## 1 High-fidelity base editor with no detectable genome-wide

## off-target effects

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Base editors hold promise for correcting pathogenic mutations, while substantial 37 single nucleotide variations (SNVs) on both DNA and RNA were generated by 38 cytosine base editors (CBEs). Here we examined possibilities to reduce off-target 39 effects by engineering cytosine deaminases. By screening 24 CBEs harboring 40 various rAPOBEC1 (BE3) or human APOBEC3A (BE3-hA3A) mutations on the 41 ssDNA or RNA binding domain, we found 8 CBE variations could maintain high 42 on-target editing efficiency. Using Genome-wide Off-target analysis by Two-cell 43 embryo Injection (GOTI) method and RNA sequencing analysis, we found DNA 44 off-target SNVs induced by BE3 could be completely eliminated in BE3<sup>R126E</sup> but 45 the off-target RNA SNVs was only slightly reduced. By contrast, BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup> 46 abolished the RNA off-target effects while could not reduce the DNA off-target 47 effects. Notably, BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> and BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> achieved the 48 elimination of off-target SNVs on both DNA and RNA, suggesting the feasibility 49 of engineering base editors for high fidelity deaminases. 50

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Base editors have been widely applied to perform targeted base editing and hold great 52 potential for correcting pathogenetic mutations<sup>1</sup>. However, previous studies have 53 identified off-target DNA edits by cytosine base editors (CBEs)<sup>2, 3</sup>, the most widely 54 used cytosine base editors with rat APOBEC1 (rAPOBEC1) enzyme<sup>4, 5</sup>. Recently, 55 several groups reported that CBEs with rAPOBEC1 (BE3) or human APOBEC3A 56 57 (BE3-hA3A) can cause extensive transcriptome-wide RNA off-target edits in human 58 cells<sup>6-8</sup>. These off-target RNA SNVs could be substantially decreased by screening CBEs harboring various rAPOBEC1 or hA3A mutations, but the DNA off-target edits 59 of these variants were unknown<sup>6-8</sup>. 60

The observation of unwanted DNA and RNA off-target effects both have important 61 implications for research and therapeutic applications of these technologies. Previous 62 studies only examined the DNA (Zuo et al., 2019) or RNA off-target effects (Zhou et 63 al., 2019) of base editors, here we analyzed both the DNA and RNA off-target effects 64 of multiple engineered CBE variants by Genome-wide Off-target analysis by Two-cell 65 embryo Injection (GOTI) and RNA-Seq analysis. We found that some variants could 66 eliminate the DNA off-target activity while sustained RNA off-target effects. 67 Conversely, some variant abolished the RNA off-target effects while maintained the 68 DNA off-targets. Importantly, we successfully obtained three variants with the 69 elimination of both DNA and RNA off-target effects. 70

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We introduced various point mutations into rAPOBEC1 affecting the DNA<sup>9-14</sup> or
RNA<sup>14, 15</sup> editing activity suggested by previous studies (Fig. 1a). The variants
included deletions and mutations at the L-enriched 5' or 3' terminals of APOBEC1
(Del32, R33A, K34A, Del34, Del77, Del116, Del169, Del182, P190A and P191A),
point mutations on the putative catalytic active site of APOBEC1 (H61A, H61R,
V62A, E63A, E63Q, C93S, C96S). Based on the structure of human APOBEC3G<sup>10,</sup>

<sup>11</sup>, R126 is predicted to have interaction with the phosphate backbone of ssDNA 78 (corresponding to R320 in APOBEC3G) (Fig. 1b, c). Compared with other mutations, 79 R126E maintained on-target editing activity<sup>9</sup>. R128 and R132<sup>9</sup> are near to R126 and 80 could also affect the accessibility of ssDNA, so we also introduced mutations of 81 R128E and R132E (Fig. 1a-c). We also examined the effect of combination of point 82 83 mutations in the domain responsible for the hydrophobicity of the active site on APOBEC1 (W90A, W90F, W90Y), which was reported to narrow the width of base-84 editing window<sup>9, 10</sup>. 85 86

We transfected HEK293T cells with plasmids encoding BE3 base editors 87 harboring various mutations and evaluated their effects on both on-target efficiency 88 89 and off-target rate. We tested the on-target activity of these variants on 10 genomic loci. Totally, by screening 23 engineered BE3 variants, we found 7 variants (R33A, 90 K34A, V62A, W90F+R126E, W90Y+R126E, R126E and R132E) remained the on-91 target efficiency, and 4 of them (W90F+R126E, W90Y+R126E, R126E, R132E) 92 showed no increase of indel rates (Fig. 1d and Supplementary Table 1). Besides, all of 93 them showed no significantly difference on the editing window widths 94 (Supplementary Fig. 1). Alternatively, we also tested one variant on hA3A (BE3-95 hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup>), reported to have high DNA on-target efficiency<sup>16, 17</sup>, and found it 96 remained high on-target editing activities (Fig. 1d). 97

