

Quantitative Proteomic Analysis Shows Involvement of the p38 MAPK Pathway in Bovine Parainfluenza Virus Type 3 Replication

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1 **Quantitative proteomic analysis shows involvement of the p38**
2 **MAPK pathway in bovine parainfluenza virus type 3 replication**

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29 **Abstract**

30 Bovine parainfluenza virus type 3 (BPIV3) infection often causes respiratory tissue damage
31 and immunosuppression and results in bovine respiratory disease complex. Bovine respiratory
32 disease complex is one of the major diseases in dairy cattle and causes huge economical losses
33 every year. The pathogenetic and immunoregulatory mechanisms involved in the process of
34 BPIV3 infection, however, remain unknown. Proteomics is a powerful tool for high-throughput
35 identification of proteins and has been widely used to understand how viruses interact with host
36 cells. In the present study, we report a proteomic analysis to investigate the whole cellular protein
37 alterations of MDBK cells infected with BPIV3. To investigate the invasion process of BPIV3 and
38 the immune response mechanism of MDBK cells, isobaric tags for relative and absolute
39 quantitation analysis (iTRAQ) and Q-Exactive mass spectrometry-based proteomics were
40 performed. The differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) involved in the BPIV3 invasion process
41 in MDBK cells were identified, annotated, and quantitated. A total of 116 proteins, which included
42 74 upregulated proteins and 42 downregulated proteins, were identified as DEPs between the
43 BPIV3-infected and the mock-infected groups. These DEPs included corresponding proteins
44 related to inflammatory response, immune response, and lipid metabolism. These results might
45 provide some insights for understanding the pathogenesis of BPIV3. Fluorescent quantitative PCR
46 and western blotting analysis showed results consistent with those of iTRAQ identification.
47 Interestingly, the upregulated protein MKK3 was associated with the p38 MAPK signaling
48 pathway. The results of proteomics analysis indicated BPIV3 infection could activate the p38
49 MAPK pathway to promote virus replication.

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51 **Keywords:** Bovine parainfluenza virus type 3 (BPIV3); Differentially expressed proteins; p38
52 MAPK signaling pathway; Quantitative proteomics

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67 **Introduction**

68 Bovine parainfluenza virus type 3 (BPIV3) is an enveloped, single-stranded negative-sense
69 RNA virus that belongs to the family Paramyxoviridae, genus Respirovirus[1]. BPIV3 infection
70 results in pneumonia and atypical interstitial pneumonia in cattle and leads to severe secondary
71 bacterial infection and other related clinical symptoms. BPIV3 infection and other viral or
72 bacterial infections often cause bovine respiratory disease complex (BRDC)[2]. The mortality of
73 cattle due to BRDC is up to 35%, which causes huge economic losses in the cattle industry[3] .
74 The genome of BPIV3 contains a single-stranded negative-sense RNA of approximately 15 kb in
75 size and encodes six structural proteins and three nonstructural proteins [4-6]. The structural
76 proteins of BPIV3 include nucleoprotein (N), phosphoprotein (P), large protein (L), matrix protein
77 (M), hemagglutinin-neuraminidase (HN), and the homotrimeric fusion (F), while the accessory
78 nonstructural proteins include C, V, and D proteins. Multiple functions and activities of the
79 structural and accessory proteins have been investigated. For example, the glycoprotein HN binds
80 to the receptor protein on the host cell surface and mediates membrane fusion[7-8]. The M
81 protein is located in the underlayer of the envelope, and is essential in the assembly, replication,
82 and release processes of virus particles. The nonstructural proteins including V protein and C
83 protein are also encoded by the P gene. The V, C, and N proteins together regulate virus
84 replication [9]. Although much progress has been made in understanding the proteins of BPIV3,
85 the pathogenetic and immunoregulatory mechanisms involved in the process of BPIV3 infection
86 remain largely unclear. To investigate the changes in the host physiological system during the
87 process of viral invasion, isobaric tags for relative and absolute quantitation analysis (iTRAQ)
88 mass spectrometry (MS)-based global proteomics profiling was performed.

89 The iTRAQ quantitative proteomics technique has been widely used to study interaction
90 between virus and host based on high sensitivity and quantitation accuracy[10-11]. An et al.
91 used iTRAQ to determine the differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) of transmissible
92 gastroenteritis virus (TGEV)-infected PK-15 cells. The authors identified 60 upregulated and 102
93 downregulated proteins in the TGEV infection process. Their analysis revealed that many
94 upregulated proteins were associated with interferon signaling and that TGEV infection could
95 activate the JAK-STAT1 signaling pathway[12]. Sun et al. used the iTRAQ quantitative
96 proteomics technique to identify proteins associated with porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV)
97 infection in order to provide a scientific basis for the pathogenesis of PEDV [13]. Presently,
98 iTRAQ had become the main quantitative proteomics technology to understand the process of
99 viral infection. In the present study, the DEPs in BPIV3-infected MDBK cells were identified and
100 quantitatively analyzed by using an iTRAQ-based proteomics approach. MDBK cells have been
101 selected for use in many studies[14-15]. MDBK cells are commonly used not only for
102 BPIV3 isolation, propagation and basic research, but also as hosts for many different
103 bovine pathogens, including bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV) and bovine

104 herpesvirus type 1 [16-17].

105 The expression levels of 116 proteins were found to be significantly altered after 24 h of
106 BPIV3 infection. These cellular DEPs were assigned to several biological processes according to
107 bioinformatics analysis. The results of this study provide a global understanding of the host's
108 immune response to BPIV3 infection.

109 **Materials and methods**

110 **Virus infection of MDBK cells**

111 MDBK cells were cultured in DMEM (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium) medium
112 containing 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 100g /ml penicillin and 100g /ml streptomycin. Cell
113 culture conditions at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ in 24h. The BPIV3 DQ strain (GenBank accession no.
114 HQ462571) was isolated and identified in the preventive veterinary laboratory of Heilongjiang
115 Bayi Agricultural University. MDBK cells were transduction with BPIV3 at multiplicity of
116 infection (MOI=1). Uninfected cells were used as mock-infected groups. Each experiment were
117 carried out with three replicates. The cytopathic effect (CPE)was observed and the growth curve
118 of BPIV3 was measured. TCID₅₀ were measured by the Reed-Muench method.

119 **Protein isolation, digestion, and labeling with iTRAQ reagents**

120 All the cells samples, included BPIV3-infected group and control group, were cleaned with
121 cold PBS twice and centrifuged at 1000 g at 4 °C for 10 minutes to harvested cells. Then,
122 collected cells were lysed to extract proteins in the 300 µl SDT (1 mM PMSF, 2 mM EDTA and 10
123 mM DTT). Protein samples of dissolved were harvested with centrifugation at 1 4000 g for 40 min
124 at 4 °C. The concentration of harvested protein supernatant was determined using BCA protein
125 assay. Results showed that 100 µg protein was digested for 8 h at 37 °C using sequencing-grade
126 modified trypsin. The protein samples were labeled by different iTRAQ tags on the basis of
127 iTRAQ Reagent-8plex Multiplex Kit instruction (AB SCIEX). Three mock-infected samples were
128 labeled by iTRAQ 113, iTRAQ 114, and iTRAQ 115, respectively; three BPIV3-infected samples
129 were labeled by iTRAQ 116, iTRAQ 117 and iTRAQ 118, respectively. Then the labeled samples
130 were mixed and dried by using vacuum concentrator.

131 **LC-MS/MS Analysis**

132 The labeled peptide samples were purified and separated by AKTA purification system. The
133 operation methods and solution preparation were performed essentially as described previously
134 [18]. The whole elution process was monitored at 214 nm and collected every minute. Thirty
135 distillates were collected and neutralized in 10 pools and desalinated in a C18 cartridge. After each
136 fraction was vacuum centrifuged, the sample was dissolved in 40 µL 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid and
137 kept frozen at -80 °C for mass spectrometry analysis. Each sample was separated by capillary
138 high-performance liquid chromatography (Thermo scientific EASY column (2cm, 100µm 5µm,

139 C18). The chromatography conditions were as follow: Water with 0.1% formic acid (A) and
140 Acetonitrile with 0.1% formic acid (B) were used as mobile phase. The flow rate was 300 nL per
141 minute and the mobile phase gradient program was used: 0-33 minute, from 0 % to 40%(B);
142 33-34 minute, B from 40 % to 100%(B); 34- 35minute maintained 100% and then back to 40%.
143 Then, proteins were analyzed by using a Q-Exactive mass spectrometry (Thermo Finnigan) at
144 positive ion mode (parameters: mass range: 300-1800m/z; Dynamic exclusion: 40.0 s, MS2
145 Activation Type: HCD, Normalized collision energy: 30eV).

