

RNA Pol II modeling predicts active transcription factors.

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Nascent transcription is an excellent method for examining enhancer associated transcription.





Allen et. al., Global analysis of p53-regulated transcription identifies its direct targets and unexpected regulatory mechanisms. eLife, 3, 2014

Nascent transcription shows p53 is an activator





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A mathematical model of polymerase behavior



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The model describes patterns observed within nascent transcription.



We can fit the model to nascent transcription data.



FStitch: Azofeifa et. al. 2016; ENCODE; ChIA: Li et al. 2013

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Most bidirectionals are not at protein coding genes









What is the spatial relationship between TF binding and eRNAs?



What is the spatial relationship between TF binding and bidirectionals?



Bidirectionals that correspond to ChIP peaks appear to originate at the motif.



Displacement of the motif around the bidirectional.

Bidirectionals that correspond to ChIP peaks appear to originate at the motif.



ENCODE, ~40 published human GRO-seq datasets

Our Motif Distribution (MD) score effectively measures co-occurrence of motif and bidirectional.



MD score predicts which TFs are active in a given cell type.



Clustering by "active" TFs separates datasets by cell type



~40 published human GRO-seq datasets

And identifies cell type specific factors



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Differential MD score identifies which TF has changed after perturbation



The activation signal is predominantly at enhancers.



Furthermore, the changed transcription factor drives activity at target genes.



Enhancers are major responder to multiple stimuli



Jin et. al. 2013; Puc et. al. 2015

Summary

- We have a principled mathematical model of nascent transcription.
- We can infer from patterns of bidirectionals which TFs are active in the cell type.
- We can infer which TFs respond to a perturbation by changes in bidirectional usage.











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Fraction of ChIP signal predicted by bidirectional varies by TF.



Enrichment over background for MD scores

