

Supplementary Materials for

Single-base mapping of m⁶A by an antibody-independent method

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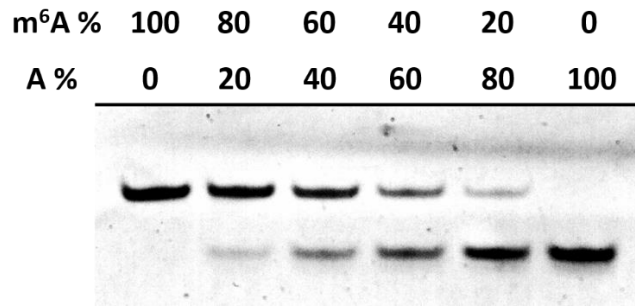


Fig. S1. Quantitative demonstration of various fractions of m⁶A-containing oligo mixed with unmethylated oligo digested by ChpBK.

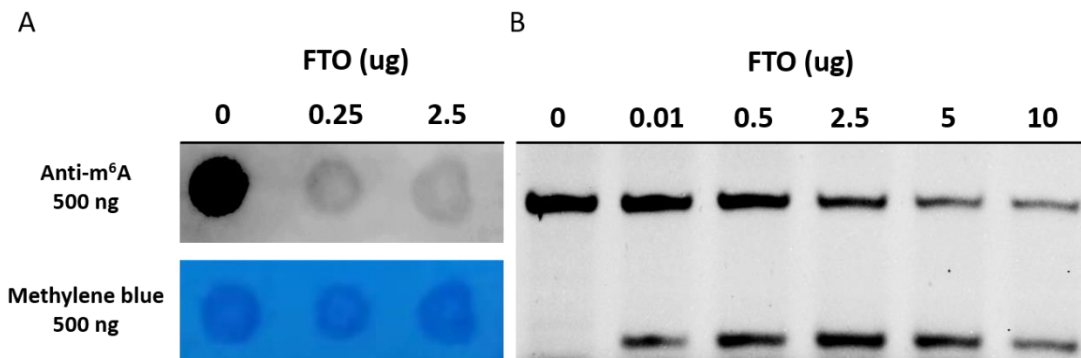


Fig. S2. FTO demethylate assay. (A) Dot-blot assay. (B) Detection of FTO demethylation reaction with different FTO concentration by MazF cleavage assay.

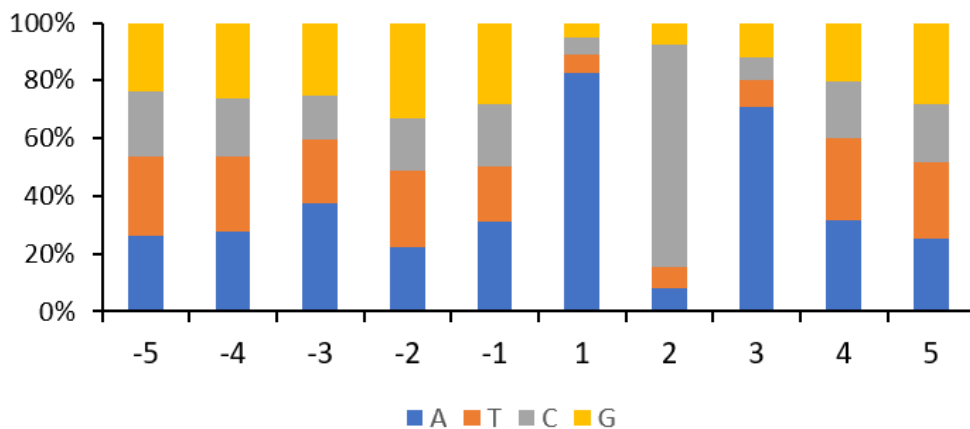


Fig. S3. The base composition of mRNA products cleaved by MazF. The x-axis indicates the relative position to 5' terminal. Most reads contained the ACA 5' end as shown in the position 1, 2 and 3.

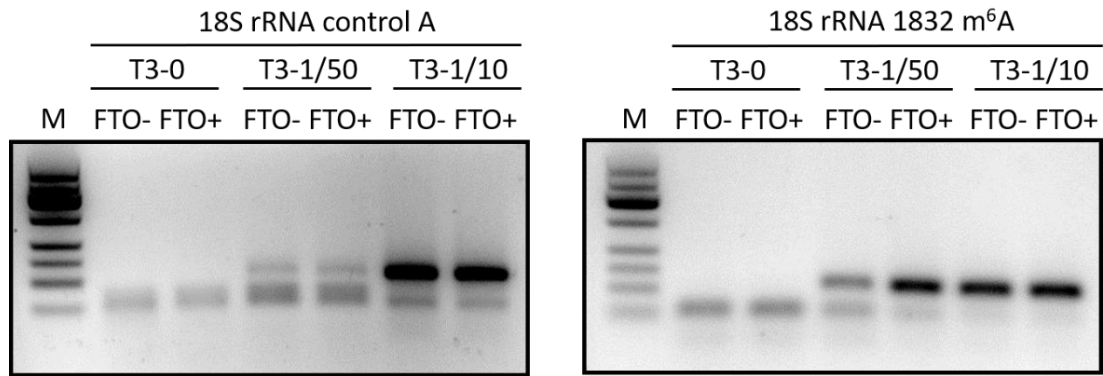


Fig. S4. The single-site validation for 18S rRNA control site and m⁶A site. The ligation reaction with 500 ng total RNA template was performed at room temperature for 10 min. Different amounts (1/10 ul to 1/50 ul) of T3 ligase was used. FTO- indicated the reaction without FTO demethylation while FTO+ indicated the FTO treatment. The 1/50 ul T3 ligase reaction was able to distinguish the m⁶A from A. M indicated the 50 bp marker, ranging from 50 bp to 600 bp.

