Determinants of Transcription Factor Regulatory Range

Cliff Meyer

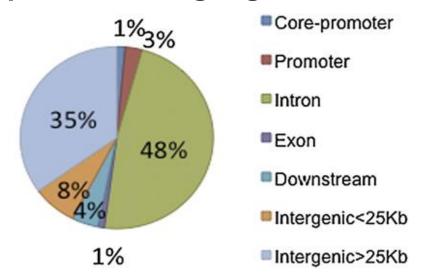
GeCo Workshop in Como 5 March 2019





How to Assign Target Genes for Transcription Factor ChIP-seq?

- Initial goal of ChIP-chip/seq is to find target genes of a TF
- Typical TF ChIP-seq
 - So many peaks!
 - Small % in promoters
 - What are target genes?



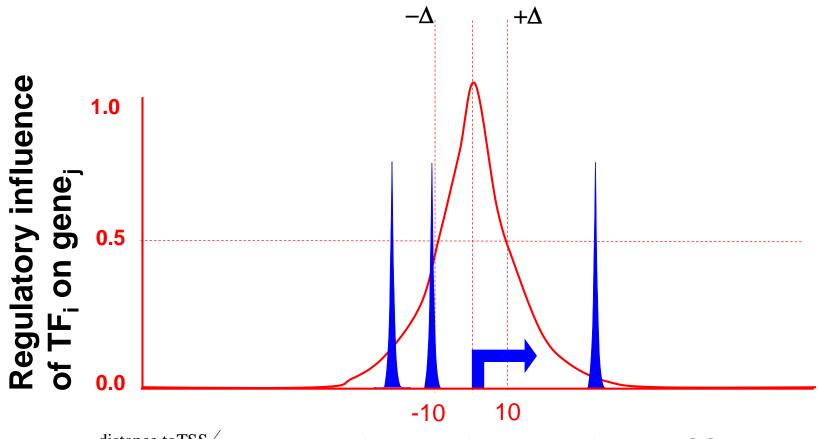
- GWAS SNP
 - Which ones are causal, what TFs are involved, what genes do they target?

Assign TF Target Genes from ChIP-seq

- Model #1: Binding within x kb of transcription start sites (TSS)?
- Model #2: Nearest active gene for each binding site.
- Model #3: Number of binding sites from TSS with decay distance.
- Model #4: GWAS hits often assigned to the nearest active gene in the same topologically associating domain (TAD)
 - Discovery of TADs, Dixon et al, Nat 2012
 - Nearest active gene can be >> 100KB away from GWAS hits

1. What are the regulatory ranges of transcription factors?

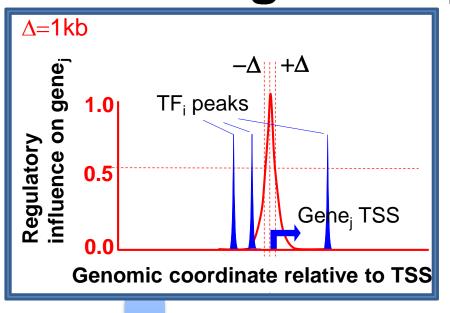
Regulatory Potential Model of Enhancer Activity

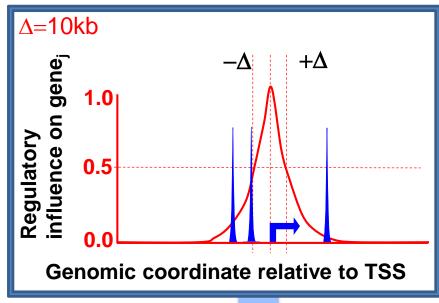


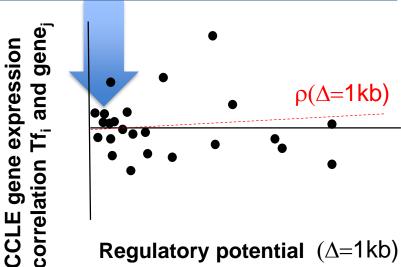
$$RP = \sum_{TFpeaks} 2^{-distance \ to TSS/D}$$

