Supplementary Information

Random formation of G-quadruplexes in human telomere overhangs leads to a kinetic folding pattern with targetable vacant G-tracts

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1. Oligonucleotides Sequences

Name		Sequence			
4G		5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG)n=4TTA			
		GCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3'			
8G		5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG)n=8TTA			
		GCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3'			
	6G1	5' - CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG) n=5 TTAGG -3'			
12G	6G2	5'- G(TTAGGG) n=6 TTA GCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3'			
	12G1	5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG)n=11TTAGG-3'			
16G	4Gfor16G	5'- G(TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTAGCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3'			
	12G1	5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG)n=11TTAGG-3'			
24G	12G2	5'- G(TTAGGG)n=12TTACCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3			
	12G1	5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG)n=11TTAGG-3'			
48G	12G2	5′- GG(TTAGGG) _{n=12} T -3′			
	12G3	5'- TAGGG(TTAGGG) _{n=10} TTAG-3'			
12G4		5'- GG(TTAGGG)n=12TTACCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC-3			
Splint		5'- TAACCCTAACCCTAACCC-3'			
Splint remover		5'- GGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA-3'			
86	4GNC1	5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTA(T) _{n=6}			
Spac	ed 4GNC2	5'- (T) _{n=15} (TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTAGCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC			
120	8GNC1	5'- CTAGACGGTGTGAAATACCGCACAGATGCG (TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTA(T) _{n=21}			
Snac	ed	(TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTA (T) _{n=6}			
Jpac	4GNC2	5'- (T) _{n=15} (TTAGGG) _{n=4} TTAGCCAGCAAGACGTAGCCCAGCGCGTC			
NC Splint- Spaced		5'- GCTACGAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA			
NC Splint Remover-		5'- GGGTTATTTTTTTTTTTTTTCGTAGC			
Spaced					
Chimera 1.0 DNA		/5'Hexynyl/TTTAACCCTAA			
Chimera 2.0 DNA		/5'Hexynyl/TTTAACCCTAACCCTAA			

Table S1: Oligonucleotides used in the experiment. The telomere sequences are shown in bold. The shorter telomere sequences used to prepare the longer DNA are categorized under the final sequence name.

2. Synthesis of the 48 G-tracts Construct

Synthesis of the 48G construct was started with the four longest commercially available oligonucleotides (12G1, 12G2, 12G3 and 12G4) each containing 12G-tracts (Figure S1). The 12G1 and 12G4 have additional non-G-tract sequences in the 5' and 3' ends, respectively, for the ligation with the 2028 bp and the 2690 bp handles in the later steps. The 12G1 and 12G2 were phosphorylated and ligated using dynamic splint ligation (1) with a 12G1:12G2:splint DNA ratio of 1:1:6. Similarly, the 12G3 and 12G4 DNA were also phosphorylated and ligated. The reacted species yielded two fragments that contained 24 G-tracts. They were named as 24G1 (ligation of the 12G1 and 12G2 DNA) and 24G2 (ligation of the 12G3 and 12G4 DNA), respectively (Figure S1A). They were purified by an 8% native PAGE gel after removing the splint DNA using a 1:10 ratio of split: splint-removal-DNA (Table S1). These 24G DNA fragments were ligated to the biotinylated 2028 bp and the digoxigenin labelled 2690 bp handles, respectively. The reaction was confirmed through gel shift assays on a 0.8% agarose gel (Figure S1C). The same gel was used to purify the DNA handles ligated with the sequence of interest (24G1 and 24G2). These purified DNA fragments were ligated using dynamic splint ligation with a 24G1:24G2:Splint ratio of 1:1:12. The splint used for the ligation was subsequently removed using a splint:splintremoval-DNA ratio of 1:100. The resulting construct contains 48 G-tracts that can form a maximum of 12 G-quadruplexes in the presence of K⁺ ions. The successful synthesis of the 48G construct was confirmed through the gel shift assay (Figure S1C, lane 6).



Figure S1: Synthesis of the 48G construct for single-molecule analysis. (A) Flowchart elaborating the synthesis of the 48G fragment from four commercially available sequences 12G1, 12G2, 12G3, and 12G4. (B) Sequences of the 12G1, 12G2, 12G3, and 12G4. (C) Agarose gel picture confirms the successful synthesis of the 48G construct. Lane 1 depicts the 2-Log DNA Ladder (NEB, 0.1-10.0 kb), lanes 2-5 represent different intermediates leading to the final construct ("2028-48G-2690" in lane 6). The faster migration band in lane 6 represents

unreacted 2028-24G1 conjugated (see band 3). This compound will not be tethered between the two optically trapped beads. Therefore, it will not influence the single-molecular results.



