

1 **Natural Variation in Diauxic Shift between Patagonian *Saccharomyces eubayanus***

2 **Strains**

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27 Running title: Diauxic shift across *S. eubayanus* strains

28

29 **Abstract (max 250 words)**

30 The study of natural variation can untap novel alleles with immense value for
31 biotechnological applications. *Saccharomyces eubayanus* Patagonian isolates exhibit
32 differences in the diauxic shift between glucose and maltose, representing a suitable model
33 to study their natural genetic variation for novel strains for brewing. However, little is known
34 about the genetic variants and chromatin regulators responsible for these differences. Here,
35 we show how genome-wide chromatin accessibility and gene expression differences underlie
36 distinct diauxic shift profiles in *S. eubayanus*. We identified two strains with a rapid diauxic
37 shift between glucose and maltose (CL467.1 and CBS12357) and one strain with a
38 remarkably low fermentation efficiency and longer lag phase during diauxic shift (QC18).
39 This is associated in the QC18 strain to lower transcriptional activity and chromatin
40 accessibility of specific genes of maltose metabolism, and higher expression levels of glucose
41 transporters. These differences are governed by the HAP complex, which differentially
42 regulates gene expression depending on the genetic background. We found in the QC18 strain
43 a contrasting phenotype to those described in *S. cerevisiae*, where *hap4Δ*, *hap5Δ* and *cin5Δ*
44 knockouts significantly improved the QC18 growth rate in the glucose-maltose shift. The
45 most profound effects were found between *CIN5* allelic variants, suggesting that Cin5p could
46 strongly activate a repressor of the diauxic shift in the QC18 strain, but not necessarily in the
47 other strains. The differences between strains could originate from the tree host from which
48 the strains were obtained, which might determine the sugar source preference and the
49 brewing potential of the strain.

50

51 **Importance (max 150 words)**

52 The diauxic shift has been studied in the budding yeast under laboratory conditions, however,
53 few studies have addressed the diauxic shift between carbon sources under fermentative
54 conditions. Here, we study the transcriptional and chromatin structure differences that
55 explain the natural variation in fermentative capacity and efficiency during diauxic shift of
56 natural isolates of *S. eubayanus*. Our results show how natural genetic variants in
57 transcription factors impact sugar consumption preferences between strains. These variants
58 have different effects depending on the genetic background, with a contrasting phenotype to
59 those previously described in *S. cerevisiae*. Our study shows how relatively simple
60 genetic/molecular modifications/editing in the lab can facilitate the study of natural variation
61 of microorganisms for the brewing industry.

62 **Keywords:** *Saccharomyces eubayanus*, wild strains, beer, RNA-seq, ATAC-seq, diauxic
63 shift, HAP.

64 **INTRODUCTION**

65 The *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* domestication process represents a textbook example of the
66 adaptation of microorganisms to anthropogenic settings (1). However, life in the wild for
67 *Saccharomyces* species is still poorly understood (2). Since the recent discovery and
68 identification of *Saccharomyces eubayanus* (3), one of the parents of the lager yeast hybrid,
69 several studies developed biotechnological applications, together with research studies on its
70 ecology, genetics, evolution, phylogeography and natural history (4–10). *S. eubayanus*
71 isolates have only been found in natural environments; however, the genetic material of *S.*
72 *eubayanus* has been identified on multiple occasions in industrial hybrids, highlighting the

73 existence of recurrent hybridization events between *Saccharomyces* species under the
74 human-driven fermentative environment (3, 11–13). Fermentation at low temperatures
75 carried out by the lager hybrid, *Saccharomyces pastorianus*, is undoubtedly the most
76 important of these cases. It is clear then, that *S. eubayanus*, analyzed in both natural and
77 domesticated environments, represents an excellent experimental model for investigating
78 physiological adaptation to both scenarios.

79 *S. pastorianus* is a classic example of hybrid vigor. It combines the cold tolerance of *S.*
80 *eubayanus* together with the superior fermentation kinetics inherited from *S. cerevisiae*, both
81 traits having synergistic effects on fitness, under the cold fermentative environment of
82 European cellars since the middle ages (12, 14, 15). However, despite the importance of *S.*
83 *pastorianus* in the brewing industry, the origin of this hybrid has not been entirely unraveled
84 (12). This lack of information remains mostly because *S. eubayanus* has never been isolated
85 in Europe, either in fermentation environments or in the wild (16). Paradoxically, this
86 cryotolerant species has been extensively recovered in Argentina (3, 6), North America (17,
87 18), East Asia (19), New Zealand (20) and Chile (4). Although the evolutionary origin of this
88 species is still a matter of debate, the large number of isolates, lineages and the great genetic
89 diversity found in the Andean region of Argentina and Chile support the hypothesis of a
90 Patagonian origin for *S. eubayanus* (4, 5). This species is genetically structured into two main
91 populations (PA and PB) and 6 subpopulations (HOL, PA-1, PA-2, PB-1, PB-2 and PB-3)
92 (6, 17, 18), reflected in its biogeography (4, 5).

93 One of the most important parameters to evaluate in brewing fermentation is attenuation, that
94 is, the ability of yeast to consume the sugars from the wort (21). A beer wort is mainly made
95 up of glucose, maltose, maltotriose and dextrins (22). While *S. pastorianus* can consume all

96 of these sugars, *S. eubayanus* is capable of metabolizing just glucose and maltose, but is
97 unable to consume more complex sugars, such as maltotriose (23). Partial sugar consumption
98 can result in sluggish fermentations, that alter the sensorial properties of the final product
99 (24, 25). Maltose is the most abundant sugar in the wort (approx. 60%) and the efficient
100 consumption of this sugar is decisive in beer fermentation (26). However, the maltose
101 consumption rate in *S. eubayanus* and other *Saccharomyces* species is slower compared to
102 that of commercial lager strains, which are capable of rapidly fermenting all the sugars
103 present in the wort (8, 27, 28). Furthermore, different *S. eubayanus* strains exhibit differences
104 in their maltose consumption rate and yield during fermentation (6, 8). The differences in
105 fermentation rate originate from the phenotypic variation of the metabolic response to the
106 presence of glucose in the medium. This sugar represses the expression of genes involved in
107 the consumption of more complex sugars such as maltose, as well as genes involved in
108 respiration, a phenomenon known as ‘glucose repression’ (29). Glucose depletion activates
109 a metabolic rewiring triggering the metabolism of other sugars, a process called diauxic shift,
110 which may explain differences in the adaptation time between different *S. eubayanus* strains
111 (30, 31). Then, a detailed molecular analysis of the diauxic shift in *S. eubayanus* strains is
112 fundamental for the potential use of this wild yeast in the industry.

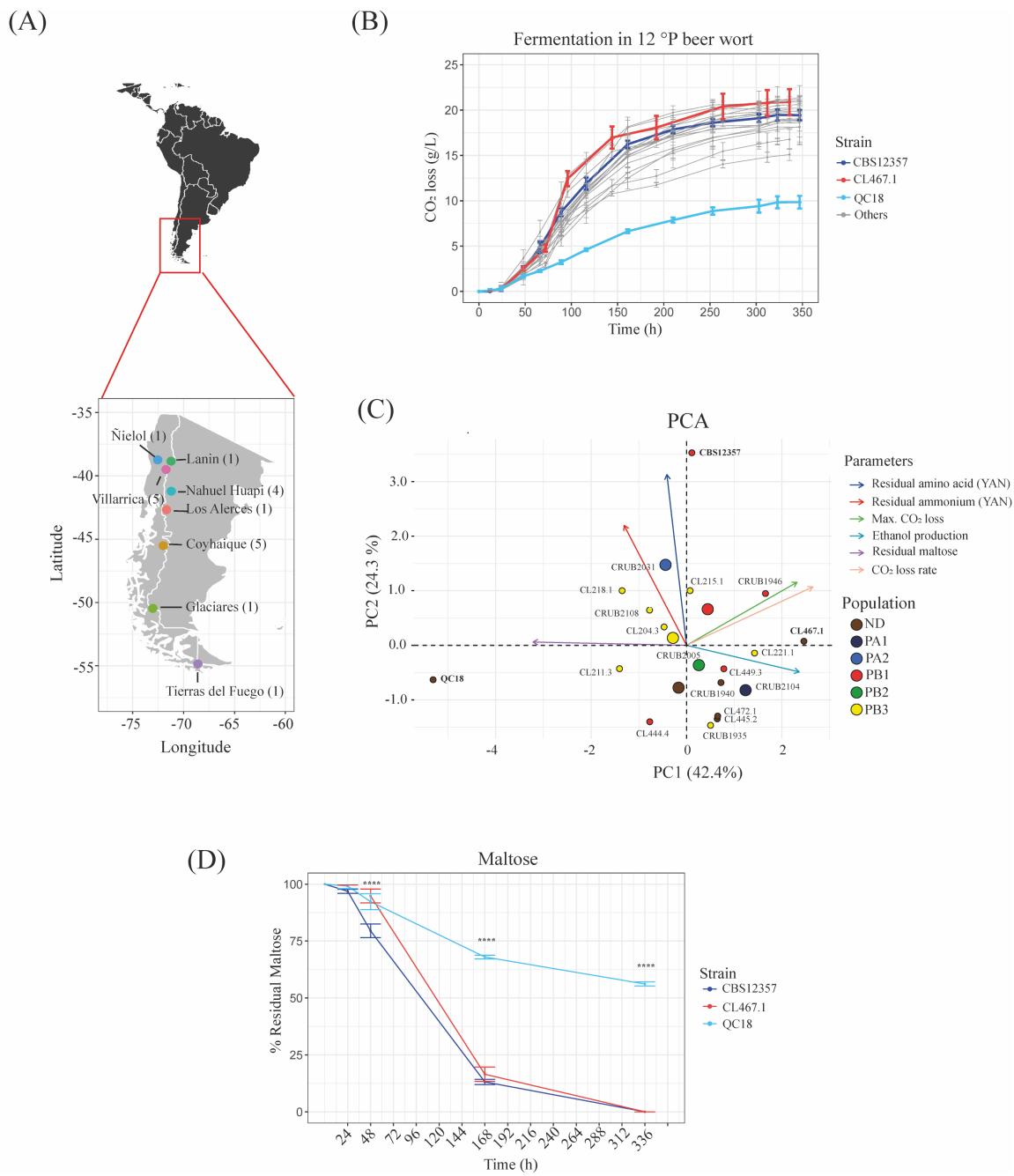
113 To identify the molecular origin of the variability in sugar consumption at low temperatures
114 between natural *S. eubayanus* yeast strains, we studied the fermentation profiles of 19 strains
115 of *S. eubayanus* that represent the different lineages distributed across Andean Patagonia.
116 Given the great genetic diversity already documented in these lineages and the phenotypic
117 changes observed in previous studies, we selected three strains from Patagonia to evaluate
118 gene expression and chromatin structure differences in depth during the diauxic shift. This

119 approach offered valuable information on the genetic variants underlying sugar consumption
120 differences during fermentation, providing important insights into the ecology of the species,
121 and their potential application in the brewing industry.

122 **RESULTS**

123 ***S. eubayanus* Patagonian isolates exhibit differences in their fermentation profiles**

124 To determine the natural genetic variation in fermentative capacity under brewing conditions
125 across Andean Patagonia *S. eubayanus* isolates, we initially selected 19 strains that are
126 representative of the different geographic areas of Chile and Argentina (**Fig. 1A, Table S1A**).
127 After 14 days of beer fermentation, most strains exhibited similar kinetic profiles of CO₂
128 loss, except for the QC18 strain which exhibited the lowest fermentative capacity (**Fig. 1B**,
129 *p*-value < 0.05, Student t-test, **Table S2A, S2B**). Sugar consumption and ethanol production
130 differed across strains (**Table S2C, S2D, S2E**). Interestingly, we observed lower levels of
131 residual maltose and therefore incomplete fermentation, in seven strains (CL204.3, CL211.3,
132 CL215.1, CL218.1, CL444.4, CRUB2031 and CRUB 2108), where the QC18 strain
133 exhibited the lowest consumption levels (ANOVA, *p*-value < 0.0001). However, we did not
134 observe a correlation between residual maltose and CO₂ loss rate (Pearson correlation
135 coefficient -0.33, *p*-value = 0.14, **Fig. S1A**) or maximum CO₂ loss (Pearson correlation
136 coefficient -0.14, *p*-value = 0.54, **Fig. S1A**), likely because residual maltose was below 5
137 g/L. Instead, we found a significant correlation with ethanol production (Pearson correlation
138 coefficient -0.59, *p*-value = 0.005, **Fig. S1A**). Notably, the strains differed in their amino acid
139 consumption profiles at the end of the fermentation, demonstrating differences in their sugar
140 and nitrogen consumption profiles (**Table S2F, S2G, S2H**).



