

# Detection and replication of epistasis influencing transcription in humans

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## Abstract

Epistasis is the phenomenon whereby one polymorphism’s effect on a trait depends on other polymorphisms present in the genome. The extent to which epistasis influences complex traits<sup>1</sup> and contributes to their variation<sup>2,3</sup> is a fundamental question in evolution and human genetics. Though epistasis has been demonstrated in artificial gene manipulation studies in model organisms,<sup>4,5</sup> and some examples have been reported in other species,<sup>6</sup> few convincing examples exist for epistasis amongst natural polymorphisms in human traits.<sup>7,8</sup> Its absence from empirical findings may simply be due to its low incidence in the genetic control of complex traits,<sup>2,3</sup> but an alternative view is that it has previously been too technically challenging to detect due to statistical power and computational issues.<sup>9</sup> Here we show that, using advanced computation techniques<sup>10</sup> and a gene expression study design, many instances of epistasis are found between common single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs). In a cohort of 846 individuals with data on 7339 gene expression levels in peripheral blood, we found 501 significant pairwise epistatic interactions between common SNPs acting on the expression levels of 238 genes ( $p < 2.91 \times 10^{-16}$ ). We tested the discovery interactions for replication in two independent data sets.<sup>11,12</sup> Three hundred and forty-five interactions had replication interaction  $p$ -values that were more extreme than the 2.5% confidence interval of the distribution under the null hypothesis of no epistasis, with 30 significant at a conservative  $p < 0.05$  Bonferroni level. There was evidence of functional enrichment for the interacting SNPs, for instance 44 of the genetic interactions are located within 2Mb of regions of known intra-cellular chromosome interactions<sup>13</sup> ( $p = 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$ ). Epistatic networks of three SNPs or more influence the expression levels of 129 genes, whereby one *cis*-acting SNP is modulated by several *trans*-acting SNPs. For example MBNL1 is influenced by an additive effect at rs13069559 which itself is masked by *trans*-SNPs on 14 different chromosomes, with nearly identical genotype-phenotype (GP) maps for each *cis-trans* interaction. This study presents the first evidence for multiple instances of epistatic genetic effects emerging from natural genetic variation in humans.

## 1 Main text

In the genetic analysis of complex traits it is usual for SNP effects to be estimated using an additive model where they are assumed to contribute independently and cumulatively to the mean of a trait. This framework has been successful in identifying thousands of associations,<sup>14</sup> but to date there is little empirical exploration of the role that epistasis plays in the architecture of complex traits in humans,<sup>7,8</sup> though its contribution to phenotypic variance is frequently the subject of debate.<sup>1-3</sup> Outside the prism of human association studies there is evidence for epistasis, not only at the molecular scale from artificially induced mutations<sup>4</sup> but also at the evolutionary scale in fitness adaptation<sup>15</sup> and speciation.<sup>16</sup>

Methods are now available to overcome the computational problems involved in searching for epistasis, but its detection still remains problematic due to reduced statistical power. For example increased dependence on linkage disequilibrium (LD) between causal SNPs and observed SNPs,<sup>17,18</sup> increased model complexity in fitting interaction terms,<sup>19</sup> and more extreme significance thresholds to account for increased multiple testing<sup>9</sup> all make it more difficult to detect epistasis in comparison to additive effects. Thus, when combined with small genetic effect sizes, as is expected in most complex traits of interest,<sup>14</sup> the power to detect epistasis diminishes rapidly. There are two simple ways to overcome this problem. One is by using extremely large sample sizes;<sup>20</sup> another is by analysing traits that are likely to have large effect sizes among common variants. Because our focus was to ascertain the extent to which instances of epistasis occur amongst natural genetic variation we designed a study around the latter approach and searched for epistatic genetic effects that influence gene expression levels. Transcription levels can be measured for thousands of genes. These traits are largely heritable but on average less polygenic than high level phenotypes,<sup>21</sup> thus it is expected that many genetic effects will be relatively large, maximising the chance at detecting epistasis, should it exist.

In our discovery dataset (Brisbane Systems Genetics Study, BSGS<sup>22</sup>) of 846 individuals genotyped at 528,509 SNPs, we exhaustively tested every pair of SNPs for genetic interactions against each of 7339 expression traits in peripheral blood. After stringent filtering and multiple testing correction (Methods) we identified 501 putative genetic interactions influencing the expression levels of 238 genes (Supplementary Table 5). Of the 501 discovery interactions, 434 had available data and passed filtering (Methods) in two independent replication datasets, Fehrmann<sup>12</sup> and the Estonian Genomics Centre University of Tartu (EGCUT),<sup>11</sup> in which we saw convincing evidence for replication. We used the summary statistics from the replication datasets to perform a meta analysis to obtain an independent  $p$ -value for the putative interactions, and 30 were significant after applying a Bonferroni correction for multiple testing (Table 1). These significant interactions exhibited remarkable similarity in GP maps between all three datasets (Figure 2).

In addition, using the meta analysis from the replication samples only, we observed that 316 of the remaining 404 discovery SNPs had replication interaction  $p$ -values more extreme than the 2.5% confidence interval of the distribution under the null distribution of no epistatic effects ( $p < 1.0 \times 10^{-16}$ , Figure 3 and Supplementary Figure S1). The congruence of the epistatic networks in discovery and replication datasets is shown in Figure 1, demonstrating that these complex genetic patterns are common even across independent datasets. A further replication was attempted using the Centre for Health Discovery and Wellbeing (CHDWB) dataset,<sup>23</sup> but only 27 of the SNP pairs passed filtering because the sample size was small ( $n = 139$ ), and likely due to insufficient power we found no evidence for replication. It should be noted that although it is a necessary step to establish the veracity of the signals from the discovery set, replication of epistasis is theoretically difficult because the dependence on LD between observed SNPs and causal variants is up to three orders of magnitude

higher than it is for independent additive effects.<sup>17,18</sup> Therefore these results are encouraging with regards to the detection and replication of epistasis.

Though seldom the focus of association studies, SNPs with known main effects are often tested for additive  $\times$  additive genetic interactions,<sup>9</sup> but our analysis shows that this is unlikely to be the most effective strategy for its detection. The majority of our discovery interactions comprised of one SNP that was significantly associated with the gene expression level in the discovery dataset, and one SNP that had no previous association<sup>21</sup> (439 out of 501, Methods). Only nine interactions were between SNPs that both had known main effects while 64 were between SNPs that had no known main effects. Additionally, we observed that the largest epistatic variance component for the 501 interactions was equally divided amongst additive  $\times$  additive, additive  $\times$  dominance, dominance  $\times$  additive and dominance  $\times$  dominance at the discovery stage ( $p = 0.22$  for departure from expectation). This is not surprising because the patterns of epistasis used for statistical decomposition are not designed to resemble biological function.<sup>24</sup>

Of the discovery interactions, 47 were *cis-cis* acting (both SNPs were on the same chromosome as the expression gene), 441 were *cis-trans*-acting, and 13 were *trans-trans*-acting. We observed a wide range of significant GP maps (Figure 2) but the most common pattern of epistasis that we detected involved a *trans*-SNP masking the effect of an additive *cis*-SNP. For example, MBNL1 (involved in RNA modification and regulation of splicing<sup>25</sup>) has a *cis* effect at rs13069559 which in turn is controlled by 13 *trans*-SNPs and one *cis*-SNP that each exhibit a masking pattern, such that when the *trans*-SNP is homozygous for the masking allele the decreasing allele of the *cis*-SNP no longer has an effect (Supplementary Figure S5). Each of these interactions have evidence for replication in at least one dataset and six are significant at the Bonferroni level (Supplementary Figure S2). We see similar epistatic networks involving multiple (eight or more) *trans*-acting SNPs for other gene expression levels too, for example TMEM149 (Supplementary Figure S6), NAPRT1 (Supplementary Figure S7), TRAPPC5 (Supplementary Figure S8), and CAST (Supplementary Figure S9). We observed that these five gene expression phenotypes had whole-genome non-additive variance component estimates within the 95th percentile of the 17,994 gene expression phenotypes that were analysed in Powell *et al* 2013 (Supplementary Table S2, Methods).<sup>21</sup>

In total the 501 interactions comprised 781 unique SNPs, which we analysed for functional enrichment (Methods). We tested the SNPs for cell-type specific overlap with transcriptionally active chromatin regions, tagged by histone-3-lysine-4,3-methylation (H3K4me3) chromatin marks, in 34 cell types<sup>26</sup> (Supplementary Figure S4). There was significant enrichment for *cis*-acting SNPs in haematopoietic cell types only ( $p < 1 \times 10^{-4}$  for the three tissues with the strongest enrichment after adjusting for multiple testing). However *trans*-acting SNPs did not show any tissue specific enrichment ( $p > 0.1$  for all tissues). This difference between *cis* and *trans* SNPs suggests different roles in which epistasis might arise where the *cis*-SNPs provide tissue specificity in these interactions. There is also strong enrichment for SNPs to be localised in enhancer regions,<sup>27</sup>

consistent for both *cis* and *trans* SNPs ( $p < 1 \times 10^{-6}$ ).

We also demonstrate spacial organisation of interacting loci suggesting a mechanism by which biological function can lead to epistatic genetic variance. It has been shown that different chromosomal regions spatially colocalise in the cell through chromatin interactions.<sup>13</sup> We cross-referenced our epistatic SNPs with a map of chromosome interacting regions ( $n = 96,139$ ) in K562 blood cell lines<sup>28</sup> (Methods) and found that 44 epistatic interactions mapped to within 2Mb ( $p < 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$ ), (Supplementary Figure S10). Interaction of distant loci may occur through physical proximity in transcriptional factories that organise across different chromosome regions and can regulate transcription of related genes.<sup>29,30</sup>

Though we present many instances of epistasis, quantifying its relative importance to complex traits in humans remains an open question. In this study we are able to identify 238 gene expression traits with at least one significant interaction given our experiment-wide threshold. How does this compare to the number of traits influenced by additive effects? The BSGS dataset has been previously analysed for additive effects at all expression traits,<sup>22</sup> and if we take all the additive eQTLs that were significant at the epistatic threshold of  $p < 2.91 \times 10^{-16}$  we find that 453 gene expression levels out of the 7339 analysed had at least one significant expression quantitative trait locus (eQTL). Therefore it can be argued that the number of instances of detectable epistasis are substantial.

However in terms of their contribution to complex traits a more important metric might be the proportion of the variance that the epistatic loci explain.<sup>2</sup> Ideally one would approach this question from a whole genome perspective<sup>31</sup> but this is intractable for non-additive variance components. Nevertheless, some inference can be made from the ascertained effects in these analyses and it is evident that additive variance is overall a larger component than epistatic variance, as has been argued previously.<sup>2,3</sup> Taking the additive effects detected in Powell *et al* (2012) at the  $p < 2.91 \times 10^{-16}$  threshold, we calculate that on average they explain 1.73% of the phenotypic variance of each of the 7339 probes. By contrast, the epistatic variance from the interacting SNPs detected in this study on average explain 0.25% of phenotypic variance, approximately seven times lower than the additive variance. If we use the effect estimates taken from the Fehrmann or EGCUT datasets to perform the same comparison we obtain ratios of additive to epistatic variance of 36:1 and 34:1, respectively (Supplementary Figure S12, Methods). There are several caveats to this comparison. Firstly, the ratio of additive to epistatic variance may differ at different effect sizes, and our estimate is determined by the threshold used. Secondly, the power of a 1 *d.f.* test exceeds that of an 8 *d.f.* test. And thirdly, the non-additive variance at causal variants is expected to be underestimated by observed SNPs in comparison to estimates for additive variance, due to differences in the rate of decay of the estimate of the genetic variance of the causal SNPs as LD decreases with the observed SNPs.

