

Outline

- Background
 - What is known?
 - What is unknown?
- Paper
 - Central question/hypothesis
 - Techniques and experimental tools
 - Figures #1-3
 - Question, experimental results, conclusion/interpretation
- Conclusion
- Next Steps and Future directions

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Background: What is known?

Broad repertoire of chromatin regulators involved in nucleosome remodeling, DNA methylation, histone modifications, etc.

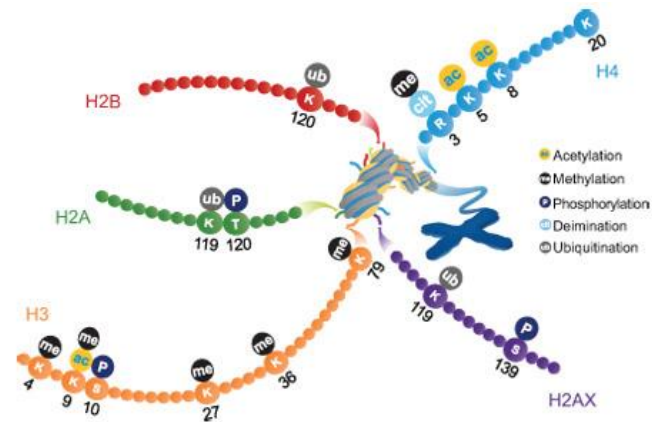
Conversion of 5-Methylcytosine to 5-Hydroxymethylcytosine in Mammalian DNA by MLL Partner TET1

Mamta Tahiliani,¹ Kian Peng Koh,¹ Yinghua Shen,² William A. Pastor,¹ Hozefa Bandukwala,¹ Yevgeny Brudno,² Suneet Agarwal,³ Lakshminarayan M. Iyer,⁴ David R. Liu,^{2*} L. Aravind,^{4*} Anjana Rao^{1*}

The language of covalent histone modifications

Brian D. Strahl & C. David Allis

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, University of Virginia Health Science Center, Charlottesville, Virginia 22908, USA



Background: What is known?

These play a large role in establishing and maintaining gene expression states

Dynamics of global histone acetylation and deacetylation in vivo: rapid restoration of normal histone acetylation status upon removal of activators and repressors

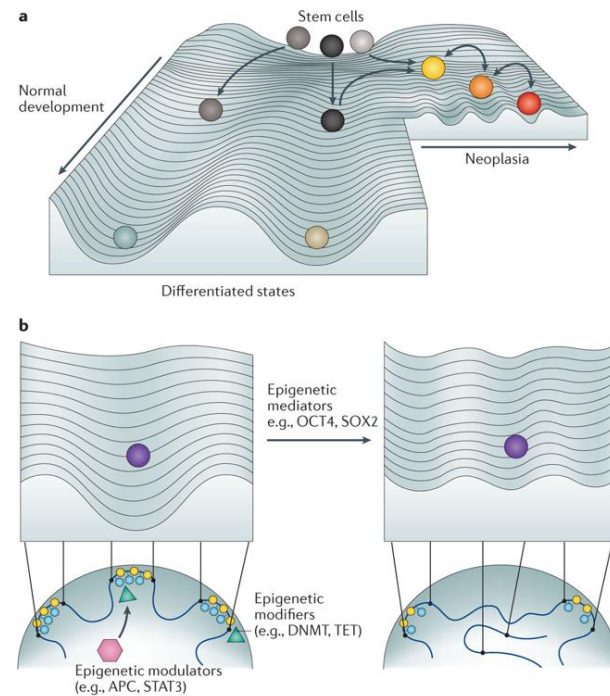
Yael Katan-Khaykovich and Kevin Struhl¹

DNA methylation patterns and epigenetic memory

Adrian Bird¹

Background: What is known?

With further implications in cell fate decision-making



Nature Reviews | **Genetics**

Feinberg, Andrew P., Michael A. Koldobskiy, and Anita Göndör.
"Epigenetic modulators, modifiers and mediators in cancer aetiology and progression." *Nature Reviews Genetics* (2016).

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Background: What is Unknown?

- Analysis of chromatin regulators control of gene expression **quantitatively** over time in single cells
 - How strong and rapidly can chromatin regulators affect gene expression?

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 - How strong and rapidly can chromatin regulators affect gene expression?
- Effect of chromatin regulators on **epigenetic memory**
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- **Cell to cell variability** of gene expression through in the context of chromatin regulators
 - How uniformly can chromatin regulators alter gene expression?