141

142 **Figure 1. Fermentation differences between Andean Patagonia *S. eubayanus* strains.**
143 (A) Map of Argentinian/Chilean Andean Patagonia together with the eight localities from
144 where the 19 strains were isolated. (B) CO₂ loss kinetics for 19 strains; red, blue and light
145 blue depict the three strains selected for the rest of this study. (C) Principal component
146 analysis (PCA) using fermentation parameters across the 19 strains, together with the
147 distribution of individual strains. Arrows depict the different parameters. (D) Maltose
148 consumption kinetics of CBS12357, CL467.1 and QC18 strains. Plotted values correspond
149 to mean values of three independent replicates for each strain. The (*) represents different
150 levels of significance between QC18 and the other strains (t-test, *** p ≤ 0.0001).

151 PCA of six fermentation parameters (**Fig. 1C**) indicated that CO₂ loss rate and maximum
152 CO₂ loss parameters correlate positively (Pearson correlation coefficient 0.56, *p-value* =
153 7.3x10⁻⁶, **Fig. S1B**), where the PC1 and PC2 components explain 42.4% and 24.3% of the
154 observed variance, respectively. Interestingly, the individual factor map indicates no
155 significant separation pattern according to geographical origin and/or phylogenetic group. In
156 addition, we performed hierarchical clustering of the kinetic parameters, obtaining five main
157 clusters (**Fig. S1C**). Again, we did not observe a significant pattern of divergence either by
158 geographic origin or phylogenetic group.

159 To further explore potential differences between strains throughout the fermentation process,
160 we selected three strains representative of the different phenotypes analyzed above. Of the
161 19 initial strains, the QC18 strain exhibited the worst kinetic parameters and was selected as
162 a low-fermentation strain (LF). On the other hand, we selected strains CBS12357 and
163 CL467.1 as representatives with higher fermentation capacities (HF). We evaluated the sugar
164 consumption and ethanol production profiles of these three strains at different time-points
165 during the fermentation process (24, 48, 168 and 336 hours, **Table S2C**). Glucose and
166 fructose were completely consumed during the first 48 hours of fermentation independent of
167 the genetic background, while maltose was consumed after 168 hours in the HF strains.
168 However, the LF strain stalled after 48 hours (following glucose/fructose consumption), and
169 we detected maltose consumption after 168 hours (7 days). Overall, the LF strain consumed
170 less than 50% of the maltose after 336 hours, resulting in reduced fermentation capacity and
171 ethanol production (**Fig. 1D, Table S2C**).

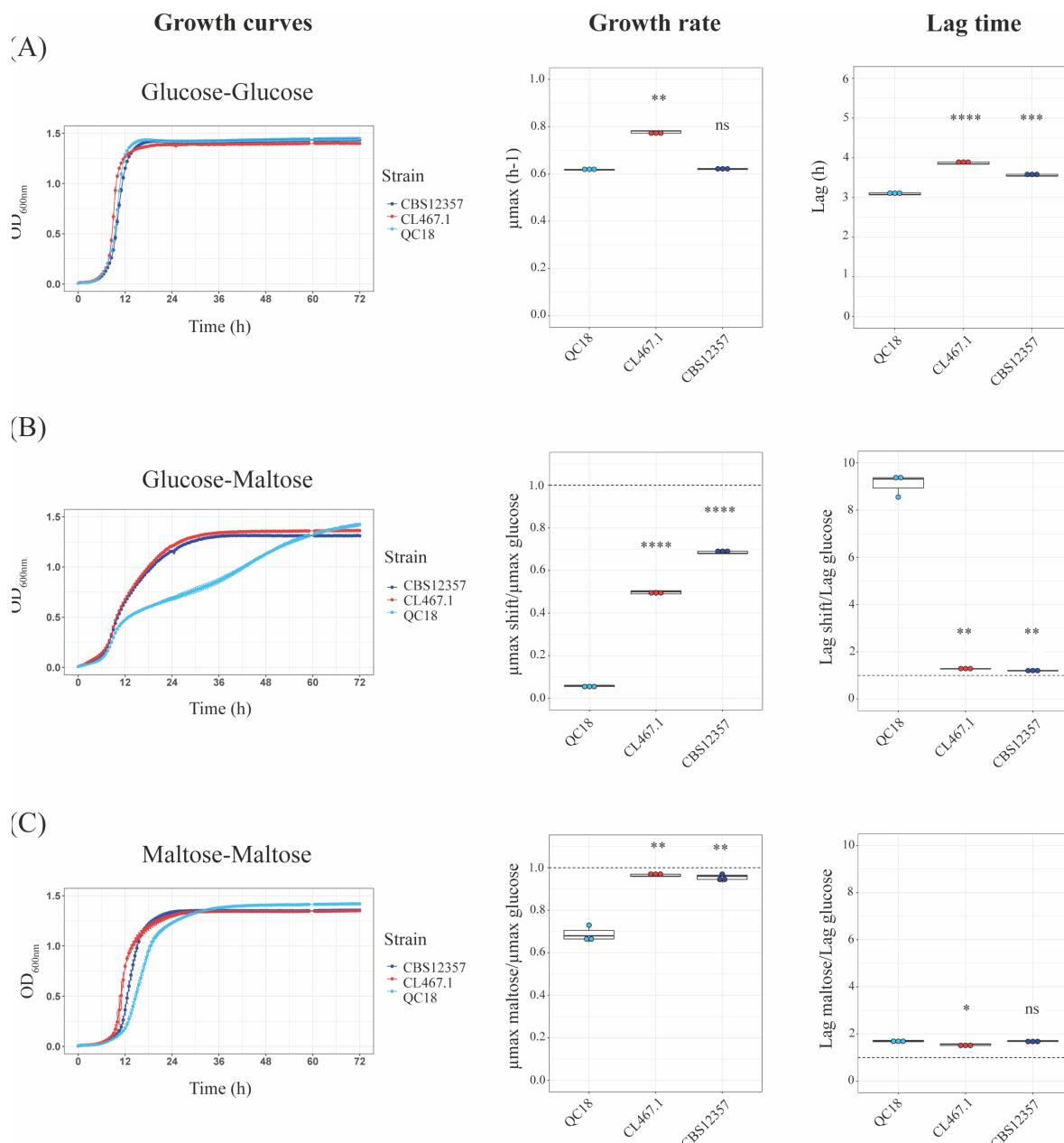
172 Similarly, we estimated the yeast assimilable nitrogen consumption (YAN) for the HF and
173 LF strains at different time-points during the fermentation process (24, 48 and 336 hours,

174 **Table S2H).** YAN was almost completely consumed after only 48 hours; the CBS12357
175 strain had slower consumption kinetics compared with the QC18 and CL467.1 strains, mainly
176 for ammonium (Student t-test, *p*-value < 0.0001) and some amino acids during the first 24
177 hours (alanine, *p*-value < 0.0001, phenylalanine, *p*-value = 0.0484, and leucine, *p*-value =
178 0.0095, Student t-test, **Table S2H**), and for total YAN amino acids at 48 and 336 hours
179 (Student t-test, *p*-value = 0.0076 and <0.0001, respectively). These results demonstrate that
180 beer fermentation differences across *S. eubayanus* strains are not due to differences in
181 nitrogen consumption, but rather in maltose consumption.

182 **Differences in the glucose-maltose shift between *S. eubayanus* strains**

183 To evaluate the diauxic shift capacity of the HF and LF strains, particularly in the switch
184 from consumption of glucose to other saccharides, we estimated their growth capacity under
185 glucose, maltose, galactose and sucrose after two 24 h pre-cultures in 5% glucose (**Fig. 2**,
186 **Fig. S2** and **Table S3**). In glucose (without diauxic shift), the growth kinetics profiles were
187 similar between strains, yet the lag phase was shorter in the LF strain (Student t-test, *p*-value
188 = 3.9x10⁻⁷, **Fig. 2A**). In contrast, we observed a significant difference between the QC18 and
189 HF strains in their growth rates during the glucose-maltose shift (Student t-test, *p*-value =
190 6x10⁻⁹, **Fig. 2B**). This difference was only found for the diauxic shift between glucose-
191 maltose; no differences were observed during the glucose-galactose, or glucose-sucrose
192 transitions (**Fig. S2**). The QC18 strain showed the largest glucose-maltose growth decrease,
193 with a 94% decrease in growth rate and an 89% increase in the duration of the lag phase,
194 compared to HF strains, which exhibited a 31% and 50% decrease in growth rate and a 17%
195 and 22% increase in lag phase duration for the CBS12357 and CL467.1 strains, respectively.
196 When a similar experiment was performed in maltose-maltose conditions, we found lower

197 differences compared to the glucose-maltose shift, with a decrease in 31% for growth rate,
 198 and an increase of 41% for lag phase in the LF strain, while the HF strains exhibited almost
 199 no differences in growth rates compared to the glucose-glucose condition (**Fig. 2C**). These
 200 results demonstrate that the differences in the glucose-maltose diauxic shift are responsible
 201 for the contrasting fermentation profiles between strains.



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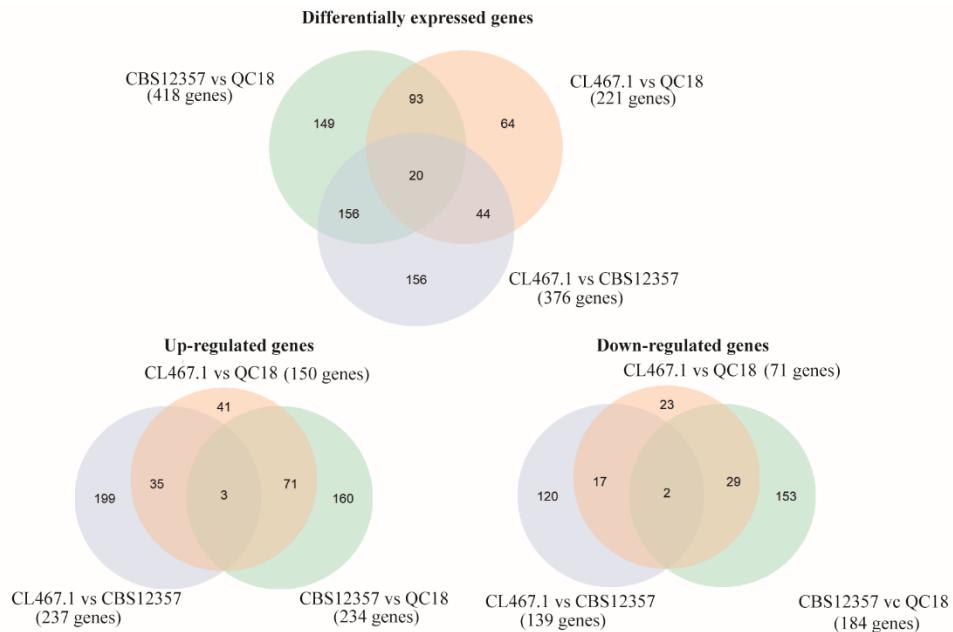
203 **Figure 2. Diauxic shift differences between LF and HF strains during the glucose-**
204 **maltose shift.** (A) Growth curves in glucose and the kinetic parameters: growth rate and lag
205 time. (B) Growth curves in glucose-maltose shifts and the kinetic parameters relative to
206 growth in glucose. (C) Growth curves in maltose and the kinetic parameters relative to the
207 growth in glucose. Plotted values correspond to the mean value of three independent
208 replicates for each strain. The (*) represents different levels of significance between QC18
209 (LF) and the other strains (CBS12357 and CL467.1, HF) (t-test, * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, ***
210 $p \leq 0.001$, **** $p \leq 0.0001$).

