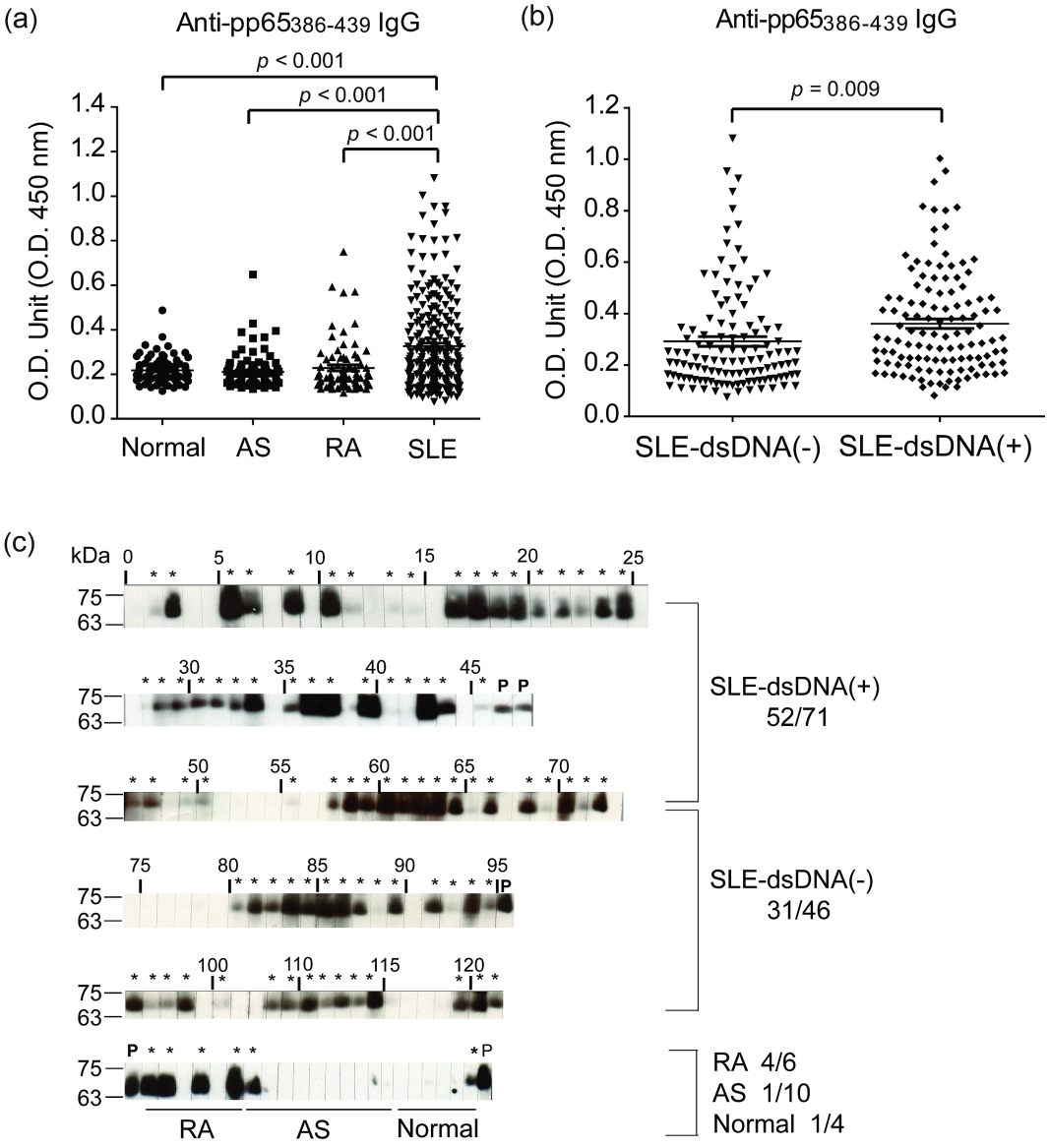

Additional file 1. Detection of IgG against pp65$_{386-439}$ from sera of SLE, AS, RA and normal control. (a) ELISA assays for IgG against pp65$_{386-439}$ with sera from SLE (*n*=238), AS (*n*=86), RA (*n*=78) and normal healthy (*n*=84). 1μg/well pp65$_{386-439}$ and 250x diluted human sera were used in tests. (b) The IgG against pp65$_{386-439}$ with sera from SLE-dsDNA(+) and SLE-dsDNA(-)(0.361 ± 0.018 vs. 0.292 ± 0.019, *P* = 0.009). (c) Reconfirmation of pp65$_{386-439}$ seropositive sera by western blotting. Full-length pp65 antigen (40 μg/per slab gel) and 1000x diluted sera were used for tests. In the ELISA assays, the positivity was defined by mean + 3xSEM of normal sera. OD_{450} >0.250 was considered to be positive. ELISA-based results revealed that 71 SLE-dsDNA(+), 46 SLE-dsDNA(-), 10 AS, 6 RA, and 4 normal healthy were positive for pp65$_{386-439}$. Among them, 52 SLE-dsDNA(+) (52/119, 43.70%), 31 SLE-dsDNA(-) (31/119, 26.05%), 1 AS (1/86, 1.16%), 4 RA (4/78, 5.13%) and 1 normal healthy (1/84, 1.19%) exhibited anti-pp65 reactivity in western blotting results, which are consistent to the anti-pp65$_{386-439}$ antibody titers examined in ELISA tests. Star marks (*) indicate sera are positive for pp65. Molecular mass markers (kD) are shown on the left. MW: molecular weight. kDa: kilodalton. Data are presented as the mean ± SEM of three independent experiments