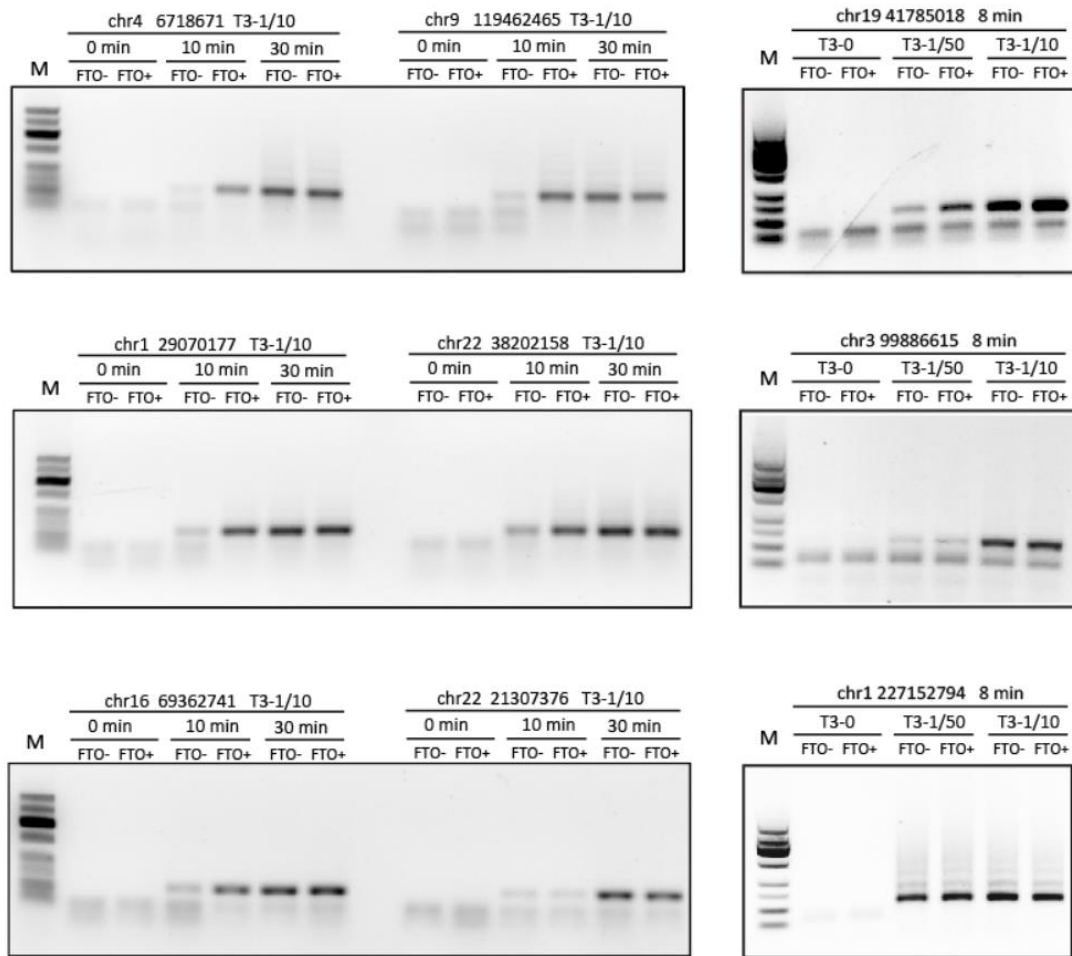


Fig. S5. The single-site validation of eight m⁶A sites and one unmethylated site. Eight m⁶A sites and one A site (chr22: 21307376) were picked from m⁶A-REF-seq. Six out of eight m⁶A sites were confirmed to be m⁶A sites. The amount of T3 ligase (ul) and ligation time in each reaction were indicated in the figures. FTO⁻ indicated the mRNA without FTO demethylation while FTO⁺ indicated the FTO treatment. M indicated the 50 bp marker, ranging from 50 bp to 600 bp.