211 **Comparative transcriptomic analysis reveals transcription factors underlying**
212 **fermentation differences between strains**

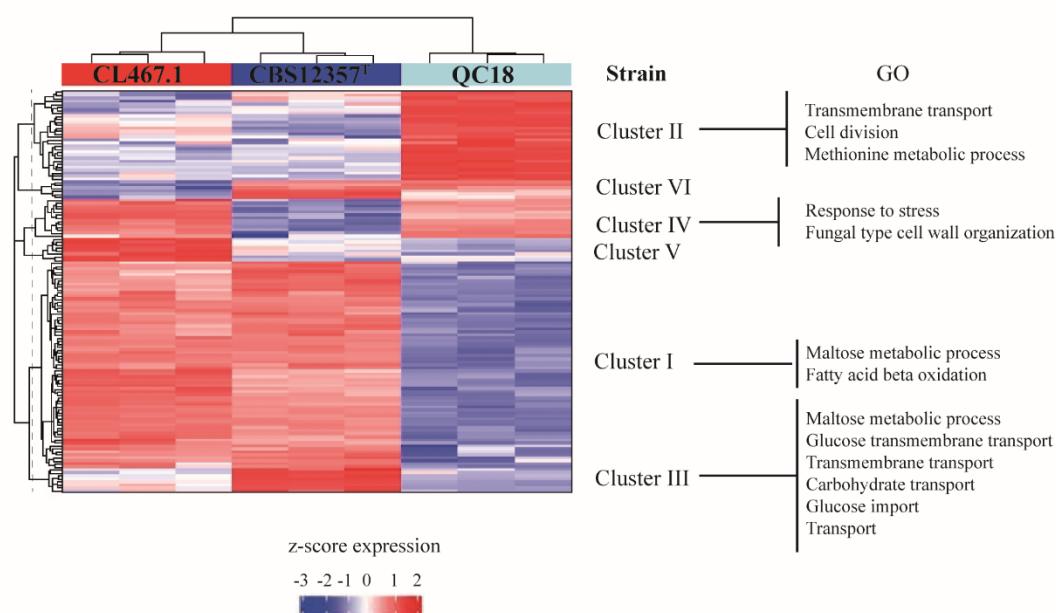
213 To explore global gene expression patterns that could explain fermentation differences
214 between HF and LF strains, we performed RNA-seq analysis on samples collected 24 h after
215 the beginning of the fermentation. We identified 418, 221 and 376 DEGs between CBS12357
216 vs. QC18, CL467.1 vs. QC18, and CL467.1 vs. CBS12357, respectively (adjusted p -value <
217 0.01 and an absolute value of fold change > 2 , **Fig. 3A, Table S4A**). We identified a set of
218 93 DEGs in common between HF vs. the LF strain, which could be related to differences in
219 fermentation capacity. Using hierarchical clustering between HF strains versus the QC18
220 strain, we identified six clusters of expression profiles (**Fig. 3B, Table S4B**).

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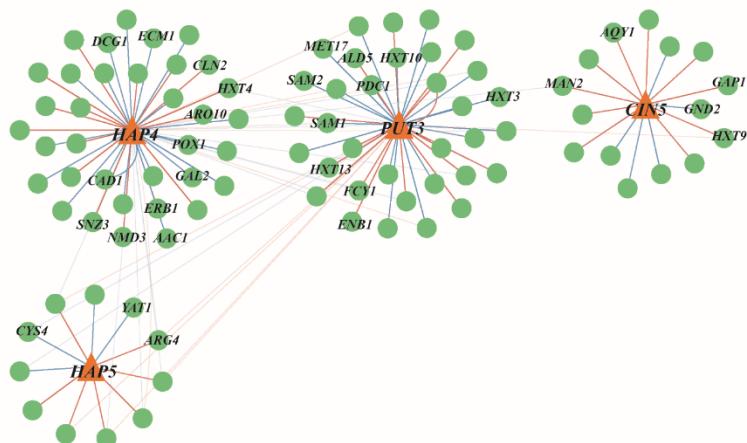
(A)



(B)



(C)



223 **Figure 3. Comparative transcriptome analysis between HF and LF strains.** (A) Venn
224 diagram of differentially expressed genes (DEGs), and up and downregulated genes in
225 CBS12357 (HF) vs. QC18 (LF), CL467.1 (HF) vs. QC18 and CL467.1 vs. CBS12357 strains.
226 (B) Hierarchical clustering of DEGs in the three strains. The heatmap was generated using
227 the z-score of expression levels in each comparison. Each row represents a given gene and
228 each column represents a different strain. Clusters are annotated at the right, together with
229 their gene ontology (GO) category. (C) Network analysis of DEGs regulated by Hap4p,
230 Put3p, Cin5p and Hap5 in strains with high fermentation capacity vs. QC18 strain, depicting
231 in bold the most relevant hubs. Red and blue lines represent positive and negative
232 correlations, respectively.

233 Interestingly, cluster I contained genes related to maltose metabolism and fatty acid beta
234 oxidation, such as *MAL31*, *MAL32*, *IMA1*, *DCI1*, *FOX2* and *PXA2* (**Table S4B, S4C**), which
235 were upregulated in both HF strains. Cluster II contained upregulated genes in the QC18
236 strains related to transmembrane transport (*HXT5*, *QDR2* and *ZRT1*), cell division (*CDC6*
237 and *CLN2*) and methionine metabolic processes (*MET10*, *MET17*, *SAM2* and *SAM3*).
238 Clusters III to VI showed different expression profile patterns, with differences of expression
239 between both HF strains CBS12357 and CL467.1. We also performed a PCA of DEGs to
240 analyze the expression patterns across the three strains (**Fig. S3A**), where the PC1 and PC2
241 components explain 62% and 35% of the observed variance, together accounting for 97% of
242 the overall variation. PCA showed a separation of the three strains in both components; the
243 first component separated the CBS12357 strain from the other two strains, while the second
244 component separated the CL467.1 strain from the other two strains. Although HF strains
245 exhibited similar CO₂ loss profiles during the fermentation process, cluster analysis suggests
246 different molecular responses in beer wort across all strains.

247 We then searched the YeTFaSco database to predict which TFs potentially regulate DEGs
248 (32). We found 76 TFs regulating DEGs between CBS12357 and QC18 (**Table S4D**), 43 TFs
249 regulating DEGs between CL461.1 and QC18 (**Table S4E**), and 129 TFs regulating DEGs
250 between CL467.1 and CBS12357 (**Table S4F**). In order to further investigate the

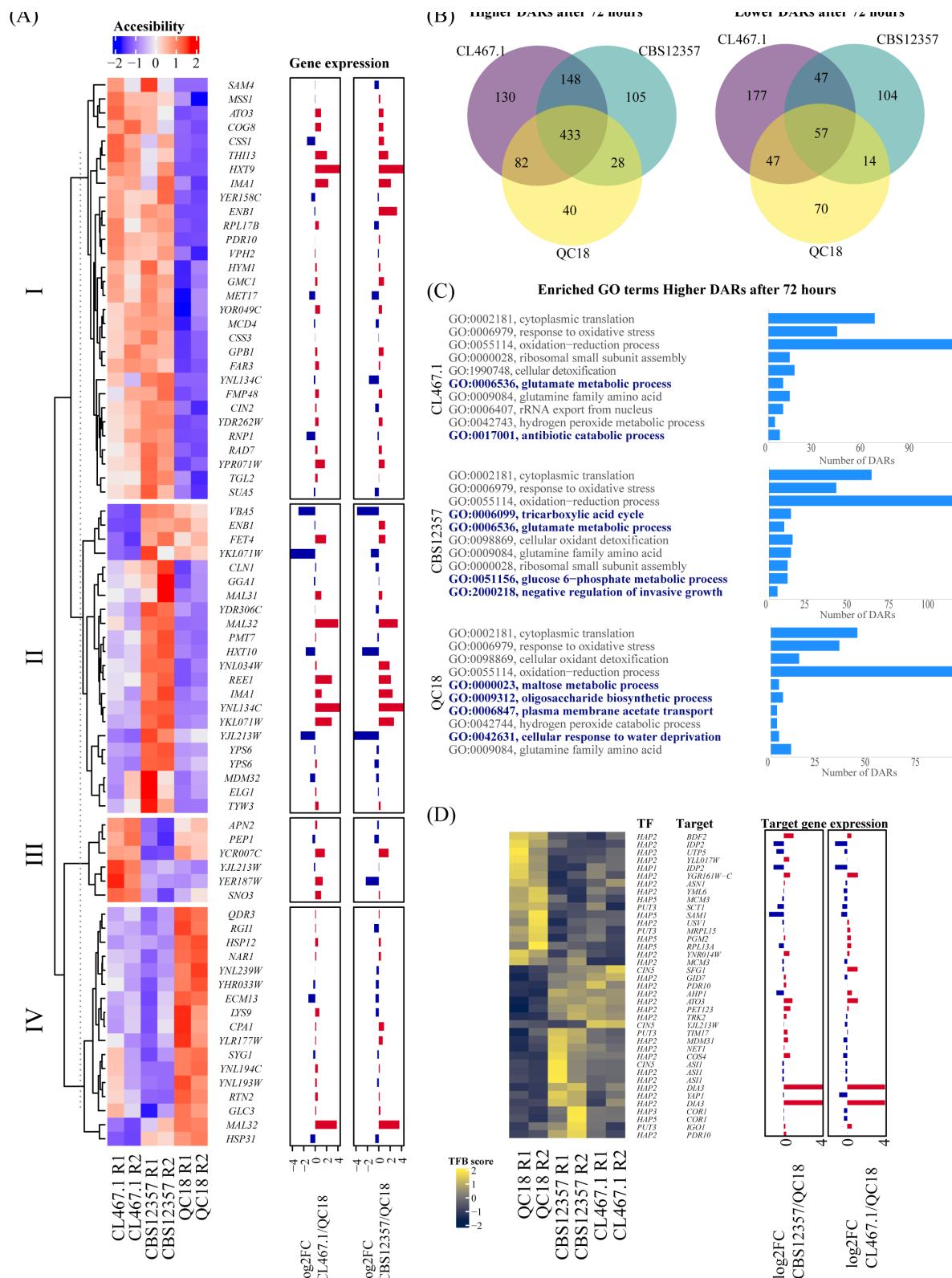
251 fermentative differences between the three strains, we selected four TFs enriched related to
252 the diauxic shift and stress responses during fermentation: Hap4p, Hap5, Put3p and Cin5p.
253 TFs belonging to the Hap complex (Hap2p, Hap3p, Hap4p and Hap5p), a global regulator of
254 respiratory gene expression and involved in diauxic shifts (33), were identified in the three
255 comparisons, where Hap5p and Hap4p contain DNA-binding and DNA-activation domains,
256 respectively (33). In addition, Cin5p is a member of the YAP family related to salt and
257 osmotic tolerance (34), while Put3p regulates proline utilization genes (35); both TFs were
258 identified in the comparisons of the two different set of strains. An interaction network
259 analysis for these 4 TFs (Fig. 3C) highlighted DEGs in common between HF strains versus
260 QC18, pinpointing genes related to respiration (*AAC1*, *ATP1*, *ALD5*, *YAT1*), nitrogen
261 metabolism (*ARO10*, *DCG1*, *SNZ3*, *FCY1*, *MET17*, *SAM1*, *SAM2*, *GAPI*, *ARG4*, *CYS4*), iron
262 metabolism (*CAD1*, *ENB1*), cell cycle (*CLN2*), translation (*ECM1*, *ERB1*, *NMD3*), hexose
263 transport (*GAL2*, *HXT4*, *HXT10*, *HXT13*, *HXT3*, *HXT9*) and fatty acid metabolism (*POX1*).

