# **Supporting Information**

# Disassembly of DNA Origami Dimers Controlled by Programmable Polymerase Primers

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#### **1. Materials and Methods**

**The formation of the cross-shaped DNA origami unit**. All of the origamis used in this paper were designed with the software caDNAno (http://cadnano.org/). All DNA strands were purchased from Sangon Biotech Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China). The connecting strands were ordered with ULTRAPAGE-purification, the staple strands and the primer strands were ordered with HAP-purification, and modified strands (with FAM or BHQ1) were ordered with HPLC-purification. The cross-shaped DNA origami was assembled by a slow cooling method. To construct the crossshaped origami-A, 20nM M13mp18 strands were mixed with 197 staple strands and 4 connecting strands at a molar ratio of 1:5:5, in  $1 \times TAE$  buffer solution containing 40 mM Tris-HCl, 20 mM of acetic acid, 2 mM of EDTA, and 12.5 mM of magnesium acetate. To construct the cross-shaped origami-B, 20nM M13mp18 strands were mixed with 197 staple strands at a molar ratio of 1:5, in the same 1×TAE buffer solution. The mixtures were annealed from 90 °C to 24 °C within  $\sim$ 10 h (Table S3). The DNA origami was then purified to remove excess staple strands, using 100kDa ultracentrifugal filters (MWCO, Amicon, Millipore, Molsheim, France).

**The assembly of the DNA origami dimer.** The DNA origami concentration was determined by the estimated extinction coefficient at 260 nm  $(\sim 1.091 \times 108 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1})$ . The concentration of the origami structure was  $\sim$ 30 nM. The prepared DNA origami monomers was mixed at a molar ratio of 1:1 in  $1 \times TAE$  buffer solution containing 10 mM of magnesium acetate. Then, the mixture was annealed from 45℃ to 25℃ at a rate of 0.05℃/min to form the corresponding DNA origami dimers. The assembled DNA origami dimers were directly used for AFM images, without further purification.

**The disassembly of the DNA origami dimer.** The concentration of the DNA origami dimers was estimated to be  $\sim$ 15 nM. The DNA origami dimers and primer strands were mixed together at a molar ratio of 1:4.8. Then, the mixture was annealed from 38℃ to 25℃ at a rate of 0.1℃/min to bind the primer strands with the connecting strands. The samples were mixed with 8 kU/L, 16 kU/L, 32 kU/L, or 64kU/L of Klenow polymerase (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Shanghai, China) in  $1 \times$  Klenow buffer. The dNTP concentration was 5 times (including all four kinds of deoxyribonucleotides) that of the origami dimers, approximately 75 nM. Mixed samples were incubated for 6 hours at 37 °C. The disassembled DNA origami dimers were directly used for AFM images, without further purification.

**AFM imaging.** Samples (5 µL) were dripped onto freshly cleaved mica and kept for 5 min. Then, 20  $\mu$ L 1 × TAE (with 10 mM magnesium acetate) was added to the scanned area. All images were obtained by a Bruker Multimode 8 AFM (Bruker Corporation, Germany), and scanned in "ScanAsyst in fluid" Mode.

**Fluorescent experiments.** All experiments were performed at 37℃ in 1× Klenow buffer using a real-time fluorescence PCR (ABI, Step-one Plus). In a typical reaction, the total volume of the solution was  $30 \mu L$  for detection. The samples with primer "ab", "ba", "aa", "bb", and "abc" were mixed with 8 kU/L of Klenow polymerase in  $1 \times$  Klenow buffer. The sample with primer "cab" was mixed with 64 kU/L of Klenow polymerase in  $1 \times$  Klenow buffer (for the explanation for choosing the concentration of Klenow, see Figure S17). The fluorescence intensity was measured every 4 minutes for ~8 hours. Each experiment was repeated twice to ensure reproducibility. In each reaction, the fluorescence intensity was calculated by subtracting the fluorescence intensity baseline at each time point and was normalized. The error bars stand for the standard errors.

