**Mapping DNA damage-dependent genetic interactions in yeast via party mating and barcode fusion genetics.**

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**Abstract**

Condition-dependent genetic interactions can reveal functional relationships between genes that are not evident under standard culture conditions. State-of-the-art yeast genetic interaction mapping, which relies on robotic manipulation of arrays of double mutant strains, does not scale readily to multi-condition studies. Here we describe Barcode Fusion Genetics to map Genetic Interactions (BFG-GI), by which double mutant strains generated via *en masse* party mating can also be monitored *en masse* for growth and genetic interactions*.* By using site-specific recombination to fuse two DNA barcodes, each representing a specific gene deletion, BFG-GI enables multiplexed quantitative tracking of double mutants via next-generation sequencing. We applied BFG-GI to a matrix of DNA repair genes under ten different conditions, including methyl methanesulfonate (MMS), 4-Nitroquinoline 1-oxide (4NQO), bleomycin, zeocin and four other DNA-damaging environments. BFG-GI recapitulated known genetic interactions and yielded new condition-dependent genetic interactions. We validated and further explored a subnetwork of condition-dependent genetic interactions involving *MAG1*, *SLX4,* and genesencoding the Shu complex, and found a new role for the Shu complex leading to a decrease in the activation or activity of the checkpoint protein kinase Rad53.

**Synopsis**

A new method, BFG-GI, to generate double mutants and map condition-dependent genetic interactions *en masse,* reduces reagents consumption ~50X compared with array-based technologies. It was applied to a matrix of DNA repair genes in ten conditions and a novel function for the Shu complex was discovered.

* BFG-GI, fuses pairs of single mutant barcodes by Cre/Lox recombination to monitor double mutants relative abundance by next-generation sequencing to infer genetic interactions.
* Frozen aliquots of BFG-GI pools are challenged with multiple drugs to detect condition-dependent genetic interactions without having to generate double mutants from scratch.
* BFG-GI was applied to 26 genes related to DNA damage repair and allowed to find a new role for the Shu complex leading to a decrease in the activation or activity of the checkpoint protein kinase Rad53.

**Introduction**

**The importance of condition-dependent genetic interactions**

Genetic interactions, defined by a surprising phenotype that is observed when mutations in two genes are combined (Mani *et al*, 2008), are powerful tools to infer gene and pathway functions (Baryshnikova *et al*, 2010; Ideker & Krogan, 2012). Of the genetic interactions currently known in any species, the vast majority were found using Synthetic Genetic Array (SGA) technology in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Bandyopadhyay *et al*, 2010; Costanzo *et al*, 2010, 2016; van Leeuwen *et al*, 2016) and these studies have yielded a rich landscape of genetic interactions. The sign of genetic interaction (defined to be negative when mutants are synergistically deleterious, and positive when the combination is less severe than would be expected from independent effects) provides clues about whether the genes act in parallel or in a concerted or serial fashion. Measuring similarity between genetic interaction profiles, both at the level of single genes and of clusters of genes, has revealed a hierarchical map of eukaryotic gene function (Costanzo *et al*, 2010, 2016). However, the vast majority of genetic interaction mapping has been conducted under a single standard culture condition.

The importance and qualitative nature of gene function changes with environmental fluctuation, so that condition-dependent genetic interaction mapping is required. For example, pairs of DNA repair genes had different genetic interactions when cells were cultured in the DNA damaging agent methyl methanesulfonate (MMS) (Bandyopadhyay *et al*, 2010; St Onge *et al*, 2007). Further investigation revealed that there were 2-4 times more genetic interactions between DNA repair genes under MMS treatment compared with rich media alone. Different growth conditions are likely to reveal different genetic interactions (Ideker & Krogan, 2012), suggesting that a plethora of condition-dependent genetic interactions remain to be uncovered by tripartite gene × gene × environment studies.

**Current genetic interaction discovery technologies**

Essentially every large-scale genetic interaction mapping strategy in yeast uses a genetic marker system developed for the SGA technique, which works by mating a single-gene deletion query strain with an array of different single-gene deletion strains from the Yeast Knockout Collection (YKO) (Giaever *et al*, 2002). The SGA system provided genetic markers by which mated diploids can be subjected to a series of selections to ultimately yield haploid double mutants. In ‘standard’ SGA mapping, the fitness of the resulting double mutants is determined computationally by imaging each plate to measure cell growth of each separately-arrayed strain(Tong & Boone, 2005). SGA has also been used to study genetic interactions in functionally selected gene matrices (Collins *et al*, 2006) and applied to detect environment-dependent interactions (Bandyopadhyay *et al*, 2010). St Onge *et al* (St Onge *et al*, 2007) used the SGA markers to generate all pairwise double mutants between 26 DNA repair genes in yeast. In that study, the authors cultured each double mutant individually in microplates and monitored a time course of cell density to infer the fitness of the double mutants and identify genetic interactions in the presence and absence of MMS.

Others have measured genetic interactions via competition-based fitness measurements in liquid cultures, adding fluorescent markers for tracking cell viability, and using robotic manipulation to inoculate and measure cell growth (DeLuna *et al*, 2008; Garay *et al*, 2014). A recent technique called iSeq incorporated barcodes into single-mutant strains, such that pairs of barcodes identifying corresponding pairs of deleted genes could be fused by Cre-mediated recombination (Jaffe *et al*, 2017). They demonstrated the method, showing that a pool corresponding to 9 gene pairs could be sequenced to monitor competitive growth of double-mutants *en masse* in different environments (Jaffe *et al*, 2017). Similarly, our group (Yachie et al, 2016) and others (Hastie and Pruitt, 2007) have used Cre-mediated approaches to map protein-protein interactions.

For each of the above methods, double mutants were generated by individual mating of two specific yeast strains, requiring at least one distinct location for each double-mutant strain on an agar or microwell plate and necessitating robotic strain manipulation to achieve large scale. By contrast, other methods to map genetic interaction generated double mutants in a one-vs-many fashion. For example, diploid-based synthetic lethality analysis on microarrays (dSLAM) (Pan *et al*, 2004) disrupted a single ‘query’ gene by homologous recombination via transformation of a marker into a pool of diploid heterozygous deletion strains bearing the SGA marker. After selecting for double-mutant haploids from such a ‘one-by-many’ haploid double-mutant pool, barcodes were PCR amplified from extracted double mutant DNA and hybridized to microarrays to infer the relative abundance and thus fitness of double mutants. Another method, Genetic Interaction Mapping (GIM) (Decourty *et al*, 2008), generated a one-by-many pool of barcoded double mutants by *en masse* mating a single query strain to a pool of haploid gene deletion strains. Like dSLAM, GIM inferred strain abundance and fitness via barcode hybridization to microarrays. Despite the efficiency of generating one-by-many double-mutant pools, a matrix involving thousands of query strains would require thousands of such pools to be generated.

