

Figure S1

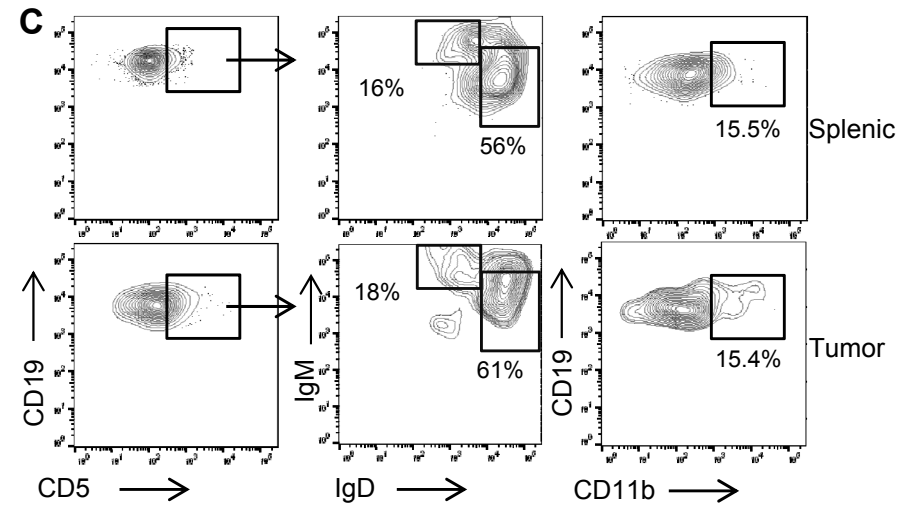
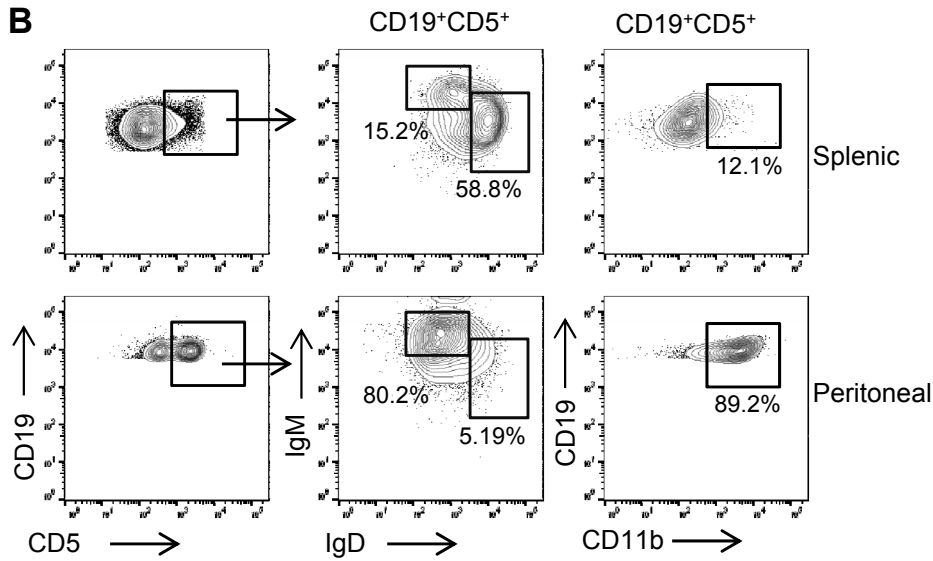
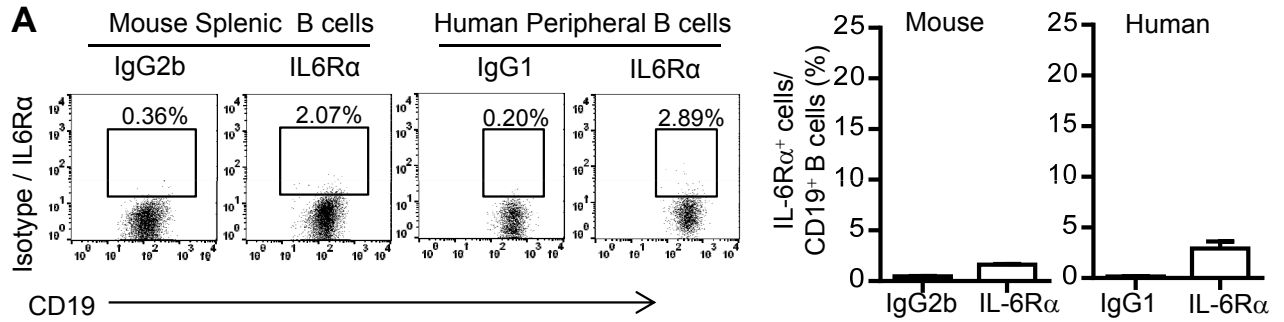


