## **Supporting Information**

# **Structural and Functional Stability of DNA Nanopores in Biological Media**

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#### 1. Design of DNA nanopores

#### 1.1. Sequences

**Table S1.** Names, chemical modifications, and sequences of DNA oligonucleotides used to prepare DNA nanopores.

ID	Sequence 5′ → 3′
1	AGCGAACGTGGATTTTGTCCGACATCGGCAAGCTCCCTTTTTCGACTATT
2	CCGATGTCGGACTTTTACACGATCTTCGCCTGCTGGGTTTTGGGAGCTTG
3	CGAAGATCGTGTTTTTCCACAGTTGATTGCCCTTCACTTTTCCCAGCAGG
4	AATCAACTGTGGTTTTTCTCACTGGTGATTAGAATGCTTTTGTGAAGGGC
5	TCACCAGTGAGATTTTTGTCGTACCAGGTGCATGGATTTTTGCATTCTAA
6	CCTGGTACGACATTTTTCCACGTTCGCTAATAGTCGATTTTATCCATGCA
1(chol)	Sequence of 1, carries a cholesterol via a tri(ethylene glycol) linker at the 3' end
3(chol)	Sequence of 3, carries a cholesterol via a TEG linker at the 3' terminus
5(chol)	Sequence of 5 carries a cholesterol via a TEG linker at the 3' terminus

For FRET assays, strand 2 contained a FAM dye, whilst strand 6 contained a Cy3 dye. Both dyes were incorporated into the 5' terminus of the respective oligonucleotides.

Table S2. Names and composition of DNA nanopores and control nanostructures.

Nanopore	Oligonucleotides used
NP-0C	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
NP-3C	1(chol), 2, 3(chol), 4, 5(chol), 6

#### 1.2. 2D Maps of DNA Nanopores



**Figure S1.** 2D maps of DNA nanopores (**A**) NP-0C and (**B**) NP-3C. The component DNA strands are represented as lines, and the 5' and 3' termini of the strands are indicated by squares and triangles, respectively. The segments in semi-transparent color at the top and bottom of the 2D maps indicate the mismatched  $T_4$  single-strand loops. Orange circles show the positions for the cholesterol modifications, the purple and gray circles denote the position of the fluorophores.

#### 1.3. Models and Dimensions of DNA Nanopores



**Figure S2.** (**A**) Cylinder representation, top and side view of NP-3C (**B**) Space filling model representation, top and side view of NP-3C.