## **Supplementary Information**

for

# Size-selective Molecular Recognition based on a Confined DNA Molecular Sieve

# using Cavity-tunable Framework Nucleic Acids

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#### Supplementary Figures



Supplementary Figure 1 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage 1. 8% native-PAGE analysis of the stepwise assembly of Cage 1 (lane 1 to lane 6) and the hybridization of the double stranded DNAzyme cargo (lane 7 and lane 8). (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



Supplementary Figure 2 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage 2. 8% native-PAGE analysis of the stepwise assembly of Cage 2 (lane 1 to lane 6) and the hybridization of the double-stranded DNAzyme cargo (lane 7 and lane 8). (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



Supplementary Figure 3 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage 3. 5% native-PAGE analysis of the stepwise assembly of Cage 3 (lane 1 to lane 6) and the hybridization of the double-stranded DNAzyme cargo (lane 7 and lane 8). (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



Supplementary Figure 4 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage 4. 5% native-PAGE

analysis of the stepwise assembly of Cage 4 (lane 1 to lane 7) and the hybridization of the double-stranded DNAzyme cargo (lane 8 and lane 9). (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



Supplementary Figure 5 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage 5. 5% native-PAGE analysis of the stepwise assembly of Cage 5 (lane 1 to lane 7) and the hybridization of the double-stranded DNAzyme cargo (lane 8 and lane 9). (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



**Supplementary Figure 6** | **DLS of Cage 1 - Cage 5.** The results indicated a gradual increase of the hydration radius of DNA nanocages from cage 1 to cage 5.



Supplementary Figure 7 | Native-PAGE analysis of Czyme-out-2. PAGE analysis of the Czyme-out-2 stepwise assembly by 8% native-PAGE. (The concentration of each strand is 1  $\mu$ M).



**Supplementary Figure 8** | **The stability of DNA Cage in DNase I**. **a** The native-PAGE analysis of DNA Cage (50 nM) after treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I in different incubation time. **b** The PAGE of double-stranded DNA probe (ds DNA) after treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I in incubation time. As the results shown, the DNA cage still kept stable in 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I for longer time point, however the double-stranded DNA (ds DNA) was gradually digested by DNase I within 1 hour.



**Supplementary Figure 9** | **Encapsulated performance of Czyme-in-2.** 5% native-PAGE analysis confirmed the addressable modification of DNAzyme inside and outside the cavity of DNA nanocage in Czyme-in-2 and Czyme-out-2, respectively. In this experiment, a DNA tetrahedron-tailed cDNA (TH-cDNA) with complementary sequence to the loop sequence of DNAzyme was incubated with Czyme-in-2 and Czyme-out-2, respectively, followed a native-PAGE analysis. Since DNA tetrahedron is too large to enter the cavity, TH-cDNA is expected to hybridize with the loop of DNAzyme outside the cavity rather than inside the cavity. As except, the PAGE result showed that TH-cDNA hybridized with Czyme-out-2 (indicated by the obvious upper new band), while didn't bind with Czyme-in-2 (no obvious upper new band appeared). These results suggested the successful binding of DNAzyme inside and outside the cavity in Czyme-in-2 and Czyme-out-2, respectively.



**Supplementary Figure 10** | **Size characterization of DNase.** Determination of the size of (a) DNase I and (b) SSB using DLS.



Supplementary Figure 11 | The response ability of Czyme-in-2 to L-histidine after treated with 0.25 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I at different time points. a The fluorescence ratio of Czyme-in-2 with (F) and without (F<sub>0</sub>) target L-histidine in DNase I for different time point; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3). b The fluorescence spectra corresponding to **a**.



