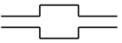







**Supplemental material**

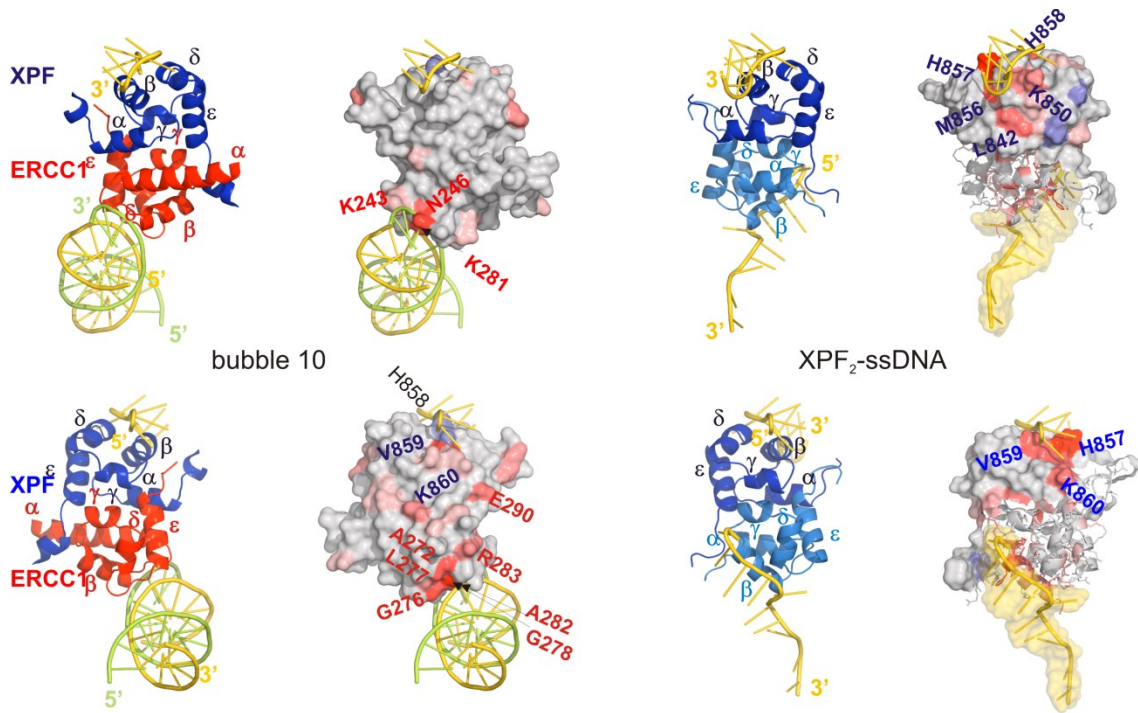
**Single-strand DNA binding by the helix-hairpin-helix domain of XPF contributes to substrate specificity of ERCC1-XPF**

Devashish Das , Maryam Faridounnia, Lidija Kovacic, Robert Kaptein, Rolf Boelens, and Gert E. Folkers

Bubble		Bx	GGGCGGCGGG(T) <sub>x</sub> GGCGGGGCGG CCCGCCGCCC(T) <sub>x</sub> CCGCCCGCC
		B <sub>Tg</sub>	GGGCGGCGGG(TTAGGG) <sub>x</sub> GGCGGGGCGG CCCGCCGCCC(GGGATT) <sub>x</sub> CCGCCCGCC
Splayed arm		F <sub>x</sub>	GGGCGGCGGG(T) <sub>x</sub> CCCGCCGCCC(T) <sub>x</sub>
		F <sub>Tg</sub>	GGGCGGCGGG(TTAGGG) <sub>x</sub> CCCGCCGCCC(GGGATT) <sub>x</sub>
		F <sub>10</sub>	GGGCGGCGGGCAGTGGCTGA CCCGCCGCCCAGTCGGTGAC
Hairpin		H <sub>x</sub>	GGGCGGCGGG(T) <sub>x</sub> CCCGCCGCCC
ds DNA		ds <sub>10</sub>	GGGCGGCGGG CCCGCCGCCC
ss DNA		dN <sub>x</sub>	(G,A,T,C) <sub>x</sub>
		ss <sub>39</sub>	TGCGAATTCATATGCAATATTCAGTGGCTGAGCTACTGG
		T <sub>g</sub>	TTAGGG
		T <sub>c</sub>	CCCTAA
		T <sub>sp</sub>	GGGTTA
		T <sub>in</sub>	GGGATT
		R	GAGCTA
		ss <sub>10</sub>	<u>CAGTGGCTGA</u>
Holliday		h1	GACGCTGCCGAATTCTGGCTTGCTAGGACATCTTTGCCACGTTGACCCG
		h2	CGGGTCAACGTGGGCAAAGATGTCCTAGCAATGTAATCGTCTATGACGTC
		h3	GACGTCATAGACGATTACATTGCTAGGACATGCTGTCTAGAGACTATCGC
		h4	GCGATAGTCTCTAGACAGCATGTCCTAGCAAGCCAGAATTCGGCAGCGTC

