

1 PICH translocase activity is required for proper distribution of SUMOylated proteins on mitotic  
2 chromosomes

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4 Victoria Hassebroek<sup>1</sup>, Hyewon Park<sup>1</sup>, Nootan Pandey<sup>1</sup>, Brooklyn T. Lerbakken<sup>1</sup>, Vasilisa Aksenova<sup>2</sup>,  
5 Alexei Arnaoutov<sup>2</sup>, Mary Dasso<sup>2</sup> and Yoshiaki Azuma<sup>1\*</sup>  
6

7 **Affiliation:** <sup>1</sup>Department of Molecular Biosciences, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, U.S.A,  
8 66045, <sup>2</sup> Division of Molecular and Cellular Biology, National Institute for Child Health and Human  
9 Development, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA.

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11 **\*To whom correspondence should be addressed:** Yoshiaki Azuma: Department of Molecular  
12 Biosciences, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, U.S.A, 66045  
13 [azumay@ku.edu](mailto:azumay@ku.edu); Tel. (785)-864-7540; Fax. (785)-864-5294  
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15 **Running title:** PICH targets SUMOylated chromosomal proteins  
16

17 **Summary Statement**

18 Polo-like kinase interacting checkpoint helicase (PICH) interacts with SUMOylated proteins to mediate  
19 proper chromosome segregation during mitosis. The results demonstrate that PICH promotes redistribution  
20 of SUMOylated chromosomal proteins, including Topoisomerase II $\alpha$ , and that function requires PICH  
21 translocase activity.  
22

23 **Abbreviations**

24 TopoII $\alpha$	Topoisomerase II $\alpha$
25 PICH	Polo-like kinase interacting checkpoint helicase
26 SPR	Strand passage reaction
27 SUMO	Small ubiquitin-like modifier
28 XEE	Xenopus egg extract
29 CSF	Cytostatic factor
30 dnUbc9	dominant negative E2 SUMO-conjugating enzyme
31 SENP	Sentrin-specific protease
32 PIAS	Protein inhibitor of activated STAT
33 SIM	SUMO-interacting-motif 34

35 **Keywords:** Chromosome/Mitosis/PICH/SUMO/TopoisomeraseII $\alpha$   
36

37 **Abstract**

38 Polo-like kinase interacting checkpoint helicase (PICH) is a SNF2 family DNA translocase and is a Small  
39 Ubiquitin-like modifier (SUMO) binding protein. Despite that both translocase activity and SUMO-binding  
40 ability are required for proper chromosome segregation, how these two activities function to mediate  
41 chromosome segregation remains unknown. Here, we show that PICH specifically promotes redistribution  
42 of SUMOylated proteins like SUMOylated TopoisomeraseII $\alpha$  (TopoII $\alpha$ ) on mitotic chromosomes.  
43 Conditional depletion of PICH using the Auxin Inducible Degron (AID) system resulted in the retention of  
44 SUMOylated chromosomal proteins, including TopoII $\alpha$ , indicating that PICH functions to redistribute these  
45 proteins. Replacement of endogenous PICH with exogenous PICH mutants showed that PICH translocase  
46 activity is required for SUMOylated protein redistribution. *In vitro* assays showed that PICH specifically  
47 regulates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  activity using its SUMO-binding ability. Taken together, we propose a  
48 novel function of PICH in remodeling SUMOylated chromosomal proteins to ensure faithful chromosome  
49 segregation.

50  
51 **Introduction**

52 Accurate chromosome segregation is a complex and highly regulated process during mitosis. Sister  
53 chromatid cohesion is necessary for proper chromosome alignment, and is mediated by both Cohesin and  
54 catenated DNA at centromeric regions (Bauer et al., 2012, Losada et al., 1998, Michaelis et al., 1997).  
55 Compared to the well-described regulation of Cohesin (Morales and Losada, 2018), the regulation of  
56 catenated DNA cleavage by DNA TopoisomeraseII $\alpha$  (TopoII $\alpha$ ) is not fully understood despite its critical  
57 role in chromosome segregation. ATP-dependent DNA decatenation by TopoII $\alpha$  takes place during the  
58 metaphase-to-anaphase transition and this allows for proper chromosome segregation (Shamu and Murray,  
59 1992, Wang et al., 2010). Failure in resolution of catenanes by TopoII $\alpha$  leads to the formation of  
60 chromosome bridges, and ultra-fine DNA bridges (UFBs) to which PICH localizes (Spence et al., 2007).  
61 PICH is a SNF2 family DNA translocase (Baumann et al., 2007, Biebricher et al., 2013), and its binding to  
62 UFBs recruits other proteins to UFBs (Chan et al., 2007, Hengeveld et al., 2015). In addition to the role in  
63 UFB binding during anaphase, PICH has been shown to play a key role in chromosome segregation at the  
64 metaphase to anaphase transition (Baumann et al., 2007, Nielsen et al., 2015, Sridharan and Azuma, 2016).

65 Previously, we demonstrated that PICH binds SUMOylated proteins using its three SUMO  
66 interacting motifs (SIMs) (Sridharan et al., 2015). PICH utilizes ATPase activity to translocate DNA similar  
67 to known nucleosome remodeling enzymes (Whitehouse et al., 2003), thus it is a putative remodeling  
68 enzyme for chromosomal proteins. But, the nucleosome remodeling activity of PICH was shown to be  
69 limited as compared to established nucleosome remodeling factors (Ke et al., 2011). Therefore, the target  
70 of PICH remodeling activity has not yet been determined. Importantly, both loss of function PICH mutants  
71 in either SUMO-binding activity or translocase activity showed chromosome bridge formation (Sridharan  
72 and Azuma, 2016), suggesting that both of these activities cooperate to accomplish proper chromosome  
73 segregation albeit the molecular mechanism linking these two functions is unknown. Previous studies  
74 demonstrated that proper regulation of mitotic chromosomal SUMOylation is required for faithful  
75 chromosome segregation (Cubebñas-Potts et al., 2013; Díaz-Martínez et al., 2006; Nacerddine et al., 2005).  
76 Studies using *C. elegans* demonstrated the dynamic nature of SUMOylated proteins during mitosis and its  
77 critical role in chromosome segregation (Pelisch et al., 2014). Several SUMOylated chromosomal proteins  
78 were identified for their potential role in chromosome segregation, for example; TopoII $\alpha$ , CENP-A, CENP-  
79 E, FoxM1, and Orc2 (Bachant et al., 2002; Huang et al., 2016; Ohkuni et al., 2018; Schimmel et al., 2014;  
80 Zhang et al., 2008). Because PICH is able to specifically interact with SUMO moieties (Sridharan et al.,  
81 2015), these SUMOylated chromosomal proteins could be a target of the SIM-dependent function of PICH  
82 in mediating faithful chromosome segregation. Among the known SUMOylated chromosomal proteins,  
83 TopoII $\alpha$  has been shown to functionally interact with PICH. PICH-knockout cells have increased sensitivity  
84 to ICRF-193, a potent TopoII catalytic inhibitor, accompanied with increased incidence of chromosome  
85 bridges, binucleation, and micronuclei formation (Kurasawa and Yu-Lee, 2010, Nielsen et al., 2015, Wang  
86 et al., 2008). ICRF-193 stalls TopoII $\alpha$  at the last step of the strand passage reaction (SPR) in which two  
87 DNA strands are trapped within the TopoII $\alpha$  molecule without DNA strand breaks (Patel et al., 2000, Roca

88 et al., 1994). In addition to that specific mode of inhibition, ICRF-193 has been shown to increase  
89 SUMOylation of TopoII $\alpha$  (Agostinho et al., 2008; Pandey et al., 2020). Because PICH has SUMO binding  
90 ability, it is possible that increased SUMOylation of TopoII $\alpha$  contributes to interaction with PICH under  
91 ICRF-193 treatment. However, no study has shown a linkage between SUMOylation of TopoII $\alpha$  and PICH  
92 function.

93 To elucidate possible functional interactions of PICH with SUMOylated chromosomal proteins,  
94 we established the connection between PICH and chromosomal SUMOylation by utilizing specific TopoII  
95 inhibitors and genome edited cell lines. Our results demonstrate that increased SUMOylation by ICRF-193  
96 treatment leads to the recruitment of and enrichment of PICH on chromosomes. Depletion of SUMOylation  
97 abrogates this enrichment, suggesting PICH specifically targets SUMOylated chromosomal proteins.  
98 Depletion of PICH led to the retention of SUMOylated proteins including SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on the  
99 chromosomes in ICRF-193 treated cells. Replacing endogenous PICH with a translocase deficient PICH  
100 mutant resulted in increased SUMO2/3 foci on chromosomes where PICH was located, suggesting that  
101 PICH utilizes its translocase activity to remodel SUMOylated proteins on the chromosomes. *In vitro* assays  
102 showed that PICH specifically interacts with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  to attenuate SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$   
103 activity in a SIM dependent manner. Together, we propose a novel mechanism for PICH in promoting  
104 proper chromosome segregation during mitosis by remodeling SUMOylated proteins on mitotic  
105 chromosomes including TopoII $\alpha$ .

106

## 107 **Results**

108

### 109 **Upregulation of SUMO2/3 modification by treatment with TopoII $\alpha$ inhibitor ICRF-193 causes** 110 **increased PICH foci on mitotic chromosomes.**

111 We previously reported that PICH utilized its SIMs for proper chromosome segregation and for its  
112 mitotic chromosomal localization (Sridharan and Azuma, 2016). We wished to examine whether  
113 modulating mitotic SUMOylation affected PICH localization on mitotic chromosomes. Treatment with  
114 ICRF-193, a catalytic inhibitor of TopoII which blocks TopoII at the last stage of its SPR, after DNA  
115 decatenation but before DNA release, increases SUMO2/3 modification of TopoII $\alpha$  on mitotic  
116 chromosomes. In contrast, treatment with another catalytic TopoII inhibitor, Merbarone, which blocks  
117 TopoII before the cleavage step of the SPR, does not affect the level of SUMO2/3 modification of TopoII $\alpha$   
118 (Agostinho et al., 2008; Pandey et al., 2020). We utilized these two contrasting inhibitors to assess whether  
119 TopoII $\alpha$  inhibition and/or SUMOylation changes PICH distribution on mitotic chromosomes. DLD-1 cells  
120 were synchronized in prometaphase, and mitotic cells were collected by mitotic shake off then  
121 chromosomes were isolated. To assess the effects of the TopoII inhibitors specifically during mitosis, the  
122 inhibitors were added to cells after mitotic shake off. Consistent with previous reports (Agostinho et al.,  
123 2008; Pandey et al., 2020), Western blot analysis of isolated chromosomes showed that treatment with  
124 ICRF-193 significantly increased the overall SUMO2/3 modification of chromosomal proteins including  
125 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (marked by red asterisks in Figure 1A). Intriguingly, when PICH levels on mitotic  
126 chromosomes were measured they were found to be significantly increased upon treatment with ICRF-193.  
127 In contrast, Merbarone did not increase the level of these proteins on the chromosomes suggesting that there  
128 is a specificity of ICRF-193 which causes increased levels of PICH and SUMOylation of TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure  
129 1A).

130 To investigate the localization of PICH on mitotic chromosomes under treatment with ICRF-193,  
131 mitotic cells were subjected to immunofluorescence staining. Synchronized cells were collected by mitotic  
132 shake off, treated with inhibitors, then plated onto fibronectin coated coverslips. Cells were fixed after a  
133 20-minute incubation and subjected to immunofluorescent staining. As seen in Western blot analysis,  
134 increased intensity of SUMO2/3 foci were enriched on the chromosomes, where they overlapped with  
135 TopoII $\alpha$  foci upon ICRF-193 treatment (Figure 1B enlarged images). Although, TopoII $\alpha$  signal changed  
136 slightly under Merbarone treatment, no enrichment of SUMO2/3 foci were observed (Figure 1B). A novel  
137 observation showed that PICH foci were also found to be enriched on the chromosomes where they  
138 overlapped with SUMO2/3 foci upon ICRF-193 treatment. But, treatment with Merbarone did not affect

139 PICH localization (Figure 1C). These data show that treatment with ICRF-193, but not Merbarone, causes  
140 increased TopoII $\alpha$  SUMOylation and enrichment of PICH and SUMO2/3 foci on the chromosomes.

141

### 142 **Mitotic SUMOylation is required for PICH enrichment in ICRF-193 treated cells.**

143 Although results obtained from inhibiting TopoII $\alpha$  suggest that increased SUMOylation plays a  
144 critical role in PICH enrichment, the distinct effects of the different inhibitor treatments, for example  
145 differences in TopoII conformation, could also play a role. To determine if mitotic SUMOylation is critical  
146 for PICH enrichment in ICRF-193 treated cells we developed a novel method to inhibit mitotic  
147 SUMOylation in cells. First, we generated a fusion protein, called Py-S2, which consists of the N-terminal  
148 region of human PIASy (Ryu and Azuma, 2010), and the SENP2-catalytic domain (required for  
149 deSUMOylation) (Reverter, David, 2004; Ryu and Azuma, 2010; Sridharan et al., 2015). The N-terminal  
150 region of PIASy localizes to mitotic chromosomes, in part, via its specific interaction with the RZZ (Rod-  
151 Zw10-Zwilch) complex (Ryu and Azuma, 2010). Thus, the fusion protein is expected to bring  
152 deSUMOylation activity where mitotic SUMOylation occurs on chromosomes by recruitment of PIASy via  
153 its N-terminal region. As a negative control, we substituted a cysteine to alanine at position 548 of SENP2  
154 (called Py-S2 Mut) to create a loss of function mutant (Reverter, David, 2006, 2004) (Figure 2A). The  
155 activity of the recombinant fusion proteins on chromosomal SUMOylation was verified in *Xenopus* egg  
156 extract (XEE) assays (Supplemental Figure S1). As predicted, addition of the Py-S2 protein to XEE  
157 completely eliminated mitotic chromosomal SUMOylation. To our surprise, the Py-S2 Mut protein  
158 stabilized SUMOylation of chromosomal proteins, thus acting as a dominant negative mutant against  
159 endogenous deSUMOylation enzymes. To express the fusion proteins in cells, we created inducible  
160 expression cell lines using the Tetracycline inducible system (Supplemental Figure S2) (Natsume et al.,  
161 2016). We utilized CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing to integrate each of the fusion genes into the human H11  
162 (hH11) safe harbor locus (Ruan et al., 2015; Zhu et al., 2014) in DLD-1 cells.

163 To test whether the novel Py-S2 fusion protein worked as expected, cells were synchronized, and  
164 doxycycline was added after release from a Thymidine block. After treatment with ICRF-193,  
165 chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blot analysis. The Py-S2 expressing cells had nearly  
166 undetectable levels of chromosomal SUMOylation as well as SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure 2B).  
167 Intriguingly in Py-S2 expressing cells, PICH levels were no longer affected by ICRF-193 treatment,  
168 suggesting that the response of PICH to ICRF-193 depends on the cell's ability to SUMOylate chromosomal  
169 proteins including TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure 2B).

170 To determine how deSUMOylation affects PICH and TopoII $\alpha$  distribution, Py-S2 expressing  
171 mitotic cells were stained. Immunofluorescent analysis of Py-S2 expressing cells reiterated what was  
172 observed in Western blot analysis. Even under ICRF-193 treatment, Py-S2 expressing cells had nearly  
173 undetectable levels of SUMO2/3 and PICH (Figure 2C, D +Dox panels). But, TopoII $\alpha$  signals remained  
174 unaffected, in agreement with our previous observations in XEE assays, which showed that TopoII $\alpha$   
175 localization is independent of SUMOylation (Azuma et al., 2005) (Figure 2E).

176 The role of SUMOylation in the enrichment of PICH on mitotic chromosomes is further supported  
177 by the Py-S2 Mut expressing cells. Western blot analysis of mitotic chromosomes expressing Py-S2 Mut  
178 revealed slightly increased levels of overall SUMOylation as well as SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  in the absence  
179 of ICRF-193 (Figure 3A). This suggests that a similar stabilization of SUMOylation occurs in cells as was  
180 observed in the XEE assays, albeit with less penetrance. PICH levels were also slightly increased in the Py-  
181 S2 Mut expressing cells in the absence of ICRF-193 (Figure 3A). This slight increase of both PICH and  
182 SUMO2/3 seen in Western blots was even more apparent with immunofluorescence analysis. In the absence  
183 of ICRF-193, Py-S2 Mut expressing cells had increased signals of PICH and SUMO2/3 on the  
184 chromosomes (Figure 3B, C comparing DMSO/-Dox and DMSO/+Dox). Similar to Figure 2E, TopoII $\alpha$   
185 localization and signal intensity did not change upon Py-S2 Mut expression (Figure 3D). In all, these data  
186 reinforce the indication that the enrichment of PICH foci on mitotic chromosomes in ICRF-193 treated cells  
187 is dependent on increased SUMOylation.

188

189 **Increased PICH levels observed in ICRF-193 treatment lost upon TopoII $\alpha$  depletion.**

190 Since increasing mitotic SUMOylation enriches PICH on the chromosomes, we tested whether the  
191 PICH response to ICRF-193 is due to TopoII $\alpha$  SUMOylation. To accomplish this, we generated a mAID-  
192 TopoII $\alpha$  cell line, which enables rapid and complete elimination of TopoII $\alpha$  in the presence of auxin  
193 (Natsume et al., 2016, Nishimura et al., 2009). First, we established a cell line that has an integration of an  
194 auxin-dependent Ubiquitin E3 ligase, *OsTIR1* gene, at the promoter of a housekeeping (*RCCI*) gene  
195 (Supplemental Figure S3A-C) using CRISPR/Cas9 editing technology. The integration of the *OsTIR1* gene  
196 under the *RCCI* promoter achieved stable and low-level expression of the protein, thus minimized the non-  
197 specific degradation of AID-tagged proteins without auxin. Using the established *OsTIR1* expressing DLD-  
198 1 cell line, DNA encoding a mAID-Flag tag was inserted into both TopoII $\alpha$  loci (Supplemental Figure S4A-  
199 C). After 6-hour treatment with auxin, TopoII $\alpha$  was degraded to undetectable levels in all cells analyzed  
200 (Supplemental Figure S4D and E). This rapid elimination allowed us to examine the effect of TopoII $\alpha$   
201 depletion in a single cell cycle.

