

Supporting Information for

**Small molecule-induced trinucleotide repeat
contractions during in vitro DNA synthesis**

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DNA Polymerase Stop Assay

A reaction mixture of template DNA (0.3 μM ; 5'-GAACCACAACCTCAAATAATGTCTAGAGATTAGAAGACATAG(CNG)_nCATGAGACCGGATCCATTCATGTCGTGACTGGGAAAA CCCTGGCG-3': N = A or T, n = 10 or 20, Table S1) and 5' FAM-labeled 3'-DNA primer (0.1 μM ; 5'-FAM-CGCCAGGGTTTTCCAGTCACGAC-3') was heated to 90 °C for 3 min in reaction buffer, and cooled to ambient temperature for 30 min. The requisite amount of ligand was added to the reaction mixture and incubated for 30 min at room temperature prior to the addition of polymerase. DNA polymerase and dNTPs were then added to the mixture, and the reaction was performed at 37 °C (*Bsu* DNA polymerase, Klenow DNA polymerase), or 50 °C (96-7 DNA polymerase) for 30 min. The reaction products were diluted with HiDi Formamide (Thermo Fischer Scientific) and GeneScan 500 LIZ dye Size Standard (Thermo Fischer Scientific), and analyzed on an ABI 3500 Genetic Analyzer. The capillary electrophoresis chromatograms presented in the manuscript are the typical results among at least three experiments.

Sequencing of Shortened Products

The reaction products of *Bsu* DNA polymerase in the presence of 30 μM of NA were ethanol precipitated and then treated with T4 polynucleotide kinase (Thermo Fisher Scientific) at 20 °C for 15 min, followed by lambda exonuclease (New England BioLabs) at 37 °C for 30 min to digest 5'-phosphorylated template DNA containing d(CAG)₂₀. The products were PCR amplified using a primer set (Primer1: CGCCAGGGTTTTCCAGTCACGAC and Primer2: GAACCACAACCTCAAATAATGTCTAGA, Table S1), and cloned with the NEBuilder HiFi DNA Assembly Master Mix (New England BioLabs). Plasmids were extracted from each of the colonies using the FavorPrep™ Plasmid DNA Extraction Mini Kit (Favorgen) and applied to Sanger sequencing (Eurofins Genomics).

IonPGM sequencing.

The polymerase extended products were ethanol precipitated and then treated with T4 polynucleotide kinase at 20 °C for 15 min, followed by incubation with lambda exonuclease at 37 °C for 30 min. The resulting mixture of nascent strands were subjected to PCR amplification using primer set of Primer3 and Primer4 (Table S1) to add adaptor sequences necessary for IonPGM sequencing. The PCR products were purified by NucleoSpin® Gel and PCR Clean-up (MACHEREY-NAGEL) and the concentrations were determined by Qubit dsDNA HS assay kit and Qubit fluorometer (Invitrogen). Ion PGM sequencing was carried out according to manufacturer's protocol (318 v2 chip, 500 flows). The sequence reads were filtered and trimmed by 5' upstream sequence of CTG repeat region (CAGGGTTTTCCAG), and resulting reads were

clustered by using aptamer clustering plugin. Obtained sequences containing a long repeat tract often show base alterations, deletions, additions and termination within and downstream of the repeat region (see supporting information, Table S3). These sequences were not excluded for counting sequencing reads of certain repeat numbers (Fig. 5). Since sequence reads for long repeats at around $n = 20$ is likely biased to lower values, we here focused mainly on distribution of the contraction products having repeat tracts shorter than 10.