Figure S2

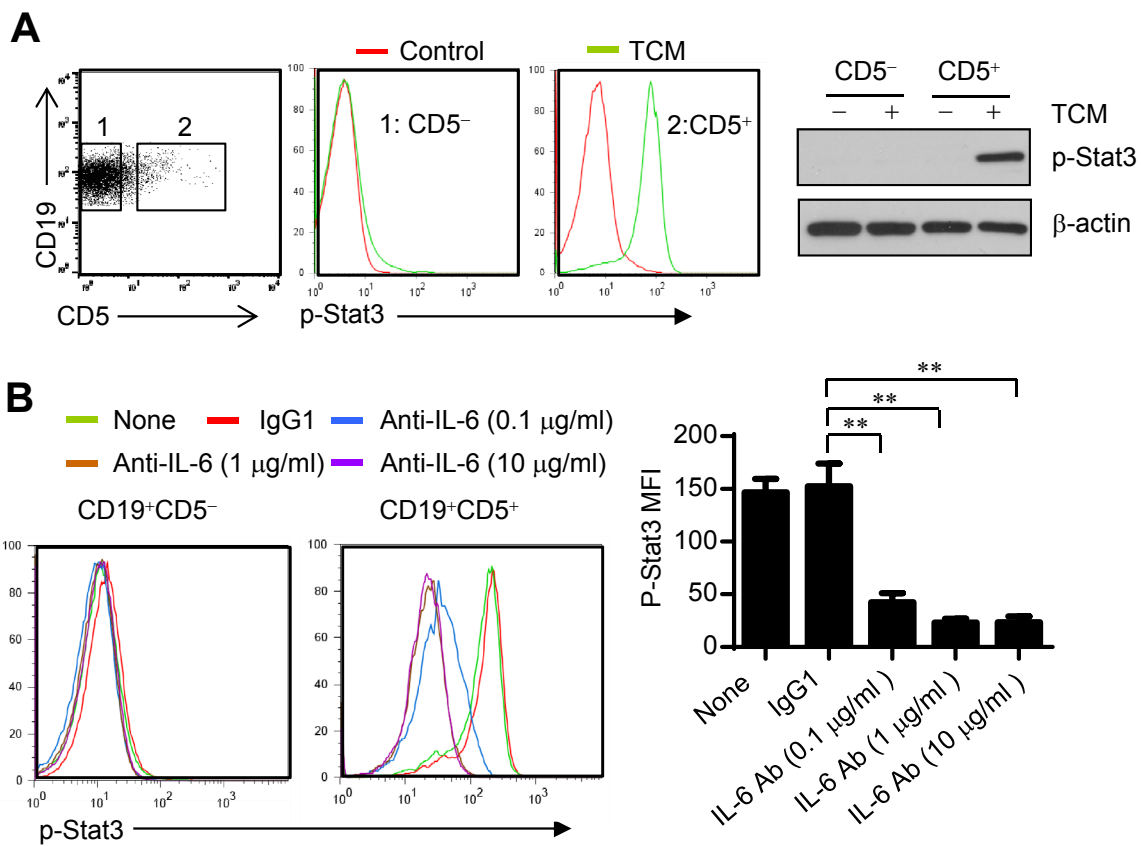
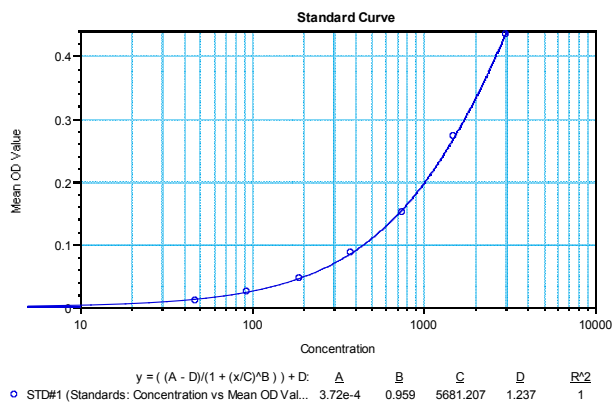


