## Characterizing the non-crosslinked aggregation of DNA-modified gold nanoparticles: effects of DNA length and terminal base pair

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## **Supporting Information**

## **Supporting figures**

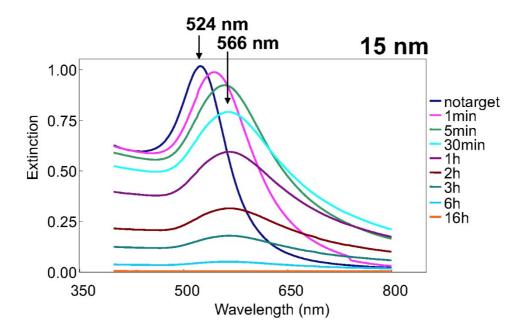
**Figure S1.** The spectrum of a mixture of probe-A-modified 15-nm GNPs and complementary target DNA

**Figure S2.** The spectrum of probe-A-modified 100-nm GNPs.

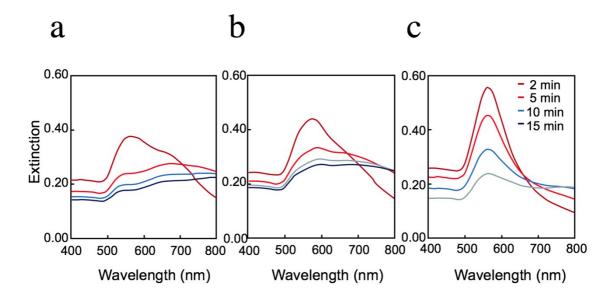
**Figure S3.** Testing NCL-GNP-aggregation reversibility.

**Figure S4.** Dot images of temperature-dependent NCL-GNP aggregation.

**Figure S5.** The effects of various terminal sequences.

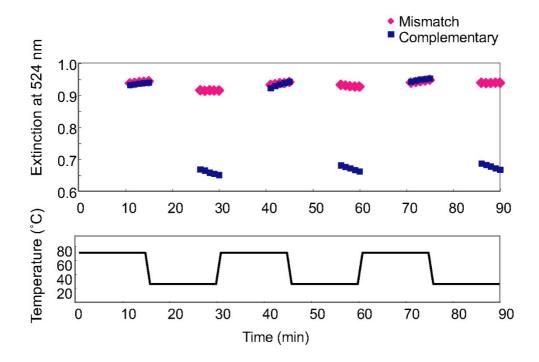


**Figure S1.** The spectrum of a mixture of probe-A-modified GNPs and complementary target DNA (Target A1) as a function of time. GNP diameter: 15 nm. Concentrations: probe DNA and target DNA, 500 nM; NaCl, 1.0 M; Tween 20, 0.01%.



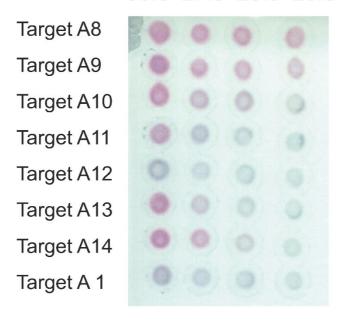
**Figure S2.** The spectrum of probe-A-modified 100-nm GNPs as a function of time. (a) Probe-A-modified GNPs. (b) Probe-A-modified GNPs and complementary target DNA (Target A1). (c) Probe-A-modified GNPs and single-base-mismatched target DNA (Target A8).

Concentrations: target DNA, 100 nM; NaCl, 1.0 M; Tween 20, 0.01%.



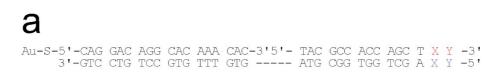
**Figure S3.** Testing NCL-GNP-aggregation reversibility. GNP diameters: 15 nm. Concentrations: probe DNA and target DNA, 500 nM; NaCl, 1.0 M; Tween 20, 0.01%. The temperature was cycled between 25 °C and 70 °C. Temperature-dependent aggregation was observed in the presence of the complementary target in three replicate experiments. The extinction at 524 nm of the mismatched samples did not change during these experiments.

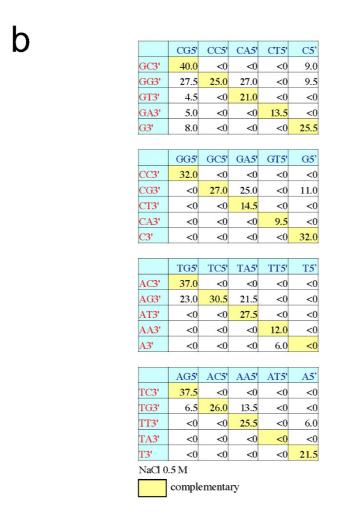




0.3 M NaCl

**Figure S4.** Dot images of temperature-dependent NCL-GNP aggregation. GNP diameters: 15 nm.





**Figure S5.** The effects of various terminal sequences. GNP diameters: 15 nm. (a) Sequences of the GNP surface probe and the two free DNAs. (b) Listing the aggregation-commencement temperatures.