## d(TG<sub>n</sub>T) DNA sequences do not necessarily form tetramolecular G-quadruplexes

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Electronic Supporting Information.



Figure S1: Complete set of CD spectra.



**Figure S2:** Complete set of ESI-MS spectra in 10 mM  $NH_4OAc$ . Note that spectra from n=9 to n=20 contain zooms (signal magnified 4 times) in the multimer region. The monomeric species is the most abundant. The spectra were smoothed (mean function, 2\*20 channels) and background-subtracted for clarity.



**Figure S3:** Complete set of ESI-MS spectra in 150 mM NH4OAc. The spectra were smoothed (mean function, 2\*20 channels) and background-subtracted for clarity.

**Table S1:** For sequences of different G-tract length (*n*), summary of the number of strands (*s*) detected in the assemblies, number of ammonium ions (*x*) retained in each species observed by ESI-MS, deduction of the number of G-quartets (x+1), the number of guanines involved in G-quartets ( $4^*(x+1)$ ), and the number of guanines not participating to G-quartets ( $s^*n - 4^*(x+1)$ ). The number of strands of the species with the largest mass spectral peak areas is underlined.

	150 mM NH <sub>4</sub> OAc					10 mM NH <sub>4</sub> OAc				
n	S	x	Quartets (x+1)	G in quartet: $4*(x+1)$	G out of quartet: $s*n-4*(x+1)$	S	x	Quartets (x+1)	G in quartet: $4*(x+1)$	G out of quartet: $s*n-4*(x+1)$
5	<u>4</u>	4	5	20	0	<u>4</u>	4	5	20	0
6	<u>4</u>	5	6	24	0	<u>4</u>	5	6	24	0
7	<u>4</u>	6	7	28	0	<u>4</u>	5-6	6-7	24-28	4-0
8	4	5-6	6-7	24-28	8-4	4	6-7	7-8	28-32	4-0
	3	4	5	20	4	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
9	<u>4</u>	7-8	8-9	32-36	4-0	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
	<u>3</u>	4	5	20	7	3	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
						4	7-8	8-9	32-36	4-0
10	4	8	9	36	4	1	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
	<u>3</u>	5	6	24	6	2	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
						3	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
						4	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
11	4	9-10	10-11	40-44	4-0	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
	<u>3</u>	6	7	28	13	2	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
						3	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
12	<u>3</u>	7	8	32	4	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
	2	4	5	20	4	2	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
						3	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
13	3	8	9	36	3	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
	2	4	5	20	6	2	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
14	<u>2</u>	5	6	24	4	<u>1</u>	0 <sup>(a)</sup>			
15	2	5	6	24	6	<u>1</u>	2	3	12	3
16	2	5	6	24	8	1	2	3	12	4
17	2	5	6	24	12	1	2	3	12	5
18	<u>2</u>	6	7	28	8	1	2	3	12	6
19	2	7	8	32	6	1	2	3	12	7
20	2	7	8	32	8	1	2	3	12	8

<sup>(a)</sup> Only a broad distribution of sodium adducts was detected (for a typical spectrum, see inset of Figure 2, n=14, in the main text). As this distribution is statistical and starts with zero adducts, we estimate that there is not a <u>specific</u> number of G-quartets formed in these structures.