

1 **An ATM/Wip1-dependent timer controls the minimal duration of a DNA-**
2 **damage mediated cell cycle arrest.**

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16

17 **Abstract**

18

19 After DNA damage, the cell cycle is arrested to avoid propagation of mutations. In G2 phase, the
20 arrest is initiated by ATM/ATR-dependent signalling that blocks mitosis-promoting kinases as
21 Plk1. Interestingly, Plk1 can counteract ATR-dependent signalling and is required for eventual
22 resumption of the cell cycle. However, what determines when Plk1 activity can resume remains
23 unclear. Here we use FRET-based reporters to show that a global spread of ATM activity on
24 chromatin and phosphorylation of targets including Kap1 control Plk1 re-activation. These
25 phosphorylations are rapidly counteracted by the chromatin-bound phosphatase Wip1, allowing a
26 cell cycle restart despite persistent ATM activity present at DNA lesions. Combining
27 experimental data and mathematical modelling we propose that the minimal duration of a cell
28 cycle arrest is controlled by a timer. Our model shows how cell cycle re-start can occur before
29 completion of DNA repair and suggests a mechanism for checkpoint adaptation in human cells.

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31 **Introduction:**

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33 DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs) represent a serious threat to the genome integrity of a cell.
34 Failure to recognize and repair these lesions can lead to mutations, genome instability and cancer
35 (Jackson and Bartek, 2009). To cope with DSBs cells launch a DNA damage response (DDR),
36 involving a network of DNA damage sensors, signal transducers and various effector pathways.
37 Besides orchestrating DNA repair, a central component of DDR is activation of a checkpoint that
38 blocks cell cycle progression (Bartek and Lukas, 2007; Medema and Macurek, 2011). This is
39 particularly important in the G2 phase of the cell cycle, as cell division in the presence of DSBs
40 may lead to aneuploidy and propagation of mutations to progeny. Surprisingly however, a
41 growing body of evidence suggests that a cell cycle block is commonly reversed before all DNA
42 lesions are repaired in both transformed and untransformed cells (Deckbar et al., 2007; Loewer et
43 al., 2013; Syljuasen et al., 2006; Tkacz-Stachowska et al., 2011).

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45 A key unresolved issue therefore is how the duration of a cell-cycle arrest is controlled. Upon
46 recruitment to DSBs, the Ataxia telangiectasia mutated (ATM) kinase initiates a signaling
47 cascade by phosphorylating S/TQ motifs in more than 700 proteins, many of which are central
48 proteins in various branches of the DDR (Matsuoka et al., 2007; Mu et al., 2007; Shiloh and Ziv,
49 2013). However, although crucial for initiating many of the responses, the role for ATM in
50 maintaining a cell cycle arrest remains unclear, as acute inhibition of ATM after a checkpoint is
51 initiated has limited effect on the efficiency of cell cycle resumption (Kousholt et al., 2012).
52 Rather, ATM and Rad3 related kinase (ATR), activated by repair intermediates of DSBs, is a
53 main controller of checkpoint duration (Sanchez et al., 1997; Shiotani and Zou, 2009).

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55 To enforce a cell cycle arrest, ATM and ATR-dependent signaling inhibits the activities of
56 mitosis promoting kinases as Cyclin dependent kinase 1 (Cdk1), Polo-like kinase 1 (Plk1), and
57 Aurora A (Krystyniak et al., 2006; Lock and Ross, 1990; Smits et al., 2000). In particular, ATM,
58 ATR, and p38 activate Chk2, Chk1, and MK2, respectively, structurally distinct kinases that
59 share similar consensus phosphorylation motifs (Reinhardt and Yaffe, 2009). Among others,
60 Chk1, Chk2, and MK2 target cdc25 phosphatases, leading to their degradation or functional
61 inactivation, which results in a rapid decrease of Cdk1 activity and suppression of cell cycle

62 progression (Mailand et al., 2000; Peng et al., 1997; Reinhardt et al., 2007). In addition,
63 Chk1/Chk2/MK2-independent pathways contribute to inhibition of mitotic kinases. For example,
64 ATR-mediated degradation of the Plk1 co-factor Bora restricts Plk1 activity and ATM/ATR-
65 mediated phosphorylation of p53 leads to the expression of the Cdk1 inhibitor p21 (Bunz et al.,
66 1998; Qin et al., 2013).

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68 Interestingly, not only does ATM/ATR inhibit mitotic kinases, but the mitotic kinases have also
69 been implicated in reversing the checkpoint. Both Cyclin dependent kinase 1 (Cdk1) and Polo-
70 like kinase 1 (Plk1) phosphorylate multiple targets in the DDR (van Vugt et al., 2010). In
71 particular Plk1-mediated degradation of Claspin, a protein required for ATR-dependent Chk1
72 activation, severely affects checkpoint maintenance (Mailand et al., 2006; Mamely et al., 2006;
73 Peschiaroli et al., 2006). Plk1 activation is tightly linked to the central cell cycle engine, where it
74 in a feedback loop also stimulates Cdk1 activity (Lindqvist et al., 2009b). However, whereas
75 Plk1 is redundant for unperturbed mitotic entry, it becomes essential for recovery from a DNA-
76 damage arrest (van Vugt et al., 2004), suggesting that Plk1-mediated down-regulation of the
77 DDR is a key function to allow recovery from a cell cycle checkpoint. A critical question
78 therefore is what controls when Plk1 activity can start to accumulate during a DDR.

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80 Here we show that the DNA damage-induced spread of ATM activity across chromatin prevents
81 Plk1 activation. The ATM activity is efficiently counteracted by the chromatin-bound
82 phosphatase Wip1, leading to Plk1 re-activation despite the presence of active ATM at DNA
83 break sites and active ATR. Based on a mathematical model, we suggest that the G2 checkpoint
84 does not function by monitoring completion of repair but rather that the global ATM/Wip1
85 balance on chromatin controls the minimal duration of a checkpoint arrest.

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93 **Results**

94 We constructed a FRET-based sensor that can respond to ATM and ATR activity and targeted it
95 to chromatin by fusion with Histone H2B (referred to as H2B-ATKAR, Figure 1–figure
96 supplement 1A-C). After treatment with the radiomimetic drug Neocarzinostatin (NCS) H2B-
97 ATKAR specifically detects ATM activity (Figure 1–figure supplement 1C-E). The H2B-
98 ATKAR signal was induced by NCS addition in a dose-dependent manner and decreased over
99 time (Figure 1A and Figure 1–figure supplement 1F). To follow both ATM and Plk1 activities
100 throughout a DDR, we next compared the dynamics of H2B-ATKAR and a Plk1 reporter
101 (Macurek et al., 2008) from addition of NCS to spontaneous checkpoint recovery in single U2OS
102 and p53-depleted RPE cells. Interestingly, the decrease of H2B-ATKAR signal coincided with
103 reactivation of Plk1 that controls recovery from a DNA damage-dependent checkpoint,
104 indicating that ATM may control the duration of a DDR (Figure 1B, C).

105 To test if and when ATM controls Plk1 activation, we added a small molecule inhibitor to ATM
106 at different time-points of a DDR. In accordance with a role for ATM to control Plk1 activity,
107 inhibition of ATM in the early phases of a DDR sustained Plk1 activity (Figure 2A, B). In
108 contrast, after Plk1 activity had restarted, its slow appearance (Liang et al., 2014) was
109 counteracted by ATR (Figure 2C and Figure 2–figure supplement 1A). This suggests that both
110 ATM and ATR control Plk1 activity, but that they function at different periods during a DDR.
111 Indeed, ATM and ATR inhibition showed a synergistic effect on checkpoint duration only in the
112 early phases of a DDR (Figure 2D, E and Figure 2–figure supplement 2B). Thus, our data is in
113 support of a model where ATM controls when Plk1 activity can be initiated to switch off an
114 ATR-dependent checkpoint (Figure 2F).

115 ATM is activated at sites of double strand breaks, and we next sought to assess whether H2B-
116 ATKAR dephosphorylation and cell cycle re-start corresponds to ATM inactivation at DNA
117 damage foci. We therefore established a setup where we followed the appearance of Plk1 activity
118 in live cells and subsequently fixed and quantified immunofluorescence from the same cells
119 (Figure 3–figure supplement 1). Interestingly, ATM-dependent phosphorylation of H2AX and
120 p53 as well as autophosphorylation of ATM remained after Plk1 was re-activated, showing that
121 ATM is active after initiation of cell cycle restart (Figure 3A-C). Moreover, repair proteins as
122 53BP1 and Rad51 were present in nuclear foci after Plk1 activation, indicating that H2B-

123 ATKAR is dephosphorylated despite the presence of DNA breaks (Figure 3D). Sustained ATM
124 activity after cell cycle re-start was also detected by ATKAR that is present in nucleoplasm, but
125 is not targeted to chromatin. ATKAR shows faster and more sustained nuclear phosphorylation
126 compared to H2B-ATKAR, suggesting a difference in phosphorylation dynamics of diffusible
127 and chromatin-bound ATM targets (Figure 3–figure supplement 2). Importantly, ATKAR detects
128 nuclear ATM activity throughout the recovery process, showing that ATM remains active until
129 mitotic entry (Figure 3E-F). Thus, whereas ATM remains active throughout a DDR, H2B-
130 ATKAR responds to a subset of ATM activity that is silenced before Plk1 re-activation.

131 As H2B-ATKAR is restricted to chromatin due to targeting by Histone H2B, this activity
132 presumably occurs on chromatin. However, this activity is unlikely to be present on DNA
133 damage foci, as we did not detect enrichment of H2B-ATKAR activity on DNA damage foci
134 (not shown) and both γ H2AX and pS1981 ATM staining persisted on foci after H2B-ATKAR
135 signal disappeared (Figure 3B, C). Rather, we found that upon localized damage, H2B-ATKAR
136 detected a global spread of ATM activity across chromatin (Figure 4A, B and Figure 4–figure
137 supplement A, B). In contrast to the γ H2AX and BRCA1 that remained restricted to close
138 proximity of DNA lesions, H2B-ATKAR detected a chromatin-wide signal, indicating that ATM
139 activity can reach chromatin far from the damaged area (Figure 4–figure supplement C, D).
140 Taken together, this shows that ATM activity on DNA damage foci is not sufficient to block
141 Plk1 re-activation, but rather suggests that spread of ATM activity across chromatin controls cell
142 cycle restart.

143 We next sought to identify why ATM-dependent phosphorylation of H2B-ATKAR on chromatin
144 is more rapidly reverted compared to phosphorylation of diffusible ATKAR. We find that the
145 spread of ATM activity across chromatin is controlled by the chromatin-bound phosphatase
146 PPM1D (referred to as Wip1), which is known to counteract ATM-mediated phosphorylations
147 (Macurek et al., 2010; Shreeram et al., 2006; Yamaguchi et al., 2007). Wip1 efficiently
148 counteracted the H2B-ATKAR signal after NCS treatment, but less efficiently counteracted the
149 diffusible ATKAR (Figure 5A, B). In addition, overexpression or depletion of Wip1 blocked or
150 potentiated, respectively, the spreading of ATM activity at chromatin after localized DNA
151 damage caused by laser microirradiation (Figure 5C, D). Whereas control cells were efficiently
152 stimulated to enter mitosis once the H2B-ATKAR signal was reverted in the presence of an ATR

153 inhibitor, Wip1-deficient cells did not revert the H2B-ATKAR signal nor enter mitosis (Figure
154 5E). This suggests that in addition to the established role of Wip1 to counter a p53-mediated cell
155 cycle exit (Lindqvist et al., 2009a), Wip1 controls when ATM-mediated signaling throughout
156 chromatin is reversed to allow initiation of a cell cycle re-start (Figure 5F).

