Supporting Information

DNA structure-specific sensitization of a metalloporphyrin leads to an efficient *in vitro* quadruplex detection molecular tool

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Part 1. Chemistry	-Page S1
Part 2. Dynamic light scattering	Page S3
Part 3. Circular dichroism	-Page S5
Part 4. Oligonucleotides	-Page S6
Part 5. FRET-melting experiments	Page S7
Part 5. UV-Vis and fluorescence	Page S7

Part 1. Chemistry

General procedure. The handling of all air/water sensitive materials was carried out using standard techniques. Unless specified otherwise all other solvents were used as commercially supplied. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on a Bruker Avance II 300; chemical shifts are expressed in ppm relative to MeOD-*d4* (3.31 ppm). UV-Vis spectra were recorded in solutions using a Varian Cary 50 spectrophotometer (1 cm path length quartz cell). Accurate mass measurements (HR-MS) were carried out using a LTQ Orbitrap XL (THERMO) mass spectrometer. All measurements were made at the "Welience, Pôle Chimie Moléculaire de l'Université de Bourgogne (WPCM)".

Synthesis of Pd.TEGPy. TEGPy (40.0 mg, 26.2 µmol, obtained according to the procedure described in A. Laguerre *et al.*, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2015, **13**, 7034) and PdCl₂ (5.60 mg, 31.6 µmol) were added into 2.0 mL deionized water. The resultant mixture was heated under refluxed until the absorbance peak at 426 nm (Soret band of TEGPy in MeOH) blue-shifted to 418 nm (Soret band of Pd.TEGPy in MeOH) without any change afterwards. The mixture was evaporated and purified by size-exclusion chromatography (Bio-rad Bio-Beads S-X1, DMF). The resulting product was passed through a Dowex 1x8 100 mesh ion-exchange column (H₂O). The title compound was isolated as a red solid in 96% yield (36.6 mg, 25.1 µmol). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ 9.39 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 8H, C₅H₄N), 9.07 (s, 8H, pyrrole-H), 8.87 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 8H, C₅H₄N), 5.12 (m, 8H, CH₂), 3.11 (s, 12H, OCH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C₆₈H₈₆N₈O₁₂Pd]³⁺, m/z = 436.84164, found: 436.84114 ([M-4Cl]³⁺). UV–Vis (MeOH): λ_{max} [nm] (ϵ M⁻¹cm⁻¹): 418 (52290) 526 (6310), 558 (2770).



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of Pd.TEGPy (MeOD, 298K).



Figure S2. HRMS (ESI) mass spectrum of Pd.TEGPy.

Part 2. Dynamic light scattering.

a) DLS measurements performed on a Malvern apparatus with 100µM of TMPyP4 in water:





b) DLS measurements performed with 100µM of TEGPy in water:



c) DLS measurements performed with 100µM of Pd.TEGPy in water:

Part 3. Circular dichroism spectroscopy.

CD spectra were recorded on a JASCO J-815 spectropolarimeter in a 10mm path-length quartz semi-micro cuvette (Starna). CD spectra were recorded over a range of 500-600nm (bandwidth =

3nm, 1nm pitch, 1s response, scan speed = 500nm.mn⁻¹, averaged over 3 scans, zeroed at 600nm) with 100μ M of TEGPy, Pd.TEGPy and TMPyP4 in water. Final data were analyzed with OriginPro[®]8 (OriginLab Corp.).

Part 4. Oligonucleotides.

Preparation of stock solutions. The lyophilized DNA/RNA strands (purchased from Eurogentec, Seraing, Belgium) were firstly diluted in deionized water (18.2 M Ω .cm resistivity) at 500µM for monomolecular (*i.e.*, F21T, F-DS-T, L-TERRA, 22AG, c-myc, c-kit,) and bimolecular structures (*i.e.*, ds17 and ds26) or 1000µM for tetramolecular structures, (*i.e.*, TG5T). All DNA structures were prepared in a Caco.K buffer, comprised of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) plus 10mM KCl/90mM LiCl. Monomolecular structures were prepared by mixing 40µL of the constitutive strand (500µM) with 8µL of a lithium cacodylate buffer solution (100mM, pH 7.2), plus 8µL of a KCl/LiCl solution (100mM/900mM) and 24µL of water. Bimolecular structures were prepared by mixing 40µL of each constitutive strand (500µM) with 16µL of a lithium cacodylate buffer solution (100mM/900mM) and 48µL of water. Tetramolecular structures were prepared by mixing 20µL of a lithium cacodylate buffer solution (100mM/900mM) and 96µL of water. The final concentrations were theoretically 250, 125 and 83.3µM respectively for mono-, bi- and tetra-molecular DNA structures, respectively.

