

HELIX: a new modular nucleic acid crystallization screen.

Supporting information

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Table S1. Formulation of the HELIX nucleic acid crystallization screen.

| Tube | Buffer system | Precipitants | Salts | Additives | Subset |
|------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------|
| 1-1 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.05 M KCl, 0.10 M LiCl | 0.012 M spermine | variX |
| 1-2 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | | 0.001 M spermine | variX |
| 1-3 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.10 M NaCl, 0.05 M LiCl | 0.010 M MgCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-4 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.2 M KCl | 0.005 M [Co(NH ₃) ₆]Cl ₃ | variX |
| 1-5 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.1 M LiCl | 0.010 M MnCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-6 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.1 M NaCl | 0.005 M SrCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-7 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | 0.05 M KCl, 0.10 M LiCl | 0.012 M spermine | variX |
| 1-8 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | | 0.001 M spermine | variX |
| 1-9 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | 0.10 M NaCl, 0.05 M LiCl | 0.010 M MgCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-10 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | 0.2 M KCl | 0.005 M [Co(NH ₃) ₆]Cl ₃ | variX |
| 1-11 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | 0.1 M LiCl | 0.010 M MnCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-12 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 35% v/v MPD | 0.1 M NaCl | 0.005 M SrCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-13 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | 0.05 M KCl, 0.10 M LiCl | 0.012 M spermine | variX |
| 1-14 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | | 0.001 M spermine | variX |
| 1-15 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | 0.10 M NaCl, 0.05 M LiCl | 0.010 M MgCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-16 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | 0.2 M KCl | 0.005 M [Co(NH ₃) ₆]Cl ₃ | variX |
| 1-17 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | 0.1 M LiCl | 0.010 M MnCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-18 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 17% w/v PEG 4000 | 0.1 M NaCl | 0.005 M SrCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-19 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | 0.05 M KCl, 0.10 M LiCl | 0.012 M spermine | variX |

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|------|------------------------|---|--|--|-------|
| 1-20 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | | 0.001 M spermine | variX |
| 1-21 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | 0.10 M NaCl, 0.05 M LiCl | 0.010 M MgCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-22 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | 0.2 M KCl | 0.005 M [Co(NH ₃) ₆]Cl ₃ | variX |
| 1-23 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | 0.1 M LiCl | 0.010 M MnCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-24 | 0.05 M MES pH 6.5 | 2.6 M Na ₂ malonate | 0.1 M NaCl | 0.005 M SrCl ₂ | variX |
| 1-25 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 44% v/v PEG 200 | 0.1 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | Cryo |
| 1-26 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 40% v/v PEG 400 | 0.2 M KCl | 0.010 M CaCl ₂ | Cryo |
| 1-27 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 37% w/v PEG 1000 | 0.1 M NaCl | 0.002 M spermine | Cryo |
| 1-28 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 35% w/v PEG 2000 | 0.1 M NaCl, 0.2 M KCl | 0.020 M MgCl ₂ | Cryo |
| 1-29 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 33% w/v PEG 3350 | 0.05 KCl | 0.005 M spermine | Cryo |
| 1-30 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 20% w/v PEG 8000, 1 M Naformate | 0.1 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ , 0.1 M NaCl | | Cryo |
| 1-31 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 20% w/v PEG 20000, 1 M Naformate | | 0.010 M CaCl ₂ | Cryo |
| 1-32 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 40% v/v PEG-MME 550 | 0.05 M LiCl | | Cryo |
| 1-33 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 40% v/v PEG-MME 550 | 0.1 M Na citrate | | Cryo |
| 1-34 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 40% v/v MPD | 0.1 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.002 M spermine | Cryo |
| 1-35 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 35% v/v MPD | | | Cryo |
| 1-36 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 30% v/v MPD | 0.10 M NaCl | 0.020 M MgCl ₂ | Cryo |
| 1-37 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 27% v/v MPD | 0.10 M KCl | | Cryo |
| 1-38 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 24% v/v MPD | | 5% v/v PEG 400 | Cryo |
| 1-39 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 20% v/v MPD | 0.20 M LiCl | | Cryo |
| 1-40 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.0 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.15 M KCl | 20% v/v glycerol, 5% w/v PEG 3350 | Cryo |
| 1-41 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.2 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.1 M NaCl | 10% v/v glycerol, 5% v/v PEG mme-550 | Cryo |
| 1-42 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.4 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | 25% v/v glycerol | Cryo |
| 1-43 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.6 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | 25% v/v glycerol | Cryo |
| 1-44 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.8 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | 25% v/v glycerol | Cryo |
| 1-45 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 2.0 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | 5% v/v PEG 400 | Cryo |
| 1-46 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 22% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | 0.1 M KCl | | Cryo |
| 1-47 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 22% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | 0.2 M LiCl | | Cryo |
| 1-48 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 22% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | 0.1 M NaCl | | Cryo |
| 2-1 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 20% v/v MPD | 0.1 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-2 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 10% v/v MPD | | 0.005 M spermine | Quad |
| 2-3 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 10% v/v MPD | 0.1 M NaCl, 0.2 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-4 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v MPD | 0.2 M NaCl | | Quad |

