Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Corroboration of Zn(II)-Mg(II)-tertiary structure interplays essential to optimal catalysis of a phosphorothiolate thiolesterase ribozyme

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catalysis

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Fig. S1. Kinetics of TW17 ribozyme catalysis in the presence of 0.5 mM Zn²⁺ only. (**A**) Time-course study of catalysis for the ³²P-labeled GMPS-primed TW17 ribozyme previously conjugated with **18a**. The reaction products from each time point were separated by SAv gel shift assay in 8% urea-PAGE, and analyzed by an Amersham Typhoon PhosphorImager system. The top arrow indicates the location of the SAv-retarded ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-**18a** conjugate; the bottom arrow represents the migration of the ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-catalyzed reaction product. (**B**) Determination of the pseudo-first-order rate constant k_{obs} for the TW17 ribozyme catalysis in the presence of 0.5 mM Zn²⁺ only. Data obtained from the ImageQuant software analysis in Figure S1A were fitted into a single-exponential equation for the first-order kinetics, $F(t) = F_0 + F_{max}(1-e^{-k_{obs}t})$ [F(*t*), percent cleavage of the reactant at a

specific time point *t*; GraphPad, La Jolla, CA, USA), to obtain the pseudo first-order rate constant $k_{obs} = 0.005 \text{ min}^{-1}$ for TW17 ribozyme catalysis.



Fig. S2. Outer-sphere and inner-sphere Mg²⁺ all required for optimal TW17 ribozyme catalysis. The ³²P-body-labeled GMPS-primed TW17 RNA previously conjugated with **18a** catalyzed each reaction in the presence of specified metal ions. Reaction products were separated by streptavidin (SAv) gel shift assay in 8% urea-PAGE and analyzed by an Amersham Typhoon PhosphorImager system. The top arrow in the figure indicates the location of the SAv-retarded ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-**18a** conjugate; the bottom arrow represents the migration of the ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-catalyzed reaction product. The presence of doublet signals in the region indicated by the top arrow was the result of either one (lower band) or at least two (upper band) TW17 ribozyme-**18a** conjugates adsorbed onto an SAv molecule during the SAv gel shift assay due to significant excess of the TW17 ribozyme-**18a** conjugates in the samples.



Fig. S3. Constructs of trans-acting TW17 ribozyme systems for studying of base-pairing (bp) effects on degrees of substrate RNA-catalyst RNA adsorption by classical Langmuir isotherm analysis. The black-colored RNA sequences and structures shown here are those for TW17S-1 RNA (named as S_{1-18} RNA before){Wang, 2012 #527} and TW17C-1 RNA (named as TW17₂₂₋₈₇ RNA before){Wang, 2012 #527}. The RNA molecules complex to each other through the base pairs in the P1 helix (marked in the light blue box). Additional base-pairings in the P1 helix were acquired by either site-directed mutagenesis or sequence insertions in the RNA molecules to obtain more trans-acting TW17 ribozyme systems for Langmuir isotherm studies. The newly incorporated nucleotides in the RNA were either highlighted in red or shown as the purple arrows. All RNA molecules were acquired by *in vitro* transcription of the corresponding DNAs synthesized by procedures described on Table S1. Values of K_d (the dissociation constant for the TW17S RNA-TW17C RNA complex at equilibrium) and released binding free energy ($\Delta G_{\text{binding}}$) were obtained from Langmuir isotherm analysis as stated in Experimental.



Figure S4. The secondary structure for the cis-acting GMPS-primed TW17 ribozyme when covalently linked to the substrate **18a** (gray color highlighted by a red-color box).

(A)





(E)



Fig. S5. *Cis*-actingTW17 ribozyme catalysis in the presence of metal concentrations different from those in the standard reaction condition $([Zn^{2+}] = 0.5 \text{ mM} \text{ and } [Mg^{2+}] = 100 \text{ mM})$. Streptavidin (SAv) gel-shift assay in 10% urea-PAGE was employed to separate products of TW17 ribozyme catalysis when (A) $[Zn^{2+}]$ was adjusted to 1.25 mM, (C) $[Mg^{2+}]$ was changed to 37.5 mM, or (E) both $[Zn^{2+}]$ and $[Mg^{2+}]$ were adjusted to 1.25 mM and 37.5 mM, respectively. The images of (A), (C) and (E) were acquired from the analyses of an Amersham Typhoon PhosphorImager system. The top blue arrow in each image represents the location of the SAv-retarded ³²P-labeled TW17 RNA-**18a** conjugate; the bottom blue arrow indicates the migration of the ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-catalyzed reaction product. Each data set obtained from the ImageQuant software analysis in Figures S5A, S5C or S5E was plotted as (B), (D) or (F) respectively, and fitted into a single-exponential equation for the first-order kinetics, $F(t) = F_0 +$

