# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Fluorescent Probe Encapsulated in SNAP-tag Protein Cavity to Eliminate Nonspecific Fluorescence and Increase Detection Sensitivity

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# Materials and instruments

Chemicals and reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, TCI and Acros and were used without further purification. All solvents were used after appropriate distillation or purification. Sodium sulfide nonahydrate, nitroreductase (E. coli) and  $\beta$ -nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide disodium salt hydrate (NADH) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Ultrapure water was collected from a Milli-Q reference water purification system. Besides the SNAP-tag protein which was expressed and purified in our laboratory, all other proteins used in the selectivity test were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. PBS buffer (0.9 mM KCl, 2.67 mM KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 138 mM NaCl, 8.1 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>) was diluted 10-times from commercially available concentrates supplied by Amersco. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on TLC-aluminum sheets (Silica gel 60 F254, Merck). Flash column chromatography was performed with silica gel (230-400 mesh, Merck). HPLC analysis was performed with analytical column (EC 150/4.6 Nucleosil 300-5 C18, Macherey-Nagel). Products were purified by semi-preparative column (VP 150/21 Nucleosil 300-5 C18, Macherey-Nagel). <sup>1</sup>H, and <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on Bruker DMX-400, Varian Mercury-400 and Varian Unity Inova-500 with <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) reported in ppm relative to the solvent residual signals of CDCl<sub>3</sub> (7.24 ppm), CD<sub>3</sub>OD (3.30 ppm), d-DMSO (2.49 ppm). <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were reported in ppm relative to the solvent residual signals of d-DMSO (39.5 ppm). Coupling constants were reported in Hz. Absorption spectra were recorded on Hitachi U-3310 spectrophotometer. Fluorescence spectra were recorded using Hitachi F-4500 fluorescence spectrophotometer. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Varian 901-FTMS. In-gel fluorescence was carried out by using Ettan DIGE imager (GE healthcare).

# SNAP-tag protein expression and purification

Plasmid pET51b-SNAP-tag with C-terminal His-tag was transformed to *E. coli* strain BL21. The bacteria was cultured at 37 °C in LB broth containing 100  $\mu$ g/mL ampicillin to OD<sub>600</sub> of 1.2. Protein expression was induced by the addition of 1 mM IPTG. After 16 h at 18 °C, the cultures were harvested by centrifugation. The cells were lysed by sonication and insoluble protein and cell debris were removed by centrifugation. The SNAP-tag protein were then purified by Ni-NTA. The purified proteins were concentrated and transferred in PBS buffer using Amicon® Ultra centrifugal filters. The proteins were snap frozen in liquid nitrogen before being stored at -

78 °C. The concentration of the proteins was determined using BCA assay. Protein purity was checked by SDS-PAGE and stained either by Instant Blue or Coomassie Blue. (SNAP-tag: 23 kD)



# Polypeptide sequence of recombinant SNAP-tag protein

MASWSHPQFE	KGADDDDKVP	MDKDCEMKRT	TLDSPLGKLE	LSGCEQGLHE
		>>	SNAP	>
IIFLGKGTSA	ADAVEVPAPA	AVLGGPEPLM	QATAWLNAYF	HQPEAIEEFP
>		SNAP		>
VPALHHPVFQ	QESFTRQVLW	KLLKVVKFGE	VISYSHLAAL	AGNPAATAAV
>		SNAP		>
KTALSGNPVP	ILIPCHRVVQ	GDLDVGGYEG	GLAVKEWLLA	HEGHRLGKPG
>		SNAP		>
LGTSRAPGFS	SISAHHHHHH	НННН		
->>	>>His-ta	ag>>		

# General procedure for nitroreductase detection

All measurements were carried out in 0.05 M Tris buffer (pH 7.4) solution containing 1% DMSO. Appropriate concentrations of NTRase and NADH (final concentration 500  $\mu$ M) in Tris buffer were added to a microcentrifuge tube. 1 mM **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> stock solution in DMSO was diluted 100-fold in the microcentrifuge tube to obtain a final concentration of 10  $\mu$ M. The mixture was incubated at 37 °C for 1 hour for enzymatic reaction. Subsequently, SNAP-tag was added to the mixture (final concentration 12.5  $\mu$ M) and incubated at 37 °C for 0.5 hour for the

conjugation with the fluorescence probe. Fluorescence spectra were recorded in the range from 460 to 700 nm with  $\lambda_{ex} = 440$  nm for **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> from a xenon lamp.