Supplementary Figure 12 | Responsive analysis of Czyme-in-2 to L-histidine by 10% denaturing PAGE. Line 1, Czyme-in-2 (500 nM); line 2, Cyzme-in-2 (500 nM) treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I for 6 h; line 3, Czyme-in-2 catalytic cutting of substrates in the presence of L-histidine; line 4, Czyme-in-2 catalytic cutting of substrates in the presence of L-histidine after treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I for 6 h. As the results shown, compared the Lane 1-2 with 3-4, the substrate strand band is upper and darker than the substrate strand cut by the DNAzyme in the absence of target. Once in the presence of target, the substrate strand was digested into two short strands that separated the fluorophore and quencher on the two ends of substrate, thus generating brighter bands that below the un-digested strand. Furthermore, the Czyme-in-2 still kept the similar responsive ability with (lane 2, 4) and without (Lane 1, 3) DNase I treated.



**Supplementary Figure 13** | **Fluorescence spectral of free DNAzyme, Czyme-out-2 and Czyme-in-2 to L-histidine treated with and without SSB. a** Fluorescence responsive of DNAzyme to L-histidine with and without SSB. **b** Fluorescence responsive of Czyme-out-2 to L-histidine with and without SSB. **c** Fluorescence responsive of Czyme-in-2 to L-histidine with and without SSB.



**Supplementary Figure 14** | **Cell lysate analysis.** Stability of free DNAzyme, Czymeout-2 and Czyme-in-2 in the cell lysate.



**Supplementary Figure 15** | **Sensing performance of Czyme-in-2.** Comparison of response kinetics between free DNAzyme and Czyme-in-2 (C-DNAzyme-DABCLY: C-d-FAM-DABCLY = 1:1) in the presence of L-histidine.



Supplementary Figure 16 | Sensing performance of Czyme-in-2 (C-DNAzyme-DABCLY: C-d-FAM-DABCLY= 2:1). a Fluorescence response of Czyme-in-2 in the presence of different concentrations of L-histidine, ranging from 0 to 10 mM. Inset: relationship between fluorescence enhancement and L-histidine concentrations (the detection limit was estimated to be 2.9  $\mu$ M in terms of the rule of 3 times the standard deviation divided by the blank response). b Selectivity studies of Czyme-in-2. Concentration of L-histidine and other amino acids were 10 mM and 100 mM, respectively. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



Supplementary Figure 17 | Fluorescent confocal imaging of free DNAzyme. Fluorescent confocal imaging of HeLa cells transfected with free DNAzyme by liposome (named lipo-free) with (L-his (+)) and without L-histidine (L-his (-)). The scale bars are 20  $\mu$ m. The right graph is the relative fluorescent intensity quantified by Image J; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n=4); ns = 0.18 > 0.05 (not significant), by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. The free DNAzyme showed negligible fluorescence enhancement in the presence of L-histidine owing to the high background signal due to the degradation of probes.



Supplementary Figure 18 | Z-axis scanning images. The z-axis scanning images of HeLa cells treated with Czyme-in-2 and L-histidine. The scale bars are 20  $\mu$ m.



Supplementary Figure 19 | Fluorescent confocal imaging of free DNAzyme and Czyme-in-2. a-b Confocal microscopy fluorescence (left), bright field (middle), and overlay (right) images of cells after incubation with free DNAzyme (a) or Czyme-in-2 (b) in the presence of L-histidine. The scale bars are 20  $\mu$ m. c Semiquantitative analysis of fluorescence intensity of free DNAzyme and Czyme-in-2 in cells by Image J. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 5); \*\*\*p = 0.00000043 < 0.001, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. The result showed that Czyme-in-2 could enter cells without transfection and was stable to response to histidine.



Supplementary Figure 20 | Cell viability. MTS assays of Czyme-in-2 with different concentration; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 4).



### Supplementary Figure 21 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage-apt. Analysis of the Cage-

apt-in-2 assembly by 8% native-PAGE (the concentration of each strand is  $1 \mu M$ ).



Supplementary Figure 22 | Comparison of biosensing ability between Cage-apt-in-1 and Cage-apt-in-2. a The fluorescence ratio of Cage-apt-in-1 and Cage-apt-in-2 (10 nM) with (F) and without (F<sub>0</sub>) target ATP (1 mM), Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$ s.d. (n=3); \*\*p = 0.0012 < 0.01, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. b The fluorescence spectra corresponding to **a**.