202 To deplete TopoII $\alpha$ , the cells were treated with auxin after release from a Thymidine block. After  
203 mitotic shake off and treatment with ICRF-193, isolated chromosomes were subjected to Western blotting  
204 with anti-SUMO2/3, anti-TopoII $\alpha$ , and anti-PICH antibodies. ICRF-193 treatment still increased overall  
205 SUMOylation in  $\Delta$ TopoII $\alpha$  cells, suggesting that ICRF-193 affects SUMOylation of other chromosomal  
206 proteins, as such TopoII $\beta$  (Figure 4A). Notably,  $\Delta$ TopoII $\alpha$  cells treated with ICRF-193 showed no changes  
207 in PICH levels on the chromosomes. This suggests that increased levels of PICH seen in ICRF-193  
208 treatment is a SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ -dependent response (Figure 4A). Immunofluorescent analysis of  
209  $\Delta$ TopoII $\alpha$  cells showed a clear reduction of PICH foci even in the presence of ICRF-193 (Figure 4B). In  
210  $\Delta$ TopoII $\alpha$  cells, SUMO2/3 foci were no longer increased at the centromere (marked by CENP-C) in  
211 response to ICRF-193 (Figure 4C). These results suggest that TopoII $\alpha$  SUMOylation caused by ICRF-193  
212 critically contributes to the enrichment of PICH foci on chromosomes.

213

#### 214 **Loss of PICH leads to enrichment of SUMOylated proteins at mitotic centromeres.**

215 So far, the results indicate that PICH targets SUMOylated chromosomal proteins, mainly  
216 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ , in ICRF-193 treated cells. Because the ability of PICH to interact with SUMO via  
217 its SUMO-interacting motifs is required for proper chromosome segregation, we wished to determine if  
218 PICH is required for regulating distribution of SUMOylated chromosomal proteins. To examine this,  
219 mAID-PICH cells were generated as described above for TopoII $\alpha$ . After auxin was added to the cells for 6  
220 hours, PICH levels became undetectable by Western blot and immunofluorescent analysis (Supplemental  
221 Figure S5A-E). To deplete PICH, auxin was added to the cells after release from a Thymidine block, then  
222 mitotic cells were collected by mitotic shake off. Isolated chromosomes were then subjected to Western  
223 blot analysis. Intriguingly,  $\Delta$ PICH control cells showed a significant increase in SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$   
224 compared to -Auxin cells, shown by the appearance of a second upshifted band marked by an asterisk  
225 (Figure 5A). This suggests that PICH is involved in the reduction of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on  
226 chromosomes. Immunofluorescent staining further supported this novel role of PICH. In agreement with  
227 the Western blot results analysis of  $\Delta$ PICH cells showed an enrichment of TopoII $\alpha$  signal at the centromere  
228 in both control and ICRF-193 treated cells (Figure 5B enlarged images). In addition, increased SUMO2/3  
229 foci were observed in both control and ICRF-193 treated cells (Figure 5C enlarged images). This increased  
230 SUMO2/3 in control cells without PICH is consistent with the Western bolt result that showed increased  
231 SUMO2/3 signals in same condition (Figure 5A comparing lane 1 and 3). Together, the results suggest that  
232 PICH functions in the regulation and proper localization of SUMOylated chromosomal proteins, including  
233 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ .

234

#### 235 **ATP-dependent translocase activity of PICH is required for regulating SUMOylated chromosomal 236 proteins.**

237 To identify which function of PICH is required for the redistribution of SUMOylated proteins  
238 including TopoII $\alpha$ , we created a PICH-replacement cell line by combining mAID-mediated PICH depletion  
239 and inducible expression of exogenous PICH mutants. The mAID-PICH cells had CRISPR/Cas9 targeted  
240 integration of either Tet-inducible WT PICH-mCherry, an ATPase dead mutant (K128A-mCherry), or non-

241 SUMO interacting form of PICH (d3SIM-mCherry) into the CCR5 safe harbor locus (Papapetrou and  
242 Schambach, 2016). After clonal isolation and validation (Supplemental Figure S6A-C), PICH-mCherry  
243 expression was tested in asynchronous cells by treating with auxin and doxycycline for 14 hours, and the  
244 whole cell lysates were used for Western blot analysis. Although the expression level of the exogenous  
245 proteins was variable, we were able to replace endogenous PICH with exogenous PICH (Figure 6A). We  
246 did observe variation of mCherry expression within each clonal isolate (Supplemental figure S6D) and this  
247 may explain the variation in expression levels observed in Western blot analysis. The PICH-replacement  
248 for mitotic cell analysis was achieved by incubating cells with auxin or auxin and doxycycline for 22 hours  
249 before mitotic shake off. The mitotic cells were treated with DMSO (control) and ICRF-193 then mitotic  
250 chromosomes were isolated. Western blot analysis was performed to determine how translocase activity  
251 and SIMs contribute to PICH binding to mitotic chromosomes (Figure 6B). The PICH WT-mCherry was  
252 observed to have a similar response to ICRF-193 as endogenous PICH, showing increased binding with  
253 ICRF-193 treatment. The K128A mutant also showed increased binding under ICRF-193 treatment. In  
254 contrast, the d3SIM mutant could not bind to chromosomes, consistent with our previous observations  
255 (Sridharan and Azuma, 2016).

256 To further examine how the PICH mutants affect localization of TopoII $\alpha$  and SUMO2/3,  
257 immunofluorescent analysis of prometaphase cells was performed. PICH WT-mCherry showed the same  
258 staining patterns as endogenous PICH and its response to ICRF-193 was similar to Figure 1. Both SUMO2/3  
259 and TopoII $\alpha$  staining was consistent with that seen in Figure 1 (Figure 6C), further validating that mCherry  
260 tagged exogenous PICH functions the same as endogenous PICH. When the K128A mutant, which cannot  
261 translocate on DNA, was expressed in both control and ICRF-193 treated cells, strong mCherry foci were  
262 observed on the chromosomes. Importantly, these foci overlap with SUMO2/3 foci (Figure 6D). This  
263 suggests that the PICH K128A mutant interacts with SUMOylated targets but due to its inability to  
264 translocate remains stably associated with the chromosomes where the SUMOylated proteins are located.  
265 TopoII $\alpha$  signals were enriched on the chromosomes, where signals had increased intensity and were more  
266 punctate than those in Figure 6C. This indicates that PICH translocase activity regulates the association of  
267 TopoII $\alpha$  with chromosomes and is involved in the proper localization of TopoII $\alpha$ . As observed by Western  
268 blot analysis, the PICH d3SIM-mCherry mutant did not show any chromosomal signal, but rather a diffuse  
269 signal was observed throughout the cell. Interestingly, even cells treated with ICRF-193 did not show an  
270 increased chromosomal SUMO2/3 signal. This was unexpected because depletion of PICH did not affect  
271 the increase of SUMO2/3 foci induced by ICRF-193 treatment. This observation suggests that the PICH  
272 d3SIM mutant has a dominant negative effect on chromosomal SUMOylation, but the molecular  
273 mechanism of that phenomena is currently unidentified. TopoII $\alpha$  in PICH d3SIM expressing cells was also  
274 affected showing a slight loss of chromosomal signal in control cells and more diffuse/non-punctate staining  
275 with ICRF-193 treatment (Figure 6E). This suggests that the SIM-dependent chromosomal association of  
276 PICH is required for proper organization of mitotic chromosomes, including proper distribution of  
277 SUMOylated proteins and TopoII $\alpha$  on mitotic chromosomes.

### 278 279 **PICH directly interacts with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ through its SIMs.**

280 To examine whether PICH can interact with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and determine the potential role  
281 of the translocase activity and SUMO binding ability of PICH on the interaction with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ ,  
282 we performed an *in vitro* DNA decatenation assay. The assay was designed to compare non-SUMOylated  
283 and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  in the presence of recombinant PICH (Figure 7A). Using the same conditions  
284 established in our previous study, recombinant *Xenopus laevis* TopoII $\alpha$  was SUMOylated *in vitro*, then its  
285 DNA decatenation activity was analyzed by using catenated kDNA as the substrate (Ryu et al., 2010b). The  
286 decatenation activity was measured by calculating the percentage of decatenated kDNA separated by gel  
287 electrophoresis. On average, 70% of kDNA is decatenated at the five and ten-minute time-point when non-  
288 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  is present in the reaction (Figure 7B PICH lanes marked by (i)). As we have  
289 previously shown, the decatenation activity of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  was reduced compared to non-  
290 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure 7B lanes marked by (ii)). Importantly, when we added PICH to each of the  
291 reaction at concentrations equimolar to TopoII $\alpha$  (200nM), the decatenation activity of SUMOylated

292 TopoII $\alpha$  was further attenuated (Figure 7B marked by (iii), C). The reduction of decatenation activity of  
293 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  was statistically significant at both the five and ten-minute time-points (Figure 7C  
294 light grey bars). A dose-dependent effect of PICH on SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity was  
295 observed but that was not the case for non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ . The concentration of TopoII $\alpha$  in the  
296 reaction was 200nM, and PICH significantly reduced decatenation activity of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$   
297 ranging between 200nM (equimolar) up to 400nM (Figure 7D, E). Only SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  was  
298 inhibited by PICH dose-dependently which is distinct from the PICH/non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$   
299 interaction.

300 To determine which activity of PICH is required for inhibiting SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation  
301 activity, we utilized a PICH mutant that has defects in either the SUMO-binding ability (PICH-d3SIM) or  
302 in translocase activity (PICH-K128A) (Figure 8A) (Sridharan et al., 2016). If PICH/SUMO interaction is  
303 critical for inhibiting the decatenation activity of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ , the PICH-d3SIM mutant would  
304 lose its inhibitory function. In addition, we also expect that the PICH translocase activity deficient (PICH-  
305 K128A) mutant would lose its inhibitory function on SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ , because this mutant could not  
306 remove SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  from kDNA. Supporting our hypothesis, PICH-d3SIM lost its inhibitory  
307 function and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity returned to levels similar to no PICH addition  
308 (Figure 8C comparing ST to ST + PICH d3SIM). This suggests that direct SUMO/SIM interactions between  
309 PICH and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  play a key role in this inhibition. In contrast, the translocase deficient  
310 PICH mutant did not attenuate SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity compared to WT PICH (Figure  
311 8C comparing ST + PICH WT and ST + PICH K128A). Notably, neither of the PICH mutants showed any  
312 apparent effect on non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure 8B) compared to PICH WT. This suggests that PICH  
313 binding to DNA does not inhibit the decatenation activity of TopoII $\alpha$ , but rather it forms a complex with  
314 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and prevents its decatenation activity. Taken together, our results suggest that PICH  
315 recognizes the SUMO moieties on TopoII $\alpha$  through its SIMs to attenuate decatenation activity.

316 In conclusion, our results show a novel function of PICH on the redistribution of SUMOylated  
317 chromosomal proteins during mitosis. This activity is dependent on PICH translocase activity and *in vitro*  
318 data suggests that SUMO interacting ability of PICH is important in the recognition of SUMOylated  
319 proteins, like TopoII $\alpha$  (Figure 9).

320

## 321 Discussion

322 We previously demonstrated that both PICH DNA translocase activity and SUMO interacting  
323 ability are required for its essential function in proper chromosome segregation (Sridharan and Azuma,  
324 2016). The results presented in this report provide the link between these two functions of PICH during  
325 mitosis. Collectively, the results indicate that PICH interacts with chromosomal proteins and increasing  
326 SUMOylation whether by modulating enzymes or a specific inhibitor of TopoII mediates the enrichment  
327 of PICH foci on mitotic chromosomes. The PICH-replacement to mutant forms demonstrated that PICH  
328 DNA translocase activity is required for regulating proper localization of SUMOylated proteins on  
329 chromosomes. Our results suggest that both PICH DNA translocase activity and SUMO interacting ability  
330 cooperate to remodel chromosomal proteins to accomplish faithful chromosome segregation.

331

## 332 PICH targets and redistributes chromosomal SUMOylated proteins using its SUMO binding ability 333 and translocase activity.

334 SUMOylation has been shown to play a role in complex assembly by mediating SUMO/SIM  
335 interactions (Guzzo et al., 2012; Lin et al., 2006; Matmati et al., 2018; Pelisch et al., 2017). It has been  
336 demonstrated that numerous proteins are SUMOylated on mitotic chromosomes (Cubebñas-Potts et al.,  
337 2015; Huang et al., 2016; Schimmel et al., 2014). Proper regulation of SUMOylation on chromosomal  
338 proteins is apparently key to promote faithful chromosome segregation shown by modulating enzymes for  
339 controlling SUMOylation (Cubebñas-Potts et al., 2013; Díaz-Martínez et al., 2006; Hari et al., 2001; Pelisch  
340 et al., 2014, 2014). Our current study demonstrates that SUMOylated chromosomal proteins are targeted  
341 by PICH through its SIMs. Increased SUMO2/3 modification either by ICRF-193 (Figure 1) or expression  
342 of the novel deSUMOylation enzyme mutant (Figure 3) promotes enrichment of PICH and SUMO2/3 foci

343 on chromosomes, and this suggests PICH efficiently targets SUMOylated chromosomal proteins including  
344 TopoII $\alpha$ . Given the fact that PICH can interact with SUMO moieties (Sridharan et al., 2015) using its three  
345 SIMs, this enrichment of PICH foci and SUMO2/3 foci suggests PICH can target multiple SUMOylated  
346 chromosomal proteins. More importantly, the translocase deficient mutant of PICH showed enrichment of  
347 SUMO2/3 foci on chromosomes without treatments to increase SUMOylation (Figure 6). Increased  
348 SUMO2/3 foci under expression of the mutant suggests that loss of translocase activity of PICH stabilized  
349 SUMOylated protein(s), presumably forming a stable complex on the chromosomes. Until now, the role of  
350 PICH DNA translocase activity in chromosome segregation has not been clearly determined on a cellular  
351 level. PICH primary structure suggests that it acts as a nucleosome remodeling enzyme, however, PICH  
352 has not been shown to have robust nucleosome remodeling activity towards nucleosomes composed of  
353 canonical histones (Ke et al., 2011). Our observations suggest that PICH utilizes its translocase activity to  
354 remodel chromosomal proteins. Identification of which SUMOylated chromosomal proteins are targeted  
355 by PICH will advance our understanding of the role of mitotic SUMOylation and the function of PICH in  
356 promoting faithful chromosome segregation.

### 357 358 **SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ is a target of PICH.**

359 Although PICH has the ability to interact with multiple SUMOylated proteins, SUMOylated  
360 TopoII $\alpha$  is undoubtedly a primary target. This notion is supported by our observations in TopoII $\alpha$ -depleted  
361 cells (Figure 4). Depleting TopoII $\alpha$  abrogates the enrichment of PICH foci even in the presence of ICRF-  
362 193. TopoII $\alpha$ -depleted chromosomes also showed an ICRF-193 dependent increase in overall  
363 SUMOylation on chromosomes, however, staining for SUMO2/3 showed no clear increase in SUMO2/3  
364 foci. This suggests that the SUMO2/3 foci observed in ICRF-193 treated cells mainly correspond with  
365 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and PICH could more effectively target SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  over other  
366 SUMOylated proteins. It is notable that TopoII $\alpha$ -depletion increases PICH binding with mitotic  
367 chromosomes even without upregulation of SUMOylation. This might represent the formation of PICH  
368 threads in TopoII $\alpha$ -depleted prometaphase chromosomes (Antoniou-Kourounioli et al., 2019), which are  
369 observed in ICRF-193 treated cells (Wang et al., 2008). Therefore, increased PICH foci under ICRF-193  
370 could be the result of the formation of PICH threads on prometaphase chromosomes. However, the results  
371 from Py-S2 expression (Figure 2) and PICH d3SIM mutant replacement (Figure 6) suggest that the  
372 increased PICH binding to chromosomes under ICRF-193 treatment is mainly controlled by the  
373 upregulation of SUMOylation. PICH binding to TopoII $\alpha$  has been shown to increase the activity of TopoII $\alpha$   
374 (Nielsen et al., 2015). In contrast to that role, PICH binding to SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  has different  
375 consequences, i.e. inhibition of decatenation activity (Figure 7). The inhibition of activity requires SIMs  
376 suggesting that direct interaction of PICH and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  is critical (Figure 8). The mechanism  
377 of how both WT PICH and translocase-deficient mutants similarly inhibit decatenation activity of  
378 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  is currently unclear. From cellular analyses, PICH could remodel the SUMOylated  
379 TopoII $\alpha$  using its translocase activity, therefore it might be possible that WT PICH promotes the removal  
380 of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  from catenated DNAs and that action results in inhibition of decatenation activity  
381 towards catenated kDNA substrate. Conversely, the translocase-deficient mutant could inhibit decatenation  
382 activity by forming a stable complex with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on DNA. Further analysis of the complex  
383 formation of PICH and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  *in vitro* or in cells is our next goal to elucidate the mechanism  
384 of this inhibition.

### 385 386 **Broader implications of the novel function of PICH as a SUMOylated protein remodeler.**

387 These novel findings lead to a more mechanistic understanding of the interaction between  
388 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and PICH and provide insight into why PICH knockout cells were found to be  
389 sensitive to ICRF-193. PICH can increase TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity *in vitro* and that helps to resolve  
390 tangled DNA during anaphase (Nielsen et al., 2015). In addition, recent studies indicate that the translocase  
391 activity of PICH can be used to control the supercoiling status of DNA together with Topoisomerase III $\alpha$   
392 (Bizard et al., 2019). This increased supercoiling of DNA provides a more suitable substrate for TopoII $\alpha$   
393 and thus increases its decatenation activity. Both models can explain how PICH promotes decatenation on



394 tangled DNA at centromeres to prevent UFB formation or resolve existing UFBs by stimulating TopoII $\alpha$   
395 activity. One unanswered question is how ICRF-193 mediated stalled TopoII $\alpha$  is removed to prevent the  
396 formation of chromosome bridges. ICRF-193 treatment is known to induce a closed clamp conformation  
397 of TopoII $\alpha$  with both detangled DNA strands bound within it (Morris et al., 2000; Roca et al., 1994). It is  
398 interesting to hypothesize from our current study that PICH SUMO-binding ability and translocase activity  
399 are able to recognize and bind SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and remove it from DNA. Analysis of PICH function  
400 using a TopoII $\alpha$ -replaced cell line, utilizing the same methodology as the PICH mutant cell lines, will  
401 provide insight for this model. Recently, we demonstrated that SUMOylation of TopoII $\alpha$  plays a critical  
402 role in controlling the progression of mitosis. ICRF-193 treatment resulted in a mitotic arrest in cells that  
403 requires SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and subsequent Aurora B activation (Pandey et al., 2020). Because PICH  
404 can control SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on chromosomes, it is possible that PICH can control stalled TopoII $\alpha$ -  
405 dependent mitotic checkpoint by attenuating SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on chromosomes. This can be tested  
406 using PICH depletion or replacement cell lines as well as modulating PICH activity in TopoII $\alpha$ -replaced  
407 cell lines with a non-SUMOylatable mutant.

