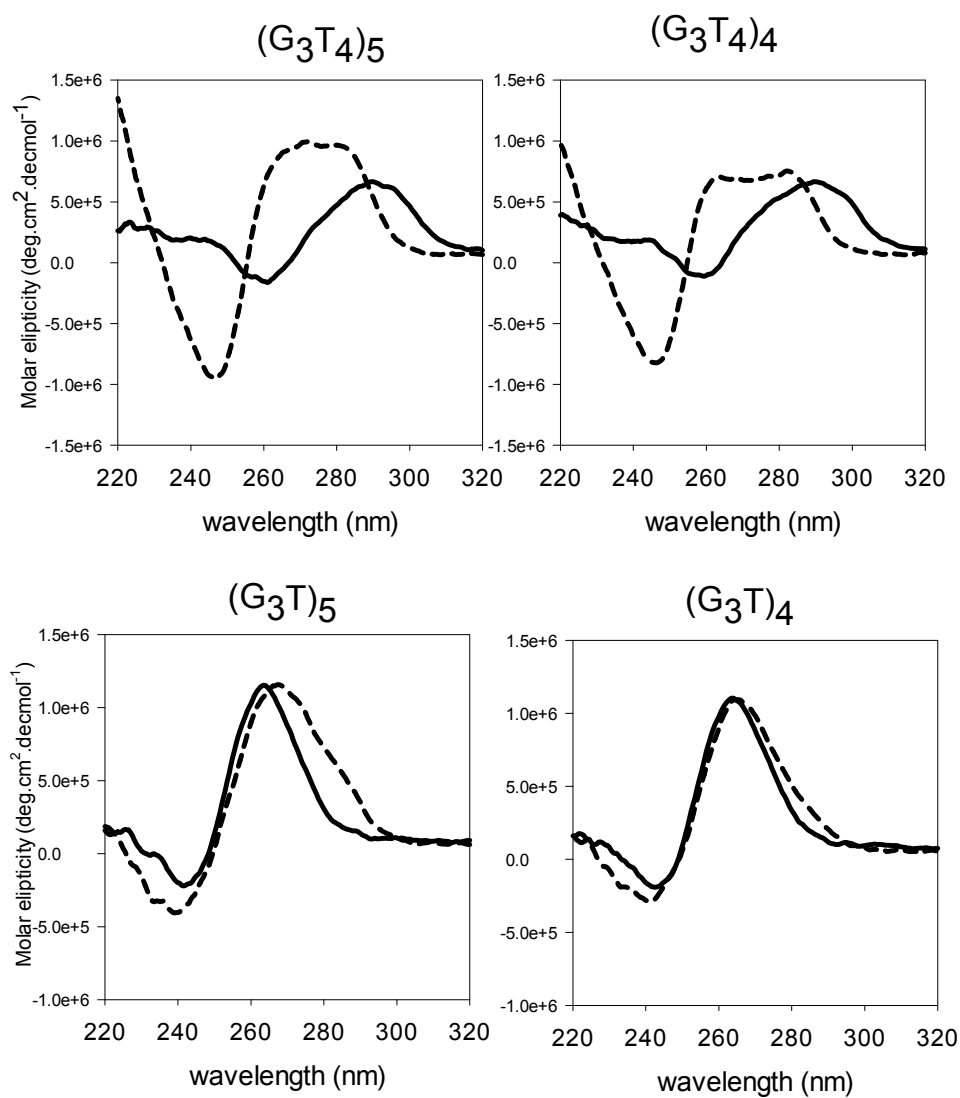


## **The effects of DNA supercoiling on G-quadruplex formation**

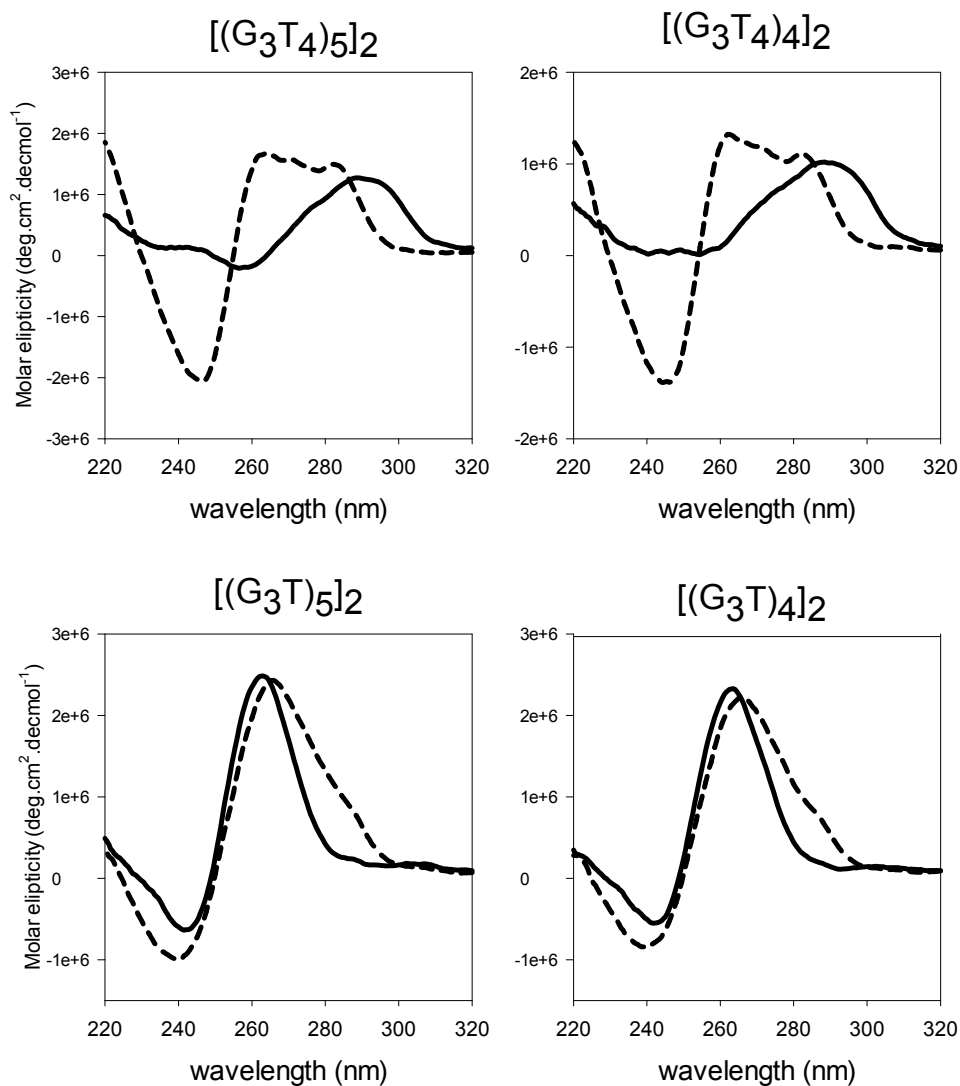
