## Title:

Episomal Tools for RNAi in the Diatom Phaeodactylum tricornutum

## Authors:

Vincent A. Bielinski (1), Tayah M. Bolt (1), Christopher L. Dupont (2), and Philip D. Weyman (1)

## Affiliations:

(1) Synthetic Biology and Bioenergy Group. J. Craig Venter Institute. La Jolla, CA, USA.
(2) Microbial and Environmental Genomics Group. J. Craig Venter Institute. La Jolla, CA, USA.

## Correspondence:

Philip D. Weyman, pweyman@jcvi.org


#### Abstract

Background. The diatom Phaeodactylum tricornutum is a model photosynthetic organism. Functional genomic work in this organism has established a variety of genetic tools including RNA interference (RNAi). RNAi is a post-transcriptional regulatory process that can be utilized to knockdown expression of genes of interest in eukaryotes. RNAi has been previously demonstrated in $P$. tricornutum, but in practice the efficiency of inducing RNAi is low.

Methods. We developed an efficient method for construction of inverted repeat hairpins based on Golden Gate DNA assembly into a Gateway entry vector. The hairpin constructs were then transferred to a variety of destination vectors through the Gateway recombination system. After recombining the hairpin into the destination vector, the resulting expression vector was mobilized into $P$. tricornutum using direct conjugation from $E$. coli. Because the hairpin expression vectors had sequences allowing for episomal maintenance in $P$. tricornutum, we tested whether a consistent, episomal location for hairpin expression improved RNAi induction efficiency.


Results. We successfully demonstrated that RNAi could be induced using hairpin constructs expressed from an episome. After testing two different reporter targets and a variety of hairpin sequences with 3 polymerase II and 2 polymerase III promoters, we achieved a maximal RNAi induction efficiency of $25 \%$ of lines displaying knockdown of reporter activity by $50 \%$ or more. We created many useful genetic tools through this work including Gateway destination vectors for $P$. tricornutum expression from a variety of polymerase II and III promoters including the $P$. tricornutum FCPB, H4, and 49202 polymerase II promoters as well as the U6 and snRNA polymerase III promoters. We also created Gateway destination vectors that allow a cassette cloned in an entry vector to be easily recombined into a transcriptional fusion with either ShBle or, for polymerase III promoters, the green fluorescent Spinach aptamer. Such transcriptional fusions allow for linkage of expression with a marker such as bleomycin resistance or fluorescence from the Spinach aptamer to easily select or screen for lines that maintain transgene expression.

Discussion. While RNAi can be used as an effective tool for $P$. tricornutum genetics, especially where targeted knockouts may be lethal to the cell, induction of this process remains low efficiency. Techniques resulting in higher efficiency establishment of RNAi would be of great use to the diatom genetics community and would enable this technique to be used as a forward genetic tool for discovery of novel gene function.

## Introduction

Diatoms are globally distributed microalgae of great ecological and biotechnological importance (Nelson et al., 1995; Bozarth, Maier \& Zauner, 2009; Hildebrand et al., 2012). While diatom genome sequences have enabled metabolic and evolutionary insights (Armbrust et al., 2004; Bowler et al., 2008; Mock et al., 2017), most genes are only functionally annotated through homology, and thousands of annotated genes have minimal or no functional verification. Use of RNA interference in diatoms to interrogate gene function was first enabled in the diatom model organism Phaeodactylum tricornutum by expression knockdown using hairpin- and antisenseRNA constructs (De Riso et al., 2009). Since this initial report, RNAi methods have been used in many studies to test the function of genes. Some examples include knockdown of proteins related to photo stress (Bailleul et al., 2010), of the ornithine-urea cycle protein carbamoyl phosphate synthetase I (Allen et al., 2011) and of proteins involved in lipid catabolism (Trentacoste et al., 2013). More recently, methods using targeted nucleases such as TALEN (Transcription activator-like effector nucleases) and CRISPR-Cas (Clustered Regulatory Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats)/CRISPR-associated) allow for stable knockouts to be created to test the functions of genes of interest (Daboussi et al., 2014; Weyman et al., 2015; Nymark et al., 2016).

While many reverse genetic tools have been developed for diatoms as noted above, forward genetic tools have not yet been well established despite their clear promise for functionally characterizing genes (Alonso \& Ecker, 2006). Forward genetic approaches target genes for knockdown or knockout in a more or less random manner and identify phenotypes that can then be studied genetically to identify the causal lesion(s). In a forward genetic approach, the genes resulting in the phenotype of interest are not necessarily known a priori. The ability to install RNAi efficiently would enable its use as a "forward" genetic tool by allowing the use of libraries of RNAi constructs that could be used to transform P. tricornutum cells. The resulting phenotypes of interest could be selected and the targets of the RNAi constructs would point to the genes responsible for the phenotype when disrupted. Such RNAi libraries have been used successfully in other systems including Caenorhabditis elegans (Kamath et al., 2003) and human cells (Berns et al., 2004). Using RNAi libraries as a forward genetic approach in P. tricornutum would have the benefit of functioning post-transcriptionally to avoid challenges obtaining biallelic (homozygous) mutants in a diploid organism with no observed sexual cycle. However, for such RNAi libraries to be used effectively for forward genetic screens, efficiency of successful RNAi establishment and nuclear transformation must both be high to test large, complex libraries.

We hypothesized that the requirement for random integration of the expression cassette in the genome may have limited the resulting hairpin expression and reduced the efficiency of RNAi in its previous applications in $P$. tricornutum. If a limiting factor in RNAi delivered by biolistic transformation is inconsistent expression of the hairpin due to position effects of random
integration, then a more consistent genomic environment for its expression may lead to a higher probability of knockdown success. Recently, the development of episomal vectors in diatoms delivered directly by conjugation from E. coli offers an alternative platform for expression of RNAi constructs (Karas et al., 2015; Diner et al., 2016a). We sought to test whether a more stable and consistent platform for expression could enable more efficient establishment of RNAi in $P$. tricornutum.

We also hypothesized that driving expression of the hairpin construct from a polymerase III (pol III) promoter such as U6 may improve efficiency of RNAi induction. In animals, RNAi has been achieved by expression of short hairpin RNA (shRNA) constructs from either polymerase II or III promoters (Lee et al., 2004; Borchert, Lanier \& Davidson, 2006). In contrast, plants typically express small RNAs from polymerase II (pol II) promoters (Axtell, Westholm \& Lai, 2011). There are many differences in the processing, transport, and regulation of transcripts produced by RNA polymerase II or III (Fuda, Ardehali \& Lis, 2009; Turowski \& Tollervey, 2016). Since expression of hairpin RNA in $P$. tricornutum has only been reported with polymerase II promoters, it is unknown whether expression of hairpin RNAs from polymerase III promoters that are responsible for transcribing non-coding small RNAs would lead to improved RNAi in $P$. tricornutum.

In this paper, we present the first demonstration of RNAi with hairpin constructs expressed from an episome. We observe successful expression knockdown of yellow fluorescent protein (YFP) and beta-glucuronidase (GUS) reporter genes after introducing episomes encoding RNAi cassettes. We tested promoters of different strengths and polymerase type and designed strategies to maintain hairpin expression through transcriptional fusions with markers. Delivering RNAi constructs to $P$. tricornutum on an episome by conjugation required substantially less time and fewer resources to complete the experiments than with previous biolistic transformation approaches. However, the frequency of RNAi induction remained lower than required to use this technique for efficient genome-wide, forward genetic screens.

## Materials and Methods

Generation of a constitutive GUS-expressing strain
Plasmid pPtRNAi-2c, a plasmid to constitutively express GUS with a nourseothricin resistance marker, was constructed from three PCR products. To generate the first product, we first replaced the ShBle coding region in pPtPBR2 (non-maintained in $P$. tricornutum) with that of the nourseothricin resistance gene to create $\mathrm{pPtRNAi5}$. This was performed by amplifying the nourseothricin resistance gene with primers PtRNAi-7 + PtRNAi-8 (See Supplemental Table 1 for all primer sequences) and amplifying the pPtPBR2 backbone to exclude the ShBle coding region with primers BackF + BackR and assembling the two products by Gibson assembly. Then, the first product used to construct pPtRNAi2c that included the portion of the vector including the nourseothricin resistance cassette, the plasmid origin for $E$. coli, and the ampicillin
resistance gene was amplified by primers PtRNAi-32 + PBR-nanoluc-4. The second fragment of the assembly of $\mathrm{pPtRNAi}-2 \mathrm{c}$ was amplified as part of pPtPBR 2 vector (including the TetR and the oriT) that was pre-assembled with the $P$. tricornutum FcpB promoter ( $p F c p B$ ). This was performed by amplifying the vector with primers PBR-nanoluc-5 + and PtRNAi-31 and amplifying $p F c p B$ with primers PtRNAi-25 + PtRNAi-29 and using the PCR-added sequence overlaps to assemble the two amplified products by PCR. After pre-assembly, the product was amplified with the flanking primers PBR-nanoluc5 and PtRNAi25. The third fragment for the assembly of pPtRNAi-2c was the GUS open reading frame that was pre-assembled to the $P$. tricornutum FcpA terminator. This was performed by amplifying the GUS open reading frame with primers PtRNAi-26 + PtRNAi-27 and the FcpA terminator with primers PtRNAi-28 + PtRNAi-30 and pre-assembling by PCR. After pre-assembly, the product was amplified with the flanking primers PtRNAi-26 + PtRNAi-30.

After the sequence of plasmid PtRNAi-2c was verified by Sanger DNA sequencing, it was introduced into wild type $P$. tricornutum using biolistic transformation with the PDS-1000 system (Apt, Kroth-Pancic \& Grossman, 1996) and colonies selected on $1 / 2 x$ L1-agar plates supplemented with $200 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}^{-1}$ nourseothricin (GoldBio) plates. Colonies were then screened for the presence of the GUS gene via colony PCR and subjected to enzymatic assay to determine positive strains. One $P$. tricornutum GUS-expressing line, G1-16, was selected as the recipient for introduction of hairpin expression plasmids.

Generation of a constitutive YFP-expressing strain
Plasmid pPtRNAi-1c was created to express YFP from $p F c p B$ and selected in $P$. tricornutum with nourseothricin resistance. The plasmid backbone was amplified using pPtRNAi5 as a template with primers Ptrnai-31 + Ptrnai-32. This product was assembled with a FcpB-YFP fragment amplified from pPtPBR1-YFP-CENH3 (Diner et al., 2016b) using primers Ptrnai-29 + PtRNAi22, and the FcpA terminator amplified from the same template using primers PtRNAi-23 and PtRNAi-30. The assembled plasmid was verified by Sanger DNA sequencing and introduced into $P$. tricornutum using biolistic transformation as described for the GUS-expressing lines.