146 **Database search and bioinformatic analysis**

147 MS/MS data were searched against the bovine subset database from the UniProt database
148 (release March 22, 2016, containing 32 015 sequences) and proteins were identified by using
149 Mascot 2.3.02. The peptide for quantification was automatically selected by Paragon™ algorithm
150 to calculate the reporter peak area, error factor (EF) and p-value. The proteins expression levels of
151 BPIV3-infected cells were calculated to compare with those of mock-infected cells. Proteins with
152 fold changes >1.5 and p-values < 0.05 were considered as significantly different expressions. Auto
153 bias-corrected were executed to decrease artificial error. These proteins were further classified
154 using Gene Ontology (GO) and pathway enrichment analysis (<http://www.geneontology.org>).

155 **RNA extraction and real-time PCR analysis**

156 The mRNA level of differentially expressed proteins was analyzed by real-time PCR. Total
157 RNA was extracted from cells of the BPIV3 infected group and the control group using TRIzol
158 reagent(Takara) according to the manufacturer's protocol. The RNA concentration was measured
159 using NanoDropnd-1000. After extracted, 1 µL total RNA was detected using electrophoresis. The
160 cDNAs of these samples were obtained by reverse transcription. Relative quantitative real-time
161 PCR was performed in a 25 µL system that containing 12.5 µL SYBR Premix Ex Taq™ II, 2 µL
162 primers, 2 µL cDNA samples and 8.5µL water. The reaction condition was 95 °C for 10 min, then
163 40 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 57 °C for 30 s and 72 °C for 30 s, Then, the melting curves were
164 obtained. The gene of GADPH was used as the internal reference gene. The data statistic was
165 based on three independent experiments.

166 **Western-blot**

167 MDBK cells were washed two times with PBS and disrupted with lysis buffer (50 mM
168 Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl and 1% Triton X-100, supplemented with 1 tablet of
169 Complete-Mini Protease Inhibitor Cocktail per 50 ml buffer). Cell lysates were centrifugated at
170 12,000 × g for 10 min to harvest supernatants. Protein assays were performed on all supernatants
171 using the Bradford method. For Western blot analysis of whole-cell lysates, samples, each
172 containing 25–30 µg of protein equivalent, were dissociated in SDS-PAGE loading buffer and
173 separated by 12% gradient SDS-PAGE. Proteins were then transferred to a nitrocellulose
174 membrane. After sample separation by electrophoresis, proteins were transferred to an

175 Immobilon-FL membrane (Millipore) via electroblotting. Primary anti-bodies and dilutions
176 including MKK3 (rabbit, Cell Signal Technology5674, Danvers, MA), p38 phosphorylation
177 (p-38) at 1:1000 (mouse, Cell Signal Technology9216, Danvers, MA), p-38 at 1:1000 (rabbit,
178 Cell Signal Technology41666, Danvers, MA), β -actin at 1:10,000 (mouse, Sigma) and were
179 incubated with membrane at 4 °C over-night. As a secondary antibody, anti rabbit
180 immunoglobulin G (Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc.) was applied (1:1000, rabbit or mouse) at
181 room temperature for 1 h. After further washes, the immune complexes were revealed by
182 enhanced chemluminescence using the ECL detection kit (Beijing Biosea Biotechnology Co.,
183 Ltd.).

184 **Indirect immunofluorescent assay (IFA)**

185 The operation methods were performed essentially as described previously [14]. MDBK
186 cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 10 min, permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100
187 for 20 min, blocked with 1% BSA for 2 h, and washed with PBS three times. Cells were incubated
188 with 200 μ L rabbit polyclonal anti-BPIV3 serum (1:100) for 1 h, followed by incubation with 200
189 μ L FITC-conjugated Goat anti-rabbit IgG (1:100) for 1 h at room temperature. The cells were
190 washed extensively with PBS, and 90% glycerol was added to mount cells. Cells were examined
191 and images were captured using fluorescence microscope.

192 **Statistical analysis**

193 Statistical analysis was performed in Microsoft Excel for two-tailed Student's t test or
194 one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the p-values <0.05 were considered statistically
195 significant.

196 **Results**

197 **Detection of the activity of BPIV3 in MDBK cells**

198 In proteomics analysis of virus-infected cells, the optimal sampling time is when the virus
199 replicates quickly and the cells have no significant pathological effect (CPE). To determine the
200 optimal sampling time point for proteomics analysis after BPIV3 infection, MDBK cells were
201 cultured in a monolayer and inoculated with BPIV3. At different time points after inoculation, the
202 cell-virus suspension was harvested at 6, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 60 h, and TCID₅₀ was measured.
203 The growth curve of BPIV3 was plotted according to the results of TCID₅₀. The results showed
204 that BPIV3 proliferated rapidly from 24 to 36 h after infection, indicating active intracellular
205 replication of the virus.

206 Because CPE is caused by intercellular fusion after BPIV3 invades the target cells, MDBK
207 cells were inoculated with BPIV3 at the dose of 1 multiplicity of infection (MOI), and CPE was
208 observed at different time points after infection. The results showed that lesions began to appear
209 12 h after BPIV3 infected the cells, and the lesions became more apparent with time (Fig. 1). After

210 36 h, 80% of the cells showed typical lesions. According to the post-infection cytopathic
 211 conditions combined with virus proliferation, cells infected at 24 h were used as the time point for
 212 proteomics analysis.

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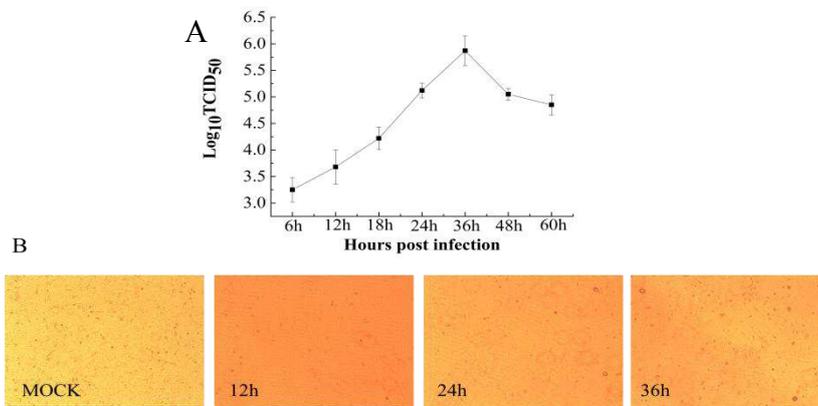
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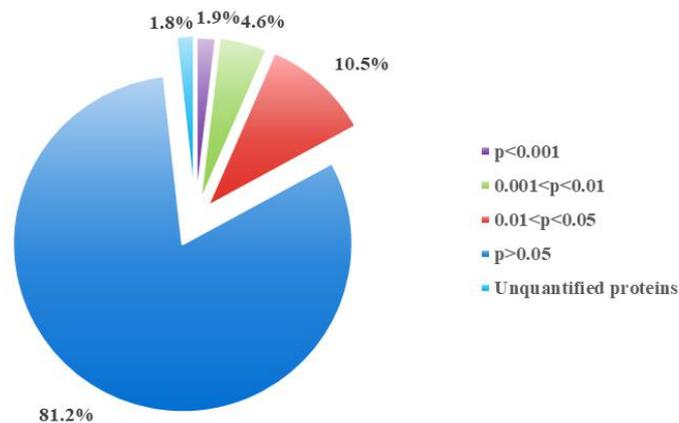
222 Fig. 1 Kinetic analysis of BPIV3 replication in MDBK cells (A) The growth curve of BPIV3; (B)

223 The cytopathic effect of BPIV3.

224 **Protein profiling and iTRAQ quantification**

225 The collected protein samples of BPIV3-infected and mock-infected MDBK cells were
 226 labeled with iTRAQ reagent in three biological repetitions. The quantitative information of the
 227 two experimental group ratios (ratio [infection/control]) was obtained by integrating the peptide
 228 segment information of three biological duplicates in the mock-infected group (control) and the
 229 BPIV3-infected group (infection).

230 The changes in the protein expression level between the two groups were analyzed based on
 231 statistical significance. A total of 2804 proteins were detected and quantified by LC-MS/MS.
 232 Among these proteins, 74 proteins were significantly upregulated and 42 proteins were markedly
 233 downregulated according to the change ratio of ≥ 1.5 for the proteins and significant differences at
 234 $P < 0.05$ (Fig. 2). The most significantly upregulated protein among the DEPs was vesicle-related
 235 membrane protein, which is related to autophagy. The most significantly downregulated protein
 236 was the integrin complement protein, which is a receptor protein of viral infection.



237

238 Fig. 2 The quantitation and significance of the 2804 identified proteins from BPIV3-infected and
 239 mock-infected groups.

