

**Figure S2.1:** To examine the conservation of *dome/wash* bi-cistronic transcription in the Lepidoptera we performed BLASTn searches using the previously annotated *dome* transcripts from the *H. melpomene* genome (Hmel2) found on Lepbase (Challi et al., 2016), against the Transcription Shotgun Assembly (TSA) sequence archive on NCBI. We recovered several assembled transcripts containing both the *dome* and *wash* ORFs in various divergent lepidoptera. The positions of *dome* and *wash* ORFs are shown (arrows blocks in TSA transcript) as well as the encoded Wash and Dome proteins below.

|                           | 4 12 kb + |          |          |  |   |                       |            |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--|---|-----------------------|------------|
|                           | ł kb      | 1,804 kb | 1,806 kb | 1,808 kb                                 | 1,810 kb                                | 1,812 kb              | 1,814 kb   |
| H_e_lativitta_v1_core.gff |           |          | HEL_0    | сосос <mark>ка ка</mark> какака<br>11475 |   |                       | HEL_011477 |
| H. e. lativitta D3 FW     | peak_19   |          | -        | ish                                      | dome                                    | peak_19149 peak_19150 | -          |
|                           | p-637     |          |          |  | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | -                     |            |
| H. e. lativitta D3 HW     | peak_22   | 259      |          |  |   | peak_22260 peak_22261 |            |
| H. e. petiverana D3 FW    |           |          |          | ~  |   |                       |            |
| n. e. peareiana borrir    | peak_15   | 281      |          |  |   | peak_15282            |            |
| H. e. petiverana D3 HW    |           | 700      |          |  |   |                       |            |
|                           | peak_14   | 109      |          |  |   | peak_14710            |            |
|                           |           |          |          |  |   |                       |            |

**Figure S2.2:** ATAC-sequencing analysis supports *dome/wash* bi-cistronic transcription in *Heliconius erato*. We explored whether *dome/wash* share a promoter by analysing published ATAC-sequencing data from (Lewis *et al*, 2019). We analysed samples corresponding to the forewings and hindwings of day three pupa of *H. e. lativitta* and *H. e. petiverana*. Peaks were called using Genrich (<u>http://github.com/jsh58/Genrich/</u>), using the parameter -j (ATAC-seq mode) with a cutoff of q < 0.05 (q = FDR adjusted *p*-value). Peaks were visualised in IGV. Coloured blocks correspond to significant peaks and lines represent -log(q). Peaks, indicating *cis*-regulatory activity, were observed upstream of *dome* for all samples whereas no peaks were present upstream of the start of *wash*, indicating a shared promoter for *dome/wash*.