Each of the above methods has advantages and disadvantages. For example, measuring growth time-courses of each double-mutant strain provides high resolution fitness measurements (Garay *et al*, 2014; St Onge *et al*, 2007), but scalability is low. Standard SGA is high-throughput, but requires specialized equipment for robotic manipulation, and these manipulations must be repeated to test genetic interaction in a new environment. The iSeq method shares the scaling challenge of SGA in strain construction, in that it requires many pairwise mating operations; however, once a double-mutant pool has been generated, it represents a promising strategy for measurement of competitive pools in different environments. The dSLAM and GIM methods allow generation of one-by-many pools, which reduces the number of mating operations, but both methods require customized microarrays as well as pool-generation and a microarray hybridization for every query mutation in the matrix.

**Barcode Fusion Genetics to map Genetic Interactions (BFG-GI)**

Here we describe BFG-GI, which borrows elements from several previous approaches. Like iSeq, BFG-GI requires generation of barcoded single-mutant strains, with only minimal use of robotics. To generate double-mutant pools, BFG-GI uses the SGA marker system. It is similar to the GIM strategy in that it employs *en masse* mating. Unlike GIM and all other previous genetic interaction mapping strategies, BFG-GI employs many-by-many ‘party mating’ to generate all double mutants for a matrix of genes in a single mating step. All successive steps are also conducted *en masse.* We show that double mutants can be generated and monitored in competitive pools using BFG-GI. Like iSeq, BFG-GI infers double mutant fitness in competitively grown strain pools using next-generation sequencing of fused barcodes. Strain pools generated by party mating can be stored, and the aliquots can later be thawed and challenged under specific growth environments to detect condition-dependent genetic interactions without having to regenerate the double mutant strains.

We assessed BFG-GI by mapping genetic interactions of DNA repair-related genes under multiple DNA-damaging conditions, revealing many condition-dependent interactions and a new function for the Shu complex leading to a decreased activation or activity of the Rad53 checkpoint protein kinase.

**Results**

**BFG-GI experimental design overview**

The first step in the BFG-GI process is generating uniquely barcoded donor and recipient strains from complementary mating types. Each donor and recipient contained *loxP/2272* sites to mediate barcode fusion using the Cre/Lox system after the mating step. We created donors by crossing individual gene deletion strains from the YKO collection with proDonor strains that contained newly constructed pDonor plasmids with unique barcodes flanked by *loxP/2272* sites (Fig 1A, Appendix Fig S1 and Materials and Methods). We generated recipient strains by crossing individual gene deletion strains from the SGA query collection with proRecipient strains that contained unique barcodes flanked by *loxP/2272* sites (Fig 1B, Appendix Fig S2 and Materials and Methods). Haploid selection of double mutants followed mating of donor and recipient strains and *in vivo* fusion of barcodes using Cre/Lox recombination (Fig 1C).

We confirmed that barcode fusion occurred successfully using two neutral-insertion strains as controls (see Materials and Methods for a definition of neutral loci). Specifically, we crossed a *MAT*alpha Donor *ho::kanMX* to a *MAT***a** Recipient *ylr179c::natMX* and induced Cre/Lox recombination to fuse their barcodes. After sporulation and selection of the *MAT*alpha haploid double mutant progeny (Materials and Methods), we extracted genomic DNA, amplified barcode fusions by PCR and confirmed their integrity by Sanger sequencing (Fig 1C).

To scale up the BFG-GI process, we optimized mating and sporulation steps to generate double mutants with unique fused barcodes *en masse* (detailed in Materials and Methods). We selected hundreds of double mutants using a series of marker selection steps in a many-by-many fashion. Intermediate selection steps allowed us to fuse barcodes representing each donor and recipient parental pair within each double mutant cell (Fig 1D and Materials and Methods).

Once we generated the pool of fused-barcode double mutants, aliquots were stored at -80°C for future experiments. Amplification and next-generation sequencing of fused barcodes in the pool allowed us to infer the relative abundance of each double mutant in each condition of interest (Fig 1D and Materials and Methods). In addition to haploid double mutant pools, we sequenced fused barcodes from the heterozygous diploid double mutant pools and used those as reference (‘time zero’) controls for fitness and genetic interaction calculations (Materials and Methods).

**BFG-GI measures the strain abundance profile of a heterogeneous cell population**

We first evaluated the ability of BFG-GI to accurately detect the abundance of double mutants. To generate reference data for this evaluation, we used the array-based SGA strategy to generate 2,800 double mutants by individual mating of barcoded BFG-GI strains, subsequently inducing barcode fusion via the Cre/Lox system. The purpose of this experiment was to assess the extent to which quantifying growth via fused-barcode-sequencing of pooled strains could recapitulate the measurements of growth in individual patches (as in conventional SGA). We recorded colony sizes, scraped plates to pool all double mutant cells, extracted genomic DNA, and sequenced the fused barcodes (Materials and Methods). The resulting numbers of sequencing reads for each strain was strongly correlated with the corresponding colony sizes (R=0.92, Fig 2A). Importantly, very small or absent colonies correlated with double mutants with very few or no sequencing reads. These results show that BFG-GI detects the abundance of specific double mutants in pools of cells, with results comparable to an array-based method.

**Generating a DNA repair-focused double-mutant strain pool**

To test whether BFG-GI can accurately map genetic interactions, we generated a double mutant pool focused on DNA repair genes and compared BFG-GI results to those of other validated genetic interaction assays. We began by generating donor and recipient strains by crossing 35 YKO (*yfg1::kanMX, MAT***a**) single gene deletion strains to 60 BFG-GI proDonor strains, and 38 SGA query (*yfg2::natMX, MAT*alpha) single gene deletion strains to 56 BFG-GI proRecipient strains (Fig 1). These strains included 26 DNA repair genes from a previous condition-dependent genetic interaction study (St Onge *et al*, 2007), as well as 14 likely-neutral loci (e.g. the already-disrupted *HO* locus, pseudogenes, and other loci for which single- and double-mutant phenotypes have not been previously observed). Inclusion of neutral loci allowed us to infer single mutant fitness from pools of double mutants (Materials and Methods).

To generate haploid double mutants, donor and recipient cells were scraped from plates and all subsequent steps in the BFG-GI pipeline were conducted *en masse*. First, the pools were combined for party mating. Seven selection steps followed mating, including four that correspond to those in the standard SGA procedure: heterozygous diploid selection, sporulation, *MAT***a** progeny selection, and haploid double mutant selection. Additionally, before sporulation, we completed three selection steps to fuse barcodes and subsequently remove Cre to limit undesired recombination events (Fig 1C and Appendix Fig S3). This generated a pool of 4,288 haploid double mutants, which was aliquoted and stored as frozen glycerol stock. Thawed samples were used to inoculate solid media appropriate for selecting haploid double mutant cells. The media was used alone, supplemented with dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) as a control, or supplemented with one of eight drugs targeting DNA repair pathways (Appendix Table S1). We extracted genomic DNA, amplified and sequenced fused barcodes to infer the relative abundance of each double mutant in each condition.