Overall, we have demonstrated that it is possible to identify and replicate epistasis in complex traits amongst common human variants, despite the rela-

tive contribution of pairwise epistasis to phenotypic variation being small. The bioinformatic analysis of the significant epistatic loci suggests that there are a large number of possible mechanisms that can lead to non-additive genetic variation. Further research into such epistatic effects may provide a useful framework to understanding molecular mechanisms and complex trait variation in greater detail. With computational techniques and data now widely available the search for epistasis in larger datasets for traits of broader interest is warranted.

## 1.1 Methods Summary

We searched for pairwise epistasis exhaustively in the BSGS discovery dataset,<sup>22</sup> which comprises 846 individuals who are genotyped at 528,509 autosomal SNPs and who have gene expression levels measured in peripheral blood samples for 7,339 probes representing 6,158 RefSeq genes. Recent hardware and software<sup>10</sup> advances made it possible to perform the  $1.03 \times 10^{15}$  statistical tests to complete this analysis. We used permutation analysis<sup>32</sup> to calculate an experiment-wide significance threshold of  $T_e = 2.91 \times 10^{-16}$  at the 5% family-wise error rate (FWER). SNP pairs were modelled for full genetic effects, including marginal additive and dominance at both SNPs plus four interaction terms. Though we could have used a less complex model to improve statistical efficiency, we deemed it important to be agnostic about the type of epistasis that might exist, and therefore chose not to over-parameterise the test.<sup>18,19</sup> Because there are many large marginal effects present in these data it was necessary to perform several filtering steps to exclude SNP pairs that were significant due to marginal effects alone. All SNP pairs with LD  $r^2 > 0.1$  and  $D'^2 > 0.1$  were removed to minimise the possibility of haplotype effects. All SNP pairs were required to have at least five data points in all nine genotype classes. If multiple SNP pairs were present on the same chromosomes for a particular expression trait then only the sentinel SNP pair was retained. Finally, a nested test contrasting the full genetic model against the marginal additive and dominance model was performed for each remaining SNP pair (Methods), resulting in 501 significant interactions after Bonferroni correction for multiple testing of the filtered SNPs. The significant SNP pairs were carried forward for replication in two independent datasets that used the same expression assays for analysing transcription in peripheral blood, the Fehrmann dataset<sup>12</sup> ( $n = 1240$ ) and the Estonian Genome Centre University of the University of Tartu (EGCUT) dataset<sup>11</sup> ( $n = 891$ ). Of these, 434 passed filtering in both replication datasets. A meta analysis on the interaction  $p$ -values from each replication dataset was performed to provide an overall replication statistic for each putative interaction.

## 1.2 Acknowledgements

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## 2 Tables

Table 1: Epistatic interactions significant at the Bonferroni level in two replication sets

	Gene (chr.)	SNP 1 (chr.)	SNP 2 (chr.)	BSGS <sup>2</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>3</sup>	EGCUT <sup>3</sup>	Meta <sup>4</sup>
1	ADK (10)	rs2395095 (10)	rs10824092 (10)	6.69 <sup>1</sup>	18.33 <sup>1</sup>	21.21 <sup>1</sup>	39.82 <sup>1</sup>
2	ATP13A1 (19)	rs4284750 (19)	rs873870 (19)	5.30	12.18	3.25	14.23
3	C21ORF57 (21)	rs9978658 (21)	rs11701361 (21)	9.42	6.08	16.36	21.67
4	CSTB (21)	rs9979356 (21)	rs3761385 (21)	11.99	25.20	16.72	42.27
5	CTSC (11)	rs7930237 (11)	rs556895 (11)	7.16	18.76	15.06	33.53
6	FN3KRP (17)	rs898095 (17)	rs9892064 (17)	16.16	28.24	29.39	59.95
7	GAA (17)	rs11150847 (17)	rs12602462 (17)	13.91	19.98	12.99	32.60
8	HNRPH1 (5)	rs6894268 (5)	rs4700810 (5)	15.38	8.55	3.01	10.37
9	LAX1 (1)	rs1891432 (1)	rs10900520 (1)	19.16	18.60	11.22	29.24
10	MBNL1 (3)	rs16864367 (3)	rs13079208 (3)	13.49	16.25	24.74	41.56
11	MBNL1 (3)	rs7710738 (5)	rs13069559 (3)	7.92	2.55	7.89	9.28
12	MBNL1 (3)	rs2030926 (6)	rs13069559 (3)	7.10	0.91	5.80	5.53
13	MBNL1 (3)	rs2614467 (14)	rs13069559 (3)	5.74	4.13	2.22	5.30
14	MBNL1 (3)	rs218671 (17)	rs13069559 (3)	7.63	0.62	5.82	5.23
15	MBNL1 (3)	rs11981513 (7)	rs13069559 (3)	7.71	0.43	5.36	4.58
16	MBP (18)	rs8092433 (18)	rs4890876 (18)	5.40	7.06	21.91	28.73
17	NAPRT1 (8)	rs2123758 (8)	rs3889129 (8)	8.45	15.12	16.08	30.77
18	NCL (2)	rs7563453 (2)	rs4973397 (2)	7.31	7.51	6.33	12.70
19	PRMT2 (21)	rs2839372 (21)	rs11701058 (21)	4.81	0.69	4.47	4.06
20	RPL13 (16)	rs352935 (16)	rs2965817 (16)	4.98	3.79	14.41	17.24
21	SNORD14A (11)	rs2634462 (11)	rs6486334 (11)	7.31	13.11	10.96	23.22
22	TMEM149 (19)	rs807491 (19)	rs7254601 (19)	12.16	81.55	45.78	145.78
23	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs6926382 (6)	5.80	3.06	8.80	10.72
24	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs914940 (1)	6.22	3.36	6.96	9.20
25	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs2351458 (4)	7.30	0.04	9.61	8.00
26	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs6718480 (2)	8.55	3.31	5.15	7.36
27	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs1843357 (8)	6.21	3.72	3.33	6.00
28	TMEM149 (19)	rs8106959 (19)	rs9509428 (13)	9.44	0.10	5.75	4.47
29	TRA2A (7)	rs7776572 (7)	rs11770192 (7)	8.23	3.19	1.89	4.09
30	VASP (19)	rs1264226 (19)	rs2276470 (19)	5.09	0.94	5.14	4.95

<sup>1</sup>  $-\log_{10} p$ -values for 4 *d.f.* interaction tests

<sup>2</sup> Discovery dataset

<sup>3</sup> Independent replication dataset

<sup>4</sup> Meta analysis of interaction terms between replication datasets only



### 3 Figures

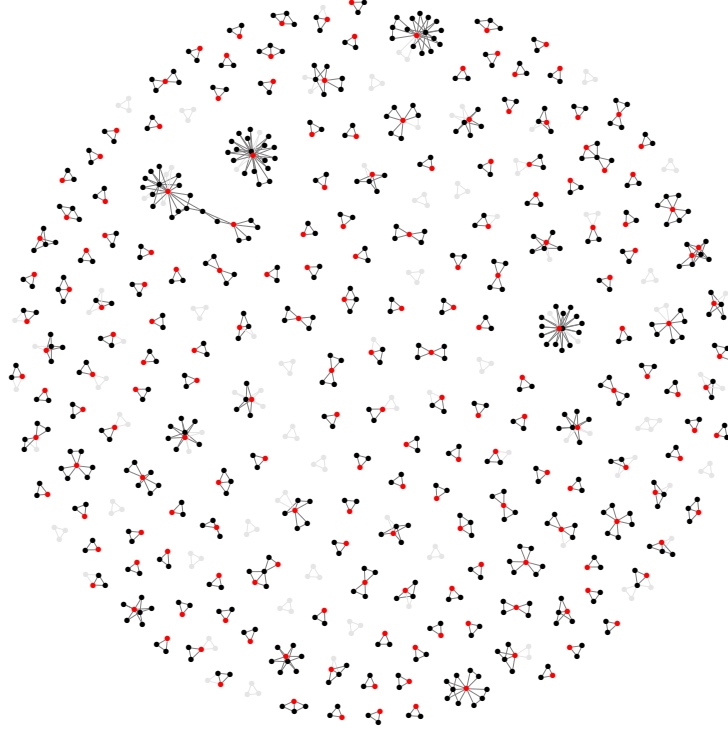
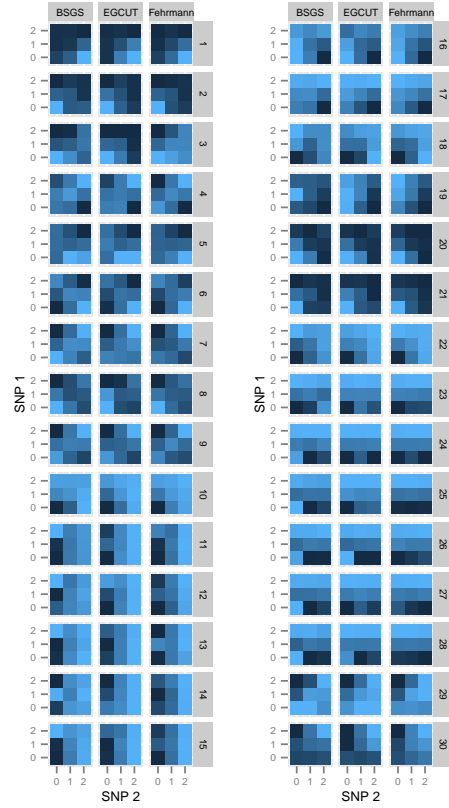


Figure 1: **Discovery and replication of epistatic networks** All 434 putative genetic interactions (edges) with data common to discovery and replication sets is shown, where black nodes represent SNPs and red nodes represent traits (gene expression probes). Three hundred and forty-five interactions had  $p$ -values exceeding the 2.5% confidence interval following meta analysis of the replication data, but the remaining 89 interactions that did not replicate are depicted in grey. It is evident that a large proportion of the complex networks identified in the discovery set also exist in independent populations.



**Figure 2: Replication of GP maps in two independent populations** The GP maps for each epistatic interaction that is significant at the Bonferroni level in both replication datasets are shown. Each GP map consists of nine tiles where each tile represents the expression level for that two-locus genotype class. Phenotypes are for gene transcript levels (dark coloured tiles = low expression, light coloured tiles = high expression). Columns of GP maps are for each independent population. Rows of GP maps are for each of 30 significantly replicated interactions at the Bonferroni level, corresponding to the rows in Table 1. There is a clear trend of the GP maps replicating across all three datasets.

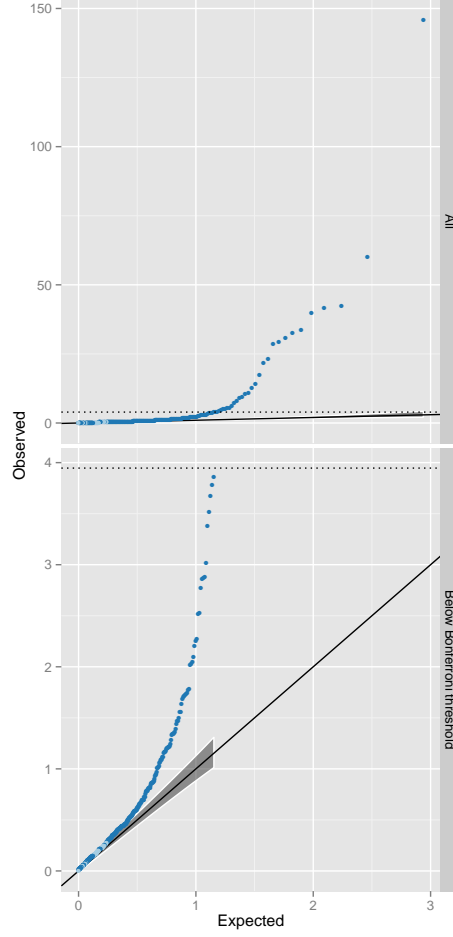


Figure 3: **Q-Q plots of interaction  $p$ -values from replication datasets** The top panel shows all 434 discovery SNPs that were tested for interactions. Observed  $p$ -values ( $y$ -axis,  $-\log_{10}$  scale) are plotted against the expected  $p$ -values ( $x$ -axis,  $-\log_{10}$  scale). The multiple testing correction threshold for significance following Bonferroni correction is denoted by a dotted line. The bottom panel shows the same data as the top panel but excluding the 30 interactions that were significant at the Bonferroni level in the replication datasets. The shaded grey area represents the 5% confidence interval for the expected distribution of  $p$ -values. Dark blue points represent  $p$ -values that exceed the confidence interval, light blue are within the confidence interval.

