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21 ABSTRACT

22 During meiosis, each chromosome must selectively pair and synapse with its own unique 23 homolog to enable crossover formation and subsequent segregation. How homolog 24 pairing is maintained in early meiosis to ensure synapsis occurs exclusively between 25 homologs is unknown. We aimed to further understand this process by utilizing a unique Drosophila meiotic mutant, Mcm5^{A7}. We found that Mcm5^{A7} mutants are proficient in 26 27 homolog pairing at meiotic onset yet fail to maintain pairing as meiotic synapsis ensues, 28 causing seemingly-normal synapsis between non-homologous loci. This pairing defect 29 corresponds with a reduction of SMC1-dependent centromere clustering at meiotic onset. 30 Overexpressing SMC1 in this mutant significantly restores centromere clustering, 31 homolog pairing, and crossover formation. These data indicate that the initial meiotic 32 pairing of homologs is not sufficient to yield synapsis between exclusively between 33 homologs and provide a model in which meiotic homolog pairing must be stabilized by 34 SMC1-dependent centromere clustering to ensure proper synapsis.

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36 INTRODUCTION

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Accurate segregation of homologous chromosomes during the first meiotic division is essential to reestablish the diploid genome upon sexual fertilization. To ensure faithful meiosis I chromosomal segregation, homologs must become physically connected in part through crossover formation. To enable homolog crossover events, a series of

42 chromosomal and cellular events occur in early meiotic prophase I (Lake and Hawley
43 2012) (Figure 1a).

During or just prior to the onset of meiosis, homologous chromosomes pair along 44 their entire lengths (reviewed in Denise Zickler and Kleckner 2015). Between paired 45 homologs, synapsis, the formation of the synaptonemal complex (SC), ensues. The SC 46 47 is a tripartite scaffold built between homologs extending the length of the chromosomes and consists of a central region (CR) that is nestled between two lateral elements (LEs), 48 49 which are successors of cohesin-based chromosome axes formed between sister 50 chromatids. Coincidentally with synapsis, DSBs are formed and repaired using a homologous template via homologous recombination (HR), resulting in crossover 51 52 formation between homologs (reviewed in Page and Hawley 2004).

Perhaps the most enigmatic event within early meiosis is the mechanism by which a meiotic chromosome selectively pairs and synapses with its unique homologous partner. Initial homolog pairing is believed to be facilitated through early meiotic chromosome movement and telomere or the centromere clustering (for reviews, see Denise Zickler and Kleckner 2015; Alleva and Smolikove 2017; Klutstein and Cooper 2014). However, how homologous pairing is maintained during synapsis to ensure the SC is formed exclusively between homologs is unknown.

The model organism *Drosophila melanogaster* has been used to uncover meiotic mechanisms for over a century (Morgan 1910). In *Drosophila*, prior to meiosis, chromosomes enter the germline unpaired (Figure 1a); throughout the pre-meiotic region, homologous chromosomes gradually pair. In the nuclei at the last mitotic division prior to meiotic onset (in the 8-cell cyst), centromere-directed chromosomal movements occur,

65 presumably ensuring complete homologous pairing (Christophorou et al. 2015; Joyce et al. 2013). Also during pre-meiotic mitotic cycles, meiotic proteins, including the cohesin 66 67 SMC1, are enriched at the centromere (Khetani and Bickel 2007; Christophorou, Rubin, and Huynh 2013). The onset of meiotic prophase I occurs in the 16-cell cyst. At zygotene, 68 the first cytologically resolved stage of prophase, centromeres are clustered into 1 or 2 69 70 groups (Takeo et al. 2011), and the SC nucleates in patches along chromosome arms 71 (Tanneti et al. 2011). As zygotene proceeds into early pachytene, the SC extends 72 between paired chromosomes, yielding full-length SC exclusively between homologs. 73 How these early meiotic events, particularly centromere clustering, contribute to meiotic 74 homologous pairing and synapsis in *Drosophila* is largely unknown.

75 In this study, we used the *Drosophila* early meiotic program and a unique genetic 76 mutant to investigate how homolog pairing is maintained during meiotic synapsis. We 77 discovered that meiotic homologs in a previously described Drosophila mutant, Mcm5^{A7} 78 (Lake et al. 2007), initially pair, but are unable to maintain pairing during synapsis, 79 suggesting that initial meiotic pairing must be subsequently stabilized by an unknown mechanism to ensure proper synapsis. Using *Mcm5*^{A7} as a genetic tool to interrogate 80 81 pairing stabilization mechanism(s), we show that the meiotic pairing defect and resulting 82 heterosynapsis are due to a lack of SMC1-dependent centromere clustering at meiotic 83 onset. From our results, we suggest a model for proper synapsis in which initial meiotic 84 pairing must be stabilized by centromere clustering, a meiotic event produced by SMC1-85 enrichment at the centromere and dynamic chromosome movements.

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87 RESULTS

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Mcm5^{A7} mutants are proficient in initial meiotic pairing but deficient in pairing
maintenance

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The *Mcm5*^{A7} allele, discovered in a meiotic mutant screen, is a missense mutation that 92 93 changes a conserved aspartic acid residue at the C-terminus, adjacent to the AAA⁺ ATPase domain. *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants have an X-NDJ rate of ~25% that is accompanied with 94 95 a 90% decrease of crossovers on the X chromosome (Lake et al. 2007). Interestingly, 96 the SC, as shown through staining of the central region (CR) protein C(3)G, appears 97 normal, and DSBs are created and repaired with normal kinetics (Lake et al. 2007). The reason as to why crossovers were severely decreased in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants was unknown 98 99 at the time of this study.

We hypothesized that a lack of meiotic homolog pairing could result in the severe 100 loss of meiotic crossovers in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. To test this, we examined the frequencies 101 102 of X and Chromosome 3R homolog pairing in zygotene, early pachytene, and midpachytene meiotic cells using IF/FISH. Zygotene is the earliest cytologically resolved 103 104 meiotic stage in the *Drosophila* germarium and is defined by the presence of SC patches 105 in the 16-cell cyst. Early pachytene is defined by full-length SC in the early 16-cell cysts (Region 2A of the germarium), and mid-pachytene is defined as the most posterior 106 107 nucleus in the germarium that expresses full-length SC (Region 3) (Lake and Hawley 2012). 108

109 At the *X* locus, wild-type meiotic cells exhibit one focus throughout zygotene, early 110 pachytene, and mid-pachytene (*Z*, EP, and MP, respectively, Figure 1b). In *Mcm5*^{A7} 111 mutants, we observed one focus at 100% frequency in zygotene. Strikingly, we can 112 resolve two foci in approximately half of the nuclei in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants during early 113 pachytene (***p < 0.0001) and mid-pachytene (*p = 0.01, respectively).

Similarly, at the *3*R locus wild-type homologous chromosomes are paired at 100% frequency in zygotene, early pachytene, and mid-pachytene (Figure 1c). However, in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants, the homologs of chromosome *3*R in zygotene are paired at nearly 100% frequency, yet we can resolve two *3*R foci in 35% of early pachytene nuclei (***p < 0.0001) and 78% of mid-pachytene nuclei (**p = 0.0002).

The above results show that in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, meiotic chromosomes enter meiosis paired, but as the meiotic nuclei proceed through meiosis, homologous pairing cannot be maintained. This suggests that homolog pairing must be stabilized in early meiosis by an unknown mechanism to ensure accurate synapsis, and in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, this mechanism is perturbed. Therefore, we reasoned that *Mcm5*^{A7} can be used as a genetic tool to interrogate the mechanism that stabilizes meiotic pairing.

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The synaptonemal complex (SC) shows no observable defects in Mcm5^{A7} mutants
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Although pachytene homolog pairing is disrupted at a high frequency in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, the SC, as determined by C(3)G staining, still forms (Lake et al. 2007) (Figure 2a). To explain this, we hypothesize that either (1) the unpaired loci do not correspond with linear SC, or (2) the unpaired loci are forming stable SC with non-homologous loci, creating

heterosynapsis. To differentiate between these two, we examined whole mount germaria with IF/FISH and super-resolution microscopy (AIRY Scan) and examined tracts of SC. In wild-type, we can discern that one linear tract of C(3)G is built between the paired *X* locus (Figure 2b). In $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants, separate homologous loci are associated with separate linear tracts of C(3)G, indicating that the unpaired *X* loci are synapsed with nonhomologous loci (see Supplemental Movies 1 and 2). From these data, we conclude that $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants have the ability to heterologously synapse.

139 To determine the nature of heterosynapsis, we examined the localization of two 140 SC central region (CR) proteins, C(3)G and Corolla (Figure 2a). In wild-type, Corolla colocalizes with C(3)G dimers (Collins et al. 2014), as shown in Figure 2c under structured-141 142 illumination microscopy. Under higher resolution, Corolla and C(3)G signal were found 143 to overlap and C(3)G signal is wider, as expected due to its dimer-dimer conformation (Jeffress et al. 2007). In *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, Corolla and C(3)G exhibit a similar localization 144 pattern (Figure 2d). To examine proper CR protein levels, we quantified total C(3)G 145 146 nuclear signal during early and mid-pachytene in wild-type and *Mcm5*⁴⁷ mutants (Figure 147 2e). During these timepoints, we see no significant differences between wild-type and 148 $Mcm5^{A7}$ C(3)G nuclear fluorescence intensity (p = 0.5601 and p = 0.3993, respectively, 149 unpaired T-test).