| | | | | | |
|------|------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| 2-5 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 15% v/v MPD | 0.05 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-6 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 30% v/v MPD | 0.3 M NaCl | | Quad |
| 2-7 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 25% v/v PEG 400 | 0.05 M NaCl | 0.01 M MgCl ₂ | Quad |
| 2-8 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 10% v/v PEG 400 | 0.2 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-9 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 18% v/v PEG 1000 | 0.05 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-10 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.5 M Li ₂ SO ₄ | | | Quad |
| 2-11 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 1.9 M Li ₂ SO ₄ | 0.1 M NaCl, 0.1 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-12 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 15% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | | 0.02 M MgCl ₂ | Quad |
| 2-13 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 10% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | 0.05 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-14 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 14% w/v PEG-MME 2000 | | | Quad |
| 2-15 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 10% v/v PEG-MME 550 | 0.1 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-16 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 1.1 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.05 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-17 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 1.4 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.05 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-18 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 1.8 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | 0.10 M NaCl | 0.01 M LiCl | Quad |
| 2-19 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 18% w/v PEG 1000 | 0.30 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-20 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 15% w/v PEG 1000 | 0.3 M NaCl | | Quad |
| 2-21 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 12% w/v PEG 1000 | 0.25 M KCl | | Quad |
| 2-22 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 25% v/v PEG-MME 350 | 0.10 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-23 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 20% v/v PEG-MME 350 | | | Quad |
| 2-24 | 0.05 M HEPES pH 6.5 | 15% v/v PEG-MME 350 | 0.05 M LiCl | | Quad |
| 2-25 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 4.5 | 18% v/v MPD | | 0.005 M spermine | C-prot |
| 2-26 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 4.5 | 24% v/v MPD | 0.1 M NaCl | | C-prot |
| 2-27 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 4.5 | 32% v/v MPD | 0.15 M KCl | | C-prot |
| 2-28 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 5.0 | 21% v/v MPD | | 0.01 M MgCl ₂ | C-prot |
| 2-29 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 5.0 | 14% v/v MPD | 0.1 M NaCl, 0.1 M KCl | 0.005 M spermine | C-prot |
| 2-30 | 0.05 M Acetate pH 5.0 | 15% v/v PEG 400 | 0.05 M LiCl | | C-prot |
| 2-31 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 21% v/v MPD | | | C-prot |
| 2-32 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 21% v/v MPD | | 0.02 M MgCl ₂ | C-prot |
| 2-33 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 12% v/v PEG 2000 | | | C-prot |
| 2-34 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 21% v/v MPD | | 0.020 M MgSO ₄ | C-prot |
| 2-35 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 15% v/v PEG 400 | | 0.005 M spermine | C-prot |
| 2-36 | 0.05 M MES pH 5.5 | 1.5 M (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ | | 10% v/v glycerol | C-prot |
| 2-37 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 25% w/v PEG 2000 | 0.05 M NaCl, 0.1 M KCl | 0.01 M CaCl ₂ | Macro |
| 2-38 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 20% w/v PEG 3350 | 0.25 M NaCl | 0.005 M spermine | Macro |
| 2-39 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 12% w/v PEG 8000 | 0.1 M KCl | 0.005 M BaCl ₂ | Macro |
| 2-40 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 8% w/v PEG 20000 | 0.30 M NaCl | | Macro |
| 2-41 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 20% w/v PEG 2000 | 0.05 M NaCl, 0.1 M LiCl | 0.01 M CaCl ₂ | Macro |
| 2-42 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 15% w/v PEG MME- 2000 | 0.1 M KCl | 0.002 M spermine | Macro |
| 2-43 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.0 | 15% w/v PEG MME- 2000 | 0.05 M KCl, 0.1 M LiCl | 0.020 M MgSO ₄ | Macro |