## Construction of Destination Vectors

Destination vectors containing Pol II promoter/terminator pairs were constructed using the Gibson assembly method. DNA fragments corresponding to the FcpB (pFcpB-DEST), H4 (pH4DEST), and 49202 (p49202-DEST), and NR (pNR-DEST) 5'-UTRs were amplified from $P$. tricornutum genomic DNA and assembly was carried out via Gibson method.

Plasmid $\mathrm{pFcpB}-\mathrm{DEST}$ was designed to be a destination vector that allowed for insertion of the hairpin downstream of the $P$. tricornutum FcpB promoter (434-bp preceding PHATRDRAFT_25172) and was assembled from three fragments amplified by PCR. The first fragment amplified the FcpB promoter- AttR1-CatR-ccdB-AttR2-FcpA terminator using plasmid pDest-OX as a template (Siaut et al., 2007) using primers Ptrnai-3 + Ptrnai-4. The second
product was amplified with primers Ptrnai-5 + PBR-nanoluc4 using pPtPBR1 as a template (Karas et al., 2015) and the third product was amplified with primers PBR-nanoluc5 + Ptrnai-6 using pPtPBR1 as a template.

Plasmid pH4-DEST allowed for expression of the hairpin from the $P$. tricornutum H 4 promoter (655-bp preceding PHATRDRAFT_26896) and p49202-DEST allowed for expression of the hairpin from the region of DNA upstream of the ATG site for P. tricornutum gene $49202(1,521-$ bp preceding PHATRDRAFT_49202). The first PCR product for $\mathrm{pH} 4-\mathrm{DEST}$ was amplified using Ptrnai-47 and Ptrnai-48 using $P$. tricornutum genomic DNA as a template. Products 2 and 3 were amplified using Ptrnai-49 + Ptrnai-50 and Ptrnai-51 + Ptrnai-52.2, respectively, using pPtPBR1 as a template. To create plasmid p49202-DEST, products 2 and 3 were identical, while product 1 was amplified using primers Ptrnai-53 + Ptrnai-54 using $P$. tricornutum genomic DNA as a template.

For the direct transcriptional fusion of the hpRNA to the mRNA encoding ShBle, we utilized the diatom conjugation vector pPtPBR1 (Karas et al., 2015) as a template to assemble the DEST cassette at either side of the ShBle resistance marker. These vectors therefore use the FcpF promoter (687-bp preceding PHATRDRAFT_51230) and FcpA terminator for expression of both the hairpin and the ShBle cassette on the same transcript. To create a destination vector in which the hairpin was expressed 5' (upstream) of the ShBle coding region, the vector (plasmid pPtPBR-1) was amplified by PCR using primers (shBle-F + fcpF pro-R) and the DEST cassette (including AttR1-CatR-ccdB-AttR2 sites) was amplified using primers ( 5 'fusion-shBleDESTcasF + 5'fusion-shBle-DESTcasR). These PCR products were purified and assembled by Gibson Assembly to create plasmid p5'fusion-shble-DEST. To make a destination vector in which the hairpin was expressed 3' (downstream) of the ShBle coding region, the vector (plasmid pPtPBR-1) was amplified by PCR using primers (FcpA term-F + Backbone 40-R) and the DEST cassette (including AttR1-CatR-ccdB-AttR2 sites) was amplified using primers (shBle-3'fusion-DESTcasF + shBle-3'fusion-DESTcasR). These PCR products were purified and assembled by Gibson Assembly to create plasmid pshble-3'fusion-DEST.

To express the hairpins from Pol III promoters, we constructed destination vectors pU6-DEST and psnRNAi-DEST that will transcribe the hairpin from the U6 promoter (Nymark et al., 2016) and a newly discovered snRNA promoter, respectively (M. Moosburner and, A. E. Allen personal communication). To construct pU6-DEST, the native promoter and terminator for the U6 gene was amplified from $P$. tricornutum genomic DNA. Primers (U6-Pro-F and U6-Pro-R) were designed against a region of chromosome 8 at positions 239707-239986 (promoter) and primers for the terminator ( U 6 term-F and U6 term-R) were designed against positions 239267239596 to amplify fragments for the U6 DEST vectors. To construct psnRNAi-DEST, primers (snRNAiPro-F and snRNAiPro-R) were designed against a region of chromosome 2 at positions 28039-29038 to amplify the promoter and primers snRNAiterm-F and snRNAiterm-R were used
to amplify positions 29124-29423 for the terminator. Plasmid PtRNAi-3 was used as a template for generation of two backbone fragments, each one containing a resistance marker. The tetR fragment was generated using primers Backbone-33-F and snRNAi-DEST-BB-R, while the ampR-containing fragment was generated with primers Backbone-34 and Backbone-35. The DEST cassette was amplified using primers snRNAI-DEST-BB-F and DEST-cas-R. To construct pU6-DEST, plasmid PtRNAi-3 was again used as a template for backbone fragments, with the ampR fragment amplified with primers Backbone 37-R and Backbone-shble-F while the tetR fragment was amplified using primers Backbone 38-F and U6-Backbone 39-R. The DEST cassette fragment was generated using primers U6-DEST-cas-F and U6-DEST-cas-R. The appropriate PCR products were then assembled using Gibson Assembly to generate pU6-DEST and psnRNAi-DEST.

To construct destination vectors featuring the U6 promoter driving a transcriptional fusion between the hairpin and the fluorescent "Spinach" aptamer, the fragment corresponding to the 135-bp Spinach2 aptamer (Strack, Disney \& Jaffrey, 2013) was synthesized as two separate ultramers (Spinach2-sense and Spinach2-antisense) by IDT which were annealed in-house. This fragment was then used as a template for PCR amplification with the appropriate primers to build destination vectors $\mathrm{p} 5^{\prime}$-Spinach-DEST and p3'-Spinach-DEST vectors. To create $\mathrm{p} 5^{\prime}$ '-Spinach-DEST, the Spinach aptamer was amplified with primers U6-5'-Spinach-F + U6-5'-Spinach-R and the DEST cassette amplified from PtRNAi-3 with primers U6-5'SpinachDESTcasF + U6-DEST-cas-R. The U6 promoter was amplified from pU6-DEST using primers U6-pro-F and U6 Pro-R-5'Spinach and the terminator amplified from the same template with primers U6 term-F-noOH and U6 term-R. To create p3'-Spinach-DEST, the Spinach aptamer was amplified with primers (U6-3'-Spinach-F + U6-3'-Spinach-R) and the DEST cassette amplified from PtRNAi-3 with primers U6-DEST-cas-F + U6-DEST-3'Sp-cas-R. The U6 promoter and terminator were amplified from pU6-DEST using primers U6-Pro-F + U6-Pro-R (promoter) and U6-term-3'Sp-F + U6 term-R (terminator). The two PCR products used to create the resistance marker-containing fragments from the construction of pU6-DEST were re-used in the construction of both fusion vectors. For both plasmids, PCR products were purified and assembled using Gibson Assembly.

Plasmids pPtGG-1, pFcpB-DEST, pH4-DEST, p49202-DEST, pNR-DEST, pU6-DEST, psnRNA-DEST, p5'fusion-shble-DEST, pshble-3'fusion-DEST, p5'-Spinach-DEST, and p3'-Spinach-DEST will be made available from the plasmid repository Addgene at the time of publication.

Assembly of hairpins - The hpRNA entry vectors were assembled via the Golden Gate method (Engler, Kandzia \& Marillonnet, 2008). An overview and detailed protocol for how to create Golden Gate primers can be found at Protocols.io (dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.heyb3fw). We first constructed an entry vector (called "pPtGG-1") consisting of a pBR322 backbone in
which the ampicillin resistance cassette was deleted and replaced with attL sites flanking a noncoding region of DNA consisting of two multiple cloning sites separated by a portion of the "white" intron from Drosophila (Engler, Kandzia \& Marillonnet, 2008) that should not form hairpin DNA when transcribed. This region was later used as a negative control sequence that lacked both a target in the $P$. tricornutum chromosome and a hairpin structure (see below). To create $\mathrm{pPtGG}-1$, two ultramers comprising the spacer region were synthesized by IDT (PtGG-1 "MCS" Ultramer F and PtGG-1 "MCS" Ultramer R) which were annealed in-house and assembled into pENTR-d-TOPO (Invitrogen) using the manufacturer's protocol. The region encoding AttL1-Spacer-AttL2 was amplified using primers 5'hpRNA-F-OH and 3'hpRNA-R-OH and assembled by Gibson Assembly with the pBR322 backbone amplified as specified above using primers ( 5 'hpRNA-F-vector and $3^{\prime} \mathrm{hpRNA}-\mathrm{R}-$ vector) resulting in plasmid pPtGG-1. For use in assembling hairpin entry vectors, the backbone plasmid pPtGG-1 was amplified via PCR using the primers PtRNAi-43 and PtRNAi-44 with PrimeStar polymerase (Takara) to generate a roughly 3.5 kb fragment.

To construct hairpins targeting the $Y F P$ gene, PCR products between $180-360 \mathrm{bp}$ in size making up the "left" and "right" arms of the hairpin were amplified from template pPtPBR-CENH3-YFP (Diner et al., 2016b) (Table 1). To construct hairpins targeting the GUS gene, the left and right "arms" that composed the inverted repeat hairpin were generated by amplifying 300-bp regions of the GUS gene using the plasmid pBI-121 (Chen et al., 2003) as template. Primers used to amplify the arms and the spacer attached BsaI sites that when digested would generate an overhang sequence that was unique to form the desired junction; three such junctions were created to join the three fragments (left and right arms and vector)(Table 2). The two arms composing the hairpin were separated by a ( 51 bp ) spacer region (Wang et al., 2013), and each arm contained half of the spacer that was created by sequence added to the PCR primer. Successful joining of the two arms through Golden Gate assembly would create a sense/antisense hairpin with the complete spacer intron in between the two arms.

PCR products for each arm were first cleaned up using the QIAquick PCR cleanup kit (QIAGEN), removing salts, free nucleotides, and polymerase. This was followed by a further purification of the PCR products away from leftover unused primers by applying AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter) and following the manufacturer's instructions on basic cleanup of PCR products. Briefly, 1.8 x volume beads suspension was added to fragment-containing eluate from QIAquick cleanup, then the beads were washed 2 x with $70 \% \mathrm{EtOH}$ and finally eluted into TE buffer, pH 8.0. This extra cleanup successfully removed excess primers from the PCR products.