157 To study possible implications of our findings, we assembled a mathematical model where
158 ATM, Wip1, ATR, and Plk1-dependent pathways are treated as functional entities (Figure 6A).
159 Simulating this model, we found that the balance of ATR and cell cycle activities determined the
160 duration of a cell-cycle arrest, where rising self-amplifying cell cycle activities eventually forced
161 inactivation of ATR. Importantly however, a spread of ATM activity on chromatin resets the
162 initial cell cycle activities, thereby ensuring a delay before ATR-dependent activities could be
163 inactivated (Figure 6B). The duration of this delay is likely not determined solely by ATR, as
164 p53 and p38-dependent activities may influence the self-amplifying build-up of cell cycle
165 regulators (Bunz et al., 1998; Reinhardt et al., 2010). Due to the spatial separation of ATM
166 activation on DNA breaks and ATM function throughout chromatin, where Wip1 phosphatase
167 efficiently dephosphorylates ATM targets, ATM activity throughout chromatin was rapidly
168 reversed (Figure 6B). The speed of reversal depended on repair rate, and if damage was
169 sustained at high levels a steady-state appeared with intermediate ATM-mediated
170 phosphorylation, low cell-cycle activity and sustained ATR activation (Figure 6C). Testing the
171 prediction on the influence of repair rate on ATM activity dynamics from the model, we note
172 sustained H2B-ATKAR phosphorylation when interfering with DNA repair by PARP inhibition
173 or RNF8 siRNA (Figure 6D). Importantly, below a threshold level of remaining damage, Plk1
174 activity could start to increase and eventually silence the checkpoint (Figure 4C). This is in line
175 with our finding that repair factors are present at DNA damage foci after Plk1 activation (Figure
176 3A, B). We propose that spread of ATM activity on chromatin functions as a barrier that sets a
177 timer. In this sense, the barrier not only defines a period when checkpoint recovery cannot occur,
178 but by re-setting cell cycle activities it also ensures a delay before these activities can rise to
179 override ATR-mediated signaling. The ATM-dependent barrier thereby ensures a minimal
180 duration between its own silencing by Wip1 and mitotic entry. Thus, although a cell cannot
181 efficiently sustain a G2 checkpoint in the presence of low amounts of damage, the timer ensures
182 a considerable cell cycle delay during which DNA repair can occur.

183 We next sought to assess through which endogenous substrates ATM enforces a barrier to cell
184 cycle restart. We found that similar to H2B-ATKAR, DNA damage-induced phosphorylation of
185 Kap1-S824 and SMC3-S1083 spread throughout chromatin in an ATM-dependent manner and
186 rapidly declined due to dephosphorylation by Wip1 (Figure 7A, B, and Figure 7–figure
187 supplement A, B). This is in accordance with previously reported chromatin-wide effects of
188 Kap1 and SMC3 after DNA damage (Kim et al., 2010; Ziv et al., 2006). Focusing on Kap1, we
189 found that Wip1 interacted with Kap1 and efficiently dephosphorylated Kap1 S824 *in vitro* and
190 *in situ* (Figure 7C, D, and Figure 7–figure supplement C). Moreover, inhibition of ATM in the
191 absence of Wip1 sustained Kap1 S824 phosphorylation, indicating that Wip1 does not cause
192 Kap1 dephosphorylation by impeding ATM function (Figure 7–figure supplement D). In
193 addition to Wip1, we found that PP4 to some extent contributed to Kap1 dephosphorylation in
194 untransformed RPE cells (Figure 7–figure supplement E, F) (Bulavin et al., 2002; Lee et al.,
195 2012; Rauta et al., 2006). In contrast to ATM targets as H2AX, Kap1 S824 was
196 dephosphorylated before cell cycle resumption was initiated (Figure 3B, 7E and 7F). Thus,
197 phosphorylation of Kap1 S824 and H2B-ATKAR both depend on ATM and Wip1 and follow
198 similar spatiotemporal dynamics. Importantly, Kap1-S824A expression stimulated cell cycle re-
199 start after DNA-damage, showing that phosphorylation of Kap1 can influence the duration of a
200 DDR (Figure 7G). Taken together, ATM and Wip1-dependent regulation of Kap1 contributes to
201 determine the duration of a cell cycle arrest, most likely in concert with other ATM and Wip1
202 targets.

203

204 **Discussion**

205 Our results suggest that the duration of a cell cycle arrest is determined by three principal
206 components. First, an ATM-dependent signal that efficiently blocks cell cycle progression. This
207 signal is not affected by cell cycle regulators, but is rapidly reversed by the phosphatase Wip1.
208 Second, an ATR dependent signal that counters cell cycle progression throughout the cell-cycle
209 arrest, and third, the self-amplifying mitotic entry network that counters the ATR-mediated
210 pathway in G2 phase.

211 Plk1 activity rises through G2 phase due to the self-amplifying properties of the mitotic entry
212 network (Akopyan et al., 2014; Lindqvist et al., 2009b). Maintaining a self-amplifying activity at
213 a constant level is not a trivial task for a cell. Indeed, we recently found that during a DDR,
214 Cyclin B1 levels over time accumulate to levels far higher than is observed during an
215 unperturbed cell cycle (Mullers et al., 2014). Thus, although ATR-mediated activities slow down
216 cell cycle progression, G2 activities may ultimately prevail and induce mitotic entry. In
217 particular Plk1 phosphorylates a large number of proteins involved in both DDR and cell cycle
218 control and is essential for recovery from a cell cycle arrest in G2. By blocking Plk1 activity,
219 ATM thereby not only solidly enforces a cell cycle block, but also ensures that mitotic entry will
220 be postponed to long after the ATM-dependent signal is reversed.

221 The spatial regulation of the DDR on chromatin has recently attracted considerable attention
222 (Altmeyer and Lukas, 2013). ATM activity is efficiently induced at damage sites, where it
223 triggers establishment of DNA damage-induced foci. A determinant of foci formation is ATM-
224 mediated phosphorylation of H2AX, which remains restricted to the damaged area, at least in
225 part by insulation mediated by Brd4 (Floyd et al., 2013). Although DNA damage foci are likely
226 to be crucial for repair and amplification of the DDR, the localized DNA damage needs to be
227 communicated to the cell cycle machinery at a cellular scale. Here, we show that ATM activity is
228 differentially maintained at subnuclear compartments, where ATM activity present at chromatin
229 distal to damage sites blocks cell cycle progression. Whereas Wip1 may not be sufficient to
230 abolish ATM activity in DNA-damage foci until damage is repaired, Wip1 efficiently counters
231 the spread of active ATM to undamaged regions of chromatin. In this sense, ATMs stimulatory
232 effect on repair may be sustained while ATMs effect on the cell cycle is reversed. We suggest

233 that separating activating and inactivating locations may be a powerful manner for a cell to
234 simultaneously construct a timer and a sustained signal.

235 In unicellular organisms, a checkpoint can eventually be overcome, despite that not all DNA
236 lesions are repaired. In budding yeast, this process called adaptation depends heavily on the Plk1
237 homolog *cdc5*, which counteracts activating phosphorylation of the checkpoint kinase Rad53
238 (Donnianni et al., 2010; Toczyski et al., 1997). In contrast, multicellular organisms have evolved
239 mechanisms that promote apoptosis or terminal cell cycle arrest, largely dependent on p53
240 (Bartek and Lukas, 2007; Belyi et al., 2010). We find that albeit the kinetics may differ, ATM-
241 Wip1-Kap1 proteins function similarly in U2OS and RPE cells. However, untransformed G2
242 cells are more likely to terminally exit the cell cycle, rather than to recover from DNA damage.
243 Strikingly, the duration of the ATM activity present across chromatin overlaps with the time
244 required for a DNA damage-mediated cell cycle exit to become irreversible (Krenning et al.,
245 2014; Mullers et al., 2014). We suggest that a timer is inherent to all cells, but that its effect will
246 only become apparent upon deregulation of the p53 pathway. Of note, our model also elucidates
247 the previously unexplained observations that cells can enter mitosis in the presence of low levels
248 of damaged DNA (Lobrich and Jeggo, 2007). Such revival of adaptation may have deleterious
249 consequences in multicellular organisms since segregation of unrepaired DNA during mitosis
250 may cause aneuploidy and cancer.

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255 **Methods:**

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257 *Construction of ATM/ATR kinase activity reporter (ATKAR)*

258 ATKAR is based on an established Plk1 biosensor (Fuller et al., 2008; Macurek et al., 2008),
259 where the Plk1 target sequence from the parental biosensor was replaced with EPPLTQEI
260 sequence derived from the residues 11-18 of human p53, a well established substrate of ATM
261 and ATR kinases. To promote binding of the target site by FHA2 domain in the biosensor, the
262 serine corresponding to Ser15 in p53 sequence was replaced by threonine and residue at +3
263 position was changed to isoleucine (Durocher et al., 2000). The DNA fragment corresponding to
264 ATKAR was inserted in HindIII/XbaI sites of pcDNA4 plasmid. To generate H2B-ATKAR,
265 DNA fragment carrying H2B sequence was cloned in-frame with ATKAR into the HindIII site.
266 In contrast to a previously described ATM biosensor (Johnson et al., 2007), the FRET-ratio
267 change observed after NCS addition was largely reversed upon ATM inhibition, indicating that
268 phosphorylation of ATKAR is reversible and depends on ATM activity also after initiation of a
269 DDR.

270

271 *Plasmids*

272 Plasmid carrying human HA-KAP1 was obtained from Addgene (ID: 45569, (Liang et al.,
273 2011)). The S824A mutant of HA-KAP1 was generated by Site-directed mutagenesis kit
274 (Agilent Technologies) and mutation was confirmed by sequencing. Fragments corresponding to
275 HA-KAP1-WT and HA-KAP1-S824A were cloned into pcDNA4/TO plasmid. pRS-Wip1
276 plasmid for shRNA-mediated knock-down of Wip1 was described previously (Lindqvist et al.,
277 2009a).

278

279 *Cell culture and transfections*

280 U2OS, MCF-7 and HEK293 cell lines were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium
281 (DMEM) + GlutaMAX (Life Technologies) supplemented with 6% or 10% heat-inactivated fetal
282 bovine serum, respectively (FBS, Hyclone) and 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin (Hyclone) at 37°C
283 and 5% CO₂. hTERT-RPE1 cell lines were cultured in DMEM/Nutrient mixture-F12 medium
284 (DMEM/F12) + GlutaMAX (Life Technologies) supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal
285 bovine serum and 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin (Hyclone) at 37°C and 5% CO₂. To generate cells

286 stably expressing ATKAR or H2B-ATKAR, cells were transfected by linearized plasmids and
287 selected by Zeocine for 3 weeks. For RNA interference experiments cells were seeded at a
288 density of 8000 cells/well and transfected with SMARTpool ON-TARGET plus siRNAs (20 nM,
289 Dharmacon) targeting Wip1, ATR, and p53 using HiPerFect (Qiagen) and OptiMEM (Life
290 Technologies) at 48 h before analysis of phenotypes. Alternatively, cells were transfected with
291 Silencer Select siRNA (5 nM, Life Technologies) targeting GAPDH (control), Wip1
292 (CGAAAUGGCUUAAGUCGAA), TP53 (GUAAUCUACUGGGACGGAA) or PP4C
293 (UCAAGGCCUGUGCGCUAA) using RNAiMAX (Life Technologies) and cells were
294 analyzed 48 h after transfection, U2OS cells expressing KAP1 or KAP1-S824A upon
295 tetracycline induction were generated as described previously (Macurek et al., 2008). Where
296 indicated, hRPE cells were synchronized in S phase by hydroxyurea (2 mM, 16 h), released to
297 fresh media for 5 h to allow progression to G2 and treated with NCS for indicated times.

