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Supporting Information

Design of S-S Bond Containing Maleimide-Conjugated *closo*-Dodecaborate (SSMID): Identification of Its Unique Modification Sites on Albumin and Investigation of Intracellular Uptake

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protein	tr	ansferi	rin		avidin		streptavidin			
free Cys		0			0			0		
Lys		58			7			8		
MID [equiv.]	-	10	-	-	10	-	-	10	-	
SSMID [equiv.]	-	-	10	-	-	10	-	-	10	
anti-BSH						-	-			
CBB stain	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	

Figure S1. Modification of transferrin, avidin and streptavidin by MID or SSMID.



Figure S2. Western blot analysis of MID (1) and SSMID (2) conjugation to BSA. (A) Concentration- and reaction time-dependent conjugation efficacy; (B) Conjugation efficacy of MID and SSMID to BSA pretreated with capping agents: *N*-acetyl succinimide (NAS), *N*-ethylmaleimide (NEM), and 2-iodoacetamide (IAA). BSA (1 mM) was used for all experiments.

MATRIX MASCOT Search Results

Protein View: ALBU_BOVIN

Serum albumin OS=Bos taurus GN=ALB PE=1 SV=4

 Database:
 SwissProt

 Score:
 63

 Expect:
 0.0063

 Nominal mass (Mr,)
 69248

 Calculated pI:
 5.82

 Taxonomy:
 Bos taurus

Sequence similarity is available as an NCBI BLAST search of ALBU BOVIN against nr.

Search parameters

 Enzyme:
 Trypsin: cuts C-term side of KR unless next residue is P.

 Variable modifications:
 Carbamidomethyl (C), Oxidation (HW), Oxidation (M), NakamuraLab SSMIDIAA(C) (C), NakamuraLab SSMIDIAA(K) (K)

 Mass values searched:
 100

 Gass values matched:
 62

Protein sequence coverage: 79%

Matched peptides shown in **bold red**.

1	MKWVTFISLL	LLFSSAYSRG	VFRRDTHKSE	IAHRFKDLGE	EHFKGLVLIA
51	FSQYLQQCPF	DEHVKLVNEL	TEFAK TCVAD	ESHAGCEK <mark>SL</mark>	HTLFGDELCK
101	VASLRETYGD	MADCCEKQEP	ERNECFLSHK	DDSPDLPKLK	PDPNTLCDEF
151	KADEKKEWGK	YLYEIARRHP	YFYAPELLYY	ANKYNGVFQE	CCQAEDKGAC
201	LLPKIETMRE	KVLASSAR <mark>QR</mark>	LRCASIQKFG	ERALKAWSVA	RLSQKFPKAE
251	FVEVTKLVTD	LTKVHKECCH	GDLLECADDR	ADLAKYICDN	QDTISSK LKE
301	CCDKPLLEKS	HCIAEVEKDA	IPENLPPLTA	DFAEDKDVCK	NYQEAKDAFL
351	GSFLYEYSRR	HPEYAVSVLL	RLAKEYEATL	EECCAKDDPH	ACYSTVFDKL
401	KHLVDEPQNL	IKQNCDQFEK	LGEYGFQNAL	IVRYTRKVPQ	VSTPTLVEVS
451	RSLGKVGTRC	CTKPESERMP	CTEDYLSLIL	NRLCVLHEKT	PVSEKVTKCC
501	TESLVNRRPC	FSALTPDETY	VPK AFDEKLF	TFHADICTLP	DTEKQIK <mark>KQT</mark>
551	ALVELLKHKP	KATEEQLKTV	MENFVAFVDK	CCAADDKEAC	FAVEGPKLVV
601	STQTALA				



