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Single cell chromatin accessibility reveals pancreatic islet cell type- and state-specific regulatory programs of diabetes risk — Source link 🗹

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Published on: 09 Jul 2019 - bioRxiv (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory)

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1 Single cell chromatin accessibility reveals pancreatic islet cell type-

2 and state-specific regulatory programs of diabetes risk

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42 Abstract

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44 Genetic risk variants for complex, multifactorial diseases are enriched in *cis*-regulatory elements. 45 Single cell epigenomic technologies create new opportunities to dissect cell type-specific 46 mechanisms of risk variants, yet this approach has not been widely applied to disease-relevant 47 tissues. Given the central role of pancreatic islets in type 2 diabetes (T2D) pathophysiology, we 48 generated accessible chromatin profiles from 14.2k islet cells and identified 13 cell clusters 49 including multiple alpha, beta and delta cell clusters which represented hormone-producing and 50 signal-responsive cell states. We cataloged 244,236 islet cell type accessible chromatin sites and 51 identified transcription factors (TFs) underlying both lineage- and state-specific regulation. We 52 measured the enrichment of T2D and glycemic trait GWAS for the accessible chromatin profiles 53 of single cells, which revealed heterogeneity in the effects of beta cell states and TFs on fasting 54 alucose and T2D risk. We further used machine learning to predict the cell type-specific regulatory 55 function of genetic variants, and single cell co-accessibility to link distal sites to putative cell type-56 specific target genes. We localized 239 fine-mapped T2D risk signals to islet accessible 57 chromatin, and further prioritized variants at these signals with predicted regulatory function and 58 co-accessibility with target genes. At the KCNQ1 locus, the causal T2D variant rs231361 had 59 predicted effects on an enhancer with beta cell-specific, long-range co-accessibility to the insulin 60 promoter, and deletion of this enhancer reduced insulin gene and protein expression in human 61 embryonic stem cell-derived beta cells. Our findings provide a cell type- and state-resolved map 62 of gene regulation in human islets, illuminate likely mechanisms of T2D risk at hundreds of loci, 63 and demonstrate the power of single cell epigenomics for interpreting complex disease genetics.

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72 Introduction

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74 Gene regulatory programs are largely orchestrated by cis-regulatory elements that direct the 75 expression of genes in response to specific developmental and environmental cues. Genetic 76 variants associated with disease by genome-wide association studies (GWAS) are highly 77 enriched within putative *cis*-regulatory elements¹, highlighting the importance of regulatory sequence in mediating disease risk. The activity of regulatory elements is often restricted to 78 79 specific cell types and/or cell states, limiting the ability of ATAC-seg and other "ensemble" (or 80 "bulk") epigenomic technologies to map regulatory elements in individual cell types within disease-81 relevant tissues. To overcome this limitation, new approaches to obtain ATAC-seq profiles from 82 single nuclei (snATAC-seg) allow for the disaggregation of open chromatin from heterogenous samples into component cell types and subtypes^{2–5}. These developments create opportunities to 83 84 dissect the molecular mechanisms that underlie genetic risk of disease. However, to date snATAC-seq data from disease-relevant human tissues are limited⁶⁻⁹. 85

Type 2 diabetes (T2D) is a multifactorial disease with a highly polygenic inheritance¹⁰. Pancreatic 86 87 islets are central to genetic risk of T2D, as evidenced by shared association between T2D risk and quantitative measures of islet function^{11–13} and enrichment of T2D risk variants in islet 88 89 regulatory sites^{14–18}. Islets are comprised of multiple endocrine cell types with distinct functions^{19–} ²¹ and are heterogeneous^{22–24} in gene expression and other molecular signatures which likely 90 reflect different functional cell states^{22,25,26}. Heterogeneity in the epigenome of islet cell types has 91 92 not been described, however, which is necessary to understand islet regulation and interpret the 93 molecular mechanisms of non-coding T2D risk variants. In this study, we map accessible 94 chromatin profiles of individual islet cells using snATAC-seq, define the regulatory programs of 95 islet cell types and cell states, describe their relationship to T2D risk and fasting glycemia, and 96 predict the molecular mechanisms of T2D risk variants.

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98 Results

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100 Islet snATAC-seq reveals 13 cell clusters with distinct regulatory landscapes

To map the accessible chromatin landscape of single islet cells, we performed snATAC-seq on human pancreatic islets from three donors (Supplementary Table 1). We used a combinatorial barcoding snATAC-seq approach previously optimized by our group for use on tissues^{2,4} (see Methods). To confirm library quality, we first analyzed the data as ensemble ATAC-seq by aggregating all high-quality mapped reads irrespective of barcode. Ensemble snATAC-seq from
 all three samples showed the expected insert size distribution (Supplementary Figure 1a), strong
 enrichment of signal at transcription start sites (TSS) (Supplementary Figure 1b), and high
 concordance of signal with published islet ATAC-seq data^{14,27-29} (Supplementary Figure 1c).

109 To obtain a collection of high-quality single cell profiles, we first filtered out cells with less than 110 1,000 reads (Supplementary Figure 1d), resulting in a total of 17,995 cells across the three 111 samples. We then clustered accessible chromatin profiles from these cells, making key 112 modifications to previous approaches (see Methods for details)⁴. First, as the inputs to clustering 113 we used normalized read counts in 5 kb sliding windows genome-wide rather than read counts 114 within ensemble peak calls, reasoning that ensemble peak calls could be biased towards more 115 common cell types. Second, we performed an initial round of clustering and quality control on a 116 per-sample basis, which removed 2,709 cells in low read depth clusters. Third, prior to clustering cells across samples, we used mutual nearest neighbors³⁰ to correct for variability across donors. 117 118 Finally, we clustered all cells together and performed additional guality control by removing one 119 cluster without representation from all donors (694 cells), and one with aberrant read depth and 120 low intra-cluster similarity (192 cells). After all clustering and filtering steps, we retained 14,239 121 cells which mapped to 13 clusters, all of which had consistent representation across samples and 122 read depth profiles (Figure 1a, Supplementary Figure 2a-c).

123 To determine the cell type represented by each cluster, we examined chromatin accessibility at 124 the promoter region of the cognate hormone genes for endocrine cells and known marker genes 125 for non-endocrine cell types. Based on these marker gene promoters, we identified clusters 126 representing beta (INS-IGF2/insulin), alpha (GCG/glucagon), delta (SST/somatostatin), gamma 127 (PPY/pancreatic polypeptide) cells, exocrine acinar and ductal (labeled as 'exocrine': REG1A. S100A14)^{31,32}, immune (PTPN22)³², stellate (PDGFRB)³², glial (CDH19)³³, and endothelial 128 129 (CD93)³⁴ cells (Figure 1b-c, Supplementary Figure 2d). We defined a broader set of marker gene 130 promoters for each cluster by identifying gene promoters with differential accessibility across 131 clusters and retaining the top 100 differential promoters for each cluster (see Methods, 132 Supplementary Table 2). To validate the cell type we assigned to each cluster, we derived gene expression marker genes from published islet scRNA-seq data²³ and correlated t-statistics of 133 134 snATAC-seq marker gene promoters with t-statistics of scRNA-seq marker genes (see Methods. 135 Supplementary Figure 3a-e). We observed highly specific correlations between marker genes of 136 endocrine and other pancreatic cell types in snATAC-seq and scRNA-seq (Figure 1d). Of note.

the multiple clusters of alpha, beta, and delta cells in snATAC-seq each had strongest correlationwith their respective cell type.

139 To characterize the regulatory programs of each cell type, we aggregated reads for cells within 140 each cluster and identified accessible chromatin sites for the cluster using MACS2 (see Methods). 141 In total we identified 244,236 accessible chromatin sites merged across the 13 clusters 142 (Supplementary Data 1), which were concordant with sites identified in ensemble islets (Supplementary Figure 4a-b). Notably, accessible chromatin in alpha and beta cells was highly 143 concordant with bulk ATAC-seq of corresponding FACS-sorted populations^{35,36}, confirming that 144 145 we identified cell type-specific islet chromatin (Supplementary Figure 4c). To next understand the regulatory logic underlying islet cell types, we used chromVAR³⁷ to identify TF sequence motifs 146 from JASPAR³⁸ enriched within accessible chromatin of each cell. We focused on 111 TF motifs 147 148 with evidence for variability across cells (see Methods, Supplementary Figure 4d, Supplementary 149 Table 3). Analysis of motif enrichments averaged across cells for each cell type revealed distinct 150 patterns of motif enrichment across cell types, many consistent with known functions in islet cells 151 (Figure 1e, Supplementary Table 3). For example, the PDX1 motif was enriched in beta (normalized enrichment=0.93) and delta (1.0) cells³⁹, and MAF motifs were enriched in alpha (1.0) 152 and beta cells (0.93)⁴⁰⁻⁴² (Figure 1e). We also identified motif enrichments shared across all 153 154 endocrine cell types, such as FOXA, and in non-endocrine cell types, including IRF for immune⁴³ 155 (1.0) and ETS for endothelial⁴⁴ (1.0) cells (Figure 1e). Hierarchical clustering of cell types based 156 on TF motif enrichment patterns further revealed that regulatory programs of beta and delta cells 157 were closely related as were the programs of alpha and gamma cells (Figure 1e), consistent with single cell expression data^{31,32,45}. 158

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160 Heterogeneity in islet endocrine cell accessible chromatin and regulatory programs

161 A major strength of single cell approaches is the ability to reveal heterogeneity within a cell type. 162 Indeed, our initial clustering showed that alpha, beta and delta cells segregated into sub-clusters. 163 To characterize these sub-clusters, we determined gene promoter accessibility in each sub-164 cluster and identified promoters with variable accessibility between sub-clusters (see Methods. 165 Supplementary Data 2). We focused on alpha and beta cells, where cell numbers allowed for 166 robust calculations. Notably, we found INS among genes with the most variable promoter 167 accessibility between beta cell sub-clusters (INS-IGF2 beta OR=5.05, two-sided Fisher's exact P=3.98x10⁻³⁷), leading us to rename the beta 1 and beta 2 clusters as INS^{high} and INS^{low} beta 168 169 cells, respectively (Figure 1b-c; Figure 2a). Similarly, GCG promoter accessibility was highly

variable between alpha cell sub-clusters (*GCG* alpha OR=3.30, P=4.68x10⁻²⁵), and we renamed
the alpha 1 and alpha 2 sub-clusters as GCG^{high} and GCG^{low} alpha cells, respectively (Figure 1bc; Figure 2a).

173 Apart from *INS* and *GCG*, we found significant overlap in the genes that distinguish hormone-high (INS^{high}, GCG^{high}) from hormone-low (INS^{low}, GCG^{low}) alpha and beta cells by gene set enrichment 174 175 analysis (GSEA) (Figure 2b). Genes with increased promoter accessibility in hormone-high states 176 including GCK, ABCC8, G6PC2 and SLC30A8 were enriched for processes such as hormone 177 secretion and glucose response (Figure 2a,c, Supplementary Table 4). In contrast, genes with 178 increased promoter accessibility for hormone-low states including ATF3, FOSL1, and FOSL2 and were enriched for stress-induced signaling response⁴⁶ (Figure 2a,c, Supplementary Table 4). 179 180 Similar states were also evident in delta cells, although low cell numbers impede deeper analysis 181 in our study (Supplementary Figure 5). We compared genes with significantly different promoter 182 accessibility between states to gene sets describing beta cell heterogeneity (β -sub.1-4) from a previous scRNA-seq study²³. Genes with increased promoter accessibility in hormone-low cells 183 184 (INS^{low}, GCG^{low}) were enriched in a beta cell sub-cluster (β-sub.4) associated with ER stress and 185 protein folding and with low INS expression, whereas genes with increased promoter accessibility 186 in hormone-high cells (INS^{high}, GCG^{high}) were enriched in the other beta cell sub-clusters (β-sub.1-187 3) (Figure 2b). These data reveal epigenomic differences between endocrine cell states among 188 genes involved in hormone production and stress-induced signaling responses, and point to an 189 underlying commonality in the genes that govern state-specific functions across different 190 endocrine cell types.

