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Supplementary Information

Mechanistic insight into the repair of C8-linked pyrrolobenzodiazepine monomer-mediated DNA damage

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20 Supplementary Figure Legends:

21 **Figure S1:** (A) General synthetic scheme for the synthesis of PBD core (10) and the conjugation
22 of C8-side chain to the PBD core to obtain KMR-28-33 and KMR-28-35. (B) Synthesis of MPB
23 building block 15 which is present in KMR-28-35.

24 **Figure S2:** (A) Molecular docking of KMR-28-33 and KMR-28-35 with 15 bp DNA sequence
25 taken from the LexA box within the promoter of *recA* gene (5'-GTTCGCAAGATGTTC-3'; GC
26 content – 46%). (B) Molecular docking of KMR-28-33 and KMR-28-35 with 15 bp DNA
27 sequence taken from the sRNA gene *CCNA_R0074* (5'-CCCCTTCGCCCTCCT-3'; GC content –
28 73%) (C) Table of all the repair components deleted in this study and their ascribed functions;
29 SSGR – single-strand gap repair, DSBR – double-strand break repair. (D) Representative
30 images of wild type *Caulobacter crescentus* growth on increasing concentrations of DNA
31 damaging agents UV, MMS and norfloxacin. Grey triangle at the bottom of each image panel
32 depicts increasing dilution of the bacterial culture from left to right. Minimum of three
33 independent experiments were performed for each condition.

34 **Figure S3:** Melt curves for AT-rich (Sequence 1) and GC-rich (Sequence 2) hairpin DNA after
35 3h or 24h incubation with (A) KMR-28-33, (B) KMR-28-35, (C) MMC and (D) GWL-78. For
36 comparison, melt curves of 'only DNA' control (for Sequence 1 or Sequence 2) are included in
37 these graphs. Each reaction was carried out in triplicates – black, red and green lines
38 correspond to individual melt curves for only DNA control, and blue, purple and pink lines
39 represent melt curves for DNA stabilized with drug.

40 **Figure S4:** (A) Fold change in rifampicin resistant colonies (Rif mutants) in KMR-28-33 (0.5
41 $\mu\text{g/ml}$), KMR-28-35 (2 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or MMC (0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) treated cells compared to control (no DNA
42 damage). Mean and SD for data from three independent experiments is plotted. (B) [left]
43 Representative images for cells with Gam-GFP foci upon treatment with norfloxacin in wild
44 type *Caulobacter*. [right] Percentage cells with Gam-GFP foci upon treatment with norfloxacin
45 in wild type *Caulobacter*. Mean and SD for data from three independent experiments is
46 plotted ($n \leq 300$ cells). (C) [left] Representative images for cells with Gam-GFP foci upon
47 treatment with KMR-28-33, KMR-28-35 and MMC in wild type and ΔrecN strains. Scale bar –
48 4 μm . [right] Percentage cells with Gam-GFP foci upon treatment with KMR-28-33, KMR-28-
49 35 and MMC in wild type and ΔrecN strains. Mean and SD for data from three independent
50 experiments is plotted ($n \leq 330$ cells). (D) Survival of wild type, ΔmutL and ΔalkB strains under
51 increasing doses of KMR-28-33, KMR-28-35 and MMC. Minimum of three independent
52 experiments were performed for each strain. Mean and SEM from all repeats for each strain
53 is plotted (wild type data from Figure 3A for comparison).