The chromosome axis between sister chromatids serves as the lateral element (LE) and provides a barrier to prevent inter-sister recombination (Webber, Howard, and Bickel 2004). To test the function of the LE, we examined inter-sister recombination rates using a genetic ring/rod chromosomal transmission assay (Figure 2f). $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants exhibit no decrease in ring:rod transmission (1.1:1 ratio). However, a LE mutant (ord^{10})

shows a severe decrease in ring:rod transmission to a normalized ratio of 0.28:1. These
results suggest that *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants exhibit no observable defects in the SC, indicating
that seemingly-normal synapsis can occur independent of pairing.

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159 Centromere-directed chromosome movements are normal in Mcm5^{A7} mutants

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We set out to understand how initial pairing of homologs is proficient in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, despite exhibiting defects in pairing maintenance. Rapid chromosome movements are thought to contribute to homolog pairing (reviewed in Alleva and Smolikove 2017). To determine whether perturbations in centromere-directed chromosome movement contribute to the observed defects in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, we examined centromere dynamics in 8-cell cysts of wild-type and *Mcm5*^{A7} mutant germaria through live cell imaging (Figure 3a, Supplemental Movies 3, 4).

168 In wild-type, a representative centromere track illustrates chromosome movement around the volume of a nucleus (Figure 3b), covering a nuclear volume of 12.9 μ m³ 169 170 (Figure 3d, Supplemental Movie 5). A representative centromere track in Mcm5^{A7} 171 mutants shows similar chromosome movement (Figure 3c), covering a nuclear volume of 172 15.7 μm³ (Figure 3d, Supplemental Movie 6). Of all centromeres analyzed, *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants show no significant difference between relative nuclear volume covered 173 174 compared to wild-type (Figure 3e, p = 0.75, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test), demonstrating 175 that *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants exhibit centromere-directed chromosome movements similar to 176 wild-type in the 8-cell cyst. Importantly, these data show that centromere-directed

177 chromosome movement may promote initial meiotic homolog pairing but is not sufficient178 for maintaining homolog pairing.

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180 *Meiotic centromere clustering is defective in* Mcm5^{A7} *mutants*

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182 In Drosophila, eight centromeres aggregate into one or two diffraction-limited clusters at the onset of meiosis, which is defined cytologically as zygotene. Centromeres remain 183 184 clustered through pachytene (Takeo et al. 2011). To determine whether centromere 185 clustering at the onset of meiosis is associated with initial homolog pairing, we quantified the foci number of CID, the CENP-A homolog (Henikoff et al. 2002), in zygotene nuclei in 186 wild-type and *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants at zygotene (Figure 4a). We observed a mean of 2 CID 187 188 foci in wild-type, demonstrating centromere clustering. In *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, we see a significant increase in CID foci, with a mean of 4.8 per nucleus (p < 0.001, unpaired T-189 test). These results show that in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, centromeres are not heterologously 190 191 clustered entering meiosis, even though chromosome arms are paired.

Next, we determined whether centromeres cluster in pachytene in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants. As shown in Figure 4b, we observe a mean of 1.7 CID foci in early pachytene nuclei of wild-type, compared to 5.6 foci in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants (p < 0.001, unpaired T-test). In mid-pachytene, $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants exhibit a mean of 5.2 CID foci, significantly higher than wild-type (1.6 CID foci; p < 0.001, unpaired T-test) (Figure 4c). We conclude that centromere clustering is perturbed throughout early and mid-pachytene in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants.

199 In the regions assessed, we observed more than four CID foci in most Mcm5^{A7} 200 nuclei (Figure 4a, b, c), suggesting that homologous centromeres are unpaired. To test 201 this, we examined the pairing frequency of the 359-bp locus, which is adjacent to the X 202 centromere (Dernburg, Sedat, and Hawley 1996) (Figure 4d). As previously reported, 203 this locus is paired in ~90% of meiotic cells(Joyce et al. 2013); however, in Mcm5^{A7} 204 meiotic nuclei, 359-bp locus pairing is significantly reduced to 61% (p < 0.001, two-tailed 205 Fisher's exact test). From these results, we conclude that meiotic homologous 206 centromere pairing and heterologous centromere clustering are severely decreased, if not eliminated, in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. These data indicate that a decrease in meiotic 207 208 centromere clustering is associated with defects in homologous chromosome pairing but 209 not pre-meiotic pairing. Also, these results suggest that mechanisms regulating 210 chromosome arm pairing and chromosome centromere pairing may be distinct.

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SMC1 localization is reduced specifically at the centromere in Mcm5^{A7} mutants

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Centromere clustering is perturbed in sine cohesin and SC mutants (Takeo et al. 2011; 214 215 Christophorou, Rubin, and Huynh 2013; Tanneti et al. 2011), suggesting that specific 216 proteins at the centromeres are required for the aggregation of centromeres. Since we see no decrease of C(3)G at centromeres in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants compared to wild-type 217 218 (Supplemental Figure 1), we hypothesized that a lack of centromeric cohesion in meiosis 219 may contribute to the decrease in centromere clustering. To test this, we investigated 220 chromosome associatied-SMC1 using meiotic chromosome spreading (Khetani and 221 Bickel 2007) (Figure 5a). In wild-type meiotic nuclei, SMC1 is enriched at the centromere

(green arrowhead); because SMC1 contributes to the axial element (AE) formed between sister chromatids, which later serves as the LE of the SC, SMC1 is visualized at the arm as thread-like (yellow arrowhead, dotted line). In *Mcm5*^{A7}, SMC1 exhibits thread-like patterning along the arms, but SMC1 enrichment at the centromere appears to be compromised.

227 We quantified SMC1 localization at the centromere and along the arms at meiotic 228 onset (defined cytologically as zygotene and early pachytene, which cannot be 229 distinguished based on SMC1 patterning), when we hypothesize SMC1 enrichment would 230 be essential for centromere clustering. Strikingly, at meiotic onset, SMC1 is significantly reduced in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants at the centromere, but not along the arms (***p < 0.001 and 231 232 p = 0.0548, respectively, Figures 5b, 5c). These data indicate that SMC1 enrichment 233 specifically at the centromere is perturbed in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants during meiotic onset when 234 non-homologous centromeres should cluster.

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236 Increasing centromere clustering ameliorates pairing defects

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Using *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, we observed that a decrease in centromeric SMC1 at meiotic onset is associated with a reduction in meiotic centromere clustering and homologous chromosome pairing in pachytene, but not chromosome pairing in zygotene. Thus, we hypothesized that the centromeric-SMC1 defect at meiotic onset causes the reduction in centromere clustering, and that centromere clustering defects cause the defect in pairing maintenance.

244 To test this hypothesis, we attempted to restore SMC1 localization at the meiotic 245 centromere in *Mcm5*⁴⁷ mutants by exogenously expressing SMC1 (Gyuricza et al. 2016) in the background of *Mcm5*^{A7} (nos>Smc1; *Mcm5*^{A7}) (Supplemental Figure 5). Using 246 247 quantitative microscopy, we found that centromeric-SMC1 is significantly higher in nos>Smc1: Mcm5^{A7} than in Mcm5^{A7} mutants at meiotic onset (***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-248 249 test) (Figure 6a). We next assayed centromere clustering at early pachytene, when we first observe pairing defects in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants (Figure 1b); as shown in Figure 6b, 250 centromere clustering was significantly increased in nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} as compared to 251 *Mcm5*^{A7} (*** *p* < 0.0001, unpaired T-test), indicating that the increase in centromeric-SMC1 252 localization at meiotic onset partially rescues the early pachytene centromere clustering 253 deficiency in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. 254

255 We reasoned that if SMC1-dependent centromere clustering is partially rescued at early pachytene in nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7}, then the pairing defect at this stage will be 256 257 attenuated. To test this, we examined pairing frequency of X and 3R at early pachytene 258 in nos>Smc1; Mcm5⁴⁷ flies (Figure 6c). We see a significant pairing increase in nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} mutants compared to Mcm5^{A7} mutants (pairing frequency of 71% and 259 260 59%, respectively, *p = 0.0066, chi-square). From these data, we propose that SMC1-261 dependent centromere clustering in early meiosis promotes the stabilization of meiotic 262 homolog pairing, giving rise to homosynapsis.

We initially hypothesized that a lack of homolog pairing results in the loss of meiotic crossovers in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants. We reasoned that in the presence of heterosynapsis, as seen in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants, meiotic DSBs cannot be repaired into crossovers because no homologous template is available (for a review on homologous recombination, see Hunter

2015). To test this hypothesis, we measured crossovers across chromosome 2L in wildtype, $Mcm5^{A7}$, and nos>Smc1; $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants (Figure 6d). Wild-type flies exhibit a crossover level of 45.8 cM, while the $Mcm5^{A7}$ crossover level is significantly decreased to 12.3 cM (***p < 0.0001, chi-square). In nos>Smc1; $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants, crossover level is significantly increased to 29.8 cM (*** p < 0.0001, chi-square, as compared to $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants). These results indicate that the pairing defect and heterosynapsis during early pachytene is, at least in part, the cause for the loss of crossovers in $Mcm5^{A7}$ mutants.

