**Reviewer:** In this paper authors study excited state properties of guanine quartet complexes with alkali metal cations by employing quantum chemical calculations. In my opinion the work is timely and appears to be well done. Thus, I recommend publication after some minor additions/corrections.

1. Although it is mentioned in the Abstract that calculations are based on TD-DFT, I suggest authors to include this statement in Computational section, as well.

**Author reply**: In the Computational Details, we replaced “Excited states were computed by using long-range corrected CAM-B3LYP functional17,18” by “Excited states were computed by using time-dependent density functional theory with the long-range corrected CAM-B3LYP functional17,18”

**Reviewer:** 2. The meaning of vertical excitation energies in Table II and adiabatic excitation energies to S1 states are clear, but I suggest authors to explain the meaning of vertical excitation included in table III.

**Author reply**: In order to clarify this issue, we added the following sentence: “The vertical excitation energies correspond to the energy differences between the S1 and ground state at the optimized geometry of the S1 state.”

**Reviewer:** 3. Page 9, lines 210-211: Is the sentence correct?

**Author reply**: This sentence is correct.

**Reviewer:** 4. Coordinates of the optimized structures could be given as Supporting Information.

**Author reply**: The coordinates are provided in the Supporting Information.