#### General procedure for hydrogen sulfide detection

All experiments were carried out in pH 7.4 degas PBS solution containing 1% DMSO. In a microcentrifuge tube, 10  $\mu$ M fluorescence probe bearing azide moiety was mixed with 12.5  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag in PBS buffer and the mixture was incubated at 37 °C for 0.5 hour to form SNAP-tag conjugated fluorescence probe. Appropriate concentration of H<sub>2</sub>S (prepared by dissolving Na<sub>2</sub>S.9H<sub>2</sub>O in degas aqueous solution) was added to the mixtures and incubated at 37 °C for 2.5 hours. Fluorescence spectra were recorded in the range from 460 to 700 nm with  $\lambda_{ex} = 440$  nm for **BGSBD-N<sub>3</sub>** and **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>** and in the range from 415 to 650 nm with  $\lambda_{ex} = 383$  nm for **BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub>** from a xenon lamp.

#### General procedure for H<sub>2</sub>S and NTRase recovery experiment in 10% blood plasma

Blood samples from healthy volunteers were drawn by a professional medical officer and collected in BD Vacutainer® PSTTM II tubes (BD Diagnostics, cat. no. 367376). The tubes were gently inverted 8-10 times immediately after collection to mix lithium heparin anticoagulant. The tube was centrifuged at 1300 g for 10 minutes and the supernatant was transferred in polypropylene tube using a Pasteur pipette. The plasma samples were stored at -20 °C freezer. 10% plasma was prepared by mixing plasma with 90% volume of Tris buffer (NTRase detection) or PBS (H<sub>2</sub>S detection).

For the analysis of NTRase in 10% plasma, 1 mM **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> stock solution in DMSO was diluted 100-fold in a microcentrifuge tube containing 10% plasma to obtain a final concentration of 10  $\mu$ M. 1  $\mu$ g/mL NTRase and NADH (final concentration 500  $\mu$ M) were then spiked into the microcentrifuge tube. The mixture was incubated at 37 °C for 1.5 hours. Subsequently, SNAP-tag was added to the mixture (final concentration 12.5  $\mu$ M) and incubated at 37 °C for 0.5 hour. Fluorescence spectra were recorded in the range from 460 to 700 nm with  $\lambda_{ex} = 440$  nm for **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> from a xenon lamp. To determine the percent recovery, the fluorescence intensity obtained in 10% plasma was interpolated to the calibration curve obtained in Tris buffer.

For the analysis of  $H_2S$  in 10% plasma, 25  $\mu$ M  $H_2S$  was spiked into a microcentrifuge tube containing 10% plasma and 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD-N<sub>3</sub>** or **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>**. The

mixture was incubated at 37 °C for 2.5 hours. Fluorescence spectra were recorded in the range from 460 to 700 nm with  $\lambda_{ex} = 440$  nm from a xenon lamp. The percent recovery was determined by interpolating the fluorescence intensity obtained in 10% plasma to the calibration curve obtained in PBS buffer.



**Figure S1.** The fluorescence turn-on mechanism of **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> upon reaction with NTRase in the presence of cofactor NADH and SNAP-tag protein.



Figure S2. (a) Fluorescence spectra of  $BGSBD-NO_2$  in different solvents. Because  $BGSBD-NO_2$  bears an electron-withdrawing carbamate group, it displays weak fluorescence even in hydrophobic solvents. (b) Fluorescence spectra of BGSBD in different solvents. BGSBD shows blueshifted and strong emission in hydrophobic solvents such as DMSO and ACN.



Figure S3. Fluorescence amplified detection of NTRase employing different detection schemes. Lower fluorecence amplification ratio was obtained when SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> was used directly for NTRase detection (pink line). Stronger fluorescence can be obtained when **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> was reacted initially with NTRase, followed by the addition of SNAP-tag (red line).



**Figure S4.** HPLC traces of (a) 100  $\mu$ M **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub>, (b) 100  $\mu$ M **BGSBD**, (c), (d), and (e) 100  $\mu$ M **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> mixed with 1.5  $\mu$ g/mL NTR in the presence of 500  $\mu$ M NADH for 0.5, 1 and 24 hours, respectively.