Golden Gate Reaction - The PCR products for gene target ("arms") were diluted to $60 \mathrm{fmol} \mu \mathrm{l}^{-1}$ and PCR-amplified pPtGG- backbone to $20 \mathrm{fmol} \mu \mathrm{L}^{-1}$ using $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (3:1 final ratio in reaction of arms:vector). T4 ligase was diluted 1:200 into fresh T4 ligase buffer (final concentration 10U $\mu \mathrm{L}^{-1}$ ). The reaction we optimized utilized CutSmart buffer ( 50 mM Potassium Acetate, 20 mM

Tris-acetate, 10 mM Magnesium Acetate, and $100 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}$ - $\mathrm{BSA}, \mathrm{pH} 7.9$, NEB). The final reaction mixture was 1 x CutSmart Buffer, 1 mM DTT, 1 mM ATP, 6 fmol Arm1 fragment, 6 fmol, 2 fmol PtGG-43+44 PCR product, 5U BsaI-HF, and 10U T4 ligase in a total volume to 10 $\mu \mathrm{L}$. The thermocycler parameters for assembly were $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 1 min followed by $16^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 1 min for a total of 30 cycles. A 5 -minute $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ final digest was added after cycling, followed by a $10-$ minute heat inactivation step at $65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Once finished, the samples were diluted $1: 5$ with ddH2O and $2 \mu \mathrm{l}$ of diluted reaction was transformed into Epi-300 E. coli cells via electroporation. For all bacterial work during these studies, we chose to perform our outgrowths and incubations at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to stabilize the assembled hairpins and prevent looping out of the inverted repeats while in the bacteria. The cells were then plated onto LB-Tet10 and incubated overnight at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

Colony PCR for Bacterial Cloning - Colonies were patched and screened for the presence of both arms in the assembled entry vector. Primers designed to amplify each arm utilized a flanking upstream or downstream site and a site in the intronic, spacer region as a unique primer binding site. The primer sets (called "Arm1" using primers F-OH + Riceintron1 and "Arm2" using primers R-OH and Riceintron2) were used in separate PCR reactions, as it is difficult to PCR across regions of inverted repeat DNA (such as hairpins). PCR reactions were performed using OneTaq (NEB) according to the manufacturer's recommended protocol.

LR reaction - Hairpins were transferred from entry vectors to destination vectors using the LR recombinase reaction (LR Clonase II, Life Technologies) according to the manufacturer's directions. After completion of the reaction, $1 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ was transformed into Epi-300 cells (Epicentre) and plated on LB with ampicillin ( $100 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}^{-1}$ ) and tetracycline ( $10 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}{ }^{-1}$ ). All incubations of bacteria were carried out at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Resulting colonies were screened for the presence of both hairpins as described above.

Conjugation Protocol - Bacterial-mediated conjugation of episomes into the G1-16 strain (chromosomal integration of the FcpB promoter-GUS expression construct) were carried out in the 12 -well format as described (Diner, et al 2016). After two days of recovery without selection, the cells in each well were scraped into $500 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of L1 medium and the entire resuspension replated on a single $100 \mathrm{~mm}^{1 / 2 x}$-L1 plate containing nourseothricin ( $200 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}^{-1}$ ) and phleomycin ( $20 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}^{-1}$, abbreviated as $1 / 2 \mathrm{xL} 1-\mathrm{N} 200-\mathrm{P} 20$ ). Excess liquid from the added cells was allowed to dry with the plate open in a laminar flow hood. Selection plates were then incubated for $7-10$ days at $21^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with $100 \mu \mathrm{~mol}$ photons $\left(\mathrm{m}^{2} \mathrm{~s}\right)^{-1}$ light intensity and $16: 8$ day/night cycle. For constructs that provided low levels of exconjugants with the 12 -well format, conjugation was repeated using the method described in Karas, et al (2015). After the selection plates cleared, colonies were picked and patched onto a fresh $1 / 2 x L 1-N 200-\mathrm{P} 20$ plate and further incubated until biomass was accumulated and subjected to screening.

Colony PCR Analysis of P. tricornutum Exconjugants - Colonies that continued to grow upon the patched selection plates were then subjected to colony PCR analysis using the Arm1 and Arm 2 primers design as described above for bacterial screening; however, the R-OH primer was replaced with RNAi3-DR (which resides in the FcpA terminator sequence). Colonies were screened for the presence of Arm 1 and Arm 2 of the hpRNA construct in separate reactions using the same OneTaq conditions as described above for bacteria, except for the addition of 5 extra PCR cycles (total of 30 cycles for P. tricornutum colonies). Colonies that gave positive results for both arms of the hpRNA episome were then scraped into 2 mL of liquid L1-N200-P20 and incubated at $21^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with $100 \mu \mathrm{~mol}$ photons $\mathrm{m} 2-1 \mathrm{~s}-1$ light intensity and $16: 8$ day/night cycle. For analysis of GUS knockdown, these cultures were then scaled up and analyzed as described below.

YFP Plate Assay - Cultures were grown in L1 supplemented with $200 ~ \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}{ }^{-1}$ nourseothricin (Gold Bio) at $18^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in 2 mL cultures in a 24 -well tissue culture plate. On the day of the assay, the plate was analyzed using a Flexstation 3 (Molecular Devices) and the optical densities of the cultures were measured at 750 nm . Chlorophyll (Chl) fluorescence was then measured, using 436 nm and 680 nm ( 665 nm auto-cut-off) as excitation and emission wavelengths, respectively. YFP fluorescence was measured using 486 nm and 530 nm ( 515 nm auto-cutoff) as excitation and emission wavelengths, respectively. The YFP fluorescence was normalized by dividing by the Chl fluorescence for each well. This value was then divided by the OD750 values for the same well and recorded as (YFP Chl ${ }^{-1}$ ) $\mathrm{OD}^{-1}$.

GUS Assay - Cultures were grown in L1 medium supplemented with $200 \mu \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mL}{ }^{-1}$ nourseothricin (Gold Bio) at $21^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at $100 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ in 5 mL cultures to an approximate density of $3-4 \times 10^{6}$ cells $\mathrm{mL}^{-1}$. On the day of the assay, cells were harvested by centrifugation for 10 minutes at $3,000 \mathrm{~g}$. The supernatant was poured off and the cell pellet was resuspended in $200 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of freshly made GUS extraction buffer ( 50 mM NaPO4, pH 7, $0.1 \%$ Triton $\mathrm{X}-100,10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ beta-mercaptoethanol) and subjected to three freeze/thaw cycles. The lysates were then clarified with a 5 -minute spin at $4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at $15,000 \mathrm{~g}$. The supernatant was then transferred to a new 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube and stored on ice. For the assay, $25 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of supernatant was added to $475 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of pre-warmed GUS extraction buffer containing 1 mM MUG (4-Methylumbelliferyl beta-D-glucuronide) and incubated at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 90 minutes. $100 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of the assay sample was then added to $900 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of "stop" buffer ( 0.2 M $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}$ ) and mixed. $200 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of the quenched assay sample was then transferred to an opaque 96-well plate and fluorescence was measured using a FlexStation 3 plate reader with excitation/emission settings of 360 nm excitation/440 nm emission (cutoff at 435 nm ). For normalization, $10 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of the original clarified lysate was subjected to a BCA assay (ThermoFisher) and the amount of total protein added to each assay well was calculated and used for normalization and final numbers were determined as RFU $\mu \mathrm{g}^{-1}$ total protein. Blank wells using only GUS extraction buffer were added as "blanks" for each plate reader assay. The complete protocol can be found at protocols.io (dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.hefb3bn)

## Results

We developed an efficient method to build hairpins based on Golden Gate cloning (dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.heyb3fw) using YFP and GUS as efficient test reporters for induction of RNA interference (RNAi). Hairpins were first assembled into Gateway system entry vectors, and the hairpin was then recombined into a destination vector resulting in a hairpin expression vector (Fig. 1A). Because the episomal expression of hairpin vectors to induce RNAi has never been reported for $P$. tricornutum, we developed a workflow of colony PCR checks at every transfer point to ensure that the hairpin expression construct was successfully maintained and delivered to $P$. tricornutum and was not lost due to recombination (Fig. 1B). This involved confirming the presence of both hairpin arms by colony PCR after construction of the expression plasmid, after moving the plasmid to the E. coli strain for conjugation, and in P. tricornutum lines after conjugation. Over $95 \%$ of $P$. tricornutum lines tested were positive by PCR for the presence of both hairpin arms.

We first targeted YFP for knockdown using a reporter line that constitutively expressed YFP from a native chromosomal location. Into this YFP reporter line we introduced episomes with one of four different hairpin expression cassettes targeting different parts of the YFP coding region. The hairpins were expressed from the FcpB promoter. The hairpins varied in length from 180 bp ( $P$. tricornutum lines $\operatorname{Exp} 1$ and $\operatorname{Exp} 2$ ) to 360 bp (lines Exp 3 and $\operatorname{Exp} 4$ ), and after introduction of the episomes into a YFP-expressing $P$. tricornutum line, 8 resulting lines were screened as described above and tested for YFP fluorescence. Variability of the YFP-expressing reporter line without knockdown was estimated after introducing an empty vector control episome (Fig. 2). Of the 32 lines tested in which hairpin expression vectors were introduced, 6 displayed reductions in YFP fluorescence greater than one standard deviation of the empty vector control, a knockdown success rate of $18 \%$.

While YFP was an easily detectable and convenient target to screen for RNAi knockdown, the relatively high background fluorescence of the $P$. tricornutum cells made it difficult to accurately assess the full extent of knockdown. To circumvent this problem, we switched the targeted reporter to the beta-glucuronidase gene (GUS). Using the fluorescent substrate 4-methylumbelliferyl- $\beta$-D-glucuronide hydrate (MUG), background activity in wild type $P$. tricornutum was very low, and high signal to noise measurements could be obtained.

We divided the $1,812 \mathrm{bp}$ GUS gene into six $\sim 300$-bp regions and constructed hairpin entry vectors for each. These entry vectors were then used to create six different hairpin expression vectors for each of five different promoters: polymerase II promoters FcpB, 49202, or H4 and polymerase III promoters U6 or snRNA. Each of these 30 unique promoter-hairpin constructs was introduced into a GUS-expressing reporter line, screened for the presence of hairpin
maintenance, and tested for GUS activity. Six lines for each of the 30 constructs were tested for

Results for Spinach tests and transcriptional fusions are forthcoming in a future draft.

## Discussion:

 GUS activity; controls including the parental GUS-expressing line and a negative control lacking GUS expression were included for each assay. Overall, we found a relatively low rate of RNAi formation with just $14 \%$ of FcpB driven hairpin lines displaying a knockdown phenotype of 50\% of parental GUS activity or less (Fig. 3A). Knockdown success was somewhat higher at $25 \%$ for the 49202-driven hairpins (Fig. 3B). Only 2 knocked down lines ( $5.6 \%$ ) were observed using the H4 promoter to drive hairpins (Supplemental Figure 1). Some hairpin cassettes appeared to provide better knockdown than others but no consistent trend was observed across different promoters. We also tested the ability of the polymerase III promoters U6 and snRNA to drive hairpin expression and found that each promoter successfully knocked down GUS expression by $50 \%$ in $14 \%$ of lines which was similar to knockdown by polymerase II promoters FcpB and 49202.In an attempt to improve RNAi knockdown efficiency, we constructed four new vectors that allowed for continuous selection or screening for hairpin expression. The first two vectors were constructed as destination vectors using the FcpB promoter to drive a transcriptional fusion between the hairpin and the coding region of the ShBle bleomycin resistance gene (Fig. 4). In one vector (Exp 40-44) the hairpin was 5' (upstream) of the ShBle and in the other vector (Exp 52-56), the hairpin was located 3' (downstream) of the ShBle cassette. When the hairpin came first on the transcript, a strong Kozak sequence was included before the ShBle coding region. The second approach of expressing the hairpin after the ShBle cassette as a transcriptional fusion was previously reported with success (De Riso et al., 2009).

