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# **Supporting Information**

# Searching for avidity by chemical ligation of combinatorially selfassembled DNA-encoded ligand libraries

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SEQ ID #	Name/ Description	Sequence (5' to 3')		Total Length	Other details/ remarks
1	TBA27-T0-c	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGAC <u>AGACTGGTC</u> CGCAAGTTCaaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA</u> C	то	62	3'-propargyl dC
2	t-T0-G15D	AGGTAGGTccctataGAACTTGCGGACCAGTCTGGTTGG TGTGGTTGG	то	49	5'-azide-T
3	t-T6-G15D	AGGTAGGTctagtacGAACTTGCGGACCAGTCTTTTTT GGTTGGTGTGGTTGG	Т6	55	5'-azide-T
4	t-T12-G15D	<mark>∎AGGTAGGT</mark> accttcg <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u> TTTTTT TTTTT <i>GGTTGGTGTGGTTGG</i>	T12	61	5'-azide-T
5	TBA27s-T0-c	GTCCGTCCTACCGCAGCTTCCGTTGACAGACTGGTCC GCAAGTTCaggtctcACCTACCTAC	то	62	3'-propargyl dC
6	t-T12-G15Ds	<u> </u>	T12	61	5'-azide-T
7 (1 + 2)	TBA27-ct-T0-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGAC <u>AGACTGGTC</u> <u>CGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGT</u> ccctata <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u> GGTTGGTGTGGTTGG	то	111	Clicked
8 (1 + 3)	TBA27-ct-T6-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACAGACTGGTC CGCAAGTTCaaatccaACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTctagtac GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCTTTTTTGGTTGGTGGTGG G	Т6	117	Clicked
9 (1 + 4)	TBA27-ct-T12-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACAGACTGGTC CGCAAGTTCaaatccaACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTaccttcg GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT	T12	123	Clicked
10 (1 + 6)	TBA27-ct-T12-G15Ds	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACAGACTGGTC CGCAAGTTCaaatccaACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTtacacgt GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT GTGTGTG	T12	123	Clicked
11 (5 + 2)	TBA27s-ct-T0-G15D	GTCCGTCCTACCGCAGCTTCCGTTGACAGACTGGTCC GCAAGTTCaggtctcACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTccctataGA ACTTGCGGACCAGTCTGGTTGGTTGG	то	111	Clicked
12 (5 + 3)	TBA27s-ct-T6-G15D	GTCCGTCCTACCGCAGCTTCCGTTGACAGACTGGTCC GCAAGTTCaggtctcACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTctagtacGA ACTTGCGGACCAGTCT	Т6	117	Clicked
13 (5 + 4)	TBA27s-ct-T12-G15D	GTCCGTCCTACCGCAGCTTCCGTTGACAGACTGGTCC GCAAGTTCaggtctcACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTaccttcgGA ACTTGCGGACCAGTCT	T12	123	Clicked
14 (5 + 6)	TBA27s-ct-T12-G15Ds	GTCCGTCCTACCGCAGCTTCCGTTGACAGACTGGTCC GCAAGTTCaggtctcACCTACCTACtAGGTAGGTtacacgtGA ACTTGCGGACCAGTCT	T12	123	Clicked
15	G15D	GGTTGGTGTGGTTGG	NA	15	-
16	TBA27	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGAC	NA	27	-
17	G15D-T0-TBA27	GGTTGGTGTGGTTGGGTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGG GGTGAC	то	43	directly synthesized

18	G15D-T6-TBA27	GGTTGGTGTGGTTGGTTTTTTGTCCGTGGTAGGGCAG GTTGGGGTGAC	Т6	49	directly synthesized
19	G15D-T12-TBA27	GGTTGGTGTGGTTGGTTTTTTTTTTTGTCCGTGGTAG GGCAGGTTGGGGTGAC	T12	55	directly synthesized
20	TBA27-T0-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACTGGTTGGTG TGGTTGG	то	43	directly synthesized
21	TBA27-T6-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACTTTTTGGTT GGTGTGGTTGG	Т6	49	directly synthesized
22	TBA27-T12-G15D	GTCCGTGGTAGGGCAGGTTGGGGTGACTTTTTTTT TGGTTGGTGTGGTTGG	T12	55	directly synthesized
23	Reference	AGGGATATCACTCAGCATAATGTCGTAC	NA	28	Reference

**Table S1: Synthesized DNA-Aptamer conjugates:** Aptamer sequences are in italics. Underlined regions become double helical after formation of the SABA complexes. Small letter italics indicate the identifier sequence (barcode) of each arm, small letters in a box indicate the position of the triazole linkage or the corresponding terminal nucleotide bearing the reactive groups. Small letter "s" indicates the original aptamer sequence was scrambled. Sequences ID #1-6 are the individual left and right "arms" covalently attached to an aptamer motif or a scrambled reference sequence. Sequences ID #7-14 are the SABA complexes formed after hybridisation and "Click"-reaction, presenting two individual potential binding sequences. Sequence ID #15 and 16 are the monomeric aptamer sequences, which are, together with #23, used as references in the blood clotting assay. Sequences ID #17-22 are directly synthesized, replacing the dsDNA scaffold with an oligo-thymidine linker and were also tested in the blood clotting assay.

