

Supplementary Information for

“Development of Highly Sensitive Biosensors of RAF Dimerization in Cells”

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Supplementary Methods

Construction of split luciferase probes carrying BRAF(R509H) and CRAF(R401H) mutations

The BRAF(R509H) mutant fused to ELucC was obtained by introducing a point mutation (1526-1527ga>at) into BRAF-ELucC using the QuikChange II Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit. CRAF(R401H) mutants fused to either ELucN or ELucC were obtained by introducing a point mutation (1202-1203gg>at) into CRAF-ELucN or CRAF-ELucC, respectively.

Cell viability assay

293T cells were seeded in a 96-black-well plate (Corning) one day before transfection and co-transfected with a pair of RAF split luciferase probe plasmids in the same manner as described in RAF dimerization assay. AlamarBlue (Bio-Rad) was added to the cell culture 24 or 48 hours after transfection, incubated for 3 hours, and the fluorescence was recorded at an excitation wavelength of 540 nm and an emission wavelength of 590 nm using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). Results are presented as % differences compared to the cells co-transfected with empty vectors (pcDNA3.1/myc-His and pcDNA4/V5-His).

Kinase profiling

The inhibitory activities of RAF inhibitors towards BRAF, BRAF(V600E), CRAF(Y340D/Y341D), MEK1, MEK2, ERK1 and ERK2 were determined by performing a mobility shift assay (MSA) or ELISA with an ATP concentration near the K_m or 1 mM using a commercial kinase profiling service performed by Carna Biosciences, Inc. (Kobe, Japan). Detailed information on the assay conditions is available on the Carna Biosciences website (<https://www.carnabio.com/english/product/products-services.html>).

MEK-ERK phosphorylation assay in 293T exogenous expression system

293T cells were single or co-transfected with pcDNA4/V5-His plasmid encoding BRAF or BRAF(V600E), and/or pcDNA3.1/myc-His plasmid encoding CRAF. Approximately 48 hours after transfection, cells were treated with the indicated concentrations of RAF inhibitors for 2 hours, and the lysates were collected and analysed in the same manner as described in the main text. Lysates from untreated cells were analysed to assess BRAF and CRAF expression levels using BRAF rabbit monoclonal antibody (clone D9T6S, Cell Signaling Technology #14814, 1:2000 dilution), CRAF mouse monoclonal antibody (clone D5X6R, Cell Signaling Technology #12552, 1:2000 dilution), V5-epitope tag mouse monoclonal antibody (Invitrogen #R960-25, 1:2000 dilution), and Myc-tag mouse monoclonal antibody (clone 9B11, Cell Signaling Technology #2276, 1:2000 dilution).

Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table S1. Linker sequences of split luciferase probes used in Fig. 1a-d.

Name	Amino Acid Sequence
ELucN-Linker6-BRAF	GGGGDI
ELucC-Linker6-BRAF	GGGGDI
ELucN-Linker6-CRAF	GGGGGS
ELucC-Linker6-CRAF	GGGGDI
BRAF-Linker7-ELucN	GSSGGGG
BRAF-Linker7-ELucC	
CRAF-Linker7-ELucN	
CRAF-Linker7-ELucC	

Supplementary Table S2. Linker sequences of split luciferase probes (BRAF-ELucN, BRAF-ELucC, CRAF-ELucN, and CRAF-ELucC) used in Fig. 1e-g.

Name	Amino Acid Sequence
Linker 7	GSSGGGG
Linker 12	GSSGGGGSGGGG
Linker 17	GSSGGGGSGGGGSGGGG
Linker 22	GSSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGG
Linker 27	GSSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGG
Linker 32	GSSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSGGGG

Supplementary Table S3. The results of one-way ANOVAs of the effects of inhibitor treatments on RAF dimerization.

