

## Structural biology of human TRPV1 channel intracellular domain toward elucidation of redox mechanism

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### 1 Introduction

Transient Receptor Potential (TRP) cation channel exists as a tetramer and it is involved in various biological functions as sensors of stimulus reception. One of them, TRPV1, is activated by capsaicin - main component of pepper -, heat higher than 42°C, and oxidation. TRPV1 has a very characteristic structure called Ankyrin Repeat Domain (ARD) at the N-terminus. Human TRPV1 (hTRPV1) forms an inter-subunit disulfide bond (Cys258- Cys742), suggesting that it is involved in redox-sensing [1]. Therefore, in this study, we aimed to determine the structure of hTRPV1-ARD containing Cys258, the structure of hTRPV1-Ctrem containing Cys742 and their complex under non-reducing condition to elucidate the binding mode of the disulfide bond at atomic level.

### 2 Experiment

hTRPV1-ARD (101-365) fused with GST-tag was expressed in *E.coli* Rosetta (DE3). After GST affinity chromatography was performed to collect the GST-hTRPV1-ARD, the GST-tag was cleaved by Thrombin. Thereafter, GST affinity chromatography was performed again to separate GST-tag and succeeded obtaining hTRPV1-ARD. Crystallization of the purified hTRPV1-ARD was performed with the similar conditions as rTRPV1-ARD [2]. Because hTRPV1-Ctrem was not able to be obtained with sufficient quantity, a peptide of small region of hTRPV1-Ctrem was prepared and co-crystallization with hTRPV1-ARD was attempted. X-ray diffraction experiments and the structural analysis were performed.

### 3 Results and Discussion

Good quality crystals were grown in the presence of 0.125 M sodium citrate (pH 5.0), 5% (w/v) PEG 8000 and 2.5% (v/v) glycerol as a reservoir solution. In the X-ray diffraction experiments, crystals did not diffract X-ray well at the initial stage and data suitable for structure analysis could not be obtained, however 4.5 Å resolution data could be obtained under the condition that the cryoprotectant was changed to glucose from glycerol. Molecular replacement was

performed using the structure of rTRPV1-ARD as an initial model, and the structure of hTRPV1-ARD could be determined at the main chain level (Fig. 1). This crystal belonged to the space group C2, has a high solvent content of 72%, and has a very unique structure containing six molecules of hTRPV1-ARD in the asymmetric unit. When compared with the structure of rTRPV1-ARD, some differences in the structure of the ligand binding pocket were found near Cys258 which was suggested to form a disulfide bond with the C-terminal Cys742. This difference between structures of hTRPV1-ARD and rTRPV1-ARD can be considered to relate to the high oxidation sensitivity of Cys258 in hTRPV1 [3].



Fig. 1: Overall Structure of hTRPV1-ARD [3].

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### References

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### Research Achievements

1. Poster Award in the 46<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Biomolecular Science (2019), Tsukuba

2. Flash and Poster Presentations Award,  
AsCA2019, Singapore

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