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Supporting Information

Optimization of RiPCA for the Live-Cell Detection of Pre-MicroRNA-Protein Interactions

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A. General Materials and Methods

Materials:

Chemically synthesized pre-microRNAs (deprotected, desalted and HPLC purified) containing 5aminohexylacrylamino uridine (5-LC-N-U) modifications and biotin attached to the 5'-end of the sequence by an 18-atom spacer were purchased from Horizon Discovery Biosciences (formerly Dharmacon) and used as received for the labeling reaction. HaloTag Succinimidyl Ester (O2) and (O4) Ligands were purchased from Promega and used as received (cat #1691 and #P6751). Note that the HaloTag Succinimidyl Ester Ligands should be dissolved and immediately portioned into single-use aliquots stored at -80 °C to avoid degradation. The generation of Flp-In[™]-293 cells stably expressing SmBiT-HT or SmBiT-HT-cNLS was previously reported.^[1] The Nano-Glo Live Cell Assay System was purchased from Promega and used as received (cat #N2012). Transfection reagents LipofectamineTM RNAiMAX (Invitrogen cat #13778100) and TransIT-X2® (Mirus cat #6000) were used as received. Cell Titer Glo was purchased from Promega and used as received (cat #G7570).

Cell Culture:

Flp-InTM-293 cells stably expressing either SmBiT-HaloTag or SmBiT-HaloTag-NLS were cultured in DMEM (Corning cat #10-017-CV) supplemented with 10% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals S11550), L-glutamine (Gibco cat #25030081), and hygromycin B (100 μ g/mL) (Gibco cat #10687010) at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ in a humidified incubator, passaged at least once before use for an experiment. HEK 293 cells were maintained in DMEM (Corning cat #10-017-CV) supplemented with 10% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals S11550), and L-glutamine (Gibco cat #25030081) at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ in a humidified incubator, passaged at least once before use for an experiment. Cells were passaged using Trypsin-EDTA (0.25%) (Gibco cat #25300054) approximately 10 times, and no more than 15 times, before returning to low passage stocks. To count cells, cells were harvested and 10 μ L of the cell suspension was mixed with 10 μ L Trypan Blue (Gibco cat #15250061) ([final] = 0.2% trypan blue) and counted using a hemocytometer.

General assay and data analysis methods:

Chemiluminescence data was collected on a BioTek Cytation3 plate reader. All data was analyzed using GraphPad Prism version 9.0.0 for Mac OS X (GraphPad Software, www.graphpad.com). All normalized chemiluminescence is reported as the signal of each well divided by the average signal of triplicate pre-miR-21 wells.

B. Cloning

hnRNPA1-LgBiT cloning. A synthetic human hnRNPA1 gene fragment was purchased from Twist Bioscience and inserted at the C-terminal position^[1b] using standard cloning techniques with KpnI and AsiSI restriction enzymes. Gene fragment contains a Kozak sequence at the N-terminus.

Gene Fragment:

5'GGTACCGCCACCATGTCTAAGTCAGAGTCTCCTAAAGAGCCCGAACAGCTGAGGAAGCT CTTCATTGGAGGGTTGAGCTTTGAAACAACTGATGAGAGCCTGAGGAGCCATTTTGAGCA ATGGGGAACGCTCACGGACTGTGTGGGTAATGAGAGAGCTCCAAACACCAAGCGCTCCAGGG GCTTTGGGTTTGTCACATATGCCACTGTGGAAGGAGGTGGATGCAGCTATGAATGCAAGGC CACACAAGGTGGATGGAAGAGTTGTGGAACCAAAGAGAGCTGTCTCCAGAGAAGATTCT CAAAGACCAGGTGCCCACTTAACTGTGAAAAAGATATTTGTTGGTGGCATTAAAGAAGAC ACTGAAGAACATCACCTAAGAGATTATTTTGAACAGTATGGAAAAATTGAAGTGATTGAA ATCATGACTGACCGAGGCAGTGGCAAGAAGAAAAGGGGCTTTGCCTTTGTAACCTTTGACGAC CATGACTCCGTGGATAAGATTGTCATTCAGAAATACCATACTGTGAATGGCCACAACTGT GAAGTTAGAAAAGCCCTGTCAAAGCAAGAGAGATGGCTAGTGCTTCATCCAGCCAAAGAGG TCGAAGTGGTTCTGGAAACTTTGGTGGTGGTGGTCGTGGAGGTGGTTTCGGTGGGGAATGACAA CTTCGGTCGTGGAAGGAAACTTCAGTGGTCGTGGTGGTGGCGTGGTGGCAGCCGTGGTGGTGG TGGATATGGTGGCAGTGGGGATGGCTATAATGGATTTGGTAATGATGGAAGCAATTTTGG AGGTGGTGGAAGCTACAATGATTTTGGGAGATTACAACAATCAGTCTTCAAATTTTGGACC CATGAAGGGAGGAAACTTTGGAGGCAGAAGCTCTGGCCCCTATGGCGGTGGAGGCCAAT ACTTTGCAAAACCACGAAACCAAGGTGGCTATGGCGGTTCCAGCAGCAGCAGTAGCTATG GCAGTGGCAGAAATTTGCGATCGC

LgBiT-hnRNPA1 cloning. A synthetic human hnRNPA1 gene fragment was purchased from Twist Bioscience and inserted at the N-terminal position^[1b] using standard cloning techniques with XhoI and XbaI restriction enzymes.

Gene Fragment:

5'CTCGAGATGTCTAAGTCAGAGTCTCCTAAAGAGCCCGAACAGCTGAGGAAGCTCTTCAT TGGAGGGTTGAGCTTTGAAACAACTGATGAGAGCCTGAGGAGCCATTTTGAGCAATGGGG AACGCTCACGGACTGTGTGGTAATGAGAGATCCAAACACCAAGCGCTCCAGGGGCTTTGG GTTTGTCACATATGCCACTGTGGAGGAGGAGGTGGATGCAGCTATGAATGCAAGGCCACACAA GGTGGATGGAAGAGTTGTGGAACCAAAGAGAGCTGTCTCCAGAGAAGATTCTCAAAGAC CAGGTGCCCACTTAACTGTGAAAAAGATATTTGTTGGTGGCATTAAAGAAGACACTGAAG AACATCACCTAAGAGATTATTTTGAACAGTATGGAAAAATTGAAGTGATTGAAATCATGA CTGACCGAGGCAGTGGCAAGAAAAGGGGGCTTTGCCTTTGTAACCTTTGACGACCATGACT CCGTGGATAAGATTGTCATTCAGAAATACCATACTGTGAATGGCCACAACTGTGAAGTTA GAAAAGCCCTGTCAAAGCAAGAGATGGCTAGTGCTTCATCCAGCCAAAGAGGTCGAAGT GGTTCTGGAAACTTTGGTGGTGGTGGTCGTGGAGGTGGTTTCGGTGGGAATGACAACTTCGGT CGTGGAGGAAACTTCAGTGGTCGTGGTGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGTGGTGGTGGATAT GGTGGCAGTGGGGATGGCTATAATGGATTGGTAATGATGGAAGCAATTTTGGAGGTGGT GGAAGCTACAATGATTTTGGGAATTACAACAATCAGTCTTCAAATTTTGGACCCATGAAG GGAGGAAATTTTGGAGGCAGAAGCTCTGGCCCCTATGGCGGTGGAGGCCAATACTTTGCA AAACCACGAAACCAAGGTGGCTATGGCGGTTCCAGCAGCAGCAGTAGCTATGGCAGTGG CAGAAGATTTTAATCTAGA

Msi1-LgBiT cloning. A synthetic human Musashi 1 (Msi1) gene fragment was purchased from Twist Bioscience and inserted at the C-terminal position^[1b] using standard cloning techniques with HindIII and AsiSI restriction enzymes. Gene fragment contains a Kozak sequence at the N-terminus.

