

# Supporting Information

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## SI Materials and Methods

**Strains.** Yeast strains are derivatives of the A364a strain described in previous studies and references therein (1–4). The starting strain, TY200, is a ChrVII disome that is MAT $\alpha$  + *lys5 cyhr trp5 leu1 cen ade6 +/hxxk2:CAN + CYHS + + cen + ade3*. TY206 contains a *rad9* null mutation in addition, *rad9::ura3*. All gene disruptions were made into TY200 or TY206 by standard PCR-based gene disruption methods, and correct gene disruptions were verified by PCR and phenotypic assays (i.e., damage sensitivity) where appropriate (2). Some of these strains were generated previously. All *S. cerevisiae* strains were propagated at 30 °C except for *rfa1-t11*, *rfa1-t33*, and *dpb11-1* mutants, which were grown at 23 °C and 36 °C. Temperature-sensitive mutant alleles were inserted by using pop-in pop-out plasmids and verified by sequence analysis and by sensitivity of DNA damaging agents (Table S2).

**Chromosome Instability Assays.** Assays were performed as described previously in Admire et al. (2). Briefly, cells were grown in YEP with 2% dextrose for 2 d. Individual colonies were resuspended in water, counted, and plated to media containing canavanine (60  $\mu$ g/mL) and all essential amino acids except arginine and serine. Cells were also plated to canavanine media without adenine to obtain frequencies of chromosome loss. Colonies on these plates are scored after 5 d as rounds or sectored (the mixed colonies) based on appearance. The stability of canavanine-resistant colonies were further verified by lineage and site assay (described in detail in ref. 1); each round colony contained of cells with the same genotype (>95%), whereas each mixed colony contained cells of multiple genotypes. In rare cases where this was not the case, frequencies were adjusted: for example, if three quarters of the round colonies were stable, the frequency of allelic recombinants was multiplied by 75% to calculate the true frequency of recombinants, and the frequency of mixed colonies was increased by that amount. Frequencies

reported were determined from analysis of at least six colonies per mutant isolate. Two independently derived isolates were tested for all mutants; the average and SDs are shown. Statistical tests were performed using the Kruskal-Wallis method (5).

**Molecular Analysis of Altered Chromosomes.** We analyzed Can<sup>R</sup> Ade<sup>+</sup> allelic and mixed colonies for the presence of the D7–D11 specific translocation junction and the S2–S3 dicentric as described previously (1, 2). The SGD reference sequence coordinates for the D7–D11 translocation primers are VII 406041–406022 and VII 535582–535562. For each strain, at least six independent mixed colonies were analyzed by PCR to judge whether the translocation was present. To determine the frequency of inverted repeat fusion to form the S2–S3 dicentric chromosome, we used both qualitative and quantitative PCR assays as explained previously (2). Genomic DNA was isolated from six independent cultures grown without selection and subjected to qualitative or qPCR. The SGD reference sequence coordinates for the S2–S3 dicentric primers are VII 405579–405606 and VII 402296–402319. For qualitative PCR, we determined whether a DNA fragment was detectable on agarose gels. For the qPCR assays, we performed a qPCR reaction to a “normal” unrearranged DNA region of Chr V (SGD coordinates Chr V 410165–410189, Chr V 412617–412639) to determine the relative amount of genomic DNA in the sample. Real-time PCR quantification was performed using LightCycler 1.0 (Roche Diagnostics) to measure the level of dicentric chromosome in different mutant stains (described in detail in ref. 2). In each LightCycler run, the calibrator and unknown sample were measured in triplicate. Variability of the real-time PCRs was 5.8%. We did not determine the frequency of dicentrics in all strains; we can infer the relative frequency from the frequency of mixed colonies, which we have shown to be correlated with the formation of a specific dicentric chromosome (2).

1. Admire A, et al. (2006) Cycles of chromosome instability are associated with a fragile site and are increased by defects in DNA replication and checkpoint controls in yeast. *Genes Dev* 20:159–173.
2. Paek AL, et al. (2009) Fusion of nearby inverted repeats by a replication-based mechanism leads to formation of dicentric and acentric chromosomes that cause genome instability in budding yeast. *Genes Dev* 23:2861–2875.
3. Doksani Y, Bermejo R, Fiorani S, Haber JE, Foiani M (2009) Replicon dynamics, dormant origin firing, and terminal fork integrity after double-strand break formation. *Cell* 137:247–258.

4. Weinert TA, Hartwell LH (1990) Characterization of RAD9 of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and evidence that its function acts posttranslationally in cell cycle arrest after DNA damage. *Mol Cell Biol* 10:6554–6564.
5. Kruskal WH, Wallis WA (1952) Use of ranks in one-criterion variance analysis. *J Am Stat Assoc* 47:583–621.



