

Ligand dimerization programmed by hybridization to study multimeric ligand – receptor interactions

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Supplementary Information

S1. Preparation of PNA-peptide conjugates

Loading of the first amino acid residue with reduction of resin loading to 0.2 mmol/g.

NovaPEG Rink amide resin (0.44 mmol/g, NovaBiochem) was swollen in CH₂Cl₂ for 20 min. The first Fmoc-protected amino acid residue (0.45 equiv., reduction of the resin loading to 0.2 mmol/g) was dissolved in anhydrous NMP and HOBt (2.5 equiv) followed by diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC, 7.5 equiv) were added. The mixture was stirred for 15 min prior the addition to the resin and then shaken for 3 hours with the resin. The unreacted amino groups were capped (20 min) with a solution of acetic anhydride (5.3 equiv) and 2,6-lutidine (6.4 equiv) in DMF. Then, the resin was washed extensively with DMF and CH₂Cl₂ and dried.

Automated PNA synthesis.

PNAs were synthesized on an Intavis MultiPep instrument in a fully automated fashion in 500 µL fritted tubes. The resin (10 mg, 2 µmol, 1.0 equiv per column) was swollen in CH₂Cl₂ (300 µL) for 20 min and deprotected with 20% piperidine in DMF (2x5 min). The resin was then washed with DMF and CH₂Cl₂ and treated with a preactivated (5 min) solution of the corresponding PNA monomer or amino acid or PEG spacer (5.0 equiv), HATU (4.4 equiv), DIPEA (5.0 equiv) and 2,6-lutidine (7.5 equiv) during 20 min in NMP. This process was repeated once (double couplings). Each coupling was followed by a capping step with Ac₂O (5.3 equiv), 2,6-lutidine (6.4 equiv) in NMP (100 µL).

Mtt deprotection.

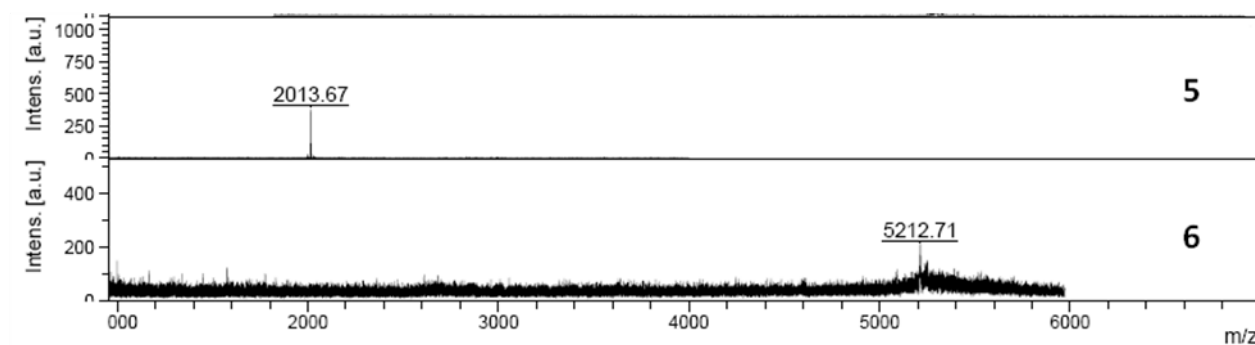
The resin (10 mg, 2 µmol, 1.0 equiv), was swollen in CH₂Cl₂ for 20 min and washed with a solution 1:1 of hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) in dichloroethane (100 µL) 15 cycles of 30 sec washes followed by a last incubation of 5 min. The resin was then washed with DMF and CH₂Cl₂.

Procedure 4. Cleavage from the resin.

The resin was treated with TFA (95% in H₂O, 500 µL for 2 µmol of resin) for 4 hours. The TFA solution was precipitated in Et₂O (10 times TFA volume) and centrifuged to recover the product as a pellet.