## 4 Supplementary Figures

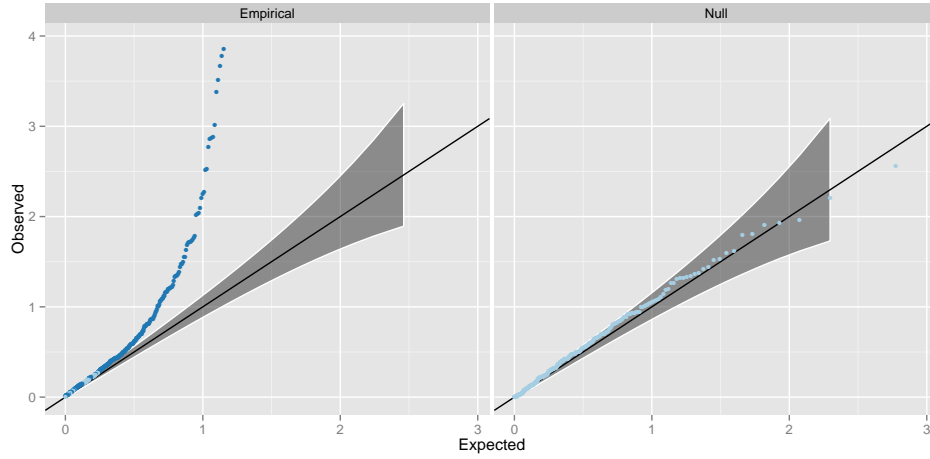


Figure S1: **Q-Q plots of interaction  $p$ -values from replication datasets, excluding the 30 points significant at the Bonferroni level** The right panel (Null) shows the interaction  $p$ -values from a meta analysis across two independent datasets on 434 randomly drawn SNP pairs. The left panel (Empirical) shows the interaction  $p$ -values from the 404 putative interactions that were not significant at the Bonferroni correction threshold. Dark blue points represent  $p$ -values that surpass the 2.5% FDR level, as in Figure 3.

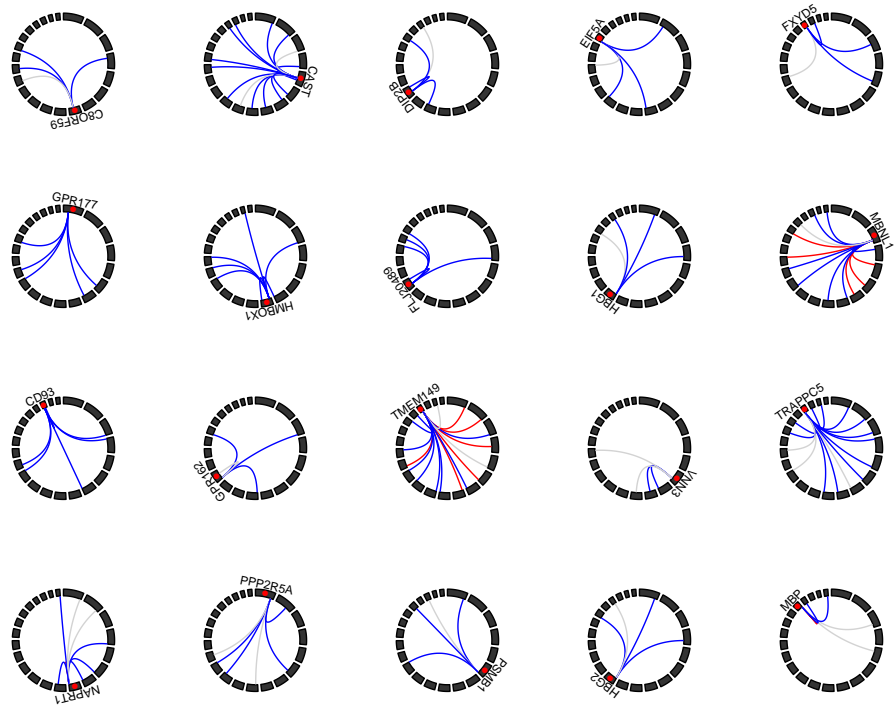
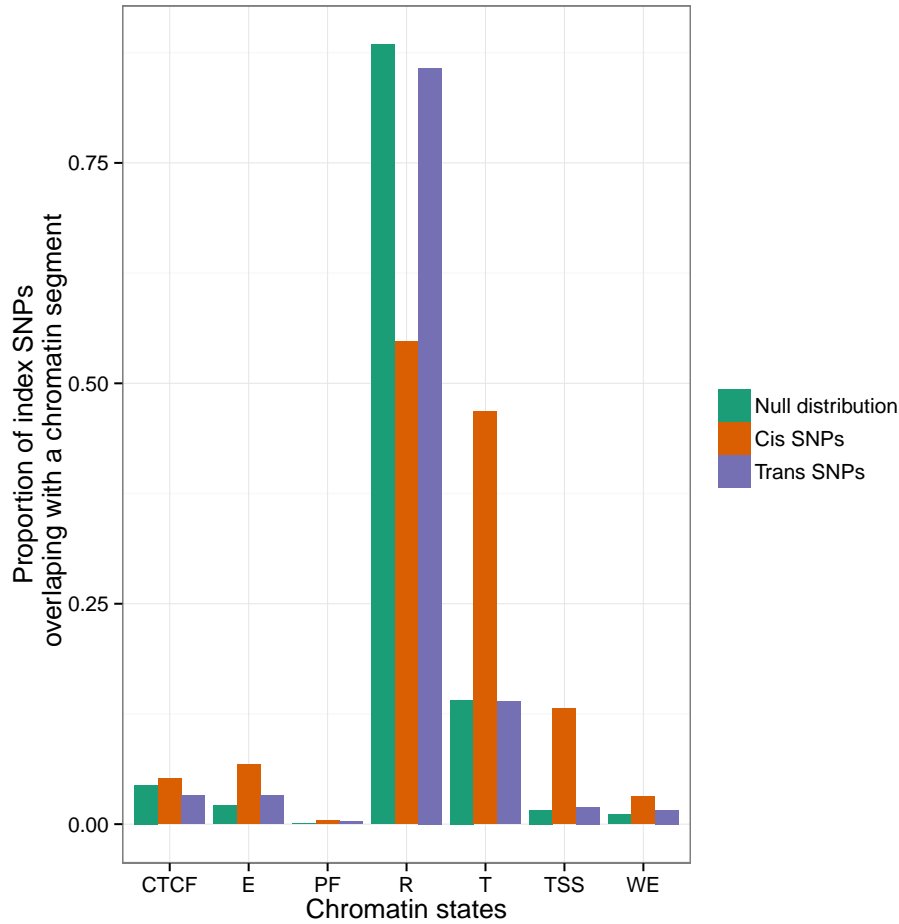
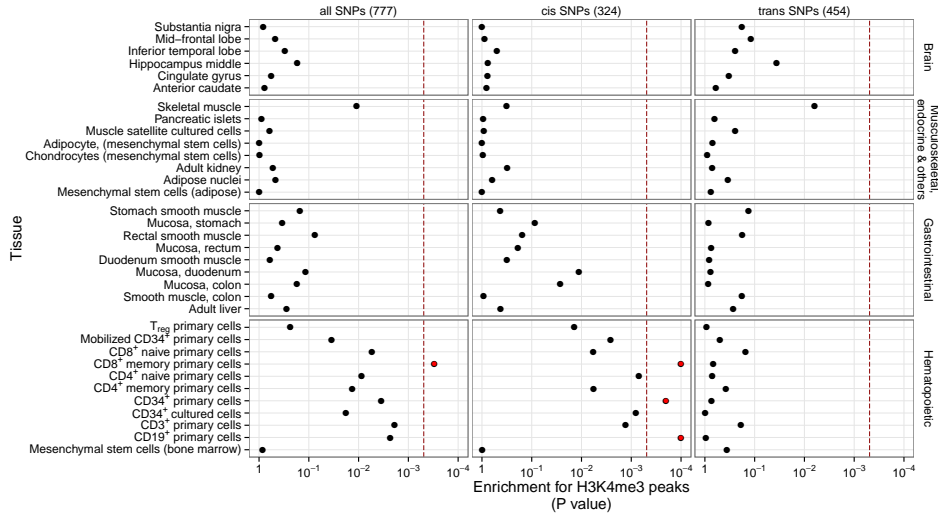


Figure S2: **Gene expression traits with four or more genetic interactions** Circle plots represent the genomic positions for SNPs (linking lines) and expression probes (red points). Chromosomes are represented by black blocks and ordered from 1 to 22 clockwise, starting from the top. Grey lines represent no evidence for replication, blue lines denote interactions that are outside the 97.5% confidence interval or the Q-Q plot (Figure 3), and red lines denote replication at the Bonferroni correction level. Most interactions are characterised as being *cis-trans* to the expression probe.



**Figure S3: Location of SNPs relative to genomic features** All SNPs within 1Mb and  $r^2 > 0.8$  of each *cis*- and *trans*-SNP were taken to find which genomic features ( $x$ -axis) were covered by the SNPs that compose the 501 significant interactions. Green bars represent the proportion ( $y$ -axis) of the 528,509 SNPs used in the analysis that fall within the range of the different genomic features. There is enrichment for *cis*-acting SNPs (red bars) in promotor regions, but *trans*-acting SNPs (blue bars) are not enriched for genomic features. The labels on the  $x$ -axis are as follows: TSS = Predicted promoter region including TSS, PF = Predicted promoter flanking region, E = Predicted enhancer, WE = Predicted weak enhancer or open chromatin cis regulatory element, CTCF = CTCF enriched element, T = Predicted transcribed region, R = Predicted Repressed or Low Activity region



**Figure S4: Tissue specific enrichment of SNPs in transcriptionally active regions** The locations of transcriptional activity can be predicted by chromatin marks, assayed by H3K4me3.<sup>26</sup> Enrichment  $p$ -values are calculated using permutation analysis for 34 different cell types ( $y$ -axis) in four tissue types (Rows of boxes). There is enrichment for *cis*-acting SNPs in Haematopoietic tissue types only. *Trans*-acting SNPs have no tissue specificity.

