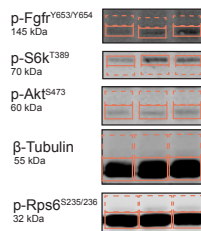
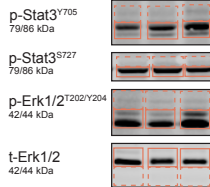


F Quantification

Single bands:



Two Bands:



Four Bands:



Example quantification:

One or two bands (e.g. p-Rps6)
Band intensity ——— 2430000
Background intensity - - - - - 2990
Final value 2427010

Multiple distinct bands (p-4ebp1)

Band intensity (top) ——— 536000 (top)
Band intensity (bottom) ——— 32100 (bottom)
Background intensity (top) - - - 3140 (top)
Background intensity (bottom) - - - 1070 (bottom)
Final value 563890

Fig. S1. Representative western blots show changes in pathway phosphorylation. **A.** Naïve ESCs were grown in medium containing 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline for up to 6 days (144 h). Cell lysates were analysed by western blotting for: p-Stat3^{Y705} or p-Stat3^{S727}, p-Fgfr^{Y653/Y654}, p-Erk1/2^{T202/Y204}, p-Akt^{S473}, p-S6k^{T389}, p-Rps6^{S235/S236} and p-4ebp1^{T37/T46} and β -Tubulin as a loading control. **B.** Naïve ESCs were treated with either 400 μ M L-proline, the P38 inhibitor SB205580 (SB, 10 μ M), or staurosporine (1 mM) for the times indicated. As a positive control for P38 phosphorylation, protein lysates from the U251 human glioblastoma cell line were also used. Cell lysates were taken and analysed using western blotting for p-P38^{T180/Y182}, total P38 (t-P38), p-Hsp27^{S78/S82}, p-Pkc ζ ^{T410} and β -Tubulin as a loading control. **C.** Naïve ESCs were serum starved in 0.1% FBS for 4 h, with 5 μ M U0126 added for the final 30 min. Cells were then left untreated or treated with 1 mM L-proline for 10 or 30 min. Cell lysates were analysed by western blotting for: p-Stat3^{Y705} or p-Stat3^{S727}, p-Fgfr^{Y653/Y654}, p-Erk1/2^{T202/Y204}, p-Akt^{S473}, p-Rps6^{S235/S236} and p-4ebp1^{T37/T46} and total Erk1/2 as a loading control. **D.** 400 μ M L-proline and signalling pathway inhibitors were added to naïve ESCs growing in 1000 U/mL LIF at 0 h. After 2 h, cell samples were analysed for p-Erk1/2^{T202/Y204} and p-Rps6^{S235/S236} and β -Tubulin as a loading control. **E.** 400 μ M L-proline and signalling pathway inhibitors (1i) were added to naïve ESCs growing in 1000 U/mL LIF at 0 h. At 2, 4, 6, or 8 h, a second dose of the same inhibitor or a different inhibitor (2i) was added, and samples were collected 2 h later. Cell samples were analysed for p-Erk1/2^{T202/Y204} and p-Rps6^{S235/S236} and β -Tubulin as a loading control. **F.** Western blot quantification in Fig. 2 was calculated by measuring the integrated intensity of the band or bands with Image Studio. The integrated intensity of an adjacent paired region was subtracted to account for background signal. Worked examples are shown for proteins with a one or two bands (e.g., p-Rps6) and multiple bands (p-4ebp1).

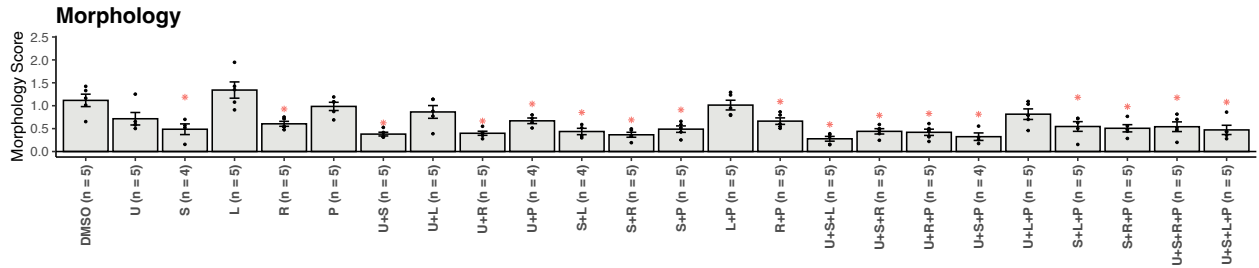


Fig. S2. Morphology data by inhibitor combination. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). Morphology scoring was performed on day 6. Conditions containing L+R (navy) were considered non-viable at day 2 and no data is available for this combination. Data is shown as mean and SEM with individual data points. Data were analysed using one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons test to cells grown in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline + DMSO, * $P < 0.05$.

