

Supporting Information

DNA-based nanoscaffolds as vehicles for 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine oligomers in colorectal cancer therapy

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Material and methods

Reagents: The standard phosphoramidites and ancillary reagents used on the oligonucleotide synthesis were obtained from Applied Biosystems and Link Technologies Ltd. 5'-Fluorescein CE phosphoramidite (FITC), Cyanine-3-CE phosphoramidite (Cyanine 540), 5'-Cholesterol-CE phosphoramidite and 5-FdU-CE phosphoramidite were acquired from Link Technologies. 5-Fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (FdU) was purchased from Alfa Aesar. Centrifugation devices Nanosep 10K omega were purchased to Pall Life Science. Matrix for MALDI-TOF experiments was composed by 2',4',6'-trihydroxyacetophenone monohydrate (THAP, Aldrich) and ammonium citrate dibasic (Fluka). Solvents for HPLC analysis were prepared using triethylammonium acetate (TEAA) and acetonitrile (Merck) as mobile phase. The rest of the chemicals are analytical reagent grade from commercial sources as specified. Circular genomic DNA from the virus M13mp18, 10, 50, and 1Kbp DNA Ladders were purchased from New England Biolabs and 100 bp DNA Ladders from Promega. Control drug, 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) was purchased from Sigma. Ultrapure water (Millipore) was used in all experiments. HTB-38 was purchased from American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VA and HCC2998 cell line was kindly provided by Dr. Diego Arango (Molecular Oncology Group; CIBBIM-Nanomedicine, Vall d'Hebron Institut of Research (VHIR)). Both cell lines were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 50 i.u ml⁻¹ penicillin and 50 µg ml⁻¹ streptomycin. Cultures were grown at 37 °C in 5% CO₂ humidified atmosphere. Cell membrane dyes WGA-488 and WGA-555 were kindly provided by the confocal microscopy service (ThermoFisher). Annexin V-FITC kit was obtained from ThermoFisher and used following manufacturer's instructions.

Instrumentation: Modified staple-strands for engineer the two DNA nanostructures were synthesized on an ABI 3400 DNA Synthesizer (Applied Biosystems). Analytic RP-HPLC was performed on a Waters chromatography system using XBridge™ OST C₁₈ (4.6 × 50 mm, 2.5 µm) column. The HPLC solvent used were; A, 5% ACN in 100 mM triethylammonium acetate (TEAA) (pH = 7) and solvent B, 70% ACN in 100 mM TEAA (pH = 7). Mass spectra were recorded on a MALDI Voyager DE RP time-of-flight (TOF) spectrometer (Applied Biosystems) equipped with nitrogen laser at 337 nm using a 3ns pulse. The matrix used contained 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone (THAP, 10 mgmL⁻¹ in ACN/ water 1:1) and ammonium citrate (50

mgmL⁻¹ in water). Molecular absorption spectra between 220 and 550 nm were recorded with a Jasco V650 spectrophotometer. The temperature was controlled with an 89090A Agilent Peltier device. Hellma quartz cuvettes were used. The DNA nanostructures were annealed in an Eppendorf thermocycler (Boeker). Gels were imaged with a Gene Genius Bioimaging system (Syngene). AFM images were obtained by liquid tapping on a Nanoscope 3A Multimode 4 AFM, using Bruker SNL-10 ultra-sharp silicon tips. Imaging was then conducted using a TEM microscope, Jeol JEM 1010 100 kv with CCD Megaview 1kx1k (CCIT- University of Barcelona). The MTT and colony assays were measured in an automated spectrophotometric plate reader Glomax multi detection system (Promega). Internalization and apoptosis assays were measured with a Guava easyCyte™ flow cytometer (Millipore) and data was analysis with Guavasoft 3.1.1. The confocal images were acquired by using a TCS SP2 confocal microscope equipped with live cell chamber system (Leica).

Synthesis of modified oligonucleotides: Standard staple-strand oligonucleotides were purchased to Sigma. Modified staple-strands were synthesized on ABI 3400 DNA Synthesizer, using the 200-nmol scale synthesis and the standard protocols. FITC, FdU, cholesterol and Cy3 phosphoramidites were site-specifically inserted into the standard sequence oligonucleotide. FdU_n oligonucleotides at the 3'-end were introduced using controlled pore glass functionalized with a 3'-succinyl-5-FdU solid support. To this end, the FdU was dimethoxytritylated and then was treated with anhydride succinic to obtain the corresponding succinate. Finally, the controlled pore glass solid support with 5-FdU was prepared following standard protocol.^{1,2}

Modified oligonucleotides were deprotected with ammonia solution overnight at room temperature, followed by 1h at 55°C. The FdU containing oligonucleotides were purified by OPC (oligonucleotide purified cartridge, Glen Research). The Cholesterol-staples were desalted by Sephadex G-25 with 30% acetonitrile (NAP-10, GE Healthcare). All the oligonucleotide staples were analyzed by RP-HPLC (Table S3) using two different HPLC gradients with a flow rate of 1 mlmin⁻¹. For the modified FdU staples the gradient used was: 0–50% acetonitrile in 20 min and for the modified staples with cholesterol, fluorescein and Cy3 moieties the gradient of acetonitrile was increased stepwise, starting with 0–15% in the initial 5 min, 15-40% over 1 min and 40-85% over the last 9 min. The length and homogeneity of the oligonucleotides were checked by MALDI-TOF (Table S3). The modified oligonucleotide concentration was

determined by absorbance measurements (260 nm) and their extinction coefficient calculated. These samples were kept dry at -20 °C until further use. All the modified oligonucleotides sequences are detailed in **Table S1**. The standard strands for the DNA origami and DNA tetrahedron assemble are described below in **Table S2**.

DNA nanostructures stability in cell medium. DNA tetrahedron (70 nmols) and DNA origami samples (10 nmols) were dissolved in cell medium (DMEM plus 10% Fetal bovine serum) and shacked at 37 °C for different periods of time (0, 15, 30, 60, 120, 240, 480 min and 24 h). At the desired time the samples were removed from the shaker and frozen until further use. Then the samples were verified by gel electrophoresis. 2.5 % agarose in TAE/12.5 mM Mg buffer and run for 50 min at 100 V 1% agarose gels with the same buffer for the DNA origami. In the case of Td gels were run at 4 °C.

