ASHBi SEMINAR

Controlling gene activation by enhancers through a drug-inducible topological insulator

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While regulation of gene-enhancer interaction is better understood, its application remains limited. We reconstituted arrays of CTCF binding sites and devised a synthetic topological insulator with tetO for chromatinengineering (STITCH). By coupling STITCH with tetR linked to the KRAB domain to induce heterochromatin and disable the insulation, we developed a drug-inducible system to control gene activation by enhancers. We applied this to dissect MYC regulation in human iPS cells, and obtained several important insights in gene regulation. In this seminar, I will demonstrate these results and discuss how the system would be useful in the field of chromatin conformation, particularly when combined with approaches of single cell genomics.

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