

# Topoisomerases

# supercoiling



(a) Relaxed (8 turns)

$$84/10.5=8$$



(b) Strained (7 turns)

Unstable (12bp/turn)



(c) Supercoil

Supercoiling



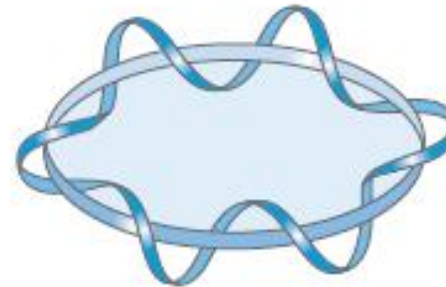
(d) Strand separation

# Linking Number

The linking number defines the number of times a strand of DNA winds in the right-handed direction around the helix axis

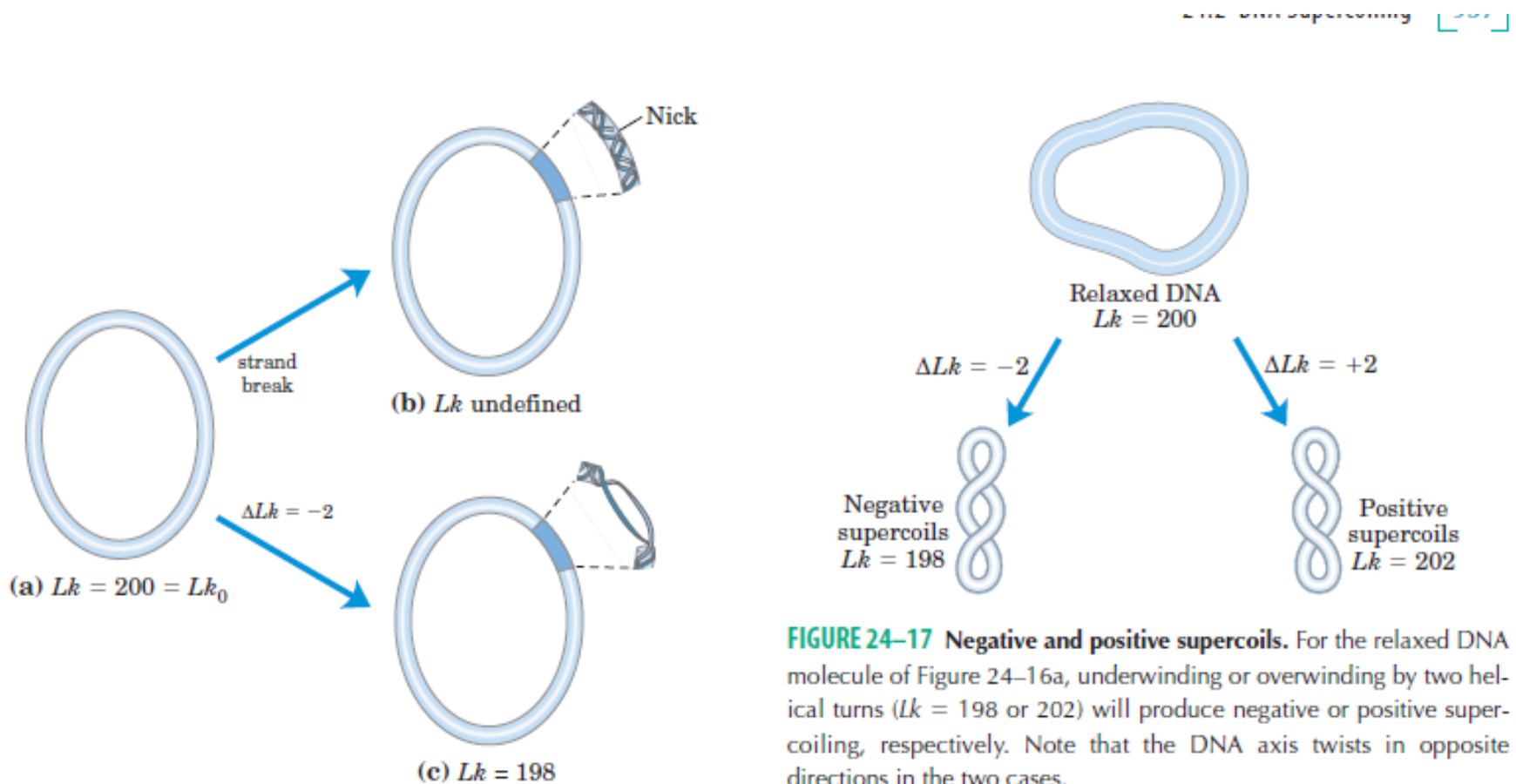


(a)  $Lk = 1$



(b)  $Lk = 6$

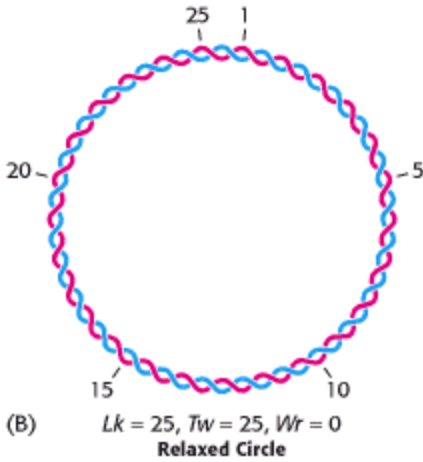
# DNA of most organisms is negatively supercoiled.



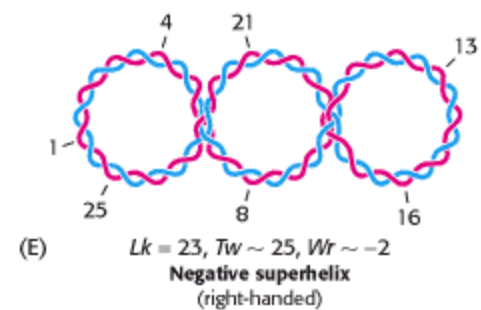
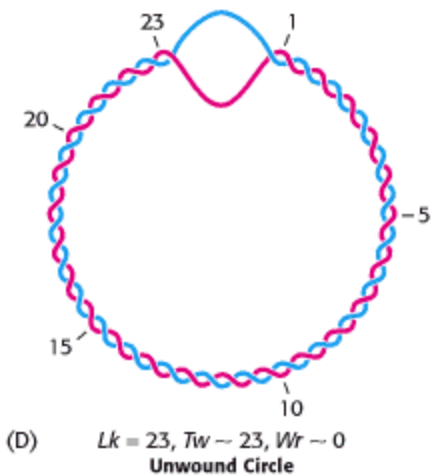
**FIGURE 24-17 Negative and positive supercoils.** For the relaxed DNA molecule of Figure 24-16a, underwinding or overwinding by two helical turns ( $Lk = 198$  or  $202$ ) will produce negative or positive supercoiling, respectively. Note that the DNA axis twists in opposite directions in the two cases.



Twist-no. of helical turn= $LK$  ( relaxed)  
 writhe= $W$  is the number of times the double helix crosses over on itself