Table S1. Modified staple-strands sequences for DNA tetrahedron and DNA origami.

| DNA tetrahedron | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| S1- FdU₁₀ | AGGCAGTTGAGACGAACATTCTAAGTCTGAAATTTATCACCCGCCA TAGTAGACGTATCACC-(FdU) ₁₀ |
| S2a | CTTGCTACACGATTCAGACT |
| Chol-S2a | Chol -CTTGCTACACGATTCAGACT |
| S2b | TAGGAATGTTTCGACATGCGAGGGTCCAATACCGACGATTACAG |
| Chol-S2b-FdU₁₀ | Chol -TAGGAATGTTTCGACATGCGAGGGTCCAATACCGACGA TTACAG-(FdU) ₁₀ |
| S3a | GGTGATAAAACGTGTAGCAA |
| Chol-S3a | Chol -GGTGATAAAACGTGTAGCAA |
| S3b | GCTGTAATCGACGGGAAGAGCATGCCCATCCACTACTATGGCG |
| Chol-S3b | Chol -GCTGTAATCGACGGGAAGAGCATGCCCATCCACTACTAT GGCG |
| S4a – | CCTCGCATGACTCAACTGCC |
| Chol-S4a | Chol -CCTCGCATGACTCAACTGCC |
| S4b – | TGGTGATACGAGGATGGGCATGCTCTTCCCGACGGTATTGGAC |
| Chol-S4b | Chol -TGGTGATACGAGGATGGGCATGCTCTTCCCGACGGTAT TGGAC |
| S4c | CCTCGCATGACTCAACTGCCTGGTGATACGAGGATGGGCATGCTCTT CCCGACGGTATTGGAC-TTGATGAATGGTGGGTGAGAGG |
| Fluorescein-S5 | Fluorescein -CCTCTCACCCACCATTCATC |
| Cy3-S5 | Cy3 -CCTCTCACCCACCATTCATC |
| DNA origami | Sequence (5' to 3') |
| t-5r4e-FdU₁₃ | AAAGGCCGCTCCAAAAGGAGCCTTAGCGGAGT-(FdU) ₁₃ |
| t-3r2f-FdU₁₄ | TGTAGCATAACTTTCAACAGTTTCTAATTGTA-(FdU) ₁₄ |
| t3r4e-FdU₁₄ | GTTTGCCACCTCAGAGCCGCCACCGCCAGAAT-(FdU) ₁₄ |
| t5r2f-FdU₁₄ | AATGCCCCATAAATCCTCATTTAAAAGAACCAC-(FdU) ₁₄ |
| t-3r8e-FdU₁₀ | AGTAATCTTCATAAGGGAACCGAACTAAAACA-(FdU) ₁₀ |
| t3r6f-FdU₁₀ | CCGGAAACTAAAGGTGAATTATCATAAAAAGAA-(FdU) ₁₄ |
| Chol-t-3r14f | Chol -TTT-TCAGAAGCCTCCAACAGGTCAGGATTTAAATA |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Chol-t-3r18f | Chol-TTT-CAAAATTAGGATAAAAATTTTTAGGATATTCA |
| Chol-t5r14f | Chol-TTT-TCATTACCGAACAAGAAAAATAATAATTCTGT |
| Chol-t5r18f | Chol-TTT-AGGCGTTAGGCTTAGGTTGGGTAAAGCTTAGA |
| Chol-t-1r22f | Chol-TTT-GCTCATTTTCGCGTCTGGCCTTCCTGGCCTCAG |
| Chol-t1r22e | Chol-TTT-TTTAACGTTTCGGGAGAAACAATAACAGTACAT |
| Chol-t-1r30f | Chol-TTT-GAATAGCCACAAGAGTCCACTATTAAGCCGGC |
| Chol-t1r30e | Chol-TTT-GTTGTAGCCCTGAGTAGAAGAAGACTACATTCTG |

FdU_n in subscript stands for the number of FdU monomers, Chol for a cholesterol moiety and Cy3 for Cyanine 540.

Table S2. List of the helper strands used to engineer the DNA tetrahedron and DNA origami. All these oligonucleotides were purchased from commercial sources as described in the Materials and Methods section.

| 20 bp regular DNA Tetrahedron | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| S1 | AGGCAGTTGAGACGAACATTCCTAAGTCTGAAATTTATCACCCGCCATAGT AGACGTATCACC |
| S2 | CTTGCTACACGATTCAGACTTAGGAATGTTTCGACATGCGAGGGTCCAATAC CGACGATTACAG |
| S3 | GGTGATAAAACGTGTAGCAAGCTGTAATCGACGGGAAGAGCATGCCCATC CACTACTATGGCG |
| S4 | CCTCGCATGACTCAACTGCCTGGTGATACGAGGATGGGCATGCTCTTCCCG ACGGTATTGGAC |
| DNA origami staples | |
| t1r0g | AGGGTTGATATAAGTATAGCCCGGAATAGGTG |
| t1r2e | TAAGCGTCGGTAATAAGTTTTAACCCGTCGAG |
| t1r2f | AGTGTACTATACATGGCTTTTGATCTTTCCAG |
| t1r4e | AACCAGAGACCCTCAGAACCGCCACGTTCCAG |
| t1r4f | GAGCCGCCACCACCGGAACCGCTGCGCCGA |
| t1r6e | GACTTACGTAAAGGTCGCAACATACCGTCACC |
| t1r6f | AATCACCACCATTTGGGAATTAGACCAACCTA |
| t1r8e | TTATTACGTAAAGGTCGCAACATACCGTCACC |
| t1r8f | TACATACACAGTATGTTAGCAAACGTACAGA |
| t1r10e | TGAACAAAGATAACCCACAAGAATAAGACTCC |
| t1r10f | ATCAGAGAGTCAGAGGGTAATTGAACCAGTCA |
| t1r12e | TATTTTGCACGCTAACGAGCGTCTGAACACCC |
| t1r12f | TCTTACCAACCCAGCTACAATTTTAAAGAAGT |
| t1r14e | ATCGGGCTGACCAAGTACCGCACTCTTAGTTGC |
| t1r14f | GGTATTAATCTTTCCTTATCATTATCATATCGCG |
| t1r16e | CATATTTATTTTCGAGCCAGTAATAAATCAATA |
| t1r16f | AGAGGCATACAACGCCAACATGTATCTGCGAA |
| t1r18e | ACAAAGAAAATTCATCTTCTGACAGAATCGC |
| t1r18f | TTTTAGTTCGCGAGAAAACCTTTTTTTATGACC |