Treatment	df	Residuals	BRAF/BRAF		BRAF/BRAF(V60 OE)		CRAF/BRAF		CRAF/BRAF(V60 OE)		CRAF/CRAF	
			F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
Dabrafenib	3	8	59.86	<0.001	94.90	<0.001	232.6	<0.001	96.84	<0.001	562.9	<0.001
Vemurafenib	3	8	8.59	<0.001	43.23	<0.001	205.5	<0.001	31.28	<0.001	55.64	<0.001
Sorafenib	3	8	24.35	<0.001	579.4	<0.001	130.6	<0.001	211.4	<0.001	126.1	<0.001
Regorafenib	3	8	443.4	<0.001	799.5	<0.001	816.8	<0.001	273.4	<0.001	248.7	<0.001
LY3009120	3	8	1024	<0.001	172.9	<0.001	517.6	<0.001	508.8	<0.001	9447	<0.001
SB-590885	3	8	35.55	<0.001	35.55	<0.001	875.3	<0.001	491.8	<0.001	151.5	<0.001
MLN2480	3	8	94.94	<0.001	94.94	<0.001	519.3	<0.001	287.0	<0.001	30.58	<0.001
TAK-632	3	8	191.8	<0.001	191.8	<0.001	207.2	<0.001	233.5	<0.001	163.6	<0.001
PLX4720	3	8	6.30	0.017	3.87	0.056	38.69	<0.001	30.54	<0.001	10.15	<0.001
PLX7904	3	8	2.81	0.108	2.81	0.108	2.61	0.123	0.52	0.679	0.56	0.654

Data presented in Fig. 2 were analysed. df, degrees of freedom; F, F value; P, P value (n=3). Significant effects ($P < 0.05$)

are shown in bold.

Supplementary Table S4. IC₅₀ values (μM) of RAF inhibitors against RAF isoforms and the MAPK pathways at near-Km concentrations of ATP (ATP_{low}).

	BRAF	BRAF (V600E)	CRAF (Y340D/Y341D)	MEK1	MEK2	ERK1	ERK2
ATP (μM), Km/Bin	0.061/0.1	3.2/5	0.39/0.5	11/10	13/15	34/50	33/50
Dabrafenib	0.0033	0.0036	0.0018	9.3595	>10	>10	>10
Vemurafenib	0.0523	0.4172	0.0895	>10	>10	>10	>10
Sorafenib	0.4157	0.4050	0.0610	>10	>10	>10	>10
Regorafenib	0.2945	0.2346	0.0678	>10	>10	>10	>10
LY3009120	0.0250	0.0129	0.0033	7.6610	>10	>10	>10
SB-590885	0.0007	0.0012	0.0011	>10	>10	>10	>10
MLN2480	0.4082	0.3405	0.0812	>10	>10	>10	>10
TAK632	0.0579	0.0643	0.0267	>10	>10	>10	>10
PLX4720	0.1058	1.0188	0.0129	2.6575	>10	>10	>10
PLX7904	0.0139	0.1753	0.1179	8.1603	>10	>10	>10

Assay platforms used in this experiment were MSAs for ERK1 and ERK2 and ELISAs for other kinases. Assays were performed in the presence of near-Km concentrations of ATP (indicated as Bin).

Supplementary Table S5. IC₅₀ values (μM) of RAF inhibitors against RAF signalling cascades and the downstream MAPK pathways at 1 mM ATP (ATP_{high}).