Name	Sequence
F21T	FAM-d[^{5'} GGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGG ^{3'}]-TAMRA
F-DS-T	FAM-d[^{5'} TATAGCTATATTTTTTTATAGCTATA ^{3'}]-TAMRA
L-TERRA	FAM-r[⁵ 'GGGUUAGGGUUAGGGUUAGGG ³ ']-TAMRA
22AG	d[^{5'} AGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGG ^{3'}]
c-myc	d[^{5'} GAGGGTGGGGAGGGTGGGGAAG ^{3'}]
c-kit	d[^{5'} CGGGCGGGGCGCGAGGGAGGGG ^{3'}]
TG5T	strands 1-4: d[^{5'} TGGGGGT ^{3'}]
ds17	strand 1: d[^{5'} CCAGTTCGTAGTAACCC ^{3'}]
	strand 2: d[⁵ 'GGGTTACTACGAACTGG ³ ']
ds26	strand 1-2: d[^{5'} CAATCGGATCGAATTCGATCCGATTG ^{3'}]

The actual concentration of each DNA was determined through a dilution to 1µM theoretical concentration (expressed in motif concentration) for monomolecular structures (*i.e.*, 4µL in 996µL water), to 1µM for bimolecular structures (*i.e.*, 8µL in 992µL water) and to 0.2µM for tetramolecular structure (i.e., 2.4µL in 997.6µL water) through UV spectral analysis at 260nm (after 5min at 90°C) with the following molar extinction coefficient values: 268300 (F21T), 258900 (F-ds-T), 276700 (L-TERRA), 228500 (22AG), 232000 (c-myc), 205600 (c-kit), 271600 (TG5T), 328300 (ds17) and 506400 M⁻¹.cm⁻¹ (ds26).

Folding of higher-order structures. The higher-order DNA/RNA structures were folded according to two procedures: (a) for the monomolecular architectures, solutions were heated (90°C, 5 min), cooled on ice (7hrs) and then stored at least overnight (4°C); (b) for the folding of all other

structures, the solutions were heated (90°C, 5min), gradually cooled (65, 60, 55, 50, 40 and 30°C (60mn/step), 25°C (2hr)) and then stored at least overnight (4°C).

Part 5. FRET-melting experiments.

Experiments were performed in a 96-well format using a Mx3005P qPCR machine (Agilent) equipped with a FAM filter ($\lambda_{ex} = 492$ nm; $\lambda_{em} = 516$ nm) in 100µL (final volume) of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) + 99mM LiCl/1mM KCl for L-TERRA and + 90mM LiCl/10mM KCl for F21T and F-DS-T, with 0.2µM of labeled oligonucleotide and 5 equiv. of ligands (TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy). Competitive experiments were carried out with labeled oligonucleotide (0.2µM), 5 equiv. ligands (TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy) and increasing amounts (0, 15 and 50 equiv.) of the unlabeled competitor ds26. After a first equilibration step (25°C, 30s), a stepwise increase of 1°C every 30s for 65 cycles to reach 90°C was performed, and measurements were made after each cycle. Final data were analyzed with Excel (Microsoft Corp.) and OriginPro[®]8 (OriginLab Corp.). The emission of FAM was normalized (0 to 1), and T_{1/2} was defined as the temperature for which the normalized emission is 0.5; $\Delta T_{1/2}$ values are means of 3 experiments.

Part 6. Fluorescence and UV-Vis investigations.

UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a JASCO V630Bio and fluorescence spectra on a JASCO FP8500 in a 10mm path-length quartz semi-micro cuvette (Starna). UV-Vis experiments were carried out in 1mL (final volume) of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) + 90mM LiCl/10mM KCl, with ligands (TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy, 2μ M) alone and in presence of TG5T (up to 20μ M).



Figure S3. UV-Vis titrations of TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy with increasing amounts (1, 2 and 10 equiv.) of TG5T.

Fluorescence experiments were carried out in 1mL (final volume) of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) + 90mM LiCl/10mM KCl, with ligands (TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy, 2 μ M) alone and in presence of DNA oligonucleotides (up to 20 μ M) being either duplexes (ds17, ds26) or quadruplexes (22AG, myc, kit and TG5T). Spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 256$ nm, $\lambda_{em} = 425$ -625nm, Ex and Em slits = 5nm, 1nm pitch, 1s response, scan speed = 500nm.mn⁻¹) were recorded 5mn (at 25°C) after the addition of the oligonucleotides.

DNA-sensitizing experiments were carried out in 1mL (final volume) of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) + 90mM LiCl/10mM KCl, ligands (TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy, 2 μ M) in presence of oligonucleotides (TG5T or ds26, 20 μ M). Spectra were recorded at 15 different λ_{ex} between 226 and 306nm (Ex and Em slits = 5nm, 1nm pitch, 1s response, scan speed = 500nm.mn⁻¹) at 25°C.



Figure S4. DNA-mediated fluorescence experiments carried out with TMPyP4, TEGPy and Pd.TEGPy and 10 equiv. of TG5T or ds26 at various λ_{ex} between 226 and 306nm.

Control experiment for the screening effect described in Figure 6B of the main manuscript: experiments were carried out in 1mL (final volume) of 10mM lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) + 90mM LiCl/10mM KCl, with Pd.TEGPy (2 μ M) in presence of of an excess of 22AG (up to 20 μ M). Spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 256$ nm, $\lambda_{em} = 518$ nm, Ex and Em slits = 5nm, 1nm pitch, 1s response, scan speed = 500nm.mn⁻¹) were recorded 5mn (at 25°C) after the addition of every 2 μ M of 22AG.



Figure S5. Figure S5. Fluorescence titrations ($\lambda_{ex} = 256$ nm) of 2 μ M Pd.TEGPy upon addition of increasing amounts of 22AG (0 to 20 μ M, 2 μ M-step), carried out in lithium cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) plus 10mM KCl/90mM LiCl.