Supplementary Figure 23 | Selectivity studies of Cage-apt. The concentration of ATP and its analogues was 1 mM; Cage-apt-in-2 is 10 nM; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



Supplementary Figure 24 | Standard curve for detection of ATP. Standard curve for detection of ATP from 0.1 mM to 10 mM; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3) (the value of x-axis is demonstrated in common logarithm mode based on the original data in Figure 5d).



**Supplementary Figure 25** | **Responsive anlysis of Cage-apt-in-2 to ATP.** Responsive analysis of Cage-apt-in-2 to ATP by 5% native PAGE: line 1, Cage-apt-in-2 (500 nM); line 2, Cage-apt-in-2 responsive to ATP (1mM); line 3, Cage-apt-in-2 (500nM) treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I for 6h; line 4, Cage-apt-in-2 (500nM) responsive to ATP (1 mM) after treated with 1 U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I. a The fluorescence (FAM) imaging of native-PAGE before staining with gel-green. b The fluorescence imaging of native-PAGE after staining with gel green. As the results shown, the FAM-labeled aptamers were apart from the DABCLY-labeled partially complementary strand (cDNA) in the presence of ATP, thus generating brighter band under the band of Cage (lane 2 and lane 4). Besides, the Cage-apt-in-2 still kept the same responsive ability with (lane 3, 4) and without (lane 1, 2) DNase I treated.



Supplementary Figure 26 | Standard curve for detection of ATP. Standard curve for detection of ATP by UV-vis absorption spectrometry. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



160-120-120-40-0-Control Etoposide Oligomycin

Supplementary Figure 27 | Fluorescent confocal imaging of endogenous ATP. a-b Confocal microscopy fluorescence images (a) and quantification result (b) for Cage-apt HeLa cells incubated with different drug treatment. From left to right: untreated cells, cells treated with 100  $\mu$ M etoposide (a common activator of intracellular ATP), cells treated with 3  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> oligomycin (a widely-used inhibitor for intracellular ATP)<sup>1, 2</sup>; Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 4); \**p* = 0.024< 0.05, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. The scale bars are 20  $\mu$ m.



Supplementary Figure 28 | Native-PAGE analysis of Cage-MB-in and Cage-MB-

**out.** Analysis of Cage-MB-in and Cage-MB-out assembly by 5% native-PAGE. Cage scaffold strands were the same as those of Cage 2.



Supplementary Figure 29 | Comparison of biosensing ability between Cage-MBin-1 and Cage-MB-in-2. a The fluorescence ratio of Cage-MB-in-1 and Cage-MB-in-2 (20 nM) with (F) and without (F<sub>0</sub>) target micro RNA-21 (20 nM), Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n=3); \**p* = 0.013< 0.05, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. **b** The fluorescence spectra corresponding to **a**.



**Supplementary Figure 30** | **Size-selectivity ability of Cage-MB-in-2.** Fluorescence response spectra of free MB (10 nM) (**a**) and Cage-MB-in-2 (10 nM) (**b**) to the nucleic acid targets with different lengths (10 nM).



**Supplementary Figure 31** | **Response kinetics of Cage-MB-in.** Comparison of response kinetics between free MB and Cage-MB-in (10 nM) in the presence of target.



Supplementary Figure 32 | Responsive analysis of Cage-MB-in to microRNA-21-FAM by 5% native PAGE. Line 1, Cage-MB-in (500 nM); line 2, Cage-MB-in responsive to microRNA-21-FAM (500nM); line 3, Cage-MB-in (500 nM) treated with 1U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I for 6h; line 4, Cage-MB-in (500 nM) responsive to microRNA-21-FAM (500 nM) after treated with 1U mL<sup>-1</sup> DNase I. **a** The fluorescence (FAM) imaging of native-PAGE before staining with gel-green. **b** The fluorescence imaging of native-PAGE after staining with gel green. As the results shown, the band of Cage-MB-in brightened after recognizing the FAM-labeled *miRNA-21* (lane 2, 4), which means the *miRNA-21* can be recognized by the probe encapsulated in the DNA nanocages. Besides, the Cage-MB-in still kept the same responsive ability with (lane 3, 4) and without (lane 1, 2) DNase I treated.