#### 1. Oligonucleotide Synthesis:

DNA sequences SEQ ID #1 and # 5 (Table S1) were synthesized by standard solid-phase phosphoramidite chemistry using <u>5'-Dimethoxytrityl-3'-propargyl-5-methyl-2'-deoxycytosine-N-succinyl-long chain alkylamino-CPG</u>, from GlenResearch. The 5'-azide group for SEQ ID # 2, 3, 4 and 6 were introduced in a 2-stage process<sup>[2]</sup>. First <u>5'-iodo thymidine phosphoramidite</u> was directly added during solid-phase synthesis. Then the resulting 5'-iodo oligonucleotides were reacted with sodium azide to complete the transformation. Cleavage of the oligonucleotide from this support requires 2 hr at room temperature with ammonium hydroxide and complete deprotection requires a further 5 hr at 55°C to remove the nucleobase protecting groups.

# 2. Synthesis and Analysis of Self-Assembled Bivalent Aptamers (SABAs):

# 2.i. Synthesis and Purification of SABAs:

#### **CuAAC Reaction Protocol**

Prior to chemical ligation, pairs of azide (e.g SEQ ID #2) and alkyne (e.g. SEQ ID #1) oligonucleotides (100.0 nmol of each) in 0.2 M NaCl (100.0  $\mu$ L) were annealed by heating at 90°C for 5 min and cooling slowly to room temperature. A solution of Cu<sup>1</sup> catalyst was prepared by adding the *tris*-hydroxypropyltriazole ligand<sup>[1]</sup> (35.0  $\mu$ mol) to sodium ascorbate (50.0  $\mu$ mol in 0.2 M NaCl, 100.0  $\mu$ L) followed by the addition of CuSO<sub>4</sub>x5H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0  $\mu$ mol in 0.2 M NaCl, 50.0  $\mu$ L) under argon. The Cu<sup>1</sup> solution was added to the annealed oligonucleotide mixture and kept at room temperature for 2 hr under argon. Reagents were removed by NAP-25 gel-filtration (GE Healthcare) and the ligated product was purified by anion-exchange HPLC as described previously<sup>[2]</sup>.

The self-assembled bivalent aptamer complexes SEQ ID #7-14 were analysed by 10% PAGE gel electrophoresis and purified by anion-exchange HPLC on a Gilson HPLC system using a Resource Q anion-exchange column (6 mL volume, GE Healthcare). The HPLC system was controlled by Gilson 7.12 software, and the following protocol was used: run time, 16 min; flow rate, 5 mL per min; binary system. Gradient (time in mins (% buffer B)): 0 (0), 3 (0), 4 (40), 9.5 (82), 10 (100), 12 (100), 13 (0), 15.5 (0), 16 (0). Elution buffers: (A) 0.01 M aqueous NaOH, 0.05 M aqueous NaCl, pH 12.0; (B) 0.01 M aqueous NaOH, 1 M aqueous NaCl, pH 12.0. Elution of oligonucleotides was monitored by ultraviolet absorption at 295 nm. After HPLC purification oligonucleotides were desalted using a NAP-25 followed by a NAP-10 Sephadex column (GE Healthcare).

Yields of the purified products after HPLC were 45-57%.



*Figure S1: Denaturing PAGE (10 % polyacrylamide/7 M urea gel) of ligated SABA complexes:* Lane 1: SEQ #5 (reference); lane 2: CuAAC reaction mixture (unpurified) to yield SEQ ID #11; lane 3: SEQ ID #1 (reference); lane 4: CuAAC reaction mixture (unpurified) to yield SEQ ID #7. Constant power of 20 W using 0.09 M Tris-borate-EDTA buffer (pH 8.0).

SEQ ID #	Calc. Mass	Found. Mass
1	19212	19211
5	18930	18929
2	15271	15270
3	17136	17135
4	18937	18938
6	18936	18936
7	34482	34482
8	36348	36347
9	38149	38151
10	38148	38148
11	34201	34201
12	36066	36066
13	37867	37866
14	37866	37868

Table S2. Mass spectrometry analysis of the monovalent precursors SEQ ID #1-6 and the corresponding click-ligated products SEQ ID #7-14. Mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker micrOTOF<sup>TM</sup> II focus ESI<sup>-</sup>TOF MS instrument in ES<sup>-</sup> mode and fit well with the calculated values.



#### 2.ii. Gel-electrophoretic Analysis of Self-Assembled Bivalent Aptamers SEQ ID #7-14

**Figure S2: Gel-electrophoretic analysis of self-assembled bivalent aptamers:** The self-assembled bivalent aptamers SEQ ID #7-14 were dissolved in TE buffer (100 mM Tris pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA). Their concentration was determined via UV absorption at 260 nm (NanoDrop, Thermo Scientific), then diluted to 10 ng/µl. 1 µl of each single-stranded DNA was loaded into an Agilent smallRNA chip and run on the Agilent BioAnalyzer 2100 capillary electrophoresis system (L= small RNA ladder). The self-assembled bivalent aptamers run faster than expected size. This is an indication for the stability of the self complementary assembly-region even under denaturing buffer conditions, which are sufficient to dissolve most of the secondary structures of RNA molecules(http://www.chem.agilent.com/Library/usermanuals/Public/G2938-90094revB QG SmallRNA.pdf).

## 2.iii. PCR amplification and Sanger Sequencing of individual self-assembled bivalent aptamers:

PCR amplification Scheme for SEQ ID #8:



**Figure S4: Example of a "Click"- reaction followed by PCR amplification:** SEQ ID #1 (left arm) is covalently conjugated with SEQ ID #3 (right arm) as described to yield SEQ ID #8, which folds into the corresponding self-assembled bivalent aptamer. Clicked termini in small litalics boxed. The corresponding amplification via PCR using only one universal primer sequence ID # 24 yields SEQ ID #27 (sense strand) and SEQ ID #28 (antisense strand). The self-complementary parts of the strands are underlined. Aptamer motif and spacer specific sequences (barcode) in small italics. Clicked site now indicated in bold capital italics.