Results for ShBle transcriptional fusions are forthcoming in a future draft.

Because polymerase III promoters cannot be used to express protein coding genes, we chose to fuse hairpin transcription with that of the fluorescent aptamer, Spinach, to allow cells that maintained expression to be screened. We constructed two versions of the U6 promoter driving a transcriptional fusion between the hairpin and the spinach aptamer. The first (Exp 52-56) expresses the hairpin 5' (upstream) of the aptamer and the second (Exp 58-62) expresses the aptamer first followed by the hairpin 3' (downstream) of the aptamer (Fig. 4).

We successfully knocked down reporter gene expression in $P$. tricornutum by expressing inverted repeat hairpins on stable episomes. Knockdown was somewhat improved when hairpins were expressed with the stronger promoter from P. tricornutum gene $49202(25 \%$ of tested lines with knockdown) compared to the FcpB promoter ( $14 \%$ of tested lines with knockdown). The

49202 promoter is one of the highest expressed genes in P. tricornutum (Chen et al., 2003). Detailed analysis of the promoter activities will be presented in a forthcoming manuscript (Bielinski et al. in preparation). We found no improvement in knockdown frequency when polymerase III promoters were used in place of the standard, previously reported polymerase II promoters (De Riso et al., 2009) to drive hairpin expression. Overall, our data allows us to reject our hypothesis that knockdown frequency in $P$. tricornutum could be improved by hairpin expression from a stable episomal location. This points to other factors other than hairpin expression that need to be further optimized in $P$. tricornutum to improve RNAi establishment frequency.

Even when hairpins are expressed from episomal locations, it is possible that the cell could be very sensitive to hairpin expression and may downregulate hairpin expression epigenetically. To eliminate this possibility, we constructed transcriptional fusions such that the hairpin would be co-transcribed with a selectable or fluorescent marker protein to allow cells with active hairpin expression to be identified. Essentially, these vectors directly couple a selectable marker to expression of the hairpin; cells that lose expression of the hairpin would also lose expression of the marker. By coupling selection with hairpin expression, we can ensure that the hairpin is not being repressed during growth. This strategy was successful in previously reported work (De Riso et al., 2009)), but we were able to identify knockdown lines in using transcriptional fusions to the ShBle coding region.

Two versions of the transcriptional fusions to ShBle were created. In the first version (the design previously reported, (De Riso et al., 2009)), ShBle was expressed first followed by the hairpin. While we ensured that both arms of the hairpin were located on the episome after delivery to $P$. tricornutum, it was unclear if the hairpin was successfully expressed or if transcription through the hairpin was halted prematurely. In the second version in which the hairpin was located upstream of the ShBle selectable marker, we recovered very few colonies (roughly 1,000-fold fewer than for the first version where ShBle preceded the hairpin). Thus, it would seem that the hairpin preceding the ShBle prohibited expression of the selectable marker by some mechanism.

At least three mechanisms may be hypothesized as to why hairpins located upstream of the ShBle coding region prevented expression of selectable marker. First, the inability to co-express the ShBle gene when the hairpin was located before the selectable marker open reading frame may suggest that the hairpin is terminating transcription. While hairpin-mediated transcriptional termination is a common phenomenon in bacteria, we could find no evidence for this in eukaryotes in the literature. Second, if transcription is not terminating, then perhaps cleavage of the hairpin by the DICER RNase renders the remaining portion of the transcript containing the ShBle unable to be translated. Problems with translation of this internal ShBle coding region may occur even if efficient cleavage of the hairpin is not occurring despite the presence of a strong Kozak sequence before the ShBle. A third hypothesis is that the hairpin is being
transcribed, and the expression cassette is immediately targeted for epigenetic downregulation of transcription (e.g. via methylation). Such RNA directed DNA methylation (RdDM) was previously shown to be triggered by RNAi for the GUS reporter gene in P. tricornutum (De Riso et al., 2009). However, whether the hairpin expression cassette itself was targeted by RdDM was never tested, and it may be hypothesized that $P$. tricornutum lines that fail to induce RNAi may have silenced expression from the hairpin rather than the reporter gene. Overall, such methods may be helpful to keep the hairpin and selectable marker as tightly linked as possible as rearrangements frequently occur during biolistic transformation. However, we did not find that this method helped select for continuously active RNAi when the hairpin was expressed from the episome.

## Conclusions:

We have thoroughly tested methods to establish RNAi-mediated transcriptional knockdown using episome-based hairpin expression cassettes in P. tricornutum. By testing three polymerase II promoters, two polymerase III promoters, two different knockdown targets, a variety of hairpin sequences and lengths, and hairpins expressed as transcriptional fusions, we conclude that factors other than a stable platform for hairpin expression remain limiting for high efficiency knockdown in $P$. tricornutum.

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## Author Contributions:

V.A.B, C.L.D, P.D.W conceived of experiments and approaches, V.A.B, T.M.B, P.D.W performed experiments, V.A.B, T.M.B, C.L.D, P.D.W analyzed data, and V.A.B, C.L.D, P.D.W wrote the manuscript.

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Figure 1: Construction and testing of hairpin expression plasmids. A. Regions of the target gene (e.g. GUS in this example) were amplified using primers containing adapter sequences for Golden Gate assembly. The numbers (e.g. yellow " 1 ", orange " 2 ", and green " 3 ") indicate unique 4-nt overhangs created during Golden Gate that allow for the correct order of assembly. Entry vectors containing hairpins were then recombined into destination vectors using the LR reaction (Invitrogen) to create hairpin expression vectors. B. Screening protocol for hairpin maintenance before GUS assay. PCRs were performed to verify the presence of both arms of the hairpin after each transfer of the hairpin to a new vector or cell line.


Figure 2: Knockdown of YFP expression from four different hairpin constructs (Exp-1 through Exp-4). Eight $P$. tricornutum lines were tested for each construct. The coordinates of the YFP coding region targeted by the hairpin are indicated in parentheses for each construct. The reported value is the YFP fluorescence from which background chlorophyll-A fluorescence was subtracted and this value was then normalized to OD750. The empty vector control treatment (" + ") is plotted as the mean value of 8 lines with error bars indicating one standard deviation of the mean. Hairpin-expressing lines with YFP values lower than the confidence interval of one standard deviation are shown in green.


Figure 3: (previous page) Knockdown of GUS expression by 6 different hairpin constructs. The 6 hairpin constructs were driven by the different promoters: FcpB (A), 49202 (B), snRNA (C), and U6 (D). Note that data for EXP35 (U6 driven hairpin at positions 601-900-bp) is missing due to difficulties conjugating this construct into $P$. tricornutum. The parental GUS-expressing reporter strain ("+") and non-expressing GUS control ("-") are included for each promoter. Error bars indicate one standard deviation of the mean for three technical replicates. Lines with knockdown of $50 \%$ or greater compared to the parental line are shown in green.


Figure 4: Maps showing vectors designed to express hairpins as transcriptional fusions. FcpBdriven fusions between the hairpin and the ShBle transcript were designed such that the ShBle resistance gene was expressed before (A) or after (B) the hairpin on the transcript. Similarly, for the U6 promoter, fusions with the fluorescent spinach aptamer were constructed with the hairpin expressed before (C) or after (D) the aptamer reporter.

Table 1: Primers and plasmid/strain names of YFP-targeted hairpins

| YFP region <br> targeted | Primers to amplify region to make <br> entry vector | FcpB hairpin expression <br> plasmid (resulting $\boldsymbol{P}$. <br> tricornutum line) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1-200 \mathrm{bp}$ | Left arm: YFP-RNAi-21+YFP-RNAi-22 <br> Right arm: YFP-RNAi-23+YFP-RNAi-24 | Exp-1 |
| $181-360$ bp | Left arm: YFP-RNAi-25 +YFP-RNAi-26 <br> Right arm: YFP-RNAi-27+YFP-RNAi-28 | Exp-2 |
| $1-360$ bp | Left arm: YFP-RNAi-37 +YFP-RNAi-38 <br> Right arm: YFP-RNAi-39 +YFP-RNAi- <br> 40 | Exp-3 |
| $361-720 \mathrm{bp}$ | Left arm: YFP-RNAi-41 +YFP-RNAi-42 <br> Right arm: YFP-RNAi-43+YFP-RNAi-44 | Exp-4 |

Table 2: Primers and plasmid/strain names of GUS-targeted hairpins

| GUS region targeted | Primers to amplify region to make entry vector | FcpB expression of hairpin (Resulting $P$. tricornutum line) | 49202 <br> expression of hairpin (Resulting P. tricornutum line) | U6 <br> expression of hairpin (Resulting P. tricornutum line) | snRNA <br> expression of hairpin (Resulting $P$. tricornutum line) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1-300 bp | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-13 +GUS-RNAi-14 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-15+GUS-RNAi-16 | Exp-6 | Exp-15 | Exp-33 | Exp-21 |
| 301-600 bp | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-17+GUS-RNAi-18 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-19+GUS-RNAi-20 | Exp-7 | Exp-16 | Exp-34 | Exp-22 |
| 601-900 bp | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-21+GUS-RNAi-22 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-23+GUS-RNAi-24 | Exp-8 | Expi-17 | No colonies recovered (Exp-35) | Exp-23 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 901-1200 \\ & b p \end{aligned}$ | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-25+GUS-RNAi-26 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-27+GUS-RNAi-28 | Exp-9 | Exp-18 | Exp-36 | Exp-24 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1201-1500 \\ & \text { bp } \end{aligned}$ | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-29+GUS-RNAi-30 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-31+GUS-RNAi-32 | Exp-5 | Exp-19 | Exp-37 | Exp-25 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1501-1812 \\ & b p \end{aligned}$ | Left arm: GUS-RNAi-33+GUS-RNAi-34 <br> Right arm: GUS-RNAi-35+GUS-RNAi-36 | Exp-10 | Exp-20 | Exp-38 | Exp-26 |



Supplemental Figure 1: Knockdown of GUS expression by 6 different hairpin constructs driven by H4 Promoter. Each of the six 300-bp hairpins were driven by the H4 promoter. Due to differences in the absolute value of the samples that were assayed on different days, GUS expression is given as a percent of the parental GUS-expressing strain (assays performed on different days each had their own GUS-expressing control to allow the experiments to be compared). Error bars indicate one standard deviation of the mean for three technical replicates.