Supplementary Figure 33 | Size-selectivity biosensing of miRNA-21 by Cage-MB-in-2. Normalized mean fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in-2 (10 nM) and Cage-MB-out (10 nM) for *pre-miRNA-21* and mature *miRNA-21*. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



**Supplementary Figure 34** | **Fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in. a** Fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in (20 nM) in the presence of different concentrations of mature *miRNA-21*, ranging from 0 to 100 nM. **b** Plot of the fluorescence intensity of Cy3 versus the target *miRNA-21* concentration. Inset: Linear correlation of the fluorescence intensity against concentrations of the *miRNA-21* target. The detection limit was estimated to be 0.62 nM (in terms of the rule of 3 times the standard deviation divided by the blank response).



Supplementary Figure 35 | Selective experiment of Cage-MB-in. Selectivity studies of Cage-MB-in. The concentration of microRNA and other RNA sequences is 100 nM.  $F_0$  and F refer to fluorescence intensity of probes in the absence and presence of targets, respectively. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



**Supplementary Figure 36** | **Fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in in human serum. a** Fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in (20 nM) in the presence of different concentrations of mature *miRNA-21* in human serum, ranging from 0 to 200 nM **b** Plot of the fluorescence intensity of Cy3 versus the target *miRNA-21* concentration. Inset: Linear correlation of the fluorescence intensity against concentrations of the *miRNA-21* target. The detection limit was estimated to be 5.74 nM (in terms of the rule of 3 times the standard deviation divided by the blank response).



**Supplementary Figure 37** | **Fluorescence response of Cage-MB-in in mix samples.** The Cage-MB-in (20 nM) were incubated with mixtures of mature and pre-miRNA targets at the indicated concentrations, where varied from 0-20 nM. Data are presented

as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



Supplementary Fig. 38 | qRT-PCR analysis of *miRNA-21* and *pre-miRNA-21* expression. a-b Relative expression levels of *miRNA-21* (a) and pre-*miRNA-21*(b) in HEK293, HeLa and MCF-7 cell lines, as estimated by qRT-PCR. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n = 3).



Supplementary Fig. 39 | qRT-PCR analysis of cells treated with PLL. Relative expression levels of *miRNA-21* before (-PLL) and after (+PLL) treatment with inhibitor poly-L-lysine. Data are presented as mean values  $\pm$  s.d. (n=3); \*\*\*p = 0.00056< 0.001, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

### **Supplementary Tables**

## Supplementary Table 1 | ATP concentration was validated using Cage-apt-in-2 and

UV-vis spectrum method.

Sample	ATP concentration (µM)	This method (µM)	UV-vis spectrum (µM)	<i>P</i> -value
1	100.00	100.93	101.11	0.93 (not significant)
2	150.00	154.45	154.74	0.92 (not significant)

Note: The data are provided as mean values (n=3). The *P*-value are calculated through

comparing our method with UV-vis spectrum, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

**Supplementary Table 2** | *MicroRNA-21* concentration (standard 5 nM) was validated using Cage-MB-in-2 (based on the standard curve in Supplementary Figure 34) and standard qRT-PCR method.

This method (nM)	qRT-PCR(nM)	<i>P</i> -value
4.22	4.26	0.97 (not significant)

Note: The data are provided as mean vlues (n=3). The *P*-value are calculated through comparing our method with UV-vis spectrum, by two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

Supplementary Table 3 | Sequences of oligonucleotides used in this work.

