Identification of cellular context sensitive regulatory variation in mouse genomes

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SUMMARY

Assessment of the functional consequences of disease-associated sequence variation at non-coding regulatory elements is complicated by their high degree of context sensitivity to both the local chromatin and nuclear environments. Allelic profiling of DNA accessibility across individuals has shown that only a select minority of sequence variation affects transcription factor (TF) occupancy, yet the low sequence diversity in human populations means that no experimental assessment is available for the majority of disease-associated variants. Here we describe high-resolution *in vivo* maps of allelic DNA accessibility in liver, kidney, lung and B cells from 5 increasingly diverged strains of F1 hybrid mice. The high density of heterozygous sites in these hybrids enables precise quantification of the effect size and cell-type specificity of hundreds of thousands of variants throughout the mouse genome. We show that functional variation delineates characteristic sensitivity profiles for hundreds of TF motifs, representing nearly all important TF families. We develop a compendium of TF-specific sensitivity profiles accounting for genomic context effects. Finally, we link these maps of allelic accessibility to allelic transcript levels in the same samples. This work provides a foundation for quantitative prediction of cell-type specific effects of non-coding variation on TF activity, which will dramatically facilitate both fine-mapping and systems-level analyses of common disease-associated variation in human genomes.

MAIN TEXT INTRODUCTION

Systematic census of cis-regulatory elements using genome-wide profiling of DNA accessibility to the endonuclease deoxyribonuclease I (DNase I) has critically informed understanding of tissue-specific gene regulation¹ and the genetics of common human diseases and traits². But these maps provide only indirect evidence for the function of regulatory DNA and can not address the effects of sequence variation therein. Regulatory element function depends on both genomic and cellular context, which cannot be easily recapitulated in reporter assays³. Profiling of DNA accessibility or protein occupancy at polymorphic sites represents a genomescale approach to assessing local effects of regulatory variation in context⁴⁻⁸. However, this approach is limited by low sequence diversity in an individual human genome and the difficulty of accessing many diseaserelevant cell types. Recognition of functional human sequence variants has thus been impeded by the lack of large-scale datasets assaying function at their endogenous context in vivo.

The laboratory mouse Mus musculus and related species have long been a key model for human disease and genome function^{9,10}. Given the near-complete conservation of transcriptional regulatory machinery with humans, mouse transgenic experiments have been foundational in the understanding of human genetics and gene regulation^{11,12}. The availability of mice from divergent strains/species offers a rich trove of genetic diversity dramatically exceeding that in human populations, and with potential access to a variety of tissues and cell types. Genomic approaches have linked many of these DNA sequence changes to altered transcription factor (TF) binding^{13,14}, chromatin features^{15,16}, gene expression¹⁷⁻¹⁹, and protein levels²⁰, and further dissection of molecular traits is highly complementary to high-throughput knockout phenotyping studies^{9,21,22}.

DNase I-hypersensitive site (DHS) maps in mouse tissues show substantial divergence in regulatory DNA compared to human DHSs^{2,23}, suggesting that studies of human cis-regulatory variation can not directly incorporate analyses of orthologous mouse loci. Recent work has shown that genetic effects on chromatin features can be modeled using TF-centric analysis^{4,5}. The high conservation of trans-regulatory circuitry suggests that such a TF-centric approach might be able to leverage the power of mouse genetics for interpretation of human cis-regulatory variation.

RESULTS

Allelic analysis of DNA accessibility

We analyzed hybrid, fully heterozygous F1 mice resulting from a cross of the reference C57BL/6J with five diverged strains or species: 129S1/SvImJ, C3H/HeJ, CAST/EiJ, PWK/PhJ, and SPRET/EiJ. We mapped DHSs in four diverse cell and tissue types, including whole kidney, liver, lung, and B cells purified from femoral bone marrow (**Fig. 1a**). We selected the highest-quality samples for deep paired-end Illumina sequencing

based on fragment length distribution (**Fig. 1b**) and signal-to-noise ratio (**Supplementary Table 1**). The samples were sequenced to an average of 203M reads each, at least 2 replicates per condition (median = 3 replicates), and high signal-to-noise demonstrated by a mean Signal Portion of Tags (SPOT) score of 60% (**Supplementary Fig. 1, Supplementary Table 2**). We developed a stringent mapping procedure requiring high mappability to both the reference and a customized strain-specific genome incorporating known single nucleotide variants (SNVs) and indels²¹ (**Methods**). Replicate samples exhibited a median correlation in DNaseI cleavage density at DHSs of 0.93 (**Supplementary Fig. 2**).

We identified an average of 196,276 DHS hotspots (FDR 5%) in each condition using the program hotspot2¹, and generated master lists of DHSs for each strain/cell type combination (**Supplementary Table 2**). Hierarchical clustering showed that samples clustered by cell or tissue type, rather than by strain (**Fig. 1c**), suggesting that additional strains provide access to novel genetic diversity while demonstrating consistent cell-type specific regulatory landscapes.