$$L = T + W$$



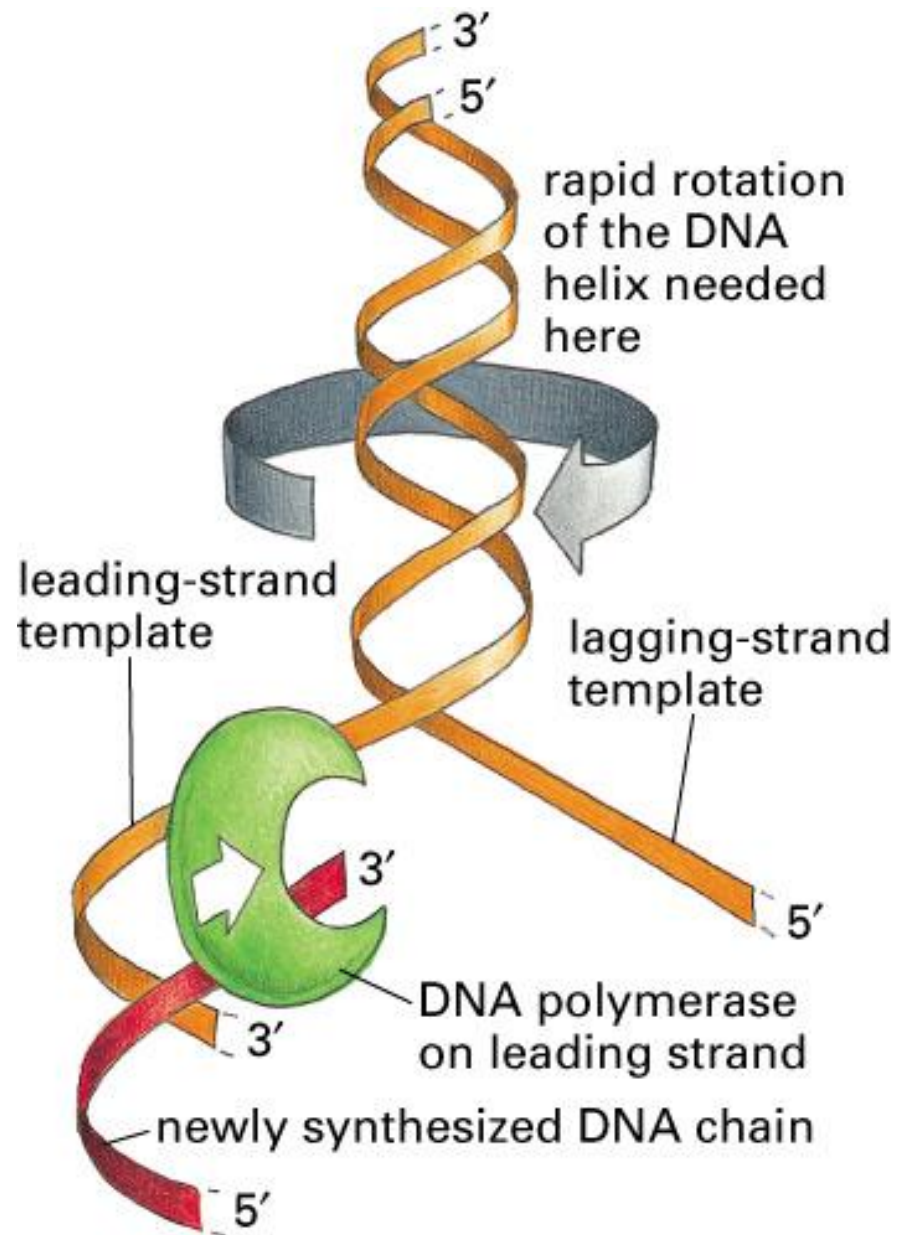
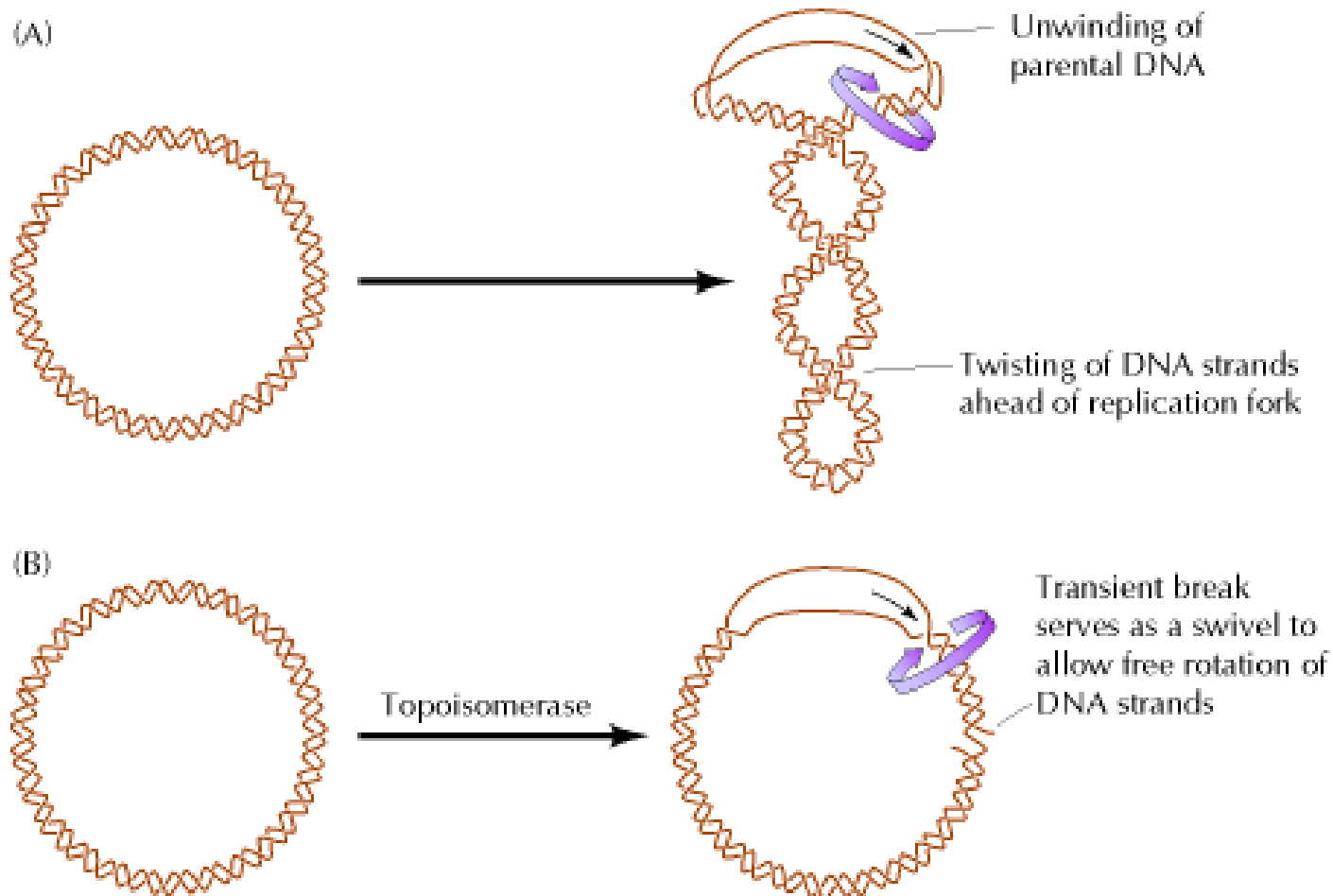
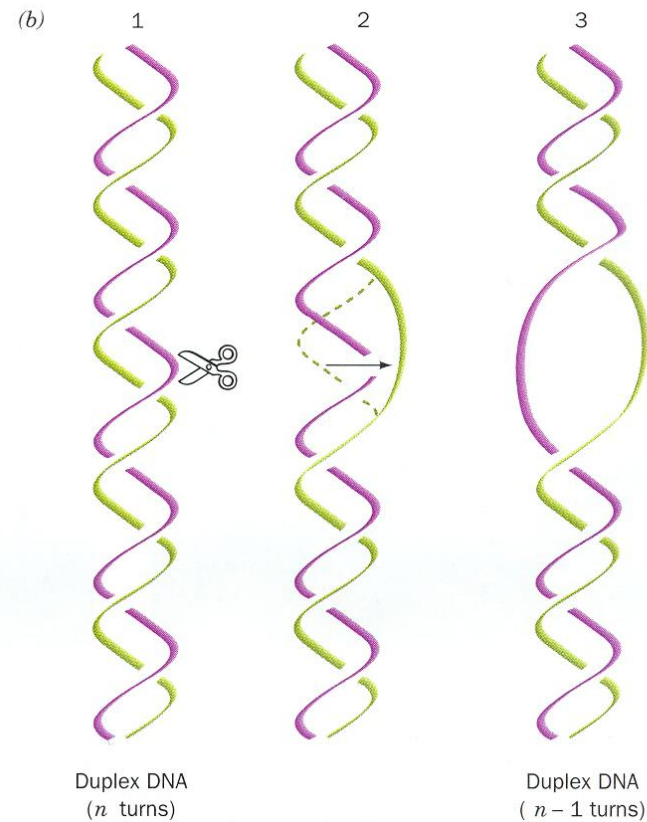


Figure 5–24. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.



**Action of topoisomerases during DNA replication** (A) As the two strands of template DNA unwind, the DNA ahead of the replication fork is forced to rotate in the opposite direction, causing circular molecules to become twisted around themselves. (B) This problem is solved by topoisomerases, which catalyze the reversible breakage and joining of DNA strands. The transient breaks introduced by these enzymes serve as swivels that allow the two strands of DNA to rotate freely around each other.

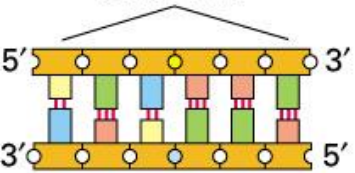
# What can Topoisomerase I do to the DNA?



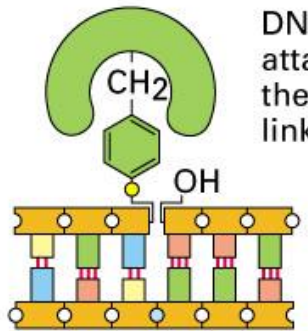
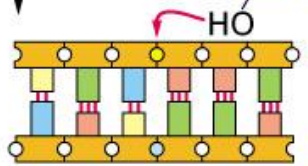


# DNA topoisomerase I

one end of the DNA double helix cannot rotate relative to the other end

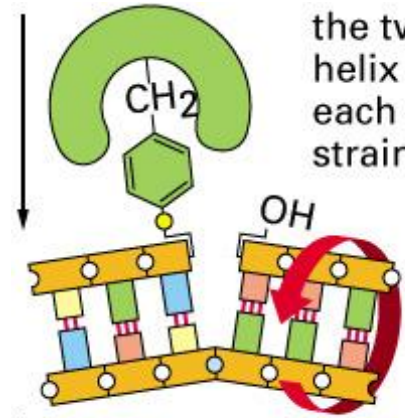


type I DNA topoisomerase with tyrosine at the active site

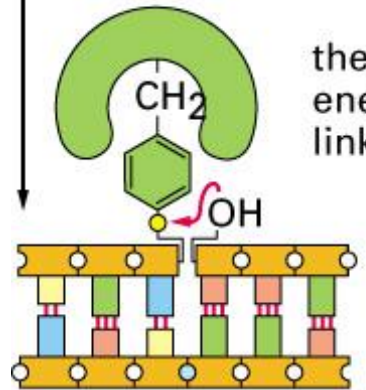


DNA topoisomerase covalently attaches to a DNA phosphate, thereby breaking a phosphodiester linkage in one DNA strand

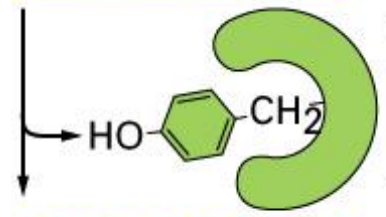
the two ends of the DNA double helix can now rotate relative to each other, relieving accumulated strain



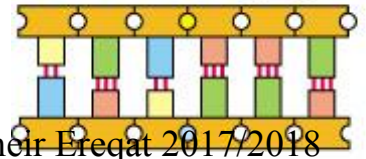
the two ends of the DNA double helix can now rotate relative to each other, relieving accumulated strain



the original phosphodiester bond energy is stored in the phosphotyrosine linkage, making the reaction reversible



spontaneous re-formation of the phosphodiester bond regenerates both the DNA helix and the DNA topoisomerase



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# DNA topoisomerase II

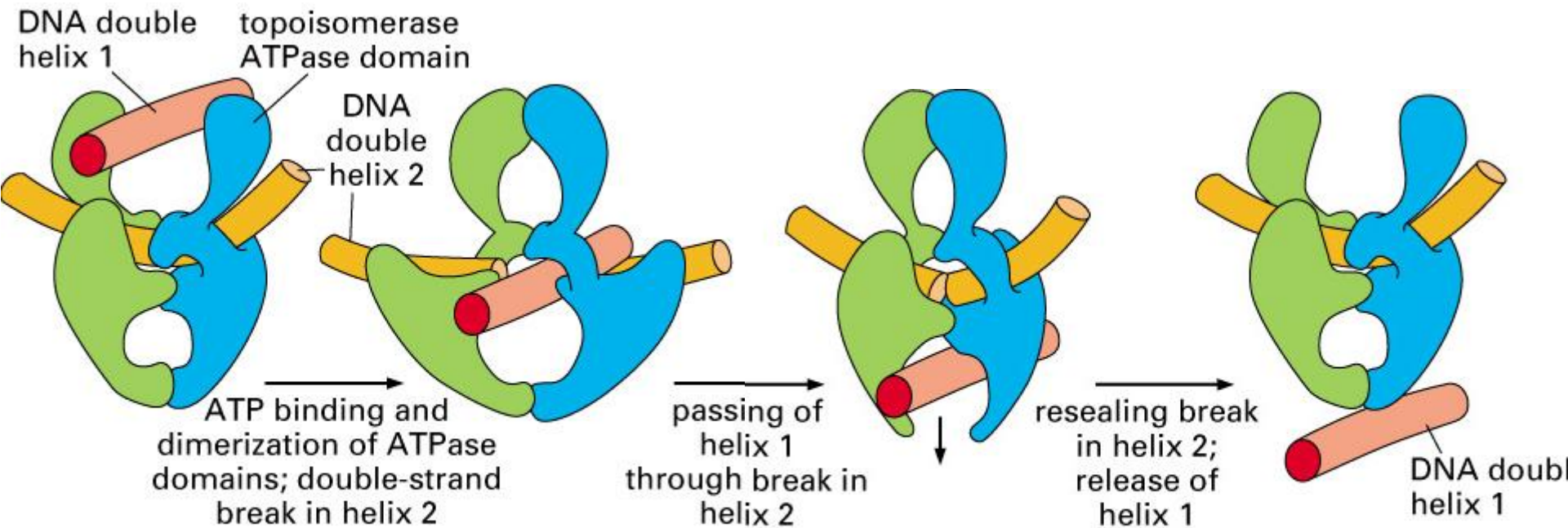


Figure 5-26 part 1 of 2. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th-26 part 2 of 2. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