Supplemental Figure 2: Knockdown of GUS expression using ShBle-hairpin transcriptional fusions. Error bars indicate one standard deviation of the mean for three technical replicates.

## Supplemental Table 1: Primers used in this study

| Primer name | Primer Sequence (5'-) |
| :---: | :---: |
| F-OH | GCGCAACGTTGTTGCCATTGTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACGAC |
| Riceintron1 | GGTACGTTTACATGTTTTTTTTTCCCTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTTGGCGCA G |
| $\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{OH}$ | AATGTTGCAGCACTGACCCTTCACTATAGGGGATATCAGCTGGATGG |
| Riceintron2 | CTGCGCCAAAAAAAAATCGATATGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTA CC |
| Ptrnai-47 | CAGGGTTTTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGGCAATC TCACGCACCAGG |
| Ptrnai-48 | gtgatatcaagcttatcgataccgtcgacttgacttGTTGGCTGTTGTTTGTTTTCGGTA |
| Ptrnai-49 | CACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACAAC |
| Ptrnai-50 | CGTTCATCCATAGTTGCCTGA |
| Ptrnai-51 | TCTCGCGGTATCATTGCAGC |
| Ptrnai-52.2 | aagtcaagtcgacggtatcgataagcttgatatcacaagttgtacaaaaaagctgaacg |
| Ptrnai-53 | CAGGGTTTTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGATCGCA CCCGTCCAAACG |
| Ptrnai-54 | aaacttgtgatatcaagcttatcgataccgtcgacttgacttGGTGGTGCGGAAAGAGGC |
| Ptrnai-31 | tgaataggcgagattccgcggtggagctccaattcgccctATCTTCCGCTGCATAACCCT |
| Ptrnai-32 | TTGGTTTCACAGTCAGGAATAACACTAGCTCGTCTTCAacGGCCATTCG CCATTCAGGCT |
| Ptrnai-29 | GCTATAATGACCCCGAAGCAGGGTTATGCAGCGGAAGATagggcgaattgg agctccacc |
| Ptrnai-22 | CCTCACTGAAAGTGTCCCAGCCAAAGTCGAGGTAGttacttgtacagctcgtccat gccg |
| Ptrnai-23 | cgccgggatcactctcggcatggacgagctgtacaagtaaCTACCTCGACTTTGGCTGGG |
| Ptrnai-30 | CCAACAGTTGCGCAGCCTGAATGGCGAATGGCCgtTGAAGACGAGCTA GTGTTATTCCTG |


| BackR | TAAGCCGTGTCGTCAAGAGTGGTCATGGGTACCCTCAGCTAGAATATT A |
| :---: | :---: |
| PtRNAi-7 | AAGTCGACGGTATCGATAATATTCTAGCTGAGGGTACCCATGACCACT CTTGACGACACG |
| BackF | TCTACATGAGCATGCCCTGCCCCTGACCGACGCCGACCAACACCGCC |
| PtRNAi-8 | CCGTCGGGCCGCGTCGGACCGGCGGTGTTGGTCGGCGTCGGTCAGG GGCAGGGCATGCTC |
| PtRNAi-25 | tTtGATtTCACGGGTtGGGGTtTCTACAGGACGTAACATGGTGAAGGG GGCGGCCGCGGA |
| PtRNAi-29 | GCTATAATGACCCCGAAGCAGGGTTATGCAGCGGAAGATagggcgaattgg agctccacc |
| PtRNAi-31 | tgaataggcgagattccgcggtggagctccaattcgccotATCTTCCGCTGCATAACCCT |
| PBR-nanoluc5 | TCATGTTTGACAGCTTATCATCG |
| PtRNAi-26 | TACAAAAAAGCAGGCTCCGCGGCCGCCCCCTTCACCATGTTACGTCCT GTAGAAACCCCA |
| PtRNAi-27 | TGTCCTCACTGAAAGTGTCCCAGCCAAAGTCGAGGTAGTCATTGTTTG CCTCCCTGCTGC |
| PtRNAi-28 | GAACTTCGGTGAAAAACCGCAGCAGGGAGGCAAACAATGACTACCTCG ACTTTGGCTGGG |
| PtRNAi-30 | CCAACAGTTGCGCAGCCTGAATGGCGAATGGCCgtTGAAGACGAGCTA GTGTTATTCCTG |
| PtRNAi-32 | TTGGTTTCACAGTCAGGAATAACACTAGCTCGTCTTCAacGGCCATTCG CCATTCAGGCT |
| PBR-nanoluc4 | TGCCTGACTGCGTTAGCAA |
| Ptrnai-3 | TTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGaatctcgcctattcatggtgt atac |
| Ptrnai-4 | GTGAGGGTTAATTTCGAGCTTGGCGTAATCATGGTcctgaagacgagctagtgtt attcc |
| Ptrnai-5 | ttggttcacagtcaggaataacactagctcgtcttcaggACCATGATTACGCCAAGCTC |
| Ptrnai-6 | tggatgttgaacttgtatacaccatgaataggcgagattCACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACAAC |


| GUS-RNAi-13 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGATGTTACGTCCTGTAGAAACCCCAACC |
| :---: | :---: |
| GUS-RNAi-14 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGATTGACCCAC ACTTTGCCGTAATGAGTGA |
| GUS-RNAi-15 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCATTGACCCAC ACTTTGCCGTAATGAGT |
| GUS-RNAi-16 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTATGTTACGTCCTGTAGAAACCCCAACC |
| GUS-RNAi-17 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGAATCAGGAAGTGATGGAGCATCAGGG |
| GUS-RNAi-18 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGCGCGTGGTTA CAGTCTTGCGCG |
| GUS-RNAi-19 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCCGCGTGGTTA CAGTCTTGCGCG |
| GUS-RNAi-20 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTAATCAGGAAGTGATGGAGCATCAGGG |
| GUS-RNAi-21 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGTCTGTTGACTGGCAGGTGGTGG |
| GUS-RNAi-22 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGGTCCGCATCT TCATGACGACCAAAG |
| GUS-RNAi-23 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCGTCCGCATCT TCATGACGACCAAAG |
| GUS-RNAi-24 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTTCTGTTGACTGGCAGGTGGTGG |
| GUS-RNAi-25 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGTTGCGTGGCAAAGGATTCGATAACGTG |
| GUS-RNAi-26 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGTTTGTCACGC GCTATCAGCTCTTTAATCG |
| GUS-RNAi-27 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCTTTGTCACGC GCTATCAGCTCTTTAATCG |
| GUS-RNAi-28 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTTTGCGTGGCAAAGGATTCGATAACGTG |
| GUS-RNAi-29 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGAACCACCCAAGCGTGGTGATGTG |
| GUS-RNAi-30 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGAATCGGCTGA TGCAGTTTCTCCTGC |
| GUS-RNAi-31 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCAATCGGCTGA TGCAGTTTCTCCTGC |


| GUS-RNAi-32 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTAACCACCCAAGCGTGGTGATGTG |
| :---: | :---: |
| GUS-RNAi-33 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGATCATCACCGAATACGGCGTGGATAC |
| GUS-RNAi-34 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGTCATTGTTTG CCTCCCTGCTGCG |
| GUS-RNAi-35 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCTCATTGTTTG CCTCCCTGCTGCG |
| GUS-RNAi-36 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTATCATCACCGAATACGGCGTGGATAC |
| 5'hpRNA-F-OH | GCGCAACGTTGTTGCCATTGTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAAAACGAC |
| 3'hpRNA-R-OH | AATGTTGCAGCACTGACCCTTCACTATAGGGGATATCAGCTGGATGG |
| 5'hpRNA-Fvector | AGGGTCAGTGCTGCAACATTATCACGAGGCCCTTTCGTCTTCAAG |
| 3'hpRNA-Rvector | CAATGGCAACAACGTTGCGCCTTAACGTGAGTTTTCGTTCCACTGAGC |
| PtRNAi-43 | cagtcGGTCTCaACCTGCGGCCGCACCCAGCTTTCTTGTACAAAGTTGGC ATTATAAG |
| PtRNAi-44 | tgagtGGTCTCaCCATGCGGCCGCAGCCTGCTTTTTTGTACAAAGTTGGC ATTATAAAAAAG |
| snRNAI-DEST- BB-F | TTGCAGAAAATCATAGTTTTacaagttgtacaaaaaagctgaacgagaaacgtaa |
| snRNAI-DEST- BB-R | CACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACAACGTCGT |
| snRNAiPro-F | TTGTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGCTTCTGCAGCTCTTCCAAATCGTACA |
| snRNAiPro-R | AAAACTATGATTTTCTGCAAATATATAAATAGAAAGAGTATACCTATACA CAATAACTG |
| snRNAiterm-F | acaaagtggtgaattctgagTTTTGCCTTTTGACCGAAAGCTATCTTACTTACTAC |
| snRNAiterm-R | GAGCTTGGCGTAATCATGGTTCGAGCAGTTCTAGAAGAAGTGTTTATCT TTACC |
| Backbone 33 | TCTCATGTTTGACAGCTTATCATCGATAAGC |
| DEST-cas-R | AAAGGCAAAActcagaattcaccactttgtacaagaaagctgaacgagaaac |


| Backbone 34 | CTTCTTCTAGAACTGCTCGAACCATGATTACGCCAAGCTCGAAATTAAC <br> C |
| :--- | :--- |
| Backbone 35 | TGCCTGACTGCGTTAGCAATTTAACTGTGATAAA |
| Backbone 36 | TCTCATGTTTGACAGCTTATCATCGATAAGCTTTAATGCGG |
| U6 term-F | acaaagtggtgaattctgagAGAACCGCTCACCCATGCTATCGTAT |
| U6 term-R | GAGCTTGGCGTAATCATGGTGCAGAAAAGTTCGTCGAGACCATGG |
| U6-DEST-cas-F | AAAACACCTTCAAAGTCGAGacaagtttgtacaaaaaagctgaacgagaaacgtaa |
| U6-DEST-cas-R | TAGCATGGGTGAGCGGTTCTctcagaattcaccactttgtacaagaaagctg |
| Backbone-shble- <br> F | GTCTCGACGAACTTTTCTGCACCATGATTACGCCAAGCTCGAAATTAAC <br> C |
| Backbone 37-R | TGCCTGACTGCGTTAGCAATTTAACTGTGATAAA |
| Backbone 38-F | TCTCATGTTTGACAGCTTATCATCGATAAGCTTTAATGCGG |
| U6-Backbone <br> 39-R | ACACCAACTTCCGAGCCAACCACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACAACGTCGT |
| U6-Pro-F | TTGTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGGTTGGCTCGGAAGTTGGTGTTGAC |
| U6-Pro-R | gctttttgtacaaacttgtCTCGACTTTGAAGGTGTTTTTTGACCTTATAAAGC |
| Backbone 40-R | gctttttgtacaaacttgtTCAGTCCTGCTCCTCGGC |
| shBle-3'fusion- <br> DESTcasF | TGGCCGAGGAGCAGGACTGAacaagtttgtacaaaaaagctgaacgagaaacgtaa |
| shBle-3'fusion- <br> DESTcasR | CCCAGCCAAAGTCGAGGTAGaccacttggtacaagaaagctgaacgagaaac |
| fESA term-F | gctttcttgtacaaagtggtCTACCTCGACTTTGGCTGGGACA |
| shBle-F | gctttcttgtacaaagtggtGCCACCATGGCCAAGTTGACCAGTGCC |
| fcpF pro-R | gctttttgtacaaacttgtGGGTACCCTCAGCTAGAATATTATCGATACCGTC |
| DESTcasF |  |


