

# **Supporting Information**

Cleaving to Connect: Non-Free Radical Photopolymerization for Orthogonal Multi Material Volumetric Bioprinting of Hydrogels

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## 1 Synthesis protocols

#### 1.1 Compound 1

*Compound* **1** was synthesized according to a protocol by Klimek *et al.*<sup>1</sup> To a solution of 5 g (21.62 mmol, 1 eq) of *7-Diethylamino-4-methylcoumarin* in 40 mL DMF, 4.31 mL (32.43 mmol, 1.5 eq) DMF-DMA was added under stirring. The reaction mixture was refluxed at 155 °C. After 8 hours the heating element was switched off, allowing for slow cooling down to room temperature. The mixture was continued to stir overnight. After 14 hours, yellow precipitation was visible. The precipitate was filtrated and kept separately. The filtrate was added to 400 mL of ice water, giving further yellow/brown precipitation. This solution was filtrated several times, yielding more precipitate. The combined precipitate was washed with 500 mL distilled water and subsequently dried over a Büchner filter. A yellow/brown solid was obtained, 4.61 g (75% yield). The structure was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  7.52 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 6.60 – 6.46 (m, 2H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (qd, *J* = 7.1, 4.2 Hz, 4H), 2.99 (s, 6H), 1.19 (td, *J* = 7.1, 3.1 Hz, 6H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  163.99, 156.80, 152.88, 150.57, 147.15, 125.28, 108.57, 108.36, 98.09, 93.76, 87.87, 45.09, 12.87.

<sup>o</sup>When no new precipitate remained on the filter, the next step was done. Since the filtrate was still slightly cloudy, it was put in the refrigerator at 4 °C for overnight to see if more precipitation or larger crystals would be formed. However, when filtrating this solution, no new precipitate remained on filter.

#### 1.2 Compound **2**

*Compounds* **2** and **3** were synthesized according to a protocol by Weinrich *et al.*<sup>2</sup> To a solution of 2 g (6.98 mmol, 1 eq) of *compound* **1** in 20 mL THF/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1), 4.49 g (20.95, 3 eq) NalO<sub>4</sub> was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 hours. The precipitate was filtered off and was washed with ethyl acetate. Half of the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Extraction of the resulting solution was done with concentrated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution, followed by three repeated extractions of the aqueous phase with DCM. Both organic layers (ethyl acetate and total amount of DCM) were combined and dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub>. A red resin was obtained, 1.69 g (98% yield). The structure of *compound* **2** was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.03 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 3.43 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  192.63, 161.94, 157.48, 150.99, 144.02, 127.20, 117.66, 109.84, 98.00, 45.09, 12.54.

#### 1.3 Compound **3**

A solution of 1.69 g (6.89 mmol, 1 eq) of *compound* **2** in 20 mL THF was cooled to 0 °C, and 0.52 g (13.78 mmol, 2 eq) NaBH<sub>4</sub> was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 hours. 20 mL of concentrated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> was added and the organic phase was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with 20 mL DCM, three times. The organic phases were combined and dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub> airflow. Brown solid crystals were obtained, 1.54 g (91% yield). The structure was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  7.34 (dd, *J* = 24.9, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (td, *J* = 9.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.29 – 6.23 (m, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (d,

J = 1.4 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (qd, J = 7.1, 3.7 Hz, 4H), 1.20 (td, J = 7.1, 2.7 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  162.76, 156.30, 154.85, 150.64, 124.51, 108.56, 106.44, 105.58, 98.34, 61.11, 44.85, 12.58.