# Analysis of PCR products SEQ IDs # 25-40

SEQ ID #	Name	Sequence (5' to 3')
24	U18_primer	AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC
25	PCR product(forward) from template SEQ ID #7	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ccctata <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
26	PCR product(reverse complement) from template SEQ ID #7	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> tataggg <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
27	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #8	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatoca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ctagtac <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
28	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #8	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
29	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #9	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> accttcg <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
30	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #9	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
31	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #10	$\underline{AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC} aaatcca\underline{ACCTACCTA} \pmb{CT}\underline{AGGTAGGT} tacacgt\underline{GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT}$
32	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #10)	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
33	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #11	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ccctata <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
34	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #11	<u>AGACTEGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> tataggg <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacot <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
35	PCR product(Fwd) from SEQ ID #12	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtotc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> otagtac <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
36	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #12	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacctG <u>AACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
37	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #13	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> accttcg <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
38	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #13	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
39	PCR product(forward) from SEQ ID #14	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> tacacgt <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>
40	PCR product(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #14	<u>AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>

Table S4: List of PCR products SEQ IDs #25-40 generated from templates SEQ IDs #7-14All sequences listed in the 5' to 3' orientation. Self-complementary part of the strand underlined. Sequence barcodes in italics. "Clicked" termini in the sense as well as reverse complementary site in the antisense strand are annotated in bold capital italics.



#### Figure S5: Gel-electrophoretic analysis of PCR products SEQ ID # 25-40 from SEQ ID #7-14.

Only one primer was used (sequence U18 (SEQ ID #24)).10 ng template, 1.2  $\mu$ M primer, 0.5 mM triphosphates and 2.5 U thermostable DNA polymerase were mixed and PCR amplification was executed with 24 cycles at 60°C annealing temperature. Gel-electrophoretic analysis was done on a Bioanalyzer 2100 DNA -1000 chip with 1  $\mu$ I PCR product for each lane.

# Sanger Sequencing of PCR products

	PCR product I	
SEQ ID #41 Y7a_U15_S3 SEQ ID# 28 (PCR Product I, rev. con	AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTCaaatccaACCTACTACTAGGTAGGTctagtacGAACTGCGGACCAAGT CTGGTCCGCAAGTTCaaa → AGCTGTG AGCTGTG AGCTGTG AGCTGTG AGCTGTG AGCTGTGCGCAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCaaa AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAA AGCTGGTCGGAAGTTCAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAAGTTCAAGTT	SEQ.ID# 27 (PCR Product I, fwd) SEQ.ID# 43 Y7b_U15_S3
	PCR II	
	TOBADAD <u>ADOADOOTTOAAD</u> 115601 <u>TOBATODATDAATODAA</u> DATODAADADOOTTODTOADTO YCCLQLCCCCVYCLLCasatccayCCLYCCLY <b>CL</b> YCQLYCQLotadtaC <mark>CYYCLLCCCCYCCY</mark> CCYQCYLQYC	SEQ ID# 49 SEQ ID# 50
	PCR product II	
SEQID #63 InPERead1_Y7a_U15 ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGAT	TORACTOCOCONTRACTACETECSTACET	SEQ ID# 64 InPERead2_Y7b_U15
	PCR III	
SEQ ID #65	Ļ	
TOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTOTO	DATDADAD <u>AADAADATTAAD</u> ###EB## <mark>IDAATDATDA</mark> MIDIATDA&##0<b>1TDAADDDTADD</b>TDAADDDTADTDTOTOADTD LCLYGCLQLQCLCGCYYQLLC<sup>999</sup>f cc9YCCLYCCLYC<b>L</b>YQCQLYGCf cfadfsc<del>GYYCLLGCGGYCCY</del>GCYQLGYC</th><th>TOTADOCTTOTOTOTOTADAOTTOAOTTOAOTO VGYLCGGYYGYGCGCGCGLCLGYGCLCCGGLCYC</th></tr><tr><th>SEQ ID #66</th><th>PCR product III</th><th></th></tr></tbody></table>	

	PCR product III
SEQ ID #67 InPE1.0 patgatacgecgaccaccgagat	PERIORARAGE DE LE CONTROL DE L
	SEQ ID #66
	PCR IV
	SEQ ID #71
AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGAT	$\verb CTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCTAGATCGGAAGAGCACACGTCTGAACTCCAGTCACatcacgATCTCGTATGCCGTCTTCTGCTTG$
TTADTATDDDDTDDDTDTTA	ΟΑΤΟΤΟΑΘΑΑΑΘΟΘΑΤΟΤΟΟΘΑΘΑΑΘΟΟΤΑΘΑΤΟΤΑΘΟΟΤΤΟΤΟΤΟΤΟΤΟΑΘΑΟΤΤΟΑΘΟΤΟΑΘΤΟΑΕΥΡΟΤΑΘΟΑΤΑΘΟΘΑΤΑΘΟΟΑΠΑΘΑΟΘΑΑΟ
	SEQ ID #72
	PCR product IV