To evaluate assay reproducibility, we ran all BFG-GI procedures in duplicate, starting from the mating step (technical replicates) and also barcoded multiple strains representing the same gene (biological replicates). Biological replicate strains had either the same or different parental strain origin (the parental strain for a given gene deletion might be from either the YKO or SGA query strain collection). Relative strain abundance was highly correlated between technical replicates (R > 0.95). Next, we used a multiplicative model [1] to infer a genetic interaction score (GIS) from relative strain abundances, analogous to other methods based on strain growth (Materials and Methods). The correlation between technical replicates at GIS level was also high (R=92.5) and thus we decided to combine technical replicates for subsequent analyses.

Correlation of GIS profiles between biological replicates representing the same gene were in general high, with 85% of replicates showing GIS R>0.5. We computationally excluded 20 biological replicates showing correlations below this cutoff from analysis and the remaining same-gene biological replicates showed correlations that were clearly distinct from strain pairs representing different genes (Fig 2B). Fifteen out of 20 replicates showing GIS R<0.5 were recipients. To understand factors contributing to uncorrelated pairs we sequenced the genomes of 10 strain pairs with GIS R<0.5 and another 10 with GIS R>0.5. We found that all 10 strains with GIS R<0.5 had chromosome V duplicated, in agreement with the report of iSeq strains that show low reproducibility (Jaffe *et al*, 2017). Chromosome V contains the *CAN1* locus, which is where both BFI-GI recipients and iSeq strain constructs were inserted. In contrast, only 3 out of 10 strains with R>0.5 showed aneuploidies (also in chromosome V). All BFG-GI strains showing aneuploidies were recipients. This suggests that future versions of BFG-GI recipients for which selection markers are carried by plasmids may increase reproducibility, as we found for our Donor strains.

Our final dataset consisted of 3,360 double mutants, with 60 Donors and 56 Recipients, representing 39 genes (25 DNA repair genes and 14 neutral genes; Appendix Table S2). Replicates representing *SWC5* showed very low relative abundance in the sequencing results and were removed from subsequent analyses.

We sought to compare BFG-GI to an existing small-scale approach, as both an overall evaluation and as a way to calibrate our genetic interaction calls. We first evaluated the performance of BFG-GI measurements by contrasting our GIS for no-drug and MMS conditions (two conditions commonly used as gold standards in genetic interaction studies) against Epsilon scores for these same conditions (St Onge *et al*, 2007). We found that quantitatively, GIS and Epsilon scores correlated well with each other in both conditions: no drug at r = 0.81 and MMS at r = 0.83 (Fig 2C and Fig 2D). Furthermore, at a false positive rate of 20%, BFG-GI showed a sensitivity of 50% for detecting positive genetic interactions and 70% for detecting negative genetic interactions (Fig 2E).

Finally, we assessed the ability of BFG-GI to predict the relative abundance of three classes of double mutant strains. First, we measured the abundance of double mutant strains with mutations in the same gene. Heterozygous diploid double mutants for the same gene (e.g. *MMS4/mms4::kanMX* *mms4::natMX/MMS4*) can survive in media supplemented with selective antibiotics, but haploids should not survive because they have only one locus for each gene and thus are not expected to carry both antibiotic resistance markers. Thus, haploid strains for same-gene pairs are expected to behave like synthetic lethal combinations and be depleted from the pools. The calculated S Second, we assessed the abundance of double mutants representing pairs of linked genes (<75 kbp apart). Independent segregation is reduced between linked genes, and as expected our BFG-GI quantitation measurement by sequencing indicated these double mutants were depleted from the pools (Fig 2F). Last, we analyzed double mutants representing unlinked genes and we found that their GIS distribution is clearly distinguishable from same-gene and linked gene pairs (Fig 2F).

Taken together, these results provide evidence that BFG-GI is a powerful tool to generate double mutants by mating *en masse* and to monitor strain abundance to infer condition-dependent genetic interactions.

**BFG-GI reveals condition-dependent genetic interactions**

Having determined that BFG-GI can accurately detect genetic interactions, we analyzed the DNA-repair focused double mutant pool under 9 culture conditions (see Fig 3C legend for condition names and Appendix Table S1 for details) to identify condition-dependent genetic interactions. To call positive and negative interactions, we expanded upon GIS in two ways. First, we modelled an estimated uncertainty for each score (), taking into account its sequencing depth as well as the uncertainty in the single-mutant fitness estimates in each condition (see Methods). Using this estimated uncertainty, GIS was converted to a standard score (). Then, we used the distribution of amongst strains containing a neutral gene (‘neutral pairs’) to calculate *FDRneutral*, or the proportion of hits expected to arise from neutral pairs at a given cutoff. At a cutoff corresponding to *FDRneutral* = 0.01, BFG-GI recovered previously-reported interactions at of 76% precision for positive interactions, and 88% precisions for negative interactions, at 55% and 60% sensitivity, respectively (Appendix Table S1 and Table S2). We found that although almost all genes showed at least one genetic interaction, some genes showed markedly more interactions than others. For example, we found that the DNA helicase gene *SGS1* paired with *MMS4, MUS81* or *SLX4* (all of which participate in template switching during break-induced replication) yielded negative interactions in at least 6 of 9 conditions (Fig 3A). Another DNA helicase gene, *SRS2*, interacted negatively with both *SGS1* and the DNA translocase gene *RAD54* in all 9 conditions. By contrast, *SGS1* showed positive genetic interactions with *RAD5* in all conditions*,* and *SRS2* positively interacted with *RAD5* in 5 conditions*.* SGS1and *SRS2* are involved in error-free DNA damage tolerance, while *RAD5* is involved in recombinational repair of double-strand breaks. These findings coincide with previous reports showing *SGS1* and *SRS2* centrality in DNA repair pathways in both unperturbed and MMS-induced stress conditions (St Onge *et al*, 2007).

We then sought to identify condition-dependent genetic interactions by comparing GISs between each pair of conditions. We first compared genetic interaction differences between conditions , converted this to a standard score based on the combined error estimate (), and used amongst neutral pairs to calculate *FDRneutral* at a given cutoff (Materials and Methods). At a cutoff corresponding to *FDRneutral* = 0.01, we identified 2603 differential interactions with sign changes amongst DNA damage genes, corresponding to 8% of all pair comparisons. For example, we found *mus81/rad5* displayed a negative GIS in DMSO and a positive GIS in MMS. This change is shown as a red edge in Fig 3B, panel *i*, and agrees with a previous report (St Onge *et al*, 2007). By contrast, most changes in genetic interactions between DMSO and MMS were from neutrality in one condition to either positive or negative GIS in the other (Fig 3B, panels *i* and *iv*). In fact, when we extended this analysis to include all pairwise condition comparisons we found that that the vast majority of genetic interaction changes (>95%) were from neutrality in one condition to either positive or negative GIS in the other condition; less than 5% of genetic interactions changed from positive in one condition to negative in the other (Fig 3C).