3. Identification of Structures in Telomere Overhang

Species	d (nm)	∆ L (nm)	L _c (nm)	# nts :experimental	# nts :expected
GH	2.3	2.2	4.5	10	9
GT	1.5	5.4	6.9	15	15
GQ	1.1	8.6	9.7	21	21
MF	1.1	11.3	12.4	27	27
НО	2 x 1.1	17.6	19.8	44	45

Figure S2: (A) Schematic Force-Extension (F-X) experiment depicting the unfolding event and the change in extension. The change-in-extension (Δx) observed during the unfolding of structures is used to retrieve change-in-contour-length (ΔL) using a worm-like-chain model (Materials and Methods, Equation 1), which leads to the estimation of the contour length ($L_c = \Delta L$ + d, where d is the end-to-end distance of a folded structure along the pulling direction). The L_c is directly proportional to the number of nucleotides in the structure. (B) Table showing reported values of end-to-end distance (d) (2, 3), calculated ΔL and L_c of folded species, experimentally determined nucleotides involved in the structure, and expected number of nucleotides for different species. Since G-Hairpin (GH), Misfolded G-quadruplex (MF), and Higher-Order structures (HO) have no reported d value, approximations were made. In G-hairpin, d value is determined from the distance between phosphorus atom of the dG^4 and that of the T^{13} backbone from NMR structure of the hybrid-1 G-quadruplex (PDB ID: 2HY9) (3). Misfolded structures are considered as G-quadruplex formed from non-adjacent G-tracts (4, 5), hence the d value is assumed to be similar to that of the hybrid-1 G-quadruplex. The slight change observed in the experimentally calculated number of nucleotides might be originated from the misfolded structures adopting conformations different from the hybrid-1 conformation. Higher-order structures are considered as two stacked G-quadruplexes (6). Therefore, d is about twice the end-to-end distance of the hybrid-1 G-quadruplex.

4. *AL* and Unfolding Force Histograms of Secondary Structures Formed in the 4G to 48G Telomere Constructs



Figure S3: Characterization of the unfolding events in telomere sequences (4G-48G) in a 10 mM Tris buffer supplemented with 100 mM K^+ at pH 7.4. (A) ΔL histograms of the telomere sequences. Folded species are resolved using multi-peak Gaussian fitting and identified by the length of the folded nucleotides in each structure. See Figure S2 for detailed calculation. (B) Unfolding force histograms of the structures. Curves represent Gaussian fittings.

	GH(%)	GT(%)	GQ(%)	MF(%)	HO(%)
4G	0	15	85	0	0
8G	0	17	83	0	0
12G	0	14	86	0	0
16G	0	14	85	1	0
24G	0	11	82	2	4
48G	2	10	79	7	2

5. Percentage of all species observed in the 4G to 48G constructs

Table S2: Percentage of all species observed in the 4G to 48G constructs in a 10 mM Tris buffer supplemented with 100 mM K^+ at pH 7.4. GH: G-hairpin; GT: G-triplex; GQ: G-quadruplex; MF: Misfolded Structure (long-loop GQ for example); HO: High-order GQ or simultaneously unfolded GQs.

6. Thermodynamic and Kinetic Folding Patterns of the G-quadruplexes in an 8 G-tract Construct



Figure S4: Thermodynamic and kinetic folding patterns of the G-quadruplexes in the 8G construct. In the thermodynamic folding, two G-quadruplexes are formed, which is the most energetically favored product. In the kinetic folding model, G-quadruplex folds at random locations. As a result, there are three different arrangements in which only one G-quadruplex can form. By contrast, only one arrangement can lead to the most energetically favored product (see the two G-quadruplexes on top).

Number of G-Quadruplexes	Telomere Sequence & discrete folding possibilities					
Formed	8G	12G	16G	24G	48G	
1 GQ	5	9	13	21	45	
2 GQ	1	15	45	153	861	
3 GQ		1	35	455	9139	
4 GQ			1	495	58905	
5 GQ				126	237336	
6 GQ				1	593775	
7 GQ					888030	
8 GQ					735471	
9 GQ					293930	
10 GQ					44913	
11 GQ					1365	
12 GQ					1	
Overall Possibility	6	25	94	1251	2863771	

7. All Different Possibilities of G-Quadruplex Formation in the 4G to 48G Telomere Constructs Obtained from Statistical Calculation Using the Matlab Code

Table S3: All different possibilities of G-quadruplex formation in the 8G-48G telomere constructs.

8. Algorithm Flowchart for Telomere G-quadruplex and Intermediates Folding Simulation

To evaluate the hypothesis that secondary structures fold randomly in the telomere, we wrote an Igor Pro program (WaveMetrics, Portland, OR) to simulate the folding pattern and calculate the percentage of folded features (See Figure S5 for the algorithm flowchart). First, the number of maximally possible structural formation was determined based on the length of an input template sequence. A loop was then initiated to identify a random location in the template where a structure was randomly selected to form from an ensemble of folded species experimentally observed (Figure S3 and Table S2). The process continued until consecutive G-tracts were no longer available for a particular structure. The total number of folded structures in the template was then recorded. The whole process was iterated to generate a statistical average of features formed per template. The pattern for number of features formed and the average features obtained (calculated using Equation 2) from the simulation were compared to the experimentally observed data. The program was also designed to include spacing between neighboring G-quadruplexes to account for the electrostatic repulsion.