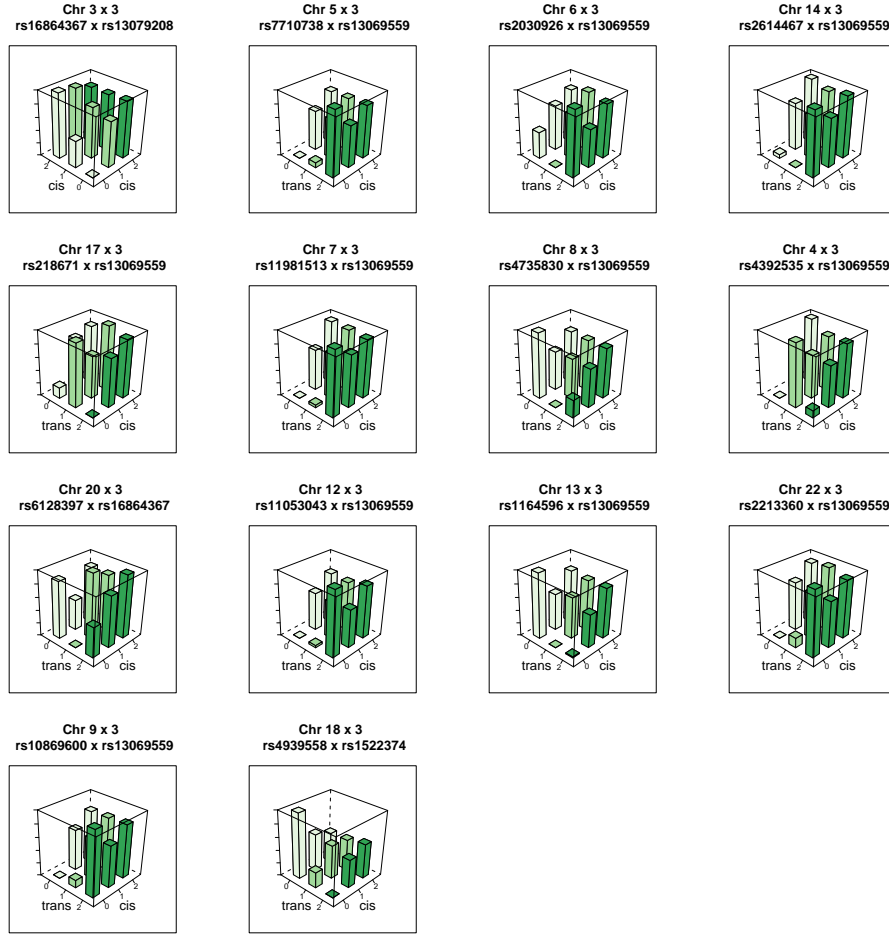


Figure S5: **Genotype-phenotype maps for 14 interactions influencing the expression of MBNL1** Each bar represents the mean phenotypic value for individuals in that genotype class. The rs13069559 SNP typically has a *cis*-additive decreasing effect on the expression of MBNL1, but in many of these interactions the *cis* effect is masked when the *trans* SNP is homozygous.



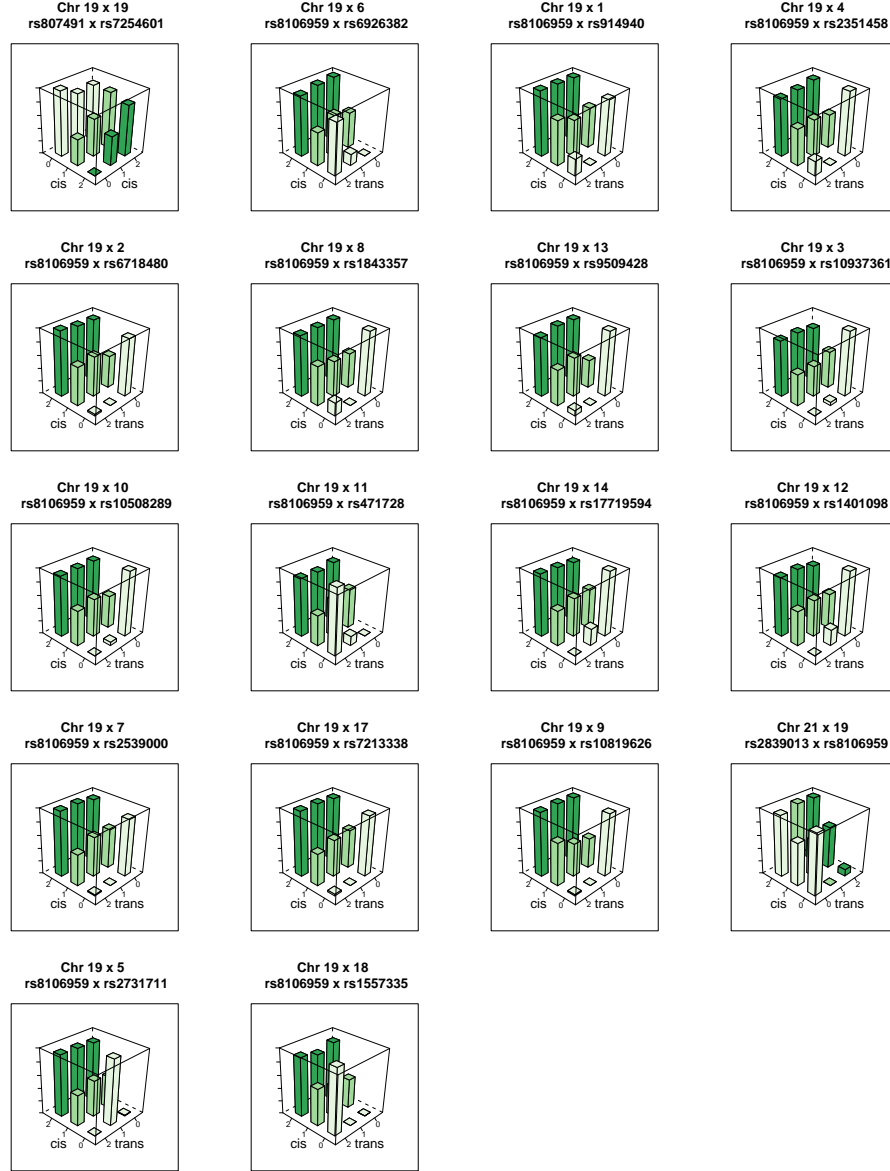


Figure S6: **Genotype-phenotype maps for 19 interactions influencing the expression of TMEM149** Each bar represents the mean phenotypic value for individuals in that genotype class. The rs13069559 SNP typically has a *cis*-additive decreasing effect on the expression of TMEM149, but in many of these interactions the *cis* effect is masked when the *trans* SNP is homozygous.

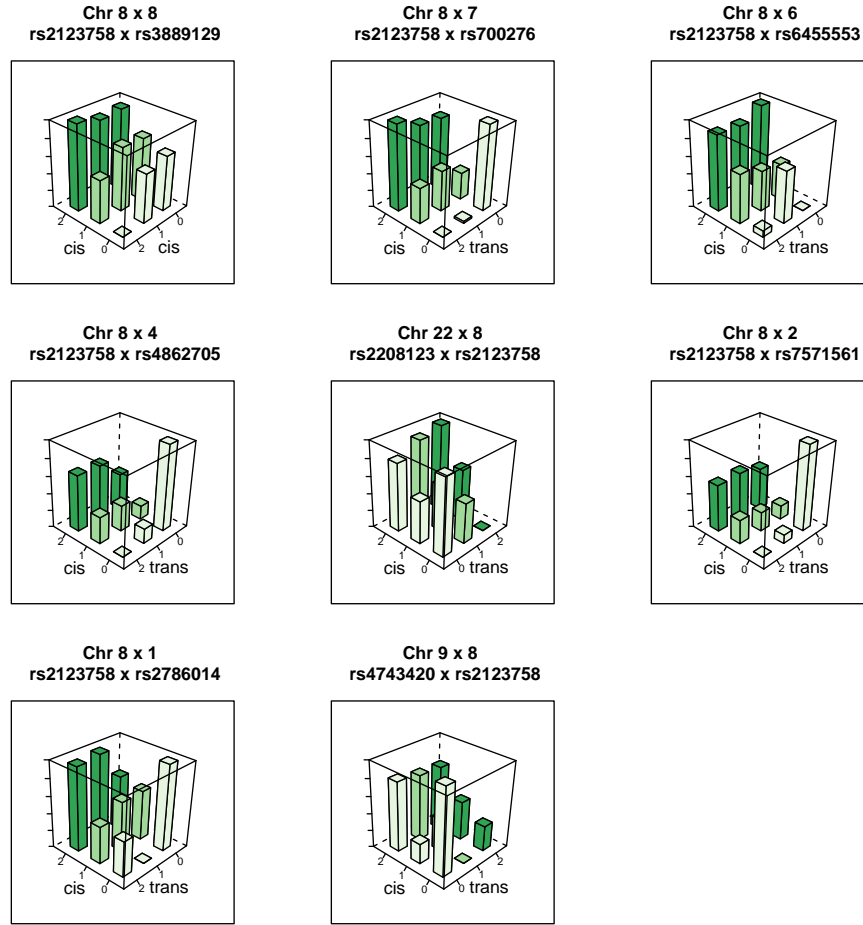


Figure S7: **Genotype-phenotype maps for 8 interactions influencing the expression of NAPRT1** Each bar represents the mean phenotypic value for individuals in that genotype class.

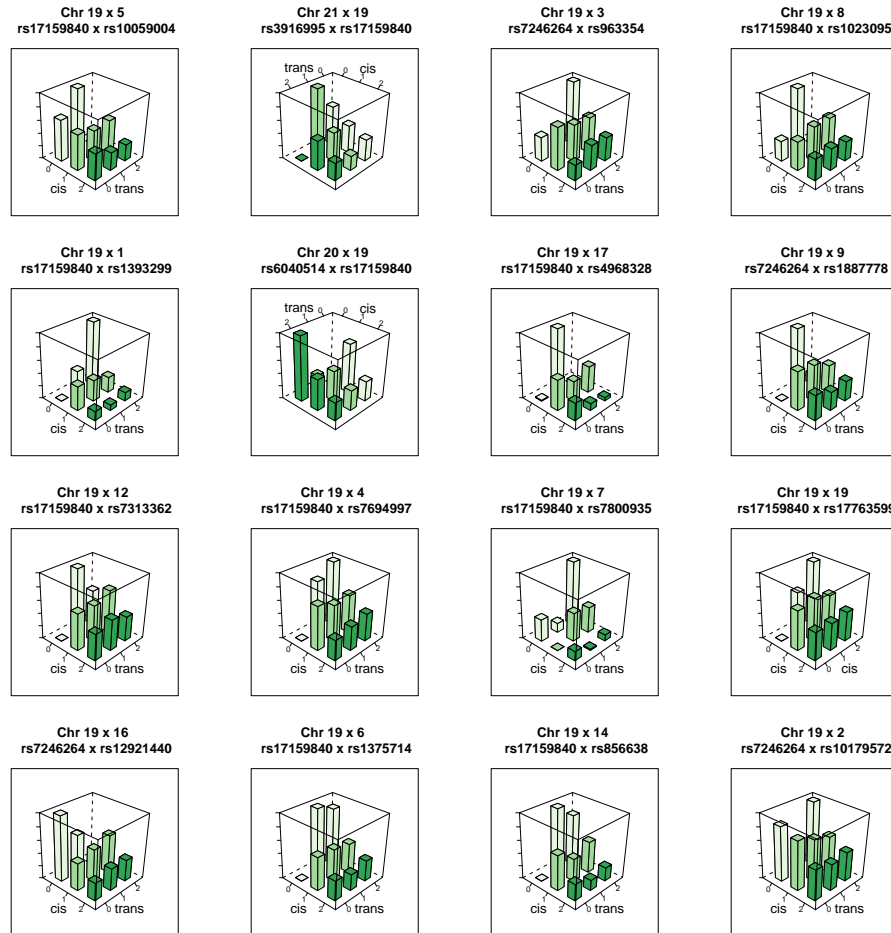


Figure S8: **Genotype-phenotype maps for 16 interactions influencing the expression of TRAPPC5** Each bar represents the mean phenotypic value for individuals in that genotype class.