	PCR Product I	V	SEQ ID #71
AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCC	GATCTAGATCGG	AAGAGCACACGTCTGAACTCCAGTCA	CatcacgATCTCGTATGCCGTCTTCTGCTTG
SEQ ID # 73 SangerSeqPrimer_Read1			SEQ ID # 74 SangerSeqPrimer_Read2
ТТАЭТАТЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭЭ	DTADATOTADOO	TTOTODTOTODADAOTTOADOTOADT:	D1&p1poTADADDATADDDAAAAADADDAAD
			SEQ ID #72
	Sanį	ger Seq Data Analysis	
aatcca	ctagtac	atcacg	
BC1	BC3	ldx1	

*Figure S6: Sample Preparation prior to Sanger Sequencing.* As an example for sample preparation for Sanger sequencing the scheme for PCR product SEQ ID #27 and #28 is shown. PCR products SEQ ID #25, 26 and #29-40 are processed accordingly. Preparation of SEQ ID #71 and #72, which are sequenced using sequencing primers SEQ ID #73 and #74 is shown. Sequencing was done on a 96-capillary 3730xl DNA Analyzer (Life Technologies). The individual samples were processed using the corresponding BigDye® Direct Cycle Sequencing Kit and protocol.

41	Y7a_U15_BC1f	AGCTGTGCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCaaa
42	Y7b_U15_BC2r	GTCACTCCTGGTCCGCAAGTTC <i>tat</i>
43	Y7b_U15_BC3r	GTCACTCCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCgta
44	Y7b_U15_BC4r	GTCACTCCTGGTCCGCAAGTTC <i>cga</i>
45	Y7a_U15_BC5f	AGCTGTGCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCagg
46	Y7b_U15_BC6r	GTCACTCCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCacg
47	PCR product II(forward)of PCR product I of SEQ ID#7 (SEQ ID #25 and #26) using primer SEQ ID #41	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ccctata <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
48	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID #7 (SEQ ID #25 and #26. using primer SEQ ID #42	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> tataggg <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tgcattt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
49	PCR product II(forward)of PCR product I of SEQ ID#8 (SEQ ID #27 and #28) using primer SEQ ID #41.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ctagtac <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
50	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID #8 (SEQ ID #27 and #28) using primer SEQ ID #43.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
51	PCR product II(forward)of PCR product I of SEQ ID#9 (SEQ ID #29 and #30) using primer SEQ ID #41.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA</u> <b>CT</b> AGGTAGGTaccttc <u>gGAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
52	PCR product II(reverse-complement)of PCR product I of SEQ ID #9 (SEQ ID #29 and #30)using primer SEQ ID #44.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
53	PCR product II(forward) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#10 (SEQ ID #31 and #32) using primer SEQ ID #41.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA</u> <b>CT</b> AGGTAGGTtacacgt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
54	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#10 (SEQ ID #31 and #32)using primer SEQ ID #46.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
55	PCR product II(forward) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#11 (SEQ ID #33 and #34) using primer SEQ ID #45.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA</u> <b>CT</b> AGGTAGGTccctata <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
56	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#11 (SEQ ID #33 and #34)using primer SEQ ID #42.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> tatagg <u>gACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
57	PCR product II(forward) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#12 (SEQ ID #35 and #36) using primer SEQ ID #45.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ctagtac <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
58	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#12 (SEQ ID #35 and #36)using primer SEQ ID #43.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
59	PCR product II(forward) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#13 (SEQ ID #37 and #38) using primer SEQ ID #45.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA</u> <b>CT</b> AGGTAGGTaccttcg <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC
60	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#13 (SEQ ID #37 and #38)using primer SEQ ID #44.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
61	PCR product II(forward) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#14 (SEQ ID #39 and #40) using primer SEQ ID #45.	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA</u> <b>CT</b> AGGTAGGTtacacgt <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> GAGTGAC

62	PCR product II(reverse-complement) of PCR product I of SEQ ID#14 (SEQ ID #39 and #40)using primer SEQ ID #46.	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCG</u> <u>GACCAG</u> CACAGCT
63	InPEREad1_Y7a_U15	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCTAGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u>
64	InPEREAd2_Y7b_U15	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCTGTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u>
65	Pre-multiplexed PCR III product (forward)	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCTAGCTGTGCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCAAATCCAACCTACCT
66	Pre-multiplexed PCR III product (anti-sense)	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCTGTCACTCCTGGTCCGCAAGTTCGTACTAGA CCTACCT <b>AG</b> TAGGTAGGTTGGATTTGAACTTGCGGACCAGCACAGCTAGATCGGAAGAGCGTCG TGTAGGGAAAGAGTGT
67	InPE1.0	AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
68	InPEIndex_1 multiplex/index1	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>cgtgat</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
69	InPEIndex_2 multiplex/index2	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>acatcg</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
70	InPEIndex_3 multiplex/index3	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>gcctaa</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
71	PCR product IV(forward)	AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCTA GATCGGAAGGACACGTCTGAACTCCAGTCACATCACGATCTCGTATGCCGTCTTCTGCTTG
72	PCR product IV (reverse-complement)	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCGTGATGTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCT AGATCGGAAGAGCGTCGTGTAGGGAAAGAGTGTAGATCTCGGTGGTCGCCGTATCATT
73	Sanger Sequencing Primer InPE1-18	AATGATACGGCGACCACC
74	Sanger Sequencing Primer InPE2-18	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA

#### Table S5: Primers and corresponding PCR products used for Sanger Sequencing.

All sequences in 5' to 3' orientation. Small italics indicate the individual identifier sequence (barcode), underlined letters indicate reverse complementary sequences. Not all PCR products of PCR III and IV are listed, except #65, 66 (III) and #71, 72 (IV) used as examples for the general scheme above.



