## **Supporting Information**

## Colorimetric Detection of Sequence-Specific MicroRNA Based on Duplex-Specific Nuclease-Assisted Nanoparticle Amplification

Qian Wang, Ru-Dong Li, Bin-Cheng Yin\*, and Bang-Ce Ye\*



**Fig. S1.** (A) TEM image of AuNPs. (B) TEM image of aggregated ssDNA-modified AuNPs triggered by miR-122 (1 nM).



Fig. S2. UV-vis spectra of AuNPs (blue line) and ssDNA-modified AuNPs (red line).



**Fig. S3.** Optimization of Probe A sequence. The reaction was performed with  $1 \times$  reaction buffer, 1 U/µL RNase Inhibitor, 4.5 nM AuNPs, and 50 nM Probe A with different sequences (Probe A-1, Probe A-2, Probe A-3, and Probe A-4), respectively. Error bars show the standard deviation of three repetitive experiments.



**Fig. S4.** Optimization of reaction temperature. The reaction was performed with  $1 \times$  reaction buffer, 0.4 U/µL RNase Inhibitor, 0.15 U DSN, and 0.5 µM probe complex at different temperatures (25, 37, 45, and 60 °C), respectively. Bars represent the signal response of miR-122 at 0 nM (gray bar) and 5 nM (orange bar), respectively. Error bars show the standard deviation of three repetitive experiments.



**Fig. S5.** Optimization of the amount of RNase Inhibitor. The reaction was performed with  $1 \times$  reaction buffe, 0.15 U DSN, 0.5  $\mu$ M probe complex with different amount of RNase Inhibitor (0, 0.4, 1, and 2 U/ $\mu$ L) at 45 °C, respectively. Bars represent the signal response of miR-122 at 0 nM (gray bar) and 5 nM (orange bar), respectively. Error bars show the standard deviation of three repetitive experiments.



**Fig. S6.** Optimization of probe complex concentration. The reaction was performed with  $1 \times$  reaction buffe, 0.15 U DSN,  $1U/\mu L$  RNase Inhibitor, and probe complex with different concentrations (100, 300, 500, and 800 nM) at 45 °C, respectively. Bars represent the signal response of miR-122 at 0 nM (gray bar) and 5 nM (orange bar), respectively. Error bars show the standard deviation of three repetitive experiments.



Fig. S7. Optimization of the reaction time. The reaction was performed with  $1\times$  reaction buffer, 0.15 U DSN, 1 U/µL RNase Inhibitor, 4.5 nM ssDNA-modified AuNPs and 0.5 µM probe complex with two different concentrations of miR-122 (0 nM and 1 nM) at 45 °C.



**Fig. S8.** (A) Quantitative real-time fluorescence monitoring of the PCR amplification reaction triggered by different concentrations of miR-122. (B) Variance of the  $C_t$  value as a function of the concentration of miR-122. Quantitative real-time PCR  $C_t$  was analyzed by CFX software version 1.1 (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA).

Detected <sup>a</sup> (pM)	Added (pM)	Found (pM)	Recovery (%)
6.52	20	27.35	103.13
6.52	50	57.09	101.01

Table S1 Determination of miR-122 in BEL-7404 cell lysates

<sup>a</sup> The concentration of miR-122 in BEL-7404 cell lysates was pre-determined by commercial miRNA detection kit.