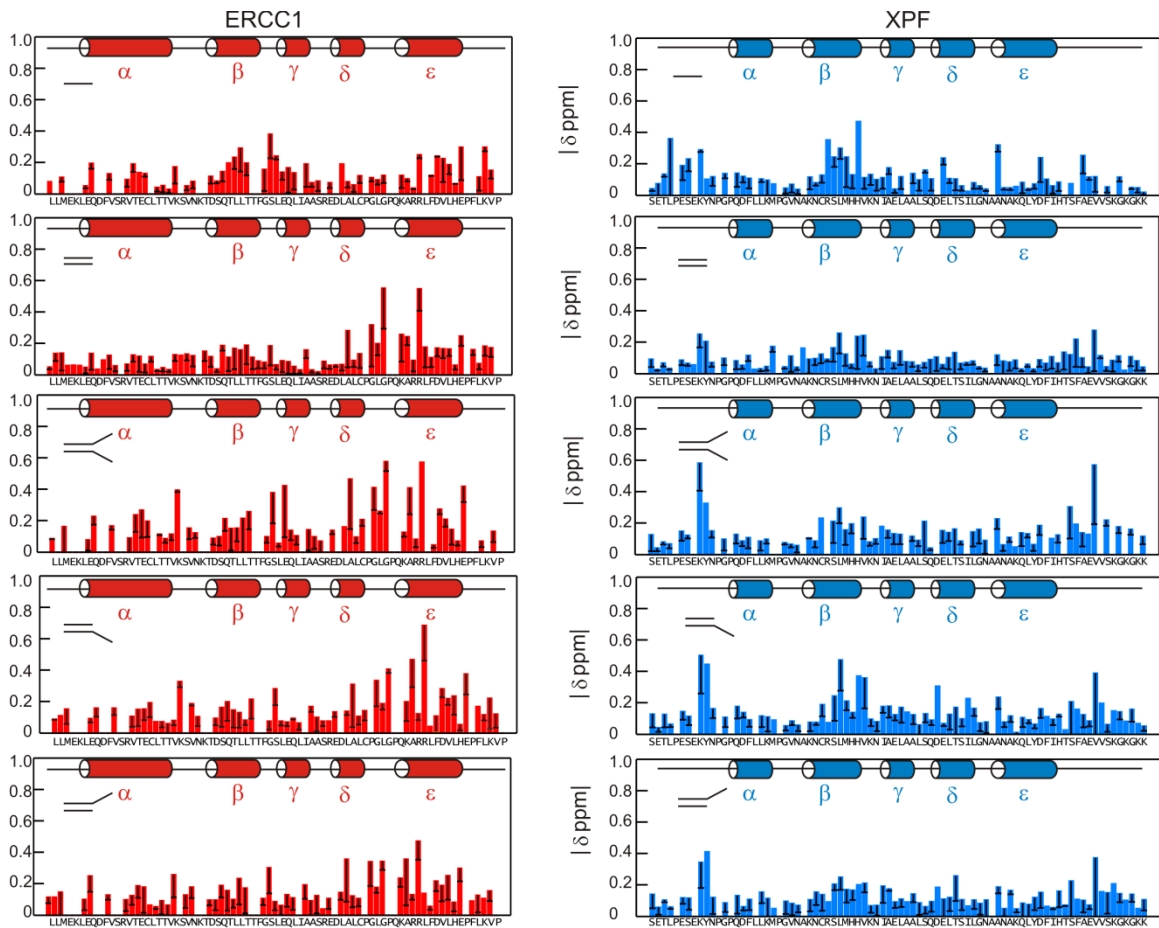
**Supplemental Figure S1** Probes used for DNA binding to the HhH domain of XPF.

