

## Supporting Information

### Submicron 3,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid-TiO<sub>2</sub> Composite Particles for Enhanced MALDI MS Imaging of Secondary Metabolites in the Root of Different-aged Baical Skullcap

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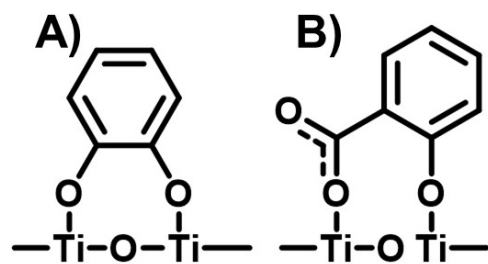
**Figure S2.** MALDI mass spectra acquired from root sections of *S. baicalensis* using A) 2,3-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, B) 2,4-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, C) 2,5-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, D) 2,6-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, and E) 3,5-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, respectively.

**Figure S3.** Comparison of the mean peak intensities of five representative flavonoids measured using six different DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs.

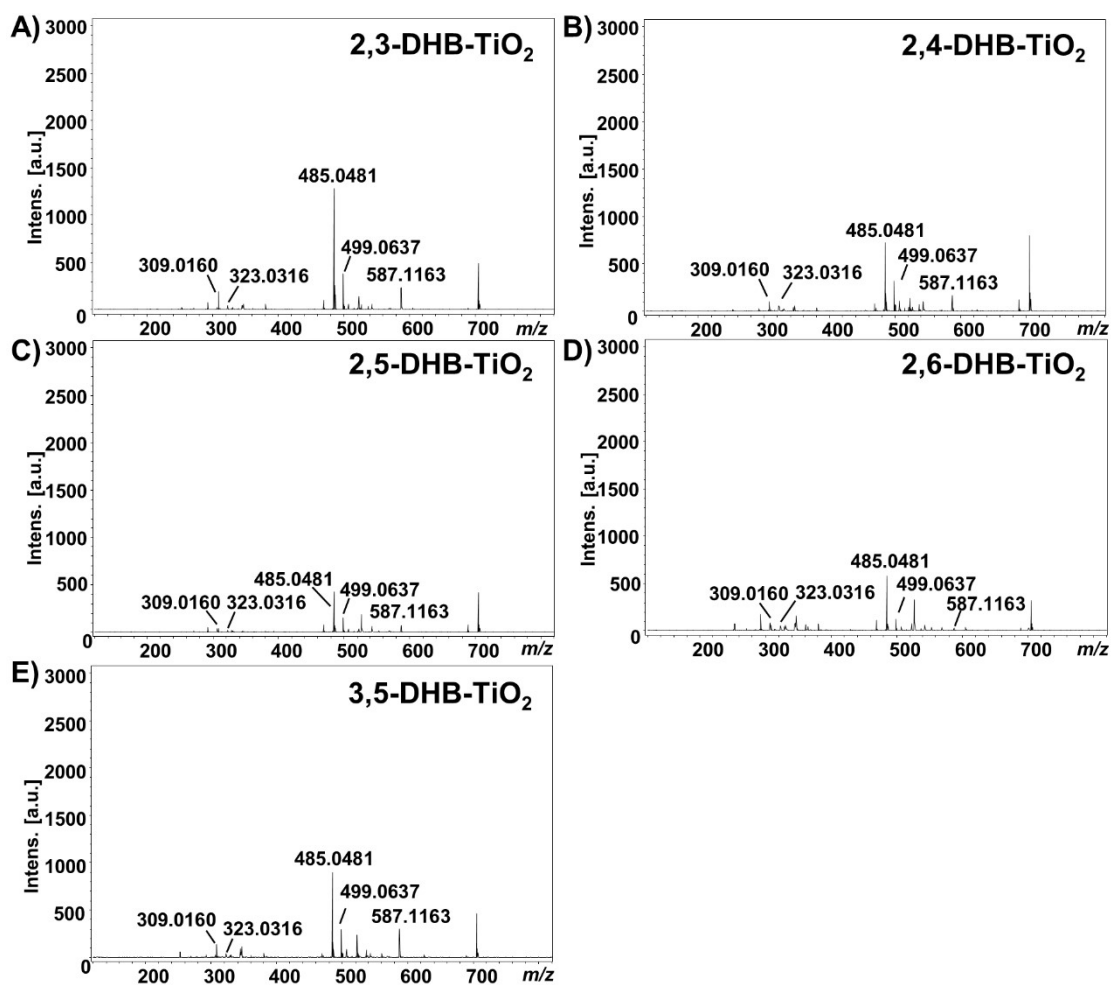
**Figure S4.** MALDI mass spectra acquired from root sections of *S. baicalensis* using A) DHB and B) CHCA in the positive ion mode, respectively. Background MALDI mass spectra obtained by using C) DHB and D) CHCA in the positive ion mode, respectively.

**Table S1.** Metabolite putatively assigned in *S. baicalensis* root tissue by positive ion MALDI MS using 3,4-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs.