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- Effect of chromatin regulators on epigenetic memory
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- Cell to cell variability of gene expression through in the context of chromatin regulators
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answering these questions is important because:

*“We anticipate that integrative models of chromatin dynamics in living cells will be required to understand *how gene regulation is achieved through modulation of chromatin structure.*”*

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EPIGENETICS

Dynamics of epigenetic regulation at the single-cell level

Lacramioara Bintu,^{1*} John Yong,^{1*} Yaron E. Antebi,¹ Kayla McCue,¹ Yasuhiro Kazuki,² Narumi Uno,² Mitsuo Oshimura,² Michael B. Elowitz^{1,3†}

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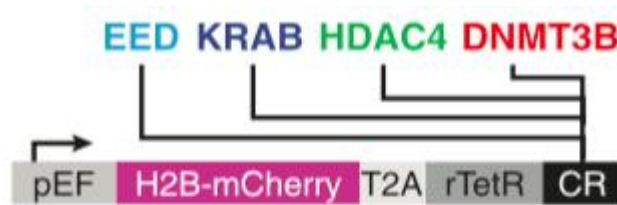
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How strongly, rapidly, and uniformly can chromatin regulators alter gene expression, and how long can their effects persist?

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Techniques and Experimental Tools



Constructs used

Chromatin Regulators (CRs)

1. **EED (embryonic ectoderm development)**

Methylates histone 3 at lysine 27 (H3K27Me3)

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Causes de novo methylation of CpGs

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Removes acetyl groups from histones H3 and H4

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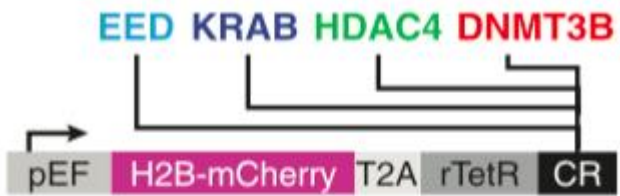
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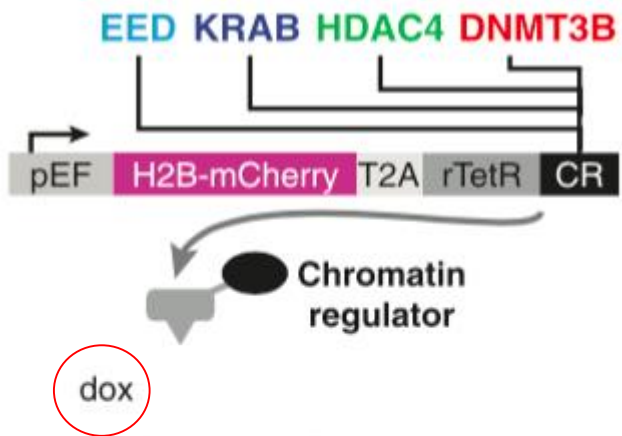
Removes acetyl groups from histones H3 and H4

Purpose: to compare capabilities of distinct regulators - these are 4 repressive CRs that span a broad range of chromatin modifications

