# Tags:

Use comma for seperation between tags

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| <ID> | REF 0.0 - title of the comment |
| <TYPE> | $$$BMR  $$$Power  $$$Presentation $$$Annotation $$$Network  $$$Hierarchy $$$CellLine  $$$Stemness $$$Validation  $$$NoveltyPos  $$$NoveltyNeg  $$$Minor  $$$Validation  $$$Other |
| <ASSIGN> | @@@XYZ |
| <PLAN> | &&&AgreeFix - agree and fix  &&&DisagreeFix - disagree but we fix, obsequious, and we're safe  &&&OOS - out of scope  &&&Defer - help me  &&&MORE : Go above and beyond the scope of the question and indicates more analyses to be done |
| <STATUS> | %%%TBC: To Be Continued  %%%50DONE: response done (MS+figure to be updated)  %%%75DONE: response+calc+figure done (MS to be updated)  %%%100DONE: all done. MS+figure+response done  %%%CalcDONE: calculation done |

PLEASE NOTE $$$ @@@ &&& %%% are reserved as shown above.

PLEASE USE ### only for all other tags.

Usage example:

<ID>REF 0.0 - Overall comments on the paper

<TYPE>$$$BMR

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ,@@@DL,@@@JL,@@@WM,@@@PDM,@@@Peng,@@@TG,@@@XK,@@@STL,@@@MTG

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

# Format:

Referee Comment: Courier New

Author Response: Helvetica Neue

Excerpt From Revised Manuscript: Times New Roman

# Referee expertise:

Referee #1: cancer genetics, mutational processes

Referee #2: statistical genetics

Referee #3: human genetics

Referee #4: gene expression

Referee #5: cancer genomics

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# Editor:

## <ID>REF 0.1 - Overall comments on the paper

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@MG

<PLAN>

<STATUS>%%%TBC

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | The referees have raised a range of technical concerns on the analyses, including for the background mutation rate, the need to include statistical significance to support many of the claims, and the limitations of this data including cell lines used. |
| Author  Response | We have tried to respond to extensively revise our manuscript in the new version. In summary, we have answered most of these comments. We felt many of them were good suggestions, so we expanded them in large while conserving the manuscript, particularly the suggestions related to  - The overall value of this resource to cancer genomics  - extended gene effects on both somatic and germline analysis  - Network rewirings from various assays, such  - Normal-tumor-stem cell comparisons from distal and proximal networks, expression profiles, and TF knockdowns  - SVs effects on networks and extended genes and more validations from CRISPER  - Discovery of SUB1 as a potential new oncogene  One area that we wish to push back a little on is asking us to compare our calculations to that for driver identification. We think that the value of our paper was misunderstood by some of the reviewers. The point of this paper is not to develop a novel method of driver discovery or to find new cancer drivers. The point is to highlight the use of ENCODE3 data in cancer genomics, particularly related to understanding the overall patterns of mutations, network rewiring, and variant prioritization. Obviously, the ENCODE data will be useful for people developing future driver discovery metrics but we believe that's out of scope for this paper. To respond to previous comments, we have shown how in certain contexts, the ENCODE3 date can help with existing driver discovery measures.  Another area we want to mention is the usage of cell lines since some referee preferred tissue data instead of cell lines for cancer. However, as correctly pointed out by referee 4, the genomic and epigenomic heterogeneity in tumor cells, as well as heterogeneity in the tumor microenvironment are significant factors in tumor growth and development. Matching a particular cancer, which is usually quite heterogeneous in nature, to its cell of origin may still be problematic. In our revised manuscript,   1. We tried our best to validate, using external data set, the conclusions we draw from ENCODE call line data and found that our conclusions correlate well with the observations. 2. We clearly pointed it out that ENCODE does not only contain cell line data. For example, 1339 out of 2017 Histone ChIP-Seq experiments we provided for BMR estimation are from primary tissue and we computationally selected the best to use. 3. We added more discussion in the revised manuscript about how technology advances, such as single cell sequencing, can help to provide further insights. |

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## <ID>REF0.2 – Regarding context with prior studies

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>

<STATUS>

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| Referee  Comment | The referees also find that the current manuscript provides limited context with prior studies using similar approaches for use of prior ENCODE and Epigenome Roadmap datasets in cancer genomics. They detail the need for clearer presentation in context of prior studies as well comparisons to demonstrate advance. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referees for this comment. We want to note that many of the prior studies have been cited in our initial submission. Some papers, such as Martincorena et al 2017, came out in Nov 2017, two and half months after we submitted our paper in Aug 2017, so it is impossible us to cite in the initial submission.  We want to further point that the main focus of the Martincorena et al 2017 paper is not at all about BMR estimation but rather selection patterns in coding regions in cancer (abstract as below). BMR estimation and noncoding regions are not even mentioned in the abstract or the main manuscript.  As suggested, we cited this paper in our revised manuscript and made it clear how our paper is different from this one. However, we feel it is quite unfair for us to make detailed comparisons with it. Actually, after our submission, several new studies came out linking the noncoding genomes to cancer, such as Zhang et al 2018. We strongly believe that our ENCODEC resource would benefit such analysis and hence we updated our reference list in the revised version.  *“Universal Patterns of Selection in Cancer and Somatic Tissues: Cancer develops as a result of somatic mutation and clonal selection, but quantitative measures of selection in cancer evolution are lacking. We adapted methods from molecular evolution and applied them to 7,664 tumors across 29 cancer types. Unlike species evolution, positive selection outweighs negative selection during cancer development. On average, <1 coding base substitution/tumor is lost through negative selection, with purifying selection almost absent outside homozygous loss of essential genes. This allows exome-wide enumeration of all driver coding mutations, including outside known cancer genes. On average, tumors carry 4 coding substitutions under positive selection, ranging from <1/tumor in thyroid and testicular cancers to >10/tumor in endometrial and colorectal cancers. Half of driver substitutions occur in yet-to-be-discovered cancer genes. With increasing mutation burden, numbers of driver mutations increase, but not linearly. We systematically catalog cancer genes and show that genes vary extensively in what proportion of mutations are drivers versus passengers.* |

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## <ID>REF0.3 – Regarding the advance to the ENCODE paper

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&DisagreeFix

<STATUS>

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| Referee  Comment | The referees also recommended that the current manuscript does not represent a distinct advance to the main ENCODE manuscript, as it does not report separate new datasets, methods, or clear novel findings. Some referees also recommended that this may be more suitable as Perspective in a specialized journal that further highlights the use on the current ENCODE datasets for cancer genomic studies. |
| Author  Response | We disagree with the reviewers on this point. We want to make it explicit that  (1) this paper is to be considered as a "*resource*" paper, not a novel biology paper  (2) the current Encyclopedia *package is not meant to be structured like previous packages* (i.e. '12 ENCODE). The integrative analysis is meant to be spread over a number of papers and not centered on a single one.  (3) note that the ENCODE 3 "data" is not explicitly tied to any paper. Unlike previous roll-outs, ENCODE 3 does not associate particular data sets with specific papers and make use of these data contingent on that paper's publication (as codified in an agreement with NHGRI.)  Regarding the novelty of this paper, ENCODEC is unique in its highlighting of a number of ENCODE assays (e.g. replication timing, TF knockdowns, STARR-seq and Hi-C), its deep, integrative annotations combining a wide variety of assays in specific cell types, and its analysis of networks.  Note also that while we do NOT feel ENCODEC is a cancer genomics paper, we feel that cancer is the best application to illustrate certain key aspects of ENCODE data and analysis - particularly deep annotations and network changes. We have listed some more details about novelty of this paper as below.  **(1)** **Networks.** These are a core aspect of ENCODE, featured in the '12 roll out. None of the other papers highlight networks in the current package. In ENCODEC, in addition to looking at "universal" ChIP-Seq networks, merged across cell types, we also look at network changes ("rewiring") for specific cell-type comparisons in both proximal and distal networks. We feel that this is best exemplified in oncogenesis.  **(2) Deep, integrative annotation – complementary to the Encyclopedia.** While the encyclopedia paper considers broad, "universal" annotations across cell-types (currently the centerpiece of ENCODE), it focuses on data common to most cell types (DHS, 2 histone marks and 2 TFs). It does not take advantage of the cell types richer in assays -- the other dimension of ENCODE (diagrammed in ENCODEC's first figure). The ENCODEC paper takes a complementary approach, constructing a more accurate annotation using a large battery of histone marks (>10), next generation assays such as STARR-seq and elements linked by ChIA-PET and Hi-C.  **(3) Replication Timing.** Although a major feature of ENCODE is replication timing, none of the other papers feature it. Previous work on mutation burden calculation usually selects replication timing data from the HeLa cell line due to the limited data availability. The wealth of the ENCODE replication timing data greatly helps to parametrize somatic mutation rates.  **(4) SVs.** One unappreciated aspect of ENCODE is that next-generation assays, in addition to characterizing functional elements in the genome, enable one to determine structural variations.  **(5) Knockdowns.** ENCODE has 222 TF knockout/knockdown experiments, which are not explored systematically in other papers. |

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# Referee #1 (Remarks to the Author):

## <ID>REF1.0 – Preamble

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

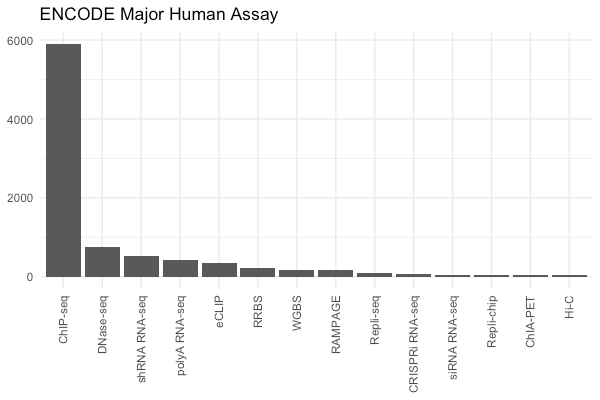
<STATUS>%%%75DONE

We would like to appreciate the referee's feedback. Overall the reviewer mentioned that this is an interesting resource but the novelty of the paper is lacking. We first want to thank the referee for his/her acknowledgement of the potential popularity of our resource for cancer genomics. We want to specifically point out two points.

**1. The main goal of this resource paper**

We want to make it clear and emphasize that the goal of this paper is to build a new annotation "*resource*", not to discover novel biology in cancer. We feel that cancer is the best application to illustrate certain key aspects of ENCODE data and analysis - particularly the deep annotations and network changes. Thus, where the referee asks for novelty in cancer gene discovery - we strongly feel that this is out of scope. We have listed some more details about the resource of this paper as below (Table R1 and Figure. R1).

Figure R1. Summary of the raw signal tracks released in this paper



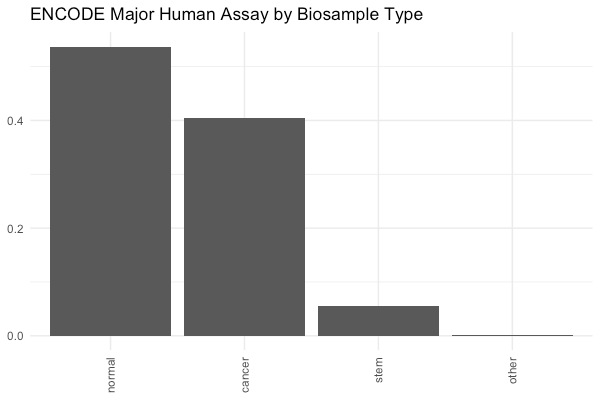


Table R1. Summary of annotation types and example applications in our paper

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Annotation type** | **Example Applications** |
| **Element** | - TF/RBP binding peaks & motifs  - DHS peaks  - Replication timing profiling  - Enhancers level 1-3  - Hi-C TADs and ChIA-pet loops  - SV and SNV in cell lines | - BMR estimation (Fig. 2)  - Genome annotation (Fig. 6)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig. 6) |
| **Gene** | - Extended genes definitions  - RNA-Seq expressions  - Expression changes after knockdowns | - Somatic & germline burdens (Fig.1)  - Stemness analysis (Fig. 5)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig.3 & Fig. 6) |
| **Network** | *Distal network:*  - Enhancer-gene (computational)  - Enhancer-gene (computational + Hi-C)  - TF-Enhancer-gene  *Proximal network:*  Experimental based:  - TF/RBP Universal networks (strong & weak)  - TF/RBP tissue specific networks (binary & probabilistic)  Imputed:  - DHS imputed tissue specific TF networks | - TF/RBP Regulatory Activities (Fig.3)  - Network rewiring (Fig. 4)  - Network Hierarchies (Fig. 5)  - TF binding disruptiveness (Fig. 5) |