298

299 *Live-cell microscopy and Image processing.*

300 For live cell imaging 8000 -10000 cells were seeded in 96-well imaging plates (BD Falcon) 24 h
301 before imaging in CO₂-independent medium (Leibovitz's L15- Invitrogen) supplemented with
302 6% or 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum. Cells were followed on either a DeltaVision
303 Spectris imaging system (Applied Precision) using a 20X, NA 0.7 objective, a Leica DMI6000
304 Imaging System using a 20X, NA 0.4 objective, or on an ImageXpress system (Molecular
305 Devices) using a 20X, NA 0.45 objective. Images were processed and analyzed using ImageJ
306 (<http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/>) or using custom written Matlab scripts. 1/FRET was quantified as the
307 ratio of YFP emission - YFP excitation and CFP excitation - YFP emission as described
308 previously (Hukasova et al., 2012). Unless stated otherwise, the median pixel value of the
309 inversed nuclear FRET-ratio was used. For spontaneous recovery of H2B-ATKAR expressing
310 cells, a moving average of 3 or 4 time-points is shown.

311

312 *Microirradiation*

313 U2OS or RPE cells, grown on MatTek glass bottom dish (MatTek Corporation) were treated
314 with 10 μ M BrdU (Sigma) for 24 h. For micro-irradiation, the dish was mounted on stage of
315 Leica DMI 6000B microscope stand (Leica) integrated with a pulsed nitrogen laser (20 Hz, 364
316 nm, Micropoint Ablation Laser System) that was directly coupled to the epifluorescence path of

317 the microscope and focused through a Leica 40X HCX PL APO/1.25-0.75 oil-immersion
318 objective. Typically, 50 cells were micro-irradiated (150X 1pixel) in Leibovitz's L15 medium at
319 37 °C, after which cells were either followed for 1 h or returned to incubator at 37°C to recover.
320 Cells were fixed 1 h or 24 h after microirradiation. Fixed samples were analyzed on Zeiss
321 LSM510 META confocal microscope equipped with a 63X Plan-A (1.4 NA) oil-immersion
322 objective. Images were recorded using Zeiss LSM imaging software in multi-track mode.

323

324 *Immunofluorescence*

325 For immunofluorescence, U2OS or RPE cells were seeded on 96-well microscope plates
326 (Falcon-BD), or MatTek glass bottom dishes. Fixation was performed using 3.7%
327 paraformaldehyde (Sigma) for 5 min at room temperature. Permeabilization was achieved by
328 incubating cells with ice-cold methanol for 2 min. Blocking, antibody and DAPI incubations
329 were performed in TBS supplemented with 0.1% Tween-20 (TBST) and 2% BSA (Sigma).
330 Wash steps were performed in TBS supplemented with 0.1% Tween-20. Images were acquired
331 using either DeltaVision Spectris imaging system using a 20X, NA 0.7 objective, a Leica
332 DMI6000 Imaging System using a 20X, NA 0.4 objective, or on an ImageXpress system using a
333 20X, NA 0.45 objective and quantified as described (Akopyan et al., 2014).

334

335 *Immunoprecipitation*

336 U2OS cells expressing ATKAR or H2B-ATKAR were collected 1 h after exposure to IR (5 Gy)
337 or UVC (10 J/m²) or NCS (5 nM) and sonicated in cold IP buffer (50 mM HEPES pH 7.5, 250
338 mM NaCl, 0.25 NP-40, 1% glycerol) supplemented with phosphatase inhibitor (PhosSTOP,
339 Roche) and protease inhibitor (complete EDTA-free, Roche). FRET probes were
340 immunoprecipitated from cell extracts using GFP-Trap (ChromoTek) for 2 h. Beads were
341 washed 3 times with IP buffer and mixed with SDS sample buffer. Alternatively, HEK293 cells
342 were transfected by empty EGFP or EGFP-Wip1 plasmid using linear polyethylenimine MAX.
343 After 48 h cells were harvested to lysis buffer (50mM Tris pH 7.5, 150mM NaCl, 3 mM MgCl₂,
344 10% glycerol, 1% Tween-20, 0.1% NP-40) supplemented with benzonase (25 U/ml), protease
345 and phosphatase inhibitors (Roche), sonicated and incubated on rotary shaker overnight at 4°C.
346 Cell extract was centrifuged 15 min 20000g at 4°C, supernatant was incubated with GFP-Trap

347 beads for 1 h at 4°C, beads were washed four times with lysis buffer and bound proteins were
348 eluted with SDS sample buffer.

349

350 *Subcellular fractionation*

351 Cells were treated with DMSO or 5 nM NCS and collected after 2, 6 or 20 h. Subcellular
352 fractionation was performed as described before (Macurek et al., 2010). Cells were incubated in
353 buffer A (10 mM HEPES, pH 7.9, 10 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.34 M sucrose, 10 % glycerol,
354 1 mM DTT, 0.1% Triton X-100 and protease inhibitor cocktail) at 4°C for 10 min and
355 centrifuged at 1500 g for 2 min. The cytosolic fraction was collected and sedimented cells were
356 further incubated with buffer B [10mM HEPES, pH 7.9, 3 mM EDTA, 0.2 mM EGTA, 1 mM
357 DTT] and centrifuged at 2000 g for 2 min. Nuclear soluble fraction was collected, pooled with
358 cytosol (together forming a soluble fraction) and mixed with 4x SDS sample buffer. Remaining
359 chromatin fraction was mixed with 1.25 x volumes of 1x SDS sample buffer. All samples were
360 boiled, sonicated and separated on SDS-PAGE.

361

362 *In vitro and in situ phosphatase assay*

363 Cells expressing HA-KAP1-WT or HA-KAP1-S824A were treated with DMSO or NCS (5 nM)
364 for 1 h and then extracted using IP buffer. Cell extracts were immunoprecipitated for 2 h using
365 monoclonal anti-HA tag antibody (Santa Cruz, sc7392) immobilized at pA/G beads (Pierce).
366 Beads were stripped with 0.5 M NaCl to remove proteins interacting with KAP1. Beads were
367 incubated with purified His-Wip1 (100 ng) in phosphatase buffer (40 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 100
368 mM NaCl, 50 mM KCl, 1 mM EGTA, 50 mM MgCl₂) for 20 min at 30 °C. The reaction was
369 stopped by addition of 4x SDS sample buffer. Alternatively, cells grown on coverslips were
370 treated with NCS (5 nM) for 1 h, fixed with 4 % paraformaldehyde, permeabilized with 0.5 %
371 Triton X-100 and *in situ* phosphatase assay was performed as described (Munoz et al., 2013).
372 Samples were blocked with 3 % BSA in PBS and incubated at room temperature in ISB buffer
373 (50 mM HEPES pH 7.0, 10 mM MgCl₂, 25 mM NaCl, 2 mM CaCl₂, 1 mM DTT) and His-Wip1
374 (0.25 - 10 ng/ul) for 1 h. Reaction was stopped by addition of 20 mM NaF and 20 mM β-
375 glycerolphosphate in PBS. Samples were incubated with a mixture of anti-gH2AX and anti-
376 pS824-KAP1 antibodies for 1 h. After washing samples were incubated with secondary

377 antibodies and DAPI. Imaging was performed on ScanR microscope (Olympus) and 1000 nuclei
378 were counted per condition.

379

380 *Reagents and antibodies*

381 The following antibodies were from Cell Signaling: pHistone H3 (#3377); pChk1-S345 (133D3;
382 #2348); pATM-S1981 (10H11.E12; #4526); pH2AX (20E3; #9718), pp53-s15 (#9284; #9286),
383 Phospho-(Ser/Thr) ATM/ATR Substrate (#2851), pT210-Plk1 (#9062), pT288-AurA (#3079),
384 AurA (#3092), pS296-Chk1 (#2349), pS317-Chk1 (#12302). Antibodies against pSMC3-S1083
385 (#IHC00070), pKap1-S824 (#A300-767A and GTX63711), Kap1 (#A300-274A and
386 GTX62973), pS966-SMC1 (A300-050A), and PP4C (GTX114659) were from Bethyl Lab and
387 GeneTex. Additional antibodies included pH2AX (Clone JBW301; #05-636, Millipore), 53BP1
388 (#NB100-304, Novus Biologicals.), pS10-H3 (#05-806, Millipore), Rad51 (FE#7946, Biogenes),
389 and Alexa- and FITC-coupled antibodies (Life Technologies). Antibodies against GFP (sc-8334),
390 14-3-3, p53 (sc-6243), p21 (sc-397), Wip1 (sc-130655), His (sc-8036) and BRCA1 (sc-6945)
391 were obtained from Santa Cruz. Neocarzinostatin (NCS), Etoposide and DMSO were from
392 Sigma. ATM inhibitor (#4176 and #3544) and DNA-PK inhibitor (#2828) were from Tocris
393 Bioscience and used at 10 uM. ATR inhibitor VE821 (Reaper et al., 2011) was obtained from
394 (Tinib-Tools) or was synthesized according to published procedure (Charrier et al., 2011) and
395 used at 1 uM. PARP inhibitor KU0058948 was used at 10 uM. Plk1 inhibitor BI2536 was from
396 Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma and used at 100 nM. CDT was a generous gift from Teresa Frisan.

397

398 *Simulations*

399 We wrote ordinary differential equations assuming Michaelis-Menten kinetics to simulate the
400 relation between the variables Damage, Cell Cycle, ATM, and ATR. Damage was added at the
401 beginning of a simulation and assumed to decrease over time, simulating quick repair by non-
402 homologous end joining and slow repair by homologous recombination. Cell Cycle contains a
403 positive feedback loop to simulate the auto-amplifying property of the mitotic entry network, of
404 which Plk1 is a part. ATM is activated by damage, but is efficiently counteracted by a constant
405 to simulate the balance of ATM and Wip1 on chromatin. ATR, simulating ATR-Chk1 activity, is
406 activated by Damage, but inactivated by Cell Cycle to simulate Plk1 and Cdk1 phosphorylation
407 of DDR components. Both ATM and ATR inhibit Cell Cycle.

408 The equations were solved using Copasi 4.8, build 35 (www.copasi.org/). Parameterization was
409 performed manually, restricting constants to 1, 2, or 10.