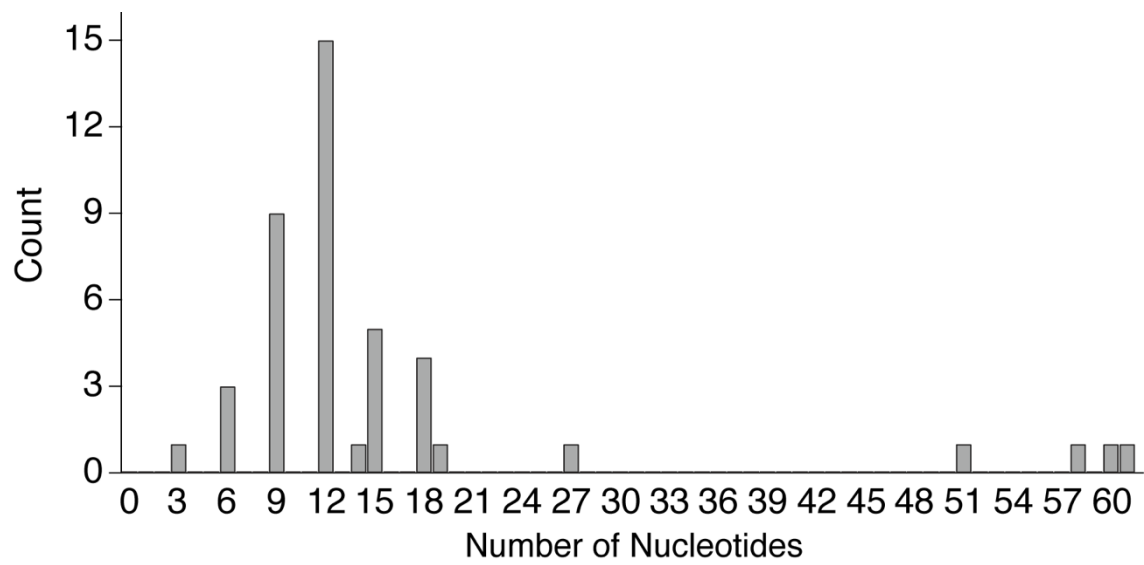


Fig. S1. Distributions of contraction products obtained by Sanger method. Counts of reads are plotted against number of nucleotides in the repeat region.

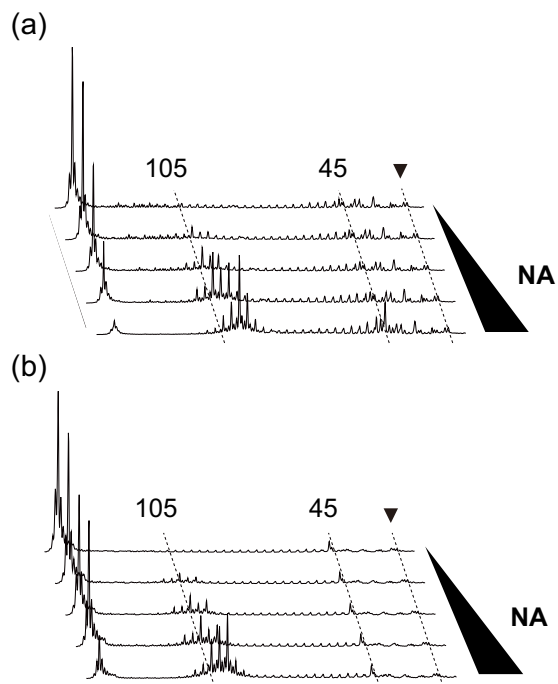


Fig. S2. Fragment analysis of the elongated primers by (a) Klenow fragment and (b) 96-7 DNA polymerase. From top to bottom, NA concentrations are 0, 1, 3, 10, and 30 μM , respectively.