As expected, the two conditions most similar to each other were no-drug and DMSO, which showed only one differential interaction with a sign change (Appendix Table S1). Among the eight drugs, cisplatin showed the least changes compared with DMSO or no drug conditions (38 and 28 changes, respectively), followed by bleomycin and zeocin (each exhibiting 52 sign changes), which are members of the same family of glycopeptides that intercalate into DNA to induce double strand breaks (Claussen & Long, 1999). In contrast, condition pairs showing the highest number of sign changes include camptothecin vs. either 4NQO or MMS (each with 84 sign changes). These data are consistent with the fact that these drug pairs have different mechanisms of action and cause DNA lesions that are repaired by different pathways.

**A condition-dependent subnetwork with *MAG1*, *SLX4* and Shu complex genes**

The Shu complex (a heterotetramer consisting of Csm2, Psy3, Shu1, and Shu2) promotes Rad51 filament formation and homologous recombination during error-free lesion bypass, double strand break repair, and meiosis (Ball *et al*, 2009; Bernstein *et al*, 2011; Godin *et al*, 2013; Mankouri *et al*, 2007; Sasanuma *et al*, 2013) (Fig 4A). Our BFG-GI results indicated that genes encoding all four members of the Shu complex showed negative genetic interactions with both *MAG1* and *SLX4* during exposure to MMS and 4NQO. Additionally, the Shu complex genes interacted negatively with *SLX4* during treatment with 4NQO, bleomycin and zeocin (Fig 4B). Mag1 is a 3-methyladenine DNA glycosylase that removes alkylated bases from DNA to initiate base-excision repair (BER), thereby protecting cells against alkylating agents like MMS (Berdal *et al*, 1990; Chen *et al*, 1990). Slx4 promotes the activity of three structure-specific endonucleases (Flott *et al*, 2007; Fricke & Brill, 2003; Gritenaite *et al*, 2014; Toh *et al*, 2010) and, upon exposure to MMS, plays a key role in down-regulating phosphorylation of the checkpoint kinase Rad53 (Jablonowski *et al*, 2015; Ohouo *et al*, 2013). We generated double mutants for each Shu complex member with either *MAG1* or *SLX4* and tested their fitness on media containing DMSO or various genotoxins using spot dilution assays (Fig 4C). Our results validated the *MAG1*-Shu complex interaction in MMS that we detected with BFG-GI, and are consistent with a previous study (Godin *et al*, 2016). BFG-GI had also called a *MAG1*-Shu complex interaction in 4NQO, however this interaction was not apparent in the spot dilution assay, likely because of its small estimated effect size and high double mutant fitness (GIS = -0.05, xy = 0.92). The negative interactions between *MAG1* and Shu complex members are explained by the simultaneous loss of Mag1-mediated BER that directly removes alkylated bases and decreases in error-free lesion bypass, a major pathway used during MMS-induced DNA replication blocks (Huang *et al*, 2013), in the double mutants (Godin *et al*, 2016) (Fig 4A). Our spot dilution assays also confirmed that *MAG1* interacts negatively with *SLX4* during MMS treatment, in agreement with a previous study showing that BER is unlikely to be the major function of *SLX4* (Flott *et al*, 2007). Of particular interest, we validated the BFG-GI interactions between Shu complex members and *SLX4* during treatment with MMS, 4NQO, bleomycin, or zeocin (Fig 4C). As the nature of the *SLX4* interactions with Shu complex genes is unknown, we decided to study them in more detail.

The negative genetic interactions between *SLX4* and Shu complex members in MMS were unexpected, given that the Shu complex promotes error free lesion bypass (Ball *et al*, 2009; Godin *et al*, 2016; Mankouri *et al*, 2007; Xu *et al*, 2013) and *SLX4* is epistatic to genes that regulate error-free lesion bypass during MMS treatment (Flott *et al*, 2007). A major role for Slx4 during MMS treatment is in the down-regulation of Rad53 phosphorylation and activation, which occurs by Slx4 competing with Rad9 for binding to Dpb11 in order to limit the formation of Rad9-Dpb11 complexes that activate Rad53 (Cussiol *et al*, 2015; Jablonowski *et al*, 2015; Ohouo *et al*, 2013; Pfander & Diffley, 2011). Cells deleted for *SLX4* or *PPH3*, which encodes the catalytic subunit of the protein phosphatase PP4 complex that binds and dephosphorylates Rad53 during MMS treatment (O’Neill *et al*, 2007), display hyperactivation of Rad53 upon MMS treatment and sensitivity to MMS that is suppressed by expression of a hypomorphic *rad53-R605A* allele defective for full Rad53 activation (Cussiol *et al*, 2015; Jablonowski *et al*, 2015; Ohouo *et al*, 2013). In *slx4Δ pph3Δ* cells, Rad53 hyperactivation is further elevated and these double mutants display synergistic sensitivity to MMS (Jablonowski *et al*, 2015). To determine whether the genetic interactions between *SLX4* and Shu complex members reveal an unanticipated role for the Shu complex in regulating Rad53-P levels (Fig 4D), we tested the sensitivity of *pph3Δ*/Shu complex double mutants to MMS using spot dilution assays. Combining *pph3Δ* with deletion of any of the Shu complex genes resulted in a dramatic increase in MMS sensitivity relative to the single mutants (Figs 4C and 4E), indicating negative genetic interactions similar to those seen between *SLX4* and Shu complex members (Fig 4C), or between *SLX4* and *PPH3* (Jablonowski *et al*, 2015).

To assess MMS-induced Rad53 activation in Shu complex mutants more directly, we monitored Rad53 phosphorylation (which is a proxy for Rad53 activation) using western blot assays. Consistent with the role of *SLX4* in dampening Rad53 activation (Balint *et al*, 2015; Jablonowski *et al*, 2015; Ohouo *et al*, 2013), *slx4Δ* cells challenged with MMS showed an increase in Rad53-P levels relative to wild type (Fig 4F). Interestingly, three of the Shu complex mutants (*csm2Δ*, *psy3Δ*, and *shu1Δ*) also showed an increase in Rad53-P levels upon treatment with MMS (Fig 4F), indicating that these Shu complex mutants, like *slx4Δ* and *pph3Δ* cells, display hyperactivated Rad53 under exposure to MMS. We asked whether the MMS sensitivity of Shu complex mutants could be suppressed by expression of the *rad53-R605A* allele. Expression of *rad53-R605A*, which is not effectively hyper-activated, suppresses the MMS sensitivity of *slx4Δ* and *pph3Δ* (Jablonowski *et al*, 2015; Ohouo *et al*, 2013). Similarly, the MMS sensitivity of *csm2Δ,* *psy3Δ, shu1Δ* and *shu2Δ* mutants was partially suppressed by *rad53-R605A* (Fig 4G). Together, our data indicate that the Shu complex, like Slx4 and Pph3, leads to a decrease in Rad53 activation or activity in response to MMS treatment, as revealed by unique condition-dependent genetic interactions detected by BFG-GI.