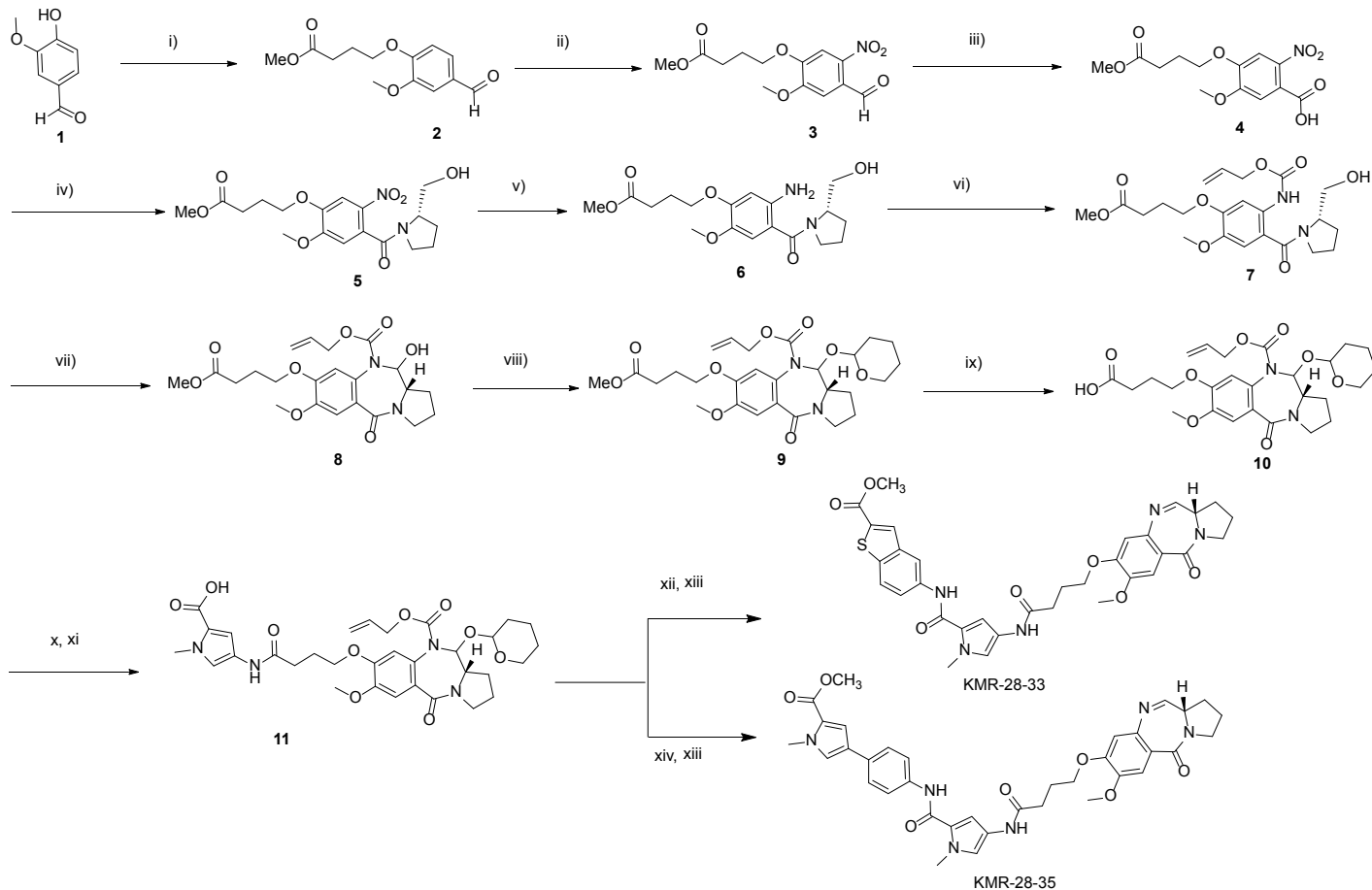
54 **Figure S5:** (A) Survival of wild type and ΔuvrA strains under increasing doses of UV, MMS and
55 norfloxacin (NF) damage. Minimum of three independent experiments were performed for
56 each strain. Mean and SEM from all repeats for each strain is plotted. (B) Survival of wild type,
57 ΔuvrA and Δmfd strains under increasing doses of KMR-28-33, KMR-28-35 and MMC.

58 Minimum of three independent experiments were performed for each strain. Mean and SEM
59 from all repeats for each strain is plotted (wild type and $\Delta uvrA$ data from Figures 3A and 5A
60 for comparison).

61 **Figure S6:** Table summarizing findings from this study on DNA repair mechanisms essential
62 for repair/tolerance of lesions induced by KMR-28-33, KMR-28-35 and MMC.

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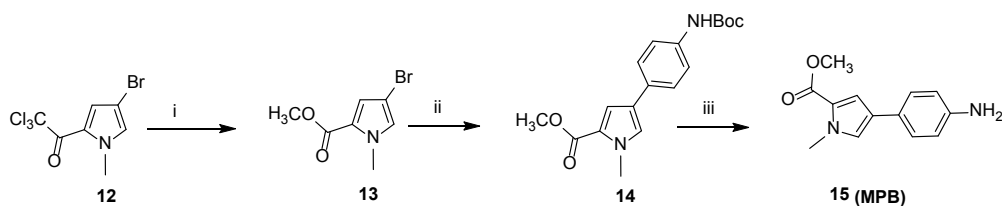
A.