### **2. Supporting Figures**



**Figure S1.** Layout of the cross-shaped origami-A. Blue line: scaffold (M13mp18); black line: the staple strands; red line: the domain x of the connecting strands.



**Figure S2.** Layout of the cross-shaped origami-B. Blue line: scaffold (M13mp18); black line: the staple strands; red line: the domain y of the connecting strands.



**Figure S3.** AFM images of the origami dimers before the polymerasetriggered strand displacement disassembly. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S4.** AFM images of the monomer frames after the origami dimers were treated with the primer strand and Klenow polymerase, 16 kU/L (Up) and 32 kU/L (Down), respectively, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S5.** Percentage of duplexes of primer and connecting strands upon subjecting short or long primer strand and connecting strand to variable temperatures simulated by NUPACK [\(http://nupack.org/\)](http://nupack.org/). The primer and connecting strands were at a molar ratio of 1.2:1.



**Figure S6.** AFM images of the origami dimers before the disassembly of the origami dimers with programmable primers and Klenow polymerase. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S7.** AFM images of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "ab" and Klenow polymerase, 32 kU/L, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S8.** AFM images of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "ba" and Klenow polymerase, 32 kU/L, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S9.** AFM image of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "aa" and Klenow polymerase, 32 kU/L, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S10.** AFM image of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "bb" and Klenow polymerase, 32 kU/L, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S11.** AFM image of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "abc" and Klenow polymerase, 32 kU/L, incubating for 6 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



Figure S12. (a-c) AFM images of the DNA origami dimers after polymerization with the primer strand "cab" and Klenow polymerase at 37℃. 6h polymerization and 32 kU/L Klenow polymerase (a), 6 h polymerization and 64kU/L Klenow polymerase (b), 12 h polymerization and 64 kU/L Klenow polymerase (c).(d) Statistical analysis of the content of the dimer-origami tiles after 6-hour polymerization with 32 kU/L Klenow polymerase at 37℃ (blue: *n*=36, 89%), after 6-hour polymerization with 64kU/L Klenow polymerase at 37℃ (orange: *n*=42, 71%), and after 12-hour polymerization with 64 kU/L Klenow polymerase at 37℃ (red: *n*=41, 21%), respectively. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S13.** AFM image of the origami dimers after treatment with the primer strand "cab" and 64 kU/L Klenow polymerase, incubating for 12 h at 37℃. Scale bars, 400 nm.



**Figure S14.** Schematic of the disassembly of the quencher (BHQ1, black dot) and fluorophore (6-FAM, red dot) modified DNA origami dimer based on polymerase-triggered strand displacement.



**Figure S15.** Schematic of the unexpected polymerization. The quencher (BHQ1, black dot) and fluorophore (6-FAM, red dot) were modified on the DNA origami dimer. The duplex at the edge of the DNA origami initiated polymerase-triggered strand displacement, resulting in the removal of the fluorescent-modified staple from the origami structure. This caused the separation of the quencher and fluorophore.



**Figure S16.** Initial rates of different primers addition systems.

To estimate the dissociation rate constants of the disassembly systems, we calculate the initial rate for the first 60 min of the fluorescence intensity recovery curves by fitting the curve slope in the initial states in each primers addition system shown in Figure 3e.

Compared to the reaction systems with primer "ab" (system "ab") and primer "ba" (system "ba"), the system "ab" has a faster initial rate. We guess that the polymerization reaction starting with primer "ba" undergoes an additional 7-nt-long region than the polymerization reaction starting with primer "ab" (Figure 3a). In the system "bb", the polymerase reacts preferentially with the duplex without overhang at the 3' end. Therefore, the initial rate of the system "bb" is roughly the same as that of the system "ba". In the system "aa", we speculate that some possible complexes, such as the three-strand structure, make the rate of the polymerization reaction lower than the former three systems.



