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Cooperative Binding of Transcription Factors Orchestrates Reprogramming

Graphical Abstract

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In Brief

Oct4, Sox2, and Klf4 work collaboratively with the help of other transcription factors to change the enhancer landscape during reprogramming.

Highlights

- **e** Genome-wide annotation of cis-regulatory elements at four reprogramming stages
- **.** Somatic enhancer silencing is initiated through several OSKinduced mechanisms
- **Stepwise pluripotency enhancer selection is dependent on** collaborative TF binding
- Stage-specific TFs influence OSK occupancy and enhancer selection

Cooperative Binding of Transcription Factors Orchestrates Reprogramming

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SUMMARY

Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc (OSKM) reprogram somatic cells to pluripotency. To gain a mechanistic understanding of their function, we mapped OSKMbinding, stage-specific transcription factors (TFs), and chromatin states in discrete reprogramming stages and performed loss- and gain-of-function experiments. We found that OSK predominantly bind active somatic enhancers early in reprogramming and immediately initiate their inactivation genomewide by inducing the redistribution of somatic TFs away from somatic enhancers to sites elsewhere engaged by OSK, recruiting Hdac1, and repressing the somatic TF Fra1. Pluripotency enhancer selection is a stepwise process that also begins early in reprogramming through collaborative binding of OSK at sites with high OSK-motif density. Most pluripotency enhancers are selected later in the process and require OS and other pluripotency TFs. Somatic and pluripotency TFs modulate reprogramming efficiency when overexpressed by altering OSK targeting, somatic-enhancer inactivation, and pluripotency enhancer selection. Together, our data indicate that collaborative interactions among OSK and with stage-specific TFs direct both somaticenhancer inactivation and pluripotency-enhancer selection to drive reprogramming.

INTRODUCTION

Differentiated cells can be reprogrammed to pluripotency by overexpression of the four transcription factors (TFs) Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc (OSKM) ([Takahashi and Yamanaka,](#page-18-0) [2006](#page-18-0)). Successful reprogramming of somatic cells to induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) leads to the faithful shutdown of the somatic program and activation of the target program. Conversely, in TF-induced conversions of one somatic cell type to another, incomplete extinction of the starting cell pro-

gram represents a major barrier ([Cahan et al., 2014\)](#page-17-0). Hence, understanding the mechanisms by which OSKM inactivate the starting cell program and induce the pluripotency network will provide insights into the principles by which cell identity can be effectively manipulated.

The interaction of OSKM with chromatin has been primarily studied in ESCs, where O, S, and K preferentially bind enhancers and M primarily associates with promoters ([Chen et al., 2008;](#page-17-1) [Kim et al., 2008](#page-17-1)). In ESCs, enhancers are often occupied by addi-tional pluripotency TFs including Nanog and Esrrb [\(Chen et al.,](#page-17-1) [2008; Kim et al., 2008; Whyte et al., 2013](#page-17-1)), suggesting that complex regulatory interactions perpetuate the pluripotent state. Among the pluripotency TFs, O, S, and Nanog are thought to form a pivotal circuitry as they co-occupy enhancers with a higher frequency than other TFs ([Chen et al., 2008](#page-17-1)), raising the questions of why K is an effective reprogramming factor when combined with O and S and how these factors interact during reprogramming. Moreover, it is unclear how and when pluripotency enhancer selection happens during reprogramming given that most pluripotency TFs are only available late in the process [\(Polo et al., 2012; Samavarchi-Tehrani et al., 2010](#page-18-1)). Since enhancers play a central role in driving cell-type-specific gene expression [\(Heinz et al., 2015\)](#page-17-2), defining how the reprogramming factors control the reorganization of the enhancer landscape is critical for the mechanistic understanding of reprogramming.

A few studies reported that the target sites of the reprogramming factors change during reprogramming ([Chen et al., 2016;](#page-17-3) [Sridharan et al., 2009](#page-17-3)). In addition, it has been shown that O, S, and K each can act as pioneer factor since they can engage nucleosome-occluded sites in human fibroblasts and nucleosomal templates in vitro ([Soufi et al., 2012, 2015\)](#page-18-2). Whether these properties are relevant for their binding to pluripotency enhancers during the reprogramming process, however, remains elusive. Moreover, the pioneer factor model does not provide a mechanistic explanation for the silencing of the somatic program, and, therefore, it has remained unclear how the reprogramming factors would induce this process.

In our study, we delineated the interaction of the reprogramming factors with somatic and pluripotency enhancers. We uncovered that OSK mediate both somatic enhancer silencing and pluripotency enhancer selection through collaborative interactions among themselves and with stage-specific TFs.

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RESULTS

Comprehensive Mapping of TFs, Chromatin Features, and Expression at Defined Reprogramming Stages

To characterize the role of OSKM in reprogramming, we carried out chromatin immunoprecipitation for each reprogramming factor coupled to high-throughput sequencing (chromatin immunoprecipitation sequencing [ChIP-seq]) at four distinct stages of mouse embryonic fibroblast (MEF) reprogramming ([Figure 1A](#page-2-0)). These stages included (1) MEFs carrying a tetracycline-inducible polycistronic OSKM expression cassette to capture the starting state; (2) the same MEFs induced for OSKM expression with doxycycline (dox) for 48 hr; (3) two independently generated pre-iPSC lines (pre-i $^{\#1}$ and pre-i $^{\#2}$); and (4) the pluripotent state represented by mouse ESCs for the end state (Figures S1A–S1C). The 48 hr time point represents an early reprogramming stage and was chosen to examine the initial interaction of OSKM with MEF chromatin. Importantly, within the first 48 hr, fibroblasts respond to OSKM activation in a homogeneous manner and with limited expression changes [\(Buganim et al., 2012; Koche et al., 2011;](#page-17-4) [Polo et al., 2012](#page-17-4)). Since reprogramming cultures are heterogeneous at later time points [\(Pasque et al., 2014; Polo et al., 2012](#page-18-3)), we turned to pre-iPSC lines with closely related transcriptional, epigenetic, and OSKM binding profiles (Figures S1D, S1E, S2E, and S2F) that were isolated clonally from reprogramming cultures infected with OSKM-encoding retroviruses ([Sridharan et al., 2009\)](#page-18-4) for a proxy of a late intermediate stage. Since M and K are expressed endogenously in starting MEFs (Figures S1A–S1C), we mapped both in all four reprogramming stages, whereas O and S were profiled at 48 hr, in pre-iPSCs and ESCs.

Additionally, we determined the targets of endogenously expressed TFs (Cebpa, Cebpb, Fra1, Runx1, Esrrb, and Nanog) and chromatin regulators (p300, Hdac1, and Brg1) in relevant reprogramming stages to determine their interplay with OSKM, mapped histone H3 to assess nucleosome occupancy, and measured chromatin accessibility by an assay for transposaseaccessible chromatin using ATAC sequencing (ATAC-seq) and gene expression by RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) [\(Figure 1](#page-2-0)A) (Tables S1 and S2). We also generated maps for nine histone modifications and the histone variant H3.3 for each reprogramming stage. The histone modifications included H3K4me3 and H3K9ac primarily associated with promoters; H3K4me1, H3K4me2, and H3K27ac characteristic of active promoters and enhancers; H3K79me2 and H3K36me3 associated with transcription, and the repressive marks H3K9me3 and H3K27me3 ([Figure 1A](#page-2-0)) [\(Ernst et al., 2011](#page-17-5)). A snapshot of the various datasets is shown in [Figure 1B](#page-2-0). Data reproducibility was confirmed by correlating replicate experiments, experi-

mental and imputed data [\(Ernst and Kellis, 2015](#page-17-6)), and through comparisons with published datasets (Table S3), leading to the merging of replicate datasets for downstream analyses. Additionally, for TFs, their known motifs were identified at occupied sites (Figure S1F), validating our datasets.

Identification of cis-Regulatory Elements at Each Reprogramming Stage

To enable a characterization of the chromatin environment at sites engaged by OSKM, we summarized the combinatorial and spatial patterns of histone modifications and H3.3 for each reprogramming stage by building a chromatin state model with 18 states using ChromHMM and assigned candidate functional annotations to each state based on marks present ([Figure 1C](#page-2-0)) ([Ernst](#page-17-7) [and Kellis, 2012](#page-17-7)). The 18 states defined active and poised promoters, inter- and intragenic enhancers of varying activity levels, various transcribed regions, repressed regions, and genomic regions with minimal or no signal of any histone mark [\(Figures 1C](#page-2-0) and 1D). These chromatin state annotations were supported by associations with genomic landmarks such as CpG islands and transcriptional start sites (TSSs) of genes, chromatin accessibility and expression of nearby genes ([Figures 1D](#page-2-0), S1G, and S1H), and captured epigenetic states expected to occur at somatic and pluripotency loci during reprogramming ([Figures 1](#page-2-0)B and S1I).

OSKM Predominantly Occupy Active and Poised Promoters and Enhancers at Each Reprogramming Stage

To understand OSKM action, we first investigated the characteristics of OSKM binding sites at each reprogramming stage. Regardless of reprogramming stage, O, S, and K predominantly bound in distal regions >2 kb away from the TSS, whereas M binding occurred more often in close proximity to the TSS [\(Fig](#page-4-0)[ures 2A](#page-4-0) and S2A). Intersection of binding sites with chromatin states revealed that at each reprogramming stage, all four reprogramming factors bound both active and poised promoters and that the distal binding sites of OSK were predominantly located within active enhancers ([Figures 2B](#page-4-0) and S2B). These binding preferences also applied when considering co-binding between the reprogramming factors, such that M in combinations with O, S, or K displayed strong promoter bias, whereas combinations of O, S, or K binding without M preferentially targeted active enhancers (Figure S2C). Sites occupied by O, S, K, or M displayed pronounced nucleosome depletion and chro-matin accessibility at the respective stage ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)C and S2D). Together, these results demonstrated that OSKM prefer to bind active and poised promoters and enhancers regardless of reprogramming stage.

Figure 1. Reprogramming Factor and Epigenome Maps in Four Reprogramming Stages

See also Figure S1 and Tables S1 and S2.

⁽A) Summary of reprogramming stages and data sets produced.

⁽B) Snapshot of indicated genomics data at a candidate genomic locus. N/A, no data produced. The color code represents the stage-specific chromatin states defined in (C). Red boxes mark the somatic gene *Tgfb3* and the pluripotency gene *Esrrb*.

⁽C) Rows represent chromatin states and their representative mnemonics, color coded and grouped based on their putative annotation. Cells show the frequency of each histone mark, H3.3, and input signal for each state (ChromHMM emission probabilities).

⁽D) Columns give the percentage of genome occupancy, median length in kilobases (kb), and fold enrichment of indicated features (TES, transcription end sites; TSS, transcription start sites; conservation [phastCons elements]; ERVK, endogenous retrovirus K elements; and ATAC-seq, transposase hypersensitivity) for each chromatin state described in (C) for MEFs and ESCs. Color code per column is from highest to lowest value.

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OSKM Redistribution and Binding Partner Switch during Reprogramming

A comparison of binding sites between 48 hr, pre-iPSCs, and ESCs revealed that the genomic locations of each reprogramming factor differed dramatically between stages and that the majority of sites were stage-specific (coined "100," "010," and "001," where 1 represents presence and 0 absence of binding, and the digits from left to right binding at 48 hr, pre- $i^{#1}$, and ESCs) [\(Figures 2D](#page-4-0), S2E, and S2F). For instance, 48% of all Oct4 binding events occurred exclusively at 48 hr (100 sites) and 16% were specific for the pluripotent stage (001 sites). 48 hr-specific Oct4 binding events (100 sites) occurred close to genes with fibroblast functions based on gene ontology (GO) analysis, whereas pluripotency-specific sites (001 sites) were linked to genes that control stem cell function and early developmental decisions (Figure S2G; Table S4), suggesting that stagespecific binding events are associated with stage-specific gene functions. Together, these data revealed the predominant interaction of OSKM with somatic sites early in reprogramming and the redistribution to pluripotency-associated sites at later stages.

The remaining binding events were transient (110 and 011), absent in pre-iPSCs (101), or constitutive (111) ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)D and S2E). Constitutively bound Oct4 sites, for instance, represented 8% of all 48-hr-bound sites and occurred in the vicinity of genes implicated in blastocyst formation, chromosome organization, and inhibition of MAPK signaling, which is closely tied to the maintenance of pluripotency [\(Ying et al., 2008\)](#page-18-5) (Figure S2G; Table S4). Thus, the majority of sites associated with the pluripotent state become engaged by the reprogramming factors only late in the process, but certain sites are targeted within the first 48 hr. Motif analysis revealed lower densities of OSKM DNA binding sequences at 100 sites compared to 001 and 111 sites (Figure S2H), suggesting that temporal binding events differ in their regulation.

In addition, we found that M binding differed strongly from that of O, S, and K throughout reprogramming and, more surprisingly, that K sites coincided more with those of O and S at 48 hr but diverged from these in pre-iPSCs and the pluripotent state [\(Fig](#page-4-0)[ures 2E](#page-4-0), S2I, and S2J). Consequently, we observed significantly more co-binding of OSK and OK at 48 hr than in ESCs and, conversely, an increase in OS co-occupancy in ESCs relative to 48 hr [\(Figure 2F](#page-4-0)). Thus, co-binding preferences change from OSK/OK to OS during reprogramming, consistent with O and S composing the core pluripotency network in ESCs alongside Nanog instead of K [\(Chen et al., 2008](#page-17-1)).