264 The four TFs harbor non-synonymous SNPs, with 5, 2, 0 and 2 mutations for *CIN5*, *HAP4*,
265 *HAP5* and *PUT3* (Table S4G), respectively. However, none of the amino acid substitutions
266 were identified as deleterious to protein function (Table S4H). These results suggest that
267 differences in expression levels can likely be explained by differences in polymorphisms
268 within the regulatory regions of the target genes.

269 **Differences in chromatin accessibility and transcription factor binding between *S.***
270 ***eubayanus* strains**

271 We obtained transcription factor binding profiles in all three strains by performing ATAC-
272 seq and measuring chromatin accessibility at promoters. Samples for ATAC-seq were

273 collected after 20 and 72 h of wort fermentation. Firstly, we analyzed differences in
274 chromatin accessibility at 20 h and compared these to our gene expression results. We found
275 75 promoters that exhibited differential accessibility among strains (FDR < 0.1) (**Table S4I**,
276 **S4J**). We analyzed these differences using hierarchical clustering and identified 4 Clusters
277 (**Fig 4A**). The largest cluster (Cluster I) contained promoters showing higher accessibility in
278 HF strains, and low accessibility in QC18. For example, the QC18 strain had lower
279 accessibility and gene expression levels for the hexose transporter (*HXT9*), an activating
280 protein of *CIN4* (*CIN2*), an iso-maltase (*IMAI*) and *GPB1*, a regulator of cAMP-PKA
281 signaling which is involved in the glucose mediated signaling pathway. In addition, in Cluster
282 II, which grouped promoters showing higher accessibility in CBS12357, we found *MAL31*
283 and *MAL32*, suggesting that the higher expression of these genes in CBS12357 could relate
284 to their chromatin configuration. Furthermore, another copy of *MAL32* possessed higher
285 accessibility in QC18, despite showing lower expression in this strain, likely suggesting a
286 role for transcriptional repressors regulating *MAL32* expression in QC18.



287

288 **Figure 4. Differences in chromatin accessibility and transcription factor binding**
289 **between HF and LF strains. (A)** The heatmap shows a hierarchical clustering analysis of

290 chromatin accessibility at promoter regions of HF (CBS12357 and CL467.1) and LF (QC18)
291 strains 20 h after fermentation. Accessibility from ATAC-seq FPKM values were
292 transformed to z-scores and normalized by row. Gene expression at 20 h is shown as log2
293 fold changes of CL467.1 and CBS12357 relative to QC18. (B) The Venn diagram shows the
294 number of differentially accessible regions (DARs) and their intersection showing higher or
295 lower accessibility in the HF and LF strains in the contrast between 72 and 20 h of
296 fermentation. (C) Gene ontology (GO) enrichment analyses for DARs highlight higher
297 accessibility after 72 h of fermentation. GO terms correspond to Biological Processes. (D)
298 The heatmap shows transcription factor binding scores (TFBS) obtained from ATAC-seq TF
299 binding footprints transformed to z-scores and normalized by row. Gene expression is shown
300 as in (A).

301

302 To increase our understanding of the regulatory differences occurring between these strains
303 after the glucose to maltose shift, we analyzed chromatin accessibility differences after 72 h
304 of fermentation. We found across all strains a total of 966 and 516 promoters with increased
305 or decreased accessibility, respectively, when contrasting 72 to 20 h of fermentation (FDR <
306 0.05). By comparing the sets of differentially accessible regions (DARs) between strains, we
307 found that HF strains shared more DARs that increased accessibility after 72 h than with the
308 LF strain (**Fig. 4B**). Gene ontology analyses of DARs with higher accessibility after 72 h
309 highlighted similarities and differences between strains, where processes such as cytoplasmic
310 translation and oxidative stress responses had increased accessibility in all strains (**Fig. 4C**).
311 In contrast, processes that differed between strains included glutamate metabolism, which
312 was more accessible in HF strains, and maltose metabolism which was more accessible in
313 the LF strain (**Fig. 4C**). These results likely suggest a delayed response in maltose
314 consumption in the LF strain, compared to the HF strains.

315 Next, by profiling transcription factor binding footprints from ATAC-seq data, we explored
316 the Hap complex, together with Cin5p, and Putp3 binding differences among strains. When
317 examining genome-wide overall transcription factor binding scores (TFBS), we did not find

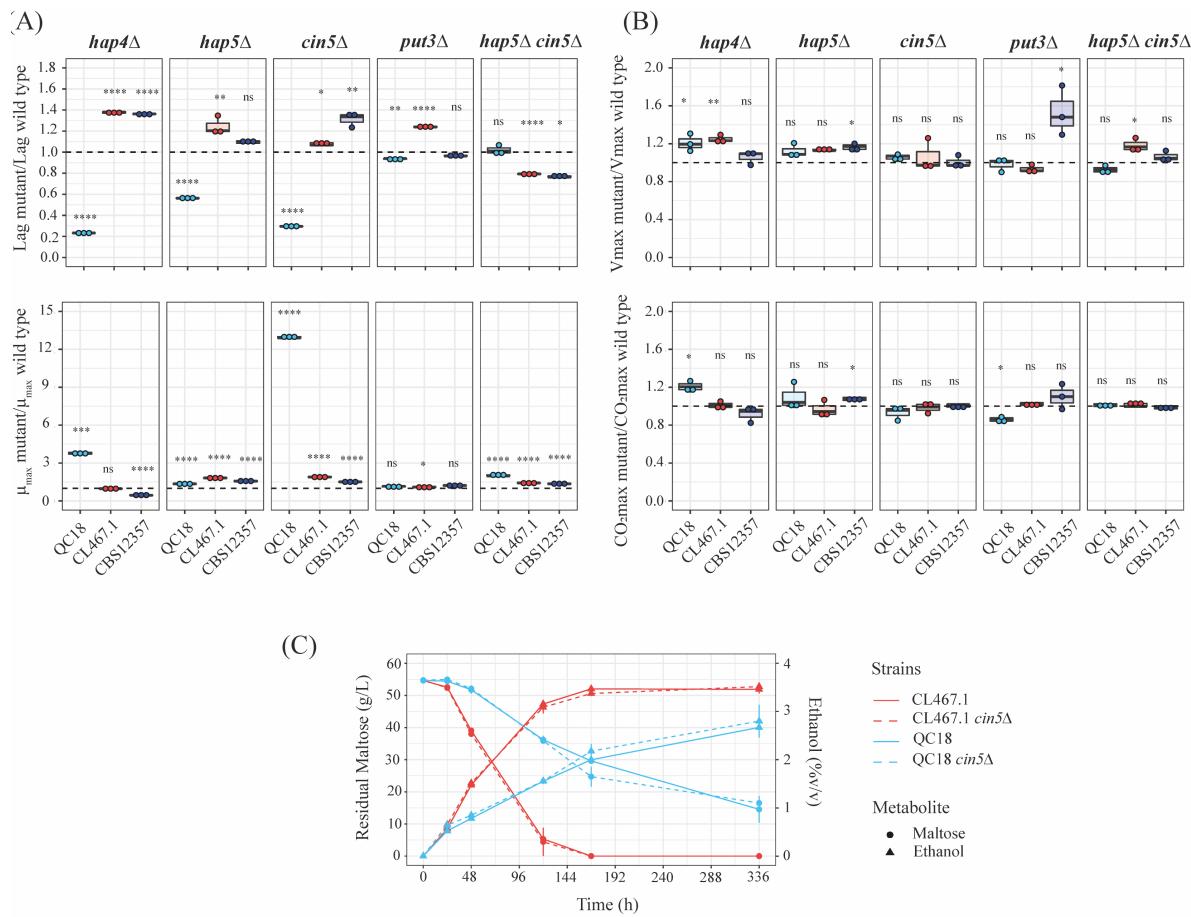
318 significant differences between strains at 20 or at 72 h of fermentation (**Fig. S3B**), suggesting
319 that these TFs showed similar overall activity among strains. In addition, all differentially
320 bound *Cin5p* binding sites (n=3) showed higher TFBS in HF strains when compared with
321 QC18, with one of these sites associated with lower gene expression in the QC18 strain for
322 *SFG1*, a putative transcription factor involved in the regulation of the mitotic cell cycle (36)
323 (**Fig. 4D**). Interestingly, when dissecting TFBS variation at promoters, we found differences
324 between strains mostly at Hap binding sites, with 25 differentially bound sites for Hap2p
325 (**Fig. 4D**). Among others, we found lower expression levels and greater TFBS in QC18 for
326 *IDP2*, a cytosolic NADP-specific isocitrate dehydrogenase with low levels in the presence
327 of glucose (37), and *SAM1*, an S-adenosylmethionine synthetase which promotes efficient
328 fermentation (38). Overall, these results demonstrate how chromatin accessibility and TFBS
329 differences promote significant differences between strains during the first stages of the beer
330 fermentation process, which impact the fermentative and sugar consumption profile of the
331 strains.

332 ***HAP4, HAP5 and CIN5 impact the diauxic shift capacity in the LF strain***

333 In order to evaluate the effect of Hap4p, Hap5p, Cin5p and Put3p on the diauxic shift and
334 fermentation capacity in the LF and HF strains, we generated null mutants for these four TFs
335 using CRISPR-Cas9 methodology (**Fig. 5A**, **Fig. S4A, S4B, S4C** and **Table S5A**). In HF
336 strains, the *hap4Δ*, *hap5Δ* and *cin5Δ* knockouts showed a lengthening of the lag phase and
337 an increase in their growth rate after the glucose-maltose shift. In contrast, these knockouts
338 in the QC18 strain exerted a different effect by decreasing the duration of the lag phase and
339 increasing the growth rate, with the greatest effect observed in the *cin5Δ* knockout (14-fold

340 increase in growth rate vs. the wild type strain; Student t-test, *p-value* = 3.045x10⁻⁸). These
341 results suggest that Cin5p could strongly activate a repressor of the diauxic shift in the LF
342 strain, but not necessarily in the HF strains.

343 Since *cin5Δ* and *hap5Δ* mutants exerted the strongest phenotypes, we generated double
344 mutants for *cin5Δ/hap5* combinations. Interestingly, in the QC18 strain, the *cin5Δ/hap5*
345 double mutant did not exhibit any differences in terms of lag phase duration, and it possessed
346 a growth rate value between that of the *cin5Δ* and the *hap5* single mutant strains. The
347 equivalent double mutants in the HF strains exhibited a decrease in the lag duration (Student
348 t-test, *p-value* = 0.02117 and 7.1x10⁻⁶ for CBS12357 and CL467.1 strains, respectively) and
349 a mild increase in their growth rate (Student t-test, *p-value* = 1.6x10⁻⁴ and 6.8x10⁻⁶ for
350 CBS12357 and CL467.1 strains, respectively), relative to the wild type strains. For the *put3Δ*
351 null mutants, statistically significant differences were observed solely for the QC18 and
352 CL467.1 strains, with decreases and increases in the duration of the lag phase, respectively
353 (**Fig. 5A**, upper panel), while no differences were observed for growth rate.



354

355 **Figure 5. Effect of Hap4p, Hap5, Cin5p and Put3p on diauxic shift and fermentation**
356 **capacity.** (A) Lag time and growth rate of null mutant strains relative to wild type strains
357 after glucose-maltose shift. (B) Fermentation rate and maximum CO₂ loss of null mutant
358 strains relative to wild type strains. (C) Maltose consumption and ethanol production kinetics
359 of CL467.1 and QC18 *cin5Δ* null mutant strains. Plotted values correspond to the means of
360 three independent replicates of each strain. The (*) represents different levels of significance
361 between mutant and wild type strains (t-test, * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, *** $p \leq 0.001$, **** p
362 ≤ 0.0001).