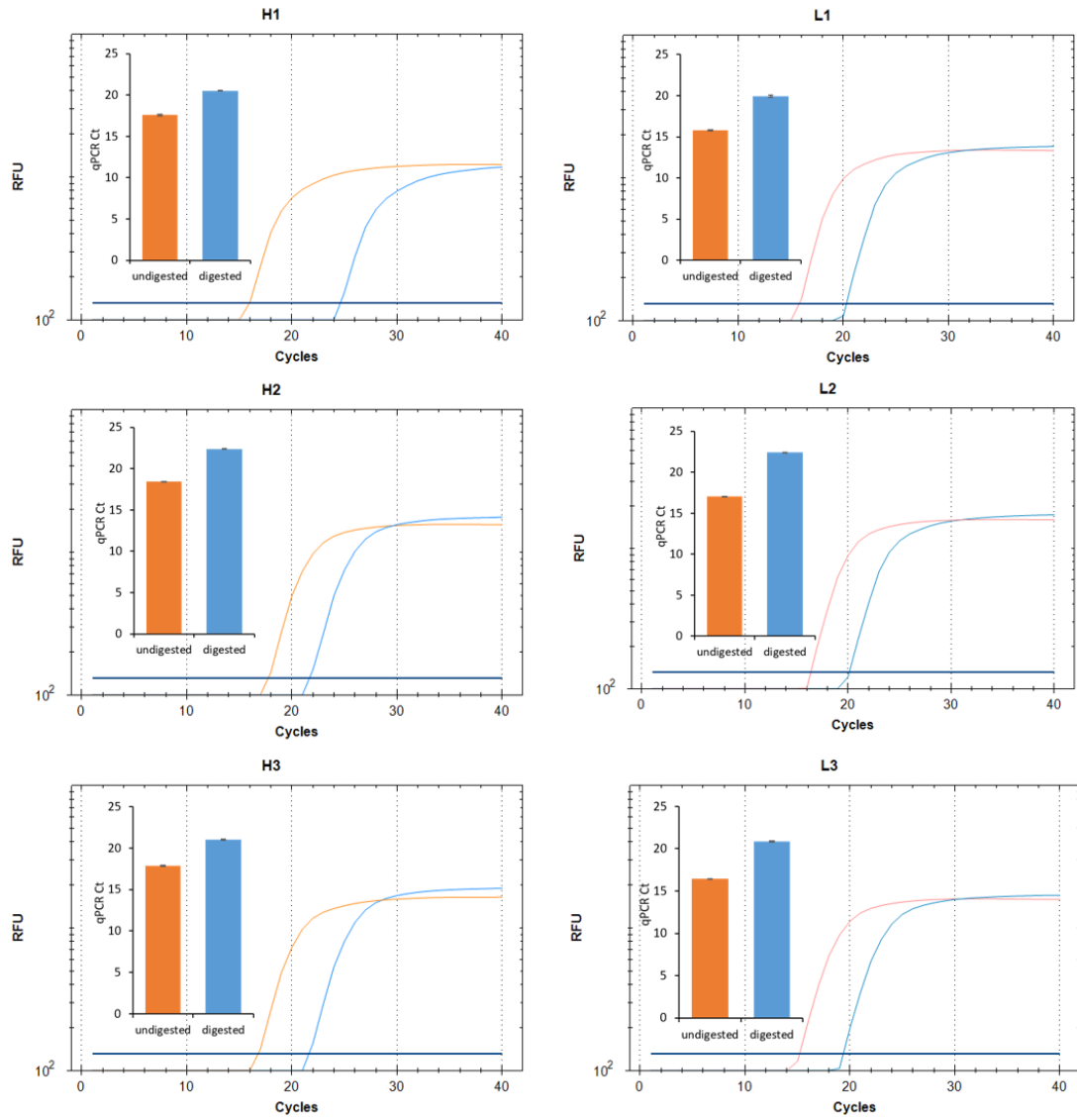


Fig. S6. Quantitative PCR results of six m⁶A sites. H1-H3 were high level methylated sites (> 0.75) while L1-L3 were low level methylated sites (< 0.35). See Supplementary Table S3 for designed primers.

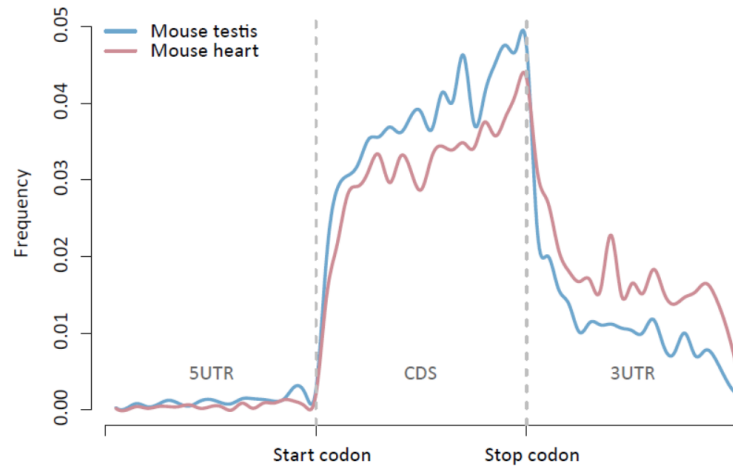


Fig. S7. Metagene plots of m⁶A in mouse heart and mouse testis.