| U6 Pro-R5'Spinach | AGCCTGCTTTTTTGTACAAACTCGACTTTGAAGGTGTTTTTTGACCTTAT AAAGC |
| :---: | :---: |
| U6-5'-Spinach-F | AAAACACCTTCAAAGTCGAGTTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTGATGTAACT GAATGAAATGGTG |
| U6-5'-Spinach-R | gctttttgtacaaacttgtTTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTGATGTAACTAGTTACGG A |
| U6-5'SpinachDESTcasF | ACCCAGCTTTCTTGTACAAAacaagttgtacaaaaaagctgaacgagaaacgtaa |
| U6-DEST-3'Sp-cas-R | AGCCTGCTTTTTTGTACAAActcagaattcaccacttgtacaagaaagctg |
| U6-3'-Spinach-F | acaaagtggtgaattctgagTTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTGATGTAACTGAATGA AATGGTG |
| U6-3'-Spinach-R | tagcatggatgagcgattcttttgtacaagaiagctggatgatgtanc TAGTTACGGA |
| U6 term-F-noOH | AGAACCGCTCACCCATGCTATCGTAT |
| PtGG-1 "MCS" Ultramer F | TGGGAATTCGTTAACAGATCTGaGaCCGCGGCTCGAGACTAGTGCCTA GGTGAGTTTCTATTCGCAGTCGGCTGATCTGTGTGAAAtagggataacagggt aatTCTTAATGAAGGGTCCAATTACCAATTTGAAACTCAGCTAGCTCTAG AATATCAATTGGGATCCggtctcatcgacaAAGGGTGGGCGCGCCG |
| PtGG-1 "MCS" Ultramer R | CGGCGCGCCCACCCTTtgtcgatgagaccGGATCCCAATTGATATTCTAGAG CTAGCTGAGTTTCAAATTGGTAATTGGACCCTTCATTAAGAattaccctgttatc cctaTTTCACACAGATCAGCCGACTGCGAATAGAAACTCACCTAGGCACT AGTCTCGAGCCGCGGtCtCAGATCTGTTAACGAATTCCCAggtgAAGGGG GCGGCCGCGG |
| Spinach2-sense Ultramer | TTTGTACAAAAAAGCAGGCTGATGTAACTGAATGAAATGGTGAAGGAC GGGTCCAGTAGGCTGCTTCGGCAGCCTACTTGTTGAGTAGAGTGTGAG CTCCGTAACTAGTTACATCACCCAGCTTTCTTGTACAAA |
| Spinach2antisense Ultramer | TTTGTACAAGAAAGCTGGGTGATGTAACTAGTTACGGAGCTCACACTCT ACTCAACAAGTAGGCTGCCGAAGCAGCCTACTGGACCCGTCCTTCACC ATTTCATTCAGTTACATCAGCCTGCTTTTTTGTACAAA |
| YFP-RNAi-21 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGatggtgagcaagggcgaggagct |
| YFP-RNAi-22 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGtgcaggccgtagcc gaaggtgg |


| YFP-RNAi-23 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCtgcaggccgtagcc <br> gaaggtgg |
| :--- | :--- |
| YFP-RNAi-24 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTatggtgagcaagggcgaggagct |
| YFP-RNAi-25 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGctcgtgaccaccttcggctacg |
| YFP-RNAi-26 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGcagggtgtcgccctc <br> gaacttca |
| YFP-RNAi-27 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCcagggtgtcgccctc <br> gaacttca |
| YFP-RNAi-28 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTctcgtgaccaccttcggctacg |
| YFP-RNAi-37 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGatggtgagcaagggcgaggagct |
| YFP-RNAi-38 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGcagggtgtcgccctc <br> gaacttca |
| YFP-RNAi-39 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCcagggtgtcgccctc <br> gaacttca |
| YFP-RNAi-40 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTatggtgagcaagggcgaggagct |
| YFP-RNAi-41 | atcgaGGTCTCaATGGgtgaaccgcatcgagctgaagg |
| YFP-RNAi-42 | GAGCTGGTCTCACTTCATATCGATTTTTTTTTGGCGCAGttacttgtacagctcg <br> tccatgccgag |
| YFP-RNAi-43 | tgcacGGTCTCaGAAGGGAAAAAAAACATGTAAACGTACCttacttgtacagctcg <br> tccatgccgag |
| YFP-RNAi-44 | TGAGCGGTCTCTAGGTgtgaaccgcatcgagctgaagg |


| Supplementary Table 2: Raw data for all YFP and GUS experiments |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | OD750 | CHL | (YFP/CHL)/OD norm |  |  |
| fcpB YFP | EXP5-1 | 0.910 | 0.156 | 0.171 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-2 | 0.824 | 0.142 | 0.172 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-3 | 0.883 | 0.209 | 0.237 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-4 | 0.895 | 0.130 | 0.145 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-5 | 0.834 | 0.101 | 0.121 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-6 | 0.907 | 0.129 | 0.142 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-7 | 0.894 | 0.158 | 0.177 |  |  |
|  | EXP5-8 | 0.840 | 0.095 | 0.113 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-1 | 0.744 | 0.128 | 0.172 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-2 | 0.830 | 0.051 | 0.061 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-3 | 0.834 | 0.170 | 0.204 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-4 | 0.866 | 0.159 | 0.184 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-5 | 0.674 | 0.097 | 0.144 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-6 | 0.807 | 0.136 | 0.169 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-7 | 0.846 | 0.130 | 0.154 |  |  |
|  | EXP1-8 | 0.978 | 0.139 | 0.142 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-1 | 0.757 | 0.082 | 0.108 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-2 | 0.824 | 0.182 | 0.221 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-3 | 0.749 | 0.126 | 0.168 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-4 | 0.784 | 0.153 | 0.195 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-5 | 0.837 | 0.071 | 0.085 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-6 | 0.829 | 0.146 | 0.176 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-7 | 0.803 | 0.069 | 0.086 |  |  |
|  | EXP2-8 | 0.899 | 0.067 | 0.075 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-1 | 0.817 | 0.161 | 0.197 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-2 | 0.767 | 0.112 | 0.146 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-3 | 0.838 | 0.085 | 0.101 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-4 | 0.810 | 0.131 | 0.162 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-5 | 0.824 | 0.177 | 0.215 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-6 | 0.851 | 0.057 | 0.067 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-7 | 0.741 | 0.103 | 0.139 |  |  |
|  | EXP3-8 | 0.764 | 0.101 | 0.132 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-1 | 0.792 | 0.179 | 0.226 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-2 | 0.805 | 0.213 | 0.265 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-3 | 0.781 | 0.208 | 0.266 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-4 | 0.791 | 0.095 | 0.120 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-5 | 0.810 | 0.167 | 0.206 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-6 | 0.846 | 0.153 | 0.181 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-7 | 0.873 | 0.199 | 0.228 |  |  |
|  | EXP4-8 | 0.842 | 0.152 | 0.181 |  |  |


|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | rep 1 | rep 2 | rep 3 | average | stdev |
| fcpB GUS | pos control | 3000.056 | 2880.922 | 2923.033 | 2934.670 | 60.414 |
|  | neg control | 29.277 | 28.276 | 30.585 | 29.379 | 1.158 |
|  | EXP5-1 | 2147.891 | 2231.566 | 2591.900 | 2323.786 | 235.933 |
|  | EXP5-2 | 3496.527 | 3451.718 | 3335.573 | 3427.939 | 83.070 |
|  | EXP5-3 | 3357.483 | 3410.573 | 2695.446 | 3154.501 | 398.438 |
|  | EXP5-4 | 1820.147 | 1805.168 | 1421.783 | 1682.366 | 225.796 |
|  | EXP5-5 | 2825.937 | 2399.295 | 2001.892 | 2409.041 | 412.109 |
|  | EXP5-6 | 3640.465 | 3468.755 | 3031.847 | 3380.356 | 313.791 |
|  | EXP6-1 | 1650.309 | 1666.056 | 1409.751 | 1575.372 | 143.648 |
|  | EXP6-2 | 95.746 | 93.449 | 61.774 | 83.656 | 18.985 |
|  | EXP6-3 | 2910.888 | 3111.175 | 2433.644 | 2818.569 | 348.072 |
|  | EXP6-4 | 3475.072 | 3792.537 | 2895.650 | 3387.753 | 454.775 |
|  | EXP6-5 | 3850.809 | 3660.912 | 3075.135 | 3528.952 | 404.324 |
|  | EXP6-6 | 3531.307 | 3546.752 | 2925.276 | 3334.445 | 354.435 |
|  | EXP7-1 | 100.856 | 94.454 | 91.124 | 95.478 | 4.946 |
|  | EXP7-2 | 2643.466 | 2594.938 | 2651.884 | 2630.096 | 30.737 |
|  | EXP7-3 | 1272.408 | 1276.487 | 1204.873 | 1251.256 | 40.221 |
|  | EXP7-4 | 2927.877 | 2737.370 | 2949.814 | 2871.687 | 116.838 |
|  | EXP7-5 | 2870.442 | 2957.250 | 2746.187 | 2857.960 | 106.084 |
|  | EXP7-6 | 2580.570 | 2821.828 | 2756.895 | 2719.764 | 124.841 |
|  | EXP8-1 | 2250.587 | 2314.791 | 2565.493 | 2376.957 | 166.403 |
|  | EXP8-2 | 3335.010 | 3595.697 | 3633.920 | 3521.542 | 162.669 |
|  | EXP8-3 | 1938.908 | 2255.722 | 2313.822 | 2169.484 | 201.787 |
|  | EXP8-4 | 2100.536 | 2054.654 | 2293.233 | 2149.474 | 126.595 |
|  | EXP8-5 | 2356.144 | 2890.880 | 2888.889 | 2711.971 | 308.157 |
|  | EXP8-6 | 2419.958 | 1974.795 | 2457.109 | 2283.954 | 268.383 |
|  | EXP9-1 | 2380.150 | 2351.150 | 2359.835 | 2363.712 | 14.884 |
|  | EXP9-2 | 3914.888 | 4002.275 | 2612.513 | 3509.892 | 778.381 |
|  | EXP9-3 | 1075.558 | 1058.278 | 1069.121 | 1067.652 | 8.733 |
|  | EXP9-4 | 3419.808 | 3463.218 | 3499.975 | 3461.000 | 40.130 |
|  | EXP9-5 | 2282.988 | 2320.763 | 2258.901 | 2287.551 | 31.183 |
|  | EXP9-6 | 2623.940 | 2976.856 | 2763.832 | 2788.210 | 177.717 |
|  | EXP10-1 | 3484.614 | 3366.408 | 3278.149 | 3376.390 | 103.594 |
|  | EXP10-2 | 3372.733 | 3029.054 | 3078.213 | 3160.000 | 185.865 |
|  | EXP10-3 | 1479.013 | 1561.151 | 1349.928 | 1463.364 | 106.478 |
|  | EXP10-4 | 2820.288 | 2359.156 | 2312.752 | 2497.399 | 280.591 |
|  | EXP10-5 | 3681.501 | 3203.215 | 3209.989 | 3364.902 | 274.204 |
|  | EXP10-6 | 3757.999 | 3566.132 | 3417.213 | 3580.448 | 170.843 |
| 49202 GUS | pos control | 4219.711 | 4320.274 | 4235.912 | 4258.632 | 53.995 |
|  | neg control | 13.452 | 24.648 | 10.289 | 16.130 | 7.545 |