Figure S17. The melting curve of the polymerase-triggered disassembly strategy using the primers containing overhang. The error bars stand for the standard deviations.

In the presence of Klenow and primers "abc", a significant increase in fluorescence was observed. The fluorescence intensity was close to the sample with primers "ab". The fluorescence curve of the sample with primer "cab" rose faster than that of primer "abc", but the increase was lower. This is because, in order to stimulate the exonuclease activity of Klenow to remove the overhang at the 3' end of primer "cab", the sample requires a higher concentration of Klenow polymerase (64kU/L) than the other samples. These results indicated that the overhang at the 3' end of the primer strand hindered the origami dimers disassembly, while the overhang at the 5' end of the primer strand had no influence on the origami dimers disassembly. Of note, to visually compare the effect of primers with and

without overhang on the disassembly efficiency, the blue curve shown in this figure is identical to that shown in Figure 3e.

To capture the upward slope of the fluorescence curve in the initial state, we added 8 kU/L of Klenow to the samples for the fluorescence experiments to reduce the reaction rate. However, the AFM results showed that the low concentration of Klenow hardly disassembled the origami dimer in the system "cab". So, we used 64kU/L of Klenow for the fluorescence experiments of system "cab". An 8-fold excess of polymerase makes the initial rate of system "cab" much higher than that of other systems. In addition, we believe that the higher polymerase concentration also caused a more intense leakage reaction (Figure S15), which further increased the reaction rate of system "cab".

It is worth mentioning that the fluorescence intensity of system "cab" is lower than system "ab" and system "abc" at the steady state, which is consistent with the results of the AFM experiment. We believe that the efficiency of Klenow is not 100%, neither for exonuclease activity nor for polymerase activity. Therefore, we speculate that not all overhangs on the primer cab were removed. The primer cab with surviving overhang further hindered the polymerase reaction, resulting in a lower fluorescence intensity of system "cab" than system "ab" and system "abc" at the steady state.



Figure S18. Initial rates of "abc" and "cab" primers addition systems.

The initial rates of system "abc" and system "cab" were calculated by fitting the curve slope of fluorescence curves at the first 60 min and 12 min, respectively. The slopes are denoted as *Sabc* and *Scab*, respectively.

Since the polymerase concentration in the system "cab" is eight times higher than the polymerase concentration in the system "abc", to roughly compare the initial rates of the two systems under the same conditions, we compared  $S_{cab}/8$  (~ 0.0052) and  $S_{abc}$  (~ 0.0066). The results illustrate that system "abc" has a faster initial reaction rate, proving it takes some time to remove the overhang.

In addition, system "ab" has a faster initial rate than system "abc". We speculate that the spatial site resistance at the DNA origami dimer junction affects the binding of primer abc to the connecting strands, thus affecting the initial reaction rate.

#### **3. Supporting Tables**

**Table S1.** The detailed analysis of the disassembly of the origami dimers with the primer strand and Klenow polymerase.



#### **Table S2.** The detailed analysis of the disassembly of the origami dimers

controlled by programmable polymerase primer and Klenow polymerase.