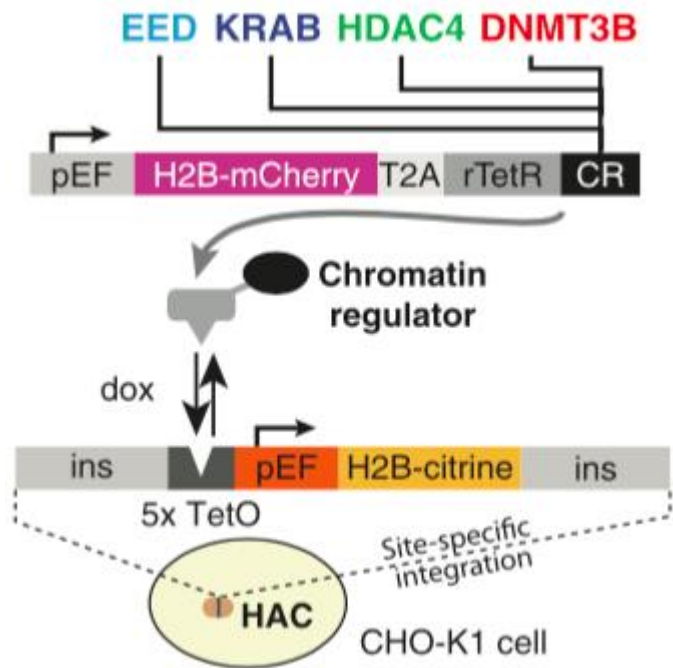
Techniques and Experimental Tools



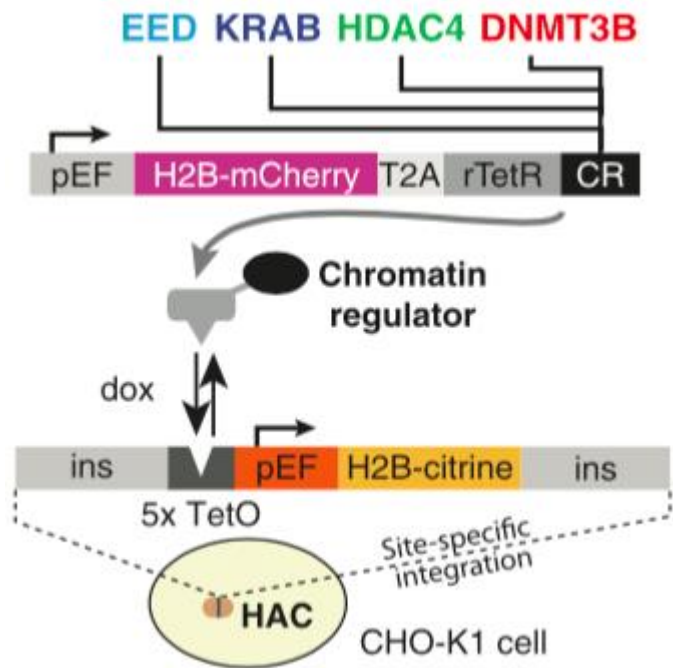
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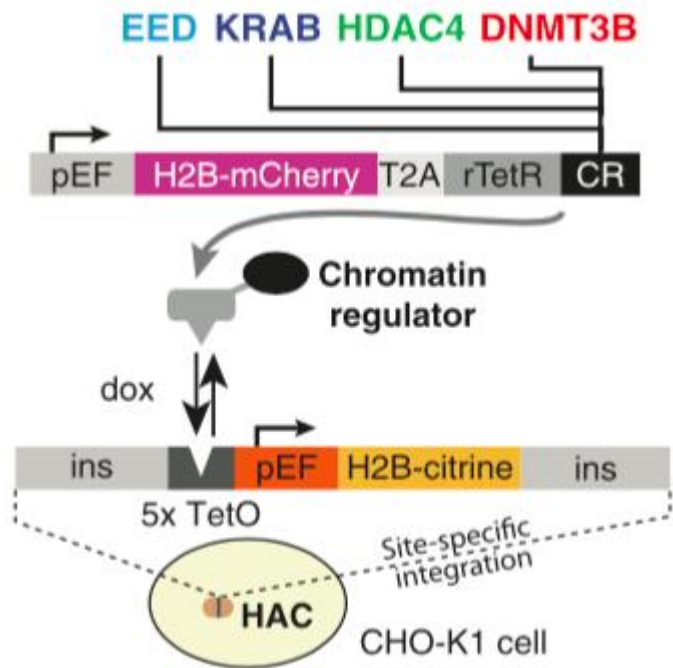


Techniques and Experimental Tools



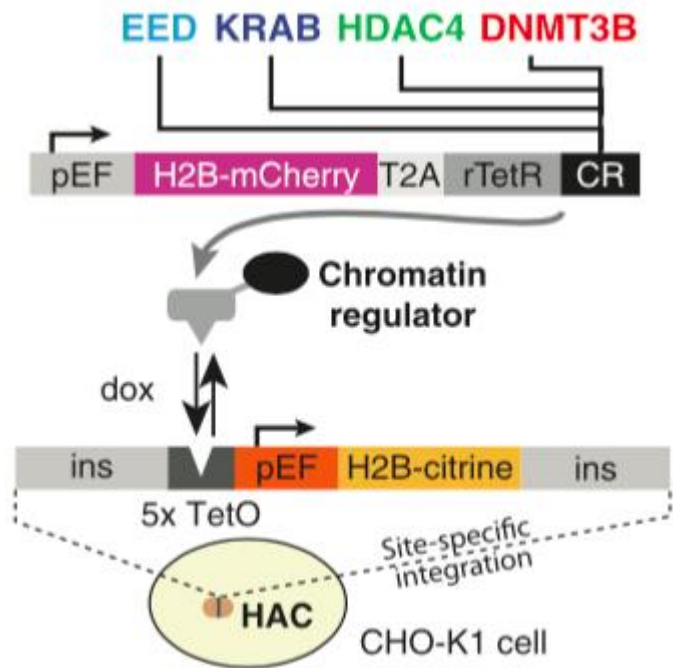
- Model system: CHO-K1 cells (mammalian)