t1r20e AAATCAATCGTCGCTATTAATTAATCGCAAG
t1r20f CTGTAAATATATGTGAGTGAATAAAAAGGCTA
t1r22e TTTAACGTTTCGGGAGAAACAATAACAGTACAT
t1r22f CTTTTACACAGATGAATATACAGTGCCATCAA
t1r24e TTATTAATGAACAAAGAAACCACCTTTTCAGG
t1r24f ATTTTGCGTTTAAAAGTTTGAGTACCGGCACC
t1r26e CTAAAGCAAATCAATATCTGGTCACCCGAACG
t1r26f AAACCCTCTCACCTTGCTGAACCTAGAGGATC
t1r28e CTAAAAGCAAATCAATATCTGGTCACCCGAACG
t1r28f GCGTAAGAAGATAGAACCCTTCTGAACGCGCG
t1r30e GTTGTAGCCCTGAGTAGAAGAATACTTCTG
t1r30f ATCACTTGAATACTTCTTTGATTAGTTGTTC
t1r32h TACAGGGCGCGTACTATGGTTGCTAATTAACC
t3r0g TGCTCAGTACCAGGCGGATAAGTGGGGGTCAG
t3r2e GGAAAGCGGTAACAGTGCCCGTATCGGGGTTT
t3r2f TGCCTTGACAGTCTCTGAATTTACCCCTCAGA
t3r4e GTTTGCCACCTCAGAGCCGCCACCGCCAGAAT
t3r4f GCCACCACTCTTTTCATAATCAAATAGCAAGG
t3r6e TTATTCATGTCACCAATGAAACCATTATTAGC
t3r6f CCGGAAACTAAAGGTGAATTATCATAAAAAGAA
t3r8e ATACCCAAACACCACGGAATAAGTGACGGAAA
t3r8f ACGCAAAGAAGAACTGGCATGATTTGAGTTAA
t3r10e GCGCATTAATAAGAGCAAGAAACAATAACGGA
t3r10f GCCCAATAGACGGGAGAATTAACCTTCCAGAG
t3r12e AGGTTTTGGCCAGTTACAAAATAAACAGGGAA
t3r12f CCTAATTTAAGCCTTAAATCAAGAATCGAGAA
t3r14e CTAATTTACCGTTTTTATTTTCATCTTGCGGG
t3r14f CAAGCAAGCGAGCATGTAGAAACCAGAGAATA
t3r16e ACGCTCAACGACAAAAGGTAAAGTATCCCATC
t3r16f TAAAGTACCAGTAGGGCTTAATTGCTAAATTT
t3r18e TATGTAAAGAAATACCGACCGTGTTAAAGCCA
t3r18f AATGGTTTTGCTGATGCAAATCCATTTTCCT

t3r20e TTGAATTATTGAAAACATAGCGATTATAACTA
 t3r20f TAGAATCCCTTTTTTAATGGAAACGGATTTCG
 t3r22e ACAGAAATCTTTGAATACCAAGTTAATTTTCAT
 t3r22f CCTGATTGAAAGAAATTGCGTAGAAGAAGGAG
 t3r24e CGACAACCTTCATCATATTCCTGATCACGTAAA
 t3r24f CGGAATTACGTATTAATCCTTTGGTTGGCAA
 t3r26e GCCACGCTTTGAAAGGAATTGAGGAAACAATT
 t3r26f ATCAACAGGAGAGCCAGCAGCAAAATATTTTT
 t3r28e GTCACACGATTAGTCTTTAATGCGGCAACAGT
 t3r28f GAATGGCTACCAGTAATAAAAGGGCAAACCTAT
 t3r30e GTAAAAGACTGGTAATATCCAGAAATTCACCA
 t3r30f CGGCCTTGGTCTGTCCATCACGCATTGACGAG
 t3r32h CACGTATAACGTGCTTTCCTCGTTGCCACCGA
 t5r0g CCTCAAGAGAAGGATTAGGATTAGAAACAGTT
 t5r2e ACAAACAACCTGCCTATTTTCGGAACCTGAGACT
 t5r2f AATGCCCCATAAATCCTCATTAAAAGAACCAC
 t5r4e TCGGCATTCCGCCGCCAGCATTGATGATATTC
 t5r4f CACCAGAGTTCGGTCATAGCCCCCTCGATAGC
 t5r6e ATTGAGGGAATCAGTAGCGACAGACGTTTTCA
 t5r6f AGCACCGTAGGGAAGGTAAATATTTTATTTTG
 t5r8e GAAGGAAAAATAGAAAATTCATATTTCAACCG
 t5r8f TCACA ATCCC GAGGA AACGC AATAA TGAAATA
 t5r10e CTTTACAGTATCTTACCGAAGCCCAGTTACCA
 t5r10f GCAATAGCAGAGAATAACATAAAAAACAGCCAT
 t5r12e GAGGCGTTTCCCAATCCAAATAAGATAGCAGC
 t5r12f ATTATTTATTAGCGAACCTCCCGACGTAGGAA
 t5r14e TAAGTCCTGCGCCAATAGCAAGCAAGAACGC
 t5r14f TCATTACCGAACAAGAAAAATAATAATTCTGT
 t5r16f CCAGACGACAAATTCTTACCAGTAGATAAATA
 t5r18e TAACCTCCAATAAGAATAAACACCTATCATAT
 t5r18f AGGCGTTAGGCTTAGGTTGGGTAAAGCTTAGA
 t5r20e AAAACAACCTGAGAAGAGTCAATATACCTTTT

