

**Table 1. Hybridization design**

Initial developmental stage	<b>Aggregation</b>	<b>Finger</b>	<b>Mexican hat</b>
Number of biological replicates	2	2	4*
Number of hybridization reactions	2 of 1st biol. rep. 1 of 2nd biol. rep.	3 each	2 each
Biol. rep. $\times$ hybridizations	3	6	8
Total replicates <sup>†</sup>	6	12	16

The experimental samples were RNAs extracted from cells at different time points during dedifferentiation. The common reference sample was a pool of RNAs from cells at different time points during development.

\*The Mexican hat stage was harder to collect from because of its short duration, so more biological replications were needed.

<sup>†</sup>The total number of replicates is  $2 \times \text{biol. rep.} \times \text{hybridizations}$  because each target is printed twice on each array.