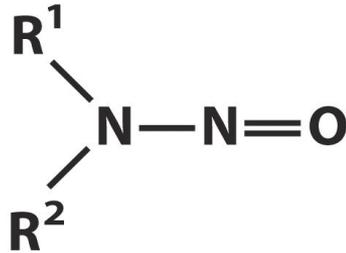


# Chemical Sources of Deaminations



Sodium nitrite

Sodium nitrate

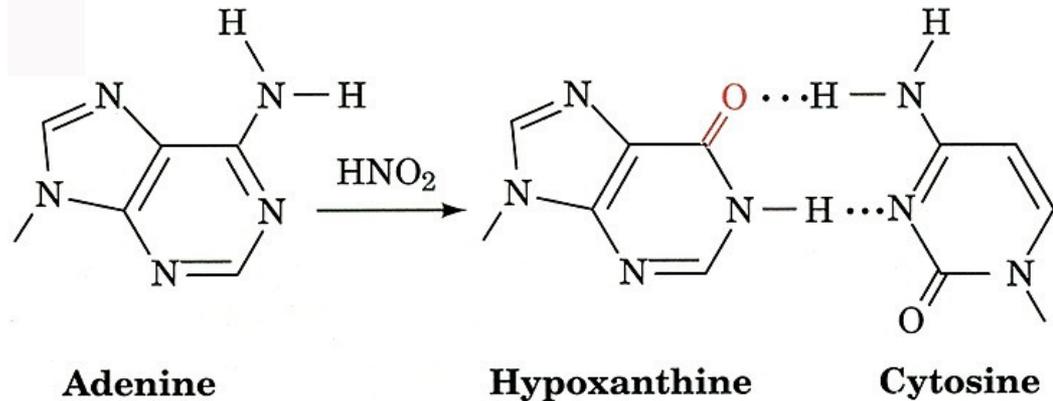
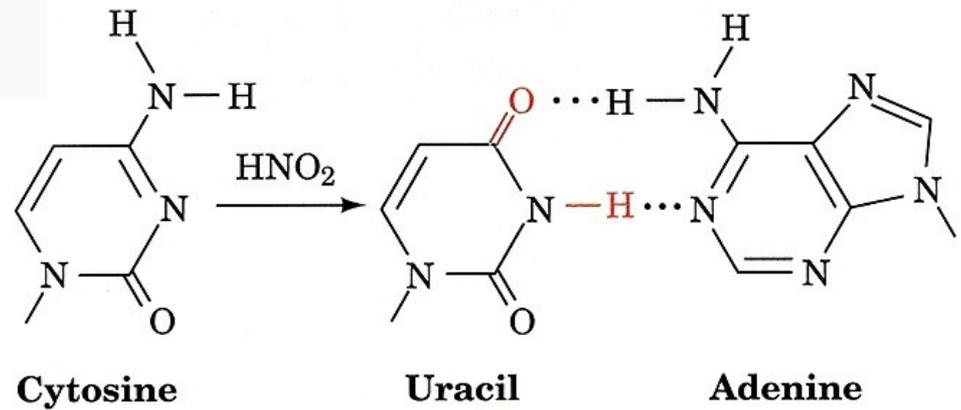


Nitrosamine  
(by-product of rubber production)

Nitrous acid precursors

(Nitrous acid:  $\text{HNO}_2$ )