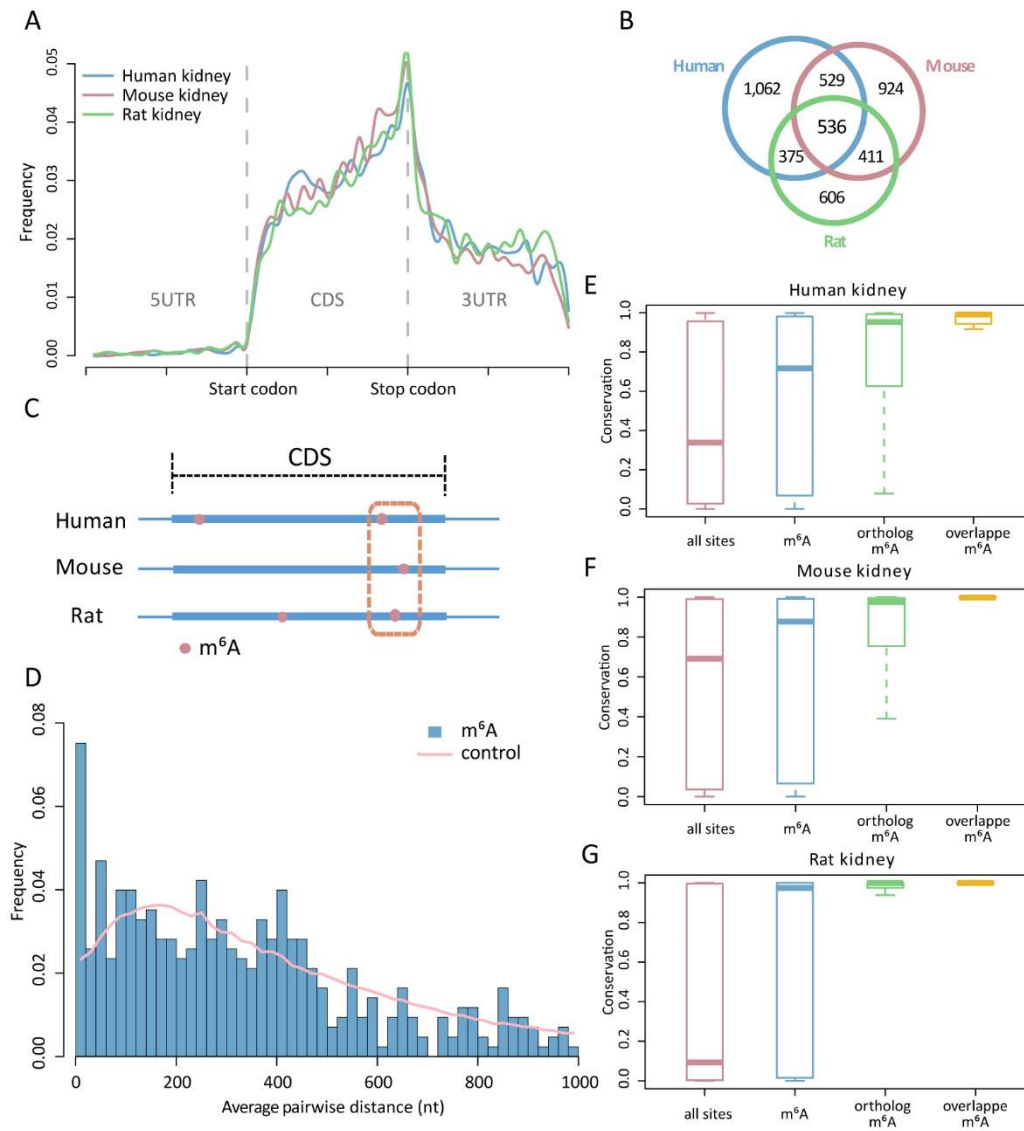


Fig. S8. Conservation of m⁶A in mammalian kidney. (A) Metagenes plots of m⁶A in the kidney of human, mouse and rat. (B) Shared m⁶A-modified genes among three species. (C) Diagram showing the m⁶A sites conserved in the corresponding short regions from different species. (D) Frequency of distances for pairwise m⁶A in kidney. Randomly picked ACA motifs were assigned for the same analysis as control. (E-G) Conservation scores of all m⁶A sites, methylation sites in ortholog genes and conserved m⁶A sites were compared to that for all A sites in ACA motifs (Wilcoxon test, p-values < 2×10⁻⁷).

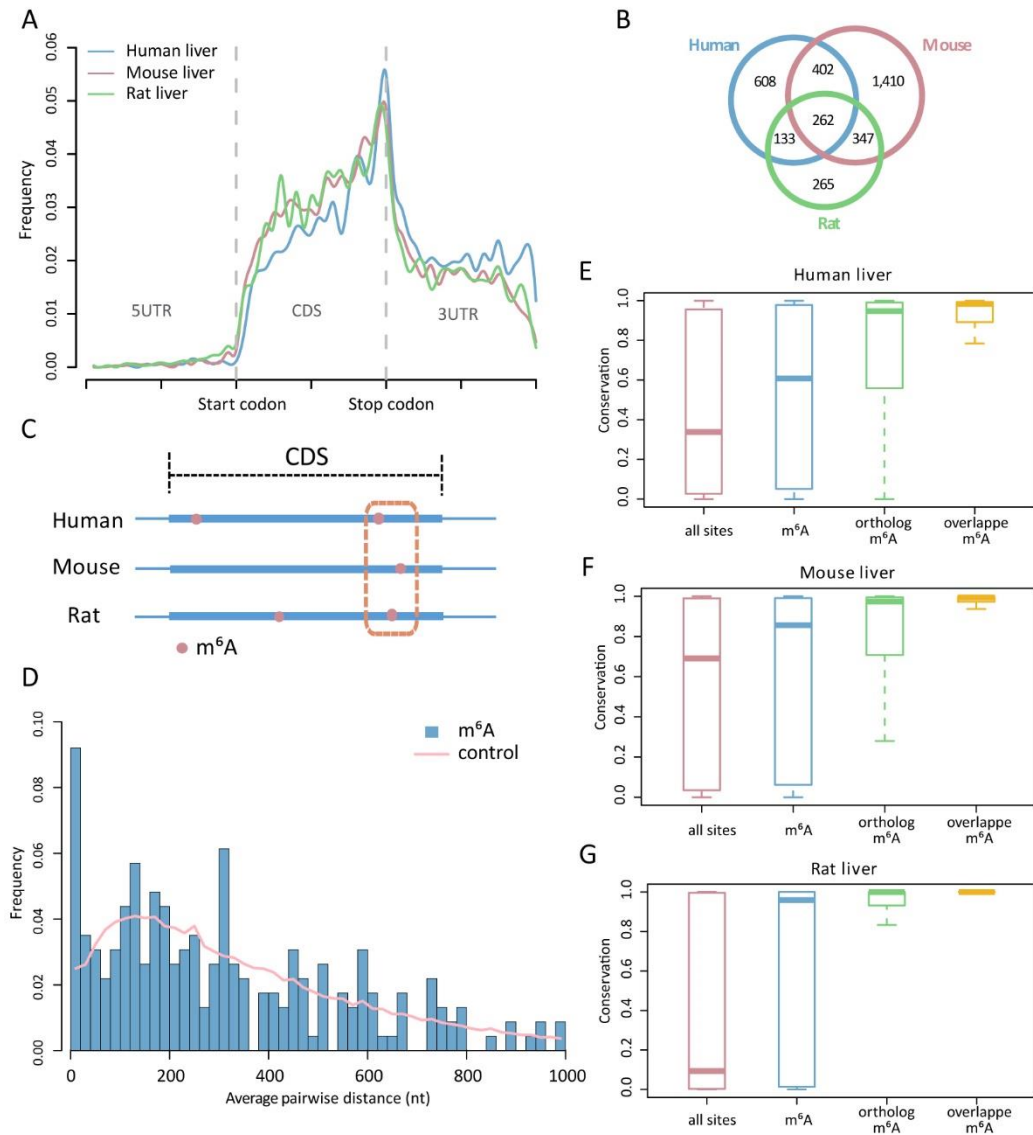


Fig. S9. Conservation of m⁶A in mammalian liver. (A) Metagene plots of m⁶A in the liver of human, mouse and rat. (B) Shared m⁶A-modified genes among three species. (C) Diagram showing the m⁶A sites conserved in the corresponding short regions from different species. (D) Frequency of distances for pairwise m⁶A in liver. Randomly picked ACA motifs were assigned for the same analysis as control. (E-G) Conservation scores of all m⁶A sites, methylation sites in ortholog genes and conserved m⁶A sites were compared to that for all A sites in ACA motifs (Wilcoxon test, p-values < 0.0003).