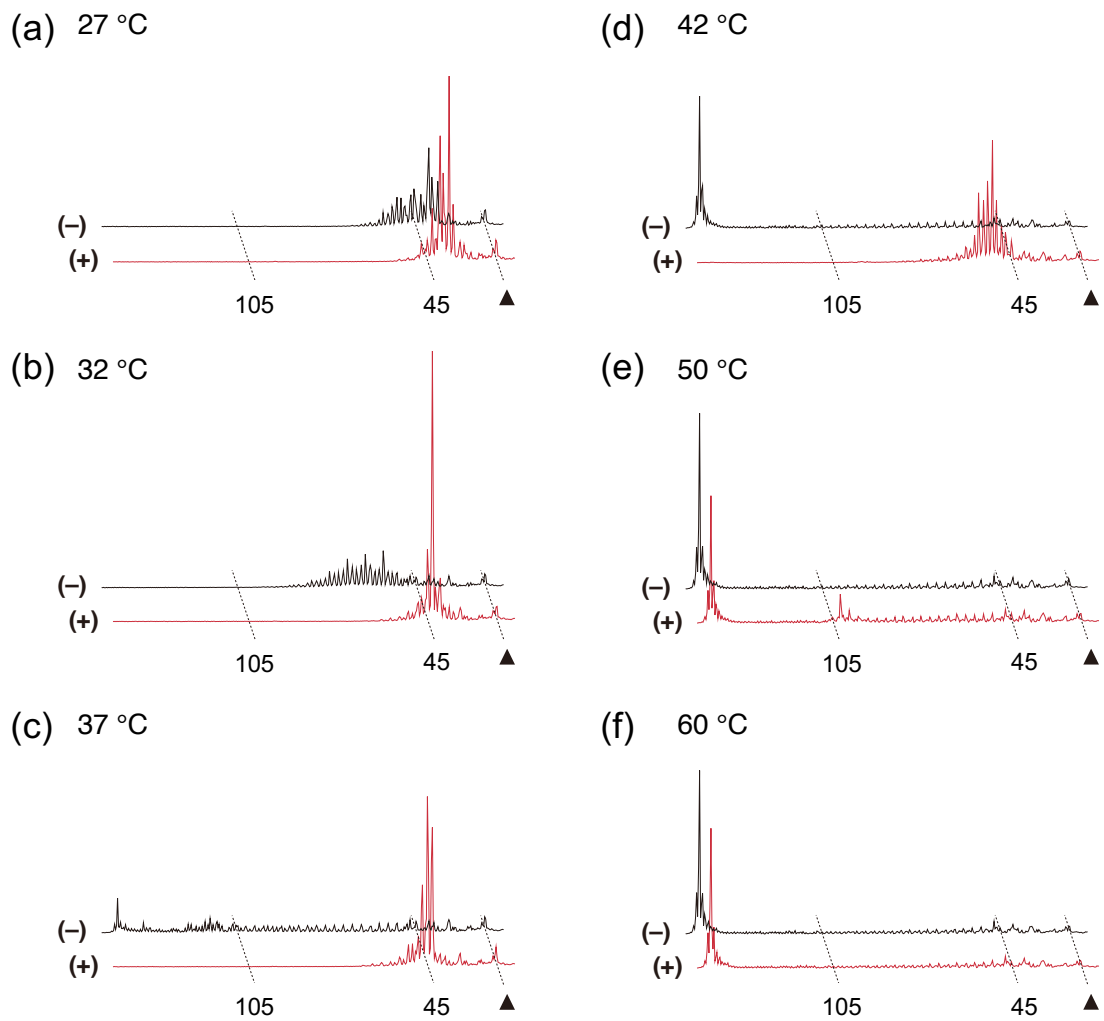


Fig. S3. Fragment analysis of primer extension reactions through CAG 20 repeat template by *ExTaq* polymerase in the presence of NA (30 μ M). The primer extension reactions were carried out at designated temperatures. (a) Primer extension at 27 $^{\circ}$ C; (b) 32 $^{\circ}$ C; (c) 37 $^{\circ}$ C; (d) 42 $^{\circ}$ C; (e) 50 $^{\circ}$ C; (f) 60 $^{\circ}$ C. Fragment analysis data in the absence (top, black) and presence of 30 μ M NA (bottom, red) are shown.