# Genetic Consequences of Deaminations



• Xanthine also base pairs with C

# Spontaneous depurinations and depyrimidinations

**Depurination: 10,000 events/day  
for a mammalian cell**

**Depyrimidination: 500  
events/day for a mammalian cell**

## **Nomenclature:**

**Abasic = No Base**

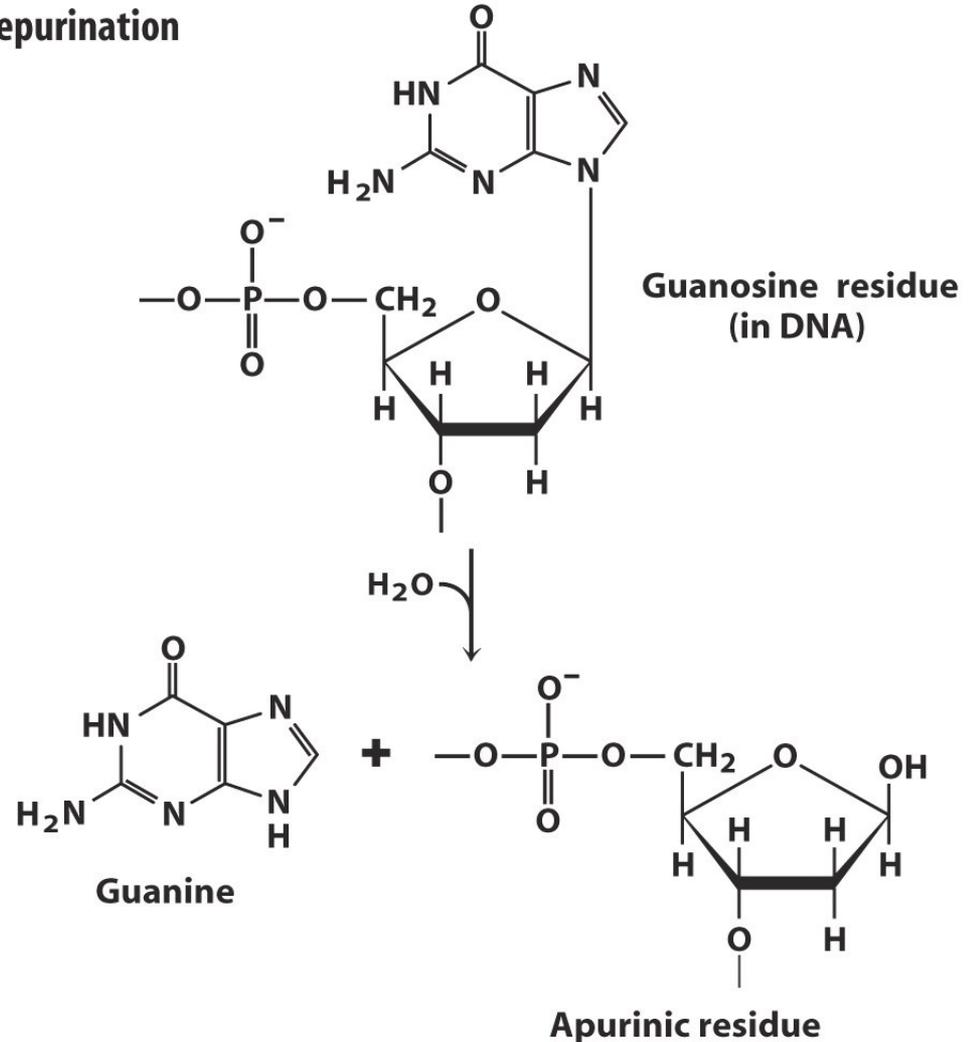
**Apurinic = no purine base**

**Apyrimidinic = no pyrimidine base**

Generally called an **abasic site** or

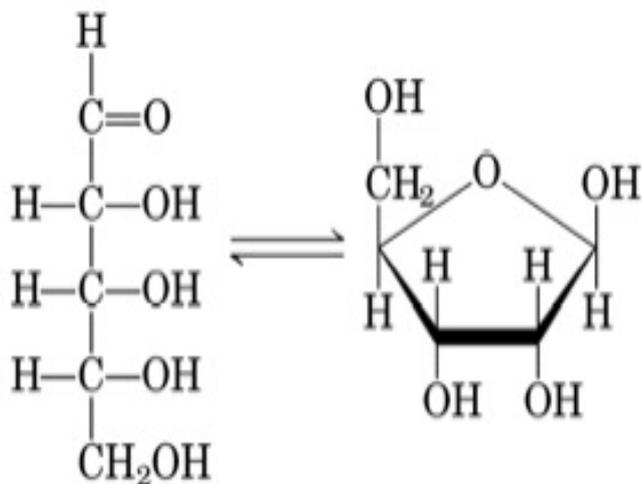
**AP site**.

## Depurination



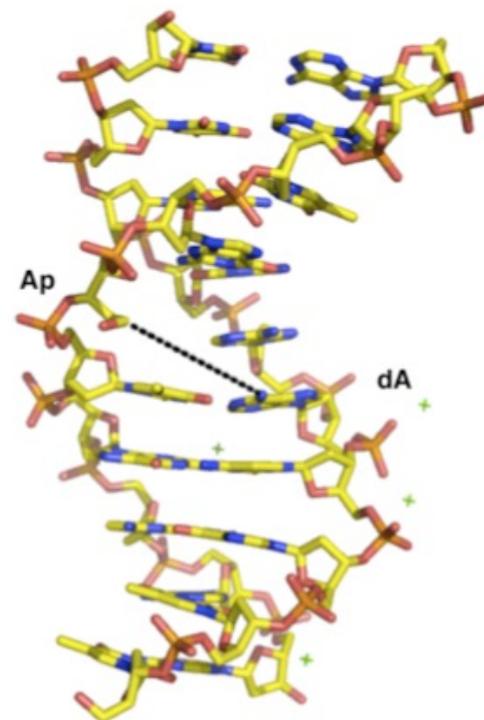
# Abasic sites: More than just empty space: potential reactivity

Abasic sites exist as an equilibrating mixture of a cyclic and linear forms (aldehyde)



**Interstrand crosslinks are bad for replication/transcription etc...**

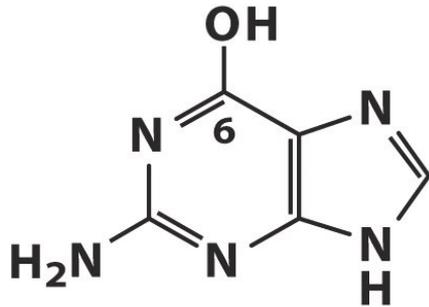
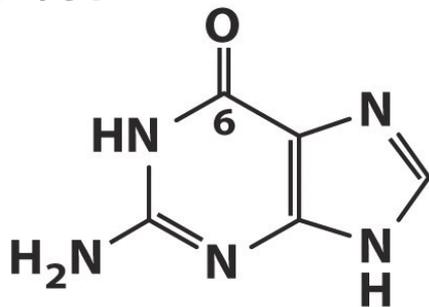
Aldehydes are electrophilic functional groups that can form covalent adducts with nucleophilic sites in DNA, in particular with the N6-amino group of adenine residues on the opposing strand at high yields (15–70%) under physiologically relevant conditions.



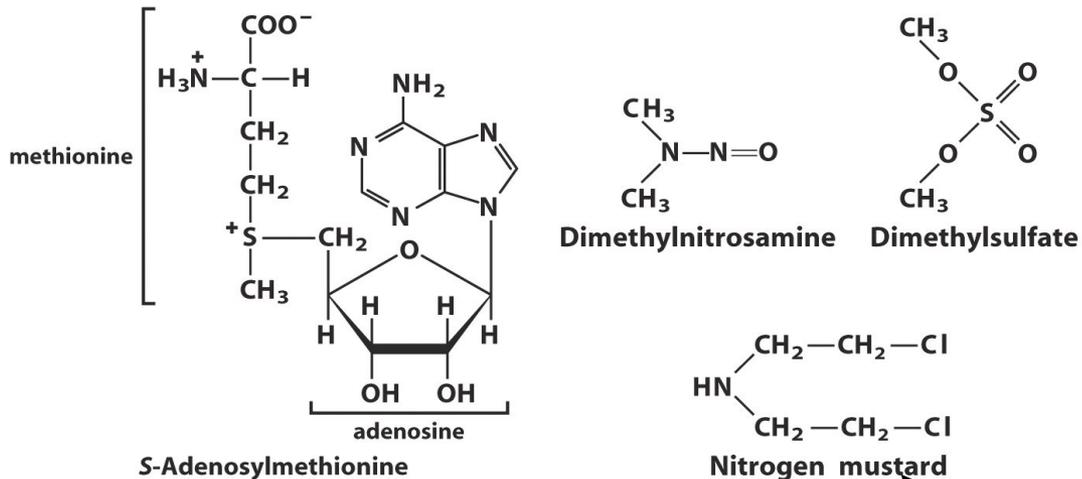
# Alkylations of bases: Chemical Sources and mechanism

**Base alkylation:** Addition of methyl, ethyl, etc., group onto a base

**Keto**  
(typical form of G)

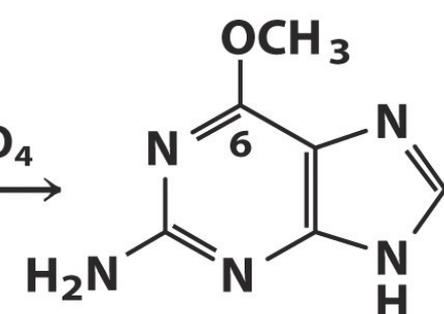
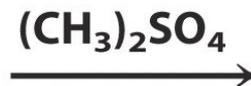