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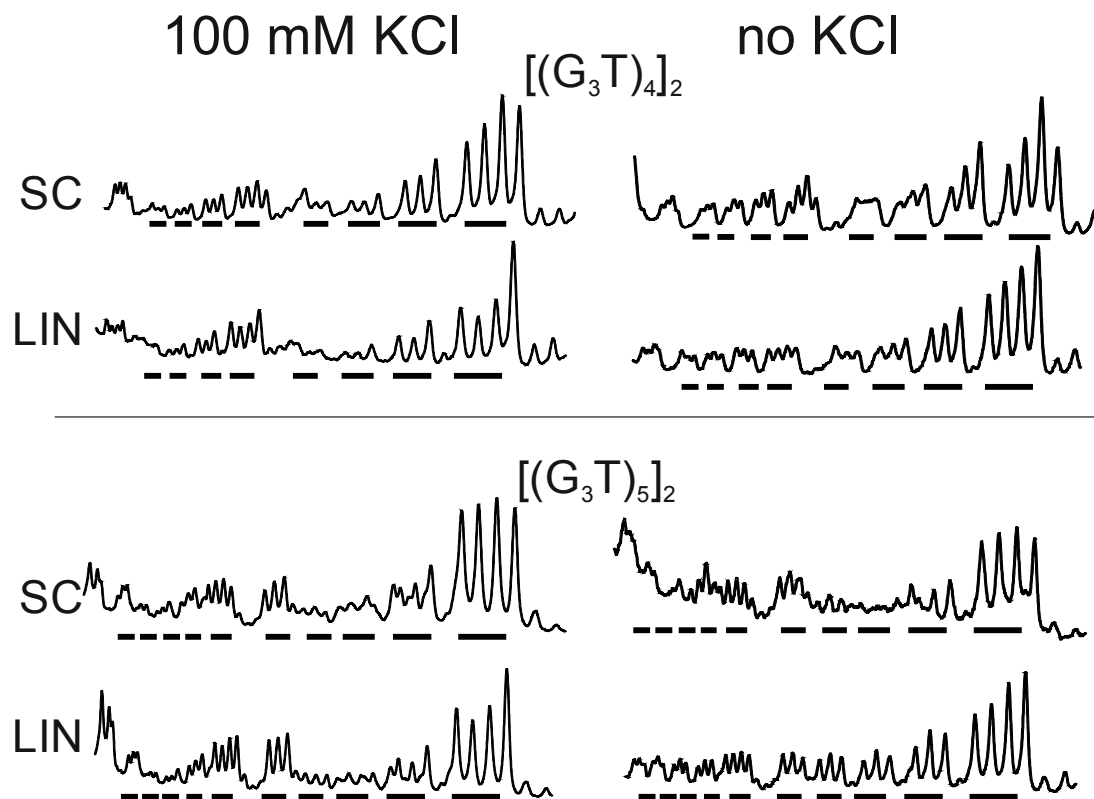
## **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**