**Figure S5.** (a) Fluorescence intensity of 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD** in Tris, 25%, 50%, 90% FBS and plasma, respectively. The fluorescence of SNAP-tag shielded **BGSBD** decrease in high percentage of FBS and plasma which are probably due to the self-absorption quenching by high concentration of proteins. (b) Fluorescence intensity of 10  $\mu$ M **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub>, **BGSBD**, SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> and **BGSBD** in Tris buffer, 250  $\mu$ M HSA and 250  $\mu$ M BSA.



**Figure S6.** Molecular model of SNAP-tag-**BGSBD** complex. The model was generated using SNAP-tag crystal structure (PDB: 3L00) and Pymol software.





**Figure S7.** (a) Investigation of SNAP-tag labeling efficiency with **BGSBD** in 50% FBS and plasma by SDS-PAGE. The gel was fluorescently scanned (left), followed by staining with Instant Blue (right). The molecular weight of the recombinant SNAP-tag is about 23 kDa. (b) Fluorescence intensity of SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD** bands were calculated pixel-by-pixel by Image J software.



**Figure S8.** Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu$ M **BGSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> with increasing concentrations of NTRase in 10% blood plasma. The fluorescence was amplified with 12.5  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag. The inset shows that the fluorescence response was linear in the range of 0 - 2  $\mu$ g/mL NTRase and the LOD was estimated to be about 11 ng/mL NTRase. The linear equation is y = 1441.8x + 69.0 and the correlation coefficient  $R^2 = 0.9923$ .



**Figure S9.** Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated **BGSBD-N**<sub>3</sub> with 500  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S. The fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu$ M free **BGSBD-N**<sub>3</sub> in the absence and presence of 500  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S were included for comparison.



Figure S10. Reaction time course of 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated BGSBD-N<sub>3</sub> with 500  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S at 37°C.



Figure S11. Fluorescence spectra of (a) BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>, (b) BGNAPH, (c) BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub> and (d) BGCCA in H<sub>2</sub>O, ACN, DMSO, MeOH and 90% glycerol. BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub> and BGNAPH exhibit strong environment-sensitive effects which show weak fluorescence in aqueous solution but strong emission in hydrophobic solvents. BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub> and BGCCA are fluorescent molecular rotor which show strong emission in hydrophobic and viscous solvents.



**Figure S12.** (a) Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated **BGNAPH-N**<sub>3</sub> with increasing concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>S in PBS buffer. The inset shows that the fluorescence response was linear in the range of 0.1 - 25  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S in degas PBS and the LOD was determined to be about 3.9  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S. The linear equation is y = 92.125x + 2274 and the correlation coefficient R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9992. (b) Fluorescence spectra of 10  $\mu$ M SNAP-tag conjugated **BGCCA-N**<sub>3</sub> with increasing concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>S in PBS buffer. The inset shows that the fluorescence response was linear in the range of 0.1 - 150  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S in degas PBS and the LOD was estimated to be about 10  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S. The linear equation is y = 24.592x + 4143 and the correlation coefficient R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9907.



**Figure S13.** Fluorescence spectra of 25  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>S in PBS buffer and 10% plasma as analyzed by 10  $\mu$ M free **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>**. The inset shows the fluorescence intensity (red triangles) obtained in 10% plasma and the calibration curve created in Tris buffer with 10  $\mu$ M free **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>**. In all the measurements, the fluorescence intensity was obtained by subtracting the FBS and plasma background fluorescence from the original spectra.



**Figure S14.** Fluorescence intensity of 10  $\mu$ M **BGCCA-N**<sub>3</sub>, **BGCCA**, SNAP-tag conjugated **BGCCA-N**<sub>3</sub> and **BGCCA** in PBS buffer, 25% FBS and 25% human blood plasma. The fluorescence intensity was obtained by subtracting the FBS and plasma background fluorescence from the original spectra. Analysis condition: 10  $\mu$ M free probes or SNAP-tag conjugated probes were added to PBS buffer, 25% plasma and FBS samples (v/v, diluted with Tris buffer). Fluorescence spectra were recorded after the mixtures were incubated at 37°C for 30 minutes. Error bars were calculated from three independent measurements.