**Enol**  
(rare)



Alkylating agents

Used as a chemical weapon in WWI

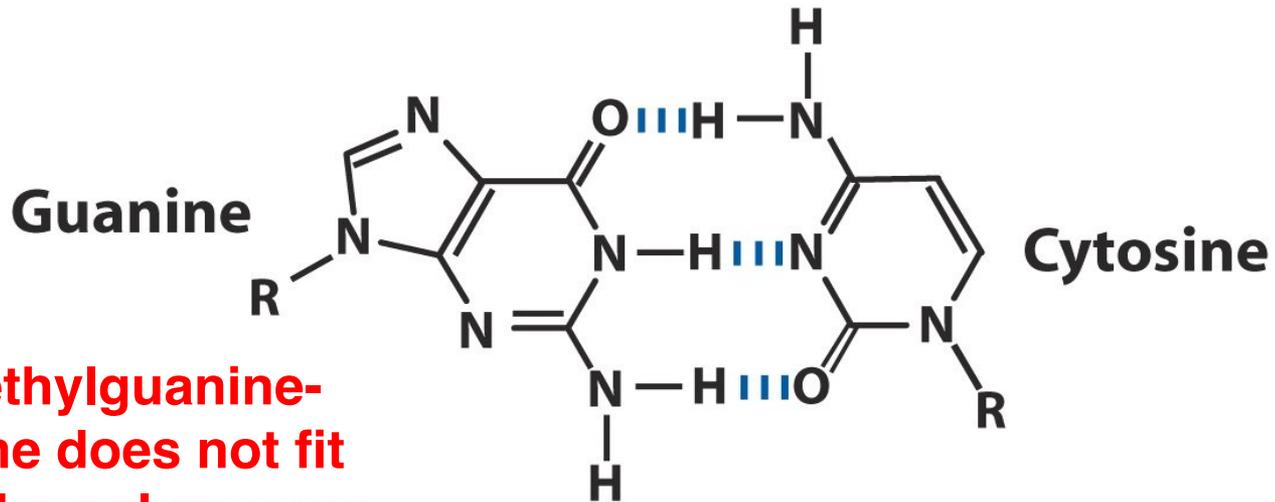


**O<sup>6</sup>-Methylguanine**

One of the most frequent damages: methylation of guanine

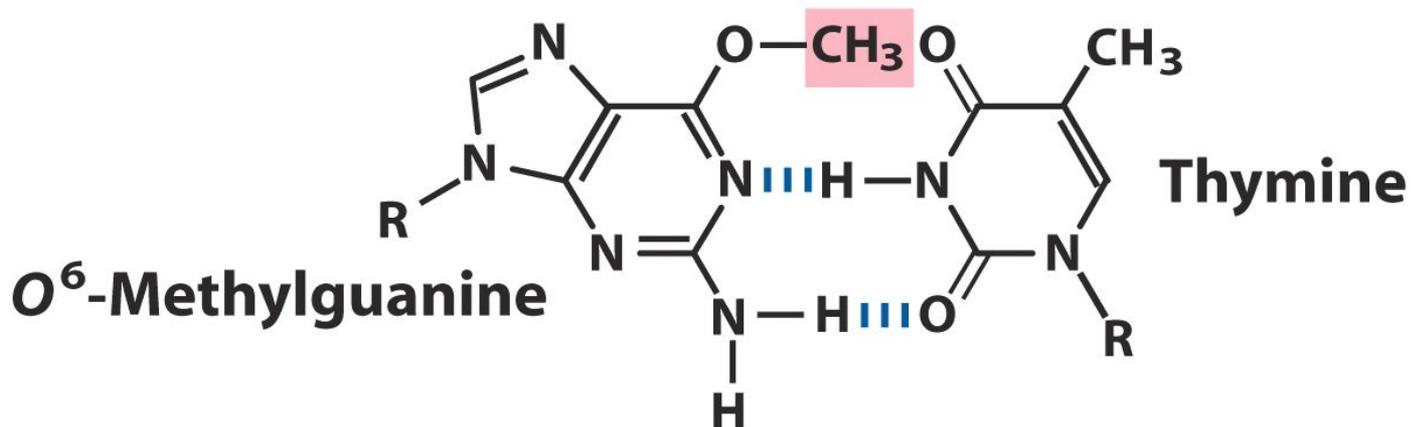
Guanine tautomers

# Consequences of O<sup>6</sup>-meG for replication



**O<sup>6</sup>-methylguanine-cytosine does not fit well in the polymerase active site → only thymine fits well**

**methylation and replication**



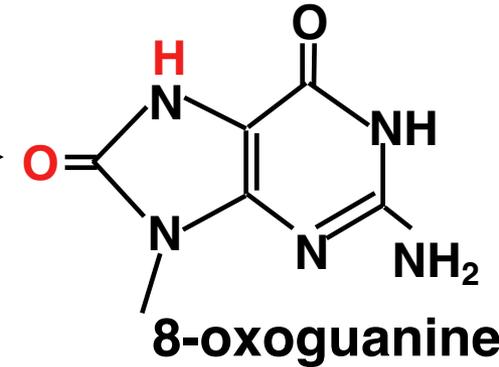
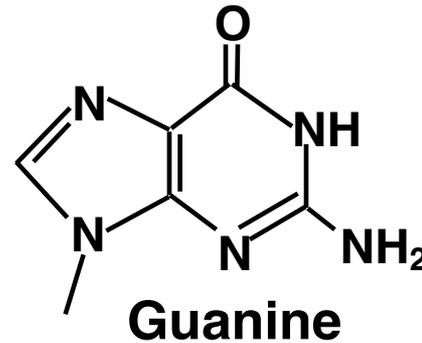
**G-C → O<sup>6</sup>meG-T → A-T**

# Oxidative damage of DNA

Major cause of oxidative damage: hydroxyl radicals produced via activity of the electron transport chain

Cells don't have any enzymes that can neutralize hydroxyl radicals.