Figure S5: The algorithm flowchart describing the sequence of action for the folding simulation inside a telomere overhang sequence. The input parameters are the sequence length, minimum space between neighboring G-quadruplex units (in the units of G-tracts) to minimize the repulsion between the G-quadruplexes, and the number of folding iterations to be performed (N). The output gives the distribution histogram of the G-quadruplex formed per template for N iterations performed.

9. Folding Patterns Obtained from Kinetic Folding Simulation



Figure S6: Population patterns of folded structures in telomere overhangs obtained from the kinetic folding model without and with various minimum spacing between two G-quadruplexes in the 4G to 48G telomere constructs. See Figure 2D for the RMSD deviation of each simulation from the experimentally observed folding pattern.

10. Dudko-Szabo Fitting for G-quadruplexes in the 12G Construct



Figure S7: Dudko-Szabo fitting to determine the kinetic parameters including the activation distance from the unfolded state to the transition state (x^{\dagger}) and the activation energy (ΔG^{\dagger}) .



11. G-quadruplex Folding Pathways in the 12G Construct

Figure S8: Folding pathways for the G-quadruplex population pattern in the 12G telomere construct. (A) All folding pathways of the G-quadruplexes (diagrams not drawn to scale). Each 4

consecutive G-tracts for the formation of a G-quadruplex are indicated by a horizontal bracket. The folding pathway that yields a maximum of 3 G-quadruplexes is considered as the thermodynamically favored folding (blue). In kinetically favored pathways (red), the folding of *G*-quadruplex occurs at random positions, which leads to kinetically trapped *G*-quadruplexes. A maximum of two G-quadruplexes is folded in all possible kinetic pathways. The apparent reduction in the activation energy for the kinetic folding pathway is calculated from the Boltzmann distribution. From the unfolded state, there are three thermodynamic possibilities leading to the folding of the first G-quadruplex, whereas six possibilities exist in the kinetic folding pathways leading to the G-quadruplexes in the kinetic trap 1 (see diagram in A). Since there are twice as many possibilities to fold into the first G-quadruplex along the kinetic pathway, the apparent activation energy for the first ensemble kinetic folding to the kinetic trap 1 state is reduced by a factor of k_BTln2 (where k_B is the Boltzmann constant and T is absolute temperature). From the first G-quadruplex, two of the three thermodynamically favored foldings can lead to the formation of the second G-quadruplexes (kinetic trap 2) via a second ensemble kinetic folding pathway. The ratio of the kinetic vs thermodynamic pathway is 2:1, which leads to the apparent reduction of activation energy of the 2^{nd} ensemble kinetic pathway by the same factor of k_BTln2 . Notice kinetic trap 1 can lead to either kinetic trap 2 or kinetic trap 3. Due to the complexity, the activation energies for these two pathways are not estimated. Once the 12G construct adopts a particular kinetic folding path, it cannot return to the thermodynamic path without first unfolding the G-quadruplex trapped kinetically. Such an escape is not likely during the experimental time scale given the slow unfolding kinetics of a telomeric G-quadruplex (7). (B) Diagram showing lineage of thermodynamic and kinetic folding probabilities from the unfolded state. Fractions depict probabilities for each state. (C) Diagram depicting the free energy changes of the thermodynamic and the major ensemble kinetic folding pathways.



12. Calculation of Bound Fraction of G-quadruplexes in the 24G Construct in Presence of L2H2-60TD Chimera 2.0

Figure S9: (A) Unfolding force histograms of the 24G construct in presence of L2H2-6OTD Chimera 2.0 with various concentrations. (B) Corresponding histograms of non-unfolded Gquadruplexes.





Figure S10: (*A*) Unfolding force histograms of the 24G construct in the presence of the L2H2-60TD monomer with various concentrations. (*B*) Corresponding histograms of non-unfolded *G*-quadruplexes.



14. Calculation of Bound Fraction of G-quadruplexes in the 48G Construct in Presence of L2H2-60TD Chimera 2.0

Figure S11: (A) Unfolding force histograms of the 48G construct in the presence of the L2H2-6OTD Chimera 2.0 with various concentrations. (B) Corresponding histograms of non-unfolded *G*-quadruplexes.



15. Calculation of Bound Fraction of G-quadruplexes in the 48G Construct in the Presence of the L2H2-60TD

Figure S12: (A) Unfolding force histograms of the 48G construct in the presence of the L2H2-60TD monomer with various concentrations. (B) Corresponding histograms of non-unfolded G-quadruplexes.



16. Calculation of Bound Fraction of the G-quadruplexes in the 24G Construct in the Presence of L2H2-6OTD Chimera 1.0

Figure S13: (A) Unfolding force histograms of the 24G construct in the presence of the L2H2-60TD Chimera 1.0 with various concentrations. (B) Corresponding histograms of non-unfolded *G*-quadruplexes.



17. L2H2-6OTD Azide Synthesis and Characterization

Figure S14: Scheme for the synthesis of L2H2-6OTD Azide.

Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (spherical, particle size 0.040-0.100 mm; Kanto Co., Inc., Japan). Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO P-2200 polarimeter. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM-AL 300, JNM-ECX 400 and JNM-ECA 500. The spectra are referenced internally according to the residual solvent signals of CDCl₃ (¹H NMR; δ = 7.26 ppm, ¹³C NMR; δ = 77.0 ppm), DMSO-*d*₆ (¹H NMR; δ = 2.50 ppm, ¹³C NMR; δ = 39.5 ppm). Data for ¹H NMR are recorded as follows; chemical shift (δ , ppm), multiplicity (s, singlet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad), integration, coupling constant (Hz). Data for ¹³C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift (δ , ppm). Mass spectra were recorded on JEOL JMS-T100LC spectrometer with ESI-MS mode using MeOH as solvent.



Amide S3: To a solution of S1 ^[1] (3.26 g, 7.66 mmol) in THF-H₂O (3:1, 40 mL) was added LiOH·H₂O (643 mg, 15.3 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 3.5 h, the mixture was quenched with 3 N HCl to give a solution carboxylic acid, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude carboxylic acid was added NMM (2.26 mL, 20.4 mmol), DMT-MM (4.51 g, 15.3 mmol) and amine S2 ^[1] (1.44 g, 5.11 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 3.5 h, the reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica gel column (CHCl₃/EtOAc = 4:1) to give amide S3 (2.15 g, 62%, 2 steps); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -18.0$ (*c* 0.71, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 5H), 5.93-5.88 (m, 1H), 5.35-5.20 (m, 2H), 4.88-4.71 (m, 2H), 4.60-4.50 (m, 4H), 4.26-4.20 (m, 2H), 3.51 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.07-1.60 (m, 6H), 1.51-1.22 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.0, 170.2, 162.2, 156.3, 155.8, 154.0, 138.2, 132.6, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.8, 127.7, 118.1, 79.3, 73.0, 72.1, 70.3, 66.1, 61.9, 61.8, 56.2, 49.2, 40.1, 33.7, 29.6, 28.5, 26.4, 22.4, 14.3, 11.8; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₃₄H₅₀N₄O₁₀Na 697.3425, found 697.3436.



Oxazole S4: To a solution of amide S3 (2.15 g, 3.19 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (35 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and was treated with Na₂CO₃ (1.01 g, 9.57 mmol) and DAST (506 μ L, 3.83 mmol) under argon atmosphere. After stirring for 10 min, the mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. To a solution of the crude oxazoline

in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and was treated with DBU (1.43 mL, 9.57 mmol), BrCCl₃ (949 μ L, 9.57 mmol) under argon atmosphere. After stirring for 13 h, the reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl₃. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica gel column (hexane/EtOAc = 2:1) to give oxazole S4 (928 mg, 44%, 2 steps); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -12.0$ (*c* 0.90, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.25 (m, 5H), 5.96-5.85 (m, 1H), 5.49 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 10.3 Hz, 2H), 4.93 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 2.10-1.79 (m, 4H), 1.58-1.21 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 162.1, 159.0, 156.1, 155.8, 150.7, 138.3, 132.5, 130.1, 129.5, 128.3, 127.6, 117.9, 79.2, 73.0, 69.2, 66.0, 61.0, 49.1, 40.0, 33.8, 29.5, 28.4, 28.0, 23.2, 22.4, 14.3, 11.8; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₃₄H₄₆N₄O₉Na 677.3163, found 677.3203.



Oxazole S5: To a solution of oxazole S4 (900 mg, 1.37 mmol) in THF-H₂O (3:1, 20 mL) was added LiOH \cdot H₂O (115 mg, 2.75 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 1.5 h, the mixture was quenched with 3 N HCl to give a solution carboxylic acid, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude carboxylic acid was added NMM (909 µL, 8.22 mmol), DMT-MM (1.62 g, 5.48 mmol) and serine methyl ester (4.26 mg, 2.74 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 1 h, the reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and EtOAc. concentrated in vacuo to give amide, which was used without further purification. To a solution of crude amide in dry CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and was treated with Na₂CO₃ (277 mg, 2.61 mmol) and DAST (181 µL, 1.37 mmol) under argon atmosphere. After stirring for 10 min, the mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed with CHCl₃. The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. To a solution of the crude oxazoline in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and was treated with DBU (1.30 mL, 8.70 mmol), BrCCl₃ (862 µL, 8.70 mmol) under argon atmosphere. After stirring for 16 h, the reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl₃. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column (CHCl₃/EtOAc = 5:1) to give oxazole S5 (300 mg, 34%, 4 steps); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -12.7$ (c 1.10, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.34-7.29 (m, 5H), 5.95-5.88 (m, 1H), 5.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (dd, J = 16.5, 10.5 Hz, 2H), 4.95 (dt, J = 7.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.57 (t, J = 6,4 Hz, 2H), 3.33 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.1 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.17-2.08 (m, 2H), 2.04-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.37 (m, 13H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 161.6, 156.6, 156.0, 155.7, 154.2, 151.4, 150.8, 143.4, 143.3, 138.3, 134.2, 132.5, 128.3, 127.6, 127.5, 125.3, 124.6, 117.9, 79.2, 76.6, 72.9, 69.1, 66.0, 52.2, 49.2, 40.0, 33.9, 33.8, 29.5, 28.4, 27.8, 22.7, 22.4, 11.8; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₃₆H₄₅N₅O₁₀Na 730.3064, found 730.3069.



