

Supporting Information

Abnormal methylation in NDUFA13 gene promoter of breast cancer cells breaks the cooperative DNA recognition by transcription factors

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Supplementary methods

Protein-DNA contacts network analysis

Analysis of protein-DNA contacts for the E2F1-DP1-DNA/CEBPB-DNA/E2F1-DP1-CEBPB-DNA complexes is performed using CPPTRAJ16, for each trajectory snapshot extracted at 1 ps intervals. Protein-DNA contacts present for less than 10% of the trajectories are excluded. Protein-DNA contacts are characterized by pairs of residues, divided into ‘specific’, i.e., interactions formed between the protein side chains and DNA bases, and ‘nonspecific’, i.e., interactions formed with at least one of the backbones. The contacts formed between each protein-DNA residue pair are summed, where for simplicity, the contribution of each contact is set to 1. The distance limit of a hydrogen bond interaction is ≤ 4 Å between the relevant heavy atoms, and the angle limit is $\geq 135^\circ$ at the intervening hydrogen atom. For a hydrophobic contact, the limit is ≤ 6 Å between the centre of mass of hydrophobic residues (Ala, Ile, Leu, Met, Phe, Trp, and Cys) and DNA bases. The derived time series of protein-DNA interactions allow construction of dynamic contacts maps for specific and nonspecific contacts.

Supplementary figures

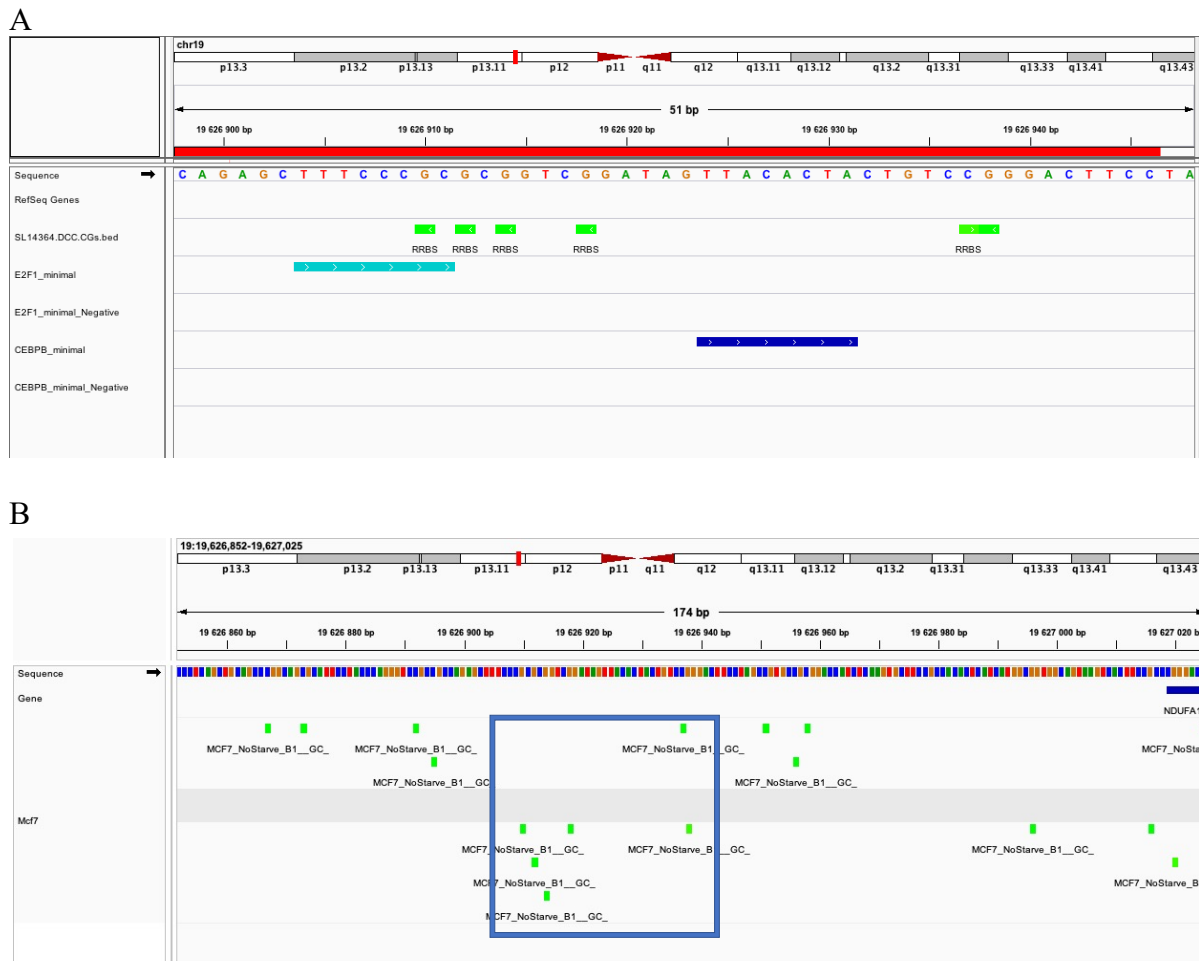


Figure S1. A: IGV (Integrative Genome Viewer) screenshot depicting the studied wild-type DNA sequence with the cytosine methylation marks detected in the promoter of NDUFA13 gene of breast cancer cell line MCF7; binding sites of two collaborative transcription factor dimers E2F1-DP1 and CEBPB. **B:** IGV screenshot depicting all identified CpG methylation sites (14 in total) within the promoter of NDUFA13 gene of breast cancer cell line MCF7. The studied six CpG methylation marks are enclosed by a blue rectangle.

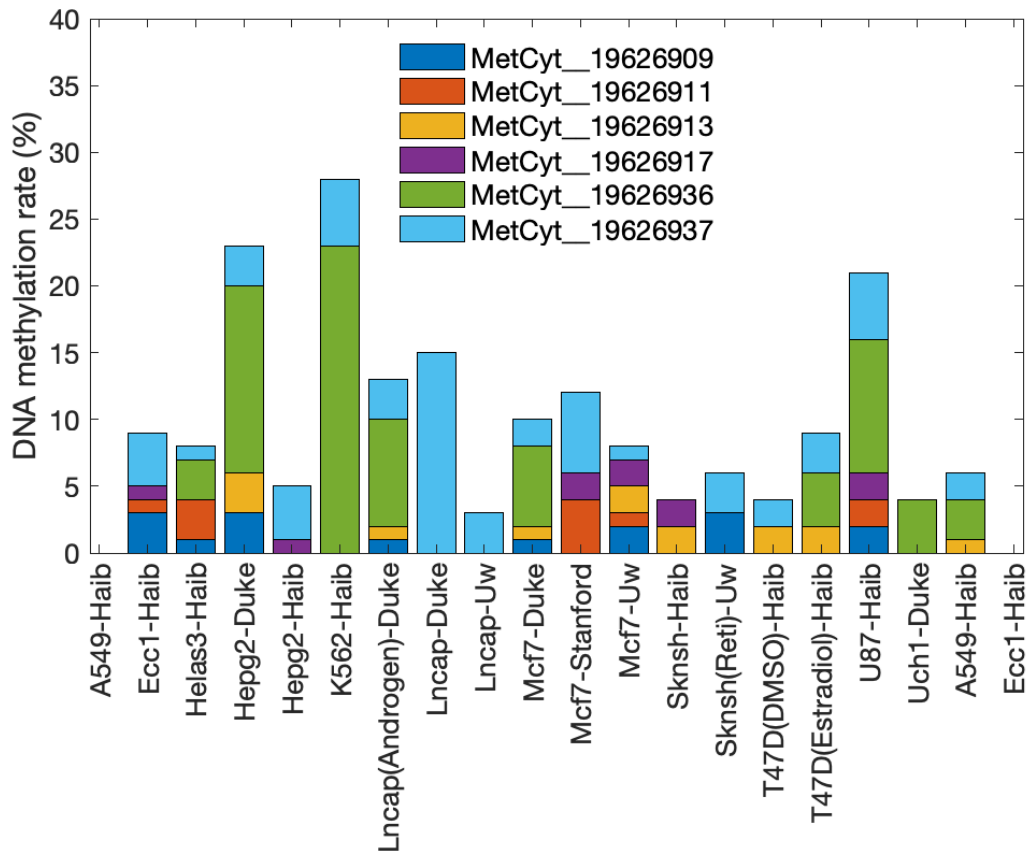


Figure S2: DNA methylation rates (percentage of DNA molecules that exhibit cytosine methylation at a specific CpG site) of available different cancerous cell lines within the studied region of NDUFA-13 promoter at the 19th chromosome, position: 19626898-19626946. The description of cell lines codes can be found in table S1 below. The DNA methylation data were obtained through assays with a modified version of Reduced Representation Bisulfite Sequencing. (1) The data and the protocol for their production, used to construct the figure and further details can be found at: <http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgFileUi?db=hg19&g=wgEncodeHaibMethylRbs>

Table S1: Cell line codes as used in Figure S2, with the respective descriptions of the cell lines. The cell line codes are given in the format “code” – “source/lab”. For the “source/lab” the following abbreviations are used: “Haib”, “Duke”, “UW”, “Stanford”. For further details see: <http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgFileUi?db=hg19&g=wgEncodeHaibMethylRrbs>

Cell line Code	Cell line description
A549-Haib	Human epithelial cell line from lung carcinoma
Ecc1-Haib	Human endometrial cell adenocarcinoma
Helas3-Haib	Human cervical carcinoma
Hepg2-Duke	Human liver carcinoma
Hepg2-Haib	Human liver carcinoma
K562-Haib	Human leukemia
Lncap(Androgen)-Duke	Human prostate adenocarcinoma treated with androgen
Lncap-Duke	Human prostate adenocarcinoma
Lncap-Uw	Human prostate adenocarcinoma
Mcf7-Duke	Human breast, mammary gland, adenocarcinoma
Mcf7-Stanford	Human breast, mammary gland, adenocarcinoma
Mcf7-Uw	Human breast, mammary gland, adenocarcinoma
Sknsh-Haib	Human neuroblastoma
Sknsh(Reti)-Uw	Human neuroblastoma, treated with retinol
T47D(DMSO)-Haib	Human epithelial cell line from mammary ductal carcinoma treated with DMSO 0.02% for 24hr
T47D(Estradiol)-Haib	Human epithelial cell line from mammary ductal carcinoma treated with estradiol 10nM for 24hr
U87-Haib	Human cell line with epithelial morphology from malignant gliomas from a patient, likely, with glioblastoma
Uch1-Duke	Human chordoma cell line

A

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E2F1      121 SPGKRSRYETSLNLTTRFLELLSHSADGVVDLNWAAEVLKV-QKRRIYD
          .||..|||:|.|||.|.|.:.:|.||...|||:|..||:|.|.||
E2F4      11 PPGTPSRHEKSLGLLTTRKFSLLQEAKDGVLDLKLAAADTLAVRQKRRIYD

E2F1      ITNVLEGIQLIAKKSKNHIQWLGS 194
          |||||..|.||.|||||.|||.|.|.
E2F4      ITNVLEGIGLIEKSKNSIQWKG 85

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B

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DP1      113 GKGLRHFMSMKVCEKVQRKGTTSYNEVADELVAEFSAADNHILPNESAYDQ
          |||||..|||:|..||:|.|.|||
DP2      129 GKGLRHFMSMKVCEKVQRKGTTSYNEVADELVSEFTNSNNH-LAADSAYDQ

DP1      KNIRRRVYDALNVLAMMNIISKEKKEIKWIGLP 195
          |||||..|||
DP2      KNIRRRVYDALNVLAMMNIISKEKKEIKWIGLP 210

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Figure S3: Pairwise sequence alignment used for homology modelling of the E2F1-DP1 heterodimer. **A.** Alignment between E2F1 (Query) and E2F4 (Template). **B.** Alignment between DP1 (Query) and DP2 (Template).

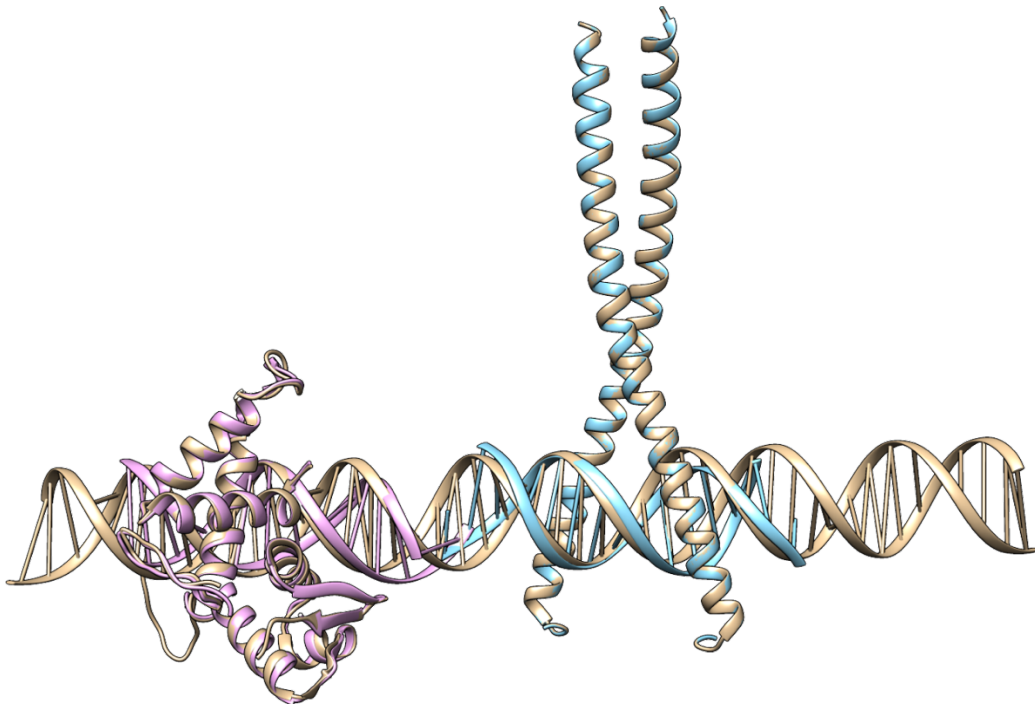


Figure S4: E2F4-DP2 (pink) and 1GU4 (cyan) PDB crystal structures superposed on the complete E2F1-DP1-CEBPB molecular model after homology modelling and docking to the DNA.

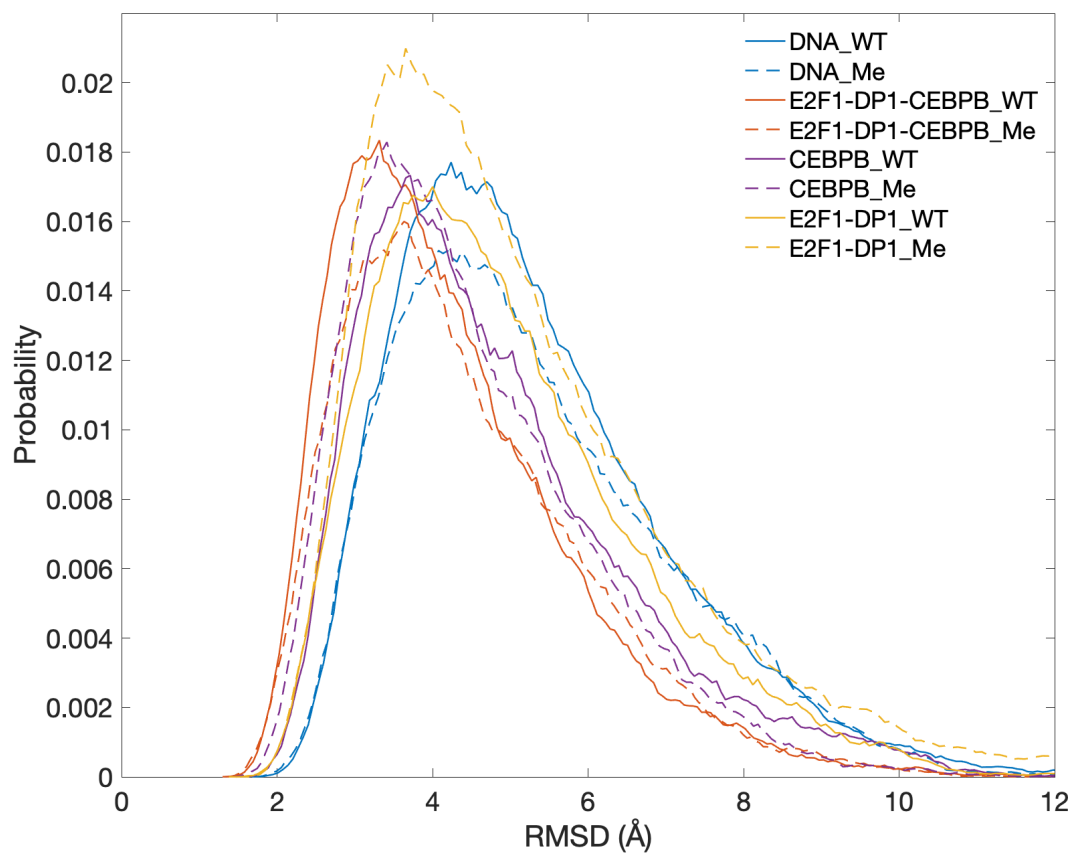


Figure S5: RMSD Distributions for the heavy atoms of DNA in different simulated systems.