OSK Co-occupancy at 48 hr Depends on Their Co-expression

By comparing K binding between MEFs and 48 hr, we found that many binding sites were gained, whereas others were lost at 48 hr, and only a subset maintained ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)G and S3A). Upon overexpression of only Klf4 in MEFs for 48 hr, either retrovirally (K^{pMX}) or inducibly (K^{tetO}), without the other reprogramming factors, K predominantly engaged sites that were targeted by it in MEFs and not those newly accessible in the context of OSKM co-expression ([Figure 2G](#page-4-0)), despite its higher expression level (Figure S3B). We conclude that O and S availability, and not the expression level of K per se, is responsible for the differential binding at 48 hr compared to MEFs. Moreover, whereas sites targeted by endogenous K in MEFs or upon individual over-expression of K carried only the K motif ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)G, 2H, "K^{pMX}only" and "shared" sites, and S3A), new locations bound by K at 48 hr of OSKM reprogramming were co-occupied by O and S and enriched for the motifs of all three factors [\(Figures 2](#page-4-0)G, 2H, K^{OSKM}-only sites, and S3A), revealing an unexpected dependence of K occupancy on O and S early in reprogramming. Conversely, the targeting of O and S, respectively, at 48 hr also strongly depended on the presence of the other reprogramming factors [\(Figure 2](#page-4-0)G). Specifically, when individually expressed, O and S bound many sites in open MEF chromatin that carried the motif of the respective reprogramming factor (Figures S3B–S3E), which did not overlap substantially between the factors ([Figure 2](#page-4-0)I). Yet, when co-expressed in the context of OSKM for 48 hr, O and S co-occupied many new sites that also bound K and carried the motifs of all three factors ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)G, 2I, and S3B–S3E). M was largely dispensable for the redistribution of K and OSK co-binding at 48 hr as co-expression of OSK, without M, led to engagement of largely the same sites at 48 hr as in OSKM-induced reprogramming (Figure S3F). We conclude that cooperative binding of O, S, and K is critical for the targeting of a vast number of genomic sites early in reprogramming and additionally restricts access to locations that carry the motif of only one reprogramming factor.

Figure 2. Characterization of OSKM Targets

(A) Fraction of TF binding sites within promoter-proximal (TSS ±2 kb) and -distal (>2 kb from TSS) regions. *p < 0.0001, two-sided binomial test.

(B) Fold enrichment of TF binding sites per chromatin state [\(Figure 1C](#page-2-0)) at the corresponding reprogramming stage, colored per column from highest to lowest. (C) Heatmap of O, S, K, and M ChIP-seq signal for 48 hr and ESC peaks and corresponding signals for ATAC-seq and histone H3, ranked by ATAC-seq signal strength.

(H) Density plots of O, S, M, and K motifs in sets of K peaks defined in (G).

(I) Overlap of O, S, and K sites (number given) obtained from MEFs individually expressing O, S, and K for 48 hr (pMX, left) and MEFs co-expressing OSKM for 48 hr (right).

See also Figures S2 and S3 and Tables S2 and S4.

⁽D) Comparison of binding events of each reprogramming factor between 48 hr, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs (0/white = unbound, 1/blue = bound), at 100-bp resolution (bin). (E) Hierarchical clustering of pairwise enrichments of O, S, K, and M binding events.

⁽F) (i) Clustering of O, S, K, and M binding events at 100-bp resolution (bin). OS, OK, and OSK co-binding events are marked. (ii) Differential enrichments of cobinding groups between ESCs and 48 hr.

⁽G) Heatmaps of ChIP-seq signal for K, S, or O peaks at 48 hr of OSKM or individual reprogramming factor expression (retrovirally [pMX] or inducibly [tetO]). Peaks were grouped based on presence/absence of peak calls comparing the OSKM and single TF expressing (pMX) samples. For K, binding events in MEFs were also plotted.

Figure 3. OSK Redistribution Mirrors Enhancer Reorganization

(A) Definition of the 35 chromatin trajectories that capture the major chromatin differences between our four reprogramming stages. The first three columns give the number, functional annotation, and genome fraction of each trajectory. Following columns are organized by histone mark and sub-ordered by reprogramming stage and display the frequency of each mark per reprogramming stage and trajectory, colored from 0 (white) to 100 (blue).

(B) (i) Boxplots of expression levels of MEF- and ESC-specific genes per reprogramming stage. (ii) Relative enrichment of each trajectory defined in (A) within ±20 kb of the TSS of MEF- and ESC-specific genes compared to ±20 kb of the TSS of all active genes. Values above the dashed line indicate higher enrichment in MEF- and ESC-specific genes, respectively.

(C) Fold enrichment of temporal O, S, K, and M binding events defined in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)D for each trajectory in (A), colored per column from highest to lowest. See also Figure S4.

Enhancers Are Sites of Most Dramatic Chromatin Changes in Reprogramming

To examine the association between temporal OSKM binding events and chromatin changes during reprogramming, we derived an additional chromatin state model that took into consideration the combination of histone marks and H3.3 at any given genomic location within each reprogramming stage as well as the changes of these histone marks/H3.3 between the stages [\(Figure 3A](#page-6-0)) and defined 35 chromatin states that will be referred to as chromatin trajectories (tr.) hereafter. Based on the histone mark/H3.3 composition of each trajectory, we annotated genomic regions as candidate promoters

(tr. 1–4), enhancers (tr. 5–18), units of transcription (tr. 19–27), repressed (tr. 28–32), transcribed repeats (tr. 33), and devoid of histone marks (tr. 34 and 35). These annotations were consistent with enrichments for genomic landmarks and expression of neighboring genes (Figures S4A and S4B). Differences in temporal histone marks/H3.3 composition between the reprogramming stages defined the stage-specific or constitutive chromatin character of each trajectory. We observed that the promoter states (tr. 1–4) did not carry a strong stage-specific identity ([Figures 3A](#page-6-0) and S4B) consistent with promoter states being more conserved across cell types ([Heintzman](#page-17-8) [et al., 2009](#page-17-8)). Around 16% of the genome represented

enhancers, and, in contrast to promoters, the enhancer trajectories strongly differed in their histone mark composition between reprogramming stages and therefore likely in their activity and regulation ([Figure 3A](#page-6-0), tr. 5–18).

Based on the presence of the active enhancer mark H3K27ac in MEFs and its absence in ESCs, we defined MEF enhancers (MEs) [\(Figures 3](#page-6-0)A, S4A, and S4B). MEs were either inter- or intragenic (tr. 5, 6, 9, 10 and 7, 8, respectively) and typically located in the vicinity of genes with fibroblast-specific functions that tended to be expressed specifically early in reprogramming [\(Fig](#page-6-0)[ures 3](#page-6-0)B, S4B, and S4C). Pluripotency enhancers (PEs) were defined based on the presence of H3K27ac in ESCs and near absence in MEFs (tr. 13–18). PEs of tr. 13 and 17 were intergenic, neighboring genes highly expressed in ESCs and implicated in stem cell maintenance, blastocyst formation, and developmental programs based on GO analysis [\(Figures 3](#page-6-0)A, 3B, and S4A–S4C). PEs associated with tr. 14, 15, 16, and 18 were predominantly intragenic or poised (carrying H3K27me3) and close to or within genes that tended to be either constitutively expressed or repressed during reprogramming [\(Figures 3A](#page-6-0) and [4B](#page-7-0)) and implicated in chromatin regulation and cell-fate specification.

One group of intergenic enhancers was marked by H3K4me1/2 at all four stages but displayed activity, defined by H3K27ac presence, in a transient manner at 48 hr and in preiPSCs (tr. 11, transient enhancers) [\(Figure 3A](#page-6-0)). These enhancers were linked to transiently expressed genes involved in various signaling pathways, most notably those acting in the bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) pathway (Figures S4B and S4C). Since BMPs have a positive role early in reprogramming [\(Sama](#page-18-6)[varchi-Tehrani et al., 2010\)](#page-18-6), activation of these enhancers may be critical for reprogramming progression. Other enhancers were active exclusively in pre-iPSCs (tr. 12) ([Figure 3](#page-6-0)A), and their neighboring genes were enriched for neuronal ontologies (Figure S4C), consistent with the observation that neuronal genes can be ectopically induced during reprogramming [\(Ho et al.,](#page-17-9) [2013\)](#page-17-9). In summary, we identified enhancers as the most dynamic part of the epigenome during reprogramming and defined groups of enhancers that are selectively used at different reprogramming stages.

Changes in OSK Binding Mirror Enhancer Re-organization

To investigate how the redistribution of OSKM relates to the chromatin rearrangement during reprogramming, we intersected the genomic coordinates of temporal OSKM binding events [\(Fig](#page-4-0)[ure 2D](#page-4-0)) with the chromatin trajectories ([Figure 3A](#page-6-0)) and made several key observations ([Figures 3](#page-6-0)C and S4D): first, we confirmed that OSK binding predominantly occurred in promoters and enhancers, whereas M preferred promoters throughout reprogramming. Second, the majority of O, S, and K binding events at 48 hr (100, 110 sites) occurred in promoters, MEs, and transient enhancers, indicating that early in reprogramming, O, S, and K predominantly target sites with open chromatin character in starting MEFs, unlike what has been reported for human cell reprogramming [\(Soufi et al., 2012\)](#page-18-2). Third, O, S, and K binding at enhancers was typically observed when they were active (based on H3K27ac). For instance, pluripotency-specific O, S, K binding events (001 sites) were enriched specifically within PEs (tr. 13–18). Conversely, 48-hr-specific binding events (100 sites) enriched most in active MEs (tr. 5/6) and transient enhancers (tr. 11). These observations identified a dramatic shift of O, S, and K binding from MEs to PEs during reprogramming that accompanies their inactivation and selection/activation, respectively, and suggested that the reprogramming factors may directly control these two opposing processes. Fourth, we noted that a specific subset of PEs was targeted by O, S, and K early in reprogramming. Among all enhancers, constitutive binding by O, S, and K (111 sites) was most enriched in tr. 13 PEs, and occurred proximal to genes involved in stem cell maintenance, blastocyst formation (*Nanog*, *Lif*, *Esrrb*, *Stat3*, *Nodal*, etc.) and negative regulation of MAP kinase signaling (Figure S4E), supporting the conclusion that PE selection starts early in reprogramming and is finished in a stepwise manner throughout the process.

Since promoters displayed relatively little stage-specificity with respect to chromatin state and temporal reprogramming factor binding events, whereas enhancers were often stage specific for both [\(Figure 3](#page-6-0)C), we focused the rest of our study on the targeting and action of OSK at MEs and PEs to understand the regulation of ME silencing and PE selection as well as the regulation of distinct temporal binding patterns of OSK at enhancers.

Figure 4. ME Silencing Is Initiated Genome-wide Early in Reprogramming

(A) Heatmaps of O, S, K, H3K27ac, and H3K4me1/2 ChIP-seq signal and the ATAC-seq signal at all O, S, and K binding sites in tr. 5 and 6 MEs at 48 hr, ordered by the ATAC-seq signal strength. The total number of peaks is given in brackets.

(E) Heatmaps of somatic TF ChIP-seq signal at sites defined in (A).

(K) As in (J), but for K^{pMX} .

See also Figure S5.

⁽B) Metaplots of signal intensities for H3K27ac, p300, Hdac1, and ATAC-seq data in MEFs, 48 hr, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs at tr. 5 MEs occupied by O, S, or K at 48 hr, centered on ATAC-seq summits in MEFs.

⁽C) As in (B), except for tr. 5 MEs not bound by O, S, or K at 48 hr.

⁽D) De novo motifs identified at 48 hr O, S, or K- bound or unbound tr. 5 MEs. Last column: observed and expected motif frequencies (in parentheses).

⁽F) As in (B), except for somatic TFs in MEFs and at 48 hr.

⁽G) As in (C), except for somatic TFs in MEFs and at 48 hr.

⁽H) Schematic of the reprogramming experiment with Runx1 knockdown. *Runx1* transcript levels were determined at 48 hr (error bars represent SD) and Nanogpositive colonies were counted from two technical replicates (A and B).

⁽I) Comparison of O or K binding events at tr. 5 MEs in MEFs individually expressing the respective reprogramming factor (O^{pMX} or K^{pMX}) and MEFs co-expressing OSKM for 48 hr (O^{OSKM} or K^{OSKM}). Number of sites is given in brackets.

⁽J) Metaplots of signal densities for H3K27ac in starting MEFs and MEFs expressing only O for 48 hr (O^{pMX}) at all O^{pMX} bound sites and tr. 5 MEs bound or unbound by OpMX at 48 hr.

MEs Are Suppressed Genome-wide Early in Reprogramming

Since it has remained unexplored how MEs become silenced during reprogramming and how the reprogramming factors contribute to this process, we examined active intergenic MEs captured by tr. 5/6 in more detail, approximately half of which were bound by O, S, or K at 48 hr. Considering tr. 5/6 MEs engaged by O, S, or K, we found extensive co-occupancy of these TFs at 48 hr, which was accompanied by an increased ATAC-seq signal ([Figures 4A](#page-7-0), 4B, S5A, and S5B). Later in reprogramming, in pre-iPSCs and ESCs, these MEs were depleted of active enhancer marks, OSK binding, and presented diminished chromatin accessibility defined by ATAC-seq ([Figures](#page-7-0) [4](#page-7-0)A, 4B, S5A, and S5B), consistent with a predominant 100 OSK binding pattern at these enhancers.

Surprisingly, OSK-bound MEs displayed a lower level of the active enhancer mark H3K27ac at 48 hr compared to MEFs, which was corroborated by decreased binding of the H3K27 acetyltransferase p300 ([Figures 4](#page-7-0)A, 4B, and S5B), indicating that somatic enhancer inactivation is initiated quite extensively very early in reprogramming. The enhancer marks H3K4me1/2 displayed smaller or no changes at 48 hr ([Figures 4A](#page-7-0), S5A, and S5B). The observation that the H3K27ac level was maintained or increased at other genomic locations (tr. 4, 9, and 11) at 48 hr (Figures S5C–S5E) argued against a global reduction of p300 activity and H3K27ac. The histone deacetylase Hdac1 was also present at OSK- targeted MEs and, unlike p300, its binding increased at 48 hr [\(Figure 4](#page-7-0)B), which was also seen in independent replicates, and, as for p300, occurred without alteration in its expression level (Figure S5F). We conclude that the change in balance of both p300 and Hdac1 observed at OSKbound MEs at 48 hr likely accounts for the reduction in H3K27ac at these enhancers in the earliest phase of reprogramming. The completion of silencing of these enhancers occurred later indicating that ME inactivation is a stepwise process.

Unexpectedly, we observed that MEs of tr. 5/6 that were not engaged by OSK at 48 hr also had strongly reduced H3K27ac and p300 levels at 48 hr ([Figures 4](#page-7-0)C, S5A, and S5B). These findings suggested that the disruption of the most active MEs takes place genome-wide early in reprogramming and extends beyond direct OSK targets. Interestingly, the increase in Hdac1 was specific to OSK-bound MEs and not observed at MEs that were not targeted by OSK [\(Figures 4B](#page-7-0) and 4C), potentially as a consequence of a direct action of O, S, or K.