Techniques and Experimental Tools



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- Summary of important features:
 - Chromatin regulators tagged with reverse Tet repressor which binds DNA only in the presence of dox
 - **Construct allows temporal (timing and duration) control of chromatin regulator recruitment**

Techniques and Experimental Tools



- Model system: CHO-K1 cells (mammalian)
- Summary of important features:
 - Chromatin regulators tagged with reverse Tet repressor which binds DNA only in the presence of dox
 - **Construct allows temporal (timing and duration) control of chromatin regulator recruitment**
- Time lapse microscopy
 - Single cell analysis

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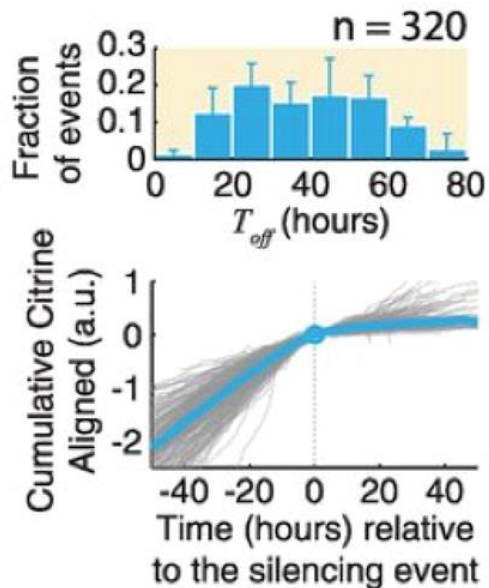
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#1 Time-Lapse Analysis of CR silencing

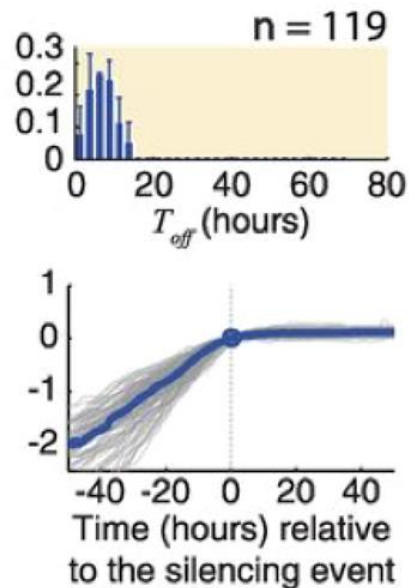
Time lapse microscopy of EED silencing

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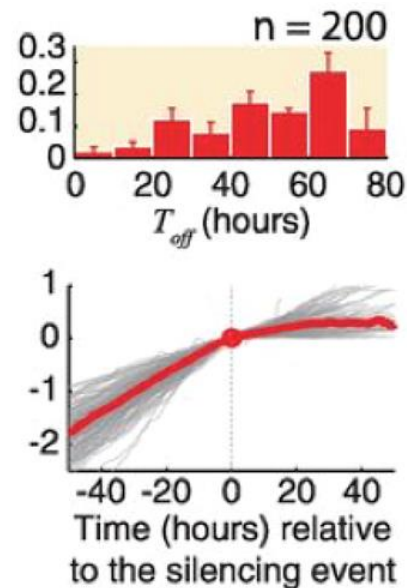
EED
(H3K27 tri-methylation)



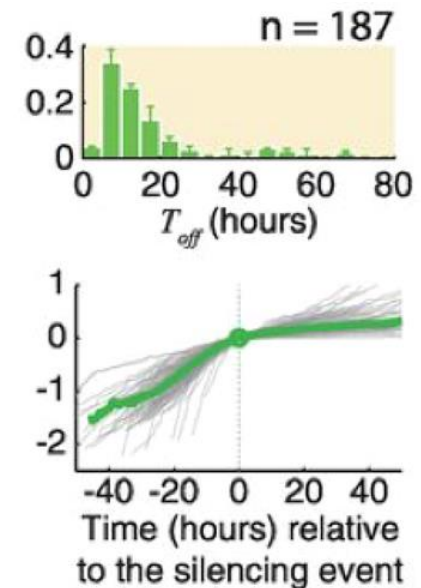
KRAB
(H3K9 tri-methylation)



DNMT3B
(DNA methylation)