Because crossover level is partially rescued in nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} flies, then the 274 high nondisjunction rate in *Mcm5*^{A7} should be lessened when SMC1 is overexpressed in 275 these mutants. We observe that nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} mutants have a significant decrease 276 in X-NDJ as compared to *Mcm5*⁴⁷ mutants (NDJ rate of 11.5% and 26.5%, respectively, 277 278 Figure 6e) (***p<0.0001). Overall, these studies show that germline overexpression of SMC1 can restore SMC1 at the centromere in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants in early pachytene, 279 leading to increases in centromere clustering, homolog pairing (and homosynapsis), 280 281 crossover formation, and a decrease in NDJ.

282 DISCUSSION

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For a successful meiosis, homolog pairing must be maintained during synapsis, but how homologs remain paired as synapsis ensues is unclear. At the beginning of this study, we hypothesized that the crossover defect in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants was due to a homolog pairing deficiency. Our FISH results support this hypothesis (Figure 1) and revealed that homolog pairing is reversible, and if not stabilized, can cause seemingly-normal heterosynapsis (Figure 2). Centromere-directed chromosome movements occur in

Mcm5^{A7} mutants (Figure 3), presumably yielding initial chromosome arm pairing; however, centromere clustering is perturbed (Figure 4). SMC1 enrichment at the centromere is decreased in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants (Figure 5), and an increase in centromeric SMC1 rescues this deficiency and downstream meiotic defects, including centromere clustering, pairing, crossover formation, and segregation (Figure 6). From our data, we propose that meiotic centromere clustering stabilizes initial homolog pairing to give rise to secure meiotic pairing and homosynapsis (Figure 7).

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298 A centromere clustering-dependent homolog pairing model in Drosophila

Prior to meiosis, cellular events occur to prepare chromosomes for meiotic pairing and synapsis. Meiotic cohesins are loaded onto centromeres (Khetani and Bickel 2007), and homologous chromosomes pair (Joyce et al. 2013; Christophorou, Rubin, and Huynh 2013), partly due to centromere-directed movements in the division prior to meiotic onset (Christophorou et al. 2015). We propose a model in which initial chromosomal pairing is stabilized throughout early meiosis by SMC1-dependent centromere clustering (Figure 7).

According to this model, the enrichment of SMC1 at the centromere and chromosome movements in pre-meiotic stages yield centromere clustering at meiotic onset. While chromosome arms and centromeres enter meiosis paired, heterologous centromere clustering serves as a mechanism to stabilize the pairing, resisting forces generated by synapsis nucleation and/or diffusion that may otherwise push paired chromosomes apart. As the SC extends between the arms of homologs, DSBs are

formed and subsequently repaired via HR to yield crossovers, which promote accuratedisjunction at the end of meiosis.

314 In *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, coordinated pre-meiotic centromere-directed movements 315 occur, yet there is not sufficient SMC1 enriched at the centromere to yield centromere 316 clustering. Thus, at meiotic onset, arms are paired, but centromeres are not clustered. 317 As SC nucleation occurs, the stabilization provided by centromere clustering is absent 318 and chromosome arms move freely in response to SC nucleation and/or diffusion. As 319 synapsis extends, the SC is formed between nearby chromosomes, regardless 320 homology, yielding heterologous synapsis. During instances of heterosynapsis, DSBs are made but cannot be repaired via HR without a homologous template. Therefore, 321 322 overall crossover levels are reduced, and nondisjunction occurs at high frequency in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. 323

324 The centromere clustering-dependent pairing model highlights that initial meiotic 325 pairing is not sufficient to yield homosynapsis, indicating that pairing may be a two-step 326 process. Initial homolog pairing must occur, but a stabilization step must be enforced for 327 proper synapsis. In Drosophila, this stabilization is provided by SMC1-dependent 328 centromere clustering. We propose that, to ensure stabilization of the initial pairing event, 329 centromere clusters act as anchors at the nuclear envelope, maintaining the rigid AE 330 (which runs along the entire length of the arm to the centromere) of each chromosome in 331 proximity of its homolog.

Although meiotic pairing programs vary among organisms, we suggest that the centromere clustering-dependent pairing model can be universally applied. In *Drosophila* and *C. elegans*, meiotic pairing is independent of meiotic recombination. In contrast,

335 meiotic pairing in organisms such as yeast, plants, and mice require DSB formation 336 (although recombination-independent alignment is required for pairing in these 337 organisms)(Denise Zickler and Kleckner 2015). In DSB-dependent pairing programs, 338 homologs are considered paired at ~400 nm, where DSB-mediated interhomolog 339 interactions can be visualized as bridges (Albini and Jones 1987). However. 340 contemporaneous with DSB formation, centromeres are coupled or clustered (reviewed in Da lnes and White 2015). We speculate that these centromere interactions stabilize 341 342 the DSB-dependent arm pairing to ensure synapsis exclusively between homologs.

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344 Pairing and subsequent synapsis in Drosophila

345 This study reveals the interesting phenomenon of extensive, stable 346 heterosynapsis. Extensive heterosynapsis has been previously reported in *C. elegans* (Sato-Carlton et al. 2014.; Couteau et al. 2004; Couteau and Zetka 2005; Martinez-Perez 347 348 and Villeneuve 2005) and yeast (Zickler and Kleckner 1999) with variable SC defects. Though we cannot rule out SC aberrations in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants, our data reveal no 349 structural defects, supporting the notion that "normal" synapsis is largely homology-350 351 independent(Rog and Dernburg 2013). However, results from this study suggest that synapsis initiation may require homology. 352

In *Drosophila*, synapsis initiates at the arms in patches during zygotene (Tanneti et al. 2011). In *Mcm5*⁴⁷ mutants, synapsis initiation between paired homologs appears normal in zygotene; rather, the elongation of SC from the presumed homologous initiation patches fails to occur between homologs. Therefore, it appears that the initiation of synapsis requires homology, unlike SC elongation. Similar to what has been observed in

other organisms (reviewed in Rog and Dernburg 2013), we speculate that synapsis elongation is processive, such that once nucleated, the SC central region will build between two non-homologous chromosome axes that are in close proximity. Future studies determining the degree of heterosynapsis along entire chromosome arms in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants may provide more insight into how synapsis and homology interact in flies.

The heterosynapsis observed in this study also negates the long-standing assumption in *Drosophila* that stable synapsis occurs only between homologs, *i.e.*, if synapsis occurs in a mutant, then the mutant is proficient in pairing. Thus, mutants in *Drosophila* (and perhaps in other organisms) that have been previously believed to be competent in pairing due to the presence of stable SC should be revisited and tested for pairing deficiencies. Doing so could result in novel pairing mutants and aid in further understanding of how a meiotic chromosome pairs and synapses with its unique homolog.

372 MATERIALS and METHODS

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374 Experimental model details

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In all experiments, *Drosophila melanogaster* adult females 3-10 days old were used. Flies
were maintained on standard medium at 25°C. *Drosophila* nomenclature used in this
study was generalized for readership. Nomenclature and specific genotypes are listed
below.

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Manuscript Nomenclature	Drosophila genotype(s), if heteroallelic	Figure(s)
Mcm5 ^{A7}	<i>Mcm5</i> ^{A7} (Lake et al. 2007)	1, 2, 4, 5, 6,
	<i>Df(3R)Exel7305</i> (Parks et al. 2004)	S1, S2, S3,
		S4
WT	<i>YW</i> ¹¹¹⁸	1, 2, 4, 5, 6,
		S1, S2, S3,
		S4
ord ¹⁰	ord ¹⁰ (Webber, Howard, and Bickel 2004)	2
WT CID::RFP	w; P{nanos::GAL4};	3
	CID::RFP(Christophorou et al. 2015)	
	w; P{UAS::Par1-GFP}(Christophorou et	
	al. 2015) <i>;</i> +	
Mcm5 ^{A7} CID::RFP	w; P{nanos::GAL4}; Mcm5 ^{A7} , CID::RFP	3
	w; P{UAS::Par1-GFP}; Df(3R)Exel7305	
nos>Smc1; Mcm5 ^{A7}	w; P{nanos::GAL4}; Df(3R)Exel7305	6, S4
	w; P{UAS::Smc1-HA}; Mcm5 ^{A7}	
nos>Smc1; Mcm5 ^{D/+f}	w; P{nanos::GAL4}; Df(3R)Exel7305	S4
	<i>yw, P{UAS::Smc1-HA}</i> (Gyuricza et al.	
	2016); +	
Mcm5>Mcm5 ^{WT} ; Mcm5 ^{A7}	<i>w; P{Mcm5::Mcm5</i> }(Lake et al. 2007) <i>;</i>	S4
	Mcm5 ^{A7}	
	+; Df(3R)Exel7305	
rec ^{1/2}	<i>rec</i> ¹ (Grell 1978)	S4

	rec ² (Matsubayashi and Yamamoto 2003)	
nos>Smc1; rec ^{1/2}	w; P{nanos::Gal4}; rec ¹	S4
	yw, P{UAS::Smc1-HA}; rec ²	

381

382 Experimental details

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384 <u>Genetic assays</u>

385 *X* chromosome NDJ was evaluated by scoring the progeny from virgin females of desired 386 genotype crossed with *y cv v f* / *T*(1:*Y*)*B*^S males. Viable exceptional *XXY* females have 387 *Bar* eyes, and viable exceptional *X*0 males have *Bar*⁺ eyes and are *y cv v f*. To adjust for 388 inviable exceptional males and females, viable exceptional class was multiplied by 2. % 389 *X*-NDJ = 100^{*} ([2*viable exceptional females] + [2*viable exceptional males])/total 390 progeny. Statistical comparisons were performed as in Zeng *et al.*, 2010.