## Consequences for Nucleotides:



Thymine



5-formyl  
Uracil

Deoxyribose

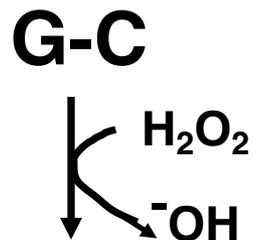


Ribose

## Consequences for Nucleic Acids:

Strand Breaks  
(bad for DNA replication)

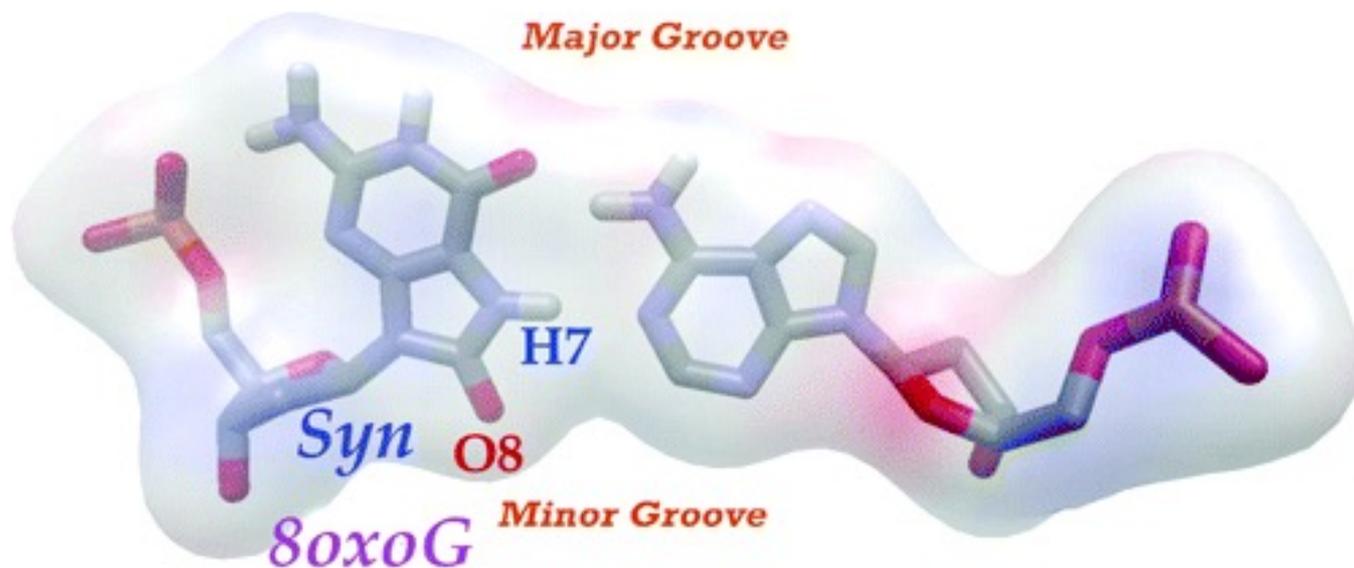
# 8-oxoguanine generates replication blocks or G-C → T-A transversions after DNA replication



**DNA  
replication**



8-oxoG tends to adopt the syn conformation  
→ A is the only nt that can pair with syn 8-oxoG to form a base pair whose geometry resembles that of a Watson-Crick base pair  
→ DNA Polymerases tend to incorporate A opposite to 8-oxoG

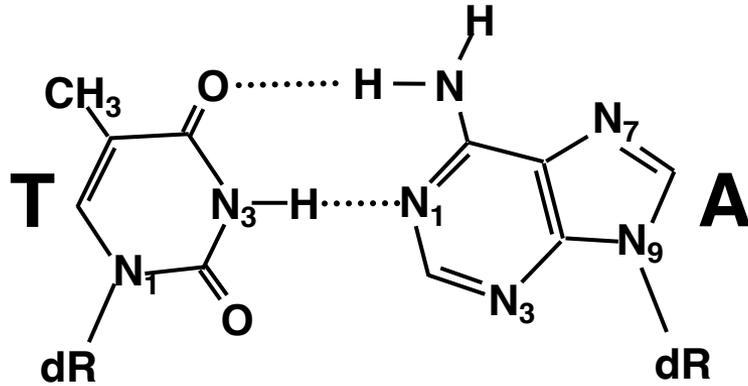


[J Am Chem Soc.](#)

2005 Oct 12;127(40):13906-18

# Recall normal Watson-Crick base pairing

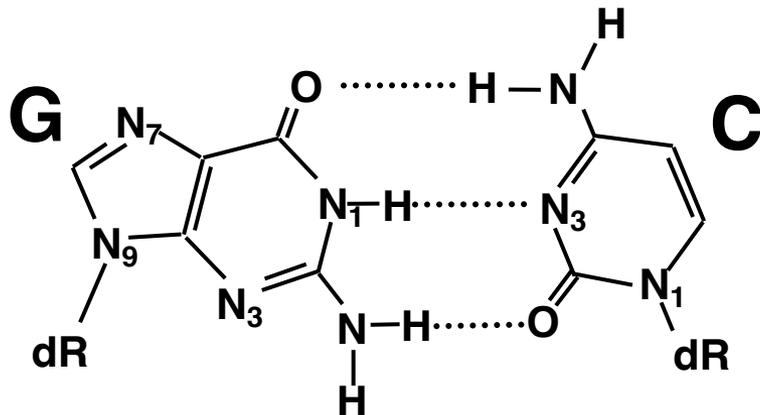
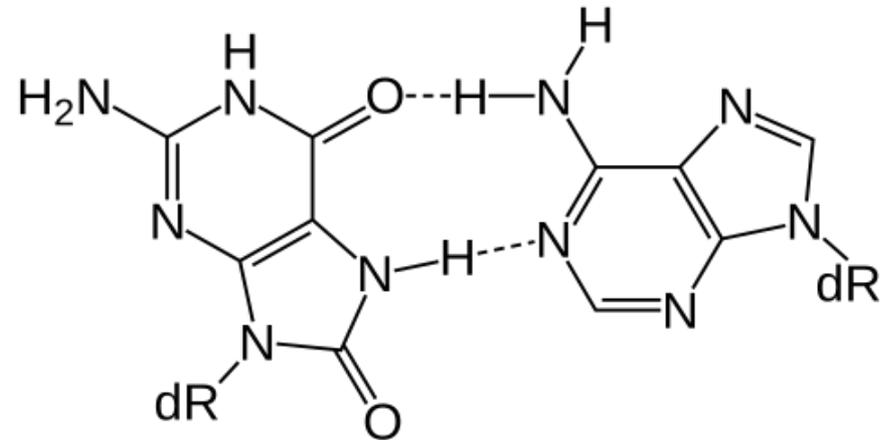
## Watson-Crick base pairs