#### 1.4 Compound 4

*Compounds* **4**, **5**, and **6** were synthesized according to a protocol by Fournier *et al.*<sup>3</sup> A solution of 2.4891 g (10.07 mmol, 1 eq) of *compound* **3**, 1.4850 g (12.08 mmol, 1.2 eq) DMAP, and 0.6908 mL (12.08 mmol, 1.2 eq) acetic acid in 165 mL dry DCM was cooled to 0 °C and flushed with N<sub>2</sub> for 10 minutes. Under stirring 2.4922g (12.08 mmol, 1.2 eq) of DCC was added. For 15 hours at room temperature in the dark under N<sub>2</sub>, the mixture was stirred. The mixture was filtrated, and the filtrate was washed with 200 mL 1.2 M HCL. The organic phase was washed with 200 mL concentrated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub> airflow. An orange powder was obtained, 2.6645 g (91% yield). The structure was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  7.39 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 2H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 5.21 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 2.33 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3)  $\delta$  170.72, 162.33, 156.72, 151.12, 149.83, 125.95, 124.82, 109.13, 106.92, 106.48, 98.33, 61.80, 45.22, 34.40, 25.40, 21.21, 12.88.

#### 1.5 Compound **5**

A solution of 2.37 g of *compound* **4** and 2.23 g of Lawesson's reagent in 300 mL dry Toluene was refluxed at 100 °C in the dark and under N<sub>2</sub> for 16.5 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and column chromatography was done for purification, using DCM as eluent. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub> airflow. An orange powder was obtained, 1.31 g (47% yield). The structure was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.70 – 6.62 (m, 2H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 3.43 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.02, 158.87, 150.84, 141.66, 124.27, 120.39, 110.12, 108.01, 97.30, 60.79, 44.77, 20.60, 12.23.

After measuring NMR, the tube was kept on the bench for 4 days under normal light conditions. After 4 days, it was measured again, yielding a similar spectrum.

#### 1.6 Compound 6

To a solution of 0.1972 g (0.65 mmol, 1 eq) of *compound* **5** in 140 mL ethanol (absolute) was added 1.29 mL (1.61 mmol, 2.5 eq) of 1.25 M ethanolic HCl solution. The mixture was refluxed at 70 °C in the dark and under N<sub>2</sub> for 15 hours. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The sample was dry loaded on a chromatography column. DCM was used as the starting eluent to remove impurities. DCM/acetone in a gradient from 95/5 up until 50/50 (v/v) removed *compound* **6** from the column. This fraction was dried by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub> airflow. A yellow/brown powder was obtained, 0.1458 g (86% yield). The structure was confirmed by NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, acetone)  $\delta$  7.53 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (s, 2H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, acetone)  $\delta$  198.46, 159.79, 151.98, 149.27, 125.96, 120.32, 111.18, 109.15, 97.54, 60.23, 45.37, 12.80. Wet loading and/or only using DCM/acetone in a 95/5 ratio as done by Fournier et al. gave lower yields (20-63%).

After most syntheses and NMR measurements, compounds were transferred to 20 mL (light protective) storage vials. This was done by partially scraping most of the compounds out of the round bottom flasks and by dissolving the remaining parts with acetone and transferring them to the vials using a Pasteur pipette. Acetone was then evaporated under N<sub>2</sub> airflow, yielding dry compounds without transfer loss. Drying sometimes was slower than expected, especially after larger scale reactions. For example, after one synthesis of compound **4** yielding 3.3 g, the weight of the vial and compound kept decreasing even after two weeks of drying, although very slowly at the end. This means that small amounts of acetone may have remained present.

#### 1.7 Protected EDT

The protocol of San Miguel *et al.*<sup>4</sup> served as inspiration for the protection syntheses of both *EDT* and *4arm PEG 5000-SH*, replacing 3-(mercaptopropyl)triethoxysilane. Also, molar ratios and reaction times were adjusted. *EDT* and *4arm PEG 5000-SH* were synthesized in two-step reactions shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.



Figure 1: The protection synthesis of EDT by compound 6 in a two-step reaction.