 $F_{max}(1-e^{-k_{obs}t})$ [F(*t*), percent cleavage of the reactant at a specific time point *t*; GraphPad, La Jolla, CA, USA), to afford the corresponding pseudo first-order rate constant k_{obs} of 0.027 min⁻¹, 0.041 min⁻¹ or 0.030 min⁻¹ respectively for TW17 ribozyme catalysis.





Fig. S6. Multiple substrate turnover of two *trans*-actingTW17 ribozyme systems in the presence of the optimal metal concentrations determined by the results of Figure S5 $([Zn^{2+}] = 0.5 \text{ mM and } [Mg^{2+}] = 37.5 \text{ mM})$ and of those in the standard reaction condition $([Zn^{2+}] = 0.5 \text{ mM and } [Mg^{2+}] = 100 \text{ mM})$. SAv gel-shift assay in 20% urea-PAGE was employed to separate catalytic products of two TW17 ribozyme systems: (A) and (C) of the TW17S₁₋₂₉ RNA-TW17C₃₀₋₈₇ RNA pair; (B) of the TW17S₁₋₂₉ RNA-TW17C-1 pair. Catalysis under multiple substrate turnover was attained by including 300 nM of the ³²Plabeled TW17S₁₋₂₉ RNA and 30 nM of TW17C₃₀₋₈₇ RNA/TW17C-1 RNA in the reactions. In addition, the TW17 ribozyme systems in (A) and (B) performed catalysis in the presence of 0.5 mM of Zn^{2+} and 100 mM of Mg²⁺. On the other hand, TW17 ribozyme catalysis in (C) was carried out in the presence of 0.5 mM of Zn²⁺ and 37.5 mM of Mg²⁺. All images were acquired from the analyses of an Amersham Typhoon PhosphorImager system and were quantified by the ImageQuant software. The top blue arrow in each image represents the location of the SAv-retarded ³²P-labeled TW17S₁₋₂₉ RNA-18a conjugate; the bottom blue arrow indicates the migration of the ³²P-labeled TW17 ribozyme-catalyzed reaction product. The initial velocities (v_i) were determined by measuring the slope of the time-course curve from 0 to 1 h in each reaction.

Supplemental Tables

Biomolecular		
trans-acting	Synthesis of the 5' fragment	Synthesis of the catalytic core
TW17 ribozyme	RNAs	RNAs
systems		
TW17S-1 RNA +		TW17C-1 RNA: The DNA was acquired
TW17C-1 RNA	TW17S-1 RNA : The DNA was acquired by a PCR reaction using Primer TC-20 as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-21 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	by an extension reaction between Primer TC-2 and Primer TC-3, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and Primer TC-2 and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in</i> <i>vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}
TW17S-2 RNA + TW17C-2 RNA	TW17S-2 RNA : The DNA was acquired by a PCR reaction using the modified 5'-primer as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-4 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	TW17C-2 RNA : The DNA was acquired by a 1 st extension reaction between Primer TC-6 and Primer TC-11, a 2 nd extension reaction using the 1 st extension reaction product as the template and Primer TC-11 and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and Primer TC-11 and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}
TW17S-3 RNA + TW17C-3 RNA	TW17S-3 RNA : The DNA was acquired by an extension reaction between Primer TC-9 and Primer TC- 10, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-10 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	TW17C-3 RNA : The DNA was acquired by an extension reaction between Primer TC-6 and Primer TC-8, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and the shortened normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}
TW17S-4 RNA + TW17C-4 RNA	TW17S-4 RNA: The DNA was acquired by a PCR reaction using Primer TC-12 as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-13 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	TW17C-4 RNA : The DNA was acquired by an extension reaction between Primer TC-6 and Primer TC-14, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and the shortened normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase {Wang. 2012 #527}

Table S1. Procedures for construction of the *trans*-acting TW17 ribozyme systems.

