

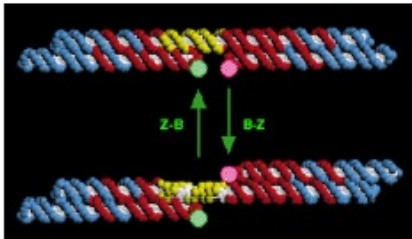
# DNA based Non-Autonomous Nanorobotic Devices

John H. Reif

Department of Computer Science, Duke University

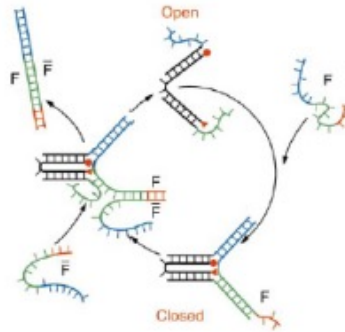
# Early DNA robotics devices needed external control, so **not autonomous**

*Rotation*



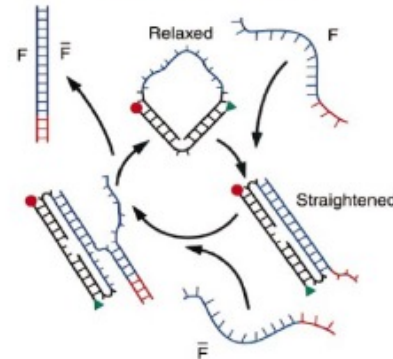
(Mao *et al* 99)

*Open/close*



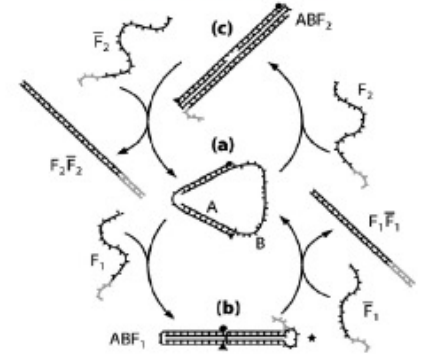
(Yurke *et al* 00)

*Open/close*



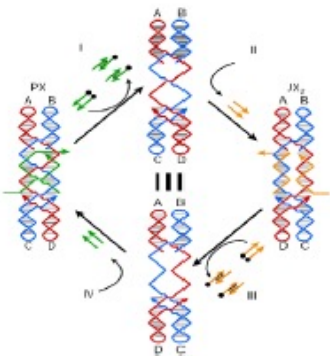
(Simmel *et al* 01)

*Open/close*



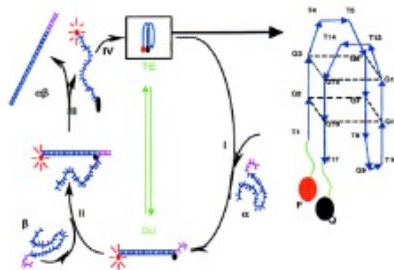
(Simmel *et al* 02)

*Rotation*



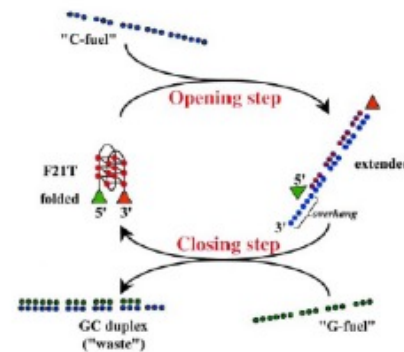
(Yan *et al* 02)

*Extension/contraction*



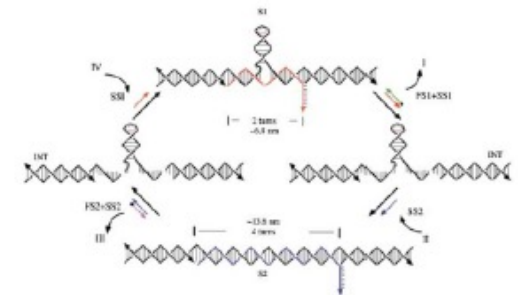
(Li *et al* 02)

*Extension/contraction*



(Alberti *et al* 03)

*Extension/contraction*

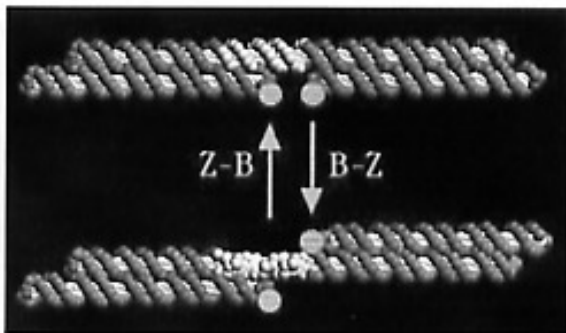


(Feng *et al* 03)

# Non-Autonomous DNA based Nanorobotical devices

Advantages of DNA-based synthetic molecular devices:

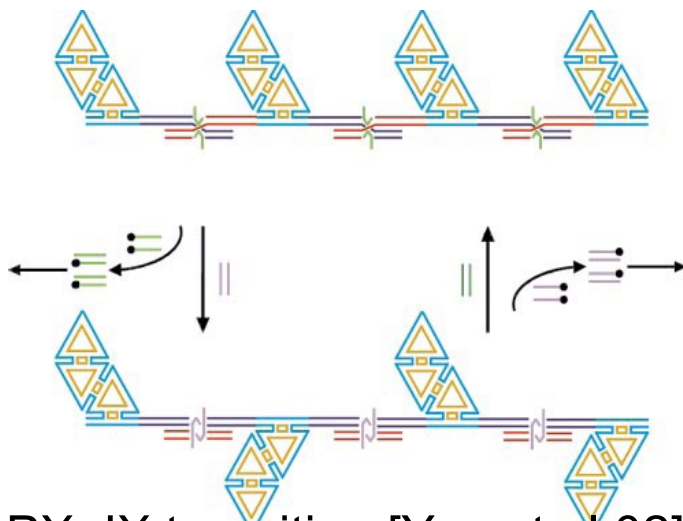
- simple to design and engineer
- well-established biochemistry used to manipulate DNA nanostructures



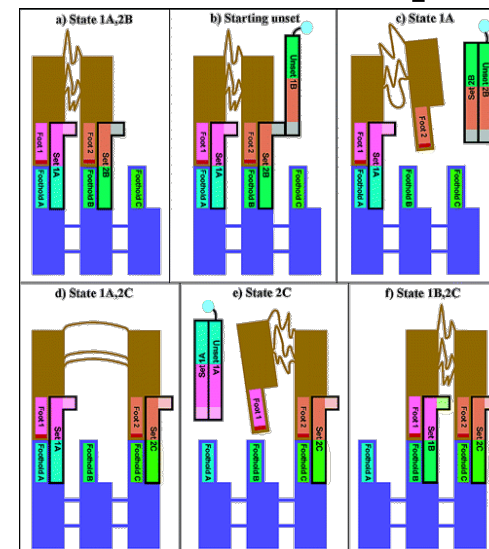
B-Z transition device  
[Mao, Seeman 99]



DNA-fuelled Molecular machine [Yurke et al 00]

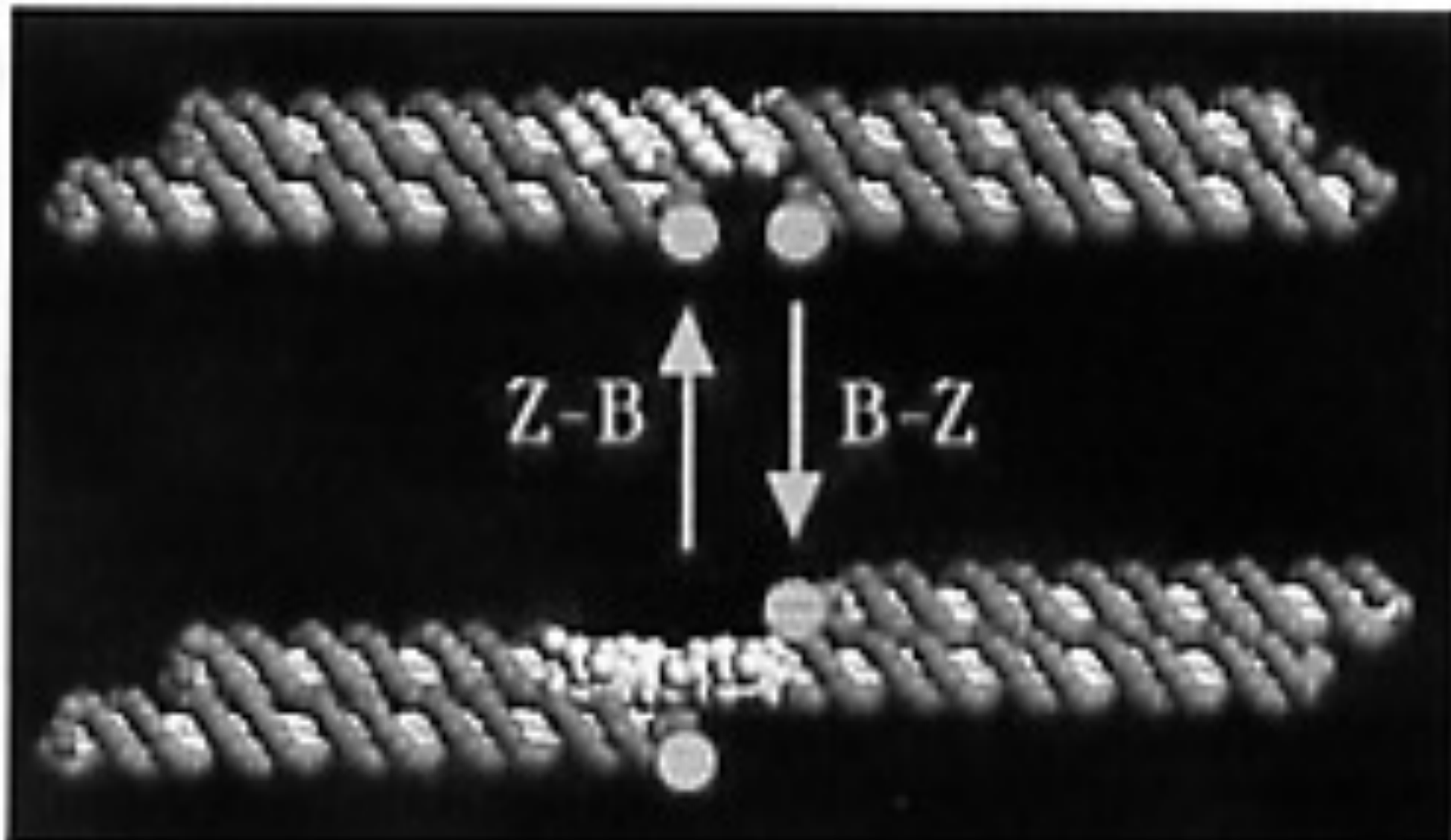


PX-JX transition [Yan et al 02]



DNA Biped walker [Sherman et al 04]