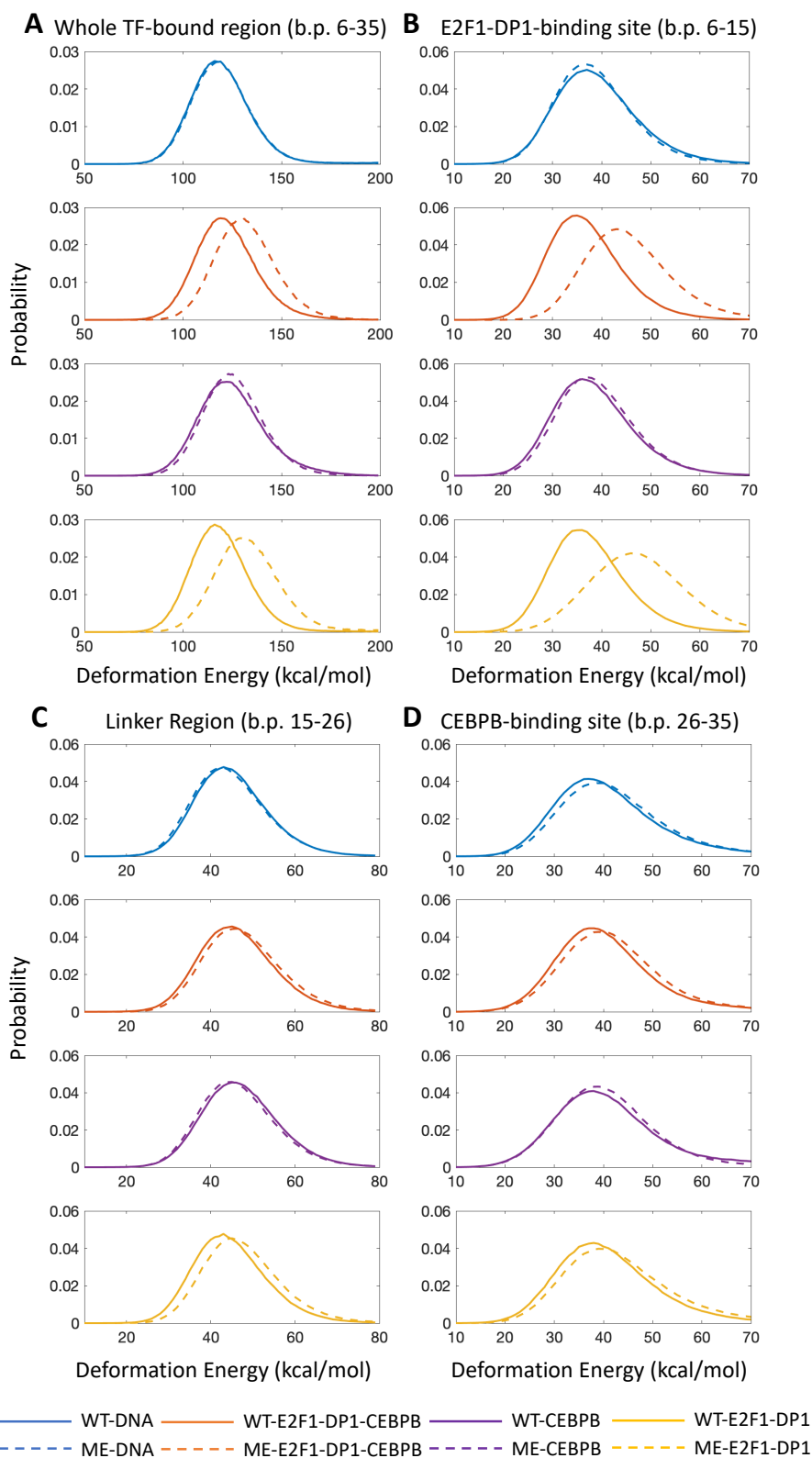
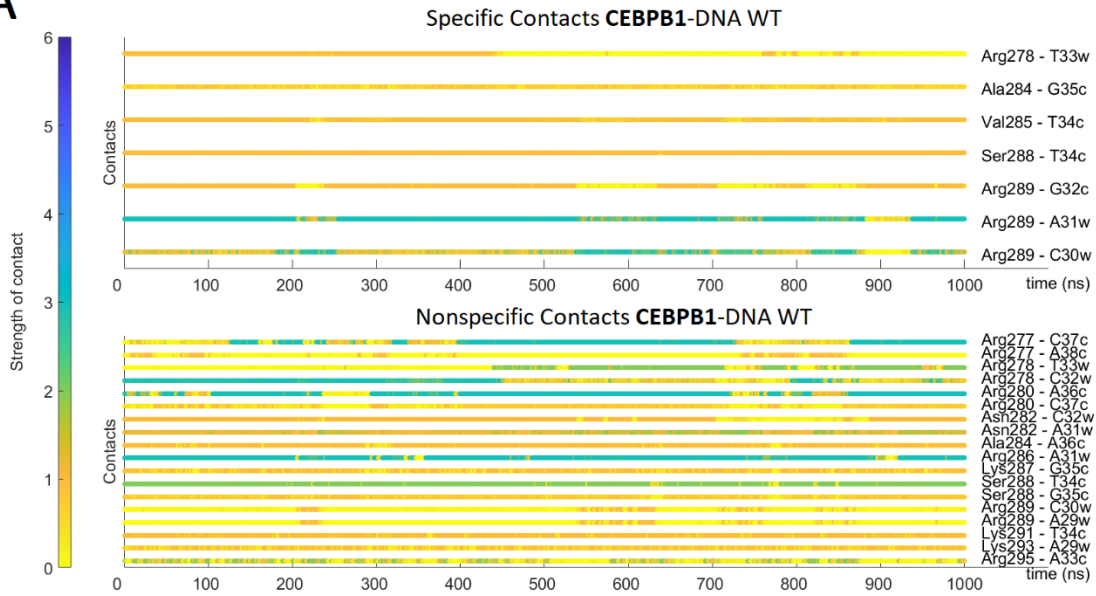
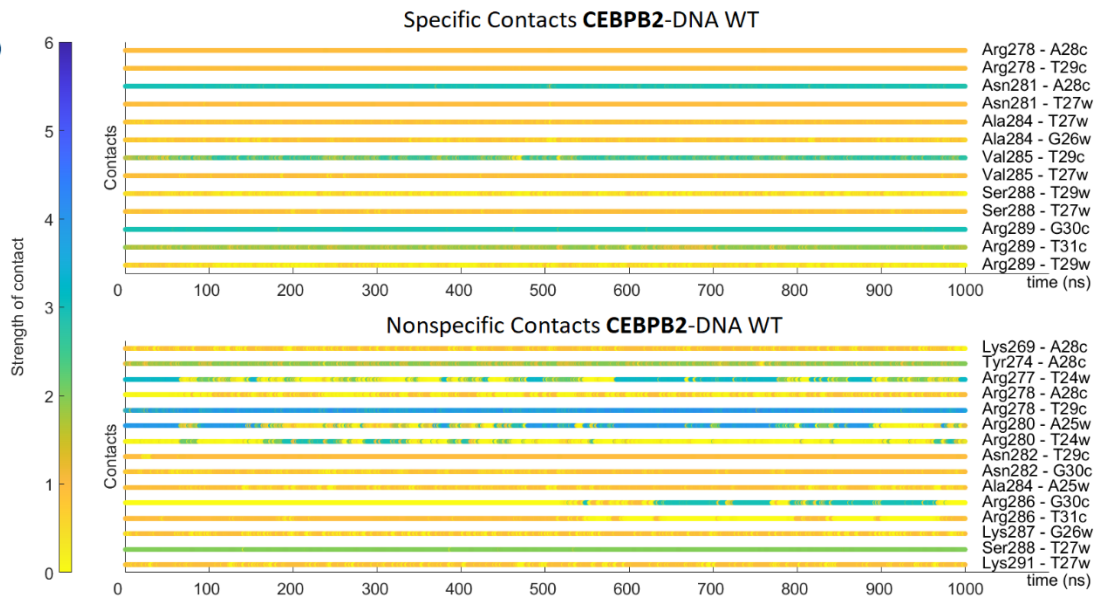


Figure S6: Distribution of DNA deformation energies calculated for the entire trajectories (excluding first 100ns of equilibration) with a multivariate Ising model (2) for **A.** Whole TF-bound region (b.p. 6-35), which includes both response elements and the adjacent flanking nucleotides, **B.** E2F1-DP1-binding site (b.p. 6-15), **C.** Linker-region (b.p. 15-26) and **D.** CEBPB-binding site (b.p. 26-35). WT-systems are denoted with solid bold lines and ME-systems are denoted with dashed lines.

A**B**

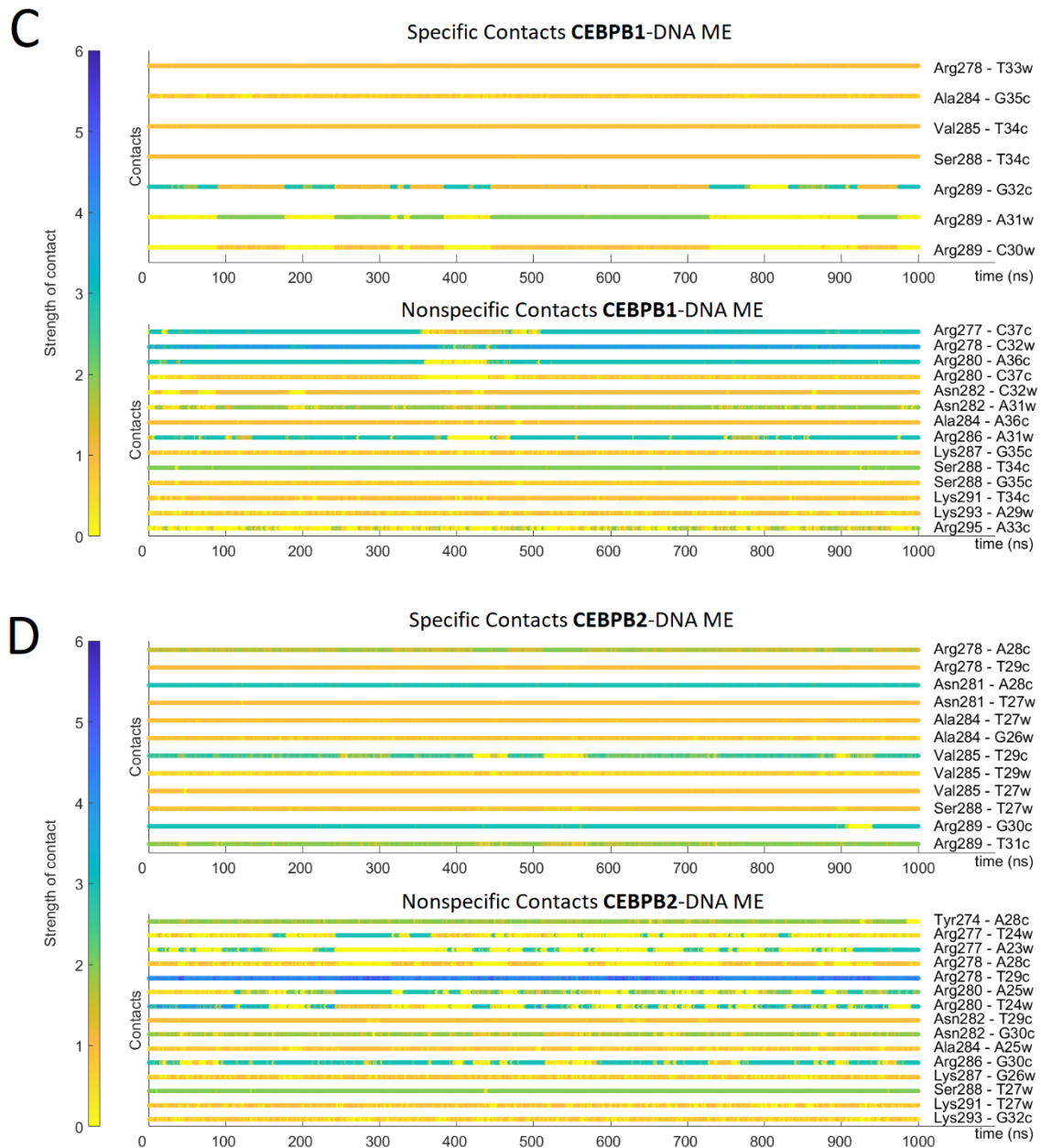
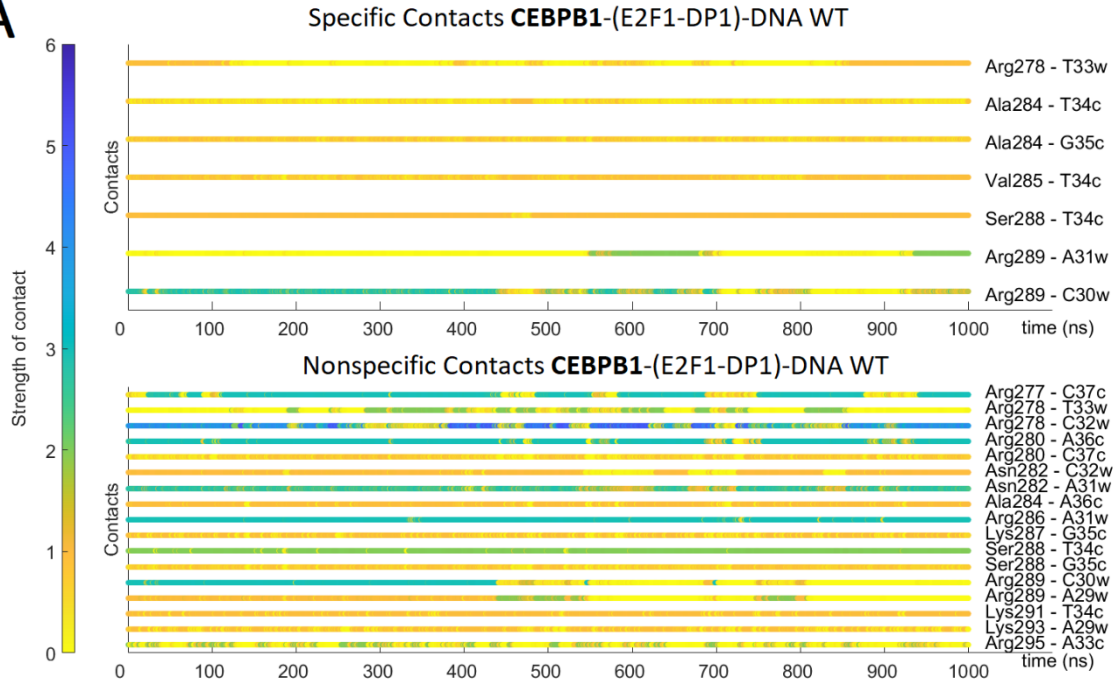
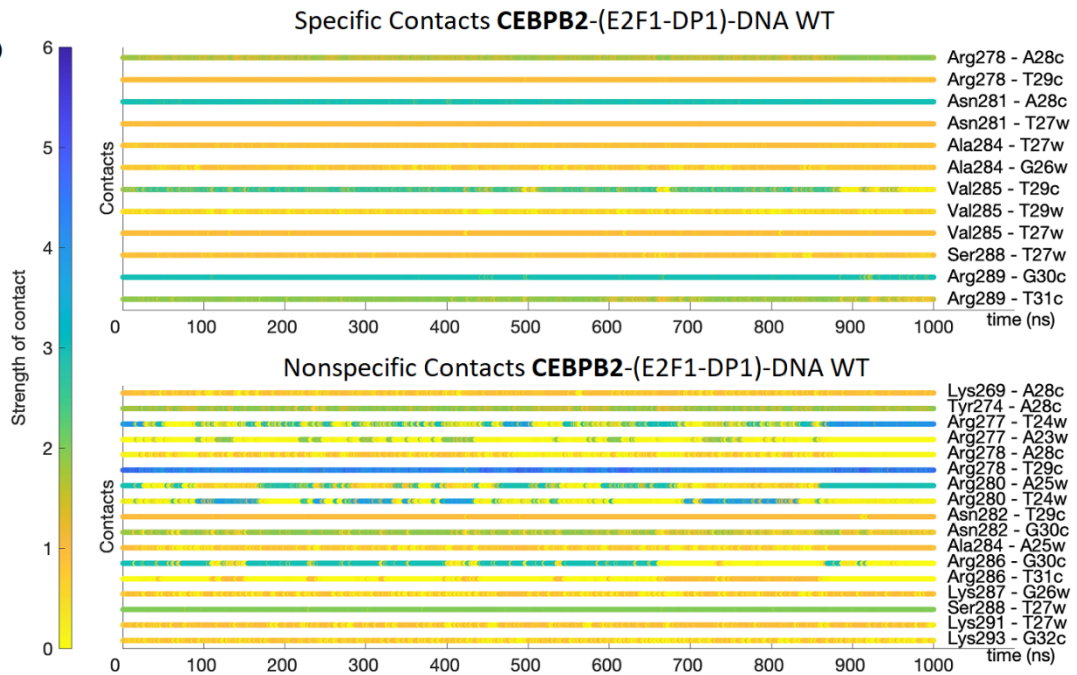


Figure S7. Time-evolution of the specific and nonspecific protein-DNA contacts for the CEBPB-DNA system, CEBPB1 and CEBPB2 correspond to different monomers: **A:** WT CEBPB1-DNA; **B:** WT CEBPB2-DNA; **C:** ME CEBPB1-DNA; **D:** ME CEBPB2-DNA.

A**B**

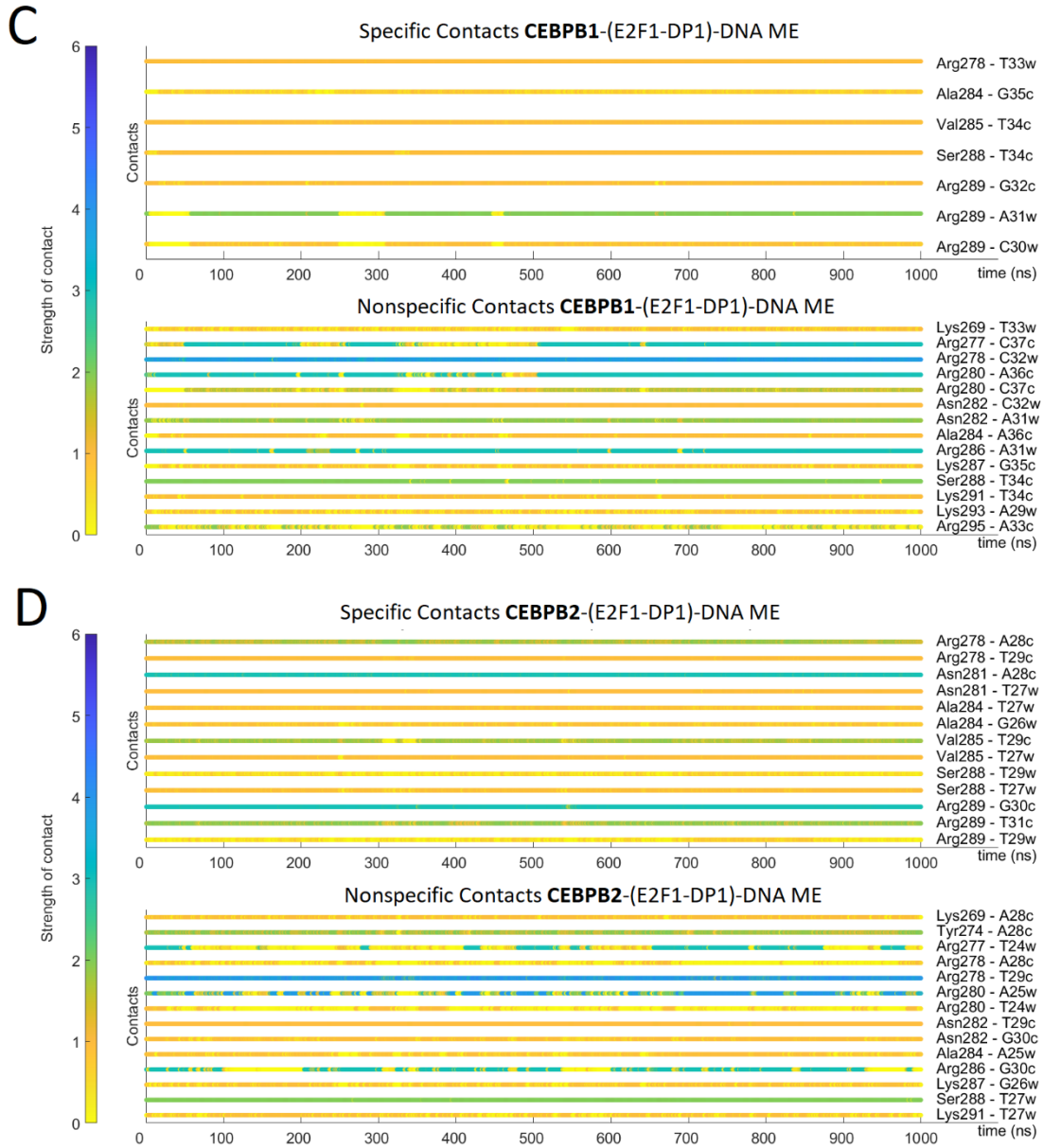
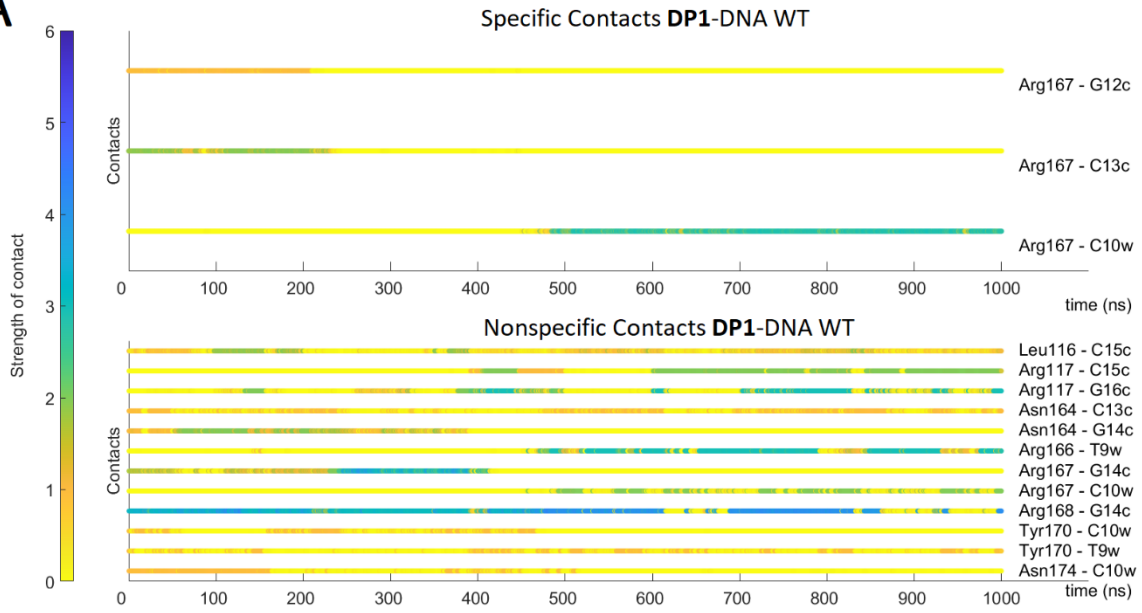
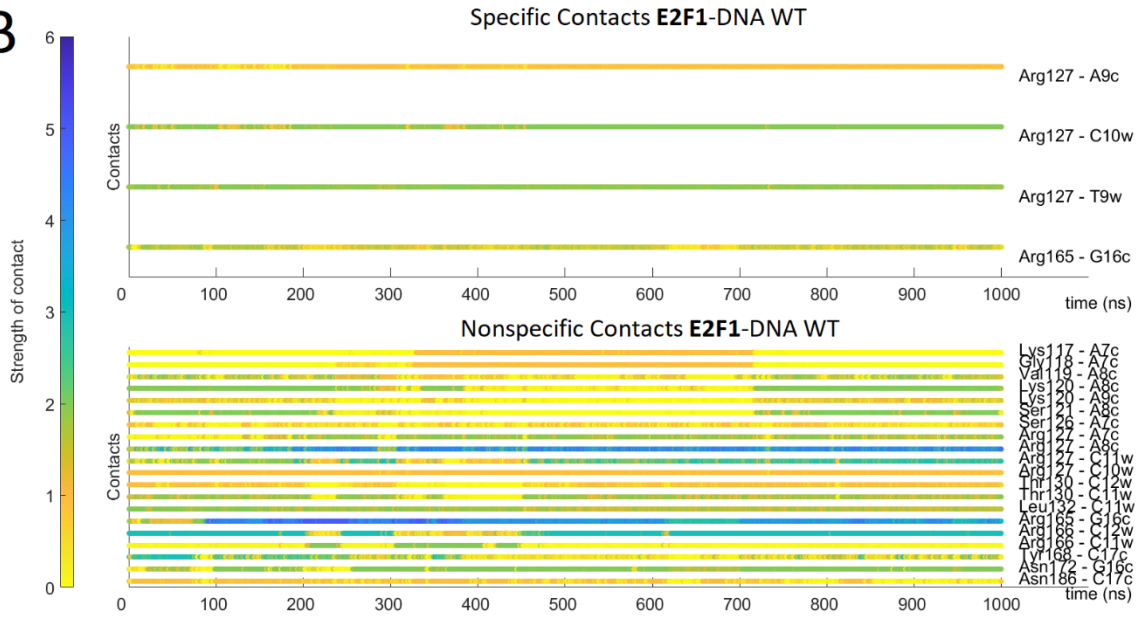


Figure S8. Time-evolution of the specific and nonspecific protein-DNA contacts for the E2F1-DP1-CEBPB-DNA system: **A:** WT CEBPB1-DNA; **B:** WT CEBPB2-DNA; **C:** ME CEBPB1-DNA; **D:** ME CEBPB2-DNA.