*Figure S7: Results of Sanger-sequencing with Primer SEQ ID #73 and #74 of PCR products SEQ ID #71 and 72.* The corresponding identifier sequences (SI1 = aaatcca) and (SI3= ctagtac) can be read-out correctly on both strands. Indexing sequence (atcacg), which is introduced to allow next generation sequencing on an Illumina MiSeq Platform in a separate experiment after multiplexing, can be read-out correctly on forward strand (not shown).

# 3. Biological Activity

#### **3.i. Blood Clotting Experiments**

Samples were obtained with consent from Sanquin Bloodbank. Pooled plasma from a pool of more than 32 healthy adult donors was used.

To evaluate the inhibitory potency of individual nucleic acid ligand or bivalent complex thereof, we measured the clotting time of each sample containing only thrombin, the ligand or ligand complex and fibrinogen substrate in physiological buffer. The mixture of sample becomes non fluidic when the fibrinogen is digested by thrombin. As a result, the different timepoints of this transition can be used as an indicator. Briefly, 1µl of 10 µM thrombin and 1 µl of 100 µM monovalent or bivalent aptamer were added to a disposable transparent plastic cuvette (Fisher Scientific) containing 200 µl buffer and incubated for 15 min. Then, 4 µl of 20 mg/ml fibrinogen was added, and samples in the cuvette were carefully examined by tilting the cuvette to record the time when the sample became non fluidic. Each experiment was performed in tandem. A reaction mixture containing only thrombin and fibrinogen was always tested together with other samples as an internal standard. All clotting times were normalized based on the internal standard and compared with it.

To evaluate the feasibility of the self-assembled bivalent aptamer as a potential anticoagulant reagent, Standard activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (aPTT)<sup>[3]</sup> and Prothrombin Time (PT)<sup>[4]</sup> values for each individual or ligand composition were determined by using human plasma samples. Procedures applied were those recommended by the supplier. For aPTT determination, 50 µl UCRP was preincubated at 37°C with a different amount of each ligand for 2 min; then 50 µl aPPT-L was added and incubated for another 200 sec. Next, 50 µl of pre-warmed CaCl<sub>2</sub> was added to initiate the intrinsic clotting cascade. Finally, the scattering signal was monitored until the signal was saturated. For PT determination, 50 µl of UCRP was pre-incubated at 37°C with a different amount of each ligand or ligand complex for 2 min; then 50 µl of thromboplastin-L was added to initiate the extrinsic clotting cascade. Finally, the scattering signal was monitored until the signal reached half maximum between lowest and maximum points. This was repeated twice, and each set of experiments was done with one batch of plasma.



**Figure S8: Standard Prothrombin Time (PT) and activated Partial Thromboplastin time (aPTT) values for each individual or aptamer ligand composition:** The values were determined by using human plasma samples. Whilst sequences do not show any significant difference in the PT values, except #15, the benefit of combining two binding motifs is clearly evident in the aPTT values. The aPTT value of a non-Thrombin binding oligonucleotide sequence SEQ ID # 23 is fully identical to the reference (buffer) below 30 sec. Combinations of SEQ ID #15 and #16 lead to values above 35 sec depending on the distance between the two aptamers. SEQ ID #17-19 and #20-22 are covalently conjugated aptamer motifs #15 and #16 without and with a T6 or T12 spacer. Similar aPTT values can be seen as confirmation of a stable dsDNA stem for the self-assembled bivalent ligand complexes (SABAs) of two binding motifs with varied distances (SEQ ID #7,8 and 9). Further more mutation of one of the binding motifs lead to decreased aPTT values as expected (SEQ ID #10-14).

ID #	Sequence Description	PT	aPTT
7	TBA27-ct-T0-G15D	10.7	35.3
8	TBA27-ct-T6-G15D	11.6	52.6
9	TBA27-ct-T12-G15D	11.2	51.1
10	TBA27-ct-T12-G15Ds	10.8	43.0
11	TBA27s-ct-T0-G15D	10.9	34.7
12	TBA27s-ct-T6-G15D	10.9	36.7
13	TBA27s-ct-T12-G15D	11.2	43.6
14	TBA27s-ct-T12-G15Ds	10.5	33.8
15	G15D	12.6	36.0
16	TBA27	10.8	35.0
17	G15D-T0-TBA27	11.7	42.3
18	G15D-T6-TBA27	12.2	48.9
19	G15D-T12-TBA27	12.6	52.8
20	TBA27-T0-G15D	11.4	42.6
21	TBA27-T6-G15D	11.6	45.7
22	TBA27-T12-G15D	12.0	51.6
23	Reference	10.6	29.1

**Table S6.** Sequences used for blood clotting experiments and the corresponding PT and aPTT values (average from at least two technical replicates, 2-4 data points in total).

#### 4. Aptamer selection, amplification and sequencing

#### 4.i. Self-assembled bivalent aptamer (SABA) model library creation

A model library was prepared using SABA sequences ID #7-14. SEQ ID # 7-13 were mixed in 1:1 ratio and background DNA SEQ ID #14 (200 pmol) was added. The final mix comprised 99.125% background DNA and 0.125 % of each of the SEQ ID #7-13. 1  $\mu$ M was the final concentration.