Reagents and Conditions

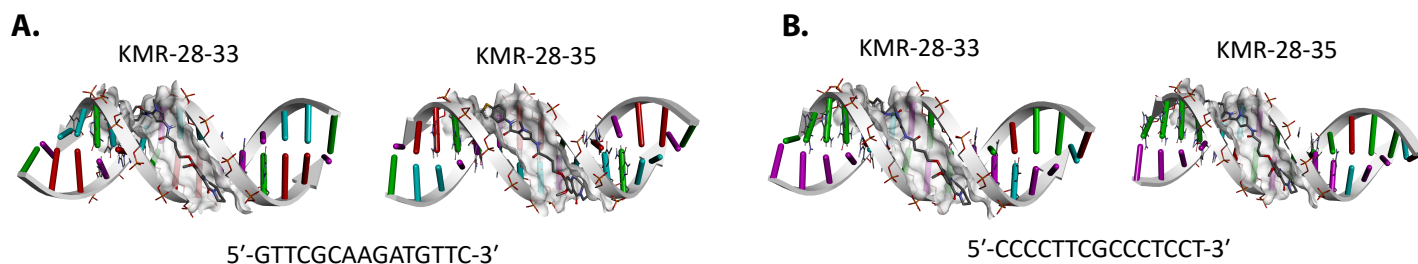
i) K_2CO_3 , DMF, Methyl 4-bromobutyrate, RT ii) KNO_3 , TFA, $0^\circ C$ iii) $KMnO_4$, Acetone, H_2O $70^\circ C$, iv) Oxalyl Chloride, S pyrrolidine methanol, RT v) Ammonium formate, Pd/C, $60^\circ C$ vi) Allylchloroformate, Pyridine, DCM, RT vii) TEMPO, BAIB, RT viii) pTSA, DHP, ix) NaOH, Dioxane, H_2O , RT. x) EDCI, DMAP, methyl 4-amino-1-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate, RT xi) NaOH, Dioxane, H_2O , RT. xii) EDCI, DMAP, methyl 5-aminobenzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate, RT. xiii) Pyrrolidine, PPh_3 , Pd(PPh_3) $_4$, DCM, RT xiv) EDCI, DMAP, MPB, RT

B.



Reagents and Conditions

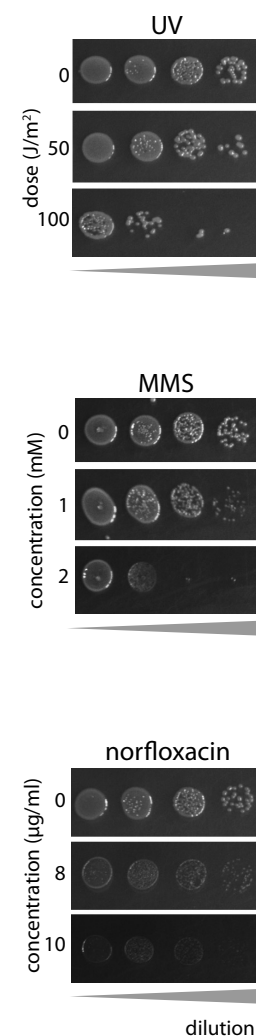
i) Na-Methoxide, MeOH (anhydrous), H_2SO_4 , reflux; ii) 4-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)phenylboronic acid, (PPh_3) $_4$ Pd, K_2CO_3 , Ethanol:Toluene:Water 9:3:1, MW iii) 4M HCl in Dioxane, RT.



C.

Repair mechanisms		Components deleted in this study	
		Gene name	Implicated function
SOS response		<i>lexA</i>	Prevents expression of SOS inducible genes in the absence of DNA damage
		<i>recA</i>	Expression of SOS inducible genes under DNA damage
Mismatch repair		<i>mutL</i>	Lesion recognition
Alkylation repair		<i>alkB</i>	1-methyladenine and 3-methylcytosine repair protein
Nucleotide excision repair		<i>uvrA</i>	Lesion recognition
		<i>mfd</i>	Transcription coupled repair
Homologous recombination	SSGR	<i>recA</i>	Recombinase; filaments on single stranded DNA
		<i>recF</i>	RecA loading
		<i>recO</i>	RecA loading
		<i>recR</i>	RecA loading
	DSBR	<i>recA</i>	Recombinase; filaments on single stranded DNA
		<i>recN</i>	Homology search
	<i>addAB</i>	Helicase-nuclease	
Translesion synthesis		<i>dnaE2</i>	Low-fidelity polymerase

D.