A**B**

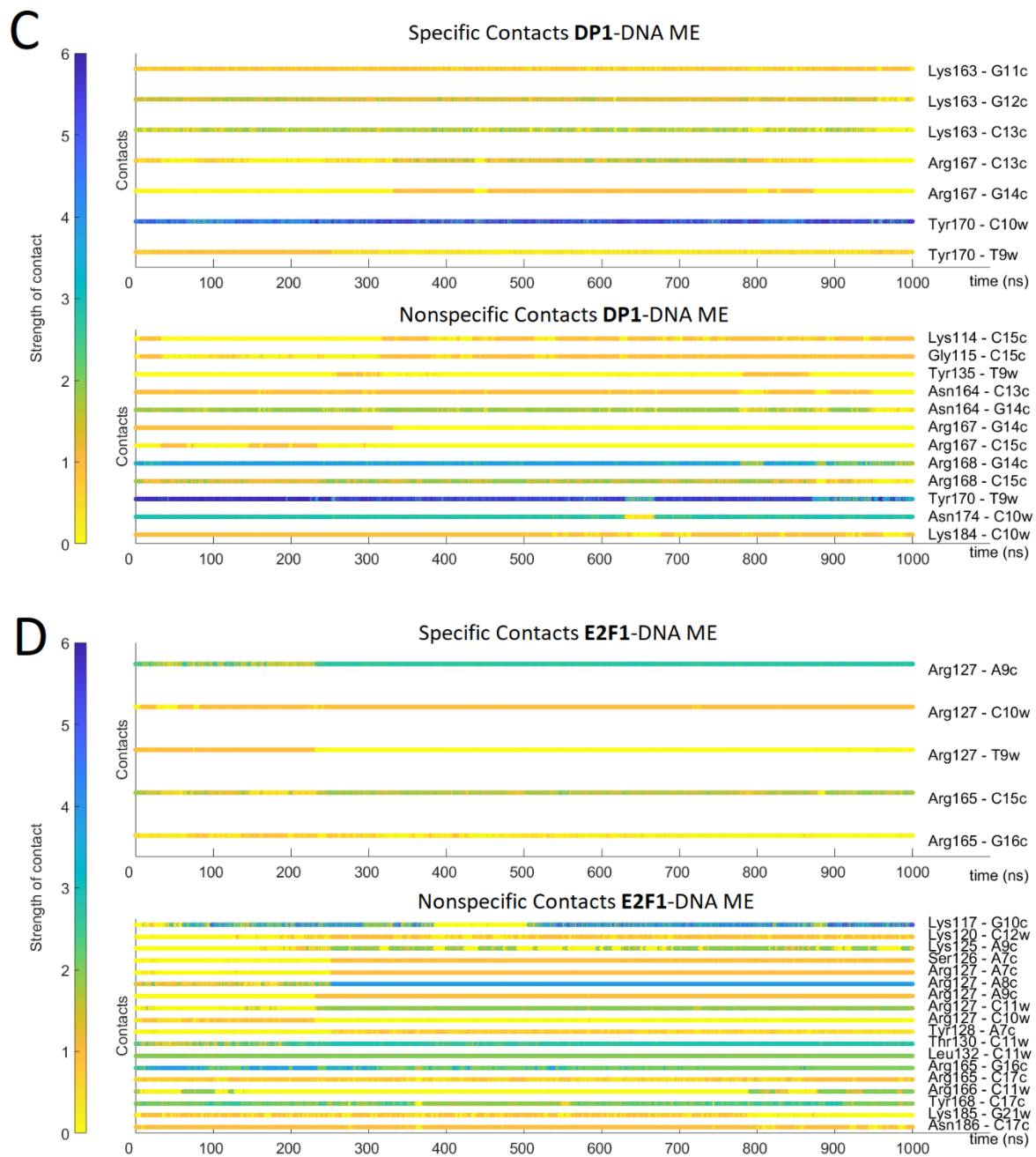
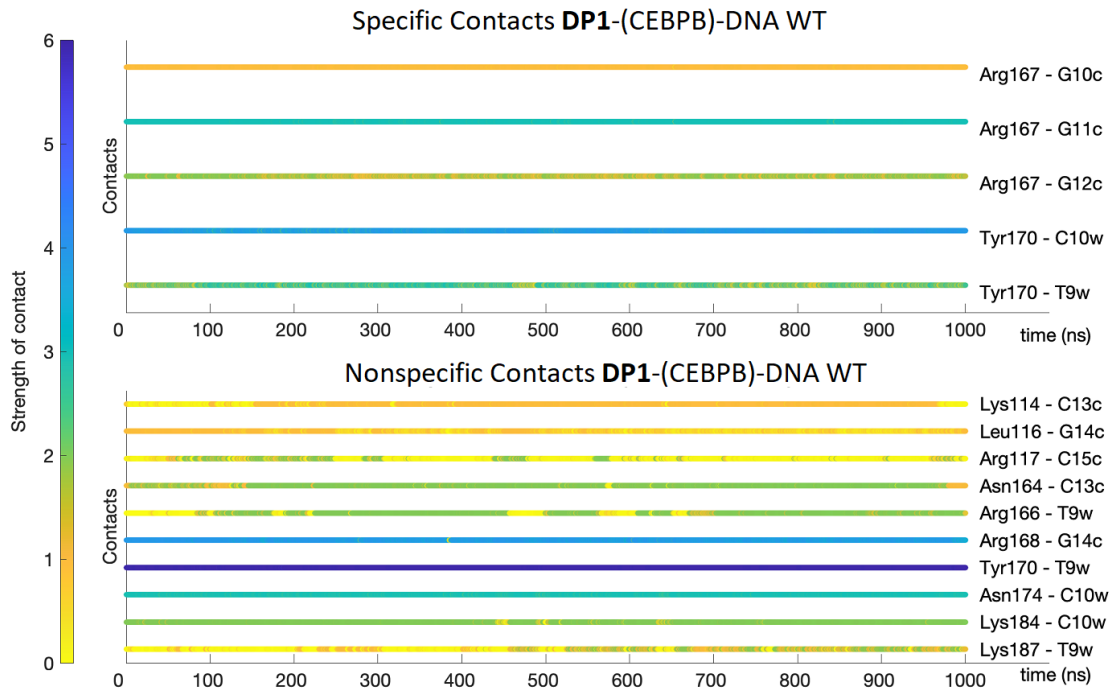
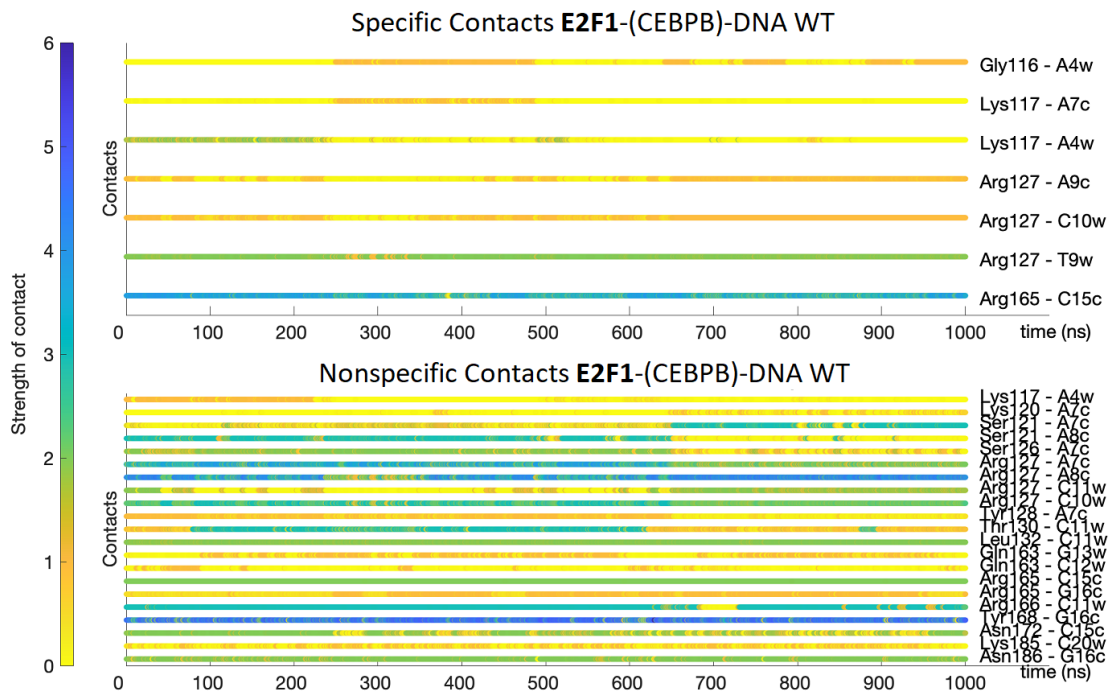


Figure S9. Time-evolution of the specific and nonspecific protein-DNA contacts for the E2F1-DP1-DNA system: **A:** WT DP1-DNA; **B:** WT E2F1-DNA; **C:** ME DP1-DNA; **D.** ME E2F1-DNA.

A



B



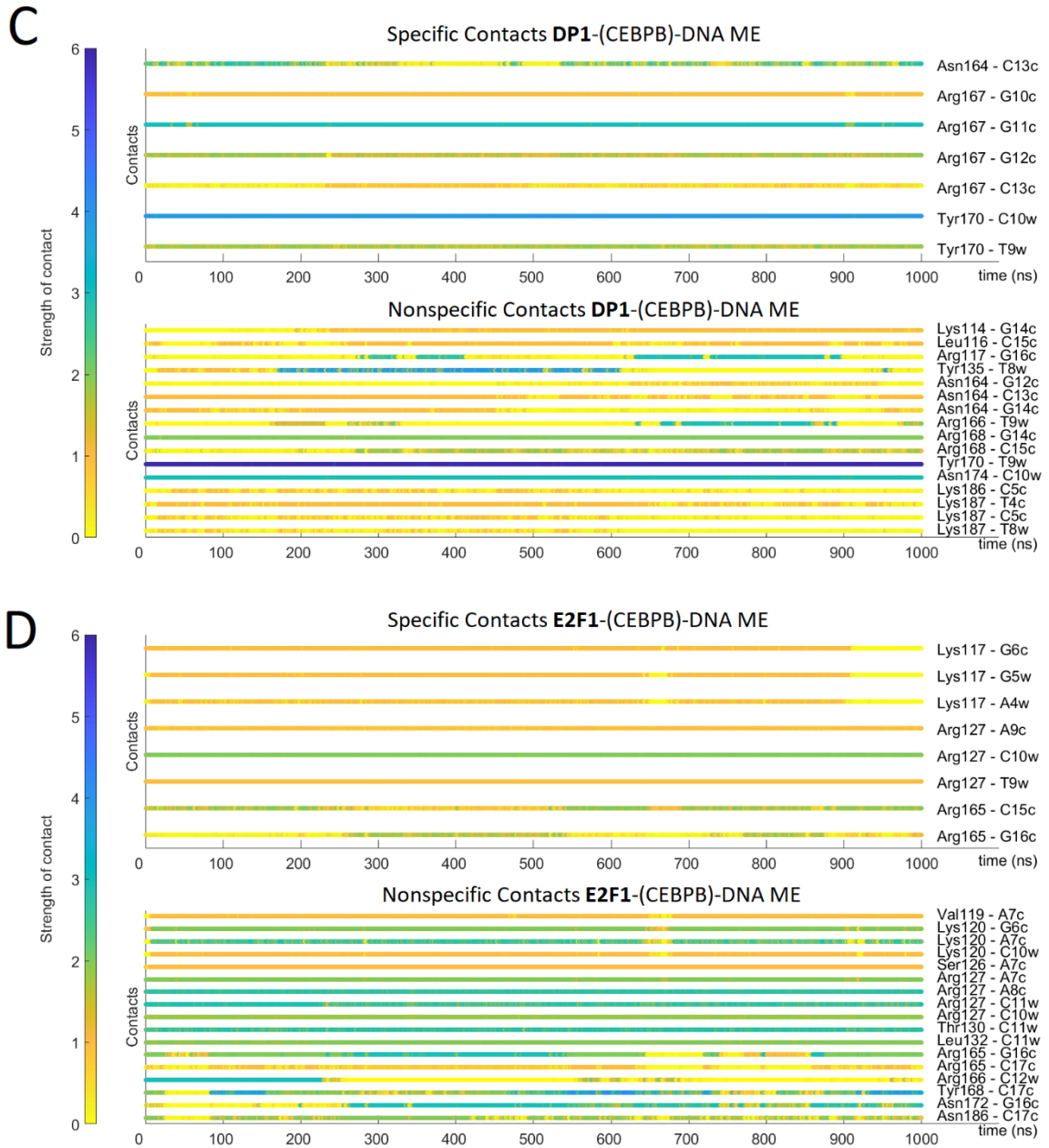


Figure S10. Time-evolution of the specific and nonspecific protein-DNA contacts for the E2F1-DP1-CEBPB-DNA system: **A:** WT DP1-DNA; **B:** WT E2F1-DNA; **C:** ME DP1-DNA; **D:** ME E2F1-DNA.

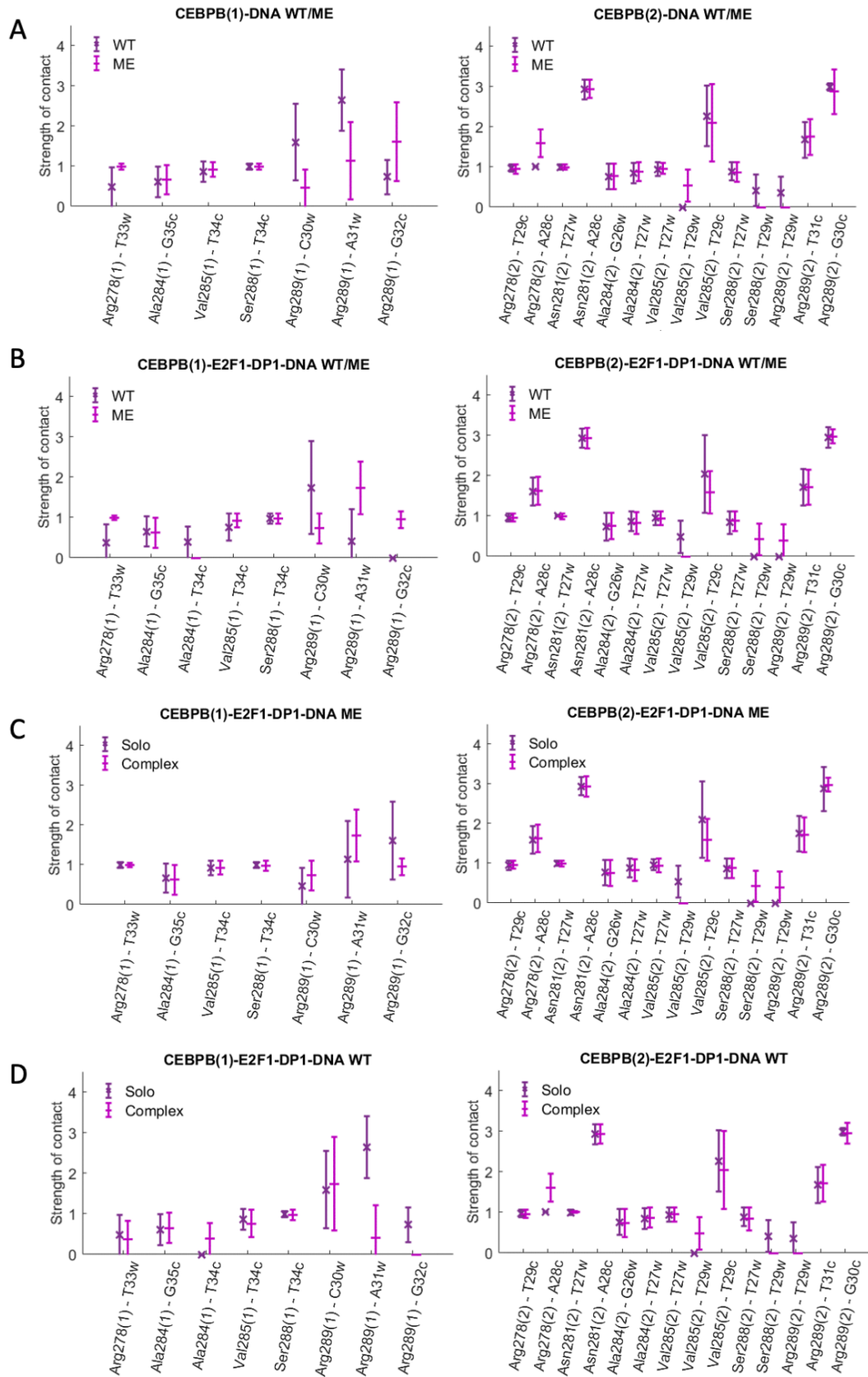


Figure S11. Specific contacts between CEBPB-dimer and DNA. The plots show the strength of specific contacts formed by the two CEBPB monomers, marked with (1) and (2), in wild-type (WT) and methylated (ME) cases, when bound alone to DNA (solo) and together with E2F1-DP1 (complex). For the definition of a contact strength see Supplementary Methods.

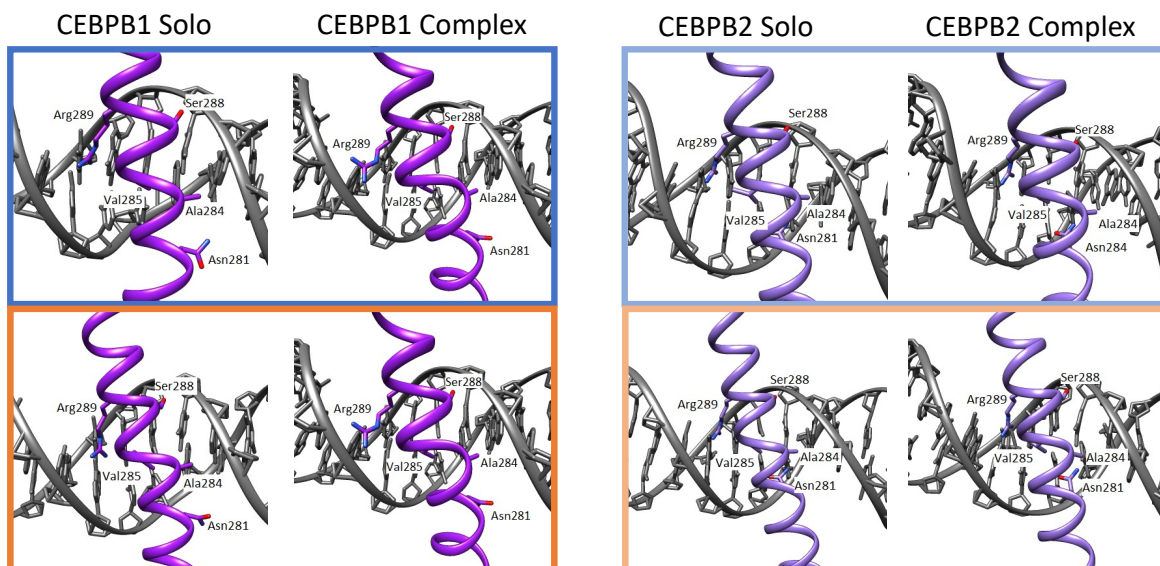
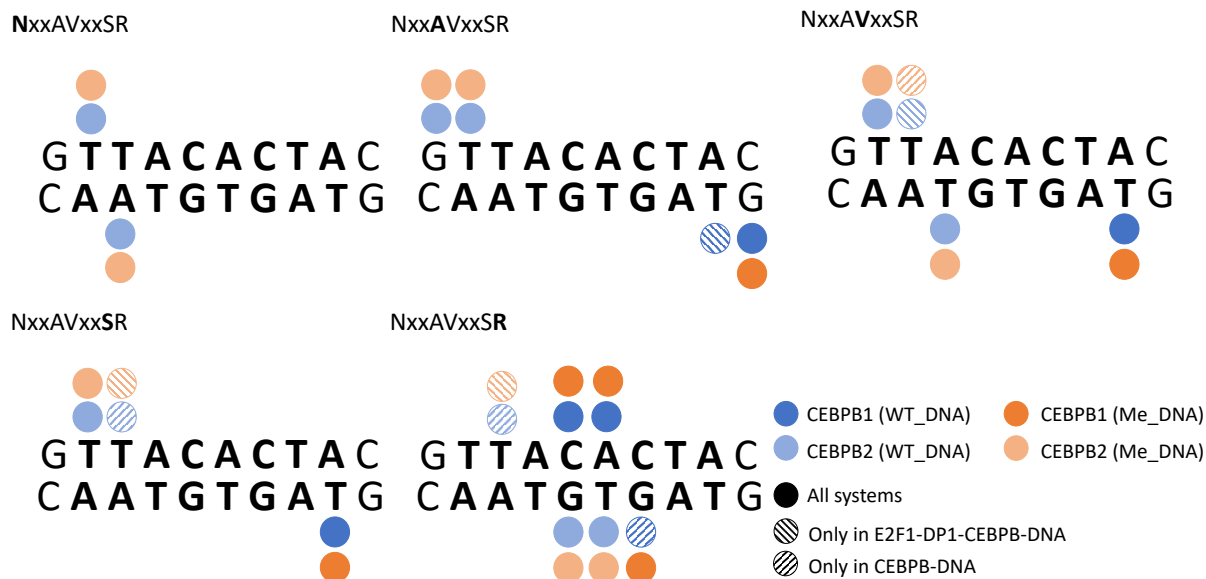


Figure S12: Above: Schematic representation of specific protein-DNA contacts exploited by the five-residues-motif (NxxAVxxSR) of CEBPB-dimer in different systems. **Below:** Cartoon representation of the binding orientations and DNA contacts of the CEBPB dimer for WT (blue) and ME (orange) systems, when bound alone to DNA (solo) and together with E2F1-DP1 (complex).