In step 1, 35.5 mg (0.13 mmol, 2.5 eq) of *compound* **6** was dissolved in 4 mL dry DCM. 54.3 mg (0.44 mmol, 8.3 eq) 4-DMAP and 47.9 mg (0.24 mmol, 4.4 eq) 4-NPC were added, and the solution was stirred in the dark. After 18 hours, this mixture was spotted on TLC. The presence of *compound* **6** was still visible, as well as a new compound giving an orange color on TLC. After 24 hours total, another TLC spot was done, *compound* **6** was barely visible and step 2 of the reaction was started. 17.1 mg (0.14 mmol, 2.6 eq) 4-DMAP, 0.075 mL triethylamine (0.54 mmol, 10 eq), and 0.0088 mL (0.05 mmol, 1 eq) *EDT* were added. The mixture was stirred in the dark for 40 hours, after which the solvent was removed. The *protected EDT* was purified by silica gel chromatography using DCM/MeOH in a gradient from 99/1 to 90/10. The appropriate fraction was dried by rotary evaporation and further dried under N<sub>2</sub> airflow. The *protected EDT* was obtained as a dark brown sticky resin, 41.8 mg (quantitative yield).



Figure 2: The protection synthesis of the 4arm PEG Thiol by compound 6 in a two-step reaction.

In step 1, 130.1 mg (5 eq, 0.49 mmol) of *compound* **6** was dissolved in 16 mL dry DCM. 206.3 (16.5 eq, 1.63 mmol) 4-DMAP, and 180.6 (8.9 eq, 0.89 mmol) 4-NPC were added, and the solution was stirred in the dark. After 24 hours, this mixture was spotted on TLC. The intermediary compound was present, with *compound* **6** not visible anymore. In step 2, 35.5 mg (2.6 eq, 0.29 mmol) 4-DMAP, 0.1376 mL (10 eq, 0.99 mmol) triethylamine, and 494.6 mg (1 eq, 0.1 mmol) of *4arm PEG 5000-SH* were added. 40 hours after starting step 2 the solvent was removed. The *protected 4arm PEG* was purified by silica gel chromatography. A DCM/MeOH gradient from 99/1 up until 90/10 separated the compounds. The *protected 4arm PEG 4arm PEG* was obtained as an orange powder.

The structure and an 80% degree of protection were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR: integration of the methyl groups at 1.2 ppm belonging to the -CH<sub>3</sub> groups of the coumarin were determined at 4.82 (should be 6) protons against a set integral of 2 of the two triplets between 3.02-3.12 ppm, belonging the -CH<sub>2</sub> groups of the 4arm next to the thiols (Figure 12). Because of a wide single peak between 1.87-2.5 ppm, presumed to be H<sub>2</sub>O, the sample was dissolved in Milli-Q and freeze-dried. The final yield obtained was 0.4876 g (85% yield).

#### 1.9 HA-MAL

HA-MAL was synthesized according to a protocol from Yoo *et al.*<sup>5</sup> from HA and 1-(2-aminoethyl)maleimide by EDC/NHS coupling in buffer solution at pH 4.5, shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Functionalization of the carboxylic acids on HA with maleimide.

1.05 gram (2.48 mmol, 1 eq) *sodium hyaluronate containing* 5%  $H_2O$  was dissolved in 100 mL 0.1 M MES buffer at pH 4.5, taking 30 minutes under stirring. 0.58 g (2.97 mmol, 1.2 eq) EDC and 0.34 g (2.97 mmol, 1.2 eq) NHS were dissolved in 10 mL 0.1 M MES buffer at pH 4.5. After rapid solvation, this was added to the sodium hyaluronate solution. The mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature at 300 rpm. 0.53 g (2.97 mmol, 1.2 eq) of *1-(2-aminoethyl) maleimide HCI* was dissolved in 5 mL distilled water and then added dropwise to the reaction mixture. It was stirred for 23 hours at 300 rpm and then dialyzed (MWCO 12.000-14.000) in 5 L of water at pH 3.25 for three days at 100 rpm. The pH of pure solution was lowered to 3 and filtered through a 0.2  $\mu$ m filter. The final solution was freeze-dried, yielding 1.04 g of *HA-MAL*. A 12% DoF was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR: integration of new maleimide peaks at 6.94 and 6.90 ppm was determined at 0.24 (should be 2 protons) against a set integral of 3 of the peak at 2.03 ppm, belonging to the N-acetyl group.

