

# Supporting Information

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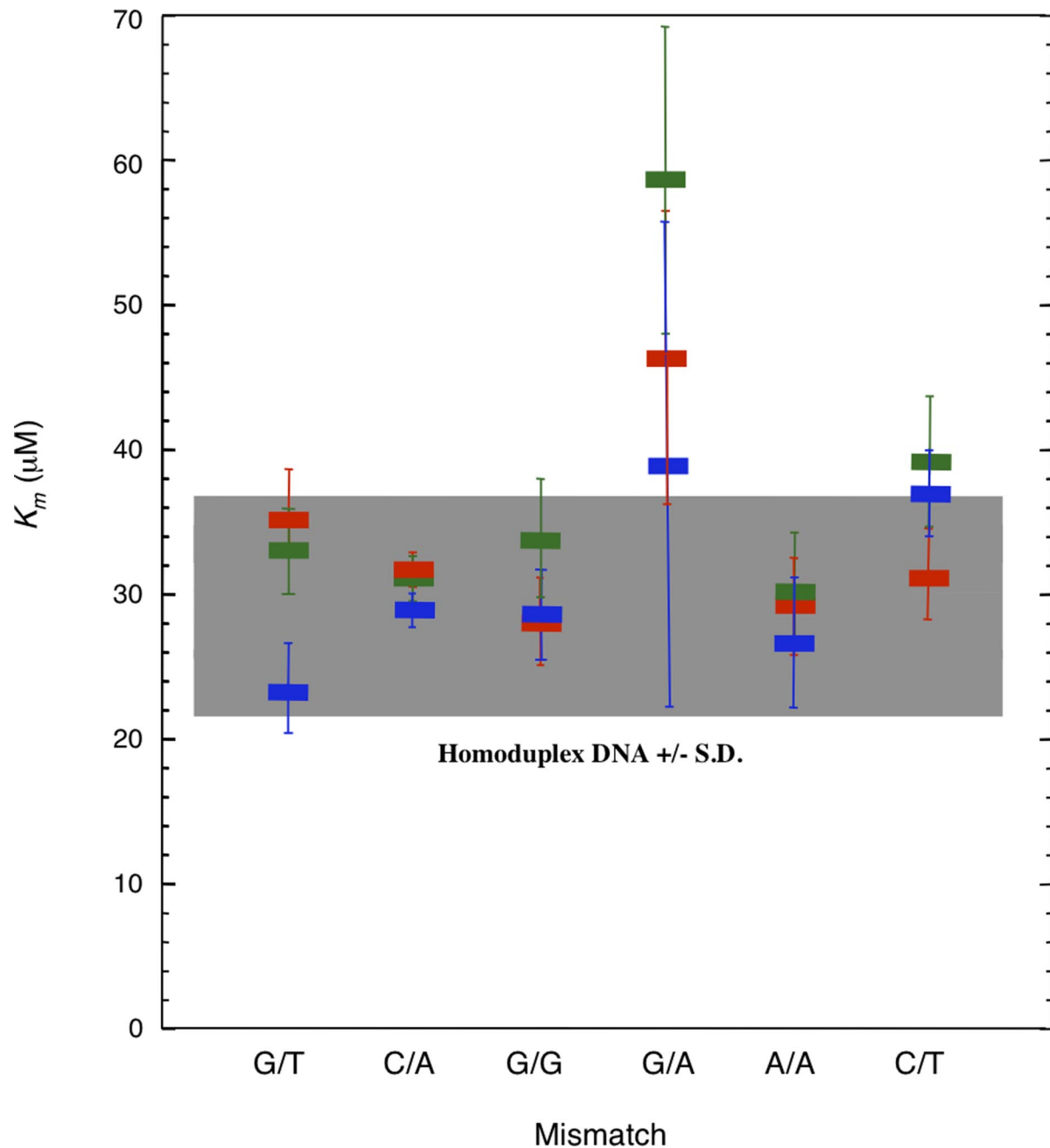
**A**

gct tag gat cat cga gga t **W M X** gc tcg gtg caa ttc agc gg  
cga atc cta gta gct cct a **Z M' Y** cg agc cac gtt aag tcg cc

**B**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
g	t	t	<b>W</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>X</b>	g	a	c	g
c	a	a	<b>Z</b>	<b>M'</b>	<b>Y</b>	c	t	g	c
20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11

**Fig. S1.** Mismatched duplex DNA substrates. The representative 41-mer G/T mismatched DNA substrate used for the ATPase and TIR experiments (A) and 10-mer G/T mismatched DNA duplex used for thermal denaturation and NMR analysis (B) are shown. The position of mismatch and nearest neighbor flanking sequence are shown (W, X, Y, and Z positions). This resulted in 16 different nearest-neighbor sequence contexts for each mismatch. For DNA substrates examined by TIR, thermal denaturation, and NMR the nearest neighbors flanking the mismatched bases in the 2 × 3'-purine sequence context, where W is cytosine, X is adenine, Y is thymine, and Z is guanine, and in the 2 × 3''-pyrimidine sequence context, where W is adenine, X is cytosine, Y is guanine, and Z is thymine.