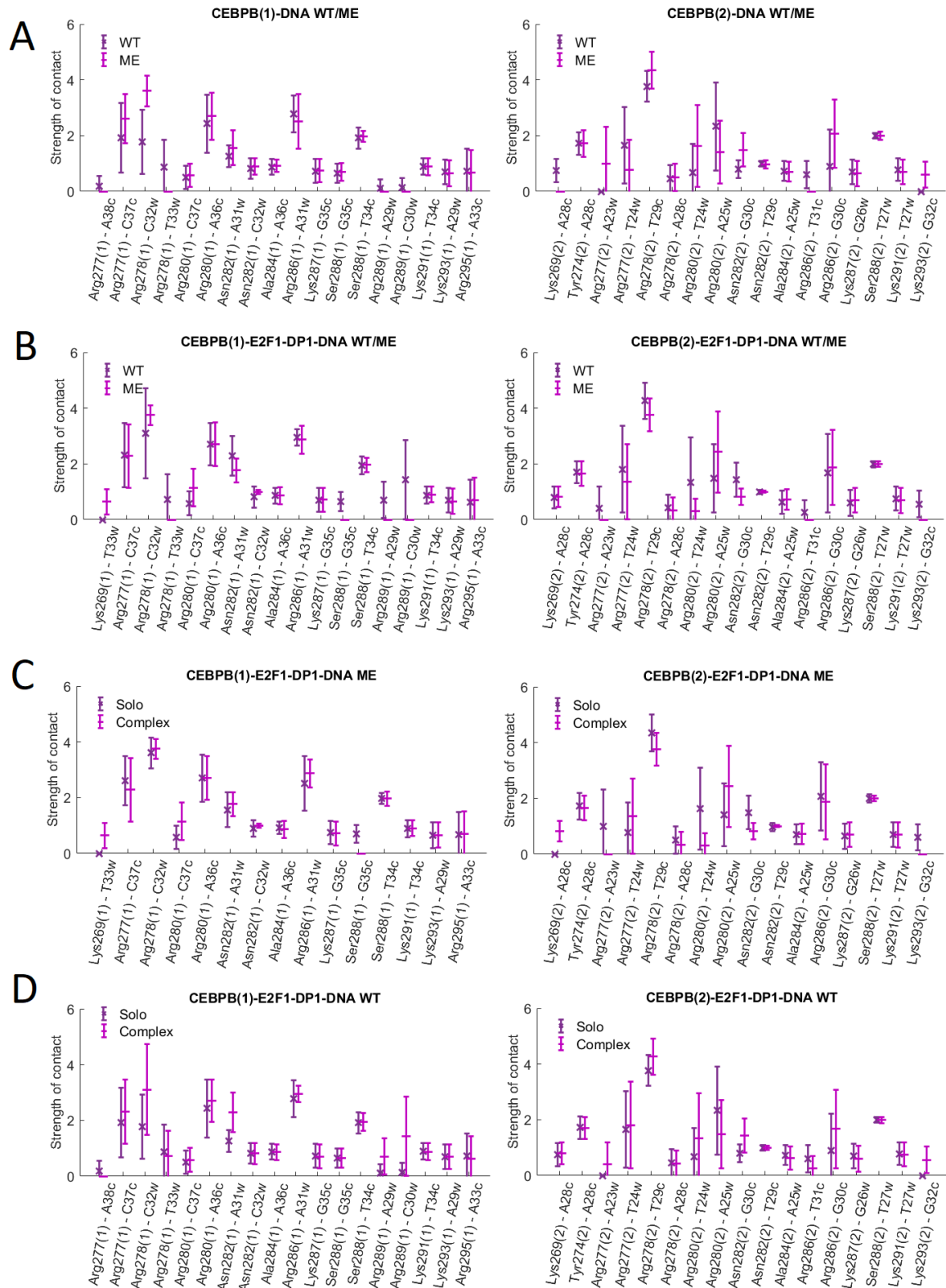


Figure S13: Nonspecific contacts between CEBPB-dimer and DNA. The plots show the strength of nonspecific contacts formed by the two CEBPB monomers, marked with (1) and (2), in wild-type (WT) and methylated (ME) cases, when bound alone to DNA (solo) and together with E2F1-DP1 (complex). For the definition of a contact strength see Supplementary Methods.

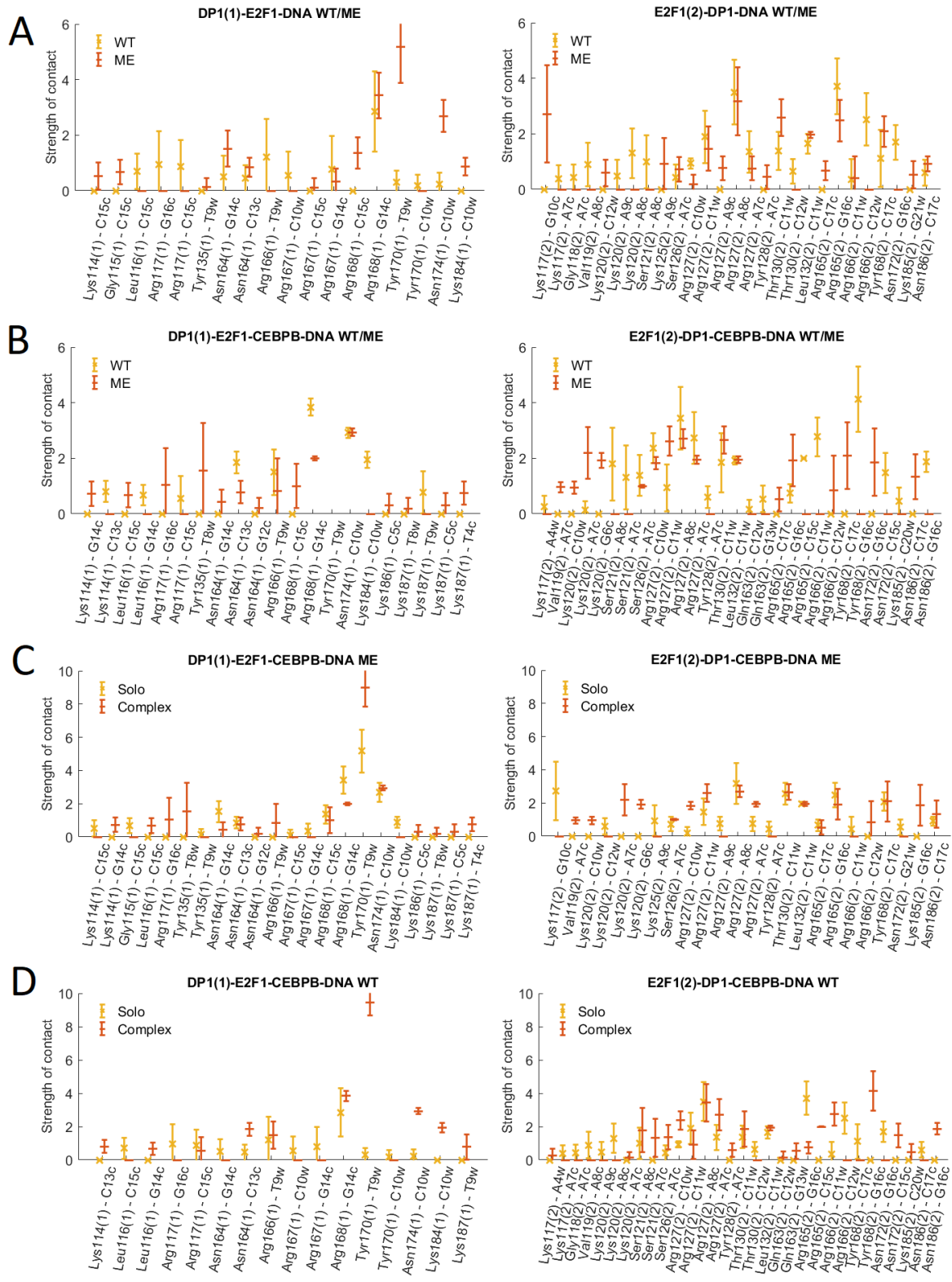


Figure S14: Nonspecific contacts between E2F1-DP1-dimer and DNA. The plots show the strength of nonspecific contacts formed by the E2F1 and DP1 monomers, marked with (1) and (2), in wild-type (WT) and methylated (ME) cases, when bound alone to DNA (solo) and together with E2F1-DP1 (complex). For the definition of a contact strength see Supplementary Methods.

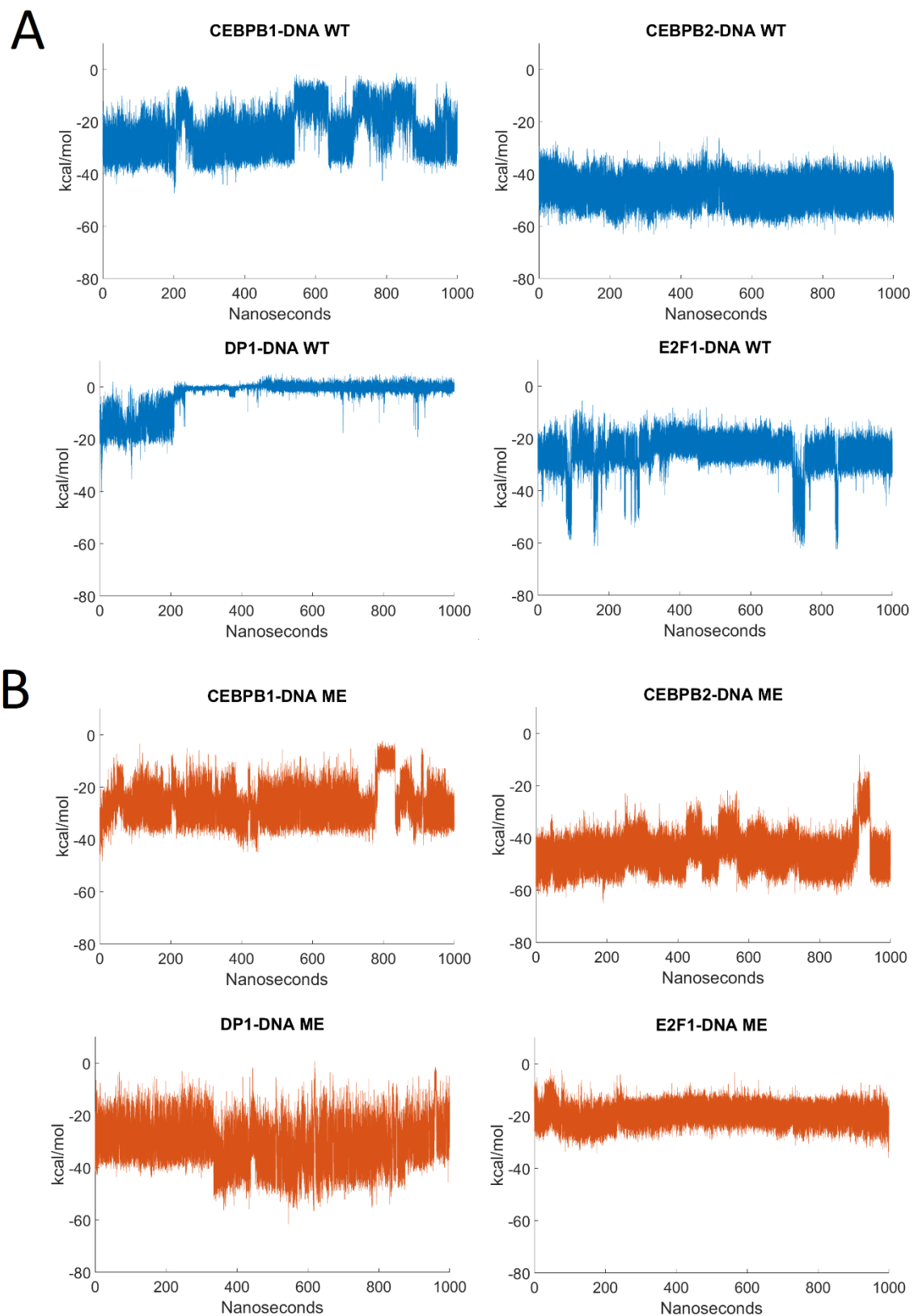


Figure S15: Time-evolution of specific interaction energies for the different solo bound TF-DNA complexes for **A:** WT systems (blue) and **B:** ME systems (red).

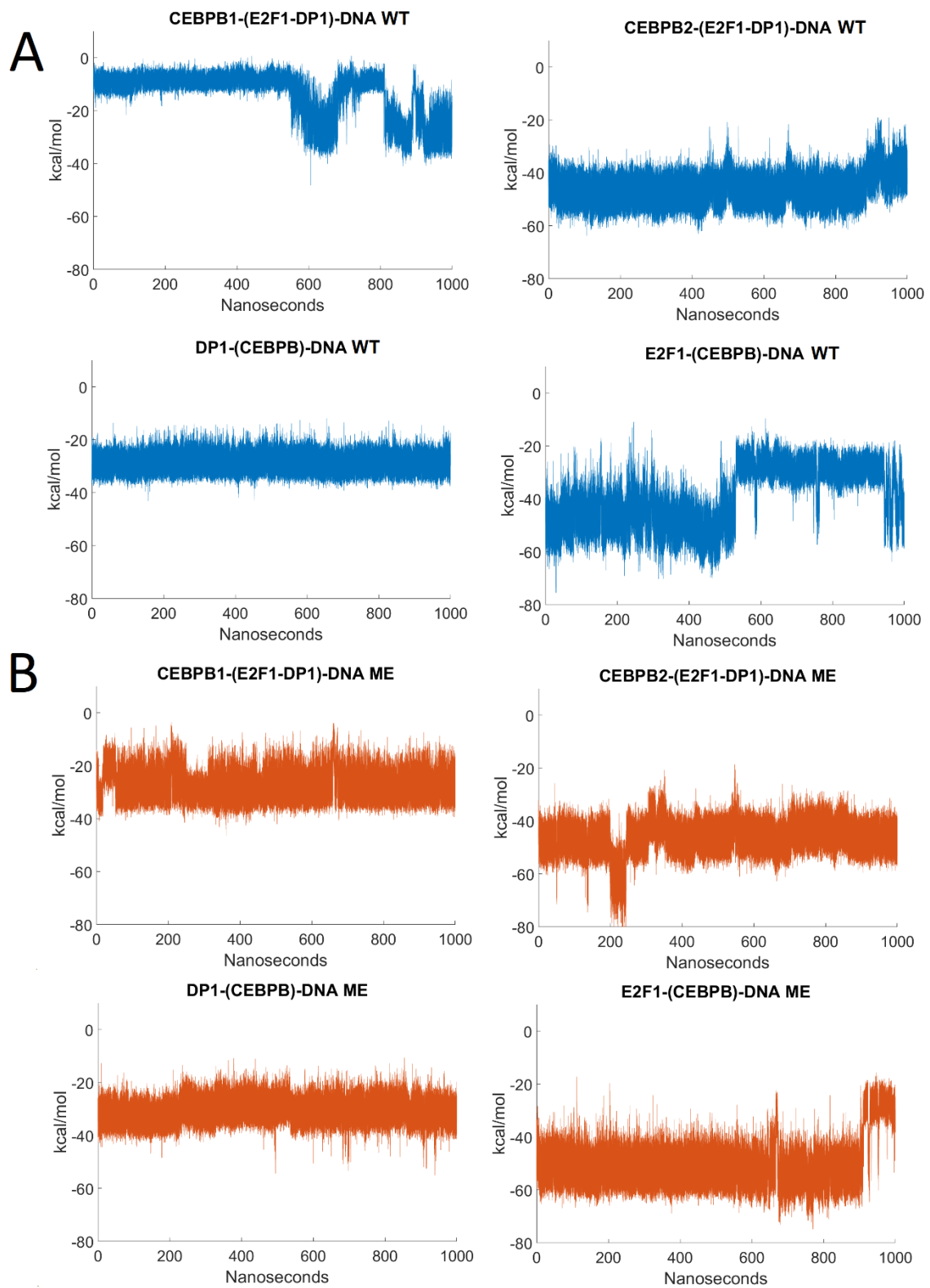


Figure S16: Time-evolution of specific interaction energies for the different TF-DNA complexes indicated in parentheses for complete enhanceosome complexes (CEBPB-E2F1-DP1-DNA) for **A:** WT systems (blue) and **B:** ME systems (red).

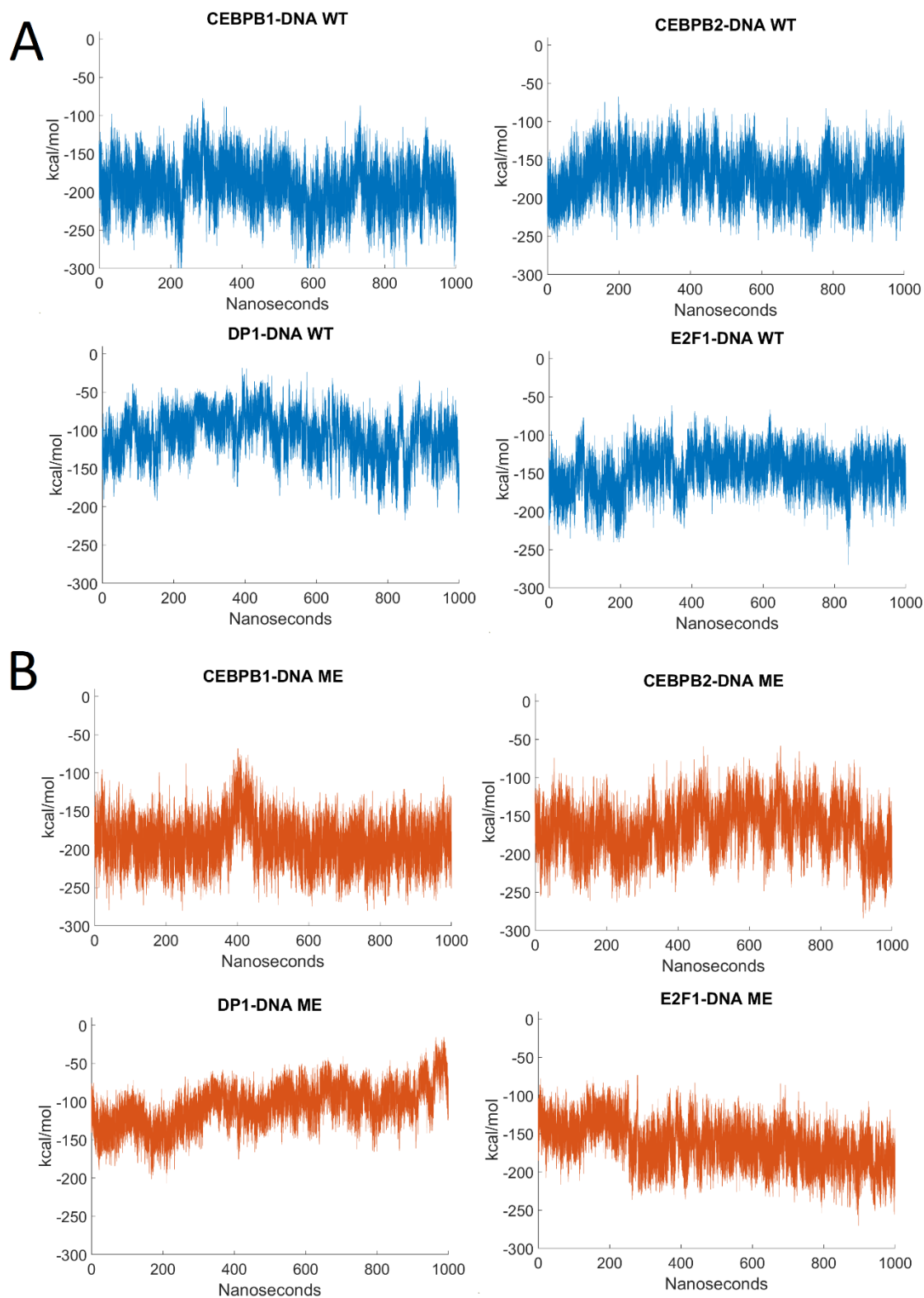


Figure S17: Time-evolution of nonspecific interaction energies for the different solo bound TF-DNA complexes for **A:** WT systems (blue) and **B:** ME systems (red).