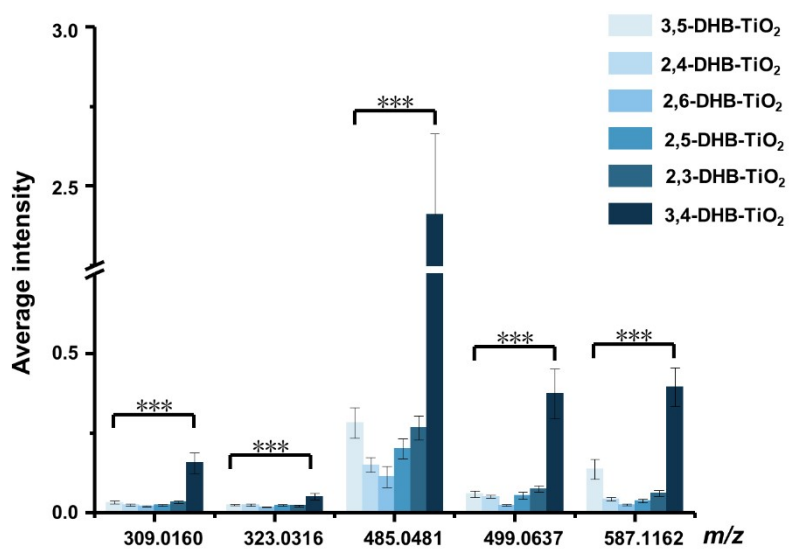
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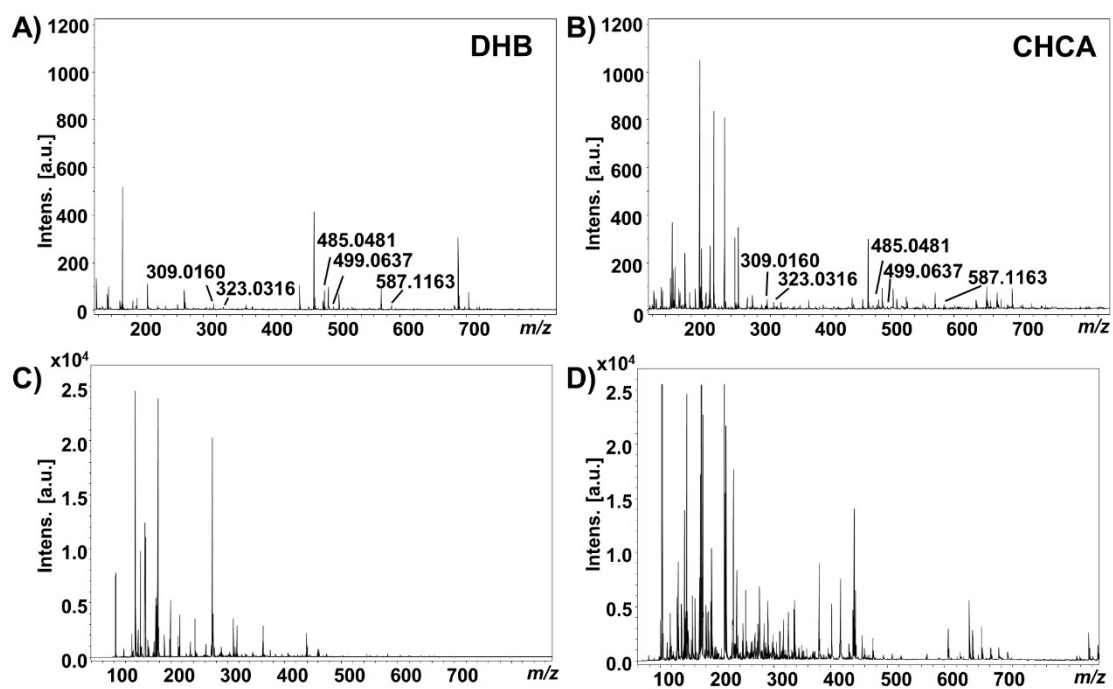
**Figure S1.** Coordination structures for A) catecholate and B) salicylate binding.



**Figure S2.** MALDI mass spectra acquired from root sections of *S. baicalensis* using A) 2,3-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, B) 2,4-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, C) 2,5-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, D) 2,6-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, and E) 3,5-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs, respectively.



**Figure S3.** Comparison of the mean peak intensities of five representative flavonoids measured using six different DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs. Data are expressed as mean  $\pm$  SD (n=10), and One-way ANOVA statistical analysis was performed for each group, significantly different from 3,4-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs at \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .



**Figure S4.** MALDI mass spectra acquired from root sections of *S. baicalensis* using A) DHB and B) CHCA in the positive ion mode, respectively. Background MALDI mass spectra obtained by using C) DHB and D) CHCA in the positive ion mode, respectively.

**Table S1.** Metabolite putatively assigned in *S. baicalensis* root tissue by positive ion MALDI MS using 3,4-DHB-TiO<sub>2</sub> CPs.