Loss of Somatic TFs from OSK-Bound and Unbound MEs at 48 hr

To investigate how ME activity could be globally affected, we performed de novo motif scanning in OSK-bound and unbound tr. 5 MEs and identified DNA motifs of the Fra1 (AP-1 family), Tead, Runx, and Cebp families of TFs in both sets ([Figure 4D](#page-7-0)). O, S, and K motifs were enriched specifically in the bound ME set [\(Figure 4](#page-7-0)D). We then performed ChIP-seq for the corresponding TFs Fra1, Cebpa, Cebpb, and Runx1, all highly expressed in MEFs (Figure S6J) and found that these TFs indeed occupied both OSK-bound and -unbound MEs in MEFs ([Figures 4E](#page-7-0)–4G). At 48 hr, all four somatic TFs displayed reduced binding at OSK-bound and unbound MEs ([Figures](#page-7-0)

[4](#page-7-0)E–4G), which was independently supported by a reduction in ATAC-seq signal at MEs not targeted by OSK ([Figures 4](#page-7-0)C, S5A, and S5B). These results suggested that the loss of somatic TFs from active MEs causes the reduction of p300 and H3K27ac at MEs at 48 hr genome-wide.

To test the functional significance of somatic TF loss, we performed siRNA-mediated knockdown of *Runx1* ([Figure 4](#page-7-0)H) and *Cebpa/b* (Figure S5G) during reprogramming. Both treatments increased the number of Nanog-positive colonies indicating that the depletion of ME-bound somatic TFs represents a mechanism for improving reprogramming efficiency, likely by augmenting ME inactivation.

Reprogramming Factors Can Individually Induce ME Silencing

To determine whether OSK co-expression is required for global ME silencing, we analyzed O and K binding and H3K27ac levels at MEs in MEFs expressing only Oct4 or Klf4 for 48 hr. Only 23% and 31% of tr. 5 MEs bound by O and K, respectively, in the context of OSKM co-expression (O^{OSKM}) and K^{OSKM}) were engaged by the single factors (O^{pMX} and K^{pMX}) [\(Figure 4](#page-7-0)I), emphasizing the importance of co-operative binding for the engagement of MEs. The H3K27ac level was reduced at tr. 5 MEs, but maintained over all binding sites of the individually expressed reprogramming factor ([Figures 4](#page-7-0)J and 4K). Notably, individual reprogramming factors induced an H3K27ac drop at tr. 5 MEs comparable to that observed for OSKM-induced reprogramming (Figure S5H). Interestingly, for O, we observed a reduction of H3K27ac at tr. 5 MEs irrespective of its binding, but for K only at MEs not targeted by this reprogramming factor at 48 hr [\(Figures 4](#page-7-0)J and 4K), suggesting that Oct4, but not Klf4, may enhance silencing at its target MEs directly by increasing Hdac1 levels.

Somatic TF Redistribution at 48 hr Is Guided by OSK

A comparison of peak locations for Cebpa, Cebpb, Runx1, and Fra1 revealed the loss- and gain-of-binding events between MEFs and 48 hr as well as sites that were maintained [\(Figures](#page-10-0) [5](#page-10-0)A, 5B, S6A, and S6B). Gain and loss of binding occurred predominantly at sites occupied by only one of the somatic TFs ([Figure 5](#page-10-0)C, clusters I–III and IV–VII), whereas binding sites maintained at 48 hr were more often co-occupied by the somatic TFs [\(Figure 5](#page-10-0)C, cluster VIII). Binding events lost or maintained at 48 hr were located predominantly in MEs (tr. 5–10), promoters (tr. 1–4), as well as transient enhancers (tr. 11) ([Figure 5D](#page-10-0), MEF-only and shared sites). Conversely, new binding sites of the somatic TFs at 48 hr were primarily enriched within promoters (tr. 1–4), transient enhancers (tr. 11), and tr. 13 PEs [\(Fig](#page-10-0)[ure 5](#page-10-0)D, 48-hr-only sites). Together, these data revealed an unexpected redistribution of somatic TFs away from sites that include MEs toward new sites that include PEs.

48-hr-specific sites of Cepba, Cebpb, and Fra1, respectively, were extensively co-occupied by O, S, or K at 48 hr (>80%) and had a high density of OSK motifs, whereas MEF-specific sites displayed lower reprogramming factor occupancy (<42%) and lacked OSK motifs ([Figures 5](#page-10-0)A, [5C](#page-10-0), [5E](#page-10-0), and S6B). Thus, somatic TFs relocate from MEs toward new sites that become available by binding of the reprogramming factors early in reprogramming,

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suggesting that OSK directly guide this process, which, in turn, leads to the global destabilization of MEs. In support of an inter-dependency of somatic TFs and OSK, we found that somatic TF binding sites maintained at 48 hr were also targets of OSK early in reprogramming ([Figures 5A](#page-10-0), 5C, S6A, and S6B) and that Cebpb co-occupied many sites with OSK in pre-iPSCs (Figure S6C).

We also noted that somatic TF binding sites maintained at 48 hr (shared sites) exhibited higher normalized tag counts and motif density of the respective TF than either MEF- or 48-hr-specific peaks ([Figures 5](#page-10-0)F, 5G, S6D, and S6E). These results suggested that binding events maintained early in reprogramming display higher affinity for the somatic TF compared to those lost or gained and that OSK induce the relocation of somatic TFs from one set of lower affinity binding sites to another.

Runx1 also relocated early in reprogramming but the new sites at 48 hr occurred often in transcribed units and did not overlap as extensively with OSK binding as Fra1 and Cebpa/b ([Figures 5C](#page-10-0), 5D, and S6A), suggesting that a different mechanism controls the redistribution of this TF. In addition, we noticed that more sites were lost and fewer sites gained at 48 hr for Fra1 compared to Cebpa/b or Runx1 [\(Figures 5A](#page-10-0), 5C, and S6B, also seen in independent replicates), which raised the question of whether the level of Fra1 was altered. Indeed, RNA-seq revealed limited transcriptional changes early in reprogramming (Figures S6F and S6G) [\(Koche et al., 2011\)](#page-17-10) with *Cebpa*, *Cepbb*, and *Runx1* transcript levels remaining largely unchanged, whereas *Fra1* transcript levels decreased substantially (2.7-fold) (Figures S6J and S6K; Table S2). Hence, repression of *Fra1* appears to be an additional mechanism that contributes to the loss of somatic TFs from MEs. Loss of Fra1 binding at its own locus at 48 hr (Figure S6L) could enhance the downregulation of this TF via its known auto-regulation ([Verde](#page-18-7) [et al., 2007](#page-18-7)). Of note, genes upregulated early in reprogramming were enriched for 48-hr-specific somatic TF binding and downregulated genes for MEF-specific somatic TF peaks (Figures S6H and S6I), suggesting that the redistribution of somatic TFs also contributes to the few expression changes detected early in reprogramming.

Fra1 Repression Is Critical for Somatic Program Silencing and Reprogramming

To test whether *Fra1* repression is critical for ME silencing, we ectopically expressed *Fra1* or a Flag-tagged version together with OSKM, which dramatically lowered the efficiency of reprogramming ([Figures 5](#page-10-0)H and S6M). In comparison, *Runx1* overexpression had a more limited inhibitory effect on iPSC formation ([Figures 5](#page-10-0)H and S6M), again hinting at differential control of reprogramming by Runx1. Ectopic expression of Flag-tagged Fra1 for 48 hr abrogated the loss of Fra1 from MEs that occurred early in OSKM-mediated reprogramming [\(Figures 5](#page-10-0)I, clusters III and IV, and S6L). Upon 48 hr overexpression together with OSKM, Fra1 also engaged new sites in promoters, PEs, and transient enhancers that were co-occupied by O and K [\(Figure 5](#page-10-0)I, cluster I, S was not tested here) and induced the targeting of these reprogramming factors to new sites ([Figure 5](#page-10-0)I, clusters II and V) emphasizing the co-dependency of somatic TF and reprogramming factor binding events. Fra1 overexpression also reversed expression changes observed under standard reprogramming conditions at 48 hr and prevented the upregulation of the epithe-lial signature gene E-cadherin ([Figures 5](#page-10-0)J and 5K). These data suggested that Fra1 loss from MEs is critical for their silencing and iPSC production. Overexpression of cJun, the binding partner of Fra1, was also detrimental for reprogramming [\(Figures 5H](#page-10-0) and S6M) ([Liu et al., 2015](#page-18-8)) and produced similar expression changes as Fra1 overexpression ([Figures 5J](#page-10-0) and 5K), suggesting that cJun may block reprogramming in synergy with Fra1.

Stepwise PE Selection Is Not Explained by Starting Chromatin State

Besides ME silencing, the selection of PEs is critical for reprogramming. The temporal differences in PE engagement, with a large number of PEs targeted by OSK only late in reprogramming and others first engaged at 48 hr or in pre-iPSCs [\(Fig](#page-6-0)[ure 3](#page-6-0)C), prompted us to ask what distinguishes temporally different reprogramming factor binding at PEs. We focused this analysis on 111 and 001 O binding events in intergenic PEs of tr. 13 and 17 because of their association with genes involved in stem cell-related functions and high expression in ESCs (Figures S4B, S4C, and S4E).

Figure 5. Somatic TF Redistribution Early in Reprogramming

(A) Intersection of Cebpa or Cebpb binding sites between MEFs and 48 hr. The fraction of sites also bound by O, S, or K is given in brackets for each group. (B) Genome browser view at the *Gdf3* locus of OSK and somatic TF binding and ATAC-seq data in MEFs and at 48 hr.

(F) As in (E), but for Cebpa (top) and Cebpb (bottom) motifs.

(H) Schematic of the reprogramming experiment with retroviral overexpression of somatic TFs. Nanog-positive colony counts from three biological replicates are given.

(J) Heatmap of differential gene expression between each of the reprogramming stages indicated at the bottom relative to MEFs, for genes 2-fold differentially expressed between 48 hr^{OSKM+Fra1} and 48 hr^{OSKM}. Right, GO ontologies of these genes.

(K) E-cadherin (*Cdh1*) transcript level for indicated samples based on RNA-seq data. See also Figure S6 and Table S2.

⁽C) K-means clustering of somatic TF binding events in MEFs and at 48 hr. The fraction of sites in each cluster also bound by O, S, or K is provided on the right. (D) Fold enrichment of MEF-only, 48-hr-only, and shared binding sites of somatic TFs from (A) in chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3A](#page-6-0), colored per column from highest to lowest values.

⁽E) Density of O, S, or K motifs at MEF-only, 48-hr-only, and shared Cebpa (top) and Cebpb (bottom) sites from (A). Error bars = 95% confidence interval at summits.

⁽G) MEF and 48 hr input-normalized ChIP-seq signal for MEF-only, 48-hr-only, and shared binding events of Cebpa and Cebpb from (A).

⁽I) K-means clustering of Fra1 peaks in MEFs and Fra1, O, and K peaks at 48 hr of OSKM or OSKM+Fra1 co-expression. Right: fold enrichments of each cluster on the left in chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3](#page-6-0)A, colored per column from highest to lowest values.

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We first analyzed enhancer-associated histone marks at 111 and 001 O binding events in tr. 13 PEs and 001 O sites in tr. 17 PEs [\(Figure 6](#page-12-0)A). All sites existed in a closed chromatin conformation in MEFs lacking active histone marks and ATAC-seq signal ([Figures 6A](#page-12-0) and S7A). For 111 sites in tr. 13 and 001 sites in tr. 17, O binding correlated with the gain of the enhancer marks H3K4me1/2 and H3K27ac and ATAC-seq signal ([Figures 6](#page-12-0)A and S7A), suggesting that chromatin opening and selection of these sites is linked to reprogramming factor binding. At 001 sites in tr. 13 PEs, the gain of enhancer marks and chromatin accessibility preceded O binding ([Figure 6A](#page-12-0)), implying a role for non-reprogramming TFs in the opening of these sites. Regardless, the transition of PEs from ''closed'' to ''open'' chromatin was associated with the recruitment of Brg1 [\(Figure 6B](#page-12-0)).

Interestingly, at 111 sites in tr. 13 PEs the level of H3K4me1/2 and H3K27ac was much lower at 48 hr than in pre-iPSCs and ESCs ([Figures 6](#page-12-0)A and S7A). This pattern was recapitulated by p300 and Hdac1 binding [\(Figure 6B](#page-12-0)), demonstrating that reprogramming factor binding at 48 hr induced the selection of these PEs but not their full activation, which occurred at a later reprog-ramming stage [\(Figures 6A](#page-12-0) and 6B). One intriguing hypothesis is that reprogramming factor binding to PEs early in the process allows for the binding of additional TFs at later reprogramming stages, which is required for full enhancer activation. Regardless, these data showed that the stepwise selection and activation of PEs is largely controlled by parameters beyond chromatin state.

Motif Density and OSK Co-occupancy Distinguish Early and Late-Engaged PEs

Since the chromatin state in MEFs did not distinguish early (111) and late- (001) engaged PEs, we examined properties of the underlying DNA sequence. Early bound O sites in tr. 13 PEs carried significantly more Oct4, Oct4/Sox2 composite, and Klf4 consensus motifs compared to late-bound sites in tr. 13 and 17 ([Figure 6](#page-12-0)C). De novo motif scanning also revealed a stronger enrichment of the Klf4 motif in 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs compared to 001 sites in tr. 17 PEs (Figure S7B). Consistent with these differences in motif occurrence, 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs were cobound by S and K when they were first engaged at 48 hr, whereas tr. 13 and 17 PEs bound by O late (001) were predominantly

co-occupied with S but not K in ESCs ([Figures 6A](#page-12-0) and S7C). These data demonstrated that OSK co-occupancy is associated with PE selection early and OS co-binding with PE engagement late in reprogramming, which is driven by motif presence. Despite co-binding by OSK at 48 hr, 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs were mostly bound by OS in ESCs [\(Figures 6](#page-12-0)A and S7C) in agreement with K binding being more distinct to O and S binding in ESCs ([Figures 2E](#page-4-0) and 2F) and being influenced by other TFs in ESCs.