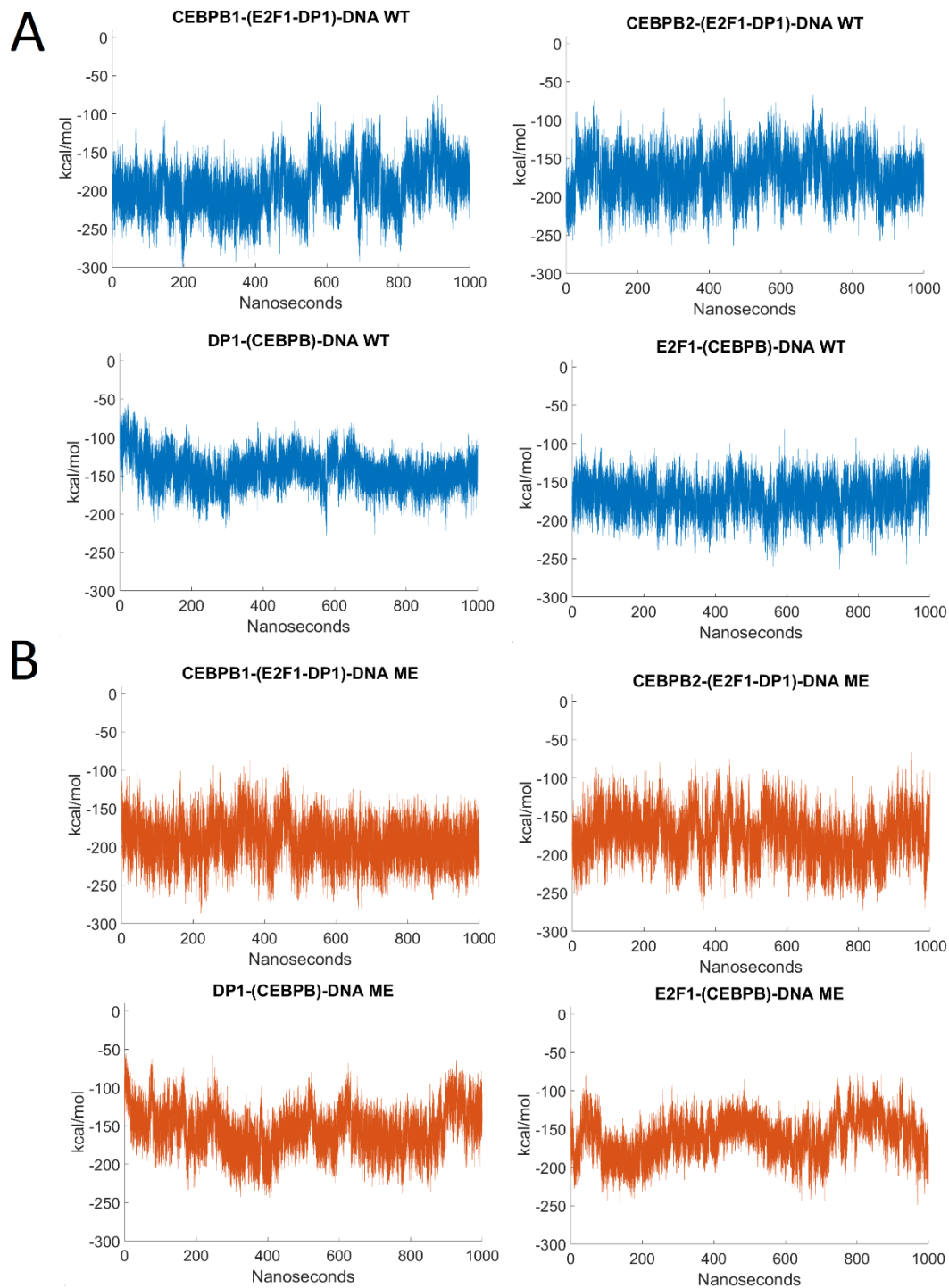


Figure S18: Time-evolution of nonspecific interaction energies for the different TF-DNA complexes indicated in parentheses for complete enhanceosome complexes (CEBPB-E2F1-DP1-DNA) for **A:** WT systems (blue) and **B:** ME systems (red).

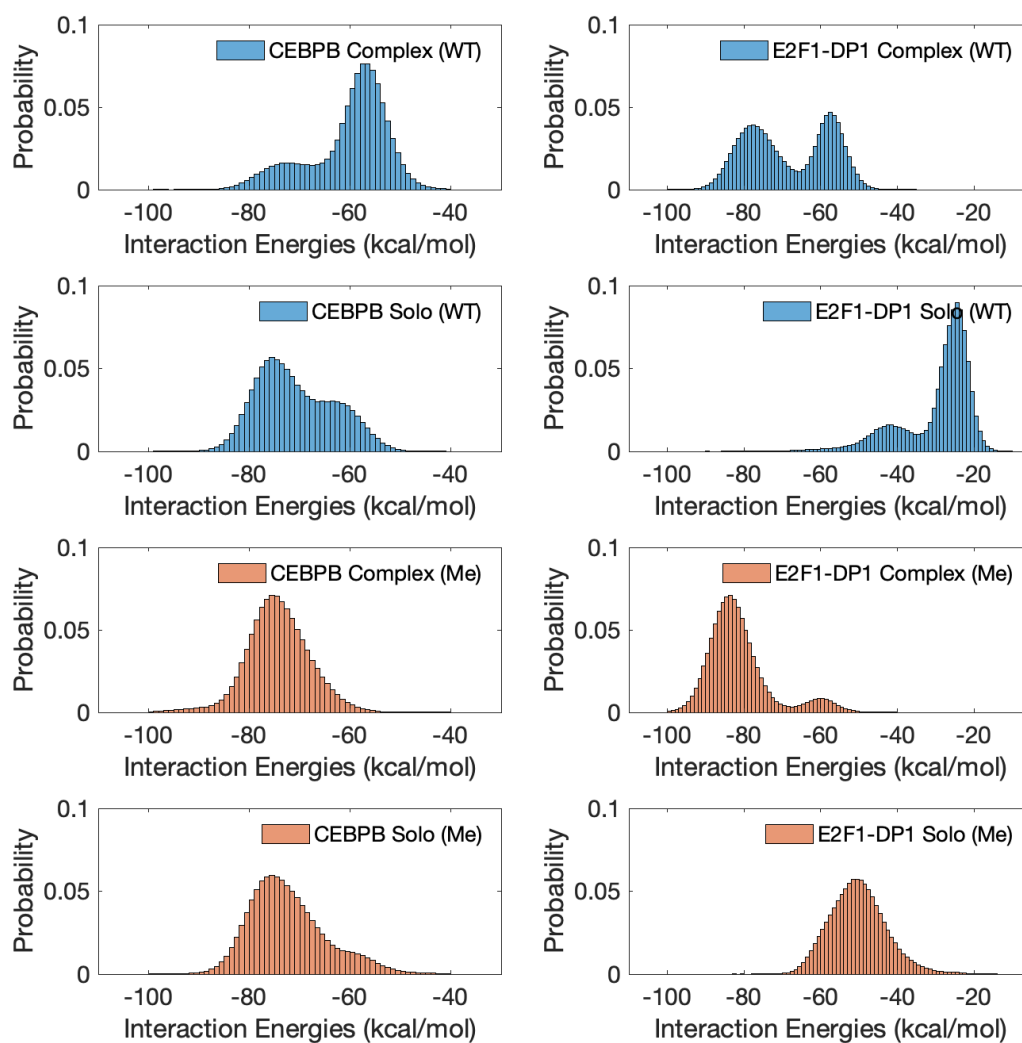


Figure S19: Specific contacts interaction energies distributions for the corresponding TF-dimer-DNA complex, where “Solo” corresponds to either CEBPB-DNA or E2F1-DP1-DNA systems, and “Complex” – to CEBPB-E2F1-DP1-DNA systems, the “WT” and “ME” denote wild type and methylated DNA systems.

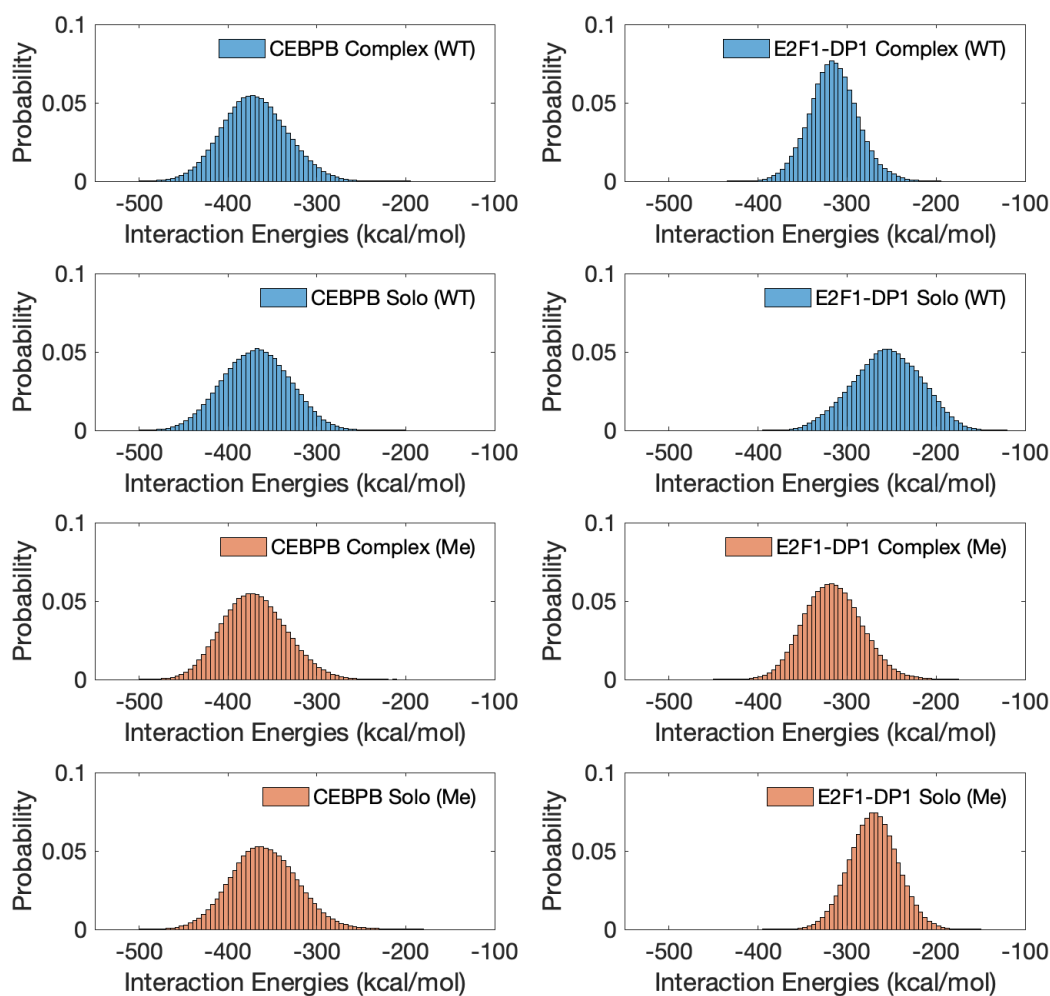
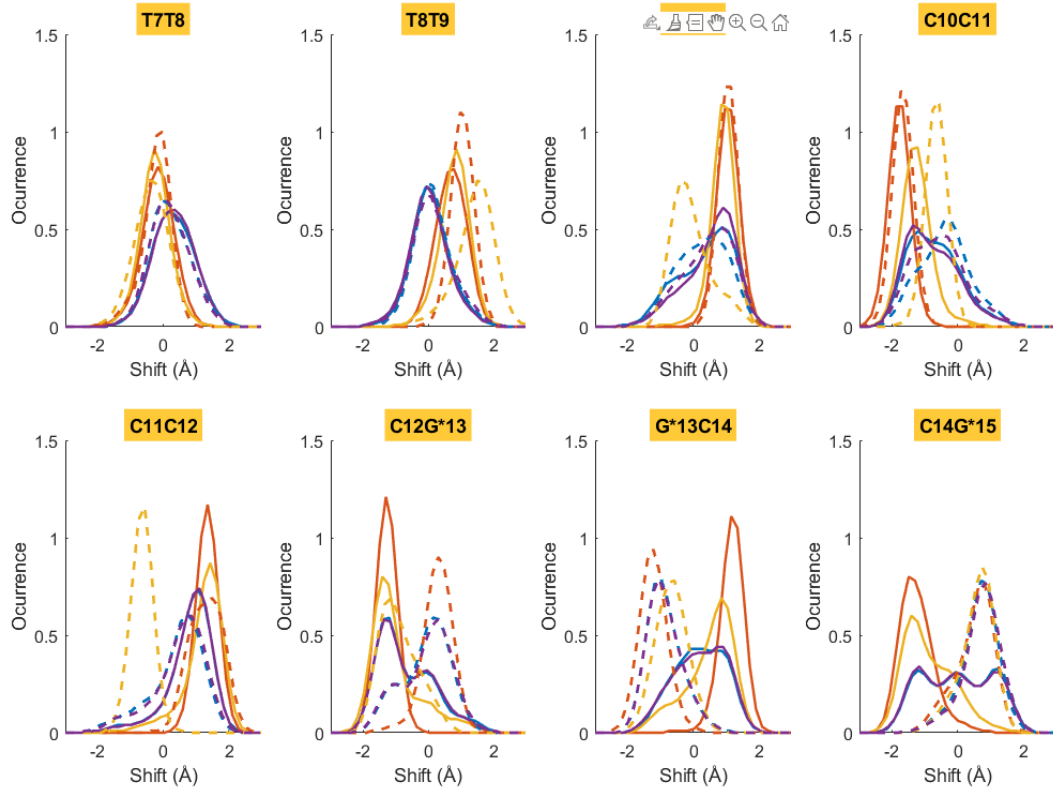
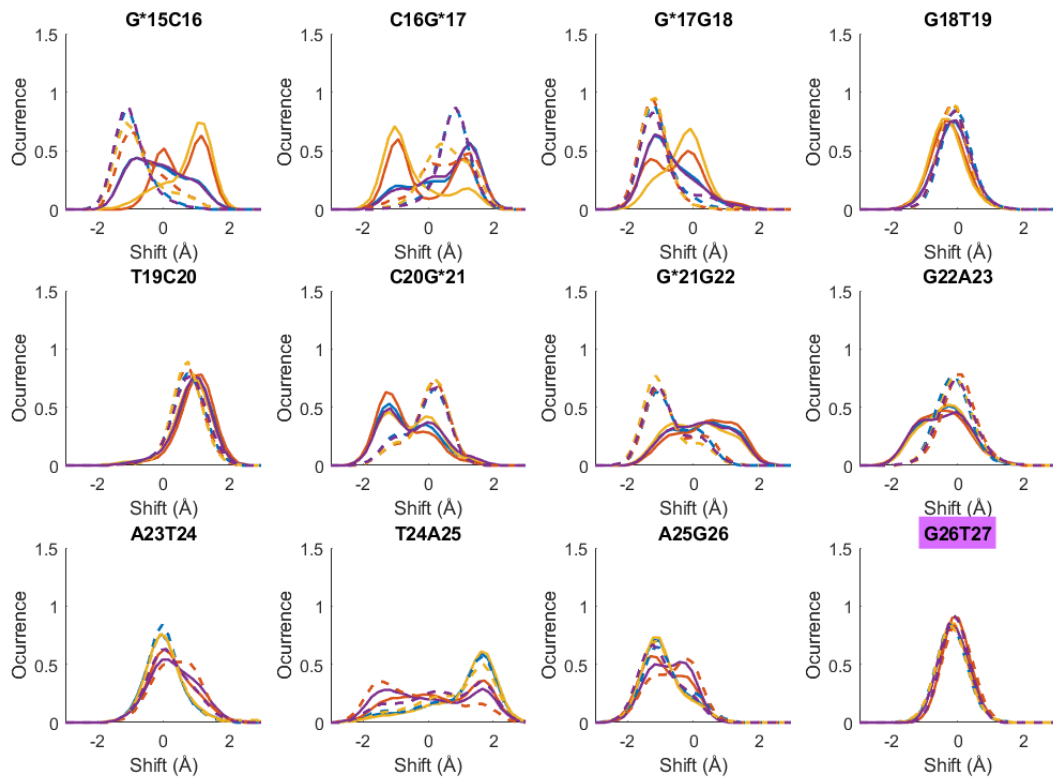


Figure S20: Nonspecific contacts interaction energies distributions for the corresponding TF-dimer-DNA complex, were “Solo” corresponds to either CEBPB-DNA or E2F1-DP1-DNA systems, and “Complex” – to CEBPB-E2F1-DP1-DNA systems, the “WT” and “ME” denote wild type and methylated DNA systems.

Table S2: Protein-DNA binding energies (kcal/mol) calculated according the MM(GB/PB)SA approach for wild-type (WT) and methylated (ME) systems. For E2F1-DP1-CEBPB-DNA trajectories, the provided interaction energies are for the protein dimer in bold.

	CEBPB-DNA	E2F1-DP1-DNA	E2F1-DP1-CEBPB-DNA	CEBPB-E2F1-DP1-DNA
	MMGBSA			
WT	-276.5±14.8	-181.1±15.1	-276.0±16.1	-215.4±12.6
ME	-277.6±15.9	-194.6±15.5	-281.4±13.3	-214.2±17.0
	MMPBSA			
WT	-285.1±15.7	-204.2±16.1	-281.5±15.0	-225.4±14.1
ME	-285.5±16.1	-204.4±16.2	-289.7±14.4	-220.5±17.8

