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1 **Homologous recombination induced by a replication fork barrier requires**
2 **cooperation between strand invasion and strand annealing activities**

3

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14 **ABSTRACT**

15

16 Replication stress and abundant repetitive sequences have emerged as primary conditions underlying
17 genomic instability in eukaryotes. Elucidating the mechanism of recombination between repeated
18 sequences in the context of replication stress is essential to understanding how genome
19 rearrangements occur. To gain insight into this process, we used a prokaryotic Tus/*Ter* barrier
20 designed to induce transient replication fork stalling near inverted repeats in the budding yeast
21 genome. Remarkably, we show that the replication fork block stimulates a unique recombination
22 pathway dependent on Rad51 strand invasion and Rad52-Rad59 strand annealing activities, as well
23 as Mph1/Rad5 fork remodelers, Mre11/Exo1 short and long-range resection machineries, Rad1-
24 Rad10 nuclease and DNA polymerase δ . Furthermore, we show recombination at stalled replication
25 forks is limited by the Srs2 helicase and Mus81-Mms4/Yen1 structure-selective nucleases. Physical
26 analysis of replication-associated recombinants revealed that half are associated with an inversion of
27 sequence between the repeats. Based on our extensive genetic characterization, we propose a model
28 for recombination of closely linked repeats at stalled replication forks that can actively contribute to
29 genomic rearrangements.

30

31

32 **INTRODUCTION**

33

34 Maintaining genome integrity is essential for accurate transmission of genetic information and cell
35 survival. Replication stress has emerged as a major driver of genomic instability in normal and cancer
36 cells. Replication forks become stressed as a result of DNA lesions, spontaneous formation of
37 secondary structures, RNA-DNA hybrids, protein-DNA complexes, activation of oncogenes, or
38 depletion of nucleotides ¹⁻³. These obstacles to the progression of replication can cause forks to slow
39 down, stall and collapse. Consequently, multiple mechanisms have evolved to handle perturbed
40 replication forks to ensure genomic stability ⁴.

41 In eukaryotes, the presence of multiple replication origins, including dormant origins that are
42 fired in response to replication stress, is one way to ensure complete genome duplication ^{5,6}.
43 Alternatively, the obstacle can be bypassed by translesion polymerases or by legitimate template
44 switching. The latter is a strand exchange reaction mediated by homologous recombination (HR)
45 proteins, consisting of annealing a nascent strand to its undamaged sister chromatid to template new
46 DNA synthesis ⁷. In recent years, replication fork reversal has also emerged as a central remodeling
47 process in the recovery of replication in both eukaryotes and bacteria ⁸⁻¹². This process allows stalled
48 replication forks to reverse their progression through the unwinding and annealing of the two nascent
49 strands concomitant with reannealing of the parental duplex DNA, resulting in the formation of a four-

50 way-junction, sometimes called a chicken-foot structure. Consequently, the lesion can be bypassed
51 by extension of the leading strand using the lagging strand as a template followed by branch migration
52 of the reversed structure. Alternatively, the extruded nascent strands can undergo HR-dependent
53 invasion of the homologous sequence in the reformed parental dsDNA, resulting in the formation of a
54 D-loop to restart replication. In bacteria, the replisome is reassembled on the D-loop structure ¹³,
55 whereas in eukaryotes DNA synthesis within the D-loop can extend to the telomere or be terminated
56 by a converging replication fork ⁵. In addition, relocation of a lesion back into the parental duplex could
57 facilitate repair by the excision repair pathways ¹⁴.

58 Thus, along with its critical role in DNA repair and segregation of chromosome homologs
59 during meiosis, HR is involved in multiple replication restart mechanisms, which contribute to the
60 preservation of genome integrity. However, HR can also be a source of instability as it occasionally
61 occurs between chromosome homologs in diploid mitotic cells, resulting in loss of heterozygosity.
62 Moreover, non-allelic HR (NAHR) between dispersed repeats can cause genome rearrangements ¹⁵⁻
63 ¹⁸. A significant factor underlying chromosome rearrangements is the abundance of repeated
64 sequences in eukaryotic genomes. Approximately 45% of the human genome is composed of
65 repetitive sequences including transposon-derived repeats, processed pseudogenes, simple
66 sequence repeats, tandemly repeated sequences and low-copy repeats (LCRs) distributed across all
67 chromosomes ^{19,20}. NAHR between repeated sequences can lead to deletions, duplications,
68 inversions or translocations ²¹⁻²⁷. Consequently, NAHR has been associated with many genomic
69 disorders ^{28,29} and is a major contributor to copy-number variation (CNV) in humans.

70 It is well established that rearrangements due to NAHR can result from the repair of double
71 strand breaks (DSBs) ³⁰⁻³⁴. However, studies in yeast, human and bacteria have shown that such
72 genomic alterations can also arise during replication ^{18,24,35,36}. Notably, studies in
73 *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* have shown that a protein-induced, site-specific replication fork barrier
74 can cause a high frequency of genomic rearrangements in the absence of a long-lived DSB
75 intermediate ^{24,37}, consistent with the idea that replication stress contributes to NAHR. Elucidating the
76 molecular mechanisms of NAHR occurring during the processing and restart of stressed replication
77 forks remains crucial to understanding how genome rearrangements occur.

78 In *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, spontaneous HR between repeated sequences shows different
79 genetic requirements depending on the genomic location of the repeats. Inter-chromosomal
80 recombination is generally Rad51 dependent, whereas recombination between tandem direct repeats
81 can occur by Rad51-independent single-strand annealing (SSA) ³⁸. It has been shown that repeats in
82 inverted orientation can spontaneously recombine by Rad51-dependent and Rad51-independent
83 mechanisms ³⁹, and these two pathways generate different recombination products. Rad51-mediated
84 recombination results in gene conversion, which maintains the intervening sequence in the original
85 configuration, whereas Rad51-independent recombination leads to inversion of the intervening DNA.

86 The inversion events require Rad52 and Rad59⁴⁰, which are known to catalyze annealing of RPA-
87 coated single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) *in vitro*, and are required for SSA *in vivo*. Because DSB-induced
88 recombination between inverted repeats is dependent on Rad51⁴¹, it was proposed that the
89 spontaneous Rad51-independent inversions could be the result of annealing between exposed ssDNA
90 at stressed replication forks⁴².

91 To elucidate the mechanism of NAHR between inverted repeats in the context of replication
92 stress, we investigated the role of a protein-induced replication fork barrier in promoting inverted
93 repeats recombination. Previous studies have shown that the *Escherichia coli* Tus/Ter complex can
94 function as a DNA replication fork barrier when engineered into the genome of yeast or mouse cells
95⁴³⁻⁴⁵. Here, we demonstrate that a polar replication fork barrier engineered to induce fork stalling
96 downstream of inverted repeats is sufficient to trigger NAHR. Physical analysis of the recombinants
97 showed that gene conversion and inversion events were stimulated to the same extent. Unlike
98 spontaneous events, we found that replication-associated NAHR unexpectedly relies on a unique
99 pathway dependent on Rad51 strand invasion and Rad52-Rad59 strand annealing activities. We
100 discuss a model to account for dependence on both Rad51 and Rad52-Rad59 and formation of gene
101 conversion or inversion outcomes.

102

103 RESULTS

104

105 A polar replication fork barrier stimulates NAHR

106 To assess NAHR, we used a recombination reporter composed of two *ade2* heteroalleles oriented as
107 inverted repeats³⁹. The inverted repeat cassette was inserted at the *HIS2* locus, 4 kb centromere
108 distal to the efficient *ARS607* replication origin, on chromosome 6. The origin-proximal *ade2-n* allele
109 contains a +2 frameshift located 370 bp away from the stop codon and is transcribed by the native
110 *ADE2* promoter. The origin-distal allele, *ade2Δ5'*, has a deletion of the first 176 nucleotides along with
111 the promoter. The two repeats share 1.8 kb of homology and are separated by 1.4 kb containing a
112 *TRP1* gene transcribed by its native promoter (Fig 1A).

113 To analyze recombination in the context of a unique stressed replication fork, in the absence
114 of any genome-wide stress or global checkpoint activation, we took advantage of the galactose-
115 inducible Tus/Ter replication fork barrier^{43,46}. We inserted 14 *TerB* repeats (hereafter referred to as
116 14 *Ter*) in the permissive or blocking orientation relative to *ARS607*, 120 bp or 170 bp distal to the
117 *ade2Δ5'* repeat, respectively (Fig 1A). The location was selected based on a previous study showing
118 that Tus/Ter induces mutagenesis of the newly replicated region behind the stalled fork⁴⁷. The *P_{GAL1}*-
119 *Tus* cassette was integrated at the *LEU2* locus.

120 In cells containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation, an elevated proportion of colonies
121 developing white sectors, indicative of an Ade⁺ phenotype, was noticeable on plates containing

122 galactose (Fig 1B). Consistently, quantification of Ade⁺ recombinants arising in this strain showed that
123 expression of the Tus protein stimulated recombination frequency from 0.62% to 8.08% (Fig 1C; Table
124 S1). We confirmed that the induction of the Tus protein expression had no effect on recombination
125 frequency in cells containing no *Ter* repeats or 14 *Ter* repeats in the permissive orientation (Fig 1C;
126 Table S1). By two-dimensional (2D) gel analysis of a 5 kb fragment encompassing part of the *ade2*
127 reporter and the *Ter* repeats, we confirmed that induction of the Tus protein expression generates a
128 significant replication fork arrest in the strain containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation (Fig
129 1D; Fig S1). Thus, replication fork stalling at a polar Tus/*Ter* barrier stimulates recombination between
130 inverted repeats, more than 10-fold. We investigated the nature of the Tus/*Ter*-induced events by a
131 PCR-based method (Fig 1E). Gene conversions and inversions were equivalently induced upon
132 expression of the Tus protein, representing 47.5% and 52.5% of the Ade⁺ recombinants, respectively
133 (Fig 1F).

134 The role of genome-wide replication stress in stimulation of NAHR was assessed by growing
135 cells with the *ade2* reporter on media containing DNA damaging agents known to induce replication
136 stress, namely, methyl methanesulfanate (MMS), camptothecin (CPT) or hydroxyurea (HU). Within
137 three days, an increased proportion of colonies containing white sectors, indicative of an Ade⁺
138 phenotype, was clearly visible in the presence of MMS and CPT (Fig S2A). Consistently, quantification
139 of Ade⁺ recombination frequencies under normal conditions (0.62% spontaneous recombination) and
140 genotoxic conditions (16.15% with MMS, 9.79% with CPT, 1.5% with HU) revealed a strong stimulation
141 of recombination between the inverted *ade2* repeats in presence of MMS and CPT (Fig S2B). The
142 types of recombination events induced by MMS or CPT were determined by PCR analysis of
143 independent recombinants. In the presence of MMS, the frequency of gene conversions was 30-fold
144 higher (10.8%), whereas the frequency of inversions was increased by a factor 18 (5.4%). In presence
145 of CPT, the frequency of gene conversions was 9 times higher (3.2%), whereas inversions were
146 induced 22-fold (6.36%) (Fig S2C). We note that in the presence of CPT, the nature of the
147 recombination event of a small proportion of recombinants could not be easily determined by the PCR
148 method employed and these were not analyzed further. We detected a moderate induction of
149 recombination frequency by HU and the distribution of gene conversions and inversions appeared
150 similar to normal conditions (Fig S2B and C). Since replication fork arrest by a protein block is effective
151 in stimulating NAHR, we suggest that the attenuated induction of Ade⁺ recombinants in response to
152 HU is due to the dNTP requirement for DNA synthesis associated with recombination-dependent fork
153 restart.