Bistrioxazole S7: To a solution of oxazole S5 (300 mg, 467 µmol) in THF-H₂O (3:1, 8 mL) was added LiOH·H₂O (39.2 mg, 934 µmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 45 min, the mixture was quenched with 1.2 N HCl to give a solution carboxylic acid, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude carboxylic acid was added NMM (103 µL, 934 µmol), DMT-MM (206 mg, 700 µmol) and amine S6^[2] (323 mg, 700 µmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 18 h, the reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl₃. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column (CHCl₃/EtOAc = 8:1) to give bistrioxazole S7 (464 mg, 87%, 2 steps); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -31.5$ (c 0.32, MeOH); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.31(s, 1H), 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.23 (m, 5H), 5.95-5.86 (m, 1H), 5.48 (m, 2H), 5.27 (dd, J = 16.5, 10.5 Hz, 2H), 4.95 (dt, J = 7.3, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.59-4.50 (m, 4H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.57 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.13-3.06 (m, 4H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.20-1.84 (m, 6H), 1.61-1.41 (m, 26H); 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 161.3, 160.1, 156.1, 156.0, 155.9, 155.4, 154.1, 150.9, 143.9, 141.2, 139.6, 139.3, 138.2, 136.4, 132.5, 130.8, 129.9, 128.4, 127.6, 127.5, 125.3, 124.6, 117.9, 79.2, 73.0, 69.0, 66.0, 52.3, 49.2, 46.8, 40.2, 40.0, 33.9, 33.4, 29.5, 28.4, 28.0, 22.8, 22.4, 11.2; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₅₆H₆₈N₁₀O₁₆Na 1159.4712, found 1159.4725.



Macrocyclic bisamide S8: To a solution of bistrioxazole S7 (414 mg, 364 μ mol) in THF (7 mL) was added morpholine (317 μ l, 3.64 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (126 mg, 109 μ mol) at room temperature under argon atmosphere. After stirring for 19 h, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to give amine, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude amine in THF-H₂O (3:1, 4 ml), was added LiOH·H₂O (18.0 mg, 429 μ mol) at room temperature. After stirring for 2.5 h, the mixture was

quenched with 3 N HCl, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give carboxylic acid, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude carboxylic acid in dry DMF-CH₂Cl₂ (1:2, 72 ml) was added ^{*i*}Pr₂NEt (146 µL, 856 µmol), DMAP (52.3 mg, 428 µmol) and DPPA (461 µL, 2.14 mmol). The resulting mixture was refluxed for 17 h under argon atmosphere. The reaction was quenched with 1.2 N HCl and the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica gel column (CH₃Cl/MeOH = 50:1) to give macrocyclic bisamide **S8** (68.0 mg, 31%, 3 steps); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -7.14$ (*c* 0.84, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.11 (s, 1H), 9.10 (s, 1H) 8.88 (s, 1H), 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.21 (m, 5H), 6.75 (br, 2H), 5.43 (dt, *J* = 7.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 3.51 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.30-3.16 (m, 2H), 2.85-2.75 (m, 4H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 2.07-1.90 (m, 6H), 1.43-1.16 (m, 26H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.5, 162.0, 158.8, 158.6, 155.6, 155.5, 154.5, 154.0, 151.3, 142.4, 141.5, 140.9, 138.4, 135.9, 129.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.2, 124.6, 123.7, 79.1, 77.1, 68.4, 47.3, 47.2, 33.4, 33.3, 29.1, 28.1, 27.3, 22.4, 21.1, 20.9, 11.4; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₅₁H₆₀N₁₀O₁₃Na 1043.4239, found 1043.4219.