To identify sites of allelic imbalance indicative of genetic differences affecting DNA accessibility, we developed a custom pipeline to filter and count reads mapping to each allele at known point variants in DHSs (Methods). The majority of SNVs were testable in only a single strain or cell/tissue type, suggesting that additional profiling is likely to yield further insights (Fig. 1d-e). We used a beta binomial test to determine statistically significant imbalance. We applied multiple testing correction and set a significance threshold of 10% false discovery rate (FDR) and additionally required a strong magnitude of imbalance (>70% of reads mapping to one allele). Plotting the distribution of allelic ratios confirmed that our mapping strategy was not biased towards the reference allele (Supplementary Fig. 3). By pooling reads from multiple samples, we assessed imbalance on aggregate, per-cell type, per-strain, and per-sample bases (Fig. 1f). We identified a total of 13,835 strongly imbalanced SNVs out of 357,303 SNVs tested when aggregating across all samples. The high density of variation meant that nearly all DHSs in a given cell or tissue type harbored at least one SNV, and we were able to test for imbalance at an SNV in an median of 27% DHSs per cell or tissue type (Fig. 1g). The more highly diverged strains contributed substantially more variants tested with only a modest reduction in mappability rate (Fig. 1g). Full coverage of DHSs was limited primarily by sequencing depth, suggesting that additional sequencing would yield additional power. Imbalance was less frequent at highly accessible DHSs (Supplementary Fig. 4-5), consistent with previous observation of buffering of point variants at strong sites^{4,5}.

In the F1 offspring of an inbred cross, each variant on a given chromosome is in perfect linkage. Thus we considered the power of our approach to detect focal alteration of individual DHSs rather than coordinately altered chromatin accessibility. By examining the co-occurrence of imbalance of nearby variants, we found that allelic ratios of nearby sites were strongly correlated only at distances less than 250 bp, well below the

median width of a DHS hotspot (**Fig. 1h**). This suggests that our approach offers high resolution to identify sequence variation leading to local effects on chromatin state.

Cellular context sensitivity

We broke down SNVs into those resulting in a gain or loss of accessibility based on whether accessibility is imbalanced in the direction of the reference (C56BL/6J) or the non-reference allele (**Fig. 2a**). We then assessed the cell-type activity patterns of encompassing DHSs at imbalanced sites within the context of other cell and tissue types studied by the ENCODE project²³, including 39 diverse cell and tissue types, but excluding liver, lung, kidney, and B cells. Both sets of imbalanced sites showed increased cell-type selectivity with respect to SNVs that had no effect on accessibility. But nearly half of the gained sites had evidence for a DHS in another cell or tissue type, a 3-fold enrichment compared to a background set of mappable SNVs in inaccessible DNA and thus not tested for imbalance (Methods). This suggests that, point changes affecting accessibility act more frequently by broadening DNA accessibility at sites with preexisting activity, rather than wholesale evolution of novel regulatory DNA. This cell-type specific gain of DHSs drew broadly on DHSs from other lineages, and while co-option showed preference for related cell types, the strongest single predictor was simply that the DHS be cell-type specific (**Fig. 2e**).

We then examined the cell-type activity of imbalance itself. We were able to test for imbalance per cell type (combining data from different strains) at an average of 196,276 SNVs per cell type (**Table 1**). We identified clear examples of strong imbalance across multiple strains that was specific to a particular cell type (**Fig. 3a**). Cell-type specific imbalance in one DHS was associated with coordinate changes in morphology at multiple nearby DHSs (**Fig. 3a**). Overall, however, we identified a higher degree of sharing of imbalance between samples of the same cell type than from the same strain or unrelated samples (**Fig. 3b**). Pairwise comparison of different cell types showed an average of 63% sharing of imbalance sites (1- π_0), suggesting a high prevalence of genetic effects demonstrating cell-type context sensitivity (**Fig. 3c**).

TF-centric analysis of variation

We then asked to what extent variation affecting DNA accessibility overall was linked to direct perturbation of sequence-specific TF activity. To analyze the effect of sequence variation on TF activity, we scanned the mouse reference and strain-specific genomes using motif models for 2,203 TFs⁴. We found that while only a small fraction of imbalanced variation overlapped a recognition sequence for any individual TF, 61% of variation overlapped stringent motif matches (FIMO P < 10⁻⁵) when considering all known TFs (**Fig. 4a**). Imbalanced SNVs were found more frequently at sites of DNase I footprints, contingent on the presence of a recognizable TF recognition sequence (**Fig. 4b**). We found that aggregate imbalance was concentrated over the core positions of the motif for many key TFs (**Fig. 4c**). We found that by and large, TF sensitivity profiles were similar between human and mouse, although some factors such as HNF1A showed significant enrichment only in the mouse data (Fig. 4d).

To investigate cell-type specific TF activity, we repeated this analysis using cell-type specific imbalance calls. DNase I footprints (**Fig. 5a**). We found that distinct TF families presented varying cell-type specific patterns of enrichment of imbalanced SNVs over their motifs (**Fig. 5b**). For example, ETS factors showed highest enrichment in B cells, and JDP2 (AP-1) only showed enrichment in lung (**Fig. 5c-d**). In both cases, no enrichment is evidence when data are aggregate across multiple cell and tissue types. Other factors showed patterns of enrichment across a subset of cell types: HNF factors showed peak enrichment in liver and kidney, while CEBP showed enrichment in lung and liver (**Fig. 5e-f**). These results suggest that cell-type specific identification of imbalanced variants can yield more accurate assessment of TF activity than aggregate analyses across multiple cell types.

