SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

ABC ATPase signature helices in Rad50 link nucleotide state to Mre11 interface for DNA double-strand break repair

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Supplementary Fig. 1. Schematic of previously available and novel Rad50 structures.

Supplementary Figure 2. Survival plot showing Mre11 RBD variants are IR sensitive. This plot is representative of two independent experiments (Also see Fig. 3c).

Supplementary Figure 3. SAXS data of the M₂R₂-head support a toroidal **architecture.** (a) Pair distribution plots show compaction of the M_2R_2 -head architecture in the presence of ATP (left). Guinier analysis (right) show samples are free from aggregates and that ATP-binding induces an Rg change of 4.5 Å. (**b**) Structures present in the PDB with the most similar architecture to the M_2R_2 -head are all toroidal. Scattering curves (left) compare theoretical curves calculated from the structures identified by DARA searches (right; shown as surface representations with PDB code and common name) that most closely match the experimental scattering from the M_2R_2 head. As a comparison of architecture, our ATP-bound M_2R_2 -head model is shown.

Supplementary Figure 4. Conformational changes of Rad50 signature coupling helices and signature helix. Experimental density, simulated annealing 2FoFc omit map shown (gray), supports the key conformations observed in nucleotide-free and bound states (also see main text Fig. 5). (**a**) Density for the signature coupling helices shows that it switches to an open conformation upon nucleotide binding. (**b**) Density for the signature helix showing that the Arg797 and Arg805 switches rearrange following nucleotide binding. Colored as in Fig. 5.

Supplementary Figure 5. Mre11–Rad50 conformational controls. (**a**) Model of how ATP-driven Rad50 conformational changes may influence Mre11. In the ATP-free state (–ATP) significant conformational flexibility exists (shown by dashed arrows) in the Mre11–Rad50 complex as observed by our crystal and SAXS solution structures. In the ATP-bound state (+ATP) the Mre11–Rad50 complex closes, resulting in key domains becoming rigid and or repositioned (shown by solid red arrows). These movements include Rad50 subdomain rotations, which must pull on Mre11 nuclease domains through repositioning the coiled-coil and attached Mre11 RBD \sim 30 Å. We hypothesize that in the ATP-free, more conformationally open and flexible state, Mre11 can interact with and disassemble from any of its potential substrates. Upon ATP-binding, the closure of the M2R2-head would prevent loading onto substrates with blocked ends. (**b**) Proposed role for conformational change and symmetry transitions associated with Mre11 DNA binding. Movement of Mre11 capping domain signals Mre11 DNA binding state to the proximal Mre11 RBD and attached Rad50 ATPase domain. Undefined ATPdependent Rad50 control of Mre11 nuclease capping domain likely influences Mre11 endonuclease and exonuclease activities.

Supplementary Figure 6. Comparison of conformational changes upon nucleotide binding in ABC-ATPases. (**a**) "Membrane view" of the MalK ABC-ATPase subunit of the maltose transporter. The α–helical subdomain (orange) rotates ~15° with respect to the RecA-like subdomain (blue). The Q-loop (cyan), signature helix (magenta) and equivalent residues to Rad50 basic-switches are highlighted. (**b**) Equivalent "Mre11 view" of Rad50 shows that the C-lobe (orange), which is equivalent to the ABC transporter α–helical subdomain, rotates ~35° with respect to the RecA-subdomain. Coloring of motifs is as in main text Fig. 5.