Genomic coordinate relative to TSS [kb]

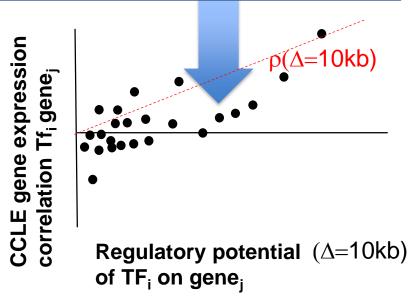
Distance decay effect on gene expression



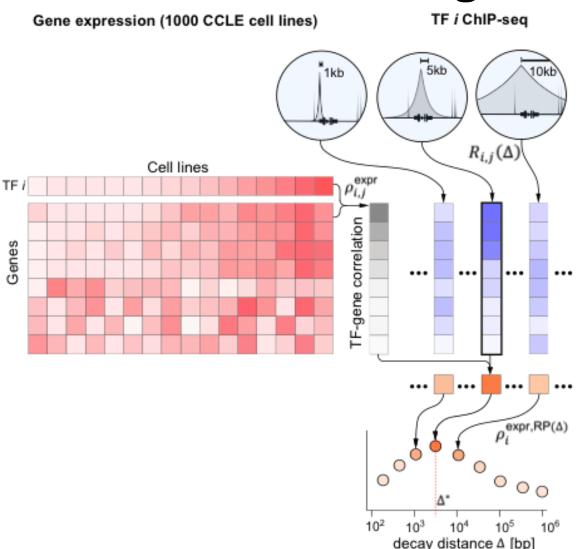




of TF_i on gene_i

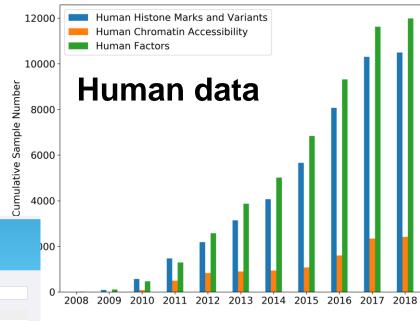


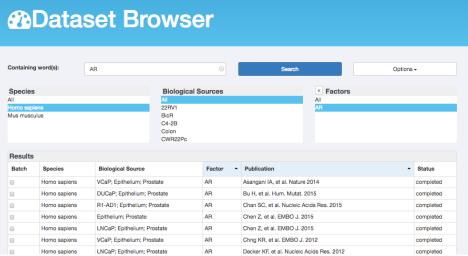
Estimating the Regulatory Distance of a Single TF