The figure shows the names, symbols and abbreviations and sequences of the various probes used in this study. The dsDNA probes are depicted as duplexes where the sequence of the upper strand is given 5' to 3' and the lower strand 3' to 5'. All ssDNA sequences and the 4 strands that together form the Holliday junction are all given 5' to 3'. ss<sub>10</sub> (underlined) refers to the DNA sequence used for the structure determination of the homodimeric HhH domain XPF structure bound to ssDNA and in NMR titration experiments



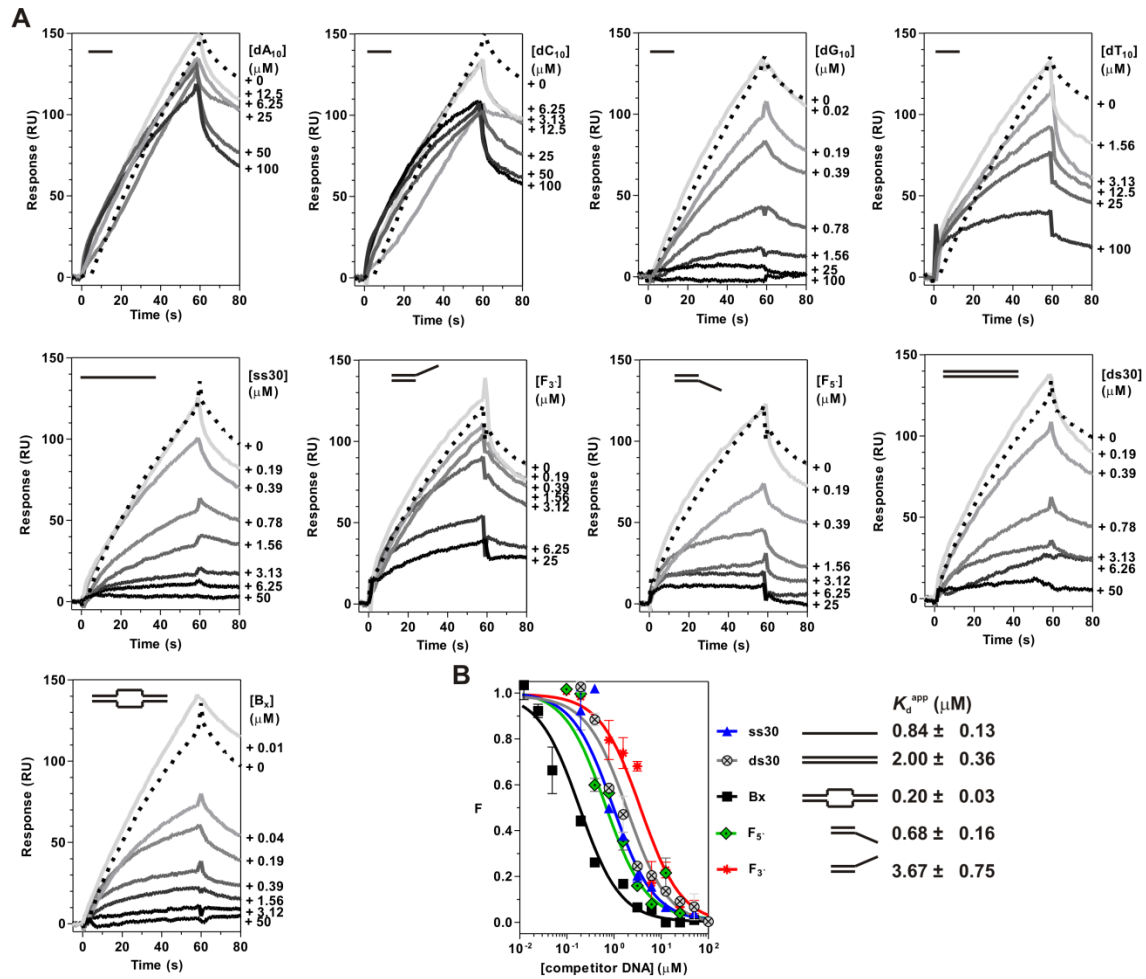
**Supplemental Figure S2** Presentation of the *previously identified dsDNA and ssDNA interfaces in ERCC1 and XPF.*