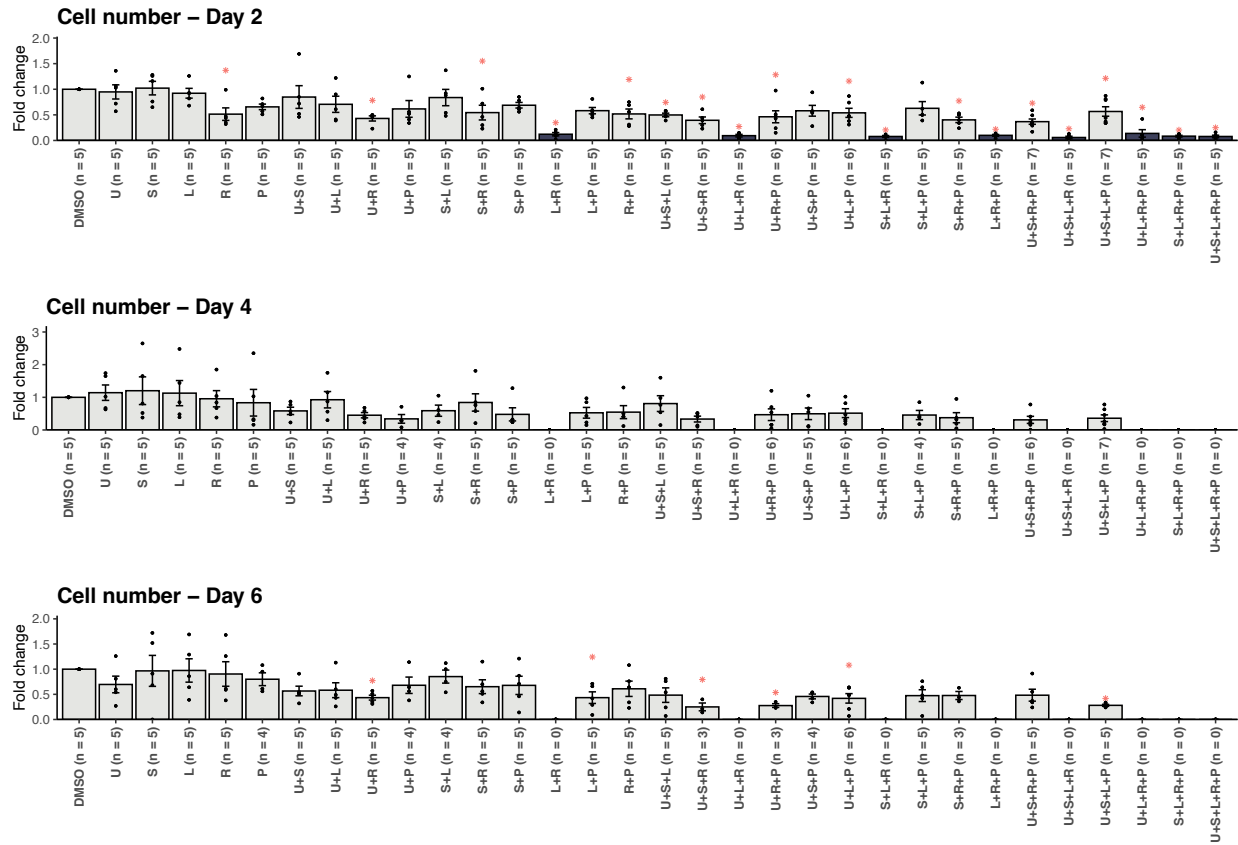


Fig. S3. Cell number data by inhibitor combination. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/ mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). Cells were counted at passaged on day 2, 4, and 6. Conditions containing L+R (navy) were considered non-viable at day 2 and no data is available for this combination at days 4 and 6. Data is shown as mean and SEM with individual data points. Data were analysed using one-way ANOVA with Dunnett’s multiple comparisons test to cells grown in 330 U/mL LIF+ 400 μ M L-proline + DMSO, * $P < 0.05$.