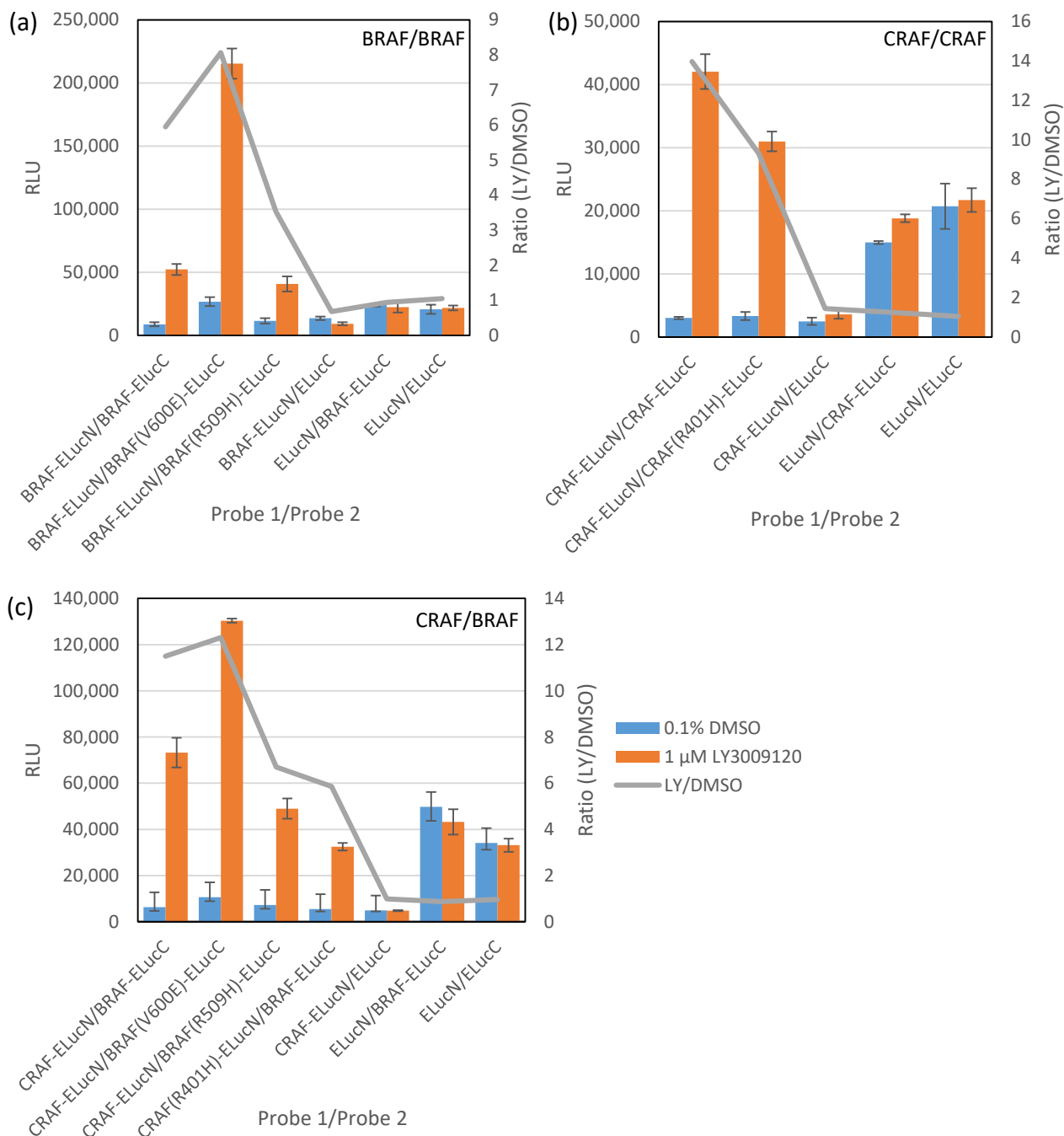
	BRAF Cascade	BRAF(V600E) Cascade	CRAF (Y340D/Y341D) Cascade	MEK1 Cascade	MEK2 Cascade	ERK1	ERK2
ATP (μM)	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Dabrafenib	6.1839	0.2120	0.1562	>10	>10	>10	>10
Vemurafenib	>10	7.3320	1.3498	>10	>10	>10	>10
Sorafenib	>10	2.1137	1.1771	>10	>10	>10	>10
Regorafenib	>10	2.2891	1.3746	>10	>10	>10	>10
LY3009120	4.9167	0.2635	0.2735	>10	>10	>10	>10
SB-590885	0.2684	0.0052	0.1779	>10	>10	>10	>10
MLN2480	>10	4.6092	2.2608	>10	>10	>10	>10
TAK-632	>10	0.8707	3.4853	>10	>10	>10	>10
PLX4720	>10	>10	0.1102	>10	>10	>10	>10
PLX7904	3.9451	1.3154	2.2135	>10	>10	>10	>10

An MSA was performed to determine IC₅₀ values in the presence of 1 mM ATP.

Supplementary Table S6. The results of two-way ANOVAs of the effects of the treatment type and time on RAF dimerization.