Scaffold strands of Cage 1-Cage 5							
	C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTATTC					
		AGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC					
	C1-2	CCACTCTGCTTTCTGGGATGCCATGACACAGTGATATTAC					
		CTGAAT					
	C1-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATGGTCTGCTTGTCGGATCGCAGCTTG					
Cage 1		GATGGTTTCACTGTGTC					
	C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCATGC					
		TGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG					
	C1-5	GCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGCAG					
		ACCATC					
	C1-6	GAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTCTGAAGATTAGCAG					
		AGTGGTTACCTAGAGCC					
	C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTATTC					
Cage 2		AGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC					
	C2-2	CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGATTC					
		GCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT					
	C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTCGG					
		ATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTAGAGT					
	C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCATGC					
		TGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG					

	C2-5	AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCACGAAAA
		GGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTA
	C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTCTG
		AAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAGAGCC
	C3-1	GCTTGCCGTGGTGTCGGTCTGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTC
Casa 2		TAGGTGTATTCAGGTAATGGACCCATAGGTGGCCATCCA
Cage 5		AGCTGCGATCCGAC
	C3-2	CCACTCCCGTTTGTCCTCGCTCTCGTTGTCCTGATACTCT
		AACTCAGATTCGCTGATACTATGGGTCCATTACCTGAATT
		TTAGCGTTGGCT
	C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTCGG
		ATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTAGAGT
	C3-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATATAGACTAGGCATCAC
		AGTACCATGCTGGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAACAGGACAA
		CGAGAGCGAGGAC
	C3-5	AATCCTTATCTTGTACTGTGATGCCTAGTCTATTTCCGTAT
		ATTCACGAAAAGGAGTTCAGACCGACACCACGGCAAGC
		TTGGGCAGACCTA
	C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTCTG
		AAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAGAGCC

	C4-1-1	CGTGGTGTCGGTCTGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGT
		GTATTCAGGTAATGGACC
	C4-1-2	CATAGGACGATGTCTGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCG
		ACTACGAAGCCAGTGCTTGC
	C4-2-1	CCACTCCCGTTTTCGCCTCGCAGTCCTCGCTCTCGTTG
	TCCTGATACTCTAACTCA	
Correct 1	C4-2-2	GATTCGCTGATAAGGTATCGTCCTATGGGTCCATTACCT
Cage 4		GAATTTTAGCGTTGCCT
	C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTCG
		GATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTAGA
		GT
	C4-4-1	GAGGACTGCGAGGCGATTTCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGA
		GAATATAGACTAGGCATCACA
	C4-4-2	GTACAGCTGCACCACATGCTGGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCA
		AACAGGACAACGAGAGC
	C4-5-1	AATCCTTATCTTTGGTGCAGCTGTACTGTGATGCCTAGT
		CTATTTCCGTATATTC
	C4-5-2	ACGTCAAGGAGTTCAGACCGACACCACGGCAAGCAC
		TGGCTTCGTTGGGCTGACCTA
	C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTCT
		GAAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAGA
		GCC GCC

	C5-1-1	CGTCGTGTCTGCCTGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGT
		GTCAGCGATCGTATTCAGGTAATGGACC
	C5-1-2	CATAGGACGATACGTGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCG
		ACGCAACTCTCCCGAATCCAGTGCTTAC
	C5-2-1	CACGTCCACTCCCGTTTTAGTGTCGCAGTCCTCGCTCT
		GGATGTCCTGATACTCTATCTCTGATT
	C5-2-2	CGCTGACCTACTTCTGTAACGTATCGTCCTATGGGTCC
Cage 5		ATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCTCGGTG
	C5-3-1	GCCCCAGCAACGCGATCACTTGATAAGGATTAGAGTA
		GGTCTGCCGAGCGCTTGGAGAGTTGCGTCGGA
	C5-3-2	TCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTCAGAAGTAGGTCAGCGAATC
		AGAGATAGAGT
	C5-4-1	GAGGACTGCGACACTATTCGAGTCAACATCTTCAGAG
		ACAGCCAGGAGAATATAGACTAGGCATCA
	C5-4-2	CAGTACAGCTGCTCCACAGTGATCGCGTTGCTGGGGC
		CGTACAGTTCCAAACAGGACATCCAGAGC
	C5-5-1	CTCTAATCCTTATCTTTGGTGCAGCTGTACTGTGATGCC
		TAGTCTATTTCCGTATATTCACGAA