154 Together, these results indicate that NAHR between long inverted repeats, leading to gene
155 conversion or inversion of the intervening sequence, can be generated by genome-wide replication
156 stress or by a localized replication fork barrier, consistent with prior studies in *S. pombe* and mouse
157 cells^{24,37,44}.

158

159 **NAHR associated with replication fork stalling has unique genetic requirements compared to**
160 **spontaneous NAHR**

161 In line with previous studies ^{40,42}, we found that spontaneous gene conversions and inversions are
162 products of two independent recombination pathways. In the absence of Tus/*Ter*-induced replication
163 stress, deletion of *RAD51* or *RAD59* only partially decreased recombination between the *ade2* repeats,
164 whereas no recombination was detected in the double mutant. The Rad52 protein is involved in both
165 pathways as the recombination frequency of the *rad52Δ* strain, like the *rad51Δ rad59Δ* double mutant,
166 was below detection (Fig 2A, Table S1). Physical analysis of spontaneous Ade⁺ recombinants arising
167 in the *rad51Δ* mutant showed that 82% of the tested recombinants contained an inversion. On the
168 other hand, in the *rad59Δ* mutant, 71% of the recombinants were gene conversions (Fig 2B). These
169 results confirm that spontaneous NAHR events leading to inversions of the *TRP1* gene are largely
170 independent of Rad51 and require Rad59 and Rad52, whereas gene conversions are mostly
171 independent of Rad59 and require Rad51 and Rad52 ⁴⁰.

172 Surprisingly, both *rad51Δ* and *rad59Δ* single mutants showed no induction of recombination
173 by the Tus/*Ter* replication barrier (Fig 2C). We confirmed by 2D gels that the Tus-generated replication
174 fork barrier was still detected in both mutants (Fig 2D). Thus, it appears that gene conversions and
175 inversions associated with replication fork stalling have specific genetic requirements. Rad52 is
176 essential for recombination in this context as well since no Ade⁺ recombinants were detected in the
177 *rad52Δ* strain (Fig 2C). Intriguingly, physical analysis of Tus-induced recombinants in the *rad51Δ* and
178 *rad59Δ* mutant strains revealed a different distribution from spontaneous events (Fig 2E).

179 We also determined the frequency of MMS and CPT-stimulated recombination in *rad51Δ* and
180 *rad59Δ* single mutants using low concentrations of the drugs that allowed growth of the mutants while
181 stimulating recombination in the WT strain (Fig S2D). Whereas the frequency of recombination in the
182 WT strain increased from 0.62% to 14.38% with MMS and 2.09% with CPT, we detected no stimulation
183 of recombination by genotoxic agents in *rad51Δ* and *rad59Δ* mutants.

184 Together, these results indicate that recombination between inverted repeats associated with
185 replication stress is mediated by a unique molecular mechanism involving Rad51, Rad52 and Rad59,
186 and leads to both gene conversions and inversions (Fig 2F).

187

188 **Replication associated NAHR events rely on Rad51 strand invasion and Rad52 strand**
189 **annealing activities**

190 We next wanted to further explore the roles of Rad51 and Rad52 in Tus/*Ter*-induced NAHR. Rad51
191 has three established functions at stalled replication forks. First, Rad51 promotes replication fork
192 reversal in mammalian cells, but does not have fork remodeling activity on its own and different models
193 have been proposed to explain its role in this process ⁸. Second, Rad51 is required for protection of

194 nascent DNA strands at reversed forks from extensive nucleolytic degradation by Mre11^{48,49}. Finally,
195 Rad51 plays a role in the restart of arrested replication forks by several recombination pathways
196 involving strand invasion and strand exchange^{8,49,50}.

197 The *rad51-II3A* allele contains three amino acid substitutions, eliminating the secondary DNA
198 binding site. The mutant protein retains the ability to form filaments on ssDNA but is defective for
199 strand exchange activity^{51,52}. A recent study, modeling this mutation in human cells, revealed that the
200 enzymatic activity of Rad51 is neither required to promote fork reversal nor to protect stalled forks from
201 extensive degradation. In contrast, efficient replication restart is dependent on Rad51 strand exchange
202 activity, but can be partially rescued by strand exchange-independent mechanisms such as regression
203 of the reversed fork by branch migration or replication origin firing⁵². Similarly, the *rad51-II3A* mutant
204 protects stalled replication forks from nucleolytic degradation in *S. pombe*⁵³.

205 We introduced the *rad51-II3A* allele in the strain containing the *ade2* inverted repeats and 14
206 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation. In the absence of Tus, the frequency of spontaneous
207 recombination decreased from 0.62% in the WT to 0.21% in the mutant (Fig 3A, blue data points).
208 Furthermore, induction of fork stalling did not stimulate recombination between the *ade2* inverted
209 repeats (Fig 3A, red data points). We note that although not statistically significant (p-value=0.3),
210 spontaneous and replication-associated recombination in the *rad51Δ* strain was a little higher than in
211 the *rad51-II3A* mutant which might indicate that the presence of inactive *rad51-II3A* filaments limits
212 recombination events.

213 Rad52 has two functions in homologous recombination: mediation of Rad51 nucleoprotein
214 filament assembly on RPA-coated ssDNA and annealing of complementary ssDNA during second end
215 capture or SSA at DSBs³⁸. The *rad52-R70A* separation-of-function mutant is proficient for Rad51
216 loading but defective for ssDNA annealing⁵⁴ (Fig 3C). We observed a 22-fold decreased frequency of
217 Tus-induced recombination in the *rad52-R70A* mutant strain, consistent with an important role for
218 strand annealing during replication-associated NAHR (Fig 3D).

219 Taken together, these results suggest that HR associated with fork stalling relies on Rad51-
220 catalyzed strand invasion, distinct from its role in protecting stalled forks from degradation, as well as
221 Rad52-Rad59 catalyzed strand annealing.

222

223 **Spontaneous and replication associated NAHR involve different Rad51 mediators**

224 We next assessed the contribution of various Rad51 mediators in spontaneous and Tus/*Ter*-induced
225 recombination. The Rad51 paralogs, Rad55 and Rad57, form a stable heterodimer which assists
226 Rad51 nucleation on RPA-coated ssDNA and promotes rapid re-assembly of filaments after their
227 disruption by the anti-recombinase Srs2^{25,55,56}. Spontaneous recombination between the *ade2* repeats
228 was reduced 11-fold in the *rad57Δ* mutant strain, consistent with a previous study (Fig 3C, blue data
229 points)⁵⁷. This finding could indicate that in the absence of the Rad55-Rad57 complex to stabilize

230 Rad51, unstable Rad51 filaments are unable to mediate gene conversion but also inhibit the Rad51-
231 independent spontaneous inversion pathway. When replication fork stalling was induced, there was
232 no stimulation of recombination in the *rad57Δ* strain (Fig 3C, red data points) and recombination was
233 again more deficient in the *rad57Δ* strain than it was in the *rad51Δ* mutant (0.09% vs 0.32%). We also
234 tested whether loss of Srs2 suppresses the *rad57Δ* defects in Tus/*Ter*-induced recombination.
235 Consistent with previous studies⁵⁸, spontaneous recombination was increased in the *srs2Δ* mutant,
236 and Tus/*Ter* stimulated recombination was increased by 3-fold over the WT value (Fig 3C). Loss of
237 Srs2 partially rescued the *rad57Δ* recombination defect, but the frequency was still 10-fold lower than
238 WT cells, indicating that Rad57's function is not restricted to antagonizing Srs2.

239 The Shu complex is another mediator of Rad51 presynaptic filament formation, which interacts
240 directly with Rad51 and the Rad55-Rad57 complex, and has been specifically implicated in the repair
241 of DNA replication-associated damage⁵⁹⁻⁶³. Csm2 is one of the four members of the Shu complex.
242 Unlike in the *rad57Δ* mutant, spontaneous recombination between the repeats was not diminished and
243 was even moderately enhanced in the *csm2Δ* mutant (Fig 3D, blue data points). However, when
244 replication fork stalling was induced, recombination in the *csm2Δ* mutant was two-fold lower than in
245 the WT strain (Fig 3D, red data points) suggesting that the Shu complex facilitates NAHR at stalled
246 replication forks but is not strictly required.

247 Rad54 is an ATP-dependent dsDNA translocase that is required to facilitate Rad51-mediated
248 strand invasion⁶⁴⁻⁶⁶. Consistent with a previous study⁵⁷, we observed that spontaneous recombination
249 was significantly reduced in the *rad54Δ* mutant, and Tus-induced events were 26-fold lower than WT
250 (0.31% vs 8.08%), similar to the frequency observed for the *rad51Δ* mutant (Fig 3D).

251 Our results show that Rad51 and its mediators are differentially implicated in spontaneous and
252 replication-associated inverted-repeat recombination. These data indicate that replication-associated
253 NAHR must involve invasion from ssDNA from one *ade2* copy into dsDNA from the other *ade2* copy.
254 Only the long *ade2-n* allele can be restored to a functional *ADE2* gene, so we reasoned that the
255 truncated copy must be the one invaded and used as donor template. Based on the position of the
256 replication fork barrier in our genetic system, fork reversal would promote reannealing of the parental
257 strands of the truncated *ade2* copy, thus providing a dsDNA substrate for invasion.