Figure S3



OD 450 value (Mouse sIL-6 ELISA)

Group	IL-6 stimulation				TCM treatment	
	CD5 ⁺ IL-6R ⁺	CD5 ⁻ IL-6R ⁺	CD5 ⁺ IL-6R ⁻	CD5 ⁻ IL-6R ⁻	CD19 ⁺ CD5 ⁺	CD19 ⁺ CD5 ⁻
OD(450 nm)	-0.002	-0.004	-0.008	-0.006	-0.005	-0.003

Figure S4

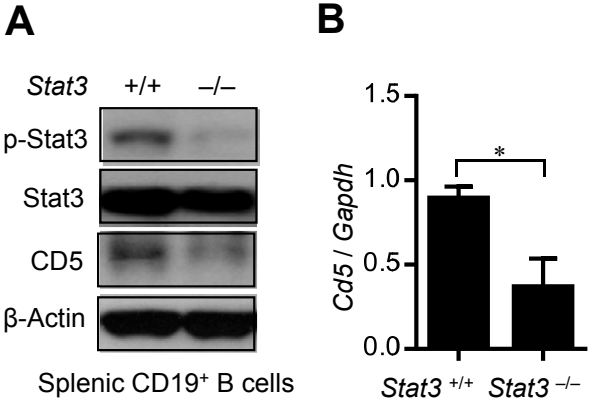


Figure S5

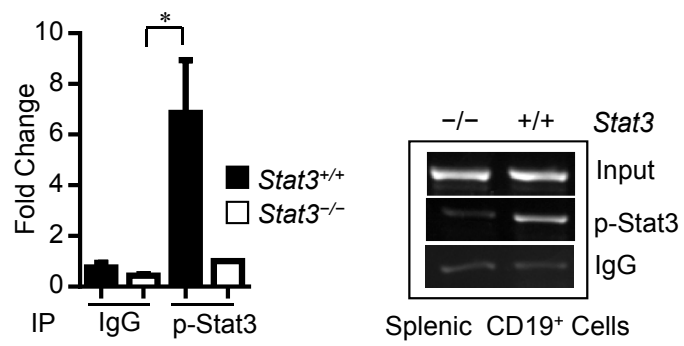
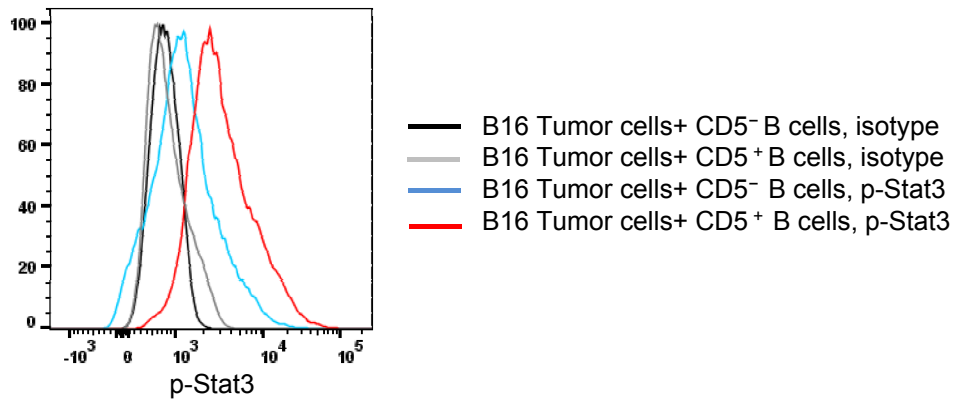
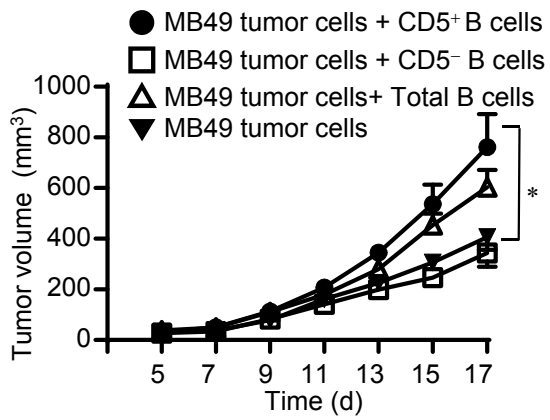