Classification	Compound	Calculated (m/z)	Measured (m/z)	Error (ppm)	Adduct ion	Molecular Formula
<b>Free flavonoids</b>						
	Baicalein	309.0160	309.0160	0.05	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
	Wogonin	323.0316	323.0311	-1.65	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
	Scutellarein	325.0109	325.0104	-1.53	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
	Trihydroxy-methoxyflavone	339.0265	339.0263	-0.73	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
	Dihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone	353.0422	353.0423	0.29	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone	369.0371	369.037	-0.31	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub>
	Dihydroxy-trimethoxyflavone	383.0528	383.0524	-0.95	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>7</sub>
	Viscidulin III	385.032	385.0321	0.19	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>8</sub>
	Skullcap flavone II	413.0633	413.0632	-0.31	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>8</sub>
<b>Flavonoid glycosides</b>						
	Chrysin-5-O-glucoside	455.0739	455.0741	0.45	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub>
	Chrysin-7-O-glucoside					
	Chrysin-7-O-glucuronide	469.0532	469.0531	-0.12	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub>
	Baicalein-7-O-glucoside	471.0688	471.0688	-0.02	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub>
	Norwogonin-7-O-glucoside					
	Dihydrobaicalein-7-O-glucoside	473.0845	473.0845	0.09	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub>
	Baicalin	485.0481	485.0481	0.06	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>11</sub>
	Wogonoside	499.0637	499.0636	-0.2	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>11</sub>
	Carthamidin-7-O-glucuronide	503.0586	503.0595	-0.27	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>12</sub>
	Isocarthamidin-7-O-glucuronide					
	Trihydroxy-methoxyflavone-glucuronide	515.0586	515.0584	-0.46	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>12</sub>
	Dihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucuronide	529.0743	529.0743	0.02	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>12</sub>
	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucoside	531.0899	531.0898	-0.26	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>12</sub>
	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucuronide	545.0692	545.0694	0.36	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>13</sub>
	Chrysin-6-C-glucopyranoside-8-C-arabinopyranoside	587.1162	587.1163	0.25	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>13</sub>
	Chrysin-6-C-arabinopyranoside-8-C-glucopyranoside					
<b>Other metabolites</b>						
	Stigmasterol	451.3337	451.3336	-0.16	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>48</sub> O
	Darendoside A	471.1263	471.126	-0.69	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>11</sub>
	Darendoside B	515.1525	515.1523	-0.39	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>12</sub>
	Daucosterol	615.4021	615.4022	0.08	[M + K] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>60</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
	Martynoside	675.2259	675.2256	-0.51	[M + Na] <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>31</sub> H <sub>40</sub> O <sub>15</sub>

**Table S2.** Determination of major metabolites in *S. baicalensis* root tissues by LC-MS/MS.

No.	t <sub>R</sub> /min	Molecular formula	Calculated (m/z)	Measured (m/z)	Error (ppm)	Compound	Structurally specific CID ions (m/z)
1	4.013	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	463.0882	463.0855	-5.84	Carthamidin-7-O-glucuronide/Isocarthamidin-7-O-glucuronide	287.0531, 166.9903
2	4.637	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	547.1457	547.1443	-2.59	Chrysin-6-C-glucopyranoside-8-C-arabinopyranoside/Chrysin-6-C-arabinopyranoside-8-C-glucopyranoside	529.1283, 409.0874, 391.0778
3	5.938	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	491.1195	491.1166	-5.91	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucoside	329.0599, 314.0368, 299.0134
4	6.008	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	415.1035	415.1014	-4.96	Chrysin-5-O-glucoside/Chrysin-7-O-glucoside	253.0392
5	6.013	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	505.0988	505.0972	-3.11	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucuronid	330.0289
6	6.975	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	445.0776	445.0763	-3.01	Baicalin	269.0416, 251.0342, 223.0323
7	7.643	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	285.0405	285.04	-1.63	Scutellarein	267.0262, 193.0039
8	7.837	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	345.0616	345.0609	-2.01	Viscidulin III	330.0320, 315.0077, 287.0095, 269.0028
9	8.111	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub>	429.0827	429.0812	-3.55	Chrysin-7-O-glucuronide	253.0465
10	8.156	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	475.0882	475.0871	-2.32	Trihydroxy-methoxyflavone-glucuronide	299.0473, 284.0291
11	8.519	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	459.0933	459.0925	-1.72	Wogonoside	283.0567, 268.0330
12	8.587	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	489.1039	489.0948	—	Dihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone-glucuronide	313.0671, 298.0435
13	10.714	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	299.0561	299.0552	-3.05	Trihydroxy-methoxyflavone	284.0269, 256.0287
14	11.135	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	269.0455	269.0451	-1.67	Baicalein	251.0282, 223.0315
15	12.121	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	329.0667	329.0652	-4.49	Trihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone	314.0365, 299.0133, 271.0208
16	12.781	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	343.0823	343.0811	-3.58	Dihydroxy-trimethoxyflavone	328.0753, 313.0283
17	13.022	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	283.0612	283.0607	-1.76	Wogonin	268.0327, 239.0337
18	13.102	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	373.0929	373.0915	-3.74	Skullcap flavone II	358.0609, 343.0388, 325.0291
19	13.291	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	313.0718	313.0708	-3.08	Dihydroxy-dimethoxyflavone	283.0182, 255.0176