# DNA topoisomerase II

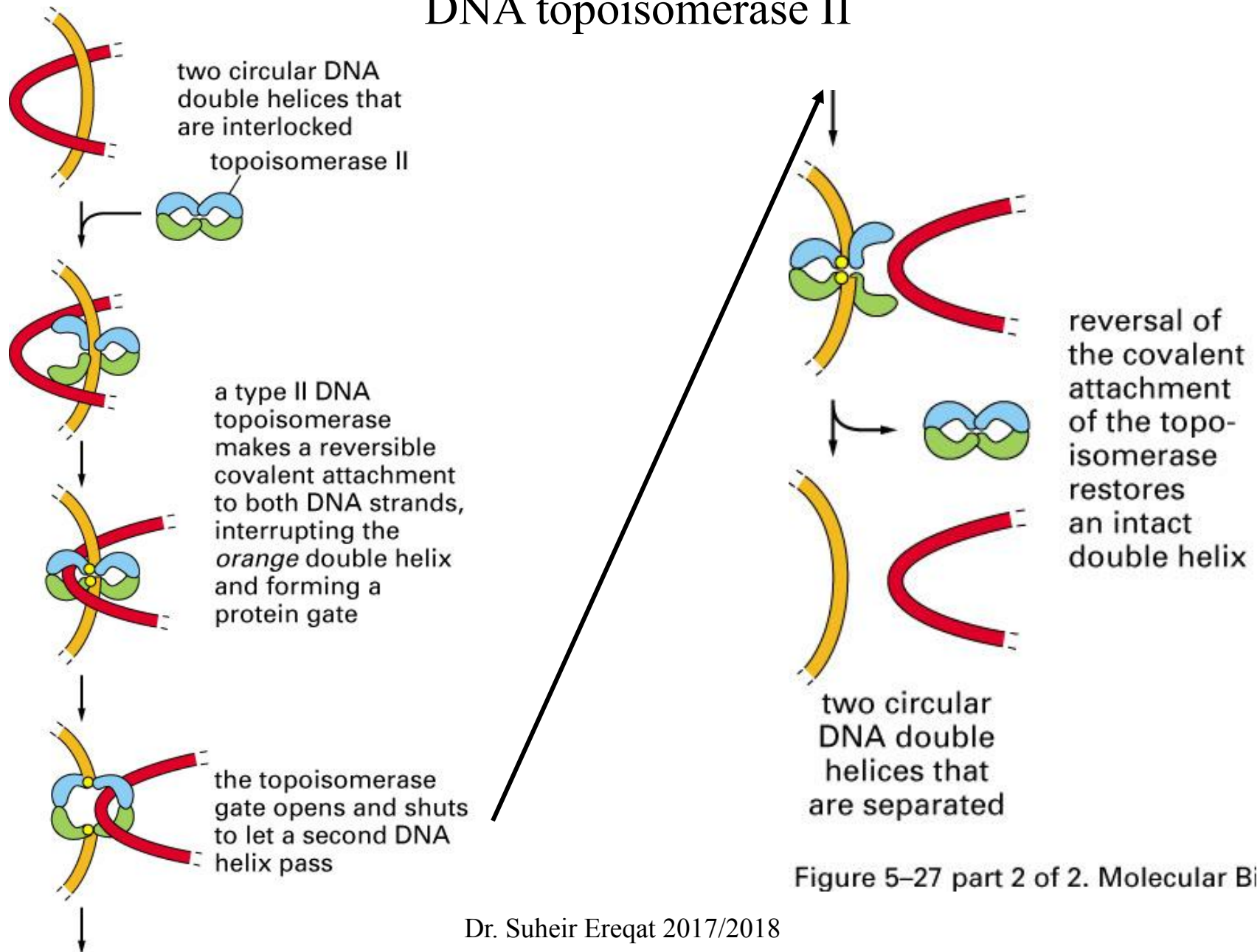
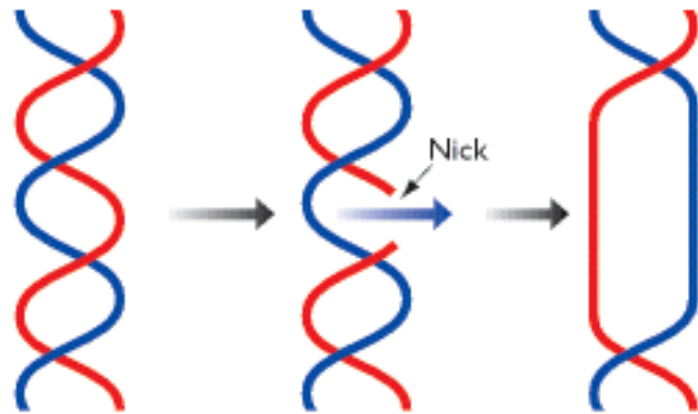


Figure 5-27 part 2 of 2. Molecular Bi

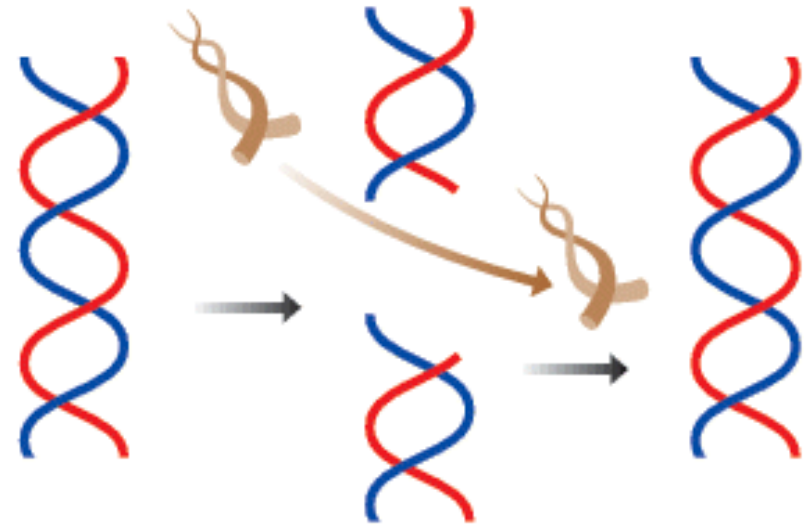
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# Summary

(A) Type I



(B) Type II



The mode of action of Type I and Type II DNA topoisomerases. (A) A Type I topoisomerase makes a nick in one strand of a DNA molecule, passes the intact strand through the nick, and reseals the gap. (B) A Type II topoisomerase makes a double-stranded break in the double helix, creating a gate through which a second segment of the helix is passed.

# **DNA Repair**

# Sources of damage

**endogenous damage:** such as attack by ROS and replication errors

**exogenous damage** caused by external agents:  
UV light, x-rays and gamma rays

plant toxins

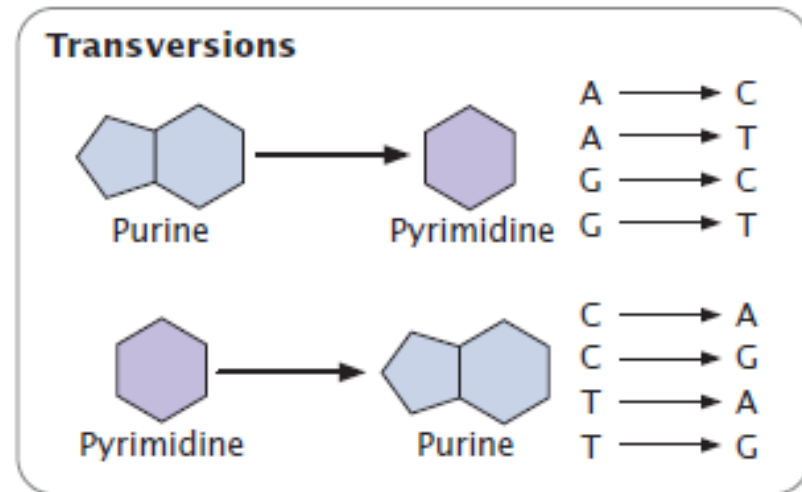
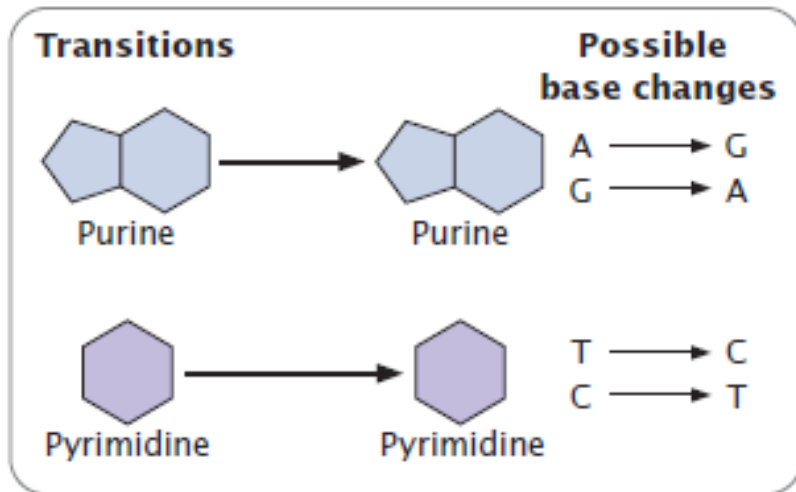
human-made mutagenic chemicals,

DNA intercalating agents

viruses



# Base substitution: Transitions Vs transversions



**18.3** A transition is the substitution of a purine for a purine or of a pyrimidine for a pyrimidine; a transversion is the substitution of a pyrimidine for a purine or of a purine for a pyrimidine.

# Mutation:

A permanent change in the nucleotide sequence.

Categorized by the A) **nature of bases**

- Substitution mutation: transition, transversion
- Insertion or deletion mutation:  
B) **effect on coding sequence**
- Silent mutation do not alter the amino acid encoded
- Missense mutation: change amino acid encoded
- Nonsense mutation: stop codon

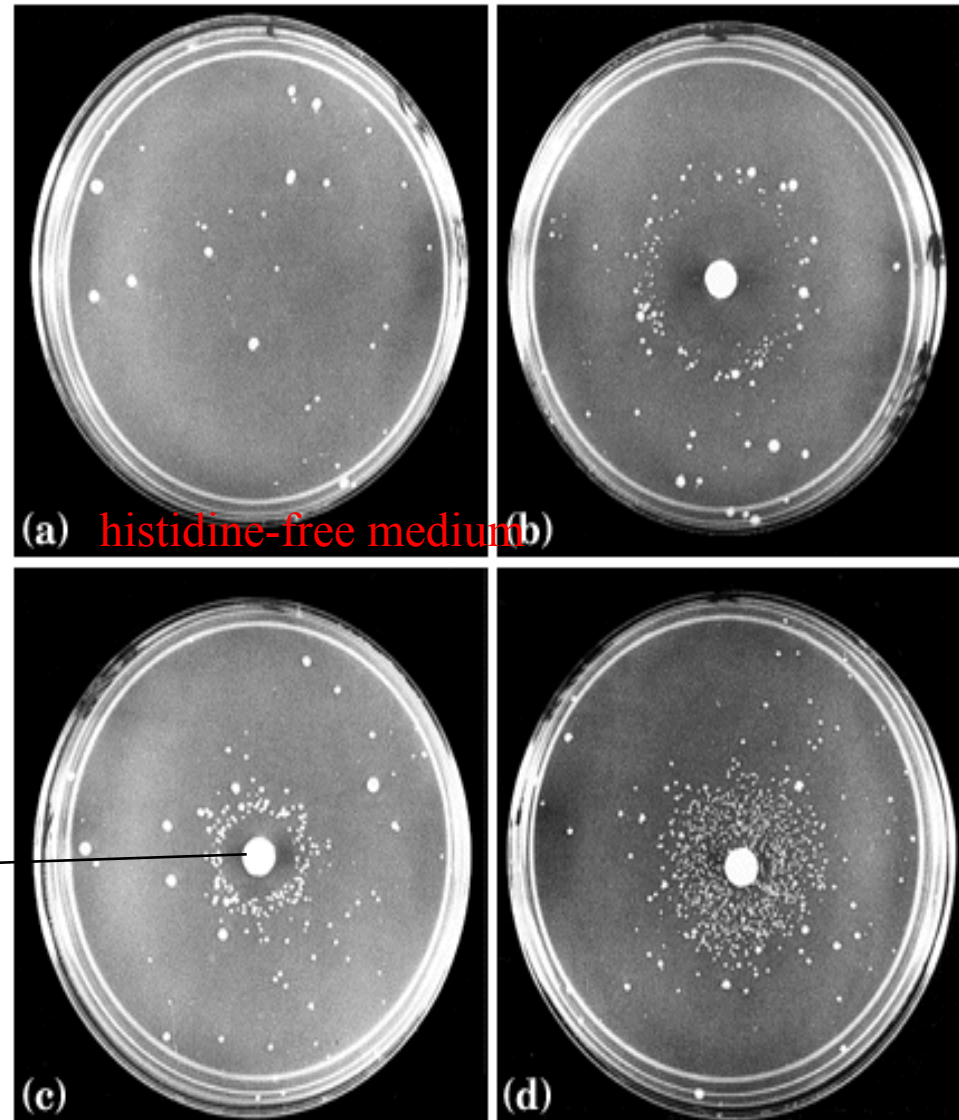


# Mutations and Cancer

## Ames Test for Carcinogens:

Measure the potential of a chemical to induce mutations in bacteria (may act as a carcinogen)