## Hoogsteen base pair

8oxoG

A



# Bulky DNA adducts caused by:

cigarette smoke

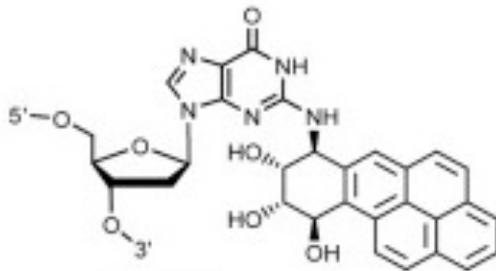


bulky DNA adducts

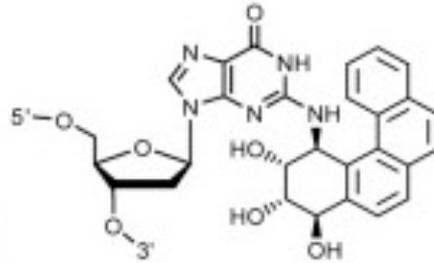
diesel engine exhaust



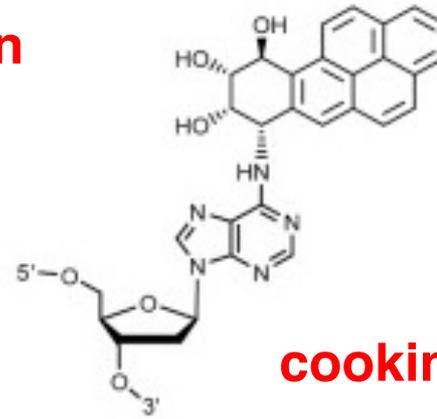
block  
DNA  
Replication



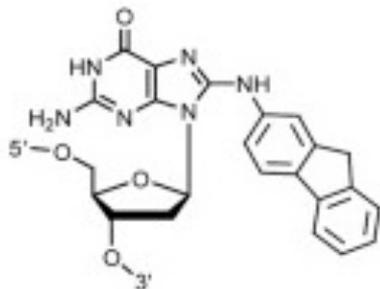
[BP]-dG



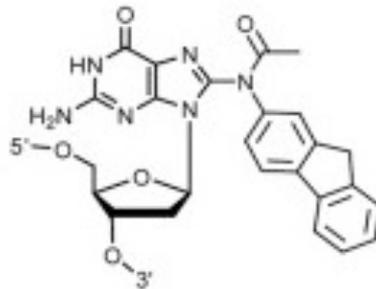
B[c]Phe DE-dG



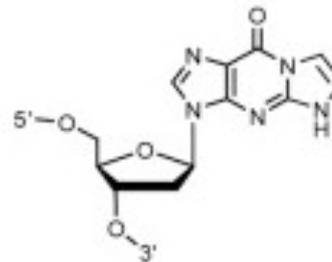
[BP]-dA



AF-dG



AAF-dG



1,N<sup>2</sup>-ε-dG

cooking/broiling of food





What type of DNA damage would you expect your DNA to suffer after consuming charbroiled hot dogs at the Rose Bowl on a sunny day?

**A: Pyrimidine dimers**

**B: Deaminated bases**

**C: Bulky adducts**

**D: All the above**



# DNA repair and tolerance strategies & enzymes

## 1- Bypass of lesions: avoids DNA replication stalls

- bypass of DNA damage by *translesion* DNA Polymerases
- > not a “repair” but is used to prevent DNA replication blocks

## 2- Direct Reversal of Damage

(alkylation of bases, pyrimidine dimers)

- Photolyase reversion of Y dimers
- Dealkylation of guanines by suicidal MGMTase
- Dealkylation of 1mA and 3mC by AlkB (not shown)

## 3- Base excision repair (T.Lindahl/Nobel 2015)

(deamination, alkylation, oxidation of bases)

- Uracil-N glycosylase
- 8-oxoG glycosylase

## 4- Nucleotide excision repair (A.Sancar/Nobel 2015)

(pyrimidine dimers, bulky DNA adducts)

- Bacteria: UvrA, UvrB, UvrC, Helicase II (UvrD)
- DNA pol. I, DNA ligase
- Eukaryotes : Xeroderma pigmentosum proteins, TFIIH

# **Strategy #1: Bypass of lesions**

# Recall from polymerase unit: Different Families of DNA polymerases

<b>A Family</b>	bacteriophage	T7	DNA Replication
	Bacteria	Pol. I	DNA Repair/Replication

---

<b>B Family</b>	Eukaryotes	Pol.α	DNA Replication
		Pol.δ	DNA Replication
		Pol.ε	DNA Replication
	Bacteria	Pol.ζ	Translesion / bypass
		Pol. II	

---

<b>C Family</b>	Bacteria	Pol. III	DNA Replication
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<b>Y Family</b>	Eukaryotes	Pol.η Pol.κ	Translesion/ bypass
	Bacteria	Pol. IV, V	

---

<b>Reverse Transcriptases</b>	Retrovirus	Telomerase	Chromosomes Ext.
		RTs	Viral Replication

---

<b>D Family</b>		Pol. D	Not Covered
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<b>X Family</b>		Pols β, λ, μ, δ	
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# Bypass of 8-oxoG lesions by a specialized eukaryotic DNA polymerase:

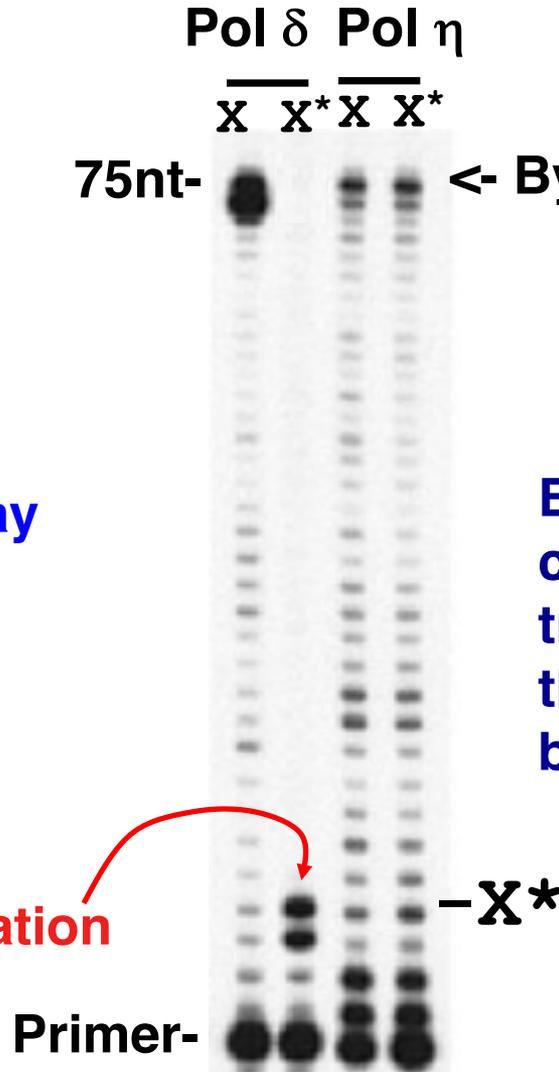
## Pol $\eta$ (eta)

