



## Product Specifications

Custom Oligo Synthesis, antisense oligos, RNA oligos, chimeric oligos, Fluorescent dyes, Affinity Ligands, Spacers & Linkers, Duplex Stabilizers, Minor bases, labeled oligos, Molecular Beacons, siRNA, phosphonates Locked Nucleic Acids (LNA); 2'-5' linked Oligos

## Oligo Modifications

For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures for clinical purposes.

### Stilbene Cap

Category Duplex Stability

Modification Code Stb-Cap

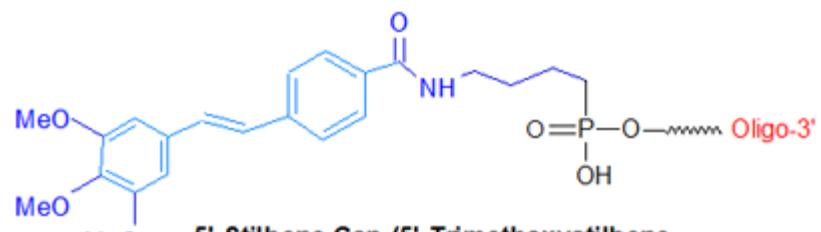
Reference Catalog Number 26-6989

5' Prime Y

3' Prime N

Internal N

Molecular Weight(mw) 433.39



#### 5' and 3' Caps for Increased Duplex Stability.

Pyrene, Stilbene and 3'Uaq caps favor the formation of stable Watson-Crick duplexes by stacking on the terminal base pair. Melting point increases of over 10 degrees C per modification can be realized for short duplexes

The caps fit canonical Watson-Crick base pairs and do not stack well on mismatched base pairs. This leads to increased base pairing selectivity at the terminal and the penultimate position of oligonucleotides featuring the caps. Base pairing fidelity is usually low at the termini, where fraying occurs frequently in the absence of caps. The beneficial effects of the caps are also realized when longer target strands are bound, so there is no need for blunt ends for the duplexes formed.<sup>2</sup> The caps, when attached to the terminus of an oligonucleotide, also facilitate purification as their lipophilicity leads to prolonged retention on reversed phase columns or cartridges. Finally, capping of termini may discourage the degradation of oligonucleotides by exonucleases.

#### Trimethoxystilbene cap

Stilbenes have been successfully employed for covalently bridging the termini of oligonucleotide hairpins. The trimethoxystilbene cap that is the result of a recent study that focused on stilbenes that are covalently linked to only one of the two strands forming a duplex. The three methoxy substituents interact with the 2' methylene group of the nucleoside in the target strand. Together with the stacking on the terminal base pair, this leads to much-improved mismatch discrimination. The effect is observed for any of the four possible base pairs at the terminus.

Trimethoxystilbene cap increases the signal for the fully complementary target strand when used for hybridization probes immobilized on a glass surface in the form of a DNA microarray. This feature is particularly important for A/T-rich sequences that often cause false negatives. The selective stabilization of neighboring Watson-Crick base pairs helps to suppress cross hybridization that would otherwise lead to stronger false positive results.

#### 5' Pyrene Cap

5'-Pyrene cap (Pyrenylmethylpyrrolindol) will produce a cap that is more lipophilic than the trimethoxystilbene. The aromatic stacking moiety is linked to the terminus of the DNA through a more rigid, cyclic linker than in the case of trimethoxystilbene. This feature may prove advantageous for researchers interested in exploiting the special photophysical properties of the pyrenyl substituent.

The pyrrolindol linker is stereoregular, leading to a single product that can be readily purified by HPLC. The pyrenyl cap is the lead compound discovered in a recent combinatorial study that evaluated over 40 different caps. The cap proved particularly successful for hybridization probes with a 5' terminal deoxyadenosine residue. Again, its duplex-stabilizing effect does not require blunt ends. The tertiary amino group can be expected to be protonated at physiological pH, producing a cationic functionality that may help to attract target strands electrostatically. The five membered ring presenting the pyrenyl stacking unit mimics the deoxyribose of natural nucleosides, making duplexes terminating in this cap more similar in shape to unmodified DNA than those capped with the trimethoxystilbene.

### **3' Uaq Cap**

3' Uaq Cap is available as a cap structure for the 3' of an oligo. It is a Uridine support modified with a 2' anthraquinone residue and is the most effective oligonucleotide cap known to date. For short hybrid duplexes between DNA probes and RNA target strands, the increase in Tm is up to 18 C and the modification is effective in increasing the Tm of DNA:DNA, RNA:RNA, and DNA:RNA hybrid duplexes. 3' Uaq Cap also increases probe specificity by depressing the melting point of terminal mismatches.

### **References**

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