*Salmonella typhimurium* having a mutation  
Can't synthesize histidine

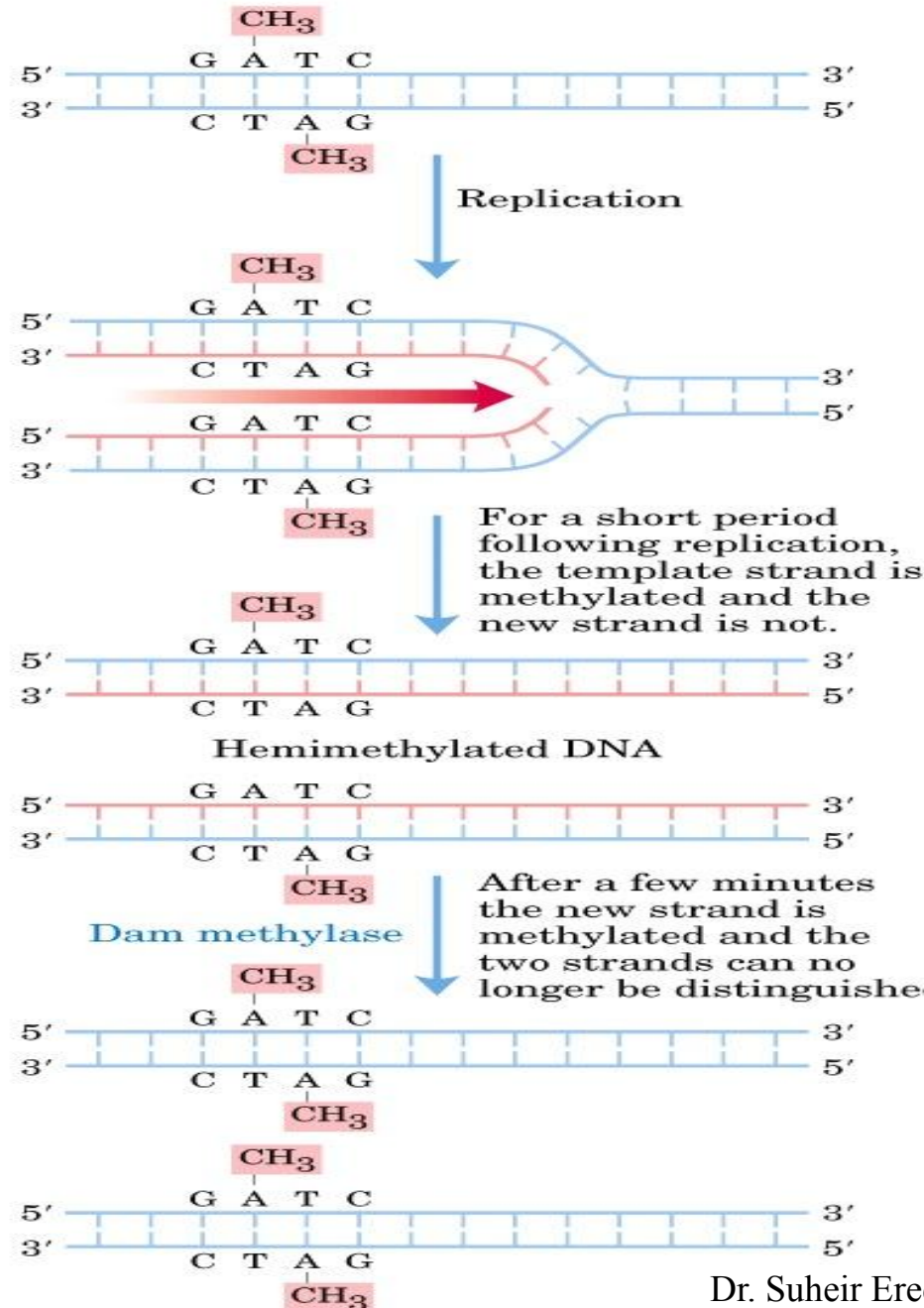


**Filter disc: mutagen  
increases the rate of  
back-mutation and hence the  
number of colonies**



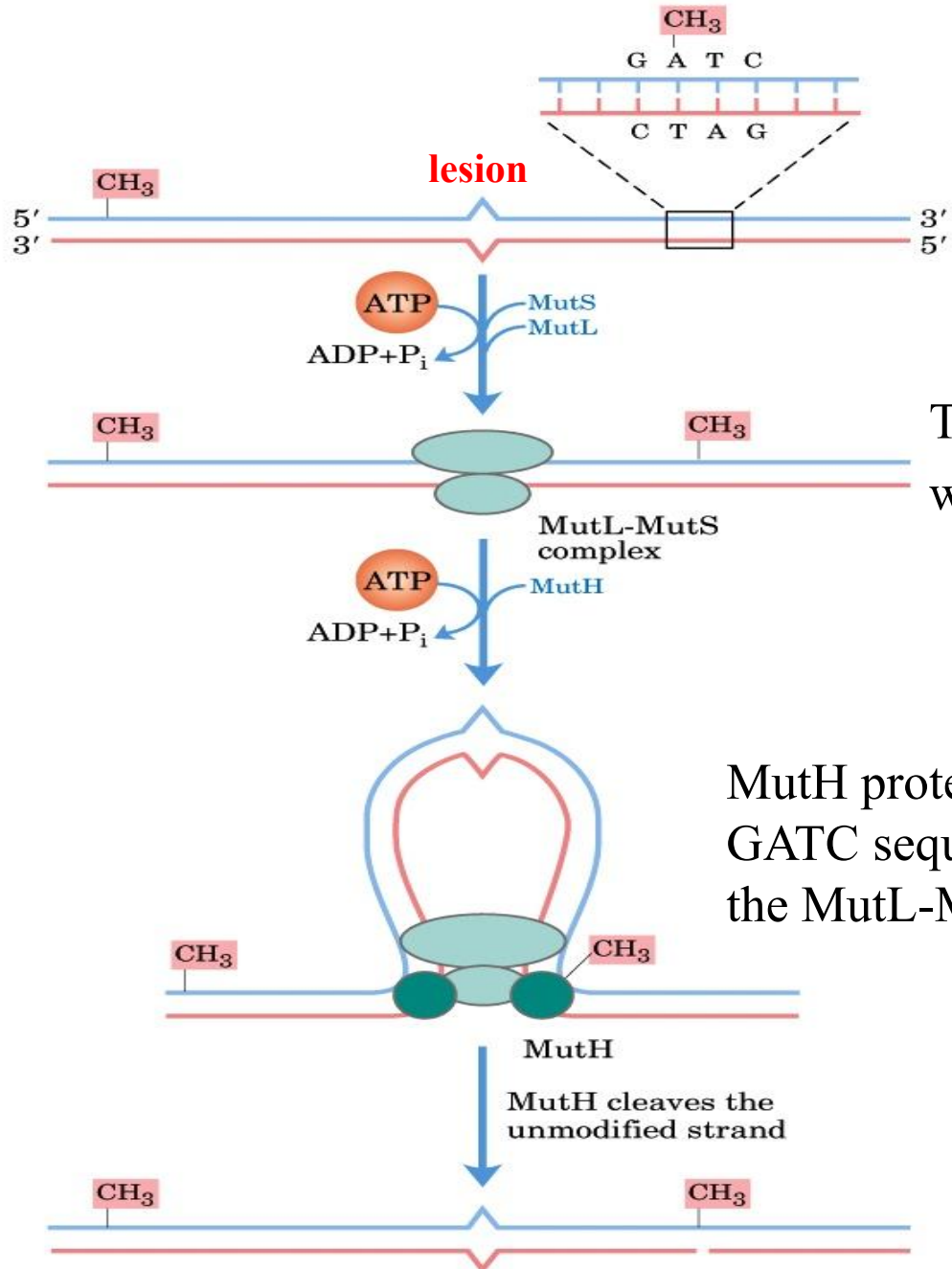
# **Single-strand damage**

# 1) Methyl- directed Mismatch Repair:



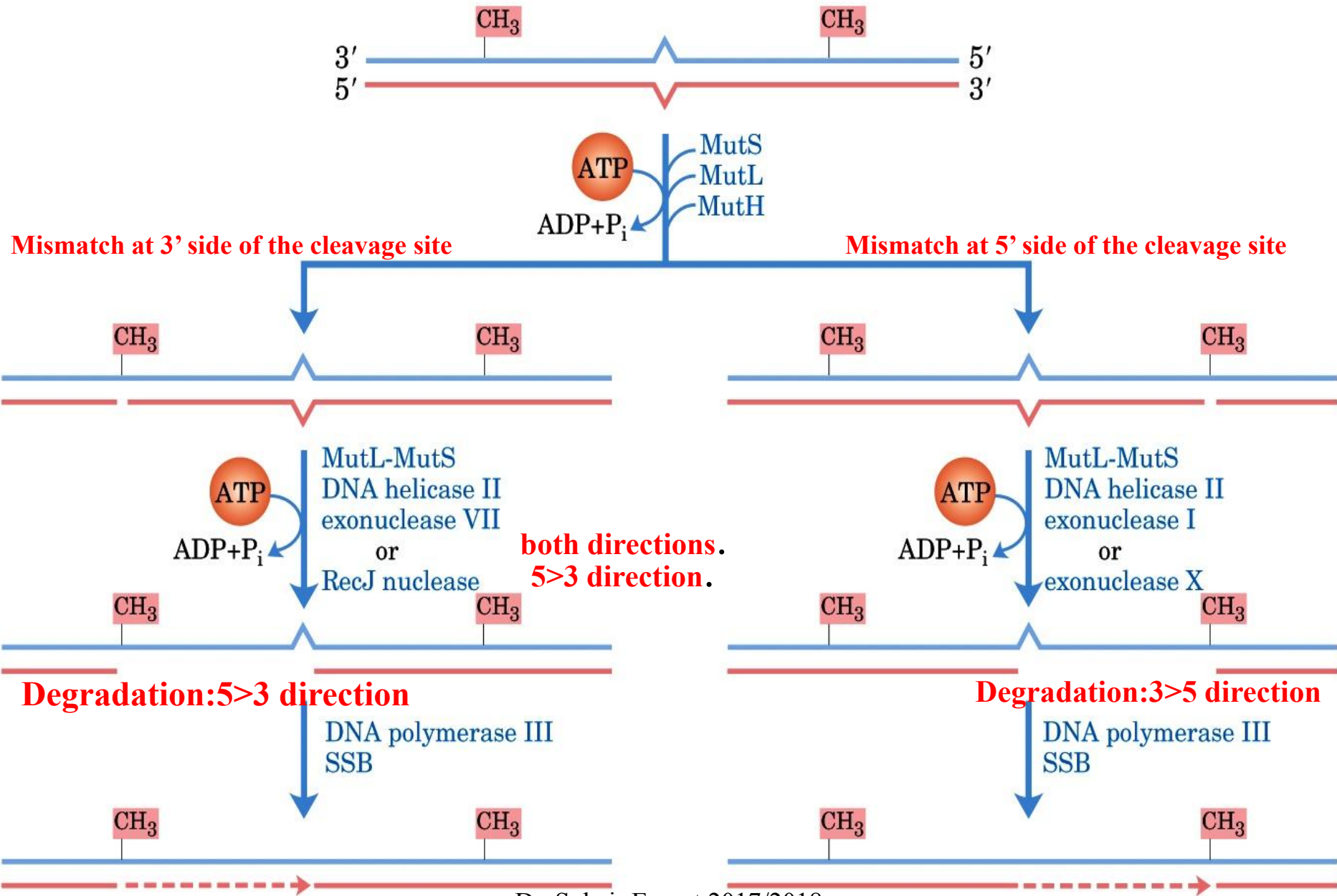
tagging by Dam methylase  
at(5)GATC  
Palindromic sequence

