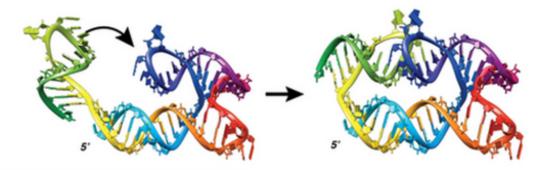
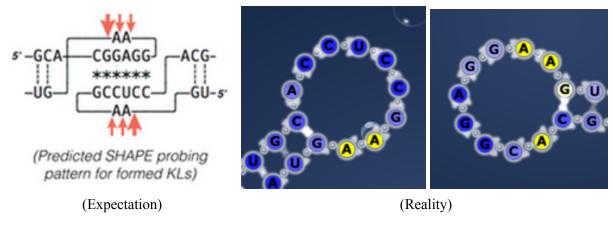
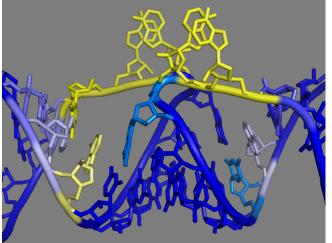
Kissing Loop Lab



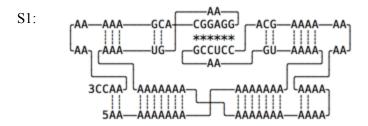
A series of RNA constructs were designed to test the SHAPE probing of kissing loops that form 6bp loop-loop interactions. For sequences where the kissing loops form properly, a protection pattern is expected to be observed. In the cartoons (above), the loops each have a two-nt bulge (AA) that protrudes out into solution when the loops link up. These hot-spots are expected to be strongly probed by SHAPE compared to the 6bps of the loop regions that pair up.

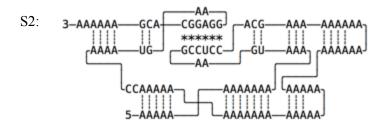




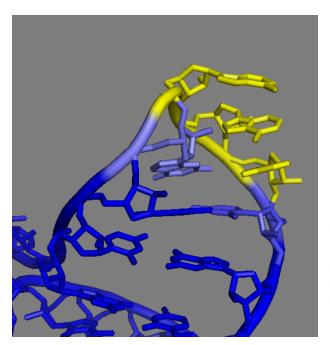
Here, the above SHAPE data is mapped to the 3D fold of the kissing loop (shown in Pymol)

Two different RNA scaffold shapes were chosen (S1 and S2), to ensure robust data collection.





Both scaffold designs performed well, resulting in clean SHAPE data for the test KLs. However, in S1 the stems were short compared to S2, and the 4nt loops in S1 were not well-protected compared to those in S2.



GAAA terminal loop in design S2. Notice the 5'G of the loop is protected from SHAPE. This is because the 2'OH of the G in GAAA tetraloops forms an H-bond with the neighboring residue and points inwards on the loop. By contrast, the AAA all point their 2'OH out towards solution (and so are strongly probed)

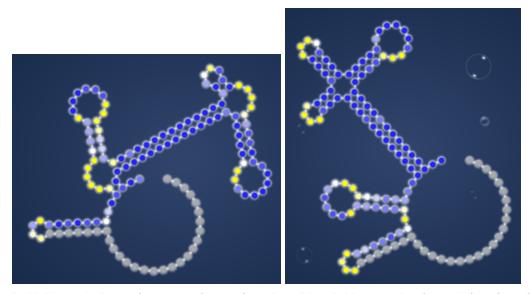
S1-KL1 / S2-KL1

Positive controls for "Kissing Loops" (KL).

The protection pattern for the 6bp interaction is clearly seen on both of the 9nt terminal loops, indicating that KLs are forming well under the conditions of the probing experiment.

Both scaffold designs (S1 and S2) probed well, although the longer stems in the S2 design results in more protected positions overall.

General notes: The tighter 3D constraints of the 4-way junction in design S2 compared to 3-way multi in S1 might also have an effect on the probing of the KL, but differences in probing between S1 and S2 were not substantial. Embedding the 5'GG into the structure seemed to work well, although it did confuse some lab participants because it requires the user to override the target shape when submitting the sequence.