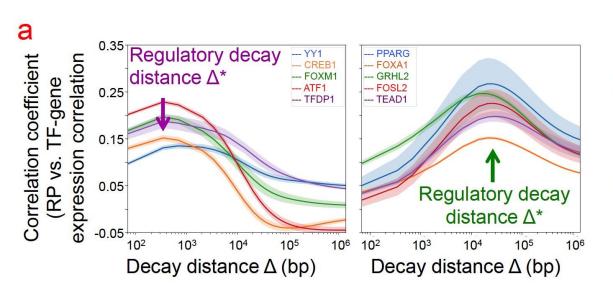
http://cistrome.org/db

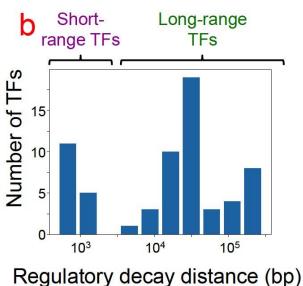




- > 4 samples
- > 20,000 peaks per sample
- > Maximum correlation > 0.1

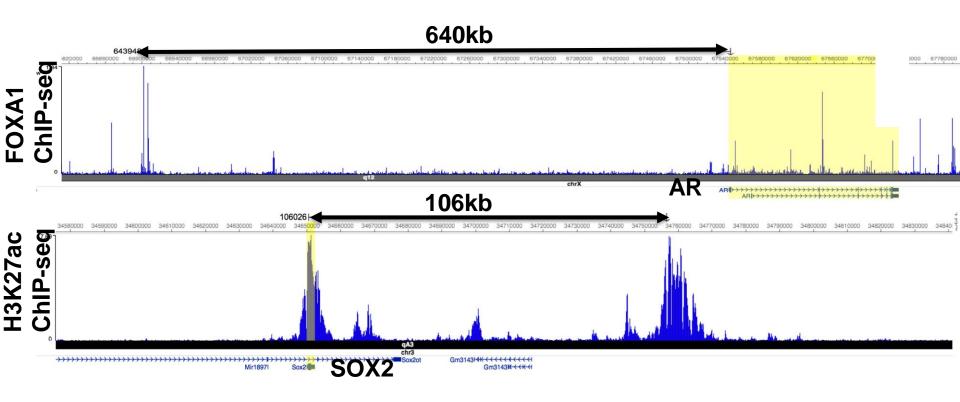
Short-range and Long-range TFs



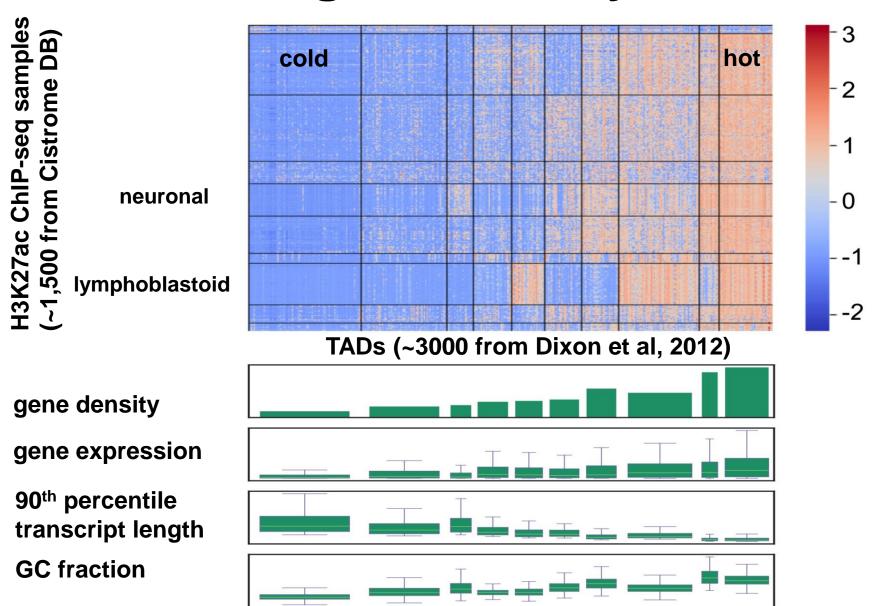