# Methyl- directed mismatch repair:



The MutL protein forms a complex with MutS at the mismatch.

MutH protein binds to MutL and to GATC sequences encountered by the MutL-MutS complex = DNA loop

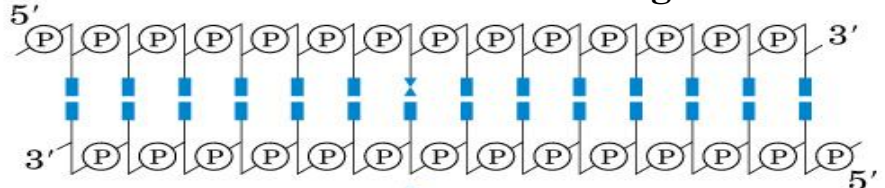


## Eukaryotes:

- Similar to MutS and MutL.
- MutS homologous for eukaryotes from yeast to humans.  
MSH2 (MutS homolog 2) MSH3, MSH6.
- Mutated in CANCER= $\uparrow$  mutation rate

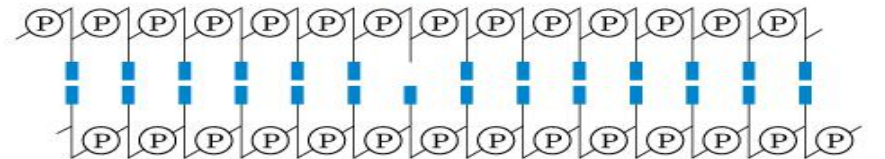


## 2) Base- Excision Repair: recognize and repair damage caused by environmental agents



**cleaving the N-glycosyl bond** DNA glycosylase ↓ X damaged base

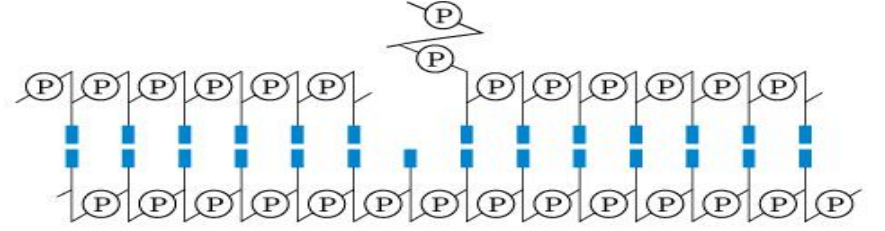
(a)



**abasic site (AP site)**

(b)

AP endonuclease ↓ Example: deamination of cytosine=Uracil removed by Uracil DNA glycosylases, human=4 UNG,

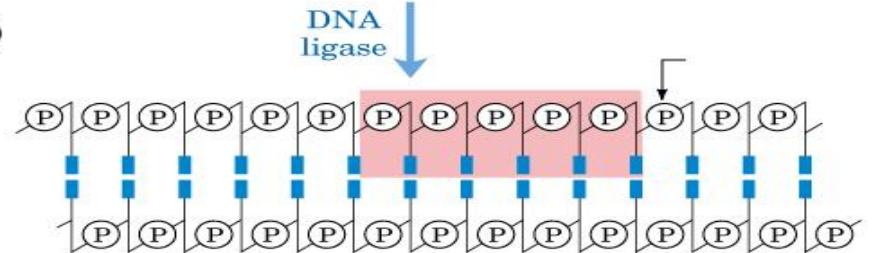


(c)

DNA polymerase I NTPs deoxyribose phosphate + dNMPs New DNA Nick

**initiates repair synthesis from the free 3 OH at the nick, removing (with its 5'3' exonuclease activity) and replacing a portion of the damaged strand.**

(d)

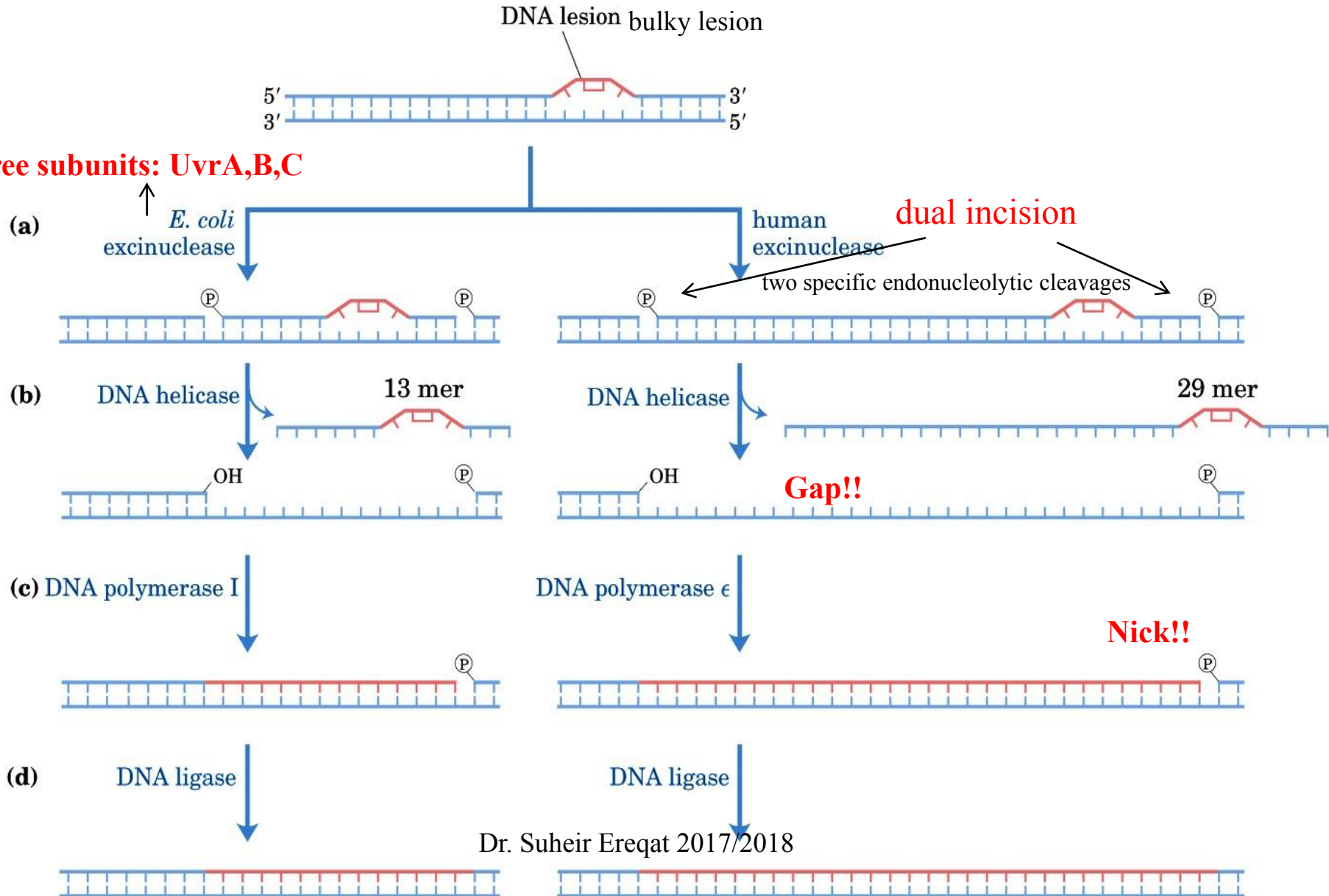




# 3) Nucleotide Excision Repair:

recognize and remove bulky lesions and pyrimidine dimers.

Three subunits: UvrA,B,C



*This pathway the primary route for many lesion types :*

- pyrimidine dimers (T dimer).
- base adducts: benzo pyrene-guanine (formed in DNA by **cigarette smoke**).

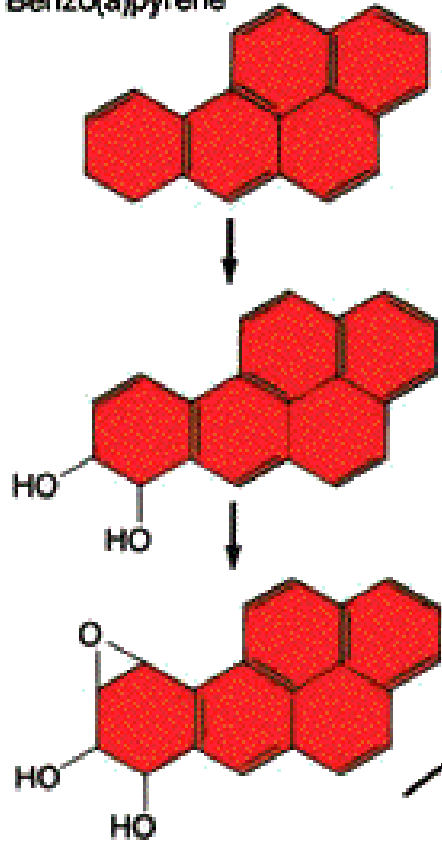
### **Xeroderma pigmentosum (XP):**

rare inherited disease ( pigmented lesions on skin + skin cancer+ also have neurological abnormalities) due to mutations(XPA-XPG) in **Nucleotide Excision Repair** system (the sole repair pathway for pyrimidine dimers in humans).

