## **Kinetic modeling of stem cell transcriptome dynamics to identify regulatory modules of normal and disturbed neuroectodermal differentiation**

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**Supplementary figure S1: Primary antibodies that were used for the study.**



**B**







## **Supplementary figure S2: Primer background information.**

(A) PCR Primers that were used for the study. (B) Melting curves of the PCR products. The x-axis always indiactes the temperature range from 75°C to 96°C. Notably. qPCR products were additionally analysed on their correct lenght by gel electrophoresis. Occurence of other products was excluded. (C) Standard dilution curves for major primers used for this study. (D) Primer efficiency was calculated based on the slope of standard curves.

## **A**



**Supplementary figure S3: Wnt signaling and its consequences in the STOP-tox(UKN) assay**. (A) Cells were differentiated until DoD3 using the standard STOP-tox(UKN) assay protocol (= untreated controls), or they were exposed during the differentiation to valproic acid (VPA) or the Wnt activator CHIR. Then, cells were lysed, the mRNA was isolated, and the expression of the Wnt marker genes DACT, SP5, SIX3 and GAD1 was investigated (reverse transcription real-time PCR). Data are means  $\pm$  SD from three experiments. (B) Cells were differentiated as in A, but until DoD6. They were left otherwise untreated (control) or exposed to CHIR from DoD0-DoD6. Then, gene expression of the standard STOP-tox(UKN) assay endpoints PAX6 and OTX2 was measured by PCR. Data (means  $\pm$  SD, n = 3) is depicted relative to the untreated control. The data confirm previous findings (8) that Wnt activation affects the assay outcome.



**Supplementary figure S4: Attenuation of neural crest differentiation by the Wnt pathway inhibitor ICRT3**. Cells were differentiated until DoD6 using the standard STOP-tox(UKN) assay protocol, modified by the addition of CHIR (2 µM) or VPA (400 µM), two toxicants shifting the differentiation from the neuroepithelial lineage towards neural crest (8,9). On DoD6, the expression of marker genes was analyzed by PCR. (A) Cells were treated with CHIR alone, or the beta-catenin inhibitor ICRT3 (60µM) was added in addition from DoD2-6. The expression of the neural crest marker genes TFAP2, PAX3 and MSX1 was investigated, and data are indicated as CHIR+ICRT3 vs CHIR alone. Negative numbers on the abscissa indicate a relative downregulation (= attenuation of the CHIR effect) by ICRT3. (B) Cells were treated with VPA alone, or the beta-catenin inhibitor ICRT3 (30 µM and 60µM) was added in addition from DoD2-6. The expression of the neural crest marker genes TFAP2, PAX3 and MSX1 was investigated, and data are indicated as VPA+ICRT3 vs VPA alone. Negative numbers on the abscissa indicate a relative downregulation (= attenuation of the VPA effect) by ICRT3. All data are means  $\pm$  SD, n=3.



**Supplementary figure S5: Rescue from toxicant-induced neural crest formation by the beta-catenin inhibitor ICRT3**. (A) Pluripotent stem cells were differentiated until DoD6, and exposed to solvent or valproic acid (VPA, 600 µM) from DoD0-DoD6. They were co-treated or not with ICRT3 (beta-catenin inhibitor; 60 µM) from DoD2- DoD6. Then, SOX10 protein was immunostained, and the number of positive cells was quantified (SOX10 positive pixels were counted automatically and they were normalized to the nuclear area, as identified by H-33342 staining). Data are means  $\pm$ SD; n=3. The untreated control (Con; differentiation without toxicants or inhibitors) is used as reference to calculate fold-changes of treated cells. (B) Pluripotent stem cells were differentiated until DoD15, and exposed to valproic acid (VPA, 600 µM) from DoD0-DoD6. They were co-treated with ICRT3 from DoD2-DoD6. On DoD15, cells were fixed and immunostained for ISL1 and p75 (the low affinity nerve growth factor receptor NGFR, aliases: TNFRSF16, CD271, p75NTR). The number of positive cells was quantified as in A in 7-16 wells. Data are means  $\pm$  SD. Data is shown relative to untreated control (Con).