#### 4.ii Protein Immobilisation

Magnetic Dynabeads® MyOne Carboxylic Acid (Invitrogen, cat. N0 65011) are resuspended by rolling the vial for 30 min on a rotor at 20 rpm, and 0.5 ml suspension was transferred to a new tube. The tube was placed close to a magnet for 1 min, the supernatant was removed and the beads were washed two times with 0.5 ml MEST buffer (50 mM 2-(N-morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid, 0.01 % Tween 20, pH 6.0). The beads were resuspended in 50 µl MEST buffer and activated by addition of 50 µl EDC (10 mg/ml N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride, Sigma E6383) for 30 min at room temperature on a rotor at 10 rpm. The supernatant was removed, the beads were resuspended in 100 µl MEST buffer and split into two 50 µl aliquots. The first aliquot was incubated with 6 nmol corresponding to 200 µg  $\alpha$ -thrombin (Tb, Haematologic Technologies, HCT-0020) in 250 µl MEST buffer (20 µM thrombin final), the second aliquot was blocked with 5 mM aminoethanol (EA) in 250 µl MEST buffer for 2.5 h on a rotor at 10 rpm at room temperature. The tubes were placed close to a magnet for 1 min, the supernatants were removed and the beads were each washed two times with 0.25 ml PBSMT buffer (137 mM sodium chloride, 2.7 mM potassium chloride and 10 mM sodium/potassium phosphate buffer solution pH7.4, Ambion AM9624, supplemented with 1 mM magnesium chloride and 0.01 % Tween 20).

#### 4.iii. Selection by Bead Capture

Thrombin-coupled (Tb) beads and negative control (EA = deactivated with ethanolamine) beads were each re-suspended in 160  $\mu$ I PBSMT, and to each aliquot 40  $\mu$ I of 5  $\mu$ M (corresponding to 200 pmol) SABA library was added (1  $\mu$ M SABA library final). The tubes containing the mixtures were incubated for 1 h on a rotor at 10 rpm at room temperature. The tubes were placed close to a magnet for 1 min, the supernatants were removed and the beads were washed two times with 0.25 ml PBSMT buffer. The beads were boiled each in 100  $\mu$ I of 1x thermostable DNA buffer (Roboklon) for 5 min at 95 °C in a thermocycler and cooled down to room temperature. The tubes were placed close to a magnet for 1 min, and 90  $\mu$ I of the supernatants were transferred to new tubes for further analysis.

## 4.iv. Universal PCR Amplification

The bead-selected (Tb and EA) members of the SABA library were universally amplified by the following semi-quantitative PCR protocol:

20 µl of DNAse/RNAse free water (Life Technologies) was supplemented with 3 µl of 10x buffer for thermostable DNA polymerase (Roboklon), 6 µl of 10 µM primer U18 (SEQ ID # 24; Biolegio), 0.5 µl of 25 mM dNTP mix (25 mM of each deoxyribonucleotide dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP; Invitrogen), 0.5 µl of thermostable DNA polymerase (5 U/µl; Roboklon) and 20 µl of template DNA in 1x thermostable DNA buffer (or 1 x thermostable DNA buffer alone for blank analysis). Template DNA for the standard curve was a serial dilution of the SABA library (0.5 µM to 0.5 pM) in 1x thermostable DNA buffer, template DNA for selection analysis consisted of bead eluate in 1x thermostable DNA buffer. The resulting 50 µl PCR premixes were incubated in a thermocycler instrument (BioRad iCycler) with the following program settings: 1x melt 03:00 min 95 °C, 24x melt 00:30 min 95 °C, 24x anneal 00:30 min 60 °C, 24x elongate 00:30 min 72 °C 1x elongate 03:00 min 72 °C, 1x hold 4 °C. 1 µl of the PCR mix was analyzed by capillary electrophoresis in a Bioanalyzer DNA-1000 Lab-on-a-Chip (Agilent). The concentration of the PCR products were determined by peak integration, performed by the Bioanalyzer 2100 Expert software, version B.02.08.SI648 (Agilent).



**Figure S9: Semi-quantitative 1**<sup>st</sup> **PCR with Single Primer U18:** According to the Agilent BioAnalzyer Data (described above) the PCR detection limit for SABA hairpins with single universal U18 primer is 10 fmol. Apparently selection of a SABA library on DynaBeads coupled to 20 µg thrombin results in captured material in the low fmol range (2x wash) and much lower range (6x wash). Negative selection on beads blocked with ethanolamine results in very little (2x wash) and nearly non detectable material (6x wash).

### 4.v. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) Analysis

The compositions of the universal PCR products of the bead-selected SABAs (Tb and EA) were determined by amplification of individual SABA barcodes by the following quantitative PCR (qPCR) protocol: 6 µl of DNAse/RNAse free water (Life Technologies) were supplemented with 10 µl of iQ<sup>™</sup> SYBR®Green Supermix (Bio-Rad, cat. # 170-8882), 1 µl of 10 µM forward primer (SEQ ID # 75, 79 and 81; Biolegio), 1 µl of 10 µM reverse primer (SEQ ID #76-78, 80, 82; Biolegio) and 2 µl of 60 nM (corresponding to 120 fmol) template DNA. The resulting 20 µl PCR premixes were incubated in a thermocycler instrument (Bio-Rad iCycler) with the following program settings: 1x melt 03:00 min 95 °C, 40x melt 00:30 min 95 °C, 40x anneal 00:30 min 60 °C, 40x elongate 00:30 min 72 °C. The cycle threshold (Ct) values were calculated by PCR baseline subtraction curve fits of the SYBR®Green amplification charts, performed by the iQ<sup>™</sup>5 Optical System Software, Version 2.1 (Bio-Rad).