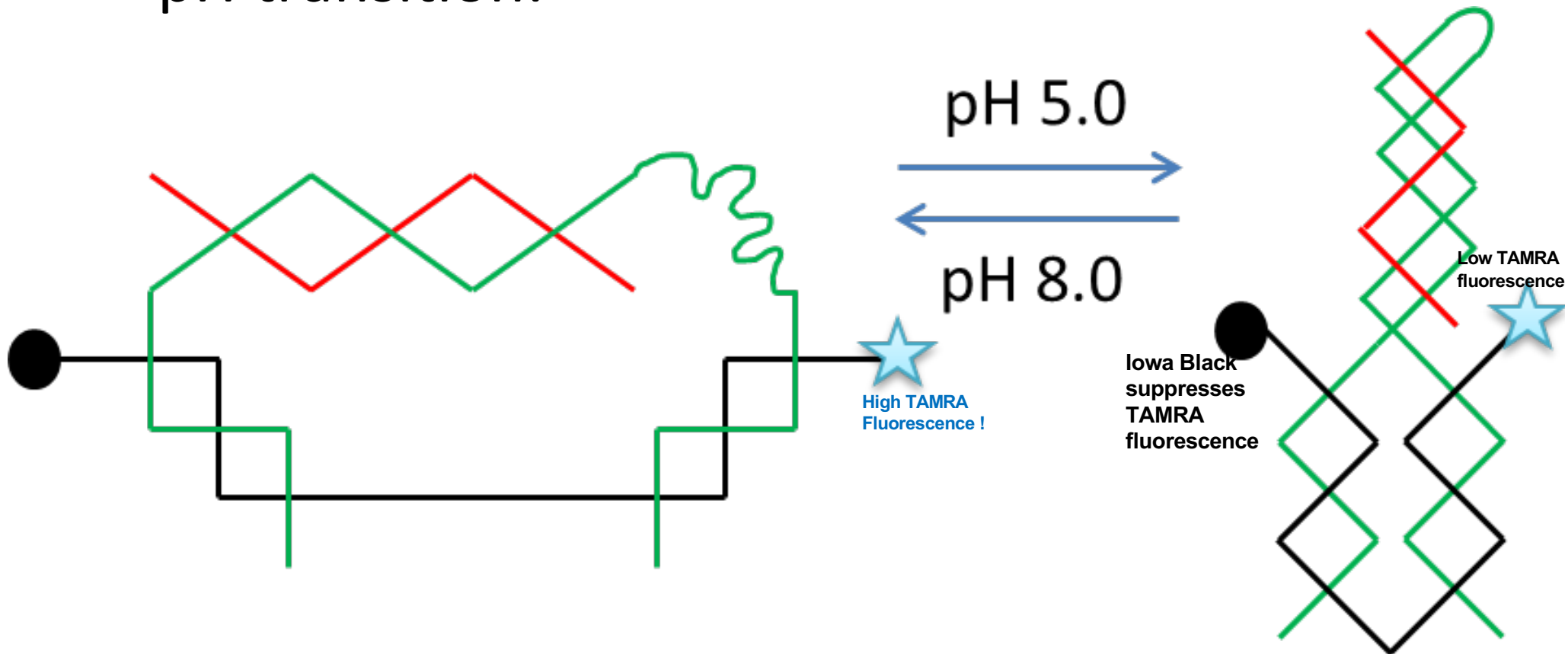
Non-Autonomous DNA based Nanorobotical device  
Using pH dependant transitions  
between B-form and Z-form Duplex DNA



B-Z transition device [Mao, Seeman 99]

# NonAutonomous DNA Nanorobotic Device using Change in pH

- pH transition:



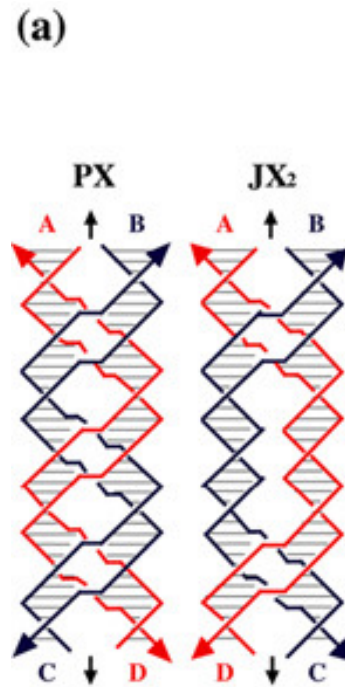
Switch conformation based on environment (Ph)



# Non-Autonomous DNA

based nanorobotic device using fuel strands to control PX to JX transition

[Seeman]



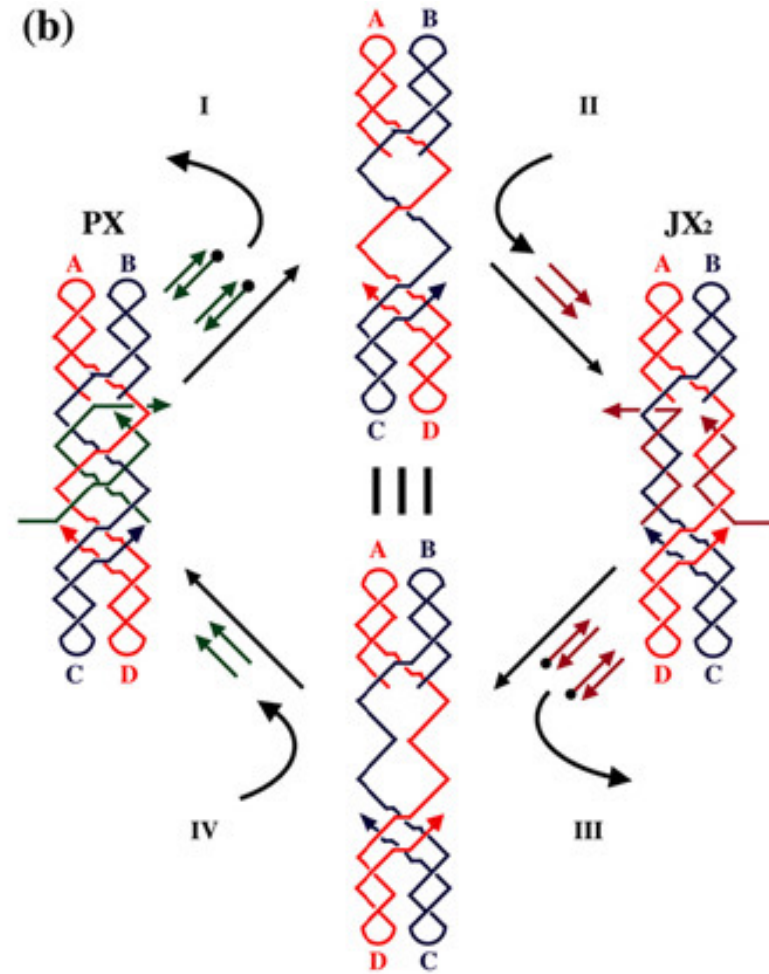
(a) illustrates PX and JX motifs of DNA:

**The PX motif of DNA:**

- Two stands are drawn in red and two in blue, where the arrowheads indicate the 3' ends of the strands.
- Has two helical domains formed by four strands that flank a central dyad axis (indicated by the vertical black arrows).
- The Watson-Crick base pairing in which every nucleotide participates is indicated by the thin horizontal lines within the two double helical domains.
- Every possible crossover occurs between the two helical domains.

**The JX2 motif of DNA:**

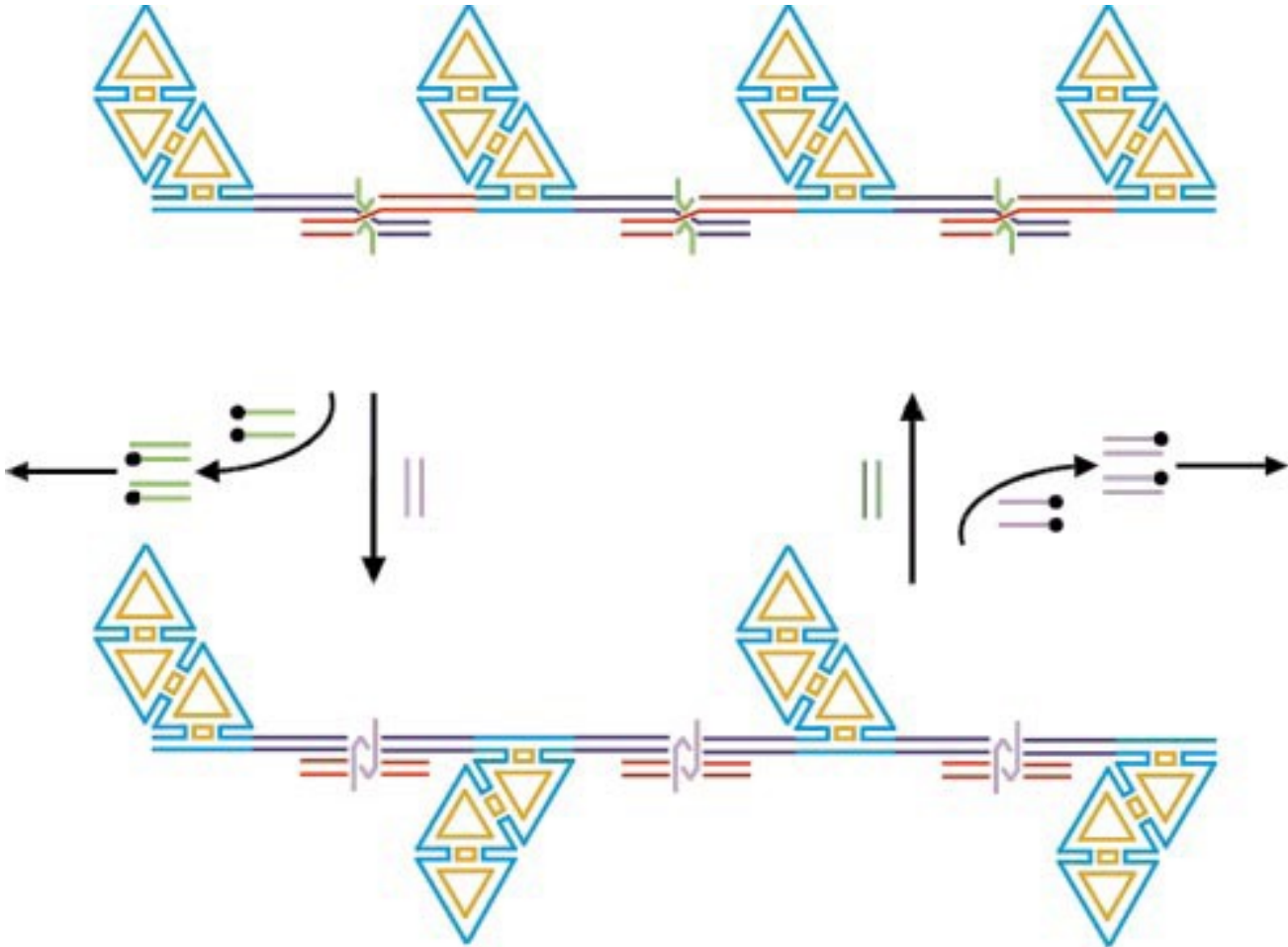
- Similar to PX, but lacks two crossovers in the middle.
- The letters A, B, C and D, along with the color coding, show that the bottom of the JX2 motif (C and D) are rotated 180° relative to the PX motif.



(b) illustrates device operation:

- On the left is a PX molecule.
- In process I:** Green strands are removed by addition of biotinylated green fuel strands (biotin indicated by black circles).
- In process II:** The unstructured intermediate is converted to the JX2 motif by the addition of the purple set strands.
- In process III:** The JX2 molecule is converted to the unstructured intermediate by the addition of biotinylated purple fuel strands.
- The identity of this intermediate and the one above it is indicated by the identity sign between them.
- In process IV:** The cycle is completed by the addition of green set strands, restoring the PX device.

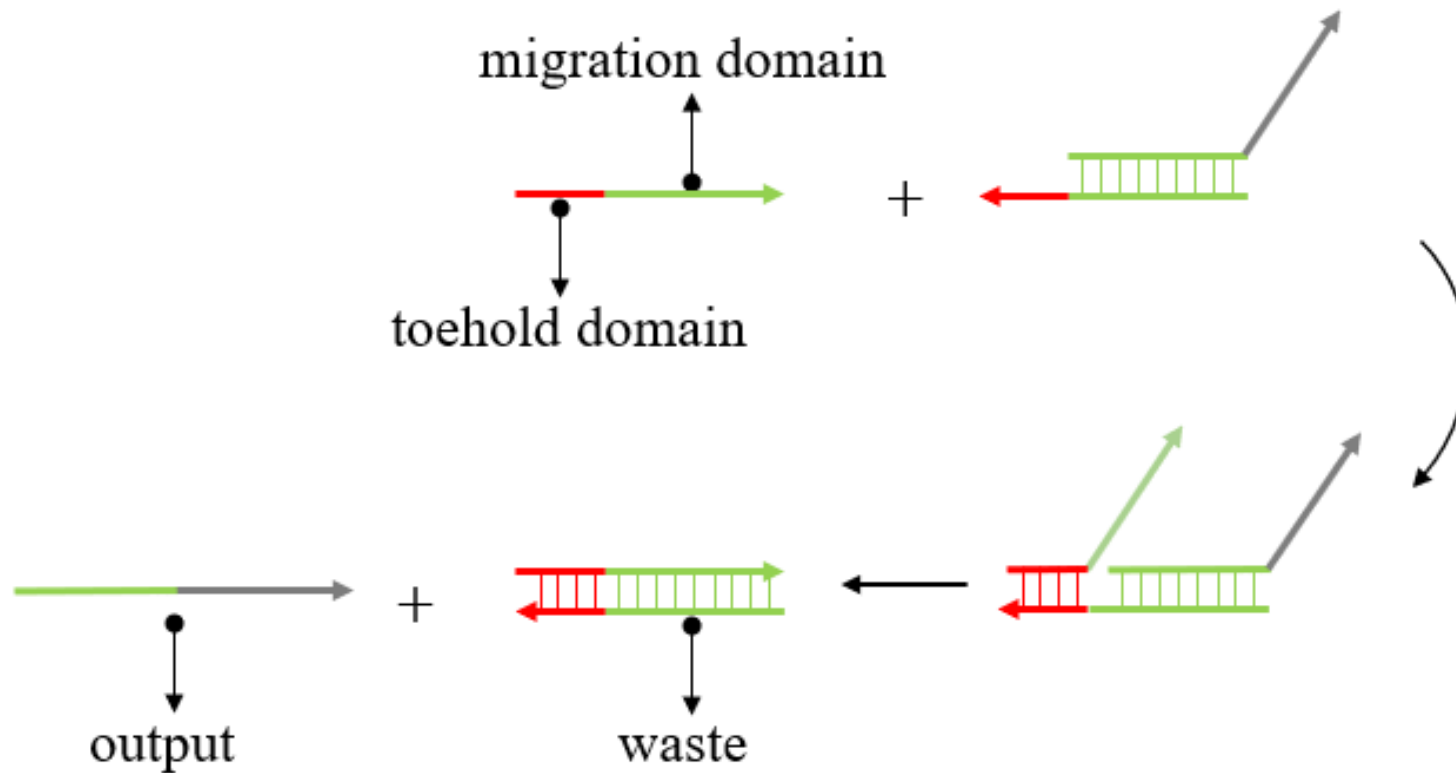
Another Non-Autonomous DNA Nanorobotical device using PX-JX transition