t5r20f TTAAGACGATTAATTACATTTAACACAAAATC
t5r22e AACCTACCGCGAATTATTCATTTACATCAAG
t5r22f GCGCAGAGATATCAAAATTATTTGTATCAGAT
t5r24e GGATTTAGTTCATCAATATAATCCAGGGTTAG
t5r24f GATGGCAAAGTATTAGACTTTACAAGGTTAT
t5r26e AGGCGGTCTCTTTAGGAGCACTAAACATTTGA
t5r26f CTAAAATAAGTATTAACACCGCCTCGAACTGA
t5r28e GAAATGGAAAACATCGCCATTAACAGAGGTG
t5r28f TAGCCCTATTATTTACATTGGCAGCAATATTA
t5r30e AGAAGTGTCAATTGCAACAGGAAAAAATCGTCT
t5r30f CCGCCAGCTTTTATAATCAGTGAGAGAATCAG
t5r32h AGCGGGAGCTAAACAGGAGGCCGAGAATCCTG
t-1r0g TATCACCGTACTCAGGAGGTTTAGATAGTTAG
t-1r2e ACGTTAGTTCTAAAGTTTTGTCTGTGATACAGG
t-1r2f CGTAACGAAAATGAATTTTCTGTAGTGAATTT
t-1r4e CAATGACAGCTTGATACCGATAGTCTCCCTCA
t-1r4f CTTAAACAACAACCATCGCCCACGCGGGTAAA
t-1r6e AAACGAAATGCCACTACGAAGGCAGCCAGCAA
t-1r6f ATACGTAAGAGGCAAAAGAATACTGACCAA
t-1r8e CCAGGCGGAGGACAGATGAACGGGTAGAAAA
t-1r8f CTTTGAAAATAGGCTGGCTGACCTACCTTATG
t-1r10e GGACGTTGAGAACTGGCTCATTATGCGCTAAT
t-1r10f CGATTTTAGGAAGAAAAATCTACGGATAAAAA
t-1r12e TTTGCCAGGCGAGAGGCTTTTGCAATCCTGAA
t-1r12f CCAAATAAGGGGGTAATAGTAAAAAAGATT
t-1r14e TTTTAATTGCCCGAAAGACTTCAACAAGAACG
t-1r14f AAGAGGAACGAGCTTCAAAGCGAAAGTTTCAT
t-1r16e CGAGTAGAACAGTTGATTCCCAATATTTAGGC
t-1r16f TCCATATATTTAGTTTGACCATTAAGCATAAA
t-1r18e CTGTAATAGGTTGTACCAAAAACACAAATATA
t-1r18f GCTAAATCCTTTTGCGGGAGAAGCCCGGAGAG
t-1r20e TCAGGTCATTTTTGAGAGATCTACCCTTGCTT

t-1r20f GGTAGCTATTGCCTGAGAGTCTGGTTAAATCA
t-1r22e AAATAATTTTTTAACCAATAGGAACAACAGTAC
t-1r22f GCTCATTTTCGCGTCTGGCCTTCCTGGCCTCAG
t-1r24e GCTTCTGGCACTCCAGCCAGCTTTACATTATC
t-1r24f GAAGATCGTGCCGAAACCAGGCAGTGCCAAG
t-1r26e CCCGGGTACCTGCAGGTCGACTCTCAAATATC
t-1r26f CTTGCATGCCGAGCTCGAATTCGTCCTGTCGT
t-1r28e GGGAGAGGCATTAATGAATCGGCCACCTGAAA
t-1r28f GCCAGCTGCGGTTTTCGCTATTGGGAATCAAAA
t-1r30e AGTTTGGACGAGATAGGGTTGAGTGTAATAAC
t-1r30f GAATAGCCACAAGAGTCCACTATTAAGCCGGC
t-1r32h GAACGTGGCGAGAAAAGGAAGGGAATGCGCCGC
t-3r0g CCCTCAGAACC GCCACCCTCAGAAACAACGCC
t-3r2e TGCTAAACTCCACAGACAGCCCTTACCGCCA
t-3r2f TGTAGCATAACTTTCAACAGTTTCTAATTGTA
t-3r4e ATATATTCTCAGCTTGCTTTTCGAGTGGGATTT
t-3r4f TCGGTTT TAGGTCGCTGAGGCTTGCAAAGACTT
t-3r6e CTCATCTTGGAAGTTTCCATTA AACATAACCG
t-3r6f TTT CATGATGACCCCCAGCGATTAAGGCGCAG
t-3r8e AGTAATCTTCATAAGGGAACCGAACTAAAACA
t-3r8f ACGGTCAATGACAAGAACCGGATATGGTTTAA
t-3r10e ACGAACTATTAATCATTGTGAATTT CATCAAG
t-3r10f TTTCAACTACGGAACAACATTATTAACACTAT
t-3r12e ACTGGATATCGTTTACCAGACGACTTAATAAA
t-3r12f CATAACCCGCGTCCAATACTGCGGTATTATAG
t-3r14e GAAGCAAAAAAGCGGATTGCATCAATGTTTAG
t-3r14f TCAGAAGCCTCCAACAGGTCAGGATTTAAATA
t-3r16f TGCAACTAGGTCAATAACCTGTTTAGAATTAG
t-3r18e CAACGCAAAGCAATAAAGCCTCAGGATACATT
t-3r18f CAAAATTAGGATAAAAAATTTT TAGGATATTCA
t-3r20e AGAGAATCAGCTGATAAATTAATGCTTTATTT
t-3r20f ACCGTTCTGATGAACGGTAATCGTAATATTTT