410

411 *Differential equations*

412

$$413 \frac{d[\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}{dt} = \frac{(K_{cc2a} + [\text{CellCycle}^{act}])[\text{CellCycle}^{inact}]}{K_{m10} + [\text{CellCycle}^{inact}]} - \frac{K_{t2cc} [\text{ATM}][\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}{K_{m10} + [\text{CellCycle}^{act}]} - \frac{K_{e2cc} [\text{ATR}^{act}][\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}{K_{m10} + [\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}$$

414

$$415 [\text{CellCycle}^{inact}] = [\text{CellCycle}^{tot}] - [\text{CellCycle}^{act}]$$

416

$$417 \frac{d[\text{ATR}^{act}]}{dt} = \frac{K_{d2e} [\text{Damage}][\text{ATR}^{inact}]}{K_{m10} + [\text{ATR}^{inact}]} - \frac{K_{cc2e} [\text{ATR}^{act}][\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}{K_{m10} + [\text{CellCycle}^{act}]}$$

418

$$[\text{ATR}^{inact}] = [\text{ATR}^{tot}] - [\text{ATR}^{act}]$$

419

$$420 \frac{d[\text{ATM}^{act}]}{dt} = \frac{K_{d2t} [\text{Damage}][\text{ATM}^{inact}]}{K_{m1} + [\text{ATM}^{inact}]} - \frac{K_{ti2t} [\text{ATM}^{act}]}{K_{m1} + [\text{ATM}^{act}]}$$

421

$$422 [\text{ATM}^{inact}] = [\text{ATM}^{tot}] - [\text{ATM}^{act}]$$

423

$$424 \frac{d[D_{HR}]}{dt} = -0.2[D_{HR}]$$

425

$$426 \frac{d[D_{NHEJ}]}{dt} = -0.5[D_{NHEJ}]$$

427

$$428 [\text{Damage}] = [D_{HR}] + [D_{NHEJ}]$$

429

430

431

432 *Parameters*

433

Name	Type	Value
Kcc2a	fixed	1
Kcc2e	fixed	1
Kd2e	fixed	1
Kd2t	fixed	2
Ke2cc	fixed	1
Km1	fixed	1
Km10	fixed	10
Kt2cc	fixed	10
Kti2t	fixed	10

Name	Type	Initial Value
CellCycle ^{act}	ode	1 (10% active)
CellCycle ^{tot}	ode	10
D _{HR}	ode	3 (30% HR)
D _{NHEJ}	ode	7 (70% NHEJ)
ATR ^{act}	ode	0
ATR ^{tot}	ode	10
ATM ^{act}	ode	0
ATM ^{tot}	ode	10

434

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436

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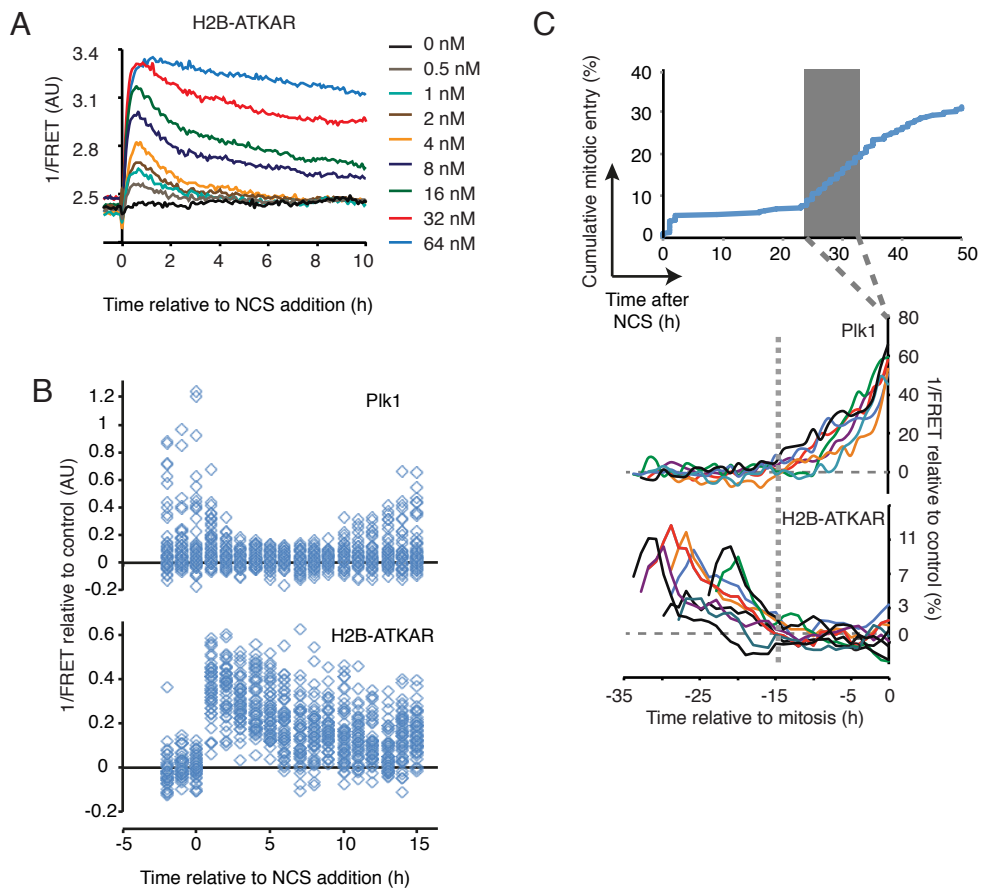
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594

595

Figure 1

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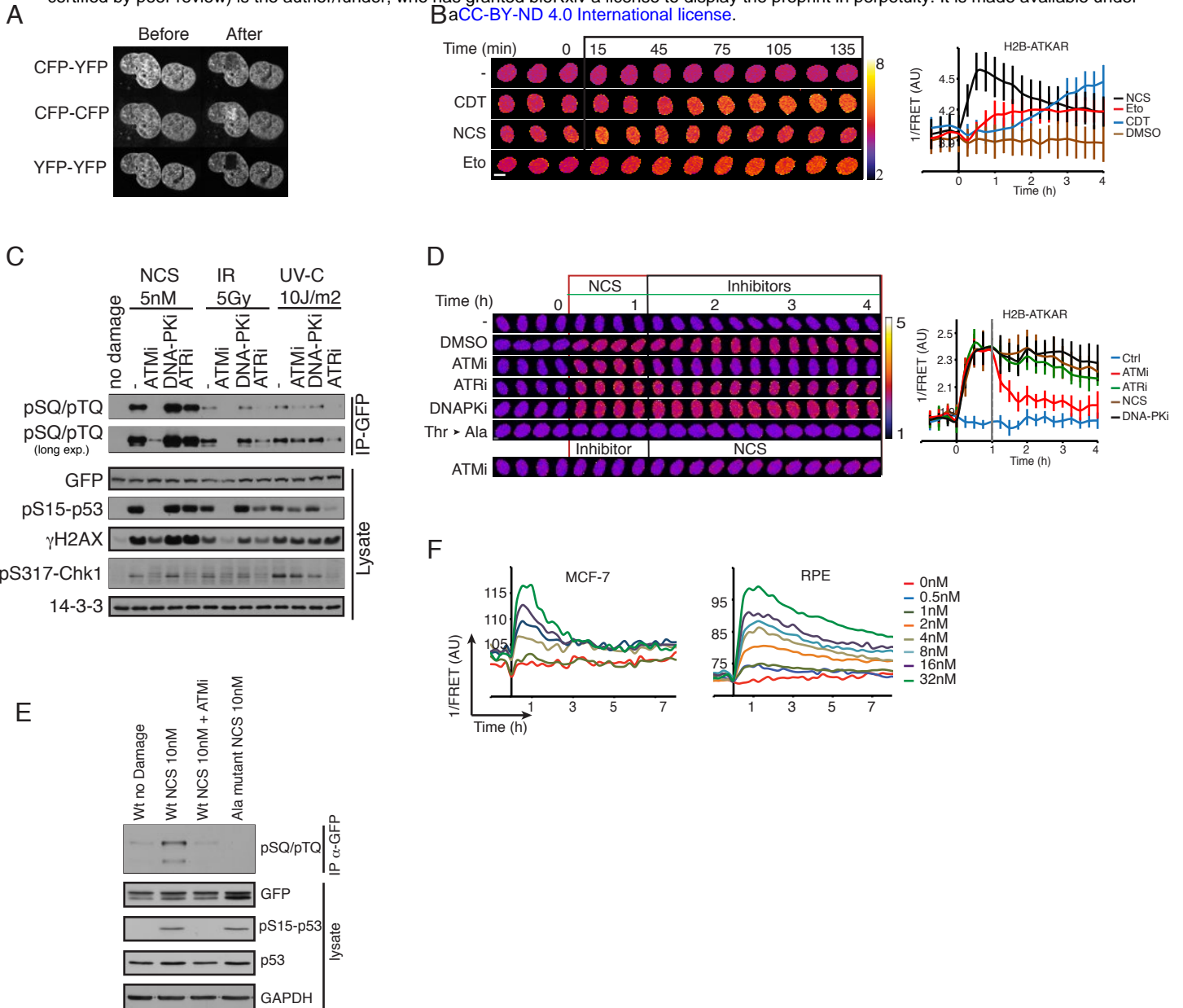
597 **Figure. 1.** H2B-ATKAR dephosphorylation correlates to Plk1 activation during checkpoint
598 recovery.
599 **(A)** H2B-ATKAR signal responds in a dose-dependent manner to NCS addition and is reversed
600 over time. Graph shows average 1/FRET of ≥ 10 U2OS cells/condition.
601 **(B)** Resumption of Plk1 activity correlates with reversal of H2B-ATKAR phosphorylation. A
602 mixed population of RPE cells expressing H2B-ATKAR or Plk1 FRET probe were transfected
603 with p53 siRNA and treated with 8 nM NCS. 1/FRET was quantified of at least 41 cells per time
604 point for each probe. H2B-ATKAR or Plk1 FRET were recognized by their nuclear or whole-
605 cell localization. Each rectangle corresponds to one cell.
606 **(C)** Reversal of H2B-ATKAR correlates with resumption of Plk1 activity during cell cycle re-
607 start. A mixed population of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR or Plk1 FRET probe were
608 treated with 2 nM NCS and mitotic entry was followed over time (top). Cells entering mitosis 24
609 to 33h after NCS addition (gray rectangle) were synchronized *in silico* on mitosis and 1/FRET of
610 individual cells was quantified (bottom).

611

612

Figure 1–figure supplement

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613 **Figure 1–figure supplement.** A FRET based biosensor to monitor the activity of ATM/ATR
614 kinase in live cells.

615 **(A)** Acceptor photobleaching of H2B-ATKAR. U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR were
616 photobleached using a 514 nm laser and images were acquired by using CFP-YFP, YFP-YFP
617 and CFP-CFP excitation-emission before and after photobleaching. The bleached area is visible
618 in the YFP-YFP images.

619 **(B)** Kinetics of H2B-ATKAR 1/FRET change after treatment with Etoposide (Eto),
620 Neocarzinostatin (NCS) or cytolethal distending toxin (CDT). Time-lapse sequence (left) or
621 quantification of 1/FRET (right) of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR. Graph shows average
622 and SD of at least 15 cells. Time point 0 indicates addition of drugs.

623 **(C)** H2B-ATKAR phosphorylation after NCS addition depends on ATM. GFP pull-down from
624 U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR treated with NCS (5 nM) or exposed to IR (5 Gy) or UVC
625 (10 J/m²). Immunoblots were probed with the indicated antibodies.

626 **(D)** Change in FRET-ratio after NCS addition depends on ATM. Time-lapse sequence (left) or
627 quantification of 1/FRET (right) of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR. Time point 0 indicates
628 addition of 20 nM NCS and time point 1 indicates addition of KU60019 (10 uM, ATMi), VE821
629 (1 uM, ATRi), or NU7026 (10 uM, DNAPKi). Graph shows average and SD of at least 15 cells.