Enrichment factors (Ef) were calculated in Microsoft Excel as follows: Ef=POWER(1,7; \(\Delta Ct(EA-Tb))=POWER(1,7; AVERAGE(Ct(EA))-AVERAGE(Ct(Tb))).

SEQ ID #	Name	Sequence (5´ to 3´)
24	U18_primer	AGACTGGTCCGCAAGTTC
75	U11_S7-BC1f barcode 1 specific	TCCGCAAGTTCaaatcca
76	U11_S7-BC2r barcode 2 specific	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> tataggg
77	U11_S7-BC3r barcode 3 specific	TCCGCAAGTTCgtactag
78	U11_S7-BC4r barcode 4 specific	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt
79	U11_S7-BC5f barcode 5 specific	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc
80	U11_S7-BC6r barcode 6 specific	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta
81	Y7a_U15_U3f background specific	AGCTGTG <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> ctg
82	Y7b_U15_U3r background specific	GTCACTC <u>CTGGTCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtc
83	PCR product II(forward)from SEQ ID #25 and 26 and primer #75	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ccctata <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
84	PCR product II(reverse complement) from SEQ ID #25 and 26 and primer #76	TCCGCAAGTTC <i>tatagggACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</i> tgcattt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
85	PCR product II(forward) from SEQ ID #27 and 28 and primer #75	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ctagtac <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
86	<pre>PCR product(reverse complement)from SEQ ID #27 and 28 and primer #77</pre>	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
87	PCR product (forward)from SEQ ID #29 and 30 and primer #75	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
88	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #29 and 30 and primer #78	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
89	PCR product (forward)from SEQ ID #31 and 32 and primer #75	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aaatcca <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> tacacgt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
90	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #31 and 32 and primer #80	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> tggattt <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
91	PCR product (forward)from SEQ ID #33 and 34 and primer #79	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b></u> AGGTAGGTccctata <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
92	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #33 and 34 and primer #76	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> tataggg <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
93	PCR product (forward)from SEQ ID #35 and 36 and primer #79	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> ctagtac <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
94	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #35 and 36 and primer #77	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> gtactag <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacctG <u>AACTTGCGGA</u>
95	PCR product (forward)from SEQ ID #37 and 38 and primer #79	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> accttcg <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
96	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #37 and 38 and primer #78	<u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> cgaaggt <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCGGA</u>
97	PCR product (forward) from SEQ ID #39 and 40 and primer #81	AGCTGTG <u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> aggtctc <u>ACCTACCTA<b>CT</b>AGGTAGGT</u> tacacgt <u>GAACTTGCGGAC</u>
98	PCR product (reverse complement)from SEQ ID #39 and 40 and primer #82	GTCACTG <u>TCCGCAAGTTC</u> acgtgta <u>ACCTACCT<b>AG</b>TAGGTAGGT</u> gagacct <u>GAACTTGCGGACCAGTCT</u>

Table S7: List of primer sequences used for qPCR (SEQ ID #24, 75-82) and corresponding PCR products(forward and reverse complement). All sequences in 5' to 3' orientation. Small italics indicate the individualidentifier sequence (barcode), underlined letters indicate reverse complementary sequences.



*Figure S10:* Sample Preparation for quantitative PCR was done according to the above scheme and protocol. As an example the scheme is shown in detail starting with template SEQ ID #8 from the mix SEQ ID#7-14.

## **Results:**



**Figure S11: qPCR Data:** ∆Ct (Tb-EA) values of the different SABAs show enrichment for SEQ ID # 7-9 as well as for #12 and #13. From this data it can be concluded that SEQ ID #8 with a T6 spacer and #9 with a T12 spacer is most efficient combination of binding motifs. If only one binding motif is scrambled the numbers of the corresponding SABA after selection are less. Modification (scrambled sequence) of TBA27 (#12,13) is less effective than modification of G15D (#10 and #11). The relative abundance of SEQ ID #14, where both sequences have been modified, is dramatically reduced.

# 4.vi. Illumina Multiplexing PCR

The universally amplified members of the SABA library (Tb and EA) were further amplified by the following PCR protocol:  $36 \ \mu$ l of DNAse/RNAse free water (Life Technlogies) was supplemented with 5  $\mu$ l of 10x thermostable DNA Buffer (Roboklon), 3  $\mu$ l of each 10  $\mu$ M primer (Biolegio), 0.5  $\mu$ l of 25 mM dNTP mix (25 mM of each deoxyribonucleotide dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP; Invitrogen), 0.5  $\mu$ l of thermostable DNA polymerase (5 U/ $\mu$ l; Roboklon) and 2  $\mu$ l of template DNA (or 2  $\mu$ l PCR buffer alone for blank analysis). The resulting 50  $\mu$ l PCR premixes were incubated in a thermocycler instrument (BioRad iCycler) with the following program settings: 1x melt 03:00 min 95 °C, 18x melt 00:30 min 95 °C, 18x anneal 00:30 min 65 °C, 18x elongate 00:30 min 72 °C 1x elongate 03:00 min 72 °C, 1x hold 4 °C. 1  $\mu$ l of the PCR mix was analyzed by capillary electrophoresis in a Bioanalyzer DNA-1000 Lab-on-a-Chip (Agilent). The concentration of the PCR products were determined by peak integration, performed by the Bioanalyzer 2100 Expert software, version B.02.08.SI648 (Agilent).