PX-JX transition [Yan et al 02]

# DNA Tweezers: [Yurke2000]

- Nonautonomous Device
- First use of Toehold-Mediated Strand Displacement



Toehold-Mediated Strand Displacement



# DNA Tweezers: [Yurke2000]

## Uses two fluorophores:

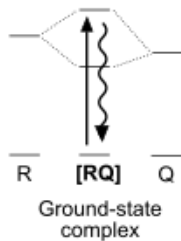
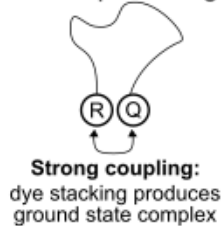
- a donor dye (5' -TET) and
- an acceptor dye (3' -TAMRA)

## Quenching:

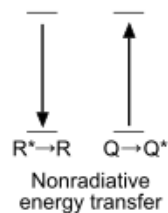
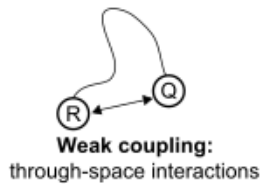
- is a process which decreases the intensity of a fluorescent dye.
- is the basis for Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET) assays

### Reporter-quencher dual-labeled probes

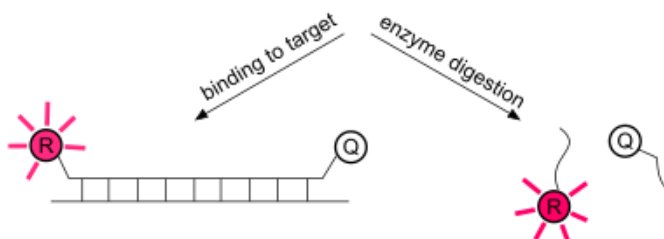
#### Static quenching



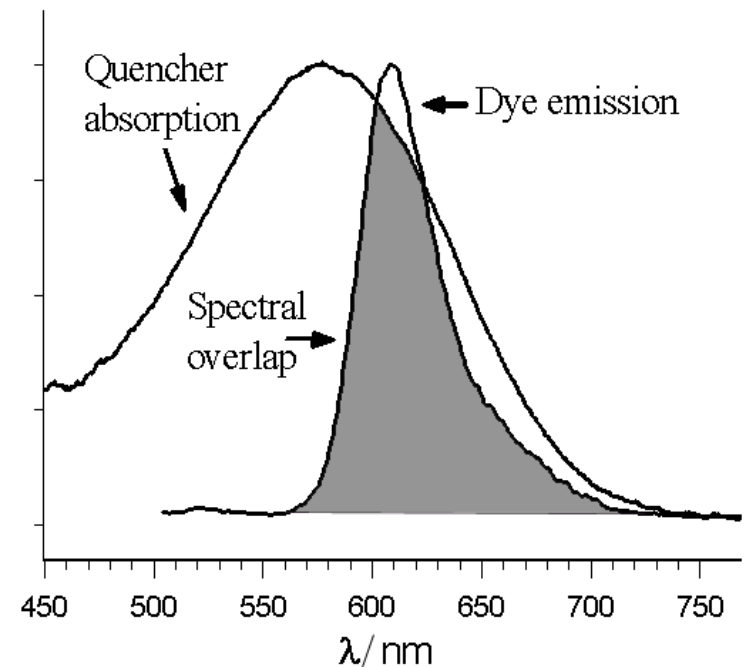
#### Dynamic quenching e.g. Förster (FRET), Dexter (collisional)



#### Quenched probe



### Donor emission and quencher absorption spectral overlap

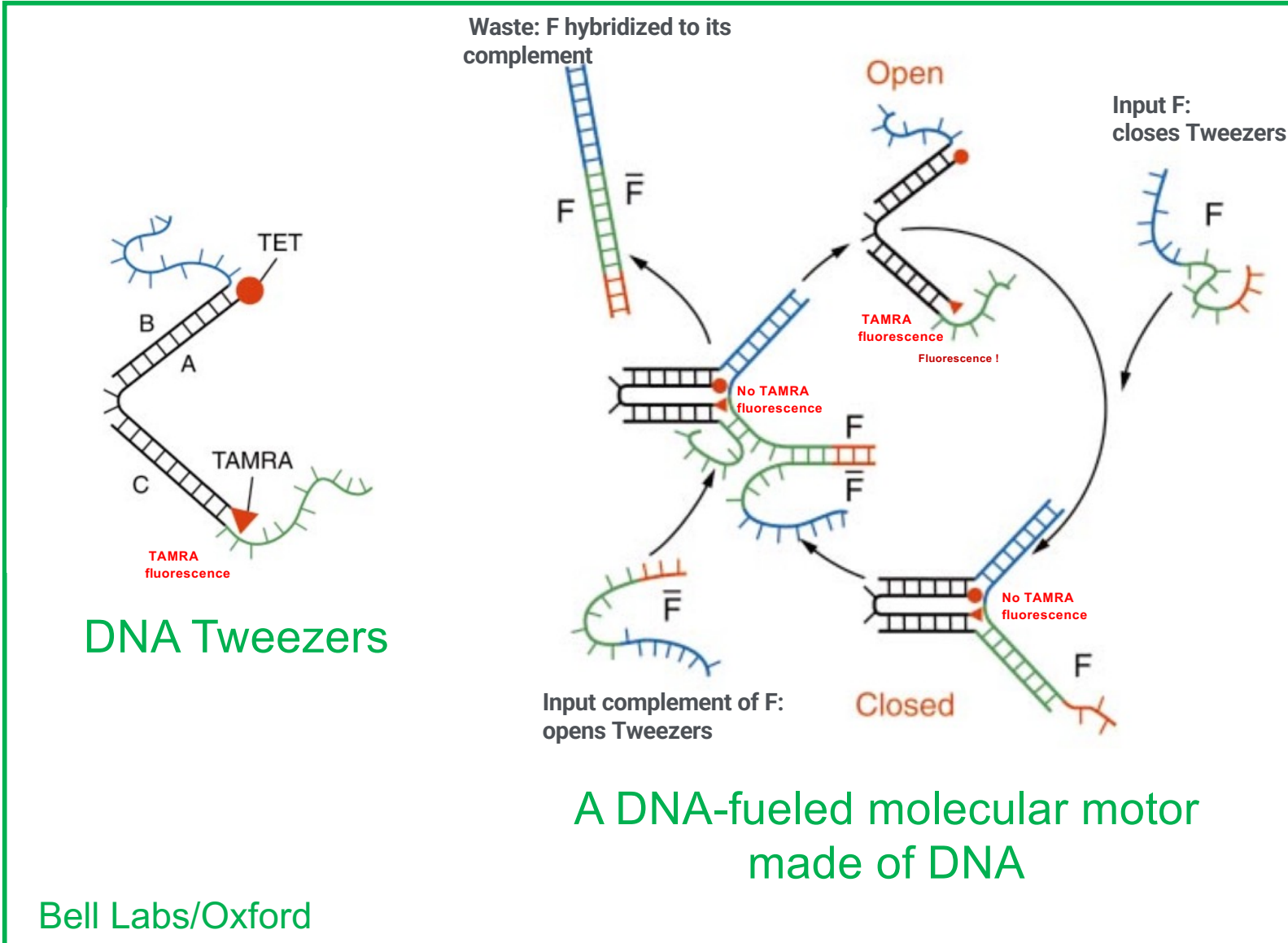


# DNA Tweezers: [Yurke2000]

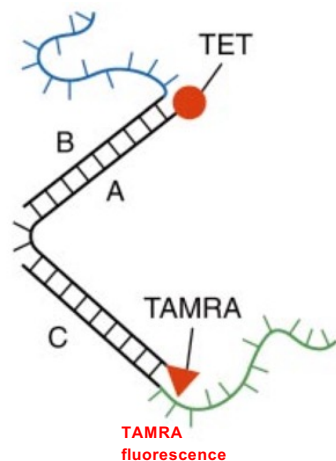
- Nonautonomous Device
- Used Strand Displacement

Uses two fluorophores:

- a donor dye (5' -TET) and
- ▲ an acceptor dye (3' -TAMRA)

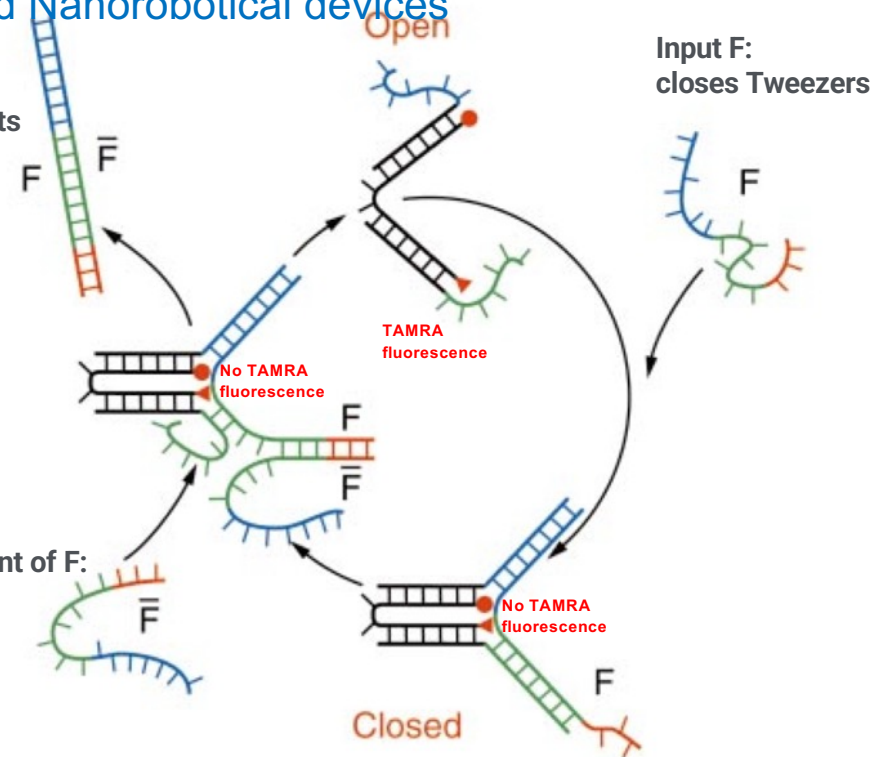


# DNA Tweezers: Non-Autonomous DNA based Nanorobotical devices



Waste: F hybridized to its complement

Input complement of F: opens Tweezers



Two double stranded DNA arms linked via a flexible single stranded region  
Single stranded sticky regions extend beyond the ends of the arms.

## States:

- (1) **Open state** when the sticky ends are unbound
- (2) **Closed state** when the sticky regions are hybridized to a fuel strand F.

## Non-Autonomous DNA Nanorobotical device Operation:

### State Transitions (controlled by adding fuel strand F or its complement):

- (a) from the open to the closed state via the hybridization of the fuel strand F.
- (b) from closed to open state when the complement to F binds to F via a toehold and strand displaces it, freeing the sticky regions of the tweezers.

## DNA Biped walker [Sherman et al 04]

W Sherman, N Seeman, A Precisely Controlled DNA Biped Walking Device, Nano Letters, vol. 4, pp. 1203-1207, 2004.