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We next performed GOTI to evaluate the DNA off-target edits of the variants 99 with high DNA on-target efficiency (BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup>, 100 BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> and BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup>) (Supplementary Table 2). The embryonic 101 development was not affected by these variants injection except for BE3-hA3A 102 (Supplementary Fig. 2). The on-target efficiency of these variants were confirmed by 103 whole-genome sequencing (Fig. 2a). Notably, the number of DNA off-target SNVs in 104 the embryos treated with BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> or BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> was 105 significantly reduced from 283 +/- 32 in wild-type BE3-treated embryos to 28 +/- 6 106 for BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, 43 +/- 11 for BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, 12 +/- 3 for BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> and 39 +/- 27 for 107 BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup>, similar to that found in non-edited control embryos (14 SNVs on 108 average) and close to that of spontaneous mutation (Fig. 2b, Supplementary Fig. 3 and 109 Supplementary Table 3). Besides, we observed no mutation bias and no SNVs that 110 overlapped with the predicted off-target sites (Fig. 2c and Supplementary Fig. 4), 111 suggesting the absence of DNA off-target SNVs induced by these variants. However, 112 the BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup> variant still generated substantial DNA off-target SNVs (409 +/-113 114 86) (Fig. 2b and 2c).

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Moreover, we also evaluated the potential off-target effects on transcriptome of these variants. We found evident decrease of RNA off-target SNVs in BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, but the number was still significantly higher than that of the control group transfected with GFP (Fig. 3a and 3b). Intriguingly, two variants BE3<sup>R132E</sup> and BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> (also know as BE3-FE1) <sup>9</sup> showed complete elimination of the RNA off-target edits. Combined with our previous results that BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> (also know as BE3-YE1) <sup>9</sup> could completely eliminated the RNA off-target edits (Fig. 3a and 3b), we here
 obtained three variants, BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> and BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup>, with complete
 abolish of both DNA and RNA off-target effects.

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126 Considering that GOTI was developed to examine the sgRNA-independent off-127 target effects, we also examined the sgRNA-dependent off-target sites as previous 128 studies<sup>18</sup>. We found no increase of the number of these sgRNA-dependent off-targets 129 in all the variants (Supplementary Fig. 5).

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In summary, by screening dozens of mutations on rAPOBEC1 or hA3A from 131 multiple researches before, we found three variants with complete abolish of both 132 133 DNA and RNA off-targets with no compromise for on-target activity. Although BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> and BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> have been reported to remain editing 134 efficiencies as BE39, off-target evaluation is necessary for their clinical application. In 135 addition, we found that BE3<sup>R126E</sup> could eliminate the DNA off-target effects but not 136 the RNA off-targets, while BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup> only reduced the RNA off-target effects, 137 indicating that the elimination of DNA off-target effects was not eligible for the 138 139 minimization of RNA off-target effects, and vice versa. Engineered variants with high fidelity on both DNA and RNA provide a safe tool for gene editing. Notably, the study 140 described here demonstrates that the DNA and RNA off-target effects of BE3 could be 141 simultaneously eliminated by engineering APOBEC1 with mutations on the putative 142 ssDNA binding domain and hydrophobic domain but not on catalytic domain. 143 Therefore, our work illustrates how the off-target effects can be defined and 144 minimized for research and therapeutic applications (Fig. 3c). This approach for 145 fusion protein optimization could be generalized in other synthetic tools such as 146 CRISPR/Cas9 derivates (Supplementary Fig. 6). 147 148

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## 162 Author contributions

163 EZ designed and performed experiments. YS, WW, RZ and LY performed data

- analysis. TY, BH and JL performed PCR analysis. WY performed mouse embryo
- 165 transfer. HY and YL supervised the project and designed experiments. YS and HY