**2. Regarding the the BMR section**

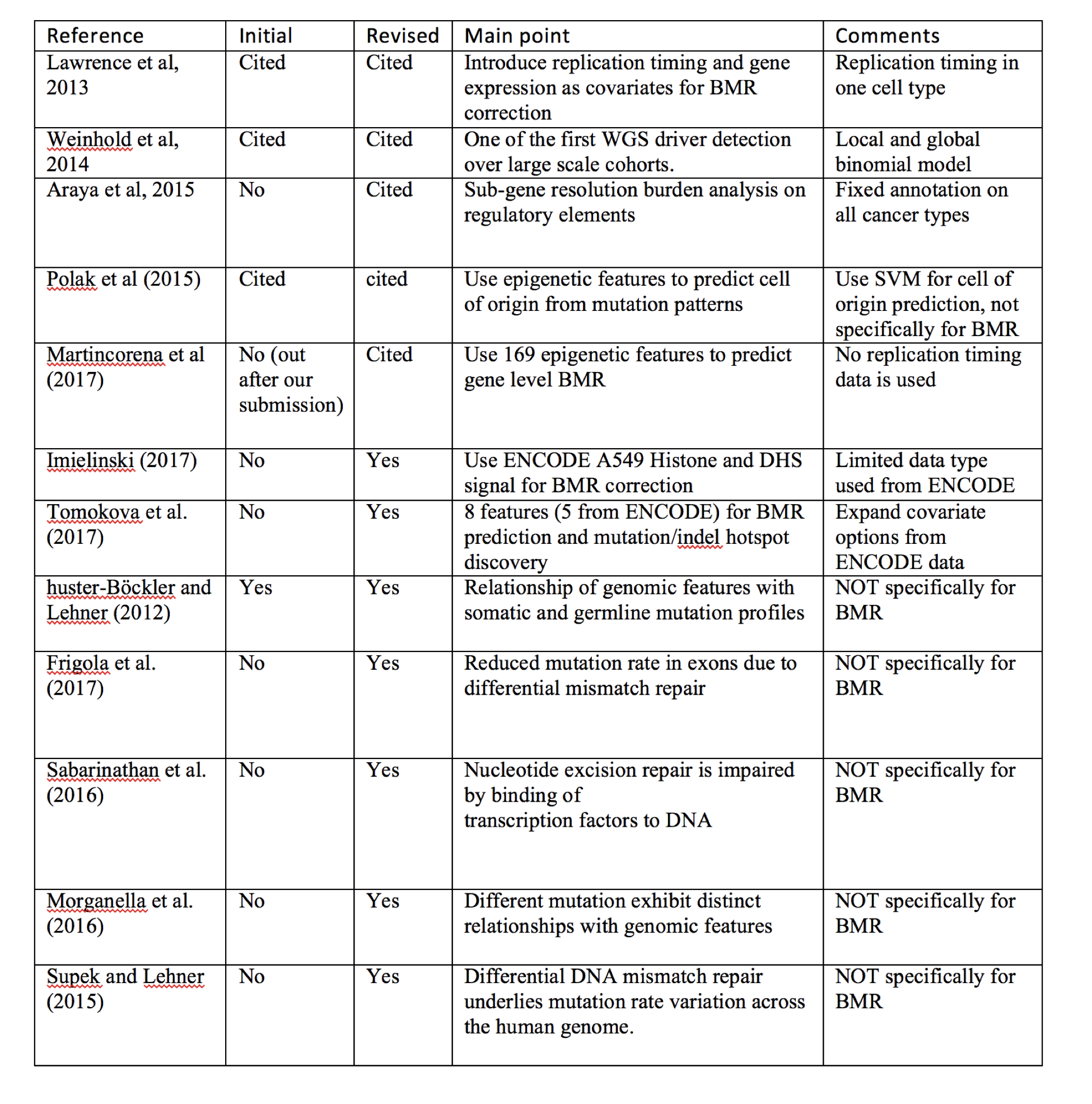
Specifically for the BMR estimation part, the reviewer mentioned that there had been many existing references focusing on applications like cancer driver detection.

First, we thank the referee for pointing out to a lot of related references and we did cite many of them in our initial submission (table R2 below). However, some of the references were either published after our initial submission (such as Marticorena et al. 2017) or with a different focus other than BMR estimation (more details in the following table). We updated our reference as suggested but we do feel it is a bit unfair to make a direct comparison for papers with such different focuses.

Second, we want to emphasize that the main goal of our paper is not to make a novel driver discovery paper but to illustrate that the richness of the ENCODE data can noticeably help the accuracy of BMR estimation, as we have clearly shown in our updated Fig. 2.

Third, we want to point that the BMR application is just *one out of many* potential ENCODE data applications. Even for the variant investigations, we have also germline analysis from GWAS studies in this paper. There are many other ENCODE applications, such as regulatory activity, rewiring, and stemness, are also key to interpret and prioritize variants effects in cancer genomics.

Table R2. status of the related references



## <ID>REF1.1 – Positive comments on the resource releases

<TYPE>$$$NoveltyPos

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | This manuscript describes how the ENCODE project data could be utilized to derive insights for cancer genome analysis. It has several examples to illustrate this point, e.g., how to better estimate background mutation rate in a cancer genome, how to modify gene annotation for finding mutation-enriched regions (e.g., by bundling enhancer regions to target genes using Hi-C/ChIA-PET), and describing the changes in regulatory networks in cancer. Obviously, the ENCODE project involves a great deal of planning and a lot of experimental work by many groups, and the overall aim of re-highlighting the ENCODE as a resource to cancer research seems worthwhile in general, perhaps even in a high-profile journal. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for the positive feedback. |

## 

## <ID>REF1.2 – BMR: comparison with existing literature

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@WM,@@@PDM

<PLAN>&&&OOS

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

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| Referee  Comment | Just to take the first application as an example, the problem of estimating background somatic mutation rate accurately in order to better identify cancer drivers has been studied extensively in the literature. One paper, “Mutational heterogeneity in cancer and the search for new cancer-associated genes” (Nature 2013), is cited in the current manuscript, but there are many others. For instance, Weinhold et al, 2014 (Genome-wide analysis of noncoding regulatory mutations in cancer, Nat Genetics), Araya et al, 2015 (Identification of significantly mutated regions across cancer types highlights a rich landscape of functional molecular alterations, Nat Genetics), and similar non-coding mutation identification papers all include steps to account for epigenetic features in their background rate calculation. |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewer for proposing these references. We did recognize that genomic features were used to estimate BMR and improve driver mutation detection. Our aim here was not to claim a better BMR estimation model nor to propose a novel discovery that “matched” features performs better. We made it more apparent in our revised manuscript that our purpose is to showcase how ENCODE data can help BMR estimation in many models.  With the wealth data available through ENCODE data, we had a much larger pool of features to choose from to potentially improve BMR estimation. There are 2017 of histones modification marks that are released into a ready to use format (see details in the table below), and 818 of which are from real tissues..  Also, we have provided other data types, such as replication timing, that has been proven to affect BMR but has not been widely by others. We believe that such data, when released into a ready to format, can help BMR estimation through many existing models. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF1.3 – BMR: Match

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@WM

<PLAN>&&&DisagreeFix

<STATUS>%%%50DONE

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| Referee  Comment | Most large-scale cancer genome sequencing papers also have models at various levels sophistication, most of them including the issue of proper tissue-type matching. “matched” cell lines are better than unmatched or addition of more epigenetic features results in some improvement is almost trivial at this point. Which marks contribute to this is also not new. |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for pointing this out. We agree that “matched” and “more” features performs better in BMR prediction is not a novel discovery. We believe that we were *misunderstood* at this point because this conclusion is served as an illustration of the value of the new annotation “resource” using the richness of ENCODE data. Here, we are not trying to reproduce the claims on how epigenomic features affect BMR but rather to show how the richness of ENCODE data can make improved BMR estimations.  We made following changes in the main text to clarify this. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | The 2017 uniformly processed histone modification and 52 replication timing data may serve as a resource to significantly improve BMR estimation accuracy. |

## <ID>REF1.4 – BMR: Tissues vs. Cell lines

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@JL

<PLAN>&&&DisagreeFix,&&&More

<STATUS>%%%80DONE

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| Referee  Comment | Importantly, Polak et al, 2015 (Cell-of-origin chromatin organization shapes the mutational landscape of cancer, Nature) in fact show that cell-of-origin chromatin features are much stronger determinants of cancer mutations profiles than chromatin feature of matched cancer cell lines, and that cell type origin can be predicted from the mutational profile.  Stepping back, it is not obvious to me that using the ENCODE cell lines, despite the availability of more epigenetic data, is the best approach to calculating the background rate in the first place—they briefly mention that using cell lines (rather than tissues) can be problematic, but do not explore this further. If this were a regular research paper, the authors would have to shown how the proposed approach is different and how it is better than methods already available. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing out the comparison of cell line vs. tissues and we feel this is a good suggestion. In our revised manuscript, we further investigated it in detail by extending our analysis to many new data types, such as RNA-seq and distal/proximal TF ChIP-Seq data. We think slightly differently with the referee on value of ENCODE data. Several points we want to emphasize are  - On a large scale (up to mbp)   * First, the Polak 2015 paper did not perform large-scale comparison across various cancer cell lines. As seen from Except 1 below, cell line data provides comparable, sometimes even better, correlation with mutation counts. We have added a new section in the supplementary file to discuss this. We feel that due to the heterogeneous nature of cancer data, it does not hurt to computationally search the best features that explains the mutational landscape in a tumor specific way. * As compared to cell line data, there are way less functional characterization data in tissues. For example, there are no prostate tissue data from the REMC. We have updated supplementary table 1 for a comparison of data richness in ENCODE3. * Regarding the “ENCODE cell lines can be problematic”, we want to highlight that ENCODE is not just about cell lines. There are many ENCODE tissue data for histones (339 cell line vs **818** tissue, details see excerpt 2 below). We have added a supplementary table on this point. Again, for the BMR part, we select the best possible features for prediction (no matter it is from cell line or tissue), instead of manually find a matching. * Our purpose in the BMR section is not to find the best matching cell type, but to better use the ENCODE data to improve estimation accuracy. The bulk tumor samples from a patient usually contains diverse collection of cells harbouring distinct molecular signatures. As we have shown in Excerpt 3 below, the addition of more features usually can introduce noticeable accuracy improvement. T Actually some of the recent papers, such Martincorena et al. (2017), also used the top 20 PCs of 169 histone features in their model. On this point, we uniformly processed thousands of features in a ready-to-use format. Many of them are not mentioned in other literature, such as replication time from 51 tissue/cell lines. They have proven useful but are less frequently matched probably due to the lack of data incorporated into previous BMR models. We believe that this is quite useful for cancer genomics.   - On a small scale cancer cell lines might be a better source to use for cancer data  Features, like expression levels and TF binding events, have been used widely to affect somatic mutation rates. As suggested by the referee, we systematically investigated the RNA-seq and TF ChIP-Seq data and found that many of the cancer transcriptome/TF binding landscape are quite similar to each other, as compared to the initial of primary cells. This has also been mentioned by previous reports, such as Lotem et al. 2005 and Hoadley et al. 2014. The fact that cancer cells lose diversity and showed a distinct pattern from the primary cells highlights the values of cell line data. We have added this result into the main figure and supplementary files. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Supplementary file | 1. Comparison of mutation rate vs features in tissue/cell lines. We provided the pearson correlation of the breast cancer mutations count per Mbp vs. various histone modification features in tissue and cell line. Cell line data provides comparable (and sometimes even better) correlation with mutation counts. |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Supplementary file | 2. Summary of ENCODE histone ChIP-seq data |
| Excerpt 3 From  Revised Supplementary file | At 1mb bin resolution, we compared the performance of models using random features vs. computationally selecting best features sequential (forward selection). It has shown that by adding features appropriately from ENCODE3, we can noticeably improve the performance of BMR accuracy.    To avoid overfitting problem, we performed 5 fold cross validation using the selected model for each cancer type and listed the performance as below. |
| Excerpt 4 From  Revised Supplementary file | 3. We performed RCA/PCA analysis on RNA-Seq, shRNA RNA-Seq, and TF ChIP-seq data and found that cancer cells demonstrate a consistent pattern to be more similar to stem cells, as compared to their primary cells of origin. |

## <ID>REF1.5 – Difference between ENCODEC and Prev. prioritization methods

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&DisagreeFix

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

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| Referee  Comment | The rest of the sections (and their corresponding supplement sections) are variable in significance and quality. That ENCODE data helps in prioritization of non-coding variants has been well demonstrated already (including by some of the authors on this paper), and so the value of the described analysis less clear. |
| Author  Response | The referee pointed out that we and others have tried to prioritize non-coding elements before. This is definitely true and we are not claiming to be the first. However, we believe that the method that we used here is new and novel. The important aspect is that it takes advantage of many new ENCODE data and integrates over many different aspects. Detailed changes please see the Excerpt blow. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | In particular, it takes into account the STARR-seq data, the connections from Hi-C, the better background mutation rates, and the network rewiring data, which is only possible in the context of the highly integrated and their data available on certain cell lines. We are showing this as an example of the best we can do with this level of integration. The fact that we coupled this with quite successful validation that we believe points to the great value of the integrated incurred data. |