t-3r22e CTTTCATCTCGCATTAAATTTTGGAGCAAACA
t-3r22f GTTAAAATAACATTAAATGTGAGCATCTGCCA
t-3r24e TTCGCCATGGACGACGACAGTATCGTAGCCAG
t-3r24f GTTTGAGGTCAGGCTGCGCAACTGTTCCCAGT
t-3r26e TCATAGCTTGTAACGACGGCCAAAGCGCCA
t-3r26f CACGACGTGTTTCTGTGTGAAATTTGCGCTC
t-3r28e TGGTTTTTCTTCCAGTCGGGAAAAATCATGG
t-3r28f ACTGCCCGCTTTTACCAGTGAGATGGTGGTT
t-3r30e TGGACTCCGGCAAATCCCTTATACGCCAGGG
t-3r30f CCGAAATCAACGTCAAAGGGCGAAAAGGGAGC
t-3r32h CCCCATTAGAGCTTGACGGGGAAAAGAACG
t-5r0g CTCAGAGCCACCACCCTCATTTTCCGTAACAC
t-5r2e GAGAATAGGTCACCAGTACAACTCCGCCACC
t-5r2f TGAGTTTCAAAGGAACAATAAGATCTCCAA
t-5r4e AAAGGCCGCTCCAAAAGGAGCCTTAGCGGAGT
t-5r4f AAAAAAGGCTTTTGCGGGATCGTCGGGTAGCA
t-5r6e GCGAAACAAGAGGCTTTGAGGACTAGGGAGTT
t-5r6f ACGGCTACAAGTACAACGGAGATTCGCGACCT
t-5r8e CCAAATCATTACTTAGCCGGAACGTACCAAGC
t-5r8f GCTCCATGACGTAACAAAGCTGCTACACCAGA
t-5r10e AAAGATTCTAAATTGGGCTTGAGATTCATTAC
t-5r10f ACGAGTAGATCAGTTGAGATTTAGCGCCAAAA
t-5r12e TAAATATTGAGGCATAGTAAGAGCACAGGTAG
t-5r12f GGAATTACCATTGAATCCCCCTCACCATAAAT
t-5r14e TACCTTTAAGGTCTTTACCCTGACAATCGTCA
t-5r14f CAAAAATCATTGCTCCTTTTGATAATTGCTGA
t-5r16e TTTCATTTCTGTAGCTCAACATGTTTAGAGAG
t-5r16f ATATAATGGGGGCGCGAGCTGAAATTAACATC
t-5r18e TATATTTTCATACAGGCAAGGCAAAGCTATAT
t-5r18f CAATAAATAAATGCAATGCCTGAGAAGGCCGG
t-5r20e CATGTCAAAAATCACCATCAATATAACCCTCA
t-5r20f AGACAGTCTCATATGTACCCCGTTTTGTATAA

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| t-5r22e | ACCCGTCGTTAAATTGTAAACGTTAAAACCTAG |
| t-5r22f | GCAAATATGATTCTCCGTGGGAACCGTTGGTG |
| t-5r24e | GGCGATCGCGCATCGTAACCGTGCGAGTAACA |
| t-5r24f | TAGATGGGGTGCGGGCCTCTTCGCGCAAGGCG |
| t-5r26e | GCTCACAAGGGTAACGCCAGGGTTTTGGGAAG |
| t-5r26f | ATTAAGTTTTCCACACAACATACGCCTAATGA |
| t-5r28e | AGCTGATTACTCACATTAATTGCGTGTTATCC |
| t-5r28f | GTGAGCTAGCCCTTACC GCCTGGGGTTTGCC |
| t-5r30e | TATCAGGGCGAAAATCCTGTTTGACGGGCAAC |
| t-5r30f | CCAGCAGGCGATGGCCCACTACGTGAGGTGCC |
| t-5r32h | GTAAAGCACTAAATCGGAACCCTAAAACCGTC |

Table S3. HPLC analysis and MALDI-TOF characterization of modified staples required for DNA Td and DNA origami assembly. Calculated (calc) and experimental (exp) molecular weights are compiled for comparison.

| Sample | rt (min) | MW calc/ exp | Sample | rt (min) | MW calc/ exp |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| DNA Tetrahedron | | | | | |
| S1-FdU ₁₀ | ^a 5.4 | 22423.1/22464.0 | Chol-S4a | 14.0 | 6591.8/6593.7 |
| Chol-S2a | 13.6 | 6645.8/6646.9 | Chol-S4b | 13.9 | 13924.5/13909.6 |
| Chol-S2b-FdU ₁₀ | 13.9 | 16912.1/16978.4 | Fluorescein-S5 | 5.3 | 6855.8/6872.9 |
| Chol-S3a | 13.9 | 6807.9/6810.3 | Cy3-S5 | 7.5 | 6399.4/6406.3 |
| Chol-S3b | 13.7 | 13831.4/13820.7 | | | |
| DNA origami | | | | | |
| FdU ₁₀ | ^a 5.0 | 3020.0/3018.1 | | | |
| t-5r4e-FdU ₁₃ | ^a 6.1 | 13897.5/13904.5 | Chol-t-3r18f | 12.6 | 11378.2/11380.3 |
| t-3r2f-FdU ₁₄ | ^a 6.3 | 14100.6/14119.7 | Chol-t5r14f | 13.0 | 11308.2/11307.2 |
| t3r4e-FdU ₁₄ | ^a 6.1 | 14028.5/14034.5 | Chol-t5r18f | 12.7 | 11496.9/11495.2 |
| t5r2f- FdU ₁₄ | ^a 6.1 | 14011.6/14011.7 | Chol-t-1r22f | 13.2 | 11216.7/11220.9 |
| t-3r8e-FdU ₁₀ | ^a 5,5 | 12923.0/12933.4 | Chol-t1r22e | 12.9 | 11370.9/11365.3 |
| t3r6f-FdU ₁₀ | ^a 5.4 | 12987.1/12983.7 | Chol-t-1r30f | 13.0 | 11317.8/11314.0 |
| Chol-t-3r14f | 12.7 | 11326.2/11328.7 | Chol-t1r30e | 12.9 | 11369.8/11367.5 |

FdU_n n in subscript stands for the number of FdU monomers, Chol for a cholesterol moiety and Cy3 for Cyanine 540.^a The HPLC gradient was increased from 0–50% acetonitrile in 20 min; the remaining samples were analyzed following the HPLC gradient increased from; 0–15% over 5 min, followed by 15–40 % over 1 min and 40–85% over 9 min.