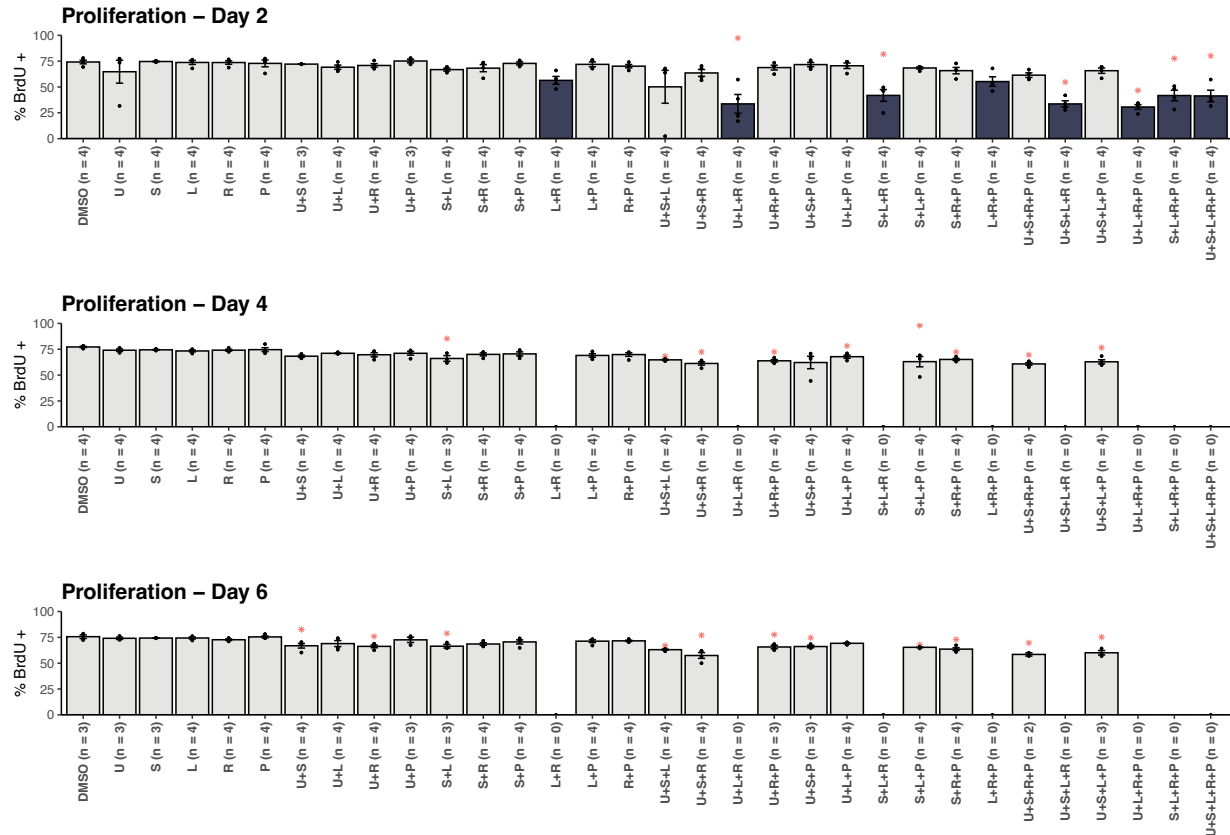


Fig. S4. Proliferation data by inhibitor combination. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). Cells were passaged at day 2, 4, and 6, and proliferation was measured by BrdU incorporation and the percentage of cells in s-phase was quantified with flow cytometry. Conditions containing L+R (navy) were considered non-viable at day 2 and no data is available for this combination at days 4 and 6. Data is shown as mean and SEM with individual data points. Data were analysed using one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons test to cells grown in 330 U/mL LIF+ 400 μ M L-proline + DMSO, * $P < 0.05$.

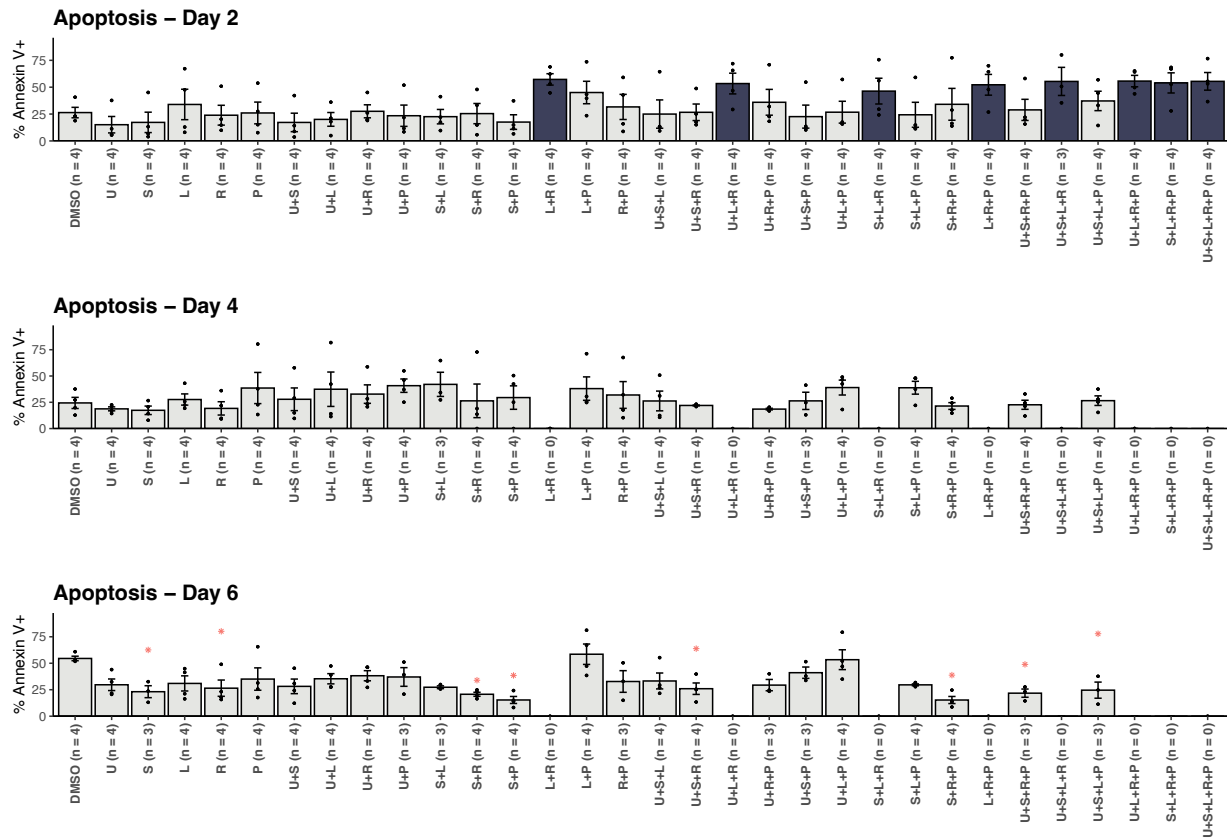


Fig. S5. Apoptosis data by inhibitor combination. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). Cells were passaged at day 2, 4, and 6, and cells apoptosis and proliferation was measured by Annexin V assay and quantified with flow cytometry. Conditions containing L+R (navy) were considered non-viable at day 2 and no data is available for this combination at days 4 and 6. Data is shown as mean and SEM with individual data points. Data were analysed using one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons test to cells grown in 330 U/mL LIF+ 400 μ M L-proline + DMSO, * $P < 0.05$.