**HNPCC** (hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer)  
= defect miss match repair

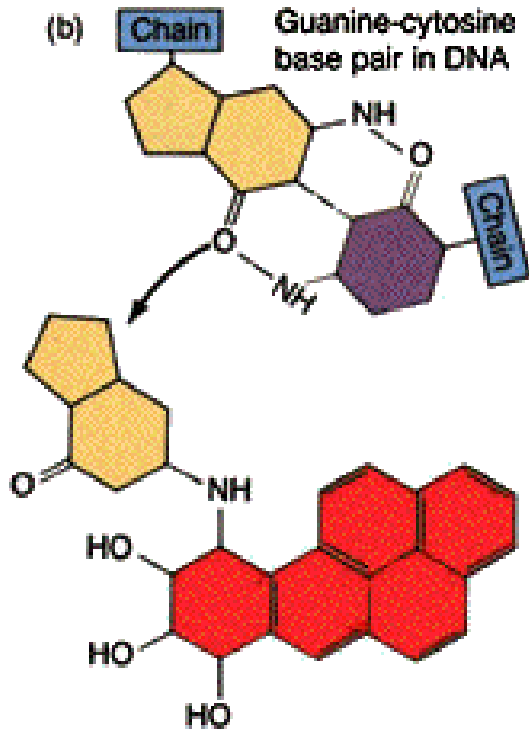
(a)

Benzo(a)pyrene



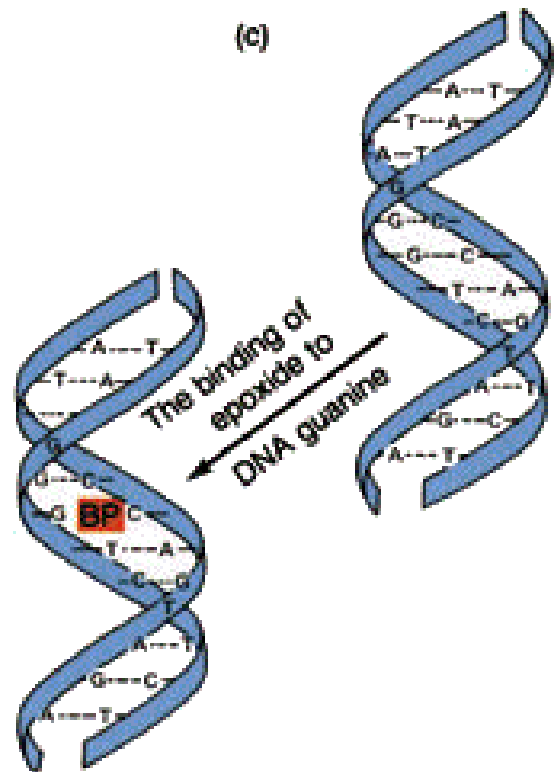
(b)

Guanine-cytosine base pair in DNA



diol epoxide

(c)

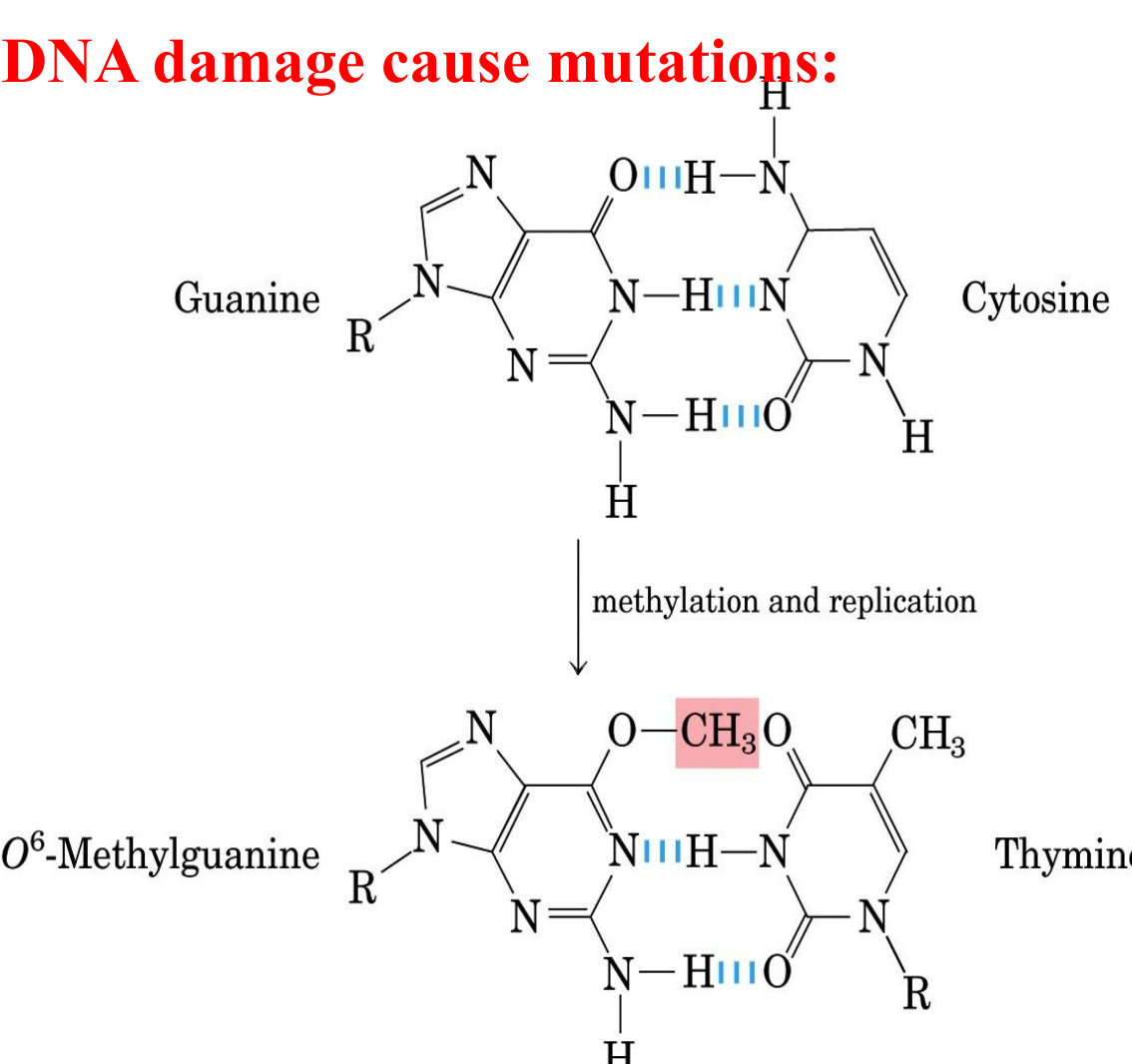


## **HNPCC:**

It can present with rectal bleeding, stomach pain and cancer-related symptoms like unexplained weight loss and fatigue.

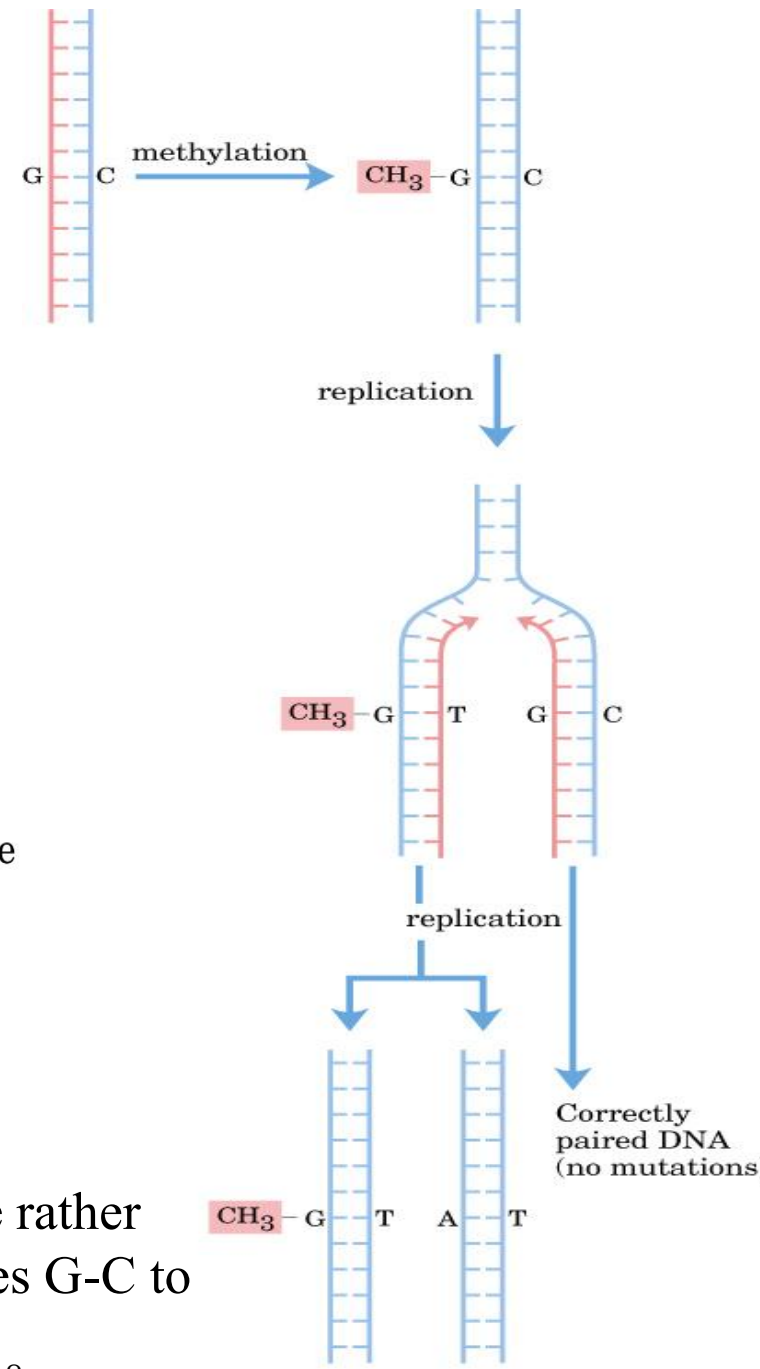
The most prevalent are defects in the *hMLH1* (human MutL homolog 1) and *hMSH2* (*human MutS* homolog 2)

# DNA damage cause mutations:



(a)

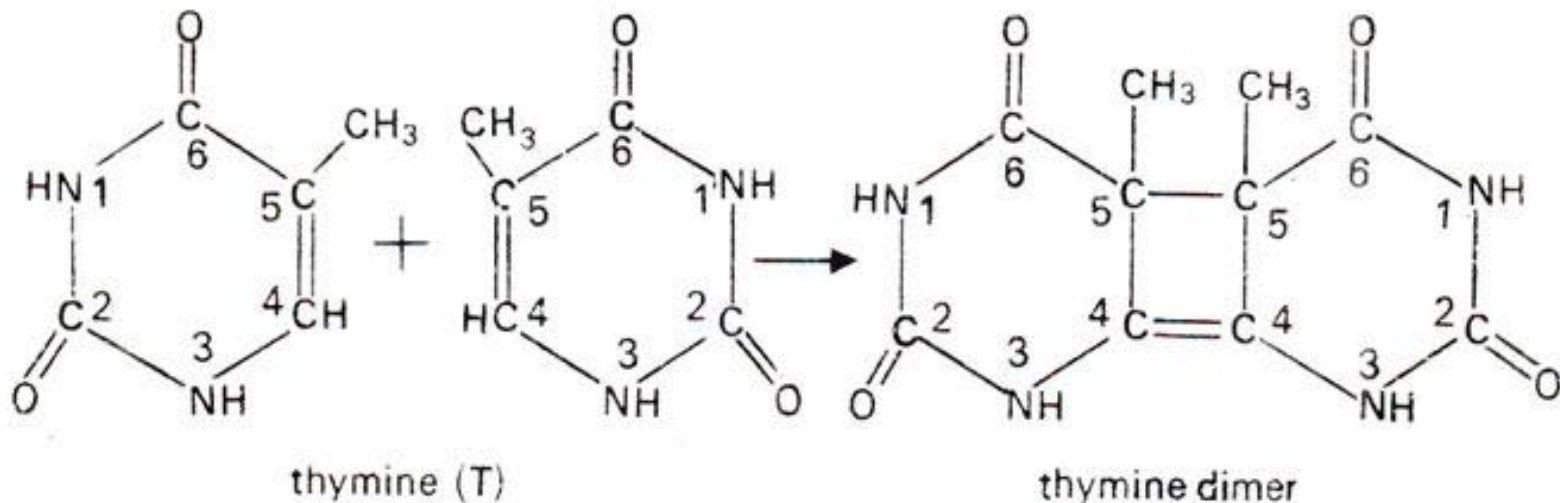
O<sup>6</sup>-methylguanine forms tends to pair with thymine rather than cytosine during replication, and therefore causes G-C to A-T mutations