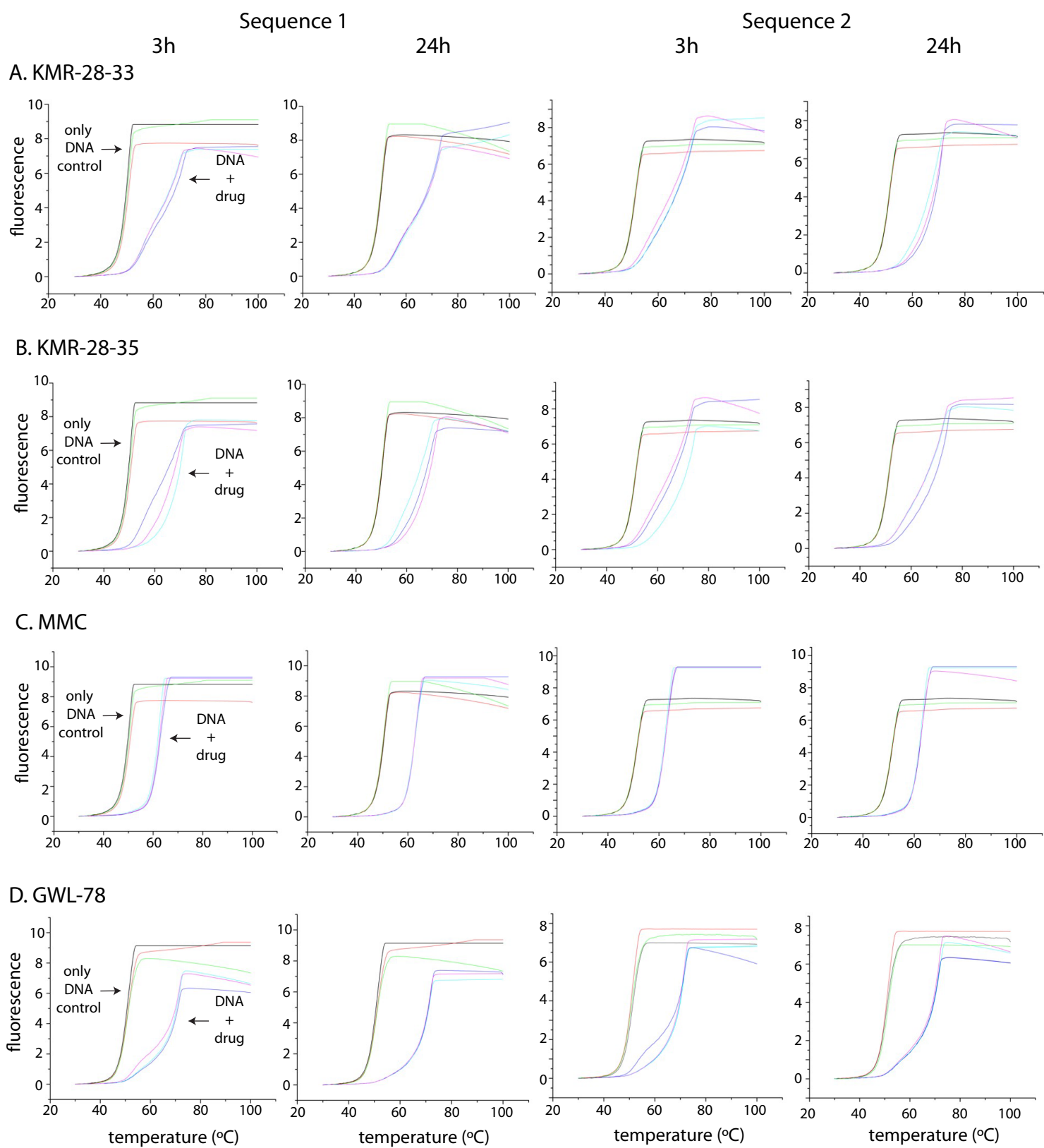


Figure S4

