Data in Brief

Genome-wide ChIP-seq and RNA-seq analyses of Pou3f1 during mouse pluripotent stem cell neural fate commitment

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Abstract

Appropriate neural initiation of the pluripotent stem cells in the early embryos is critical for the development of the central nervous system. This process is regulated by the coordination of extrinsic signals and intrinsic programs. However, how the coordination is achieved to ensure proper neural fate commitment is largely unknown. Here, taking advantage of genome-wide ChIP-sequencing (ChIP-seq) and RNA-sequencing (RNA-seq) analyses, we demonstrate that the transcriptional factor Pou3f1 is an upstream activator of neural-promoting genes, and it is able to repress neural-inhibitory signals as well. Further studies revealed that Pou3f1 could directly bind neural lineage genes like Sox2 and downstream targets of neural inhibition signaling such as BMP and Wnt. Our results thus identify Pou3f1 as a critical dual-regulator of the intrinsic transcription factors and the extrinsic cellular signals during neural fate commitment. Data were deposited in Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) datasets under reference number GSE69865.

Keywords:
ChIP-seq
RNA-seq
Mouse embryonic stem cell
Neural fate commitment
Pou3f1

1. Direct link to deposited data

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE69865.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

2.1. Cell culture and differentiation

Mouse embryonic stem cells (mESCs) (R1 and R1/E) were maintained on a layer of mitomycin C-treated mouse embryonic fibroblast feeder cells in standard medium supplemented with 1000 U/mL mouse leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF). Unbiased ESC differentiation in serum-containing medium was performed as described previously \cite{1,2}. Briefly, ESCs were dissociated into single cells after treatment with 0.05% Trypsin–EDTA at 37 °C for 2 min and were seeded at a density of 1 × 10^5 cells/ml in Petri dishes to form embryonic bodies (EBs). EB cells are maintained in supplemented DMEM containing 10% FBS (Gibco), 1% NEAA, 1% sodium pyruvate, and 0.1 mM β-mercaptoethanol (both from GIBCO). On days 2, 4 and 6, wild-type cells and Pou3f1 stable overexpressed (Pou3f1-OE) cells were collected for RNA-seq analysis.

Mouse ESC unbiased differentiation

WT, Pou3f1-OE ESCs → Day2 → Day4 → Day6

RNA-seq

Pou3f1-OE ESCs → Day2 → Day4

Pou3f1-ChIP-seq

Fig. 1. RNA-seq and ChIP-seq analyses of Pou3f1 during mouse ESC unbiased differentiation. mESCs were aggregated and then differentiated into embryonic bodies for 6 days. RNA-seq samples were collected from WT or Pou3f1-OE cells during differentiation day 2 to day 6. On differentiation day 2 and day 4, Pou3f1-OE ESCs were harvested for ChIP-seq analysis. WT: wild type; Pou3f1-OE: Pou3f1-overexpressing ESC.
and Pou3f1 ChIP-seq was performed on day 2 and day 4 with Pou3f1-overexpression cells (Fig. 1).

2.2. Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP)

ChIP assays were performed as described in the manufacturer’s manuals (Dynabeads Protein A/G (Invitrogen) and Protein A/G Agarose/Salmon Sperm DNA (Upstate Biotech)), and modified as previously reported [3]. Briefly, differentiated EB cells were dissociated into single cells by Trypsin and subjected to cross-linking. The cells were lysed and crude extracts were sonicated into DNA fragments of an average size of 200 bp. Cell lysate was cleared and subsequently incubated with antibodies against Pou3f1 or directly used as ChIP input. Immunoprecipitated DNA was reverse cross-linked and recovered. The input DNA and 10–15 ng IP DNA were used to construct sequencing library by ChIP-seq Sample Prep Kit (Illumina). Enriched DNA sequencing was performed on Illumine HiSeq 2000. The high-throughput sequencing was performed by the Computational Biology Omics Core, PICB, Shanghai.

2.3. ChIP-seq data processing

The ChIP-seq reads were mapped into the mouse genome build mm9 using the SOAP version 2.20 [4]. The uniquely mapped reads with less than two mismatches were kept for subsequent analysis. We then used findpeaks in Homer package to call Pou3f1 binding peaks, which required 4-fold greater normalized reads in ChIP sample comparing with the control. The binding peaks of Pou3f1 were very narrow as typical transcription factors (Fig. 2) [5]. Furthermore, the distance of peak center to the nearest transcription start site (TSS) was calculated for all peaks, and most of them were distal to TSS (Fig. 3).

2.4. RNA-Seq data processing

TopHat (version 1.4.1) alignment tool was used to map raw reads to mm9 [6], and Cufflinks (version 1.3.0) was used to calculate FPKM (fragment per kilo base per million) as an expression value for each gene [7]. Then, we identified differentially expressed genes between treatment and control samples using Cuffdiff software [8], and performed k-means clustering using Euclidean distance as the distance between genes.

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