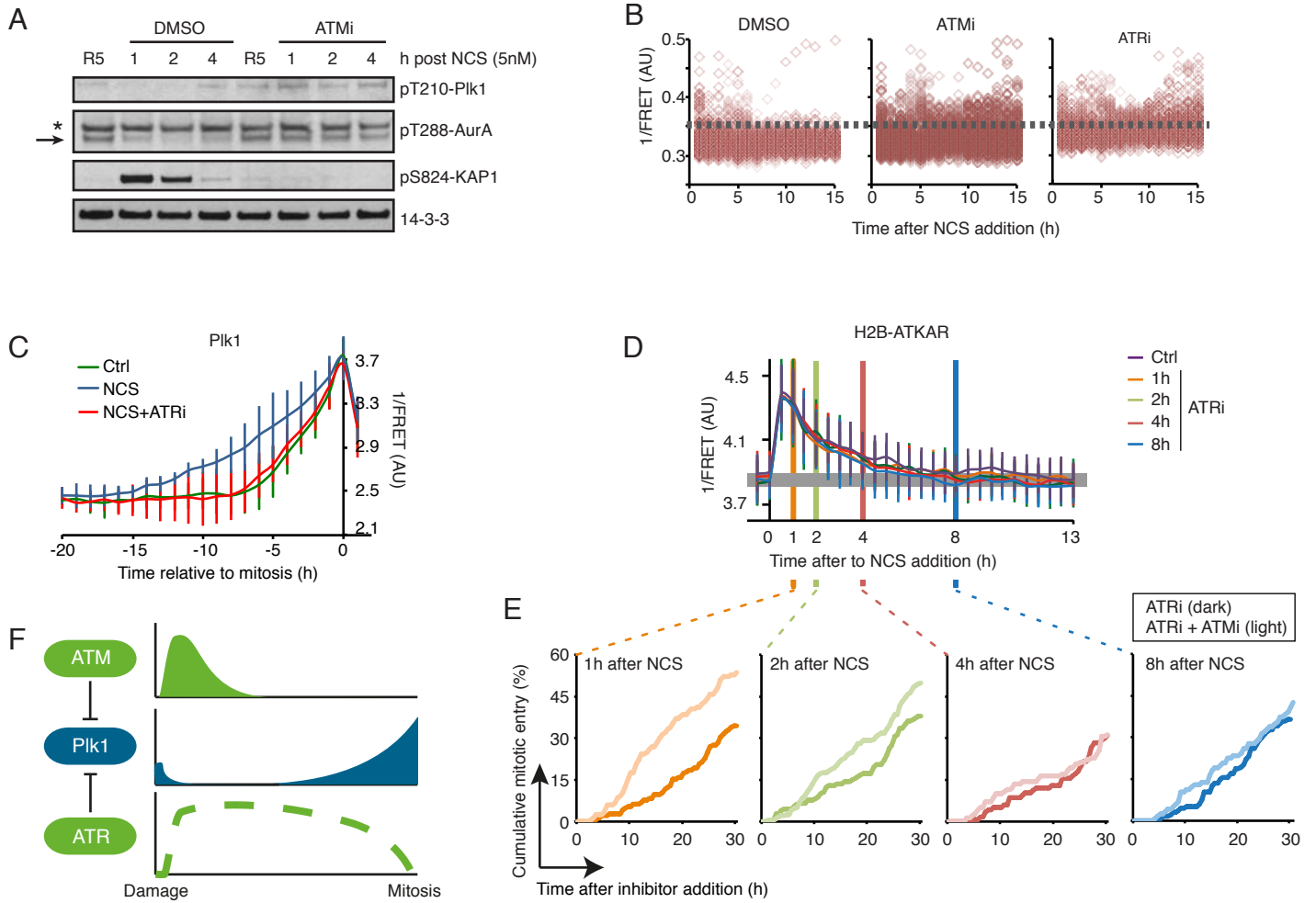
630 **(E)** GFP pull-down from U2OS cells expressing ATKAR wild-type (Wt) or alanine mutant (Ala)
631 treated with NCS (10 nM) in presence or absence of ATM inhibitor. Immunoblot analysis shows
632 the phosphorylation of ATKAR is on the expected target site residue and is ATM-dependent
633 upon NCS treatment.

634 **(F)** Quantification of 1/FRET of MCF-7 and RPE cells expressing H2B-ATKAR treated with the
635 indicated concentrations of NCS. Graph shows average of at least 10 cells per condition.

636
637

Figure 2

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638 **Figure 2.** ATM inhibits Plk1 during the early phases of a DDR.

639 **(A)** ATM inhibits Plk1 activity after NCS treatment. RPE cells were synchronized by 2 mM HU
640 for 16 h and 5 h after release to fresh media treated with NCS (5 nM) and DMSO or ATMi (10
641 uM) for indicated times. Antibodies against pT210-Plk1 and pT288-Aurora A recognize active
642 forms of Plk1 and Aurora-A, respectively. Asterisk indicates a cross-reacting band.

643 **(B)** ATM activity contributes to Plk1 inhibition early after damage. U2OS cells expressing Plk1
644 FRET probe were treated with NCS (4 nM) and 15 min later ATMi, ATRi, or DMSO were
645 added. Plots show 1/FRET of ~500 cells/condition/ time-point.

646 **(C)** ATR counteracts Plk1 activity after cell-cycle re-start. Plk1 FRET-probe expressing U2OS
647 cells were untreated (Ctrl) or treated with 2 nM NCS followed by DMSO or ATRi. 1/FRET of
648 individual cells entering mitosis was quantified. Graph shows 1/FRET of ≥ 10 cells, synchronized
649 *in silico* on mitosis. Note that the duration of Plk1 activation is longer in cells recovering from
650 DNA damage compared to unperturbed cells, and that the prolonged duration is reverted in the
651 presence of ATR inhibitor.

652 **(D)** ATR inhibition does not affect H2B-ATKAR FRET-ratio after NCS. ATR inhibitor was
653 added to U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR at the indicated time points after 4 nM NCS
654 addition. Graph shows average and SD of 1/FRET for ≥ 10 cells per condition.

655 **(E)** Synergistic effect of ATM and ATR inhibition early after NCS. Cumulative mitotic entry of
656 U2OS cells after treatment with NCS (1 nM) followed by addition of ATRi (1 uM, dark lines) or
657 ATRi and ATMi (1 uM and 10 uM, light lines) at different time points as indicated. For
658 comparison, these time-points are displayed as vertical lines in (D), where 4 nM NCS is used.

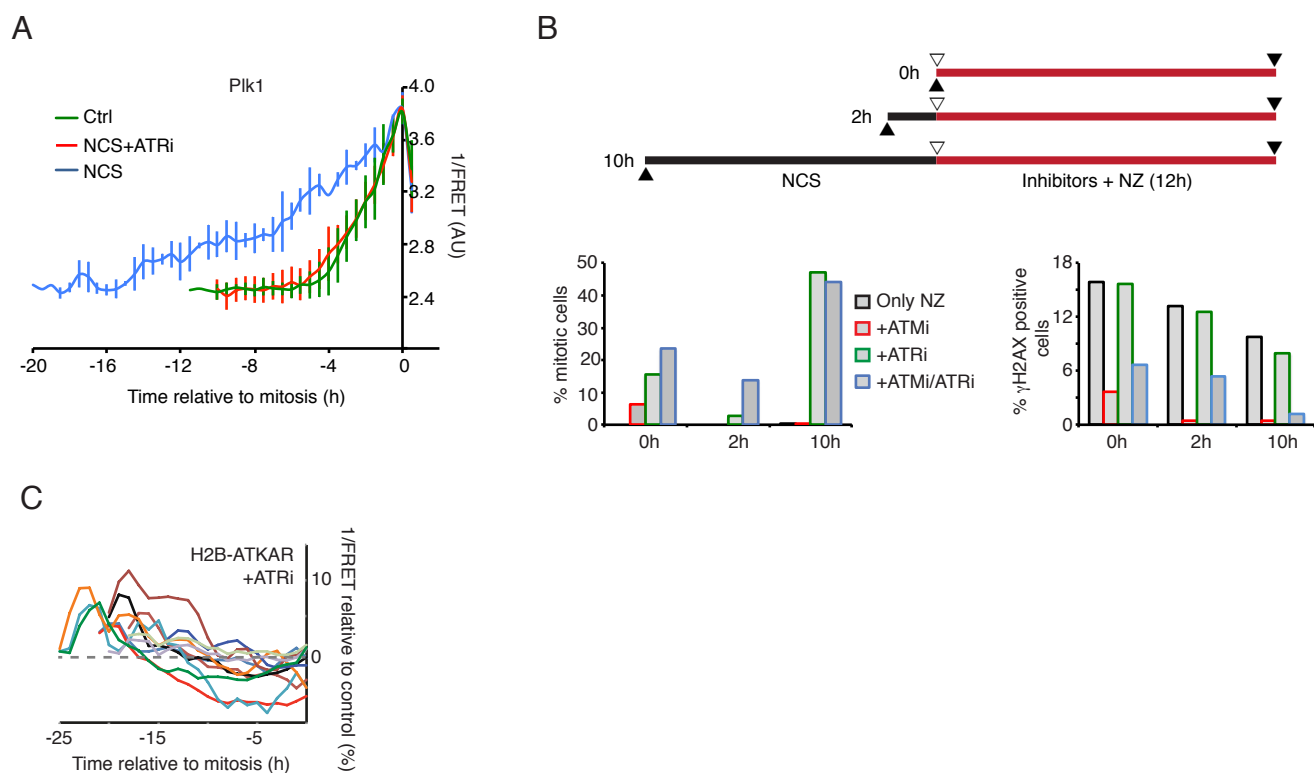
659 **(F)** Schematic model. Whereas ATR inhibits Plk1 activity throughout a DDR, ATM determines
660 when Plk1 can be activated to promote cell cycle resumption.

661

662

Figure 2–figure supplement 1

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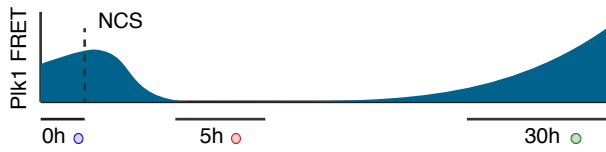


663 **Figure 2–figure supplement.** ATM inhibits Plk1 during the early phases of a DDR.
664 **(A)** ATR inhibits Plk1 activity during checkpoint recovery in RPE cells. RPE cells expressing a
665 Plk1 FRET-probe were transfected with p53 siRNA. NCS (8 nM) and ATRi (1 μ M) were added
666 as indicated. Graph shows average and SD of 15 cells (ATRi and Ctrl) or 2 cells (NCS;
667 spontaneous recovery) synchronized *in silico* in mitosis.
668 **(B)** Synergistic effect of ATM and ATR inhibition early after NCS. U2OS cells were treated
669 with NCS (1 nM) for 0, 2, and 10 h, and subsequently incubated for 12 h with nocodazole and
670 inhibitors as indicated. Cells were fixed, stained for pS10-histone H3 and γ H2AX and analyzed
671 by FACS.
672 **(C)** H2B-ATKAR is dephosphorylated before cells enter mitosis in presence of ATR inhibitor.
673 Quantification of 1/FRET of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR after treatment with VE821 (1
674 μ M, 30 min) and NCS (2 nM). Each line represents a single cell that is synchronized in mitosis *in*
675 *silico*. The FRET-ratio change of each cell relative to the FRET-ratio before NCS addition is
676 shown.
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678