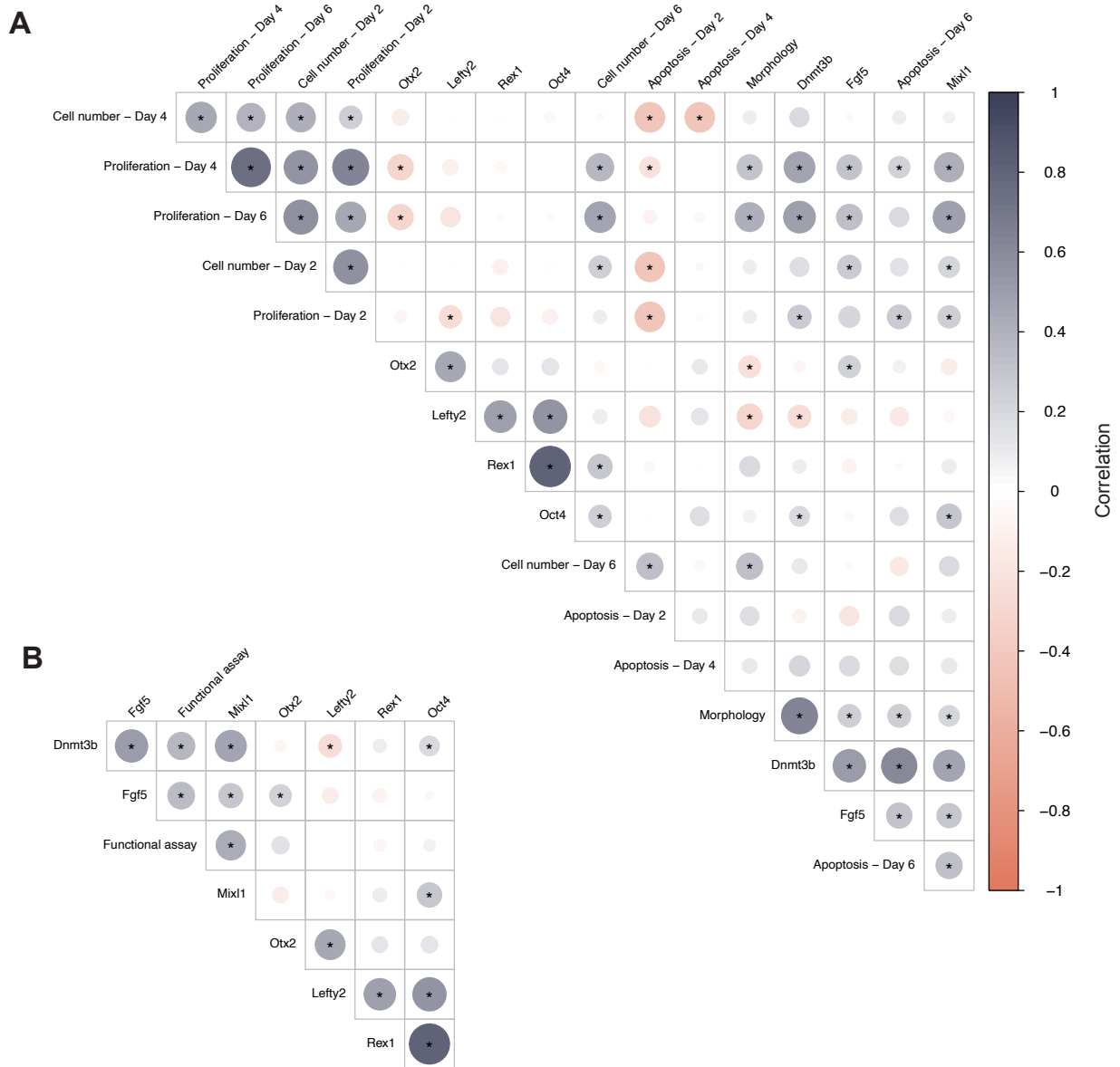


Fig. S6. Correlation matrix illustrates relationships between properties. ESCs were cultured to EPL cells in the presence of each inhibitor combination and assayed for emergent properties (cell number, proliferation, apoptosis, morphology) and gene expression, at the days shown. **A.** Correlation matrix of all parameters ($n \geq 3$), sorted by hierarchical clustering. **B.** The correlation matrix was generated using a subset of the data in panel A, along with paired data from the functional assay. Functional assay data was included as cumulative *Brachyury* expression. Dot size and colour indicate the strength of either a positive (navy) or negative (red) correlation.