408 This novel role for PICH during mitosis leads to a better understanding of how chromosomal  
409 proteins are regulated by SUMOylation and how that might affect chromosome segregation when left  
410 unregulated. Although a precise molecular mechanism remains to be determined for the specific  
411 SUMOylated protein targeted by PICH, one potential mechanism of how PICH could function with  
412 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  using both translocase activity and SUMO binding ability is presented from this  
413 study. A formal test of this model would greatly benefit the PICH field as its function during mitosis remains  
414 elusive. This would also shed light on how cells utilize PICH and TopoII $\alpha$  to deal with the tangled DNA  
415 for proper chromosome segregation during mitosis.

## 416 417 **Materials and Methods**

### 418 **Plasmids, constructs, and site-directed mutagenesis**

419 The Py-S2 fusion DNA construct of human PIASy-NTD (amino acid 1-135) and SENP2-CD (amino acid  
420 363-589) was created by fusion PCR method using a GA linker between the two fragments. Then, the Py-  
421 S2 fusion DNA fragment was subcloned into a recombinant expression pET28a plasmid at the BamHI/XhoI  
422 sites. To generate the Py-S2 Mut fusion DNA construct, substitution of Cysteine to Alanine at 548 in Py-  
423 S2 was introduced using a site-directed mutagenesis QuikChangeII kit (Agilent) by following the  
424 manufacturer's instructions. hH11 locus and CCR5 locus targeting donor plasmids for inducible expression  
425 of Py-S2 proteins were created by modifying pMK243 (Tet-OsTIR1-PURO) plasmid (Natsume et al.,  
426 2016). pMK243 (Tet-OsTIR1-PURO) was purchased from Addgene (#72835) and the OsTIR1 fragment  
427 was removed by BglII and MluI digestion, followed by an insertion of a multi-cloning site. Homology arms  
428 for each locus were amplified from DLD-1 genomic DNA using the primers listed in supplemental  
429 information. The Py-S2 fused with mNeon cDNA and PICH-mCherry fused cDNA were inserted at the  
430 MluI and Sall sites of the modified pMK243 plasmid. For CCR5 targeting plasmid, the antibiotics resistant  
431 gene was changed to Zeocin-resistant from Puromycin-resistant. The original plasmid for OsTIR1 targeting  
432 to RCC1 locus was created by inserting the TIR1 sequence amplified from pBABE TIR1-9Myc (Addgene  
433 #47328; (Holland et al., 2012) plasmid, Blastocidin resistant gene (BSD) amplified from pQCXIB with ires-  
434 blast (Takara/Clontech), and miRFP670 amplified from pmiRFP670-N1 plasmid (Addgene #79987;  
435 (Shcherbakova et al., 2016) into the pEGFP-N1 vector (Takara/Clontech) with homology arms for RCC1  
436 C-terminal locus. Using genomic DNA obtained from DLD-1 cell as a template DNA, the homology arms  
437 were amplified using primers listed in supplemental information (Supporting information Table 1). Further,  
438 OsTIR1 targeting plasmid was modified by eliminating the miRFP670 sequence by PCR amplification of  
439 left homology arm and TIR1/BSD/right homology arm for inserting into pMK292 obtained from Addgene  
440 (#72830) (Natsume et al., 2016) using XmaI/BstBI sites. Three copies of codon optimized micro AID tag  
441 (50 amino-acid each (Morawska and Ulrich, 2013)) was synthesized by the IDT company, and hygromycin  
442 resistant gene/ P2A sequence was inserted upstream of the 3x micro AID sequence. The 3xFlag sequence  
443 from p3xFLAG-CMV-7.1 plasmid (Sigma) was inserted downstream of the AID sequence. The homology  
444 arms sequences for PICH N-terminal insertion and TopoII $\alpha$  N-terminal insertion were amplified using

445 primers listed in supplemental information (Table S1) from genomic DNA of DLD-1 cell, then inserted  
446 into the plasmid by using PciI/SalI and SpeI/NotI sites. In all of RCC1 locus, PICH locus, TopoII $\alpha$  locus,  
447 CCR5 locus and hH11 locus genome editing cases, the guide RNA sequences listed in supplemental  
448 information (Table S1) were designed using CRISPR Design Tools from  
449 [https://figshare.com/articles/CRISPR\\_Design\\_Tool/1117899](https://figshare.com/articles/CRISPR_Design_Tool/1117899) (Rafael Casellas laboratory, NIH) and  
450 <http://crispr.mit.edu:8079> (Zhang laboratory, MIT) inserted into pX330 (Addgene #42230). Mutations  
451 were introduced in PAM sequences on the homology arms. The *X. laevis* TopoII $\alpha$  cDNA and human PICH  
452 cDNA were subcloned into a pPIC 3.5K vector in which calmodulin-binding protein CBP-T7 tag sequences  
453 were inserted as previously described (Ryu et al., 2010b, Sridharan and Azuma, 2016). All mutations in  
454 the plasmids were generated by site-directed mutagenesis using a QuikChangeII kit (Agilent) according to  
455 manufacturer's instructions. All constructs were verified by DNA sequencing.

456

### 457 **Recombinant protein expression and purification, and preparation of antibodies**

458 Recombinant TopoII $\alpha$  and PICH proteins were prepared as previously described (Ryu et al., 2010b,  
459 Sridharan and Azuma, 2016). In brief, the pPIC 3.5K plasmids carrying TopoII $\alpha$  or PICH cDNA fused  
460 with Calmodulin binding protein-tag were transformed into the GS115 strain of *Pichia pastoris* yeast and  
461 expressed by following the manufacturer's instructions (Thermo/Fisher). Yeast cells expressing  
462 recombinant proteins were frozen and ground with coffee grinder that contain dry ice, suspended with lysis  
463 buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1% Triton X-100, 5%  
464 glycerol, 1 mM DTT, complete EDTA-free Protease inhibitor tablet (Roche), and 10 mM PMSF). The lysed  
465 samples were centrifuged at 25,000 g for 40 min. To capture the CBP-tagged proteins, the supernatant was  
466 mixed with calmodulin-sepharose resin (GE Healthcare) for 90 min at 4°C. The resin was then washed with  
467 lysis buffer, and proteins were eluted with buffer containing 10 mM EGTA. In the case of PICH, the elution  
468 was concentrated by centrifugal concentrator (Amicon ultra with a 100kDa molecular weight cut-off). In  
469 the case of TopoII $\alpha$ , the elution was further purified by Hi-trap Q anion-exchange chromatography (GE  
470 Healthcare). Recombinant Py-S2 proteins fused to hexa-histidine tag were expressed in Rossetta2 (DE3)  
471 (EMD Millipore/Novagen) and purified with hexa-histidine affinity resin (Talon beads from  
472 Takara/Clontech). Fractions by imidazole-elution were subjected to Hi-trap SP cation-exchange  
473 chromatography. The peak fractions were pooled then concentrated by centrifugal concentrator (Amicon  
474 ultra with a 30kDa molecular weight cut-off). The E1 complex (Aos1/Uba2 heterodimer), PIASy, Ubc9,  
475 dnUbc9, and SUMO paralogues were expressed in Rosetta2(DE3) and purified as described previously  
476 (Ryu et al., 2010a).

477 To generate the antibody for human PICH, the 3' end (coding for amino acids 947~1250) was amplified  
478 from PICH cDNA by PCR. The amplified fragment was subcloned into pET28a vector (EMD  
479 Millipore/Novagen) then the sequence was verified by DNA sequencing. The recombinant protein was  
480 expressed in Rossetta2(DE3) strain (EMD Millipore/Novagen). Expressed protein was found in inclusion  
481 body thus the proteins were solubilized by 8M urea containing buffer (20mM Hepes pH7.8, 300mM NaCl,  
482 1mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5mM TCEP). The solubilized protein was purified by Talon-resin (Clontech/Takara) using  
483 the hexa-histidine-tag fused at the N-terminus of the protein. The purified protein was separated by SDS-  
484 PAGE and protein was excised after InstantBlue™ (Sigma-Aldrich) staining. The gel slice was used as an  
485 antigen and immunization of rabbits was made by Pacific Immunology Inc., CA, USA. To generate the  
486 primary antibody for human TopoII $\alpha$ , the 3' end of TopoII $\alpha$  (coding for amino acids 1359~1589) was  
487 amplified from TopoII $\alpha$  cDNA by PCR. The amplified fragment was subcloned into pET28a and pGEX-  
488 4T vectors (GE Healthcare) then the sequence was verified by DNA sequencing. The recombinant protein  
489 was expressed in Rossetta2(DE3). The expressed protein was purified using hexa-histidine-tag and GST-  
490 tag by Talon-resin (Clontech/Takara) or Glutathione-sepharose (GE healthcare) following the  
491 manufacture's protocol. The purified proteins were further separated by cation-exchange column. Purified  
492 hexa-histidine-tagged TopoII $\alpha$  protein as used as an antigen and immunization of rabbits was made by  
493 Pacific Immunology Inc., CA, USA. For both PICH and TopoII $\alpha$  antigens, antigen affinity columns were  
494 prepared by conjugating purified antigens (hexa-histidine-tagged PICH C-terminus fragment or GST-  
495 tagged TopoII $\alpha$  C-terminus fragment) to the NHS-Sepharose resin following manufacture's protocol (GE

496 healthcare). The rabbit antisera were subjected to affinity purification using antigen affinity columns.  
497 Secondary antibodies used for this study and their dilution rates were: for Western blotting; Goat anti-  
498 Rabbit (IRDye®680RD, 1/20000, LI-COR) and Goat anti-Mouse (IRDye®800CW, 1/20000, LI-COR), and  
499 for immunofluorescence staining; Goat anti-mouse IgG Alexa Fluor 568 (#A11031, 1:500, Invitrogen),  
500 goat anti-rabbit IgG Alexa Fluor 568 (#A11036, 1:500, Thermo/Fisher), goat anti-rabbit IgG Alexa Fluor  
501 488 (#A11034, 1:500, Thermo/Fisher), goat anti-guinea pig IgG Alexa Fluor 568 (#A21450, 1:500,  
502 Thermo/Fisher). Unless otherwise stated, all chemicals were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich.

503

#### 504 ***In vitro* SUMOylation assays and decatenation assays**

505 The SUMOylation reactions performed in the Reaction buffer (20 mM Hepes, pH 7.8, 100 mM NaCl, 5  
506 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.05% Tween 20, 5% glycerol, 2.5mM ATP, and 1 mM DTT) by adding 15 nM E1, 15 nM  
507 Ubc9, 45 nM PIASy, 500 nM T7-tagged TopoII $\alpha$ , and 5  $\mu$ M SUMO2-GG. For the non-SUMOylated  
508 TopoII $\alpha$  control, 5  $\mu$ M SUMO2-G mutant was used instead of SUMO2-GG. After the reaction with the  
509 incubation for one hour at 25°C, it was stopped with the addition of EDTA at a final concentration of 10mM.  
510 For the analysis of the SUMOylation profile of TopoII $\alpha$  3X SDS-PAGE sample buffer was added to  
511 reaction, and the samples were resolved on 8–16% Tris-HCl gradient gels (#XP08165BOX, Thermo/Fisher)  
512 by SDS-PAGE, then analyzed by Western blotting with HRP-conjugated anti-T7 monoclonal antibody  
513 (#T3699, EMD Millipore/Novagen).

514 Decatenation assays were performed in the Decatenation buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 120 mM NaCl,  
515 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mM DTT, 30  $\mu$ g BSA/ml, and 2 mM ATP) with SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and non-  
516 SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  and with 6.2 ng/ $\mu$ l of kDNA (TopoGEN, Inc.). The reaction was performed at 25°C  
517 with the conditions indicated in each of the figures. The reactions were stopped by adding one third volume  
518 of 6X DNA dye (30% glycerol, 0.1% SDS, 10 mM EDTA, and 0.2  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ l bromophenol blue). The samples  
519 were loaded on a 1% agarose gel containing SYBR™ Safe DNA Gel stain (#S33102, Invitrogen) with 1kb  
520 ladder (#N3232S, NEB), and electrophoresed at 100 V in TAE buffer (Tris-acetate-EDTA) until the marker  
521 dye reached the middle of the gel. The amount of kDNA remaining in the wells was measured using  
522 ImageStudio, and the percentage of decatenated DNA was calculated as (Intensity of initial kDNA [at 0  
523 minutes incubation] - intensity of remaining catenated DNA)/Intensity of initial kDNA. Obtained  
524 percentages of catenated DNA was plotted and analyzed for the statistics by using GraphPad Prism 8  
525 Software.

526

#### 527 **Cell culture, Transfection, and Colony Isolation**

528 Targeted insertion using the CRISPR/Cas9 system was used for all integration of exogenous sequences into  
529 the genome. DLD-1 cells were transfected with guide plasmids and donor plasmid using ViaFect™  
530 (#E4981, Promega) on 3.5cm dishes. The cells were split and re-plated on 10cm dishes at ~20% confluency,  
531 two days after, the cells were subjected to a selection process by maintaining in the medium in a presence  
532 of desired selection reagent (1 $\mu$ g/ml Blasticidin (#ant-bl, Invivogen), 400 $\mu$ g/ml Zeocin (#ant-zn,  
533 Invivogen), 200 $\mu$ g/ml Hygromycin B Gold (#ant-hg, Invivogen)). The cells were cultured for 10 to 14 days  
534 with a selection medium, the colonies were isolated and grown in 48 well plates, and prepared Western  
535 blotting and genomic DNA samples to verify the insertion of the transgene. Specifically, for the Western  
536 blotting analysis, the cells were pelleted, 1X SDS PAGE sample buffer was added, and boiled/vortexed.  
537 Samples were separated on an 8-16% gel and then blocked with Casein and probed using the indicated  
538 antibody described in each figure legend. Signals were acquired using the LI-COR Odyssey Fc imager. To  
539 perform genomic PCR, the cells were pelleted, genomic DNA was extracted using lysis buffer (100mM  
540 Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 200mM NaCl, 5mM EDTA, 1% SDS, and 0.6mg/mL proteinase K (#P8107S, NEB)), and  
541 purified by ethanol precipitation followed by resuspension with TE buffer containing 50 $\mu$ g/mL RNase A  
542 (#EN0531, ThermoFisher). Primers used for confirming the proper integrations are listed in the  
543 supplemental information.

544 To establish AID cell lines, as an initial step, the *Oryza sativa* E3 ligase (OsTIR1) gene was inserted into  
545 the 3' end of a housekeeping gene, RCC1, using CRISPR/Cas9 system in the DLD-1 cell line. The RCC1  
546 locus was an appropriate locus to accomplish the modest but sufficient expression level of the OsTIR1

547 protein so that it would not induce a non-specific degradation without the addition of Auxin  
548 (Supplemental Figure S3). We then introduced DNA encoding for AID-3xFlag tag into the TopoII $\alpha$  or  
549 PICH locus using CRISPR/Cas9 editing into the OsTIR1 expressing parental line (Supplemental Figure  
550 S4 and S5). The isolated candidate clones were subjected to genomic PCR and Western blotting analysis  
551 to validate integration of the transgene. Once clones were established and the transgene integration was  
552 validated, the depletion of the protein in the auxin-treated cells was confirmed by Western blotting and  
553 immunostaining.

554 Introducing DNA encoding Tet inducible PICH mCherry into the CCR5 locus or inducible Py-S2 into hH11  
555 were made by CRISPR/Cas9 editing into the desired locus (Supplemental Figure S2 and S6). The OsTIR1  
556 expressing, mAID PICH parental cell line was used for introduction of the PICH mCherry mutants targeted  
557 to the CCR5 locus. The isolated candidate clones were subjected to genomic PCR and Western blotting  
558 analysis to validate integration of the transgene. Once clones were established and the transgene integration  
559 was validated, the expression of the transgenes was confirmed by the addition of doxycycline.

560

### 561 **Xenopus egg extract assay for mitotic chromosomal SUMOylation analysis**

562 Low speed cytotstatic factor (CSF) arrested Xenopus egg extracts (XEEs) and demembrated sperm nuclei  
563 were prepared following standard protocols (Murray, 1991, Powers et al., 2001). To prepare the mitotic  
564 replicated chromosome, CSF extracts were driven into interphase by adding 0.6mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>. Demembrated  
565 sperm nuclei were added to interphase extract at 4000 sperm nuclei/ $\mu$ l, then incubated for ~60 min to  
566 complete DNA replication confirmed by the morphology of nuclei. Then, equal volume of CSF XEE was  
567 added to the reactions to induce mitosis. To confirm the activities of Py-S2 proteins on mitotic  
568 SUMOylation, the Py-S2 proteins or dnUbc9 were added to XEEs at a final concentration of 30nM and  
569 5 $\mu$ M, respectively, at the onset of mitosis-induction. After mitotic chromosome formation was confirmed  
570 by microscopic analysis of condensed mitotic chromosomes, chromosomes were isolated by centrifugation  
571 using 40% glycerol cushion as previously described (Yoshida et al., 2016) then the isolated mitotic  
572 chromosomes were boiled in SDS-PAGE sample buffer. Samples were resolved on 8-16% gradient gels  
573 and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies. Signals were acquired using LI-COR Odyssey  
574 Fc digital imager and the quantification was performed using Image Studio Lite software.

575 The following primary antibodies were used for Western blotting: Rabbit anti-Xenopus TopoII $\alpha$  (1:10,000),  
576 Rabbit anti-Xenopus PARP1 (1:10,000), Rabbit anti-SUMO2/3 (1:1,000) (all prepared as described  
577 previously (Ryu et al., 2010a)), anti-Histone H3 (#14269, Cell Signaling).

