Supplementary Information

Design and Solid Phase Synthesis of New DOTA Conjugated (+)-Biotin Dimers Planned to Develop Molecular Weight-Tuned Avidin Oligomers

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Figure 1S. Structures of bis-biotins designed for the molecular modeling study. In brackets is reported the linker arm length (Å) between the two amide C=O of the biotin residues, calculated on the fully extended planar conformation.

| | 150 K | | 300 K | | 450 K | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----|------------------|----|------------------|----|--|--|--|
| Entry | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | | | |
| bis-biotins with non-PEG spacers | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | -6734 | 24 | -5180 | 43 | -3481 | 65 | | | |
| 2 | -6792 | 23 | -5231 | 43 | -3529 | 69 | | | |
| 3 | -6766 | 24 | -5209 | 45 | -3504 | 68 | | | |
| 4 | -6794 | 25 | -5208 | 46 | -3502 | 67 | | | |
| 5 | -6766 | 25 | -5190 | 43 | -3509 | 67 | | | |
| 6 | -6781 | 24 | -5177 | 43 | -3427 | 68 | | | |
| 7 | -6731 | 23 | -5145 | 46 | -3393 | 71 | | | |
| 8 | -6723 | 22 | -5111 | 45 | -3354 | 72 | | | |
| bis-biotins with PEG spacers | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | -6730 | 24 | -5180 | 41 | -3506 | 64 | | | |
| 2 | -6775 | 29 | -5215 | 41 | -3549 | 72 | | | |
| 9 | -6795 | 23 | -5229 | 45 | -3538 | 69 | | | |
| 10 | -6773 | 24 | -5224 | 41 | -3528 | 67 | | | |
| 11 | -6810 | 22 | -5244 | 45 | -3521 | 77 | | | |
| 12 | -6795 | 26 | -5211 | 41 | -3519 | 68 | | | |
| 13 | -6772 | 24 | -5185 | 47 | -3468 | 63 | | | |
| 14 | -6744 | 23 | -5160 | 44 | -3439 | 67 | | | |
| 15 | -6744 | 25 | -5141 | 44 | -3422 | 73 | | | |

 Table 1S. Potential energy data for type 1 complex.

Type 1 Complex: potential energy average from 50 conformations recorded at a constant temperature (*Ep*) and standard deviation (sd) recorded during dynamic simulations. The structures 1 and 2 are the same in both series.

| | 150 K | | 300 K | | 450 K | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----|------------------|----|------------------|----|--|--|--|
| Entry | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | Ep (Kcal/mol) | sd | | | |
| bis-biotins with non-PEG spacers | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | -6719 | 21 | -5162 | 43 | -3455 | 76 | | | |
| 2 | -6751 | 26 | -5189 | 45 | -3502 | 67 | | | |
| 3 | -6754 | 24 | -5178 | 44 | -3473 | 68 | | | |
| 4 | -6743 | 24 | -5173 | 46 | -3494 | 68 | | | |
| 5 | -6728 | 25 | -5140 | 44 | -3406 | 69 | | | |
| 6 | -6692 | 24 | -5105 | 49 | -3373 | 67 | | | |
| 7 | -6711 | 23 | -5103 | 43 | -3363 | 77 | | | |
| 8 | -6663 | 28 | -5070 | 44 | -3322 | 72 | | | |
| bis-biotins with PEG spacers | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | -6719 | 27 | -5175 | 45 | -3497 | 64 | | | |
| 2 | -6762 | 22 | -5207 | 43 | -3508 | 67 | | | |
| 9 | -6786 | 26 | -5234 | 41 | -3535 | 64 | | | |
| 10 | -6767 | 24 | -5194 | 44 | -3494 | 70 | | | |
| 11 | -6755 | 22 | -5180 | 41 | -3509 | 65 | | | |
| 12 | -6730 | 23 | -5165 | 42 | -3439 | 66 | | | |
| 13 | -6734 | 22 | -5158 | 44 | -3451 | 72 | | | |
| 14 | -6673 | 25 | -5073 | 45 | -3344 | 65 | | | |
| 15 | -6637 | 24 | -5026 | 46 | -3292 | 69 | | | |

Table 2S. Potential energy data for type 2 complex.