2. Where in the genome are the distant enhancers?

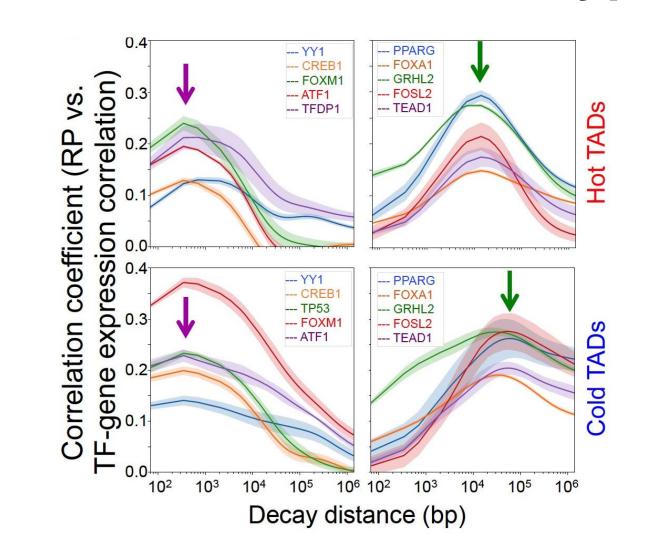
Very long range enhancers



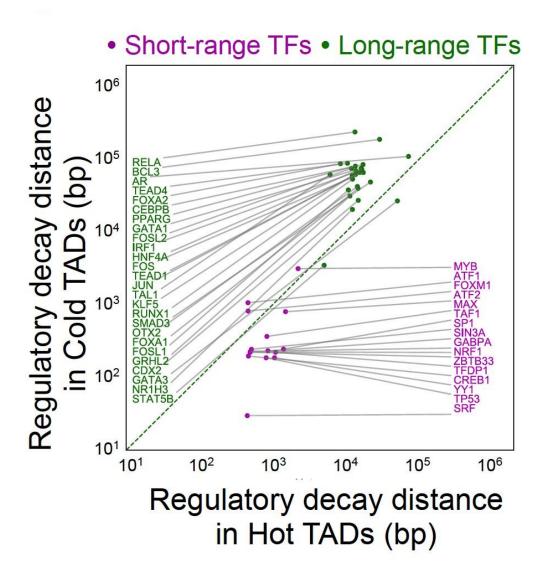
Clustering of TADs by H3K27ac



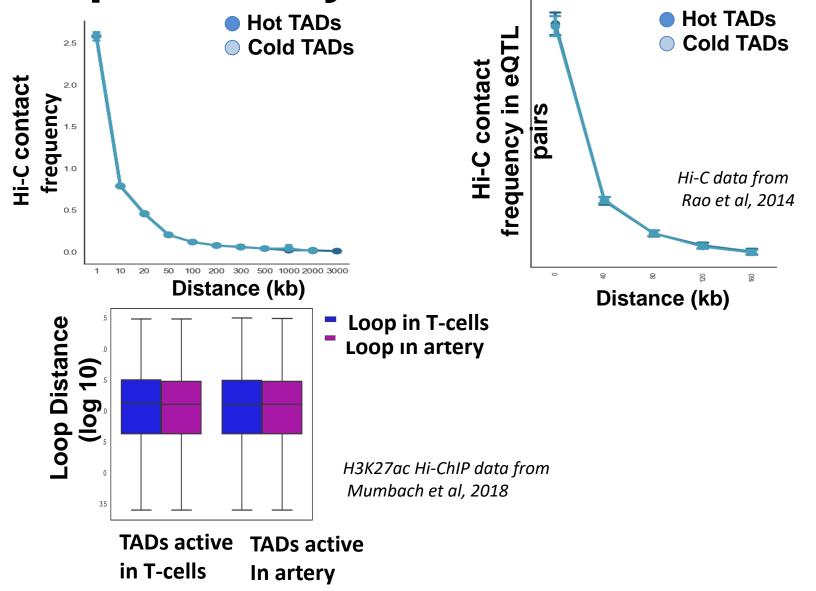
Regulatory decay rates vary between TFs and TAD types