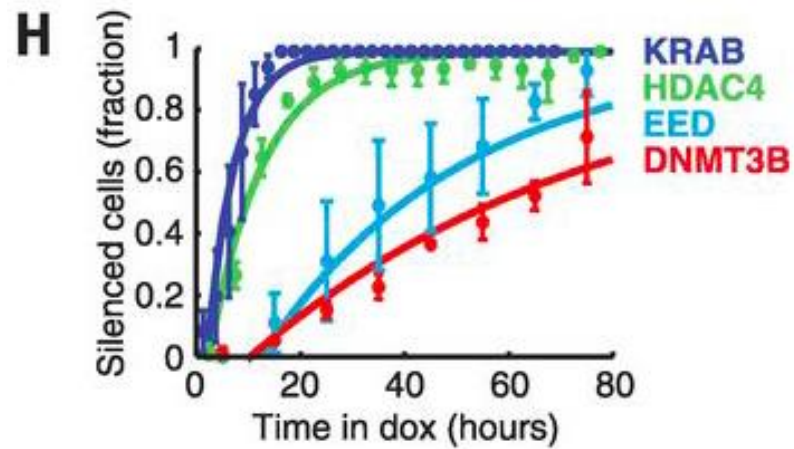
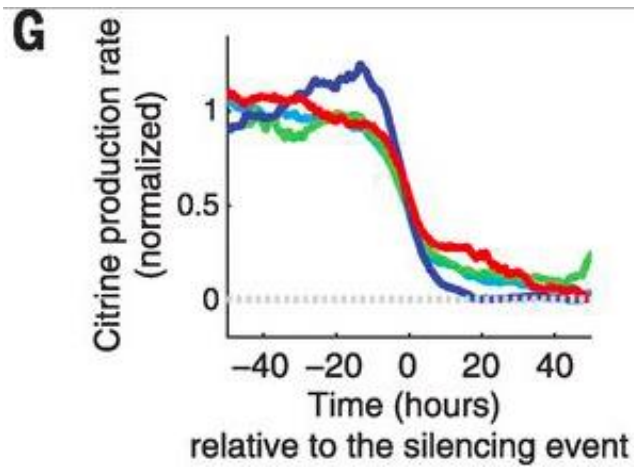


HDAC4
(Histone deacetylation)

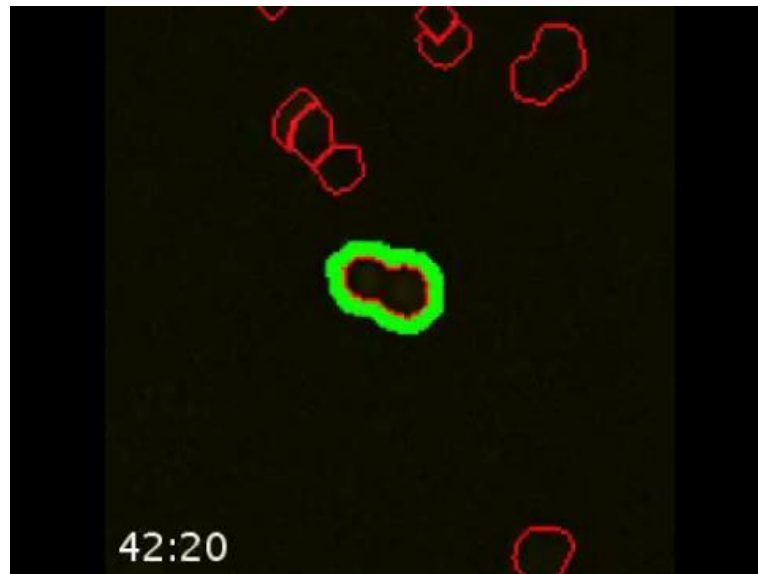


#1 Time-Lapse Analysis of CR silencing

EED (H3K27 tri-methylation) **KRAB** (H3K9 tri-methylation) **DNMT3B** (DNA methylation) **HDAC4** (Histone deacetylation)