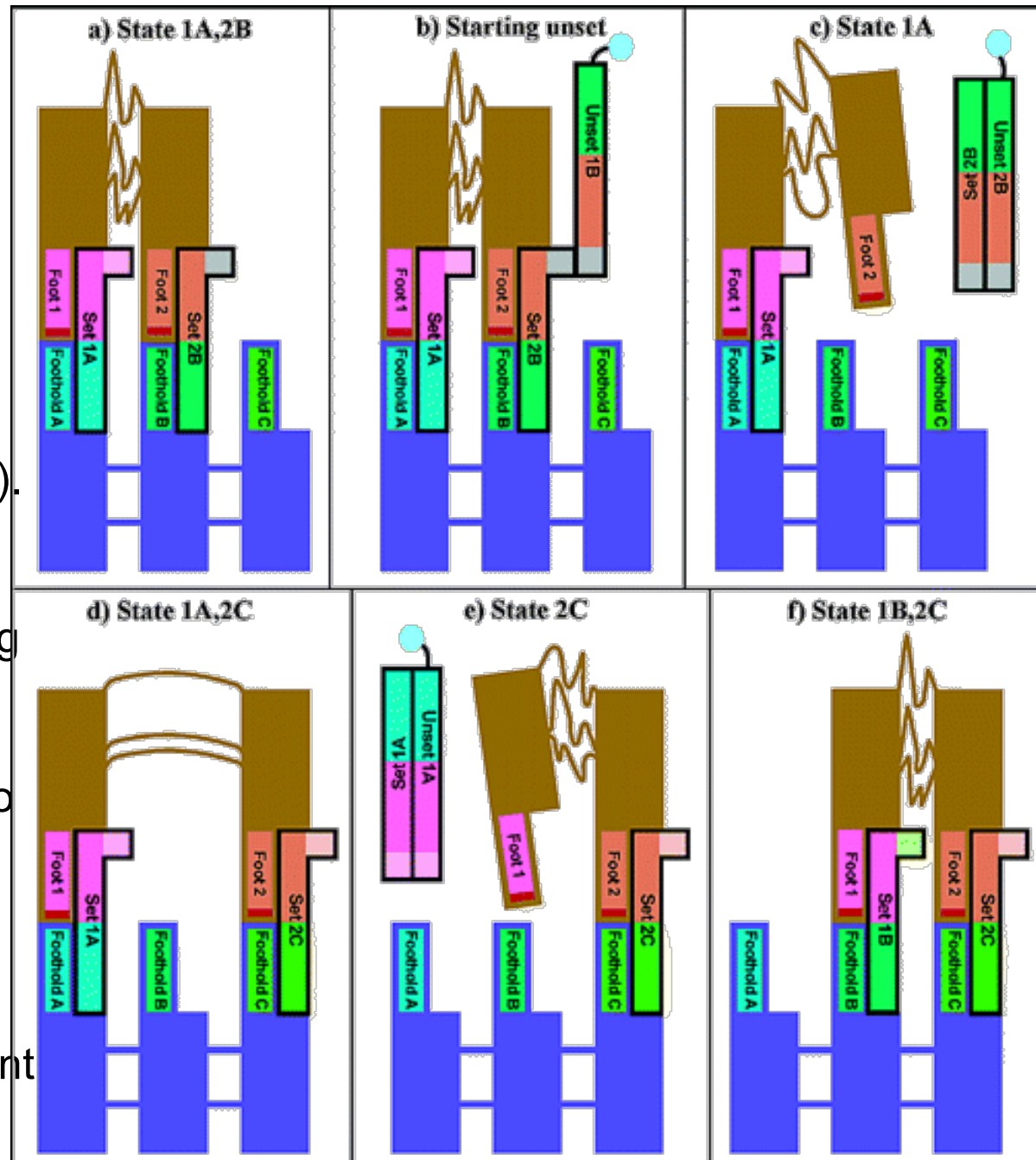
- The biped walker moves forward in an inchworm fashion.
- The relative positions of leading and trailing leg do not change.

### Parts:

- Track (blue),
- Two legs (brown),
- Two feet (pink and orange) and
- Two footholds (green & turquoise).

### Walking:

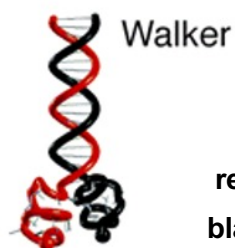
- The walker progresses along the track by the binding and unbinding of the feet on the footholds.
- **Binding:** occurs when a single stranded *set* strand binds a foot to its foothold by forming a bridge across them.
- **Unbinding:** occurs when this bridge is stripped away via a toehold due to strand displacement action of *unset* strands.





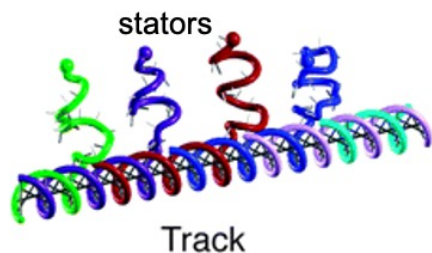
## DNA Biped walker [Shin&Pierce2004]

J-S Shin, N Pierce, A Synthetic DNA Walker for Molecular Transport, *Journal of American Chemical Society*, vol. 126, no. 35, p. 10834–10835, 2004.



red leg of Walker

black leg of Walker



### DNA Sequences for the Walker System

#### Walker strands (W)

W1 5'-GGCTGGTTTCTGCTCTCTAGTTCGCGAGGTGCAATCTCCTATC-3'-BHQI

W2 IBRQ-5'-GTCTGGGATGCTGGATACTGAACCTAGAGAGCAGAAACCAGCC-3'

#### Track strands (T)

T1 HEX<sup>c</sup>-5'-GCTGTACTTTGGTTACTGAAAGGGAGTGGCTCGGA-3'

T2 5'-TCCGAGCCACTCCCTGGACACCATCTACAAACTTGTATGGGACGTAGCGT-3'-Cy5

T3 FAM<sup>d</sup>-5'-TCCACATCGGACTCTGTAATGCAAAGACACGTTACTTGTAGATGGTGTCC-3'

T4 5'-GTAACGTGTCTTTGCTCTCAAACATACGCTCTTCATGGCATTTCGTCACCA-3'-Texas Red

T5 5'-AACTCTTAGCCAAGATCGTAAGCGTATGTTTGAGA-3'

T6 5'-TACGATCTTGGCTAAGAGTT-3'

#### Attachment strands (A)

A1 5'-AGTAACCAAAGTACAGCACTGCGATAGGAGATTGCACCTCCAATTTACCC-3'

A2 5'-GACTGTTACGGTATCCAGCATCCCAGACGGTCAACGCTACGTCCCATACA-3'

A3<sup>e</sup> 5'-ACAGAGTCCGATGTGGAAGTCAGATAGGAGATTGCACCTCATCATTGTCG-3'

A4<sup>e</sup> 5'-GGATCAGTTAGTATCCAGCATCCCAGACCTAAGTGGTGACGAATGCCATG-3'

A1 hybridizes to red leg of Walker

A2 hybridizes to black leg of Walker

## DNA Biped walker [Shin&Pierce2004]

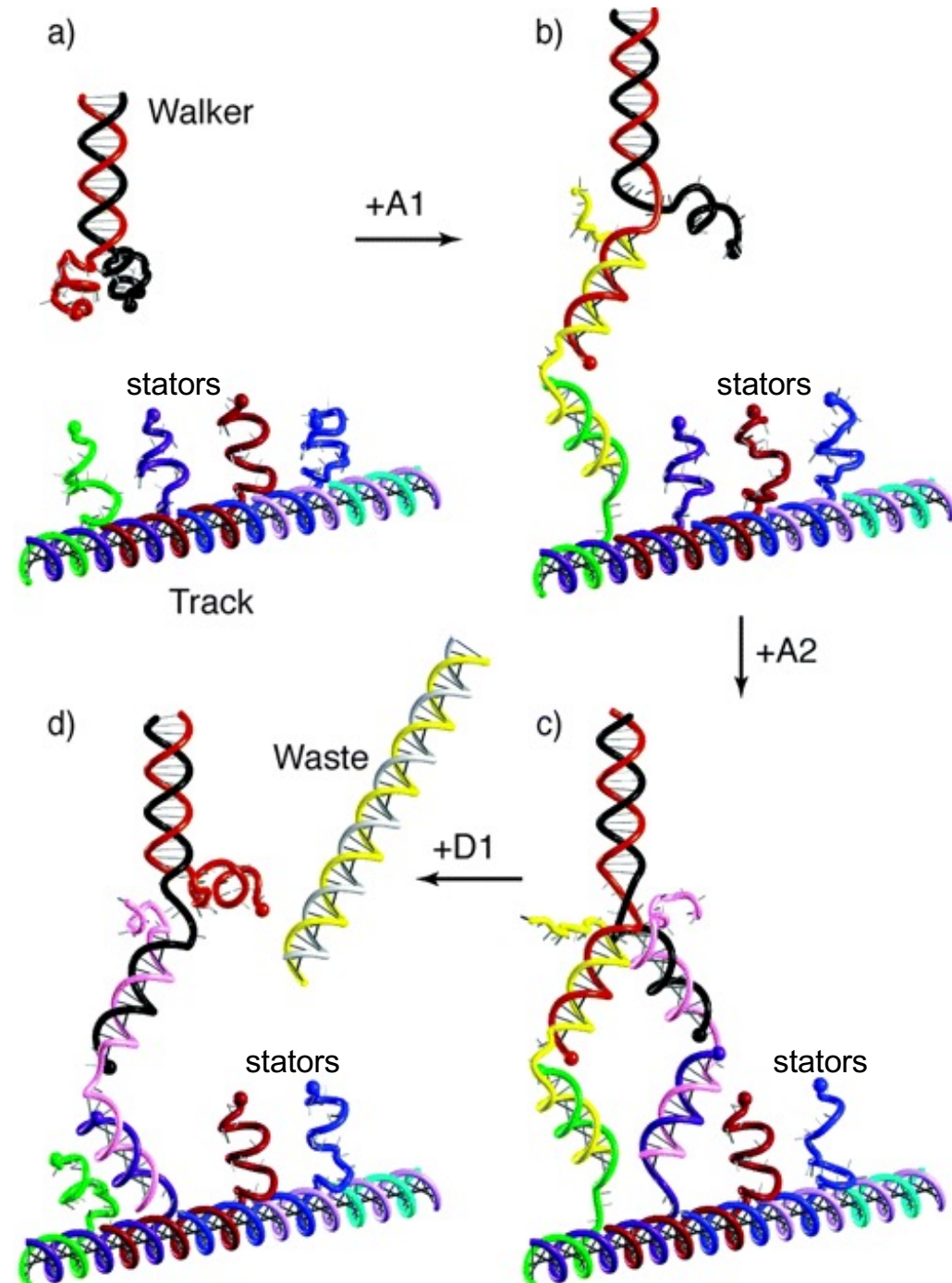
J-S Shin, N Pierce, A Synthetic DNA Walker for Molecular Transport, *Journal of American Chemical Society*, vol. 126, no. 35, p. 10834–10835, 2004.

**Walker moves in a foot over foot manner** (like kinesin):

- Each step the trailing foot swings past the leading foot.
- Has 2 single stranded legs partially hybridized together, leaving single stranded attachment regions on each.
- The track is a double stranded helix with single strand stators jutting out at periodic intervals.

**Locomotion:** achieved by hybridizing and denaturing the legs to the stators in a precise sequence.

- Legs are anchored to the first two stators by the use of bridging DNA strands.
- The trailing leg is then pried loose by using a detachment strand to strand displace away its bridging strand via a toehold, then swings over and binds to the next stator, representing a step of the walker.
- The new trailing leg is now also pried loose in the same manner.