240 **GO annotations of the DEPs**

241 The results of the GO enrichment analysis of the biological process showed that the DEPs
 242 were significantly enriched in five processes. These processes included single organism process,
 243 response to a stimulus, metabolic process, cell process, and biological regulation. The proteins
 244 involved in the biological regulation process were found most, followed by those involved in the
 245 stimulation response process. In this study, the proteins involved in the stimulation response
 246 process mainly included tyrosine phosphatase, signal transduction protein 1 , Rab5 GDP/GTP
 247 conversion factor 1 , interleukin-13 (IL-13), mitogen-activated protein kinase 7 (MAPK7), FOX
 248 transcription inhibitory factor 3(Foxp3) , calcium phosphate, protein tyrosine phosphatase protein
 249 receptor , MAP3K10, human telomerase reverse transcriptase , and SSNA1. IL-13 is the most
 250 important inflammatory factor that causes airway inflammation. It plays a key role in the
 251 occurrence of chronic airway inflammatory disease, which induces high secretion of mucus.
 252 Foxp3 is a member of the Fox transcription factor family that plays an important role in
 253 maintaining the immune function of the body [19]. The DEPs in BPIV3-infected MDBK cells
 254 may cause the initial cellular stress response. The precise role of these DEPs in the BPIV3
 255 infection process need to be further investigated.

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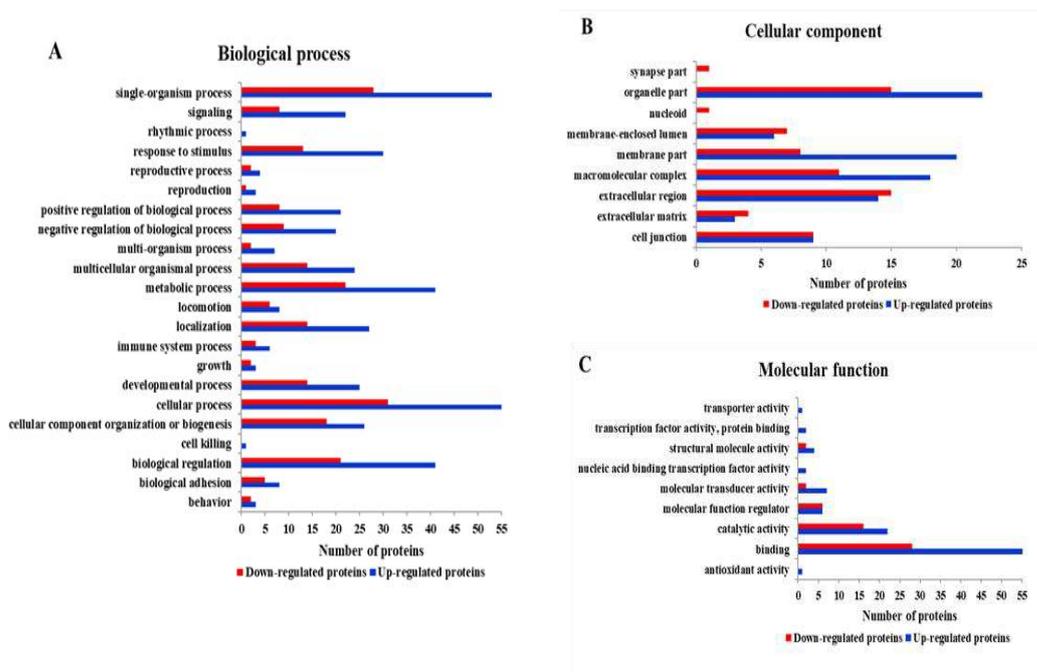
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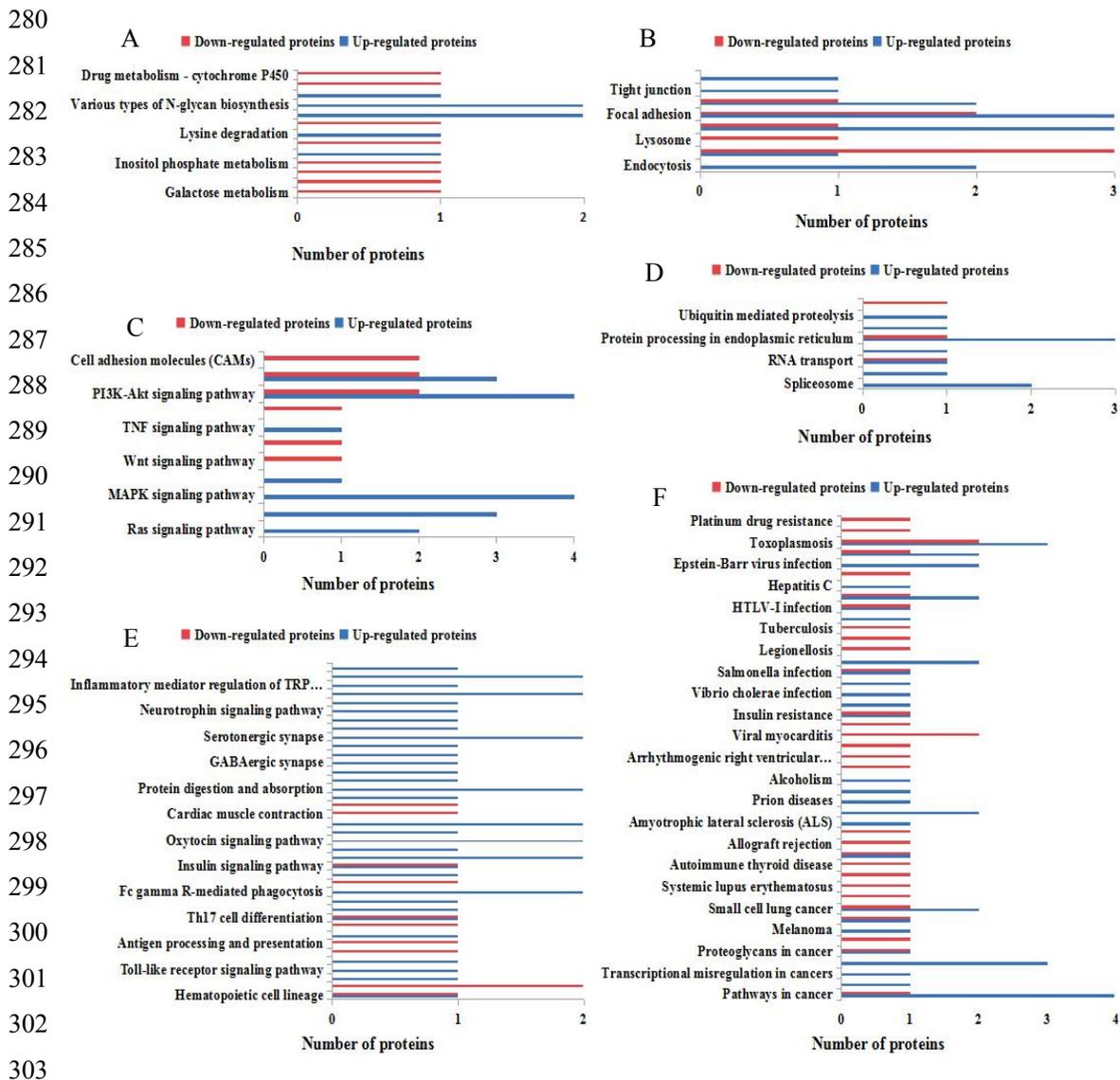
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270 Fig. 3 The Gene Ontology (GO) categories of the differentially expressed proteins. (A) Biological
 271 process GO categories; (B) cellular component GO categories; (C)molecular functions GO
 272 categories.

273 **Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway analysis of the DEPs**

274 The KEGG pathway database is a collection map based on the molecular interaction
 275 pathways and cellular response networks. The DEPs were identified and mapped to six KEGG
 276 pathways, including metabolism, cellular processes, organismal systems, environmental
 277 information process, genetic information process, and disease pathways. The organismal systems
 278 and disease pathways were enrichment pathways, represented by 37 and 43 pathway groups,
 279 respectively.



304 Fig.4 Analysis of the KEGG pathway of the differentially expressed proteins. (A) genetic
 305 information processing (B) Metabolism; (C) environmental information processing; (D) cellular
 306 processes; (E) organismal systems; (F) diseases.