Supplementary Figure S6: Example of the profile likelihood analysis for the gene POU4F1 using the L-BFGS-B optimization algorithm. For each parameter, the cost difference to the minimal cost is plotted against the parameter value.



Supplementary Figure S7: Box plots showing the distribution of the parameter confidence intervals for the parameters *g*on, *g*off, *n* and *d t*. Genes peaking later than 0 h or earlier than 144 h were binned by their peak time into 12 hour intervals based on the data (interpolated using loess with span 0.8 to a resolution of 0.1 h) and the 25%, 50% and 75% quantiles of the Log10 ratio of the upper and lower confidence interval boundary were computed in each bin. Boxes indicate the interquartile distribution, horizontal bars the median.



Supplementary Figure S8: Median confidence interval for the peak time approximated by  $(n-1)/g_{\text{on}} + 1/g_{\text{off}} - dt$  according to Eq. (11). Genes were binned into 12 hour intervals as in Fig. S7 and the median confidence interval for the peak time as a function of the parameters  $g_{\text{on}}$ ,  $g_{\text{off}}$ , *n* and dt was computed in each bin. Bins for genes peaking later than 108 h were excluded and only genes peaking later than 0 h were included.



Supplementary Figure S9: Distribution of genes with respect to the amplitude shift triggered by 0.6 mM VPA compared to the untreated differentiation for genes with and without significant shift. Only genes with an amplitude shift confidence interval excluding zero are considered significant.



Supplementary Figure S10: MA-plot for the change in peak time triggered by 0.6 mM VPA compared to the untreated differentiation. For each gene that peaks later than 0 h and earlier than 144 h in the fit to the untreated data, the change in peak time is plotted against the mean of the peak time in the treated and untreated conditions. Genes with a peak time shift confidence interval excluding zero are marked in red. Lines indicate a loess interpolation with span 0.75.



Supplementary Figure S11: The fold change between cells treated with 0.6 mM VPA and untreated cells is shown as a heatmap for TGF*˛* pathway genes at the indicated time points.

#### **Supplementary Text S1 Mathematical model of multi-state differentiation**

The multi-state kinetic model can be described by the Bateman equation (Bateman, 1910) originally formulated for radioactive decay chains. We will use the special case where an intermediate state *n* is preceded by  $n - 1$  states with transition rate  $g_{\text{on}}$ and decays with rate  $g_{\text{off}}$ . In this case the differential equation is

$$
\frac{\partial \rho_0}{\partial t} = -g_{\text{on}} \rho_0 \tag{1}
$$

$$
\frac{\partial \rho_1}{\partial t} = g_{\rm on} \rho_0 - g_{\rm on} \rho_1 \tag{2}
$$

$$
\cdots \qquad \cdots \qquad \qquad (3)
$$

$$
\frac{\partial \rho_n}{\partial t} = g_{\text{on}} \rho_{n-1} - g_{\text{off}} \rho_n \tag{4}
$$

For  $n \ge 1$  and  $p_0(0) = 1$  we have the solution (Ritter et al., 2003)

$$
p_n = e^{-g_{\text{off}}t} \left(\frac{g_{\text{on}}}{g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}}}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\Gamma(n, t(g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}}))}{\Gamma(n)}\right),\tag{5}
$$

with Γ(*n*) the gamma function and Γ(*n; x*) the upper incomplete gamma function. The upper incomplete gamma function can be replaced by the lower incomplete gamma function  $\gamma(n, x)$  according to

$$
1-\frac{\Gamma(n,x)}{\Gamma(n)}=\frac{\gamma(n,x)}{\Gamma(n)}=\frac{n^{-1}x^nM(n,1+n,-x)}{\Gamma(n)}.
$$
 (6)