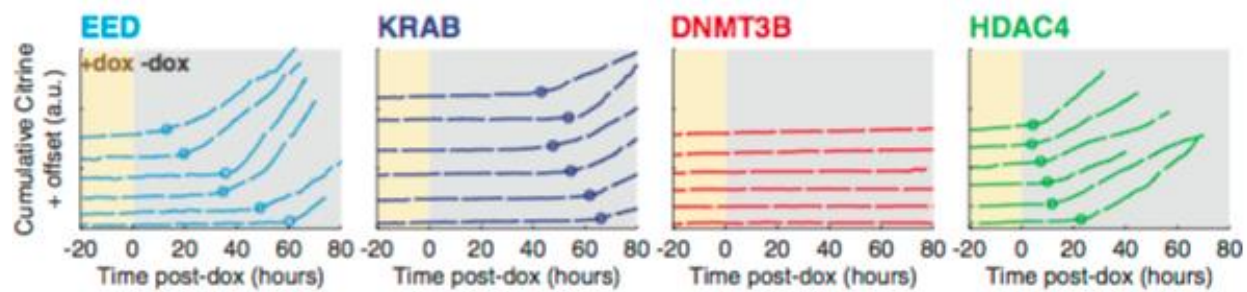


#2 Effect on epigenetic memory by terminating CR recruitment

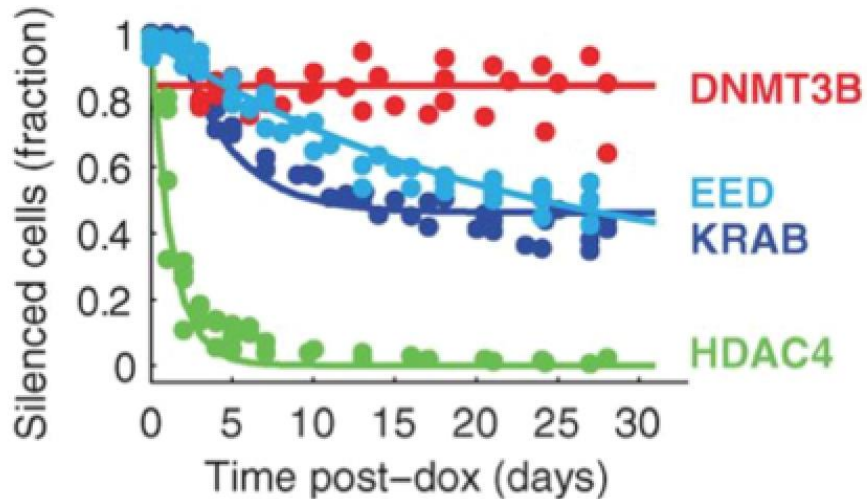


Time lapse microscopy of reactivation (EED)

#2 Effect on epigenetic memory by terminating CR recruitment



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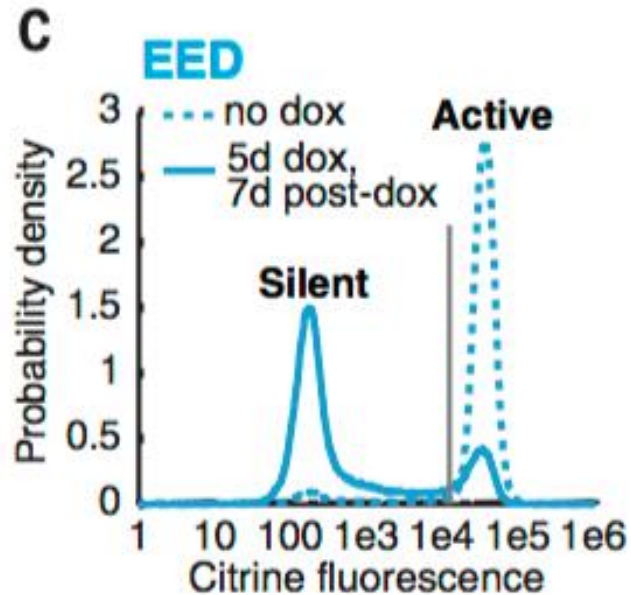


DNMT3B: **Long** term memory. No Reactivation.

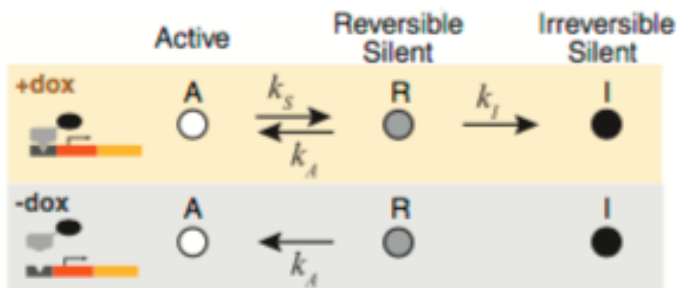
EED & KRAB: **Hybrid** memory. A fraction reactivated (2-3 weeks).

HDAC4: **Short** term memory. Reactivated (5 days).