Azide S9: To a solution of macrocyclic bisamide S8 (52.9 mg, 51.8 µmol) in MeOH-THF (1:1, 2 mL) was added Pd(OH)₂/C (15.7 mg, 30 wt%), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under hydrogen atmosphere. After 27 h, the mixture was filtrated through a pad of celite and eluted with CH₃Cl-MeOH (9:1). The solution was concentrated in vacuo to give alcohol, which was used without further purification. To a solution of the crude alcohol in CH₂Cl₂ (1 ml) was added TEA (29.1 µL, 207 μmol) and MsCl (8.02 μL, 104 μmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 3 h, the mixture was quenched with H₂O, and the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give Ms protected alcohol, which was used without further purification. To a solution of crude Ms protected alcohol in dry DMF $(500 \ \mu\text{L})$ was added NaN₃ (2.32 mg, 11.9 μmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was warmed to 50 °C under argon atmosphere. After 1.5 h, the mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO4, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column (CH₃Cl/MeOH = 50:1) to give azide S9 (11.5 mg, 23%, 3 steps); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -0.25$ (c 1.57, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ9.12 (s, 1H), 9.02 (s, 1H), 8.91 (s, 1H), 8.89 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 5.38 (dt, J = 7.2, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (dt, J = 7.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.51-3.44 (m, 2H), 3.28-3.15 (m, 2H), 2.85-2.81 (m, 4H), 2.71 (s, 3H), 2.08-1.86 (m, 6H), 1.42-1.23 (m, 26H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_{δ}) δ 164.5, 162.1, 158.8, 158.7, 155.6, 155.5, 155.4, 154.6, 154.5, 153.2, 151.5, 142.5, 142.3, 141.7, 141.0, 136.1, 136.0, 129.8, 128.4, 124.8, 123.7, 79.2, 77.2, 49.8, 47.3, 33.3, 29.1, 28.1, 26.5, 22.7, 21.1, 21.0, 11.5; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₄₄H₅₃N₁₃O₁₂Na 978.3834, found 978.3834.



L2H2-6OTD-azide: To a solution of azide **S9** (6.50 mg, 6.80 µmol) was added CH₂Cl₂-TFA (1:1, 1 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min, concentrated *in vacuo* to give L2H2-6OTD-azide (6.2 mg, quant.); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +67.7$ (*c* 0.62, MeOH); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.14 (s, 1H), 9.12 (s, 1H), 8.93 (s, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, 7.5 Hz, 1H) 7.69 (br, 6H), 5.45 (dt, *J* = 7.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.77-2.72 (m, 7H), 2.11-1.87 (m, 6H), 1.56-1.38 (m, 6H), 1.23-1.17 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.4, 162.0, 158.9, 158.7, 158.0, 157.8, 155.6, 155.4, 154.6, 154.5, 153.3, 151.6, 142.5, 142.4, 141.8, 141.0, 136.0, 135.8, 129.7, 128.5, 124.8, 123.7, 49.8, 47.2, 47.0, 33.4, 26.7, 26.7, 26.4, 22.7, 20.9, 20.9, 11.5; HRMS (ESI, M+Na) calcd for C₃₄H₃₇N₁₃O₈Na 778.2786, found 778.2780.



Figure S15: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound **S3**.



Figure S16: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S3.



Figure S17: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound S4.



Figure S18: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S4.



Figure S19: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound **S5**.



Figure S20: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S5.



Figure S21: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound S7.



Figure S22: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S7.



Figure S23: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound S8.



Figure S24: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S8.



Figure S25: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound S9.



Figure S26: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound S9.



Figure S27: ¹H NMR spectrum for compound L2H2-6OTD-azide.



Figure S28: ¹³C NMR spectrum for compound L2H2-6OTD-azide.

18. Matlab Code for the Statistical Calculation of the Formation Pattern of Telomere Gquadruplexes

```
clear all
lengtht=24;
                        // this equals to number of G-tracts
ng=4;
nouse=mod(lengtht,ng);
n=(lengtht-nouse)/ng;
for i=1:n
sumn=lengtht-i*ng;
tn=i+1;
index=linspace(0,sumn,sumn+1);
l=length(index);
id=nchoosek(1:l+tn-1,tn)-repmat(0:tn-1,nchoosek(l+tn-1,tn),1);
temp=index(id);
r1=temp(sum(temp,2)==sumn,:);
eval(['j',num2str(i),'=[];']);
p=size(r1);
p=p(1);
for k=1:p
qr1=r1(k,:);
rr=perms(qr1);
eval(['j',num2str(i),'=[j',num2str(i),';rr];']);
end
eval(['j',num2str(i),'=sortrows(j',num2str(i),');']);
eval(['trj=j',num2str(i),';']);
rrj=unique(trj,'rows');
tsrrj=size(rrj);
srrj(i)=tsrrj(1);
rsrrj(i)=srrj(i)*i;
eval(['zrj',num2str(i),'=rrj;']);
end
z1=sum(srrj)*n;
z2=sum(rsrrj);
zeff=z2/z1;
```

19. Igor Code for Folding Simulation of Telomere G-quadruplex and Intermediates

function TeloFoldingSimulator() Variable GTract, N, Spacer, GHP, GTP, GQP, MFP, HOP Prompt GTract "G-Tracts" Prompt N "Iterations" Prompt Spacer "Spacer Length(G-tracts)" Prompt GHP "G-Hairpin %" Prompt GTP "G-Triplex %" Prompt GQP "G-Quadruplx %" Prompt MFP "Misfolded %" Prompt HOP "Higher-order %" doprompt "Enter the number of G-Tracts & Iterations ", GTract, N, Spacer, GHP, GTP, GQP, MFP, HOP

//Following calculate the absolute percentage formation of each structure from experimental data to a range later used by program to guide the formation in the simulated template

