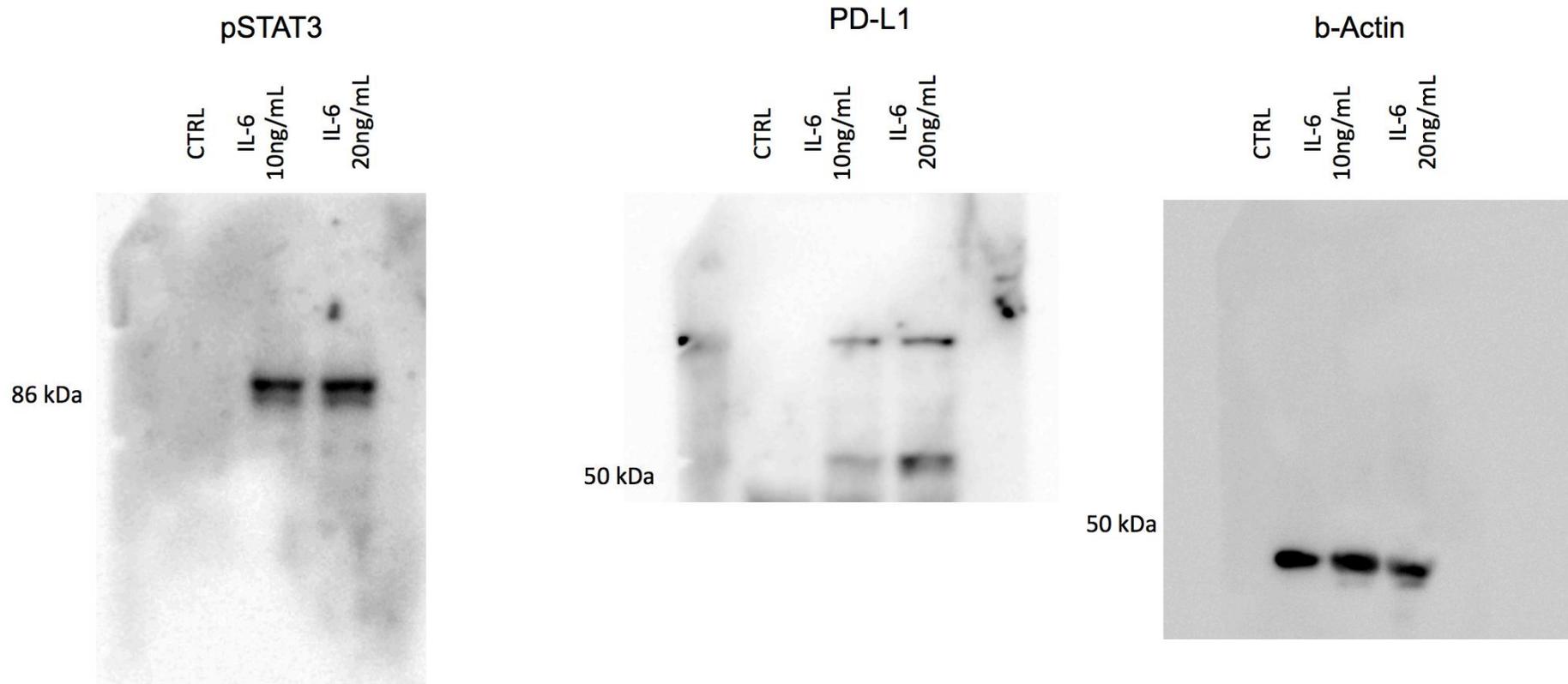
### Western blots corresponding to Fig. 2E



Western blots corresponding to Fig. 2F



**Western blots corresponding to Fig. 2H**



## Western blots corresponding to Fig. 3B

