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## Boronic Acid Recognition of Non-interacting Carbohydrates for Biomedical Applications:

### Increasing Fluorescence Signals of Minimally Interacting Aldoses and Sucralose

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### 1. Synthesis

The syntheses of 4, 4'-o-BBV was synthesized according to previously published procedures.



**Preparation of 4,4'-***o***-BBV.<sup>1</sup>** To a solution of 2-bromomethylphenyl boronic acid (0.77 g, 3.6 mmol) in dry MeCN (10 mL), MeOH (0.65 mL) and 4,4'-dipyridyl (0.23 g, 1.5 mmol) was added, and the reaction was stirred at 55 °C for 48 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and acetone (10 mL) was added to induce further precipitation of a pale yellow solid. The precipitate was centrifuged, washed with acetone (2 x 10mL) and dried under a stream of argon (0.85 g, 96%yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  9.06 (d, J=10 Hz, 4H), 8.47 (d, J=5 Hz, 4H), 7.79 (d, J=10Hz, 2H), 7.56 (m, 6H), 6.11 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  146.72, 135.51, 132.80, 130.44, 128.35, 127.85, 66.13; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (160 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  +29.83.

## 2. Reaction optimization for the NaBH<sub>4</sub> reduction of aldoses



**Scheme S-1.** Reaction conditions used for the reduction of aldoses used to obtain optimal conditions. To Circumvent false positive signals each reaction was performed in 0.05 M sodium phosphate-HEPES buffer to maintain pH of the reaction.



**Figure S-1.** Reaction optimization of NaBH<sub>4</sub> reduction of fucose. Normalized Intensity for the 4,4'-*o*-BBV (400  $\mu$ M) and HPTS (4  $\mu$ M) after each reaction condition. Control is the repeated condition in the absence of fucose.

#### **Binding constant calculations:**

Origin lab software was used to perform the calculation following the Benesi-Hildebrand plot where it is assumed that a 1:1 binding stoichiometry is present.<sup>1,2</sup> The following equation was used  $\binom{1}{2} Fmax$ 

 $\frac{F}{Fo} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{Fmax}{Fo}\right) * Kb * A}{1 + Kb * A}$  and inputted as the following function in origin lab software:  $y = \frac{1 + S * K * A}{1 + K * A}$  where S=maximum possible signal, K=binding constant, A=analyte concentration. K and S are

where S=maximum possible signal, K=binding constant, A=analyte concentration. K and S are considered the parameter variables and A is the independent variable while y is dependent.

Table S-1. Binding constants for each aldose after NaBH4 reduction compared to untreated aldose.

| 4,4'- <i>o</i> -BBV | Reduced Aldose (Binding constant M <sup>-1</sup> ) | Aldose (Binding constant M <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Fucose              | $21 \pm 2.6$                                       | $5.2 \pm 2.0$                              |
| Rhamnose            | $67 \pm 6.2$                                       | 9.5±1.5                                    |
| Xylose              | $52 \pm 8.5$                                       | $2.08 \pm 0.4$                             |



**Figure S2.** Non-linear fitted binding isotherms to obtain binding constants for reduced fucose (a) rhamnose (b) and xylose (c).

**Table S-2.** Limit of detection and quantification for reduced aldose versus unreacted aldose with 4,4'-*o*-BBV.

| 4,4'- <i>o</i> -BBV | Reduced Aldose (LOD, LOQ µM) | Aldose (LOD, LOQ mM) |
|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Fucose              | 175,560                      | 1.5, ND              |
| L-rhamnose          | 250,550                      | 1, ND                |
| Xylose              | 260, 475                     | 2, 6                 |

ND: not determined

### 3. Fluorescence Spectra of Chemically Modified Saccharides



**Figure S-3.** Recognition of xylose (A) compared to reduced xylose (B) of 4,4'-o-BBV (400 $\mu$ M) with HPTS in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer,  $\lambda_{ex}$ =405 nm, emission scan 450-600 nm. Change in fluorescence spectrum of HPTS (4 $\mu$ M) in the presence of 4,4'-o-BBV (400 $\mu$ M) upon addition of various concentrations of aldose or reduced aldose.



**Figure S-4.** Recognition of modified sucralose of 4,4'-o-BBV (400 $\mu$ M) with HPTS in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer,  $\lambda_{ex}$ =405 nm, emission scan 450-600 nm. Change in fluorescence spectrum of HPTS (4 $\mu$ M) in the presence of 4,4'-o-BBV (400 $\mu$ M) upon addition of various concentrations of modified sucralose.



Figure S-5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 4,4'-*o*-BBV



Figure S-6. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 4,4'-*o*-BBV

# 4. References

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- 2. S. Feryforgues, M. T. Lebris, J. P. Guette and B. Valeur, J. Phys. Chem., 1988, 92, 6233-6237.