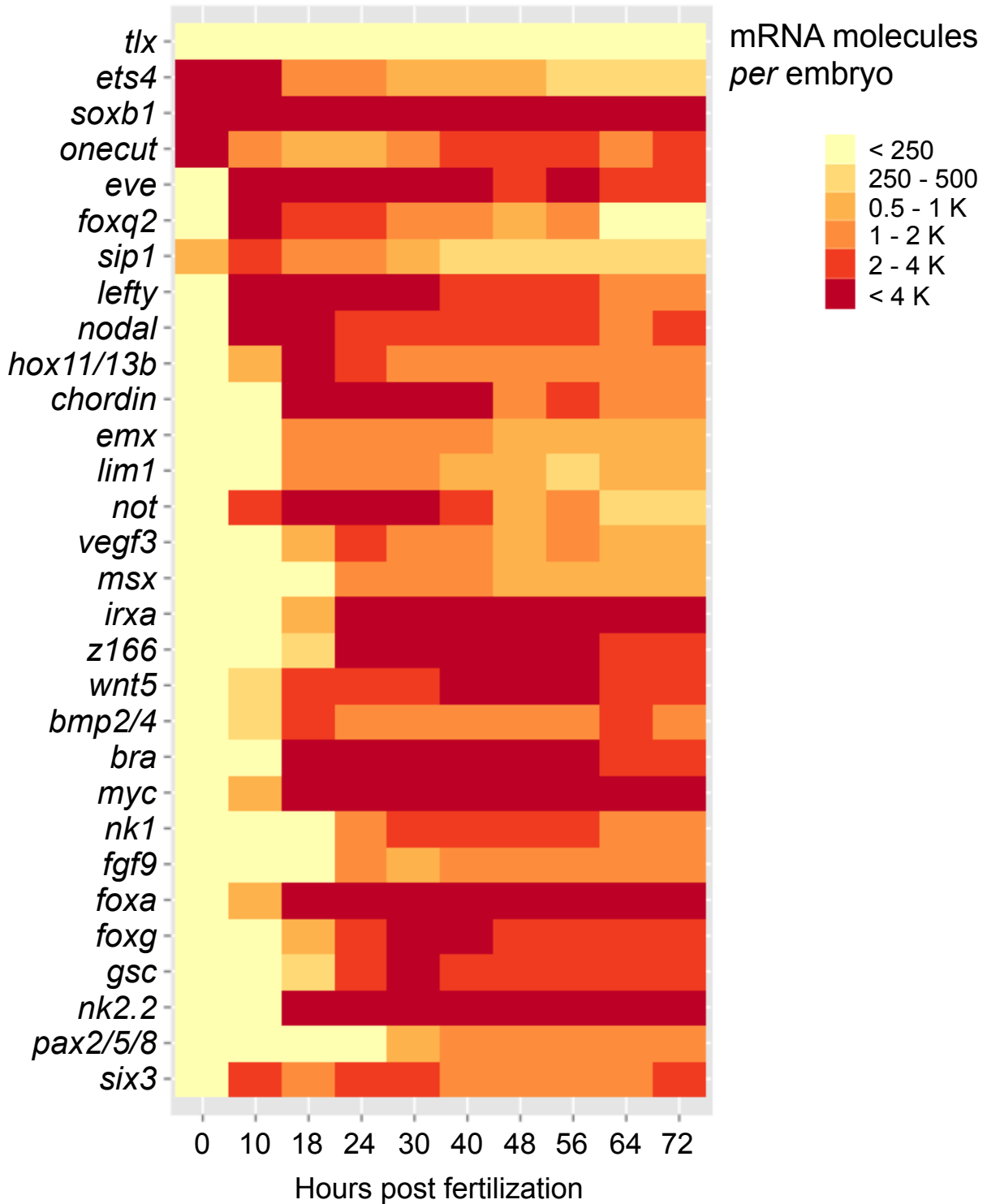
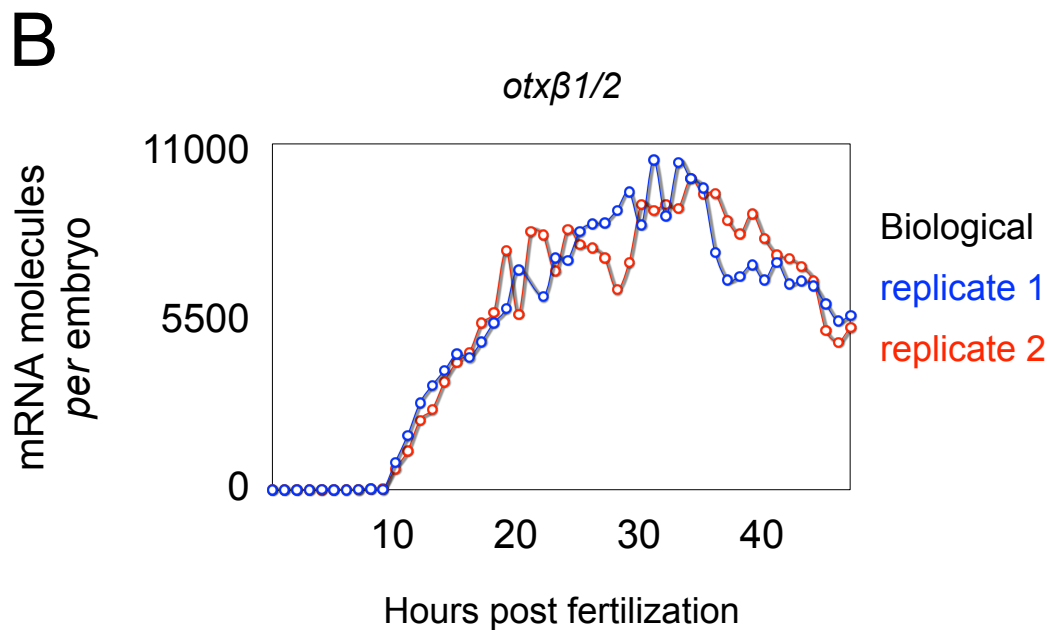