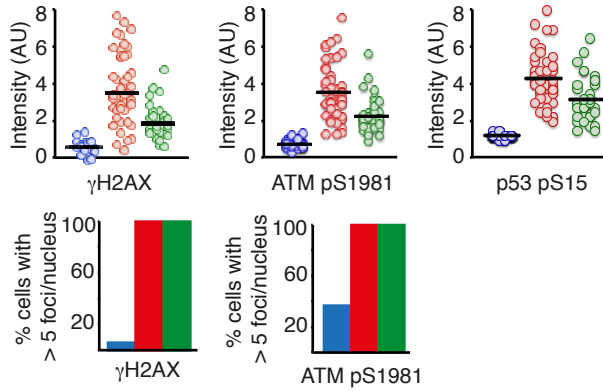
Figure 3

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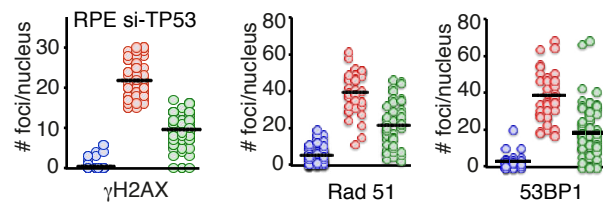
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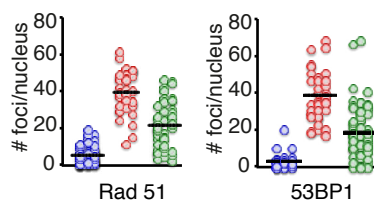
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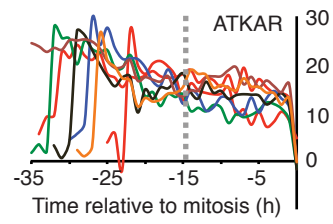
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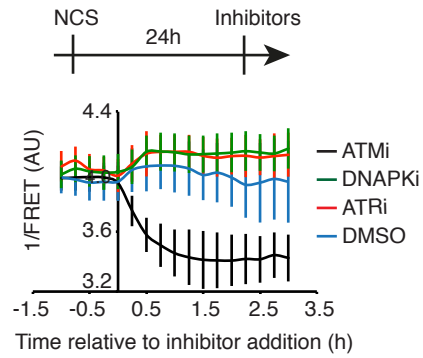
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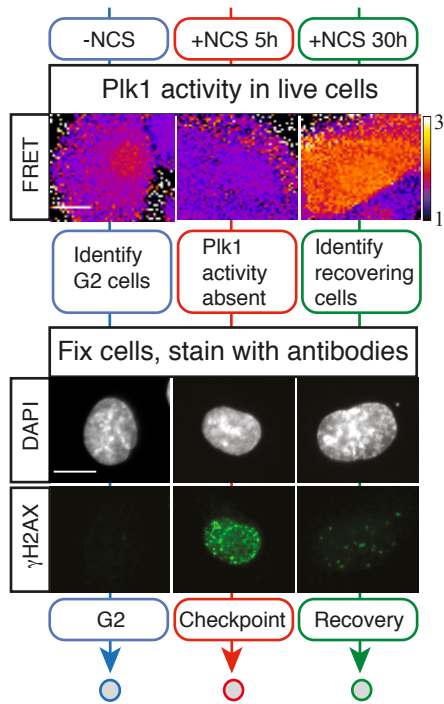
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679 **Figure 3.** ATM is active after cell cycle re-start
680 **(A-D)** DNA damage foci are present after Plk1 re-activation.
681 **(A)** Schematic of approach. U2OS cells expressing Plk1 FRET-probe were treated with NCS (2
682 nM). Before fixation at indicated time-points, 1/FRET was followed in individual live cells to
683 detect undamaged G2 cells (0h, blue), G2 arrested cells without detectable Plk1 activity (5h,
684 red), and recovering G2 cells with increasing Plk1 activity (30h, green). After fixation, the
685 corresponding cells were identified both based on position and morphology.
686 **(B)** Quantification of immunofluorescence of cells followed as in A. Graphs show signal
687 intensity or percentage of cells with nuclear foci detected by indicated antibodies. Black bar
688 indicates median and circles correspond to individual cells.
689 **(C)** RPE cells expressing Plk1-FRET were treated with siRNA for TP53 and followed as in (A
690 and B). Times were adjusted to 4.5 h (red) and 17 h (green). Graph shows quantification of
691 γ H2AX foci.
692 **(D)** Quantification of immunofluorescence of cells followed as in A. Graphs show amount of
693 nuclear foci detected by indicated antibodies. Black bar indicates median and circles correspond
694 to individual cells.
695 **(E)** ATKAR phosphorylation is sustained until mitosis during spontaneous checkpoint recovery.
696 U2OS cells expressing ATKAR were followed during treatment with NCS (2 nM) and 1/FRET
697 of cells spontaneously recovering 24 to 33 h later were plotted as in Figure 1C. Each line
698 represents a single cell synchronized *in silico* upon mitotic entry.
699 **(F)** ATKAR phosphorylation depends on ATM activity long after NCS addition. U2OS cells
700 expressing ATKAR were treated with 5 nM NCS. The indicated inhibitors were added 24 h later.
701 Graph shows average and SD of at least 15 cells.
702
703

Figure 3–figure supplement 1

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704 **Figure 3–figure supplement 1.** As opposed to H2B-ATKAR phosphorylation, ATM activity is
705 sustained after Plk1 activation.

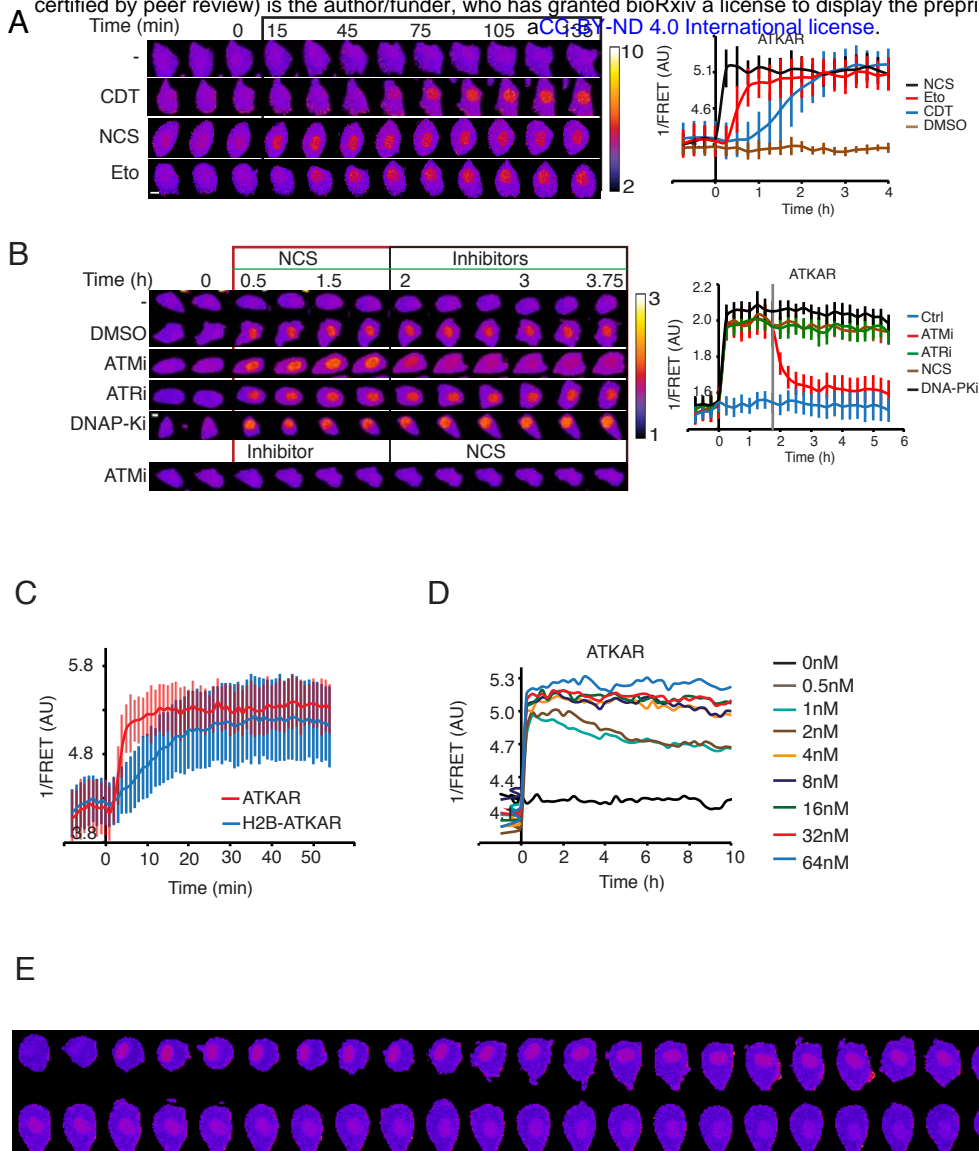
706 Example of approach described in Figure 3A. Representative images of live cells depicting Plk1
707 activity and the same cells fixed and stained for γ H2AX and DAPI are shown. Mock treated cells
708 (blue), 5 h NCS (red) or 30 h NCS (green). Scale bar: 15 μ m.

709

710

Figure 3–figure supplement 2

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711 **Figure 3–figure supplement 2.** ATKAR and H2B-ATKAR detect different forms of ATM
712 activity.

713 **(A)** Kinetics of ATKAR 1/FRET change after treatment with Etoposide (Eto), Neocarzinostatin
714 (NCS) or cytolethal distending toxin (CDT). Time-lapse sequence (left) or quantification of
715 1/FRET (right) of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR. Graph shows average and SD of at least
716 15 cells followed over time. Time point 0 indicates addition of drugs.

717 **(B)** Change in FRET-ratio after NCS addition depends on ATM. Time-lapse sequence (left) or
718 quantification of 1/FRET (right) of U2OS cells expressing ATKAR. Time point 0 indicates
719 addition of 5 nM NCS and time point 1 indicates addition of KU60019 (10 uM, ATMi), VE821
720 (1 uM, ATRi), or NU7026 (10 uM, DNAPKi). Graph shows average and SD of at least 7 cells.

721 **(C)** Quantification of 1/FRET of a mixed population of H2B-ATKAR and ATKAR expressing
722 U2OS cells after addition of NCS (5 nM). H2B-ATKAR and ATKAR expressing cells were
723 identified by the localization pattern of the expressed constructs. Graph shows average and SD of
724 median pixel value of at least 7 cells. Time point 0 indicates addition of NCS.

725 **(D)** Quantification of 1/FRET of U2OS cells expressing ATKAR, treated with the indicated NCS
726 concentrations. Graph shows average of at least 10 cells per condition and is related to Figure
727 1A.

728 **(E)** Example of ATKAR 1/FRET during checkpoint recovery. U2OS cells expressing ATKAR
729 were treated with 1 nM NCS between time point 2 and 3 and the cell was followed over time.
730 Note that ATKAR 1/FRET is sustained until mitotic entry and re-appears after mitosis. Time
731 between images 30 min.

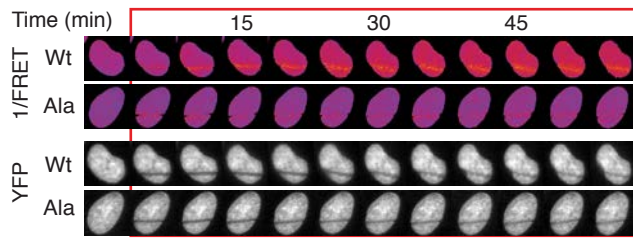
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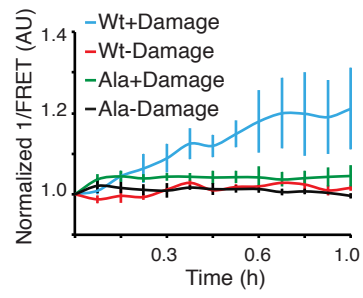
Figure 4

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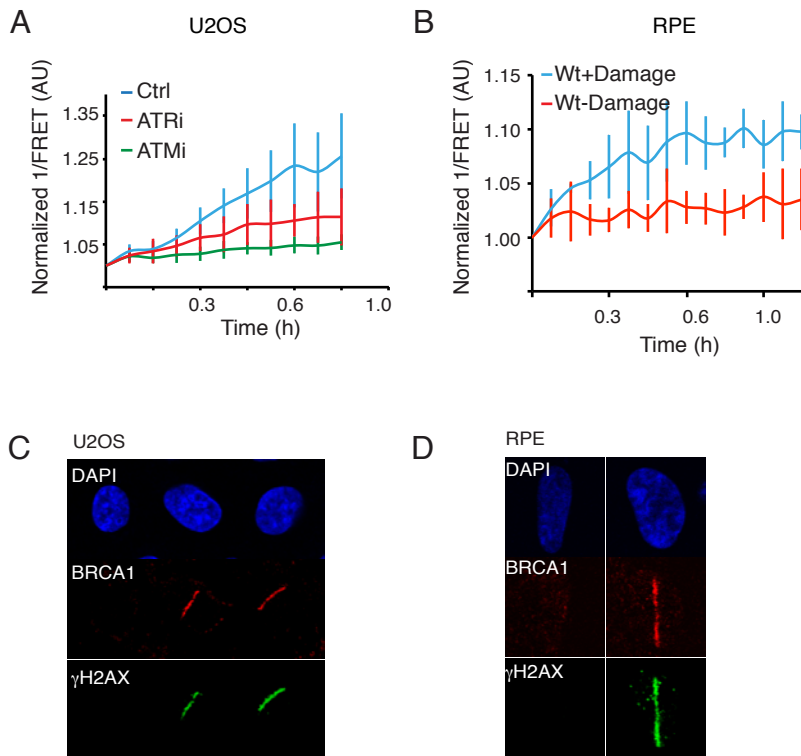


B



734 **Figure 4.** H2B-ATKAR detects spread of ATM activity over chromatin.
735 **(A)** H2B-ATKAR 1/FRET spreads over chromatin after localized damage. U2OS cells
736 expressing H2B-ATKAR or non-phosphorylatable Ala-H2B-ATKAR were laser-microirradiated
737 and 1/FRET was followed over time. Note that bleaching of fluorophores precludes FRET-
738 analysis within the laser-microirradiated area.
739 **(B)** Quantification of spread of H2B-ATKAR FRET-change after laser microirradiation in U2OS
740 cells. Measurements were performed distal to the laser-microirradiated area. Graph shows
741 average and standard deviation of at least 7 cells per condition.
742
743

Figure 4–figure supplement



744 **Figure 4–figure supplement.** H2B-ATKAR detects spread of ATM activity over chromatin.