578

### 579 **Preparation of mitotic cells and chromosome isolation**

580 DLD-1 cells were grown in McCoy's 5A 1x L-glutamine 10% FBS media for no more than 10 passages.  
581 To analyze mitotic chromosomes, cells were synchronized by Thymidine/Nocodazole cell cycle arrest  
582 protocol. In brief, cells were arrested with 2mM Thymidine for 17 hours, were released from the Thymidine  
583 block by performing three washes with non-FBS containing McCoy's 5A 1x L-glutamine media and placed  
584 in fresh 10%FBS containing media. 6 hours after the Thymidine release, 0.1 $\mu$ g/mL Nocodazole was added  
585 to the cells for 4 additional hours, mitotic cells were isolated by performing a mitotic shake-off and washed  
586 3 times using McCoy's non-FBS containing media to release from Nocodazole. The cells were then  
587 resuspended with 10% FBS containing fresh media and 7 $\mu$ M of ICRF-193, 40 $\mu$ M Merbarone, or equal  
588 volume DMSO, were plated on Fibronectin coated cover slips, and incubated for 20 minutes (NEUVITRO,  
589 #GG-12-1.5-Fibronectin). To isolate mitotic chromosomes, the cells were lysed with lysis buffer (250mM  
590 Sucrose, 20mM HEPES, 100mM NaCl, 1.5mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1mM EDTA, 1mM EGTA, 0.2% TritonX-100,  
591 1:2000 LPC (Leupeptin, Pepstatin, Chymostatin, 20mg each/ml in DMSO; Sigma-Aldrich), and 20mM  
592 Iodoacetamide (Sigma-Aldrich #I1149)) incubated for 5 minutes on ice. Lysed cells were then placed on a  
593 40% glycerol containing 0.25% Triton-X-100 cushion, and spun at 10,000xg for 5 minutes, twice. Isolated  
594 chromosomes were then boiled with SDS-PAGE sample buffer, resolved on an 8-16% gradient gel and  
595 subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies. Signals of the blotting were acquired using the LI-  
596 COR Odyssey Fc machine.

597 The following primary antibodies were used for Western blotting: Rabbit anti-PICH (1:1,000), Rabbit anti-  
598 TopoII $\alpha$  (1:20,000) (both are prepared as described above), Rabbit anti-SUMO2/3 (1:1,000), Rabbit anti-  
599 Histone H2A (1:2,000) (#18255, Abcam), Rabbit anti-Histone H3 (1:2,000) (#14269, Cell Signaling),  
600 Rabbit anti-PIASy (1:500) (as described in (Azuma et al., 2005)), Mouse anti- $\beta$ -actin (1:2,000) (#A2228,  
601 Sigma-Aldrich), Mouse anti-myc (1:1,000) (#9E10, Santa Cruz), Mouse anti- $\beta$ -tubulin (1:2,000) (#, Sigma-  
602 Aldrich), Mouse anti-Flag (1:1,000) (#F1804, Sigma-Aldrich).  
603

#### 604 **Cell fixation and staining**

605 To fix the mitotic cells on fibronectin coated cover slips, cells were incubated with 4% paraformaldehyde  
606 for 10 minutes at room temperature, and subsequently washed three times with 1X PBS containing 10mM  
607 Tris-HCl to quench PFA. Following the fixation, the cells were permeabilized using 100% ice cold  
608 Methanol in -20°C freezer for 5 minutes. Cells were then blocked using 2.5% hydrolyzed gelatin for 30  
609 minutes at room temperature. Following blocking the cells were stained with primary antibodies for 1 hour  
610 at room temperature, washed 3 times with 1X PBS containing 0.1% tween20, and incubated with secondary  
611 for 1 hour at room temperature. Following secondary incubation cells were washed 3 times with 1x PBS-T  
612 and mounted onto slide glass using VECTASHIELD<sup>®</sup> Antifade Mounting Medium with DAPI (#H-1200,  
613 Vector laboratory) and sealed with nail polish. Images were acquired using an UltraView VoX spinning  
614 disk confocal system (PerkinElmer) mounted on an Olympus IX71 inverted microscope. It was equipped  
615 with a software-controlled piezoelectric stage for rapid Z-axis movement. Images were collected using a  
616 60 × 1.42 NA planapochromatic objective (Olympus) and an ORCA ERAG camera (Hamamatsu  
617 Photonics). Solid state 405, 488, and 561 nm lasers were used for excitation. Fluorochrome-specific  
618 emission filters were used to prevent emission bleed through between fluorochromes. This system was  
619 controlled by Volocity software (PerkinElmer). Minimum and maximum intensity cutoffs (black and white  
620 levels) for each channel were chosen in Volocity before images were exported. No other adjustments were  
621 made to the images. Figures were prepared from exported images in Adobe illustrator.

622 The following primary antibodies were used for staining: Rabbit anti-PICH 1:800, Rabbit anti-human  
623 TopoII $\alpha$  1:1000 (both are prepared as described above), Mouse anti-human TopoII $\alpha$  1:300 (#Ab 189342,  
624 Abcam), Mouse anti-SUMO2/3 (#12F3, Cytoskeleton Inc), Guinea Pig anti-SUMO2/3 (1:300) (prepared  
625 as previously described (Ryu et al., 2010), and Rat anti-RFP (#RMA5F8, Bulldog Bio Inc).  
626

#### 627 **Statistical analysis**

628 All statistical analyses were performed with either 1- or 2-way ANOVA, followed by the appropriate post-  
629 hoc analyses using GraphPad Prism 8 software.  
630

#### 631 **Animal use**

632 For XEE assay, frog eggs were collected from a mature female *Xenopus laevis*, and sperm was obtained  
633 from matured male *Xenopus laevis*. The animal use protocol for the *Xenopus laevis* studies was approved  
634 by University of Kansas IACUC.  
635

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645

#### 646 **Author Contributions**

647 VH conducted almost all of the experiments, created the AID fused PICH cell line and PICH-replaced cell  
648 lines, prepared figures, and drafted the manuscript. HP prepared DNA constructs for genome editing,  
649 created CRISPR/Cas9 genome edited for inducible expression of de-SUMOylation enzyme and for Os-  
650 TIR1 expressing DLD-1 cell line, created AID fused TopoII $\alpha$  cell lines, and performed XEE assay for  
651 validation of Py-S2 proteins. NP conducted experiments for initial validation of the genome edited cell lines  
652 expressing Py-S2. BL performed initial analysis of immunofluorescent images in Figure 5. VA, AA, and  
653 MD established AID-mediated degradation system by optimizing Os-TIR1 integration locus and creating  
654 constructs for genome editing by CRISPR/Cas9 for that system. YA designed the study, supervised project,  
655 and wrote the manuscript.

656  
657 **Conflicts of Interest**

658 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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## Figure legend

### Figure 1. TopoII $\alpha$ inhibition by ICRF-193 leads to increased PICH, SUMO2/3 and TopoII $\alpha$ levels on mitotic chromosomes.

(A) DLD-1 cells were synchronized and treated with indicated inhibitors (7 $\mu$ M ICRF-193: ICRF, and 40 $\mu$ M Merbarone: Merb), DMSO was used as a control. Mitotic chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies. \* indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ . p values for comparison among three experiments were calculated using a one-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction.

ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*\*:  $p < 0.001$

(B) Mitotic cells treated with DMSO (control), ICRF-193, and Merbarone were stained with antibodies against: TopoII $\alpha$  (green) and SUMO2/3 (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.

(C) Mitotic cells were treated as in B and stained with antibodies against: PICH (green), SUMO2/3 (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.

### Figure 2. DeSUMOylation enzyme eliminates PICH response to ICRF-193.

(A) Schematic of fusion proteins generated for modulating SUMOylation on mitotic chromosomes.

(B) Mitotic chromosomes were subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies.

\* indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ . p values for comparison among three experiments were calculated using a two-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction;

ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$

(C) Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (red), PICH (red), TopoII $\alpha$  (red), and mNeon (green). DNA was stained by DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m.

### Figure 3. Mutant form of deSUMOylation enzyme promotes PICH and SUMO2/3 foci in both control and ICRF-193 treated cells

(A) Mitotic chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies.

\* indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ . p values for comparison among three experiments were calculated using a two-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction.

ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$

(B) Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (red), TopoII $\alpha$  (red), PICH (red), and mNeon (green). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m.

### Figure 4. Depletion of TopoII $\alpha$ attenuates SUMO2/3 modification and eliminates PICH response in ICRF-193 treated cells.

(A) DLD-1 cells with endogenous TopoII $\alpha$  tagged with a mAID were synchronized in mitosis and treated with DMSO (control) and ICRF-193. Auxin was added to the cells after release from Thymidine for 6 hours. Mitotic chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies.

\* indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ .

p values for comparison among three experiments were calculated using a two-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction; ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$

**(B)** Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: PICH (green), CENP-C (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.  
**(C)** Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (green), CENP-C (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.

**Figure 5. PICH-depleted chromosomes show increased levels of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ .**

**(A)** DLD-1 cells with endogenous PICH tagged with a mAID were synchronized in mitosis and treated with DMSO (control) and ICRF-193. Auxin was added to the cells after release from Thymidine for 6 hours. Mitotic chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies. \* indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ .

p values for comparison among six experiments were calculated using a two-way ANOVA analysis of variance and Tukey multi-comparison correction; ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*:  $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*\*\*:  $p < 0.0001$ .

**(B)** Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: TopoII $\alpha$  (green), CENP-C (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.

**(C)** Mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (green), CENP-C (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m. The white square indicates enlarged area.

**Figure 6. Translocase function of PICH is necessary for redistribution of SUMOylated proteins and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  on mitotic chromosomes.**

**(A)** DLD-1 cells with endogenous PICH tagged with a mAID and exogenous PICH mCherry mutants were treated with auxin or auxin and doxycycline for 14 hours. Whole cell lysates were subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies.

**(B)** DLD-1 cells with endogenous PICH tagged with a mAID and exogenous PICH mCherry mutants were treated with auxin or auxin and doxycycline for 22 hours. Mitotic chromosomes were isolated and subjected to Western blotting with indicated antibodies.

p values for comparison among three experiments were calculated. ns: not significant; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$ .

**(C)** WT PICH mCherry mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (green), TopoII $\alpha$  (green), mCherry (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m.

**(D)** K128A PICH mCherry mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (green), TopoII $\alpha$  (green), mCherry (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m.

**(E)** d3SIM PICH mCherry mitotic cells were fixed and stained with antibodies against: SUMO2/3 (green), TopoII $\alpha$  (green), mCherry (red). DNA was stained with DAPI (blue). Scale bar = 11 $\mu$ m.

**Figure 7. PICH inhibits SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity.**

**(A)** Recombinant T7 tagged TopoII $\alpha$  proteins were SUMOylated *in vitro*. Samples were subjected to Western blotting using anti-T7 tag antibody. The bracket indicates SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$ .

**(B)** Representative gel after decatenation reactions with non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (— SUMO lane (i)) or SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (+ SUMO lane (ii)) (+PICH lane (iii)) Catenated kDNA is indicated by an arrow. The bracket indicates the decatenated kDNA species.

**(C)** The decatenation activity of reactions in B was calculated as a percentage of decatenated kDNA.

**(D)** Representative gel after decatenation reactions with SUMOylated and non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  with increasing concentrations of PICH. Catenated kDNA is indicated by an arrow. The bracket indicates decatenated kDNA species.

**(E)** The decatenation activity of SUMOylated (ST) and non-SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (T) in D was calculated as a percentage of decatenated kDNA.

Statistical analysis of C (n=4) and E (n=3) were performed by using a two-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction; p values for comparison among the experiments were calculated. ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*:  $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*\*\*:  $p < 0.0001$

**Figure 8. PICH SUMO-binding ability involved in suppression of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  decatenation activity.**

(A) Schematic of PICH protein with known functional motifs. The introduced mutations in SIMs and in the ATPase domain (K128A) are indicated.

(B) Representative gel showing non-SUMOylated (-SUMO) and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (+SUMO) activity with PICH WT, a non-SUMO-binding mutant (d3SIM), and a translocase deficient mutant (K128A) or no PICH protein (-PICH). Catenated kDNA is indicated with an arrow. The bracket indicates decatenated kDNA species.

(C) Decatenation activity of SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (ST) with indicated PICH (ST: no PICH, ST + PICH WT: PICH wild-type, ST + PICH d3SIM: PICH-d3SIM mutant, and ST + PICH K128A: PICH-K128A mutant). Statistical analysis of C was performed by using a one-way ANOVA analysis of variance with Tukey multi-comparison correction; p values for comparison among four experiments were calculated. ns: not significant; \*:  $p \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*:  $p < 0.01$ .

**Figure 9. Model for demonstrating the role of PICH on the redistribution of SUMOylated proteins like TopoII $\alpha$  to promote sister chromatid disjunction.**

SUMOylation plays a critical role in mitotic regulation and timing, this is due in part by regulating the activity and mediating binding of critical proteins. During mitosis proteins become SUMOylated and PICH recognizes and binds these proteins using its three SUMO interacting motifs, then using its translocase activity it redistributes SUMOylated proteins on the chromosomes and this enables proper chromosome segregation. Without PICH we see an accumulation of SUMOylated proteins on the chromosomes. PICH without translocase activity also shows this similar accumulation of SUMOylated proteins on the chromosomes.

**Supplemental Figure S1. Testing SUMO modulating proteins in the *Xenopus laevis* egg extract system.**

(A) Recombinant Py-S2 or Py-S2 Mut proteins were added to *Xenopus laevis* egg extract upon induction of mitosis, and the chromosomes were isolated. Chromosome samples were subjected to Western blotting with anti-SUMO2/3 antibody.

(B) Chromosome samples in A were subjected to Western blotting with anti-Xenopus TopoII $\alpha$  antibody to detect both TopoII $\alpha$  (~160kDa) and SUMOylated TopoII $\alpha$  (marked with red asterisks), and anti-Xenopus PARP1 antibody to detect both PARP1 (~100kDa) and SUMOylated PARP1 (marked with red asterisks). Anti-histone H3 antibody was used as a loading control.

30nM of Py-S2 protein was sufficient to eliminate chromosomal SUMOylation, which is the equivalent concentration of endogenous PIASy protein in XEE, suggesting that the Py-S2 effectively deSUMOylates SUMOylated chromosomal proteins at a physiologically relevant concentration. Note that the concentration of dnUbc9 required for complete inhibition of chromosomal SUMOylation is 5 $\mu$ M in XEE, which is not within the physiological range and is difficult to induce a high expression level of dnUbc9 in cells. Addition of the Py-S2 C548A mutant (Py-S2 Mut) increased SUMO2/3 modification in chromosomal samples, including both TopoII $\alpha$  SUMOylation and PARP1 SUMOylation. This suggests that the Py-S2 Mut acts as a dominant mutant for stabilizing SUMOylation.

**Supplemental Figure S2. Construction of Py-S2 and Py-S2 Mut DLD-1 cell lines.**

(A) Experimental scheme to introduce inducible Py-S2 and Py-S2 Mut into hH11 locus of DLD-1 cells. Cells were transfected with a donor plasmid with homology arms directed to the CCR5 locus (CCR5-TetON3G-mNeonPyS2-PuroR) and two gRNAs to target CCR5 locus. For the screening of the transgene integrated clones, primers were designed to amplify the 5' region (~3kb) and 3' region (~3.26kb) of the integration site.

(B) After the selection using 1 $\mu$ g/mL Puromycin, 1 clone each per construct were further subjected to genomic PCR to confirm the integration of the transgene.

(C) The whole cell lysates obtained from the candidate clones were subjected to Western Blotting to confirm the inducible expression of Py-S2 and Py-S2 Mut proteins. Anti-PIASy antibodies were used to detect expression of fusion proteins (+Dox) or not (-Dox), anti-H2A antibodies were used as a loading control.

#### **Supplemental Figure S3. Construction of OsTIR1 expressing DLD-1 cell lines.**

(A) Experimental schematic for the establishment of OsTIR1 gene expressing DLD1 cell. RCC1-OsTIR1-Myc-P2A-Blasticidin donor plasmid, and two guide RNAs targeting the 3' end of RCC1 were used to integrate the OsTIR1 gene into the RCC1 locus.

(B) After the selection with 2ug/mL Blasticidin, fourteen clones were isolated and subjected to genomic PCR utilizing primers that targeted the 5' end of the construct (upper panel). Non-transfected DLD-1 cells were used as a negative control (DLD-1 NC). Clones #48, 50, 52 and 56 were further verified by genomic PCR using primers for 3' ends of the construct.

(C) Among the positive clones identified in B, two clones were chosen to verify the protein expression by Western blotting. Whole cell lysates obtained from asynchronous cell population were subjected to Western blotting. Non-transfected DLD-1 whole cell lysate was used as a negative control (DLD-1 NC). An anti-Myc antibody was used to detect OsTIR1 protein and anti- $\beta$ -actin was used as a loading control. Clone #50 (marked in red) was chosen to utilize for subsequent AID tagging for TopoII $\alpha$  and PICH.

#### **Supplemental Figure S4. Construction of TopoII $\alpha$ -AID cell line.**

(A) Experimental schematic of donor plasmid tagging the 5' end of endogenous TopoII $\alpha$  with AID. Cells were transfected with the donor plasmid together with two different guide RNAs.

(B) After selection with 400ug/mL hygromycin, resistant clones were isolated. Whole cell lysate was obtained from cells and the expression of the transgene was screened by Western blotting analysis. Representative Western blotting of clones is shown. An anti-Flag antibody was used to detect AID-Flag tagged TopoII $\alpha$  (~190kDa) in the 700 channel (red) and anti-TopoII $\alpha$  antibodies were used to detect both AID-Flag tagged TopoII $\alpha$  and untagged TopoII $\alpha$  (~160kDa) in the 800 channel (green). Anti- $\beta$ -tubulin was used as a loading control.

(C) Genomic DNA from hygromycin resistant clones was extracted for PCR analysis using indicated primers shown in A. Representative result of PCR amplification was shown. Clones showing only 3kbp DNA fragment are homozygous AID integrated clones (#72, #79 and #80).