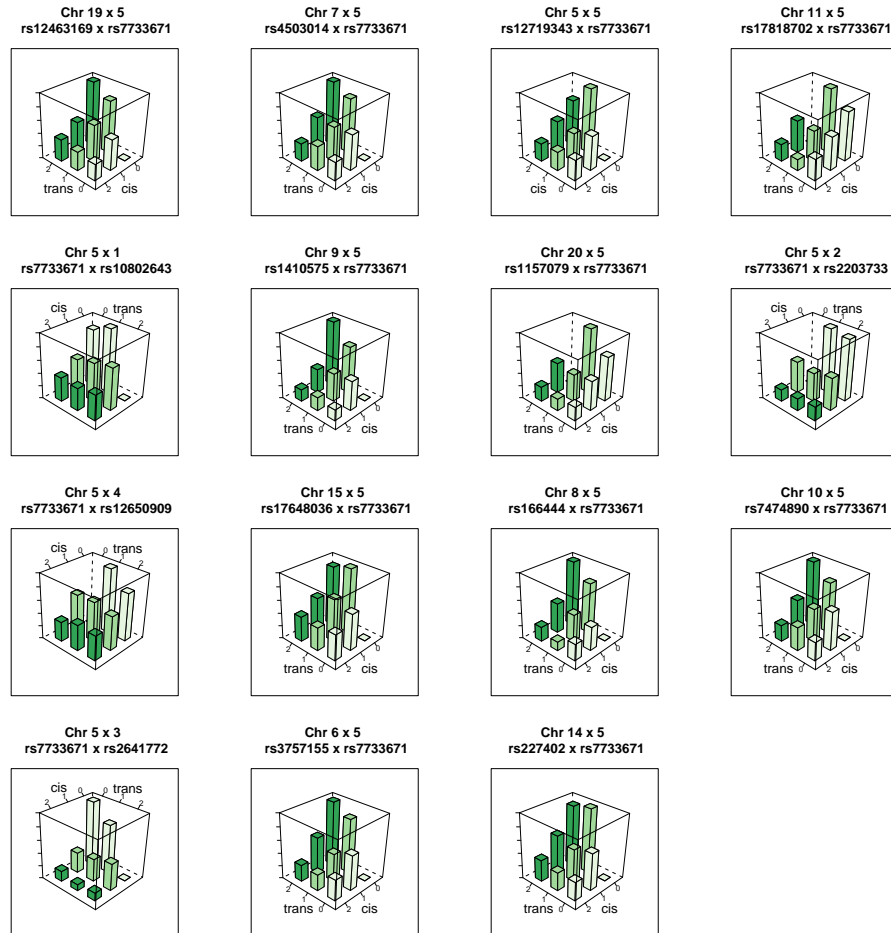
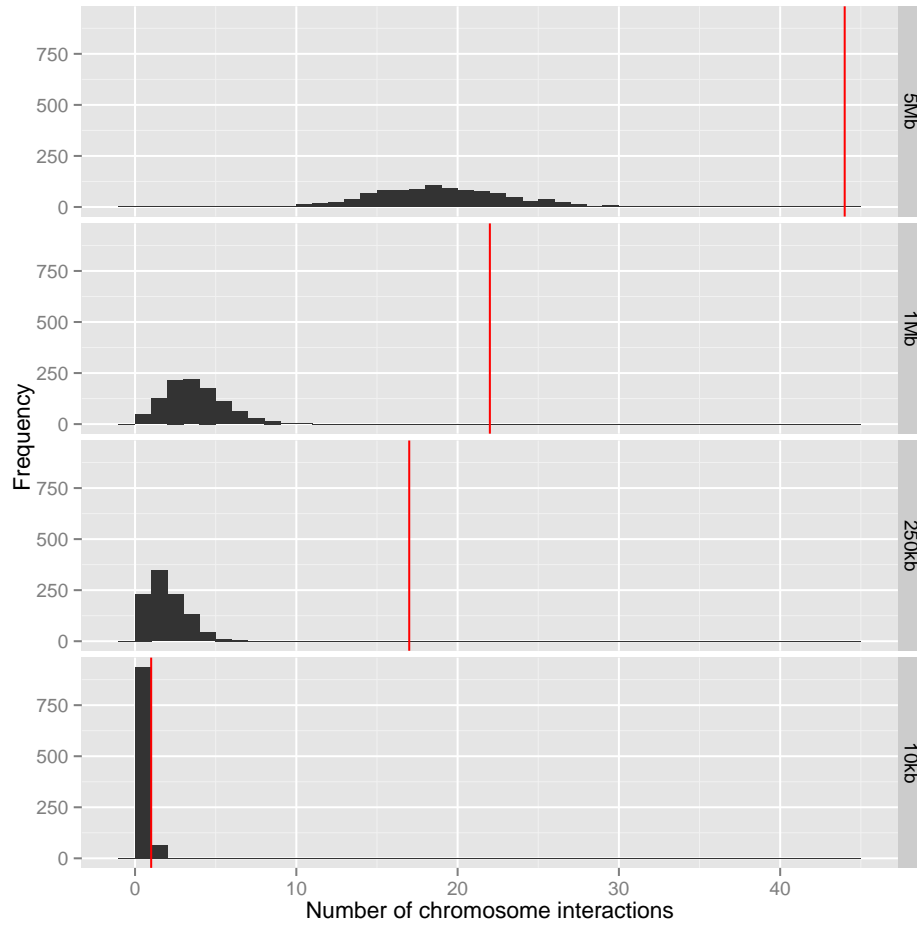


Figure S9: **Genotype-phenotype maps for 15 interactions influencing the expression of CAST** Each bar represents the mean phenotypic value for individuals in that genotype class.



**Figure S10: Number of overlaps between chromosome interactions and epistatic interactions** Interacting chromosome regions may be a possible mechanism underlying epistatic interactions. The number of epistatic interactions within 20kb, 500kb, 2Mb and 10Mb of known chromosome interacting regions are shown by red vertical lines. The histograms represent the null distribution based on random sampling of 10,000 datasets for each window size.

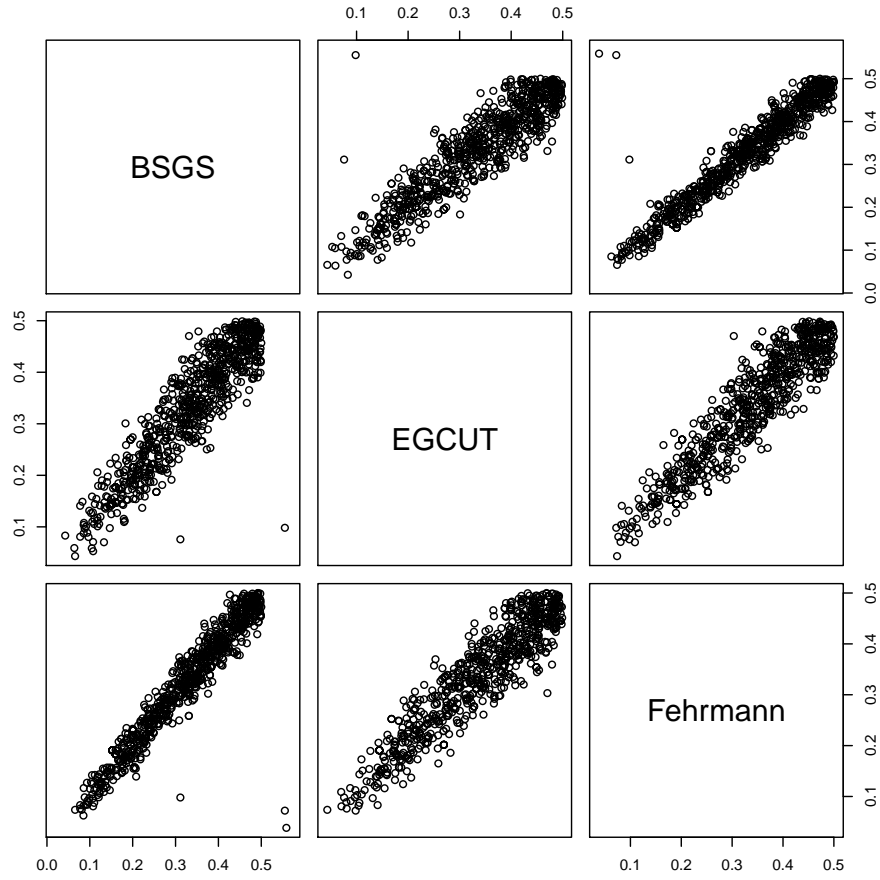
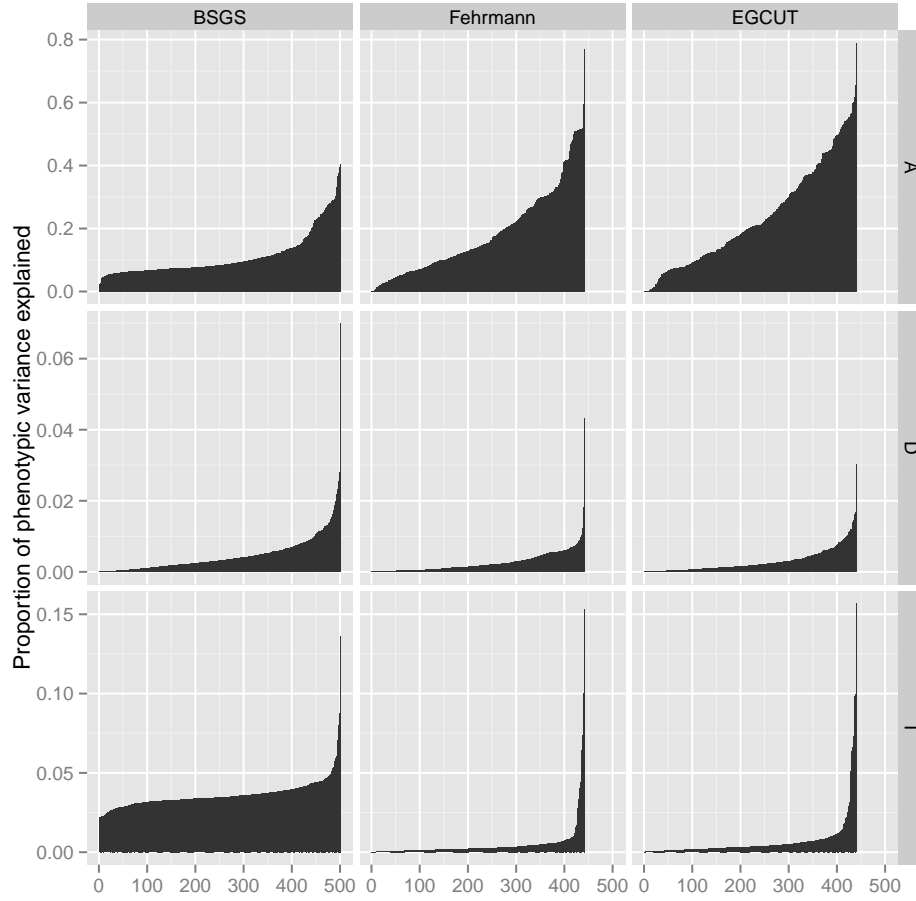


Figure S11: **Comparison of allele frequencies for 781 SNPs involved in genetic interactions across independent populations** Outliers were removed from the analysis as part of the filtering stage during replication.



**Figure S12: Comparison of variance explained by additive, dominant and epistatic effects from different cohorts** How does the estimated variance decomposition change in different cohorts? The proportion of the phenotypic variance that is additive (A), dominant (D), or epistatic (I) for each putative interaction is shown on the  $y$ -axis (Note: different scales for each row). BSGS has 501 interactions whereas Fehrmann and EGCUT have 434 ( $x$ -axis). The variance estimates in each plot are ordered from lowest additive to highest. This is done independently for each cohort to depict the distribution of estimated effects.