Regulatory Decay Rates of TF types and TAD types

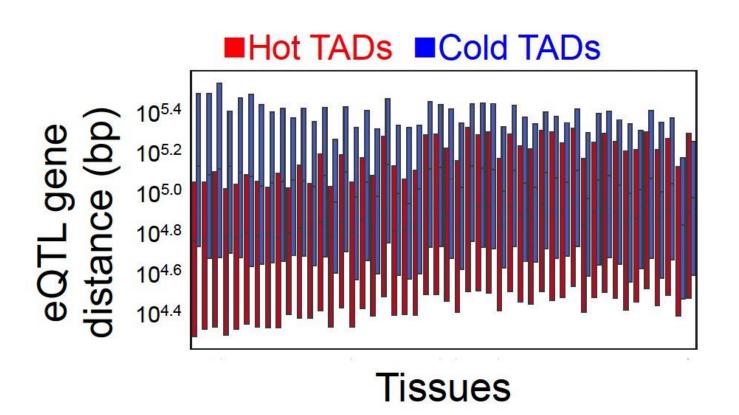


Regulatory decay rates are not explained by Hi-C or Hi-ChIP data

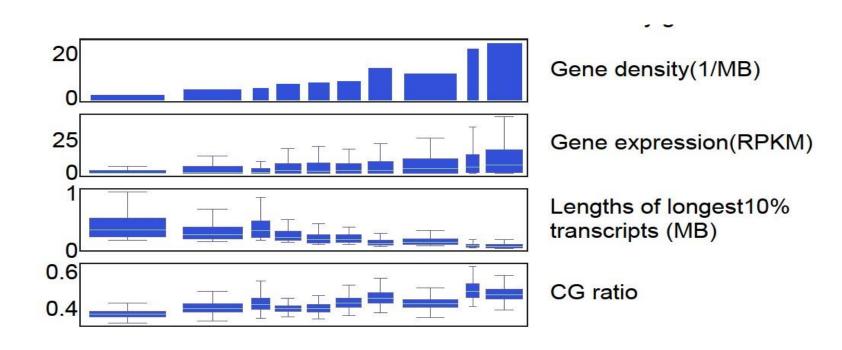


3. Is it genetic or epigenetic effects that influence the regulatory range of transcription factors?

eQTL distances to TSS



Genetic features of hot and cold TADs



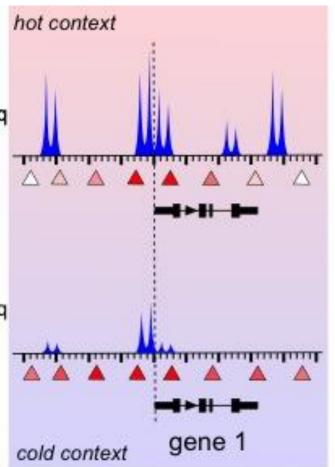
Does chromatin state in tissue influence eQTL range of effect?