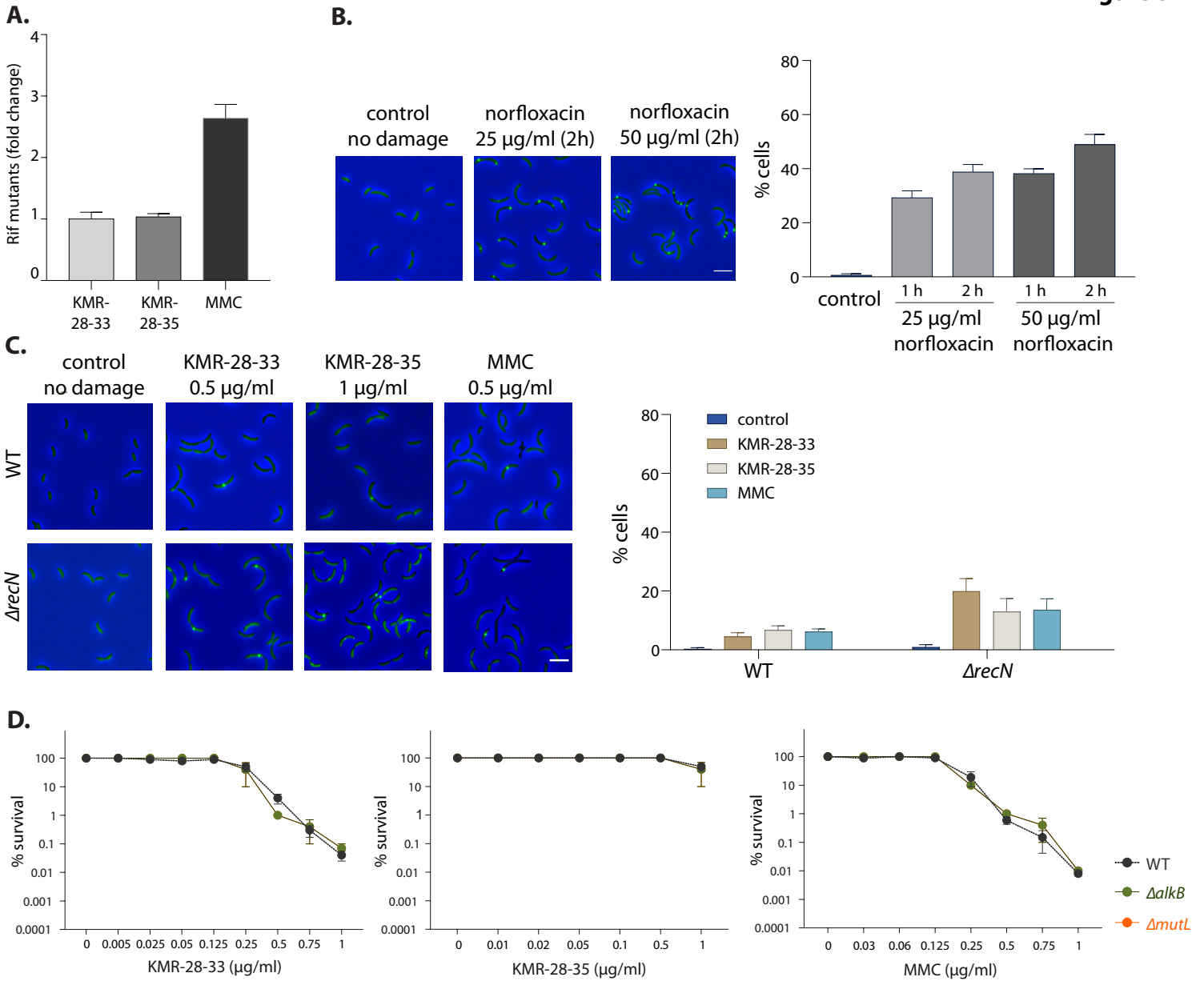
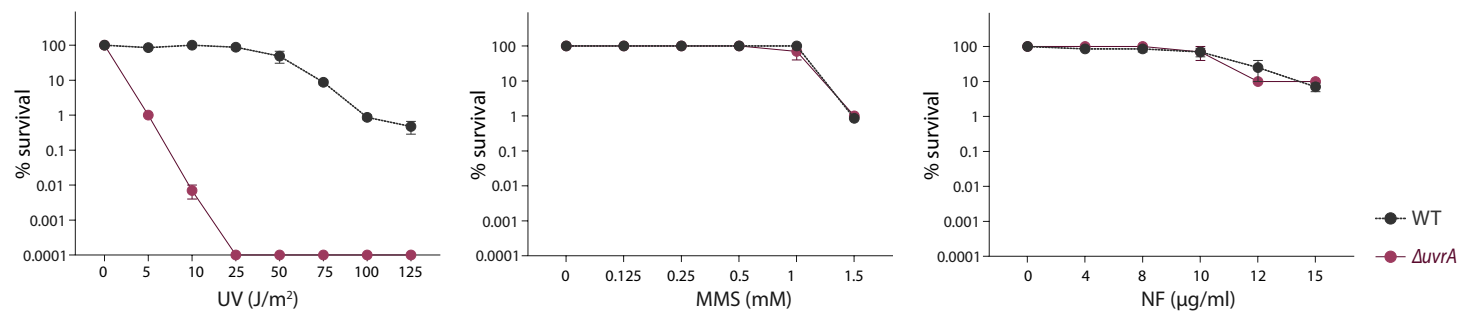