258

259 **Is fork reversal required for replication associated NAHR?**

260 To determine the role of fork reversal in Tus/*Ter*-stimulated recombination we eliminated DNA
261 remodelers that have been implicated in fork reversal. The translocase Rad5 (HLTF in human) initiates
262 replication fork reversal by remodeling the leading strand and proximally positioning the leading and
263 lagging arms, which converts the arrested fork into a chicken-foot structure^{67,68}. However, deletion of
264 *RAD5* showed no significant effect on spontaneous or replication-associated recombination (Fig 4A).
265 The Mph1 helicase (FANCM in human, Fml1 in *S. pombe*) also promotes fork reversal *in vitro* and is

266 required for recombination at a protein-induced fork barrier in *S. pombe*⁶⁹⁻⁷¹. Loss of Mph1 did not
267 reduce the frequency of spontaneous recombination; however, Tus/*Ter*-stimulated recombination was
268 moderately reduced (p-value=0.05), and recombination was further reduced in the *mph1Δ rad5Δ*
269 double mutant (Fig 4A). Taken together, our results suggest that NAHR events associated with fork
270 stalling require remodeling activity of Mph1 with Rad5 serving a minor or redundant function. Physical
271 analysis of independent recombinants in the *mph1Δ* mutant showed a distribution of replication
272 associated-events similar to the WT strain (Fig S3A). However, in the *mph1Δ rad5Δ* double mutant
273 conversions were reduced 15-fold compared to the WT strain, whereas inversions were only reduced
274 4-fold (Fig S3A). This could be due to an additional effect of Mph1, in this context, in dissociating the
275 migrating D-loop, thus leading to proportionally more inversions in the *mph1Δ rad5Δ* double mutant.

276

277 **Tus/*Ter* stimulated recombination requires Mre11 and Exo1**

278 Fork reversal at the Tus/*Ter* stall, is predicted to form a single-end DSB for end resection to generate
279 a ssDNA substrate for Rad51. DNA end resection occurs by a two-step mechanism involving
280 sequential action by short-range and long-range resection nucleases⁷². Mre11 nuclease initiates end
281 resection at DSBs as part of the Mre11-Rad50-Xrs2 complex, while Exo1 or Dna2-Sgs1 promotes
282 extensive resection. Studies in *S. pombe* and in mammalian cells have shown that the same nucleases
283 can degrade regressed forks^{4,73}. In budding yeast, MRX is essential for resection of DSBs with end-
284 blocking lesions, but resection can still occur at “clean” DSBs by the direct action of the long-range
285 nucleases, Exo1 and Dna2⁷².

286 To determine the role of DNA end resection in Tus/*Ter*-stimulated recombination, we
287 eliminated DNA nucleases that function in short-range and long-range resection. The frequency of
288 spontaneous and Tus-induced recombination was reduced by 3-fold in the *mre11Δ* mutant (Fig 4B)
289 indicating a role for resection initiation by MRX. In the absence of Exo1, spontaneous recombination
290 occurred at the WT level (Fig 4B, blue data points); however, stimulation of recombination by the
291 Tus/*Ter* barrier was abolished (Fig 4B, red data points). This finding suggests that replication-
292 associated NAHR relies on extensive degradation of the newly synthesized lagging strand by Exo1 to
293 generate a ssDNA leading strand substrate for Rad51 loading.

294 Sgs1 and Dna2 act redundantly with Exo1 in long-range resection at DSBs. The striking defect
295 in Tus/*Ter*-stimulated recombination in the *exo1Δ* mutant suggests that Exo1 plays a more important
296 role in fork resection than Sgs1-Dna2. Consistent with this interpretation, we found that the frequency
297 of Tus/*Ter*-stimulated recombination was not reduced in the *sgs1Δ* mutant compared to the WT (Fig
298 4B, red data points). In the absence or presence of Tus expression, *sgs1Δ* cells showed a slight
299 increase in recombination (Fig 4B, blue data points), consistent with the previously reported hyper-
300 recombination phenotype⁷⁴. This result seems to indicate that Sgs1 does not play a significant role in

301 fork resection. However, the caveat is that Sgs1 is involved in other processes, such as the dissolution
302 of recombination intermediates, and these roles could mask a role in fork resection⁷⁵.

303

304 **Opposing roles of structure-selective nucleases in replication associated NAHR**

305 Fork reversal at the Tus-induced barrier could generate an invading end with a short sequence
306 heterology that would need to be removed to prime DNA synthesis within the D-loop intermediate.
307 Previous studies in yeast have shown that Rad1-Rad10 nuclease removes 3' heterologies during
308 Rad51-dependent strand invasion, as well as 3' flaps formed during Rad51-independent SSA⁷⁶.
309 Consistent with the need for heterologous flap or loop removal, the frequency of Tus/*Ter*-induced
310 recombination was significantly reduced in the *rad1Δ* mutant (Fig 4C, red data points).

311 Fork reversal creates a four-way junction that can be cleaved by structure-selective nucleases
312 to create a one-ended DSB. In budding yeast, Mus81-Mms4 is the main nuclease responsible for
313 cleaving recombination intermediates, with Yen1 providing a back-up function^{5,77-79}. We did not find a
314 significant change in the frequency of spontaneous or replication-associated recombination in the
315 *mus81Δ* mutant. However, elimination of Yen1 and Mus81 resulted in a 2-fold increase in the
316 frequency of Tus/*Ter*-induced recombination from 8.08% to 15.45% (Fig 4C). Thus, Mus81-Mms4 and
317 Yen1 may abort the normal process for forming recombinants at the Tus/*Ter* barrier (Fig 4D). We also
318 looked at the distribution of replication associated-recombination events in the *mus81Δ yen1Δ* double
319 mutant (Fig S3B). Inversions represent more than 50% of the products in the double mutant indicating
320 that they are not generated by cleavage of a HJ-containing intermediate. The increase in Tus/*Ter*-
321 stimulated inversion products in the *mus81Δ yen1Δ* double mutant suggests that Mus81-Mms4 and
322 Yen1 might cleave the migrating D-loop initiated by Rad51, in addition to the reversed fork intermediate
323 (Fig 4D).

324

325 **A specific role for the replicative polymerase Pol δ at replication associated NAHR**

326 NAHR is predicted to require DNA synthesis to convert the *ade2-n* allele, and potentially to invert the
327 *TRP1* gene between the repeats. *In vivo* and *in vitro* studies have shown that DNA Pol δ initiates
328 synthesis from the invading 3' end within the D-loop intermediate⁸⁰⁻⁸³. *S. cerevisiae* Pol δ is a
329 heterotrimer comprised of a catalytic subunit Pol3 and two accessory subunits Pol31 and Pol32⁸⁴.
330 Pol31 and Pol32 also associate with Rev3 and Rev7 to form another B-family DNA polymerase, Pol
331 ζ, a translesion polymerase responsible for mutagenic replication of damaged DNA^{85,86}.

332 When we deleted *POL32* in the *ade2* reporter strain containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking
333 orientation, we observed a decrease in the frequency of spontaneous recombination (Fig 5, blue data
334 points). Upon induction of fork stalling by Tus/*Ter* in the *pol32Δ* mutant, we observed a significant
335 decrease of recombination compared to the WT strain (2.08% vs 8.08 % in WT) (Fig 5, red data points).

336 To determine whether the *pol32Δ* defect was due to Pol δ or Pol ζ , we measured recombination
337 frequencies in a *rev3Δ* mutant. Unlike the *pol32Δ* strain, the *rev3Δ* mutant showed a full stimulation of
338 recombination upon induction of the Tus/*Ter* barrier. The double mutant exhibited a similar phenotype
339 to the *pol32Δ* single mutant; thus, Pol δ but not Pol ζ appears to be involved in this process.

340

341 **DISCUSSION**

342

343 Replication stress, defined as a slowing down or complete arrest of DNA synthesis during
344 chromosome replication, has emerged as a primary cause of genome instability, a hallmark of cancer
345 and other human disorders associated with genomic rearrangements ^{1,87,88}. In fission yeast and
346 mammalian cells, replication fork stalling adjacent to a recombination reporter can lead to increased
347 recombination events ^{44,89,90}. In this work, we show that a Tus/*Ter* barrier designed to induce transient
348 replication fork stalling near inverted repeats stimulates recombination mediated by a unique genetic
349 pathway, distinct from spontaneous NAHR or post-replicative repair. The model presented in Figure
350 6, which is discussed in detail below, is based on our genetic findings and builds on other template
351 switching models for replication-associated recombination.

352

353 **Replication-associated NAHR has different genetic requirements to spontaneous NAHR and** 354 **post replicative repair pathways**

355 Spontaneous inversion of the sequence between inverted repeats is dependent on Rad52 and Rad59,
356 whereas spontaneous gene conversion without an associated inversion is dependent on Rad52 and
357 Rad51 ^{39,42}. In contrast, we show here that HR induced at a replication-fork barrier triggers both
358 inversions and gene conversions mediated by Rad51, Rad59 and Rad52 working together in a unique
359 pathway.

360 The template switching mechanism of post replicative repair (PRR) is a DNA damage tolerance
361 pathway that involves use of the undamaged sister chromatid as a homologous template for lesion
362 bypass ^{7,91}. One model of template switching involves reversal of the stalled fork for stabilization and/or
363 repositioning of the lesion to bypass damage ^{9,10,92}. The other model involves pairing of a template
364 strand at a ssDNA gap with the undamaged sister chromatid to form a pseudo-double Holliday junction
365 (dHJ) intermediate ⁷. The second mode of PRR template switching is mediated by several proteins
366 that we show are also important for NAHR at Tus/*Ter* stalled forks: Rad51, Rad55-Rad57, Csm2, Exo1
367 and DNA Pol δ ⁹³⁻⁹⁵. However, Rad59 is not required for PRR template switching, whereas we
368 detected a strong reduction of NAHR at stalled forks in the *rad59Δ* mutant ⁹³. In addition, Rad5, which
369 is essential for PRR template switching ⁹⁴, is only required for Tus-induced recombination in the
370 absence of Mph1 (see later paragraph). Overall, our data show that the mode of HR associated with

371 replication stalling at repetitive sequences is genetically different from spontaneous HR or PRR
372 template switching pathways.

373

374 **Why are Rad59, Rad52 and Rad1 required for Rad51-mediated NAHR at stalled forks?**

375 Rad59 contributes to a subset of HR events by assisting Rad52 in second end capture during DSB
376 repair and in SSA at direct repeats^{96,97}. Thus, Rad59-dependent recombination is thought to be linked
377 to DSB repair where both ends have to be rescued through simultaneous interactions with an unbroken
378 template. However, reversal of the stalled fork at the Tus/*Ter* barrier would generate a regressed arm
379 resembling a one-ended break with no second end for capture by Rad52-Rad59 mediated strand
380 annealing. Thus, the sizable decrease in Rad51-mediated HR at Tus/*Ter* in the *rad59Δ* mutant is
381 intriguing. We suggest that Rad59 acts with Rad52 in facilitating regression of the stalled fork, or
382 restoration of the reversed fork, by mediating annealing of nascent or parental strands. Interestingly,
383 the role of mammalian RAD52 has long remained mysterious due to the presence of BRCA2, which
384 assumes RAD51-mediator function and prevents any significant DNA repair phenotype in RAD52-
385 deficient cells. But RAD52 was recently shown to have a specific protective role in maintaining cell
386 viability under replication stress that is non-redundant with BRCA2^{98,99}. Our results suggest a
387 conserved function for Rad52 during replication stress, involving its strand annealing activity.