PE Engagement Early in Reprogramming Requires Collaborative Binding by OSK

To test mechanistically how the selection of PEs occurs early in reprogramming, we determined the independent ability of O, S, and K to engage these sites at 48 hr. We found that tr. 13 PEs were not targeted when O, S, and K were individually expressed [\(Figures 6D](#page-12-0)i, ii, S3B, S3C, and S3G), indicating that the ability of these reprogramming factors to act as pioneer factors is not at play for the opening of these sites. Retroviral co-expression of combinations of reprogramming factors and mapping of binding sites at 48 hr further demonstrated that OSK co-expression was sufficient for the selection of tr. 13 PEs at 48 hr, showing that ectopic M is not essential for PE selection, and additionally revealed lower occupancy when two reprogramming factors were expressed (OS, SK, OK) compared to three (OSK) [\(Fig](#page-12-0)[ure 6D](#page-12-0)iii). Though these data were consistent with PE section requiring a collaborative mode of action by OSK, one exception was that OS co-expression resulted in binding levels close to those seen with OSK co-expression, particularly for O, despite the lack of ectopic K [\(Figure 6](#page-12-0)Diii). This result likely can be explained by the relocation of endogenously expressed K to these sites in OS-expressing MEFs [\(Figure 6](#page-12-0)Diii). Thus, we conclude that the selection of PEs early in reprogramming requires the collaborative action of O, S, and K and suggest that the necessity of OSK for reprogramming is linked to their ability to open a subset of PEs together.

We made similar observations when considering all sites that were co-occupied by O, S, and K at 48 hr of OSKM-induced reprogramming. Only \sim 30% were accessible to individually expressed O, S, or K, mainly at locations already engaged by endogenous Klf4 in MEFs ([Figure 6](#page-12-0)E, columns 1–8). The number

Figure 6. Stepwise Selection of PEs and OSK Requirement

(A) Heatmaps of O, S, K, H3K27ac, H3K4me1/2, and Nanog ChIP-seq signal and ATAC-seq data in indicated reprogramming stages at 111 or 001 O binding sites within tr. 13 and 17 PEs, sorted by ESC ATAC-seq signal intensity. Number of peaks in each set is given in brackets.

(B) Metaplots of signal intensities of p300, Hdac1, and Brg1 for sites in (A).

(C) Motif density for sites in (A), with 95% confidence interval at the summits.

(D) (i) Heatmaps of O, S, and K ChIP-seq signal at 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs in MEFs individually expressing O, S, or K for 48 hr. (ii) Metaplots of signal intensities of the indicated reprogramming factor individually expressed (pMX or tetO) in MEFs for 48 hr and of Klf4 in MEFs in tr. 13 111 O sites. (iii) As in (ii), except for MEFs expressing OK, SK, OS, or OSK for 48 hr. Binding of endogenous K in OS-expressing MEFs is also given.

(E) Heatmap of ChIP-seq signal for the factor indicated by ChIP, in MEFs ectopically expressing one or combinations of reprogramming factor(s) for 48 hr (TF) using retroviral (pMX) or inducible (tetO) expression (system), for sites co-bound by OSK at 48 hr of OSKM-induced reprogramming, sorted by Klf4 signal in MEFs. K^{endo} refers to targets of endogenously expressed K.

(F) As in (D), except for binding of somatic TFs in MEFs and at 48 hr. The given CEBPA:AP1 composite motif was identified in 13.5% of tr. 13 111 O sites.

(G) Fraction of ESC super enhancers occupied by O, S, or K at 48 hr and genes associated with OSK-targeted ESC super enhancers.

(H) Genome browser view of OSK ChIP-seq, ATAC-seq data, and chromatin trajectories (color coded as in Figure S4A) at the *mir290* ESC super enhancer. Gray bars indicate seven sub-elements engaged by OSK in ESCs and the asterisks mark those bound by OSK at 48 hr.

(I) Fraction of locations within ESC super enhancers that are bound by O, S, or K in ESCs and also engaged by the respective TF at 48 hr. See also Figure S7 and Tables S5.

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of accessible sites increased when double combinations of reprogramming factors were expressed, rising from SK, OK to OS [\(Figure 6E](#page-12-0), columns 9–15).

We also noted that 13.5% of 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs carried the CEBPA:AP1 composite motif, and that Cebpa, and to lesser extent Cebpb, Fra1, and Runx1, occupied these PEs with OSK at 48 hr [\(Figures 6](#page-12-0)F and [5](#page-10-0)B). Additionally, Fra1 extensively engaged tr. 13 PEs early in reprogramming upon overexpression together with the reprogramming factors ([Figure 5I](#page-10-0), clusters I, II, and V), further supporting a link between somatic TFs and OSK at PEs. At PEs, somatic TFs may be required for their selection, prevent their activation early in reprogramming, or may simply bind due to the open chromatin character, which will need to be studied further.

Early Engaged PEs Are Close to Core Pluripotency Genes

Recently, super enhancers, defined as dense clusters of enhancers with high activity, received attention as *cis*-regulatory elements of genes that control cell identity ([Whyte et al., 2013](#page-18-9)). We found that ESC super enhancers gained enhancer marks gradually during reprogramming and that their neighboring genes were activated progressively (Figures S7D and S7E). ESC super enhancers were enriched most strongly in tr. 13 PEs (Figure S7F) and typically engaged by O, S, and K early in reprogramming (of 231 ESC super enhancers 78% were bound by O; 61% by S; 66% by K at 48 hr) including those at the *mir290*, *Pou5f1*, *Sox2*, *Klf4*, *Tdh1*, and *Nanog* loci ([Figures 6](#page-12-0)G, S7G, and S7H). Thus, critical regulatory sites of the pluripotent state are among the PEs that are selected early in reprogramming. Interestingly, only a subset of sites within ESC super enhancers bound by O, S, and K in ESCs was engaged at 48 hr ([Figures](#page-12-0) [6](#page-12-0)H, 6I, and S7I), suggesting that super enhancers do not act as a single entity and that the opening at specific sites early in reprogramming may be critical for full selection/activation later in the process. Notably, ESC super enhancers represented only a small fraction of all early engaged PEs as only \sim 4% of the 111 O sites in tr. 13 were located within them.

Esrrb Enhances Both ME Inactivation and PE Selection

The data described above argue in favor of a model where cooperative binding of TFs, including both reprogramming factors and endogenously expressed TFs, dictates their genomic targeting and thereby enhancer selection. For late-engaged PEs (001 sites), we therefore hypothesized that additional TFs that become available progressively during reprogramming are required for selection either prior to or together with OS. In support of this idea, we observed that in ESCs PEs were occupied by additional TFs that become expressed later in reprogramming, such as Nanog and Esrrb ([Figure 6](#page-12-0)A; Table S5). Moreover, 001 O sites in PEs could be distinguished from 111 sites by the presence of the Esrrb motif ([Figure 7A](#page-14-0)), establishing Esrrb, which is turned on very late in reprograming [\(Buganim et al., 2012; Pas](#page-17-4)[que et al., 2014; Polo et al., 2012](#page-17-4)) (Figures S7J and S7K), as a unique candidate to test our hypothesis.

To this end, we expressed Esrrb alongside OSKM from an inducible lentivirus and profiled binding of Esrrb, O, K, and H3K27ac at 48 hr (48-hr^E samples) [\(Figures 7](#page-14-0)B and S7K). As for OSKM, most Esrrb binding sites at 48 hr differed from those in ESCs ([Figure 7C](#page-14-0)). 48-hr-specific binding occurred predominantly in promoters, MEs, and transient enhancers [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)C, group A), whereas ESC-specific sites enriched in PEs [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)C, group B). 25% of ESC targets of Esrrb became engaged at 48 hr, many of which were located in promoters and, as seen for OSK, in tr. 13 PEs [\(Figure 7C](#page-14-0), group C). The sites in group C were targeted by O and K in ESCs as well as upon OSKM/Esrrb coexpression at 48 hr, but only a third were engaged by O and K at 48 hr when merely OSKM were overexpressed ([Figure 7](#page-14-0)C). Similarly, 2291 sites in PEs of tr. 13–18 normally engaged by O, S, or K only late (001 sites) (including 882 sites in tr. 13 and 415 in tr. 17), were targeted by O or K at 48 hr upon OSKM/Esrrb overexpression. Thus, PEs not accessible to the reprogramming factors early in reprogramming became accessible early when Esrrb was co-expressed. These data provide evidence for the cooperation of a pluripotency TF with OSK in the selection of PEs and highlight the need of additional pluripotency TFs for the reconstitution of the pluripotency network.

Figure 7. Control of ME Decommissioning and PE Selection by Esrrb

(A) Esrrb motif density in 111 and 001 O peaks in tr. 13 and 17 PEs. Error bars = 95% confidence interval at summits.

(B) Schematic of the reprogramming experiment with lentiviral overexpression of *Esrrb* (tetO-Esrrb). Image: Esrrb expression was confirmed by immunostaining at day 3 (in green).

(C) Heatmap of Esrrb (E) ChIP-seq signal for Esrrb peaks identified in ESCs and at 48 hr of co-expression of OSKM and Esrrb (48 hr^E). Peaks were divided into three groups (A–C) based on their reprogramming stage specificity. The O and K signal at 48 hr of OSKM (48 hr) or OSKM/Esrrb expression (48 hr^E) and in ESCs for the same sites is also shown. Right: fold enrichments of sites in groups A–C in chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3](#page-6-0)A, colored per column from highest to lowest value.

(D) Metaplot of signal intensity of H3K27ac at 111 O sites in tr. 13 PEs for MEFs, 48 hr, and 48 hr^E (OSKM/Esrrb).

(E) As in (D), except for OSK-bound and unbound tr. 5 MEs, centered on ATAC-seq summits in MEFs.

(F) Boxplots of expression levels of genes downregulated at 48 hr of reprogramming with OSKM/Esrrb (48 hr^E) relative to OSKM alone (48 hr). Asterisks mark any significant differences between MEFs, 48-hr, and 48-hr^E samples (Wilcoxon test, adj. $p < 0.05$).

(G) As in (F), for MEF-specific genes.

(H) As in (F), for upregulated genes.

(I) As in (F), for ESC-specific genes.

(J) Expression of pluripotency genes known to be regulated by Esrrb.

- (K) Bright-field image at day 6 of reprogramming with OSKM and OSKM/Esrrb.
- (L) Count of Dppa4-positive colonies at day 8 of OSKM or OSKM/Esrrb expression from three biological replicates.

(M) Model for the functions of OSK at MEs.

(N) Model for the functions of OSK at PEs. Asterisk indicates reduced K binding in ESCs.

See also Figure S7 and Table S2.

Interestingly, at 48 hr, tr. 13 PEs reached a similar level of H3K27ac in the presence of Esrrb as reprogramming cells not exposed to Esrrb [\(Figure 7D](#page-14-0)). However, the average level of H3K27ac was much lower at tr. 5 MEs at 48 hr upon Esrrb expression indicating even more pronounced ME silencing [\(Fig](#page-14-0)[ure 7](#page-14-0)E). Consistent with this observation, MEF signature genes were more strongly repressed at 48 hr with Esrrb (48 hr^E versus 48 hr; [Figures 7](#page-14-0)F, 7G, and S7L). With the exception of a few pluripotency genes such as *Nr0b1/2*, *Tcfcp2l1*, and *Fut9*, Esrrb did not induce precocious expression of ESC-specific genes at 48 hr but instead induced genes involved in metabolic pathways ectopically ([Figures 7](#page-14-0)H–7J and S7L). Last, we found that the molecular changes induced by Esrrb early in reprogramming correlated with a more than 100-fold increase in the number of Dppa4+ colonies and shortened kinetics of iPSC-like colony formation [\(Figures 7K](#page-14-0) and 7L). Together, these data demonstrate a dramatic effect of the pluripotency TF Esrrb on MEF identity, promoting the inactivation of MEs, and, in parallel, on the induction of the pluripotency program by enhancing PE selection.

DISCUSSION

Our study provides a comprehensive analysis of OSKM occupancy at four reprogramming stages. Among the four reprogramming factors, M is distinct as it primarily targets promoters throughout reprogramming, whereas O, S, and K favor enhancers. We found that OSK switch from somatic to pluripotency enhancers during reprogramming and, unexpectedly, orchestrate both the inactivation of MEs and PE selection. Most importantly, our work revealed that the selection of genomic target sites of OSK and the opposing effects on MEs and PEs are controlled by the combinatorial interplay of O, S, and K with endogenously expressed TFs, many with a stage-specific expression.

The extensive silencing of MEs at 48 hr, affecting MEs bound by OSK and those not targeted by the reprogramming factors, was a particularly surprising finding and indicated the widespread interference with the somatic epigenetic network very early in reprogramming. We determined that OSK initiate the silencing of MEs by at least three distinct mechanisms: first, OSK bind to approximately 50% of the most active MEs and increase their Hdac1 levels, potentially attributable to the interaction of Hdac1 with Oct4 ([Pardo et al., 2010\)](#page-18-10) [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)Mi). Second, OSK induce the removal of somatic TFs from OSK-bound and unbound MEs [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)Mi and Mii). Mechanistically, the loss of somatic TFs from MEs is accomplished by their relocation away from MEs to new sites including PEs that become bound by OSK at 48 hr and carry the motifs for the reprogramming factors and the somatic TFs [\(Figure 7M](#page-14-0)iii). Third, OSK expression leads to a decrease in *Fra1* transcript levels, which contributes to the extensive loss of this TF from MEs ([Figure 7](#page-14-0)Miv).

Binding sites in MEs contained fewer consensus DNA binding motifs of each reprogramming factor than those at PEs, suggesting that the interaction of OSK with MEs differs from that at PEs. Therefore, we propose that the targeting of MEs may involve non-consensus motifs that are accessible to the reprogramming factors due to the open chromatin state or protein-protein interactions with endogenously expressed factors. For instance, protein-protein interactions with Cebpa/b, Fra1, or Runx1 may contribute to the recruitment of OSK to MEs. Reciprocally, the same interactions could facilitate the redistribution of somatic TFs to new sites with OSK binding at 48 hr and contribute to the combinatorial binding between OSK and somatic TFs. The presence of fewer cognate OSK motifs at MEs could mediate a generally weaker binding that, in turn, facilitates the disengagement of OSK from these sites when somatic TFs become unavailable.

In addition to MEs, OSK engage a substantial number of PEs at 48 hr including sites in super enhancers neighboring critical pluripotency-associated genes ([Figure 7N](#page-14-0)i). However, the majority of PEs are bound only at later stages [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)Nii), revealing that PEs selection is a stepwise process. The different kinetics of PE selection was not explainable by differences in the chromatin state in starting MEFs. Instead, we propose that the timing of PE selection is dictated by (1) the collaborative binding among O, S, and K, and with additional, endogenously expressed TFs, and (2) *cis*-encoded properties, i.e., the presence and combination of motifs at these sites [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)N). O, S, and K together, potentially with somatic TFs, are required for the opening of PEs early in reprogramming [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)Ni), which perhaps explains why this combination of reprogramming factors is so successful in establishing pluripotency. At early engaged PEs, opening by OSK does not result in strong enhancer activation at 48 hr, which likely requires other TFs that become available later. Conversely, late-engaged PEs are targeted by OS, without K, indicating that OS alone are not sufficient to effectively compete with nucleosomes at these sites early in reprogramming ([Figure 7](#page-14-0)Nii). Here, additional TFs that only become available later, such as Esrrb, are required for their selection in concert with OS [\(Figure 7](#page-14-0)Nii).