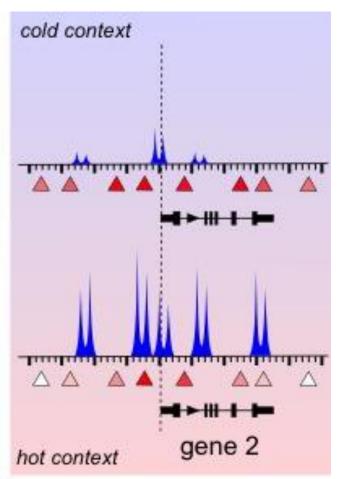
H3K27ac ChIP-seq in tissue A

eQTL analysis in tissue A

H3K27ac ChIP-seq in tissue B eQTL analysis

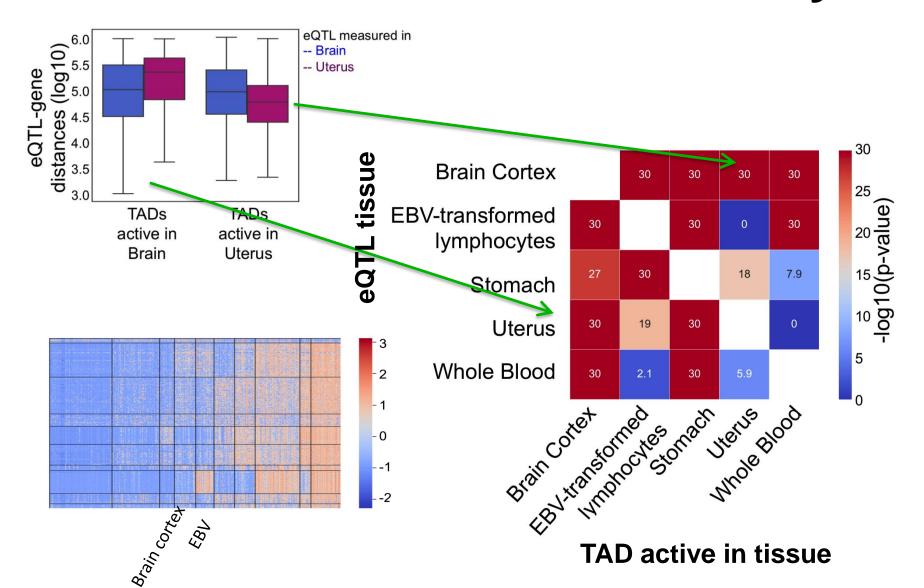
in tissue B





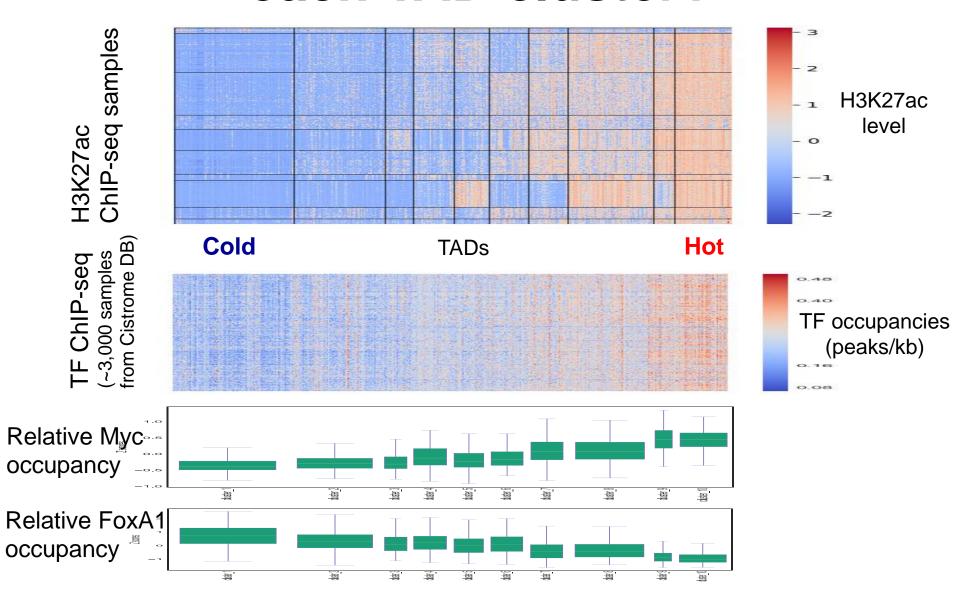


Tissue restricted eQTLs in TADs with tissue restricted activity

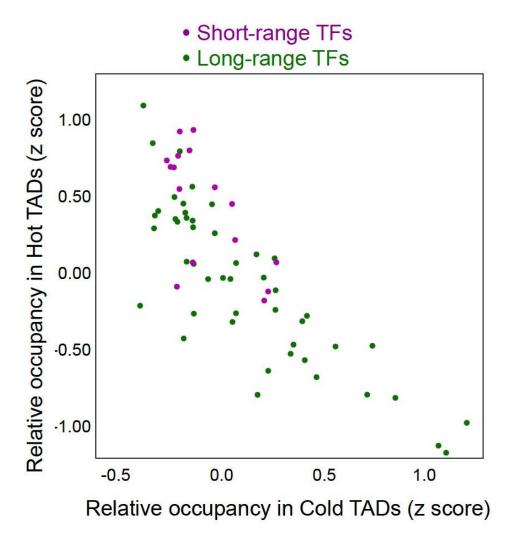


4. Do specific transcription factors dominate the regulation of specific TADs?

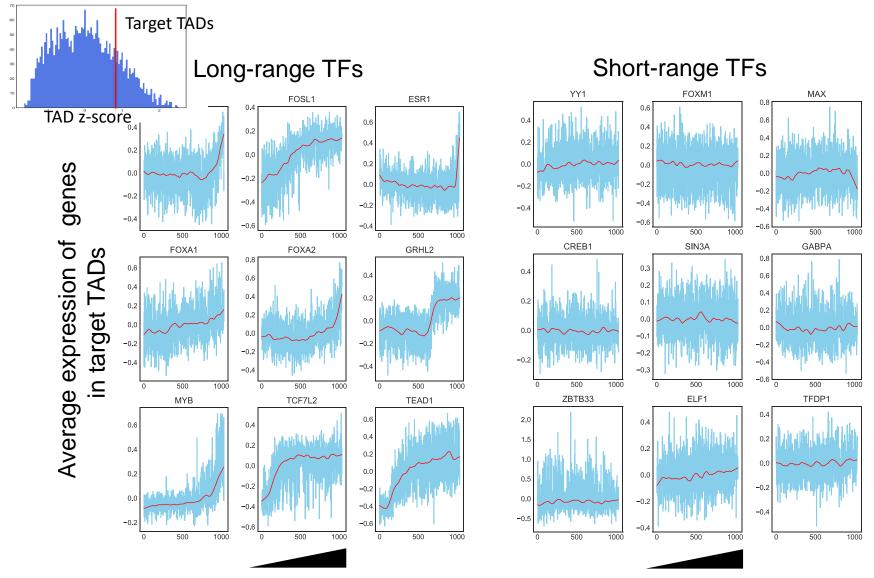
What are the dominant TFs in each TAD cluster?