Supplementary Fig. S1. Gene expression patterns. (A-J) RNA *in situ* hybridization series for relevant genes (A) *emx*, (B) *eve*, (C) *fgf9*, (D) *foxq2*, (E) *myc*, (F) *onecut*, (G) *pax2/5/8*, (H) *tlx*, (I) *univin*, (J) *z166*. Abbreviations: av, apical pole view; lv, lateral view; ov, oral view; vv, ventral view; hpf, hours post fertilization. Oral ectoderm faces towards the right, except in panels marked ov, where the oral ectoderm is viewed head-on.

A



Supplementary Fig. S2. Gene expression kinetics. (A) Level of mRNA abundance throughout development for all genes modeled in Fig. 7. Heat-map reflecting the expression profile for each gene listed. Absolute values of mRNA levels are inferred from the color code key, at right. Measurements are from our previous study (Tu et al., 2014), and are plotted using the online tool described therein. (B) Expression time course for the *otxβ1/2* splice variant (this transcript is not included in A). Data are from previously published measurements (Materna et al., 2010).

Table S1. Nanostring codeset information (mRNA targets 1-197)

[Click here to Download Table S1](#)

Supplementary Methods

Normalization

mRNA raw code counts (RCCs) were normalized as described (Barsi et al., 2014).

Differential gene expression

Given the vast experience our laboratory has amassed over the years concerning this technology and the fact that we contributed toward it's pioneer study (Geiss et al., 2008), hundreds of technical replicates have been compared using the nCounter analysis system. In no instance has the code count between technical replicates, for any given mRNA species in our codeset, deviated beyond twofold (with the exception of insignificantly low-level transcripts). From this, we conclude that differential gene expression is biologically relevant if a delta larger than twofold is observed for any given transcript. We acknowledge that our assumption is conservative, given that transcripts with a smaller observed delta could potentially be statistically significant. Nevertheless, for the purpose of this study, there is no question that a twofold difference (or higher) in gene expression accurately reflects the biological repercussion of a MASO perturbation experiment. The envelope delineated by a red line in Fig. 4 reflects the empirically derived confidence threshold described above. Data points found beyond this envelope are of biological import to this study.

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