Figure S6

A



B



C

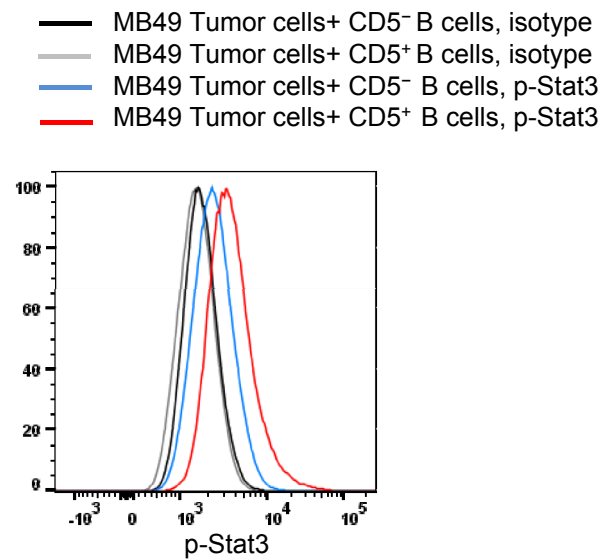
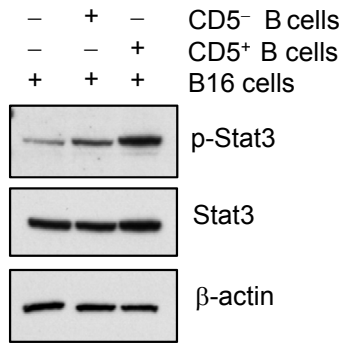
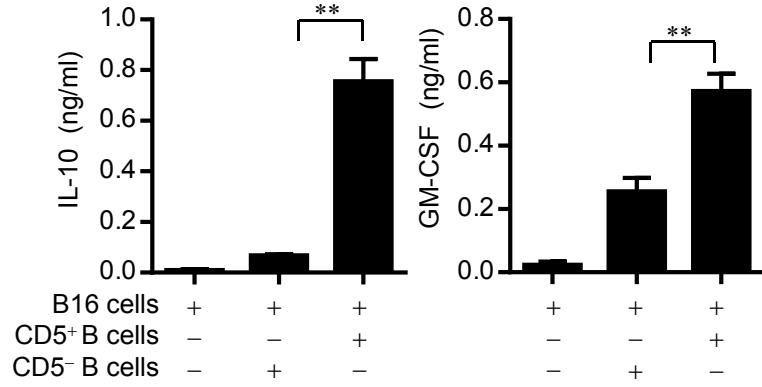