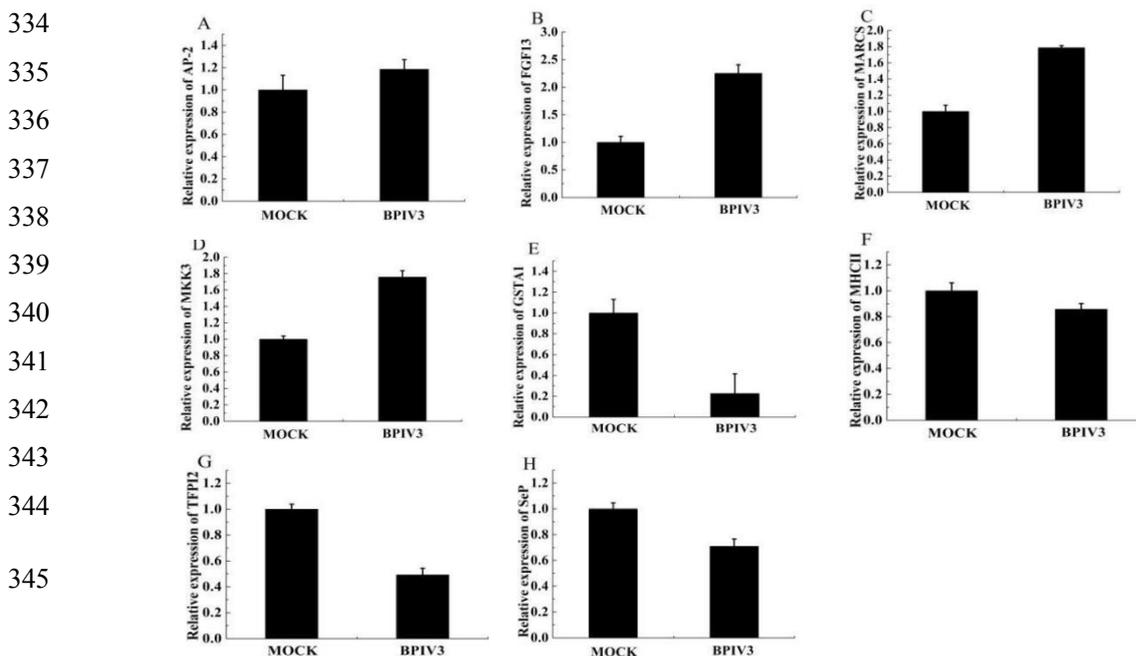
307 In the metabolic pathways, the DEPs participated in 13 pathways related to the metabolism of
 308 glucose, lipid, amino acid, and nucleotides (Fig 4-A). These pathways affect the metabolism of
 309 three major nutrients in cells. The cellular processes involved ten pathways (Fig 4-B), including

310 the Focal adhesion pathway and the Phagosome pathway, both of which are involved in the viral
 311 infection process; the integrin protein is the key protein in these two pathways. The lysosome
 312 pathway, phagosome pathway, and autophagy are involved in the autophagy process of virus
 313 infection. The annotated proteins in the category of genetic information processing play a role in
 314 the synthesis, transport, proteolysis, and spliceosome of cells (Fig.4-D). The annotated proteins in
 315 the organismal systems category were related to antigen processing and presentation, NOD-like
 316 receptor signaling, Toll-like receptor signaling, complement and coagulation cascades, and Th1
 317 and Th2 cell differentiation pathway groups. These pathways were primarily related to the
 318 immune response of the host to virus infection (Fig.4-E). The DEPs annotated in the disease
 319 category are shown in Fig.4-F. There are ten pathways associated with infectious diseases, five of
 320 which are associated with viral infections.

321 According to the profiling of DEPs, a relatively large number of proteins matched with the
 322 MAPK signaling pathway, including FGF13, ERK5, and MKK3. The KEGG pathway analysis
 323 revealed that MKK3 is involved in 14 pathways, indicating that MKK3 is a key regulatory protein
 324 during BPIV3 infection of MDBK cells (Fig. 4-C).

325 Validation of the selected proteins by real-time quantitative PCR (qRT-PCR)

326 To verify the DEPs identified by iTRAQ, the transcriptional levels of eight proteins were
 327 measured by qRT-PCR. In this study, eight proteins were randomly selected for qRT-PCR. The
 328 four upregulated proteins included AP-2 complex subunit beta protein (AP-2), FGF13,
 329 myristoylated alanine-rich C-kinase substrate (MARCS), and MKK3 proteins. The four
 330 downregulated proteins included MHC class II (MHCII), glutathione S-transferase (GSTA1),
 331 selenium protein P (SepP), and tissue factor pathway inhibitor (TFPI). As shown in Fig.5, the
 332 expression levels of these genes were consistent with the iTRAQ results. The results of qRT-PCR
 333 further verified the reliability of the iTRAQ experiment.



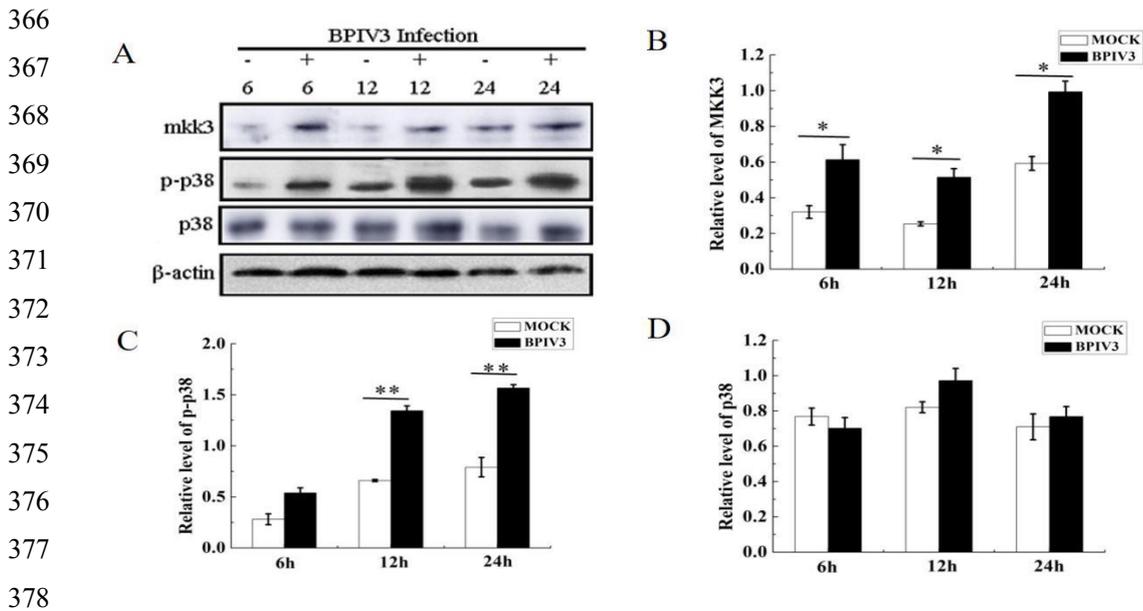
346 Fig.5 Expression profiles of the 8 differential expression genes by qRT-PCR. (A).Relative
 347 expression of AP-2; (B) Relative expression of FGF13; (C) Relative expression of MARCS; (D)
 348 Relative expression of MKK3; (E) Relative expression of GSTA1; (F) Relative expression of
 349 MHCII; (G) Relative expression of TFPI2; (H) Relative expression of SepP.

350 **The effect of the p38 MAPK pathway on BPIV3 replication**

351 **BPIV3 infection activates the p38 MAPK pathway**

352 The MAPK pathway plays various roles in intracellular signaling network. MKK3 and
 353 MKK6 are recognized as upstream kinases of p38. The results of proteomics analysis showed that
 354 the MKK3 level was significantly upregulated after BPIV3 infection (Fig. 4C). Virus infection is
 355 considered as an extracellular stimulant that can activate p38 MAPK pathway[20-21]. It should
 356 be investigated whether BPIV3 infection activated the p38 MAPK pathway after MKK3
 357 activation.

358 The expression of MKK3, p38, and phospho-p38 in BPIV3-infected cells was detected by
 359 western blotting assay. Cell samples were collected at 6, 12, and 24 h after BPIV3 infection.
 360 Compared to the mock group, the MKK3 expression levels were increased at different infection
 361 time points in the infected group. No change was observed in the p38 protein expression level,
 362 while the phospho-p38 expression level was significantly higher in the infected group than in the
 363 mock group at 12 and 24 h after BPIV3 infection (Fig. 6). Thus, BPIV3 infection induced MKK3
 364 activation and p38 phosphorylation. The MKK3 expression level was consistent with previous
 365 proteomics results, which further verified the reliability of proteomics analysis.



379 Fig.6 Effect of the BPIV3 infection on the protein expression in p38 MAPK pathway. (A) The
 380 protein expression in p38 MAPK pathway by Western blot; (B) Expression of MKK3; (C)
 381 Expression of p-p38; (D) Expression of p38. *($P < 0.05$), ** ($P < 0.01$)

382 **The effect of inhibiting p38 MAPK activation on BPIV3 replication**

383 To investigate whether the activation of the p38 MAPK pathway promotes BPIV3
 384 proliferation, the cells were treated with SB202190, an inhibitor of the p38 MAPK pathway, 1 h
 385 before infection. MDBK cells were treated with SB202190 at 1.25, 5, and 10 M concentrations.
 386 Cell samples were collected at 24 h after infection (MOI = 1).