# Referee #2 (Remarks to the Author):

## <ID>REF2.0 – Preamble

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

We would like to appreciate the referee's feedback, especially about the positive comments on the value of our resource, the extended gene, and the network rewirings. Regarding the novelty point, we want to emphasize that this paper is unique in its highlighting of a number of ENCODE assays (e.g., replication timing, TF/RBP knockdowns, STARR-seq, ChIA-PET, and Hi-C), its deep, integrative annotations combining a wide variety of assays in specific cell types, and its analysis of networks. Note also that while we do NOT feel this is a cancer genomics paper, we feel that cancer is the best application to illustrate certain key aspects of ENCODE data and analysis - particularly deep annotations and network changes. We have listed some more details about the novelty of this paper as below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Annotation type** | **Example Applications** |
| **Element** | - TF/RBP binding peaks & motifs  - DHS peaks  - Replication timing profiling  - Enhancers level 1-3  - Hi-C TADs and ChIA-pet loops  - SV and SNV in cell lines | - BMR estimation (Fig. 2)  - Genome annotation (Fig. 6)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig. 6) |
| **Gene** | - Extended genes definitions  - RNA-Seq expressions  - Expression changes after knockdowns | - Somatic & germline burdens (Fig.1)  - Stemness analysis (Fig. 5)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig.3 & Fig. 6) |
| **Network** | *Distal network:*  - Enhancer-gene (computational)  - Enhancer-gene (computational + Hi-C)  - TF-Enhancer-gene  *Proximal network:*  Experimental based:  - TF/RBP Universal networks (strong & weak)  - TF/RBP tissue specific networks (binary & probabilistic)  Imputed:  - DHS imputed tissue specific TF networks | - TF/RBP Regulatory Activities (Fig.3)  - Network rewiring (Fig. 4)  - Network Hierarchies (Fig. 5)  - TF binding disruptiveness (Fig. 5) |

## <ID>REF2.1 – Comment on utility of the resource

<TYPE>$$$NoveltyPos

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

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| Referee  Comment | However, there is a possibility that the resource would be very popular among cancer genomics researchers. Also, results on extended genes and rewiring are of interest. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for the positive comment. |

## <ID>REF2.2 – Comparison of negative binomial to other methods

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&OOS

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 1) The negative binomial regression (Gamma-Poisson mixture model) was introduced in Nik-Zainal et al. Nature 2016 and Marticorena et al., Cell 2017. Why was not this available method applied, and what is the benefit for the procedure used by the authors? |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for the suggestion. The referee is pointing out that negative binomial regression has been used before. We also feel that the fact that other papers also used negative binomial regression bolsters the underlying technical validity of our argument. While we admit it does slightly undercut a claim of novelty in this regard, that is not central to our work.  There are three reasons of not using directly the scheme in that paper.  1. The Marticorena et al. paper came out in Nov 2017, which was almost three months after our initial submission and it is more about positive selection instead of BMR estimation.  2. The main focus of that paper is not about BMR estimation or mutational burden. For the part mentioned about BMR, they are ONLY for the coding regions and there is no data related with the noncoding regions. Also no source code or software package has been released.  3. The Marticorena et al. paper has 169 features included - in comparison to our 2067 features.  On our side, we think negative binomial regression is a standard statistical technique that has been used in many contexts. Also, ENCODE3 provides noticeably more covariate data, which is uniformly processed and less explored in the references mentioned by the referees. Some features, such as replication timing is well-known confounders but was not included in the Marticorena et al. paper. We are not aiming to make a new method for predicting background mutation rate, but rather to use a robust regression method that really takes into account the very large amount of data and is able to leverage that to more successfully predict background mutation. Therefore, we did not directly use their approach. |

## <ID>REF2.3 – Questions about the Goodness of fit of the Gamma-Poisson Model

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix,&&&OOS

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

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| Referee  Comment | Also, does Gamma-Poisson model fits data for most cancers well or is it just an approximation? One can use non-conjugate priors but this is probably beyond the scope of this work. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for mentioning the goodness of fit of the Gamma-Poisson model. As suggested, we provided more figures in our supplementary file to investigate this. For most of the cancer types, the fitting of Gamma-Poisson is pretty good (as seen in the figures below). Also, we point out the fact that it has been used in other literature provides further technical support for this using. However, we agree that it is interesting to investigate other non-conjugate priors. As the referee mentioned, this is out of scope, but we have made a mention of this in the text. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Supplementary file |  |

## <ID>REF2.4 – Was the Poisson Model used for low mutation cancers

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text,$$$Cale

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@JL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

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| Referee  Comment | 2) It seems that the Poisson model was not rejected for cancers with very low mutation counts (liquid tumors). Is this a power issue rather than the property of the mutation process? |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewer for mentioning this, and we feel this is a good point. To answer this question, we plotted the overall mutation count under different 3mer context vs. the estimated overdispersion parameter (using the AER package) in R in the following figure. On one side, it is obvious that for those 3mers with more variants, there is a tendency to introduce overdispersion and accept the Gamma-Poisson model. It could be either the power issue, or the level of heterogeneity among samples, or even both. We have put more in supplementary file. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Supplementary file | We also want to point out that the overdispersion problem on count data is also confounded by omitting related covariates. That is the main reason why we want to introduce more feature candidates from ENCODE and at the same time avoid overfitting. Many other methods (such as Marticorena, 2017) directly use Negative Binomial regression without checking whether it is necessary. It is simpler to not introduce additional parameters. However, we think it is better to check how heterogeneous the count data is even after correcting enough covariate effects. |

## <ID>REF2.5 – BMR: use of principal components

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE,%%%CalcDONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 3) The approach with principal components used for the BMR estimation does not seem to work well. Starting with the second PC most components have roughly the same prediction power. One possibility is that higher principle components do not capture the additional signal and reflect noise in the data, and the correlation with mutation rate is due to an overfit of the NB regression (it is unclear whether it was analyzed with cross-validation). Another possibility is that the signal is spread over many components. In the latter case, this is not an optimal method choice. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing out the limited contribution from the higher order principal components. In fact, we wanted to bring out this point, and we do not see this as efficient either. The point of our approach is not to say that a few top components or a few features can predict a mutation rate accurately. Actually we want to show the opposite that the wealth of the ENCODE data is useful and that with additional data types, one gets a small but measurable continued improvement. We use principal components essentially as a way of doing a principled unbiased feature selection, but we realized that actually did not get across very clearly, so we have replotted this figure and now simply show how one gets a steady increase in predictions forms by just adding features one at a time.  We hope this gets the point across. The aim here is not to highlight a complicated mathematical method but just simply to get across the idea that the extensive ENCODE data provides a valuable resource for predicting BMR and we appreciated the referee helping us achieve clarity on this point. We put the main text figures into the supplementary files and made for the main. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | 1. At 1mb bin resolution, we compared the performance of models using random features vs. computationally selecting best features sequential (forward selection). It has shown that by adding features appropriately from ENCODE3, we can noticeably improve the performance of BMR accuracy.     2. To avoid overfitting problem, we performed 5 fold cross validation using the selected model for each cancer type and listed the performance as below. |

## 

## <ID>REF2.6 – Comments on the power analysis and compact annotations

<TYPE>$$$Power,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%80DONE

[JZ2JZ:wait for the GWAS to be added here, are still working to refine the results]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 4) I do not agree with the power analysis presented to support the idea of compact annotations. I understand that this is a toy analysis neglecting specific properties of mutation rate known for regulatory regions and also sequence context dependence of mutation rate. The larger issue is that the analysis assumes that ALL functional sites are within the compact annotation. In that case, power indeed would decrease with length. However, in case some of the functional sites are outside the compact annotation power would not decrease and is even likely to increase with the inclusion of additional sequence. Is there a justification for all functional sites to reside within compact annotations? Can this issue be explored? Some statistical tests incorporate weighting schemes. |
| Author  Response | The referee is indeed correct and we expanded our power calculation in our revised manuscript. In our initial submission, the assumption is that we were trimming off the nonfunctional sites while preserving the functional ones. Two examples can explain the motivation of this assumption (see details in excerpt 1 below).  Following the reviewer’s suggestions, in our revised manuscript we show in a formal power analysis that the most important contribution to power comes from including additional functional sites, which is of course by the extended gene concept and then secondarily, from removing non-functional sites, but to a lesser extent. The assumption in our compacting annotations is that we can accurately distinguish the more important functional nucleotides from the less important ones through the guidance of many functional characterization assays.  Admittedly, we are making assumptions and the referee is completely correct in pointing this out. We have tried to be more precise in the text that we are assuming that the large number of ENCODE assays, when integrated, allow us to more directly get the functional nucleotides, but this, of course, is an assumption. It is hard to tell to what degree one can succeed in finding the current events in cancer. It is hard to back this up with the gold standard, but we think that some of the points are self evidently obvious. We have tried to make this clear in text and thank the referee for pointing this out. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Supplementary file | Two examples can explain the motivation of this assumption.  1) Enhancers: Traditionally, enhancers were called as a 1kb peak regions, which admittedly introduced a lot of obviously nonfunctional sites. We believe we can get functional region more accurately by trimming the enhancers down using the exact shapes of many histone marks and further integration with STARR-seq and Hi-C data.  2) TFBS hotspots around the promoter region of WDR74. Instead of testing the conventional up to 2.5K promoter region, we can trim the test set to a core set of the promoter region where many TFs bind, which perfectly correlates with the mutation hotspots (red block) for this well-known driver site (blue line for pan-cancer and green line for liver cancer). |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | We extracted all the breast cancer GWAS variants from GWAS Catalogue and only kept those with European ancestry. Then we extracted all the LD SNPs within 500kb of the GWAS SNP (r2>0.8) to calculate variant enrichment in different annotations sites. The R package VSE was used (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/VSE/vignettes/my-vignette.html). We found that extended gene regions showed significantly larger variant enrichment than the CDS regions and TSS regions. |

## <ID>REF2.7 – Q-Q plots

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&Defer

<STATUS>%%%10DONE

####Thinking

[JZ2MG: not finished yet for this part]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 5) Some of the QQ-plots in supplementary figures look problematic. Also, for some tumors with low count statistics QQ-plots are expected to always be deflated, so the interpretation of QQ-plots may be non-trivial. |
| Author  Response | This is a good point.  We've done XXX & YYY now  But we wish to make clear that the point of this paper is not driver detection  Our goal is BMR  We show QQ w diff detection  We actually show QQ plots with drivers  Take some else’s driver detection method, use our BMR model, show that it works better |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF2.8 – Value of the extended gene

<TYPE>$$$NoveltyPos

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix,&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 6) The idea of extended genes and the use of multiple information sources to construct them is a strength of the paper.  It would be great to see a formal analysis about how extended genes increase power of cancer driver discovery. |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewer for the positive remarks of the extended gene. We further highlighted this part in our revised manuscript and added several new sections to highlight the value of extended genes, such as  1. We extensively expanded our power analysis part to include more extended gene analysis (as we pointed up in the response to <ID>REF2.6 – Comments on the power analysis and compact annotations)  2. We showed that by using the extended gene, we can better stratify the gene expressions and regulations  3. We explored the cancer related GWAS SNPs and showed that extended genes in matched cell types showed noticeable improvement. (See details in Excerpt 2 to REF 2.6 above)  One point we want to make clear is that the application of the extended gene is more than driver discovery hence the revisions have tried to highlight other areas, such as GWAS, gene expression and/or regulations stratification mentioned above, where the extended gene is useful in cancer. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | We analyzed the association between TF mutations in extended gene region and TF regulatory activity in three cancer types (breast, liver, and leukemia). Between each pairs of mutation type (e.g., ENH1, TF, eCLIP, UTR) and cancer type, we tested the association between mutation status and TF regulatory activity by two-sided rank-sum test and converted the *p*-values into FDRs by Benjamini-Hochberg procedure. Only the combination between liver cancer and ENH1 mutation has statistically significant results (FDR < 0.25, panel a). A mutation in the enhancer region of DPF2 or RELA indicates a lower TF regulatory activity (panel b). These results indicate that mutations in enhancers may cause TF loss-of-function in certain cancer types.    **Supplementary Figure X. Mutations in level one enhancers affects the activity of nearby TFs.** (a) The association between TF regulatory activity and mutation in enhancer regions. For each cancer type, the association between TF regulatory activity computed using ChIP-seq data and mutation status of nearby enhancer region was tested by two-sided rank-sum test. Only liver cancer has significant associations (FDR < 0.25) for TF DPF2 and RELA, and the results for liver cancer are shown with volcano plot. X-axis represents the z-score of rank-sum test and Y-axis represents the negative log p-values. (b) The regulatory activities of significant TFs in panel a in tumors with mutated or wild-type TF genes. The comparison between two groups was done by two-sided rank-sum test. |

## <ID>REF2.9 – BMR effect on local tri-nucleotide context

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%90DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | However, it is unclear whether the analysis takes into account complexities of the mutation model in regulatory regions. The influence of tri- or even penta-nucleotide context can be significant. |
| Author  Response | In the main figure, we did not show how local context effect may affect BMR in order to highlight the effect of accumulating features. However, in the supplementary file where we described our method, we separate the 3mers to run negative binomial regression. We showed that in Supplementary figure xxx that local context effect is huge - usually up to several order of effect on BMR (Please see details in the following excerpt). |
| Excerpt From  Original Supplementary file | Consistent with previous literature, we observed large mutational heterogeneity over the genome for all 3-mers in all cancer types. As seen in Figure S 2-2 , the mutation rate changes significantly over different regions of the genome (large region of each violin bar) and over different local contexts. |

## <ID>REF2.10 – Confounding factors

<TYPE>$$$Other

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%85DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Next, TF binding and nucleosome occupancy is known to interfere with the activity of DNA repair system. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to bring out this important point. Actually many of the current background mutation rate estimation method assumes a constant rate in a fairly large region, such as a within a gene (including the long introns in between) or up to Mbp fixed bins. In such large scale, it is difficult to incorporate such as TF binding, nucleosome occupancy, histone modification (which changes sharply in less kbps).  Hopefully, with accumulating cancer patient data in the future could help to build up site specific background models to investigate more about such effects. We added this point in our discussion section. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | Hower, most of the current BMR models are focused on larger scale mutation rate variations by integrating many features at 50 kb to 1 Mb resolution while ignoring small scale perturbations introduced by TF binding and nucleosome occupancy. Improvement of such finer scale features in the future could further improve BMR estimation. |

## <ID>REF2.11 – Minor comment on burden test

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 1) I would not use the term “burden test”. This usage is slightly confusing because this term is commonly used in human genetics where it refers to a case-control test. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point out this. In our revised manuscript, we still use the word burden but made it clear that our variant analysis is not just about somatic variant, but also include germline variants, such as the GWAS analysis. |

## <ID>REF2.12 – Minor comment on terminology

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 2) Similarly, it is unclear what is meant by “deleterious SNVs” as the term is commonly used in human genetics in reference to germline variants under negative selection. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point out this. “Deleterious SNVs” in our manuscript means somatic mutations that disrupts gene regulations. To avoid potential confusion, we changed it in our revised manuscript. |

# 

# Referee #3 (Remarks to the Author):

## <ID>REF3.0 – Preamble

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

In relation to the supplement and genomics, the referee points out that it's sometimes hard to see full documentation of our methods in the main part and one has to look at the extensive supplements. We are well aware of this fact. The very large scale of supplement is typical for large genomic paper. We, in fact, have been actively discussing with Nature Publishing and other companions about the supplement with regard to the main text. We have attempted to put important things in the supplement and to structure it very carefully. We admit that maybe this construction is not that intuitive. We are prepared to work very hard to make the structure of the supplement understandable. We've tried to revise it to make these clearer and also to move more appointives into the main text, though we think given the current main text limitations of a typical paper nature and the scale of the results in the data in this paper, it's simply impossible to put everything into the main text. We are preparing to work constructively with the referees and the others to make this clear.