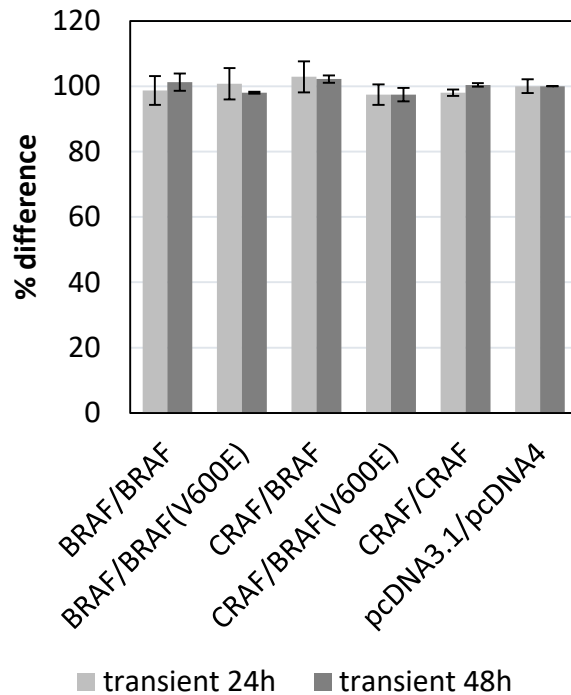
Probe pair	Treatment	df	Residuals	Time		Treatment		Time:Treatment	
				F	P	F	P	F	P
BRAF/BRAF	Dabrafenib	1	44	49.24	<0.001	228.61	<0.001	48.23	<0.001
	Vemurafenib	1	44	62.19	<0.001	141.47	<0.001	60.21	<0.001
	LY3009120	1	44	2.28	0.138	90.98	<0.001	2.11	0.153
	PLX7904	1	44	4.71	0.036	0.03	0.854	5.64	0.022
	TAK-632	1	44	6.82	0.012	118.31	<0.001	6.51	0.014
BRAF/BRAF(V600E)	Dabrafenib	1	44	46.12	<0.001	179.41	<0.001	41.26	<0.001
	Vemurafenib	1	44	76.27	<0.001	170.80	<0.001	64.56	<0.001
	LY3009120	1	42	10.59	0.002	106.39	<0.001	7.93	0.007
	PLX7904	1	44	58.08	<0.001	113.87	<0.001	35.71	<0.001
	TAK-632	1	44	4.30	0.044	106.84	<0.001	3.21	0.080
CRAF/BRAF	Dabrafenib	1	44	4.84	0.033	107.03	<0.001	6.46	0.015
	Vemurafenib	1	44	3.40	0.072	87.60	<0.001	9.47	0.004
	LY3009120	1	44	11.00	0.002	96.15	<0.001	13.27	0.001
	PLX7904	1	44	26.17	<0.001	0.81	0.372	0.46	0.501
	TAK-632	1	44	23.79	<0.001	89.97	<0.001	26.35	<0.001
CRAF/BRAF(V600E)	Dabrafenib	1	44	2.07	0.157	78.87	<0.001	3.23	0.079
	Vemurafenib	1	44	0.81	0.372	106.85	<0.001	8.75	0.005
	LY3009120	1	44	10.00	0.003	120.21	<0.001	11.87	0.001
	PLX7904	1	44	26.08	<0.001	0.86	0.358	1.19	0.281
	TAK-632	1	44	9.42	0.004	90.95	<0.001	11.33	0.002
CRAF/CRAF	Dabrafenib	1	47	9.55	0.003	80.05	<0.001	4.24	0.045
	Vemurafenib	1	47	35.15	<0.001	40.73	<0.001	11.12	0.002
	LY3009120	1	47	31.10	<0.001	99.73	<0.001	16.05	<0.001
	PLX7904	1	47	6.41	0.015	0.23	0.631	1.29	0.263
	TAK-632	1	47	108.92	<0.001	96.59	<0.001	67.30	<0.001

Data presented in Fig. 3 were analysed. df, degrees of freedom; F, F value; P, P value (n=3). Significant effects ($P < 0.05$) are shown in bold.



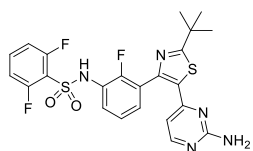
Supplementary Fig. S1. RAF split luciferase assay paired with dimerization-impaired mutants or unfused ELuc fragments.

293T cells were transiently co-transfected with the indicated pairs of plasmids and treated with 1 μM LY3009120 or 0.1% DMSO for 2 hours. Luciferase activities were measured, and the results are presented as RLU (means±SD, n=3) and the ratio of RLU measured in LY3009120-treated cells to DMSO-treated cells. Pairing with dimerization-impaired mutant, BRAF(R509H) or CRAF(R401H), resulted in a reduced LY/DMSO ratio compared to wildtype RAF proteins. The LY3009120 treatment did not increase luciferase activities in cells paired with unfused ELucN or ELucC compared to the DMSO control.

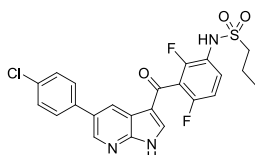


Supplementary Fig. S2. Viability of 293T cells transiently transfected with RAF split luciferase probes.

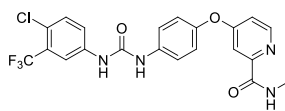
The viability of 293T cells transiently transfected with RAF split luciferase probes was analysed using AlamarBlue staining. Data are presented as % differences compared to vector-co-transfected cells (means \pm SD, n=2).