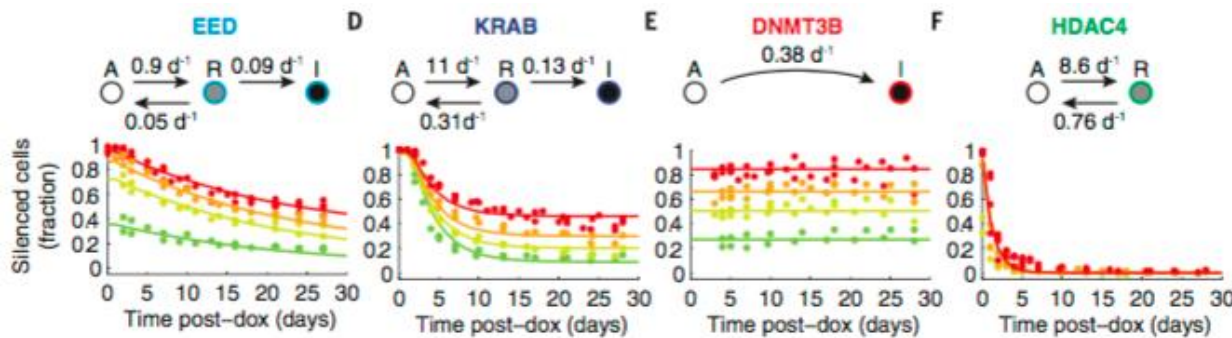
#2 Effect on epigenetic memory by terminating CR recruitment



#3 Hybrid State: 3 State Model



Hypothesis: Longer durations of recruitment will result in a larger fraction of irreversibly (I) silenced cells (cells silent after 30 days).



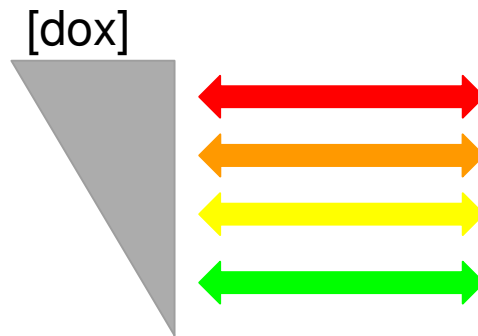
Hypothesis confirmed.

Days of recruitment:

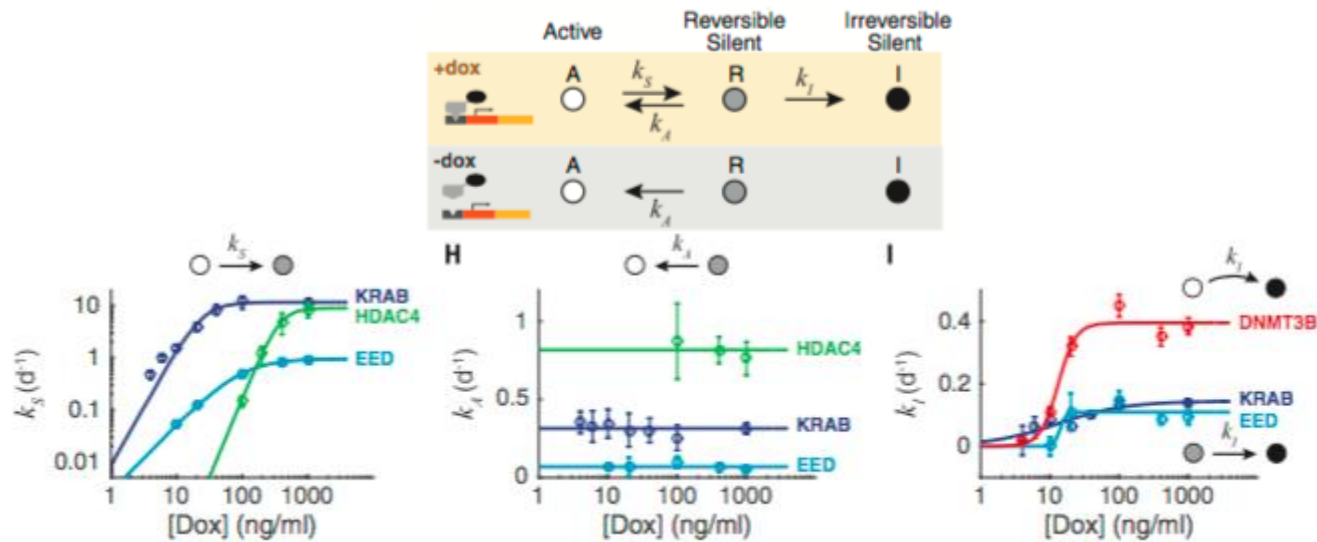
5 days 3 days 2 days, 1 day

#3 Recruitment strength on silencing dynamics and epigenetic memory

Analyzed the effects varying dox concentrations on fraction of cell silenced and rates.