wrote the paper. 166 167 **Competing financial interests** 168 The authors declare no competing financial interests. 169 170 Data and materials availability 171 All the sequencing data were deposited in NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA) under 172 project accession PRJNA527003. 173 174 REFERENCES 175 176 1. Rees, H.A. & Liu, D.R. Base editing: precision chemistry on the genome and transcriptome 177 of living cells. Nat Rev Genet (2018). 178 2. Zuo, E. et al. Cytosine base editor generates substantial off-target single nucleotide 179 variants in mouse embryos. Science, published online (2019). 180 Jin, S. et al. Cytosine, but not adenine, base editors induce genome-wide off-target 3. 181 mutations in rice. Science, published online (2019). 182 4. Komor, A.C., Kim, Y.B., Packer, M.S., Zuris, J.A. & Liu, D.R. Programmable editing of a target 183 base in genomic DNA without double-stranded DNA cleavage. Nature 533, 420-+ (2016). 184 Rees, H.A. & Liu, D.R. Base editing: precision chemistry on the genome and transcriptome 5. 185 of living cells. Nat Rev Genet 19, 770-788 (2018). 186 Grunewald, J. et al. Transcriptome-wide off-target RNA editing induced by CRISPR-6. 187 guided DNA base editors. Nature 569, 433-437 (2019). 188 Grünewald, J. et al. CRISPR adenine and cytosine base editors with reduced RNA off-7. 189 target activities. 631721 (2019). 190 Zhou, C. et al. Off-target RNA mutation induced by DNA base editing and its elimination 8. 191 by mutagenesis. Nature (2019). 192 9. Kim, Y.B. et al. Increasing the genome-targeting scope and precision of base editing with 193 engineered Cas9-cytidine deaminase fusions. Nat Biotechnol 35, 371-376 (2017). Holden, L.G. et al. Crystal structure of the anti-viral APOBEC3G catalytic domain and 194 10. 195 functional implications. Nature 456, 121-124 (2008). 196 Chen, K.M. et al. Structure of the DNA deaminase domain of the HIV-1 restriction factor 11. 197 APOBEC3G. Nature 452, 116-119 (2008). 198 Petersen-Mahrt, S.K. & Neuberger, M.S. In vitro deamination of cytosine to uracil in 12. 199 single-stranded DNA by apolipoprotein B editing complex catalytic subunit 1 (APOBEC1). 200 J Biol Chem 278, 19583-19586 (2003). 201 13. Harris, R.S., Petersen-Mahrt, S.K. & Neuberger, M.S. RNA editing enzyme APOBEC1 and 202 some of its homologs can act as DNA mutators. Mol Cell 10, 1247-1253 (2002). 203 14. Teng, B.B. et al. Mutational analysis of apolipoprotein B mRNA editing enzyme (APOBEC1). 204 structure-function relationships of RNA editing and dimerization. J Lipid Res 40, 623-635 205 (1999).206 15. Teng, B., Burant, C.F. & Davidson, N.O. Molecular cloning of an apolipoprotein B 207 messenger RNA editing protein. Science 260, 1816-1819 (1993). 208 Wang, X. et al. Efficient base editing in methylated regions with a human APOBEC3A-16. 209 Cas9 fusion. Nat Biotechnol 36, 946-949 (2018).

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#### 215 Figure legends

Figure 1. On-target efficiency of engineered CBEs. a The predicted structure of 216 APOBEC1 with various rAPOBEC1 mutations. Mutated residues were highlighted 217 and marked on the structure. **b** The sequence alignment between APOBEC3G and 218 APOBEC1. Amino acid, identical residues; +, conservative substitutions. Green 219 220 triangle represents residues in the hydrophobic active domain of APOBEC3G, and vellow stars indicate residues on the ssDNA binding domain. c The crystal structure 221 of APOBEC3G. d The on-target efficiency and indel frequencies of different versions 222 of engineered CBEs. Purple triangles indicate variants selected for the off-target 223 evaluation. n = 3 biological replicates for each group. 224

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### 227 Figure 2. On-target and off-target evaluation of engineered CBEs by GOTI. a

On-target efficiency of BE3 and CBE variants from WGS data. **b** The comparison of the total number of detected off-target SNVs. n = 2 for Cre, n = 6 for BE3, n = 10 for BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, n = 2 for BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, n = 5 for BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup>, n = 2 for BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup> and n= 3 for BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup> groups. *P* value was calculated by two-sided Student's t-test. \*P < 0.05, \*\*P < 0.01, \*\*\*P < 0.001. **c** Proportion of C>T and G>A mutations for Cre, BE3, and CBE variants-treated groups.

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Figure 3. RNA off -target evaluation of engineered CBEs. a The comparison of the 235 total number of detected RNA off-target SNVs. n = 6 for GFP, n = 8 for BE3, n = 6236 for BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, n = 3 for BE3<sup>R132E</sup>, n = 2 for BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup>, n = 3 for BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup>, n237 = 3 for BE3 (hA3A) and n = 3 for BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup> groups. P value was calculated by 238 two-sided Student's t-test. \*P < 0.05, \*\*P < 0.01, \*\*\*P < 0.001. **b** Proportion of C>U 239 and G>A mutations for GFP, BE3, and BE3 variants-treated groups. c Model of CBE 240 241 optimization. The nickase Cas9 (nCas9) of engineered CBE loses one nuclease activity of Cas9 while remains the DNA binding ability. In contrast to nCas9, mutant 242 APOBEC1 of engineered CBE loses the binding ability of ssDNA and RNA but 243 remains the deaminase activity. AD, active domain; BD, binding domain; APOBEC1, 244 rAPOBEC1; UGI, uracil DNA glycosylase inhibitor. 245 246