The last step used a relationship between the gamma function and the confluent hypergeometric function found in Abramowitz and Stegun (1964) as equation 6.5.12. Plugging (6) into (5) , we obtain

$$
p_n = \frac{e^{-g_{\text{off}}t}g_{\text{on}}^n t^n M(n, 1+n, -(g_{\text{on}}-g_{\text{off}})t)}{\Gamma(n+1)},
$$
\n(7)

where  $n\Gamma(n) = \Gamma(n+1)$  has been used. For  $g_{off} \gg_{on}$  the confluent hypergeometric function M(*n;* 1 + *n;* −(*g*on − *g*off)*t*) becomes too large for standard machine size numbers. Using Kummer's transformation  $M(a, b, x) = e^x M(b - a, b, -x)$ (Abramowitz and Stegun (1964), 13.1.14), we can avoid this problem by taking

$$
p_n = \frac{e^{-g_{\text{on}}t}g_{\text{on}}^n t^n M(n, 1 + n, (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}}) t)}{\Gamma(n+1)}
$$
(8)

instead of (7) for  $g_{off} > g_{on}$ . The confluent hypergeometric function  $M(a, b, x)$  is implemented as hyperg<sub>-1</sub> $F1(a, b, x)$  in the GNU scientific library which is available through the R package gsl. As every term in our solution is defined for real positive *n*, we do not need to restrict ourselves to integer number of steps.

If  $g_{\text{off}}$  is large, the rather complicated solution for  $p_n$  can be formulated in terms of *pn*−1, which helps to find the time where the maximum occurs. More precisely, Ritter et al. (2003) show that

$$
\lim_{g_{\text{off}} \to \infty} g_{\text{off}} \, p_n = g_{\text{on}} \, p_{n-1}.\tag{9}
$$

With the equal transition rate solution for the Bateman equations,

$$
p_{n-1} = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} e^{-g_{\text{on}}t} (g_{\text{on}}t)^{n-1}, \tag{10}
$$

we can approximate the time of the maximum for  $p_n$  by the maximum of  $p_{n-1}$ ,  $t = (n-1)/g_{\text{on}}$ . If  $p_n$  is linearly extrapolated around  $t_{\text{max}} = (n-1)/g_{\text{on}}$ , the equation  $g_{\text{on}}p_{n-1}(t_{max}) = g_{\text{off}}p_n(t_{max} + \Delta t)$  is satisfied for  $\Delta t = 1/g_{\text{off}}$  (The linear expansion of  $p_{n-1}$  lacks the first order term because its evaluated at the maximum). It follows that the approximation of the maximum of *p<sup>n</sup>* by the maximum of *pn*−<sup>1</sup> is good for  $\frac{n-1}{\rm g_{\rm on}}\gg \frac{1}{\rm g_{\rm off}}$  . A better approximation that is valid for large  $\rm g_{\rm off}$  is

$$
t_{\text{max}} = \frac{n-1}{g_{\text{on}}} + \frac{1}{g_{\text{off}}}.\tag{11}
$$

#### **Supplementary Text S2 Analytical gradient**

To improve optimizer performance at parameter values where the cost function is shallow, we implemented an analytical gradient for the cost function. We list the derivatives of (8) with respect to *n*, *t*, *g*on and *g*off.

$$
\frac{d}{dn}p_n = \frac{1}{n\Gamma(n)} \exp(-g_{off}t) \times
$$
\n
$$
\left(1 - \frac{g_{off}}{g_{on}}\right)^{-n} \left(-(g_{on} - g_{off})t)^n \text{HyperG}_{2F2}((n, n), (1 + n, 1 + n), (-g_{on} + g_{off})t)\right)
$$
\n
$$
(\Gamma(1 + n) - n\Gamma(n, (g_{on} - g_{off})t))(1 + \bar{\gamma}n - nH_n + n\log(g_{on}t))\right),
$$

where  $\bar{\gamma}$  is the Euler-Mascheroni constant,  $H_n$  is the n-th harmonic number and Hyper $G_{2F2}$  is the generalized hypergeometric function 2F2. Since we did not find an R-implementation of Hyper $G_{2F2}$  we used the integral representation Eq. (4.8.3.11) in Slater (1966):

$$
{}_2F_2((a,d),(b,c),x)=\frac{\Gamma(a)}{\Gamma(b)-\Gamma(a)}\int_0^1{}_1F_1(d,c,xt)dt.
$$