X = Guanosine

X\* = 8-Oxo Guanosine

Primer Extension Assay  
to map template  
replication by the two  
DNA polymerases

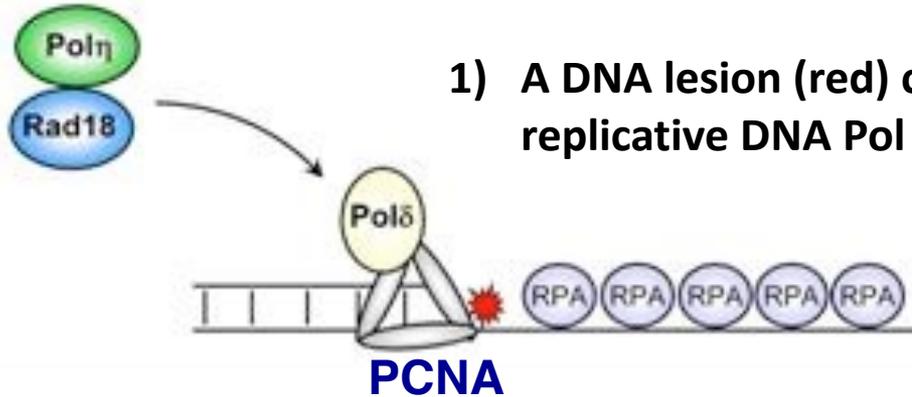
Block of polymerization  
at 8-oxoG



Bacterial and Eukaryotic  
cells possess multiple  
translesion polymerases  
that are capable of  
bypassing DNA lesions

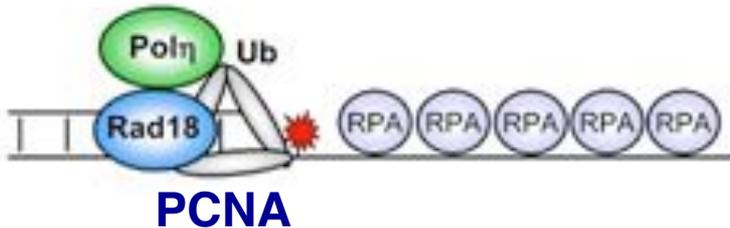
Primer (41nt) 5' -AGG  
Template (75nt) 3' -TCCGTA (X/X\*) AATG--5'

## Switch between Replicative and Translesion DNA polymerases involves PCNA Ubiquitination and prevents stalling of replication at the sites of DNA damage



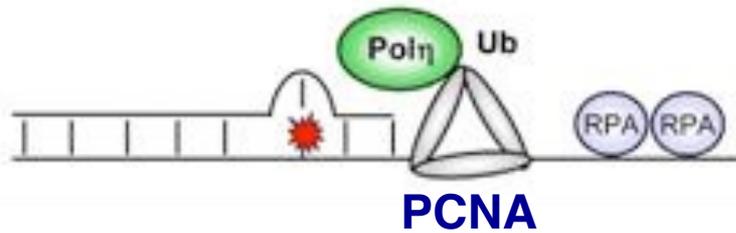
1) A DNA lesion (red) causes stalling of the replicative DNA Pol  $\delta$

2) The E3 ubiquitin ligase Rad18 guides Pol  $\eta$  (a TLS DNA polymerase) to stalled replication forks



3) Rad18 adds a single ubiquitin protein group (monoubiquitinates) to stalled PCNA

(Monoubiquitination  $\neq$  polyubiquitination which typically triggers protein degradation)

