

## ALFA sdAb

Cat.No. N1502-Li680-L; Single Domain camelid antibody, 200 µl FluoTag-X2

### Data Sheet

Reconstitution/ Storage	200 µl purified antibody, lyophilized from PBS. Albumin was added for stabilization. For <b>reconstitution</b> add 200 µl H <sub>2</sub> O. Either add 1:1 (v/v) glycerol, then aliquot and store at -20°C until use, or store aliquots at -80°C without additives. Reconstitute immediately upon receipt! Avoid bright light when working with the antibody to minimize photo bleaching of the fluorescent dye. For detailed information, see back of the data sheet.
Storage	Up to three months: -20°C Up to 12 months: -80°C or below Protect from light!
Applications	<b>WB:</b> yes <b>ICC:</b> 1 : 500 <b>FACS:</b> yes
Label	Licor 680RD, two fluorophores coupled to one FluoTag
Clone	1G5
Subtype	single domain
Immunogen	Synthetic peptide corresponding to: SRLEEELRRRLTE (UniProt Id: not defined)
Specificity	Recognizes the ALFA tag: SRLEEELRRRLTE

**TO BE USED IN VITRO / FOR RESEARCH ONLY**  
**NOT TOXIC, NOT HAZARDOUS, NOT INFECTIOUS, NOT CONTAGIOUS**

### Background

The **ALFA**-tag is a novel, rationally designed epitope tag (SRLEEELRRRLTE) that forms a small and stable  $\alpha$ -helix that is functional irrespective of its position on the target protein in prokaryotic and eukaryotic hosts.

The **ALFA**-tag has the broadest spectrum of applications in life sciences compared to any other tag. NanoTag developed a nanobody binding the ALFA-tag with ~26 pM affinity, which is ideally suited not only for super-resolution microscopy, immunoprecipitations and Western blotting, but also allows detection of proteins within living cells. This nanobody can be conjugated to virtually all kinds of fluorophores, enzymes or other biomolecules.

Unlabeled variants and several modifications of sdAbs like biotin, fluorophore or DBCO conjugation are available.

In **FluoTag@-X2** two fluorophore molecules are site-specifically coupled to each FluoTag molecule. Therefore, the reagent simultaneously targets two fluorophores to the protein of interest, which ensures up to two-fold („2X”)-brighter signals. Owing to the small size of the FluoTags, the distance between the target epitope and each fluorophore is ~ 3 nm.

In comparison to detection systems using conventional antibodies, FluoTag-X can thus improve the localization accuracy by 10-15 nm. Both features - superior brightness and precise fluorophore placement - render the FluoTag-X products excellent tools for all microscopy techniques.

[[ALFA\_imaging.png]]

Access the online factsheet including applicable protocols at <https://sysy.com/product/N1502-Li680-L> or scan the QR-code.



## FAQ - How should I store my antibody?

### Shipping Conditions

- All our antibodies and control proteins / peptides are shipped lyophilized (vacuum freeze-dried) and are stable in this form without loss of quality at ambient temperatures for several weeks.

### Storage of Sealed Vials after Delivery

- **Unlabeled** and **biotin-labeled antibodies** and **control proteins** should be stored at 4°C before reconstitution. **They must not be stored in the freezer when still lyophilized!** Temperatures below zero may cause loss of performance.
- **Fluorescence-labeled antibodies** should be reconstituted immediately upon receipt. Long term storage (several months) may lead to aggregation.
- **Control peptides** should be kept at -20°C before reconstitution.

### Long Term Storage after Reconstitution (General Considerations)

- The storage freezer must not be of the frost-free variety ("no-frost freezer"). This cycle between freezing and thawing (to reduce frost-build-up), which is exactly what should be avoided. For the same reason, antibody vials should be placed in an area of the freezer that has minimal temperature fluctuations, for instance towards the back rather than on a door shelf.
- Aliquot the antibody and store frozen (-20°C to -80°C). Avoid very small aliquots (below 20 µl) and use the smallest storage vial or tube possible. The smaller the aliquot, the more the stock concentration is affected by evaporation and adsorption of the antibody to the surface of the storage vial or tube. Adsorption of the antibody to the surface leads to a substantial loss of activity.
- The addition of glycerol to a final concentration of 50% lowers the freezing point of your stock and keeps your antibody at -20°C in liquid state. This efficiently avoids freeze and thaw cycles.

### Product Specific Hints for Storage

#### Control proteins / peptides

- Store at -20°C to -80°C.

#### Monoclonal Antibodies

- **Ascites** and **hybridoma supernatant** should be stored at -20°C up to -80°C. **Prolonged storage at 4°C is not recommended!** Unlike serum, ascites may contain proteases that will degrade the antibodies.
- **Purified IgG** should be stored at -20°C up to -80°C. Adding a carrier protein like BSA will increase long term stability. Many of our antibodies already contain carrier proteins. Please refer to the data-sheet for detailed information.

#### Polyclonal Antibodies

- **Crude antisera:** With anti-microbials added, they may be stored at 4°C. However, frozen storage (-20°C up to -80°C) is preferable.
- **Affinity purified antibodies:** Less robust than antisera. Storage at -20°C up to -80°C is recommended. Adding a carrier protein like BSA will increase long term stability. Most of our antibodies already contain carrier proteins. Please refer to the data-sheet for detailed information.

#### Fluorescence-labeled Antibodies

- Store as a liquid with 1 : 1 (v/v) glycerol at -20°C. Protect these antibodies from light exposure.

## Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles for all antibodies!

## FAQ - How should I reconstitute my antibody?

### Reconstitution

- All our purified antibodies are lyophilized from PBS. To reconstitute the antibody in PBS, add the amount of deionized water given in the respective datasheet. If higher volumes are preferred, add water as mentioned above and then the desired amount of PBS and a stabilizing carrier protein (e.g. BSA) to a final concentration of 2%. Some of our antibodies already contain albumin. Take this into account when adding more carrier protein. For complete reconstitution, carefully remove the lid. After adding water, briefly vortex the solution. You can spin down the liquid by placing the vial into a 50 ml centrifugation tube filled with paper.
- If desired, add small amounts of azide or thimerosal to prevent microbial growth. This is especially recommended if you want to keep an aliquot at 4°C.
- After reconstitution of fluorescence-labeled antibodies, add 1 : 1 (v/v) glycerol to a final concentration of 50%. This lowers the freezing point of your stock and keeps your antibody in liquid state at -20°C.
- Glycerol may also be added to unlabeled primary antibodies. It is a suitable way to avoid freeze-thaw cycles.
- Please refer to our **tips and hints for subsequent storage** of reconstituted antibodies and control peptides and proteins.