191 The transcriptional regulatory programs driving functional heterogeneity in alpha and beta cells 192 are unknown. Therefore, we determined TF sequence motifs differentially enriched across alpha 193 and beta cell states. We focused on 111 TF motifs showing evidence for variable enrichment 194 between alpha and beta cell states (see Methods, Supplementary Figure 6a, Supplementary 195 Table 5) and observed clear patterns that distinguished different states within alpha and beta 196 cells, again revealing commonalities across cell types (Figure 2d). For example, motifs for RFX family members were enriched in hormone-high states (GCG^{high}, INS^{high}), but not in hormone-low 197 states (GCG^{low}, INS^{low}) (RFX3 - mean INS^{high} enrich=.26, INS^{low}=-.62, P=3.5x10⁻¹⁵⁸; GCG^{high}=.29, 198 GCG^{low}=-.56, P=7.3x10⁻⁹¹) (Figure 2d). In contrast, motifs for FOS and JUN family members were 199 200 prominently enriched in hormone-low states, but not the hormone-high states (FOS::JUN - mean INS^{high} enrich=-1.45. INS^{low} =4.50. P=4.7x10⁻³⁰⁷: GCG^{high}=-1.45. GCG^{low}=4.46. P=2.3x10⁻²⁹²) 201

(Figure 2d). Again, we also observed similar motif enrichment patterns between delta cell states(Supplementary Figure 6a-b).

204 Analysis of single cells ordered along a trajectory has been used to examine gene regulatory 205 programs as a continuum rather than as discrete or binary states^{6,23,47}. To explore potential 206 gradations among alpha and beta cells, we used Cicero⁶ to order alpha and beta cells along 207 trajectories based on chromatin accessibility. We ordered cells using high promoter accessibility 208 at INS (beta) or GCG (alpha) as the root states for each trajectory (see Methods). We refer to the 209 axis of these trajectories as "pseudo-state" rather than the conventional "pseudo-time", because 210 the heterogeneity appears to be more related to cell state than to time. We observed cells on a 211 gradient between hormone-high and hormone-low states of alpha and beta cells, and we noted a 212 discernable transition point within the trajectory (Figure 2e, Supplementary Figure 7a-b). These 213 trajectories allowed us to examine gene promoter accessibility and TF motif enrichment as a 214 function of pseudo-state (Figure 2e, Supplementary Figure 7c). Consistent with the above results. 215 lineage-specifying genes and enrichments for motifs in TF families such as RFX, Neurogenin-216 ATO and NFAT decreased along the trajectory from hormone-high to -low cells, whereas 217 enrichment for motifs in TF families such as FOS/JUN, XBP and CCAAT (NFYA) increased along 218 the trajectory (Figure 2e).

219 Structurally-related TFs often have similar motifs, and thus to assign motifs to specific TFs we 220 correlated promoter-accessibility of TFs within the structural subfamily with motif enrichments 221 across the state trajectory (see Methods)⁴⁸. Motif enrichment for the FOS/JUN family correlated 222 with the promoter accessibility of FOSL1. FOSL2 and JUND across cells (Figure 2f), supporting 223 a role for these specific TFs in hormone-low cell regulation. Similarly, motif enrichment for the 224 Neurogenin-ATO subfamily correlated with promoter accessibility of NEUROD1, supporting a role 225 for this TF in hormone-high cell regulation (Supplementary Figure 8a). While we did not observe 226 strong correlations between RFX motif enrichment and promoter accessibility of RFX genes, the 227 overall high promoter accessibility of RFX6 and RFX3 and known function in endocrine cells⁴⁹⁻⁵¹ 228 suggests they are TFs likely involved in hormone-high cell regulation (Supplementary Figure 8b).

229

Enrichment of islet cell type- and state-specific regulatory sequences for diabetes- and fasting glycemia-associated genetic variants

Variants associated with complex diseases and physiological traits are enriched within *cis*regulatory sequences^{1,52}. More specifically, genetic variants influencing diabetes and fasting

234 glucose level are enriched in pancreatic islet regulatory elements^{15–17,53}. However, these 235 enrichments based on ensemble data obscure the potential role of islet cell type- and state-236 specific regulation in these traits. Using our islet cell type- and state-resolved accessible 237 chromatin profiles, we sought to determine the enrichment of genetic variants associated with 238 type 1 and 2 diabetes^{10,54} and diabetes-related quantitative phenotypes^{13,55–59} as well as other complex traits and disease for calibration^{60–67}. We first determined the enrichment of variants in 239 240 accessible chromatin sites for each islet cell type and state using stratified LD score regression^{68,69} (see Methods). We observed significant enrichment (FDR<.1) of fasting glucose (FG) level and 241 242 T2D association for both INS^{high} and INS^{low} beta cell states (T2D INS^{high} Z=4.45 g-value=.001, 243 INS^{low} Z=4.00 q=.004; FG INS^{high} Z=3.93 q=.004, INS^{low} Z=3.34 q=.027), as well as enrichment of body-mass index (BMI) for SST^{high} delta cells (Z=3.50 q=.027) (Figure 3a). We also observed 244 245 suggestive enrichment (P<.01) of 2hr glucose level adjusted for BMI for both alpha cell states (GCG^{high} Z=2.45 P=.007, GCG^{low} Z=2.40 P=.008), and T2D and fasting proinsulin level for GCG^{low} 246 247 alpha cells (PI: Z=2.64, P=.004; T2D: Z=2.40 P=.008), although these enrichments did not pass 248 multiple test correction.

249 In these analyses, we again noted evidence for differences in enrichments between the hormone-250 high and -low states of endocrine cells (Figure 3a). To further resolve the heterogeneity of genetic 251 association enrichment patterns, we used a novel framework to test the enrichment of genetic 252 association signal genome-wide within accessible chromatin profiles of single cells (see 253 Methods). We applied this approach to genetic association data for T2D and fasting glucose level, 254 as well as negative control traits major depressive disorder and systemic lupus erythematosus (Figure 3b). We observed marked heterogeneity among beta cells in enrichment estimates for 255 fasting glucose-associated variants, whereby cells in the INS^{high} state had significantly stronger 256 enrichment than cells in the INS^{low} state (INS^{high} median Z=2.42, INS^{low} median Z=1.13, P<2.2x10⁻ 257 258 ¹⁶) (Figure 3b). We further examined heterogeneity by calculating the average enrichment 259 estimates for cells binned across the 'pseudo-state' trajectory (see Figure 2), which revealed a clear pattern of decreasing enrichment for fasting glucose-associated variation across pseudo-260 state moving from INS^{high} to INS^{low} beta cells (Figure 3b). Conversely, for T2D we observed 261 enrichment for beta cells that was more consistent across INS^{high} and INS^{low} beta cells, as well as 262 across the pseudo-state trajectory (INS^{high} median Z=0.48, INS^{low} median Z=0.51, P=0.84) (Figure 263 264 3b). In comparison, major depressive disorder and lupus showed no evidence for enrichment for 265 beta cells (all median Z<.001) (Figure 3b). Knowledge of state-specific effects of cell types on 266 specific phenotypes can then inform interpretation of association signals for those phenotypes: 267 for example, at the DGKB locus, variants associated with both fasting glucose level and T2D

268 overlapped a chromatin site with higher activity in INS^{high} beta cells, implicating this state-269 dependent regulatory sequence in mediating the association signal (Figure 3c).

- 270 Given our ability to map both complex trait and TF motif enrichments to single cells, we reasoned 271 that joint analysis of these data could provide insights into TFs and regulatory networks through 272 which genetic effects on these traits are mediated. We correlated single cell fasting glucose level and T2D enrichment z-scores with single cell TF motif enrichments from chromVAR³⁷, both across 273 274 all 14.2k islet cells as well as just the 7.2k beta cells (see Methods). Across all 14.2k cells, we 275 observed strong positive correlation between fasting glucose level and T2D enrichment and beta 276 cell lineage-specifying TF motifs (e.g. PDX1), and negative correlation with TF motifs regulating 277 other islet cell types (Figure 3d, Supplementary Figure 9, Supplementary Table 6). When next 278 considering only the 7.2k beta cells, we observed the strongest positive correlation between fasting glucose level and motifs in TF families enriched for INS^{high} beta cells (from Figure 2) such 279 as RFX (p=.12, P=2.58x10⁻²⁴), FOXA (p=.11, P=5.41x10⁻¹⁹), and MAF (p=.14, P=5.36x10⁻³²), and 280 negative correlation with INS^{low} beta cell TF motifs such as FOS/JUN and ATF (JUND p=-.23, 281 282 P=1.23x10⁻⁸⁵, ATF4 ρ =-.12, P=1.18x10⁻²³) (Figure 3d, Supplementary Table 6). Interestingly, for 283 T2D, both the strongest positive and negative correlations included motifs for TF families enriched 284 in INS^{low} beta cell such as CCAAT and CREB (NFYA ρ=.073, P=1.72x10⁻⁹, CREB1 ρ=.053, P=7.44x10⁻⁶) and FOS/JUN (FOS::JUN ρ =-.06, P=2.45x10⁻⁶) (Supplementary Figure 9, 285 286 Supplementary Table 6). Together these results provide state-resolved insight into the role of beta 287 cells and beta cell TFs in T2D risk and fasting glucose level.
- 288

Genome-wide predictions of variant effects on islet cell type- and state-specific regulatory sequence

291 Predicting the effects of non-coding genetic variants on regulatory activity remains a major 292 challenge, in large part because the sequence vocabularies that encode regulatory function differ 293 between cell types and states. Our cell type- and state-resolved accessible chromatin profiles 294 provided an ideal opportunity to apply machine learning to model these regulatory vocabularies 295 and use these models to predict the effects of genetic variants on putative regulatory sequences. We therefore used deltaSVM⁷⁰ to predict the effects of genetic variants from the Haplotype 296 Reference Consortium panel⁷¹ on chromatin accessibility in each endocrine cell type and cell state 297 298 (see Methods). We identified 543,537 variants genome-wide with predicted allelic effects 299 (FDR<.1), encompassing between 128k-210k variants (9.1%-14.8% of tested variants) per cell 300 type or state (Figure 4a, Supplementary Data 3).

301 To validate that our predictions captured true allelic effects on islet chromatin accessibility, we 302 first compared alpha and beta cell predictions to allelic imbalance in chromatin accessibility 303 measured directly from read count data at heterozygous variants in each sample (see Methods). 304 We found significant correlations between predicted allelic effects and allelic imbalance estimates for all alpha and beta cell states (GCG^{high} Spearman ρ =.261, P=3.27x10⁻⁴⁶, GCG^{low} ρ =.225, 305 P=4.38x10⁻¹⁰, INS^{high} ρ =.285, P=1.13x10⁻⁵³, INS^{low} ρ =.297, P=2.28x10⁻⁴⁰) (Figure 4b). We further 306 307 validated five likely causal T2D variants identified in fine-mapping studies and predicted to have 308 allelic effects on beta cell chromatin using gene reporter assays in the MIN6 beta cell line. In each 309 case, reporter assays showed significant allelic effects on enhancer activity that were directionally consistent with predictions (Figure 4c). We also compared predictions to chromatin accessibility 310 311 quantitative trait loci (caQTLs) previously identified in ensemble islet samples⁷². We observed 312 highly significant enrichment of caQTLs among variants with predicted effects on alpha or beta 313 cells (obs.=38.8%, exp.=23.6%, two-sided Fisher's exact P=1.64x10⁻⁶⁶) (Figure 4d). When sub-314 dividing predictions based on those with shared, cell type-specific (alpha, beta) or state-specific 315 (hormone-high, hormone-low) effects we observed significant enrichment of caQTLs only among 316 shared effect variants (Figure 4d), suggesting that islet caQTLs may have lower sensitivity for 317 variants with cell type- or state-specific effects.