(D) The clone #79 was treated with auxin for 2, 4, and 6-hours, and evaluated the TopoII $\alpha$  depletion by Western blotting. As a control, DLD-1 OsTIR1#50 parental cells were treated with auxin for 6 hours (DLD1 TIR1). Whole cell lysates were subjected to Western blotting analysis using indicated antibodies. Clone #79 was chosen for further analysis in the subsequent experiments showed in Figure 2.

(E) DLD-1 cells with endogenous TopoII $\alpha$  tagged with an auxin inducible degron (AID) were synchronized in mitosis and treated with auxin 6 hours after Thymidine release. Cells were plated onto fibronectin coated coverslips and subsequently stained with anti-TopoII $\alpha$ , anti-CENP-C, and DNA was labeled with DAPI. TopoII $\alpha$  foci on mitotic chromosomes are completely eliminated with auxin treatment.

#### **Supplemental Figure S5. Construction of PICH-AID cell line.**

(A) Experimental schematic of donor plasmid used to tag the 5' end of endogenous PICH locus with AID tag. Cells were transfected with PICH-mAID-3xFlag-P2A-Hygromycin donor and two different guide RNAs. After selection with 400ug/mL hygromycin clones were isolated, whole cell lysates were collected from asynchronous populations, and Western blotting was performed.

(B) Representative Western blot for hygromycin-resistant clone screening is shown. An anti-Flag antibody was used to detect AID-Flag tagged PICH (~180kDa) in the 700 channel (colored red) and anti-PICH antibodies were used to detect both AID-Flag tagged PICH (~180kDa) and untagged PICH (~150kDa) in the 800 channel (colored green). Non-transfected DLD-1 TIR1#50 parental cell line (labeled DLD-1) was used as a negative control. Anti- $\beta$ -tubulin was used as a loading control. Among

thirteen samples analyzed, the clones which showed a single yellow PICH band were chosen for genomic PCR analysis (clones #1, 6 and 11).

**(C)** Genomic DNA was isolated and subjected to PCR using an F1 primer located upstream of the left homology arm and Hygro Rev PCR primer located within the insert. Non-transfected DLD-1 TIR#50 parental cell DNA was used as a control (DLD-1 NC).

**(D)** The clones 1 and 6 were tested for further depletion of PICH protein by auxin addition at 4, 6, and 20-hour time points. The non-transfected DLD-1 TIR#50 parental cells were used as a control with either non-treated (TIR#50) or treated with auxin for 20 hours (TIR#50 +Aux 20 hours). The whole cell lysates were subjected to Western blotting analysis. Anti-PICH antibodies were used to detect PICH (~150kDa) or PICH-AID (~180kDa), anti- $\beta$ -tubulin antibodies were used as a loading control. Clone #1 (marked in red) was chosen to utilize for subsequent experiments showed in Figure 5 and Figure S6.

**(E)** DLD-1 cells with endogenous PICH tagged with an auxin inducible degron (AID) were synchronized in mitosis and treated with DMSO or ICRF-193. Auxin was added 6 hours after Thymidine release. Mitotic cells obtained by shake-off were plated onto fibronectin coated coverslips and subsequently stained with indicated antibodies. DNA was labeled with DAPI. PICH foci on mitotic chromosomes were completely eliminated with auxin in both DMSO and ICRF-193 treated cells.

### **Supplemental Figure S6. Construction of Tet-inducible PICH mCherry mutants.**

**(A)** Experimental schematic of donor plasmid used to introduce PICH mCherry mutants into the CCR5 safe harbor locus. Cells were transfected with PICH- mCherry-P2A-Zeocin donor and two different guide RNAs.

**(B)** After selection with 400ug/mL Zeocin clones were isolated, cells were treated with doxycycline and auxin for 14 hours, whole cell lysates were collected from asynchronous populations, and Western blotting was performed.

**(C)** Genomic DNA was isolated and subjected to PCR using a Sv40 F primer located within the insert and CCR5 Rev located outside of the right homology arm. Non-transfected DLD-1 TIR#50 parental cell DNA was used as a control (DLD-1 NC).

**(D)** DLD-1 cells with endogenous PICH tagged with an auxin inducible degron (AID) and PICH mCherry mutants introduced into the CCR5 locus were synchronized in mitosis and treated with auxin and doxycycline for 22hours. Mitotic cells obtained by shake-off were plated onto fibronectin coated coverslips and subsequently stained with DAPI to label DNA and mCherry to label PICH expressing cells.

Primers used for amplification of homology arms

RCC1 Left HA Forward	GGAATCCATATGGGAGGCAATGGGACTGGAACCC
RCC1 Left HA Reverse	GAAGATCTAGACTGCTCTTTGTCCTTGACCAAGAGTACAGTATGCTG ACCTCCAGAGCTAACGCTCAGAACAACCTCTATTCTCCAGCTGTTTGC CCATCA
RCC1 Right HA Forward	CCGCTCGAGTGATGAAGCCTCTGAGGGCCTGG
RCC1 Right HA Reverse	ATAGTTTAGCGGCCGCCTATATCCTATTTTCTCAGCCACTGTACAAG
PICH Left HA Forward	CGGACATGTACTACTCCGTGTCTCGAAGGCAG
PICH Left HA Reverse	GCCGTCGACGACCCTCGGATTGGGTTTCAGTTACC
PICH Right HA Forward	GAAGTAGTATGGAGGCATCCCGAAGGTTTCCGGAAGCCGATGCC
PICH Right HA Reverse	GCGGCCGCCTCTTGCCACGCCATCCCT
Topolla Left HA Forward	ggctgctgtccagaaagc
Topolla Left HA Reverse	ctcaagaaccctgaaagcgactaaacagg
Topolla Right HA Forward	accATGGAAGTGTACACCATTGCAGG
Topolla Right HA Reverse	CCTGCATACATTATTTACCGAGTGCCTA
CCR5 Left HA Forward	gtactcaaaagctccccaggcctcc
CCR5 Left HA Reverse	CTGCGAACACTGGTGAGAGGCCG
CCR5 Right HA Forward	GAACCTGCCATGACAGTCACGGTG
CCR5 Right HA Reverse	ctccccgtcccactctcttccc
hH11 Left HA Forward	gattaaaattgcatatgctaagtgtg
hH11 Left HA Reverse	tgacctgttggggtc
hH11 Right HA Forward	catagccttgtggctaataaccagtatatc
hH11 Right HA Reverse	gaagctgaggaatcacatgg

gRNA sequences used for Cas9 targeting of RCC1 locus or PICH locus

gRNA Rcc1-1	GACACAGATAAGACCACA
gRNA Rcc1-2	CTTATCTGTGTCCAGCGG
gRNA PICH-1	CCTCGGATTGGGTTCCAGTT
gRNA PICH-2	CCGAAGGTTTCCGGAAGCCG
gRNA Topolla-1	ttccatggtgacggtcgtga
gRNA Topolla-2	cccgcgagccgtacctgcaa
gRNA Topolla-3	aaccctgaaagcgactaac
gRNA CCR5	CCACCCGCTGATTCAATACG
gRNA hH11-1	ATAGCCTTGTGGCTAATACC
gRNA hH11-2	CCCAACAGGTCAGTTTATAC

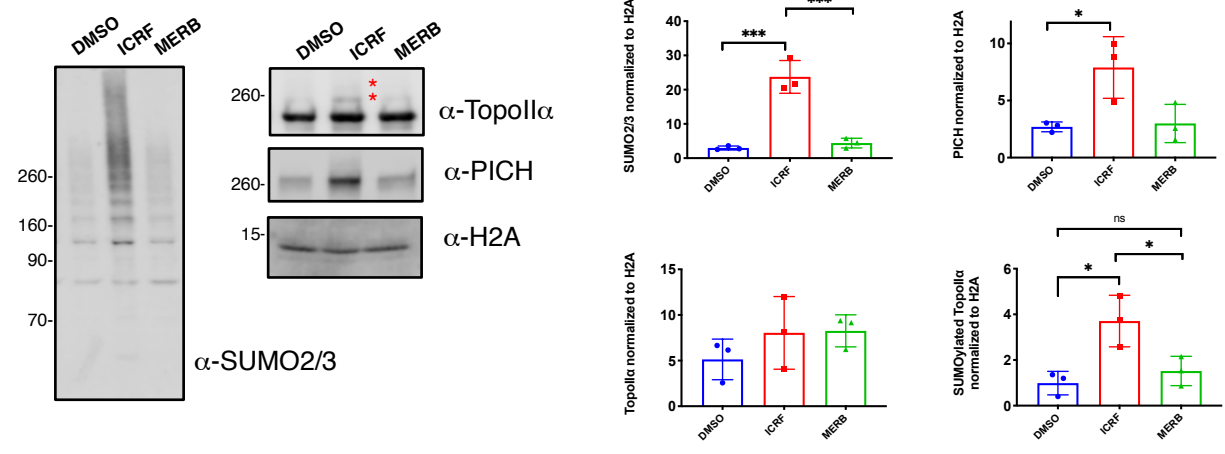
Primers used for genomic PCR

CCR5 F	cgagctcagggaccaactgaaataaag
hH11 F	cctgtgtcaacagtttgg
Pause Site R	gttttgatggagagcgtatgtagtac
Sv40 F	ccgAGATCTctctagaggatctttgtgaag
CCR5 R	cagtttggggttaaacttgtcctcctc
hH11 R	gtaaacatgatttgtttgagag
RCC1 F	gccatggaggtcctgtagaa
RCC1 Rev	ACACCTGAGGGGCAAGAGTA
TIR Rev	TGAAGTCGGCGAAGT
TIR F	TCTTCACTGGTGTCAATGTAT
PICH F1	acggggtgtcaccatthtagcc

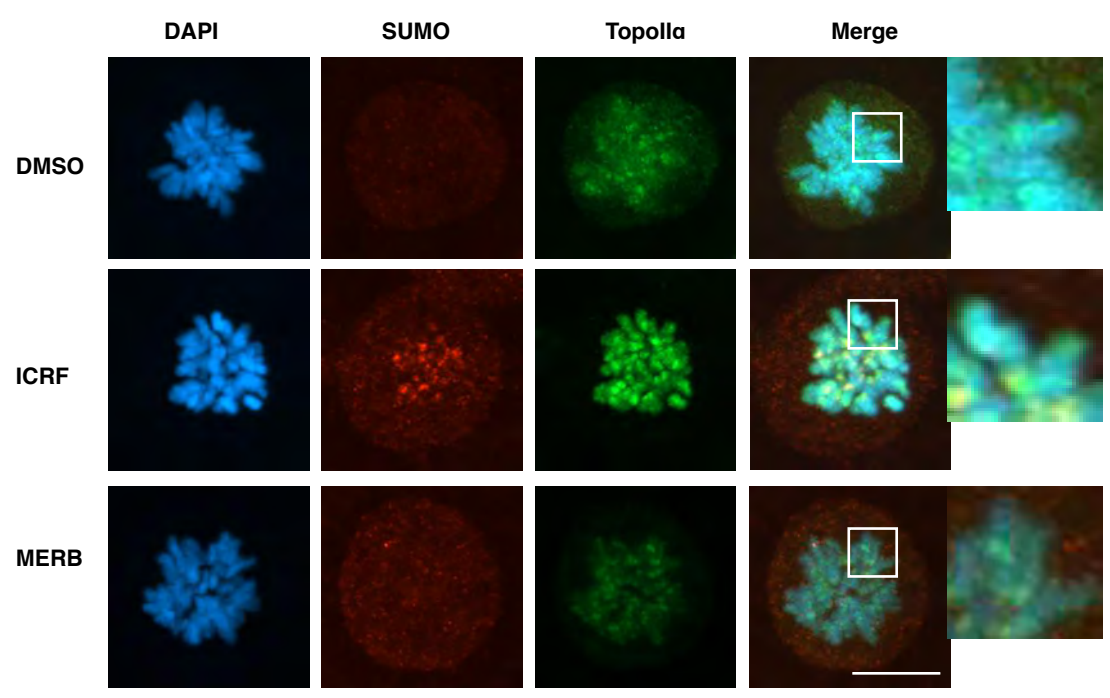
Hygro Rev	TCAGCGAGAGCCTGACCTAT
T2A F	CAATGTGCTGCGAATACAGACTC
T2A R	cagacacatattatctcaccaagtgg