391 Crossovers on chromosome 2L were measured by crossing virgin *net dpp*^{ho} *dp b* 392 *pr cn* /+ females of desired genotype to *net dpp*^{ho} *dp b pr cn* males. Vials of flies were 393 flipped after three days of mating. Resulting progeny were scored for all phenotypic 394 markers. Similarly, crossovers on chromosome *X* were measured by crossing virgin *y sc* 395 $cv v g f y^+$ /+ females to *y sc* cv v g f males. Progeny were assessed for all phenotypic 396 markers.

To calculate intersister recombination, R(1)2, $y^1 w^{hd80k17} f^1/y^1$ females with desired genotype were crossed to $y^1 w^{1118}$ and progeny was scored for phenotypic markers. Exceptional progeny were able to be distinguished through phenotypes and rates were adjusted to reflect only normal progeny, as in Webber, Howard and Bickel, 2004.

401

402 <u>Dissection and immunofluorescence (IF) of whole mount germaria</u>

Ten three- to five-day old virgin females of desired genotype were fattened overnight with 403 404 yeast paste in vials with ~5 males of any genotype. Ovaries were dissected in fresh 1x 405 PBS and incubated in fixative buffer for 20 minutes. Fixative buffer: 165 µL of fresh 1x 406 PBS, 10 µL of N-P40, 600 µL of heptane, and 25 µL of 16% formaldehyde. After being 407 washed 3 times in 1x PBS + 0.1% Tween-20 (PBST), ovaries were incubated for 1 hour 408 in 1 mL PBST + 1% BSA (10 mL of PBST + 0.1 g BSA). Ovaries were incubated overnight 409 in 500 µL primary antibody diluted in 1 mL PBST + 1% BSA at 4° C on rocking nutator. After being washed 3x in PBST, ovaries were incubated in 500 µL secondary antibody 410 411 diluted at 1:500 in PBST + 1% BSA for 2 hours under foil. Ovaries were mounted in 35 412 µL of ProLong Gold + DAPI on microscope slide using fine-tip forceps to spread ovaries. 413 Antibodies for C(3)G(Anderson et al. 2005), SMC1(Khetani and Bickel 2007), and 414 CID (Active Motif) were used. For Figures 4a, 4b, 4c, S2a, S2b, S2c: Images of whole 415 mount germaria were taken Zeiss LSM880 confocal laser scanning microscope using 416 63x/0.65 NA oil immersion objective, with a 2x zoom using ZEN software. Images were 417 saved as .czi files and processed using FIJI(Schindelin et al. 2012). For Figures S1a, 418 S1d, S3a, S4a: Images were taken on Nikon A1R point-scanning confocal microscope using 60x 1.49 NA oil immersion objective. Images were saved as .nd2 files and 419 420 quantified as described below.

421

422 Dissection and IF of chromosome spreads

Before dissection, 25 mL of fixative, 5 mL of hypo-extraction buffer, and 500 μ L of 100 mM sucrose were prepared. Fixative (25 mL): 23.0875 mL water, 1.5625 mL 16% formaldehyde, at 350 μ L of 10% Triton-X (1 mL of Triton-X + 9 mL water). Hypo-extraction buffer (5 mL): 3.685 mL water, 250 μ L 600 mM Tris (pH 8.2), 500 μ L 170 mM Trisodium Citrate Dihydrate, 50 μ L 500 mM EDTA, 2.5 μ L 1.0 M DTT, 12.5 μ L 200 mM Pefabloc (hypo-extraction buffer is good for only 2 hours). 100 mM Sucrose (500 μ L): 100 μ L 500 mM sucrose + 400 μ L water).

430 Ovaries were dissected in 1x PBS and rinsed once in hypo-extraction buffer. Ovaries were incubated for 20 minutes in hypoextraction buffer and transferred to sucrose 431 432 and minced. A super-frost slide was dipped into the fixative for 15 seconds. 10 µL of 433 minced ovary tips were transferred onto the middle edge of the long side of the slide and 434 rolled to allow spreading. Slides were dried very slowly overnight in a closed humidified 435 chamber. Once dried, slides were incubated with 500 µL of blocking (5% normal goat 436 serum (NGS), 2% BSA, 0.1% Triton-X in 1x PBS). Slides were rinsed 3 times in B-PBSTx (0.1% BSA, 0.1% Triton-X in 1x PBS). 250 µL of primary antibodies diluted in B-PBSTx 437 438 were incubated under parafilm overnight in humidifying chamber. Slides were washed 3 439 times with PBSTx (0.1% Triton-X in 1x PBS). Secondary antibodies were diluted at 1:400 440 in B-PBSTx. 100 µL of diluted secondary were added onto slide under parafilm and 441 incubated for an hour. Slides were rinsed 3 times in PBSTx and washed three time for 442 10 minutes in PBSTx in Coplin jar. Slides were incubated swith 400 µL DAPI (1 ug/ml) in 443 1x PBS for 10 minutes in dark and washed in 1x PBS. Coverslips were mounted with 444 ProLong Gold.

Antibodies for C(3)G(Anderson et al. 2005), Corolla(Collins et al. 2014), SMC1(Khetani and Bickel 2007), and CID (Active Motif) were used. Figure 5a: Images were taken on Zeiss LSM880 confocal laser scanning microscope using 63x/0.65 NA oil immersion objective with a 2x zoom using ZEN software. Images were saved as .czi files and processed using FIJI (Schindelin et al. 2012). Figures 2c and 2d: Images were taken on Nikon N-SIM using Elements software. Images were saved as .nd2 files and processed using FIJI(Schindelin et al. 2012).

452

453 <u>Generation of fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) probes</u>

DNA from desired BAC clones (BAC PAC RPCI-98 Library) was extracted from MIDIprep culture. For *X* probe (Figure 1b), six BAC clones were used, spanning cytological bands 6E-7B. Clones: 17 C09, 06 J12, 35 J16, 20 K01, 35 A18, 26 L11. For 3R probe (Figure 1c), six BAC clones were used, spanning cytological bands 93A-93E. Clones: 19 P12, 05 I01, 20 N14, 10 M16, 06 L13, 34 E13. The BAC-derived template DNA was used in a nick-translation reaction to generate euchromatic biotinylated DNA probes, as described below.

For one BAC clone DNA template, the following was added into a 0.5 mL tube: 5 μ L 10X DNA Pol I buffer, 2.5 μ L dNTP mix (1 mM each of dCTP, dATP, dGTP), 2.5 μ L biotin-11-dUTP (1 mM), 5.0 μ L 100 mM BME, 10 μ L of freshly diluted dDNase I, 1 μ L DNA Pol I, 1 ug of template DNA, water up to 50 μ L. Reaction was incubated at 15° C in thermocycler for 4 hours and eluted in 20 μ L TE. Concentration was determined using Qubit kit and diluted to a final concentration at 2 ng/ μ L in hybridization buffer.

467 Hybridization buffer: 2x Saline-Sodium Citrate (SSC) buffer, 50% formamide, 10% w/v
468 dextran sulfate, 0.8 mg/mL salmon sperm DNA.

The 359-bp probe (Figure 4d) was ordered from Integrative DNA Technologies
(IDT, <u>www.idtdna.com</u>) with 5' Cy5, resuspended in 1x TE at 100 μM. Sequence for 359bp probe (5' to 3'): Cy5- GGGATCGTTAGCACTGGTAATTAGCTGC.

472

473 FISH/IF of whole mount germaria

Ovaries were dissected in fresh 1x PBS and incubated in fixative buffer for 4 minutes. 474 475 Fixative buffer: 100 mM sodium cacodylate (pH 7.2), 100 mM sucrose, 40 mM potassium acetate, 10 mM sodium acetate, 10 mM EGTA, 5% formaldehyde. Ovaries were 476 transferred to 0.5 ml tube filled with 2x SSCT (5 ml 20x SSC, 50 µL Tween, 45 mL water) 477 478 and washed four times in 2x SSCT, 3 minutes each. Ovaries were washed 10 minutes 479 in 2x SSCT + 20% formamide, 10 minutes 2x SSCT + 40% formamide, and then two times for 10 minutes each in 2x SSCT + 50% formamide. Ovaries were incubated at 37° 480 481 C for 4 hours, at 92° C for 3 minutes and then 60° C for 20 minutes. Ovaries were 482 transferred to tube with 36 µL of BAC-generated probe (diluted in hybridization buffer) or with 35 µL of hybridization buffer and 1 µL of IDT-generated probe. Ovaries were 483 484 incubated in the thermocycler for 3 minutes at 91° C then at 37° C overnight and then washed with 2x SSCT + 50% formamide for 1 hour at 37° C. Ovaries were washed in 2x 485 486 SSCT + 20% formamide for 10 minutes at room temperature and rinsed in 2x SSCT four times guickly. Ovaries were incubated for 4 hours in blocking solution (6 mg/mL NGS in 487 2x SSCT) and then washed three times quickly in 2x SSCT. Ovaries were incubated 488 489 overnight in primary antibody diluted in 2x SSCT at room temperature. Ovaries were

washed three times quickly in 2x SSCT and incubated for two hours in secondary antibody diluted in 2x SSCT. Biotinylated probes: sample was incubated in 1.5 μ L of 488conjugated streptavidin diluted in 98.5 μ L detection solution (0.5 mL 1M Tris, 400 mg BSA, water to 10mL) for 1 hour, washed two times quickly in 2x SSCT, washed for 1 hour in 2x SSCT, and then washed 3 hours in 2x SSCT. (If using IDT-generated probes, these steps were not performed.) Ovarioles were mounted on a slide in 35 μ L of DAPI + fluoromount.