A**B**

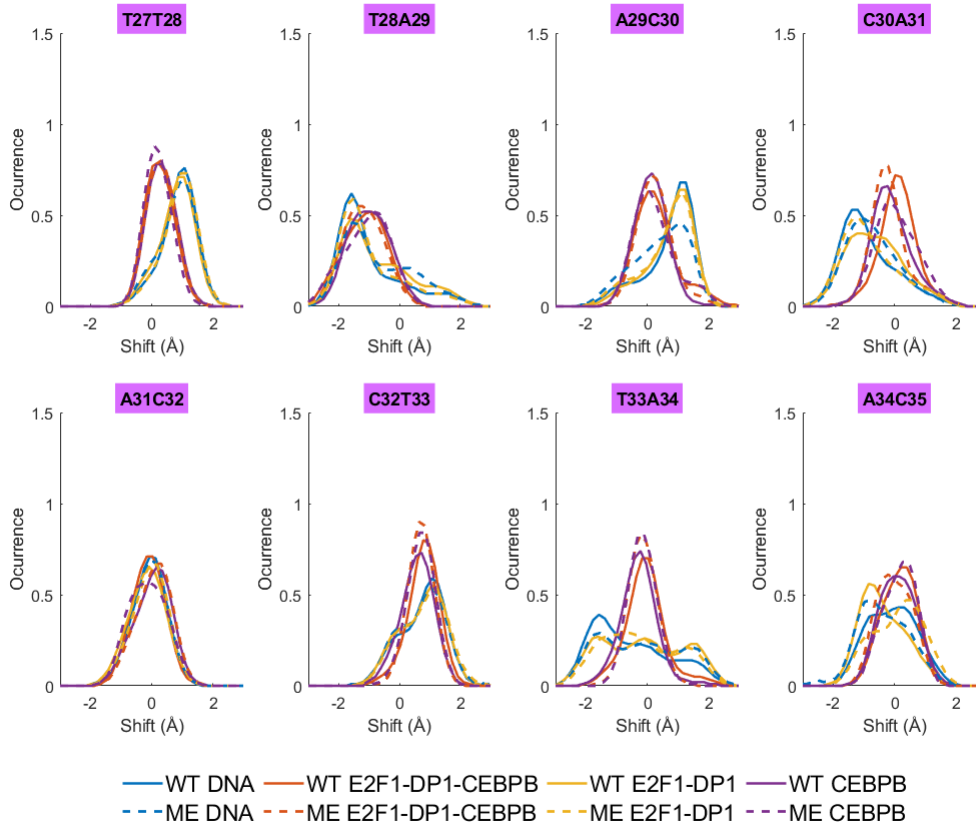
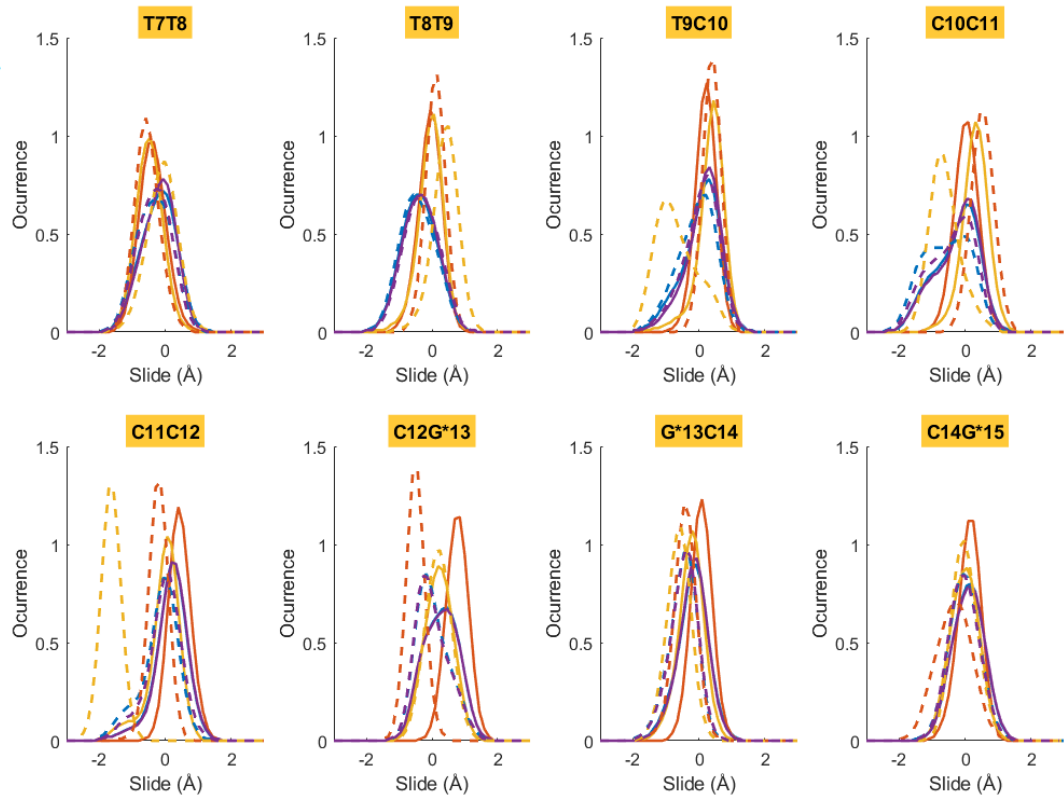
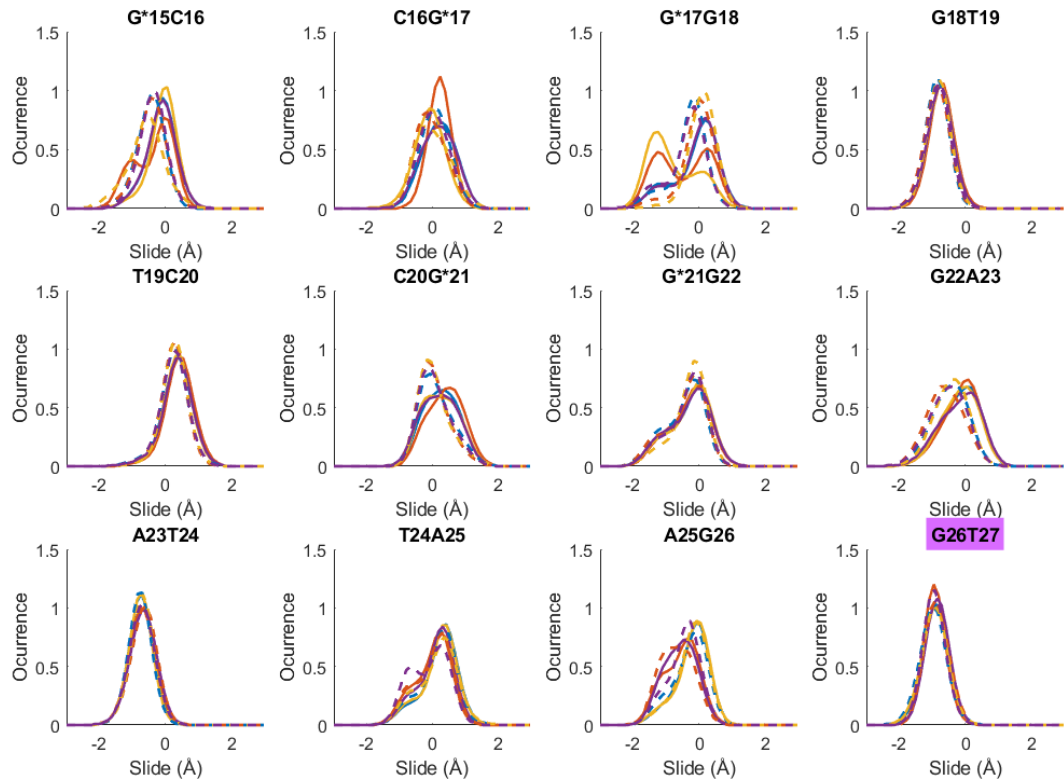
C

Figure S21: Normalized b.p. step shift distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.

A**B**

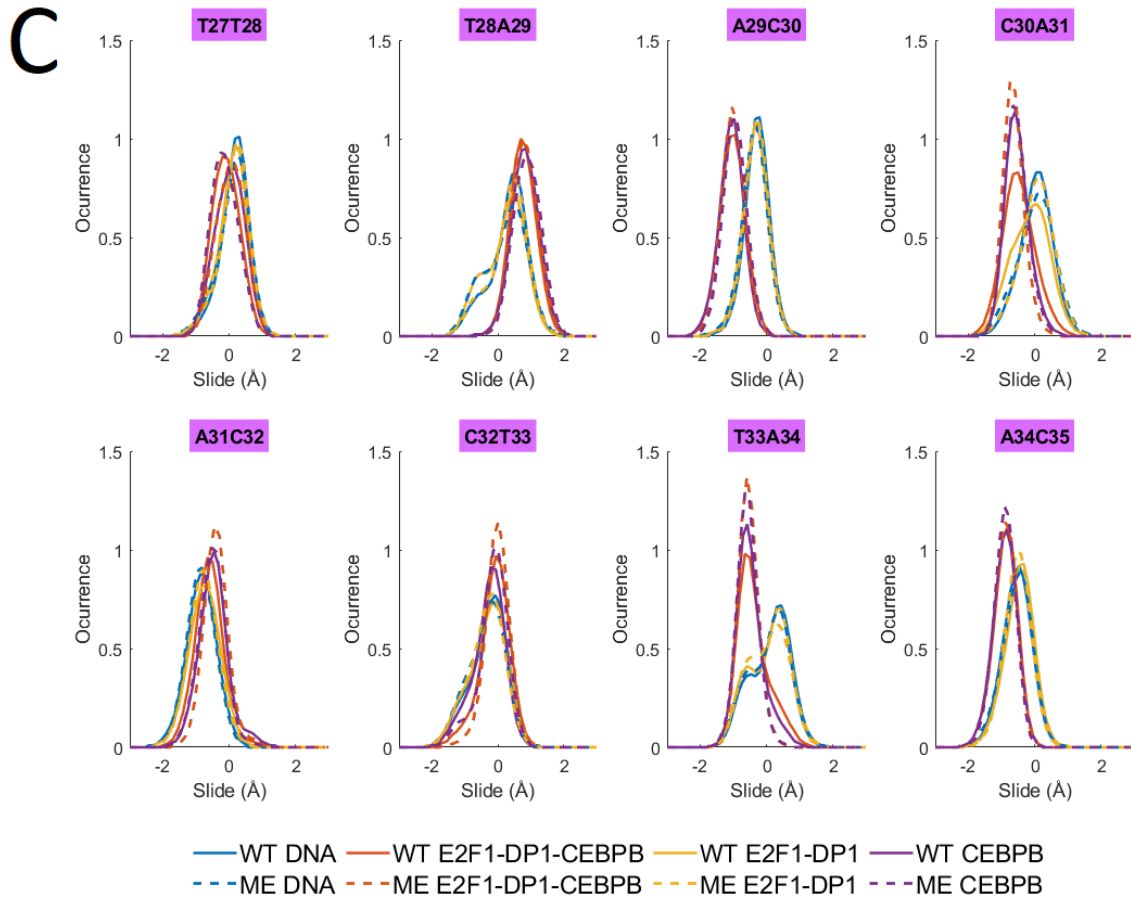
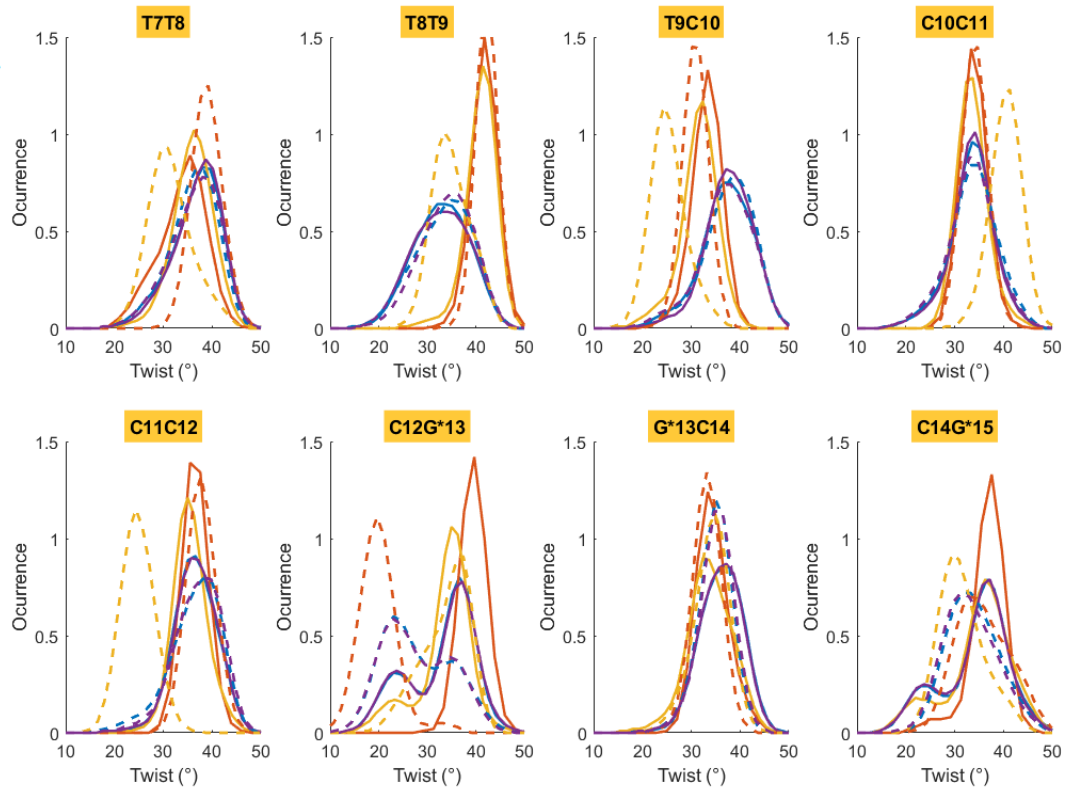
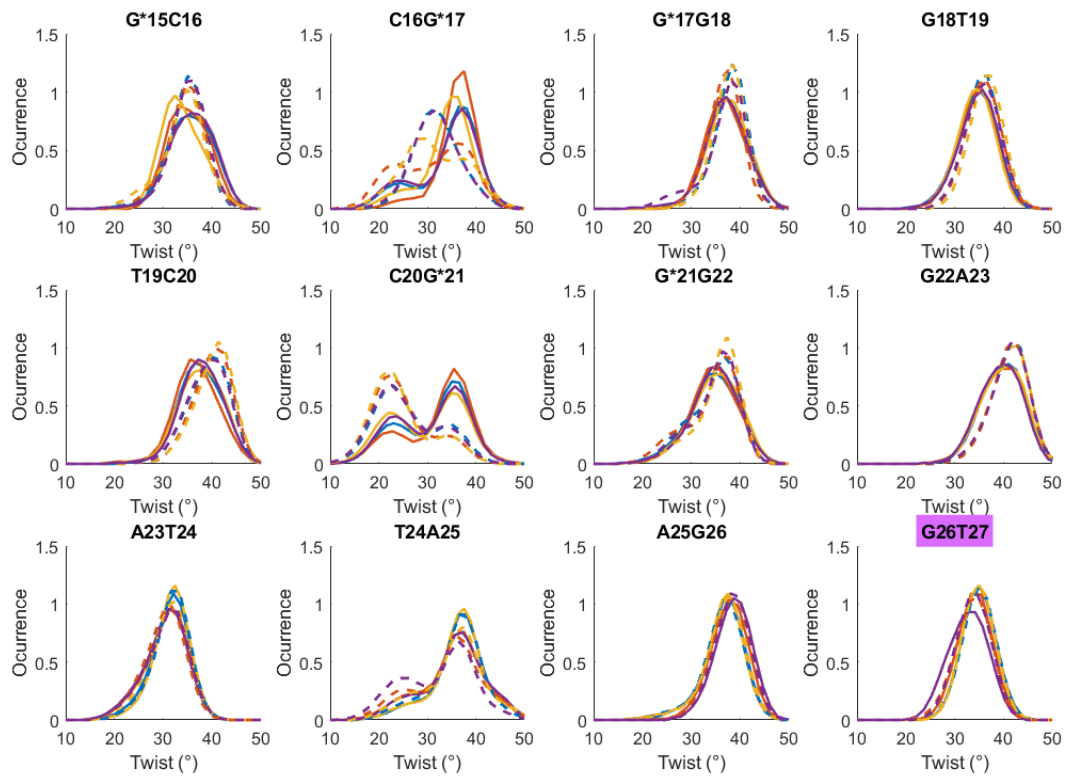


Figure S22: Normalized b.p. step slide distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A**: the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B**: the linker region; **C**: the CEBPB binding site.

A**B**

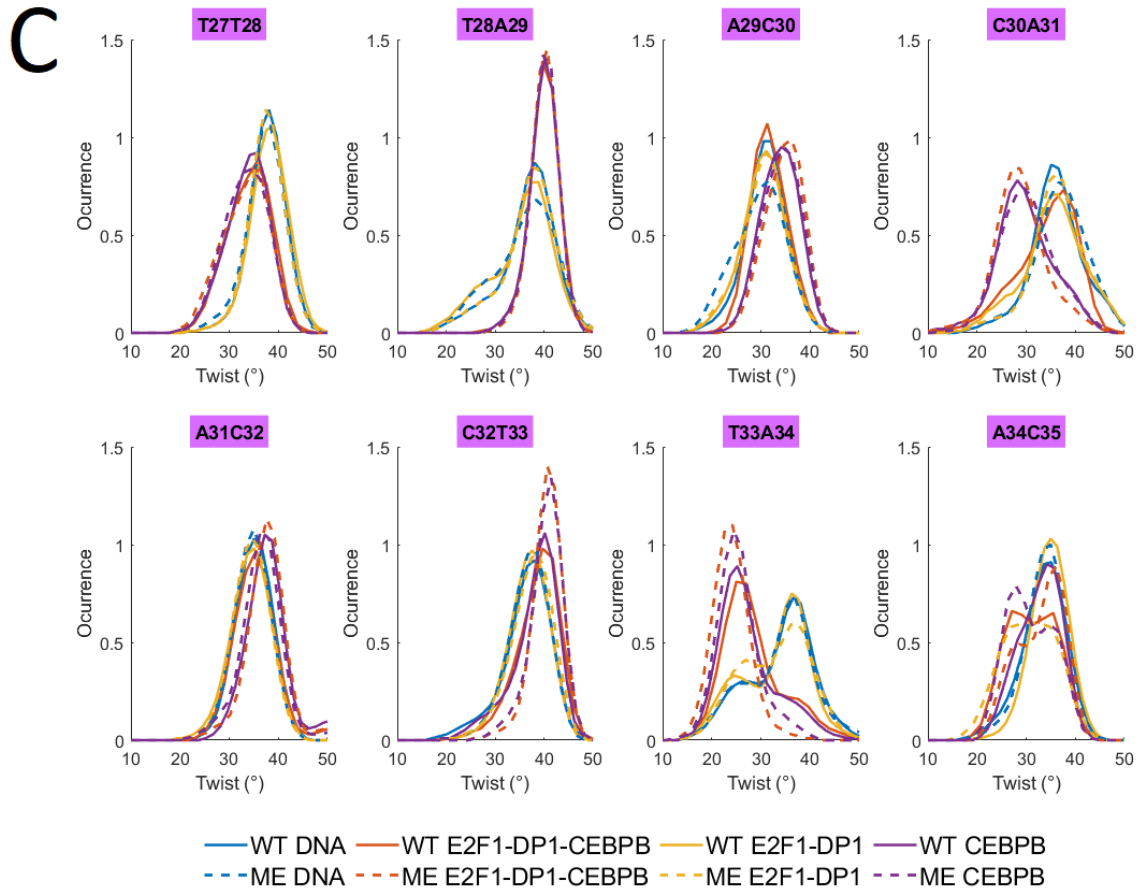
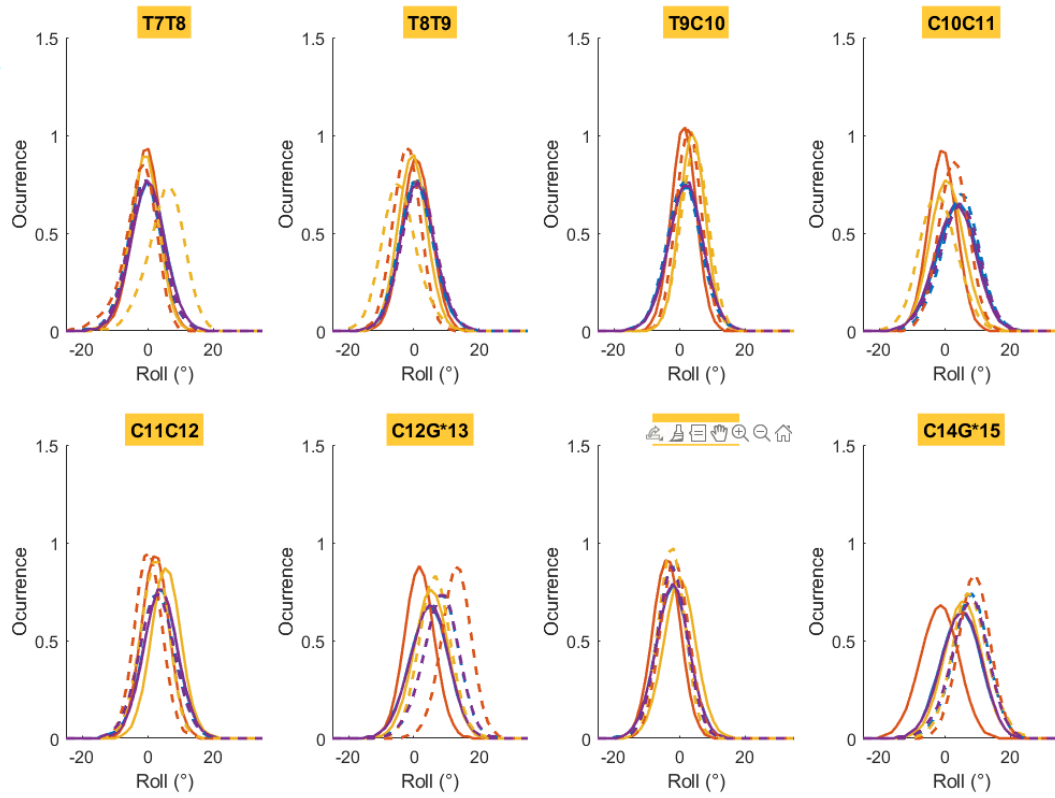
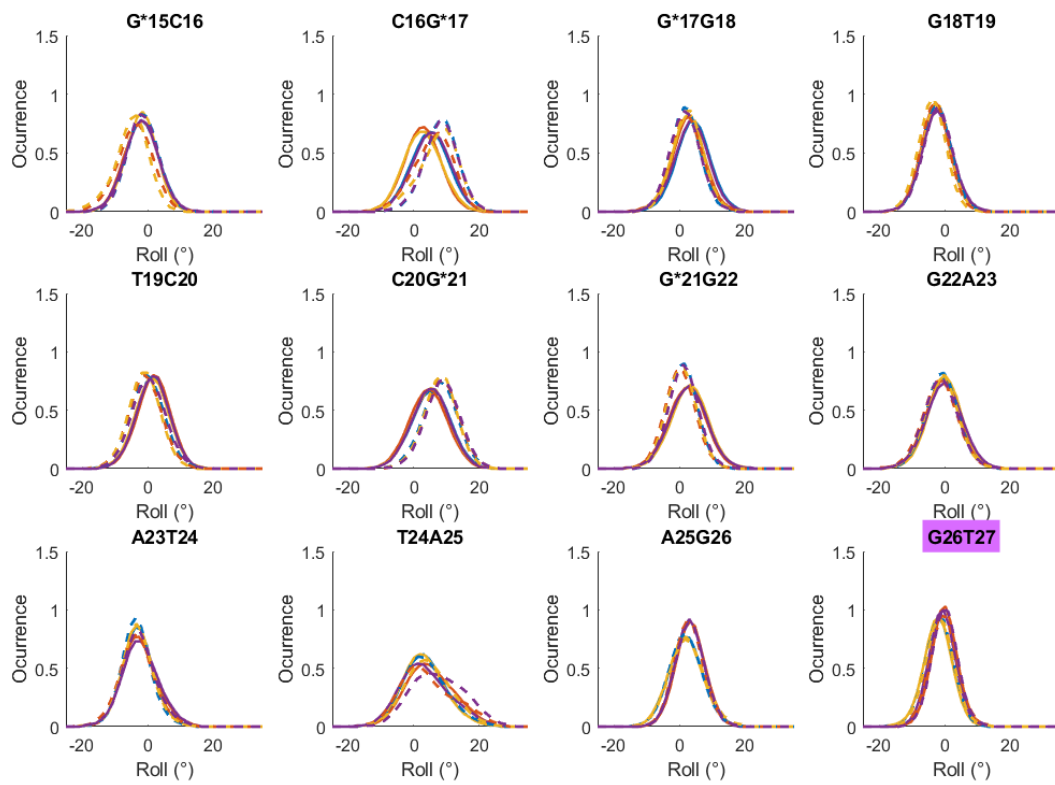


Figure S23: Normalized b.p. step twist distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.