## <ID>REF3.1 – Presentation of the paper

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | It is difficult to understand the significant novel findings in this paper (compared to the main ENCODE paper). Perhaps, some of this is due to the data not being presented in a concise and clear manner. For example, I wonder whether the authors can add more details and straightforward directions when citing supplementary information. In the current main manuscript, the authors cited all supplementary information as (see suppl.). It might be hard for the reader to check where the authors refer to in the supplementary information. I think more direction, such as sup Fig1, sup Table 1, or section 7.2S etc, would be very helpful. |
| Author  Response | We tried the new way of citing supplementary info. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.2 – Benefits of using multiple cancer types in BMR

<TYPE>$$$BMR

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | In the second paragraph of page 3, it says ‘using matched replication timing data in multiple cancer types significantly outperforms an approach in a which one restricts the analysis to replication timing data from the unmatched HeLa-S3 cell line.’ This statement is confusing and does Figure 2A or 2B supported it? |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.3 – Presentation of the data figure

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | In Figure 1, “top tier” should point to cell types that is mentioned in the content. However, we also see SNV, SV, Mutation, etc. |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## 

## <ID>REF3.4 – Regarding enhancer detection algorithm

<TYPE>$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | What is a single shape algorithm? The authors point to Supplementary data, but there is no definition there either. Do the authors mean the complete graphs or connected components? |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.5 – Regression coefficients of BMR

<TYPE>$$$BMR

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | For Figure 2B, what does ‘regression coefficients of remaining features’ mean? Does that means beta\_0 or the remaining regression noise? From Figure 2B, the coefficient to regression is rounded to -0.001 and 0.001. How should we understand these values? If the coefficients are for the main features, we would be expecting higher coefficients, wouldn't we? In this case, does it means the lower the better? |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.6 – Validation of extended gene

<TYPE>$$$Annotation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | For Figure 2C, more explanation is needed on how to form an extended gene. For the Figure 2D and its description on the third paragraph of page 4 (as well as Figure 3A), did the authors validate all the genes systematically? Is there any validation rate showing the precision rate of the method? Are there any novel oncogenes detected by the method? |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.7 – Logic gates

<TYPE>$$$Network

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Are circuit gates necessary for Fig 3B? There are OR, AND and NOT gates used.​ For Figure 3C(i), what is the meaning of the values between the green and yellow dots (MYC and \*)? The figure legends are not explaining the figure very well and many details are omitted. |
| Author  Response |  |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## 

## <ID>REF3.8 – Network hierarchy

<TYPE>$$$Hierarchy

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%90DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | For Figure 4, what does the star symbol (\*) mean in the legend? Did the authors use a different grey color to show the connection between TFs? I’m not able to read the grey gradient for the edges. |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for point out this issue. We have updated the figure 4 to show the significance testing of network hierarchy analysis. If a p-value is less than 0.05 it is flagged with one star (\*). If a p-value is less than 0.01 it is flagged with two stars (\*\*). If a p-value is less than 0.001 it is flagged with three stars (\*\*\*). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF3.9 – Network rewiring

<TYPE>$$$Network

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | For Figure 5B, what does the vertexes and edges represent? I guess they represent genes and their network connection, respectively? How did you select the genes and why are some of them "thick" while others "thin"? |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for pointing this out. First of all, you are correct that vertexes are representing genes and edges are representing regulatory linkage between TFs and genes. We have used colors and thickness to show regulatory rewiring between cell types. Thick edges are shown to highlight rewiring events while thin edges mean gene linkages are retained between cell types. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

# 

# Referee #4 (Remarks to the Author):

## <ID>REF4.1 – Strengths of the Paper

<TYPE>$$$NoveltyPos

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | I fully acknowledge that the manuscript proposes a very important approach from detecting the mutations that are most relevant for each specific type of cancer, integrating epigenome data, transcription factor binding, chromatin looping to focus on key regions: ultimately, this work demonstrates the importance of functional data beyond the primary sequence of the genome. Other important aspects include the comprehensiveness and breadth of the data, the analysis and ultimately the whole integrated approach, which goes beyond commonly seen genomics analysis. However the manuscript is not trivial to read and digest in the first round: anyway I believe that the message, including the importance of the integration multiple types of data, is very important. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for the positive comments. |

## <ID>REF4.2 – Changing the presentation of the supplement

<TYPE>$$$Text,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@DC,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%85DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Yet, efforts to make the manuscript more readable will be quite important. For instance, I could understand several sections of the manuscript after reading carefully the not so short supplementary part. The strategy of sample selection was easier to understand after seeing the first figure of the supplementary information, as well as fig S1-3 regarding the number of normal vs cancer cell lines. I’m not sure what the space limitation for this manuscript will be, but clarity should be an important component of a Nature paper. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing out that it is sometimes hard to see the full documentation of our methods in the main part and one has to look at the extensive supplements. We are well aware of this fact. The very large scale of the supplement is typical for large genomic paper. We, in fact, have been actively discussing with Nature Publishing and other companions about the supplement with regard to the main text. We have attempted to put important contents in the supplement and to structure it very carefully.  We admit that maybe this construction is not that intuitive. We are prepared to work very hard to make the structure of the supplement understandable. We have tried to revise it to make these clearer and also to move more into the main text, though we think given the current main text limitations of a typical paper in Nature and the scale of the results in the data in this paper, it is not easy to put everything into the main text. We are preparing to work constructively with the referees and the others to make this clear. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | *[JZ2MG: is there an excerpt here?]* |

## <ID>REF4.3 – Trimming and editing parts of the manuscript

<TYPE>$$$Text,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@DC,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 1) The manuscript is quite complex and efforts are needed to improve clarity. Some of the text can seem to be somehow redundant or not needed (for instance, general comments about the ENCODE project; or the Step-Wise prioritization scheme (page7; other parts at page 7, for instance). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for his/her suggestions on our presentations. As requested, we have trimmed and edited these sections in our revised manuscript. |

## <ID>REF4.4 – Validate the cell line results using tissue data

<TYPE>$$$CellLine,$$$Validation

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@DL,@@@Peng,@@@DC

<PLAN>

<STATUS>%%%90DONE

[JZ2MG: ongoing ]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | One of the limitations of the analysis are the cells that are central in the ENCODE, that are immortalized, including cancer cells and “normal” immortalized counterparts. Most of these cell lines have been kept in culture for decades and further selected for cell growth very extensively. Many of the cell lines may have/have accumulated further mutation and rearrangements, if compared to what cancer cells are at the moment that they leave the human body. The authors accurately acknowledge, in the discussion, stating that it is difficult to match cancer cells with the right normal counterpart; it may also be even more difficult to define what are they really (I have seen data in other studies, showing that many of cancer cell transcriptome are quite similar to each other, if compared to initial or primary cells, showing that in particular cancer cells lose diversity).  *It would be appropriate to (computationally) verify at least a small part of the data in other systems*, taking from published studies including normal cells control and primary cancers. |
| Author  Response | We take the referee’s comment to heart and we agree with the reviewer that it is important to verify the discoveries from cell lines from primary cancers.  In the revision, we compared the concordance level of our conclusions made from ENCODE cell line data to observations from patients with primary cancers. And we clarified that although ENCODE data are profiled in cell culture models, the regulatory targets are still representative of the gene regulations in human cancers. We have added a new section in the revised supplementary file for more discussions.  In addition, we built an imputed network from a published dataset outside ENCODE and evaluated the rewiring of regulatory network. We used ATAC-seq dataset from the paper {\cite: Philip, Mary, et al. "Chromatin states define tumour-specific T cell dysfunction and reprogramming." Nature 545.7655 (2017): 452.} and show that the rewiring from ChIP-seq based network can be recapitulated using T cell ATAC-seq data.  {result doesn’t look good, we may end up not using ATAC-seq dataset here.}    [[to add ATAC-seq from Christina Leslie lab tissue rewiring using imputed]] |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We predicted the regulatory activities of transcription factor (TF) MYC using a ChIP-Seq profile in MCF-7 cells. We found that the MYC regulatory activity is highly correlated with the MYC expression across TCGA breast tumors (Supplementary Figure Xa). For most TFs, their regulatory activities predicted using ENCODE ChIP-Seq profile in cell lines are significantly correlated with their expression levels across breast tumors (Supplementary Figure Xb). Moreover, using the same MCF-7 ChIP-Seq profile, the MYC regulatory activity predicted for lung tumors is also significantly correlated with MYC expression level in TCGA lung cancer (Supplementary Figure Xa). These results indicate that the ChIP-Seq profiles from a particular cell line can capture regulatory targets in human tumors from diverse cancer types. To select ChIP-Seq or eCLIP profiles that are representative of the regulatory targets in human cancers, we only reported the results of TFs or RBPs whose regulatory activities are significantly correlated with their gene expression level in each TCGA cohort (Supplementary Figure Xc).    **Supplementary Figure X. The clinical relevance of ENCODE cell line data in human primary tumors**.  **(a)** The correlation between *MYC* expression level and regulatory activity across tumors. The MYC regulatory activity in each tumor was predicted using the ChIP-Seq profile in MCF-7 cell line. The Pearson correlation between MYC gene expression level and regulatory activity were computed across tumors in each cancer type. The statistical significance of Pearson correlation was tested by the two-sided student t-test. BRCA: breast invasive carcinoma. LUSC: lung squamous carcinoma.  **(b)** The distribution of correlation *p*-values in TCGA breast cancer. For each TF, we tested the statistical significance of Pearson correlation between TF expression levels and regulatory activities predicted across tumors through two-sides student t tests as panel a. For TCGA breast cancer cohort, most *p*-values are very significant with a few non-significant values.  The fraction of regulators with statistically significant correlations in different cancer types for ChIP-Seq and eCLIP networks. In each TCGA cancer type, we computed the correlations between regulator expression levels and regulatory activities across tumors for all regulators (TFs, or RBPs). We selected regulators with statistically significant correlations through two-sided student t test (FDR < 0.05). |

## <ID>REF4.5 – Loss of diversity in cancer cells<TYPE>$$$CellLine

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | I have seen data in other studies, showing that many of cancer cell transcriptome are quite similar to each other, if compared to initial or primary cells, showing that in particular cancer cells lose diversity |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for bringing this point and we feel it is a good comment. Actually, the referee is correct many of the cancer transcriptome is similar to each other and we made a new figure in our revised version. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | One of the strengths of ENCODE release 3 is massive expansion of functional genomic data into various primary cells and tissue types. In this revision, we have extensively explored the chromatin landscape and expression patterns across all of available ENCODE primary cells and tissues, and compared them with existing immortalized cell lines with deep annotations.  We have chosen CTCF ChIP-seq, distal enhancers, and RNA-seq, which has the most abundant number of cell types in ENCODE, as examples to highlight this point. We performed RCA/PCA analysis on RNA-Seq, shRNA RNA-Seq, and TF ChIP-seq data and found that cancer cells tend to cluster together and stay away from their normal counterparts. |

## <ID>REF4.6 – Relationship of H1 to other stem cells

<TYPE>$$$Stemness$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@DL,@@@PE,@@@DC

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix,&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 3) One of the conclusions, deriving from the analysis of H1-hESC is the some cancer are “moving away from stemness”. However, while it is true that the cancer cells pattern diverge from the H1 cells, H1 is a human embryonic stem cells: although interesting, H1 may not necessarily be the best cells to compare with tumor phenotype. Authors should discuss/defend of further elaborate on this approach. I believe that a key analysis should be done against other stem cells (like tissutal stem cells, etc. ). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referees for bringing this point out and we have done what they suggested.  - Regarding “H1 may not necessarily be the best cells to compare with tumor phenotype”  We have chosen H1-hESC because it offers the broadest ChIP-seq coverage and has the most amount of other assays in ENCODE. In our revised manuscript, we have expanded our analysis to other stem cells.  - Regarding “other stem cells (like tissutal stem cells )”  We have compared other available stem-related cell types, as suggested by the referee, to H1-hESC to show that H1-hESC is not very different from other stem cells from tissues. We have evaluated regulatory activity of all ENCODE biosamples and across all available stem-like cells in ENCODE and measured the distance between stem-like cells. We show that H1-hESC is not far distinct from other stem-like cells. As shown earlier, one analysis we have added is to look at regulatory networks of CTCF, one of the most widely assayed TF in ENCODE. As expected, all of stem-like cell types formed a cluster, suggesting stem-like cell types have a distinct regulatory profile from normal and cancerous cell types, and stem-like cells including H1 and iPSCs have similar regulatory patterns . |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | Please check figures in Excerpt to REF 4.6 above |