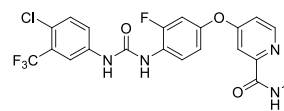
Dabrafenib



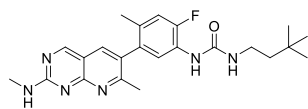
Vemurafenib



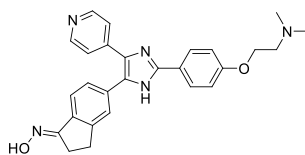
Sorafenib



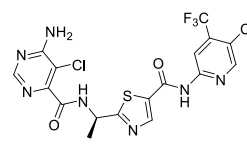
Regorafenib



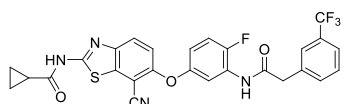
LY3009120



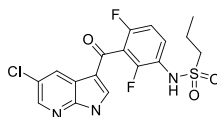
SB-590885



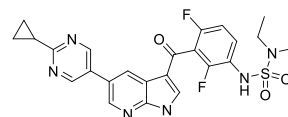
MLN2480



TAK-632

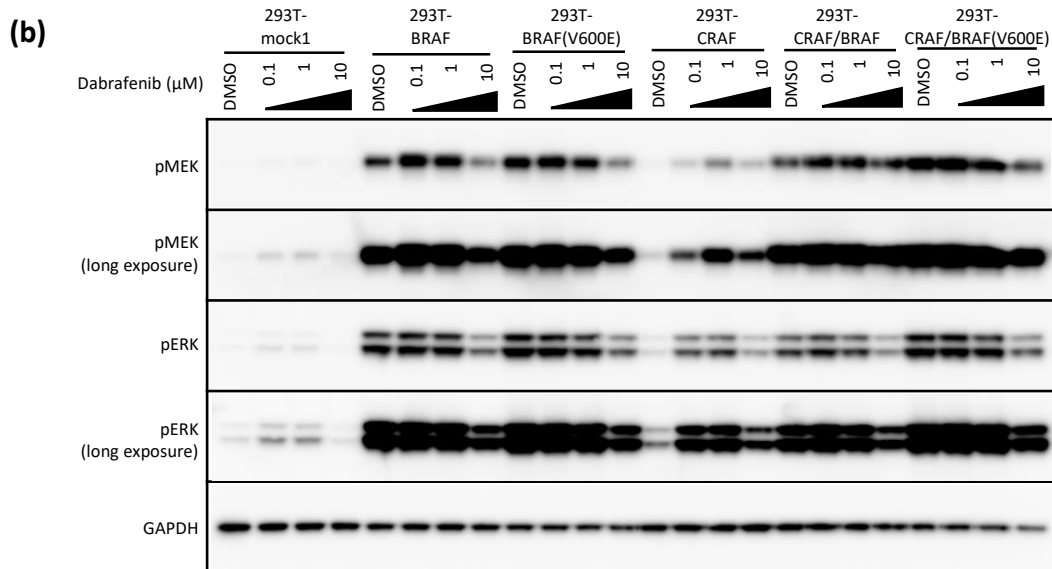
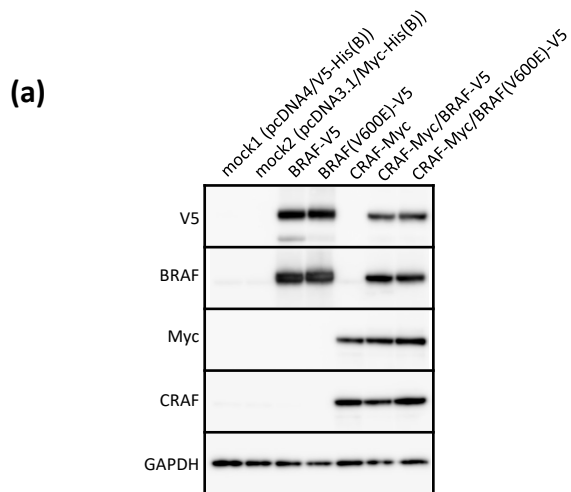