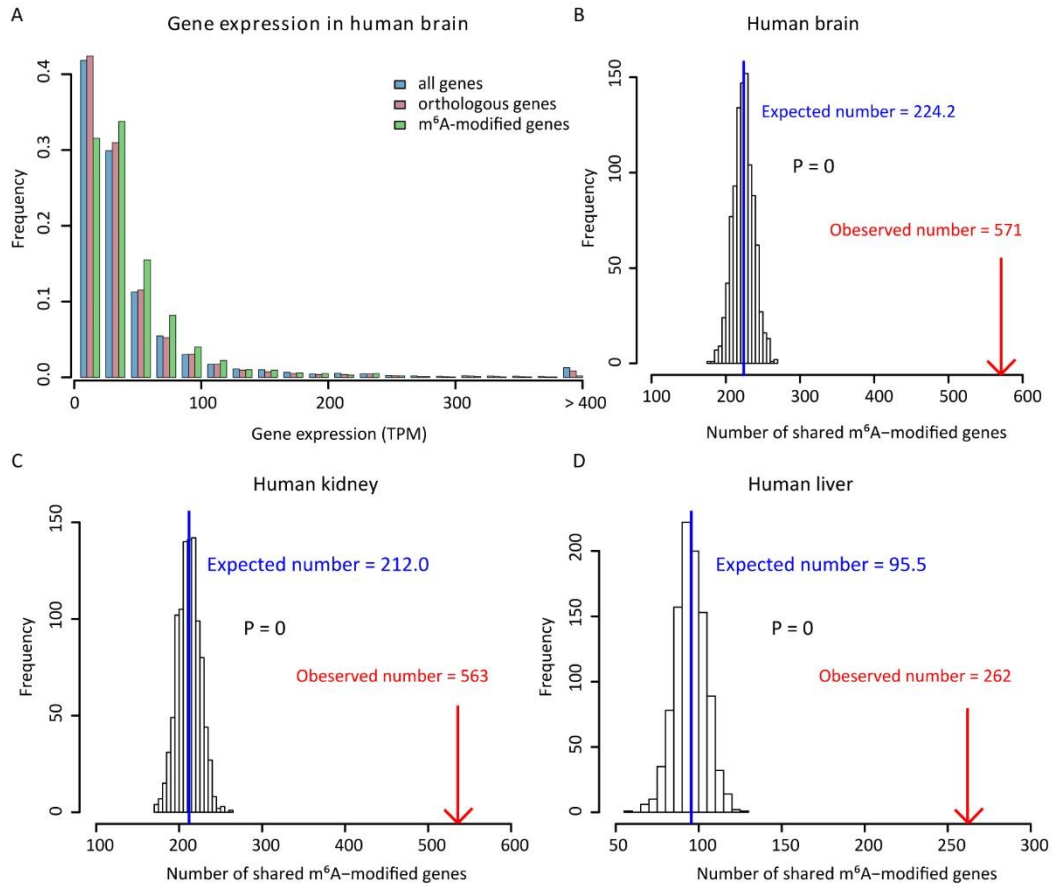


Fig. S10. Gene expression and the expected number of shared m⁶A-modified genes. (A) The distribution of gene expressions of all genes, ortholog genes and m⁶A-modified genes in human brain. The tissue specific expression data were obtained from GTEx Analysis V7 (<https://www.gtexportal.org/home/datasets>). (B-D) In order to control the potential detection bias between highly and lowly expressed genes, we ranked the expressions of ortholog genes and divided them into 10 equal-sized bins for random sampling. In each bin, we randomly picked k genes, where k is the number of human m⁶A-modified genes in this bin, and counted the number of mouse and rat m⁶A-modified genes within these k genes; this number represents the expected number of m⁶A-modified genes in the bin that were shared in all three species by chance. This step was performed for all bins and the total number (T) of m⁶A-modified genes in all species by chance was obtained. We repeated this process 1,000 times and plotted the distribution of acquired 1,000 T values. The actual number of shared m⁶A-modified genes among three species in the human brain, kidney and liver (571, 563 and 262, respectively) were significantly greater than expected number from random sampling. Hence, controlling for the potential detection bias does not alter the conclusion that m⁶A-modified genes are evolutionarily conserved.

