

Supplementary Information for

Probing Watson-Crick and Hoogsteen base pairing in duplex DNA using dynamic nuclear polarization solid-state NMR spectroscopy

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Fig. S1. Analysis of the DNA electron density in the crystal structure (1) of a Widom 601 nucleosome core particle (PDB entry 3LZ1). DNA base pairs with clear Watson-Crick electron density, ambiguous electron density and located in two-fold disorder regions are highlighted in green, yellow and orange, respectively. This analysis shows that for approximately 28% of the base pairs the electron density is ambiguous in discriminating between Watson-Crick and Hoogsteen conformations. Insets show representative examples of base pairs with Watson-Crick and ambiguous electron density.



Fig. S2. ¹³C CP-MAS solid-state NMR spectra of natural abundance 12-mer DNA duplex samples in (**A**) d_{8} , ¹²C-glycerol, D₂O and H₂O in 60:30:10 v/v/v ratio and (**B**) d_{8} , ¹²C-glycerol and H₂O in 60:40 v/v ratio, each containing 12 mM AMUPol. DNP-enhanced spectra recorded with microwaves turned on are shown in black, and the corresponding control spectra recorded with the microwaves turned off are shown in grey. Spinning sidebands and background signal arising from a silicone rotor insert are denoted by (*) and (#), respectively.



Fig. S3. (**A**) DNP-enhanced ¹³C CP-MAS solid-state NMR spectra of 1.6 mM natural abundance 12-mer DNA duplex in d_{8} , ¹²C-glycerol and H₂O in 60:40 v/v ratio containing 12 mM AMUPol (red), and the corresponding sample of 1.1 mM DNA duplex in complex with echinomycin in a 1:2 molar ratio (blue). Resonances that can be uniquely attributed to the bound echinomycin are labeled with (E), while DNA resonances are not labeled in the spectra. (**B**) ¹³C CP-MAS solid-state NMR spectra of the ¹³C, ¹⁵N-TA DNA duplex with Watson-Crick base pairing recorded with microwaves on (red) and off (black; the spectrum is shown at 10x intensity), showing DNP NMR signal enhancement of 156. Spinning sidebands and background signal arising from a silicone rotor insert are denoted by (*) and (#), respectively.



Fig. S4. (**A**) Structures of adenine and thymine nucleotides. (**B**) DNP enhanced ¹⁵N-¹³C ZF-TEDOR solid-state NMR spectra of the model Watson-Crick (red) and Hoogsteen (blue) ¹³C, ¹⁵N-TA DNA duplex samples recorded with dipolar mixing time of 1.33 ms and total measurement time of 12 h per spectrum. The resonance assignments for adenine and thymine are traced with green and orange dashed lines, respectively, and the purple dashed line indicates a minor thymine hairpin state corresponding to monomer DNA (2–4). Spinning sidebands are denoted by (*). (**C**) Overlay of the spectra for model Watson-Crick (red) and Hoogsteen (blue) ¹³C, ¹⁵N-TA DNA duplex samples shown in panel (B), with the most significant chemical shift differences indicated with black arrows.



Fig. S5. DNP enhanced ¹³C-¹³C DARR solid-state NMR spectra of the model Watson-Crick (red) and Hoogsteen (blue) ¹³C,¹⁵N-TA DNA duplex samples recorded with dipolar mixing time of 500 ms. Intra- and inter-base correlations are labeled in black and purple font, respectively.



Fig. S6. Comparison of experimental ¹³C and ¹⁵N solid-state NMR chemical shift differences ($\Delta\delta$) for nucleotides 6T and A7 in the model Hoogsteen and Watson-Crick 12-mer DNA duplex samples with the corresponding experimental solution NMR $\Delta\delta$ values (blue diamonds) (2) and DFT-calculated $\Delta\delta$ values (red triangles) (c.f., SI Table S1).



Fig. S7. Agarose gel (1%) analysis of Widom 601 DNA used for nucleosome core particle reconstitution following various purification steps. Lane 1: purified plasmid DNA; Lane 2: plasmid DNA after digestion with EcoRV; Lane 3: purified 147 bp Widom 601 DNA; Lane 4: DNA ladder.



Fig. S8. Elution profile from size exclusion chromatography showing histone octamer assembly from purified histones H2A, H2B, H3 and H4 as described in the text. Protein content of the histone octamer was analyzed by SDS-PAGE (inset).



Fig. S9. Native acrylamide gel (5%) showing the shift in electrophoretic mobility between 147 bp Widom 601 DNA and nucleosomes. Lane 1: DNA ladder; Lane 2: 147 bp Widom 601 DNA; Lane 3: Sucrose gradient purified nucleosomes.