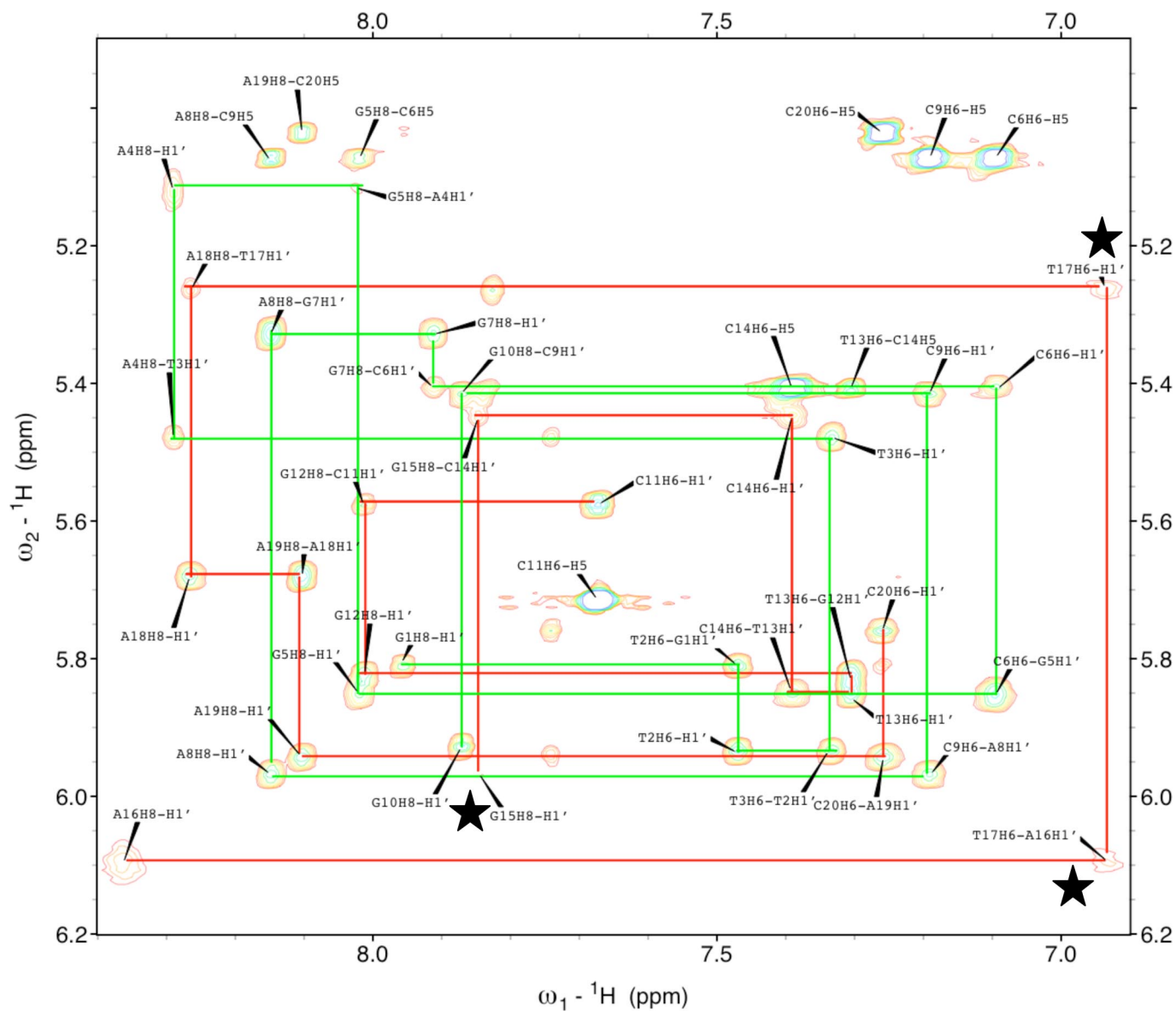


**Fig. S2.** The effect of nearest-neighbor sequence context on the  $K_m$  of the mismatch-dependent hMSH2-hMSH6 ATPase. The red bar corresponds to the average  $K_m$  of the  $2 \times 3'$ -purine sequence context; the green bar corresponds to the average  $K_m$  of the  $1 \times 3'$ -purine plus  $1 \times 3'$ -pyrimidine sequence context; the blue bar corresponds to the average  $K_m$  of the  $2 \times 3'$ -pyrimidine sequence context. Gray box indicates  $K_m (\pm \text{standard deviation})$  by a homoduplex DNA containing an A/T or G/C base pair at the mismatch site and generally indicates the background of end-activation due to the use of linear open-ended oligonucleotides.









**Fig. S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR NOESY ( $T_m = 250$  ms) spectra of the base proton-H1' region for G/T and G/A mismatched duplexes in CxA and AxC sequence context. G/T mismatch in the CxA sequence context is shown. The base-H1' sugar connectivity is marked by lines (top strand, green; bottom strand, red). Stars indicate broken or weak NOE.

## Other Supporting Information Files

- [Table S1 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Table S2 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Table S3 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Table S4 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Table S5 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Table S6 \(PDF\)](#)