A**B**

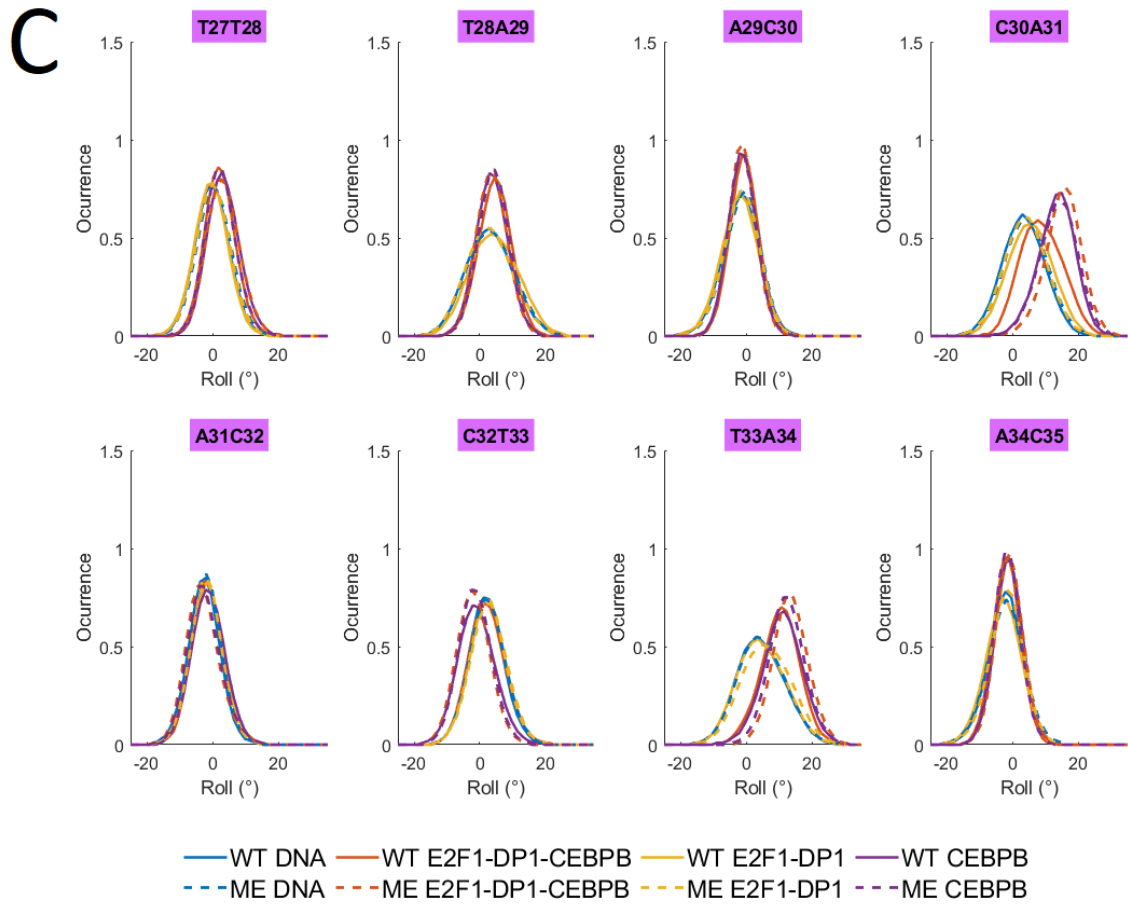
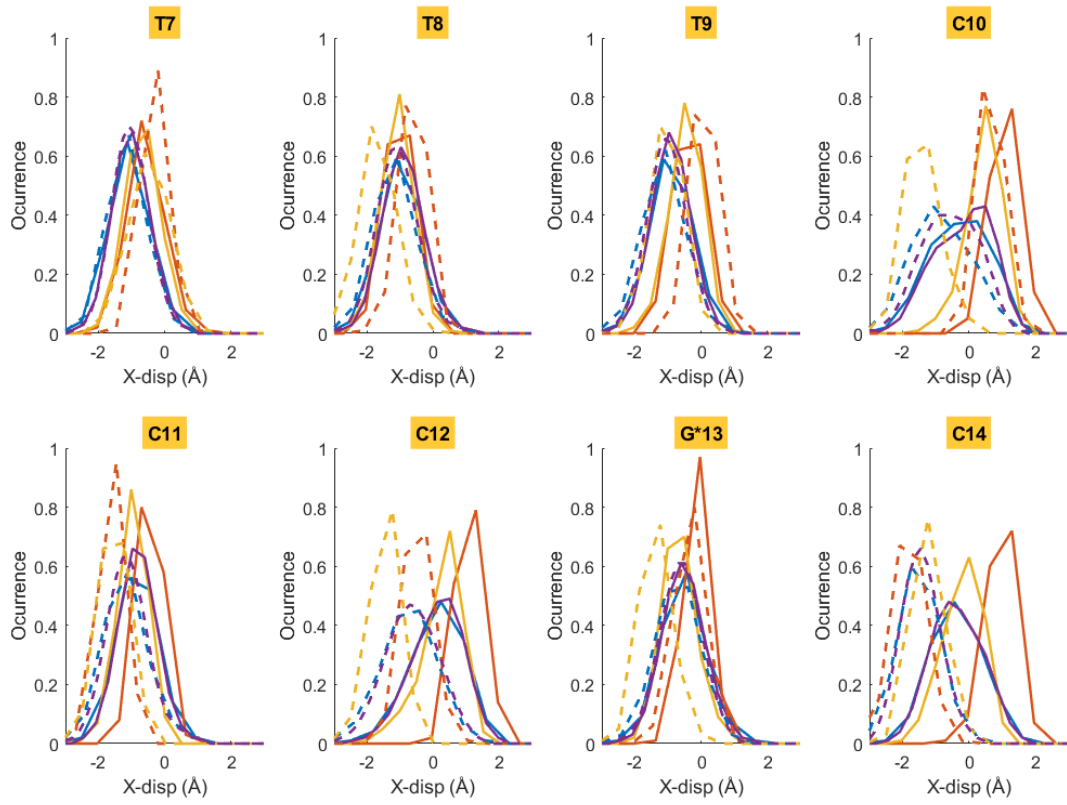
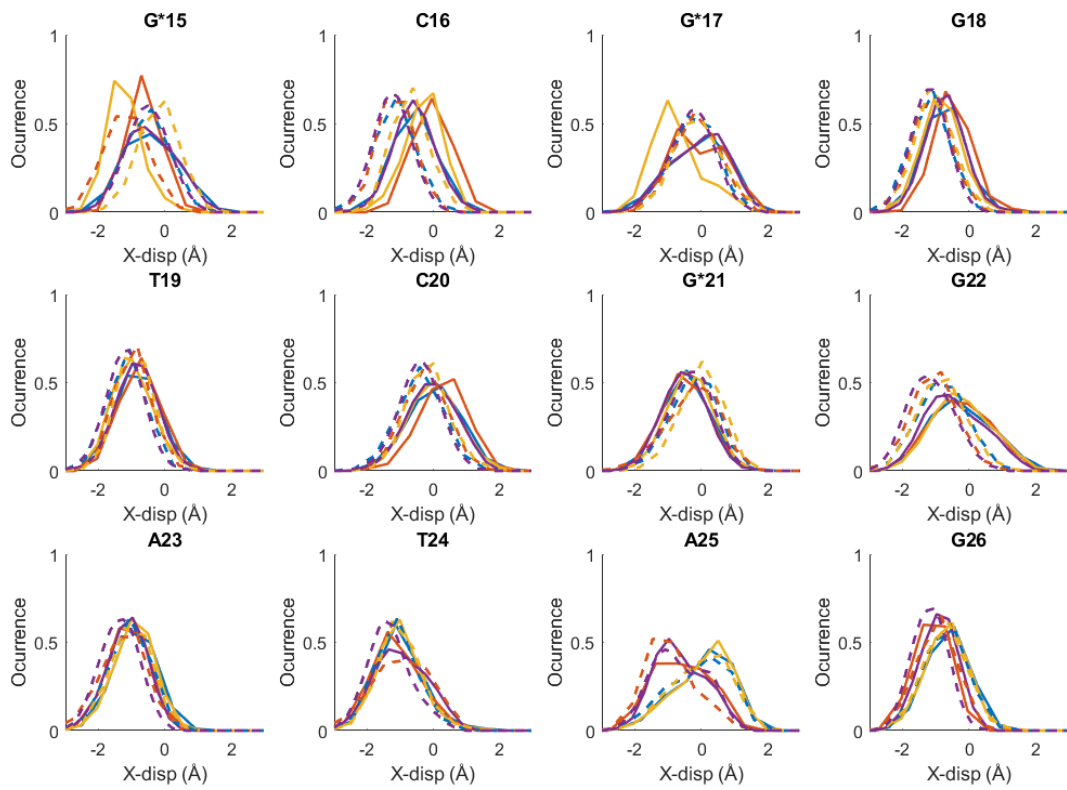


Figure S24: Normalized b.p. step roll distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.

A**B**

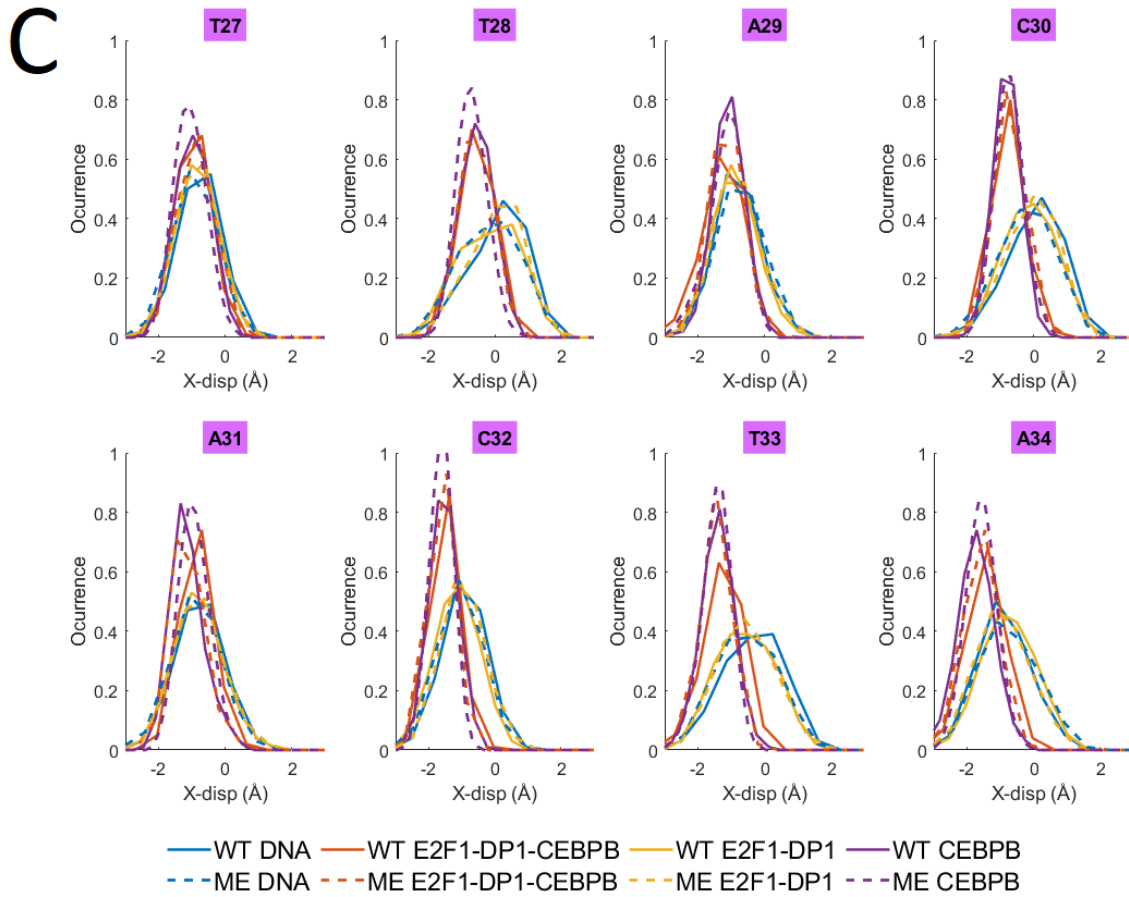
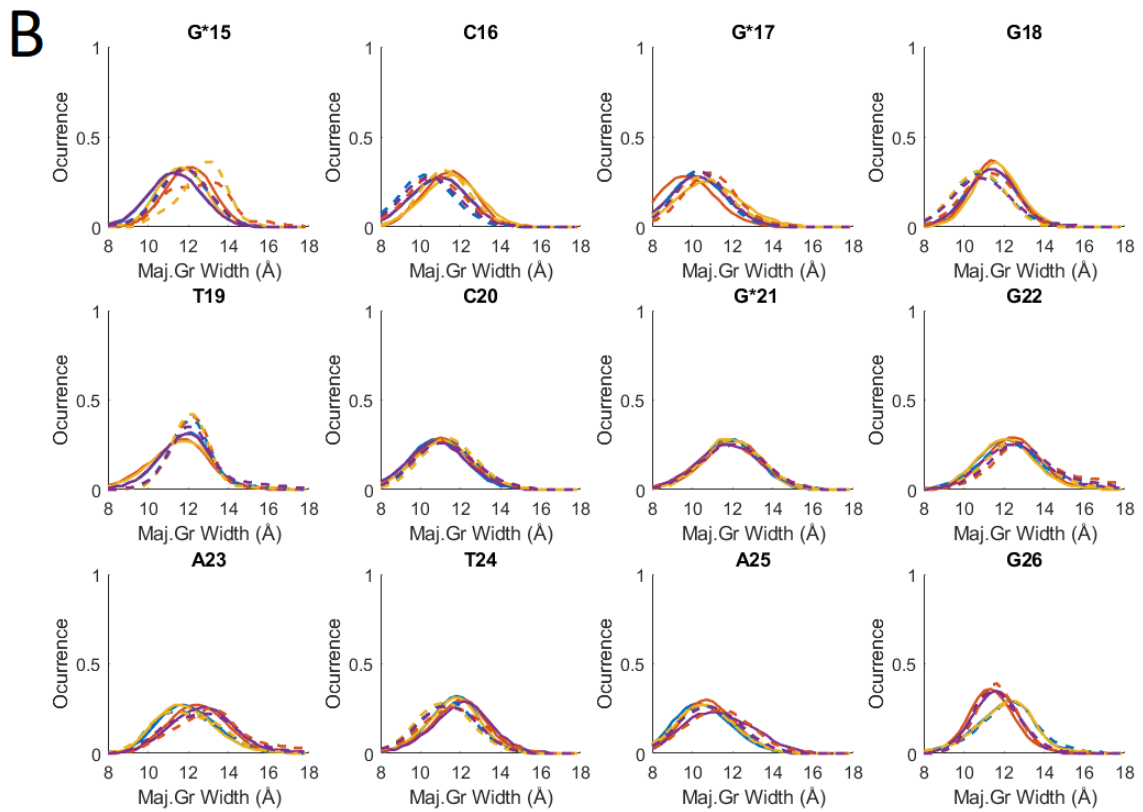
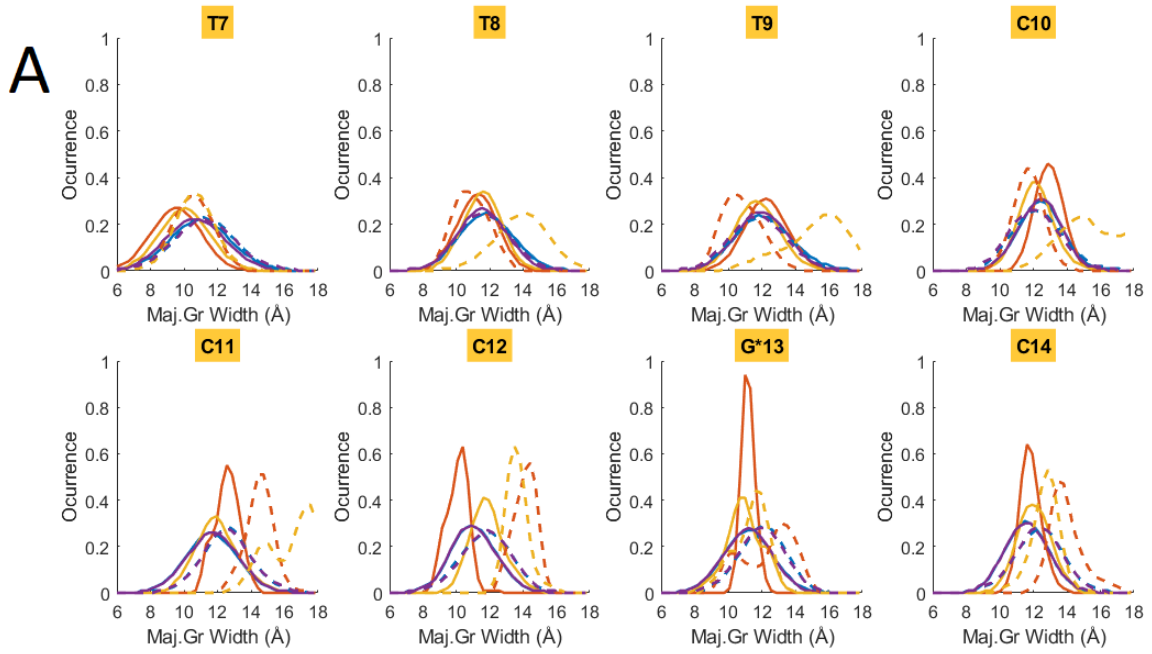


Figure S25: Normalized b.p. x-displacement distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.