Fig. S10. DNP enhanced ¹³C-¹³C DARR solid-state NMR spectrum of NCPs reconstituted with ¹³C,¹⁵N-Widom 601 DNA recorded with dipolar mixing time of 500 ms. Assignments are indicated for the unambiguous correlations.



Fig. S11. DNP enhanced ¹⁵N-¹³C ZF-TEDOR solid-state NMR spectra of NCPs reconstituted with ¹³C,¹⁵N-Widom 601 DNA (green) and free ¹³C,¹⁵N-Widom 601 DNA (purple) recorded with dipolar mixing time of 1.33 ms. Spinning sidebands are denoted with an asterisk (*). For each spectrum the cross-peaks are drawn with the lowest contour level at 5 times the root-mean-square noise level, and representative 1D ¹³C traces are shown corresponding to the CN4, TN3 and AN3 ¹⁵N frequencies. The free Widom 601 DNA sample was prepared similarly to the NCP sample (see Materials and Methods) and consisted of ~150 ng of ¹³C,¹⁵N-DNA dissolved in a matrix of 60:40 d₈,¹²C-glycerol and H₂O (v/v) with 12 mM AMUPol.

Base	Atom	Watson-Crick Chemical Shift [§] , δ _{wc} [FWHM] [†] (ppm)	Hoogsteen Chemical Shift [§] , δ _{HG} [FWHM] [†] (ppm)	∆δ (δ _{HG} - d _{WC}) Solid-State NMR [‡] (ppm)	Δδ (δ _{HG} - δ _{WC}) DFT (ppm)	$\Delta \delta (\delta_{HG} - \delta_{WC})$ Solution NMR (ppm)
А	C1'	84.03 ± 0.74 [5.21]	86.77 ± 0.25 [2.76]	2.74 ± 0.78	4.76	2.13
А	C2	153.94 ± 0.32 [2.85]	153.50 ± 0.16 [2.10]	-0.44 ± 0.36	-0.39	-0.09
А	C2'	40.22 ± 0.22 [4.07]	38.31 ± 0.21 [3.59]	-1.91 ± 0.30	0.70	
А	C3'	$79.79 \pm 0.52 \ [6.19]^{*}$	72.84 ± 0.16 [2.96]	-6.95 ± 0.55	-2.71	
А	C4	149.85 ± 0.33 [0.99]	147.73 ± 0.26 [1.50]	-2.12 ± 0.42	1.50	
А	C4'	$79.79 \pm 0.52 \ [6.19]^{*}$	82.80 ± 0.28 [4.07]	3.01 ± 0.59	-4.19	
А	C5	118.85 ± 0.05 [1.55]	118.62 ± 0.09 [2.01]	-0.23 ± 0.10	-1.21	
А	C5'	67.23 ± 0.69 [2.86] [#]	63.83 ± 0.17 [2.20]	-3.40 ± 0.71	-4.09	
А	C6	157.21 ± 0.21 [1.78]	155.40 ± 0.28 [1.94]	-1.81 ± 0.35	-0.19	
А	C8	141.45 ± 0.33 [3.73]	144.73 ± 0.16 [1.53]	3.28 ± 0.37	5.38	2.49
А	N1	221.78 ± 0.28 [4.99]	222.59 ± 0.28 [5.20]	0.81 ± 0.40	4.24	
А	N3	209.56 ± 0.43 [7.20]	216.16 ± 0.54 [5.94]	6.60 ± 0.69	5.20	
А	N6	82.63 ± 0.58 [9.01]	83.70 ± 0.42 [8.72]	1.07 ± 0.71	1.65	
А	N7	229.20 ± 0.43 [6.02]	226.42 ± 0.40 [4.06]	-2.78 ± 0.59	-3.77	
А	N9	169.03 ± 0.29 [6.23]	165.47 ± 0.21 [4.07]	-3.56 ± 0.35	-0.50	
Т	C1'	85.80 ±0.40 [3.07]	86.18 ± 0.55 [2.35]	0.38 ± 0.68	2.91	
Т	C2	151.09 ± 0.33 [2.94]	153.23 ± 0.18 [2.27]	2.14 ± 0.38	0.32	
Т	C2'	39.95 ± 0.31 [3.36]	36.14 ± 0.37 [3.82]	-3.81 ± 0.48	-2.20	
т	C3'	79.79 ± 0.52 [6.19] [*]	81.39 ± 0.22 [2.60]	1.60 ± 0.57	4.52	
Т	C4	168.66 ± 0.15 [1.53]	169.45 ± 0.18 [1.92]	0.79 ± 0.23	0.49	
т	C4'	79.79 ± 0.52 [6.19] [*]	81.13 ± 0.11 [2.23]	1.34 ± 0.53	1.81	
Т	C5	113.37 ± 0.19 [2.11]	113.22 ± 0.13 [1.87]	-0.15 ± 0.23	1.49	
т	C5'	67.23 ± 0.69 [2.86] [#]	69.36 ± 0.19 [3.15]	2.13 ± 0.71	2.33	
т	C6	138.74 ± 0.23 [2.11]	139.45 ± 0.20 [2.48]	0.71 ± 0.30	-1.01	1.23
т	C7	13.45 ± 0.23 [2.65]	14.68 ± 0.17 [2.24]	1.23 ± 0.28	4.29	
т	N1	142.86 ± 0.31 [6.48]	145.54 ± 0.23 [4.61]	2.68 ± 0.38	5.51	
т	N3	158.45 ± 0.33 [4.14]	158.82 ± 0.30 [4.01]	0.37 ± 0.44	2.52	0.2