Antibody for C(3)G(Anderson et al. 2005) was used. Figures 1b, 1c, 4d: Images of whole mount germaria were taken Zeiss LSM880 confocal laser scanning microscope using 63x/0.65 NA oil immersion objective with a 2x zoom using ZEN software. Figure 2b: Images were obtain using AIRY-Scan on Zeiss LSM880 confocal laser scanning microscope using40oil immersion objective. Images were saved as .czi files and processed using FIJI(Schindelin et al. 2012).

503

504 Live cell imaging

505 Ovaries were dissected in 10S Voltalef oil. The muscular sheath around each ovariole 506 was removed and ovarioles were manually separated. Individual ovarioles were 507 transferred to a drop of oil on coverslip. Videos were collected with an on an inverted 508 Zeiss Axioobserver Z1 with motorized XYZ spinning-disc confocal microscope operated 509 by Metamorph coupled to a sCMOS (Hamamatsuorca) camera and a temperature control 510 chamber. All images were acquired with the Plan-Apochromat 100x/1.4 oil objective lens. Single-position videos in the germarium were acquired for 8 minutes at $25 \pm 1^{\circ}$ C, with a 511 512 10 second temporal resolution (12-slice Z-stack, 0.5 µm per slice).

513

514 Quantification and statistical analysis

515

516 <u>Recombination calculations</u>

517 Genetic distances are expressed in centiMorgans (cM), calculated by 100 * (R/n), where *R* is the number of recombinant progeny in a given interval (including single, double, and 518 519 triple crossovers), and *n* is the total number of progeny scored. 95% confident intervals 520 were calculated from variance, as in Stevens (Stevens 1936). Molecular distances (in 521 Mb) are from the positions of genetic markers on the Drosophila melanogaster reference 522 genome, release 6.12 (Thurmond et al. 2018). Crossover density (or frequency), as 523 calculated by cM/Mb, exclude transposable elements (see Miller et al., 2016; Hatkevich 524 and Sekelsky, 2017).

525

526 Quantitive microscopy analysis of IF in whole mounts

527 For fixed germaria, DAPI and anti-CID with either anti-C(3)G(Anderson et al. 2005) or 528 anti-SMC1(Khetani and Bickel 2007) stains were used. Individual nuclei were first 529 selected and eight 0.5 µm z-slices were used for analysis. First, fluorescence intensities 530 were measured separately by subtracting cytoplasmic background in individual slices 531 using an automated approach. For centromeric fluorescence intensities, centromeres 532 were first segmented based on anti-CID (Active Motif) fluorescence using a probabilistic 533 segmentation approach. Using segmented centromere masks, centromeric CID, C(3)G 534 and SMC1 were guantified. For nuclear fluorescence intensities, nuclei were segmented 535 using anti-C(3)G fluorescence. For chromosome arm fluorescence intensities,

536 centromeric fluorescence intensities were subtracted from nuclear fluorescence 537 intensities. To account for potential staining heterogeneity, fluorescence intensities were 538 normalized to total nuclear CID fluorescence intensity, which was assumed to be 539 unperturbed. Fluorescence intensities represent raw integrated densities of maximum 540 intensity projected z-stacks. Nucleus selection, background subtraction and fluorescence 541 intensity measurements were performed semi-automatically using custom FIJI-based 542 plugins (available upon request) (Schindelin et al. 2012).

543

544 Analysis of pairing and centromere clustering

To determine the meiotic stage in fixed whole mount germaria, nuclear C(3)G staining patterning was used. Spots of C(3)G in early Region 2A was considered zygotene, fulllength C(3)G in Region 2A was considered early pachytene, and full-length C(3)G in Region 3 was considered mid-pachytene. Two foci were considered unpaired if distances between the center of the foci were equal to or greater than 0.7 um (Gong, McKim, and Scott Hawley 2005). For centromere counting, any distinguishable single CID focus was counted as one, and distance between CID foci was not considered.

552

553 Live cell imaging tracking

The use of PAR1::GFP on live germaria allowed the identification of the different cyst stages. For live germaria, images shown are the projection of all Z-series of a single (t) projection. Three-dimensional tracking of spinning-disc data was performed using Imaris software (Bitplane). The CID::RFP signal was tracked using the 'spots' function with an expected diameter of 0.3 µm. Automatically generated tracks were then edited manually

to eliminate inappropriate connections, including connections between foci in different
 nuclei or between foci of different sizes or intensity when more likely assignments were
 apparent or multiple spots assigned to the same focus.

To remove global movements of the germarium, each nucleus containing a CID::RFP focus was assigned to the nearest fusome foci. Then, the position of the reference fusome was subtracted from each CID::RFP focus for each time point of the tracking to get the relative tracks. These relative tracks were then compiled using a custom MATLAB (MathWorks) routine that computes the minimum volume of the ellipsoid that encloses all of the three-dimensional points of the trajectory.

To analyze centromere trajectories: Positions of individual centromeres were 568 569 tracked every 10 seconds during 8 minutes to quantify the volume covered by each 570 centromere. This raw volume was then corrected both for overall movements of the tissue 571 and for variations in total nuclear volume. First, we subtracted the motion of the 572 germarium using the position of the fusome as a reference within each cyst. Second, to take into account the nuclear volume at 8cc, we computed the relative volume, which is 573 the raw volume divided by the mean value of the nuclear volume at 8cc stage. Finally, we 574 575 normalized durations of each track by calculating the relative covered volume per second (as shown in Figure 3e). 576

577

578 Transparent Reporting

579 Each microscopy experiment performed in this study was repeated independently at least 580 two times. We did not use explicit power analysis; rather, in each experiment, at least 8 581 independent germaria were imaged, and meiotic cells within the germaria were quantified,

582 giving the final sample size per experiment. The total number of samples (*n*) is the sum583 of the final sample sizes per experiment.

584

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586

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600

601 AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

602

- 603 Conceptualization, TH and JS; Methodology, TH, JS, VB, TR, and JRH; Investigation,
- 604 TH, VB, and TR; Resources, JS, PSM, and JRH; Writing Original, TH and JS; Writing –
- Editing, TH, JS, VB, TR, and JRH; Visualization, TH, VB, and TR; Supervision, JS, PSM,
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607 COMPETING INTERESTS

- 608
- 609 The authors declare no competing interests.
- 610

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- 753

754 FIGURE LEGENDS

755

Figure 1. Meiotic pairing is perturbed in *Mcm5*^{A7} **mutants.** a. Schematic depiction of the *Drosophila* germarium. At the anterior portion (the pre-meiotic region, Region 1), the germline stem cell (brown cell) divides to yield a cytoblast, which undergoes four subsequent rounds of division to yield a 16-cell cyst. In the pre-meiotic region, meiotic proteins, such as SMC1 and C(3)G, are enriched at the centromeres, and within the 8cell cyst, chromosomes exhibit centromere-direct rapid movements. Within the first 16cell cyst (zygotene; Region 2A), homologous chromosomes pair, centromeres cluster into

763 1 or 2 groups, and up to four cells initiate meiosis, expressing patches of SC (red dots). 764 As the 16-cell cyst enters early pachytene (EP) (Region 2A), only two continue as pro-765 oocytes to form full length synaptonemal complex (red). Meiotic double-strand breaks 766 (DSBs) are formed and repaired via homologous recombination (HR) throughout the 767 germarium's posterior (Regions 2A, 2B) to yield noncrossover and crossover products. 768 At the most posterior tip, signifying mid-pachytene (MP), only one cell within the cyst has 769 been selected to become the oocyte, and all DSBs are repaired. b. Top: schematic of X770 chromosome and relative location of X-probe, not drawn to scale. Left: Representative images paired (WT) and unpaired (Mcm5^{A7}) X-probes (green) in meiotic cells, indicated 771 by C(3)G expression (magenta). Images are of meiotic nuclei in Region 2A. Scale bar = 772 1 μm. Right: Quantification of percent paired and unpaired cell in WT and Mcm5⁴⁷ in Z 773 $(WT n = 33, Mcm5^{A7} = 32), EP (WT n = 130, Mcm5^{A7} = 118; ***p < 0.0001, chi-square),$ 774 775 and MP (WT n = 10, $Mcm5^{A7} = 11$; *p = 0.01, chi-square). c. Top: schematic of the right 776 arm of chromosome 3 (3R) and relative location of 3R-probe, not drawn to scale. Left: 777 Representative images paired (WT) and unpaired ($Mcm5^{A7}$) 3R-probes (green) in meiotic cells, represented by C(3)G expression (magenta). WT image is of 2A nucleus, Mcm5^{A7} 778 779 is of Region 3 nucleus. Right: Quantification of percent paired and unpaired cell in WT 780 and $Mcm5^{A7}$ in Z (WTn = 37, $Mcm5^{A7} = 33$), EP (WTn = 104, $Mcm5^{A7} = 97$; ***p < 0.0001, chi-square), and MP (WT n = 10, $Mcm5^{A7} = 9$; **p = 0.0066, chi-square). Brightness, 781 782 contrast, and texture (smoothed) of images have been adjusted for clarity.