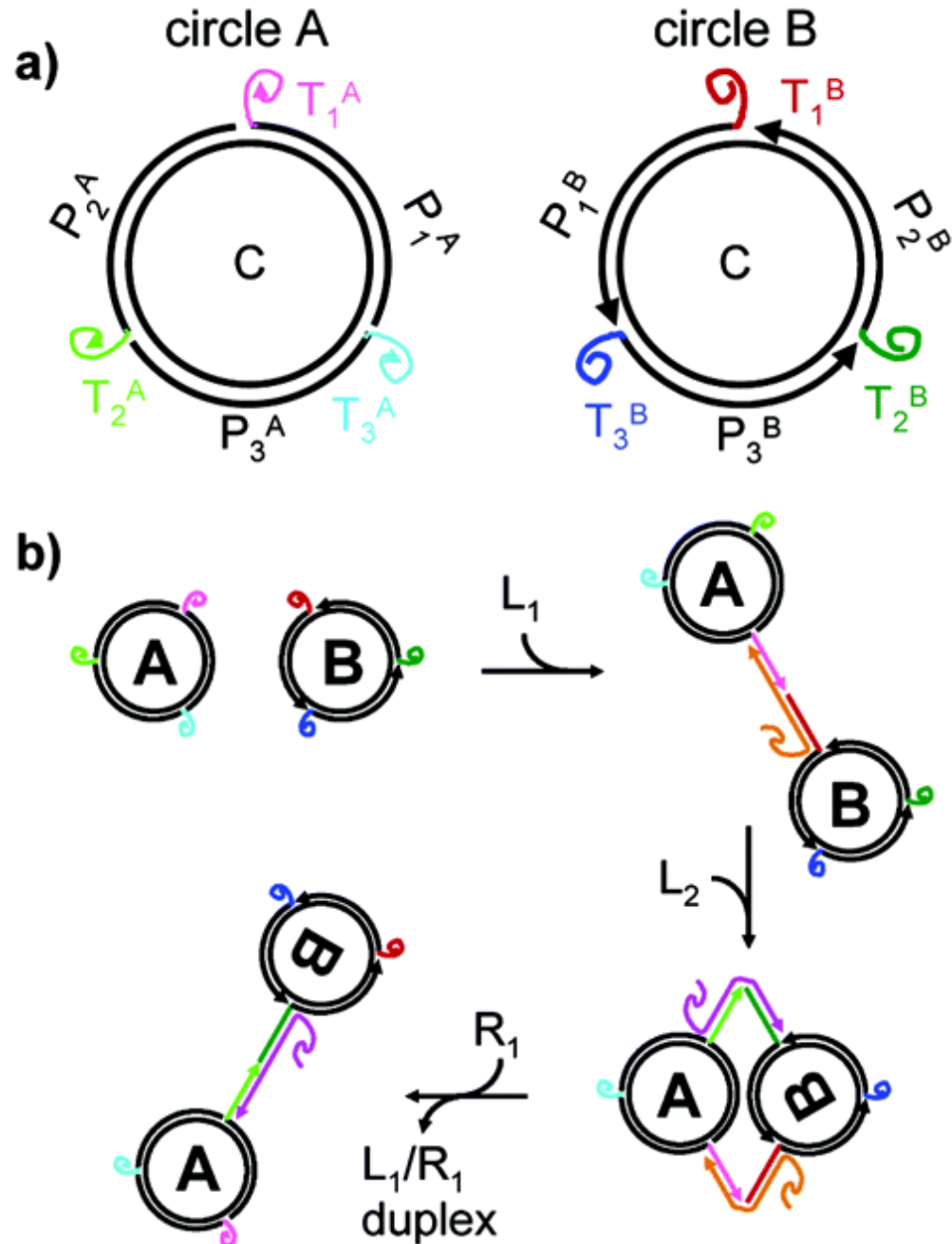
## DNA Biped walker [Tian&Mao2004]

Y Tian, C Mao, *Molecular Gears: A Pair of DNA Circles Continuously Rolls against Each Other*, *Journal of American Chemical Society*, vol. 126, no. 37, p. 11410–11411, 2004.

### Operation:

Same as the walker of Shin and Pierce except cargo walks along a circular track and returns to its original position after three steps.

Due to the symmetry of the design, the cargo and the track have the same geometric circular structure.

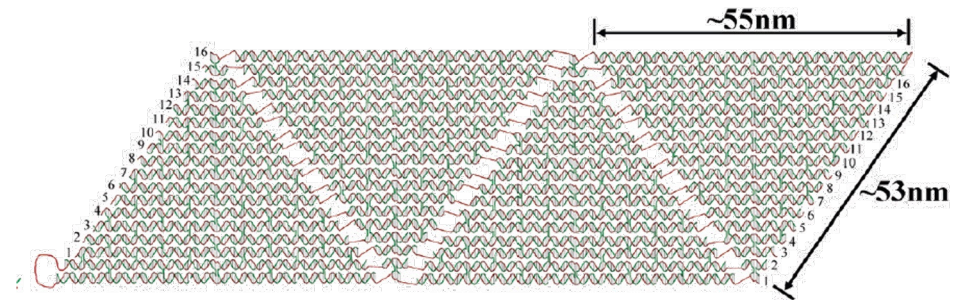
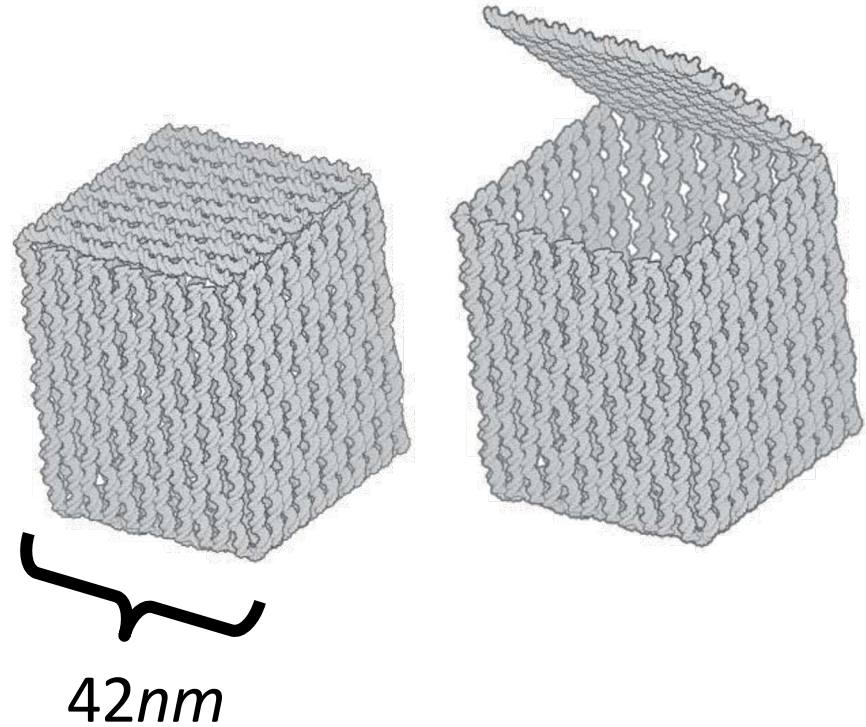


# DNA Devices that Open Nano-Containers

# 3D DNA Origami Containers

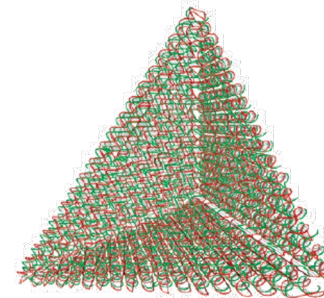
## Self-assembly of a nanoscale DNA box with a controllable lid:

E. S. Andersen, M. Dong, M. M. Nielsen, K. Jahn, R. Subramani, W. Mamdouh, M.M. Golas, B. Sander, H. Stark, C.L.P. Oliveira, J.S. Pedersen, V. Birkedal, F. Besenbacher, K.V. Gothelf & J. Kjems.

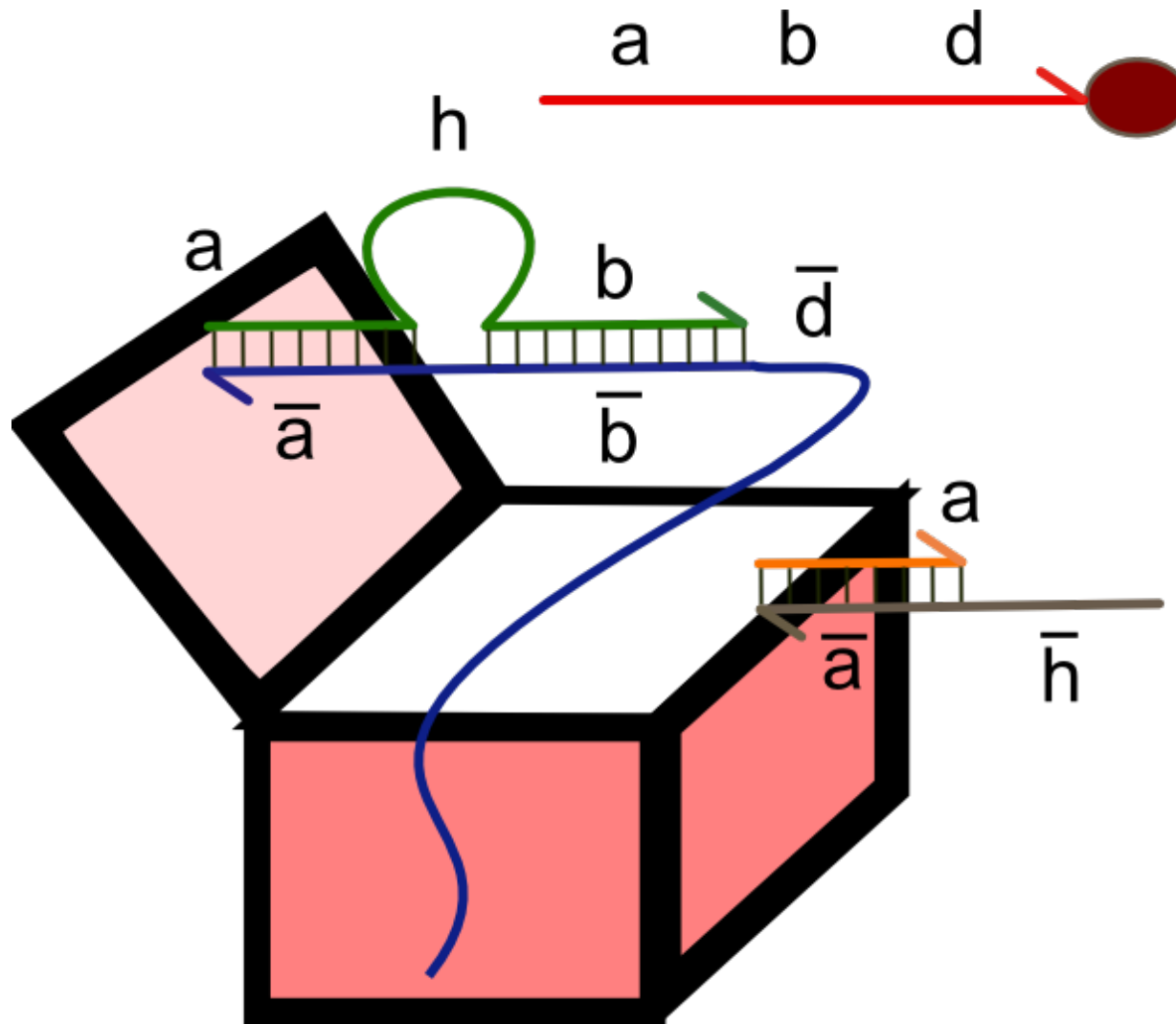


## Scaffolded DNA Origami of a 3D DNA Tetrahedron Molecular Container:

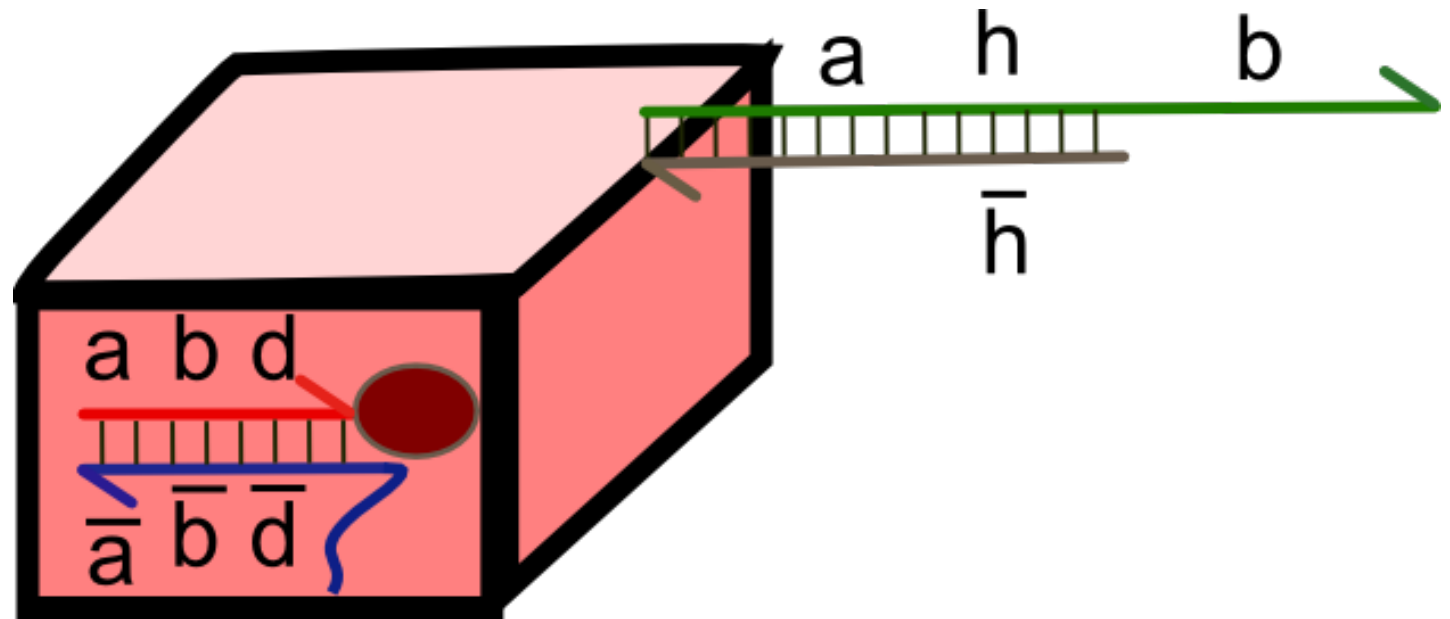
Y. Ke, J. Sharma, M. Liu, K. Jahn, Y. Liu and H. Yan