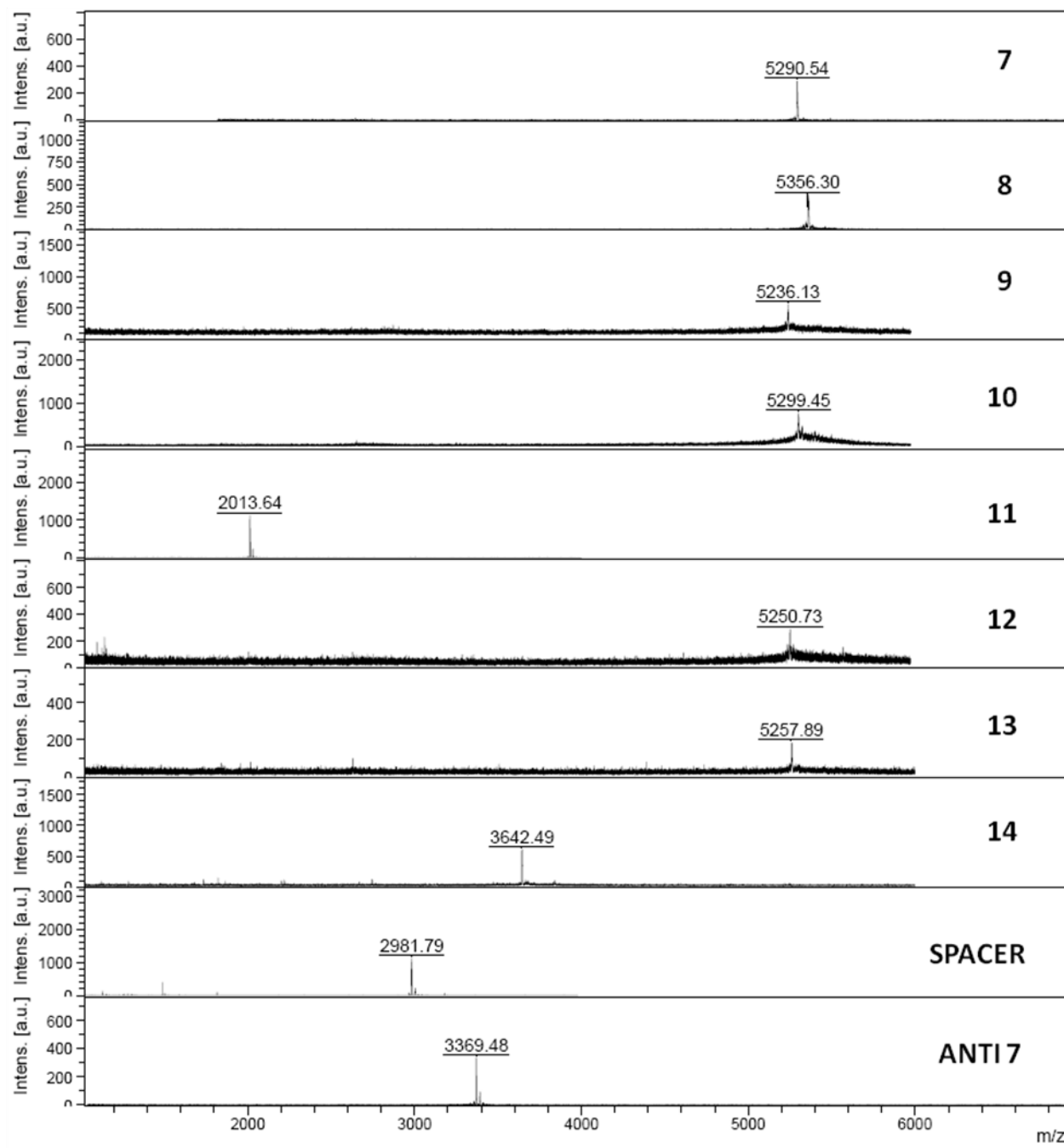
S2. Characterisation of PNA-peptide hybrids and auxiliary PNA:

Name	Peptide precursor ¹	PNA tag ²	MW calculated	MW found MALDI TOF
5	NH ₂ CO-LKVCQRRGIRNDLCDWAc	-	[M+H] ⁺ = 2013.99	[M+H] ⁺ = 2013.67
6	NH ₂ CO-LKVCQRRGIRNDLCDWAc	GA*ACG*GCA*GC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5212.42	[M+H] ⁺ = 5212.71
7	NH ₂ CO-LKVCQRRGIRNDLCDWAc	AEEA-GC*TCG*CGT*TC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5289.45	[M+H] ⁺ = 5290.54
8	NH ₂ CO-LKVCQRRGIRNDLCDWAc	AEEA-GA*ACG*GCA*GC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5356.49	[M+H] ⁺ = 5356.30
9	NH ₂ CO-LRVCQRKIGIRNDLCDWAc	AA*GGC*GAC*GA-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5236.43	[M+H] ⁺ = 5236.13
10	NH ₂ CO-LRVCQRKIGIRNDLCDWAc	AEEA-CG*TCT*GGC*AC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5299.47	[M+H] ⁺ = 5299.45
11	NH ₂ CO-LRVCQRRGIKNDLCDWAc	-	[M+H] ⁺ = 2013.99	[M+H] ⁺ = 2013.64
12	NH ₂ CO-LRVCQRRGIKNDLCDWAc	GC*CGT*GGG*TG-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5250.39	[M+H] ⁺ = 5250.73
13	NH ₂ CO-LRVCQRRGIKNDLCDWAc	AEEA-TC*CCA*GGC*TCA-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 5257.44	[M+H] ⁺ = 5257.89
14	NH ₂ CO-LKAc	AEEA-GA*ACG*GCA*GC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 3642.68	[M+H] ⁺ = 3642.49
SPACER	-	H ₂ NCO-GTC*GTGG*CGA-NH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 2981.23	[M+H] ⁺ = 2981.79
ANTI-7	-	NH ₂ CO-ArgGA*ACG*GCA*GC-ArgNH ₂	[M+H] ⁺ = 3369.51	[M+H] ⁺ = 3369.48



¹ Sequence written C to N, underlined residue to which PNA tag was attached

² Sequence written C to N, * denotes residues where GPNA was used (for GPNA see: (a) P. Zhou, M. Wang, L. Du, G. W. Fisher, A. Waggoner and Danith H. Ly, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2003, **125**; (b) Z. Pianowski, K. Gorska, L. Oswald, C. A. Merten and N. Winssinger, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2009, **131**, 6492)



S3. Assembly of supramolecular complexes.

PNA-peptide hybrids were dissolved in deionized water to obtain 1mM stock solutions. To break potential pre-existing secondary structures stock solutions were first kept at 45°C for 1h and then heated to 60°C. DNA templates were dissolved in deionized water to obtain 1mM stock solutions. To assemble supramolecular complexes appropriate volume of PNA stock solutions were added to sterile 1x PBS previously heated to 60°C, followed by (if applicable)

DNA. Resulting solution was kept at 60°C for 5 minutes and then slowly cooled to room temperature. Final complex concentration – 100 μ M.

S4. Nucleic acid sequences for supramolecular complexes:

Entry	PNA tagged segment 1	PNA tagged segment 2	DNA sequence
C1	12	12	TCGGCACCACCGGCACCCACT
C2	12	9	TCGGCACCACCTTCCGCTGCTT
C3	12	6	TCGGCACCACCTTGCCGTCGT
C4	12	7	TCGGCACCACATCACGCGCCT
C5	12	10	TCGGCACCACGCAGACCGTGT
C6	12	13	TCGGCACCACAGGGTCCGAGT
C7	9	9	TTTCCGCTGCTTTCCGCTGCTT
C8	9	6	TTTCCGCTGCTCTTGCCGTCGT
C9	9	7	TTTCCGCTGCTATCACGCGCCT
C10	9	10	TTTCCGCTGCTGCAGACCGTGT
C11	9	13	TTTCCGCTGCTAGGGTCCGAGT
C12	6	6	TCTTGCCGTCGCTTGCCGTCGT
C13	6	7	TCTTGCCGTCGATCACGCGCCT
C14	6	10	TCTTGCCGTCGGCAGACCGTGT
C15	6	13	TCTTGCCGTCGAGGGTCCGAGT
C16	7	7	TATCACGCGCCATCACGCGCCT
C17	7	10	TATCACGCGCCGAGACCGTGT
C18	7	13	TATCACGCGCCAGGGTCCGAGT
C19	10	10	TGCAGACCGTGGCAGACCGTGT
C20	10	13	TGCAGACCGTGAGGGTCCGAGT
C21	13	13	TAGGGTCCGAGAGGGTCCGAGT