318 We thus sought to further characterize genetic variants predicted to have cell type- and state-319 dependent effects on islet chromatin. For each category of variants, we performed motif 320 enrichment comparing sequences around the effect allele to the non-effect allele (see Methods). 321 Variants with state-specific effects tended to disrupt motifs for TF families such as NEUROD. 322 FOXA, MAF and RFX for hormone-high states (-log₁₀(P)=59.2, 56.0, 50.3, 20.6), and signaling-323 responsive TF families such as JUN/FOS and CREB for hormone-low states (-log₁₀(P)=107.6, 324 46.8) (Figure 4e). Similarly, variants with alpha or beta cell-specific effects tended to disrupt motifs 325 for lineage-defining TFs and TF families including GATA for alpha cells (-log₁₀(P)=24.8), and 326 NKX6 and PDX1 for beta cells $(-\log_{10}(P)=17.0, 13.0)$ (Figure 4e). In order to assign motifs to 327 specific TFs, we again examined promoter-accessibility of TFs within the structural TF subfamily⁴⁸ 328 (see Methods). For example, among GATA subfamily members only GATA6 had high promoter accessibility in alpha cells (GCG^{high}: 1.00, GCG^{low}: .97, INS^{high}: .21, INS^{low}: .13), suggesting that 329 330 GATA6 binding is likely disrupted in alpha cells by variants affecting the GATA motif. Similarly, 331 among NKX6 subfamily members, NKX6-1 and NKX6-3 had promoter accessibility in beta cells (NKX6-1 GCG^{high}: .78, GCG^{low}: .80, INS^{high}: .98, INS^{low}: 1.00; NKX6-3 GCG^{high}: 0, GCG^{low}: 0, 332

INS^{high}: .18, INS^{low}: .19), and among RFX family members RFX6 had promoter accessibility in
 hormone-high state cells (GCG^{high}: .93, GCG^{low}: .68, INS^{high}: 0.88, INS^{low}: .85) (Figure 4e).

335 Predictions of allelic effects are particularly important in interpreting the function of low frequency 336 non-coding variants, which are impractical to assay by standard approaches such as QTL 337 mapping without very large sample sizes. We thus evaluated whether our predictions could 338 prioritize lower frequency (defined as minor allele frequency [MAF]<.05) functional variants 339 involved in T2D risk. We compared T2D association at different p-value thresholds for lower 340 frequency variants with significant effects for any endocrine cell type, as well as for each cell type 341 individually, to background variants without predicted effects (see Methods). We observed 342 enrichment of genome-wide significant T2D associations among lower frequency variants with 343 predicted effects in any endocrine cell type compared to background (Figure 4f). When 344 considering effects in each cell type, we observed enrichment of T2D association among variants 345 with predicted effects in beta cells as well as delta cells, even down to sub-genome-wide 346 significant p-values (Figure 4f). We next highlighted specific low frequency, T2D risk variants with 347 predicted effects. At the IGF2BP3 locus, rs78840640 (MAF=.02) had allelic effects on beta cell 348 chromatin (INS^{high} beta q=.0015; INS^{low} beta q=.041), and fine-mapping data supported a causal 349 role in T2D (posterior probability [PPA]=.33) (Figure 4g). We confirmed in gene reporter assays 350 that this variant affected enhancer activity where the alternate (and T2D risk) allele G had reduced 351 activity (Figure 4c). We also observed predicted effects for rare T2D variants for example 352 rs186384225 (MAF=.0037) at TCF7L2 and rs571342427 (MAF=.0015) at INS-IGF2 353 (Supplementary Figure 10a-b). These results reveal that cell type-specific chromatin can provide 354 accurate functional predictions of lower frequency variants, enabling more effective interpretation 355 of genome sequence from patients and disease cohorts.

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357 Co-accessibility links distal regulatory variants to putative target genes in distinct islet cell 358 types and states

Defining the genes affected by regulatory element activity remains a major challenge, as enhancers can regulate gene activity over large, non-adjacent distances⁷³. A number of approaches have been developed to link regulatory elements to target genes including 3D chromatin architecture assays and correlation of accessible chromatin activity across multiple samples^{74,75}. While these approaches have different strengths, a common weakness is reliance on ensemble data and non-cell type-resolved information^{27,76}. Recently, a new approach was developed to link regulatory elements based on co-accessibility across single cells⁶, which has the potential to provide cell type-resolved enhancer-promoter relationships. We thus sought to leverage accessible chromatin profiles across thousands of islet cells to define co-accessibility between sites in specific cell types. For these analyses we again focused on alpha and beta cells where cell numbers (5,594 and 7,170 cells, respectively) gave us the most power to effectively derive co-accessibility maps.

371 To calibrate the extent to which co-accessibility reflected physical interactions between regulatory 372 elements, we first performed a distance-matched comparison between co-accessible sites 373 stratified by co-accessibility threshold to chromatin loops identified from Hi-C and promoter capture Hi-C (pcHi-C) assays in primary islets^{27,76}. We observed strong enrichment for pairs of 374 375 sites with co-accessibility scores >.05 in both alpha and beta cells for islet chromatin loops 376 identified from pcHi-C and Hi-C compared to sites that had no evidence for co-accessibility (Figure 377 5a, Supplementary Figure 11a-c). We therefore used this threshold (.05) to define co-accessibility. 378 through which we identified 593,769 co-accessible sites in alpha cells (Supplementary Data 4) 379 and 487,549 co-accessible sites in beta cells (Supplementary Data 5). There were 64,045 (alpha) 380 and 57,374 (beta) unique distal sites co-accessible with a gene promoter (median 2 promoters 381 per site), and 19,872 (alpha) and 19,269 (beta) unique gene promoters co-accessible with a distal 382 site (median 9 per gene in alpha, 6 in beta cells) (Supplementary Figure 11d-e).

383 Among co-accessible links to gene promoters, the majority (71.9%) were alpha or beta cell-384 specific, highlighting the value of single cell-resolved data for identifying putative cell type-specific 385 regulatory interactions. As an example of cell type-specific co-accessibility, the PDX1 promoter 386 had co-accessibility with 35 sites in beta cells, including a site over 500 kb distal that directly 387 coincided with an islet pcHi-C loop, only 7 of which were also found in alpha cells (Figure 5b). In 388 another example, at the ARX locus, 17 sites were co-accessible with the ARX promoter in alpha 389 cells, none of which were co-accessible in beta cells (Supplementary Figure 11f). Conversely, as 390 an example of shared co-accessibility across cell types, the NEUROD1 promoter was co-391 accessible with 52 and 47 chromatin sites in alpha and beta cells, respectively, of which 26 were 392 shared and several were over 500 kb distal (Supplementary Figure 11g).

Given heterogeneity in alpha and beta cell regulatory programs, we next cataloged co-accessible links between distal alpha and beta cell sites and gene promoters that had differential activity across and hormone-high and -low states (see Methods). We observed 25,012 (alpha) and 9,641 (beta) co-accessible links where both the distal site (unique distal sites: alpha=10,926, beta=7,958) and the gene promoter (unique promoters: alpha=1,951, beta=1,516) were differentially active between states in the same direction. State-dependent co-accessible links included both gene promoters active in the hormone-high state such as *INS*, *GCG*, *G6PC2*, and *NEUROD1*, and gene promoters active in the hormone-low state such as *FOSL1*, *FOSL2*, *CREB1*, and *CREB5*. We also identified genes with different isoform promoters co-accessible
with hormone-high and hormone-low dependent distal sites such as *GLIS3* (Supplementary
Figure 11h), suggesting these genes have distinct regulatory programs driving isoform-specific
activity across different cell states.

405 Distal sites with co-accessibility links to gene promoters harbored risk variants for T2D at many 406 loci, suggesting this approach can prioritize target genes of T2D risk variants in islets. We 407 observed one such example at the KCNQ1 locus, where an islet chromatin site located in intron 408 3 of KCNQ1 had beta cell-specific co-accessibility with the INS promoter over 500 kb distal and 409 harbored a causal T2D risk variant rs231361 (PPA=1)¹⁰. (Figure 5c). Published 4C data from the EndoC-βH1 human beta cell line⁷⁷ anchored on the *INS* promoter supported the existence of 410 411 physical interactions between this site and the INS promoter in beta cells (Supplementary Figure 412 12a). Interestingly, the site was more accessible in INS^{high} beta cells compared to INS^{low} beta 413 cells, and rs231361 was predicted to have state-specific effects on beta cell chromatin accessibility (INS^{high} beta FDR q=.060; INS^{low} beta FDR q=.40). Furthermore, rs231361 disrupted 414 415 an *RFX* family sequence motif, which itself was enriched in the INS^{high} beta cell state (Figure 5c, 416 also see Figure 2c). The KCNQ1 locus is also associated with quantitative measures of insulin 417 secretion^{78–81} and fasting glucose level⁸², suggesting that the mechanism of action of this locus 418 on T2D risk is likely mediated through beta cell function in a state-dependent manner.

419 To validate the effects of the chromatin site containing rs231361 on distal regulation of INS in 420 beta cells, we deleted a 2.6 kb region flanking the site in human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing, generating three bi-allelic deletion clones 421 422 $(KCNQ1^{\Delta Enh})$ (Figure 5c, Supplementary Figure 12b-c). We then differentiated the three 423 KCNQ1^{ΔEnh} clones as well as two unedited control clones into beta cells using an established 424 protocol⁸³ with minor modifications (see Methods). Analysis of cultures at the beta cell stage 425 revealed similar numbers of INS⁺ cells in KCNQ1^{ΔEnh} and control clones (91.1±4.02% vs 426 94.6±2.11%) (Supplementary Figure 12d), suggesting that the enhancer deletion had no effect 427 on beta cell differentiation. Further supporting this conclusion, similar numbers of cells expressed the beta cell marker NKX6-1 in *KCNQ1*^{ΔEnh} and control cultures (Supplementary Figure 12e). 428 429 Likewise, NKX6-1 mRNA levels were similar (FDR=0.98) (Supplementary Figure 12f). Next, we 430 determined effects of the enhancer deletion on gene expression in *cis.* interrogating all genes 431 within 2 Mb of the enhancer. We observed a significant decrease in the expression of INS 432 (P= 3.02×10^{-4} ; FDR=0.066) and *CDKN1C* (P= 1.96×10^{-4} ; FDR=0.059) in *KCNQ1*^{Δ Enh} compared to 433 control cells, whereas other genes in the region showed no difference in expression (all P>.05; 434 note *KCNQ1* itself was not expressed) (Figure 5d). Analysis of INS protein by 435 immunofluorescence staining, flow cytometry, and ELISA further revealed reduced INS protein 436 abundance in *KCNQ1*^{Δ Enh} beta cells (Figure 5e-g). In contrast, beta cell NKX6-1 protein levels 437 were not affected (Supplementary Figure 12e), confirming specific effects of the enhancer 438 deletion on *INS* mRNA and protein expression in beta cells.

439

440 A resource of islet cell type and state regulatory programs to annotate T2D risk variants

441 Together our results provide a multi-tiered reference of islet cell type and cell state regulatory 442 programs through which non-coding genetic variants can be comprehensively annotated. As most 443 genetic risk variants for diabetes are non-coding, this resource can be used to interpret their 444 molecular mechanisms. We therefore annotated the islet cell type-specific regulatory programs 445 of T2D risk variants using fine-mapping 'credible sets' of 402 risk signals^{10,84}. Fine-mapped 446 credible set variants at 239 risk signals mapped within an islet cell type chromatin site and, at 97 447 of these 239 risk signals, credible set variants also had both predicted allelic effects and co-448 accessibility with a gene promoter (Supplementary Table 7).

449 Genes co-accessible with fine-mapped credible set T2D variants in islet cell type chromatin were 450 enriched for biological processes related to protein localization and transport, stress response, 451 cell cycle, and signal transduction (Supplementary Table 8). Co-accessible genes also included 452 numerous genes involved in monogenic diabetes such as INS, KCNJ11, ABCC8, HNF1A, 453 HNF4A, GCK, and NKX2-2, as well as TFs in structural families with lineage- and state-specific 454 motif enrichments (from Figures 1-2) such as NKX6-1, NFATC2 and RFX6. At 22 T2D loci, fine-455 mapped variants at multiple independent risk signals were co-accessible with the same gene. 456 providing independent support for the role of these genes in T2D. For example, at the KCNQ1 457 locus (11p15), fine-mapped variants at four T2D risk signals (including rs231361 above) were in 458 sites co-accessible with the INS promoter (Supplementary Figure 13a), and at the CDKN2A/B 459 locus (9p21), fine-mapped variants at five T2D signals were in sites co-accessible with the 460 CDKN2A, MTAP and DMRTA1 promoters (Supplementary Figure 13b). In other examples, at the 461 DGKB locus (7p21), fine-mapped variants at two T2D signals were in sites co-accessible with the 462 DGKB promoter (Supplementary Figure 13c), and at 7p13 fine-mapped variants at two T2D 463 signals were in sites co-accessible with the GCK promoter (Supplementary Figure 13d).