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APOBEC1

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# Supplementary Information

## High-fidelity base editor with no detectable genome-wide offtarget effects

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Materials and Methods Supplementary Figures 1-6 Supplementary Tables 1-5 Additional Table S3 References

#### **Materials and Methods**

#### Animal care

Heterozygous Ai9 (full name B6.Cg-Gt (ROSA) 26Sortm9 (CAG-td-Tomato) Hze/J; JAX strain 007909) male mice and female C57BL/6 mice (4 weeks old) were mated for embryo collection. ICR females were used for recipients. The animals usage and care complied with the guideline of the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee of Shanghai Institutes for Biological Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

#### Generation of mutant base editor mRNA and sgRNA

T7 promoter was added to base editor coding region by PCR amplification of plasmid, using primer base editor F and R. T7-base editor PCR product was purified and used as the template for in vitro transcription (IVT) using mMESSAGE mMACHINE T7 ULTRA kit (Life Technologies). T7 promoter was added to sgRNA template by PCR amplification of px330. The T7-sgRNA PCR product was purified and used as the template for IVT using MEGA shortscript T7 kit (Life Technologies). T7 promoter was added to Cre template by PCR amplification. T7-Cre PCR product was purified and used as the template for *in vitro* transcription (IVT) using mMESSAGE mMACHINE T7 ULTRA kit (Life Technologies). Cas9 mRNA, Cre mRNA and sgRNAs were purified using MEGA clear kit (Life Technologies) and eluted in RNase-free water. sgRNA sequences

Locus	Sequence (5'-3')
Tyr-C <sup>1</sup>	GACCTCAGTTCCCCTTCAAAGGG
Tyr-D <sup>1</sup>	CTGTGCCAAGGCAGAAACCCTGG
Tyr-F	TGCGGCCAGCTTTCAGGCAGAGG

Primers	
Name	Sequence (5'-3')
base editor IVT F	TCCGCGGCCGCTAATACGACT
base editor IVT R	TGGTTCTTTCCGCCTCAGAAGCC
Cre IVT F	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGACAGATCACCTTTC
	CTATCAACC
Cre IVT R	TCGGTATTTCCAGCACACTGGA
Tur C IVT E	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGACCTCAGTTCCCCTT
Tyl-C TVT F	CAAAGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAG
	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCTGTGCCAAGGCAGA
	AACCCGTTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAG
sgRNA IVT R	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCC

2-cell Embryo Injection, Embryo Culturing, and Embryo Transplantation

Super ovulated C57BL/6 females (4 weeks old) were mated to heterozygous Ai9 (full name B6.Cg-Gt(ROSA)26Sortm9(CAG-td-Tomato)Hze/J; JAX strain 007909) males, and fertilized embryos were collected from oviducts 23 h post hCG injection. For 2-cell editing, the mixture of BE3 mRNA (10 or 50 ng/µl) or BE3<sup>R126E</sup> mRNA (50 ng/µl), sgRNA (50 ng/µl) and Cre mRNA (2 ng/µl) was injected into the cytoplasm of one blastomere of 2-cell embryo 48 h post hCG injection in a droplet of M2 medium containing 5 µg/ml cytochalasin B (CB) using a FemtoJet microinjector (Eppendorf) with constant flow settings. The injected embryos cultured in KSOM medium with amino acids at 37 °C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in air for 2 hours and then transferred into oviducts of pseudopregnant ICR females at 0.5 dpc.

#### Cloning

Site-directed mutagenesis of BE3 was done using NEBuilder HiFi DNA Assembly Master Mix (New England BioLabs). Briefly, a primer with an overhang containing the desired point mutation was used to amplify the appropriate vector plasmid by PCR. pCMV-BE3 variants-polyA-pCMV-mCherry-polyA was generated through NEBuilder HiFi DNA Assembly, by combining a PCR-amplified pCMV-mCherry-poly A with a digested pCMV-BE3 variants backbone. pCMV-EGFP-polyA-U6-sgRNA were generated through NEBuilder HiFi DNA Assembly, by combining a PCR-amplified U6sgRNA with a digested pCMV-EGFP-poly A backbone.

#### Cell culture, transfections and FACS

HEK293T cells were maintained in Dulbecco's modified eagle medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) in a 37°C humidified incubator with 5% CO2. pCMV-BE3 (WT/BE3 variants)-polyA-pCMV-mCherry-polyA and pCMV-EGFP-polyA-U6-sgRNA expression plasmids were co-transfected using Lipofectamine 3000 (ThermoFisher Scientific) according to the manufacturer's protocol. 72 hr post transfection, cells were washed with phosphate buffered saline (PBS) and trypsinized using 0.05% trypsin-EDTA. Cell suspension was filtered through a 40-µm cell strainer, and EGFP/mCherry positive cells were isolated by FACS.