Figure S7

A



B



SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure S1. Characterization of IL-6R α ⁺ B cells and CD5⁺ B cells. Related to Figure 1. (A) Representative dot plots (left) and statistical results (right) of flow cytometry analyses showing IL-6R α ⁺ cell frequencies within CD19⁺ B cells. Data are shown as means \pm SEM ($n = 15$ and 9 for mouse and human samples, respectively). (B-C) Flow cytometry analyses of CD5⁺ B cells from spleen and peritoneal cavity of naïve C57BL/6 mice (B), and from spleen and tumors harvested from B16 tumor bearing C57BL/6 mice (C). Single-cell suspensions derived from mouse spleen, peritoneal cavity (B) and tumor (C) were stained with anti-CD19, CD5, IgM, IgD and CD11b, to detect mouse CD5⁺IgM^{hi}IgD^{low} cells as well as CD5⁺CD11b⁺ B1 cells.

Figure S2. CD5 is crucial for IL-6-dependent Stat3 activation in B cells induced by TCM. Related to Figure 1. (A) Stat3 activation induced by 5% TCM in mouse splenic CD5⁺ and CD5⁻ B cells, as evaluated by flow cytometry (left) and western blotting of FACS-sorted cells (right). (B) Representative histograms of flow cytometry showing the inhibitory effect by IL-6 antibody neutralization on Stat3 activation induced in CD5⁺ and CD5⁻ B cells (left). Bar graphs indicate statistical results of mean fluorescence intensity (MFI), means \pm SEM (right; $n = 3$).

Figure S3. sIL-6R α does not contribute measurably to IL-6-induced CD5-associated Stat3 activation. Related to Figure 2. ELISA determining sIL-6R α concentration in culture medium with either IL-6 or TCM.

Figure S4. Ablating Stat3 in mouse splenic and tumor-associated B cells abrogates CD5 expression. Related to Figure 5. (A-B) Western blotting (A) and real-time RT-PCR (B) measuring CD5 protein expression in splenic B cells from B16 tumor-bearing mice with or without *Stat3* ablation in CD19⁺ cells, and CD5 mRNA level in CD19⁺ B cells enriched from the tumors, respectively. Data represent means \pm SEM of 3 independent experiments, each involving 6 pooled mice per group done in triplicates.

Figure S5. ChIP assay showing p-Stat3 binding to the *Cd5* promoter. Related to Figure 5. Chromatins were prepared from splenic CD19⁺ B cells of tumor-bearing mice. Quantitative real-time PCR (left) or regular PCR (right) showing the relative amounts of specific DNA fragments of *CD5* promoter after immunoprecipitating by p-Stat3/IgG and normalizing to the input. Results are means \pm SEM ($n = 3$).

Figure S6. CD5⁺ B cells significantly contribute to tumor cell Stat3 activation and tumor growth. Related to Figure 6. (A) Tumors grown from B16 tumor cells mixed with either CD5⁺ B cells or CD5⁻ B cells were harvested. Single-cell suspensions were subjected to flow cytometric analysis to detect p-Stat3 levels in tumor cells (gating was on tumor cells). (B) Growth curves of MB49 tumors implanted with CD5⁺ or CD5⁻ B cells in *Rag1*^{-/-} mice. Representative results of 2 independent experiments ($n = 6$) are shown as means \pm SEM ** $P < 0.01$. (C) Flow cytometry showing elevated p-Stat3 level in tumor cells derived from MB49 tumors grown in *Rag1*^{-/-} mice in the presence of either CD5⁺ B cells or CD5⁻ B cells.

Figure S7. CD5⁺ B cells-mediated Stat3 activation in B16 tumor cells involves cytokines IL-10 and GM-CSF. Related to Figure 6. (A) Irradiated B16 tumor cells were co-cultured with CD5⁺ or CD5⁻ splenic B cells for 3 days, followed by cell lysate preparation of B16 tumor cells for Western blotting to detect p-Stat3. (B) Multiplex bead assay detecting IL-10 and GM-CSF production from irradiated B16 tumor cells co-cultured with CD5⁺ or CD5⁻ splenic B cells. Data represent means \pm SEM ($n = 3$). ** $P < 0.01$.