PLX4720



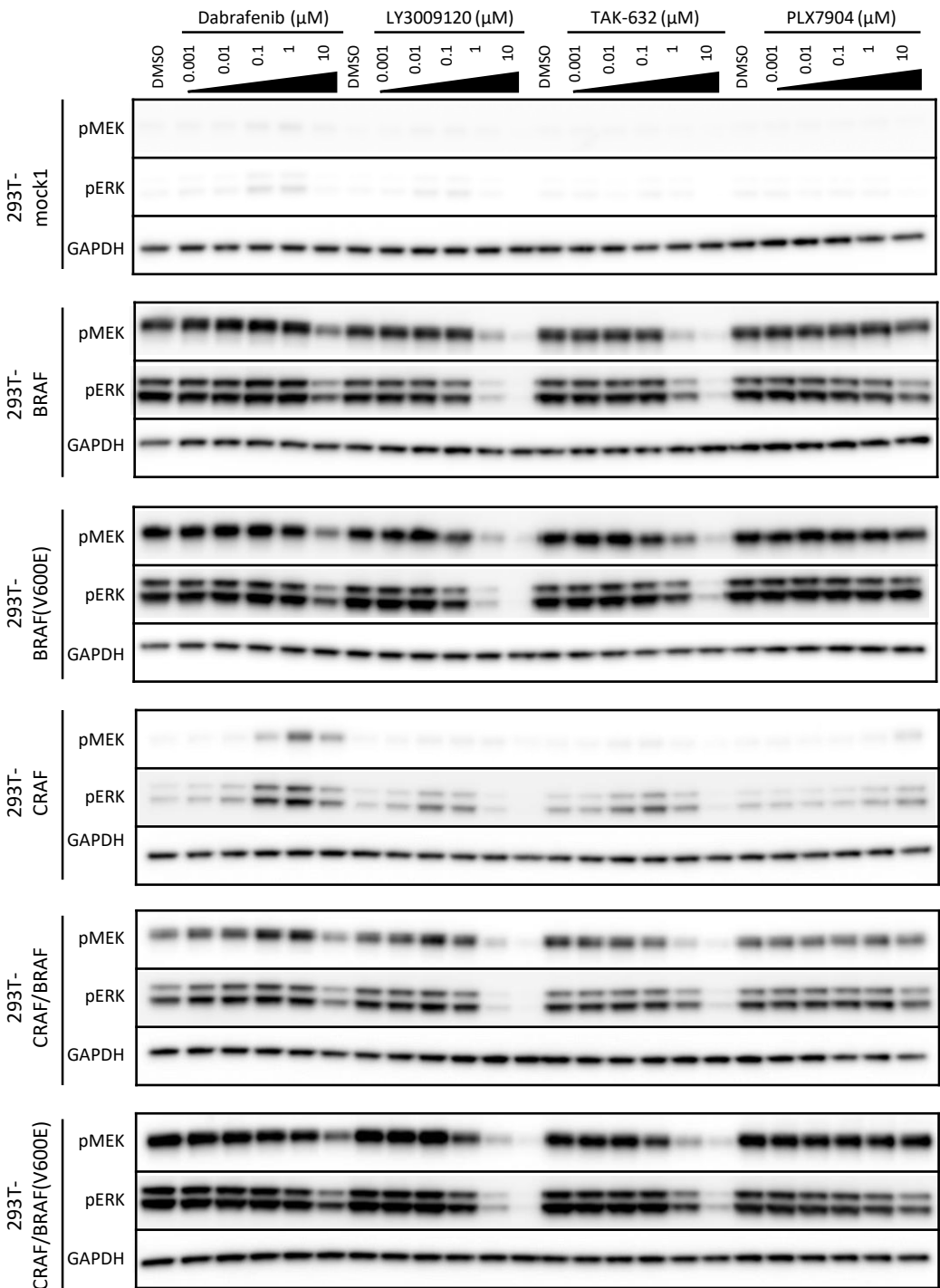
PLX7904

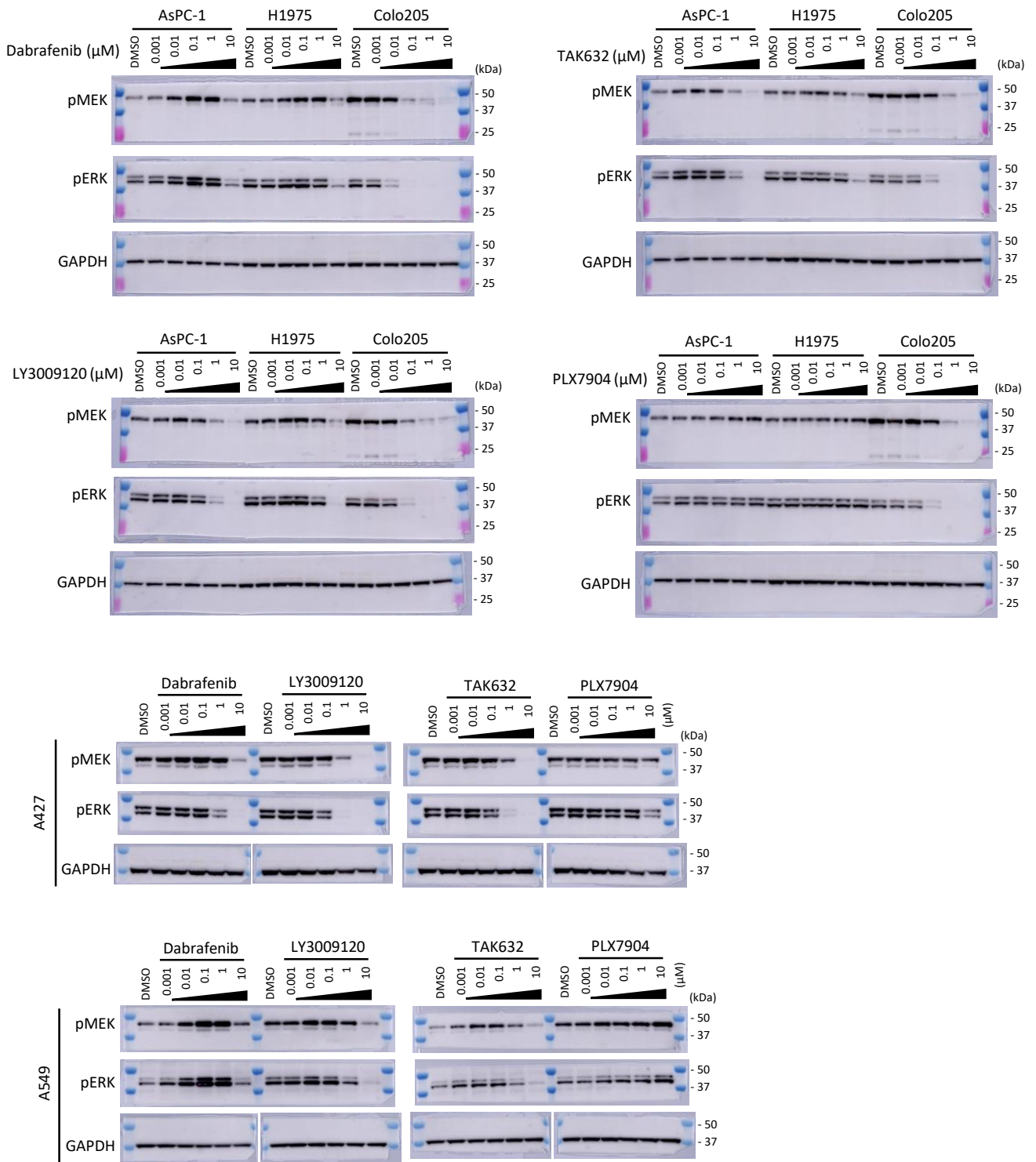
Supplementary Fig. S3. Chemical structures of RAF inhibitors used in this study.