Ectopic Esrrb not only influenced OSK binding at PEs, but also bound MEs and facilitated their silencing. Equally, Fra1 acted on both MEs and PEs when overexpressed. Thus, stage-specific TFs, including both somatic and pluripotency TFs, influence OSK binding, ME silencing, and PE selection, reinforcing the idea of the combinatorial control of TF binding during reprogramming. These observations and the fact that targeting of PEs in closed chromatin require binding of multiple TFs indicate that the pioneer factor model proposed for *human* somatic cell reprogramming ([Soufi et al., 2012, 2015](#page-18-2)) does not act at enhancers in *mouse* cell reprogramming. Additional work will be required to understand the differences between reprogramming processes in different species.

STAR+METHODS

Detailed methods are provided in the online version of this paper and include the following:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information includes seven figures and five tables and can be found with this article online at [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2016.12.016.](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2016.12.016)

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STAR+METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

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CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING

Please direct any requests for further information or reagents to the Lead Contact, Professor Kathrin Plath (kplath@mednet.ucla.edu), Department of Biological Chemistry, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90095.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

The Chancellor's Animal Research Committee at University of California Los Angeles has approved our animal breeding and research protocols. Animals were used for isolating cultures of primary cells from mice. Mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) harboring the M2rtTA construct in the R26 locus (heterozygously) together with a single dox-inducible polycistronic cassette coding for OSKM in the *Col1A* locus (tetO-OSKM) [\(Ho et al., 2013; Sridharan et al., 2013\)](#page-17-9) or a dox-inducible cassette encoding a single reprogramming factor (tetO-Oct4, tetO-Sox2, or tetO–Klf4) in the *Col1A* locus, or wild-type MEFs were used for reprogramming experiments, ChIPseq, ATAC-seq, and RNA-seq assays. In addition, pre-iPSCs derived by retroviral overexpression of OSKM in MEFs and the mouse ESC line V6.5 were used to study different stages of reprogramming. All cell lines are described in the [Key Resources Table.](#page-19-0)

METHOD DETAILS

Cell lines, culture conditions, and reprogramming experiments

The following cell lines were used for the comprehensive genomics analysis of the reprogramming process at discrete stages: primary MEFs harboring a heterozygous *R26-M2rtTA* allele and a single dox-inducible polycistronic cassette coding for OSKM in the *Col1A* locus (tetO-OSKM) [\(Ho et al., 2013; Sridharan et al., 2013\)](#page-17-9), derived from day 13.5 embryos of timed mouse pregnancies; two independently generated male pre-iPSC lines (line 12-1 (pre-i^{#1}) and 1A2 (pre-i^{#2}) obtained upon retroviral (pMX-based) expression of Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc in Nanog-GFP reporter MEFs ([Sridharan et al., 2009, 2013](#page-18-4)); and the male ESC line V6.5 from the Jaenisch laboratory. All cell types were grown in standard mouse ESC media containing KO DMEM, 15% fetal bovine serum (FBS), recombinant leukemia inhibitory factor (Lif), b-mercaptoethanol, 1x penicillin/streptomycin, L-glutamine, and non-essential amino acids. PreiPSCs and ESCs were grown on irradiated MEFs (feeders), but feeder-depleted and grown overnight on gelatin for genomics experiment. For the 48h reprogramming time point, tetO-OSKM MEFs were cultured in ESC media containing 2 µg/ml doxycycline for 48 hr to induce the expression of OSKM. For all ChIP-seq, ATAC-seq and RNA-seq experiments, cells were grown in ESC medium.

For single reprogramming factor overexpression ChIP-seq experiments ([Figures 2](#page-4-0)G, [4J, 4](#page-7-0)K, [6D, 6](#page-12-0)E, S3, and S5H), MEFs containing a dox-inducible cassette encoding a single reprogramming factor (tetO-Oct4, tetO-Sox2, or tetO–Klf4) in the *Col1A* locus and the tet-transactivator M2rtTA in the R26 locus (heterozygous) were generated as described ([Beard et al., 2006](#page-17-11)) by targeting V6.5 ESCs carrying a FRT site in the Col1A locus, generating chimeric mice upon blastocyst injection, and breeding for germline transmission. These MEFs were induced with 2ug/ml doxycycline for 48h to assess the binding events of individually expressed reprogramming factors. Alternatively, wild-type 129SVJae MEFs were infected with a pMX retrovirus encoding an individual reprogramming factor (either pMX-Oct4, pMX-Sox2, or pMX-Klf4) for single factor overexpression, or with a combination of reprogramming factor baring retroviruses for double or triple reprogramming factor combinations (OK, SK, OS, or OSK). Briefly, the cDNAs of the three factors (Oct4, Sox2 or Klf4) were cloned into the pMX retroviral vectors and individually transfected into PlatE packaging cells ([Maherali](#page-18-14) [et al., 2007\)](#page-18-14). Viral supernatants were harvested 48 hr post-infection and used to infect MEFs twice, for 8hrs continuously in the presence of 10 mg/ml polybrene. MEFs were harvested for genomics analyses 48 hr post infection.

The role of somatic TFs in the reprogramming process was tested via overexpression by infecting tetO-OSKM MEFs with pMXretroviruses encoding the *Fra1*, *cJun*, or *Runx1* cDNA. N-terminally Flag-tagged versions of *cJun* and *Fra1* were also cloned into pMX vectors and tested for reprogramming efficiency. Viral supernatants were produced in platE cells as described above.

Subsequently, tetO-OSKM MEFs were infected twice for a span of 8 hr each time, followed by dox-induction of OSKM expression. For Esrrb overexpression, a lentiviral construct encoding the tet-inducible *Essrb* cDNA, obtained from ([Buganim et al., 2014\)](#page-17-13), was transfected alongside viral packaging vectors (pMDLg, pRSV-REV, pCMV-VSVG) into 293T cells using the CalPhos mammalian transfection kit (Clontech 062013) as per manufacturer's instructions. Lentiviral production was performed for 48h, and the harvested supernatant used to infect tetO-OSKM MEFs containing M2rtTA twice. To initiate reprogramming and *Esrrb* expression, the cells were cultured in ESC medium containing 2mg/ml doxycycline. The viral packaging vectors were a generous gift from Dr Zack laboratory in UCLA.

For the *Runx1, Cebpa and Cebpb* siRNA experiments, a set of four different siRNAs was purchased from Dharmacon and initially transfected into MEFs using lipofectamine–RNAi max (Life Technologies) according to manufacturer's instructions to assess knockdown efficiency. Of the four siRNAs, the two producing the most efficient knockdown were used in reprogramming experiments at a final concentration of 20uM. For *Runx1* these were D-048982-01 and D-048982-03, for Cebpa D-040561-03 and D-040561-04, and for Cebpb D-043110-06 and D-043110-22. For control siRNA treatment, we used the non-targeting Luciferase control (D-001210- 02). siRNAs against *Runx1* were transfected into tetO-OSKM MEFs two times: first 12 hr before reprogramming was started by doxycycline addition, and second at the time of doxycycline addition, to induce depletion of *Runx1* only early in reprogramming. siRNAs against *Cebpa/b* were first transfected 12 hr before reprogramming was started by doxycycline addition and were re-transfected every three days to maintain knockdown throughout reprogramming.

In all experiments that assessed reprogramming efficiency, reprogramming cultures were shifted to reprogramming media, which is similar to ESC medium but contains 15% KSR instead of FBS, at day 3 of reprogramming. Reprogramming efficiency was scored by counting Nanog-positive colonies after immunostaining cultures with an anti-Nanog antibody (eBioscience 14-5761-80), 11 days post doxycycline induction. For the *Runx1* siRNA experiment, doxycyline was withdrawn from the cultures at day 9, for the last 48 hr, before fixation of the reprogramming cultures at day 11. For OSKM/Esrrb-induced reprogramming cultures reprogramming efficiency was calculated by counting DPPA4-positive colonies after immunostaining with an antibody directed against DPPA4 (R&D AF3730), 8 days post-OSKM/E induction with doxycycline. We have shown previously that DPPA4 is induced after Nanog expression during the final steps of reprogramming [\(Pasque et al., 2014](#page-18-3)).

Immunofluorescence

Cells were grown on coverslips pretreated with 0.3% porcine gelatin (Sigma G2500) in ESC medium for 48h. After fixation with 4% paraformaldehyde the cells were washed with 1xPBS-0.05% Tween, permeabilized with 1xPBS-0.5% Triton-X, and blocked with 5% donkey serum in 1xPBS-0.05% Tween. Primary antibody incubation was carried out at 4°C overnight, secondary antibody incubation was carried out at RT for 30min, each in blocking buffer. Between each incubation, cells were washed with 1xPBS-0.05% Tween for three times. Cells were then mounted using a mounting medium with DAPI (Vector Labs H-1200). Antibodies used for Nanog and DPPA4 to detect reprogrammed colonies are listed above. Antibodies for the detection of O,S,K,M or Esrrb were: anti-Oct4 (RnD; AF1759), anti-Sox2 (RnD AF2018), anti-Klf4 (RnD; AF3158), anti-cMyc (RnD; AF3158) and anti-Esrrb (RnD; H6705).

Native ChIP-seq (N-ChIP)

Native ChIP-seq was performed for as described in ([Wagschal et al., 2007](#page-18-19)) for all histone modification except H3K79me2 and H3K9me3. Briefly, 50 \times 10⁶ Nuclei were isolated from non-crosslinked cells (MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1} and ESC) by incubation in 2 mL of a hypotonic solution (0.3M sucrose, 60mM KCl, 15mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl₂, 15mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 0.5mM DTT, 0.1% NP40, and protease inhibitor cocktail) followed by centrifugation through a sucrose cushion (1.2M sucrose, 60mM KCL, 15mM NaCl, 5mM MgCl₂, 0.1mM EGTA, 15 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 0.5mM DTT, and protease inhibitor cocktail). Nuclei were then re-suspended in MNAse-digestion buffer (0.32M sucrose, 50mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 4mM MgCl₂, 1mM CaCl₂, and protease inhibitor cocktail) and digested with 3 units of MNase (Roche 10107921001) for 10 min at 37°C. The first soluble fraction (S1) was recovered by centrifugation for 10 min at 10,000 rpm. The pellet containing nuclei was then dialyzed overnight in 1l of dialysis buffer (1mM Tris-HCl pH7.5, 0.2mM EDTA, protease inhibitors) to more completely release the chromatin fraction (S2) from nuclei. 10 ug of soluble chromatin (S1 and S2) were then incubated with 5 ug of antibody targeting histone modifications-conjugated to magnetic beads (Active Motif; 53014) under constant stirring at 4°C for 16 hr. The antibodies used were: anti-H3K9ac (Abcam; ab4441), anti-H3K4me3 (Abcam; ab8580), anti-H3K4me2 (Abcam ab7766), anti-H3K4me1 (Abcam; ab8895), anti-H3K27me3 (Active Motif; 39155), antiH3K27ac (Abcam; ab4729), and anti-H3K36me3 (Abcam; ab9050). Beads were washed twice with wash buffer A (50mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 10mM EDTA, 75mM NaCl), wash buffer B (50mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 10mM EDTA, 125mM NaCl), and wash buffer C (50mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 10mM EDTA, 175 mM NaCl). DNA was extracted using phenol:chloroform:iso-amylacohol and used for downstream library construction. DNA from fractions S1 and S2 was also isolated directly using phenol:chloroform:iso-amylacohol extraction and used as an whole genome input control (native Input). All protocols for Illumina/Solexa sequencing library preparation, sequencing, and quality control were performed as recommended by Illumina, with the minor modification of limiting the PCR amplification step to 10 cycles. All constructed libraries were sequenced using single-end 50 bp reactions.

Cross-linked ChIP-seq (X-ChIP)

Transcription factor and epigenetic regulator occupancy data generated in this study were acquired using ChIP after crosslinking cells (X-Chip). X-ChIP was also employed for mapping H3K79me2 (Active Motif, 39143), H3K9me3 (abcam, ab8898 or Millipore,

05-1242), H3 (abcam, ab1791) and H3.3 (Abnova, H00003021-M01). Briefly, cells were grown to a final concentration of $5x10^7$ cells for each ChIP-seq experiment. To stabilize HATs/HDACs (p300, Hdac1) and Brg1 on chromatin, cells were treated with 2 mM disuccinimidyl glutarate (DSG) for 10 min prior to formaldehyde crosslinking. For all other targets, cells were chemically cross-linked at room temperature by the addition of formaldehyde to 1% final concentration for 10 min and quenched with 0.125 M final concentration glycine. Cross-linked cells were re-suspended in sonication buffer (50mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 140mM NaCl, 1mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% Na-deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS) and sonicated using a Diagenode Bioruptor for three 10 min rounds using pulsing settings (30 s ON; 1 min OFF). 10 ug of sonicated chromatin was then incubated overnight at 4° C with 5 ug of antibody conjugated to magnetic beads. The antibodies used were: anti-Esrrb (RnD; H6705), anti-Klf4 (RnD; AF3158), anti-cMyc (RnD; AF3696), anti-Nanog (cosmobio REC-RCAB001P), anti-Oct4 (RnD; AF1759), anti-Sox2 (RnD AF2018), anti-p300 (SantaCruz;sc-585), anti-Runx1 (Novus Biologicals NBP1-61277), anti-Fra1 (SantaCruz;sc-183X), anti-Cebpa (SantaCruz; sc-61X), anti-Cebpb (SantaCruz;sc-150X), anti-Hdac1(abcam; ab7028) and anti-Brg1(abcam; ab110641). Following the IP, beads were washed twice with RIPA buffer (50mM Tris-HCl pH8, 150 mM NaCl, 2mM EDTA, 1% NP-40, 0.1% Na-deocycholate, 0.1% SDS), low salt buffer (20mM Tris pH 8.1, 150mM NaCl, 2mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS), high salt buffer (20mM Tris pH 8.1, 500mM NaCl, 2mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS), LiCl buffer (10mM Tris pH 8.1, 250mM LiCl, 1mM EDTA, 1% Na-deoxycholate, 1% NP-40), and 1xTE. Finally, DNA was extracted by reverse crosslinking at 60°C overnight with proteinase K (20ug/ul) and 1% SDS followed by phenol: chloroform:iso-amylacohol purification. Libraries were constructed as indicated above and sequenced using single-end 50 bp reactions.