In order to effectively provide these data to the community to facilitate hypothesis testing and mechanistic discovery, we developed a publicly-accessible web portal and database (https://www.t2depigenome.org) which contains processed data and islet cell type annotations generated in this study, as well as epigenomic data from islets and other diabetes-relevant tissues available in other published studies (Supplementary Figure 14a-f). In addition, the portal enables the user to query genetic variants for their respective islet cell type annotations.

470

471 Discussion

472

473 Our findings provide a roadmap demonstrating how single cell accessible chromatin data derived 474 from disease-relevant primary tissue can be utilized to define the cell types, cell states, *cis* 475 regulatory elements and genes involved in the genetic basis of complex disease. Over 400 known 476 risk signals for T2D have been identified, yet only a handful have been characterized molecularly^{16,18,27,85–91}. Identifying the genes affected by non-coding risk variants is paramount for 477 478 understanding the molecular pathways dysregulated in disease and can inform therapeutic target 479 discovery. Candidate target genes of T2D risk signals derived using single cell co-accessibility 480 were highly enriched for disease-relevant biological processes, and many of these genes serve 481 as compelling targets for mechanistic study. At the KCNQ1 locus, co-accessibility data and hESC 482 beta cell models revealed that a long-range enhancer harboring a causal T2D variant affects 483 insulin expression and protein levels in beta cells. Mutations of INS cause monogenic diabetes and tandem repeats in *INS* affect T1D risk^{92,93}, but to our knowledge *INS* has not been directly 484 485 implicated in T2D risk. The KCNQ1 locus has a complex contribution to T2D with 10 signals in the region that each confer independent risk¹⁰, four of which had beta cell co-accessibility with the 486 487 INS promoter. We therefore speculate that the KCNQ1 locus mediates T2D risk through multiple 488 long-range regulatory effects on *INS*, in addition to *CDKN1C* and other genes.

489 Single cell accessible chromatin uncovered heterogeneity in the regulatory programs of endocrine 490 cell types, revealing cell type- and state-resolved effects of genetic variants on fasting glucose 491 and T2D risk. Previous studies have characterized heterogeneity in beta cell physiological function, cell surface markers, and gene expression^{22,94,95}. The heterogeneity we observed in the 492 493 beta cell epigenome mapped to cellular states related to insulin production and stress-related 494 signaling response²³, and we identified TFs likely driving cell state-specific functions. Integrating 495 single cell heterogeneity with large-scale genetic association data revealed that genetic variants 496 modulating fasting glucose levels likely act through the insulin-producing beta cell state, whereas

497 genetic risk of T2D is mediated through both the insulin-producing state and other functional beta
498 cell state(s). Moreover, given similar heterogeneity in the epigenomes of alpha and delta cells,
499 our results reveal that endocrine cell regulation involves both lineage-specific programs as well
500 as an additional layer of state-specific programs common across endocrine cell types.

In summary, we present the most detailed characterization of islet cell type and state regulatory programs to date and a web resource to query these programs. When combined with genetic finemapping and genome sequencing, this resource will greatly enhance efforts to define molecular mechanisms of T2D risk. More broadly, our study provides a framework for using single cell chromatin from disease-relevant tissues to interpret the genetics and biological mechanisms of complex disease.

507

508 Methods

509

510 Islet processing and nuclei isolation

511 We obtained islet preparations from three donors for the Integrated Islet Distribution Program 512 (IIDP) (Supplementary Table 1). Islet preparations were further enriched using zinc-dithizone 513 staining followed by hand picking. Studies were given exempt status by the Institutional Review 514 Board (IRB) of the University of California San Diego.

515

516 Generation of snATAC-seq libraries

517 Combinatorial barcoding single nuclear ATAC-seq was performed as described previously^{2,4} with 518 several modifications as described below. For each donor (N=3), approximately 3,000 islet 519 equivalents (IEQ, roughly 1,000 cells each) were resuspended in 1 ml nuclei permeabilization 520 buffer (10mM Tris-HCL (pH 7.5), 10mM NaCl, 3mM MgCl₂, 0.1% Tween-20 (Sigma), 0.1% 521 IGEPAL-CA630 (Sigma) and 0.01% Digitonin (Promega) in water) and homogenized using 1ml 522 glass dounce homogenizer with a tight-fitting pestle for 15 strokes. Homogenized islets were 523 incubated for 10 min at 4°C and filtered with 30 µm filter (CellTrics). Nuclei were pelleted with a 524 swinging bucket centrifuge (500 x g, 5 min, 4°C; 5920R, Eppendorf) and resuspended in 500 µL 525 high salt tagmentation buffer (36.3 mM Tris-acetate (pH = 7.8), 72.6 mM potassium-acetate, 526 11 mM Mg-acetate, 17.6% DMF) and counted using a hemocytometer. Concentration was 527 adjusted to 4500 nuclei/9 µl, and 4,500 nuclei were dispensed into each well of a 96-well plate. 528 Glycerol was added to the leftover nuclei suspension for a final concentration of 25 % and nuclei were stored at -80°C. For tagmentation, 1 µL barcoded Tn5 transposomes^{4,96} were added using 529

530 a BenchSmart[™] 96 (Mettler Toledo), mixed five times and incubated for 60 min at 37 °C with 531 shaking (500 rpm). To inhibit the Tn5 reaction, 10 µL of 40 mM EDTA were added to each well 532 with a BenchSmart[™] 96 (Mettler Toledo) and the plate was incubated at 37 °C for 15 min with 533 shaking (500 rpm). Next, 20 µL 2 x sort buffer (2 % BSA, 2 mM EDTA in PBS) were added using 534 a BenchSmart[™] 96 (Mettler Toledo). All wells were combined into a FACS tube and stained with 535 3 µM Drag7 (Cell Signaling). Using a SH800 (Sony), 20 nuclei were sorted per well into eight 96-536 well plates (total of 768 wells) containing 10.5 µL EB (25 pmol primer i7, 25 pmol primer i5, 200 537 ng BSA (Sigma), PMID: 29434377). Preparation of sort plates and all downstream pipetting steps 538 were performed on a Biomek i7 Automated Workstation (Beckman Coulter). After addition of 1 µL 539 0.2% SDS, samples were incubated at 55 °C for 7 min with shaking (500 rpm). We added 1 µL 540 12.5% Triton-X to each well to guench the SDS and 12.5 µL NEBNext High-Fidelity 2× PCR 541 Master Mix (NEB). Samples were PCR-amplified (72 °C 5 min. 98 °C 30 s. (98 °C 10 s. 63 °C 30 s. 542 72 °C 60 s) × 12 cycles, held at 12 °C). After PCR, all wells were combined. Libraries were purified 543 according to the MinElute PCR Purification Kit manual (Qiagen) using a vacuum manifold (QIAvac 544 24 plus, Qiagen) and size selection was performed with SPRI Beads (Beckmann Coulter, 0.55x 545 and 1.5x). Libraries were purified one more time with SPRI Beads (Beckmann Coulter, 1.5x). 546 Libraries were quantified using a Qubit fluorimeter (Life technologies) and the nucleosomal 547 pattern was verified using a Tapestation (High Sensitivity D1000, Agilent). The library was 548 sequenced on a HiSeg2500 sequencer (Illumina) using custom sequencing primers, 25% spike-549 in library and following read lengths: 50 + 43 + 40 + 50 (Read1 + Index1 + Index2 + Read2).

550

551 Raw data processing and quality control

For each read, we first appended the cell barcode metadata to the read name. The cell barcode consisted of four pieces (P7, I7, I5, P5) which were derived from the index read files. We first corrected for sequencing errors by calculating the Levenshtein distance between each of the four pieces and a whitelist of possible sequences. If the piece did not perfectly match a whitelisted sequence, we took the best matching sequence if it was within 2 edits and the next matching sequence was at least 2 additional edits away. If none of these conditions were met, we discarded the read from further analyses.

559 We trimmed Nextera adapter sequences from sequence reads using trim_galore (v.0.4.4, 560 https://github.com/FelixKrueger/TrimGalore) with default parameters. We used bwa mem⁹⁷ 561 (v.0.7.17-r1188) to align reads to the hg19 reference genome with the options '-M -C'. We then 562 used samtools⁹⁸ to filter out reads that did not align to the autosomes or sex chromosomes and

563 low mapping quality reads (MAPQ<30). We used samtools fixmate (v.1.6) to perform additional 564 checks for FR proper pairs and removed secondary or unmapped reads. We used the 565 MarkDuplicates tool from picard (https://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/) to remove duplicates on 566 a per-barcode basis with 'BARCODE TAG' option. For each experiment, we used a Gaussian 567 mixture model on log-transformed read depths to separate barcodes with a 99% probability of 568 belonging to the high read distribution, likely representing real cells, from those in the low read 569 distribution, likely representing background reads. We then set an additional threshold of 1000 570 read depth, reasoning that low read cells would contribute additional noise to clustering.

571

572 Cluster analysis for snATAC-seq

573 We split the genome into 5 kb windows and removed windows overlapping blacklisted regions 574 from ENCODE (https://sites.google.com/site/anshulkundaje/projects/blacklists). For each 575 experiment, we then created a sparse m x n matrix containing read depth for m cells passing read 576 depth thresholds at *n* windows. For further quality checks, we performed initial clustering for each 577 experiment individually using scanpy⁹⁹ (v.1.4). We extracted highly variable windows using mean 578 read depths and normalized dispersion. After normalization to a uniform read depth and log-579 transformation of read depth, we regressed out the log-transformed total read depth for each cell. 580 We then performed PCA and extracted the top 50 principal components. We used these 581 components to calculate the nearest 30 neighbors using the cosine metric, which were 582 subsequently used for UMAP dimensionality reduction with the parameters 'min dist=0.3' and 583 Louvain clustering with the parameters 'resolution=1.5'. For each experiment, we removed 2,709 584 cells that were in clusters corresponding to low read depth.

585 After removing these cells, we used similar methods to cluster cells from all experiments together 586 with the following modifications. We extracted highly variable windows across cells from all 587 experiments. Since read depth was a technical covariate specific to each experiment, we 588 regressed this out on a per-experiment basis. We used mutual nearest neighbors correction³⁰ 589 (mnnpy, v.0.1.9.4) to adjust for batch effects across experiments with the parameters 'k=10'. We 590 then performed clustering as described above. We used chromatin accessibility at windows 591 overlapping promoters for marker hormones (GCG, INS-IGF2, SST, and PPY) to assign cell types 592 for the endocrine islet cell types (alpha, beta, delta, and gamma). We performed re-clustering on 593 non-endocrine islet clusters and used chromatin accessibility at windows around marker genes 594 from single cell RNA-seq to assign cluster labels. In our clustering results, we identified a cluster 595 of 694 alpha cells that were mostly derived from a single donor (96% of cells from Islet 1). Because

596 we were uncertain whether this represented technical or biological differences, we excluded this 597 cluster from further analyses. We also excluded a cluster of 192 cells likely representing lower 598 guality cells as it had low intra-cluster similarity and lower fraction of reads in peaks.

599

600 Comparison to bulk and sorted islet ATAC-seq

601 We obtained raw sequence data of ATAC-seq for 42 bulk islet samples from four prior studies^{14,27,28,72} and 4 bulk pancreas samples from ENCODE. We re-processed all samples with 602 603 a uniform pipeline: we aligned all reads to hg19 with bwa mem, identified and removed duplicate 604 reads with picard MarkDuplicates, and called peaks with MACS2 (v.2.1.2) with the parameters 605 '-shift -100 -extsize 200 -keep-dup all'. For the three islet snATAC-seg samples, we used 606 aggregated per-barcode deduplicated reads to call peaks. We defined all possible accessibility 607 peaks by filtering out ENCODE blacklisted regions and retaining merged peaks on autosomal 608 chromosomes found in more than one sample. We then calculated the read coverage at all 609 possible accessibility peaks and TPM-normalized the counts. We calculated the Spearman 610 correlation between normalized read coverages and used hierarchical clustering to assess 611 similarity between bulk islet samples. To check peak call overlap between aggregated single cell 612 ATAC and bulk ATAC data, we split peaks based into promoter proximal (+/-500 bp from 613 GENCODE transcript TSS) and distal peaks based on promoter overlap. For each cluster, we 614 calculated the percentage of aggregate peaks that overlapped merged autosomal bulk peaks and 615 individual sample-level autosomal bulk peaks.