Supporting Information Table

**A**



**B**



**C**

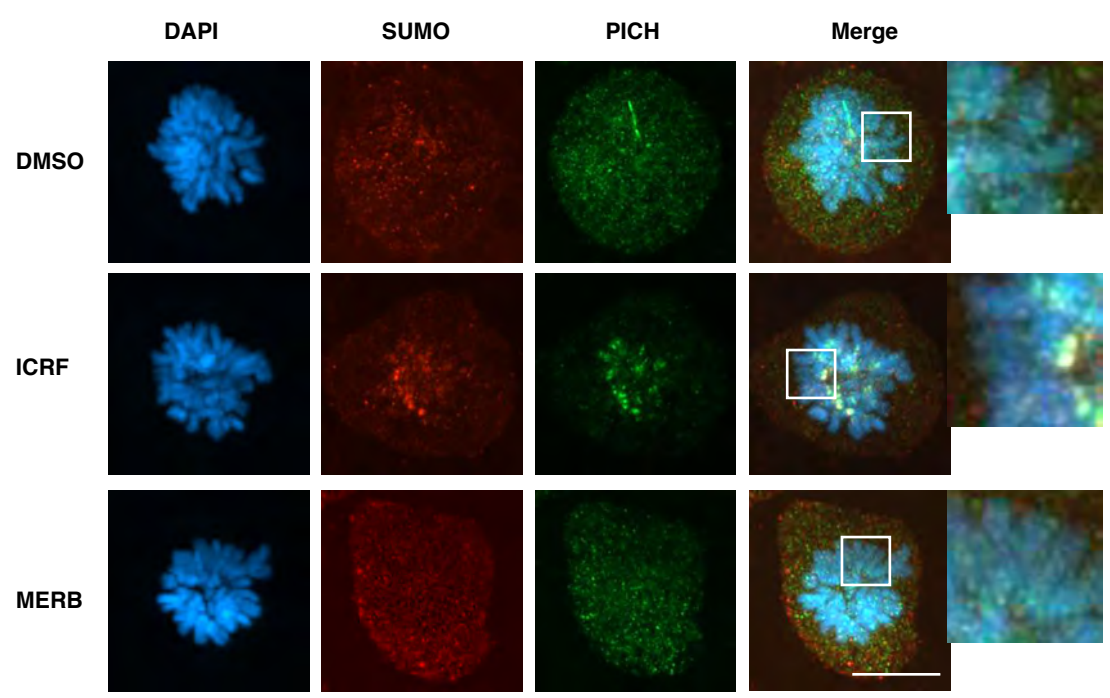


Figure 1



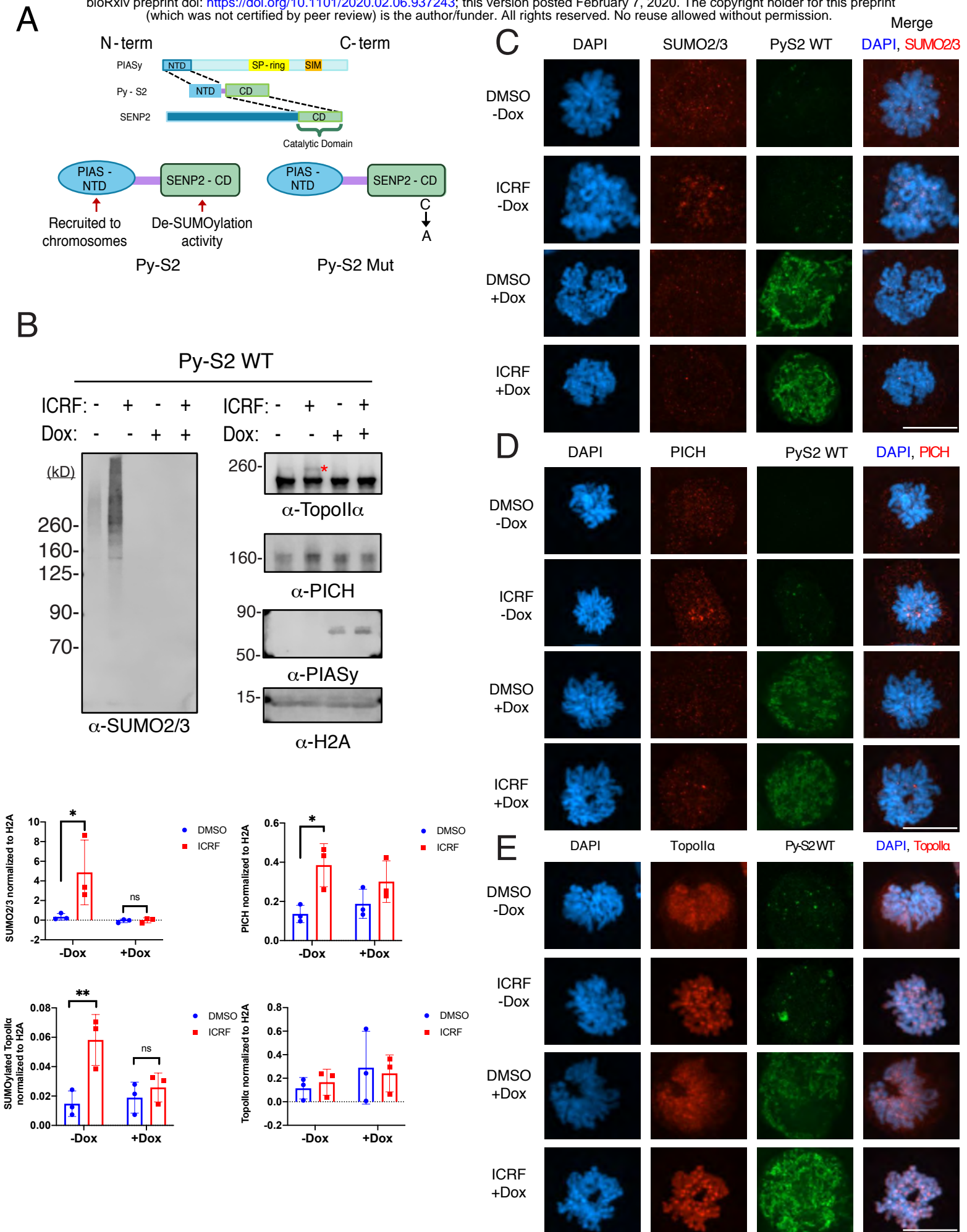


Figure 2

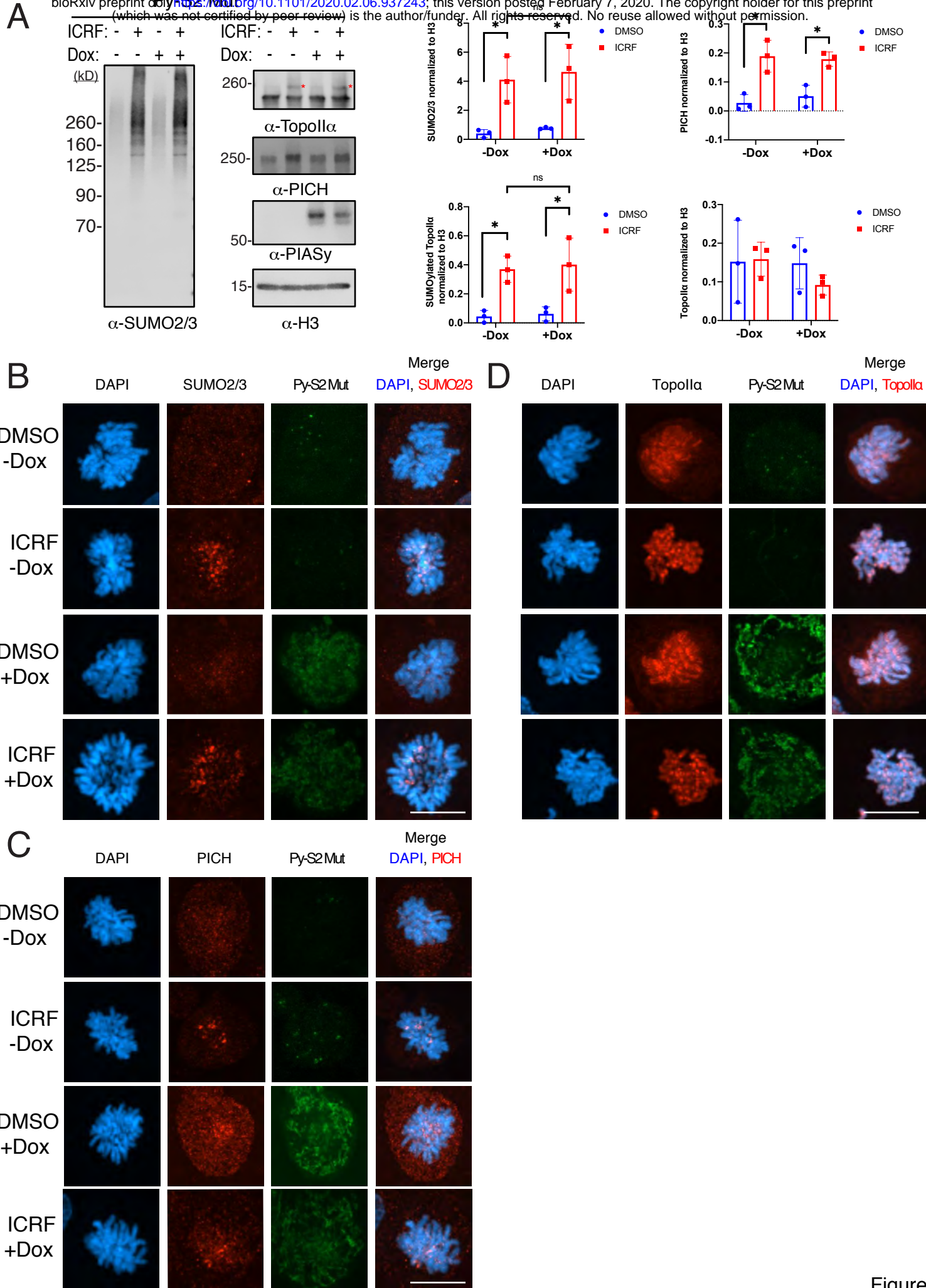
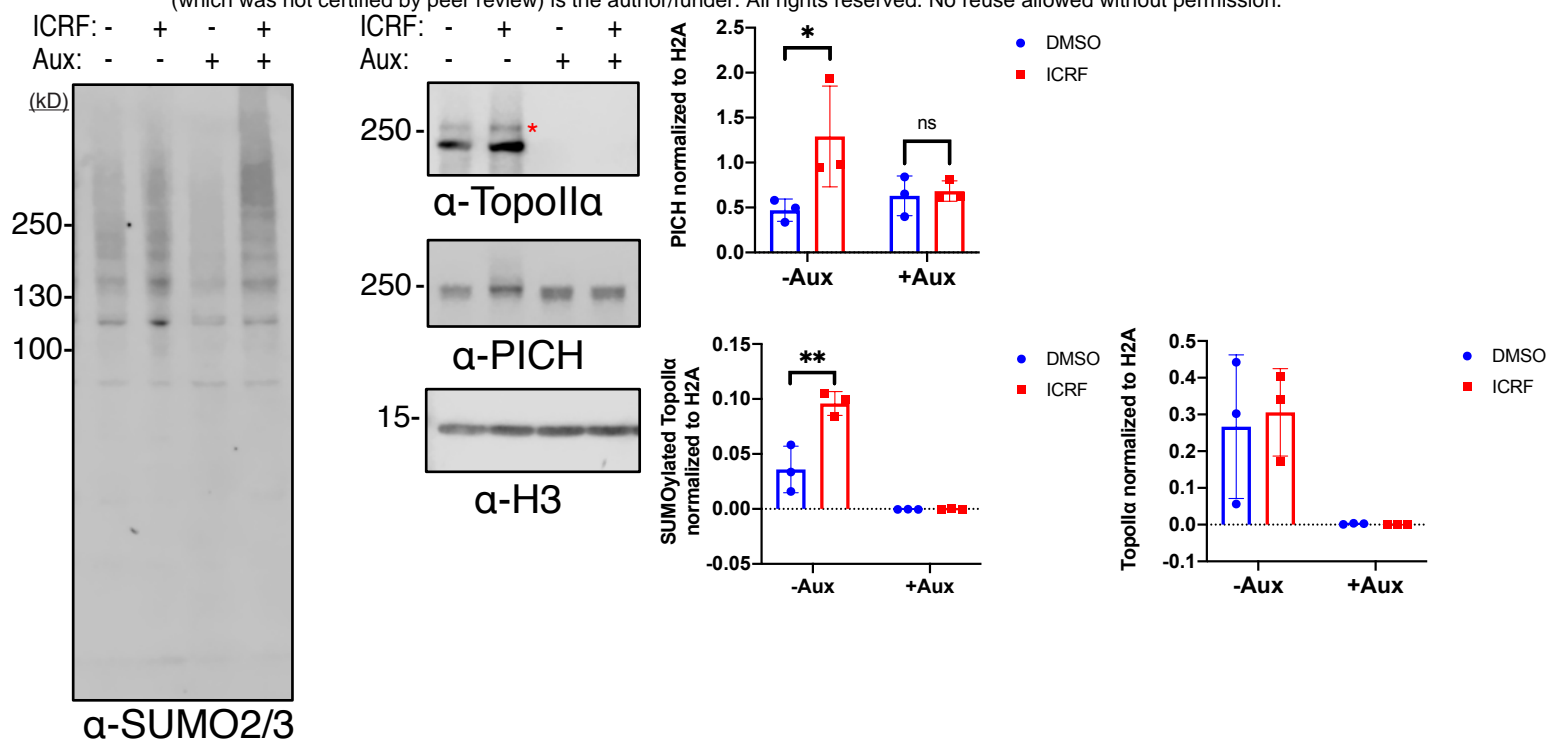
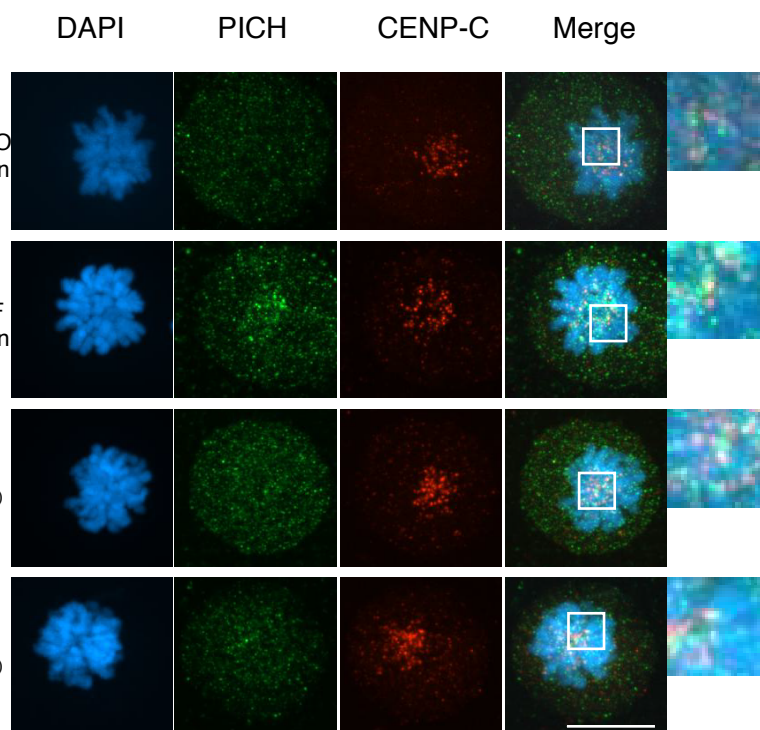


Figure 3

**A**



**B**



**C**

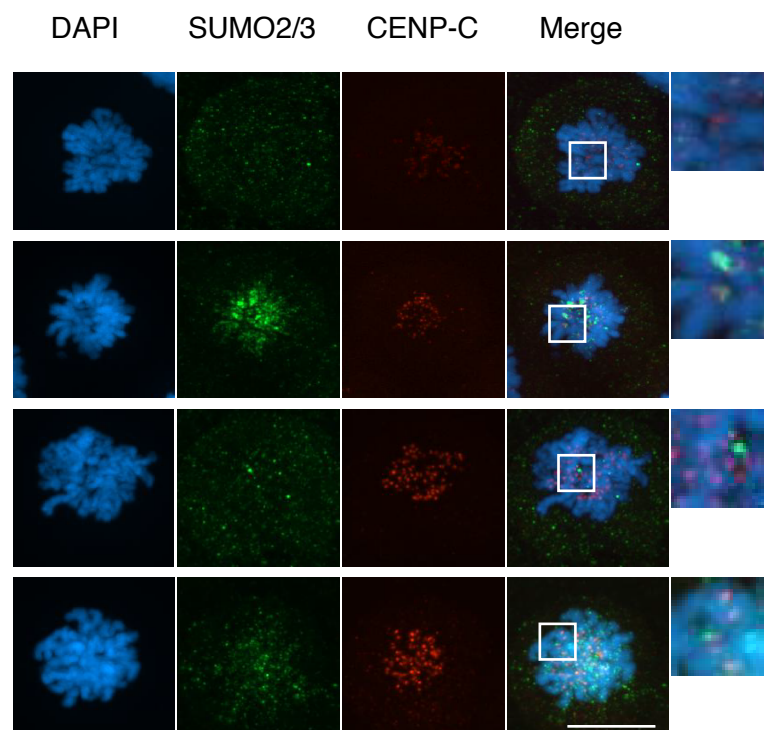
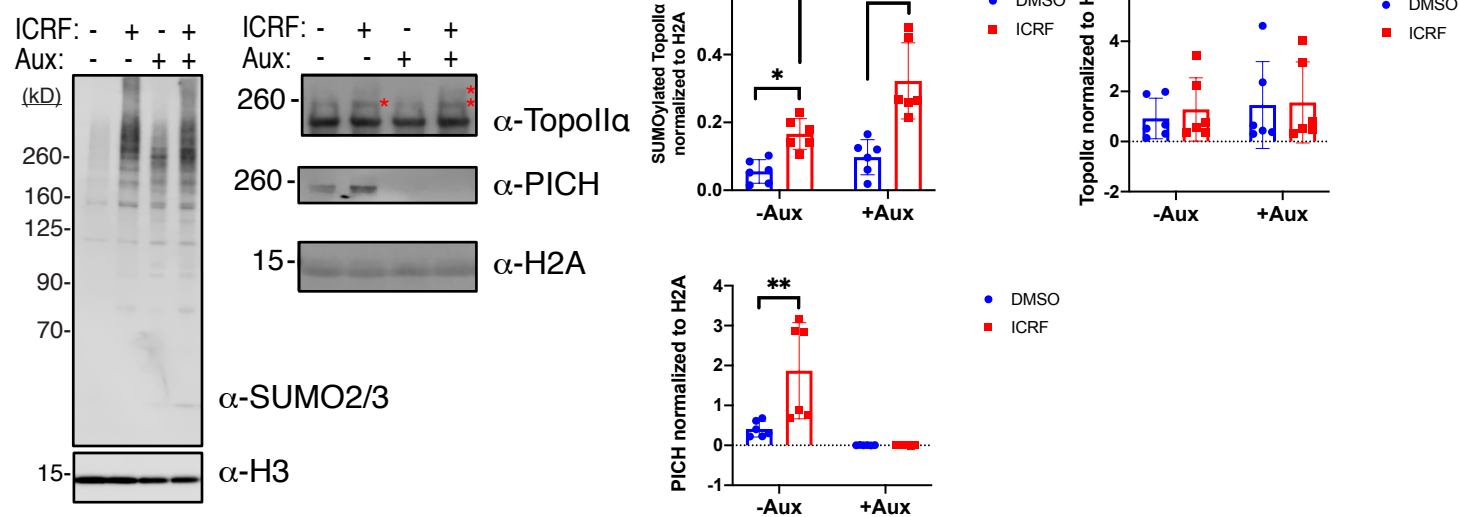