Figure S3. Protein sequence coverage of BSA obtained by LC-MALDI analysis



#	Immon.	a	a*	a ⁰	b	b*	b ⁰	d	Seq.	v	w	у	y*	y ⁰	#
1	44.0495	44.0495			72.0444			44.0495	Α						9
2	86.0964	157.1335			185.1285			115.0866	L	1171.5677	1170.5724	1229.6459	1212.6194	1211.6354	8
3	400.2013	584.3225	567.2959		612.3174	595.2908		228.1707	K	744.3787	743.3835	1116.5619	1099.5353	1098.5513	7
4	44.0495	655.3596	638.3330		683.3545	666.3280			Α	673.3416		689.3729	672.3464	671.3624	6
5	159.0917	841.4389	824.4124		869.4338	852.4073			W	487.2623		618.3358	601.3093	600.3253	5
6	60.0444	928.4709	911.4444	910.4604	956.4658	939.4393	938.4553	912.4760	S	400.2303	399.2350	432.2565	415.2300	414.2459	4
7	72.0808	1027.5393	1010.5128	1009.5288	1055.5343	1038.5077	1037.5237	1013.5237	V	301.1619	314.1823	345.2245	328.1979		3
8	44.0495	1098.5765	1081.5499	1080.5659	1126.5714	1109.5448	1108.5608		Α	230.1248		246.1561	229.1295		2
9	129.1135								R	74.0237	73.0284	175.1190	158.0924		1

Figure S4. MS/MS analysis of modified peptide fragment containing Lys211.



Figure S5. MS/MS analysis of modified peptide fragment containing Lys413.



Figure S6. MS/MS analysis of modified peptide fragment containing Lys431.



Figure S7. Lysine residue corresponding BSA Lys211 in warfarin binding site of HSA. Lys211 of BSA is conserved in the structure of HSA (HSA Lys212). Green: lysine residue. Blue: warfarin. PDB file: 2BXD.



Figure S8. Lysine residues corresponding to BSA Lys413 and Lys431 in ibuprofen binding site of HSA. Lys413 and Lys431 of BSA are conserved in the structure of HSA (HSA Lys414 and Lys432). Green: lysine residues corresponding to BSA Lys413 (left) and Lys431 (right) residue. Blue: ibuprofen. PDB file: 2BXG.

1. General procedure for the synthesis of SSMID

NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AVANCE-400 (400 MHz for ¹H) or ASCEND-500 (500 MHz for ¹H, 125 MHz for ¹³C, 160 MHz for ¹¹B) instrument in the indicated solvent. ¹¹B NMR spectra were obtained by the ¹¹B–¹H decoupling method. Chemical shifts are reported in units of parts per million (ppm) relative to the signal ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm) for internal tetramethylsilane for solutions in CDCl₃ ($\delta = 7.26$ ppm for ¹H, $\delta = 77.0$ ppm for ¹³C) or CD₃CN ($\delta = 1.94$ ppm for ¹H, $\delta = 118.26$ ppm for ¹³C). IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-4200 spectrometer. Only the strongest and/or structurally important peaks are reported as IR data given in cm⁻¹. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) was performed with a Bruker ESI-TOF-MS (micrOTOF II). All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography carried out on 0.2 mm E. Merck silica gel plates (60F-254) with UV light (254 nm), and were visualized using an aqueous alkaline KMnO4 solution. Silica gel (Fuji Silysia, CHROMATOREX PSQ60B, 50–200 µm) was used for column chromatography. All chemicals and purified proteins for biological experiments were obtained from commercial sources and were used without further purification.

Synthesis of 1,4-dioxane-*closo*-dodecaborate complex (1)

This compound was synthesized according to the literature procedure.[1] Briefly, *closo*-dodecaborate tetrabutylammonium form (1.3 g, 2.0 mmol) converted from the commercially available *closo*-dodecaborate triethylammonium form, $(Et_3NH)_2[B_{12}H_{12}]$, by ion-exchange was dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (70 mL) and NaBF₄ (1.1 g, 10 mmol) and HCl (4 M, 1 mL) were added. The mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 12 h. After cooling to ambient temperature, the precipitates were removed by filtration and the organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure. Recrystallization from ethanol gave compound **1** as a white solid (430 mg, 87% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) δ 4.50 (m, 4H), 3.85 (m, 4H), 3.07 (m, 8H), 1.60 (m, 8H), 1.35 (m, 8H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 12H).