To facilitate recognition of sequence variation affecting DNA accessibility in the mouse and human genomes, we incorporated the mouse data into our Contextual Analysis of Transcription factor Occupancy (CATO) scoring approach⁴. CATO trains a logistic regression model for each TF motif on a variety of genomic annotations and TF-centric parameters. By standardizing genomic annotations between human and mouse, we directly incorporated both data sets (**Fig. 6a**). Combining the mouse and human data yielded a dramatic increase in TF families with sufficient variation (**Supplementary Table 4**). In addition to the inherent cell-type selectivity of DHS tracks, we incorporated per-cell type imbalance data in two ways (Methods): (i) TF models were trained on the subset of mouse cell types demonstrating enrichment of imbalanced SNVs over the recognition sequence (**Fig. 6b**); and (ii) a sparse generalized linear model was trained to establish cell-type specific weights for the contribution of each TF model to the overall score (**Fig. 6c**). The cell-type specific models showed increased predictive performance using precision-recall analysis (**Fig. 6d**).

Allelic effects on transcript levels

The activity of distal regulatory elements is compartmentalized and shows highly specific interactions with certain genes²⁴. To examine the effect of altered accessibility on steady state transcript levels, we performed RNA-seq in a subset of matching samples. We analyzed allelic expression measured by RNA-seq using a similar pipeline to that used for the DNase-seq data (Methods). We then compared allelic accessibility at DHSs to allelic transcript levels linked to transcription start sites (TSS) within 500 kbp. We detected a maximum correlation (*R* between 0.1 and 0.2) within 10 kbp of the TSS, slightly higher downstream than upstream (**Fig. 7**). While this correlation decreased with distance, correlation was detectable at distances up to 100 kb surrounding the TSS, suggesting that long-distance interactions between distal accessible sites and genes are common genome-wide and are amenable to analyses using the resources and approach we have described herein.

DISCUSSION

Our work shows that most differences in DNA accessibility among diverged mouse genomes can be attributed to direct perturbation of TF recognition sites. Past reports have differed on the degree of allelic occupancy that can be linked to point changes in TF recognition sequence, ranging from 9% for NF-kB¹³ to 85% for CTCF⁵. Yet, studies of a single TF are confounded by the possibility that changes in the recognition sequence of one TF may perturb nearby binding of other factors. By analyzing a broad set of TFs with known sequence specificities, we identify that a large proportion of imbalance can be linked to TF activity (**Fig. 4a**). We expect that the enrichment of imbalanced SNVs in TF motifs observed in **Fig. 3c** reflects both the role of cooperative binding and the accuracy of binding site recognition for individual TFs. Given the challenge of obtaining TF-specific occupancy data for all factors expressed in a given cell type, we expect that improved recognition of in vivo occupied TF binding sites from DNase I footprinting data²⁵ will be the most fruitful way to obtain further improvements in prediction performance.

Given that only a select minority of SNVs affect TF binding in a given cell type, additional large-scale analyses of TF sensitivity to sequence variation in context are needed to accurately assess functional noncoding variation. Our approach for genetic analysis of regulatory variation overcomes the low density of polymorphism in human populations. Importantly, we show that highly diverged mouse strains (including CAST/EiJ, PWK/PhJ, SPRET/EiJ) can be mapped and analyzed effectively. Our pan-species TF-centric analysis of genomic variation overcomes the low sequence conservation of the regulatory landscape²³ by obviating the need for direct analysis of human regulatory variants at the mouse locus, and enables scalable prediction of previously unseen variation. This approach enables ready access to a variety of cell and tissue types²⁶ and genetic variation²⁰ difficult to access in humans. The present work required only 14% of the samples and half the sequencing depth and yielded two orders of magnitude more SNVs tested cell-type specific imbalance (avg. = 1,619 SNVs per cell type⁴ vs. 136,059 SNVs here) compared to our past work in human⁴. Although we detect examples of drastic changes to the regulatory landscape, including wholesale creation of DHSs where none were detectable in a broad panel of reference samples, nearly half of gained DHSs represented cooption of activity at an existing DHS for a new cell or tissue type.

A key difference between the human and mouse analyses is thus the ability to assess variation without aggregating data across multiple cell or tissue types, which we show can mask context-sensitive variation. The high rate of imbalance in highly cell-type specific DHSs underscores the importance of high sequencing depth across a full spectrum of cell types and suggests that rapid and efficient generation of additional profiling data in novel cell and tissue types from these strains will efficiently increase the power of TF-centric models to recognize functional variation. While our present CATO modeling approach requires cell-type specific varia-

tion data to train TF weights, it is possible that inference of TF weights from other, more readily available information such as measurements of TF expression and activity will be possible.

We observed modest correlation between allelic accessibility and allelic transcript levels. Much as the majority of point variants are buffered in terms of their effect on local chromatin features⁵, enhancer networks controlling gene expression likely demonstrate a high degree of redundancy^{24,27}. It is likely that further exploitation of mouse genetics will provide the substrate for more complex models of enhancer-promoter interaction.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

R.B., J.M.H., and M.T.M. performed experiments. M.A.B. and M.G. supervised mouse work. M.T.M. analyzed data. M.T.M. and J.A.S. wrote the manuscript.