What are the dominant TFs in hot and cold TAD clusters?

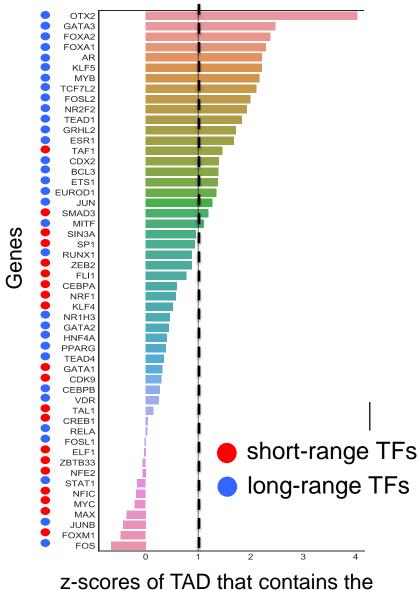


TF regulation of genes in target TADs

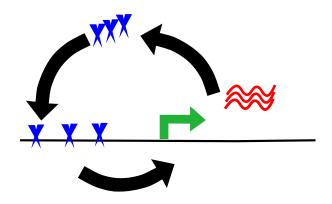


Rank of TF Expression in CCLE cell lines

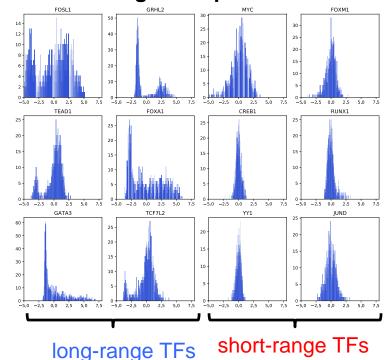
TF TAD positive feedback



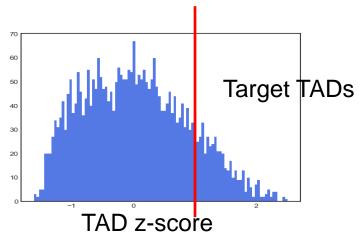
z-scores of TAD that contains the gene itself



Distribution of gene expression in CCLE



Gene function in targeted TADs



- FOXA1: system development (6e-13)
- GRHL2: cornification (1e-30)
- SPIB: B cell activation (4.6e-23)
- TEAD1: regulation of cell migration (5.7e-13)
- FOSL2: anatomical morphogenesis (6.1e-14)
- GATA3: regulation of multicellular organismal process (1e-13)

Summary

1 What are the regulatory ranges of transcription factors? There are two types of TF, short- and long-range.

Short-range: <1kb.

Long-range: ~30kb

2 Are very distant enhancers a genomic context dependent phenomenon?

Enhancers influence genes over longer genomic distances in cold TADs.

3 Do genetic or epigenetic factors influence the regulatory range of TFs?

Epigenetic factors are involved although hot and cold TADs have very different genetic properties.

4 Do specific TFs dominate the regulation of specific TADs?

Lineage specific factors predominate the regulation of

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Questions

- What are the regulatory ranges of transcription factors?
- 2 Where in the genome are the distant enhancers?
- 3 Do genetic or epigenetic factors influence the regulatory range of TFs?
- 4 Do specific transcription factors dominate the regulation of specific TADs?
- (5) Should we consider TAD types in the interpretation of non-coding GWAS hits?