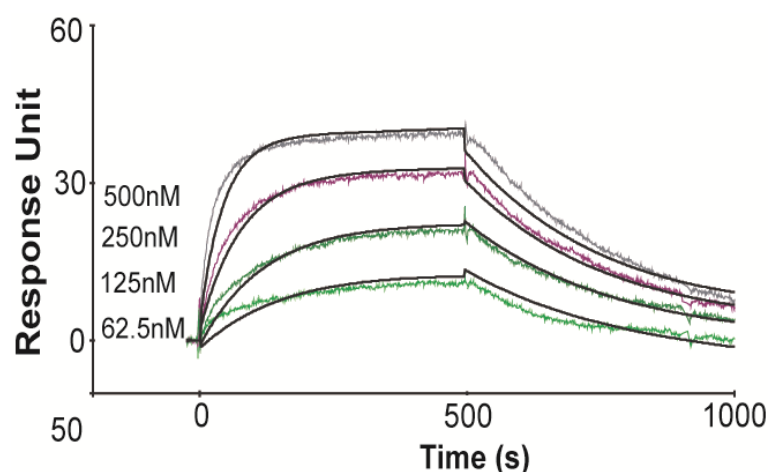
Nucleic acid sequences for supramolecular complexes prepared for detailed kinetic screen:

Entry	PNA tagged segment 1	PNA tagged segment 2	Auxiliary PNA	DNA sequence
3	14	14	-	TCTTGCCGTCGCTTGCCGTCGT
4	14	13	-	TCTTGCCGTCGAGGGTCCGAGT
5	13	13	-	TAGGGTCCGAGAGGGTCCGAGT
6	13	13	SPACER	TCTTGCCGTCGAGACCGCTCTTGCCGTCGT
7	7	7	-	TATCACGCGCCATCACGCGCCT
8	7	13	-	TATCACGCGCCAGGGTCCGAGT
9	7	8	-	-
10	7		Complementary to 7 (ANTI-7)	-

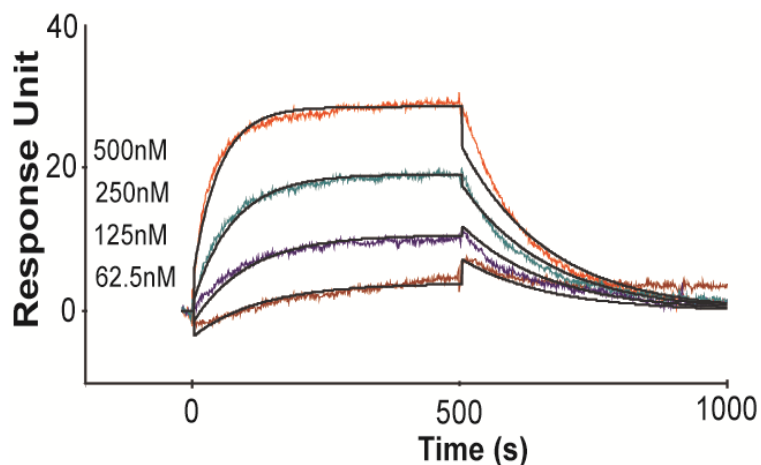
S5. Kinetic parameters of binding of the various compounds on DR5:

DR5 was immobilized on a CM5 sensor chip (Research Grade, Biacore AB) using amine coupling at 5 µg/mL in 10 mM acetate buffer (pH 5.0) according to the manufacturer's instructions. RANK, another receptor of the TNF superfamily was immobilized in the control channel according to the same procedure. The chip was then flushed with 1 M ethanolamine hydrochloride (pH 8.5) (Biacore AB) and 25 mM HCl to eliminate unbound protein. Biosensor assay were performed at 25 °C in HBS-EP buffer [10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) containing 0.15 M NaCl, 3.4 mM EDTA, and 0.005% (v/v) surfactant P20] as running buffer. The compounds were injected sequentially in both channels (kinetic mode) at a flow rate of 30 µL/min for 8 min and allowed to dissociate for an additional 10 min. The channels were then regenerated for 45 s with 25 mM HCl. The RANK protein was considered as negative control, thus the control sensograms of RANK channel were subtracted from the DR5 one and analyzed with BIAevaluation version 4.1 using the simple 1:1 Langmuir binding model.