Synthesis of *N-tert*-butoxycarbonylcystamine (2)

This compound was synthesized according to the literature procedure.[2] Briefly, cystamine dihydrochloride (1.00 g, 4.44 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (70 mL) and triethylamine (1.85 mL, 13.33 mmol) was added at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 30 min and then di*-tert*-butyldicarbonate (1.01 mL, 4.44 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The reaction mixture was allowed to r.t. and stirred for 5 h. The solvent was evaporated, and 1 N NaOH solution was added (5 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 5 mL) and the combined organic phases

were washed with H₂O (2 x 5 mL). The organic layer was then dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo to yield compound **2** as a white solid (448 mg, 46% yield). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 6.16 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (q, *J* = 6.19 Hz, 4H), 1.45 (s, 9H).

Synthesis of *N-tert*-butoxycarbonylcystamine-*closo*-dodecaborate conjugate (3)

Compound **1** (471 mg, 1 mmol), *N-tert*-butoxycarbonylcystamine **2** (261mg, 1 mmol) and NaHCO₃ (270 mg, 3.2 mmol) were dissolved in dry MeCN (5 mL) and the mixture was stirred under refluxed conditions for 10 h. Inorganic precipitates were filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH =10:1) to give compound **3** as a white solid (571 mg, 79% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CD₃CN) δ 3.85 (t, *J* = 5.36 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (m, 4H), 3.58 (s, 1H), 3.44 (t, *J* = 7.16 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (q, *J* = 6.48 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (m, 8H), 2.88 (m, 2H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 6.62 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (m, 8H), 1.44 (s, 9H),1.38 (m, 8H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.34 Hz, 12H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz; CD₃CN) δ 71.34, 69.05, 68.97, 64.92, 64.78, 58.36, 46.79, 45.73, 39.49, 37.91, 33.07, 27.64, 23.33, 19.34, 12.81. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz; CD₃CN) δ 5.87, -16.77, -17.58, -22.08. IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 2959, 2866, 2463, 1698, 1457, 1380, 1249, 1161, 1047, 1014, 862, 719, 420, 403; HRMS (ESI, negative) m/z calcd. for C₂₉H₇₄B₁₂N₃O₄S₂ [M]⁻: 722.6334, found: 722.6235. m.p. 96-97 °C.

Synthesis of tetrabutylammonium form of maleimide-cystamine-*closo*-dodecaborate conjugate (6)

Compound **3** (346 mg, 0.55 mmol) was dissolved in CH_3CN (18 mL) and 4N HCl dioxane (6 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h and then TEA was added dropwise. After evaporation, the residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 and wash with 1 N NaOH. The organic solvents were removed under reduced pressure to give compound crude **4** as a yellow oil (300 mg).Crude **4** (150 mg, 0.24 mmol), 4-maleimidobutyric acid **5** (53 mg, 0.29 mmol), (benzotriazol-1-yloxy)-tris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (BOP;106 mg, 0.24 mmol), NaHCO₃ (65 mg, 0.77 mmol) were dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 and stirred at room temperature for overnight. The reaction mixture was washed 3 times with 1N HCl solution followed by 3 times with brine and then concentrated under the reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography ($CH_2Cl_2:MeOH = 20:1$ to 10:1) to give