387 The results are shown in Fig. 7. BPIV3 infection induced the phosphorylation of p38. After
 388 treatment with the inhibitor SB202190, the expression level of p38 was significantly decreased in
 389 a dose-dependent manner, indicating that the phosphorylation of p38 was inhibited by
 390 SB202190(Fig.7-A). The immunofluorescence analysis (IFA) results showed that BPIV3
 391 replication could be inhibited by SB202190 in a dose-dependent manner (Fig. 7-B). The results
 392 are shown in Fig. 7C. The BPIV3 virus titer decreased by 1.8 logTCID₅₀/mL after treatment with
 393 10 M SB202190, indicating that the p38 MAPK pathway participates in the replication of BPIV3.
 394 The results showed that SB202190 could inhibit the proliferation of BPIV3. Thus, BPIV3
 395 activated the p38 MAPK signaling pathway that is involved in its replication.

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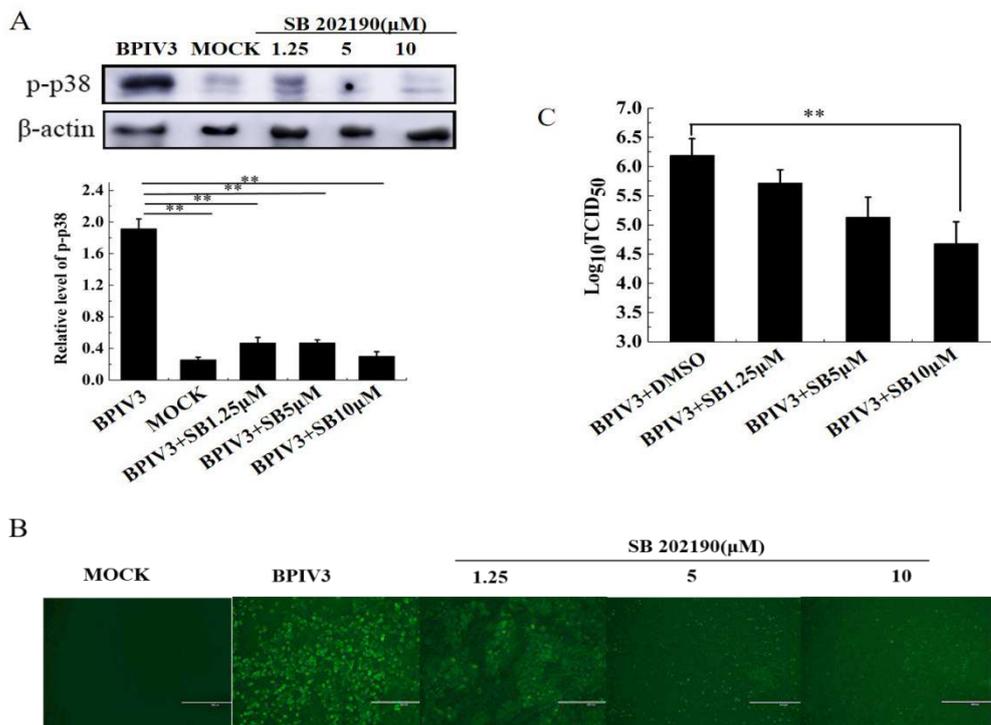
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414 Fig.7 Effect of SB202190 on Bpiv3 replication(A) SB202190 impact on p38MAPK
 415 phosphorylation; (B) SB202190 impact on Bpiv3 infection (×100);(C)SB202190 impact on Bpiv3
 416 TCID₅₀.** (P < 0.01)

417 **Discussion**

418 iTRAQ LC-MS/MS is a powerful analytical tool for quantitative proteomics analysis that has

419 been widely used in many studies [22-25]. Gray et.al used 2D gel electrophoresis
420 proteomic to investigate in vitro cellular responses during BPIV3 infection[26]. In the
421 present study, we first applied the iTRAQ LC-MS/MS approach to determine the profiles of DEPs
422 in MDBK cells infected with BPIV3 at various time points of infection. A total of 116 DEPs were
423 identified at 24 h after infection based on a fold change of ≥ 1.5 and p-value < 0.05 (data not
424 show). On the basis of GO analysis, the DEPs were classified into 19, 11, and 9 categories for
425 biological processes, cellular components, and molecular functions, respectively (Fig. 3). The
426 pathway analysis identified the pathways based on the number of DEPs (Fig. 4). These data could
427 provide a basis for understanding the pathogenetic mechanisms of BPIV3 infection.

428 The results showed that the PI3K-Akt signaling pathway and the MAPK signaling pathway
429 play important roles in the progression of BPIV3 infection. According to the profiles of DEPs in
430 these two signaling pathways, only ITGB3 was downregulated, while the remaining proteins were
431 upregulated. The analysis of the DEPs in these pathways showed that the number of matched
432 proteins in the MAPK signaling pathway was relatively large, including FGF13, ERK5, and
433 MKK3. The KEGG pathway results indicated that MKK3 was involved in 14 pathways, which
434 suggested that MKK3 is a key regulatory protein during BPIV3 infection. Previous studies have
435 shown that the MAPK signaling pathway is a target of respiratory viruses, which regulates various
436 stages of the infection process [27-28].

437 The MAPK cascade plays various roles in intracellular signaling network pathways. MKK3
438 and MKK6 are recognized as upstream kinases of p38 that can directly phosphorylate tyrosine and
439 serine/threonine residues to activate p38 [29]. Viral infection is thought to be an extracellular
440 stimulant that activates this pathway. In infectious salmon anemia virus (ISAV) infection,
441 immunohistochemical detection showed that the phosphorylation level of p-ERK1/p-p38 in the
442 lungs of sheep infected with JSRV was significantly increased compared to that in healthy
443 sheep[30]. In HBV-infected HuH-7 cells, the results showed that HBV replication activated JNK
444 and p38[31]. In our proteomics study, the MKK3 level was significantly upregulated 24 h after
445 BPIV3 infection as compared to that in the control group. Therefore, we detected the expression
446 level of the p38 MAPK pathway proteins after BPIV3 infection.

447 First, we investigated whether BPIV3 infection activates the p38 MAPK pathway. The results
448 showed that BPIV3 induces the phosphorylation of p38 after infection. Compared to the control
449 group, the phosphorylated p38 expression was significantly increased after 6 h of BPIV3 infection,
450 demonstrating that BPIV3 can induce the activation of the p38 MAPK pathway in the early stage
451 of infection.

452 Multiple extracellular stresses activate the MKK3-p38 MAPK cascade, including specific
453 antigens, proinflammatory cytokines, ultraviolet light, heat shock, and other stress responses[32].
454 In accordance with the results of the mechanism of Coxsackie virus activation of p38 MAPK, we
455 hypothesized that in the early stage of infection[33], the binding of BPIV3 HN protein to the
456 receptor on the surface of the cell membrane induced membrane fusion, and the cascade reaction

457 of MKK3-p38 MAPK was temporarily activated. The progression of BPIV3 infection was
458 gradually prolonged, and the phosphorylation of p38 MAPK was significantly increased 24 h after
459 infection. In the late stage of infection, p38 was still continuously activated, which was speculated
460 to be due to the release of proinflammatory cytokines induced by BPIV3 infection; the release of
461 proinflammatory cytokines into the extracellular domain bound to the receptor further enhanced
462 the activation of the p38 MAPK pathway[34-35].

463 Many studies have shown that p38 is required for the replication of viruses. The activation of
464 the MAPK pathways by viruses such as stimulates the JNK and p38 MAPK pathways to promote
465 the release of virions [33]. In porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus infection, the
466 virus replication was inhibited after inhibition of the JNK and p38 pathways[36]. The same results
467 were noted in PEDV infection [37]. To detect the role of the p38 MAPK pathway in BPIV3
468 replication, virus titer and CPE were analyzed. The results showed that the inhibitor SB202190
469 significantly inhibited virus replication in a dose-dependent manner. It was also found that p38
470 expression was inhibited after treatment with SB202190. Compared with the untreated group,
471 virus titer was significantly decreased after treatment of the cells with the inhibitor. The inhibitor
472 also showed a significant inhibitory effect on virus-induced CPE in a dose-dependent manner.
473 These results revealed that the activation of the p38 MAPK pathway facilitated replication of
474 BPIV3.

475 In this study, DEPs in BPIV3-infected MDBK cells were identified and quantitatively
476 analyzed by iTRAQ and LC-MS-based proteomics analysis. Most of the DEPs were proteins
477 related to inflammatory response, immune response, and lipid metabolism. Although many
478 significantly up- or downregulated proteins and pathways are closely related to the symptoms or
479 pathological responses to BPIV3 infection, further functional investigations are required to
480 understand the pathogenic mechanisms and molecular responses of host cells to BPIV3 infection.

481 The results of the present study indicated that BPIV3 infection activates the p38 MAPK
482 pathway, which is essential for its replication. Proteomics and western blot analyses showed that
483 BPIV3 infection activated the p38 MAPK signaling pathway. Our future research will focus on
484 which step of virus replication is affected by p38 activation.