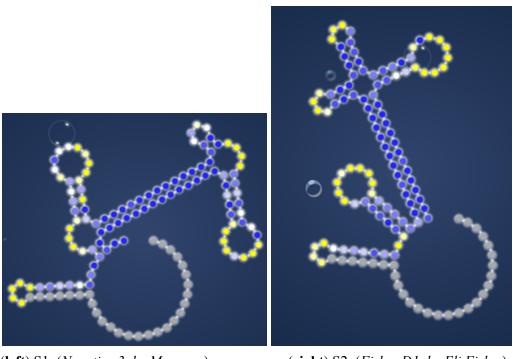


(**left**) S1-KL1 (*Kiss the Looop, by Hyphema*)

(right) S2-KL1 (Fisker D1, by Eli Fisker)

S1-KL1_negative / S2-KL1_negative

In this negative control, kissing-loop sequences were taken from two 'orthogonal' kissing-loop interactions. In all designs, both of the 9nt loops were substantially more cleaved compared to the KL1 positive control group. Interesting are some single-nt positions that seem to be protected, indicating either an interaction between the two loops, or otherwise interactions occurring within the loops.

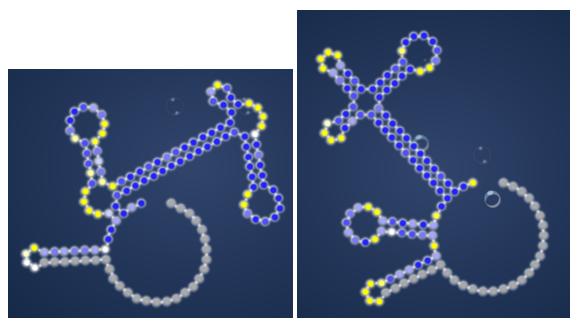


(**left**) S1 (*Negative 3, by Mayanne*)

(right) S2 (Fisker D1, by Eli Fisker)

S1-KL1_noGU / S2-KL1_noGU

In previous works the Kissing Loop sequences have always included a GU wobble just 1bp away from the terminal loop. This experiment tests the effect of removing the GU wobble requirement. The strong protection pattern observed in both of the 9nt loops indicates that the KLs are pairing correctly without the GU wobble part of the motif. In future probing experiments with KLs using short stems it might be worth considering that the GU is not required (although it's still unknown how removing the GU will affect the 3D shape).

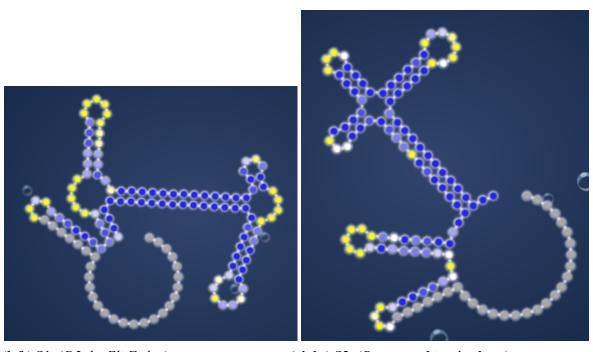


(left) S1 (Kiss the loop without wobbling, by Hyphema) (right) S2 (Berry, by Hoglahoo)

S1-KL_1S72 / S2-KL_1S72

This kissing loop comes from a ribosomal structure (PDB 1S72, resi 423).

In previous RNA experiments it had performed poorly for forming long-range interactions. However, it had never been tested again in the context of a pseudoknot-forming interaction on a continuous strand. In the context of an intramolecular interaction the KL might form more strongly. In most cases the probing data revealed no protection of the loops. However, weak protection of the loop was observed in the 3' loop in some cases, where the correct 2D structure was also strongly observed (better signal to noise ratio?).



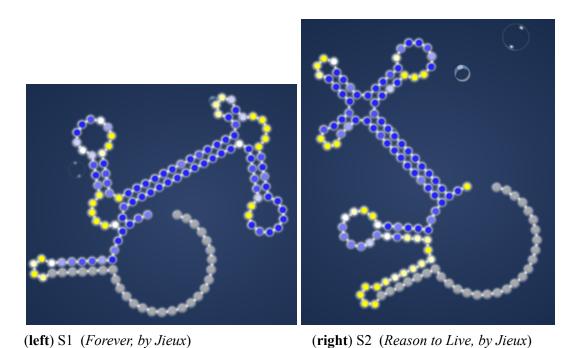
(**left**) S1 (*D2*, by Eli Fisker)

(right) S2 (Reason to Live, by Jieux)

S1-KL_newA / S2-KL_newA

Trying out a new kissing-loop sequence. Kissing loops are notoriously tricky to predict, so testing them is the only way to know if they link up correctly. In particular, since these loops are G and C -rich they don't behave nicely like the poly-A loops of EteRNA, and can make stabilizing the adjoining stems difficult.