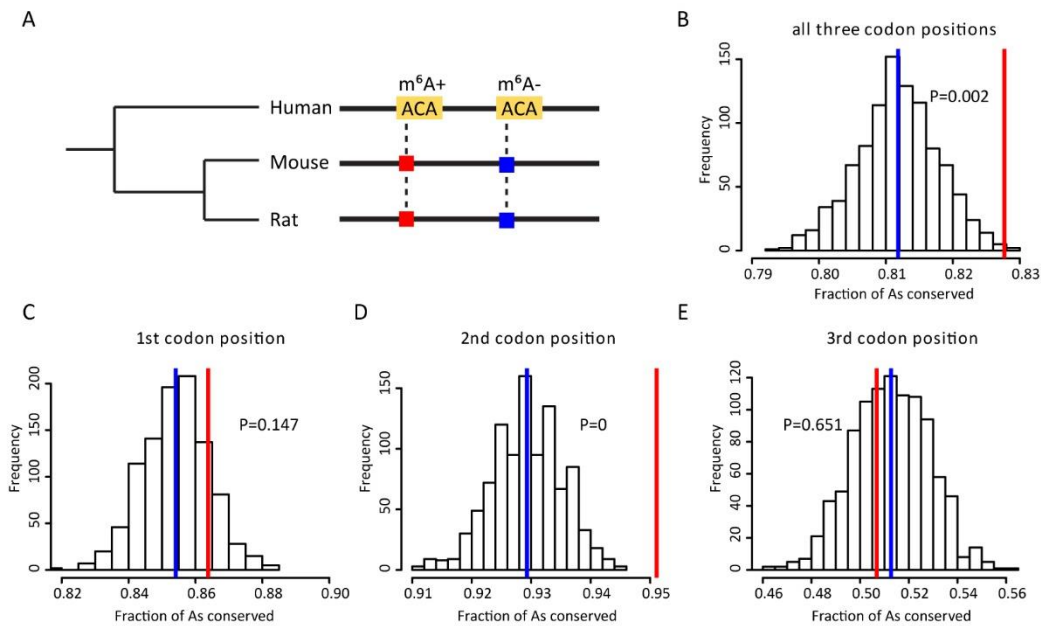


Fig. S11. Evolutionary conservation between methylated and unmethylated A sites in the same genes of brain tissue. (A) Schematic diagram illustrating the evolutionary conservation between methylated (m^6A+) and unmethylated (m^6A-) sites in human, mouse and rat. We test whether human m^6A sites are more likely than unmethylated A to remain A in mouse and rat. The human ACA motifs are highlighted in yellow. The red and blue box indicates the corresponding sites in mouse and rat. (B-E) Frequency distribution of the fraction of conserved human m^6A- sites in 1,000 random sets with the sample size equal to the number of m^6A+ sites at all three codon positions (B) or at three codon positions respectively (C-E). Red and blue lines indicate the fraction of conserved m^6A+ sites and the mean fraction of conserved m^6A- sites in 1,000 random sets for all positions or individual codon positions concerned. P-value is the fraction of the distribution on the right side of the red line.

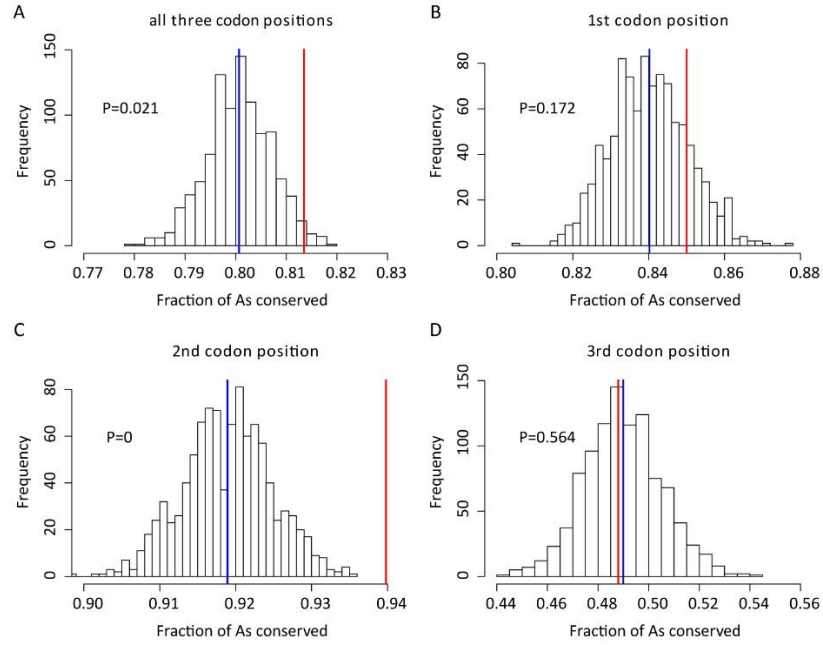


Fig. S12. Evolutionary conservation between methylated and unmethylated A sites in the same genes of kidney tissue. Schematic diagram illustrating the evolutionary conservation between methylated (m^6A^+) and unmethylated (m^6A^-) sites in human, mouse and rat is the same as Fig. S11A. Frequency distribution of the fraction of conserved human m^6A^- sites in 1,000 random sets with the sample size equal to the number of m^6A^+ sites at all three codon positions (A) or at three codon positions separately (B-D). Red and blue lines respectively indicate the fraction of conserved m^6A^+ sites and the mean fraction of conserved m^6A^- sites in 1,000 random sets for all positions or individual codon positions concerned. P-value is the fraction of the distribution on the right side of the red line.