388 Rad59 could also function by stabilizing an annealed intermediate with a heterologous tail for
389 cleavage by Rad1-Rad10, as previously suggested¹⁰⁰. Such an intermediate could occur after fork
390 resetting (Fig 6). The other possible functions of Rad1-Rad10 could be in repair of the large loop
391 heterology expected to occur from long tract synthesis and fork reset¹⁰¹; however, we would not expect
392 loss of this function to reduce the frequency of Ade⁺ recombinants.

393

394 **Rad5 and Mph1 redundantly mediate fork reversal at Tus/*Ter* stalled replication forks**

395 We did not detect a decrease of replication associated-NAHR in the *rad5Δ* single mutant, again
396 highlighting the specific genetic requirements of this pathway compared to PRR template switching.
397 However, we found a 5.5-fold decrease in Tus-induced recombination in the *rad5Δ mph1Δ* strain
398 compared to the WT. The relationship between Rad5 and Mph1, the two major DNA remodelers in
399 budding yeast with reported replication fork regression activity, is not fully understood. The additive
400 effect in genotoxic sensitivity observed in the double mutant¹⁰², and partial suppression of MMS
401 sensitivity of a *rad5Δ* mutant by Mph1 hyperactivation, suggests that they have overlapping activities
402¹⁰³, consistent with our findings. The requirement for Rad51 strand invasion activity leads us to propose
403 a model involving invasion of the parental duplex, which would require fork regression to create an
404 invading end. We note that the fork would need to reverse by several kb for the *ade2-n* allele to be
405 placed for invasion of the reformed parental *ade2-5'Δ* allele (Fig 6), which could lead to an under-

406 estimation of recombination induced by the Tus/Ter block. Mph1 is also involved in D-loop dissociation
407 during DSB repair and HR-mediated restart of collapsed replication forks¹⁰⁴⁻¹⁰⁶. If the main activity of
408 Mph1 during NAHR at stalled forks is to dissociate the D-loop we would not expect to observe a
409 reduction in recombination frequency, although the change in the proportion of inversions in the *rad5Δ*
410 *mph1Δ* double mutant is consistent with D-loop dissociation activity of Mph1. It was recently proposed
411 that Mph1 can act coordinately with Rad54 and Rad5 in the HR-driven fork regression mechanism to
412 bypass stalled replication forks¹⁰⁷. We observed a strong reduction of spontaneous and replication-
413 associated NAHR events in the *rad54Δ* mutant. This outcome could be due to a role in fork reversal
414 in addition to the role of Rad54 in promoting Rad51-mediated strand invasion⁶⁴. However, based on
415 the phenotype of *rad5Δ mph1Δ* double mutant, Rad54 does not appear to play a major role in fork
416 reversal.

417

418 **A model for inverted repeat recombination at stalled forks**

419 We envision that a stalled replication fork is reversed into a chicken foot structure by the redundant
420 activities of Rad5 and Mph1 (and potentially Rad54). We propose that the process is assisted by
421 Rad52 and Rad59 which facilitate nascent strand pairing. Fork reversal creates a branched structure
422 that could be acted upon by endonucleases such as Mus81-Mms4 and Yen1 or counteracted by
423 helicases. The reversed fork exposes a regressed arm which is processed to form a 3' ssDNA
424 overhang by the sequential activities of Mre11 and Exo1, generating a ssDNA template for Rad51
425 nucleoprotein filament formation on the leading strand. The resection activity of Exo1 is redundant
426 with that of Sgs-Dna2 during DSB repair but we did not observe a defect in NAHR events at stalled
427 forks in the *sgs1Δ* mutant. Another activity of Exo1 shown in human, is to recruit translesion synthesis
428 DNA polymerases to sites of damage¹⁰⁸. However, our results indicate that the translesion polymerase
429 Pol ζ is not involved in DNA synthesis during NAHR at stalled forks.

430 We show that Rad51 loading on the leading ssDNA template is facilitated by Rad55-Rad57
431 and the Shu complex. One activity of Rad55-Rad57 is to counteract the anti-recombinase Srs2, but
432 our finding that deletion of *SRS2* only partially suppresses the *rad57Δ* HR defect suggests an
433 additional function for the Rad51 paralog complex. Interestingly, a recent study showed that Rad55-
434 Rad57 is essential for the promotion of UV-induced HR independently of Srs2 and prevents the
435 recruitment of translesion synthesis polymerases which would compete with template switching¹⁰⁹.

436 We propose that Rad51 catalyzes strand invasion into the parental non-allelic inverted
437 sequence ahead of the reversed fork, facilitated by the dsDNA translocase Rad54. DNA synthesis is
438 mediated by Pol δ using the repetitive sequence as a template. Dissociation of the extended invading
439 strand prior to the intervening sequence (represented by AB in Fig 6) would result in no inversion.
440 Such dissociation may be promoted by Mph1. On the other hand, long tract DNA synthesis through
441 the intervening sequence (B before A on Fig 6) could result in its inversion. Theoretically, inversions

442 could also result from cleavage of a Holliday junction intermediate by Mus81-Mms4 or Yen1. However,
443 we did not observe any decrease of inversions in the *mus81Δ yen1Δ* double mutant (Fig S3B).

444 The reversed fork would then need to be regressed by the action of remodelers and/or strand
445 annealing proteins to restore the replication fork. Regression of the reversed fork could dissociate the
446 D-loop, or helicases could dismantle the D-loop prior to regression. The resulting replication fork would
447 contain heteroduplex DNA encompassing the *ade2-n* allele with the potential to create a functional
448 *ADE2* gene by mismatch correction or segregation of the strands at the next cell cycle. A heterologous
449 tail, or loop, formed between the inverted repeats by long tract synthesis could be cleaved by Rad1-
450 Rad10, or segregate at the next replication cycle resulting in two daughter cells with either a conversion
451 or an inversion.

452 In conclusion, this work uncovers a genetically unique pathway that is stimulated by localized
453 replication stress and can mediate genomic rearrangements of repetitive sequences. It should be
454 noted that our reporter system can only reveal recombination events that lead to the restoration of a
455 functional *ADE2* gene. Reactions where strand invasion of the non-allelic copy occurred downstream
456 from the +2 frameshift location would not be detected. The frequency of NAHR events at inverted
457 repeats that can generate rearrangements is thus likely to be underestimated in our assay.

458 How spontaneous Rad51-independent inversions are generated remains an open question to
459 be explored. Previous studies suggest they are not due to DSB repair and this work supports the idea
460 they are not associated with fork stalling at a protein barrier. Other contexts that could be investigated
461 are replication uncoupling to form long stretches of ssDNA and fork collision with the transcription
462 machinery.

463 **METHODS**

464 **Yeast strains**

465 All yeast strains are derived from W303, corrected for the *rad5-535* mutation, and are *ade2::hisG*
466 (Table S2). The *ade2* inverted-repeat recombination reporter was described previously³⁹. In this study,
467 the reporter was amplified by 2-rounds PCR from the strain 2002-9D⁴² and integrated at the *his2* locus
468 on chromosome 6.

469 The 14 *TerB* repeats were amplified by PCR from plasmids pNBL63 (blocking orientation) and
470 pNBL55 (permissive orientation) and integrated 170 bp and 120 bp distal to the *ade2Δ5'* repeat,
471 respectively. The *P_{GAL1}-HA-Tus* cassette was cloned from plasmid p415- *P_{GAL1}-HA-Tus*⁴³ into
472 pRG205MX¹¹⁰, adjacent to the yeast *LEU2MX* selectable marker, and integrated at the *LEU2* locus.

473 All mutant strains were constructed by genetic crosses using haploid strains in the laboratory
474 collection, with the exception of *csm2Δ*, *mph1Δ* and *mus81Δ* strains that were obtained by

475 transformation with a *KanMX* ORF replacement cassette. Strains used for 2D gels additionally
476 contained a *bar1::HphMX* allele generated by transformation or by genetic cross.

477 **Measurement of recombination frequency**

478 The percentage of Ade⁺ recombinants, which corresponds to recombination frequency, was measured
479 as follows. Strains were grown for 3 days on YPAD (1% yeast extract, 2% bacto-peptone, 2% dextrose,
480 10mg/L adenine) or 4 days on YPAG (1% yeast extract, 2% bacto-peptone, 2% galactose, 10mg/L
481 adenine) plates. Colonies of similar size (described below as initial colonies) were suspended in 1mL
482 water to an OD₆₀₀ close to 0.3. Cells were serially diluted and plated on YPAD or synthetic complete
483 – adenine (SC-Ade) medium. Colonies were counted 2 days after plating and two dilutions from each
484 initial colony were averaged. The percent Ade⁺ recombinants was determined by the ratio of the
485 number of colonies growing on SC-Ade plates and YPAD plates x 100. Each data point in the graphs
486 shows the percentage of Ade⁺ recombinants measured from one initial colony. The medians, shown
487 on graphs as black lines, were calculated for each strain and condition from multiple independent trials
488 and are indicated in Table S1, as well as the number of initial colonies tested.

489 **Distribution of Ade⁺ recombinants**

490 To ensure analysis of independent NAHR events, only one Ade⁺ recombinant colony from each initial
491 colony (see above) was used. Inversions and conversions were scored by PCR using a primer
492 annealing to the *his2* sequence upstream of the *ade2* reporter or to the *ade2-n* cassette, and primers
493 of opposite orientation that anneal to the *TRP1* sequence between the repeats (see fig 1E). The
494 number of independent recombinants tested for each strain and condition is indicated in the figures.

495

496 **Statistical analysis**

497 Ade⁺ recombination frequencies were analyzed on log transformed values by one-way Anova with a
498 Bonferroni post-test. Spontaneous and Tus/*Ter* associated data were analyzed separately.
499 Distributions of inversions and conversions among Ade⁺ recombinants were analyzed by Chi-Square
500 test. Stars indicate a significant difference with the WT strain in the same condition: * p-value <0.05,
501 ** p-value <0.005, *** p-value <0.001, **** p-value <0.0001. Where relevant, exact p-values are
502 indicated on figures.

503 **Two-dimensional (2D) gel analysis of replication intermediates**

504 Yeast cultures were grown overnight in YEPL (1% yeast extract, 2% bacto-peptone, 10 mg/L adenine,
505 3% sodium DL-lactate) medium to OD₆₀₀ = 0.8. Cultures were synchronized in G1 with 1.5 µg/ml alpha
506 factor mating pheromone (GenScript) for 3 h at 30°C. Tus expression was induced by adding 2%
507 Galactose (final w/v) for the final 2.5 h of the G1-arrest. Cells were released from G1-arrest by

508 centrifugation, washing and resuspension in warm YEPL medium containing 100 µg/mL pronase.
509 Arrest and release of the cultures were checked by flow cytometry. Cells were incubated for 50 minutes
510 at 30°C, then cultures were placed on ice and treated with 0.1% sodium azide to stop metabolism.
511 The hexadecyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) protocol was followed for extraction of total
512 genomic DNA ¹¹¹. A Qubit Flex fluorometer (Invitrogen) was used for quantification and the DNA yield
513 was about 30 µg from each 200 mL overnight culture.