For the "newA" KL, the news is good. It has a strong protection pattern, which suggests that the two loops are pairing up as desired.

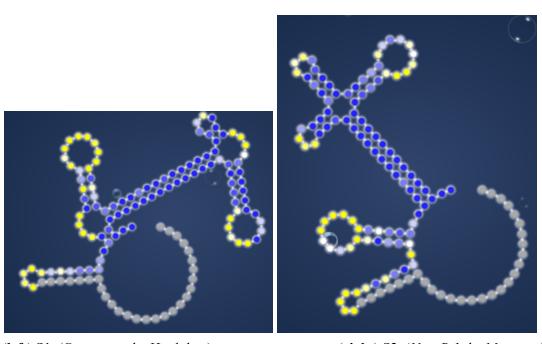


S1-KL_newB / S2-KL_newB

A second, new kissing loop sequence.

For the "newB" KL, the news is not so good.. It has a very weak protection pattern, which suggests that the two loops are not pairing up strongly. A more careful analysis of the design reveals that the two loops only have 4bps complementary between them! This was a design mistake, but now functions as a second control. For the loops (-GAAUGG- and -GGAUUC-), some protection was observed where the loops were still complementary. (GAA with UUC, or UGAA with UUCA). This data suggests that we may be able to form KL interactions with as few as 4bps! Also, looking at where the interaction apparently starts, it seems that pairing at the 3' end of the loops is favored (also consistent with base stacking on the 3' end of stems having greater stability).





(**left**) S1 (*Strategery, by Hoglahoo*)

(right) S2 (New B 1, by Mayanne)

Kissing Loop Protection Patterns, in depth comparison

Data is sorted by increasing SHAPE threshold value. The best 6 are shown in each case, the 5'KL is shown on left and the 3'KL is shown on the right.

Note: In this data-set sorting by SHAPE-score did not work well since the paired-up loop sequences subtract from the SHAPE score. I used the SHAPE threshold value instead, with the hope that lower SHAPE threshold might be an indicator for data with better signal-to-noise ratio (ie lower minimum signal for a SHAPE pattern indicates less noise, but please correct me if I have interpreted this wrongly!).

S2-KL1

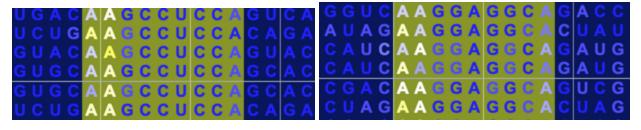




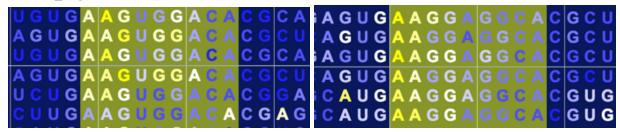
S1-KL1 noGU



S2-KL1_noGU



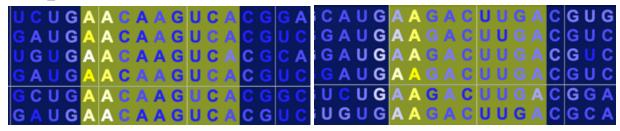
S1-KL1_negative



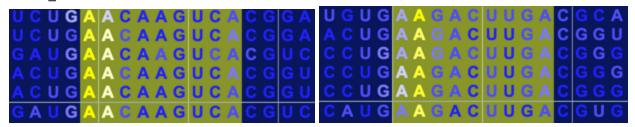
S2-KL1 negative

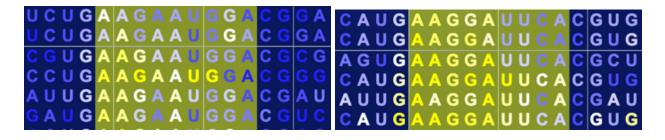


S1-KL_newA

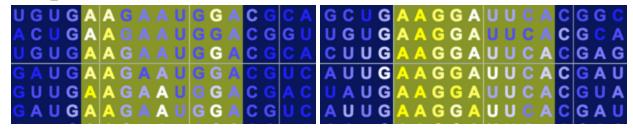


S2-KL_newA

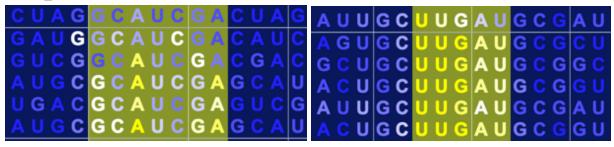




S2-KL newB



S1-KL_1S72



S2-KL 1S72