### FACS

To isolate mouse embryonic cells, the prepared tissues were dissociated enzymatically in an incubation solution of 5 mL Trypsin-EDTA (0.05%) at 37°C for 30min. The digestion was stopped by adding 5 ml of DMEM medium with 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS). Fetal tissues were then homogenized by passing 30-40 times through a 1ml pipette tips. The cell suspension was centrifuged for 6 min (800 rpm), and the pellet was resuspended in DMEM medium with 10% FBS. Finally, the cell suspension was filtered through a 40- $\mu$ m cell strainer, and tdtomato<sup>+</sup>/tdtomato<sup>-</sup> cells were isolated by FACS. Samples were found to be >95% pure when assessed with a second round of flow cytometry and fluorescence microscopy analysis.

#### Whole genome sequencing and data analysis

DNeasy blood and tissue kit (catalog number 69504, Qiagen) was used to extract genomic DNA from cells following the manufacturer's instructions. Whole genome sequencing was performed at mean coverages of 50x by Illumina HiSeq X Ten. BWA (v0.7.12) was used to map qualified sequencing reads to the reference genome (mm10). The mapped BAM files were then sorted and marked using Picard tools (v2.3.0). To identify the genome wide *de novo* SNVs with high confidence, we conducted single nucleotide variation calling on three algorithms, Mutect2 (v3.5), Lofreq (v2.1.2) and Strelka (v2.7.1), separately <sup>2-4</sup>. In parallel, Mutect2 (v3.5), Scalpel (v0.5.3) and Strelka (v2.7.1) were run individually for the detection of whole genome *de novo* indels <sup>2, 4, 5</sup>. The overlap of three algorithms of SNVs or indels were considered as the true variants. All the sequencing data were deposited in NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA) under project accession PRJNA527003.

Potential off-targets of targeted sites were predicted using two previous reported algorithms, Cas-OFFinder (<u>http://www.rgenome.net/cas-offinder/</u>) and CRISPOR (<u>http://crispor.tefor.net/</u>) with all possible mismatches <sup>6,7</sup>.

The SNVs and indels were annotated with annovar (version 2016-02-01) using RefSeq database  $^{8}$ .

#### Structure prediction

Amino acid sequences of rat APOBEC1 and human APOBEC3G were retrieved from UniProt (<u>https://www.uniprot.org/</u>) and sequence alignment was performed with NCBI blastp

(https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi?PROGRAM=blastp&PAGE\_TYPE=BlastSearch &LINK\_LOC=blasthome). The structure of rAPOBEC1 was predicted by protein structure prediction server, (PS)<sup>2 9, 10</sup> according to the consensus sequence and secondary structure information for proteins with known structures. The crystal structure of APOBEC3G was downloaded from PDB (http://www.rcsb.org/3d-view/3IQS) and presented using PyMOL (v2.3.2).

#### Statistical analysis

R version 3.5.1 (<u>http://www.R-project.org/</u>) was used to conduct all the statistical analyses in this work. All tests conducted were two-sided, and the significant difference was considered at P < 0.05.



Supplementary Figure 1 The editing window of the BE3 and BE3 variants in different target sites. n = 3 biological replicates for each group.



Supplementary Figure 2 The embryonic development rates for BE3 and BE3 variants. n = 3 biological replicates for each group.



Supplementary Figure 3 Venn diagrams of SNVs detected in each embryo by WGS data using the indicated software tools. a SNVs identified in BE3<sup>R126E</sup>-treated embryos. b SNVs identified in BE3<sup>R132E</sup>-treated embryos. c SNVs identified in BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup>-treated embryos. d SNVs identified in BE3<sup>W90F+R126E</sup>-treated embryos. e SNVs identified in BE3-hA3A<sup>Y130F</sup>-treated embryos.



Supplementary Figure 4 The overlap among SNVs detected from our analysis with predicted off-targets sites by Cas-OFFinder and CRISPOR.



Supplementary Figure 5 Activities of BE3 and BE3 variants at the indicated offtarget sites. HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmids expressing BE3, BE3<sup>R126E</sup>, BE3<sup>W90Y+R126E</sup> or BE3 <sup>W90F+R126E</sup> and sgRNAs matching the indicated on-target sequence using Lipofectamine 3000. Three days after transfection, genomic DNA was extracted, amplified by PCR, and analyzed by high-throughput DNA sequencing at the on-target loci, plus the top ten known Cas9 off-target loci for these sgRNAs, as previously determined using the GUIDE-seq method <sup>11, 12</sup> and ChIP-seq method <sup>13</sup>. Sequences of the on-target and off-target protospacers and primers were shown in Table S5. Each cell represents the percentage of total sequencing reads with C to T conversion. n = 3biological replicates for each group.