Name	LOD	Dynamic range	Reference
Cy7-1	1.14ng/mL	0.15-0.45 µg/mL	J. Am. Chem. Soc.
			<b>2015</b> , 137, 6407.
Probe1	0.27ng/mL	15-300 ng/mL	Anal. Chem. 2013, 85,
			3926.
NCL	0.15ug/mL		<i>PloS one</i> <b>2015</b> , 10,
			e0131037.
Probe1	20ng/mL	0.05-0.9 μg/mL	Anal. Chem. 2015, 87,
			11832.
BGSBD-	lng/mL	0-2 μg/mL	This Paper
NO <sub>2</sub> +SNAP-tag			

 Table S1. Summary of NTRase fluorescent probes

Name	LOD	Dynamic range	Reference
MeRho-Az	86 nM	0-15 μM	J. Am. Chem. Soc.
			<b>2015</b> , 137, 10216
PI-N3	0.879µM	1-7.9µM	Org. Biomol.
			<i>Chem.</i> <b>2012</b> , 10,
			9683.
SF1/SF2	5-10uM		J. Am. Chem. Soc.
			<b>2011</b> , 133, 10078.
HSN1/HSN2	5-10/1-5uM		Chem. Commun.
			<b>2012</b> , 48, 4767.
DNS-Az	1uM		Angew. Chem. Int.
			<i>Ed.</i> <b>2011</b> , 50, 9672.
Cy-N3	0.08uM	0-100 μM	Chem. Commun.
			<b>2012</b> , 48, 2852
CCLS-1/	0.7±0.3/	x <sub>1</sub> - 50 μM/	J. Am. Chem. Soc.
CCLS-2	4.6±2.0uM	$x_2 - 250 \ \mu M$	<b>2013</b> , 135, 16697
Probe 4	0.259 μM	$2 - 10 \ \mu M$	Org. Biomol.Chem.
			<b>2013</b> , 11, 8166.
cpGFP-Tyr66pAzF	10 μM	<50µM	J. Am. Chem. Soc.
			<b>2012</b> , 134, 9589.
FS1	5–10 µM		Chem. Commun.
			<b>2012</b> , 48, 8395.
L1Cu	1.7 μM	2.5-15µM	Dalton Trans.
			<b>2012</b> , 41, 19, 5799.
BGSBD-	3.3 μM	0-250 μM	This Paper
N <sub>3</sub> +SNAP-tag			_

**Table S2.** Summary of  $H_2S$  fluorescent probes



Scheme S1. Synthesis of SBD-based fluorescence probes BGSBD-NO2 and BGSBD-N3.

Chlorosulfonic acid (6 mL, 90 mmol) was added dropwise to compound **1** (2 g, 12.9 mmol) in a round bottom flask at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for additional 1.5 hours and then heated at 150 °C for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water and extracted with 50 mL dichloromethane (3x). The combined organic layer was washed with 50 mL 1 M HCl (2x) and 30 mL brine (1x). The organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure to give the pure desired product **2** as a white powder. Compound **2** was used in the next step without further purification. **Yield** = 80 % (2.61 g); **R**<sub>f</sub> = 0.42 (EA : Hex = 1 : 4); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.16 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H) ppm.

#### Synthesis of compound 3

To a stirred solution of compound 2 (20 mg, 79 µmol) and sarcosine *t*-butyl ester hydrochloride (17 mg, 95 µmol) in dichloromethane (1 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (22 µL, 158 µmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 10 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was extracted with 50 mL 1 M HCl (2x) and 30 mL brine (1x). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The product was used in the next step without further purification. **Yield** = 90% (26 mg);  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{f}} = 0.36$  (EA : Hex = 1 : 4); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.90 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  167.22, 148.84, 145.73, 133.21, 129.01,

Methylamine (40% in methanol, 147 µL, 1.5 mmol) was added to compound **3** (50 mg, 138 µmol) in a round bottom flask at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. Excess methylamine was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was redissolved in 50 mL ethyl acetate. The organic layer was extracted with 50 mL 1 M HCl (2x) and 30 mL brine (1x). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to give the desired product **4** as a yellow powder. Product **4** was used in the next step without further purification. **Yield** = quantitative (48 mg); **R**<sub>f</sub> = 0.26 (EA : Hex = 1 : 4); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.88 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 2H), 3.09 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  167.84, 145.99, 144.38, 141.38, 138.40, 112.14, 98.43, 81.95, 51.86, 35.45, 30.03, 27.88 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S 375.1239 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 375.1225 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of compound 5a