514 For each 2D gel, 15 µg of genomic DNA was digested overnight with 90 U ClaI. Samples were
515 run on the first-dimension gel (0.35% agarose, 1x Tris-Borate-EDTA) at constant voltage of 1V/cm for
516 ~ 19h, and then stained with 0.3 µg/mL ethidium bromide. Gel strips were excised under a UV trans-
517 illuminator, rotated by 90° and run on a second gel (1.15% agarose, 1x Tris-Borate-EDTA, 0.3 µg/mL
518 ethidium bromide) at 4V/cm for ~ 6h at 4°C.

519

520 **Southern blotting**

521 After denaturation and neutralization of the gels, DNA was transferred in 2 x SSC to positively charged
522 nylon membranes (GE Healthcare Amersham Hybond-N+) and was then immobilized by ultraviolet
523 cross-linking (1200 J). DNA fragments were detected using a mix of five probes labelled by PCR
524 amplification with ³²P dCTP (Perkin Elmer) described in Fig S1. ULTRA-hyb Ultrasensitive
525 hybridization buffer (Invitrogen) was used for hybridization of the probes at 42°C. Membranes were
526 washed as recommended by the manufacturer. 2D gels were exposed for 4 hours in a phosphor
527 screen cassette and the signal was detected with a Typhoon Trio phosphoimager (GE healthcare).

528

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533

534 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

535 L.M. performed all experiments. L.M. and L.S.S. contributed to the study design, data analysis and
536 manuscript preparation.

537

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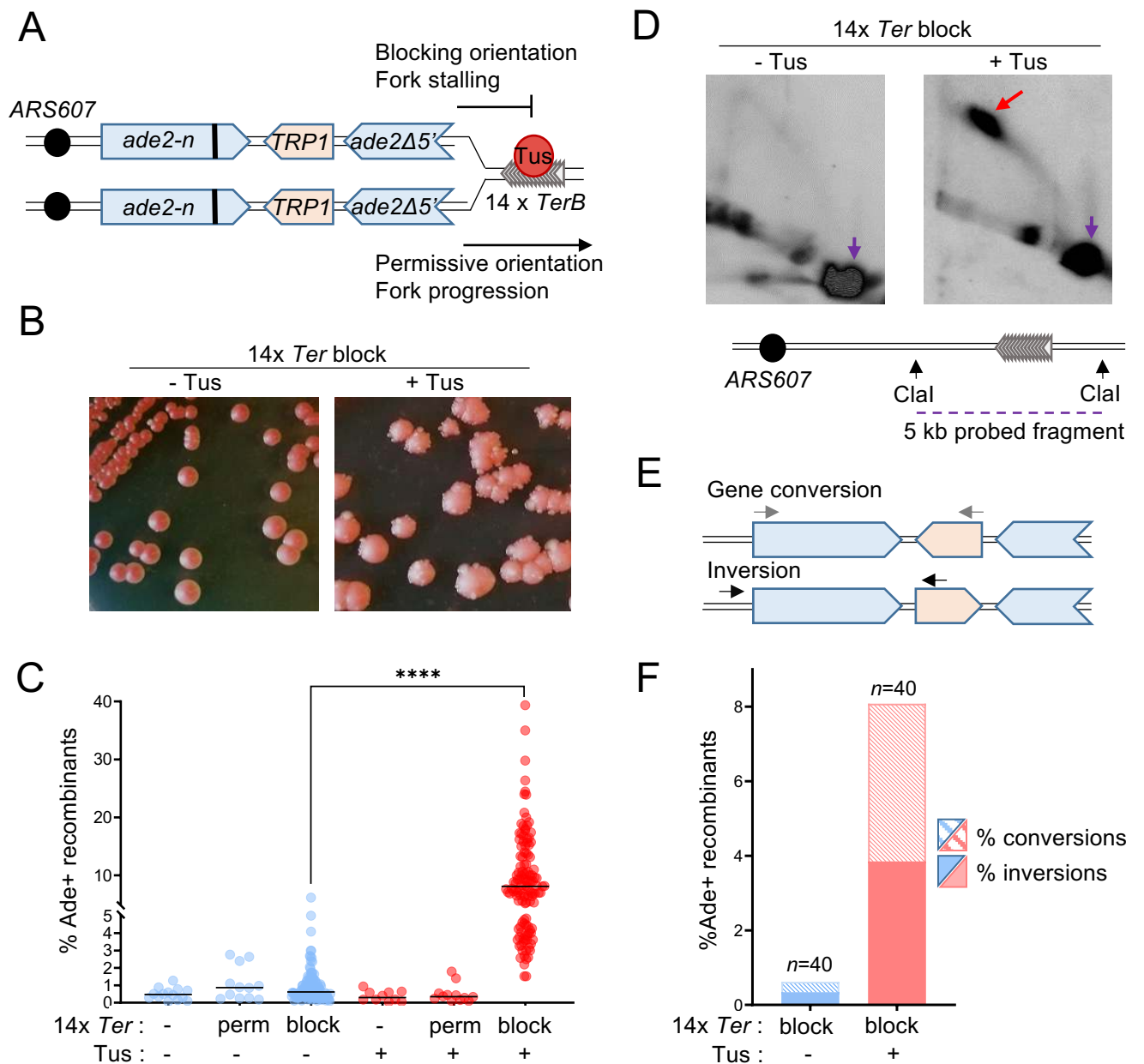


Figure 1. A localised fork stalling barrier stimulates NAHR. A Schematic of the *ade2* reporter and Tus/*Ter* barrier in the blocking or permissive orientation with regard to *ARS607*. The bold line indicates the +2 frameshift mutation. **B** Colonies form more white sectors and papillae (indicative of Ade⁺ phenotype) when Tus expression is induced. block=blocking orientation. **C** Quantifications of Ade⁺ recombinants without (blue data points) and with (red data points) induction of Tus expression in strains containing different *Ter* constructs (see Table S1). Black lines indicate medians. P-values are reported as stars when significant: **** p-value <0.0001. Perm=permissive orientation; block=blocking orientation. **D** Two-dimensional gel analysis of replication intermediates in the strain containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation, with or without induction of Tus expression (see Fig S1 for details of probes used). The red arrow indicates fork arrest along the Y-shaped replication arc, the purple arrow indicates the unreplicated fragment. **E** Ade⁺ recombinants formed by gene conversion or by inversion of the *TRP1* locus are distinguished by PCR using primers designated by gray or black arrows. Inversion events can have the wild type or +2 frameshift site within the *ade2Δ5'* allele and are not distinguished here. **F** Distribution of NAHR events for each condition. *n* indicates the number of independent Ade⁺ recombinants tested.

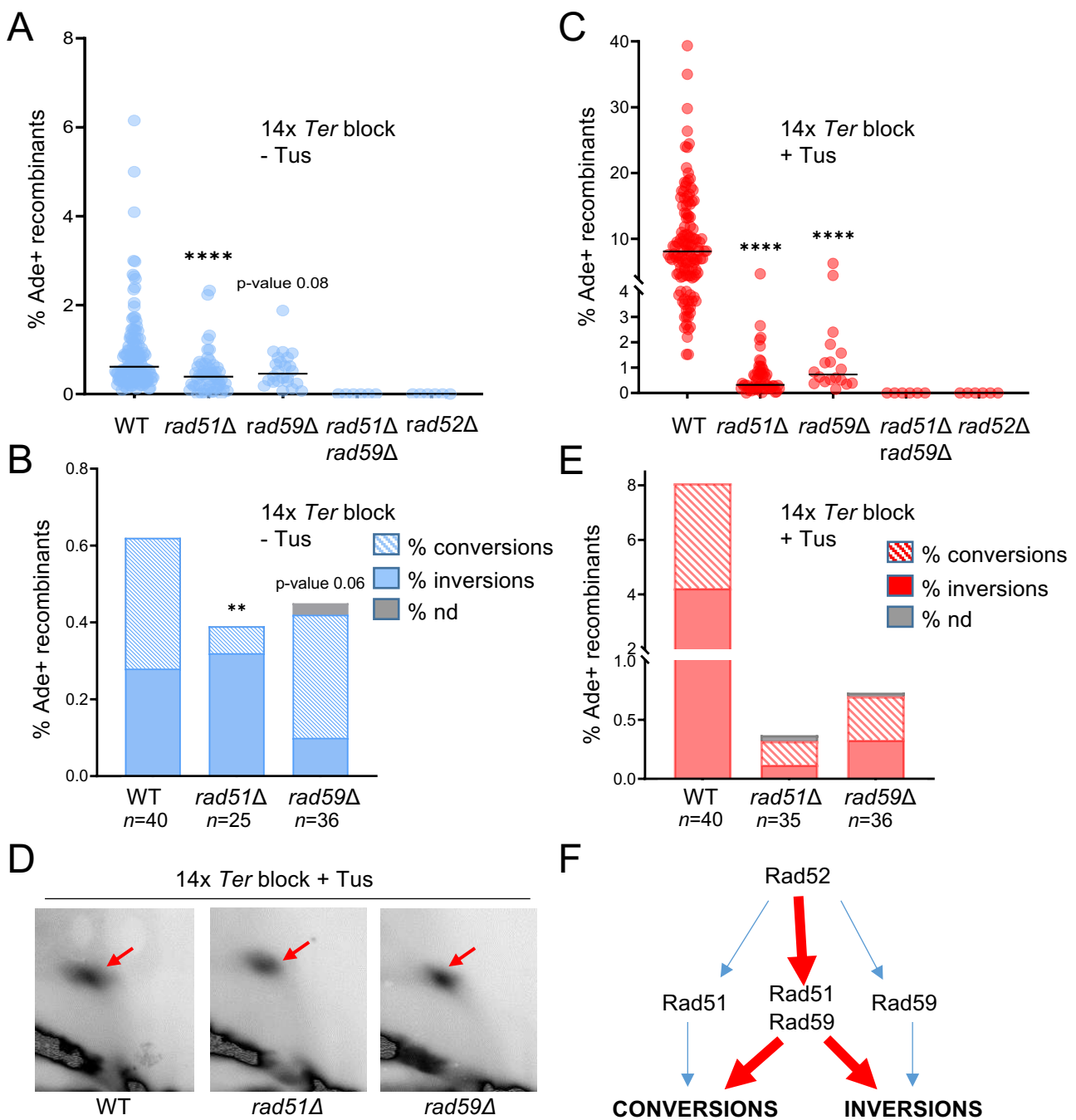


Figure 2. NAHR at the *Tus/Ter* barrier relies on the cooperation of *Rad51* and *Rad59*. **A** Spontaneous *Ade*⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and mutant strains. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain in the same condition: **** p-value <0.0001. **B** Distribution of independent spontaneous recombination events scored by PCR; nd indicates structure could not be not determined by PCR; *n* indicates the number of independent *Ade*⁺ recombinants tested. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain: ** p-value <0.005 **C** *Tus*-induced *Ade*⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and mutant strains. **D** 2D gel analysis of replication intermediates showing similar fork arrest in the WT and mutant strains. Red arrows indicate the replication fork arrest on the arc of Y-shaped replication intermediates. **E** Distribution of events scored by PCR for *Tus*-induced recombinants. **F** Contribution of *Rad51*, *Rad52* and *Rad59* to spontaneous (blue) and replication fork block induced (red) NAHR pathways.