|  | EXP15-1 | 41.882 | 45.867 | 48.443 | 45.397 | 3.305 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | EXP15-2 | 4312.514 | 4595.506 | 3405.774 | 4104.598 | 621.520 |
|  | EXP15-3 | 1972.256 | 1780.378 | 1396.828 | 1716.487 | 292.986 |
|  | EXP15-4 | 2795.942 | 2703.319 | 2065.358 | 2521.540 | 397.770 |
|  | EXP15-5 | 3286.229 | 3967.872 | 3798.651 | 3684.251 | 354.929 |
|  | EXP15-6 | 67.387 | 63.698 | 53.010 | 61.365 | 7.467 |
|  | EXP16-1 | 3255.780 | 2612.758 | 3601.429 | 3156.656 | 501.734 |
|  | EXP16-2 | 3448.505 | 3397.707 | 3163.228 | 3336.480 | 152.176 |
|  | EXP16-3 | 4156.458 | 3999.312 | 4218.995 | 4124.922 | 113.186 |
|  | EXP16-4 | 779.055 | 715.580 | 790.924 | 761.853 | 40.511 |
|  | EXP16-5 | 1896.986 | 2007.144 | 2080.554 | 1994.895 | 92.395 |
|  | EXP16-6 | 4072.338 | 4095.512 | 3717.035 | 3961.628 | 212.141 |
|  | EXP17-1 | 3120.910 | 2926.258 | 2854.664 | 2967.277 | 137.781 |
|  | EXP17-2 | 3053.671 | 3029.024 | 3435.894 | 3172.863 | 228.124 |
|  | EXP17-3 | 3834.299 | 3760.292 | 3514.188 | 3702.926 | 167.589 |
|  | EXP17-4 | 3274.873 | 2979.672 | 3053.331 | 3102.625 | 153.650 |
|  | EXP17-5 | 3964.992 | 3878.953 | 3481.037 | 3774.994 | 258.183 |
|  | EXP17-6 | 3834.429 | 3880.967 | 3446.084 | 3720.493 | 238.782 |
|  | EXP18-1 | 3555.818 | 3495.400 | 3783.376 | 3611.532 | 151.857 |
|  | EXP18-2 | 4997.315 | 4671.234 | 4605.988 | 4758.179 | 209.652 |
|  | EXP18-3 | 3335.098 | 3472.519 | 3267.738 | 3358.451 | 104.369 |
|  | EXP18-4 | 5007.173 | 4676.800 | 4654.525 | 4779.499 | 197.485 |
|  | EXP18-5 | 36.357 | 38.466 | 36.310 | 37.044 | 1.232 |
|  | EXP18-6 | 4820.121 | 5590.986 | 5281.717 | 5230.941 | 387.933 |
|  | EXP19-1 | 2844.615 | 2566.601 | 2512.449 | 2641.222 | 178.213 |
|  | EXP19-2 | 2553.849 | 2612.450 | 2704.401 | 2623.566 | 75.889 |
|  | EXP19-3 | 3277.274 | 3002.278 | 3241.324 | 3173.625 | 149.476 |
|  | EXP19-4 | 3468.221 | 3499.223 | 3078.502 | 3348.648 | 234.467 |
|  | EXP19-5 | 3217.888 | 3222.065 | 2673.198 | 3037.717 | 315.690 |
|  | EXP19-6 | 2124.495 | 2212.669 | 1999.176 | 2112.113 | 107.284 |
|  | EXP20-1 | 2552.165 | 2316.338 | 2346.492 | 2404.998 | 128.339 |
|  | EXP20-2 | 2549.664 | 2857.049 | 2883.698 | 2763.470 | 185.640 |
|  | EXP20-3 | 2305.472 | 2072.838 | 2041.067 | 2139.792 | 144.359 |
|  | EXP20-4 | 2933.865 | 2989.237 | 3229.897 | 3051.000 | 157.384 |
|  | EXP20-5 | 968.161 | 1125.953 | 1059.180 | 1051.098 | 79.206 |
|  | EXP20-6 | 870.694 | 860.835 | 838.788 | 856.772 | 16.336 |
| snRNA GUS | pos control | 4883.356 | 4762.533 | 4832.682 | 4826.190 | 381.436 |
|  | neg control | 6.500 | 8.919 | 6.246 | 7.220 | 1.749 |
|  | EXP21-1 | 3617.504 | 4329.548 | 3713.947 | 3887.000 | 386.279 |
|  | EXP21-2 | 2631.388 | 2440.130 | 2557.648 | 2543.055 | 96.461 |
|  | EXP21-3 | 4768.379 | 4568.290 | 4471.947 | 4602.872 | 151.212 |
|  | EXP21-4 | 3694.881 | 3520.905 | 3315.080 | 3510.288 | 190.123 |


|  | EXP21-5 | 4027.687 | 3763.154 | 3834.444 | 3875.095 | 136.872 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | EXP21-6 | 3341.653 | 3511.948 | 3745.507 | 3533.036 | 202.751 |
|  | EXP22-2 | 2652.302 | 2482.510 | 2584.216 | 2573.009 | 85.449 |
|  | EXP22-3 | 2309.301 | 2112.775 | 2166.641 | 2196.239 | 101.551 |
|  | EXP22-4 | 4022.115 | 4439.356 | 3914.975 | 4125.482 | 277.051 |
|  | EXP22-5 | 3020.875 | 2980.080 | 2283.339 | 2761.431 | 414.542 |
|  | EXP22-6 | 4794.512 | 4892.349 | 4672.692 | 4786.518 | 110.046 |
|  | EXP22-7 | 4013.542 | 4231.290 | 4114.124 | 4119.652 | 108.979 |
|  | EXP23-1 | 4192.413 | 4353.985 | 4620.924 | 4389.107 | 216.404 |
|  | EXP23-2 | 3485.749 | 3423.269 | 3736.523 | 3548.514 | 165.791 |
|  | EXP23-3 | 3044.305 | 2939.471 | 3020.104 | 3001.293 | 54.890 |
|  | EXP23-4 | 2510.343 | 2114.486 | 2213.158 | 2279.329 | 206.057 |
|  | EXP23-5 | 4097.971 | 4004.152 | 3840.682 | 3980.935 | 130.206 |
|  | EXP23-6 | 7001.174 | 7030.429 | 6466.998 | 6832.867 | 317.189 |
|  | EXP24-1 | 4122.875 | 4368.387 | 3835.848 | 4109.037 | 266.539 |
|  | EXP24-2 | 4658.716 | 4896.971 | 4879.823 | 4811.837 | 132.883 |
|  | EXP24-3 | 3089.405 | 3227.205 | 3484.884 | 3267.164 | 200.745 |
|  | EXP24-4 | 2519.719 | 2397.514 | 2646.495 | 2521.243 | 124.497 |
|  | EXP24-5 | 3657.234 | 3666.922 | 3836.152 | 3720.103 | 100.618 |
|  | EXP24-6 | 2523.743 | 2402.369 | 2544.398 | 2490.170 | 76.736 |
|  | EXP25-1 | 3848.975 | 3638.142 | 3591.516 | 3692.878 | 137.179 |
|  | EXP25-2 | 2526.742 | 2937.722 | 2927.665 | 2797.376 | 234.430 |
|  | EXP25-3 | 5568.356 | 5791.104 | 5875.586 | 5745.015 | 158.715 |
|  | EXP25-4 | 4233.397 | 4225.802 | 4284.182 | 4247.794 | 31.741 |
|  | EXP25-5 | 2881.220 | 3010.661 | 2872.246 | 2921.376 | 77.453 |
|  | EXP25-6 | 3573.112 | 3674.612 | 3636.157 | 3627.960 | 51.244 |
|  | EXP26-1 | 3393.097 | 3419.893 | 3177.568 | 3330.186 | 132.848 |
|  | EXP26-2 | 3012.438 | 2997.538 | 2987.562 | 2999.179 | 12.519 |
|  | EXP26-3 | 4761.437 | 4685.995 | 4824.189 | 4757.207 | 69.194 |
|  | EXP26-4 | 4422.122 | 5003.185 | 4747.176 | 4724.161 | 291.215 |
|  | EXP26-5 | 1203.826 | 1293.390 | 981.588 | 1159.601 | 160.536 |
|  | EXP26-6 | 937.053 | 926.827 | 911.306 | 925.062 | 12.964 |
| H4 GUS | pos control 1 | 1070.329 | 1061.007 | 1025.452 | 1052.262 | 23.682 |
|  | neg control 1 | 21.276 | 21.196 | 26.894 | 23.122 | 3.267 |
|  | EXP27-1 | 1656.323 | 1546.017 | 1474.763 | 1559.034 | 91.477 |
|  | EXP27-2 | 1393.067 | 1320.605 | 1344.759 | 1352.811 | 36.896 |
|  | EXP27-3 | 1110.233 | 1114.823 | 1119.306 | 1114.788 | 4.536 |
|  | EXP27-4 | 1366.667 | 1341.170 | 1361.520 | 1356.452 | 13.483 |
|  | EXP27-5 | 1220.474 | 1162.040 | 1198.907 | 1193.807 | 29.549 |
|  | EXP27-6 | 1901.258 | 1863.482 | 1909.061 | 1891.267 | 24.377 |
|  | EXP28-1 | 1154.724 | 1270.647 | 1200.497 | 1208.623 | 58.387 |
|  | EXP28-2 | 1106.723 | 952.794 | 1160.397 | 1073.305 | 107.761 |