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METHODS

Mouse husbandry

The mice used in this study were F1 hybrids of C57Bl/6J reference females with wild-derived strains 129/SvImJ (B6x129), C3H/HeJ (B6xC3H), CAST/EiJ, (B6xCAST), PWK/PhJ (B6xPWK), and SPRET/EiJ (B6xSPRET). 129/SvImJ and C3H/HeJ hybrid females were acquired from the Jackson Laboratory (8 week old, housed 4/cage). CAST/EiJ, PWK/PhJ, SPRET/EiJ inbred males were acquired from the Jackson Laboratory and were bred C57Bl/6J female mice at FHCRC. Mice were maintained on a 12-h light, 12-h dark schedule with lights turned on at 7 a.m. The housing room was maintained at 20–24 °C with 30–70% relative humidity. Mice were housed in individually ventilated cages (Allentown) with 75 square inches of floor space and 60 air changes/hour. Biofresh cage bedding was (Absortion Corp) at 1/8 inch depth and autoclaved on site. Water and Purina 5053 (irradiated) were available *ad libitum*. Nestlet material (Envigo's diamond twist 7979C, also irradiated) were present in each cage for enrichment. Autoclavable certified igloos (Bio-serv) were provided in some cages. Mice were housed in a barrier facility that is AAALAC accredited. Mice were sacrificed at 8 wks of age by CO2 asphyxiation All work was approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the FHCRC.

Nuclei isolation from mouse tissues

Solid mouse tissues were typically obtained from 4 mice sacrificed together with their tissues pooled. Whole liver (all lobes), both kidneys and all lobes of the lungs were rapidly dissected. Tissues were minced in 2 mm square pieces and resuspended in 5 mL of homogenization buffer (20 mM tricine, 25 mM D-sucrose, 15 mM NaCl, 60 mM KCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 mM spermidine, pH 7.8) per tissue. Nuclei were released using 5-10 strokes in a Dounce homogenizer with a loose-fitting type-A pestle and the resulting homogenate was filtered through a 120µm filter. Samples were returned to the Dounce for 5-10 strokes with a tight-fitting type-B pestle, and filtered using a 40 um mesh filter. 5 mL of homogenate was mixed with 3 mL of 50% Optiprep solution and layered onto a 4 mL 25% - 1 mL 35% two-step Optiprep gradient and centrifuged for 20 min at 6100 x g in a swinging bucket rotor. The nuclei pellet was washed once in 10 mL of buffer A (15 mM Tris-HCl, 15 mM NaCl, 60 mM KCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM EGTA, 0.5 mM spermidine) and resuspended at concentration of 2 x 10⁶ per mL.

Marrow was obtained from femurs of 8 week old female mice. B cells were isolated using an AutoMACS (Miltenyi Biotech) to deplete CD43 and Mac-1/CD11b markers. Cells were washed once with Dulbecco's PBS (without MgCl₂ or CaCl₂). Nuclei were extracted by resuspending cells in buffer A supplemented with 0.015% detergent (IGEPAL-CA630) (Sigma) and incubating for 5-10 minutes on ice. Following incubation, the nuclei were collected by centrifugation (600 x g) and resuspended in buffer A at a concentration of 2 x 10⁶ nuclei per mL.

DNase I digestion of mouse nuclei

Fresh nuclei were incubated for 3 minutes at 37°C with limiting concentrations of the DNA endonuclease deoxyribonuclease I (DNase I) (Sigma) in buffer A supplemented with Ca²⁺. The digestion was stopped with 5X stop buffer (125 mM Tris-HCl, 250 mM NaCl, 0.25% SDS, 250 mM EDTA, 1 mM spermidine, 0.3 spermine, pH 8.0) and the samples were treated with proteinase K and RNase A. The small 'double-hit' fragments (<250 bp) were recovered by sucrose ultracentrifugation, end-repaired and ligated with adapters compatible with the Illumina sequencing platform. Libraries were amplified using minimal PCR cycles based on a trial qPCR amplification (8-16 cycles). A detailed protocol describing genome-wide mapping of DNase I hypersensitivity can found in ²⁸. Libraries from DNase I-treated DNA were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 by the High-Throughput Genomics Center (University of Washington) in paired-end 36 bp mode.

Short read mapping

Short reads were first trimmed to remove low-quality sequence or adapter contamination using the trimmomatic tool²⁹ with parameters 'TOPHRED33 ILLUMINACLIP: TruSeq3-PE-2.fa:2:5:5:1:true MAXINFO:27:0.95 TRAILING:20 MINLEN:27'.

To reduce potential reference mapping bias, custom strain-specific genomes were created using vcf2diploid³⁰ to incorporate known²¹ point variants and insertions or deletions (REL-1505-SNPs_Indels / version 5). Chain files were created for use with the UCSC liftOver tool to enable genomic coordinate conversion between the reference and strain-specific genomes. Genomes included unscaffolded contigs and alternate sequences but not the Y chromosome.

Reads were mapped using Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA) to both the mouse reference assembly (GRCm38 / mm10) and the appropriate strain-specific genome with the command 'bwa aln -n 0.04 -l 32 - t 2 -Y'³¹. Alignments were post-processed with a custom Python script using pysam (https://github.com/pysam-developers/pysam) to retain only properly-paired or single-end reads mapping uniquely to the autosomes and chrX with a mapping quality of at least 20. Paired end reads were required to have an inferred template length of less than 500 bp. Duplicate reads were flagged on a per-library basis using Samblaster³². Mapped tags were converted to BED format using awk and bedops³³. DNase I hypersensitive sites were identified using hotspot2³⁴. Reference mm10 coordinates were used for all analyses except for read counting (which additionally relied on the strain-specific mappings).

