Supplementary Information (SI) to accompany

### Transport of microtubules according to the number and spacing of

#### kinesin motors on gold nano-pillars

Taikopaul Kaneko, Suguru Ando, Ken'ya Furuta, Kazuhiro Oiwa, Hirofumi Shintaku,

Hidetoshi Kotera, and Ryuji Yokokawa\*

\*Corresponding author: Ryuji Yokokawa. Department of Micro Engineering, Kyoto

University, Kyoto Daigaku-Katsura, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto 615-8540, Japan. Tel/Fax:

+81-75-383-3682; Email: ryuji@me.kyoto-u.ac.jp

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# 1. Supplementary figures



Supplementary Figure S1 | Design of Au nano-pillars. (a) Top view. (b) Cross sectional view.



Supplementary Figure S2 | Spectral data of SAM obtained by ellipsometry. (a) Silane-PEG-CH<sub>3</sub> SAM on the SiO<sub>2</sub> surface treated with the silane-PEG-CH<sub>3</sub> solution. (b) Thiol-PEG-biotin SAM on the Au surface treated with the thiol-PEG-biotin solution. (c) Silane-PEG-CH<sub>3</sub> SAM on the SiO<sub>2</sub> surfaces treated with the mixed SAM solution. (d) Thiol-PEG-biotin SAM on the Au surface treated with the mixed SAM solution.



**Supplementary Figure S3** | **Thickness of SAMs.** (a) Structure of silane-PEG-CH<sub>3</sub> SAM. The expected SAM thickness was calculated as 3.9–5.0 nm. (b) Structure of thiol-PEG-biotin SAM. The expected SAM thickness was calculated as 2.05 nm.



Supplementary Figure S4 | Dependency of the microtubule gliding velocity on the concentration and density of AviTag-K465. Motor density was estimated from the concentration of AviTag-K465. We assumed all kinesin molecules introduced into a flow cell were immobilized on the surface. Mean  $\pm$  S.D.; N > 20.



Supplementary Figure S5 | Trajectories of short and long microtubules on Au nano-pillars. The trajectories of short microtubules ( $L = 2.28 \pm 0.99 \mu m$ ) on nano-pillars with (a) 100 nm, (c) 300 nm, and (e) 500 nm spacings. Trajectories of long microtubules (>10 µm) on nano-pillars with (b) 100 nm, (d) 300 nm, and (f) 500 nm spacings.

# 2. Supplementary table

Pattern	Diameter, nm	Spacing, nm	Height, nm
1	50	100	100
2	100	300	100
3	100	400	100

Supplementary Table S1 | Design of nano-pillars.

Parameter	Symbol	Values	Note, reference
Dynamic viscosity of buffer	η	0.0045 Pa·s	The value of 40 v/v% glycerol.
Distance between microtubule and surface	h <sub>MT</sub>	15 nm	1
Compliance of kinesin spring	κ <sub>s</sub>	0.2 pN/nm	2–4
Rest length of kinesin spring	$l_0$	40 nm	2–4
Unload velocity of kinesin	$v_0$	45.4 nm/s	
Stall force of kinesin	Fs	7 pN	5,6
Detachment rate of kinesin	k <sub>off</sub>	$0.79e^{-\frac{F}{6.1}}(F < 0)$ $0.79 + 1.59F(F > 0)$	<i>F</i> is the load on kinesin's motor head. F > 0 means <i>F</i> is in the same direction as kinesin's step <sup>7</sup> .

Supplementary Table S2 | Values of parameters used in the numerical simulation.

#### 3. Supplementary references

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