|  | EXP28-3 | 1176.009 | 1218.829 | 1169.111 | 1187.983 | 26.935 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | EXP28-4 | 1705.388 | 1649.750 | 1821.850 | 1725.663 | 87.823 |
|  | EXP28-5 | 1210.585 | 1155.420 | 1076.234 | 1147.413 | 67.533 |
|  | EXP28-6 | 1108.410 | 1100.700 | 1097.802 | 1102.304 | 5.483 |
|  | EXP29-1 | 1430.017 | 1527.597 | 1413.891 | 1457.168 | 61.524 |
|  | EXP29-2 | 810.075 | 846.826 | 911.800 | 856.234 | 51.511 |
|  | EXP29-3 | 357.820 | 386.443 | 334.815 | 359.693 | 25.865 |
|  | EXP29-4 | 1177.952 | 1208.904 | 1157.924 | 1181.593 | 25.684 |
|  | EXP29-5 | 1496.986 | 1433.234 | 1498.511 | 1476.244 | 37.255 |
|  | EXP29-6 | 824.090 | 776.435 | 743.128 | 781.218 | 40.693 |
|  | pos control 2 | 526.501 | 490.264 | 506.143 | 507.636 | 18.165 |
|  | neg control 2 | 14.626 | 14.391 | 14.191 | 14.403 | 0.218 |
|  | EXP30-1 | 580.683 | 595.491 | 600.000 | 592.058 | 10.106 |
|  | EXP30-2 | 661.352 | 556.066 | 548.243 | 588.553 | 63.166 |
|  | EXP30-3 | 434.751 | 529.261 | 542.371 | 502.128 | 58.717 |
|  | EXP30-4 | 655.853 | 658.978 | 632.418 | 649.083 | 14.516 |
|  | EXP30-5 | 316.588 | 319.940 | 309.382 | 315.303 | 5.395 |
|  | EXP30-6 | 477.304 | 509.026 | 517.402 | 501.244 | 21.151 |
|  | EXP31-1 | 550.983 | 551.397 | 518.045 | 540.142 | 19.138 |
|  | EXP31-2 | 645.690 | 598.244 | 641.237 | 628.390 | 26.202 |
|  | EXP31-3 | 531.332 | 544.963 | 508.454 | 528.249 | 18.449 |
|  | EXP31-4 | 141.241 | 146.473 | 147.262 | 144.992 | 3.272 |
|  | EXP31-5 | 665.082 | 613.601 | 686.958 | 655.214 | 37.661 |
|  | EXP31-6 | 810.887 | 835.516 | 852.694 | 833.032 | 21.014 |
|  | EXP32-1 | 640.355 | 620.050 | 626.759 | 629.055 | 10.346 |
|  | EXP32-2 | 543.266 | 339.258 | 513.506 | 465.343 | 110.202 |
|  | EXP32-3 | 487.976 | 414.685 | 495.506 | 466.056 | 44.647 |
|  | EXP32-4 | 506.310 | 485.424 | 540.517 | 510.750 | 27.814 |
|  | EXP32-5 | 466.818 | 448.338 | 462.323 | 459.160 | 9.637 |
|  | EXP32-6 | 533.745 | 513.447 | 503.021 | 516.738 | 15.624 |
| U6 GUS | pos control | 390.639 | 363.753 | 375.534 | 376.642 | 13.477 |
|  | neg control | 5.055 | 4.974 | 4.904 | 4.978 | 0.075 |
|  | EXP33-1 | 438.242 | 470.937 | 462.374 | 457.184 | 16.954 |
|  | EXP33-2 | 389.962 | 368.399 | 369.962 | 376.108 | 12.023 |
|  | EXP33-3 | 505.645 | 478.730 | 488.806 | 491.061 | 13.598 |
|  | EXP33-4 | 460.226 | 493.243 | 497.429 | 483.633 | 20.379 |
|  | EXP33-5 | 473.940 | 455.706 | 472.321 | 467.323 | 10.093 |
|  | EXP33-6 | 467.584 | 450.485 | 439.527 | 452.532 | 14.140 |
|  | EXP34-1 | 431.753 | 434.226 | 441.582 | 435.854 | 5.113 |
|  | EXP34-2 | 259.416 | 254.580 | 268.096 | 260.698 | 6.848 |
|  | EXP34-3 | 218.021 | 220.396 | 212.005 | 216.807 | 4.325 |
|  | EXP34-4 | 167.914 | 205.264 | 172.079 | 181.752 | 20.468 |


|  | EXP34-5 | 708.100 | 712.572 | 733.764 | 718.145 | 13.710 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | EXP34-6 | 561.701 | 576.809 | 560.287 | 566.265 | 9.158 |
|  | EXP36-1 | 338.171 | 353.590 | 333.122 | 341.628 | 10.663 |
|  | EXP36-2 | 14.145 | 14.275 | 14.250 | 14.223 | 0.069 |
|  | EXP36-3 | 43.009 | 43.073 | 43.835 | 43.306 | 0.459 |
|  | EXP36-4 | 415.832 | 418.046 | 422.289 | 418.722 | 3.281 |
|  | EXP36-5 | 343.693 | 317.016 | 326.046 | 328.918 | 13.568 |
|  | EXP36-6 | 319.791 | 323.222 | 318.329 | 320.448 | 2.512 |
|  | EXP37-1 | 499.724 | 502.603 | 510.864 | 504.397 | 5.783 |
|  | EXP37-2 | 543.921 | 559.165 | 576.782 | 559.956 | 16.445 |
|  | EXP37-3 | 250.720 | 239.888 | 239.417 | 243.342 | 6.394 |
|  | EXP37-4 | 646.273 | 605.459 | 602.816 | 618.183 | 24.363 |
|  | EXP37-6 | 492.908 | 481.491 | N/A | 487.200 | N/A |
|  | EXP38-1 | 671.895 | 539.419 | 712.697 | 641.337 | 90.591 |
|  | EXP38-2 | 86.019 | 94.739 | 91.929 | 90.896 | 4.451 |
|  | EXP38-3 | 162.434 | 130.536 | 137.559 | 143.510 | 16.761 |
|  | EXP38-4 | 478.806 | 486.698 | 455.594 | 473.699 | 16.169 |
|  | EXP38-5 | 450.333 | 425.250 | 413.224 | 429.602 | 18.934 |
|  | EXP38-6 | 467.692 | 460.547 | 492.345 | 473.528 | 16.683 |
|  | EXP45-1 | 4838.253 | 4364.044 | 4576.802 | 4593.033 | 237.521 |
| bF 3'shble G | EXP45-2 | 3503.233 | 3606.696 | 3649.191 | 3586.373 | 75.071 |
|  | EXP45-3 | 4405.874 | 4620.332 | 4494.552 | 4506.919 | 107.762 |
|  | EXP45-4 | 6258.782 | 6042.763 | 5721.519 | 6007.688 | 270.343 |
|  | EXP45-5 | 1268.892 | 1827.423 | 1539.838 | 1545.384 | 279.307 |
|  | EXP45-6 | 3630.033 | 4458.339 | 3908.512 | 3998.961 | 421.495 |
|  | EXP46-1 | 4022.417 | 4011.376 | 4066.918 | 4033.570 | 29.403 |
|  | EXP46-2 | 4031.385 | 4175.792 | 3839.521 | 4015.566 | 168.693 |
|  | EXP46-3 | 4901.721 | 4042.288 | 4226.489 | 4390.166 | 452.492 |
|  | EXP46-4 | 2477.097 | 2682.636 | 2803.478 | 2654.404 | 165.012 |
|  | EXP46-5 | 2213.993 | 2712.730 | 2138.787 | 2355.170 | 311.931 |
|  | EXP46-6 | 4276.066 | 3369.229 | 4341.223 | 3995.506 | 543.349 |
|  | EXP47-1 | 7305.798 | 6517.366 | 6431.784 | 6751.650 | 481.811 |
|  | EXP47-2 | 3937.031 | 4208.695 | 4399.123 | 4181.616 | 232.233 |
|  | EXP47-3 | 5533.104 | 5990.450 | 5710.605 | 5744.720 | 230.574 |
|  | EXP47-4 | 6408.605 | 5778.820 | 5923.331 | 6036.919 | 329.900 |
|  | EXP47-5 | 4438.849 | 3609.894 | 3656.416 | 3901.720 | 465.749 |
|  | EXP47-6 | 3884.129 | 3620.242 | 3164.818 | 3556.396 | 363.881 |
|  | EXP48-1 | 5898.064 | 5926.949 | 4846.468 | 5557.160 | 615.647 |
|  | EXP48-2 | 5851.311 | 5913.145 | 3925.370 | 5229.942 | 1130.215 |
|  | EXP48-3 | 4132.731 | 3852.566 | 4574.298 | 4186.532 | 363.861 |
|  | EXP48-4 | 4021.568 | 4211.738 | 4665.067 | 4299.458 | 330.596 |
|  | EXP48-5 | 3051.572 | 3996.598 | 3854.416 | 3634.195 | 509.550 |


|  | EXP48-6 | 4307.293 | 4105.563 | 4488.334 | 4300.397 | 191.478 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | EXP49-1 | 3176.630 | 3918.550 | 4558.493 | 3884.558 | 691.558 |
|  | EXP49-2 | 3832.940 | 3915.040 | 4305.121 | 4017.700 | 252.276 |
|  | EXP49-3 | 2369.940 | 3175.696 | 3476.722 | 3007.453 | 572.251 |
|  | EXP49-4 | 4288.961 | 3708.234 | 3670.594 | 3889.263 | 346.660 |
|  | EXP49-5 | 3761.933 | 2950.055 | 4122.539 | 3611.509 | 600.542 |
|  | EXP49-6 | 4973.482 | 5262.135 | 4984.818 | 5073.478 | 163.480 |
|  | EXP50-1 | 3266.847 | 2561.816 | 3579.996 | 3136.220 | 521.508 |
|  | EXP50-3 | 4104.887 | 4343.128 | 4114.243 | 4187.419 | 134.929 |
|  | EXP50-4 | 4995.887 | 4625.002 | 5001.435 | 4874.108 | 215.750 |
|  | EXP50-5 | 6008.054 | 6555.705 | 6678.904 | 6414.221 | 357.104 |
|  | EXP50-6 | 5790.700 | 6873.330 | 5055.692 | 5906.574 | 914.342 |
|  | EXP50-7 | 10997.197 | 7274.589 | 10791.469 | 9687.751 | 2092.390 |