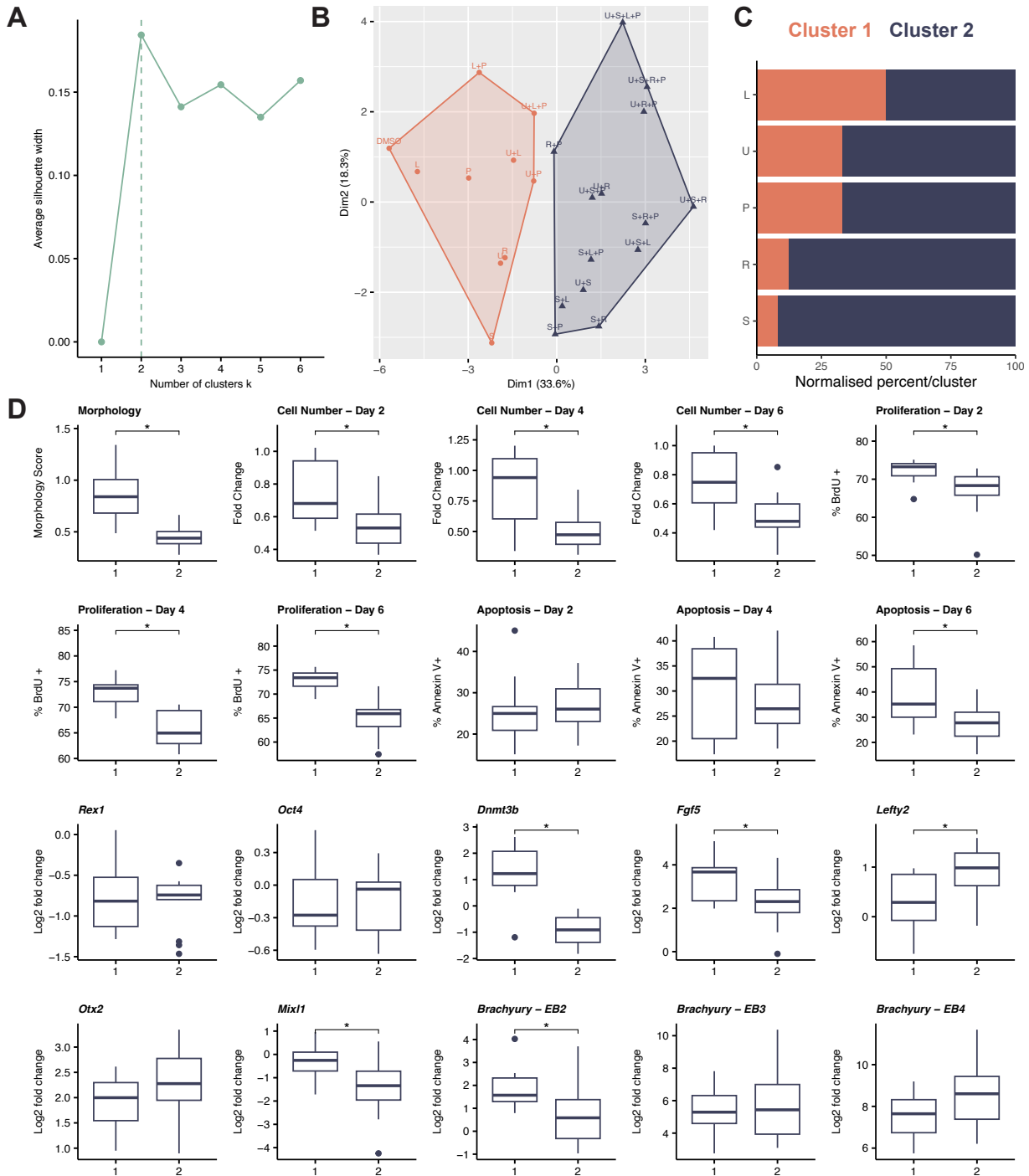


Fig. S7. Kmeans clustering reveals ESC-like and EPL-like clusters. ESCs were cultured to EPL cells in the presence of each inhibitor combination and assayed for emergent properties (cell number, proliferation, apoptosis, morphology) and gene expression, at the days shown. Data from each parameter were Z-scored and then subject to kmeans clusters. **A.** Silhouette score was calculated to inform the number of clusters in the dataset. **B.** Two kmeans clusters were visualised via principal component analysis (PCA). **C.** The frequency of the presence of each inhibitor was calculated and normalised to the number of conditions containing the inhibitor. **D.** Box plots showing the differences in each cluster. Statistical significance was calculated using a two-sided T-test with significance is denoted as $*P < 0.05$.

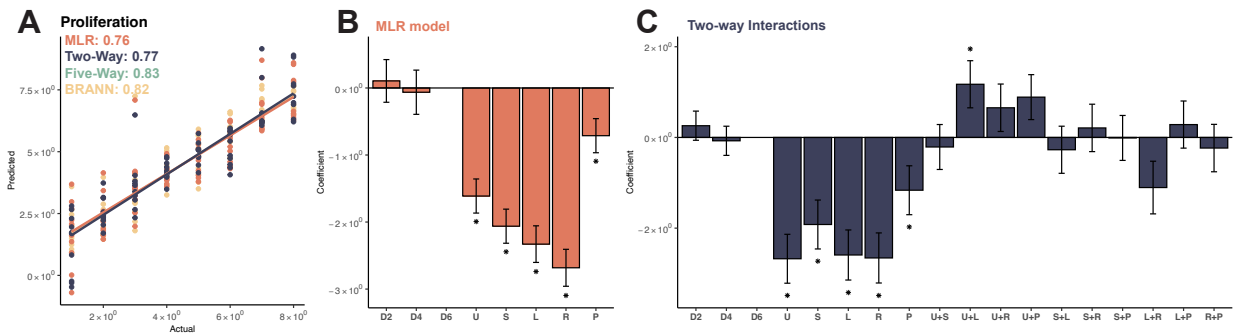


Fig. S8. Alternative model for proliferation data. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). At days 2, 4 and 6 proliferation was measured. Data was averaged across biological replicates where $n \geq 3$. To correct bimodal input data, data was binned into octiles each representing an equal proportion of the data. **A.** Data was modelled using either MLR, MLR with two-way interaction terms or a BRANNGP. Fit of each model is shown comparing the actual fit with the prediction from the model. **B.** Coefficients for each variable \pm SEM for standard MLR. **C.** Coefficients for each variable \pm SEM for MLR with two-way interaction terms. Significance is denoted as $*P < 0.05$.