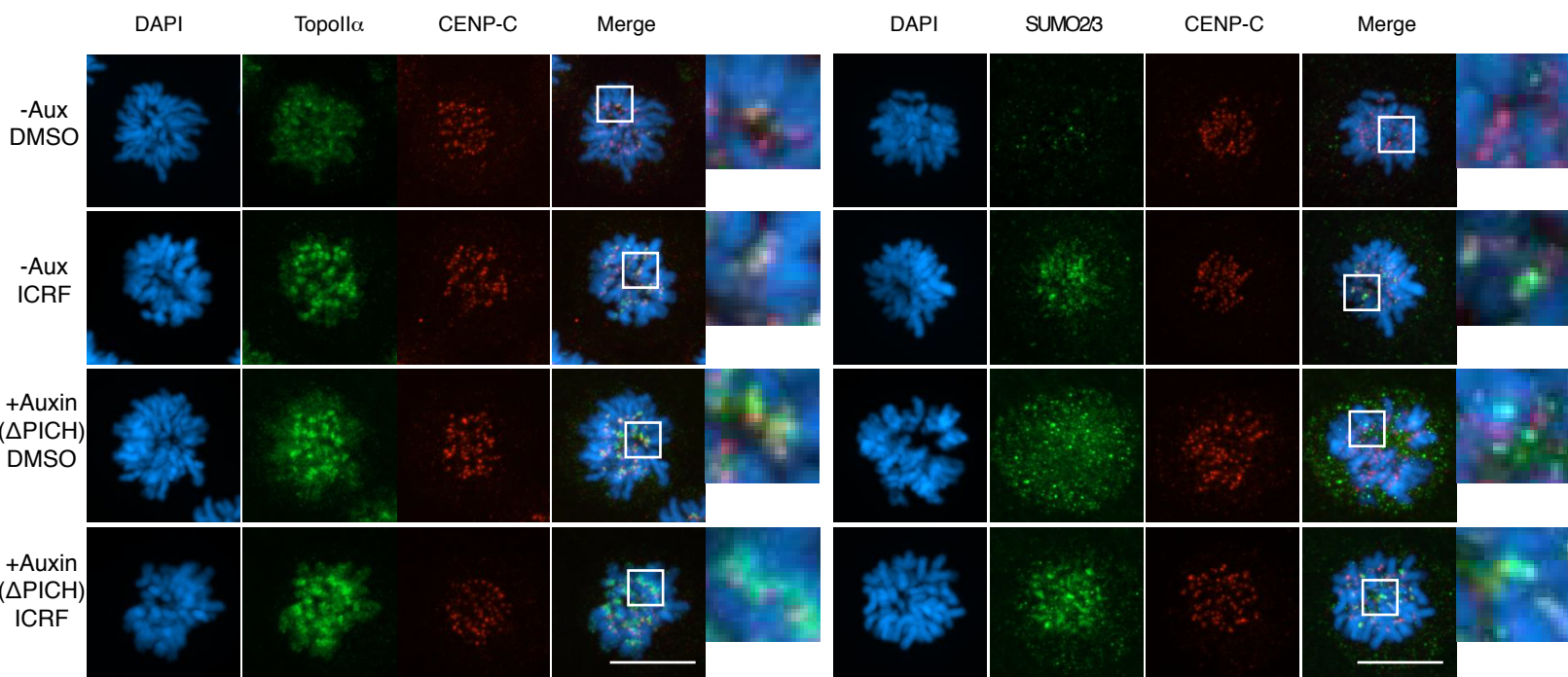
Figure 4

**A**



**B**

**C**



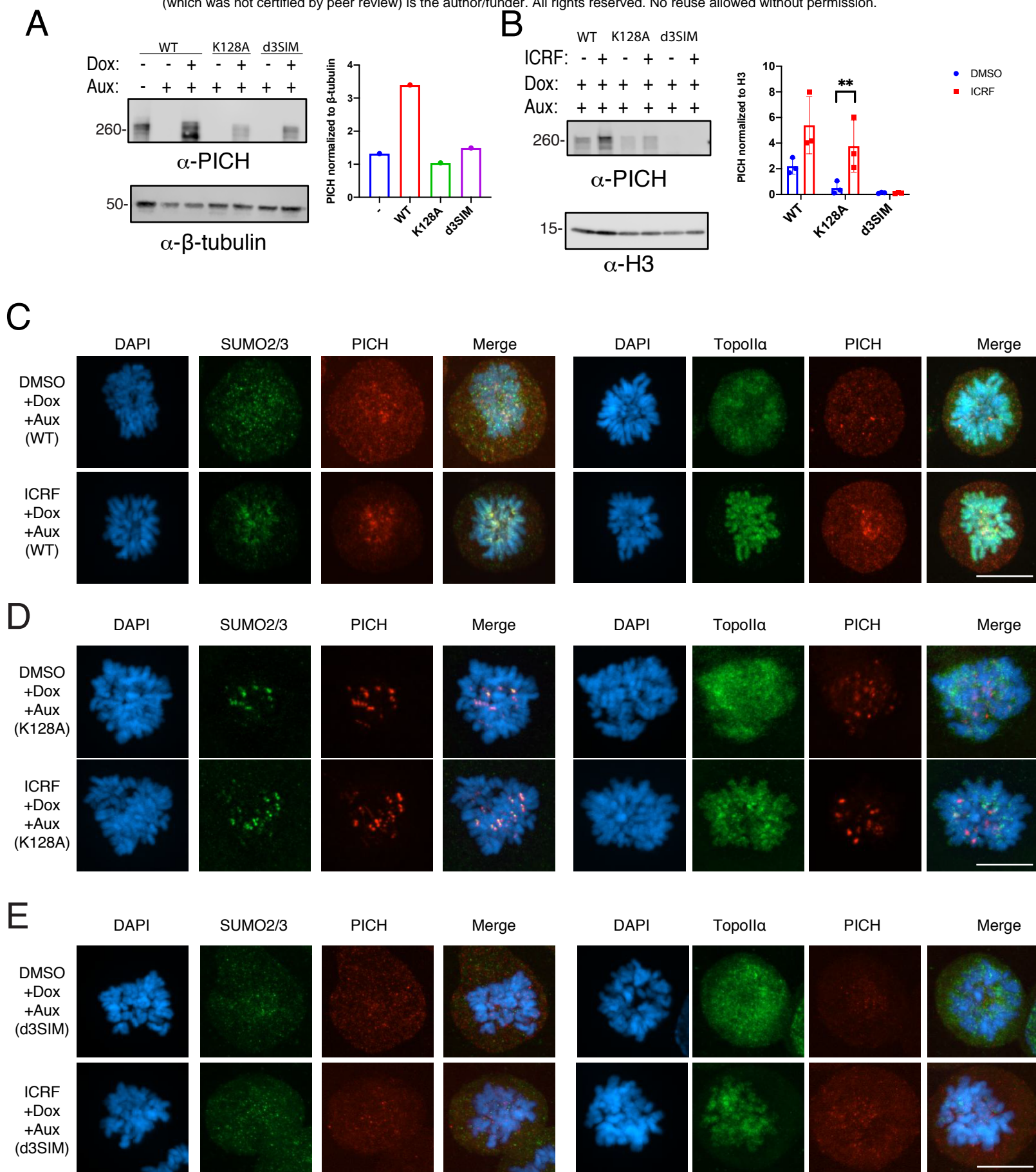


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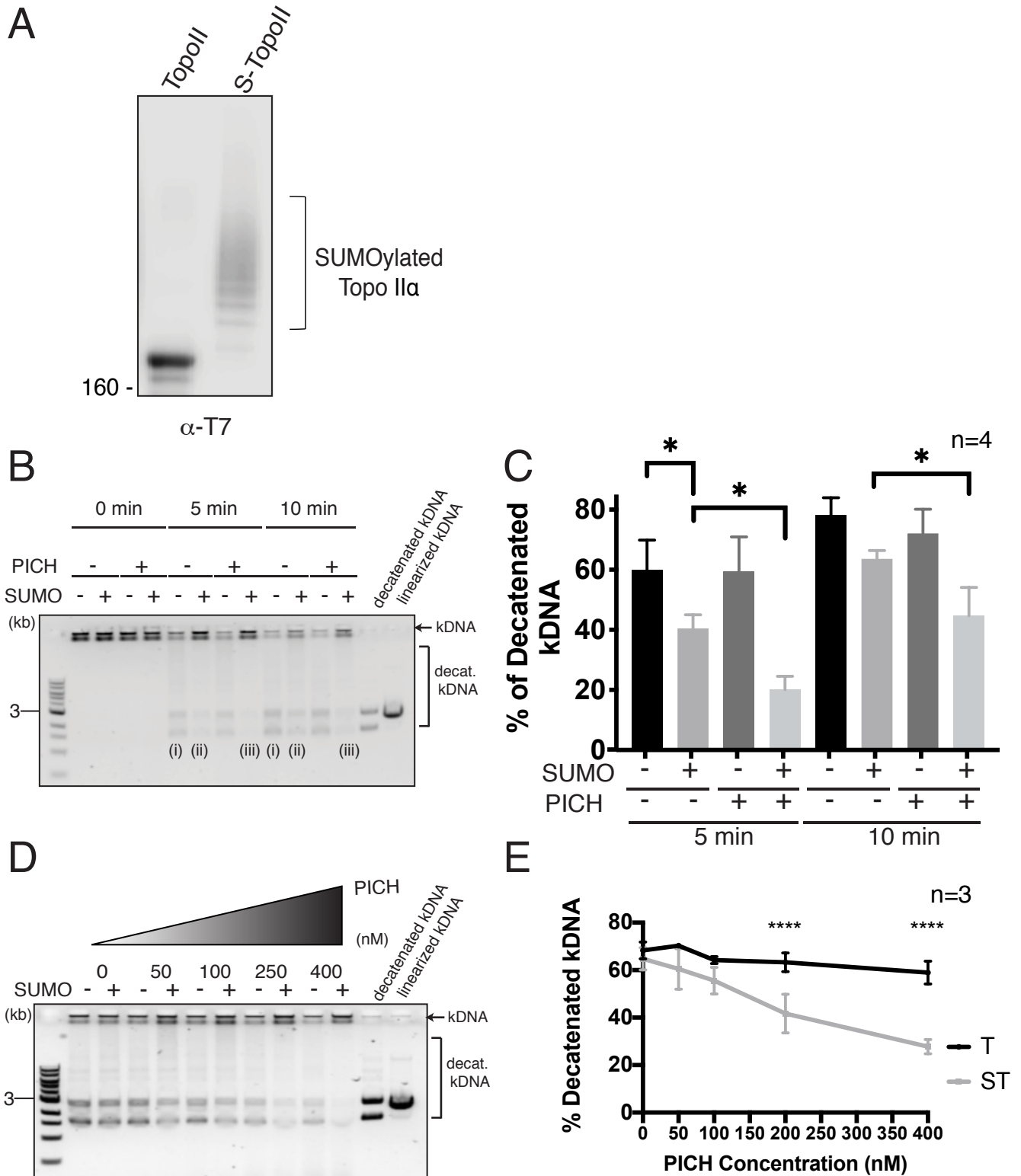


Figure 7

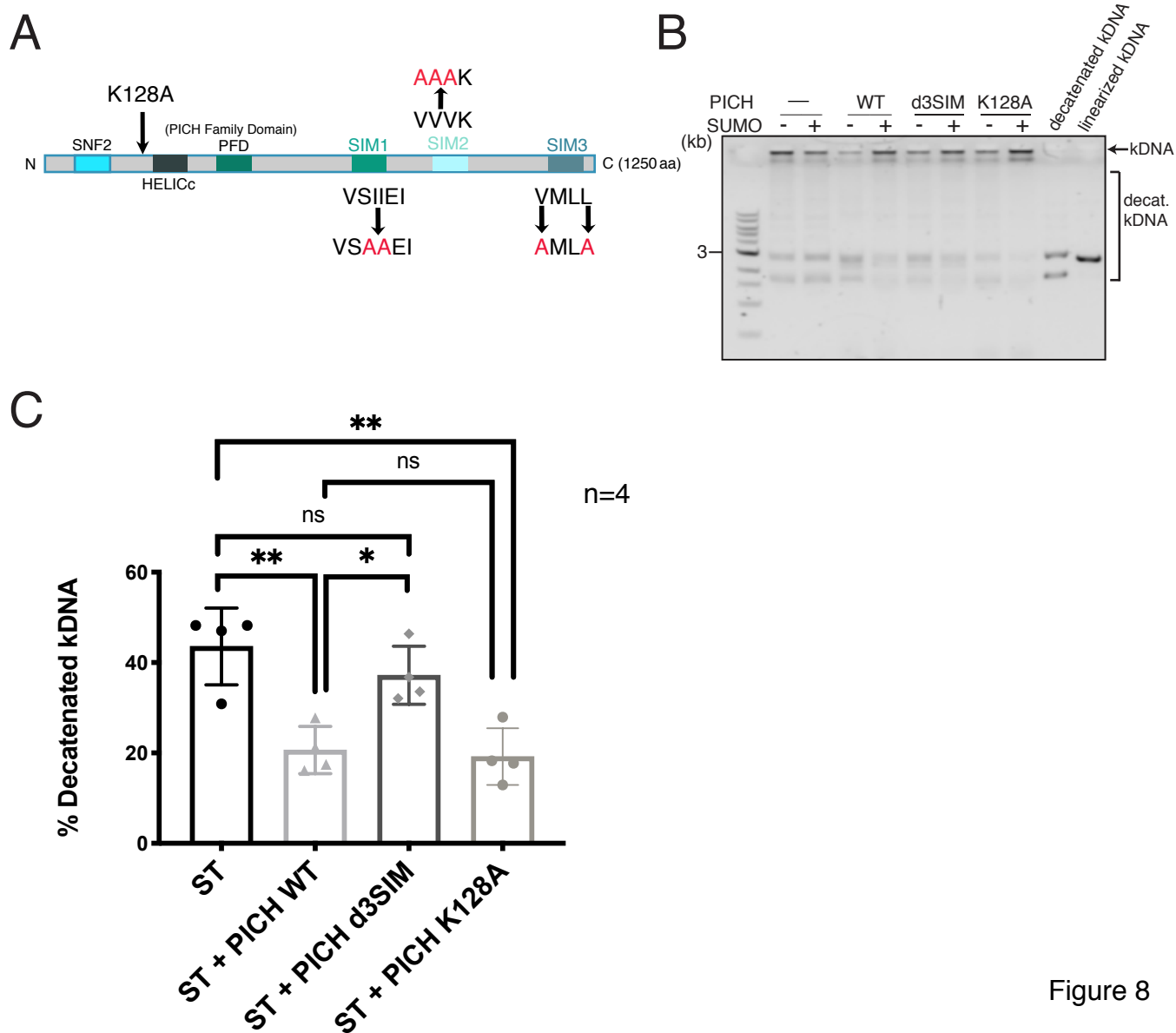


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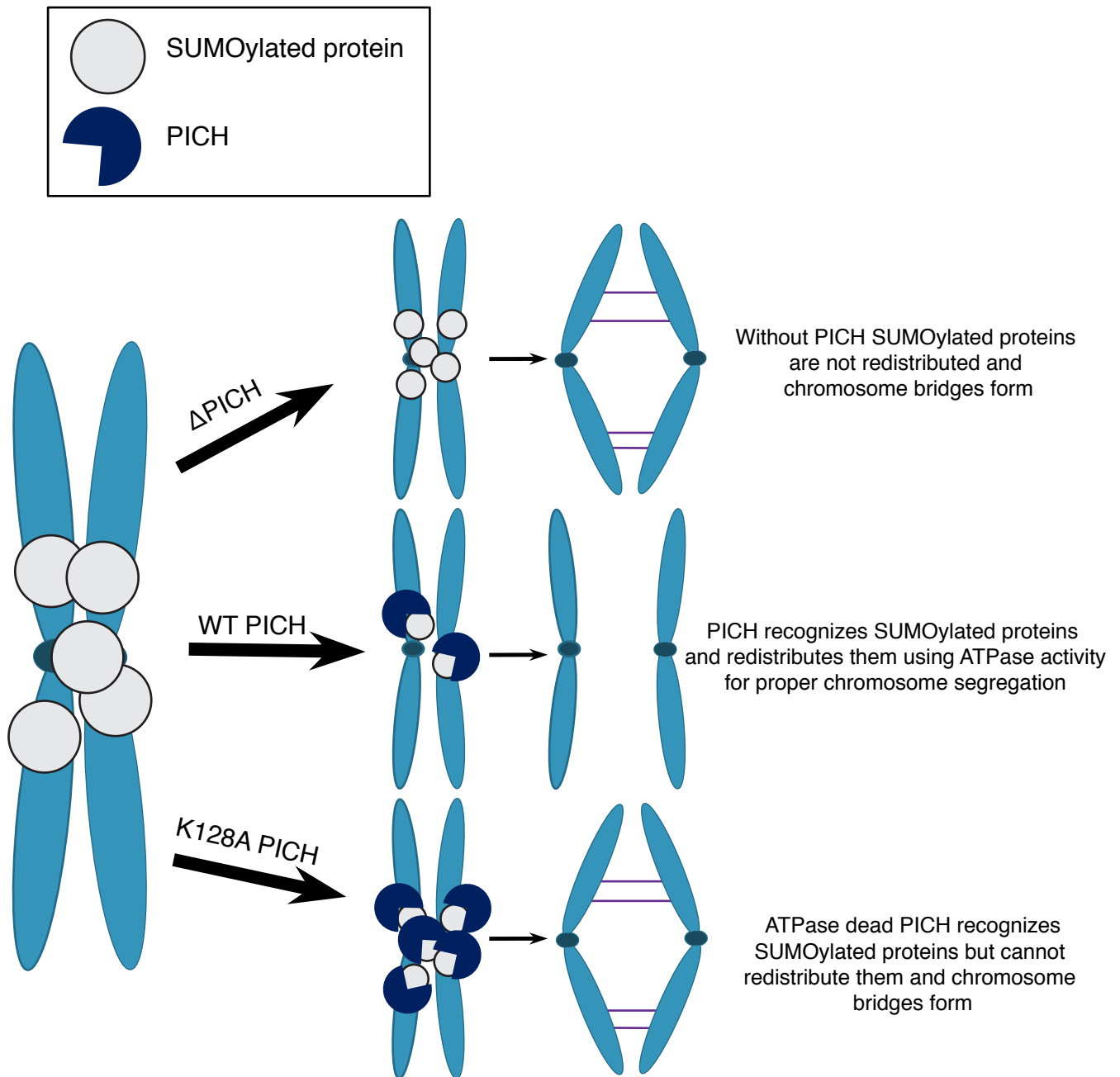
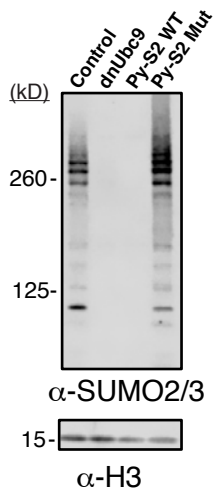
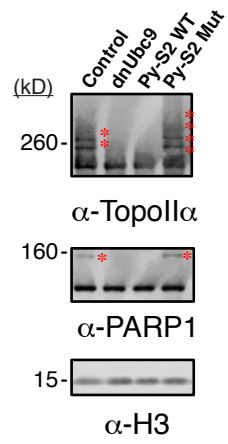