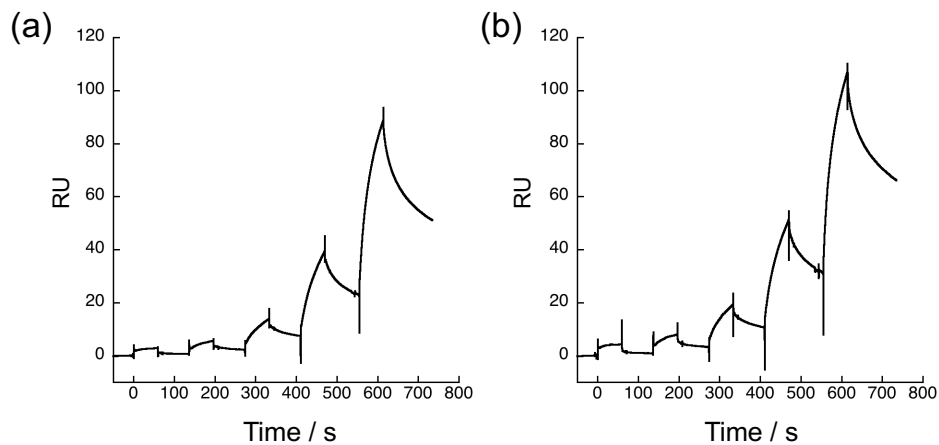


Fig. S4 NA binding to (CAG) repeat was analyzed by SPR single cycle kinetics using Biacore T200 system. d(CAG)10 and d(CAG)20 were immobilized onto SPR sensor chip (Series S sensor chip SA, cytiva). NA was sequentially injected for 60 sec each at concentrations of 0.063, 0.13, 0.25, 0.5, 1 μ M. (a) d(CAG)10; (b) d(CAG)20. Immobilized amounts onto the sensor ship surface were 937.8 and 833.3, for d(CAG)10 and d(CAG)20, respectively. Note that amounts of immobilization are similar in this measurement, *i.e.*, the number of CAG units are similar but molar amounts of immobilized strands are smaller for d(CAG)20.

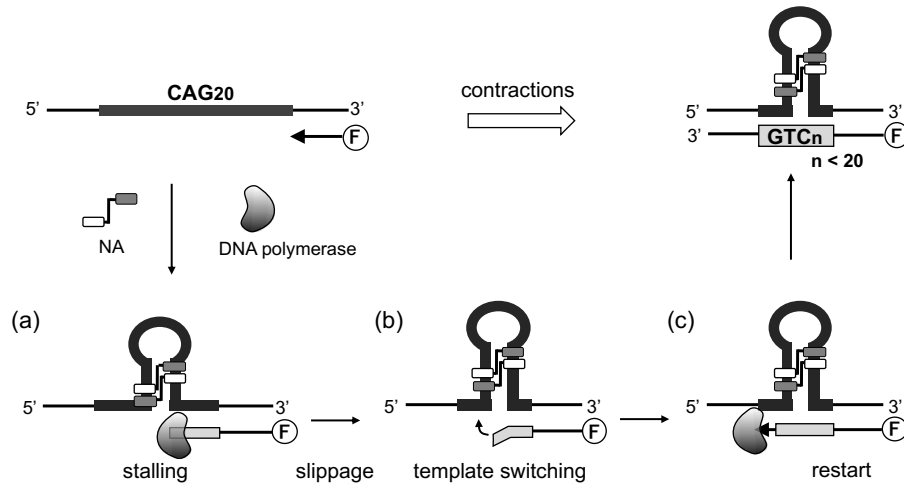


Fig. S5 Proposed mechanism of NA-induced repeat contractions during primer extension reaction. Strand slippage mechanism includes (a) stalling of DNA polymerase by NA-bound hairpin, then (b) slippage and switching template, followed by (c) restarting polymerase extension.