745 **(A)** H2B-ATKAR detects both ATM and ATR activity after laser micro-irradiation.

746 Quantification of spread of H2B-ATKAR FRET-change after laser microirradiation in U2OS

747 cells in the presence of ATM or ATR inhibitors. Inhibitors were added 30 min before laser

748 microirradiation. Graph shows average and standard deviation of at least 5 cells. Measurements

749 were performed as in (Figure 4B).

750 **(B)** Quantification of spread of H2B-ATKAR FRET-change after laser micro-irradiation in RPE

751 cells. Measurements were performed distal to the laser-micro-irradiated area. Graph shows

752 average and SD of at least 6 cells per condition, performed as in Figure 4B.

753 **(C, D)** DSBs are restricted to the laser microirradiated area. γ H2AX and BRCA1 remain in laser

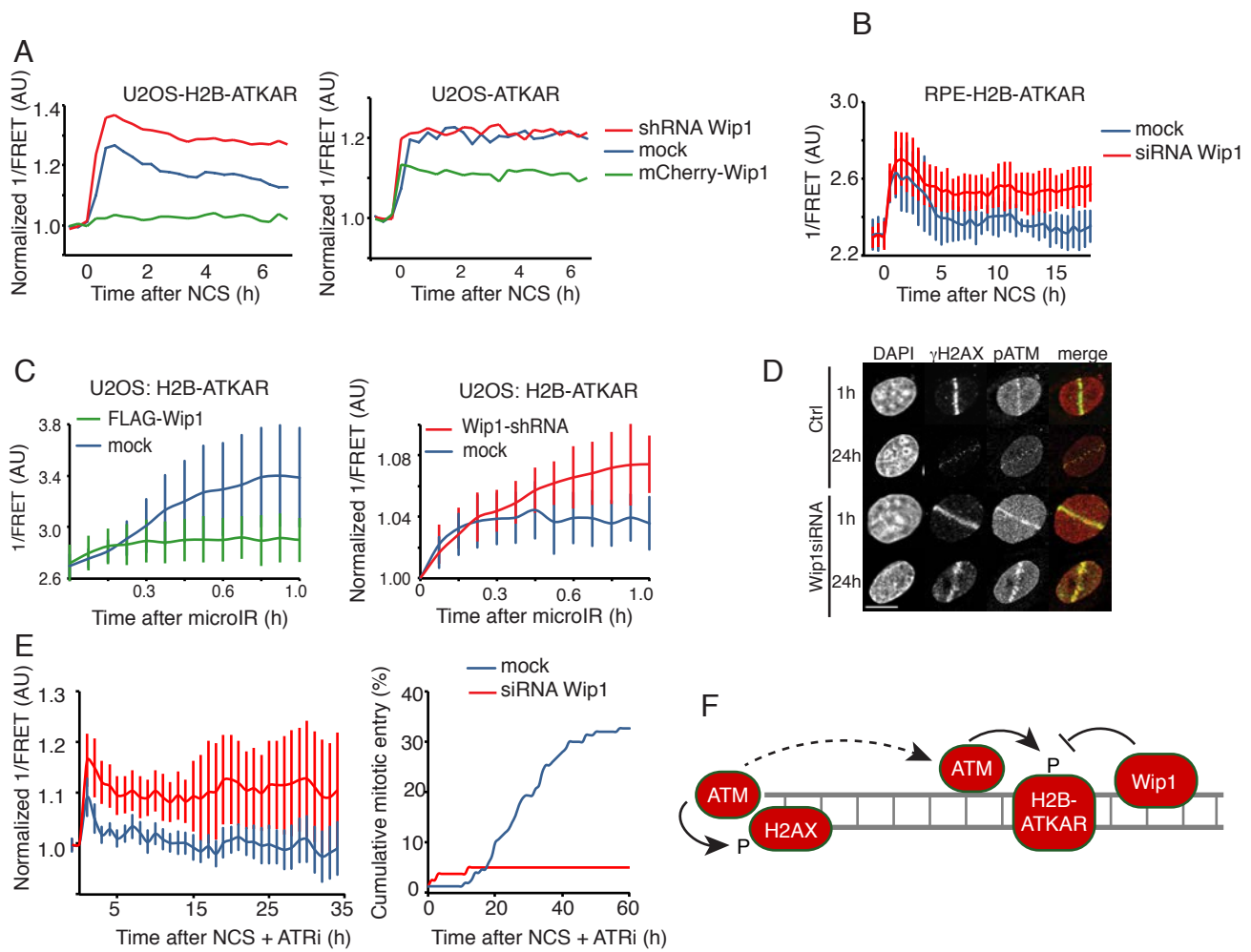
754 microirradiated area in U2OS (D) and RPE cells (E). Images show immunofluorescence

755 stainings with indicated antibodies in laser microirradiated and neighbouring non-irradiated cells.

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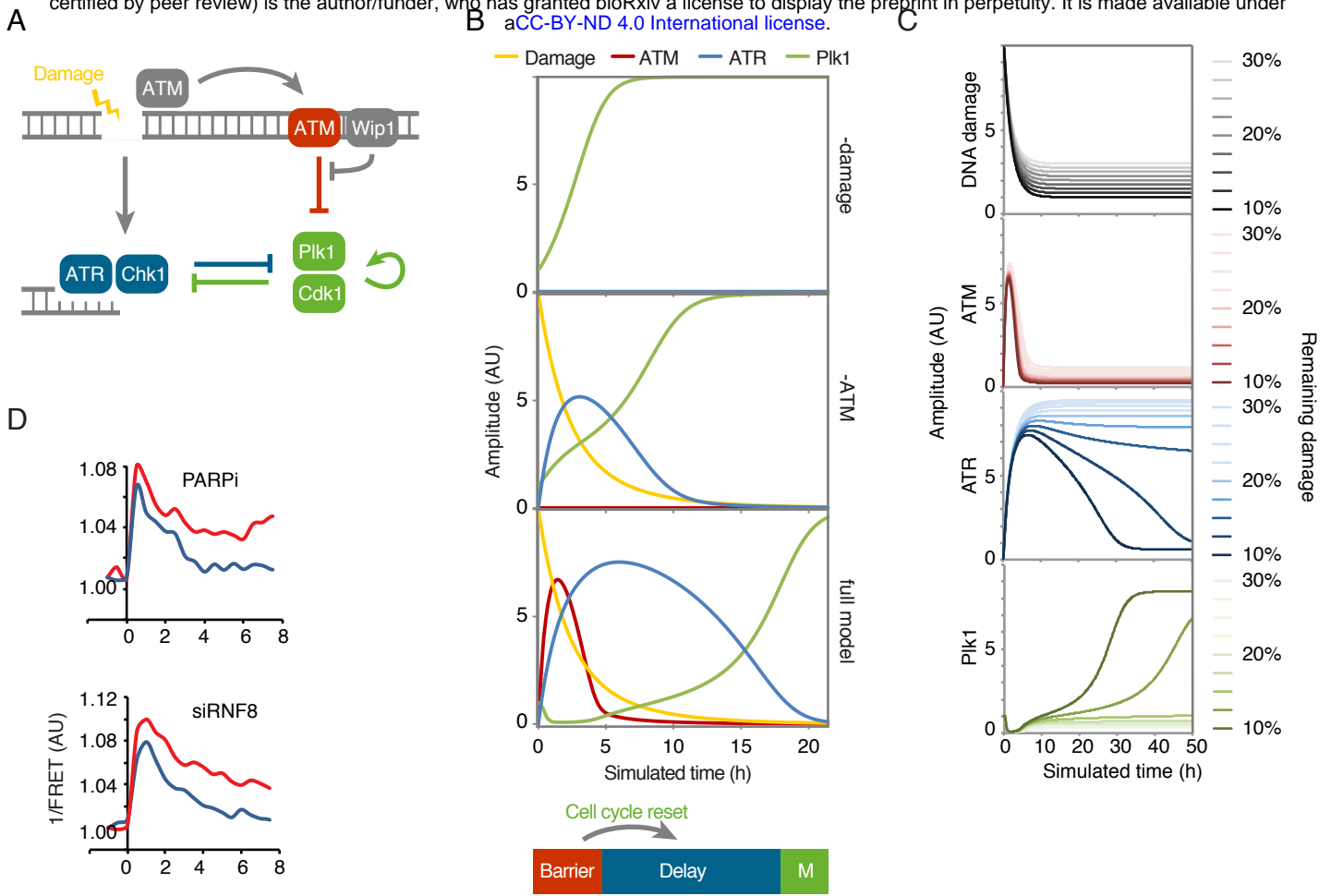
Figure 5