Gene Fragment:

CGTTTGAGAGTGAGGACATCGTGGAGAAAGTGTGTGTGAAATTCATTTTCATGAAATCAACA ACAAAATGGTGGAATGTAAGAAAGCTCAGCCAAAGGAGGTGATGTCGCCAACGGGCTCA GCCCGGGGGAGGTCTCGAGTCATGCCCTACGGAATGGACGCCTTCATGCTGGGCATCGGC ATGCTGGGTTACCCAGGTTTCCAAGCCACAACCTACGCCAGCCGGAGTTATACAGGCCTC GCCCCTGGCTACACCTACCAGTTCCCCGAATTCCGTGTAGAGCGGACCCCTCTCCCGAGCG CCCCAGTCCTCCCCGAGCTTACAGCCATTCCTCTCACTGCCTACGGACCAATGGCGGCGGC AGCGGCGGCAGCGGCTGTGGTTCGAGGGACAGGCTCTCACCCCTGGACGATGGCTCCCCC TCCAGGTTCGACTCCCAGCCGCACAGGGGGCTTCCTGGGGACCACCAGCCCGGCCCCAT GGCCGAGCTCTACGGGGCGGCCAACCAGGGGCTCCGGGGGTCAGCAGTTACATCAGCGCCG CCAGCCTGCCCCAGCACCGGCTTCGGCCACAGTCTTGGGGGCCCTTTGATTGCCACAGC CTTCACCAATGGGTACCACGCGATCGC

LgBiT-Msi1 cloning. A synthetic human Msi1 gene fragment was purchased from Twist Bioscience and inserted at the N-terminal position^[1b] using standard cloning techniques with EcoRV and XbaI restriction enzymes.

Gene Fragment:

5'GATATCTTATGGAGACTGACGCGCCCCAGCCCGGCCTCGCCTCCCCGGACTCGCCGCAC GACCCCTGCAAGATGTTCATCGGGGGGACTCAGTTGGCAGACTACGCAGGAAGGGCTGCGC GAATACTTCGGCCAGTTCGGGGAGGTGAAGGAGTGTCTGGTGATGCGGGGACCCCCTGACC CTGGCGCAATCGCGGCACGAGCTCGACTCCAAAACAATTGACCCTAAGGTGGCCTTCCCT GGTGAACACCACGGTGGAGGACGTGAAGCAATATTTTGAGCAGTTTGGGAAGGTGGACG ACGCCATGCTGATGTTTGACAAAACCACCAACCGGCACCGAGGGTTCGGGTTTGTCACGT TTGAGAGTGAGGACATCGTGGAGAAAGTGTGTGAAATTCATTTTCATGAAATCAACAACA AAATGGTGGAATGTAAGAAAGCTCAGCCAAAGGAGGTGATGTCGCCAACGGGCTCAGCC CGGGGGGGGGGTCTCGAGTCATGCCCTACGGAATGGACGCCTTCATGCTGGGCATCGGCATG CTGGGTTACCCAGGTTTCCAAGCCACAACCTACGCCAGCCGGAGTTATACAGGCCTCGCC CCTGGCTACACCTACCAGTTCCCCGAATTCCGTGTAGAGCGGACCCCTCTCCCGAGCGCCC CAGTCCTCCCCGAGCTTACAGCCATTCCTCTCACTGCCTACGGACCAATGGCGGCGGCAG CGGCGGCAGCGGCTGTGGTTCGAGGGACAGGCTCTCACCCCTGGACGATGGCTCCCCCTC CAGGTTCGACTCCCAGCCGCACAGGGGGGCTTCCTGGGGGACCACCAGCCCCGGCCCCATGG CCGAGCTCTACGGGGCGGCCAACCAGGACTCGGGGGGTCAGCAGTTACATCAGCGCCGCCA GCCCTGCCCCAGCACCGGCTTCGGCCACAGTCTTGGGGGGCCCTTTGATTGCCACAGCCTT CACCAATGGGTACCACTGATCTAGA

Msi2-LgBiT cloning. Musashi 2 (Msi2) was amplified from a purchased plasmid, Msi2 variant 1 in pFN21A (Promega), and inserted into pcDNA3 containing LgBiT inserted at the C-terminal position^[1b] using standard cloning techniques with KpnI and AsiSI restriction enzymes. Primers insert a Kozak sequence on the N-terminus.