Variable TotalPercentage=GHP+GTP+GQP+MFP+HOP GHP=GHP/ TotalPercentage*86.4 GTP=GTP/TotalPercentage*86.4 GQP=GQP/TotalPercentage*86.4 MFP=MFP/TotalPercentage*86.4 HOP=HOP/TotalPercentage*86.4

GTP=GTP+GHP GQP=GQP+GTP MFP=MFP+GQP HOP=MFP+HOP

//Following code will calculate the maximum GQ formation in the Sequence entered Variable maxform maxform= trunc (GTract/4)

Make/N= (maxform+1) /D Distribution Make/N= (maxform+1) /D DistributionLim Make/N=(N) /D codekeeper Make/N=1 /D x1=0 Make/N=1 /D TotalFeatures=0 Make/N=1 /D TotalGQ=0 Make/N=1 /D TotalGT=0 Make/N=1 /D TotalGH=0 Make/N=1 /D TotalHD=0 //following code will Generate random numbers which will be used for folding from a random place in the template

```
variable j,k,m, GQn, o, p, q, r, s, t, u,usp,uspLL, uspUL, v=0,v1=0, w, y, z=0, counter=0, counter1=0,
npoints, nucleationGQ, nucleationGT, nucleationGH, nucleationMF, nucleationHO, featurespertrace
   Appendtotable Distribution, DistributionLim, TotalFeatures, TotalGH, TotalGQ, TotalGT, TotalMF,
TotalHO, Codekeeper, x1
   ModifyTable sigDigits(Distribution)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(DistributionLim)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(Totalfeatures)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(TotalGT)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(TotalGH)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(TotalGQ)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(TotalMF)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(TotalHO)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(Codekeeper)=20
   ModifyTable sigDigits(x1)=20
   delayupdate
   nucleationGH=Gtract-2
   nucleationGT=Gtract-3
   nucleationGQ=Gtract-4
   nucleationMF=Gtract-5
   nucleationHO=Gtract-8
   DistributionLim=0
   for(k=0; k<N; k+=1)
    Make/N=(GTract) Template
    Make/N=(GTract) Template2
    Template=0
    featurespertrace=0
    for(GQn=0; GQn< maxform; GQn=GQn+1)</pre>
      j = abs (enoise(100, 1))
      if (j<=GHP)
         j=1
       elseif(j>GHP && j<=GTP)
         j=2
         elseif(j>GTP && j<=GQP)
           j=3
```

```
elseif(j>GQP && j<=MFP)
            j=4
             elseif(j>MFP && j<=HOP)
             j=5
              elseif(j>HOP)
              j=6
       endif
//G-Hairpin Formation
       if(j==1)
        for(u=0, v=0; u<Gtract-1; u+=1)
          if((u-spacer)<0)
            uspLL=0
            else
             uspLL=u-spacer
           endif
           if((u+1+spacer)>=Gtract)
             uspUL=Gtract
            else
             uspUL=u+Spacer+1
            endif
          for(usp=uspLL; usp<=uspUL; usp+=1)</pre>
          v=v+Template[usp]
          endfor
          if (v==0)
           break
          endif
         endfor
       endif
//G-Triplex Formation
       if(j==2)
        for(u=0,v=0; u<Gtract-2; u+=1)</pre>
          if((u-spacer)<0)
             uspLL=0
            else
             uspLL=u-spacer
          endif
          if((u+2+spacer)>=Gtract)
             uspUL=Gtract
            else
             uspUL=u+Spacer+2
```

```
endif
```

```
for(usp=uspLL; usp<=uspUL; usp+=1)
    v=v+Template[usp]
    endfor
    if (v==0)
        break
    endif
    endfor
endif</pre>
```

//G-Quadruplex formation

```
if(j==3)
for(u=0, v=0; u<Gtract-3; u+=1)
   if((u-spacer)<0)
    uspLL=0
    else
     uspLL=u-spacer
   endif
   if((u+3+spacer)>=Gtract)
     uspUL=Gtract
    else
      uspUL=u+Spacer+3
    endif
  for(usp=uspLL; usp<=uspUL; usp+=1)</pre>
   v=v+Template[usp]
   endfor
   if (v==0)
    break
```

```
endif
endfor
endif
```

//Misfolded Formation

if(j==4)

```
for(u=0, v=0; u<Gtract-4; u+=1)
if((u-spacer)<0)
uspLL=0
else
uspLL=u-spacer</pre>
```

```
endif
if((u+4+spacer)>=Gtract)
uspUL=Gtract
else
uspUL=u+Spacer+4
endif
for(usp=uspLL; usp<=uspUL; usp+=1)
v=v+Template[usp]
endfor
if (v==0)
break
endif
endfor
endif
```