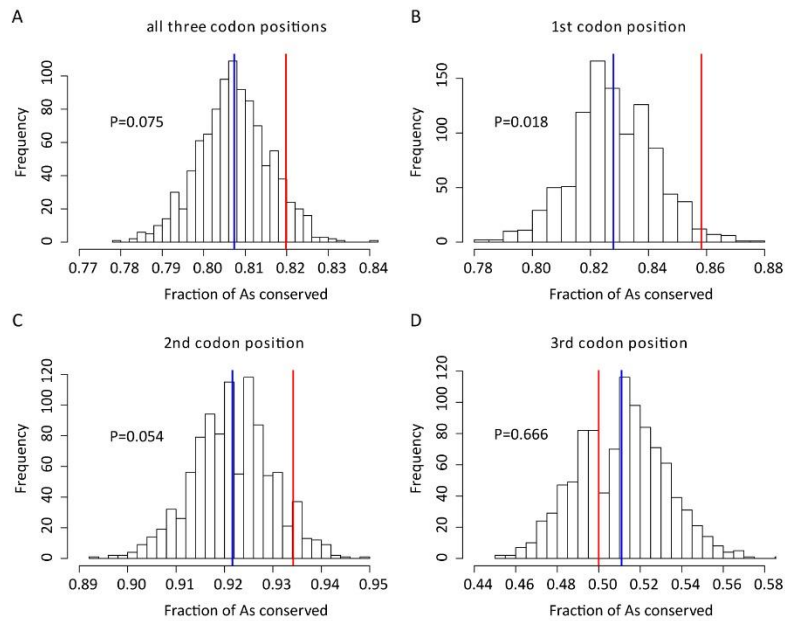


Fig. S13. Evolutionary conservation between methylated and unmethylated A sites in the same genes of liver tissue. Schematic diagram illustrating the evolutionary conservation between methylated (m^6A^+) and unmethylated (m^6A^-) sites in human, mouse and rat is the same as Fig. S11A. Frequency distribution of the fraction of conserved human m^6A^- sites in 1,000 random sets with the sample size equal to the number of m^6A^+ sites at all three codon positions (**A**) or at three codon positions separately (**B-D**). Red and blue lines respectively indicate the fraction of conserved m^6A^+ sites and the mean fraction of conserved m^6A^- sites in 1,000 random sets for all positions or individual codon positions concerned. P-value is the fraction of the distribution on the right side of the red line.

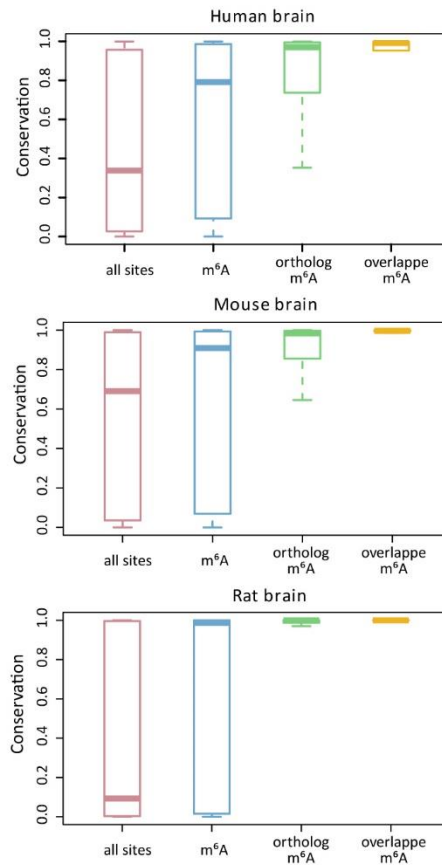


Fig. S14. Conservation scores for brain. Conservation scores of all m⁶A sites, methylation sites in ortholog genes and conserved m⁶A sites were compared to that for all A sites in ACA motifs (Wilcoxon test, p-values < 9×10⁻¹⁰).

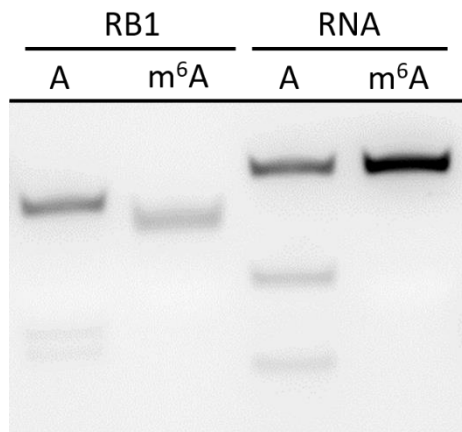


Fig. S15. Validation for the methylation sensitivity of mutated MazF-K56A. Two synthetic RNA oligonucleotides were used as the substrates (RB1 and RNA). The sequences can be found in Methods section.

Table S1. Basic information of sequencing data for human HEK293T cell line.

Replicates	Treatment	Clean data (million reads)	Mapped reads (million reads)	Mean coverage (Q20*)	# covered transcripts
Rep1-MazF	MazF	20.14	15.15	2.96	30,235
Rep1-FTO	FTO-MazF	33.29	24.90	4.14	31,271
Rep2-MazF	MazF	21.02	15.59	2.96	30,338
Rep2-FTO	FTO-MazF	18.49	13.56	2.75	30,614
Rep3-MazF	MazF	23.62	17.67	3.21	30,490
Rep3-FTO	FTO-MazF	15.00	10.19	2.23	30,129

* Q20 indicated mapping quality ≥ 20 .

Table S2. Designed probes and universal primers for T3 ligase-based validation. rG and rU indicates ribonucleotide.

Chr.	Location	Probe	Sequences
chr4	6718671	probe L	CCATAAGCAGGATTGCAATTCACCTCATACTGGAGGTAAG ATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr4	6718671	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCAAGTAACTTTAAAATCCCACACT CCAACATCATATATrGrU
chr9	119462465	probe L	CACTGAAAAGGTGGAGCAGATCCCCTGAAGCATGCACAGT GATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr9	119462465	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCACTGAGACATAATGTTACGGGAA TATGATGTCTTAAATrGrU
chr1	29070177	probe L	CCACTGCCGTTGACACTGAAAAGTAAGTAAACGGGGCCCTTG ATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr1	29070177	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCACAGCAGATTTCATTTCTGC CACGCCACAGAAGTrGrU
chr22	38202158	probe L	CCGCAAGAAAAGACTTCATTGTCACTTCTTCTTGCCGGCCG ATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr22	38202158	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCAAGAAAATTATTACAGAAAATAG GAGACAGGAGGGAGTrGrU
chr16	69362741	probe L	CCGTAAGTATTTCAAGGGCAAACATTTCTGACATCTTCTCTGA TATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr16	69362741	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTGGGGGTGATTTTCTCCTCAAGTT GTAGCCAACATTTTrGrU
chr22	21307376	probe L	TCATATTCCTCTGAGCAAACATCACAAGAGCAGTGGCCATG ATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr22	21307376	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTGGCAAAAAACCACATCATCCCTT TTCAAAAATAAAATrGrU
chr1	227152794	probe L	GGAGGCTCCGGCTGCATGCGGGACTGAGAAGTGAACTCC GATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr1	227152794	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTGCGCTGACTGGTCTGGGAGCGGAG GCTGAAGAGAAGTCTrGrU
chr3	99886615	probe L	GGTTCCTCCTAAGTTTTACCCACTTAGGACAAATTTCTTTGA TATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr3	99886615	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTGCGATGATCAGCATCAGGAC CGATTTCTTCTCACTrGrU
chr19	41785018	probe L	AGACGGAAGGTGCTTCACGGAGATTTCTCATTGATCTTCG ATATCGACCTGTACCTCT
chr19	41785018	probe R	ATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTGGGACCAGCCGATACGGACCAG TGGGGGTCAGGCTCTrGrU
Universal primers	FP		CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCT
Universal primers	RP		AGAGGTACAGGTTCGATATCA

Table S3. Designed primers for Quantitative PCR validation.