For *t*:

$$
\frac{d}{dt}p_n = \frac{1}{t\Gamma(n)} \exp(-g_{\text{on}}t) g_{\text{on}}^n (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})^{-n} \times \\ (((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t)^n - \exp((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t) g_{\text{off}}t(\Gamma(n) - \Gamma(n, (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t))).
$$

For *g*on:

$$
\frac{d}{d g_{\text{on}}} p_n = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} \exp\left(-g_{\text{on}}t\right) g_{\text{on}}^{n-1} (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})^{-n-1} \times
$$
\n
$$
(g_{\text{on}}((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t)^n - \exp\left((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t\right) g_{\text{off}} n \left(\Gamma(n) - \Gamma(n, (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t)\right)).
$$

For  $g_{off}$ :

$$
\frac{d}{dg_{\text{on}}}p_n = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} \exp\left(-g_{\text{on}}t\right) g_{\text{on}}^n (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})^{-n-1} \times \\ \left(-\left((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t\right)^n - \exp\left((g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t\right)(n + (g_{\text{off}} - g_{\text{on}})t)\left(\Gamma(n) - \Gamma(n, (g_{\text{on}} - g_{\text{off}})t)\right)\right).
$$

The full cost function is a sum over terms of the form

$$
\frac{(y_i - \log_2 (A + Bp_n(t_i, h(c_i, g_{\text{on}}, g'_{\text{on}}, k_1, n_1), h(c_i, g_{\text{off}}, g'_{\text{off}}, k_2, n_2), n)))^2}{\sigma_i^2},
$$

where  $t_i$ ,  $c_i$ ,  $y_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  are the time point, concentration, measured expression and standard deviation for one condition. Furthermore,  $h(c, g, g', k, n)$  is a Hill function of the form

$$
g+(g-g')\frac{c^n}{c^n+k^n}.
$$

Consequently, derivatives of the cost function have to be computed using the chain rule. We exemplify this for the parameter  $k_1$ .

$$
-2\frac{B(y_i-\log_2(A+ Bp_n))}{\sigma_i^2(A+ Bp_n)\log(2)}\frac{d}{d g_{\text{on}}}p_n\frac{d}{dk}h(c,g_{\text{on}},g_{\text{off}},k_1,n_1),
$$

where we ommitted the arguments of *p<sup>n</sup>* for brevity. Derivatives for all other parameters can be computed in a similar fashion.

#### **Supplementary Text S3 Profile Likelihood**

To analyze parameter identifiability, we performed profile likelihood (PL) as described in Kreutz et al. (2013). First, optimal parameter sets were reoptimized using the L-BFGS-B method implemented in the optim function using parameters maxit=20000, fnscale=1e6, factr=1e2. This was done because PL results are quite



Table 1: Parameters used for optimization.

sensitive to small deviations from the optimal parameter set. A fixed step size in log space of  $\frac{log10(u)-log10(l)}{200}$ , where *u* and *l* are the parameter upper and lower bounds, respectively, was chosen for the PL parameter. PL parameter values where increased/decreased by the fixed step size starting from the optimal value and all other parameters where reoptimized after each step. Computation of the costs after each step increase/decrease was terminated when the cost increase exceed the 95%-quantile of the  $\chi^2$  distribution with one degree of freedom or if the parameter value exceeded the upper or lower bound. If termination occured and less than 10 steps were performed, the step size was decreased until the parameter was increased and decreased from the optimum by at least 10 steps.