363 We evaluated the effect of mutating these four TFs on the diauxic shift for other sugar
364 sources, such as glucose-galactose and glucose-sucrose (Fig. S4B, S4C). In these cases, no
365 differences in the lag phase duration for QC18 mutants after the glucose-galactose shift were
366 observed, except for the double mutant that suffered an increase (Student t-test, p -value =
367 0.0003, Fig. S4B upper panels). Furthermore, we detected a rise in the growth rate in almost

368 all mutants (**Fig. S4B**, lower panels). The glucose-sucrose shift exerted a different pattern.
369 Here, we noted an increase in the lag phase duration and a decrease in the growth rate for the
370 *cin5Δ* and *hap5* QC18 mutants. The four TFs also impacted the fermentation capacity in the
371 three strains under study (**Fig. 5B, Table S5B**). Knockout of *HAP4* affected the CO₂ loss rate
372 in QC18 and CL467.1 strains, and the maximum CO₂ loss in the QC18 strain, increasing the
373 fermentation capacity in comparison with their respective wild type strains. A similar effect
374 was observed in the *hap5Δ* knockout of the CBS12357 strain. These results suggest that the
375 TFs Hap4p, Hap5p and Cin5p participate in the diauxic shift between different carbon
376 sources in *S. eubayanus*, but their effect is dependent on the genetic background and the
377 disaccharide carbon source.

378 To increase our understanding of the allelic differences between the three strains during the
379 diauxic shift, we determined the effect of *HAP5* and *CIN5* allelic variants, the two TFs with
380 the greatest effects, by performing a reciprocal hemizygosity analysis between the QC18 and
381 the HF strains (**Fig. S4D, Table S5C**). In this assay, we only observed differences between
382 the *CIN5* hemizygous strains, where the *CIN5*-QC18 allele had a lower growth rate compared
383 to the CL467.1 allele (**Fig. S4D**), and a greater lag phase when compared to the CBS12357
384 allele (**Fig. S4D**), demonstrating a significant effect depending on the *CIN5* allelic version.
385 Finally, we evaluated the kinetics of maltose consumption in *CIN5* null mutants of strains
386 CL467.1 and QC18 under fermentative conditions. Although, we did not observe statistically
387 significant differences during fermentation, the null mutant in QC18 showed a mild tendency
388 to higher maltose consumption after 120 hours (Student t-test, *p*-value = 0.05, **Fig. 5C, Table**
389 **S5D**). Altogether, our results demonstrate that Cin5p significantly affects the glucose-
390 maltose shift in *S. eubayanus* and is dependent on the genetic background.

391 **DISCUSSION**

392 The study of natural variation can identify novel alleles with immense value for the
393 development of novel genetic stocks with applications in several fields. New alleles identified
394 in yeast can improve the fermentation performance of lager hybrids, and the generation of
395 unique fermentative profiles in brewing. Until now, *S. eubayanus* has only been isolated from
396 wild environments and has never been associated with anthropogenic niches. Still, *S.*
397 *eubayanus* can grow and ferment malt extract, and has a broad phenotypic diversity in terms
398 of fermentative capacities and aroma compound production (4, 6–8, 39). Considering that
399 Patagonian isolates have a greater global genetic diversity, known so far, than Holarctic and
400 Chinese isolates (4, 5), these strains from the southern hemisphere are a rich genetic reservoir
401 for the identification of allelic variants and genetic stocks for the generation of novel hybrids
402 with brewing potential.

403 Most of the *S. eubayanus* isolates analyzed from Patagonia showed similar fermentation
404 capacities when comparing the maximum CO₂ loss (yield). However, we identified a greater
405 variability in the maximum CO₂ loss rate, mostly due to differences in maltose consumption.
406 Indeed, fermentation rates are of major importance during alcoholic fermentation, mostly
407 because strains able to rapidly ferment all the available sugars can take over the culture and
408 inhibit growth of other microorganisms (24, 40). Glucose promotes catabolite repression,
409 such that maltose uptake usually begins only after half of the initial glucose concentration
410 has been consumed (41). The sensitivity to glucose-induced inhibition is strain specific and
411 the expression of genes responsible for maltose metabolism may be either induced or
412 constitutive (41). Indeed, we found differences between strains in their ability to switch from
413 glucose to maltose, and one of the strains was extremely slow in this transition (LF, QC18).

414 Studies of wine fermentation have demonstrated that the slow fermentation of fructose is
415 strain- and time-dependent (42). Similarly, the maltose consumption rate of yeast determines
416 the fate of the brewing fermentation process, which differs across strains (43). Thus,
417 consumption rate and residual maltose are of crucial relevance to the brewing industry.

418 The QC18 strain has the lowest maximum CO₂ loss and CO₂ loss rate values. This strain
419 belong to the PA cluster, and was obtained in the Nahual Huapi National Park (Argentina),
420 but unlike the other strains, QC18 was isolated from the bark of an exotic tree in Patagonia:
421 *Quercus robur* (European oak) (6). Oaks are dominant woody species throughout the
422 northern hemisphere (44), unlike trees belonging to *Nothofagus* genus, which usually form
423 the core of the South Hemisphere primary native forests of Argentina, Chile, Australia and
424 New Zealand (45). The tree-host could determine the phenotypic differences between strains,
425 likely due to differences in the complexity of the available sugars in the bark. In this sense,
426 *Quercus* barks are mostly composed of polysaccharides such as glucose and xylose (46),
427 while *Nothofagus pumilio* trees have higher concentrations of more complex sugar sources,
428 such as starch (47). The QC18 strain has a poor capacity to switch from glucose to maltose,
429 with a decrease in growth rate and an increase in lag time, compared to growth in glucose.
430 There are undoubtedly several factors that may affect the adaptation of the QC18 strain to
431 maltose. During the diauxic shift, there is reduced respiratory activity that lengthens the lag
432 phase, while an over-activation of respiration results in shorter lag phases (25, 48). Upon the
433 sudden loss of glucose, cells enter an energy-deficient state because they are not able to
434 metabolize maltose (48). This energy-deficient state would be exacerbated by decreased
435 respiratory activity in response to glucose. Finally, this state likely prevents induction of *MAL*
436 and subsequent escape from the lag phase. Interestingly, we observed a higher accessibility

437 and higher gene expression levels in *MAL31* and *MAL32* in the CBS12357 strain compared
438 to QC18, suggesting a reduced maltose activity in the latter strain. This reduced adaptation
439 to the diauxic shift was only observed during the shift from glucose to maltose, but not to
440 sucrose or galactose. In agreement with these results, previous studies have demonstrated
441 large differences between strains in gene expression changes and growth rates under different
442 carbon sources, where the diauxic shift depends on both the yeast strain and the carbon source
443 (48, 49).

444 Many genes are influenced by carbon catabolite de-repression during industrial brewery
445 fermentations (50). Analysis of gene expression patterns across strains allowed us to identify
446 strain-dependent mechanisms that explain the differences and similarities in fermentation
447 profiles. In particular, the CBS12357 strain exhibited greater accessibility in the promoter
448 region of the *MAL* genes after 20 hours, whereas the QC18 strain showed lower
449 transcriptional activity of maltose metabolism genes and higher expression levels of *HXT5*,
450 which encodes a functional hexose transporter with a moderate affinity for glucose (51). This
451 gene is regulated by growth rates rather than by extracellular glucose, particularly under
452 conditions that cause slow cell growth, e.g. upon carbon and nitrogen starvation. *HXT5*
453 transcription depends on two HAP complex binding elements, and one post-diauxic shift
454 element in its promoter region (52). The HAP complex (Hap2/3/4/5) plays a central role in
455 converting cells from fermentative to respiratory growth following the diauxic shift by
456 inducing genes required for mitochondrial function upon glucose depletion (25, 48, 53). In
457 this sense, our gene expression analysis identified four TFs that are significantly
458 overrepresented across DEGs and that have been previously related to the fermentation
459 process, including TFs belonging to the HAP complex. Moreover, our analysis also

460 highlighted the role of Cin5p as responsible for differences across strains. Cin5p is a basic
461 leucine zipper TF of the yAP-1 family, which participates in several stress conditions,
462 including oxidative and osmotic stress (54). While the HF knockout strains showed similar
463 phenotypes to those described in *S. cerevisiae*, i.e. lag phase lengthening in HAP complex
464 mutants (25), the QC18 strain showed a contrasting phenotype by significantly improving its
465 growth rate in the glucose-maltose shift in *hap4Δ*, *hap5Δ* and *cin5Δ* null mutants. In addition,
466 we demonstrated that *CIN5* allelic variants affect the growth rate and lag phase during the
467 diauxic shift, although no such differences were detected in fermentation, and mild
468 differences were observed for maltose consumption. Transcriptional regulation during the
469 diauxic shift in QC18 might be more complex than observed in other strains, and further
470 studies are needed to elucidate the role of these genes and allelic variants during this
471 transition.

472 In conclusion, the identification of natural allelic variants for fermentation rate is
473 instrumental to develop novel strains for brewing. In this study, we identified three TFs,
474 *HAP4*, *HAP5* and *CIN5*, that are responsible for differences in the glucose-maltose diauxic
475 shift between strains, with the most profound effect being present in *CIN5* allelic variants. In
476 this context, HF and LF strains exhibited unique gene expression patterns during
477 fermentation, with HF strains showing greater expression levels of maltose genes, while the
478 LF strains of glucose-related transporters. These differences could originate on the tree-host
479 from which this strain was isolated, which might determine the sugar source preference.
480 Novel alleles providing high fermentation rates will be of great value for the generation of
481 novel lager hybrids in the brewing industry.

482 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

483 **Strains and culture media**

484 The *S. eubayanus* strains used in this work are listed in **Table S1A** and were collected from
485 different Chilean and Argentinean localities (4–6). We also used the *S. pastorianus* *Saflager*
486 W34/70 strain (Fermentis, France) as a lager fermentation control. All the strains were
487 maintained on YPD solid media (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, 2% glucose, 2 % agar). For
488 long-term storage, the strains were maintained at -80 °C in 20% glycerol.

489 **Fermentations in beer wort**

490 Fermentations were carried out in three biological replicates as previously described (30).
491 Briefly, 12 °Plato (°P) beer wort was oxygenated (15 mg L⁻¹) and supplemented with 0.3 ppm
492 Zn²⁺ (as ZnCl₂). The pre-cultures were grown in 5 mL of 6 °P wort for 24 h at 20 °C in
493 constant agitation at 150 rpm. Then, the inoculum was transferred to 50 mL 12 °P wort and
494 incubated for 24 h at 20 °C in constant agitation at 150 rpm. The cells were collected by
495 centrifugation at 5,000 x g for 5 min. The final cell concentration for each fermentation was
496 estimated according to the formula described by (55). Cells were inoculated into 100 mL 12
497 °P wort, using 250 mL bottles and airlocks with 30% glycerol. The fermentations were
498 incubated at 12 °C, with no agitation for 10-15 days, and monitored by weighing the bottles
499 daily to determine weight loss over time. The maximum CO₂ loss rate (Vmax) was estimated
500 using the R software version 4.1.1. The CO₂ loss curves were smoothed and the first
501 derivative was plotted using the smooth.spline function. The maximum CO₂ loss rate
502 coincides with the maximum point of the first derivative.

503 **Metabolite quantification by HPLC**

504 Sugar (glucose, fructose, maltose and maltotriose) and nitrogen (ammonium and amino
505 acids) consumption, together with glycerol and ethanol production were determined by High-
506 Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) at different time-points during the
507 fermentation process as previously described (8, 39, 56). These analyses were carried out in
508 triplicate at 24 h, 48 h and on the final day of fermentation, and the consumption of each
509 nitrogen source was estimated as the difference between the initial value and that of each
510 time-point of the fermentation.