**Discussion**

We developed a new technology, called BFG-GI, in which pools of double mutant yeast strains corresponding to a matrix of target genes are generated *en masse* through many × many ‘party mating’. These pools are induced to form double-mutant-identifying chimeric barcodes by intra-cellular site-specific recombination, and assayed for growth via next-generation sequencing. Aliquots of these pools can be stored, and later cultured with different drugs to identify condition-dependent genetic interactions. To our knowledge, BFG-GI is the first method to generate haploid double-mutant strains *en masse* for a many × many matrix of genes without the requirement for multiple mating steps, thus enabling large-scale conditional genetic interaction mapping without extensive use of robotics.

BFG-GI showed good agreement with previous methods in mapping genetic interactions commonly used to benchmark genetic interaction technologies. Quantitatively, we show a correlation of r = 0.8 – 0.82 with existing data, and at *FDRneutral* = 0.01, BFG-GI recovered 55-60% of previous interactions at 76-88% precision (i.e. a 12-24% false discovery rate). The contrast between *FDRneutral* and the external validation rate suggests that the latter is a conservative measure of our precision, and that potentially novel true interactions may have been treated as false positives. We detected and validated unanticipated interactions between the Shu complex and *SLX4* which mirrored the genetic interactions observed between the Shu complex and *PPH3.* We further found that the presence of the Shu complex corresponded to reduced activity of activation of Rad53 during MMS treatment.

We calculated similarity between the genetic interaction matrices of different drugs, and found that those with similar mechanisms of action, like zeocin and bleomycin, are considerably more similar to each other than those with different mechanisms of action, like MMS and camptothecin. This suggests the potential of BFG-GI to shed light on drug mechanisms through measurement of gene-gene-environment interactions.

One advantage of BFG-GI is its cost-effectiveness. BFG-GI uses fewer reagents and less robotic assistance than other technologies to map genetic interactions because it is a pool-based technology. Pool-based technologies require less media, plates, and drugs than array-based technologies, a substantial cost advantage particularly when the price of drugs is factored in. For example, the amount of media used in 1536 spot arrays on OmniTrays is reduced 50-fold by studying the same number of gene-pairs in 100 OD pooled cultures in 143 cm2 Petri dishes (optimal cell density for pooled double mutant selections). BFG-GI is also more cost-effective than other barcode-sequencing technologies because in BFG-GI, strains are pooled at the mating step, rather than generating strains using robotically manipulated strain arrays.

The reproducibility of BFG-GI indicates that it is a robust technology. Technical replicates in BFG-GI are highly reproducible, and 85% of the biological replicates correlated well with each other (GIS R>0.5). The remaining 15% of biological replicates showing low correlations could be identified and removed computationally. We concur with the iSeq study (Jaffe *et al*, 2017) that aneuploidies in chromosome V are the main factor contributing to the replicates with low reproducibility. Chromosome V carries both *CAN1* and *URA3* loci, which were replaced by selection markers in the iSeq protocol (Jaffe *et al*, 2017), while *CAN1* was replaced by the recipient constructs in BFG-GI. Thus, *de novo* mutations around these loci during strain construction could explain the low correlation between some pairs of biological replicates. This possibility is supported by our observation that almost all BFG-GI strains showing GIS R<0.5 were recipients, whereas donors –for which constructs are carried on plasmids– showed GIS R>0.5. In the BFG-GI protocol, once the donor and recipient barcodes are fused, the relic donor plasmid is counter-selected with 5-FOA to reduce the chance of undesired recombination events. We concur with Jaffe *et al.* (Jaffe *et al*, 2017) who suggest that future protocols using constructs located on plasmids, such as the one we used with the proDonor strains, or in other chromosomal loci may serve to eliminate this issue. Notwithstanding this issue, however, the BFG-GI method proved to be highly accurate in comparisons with previous benchmark studies.

Although this study focused on a relatively small matrix (34x38 genes), we elaborated on previous studies to optimize the two main bottlenecks of pool cultures, mating (Soellick & Uhrig, 2001) and sporulation (Codon *et al*, 1995). We calculated that to cover a yeast genome-scale matrix of 5500x5500 genes, with 1000 representative cells for each cross, we would need ~3.02E+10 cells at each step along the BFG-GI procedure. Furthermore, using the optimal conditions that we established for mating (22%) and sporulation (18%), an experiment covering all 5500x5500 crosses would need to culture pools in ~27 Bioassay 500cm2 dishes for mating and ~10 Lt of liquid media for sporulation. Thus, in principle, BFG-GI could be extended to genome-scale studies.

BFG-GI is a flexible technique that can be used in the future to identify genetic interactions in many different settings. Generation of BFG-GI proDonor and proRecipient strains is one of the most time consuming steps in our pipeline because it includes sequence verification of both *loxP/lox2272* sites and barcodes. However, once generated these proDonor and proRecipient “toolkits” can be used many times to create donor and recipient strains representing different genes with minimal robotic manipulation. We anticipate that BFG-GI will be a valuable technology to map condition-dependent genetic interactions in yeast and, as next-generation sequencing costs continue to decrease, BFG-GI can be expanded to interrogate pools of double mutants representing bigger sets of gene pairs, including full genome combinations, across multiple conditions.

**Materials and Methods**

**Selected DNA repair and neutral gene strains**

We retrieved strains representing 26 DNA repair genes whose null mutants were sensitive to MMS (St Onge *et al*, 2007) from the YKO and SGA query collections. Additionally, 14 other loci deemed neutral because their null mutations did not affect cell fitness, were selected (Appendix Fig S4). These 14 loci have few or no genetic interactions in genome-scale screens (Costanzo *et al*, 2010) and we did not find growth defects upon deletion of any of them.

