

## Supplementary Information

for

# Modular Blue Fluorescent RNA Sensors for Label-Free Detection of Target Molecules

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## 1. Preparation of RNA sensors

The dsDNA templates for RNA probes were prepared by PCR amplification using the forward primers (5'-TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GCC AAG CAG GTT CGT TTT CGA AGC-3' for **RNA1**, 5'-TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GCC AAG CTT CGT TTT CGA AGC-3' for **RNA2**, 5'-TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GCC AAG CAG GTT CGG-3' for **RNA3**, 5'-GTA ATA CGA CTC ACT ATA GGT CAT CCA AGC AGG TTC GTT TTC GAA G-3' for **RNA4**, 5'-GTA ATA CGA CTC ACT ATA GCT GGC CAA GCA GGT TCG TTT TCG for **RNA5**), reverse primers (5'-TCC AAG CTT CGA AAA CGA ACC-3' for **RNA1**, 5'-TCC AAG CTT CGA AAA CGA AG-3' for **RNA2**, 5'-TCC AAG CTT CGG ACG TC-3' for **RNA3**, 5'-TTG GAT GAC CGT GTC TGA TTG TCC GGG GTG TTC-3' for **RNA4**, 5'-TTG ACC AGC CTT GCG TAT ACG TGC TCT TCT GGC-3' for **RNA5**), and templates (5'-GGC CAA GCA GGT TCG GAC GTC TTT TGA CGT CCG AAG CTT GGA-3' for **RNA3**, 5'-GCA GGT TCG TTT TCG AAG CTT GGT TGG ATG ACG AGG GGA ATG AAC ACC CCG GAC AAT C-3' for **RNA4**, 5'-CCA AGC AGG TTC GTT TTC GAA GCT TGG TTG GCC AGC CAG AAG AGC ACG TAT AC-3' for **RNA5**). RNA sensors were transcribed from the PCR-generated dsDNA templates using T7 MEGAscript kit (Ambion), and purified by 8% PAGE containing 7 M urea.

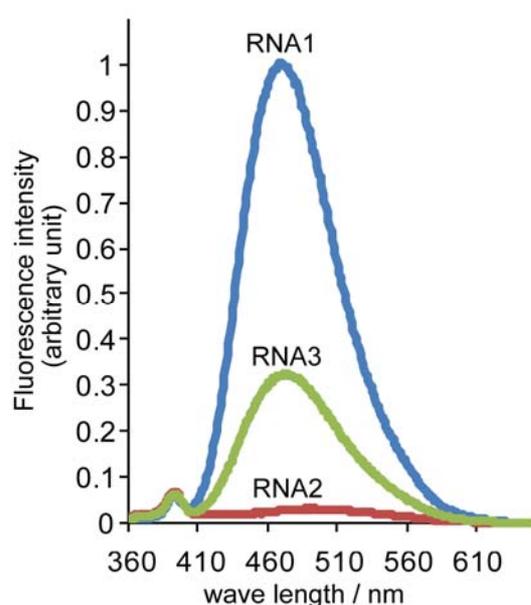
## 2. Surface plasmon resonance analysis

SPR analyses were performed with a BIAcore2000 system (GE Healthcare, USA). Chromophore **1** was immobilized on a sensor chip SA (streptavidin) through biotin-avidin interaction according to the method reported previously.<sup>1</sup> Binding experiments of immobilized **1** with various concentrations of **RNA4** (10 ~ 600 nM in running buffer) were performed at 25 °C in a continuous flow of running buffer [1× PBS pH 7.4 (10 mM phosphate buffer containing 138 mM NaCl and 2.7 mM KCl) containing 2.5 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> and 0 or 3 mM ADP] at a flow rate of 10 μL min<sup>-1</sup>. Kinetic analyses were performed with BIAevaluation software.

## 3. Fluorescence measurement

RNA sensors (final conc. 200 nM) were dissolved in the binding buffer [1× PBS pH 7.4 (10 mM phosphate buffer containing 138 mM NaCl and 2.7 mM KCl) containing 2.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>] in the presence or absence of analytes. The solutions were incubated for 3 min after addition of chromophore **1** (final conc. 200 nM) and subjected to fluorescence measurements. Fluorescence spectra (excitation at 345 nm and emission in the range of 360-650 nm) were measured at 25 °C using a FP-6500 fluorescence spectrometer (JASCO Corp., Japan).

#### 4. Figure S1



**Fig. S1** Fluorescence spectra of chromophore **1** (200 nM) in the presence of **RNA1-3** (200 nM). Fluorescence spectra (excitation at 345 nm) were measured in the binding buffer (1× PBS containing 2.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>) at 25 °C.

#### 5. Reference

1. S. Sando, A. Narita, M. Hayami and Y. Aoyama *Chem. Commun.*, 2008, 3858–3860.