# Bear trap: Proximity Sensed Molecular Capture



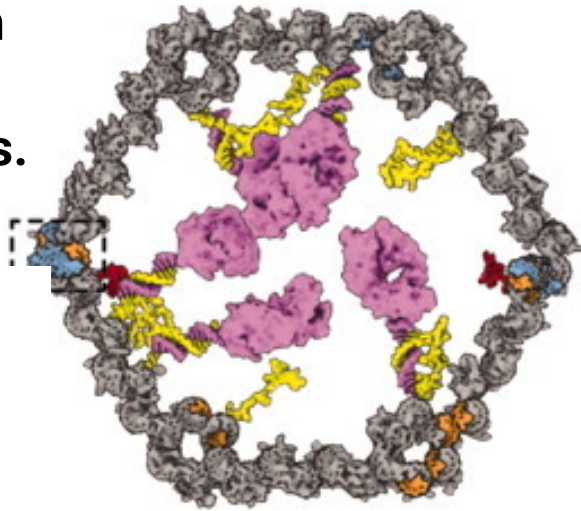
# Bear trap: Proximity Sensed Molecular Capture



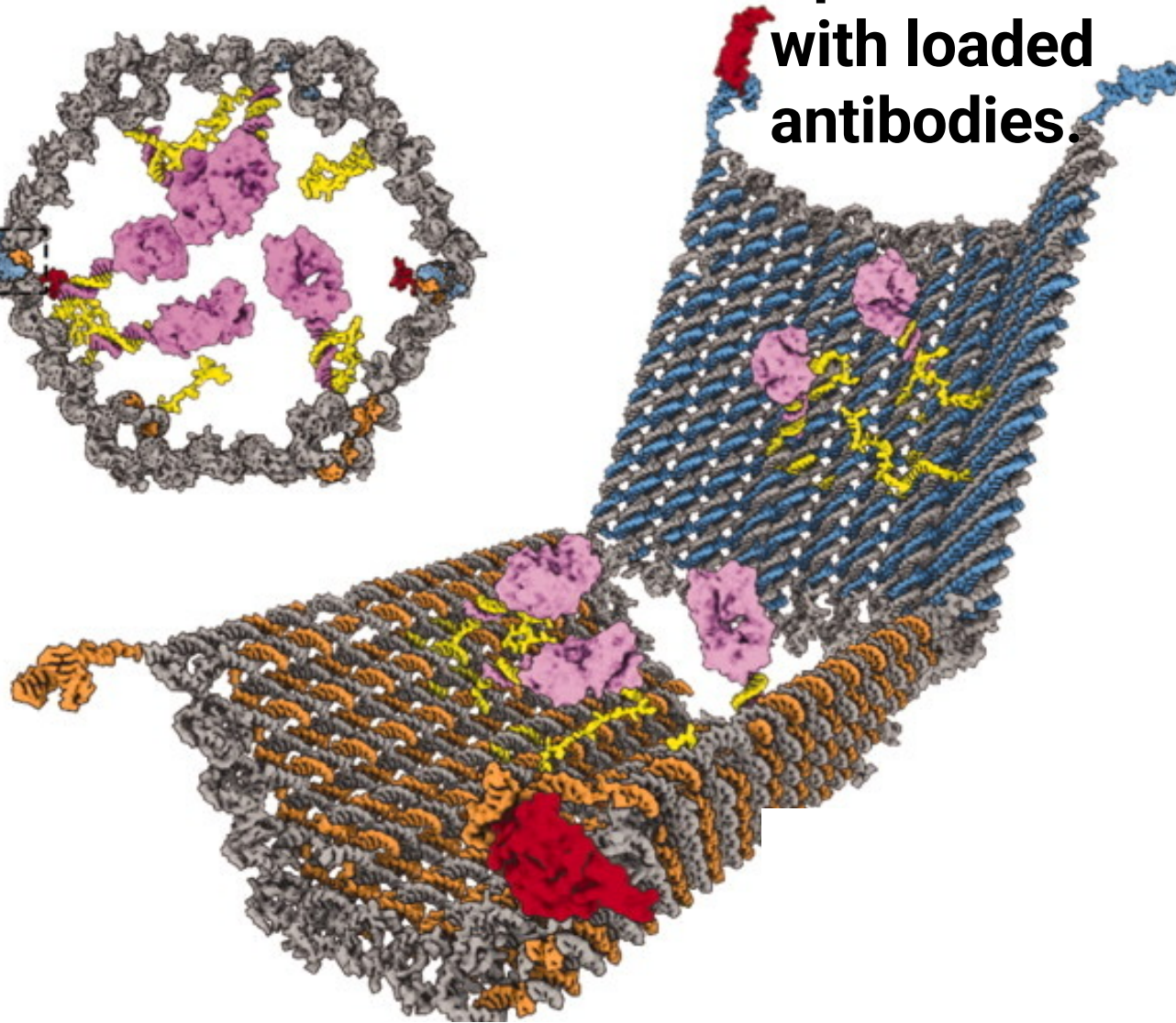
# DNA Nanorobot with Proximity Sensed Molecular Release

Douglas SM, Bachelet I, Church GM. A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads. *Science* 2012; 335:831-4

**Closed  
robot with  
loaded  
antibodies.**



**Open robot  
with loaded  
antibodies.**



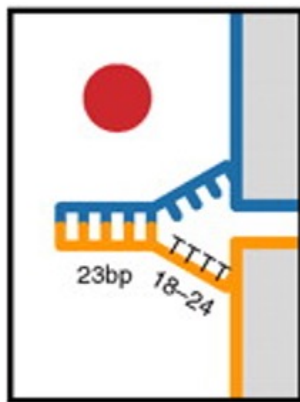
**A logic-gated DNA nanorobot for  
circulation and display of cargo**



# DNA Nanorobot with Proximity Sensed Molecular Release

Douglas SM, Bachelet I, Church GM. A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads. *Science* 2012; 335:831-4

## Using an Aptamer with a Molecular Target to Dehybridize Double stranded DNA



Target Molecule (in red)

DNA aptamer (in blue)  
hybridized with  
partial complement DNA  
(in orange)

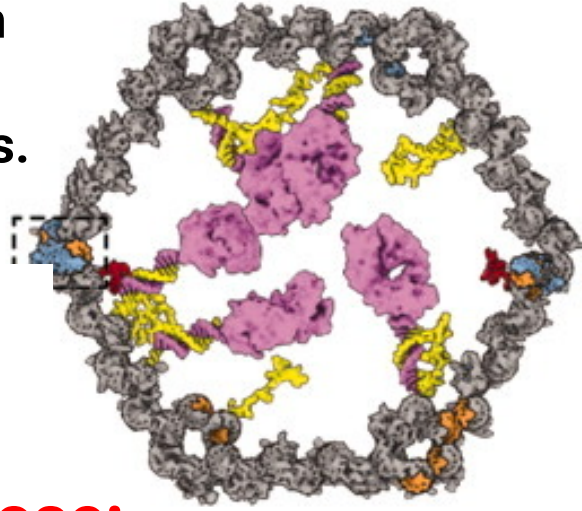


DNA aptamer  
binding with  
target

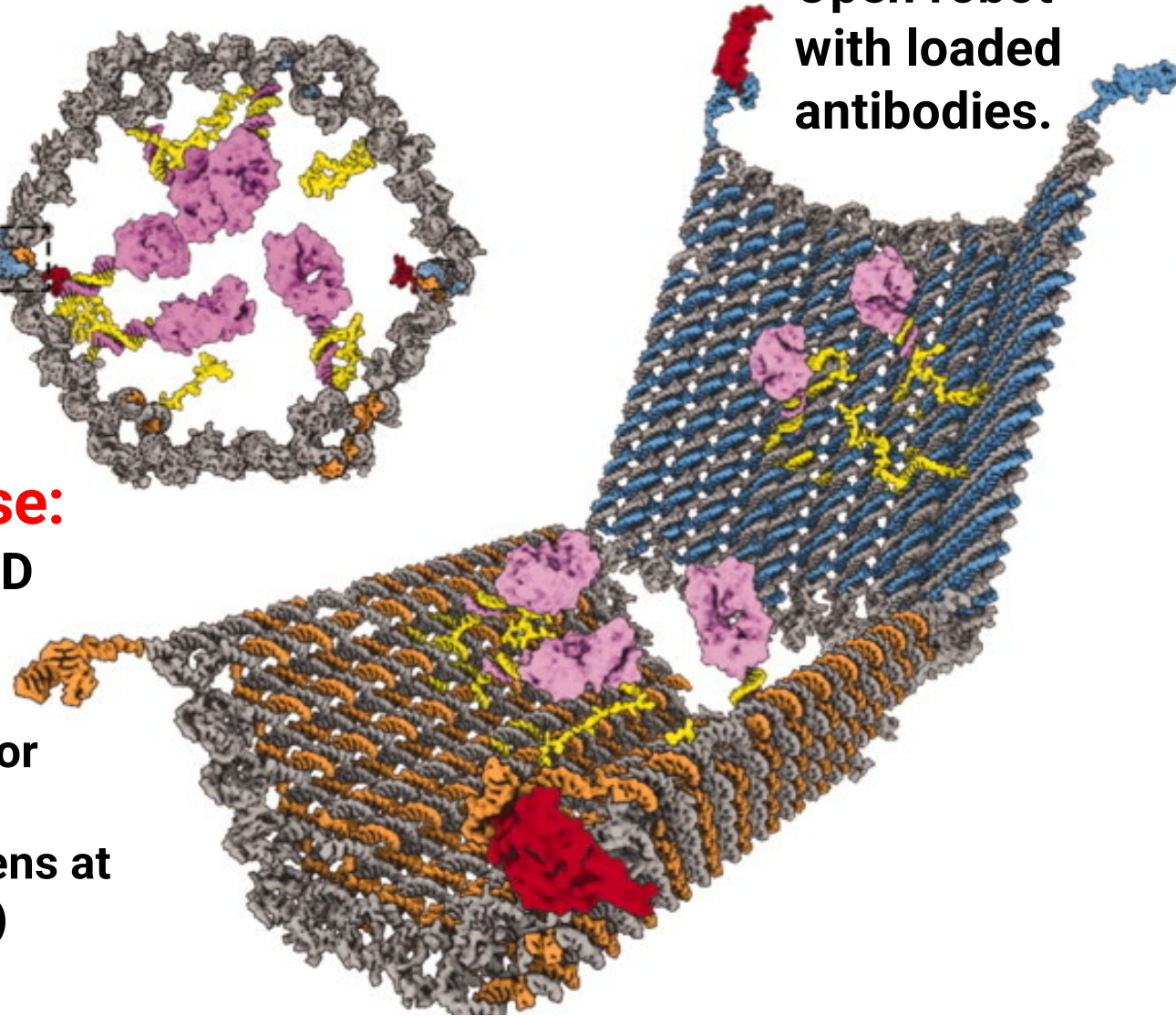
# DNA Nanorobot with Proximity Sensed Molecular Release

Douglas SM, Bachelet I, Church GM. A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads. *Science* 2012; 335:1212-1214