TW17S-5 RNA + TW17C-5 RNA	TW17S-5 RNA: The DNA was acquired by a PCR reaction using Primer TC-15 as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-16 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	TW17C-5 RNA : The DNA was acquired by a 1 st extension reaction between Primer TC-6 and Primer TC-17, a 2 nd extension reaction using the 1 st extension reaction product as the template and the shortened normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair, then a PCR reaction using the extension reaction product as the template, and the shortened normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35 primer as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}
TW17S-6 RNA + TW17C-5 RNA	TW17S-6 RNA: The DNA was acquired by a PCR reaction using Primer TC-18 as the template, and the shortened Normal 5'-primer and Primer TC-19 as the primer pair. The afforded DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	TW17C-5 RNA: the same as the above.
TW17S-1 RNA +	TW17S-1 RNA: the same as the	TW17C-5 RNA : the same as the above.
TW17C-5 RNA	above	
TW17S-2 RNA +	TW17S-2 RNA: the same as the	TW17C-3 RNA : the same as the above.
TW17C-3 RNA	above	
TW17S ₁₋₂₉ RNA +	TW17S ₁₋₂₉ RNA: The DNA was	TW17C ₃₀₋₈₇ RNA: The DNA was acquired
TW17C ₃₀₋₈₇ RNA	acquired by an extension reaction	by a 1 st extension reaction between Primer
	between Primer TC-9 and Primer TC-	TC-23 and Primer TC-24, a 2 nd extension
	22, then a PCR reaction using the	reaction using the 1 st extension reaction
	extension reaction product as the	product as the template and the shortened
	template, and the shortened Normal	normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35
	5'-primer and Primer TC-22 as the	primer as the primer pair, then a PCR
	primer pair. The afforded DNA was	reaction using the extension reaction
	in vitro transcribed by T7 RNA	product as the template, and the shortened
	polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}	normal 5'-primer and the normal 3' -35
		primer as the primer pair. The afforded
		DNA was <i>in vitro</i> transcribed by T7 RNA
		polymerase. {Wang, 2012 #527}
TW17S ₁₋₂₉ RNA +	TW17S ₁₋₂₉ RNA: the same as the	TW17C-1 RNA: The synthesis was
TW17C-1 RNA	above	reported previously. {Wang, 2012 #527}

Table S2. Sequences of the primers for construction of the *trans*-acting TW17 ribozyme systems.

Primer name	Primer sequence

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Shortened	5'-GGTAACACGCATATGTAATACG-3'
Normal 5'primer	
Normal 3'-35	5'-ACCCCTTGGGGATACCACCGGGCCAGCACCACGGA-3'
primer	
Modified 5'-	5'-
primer	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGATCGTCAGTGCATT
	GAG-3'
Primer TC-2	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATAGGACTCACTATAAGTGCAGTGTCTTGCGC
	TG-3'
Primer TC-3	5'-CACCGGGCCAGCACCACGGACCGCTCGAACCCAGCGCAAGAC-
	3'
Primer TC-4	5'-TCTCAATGCACTGACGATCC-3'
Primer TC-6	5'-
	CACCGGGCCAGCACCACGGACCGCTCGAACCCAGCGCAAGACACT
	GCAC-3'
Primer TC-8	5'-
	CACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGTGTCAGTGCAGTGTCT
	TGC-3'
Primer TC-9	5'-GGTAACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGATCGTC-3'
Primer TC-10	5'-GGGTCTCAATGCACTGACGATCCCTATAGTGAGTCG-3'
Primer TC-11	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGTCTCAGTGCAGTGTCT
	TGC-3'
Primer TC-13	5'-GGAATGCACTGACGATCCC-3'
Primer TC-14	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGAGTGCAGTGTCTTGC
	GC-3'
Primer TC-15	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGATCGTCAGTGCAC
	C-3'
Primer TC-16	5'-GGTGCACTGACGATCCC-3'
Primer TC-17	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGTGCAGTGTCTTGCGC
	TGG-3'
Primer TC-18	5'-
	AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGATCGTCAGTGCATC
	-3'

Primer TC-19	5'-GATGCACTGACGATCCC-3'
Primer TC-20	5'AACACGCATATGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGATCGTCGTGCAT
	TG-3'
Primer TC-21	5'-CAATGCACTGACGATCCC-3'
Primer TC-22	5'-ACT GCA CTT CTC AAT GCA CTG ACG ATC CCT ATA GTG AGT
	CG-3'
Primer TC-23	5'-GGT AAC ACG CAT ATG TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAGT CTT GCG
	CTG GG-3'
Primer TC-24	5'-CCG GGC CAG CAC CAC GGA CCG CTC GAA CCC AGC GCA AGA
	CTA TAG-3'

Table S3. Compositions of RNA solutions for the Langmuir isotherm analyses of *trans*-acting TW17 ribozyme systems. 4 X EK buffer: 400 mM EPPS, 4 M KCl , pH 7.5.