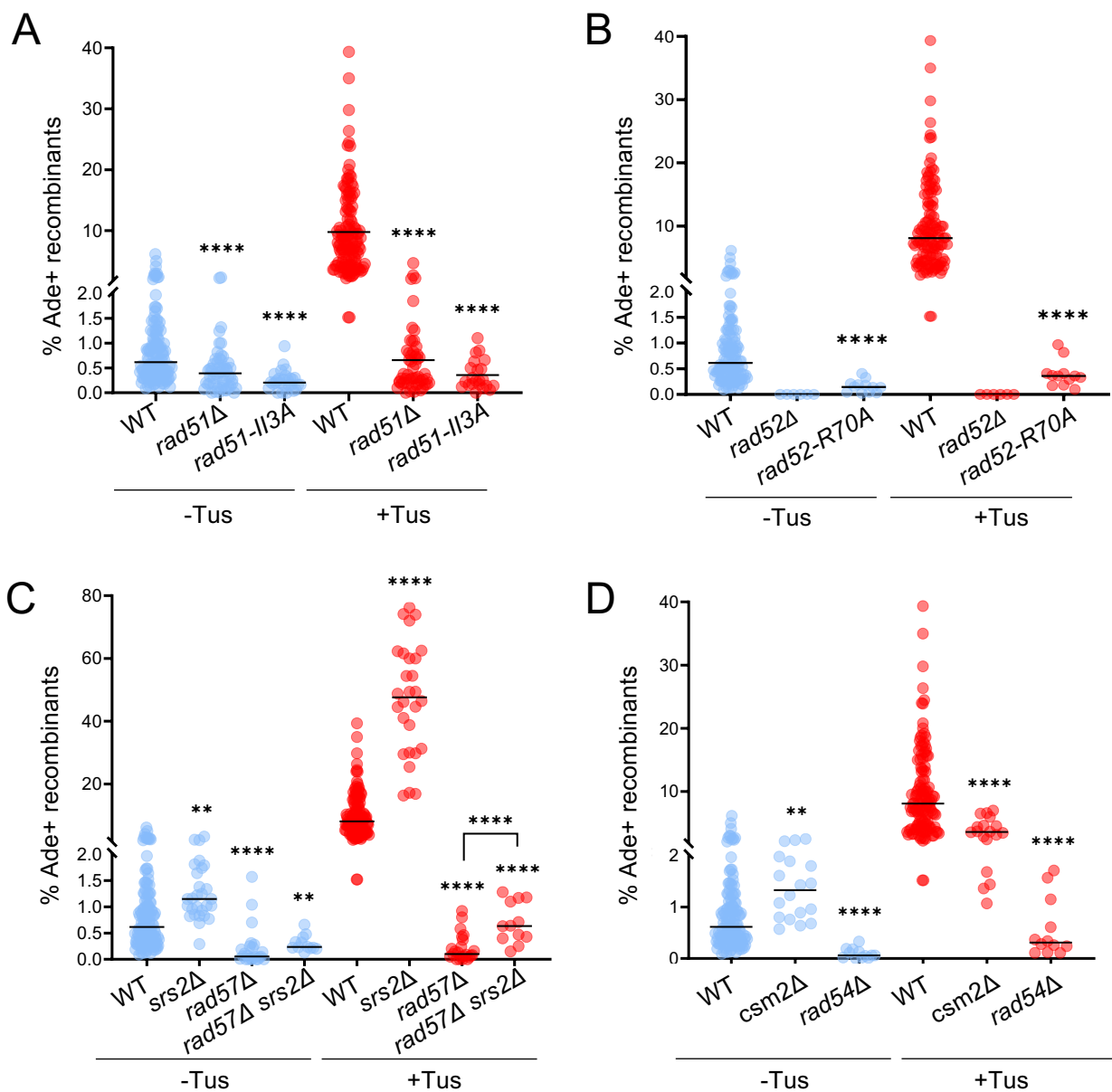


Figure 3. Rad51 strand invasion, Rad52 strand annealing and recombination mediators are required for Tus/Ter induced NAHR. **A** Ade⁺ recombination frequencies for WT and *rad51* mutant strains containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation. **B** Ade⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and *rad52* mutant strains containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation. **C** Ade⁺ recombination frequencies in WT, *srs2Δ* and *rad57Δ* single and double mutant strains containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation. **D** Ade⁺ recombinants frequencies in WT, *csm2Δ* and *rad54Δ* mutant strains containing 14 *Ter* repeats in the blocking orientation. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain in the same condition: ** p-value < 0.005, *** p-value < 0.001, **** p-value < 0.0001.

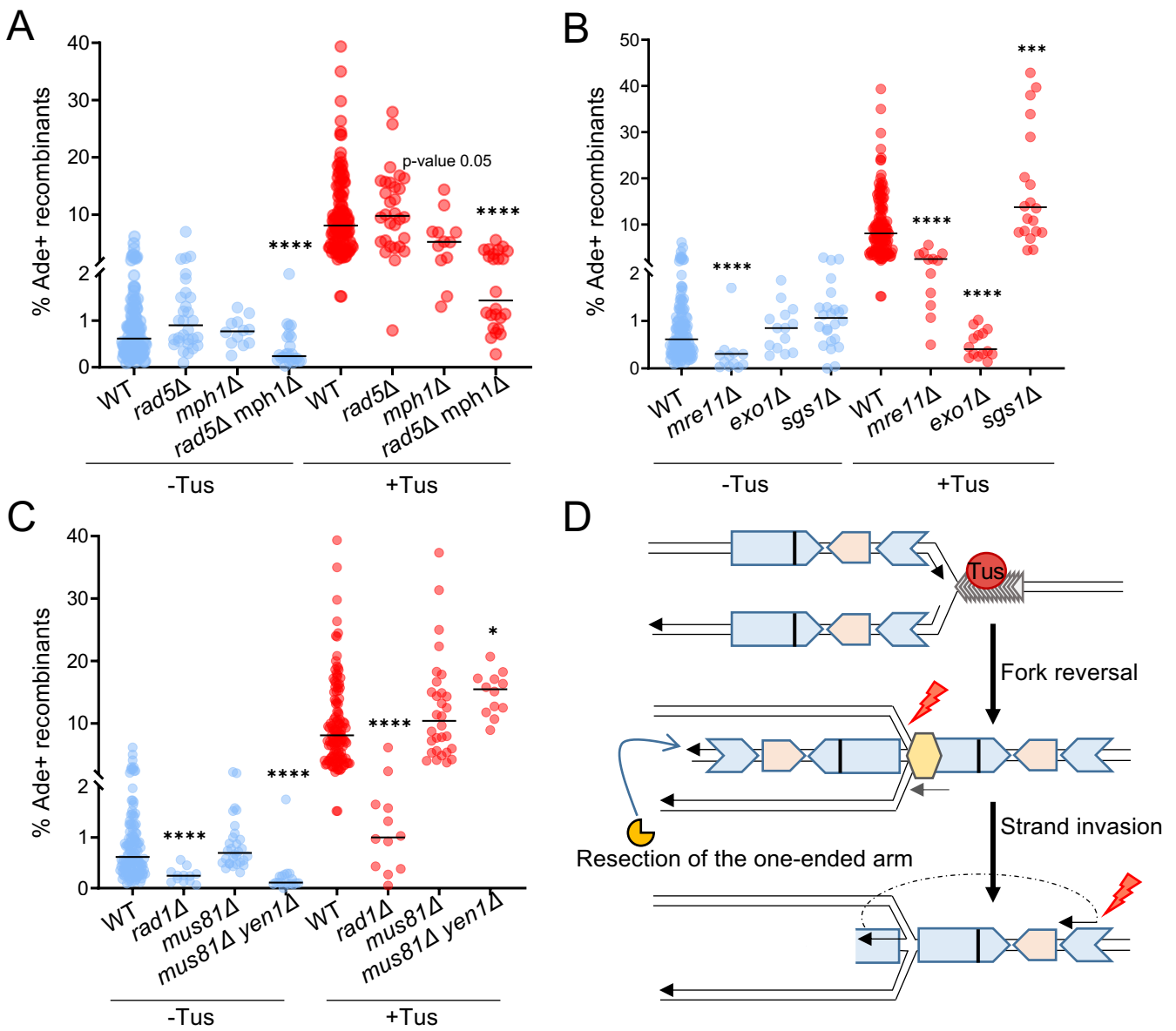


Figure 4. Tus-induced NAHR relies on fork reversal and end resection. **A** Frequency of *Ade*⁺ recombinants in WT and fork remodeler mutant strains. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain in the same condition: * p-value < 0.05, ** p-value < 0.005, *** p-value < 0.001, **** p-value < 0.0001. **B** *Ade*⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and end resection mutants. **C** *Ade*⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and nuclease mutants. **D** Schematic of stalled forks remodeling. The light yellow hexagon represents the fork reversal mediators Rad5 and/or Mph1. The end resection proteins Mre11 and Exo1 are represented in dark yellow. The red lightning bolt symbolizes cleavage of the recombination intermediates by structure-selective nucleases.

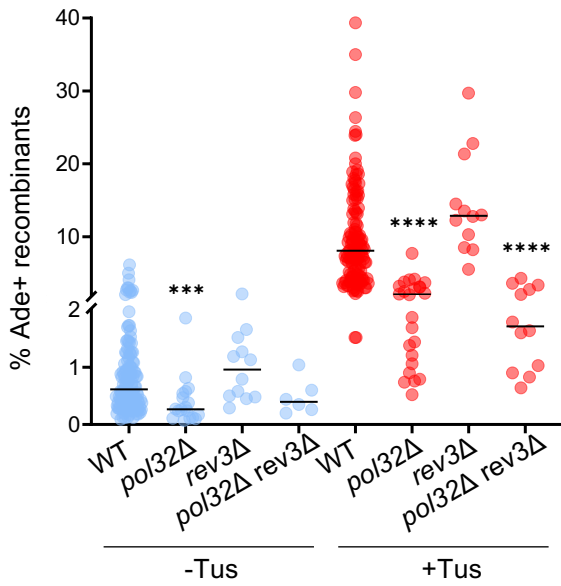


Figure 5 : Pol δ catalyzes DNA synthesis during replication associated-NAHR. Ade⁺ recombination frequencies in WT and DNA polymerase mutants. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain in the same condition: *** p-value <0.001, **** p-value <0.0001.

