

**Excited State Proton Transfer of Natural Flavonoids And Their Chromophores In Duplex
And Tetraplex DNA**

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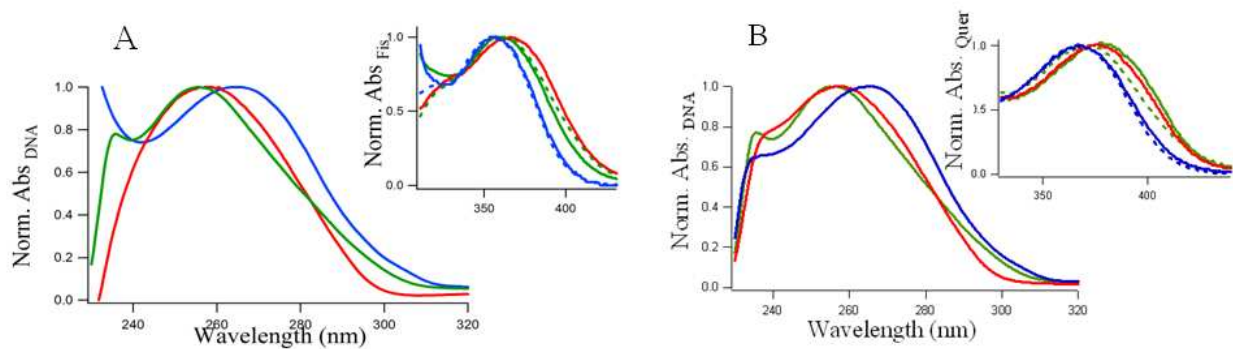


Figure S1. Normalized absorbance of fisetin (A) and quercetin (B) bound single stranded 5'-d(C₃T₂A)₃C₃ (blue) in pH 6, 5'-d(T₂AG₃)₄ (green) in pH 7 and double stranded DNA (red) in pH 7 buffers made up of 10 mM citrate. The inset shows the absorbance of fisetin (A) and quercetin (B) conjugated in the above mentioned DNAs. The blue and green dashed lines display the absorbance of fisetin (A) and quercetin (B) in pH 6 and 7 buffers respectively. The λ_{abs}^{max} of fisetin is ~ 360, 361 and 366 nm and quercetin is ~ 368, 380 and 376 nm in 5'-d(C₃T₂A)₃C₃, 5'-d(T₂AG₃)₄, and the duplex DNA respectively.