783

Figure 2. Synaptonemal complex exhibits no observable defects in *Mcm5^{A7}* mutants. a. Schematic depiction of SC between two homologous chromosomes. The

786 SC is composed of two lateral elements (LEs) and one central region (CR). The LEs are 787 predecessors of the axial element, which is formed between sister chromatids and are 788 composed of two cohesion complexes (blue and pink ovals. The CR consists, in part, of 789 a C(3)G (green) dimer spanning the LEs, with pillar proteins such as Corolla (yellow) 790 embedded within the CR. Enrichment of proteins at the centromere is not depicted. b. 791 Super-resolution images of C(3)G and X-probe in WT (paired) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (unpaired) in whole-mount germaria. The images of $Mcm5^{A7}$ is of the same nucleus but of different Z 792 793 slices to capture both X-probes. Brightness and contrast have been adjusted for clarity. 794 Scale bar = 1 μ m. Refer to Supplemental Movies 1 and 2. c. Top: Representative image 795 of C(3)G (magenta) and Corolla (green) in a WT meiotic chromosome spread. Brightness 796 and contrast have been adjusted for clarity. Yellow arrowhead indicates area magnified 797 in lower panel (middle). Scale bar = $2 \mu m$. Middle: Magnification to detail the localization 798 of C(3)G and Corolla. Scale bar = $2 \mu m$. Yellow line indicates the area that was guantified 799 for normalized intensity. Bottom: Normalized intensity of C(3)G and Corolla to 800 demonstrate localization. d. Top: Representative image of C(3)G (magenta) and Corolla (green) in *Mcm5*^{A7} meiotic chromosome spread. Yellow arrowhead indicates area 801 802 magnified in lower panel (middle). Scale bar = 2 μ m. Middle: Magnification to detail the localization of C(3)G and Corolla. Scale bar = 2 μ m. Yellow line indicates the area that 803 804 was guantified for normalized intensity. Bottom: Normalized intensity of C(3)G and 805 Corolla to demonstrate localization. e. Left panel: Quantification of nuclear C(3)G signal at early pachytene in WT (n = 52) and Mcm5^{A7} (n = 41) meiotic nuclei. p = 0.5601, 806 807 unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. Right panel: Quantification of 808 nuclear C(3)G signal in mid-pachytene in WT(n = 12) and $Mcm5^{A7}(n = 11)$ meiotic nuclei.

p = 0.3993, unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. Refer to Supplemental Figure 1 for images and further analysis. f. $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 1194) and ord^{10} (n = 250) mutants examined for inter-sister recombination through the ratio of Ring chromosome to Rod chromosome transmission. WT (n = 2574 for $Mcm5^{A7}$ experiment, n = 1204 for Ordexperiment) was normalized to 1. Ratios above 1 suggest less inter-sister recombination; ratios below 1 suggest more inter-sister recombination. Refer to Table S1 for complete dataset.

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Figure 3. Centromeres in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants exhibit dynamic, rapid movements. a. 817 Projection of Z-sections of live WT (left) and Mcm5^{A7} 8-cell cysts expressing CID::RFP 818 819 (magenta) and Par-1::GFP (fusome, green). Circles represent individual nuclei within the 820 8-cell cysts. Yellow arrow heads denote representative analyses shown in b. and c. and 821 guantified by time points in d.. Scale bars = $2\mu m$. For videos, refer to Supplemental Video 822 3 and Video 4. b. Selected projections from one WT 8-cell cyst nucleus in (A, indicated 823 by yellow arrow head) over a 3-minute time course. See Video S5 for full movie. c. Selected projections from one *Mcm5*^{A7} 8-cell cyst nucleus in (A, indicated by yellow arrow 824 825 head) over a 3-minute time course. See Video S6 for full movie. Time-colored tracking 826 for CID-RFP dots indicated by yellow arrow heads are shown in right panels for b. and c... 827 Scale bars = $2\mu m$. d. 3-dimensional representations demonstrating the covered volume 828 of a representative track for all time points in WT (50 time points, volume = 12.9 μ m³) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (48 time points, volume = 15.7 μ m³). e. Distribution of the relative covered volume 829 830 (raw covered volume/nuclear volume) per second for each track in WT (n = 103)

centromere foci) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 80 centromere foci). p = 0.75, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD.

833

Figure 4. Centromere clustering is disrupted in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. a. Left: 834 835 Representative images of centromere clustering, or lack thereof, in wild-type (WT) and *Mcm5*⁴⁷ meiotic nuclei located in zygotene. Magenta: C(3)G, green: CID (centromere). 836 In these images, WT nucleus contains 1 CID focus, and Mcm5^{A7} contains 6 CID foci. 837 Scale bar = 1 μ m. Circles represent outline of nuclei. CID foci not localized with C(3)G is 838 from adiacent, non-meiotic cells (refer to Supplemental Figure 2a). Right: Quantification 839 of CID foci in zygotene in WT (n = 24) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 16). ***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-840 test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. b. Left: Representative images of centromere 841 clustering in WT and Mcm5^{A7} early pachytene nuclei. Magenta: C(3)G, green: CID, In 842 these images, WT nucleus contains 2 CID foci, and Mcm5^{A7} contains 5 CID foci. Scale 843 844 bar = 1 μ m. CID foci not localized with C(3)G is from adjacent, non-meiotic cells (refer to 845 Supplemental Figure 2b). Right: Quantification of early pachytene CID foci in WT(n = 65)and *Mcm5*^{A7} (n = 94). ***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm 846 847 SD. c. Left: Representative images of centromere clustering, or lack thereof, in midpachytene WT and Mcm5^{A7} nuclei. Magenta: C(3)G, Green: CID. In these images, WT 848 nucleus contains 1 CID focus, and $Mcm5^{A7}$ contains 4 CID foci. Scale bar = 1 μ m. CID 849 foci not localized with C(3)G is from adjacent, non-meiotic cells (refer to Supplemental 850 Figure 2c). Right: Quantification of mid-pachytene CID foci in WT (n = 16) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ 851 852 (n = 19). ***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. d. Schematic representing relative location of 359-bp locus on Chromosome X (not drawn 853

to scale). Top panel: Representative image of meiotic nucleus with 1 359-bp (green) focus (*WT*, Region 2A). Bottom panel: Representative image of meiotic nucleus with 2 359bp (green) foci $Mcm5^{A7}$, Region 2A). Right: Percentage of nuclei with paired 359-bp loci (one focus) or unpaired (two loci) in WT (n = 88) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 63) meiotic nuclei. ***p< 0.0001, as determined by two-tailed Fisher's exact test. Contrast and brightness of all images were adjusted for clarity.

860

Figure 5. Centromeric SMC1 is significantly reduced in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants. 861 a. Representative images of chromosome spreads in WT and Mcm5^{A7} meiotic nuclei 862 examining localization of SMC1 (magenta) and CID (green). Green arrow: SMC1 863 864 enrichment at the centromere, yellow arrow and tract: SMC1 along the chromosome arm. 865 Scale bar = 2 μ m. Contrast and brightness of images were adjusted for clarity. b. 866 Quantification of SMC1 at CID foci in meiotic nuclei at meiotic onset (zygotene + early pachytene, Region 2A) at WT(n = 225) and $Mcm5^{A7}(n = 398)$ meiotic centromeres. ***p 867 < 0.0001, unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean ± SD. c. Quantification of SMC1 868 at chromosome arm in meiotic nuclei at meiotic onset (zygotene + early pachytene, 869 Region 2A) in WT (n = 81) and Mcm5^{A7} (n = 93) meiotic nuclei. n.s. = 0.0548, unpaired 870 T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. Refer to Supplemental Figure 3 for 871 872 representative images.

873

Figure 6. Overexpression of SMC1 in *Mcm5*^{A7} mutants rescue clustering, pairing, crossover formation, and NDJ. a. Quantification of SMC1 signal at the centromeres at *WT*, *Mcm5*^{A7}, and *nos>Smc1*; *Mcm5*^{A7} (n = 427) meiotic centromeres at meiotic onset.