## <ID>REF4.7 – Fixes for Figure 1

<TYPE>$$$Presentation,$$$Later

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 4) I have difficulties to fully understand Fig.1, in particular the patient cohort (PC) at the bottom of the “depth approach” (just above the green box of cell –specific analysis). The two rows are at the bottom of the columns report mutation and expression, but they belong to the columns of the cell lines (K562, HepG2, etc). I just simply do not understand that part of the figure, in particular the relation between cell lines and the patient cohort (the figure legend does not help, and also supplementary material did not help). |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for the suggestion. In the revision we have extensively revised the figure 1. We understand that numbers at the mutation and expression rows can be misleading, so we have separated cohort-based data matrix out of cell-type data matrix. In addition, more emphasis was put into the overview schematic to highlight the value of ENCODEC as a resource. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF4.8 – SVs affecting BMRs & Network

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Network,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@DL,@@@XK, @@@TG,@@@STL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix,&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%30DONE

[JZ2DL, XM, TG, STL: would you please help to fill in the stuff?]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 5) The analysis assumes that genomes of all the cells discussed are essentially the same. However, for many of the cancer genomes, there have been rearrangements, often dramatic like Chromothripsis. How is this affecting the BMR and the linking of non-coding elements to the target genes? How many of the cells analyzed were dramatically rearranged? |
| Author  Response | The referee asked us to comment on the relationship of structural variants, BMR, and network wiring. We think these are very good suggestions and we wished we had taken that more in this mission.  In the revision, we have definitely taken this comments to heart and have added in main text figures that look at the degree to which structural variants, or SVs, mature background mutational rate, and they also affected the network rewiring. We think this is an ideal illustration of the ENCODE data since, in addition to mapping a lot about the function of the genome, some of the new incurred data sets actually give rise to structural variants meaning that structural variants are an integral output of the product. Relating them to network wiring and background mutation rate is an ideal illustration of the value of the data and the project. We have constructed a number of new main figures that address this and we quite heartly thank the referee for pointing this out. To summarize our conclusion,  - 1. we did observe an elevated SNV/indel rate around the breakpoints and found an elevated mutation rate around the breakpoints (Excerpt 1)  - 2. we explored the relationship between SVs and several histone modification marks.(Excerpt 2)  - 3. we explored the SV introduced enhancer gain/loss events and relate them to gene expression changes.(Excerpt 3)  - 4. We explored the SV events on the long range interactions (Excerpt 4)  - 5. We estimated how much of rewiring regulatory edges were affected by SV events (Excerpt 5) |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | Regarding the relationship of SNV to SV |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | Relating SVs to histone modification marks. We extracted the SV events in K562 and compared it with several histone modification marks. We found clear patterns as below. |
| Excerpt 3 From  Revised Manuscript |  |
| Excerpt 4 From  Revised Manuscript | Feng’s figure |
| Excerpt 5 From  Revised Manuscript | Figure 5. Rewiring sub-panel update |

## <ID>REF4.9 – Aspects of heterogeneity related to cell lines

<TYPE>$$$CellLine,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@WM,@@@JZ,@@@MRS

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 6) Most cancers are not necessarily represented by a single cell type used to obtain genomics data in this study, but contains numerous types of cells with different mutations, as well as normal cells, infiltrating cells, all in a three dimensional structure, often producing metastatic colonizing other organs. However, this study focuses only on comparisons between cells. These limitations should be better discussed, also to put in perspective future studies on single cells. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bringing this up and we completely agree with the referee that genomic and epigenomic heterogeneity in tumor cells, as well as heterogeneity in the tumor microenvironment (e.g., immune cell infiltrates, hormonal factors, normal cell populations, etc.) are significant factors in tumor growth and development. This is a limitation of the current technique, which we now discuss with greater emphasis (more details in the excerpt below). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | One limitation of the current ENCODE data is that most of the current release of data is performed over a number of cells. However, genomic and epigenomic heterogeneity in tumor cells, as well as heterogeneity in the tumor microenvironment (e.g., immune cell infiltrates, hormonal factors, normal cell populations, etc.) are significant factors in tumor growth and development. We believe that in the further, the development of single-cell sequencing technologies may capture important tumor biology present and provide new insights in cancer. |

## 

## <ID>REF4.10 – lncRNAs and BMR

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 7) When analyzing the BMR in cancer, did the author estimate the mutation rate in the lncRNAs? Is there any other interesting lesson from the analysis of the non-coding regions and their mutations rate? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point out this. We have added the analysis of lncRNA by comparing BMRs in genes and lncRNAs. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF4.11 – (Minor) updates to figure numbering in supplemantary

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | In the supplementary material, there is room to improve figures (some numbers are too small). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point out this and we have fixed in our revised manuscript |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## 

## <ID>REF4.12 – (Minor) Figure legends

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Figure legends. Figure legends are essential but I struggled to understand the figures based on the legends only. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point out this and we have fixed in our revised manuscript |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

# 

# Referee #5 (Remarks to the Author):

## <ID>REF5.0 – Preamble

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

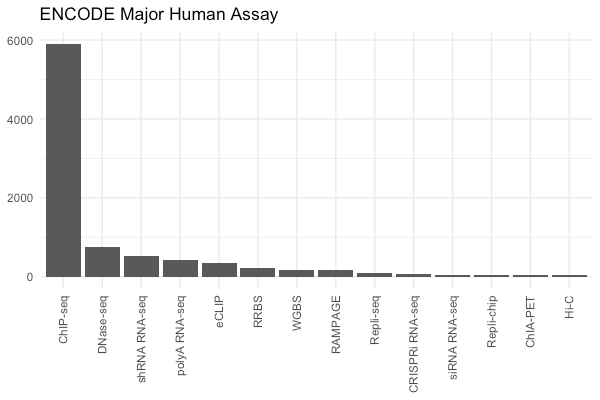
<STATUS>%%%75DONE

We would like to appreciate the referee's feedback. We found that many of the suggestions, such as further power analysis, the false positive rate of rewiring, comparison with other networks, cross-validation using external data, are quite valuable and we significantly expanded them in our revised manuscript as suggested. We want to specifically point out two points.

**1. The main goal of this resource paper**

The referee mentioned that, but the novelty of the paper is lacking. We also thank the referee to point out his/her confusion about whether this is prospective or biology paper. We want to make it clear that this paper is to be considered as a "resource" paper, not a novel biology paper. We feel that cancer is the best application to illustrate certain key aspects of ENCODE data and analysis - particularly deep annotations and network changes. We have listed some more details about the resource of this paper as below (Table R1 and Figure. R1).

Figure R1. Summary of the raw signal tracks released in this paper



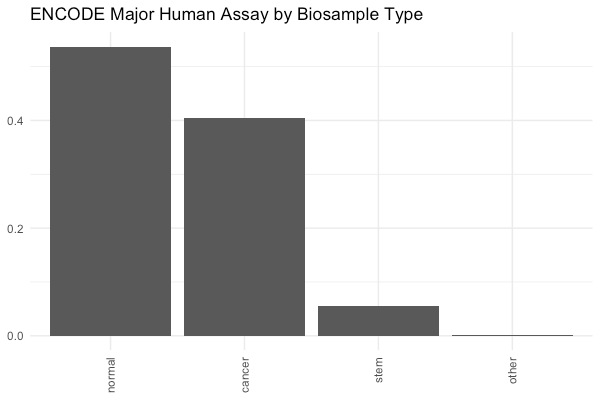


Table R1. Summary of annotation types and example applications in our paper

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Annotation type** | **Example Applications** |
| **Element** | - TF/RBP binding peaks & motifs  - DHS peaks  - Replication timing profiling  - Enhancers level 1-3  - Hi-C TADs and ChIA-pet loops  - SV and SNV in cell lines | - BMR estimation (Fig. 2)  - Genome annotation (Fig. 6)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig. 6) |
| **Gene** | - Extended genes definitions  - RNA-Seq expressions  - Expression changes after knockdowns | - Somatic & germline burdens (Fig.1)  - Stemness analysis (Fig. 5)  - Variant prioritizations (Fig.3 & Fig. 6) |
| **Network** | *Distal network:*  - Enhancer-gene (computational)  - Enhancer-gene (computational + Hi-C)  - TF-Enhancer-gene  *Proximal network:*  Experimental based:  - TF/RBP Universal networks (strong & weak)  - TF/RBP tissue specific networks (binary & probabilistic)  Imputed:  - DHS imputed tissue specific TF networks | - TF/RBP Regulatory Activities (Fig.3)  - Network rewiring (Fig. 4)  - Network Hierarchies (Fig. 5)  - TF binding disruptiveness (Fig. 5) |

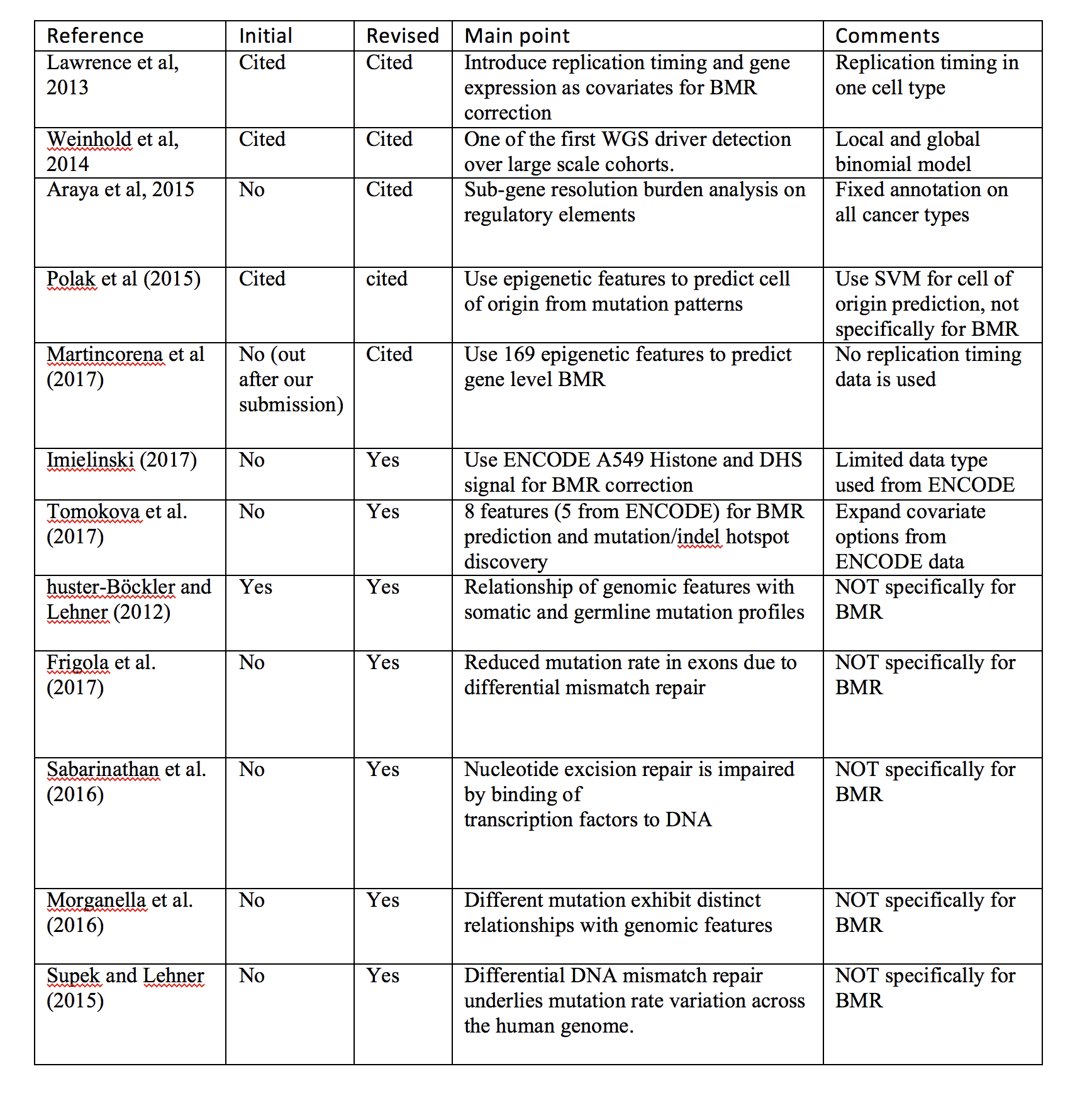
**2. Regarding the the BMR section**

Specifically for the BMR estimation part, the reviewer mentioned that there had been many existing references focusing on applications like cancer driver detection.

First, we thank the referee for pointing out to a lot of related references and we did cite many of them in our initial submission (table R2 below). However, some of the references were either published *after our initial submission* (such as Marticorena et al. 2017) or with a different focus other than BMR estimation (more details in the following table). We updated our reference as suggested but we do feel it is a bit unfair to make a direct comparison for papers with such different focuses.