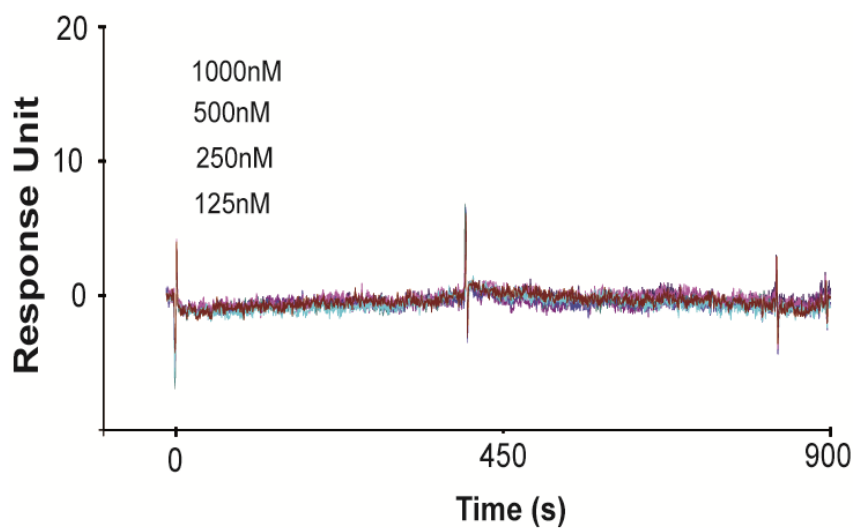
S6. Sensograms from detailed kinetic screen:



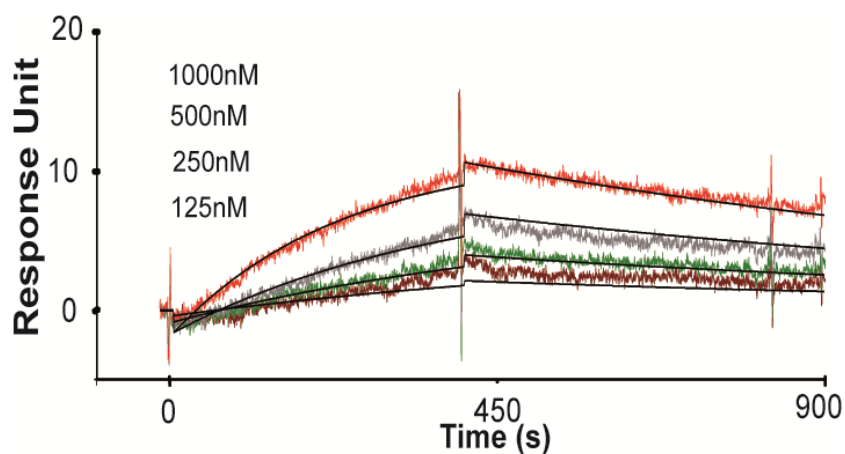
Entry 1: Compound 5 ($\chi^2=4.51$).



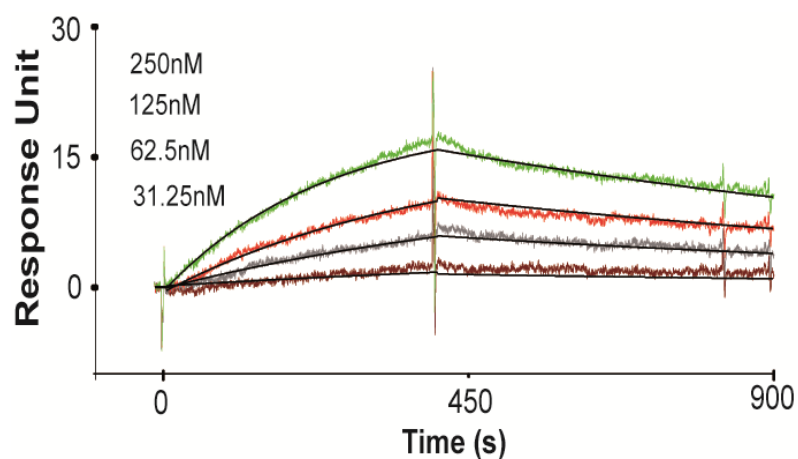
Entry 2: Compound 11 ($\chi^2=0.91$).