Supplementary Figure 6 The generalization of optimization method for other CRISPR/Cas9 derivates. AD, active domain; BD, binding domain; Tet1, Ten-Eleven Translocation dioxygenase 1.

Mutant	<b>On-target efficiency</b>	Indel frequency
Del2-32	0.001	0.046
R33A	0.191	0.957
K34A	0.257	0.605
R33A+K34A	0.748	0.020
Del2-34	0.001	0.032
H61A	0.002	0.014
H61R	0.001	0.015
V62A	0.517	0.724
E63A	0.001	0.015
E63Q	0.001	0.014
Del2-77	0.001	0.017
W90A	0.019	0.411
W90F+R126E	0.095	0.893
W90Y+R126E	0.717	0.126
C93S	0.001	0.016
C96S	0.001	0.018
Del2-116	0.001	0.026
R126E	0.270	0.282
R126E+R132E	0.430	0.027
R126E+R128E+R132E	0.001	0.018
R128E	0.002	0.016
R132E	0.563	0.036
Del169-L	0.001	0.015
Del-182-L	0.001	0.015
P190A+P191A	0.014	0.029
A3A	0.197	0.180
hA3A-Y130F	0.200	0.628

Supplementary Table 1. P values of the on-target efficiency and indel rates between CBE variants and BE3.

Sample	Sample Code	Group	Mapped bases (Gbp)	Coverage
DD2R126F #1	A21	tdTomato+	120.21	43.38
BE3 <sup>K120E</sup> -#1	A22	tdTomato-	118.12	42.63
DE 28126E #2	A23	tdTomato+	124.13	44.80
BE3 -#2	A24	tdTomato-	121.36	43.80
DE 2R126E #2	A185	tdTomato+	115.12	41.55
BE3#3	A186	tdTomato-	117.56	42.43
DE2R126E T C #1	A29	tdTomato+	141.77	51.16
BE5 <sup></sup> -1yr-C-#1	A30	tdTomato-	143.94	51.94
DE2R126E T C H2	A35	tdTomato+	146.12	52.73
BE3 <sup></sup> -1yr-C-#2	A36	tdTomato-	143.13	51.65
DE2R126E T C #2	A225	tdTomato+	141.81	51.18
BE3 <sup></sup> -1yr-C-#3	A226	tdTomato-	136.56	49.28
DE2R126E T C #4	A227	tdTomato+	134.54	48.55
BE3*****-1yr-C-#4	A228	tdTomato-	130.00	46.92
DE2R126E T D. #1	A123	tdTomato+	113.09	40.81
BE3 <sup>K1202</sup> -1yr-D-#1	A124	tdTomato-	109.02	39.34
DE28126E T D. #3	A131	tdTomato+	107.61	38.83
BE3 <sup></sup> -1yr-D-#2	A132	tdTomato-	127.93	46.17
DF2R126E T D #2	A141	tdTomato+	118.05	42.60
DL5 -1yf-D-#5	A142	tdTomato-	119.45	43.11
<b>BE3</b> R126E Type E #1	A251	tdTomato+	146.49	52.87
DE5 -1 y1-1-#1	A252	tdTomato-	129.56	46.76
<b>BE3</b> R126E Tur E #7	A258	tdTomato+	142.19	51.31
$\mathbf{DE5} = 1 \mathbf{y} 1 - \mathbf{f} - \pi \mathbf{z}$	A259	tdTomato-	114.74	41.41
<b>RF 3</b> W90Y+R126E <b>Typ-</b> C #1	A267	tdTomato+	119.09	42.98
DE5 -1y1-C-#1	A268	tdTomato-	142.76	51.52
BE 2 W90Y+R126E Tur C #2	A269	tdTomato+	142.76	51.52
$\mathbf{DES} = 1 \mathbf{y} 1 - \mathbf{C} - \pi \mathbf{Z}$	A270	tdTomato-	122.23	44.11
BE 3 W90Y+R126E Tur C #3	A271	tdTomato+	116.99	42.22
BE5 -1y1-C-#5	A272	tdTomato-	137.70	49.69
ВЕЗW90Y+R126Е Тур С #1	A273	tdTomato+	126.17	45.53
DEJ -1y1-U-#4	A274	tdTomato-	148.42	53.56
BF3W90Y+R126E Twe C #5	A275	tdTomato+	130.04	46.93
DE3 -1yr-C-#3	A276	tdTomato-	146.61	52.91