Second, we want to emphasize that the main goal of our paper is not to make a novel driver discovery paper but to illustrate that the richness of the ENCODE data can noticeably help the accuracy of BMR estimation, as we have clearly shown in our updated Fig. 2.

Third, we want to point that the BMR application is just *one out of many* potential ENCODE data applications. Even for the variant investigations, we have also germline analysis from GWAS studies in this paper. There are many other ENCODE applications, such as regulatory activity, rewiring, and stemness, are also key to interpret and prioritize variants effects in cancer genomics.



## <ID>REF5.1 – Positive comment of the paper

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@MG,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | While the resources provided in this manuscript are potentially interesting for the cancer genomics community and comprise an extensive body of work |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for the positive comment. |

## 

## <ID>REF5.2 – BMR: novelty compared to previous work

<TYPE>$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%85DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 1. The manuscript does not clearly state innovation and novelty over previously published data and methods. Several published studies have used epigenomic data types, including replication time and histone modifications from ENCODE and other sources, to model background mutational background density and define genomic elements of interest. The use of the Negative Binomial/gamma-Poisson distributions to model mutational background in cancer has also been published (Imielinski et al 2016; Martincorena et al, 2017). |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewer for bringing out these references. We want to point out that the Martincorena et al. paper came out in Nov 2017, almost three month after our submission. And it is more focused on positive selection patterns instead of BMR estimation, which makes it unfair for a direct comparison.  We also want to clarify that our manuscript is not to claim a new discovery that using matched features are better, but rather to show that the breadth of ENCODE data allows for improved estimates of background mutation rate. We have further acknowledged prior efforts on this topic in our revised manuscript.  It is worth to mention that we have released way more genomic features in a ready-to-use format and have shown that it would noticeably improve BMR estimate accuracy if appropriately used. We want to further emphasize two points here.  1. ENCODE3 uniformly processed 2017 histone modification data, which makes a much larger pool of features to choose from to potentially improve BMR estimation. Also, the majority of them are actually from real tissues and primary cells (1339 out of 2017).  2. ENCODE3 provides way more replication timing data. Previously, researchers either use no or only HeLa replication timing for all cancer types (Martincorena et al., 2017, Lawrence et al., 2013), or any of the 16 repli-Seq data from previous ENCODE release. We largely extended this number to 51 cell types (12 cell lines). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | Table S1. Summary of ENCODE3 histone ChIP-Seq data   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Cell Type** | **# histone marks** | | tissue | 818 | | primary-cell | 521 | | cell-line | 339 | | in-vitro-differentiated-cells | 179 | | stem-cell | 114 | | induced-pluripotent-stem-cell-line | 46 | |

## <ID>REF5.3 – BMR: TCGA benchmark

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@WM

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%60DONE,%%%CalcDONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 2. Throughout, the main manuscript lacks data and statistics supporting the claims made. For example, the performance of tissue-specific background mutation models applied to TCGA data needs to be evaluated against known results and benchmarks from TCGA. It seems that some of these are presented in the extensive supplement and should be moved to the main manuscript. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bringing out this point. We agree that it is important to benchmark the mutation rate estimation. However, we are part of the PCAWG noncoding driver detection group for the joint analysis of TCGA and ICGC data. From our experience in this group, we did not find a gold standard for the whole genome mutation rate estimation. Alternatively, we evaluated the BMR estimation to the commonly used permutation set, which random select a new position within a 50kb window of each somatic variant while preserving the local context.  1. We applied our mutation driver detection method on the CDS regions of ~20k protein coding regions on the permuted dataset for breast cancer, and found no driver there. QQ plot was added into the supplementary site.  2. We down sampled the simulated dataset and compared it with our predictions. Results show that we have comparable performance with the permutations dataset. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | 1. QQ plot of the observed vs. uniform p value from Breast cancer permuted data set. Red line is the diagonal line. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | In the supplementary text, we now include an analysis which shows the superiority of our BMR to a premier TCGA-ICGC model that we are familiar with through our work with PCAWG. The reason we picked this benchmark is because most other published TCGA benchmarks only interrogated protein coding regions, where the relative rates of synonymous and nonsynonymous mutations can be used to calibrate BMRs, which is not possible in the noncoding regions that are the focus of our study. We split the PCAWG Liver-HCC somatic SNV set equally into training and testing sets. We applied the Sanger permutation approach in PCAWG on the training set and used this to predict mutation rates for each of 14,000 promoters, and calculated the residuals between these predictions and the withheld testing data. Similarly, we calculated predicted mutation rates for those same promoters using the ENCODE-C model for liver tissue, and calculated the residuals of these predictions from the testing set promoter mutation rates. Overall, the residuals from the ENCODE-C predictions are more tightly centered around 0 than are the residuals from the PCAWG-derived predictions, indicating a better fit of the ENCODE-C BMR in this setting. |

## <ID>REF5.4 – Power analysis

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 4. How do the new “compact annotations” lead to improved results over traditional annotations?  The power considerations for selecting genomic elements are valuable. “Increased” power of the combined strategy is suggested in the manuscript, yet comparison to prior work is missing. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for his/her positive comment on the value of selecting genomic element and suggestion on the power analysis. In our revised manuscript, we expanded our power calculation extensively (see details below) and clearly pointed out the difference of assumptions. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Supplementary file | Regarding compact annotation:  In our initial submission, the assumption is that we were trimming off the nonfunctional sites while preserving the functional ones. Two examples can explain the motivation of this assumption.  1) Enhancers: Traditionally, enhancers were called as a 1kb peak regions, which admittedly introduced a lot of obviously nonfunctional sites. We believe we can get functional region more accurately by trimming the enhancers down using the exact shapes of many histone marks and further integration with STARR-seq and Hi-C data.  2) TFBS hotspots around the promoter region of WDR74. Instead of testing the conventional up to 2.5K promoter region, we can trim the test set to a core set of the promoter region where many TFs bind, which perfectly correlates with the mutation hotspots (red block) for this well-known driver site (blue line for pan-cancer and green line for liver cancer). |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Supplementary file | Regarding extended genes  Following the reviewer’s suggestions, in our revised manuscript we show in a formal power analysis that the most important contribution to power comes from including additional functional sites, which is of course by the extended gene concept and then secondarily, from removing non-functional sites, but to a lesser extent. The assumption in our compacting annotations is that we can accurately distinguish the more important functional nucleotides from the less important ones through the guidance of many functional characterization assays.  Admittedly, we are making assumptions and the referee is completely correct in pointing this out. We have tried to be more precise in the text that we are assuming that the large number of ENCODE assays, when integrated, allow us to more directly get the functional nucleotides, but this, of course, is an assumption. It is hard to tell to what degree one can succeed in finding the current events in cancer. It is hard to back this up with the gold standard, but we think that some of the points are self evidently obvious. We have tried to make this clear in text and thank the referee for pointing this out. |

## <ID>REF5.5 – Power analysis: adding more reference

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 4. The power considerations … Prior efforts to address this problem with restricted hypothesis testing for cancer genes should be cited (Lawrence et al, 2014; Martincorena, 2017). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bring out previous efforts. In fact, we cited the Lawrence et al, 2014 paper (and the paper before this one in the same group) in our initial submission. The Martincorena, 2017 was published after our submission for it is impossible for us to cite in the last round. We have added it in our revised manuscript. |

## <ID>REF5.6 – BMR & Power analysis: detailed driver detection comparison

<TYPE>$$$Power,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&MORE,&&&OOS

<STATUS>%%%25DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Again, sensitivity/specificity analyses of driver discovery with large sets, or long vs. reduced element size need to be added. An improvement of background mutation rate is suggested in the manuscript. But concrete comparisons of discovered drivers with previous work, highlighting how the presented approach is more sensitive or improves specificity, are missing. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing this out. We want to emphasize that the main goal of our paper is not to make novel driver discoveries but to illustrate that the richness of the ENCODE data can noticeably help the accuracy of BMR estimation. It is out of the scope of our paper to make detailed comparison of cancer driver discoveries. However, we did labeled the known driver genes in our calculations with supporting pubmed IDs. We further compared our results with the PCAWG reports (unpublished data).  We have also tried to emphasize how the ext gene is useful for much more than driver discover. For example, we calculated the GWAS SNP enrichment in different annotation categories and found that the extended genes gave us better cancer associated SNP enrichment (See excerpt below). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We extracted all the breast cancer GWAS variants from GWAS Catalogue and only kept those with European ancestry. Then we extracted all the LD SNPs within 500kb of the GWAS SNP (r2>0.8) to calculate variant enrichment in different annotations sites. The R package VSE was used (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/VSE/vignettes/my-vignette.html). We found that extended gene regions showed significantly larger variant enrichment than the CDS regions and TSS regions. |

## <ID>REF5.7 – Annotation: false positive rates of enhancers

<TYPE>$$$Power,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@MTG

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 6. The authors claim that reduction of functional elements increases power to discover recurrently mutated elements. This point needs quantitative support in the main manuscript (some analysis is given in the supplemental). For example, in the enhancer list derived from the ensemble method, what fraction of enhancers are estimated to be false positives? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing out the importance of power calculations. As suggested we have added more in both main manuscript and supplementary file (as in the excerpt below). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | As for the enhancer part, with the ensemble method, for example, we can get more accurate annotation and pin-point to sequences where transcription factors would actually bind to. To estimate the false positive rate would not be very practical at this stage as there is no gold-standard experiment that could assert an predicted enhancer is definitely negative. Here we took the FANTOM enhancer data set and assess the overlap percentage of our enhancer annotation in each ensemble step. We show that each ensemble step indeed increases the percentage of overlap between our annotation and the FANTOM enhancer set. The overlap percentage for our annotation is much higher than that of the Roadmap annotation, and is also higher than the main encyclopedia enhancer annotation annotation (ccRE). |

## <ID>REF5.8 – Assessing quality of enhancer gene linkage annotation

<TYPE>$$$Annotation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@KevinYip,@@@SKL

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 7. The authors claim superior quality of gene-enhancer links and gene communities derived from their machine learning approach. The method should at least be outlined in the main text, and accompanied by data supporting its accuracy and better performance compared to existing approaches. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for the comments. In the revised supplementary file, we have added two sections to discuss these points.  *1. Regarding the gene-enhancer linkages*  *- Performance comparison of JEME vs. other computational based methods*  We used our JEME software to compute the enhancer-gene linkages, which was published in Nature Genetics, 2017. In the original JEME paper, we had several ways of showing the superiority of their linkages (Excerpt 1).  *- Regarding the JEME+HiC method*  We we used published chromHMM derived enhancer-gene linkages (ref to chromhmm) as the comparison dataset and GTEx whole blood eQTLs as the benchmark to show our method works better. (Excerpt 2)  *2. Regarding the gene community methods*  We have compared the gene community model with other methods like NMF by extending our analysis from 122 GM12878 and K526 dataset to all the 862 TF ChIP-Seq assays included in ENCODE data portal. Analysis showed that our method can better preserve the data structure after dimension reduction. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | Regarding JEME itself to other computational methods  First, we created a benchmark linkage dataset integrating ChiA-PET, Hi-C and eQTL data. We also created a benchmark null model where we created random linkages. Figure below is taken from the 3rd figure of the original paper and is a schematic of the benchmark and null linkages.    Then we tested their method using these benchmarks with existing state-of-the-art enhancer-target linkage methods, shown below taken from Figure 3 of the original paper.    As shown in the above figure, the comparison shows that JEME has a superior performance compared to the other methods. TargetFinder was initially trained on 4 data types. When training on all data types, which significantly increased the computation, it does slightly better. Also, it does not generalize as well as JEME, as shown in JEME’s supplementary figure |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | We used a 2-tier approach of finding enhancer-target gene linkages. First, we used our previously published JEME algorithm to find the linkages. (Below we also explained how JEME performs better than other existing methods). We then filtered the enhancer-target gene linkages using the significant Hi-C interactions that are found using the method FitHiC (ref Fithic). This is done to make sure that all of our enhancer-target gene linkages have physical interactions between them.  To show how our JEME+Hi-C approach captures enhancer-gene linkages compared to existing linkages, we used published chromHMM derived enhancer-gene linkages (ref to chromhmm) as the comparison dataset and GTEx whole blood eQTLs as the benchmark. We found the linkages, which the enhancer has an eQTL that changes the expression of the target gene significantly. After finding all the eQTL supported linkages for chromHMM and JEME+Hi-C, we calculated the fraction of enhancer-gene linkages that has eQTL support for various types of linkages in chromHMM and in JEME+Hi-C. As can be seen in figure below, JEME+Hi-C has higher fraction overlapped with eQTL-gene linkages. |
| Excerpt 3 From  Revised Manuscript | Mixed membership model is a hierarchical Bayesian topic model framework and can help to uncover the underlying semantic structure of a document collection. The core of topic models is Latent Dirichlet Allocation(LDA), which cast the mixed-membership (topics) problem into a hidden variable model of documents. The LDA model has been widely used to analyze a wide variety of data types, including but not limited to text and document data, genotype data, survey and voting data. The advantage of LDA over other algorithms (like SVD, PLSI) used in semantic analysis has been described in Blei 2003. In particular, Blei says LDA allow document to belong to multiple topics simultaneously, and the topic mixture weight was treated as k-hidden random variable to reduce overfitting problem rather than a set of individual parameters that explicitly link to the training set.  With regards to the referee’s question, there is no ready-made answers since the data type (TF target network) and problem-definition of our study are both specific. Fundamentally the LDA method is an unsupervised, therefore there is no labels on the dataset and accuracy metrics is not applicable. If we treat the LDA mixed-membership analysis as a dimensionality reduction problem, it is possible to compare how well of a model can reproduce the information of original data, as described in paper (Guo, Y., & Gifford, D. K. (2017). Modular combinatorial binding among human trans-acting factors reveals direct and indirect factor binding. BMC Genomics, 18(1), 45.). The correlations of the original target gene vectors between two TFs are compared with those of dimension reduced vectors. The better method should be much close to original vectors correlations.  To explore how well the LDA mixed-membership analysis on TF regulatory network, we extend our dataset from 122 GM and K526 samples to all the 862 TF ChIP-Seq assays included in ENCODE data portal. In order to get a reliable correlation, we also increase the number of topic to 50 as the number of TF sample increases. The non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) and Kmeans clustering are used for comparison because the nature of regulatory network requires a non-negative decomposition. The same target dimension K =50 was used to NMF and target number of clusters K=50 for Kmeans. The Euclidean distance between each data the centroidds are used to calculated the correlation. As shown in the figure, the x-axis is original correlation of two TF regulatory target, y-axis is reproduced correlation from LDA document to topic distribution and NMF decomposed matrix. The solid line is the ‘loess’ smoothing curve for the scattered dots. We can see the LDA method can reproduce the original correlation better than either NMF or Kmeans. Overall correlation between the reproduced pairwise correlation and the original correlation were 0.123 in Kmeans, 0.404 in NMF and 0.788 in LDA. |