SEQ ID	Name	Sequence (5' to 3')
68	InPEIndex_1 multiplex/index1	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>cgtgat</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
69	InPEIndex_2 multiplex/index2	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>acatcg</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
70	InPEIndex_3 multiplex/index3	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT <i>gcctaa</i> GTGACTGGAGTTC
99	IllumSeqPrimer_Readl	ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
100	IllumSeqPrimer_Read2	GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCT
101	IllumSeqPrimer_IndexRead	GATCGGAAGAGCACACGTCTGAACTCCAGTCAC

**Table S8: Primers used for NGS sample preparation after selection and multiplexing.** Other sequences mentioned in the scheme (Figure S12) are listed previously in Table S5. All sequences in 5' to 3' orientation. Small italics indicate the individual identifier sequence (index).

### Illumina Sequencing:







Figure S12:

As an example for sample preparation for Illumina NGS sequencing the scheme for PCR amplification is of SABA oligonucleotide #8 is shown. After selection a first PCR amplification with universal primer U18 (SEQ ID #24) is performed to yield PCR product I (SEQ IDs #27 and #28, see Figure S10.) For a second PCR amplification eight aliquots of PCR product I were amplified with eight primer pairs (forward and reverse, e.g. SEQ IDs #41 and #43) to yield PCR product II (SEQ IDs #49 and #50). This is followed by a third PCR amplification with universal primer pairs (SEQ IDs #63 and 64) to create PCR product III (SEQ IDs #65 and #66). For multiplexing standard Illumina index primers #67 and #68) are introduced to yield PCR product IV (SEQ IDs #71 and #72) according to standard Illumina NGS sample preparation protocol.

#### Results:



# Enrichment (normalized)

#### Fig S13: Results of NGS sequencing of the model library before and after selection

Burrows-Wheeler Alignment and Mapping; NGS platform is an Illumina MiSeq instrument. Data is shown in logarithmic scale, normalized). According to the counts SEQ ID # 8 with a T6 spacer between the binding motifs is most abundant, whilst a SEQ ID #9 with a T12 spacer is slightly diminished. If no spacer is used the enrichment in the final pool is negligible (SEQ ID #7) probably due to steric hinderance. Especially a modification in the G15D motif reduces the abundance in the final pool after selection (SEQ ID # 9 versus #10). Modification in the other binding motif TBA27 also reduces the counts (SEQ ID #11,12 and #13), but with a less significant impact. Modifications in both binding motifs lead to a significant reduced number of reads (SEQ ID #14).

#### 5. Disassociation rates by surface plasmon resonance

Disassociation rates were determined using a G.E. Healthcare Biacore X100. Biotinylated human alphathrombin (2  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ l, Thermo Fisher Scientific cat. no. RP43103) was diluted with running buffer (10 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.01% Tween) to ~1 $\mu$ g/ml and immobilized on the active lane of the Sensor Chip SA (G.E. Helathcare cat. no. BR100032) using the inbuilt wizard application. Two separate chips were immobilized with different levels of thrombin (615.5 and 2452.4 RU; 'low' and 'high' respectively) and the reference lane was left blank. SEQ ID 15, 16, 20, 21 and 22 were freezed dried and resuspended in running buffer before serial two-fold dilution (max-min concentration range = 1000 to 7.8 nM for 'low' immobilization chips and 125 to 7.8 nM for 'high' immobilization chips). Samples were injected over both surfaces at a flow rate of 30  $\mu$ l/min for 180 s before disassociation was monitored for 600 s. For all sequences, expect 15, the surface was regenerated using a 100 mM sodium acetate (pH 4.4) solution containing 4 M MgCl<sub>2</sub> at a flow rate of 30  $\mu$ l/min for 30 s (high immobilization surface) or 15 s (low immobilization surface) before postregeneration running buffer equilibration time of 180 s. For data analysis, the active lane signal was reference subtracted and blank injection subtracted. The decay component for each aptamer was then normalized to the 180 s RU (start of decay) and averaged over the various concentration injections (error in the decay was less than 0.04 of the

normalized response). Decays were fitted to the equation  $Responce = A \left( (1 - \alpha) e^{-tk} d_{,1} + \alpha e^{-tk} d_{,2} \right)$  where the fractional contribution  $\alpha < 1$ , A is the pre-exponential constant, t is time and  $k_d$  is the disassociation rate. The goodness of fit was evaluated by considering the weighted residual deviation from the model. Least squared minimization was performed using trust-region-reflective algorithm and custom written code in MatLab 2016a. The decay curves from the high and low immobilization chips were analysed separately.



Fig S14: Average normalised decay curves for monomeric (ID 15, 16) and bivalent aptamers (ID 20-22) from surface plasmon resonance using a high immobilisation surface.

The aptamers and raw data are colour-coded, with the modelled fit to a bi-exponential decay in black. The fractional contribution of each disassociation component is in brackets. Immobilized biotinylated human alpha-thrombin = 2452.4 RU

# Mass spectrometry and UV analysis of modified oligonucleotides used in this study:



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 1 in table S1. Calculated; 19212, found; 19212.



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 2 in table S1. Calculated; 15271, found; 15270.



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 3 in table S1. Calculated; 17136, found; 17136.



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 4 in table S1. Calculated; 18937, found; 18937.



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 5 in table S1. Calculated; 18930, found;18929.



Mass spectrum and UV analysis of oligonucleotide 6 in table S1. Calculated; 18936, found; 18936.

#### References

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