## 5 Supplementary Tables





Table S1 – continued from previous page

Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Expression trait	Probe ID <sup>b</sup>	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	SNP 1	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	SNP 2	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Interaction statistic <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Distance / Mb <sup>h</sup>
C8ORF59	ILMN-1653205	8	rs8051751	16	7188323		7188323		rs2890452	8	86102223		C8ORF59	5.79	1.39	0.18	0.87
C9ORF72	ILMN-1741881	9	rs10122902	9	27556780		27556780		rs2526068	1	242019101		CABC1	6.36	0.96	0.01	0.37
CABC1	ILMN-1731064	10	rs12765847	10	4353808		4353808		rs3758725	1	227174210		CABC1	6.36	0.94	0.00	0.34
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs6540410	1	82128660		INPP5E	5.81	0.81	0.00	0.86
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs4077315	1	139266496		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
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CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs4266763	9	139289825		139289825		rs12677315	1	82128660		INPP5E	7.61	0.09	0.86	0.42
CAD9	ILMN-1712532	9	rs														

Continued on next page

Table S1 – continued from previous page

Expression trait			SNP 1			SNP 2			Interaction statistic / -log10 p-values			Distance / Mb		
Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Probe ID <sup>b</sup>	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	BGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Meta <sup>g</sup>
CPVL	ILMN-1682928	7	rs2835998	21	39202070		rs245884	7	29188475	CPVL	5.55	0.19	0.03	0.04
CRPT	ILMN-1813256	2	rs2131290	4	188859908		rs1531133	2	46843631	CRPT	5.47	0.28	0.10	0.12
CRUS1	ILMN-1737685	20	rs6139887	20	5986234	CRUS1	rs1473927	5	62406408		6.18	0.10	0.36	0.15
CS1B	ILMN-1761797	21	rs69979356	21	45230974		rs3761385	21	45198355		11.99	25.20	16.72	42.27
CTNNA1	ILMN-1804854	5	rs924943	18	69500505		rs176382	5	138226767	CTNNA1	5.74	0.02	0.41	0.11
CTSC	ILMN-1696347	11	rs2457684	11	88139983	CTSC	rs7079264	10	10679892		5.67	0.92	0.74	1.03
CTSC	ILMN-1696347	11	rs7532236	22	26250645		rs1728352	11	88087357	CTSC	5.84	0.49	0.80	0.73
CTSC	ILMN-2242463	11	rs7930237	11	88117962		rs556895	11	88077407		7.16	18.76	15.06	33.53
CWF19L1	ILMN-1651886	10	rs7108734	11	11456027		rs12784396	10	102027407	CWF19L1	5.42	0.21	0.01	0.03
CYBRD1	ILMN-1712305	4	rs2592948	4	129994690		rs888427	2	172368120	CYBRD1	5.89	0.23	0.53	0.34
CYBRD1	ILMN-1712305	2	rs7852475	9	140698856		rs888427	2	172368120	CYBRD1	5.68	0.20	0.02	0.04
CYBRD1	ILMN-2087692	2	rs11257679	10	12318284		rs888427	2	172368120	CYBRD1	5.81	0.39	1.87	1.47
CYBRD1	ILMN-2087692	2	rs6137908	20	23344590		rs888427	2	172368120	CYBRD1	5.53	0.05	0.83	0.36
CYP27A1	ILMN-1704985	2	rs888427	2	172368120	CYBRD1	rs7591849	2	160112881		5.85	0.87	0.10	0.44
CYP27A1	ILMN-1704985	2	rs6021982	20	36571928		rs933994	2	219650616	CYP27A1	5.42	0.29	0.86	0.60
DAB2	ILMN-2128428	5	rs7778910	17	110451383		rs835223	5	39381357	DAB2	5.44	0.48	0.41	0.44
DDX58	ILMN-1811648	17	rs9900173	17	133111688	DDT	rs1343244	6	82076988		9.12	0.00	0.58	0.14
DDX58	ILMN-1690982	22	rs9760102	22	24248761		rs2378341	3	187475208		5.62	0.64	0.25	0.42
DEM1	ILMN-1733996	9	rs4937087	9	125962645	COQ10A	rs7042042	9	32451144		5.31	0.61	0.29	0.44
DEM1	ILMN-1783996	1	rs10120023	9	137810259		rs2519515	7	88204888		5.47	0.08	0.41	0.16
DHRS9	ILMN-1733998	2	rs12363827	11	106703727		rs10120023	9	137810259	COQ10A	6.39	0.77	0.02	0.29
DHRS9	ILMN-1733998	2	rs1511956	12	89468283		rs7566044	2	169960422	DHRS9	6.00	0.06	1.17	0.58
DHRS9	ILMN-2384181	2	rs1528529	7	147132505		rs566044	2	169960422	DHRS9	6.48	0.37	0.34	0.32
DHRS9	ILMN-2384181	2	rs2831914	21	29959453		rs2161037	2	169893419	DHRS9	5.51	0.88	0.04	0.37
DHRS9	ILMN-2384181	4	rs7661304	4	187776431		rs2161037	2	169893419	DHRS9	7.64	0.05	0.11	0.03
DP2B	ILMN-1755589	12	rs11080134	17	59161503	LASS5	rs11169322	12	50610976	LASS5	4.65	0.32	0.05	0.10
DP2B	ILMN-1755589	12	rs11669335	12	50636364		rs2872008	7	153134888	LASS5	4.87	0.30	0.58	0.19
DP2B	ILMN-1755589	12	rs3383855	19	41718185	LASS5	rs1808634	8	50730458		5.31	0.37	0.02	0.01
DP2B	ILMN-1755589	12	rs7319252	12	50730458	LASS5	rs4532958	10	115214154	LASS5	5.03	0.09	0.02	0.11
DP2B	ILMN-1755589	12	rs7319252	12	50730458	LASS5	rs12427378	12	150741199	LASS5	5.92	0.48	0.00	0.01
DNAB1B6	ILMN-1793770	7	rs2288842	15	117994348		rs3779589	7	157163614	DNAB1B6	5.79	0.23	1.45	0.97
ECGF1	ILMN-2109708	22	rs1432322	22	50971266		rs1566972	3	16320360	DNAB1B6	6.17	1.58	0.27	1.12
ECGF1	ILMN-1671568	1	rs4324091	22	241911027	ECGF1	rs4891884	18	64004670		4.81	0.15	1.18	0.70
ECGF1	ILMN-1671568	1	rs5092637	22	17675900		rs11206043	1	53402552	ECGF1	6.19	0.22	0.35	0.22
ECGF1	ILMN-1720083	15	rs5092637	22	17675900		rs11206043	1	53402552	ECGF1	5.58	0.64	0.16	0.35
EIF2B2	ILMN-1704522	17	rs7216490	18	60218334		rs1048166	15	42192040	ECGF1	6.98	0.90	0.47	0.79
EIF2B2	ILMN-1704522	17	rs6567288	18	60218334		rs148166	15	42192040	EIF2B2	5.56	0.23	0.11	0.10
EIF5A	ILMN-1794522	17	rs7216490	17	7221707	EIF5A	rs1269096	14	99603119		5.44	0.56	0.08	0.24
EIF5A	ILMN-1794522	17	rs7216490	17	7221707	EIF5A	rs1553474	2	49359676	EIF5A	5.55	0.28	0.05	0.41
EIF5A	ILMN-1794522	17	rs7216490	17	7221707	EIF5A	rs2197210	8	129624067	EIF5A	6.36	0.08	0.05	0.02
EIF5A	ILMN-1794522	17	rs7216490	17	7221707	EIF5A	rs4471434	11	126387391	EIF5A	5.52	0.05	1.12	0.53
EMR2	ILMN-2353633	19	rs2827076	21	23196249		rs9305048	19	14879034	EMR2	6.51	0.36	0.04	0.11
EMR2	ILMN-2353633	19	rs6132112	20	18761714		rs3007765	19	14879034	EMR2	5.56	0.45	0.40	0.41
EMR2	ILMN-2353633	19	rs9405048	19	14879034	EMR2	rs3007765	13	102480759	EMR2	6.03	0.20	0.58	0.35
EPHX2	ILMN-1709237	8	rs1107764	11	12790396		rs13269963	8	27400604	EPHX2	5.70	0.25	1.20	0.81
EPHX2	ILMN-1731001	8	rs10894861	11	13461176		rs12115088	8	578752	EPHX2	5.43	0.25	1.20	0.81
ERICH1	ILMN-1731001	8	rs5766218	22	45337329		rs12115088	8	607161	ERICH1	6.11	0.20	0.11	0.09
ERICH1	ILMN-1731001	8	rs726145	18	31187910		rs12115088	8	578752	ERICH1	5.65	0.29	0.04	0.08
ERICH1	ILMN-2104696	5	rs4735895	8	600729	ERICH1	rs1517297	4	182786760	ERICH1	5.63	0.67	1.03	1.06
EXOC3	ILMN-1789419	5	rs187076	10	55228462		rs12188164	5	428236	EXOC3	6.83	0.74	0.19	0.44
FAHD1	ILMN-2246661	16	rs1560104	16	12708208		rs344363	16	1972548	FAHD1	5.61	0.27	0.30	0.23
FCN1	ILMN-1668063	9	rs12580388	12	129591144		rs10120023	9	137810259	COQ10A	6.33	0.27	0.30	0.23

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Table S1 – continued from previous page

Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Expression trait	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Meta <sup>g</sup>	Distance / Mb <sup>h</sup>
FEZ2	ILMN-1739586	2	rs23564400	19	44321776	FLJ20489	rs13406184	2	36791226	FEZ2	5.78	0.14	0.33	0.16	
FEZ2	ILMN-1739586	2	rs969010	4	139963132		rs11691000	2	36810133	FEZ2	6.59	0.14	0.28	0.14	
FGD2	ILMN-2115005	6	rs4803848	19	46205050		rs831486	6	37001267	FGD2	5.69	0.12	0.25	0.11	
FGD2	ILMN-2115005	6	rs902634	10	133943951		rs831489	6	36999682	FGD2	5.49	1.20	0.11	0.66	68.867
FLJ20489	ILMN-1778144	12	rs17615703	12	117036766	FLJ20489	rs3782908	12	48169526	FLJ20489	5.81	0.06	0.70	0.29	
FLJ20489	ILMN-1778144	12	rs3782908	12	48169526		rs831489	12	48169526	FLJ20489	5.53	0.03	0.11	0.02	
FLJ20489	ILMN-1778144	12	rs4792199	17	7932118		rs3782908	12	48169526	FLJ20489	3.74	0.19	0.02	0.04	
FLJ20489	ILMN-1778144	12	rs4984440	15	97033129		rs3782908	12	48169526	FLJ20489	6.49	0.31	0.47	0.36	
FLJ20489	ILMN-1778144	12	rs7204135	16	30626195		rs3782908	12	48169526	FLJ20489	6.90	0.38	0.17	0.21	
FLJ20718	ILMN-1763663	16	rs9325634	21	43818790		rs2287197	16	50106594	FLJ20718	6.04	0.14	0.95	0.53	
FLJ43093	ILMN-2123450	6	rs17112712	14	107276627		rs6900101	6	36667610	FLJ43093	5.48	0.39	0.06	0.13	
FLJ43093	ILMN-2123450	6	rs6900101	6	36667610	FLJ43093	rs13214069	6	32705248		5.44	0.30	0.64	0.18	3.962
FN3KBP	ILMN-1652333	17	rs898095	17	80890638		rs9892064	17	80827903		16.16	28.24	29.39	59.95	0.063
FUCA1	ILMN-1752728	1	rs4971478	2	1346063		rs12744386	1	24168019	FUCA1	6.41	0.01	0.30	0.06	
FXD5	ILMN-2309848	19	rs1633921	19	35695200		rs788178	13	98328559		3.70	0.09	0.41	0.17	
FXD5	ILMN-2309848	19	rs17395183	20	35609148		rs2285515	19	35660450	FXD5	6.58	0.03	0.48	0.15	
FXD5	ILMN-2309848	19	rs2285515	19	35660450	FXD5	rs11739594	5	141709563		5.70	0.07	0.17	0.05	
FXD5	ILMN-2309848	19	rs2285515	19	35660450	FXD5	rs13067700	3	95331048		6.00	0.09	0.51	0.22	
FXD5	ILMN-2309848	19	rs2285515	19	35660450	FXD5	rs17036504	2	47567329		6.10	0.28	0.08	0.37	0.14
G3BP2	ILMN-2381758	4	rs10230232	7	29390239		rs1553985	4	76554604		5.19	0.08	0.37	0.14	
GAA	ILMN-2410783	17	rs1159847	17	78153130	GAA	rs12602462	17	78146016		13.91	19.98	12.99	32.60	0.007
GAA	ILMN-2410783	17	rs8088594	17	75100731	GAPT	rs1092506	12	132678089		5.65	0.11	0.39	0.17	
GAPT	ILMN-1675191	5	rs10070322	5	57786110		rs7605821	2	235695228		5.85	0.01	0.78	0.28	
GATS	ILMN-169631	7	rs7082031	10	128038717		rs10070522	5	57786110	GAPT	5.72	0.26	0.11	0.11	
GATS	ILMN-169631	7	rs1147447	14	66460742		rs29505320	7	98927148	GATS	5.47	0.83	0.63	0.87	
GATS	ILMN-169631	7	rs2423256	20	33056572		rs29505320	7	98927148	GATS	6.22	0.42	0.35	0.33	
GDPD3	ILMN-174901	16	rs3809624	16	30102802	GDPD3	rs2197465	14	18572632		6.37	0.38	0.05	0.24	
GDPD3	ILMN-174901	16	rs7204270	16	30156963	GDPD3	rs1015111	4	428972357		5.86	0.55	0.09	0.24	
GNYL	ILMN-1790692	12	rs41945072	13	110899955		rs7577293	2	85935282	GNYL	5.78	0.02	0.45	0.13	
GPR162	ILMN-1730816	12	rs7198646	16	26084476		rs7960552	12	111164237	GPR162	5.72	0.36	0.46	0.39	
GPR162	ILMN-1730816	12	rs860563	16	6478898		rs2707210	12	6902002	GPR162	5.49	0.25	0.03	0.06	
GPR162	ILMN-1730816	12	rs2772500	12	79685913		rs2707210	12	6902002	GPR162	5.07	0.25	0.06	0.07	
GPR162	ILMN-1730816	12	rs2707210	12	6902002	GPR162	rs4740848	9	6554558		5.47	0.25	0.06	0.04	
GPR177	ILMN-1660549	1	rs21047383	12	6902002	GPR162	rs9827054	3	188880113		6.21	0.72	0.67	0.81	
GPR177	ILMN-1660549	1	rs11057383	12	124369421		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	5.45	0.17	0.40	0.22	
GPR177	ILMN-1660549	1	rs12527241	6	120468039		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	5.76	0.79	1.43	1.50	
GPR177	ILMN-1660549	1	rs25613	16	11169683		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	5.43	0.31	0.11	0.13	
GPR177	ILMN-1660549	1	rs9575097	13	82986268		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	6.04	0.95	0.21	0.60	
GPR177	ILMN-2283325	1	rs6566669	18	70506011		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	5.86	0.24	0.34	0.23	
GPR177	ILMN-2283325	1	rs9290426	3	171399321		rs12065581	1	68732819	GPR177	6.50	0.01	0.24	0.04	
GSDMB	ILMN-2347193	17	rs11557467	17	38028634	GSDMB	rs4965745	15	101508261		5.88	0.68	0.20	0.41	
GSTM1	ILMN-2391861	1	rs12248673	10	53192833		rs11101992	1	110266754	GSTM1	6.11	0.27	0.19	0.16	
GSTM1	ILMN-2391861	1	rs1547574	13	85344527		rs11101992	1	110266754	GSTM1	5.91	0.27	1.14	0.79	
GSTM2	ILMN-2201580	1	rs6492807	13	96150560		rs3754446	1	110253241	GSTM1	6.77	0.27	1.14	0.79	
H1FO	ILMN-1757467	22	rs139898	22	38399979		rs4853333	2	77919015		6.36	0.52	0.66	0.65	
H1FO	ILMN-1757467	22	rs139898	22	38399979		rs6497007	21	19532546		6.52	0.27	0.31	0.27	
H1FO	ILMN-1757467	22	rs139898	22	38399979		rs9983949	2	77919015		5.70	0.25	0.48	0.32	
HBC1	ILMN-1796678	11	rs11078523	17	4523167		rs2855039	11	5271671	HBC2	5.78	0.01	0.66	0.19	
HBC1	ILMN-1796678	11	rs12975066	19	35723501		rs2855039	11	5271671	HBC2	5.47	0.08	0.52	0.21	
HBC1	ILMN-1796678	11	rs2855039	19	5271671	HBC2	rs12042181	1	213088494	LQK1	6.78	0.05	0.46	0.11	
HBC1	ILMN-1796678	11	rs2855039	11	5271671	HBC2	rs12503379	4	141533832		6.42	0.01	0.46	0.11	
HBC2	ILMN-2084825	11	rs11078523	17	4523167		rs16912979	11	5309695	HBC2	6.06	0.01	0.41	0.10	

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Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Expression trait <sup>b</sup>		SNP 1			SNP 2			Interaction statistic <sup>c</sup>		Distance / Mb	
	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb/c	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb/c	Association <sup>d</sup>	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>		
MBNL1	rs43925535	4	41513423		rs13069559	3	152187431	MBNL1	8.39	0.02	4.33	3.02
	rs47358380	8	895841		rs13069559	3	152187431	MBNL1	6.74	0.32	4.21	3.38
MBNL1	rs4939558	18	46278591		rs1522374	3	152235530		7.72	0.03	0.27	0.07
MBNL1	rs6128397	3	57253132		rs16864367	3	152234166		7.22	1.34	1.15	1.73
MBNL1	rs7701738	5	22101322		rs13069559	3	152187431	MBNL1	7.92	2.55	7.89	9.28
MBP	rs6079849	20	15462611		rs2051344	18	74715653	MBP	6.26	0.10	0.03	0.02
MBP	rs139568	22	42210985		rs2051344	18	74715653	MBP	5.56	0.03	0.23	0.05
MBP	rs2051344	18	74715653	MBP	rs1125539	3	155204939		5.79	0.02	0.76	0.27
MBP	rs2051344	18	74715653		rs26519046	6	55097534		6.03	0.15	0.50	0.26
MBP	rs4805021	19	33436367		rs2651344	18	74715653	MBP	5.82	0.03	0.47	0.14
MBP	rs8092433	18	74747424		rs4980876	18	74732087		4.63	7.06	7.06	21.91
MBP	rs13039689	20	51922071		rs9663986	9	123453281	MEGF9	5.40	1.13	1.33	1.71
MBP	rs7989895	13	109401737		rs4846085	1	12050634	MFN2	5.76	0.61	0.25	0.41
MBP	rs12718598	7	50428445	MGC13057	rs11725347	4	171860973		5.81	0.13	0.30	0.14
MBP	rs674608	18	89607072		rs12718598	7	50428445	MGC13057	5.57	0.07	1.03	0.50
MBP	rs8058318	16	62828245		rs12718598	7	50428445	MGC13057	7.05	0.11	0.12	0.05
MBP	rs845787	20	51779644		rs2660665	8	137526799		4.17	0.05	0.08	0.02
MBP	rs404741	17	25979644		rs4147592	5	165600146	MGST3	5.45	0.57	0.27	0.40
MBP	rs1805	11	118076069	MPZL2	rs11771552	7	154708716		5.90	0.01	0.23	0.04
MBP	rs7316716	12	19953193		rs1805	11	118076069	MPZL2	5.64	0.97	1.08	1.35
MBP	rs17469061	10	8436432		rs750495	5	1782046	MRPL36	6.89	0.34	0.18	0.19
MBP	rs6564769	16	80641040		rs2636095	10	102740503	MRPL36	5.71	0.26	0.64	0.22
MBP	rs1950857	14	267102371		rs3811188	14		MRPL52	7.48	0.46	0.70	0.64
MBP	rs10955512	8	110202230		rs722269	6	42194916	MRPS10	6.85	0.31	0.63	0.46
MBP	rs1698155	16	5063214		rs2395803	6	42158596	MRPS10	6.21	0.41	0.25	0.28
MBP	rs1698155	16	5063214		rs13217993	6	42164401	MRPS10	6.21	1.87	2.86	9.07
MBP	rs1420537	15	31215935	MTNR10	rs12431444	14	42068689		5.18	0.46	0.52	0.50
MBP	rs178375	21	42795027		rs1160227	14	95514596		6.31	0.11	0.50	0.23
MBP	rs459498	21	42795027		rs4973801	21	29363604		5.83	0.29	0.92	0.65
MBP	rs459498	21	42795027		rs8130120	21	29363604		6.78	0.03	0.46	0.23
MBP	rs10134030	14	61593110		rs1317149	11	47486885	MYBPC3	5.56	0.13	0.46	0.23
MBP	rs7322708	13	109530661		rs2734722	11	4732594					

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Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Expression trait		Probe ID <sup>b</sup>		SNP 1		Association <sup>d</sup>		SNP 2		Association <sup>d</sup>		Interaction statistic <sup>c</sup>		-log <sub>10</sub> p-values		Distance / Mb
	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb/c	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb/c	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb/c	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Metas <sup>h</sup>	
REPER	1	rs4982958	14	24957865	1	rs301819	1	8501786	1	8501786	1	8501786	5.66	0.61	1.23	1.17	
REPER	1	rs7697290	4	135248366	4	rs301819	1	8501786	1	8501786	1	8501786	5.74	0.14	0.10	0.06	
REPER	1	rs11085829	19	13174312	19	rs301819	1	8501786	1	8501786	1	8501786	5.74	0.21	0.33	0.21	
REPER	1	rs3852011	3	112844086	3	rs301819	1	8501786	1	8501786	1	8501786	5.71	0.08	0.60	0.26	
RNA5E6	14	rs11628398	14	21182800	14	rs7324365	13	100601327	13	100601327	13	100601327	5.48	0.42	0.21	0.26	
RNF167	17	rs238230	17	4875566	13	rs11628398	13	54668512	13	54668512	13	54668512	4.37				
RNF167	17	rs238230	17	4875566	3	rs4884857	3	36348968	3	36348968	3	36348968	5.59	0.71	0.46	0.64	
RNPEP	1	rs11071321	21	46127549	1	rs2819365	1	201983242	1	201983242	1	201983242	6.27	0.11	0.30	0.13	
RNPEP	1	rs8071611	17	67153386	3	rs2819365	3	36348968	3	36348968	3	36348968	4.32	1.48	0.50	1.28	
RPL13	16	rs252935	16	89648580	16	rs2965817	16	89513234	16	89513234	16	89513234	4.98	3.79	14.41	17.24	
RPL23AP7	2	rs1401202	16	80320056	2	rs4849261	2	114450208	2	114450208	2	114450208	5.55	0.13	0.73	0.38	
RPL36AL	14	rs49007033	14	50103816	9	rs17495030	9	138038093	9	138038093	9	138038093	5.46	0.09	0.06	0.02	
RPL36AL	14	rs4900928	14	50020817	6	rs1502991	6	63137260	6	63137260	6	63137260	5.86	0.32	0.20	0.19	
RPL8	8	rs2958482	8	145694615	8	rs1619856	1	234585790	1	234585790	1	234585790	4.59	0.10	0.37	0.15	
SECI3	16	rs1434674	20	4741304	8	rs1619856	8	145984615	8	145984615	8	145984615	4.33	0.13	0.45	0.22	
SECI3	16	rs4889214	16	8989214	3	rs696221	3	10342876	3	10342876	3	10342876	6.48	0.22	1.73	1.17	
SECI3	16	rs17085428	16	95388015	11	rs7695	11	156147326	11	156147326	11	156147326	5.50	0.02	0.51	0.15	
SESN3	11	rs355391	15	104412137	11	rs684856	11	94906111	11	94906111	11	94906111	5.67	0.31	0.06	0.10	
SESN3	11	rs684856	11	46591793	8	rs7004947	8	134606425	8	134606425	8	134606425	5.60	0.21	0.51	0.31	
SH3BGL2	6	rs10838191	11	43893658	3	rs1354034	3	56849749	3	56849749	3	56849749	5.52	0.70	0.12	0.35	
SH3BGL2	6	rs2645385	5	66383979	3	rs1354034	3	56849749	3	56849749	3	56849749	5.97	0.20	0.51	0.30	
SH3BGL2	6	rs6845304	4	88280502	4	rs1354034	4	88280502	4	88280502	4	88280502					