TW17S-X	TW17S-X	Zn ²⁺	4X EK	DEPC	TW17C-Y	Mg ²⁺	4X EK	DEPC
RNA:	RNA	solution	buffer	water	RNA	solution	buffer	water
TW17C-	solution	volume	volume	volume	solution	volume	volume	volume
Y RNA	volume	(Stock			volume	(Stock		
ratio	(Stock	solution			(Stock	solution		
	solution	conc.)			solution	conc.)		
	conc.)				conc.)			
1:0	0.5 µl	0.9 µl	2 µl	0.6 µl	0 µl	0.188 µl	2 µl	1.812
	(1.13 µM)	(0.01 M)				(2 M)		μl
1:0.5	0.5 µl	0.9 µl	2 µl	0.6 µl	0.25 µl	0.188 µl	2 µl	1.562
	(1.13 µM)	(0.01 M)			(1.13 µM)	(2 M)		μl
1:1	0.5 µl	0.9 µl	2 µl	0.6 µl	0.5 µl	0.188 µl	2 µl	1.312
	(1.13 µM)	(0.01 M)			(1.13 µM)	(2 M)		μl
1:5	0.5 µl	0.225 μl	2 µl	1.47 µl	0.17 µl	0.924 µl	2 µl	0.906
	(1.13 µM)	(0.2 M)			(16.32 µM)	(2 M)		μl
1:10	0.5 µl	0.45 µl	2 µl	1.45 µl	0.346 µl	1.232 µl	2 µl	0.41 µl
	(1.13 µM)	(0.2 M)			(16.32 µM)	(3 M)		

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1:20	0.74 μl	0.09 µl	3 µl	2.17 µl	0.341 µl	1.56 µl	3 µl	1.099
	(1.13 µM)	(2 M)			(49.16 µM)	(3 M)		μl
1:25	0.74 μl	0.113 µl	3 µl	2.14 µl	0.427 µl	1.56 µl	3 µl	1.013
	(1.13 µM)	(2 M)			(49.16 µM)	(3 M)		μl
1:40	0.74 μl	0.18 µl	3 µl	2.08 µl	0.683 µl	1.56 µl	3 µl	0.757
	(1.13 µM)	(2 M)			(49.16 µM)	(3 M)		μl
1:50	0.74 µl	0.225 μl	3 µl	2.03 µl	0.854 µl	1.56 µl	3 µl	0.586
	(1.13 µM)	(2 M)			(49.16 µM)	(3 M)		μl

Table S4. Determination of dissociation constant K_d (mM) and $\Delta G_{\text{binding}}$ (kcal/mol) of *trans*-acting TW17 ribozyme systems from Langmuir isotherm analyses.

Binary Systems	Dissociation Constant (<i>K</i> _d , µM)	$\Delta G_{ m binding}$ (kcal/mol)	Notes
TW17 S-1 RNA	0.18	-9.19	TW17S-1 RNA:18-mer RNA;
+ TW17 C-1			TW17C-1 RNA:66-mer RNA
RNA			
TW17 S-2 RNA	0.81	-8.30	TW17S-2 RNA:21-mer RNA;
+ TW17 C-2			TW17C-2 RNA:71-mer RNA
RNA			
TW17 S-3 RNA	1.61	-7.89	TW17S-3 RNA:24-mer RNA;
+ TW17 C-3			TW17C-3 RNA:73-mer RNA
RNA			
TW17 S-4 RNA	0.51	-8.57	TW17S-4 RNA: 19-mer RNA, the 3'
+ TW17 C-4			terminus ended with two C;
RNA			TW17C-4 RNA :68-mer RNA, the 5'
			terminus ended with two G.
TW17 S-5 RNA	0.19	-9.16	TW17S-5 RNA:17-mer RNA, the 3'
+ TW17 C-5			terminus ended with two C;
RNA			TW17C-5 RNA:66-mer RNA, the 5'
			terminus ended with two G.
TW17 S-6 RNA	1.13	-8.10	TW17S-6 RNA: 17-mer RNA, the 3'
+ TW17 C-5			terminus ended with U and C.

RNA			
TW17 S-1 RNA	0.15	-9.30	
+ TW17 C-5			
RNA			
TW17 S-2 RNA	0.25	-9.00	
+			
TW17 C-3 RNA			



















































































