## **Supporting Information** Interaction of Thionine with Triple, Double and Single stranded RNAs

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**Figure 1SI.** A) Spectra and B) Binding isotherm for the titration of thionine with  $poly(rA) \cdot poly(rU)$  (duplex),  $C_P=6.00 \cdot 10^{-4}$ M.  $\lambda=600$  nm, I=0.01M (NaCl), pH=7.0 and T=25°C.



**Figure 2SI**. Spectrograms of A) thionine-duplex obtained from fluorescence measurements  $C_P = 1.63 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M B) thionine-triplex,  $C_P = 1.50 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M and Fluorescence binding isotherms of C) thionine-duplex and D) thionine-triplex.  $\lambda_{exc} = 565$  nm, I=0.1 M (NaCl), pH=7.0 and T=25°C.



**Figure 3SI.** Absorbance (A,B,C) and fluorescence (D,E) titration analyses carried out with eq 2: (A,D) thionine-duplex (B,E) thionine-triplex and (C) thionine-ss. I=0.1M (NaCl), pH=7.0 and *T*=25°C



**Figure 4SI.** Stern-Volmer plot for free thionine (**a**), thionine-ss (**V**), thionine-duplex (**•**) and thionine-triplex. (**A**).C<sub>D</sub>/C<sub>P</sub>=0.1, C<sub>D</sub>= 9  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{exc}$ =565nm,  $\lambda_{exc}$ =625 nm, I =0.1 M (NaCl), pH=7.0 and T=25°C.



**Figure 5SI.** Circular dichroism spectrogram and [ $\theta$ ] vs C<sub>D</sub>/C<sub>P</sub> plot for thionine-duplex at C<sub>P</sub><sup>0</sup>=1.21·10<sup>-4</sup>M, C<sub>D</sub>=9.00·10<sup>-4</sup>,  $\lambda$ = 625nm I=0.01M (NaCl), pH=7.0 and *T*=25°C.