ATAC-seq library construction and sequencing

ATAC-seq was done as previously described ([Buenrostro et al., 2013\)](#page-17-14). Briefly, 50000 cells (129SVJae MEFs, un-induced tetO-OSKM MEFs, 48h^{OSKM}, pre-i^{#1}, pre-i^{#2} or ESCs) were re-suspended in 50 µL lysis buffer (10 mM Tris pH 7.4, 10 mM NaCl, 3 mM MgCl₂, 0.1% NP40, and 1 x Complete Protease inhibitor (Roche)) and spun at 500g for 10 min at 4 °C to collect nuclei. Nuclei were washed in 1x PBS and subsequently re-suspended in 50 µl Transposase reaction (25 µl 2 \times tagmentation buffer, 22.5 µl water, 2.5 µl Tn5 Transposase, following instructions by Illumina). Reactions were incubated for 30 min at 37 °C and DNA purified using QIAGEN MinElute columns (QIAGEN). The transposed DNA was subsequently amplified with custom primers as described ([Buenrostro](#page-17-14) [et al., 2013\)](#page-17-14) for 7-9 cycles and libraries were visualized on a 2% TBE gel prior to sequencing with a single-end-sequencing length of 50 nucleotides.

RNA-seq

RNA from independent biological replicates of each un-induced MEFs, induced MEFs at 48hrs, pre-iPSCs (pre-i^{#1}& pre-i^{#2}) and ESCs, was isolated using the RNeasy Mini kit. RNA was treated on column with 0.5 kunitz units of DNase prior to elution according to manufacturers instructions. RNA from MEF cultures induced for 48h to express OSKM/Esrrb, OSKM/Fra1, OSKM/cJun or a single reprogramming factor (tetO-Oct4, tetO-Sox2, or tetO–Klf4, tetO–Myc) was also isolated. In all cases, messenger RNA was captured using oligodT Dynabeads (Life Technologies). Strand-specific RNA-seq libraries were constructed as described in [\(Parkhomchuk](#page-18-20) [et al., 2009\)](#page-18-20).

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data Analysis and Visualization

Reads from ChIP-seq experiments were mapped to the mouse genome (mm9) using Bowtie software ([Langmead et al., 2009](#page-18-21)) and only those reads that aligned to a unique position with no more than two sequence mismatches were retained for further analysis. Multiple reads mapping to the exact same location and strand in the genome were collapsed to a single read to account for clonal amplification effects. For ChIP-seq of TFs and ATAC-seq, peaks were called using MACS2 software ([Zhang et al., 2008](#page-18-18)) using a bandwidth parameter of 150bp. Peaks with q-val cut-off < 0.005 and fold > = 4-fold were retained. Identified peak locations can be found in Table S1.

Reads from RNA-seq experiments were mapped to the mouse genome (mm9) using TopHat software ([Trapnell et al., 2009](#page-18-17)) and only those reads that aligned with no more than two sequence mismatches were retained. Replicates were merged and RPKM values of mm9 RefSeq genes were calculated as described ([Mortazavi et al., 2008\)](#page-18-22) (Table S2). Prior to log2 transformation of RPKM values, a pseudo-count of 1 was added to all RPKM values (log2(RPKM+1).

Genome signal tracks of features (TFs, histone marks, ATAC-seq and RNA-seq) were calculated by partitioning the genome into non-overlapping bins of fixed size (100b for TFs, ATAC-seq and RNA-seq, and 25bp for the histone marks). RPKM values were calculated for each bin using the number of sequencing reads that overlap with the corresponding bin. For histone marks, each read was extended by 200 bp in the direction of the alignment. Tracks were visualized in the IGV genome browser (Thorvaldsdó[ttir et al., 2013](#page-18-23)).

To produce the heatmaps, in [Figures 2](#page-4-0)C, 2G, S2D, S2E, S3A, S3D, S3F, [4A, 4](#page-7-0)E, [6A, 6D–6F](#page-12-0), S6C, and [7](#page-14-0)C, we aligned the given feature (such as peaks of a TF) at their summit and tiled the flanking up- and downstream regions within \pm 2kb in 100bp bins. For each location, we calculated RPKM values over all 100bp bins by using the number of sequencing reads that overlap each bin after extension by 200bp in the direction of the alignment. To control for input, we computed at each bin a log_2 input-normalized RPKM value as log₂(RPKM_{FOREGROUND}) - log₂(RPKM_{Input}), where RPKM_{FOREGROUND} denotes the RPKM of the corresponding TF or histone

dataset and RPKM_{Input} denotes the RPKM value of the corresponding whole genome 'Input'. For visualization in figures, each 100 bp bin was displayed with JavaTreeview ([Eisen et al., 1998](#page-17-15)). All metaplots were produced by computing the average input-normalized RPKM value for each 100bp bin across all locations in the given set.

The scatterplots in [Figures 5G](#page-10-0), S6D, and S6E were produced by first computing $log_2(RPKM+1)$ values over 200bp windows centered at each binding site for the TF signal in MEFs and 48h. To control for the input, we computed $log₂(RPKM+1)$ for the input signal in MEFs at each 200bp window and subtracted it from the values in MEFs and 48h to obtain an input-normalized log₂ RPKM value for each cell type: $log_2(RPKM_{TF \text{ in } X+1}) - log_2(RPKM_{MEF_Input}+1)$, where RPKM_{TF in X} is the RPKM value in MEF or 48h.

Figures S7D and S7I were generated with ngs.plot [\(Shen et al., 2014](#page-18-24)).

ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq data validation

Several external (published) datasets were used to validate our ChIP-seq data (Table S3). Moreover, the majority of ChIP-seq datasets in this study were generated in biological replicates (Table S3), and the correlation of replicate datasets demonstrated a high reproducibility of our data. Furthermore, to ensure that un-induced (starting) tetO-OSKM MEFs were not already representing a 'leaky' expression state for the reprogramming factors (already partially reprogrammed), we also profiled wild-type MEFs not carrying any reprogramming factor transgene for ATAC-seq. These ATAC-seq datasets correlated most closely with those of the un-induced tetO-OSKM MEFs.

Correlation of our datasets with imputated datasets

We created an imputed version of the H3, H3.3, H3K27ac, H3K27me3, H3K36me3, H3K4me1, H3K4me2, H3K4me3, H3K79me2, H3K9ac, H3K9me3, p300, ATAC-seq and INPUT (Native Input) data for MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs, using ChromImpute v1.0.0 [\(Ernst and Kellis, 2015](#page-17-6)). In creating the imputed version of a dataset, we used all other datasets but the dataset being imputed. The imputed version of each dataset can be viewed as a pseudo-replicate for each dataset and can be used to assess reproducibility. The data put into ChromImpute were the RPKM normalized signals at 25bp resolution after removing reads that map to blacklisted regions in the mouse genome [\(https://sites.google.com/site/anshulkundaje/projects/blacklists](https://sites.google.com/site/anshulkundaje/projects/blacklists); ENCODE Project Consortium, 2012) and excluding chrM. The signal files for all histone marks, H3, H3.3, and INPUT were generated by extending reads by 200bp in the direction of the alignment. The signal for p300 and ATAC-seq was generated without extension of the reads. ChromImpute was run with default options except the flag '-b 20 -tieglobal' was added to the GenerateTrainData command, the flag '-b 20' to the Train command, and the flag '-b 20 -tieglobal' to the Apply command. The imputed data were converted to a 1000bp resolution by averaging the signal for each 25bp within it. Signal tracks for the observed data were produced at 1000bp resolution in the same way as the signal at 25bp used as input for ChromImpute. Pairwise Pearson correlations were then computed based on the 1000-bp resolution data (Table S3). For each observed dataset, we also reported the maximum correlation with any of the other three observed datasets (for the other reprogramming stages) for the mark based on the 1000-bp resolution data (Table S3).

Differential gene expression analysis

HTSeq [\(Anders et al., 2015](#page-17-16)) was used to determine gene counts from replicate experiments, and DESeq2 ([Anders and Huber, 2010](#page-17-17)) for differential analysis. Our quadruplicate datasets were used to identify differential genes between MEFs and OSKM-induced MEFs at 48h (48h), using an adjusted p value < 0.05. DESeq2 was also used to identify differential genes from the following comparisons 1) OSKM-induced MEFs at 48h against and OSKM/Esrrb-induced MEFs at 48h; 2) OSKM-induced MEFs at 48h against and OSKM/ Fra1-induced MEFs at 48h; and 3) OSKM-induced MEFs at 48h against and OSKM/cJun-induced MEFs at 48h. In addition, genes were called MEF- or ESC- specific using the following criteria: 1) DESeq2 differential calls with an adjusted p value < 0.05 between ESCs and MEFs; 2) Fold-change of > = 5x between transcript levels in MEFs and ESCs; 3) low RPKM value of in the non-expressing type (typically < 1 RPKM).

Defining combinatorial OSKM binding groups per reprogramming stage

We generated sets of sites co-bound by the reprogramming factors at a given reprogramming stage by extending TF summits produced by MACS2 by 100 bp in each direction and intersecting the extended summits between Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc per reprogramming stage [\(Figure 2F](#page-4-0)). In this case, we first defined sites bound by all four TFs by intersecting the extended summits of all four factors in any possible order and merging overlapping intersections. Analogously, we defined triply bound sites, and, subsequently, removed those regions that overlapped with the quadruply bound sites from them. Next, we defined doubly bound sites by intersecting the extended summits of every pair of TFs and removing regions that overlapped triply and quadruply bound sites. Finally, we defined solo bound sites as all sites that were not doubly, triply, or quadruply bound. To calculate the enrichment scores of the co-bound groups in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)Fii, we used the middle point between the start and the end coordinates of quadruply, triply, and doubly bound sites. For solo sites, the coordinates of the original summits were used.

Determination of temporal OSKM binding groups

Seven co-binding groups ([Figure 2](#page-4-0)D: '100', '010', '001', '110', '011', '101', '111') were generated in a similar manner as the combinatorial OSKM binding groups described above, by intersecting the extended TF summits (100bp) of a given TF among the three reprogramming stages: 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs.

Transcription factor clusters

K-means clustering was employed to identify coherent groups of TF binding in Figures S2J, [5](#page-10-0)C, and 5I. To define these TF clusters, the genome was tiled into 500bp windows and the presence of TF peaks in each bin was determined. This procedure resulted in a vector of binary data for each TF reflecting its absence or presence within 500bp windows across the genome. The windows represented by these vectors were then clustered using R's k-means function applying the Hartigan-Wong method to obtain groups of windows exhibiting common combinatorial binding patterns across the genome. The number of clusters was chosen to reduce the number of potential combinatorial TF groups, while ensuring that each cluster was represented by a significant number of windows.

Ontology Annotation

To associate transcription factor peaks with the closest gene for Ontology analysis (Figures S2G, S4C, and S4E; Table S4) we used the GREAT tool [\(McLean et al., 2010](#page-18-16)) with default parameters. Differentially regulated genes defined by DESeq2 [\(Figures 5](#page-10-0)J, S6F, S6G, and S7L) were assigned to relevant GO ontology groups using the Metascape software ([Tripathi et al., 2015](#page-18-15)).

ChromHMM modeling parameters

To derive chromatin state segmentations for each reprogramming stage ([Figure 1C](#page-2-0)), we used ChromHMM (version V1.1.0) [\(Ernst and](#page-17-7) [Kellis, 2012\)](#page-17-7) with default parameters. First, we binarized the mapped reads for all chromatin marks and the native 'Input' indicated in [Figure 1](#page-2-0)C with the ChromHMM's BinarizeBed procedure, using a p value cutoff of 1e-4. To reduce effects of artifacts, we removed redundancy in the input data by keeping only one sequencing read in cases where multiple reads mapped to the same genomic position and strand orientation. We examined models with different numbers of states ranging from 2 to 30 and chose a model with 18 chromatin states that is both interpretable and able to capture the combinatorial complexity of chromatin marks in each reprogramming stage.

In addition to the 18 chromatin state model shown in [Figure 1C](#page-2-0), which captures chromatin states per reprogramming stage, we used ChromHMM in the "stacked" mode to capture the chromatin changes between MEFs, 48h, pre-iPSCs (pre-i^{#1}), and the plurip-otent state, which yielded the 35 chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3A](#page-6-0). In particular, we constructed a single virtual cell type that has all datasets from MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs as individual marks by setting the label of each original dataset in the input file for ChromHMM to contain both the source cell type and the histone mark name. Then, we used ChromHMM to discover and annotate the genome for chromatin states in the virtual cell type. The rest of the preprocessing and ChromHMM parameters were the same as for the 18 state model described above. We considered models with different numbers of states ranging from 25 to 100 and chose 35 states, because it was the model with the minimum number of states that captured unique biological events. We termed the resulting 35 chromatin states ([Figure 3](#page-6-0)A) ''chromatin trajectories'' to distinguish them from the chromatin states specific to each reprogramming stage [\(Figure 1C](#page-2-0)).

TF enrichment in the vicinity of differentially expressed genes early in reprogramming (Figures S6H and S6I)

OSKM binding combinations and groups of MEF-only, 48h-only, and shared somatic TF binding events were intersected with the genomic intervals encompassing TSS+/- 20kb regions of differentially expressed genes at 48h. To compute the fraction of bound upregulated genes for each type of TF set, we counted the number of upregulated genes between MEFs and 48h that have at least one such binding event within 20kb of their TSS and divided this number by the total number of upregulated genes between MEFs and 48h. Analogously, we computed the fraction of bound downregulated genes between MEF and 48h for each TF combination. We then divided the two fractions and plotted the ratio on log2 scale. The statistical significance of each log2 ratio was assessed by a chisquare test that compares the number of TF bound genes between the two groups given the total number of genes in each group.

Positional expression plots (Figures S1H and S4B)

For each chromatin state, we calculated average gene expression levels in MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs, conditioned on the state's distance from annotated transcription start sites. We restricted this analysis to 50kb up- or downstream of transcriptional start sites (TSS). We partitioned this region into non-overlapping bins of 200 bp. For each bin, we computed the average log2 (RPKM+1) value of genes that have a particular chromatin state at this distance relative to their TSS.