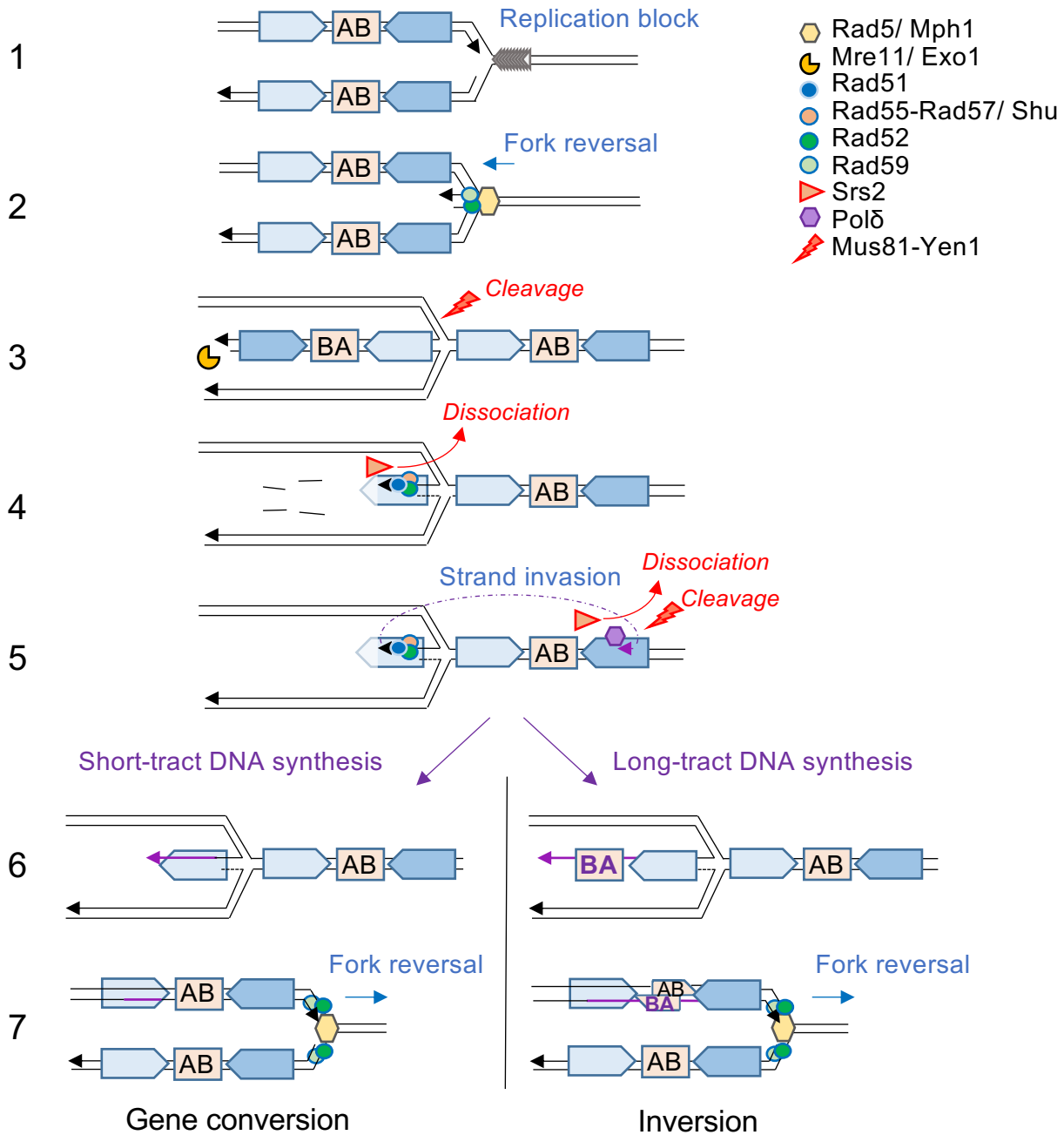
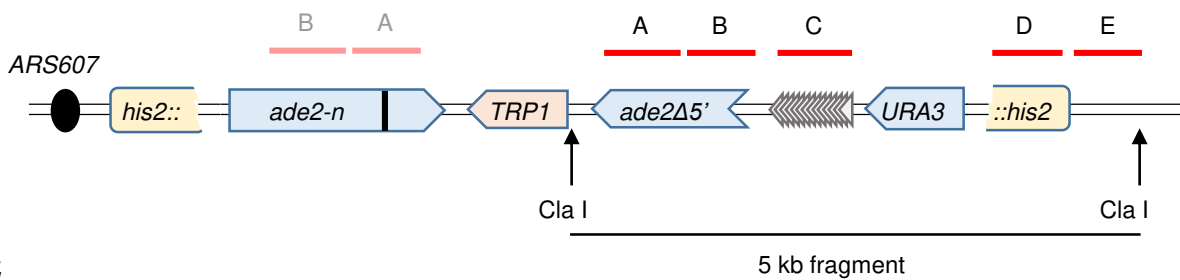


Figure 6: Model for NAHR at arrested replication forks. 1) The replication fork stalls at the Tus/Ter barrier. The letters AB symbolize the orientation of the intervening sequence. 2) Rad5 and Mph1 catalyze fork reversal. Rad52-Rad59 annealing activity could facilitate strand pairing of the daughter or parental strands 3) The regressed arm is degraded by Mre11 and Exo1 nucleases. The reversed fork can be cleaved by nucleases, aborting NAHR. 4) Rad51 polymerization on ssDNA is mediated by Rad52 and Rad55-Rad57 (with help from the Shu complex), counteracting the Srs2 anti-recombinase. 5) Rad51 catalyzes strand invasion into the parental non-allelic repeat, heterologies are cleaved by Rad1-Rad10 and DNA synthesis is initiated by Pol δ . The D-loop can be dissociated by Mph1 or Srs2, or cleaved by Mus81-Mms4 and Yen1. 6) Short tract DNA synthesis leads to gene conversion, whereas long tract DNA synthesis leads to inversion of the intervening sequence (AB \rightarrow BA) on the newly synthesized leading strand. 7) Regression of the reversed fork is necessary to restart replication. The large unpaired heterology loop could be repaired by Rad1-Rad10 or segregated at the next replication cycle.

A

PROBE	PRIMERS NAMES AND SEQUENCES	ANNEALING REGION	SIZE
A	Olea55 <i>GATAAGCTTCGTAACCGACAG</i>	<i>ade2</i>	710 bp
	Olea204 <i>GCTAGAAACTTGCGAAAGAGC</i>		
B	Olea203 <i>ATAATGGCGTTCGTTGTAATGG</i>	<i>ade2</i>	663 bp
	Olea200 <i>AGAAACAATCAGATTGATACAAGAC</i>		
C	Olea171b <i>ACTAAAGTAATCATGCTACGTACC</i>	<i>Ter</i> repeats	595 bp
	Olea177 <i>GTATGGTGCACCTCCTCGAC</i>		
D	Olea175b <i>CACTCACACCATTGCACACTC</i>	<i>his2</i>	540 bp
	Olea176 <i>GAAGTGACCCACGACCAAC</i>		
E	Olea201 <i>CGAGGATTTTTACTGAATTGTACG</i>	telomeric to <i>his2</i>	720 bp
	Olea202 <i>CATTATATGGGTATAAGAAGATGGC</i>		

B



C

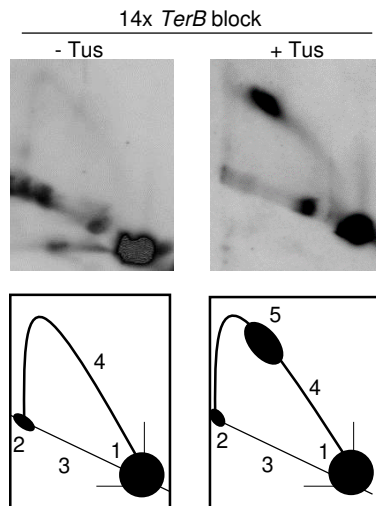
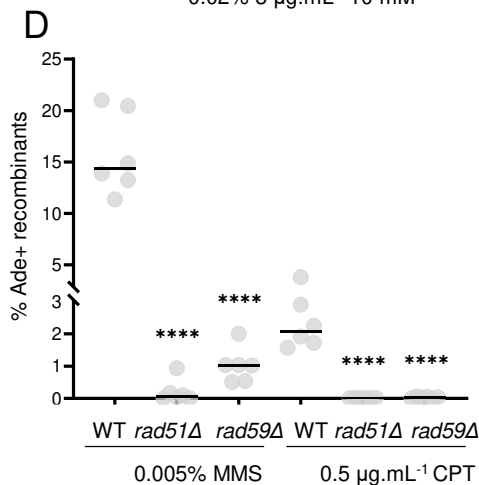
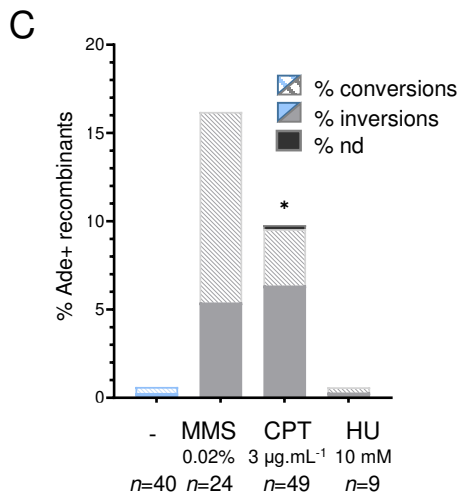
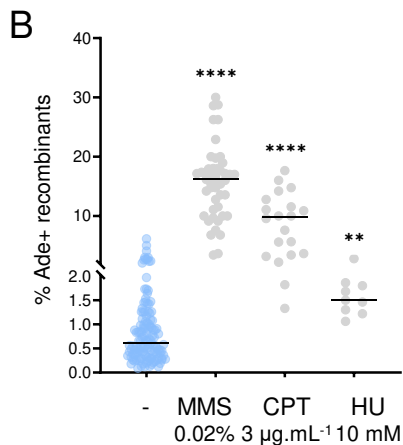
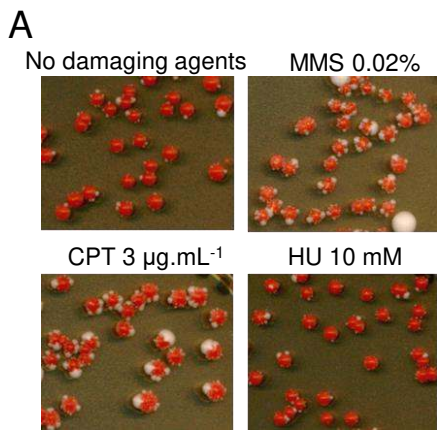


Figure S1 : Two-dimensional gel analysis of replication intermediates. **A** Table of oligonucleotides used to generate radiolabelled probes for hybridization. **B** Schematic of the digestion fragment detected by 2D gel. Radiolabelled probes are represented by red lines and cover 3.2 kb of the digested 5 kb fragment. Probes A and B anneal to the two *ade2* repeats. After *Cla* I digestion, the *ade2-n* repeat is part of a 11.2 kb fragment which does not interfere with detection of the signal from the smaller 5kb fragment containing the *Ter* repeats. **C** Interpretation of 2D gel analysis images. 1 = *Cla* I fragment before replication. 2 = *Cla* I fragment after full replication. 3 = non specific linear DNA. 4 = arc of Y-shaped replication intermediates. 5 = fork stall corresponding to the position of the *Tus/Ter* barrier.