To NaH (13 mg, 0.54 mmol, 60% in oil) in dry THF (2 mL) solution at 0 °C was added compound **4** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) in dry THF (3 mL). After 10 minutes, 4-nitrobenzyl chloroformate (90 mg, 0.42 mmol) in dry THF (3 mL) was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes. Water (10 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3X15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography to afford a yellow powder. **Yield** = 87% (130 mg); **R**<sub>f</sub> = 0.35 (EA : Hex = 1 : 1); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.19 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  167.27, 154.04, 147.69, 146.74, 146.14, 142.65, 135.36, 133.81, 128.35, 125.91, 124.57, 123.74, 82.29, 66.87, 51.64, 37.66, 35.68, 27.74 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>5</sub>NaO<sub>9</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 558.1265, found 558.1276 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

To a stirred solution of **5a** (20 mg, 37  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (1 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (77  $\mu$ L, 1 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. Excess trifluoroacetic acid was coevaporated with 5 mL toluene under reduced pressure. The product was redissolved in 5 mL ACN/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1) and lyophilized to give a yellow powder. The product **6a** was used in the next step without further purification. **Yield** = quantitative (18 mg).

# Synthesis of compound BDSBD-NO<sub>2</sub>

To a stirred solution of **6a** (18 mg, 37 µmol), EDC·HCl (9 mg, 45 µmol), HOBt·H<sub>2</sub>O (7 mg, 45 µmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (26 µL, 185 µmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (12 mg, 45 µmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The crude was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BDSBD-NO**<sub>2</sub> as a yellow powder after lyophilization. BG-NH<sub>2</sub> was prepared as previously reported.<sup>1</sup> **Yield** = 74% (20 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.57 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (s, 2H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  167.23, 159.09, 158.57, 158.41, 158.14, 154.15, 153.84, 147.18, 147.03, 146.25, 143.82, 139.44, 135.65, 135.14, 134.54, 128.92, 128.39, 127.40, 125.97, 124.37, 123.65, 67.86, 66.48, 51.85, 41.95, 36.31 ppm; **HRMS (ESI)**: m/z calc. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>11</sub>O<sub>9</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 732.1943, found 732.1953 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# Synthesis of compound 5b

To NaH (13 mg, 0.54 mmol, 60% in oil) in dry THF (2 mL) solution at 0 °C was added compound **4** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) in dry THF (3 mL). After 10 minutes, 4-azidobenzyl chloroformate (89 mg, 0.42 mmol) in dry THF (3 mL) was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes. Water (10 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3X15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography to give yellow powder. 4-azidobenzyl carbonochloridate

was prepared as previously reported.<sup>2,3</sup> **Yield** = 75% (112 mg);  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{f}} = 0.57$  (EA : Hex = 1 : 1); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.95 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>7</sub>NaO<sub>7</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 554.1428, found 554.1435 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of compound 6b

To a stirred solution of **5b** (20 mg, 38  $\mu$ mol) in dichloromethane (1 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (77  $\mu$ L, 1 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. Excess trifluoroacetic acid was coevaporated with 5 mL toluene under reduced pressure. The product was redissolved in 5 mL ACN/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1) and lyophized to give a yellow powder. The product **6b** was used in the next step without further purification. **Yield** = quantitative (18 mg).

# Synthesis of compound BGSBD-N<sub>3</sub>

To a stirred solution of **6b** (18 mg, 38 µmol), EDC·HCl (9 mg, 46 µmol), HOBt·H<sub>2</sub>O (7 mg, 46 µmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (26 µL, 190 µmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (12 mg, 46 µmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The crude was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BGSBD-N**<sub>3</sub> as a yellow powder after lyophilization. **Yield** = 66% (18 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.57 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.51 (s, 2H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 4.17 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.94 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  167.19, 158.95, 158.37, 158.15, 154.00, 153.79, 146.97, 146.16, 140.69, 139.55, 139.33, 135.68, 135.32, 134.35, 132.82, 129.85, 128.96, 127.41, 125.61, 124.03, 119.19, 68.04, 67.17, 51.88, 41.93, 37.40, 36.26 ppm; **HRMS** (**ESI**): m/z calc. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>13</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 728.2106, found 728.2121 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.



Scheme S2. Synthesis of BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub> and BGNAPH.