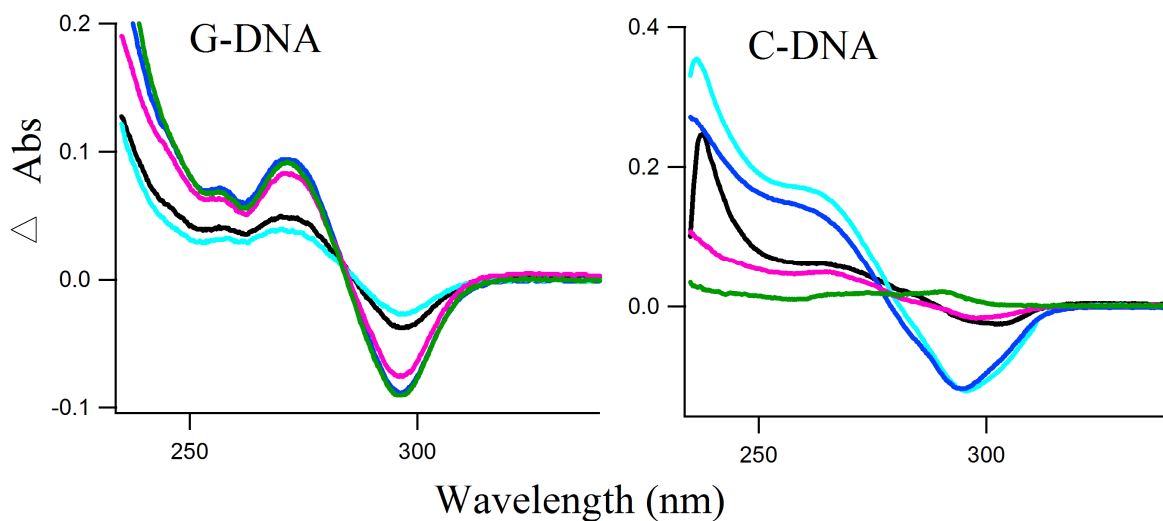


Figure S2. Differential absorption spectra of $d(T_2AG_3)_4$ (left) and $d(C_3T_2A)_3C_3$ (right) in different pHs. Lines black, cyan, blue, purple, green represent pH 5, 5.5, 6, 6.5 and 7 respectively.

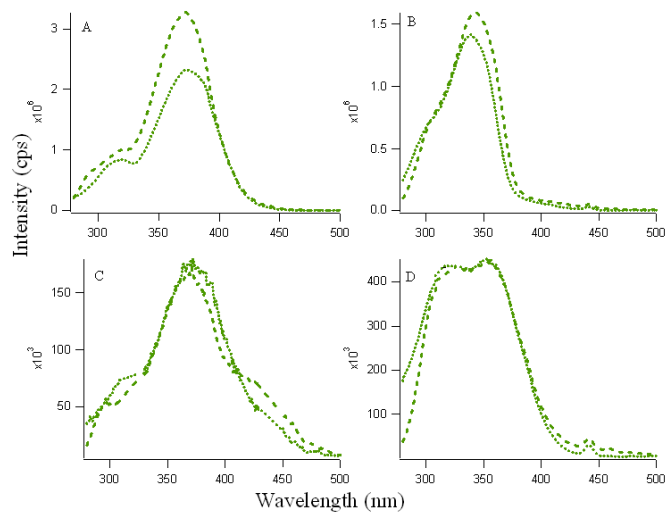


Figure S3. Fluorescence excitation (at $\lambda_{em}=530$ nm) for fisetin (A), 3-hydroxyflavone (B), quercetin (C) and 7-hydroxyflavone (7HF) in 0 (.....) and 20 μ M G_4 DNA (- - - -) at 25⁰ C, [Fisetin] = 1.0 x 10⁻⁵ M.