Primers:

5' GTAC<u>GGTACC</u>GCCACCATGGAGGCAAATGGGAGCCAAG 5' GTCACG<u>GCGATCGC</u>ATGGTATCCATTTGTAAAGGCC

LgBiT-Msi2 cloning. Human Msi 2 was amplified from pcDNA3 + Msi2-Lg and ligated into a pcDNA3 construct with LgBiT inserted at the N-terminal position using standard cloning techniques with XhoI and EcoRI restriction enzymes.

Primers:

5' TCTC<u>CTCGAG</u>ATGGAGGCAAATGGGAGCC 5' CAGT<u>GAATTC</u>TCAATGGTATCCATTTGTAAAGGCCG

C. RiPCA Protocols

Bioconjugation:

A pre-miRNA probe bearing a 5-aminohexylacrylamino uridine modification (5-LC-N-U) and biotin appended to the 5' end by an 18-atom spacer (Scheme S1) (1.0 mM in 100 mM phosphate buffer, pH 8.0) was mixed with an equivalent volume of HaloTag ligand (10 mM in DMSO of PEG2- or PEG4-ligand). The reaction was then allowed to proceed at 25 °C for 1 h. pre-miRNA-Cl was precipitated by the addition of $0.11 \times$ volume of 3.0 M sodium acetate (pH 5.2) and 4 volume equivalents of cold ethanol, and pelleted at 20,000 × g for 40 min at 4 °C. The pellet was then re-suspended in 100 mM phosphate buffer (pH 8.0) at a concentration of 1.0 mM and stored at -80 °C.



Scheme S1. Labeling of RNAs containing a 5-aminohexylacrylamino uridine modification with HaloTag ligands via NHS ester coupling. RNA sequences used, including sites of uridine modification, can be found in Table S1.

pre-miR Probe	Sequence
pre-miR-21-31	UAGCUUAUCAGACUGAUGUUGACUGUUGAA(5-LC-N-U)CUCAUGGCAACA
	CCAGUCGAUGGGCUGUC
pre-let-7a-1-23	UGAGGUAGUAGGUUGUAUAGUU(5-LC-N-U)UAGGGUCACACCCACCAGUG
	GGAGAUAACUAUACAAUCUACUGUCUUUCU
pre-let-7a-1-30	UGAGGUAGUAGGUUGUAUAGUUUUAGGG(5-LC-N-U)CACACCCACCG
	GGAGAUAACUAUACAAUCUACUGUCUUUCU
pre-let-7a-1-42	UGAGGUAGUAGGUUGUAUAGUUUUAGGGUCACACCCACCAC(5-LC-N-U)G
	GGAGAUAACUAUACAAUCUACUGUCUUUCU
pre-let-7d-24	AGAGGUAGUAGGUUGCAUAGUUU(5-LC-N-U)AGGGCAGGAUUUUGCCCAC
	AAGGAGGUAACUAUACGACCUGCUGCCUUUCU