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|------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 2-44 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.5 | 6% w/v PEG 20000 | 0.10 M NaCl | 0.002 M BaCl ₂ | Macro |
| 2-45 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 7.5 | 7% w/v PEG 8000 | 0.1 M KCl | 0.002 M spermine | Macro |
| 2-46 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 8.0 | 15% w/v PEG 3350 | 0.05 M LiCl | 0.030 M MgSO ₄ | Macro |
| 2-47 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 8.5 | 9% w/v PEG 3350 | 0.20 M NaCl | | Macro |
| 2-48 | 0.05 M BIS-TRIS pH 8.5 | 18% w/v PEG 3350 | | 0.052 M MgCl ₂ | Macro |

BIS-TRIS: Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino-tris(hydroxymethyl)methane; HEPES: 2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazin-1-

yl]ethanesulfonic acid; MES: 2-(N-morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid; MPD: 2-Methyl-2,4-pentanediol; PEG:

Polyethylene glycol; PEG-MME: polyethylene glycol monomethyl ether.

Table S2. Summary crystallographic data derived from the crystals obtained using the HELIX screen.

| Name | Sequence | Laue group | Unit Cell a, b, c (Å) | Angles α, β, γ (°) | Resolution Max (Å) | Data Collected | Sequence Published PDBID |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| auto complementary duplex | d(CGAATTAATTG) | ND | ND | | - | - | 3UXW |
| hairpin | d(TATAAGAAAATCTTATA) | -3m | 50.97(1), 50.97(1), 97.68(5) | 90, 90, 120 | 3.4 | Yes | - |
| complex | d(ACCTAACCCCTA) + d(AGGGTTAGGGTT) | ND | ND | | - | - | - |
| tetramolecular quadruplex | d(TAGGGT) | 4/m | 40.9(2), 40.85(7), 26.95(3) | 90, 90, 90 | - | - | - |
| bimolecular quadruplex | d(GGGGTTTTGGGG) | -3m | 25.1(2), 25.8(2), 145(1) | 90, 90, 120 | 5 | ND | 1JPQ |
| unimolecular quadruplex | d(AGGGAGGGCGCTGGGA GGAGGG) | ND | ND | | ND | ND | 3QXR |
| unimolecular i-motif | d(TAACCTAA) | mmm | 31.09(1), 31.09(1), 81.88(2) | 90, 90, 120 | 2.90 | Yes | - |
| bimolecular i-motif | d(ACCTAACCCCT) | mmm | 27.24(1), 27.24(1), 152.80(6) | 90, 90, 120 | 2.71 | Yes | - |
| tetramolecular i-motif | d(CCCTAACCTAACCTAA CCCT) | ND | ND | | - | - | - |

Crystals were flash-cooled at 100 K in supercooled N₂ gas (Oxford Cryosystems) and maintained at 100 K during the data collections. Cell dimensions were determined using iMosflm (Battye et al., 2011) for the hairpin, unimolecular and bimolecular i-motifs, and CrysAlis^{Pro} software for the tetramolecular quadruplex and bimolecular quadruplex.