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**Supporting information for article:**

**Radiation-damage investigation of a DNA 16-mer**

**Valéria Bugris, Veronika Harmat, Györgyi Ferenc, Sándor Brockhauser, Ian Carmichael and Elspeth F. Garman**

## Supplementary Material

### Radiation damage investigation of a DNA 16-mer

Valéria Bugris<sup>a</sup>, Veronika Harmat<sup>a,b</sup>, Györgyi Ferenc<sup>a</sup>, Sándor Brockhauser<sup>a,c</sup>, Ian

Carmichael<sup>d</sup>, Elspeth F. Garman<sup>e\*</sup>

\* Email: elspeth.garman@bioch.ox.ac.uk

**Supplementary Table 1.** The non-water atoms listed in the top 25 radiation damage sites based on the  $D_{neg}$  (*atom*) values from RIDL (Bury and Garman 2018) for datasets 7, 13, 19, 25, 31 and 37, respectively, which are 60° wedges of the same irradiated crystal volume. (Atom names are listed with nucleotide IDs in parentheses. Different building blocks of the DNA chain are colour-coded: nucleotide base: light blue, deoxyribose moiety: yellow, phosphate moieties: orange, calcium ions: grey. O3' and O5' atoms of the sugar are coloured light orange as they are also part of the phosphate groups.)

Dataset No.	7	13	19	25	31	37
Dose (MGy)	6.2	12.0	17.7	23.5	29.2	35.0
Atom name (residue id)	N4(C14)	P(A15)	P(A15)	P(A15)	O5'(G5)	P(G16)
	P(G16)	P(G5)	P(G5)	P(G5)	P(G5)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (2)
	C2(G2)	O5'(A15)	O5'(G5)	O5'(G5)	C8(G6)	C8(G6)
	O3'(G5)	O5'(G5)	C8(G6)	C8(G6)	P(G16)	P(G5)
	P(G5)	C5'(A15)	P(G6)	P(G16)	N7(G6)	P(G6)
	P(G6)	O5'(T10)	OP2(G6)	O5'(A15)	P(A15)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (1)
	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (4)	C8(A7)	P(G16)	C5'(G6)	C4'(G5)	C5'(G6)
	N7(G6)	C4'(A15)	N7(G6)	C4'(G5)	O5'(G16)	O3'(A15)
	C2(C13)	O3'(A8)	OP1(G5)	N1(C17)	P(G6)	P(A7)
	O5'(A15)	C4(G2)	P(A9)	P(G6)	O5'(A15)	O3'(G16)
	O4(T12)	C5(G6)	C5'(C3)	P(A7)	P(A7)	C4'(G5)
	O5'(G2)	OP1(G5)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (4)	C5'(G5)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (2)	O5'(G16)
	P(A8)	P(C14)	O5'(A9)	N7(G6)	P(C17)	O5'(G5)
	O4'(G5)	C5'(T10)	O5'(A15)	O5'(G16)	OP1(G16)	P(A15)
	O3'(C17)	C6(G6)	O3'(C13)	O3'(A15)	N1(C17)	P(C17)
		O3'(C17)	C4(C3)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (4)	C5'(G5)	OP1(A7)
		C4(C3)	O5'(T10)	C4'(T10)	O3'(A15)	O3'(G5)
		C2(G6)	C6(C3)	C4'(A15)	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (4)	OP1(C17)
		OP1(T12)	O5'(C17)	O3'(G6)	O3'(G16)	C5'(G5)
				C4'(A7)	C1'(G6)	N7(G6)
				O3'(G5)	C5'(G6)	OP2(G16)
				P(C17)	OP2(G16)	C4'(G16)
				O5'(A7)		C3'(G16)

**Supplementary Table 2.** Comparison of sites in proximity to calcium ions with those most affected by radiation damage. Rows for nucleotides not involved in calcium-binding are coloured grey.