4-Nitro-1,8-naphthalic anhydride (2.0 g, 8.2 mmol) and 3-aminopropionic acid (0.9 g, 10.1 mmol) were refluxed in ethanol (50 mL) for 8 hours until reaction was completed. The cooled mixture was diluted with water and the precipitated solid was collected by filtration to afford white microcrystal compound **8**. **Yield** = 89 % (2.3 g); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.66 – 8.58 (m, 2H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  172.39, 162.68, 161.89, 148.95, 131.61, 130.04, 129.54, 128.70, 128.10, 126.37, 124.20, 122.57, 122.50, 36.00, 31.95 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 314.0460 [M+H]<sup>-</sup>, found 313.0457 [M+H]<sup>-</sup>.

## Synthesis of compound 9

A solution of ompound **8** (1.0 g, 3.2 mmol) and stannous chloride (3.0 g, 16 mmol) in ethanol (25 mL) was refluxed for 3 hours with hydrochloric acid (1.5 mL) till the reaction was completed. The mixture was poured into 100 mL water and then the precipitated solid was filtered out. The crude products **9** were purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/hexane = 2/1) to give a light yellow solid. **Yield** = 85 % (0.84 g); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.60 (d, *J* =

8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d6):  $\delta$  171.02, 163.69, 162.73, 152.80, 133.94, 130.98, 129.69, 129.36, 123.88, 121.59, 119.32, 108.27, 107.39, 60.10, 35.36, 32.52, 13.95 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 313.1188 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 313.1191 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of compound 10

Sodium hydroxide (0.8 g, 20 mmol) was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) and added dropwise to compound **9** (0.5 g, 1.6 mmol) which was dissolved in THF and H<sub>2</sub>O solution in ice bath. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. Then the solution was neutralized with 10% hydrochloric acid and lyophilized to afford compound **10** as an orange solid. **Yield** = quantitative; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.65 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  175.13, 163.69, 162.87, 152.70, 133.79, 130.84, 129.63, 129.36, 123.85, 121.88, 119.36, 108.08, 107.61, 37.54, 36.21 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 307.6094 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 307.6087 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of compound BGNAPH

To a stirred solution of **11a** (20 mg, 70 µmol), EDC·HCl (41 mg, 214 µmol), HOBt·H<sub>2</sub>O (29 mg, 215 µmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (99 µL, 712 µmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (25 mg, 92 µmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 18 hours. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BGNAPH** as a yellow powder after lyophilization. **Yield** = 12 % (4.5 mg); <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (m, 2H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (s, 2H), 4.24 (m, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  170.01, 163.70, 162.78, 158.84, 157.89, 152.76, 139.95, 133.97, 131.01, 129.73, 129.33, 128.99, 128.84, 127.49, 123.98, 121.79, 119.37, 108.15, 107.54, 68.10, 42.35, 41.82, 36.06, 33.74 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 537.1998, found 537.1997 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

To a stirred solution of compound **10** (200 mg, 0.64 mmol) in 5 M hydrochloric acid (2 mL) was added acetic acid (2 mL). To this solution, sodium nitrite (180 mg, 2.60 mmol) dissolved in 10 mL of water was added dropwise within 15 mins in ice bath. The solution was vigorous stirred for 18 hours at room temperature. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and sodium azide (110 mg, 1.7 mmol) was batch added in. Then the solution was stirred for 3 hours at room temperature. The reaction solution was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **11** as pale yellow powder. **Yield** = 19 % (71 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.52 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  172.45, 163.09, 162.61, 142.87, 131.57, 131.49, 128.38, 128.27, 127.27, 123.49, 122.08, 118.08, 115.92, 35.72, 32.17 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 333.0599, found 333.0598 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

# Synthesis of compound BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>

To a stirred solution of **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub>** (15 mg, 53 µmol), EDC·HCl (35 mg, 183 µmol), HOBt·H<sub>2</sub>O (25 mg, 185 µmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (70 µL, 504 µmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (18 mg, 67 µmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 18 hours at room temperature. The crude product was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BGNAPH-N<sub>3</sub> as pale yellow powder** after lyophilization. **Yield** = 27% (8 mg). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.52 (d, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.85 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.46 (s, 2H), 4.25 (m, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  169.88, 163.18, 162.72, 159.23, 158.06, 157.81, 155.43, 142.91, 139.39, 138.96, 134.901, 131.64, 131.57, 128.50, 128.41, 127.33, 123.59, 122.27, 118.28, 116.01, 66.89, 41.88, 36.55, 33.61 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 563.1903, found 563.1905 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.