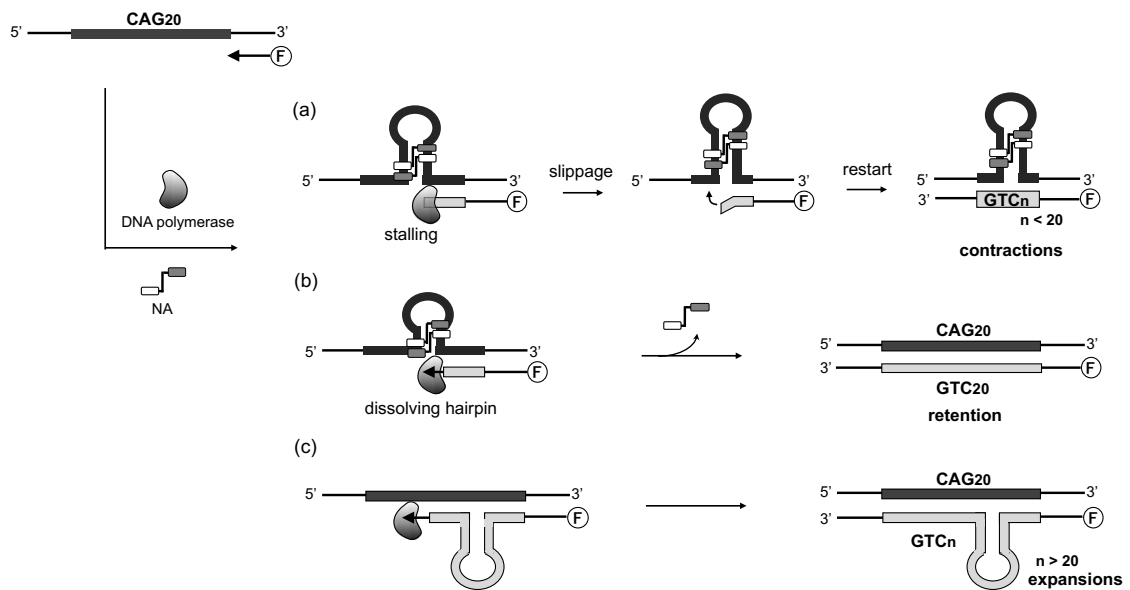


Fig. S6. Proposed mechanism of the NA-induced repeat contractions and possible scenarios during primer extension reaction. (a) NA-induced contractions of nascent strand by strand slippage. (b) Retention of the repeat length. (c) Repeat expansion involving formation of hairpin structure in the nascent strand. Note repeat expansions were not observed under the conditions in this study.

Plausible mechanism for the NA-induced contractions:

Strand slippage mechanism involves the formation of a hairpin structure that stalls polymerase (Fig. S5a), followed by switching template (Fig. S5b) and restarting polymerase extension (Fig.

S5c). NA-stabilized hairpin is a key to stalling the polymerase and the strand slippage. According to the proposed mechanism, contraction products keep CTG triads in the repeat region, *i.e.* contractions always occurs with the base triad as a unit. Although repeat expansions may occur if stable hairpins form in the nascent strand during polymerase elongation (Fig. S6c), no expansion were detected under the conditions examined here (for example, Fig. 3).

There were apparently preferred repeat lengths produced by NA-induced contractions (Fig. 2 and 5), which may be accounted for the proposed mechanism (Fig. S5 & S6a).^[1] First, the abundance of contracted products having intermediate repeats ($n > 10$) was much smaller than shorter repeats (Fig. 2 and 5). Considering size of NA-bound hairpin defines length of skipped repeat units (Fig. S5b), the hairpin consisting of more than 10 CAG units is required for the NA-induced strand slippage. No contraction was detected using a DNA template having CAG 10 repeats (Fig. 3C), suggesting that threshold repeat number for the NA-induced contractions is more than 10. We speculate that contractions occur when the size of the NA-stabilized hairpin exceeds a threshold (producing contraction products with ~ 6 repeats) and then shorter products appear as increasing NA concentration. Short hairpins ($n < 10$) will be either unfolded by the polymerase progression or converted into more stable longer hairpins by further NA bindings (Figure S6b, retention of the repeat length). Second, little or no contraction products having very short ($n = 0$ and 1) repeats was observed (Fig. 2 and 5). In the proposed slippage mechanism, 3' terminal of elongating strand needs to re-hybridize downstream of the hairpin structure in the template switching step (Fig. S5b, c). Contractions to produce 0 or 1 repeat is unfavorable, because a short segment (≤ 3 base pairs) is only available for hybridization step to restart elongation (Fig. S5c).^[2,3]

- [1] (a) D. Canceill, S. D. Ehrlich, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **1996**, 93, 6647–6652. (b) D. Canceill, E. Viguera, S. D. Ehrlich, *J. Biol. Chem.* **1999**, 274, 27481–27490. (c) E. Viguera, D. Canceill, S. D. Ehrlich, *EMBO J.* **2001**, 20, 2587–2595.
- [2] R. Patel, C. Lin, M. Laney, N. Kurn, S. Rose, E. F. Ullman, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* **1996**, 93, 2969–2974.
- [3] N. B. Leontis, W. Kwok, J. S. Newman, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **1991**, 19, 759–766.