Residue ID	No. of interactions*: - <b>directly coordinating</b> Ca <sup>2+</sup> (in bold), - water-mediated binding of Ca <sup>2+</sup>				Number of atoms involved in the top 25 damage sites**			
	base	sugar	phosphate before or after	<b>all</b>	base	Sugar	phosphate before or after	<b>all</b>
2 G			1	<b>1</b>	1		2	<b>3</b>
3 C			1	<b>1</b>		1	2	<b>3</b>
4 T	1			<b>1</b>			3	<b>3</b>
5 G			1	<b>1</b>	1	3	7	<b>11</b>
6 G			<b>2+1</b>	<b>3</b>	6	2	8	<b>16</b>
7 A	1		<b>2+1</b>	<b>4</b>	3		4	<b>7</b>
8 A	1		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	3		2	<b>5</b>
9 A				<b>0</b>			2	<b>2</b>
10 T				<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>
11 T				<b>0</b>			2	<b>2</b>
12 T				<b>0</b>	1		2	<b>3</b>
13 C				<b>0</b>			1	<b>1</b>
14 C				<b>0</b>	1		5	<b>6</b>
15 A			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	0	3	9	<b>12</b>
16 G	1		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>		3	10	<b>13</b>
17 C			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	1	1	5	<b>7</b>

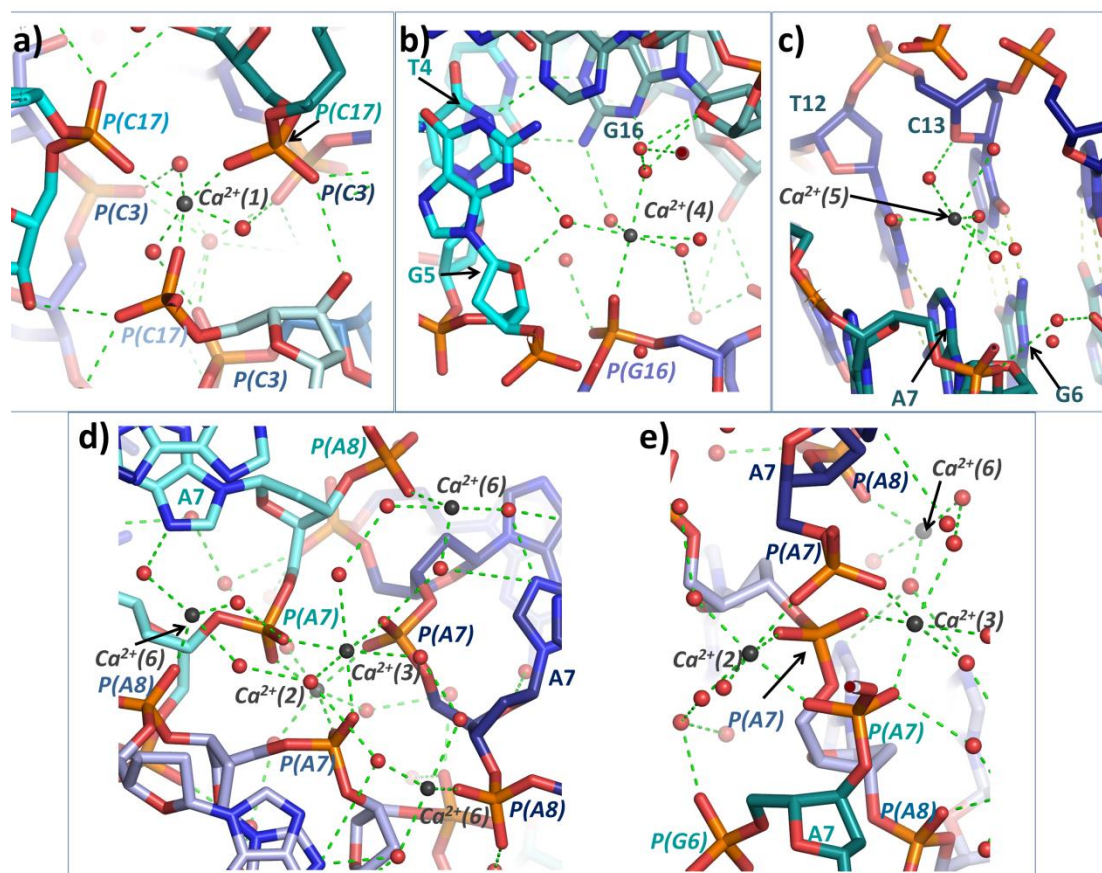
\*Detailed for **base/sugar/phosphate before or after** the residue moieties of each residue (visually inspected in *COOT*).