Assessment of allelic imbalance

At each known point variant overlapping a DNase hotspot, reads were extracted from DNase-seq alignments using a custom Python script and pysam. The liftOver tool was used with the chain file generated by vcf2diploid to map variant coordinates from mm10 to each strain-specific genome. Reads were required to map uniquely to both mm10 and the strain-specific reference with the same mapping quality and template

length. We excluded 3 bp at the 5' end of the read to exclude any possibility of sequence-specific DNase I cut rate³⁵. Only reads with a base quality >20 at the variant position were counted. Read pairs overlapping a variant were counted once. 2 additional mismatches were permitted besides the known variant. Duplicate reads passing all filters with the same 5' position on the reference were excluded (independent of the SAM duplicate flag). Variants lying within 72 bp of a known insertion or deletion or with $\leq 60\%$ of total overlapping reads passing filters were excluded from further analysis.

To minimized possible mapping bias, we generated a mappability track by mapping simulated 36-bp pairedend reads with up to 125 bp-fragment length overlapping known SNPs and including no sequencing errors. Simulated reads were mapped back to both the reference and strain-specific genomes and filtered using the approach described above. SNVs having $\leq 95\%$ of simulated reads mappable were filtered out.

A background set of SNVs not tested for imbalance was identified as all mappable SNVs not overlapping a DHS in the master list or any individual condition.

Allele counts from all samples were aggregated into a single matrix and analyzed separately for per-sample, per-strain, and per-cell type imbalance. Only SNVs with at least 30 reads in one condition were retained. To account for variable sequencing depth and enrichment, we fit a beta binomial distribution for each condition using sites with >100 reads and computed *P* values against an expected 50% of reads mapping to each allele. We accounted for multiple testing using a false discovery rate (FDR) cutoff of 10% using the R package qvalue³⁶. Aggregate imbalance analyses used sums of per-cell type counts.

Motif analysis

We scanned the reference and all strain-specific genomes using the program FIMO³⁷ with TF motifs and TF clusters as in ⁴. Strain-specific motif matches were converted to mm10 coordinates using liftOver, and a non-redundant list of motif matches per-strain was created from the union of both sets.

We analyzed the intersection of SNVs tested for imbalance with these motifs. We considered motifs with a median of \geq 40 SNPs per position in the motif and \geq 3 positions with \geq 7 significant SNPs; positions with <7 SNPs were considered missing data. For SNPs overlapping multiple matches to the same motif, we chose the best motif instance per SNP on the basis of FIMO *P* value.

Genomic annotation

SNVs were annotated accordingly:

• Cell-type activity spectrum MCV (multi-cell verified) was computed from a set of 45 representative samples from Mouse ENCODE selected through hierarchical clustering analysis. A master list³⁸ was generated from these samples and MCV was scaled to 0-1 by dividing by 45.

- Footprints on mouse and human samples were called using FTD³⁹.
- RefSeq Genes and CpG Islands were downloaded from the UCSC genome browser.

Human SNPs were annotated as in ⁴. Quantitative mouse annotations were scaled by the ratio of the mean annotation value at SNPs in mouse vs. human. Parameters were standardized to have a mean of 0 and standard deviation of 1.

CATO scores.

We generated CATO models on the combined human and mouse data as in ⁴ with several modifications. First, we trained a logistic model for the genomic annotations at each SNV using the glm() function in R:

significant ~ MCV² + intron + intergenic + log(Dist. to TSS)² + DHS strength² + log(Width of DHS) + Footprint presence + #nearby binding sites² + PhastCons

Then, we trained a second glm() logistic model for each TF which incorporated the global per-SNV score as parameter. Imbalance was analyzed per-cell type for the mouse data and cell types demonstrating log enrichment >1 of imbalanced SNVs over the recognition sequence.

significant ~ global.fit + log(score)^2 + logodds difference + \mathbf{x}_2 + ... + \mathbf{x}_n

Finally, we combined scores from individual TF models at each SNV using the GLMnet⁴⁰ package to train a sparse GLM using the lasso penalty and 50-fold cross-validation with performance measured by AUC. To score human point variants, annotation values were computed and standardized as before and CATO scores were computed using the R function predict(type="response").

Generation and analysis of RNA-seq data.

Total RNA was isolated using the mirVana miRNA Isolation Kit with phenol (AM1560). Spike-in controls were mixed in (Ambion-ERCC Mix, Cat no. 4456740) and Illumina sequencing libraries were made using the RNA TruSeq Stranded total RNA (Illumina). Libraries were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 or NextSeq by the High-Throughput Genomics Center (University of Washington) in paired-end 36 bp or 76 bp modes. Previously published data for kidney, liver, and lung B6xCAST¹⁸ were downloaded from the SRA.

Reads were mapped to the mm10 reference and strain-specific genomes in parallel using STAR⁴¹. Counts from all non-exonic SNVs overlapping a given Gencode M10 basic level 1 and 2 protein-coding transcript were aggregated. SNVs were analyzed using same allele counting pipeline as for DNase data. We assessed allelic imbalance using a beta binomial model fit at SNVs with >100 reads. We accounted for multiple testing using a false discovery rate (FDR) cutoff of 10% using the R package qvalue³⁶ and additionally required >60% of reads to map to one allele. Counts were aggregated for all samples per cell type and per-DHS

hotspot. A minimum of 50 total reads per transcript were required. RNA-seq imbalance data were then overlapped with per-sample DHS imbalance data.