485 **Conflicts of interest**

486 None.

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Figures

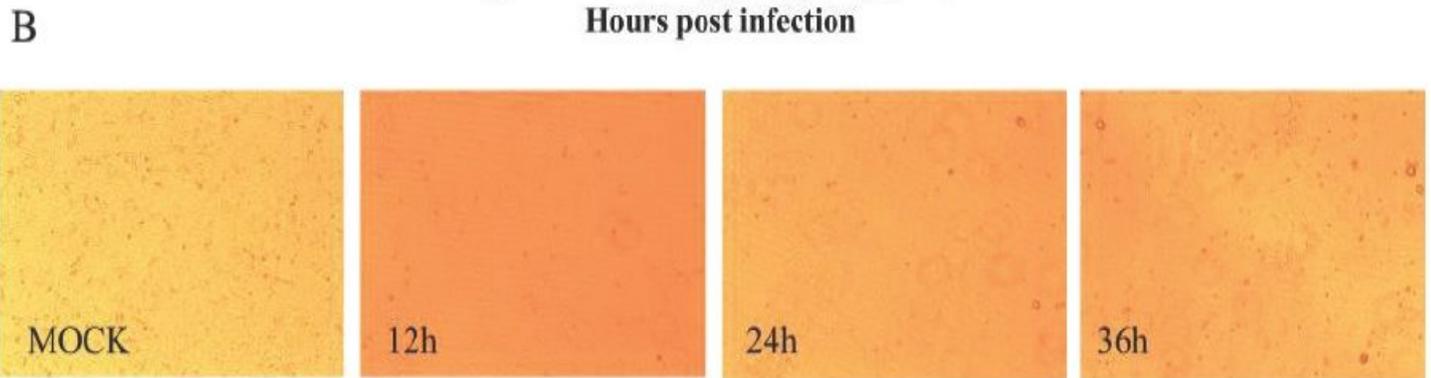
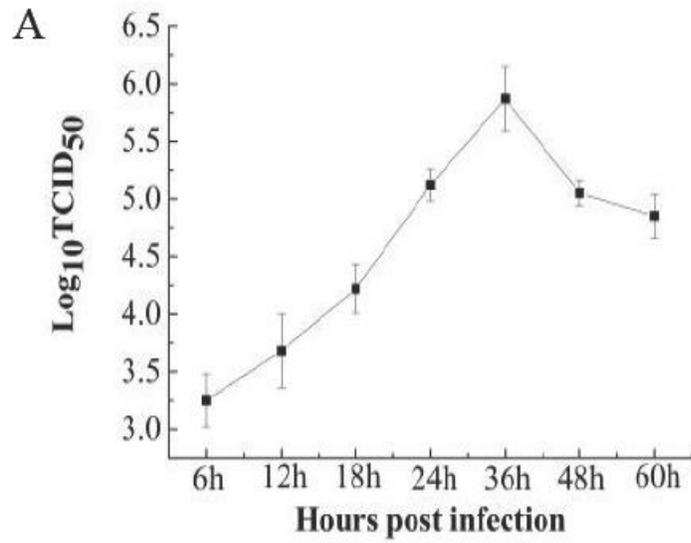


Figure 1

Kinetic analysis of BPIV3 replication in MDBK cells (A) The growth curve of BPIV3; (B) The cytopathic effect of BPIV3.

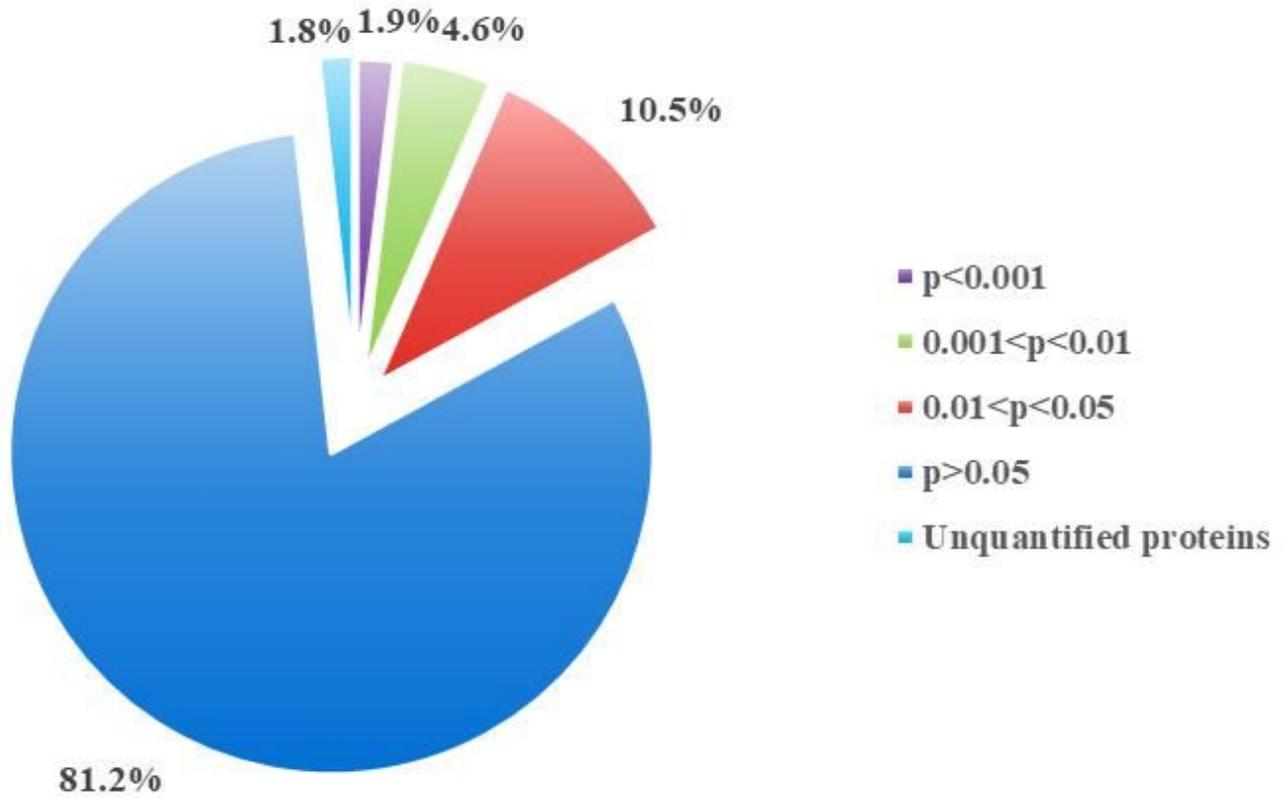


Figure 2

The quantitation and significance of the 2804 identified proteins from BPIV3-infected and mock-infected groups.