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Table S1 – continued from previous page

Gene ID <sup>a</sup>		Expression trait		SNP 1		SNP 2		Interaction statistic <sup>c</sup> / -log <sub>10</sub> p-values		Distance / Mb			
Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb <sup>b</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	Pos / Mb <sup>b</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Meta <sup>h</sup>
TMEDD4	7	rs1940400	11	133289627	TMEM149	rs177525246	7	44581986	TMEDD4	5.70	0.06	1.34	0.70
TMEM149	19	rs28390426	22	27428981	TMEM149	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	8.11	0.16	0.48	0.26
TMEM149	19	rs5762235	22	27925288	TMEM149	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	11.09			
TMEM149	19	rs6090518	20	462087005	SNY26	rs72546001	19	36219525	TMEM149	12.16	0.76	45.78	145.78
TMEM149	19	rs8074931	19	362087923	TMEM149	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	8.15	1.35	3.09	3.67
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs10306259	0	133027159	TMEM149	8.12	0.02	0.02	0.02
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs10306259	0	133027159	TMEM149	8.39	3.61	1.18	3.78
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs10937361	1	188259436	TMEM149	8.39	3.61	1.18	3.78
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs14010098	12	128884559	TMEM149	7.37	2.41	1.06	2.52
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs15579335	18	64268976	TMEM149	6.95	0.08	0.07	0.03
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs17719594	14	90932598	TMEM149	6.93	3.06	0.77	2.87
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs1843357	8	13822381	TMEM149	6.21	3.72	3.33	6.00
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs2351458	4	113317583	TMEM149	7.70	0.04	9.61	8.00
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs2539000	7	147619772	TMEM149	6.70	1.57	1.52	2.27
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs2731711	5	171792273	TMEM149	5.92	0.19	0.33	0.19
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs471728	11	129595480	TMEM149	8.89	0.90	3.62	3.51
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs6718480	2	233879066	TMEM149	8.55	3.31	5.15	7.36
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs6926382	6	161683974	TMEM149	5.80	3.06	8.80	10.72
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs7213338	17	80357420	TMEM149	5.49	0.07	3.14	2.10
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs914940	1	242889492	TMEM149	6.22	3.36	6.96	9.20
TMEM149	19	rs8106959	19	36219525	TMEM149	rs9509428	13	21473952	TMEM149	9.44	0.10	5.75	4.47
TMEM63A	1	rs1449226	13	72896063	TMEM63A	rs1449226	13	226027323	TMEM63A	5.60			
TMEM80	11	rs1254086	13	58058246	TMEM80	rs4963126	11	656845	TMEM80	5.79	0.64	0.12	0.32
TMEM80	11	rs1548475	9	4859303	TMEM80	rs10488630	7	1285593948	IRF5	5.61	0.11	0.15	0.07
TNP03	7	rs199793	20	228287307	TNP03	rs10488630	7	1285593948	IRF5	5.52	1.03	1.01	0.62
TNP03	7	rs7776572	7	23528923	TNP03	rs11770192	7	234983358	IRF5	8.23	3.19	1.89	4.69
TRAPP4	13	rs1278760	13	113531675	TRAPP5	rs3916581	11	118887887	TRAPP4	5.61	0.28	0.40	0.29
TRAPP4	13	rs1793823	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs10059004	5	166970604	TRAPP4	5.52	0.93	0.01	0.36
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs1023095	8	132022937	TRAPP5	5.92	0.21	1.60	1.07
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs1375714	6	156404902	TRAPP5	6.97	0.37	0.87	0.68
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs1393299	1	242329791	TRAPP5	7.79	0.63	0.18	0.08
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs17763599	19	2369415	TRAPP5	6.43	0.63	0.47	0.59
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs4968328	17	57495457	TRAPP5	6.38	0.21	0.24	0.16
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs7694997	4	9947811	TRAPP5	6.51	0.50	0.38	0.44
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs7313362	12	129644342	TRAPP5	7.08	0.04	0.65	0.25
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs7694997	4	9947811	TRAPP5	5.86	0.20	0.36	0.22
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs8609935	7	146690926	TRAPP5	6.27	0.15	0.33	0.16
TRAPP5	19	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	rs856638	14	85439550	TRAPP5	6.73	0.24	0.07	0.08
TRAPP5	19	rs380708	22	22740855	TRAPP5	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	7.58			
TRAPP5	19	rs39166995	21	45128454	TRAPP5	rs17159840	19	7758194	TRAPP5	7.73	0.85	0.78	1.01
TRAPP5	19	rs6040514	20	11272861	TRAPP5	rs10179572	19	7758194	TRAPP5	8.10	0.51	0.55	0.56
TRAPP5	19	rs7246264	19	7762978	TRAPP5	rs10179572	22	228504503	TRAPP5	6.71	0.14	0.02	0.02
TRAPP5	19	rs7246264	19	7762978	TRAPP5	rs12921440	16	30408765	TRAPP5	7.34	0.14	0.26	0.13
TRAPP5	19	rs7246264	19	7762978	TRAPP5	rs1887778	9	134635088	TRAPP5	7.05	0.08	0.86	0.40
TRAPP5	19	rs7246264	19	7762978	TRAPP5	rs963354	3	157393770	TRAPP5	7.42	0.36	0.90	0.69
TRAPP5	19	rs7246264	12	85749398	TRAPP5	rs2395771	6	41264577	TRAPP5	5.41	0.11	0.25	0.11
TREN1	6	rs10862975	10	108256422	TREN1	rs2395771	6	41264577	TREN1	5.92	1.20	1.23	1.69
TREN1	6	rs12412964	7	135808416	TREN1	rs2395771	6	41264577	TREN1	6.06	0.04	0.91	0.39
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	6.00			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
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TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
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TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
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TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
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TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
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TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971	11	47603049	TREN1	rs10748526	10	82273079	TREN1	5.01			
TREN1	6	rs1697971											

Continued on next page

Table S1 – continued from previous page

Expression trait		SNP 1				SNP 2				Interaction statistic / -log <sub>10</sub> p-values					
Gene ID <sup>a</sup>	Probe ID <sup>b</sup>	Chr.	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	rs ID	Chr.	Pos/Mb <sup>c</sup>	Association <sup>d</sup>	BSGS <sup>e</sup>	Fehrmann <sup>f</sup>	EGCUT <sup>g</sup>	Meta <sup>g</sup>	Distance / Mb <sup>h</sup>
UBASH3A	ILMN-2338348	21	rs1893592	21	43855067	UBASH3A	rs7201194	16	83600397		5.91	0.59	0.42	0.52	
UBASH3A	ILMN-2338348	21	rs1893592	21	43855067	UBASH3A	rs7512594	1	214514361		6.01	0.48	1.29	1.10	
USP36	ILMN-1697227	17	rs2279308	17	76794981	USP36	rs7225546	17	75151717		5.71	0.03	0.14	0.03	1.643
VASP	ILMN-1743646	19	rs1264226	19	40663167		rs2276470	19	45974668	VNN2	5.09	0.94	5.14	4.95	0.088
VNN2	ILMN-1678939	6	rs10435352	7	103252718		rs1883613	6	133077063	VNN2	5.64	0.84	0.15	0.46	
VNN2	ILMN-1678939	6	rs13044386	20	9116155		rs1883617	6	133072650	VNN2	5.44	0.39	0.69	0.57	
VNN2	ILMN-1678939	6	rs134447	22	49927332		rs1883617	6	133072650	VNN2	5.72				
VNN3	ILMN-1678939	6	rs216495	11	16834510		rs1883617	6	133072650	VNN2	5.77	0.33	0.19	0.19	
VNN3	ILMN-1804935	6	rs10278073	7	151662184		rs2267932	6	133067782	VNN3	6.44	0.16	0.74	0.41	
VNN3	ILMN-1804935	6	rs1443946	8	73006453		rs2267932	6	133067782	VNN3	5.74	0.23	0.48	0.31	
VNN3	ILMN-1804935	6	rs348462	9	73547169		rs2267952	6	133067782	VNN3	6.44	0.31	0.17	0.17	
VNN3	ILMN-1804935	6	rs7157055	14	83262064		rs2267952	6	133067782	VNN3	5.82	0.03	0.19	0.04	
VNN3	ILMN-2387680	6	rs2823165	21	5694253		rs2267952	6	133067782	VNN3	6.12	0.73	1.15	1.21	
VNN3	ILMN-2387680	6	rs9596457	13	51692548		rs2267952	6	133067782	VNN3	4.83	0.46	0.05	0.16	
VSTM1	ILMN-1763455	19	rs10500316	19	54553697	VSTM1	rs4552100	18	71024750		5.60	0.53	0.54	0.57	
VSTM1	ILMN-1763455	19	rs10500316	19	54553697	VSTM1	rs7895870	10	123095249		5.71	0.48	1.17	0.26	
VSTM1	ILMN-1763455	19	rs9628570	22	30261219		rs10500316	19	54553697	VSTM1	5.88	0.81	1.38	1.47	
WDR48	ILMN-1762103	3	rs1388935	4	138927822		rs6778963	3	39091812	WDR48	5.88	0.09	0.33	0.09	
WDR48	ILMN-1762103	3	rs1887778	9	134635088	RAPGEF1	rs853349	3	39067925	WDR48	5.94	0.57	1.35	1.22	
WDR6	ILMN-1762103	3	rs9554833	13	102624790		rs7619193	3	39044116	WDR48	5.85	0.18	0.61	0.35	
WDR6	ILMN-1669484	3	rs12362253	11	123571708		rs7715581	3	49194351	WDR6	4.86	1.64	1.43	2.25	
XAF1	ILMN-233053	17	rs1535031	21	9673170	XAF1	rs12591171	15	93119799		5.48	2.38	0.17	1.63	
ZFP90	ILMN-1684628	16	rs909446	17	37040648		rs182968	16	68573945	ZFP90	5.79	0.09	0.36	0.15	
ZNF500	ILMN-1700238	16	rs4283723	22	48283177		rs2290560	16	4799041	ZNF500	5.29	0.67	0.27	0.46	
ZYX	ILMN-1701875	7	rs6056281	20	8935312		rs2242601	7	143093824	ZYX	6.04	0.26	0.01	0.05	

<sup>a</sup> Phenotypes are expression levels of RefSeq Genes<sup>b</sup> Illumina probe ID used to measure gene expression<sup>c</sup> Physical SNP position in base pairs (HG19)<sup>d</sup> RefSeq Gene ID of gene expression level that is influenced by the SNP (BSGS discovery dataset, significance threshold = 1.29 × 10<sup>-11</sup>)<sup>e</sup> Interaction - log<sub>10</sub> p-value from discovery dataset<sup>f</sup> Interaction - log<sub>10</sub> p-value from replication dataset<sup>g</sup> Interaction - log<sub>10</sub> p-value from meta analysis of replication datasets only<sup>h</sup> Distance in Mb between interacting SNPs for *cis-cis* acting SNP pairs

Table S2: **Estimation of additive and non-additive variance components from pedigree information**

Gene	Probe	Additive		Non-additive	
		Variance	s.e.	Variance	s.e.
NAPRT1	ILMN_1710752	0.37	0.03	0.14	0.05
TMEM149	ILMN_1786426	0.41	0.04	0.09	0.04
MBNL1	ILMN_2313158	0.18	0.03	0.11	0.04
TRAPPC5	ILMN_2372639	0.32	0.04	0.13	0.05
CAST	ILMN_1717234	0.31	0.03	0.10	0.04

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