**BFG-GI toolkit strains**

*Donor toolkit construction*

We constructed 60 donor strains by generating two DNA fragments with overlapping ends which were co-transformed into yeast where they recombined generating pDonor constructs (Appendix Fig S1). The first fragment, called preD1, contained the hygromycin resistance gene (*HygR)* driven by the *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* *TDH1* promoter and terminator, a 20 bp unique barcode, *loxP/2272* loci, and flanking primer sites. First, we used a Gibson assembly (Gibson, 2009) to produce plasmid pFR0032 with the *PspTDH1-HygR-TspTDH1* backbone. Then, we used three consecutive PCRs to add barcodes, priming sites, *loxP/2272* loci, and in-yeast recombination adapters (Appendix Fig S1A). The second fragment, preD2, contained the *URA3* marker and Cre recombinase driven by *PtetO-CMV*. We generated this fragment by Gibson assembly of pFR0026, followed by a PCR to add in-yeast recombination adapters (Appendix Fig S1B). Then preD1 and preD2 fragments were co-transformed into yeast strain RY0771 (derived from BY4742) and merged by in-yeast assembly to generate pDonor plasmids (S1C Fig). We arrayed transformant strains to extract DNA and sequenced the preD1 loci, and proceeded with those strains containing confirmed preD1 loci. We mated selected *MAT*alpha**proDonors with *MAT***a** deletion strains of interest (*i.e.* DNA repair or neutral genes) from the YKO collection (Appendix Fig S1D). A series of selective passages (Appendix Fig S1D and Fig S3) resulted in Donor strains with the relevant genotype:

*MAT*alpha *lyp1Δ::PSTE3-LEU2 his3Δ1 leu2Δ0 met17Δ0 ura3Δ0 yfg1Δ::kanMX pDonor(PtetO-CMV-Cre lox2272 PTDH1-HygR-TTDH1 barcode loxP PURA3-URA3 CEN/ARS PAmpR-AmpR ori).*

*Recipient toolkit construction*

We constructed 56 recipient strains using a method based on the *delitto perfetto* construct (Storici & Resnick, 2006) to enhance homologous recombination of contructs as follows. First, we used consecutive PCRs to produce a fragment preR1, containing the *Kluyveromyces lactis* *URA3* gene, flanked by *loxP/2272* sites, 20 bp unique barcodes and a sequence complementary to the *S. cerevisiae* *CAN1* locus (Appendix Fig S2A). Second, we incorporated the *PSTE2-spHis5-TSTE2* into the *CAN1* locus of the strain BY4741. Then the *delitto perfetto* construct was inserted upstream of the *MAT***a** selection reporter of the same strain (Appendix Fig S2B) to enhance homologous recombination of preR1 fragments. This generated a pool of RY0766 proRecipient strains (Appendix Fig S2C). We isolated and arrayed monoclonal proRecipient strains then sequenced and selected strains with intact preR1 loci. Selected *MAT***a****proRecipients were mated with *MAT*alpha strains of the SGA query collection representing DNA repair and neutral genes (Appendix Fig S1D). A series of selective passages (Appendix Fig S2D and Fig S3) resulted in recipient strains with the relevant genotype:

*MAT***a** *his31 leu20 met170 lyp1 ura3**0 can1::barcode loxP klURA3 lox2272 PSTE2-spHis5-TSTE2 PCMV-rtTA I-SceI PGAL1-ISceI yfg2::natMX*

**Generation of BFG-GI double mutants**

We took several steps to reduce the chance of undesired strains in BFG-GI from taking over pooled cultures, including optimization of both mating and sporulation, and adapting protocols and constructs reportedly improving the selection of the *MAT***a** double mutant progeny in SGA. For example, mating and sporulation are the two primary population bottlenecks when generating haploid double mutants by meiotic segregations, and they must be optimized to maintain a pool complexity that is large enough to interrogate all desired gene-gene combinations. Optimizing these two processes is also important to reduce potential jackpot effects in the pool cultures (i.e. to avoid strains with genetic anomalies to take over the entire pool growth). In the following sections we describe our optimization of these steps.

*Mating optimization for* en masse *BFG-GI*

We focused on optimization of cell density for *en masse* party mating because previous evidence shows cell density influences mating efficiency (Soellick & Uhrig, 2001). We determined the optimal cell density for *en masse* party mating by inoculating mating Petri dishes with a mixture of two neutral strains (*MAT*alpha Donor *ho:: kanMX,* and *MAT***a** Recipient *ylr179c::natMX)* at cell densities varying from 30 OD to 300 OD and counting the colony forming units (CFUs). After generating mating mixtures, we took samples at 0 and 12 hours (hrs) of incubation at 23**°**C, and inoculated plates with either non-selective or heterozygous diploid double mutant selective media and counted CFUs. The ratio of CFUs in non-selective vs. selective media indicated that inoculating a 58cm2 Petri dish with 30 ODs of mating mixture results in 22% mating efficiency. In contrast, 100 ODs of mating mixture results in 13% mating efficiency, and 300 ODs of mating mixture results in 3% mating efficiency. Hence, we used 0.51 ODs of mating mixture per cm2 of plate for further *en masse* party matings.

To generate pools of double mutants, we arrayed BFG-GI donors and recipients in their respective selective media and cultured at 30**°**C for 48 hrs (Appendix Fig S3). We made one pool for each mating type by scraping cells from plates into cultures; we normalized cell densities with sorbitol 1M to have equal number of cells per strain (50 ODs per mL) and we lightly sonicated cells to disrupt clumps (Branson microtip sonicator, 10% duty cycle, output 2, 25 bursts, pause of 3 sec., and a second 25 bursts). We mixed the two pools together by stirring them in a flask for 10 min. Finally, we inoculated two Bioassay dishes (500cm2) with 259 ODs each of the mating mixture, and mating cultures were incubated for 12 hrs at 23**°**C.

*Generation of heterozygous diploid double mutants, induction of barcode fusion and pDonor elimination*

The generation of the heterozygous diploid double mutants required passaging the mating progeny every 24 hrs in selective media. Passages included selection of heterozygous diploid double mutants, induction of the Cre/Lox system with doxycycline, counter-selection of the relic pDonor with 5-FOA, and recovery from 5-FOA counter-selection to increase sporulation efficiency (Appendix Fig S3).

*Sporulation optimization for* en masse *BFG-GI*

We used cultures recovered from 5-FOA counter selection to inoculate liquid PRE5 pre-sporulation media for 2 hrs at 30**°**C to induce exponential growth, then spun down the cells and transferred them to SPO2 sporulation media (Codon *et al*, 1995) supplemented with histidine, leucine, methionine and uracil to mask BFG-GI strain auxotrophies at concentrations used in the SGA sporulation protocol (Tong & Boone, 2005).

*Selection of MAT***a** *haploid double mutants with fused barcodes*

We used the *STE2* and *STE3* promoters currently used for SGA to select for haploid cells which have been reported to perform better than earlier alternatives (e.g. *MFA/MFalpha* promoters*)* (Tong & Boone, 2007). We used these constructs to first select the *MAT***a** progeny from sporulation cultures and then the haploid double mutants. Using *STE2/STE3* promoters, optimizing mating and sporulation, and using an intermediate *MAT***a** selection step between sporulation and haploid double mutant selection together likely reduced the number of mitotic crossover survivors and jackpot mutation effects in our pools.