Table S1. Sequences of pre-miR probes used in RiPCA

pre-let-7d-36	AGAGGUAGUAGGUUGCAUAGUUUUAGGAGCAGGGAU(5-LC-N-U)UUGCCC
	ACAAGGAGGUAACUAUACGACCUGCUGCCUUUCU
pre-let-7d-52	AGAGGUAGUAGGUUGCAUAGUUUUAGGAGCAGGGAUUUUGCCCACAAGG
	AGG(5-LC-N-U)AACUAUACGACCUGCUGCCUUUCU
pre-let-7g-23	UGAGGUAGUAGUUUGUACAGUU(5-LC-N-U)GAGGGUCUAUGAUACCACCC
	GGUACAGGAGAUAACUGUACAGGCCACUGCCUUGCU
pre-let-7g-31	UGAGGUAGUAGUUUGUACAGUUUGAGGGUC(5-LC-N-U)AUGAUACCACCC
	GGUACAGGAGAUAACUGUACAGGCCACUGCCUUGCU
pre-let-7g-46	UGAGGUAGUAGUUUGUACAGUUUGAGGGUCUAUGAUACCACCCGG(5-LC-
	N-U)ACAGGAGAUAACUGUACAGGCCACUGCCUUGCU
pre-miR-98-29	UGAGGUAGUAAGUUGUAUUGUUGUGGGG(5-LC-N-U)AGGGAUAUUAGGCC
	CCAAUUAGAAGAUAACUAUACAACUUACUACUUUCCC
pre-miR-98-37	UGAGGUAGUAAGUUGUAUUGUUGUGGGGUAGGGA(5-LC-N-U)AUUAGGCC
	CCAAUUAGAAGAUAACUAUACAACUUACUACUUUCCC
pre-miR-98-49	UGAGGUAGUAAGUUGUAUUGUUGUGGGGUAGGGAUAUUAGGCCCCAAU(5
	-LC-N-U)AGAAGAUAACUAUACAACUUACUACUUUCCC
pre-miR-18a-24	UAAGGUGCAUCUAGUGCAGAUAG(5-LC-N-U)GAAGUAGAUUAGCAUCUAC
•	UGCCCUAAGUGCUCCUUCUGG
pre-miR-18a-33	UAAGGUGCAUCUAGUGCAGAUAGUGAAGUAGA(5-LC-N-U)UAGCAUCUAC
	UGCCCUAAGUGCUCCUUCUGG
pre-miR-18a-41	UAAGGUGCAUCUAGUGCAGAUAGUGAAGUAGAUUAGCAUC(5-LC-N-U)AC
•	UGCCCUAAGUGCUCCUUCUGG

Lipofectamine[™] RNAiMAX protocol:

Flp-In-293 cells stably expressing a SmBiT-HT protein were reverse transfected using Lipofectamine[™] RNAiMAX Transfection Reagent. Cells were passaged approximately 10 times, and no more than 15 times, before returning to low passage stocks. To test "n" number of conditions, Solution A was prepared by combining 50 × (n+1) μ L of room temperature Opti-MEMTM and 2.4 × (n+1) μ L plasmid encoding selected RBP-LgBiT fusion. Solution B was prepared by adding pre-miRNA-Cl and plasmid (final concentrations 0.3 µM and 0.195 ng/µL, respectively) to 50 µL Opti-MEM[™] for each separate condition to be tested. Solution B was mixed with 50 µL of Solution A to yield Solution A+B, which was incubated for at least 15 min at room temperature while cells were harvested. Cells were harvested as and counted as described above. Harvested cells were used to prepare Solution C, which was composed of 400 µL of 100,000 cells/mL. Solution C was mixed with 50 µL of Solution A+B and plated 100 µL per well, four wells per condition, in a white-bottom, tissue culture-treated 96-well plate (Corning cat #3917). The plate was incubated in a humidified incubator (37 °C and 5% CO₂) for 24 h. After incubation, the media was removed and replaced with 100 µL room temperature Opti-MEM[™] and treated with 25 µL NanoGlo Live Cell Reagent diluted 1:20 according to the manufacturer's recommendation. All chemiluminescence data was collected immediately on a BioTek Cytation3 plate reader. Additional information our published protocol.^[1a]

Representative calculations based on an assay for n = 5 conditions: <u>Solution A: Prepared for n+1=6</u> $6 \ge 50 \ \mu L \rightarrow 300 \ \mu L \ Opti-MEM^{TM}$ $6 \ge 2.4 \ \mu L \rightarrow 14.4 \ \mu L \ Lipofectamine^{TM} RNAiMAX$ <u>Solution B:</u> $50 \ \mu L \ Opti-MEM^{TM}$ $2.5 \ \mu L \ 3.9 \ ng/\mu L \ RBP-LgBiT \ plasmid$

0.3 µL 50 µM pre-miRNA-Cl



Figure S1. Lipofectamine[™] RNAiMAX transfection workflow.