Calculations of fold-enrichment

Using the ChromHMM OverlapEnrichment function ([Ernst and Kellis, 2012](#page-17-7)), we calculated enrichment scores for genomic features (TF binding events, conserved elements, repeats, exon, gene-bodies, TSS, TES, ESC super enhancers, etc) in the chromatin state of each corresponding reprogramming stage (18-state chromatin model) and for the 35 chromatin trajectories capturing the chromatin changes during reprogramming, respectively. The enrichment scores were calculated as the ratio between the observed and the expected overlap for each feature and chromatin state based on their sizes and the size of the mouse genome:

$$
\frac{F\cap S}{F\ast S/G}
$$

where *F* is the number of base pairs annotated for the feature F, *S* is the size of chromatin state S and *G* is the total length of the mouse genome.

To calculate log2 differential enrichments in [Figure 2F](#page-4-0)ii, we used the following formula:

 log_2 Enrichment in cell type A Enrichment in cell type B

where each enrichment is calculated based on a binomial background model that treats the corresponding TFs as independent in each cell type (48h and ESCs).

Coordinates for TSS, TES, CpG islands, Exon and Gene Body features used were part of the mm9 annotation included in the ChromHMM software [\(Ernst and Kellis, 2012](#page-17-7)). For the calculation of enrichments of conserved genomic regions in [Figures 1D](#page-2-0) and S1G, we downloaded the 30-way Euarch phastCons elements from the UCSC genome browser for the mm9 genome that represent 30 vertebrate species (euarchontoglires) including human and mouse ([Siepel et al., 2005](#page-18-25)).

In [Figures 2](#page-4-0)E and S2I, we applied complete linkage hierarchical clustering with optimal leaf ordering to cluster the enrichments of all pairs of TFs [\(Bar-Joseph et al., 2001\)](#page-17-18). The pairwise enrichments at base-pair resolution were calculated as the observed overlap divided by the expected overlap based on the binomial background model that treats both transcription factors as independent:

$$
Enrichment(\mathcal{TF}_A, \mathcal{TF}_B) = min\left(\frac{100 + \mathcal{TF}_A \cap \mathcal{TF}_B}{100 + \mathcal{TF}_A \ast \mathcal{TF}_B/G}, 500\right)
$$

where the numerator is the size of the overlap between peaks of TF_A and TF_B and the denominator is the product between the total number of bp occupied by peaks of TF_A and TF_B divided by the size of the genome (G). A pseudo-count of 100 was added to both the numerator and the denominator to avoid instabilities due to division of small numbers and the maximum enrichment was set to 500.

In [Figure 3](#page-6-0)Bii, the fold-enrichment of the 35 chromatin trajectories in the vicinity of MEF- and ESC-specific genes was calculated with the following formula:

> % Cell type *A* specific genes with trajectory *i* within TSS ± 20*kb* % Cell type *A* active genes with trajectory *i* within TSS ± 20*kb*

where the numerator is the percentage of genes (MEF- or ESC- specific; as described above and Table S2) carrying each trajectory *i* within 20kb from their TSS. As control, we divided by the percentage of all active genes in the same cell type (> 1 RPKM) carrying that trajectory.

Assigning peaks to TSS $(+/-2Kb)$ regions

We computed the proportion of transcription factor binding summits of Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc that are located within 2 kb of annotated transcription start sites (mm9 RefSeq TSS) and the rest (distal). p values in [Figures 2](#page-4-0)A and S2A were calculated based on an exact two-sided Binomial test of the null hypothesis that the probability of TSS in one of the samples is given by the frequency in the other sample.

Motif analyses

We calculated motif densities at 10 bp resolution within 500 bp around ChIP-seq summits by using the annotatePeaks procedure from HOMER [\(Heinz et al., 2010\)](#page-17-19) with the following command line arguments: annotatePeaks.pl mm9 -size -500,500 -hist 10

We used the positional weight matrices for the corresponding transcription factor binding motifs provided by HOMER with their default thresholds.

When we scanned regions that were bound by multiple transcription factors, we centered each region at the summit of the corresponding TF. For example, regions co-bound by OSKM were centered at the corresponding Oct4 summits when we scanned them for the Oct4 motif, then centered at the Sox2 summits for the Sox2 motif, then centered at the Klf4 summits for Klf4 motif, and, finally, centered at the cMyc summits for the cMyc motif.

We subsequently smoothed the motif densities by applying a box kernel of length 5 bins centered at each bin. To calculate confidence intervals at the summit bin, we generated 1000 bootstrap samples within each group and calculated the 95% percentile bootstrap confidence intervals [\(Efron and Tibshirani, 1991](#page-17-20)).

For de novo motif discovery we used the findMotifsGenome.pl procedure from Homer using the following arguments. findMotifsGenome.pl mm9 -size 200 -mask -cache 1000

DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY

The accession number for the genomics data reported in this paper is GEO: GSE90895.

Peak locations derived from ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq experiments are given in Table S1, and normalized expression measurements based on RNA-seq are given in Table S2.

Supplemental Figures

Figure S1. Validation of Genomics Data and Characterization of Stage-Specific Chromatin States, Related to [Figure 1](#page-2-0)

(A) Immunostaining for Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc (green) in MEFs and at 48h of dox addition to MEFs carrying the polycistronic OSKM cassette, demonstrating endogenous expression of cMyc and Klf4 in MEFs and homogeneous induction of each of the four reprogramming factors across all cells upon dox treatment for 48h.

(B) western blot for Oct4, Sox2, Klf4 and cMyc in MEFs, at 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs. Whole cell extracts of equal cell numbers were used and Gapdh protein levels served as a loading control.

(C) Transcript levels of the reprogramming factors in the four reprogramming stages (MEFs, 48h of dox-induction, pre-iPSCs and ESCs) based on RNA-seq data. Transcripts of *Oct4* and *Sox2*, unlike those of *cMyc* and *Klf4*, are not present in MEFs prior to induction of transgenic expression.

(D) Unsupervised hierarchical clustering of the top 10000 genes with most variant gene expression across MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, pre-i^{#2}, and ESCs. Scale is in log₂RPKM. This heatmap demonstrates that the independently generated pre-iPSC lines pre-i^{#1} and pre-i^{#2} clustered together and that both lines are more similar to ESCs than to the early reprogramming states.

(E) Hierarchical clustering with optimal leaf ordering of the pairwise enrichment of ATAC-seq peaks in MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, pre-i^{#2}, and ESCs, at base pair resolution. The pre-iPSCs lines were more similar to each other followed by ESCs, while MEFs and 48h formed a separate node.

(F) Motif analysis of binding sites of OSKM, somatic TFs, and pluripotency TFs in MEFs, at 48h, in pre-i#1, and ESCs, as indicated. At 48h and in pre-iPSCs Oct4, Sox2, Klf4 and cMyc were ectopically expressed. Esrrb was ectopically expressed at 48h in OSKM-induced MEFs. N/A indicates that ChIP-seq data were not generated for the given TF at the indicated reprogramming stage. The Homer tool was used to scan for motif presence under the peaks of the corresponding TF. We scanned these peaks for all known motifs present in the Homer database and reported the top-scoring motif (canonical motif), which in all cases identified the respective known canonical motif. The same motifs were identified as the top represented by de novo motif analysis, with the exception of Oct4 and Sox2 in ESCs and Sox2 in pre-iPSCs, where the composite Oct4:Sox2 motif was most over-represented. For Cebpa and Cebpb similar motifs were identified.

(G) Genomic enrichments of chromatin states defined in [Figure 1](#page-2-0)C at 48h of reprogramming and in pre-i^{#1}. Columns represent percentage (%) of genome occupancy, median length of each state in kilo bases (kb), and fold-enrichments for CpG islands, exons, gene bodies, transcription end sites (TES), transcription start sites (TSS), promoters (defined as TSS ± 2kb), conserved elements (phastCons), ATAC-seq peaks, and endogenous retrovirus K elements (ERVK), colored within each column from highest (darkest) to lowest (white).

(H) Relationship between chromatin states and expression level of nearby genes. The average expression level of genes was plotted as a function of the position of the chromatin state relative to RefSeq-TSS up to 50 kb in both directions. Each larger row corresponds to a chromatin state (1-18) defined in [Figure 1](#page-2-0)C. Within each larger row, smaller rows corresponding to each of our four reprogramming stages (MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs). Each small row shows for the presence of the given chromatin state at each position relative to the TSS, the average expression level of those corresponding genes at the given reprogramming stage. Red indicates higher expression, yellow intermediate expression, and blue low or no expression based on log₂(RPKM+1) values from RNA-seq data. For instance, one can observe that the active promoter state (state 1) is present at the TSS of highly expressed genes, whereas the presence of the inactive/poised promoter state (state 2) around the TSS corresponds to a low or no expression. Also the strong enhancer state (state 3) is proximal to genes with higher expression than the weaker enhancer states (states 4-7).

(I) Validation of reprogramming stage-specific chromatin state annotations defined in [Figure 1C](#page-2-0) by visualization of expected chromatin changes in reprogramming. A comparison of the chromatin states for each of the four reprogramming stages for genes known to be repressed during reprogramming (*Col3a1* and *Col5a2*), induced (*Dppa4*/*Dppa2* and *mir290* clusters), and constitutively expressed (*Hprt* and *Phf6*). The color code of chromatin states is given in [Figure 1C](#page-2-0). Notably, the *Dppa2*/*Dppa4* cluster is embedded in low signal chromatin states until the pluripotent state. Conversely, the genomic regions upstream the ESCspecific miR290 cluster gains enhancer marks (orange/yellow) as early as 48h post OSKM induction and forms a large enhancer domain in pre-iPSCs and ESCs.

Figure S2. Additional Characterization of OSKM Binding Sites at Each Reprogramming Stage and OSKM Redistribution during Reprogramming, Related to [Figure 2](#page-4-0)

(A) Percentage of O, S, K, and M binding events in promoter-proximal (TSS \pm 2Kb) and distal genomic locations for pre-i^{#2}. This figure accompanies [Figure 2A](#page-4-0). (B) Percentage of O, S, K, and M binding events in each of the 18 chromatin states from [Figure 1C](#page-2-0), per reprogramming stage. Specifically, peaks of O, S, K, and M, respectively, in MEFs were analyzed with respect to the chromatin state in MEFs, 48h peaks to the chromatin state at 48h, pre-i^{#1} peaks against the chromatin state in these cells, and ESC targets to ESC chromatin state. This figure accompanies [Figure 2](#page-4-0)B that shows the fold-enrichment for the same data.

(C) Fold-enrichment of OSKM co-binding groups defined in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)Fi per chromatin state as defined in [Figure 1](#page-2-0)C, for each reprogramming stage. Specifically, cobinding events of O. S. M. and K, respectively, at 48h were analyzed with respect to the chromatin state at 48h, those in pre-i^{#1} to the chromatin state in pre-i^{#1}, etc. (D) Heatmap of normalized tag densities (log₂RPKM) for O, S, K, and M binding events and the corresponding ATAC-seq and histone H3 signals at the same sites for MEFs and the two pre-iPSC lines pre-i^{#1} and pre-i^{#2}. For each bound site, the signal is displayed within a 2 kb window centered on the peak summit for the respective reprogramming factor and peaks were ranked based on ATAC-seq signal strength.

(E) Heatmap of normalized tag densities for O binding events (log₂RPKM) for 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs, for Oct4 binding groups shown in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)D, depicting the actual signal at regions surrounding 2kb in either direction of the peak calls. In addition, the figure displays the normalized tag densities for O binding events for the same genomic locations in the independently derived pre-iPSC line pre-i^{#2}.

(F) Venn diagram depicting the overlap of O, S, K, and M binding events, respectively, between the pre-i^{#1} and pre-i^{#2} lines. The total number of binding events and the number of overlapping sites and their percentage (against the pre-i^{#1} events) are given.

(G) Ontology of genes associated with '111', '001', and '100' Oct4 sites defined in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)D.

(H) Densities of the Oct4 and Oct4:Sox2 composite motifs at 48h-specific ('100'), constitutive ('111'), and ESC-specific ('001') binding events of Oct4, of the Sox2 motif within Sox2 peaks, the cMyc motif in cMyc peaks, and the Klf4 motif in Klf4 peaks. 95% confidence intervals at peak summits are indicated by the error bars. (I) Hierarchical clustering with optimal leaf ordering of the pairwise enrichment of O, S, K, and M binding events in the four reprogramming stages and pre-i^{#2}, at base pair resolution. Black boxes emphasize clusters of TFs. O and S bind similar targets in pre-i^{#1}, pre-i^{#2} and ESC, and Klf4 binding events are more distinct at these stages, clustering away from OS and closer to Myc. At 48h, binding events of O, S, and K cluster together. Myc peaks are more similar to each other than to those of the other reprogramming factors.

(J) K-means clustering of O, S, K, and M peaks across MEFs, 48h, pre-i#1, pre-i#2, and ESCs. Extensive OSK and OK co-binding was observed at 48h, whereas OS co-binding was more prevalent in ESCs. Notably, a subset of sites co-bound by OSK at 48h remained bound throughout reprogramming (second cluster from left). This clustering approach of binding events supports the conclusions made in [Figures 2](#page-4-0)E and 2F.

Cell

Figure S3. Additional Characterization of Binding Sites of Individually and Co-expressed Reprogramming Factors at 48 hr, Related to [Figure 2](#page-4-0)

(A) Klf4 has relocated to new sites that are co-bound by Oct4 and Sox2 at 48h of reprogramming. (i) A comparison of Klf4 peaks in MEFs (endogenously expressed Klf4) and at 48h of reprogramming revealed sites bound at both stages (shared), sites that were bound in MEFs but not at 48h (lost sites), and sites that were targeted at 48h but not in MEFs (de novo sites). The heatmap shows normalized Klf4 ChIP-seq signal (log₂RPKM) at these sites. Each row shows the ± 2 kb region around each Klf4 summit. The number of sites in each category is given. The normalized signal for Oct4, Sox2 and cMyc binding at 48h and in MEFs were added for the same genomic sites. (ii) The metaplots present the average normalized signal of Klf4 in MEFs and at 48h for the three binding groups defined in (i) demonstrating that shared sites have higher Klf4 signal strength than 'lost' and 'de novo' sites. Density plots of the Oct4, Sox2, cMyc, and Klf4 motifs for the three groups of Klf4 binding events defined in (i) are given in (iii). Oct4, Sox2, and Klf4 motifs can be found at de novo Klf4 sites, while only the Klf4 motif is present at lost and shared sites.

