

Monolith Protocol M0-P-023

Thermodynamics of DNA Hybridization

The stability of DNA duplexes depends on a fine balance of hydrogen bonds and base-stacking interactions. Factors affecting stability are ionic strength and temperature. Monitoring the shift in the dissociation constant (K_D) of the hybridization interaction over a range of temperatures can be used to calculate the free enthalpy (ΔH) and entropy (ΔS) for the hybridization reaction.

DNA – DNA interaction | Van't Hoff analysis | ΔH | ΔS

A1. Target/Fluorescent Molecule

GB1

A2. Molecule Class/Organism

DNA

A3. Sequence/Formula

5' Cy5 GGA CTT CAG G 3'

A4. Purification Strategy/Source

metabion international AG

A5. Stock Concentration/Stock Buffer

100 μ M
ddH₂O

A6. Molecular Weight/Extinction Coefficient

3602 Da
98,000 M⁻¹cm⁻¹ (ϵ_{260})

A7. Dilution Buffer

100 mM NaCl, 2 mM KCl, 7.2 mM Na₂HPO₄, 1.4 mM KH₂PO₄, pH 7.4, 0.1% TWEEN® 20

A8. Labeling Strategy

5' Cy5 labeled

A9. Labeling Procedure

N/A

A10. Labeling Efficiency

HPLC-purified, 100% labeled DNA

B1. Ligand/Non-Fluorescent Binding Partner

aGB1

B2. Molecule Class/Organism

DNA

B3. Sequence/Formula

5' CCT GAA GTC C 3'

B4. Purification Strategy/Source

metabion international AG

B5. Stock Concentration/Stock Buffer

200 μ M
ddH₂O

B6. Molecular Weight/Extinction Coefficient

2988 Da
91,200 M⁻¹cm⁻¹ (ϵ_{260})

B7. Serial Dilution Preparation

1. Prepare a PCR-rack with 16 PCR tubes. Transfer 10 μ L of ddH₂O¹ into tubes **1** to **16**.
 2. Add 10 μ L of 200 μ M aGB1 to tube **1** and mix by pipetting. Then, prepare a 1:1 serial dilution by transferring 10 μ L from tube to tube. Mix carefully by pipetting up and down. Remember to discard 10 μ L from tube **16** to get an equal volume of 10 μ L for all samples.
 3. Mix 2 μ L of 100 μ M GB1 with 48 μ L of ddH₂O to obtain 50 μ L of a 4 μ M GB1 solution.
 4. Mix 2 μ L of 4 μ M GB1 with 198 μ L of dilution buffer to obtain 200 μ L of a 40 nM GB1 solution.
 5. Mix 100 μ L of 40 nM GB1 with 100 μ L of dilution buffer to obtain 200 μ L of a 20 nM GB1 solution.
 6. Add 10 μ L of 20 nM GB1 to each tube from **16** to **1** and mix by pipetting.
 7. Incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature in the dark before loading capillaries.
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¹ Pipetting detergent-free H₂O reduces pipetting errors which is important for later analysis of the initial fluorescence.

D1. MST System/Capillaries

Monolith NT.115 Red (NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

Capillaries Monolith NT.115 (MO-K022, NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

D2. MST Software

MO.Control v1.6 (NanoTemper Technologies GmbH)

nanotempertech.com/monolith-mo-control-software

D3. MST Experiment (Assay Buffer/Concentrations/Temperature/MST Power/Excitation Power)

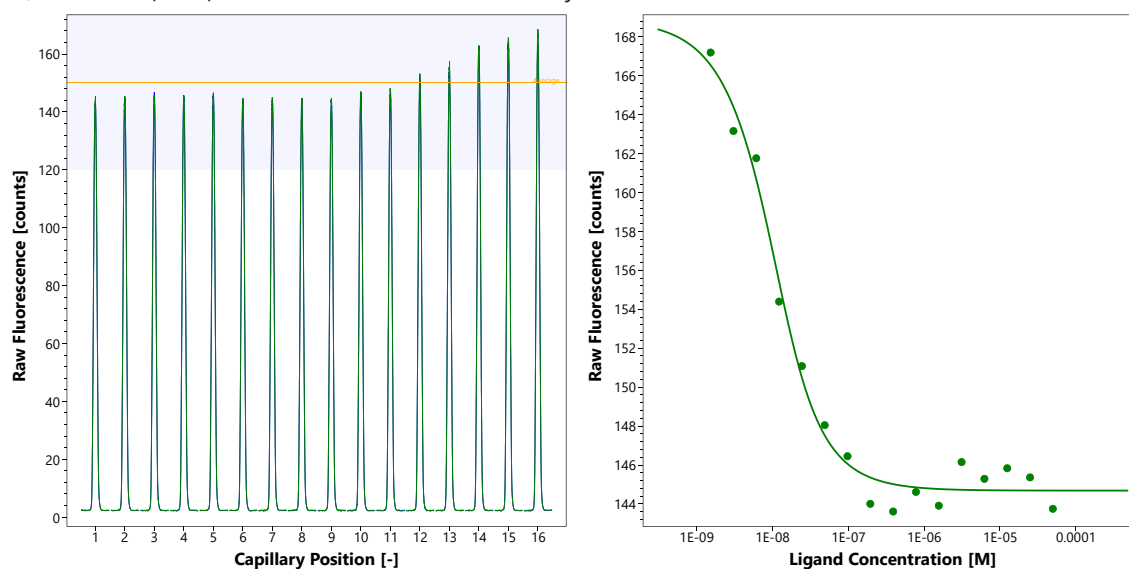
50 mM NaCl, 1 mM KCl, 3.6 mM Na₂HPO₄, 0.7 mM KH₂PO₄, pH 7.4, 0.05% TWEEN® 20