\*\*Indicated by  $D_{loss}^{\rho}(atom)$  for structures from datasets 7, 13, 19, 25, 31 and 37, respectively (calculated using *RIDL*).

$$D_{loss}^{\rho}(atom) = \frac{\max_{v \in V_{atom}} [\rho_{\Delta}(v) \rho_{calc}(v)]}{\max_{v \in V_{atom}} [\rho_{calc}(v)]}$$

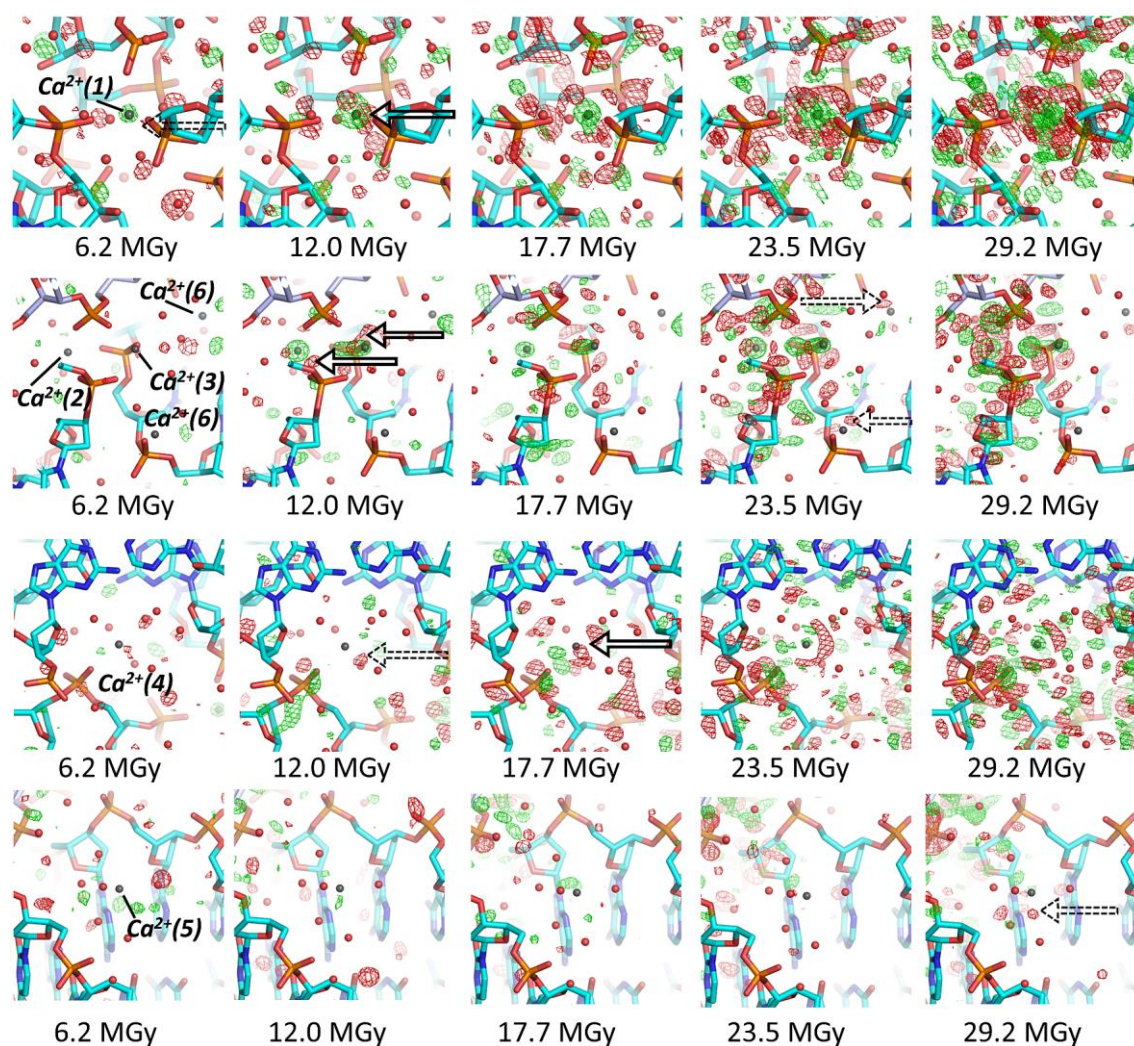
where  $\rho_{\Delta}(v)$  is the difference density map,  $F_{obs,n} - F_{obs,l}$ , and  $\rho_{calc}(v)$  is the electron density map calculated using  $F_{calc}$  amplitudes and  $\varphi_{calc}$  phases of the refined model at a voxel,  $v$ , within the volume pertaining to that atom,  $V_{atom}$ .