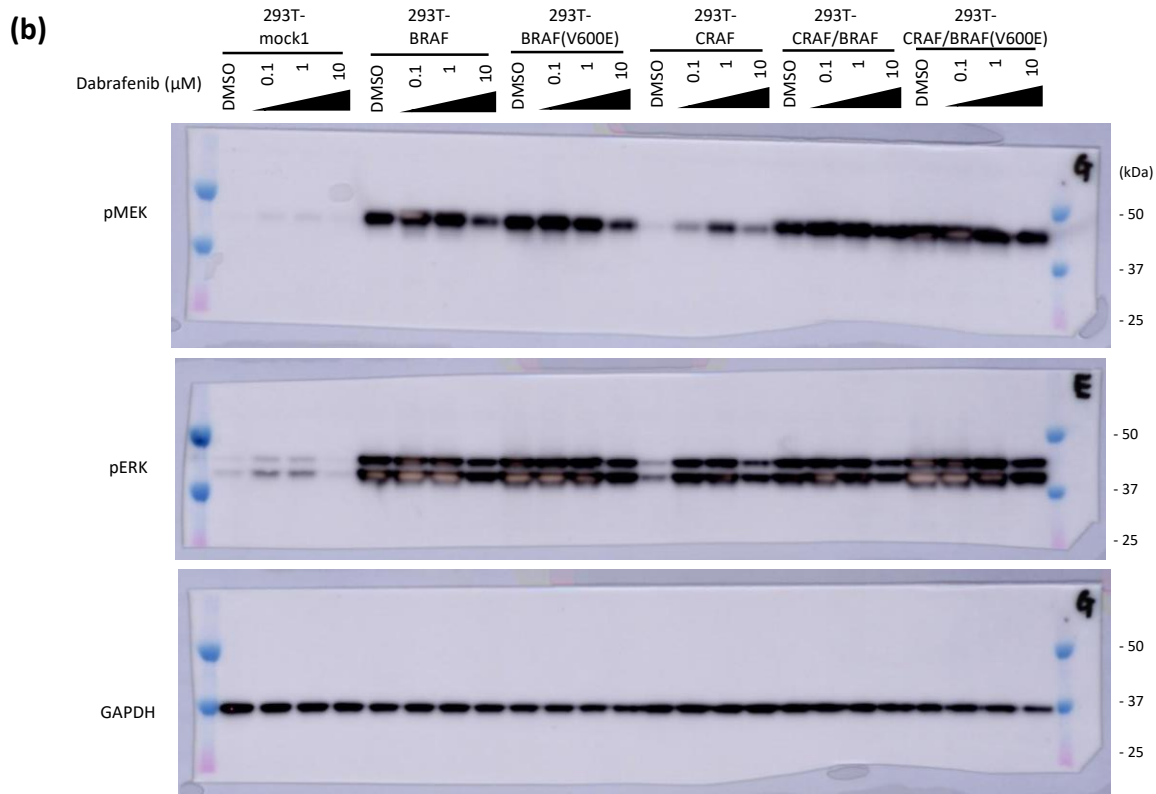
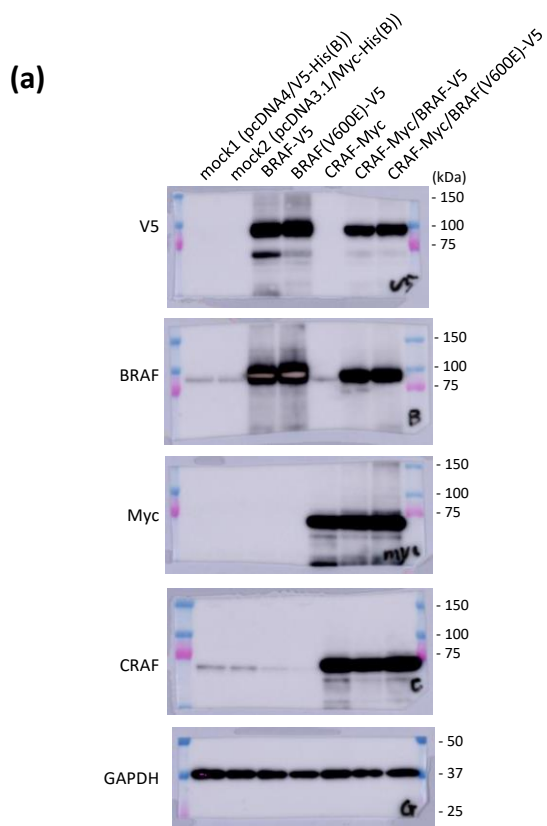
Supplementary Fig. S4. Effects of RAF inhibitors on the MAPK pathway in 293T cells transiently overexpressing BRAF, BRAF(V600E), and/or CRAF. **(a)** BRAF and CRAF expression levels in 293T cells 48 hours after transfection of BRAF, BRAF(V600E), and/or CRAF-encoding plasmids. **(b)** Phospho-MEK1/2, phospho-ERK1/2, and GAPDH expression levels in BRAF, BRAF(V600E), and/or CRAF-overexpressing 293T cells with a 2 hour-treatment of dabrafenib. **(c)** Phospho-MEK1/2, phospho-ERK1/2, and GAPDH expression levels in BRAF, BRAF(V600E), and/or CRAF-overexpressing 293T cells with a 2 hour-treatment of the indicated inhibitors. Solid black lines represent the boundaries of images cropped from different blots. The membranes were cut out before blotting, and full-length blots are unavailable. Uncropped images corresponding to (a) and (b) are shown in Supplementary Fig. S6.

(c)





Supplementary Fig. S5. Uncropped western blot images corresponding to Fig. 4. Blot images merged with colorimetric images are shown. Merged images were acquired right after the acquisition of blot images used in Fig. 4.



Supplementary Fig. S6. Uncropped western blot images corresponding to Supplementary Fig. S4a-b. Blot images merged with colorimetric images are shown. Merged images were acquired right after the acquisition of blot images used in Supplementary Fig. S4a-b.