10 nM GB1 | 50 µM – 1.52 nM aGB1 | 22°C – 32°C | low MST power | 20% excitation power

D4. MST Results (Capillary Scan/Time Traces/Dose Response)

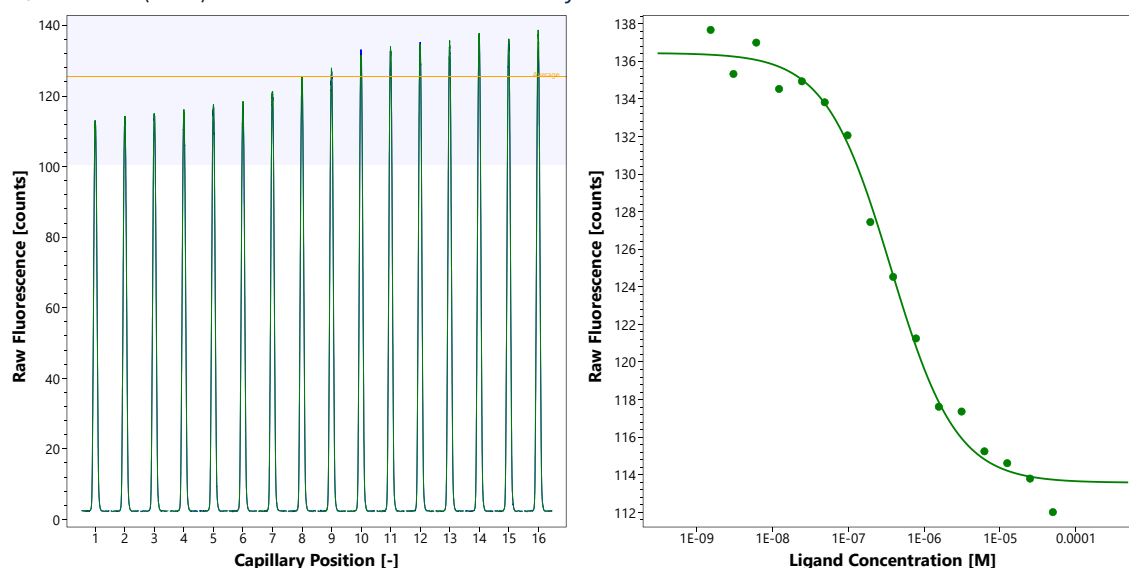
$K_d = 5.32$ nM (22°C)

Initial Fluorescence Analysis



$K_d = 359 \text{ nM}$ (32°C)

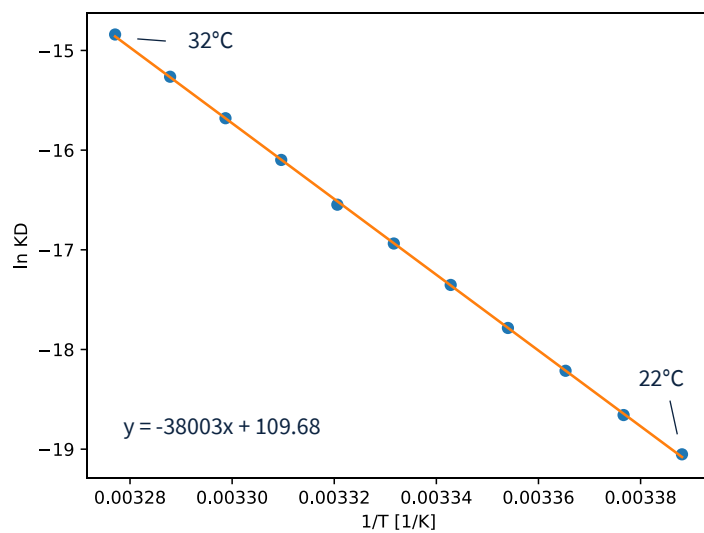
Initial Fluorescence Analysis



Overview of determined K_d values from Initial Fluorescence Analysis at different temperatures:

T ($^\circ\text{C}$)	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
K_d (nM)	5.32	7.89	12.3	18.9	29.1	44.1	65.1	102	155	235	359

Van't Hoff plot:



$$\Delta H = \text{slope} \cdot R = -38003 \text{ K} \cdot 8.314 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} = -315.96 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol}} = -75.51 \frac{\text{kcal}}{\text{mol}}$$

$$\Delta S = -\text{intercept} \cdot R = -109.68 \cdot 8.314 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} = -911.88 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} = -217.94 \frac{\text{cal}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}}$$

D5. Reference Results/Supporting Results

$K_d = 11.6 \text{ nM}$ (23°C)
sequence CTCACAACAG

Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR)
[W Palau and C Di Primo, Biochimie 94 \(2012\) 1891-1899](#)

$K_d = 6.77 \text{ nM}$ (23°C)
sequence CTCACAACAG

switchSENSE
[Dynamic Biosensors, Application Note](#)

$\Delta H = -72.6 \text{ kcal/mol}$
 $\Delta S = -208.2 \text{ cal/(mol K)}$

DNA Thermodynamics Calculator
[biophysics.idtdna.com](#)

E. Contributors

Andreas Langer²

² NanoTemper Technologies GmbH, München, Germany | [nanotempertech.com](#)