TransIT-X2® Protocol:

Flp-In-293 cells stably expressing a SmBiT-HT protein were reverse transfected using TransIT-X2® Reagent. Cells were passaged approximately 10 times, and no more than 15 times, before returning to low passage stocks. Solution B for each condition was prepared by adding in order DNA (volumes provided in Table S1), 0.45 μ L of 25 μ M RNA probe, and 1.126 μ L TransIT-X2® to 37.5 μ L room temperature Opti-MEMTM. Solution B was mixed by briefly vortexing and was briefly centrifuged prior to ~15 min incubation at room temperature while cells were harvested. Cells were harvested as and counted as described above. Harvested cells were used to prepare Solution C (300 μ L × (n+1) of 100,000 cells/mL) and 300 μ L of Solution C was added to Solution B. Solution B+C was mixed by pipetting up and down before plating 100 μ L per well, 3 wells per condition, in a white-bottom, tissue culture-treated 96-well plate (Corning cat #3917). The plate was incubated in a humidified incubator (37 °C and 5% CO₂) for 24 h. After incubation, the media was removed and replaced with 100 μ L room temperature Opti-MEMTM and treated with 25 μ L NanoGlo Live Cell Reagent diluted 1:20 according to the manufacturer's recommendation. All chemiluminescence data was collected immediately on a BioTek Cytation3 plate reader.

	Volume of DNA	Concentration of DNA	Amount of DNA per well
Lin28A/B	0.47 μL	3.9 ng/µL	~0.5 ng
hnRNP A1	1.876 μL	3.9 ng/µL	~2 ng
Msi1/2	1.726 μL	3.9 ng/µL	~2 ng

RiPCA 2.0 conditions based on RBP plasmid:



Figure S2. TransIT-X2® transfection workflow.

D. CellTiter-Glo® Assay

Cells were transfected following the LipofectamineTM RNAiMAX or TransIT-X2® protocol and incubated in a white-bottom, tissue culture-treated 96-well plate (Corning cat #3917) for 24 h in a humidified incubator (37 °C and 5% CO₂). At 24 h, media was removed and replaced with 70 μ L Opti-MEMTM and 70 μ L CellTiter-Glo[®] reagent reconstituted according to the manufacturer's protocol. The plate was incubated for 30 min then chemiluminescence signal was collected on a BioTek Cytation3 plate reader.

E. EMSA

Pre-miRNA probe (500 nM) and purified SmBiT-HT^[2] (5 μ M) were incubated in 10 μ L phosphate buffer (pH 8.0) for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with 10 μ L 2X RNA loading dye (95% formamide, 0.02% SDS, 0.02% bromophenol blue, 0.01% xylene cyanol, 1 mM EDTA in H₂O) and ran on TBE-Urea gels (10% for 45 min at 200V or 15% for 60 min at 200V). Gels were imaged with ChemiDocTM Imaging System (Biorad).

F. Supplemental Figures



Figure S3. Raw chemiluminescence signal associated with Figure 3A.



Figure S4. Expression of LgBiT-tagged RBPs in HEK 293 cells.



Figure S5. Normalized chemiluminescence from Figure 5.



Figure S6. EMSA with the library of pre-miRNA probes and SmBiT-HT protein.



Figure S7. Cell viability of Flp-In 293 cells either not-transfected (NT) or transfected with LipofectamineTM RNAiMAX and treated with either and inactive or active pre-let-7d/Lin28A inhibitor previously reported by the Garner Laboratory.^[3]

G. References

- [1] (a) S. L. Rosenblum, A. L. Garner, *Curr. Protoc.* 2022, *2*, e358; (b) S. L. Rosenblum, D. A. Lorenz, A. L. Garner, *RSC Chem. Biol.* 2021, 241-247.
- [2] E. J. Sherman, D. A. Lorenz, A. L. Garner, ACS Comb. Sci. 2019, 21, 522-527.
- [3] D. A. Lorenz, T. Kaur, S. A. Kerk, E. E. Gallagher, J. Sandoval, A. L. Garner, ACS Med. Chem. Lett. 2018, 9, 517-521.