

Adenine Methylation of Okazaki Fragments in *Escherichia coli*

M. G. MARINUS

Department of Pharmacology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

In *Escherichia coli* *polA lig-4* bacteria, the moles percent 6-methyladenine content of 10S deoxyribonucleic acid (Okazaki fragments) is 0.96 compared with 1.4 for bulk deoxyribonucleic acid.

Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from *Escherichia coli* contains 1.4 to 2.0 N⁶-methylade-

nine (MeAde) residues per 100 adenine residues (4). The MeAde moieties are the result of meth-

tions of the lysate, together with radioactively labeled bacteriophage fd DNA, were sedi-

mented in linear 5 to 20% alkaline sucrose gradients as described previously (10).