E

STRAIN	GENOTOXIC	MEDIAN [LL, UL]	# TESTED
WT	-	0.615 [0.51, 0.82]	126
	MMS 0.02 %	16.15 [13.55, 17.37]	46
	MMS 0.005 %	14.38 [11.36, 21.0]	6
	CPT 3 µg.mL	9.785 [3.66, 11.54]	20
	CPT 0.5 µg.mL	2.085 [1.57, 3.8]	6
<i>rad51</i> Δ	MMS 0.005 %	0.065 [0.0, 0.94]	6
	CPT 0.5 µg.mL	0.015 [0.0, 0.2]	6
<i>rad59</i> Δ	MMS 0.005 %	1.025 [0.51, 2]	6
	CPT 0.5 µg.mL	0.035 [0.0, 0.06]	6

Figure S2: Genome wide replication stress induces Rad51 and Rad59-dependent NAHR at inverted repeats. **A** Colonies form more white sectors (indicative of Ade⁺ phenotype) on plates containing genotoxic agents inducing replication stress. **B** Ade⁺ recombination frequencies without (blue data points) and with (grey data points) genotoxic agents. Concentrations from 2 mM to 150 mM HU were tested and showed comparable results. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the NO genotoxic agents data: **** p-value < 0.0001, ** p-value < 0.005. **C** Distribution of NAHR events, with and without genotoxic agents, scored by PCR. Independent events were examined for each strain. Striped color = conversions, plain color = inversions, nd = not determined by PCR. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the NO genotoxic agents data: * p-value < 0.05. **D** Ade⁺ recombination frequencies with low concentrations of MMS and CPT in the WT and mutant strains. Black lines indicate medians. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain in the same condition: **** p-value < 0.0001. **E** Quantification of Ade⁺ recombinants in the different strains in presence of genotoxic agents. >95% confidence intervals to the median are indicated as [LL, UL], where LL is the lower limit and UL is the upper limit.

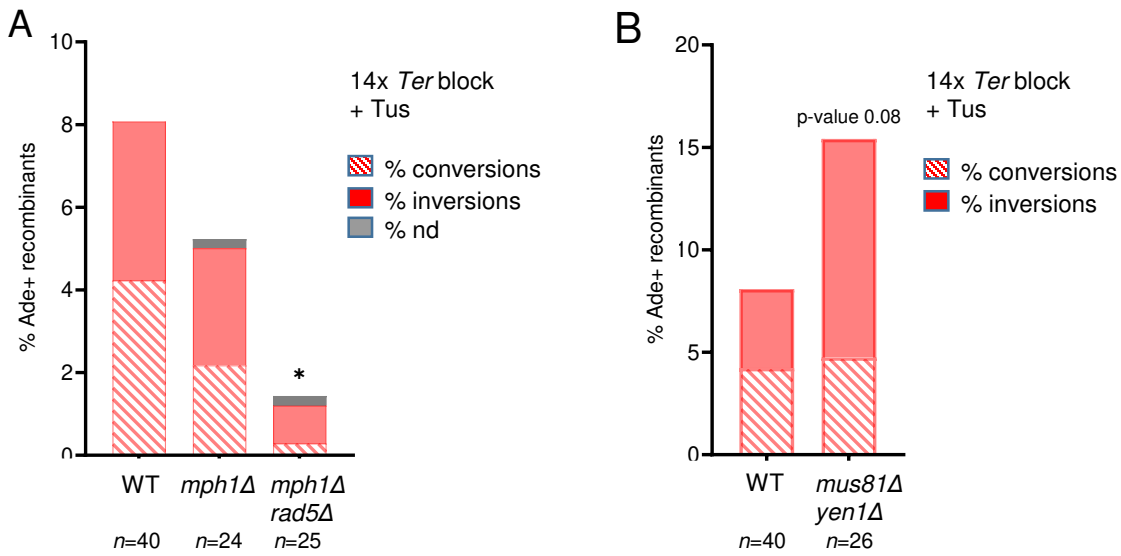


Figure S3: Distribution of NAHR events in WT and mutant strains. **A** Distribution of NAHR events in the WT, *mph1Δ* and *mph1Δ rad5Δ* strains, scored by PCR. **B** Distribution of NAHR events in the WT and *mus81Δ yen1Δ* strain, scored by PCR. nd= not determined by PCR, *n* indicates the number of independent Ade⁺ recombinants tested. P-values, reported as stars when significant, are relative to the WT strain: * p-value <0.05.

Table S1: Ade+ recombination quantifications

STRAIN	MEDIAN [LL, UL]	N ^b	MEDIAN [LL, UL]	N ^b
no <i>Ter</i>	0.47 [0.15, 0.78]	14	0.295 [0.06, 0.64]	12
perm <i>Ter</i>	0.87 [0.25, 2.4]	12	0.345 [0.16, 0.54]	12
WT = block <i>Ter</i>	0.615 [0.51, 0.82]	126	8.08 [6.96, 9.27]	127
<i>rad51Δ</i>	0.39 [0.24, 0.49]	54	0.32 [0.26, 0.68]	53
<i>rad59Δ</i>	0.46 [0.28, 0.72]	24	0.73 [0.45, 1.57]	18
<i>rad51Δ rad59Δ</i>	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]	6	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]	6
<i>rad52Δ</i>	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]	21	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]	22
<i>rad51-Il3A</i>	0.205 [0.16, 0.28]	28	0.24 [0.14, 0.5]	22
<i>rad52-R70A</i>	0.145 [0.04, 0.21]	12	0.36 [0.18, 0.41]	12
<i>rad57Δ</i>	0.055 [0.01, 0.23]	24	0.1 [0.05, 0.24]	23
<i>rad57Δ srs2Δ</i>	0.235 [0.21, 0.42]	12	0.635 [0.4, 1.17]	12
<i>srs2Δ</i>	1.15 [0.96, 1.38]	28	47.61 [28.8, 60]	28
<i>csm2Δ</i>	1.33 [0.8, 1.89]	18	3.585 [2.41, 4.6]	18
<i>rad54Δ</i>	0.06 [0.02, 0.18]	12	0.31 [0.12, 1.15]	12
<i>rad5Δ</i>	0.9 [0.6, 1.3]	30	9.775 [5.9, 14.5]	30
<i>mph1Δ</i>	0.77 [0.52, 0.97]	12	5.225 [2.04, 7.0]	12
<i>rad5Δ mph1Δ</i>	0.24 [0.16, 0.65]	24	1.435 [1.06, 3.13]	24
<i>mre11Δ</i>	0.2 [0.04, 0.33]	12	2.295 [1.33, 3.67]	12
<i>exo1Δ</i>	0.85 [0.33, 1.25]	14	0.405 [0.25, 0.83]	14
<i>sgs1Δ</i>	1.065 [0.62, 1.28]	24	13.73 [8.51, 28.95]	20
<i>rad1Δ</i>	0.245 [0.13, 0.32]	12	1.0 [0.38, 1.65]	12
<i>mus81Δ</i>	0.695 [0.55, 0.88]	30	10.39 [7.2, 14.35]	30
<i>mus81Δ yen1Δ</i>	0.11 [0.09, 0.24]	18	15.45 [11.75, 17.20]	12
<i>pol32Δ</i>	0.265 [0.12, 0.54]	18	2.08 [1.21, 3.13]	24
<i>rev3Δ</i>	0.96 [0.48, 1.52]	12	12.88 [8.52, 21.36]	12
<i>pol32Δ rev3Δ</i>	0.395 [0.2, 1.04]	6	1.715 [0.9, 3.35]	12

Blue data were obtained without Tus expression. Red data were obtained with Tus expression. All the mutant strains contain 14x*Ter* in the blocking orientation. For all strains, >95% confidence intervals to the median are indicated as [LL, UL], where LL is the lower limit and UL is the upper limit. N^b = number of independent colonies tested; perm= permissive orientation; block= blocking orientation.

Table S2: Yeast strains

STRAIN	RELEVANT GENOTYPE	USE
LSY2002-9D	<i>his3::ade2Δ5'-TRP1-ade2-n</i>	Strain construction
LS4040	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'</i>	Strain construction
LSY4577	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5' leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4579-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-perm14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4581-2	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4583	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad59::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4584	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad59::LEU2 rad51::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4585	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad51::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5127	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad52::TRP1</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4618-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad51-II3A-KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5122	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad57::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5134	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX srs2::TRP1</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5013-12C	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX srs2::TRP1 rad57::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5123	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX csm2::KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5128-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad54::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4459-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad5::URA3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5130	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX mph1::KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5132	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2 mph1::KanMX rad5::URA3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5124-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX mre11::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4620	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX sgs1::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4621-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX exo1::KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5135	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad1::LEU2</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5129	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX mus81::KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5133-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX mus81::KanMX yen1::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY4592-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX pol32::KanMX</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5125-1	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX pol32::KanMX rev3::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5126	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rev3::HIS3</i>	Recombination assay
LSY5067-15	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 bar1::HYG</i>	2D gel analysis
LSY5060-4	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX bar1::HYG</i>	2D gel analysis
LSY5075	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad51::HIS3 bar1::HYG</i>	2D gel analysis
LSY5062	<i>his2::ade2-n-TRP1- ade2Δ5'-block14xTerB-URA3 leu2::Gal-TUS-LEU2MX rad59::LEU2 bar1::HYG</i>	2D gel analysis

All strains are haploids derived from W303 (*leu2-3,112 trp1-1 can1-100 ura3-1 his3-11,15*), *ade2::hisG* and *RAD5* unless otherwise indicated.