See Supplemental Figure 4 for representative images of nos>Smc1: Mcm5^{A7} nuclei. WT 877 and *Mcm5*^{A7} data are repeated from Figure 5. ***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-test. Data are 878 879 represented as mean ± SD. b. Number of centromeres (CID foci) in WT, Mcm5^{A7}, and nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} (n = 94) meiotic nuclei at early pachytene. WT and Mcm5^{A7} data are 880 881 repeated from Figure 2. ***p < 0.0001, unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. c. Percent of total paired and unpaired in WT, Mcm5^{A7}, and nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} 882 (total n = 169) nuclei at early pachytene, combining X-probe and 3R-probe data. WT and 883 *Mcm5*^{A7} data are repeated from Figure 4 and are represented as X-probe plus 3R-probe 884 early pachytene data. Significance comparing $Mcm5^{A7}$ and nos>Smc1. $Mcm5^{A7}$: **p =885 0.0002, chi-square d. Crossover levels on chromosome 2L as shown in cM in WT (n =886 4222)(Hatkevich et al. 2017), $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 2070), and nos > Smc1; $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 933). ***p887 < 0.001, chi-square. Data are represented as mean \pm 95% CI. Refer to Table S2 for full 888 2L crossover dataset. e. NDJ of the X chromosome in WT (0.07%, n = 3034), Mcm5^{A7} 889 $(26.5\%, n = 1979), nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{A7} (11.5\%, n = 2282). ***p < 0.0001 (Zeng et al.)$ 890 2010). Data are represented as mean \pm 95% CI. Refer to Table S3 for full NDJ dataset. 891 892

Figure 7. Centromere clustering-dependent pairing model. *WT*: In pre-meiotic cysts, homologous chromosomes (pink = homolog pair 1, black = homolog pair 2) enter the germline unpaired. During pre-meiotic cell cycles, chromosome arms and centromeres pair, with centromeres anchored at the nuclear envelope. Prior to meiotic onset, SMC1 is enriched at the centromeres (yellow) and centromere-directed chromosome movement (double-headed arrows) occurs. These events yield centromere clustering at meiotic initiation. As synapsis nucleates along arms (green bars), paired chromosomes are able

900 to withstand opposing forces because of physical stabilization provided by centromere 901 clustering, permitting homosynapsis. After DSB formation and repair (not depicted), 902 crossovers between homologs are formed, promoting proper disjunction at the end of 903 meiosis I. *Mcm5*^{A7}: Chromosomes enter the germline unpaired, and centromeres are 904 attached to the nuclear envelope. In pre-meiotic cycles, chromosomes initially pair, but 905 centromeres do not. Centromere-directed chromosome movements occur, but SMC1 is 906 not enriched at the centromere, causing a lack of centromere clustering at meiotic onset. 907 As the SC nucleates at the arms, opposing forces push the paired chromosome arms 908 apart. Synapsis spreads between the nearest chromosomal regions, independent of 909 homology, yielding high frequency of heterosynapsis. During heterosynapsis, DSBs are 910 not repaired by HR, yielding non-recombinant chromosomes that nondisjoin at the end of 911 Meiosis I.

912

913 SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

914

915 Supplemental Information includes four figures, four tables, and six movies.

916

917 SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

918

Supplemental Figure 1 (related to Figure 2). Quantitative analysis of C(3)G in WT
and Mcm5^{A7} mutants. a. Representative images of WT and Mcm5^{A7} meiotic nuclei in
whole mount germaria that were quantified in b., c., and Figure 2e examining C(3)G

922 (magenta) and CID (green) in early pachytene. b. Quantification of C(3)G signal at the 923 centromere (CID) in WT and Mcm5^{A7} early pachytene nuclei. p = 0.4327, unpaired T-924 test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. c. Quantification of C(3)G signal at chromosome arm in WT and Mcm5^{A7} early pachytene nuclei. p = 0.6358, unpaired T-925 926 test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. d. Representative images of WT and Mcm5^{A7} 927 meiotic nuclei of whole mount germaria that were guantified in e., f., and Figure 2f 928 examining C(3)G (magenta) and CID (green) at mid-pachytene. e. Quantification of C(3)G signal at the centromere (CID) in WT and $Mcm5^{A7}$ mid-pachytene nuclei. p = 0.3615, 929 930 unpaired T-test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD. f. Quantification of C(3)G signal at chromosome arms in WT and $Mcm5^{A7}$ mid-pachytene nuclei. p = 0.5489, unpaired T-931 932 test. Data are represented as mean \pm SD.

933

934 Supplemental Figure 2 (related to Figure 4). Multiple germarium nuclei are depicted

per frame. (A, B, C) DAPI included images of *WT* and *Mcm5*^{A7} in Figure 4a, b, c, respectively, to demonstrate that additional CID foci are of neighboring nuclei. d. DAPI included images of meiotic nuclei with 1 359-bp focus (*WT*, top panel) and 2 359-bp foci (*Mcm5*^{A7}, bottom panel) from Figure 4d. Scale bars = 1 μ m. Contrast and brightness of all images were adjusted for clarity.

940

941 **Supplemental Figure 3 (related to Figure 5). Images quantified in Figure 5**. a. 942 Representative images quantified in Figure 5b and 5c. Scale bar = 1 μ m. b. 943 Representative images quantified in Figure 5d and 5e. Scale bar = 1 μ m. Magenta: 944 SMC1, Greed: CID. Images are of whole mount germaria.

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945

Supplemental Figure 4 (related to Figure 6). SMC1 overexpression in Mcm5^{A7} 946 **mutants.** a. Representative images of nos>Smc1. Mcm5^{A7} meiotic nuclei at meiotic 947 948 onset, quantified in Figure 6a. b. Crossovers levels on Chromosome X in WT (n = 2179, 62.8cM (Hatkevich et al. 2017) and $Mcm5^{A7}$ (n = 2743, 3.8 cM), similar to levels previously 949 reported (Lake et al. 2007). These data show that the crossover defect severity in Mcm5^{A7} 950 951 mutants is chromosome-specific. Due to genetics of the SMC1 transgene, we were unable to test *nos*>Smc1; *Mcm5*^{A7} crossover levels on the X. Data are represented as 952 953 mean \pm 95% CI. See Table S4 for complete crossover dataset. c. Left: NDJ of the X 954 chromosome in WT (0.07%, n = 3034) and controls nos>Smc1; Mcm5^{Df/+} (0.16%, n =955 1273) and Mcm5>Mcm^{WT}; Mcm5^{A7} (0.26%, n = 753). Right: NDJ of rec^{1/2} (19.1%, n =1563), and nos>Smc1, rec^{1/2} (24.1%, n = 1187) to demonstrate that SMC1 956 957 overexpression NDJ rescue is specific to $Mcm5^{A7}$. Data are represented as mean \pm 95% 958 CI.

959

Supplemental Table 1 (related to Figure 2). Complete inter-sister recombination dataset. Complete Ring:Rod dataset. *Adjusted females: Assuming male and female NDJ are equal, we subtract the amount of male NDJ from the *y* Normal female progeny; in these *y* females, one cannot distinguish between y/y female versus a y/y/Y female. *Ord*¹⁰ exceptional females were distinguishable due to an additional phenotypic marker.

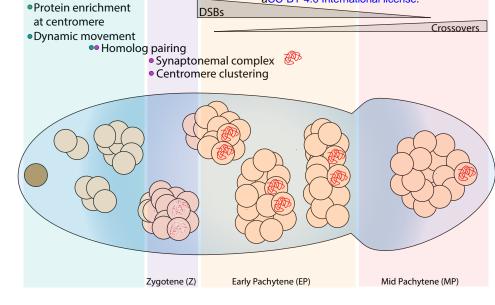
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966	Supplemental Table 2 (related to Figure 6). Recombination dataset for
967	Chromosome 2L. Recombination events across Chromosome 2L in progeny of WT,
968	<i>Mcm5</i> ^{A7} , and <i>nos>Smc1, Mcm5</i> ^{A7} mothers.
969	
970	Supplemental Table 3 (related to Figure 6). Complete X-NDJ dataset. Total normal
971	and exceptional progeny from experimental and control lines.
972	
973	Supplemental Table 4 (related to Figure 6). Recombination dataset for X
974	Chromosome. Recombination events across X Chromosome in progeny of WT,
975	<i>Mcm5</i> ^{A7} , and <i>nos>Smc1, Mcm5</i> ^{A7} mothers.
976	
977	Supplemental Video 1 (related to Figure 2). Rotation of WT meiotic nucleus shown
978	in Figure 2b. Meiotic nucleus demonstrating full length tracts of C(3)G (magenta) and
979	localization of X-homologs (X-probes, green) in WT.
980	
981	Supplemental Video 2 (related to Figure 2). Rotation of <i>Mcm5</i> ^{A7} meiotic nucleus
982	shown in Figure 2b. Meiotic nucleus demonstrating full length tracts of C(3)G (magenta)
983	and localization of X-homologs (X-probes, green) in Mcm5 ^{A7} .
984	
985	Supplemental Video 3 (related to Figure 3). Dynamics of centromere clusters in 8-
986	cell cyst nuclei in WT. Time lapse microscopy (spinning disc) expressing the
987	centromere CID::RFP (magenta) and fusome marker Par-1::GFP (driven by the nanos
988	promoter) (green). Frames were taken every 10 seconds.