//Higher-order Formation

```
if(j==5)
     for(u=0, v=0; u<Gtract-7; u+=1)
       if((u-spacer)<0)
        uspLL=0
        else
         uspLL=u-spacer
        endif
        if((u+7+spacer)>=Gtract)
         uspUL=Gtract
         else
          uspUL=u+Spacer+7
         endif
       for(usp=uspLL; usp<=uspUL; usp+=1)</pre>
       v=v+Template[usp]
       endfor
       if (v==0)
        break
       endif
      endfor
    endif
```

if(j==1) //for G-hairpin
 do
 m= abs (round (enoise(nucleationGH , 1)))

```
if((m-spacer)<0)
uspLL=m
else
uspLL=m-spacer
endif
if((m+1+Spacer)>=Gtract)
uspUL=Gtract
else
uspUL=m+Spacer+1
endif
```

```
for(u=uspLL,v1=0; u<=uspUL; u+=1)
    v1=v1+Template[u]
    endfor
while ( v==0 && v1!=0 )</pre>
```

```
elseif(j==2) //for G-triplex
```

```
do
```

m= abs (round (enoise(nucleationGT , 1)))

```
if((m-spacer)<0)
uspLL=m
else
uspLL=m-spacer
endif
if((m+2+Spacer)>=Gtract)
uspUL=Gtract
else
uspUL=m+Spacer+2
endif
```

```
for(u=uspLL,v1=0; u<=uspUL; u+=1)
v1=v1+Template[u]
endfor</pre>
```

```
while ( v==0 && v1!=0 )
```

```
elseif(j==3) //for G-Quadruplex
do
m= abs (round (enoise(nucleationGQ , 1)))
```

```
if((m-spacer)<0)
uspLL=m
else
uspLL=m-spacer
endif
if((m+3+Spacer)>=Gtract)
uspUL=Gtract
else
uspUL=m+Spacer+3
endif
```

```
for(u=uspLL,v1=0; u<=uspUL; u+=1)
v1=v1+Template[u]
endfor</pre>
```

while (v==0 && v1!=0)

```
elseif(j==4)
                         //for Mis-folded
   do
   m= abs (round (enoise(nucleationMF, 1)))
    if((m-spacer)<0)
     uspLL=m
    else
      uspLL=m-spacer
    endif
    if((m+4+Spacer)>=Gtract)
      uspUL=Gtract
     else
       uspUL=m+Spacer+4
     endif
    for(u=uspLL,v1=0; u<=uspUL; u+=1)</pre>
      v1=v1+Template[u]
    endfor
   while (v==0 && v1!=0)
                          //for higher order
 elseif(j==5)
   do
   m= abs (round (enoise(nucleationHO , 1)))
    if((m-spacer)<0)
```

```
uspLL=m
else
uspLL=m-spacer
endif
if((m+7+Spacer)>=Gtract)
uspUL=Gtract
else
uspUL=m+Spacer+7
endif
```

```
for(u=uspLL,v1=0; u<=uspUL; u+=1)
v1=v1+Template[u]
endfor</pre>
```

```
while (v==0 && v1!=0)
```

endif

```
if(j==1 && v==0)
 Template[m]=1
 Template[m+1]=1
 featurespertrace=featurespertrace+1
 Totalfeatures[0]=Totalfeatures[0]+1
 TotalGH[0]=TotalGH[0]+1
elseif (j==2 && v==0)
 Template[m]=1
 Template[m+1]=1
 Template[m+2]=1
 featurespertrace=featurespertrace+1
 Totalfeatures[0]=Totalfeatures[0]+1
 TotalGT[0]=TotalGT[0]+1
elseif (j==3 && v==0)
 Template[m]=1
 Template[m+1]=1
 Template[m+2]=1
 Template[m+3]=1
```

```
featurespertrace=featurespertrace+1
```

```
Totalfeatures[0]=Totalfeatures[0]+1
       TotalGQ[0]=TotalGQ[0]+1
       elseif (j==4 && v==0)
       Template[m]=1
       Template[m+1]=1
       Template[m+2]=1
       Template[m+3]=0
       Template[m+4]=1
       featurespertrace=featurespertrace+1
       Totalfeatures[0]=Totalfeatures[0]+1
       TotalMF[0]=TotalMF[0]+1
       elseif (j==5 && v==0)
       Template[m]=1
       Template[m+1]=1
       Template[m+2]=1
       Template[m+3]=1
       Template[m+4]=1
       Template[m+5]=1
       Template[m+6]=1
       Template[m+7]=1
       featurespertrace=featurespertrace+1
       Totalfeatures[0]=Totalfeatures[0]+1
       TotalHO[0]=TotalHO[0]+1
     endif
  endfor
   Distribution[featurespertrace]=Distribution[featurespertrace]+1
Print"------Summary------"
Print "Number of G-Tracts:", GTract
Print "Maximum GQ possible:", maxform
Print "Over all Distribution of Features:", Distribution
Print "Non Repeated Pattern of Features:", DistributionLim
```

Print "Avarage Spacing (User Defined):", Spacer

Print "Total Features:", Totalfeatures Print "Total GQ:", TotalGQ

Print "Total GT:", TotalGT

```
end
```

Supplementary References

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