compound **6** as a white amorphous (115 mg, 2 steps 60% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CD₃CN) δ 6.77 (s, 2H), 3.85 (t, *J* = 5.38 Hz, 3H), 3.68- 3.64 (m, 6H), 3.51-3.42 (m, 9H), 3.24 (t, *J* = 5.32 Hz, 3H), 3.11-3.05 (m, 8H), 2.89 (t, *J* = 6.60 Hz, 2H), 1.84 (m, 4H), 1.63 (m, 8H), 1.44 (m, 8H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.34 Hz, 12H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz; D₂O) δ 173.24, 172.26, 172.20, 172.10, 135.16, 73.4, 73.09, 72.19, 71.90, 69.76, 69.69, 69.13, 68.46, 67.87, 59.27, 59.25, 59.22, 53.51, 49.81, 49.04, 48.44, 47.63, 47.32, 46.76, 46.65, 39.28, 39.05, 38.95, 37.96, 37.90, 36.62, 35.84, 33.75, 33.71, 33.50, 30.86, 30.68, 25.16, 25.14, 24.67, 24.55, 24.25, 20.25, 20.24, 13.75. ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz; D₂O) δ 6.19, -16.75, -17.71, -22.36. IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 2959, 2929, 2872, 2465, 1702, 1635, 1457, 1407, 1378, 1281, 1140, 1106, 1046, 1015, 880, 829, 718, 694; HRMS (ESI, negative) m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₃₇B₁₂N₃O₅S₂Na [M]⁻: 568.3268, found: 568.3274.

Synthesis of tetramethylammonium form of maleimide-cystamine-*closo*-dodecaborate conjugate (SSMID)

Compound **6** (115 mg, 0.14 mmol) was dissolved in methanol/ethanol (1/1; 5 mL) and a solution of tetramethylammonium (TMA) chloride (77 mg, 0.7 mmol) in 2 mL (methanol/ethanol = 1/1) was added. SSMID was precipitated as a white solid (42 mg, 42%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz; CD₃CN): δ 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.75-3.70 (m, 1H), 3.54-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.51-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.30-3.24 (m, 2H), 3.23 (s, 12H), 2.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.88-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.38 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 4H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz; D₂O) δ 172.04, 170.93, 169.59, 163.26, 135.21, 59.31, 59.29, 59.26, 37.27, 36.50, 31.24, 28.84, 26.31, 24.27, 24.25, 20.27, 13.75; ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz; D₂O) δ 6.74, -16.77, -17.58, -22.14. IR (ATR, cm⁻¹): 2925, 2468, 1700, 1635, 1485, 1445, 1118, 1049, 1017, 948, 822, 719, 694, 455, 418; HRMS (ESI, negative) m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₃₈B₁₂N₃O₅S₂ [M]⁻: 546.3459, found: 546.3394. m.p. 244-246 °C.

2. Protein modification with MID or SSMID

For the modification with MID or SSMID, a solution of BSA (final concentration 100 μ M) in PBS buffer was added MID (final concentration 10 mM). The solution was briefly vortexed and incubated at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was added 5×SDS-PAGE sample buffer, boiled at 95 °C for 5 min and subjected to SDS-polyacrylamide gel (10% acrylamide) electrophoresis (PAGE). The gel was stained by CBB and obtained image with a Molecular Imager ChemiDoc XRS (Bio Rad).

3. Western blot detection of boron conjugated albumin

Acrylamide gel which obtained by SDS-PAGE was transferred to polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membrane (GE Healthcare), blocked with Immuno Block (DS Pharma) for 1 h. The membrane was washed by TTBS (Tween-Tris buffered saline) for 10 min in 3 times. The resulting membrane was treated with anti-B₁₂ cluster (B₁₂H₁₁SH, BSH) antibody (1000 times diluted) at the condition of 4 °C for 12 h. HRP-conjugated secondary antibody (anti-mouse-HRP, Santa Cruz, 3000 times diluted) was treated at room temperature for 1 h, then washed by TTBS buffer for 10 min in 3 times. The chemiluminescence images were obtained by Fusion Solo 4S (Vilber Lourmat) after added detection reagent LuminataTM Forte (Millipore) or ImmunoStar LD (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.).