Table S1. ¹³C and ¹⁵N solid-state NMR chemical shifts and shift differences ($\Delta\delta$) for nucleotides T6 and A7 in model Watson-Crick and Hoogsteen 12-mer DNA duplexes, and corresponding experimental solution NMR and DFT-calculated $\Delta\delta$ values.

 $^{\$}$ Errors in δ_{WC} and δ_{HG} values correspond to the standard deviations in the chemical shifts of every assigned resonance for each site in all recorded 2D $^{15}N^{-13}C$ and $^{13}C^{-13}C$ spectra.

*.# Shifts are not unique in the Watson-Crick DNA duplex due to resonance overlap.

[†] Full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) linewidth measurements correspond to the most intense, isolated correlations for each site in 2D ¹⁵N-¹³C or ¹³C-¹³C spectra.

Atoms		Watson-Crick				Hoogsteen		
		Inter-strand distance (Å)	Intra-strand distance (Å)	Atoms		Inter-strand distance (Å)	Intra-strand distance (Å)	
AC1'	TC2	8.5	5.1	AC3'	TC4	9.6	8.4	
AC1'	TC4	8.8	6.9	AC3'	TC7	12.1	9.2	
AC1'	TC5	10.2	7.0	AC4	TC5'	10.6	7.2	
AC1'	TC7	11.3	6.3	AC4	TC6	7.8	4.1	
AC5	TC1'	8.4	4.6	AC4	TC7	8.3	5.5	
AC5	TC7	8.0	5.5	AC5	TC5'	9.7	7.7	
AC6	TC1'	7.3	5.5	AC5	TC7	7.0	4.9	
AC6	TC7	6.6	5.3	AC6	TC5	6.1	3.4	
AC8	TC1'	10.5	3.9	AC6	TC6	7.3	3.7	
				AC6	TC7	6.8	3.9	

Table S2. Inter- and intra-strand A-T distances for model Watson-Crick and Hoogsteen DNA duplexes corresponding to A-T ¹³C-¹³C correlations observed in DARR solid-state NMR spectra.

Distances for the Watson-Crick DNA duplex were determined from a structure generated using 3DNA assuming an idealized B-form geometry (5). Distances for the Hoogsteen DNA duplex were determined from the crystal structure (6).

Base	Atom	Chemical Shift (ppm)	Base	Atom	Chemical Shift (ppm)
А	C2	153.40	G	C2	156.29
А	C2'	41.32	G	C2'	40.08
А	C4	149.30	G	C4	141.12
А	C5	118.52	G	C5	116.02
А	C6	156.67	G	C6	160.54
А	C8	141.26	G	C8	137.85
А	N1	220.72	G	N1	145.15
А	N3	210.24	G	N2	76.83
А	N6	81.68	G	N3	155.11
А	N7	229.88	G	N7	233.54
А	N9	169.84	G	N9	167.77
С	C2	157.92	Т	C2	151.73
С	C2'	39.16	Т	C2'	38.72
С	C4	168.07	Т	C4	168.80
С	C5	97.57	Т	C5	112.83
С	C6	142.65	Т	C6	139.46
С	N1	146.85	Т	C7	13.75
С	N3	193.83	Т	N1	142.21
С	N4	97.79	Т	N3	158.48

 Table S3. ¹³C and ¹⁵N chemical shift assignments for different nucleotide types in the nucleosome core particle.

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