Scheme S3. Synthesis of BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub> and BGCCA.

4-Aminobenzylalcohol (1000 mg, 8.12 mmol) was dissolved in hydrochloric acid (5 mL, 5 M). To this solution, sodium nitrite (840 mg, 12.18 mmol) dissolved in 20 mL of water was dropwise added within 30 mins. The solution was vigorous stirred in ice-cold water. Sodium azide (2100 mg, 32.3 mmol) was batch added in. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of reaction, the reaction solution was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography to obtain the pure product **13** as yellow oil; **Yield** = 88% (1290 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (s, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3):  $\delta$  = 138.69, 137.29, 128.06, 118.57, 63.66 ppm; **HRMS** (EI): m/z calc. for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> 149.0589, Found 149.0585 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of compound 14

Compound **13** (150 mg, 1.01 mmol) was dissolved in 15 mL dry  $CH_2Cl_2$ . Dess-Martin reagent (640 mg, 1.51 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature, at which point oxidation was completed. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (60 mL), washed with saturated  $Na_2S_2O_3$  (10 mL), saturated aqueous  $NaHCO_3$  (10 mL), and brine. Then organic layer was dried with  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was

purified by silica gel column chromatography using Hexane/EtOAc (10:1, v:v) as eluent to afford **14** as yellow oil. **Yield** = 88% (130 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  9.82 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  119.15, 131.18 (2C), 132.95, 145.86, 190.20 ppm; **HRMS** (EI): m/z calc. for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> 147.0433, Found 147.0428 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

# Synthesis of compound 15

To a solution of **14** (0.1 g, 0.68 mmol) and cyano acetic acid (0.12 g, 1.36 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL), pyrrolidine (0.15 g, 2.04 mmol) was added with stirring and stirring was continued at room temperature for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the residue obtained was extracted using water and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was collected, dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the product as a yellow solid. **Yield** = 52 % (76 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.22 (s, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  94.16, 107.46, 111.28, 120.21, 124.44, 136.92, 145.01, 155.58 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> 214.0491, found 214.0493 [M]<sup>+</sup>.

# Synthesis of compound BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub>

To a 10 mL reaction flask containing **15** (10 mg, 0.047 mmol), BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (15 mg, 0.056 mmol), and PyBOP (36.4 mg, 0.07 mmol) in DMF was added DIPEA (0.2 mmole) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The crude was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BGCCA-N<sub>3</sub>** as a yellow powder after lyophilization. **Yield** = 56% (12 mg); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  9.03 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.51 (s, 2H), 4.41 (s, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  67.94, 104.90, 116.53, 119.98, 127.56, 128.51, 128.93, 132.08, 134.38, 139.26 ,140.60, 143.55 ,149.73, 153.71, 158.18 ,158.87, 161.15 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 467.1687, found 467.1685 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

To a solution of **15** (10 mg, 0.047 mmol) in 1 mL H<sub>2</sub>O/THF (10/90), triphenylphosphine (74 mg, 0.28 mmol) was added with stirring and stirring was continued at room temperature overnight. The product was used in the next step without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.05 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  92.64, 113.47, 117.96, 118.46, 134.09, 154.03, 154.70, 164.91 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 189.0659, found 189.0657 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# Synthesis of compound BGCCA

To a 10 mL reaction flask containing **16** (10 mg, 0.053 mmol), BG-NH<sub>2</sub> (21.5 mg, 0.08 mmol), and PyBOP (41.5 mg, 0.08 mmol) in DMF was added DIPEA (0.2 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The crude was purified by reverse phase preparative HPLC to give the desired product **BGCCA-NH<sub>2</sub>** as a yellow powder after lyophilization. **Yield** = 68% (16mg); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  8.69 (s, 1H), 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.53 (s, 2H), 4.38(s, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>**C-NMR** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  68.40, 95.73, 113.22, 113.54, 118.30, 118.80, 127.52, 127.88, 129.00, 132.75 ,133.34, 133.96 ,139.94, 141.30, 150.95 ,153.17, 153.94, 158.80, 162.43 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 441.1782, found 441.1783 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

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