FIGURES



Fig. 1. Allelic analysis of DNA accessibility in hybrid mice from diverged strains.

a. Overall schematic of experiment **b**. Example DNase-seq profiles at Pparg locus in liver, kidney, lung tissue and B cells from F1 offspring of C57Bl/6J x 129/SvImJ and CAST/EiJ crosses. **c**. Fragment length distribution of samples showing high-quality libraries comprising non-nucleosomal fragments. **d**. Hierarchical clustering of DHSs from high-depth samples. **e**.-**f**. Counts of SNVs shared across strains (**e**) and cell types (**f**). **g**. Counts of imbalanced SNVs (FDR 10%). Counts are reported in aggregate across all data sets (left), by cell type (middle), and by parental strain (right). **h**. Summary of master list of DHSs overlapping SNVs from all strains. Counts include all DHSs (dark gray), DHSs with SNVs (light gray), DHSs passing mappability filters (orange), DHSs with sufficient coverage to test for imbalance across all data sets (green) and in individual cell types or strains (blue). Counts include only autosomal DHSs. **i**. Pearson correlation of allelic ratios at adjacent SNVs broken down by distance to next SNV. Dashed line represents the median width of DHS hotspots overlapping SNVs in this study.



Fig. 2. Predetermination of sites of new regulatory DNA

a. Cumulative density distribution of cell-type activity of DHSs measured across 39 Mouse ENCODE DNase-seq samples²³ in reference C57BL/6 mice at gained and lost DHSs. Not tested refers to the set of mappable SNVs not in DHSs for Liver, Kidney, Lung or B cells and therefore not tested for imbalance.

b. Proportion of imbalanced SNVs from a given cell/tissue type that overlap DHSs across mouse ENCODE cell and tissue types. Developmental timepoints for some samples are indicated in parenthesis (E, embryonic day; P, postpartum, W; adult week).



Fig. 3. Cross-cell type analysis of allelic variation in DNA accessibility.

a. Example DHSs showing cell-type specific imbalance. Normalized DNaseI cleavage density is colored by signal mapping to reference (blue) and non-reference (red) alleles based on the aggregation of informative SNVs. Counts above peaks denote sum of reads for all SNVs in region mapping to reference and non-reference alleles. TF recognition sequences overlapping imbalanced SNVs are highlighted below.

b-c. Sharing of imbalance by cell type. $1 - \pi_0$ represents the proportion of rejected null hypotheses by Storey's method.

b. Average sharing of imbalance $(1 - \pi_0)$ between samples of same strain or cell type. Bar height represents average of all pairwise comparisons. Error bars represent standard deviation.

c. Pairwise sharing of imbalance between all cell or tissue types.



Fig. 4. Analysis of variation affecting TF activity.

a. Overlap of imbalanced SNVs with matches to TF motifs from different large-scale collections.

b. Frequency of aggregate imbalance at SNVs overlapping TF motifs from a large-scale SELEX-seq database⁴² and DNase I footprints aggregated across all cell types.

c. Enrichment of imbalanced SNVs within TF recognition sequences by TF family. Shown are families with at least one enriched motif.

d. TF profiles for NFIX, CTCF and HNF1A. Shown for comparison are profiles generated from published analysis in human⁴.



Fig. 5. Cellular context sensitive analysis of variation affecting TF activity.

a. Enrichment of imbalance called in each cell type for overlap with DNase I footprints in matching cell type (green) or in other cell types (blue).

b. Cell-type specific enrichment of SNVs in motif for TFs. Shown are TF families with greater than twofold enrichment in at least one cell type.

c-e. Analysis of variation affecting TF activity across cell/tissue type for ETV4, JDFP2, HNF1A, and CEBPG motifs.



Fig. 6. Cell-type specific prediction of variation affecting TF activity.

a. CATO2 strategy for cell-type specific scoring of regulatory variation.

b. Number of mouse cell-types used for each TF model; all TF models included human data.

c. Number of unique TF clusters with non-zero coefficients in aggregate and cell-type specific CATO2 scores. TFs shared with the aggregate model are highlighted in blue.

d. Area under precision-recall curves (full curves shown in **Supplementary Fig. 6**) showing performance to predict imbalanced polymorphism on SNVs tested for imbalance in individual cell types.



Fig. 7. Imbalanced accessibility and transcript levels.

Pearson correlation in allelic ratios between SNVs in DHSs and transcript levels broken down by distance to transcription start site (TSS). All pairs of DHSs and TSSs within 500 kb are considered. Grey indicates that DHS lies downstream of TSS.

TABLES

Table 1. Summary of SNVs tested for imbalance per cell type/strain.

Shown are counts for variants which were tested for imbalance in the per-sample, per-cell type and per-strain analyses. Imbalanced variants are shown for the per-cell type analysis in the bottom row.

Strain / Cell type	Liver	Kidney	Lung	B cell	All cells/tissues
B6x129	28,527	11,353	11,262	11,423	52,400
B6xC3H	22,526	12,423	3,932	4,481	37,915
B6xCAST	78,740	37,576	92,128	45,777	215,629
B6xPWK	37,819	34,325	23,285	5,880	103,441
B6xSPRET	45,858	11,100	16,995	29,439	113,398
All hybrids	187,307	110,643	151,818	94,469	357,303
Imbalanced	4,490	4,147	5,037	4,230	13,835

Supplemental material for:

Cellular context-sensitive regulatory variation in the mouse genome

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SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES

Supplementary Fig. 1. Fragment length distributions of DNase-seq data. Shown are samples passing all QC filters.