4. Blocking experiment of albumin

To a solution of BSA (final concentration 100 μ M) or BSA, which was capped with 10 mM NEM or NAS on ahead, in 10 mM PBS buffer for 1h was added MID or SSMID (final concentration 10 mM). The solution was briefly vortexed and incubated at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was boiled for 5 min and subjected to SDS-polyacrylamide gel (10% acrylamide) electrophoresis (PAGE).

5. In-gel digestion for mass spectrometric characterization of SSMID-protein conjugates

The entire acrylamide gel was rinsed with ultrapure water for a few hours, and bands (spots) of interest were excised with a clean scalpel. The gel pieces cut into a cube size was transferred to a tube and they were washed with ultrapure water for 10 minutes three times. The gels pieces were treated with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate/acetonitrile (1:1, vol/vol) solution and incubate tubes for 10 min at 37 °C. The supernatant was removed and the gels were treated with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution and incubate tubes for 10 min. The supernatant was removed and the gels were treated with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution and incubate tubes for 10 min at 37 °C. The supernatant with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution and incubate tubes for 10 min at 37 °C. The supernatant was removed and the gels were treated with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution and incubate tubes for 10 min at 37 °C. The supernatant was removed and the gels were treated with 50 μ L of acetonitrile and incubate tubes at 37°C until gel pieces become white and shrink. The shrunk gels pieces were treated with 50 μ L of 100 mM DTT / 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution, vortex briefly and incubate tubes for 30 min at 37 °C. The tubes were cooled down to room temperature and the supernatant was

removed completely. For capping free SH groups, 50 μ L of 100 mM iodoacetamide / 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution was added and incubated for 30 min at room temperature in the dark. The gels pieces were washed with 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate solution and 100 μ L of 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate/acetonitrile (1:1, vol/vol) solution. The gel pieces were shrunk with acetonitrile. A solution of trypsin in Tris buffer (pH 8.0) were added to the dry gel pieces. The samples were incubated overnight at 37°C. The digestion was quenched with adding TFA (final 0.1 %), and the samples were desalinated through Cleanup C18 Pipette Tips (Agilent). The solution (2 μ L) were mixed on MALDI plate mix with 1 μ L of CHCA.

6. Immunocytochemical study (ICC) of boron conjugated albumin

Cells were seeded at a density of 3×10^5 cells/ml with media 0.1 mL on the cover glasses in 6 well plate dishes, and incubated for 12h. Solution of MID-conjugated albumin (100 ppm boron concentration) was added and the cells were incubated for 6 hours. The cells were washed three times in the dish with 1 mL of PBS buffer, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) for 10 min, and treated with 0.4 % TritonX for 5 min. Added the anti-MID antibody (Rabbit polyclonal antibody against MID was produced by Scrum Inc.) 500 times diluted by Can get signal solution B (TOYOBO Inc.) at the condition of 4 °C for overnight, the cells were washed three times in the dish with 1 mL of PBS buffer. Added the FITC-conjugated secondary antibody (anti-Rabbit-FITC) 500 times diluted at the condition of 4 °C for 2 h. The cells were washed with PBS buffer three times. Nuclei were counterstained with DAPI. Fluorescence signals were observed using a confocal laser microscope (LMS780 spectral confocal system, Zeiss).

7. References

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- [2] R. R. Castillo, D. Lozano and M. Vallet-Regi, Bioconjug. Chem., 2018, 29, 3677-3685.

8. NMR Spectral data

1,4-Dioxane-closo-dodecaborate complex: ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CD₃CN)





N-tert-butoxycarbonylcystamine-*closo*-dodecaborate conjugate (3)



¹¹B-NMR (160 MHz, CD₃CN)



Tetrabutylammonium form of maleimide-cystamine-*closo*-dodecaborate conjugate (6)

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CD_3CN)



¹¹B-NMR (160 MHz, CD₃CN)



Tetramethylammonium form of maleimide-cystamine-*closo***-dodecaborate conjugate** (SSMID): ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CD₃CN)



¹³C-NMR (125 MHz, CD₃CN)



¹¹B-NMR (160 MHz, CD₃CN)