We observed that the results of the PL analysis vary strongly with the parameters supplied to the optimizer function. In particular, sometimes the optimizer oscillated between two similar local optima between PL steps. Because of this we decided to compute the PL with two different optimization algorithms to reduce the influence of the details of the optimization strategy on the parameter identifiability results. We used the parameters indicated in Tab. 1 for the optimization algorithms. For each gene and parameter, we used the largest PL interval predicted by any of the two procedures. Exemplary profile likelihood plots for the gene POU4F1 are shown in Fig. S6.

When a lower cost (minimal cost improvement 0.01) than the optimal cost obtained during fitting was encountered in the PL analysis, we reran the PL analysis starting from the parameter set corresponding to the lower cost value.

Finally, the best parameter set encountered for each gene during the initial fit or during the PL analysis was adopted as final parameter set and used to generate model predictions.

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# **Supplementary Table S1 Wnt targets**



ENSG00000171246 NPTX1 -3.83797349974686 ENSG00000035403 VCL -3.72642899522194 ENSG00000185885 IFITM1 -3.71290054866807 ENSG00000146411 SLC2A12 -3.70055133364338 ENSG00000140545 MFGE8 -3.69729614186889 ENSG00000150687 PRSS23 -3.65305448075273 ENSG00000100605 ITPK1 -3.65043054422015 ENSG00000181885 CLDN7 -3.60015782261828 ENSG00000116774 OLFML3 -3.58884789978521 ENSG00000124839 RAB17 -3.5812186615456 ENSG00000147676 MAL2 -3.57864737091821 ENSG00000129654 FOXJ1 -3.55528028946606 ENSG00000129116 PALLD -3.53943467309711 ENSG00000135248 FAM71F1 -3.50511379837745 ENSG00000074410 CA12 3.52258646667265 ENSG00000136842 TMOD1 3.52581091010396 ENSG00000151692 RNF144A 3.57292505103783 ENSG00000165495 PKNOX2 3.61128756037628 ENSG00000171100 MTM1 3.64756243261209 ENSG00000115738 ID2 3.65826081117459 ENSG00000166974 MAPRE2 3.70182338104162 ENSG00000116871 MAP7D1 3.72334617184995 ENSG00000170549 IRX1 3.73257051343592 ENSG00000169306 IL1RAPL1 3.75386905218784 ENSG00000018625 ATP1A2 3.80897043298757 ENSG00000199102 MIR302C 3.81760280829055 ENSG00000079739 PGM1 3.86540684126316 ENSG00000140455 USP3 3.90725181354598 ENSG00000104267 CA2 3.92493716790639 ENSG00000158966 CACHD1 3.9842574891187 ENSG00000146426 TIAM2 4.00761925460455 ENSG00000117394 SLC2A1 4.05107269727051 ENSG00000177508 IRX3 4.0574188032457 ENSG00000188257 PLA2G2A 4.14547505306511 ENSG00000100314 CABP7 4.17434697846671 ENSG00000165617 DACT1 4.25811170096308 ENSG00000157570 TSPAN18 4.26563756457701 ENSG00000138764 CCNG2 4.2862632491678 ENSG00000079215 SLC1A3 4.33470659238981 ENSG00000103710 RASL12 4.43018307882895 ENSG00000113916 BCL6 4.70189991851954 ENSG00000022267 FHL1 4.728215674998 ENSG00000126822 PLEKHG3 4.78526555497771 ENSG00000170561 IRX2 4.81391170337348 ENSG00000134569 LRP4 4.8704608689237 ENSG00000110675 ELMOD1 4.88908144562804 ENSG00000137193 PIM1 4.99770222860548 ENSG00000071575 TRIB2 5.00432385531391 ENSG00000101384 JAG1 5.01362883735314 ENSG00000090776 EFNB1 5.02633193962582 ENSG00000169071 ROR2 5.4560709192239 ENSG00000176842 IRX5 5.58956840068819 ENSG00000127863 TNFRSF19 5.65567356152472