(b)

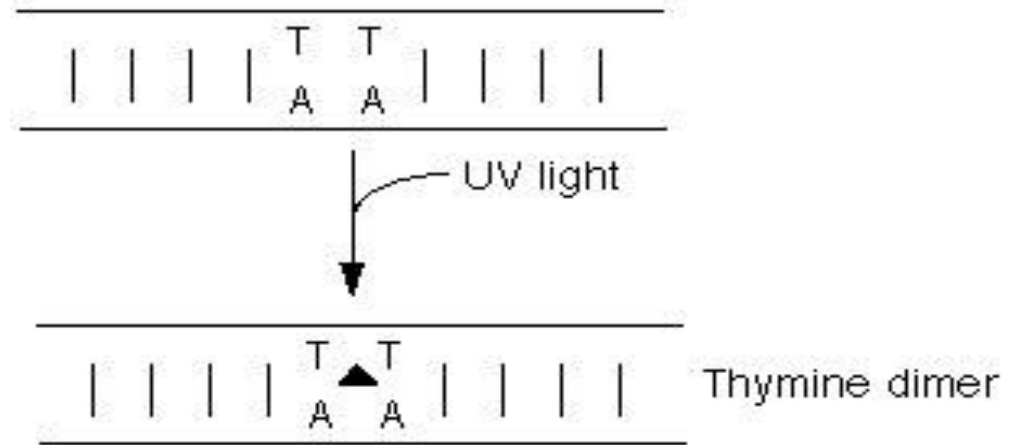
4) **Direct Repair:** Repair with no excision / removal of a base or a nucleotide.

**A) Photoreactivation:** Pyrimidine dimers result from a UV-induced reaction, and **photolyases** use energy derived from absorbed light to reverse the damage

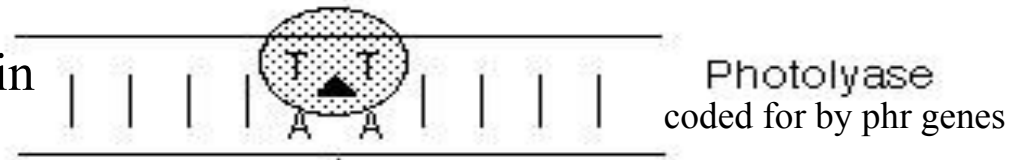


# Photoreactivation Repair

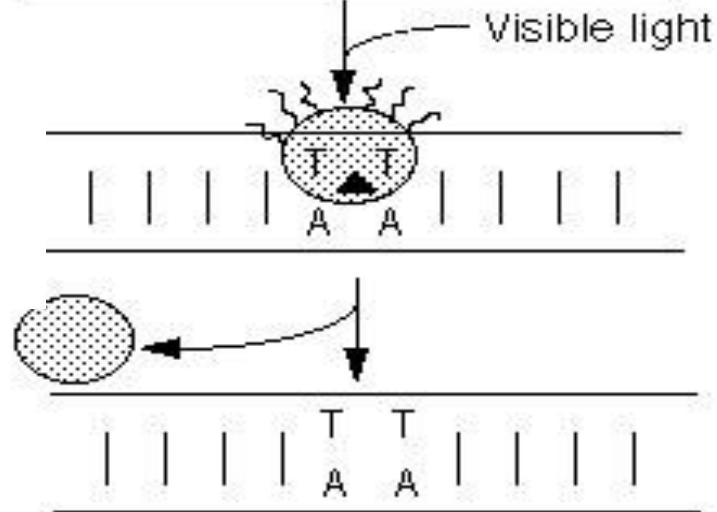
UV light strikes one of the adjacent thymines, creating a **thymine dimer**.



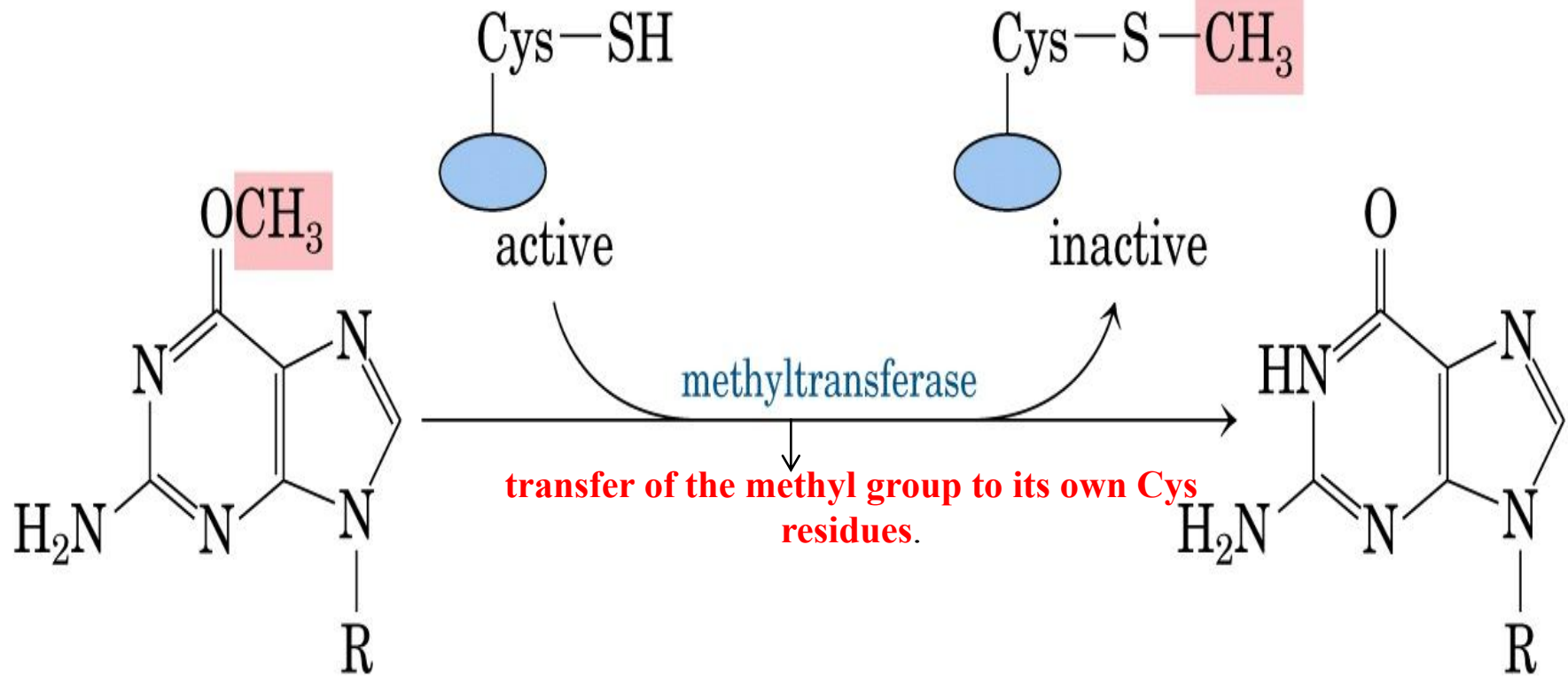
**DNA photolyases** recognize the “kink” in the DNA, and bind to the site



When excited by blue light (350-500 nm wavelength), the photolyases change conformation, breaking apart the dimer.



## B)-repair of nucleotides with alkylation damage

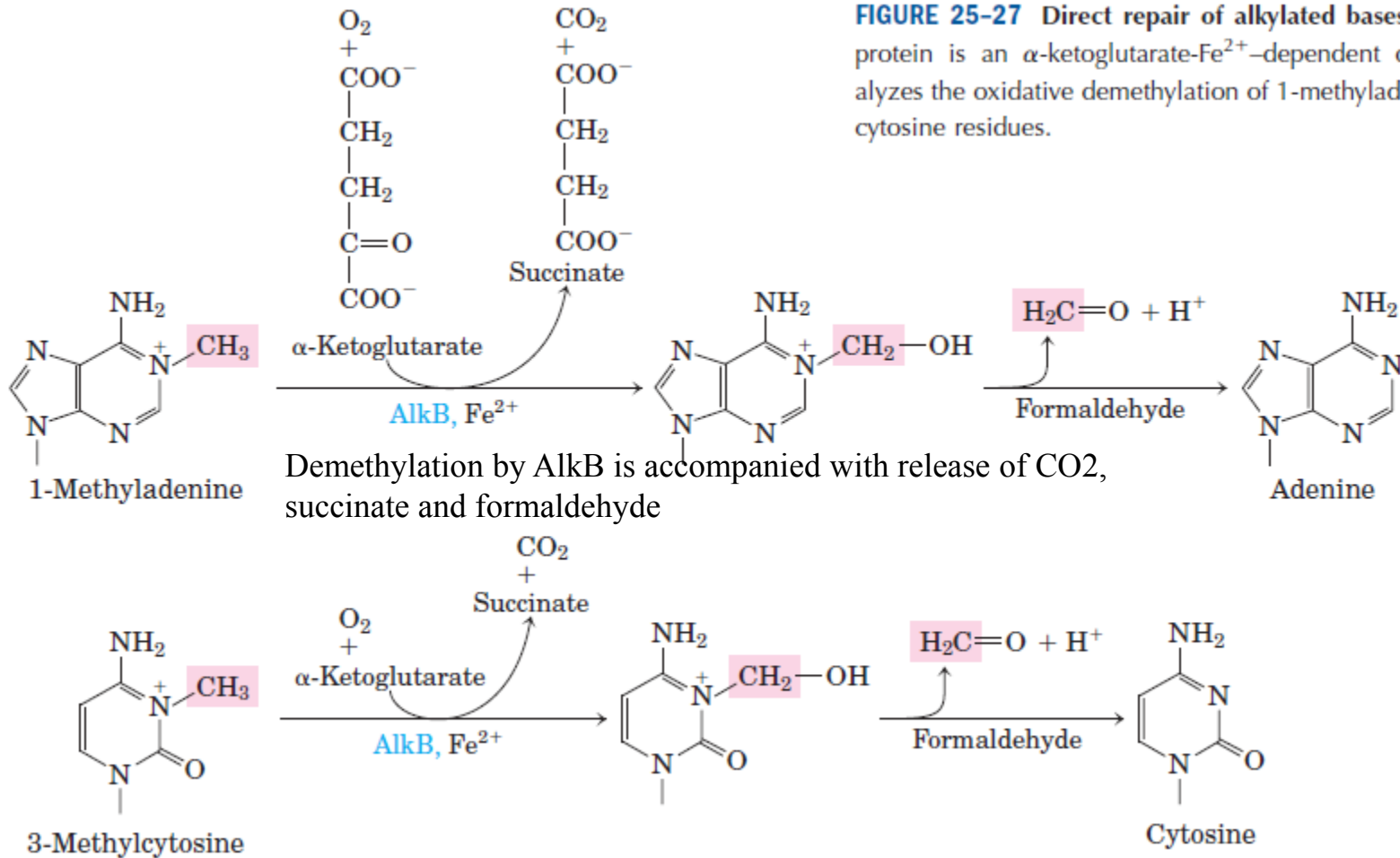


*O*<sup>6</sup>-Methylguanine nucleotide

Guanine nucleotide



# c- Direct Repair: oxidative demethylation of alkylated nucleotides by the AlkB protein,



**FIGURE 25-27** Direct repair of alkylated bases by AlkB. The AlkB protein is an  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate- $Fe^{2+}$ -dependent dioxygenase. It catalyzes the oxidative demethylation of 1-methyladenine and 3-methylcytosine residues.