C5-5-2		AAGGAGGAAGCTCACTTTCAGGCAGACACGACGGTA		
		AGCACTGGCTTCGTTCGGCTCGGCAGACCTA		
C5-6-1		AGTGAGCTTCCTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCC		
		TGGCTGTCTCTG		
C5-6-2		AAGATGTTGACTCGTTACGGGAGTGGACGTGCACCG		
		AGCCAACGCTATTGATCGCTGACACCTAGAGCC		
Scaffol	d strands o	f Czyme-in-2		
C2-1		CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTAT		
		TCAGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC		
C2-2		CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGA		
		TTCGCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT		
C2-3		GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTC		
		GGATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTA		
		GAGT		
C2-4		TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCAT		
		GCTGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG		
C2-5		AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCACGA		
		AAAGGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTA		
C2-6		CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTC		
		TGAAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAG		
		AGCC		
C-d-FAM-		FAM-GAGGACAC(rA)GGAAGAGATG-DABCLY		
DABCLY				

C-DNAzyme-	TGGAACTGTACGTACCCATCTCTTAACGGGGGCTGTGC			
DABCLY	GGCTAGGAAGTAGTGTCCTC/iDabcyldT/ATCCATTGGA			
	TCCAGG			
Scaffold strands	of Czyme-out-2			
C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTATTC			
	AGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC			
C2-2	CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGATT			
	CGCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT			
C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTCGG			
	ATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTAGAG			
	Т			
C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCATG			
	CTGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG			
C2-5-out-1	AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCA			
C2-5-out-	CGAAAAGGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTATTT			
DNAzyme-	TTCATCTCTTAACGGGGGCTGTGCGGCTAGGAAGTAGTG			
DABCLY	TCCTC- DABCLY			
C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTCTG			
	AAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAGA			
C-7-2	TGGAACTGTACGTACCGAATTCAGTTCAGAATTCATCCA			
	TTGGATCCAGG			
Free DNAzyme				

L-histidine	CATCTCTTAACGGGGCTGTGCGGCTAGGAAGTAGTGTC		
DNAzyme	CTC		
Scaffold strands	of tetrahedron (TH-cDNA)		
TH1	ACATTCCTAAGTCTGAAACATTACAGCTTGCTACAC		
	GAGAAGAGCCGCCATAGTA		
TH2	TATCACCAGGCAGTTGACAGTGTAGCAAGCTGTAATA		
	GATGCGAGGGTCCAATAC		
TH3	TCAACTGCCTGGTGATAAAACGACACTACGTGGGAA		
	TCTACTATGGCGGCTCTTC		
TH4-cDNA	TTCAGACTTAGGAATGTGCTTCCCACGTAGTGTCGTA		
	TGTATTGGACCCTCGCATTTTTTGAGGACACTACT		
Scaffold strands	of Cage-apt		
C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTAT		
	TCAGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC		
C2-2	CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGA		
	TTCGCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT		
C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTC		
	GGATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTA		
	GAGT		
C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCAT		
	GCTGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG		
C2-5	AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCACGA		
	AAAGGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTA		

C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTC		
	TGAAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAG		
	AGCC		
C-cDNA-	TGGAACTGTACGTACCACTCCCCAGGT/iDabcyldT/TA		
DABCLY	GCTATCCATTGGATCCAGG		
C-ATP aptamer	FAM-ACCTGGGGGGAGTATTGCGGAGGAAGGT		
Scaffold strands of	Cage-MB-in		
C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTAT		
	TCAGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC		
C2-2	CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGA		
	TTCGCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT		
C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTC		
	GGATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTA		
	GAGT		
C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCAT		
	GCTGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG		
C2-5	AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCACGA		
	AAAGGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTA		
C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTC		
	TGAAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAG		
	AGCC		