Table S1. Oligonucleotide sequences used in this study ^{a,b)}

CAG20: GAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGAGATTAGAAGACATAG (**CAG**)₂₀CATGAGACCGGATC
CATTCATGTCGTGACTGGGAAAACCCTGGCG

CAG10: GAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGAGATTAGAAGACATAG (**CAG**)₁₀CATGAGACCGGATC
CATTCATGTCGTGACTGGGAAAACCCTGGCG

CAG5: GAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGAGATTAGAAGACATAG (**CAG**)₅CATGAGACCGGATCC
ATTCATGTCGTGACTGGGAAAACCCTGGCG

CTG20: GAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGAGATTAGAAGACATAG (**CTG**)₂₀CATGAGACCGGATC
CATTCATGTCGTGACTGGGAAAACCCTGGCG

FAM-Primer1: FAM-CGCCAGGGTTTTCCCAGTCACGAC

Primer1: CGCCAGGGTTTTCCCAGTCACGAC

Primer2: GAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGA

Primer3: CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATGAACCACAACTCAAATAATGTCTAGA

Primer4: CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAGNNNNNNNNNNCGCCAGGGTTTTCCCAGTC
ACGAC

a) Sequences are shown from 5' to 3'.

b) NNNNNNNNNN is barcode sequence for IonPGM sequencing. Hybridized region between templates and primers are underlined.

Table S3-1. Top 20 sequences of elongated primers through CAG20 template in the presence of 30 μ M NA obtained by IonPGM.^{a)}

	Count	Count %	repeat number	5' flanked sequence	Sequence
1	117580	13.86	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
2	48726	5.74	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
3	41928	4.94	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
4	16787	1.98	5	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
5	15964	1.88	2	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
6	8231	0.97	1	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
7	6691	0.79	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
8	6354	0.75	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
9	4246	0.50	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
10	3404	0.40	5	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
11	3141	0.37	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
12	2982	0.35	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
13	2726	0.32	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
14	2719	0.32	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
15	2598	0.31	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
16	2032	0.24	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
17	1955	0.23	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
18	1859	0.22	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
19	1730	0.20	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
20	1701	0.20	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC

a) Total processed read is 881803. Number of read after filtering by the trimmed sequence (shown as bold and underlined cases) is 848477. Possible mutations and sequencing errors are shown in blue.

Table S3-2. Top 20 sequences of elongated primers through CAG20 template in the presence of 10 μ M NA^{a)}

	Count	Count %	repeat number	5' flanked sequence	Sequence
1	22769	5.96	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
2	17682	4.63	5	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
3	8430	2.21	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
4	7094	1.86	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
5	4501	1.18	3	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
6	2226	0.58	7	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
7	1667	0.44	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
8	1625	0.43	5	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
9	1513	0.40	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
10	1485	0.39	2	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
11	1365	0.36	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
12	1329	0.35	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
13	1186	0.31	8	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
14	963	0.25	7	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
15	849	0.22	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
16	738	0.19	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
17	722	0.19	5	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
18	708	0.19	6	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
19	567	0.15	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC
20	552	0.14	4	ccc <u>CAGGGTTTTCCAG</u>	TCACGACATGAATGGATCCGGTCTCATG <u>CTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCT</u> ATGTCCTTAATCTCTAGACATTATTTGAGTTGGGTTTC

a) Total processed read is 403115. Number of read after filtering by the trimmed sequence (shown as bold and underlined cases) is 381726. Possible mutations and sequencing errors are shown in blue.