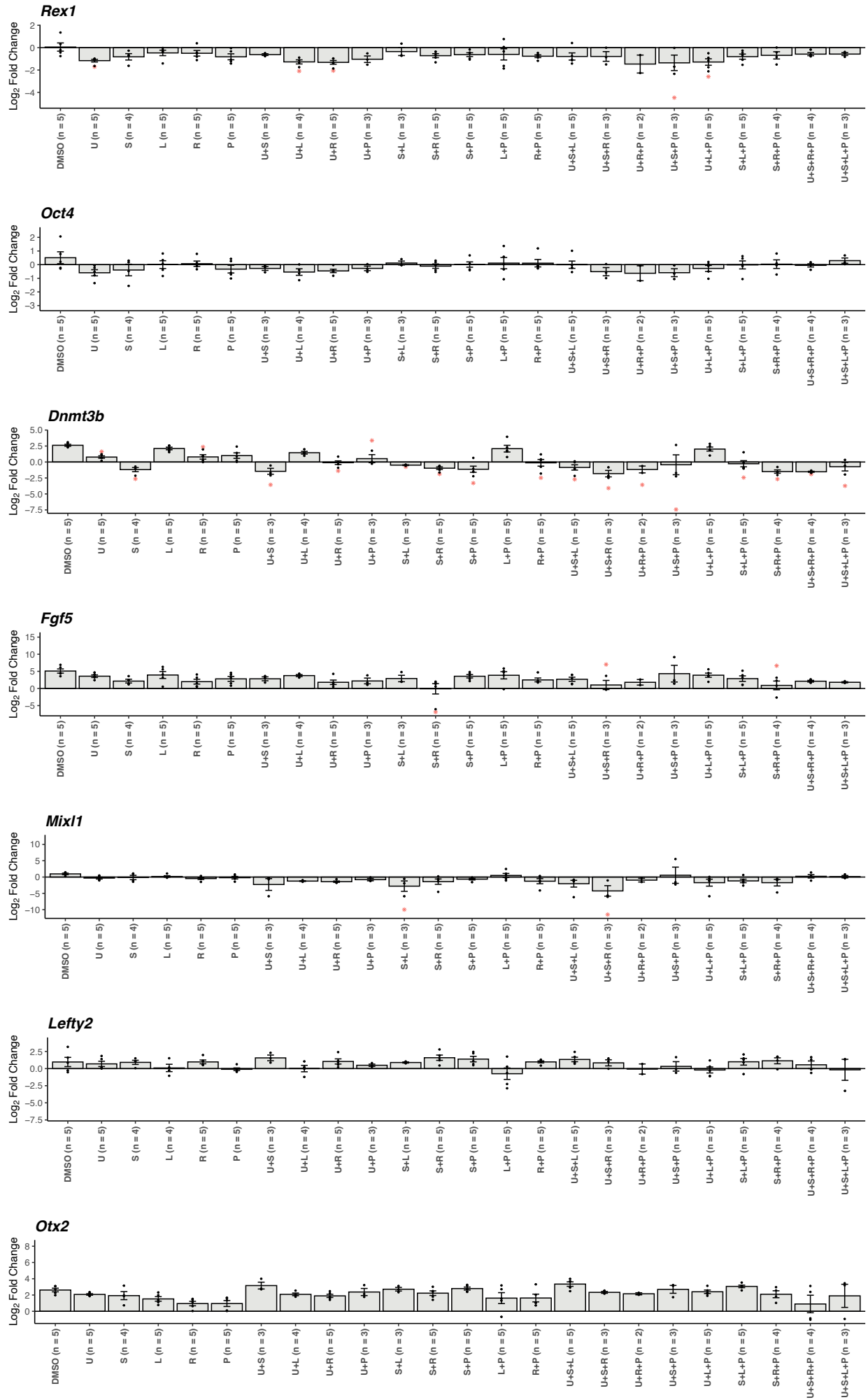


Fig. S9. Gene expression by inhibitor combination. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 µM L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). At day 6, cells were collected and analysed with qRT-PCR for pluripotency genes (*Rex1* and *Oct4*, primitive ectoderm markers (*Dnmt3b*, *Fgf5*, *Lefty2* and *Otx2*), and mesendoderm genes (*Mixl1*). Data is normalised to β -Actin and to cells grown in 1000 U/mL LIF. No data is available for conditions containing L+R as they were considered non-viable at day 2. Data is shown as mean log₂ fold change and SEM with individual data points.