Figure S5

A.



B.

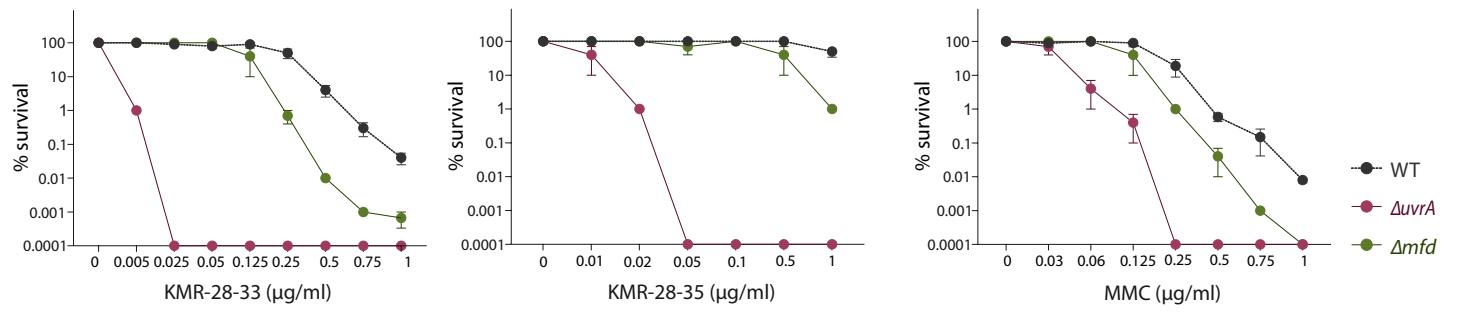


Figure S6

DNA damage	Lesion type	Repaired by
KMR-28-33	Mono-adducts	Nucleotide excision repair Recombination repair
KMR-28-35	Mono-adducts	Nucleotide excision repair Recombination repair
Mitomycin C (MMC)	Mono-adducts intra-strand crosslinks inter-strand crosslinks	Nucleotide excision repair Translesion synthesis Recombination repair