616 We also obtained raw sequence data of ATAC-seq from flow-sorted pancreatic cells (alpha, beta, acinar, ductal) from two prior studies^{35,36} and re-processed all samples with the uniform pipeline 617 618 described above. For alpha, beta, and exocrine cells from islet snATAC-seq, we split reads on a 619 per-donor and per-cluster basis to obtain read files. Because total read depth was highly variable 620 across sorted samples, we merged autosomal peaks after filtering out ENCODE blacklist regions. 621 We calculated read coverage in each sample for each merged peak and TPM normalized count 622 values. We then calculated the Spearman correlation between normalized read coverages and 623 used hierarchical clustering to assess similarity between sorted and snATAC-seq islet samples.

624

625 Identifying marker peaks of chromatin accessibility

To identify peaks for each cell type, we aggregated reads for all cells within a cluster or subcluster. We shifted reads aligning to the positive strand by +4 bp and reads aligning to the negative

628 strand by -5 bp, extended reads to 200 bp, and centered reads. We used MACS2¹⁰⁰ to call peaks 629 of chromatin accessibility for each aggregated read file with the following settings '--nomodel --630 keep-dup all'. We removed peaks that overlapped ENCODE blacklisted regions¹⁰¹. We then used 631 bedtools¹⁰² to merge peaks from all clusters and sub-clusters to create a superset of islet 632 regulatory peaks.

We generated a sparse $m \ge n$ binary matrix containing binary overlap between m peaks in the superset of islet regulatory peaks and n cells. We then calculated t-statistics of peak specificity for each cluster or sub-cluster through linear regression models. We used binary encodings to specify which donor a given cell came from as covariates in the model. For each peak and cluster, we used binary encoding of read overlap with the peak as the predictor and whether a cell was in the cluster (1 if yes, -1 if no) as the outcome.

639

640 Matching islet snATAC-seq with scRNA-seq clusters

641 To verify that clusters definitions and labels from single cell chromatin accessibility data matched 642 those from single cell expression data, we obtained published single cell RNA-seq data from 12 non-diabetic islet donors²³. Because cluster definitions for all cell types were not available, we re-643 644 analyzed the data and performed clustering analyses. Starting with the gene expression matrix, 645 we first performed quality control steps to remove potential doublets. For each marker gene of 646 different cell types GCG (alpha), INS (beta), SST (delta), PPY (gamma), CTRB2 (acinar), CFTR 647 (ductal), PLVAP (endothelial), PDGFRB (stellate), and C1QC (immune) we used a Gaussian 648 mixture model on log-transformed read depth to determine whether a cell expressed the gene 649 (high distribution) or not (low distribution). We verified that cells expressing more than one marker 650 gene had on average higher read depth and expressed more genes (Supplementary Figure 3a,b). 651 We regressed out covariates including sex, BMI, and read depth, and separated cells by donor of origin. We then used MNN correction³⁰ to adjust for batch effects. After scaling the data, we 652 653 performed PCA and used the top 50 principal components to calculate the 10 nearest neighbors 654 using the cosine metric. We used the nearest neighbor map for UMAP dimensionality reduction 655 with the parameters 'min dist=0.3' and to perform Louvain clustering with the parameters 656 'resolution=1' (Supplementary Figure 3c). We used a similar regression framework as the 657 chromatin accessibility marker peaks to calculate t-statistics for gene specificity for each cluster 658 (Supplementary Figure 3d,e) with the following modifications: we included sex, BMI, and log-659 transformed read coverage as covariates and used log₂ read counts for each gene instead of 660 binary peak coverage as the predictor.

661

662 We used the Spearman correlation between t-statistics from islet snATAC-seg and scRNA-seg 663 data to match up clusters. Specifically, we took the top 100 (sorted by descending t-statistic) most 664 specific promoter peaks for each cluster or sub-cluster to define a list of genes for comparison. 665 To facilitate one-to-one comparisons between the two datasets, for this analysis only we defined 666 promoter peaks as peaks within +/-500 bp of a GENCODE v19 gene TSS. This list contained 966 667 genes, which is less than 100x13 (number of clusters) because 1) marker genes were sometimes 668 shared between sub-clusters and 2) not all genes were present in the expression dataset. For 669 each cluster from accessible chromatin data, we then compared t-statistics of genes in the list with t-statistics for all clusters from single cell expression using the Spearman correlation, which 670 671 is robust to very specific marker genes such as insulin which could otherwise bias these 672 comparisons.

673

674 Motif enrichment with chromVAR

We used chromVAR³⁷ (v.1.5.0) to calculate TF motif-associated difference between cell 675 676 populations. We first calculated counts per peak per cell matrix and then input it to chromVAR. 677 We filtered cells with minimal reads less than 1500 (min depth=1500) and peaks with fraction of 678 reads less than 0.15 (min in peaks=0.15) by using 'filterSamplesPlot' function from chromVAR. 679 We also corrected GC bias based on 'BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19' using 'addGCBias' 680 function. Then we used the Jaspar motifs from 'getJasparMotifs' function with default parameter 681 and calculated the deviation z-scores for each TF motif in each cell by using 'computeDeviations' 682 function. High-variance TF motifs across all cell types were selected by 'computeVariability' 683 function using cut-off 1.2 (N=111). For each of these variable motifs, we calculated the mean z-684 score for each cell types and normalized the values to 0 (minimal) and 1 (maximal).

685

686 Comparison of alpha and beta cell states

To identify TF motifs variable between alpha or beta cell states, we performed two-sided Student's T-test on motif z-scores between cells labeled as alpha 1 (GCG^{high}) and alpha 2 (GCG^{low}) cells or beta 1 (INS^{high}) and beta 2 (INS^{low}). We adjusted raw p-values with the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure to obtain FDR. Motifs with FDR less than 0.05 and absolute difference (Δ) in z-score (between GCG^{high}/GCG^{low} alpha or INS^{high}/INS^{low} beta) greater than 0.5 were defined as differential motifs (N=46 for beta cells, N=109 for alpha cells and N=111 motifs combined). For these 111

693 motifs that were variable between alpha or beta cell states, we summarized the mean z-scores over GCG^{high}, GCG^{low}, INS^{high} and INS^{low} cells and plotted the normalized value. In order to check 694 695 how motif usage changed along the trajectories, we smoothed motif z-scores along the trajectory 696 for alpha and beta cells separately at step=0.05, using the shrinkage version of cubic regression 697 spline ('gam' function from the R package 'mgcv' (v1.8.28) with parameter bs='cs'). We then 698 smoothed motif enrichment profiles and normalized values for visualization. We identified specific 699 TFs likely driving enrichments for a given motif through high Spearman correlation (σ >.9) between 700 motif enrichment and promoter accessibility across the trajectory.

- 701 To analyze differential promoter accessibility between alpha and beta cell states, we first 702 calculated the binary promoter by cell matrix containing information about read overlap per cell in 703 a promoter peak. Based on this matrix and cell cluster labels, we performed two-sided Fisher's 704 exact tests between hormone-high and hormone-low states of alpha, beta, and delta cells for 705 each promoter against the null hypothesis that the promoter had similar accessibility across 706 states. We used Bonferroni adjusted p-values (adjusted p-value<0.01) for alpha and beta cells 707 with the sign of the log₂ transformed odds ratio to identify genes whose promoter had either 708 increased or decreased accessibility across states. Differentially-accessible promoters were 709 further input into Enrichr¹⁰³ (v.1.0) to perform GO term enrichment analysis on biological 710 processes terms (2018 version). To identify more specific processes, we filtered for gene ontology 711 terms that contained less than 150 total genes.
- To plot the profile of each promoter across pseudo-state, we first binned alpha cells or beta cells to 100 bins along the state trajectory. For each bin, we calculated the fraction of cells had a peak in the promoter region for each promoter. Then we smoothed these 100 fractions using the 'loess' function from R. The smoothed data were then normalized and clustered using k-medoids clustering, with k determined by optimum average silhouette width using the 'pamk' function from the R 'fpc' package (v.2.1.11.1). Genes attributed to the promoters in each cluster were then used to perform GO term enrichment analysis.
- In order to compare with previous published data, we collected gene lists from Xin et al.²³. We obtained four gene lists for Beta 1-4 subpopulations (Supplementary Table S3 in Xin et al.). For each gene list, we performed gene set enrichment analysis¹⁰⁴ using significantly differential promoters (from Figure 2a) as the gene lists to assess whether alpha and beta cell states showed concordant differences (i.e. differential promoters for GCG^{low} and GCG^{high} alpha to compare beta cell states and vice versa for alpha cells).

725

726 Ordering alpha and beta cells along a trajectory and finding dynamic peaks

727 We used Cicero⁶ (v.1.1.5) to order all alpha and beta cells along separate trajectories. We started 728 with a sparse binary matrix encoding overlap between the superset of islet regulatory peaks and 729 cells. We extracted all cells belonging to alpha cell sub-clusters and filtered out peaks that were 730 not present in alpha cells. We used the aggregate nearby peaks function from Cicero to find 731 peaks within 10 kb and merging their counts to make an aggregate matrix. We then chose peaks 732 to define progress with the aggregated matrix by using the differentialGeneTest function from monocle2⁴⁷ to search for peaks that were differentially accessible between the GCG^{high} and 733 GCG^{low} states (FDR<.1), while modeling total peaks in each cell as a covariate. We then used 734 735 DDRTree to reduce dimensions and ordered cells along the trajectory, setting the root position as 736 the state with the highest glucagon promoter accessibility. We grouped cells into 10 bins based 737 on their trajectory values. Then we repeated the same procedure for beta cells, with the 738 modification of setting the root position by insulin promoter accessibility.

739

740 **GWAS** enrichment with aggregate peak annotations

We used cell type specific (CTS) LD score regression^{69,105} (v.1.0.0) to calculate enrichment for GWAS traits. We obtained GWAS summary statistics for quantitative traits related to diabetes^{13,55–} ⁵⁹, diabetes¹⁰, and control traits including psychiatric and autoimmune diseases^{60–67}. We prepared summary statistics to the standard format for LD score regression. We used peaks from aggregated reads for each cluster as a binary annotation, and the superset of islet regulatory peaks as the background control. For each trait, we then used CTS LD score regression to estimate the enrichment coefficient of each annotation jointly with the background control.

748

749 **GWAS** enrichment with single cell annotations

We determined genetic enrichment of accessible chromatin profiles in individual cells. We first split the genome into 5 kb windows and removed windows overlapping blacklisted regions from ENCODE. We created a sparse $m \ge n$ matrix containing read depth for m cells passing read depth thresholds at n windows, and extracted highly variable (HV) windows using mean read depths and normalized dispersion. We then retained genetic variants mapping in HV windows with minor allele frequency [MAF]>.05 mapping outside of the major histocompatibility complex region (MHC, defined by chr6:25,000,000-35,000,000 in hg19 coordinates). 757 As the accessible chromatin profiles from an individual cell are sparse, we used the bagging 758 algorithm in the make cicero cds function from Cicero⁶ to aggregate cells into groups of 10. For 759 each aggregate cell group, we created a binary annotation based on mapped reads for cells in 760 the aggregate. We also created baseline annotations consisting of pooled islet cell type 761 accessible chromatin sites and the 53 baseline v1.1 annotations from LD score regression⁶⁸. We 762 then annotated all variants in HV windows with the aggregate cell and baseline annotations. We 763 determined enrichment of HV variant annotations for fasting glucose level⁵⁶, type 2 diabetes¹⁰, and two control traits, major depressive disorder⁶⁶ and lupus⁶³ GWAS data. In order to correct for 764 765 the confounding effects of linkage disequilibrium (LD), we performed LD pruning of GWAS data 766 for each trait by first sorting variants based on p-value and iteratively removing variants in LD 767 (r²>.5, 1000 Genomes European subset) with a more significant variant. To then perform 768 enrichment tests on pruned GWAS data we used a previously described method polyTest¹⁰⁶ to 769 jointly model the annotation for each aggregated cell group with the baseline pooled site and 53 770 annotations from LD score baseline v1.1. We then calculated a z-score for each aggregate cell 771 based on the effects and standard error from the resulting model. As the grouping method for 772 Cicero uses bootstrap aggregation, a given cell was potentially assigned to multiple aggregates. 773 We therefore calculated an enrichment z-score for each individual cell by averaging enrichment 774 z-scores for each cell across its respective aggregates.