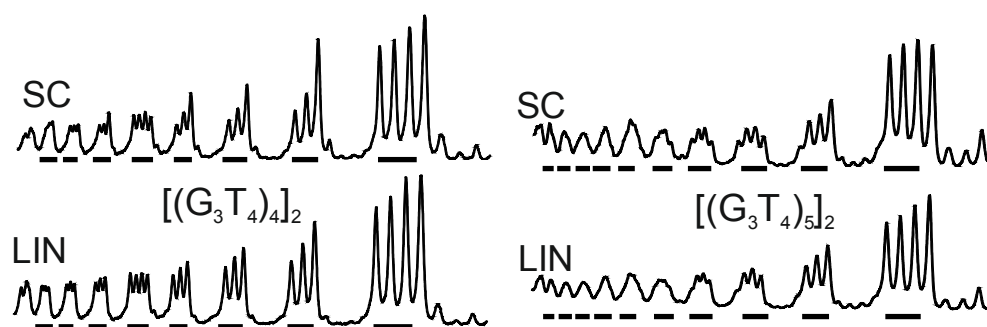
**Figure S1.** CD spectra of the quadruplex-forming oligonucleotides containing (G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, (G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>5</sub>, (G<sub>3</sub>T)<sub>4</sub> and (G<sub>3</sub>T)<sub>5</sub> in the absence (solid line) and presence (dashed line) of the complementary C-rich strands. In each case the oligonucleotide concentration was (5 μM), dissolved in 10 mM Tris-HCl pH7.4 containing 150 mM KCl.



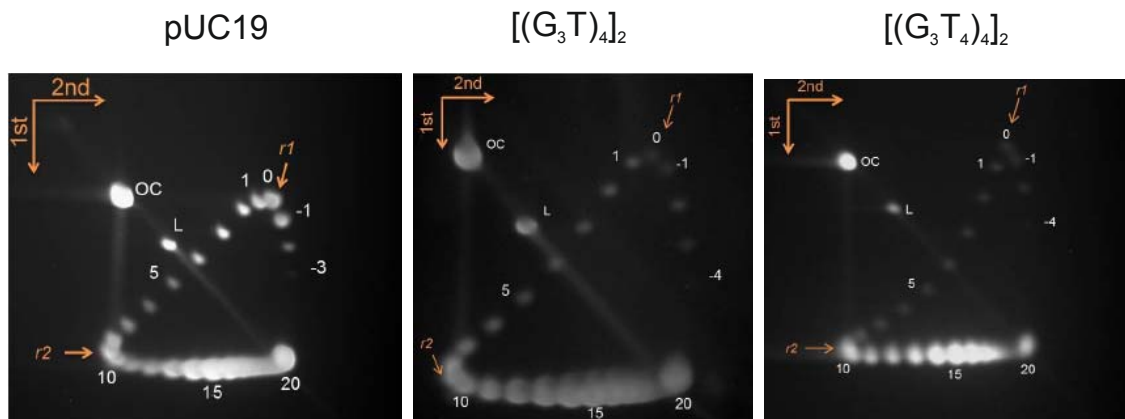
**Figure S2.** CD spectra of the quadruplex-forming oligonucleotides containing dimers of  $(G_3T_4)_4$ ,  $(G_3T_4)_5$ ,  $(G_3T)_4$  and  $(G_3T)_5$  in the absence (solid line) and presence (dashed line) of the complementary C-rich strands. In each case the oligonucleotide concentration was ( $5 \mu\text{M}$ ), dissolved in 10 mM Tris-HCl pH7.4 containing 150 mM KCl.



**Figure S3.** Densitometric scans of the reaction of dimethylsulphate with the dimeric plasmid inserts of  $(G_3T)_4$  and  $(G_3T)_5$  in the presence (left) and absence (right) of 100 mM KCl. The sequence runs from 5'-3'- left to right and the locations of the  $G_3$  tracts are indicated by the filled bars. SC, supercoiled DNA; LIN linear DNA.