C7-MB-21	TGGAACTGTACGTACCCATCTCTTCT/iCy3dT/GCTCGT
	CAACATCAGTCTGATAAGCTACGAGC/iBHQ2dT/GTGT
	ACTCATTTATTGGATCCAGG
Scaffold strands of	Cage-MB-out
C2-1	CCAGCCGCCGTTCCTGGATCCAAGGCTCTAGGTGTAT
	TCAGGTAAGTGGCCATCCAAGCTGCGATCCGAC
C2-2	CCACTCCCGTTTCTGGGATGCCATACTCTAACTCAGA
	TTCGCTGATATTACCTGAATTTTAGCGTTGGCT
C2-3	GCCCCAGCATTGATAAGGATTTAGGTCAGCCCTTGTC
	GGATCGCAGCTTGGATGGTTTCAGCGAATCTGAGTTA
	GAGT
C2-4	TCTTCAGAGACAGCCAGGAGAATAAACAGAGGCCAT
	GCTGGGGCCGTACAGTTCCAAAGGCATCCCAG
C2-5-out-1	AATCCTTATCTTGCCTCTGTTTTTCCGTATATTCA
C2-5-out-cap	CGAAAAGGAGTTCGGCGGCTGGTTGGGCAGACCTAT
	TTTTCCTGGATCCAATAAATGAGT
C2-6	CTCCTTTTCGTGAATATACGGTATCTCCTGGCTGTCTC
	TGAAGATTACGGGAGTGGAGCCAACGCTATTACCTAG
	AGCC
C7-MB-21	TGGAACTGTACGTACCCATCTCTTCT/iCy3dT/GCTCGT
	CAACATCAGTCTGATAAGCTACGAGC/iBHQ2dT/GTGT
	ACTCATTTATTGGATCCAGG
miRNA-21 mimicry	of sequences

miRNA-21	TAGCT	TATCAGACTGATGTTGA	
miRNA-21-FAM	FAM-TAGCTTATCAGACTGATGTTGA		
T10-miR21-T10	TTTTTTTTTTAGCTTATCAGACTGATGTTGATTTTTT		
	TTT		
T20-miR21-T20	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT		
	TGATT	ТТТТТТТТТТТТТТТТТТ	
T30-miR21-T30	TTTTT	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT	
	GACTO	GATGTTGATTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT	
The target RNA sequence of <i>miRNA-21</i> and <i>pre-miRNA-21</i>			
Mature miRNA-21	UAGCUUAUCAGACUGAUGUUGA		
Pre-micro RNA-21	UGUCGGAUAGCUUAUCAGACUGAUGUUGACUGUU		
	GAAUCUCAUGGCAACACCAGUCGAUGGGCUUACUG		
ACA			
The control microF	RNA		
1-base-mismatch	UAACU	UAUCAGACUGAUGUUGA	
3-base-mismatch	UAACUUAUCACACUGAUGUCGA		
miR-145	GUCCAGUUUUCCCAGGAAUCCCU		
Primer sequences			
U6 snRNA-FO		CGCTTCGGCAGCACATATAC	
U6 snRNA-RE		TTCACGAATTTGCGTGTCATC	
Mature micro RNA-21-FO		TCGCCCGTAGCTTATCAGACT	

Mature micro RNA-21-RE	CAGAGCAGGGTCCGAGGTA
Pre-microRNA-21-FO	GTCGGGTAGCTTATCAGACTGA
Pre-microRNA-21-RE	GTCAGACAGCCCATCGACT

Note: For Cage 4 and Cage 5, we split the long strand (over 90 nt) into two DNA strands for more efficient assembly. For DNAzyme and *miRNA-21* probe modified on the surface frame of DNA (Czyme-out-2 and Cage-MB-out, respectively), we split the C2-5 into two DNA strands (C2-5-out-1 and C2-5-out-DNAzyme-DABCYL for Czymeout-2, C2-5-out-cap for capturing the *miRNA-21*) and designed the C-7-2 to maintain the rigidity of the cage. For sequence of "C-d-FAM-DABCLY", the blot font indicates the RNA site. For the sequences of "The control microRNA", the red font indicates the mismatched base sites.

#### **Supplementary References**

1. Izyumov, D.S. et al. "Wages of Fear": transient threefold decrease in intracellular ATP level imposes apoptosis. Biochim. Biophys. Acta. **1658**, 141-147 (2004).

2. Wu, C. et al. Engineering of switchable aptamer micelle flares for molecular imaging in living cells. ACS Nano 7, 5724-5731 (2013).