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990	Supplemental Video 4 (related to Figure 3). Dynamics of centromere clusters in 8-
991	cell cyst nuclei in Mcm5 ^{A7} . Time lapse microscopy (spinning disc) expressing the
992	centromere CID::RFP (magenta) and fusome marker Par-1::GFP, (driven by the nanos
993	promoter) (green). Frames were taken every 10 seconds.
994	
995	Supplemental Video 5 (related to Figure 3). Dynamics of one centromere cluster in
996	one 8-cell cyst nucleus in WT. Time lapse microscopy (spinning disc) expressing the
997	centromere CID::RFP (magenta) in one nucleus within an 8-cell cyst (dotted circle).
998	Frames were taken every 10 seconds.
999	
1000	Supplemental Video 6 (related to Figure 3). Dynamics of one centromere cluster in
1001	one 8-cell cyst nucleus in <i>Mcm5^{A7}</i> . Time lapse microscopy (spinning disc) expressing
1002	the centromere CID::RFP (magenta) in one nucleus within an 8-cell cyst (dotted circle).
1003	Frames were taken every 10 seconds.
1004	

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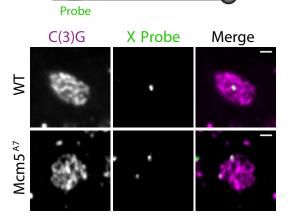


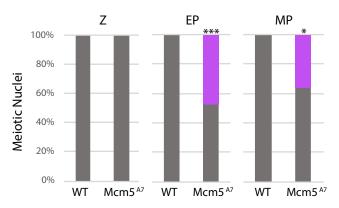
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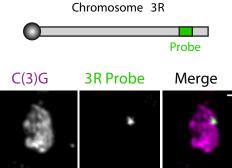
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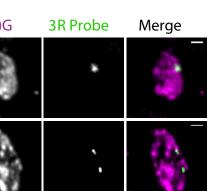
X Chromosome





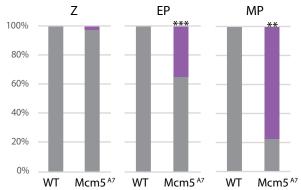


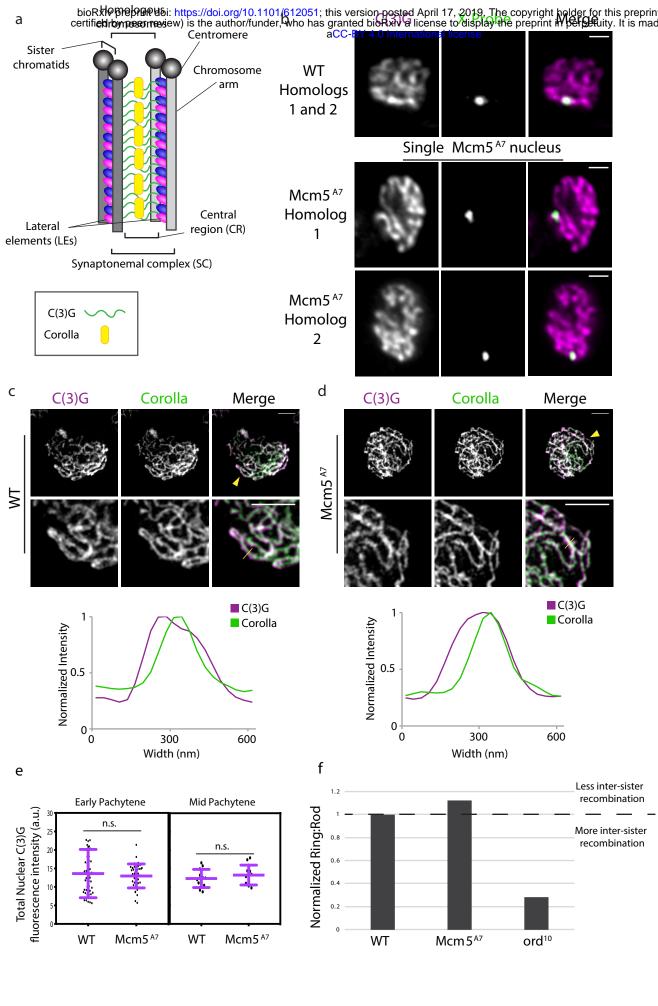
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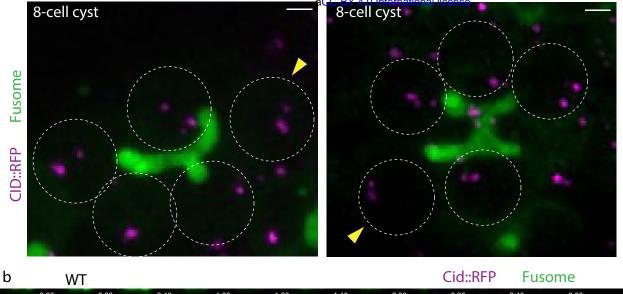
Meiotic Nuclei

One focus 🖊 Two foci

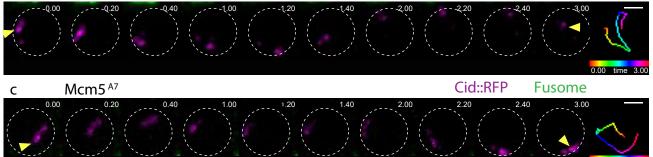


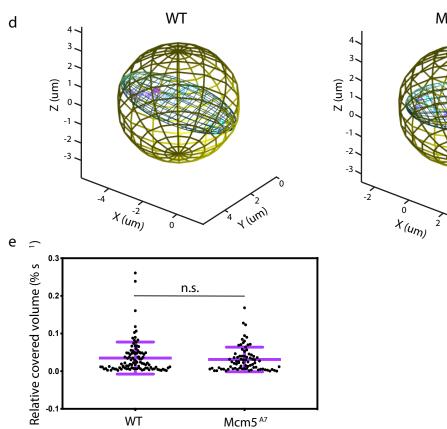


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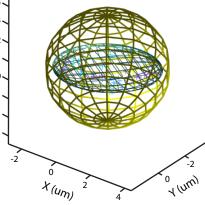
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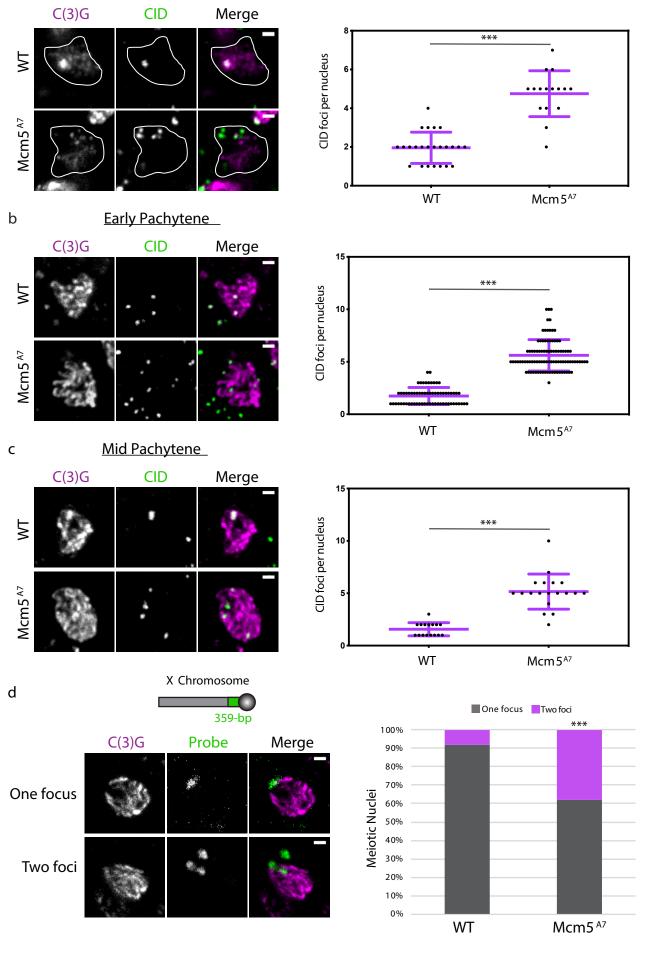


Mcm5^{A7}

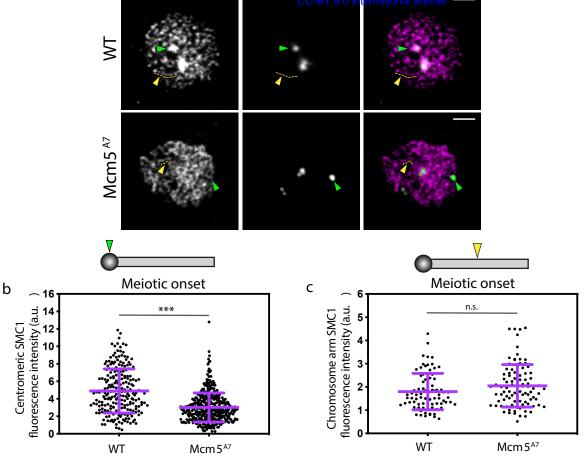
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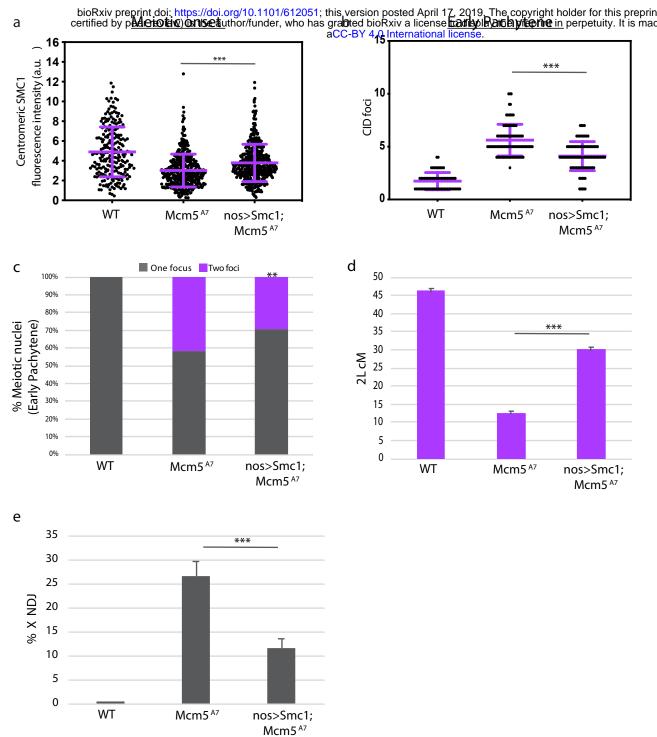


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