

**Table 1.** Stacking and base pairing contributions to DNA polymer stability under different ambient conditions<sup>a</sup>

[Na <sup>+</sup> ], mM	Temperature, °C	A•T-containing polymer		G•C-containing polymer	
		$\frac{1}{4} \sum_{\text{AT, AA, TT, TA}} \Delta G_{\text{KL}}^{\text{ST}}$	$\Delta G_{\text{A•T}}^{\text{BP}}$	$\frac{1}{4} \sum_{\text{GC, GG, CC, CG}} \Delta G_{\text{KL}}^{\text{ST}}$	$\Delta G_{\text{G•C}}^{\text{BP}}$
15	32/52	-1.01/ -0.36 <sup>b</sup>	0.57	-1.48/ -1.02 <sup>b</sup>	-0.11
15/100	37	-0.92/ -1.32 <sup>b</sup>	0.61	-1.44/ -1.83 <sup>b</sup>	-0.01

<sup>a</sup>All free energy parameters are given in kcal/mol.

<sup>b</sup>The two values correspond to the temperature or sodium concentration range as indicated.