Supplementary Fig. 2. DNase-seq data replicate concordance.

Average pairwise replicate concordance for each cell/tissue type and strain. Y-axis measures the average pairwise Pearson correlation between replicates of DNase cleavage density in hotspots.

Supplementary Fig. 3. Summary of allelic imbalance analysis.

a. Distribution of allelic ratio for actual data compared to data simulated from binomial and beta-binomial distributions.

b-d. Distribution of allelic ratios for aggregate (c), per-cell type (d), or per-strain (d) analyses.

e. Counts of SNVs tested for imbalance (blue) and significantly imbalanced SNVs (red, FDR 10%). Counts are reported in aggregate across all data sets (left), by cell type (middle), and by parental strain (right).

Supplementary Fig. 4. Imbalance versus read depth and number of samples.

a. Frequency of imbalance by total reads for that SNV across all samples.

b-d. Frequency of imbalance by the number of cell/tissue types (b), strains (c), or samples (d) that a SNV was measured in.

Supplementary Fig. 5. Rates of imbalance for various genomic features.

Frequency of imbalance relative to genic sequence (a), distance to transcription start site (TSS) (b), phylogenetic conservation (PhastCons) (c), DHS strength (d), DHS hotspot width (e), and number of nearby TFBS in footprints (f).

Aggregate — Cell-type specific (TF weights) — Cell-type specific (full)

Supplementary Fig. 6. Assessment of CATO2 prediction of regulatory variation affecting TF activity.

Precision-recall curves showing performance to predict imbalanced polymorphism. Shown are SNVs tested for imbalance in individual cell types. Solid lines represent performance of models trained using glmnet package to have cell-type specific weights for relevant TFs. Gray lines represent performance of a random classifier based on the proportion of true positives in dataset.

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

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Supplementary Table 1. Summary of DNase I samples in this study.

Uniquely mapped reads mapped were required to pass all mapping filters. Nonredundant reads exclude PCR duplicates. Read counts are in millions. Signal Portion of Tags (SPOT) scores are a measure of enrichment and refer to the proportion of reads mapping within DHS; SPOT scores are reported from hotspot V1.

Strain	Cell/tissue type	Sample ID	Sequenced reads	Uniquely mapped reads	Nonredundant reads	SPOT
B6x129	B cell	DS33334	175	112	100	0.51
B6x129	B cell	DS33340	395	250	215	0.40
B6x129	B cell	DS33342	50	37	32	0.38
B6x129	Kidney	DS32758	176	129	121	0.76
B6x129	Kidney	DS32759	104	53	50	0.77
B6x129	Liver	DS32752	444	258	239	0.70
B6x129	Liver	DS32753	656	412	378	0.67
B6x129	Lung	DS32746	165	103	93	0.61
B6x129	Lung	DS32747	404	225	205	0.66
B6xC3H	B cell	DS34563	10	5	2	0.81
B6xC3H	B cell	DS34565	70	36	32	0.48
B6xC3H	B cell	DS34569	9	4	2	0.76
B6xC3H	B cell	DS38898	105	55	44	0.31
B6xC3H	B cell	DS38899	126	64	53	0.36
B6xC3H	B cell	D\$38900	151	68	58	0.45
BoxCoH	Kidney	D\$33566	211	116	105	0.65
BoxCoH	Kidney	D\$33567	54	/	/	0.81
BoxC3H BGC2H	Kidney	D\$33568	154	104	95	0.46
DOXCOH DOXCOH	Kidney	D538819	33 247	15	12	0.81
DOXCOH RevC2U	Liver	D\$33500	247	108	270	0.71
B0xC3H B6xC3H	Liver	DS35501	400	26	279	0.70
B6xC3U	Liver	DS33554	178	30 84	33 68	0.39
B6xC3U	Lung	D\$39911	131	71	63	0.50
B6xC3H	Lung	D\$38812	151	81	66	0.09
B6xCAST	B cell	D\$35078	459	224	203	0.30
B6xCAST	B cell	D\$35986	41	26	23	0.58
B6xCAST	B cell	D\$35992	63	31	28	0.50
B6xCAST	B cell	DS35993	303	163	141	0.71
B6xCAST	Kidney	DS35927	75	30	25	0.49
B6xCAST	Kidney	DS36776	279	143	129	0.48
B6xCAST	Kidney	DS36777	138	73	65	0.49
B6xCAST	Kidney	DS36778	378	207	186	0.46
B6xCAST	Liver	DS35877	278	170	154	0.69
B6xCAST	Liver	DS35884	137	89	77	0.57
B6xCAST	Liver	DS35889	77	33	30	0.86
B6xCAST	Liver	DS35890	230	122	112	0.74
B6xCAST	Liver	DS36784	15	6	5	0.76
B6xCAST	Liver	DS36791	82	40	34	0.61
B6xCAST	Lung	DS35897	84	50	44	0.48
B6xCAST	Lung	DS35898	705	423	378	0.59
B6xCAST	Lung	DS35909	259	112	94	0.45
B6xCAST	Lung	DS35910	62	33	20	0.55
B6xCAST	Lung	DS36795	24	8	7	0.44
B6xPWK	B cell	DS36869	358	189	164	0.53
B6xPWK	B cell	DS36870	24	14	12	0.46
B6xPWK	B cell	DS36871	407	232	201	0.59
B6xPWK	Kidney	DS36635	279	161	147	0.60
B6xPWK	Kidney	D\$36649	80	44	3/	0.54
BOXPWK	Kidney	DS3/495	/ 5	16	13	0.66
B0XPWK DCDW/K	Kidney	DS3/496	55/	155	135	0.58
DOXPWK	Liver	D\$30030	172	37 105	32 95	0.56
DOXFWK DCzDW/V	Liver	DS30041	507	222	210	0.05
B6xDW/K	Liver	D\$36655	120	53	47	0.68
B6xPW/K	Lung	DS36657	527	234	203	0.08
B6xPWK	Lung	D\$37487	383	76	65	0.57
B6xSPRET	B cell	DS39204	176	67	58	0.55
B6xSPRET	B cell	DS39205	220	131	115	0.58
B6xSPRET	Kidney	DS37590	225	64	58	0.65
B6xSPRET	Kidney	DS37591	205	70	64	0.74
B6xSPRET	Kidney	DS39287	12	7	6	0.56
B6xSPRET	Liver	DS37603	292	156	139	0.61
B6xSPRET	Liver	DS38318	66	32	29	0.81
B6xSPRET	Liver	DS38327	178	77	71	0.83
B6xSPRET	Lung	DS37582	246	74	66	0.48
B6xSPRET	Lung	DS38311	197	121	104	0.38