Chr.	Location	Probe ID	Sequences
chr16	87865500	H1-FP	TGTCACGCTCATGTCCTGTC
chr16	87865500	H1-RP	CACGGGAACAACAGAAACAA
chr6	31130366	H2-FP	TCCTCGGAAGTACCCAGTGA
chr6	31130366	H2-RP	ACATGGAACCAGACGTCACA
chr19	41785018	H3-FP	TTGCATACCTGTGGTCAGGA
chr19	41785018	H3-RP	AGGAGAAAGGCTCTTCGCCT
chr9	131763970	L1-FP	TCCTCACCCTCTAGAGGTG
chr9	131763970	L1-RP	GTTGGTGCTCAGCTGGTACA
chr19	59059888	L2-FP	TCAATGCCTGGACCAAGAGT
chr19	59059888	L2-RP	ATAGCCTTCCTGCACCTCCA
chr16	30537003	L3-FP	TCAACTGGTGTCTGGCTGAT
chr16	30537003	L3-RP	CACCATAGGAGAGTCTCAGT
--	--	Gapdh-FP	TGAGTACGTCGTGGAGTCCA
--	--	Gapdh-RP	TTCACACCCATGACGAACAT

Table S4. Basic information of sequencing data for mammalian tissues.

Species	Tissue	Treatment	Clean data (million reads)	Mapped reads (million reads)	Mean coverage (Q20*)	# covered transcripts
Human	Brain	MazF	24.62	18.19	2.20	35,285
Human	Brain	FTO-MazF	24.79	18.24	2.11	35,295
Human	Liver	MazF	26.55	19.44	2.43	33,849
Human	Liver	FTO-MazF	27.61	19.92	2.24	33,695
Human	Kidney	MazF	26.58	18.36	2.30	34,859
Human	Kidney	FTO-MazF	23.03	16.48	2.03	34,660
Mouse	Brain	MazF	14.13	7.46	1.82	46,194
Mouse	Brain	FTO-MazF	29.43	17.71	2.52	47,537
Mouse	Liver	MazF	21.53	11.73	2.82	42,522
Mouse	Liver	FTO-MazF	21.05	11.45	2.75	42,194
Mouse	Kidney	MazF	18.71	10.99	2.17	44,831
Mouse	Kidney	FTO-MazF	27.30	15.57	2.48	45,584
Mouse	Heart	MazF	15.76	8.31	1.96	44,363
Mouse	Heart	FTO-MazF	49.02	27.23	6.88	46,070
Mouse	Testis	MazF	17.09	10.41	1.93	52,981
Mouse	Testis	FTO-MazF	25.47	14.83	2.23	53,674
Rat	Brain	MazF	10.90	7.26	1.58	54,593
Rat	Brain	FTO-MazF	12.81	8.14	1.60	55,004
Rat	Liver	MazF	12.55	7.52	2.31	48,170
Rat	Liver	FTO-MazF	15.82	9.75	2.58	48,489
Rat	Kidney	MazF	14.83	9.13	2.06	53,011
Rat	Kidney	FTO-MazF	14.45	8.67	1.93	52,712

* Q20 indicated mapping quality ≥ 20 .

Table S5. m⁶A sites identified by m⁶A-REF-seq for mammalian tissues.

Species	Tissue	# m ⁶ A sites
Human	Brain	9,244
Human	Liver	5,312
Human	Kidney	9,225
Mouse	Brain	16,161
Mouse	Liver	8,318
Mouse	Kidney	7,938
Mouse	Heart	4,419
Mouse	Testis	9,456
Rat	Brain	4,720
Rat	Liver	3,554
Rat	Kidney	6,907

Table S6. Shared m⁶A-modified genes and m⁶A sites between pairwise species and the significance. The hypergeometric test was used to test the significance.

Brain				Brain			
shared-m ⁶ A genes				shared-m ⁶ A sites			
	Human	Mouse	Rat		Human	Mouse	Rat
Human		1,456	704	Human		229	105
Mouse	8.6×10^{-311}		1,003	Mouse	1.2×10^{-26}		267
Rat	9.8×10^{-197}	2.7×10^{-322}		Rat	2.1×10^{-30}	1.2×10^{-105}	
Kidney				Kidney			
shared-m ⁶ A genes				shared-m ⁶ A sites			
	Human	Mouse	Rat		Human	Mouse	Rat
Human		1,065	911	Human		136	108
Mouse	3.2×10^{-228}		947	Mouse	5.5×10^{-20}		190
Rat	5.0×10^{-212}	1.4×10^{-256}		Rat	5.0×10^{-17}	7.5×10^{-68}	
Liver				Liver			
shared-m ⁶ A genes				shared-m ⁶ A sites			
	Human	Mouse	Rat		Human	Mouse	Rat
Human		664	395	Human		97	65
Mouse	2.2×10^{-154}		609	Mouse	4.0×10^{-23}		158
Rat	4.6×10^{-139}	2.1×10^{-213}		Rat	2.3×10^{-28}	3.1×10^{-80}	