## **Populations Dynamics of Guanine Radicals in DNA strands - Direct versus Indirect Generation**

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## **Supporting Information**

- Figure S1: Dependence of the radical decays in S1 on the excitation intensity
- Figure S2: post-irradiation steady-state differential spectra of TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup>
- Figure S3: normalized transient absorption spectra of TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup>
- Figure S4: Dependence of the radical decays in TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup> on the excitation intensity
- Figurer S5: steady-state absorption spectra of D and TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup>
- Figure S6: melting curves of D and TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup>
- Estimation of the G radical and SO<sub>4</sub>•- concentrations in reference [1].



**Figure S1.** Normalized transient absorption signals recorded for **S1** at 500 nm (**a**) and 305 nm (**b**) for excitation energies of 4 mJ (blue), 6 mJ (green) and 7 mJ (red).



**Figure S2.** Differential absorption spectra recorded for TEL25/Na<sup>+</sup> at 0.5 ms (triangles) and 10 ms (squares; its intensity was normalized to that of 0.5  $\mu$ s the spectrum at 600 nm).



**Figure S3.** Differential steady-state spectrum corresponding to the absorbance of **TEL25/Na**<sup>+</sup> before and after irradiation with 400 laser pulses of 6 mJ.



**Figure S4.** Normalized transient absorption signals recorded for **TEL25/Na**<sup>+</sup> at 605 (**a**) and 305 nm (**b**) for excitation energies of 2 mJ (blue), 4mJ (green) and 6 mJ (red).



**Figure S5.** Absorption spectra of **D** (red) and **TEL25/Na**<sup>+</sup> (green). The molar absorption coefficients  $\varepsilon$  were estimated, starting from the  $\varepsilon_{260nm}$  values provided by Eurogentec Europe for single strands at room temperature. In the case of **D**, we assumed that  $\varepsilon_{260nm}$  at 96°C corresponds to that of an equimolar mixture of **S1** and **S2** at the same temperature. In the case of **TEL25/Na**<sup>+</sup>, we simply considered that the  $\varepsilon_{260nm}$  value at 96°C is that of the single strand. We judge that the errors due these approximations do not exceed 15%.



**Figure S6.** Absorbance variation determined as a function of temperature for the duplex **D** at 260 nm and the **G**-quadruplex **TEL25/Na**<sup>+</sup> at 295 nm.

## Estimation of the G-radical and SO4<sup>•</sup> concentrations reactions in reference [1]:

The radical concentration, evaluated using a molar absorption of 1500 mol<sup>-1</sup>cmL<sup>-1</sup> at 500 nm [2] and an absorbance of 0.01 (Figure 3 in reference [1]) is  $6.7 \times 10^{-6}$  molL<sup>-1</sup>. We estimated [SO4<sup>•-</sup>]<sup>0</sup> considering the excitation energy (60 mJ), the excitation path length (0.2 cm), the excited volume (0.06 mL) and the Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> concentration (0.02 molL<sup>-1</sup>) reported by the authors and taking into account the molar absorption coefficient of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> at 308 nm (1 mol<sup>-1</sup>Lcm<sup>-1</sup>) and the quantum yield for SO4<sup>•-</sup> formation (0.55) [3]. The resulting concentration, 13×10<sup>-6</sup> molL<sup>-1</sup>, is twice as high as that of **G** radicals.

(Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>): 0.02 molL<sup>-1</sup> Excitation path length: 0.2 cm Molar absorption coefficient at 308 nm: 1 mol<sup>-1</sup>Lcm<sup>-1</sup> Absorbance at 308 nm: 0.004 Incident excitation energy: 60 mJ Absorbed excitation energy: 60×(1-10<sup>-0.004</sup>)=0.55 mJ Absorbed photons: 1.4×10<sup>-9</sup> einstein Quantum yield of the reaction: 0.55 SO4<sup>•-</sup> formed par laser pulse: 7.7×10<sup>-10</sup> mol Excited volume: 0.06 mL SO4<sup>•-</sup> concentration: 1.3×10<sup>-5</sup> molL<sup>-1</sup>

## **References**

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