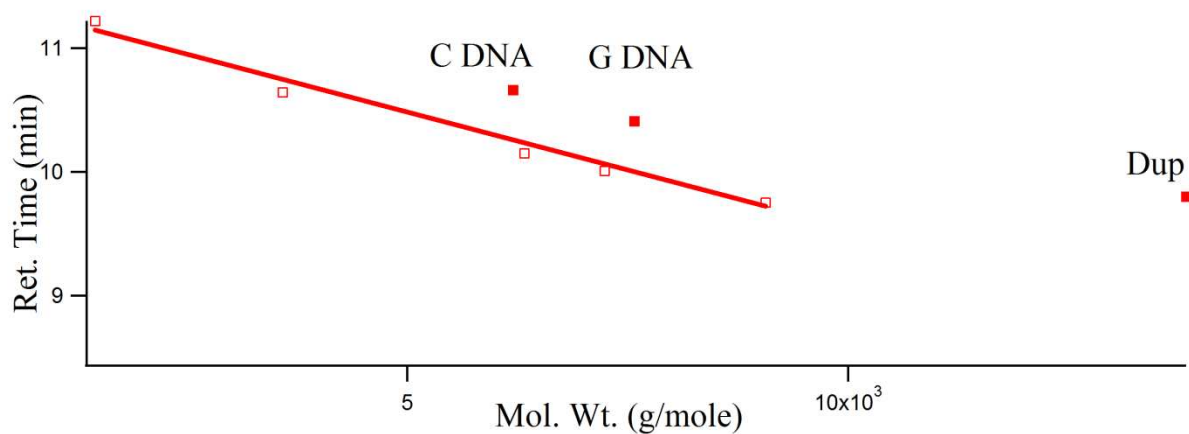


Figure S4. The calibration curve of the size standards (T_5 , T_{12} , T_{21} , T_{24} , T_{30}) to relate the retention times on the column to the molecular masses. The mobile phase is 10 mM citrate buffer, at pH 7 with 100 mM NaClO_4 . The retention times of $d(\text{C}_3\text{T}_2\text{A})_3\text{C}_3$ (C DNA), $d(\text{T}_2\text{AG}_3)_4$ (G DNA) and duplex (Dup) are indicated in the plot with the red solid squares, which is out of the linear fit in the calibration plot, displaying and indicating the folded nature of the single stranded C, G rich oligonucleotides along with their duplex form.

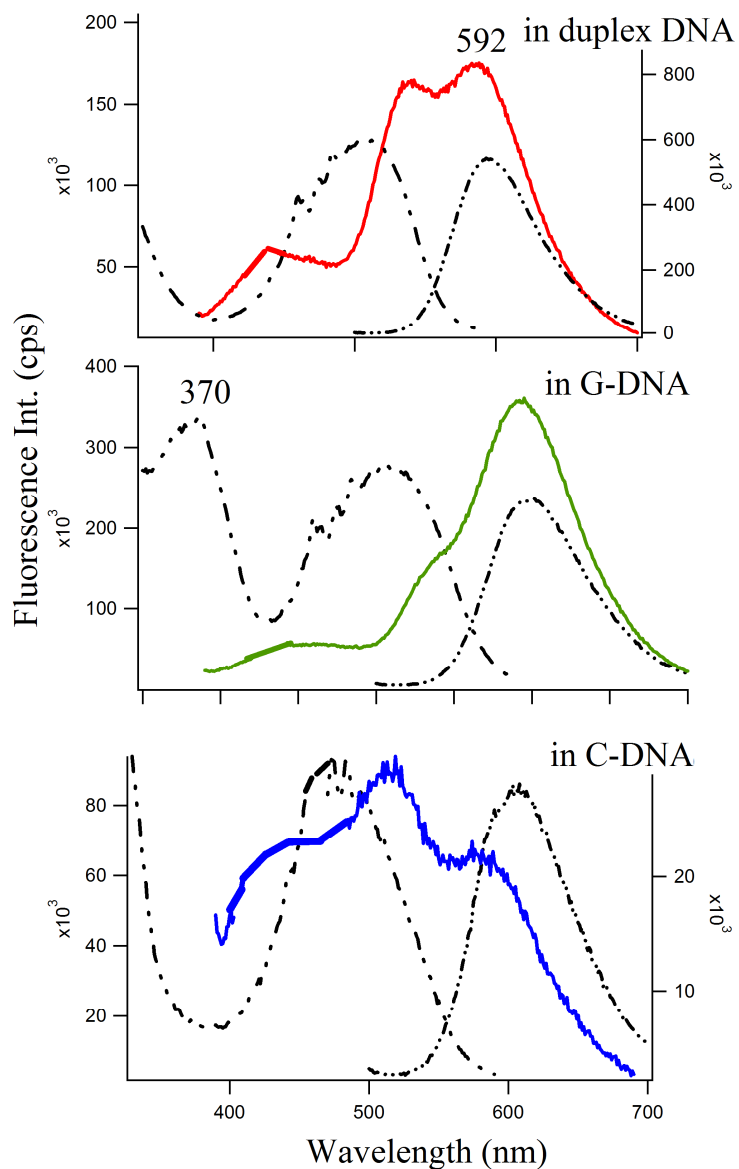


Figure S5. Fluorescence emission (solid line) of 5 μM quercetin ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 370 \text{ nm}$) in 10 μM DNA (C₄ (blue), G₄ (green) and duplex (red)) in presence of EtBr. The black profiles correspond to emission of 5 μM EtBr ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 480 \text{ nm}$) in 10 μM DNA (-.- in the presence of 5 μM quercetin).

The figure also shows the excitation spectra of EtBr ($\lambda_{\text{em}} = 610 \text{ nm}$) in DNA with quercetin (black —. .—).