



**Supplementary Figure S7:** Input-output transfer function of  $P_{lacO1}$  promoter. A Cole1 based plasmid was constructed to express *mRF1* fluorescence reporter under control of  $P_{lacO1}$  promoter, and transformed into the plasmid cured *E. coli* Echw2f. IPTG concentration was varied from 0mM to 1mM, and expression of *mRFP1* fluorescence reporter from  $P_{lacO1}$  promoter was measured by flow cytometry during exponential phase in supplemented M9 media. A model of the  $P_{lacO1}$  promoter's response to induction was constructed by fitting the experimental data to a hill equation model (Kuhlman et al, 2007), which is  $r (au) = \frac{9100}{1 + \frac{1450}{\left(1 + \frac{[IPTG(mM)]}{0.0184}\right)^2}}$ .