758 **Figure 5.** Wip1 counteracts ATM activity at chromatin.
759 **(A)** Quantification of 1/FRET of mixed populations of U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR or
760 ATKAR. Cells were mock transfected or transfected with Wip1 shRNA or mCherry-Wip1 for 48
761 h and treated with NCS (8 nM). Graph shows average of ≥ 8 cells.
762 **(B)** Quantification of 1/FRET of RPE-H2B-ATKAR transfected with control or Wip1 siRNA
763 treated with NCS (8 nM). Graph shows average of ≥ 8 cells, error bars indicate SD.
764 **(C)** Wip1 influences the spread of H2B-ATKAR 1/FRET change. U2OS-H2B-ATKAR cells
765 were transfected with mock (blue), FLAG-Wip1 (green) or Wip1 shRNA (red) and
766 microirradiated with 364 nm laser. 1/FRET distal to the damaged area was quantified. Graph
767 shows average and SD of at least 5 cells.
768 **(D)** pS1981-ATM is present throughout chromatin and counteracted by Wip1. U2OS cells were
769 transfected with control or Wip1 siRNA, fixed after 1 h or 24 h after microirradiation with 364
770 nm laser, and co-stained for γ H2AX and pS1981-ATM. Scale bar: 15 μ m.
771 **(E)** Wip1 depleted cells do not enter mitosis in presence of ATRi. 1/FRET (left) and cumulative
772 mitotic entry (right) were measured in U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR transfected with
773 mock or Wip1 shRNA treated with NCS (4 nM) and ATRi.
774 **(F)** Schematic model. Rather than DNA-damage foci, H2B-ATKAR signal detects ATM/Wip1
775 balance throughout chromatin.
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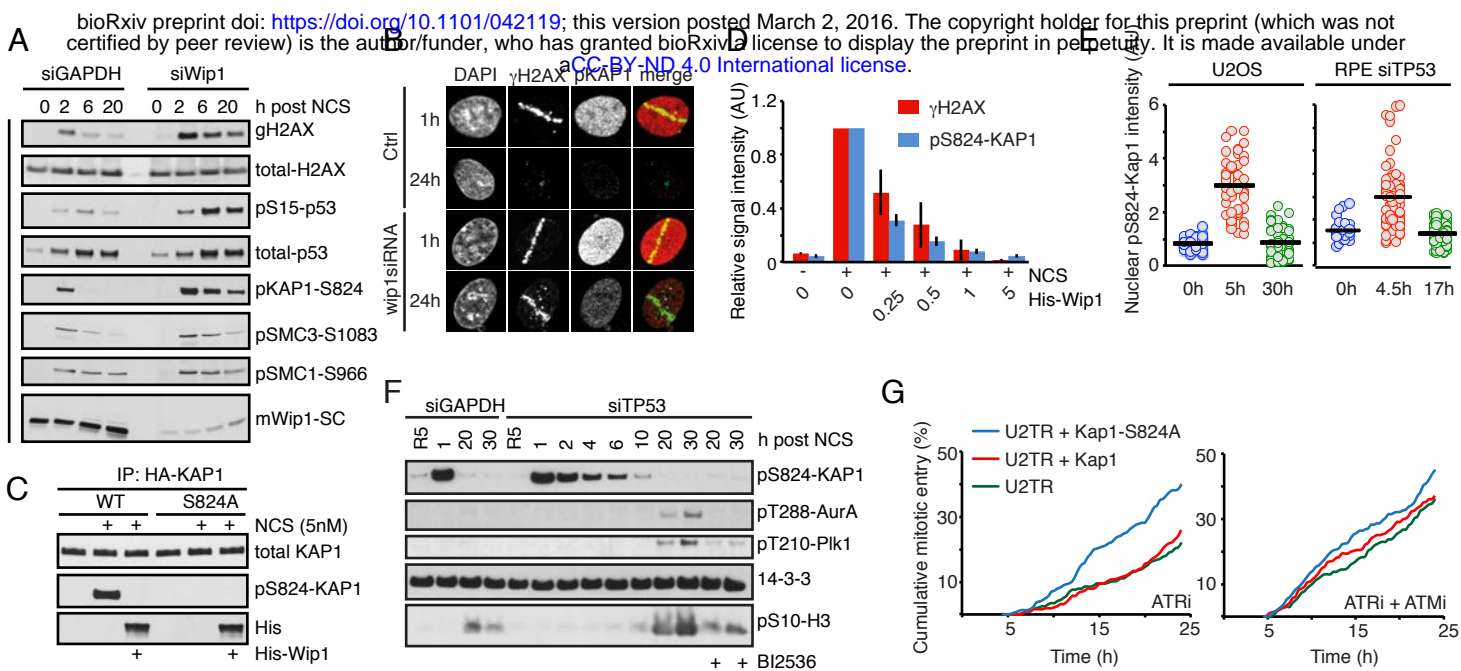
Figure 6

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778 **Figure 6.** Wip1-dependent spread of ATM activity resets cell cycle signalling, thereby
779 introducing a delay before ATR-dependent activities can be overcome.
780 **(A)** Schematic outline of mathematical model. Arrows represent differential equations.
781 **(B)** Simulation of model in the absence of damage (top) or ATM (middle) or containing all
782 components (bottom). Spread of ATM activity functions as a barrier that blocks Plk1 activity.
783 Wip1 efficiently counteracts ATM-mediated phosphorylations, which restricts spread of ATM
784 activity to high damage levels. After reversal of the barrier, cell cycle signalling eventually
785 overcomes ATR-dependent activities, despite the presence of unrepaired DNA breaks. Due to the
786 reset cell cycle activities, a delay is introduced before ATR activities are overcome and mitosis
787 occurs.
788 **(C)** Cell cycle progression depends on a threshold level of damaged DNA. Simulation of model
789 depicted in A, but set so that 10 - 30% of initial damage is not repaired, as shown in top graph.
790 Above a threshold level of damage, ATM activity remains sufficiently high to together with
791 ATR ensure that a cell cycle restart will not occur.
792 **(D)** Interference with DNA repair processes delays dephosphorylation of H2B-ATKAR. 1/FRET
793 was quantified in U2OS cells expressing H2B-ATKAR treated with 4 nM NCS in the presence
794 of PARP inhibitor or RNF8 siRNA. Graphs show average of at least 10 cells.
795
796

Figure 7



797 **Figure 7.** Kap1 is an ATM/Wip1 target on chromatin

798 **(A)** U2OS cells transfected with GAPDH or Wip1 siRNA were treated with NCS (5 nM) and
799 collected after 2, 6 and 20 h. Chromatin fractions were probed with indicated antibodies.

800 **(B)** RPE cells transfected with Wip1 siRNA were microirradiated, fixed 1 or 24 h later, and
801 stained with the indicated antibodies.

802 **(C)** HA-KAP1-WT or -S824A were immunopurified from cells exposed to NCS, incubated with
803 His-Wip1 and probed with pS824-KAP1 or KAP1 antibody.

804 **(D)** U2OS cells were fixed 1 h after treatment with NCS, incubated with His-Wip1 (0-5ng/ul)
805 and probed for gH2AX and pS824-KAP1. Plot shows mean nuclear fluorescence intensity, error
806 bars indicate SD.

807 **(E)** Kap1 is dephosphorylated before Plk1 activation. RPE cells transfected with TP53 siRNA
808 and U2OS cells were followed as in Fig. 2A and stained for pS824-Kap1. For RPE cells, the
809 times were modified as indicated.

810 **(F)** RPE cells transfected with GAPDH or TP53 siRNA were synchronized by HU, released to
811 fresh media for 5 h (R5) and treated with NCS for indicated times. Nocodazole (NZ) was added
812 1 h after NCS. Where indicated, cells were incubated in the presence of BI2536. Whole cell
813 lysates were probed with indicated antibodies.

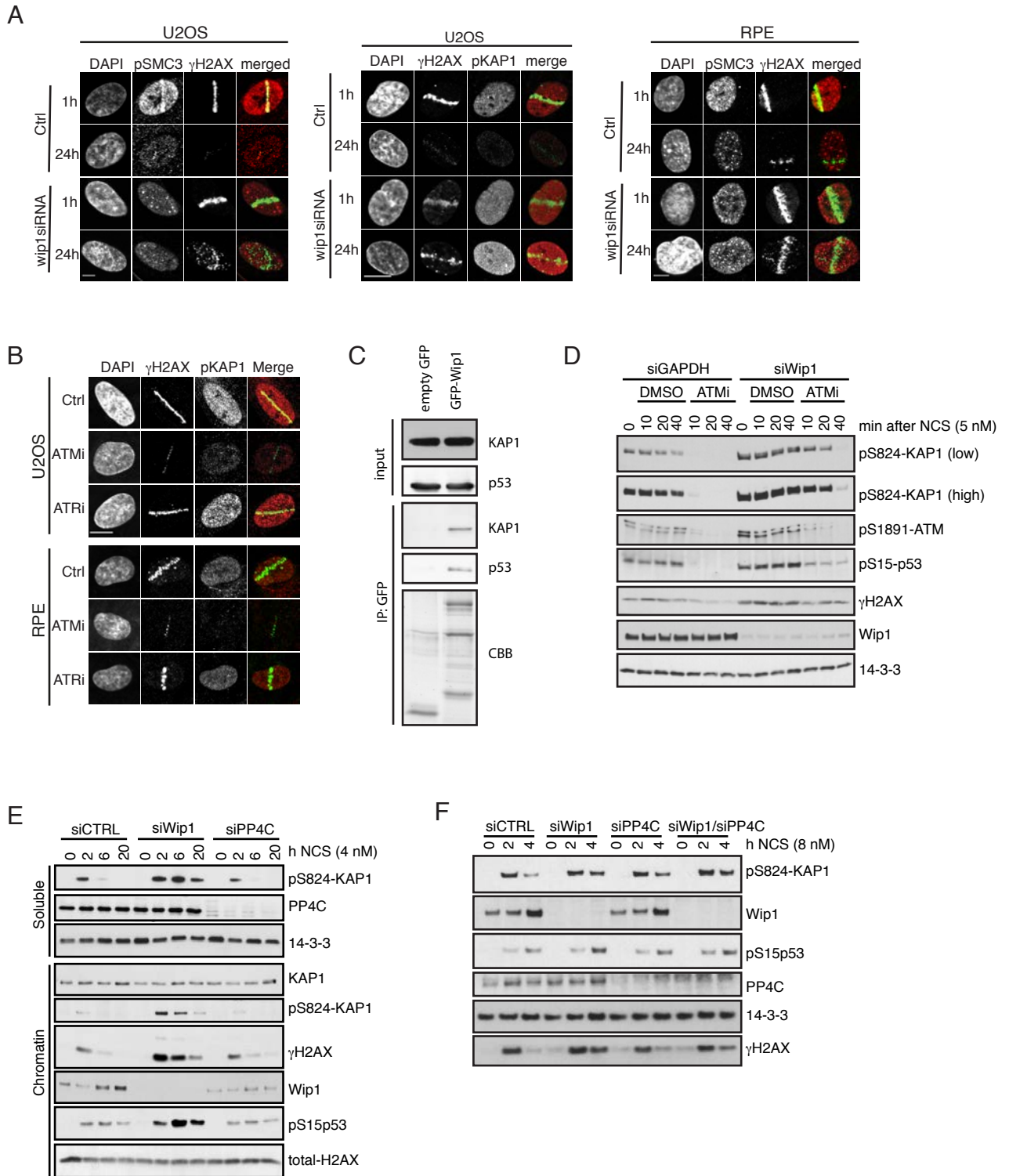
814 **(G)** Overexpression of Kap1-S824A phenocopies ATM inhibition. Cumulative mitotic entry of
815 ≥ 300 U2OS cells expressing inducible HA-tagged Kap1-wt (red) or Kap1-S824A (green) after
816 treatment with NCS (4 nM) and subsequent treatment after 1h with ATRi or ATRi + ATMi.

817

818

Figure 7-figure supplement

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819 **Figure 7–figure supplement.** Wip1 dephosphorylates Kap1 pS824

820 **(A)** U2OS or RPE cells were transfected with Wip1 siRNA, microirradiated, and stained after 1
821 or 24 h with the indicated antibodies.

822 **(B)** U2OS and RPE cells were microirradiated in the presence of indicated inhibitors. After 1 h,
823 cells were stained with the indicated antibodies.

824 **(C)** EGFP or EGFP-Wip1 was immunoprecipitated from HEK293 cells using GFP-Trap.
825 Endogenous KAP1 and p53 were probed with antibodies.

826 **(D)** U2OS cells transfected with GAPDH or Wip1 siRNA were treated with NCS in combination
827 with DMSO or ATMi for indicated times. Whole cell lysates were probed with indicated
828 antibodies.

829 **(E)** U2OS cells transfected with GAPDH, Wip1 or PP4C siRNA were treated with NCS for
830 indicated times. Soluble and chromatin fractions were probed with indicated antibodies.

831 **(F)** RPE cells transfected with GAPDH, Wip1 or PP4C siRNA were treated with NCS for
832 indicated times. Whole cell lysates were probed with indicated antibodies.