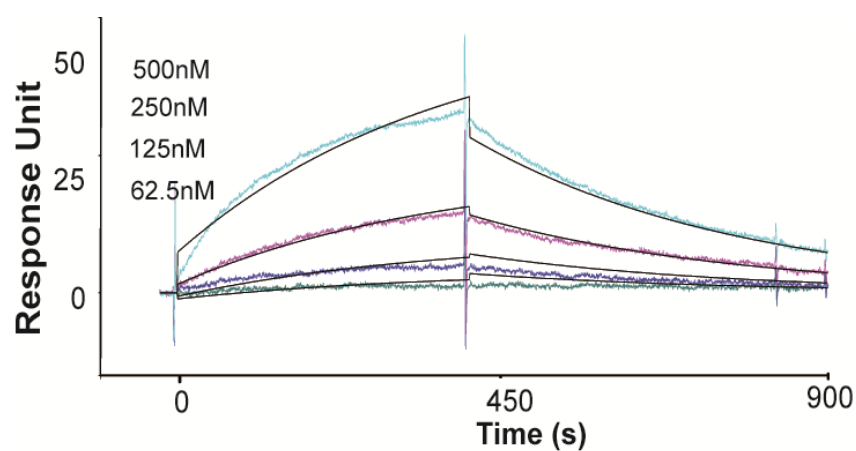
Entry 3: Compounds 14 + 14+ DNA template.



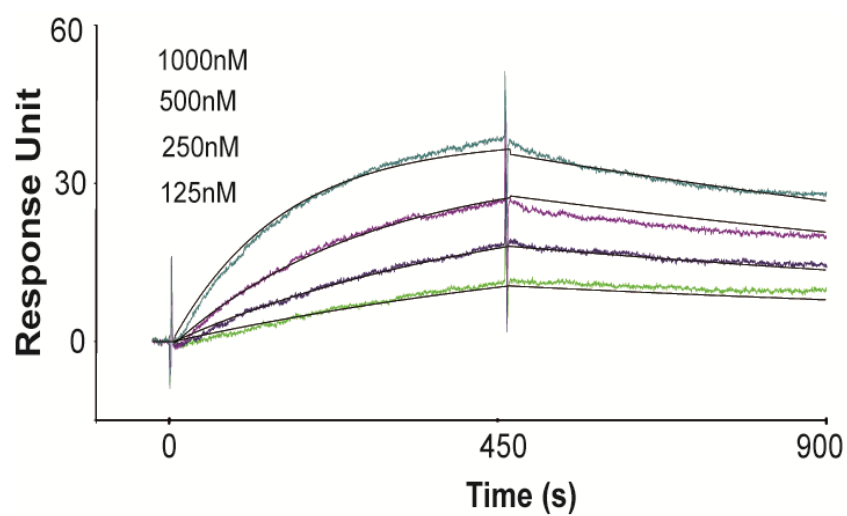
Entry 4: Compounds 13 + 14+ DNA template ($\chi^2=0.25$).



