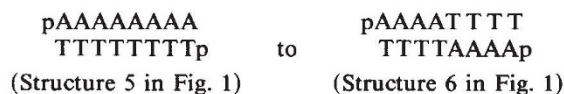


FIG. 2 The measured values of Φ_{Ks} and $\Phi_v - \bar{V}_M$ of the sodium salts of oligo- and polynucleotides as a function of the percentage of A+T base pairs. The measurements were made at 1 °C in CsCl (0.2 mol l⁻¹) HEPES buffer (2 mmol l⁻¹), pH 7.8, at concentrations of ~1 mg ml⁻¹. Numbers 1 to 6, deoxyoligonucleotide sequences described in Fig. 1; 7, salmon-sperm DNA; 8, the alternating poly[d(A-T)] · poly[d(A-T)]; and 9, the homopolymer poly(dA) · poly(dT). Note that generally, the lower the values of both Φ_{Ks} and $\Phi_v - \bar{V}_M$, the higher the degree of hydration. All values are calculated per mole of nucleotide. The details of the measurements and preparative procedure are described elsewhere^{12,14}. The values of \bar{V}_M were taken from ref. 18 and the intrinsic volume of sodium ions was not included in the calculations.

both Φ_{Ks} and $\Phi_v - \bar{V}_M$ obtained with the oligo(dA) · oligo(dT) and the poly(dA) · poly(dT) duplexes. An important observation is that changing the sequence of the molecule from



resulted in a large decrease in its hydration. These structures differ in only one base-pair stacking contact in the middle of the helix.

The evidence presented here indicates that (dA)_n · (dT)_n tracts have an anomalously high hydration in dilute solution. An enhanced hydration has been proposed to be one of major determinants of the anomalous properties of (dA)_n · (dT)_n^{21,22}. □

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ERRATA

Creation of the Uranus rings and dust bands

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Nature **339**, 605-607 (1989)

AN error was introduced during the processing of this letter. The two sentences beginning seven lines below equation 3 on page 606 should read: 'The satellites 1986U1-9 range from 20 to 40 km in radius. We consider this a confirmation, but it shows no contradiction between the model disruption rate (calculated from the crater⁵) and the observed moons near the rings.' □

Triple-strand formation in the homopurine:homopyrimidine DNA oligonucleotides d(G-A)₄ and d(T-C)₄

Ponni Rajagopal & Juli Feigon

Nature **339**, 637-640 (1989)

IN Fig. 2a of this letter, the A · T base pairs are mislabelled as G · T. In Fig. 2b the indication of Hoogsteen base pairs is omitted, but these are correctly labelled in Fig. 3. Also in Fig. 2b, the 'H-bonded aminos' label should read 'C⁺ aminos'. □

Inhibition of exocytosis by intracellularly applied antibodies against a chromaffin granule-binding protein

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IN this letter in the 29 June issue, the affiliations of the authors were unclear in the printed version. The correct details appear above. □

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