(B) Transcript levels (log₂(RPKM+1)) of the reprogramming factors in MEFs, at 48h of reprogramming with OSKM, and at 48h in MEFs overexpressing individual reprogramming factors from a dox-inducible cassette, based on RNA-seq data. Individually expressed reprogramming factors are 50x (Oct4), 2.5x (Sox2) and 8.8x (Klf4) upregulated compared to the corresponding factor at 48h of OSKM-induced reprogramming.

(C) western blot for Oct4 on starting MEFs and MEFs expressing the indicated individual reprogramming factor or combinations thereof either retrovirally (pMX) or inducibly (tetO) for 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs. Whole cell extracts of equal cell numbers were used.

(D) Heatmap of normalized tag density for ATAC-seq data (log₂RPKM) at sites bound by the indicated reprogramming factor at 48h of individual overexpression in MEFs (O^{pMX}, S^{pMX}, or K^{pMX}). The MEF ATAC-seq signal at the same sites is also shown in each heatmap and the number of sites per reprogramming factor is given. Metaplots of the averaged normalized signal intensities of the ATAC-seq data are presented at the bottom.

(E) Density plots of Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, and cMyc motifs in Sox2 and Oct4 binding groups defined in [Figure 2G](#page-4-0) (shared, OSKM-only, pMX-only). These data show that motif presence discriminates OSKM-only from shared and pMX-only sites.

(F) Heatmaps of normalized log₂RPKM signals for all Oct4, Sox2, and Klf4 binding events, respectively, at 48h of reprogramming with MEFs carrying all four reprogramming factors (OSKM). In addition, the figure displays the normalized tag densities for the binding events of the same reprogramming factor when only OSK were expressed together retrovirally for 48h in MEFs (OSKPMX), without cMyc, for the same genomic locations. The number of peaks per reprogramming factor is given. These heatmaps demonstrate that the sites targeted by O, S, and K early in reprogramming in the context of OSKM co-expression are also largely targeted when only OSK are co-expressed in MEFs (without ectopic cMyc).

(G) Fold-enrichment for O, S, and K binding groups, defined in [Figure 2](#page-4-0)G against the 35 chromatin trajectories described in [Figure 3](#page-6-0)A, colored within each column from high (blue) to low (white) (left table). Percentage of binding events in each of the 35 chromatin trajectories is also given (right table; each column totals 100%) with each column colored from high (blue) to low (white).

Figure S4. Additional Characterization of the 35 Chromatin Trajectories Describing the Major Chromatin Changes that Occur during Reprogramming, Related to [Figure 3](#page-6-0)

(A) Fold-enrichment of various genomic features for each of the 35 chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3](#page-6-0)A. Columns represent fold-enrichment for CpG islands, exons, gene bodies, transcription end sites (TES), transcription start sites (TSS), promoters (defined as TSS ± 2kb), conserved elements (phastCons), satellite repeats as defined by RepeatMasker (RepeatMasker Open-4.0) and endogenous retrovirus 1 elements (ERV1). Enrichment scores were calculated as the ratio between the observed overlap and the expected overlap based on the state size, and colored within each column from high (blue) to low (white).

(B) Relationship between the 35 chromatin trajectories and the expression level of associated genes. The average expression level of genes is plotted as a function of the position of the chromatin state relative to RefSeq-TSS up to 50 kb in both directions. Each larger row corresponds to one of the 35 chromatin trajectories. Within each larger row are smaller rows corresponding to each of our four reprogramming stages (MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, and ESCs). Each small row shows for the presence of the given chromatin trajectory at each position relative to the TSS, the average expression level of those corresponding genes at the given reprogramming stage. Red indicates higher expression, yellow intermediate expression, and blue low or no expression based on log₂(RPKM+1) values from RNA-seq data. For instance one can observe that the pluripotency enhancer trajectory 13 is associated with a gradual increase in expression of associated genes from 48h to ESCs, while enhancer trajectory 17 is associated more clearly with ESC-specific gene expression. Conversely, the MEF enhancer states (trajectories 5 to 10) display higher expression in MEFs and at 48h than in pre-iPSCs and ESCs.

(C) Gene ontology analysis for enriched biological processes for the indicated chromatin trajectories based on the 35 chromatin states defined in [Figure 3A](#page-6-0). (D) Percentage of stage-specific and constitutive O, S, K, and M binding events as defined in [Figure 2D](#page-4-0) ('100', '001', '111' sites etc) for each of the 35 chromatin trajectories defined in [Figure 3](#page-6-0)A. The total number of binding sites observed for each of the seven binding groups of O, S, K, and M, respectively, is given at the bottom of each column. Color scale within each column ranges from the highest (blue) to lowest (white). (E) Gene ontology analysis for '111' Oct4 sites in trajectory 13.

(legend on next page)

- (B) As in (A), except for trajectory 6 MEs and additional metaplots for H3K27ac.
- (C) As in (B), except for trajectory 9 MEs.
- (D) As in (B), except for trajectory 11 elements (transient enhancers).
- (E) As in (B), except for trajectory 4 (promoters).
- (F) Normalized transcript levels of p300 and Hdac1 for the reprogramming stages indicated, based on RNA-seq data.

(H) Metaplots of averaged normalized tag densities (RPKM) of the enhancer mark H3K27ac at trajectory 5 MEs engaged by O, S, or K (left) and those not engaged by either O, S, or K (right) at 48h post OSKM induction (blue). For the same two sets of trajectory 5 MEs, H3K27ac levels in starting MEFs (green) and in MEFs individually expressing Oct4 (top panels) or Klf4 (bottom panels) for 48h (black) were plotted.

Figure S5. Additional Characterization of Changes Occurring at MEs during Reprogramming, Related to [Figure 4](#page-7-0)

⁽A) Metaplots of averaged normalized signal intensities of ATAC-seq data and ChIP-seq data for H3K4me1 and H3K4me2 at trajectory 5 MEs bound by O, S, or K (solid lines) and those not bound by any of the three reprogramming factors (dotted lines) in MEFs (green), 48h (blue), pre-i^{#1} (brown), and ESCs (red). The plots are centered on the summits of ATAC-seq peaks in MEFs.

⁽G) Schematic of the reprogramming experiment testing the role of Cebpa/b in reprogramming. OSKM-inducible MEFs were transfected with siRNAs targeting *Cebpa* or *Cebpb* or with siCtrl every 3 days during the course of reprogramming. *Cebpa/b* transcript levels were determined 48h post dox-addition (error bars indicate standard deviation of duplicate qPCR measurements) and Nanog-positive colonies counted at day 11 post OSKM induction for two replicates. Each replicate was generated using different siRNA reagents (siRNA 1 and 2).

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Figure S6. Additional Characterization of the Role of Somatic TFs in Reprogramming, Related to [Figure 5](#page-10-0)

(A) Venn diagrams representing the overlap of Runx1 binding sites in MEFs and at 48h of reprogramming. The number of MEF-only, 48h-only and shared sites is given as well as the fractions of each set also bound by O, S, or K (in brackets).

(B) As in (A), for binding sites of Fra1.

(C) Heatmaps of normalized tag densities (log₂RPKM) of the Cebpb ChIP-seq signal at the 12927 Cebpb binding sites obtained in pre-i^{#1}. In addition, the data for O, S, and K occupancy in pre-i^{#1} and the independent pre-iPSC line pre-i^{#2} are shown for the same sites, indicating extensive co-binding of O, S, and K with Cebpb in pre-iPSC lines.

(D) Scatterplot of input normalized ChIP-seq signal (log₂(RPKM+1) of Runx1 for MEF-only (green), 48h-only (blue), and shared (red) Runx1 binding events defined in (A).

(E) As in (D), except for Fra1 at sites defined in (B).

(F) Expression changes early in reprogramming. 609 genes (adjusted p value < 0.05) were differentially regulated within the first 48h of OSKM induction based on RNA-seq, with 372 genes induced and 237 genes downregulated (Table S2). Transcription levels of these up- and downregulated genes in MEFs and at 48h of reprogramming are represented as boxplots.

(G) Gene ontology groups associated with up and downregulated genes defined in (F).

(H) Differential enrichment of OSKM co-binding events in genes up- and downregulated early in reprogramming as defined in (F). We computed the log2 ratio between the fraction of bound downregulated genes out of all downregulated genes and the fraction of bound upregulated genes out of all upregulated genes for different combinations of OSKM binding. Bound genes were defined as genes that have at least one binding site of the corresponding combination within 20kb of their TSS. Blue and red coloring represent higher fractions in down- and upregulated genes, respectively. Only the enrichment of the OSK co-binding event was significant (*; p < 0.01 Chi-square test) indicating that sites co-occupied by O, S, and K are enriched in upregulated genes.

(I) As in (H), but showing the differential enrichment of MEF-only, 48h-only, and shared binding events of Cebpa, Cebpb, Fra1, and Runx1 as defined in [Figures 5](#page-10-0)A, S6A, and S6B in genes up- and downregulated early in reprogramming. These data demonstrate that upregulated genes carry more 48h-only somatic TF binding events compared to downregulated genes whereas higher fractions of downregulated genes are occupied by MEF-only somatic TF binding relative to uprequiated genes. $*$ denotes significance ($p < 0.01$ Chi-square test).

(J) Transcript levels of the somatic TFs Fra1, Cebpa, Cepbb, and Runx1 in MEFs, 48h, pre-i^{#1}, pre-i^{#2}, and ESCs, based on RNA-seq data.

(K) Fra1 transcript level in MEFs, iPSCs, and days 3, 6, 9 and 12 sorted SSEA1⁺ reprogramming populations, which are considered to be enriched for cells with higher reprogramming potential, as defined in ([Polo et al., 2012](#page-18-1)).

(L) Genome browser view of the *Fra1* locus. RNA-seq reads and Fra1 ChIP-seq data (both in RPKM) in MEFs (green), at 48h of OSKM-induced reprogramming (48h; blue) and at 48h of reprogramming with OSKM in the presence of Fra1 overexpression (black, 48h^F) are shown. O and K binding in the locus for 48h and 48h^F reprogramming samples are also depicted. Shaded areas represent regions within the *Fra1* locus that lose Fra1 binding within the first 48h of reprogramming but have re-gained Fra-1 upon Fra1 overexpression in the context of OSKM/Fra1 (48h^F). The asterisk (*) denotes an intronic enhancer that is known to auto-regulate *Fra1* expression [\(Verde et al., 2007](#page-18-7)).

(M) Fold-increase of Fra1, cJun, and Runx1 transcript levels determined by RT-PCR at 48h of reprogramming with OSKM in combination with Fra1, cJun, or Runx1 overexpression, respectively, relative to 48h of reprogramming with OSKM only.

Figure S7. Additional Characterization of Reprogramming Factor Binding at PEs and the Esrrb Overexpression Effect, Related to [Figures 6](#page-12-0) and [7](#page-14-0)

(A) Metaplots of averaged normalized signal intensities (RPKM) of H3K27Ac, H3K4me1, and H3K4me2 at '111' Oct4 binding events within trajectory 13 PEs for MEFs (green), 48h (blue), pre-i^{#1} (brown), and ESCs (red).

(B) De novo scanning for motif identification in '001' and '111' Oct4 binding events in PEs of trajectories 13 and 17. The top enriched motifs per indicated set of peaks, the $log_{10}(P \text{ value})$ for each motif and the best matching TF are given.

(C) (top) Percentage of '111' Oct4 binding sites in trajectory 13 PEs that are also bound by Klf4 at 48h (left) or in ESCs (right), demonstrating prominent co-binding of Klf4 with Oct4 at these sites particularly early in reprogramming. (bottom) Percentage of '001' Oct4 sites in PEs of trajectories 13 or 17 also bound by Klf4 in ESCs.

(D) Metaplot of normalized signal intensities of H3K27ac, H3K4me1, and H3K4me2 for all ESC super enhancers defined by ([Whyte et al., 2013](#page-18-9)), for each of the four reprogramming stages. 5' and 3' denote the start and stop coordinates for the super enhancers, and the shading represents one standard deviation from the mean.

(E) Boxplots of transcript levels for genes neighboring ESC super enhancer in each of our four reprogramming stages. Asterisks (*) mark significant change (p value $<$ 0.007 and $<$ 8.2e-12 for the MEF to pre-i^{#1} and MEF to ESC comparison, respectively, based on Wilcoxon test).

(F) Fold-enrichment of the 35 chromatin trajectory described in [Figure 3A](#page-6-0) within ESC super enhancers colored within the column from highest (blue) to lowest (white).

(G) Snapshot of 48h and ESC O, S, and K ChIP-seq data (RPKM) at the ESC super enhancer regions associated with the *Nanog*, *Sox2*, *Oct4*, and *Klf4* genes. In addition, the chromatin changes of these region are given by the trajectory annotation (from the 35 chromatin state model) based on the color-code in Figure S4A. Sites bound by O, S, or K already at 48h are highlighted by the gray shading.

(H) Genome browser view of O, S, and K ChIP-seq data and ATAC-seq data at the *Tdh1* ESC super enhancer (RPKM) at the indicated reprogramming stages. In addition, the chromatin changes of this region are given by the trajectory annotation (from the 35 chromatin state model) based on the color code in Figure S4A. Of the five major sites in this super enhancer bound by O, S, or K in ESCs (highlighted by gray bars), one is engaged already at 48h (labeled with 1) and the others are bound only at later reprogramming stages (labeled with asterisks).

(I) Metaplot for normalized Klf4 (top) and Oct4 (bottom) ChIP-seq signal (RPKM) averaged across all ESC super enhancers for our four reprogramming stages. Oct4 data for MEFs were not available since it is not expressed in these cells. 5' and 3' denote the start and stop coordinates for ESC super enhancers and the shading indicates one standard deviation from the mean. Based on the comparison of Klf4 binding in MEFs and at 48hrs, we conclude that Klf4 already significantly binds ESC super enhancers at 48h.

(J) Transcript levels of *Esrrb* in MEFs, iPSCs, and days 3, 6, 9 and 12 sorted SSEA1⁺ reprogramming populations, which are thought to enrich for cells with higher reprogramming potential, as defined in [\(Polo et al., 2012\)](#page-18-1).

(L) Gene ontology analysis for enriched biological processes for down- and upregulated genes defined comparing MEFs expressing OSKM/Esrrb for 48h (48h⁵) versus MEFs expressing only OSKM for 48h (48h).

⁽K) Transcript levels of Esrrb in our reprogramming stages (MEFs, 48h of OSKM expression (48h), 48h of OSKM and Esrrb co-expression (48h^E), pre-iPSCs (pre- $i^{#1}$, pre- $i^{#2}$), and ESCs, based on RNA-seq.