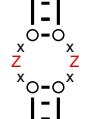
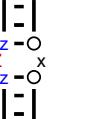
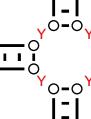
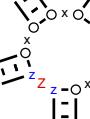


Context-free grammar NCM geometry	Strands of exposed nucleotides			Numbers of NCMs
	Sub-strands	Full-strands	Flanked-strands	
Z → zZ ε z → A C G U R Y N x → Nx ε		Y → Z x		
0-bp (anywhere)	5'-x Z x Z ∈ {1, ..., 5} n=19,607			19,607
1-bp NCM (terminal loops)	 Z ∈ {1, ..., 5} n=19,607	 Z ∈ {2, ..., 5} n=19,600	 Z ∈ {2, 3} n=19,208	58,415
2-bps NCM (stems)	 Σ Z ∈ {1, ..., 4} n=13,538	 Σ Z ∈ {1, ..., 4} n=13,538	 Z ∈ {1, 2} n=5,488	32,564
3-bps NCM (3-way junctions)	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=3,745	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=3,745	 Z = 1 n=1,029	8,519
4-bps NCM (4-way junctions)	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=7,378	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=7,378	 Z = 1 n=1,372	16,128
5-bps NCM (5-way junctions)	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=12,775	 Σ Z ∈ {1, 2, 3} n=12,775	 Z = 1 n=1,715	27,265
grand total number of NCMs:				162,498