64 **Table S1: Strains used in present study**

Strain name	Genotype	Strain construction
CB15N		
NABC2	<i>CB15N; ΔrecA</i>	¹
NABC29	<i>CB15N; ΔdnaE2</i>	CB15N was transformed with pNABC148 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>dnaE2</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC238	<i>CB15N; ΔuvrA</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC417 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>uvrA</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC239	<i>CB15N; ΔaddAB::gent</i>	CB15N transduced with lysate of strain harboring deletion of <i>addAB</i> linked to <i>gent^R</i>
NABC265	<i>CB15N; ΔrecA::kan^R, ΔlexA::tet^R, ΔsidA</i>	<i>CB15N; ΔlexA::tet^R, ΔsidA</i> strain transduced with lysate of strain harboring <i>recA</i> deletion linked to <i>kan^R</i>
NABC268	<i>CB15N; P_{xyI}-Gam-GFP::spec^R</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC592 plasmid
NABC439	<i>CB15N; ΔrecN</i>	²
NABC499	<i>CB15N; ΔrecF</i>	CB15N transformed with pYY193 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>recF</i> (3rd-100 th codon) through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC502	<i>CB15N; ΔrecR</i>	CB15N transformed with pYY115 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>recR</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC505	<i>CB15N; ΔrecO</i>	CB15N transformed with pYY119 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>recO</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC544	<i>CB15N; Δmfd</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC590 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>mfd</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC579	<i>CB15N; ΔalkB</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC591 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>alkB</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC580	<i>CB15N; ΔmutL</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC416 plasmid to generate deletion of <i>mutL</i> through two-step recombination procedure.
NABC581	<i>CB15N; P_{sidA}-YFP::kan^R</i>	CB15N transformed with pNABC420 ³
NABC582	<i>CB15N; ΔuvrA; P_{xyI}-Gam-GFP::spec^R</i>	NABC238 transformed with pNABC592 plasmid
NABC583	<i>CB15N; ΔrecN::spec^R; P_{xyI}-Gam-GFP::spec^R</i>	NABC439 transformed with pNABC592 plasmid

65 **Table S2: Plasmids used in present study**

Plasmid name	Construct details	Antibiotic marker
pNPTS138	4	Kanamycin
pXGFPC1	5	Spectinomycin
pXYFPC2	5	Kanamycin
pNABC148	600 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>dnaE2</i> genomic locus were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using RR_oligo_021/RR_oligo_022 (upstream fragment) and RR_oligo_023/RR_oligo_024 (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with BamH1/Nhe1 linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC416	600 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>mutL</i> genomic locus were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using PS_oligo_049/AMJ_oligo_061 (upstream fragment) and AMJ_oligo_062/PS_oligo_054 (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with BamH1/Nhe1 linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC417	600 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>uvrA</i> genomic locus were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using PS_oligo_037/AMJ_oligo_057 (upstream fragment) and AMJ_oligo_058/PS_oligo_042 (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with BamH1/Nhe1 linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pYY193	500 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>recF</i> (from the 3 rd to the 100 th codon) were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using UPdel00158_F/UPdel00158_R (upstream fragment) and DWNdel00158_F/DWNdel00158_R (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with EcoRI/BamHI linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pYY115	500 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>recR</i> were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using UPdel00270_F/UPdel00270_R (upstream fragment) and DWNdel00270_F/DWNdel00270_R (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with EcoRI/BamHI linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin

pYY119	500 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>recO</i> were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using UPdel01635_F/UPdel01635_R (upstream fragment) and DWNdel01635_F/DWNdel01635_R (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with EcoRI/BamHI linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC420	pXYFPC2 vector was amplified using AB_oligo_651 and AB_oligo_652 and P _{sidA} -YFP fragment was amplified from a replicating plasmid harbouring YFP under P _{sidA} promoter using AC_oligo_322 and AC_oligo_321. The vector and insert fragments were assembled with Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC590	600 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>mfd</i> genomic locus were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using SD_oligo_088/SD_oligo_089 (upstream fragment) and SD_oligo_090/SD_oligo_0091 (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with BamH1/Nhe1 linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC591	600 bp fragments upstream and downstream of <i>alkB</i> genomic locus were amplified from <i>C. crescentus</i> gDNA using AMJ_oligo_041/AMJ_oligo_053 (upstream fragment) and AMJ_oligo_054/PS_oligo_044 (downstream fragment) primer pairs. These fragments were assembled with BamH1/Nhe1 linearized pNPTS138 vector using Gibson assembly.	Kanamycin
pNABC592	<i>gam_GFP</i> was amplified using SD_oligo_019 and SD_oligo_020 from an <i>E. coli</i> strain harboring <i>gam-gfp</i> (Shee <i>et al.</i> , 2013) and assembled with Nde1/Nhe1 digested pXYFPC-1 using Gibson assembly.	Spectinomycin

