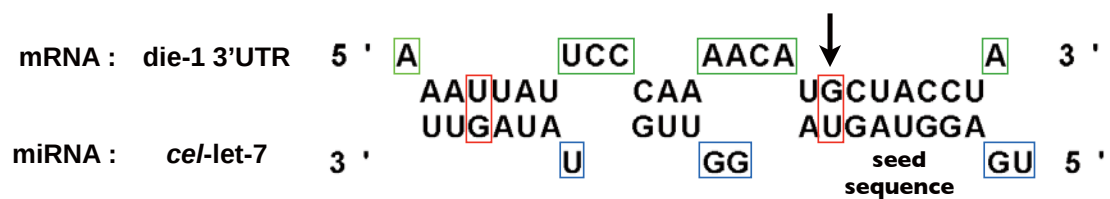


Additional file 1. Basic concept of miRNA/mRNA duplex formation

An example of the binding pattern of miRNA (bottom)/mRNA (top) duplexes is shown using *cel-let-7* and *die-1* 3'-UTR sequences from *C. elegans*. The green and blue squares depict mismatched nucleotide sequences of the mRNA and miRNA, respectively. The red square depicts G-U wobble pairs within the whole miRNA sequence and the black arrow pinpoints a G-U wobble pair within the seed sequence.



 	Mismatches of the mRNA within whole miRNA sequence	= 9
 	Mismatches of the miRNA within whole miRNA sequence	= 5
 	G-U wobble pairs within whole miRNA sequence	= 2
↓	G-U wobble pairs within seed sequence	= 1