511 **RNA-seq analysis**

512 Gene expression analysis was performed on strains CL467.1, CBS12357 and QC18, which
513 exhibited significant differences for different fermentative phenotypes. These strains were
514 fermented in triplicate as previously described for 24 h. Then, cells were collected by
515 centrifugation at 5,000 x g for 5 min and treated with two units of Zymolyase (Seikagaku
516 Corporation, Japan) for 30 min at 37 °C. RNA was extracted using the E.Z.N.A Total RNA
517 Kit I (OMEGA) according to the manufacturer's instructions and treated with DNase I
518 (Promega) to remove genomic DNA traces. Total RNA was recovered using the GeneJET
519 RNA Cleanup and Concentration Micro Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific). RNA integrity was
520 confirmed using a Fragment Analyzer (Agilent). RNA library preparation and Illumina
521 sequencing were performed in the BGI facilities (Hong Kong, China) as previously described
522 (30).

523 The quality of the raw reads was evaluated using the fastqc
524 (<https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/>) tool. Reads were processed

525 using fastp (-3 1 40) (Chen et al., 2018) and mapped against the *S. eubayanus* CBS12357
526 reference genome (57) using STAR (58). Differentially expressed gene (DEG) analysis was
527 performed using the DESeq2 package (59) in R v4.1.2, comparing the three strains at the
528 same time. Genes with an adjusted *p-value* < 0.01 and an absolute value of fold change > 2
529 were considered DEGs for each comparison (CL467.1 vs. QC18, CBS12357 vs. QC18 and
530 CL467.1 vs. CBS12357).

531 **ATAC-seq data analysis**

532 The assay for transposase accessible chromatin analysis (ATAC-seq) was performed on
533 strains CL467.1, CBS12357 and QC18. These strains were fermented in duplicate and after
534 20 h and 72 h, 2.5 million cells were collected by centrifugation at 1,800 x g for 4 min at
535 room temperature and washed twice using SB buffer (1 M sorbitol, 10 mM MgCl₂, 40 mM
536 HEPES ph 7.5). Then, cells were treated with 50 mg/mL zymolyase 20T (Seikagaku
537 Corporation, Japan) in SB buffer for 30 min at 30 °C. After incubation, cells were washed
538 twice with SB buffer, resuspended in 50 µL transposition mix, containing 25 µL Nextera
539 Tagment DNA buffer (Illumina, USA), 22.5 µL H₂O and 2.5 µL Nextera Tagment DNA
540 enzyme I (Illumina, USA). After incubation for 30 min at 37 °C, DNA was purified using
541 the DNA Clean and Concentrator-5 kit (Zymo Research), according to the manufacturer's
542 instructions. Tagmented DNA was amplified by PCR using 1x NEBNext Hi-Fidelity PCR
543 Master Mix (New England Biolabs, NEB), using Nextera Index i5 and i7 series PCR primers,
544 and 5 µL tagmented DNA. Then, 50 µL of the amplified ATAC-seq library was subjected to
545 double-sided size selection using magnetic beads (AMPure XP, Beckman Coulter). DNA
546 bound to the beads was washed twice with 80% ethanol and then eluted in 20 µL H₂O. Library
547 quality was assessed using a Fragment Analyzer (Agilent, USA) and quantified in Qubit

548 (Thermofisher, USA). Sequencing was conducted on a Nextseq 500 (Illumina, USA) in the
549 Genomics unit at Universidad de Santiago de Chile. ATAC-seq reads were analyzed as
550 previously described (56).

551 To match genes with their nearby ATAC-seq signal, we selected a regulatory region of 400
552 bp upstream of the start codon site for each gene. The ATAC-seq signals of 5,433 regulatory
553 regions were quantified by counting mapped reads using featureCounts. Differential
554 responses in ATAC-seq were estimated using DESeq2 (design= ~ condition).

555 Transcription factor binding scores (TFBSs) were calculated using TOBIAS (60) and the
556 ScoreBigWig tool (--fp-min 5 --fp-max 30) for 141 yeast TFs from the JASPAR database
557 (61). Binding scores were further processed in R. To calculate statistical differences in
558 TFBSs, we employed a linear model using the limma R package (62). We considered binding
559 differences with a FDR < 0.1 as statistically significant.

560 **Gene Ontology (GO) analysis**

561 GO analysis was performed using the tools provided by the DAVID Bioinformatics Resource
562 (63, 64) using DEGs with *p-value* < 0.01 and absolute fold change values > 2. We selected
563 categories with a significant over-representation utilizing a FDR < 10%.

564 **Transcription factor analysis**

565 Correlations between TFs and DEGs were predicted utilizing YeTFaSCo: Yeast
566 Transcription Factor Specificity Compendium (32). Fold change values were used to test
567 associations with potential regulators using a Spearman correlation.

568 The open reading frame (ORF) sequences of the selected TFs for strains CL467.1 and QC18
569 were obtained directly from the BAM files (.bam) mapped against the reference genome.
570 BAM files were converted to VCF (Variant Calling Format) files using *freebayes*, which
571 contained the genotype information of each gene and strain (65). Then, FASTA files were
572 generated from VCF files using SAMtools (66). The nucleotide sequences were translated
573 into amino acid sequences in Geneious v 8.1.8, utilizing the standard genetic code. Amino
574 acids and nucleotide sequences were then aligned against the reference strain (CBS12357)
575 using a Multiple Comparison by Log-Expectation (MUSCLE) algorithm with default
576 parameters in Geneious v 8.1.8. The prediction of the change of each non-synonymous SNP
577 over the protein sequence was analyzed using the online tool PROVEAN v1.1.3 (67).

578 **Co-expression networks analyses**

579 Co-expression networks were generated using a subset of the whole DEG set regulated by
580 the TFs Hap4p, Hap5p, Cin5p and Put3p, as previously described (68). For this, we used read
581 counts to calculate gene expression correlation. First, read counts were normalized to the
582 number of reads that were effectively mapped, using the median normalization method
583 available in the EBSeq R package (69). Subsequently, we added pseudocounts to avoid
584 values equal to zero, generating a logarithmic matrix of the data. Finally, we used the
585 Spearman correlation between each pair of selected groups of DEGs using the “psych” R
586 package, retaining correlations with absolute values > 0.9 and adjusted *p-values* < 0.05 . The
587 network statistics, “degree” and “betweenness centrality”, were calculated using “igraph”
588 (<https://igraph.org/>). Cytoscape v 3.9.1(70) was used to visualize networks and
589 corresponding statistics.

590 **Generation of null mutants and reciprocal hemizygote strains**

591 Null mutants for the *HAP5*, *HAP4*, *PUT3* and *CIN5* genes were generated using the CRISPR-
592 Cas9 method (71) as previously described (9). Briefly, the gRNAs were designed using the
593 Benchling online tool (<https://www.benchling.com/>) and cloned in the plasmid pAEF5 (a gift
594 from Gilles Fischer, Addgene plasmid #136305) (72), using standard “Golden Gate
595 Assembly” (73). CL467.1, CBS12357 and QC18 strains were co-transformed with the
596 plasmid carrying the gRNA and the Cas9 gene, and with a synthetic double-stranded DNA
597 fragment (donor DNA) composed of a 100 bp sequence containing flanking sequences of the
598 target gene, corresponding to 50 bp upstream of start codon and 50 bp downstream of the
599 stop codon. Correct gene deletion was confirmed by standard colony PCR. All the primers,
600 gRNAs and donor DNA are listed in **Table S6**. Double null mutants for the TFs *HAP5* and
601 *CIN5* were generated using the CRISPR-Cas9 method as described above. The second null
602 deletion was performed in *Δhap5* strains.

603 Reciprocal hemizygote strains were generated for *HAP5* and *CIN5* genes. The diploid wild
604 type strains CL467.1, CBS12357, QC18 and their respective null mutant strains were
605 sporulated on 2% potassium acetate agar plates (2% agar) for at least seven days at 12 °C.
606 Meiotic segregants were obtained by dissecting tetrad ascospores treated with 10 µL
607 Zymolyase 100T (50 mg/mL) in a SporePlay micromanipulator (Singer Instruments, UK)
608 and crossed on YPD agar plates. Crossbreeding corresponds to crossing one wild type strain
609 against another containing the mutated target gene. The plates were incubated at 25 °C for
610 three days, then colonies were isolated and checked for the correct genotype by colony PCR.
611 All the strains generated are listed in **Table S1B**.

612 **Phenotypic characterization of strains**

613 Wild type strains, null mutants and reciprocal hemizygote strains were phenotypically
614 characterized under fermentation and/or microculture conditions as previously described (9,
615 30). Diauxic shift experiments were performed as previously published (30). Briefly, pre-
616 cultures were grown in YP (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone) containing 5% glucose medium
617 at 25 °C for 24 h. Cultures were diluted to an initial OD_{600nm} of 0.1 in fresh YP 5% glucose
618 medium for an extra growth overnight. The next day, cultures were used to inoculate a 96-
619 well plate with a final volume of 200 µL YP with the carbon source (5% glucose, 5% maltose,
620 5% galactose or 5% sucrose) at an initial OD_{600nm} of 0.1. The growth curves were monitored
621 by measuring OD_{600nm} every 30 min in a TECAN Sunrise instrument. Lag phase and μ_{\max}
622 were estimated as previously described (25) using the R software version 4.1.2.

623 **Data and statistical analyses**

624 Statistical analysis and data visualization were performed using the R software version 4.1.2.
625 The fermentation and growth kinetic parameters were compared using an analysis of variance
626 (ANOVA) and the mean values of the three replicates were statistically analyzed with a
627 Student's t-test and corrected for multiple comparisons using the Benjamini-Hochberg
628 method. A *p-value* less than 0.05 ($p < 0.05$) was considered statistically significant. A
629 principal component analysis (PCA) was performed using the FactoMineR package version
630 2.4 to compute principal component methods and the factoextra package version 1.07 for
631 extracting, visualizing and interpreting the results. Heatmaps were generated using the
632 ComplexHeatmap package version 2.6.2.

633 **Data Accessibility**

634 All sequences from RNA-seq and ATAC-seq have been deposited in the National Center for
635 Biotechnology Information (NCBI) as a Sequence Read Archive under the BioProject
636 accession number PRJNA857309.

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874 **Author Contributions**

875 J.M., J.I.E., D.L. and F.A.C.: conceptualization; J.M., J.I.E., P.Q., D.L. and F.A.C.:
876 methodology; J.M., C.A.V., N.B. and P.V.: software; J.M., R.F.N., D.L. and F.A.C.:
877 validation; J.M., P.Q., N.B. and C.A.V.: formal analysis; J.M., J.I.E., P.Q., P.V., J.B.-P. and
878 C.A.V.: investigation; J.M., P.V., R.F.N., D.L. and F.A.C.: resources; J.M., P.Q. and C.A.V.:
879 visualization; J.M., P.Q., C.A.V. and N.B.: data curation; J.M., J.I.E., C.A.V. and F.A.C.:
880 writing-original draft preparation. All authors have read and agreed to the published version
881 of the manuscript.

882 **FIGURES**

883 **Figure 1. Fermentation differences between Andean Patagonia *S. eubayanus* strains.**

884 (A) Map of Argentinian/Chilean Andean Patagonia together with the eight localities from
885 where the 19 strains were isolated. (B) CO₂ loss kinetics for 19 strains; red, blue and light
886 blue depict the three strains selected for the rest of this study. (C) Principal component
887 analysis (PCA) using fermentation parameters across the 19 strains, together with the
888 distribution of individual strains. Arrows depict the different parameters. (D) Maltose
889 consumption kinetics of CBS12357, CL467.1 and QC18 strains. Plotted values correspond
890 to mean values of three independent replicates for each strain. The (*) represents different
891 levels of significance between QC18 and the other strains (t-test, *** $p \leq 0.0001$).