For comparison of the results obtained before with the results presented in figure 4 of the main text we show the CSP data that were obtained for hairpin 20 binding to the ERCC1-XPF heterodimer (34) and ssDNA to the XPF homodimer (41). The CSP data are plotted on the surface in the same way as described in Figure 4



**Supplemental Figure S3** *Binding of ERCC1-XPF to DNA substrates containing combinations of ssDNA and dsDNA sequences.*

The figure shows normalized average chemical shift perturbations (with the standard deviation indicated in black bars) for ERCC1 (red) and XPF (blue) induced by the addition of 3-4 fold excess of DNA (details on sequences used is presented in the Supplemental Table 1) to 25-100  $\mu$ M ERCC1-XPF complex under various salt and buffer conditions. The previously determined secondary structure elements are depicted above. Missing bars are either proline residues or residues that could not be unambiguously assigned due to (exchange) line broadening or peak overlap.



**Supplemental Figure S4** ERCC1-XPF HhH domain binding to the various ssDNA or dsDNA probes followed by SPR competition experiments.

(A) The representative sensorgrams of 50 nM ERCC1-XPF HhH domain in an absence or a presence of various DNA probes were measured on the NTA SPR chip. (B) In order to calculate the apparent DNA binding affinity ( $K_D^{app}$ ) the response values at the end of the loading ( $R_{60}$ ) were divided by the  $R_{60}$  value of the ERCC1-XPF HhH domain in absence of DNA and plotted against the total concentration of the DNA and fitted considering a 1:1 binding model. This panel is identical to the results presented in Figure 3A of the main text

DNA	Sequence	Sequence	[ERCC 1-XPF] ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Molar excess	[NaCl] (mM)	[NaHPO <sub>4</sub> ] (mM)
ssDNA	CAGTGGCTGATT		100	4	10	5
	CAGTGGCTGATT		40	2.5	25	12.5
	CAGTGGCTGATT		100	4	50	25
dsDNA	gggcggcgggaatcagccactgcc	ggcagtggtgattccccgccccc	150	3	100	50
	ggcggggcggggcggcggg	cccgccccccgccccc	150	2	100	50
	gggcggcggg	cccgccccc	40	2.5	25	12.5
	gggcggcggg	cccgccccc	80	4	100	5
	gggcggcggg	cccgccccc	100	4	50	25
Sa	gggcggcgggTTTTTCAGTGGCTGA	CAGTGGCTGATTTTTccccgccccc	40	2.5	25	12.5
	gggcggcgggCAGTGGCTGA	CAGTGGCTGAcccgccccc	80	4	100	5
	gggcggcgggCAGTGGCTGA	CAGTGGCTGAcccgccccc	100	4	50	25
Sa 3'	ggcggggcggggcggcgggCAGTGGCTGA	cccgccccccgccccc	150	2	100	50
	gggcggcgggTTTTTCAGTGGCTGA	cccgccccc	40	2.5	25	12.5
	gggcggcgggCAGTGGCTGA	cccgccccc	80	4	100	5
	gggcggcgggCAGTGGCTGA	cccgccccc	100	4	50	25
Sa 5'	CAGTGGCTGATccccgccccccgccccc	ggcggggcggggcggcggg	150	2	100	50
	CAGTGGCTGATTTTTccccgccccc	gggcggcggg	40	2.5	25	12.5
	CAGTGGCTGAcccgccccc	gggcggcggg	80	4	100	5
	CAGTGGCTGAcccgccccc	gggcggcggg	100	4	50	25

**Supplemental Table 1** DNA sequences used for NMR titration experiments.

The table shows the various DNA probes used in the NMR titration experiments and the corresponding sequences used to prepare these. The ERCC1-XPF HhH domain protein concentration is indicated. The molar excess DNA used for final evaluation of the chemical shift differences; the NaCl concentration and the phosphate buffer concentration for each probe is indicated. Sa: splayed arm probe containing of a dsDNA stem with either 1 or 2 ssDNA sequences