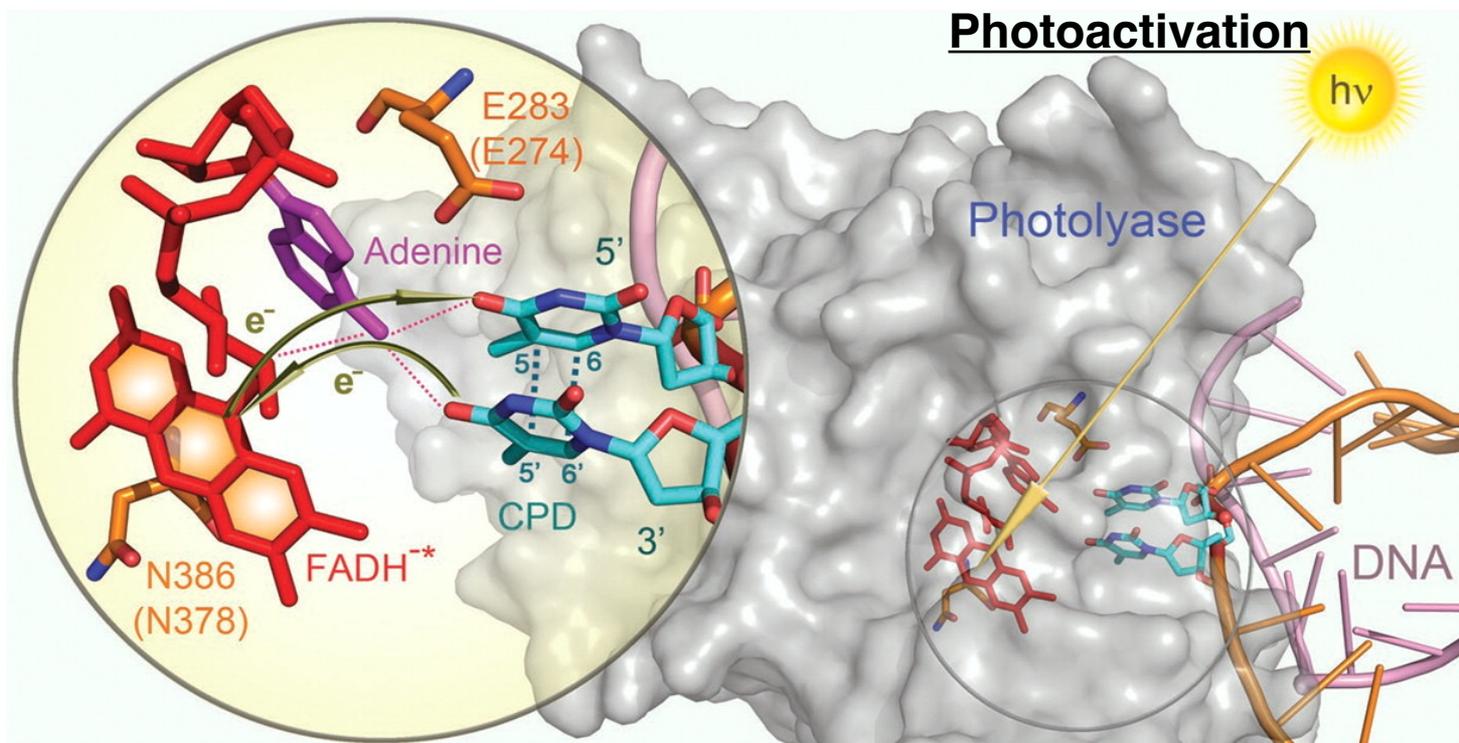


(4) Pol  $\eta$  binds to mono-ubiquitinated PCNA and performs replicative bypass of damaged DNA, preserving replication fork movement.

## **Strategy #2: Direct repair**

# Direct Reversal of pyrimidine dimers by Photolyase

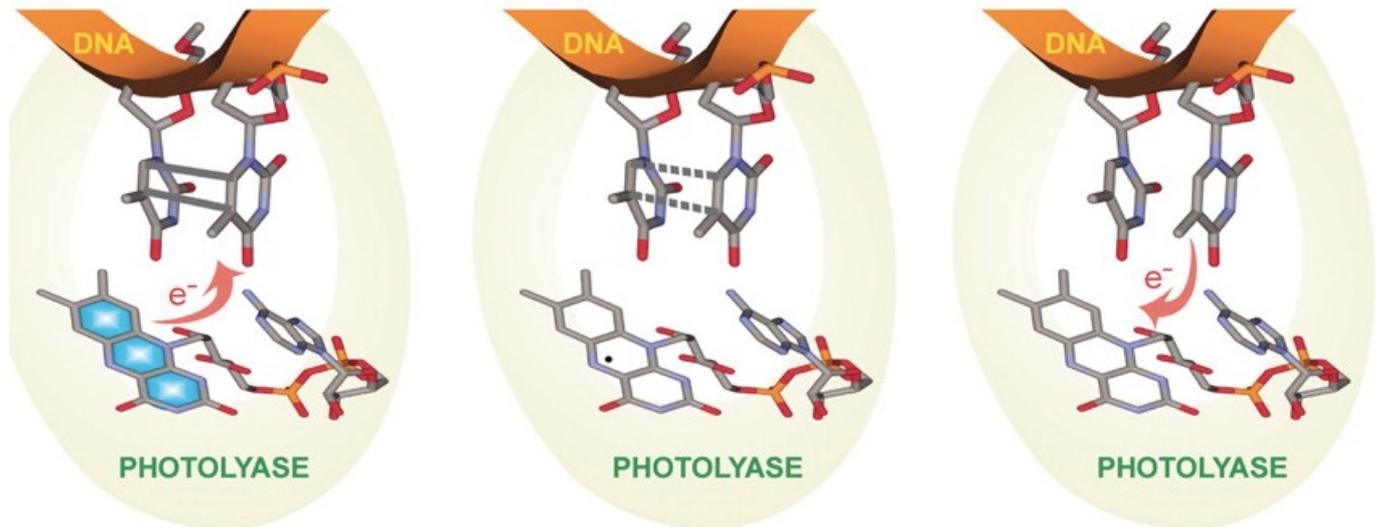
light activates the FADH<sup>-</sup> cofactor, which transfers an electron to the pyrimidine dimer for splitting of the ring.



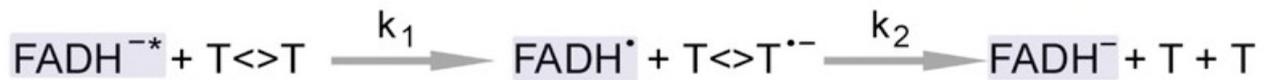
Liu Z et al. PNAS 2011

Found in bacteria, archaea, plants and some animals

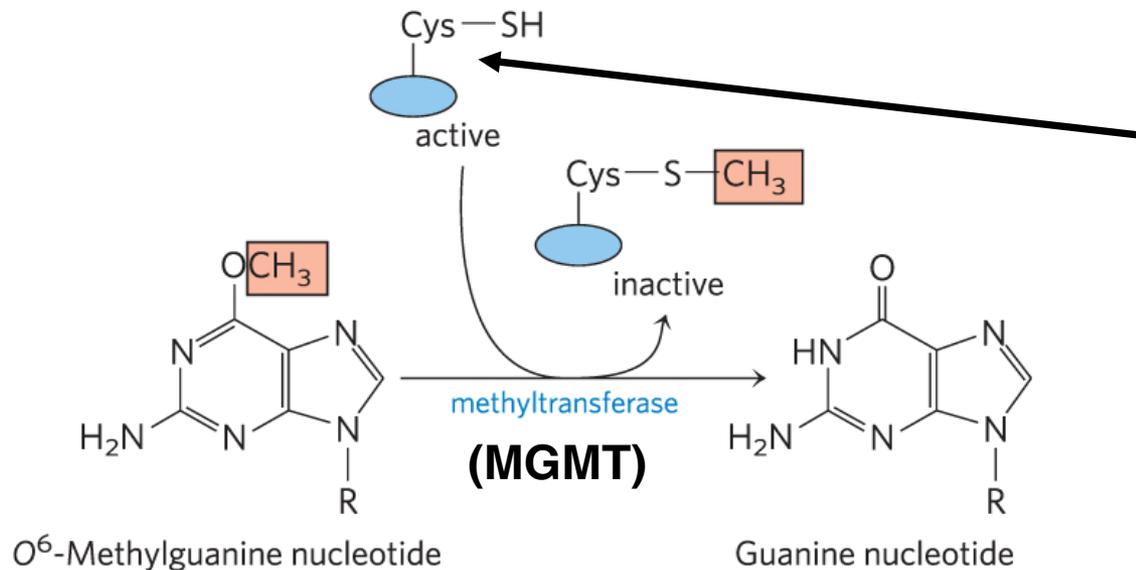
Absent in placental mammals including humans



Kao et al. PNAS 2005



# Repairing O<sup>6</sup>-methylG: Dealkylation of guanines by Methyl Guanine Methyl Transferase (MGMT)



A cysteine residue in MGMT is the methyl acceptor.