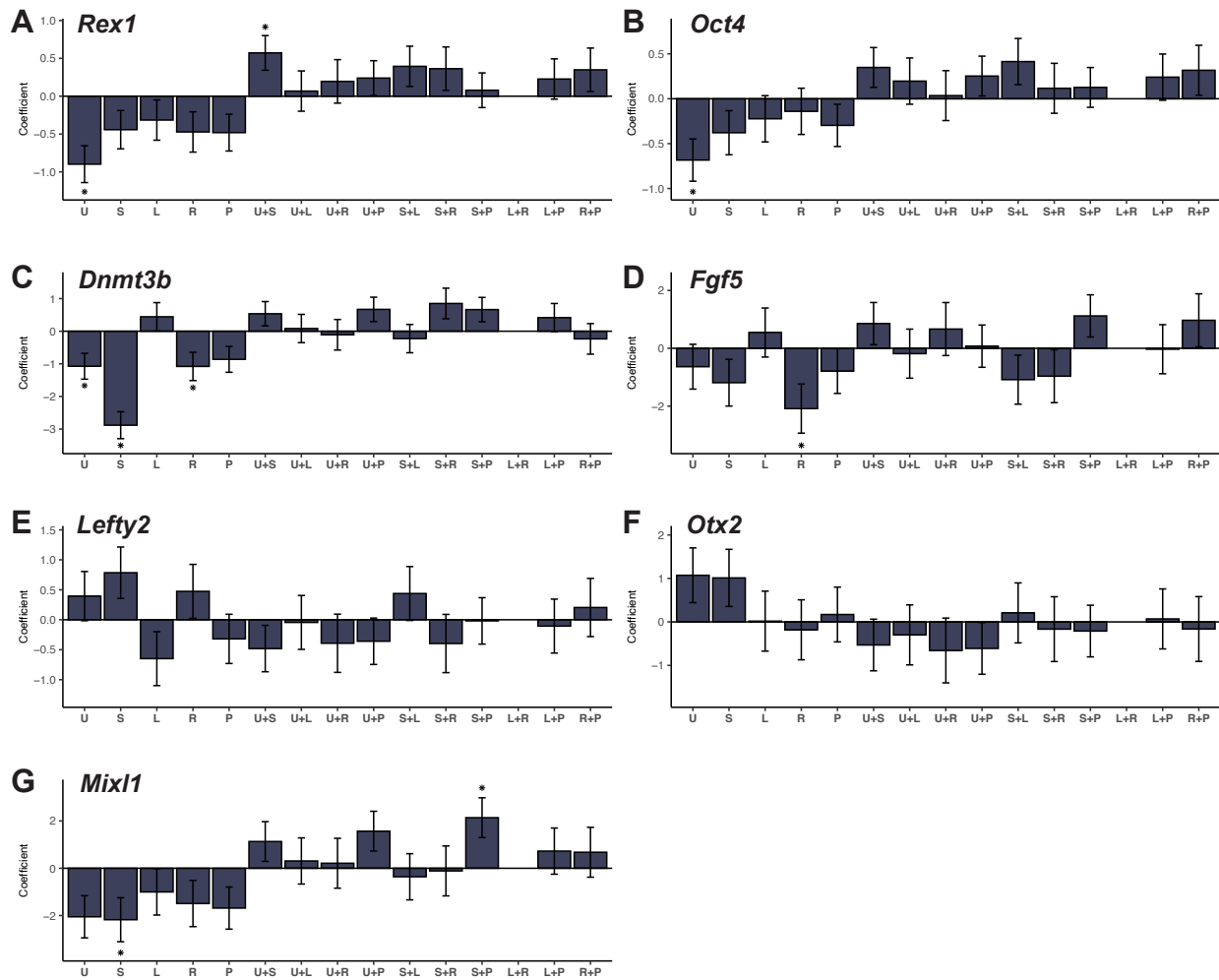


Fig. S10. Two-way interaction models for gene expression data. Naïve ESCs were cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). At day 6, changes in expression of pluripotency genes (*Rex1*, **A** and *Oct4*, **B**), primitive ectoderm markers (*Dnmt3b*, **C**, *Fgf5*, **D**, *Lefty2*, **E** and *Otx2*, **F**), and mesendoderm genes (*Mixl1*, **G**). All samples were normalised to β -Actin and then to cells grown in 1000 U/mL LIF. Data shown is for $n \geq 3$ biological replicates. Data was modelled using MLR with two-way interaction terms. Data shows coefficients for each inhibitor \pm SEM. Significance is denoted as $*P < 0.05$.