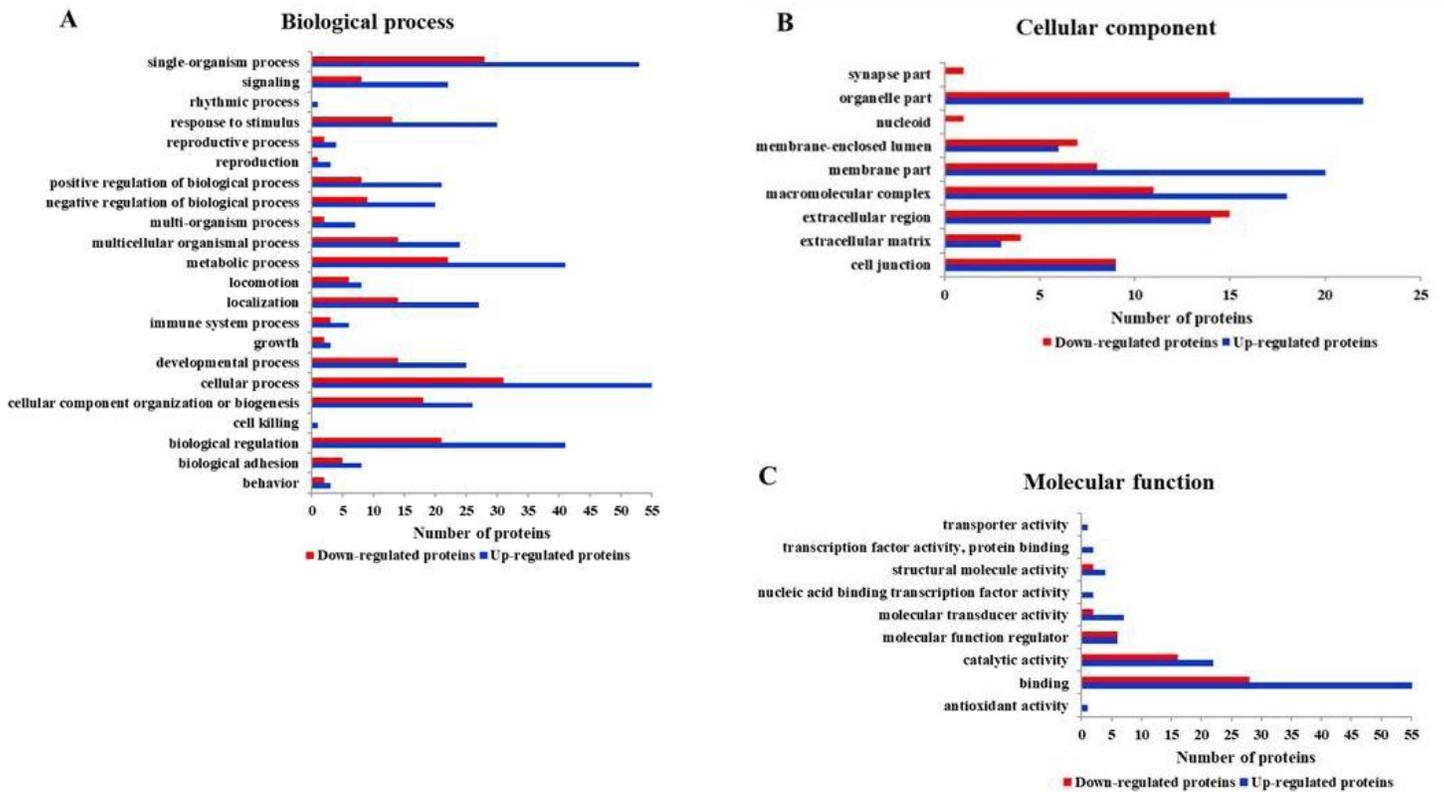


Figure 3

The Gene Ontology (GO) categories of the differentially expressed proteins. (A) Biological process GO categories; (B) cellular component GO categories; (C) molecular functions GO categories.

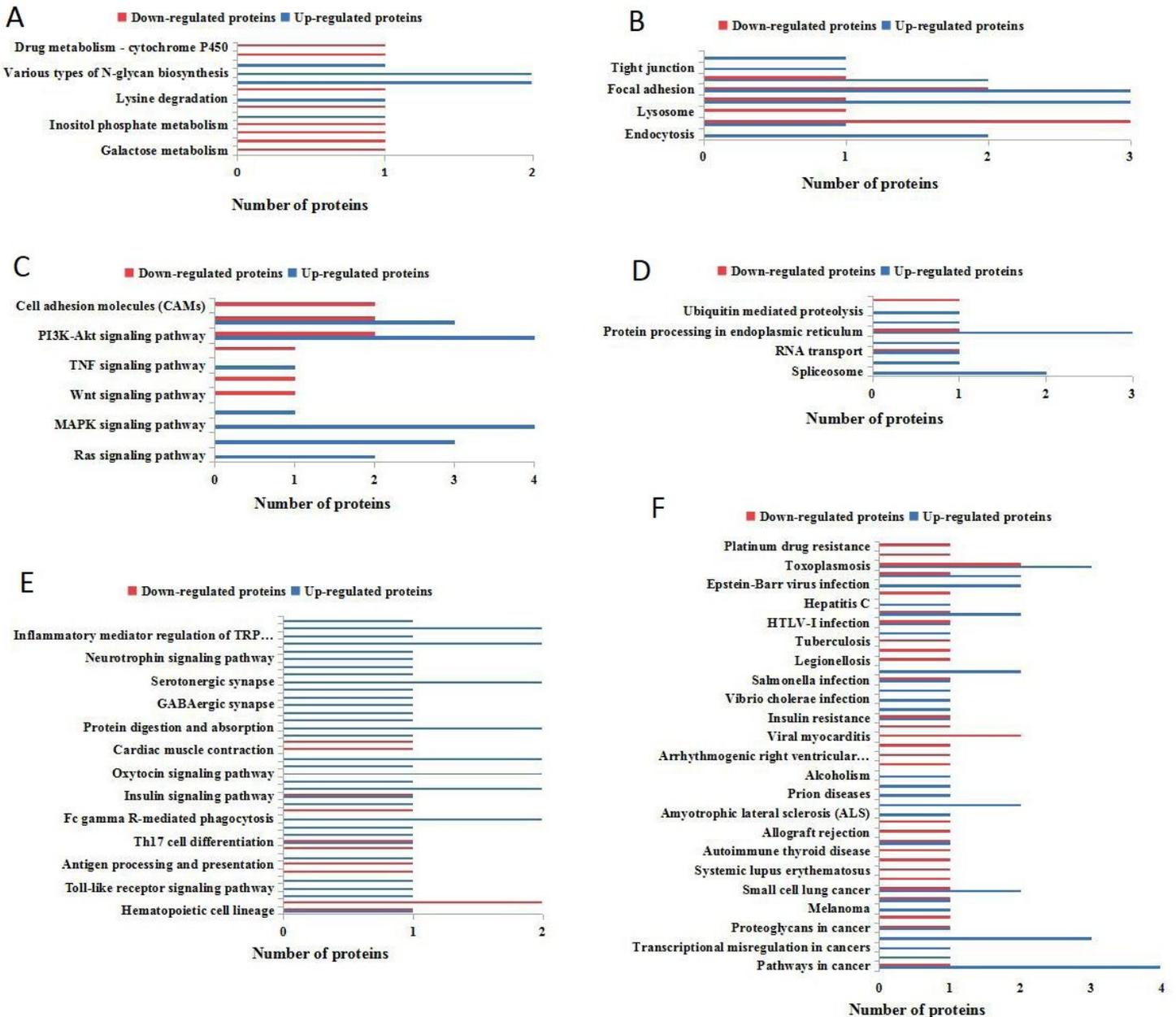


Figure 4

Analysis of the KEGG pathway of the differentially expressed proteins. (A) genetic information processing (B) Metabolism; (C) environmental information processing; (D) cellular processes; (E) organismal systems; (F) diseases.

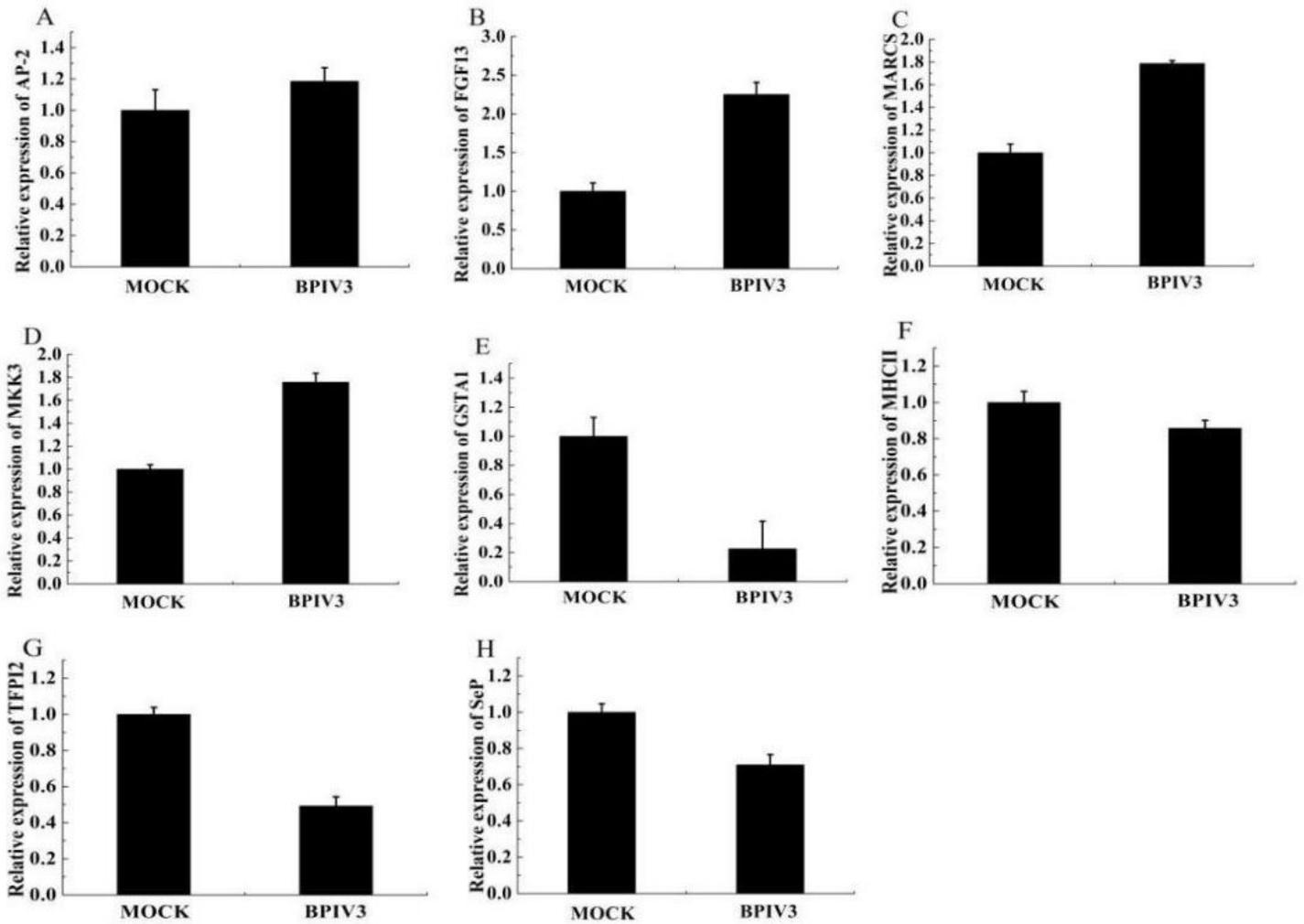


Figure 5

Expression profiles of the 8 differential expression genes by qRT-PCR. (A).Relative expression of AP-2; (B) Relative expression of FGF13; (C) Relative expression of MARCS; (D) Relative expression of MKK3; (E) Relative expression of GSTA1; (F) Relative expression of MHCII; (G) Relative expression of TFPI2; (H) Relative expression of SepP.