## 

## <ID>REF5.9 – What data sets are used

<TYPE>$$$BMR

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&Defer

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 8. From the main manuscript, it is not clear which cancer data sets were analyzed with the new background mutation rate estimates and functional regions. Datasets and sample size should be mentioned explicitly. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bringing out this point. We provide it here in the table and summarized it in a line in the main text. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.10 – Mutational signatures

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%85DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 9. Do the authors take into account mutational signatures? |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewers for pointing this out. In the BMR calculation section, we did consider the local 3mer context effect. But we did not specifically looked into the mutational signatures otherwise. We have made this clear in the discussion section in the revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We hope that in the future new models that can incorporate, sequence coverage, mutational signatures, small scale features (TF and nucleosome binding), would further integrate the full potential of ENCODE data to better calibrate background mutation rates. |

## <ID>REF5.11 – Additional QQ plots

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

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| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 10. The significance analysis of cancer cohorts (Figure 2) should highlight known cancer genes versus those newly found in this study. A QQ-plot should be included to confirm that the algorithm accurately models the background expectation. |
| Author  Response | We thank the reviewers for pointing this out. Yes, we have provided the QQ plot in the supplementary file in our initial submission. |

## <ID>REF5.12 – Sequence coverage

<TYPE>$$$BMR,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | Do the authors include sequence coverage in their method? |
| Author  Response | Thanks for pointing this out. We did not consider coverage but this is a good point. We included in the discussion in our revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We hope that in the future new models that can incorporate, sequence coverage, mutational signatures, small scale features (TF and nucleosome binding), would further integrate the full potential of ENCODE data to better calibrate background mutation rates. |

## <ID>REF5.13 – BCL6 Questions

<TYPE>$$$Annotation,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@XK,@@@TG

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

[JZ2JZ: more investigations]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 11. The authors mention that BCL6 would have been missed in an exclusively coding analysis. In which part of the extended annotations were recurrent BCL6 mutations found? If near the promoter, is the BCL6 5’ region a known AID off-target? Are BCL6 mutations in CLL associated with translocations? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for this comment. As suggested, we found that the there is a mutation hotspot near the first intron of BCL6. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.14 – ChIP-seq vs other computational based networks: FP of network

<TYPE>$$$Network,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@Peng,@@@JZ,@@@DL

<PLAN> &&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 12. The manuscript notes that the new networks presented contain “more accurate and experimentally based” gene links. This claim should be supported with comparisons with existing networks and statistical evaluation. How many of the derived networks are false positives? How many networks are derived in total? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bringing this up this point and we also feel that it is important to make comparison with other existing networks with statistical evaluation. We made the following revisions in the updated manuscript.  **1. Regarding the proximal regulatory element network:**  *1.1 Comparison with Biogrid and String experimental interactions.*  We showed that the ENCODE ChIP-seq/eCLIP based networks can capture a higher fraction of standard interactions (from manually curated networks from TTRUST) than protein physical networks, including Biogrid and String experimental interactions (see details in excerpt 1).  *1.2 Comparison with DHS-based imputed networks*  We showed that ENCODE ChIP-seq based networks provided better correlations with DHS-based imputed network provided in Neph et. al. 2012. (see details in excerpt 2).  *1.3 False positive rate estimation of the ChIP-Seq based networks*  The ENCODE consortium has always enforced a strict data quality standards for all ENCODE produced transcription factor ChIP-seq experiments, which allow us to rigorously control the false positives (see details in excerpt 3).  **2. Regarding the distal regulatory element network:**  With the ChIP-seq, DHS, STARR-seq, ChIA-PET, and Hi-C experiment, ENCODE has a distal TF-enhancer-gene network of high quality, which is less discussed and investigated previously. We feel this is one of the unique aspect of our resource.  *2.1 High quality of enhancer definitions after integrating many histone ChIP-seq and DHS, and STARR-Seq data*  We provide better enhancer definitions after integrating various assays. Please see details in response to “<ID>REF5.9 – Annotation: false positive rates of enhancers”.  *2.2 High quality of enhancer-gene linkages*  We have compared the quality of our enhancer target prediction linkages with other computational based methods and our results showed superior quality. Details please see REF 5.8. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | *Regarding Comparison with Biogrid and String experimental interactions.*  To evaluate the quality of ENCODE transcriptional regulatory networks, we utilized the TRRUST database, which manually curated transcriptional regulations from Pubmed articles (Han et al., 2018). We defined the TRRUST interactions as the standard and tested the fraction of standard interactions that other networks can recapitulate. The ENCODE network can capture a higher fraction of standard interactions than protein physical networks, including Biogrid and String experimental interactions (Supplementary Figure X). Moreover, the fraction of standard networks that ENCODE network recapitulated is consistently higher than random. These results supported the higher relevance of ENCODE networks on transcriptional regulation compared to other networks. We also constructed another post-transcriptional network between RBPs and target genes through linking the RBP binding sites on gene 3’UTR regions. To the best of our knowledge, the current study is the first one to study RBP-gene interactions systematically; thus we are not aware of any previous resources that can provide gold standard regulations for comparison.    **Supplementary Figure X. ENCODE networks captured a higher fraction of curated regulations than other networks.** The TRRUST database manually curated 8,412 transcriptional regulatory interactions from Pubmed articles (Han et al., 2018). We computed the fractions of TTRUST interactions that other networks can recapitulate. Since each ENCODE ChIP-Seq interaction has a regulatory potential (RP) score, we showed the fractions with different RP thresholds. The random fraction for ENCODE network was estimated through 100 perturbed TTRUST networks using the stub-rewiring method that preserved the gene network degrees (Milo et al., 2002). |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | *Regarding comparison with imputed network*  Our new regulatory network edges are derived from ENCODE TF ChIP-seq experiments, and they provide more accurate gene linkages than imputed networks from other genomic features. To demonstrate the superiority of our new network, we have evaluated our experimentally derived ChIP-seq networks with DHS-based imputed networks from previous publications. We have used two types of ChIP-seq networks. The first one is based on proximity to TSS and the second one based on target identification from profiles (TIP) method. For imputed network, we used Neph et. al. 2012 (Neph, Shane, et al. "Circuitry and dynamics of human transcription factor regulatory networks." Cell 150.6 (2012): 1274-1286.) TF-to-TF network imputed from DNase I hypersensitive footprints. In addition to Neph et. al. DHS network, we also built our own version of similar DHS network by utilizing the ENCODE DNase-seq dataset. To test the gene linkages, we have utilized ENCODE RNAi based TF knockdown and CRISPR-based TF knockout datasets to test how the target gene linkages defined by various network definition are affected by after KD/KO. Overall, target genes of ENCODE ChIP-seq networks had larger differential expression after knocking down (Supplementary figure X). Moreover, DHS-imputed network derived from ENCODE DNase-seq performed better than the previously published method (not shown here, available in Supplementary document).  Supplementary figure X. Evaluation of ENCODEC network with previously published regulatory network using ENCODE CRISPRi knockdown data. Target genes of ENCODEC ChIP-seq based networks have larger expression differential after knocking down. Examples of RFX5, SP2, and USF2 shown. More details with full figures comparing all variants of ENCODEC networks can be found in supplementary document.        1 |
| Excerpt 3 From  Revised Manuscript | *Regarding False positive rate estimation of the ChIP-Seq based networks*  In order to ensure that experiments are reproducible, at least two replicates must be performed in either isogenic or anisogenic conditions (For more information about ENCODE 3 ChIP-seq experimental guidelines, please refer <https://www.encodeproject.org/documents/ceb172ef-7474-4cd6-bfd2-5e8e6e38592e/@@download/attachment/ChIP-seq_ENCODE3_v3.0.pdf>).  For transcription factor experiments, 1486 of 1863 (80%) ChIP-seq experiments we have used to compile ENCODEC resources have more than 2 replicates, which allows further quality control of the derived network. ENCODE used IDR (Irreproducible Discovery Rate) framework to ensure reproducibility of high-throughput experiments by measuring consistency between two biological replicates within an experiment. All processed experiments had both rescue and self consistency ratios are less than 2.    After extensive quality controls for the concordance between replicates, peaks are called using macs2 {"Zhang et al. Model-based Analysis of ChIP-Seq ([MACS](http://liulab.dfci.harvard.edu/MACS/index.html)). *Genome Biol* (2008) vol. 9 (9) pp. R137"} with p-value cutoff of 0.01. |

## <ID>REF5.15 – MYC KD Validation

<TYPE>$$$Network,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@DC

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 13. MYC is known to have profound effects on gene networks. Have the authors considered comparing the results from their MCF7 knockdown experiment to existing data from similar MYC knockdowns to validate the behavior of the network? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for this suggestion and we feel this is a good comment.As suggested we searched for external dataset from multiple platform and cell types and used them to compare with our discoveries. Both datasets confirmed our claims. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | 1. We carried out these analyses after first identifying an alternative dataset. Specifically, we identified a dataset of gene expression for both MYC knockdowns (as well as a corresponding control) in Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO accession number GSE86504). For these alternative data, gene expression was measured by RNA-seq in the HT1080 cell line. We note that, even though these alternative analyses were conducted on a different cell line, the results we obtain (shown below in the right panels, and now made available in the supplementary materials) validate the behavior of the network, and they are consistent with our previous results (in which gene expression was measured in the MCF-7 cell line). These comparable results in an alternative cell line suggests that these results are robust.      We also found another array based MYC knockdown data the results correlate well with our discoveries. |

## <ID>REF5.16 – SUB1 analysis

<TYPE>$$$NoveltyPos,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@MRS,@@@JL,@@@YY

<PLAN>&&&MORE

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 14. SUB1 is a potentially interesting new cancer gene. The authors should further explore the biology of this gene. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referees for the positive comments. We did follow up with SUB1 in this round of revision.   1. We checked SUB1 regulation potential in different cancer types and found that they are consistent as below. We also found that SUB1 tends to bind to the 3UTRs to stabilize its target mRNA. The decay rate of SUB1 is slower than non-targets (p value=1.91e-10). 2. We checked the 3’ UTR expression level of SUB1 target genes and found that the target genes are significantly down-regulated upon SUB1 KD. In addition, we found enrichment of SUB1 target genes for CGC (Cancer Gene Census) genes. 3. We compared the SUB1 targets with other TFs and found that MYC showed significant co-regulation with it. Details please see Exerpt 2 below. We suspect that that *SUB1* may stabilize the *MYC* target genes and pathways to promote the malignant growth of cancer cells. |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript |  |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | Comparison    Here we show some IGV examples together with SUB1 binding sites on the 3’ UTRs. |
|  | Among genes whose 3’UTR regions have *SUB1* eCLIP sites, we observed significant enrichment of functional categories including *MYC* targets, oxidative phosphorylation, and spliceosome. *MYC* activation induces an increase in total precursor messenger RNA synthesis, which increases the burden on the core spliceosome to process pre-mRNA 1. Also, *MYC* activation can stimulate oxidative phosphorylation, which fulfills the bio-energetic demands of cancer cells 2. These results together indicate that *SUB1* may stabilize the *MYC* target genes and pathways to promote the malignant growth of cancer cells. |

## <ID>REF5.17 – Significance of regulatory network hierarchy

<TYPE>$$$Network,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%99DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 15. The manuscript claims that transcription factors placed at the top level of the network hierarchy are enriched in cancer-associated genes and drive expression changes. Both claims need to be supported with statistical tests. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referees for the positive comments. We've done a statistical significance test as requested. The right panel of Figure 4 shows results from Wilcoxon signed-rank test. If a p-value is less than 0.05 it is flagged with one star (\*). If a p-value is less than 0.01 it is flagged with two stars (\*\*). If a p-value is less than 0.001 it is flagged with three stars (\*\*\*). We find that the top-level of the generalized network was enriched with cancer-related TFs with p-value XXX and had larger correlation to drive target gene expression change (p-value XXX). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | Supplementary Figure X. |