892 **Figure 2. Diauxic shift differences between LF and HF strains during the glucose-**

893 **maltose shift.** (A) Growth curves in glucose and the kinetic parameters: growth rate and lag
894 time. (B) Growth curves in glucose-maltose shifts and the kinetic parameters relative to
895 growth in glucose. (C) Growth curves in maltose and the kinetic parameters relative to the
896 growth in glucose. Plotted values correspond to the mean value of three independent
897 replicates for each strain. The (*) represents different levels of significance between QC18
898 (LF) and the other strains (CBS12357 and CL467.1, HF) (t-test, * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, ***
899 $p \leq 0.001$, **** $p \leq 0.0001$).

900 **Figure 3. Comparative transcriptome analysis between HF and LF strains.** (A) Venn

901 diagram of differentially expressed genes (DEGs), and up and downregulated genes in
902 CBS12357 (HF) vs. QC18 (LF), CL467.1 (HF) vs. QC18 and CL467.1 vs. CBS12357 strains.
903 (B) Hierarchical clustering of DEGs in the three strains. The heatmap was generated using

904 the z-score of expression levels in each comparison. Each row represents a given gene and
905 each column represents a different strain. Clusters are annotated at the right, together with
906 their gene ontology (GO) category. (C) Network analysis of DEGs regulated by Hap4p,
907 Put3p, Cin5p and Hap5 in strains with high fermentation capacity vs. QC18 strain, depicting
908 in bold the most relevant hubs. Red and blue lines represent positive and negative
909 correlations, respectively.

910 **Figure 4. Differences in chromatin accessibility and transcription factor binding**
911 **between HF and LF strains.** (A) The heatmap shows a hierarchical clustering analysis of
912 chromatin accessibility at promoter regions of HF (CBS12357 and CL467.1) and LF (QC18)
913 strains 20 h after fermentation. Accessibility from ATAC-seq FPKM values were
914 transformed to z-scores and normalized by row. Gene expression at 20 h is shown as log2
915 fold changes of CL467.1 and CBS12357 relative to QC18. (B) The Venn diagram shows the
916 number of differentially accessible regions (DARs) and their intersection showing higher or
917 lower accessibility in the HF and LF strains in the contrast between 72 and 20 h of
918 fermentation. (C) Gene ontology (GO) enrichment analyses for DARs highlight higher
919 accessibility after 72 h of fermentation. GO terms correspond to Biological Processes. (D)
920 The heatmap shows transcription factor binding scores (TFBS) obtained from ATAC-seq TF
921 binding footprints transformed to z-scores and normalized by row. Gene expression is shown
922 as in (A).

923 **Figure 5. Effect of Hap4p, Hap5, Cin5p and Put3p on diauxic shift and fermentation**
924 **capacity.** (A) Lag time and growth rate of null mutant strains relative to wild type strains
925 after glucose-maltose shift. (B) Fermentation rate and maximum CO₂ loss of null mutant
926 strains relative to wild type strains. (C) Maltose consumption and ethanol production kinetics

927 of CL467.1 and QC18 *cin5* null mutant strains. Plotted values correspond to the means of
928 three independent replicates of each strain. The (*) represents different levels of significance
929 between mutant and wild type strains (t-test, * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, *** $p \leq 0.001$, **** p
930 ≤ 0.0001).

931 SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

932 **Figure S1.** (A) Pearson correlation for residual maltose versus CO₂ loss rate, maximum CO₂
933 loss and ethanol production. (B) Pearson correlation for CO₂ loss rate versus Maximum CO₂
934 loss. (C) Hierarchically clustered heatmap of kinetic parameters. Phenotypic values are
935 calculated as normalized z-scores.

936 **Figure S2.** (A) Growth curves obtained after glucose-galactose and glucose-sucrose shift.
937 (B) Growth rates and (C) Lag times after glucose-galactose and glucose-sucrose shift.

938 **Figure S3.** (A) Principal components analysis of DEGs. (B) Transcription factor binding
939 scores (TFBS) for Cin5p, Hap1, Hap2, Hap3, Hap5 and Put3 at 20 h and 72 h.

940 **Figure S4.** Effect of Hap4p, Hap5, Cin5p and Put4p on the growth in glucose (A), after
941 glucose-galactose shift (B) and after glucose-sucrose shift (C). Reciprocal hemigosity
942 analysis for *CIN5* gene on kinetic parameters after glucose-maltose shift in QC18 x CL467.1
943 and QC18 x CBS12357 strains (D).

944 **Table S1.** (A) *Saccharomyces eubayanus* strains used in this work. (B) Strains generated in
945 this study.

946 **Table S2.** (A) Fermentation kinetic parameter. (B) Statistical analysis for maximum CO₂ loss
947 and CO₂ loss rate. (C) Residual sugar (g/L) and ethanol production (%v/v) at the end of the
948 fermentation. (D) Statistical analysis for residual sugar and ethanol production. (E) Residual
949 sugar (g/L) and ethanol production (%v/v) for QC18, CL467.1 and CBS12357 strains at 24,
950 48, 168 and 336 hours. (F) Residual nitrogen (mg N/L) at the end of the fermentation. (G)
951 Statistical analysis for nitrogen consumption. (H) Residual nitrogen (mg N/L) for QC18,
952 CL467.1 and CBS12357 strains at 24, 48 and 336 hours.

953 **Table S3.** Growth rates and lag times after diauxic shift.

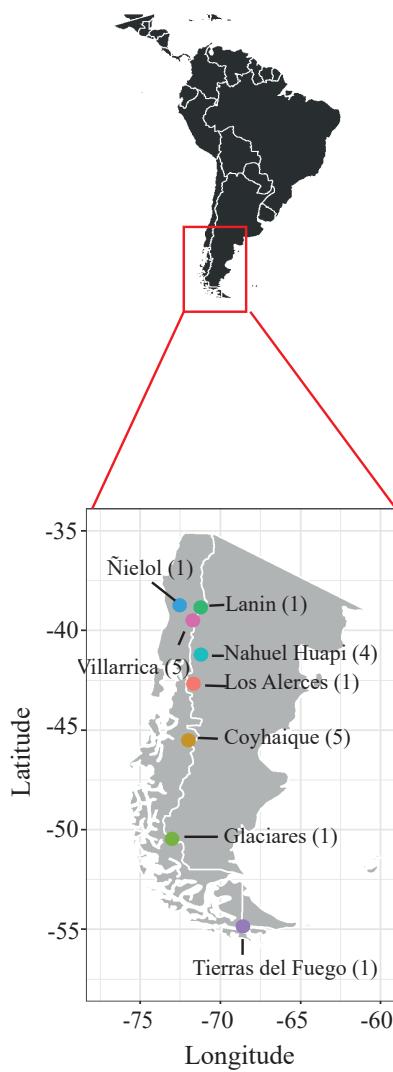
954 **Table S4.** (A) Levels of genes expression in strains. (B) DEGs in the six clusters of
955 expression profiles. (C) GO analysis to cluster of expression profiles. (D) Transcriptional
956 factors (TF) regulating genes differentially expressed (absolute log2FC > 1) between
957 CBS12357 and QC18. (E) Transcriptional factors (TF) regulating genes differentially
958 expressed (absolute log2FC > 1) between CL467.1 and QC18. (F) Transcriptional factors
959 (TF) regulating genes differentially expressed (absolute log2FC > 1) between CL467.1 and
960 CBS12357. (G) SNPs present in the four transcription factor respect to reference strain
961 CBS12357. (H) Amino acid substitution in the four transcription factor respect to reference
962 strain CBS12357. (I) Differentially accessible regions between HF and LF strains at 20 hours
963 of fermentation. (J) Differentially accessible regions between HF and LF strains at 72 hours
964 of fermentation.

965 **Table S5.** (A) Growth rates and Lag times after diauxic shift in mutant strains. (B) Growth
966 rates and Lag times after diauxic shift in reciprocal hemizygote strains. (C) Kinetic
967 parameters from fermentations of mutant strains. (D) Residual maltose (g/L) and ethanol

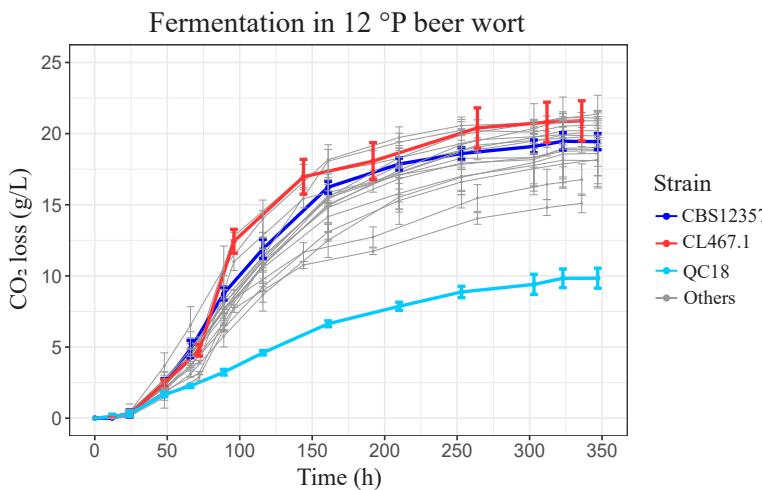
968 production (%v/v) for QC18 and CL467.1 *CIN5* null mutant strains at 24, 48, 120, 168 and
969 336 hours.

970 **Table S6.** Primers used in this study.