*Exposure of pooled cultures to drugs*

Before challenging haploid double mutant pools to drugs we identified the appropriate drug concentration for our experiment by exposing a neutral BFG-GI haploid double mutant (*ho::kanMX/* *ylr179c::natMX*) in growth assay liquid cultures to various drug concentrations. We selected drug doses corresponding to 20% of the minimal inhibitory concentration for the neutral test strain (Appendix Table S1). To expose mutant strains to drugs we thawed frozen haploid double mutant pools, allowed the pools to recover for 2 hrs in haploid double mutant liquid media at 30**°**C, and then used 100 ODs of this culture to inoculate 143cm2 petri dishes containing solid media supplemented with each DNA repair drug. We cultured pools at 30**°**C for 24 hrs and then collected samples to sequence fused barcodes and thus infer each double mutant abundance.

*Generation of BFG-GI double mutants in an array format*

Mating and selecting donor and recipient strains for an array format was similar to the pool-based *en masse* party mating assay described above, but in this case we used robotic assistance to pairwise mate each donor with an array of recipients. We completed all steps, including sporulation, on solid media, and imaged the final haploid double mutant selection plates. We scraped cells from the final selection plates to sequence the fused-barcode population which allowed us to compare colony sizes with numbers of sequencing reads.

*Next-generation sequencing and mapping of fused barcode pairs*

The BFG-GI technology relies on the Cre/Lox system to recombine the complementary donor and recipient *loxP/lox2272* sites that flank the barcodes (Fig 1). We sequenced the fused barcodes from pools of cells using the following steps: 1) genomic DNA extraction using glass beads and phenol/chloroform, 2) PCR amplification of the 325 bp barcode fusion product including the two 20 bp barcodes and the multiplexing sequencing adapters, 3) concentration and gel purification of the amplicon using 2% E-Gel EX agarose 2% (Invitrogen), DNA Clean & Concentrator Kit (Zymo Research) and MinElute Gel Extraction Kit 50 (Qiagen), 4) quantification of the DNA library by qPCR, and 5) sequencing by Illumina NextSeq paired-end technology. We mapped sequencing \*.fastq files against the library of expected barcode sequences using the program Segemehl (v0.1.7, -A 85) and custom scripts; 97% of all sequencing reads mapped to expected barcodes.

*Whole-genome sequencing and detection of chromosome duplications*

Genomic DNA from 20 strains (Appendix Table S2) was extracted by cell wall disruption with Zymolyase 100T 10mg/ml (Amsbio) and purified using AMPure beads (Agilent). gDNA was quantified with Quant-it Picogreen dsDNA assay kit (Invitrogen) and normalized to 2ng/ul for DNA fragmentation and library normalization with a Nextera XT DNA Library Prep Kit, using a transposase (Tn5) for tagmentation. A limited-cycle PCR was used to add Illumina sequencing adapters and indices i5 and i7. PCR amplicons with size between 400 and 800 bp were gel purified using a 2% E-Gel EX agarose 2% (Invitrogen) and MiniElute Gel Extraction kit (Qiagen). Whole genome sequencing was conducted on an Illumina NextSeq 500 using a HighOutput 150 cycles v2 kit with 40x coverage. Sequencing results were mapped against the reference genome UCSC sacCer3 (SGD vR64.1.1), corrected for GC content, and chromosomal duplications detected with the HMMcopy R package (Ha *et al*, 2012).

**Retesting double mutant construction and spot dilution assays**

We generated double mutant strains for retesting in spot dilution assays by mating single mutant *MAT*alpha SGA queries with *MAT***a** YKO collection strains, the exceptions being the *MAT***a** *RAD53* (MBS1437) and *rad53-R605A* (MBS1440) strains with the *RAD53* loci linked C-terminally to a *6xHis‐3xFLAG‐kanMX6* tag and resistance marker (Ohouo *et al*, 2013). Next, we induced sporulation of heterozygous diploid double mutants as we did for BFG-GI strains. To confirm segregation of *kanMX* and *natMX* markers we manually dissected haploid double mutants from tetrads and verified segregation using both selective media and PCR. Sanger sequencing confirmed residue 605 of *RAD53* and *rad53-R605A* strains. We grew strains overnight to saturation in liquid media, diluted them 1:10, and then used 1:5 serial dilutions for the spot assays. All cultures used YPD media supplemented with indicated drug concentrations.

**Definition of Genetic Interaction Score (GIS)**

*Calculating relative abundance of strains from fused-barcode sequencing counts*

We counted the total number of reads (*C*) for the donor (*i*) and recipient (*j*)barcode pairs (*ij*) in each condition-specific pool (*k*), and then divided by the total number of barcode counts in each *k* :

We also calculated the marginal frequencies (*M*) for each barcode:

*Inference of single mutant abundance*

First we contrasted the relative abundance of each barcode with measurements from the heterozygous diploid pool (*h*), which weused as a ‘time zero’ reference control.

** is a pseudocount-based regularization parameter such that: and  is the number of pseudocounts used to avoid overestimating poorly measured barcode pairs. Values for  between 1 and 10 were tested and no major differences were found in terms of benchmarking against previously published datasets (St Onge *et al*, 2007) (described below), therefore =1 was used.

Strains grown in selective pools of haploid double mutants need the two gene deletion markers *kanMX* and *natMX* to survive, therefore, we approached the single mutant and wild type relative abundance by using measurements for neutral genes (Appendix Fig S4) in *k* and *h* pools. For the wild type inference we used:

Finally, to infer each single mutant fitness (*W*), barcode relative abundance of each strain was contrasted with the relative abundance inferred for wild type:

*Inference of double mutant abundance*

Similar to the single mutant metrics, we used the double mutant relative abundance to calculate strain changes over time:

Furthermore, we compared the normalized double mutant values to wild type values to derive double mutant fitness:

*Genetic Interaction Score*

Our genetic interaction score was inspired by the multiplicative model that is now commonly used to score genetic interactions (Mani *et al*, 2008):

GIS values smaller than zero represent negative genetic interactions, whereas those above zero represent positive genetic interactions. To contrast genetic interactions between condition pairs in Fig 3, we obtained a Z-score for GIS within each condition and used an absolute GIS = 1 as cutoff.

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**Author contributions**

FPR, JJDM, JCM and AC1 (Atina Coté) conceived the project; AC1, AK and SO constructed pilot strains. AC1, PB, CW and JR constructed final BFG-GI strains and performed pilot mating experiments. JJDM, FS, YZ, DAP and GG optimized mating, culture and sporulation protocols. JJDM, FS, AC1, MG and MV performed array and pool cultures and sequencing of fused barcodes. JJDM and JCM performed computational mapping of barcodes. JJDM and AC2 (Albi Celaj) performed scoring of genetic interactions. JJDM and MG performed aneuploidy experiments and JW analyzed the results. JJDM, AB and BH performed Shu complex-related experiments. DD and GB provided advise on DNA repair pathways. JJDM, FPR, GB, AB and AC2 wrote the manuscript. FPR supervised the project.

