

Before After optimization optimization Supplementary Figure 1: Loss of function screens with Cas9 and KRAB-dCas9 using a tiling sgRNA library. (A) Heat-map showing unsupervised hierarchal clustering of proliferation changes induced by suppression of *HPRT1* using different concentrations of 6TG and Cas9 or KRAB-dCas9 (in pLX311 or pHR). (B) Comparison of proliferation changes induced by Cas9 and KRAB-dCas9 following introduction of *HPRT1* targeting sgRNAs in A375 cells treated with 15 µM of 6TG. TSS targeting sgRNAs are colored in blue and exon targeting sgRNAs are colored in red. (C) Proliferation changes induced by sgRNAs targeting the indicated genes, in cells expressing Cas9 (red) or KRAB-dCas9 (blue). Only efficient sgRNAs (as determined by the sgRNA predictive algorithm) are shown for KRAB-dCas9 and only exon targeting sgRNAs are shown for Cas9. (D) Performance of sgRNA predictive model on core cell essential genes using NCBI ref seq TSS annotations or (E) FAMTOM CAGE-Seq TSS annotations. (F) ROC curve of sgRNA predictive model using TSS annotations from RefSeq (blue) or CAGE-Seq (red). (G) Distribution of sgRNAs targeting core cell essential genes before and after using the sgRNA optimization algorithm. (H) Percent of effective sgRNAs targeting core cell essential genes before and after sgRNA optimization algorithm.



bidirectional promoters

Supplementary Figure 2: Comparison of Cas9 and KRAB-dCas9 experiments in identifying core essential genes. P-values were computed based on z-test, where the null distribution were computed based on sgRNAs targeting AAVS locus. (A) sgRNAs targeting exons were used for Cas9 analysis. (B) sgRNAs targeting primary CAGE-Seq TSSs were used in KRAB-dCas9 analysis. (C-E) Violin plot showing distribution of proliferation changes induced by intron-targeting sgRNAs that are aligned to multiple genomic loci, in Cas9 (red) or KRAB-dCAs9 (blue) expressing cells. (C) 1 mismatch was allowed when aligning these sgRNAs to the human genome. (D) Only 17 bp in 3' of the spacer are used for alignment. (E) Only 18 bp in 3' of the spacer are used for alignment. (F) Percent of genes that are scored to be cell essential in CRISPRi. Genes were categorized based on their distance to nearest cell essential gene scored in CRISPRc. (G) Percent of RefSeq genes that are associated with bidirectional promoters, which were defined based on the threshold of distance between the TSSs of two proximal genes transcribed towards opposite directions.