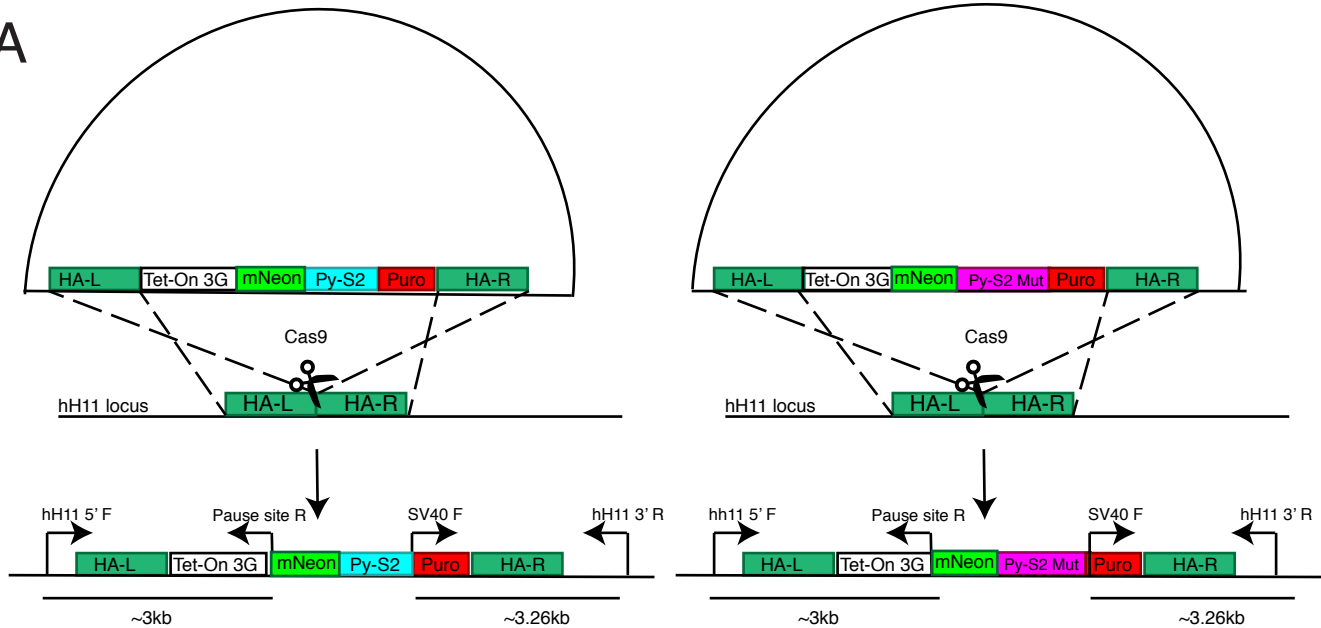
Figure 9



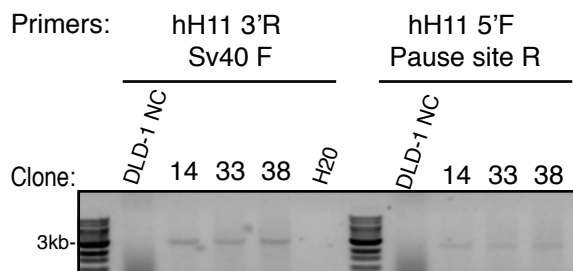
**A****B**

Supplemental Figure S1

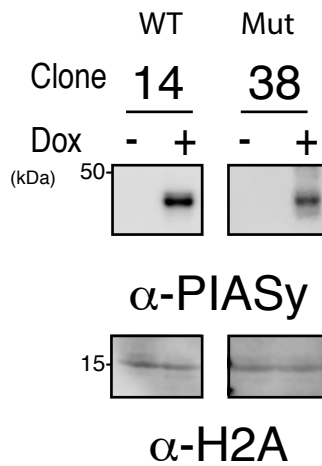
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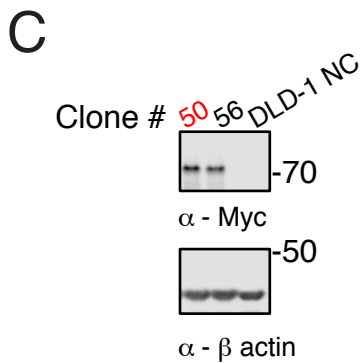
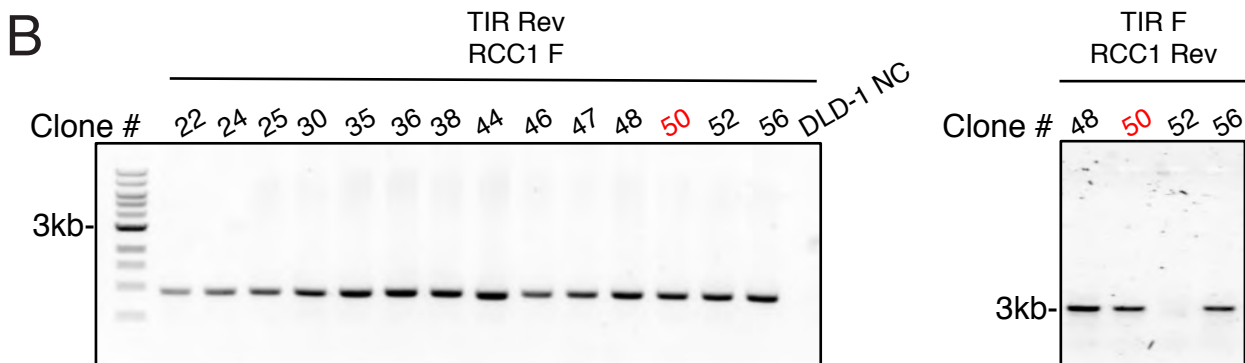
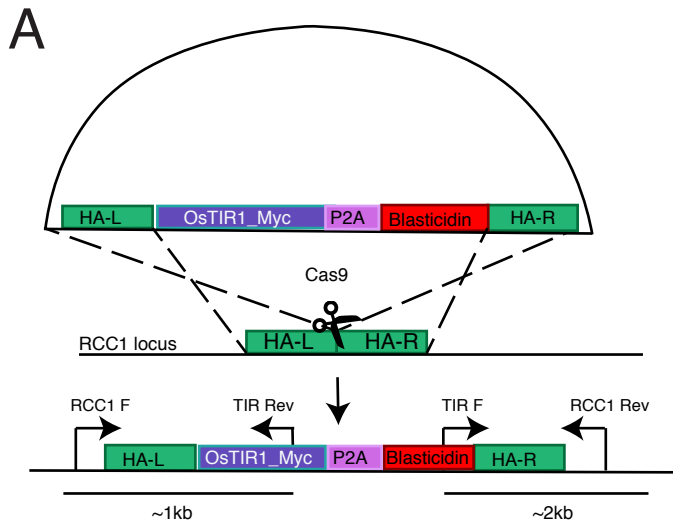
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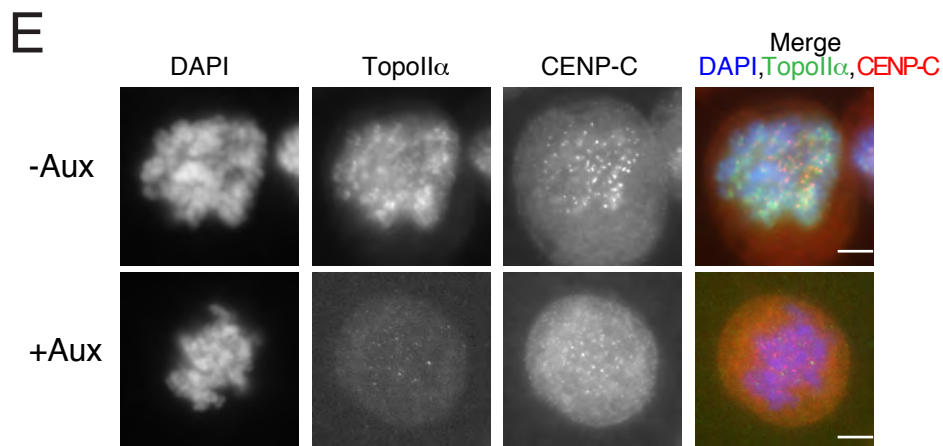
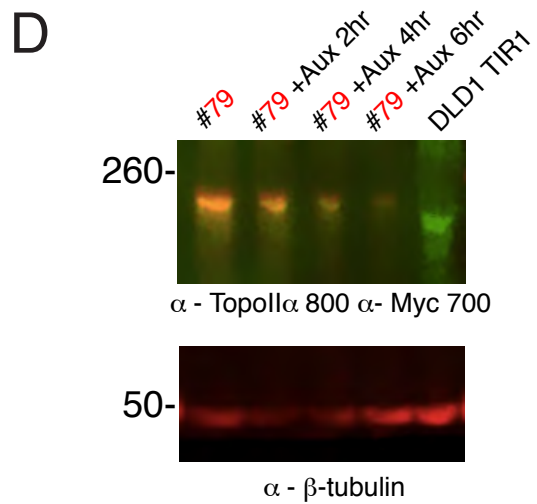
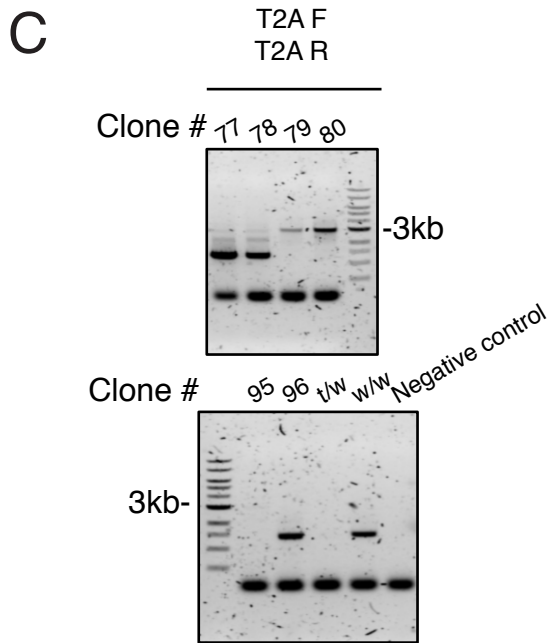
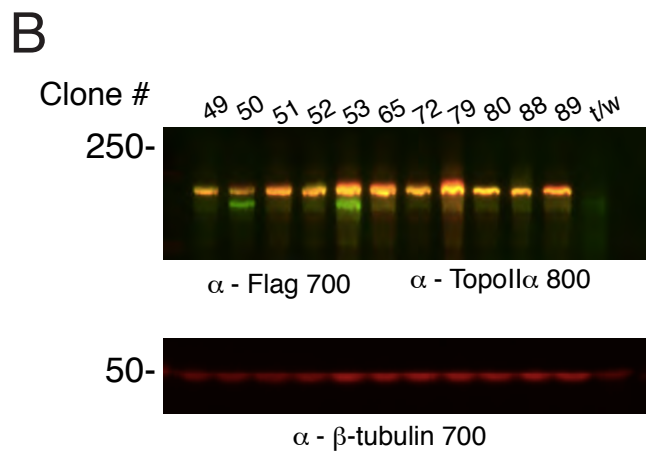
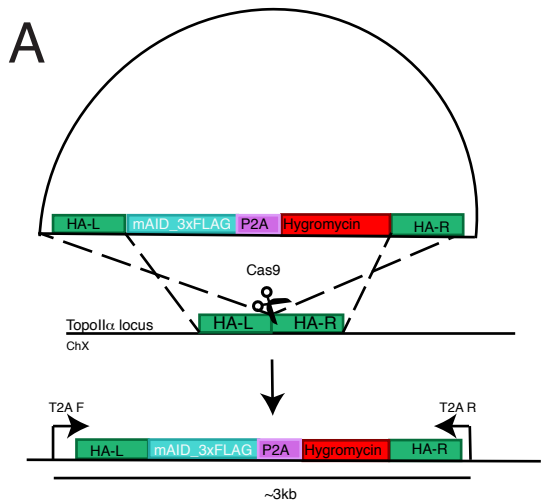
**C**



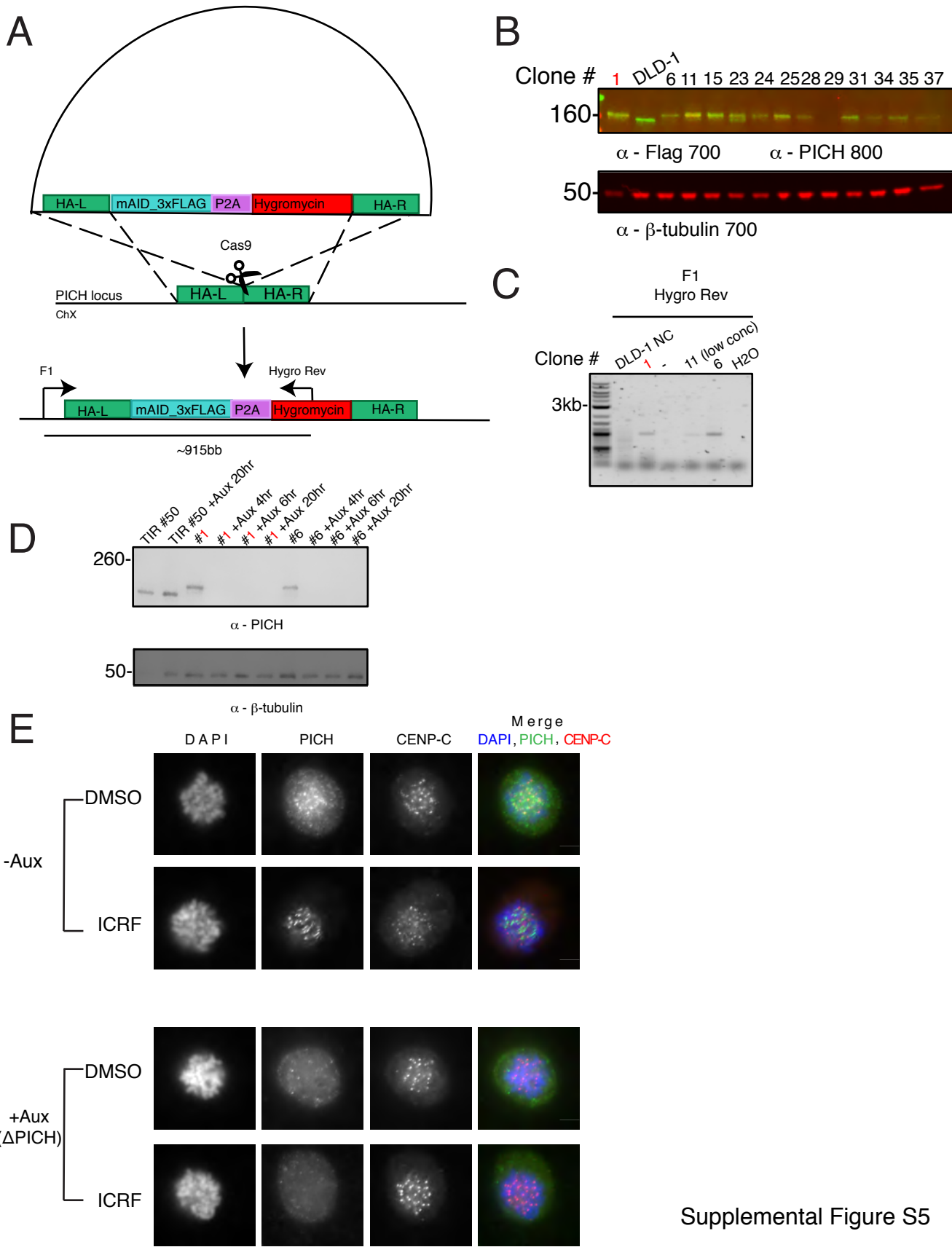
Supplemental Figure S2



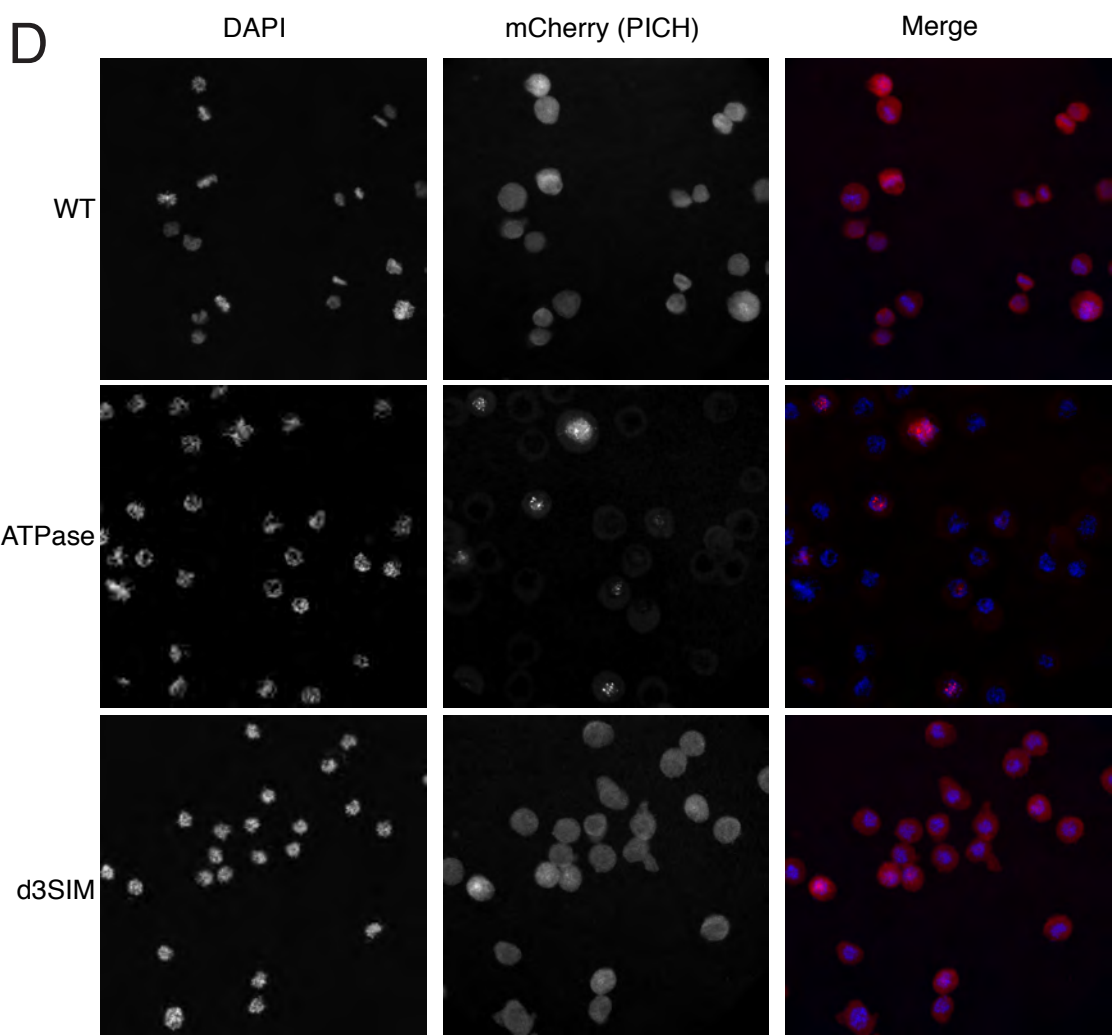
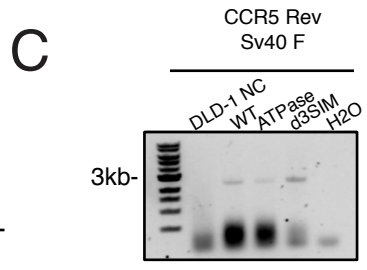
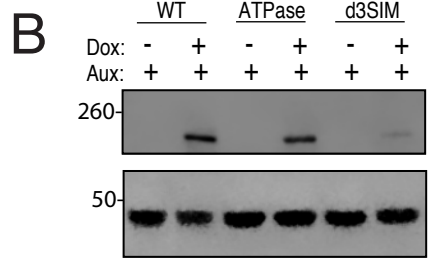
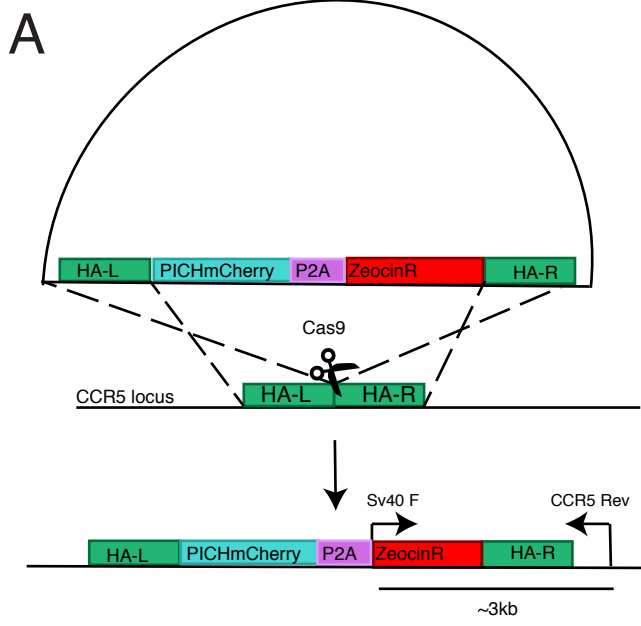
Supplemental Figure S3



Supplemental Figure S4



Supplemental Figure S5



Supplemental Figure S6