	Cell/tissue	Nonredundant	# Biological rep-	# Hotspots
Strain	type	reads	licates	(5% FDR)
B6x129	B cell	347,204,832	3	117,910
B6x129	Kidney	170,705,656	2	238,917
B6x129	Liver	617,160,439	2	295,565
B6x129	Lung	298,565,608	2	261,732
B6xC3H	B cell	190,135,121	6	78,387
B6xC3H	Kidney	218,833,896	4	203,372
B6xC3H	Liver	409,883,230	3	215,510
B6xC3H	Lung	198,062,728	3	152,006
B6xCAST	B cell	394,467,062	4	156,078
B6xCAST	Kidney	404,999,564	4	228,944
B6xCAST	Liver	413,748,454	6	233,784
B6xCAST	Lung	543,296,869	5	281,978
B6xPWK	B cell	376,482,554	3	134,316
B6xPWK	Kidney	332,674,371	4	231,416
B6xPWK	Liver	345,057,236	3	242,731
B6xPWK	Lung	315,239,886	3	194,034
B6xSPRET	B cell	173,650,753	2	91,621
B6xSPRET	Kidney	127,799,573	3	186,061
B6xSPRET	Liver	239,422,480	3	211,762
B6xSPRET	Lung	170,021,189	2	169,389

Supplementary Table 2. Summary of DNase I data by strain and tissue type.

Supplementary Table 3. Summary of RNA-seq samples in this study.

Uniquely mapped reads mapped were required to pass all mapping filters. Nonredundant reads exclude PCR duplicates. Read counts are in millions. Samples IDs beginning with SRR are from ¹⁸.

			Num. pass filter	Uniquely	Nonredundant
Strain	Cell/tissue type	Sample ID	alignments	mapped reads	reads
B6xC3H	B cell	DS38895	199	173	94
B6xC3H	Kidney	DS38815	128	113	77
B6xC3H	Liver	DS38822	132	109	67
B6xC3H	Lung	DS38808	112	96	69
B6xCAST	B cell	DS35975	117	109	80
B6xCAST	Kidney	SRR823460	75	60	46
B6xCAST	Kidney	SRR823468	130	85	50
B6xCAST	Liver	SRR823469	213	148	88
B6xCAST	Liver	SRR823474	221	143	88
B6xCAST	Lung	SRR823447	86	74	55
B6xCAST	Lung	SRR823448	104	89	64
B6xPWK	B cell	DS36866	80	76	56
B6xPWK	B cell	DS37551	116	91	61
B6xPWK	Kidney	DS37491	112	107	74
B6xPWK	Liver	DS37504	124	100	55
B6xPWK	Lung	DS37484	100	92	73
B6xSPRET	B cell	DS39200	67	60	38
B6xSPRET	Kidney	DS37587	103	98	67
B6xSPRET	Kidney	DS38305	132	111	67
B6xSPRET	Liver	DS37600	94	87	54
B6xSPRET	Liver	DS38323	137	114	46
B6xSPRET	Lung	DS37580	125	115	70
B6xSPRET	Lung	DS38309	130	107	72

Supplementary Table 4. Summary of TF models.

Shown are TF motifs with enrichment of imbalanced SNVs. TF motifs were curated from multiple databases and annotated with gene name. Motifs with redundant sequence specificities by TOMTOM were identified and collapsed using a clustering approach⁴.

	TFs overlapping sufficient variation				
		Human (166	Mouse (5		
	Total TFs	individuals and	strains and	Pooled human	
	in database	116 cell types4)	4 cell types)	and mouse	
TF motifs	2154	509	627	857	
TF genes	695	268	335	430	
TF motifs (collapsed)	270	82	105	131	

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Data 1. Details of sites tested for imbalance.

Details of 357,303 SNVs tested for imbalance, including coordinates (mm10), read counts, p-value, and aggregate and per-cell/tissue type imbalance calls