Table S4. Averaged hydrodynamic size determined for Td and DNA origami through dynamic light scattering (DLS). The sizes of unmodified Td (Td) and DNA origami (Origami-N) are listed and compared with FdU_n- and cholesterol-modified nanostructures, Td-1F, Td-1F-2C, Td-1F-3C, Td-1F-4C, Td-2F-3C, Origami-4F, Origami-6F, Origami-4F-4C and Origami-6F-8C. Data was measured in triplicate. The polydispersity index (Pdl) and respective standard deviation (SD-Pdl) are also reported.

| Sample | Hydrodynamic size (d nm) | SD | Pdl | SD-Pdl |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------|
| DNA Tetrahedron | | | | |
| Td | 24.5 | ±5.8 | 0.44 | ±0.01 |
| Td-1F | 26.4 | ±4.4 | 0.45 | ±0.07 |
| Td-1F-2C | 94.3 | ±4.8 | 0.38 | ±0.02 |
| Td-1F-3C | 100.5 | ±4.8 | 0.39 | ±0.19 |
| Td-1F-4C | 187.7 | ±34.7 | 0.27 | ±0.11 |
| Td-2F-3C | 76.4 | ±14.8 | 0.43 | ±0.17 |
| DNA origami | | | | |
| Origami-N | 124.3 | ± 3.8 | 0.26 | ± 0.09 |
| Origami-4F | 133.5 | ± 6.47 | 0.39 | ± 0.06 |
| Origami-6F | 117.7 | ±2.2 | 0.23 | ± 0.01 |
| Origami-4F-4C | 131.2 | ± 3.2 | 0.34 | ± 0.05 |
| Origami-6F-8C | 141.2 | ± 6.2 | 0.33 | ± 0.05 |

Table S5. This table summarizes the concentration of DNA nanoscaffolds and their respective total number of equivalents of FdU. The control FdU₁₀ is also listed.

| Sample | Number of FdU units | Molar concentration of DNA nanoscaffolds (μM) | Total number of FdU equivalents (μM) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| DNA Tetrahedron | | | |
| Control FdU ₁₀ | 10 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Td-1F | 10 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Td-1F-2C | 10 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Td-1F-3C | 10 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Td-1F-4C | 10 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Td-2F-3C | 20 | 0.25 | 5 |
| DNA origami | | | |
| Origami-4F | 55 | 0.002 | 0.110 |
| Origami-6F | 75 | 0.002 | 0.150 |
| Origami-4F-4C | 55 | 0.002 | 0.110 |
| Origami-6F-8C | 75 | 0.002 | 0.150 |

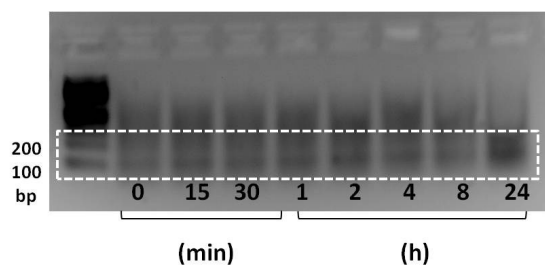


Figure S1. Long-term stability of the DNA Td in cell culture medium measured in 2.5% agarose gel electrophoresis. Each lane represents the migration of standard Td after different times of incubation with DMEM plus 10 % FBS, at 37 °C, (lane 2) $t = 0$, (lane 3) $t = 15$ min, (lane 4) $t = 30$ min, (lane 5) $t = 1$ h, (lane 6) $t = 2$ h, (lane 7) $t = 4$ h, (lane 8) $t = 8$ h and (lane 9) $t = 24$ h. Lane (1) shows the migration of the DNA ladder with 100 bp.

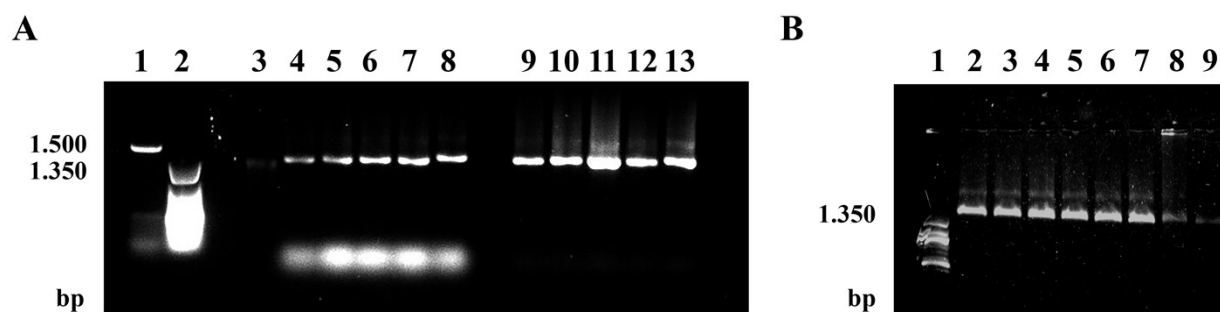


Figure S2. Gel electrophoresis analysis and stability of DNA origami, 1% agarose gel. **A**, Shows the formation and purification of the different DNA origami prepared. (1) 10 bp ladder, (2) 50 bp ladder, (3) M13 scaffold alone, (4-8) DNA origami formation (9-13) DNA origami after purification, (4, 9) DNA origami, (5, 10) DNA origami 4-F, (6, 11) DNA origami-4F-4C, (7, 12) DNA origami-6F, (8, 13) DNA origami-6-F-8C. **B**, Shows the stability of the DNA origami over time in DMEM plus 10 % FBS at 37 °C (1) 50 bp ladder, (2) $t = 0$, (3) $t = 15$ min, (4) $t = 30$ min, (5) $t = 60$ min, (6) $t = 120$ min, (7) $t = 240$ min, (8) $t = 480$ min and (9) $t = 24$ h.