## **Table S3.** Thermal annealing ramp for DNA origami.

**Table S4.** Oligonucleotide sequences of the staple strands for the cross-

Name	Sequence $(from 5' to 3')$
$CO-1$	ATAATATCCCATCCTAATTTACGATTCCTTAT
$CO-2$	TATCAACAATAGATAAGTCCTGAAAAGTACCG
$CO-3$	AACATGTTCAGCTAATGCAGAACGTTTTTATT
$CO-4$	ATTCTGTCCAGACGACGACCCAATAG
$CO-5$	AATTGAGAATCGCCATATTTAACAATACCGAC
$CO-6$	CAGTATAAAGCCAACGCTCAACAGAAGAATAA
$CO-7$	CATTCCAACTGAATCTTACCAACGAGTTACAA
$CO-8$	CACTCATCGTTGCTATTTTGCACCCAATCCAA
$CO-9$	TTCATCGTGCGGGAGGTTTTGAAGGTCAAAAA
$CO-10$	CAAGCAAAAACGCGAGGCGTTTTAGAATAACA
$CO-11$	TTTTTCAAGCAAGACAAAGAACGCTATCCGGT
$CO-12$	CTGACCTAAACTATATGTAAATGCTTTTTAAT
$CO - 13$	CGTGTGATCTTTTTAACCTCCGGCTGTGAGTG
$CO-14$	ACACCGGAAATTTATCAAAATCATCGCTATTA
$CO-15$	ATTTTATCGAACGGGTATTAAACCCAAGAAAA
$CO-16$	CAAGATTAGAGAACAAGCAAGCCGCGCCTGTT
$CO - 17$	ATTCTAAGTCAGATATAGAAGGCTGAGAAAAC
$CO-18$	ATCCAATCATATATTTTAGTTAATCGAGCCAG
$CO-19$	GAGACTACAAATAAGGCGTTAAATTAGGGCTT
$CO-20$	CAATAGTGATCATAATTACTAGAAATTCTTAC
$CO-21$	AATAAACAAAATAGCAATAGCTATGATAGCCG
$CO - 22$	ATAAGAAAGTTAAGCCCAATAATAAGGAAACG
$CO - 23$	TGAAAATACTAATATCAGAGAGATAACTGGCATGA
$CO - 24$	TAAAAACACACCCTGAACAAAGTCAGAGGGTA
$CO-25$	TTAACAATTCAAGAAAACAAAATTGGGAGAAT
$CO-26$	GGAAACAGTACCTGAGCAAAAGAAGATGATGA
$CO - 27$	AATAACCTAAATCGCGCAGAGGCGCTTAGCCG
$CO - 28$	ATTAATTTATTCGCCTGATTGCTTGAAATTGC
$CO-29$	AAACAATGGCCATATTATTTATCCCAGCTACA
$CO - 30$	AGAATTGACGATTTTTTGTTTAACCCTTAAAT
$CO - 31$	ATTGAGCGGCAGCCTTTACAGAGAGCGAACCT
$CO - 32$	TAACTGAAGGGAAGCGCATTAGACAATTACAT
$CO - 33$	ATTTCAATTACATAAATCAATATATTAGGTTG
$CO - 34$	AAGTTACATGCTTCTGTAAATCGTAGGTCTGA
$CO - 35$	AATAACGGTCCCTTAGAATCCTTGAGAAGAGT
$CO - 36$	AACAAAGTTCGCACTCCAGCCAGCGCAAAGCG
$CO - 37$	CAATAATAAGGGGACGACGACAGTCTGTTGGG
$CO - 38$	TGCTCCATGTTAAATTATTC

shaped DNA origami tiles:









Name	Sequence (from $5'$ to $3'$ )
$A-R-I-1$	TTTTTTAACCAATAGGTTTTGGGATTATCTCCATGGGATTATTTTCAAAAGGGCGACATT
	CTTACCAGCGCCAAAGATTTT
$A-R-I$ $-3$	_TTTGGGGCGCGAGCTGTTTTGGGATTATCTCCATGGGATTATTTTAATAAGTTTTAACGG
	GACAGGAGTGTACTGGTTTTT
$A-R-I$ $-4$	ATTCGAGCTTCAAAGCTTTTGGGATTATCTCCATGGGATTATTTTCACCCTCATTTTCAG
	GCCACCCTCAGAGCCACTTTT
$A-R-I$ -6	AGGCTTGCCCTGACGATTTTGGGATTATCTCCATGGGATTATTTTCACTACGAAGGCACC
	AGTAAAATACGTAATGCTTTT

**Table S5.** Oligonucleotide sequences of the connecting strands:

### **Table S6.** Oligonucleotide sequences of the programmable primer strands:



### **Table S7.** Oligonucleotide sequences of the modified strands:

