Electronic Supplementary Information

Catalytic formation of luminescent lanthanide complexes using entropy-driven DNA circuit

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Oligonucleotides. ODNs were synthesized by a conventional phosphoramidite method on a universal CPG (controlled pore glass) column (Glen Research). Cleavage from the CPG support and deprotection was carried out by incubation in aqueous ammonia (28 %) for 8 h at 80 °C. The aqueous ammonia was evaporated under reduced pressure. From these crude mixtures, the resulting ODNs were purified with a conventional two-step procedure using RP-HPLC (linear gradient: 0.1 M triethylammonium acetate (TEAA), pH 7.0/acetonitrile) and identified with MALDI-TOF/MS. For the synthesis of **Phen-DNA** and **EDTA-DNA**, 5'- and 3'-aminohexsyl-linked DNAs were purified.

Synthesis of EDTA-DNA. The purified 3'-aminohexsyl-linked DNA (20 nmol) was dissolved in 20 μ L of 0.5 M carbonate-Na buffer (pH 9.37). To this solution, was added phen active ester (2 μ mol) dissolved in 40 μ L DMSO. The resulting solution was stirred at ambient temperature for 24 h. After dilution to 300 μ L with 0.5 M EDTA solution (pH 8.0), the mixture was purified by RP-HPLC under the following conditions: column: InertSustain C18, GL Sciences; room temperature; flow rate: 1.0 mL min⁻¹; eluent A: 0.1 M TEAA (pH 7.0); eluent B: acetonitrile; linear gradient, 0–20 % B in 30 min. MALDI-TOF/MS: calcd for [EDTA-DNA – H]⁻: m/z = 16182.59, found: 161680.80.



Fig. S1. (a) RP-HPLC chromatogram of the reaction mixture containing **EDTA-DNA**. Column: InertSustain C18 (4.6 mm (Φ) x 150 mm (w), GL Sciences); eluent A: 0.1 mM TEAA buffer (pH = 7.0); eluent B: acetonitrile; linear gradient: 0-20 % B in 30 min; flow rate: 1.0 mL/min. (b) MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of the fraction at 23.4 min in Fig. S1a.

Synthesis of Phen-DNA. The purified 5'-aminohexsyl-linked DNA (20 nmol) was dissolved in 30 μ L of 0.5 M carbonate-Na buffer (pH 9.37). To this solution, was added phen active ester (2 μ mol) dissolved in 60 μ L DMSO. The resulting solution was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. The mixture was subjected to GPC (NAP10 Column, Sephadex G-25, GE Healthcare Life Sciences) to remove excess hydrolyzed ester. After lyophilization, the residue was redissolved in 300 μ L of 0.5 M EDTA solution (pH 8.0), and then purified by RP-HPLC under the following conditions: column: InertSustain C18, GL Sciences; room temperature; flow rate: 1.0 mL min⁻¹; eluent A: 0.1 M TEAA (pH 7.0); eluent B: acetonitrile; linear gradient, 0–20 % B in 30 min. MALDI-TOF/MS: calcd for [Phen-DNA – H]⁻: m/z = 13635.98, found: 13636.26.



Fig. S2. (a) RP-HPLC chromatogram of the reaction mixture containing **EDTA-DNA**. Column: InertSustain C18 (4.6 mm (Φ) x 150 mm (w), GL Sciences); eluent A: 0.1 mM TEAA buffer (pH = 7.0); eluent B: acetonitrile; linear gradient: 0-20 % B in 30 min; flow rate: 1.0 mL/min. (b) MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of the fraction at 26.2 min in Fig. S2a.



Fig. S3. Time-resolved emission spectra of the solutions containing EDTA-DNA/Phen-DNA in the presence of Tb(III) at 10 °C. Concentrations of EDTA-DNA, Phen-DNA, and Tb(III) were 1.0 μ M, 1.0 μ M, and 1.2 μ M, respectively. Excitation wavelength was 280 nm. Measurement was carried out in 10 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.2) containing 200 mM NaCl after equilibration at 10 °C for 30 min. Delay time: 50 μ s. Gate time: 2 ms.



Fig. S4. Calibration curve for the emission intensities at 1 h as a function of the concentration of T. Detection limits was calculated to be 12 nM by defining as the concentration of T which gave two times larger emission intensity than that without T.