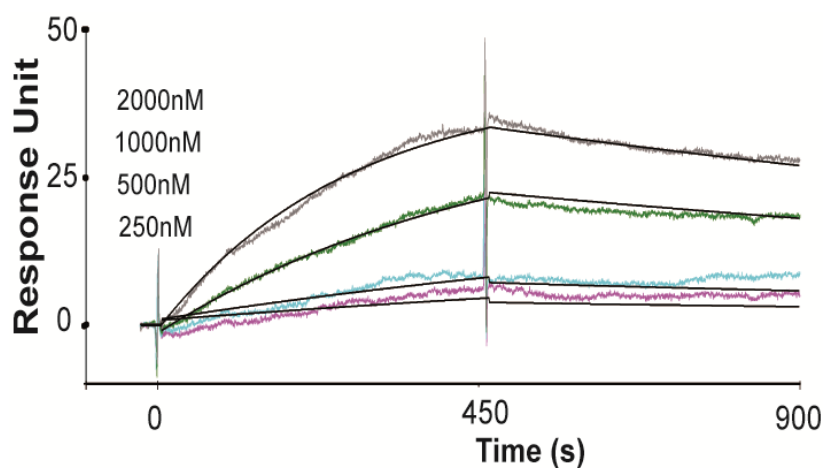
Entry 5: Compounds 13 + 13+ DNA template ($\chi^2=0.26$).



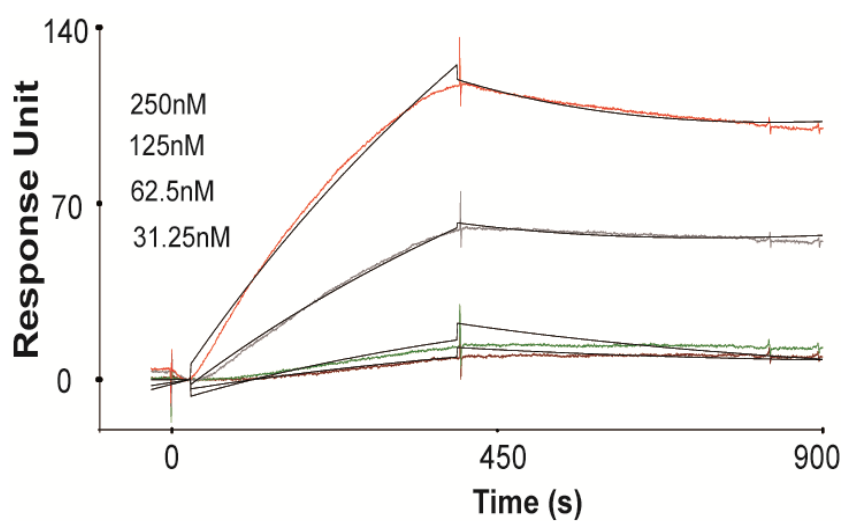
Entry 6: Compounds 13 + SPACER+13+ DNA template ($\chi^2=1.11$).



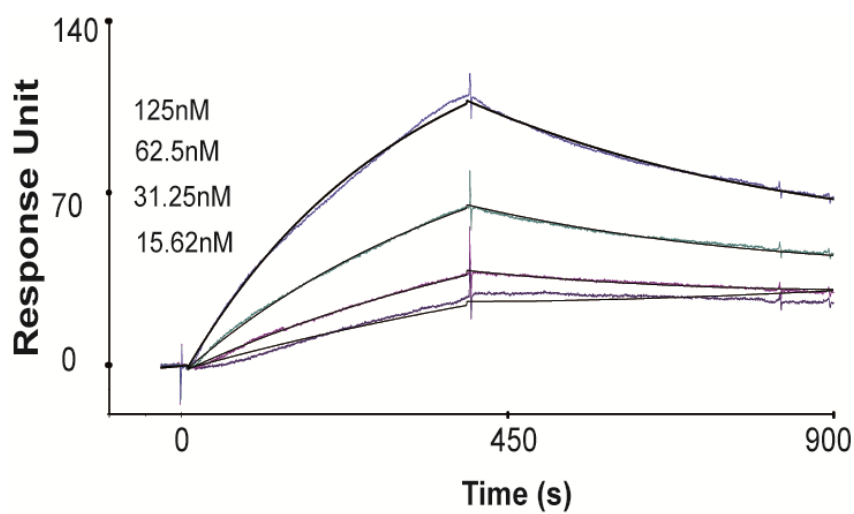
Entry 7: Compounds 7 + 7+ DNA template ($\chi^2=1.11$).



Entry 8: Compounds 7 + 13 + DNA template ($\chi^2=1.21$).



Entry 9: Compounds 7 + 8 ($\chi^2=4.50$).



Entry 10: Compound 7 + complementary PNA – ANTI-7 ($\chi^2=1.74$).