## 

## <ID>REF5.18 – Rewiring of regulatory network: FP of rewring

<TYPE>$$$Network,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 16. In the tumor-normal network comparison, is the fraction of edge changes related to the total number of edges for a given TF? This analysis should further clearly state its null hypothesis (what changes are expected?). What happens when edges are randomly permuted? |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for pointing out this issue. We agree with the referee that we need to be more clear about the rewiring of regulatory network in the revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We would like to clarify that the rewiring index is based on the fraction of regulatory edge changes between two cellular contexts. The rewiring index is also normalized across all regulatory proteins, and the sign reflects the direction of rewiring. Details of rScore derivation can be found in Supplementary 5.3. Given this, we assume a null hypothesis to be no change in regulatory edge across cell types. We expect no or minimal change in edges when two cellular contexts are similar. To demonstrate, we selected all available GM12878 ChIP-seq experiments that have at least two replicates, and we performed the same rewiring analysis between isogenic replicates of the same cellular context. The edge changes between two networks will be simply a noise from ChIP-seq experiments.  As expected, when two cellular context are similar, as shown in “baseline”, minimal number of edges do change targets. However, in “rewiring”, TF do change targets extensively when compared across cancerous (K562) to normal (GM12878) cell lines. To put this into perspective, we calculated the fraction of regulatory edges that are due to noise. We find that on average 1.36% of regulatory edges are false positives. |

## <ID>REF5.19 – Stemness in Rewiring analysis in the stem cells

<TYPE>$$$Stemness,$$$Calc

<ASSIGN>@@@DL,@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%50DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 17. The network change comparisons with the H1 stem cell models need statistical testing for significance. What fraction of the rewired edges are expected to be false positives? |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for pointing this out. We agree with the referee’s suggestion and took this opportunity to significantly expand the statistical aspects of regulatory network rewiring and H1 stemness model.  As we answered earlier in REF5.16, we derived our TF networks from ChIP-seq experiments. The ENCODE consortium has always enforced a strict data quality standards for all ENCODE produced transcription factor ChIP-seq experiments, which allow us to rigorously control for the false positives. Please refer to Excerpt 3 in response to “REF5.16 – ChIP-seq vs other computational based networks”.  We then tried to measure the baseline of rewiring using replicates of ChIP-seq experiments, as we explored in REF5.20. We find that 1.36% of rewired regulatory edges are false positives using examples from CML.  In addition, we looked into all replicated H1-hESC ChIP-seq experiments to explore how many of derived edges are potentially false positives. For this, we went a step further and looked at quality metrics of TF peak calling. ENCODE standard ChIP-seq pipeline uses SPP peak caller {\cite: Kharchenko PK, Tolstorukov MY, Park PJ "Design and analysis of ChIP-seq experiments for DNA-binding proteins" Nat. Biotech. doi:10.1038/nbt.15087}, it provides the FDR for a predicted binding position with score s. We here evaluated the distribution of FDR of peaks nearby TSS, which were used to infer regulatory edges in proximal network.  The red dotted line represents FDR q-value of 0.05 and the 89.9% of peaks called for H1-hESC shows statistically significant fold enrichment.  The H1 stem cell model uses fractional overlap of rewired edges between cancerous cell types vs. H1. Therefore we attempted to evaluate statistical significance of our model by measuring how much of H1 network changes are due to noise and use of other normal cell types to evaluate how much of rewired edges overlaps with H1.    Using replicates of H1-hESC ChIP-seq experiments, we made two independent H1 networks in addition to original replicate merged H1 network, and we made recalculated stemness of TF, whether they rewire toward or away from H1. We find that the results of all of stemness direction is reproduced using either replicate.  2. We extended our analysis of H1 to RNA-Seq, TF ChIP-Seq (proximal and distal), and TF knockdown data (details in the Excerpt below). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We performed RCA/PCA analysis on RNA-Seq, shRNA RNA-Seq, and TF ChIP-seq data and found that cancer cells demonstrate a consistent pattern to be more similar to stem cells, as compared to their primary cells of origin. |

## <ID>REF5.20 – Selection of regions for validation testing

<TYPE>$$$Validation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ,@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%85DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 18. How were the eight regions that were tested functionally selected? Where are these regions located in the genome, and with respect to neighboring genes? How many replicates were performed? What are the p-values? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for pointing this out.  The eight regions were selected from our integrative promoter and enhancer regulatory elements in MCF-7 cell lines. We prioritized these regulatory regions based on motif breaking power as described in section 6.1 S (see excerpt 1 below). We also provided similar figure for all the other regions in the supplementary file (see excerpt 1 below). |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | We selected top ten regions with the highest motif breaking power and then tested their regulatory activities using luciferase assay as described in section 6.2 S. Two of ten regions we tested were failed due to issues with plasmid isolation. There were two biological replicates and three technical replicates for each biological replicate in designing luciferase assays validations. Error bar is representing 95% confidence interval across replicates. |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | Details for all tested regions. |

## <ID>REF5.21 – Presentation and revision to manuscript

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 19. The authors should consider moving the general overview diagrams that constitute much of the main figures to the supplement, and in turn present data-rich figures from there with the main manuscript. |
| Author  Response | We thank for the referee for this comments.  We have tried to revise the figures as requested  We have fixed figure XX & YY. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## 

## <ID>REF5.22 – Difference between ENCODEC and existing prioritization methods

<TYPE>$$$Validation,$$$Text

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100Done

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 20. It is not clear how variant prioritization differs or exceeds the variant prioritization method FunSeq published by the same group. Are they complementary approaches? |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to bring this up. We believe that the method that we used here is new and novel. The important aspect is that it takes advantage of many new ENCODE data and integrates over many different aspects. In particular, it takes into account the STARR-Seq data, the connections from Hi-C, the better background mutation rates, and the network wiring data, which is only possible in the context of the highly integrated and their data available on certain cell lines. We are showing this as an example of the best we can do with this level of integration. The fact that we coupled this with quite successful validation that we believe points to the great value of the integrated incurred data. |

## 

## <ID>REF5.23 – Minor: BMR: provide q-values

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$BMR

<ASSIGN>@@@JZ

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 21. When the authors describe recurrent events, are these significant? If so, please provide p-values (and q-values, when applicable). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point this out. We have the values and q-values all deposited into our online resource and supplementary files. We have made this clearer in our revised manuscript. |

## 

## <ID>REF5.24 – Minor: Citation of previous work

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 22. Prior work using ENCODE chromatin data to define regulatory regions and gene enhancers links should be cited (referred to in the manuscript as “Traditional methods”). |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee to point this out. References have been added in the new submission. |

## <ID>REF5.25 – Minor: Tumor normal comparison and composite model

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$CellLine

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 23. The use of a “composite normal” is not optimal for tissue or tumor-type specific analyses that the authors advocate. Although the described data resource (ENCODE) may not provide normal control data, normal tissue data from the Roadmap Epigenomics could be included instead (or in addition) to improve the quality of the tumor-normal comparisons. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for bringing this out. We did noticed the Roadmap data. Actually, in the new release, ENCODE3 reprocess the complete set of roadmap data and we did include that in our data tables (Figure 1 and supplementary table xxx). |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | We highlighted the normal tissue data from the Roadmap (processed by ENCODE3) in our revised figure 1 as below. |

## <ID>REF5.26 – Minor: Use of H1 for stemness calculation

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Stemness

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%50DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 24. The authors use the H1 embryonic stem cell line as model for “stemness” in cancer. Tumor “stemness” often resembles tissue progenitors, not embryonic stem cells. In the absence of reliable data for such progenitors the authors should note this caveat with their analysis. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referees for bringing this point out. We mainly have chosen H1-hESC because it offers the broadest TF ChIP-seq coverage and also one of the top-tier cell lines with most variety of experimental assays in ENCODE. We agree with the referee that the use of H1 embryonic stem cell line for measuring “stemness” should be further discussed. We, therefore, have revised the manuscript with two additional analysis to show that use of H1-hESC maybe a suitable substitute for a such analysis, especially in the absence of the proper progenitor cell data.  1.We first aimed to evaluate regulatory networks of all ENCODE biosamples including many available stem-like cells and profile their differences. We show that H1-hESC is not far distinct from other stem-like cells, and it is a good representation of stem-like state. (see details in Excerpt 1 below)  2. We also looked at gene expression profiles of all available ENCODE cell types. In agreement with the previous analysis, gene expression profiles of stem-like cell types were very similar to each other and formed a cluster when projected onto 2D RCA (reference component analysis) space. Tumor cells actually more similar to stem cells, as compared to their normal counterpart (see details in Excerpt 2 below). |
| Excerpt 1 From  Revised Manuscript | We used a regulatory networks of CTCF, one of the most widely assayed TF in ENCODE, to examine their regulatory patterns across different cell types. As expected, all of stem-like cell types formed a cluster, suggesting stem-like cell types have a distinct regulatory profile from normal and cancerous cell types, and stem-like cells including H1 and iPSCs have similar regulatory patterns.    <Figure update candidate: CTCF regulatory networks based on all available ENCODE ChIP-seq shows clustering of stem-like state cell types (Blue). Promoter network of CTCF was projected onto 2D space using PCA. All cancer cell lines (Red) were clustered closer to stem-like cell types than normal cell types (Green).> |
| Excerpt 2 From  Revised Manuscript | Supplementary figure xx: Gene expression profiles of all available ENCODE RNA-seq experiments show that all stem-like cell types form a cluster (Blue). Gene expression quantifications were projected onto 2D space using reference component analysis. |

## <ID>REF5.27 – Minor: Validation of prioritized element

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Validation

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%90DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 25. P-values should be given in Figure 6B for the luciferase reporter assay. The authors may also want to explain why candidate 5, rather than candidate 4 with a much larger expression fold difference was chosen for follow-up. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for this comment. We now have added more details of how the validation of candidate regions we selected into the revised supplementary information (please see Excerpt 2 in response to <ID>REF5.22 – Selection of regions for validation testing).  The reason we selected the candidate 5 instead of candidate 4 is that the candidate 5 had stronger motif breaking score when disrupted, had higher density of TF binding events, and aligned better with our integrative regulatory region calls.  However, we feel that all other regions we tested are among the top prioritized regions and it is important to show these examples. In the revised manuscript, we have also included supplementary plots for all candidate regions tested in details, showing location of neighboring genes, cohort SNV data, histone marks and DHS signal tracks. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript | Please see figures in Excerpt 2 in response “to <ID>REF5.22 – Selection of regions for validation testing” |

## 

## <ID>REF5.28 – Minor: SYCP2 and beyond

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$NoveltyPos

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

[JZ2JL: can you please do this quickly?]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 26. The discovery of a previously unknown enhancer of SYCP2 is interesting. The authors should consider following up on this lead by integrating existing mutation and expression data from additional studies (e.g. 560 ICGC breast cancers from Nik-Zainal et al). |
| Author  Response | TBC: add this quickly on Monday |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.29 – Minor: Utility of ENCODEC

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%TBC

[JZ2MG: is it OK for the text?]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 27. The abstract mentions the usefulness of ENCODE data for interpretation of non-coding recurrent variants, yet this point is not explored much in the manuscript. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee for this comment. Actually, we tried to show in Fig 6 how each data type has been integrated to evaluate the function of variants. For example, the histone ChIP-seq, STARR-Seq, and DHS data helped to define function of surrounding element. The histone ChIP-seq, Replication timing, and Expression data help to calibrate local BMR to evaluate mutation rate and somatic burden. TF ChIP-seq/eCLIP data can help to investigate the local nucleotide effect. And Hi-C and ChIA-pet data can help to link noncoding variants to surrounding genes for better interpretation.  We made this more clear in our revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.30 – Minor: P-value of survival analysis

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 28. In Figure 2e, a p-value should be given with the analysis. |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for the comment. We now have updated figure 2e with p-value. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.31 – Minor: Q-value of extended gene analysis

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 29. Figure 2d, q-values should be given for each identified driver gene. |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for the suggestion. We would like to first point out that we were not focused in finding cancer drivers in this analysis. Figure 2d is to illustrate the utility of extended gene. However, we do agree with the referee that adding q-value to the figure would be important, so we have updated the figure in the revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## 

## <ID>REF5.32 – Minor: Presentation issue with network hierarchy

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%100DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 30. Figure 4 would benefit from labeling of the network tiers. |
| Author  Response | We thank reviewer for the comment. We fixed the labeling of the network tiers in the revised manuscript. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.33 – Minor: Presentation

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>@@@DL

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%95DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 31. In Figure 6b, it should be clarified whether “samples” refers to genomic locations, patients, or cell lines. The number of replicates for each experiment should be shown, and p-values between wt and mutant readings should be given. |
| Author  Response | We thank referee for pointing this issue out. We refer “samples” to the genomic locations in the submitted manuscript. We agree with the referee that this could be confusing to readers. We have updated the figure in the revised manuscript and we now refer them as candidates. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |

## <ID>REF5.34 – Minor: Supplementary document

<TYPE>$$$Minor,$$$Presentation

<ASSIGN>

<PLAN>&&&AgreeFix

<STATUS>%%%75DONE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Referee  Comment | 32. The supplement contains multiple reference errors. |
| Author  Response | We thank the referee on this comment and we have made numerous improvements to the supplementary document. |
| Excerpt From  Revised Manuscript |  |