Type 2 complex: potential energy average from 50 conformations recorded at a constant temperature (*Ep*) and standard deviation (sd) recorded during dynamic simulations. The structures 1 and 2 are the same in both series

Scheme 1S. Synthetic route for compound 3.



Synthesis of *tert*-butyl 2-((((9*H*-fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)amino)-6-aminohexanoate (Fmoc-Lys-OtBu, 3). 2.0 g of Fmoc-L-Lys(Boc)-OH (1) were added with 2.33 g of di-terbuthyl dicarbonate, Boc₂O, and 156.5 mg of 4-dimethylaminopiridine, DMAP, in 30 mL of anhydrous *tert*-buthanol. The reaction was stirred for 30 min at 35 °C and for 15h at room temperature. At the end of the reaction the product, **2**, was checked by TLC (AcOEt/exane 2:1), $R_f = 0.75$.

The solvent was removed under vacuum and the solid residue was dissolved 30 mL of ethyl acetate and 5 mL of water; the organic layer was washed with a saturated solution of NaHCO₃ (20 mL for 3 times), and with water (20 mL for 3 times). The organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the crude product was purified by direct-phase LC on silica gel using AcOEt/exane 30:70.

1.70 g of the purified product **2** were dissolved in 56 mL of a solution containing 28% of TFA in AcOEt. The solution was stirred at 45 °C for 1h. After, another 10 mL of TFA were added. The reaction was stirred for 2h and at the end TFA was removed under nitrogen flow. The crude compound **3**, was solubilized in 10 mL of CH₃CN/H₂O 2:3 and purified by solid phase extraction on reverse-phase C18 silica gel, obtaining the pure compound Fmoc-Lys-O*t*Bu (**3**) (311 mg, 57% yield). ¹H NMR (298 K), δ (DMSO, 200 MHz): 7.78-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H) 7.41-7.26 (m, 4H), 4.01-3.90 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.56-1.52 (m, 15H). ESI-MS: calculated *m/z* 425.5 [M+H]⁺; found 425.5.

Figure 2





Figure 3S. HPLC-MS analysis of 6.

Method: 15% to 50% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt= 3.12 min

HPLC purity >98.8%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z:* [M+H]⁺ 1613.34; [M+2H]²⁺ 807.44; [M+3H]³⁺ 583.53



Figure 4S. HPLC-MS analysis of 9.

Method: 15% to 50% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt= 3.46 min

HPLC purity >98.5%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ 1611.07; [M+2H]²⁺ 806.33; [M+3H]³⁺ 537.89



Figure 5S. HPLC-MS analysis of 11.

method: 20% to 60% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt = 3.54 min

HPLC purity >99%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ 1998.24; [M+2H]²⁺ 999.82; [M+3H]³⁺ 666.74



Figure 6S. HPLC-MS analysis of 14.

method: 20% to 60% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt = 3.61 min

HPLC purity >99%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z*: [M+2H]²⁺ 1073.88; [M+3H]³⁺ 716.09



Figure 7S. HPLC-MS analysis of 16.

method: 20% to 50% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt = 3.36 min

HPLC purity 99%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ 1441.25; [M+2H]⁺ 721.00



Figure 8S. HPLC-MS analysis of 18.

method: 20% to 50% of eluent B in 5 min; flow 0.6 mL/min. Rt = 3.42 min

HPLC purity 98%

ESI-MS analysis - *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ 1327.28; [M+2H]⁺ 664.01



Figure 9S. Correlation function of native avidin, experimental data are showed as black dots, while the result of interpolation is showed as red line.



Figure 10S. Correlation function for Av/16 complexes, experimental data are showed as black dots, while the result of interpolation is showed as red line. A) 'R 10.76 min; B) 'R 9.44 min; C) 'R 8.54 min; D) 'R 8.11 min.



Figure 11S. Correlation functions of Av/18 polymer at different incubation time: A) 0 min.; B) 45 min; C) 150 min.; D) 360 min.