**Closed  
robot with  
loaded  
antibodies.**



**Open robot  
with loaded  
antibodies.**



**To open & close:**

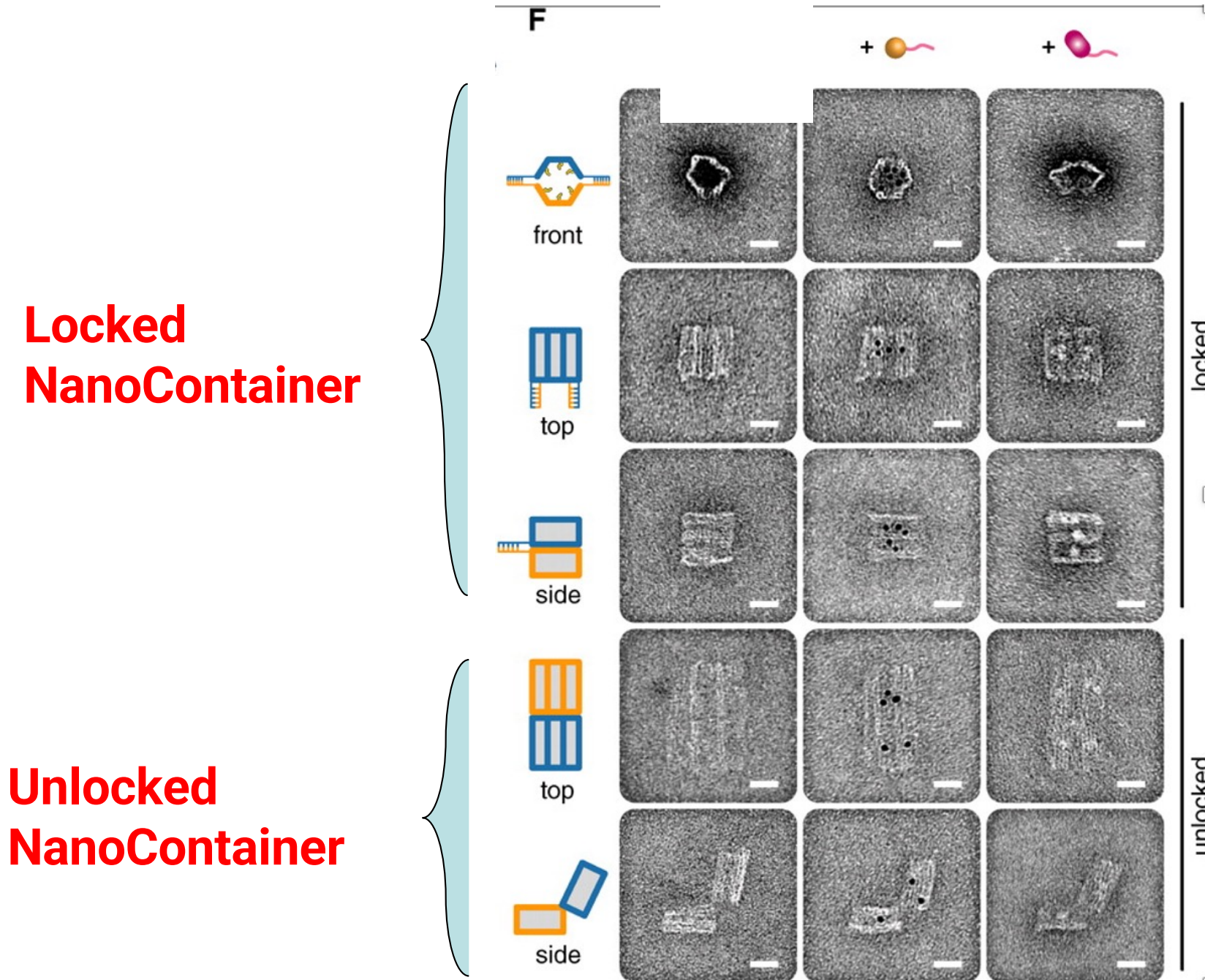
**Uses Boolean AND  
gating with**

- Two-lock (two aptamer locks for robot) and
- Two-key (antigens at the cell surface) combinations.

**A logic-gated DNA nanorobot for  
encapsulation and display of cargo.**

# DNA Nanorobot with Proximity Sensed Molecular Release

Douglas SM, Bachelet I, Church GM. A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads. *Science* 2012; 335:831-4

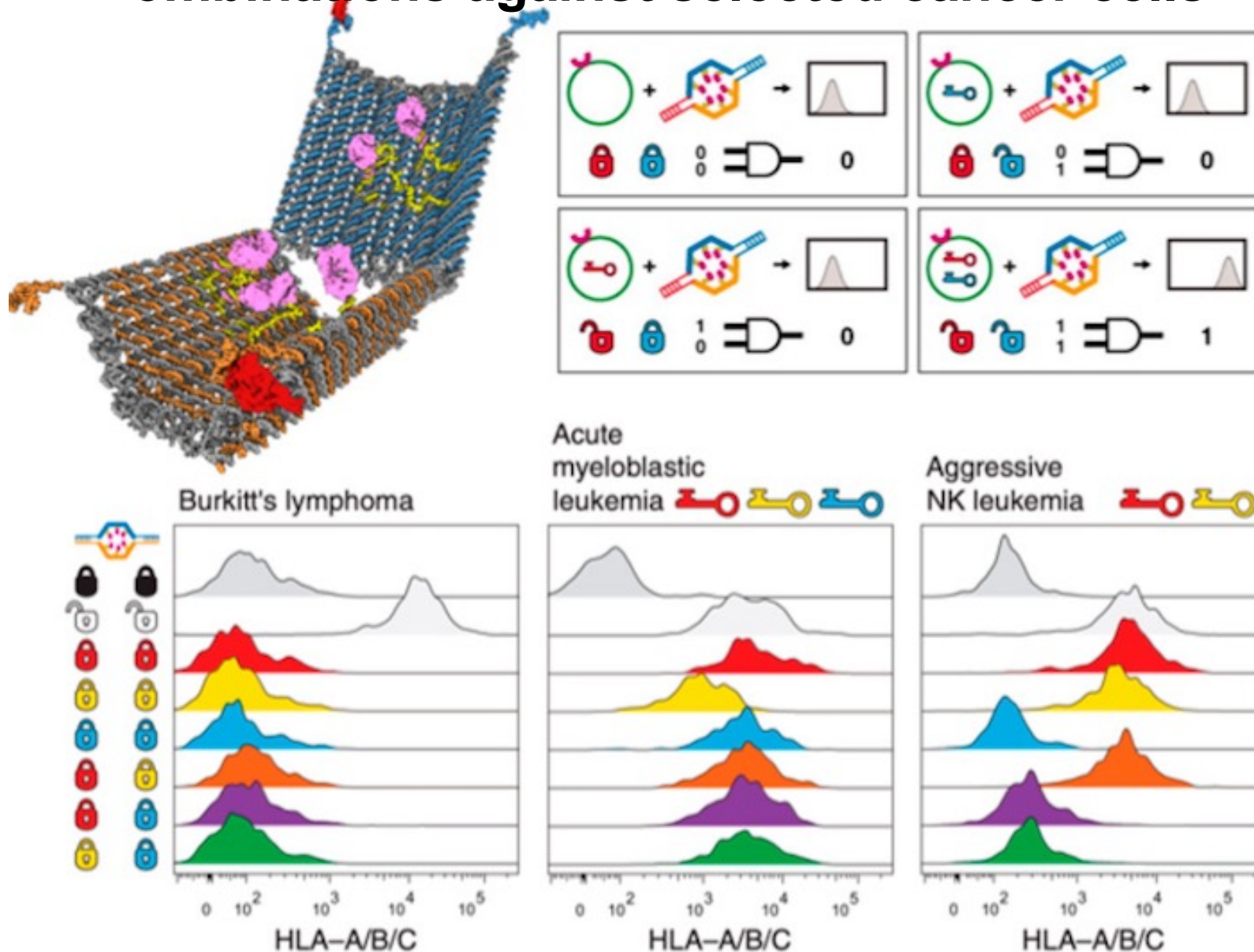




# DNA Nanorobot with Proximity Sensed Molecular Release

Douglas SM, Bachelet I, Church GM. A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads. *Science* 2012; 335:831-4

## Logic-gating in action: different lock-key combinations against selected cancer cells

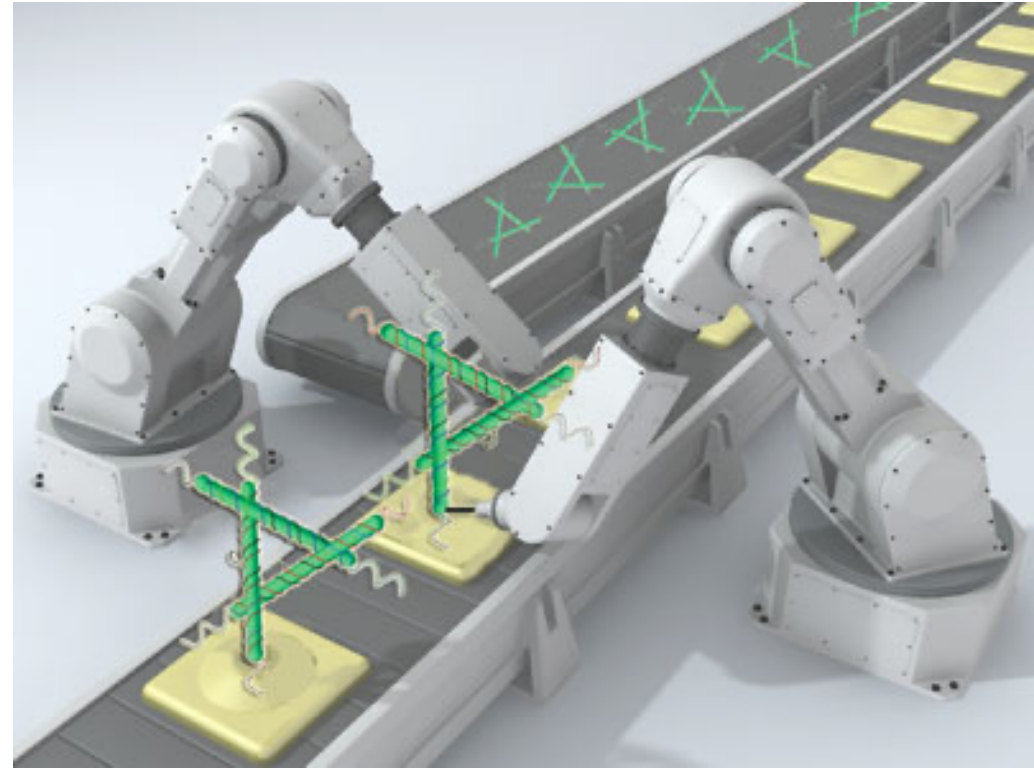
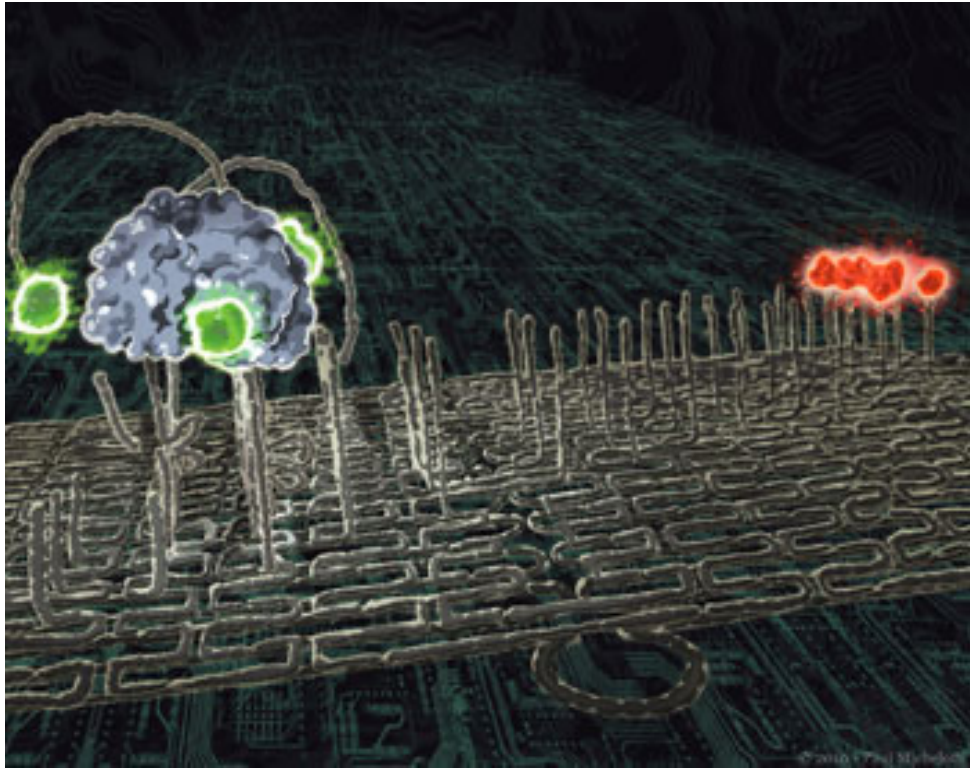