To identify TFs correlated with trait enrichments, we calculated the Spearman correlation coefficient between fasting glucose or type 2 diabetes single cell GWAS enrichment z-scores and chromVAR motif enrichment z-scores using data from all cells or within beta cells. Within each trait, we used Bonferroni correction to adjust correlation p-values for multiple tests.

779

780 Mapping allelic imbalance within clusters

781 Genomic DNA for genotyping was extracted either from spare islet nuclei (donors 1 and 2), or 782 acinar cells (donor 3). Genomic DNA was extracted using the DNeasy Blood & Tissue Kits 783 (Qiagen) according to manufacturer's protocol for purification of total DNA from animal blood or 784 cells. Extracted genomic DNA was used for genotyping on the Illumina Infinium Omni2.5-8 v1.4 785 genotyping array. For genotypes that passed guality filters (non-missing, MAF>.01 in European 786 or African populations in 1KGP), we then imputed genotypes into the HRC reference panel r1.1¹⁰⁷ 787 using the Michigan Imputation Server¹⁰⁸. Post-imputation, we removed genotypes with low 788 imputation quality (R^2 <.3). As an additional filter to remove potential false positive heterozygote 789 genotype calls, we removed variants that had greater than 20 read coverage without reads for

both alleles. Using cluster assignments for each cell, we split mapped reads for each donor into cluster-specific reads. For cluster-specific reads, we used the WASP pipeline¹⁰⁹ (v.0.3.0) to correct for reference mapping bias at heterozygous variants. We then used a two-sided binomial test to assess imbalance at heterozygous variants, assuming a null hypothesis where both alleles were equally likely to be observed. For each variant, we then calculated combined imbalance *z*scores across donors using Stouffer's *z*-score method and used sequencing depth to weight statistics from each sample.

797

798 Predicting genetic variant effects on chromatin accessibility

We used deltaSVM⁷⁰ to predict the effects of non-coding variants on chromatin accessibility in 799 800 each cell type and cell state. We obtained sequences underlying promoter-distal (>+/-500 bp from 801 GENCODEv19 transcript TSS for protein coding and long non-coding RNA genes) peaks for each 802 cluster, used 'genNullSegs' to generate background sequences, and then trained a model for 803 each cluster with 'gkmtrain' with default settings. For all possible combinations of 11mers, we then 804 used 'gkmpredict' to predict the effects of 11mers based on the trained model for the cluster. For 805 each SNP in the HRC reference panel r1.1¹⁰⁷ overlapping an islet cell type accessible chromatin 806 site, we created 19 bp sequences around each allele (9 bp flanking either side of the variant 807 base). We then used the 'deltasym.pl' script to calculate deltaSVM scores for differential 808 chromatin accessibility between variant alleles. We built a null distribution by randomly permuting 809 the effects of 11mers and re-calculating deltaSVM scores and using the parameters of this null 810 distribution, we calculated z-scores for each variant. From variant z-scores we calculated p-values 811 and then q-values and considered variants significant at FDR<.1.

812 For variants with predicted effects on chromatin accessibility in alpha or beta cells, we categorized 813 them based on their effects across cell type and states. Variants with significant effects in both 814 alpha cell states but neither beta cell state were classified as "alpha" (n=10,564) and vice versa 815 for "beta" (n=12,833). Variants with significant effects in GCG^{high} alpha and INS^{high} beta states but not GCG^{low} alpha and INS^{low} beta states were classified as "hormone-high" (n=15,769), and vice 816 817 versa for "hormone-low" (n=12,471). Variants with significant effects in all four alpha and beta cell 818 states were classified as "shared" (n=31,331). We also determined the concordance in the 819 direction of effect for variants across alpha and beta cell states. For the set of variants with 820 significant effects in each state, we calculated the fraction of variants where the allele with the 821 higher predicted effect had a higher predicted effect in other states. We determined significance 822 using a two-sided binomial test assuming an expected fraction of 50%. We assessed enrichment

of predicted effect variants in alpha or beta cell states for islet caQTLs⁷² compared to any islet caQTL in alpha or beta cell sites using two-sided Fisher's exact tests. We then stratified variants with predicted effects by category (hormone-high, hormone-low, alpha, or beta) and assessed enrichment of caQTLs with predicted effects within each category with two-sided Fisher's exact tests.

- 828

829 Luciferase gene reporter assays

830 We selected fine-mapped T2D risk variants with deltaSVM predictions (rs7482891, rs34584161, 831 rs17712208, rs78840640, rs4679370) to test for allelic differences in enhancer activity in MIN6 832 beta cells using luciferase reporter assays. We cloned sequences containing reference alleles in 833 the forward orientation upstream of the minimal promoter of firefly luciferase vector pGL4.23 834 (Promega) using KpnI and SacI restriction sites. For rs7482891 (TH) and rs34584161 (RNF6). 835 we cloned alternative alleles in the forward direction in the same manner as the reference alleles. 836 For rs17712208 (PROX-AS1), rs78840640 (IGF2BP3), and rs4679370 (SLC12A8), we 837 introduced the alternative alleles via site-directed mutagenesis (SDM) using the NEB Q5 Site-838 Directed Mutagenesis kit (New England Biolabs). We designed primers using NEBaseChanger 839 (v.1.2.8), and we used 10ng of the reporter plasmid containing the reference allele as a template 840 in site-directed mutagenesis using Q5 Hot Start High-Fidelity master mix (New England Biolabs). 841 4uL of the SMD PCR product was treated with KLD mix (New England Biolabs) and transformed 842 into DH5a E. coli. We miniprepped plasmids using the Qiaprep Spin Mini kit (Qiagen) and verified 843 plasmid sequences through Sanger sequencing with the RV3 primer.

- 844
- 845 SDM primers:
- 846
- 847 rs17712208 (PROX-AS1)
- 848 SDM primer (left): GGAGCTATGGaTAATTATTGACTG
- 849 SDM primer (right): ATTAACGATCCAGTCAGC
- 850
- 851 rs78840640 (*IGF2BP3*)
- 852 SDM primer (left): ATCAGATTTGgTGAGAAAGAAGAAC
- 853 SDM primer (right): GCCCATCAATTCTGAGCATG
- 854
- 855 rs4679370 (SLC12A8)