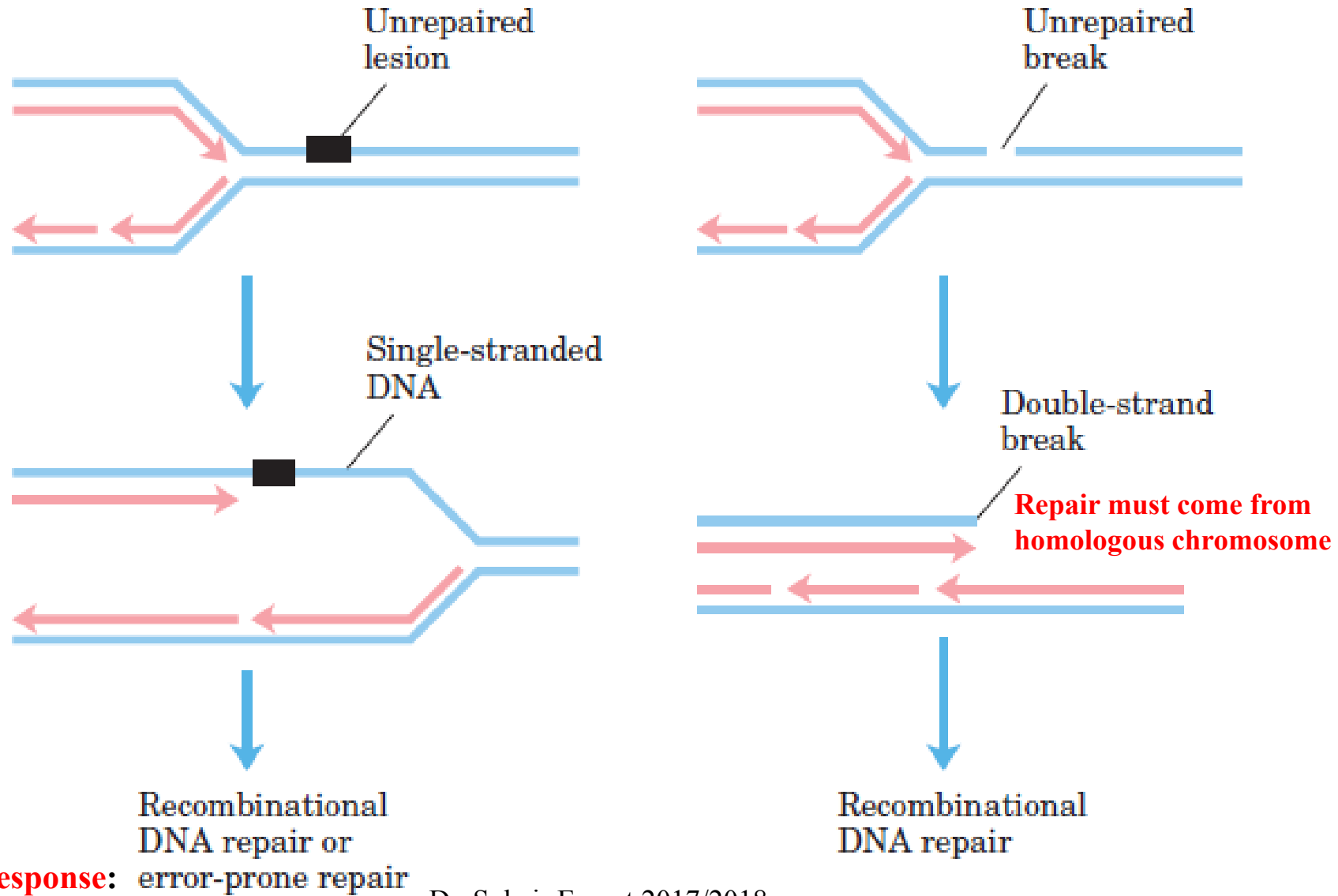
Demethylation by AlkB is accompanied with release of  $CO_2$ , succinate and formaldehyde

**The AlkB enzyme couples oxidative decarboxylation of  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate to the hydroxylation of the methylated bases in DNA, resulting in direct reversion to the unmodified base and the release of formaldehyde.**

There are nine human homologs of AlkB.

- ALKBH1, ALKBH2, ALKBH3, ALKBH4, ALKBH5, ALKBH6, ALKBH7, ALKBH8, FTO

# The Interaction of Replication Forks with DNA Damage



The SOS response to replication damage

cell cycle is arrested

Replication stall and DNA damage

RecA activation

Derepression

activator

repressor

LexA

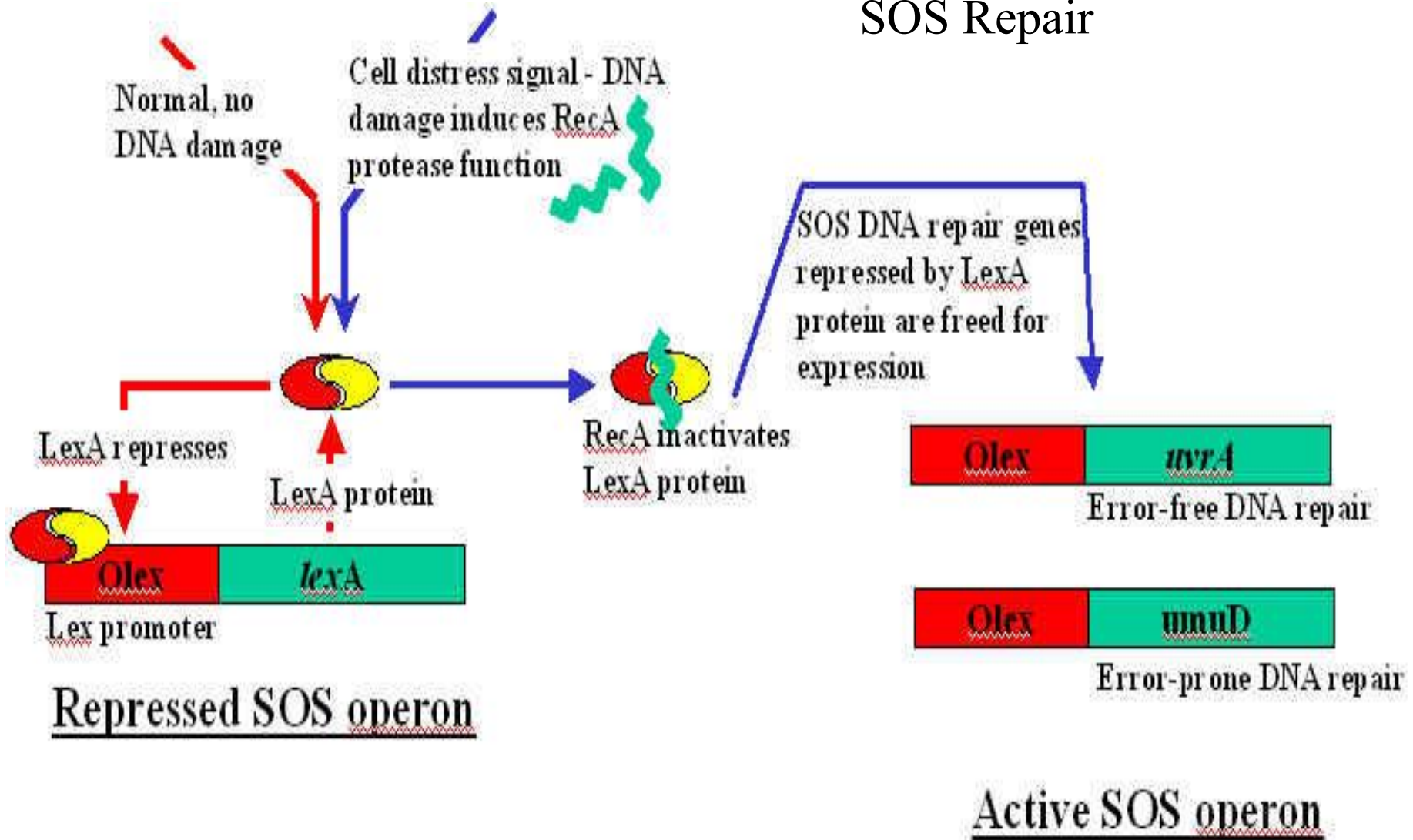
activator

LexA auto-cleavage

The SOS genes

DNA damage repair

# SOS Repair



1-**Recombinational DNA repair.**

2-**Error prone translesion DNA synthesis (TLS).**

**UmuD'** complex with **UmuC** → **DNA pol V** replicate many lesions that normally would block replication. **Pol IV**, induced under SOS response which is also highly error-prone..

- Proper base pairing is nearly impossible → **inaccurate repair + high mutation rate.**
- SOS activated UmuD' +UmuC only when all replication forks blocked { result of extensive DNA damage}.
- The bacterial DNA polymerases IV and V are part of a family of TLS polymerases found in all organisms. These enzymes **lack** a proofreading exonuclease activity thus have low fidelity.
- Other polymerases in eukaryotes: DNA polymerase **eta, iota.**

- Rec A
- Lex A

## table 25–6

### Genes Induced as Part of the SOS Response in *E. coli*

Gene name	Protein encoded and/or role in DNA repair
<b>Genes of known function</b>	
<i>polB (dinA)</i>	Encodes polymerization subunit of DNA polymerase II, required for replication restart in recombinational DNA repair
<i>uvrA</i> } <i>uvrB</i> }	Encode ABC excinuclease subunits UvrA and UvrB
<i>umuC</i> } <i>umuD</i> }	Encode DNA polymerase V
<i>sulA</i>	Encodes protein that inhibits cell division, possibly to allow time for DNA repair
<i>recA</i>	Encodes RecA protein required for error-prone repair and recombinational repair
<i>dinB</i>	Encodes DNA polymerase IV
<b>Genes involved in DNA metabolism, but role in DNA repair unknown</b>	
<i>ssb</i>	Encodes single-stranded DNA-binding protein (SSB)
<i>uvrD</i>	Encodes DNA helicase II (DNA-unwinding protein)
<i>himA</i>	Encodes subunit of integration host factor, involved in site-specific recombination, replication, transposition, regulation of gene expression
<i>recN</i>	Required for recombinational repair
<b>Genes of unknown function</b>	
<i>dinD</i>	
<i>dinF</i>	

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**Note:** Some of these genes and their functions are further discussed in Chapter 28.