Chromatin Architecture Post UVC damage

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0.1 Experimental Settings and Main Findings

- 1. Cell type used: U20S, which are human osteosarcoma cells;
- 2. H3.3 histones are tagged 48 hours before experiments using the SNAP-tag method, tag color is red;
- 3. Repair factors XFP are labeled with GFP;
- 4. a region of $20\mu m^2$ was photo-activated 8-10 hours before UVC;
- 5. UVC damage is induced in a region of the cell using a 266 nm laser $(0.266 \ \mu m)$;
- 6. Changed to the red fluorescence signal were measured in the entire volume of the cell, post UVC;
- 7. Images were acquired using confocal microscopy, with an auto-focus module on, to acquire images from the best focal plane;
- 8. Fluorescence intensity were normalized against values measured in undamaged nucleus;
- 9. Fluorescence loss at irradiated sites was determined by dividing the intensity in the illuminated area by the intensity of the entire nucleus after background subtraction;
- 10. Illuminated area was defined 15 minutes post UVC based on GFP labeled repair factors and was kept similar throughout measurements;
- 11. Fluorescent recovery was measured relative to previous illumination starting from the frame with the minimal fluorescent values;
- 12. 2D projection of the 3D images were obtained by maximal intensity z projection
- 13. For sensitivity, most of the cell H3.3 fluorescence was photo-bleached, aside from the region of UVC illumination;
- 14. 20% loss of H3.3 signal from the *entire nucleus* was detected after photo-bleaching the fluorescence patch;

- 15. However, using UVC in the fluorescent patch led to 40% loss of parental H3.3 signal, while no detectable loss was seen in the entire nucleus;
- 16. The depletion of fluorescence in the center of the damage area, 15 minutes post UVC, was accompanied by an increase of density at tits boundary, balancing the loss;
- 17. 20% loss of DNA signal in the damage region, accompanied by an expansion of the region was observed 15 minutes postUVC;
- 18. The expansion of the damage region depends on the dose of repairfactor;
- 19. The early repair factor DDB2 recruits histone chaperons HIRA, which promotes the deposition of newly synthesized histones at UVC sites;
- 20. newly synthesized histones are detectable in the repair region only 45 minutes post UVC;
- 21. Histone chaperons do not participate in histone redestribution after UVC irradiation;

0.2 Model and Parameter Estimation

For reasons of convenience we will work in units of 100nm. Parameter values calculated in the subsection below will be converted to this measure when simulated.

0.2.1 Nucleus Size

Cells' cross-section are 240 μm^2 in the x-y plane and $11\mu m$ in height, giving an average radius of $r_c=7.25\mu m$. 1), The red fluorescence represent the histones.

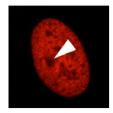


Figure 1: white triangle represents the UVC damage site, Histones are marked with red

0.2.2 The Simulation Domain

We set our simulation in a spherical domain with reflecting boundaries. This d-dimensional spherical domain, $\Omega_d(\rho)$ of radius ρ , will represent a region around the damage site, rather than the entire nucleus. To keep the polymer dense inside this region, we set $\rho = (b\sqrt{N/6})/2$. The actual value of this parameter is yet to be justified. The reflecting boundaries mimic the condensation barrier of the DNa with surrounding chromosomes, unaffected by the UV damage.

In the simulation domain we will place a rectangular region of interest (ROI), in which both DNA and histone densities will be measured, either at the whole region or in concentric bands around the UVC beam's focal point.

0.2.3 The UV beam

UV beam has $3 \mu m^2$ section, yielding a radius of $r_{uv} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \approx 1 \mu m$. In simulations we set the beam radius to be proportional to the radius of gyration, such that the simulation domain is 3 times the radius of the UVC beam. We therefore set the UVC beam radius, ρ_B , to be $\rho_B = \rho/3 = (b\sqrt{N/6})/6$.

0.2.4 The region of interest (ROI)

The area of chromatin expanded after UVC occupies $10\mu m^2$ which gives 3 times the UVC beam radius, i.e. $3\mu m$. In practice, we define the ROI as a rectangular region with diagonal ρ_R , proportional to the UCV beam's radius. The ROI's vertexes lay on the boundary of $\Omega(\rho)$, allowing room for monomers outside the ROI after expansion.

0.2.5 Histone Density

We consider histones to be uniformly distributed in the nucleus and in the damage zone. There are 3×10^6 histones marked, which makes their density $3 \times 10^6/(4\pi7.25^3) \approx 630$ histones/ μm^3 The expected number of histones in the UV beam region is $14.5\pi \times 630 \approx 30,000$ histones, assuming the beam is shot through the center of the sphere.

0.2.6 DNA density

to be determined

0.2.7 Distribution of damage sites

to be determined

0.2.8 The chromatin

The chromatin is modeled as a Rouse polymer of N monomers connected by harmonic springs. The dynamics of the polymer is governed by 3 forces: thermal fluctuations, spring force, and bending force, which we vary during simulations to approximate the observed experimental behavior. Thermal diffusion fluctuation, results from the random collision of the polymer with the particles of its surrounding, and is given by

$$F_d(t) = \sqrt{2D} \frac{dw}{dt}$$

with D the diffusion constant, defined by $\frac{k_BT}{\xi}$, k_B - the Boltzmann constant, T- the absolute temperature in Kelvin, ξ -the friction coefficient, and w is a standard white Gaussian noise.