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856
      SDM primer (left): ATCAGTAAGCcCCTAAAGCCTG
857
      SDM primer (right): TAACTTGAGGCAATGGTG
858
859
      Construct primers:
860
861
      rs7482891 (TH)
862
      construct primer (left): AGAGGTCTGAGGAGCCCTTG
863
      construct primer (right): TAGACCCTGCAGAGCCACAG
864
865
      rs34584161 (RNF6)
866
      construct primer (left): AAGCTGACAGACAGAGGGTCA
867
      construct primer (right): GGGCTTCATAAACATCAGCA
868
869
      rs17712208 (PROX-AS1)
870
      construct primer (left): AAGCCCACCTTCGTAAACAT
871
      construct primer (right): TGAAGTAGCTCCCAGTGAAGG
872
873
      rs78840640 (IGF2BP3)
874
      construct primer (left): CACAATGAAGCCATGTCCTTT
875
      construct primer (right): TCAGCTTTCTATTTTGGGGGAAA
876
877
      rs4679370 (SLC12A8)
878
      construct primer (left): TCAATGTCTACCTCAAAATTCTTTGT
879
      construct primer (right): CACTGCAGCCTTAAACTCCTG
880
```

We seeded MIN6 cells into 6 (or 12)-well trays at 1 million cells per well. At 80% confluency, we co-transfected cells with 500ng of the experimental firefly luciferase vector pGL4.23 containing the alternative allele, reference allele, or an empty vector and 50ng of the vector pRL-SV40 (Promega) using the Lipofectamine 3000 reagent (Thermo Fisher). We performed all transfections were performed in triplicate. Six hours after transfection, we replaced MIN6 growth media consisting of modified DMEM containing 1.5g/L sodium bicarbonate supplemented with 4% heat inactivated FBS, gentamicin, and 50uM beta-mercaptoethanol. We lysed cells 48 hours after

transfection and assayed for Firefly and Renilla luciferase activities using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter system (Promega). We normalized Firefly activity to Renilla activity and compared it to the empty vector, and normalized results were expressed as fold change compared to empty vector control per allele. We used a two-sided Student's T-test to compare the luciferase activity between the two alleles.

893

894 **TF motif enrichment within predicted effect variant categories**

895 For each cell- or state-resolved category (hormone-high, hormone-low, alpha, beta) of variants 896 with predicted effects, we extracted 29 bp sequences (+/-14 bp around each SNP) corresponding 897 to the higher or lower predicted effect allele. Here, we reasoned that extracting sequences for a 898 larger window around SNPs would alleviate bias for the analysis against motifs with longer PWMs. We then used AME from the MEME suite¹¹⁰ (v.4.12.0) to predict motif enrichment, using position 899 weight matrices from the latest non-redundant motif library JASPAR 2018³⁸. We used sequences 900 901 from the higher effect allele as the test set and sequences from the lower effect allele as the 902 background set. Because motif for TFs within the same structural family can potentially show 903 similar enrichment, we used the TFClass database (http://tfclass.bioinf.med.uni-goettingen.de/) 904 to group motifs by TF family. To determine which TF was most likely driving the enrichment, we 905 used min-max normalized promoter accessibility within TF family members with a promoter peak 906 in alpha or beta cells and highlighted corresponding cell type patterns of promoter accessibility.

907

908 Enrichment of predicted variants for lower frequency variants

909 We obtained genome-wide summary statistics of T2D from the DIAMANTE consortium¹⁰. We 910 estimated LD patterns for variants with MAF<.05 using HRC imputed genotype data from samples 911 in the UK Biobank (UKB, March 2018 release). We randomly selected 10,000 non-related UKB 912 samples of European ancestry and calculated LD between lower frequency variants using PLINK 913 (v.1.90b6.7). We then LD-pruned variants with MAF<.05 in DIAMANTE T2D data by first sorting variants based on their p-values and then removed variants in $r^2 > .5$ with a more significant variant. 914 915 Using the LD-pruned results, we then determined enrichment of variants with predicted effects on 916 endocrine cell types. We created sets of variants that had significant effects (FDR<.1) in any 917 endocrine cell type, as well as variants with FDR<.1 for each cell type. For alpha, beta and delta 918 cells, we considered variants with effects in either cell state. We then created a background set 919 of variants as those without significant effects in any endocrine cell type (all FDR>.1). We set a 920 series of p-value thresholds $(5x10^{-8}, 1x10^{-7}, 1x10^{-6}, 1x10^{-5}, 1x10^{-4}, 1x10^{-3})$, and at each threshold

921 determined the fraction of variants in each category as well as background variants reaching that 922 p-value threshold to calculate a fold-enrichment based on these fractions compared to 923 background. We determined significance of the enrichments by using a two-sided binomial test 924 of the counts for each category using the background fraction as the expected count.

925

926 Chromatin co-accessibility with Cicero

927 We used Cicero⁶ to calculate peak-peak co-accessibility scores for alpha and beta cells. Like the 928 trajectory analysis, we started with a sparse binary matrix encoding overlap between the superset 929 of islet regulatory peaks and cells. We extracted all cells belonging to alpha cell sub-clusters and 930 filtered out peaks that were not present in alpha cells. We then used the make cicero cds function 931 to aggregate cells based on the 50 nearest neighbors from the UMAP reduced dimensions. We 932 then used Cicero to calculate co-accessibility scores using a window size of 1 Mb and a distance 933 constraint of 500 kb, leaving other parameters at the default setting. We then repeated the same 934 procedure for beta cells. We used two-sided Fisher's exact tests to assess whether distal co-935 accessible sites had higher accessibility in either hormone-high or -low states, and defined 936 significance at FDR<.1. To compare promoter-distal co-accessibility links that had higher 937 accessibility in the same direction (either both hormone-high or hormone-low), we used differential 938 promoters between states (from the previous analysis in Figure 2).

939

940 Enrichment of islet Hi-C and pcHi-C loops in co-accessible peaks

We obtained sets of merged Hi-C loops²⁷ and high-confidence promoter capture Hi-C (pcHi-C) 941 loops⁷⁶ from public datasets. For Hi-C loops, we used anchors directly from the loops. For pcHi-942 943 C loops, we used a 5 kb window centered on the interaction point as the anchor. To compare 944 alpha and beta cell co-accessibility with Hi-C, we then used direct overlap of alpha or beta cell 945 peaks with anchors. For different binned thresholds of co-accessibility in .05 increments, we then 946 calculated distance-matched odds ratios for co-accessible peaks containing Hi-C loops versus 947 non-co-accessible peaks (co-accessibility<0). We then used two-sided Fisher's exact tests to 948 assess significance. We repeated the procedure for high confidence pcHi-C loops for both cell 949 types.

950

951 Annotating fine-mapped diabetes risk variants

- 952 We annotated risk signals in compiled fine-mapping data for type 2 diabetes from the DIAMANTE 953 consortium and Biobank Japan studies. For the Biobank Japan T2D GWAS, we constructed LD-954 based 99% genetic credible sets for main signals at 22 novel loci that were distinct from the 955 DIAMANTE study. We used the East Asian subset of the 1000 Genomes Project to define credible set variants by taking all variants in at least low LD (r^2 >.1) with the index variant in a 5 Mb window. 956 957 We used effect size and standard error estimates to calculate Bayes factors for each variant. For 958 each signal, we then calculated the posterior probability causal probability (PPA) that each variant 959 drives the association by dividing its Bayes factor by the sum of Bayes factors for all variants in 960 the signal's credible set. We then sorted each signal by descending PPA and retained variants 961 that added up to a cumulative probability of .99 to derive 99% credible sets.
- For each signal, we identified candidate casual variants that were both in the 99% credible set and had a posterior causal probability greater than .01. We intersected these candidate variants with accessible chromatin sites for each islet cell type and cell state, and then identified variants with predicted effects on the overlapping cell types/states. We finally annotated variants based on overlap with sites co-accessible to gene promoters. For target genes linked to diabetes risk variants we determined enriched gene sets using GSEA.
- 968

969 Analysis of *INS* promoter 4C data

We downloaded and re-analyzed published 4C data of the *INS* promoter for the beta cell line EndoC- β H1⁷⁷ with 4C-ker¹¹¹. We first created a reduced genome using 25 bp flanking sequences of BgIII cutting sites. For each of the 3 replicates, we then aligned reads to this reduced genome using bowtie2¹¹² (v.2.2.9) with the parameter "-N 0 -5 20". We then extracted counts for each fragment from the SAM file after removing self-ligated and undigested fragments, and we used the bedGraph files as input to the R.4Cker package. We generated normalized counts and called high interaction regions using the 'nearBaitAnalysis' function with the parameter 'k=10'.

977

978 CRISPR/Cas9-mediated enhancer deletion

H1 hESCs (WA01; purchased from WiCell; NIH registration number: 0043) were seeded onto
 Matrigel®-coated six-well plates at a density of 50,000 cells/cm² and maintained in mTeSR1
 media (StemCell Technologies) for 3-4 days with media changed daily. hESC research was

approved by the University of California, San Diego, Institutional Review Board and EmbryonicStem Cell Research Oversight Committee.

984 To generate clonal homozygous KCNQ1 enhancer deletion hESC lines, two sgRNAs targeting 985 the enhancer were designed and cloned into Px333-GFP, a modified version of Px333 (#64073, 986 Addgene). The plasmid was transfected into H1 hESCs with XtremeGene 9 (Roche). 24 hours 987 later, 5000 GFP⁺ cells were sorted into a well of six-well plate. Individual colonies that emerged 988 within 5-7 days after transfection were subsequently transferred manually into 48-well plates for 989 expansion, genomic DNA extraction, PCR genotyping, and Sanger sequencing. sgRNA oligos 990 and genotyping primers are listed below. For control clones, we transfected the Px333-GFP 991 plasmid into H1 hESCs and subjected the cells to the same workflow as H1 hESCs transfected 992 with sgRNAs.

993 sgRNA oligos:

- 994 KCNQ1_sgRNA1-s: ACTGTCGGGCCCATCTGCCA
- 995 KCNQ1_sgRNA1-as: TGGTTGGATCTGTTGCGGGG
- 996 Genotyping primers:
- 997 Span-F: AGTGGGGCCATGAACAATAA
- 998 Span-R: GCCTGAGTTTCCGTGACTGT
- 999

1000 Pancreatic differentiation of enhancer-deleted hESCs clones

1001 hESCs were differentiated in a suspension-based format using rotational culture with some 1002 modifications to a published protocol⁸³. Undifferentiated hESCs were accretated by preparing a 1003 single cell suspension in mTeSR media (STEMCELL Technologies) at 1x10⁶ cells/mL and 1004 overnight culture in six-well ultra-low attachment plates (Costar) with 5.5ml per well on an orbital 1005 rotator (Innova2000, New Brunswick Scientific) at 100 rpm. The following day, undifferentiated aggregates were washed in DMEM/F12 (VWR) and differentiated using a multistep protocol with 1006 daily media changes and continued orbital rotation at either 100 rpm or at 108 rpm from days 8 1007 1008 to 28. In addition to 1% GlutaMAX[™] (Gibco) and 15 mM (days 0-10) or 20 mM (days 11-28) 1009 glucose, MCDB 131 media (Life Technologies) was supplemented with 0.5% (days 0-5) or 2% 1010 (days 6-14) fatty acid-free BSA (Proliant), 1.5 g/L (days 0-5 and days 11-28) or 2.5 g/L (days 6-1011 10) NaHCO₃ (Sigma-Aldrich), and 0.25 mM (days 3-10) ascorbic acid (Sigma-Aldrich).

Human Activin A, mouse Wnt3a, and human KGF were purchased from R&D Systems. Other
media components included ascorbic acid (Sigma-Aldrich), Insulin-Transferrin-SeleniumEthanolamine (ITS-X; Thermo Fisher Scientific), ZnSO₄ (Sigma-Aldrich), heparin (Sigma-Aldrich),
retinoic acid (RA) (Sigma-Aldrich), SANT-1 (Sigma-Aldrich), 3,3',5-Triiodo-L-thyronine (T3)
(Sigma-Aldrich), the protein kinase C activator TPB (EMD Chemicals), the BMP type 1 receptor
inhibitor LDN-193189 (Stemgent), the TGFβ type 1 activin like kinase receptor ALK5 inhibitor,
ALK5 inhibitor II (Enzo Life Sciences), N-Acetyl-L-cysteine (Sigma), R428 (SelleckChem), Trolox

- 1019 (EMD Millipore), γ-secretase inhibitor XX (Calbiochem).
- 1020
- 1021 Day 0: MCDB 131, 100ng/mL Activin, 25ng/mL mouse Wnt3a
- 1022 Day 1 Day 2: MCDB 131, 100ng/mL Activin A
- 1023 Day 3 Day 5: MCDB 131, 50ng/mL KGF
- Day 6 Day 7: MCDB 131, 50ng/mL KGF, 0.25 μM SANT-1, 1 μM RA 100 nM LDN-193189, 200
 nM TPB, 0.5% ITS-X
- 1026 Day 8 Day 10: MCDB 131, 2ng/mL KGF, 0.25 μM SANT-1, 0.1 μM RA, 200 nM LDN-193189,
 100 nM TPB, 0.5% ITS-X
- Day 11 Day 13: MCDB 131, 0.25 μM SANT-1, 0.05 μM RA, 100 nM LDN-193189, 1 μM T3, 10
 μM ALK5i II, 10 μM ZnSO₄, 10 μg/mL heparin, 0.5% ITS-X
- 1030 Day 14 Day 21: MCDB 131, 100 nM LDN-193189, 1 μM T3, 10 μM ALK5i II, 10 μM ZnSO₄, 10
- 1031 μ g/mL heparin, 100nM γ -secretase inhibitor XX, 0.5% ITS-X
- 1032 Day 21 Day 28: MCDB 131, 100 nM LDN-193189, 1 μM T3, 10 μM ALK5i II, 10 μM ZnSO₄, 10
- 1033 µg/mL heparin, 1mM N-Acetyl-L-cysteine, 10µM Trolox, 2µM R428 , 0.5% ITS-X
- 1034

1035 Characterization of hESC-derived cultures at beta cell stage (day 28)

1036 Flow cytometry analysis

hESC-derived cell aggregates were dissociated into a single-cell suspension with Accutase[™]
(Innovative Cell Technologies) at 37 °C for 5 min. Accutase[™] was quenched with FACS buffer
(0.2% (w/v) BSA in PBS). Cells were then pelleted, fixed, and permeabilized with
Cytofix/Cytoperm Fixation/Permeabilization Solution (BD Biosciences) for 20 min at 4 °C, and

washed twice in BD Perm/Wash[™] Buffer. We incubated cells with AF647-conjugated mouse antiNkx6.1 (BD Biosciences) and PE-conjugated rabbit anti-INS (Cell Signaling Technology) antibody
in 50 µl BD Perm/Wash[™] Buffer for 1 hour at 4 °C. Following three washes in BD Perm/Wash[™]
Buffer, cells were analyzed on a FACSCanto II (BD Biosciences) cytometer.

1045 Immunofluorescence staining and quantification of immunofluorescence signal

1046 hESC-derived cell aggregates were washed twice with PBS and then fixed with 4% 1047 paraformaldehyde in PBS for 30 min at room temperature. Following three washes in PBS, 1048 aggregates were incubated in 30% sucrose at 4 °C overnight, frozen in Optimal Cutting 1049 Temperature Compound (Sakura Finetek USA), and sectioned at 10 µm with a CM3050S cryostat 1050 Sections were washed with PBS. permeabilized, blocked (Leica). and with 1051 Permeabilization/Blocking Buffer for 1 h at room temperature. Primary and secondary antibodies 1052 were diluted in Permeabilization/Blocking Buffer. We incubated sections overnight at 4°C with 1053 primary antibodies, and then secondary antibodies for 30 min at room temperature. The following 1054 primary antibodies were used: mouse anti-NKX6-1 (LifeSpan BioSciences, 1:250), guinea pig 1055 anti-INS (Dako, 1:1000). Secondary antibodies (1:1000) were Cy3-, Alexafluor488-conjugated 1056 antibodies raised in donkey against mouse and guinea pig (Jackson Immuno Research 1057 Laboratories). We acquired images on a Zeiss Axio-Observer-Z1 microscope with a Zeiss 1058 AxioCam digital camera.