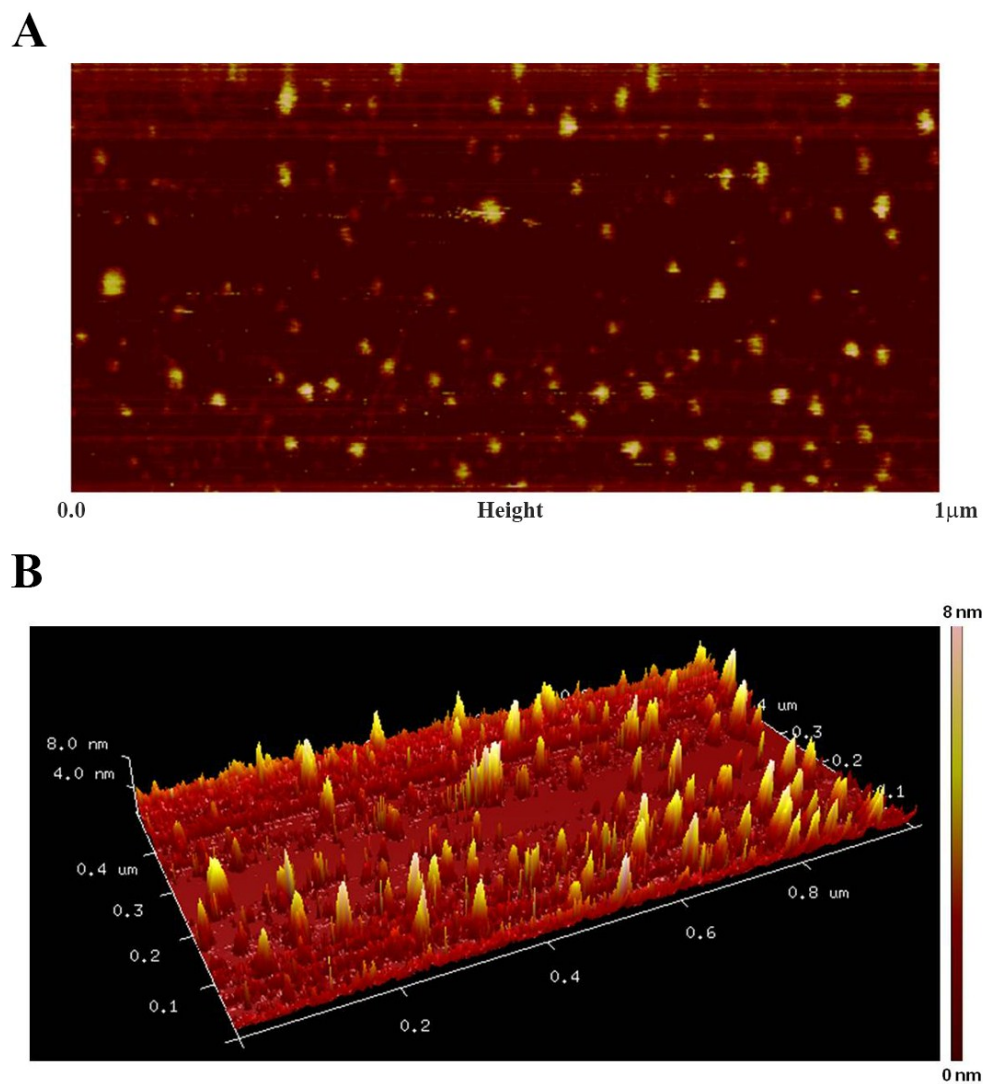


Figure S3: Additional AFM images of DNA Td. **A**, AFM image showing DNA tetrahedron deposited on mica surface. **B**, 3D representations of the DNA Td deposited in mica. Color bar indicates the height of the nanostructures.

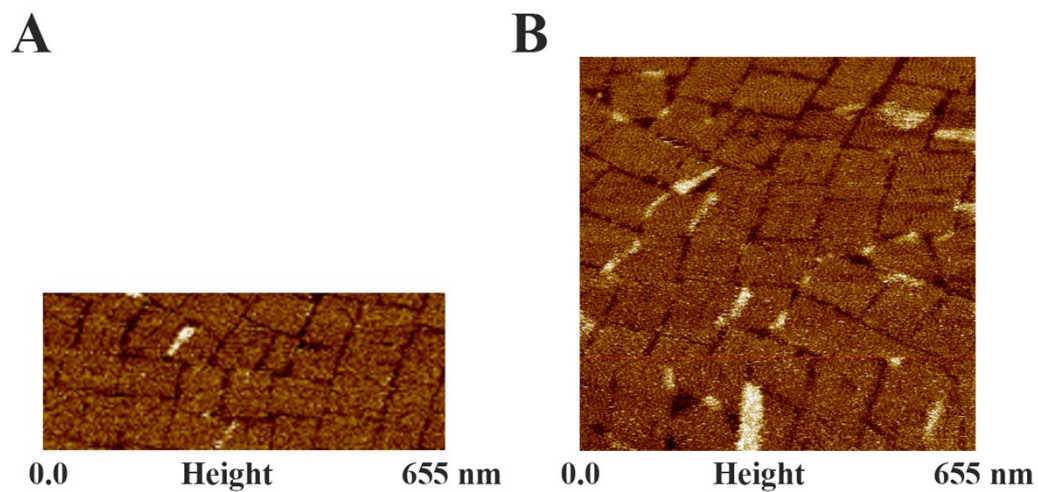


Figure S4. AFM images of the unmodified DNA origami. Image size 328 nm x 656 nm and 656 nm x 656 nm Image height: -2.0 nm to 2.7 nm.

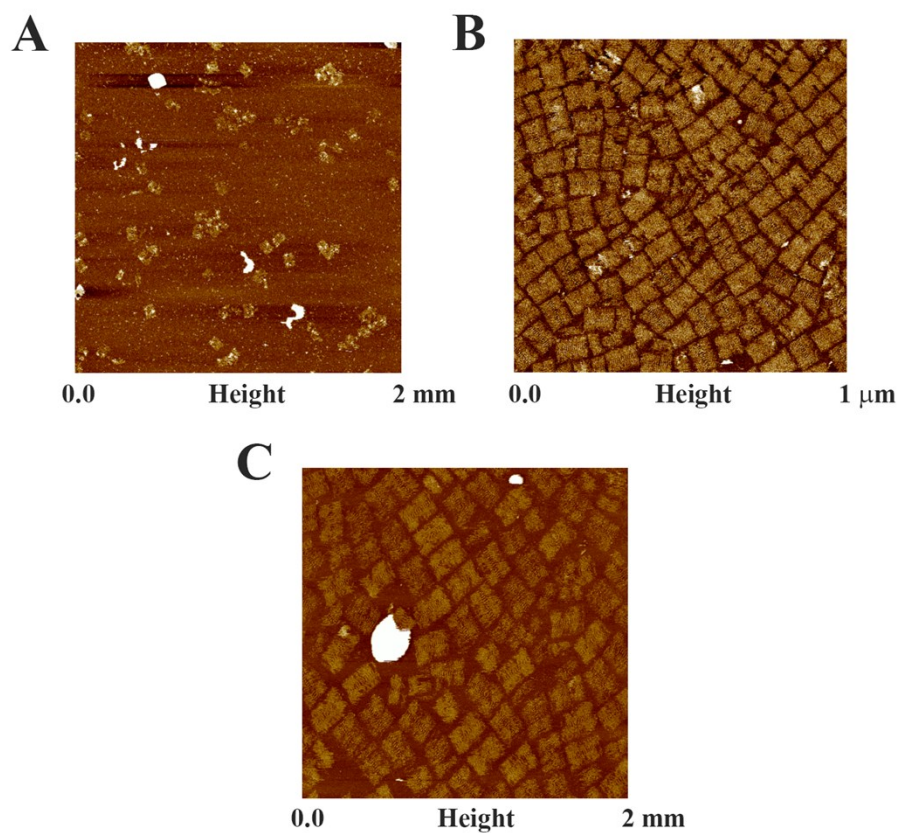


Figure S5. AFM images of the DNA origami containing **A**, 4 FdU staples, **B**, 4 FdU-4C and **C**, 6 FdU-8C staple displaced in different positions. DNA origami were formed correctly, showing that the introduction of the modified tiles did not affect its assembly.

