## Wavelet Algorithms

The wavelet calculations were completed using Fourier transforms. The exact algorithm is given below in Mathematica code. The FourierConvolve[] function performs a circular convolution of two signals using the convolution theorem. The ScaleWavelet[f, n, s] function takes a wavelet function f, an ideal length n, and a stretch s, and returns the wavelet as a signal of length n stretched by s. The function CWT[signal, f, s0, ds, S] takes the signal, wavelet function f, and variables s0, ds, and S, and returns the continuous wavelet transform of the signal with wavelets scaled according to the formula in Equation S1.

$$s_k = s_0 2^{kds}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots S - 1$$
 (S1)

For the wavelets used in this paper, the values  $s_0=100$ , ds=1/8, and S=60 were used, and all values were measured in picoseconds.

```
FourierConvolve[a_List, b_List] :=
  Times[Sqrt[Length[a]],
   InverseFourier[
    Times[
    Fourier[a, FourierParameters -> {0, -1}],
    Fourier[b, FourierParameters -> {0, -1}]],
    FourierParameters -> {0, -1}]];
ScaleWavelet[wltfunc , n Integer, scale ] :=
  Times[
   1/Sqrt[scale],
   Table[N[wltfunc[k/scale]], {k, -Floor[n/2], Floor[(n - 1)/2]}]];
CWT[signal List, wltfunc_, s0_, ds_, S_Integer] :=
  Module[{n = Length[signal], scales = Table[s0*2^(k*ds), {k, 0, S - 1}]},
  Map[
    FourierConvolve[
    signal,
    RotateLeft[ScaleWavelet[wltfunc, n, #], Floor[n/2]]] &,
    scales]];
Morlet[t ] := Pi^(-1/4) *Exp[-t^2/2] *Exp[2*Pi*I*t];
Paul[t ] := 8*Sqrt[2/(35*Pi)]*(1 - I*t)^(-5);
```

For example, if a the variable x contained the x-coordinate of an atom over time, then the continuous wavelet transform using the Paul wavelet as described in this paper could be obtained with the command wlt=CWT[x, Paul, 105, 1/8, 60]. The value of wlt[[1]] is the

wavelet coefficient vector with a scale of 105 ps while the the value of wlt[[41]] is the wavelet coefficient vector with a scale of  $105*2^{40/8} = 3.36$  ns.

Once the wavelet coordinates are collected, significance testing is performed using the algorithm below. The WaveletSignificance[wlt, scales, x, pval, correction] function returns the wavelength of the frequency most strongly matched by the model described in this paper. The wlt parameter is the wavelet coordinates as generated by the CWT[] function while the scales variable should be a list of the scales calculated in CWT[]. The x parameter is the same as that passed to CWT[] while the pval is the minimum *p*-value acceptable for the significance test. Finally the correction parameter is the scale-to-wavelength factor described in the paper (1.01 for Morlet, 1.389 for Paul).

```
WaveletSignificance[wlt List, scales List, x List, pval, correction] :=
 Module
   {n = Length[wlt[[1]]]},
    chival = (InverseCDF[ChiSquareDistribution[2], t] /. t -> (1 - pval))/2,
    res = Table[{0, 0}, {Length[wlt[[1]]]}],
    var = Variance[x],
    tmp, min},
   Scan[
    Function[{s},
     min = (0.00647*(correction*scales[[s]])^1.41344 + 19.7527)*chival;
     res = Table[
       (tmp = Abs[wlt[[s, k]]]^2/var;
        If[res[[k, 2]] < tmp && min < tmp,</pre>
         {correction*scales[[s]], tmp},
         res[[k]]]),
       {k, 1, n}]],
    Range[1, Length[scales]]];
   First[Transpose[res]]];
```

Note that in the case of a wavelet with no imaginary part, the fourth line would be as follows.

```
chival = (InverseCDF[ChiSquareDistribution[1], t] /. t -> (1 - pval)),
```



Figure S1. Comparison of the engrailed homeodomain (a) to the DNA-binding domain of ADR6 (b).