1059 mRNA sequencing

1060 For each clone, we collected aggregates from two independent batches of differentiation and 1061 lysed them in RLT Buffer. We then extracted total RNA using the RNeasy Micro Kit (QIAGEN) 1062 following the manufacturer's instructions. mRNA libraries were prepared using KAPA mRNA 1063 Hyper Prep kit (KAPA) and single-end 75 bp reads were sequenced using HiSeq4000 (Illumina). 1064 We used STAR (v2.5.3a) to map reads to the hg19 genome, allowing for up to 10 mismatches. 1065 We retained reads aligned uniquely to one genomic location for subsequent analysis. We then 1066 created input count files for DESeq2 with htseq-count from the HTSeq python package (v.0.9.0) 1067 and tested for differential gene expression using DESeq2 (v1.10.1) with default parameters, using 1068 differentiation batch as a technical covariate in our analysis. We considered genes with an 1069 FDR<.1 as significantly differentially expressed.

1070 Insulin content measurement

We washed hESC-derived cell aggregates with PBS, resuspended in 50μl of 0.1% SDS TE buffer
and sonicated for 3 cycles of 30 sec on/ 30 sec off each using a Bioruptor on the high setting. We

then immersed the lysate in a solution of 2% HCl and 80% ethanol overnight at 4°C and
centrifuged at max speed for 10 min at 4°C. We collected the supernatant and measured insulin
content using a human insulin ELISA kit (ALPCO). We resuspended the pellets in 50µl TE buffer

- 1076 and measured DNA content with Nanodrop, and normalized insulin content to DNA content.
- 1077

1078 Figure Legends

- 1079
- 1080 Main Figures
- 1081

1082 Figure 1. Pancreatic islet cell type accessible chromatin defined using snATAC-seq. (a) 1083 Clustering of accessible chromatin profiles from 14,239 pancreatic islet cells identifies 13 distinct 1084 clusters. Cells are plotted using the first two UMAP components, and clusters are assigned cell 1085 type identities based on promoter accessibility of known marker genes for each cell type. (b) 1086 Promoter accessibility in a 1 kb window around the TSS for selected endocrine and non-endocrine 1087 marker genes for each profiled cell. A cell is colored if it had promoter accessibility for the marker gene listed in the bottom right corner of each subplot, and otherwise is grey. (c) Genome browser 1088 plots showing aggregate read density (scaled to uniform 1×10^5 read depth, range: 1-10) for cells 1089 within each cell type cluster at hormone gene loci for endocrine islet cell types: GCG (alpha), INS-1090 1091 IGF2 (beta), SST (delta), and PPY (gamma). The promoter region for each gene is highlighted, 1092 and the number of cells for each cell type cluster is listed in parenthesis. (d) Spearman correlation 1093 between t-statistics of marker genes based on promoter accessibility (snATAC-seg) or gene 1094 expression (scRNA-seq) using the top 100 most specific gene promoters from each islet snATAC-1095 seg cluster. (e) Normalized chromVAR motif enrichment values for 111 TF sequence motifs that 1096 have variable activity across clusters. We collapsed multiple clusters for each cell type into a 1097 single cluster (e.g. combining beta 1 and beta 2 into a single beta cell cluster). Subtype-specific 1098 motif enrichment is presented in Figure 2. Position weight matrices and names are shown for 1099 sequence motifs for TF families enriched across different endocrine and non-endocrine cell types. Enrichment z-scores for FOXA1 and PDX1 motifs in each cell are projected onto UMAP 1100 1101 coordinates to the right of the main heatmap.

1102

Figure 2. Heterogeneity in alpha and beta cell accessible chromatin and regulatory
 programs. (a) Gene promoters with significantly differential chromatin accessibility between sub-

1105 clusters of alpha cells (left) and beta cells (right). Genes with increased promoter accessibility in 1106 alpha 1 (GCG^{high}) and beta 1 (INS^{high}) sub-clusters include GCG (glucagon) for alpha cells and 1107 INS (insulin) for beta cells, as well as genes such as ABCC8, G6PC2, GCK and SLC30A8. 1108 Conversely, genes with increased promoter accessibility in alpha 2 (GCG^{low}) and beta 2 (INS^{low}) 1109 sub-clusters include genes such as FOSL1. FOSL2, and ATF3. (b) Genes with increased promoter accessibility in the hormone-high (INS^{high}, GCG^{high}) or hormone-low (INS^{low}, GCG^{low}) 1110 1111 state of one cell type were significantly enriched for genes with increased hormone-high or 1112 hormone-low activity in the other cell type, respectively (left); Genes with differential promoter 1113 accessibility across alpha and beta cell states were enriched for genes in beta cell subsets (β sub. 1114 1-4) previously identified in an islet single cell gene expression study. (right) **FDR<.01, 1115 *FDR<.10. (c) Gene ontology terms for biological processes related to glucose response and 1116 hormone secretion were enriched in genes with higher promoter accessibility in INS^{high} and GCG^{high} cells, whereas terms for stress response, insulin signaling and cell cycle were enriched 1117 in genes with higher promoter accessibility in INS^{low} and GCG^{low} cells. (d) Row-normalized 1118 1119 chromVAR enrichments for 111 TF motifs showing variable enrichment across alpha or beta cells. 1120 We observed motifs enriched for different sub-clusters including RFX family members (RFX2-5) for GCG^{high} alpha and INS^{high} beta cells, and FOS/JUN family members for GCG^{low} alpha and 1121 1122 INS^{low} beta cells. Individual cell enrichment z-scores of a representative RFX (RFX3) and 1123 FOS/JUN (FOS::JUN) motif are plotted on UMAP coordinates, and the violin plots below each 1124 UMAP plot show enrichment values (median: center line, boxplot limits: guartiles) within each 1125 alpha and beta state. (e) Ordering of alpha and beta cells on a trajectory using high GCG/INS-1126 IGF2 promoter accessibility as the anchor point with Cicero. Plots show cells binned across this 1127 trajectory from left to right, where the top shows the percentage of cells in the hormone-high state 1128 in a given bin, colored bars above the heatmap represent individual cells with their binary clusters 1129 in their positions across each trajectory, and the heatmap shows chromVAR enrichments for 1130 motifs in bins across each trajectory. (f) Motifs in the FOS/JUN family show increasing enrichment 1131 across the alpha and beta cell trajectory. Genes in the FOS/JUN family with promoter accessibility 1132 patterns that match the motif enrichment patterns (Spearman correlation>.9) are highlighted (in 1133 blue and starred).

1134

Figure 3. Enrichment of islet single cell accessible chromatin for diabetes and related trait
 genetic association data. (a) Cell type specific LD score regression enrichment z-scores for
 diabetes-related quantitative endophenotypes (top), type 1 and 2 diabetes (middle), and control

1138 traits (bottom) for islet snATAC-seq clusters. **FDR<.01 *FDR<.1. (b) Single cell enrichment z-1139 scores for fasting glucose level, type 2 diabetes, major depressive disorder, and lupus projected 1140 onto UMAP coordinates (left panels), boxplot showing z-score enrichment distribution per cell 1141 type and state (middle panels), and z-score enrichment distribution split into 10 bins based on 1142 beta cell trajectory value (right panels). All boxplots show median (center line) and upper and 1143 lower quartiles (box limits). (c) Genome browser shot of the DGKB locus which is associated with 1144 both type 2 diabetes and fasting glucose level. Candidate causal variants fall in an enhancer with higher accessibility in INS^{high} beta cells and with dynamic chromatin accessibility decreasing 1145 1146 across the beta cell trajectory, consistent with the beta cell enrichment patterns for fasting glucose 1147 level. (d) Correlation between single cell fasting glucose (FG) level enrichments and TF motif 1148 enrichments from chromVAR across all 14.2k cells (left) and 7.2k beta cells (right). Across all 1149 cells. FG level is positively correlated with beta cell TF motifs such as PDX1 and NKX6-1 and 1150 negatively correlated with alpha cell TF motifs such as GATA. Within beta cells, FG level is positively correlated with TF motifs enriched in the INS^{high} state such as RFX, NRL/MAF, and 1151 FOXA, and negatively correlated with TF motifs enriched in the INS^{low} state such as JUND and 1152 1153 NFE2.

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1155 Figure 4. Genetic variants with islet cell type- and state-specific effects on chromatin 1156 accessibility. (a) Percentage of HRC reference panel r1.1 variants in any endocrine cell type 1157 peak (n=1,411,387 total) that had significant deltaSVM predictions at FDR<.1 for the reference 1158 (ref) or alternate (alt) allele in different endocrine cell types and states. (b) Spearman correlation 1159 comparing deltaSVM score to chromatin accessibility allelic imbalance z-scores using variants 1160 with significant deltaSVM predictions for alpha and beta states. (c) Luciferase gene reporter 1161 assays of five fine-mapped T2D variants with predicted beta cell effects in MIN6 cells. All tested 1162 variants (n=3) had significant effects in gene reporter assays and were directionally consistent 1163 with deltaSVM effects (highlighted with a circle around the allele with higher predicted effect). 1164 Data shown are mean ± 95% confidence interval. Two-sided Student's T-test *P<.05 **P<.01 1165 ***P<.001. (d) Enrichment of ensemble islet caQTLs for SNPs with significant deltaSVM effects 1166 in alpha and beta cells (left) and categorized based on shared, cell type- and state-specific 1167 deltaSVM effects on alpha and beta cells (right). Two-sided Fisher's exact test. ns, not significant. 1168 (e) Variants with predicted cell type- and state-specific effects on alpha and beta cells, where size 1169 indicates magnitude of the deltaSVM z-score and color indicates the effect allele. Ref=blue. 1170 alt=red (left). TF motif families enriched in sequences surrounding the effect allele compared to

1171 the non-effect allele for each variant category (middle). Promoter accessibility patterns of genes 1172 in in enriched TF motif families. TFs with promoter accessibility patterns that match TF motif 1173 enrichment patterns are highlighted in blue and starred (right). (f) Enrichment of low frequency 1174 and rare variants with significant effects on islet chromatin for T2D association at different p-value 1175 thresholds. Data shown are enrichment ± 95% confidence interval. Two-sided binomial test 1176 *P<.05. (g) Low-frequency T2D-associated variant rs78840640 at the IGF2BP3 signal has a high 1177 causal probability (PPA=0.33), overlaps peaks in both beta cell states, and is predicted to have 1178 allelic effects in beta cells.

1179 Figure 5. Chromatin co-accessibility links cell type enhancers and diabetes risk variants 1180 to target genes. (a) Distance-matched odds that beta cell co-accessibility links overlap islet pcHi-1181 C chromatin loops at different co-accessibility threshold bins. (b) Beta cell (top) and alpha cell 1182 (middle) co-accessibility between pairs of accessible chromatin sites and high-confidence 1183 promoter capture Hi-C interactions from bulk islets (bottom) anchored at the PDX1 promoter. (c) 1184 Beta cell co-accessibility anchored on an enhancer within KCNQ1 harboring causal T2D variant 1185 rs231361 (PPA=1) shows distal links to the INS promoter as well as other non-promoter sites. This enhancer has an accessible peak call in the INS^{high} beta cell state but not the INS^{low} state 1186 1187 and has dynamic accessibility across the beta cell state trajectory. rs231361 disrupts a sequence 1188 motif for RFX, which itself is enriched in INS^{high} beta cells, has dynamic enrichment across the beta cell trajectory, and is predicted to have allelic effects on INS^{high} beta cells (deltaSVM z-score 1189 *FDR<.1). We performed CRISPR/Cas9-mediated deletion of the 2.6 kb genomic region flanking 1190 this enhancer (highlighted in grey) in hESCs (KCNQ1^{ΔEnh}). (d) Differential expression analysis of 1191 1192 genes within 2 Mb of the KCNQ1 enhancer in beta cell stage cultures (day 28) from KCNQ1^{Δ Enh} 1193 (n=6: 3 clones each differentiated two times) and control (n=2: 1 clone differentiated two times) hESC clones. *INS* and *CDKN1C* mRNA levels are significantly reduced in *KCNQ1*^{ΔEnh} compared 1194 1195 to control cells, while other genes in the region show no significant difference in expression. Data 1196 are shown as transcripts per million (TPM). (e) Representative immunofluorescence staining for INS (green) and NKX6-1 (red) with DAPI staining (blue) on beta cell stage KCNQ1^{AEnh} and control 1197 1198 aggregates. Scale bar, 50µm. (f) Histogram showing INS fluorescence intensity by flow cytometry 1199 (left panel) and quantification of INS median fluorescence intensity (MFI, right panel) in beta cell stage cultures from *KCNQ1*^{ΔEnh} (n=9; 3 clones each differentiated three times) and control (n=6; 1200 1201 2 clones each differentiated three times) cells. (g) Insulin content in beta cell stage cultures from 1202 KCNQ1^{AEnh} (n=9; 3 clones each differentiated three times) and control (n=6; 2 clones

differentiated three times) clones. Data are shown as mean ± SEM. * p < 0.05, *** p<0.001, ns,
not significant by two-sided Student's T-test.

1205

1206 Acknowledgements

1207

1208This work was supported by NIH R01DK114650 and U01DK105554 (sub-award) to K.G.,1209R01DK068471 and U01DK105541 to M.S., U01DK120429 to K.G. and M.S., and by the UC San1210Diego School of Medicine to the Center for Epigenomics. Data from the UK Biobank was accessed

- 1211 under application 24058. We thank Ileana Matta for preparation of RNA-seq libraries.
- 1212

1213 Conflict of Interest

- 1214
- 1215 The authors have no conflict of interest to disclose.
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1217 Author Contributions

K.J.G., D.U.G, and M.Sa. conceived of and supervised the research in the study; K.J.G., D.U.G.,
M.Sa., J.C., C.Z, and Z.C. wrote the manuscript; J.C. performed analyses of single cell and
genetic data; C.Z., M.Sc and J.W. performed hESC experiments; Z.C. performed analyses of
single cell data; J.Y.H. performed single cell assays and genotyping; S.H., A.D. and M.O.
performed reporter experiments; Y.Q. performed analyses of 4C data; Y.Sui performed analyses
of hESC data; Y.Sun and P.K. developed and processed data for the epigenome database; R.F.
contributed analyses of single cell data; S.P. contributed to the development of single cell assays.

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1227 Data Availability

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Processed data and annotations will be made available at www.t2depigenome.org, and raw sequence data will be deposited in GEO prior to publication. All other source data are either included in the study or available from the corresponding authors upon request.

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Beta cell trajectory