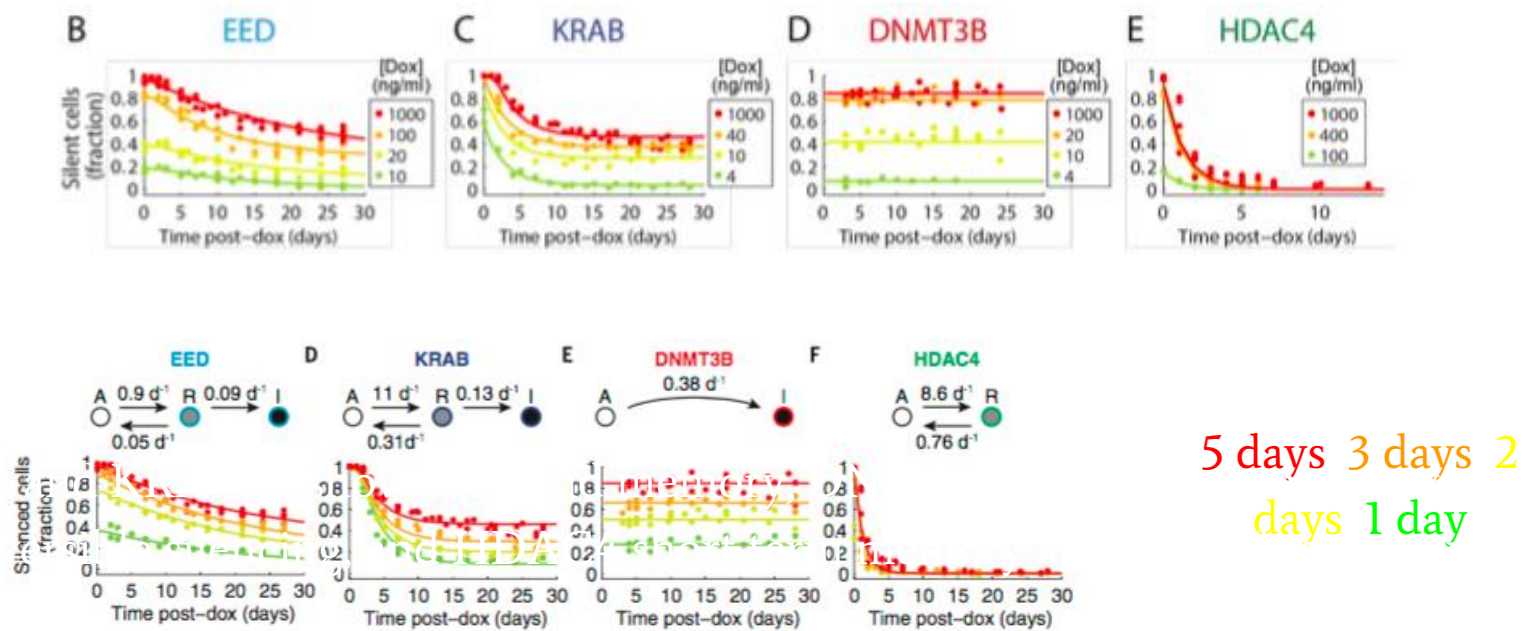


#3 Recruitment strength on silencing dynamics and epigenetic memory



Recruitment strength ([dox]) modulated silencing rates but not the reactivation rates. Reactivation rates only depended on type of CR.

#3 Recruitment strength on silencing dynamics and epigenetic memory



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Conclusions

- Chromatin regulators can be mathematically model through a three-state model with **active**, **reversible**, and **irreversible silent**
- These different kinetic signatures lead to distinct control modes both in **strength** and **duration** of silencing
- Silencing strength is not reflected by the graded levels of gene expression of the cell; rather silencing alters gene expression in an **all-or-none stochastic** fashion which can be characterized by the fraction of cells silenced

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Next Steps + Future Directions

Important to develop underlying molecular states and biochemical processes for each CR

Critical to account for:

- promoter architecture

- chromatin state of the locus

- Specific set of chromatin regulatory components expressed in different cell types

Findings enable building of synthetic circuits that take advantage of each CRs effect on temporal control and memory capabilities