#### **Supplementary Information**

# Parallel-stranded DNA: Enhancing duplex stability by the 'G-clamp' and a pyrrolo-dC derivative

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<sup>1</sup> U <sup>13</sup> C coupling constants	J [Hz]			
H- C coupling constants	6	13	15	
${}^{1}J(C4, H-C4)$	187.4	-	182.6	
<sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> (C4a, H-C4)	3.6	-	-	
<sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> (C7a, H-C4)	7.1	-	7.5	
$^{1}J(C5, H-C5)$	185.4	-	178.8	
$^{2}$ <i>J</i> (C4a, H-C5)	3.6	-	-	
<sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> (C7a, H-C5)	7.1	-	7.5	
$^{2}$ <i>J</i> (C6, H-C5)	5.0	-	9.8	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C1', H-C1')	173.5	-	174.6	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C3', H-C3')	147.3	-	148.1	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C4', H-C4')	146.3	-	146.3	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C5', H-C5')	139.4	-	141.3	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C1'', H-C1'')	-	142.1	142.1	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C2'', H-C2'')	-	129.8	130.1	
<sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> (C3", H-C3")	-	139.1	139.3	

Table S1. <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C-coupling constants of compounds 6, 13 and 15.<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Measured in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K. <sup>b</sup> Systematic numbering.

	Sequence	Mol. Wt. (calc.)	Mol. Wt. (found)
ODN-28	5'-d(TCTC <b>3</b> CTCTC)-3'	3038	3038 <sup>a</sup>
ODN-29	5'-d(TCTC4CTCTC)-3'	3037	3037 <sup>a</sup>
ODN-33	5'-d(TT1 TTT TTT TAT TAA AAT TTA T1A A)-3'	7665	7664 <sup>b</sup>
ODN- <b>34</b>	5'-d(AA <b>3</b> AAA AAA ATA ATT TTA AAT A <b>3</b> T T)-3'	7945	7948 <sup>c</sup>
ODN-35	5'-d(AA4 AAA AAA ATA ATT TTA AAT A4T T)-3'	7944	7944 <sup>c</sup>

#### Table S2. Molecular masses of oligonucleotides determined by mass spectrometry.

<sup>a</sup> Measured by LC-ESI-TOF mass spectrometry. <sup>b</sup> Measured by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry in the linear negative mode. <sup>c</sup> Measured by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry in the linear positive mode.



Figure S1. LC-ESI-MS chromatogram of ODN-28.



Figure S2. LC-ESI-MS chromatogram of ODN-29.



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Figure S3. Maldi-TOF mass spectrum of ODN-33.





Figure S4. Maldi-TOF mass spectrum of ODN-34.



Figure S5. Maldi-TOF mass spectrum of ODN-35.

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**Figure S6**. Melting curves of parallel stranded duplexes obtained from cooling (black square) and heating (red circle) experiments monitored at 260 nm and measured in 0.1 M NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM Na-cacodylate (pH 7.0) with 5  $\mu$ M + 5  $\mu$ M single-strand concentration. (a) Duplex **27-30**; (b) duplex **28-30**; (c) duplex **29-30** and (d) duplex **28-31**.





**Figure S7**. Melting curves of parallel stranded duplexes obtained from cooling (black square) and heating (red circle) experiments monitored at 260 nm and measured in 0.1 M NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM Na-cacodylate (pH 7.0) with 5  $\mu$ M + 5  $\mu$ M single-strand concentration. (a) Duplex **24-26**; (b) duplex **32-33**; (c) duplex **34-33**; (d) duplex **35-33**; (e) duplex **32-36**; (f) duplex **34-36** and (g) duplex **35-36**.



**Figure S8.** Melting curves of antiparallel stranded duplexes obtained from cooling (black square) and heating (red circle) experiments monitored at 260 nm and measured in 0.1 M NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM Na-cacodylate (pH 7.0) with 5  $\mu$ M + 5  $\mu$ M single-strand concentration. (a) Duplex **24-25**; (b) duplex **32-37**; (c) duplex **34-37** and (d) duplex **35-37**.



**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 3-(2-deoxy- $\beta$ -D-*erythro*-pentofuranosyl)-6-ethynyl-furo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3*H*)-one (6).



**Figure S10.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of  $3-(2-\text{deoxy}-\beta-D-\text{erythro-pentofuranosyl})-6-\text{ethynyl-furo}[2,3-d]$ pyrimidin-2(3*H*)-one (6).



**Figure S11.** DEPT-135 spectrum of 3-(2-deoxy-β-D-*erythro*-pentofuranosyl)-6-ethynyl-furo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3*H*)-one (**6**).



**Figure S12.** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C-gated decoupled spectrum of 3-(2-deoxy- $\beta$ -D-*erythro*-pentofuranosyl)-6-ethynyl-furo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3*H*)-one (6).



**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-(4-ethynyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)propyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (**13**).



Figure S14. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-(4-ethynyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)propyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (13).



Figure S15. DEPT-135 spectrum of *N*-(3-(4-ethynyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)propyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (13).



Figure S16.  $^{1}$ H- $^{13}$ C-gated decoupled spectrum of *N*-(3-(4-ethynyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)propyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (13).



Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of trifluoroacetamide protected pyrrolo-dC analogue with DMT (15).



**Figure S18.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of trifluoroacetamide protected pyrrolo-dC analogue with DMT (15).



Figure S19. DEPT-135 spectrum of trifluoroacetamide protected pyrrolo-dC analogue with DMT (15).



**Figure S20.** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C-gated decoupled spectrum of trifluoroacetamide protected pyrrolo-dC analogue with DMT (**15**).



Figure S21. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of phosphoramidite 5.



**Figure S22.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of the DMT-protected G-clamp.



**Figure S23.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of the DMT-protected G-clamp.



Figure S24. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of phosphoramidite 16.



Figure S25. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of phosphoramidite 16.



Figure S26. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of phosphoramidite 16.