Supplementary Movies 1, 2 and 3. Nucleotide-induced Rad50 conformational changes**.** Rad50 structures with coiled-coil regions in the absence (start position) and presence (end position) of nucleotide were superimposed and movies generated by morphing between states in PyMOL (DeLano Scientific LLC, Palo Alto, CA, U.S.A. [http://](http://www.pymol.org) www.pymol.org). Supplementary Movie 1 shows the N-lobe rotation with respect to the C-lobe. Supplementary Movie 2 shows the C-lobe rotation with respect to the N-lobe. Supplementary Movie 3 shows the C-lobe rotation with respect to the N-lobe from the side. The extended signature motif (magenta) and signature coupling helices (cyan) are highlighted. Residues in the text are shown as sticks with the extended signature motif basic-switch residues (Arg797 and Arg805) highlighted by representation of side chain nitrogens as spheres. To relate the movements to nucleotide binding AMP:PNP is shown as sticks, although it is only observed in the structure of the nucleotide bound form. To relate the movements to bound Mre11 RBD, residues on the Rad50 coiled-coils involves in the Mre11RBD–Rad50 interface are shown in a green transparent surface representation. For clarity only one Rad50 molecule is shown, although in structures in the presence of nucleotide dimerization occurs with AMP:PNP sandwiched between ABC-ATPase domains.

SUPPLEMENTARY METHODS

X-ray diffraction data collection, phasing and refinement. Single crystal X-ray data was collected at the Advanced Light Source (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory) on SIBYLS beamline 12.3.1. X-ray data reduction and scaling was performed with the $HKL2000$ suite³.

Phases for structures solved in this study were obtained with molecular replacement using *P. furiosus* Rad50 models from the protein databank (PDB: 1FT2) in MOLREP⁴. For the Mre11^{RBD}–Rad50 crystal form 1 and crystal form 2 structures one molecule in the asymmetric unit was found. For the Rad50–link1–AMP:PNP structure four Rad50 protomers, assembled as two dimers that sandwich four AMP:PNP molecules, were found. For Mre11RBD–Rad50–link2–AMP:PNP two Rad50 protomers were identified. Manual fitting in O (v10.0)⁵ and Coot⁶ produced models that were refined in REFMAC^{[7](#page-11-0),[8](#page-11-1)} or PHENIX 9 to resolutions and with the data statistics detailed in main text Table 1. Late stages of the refinement utilized TLS group anisotropic B-factor refinement. Structural figures were produced in PyMOL.

SAXS data processing and analysis using MD and MES. In our rigid body modeling strategy BILBOMD, molecular dynamic (MD) simulations were used to explore conformational space adopted by M_2R_2 -head in the absence ($-ATP$) and presence (+ATP) of ATP. Crystal structures of Mre11 nuclease (PDB code 3DSC with DNA chains removed) with our new Rad50 structures were used to construct the initial atomic models for –ATP (using Mre11RBD–Rad50 crystal form 1) and +ATP (using Mre11RBD– Rad50–link2–AMP:PNP–Mg²⁺) data. The initial models were constructed by connecting Mre11 residues 333 and 348, which are present in the crystal structures, with a 15 residue linker. These atomic models were used as templates for rigid body modeling using BILBOMD, as described¹⁰. For each registered conformation, the theoretical SAXS profile and the corresponding fit to the experimental data were calculated using the program FoXS¹¹. The flexibility of the M_2R_2 -head complex in the absence and presence of ATP was represented by an ensemble containing 3 different conformations (see main text Fig. 4a). The scattering from such an ensemble is readily computed by

10

averaging the individual scattering patterns from the conformers. To select an appropriate minimal ensemble from a pool of ~10,000 MD-generated conformations, mminimal ensemble search (MES) was employed¹⁰. The scattering curves from all the structures in the MD–pool were first pre-computed and the subsequent genetic algorithm-selection operators were performed using these patterns and not the structures. The final models were calculated to best fit the experimental curve *I(q) experiment* minimizing the discrepancy $χ²$ between the experimental and calculated multiconformational profile. The multicomponent scattering *I(q)* from such a minimal ensemble was computed by averaging the individual scattering profiles from conformers: $I(q) = 1 / N (I_1(q) + I_2(q) + ... + I_N(q))$ where $I_{1,2,3...N}(q)$ were the scattering profiles from the single oligomers and the momentum transfer. A similar approach was used to find an ensemble of M_2R_2 -head models in the presence of ATP. In this case, due to the expected mixture of ATP bound and free states, we used MES on the models found that fit the –ATP data with ATP-bound models.

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