A second synthesis was done, with the only apparent difference of having the EDC and NHS already dissolved together for 30 minutes. This synthesis resulted in a 6.5% DoF.

# 2 Synthesis NMR Spectra

# 2.1 Starting compound



Figure 4: Starting coumarin NMR spectra in cdcl3.

#### 2.2 Compound 1



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 ff(ppm)

Figure 5: Compound **1** NMR spectra in cdcl3. Of note, the peak at 2.33 ppm of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum likely belongs to a portion unreacted starting coumarin. On the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, C13 and C14 do not occur for an unknown reason, similar as in the reference.

### 2.3 Compound 2



### 2.4 Compound 3



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 110 100 f1 (ppm) - 10 Figure 7: Compound **3** NMR spectra in cdcl3.

#### 2.5 Compound 4



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 10 00 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 -10 ft(gsm)

Figure 8: Compound **4** NMR spectra in cdcl3. Of note, the respective peaks between 1 and 2 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and the peaks at 26 and 34 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C NMR correlate with DCC, one of the synthesis reactants.

#### Compound 5 2.6



210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 f1(ppm) ò Figure 9: Compound **5** NMR spectra in cdcl3.

### 2.7 Compound 6



<sup>220</sup> 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 Figure 10: Compound 6 NMR spectra in d-acetone.

#### 2.8 Protected EDT





#### 2.9 Protected 4arm PEG



Figure 12: Protected 4arm PEG <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum. For simplicity, one of the identical four arms is schematized with the other three shown as R. Integration was done for one arm, the number of actual protons in the molecule is four times higher. Of note is the intensity of the PEG -CH<sub>2</sub> in the range of 3.4-3.5 ppm. For this reason, the <sup>13</sup>C NMR is absent due to absence of other peaks (not shown).





Figure 14: Second synthesis HA-MAL compared to first synthesis. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra in  $D_2O$ . Top: First synthesis result. Bottom: second synthesis of HA-MAL with 6.5% DoF. The main additional peaks of first synthesized HA-MAL can be attributed to the internal standard DSS present in the used  $D_2O$ , whereas in for the second batch another bottle of  $D_2O$  was used without internal standard. DSS is known to have resonance at 0, 0.63, 1.75, and 2.91 ppm.

# 3 GPC spectra

#### 3.1 Overview first experiment



Figure 15: Linear PEG 2000 - EDT conjugation. A: PEG in PBS. Size estimated at 2650 Da. B: PEG in DMF. Size estimated at 2678 Da. C: PEG-EDT in PBS. Four populations distinguished: 2157 (29.84%), 2625 (40.56%), 5712 (13.51%), and 9208 (16.09%) Da. D: PEG-EDT in DMF. Two populations distinguished: 1898 (31.30%) and 9411 (68.70%) Da.



Figure 16: Linear PEG 5000 - EDT conjugation. A: PEG in PBS. Size estimated at 5983 Da. B: PEG in DMF. Size estimated at 6021 Da. C: PEG-EDT in PBS. Three populations distinguished: 5915 (61.48%), 12835 (16.48%), 19950 (22.04%) Da. D: PEG-EDT in DMF. Two populations distinguished: 4425 (28.19%) and 20677 (71.81%) Da.



#### 3.2 Results of repetition of experiment in duplo

Figure 17: Linear PEG 2000 in PBS. Size estimations were 2551 and 2567 Da.



Figure 18: Linear PEG 5000 in PBS. Size estimations 5829 and 5847 Da. Also minor populations of larger compounds were present.



Figure 19: Linear PEG 2000 in DMF. Size estimations were 2591 and 2592 Da.



Figure 20: Linear PEG 5000 in DMF. Size estimations were 5917 and 5905 Da.



Figure 21: Linear PEG 2000 and EDT in PBS. Three populations are visible.



Figure 22: Linear PEG 5000 and EDT in PBS. Three populations are visible.



Figure 23: Linear PEG 2000 and EDT in DMF. Distinction between two populations was made.



Figure 24: Linear PEG 5000 and EDT in DMF. Distinction between either three or two populations was made.

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