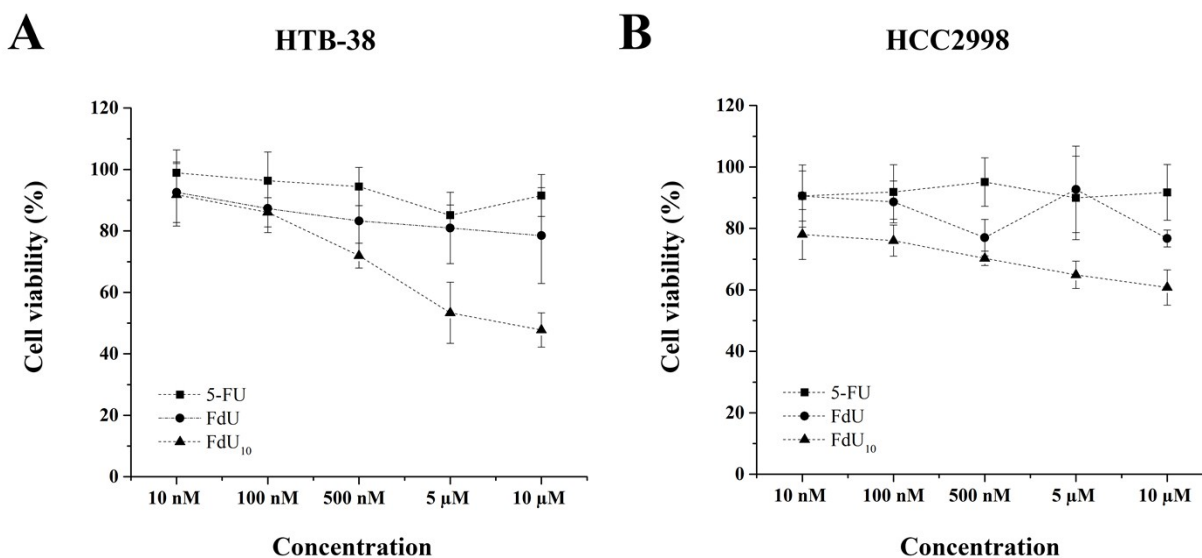


Figure S6. 5-fluoro-uracil (5-FU), 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (FdU) and polymeric 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (FdU₁₀) cytotoxic activity measured through MTT assay in, **A**, HTB-38 and **B**, HCC2998 cells. The values obtained for 5-FU, FdU and FdU₁₀ are shown as fill squares, circles and triangles, respectively. All the data are normalized to DMSO and PBS both used as control for drugs and polymeric form, respectively. The concentration assayed ranges from 10 nanomolar (nM) to 10 micromolar (μM). Data represent the mean values and standard deviation measured in duplicate for three independent experiments.

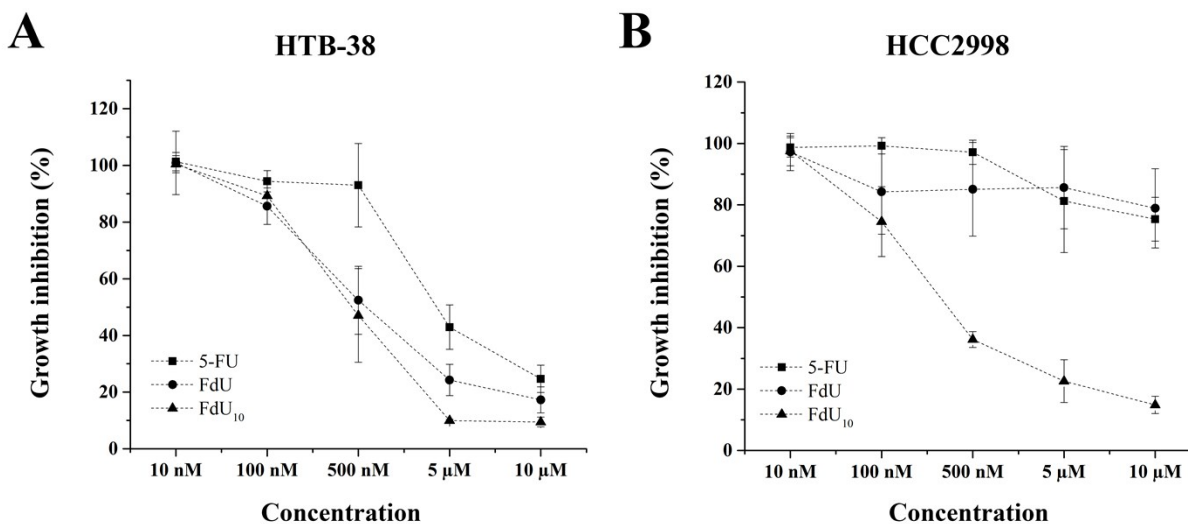


Figure S7. Growth inhibition assays. 5-fluoro-uracil (5-FU), 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (FdU) and polymeric 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (FdU₁₀) were assayed in two different types of colorectal cancer cell **A**, HTB-38 and **B**, HCC2998. The values obtained for 5-FU, FdU and FdU₁₀ are shown as fill square, circles and triangles, respectively. All the data are normalized to DMSO and PBS both used as control for drugs and polymeric form, respectively. The concentration assayed range from 10 nanomolar (nM) to 10 micromolar (μM). Data represent the mean values and standard deviation measured in duplicate for three independent experiments.

References

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2. M. J. Damha, P. A. Giannaris and S. V. Zabarylo, *Nucleic Acids Res*, 1990, **18**, 3813-3821.