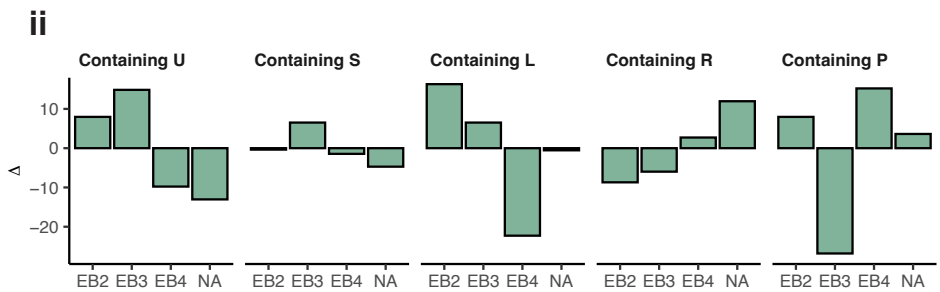
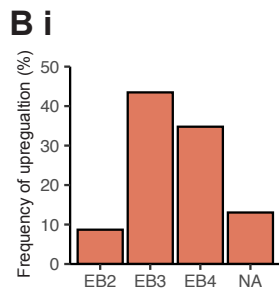
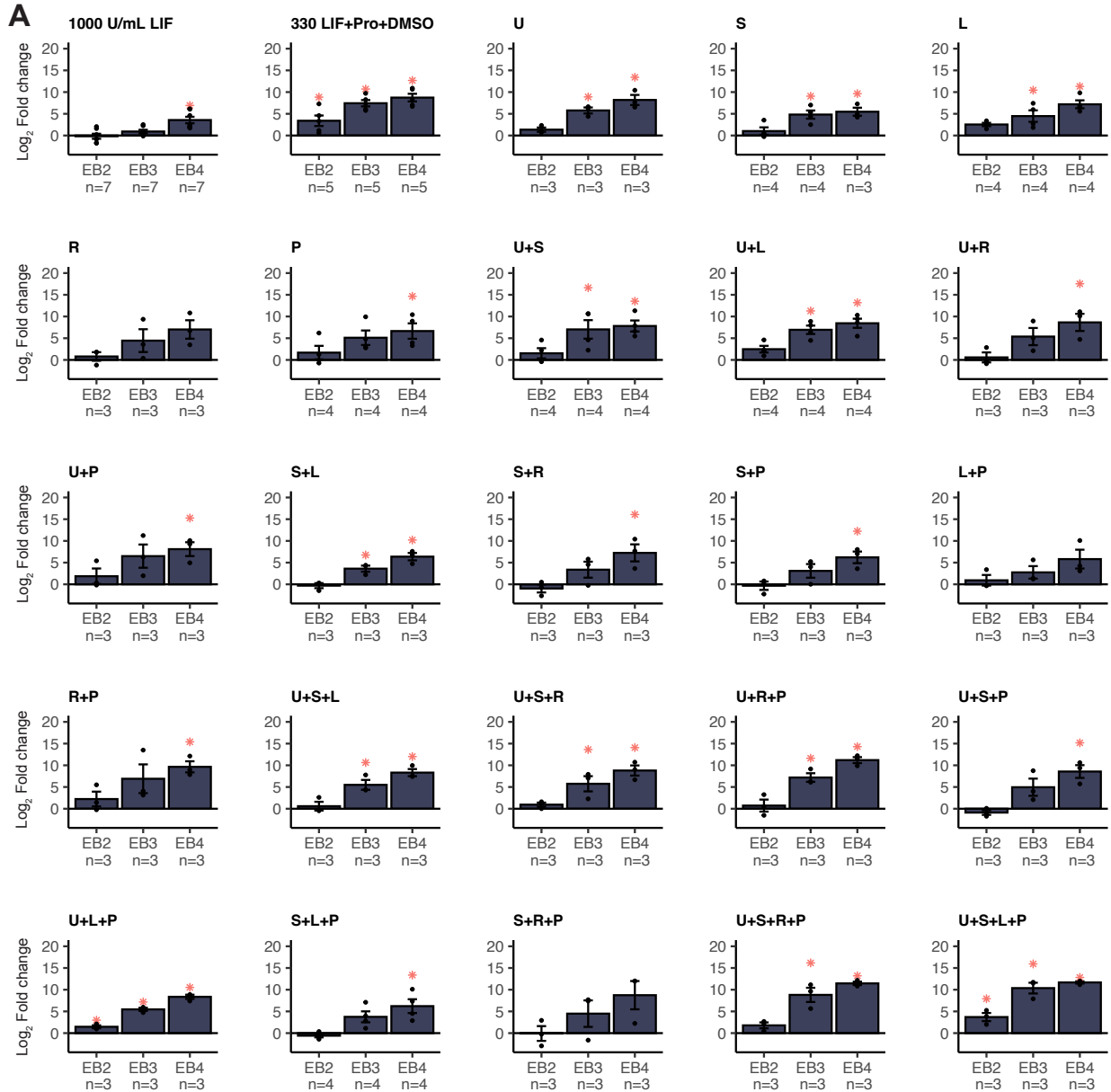


Fig. S11. Functional assay to determine position on the pluripotency continuum.

Naïve ESCs were left maintained in 1000 U/mL LIF or cultured over 6 days in 330 U/mL LIF + 400 μ M L-proline with combinations of five inhibitors (U: U0126; S: SU5402; L: LY294002; R: rapamycin; P: PF-4708671). Day 6 cells were spontaneously differentiated as embryoid bodies (EBs) on low adhesion plates in 0 U/mL LIF. mRNA samples were taken on day 2, 3 and 4 (EB2-4). Samples were analysed using qRT-PCR for *Brachyury* expression, a marker for the primitive streak. All samples were normalised to β -Actin as the reference gene and then to naïve ESCs. **A.** Mean log₂ fold changes are shown \pm SEM with individual data points. Data were analysed using a one-way ANOVA with *posthoc*Dunnett's multiple comparison test to naïve ESCs. Significance is denoted as * $P < 0.05$. **Bi.** Frequency of the first significant upregulation across all inhibitor treated conditions. **Bii.** The change in frequency of first significant upregulation sorted for each condition.

Table S1. Summary of model fits. #Shapiro-Wilks test for normality of input data, and of residuals. If input data is < 0.05 then a transformation is preferential. If residuals are < 0.05 , a linear fit may not be appropriate. Data in red does not pass the Shapiro-Wilks test, and alternate models should be considered. * Indicates that parameters are not relevant for the model style, but have been calculated for completeness. Sigma (σ) indicates standard error.

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Table S2. Comparison of linear models using F-test. P-values of comparison between models. A $P < 0.05$ indicates that the more complex model better explains the data.

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Table S3. Primers used for qRT-PCR

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Table S4. Solutions and buffers used to run and stain western blots.

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Table S5. Antibodies used in western blot staining. All antibodies were diluted in LICOR Odyssey Blocking Buffer with 0.1% (v/v) Tween 20. All antibodies were supplied by Cell Signaling Technologies unless otherwise stated. DSHB: Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank, SCB: Santa Cruz Biotechnology

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Table S6. Splitting data for training and test data. For each input dataset, we trialled splitting data into 80% training data to train the MLR and 20% testing data to check the predictive capacity of the model. Each dataset was subject to 50 random splits, and the mean, median, minimum and maximum of each the training and test adjusted R^2 and standard error (σ), and the distribution of significant variables from the training model.

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