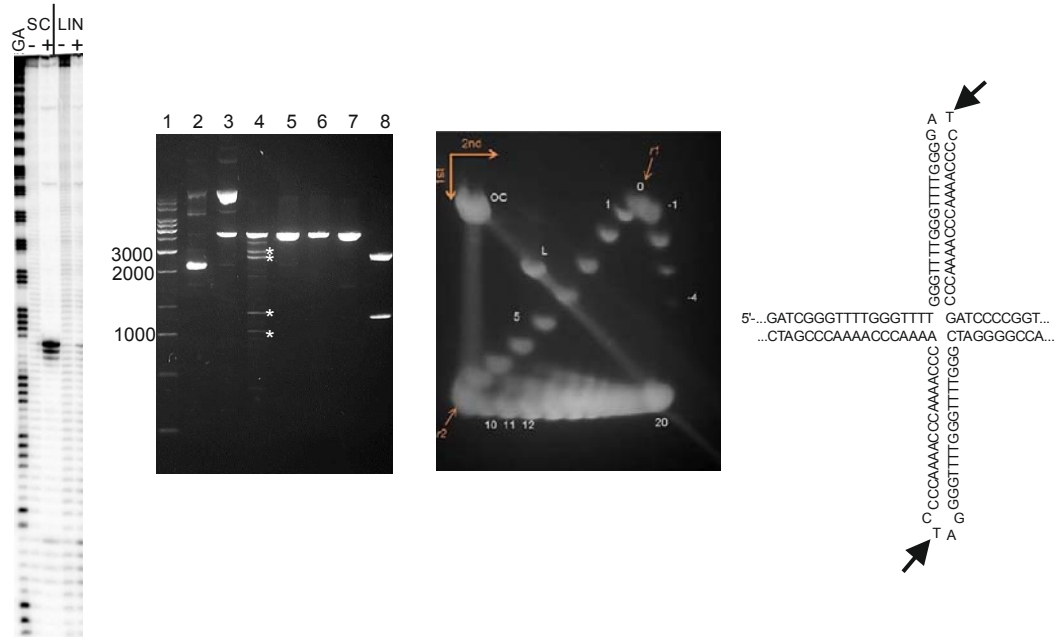


**Figure S4.** Densitometric scans of the reaction of dimethylsulphate with the dimeric plasmid inserts of  $(G_3T_4)_4$  and  $(G_3T_4)_5$  in the presence of 100 mM KCl. The sequence runs from 5'-3'- left to right and the locations of the  $G_3$  tracts are indicated by the filled bars. SC, supercoiled DNA; LIN linear DNA.



**Figure S5.** Two-dimensional electrophoresis of mixtures of topoisomers of plasmid pUC19 and the clones containing dimeric inserts of  $(G_3T)_4$  and  $(G_3T_4)_4$ . 1% agarose gels were run in 1xTBE buffer supplemented with 1 mM KCl. After running in the first dimension, the gel was placed in a dark container and soaked in TBE supplemented with 2  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  chloroquine for about 7 hours. Electrophoresis in the second dimension was performed in 1xTBE supplemented with 2  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  chloroquine. The spot towards the top left corner corresponds to open circular DNA (OC), while the weaker spot diagonally below this corresponds to linear DNA (L).

..GATC(G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>G<sub>3</sub>GATC(G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>G<sub>3</sub>GATC(G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>G<sub>3</sub>GATCC<sub>3</sub>A<sub>4</sub>C<sub>3</sub>A<sub>4</sub>C<sub>3</sub>GATC..



**Figure S6.** Properties of the plasmid containing three imperfect repeats of (G<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, including an inverted C<sub>3</sub>A<sub>4</sub> repeat. First panel: reaction with potassium permanganate. - and + indicate reaction with permanganate. Second panel: S1 mapping: Lane 1, DNA marker ladder; lane 2, native supercoiled DNA; lane 3, cleavage with S1 nuclease; lane 4, digestion with S1 nuclease followed by ScaI; lane 5 digestion with ScaI; lane 6, digestion with ScaI followed by S1 nuclease; lane 7, digestion with EcoRI; lane 8, digestion with EcoRI and ScaI. The products of S1 nuclease followed by ScaI digestion are indicated by the asterisks. Third panel: Two-dimensional electrophoresis of mixtures of plasmid topoisomers. The 1% agarose gel was run in 1xTBE buffer supplemented with 1 mM KCl. After running in the first dimension, the gel was placed in a dark container and soaked in TBE supplemented with 2 µg/ml chloroquine for about 7 hours. Electrophoresis in the second dimension was performed in 1xTBE supplemented with 2 µg/ml chloroquine. Fourth panel: Schematic showing the possible cruciform structure formed by the inverted repeat sequence in this plasmid. The arrows indicate the Ts that are hyperreactive to permanganate