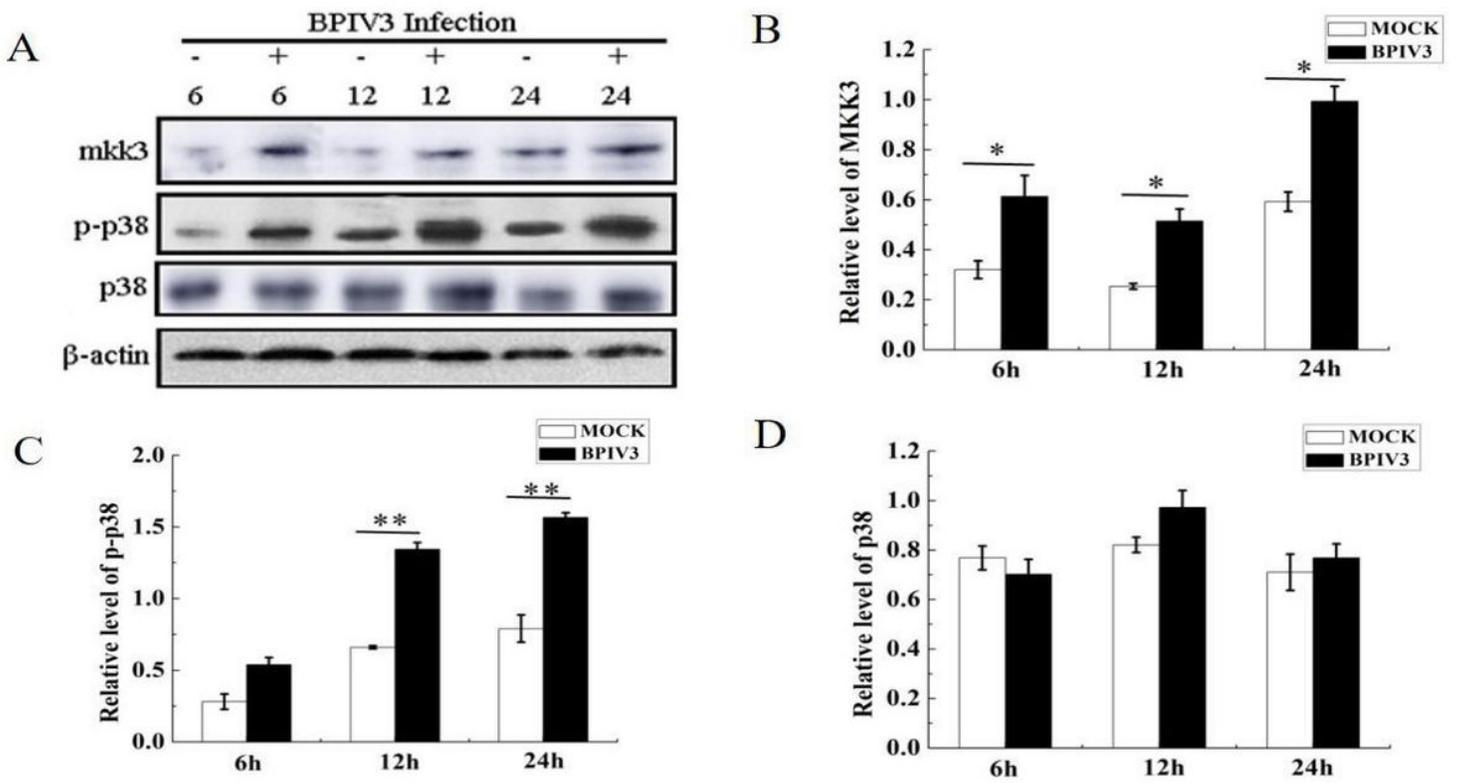


Figure 6

Effect of the BPIV3 infection on the protein expression in p38 MAPK pathway. (A) The protein expression in p38 MAPK pathway by Western blot; (B) Expression of MKK3; (C) Expression of p-p38; (D) Expression of p38. *($P < 0.05$), ** ($P < 0.01$)

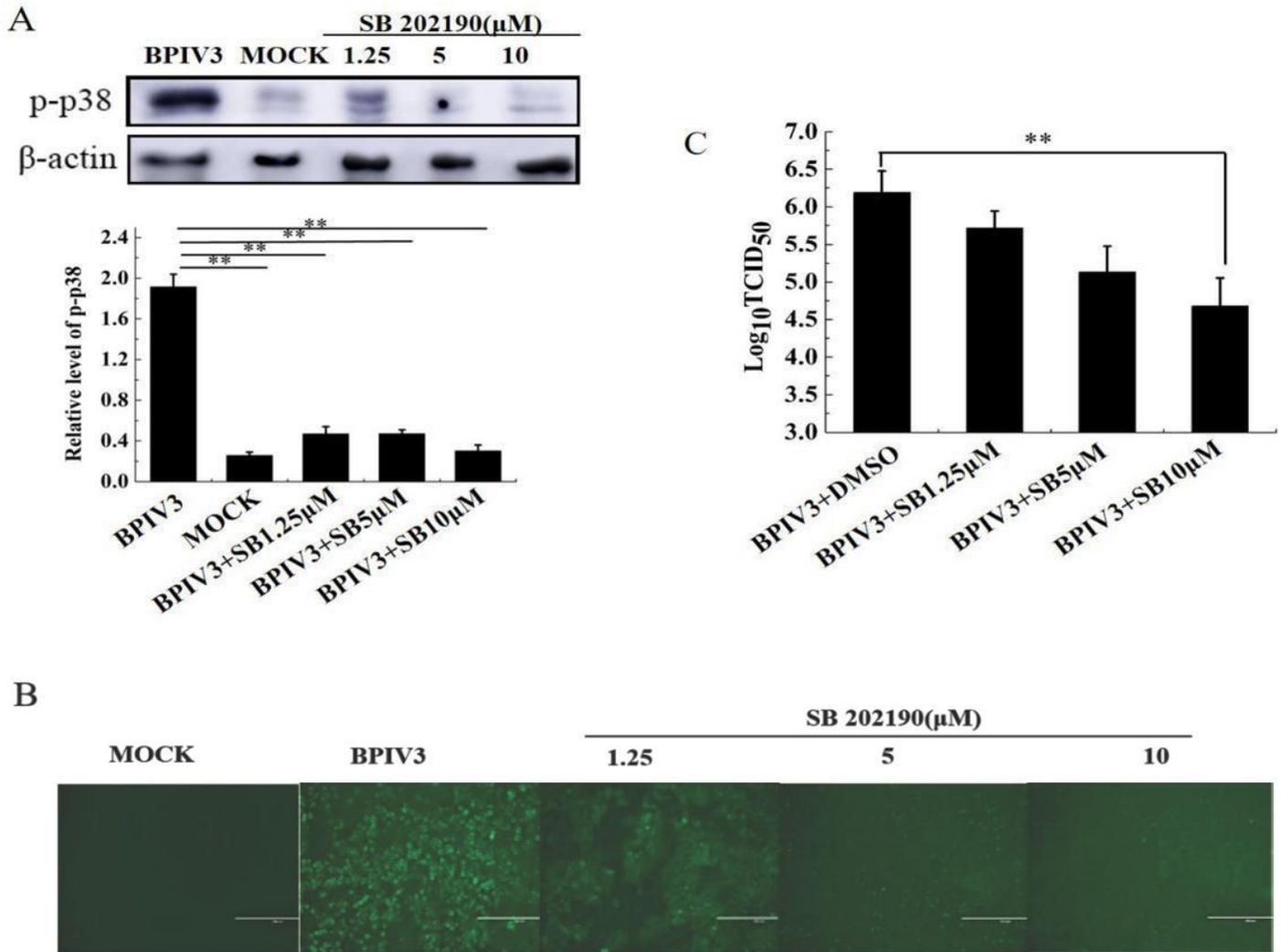


Figure 7

Effect of SB202190 on Bpiv3 replication(A) SB202190 impact on p38MAPK phosphorylation; (B) SB202190 impact on Bpiv3 infection ($\times 100$); (C)SB202190 impact on Bpiv3 TCID₅₀.** (P < 0.01)