The spring force, derived from an harmonic potential of springs connecting neighboring monomers, is given by

$$F_e(t) = -\gamma_e \frac{dk_B T}{2b^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R_n} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (|R_n(t) - R_{n+1}(t)| - l_0)^2$$

with $\gamma_e > 0$ spring constant, d is the dimension, b- the standard deviation of the distance between monomers, $R_n(t)$ is the 3D position of the n^{th}

monomer at time t, and l_0 is the minimal allowed distance between neighboring monomers.

Bending force on the n^{th} monomer is defined in terms of the angles θ_i between three adjacent monomers of the chain, n, n+1, n+2;

$$F_b(R_n) = -\gamma_b \frac{dk_B T}{2b^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R_n} \sum_{i=1}^{N-2} (\cos(\theta_i(t)) - \cos(\theta_0))^2$$

The differential equation describing of motion of the chain is thus

$$\frac{dR_n(t)}{dt} = F_e + F_b + \sqrt{2D}\frac{dw}{dt}$$

0.2.9 Model Parameters

Parameters used in simulations are set proportional to of the quantity $\frac{dk_BT}{b^2}$, which we fix to be 1 by setting the friction factor $\xi = 1$.

The parameter b

we set $b = \sqrt{dimension} \times 100nm$,

0.2.10 The minimal distance between monomers $-l_0$

We set l_0 to be \sqrt{d} to match b and allow fast relaxation of the chain configuration before UVC beam shot, after diffusion is turned off.

Number of monomers

The number of monomers, N, is determined by setting the polymer's radius of gyration to covers the ROI. The radius of gyration is given by $\sqrt{N/6b}$, equating it to $3\mu m$ we get $N\approx 1800$

The Spring constant

We set the spring constant $\gamma_s = 1$

The bending constant

The bending constant was observed to affect the rate at which the polymer assumes new conformation after UVC damage. We set it to be proportional to the bending constant, as $\gamma_b frac3K_bTb^2$. later we will adjust this constant according to the rate of chromatin expansion seen in experimental data.

0.2.11 Affected monomers after UVC

Affected monomers are those located within the UVC beam at initiation of beam around the center-of-mass of the polymer at that time. Because the polymer assumes random conformation just before beam initiation, it was observed that in many cases there were affected beads for which there were no neighboring affected beads. This phenomena causes peculiarities in the behavior of the chain, and a resting position position could not be found for the affected bead. We, therefore, assign bending force to the affected beads' nearest neighbors to prevent these phenomenas and to form a more continuous segments affected by bending.

0.3 Simulations

0.3.1 Simulations' settings

Simulations were ran numRelaxationSteps up to relaxation, after which the diffusion force was set to 0 and recording for numRecordingSteps. Following, the UV beam was shot through the center of the polymers mass. All beads falling within the UV beam area were assigned bending force. To prevent out-of-the-ordinary monomer behavior, we assign bending force to the affected monomers' nearest neighbor along the chain (see subsection 0.2.11). Nearest neighbors were not counted as affected beads. Simulation then ran for additional numBeamSteps with the bending force active for the affected beads.

Simulation were placed in a spherical environment with reflecting boundaries. Measurement of density were performed on a rectangular region, which its center was dynamically placed at the polymer's center of mass. Sizes of the containing sphere (circle in 2d) and the measurement region were proportional to the radius of gyration, $\sqrt{N/6b}$.

0.3.2 3D Simulations

The number of monomers in the ROI as a function of the bending constant

In this experiment we examine the affect of the value of bending/spring constants on the number of monomers left at the ROI post UVC. For this end we examine 5 different type of chains, with number of monomers, N varying as N=100,200,400,800,1600. For each N we keep the spring constant, $\gamma_s=1$, and increase the bending constant $\gamma_b=1,2,3,4,5$. For this simple experiment we perform only one realization per chain per bending constant, hence the results presented in the following table should be interpreted with care. Parmeter used in simulations:

- numRelaxationSteps = 2000
- numRecordingSteps = 1000
- numBeamSteps = 3000
- numBeads = $[100\ 200\ 400\ 800\ 1600]$
- dt = 0.1
- D = 1;
- $b = \sqrt{3}$
- opening angle $\theta_0 = \pi$
- bending constant = $[dD/b^2, 2dD/b^2, 3dD/b^2, 4dD/b^2, 5dD/b^2]$
- springConstant = dD/b^2
- beamRadius = $\sqrt{numBeads/6b/6}$
- containing Sphere Radius = $0.5\sqrt{numBeads/6b}$
- regionOfInterestWidth = $2(\sqrt{numBeads/6b})/6$
- regionOfInterestHeight = $2(\sqrt{numBeads/6b})/6$
- regionOfInterestCenter = polymer center of mass

	1		Lost (mean) (%)[min max]		
			bending const. multiplier. γ_b		
N	1	2	3	4	5
100	31 (58%) [28,38]	35 (16%)[-3 17]	14 (37%) [11 22]	36 (61%)[26 43]	10 (26%)[2 26]
200	17 (21%) [2, 30]	58 (57%)[49 71]	54 (56%)[48 62]	86 (72%) [82 92]	33 (45%)[28 32]
400	22 (16%) [2 39]	100 (53%) [82 106]	73 (39%)[60 89]	92 (%)[72 100]	117 (66%)[74 120]
800	0 (0%) [-20 18]	0 (0%) [-39 29]	72 (20%)[4 133]	122 (33%)[29 196]	120 (31%)[0 180]
1600	0 (0%)[-23 21]	0 (0 %) [-47 25]	54 (9%)[0 104]	43 (3%)[-17 110]	67 (12%)[0 132]

2D simulations