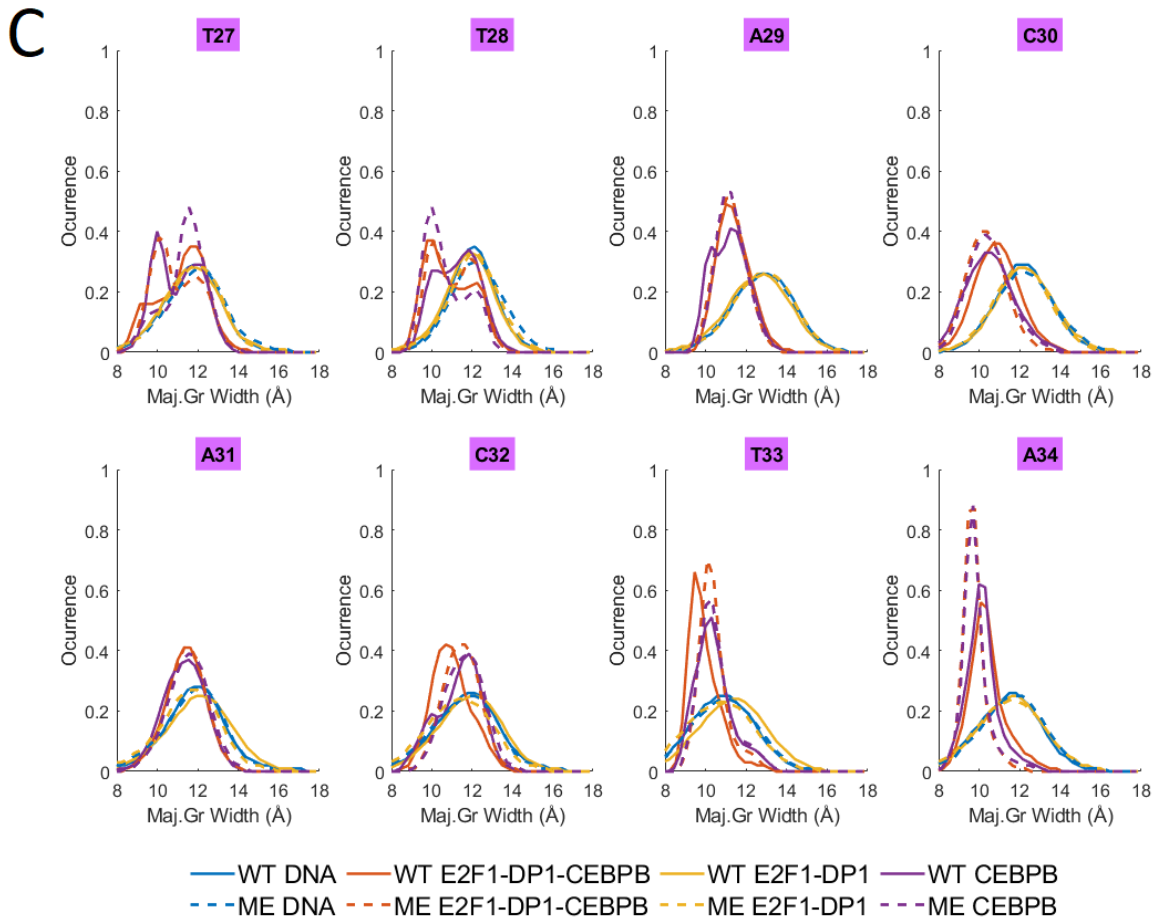
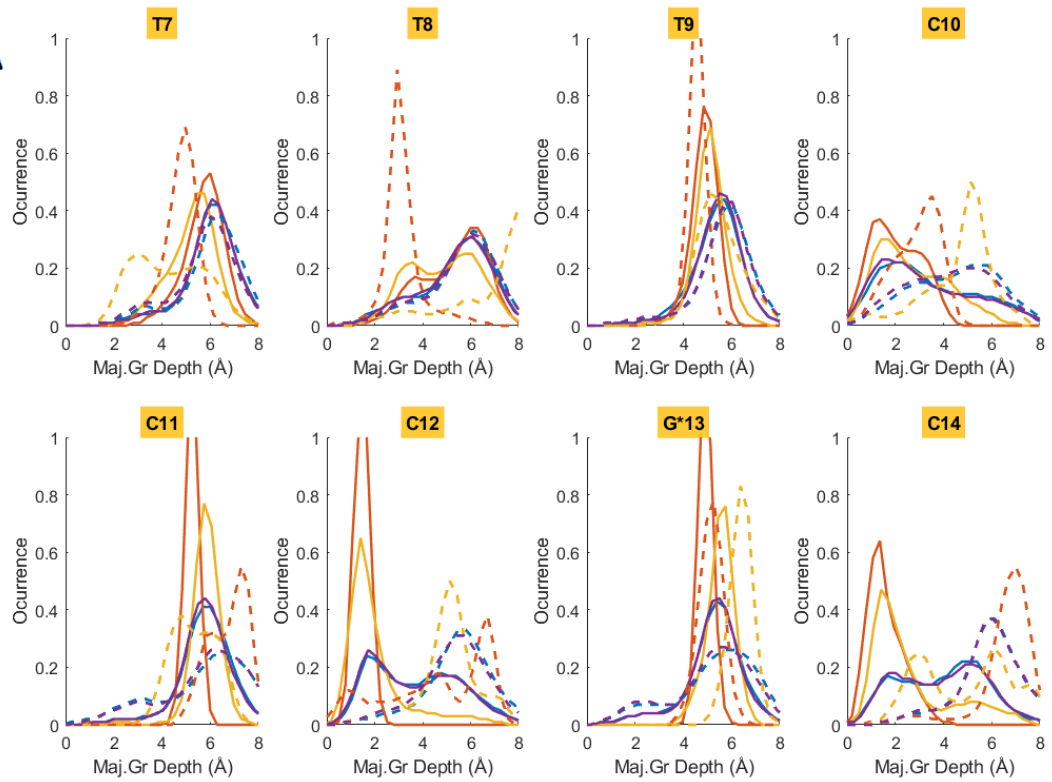
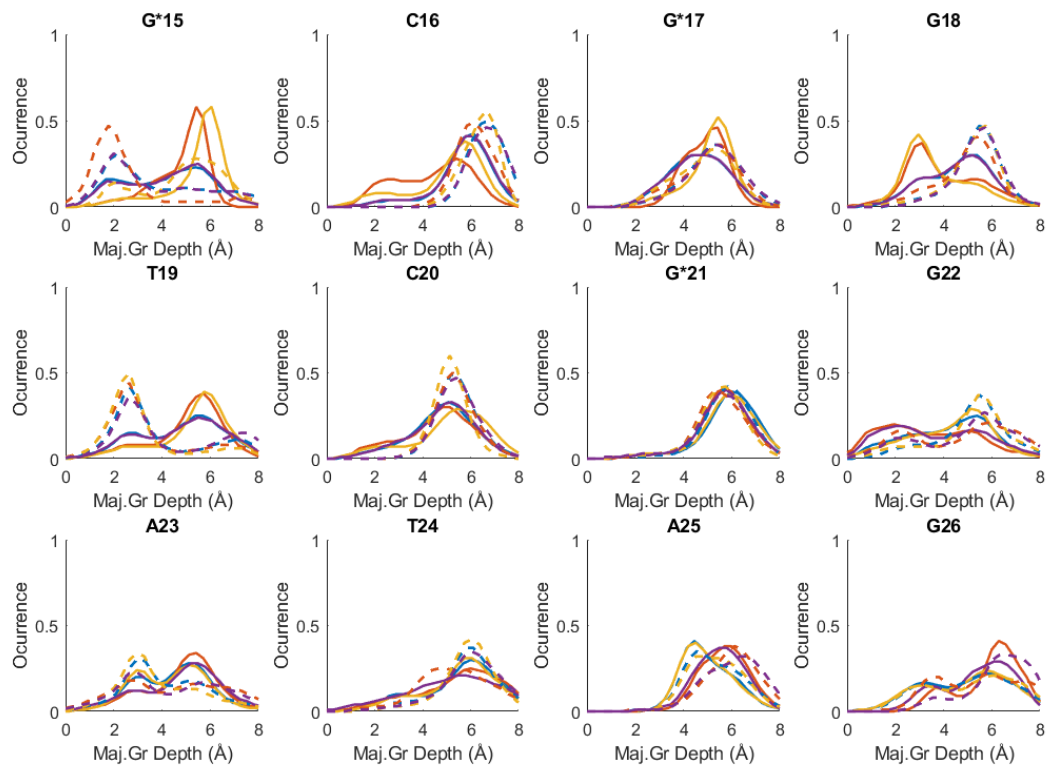


Figure S26: Normalized major groove width distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.

A**B**

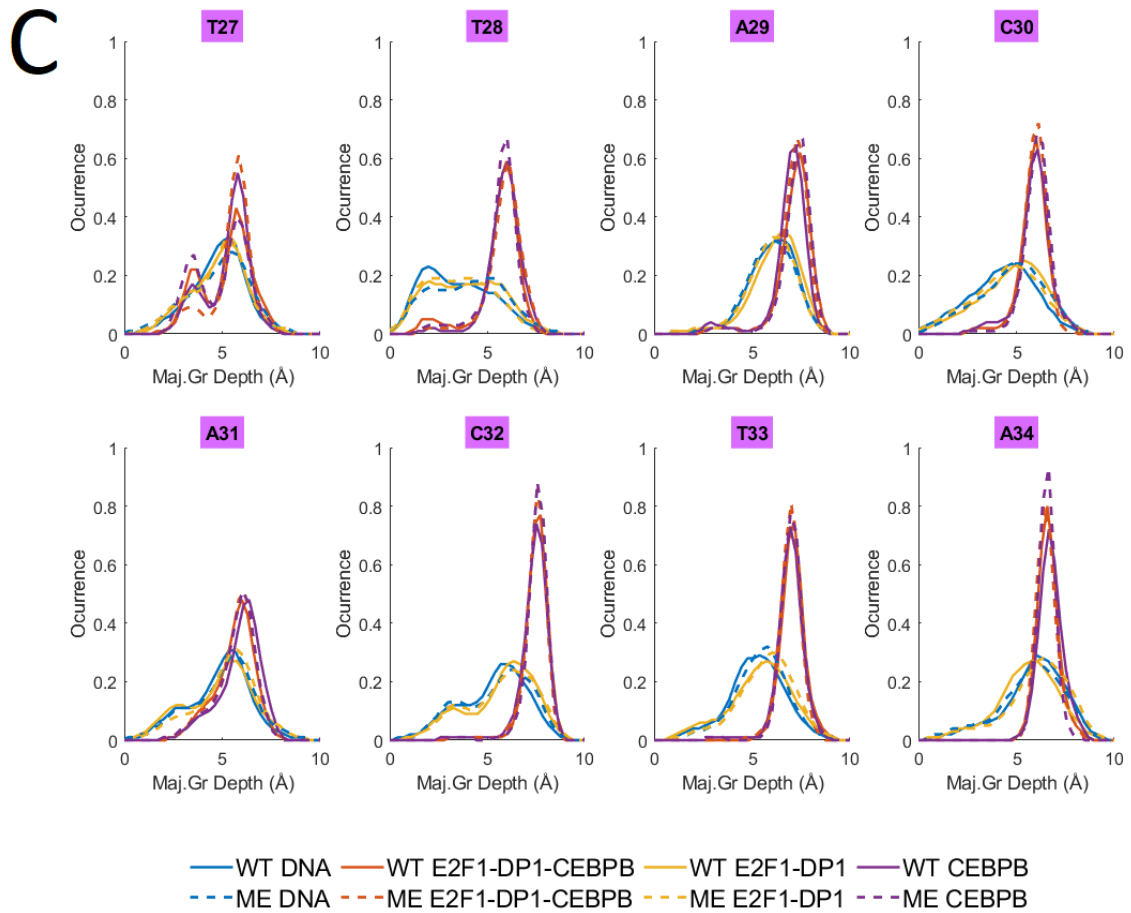


Figure S27: Normalized major groove depth distributions for DNA alone and in complex with either one (CEBPB or E2F1-DP1 TFs dimer) or both for **A:** the E2F1-DP1 binding site; **B:** the linker region; **C:** the CEBPB binding site.

Shift

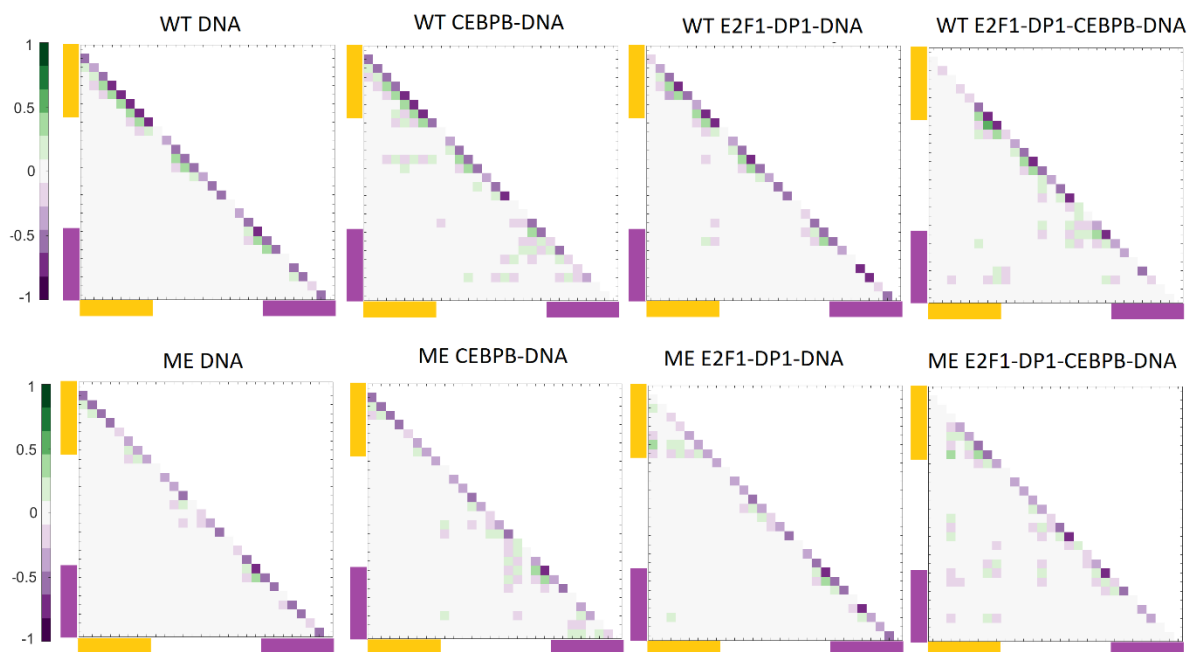


Figure S28: Time-delayed correlation coefficient maps for b.p. step shift, with a maximum allowed time lag of 10 ns along the WT and ME sequences for DNA alone and in complex with either CEBPB/E2F1-DP1 dimers, or with both TFs dimers CEBPB-E2F1-DP1. Correlation coefficients are calculated for the entire (0.1–1.1 μ s) trajectories. In all panels, the E2F1-DP1 response element is marked with yellow, the CEBPB response element – with magenta. The maximum correlation coefficients (the correlations between the neighbouring b.p. steps were omitted from) with and without lag, along with the corresponding lag in ps is presented in the table below.

B.p. step shift System	Maximum correlation without lag	Maximum correlation with lag	Time lag for maximum time-delayed correlation (ps)
WT DNA	-0.2316	-0.2334	-1
WT CEBPB	-0.2389	-0.2029	-76
WT E2F1-DP1	-0.2865	-0.2891	648
WT E2F1-DP1-CEBPB	-0.3737	-0.2687	-9999
ME DNA	0.1194	-0.1143	503
ME CEBPB	0.1745	0.1727	-261
ME E2F1-DP1	0.3411	0.3452	8303
ME E2F1-DP1-CEBPB	0.3744	0.3743	-55

Major Groove Width

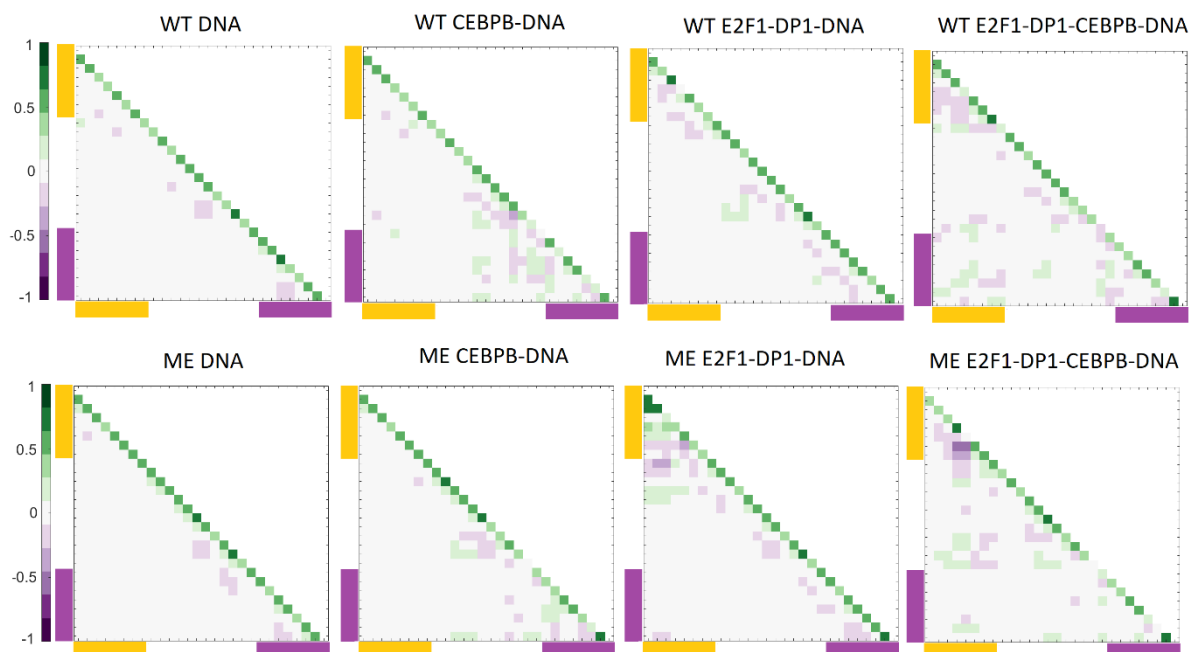


Figure S29: Time-delayed correlation coefficient maps for the major groove width, with a maximum allowed time lag of 10 ns along the WT and ME sequences for DNA alone and in complex with either CEBPB/E2F1-DP1 dimers, or with both TFs dimers CEBPB-E2F1-DP1. Correlation coefficients are calculated for the entire (0.1–1.1 μ s) trajectories. In all panels, the E2F1-DP1 response element is marked with yellow, the CEBPB response element – with magenta. The maximum correlation coefficients (the correlations between the neighbouring b.p. steps were omitted from) with and without lag, along with the corresponding lag in ps is presented in the table below.

Major groove width System	Maximum correlation without lag	Maximum correlation with lag	Time lag for maximum correlation (ps)
WT DNA	-0.2672	-0.1737	-332
WT CEBPB	0.2583	-0.2577	-1
WT E2F1-DP1	-0.2543	-0.2369	271
WT E2F1-DP1-CEBPB	-0.2792	0.267	0
ME DNA	-0.2776	-0.1995	-511
ME CEBPB	-0.2421	-0.2095	-237
ME E2F1-DP1	-0.3375	-0.3174	89
ME E2F1-DP1-CEBPB	-0.5765	-0.5687	-26

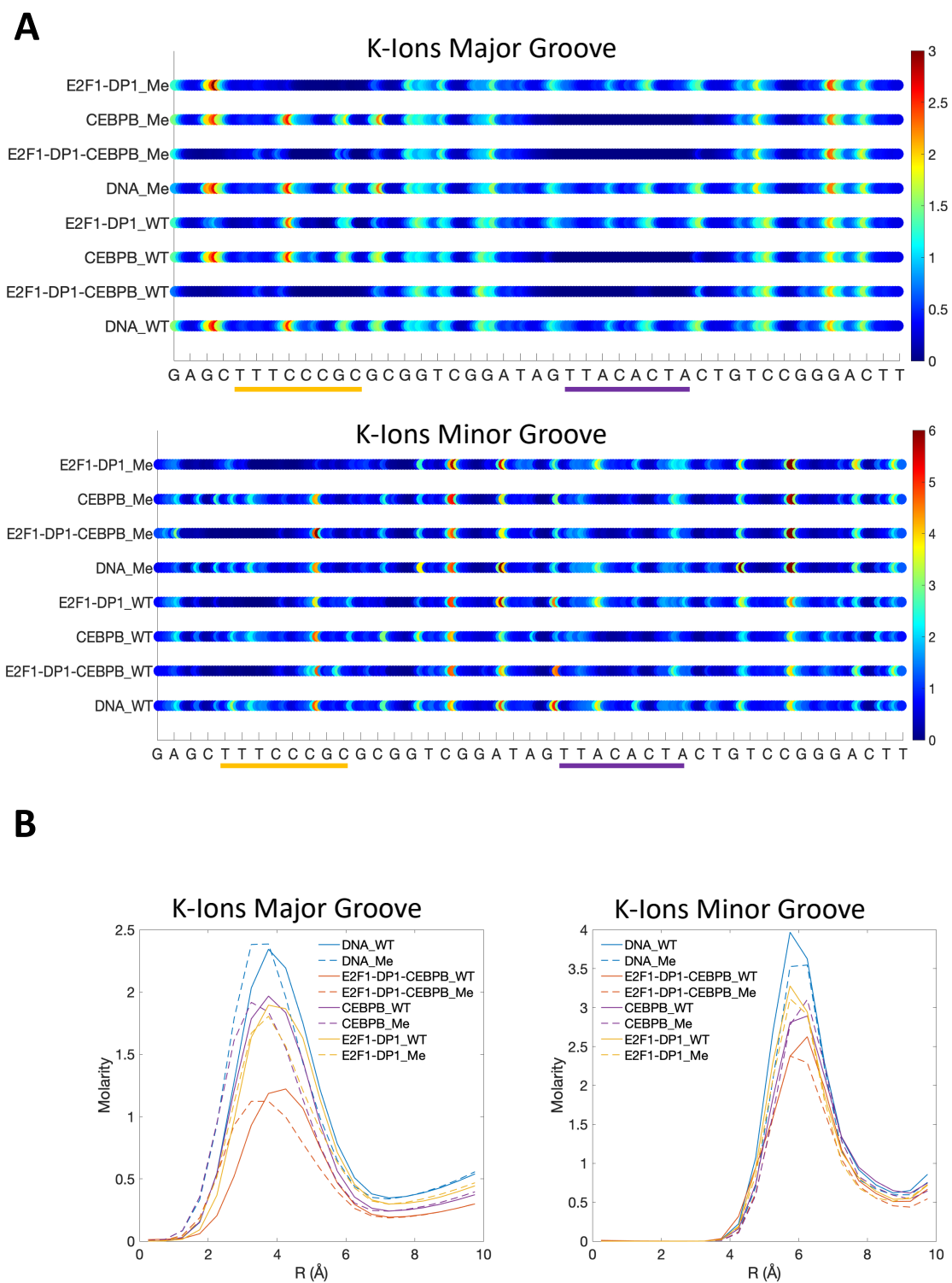


Figure S30: K⁺-molarity in major and minor groove (angles 147-33° for major groove and 33-147° for minor groove according to the settings in Canion (4)): **A.** along the DNA sequence, **B.** distance from the helical axis.

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