67 **Table S3: Oligos used in present study**

Primer name	Sequence
AB_oligo_651	CTGGACCTCTTGCCCATGACCGA
AB_oligo_652	GCTAGCTGCAGCCCCGGGG
AC_oligo_321	AACTAGTGGATCCCCGGGCTGCAGCTAGCTTACTTGTACAGCTCGTCCAT GCCGA
AC_oligo_322	GGTCAGGTCGGTCATGGGCAAGAGGTCCAGCACCCGCCCATCACCCACAG ATGC
AMJ_oligo_041	CAAGCTTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGTGCGCCAATCAGGCGCTTGATCG
AMJ_oligo_044	CGGAGACGCGTCACGGCCGAAGAGCCGGCGGATCGCAACCTCC
AMJ_oligo_053	AGAGTCAGATTGATCCGGCCTACGTCAAAGCCGGGGACAACGGT
AMJ_oligo_054	TTGTCCCCGGCTTTGACGTAGGCCGGATCAATCTGACTCTGCGACG
AMJ_oligo_057	GCCTGCTGAGCCGCTTAGTTTTCCGGAACGTTGGAC
AMJ_oligo_058	GTCCAACGTTCCGGAAAATAAGGCGGCTCAGCAGGC
AMJ_oligo_061	TAGGGGGCGCTCTGGCCTCACATCAAGCGGACTTTACGGG
AMJ_oligo_062	CCCGTGAAAGTCCGCTTGATGTGAGGCCAGAGCGCCCCCTA
PS_oligo_037	CAAGCTTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGCTTGGCGATGGCGTCACCT
PS_oligo_042	CGGAGACGCGTCACGGCCGAAGTCTACGCAGACGTGGATCTTG
PS_oligo_049	CAAGCTTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGGTCAAATGCTTCTCCAGCCG
PS_oligo_054	CGGAGACGCGTCACGGCCGAAGGAAGGAGACGAGACGATGGA
SD_oligo_019	CAGACGCTCGAGTTTTGGGGAGACGACCATATGGCTAAACCAGCAAACG TATCAAG
SD_oligo_020	GAAGTAGTGGATCCCCGGGCTGCAGCTAGCGCAGCCGGATCCCTTATTTG TATAGTTC
SD_oligo_088	CAAGCTTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGTTTCGCTATCGACCACTATCT
SD_oligo_089	TGGGCCGGCGTGTCCATTCATGACCAGGGCGTCGAAGCC
SD_oligo_090	GGCTTCGACGCCCTGGTCATGAATGGGACACGCCGGCCCA
SD_oligo_091	CGGAGACGCGTCACGGCCGAAGCAGAAGTTCAAGGACCCGGAGAAA
RR_oligo_021	CAAGCTTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGGACGCTGGCGCCGTTGATC
RR_oligo_022	ATCGCGCCCCGCTCACATGTTAGGTCCTCCCCCTCGC
RR_oligo_023	GGAGGACCTAACATGTGAGCGGGGCGCGATCCT
RR_oligo_024	CGGAGACGCGTCACGGCCGAAGGCGACATGCGGGTCAGCA
UPdel01635_F	TTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGGATCCACAATCGACGGCGAGACCTGGCTGGC
UPdel01635_R	TGACGGTCTTAGAGCTCCAGGCTCAAGCGGGGGTTCCCCACGCT
DWNdel01635_F	CGCTTGAGCCTGGAGCTCTAAGAACCGTCACAAAGCGGCGCTATC
DWNdel01635_R	TCACGGCCGAAGCTAGCGAATTCGCCGGCGTCTGTCGGGCCCGGCCA
UPdel00270_F	TTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGGATCCATCGAGGGGAGGGGAAGTTGAAGTTG
UPdel00270_R	GGGAATTTGTCAAGCGGCCATCAGGTCCTTCGGATAGGCGGTGCG
DWNdel00270_F	AAGGACCTGATGGCCGCTTGACAAATCCCGAGCGTTCTTCGGGA
DWNdel00270_R	TCACGGCCGAAGCTAGCGAATTCGGGTGGCGCTCTGATCCTCCAGCAGG
UPdel00158_F	TTCTCTGCAGGATATCTGGATCCCATCCGTCGGGCGGTCTCTCTATCG
UPdel00158_R	GGTGGACGCGCCGCCCATGCGGGCGTTCCTTAAGCGGTGTCGG
DWNdel00158_F	AACGCCCCGATGGCGGCGGCGGTCGCACCGTGGCGGCTCGAGGGCGAG
DWNdel00158_R	TCACGGCCGAAGCTAGCGAATTCGCCGTCGGGGCCCGCGGGACGCCAGG

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