## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Energy landscape quantifications of histone H3.3 recognition by chaperon DAXX reveal an uncoupled binding specificity and affinity

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### Hamiltonian 1

The Hamiltonian is given by the expression:

 $U_{Total} = U_{Local} + U_{Attraction} + U_{Repulsive}$ 

#### 1.1 Attraction term

The  $U_{Attraction}$  is give by the expression:  $U_{Attracition} = U_{LJ}(native contacts)$  $U_{LJ} = \epsilon_{LJ} [5(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_0})^{12} - 6(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_0})^{10}]$ We build a native contacts library by collecting all the pairs in the contact map obtained from the reference crystal structures (PDB ID: 4HGA).

#### **Repulsive interactions** 1.2

The  $\sigma_{NC}$  is the excluded distance between non-native pairs to provide excluded volume repulsion. The repulsive rail is 4.0 Å , the  $\epsilon_{NC}=1KJ \diagup mol.$  All pairs in  $\gamma^{all}$  were not considered in this term.

 $U_{Repulsive} = \epsilon_{NC} \left( \frac{\sigma_{NC}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12}$ 

#### 1.3Local Potential

The Local potential is divided into bond stretching, angle bending, torsion energy.

 $U_{Local} = U_{Bonds} + U_{Angles} + U_{Dihedrals}$  $U_{Bonds} = \sum_{bonds} K_b (r - r_0)^2 = 0$ 

 $U_{Angles} + U_{Dihedral} = K_{\theta}(\theta - \theta_0)^2 + K_{\phi}[(1 - \cos(\phi - \phi_0)) + 0.5(1 - \cos(\phi - \phi_0))]$ 

The bonded energies  $U_{Bonds}$  are summed over the energy of all co-valent bonds.  $K_r = 10000 K J / (mol \ nm^2)$ is the bond constant. The angle constant  $K_{\theta} = 20kJ/mol$ . The  $K_{\phi} = 0.8kJ/mol$ .

# 2 Supplementary Figure



Figure S1. The pi-pi interaction region, folding region (FR) and AAMD with mutations.



Figure S2. The phase transition temperature of binding is measured by the equation  $1/T_f = S/(E_n - E_D)$ , where the S is quantified by ln  $(E_D)$ . The energy gap  $\delta E$  is quantified by  $E_n - E_D$  and the energy roughness  $\Delta E$  is got by calculating the standard deviation of non-native state ensemble. The  $\Lambda$  can be got by equation  $\Lambda = \delta E/(\Delta E \sqrt{2S})$ . The Q values between DAXX and H3.3 as well as between DAXX and H3.3-H4 complex are used to define the location of the native and nonnative basins within the density of states during the binding and binding-folding process of DAXX and H3.3-H4.



Figure S3. The phase transformation temperature Tbf of simulation in each local flexibility simulation.



Figure S4. The average  $\Phi$  values of residues within the specific region at barrier height S2. When the average  $\Phi$  values increase, there is a corresponding augmentation in the positive contribution to each state.



Figure S5.Quantify Intrinsic Energy Funnel.