## Supplementary Table 2. Summary of HiSeq X Ten sequencing.

BE3W90Y+R126E Type C #1	A301	tdTomato+	130.76	47.19
<b>DE5</b> -1y1-C-#1	A302	tdTomato-	135.93	49.05
<b>RF 3</b> W90Y+R126E_Tyr. C_# <b>?</b>	A303	tdTomato+	143.04	51.62
DE5 -1y1-C-#2	A304	tdTomato-	149.73	54.04
<b>RF3</b> W90F+R126E_Tyr. C_#1	A307	tdTomato+	147.88	53.37
<b>DE</b> 5 -1y1-C-#1	A308	tdTomato-	117.40	42.37
<b>BF3</b> W90F+R126E Type C #7	A309	tdTomato+	83.88	30.27
<b>DE5</b> -1y1-C-#2	A310	tdTomato-	126.48	45.64
RF3_bA3AY130F_Tvr_C_#1	A277	tdTomato+	137.38	49.58
<b>DE5-IIA5A</b> -1 y1-C-#1	A278	tdTomato-	152.07	54.88
RE3 hA3AY130F Tur C #7	A281	tdTomato+	147.01	53.05
DEJ-11AJA - 1 y1-C-#2	A282	tdTomato-	149.36	53.90
RF3_hA3AY130F_Tvr_C_#3	A283	tdTomato+	149.70	54.02
DE5-11A5A -1 y1-C-#5	A284	tdTomato-	151.43	54.65

Supplementary Table 4. Primers used for deep sequencing of on-target activity.

On-target site	<b>On-target sequence</b>	Primer 1	Primer 2
EMX1 site 1	TGCCCCTCCCTCCCTGGCCCAGG	CCAGCTTCTGCCGTTTGTACT	AACTCGTAGAGTCCCATGTCTG
DNMT3B site 2	AGAGCCCCCCCTCAAAGAGAGGG	GATGGCTGTTTGTCTTGTGGC	TATAAACCCTGTGTGCTGCTT
EMX1 site 2	GAGTCCGAGCAGAAGAAGAAGGG	GTTCCAGAACCGGAGGACAA	ATTGCTTGTCCCTCTGTCA
FANCF site 1	GGAATCCCTTCTGCAGCACCTGG	TCCCAGGTGCTGACGTAGGTA	ATCATCTCGCACGTGGTTC
HEK293 site 1	GAACACAAAGCATAGACTGCGGG	GCTAACTGTGACAGCATGTGG	CACCAACTTACACACAGTGA
HEK293 site 2	GGCCCAGACTGAGCACGTGATGG	TTCTGCTTCTCCAGCCCTGGC	TTCATGCAGGTGCTGAAAGCCA
HEK293 site 3	GGCACTGCGGCTGGAGGTGGGGG	CAGAGGGTCCAAAGCAGGAT	TCAACCCGAACGGAGACAC
RNF2 site 1	GTCATCTTAGTCATTACCTGAGG	CGGAACTCAACCATTAAGCA	GTTGCCTTCAAACCTGCTC
EMX1 site 3	GTATTCACCTGAAAGTGTGCAGG	CTTGACTGATATCTCCAGGC	TAGGGGAAGTTGGAGGAGGGAC
PPP1R12C site 1	GGCACTCGGGGGGGGAGAGGAGGG	GCTCAAAGTGGTCCGGACTC	TTACCATCCCTCCCTCGACT

Supplementary	Table 5.	Primers u	sed for a	deep seq	uencing o	of off-target	effects.

Site	<b>On-target sequence</b>	Primer 1	Primer 2
EMX1 site 2-On-target	GAGTCCGAGCAGAAGAAGAAGGG		
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-1	GAGTTAGAGCAGAAGAAGAAGG	TTTCTGAGGGCTGCTACCTG	GCCCCTCTAATACAATGGG
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-2	GAGTCTAAGCAGAAGAAGAAGAAGAA	CTCAATGTGCTTCAACCCATC	ACAGAGCGAGACTCCGTCT
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-3	GAGTCCTAGCAGGAGAAGAAGAAGA	CAGACTCAGTAAAGCCTGGA	TAGGCTGGAGTGCAGTGGTG
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-4	GAGTCCGGGAAGGAGAAGAAAGG	TCTGCCTCTGACGACGAGCAA	GAGAAAGGCAAACAGGAGG
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-5	AAGTCCGAGGAGAGGAAGAAAGG	TTCATGGAGGGGGCACAGAAG	GCCCTTCCAAACTAGAAGTT
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-6	GAATCCAAGCAGGAGAAGAAGGA	GAAACCGAATTATGGATGGG	CTCTTAGAAATGGCATTGGG
EMX1 site 2-Off-target-7	ACGTCTGAGCAGAAGAAGAATGG	TCGTCTTCCTGCAGAGGTTC	ACTCCCATCTTCCTCCCTA
FANCF site 1-On-target	GGAATCCCTTCTGCAGCACCTGG		
FANCF site 1-Off-target-1	GGAACCCCGTCTGCAGCACCAGG	GTCTTAGTCGCCTTAGCACT	ATGTGCTCTGATTTCCGTG
FANCF site 1-Off-target-2	GGAGTCCCTCCTACAGCACCAGG	CATCCCGAACACAGTGACAG	AGATGGAAGAATGAGCAGG
FANCF site 1-Off-target-3	AGAGGCCCCTCTGCAGCACCAGG	AGGACTCAGGCAGGAGTTAG	TGCGGGGTGTGGATGATTT
FANCF site 1-Off-target-4	ACCATCCCTCCTGCAGCACCAGG	TAGAGTGGCATGCAACCTAG	AATGTGCTGGGTCTCTCCT
FANCF site 1-Off-target-5	TGAATCCCATCTCCAGCACCAGG	CAGAAACACTGGAGACCCTC	GATGAAGAAACTGAGGCACA
FANCF site 1-Off-target-6	GGAGTCCCTCCTACAGCACCAGG	CCGAACACAGTGACAGAAGG	GCCCAGTGAGACCAGTTTG

FANCF site 1-Off-target-7	GGAGTCCCTCCTGCAGCACCTGA	GGAAAATTGCTTGTCGCAGC	CCCCTCTGACGGTAATAAT
HEK293 site 1-On-target	GAACACAAAGCATAGACTGCGGG		
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-1	GAACACAATGCATAGATTGCCGG	CATATTTAATGCTCCCACACC	AGCCACATTGTAGACAATGAAGCC
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-2	AAACATAAAGCATAGACTGCAAA	CAGAATAGTGGGACTATGCC	TCACCCTCCTCCTCTCACT
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-3	TCAGGGTGAGCATAGACTGCCGG	AGATAGGACAGGTGAGGCCT	GGCAGGGATGAAAGGTGTC
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-4	TGAAGTGTTGCATAGACTGCAGG	ACCCCTCATGCAAATCCTAAC	TGGGTGGCTAGACTCAGAG
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-5	GGAGAGAGAGCATAGACTGCTGG	TCTGTACCTGCTGGGCATCCA	GAACATCACTCCCATCACG
HEK293 site 1-Off-target-6	CCAAACAAAACATAGACTGCTGG	GGGTAAGACTCTACCCAGGA	TTAATAGCAGTGTGGTGGG
HEK293 site 2-On-target	GGCCCAGACTGAGCACGTGATGG		
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-1	CACCCAGACTGAGCACGTGCTGG	GACAAGAGCATTAACTGCACC	CTCTTCTTCCGAGTGGTGG
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-2	GACACAGACTGGGCACGTGAGGG	GTGGAGTCAGCCTCGATTAC	GATTAGGGTTGCCAAGAGA
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-3	AGCTCAGACTGAGCAAGTGAGGG	TTCAGTCCAGACATCAGCCA	GGCGATGAGTAAGAGTGATGTG
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-4	AGACCAGACTGAGCAAGAGAGGG	actttggaaggtcgaagcggca	TGCATGGTTCATCTCCCCTA
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-5	GAGCCAGAATGAGCACGTGAGGG	GGAAATTGCGAGCAGAGGCT	CTGGGGTCTCTTTCTGCCTC
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-6	CAGGAAGCTGGAGCACGTGAGGG	CATCCCTTGTCTCTCTTAGG	TACACGTTCCACCCCTCCAACC
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-7	AAGGCTGAGGGAGCACGTGAAGG	AGTACAAGCTGATTACATCC	GGTGGAGACAGAAAATGAGG
HEK293 site 2-Off-target-8	GTCAGGGGAAGAGCACGTGACGG	ACTGCAGCCTGGCCCTAAAC	CTACCTCCAAGCCACCAAAC

HEK293 site 2-Off-target-9	GTTGTGAACTGAGCACGTGAGGG	CATTTCCTGTCAGATCACGG	TCAAATGCTCCACCCGCCTCA
HEK293 site 2-Off-target- 10	ATATTTGCTGGAGCACGTGAAGG	TCTGAAGCTATGCGCTGGAG	TCAGAACCCCAATACCCCTC
HEK293 site 3-On-target	GGCACTGCGGCTGGAGGTGGGGG		
HEK293 site 3-Off-target-1	TGCACTGCGGCCGGAGGAGGTGG	TGGGCTCACTGCTCTCCAGAGT	AGGAAGGGTACTGGGGAGT
HEK293 site 3-Off-target-2	GGCTCTGCGGCTGGAGGGGGGTGG	CAAGTGCTCCCCAATCCTGA	TGGTGAAGAGGATGGGGTGA
HEK293 site 3-Off-target-4	GGCACTGCTACTGGGGGGTGGTGG	CCGTTGCTTGTCAGCATCCT	ACTGCTCCCTCTGTTCTCAT
HEK293 site 3-Off-target-6	GGCACTGGGGTTGGAGGTGGGGG	CCATGGCAAACTCTCCACCA	GTCATTTCAGTGGCAGCGGA

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