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**Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

**Figure Legends**

**Figure 1. BFG-GI Pipeline Summary**

**A.** Construction of donors with unique barcodes representing each gene deletion in parental strains from the YKO collection.

**B.** Construction of recipients also with unique barcodes representing genes of interest in parental strains from the SGA query collection.Barcodes from both, donors and recipients were flanked by *loxP/lox2272* sites to allow in-vivo intracellular fusion of barcode pairs.

**C.** Donors and recipients were mated with each other to generate heterozygous diploid double mutants and barcodes were fused *in vivo* by the Cre/Lox system. The relic plasmid remaining in donors after Cre/Lox recombination was eliminated after barcode fusion. Sporulation was induced to select for the *MAT***a** progeny and haploid double mutants.

**D.** BFG-GI was conducted *en masse* to generate ‘many-by-many’ poolsfor a set of 26 DNA repair and 14 neutral genes. The resulting pool of haploid double mutants was stored as glycerol stock, from which aliquots were used to inoculate media containing different chemical agents (‘drugs’). Genomic DNA was extracted and fused barcodes were amplified and sequenced to monitor double mutant abundance and to infer genetic interactions. Details of Donor and Recipient strain construction are shown in Appendix Fig S1 and Fig S2, respectively. Media details are shown in Appendix Fig S3.

**Figure 2. BFG-GI Quality Control and Benchmarking**

**A.** Histograms and scatter plot analysis shows the correlation between two measures of cell abundance—colony size and next-generation-sequencing-based quantitation of fused barcodes—for a matrix of BFG-GI double mutant strains. Peaks in the histograms representing data points in the bottom-left corner of the scatter plot indicate that absent and very small colonies produced few or no sequencing reads.

**B.** Density plots for BFG-GI genetic interaction score (GIS) correlation between replicates of the same gene, with same or different parental origin, or pairs of different genes. Only replicates with a GIS correlation > 0.5 were retained for further analyses.

**C.** Comparison of BFG-GI-inferred genetic interactions in haploid double mutant media without MMS with genetic interactions identified using similar media (St Onge *et al*, 2007).

**D.** Comparison of BFG-GI-inferred genetic interactions in haploid double mutant media containing MMS with genetic interactions previously identified in similar media (St Onge *et al*, 2007).

**E.** Benchmarking of BFG-GI genetic interactions against the St. Onge *et al.* dataset (St Onge *et al*, 2007).

**F.** Density plot comparing the GIS distribution for same-gene pairs (which are expected to behave like synthetic lethals given the SGA double-mutant selection process) with that for linked and unlinked gene pairs.

**Figure 3. Condition Dependent Genetic Interactions Mapped by BFG-GI**

**A.** Networks showing the number of conditions with a genetic interaction for each gene pair (using the criteria Z < -1 for negative GIS and Z > 1 for positive GIS). Numbers besides gene names are guides for the reader to locate nodes in networks of panels (B) and (C).

**B.** Networks in the diagonal (subpanels *ii* and *iii*) show genetic interactions (GIs) for DMSO or MMS after applying the same Z-score criteria as in (A). The network in subpanel *i* shows how the genetic interactions change when DMSO and MMS treatments are compared. Interaction signs can be positive (+), negative (-), or neutral (n). The barplot in subpanel *iv* summarizes the number of sign changes in subpanel *iii*.

**C.** The networks are the same as described in (B) with additional drug conditions: cisplatin (CSPL), camptothecin (CMPT), doxorubicin (DXRB), hydroxyurea (HYDX), zeocin (ZEOC), bleomycin (BLMC) and 4NQO. The no-drug condition was omitted from this figure, as it was very similar to the DMSO treatment (Appendix Table S2).

**Figure 4. Shu Complex Condition-Dependent Genetic Interactions with *MAG1*, *SLX4*, *PPH3* and *RAD53***

**A.** Pleiotropic participation of the Shu complex in DNA replication and repair pathways.

**B.** Network showing condition-dependent genetic interactions inferred from BFG-GI for the indicated conditions.

**C.** Confirmation of interactions between the Shu complex, *MAG1* and *SLX4* using spot dilution assays including single and double mutants exposed to the indicated drugs. Orange, blue, and red boxes indicate genetic interactions of Shu complex members with *MAG1* and *SLX4*, and of *MAG1* with *SLX4*, respectively.

**D.** Schematic of potential functional connections between the Shu complex and *SLX4.* As with deletion of *SLX4* or *PPH3*, deletion of Shu complex members may lead to hyperphosphorylation and hyperactivation of Rad53, resulting in increased sensitivity to MMS.

**E.** Spot dilution assays showing genetic interactions of Shu/*pph3* double mutants exposed to MMS. Shu complex single mutants are shown in panel (C).

**F.** Western blot assays showing hyperphosphorylation of Rad53 in *csm2*, *psy3**shu1*and *slx4* strains following treatment with 0.03% MMS. Note increased intensity of Rad53-P bands compared with the Rad53 bands.**

**G.** Spot dilution assays showing decreased MMS sensitivity of Shu complex mutants expressing a hypomorphic *rad53-R605A* allele (*rad53-R605A-6xHis‐3xFLAG‐kanMX6*) compared with a wild type *RAD53* allele (*RAD53-6xHis‐3xFLAG‐kanMX6)*.

**Appendix**

**Table EV1. BFI-GI Tested Conditions**

Description of conditions tested, including drug names, concentrations and vendor codes.

**Table EV2. BFI-GI Raw Sequencing Measurements**

Raw numbers of next-generation sequencing reads measured for each double mutant across all conditions.

**Table EV3. BFI-GI Genetic Interaction Scores (GISs) at Barcode-Barcode Level**

GISs derived from sequencing measurements along associated Z-scores and False Discovery Rates (FDR) for each pair of barcodes on each condition.

**Table EV4. BFI-GI Genetic Interaction Scores (GISs) at Gene-Gene Level**

GISs derived from sequencing measurements along associated Z-scores and False Discovery Rates (FDR) for each pair of genes on each condition.

**Table EV5. Condition-Dependent Genetic Interactions at Barcode-Barcode Level**

Condition-dependent GIs for each barcode-barcode pair along associated Delta Z-scores and False Discovery Rates (FDR) for each condition.

**Table EV6. Condition-Dependent Genetic Interactions at Gene-Gene Level**

Condition-dependent GIs for each gene-gene pair along associated Delta Z-scores and False Discovery Rates (FDR) for each condition.

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