# DNA Devices that Deliver Cargo as They Walk

A Proximity-based DNA nanoscale assembly line  
(Seeman group 2010)

- A **Non-autonomous** walker that moves along an origami tile using four feet.
- The origami tile has programmable 'cassettes' that transfer cargo (gold nanoparticles) to the walker's 'hands'.
- **Uses No Enzymes:** Fueled by Strand Displacement

# A Proximity-based DNA nanoscale assembly line (Seeman group 2010)



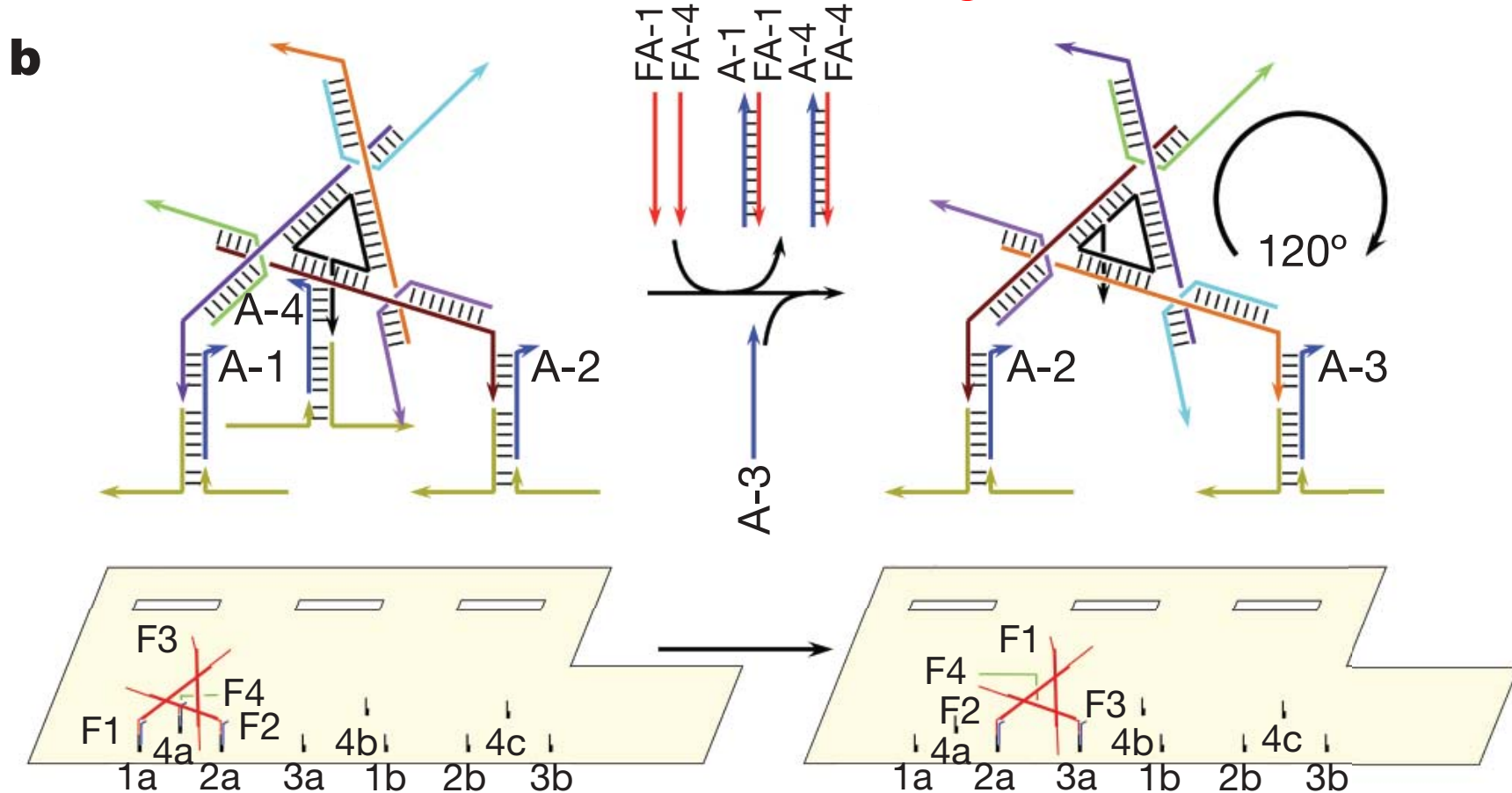
Inaccurate, but evocative  
Illustration

Gu, H., Chao, J., Xiao, S.-J., & Seeman, N. C. (2010). A proximity-based programmable DNA nanoscale assembly line. *Nature*, 465(7295), 202–205. doi:10.1038/nature09026



# DNA nanoscale assembly line

## Uses Nonautonomous DNA Origami Walker

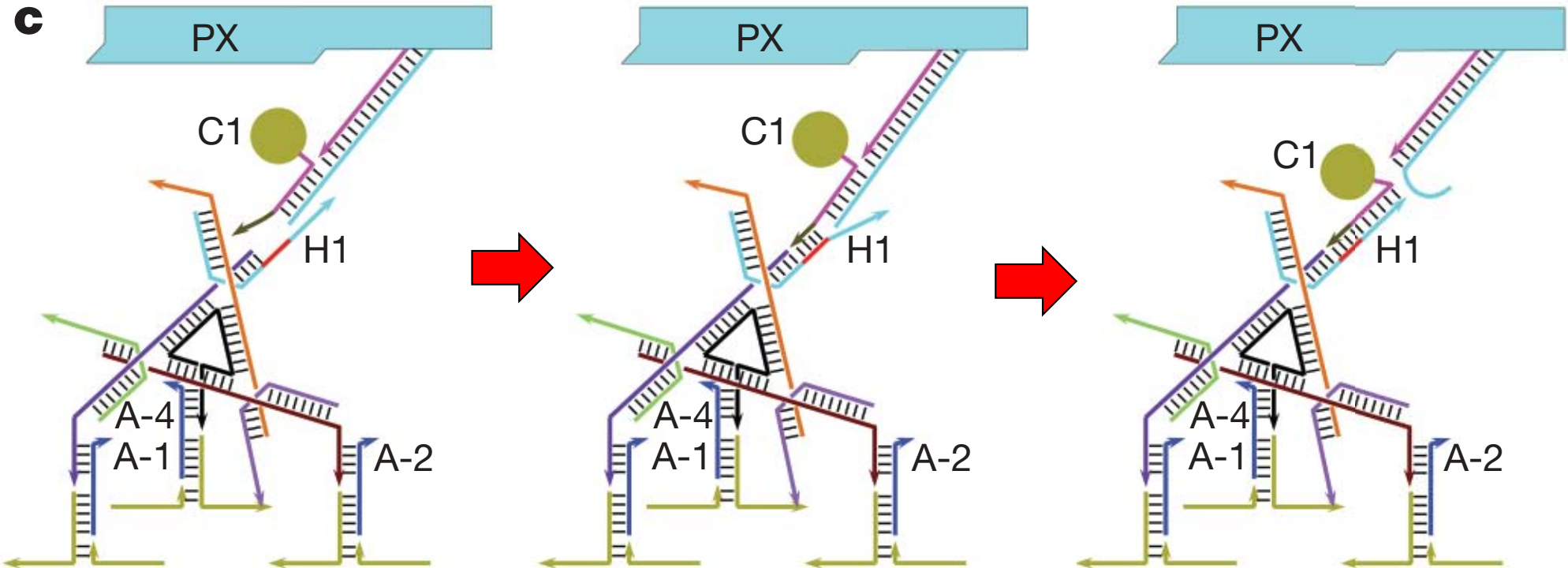


### DNA Walker Design:

- DNA walkers have seven 'limbs':
- Four DNA strands are used as feet
- The other three are used to carry the cargo donated by the DNA modules, which are anchored to a DNA origami tile that acts as the DNA walker's track.
- Walker is moved by externally controlled 'fuel' strands that are added to displace the feet, so they move to other positions.

# Using Nonautonomous DNA Origami Walker for: **A DNA nanoscale assembly line**

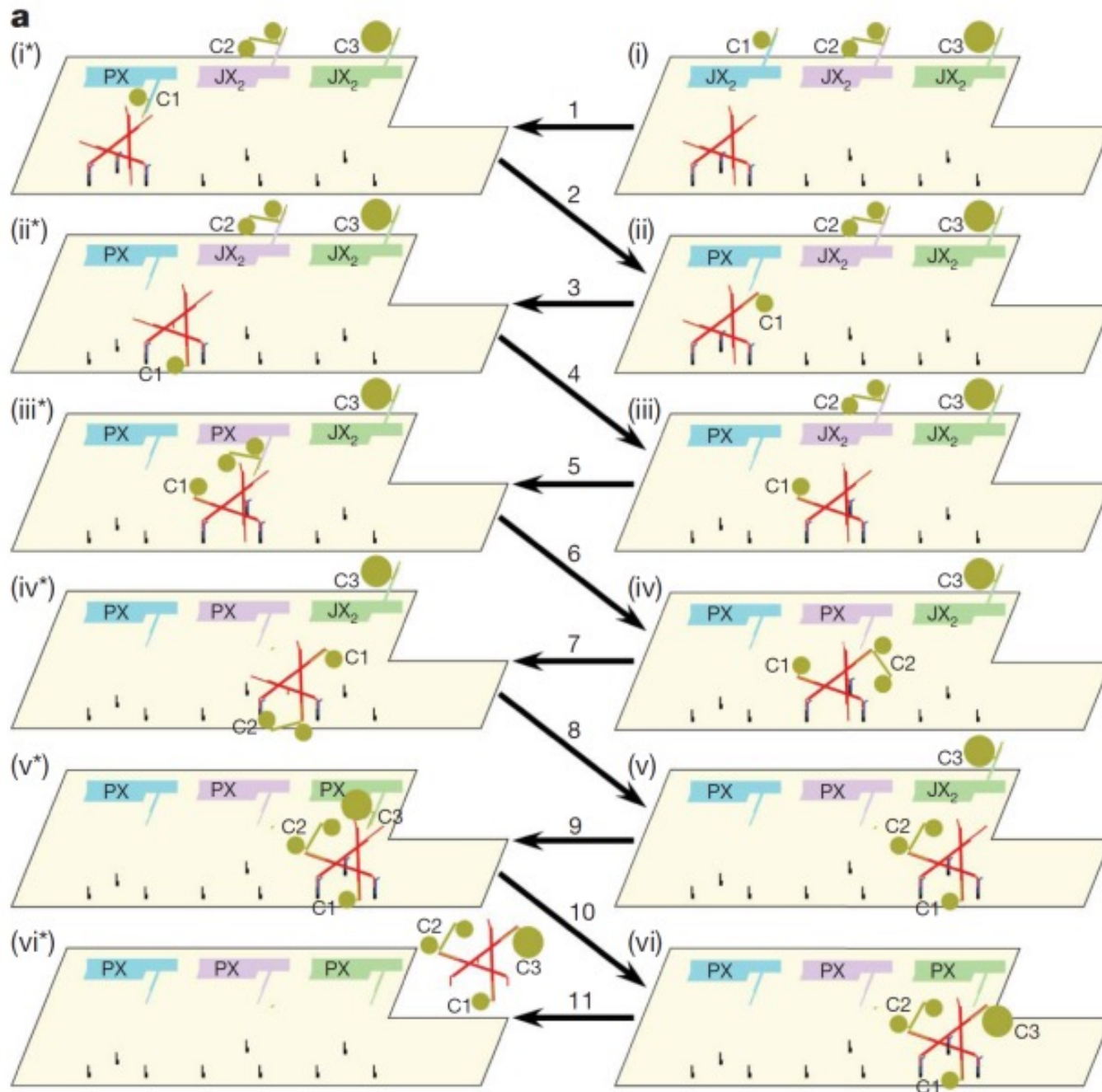
Gu, H., Chao, J., Xiao, S.-J., & Seeman, N. C. (2010). A proximity-based programmable DNA nanoscale assembly line. *Nature*, 465(7295), 202–205. doi:10.1038/nature09026



## Operation:

- DNA walker travels along a path with three DNA 'modules' at fixed intervals in an assembly line arrangement.
- The modules hold a cargo of gold nanoparticles and are individually programmed to either donate or keep their cargo, so as the DNA walker passes by it can be loaded with cargo resulting in eight possible end products.

# Operation of DNA nanoscale assembly line



Gu, H., Chao, J., Xiao, S.-J., & Seeman, N. C. (2010). A proximity-based programmable DNA nanoscale assembly line. *Nature*, 465(7295), 202–205. doi:10.1038/nature09026