## Supplementary Figure 1



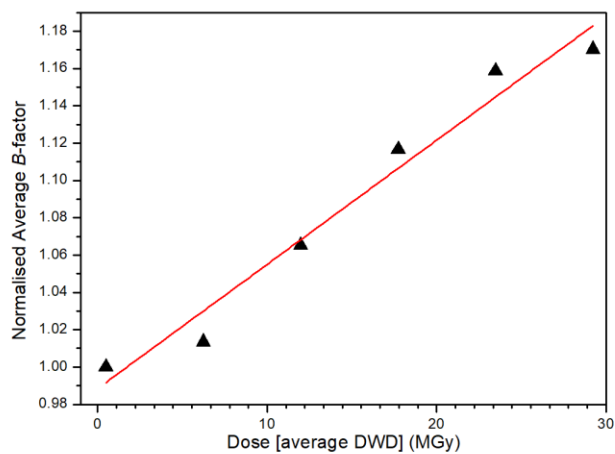
**Figure 1.** Coordination spheres of the calcium ions in the DNA structure. The binding environments of (a)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(1)$ , (b)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(4)$ , (c)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(5)$ , and (d)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(2)$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(3)$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(6)$  are shown. (e) A close up of three symmetry equivalent phosphates (of the A7 nucleotide) coordinating two calcium ions.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(1)$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(2)$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}(3)$  are positioned on a vertical crystallographic threefold axis. Atoms are shown as follows: carbon, sky blue, light blue, dark blue and teal for different DNA chains; phosphorus, orange; oxygen, red, and nitrogen, dark blue. Phosphorus atoms are labelled with the one letter code and number of the nucleotide to which they belong. Hydrogen bonds are shown in green (having donor-acceptor distance  $< 3.5\text{\AA}$ ).

## Supplementary Figure 2.



**Figure 2.** Electron density changes at the calcium sites.  $F_{obs,n} - F_{obs,1}$  difference electron density maps calculated using RIDL for datasets  $n = 7, 13, 19, 25$  and  $31$  are contoured at  $3.0\sigma$  and  $-3.0\sigma$  levels in green and red, respectively. The calcium ions are shown in grey and they are labelled in the left panels. Black arrows show electron density loss commencing around  $Ca^{2+}$  ions. The positive difference electron density contoured in green around  $Ca^{2+}(1)$  and  $Ca^{2+}(2)$  at doses of 6.2 MGy and 12.0 MGy, respectively, indicate reduction of the metal ions.

### Supplementary Figure 3



**Figure 3.** Average atomic  $B$ -factors for the structures derived from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> datasets against dose (MGy), normalised to that of the structure from the lowest dose dataset. A linear fit to the data is shown, giving a gradient of approximately  $0.007 \text{ MGy}^{-1}$ .

### Reference

Bury, C. S. & Garman, E. F. (2018). *J. Appl. Cryst* **51**, 952-962.