**MGMT is a suicide enzyme (it can only perform this reaction once):**



- Mutations of human MGMT linked to cancer:  
=> maintaining DNA information is required for tumor suppression
- The “inactivated” enzyme serves as a **transcription factor** to induce expression of DNA repair genes -> amplifies the cellular response to DNA damage

## **Strategy #3: Base excision repair**

# Base Excision Repair: General strategy

## Key components:

**1) DNA glycosylase/ glycosidase** = Cleaves glycosidic bond at damaged base  
Uracil, 8-oxoG, etc...

Glycosidases are specialized to recognize 1 type of damaged base

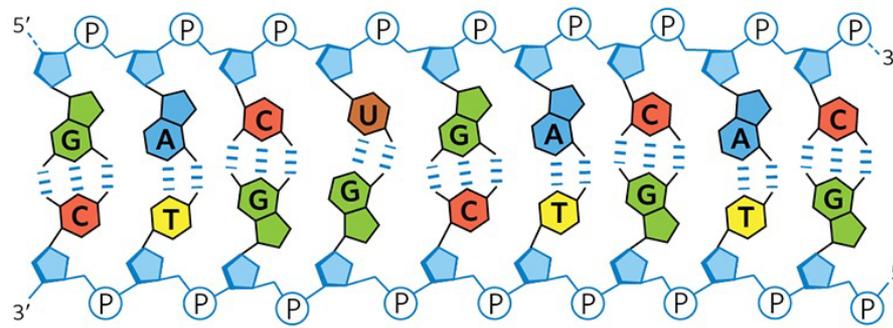
**2) AP endonuclease** = Cuts strand at AP site (A[urinic or Apyrimidic)

AP endonucleases also take care of spontaneous depurination events

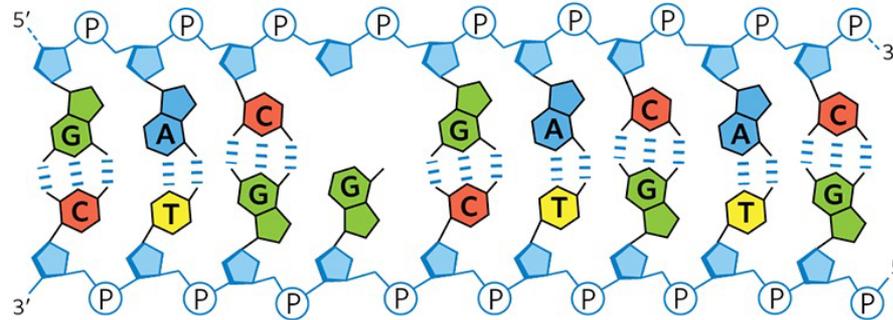
**3) DNA Pol + DNA ligase**

DNA glycosidase and AP endonuclease activities can sometimes be performed by the same protein, e.g. OGG1

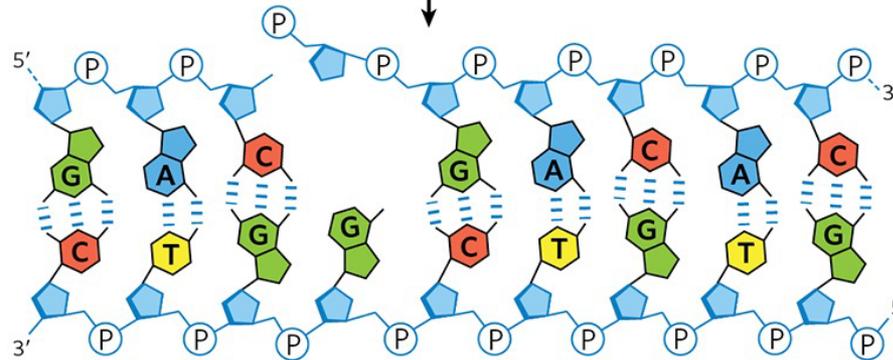
**Step 1: a DNA glycosylase (here uracil glycosylase) recognizes the damaged base and cleaves between the base and deoxyribose**



**DNA glycosylase** → U 1

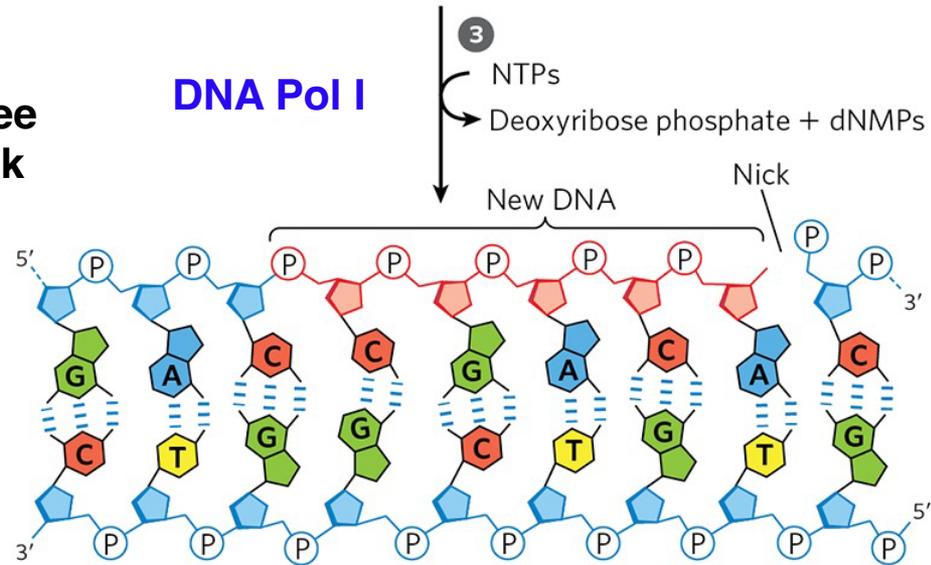


**AP endonuclease** 2



**Step 2: an AP endonuclease cleaves the phosphodiester backbone near the AP site**

**Step 3: DNA Pol I**  
initiates repair  
synthesis from the free  
3' OH at the nick (nick  
translation)



**Step 4: DNA ligase**  
seals the nick