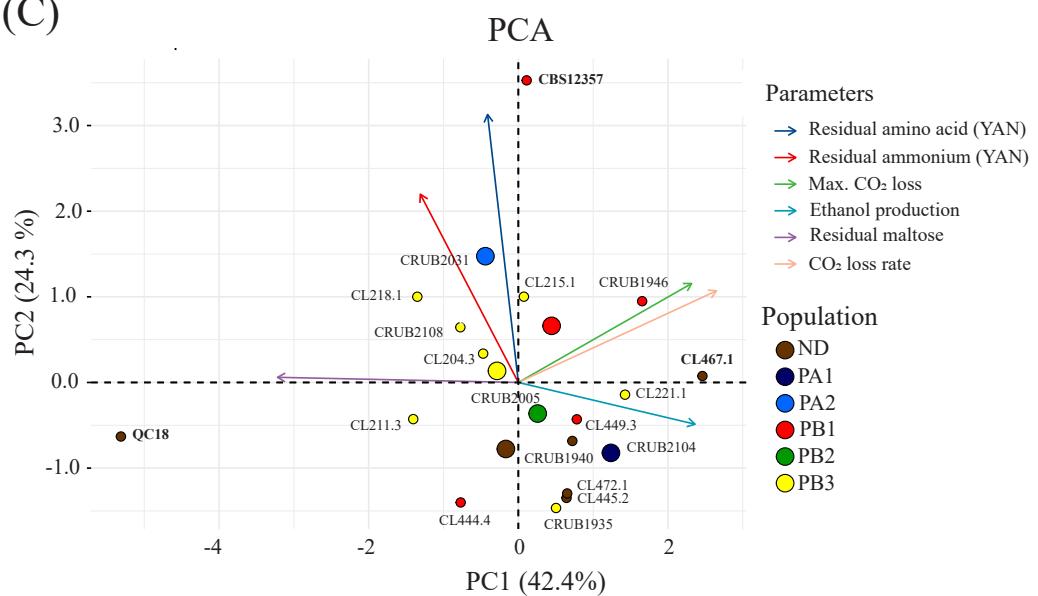
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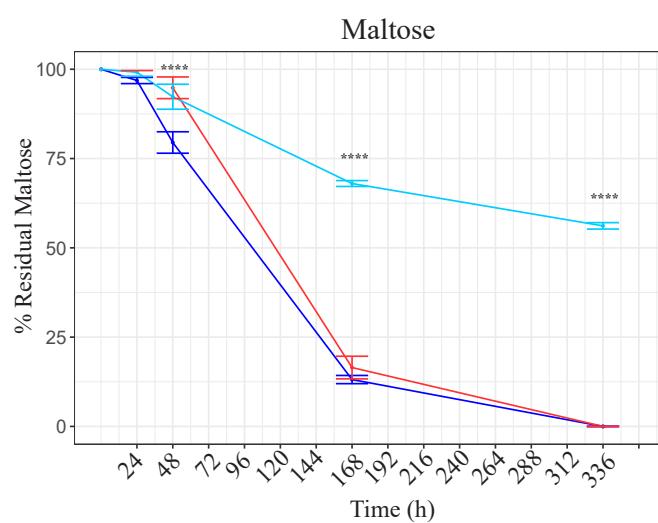
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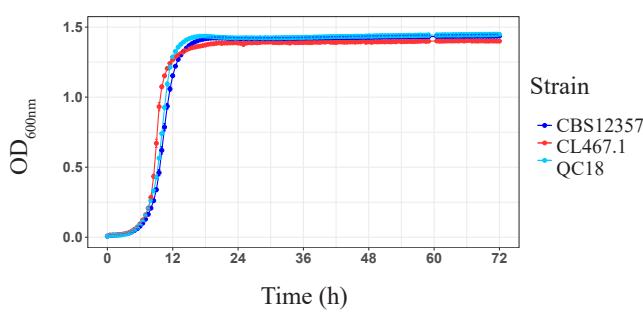
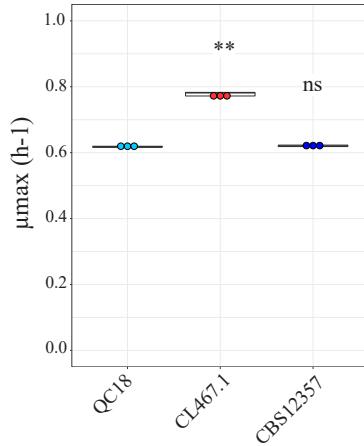
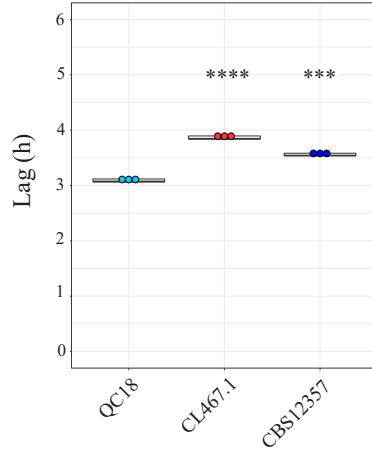
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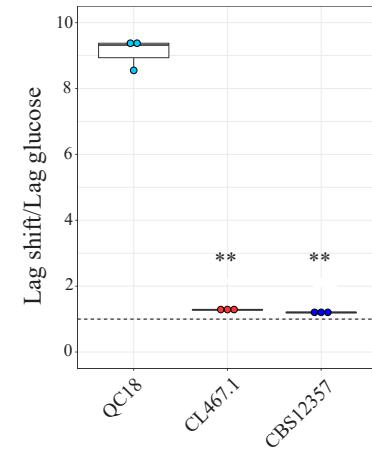
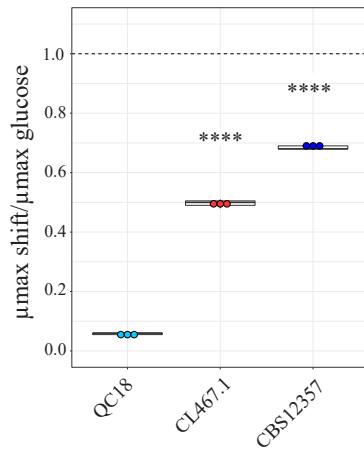
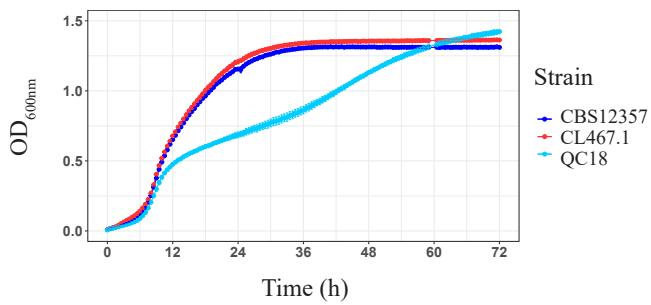
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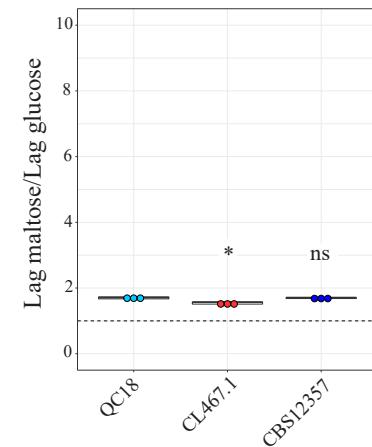
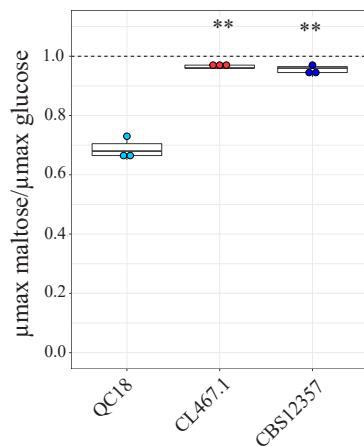
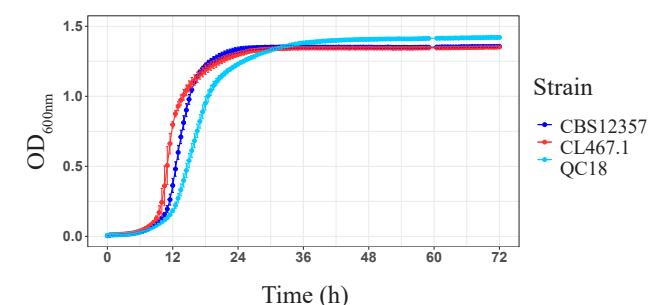
(A)

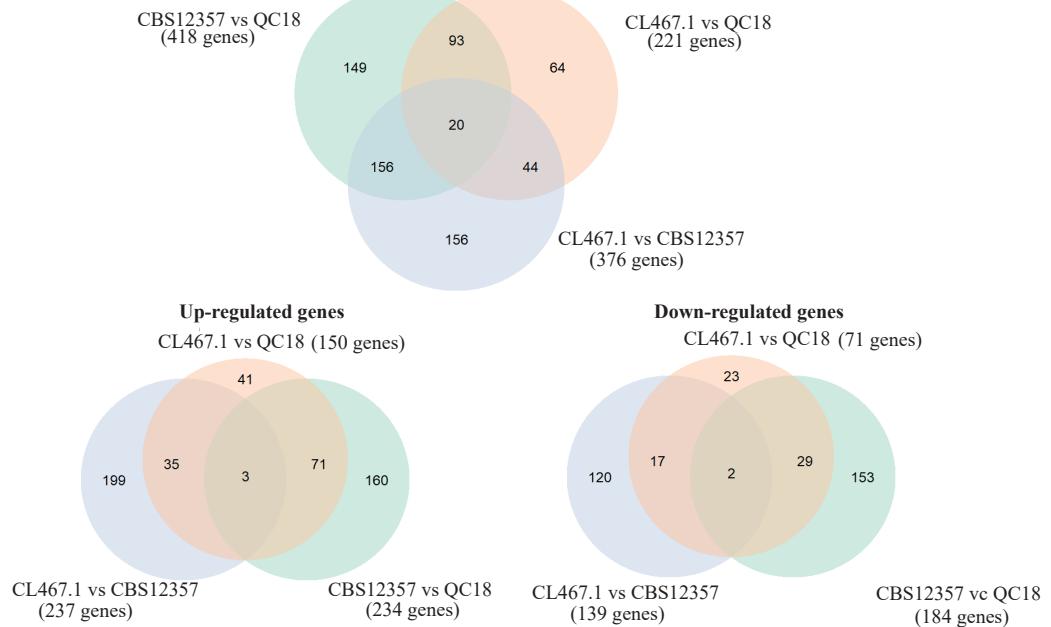
Growth curves**Glucose-Glucose****Growth rate****Lag time**

(B)

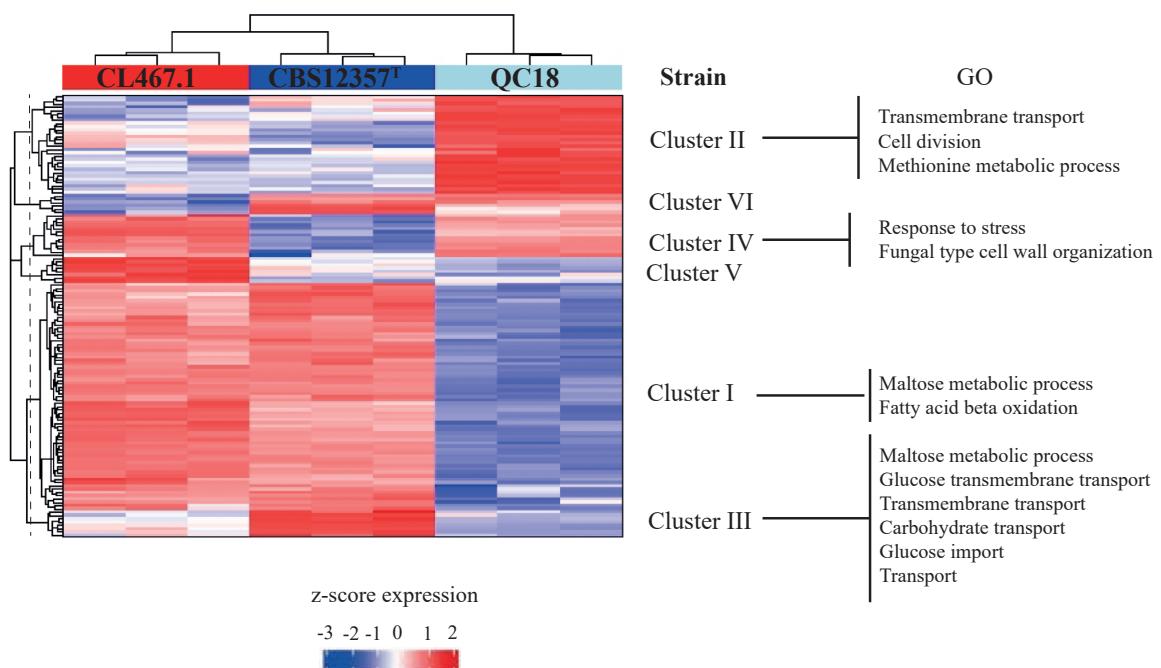
Glucose-Maltose

(C)

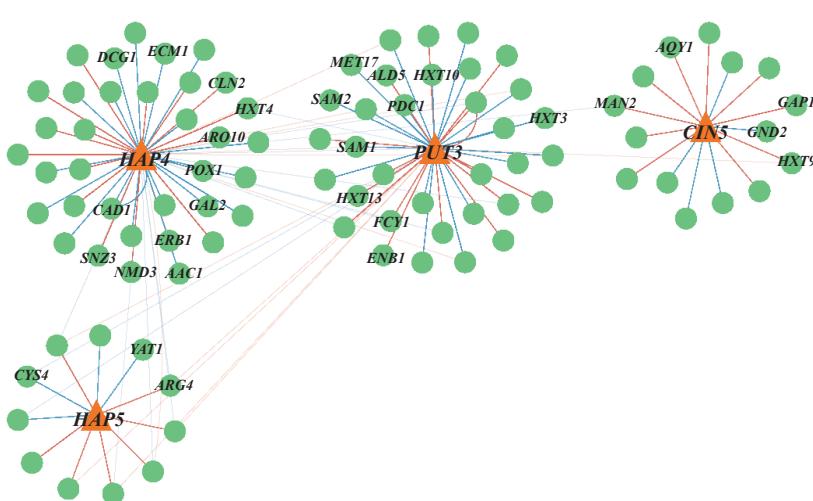
Maltose-Maltose



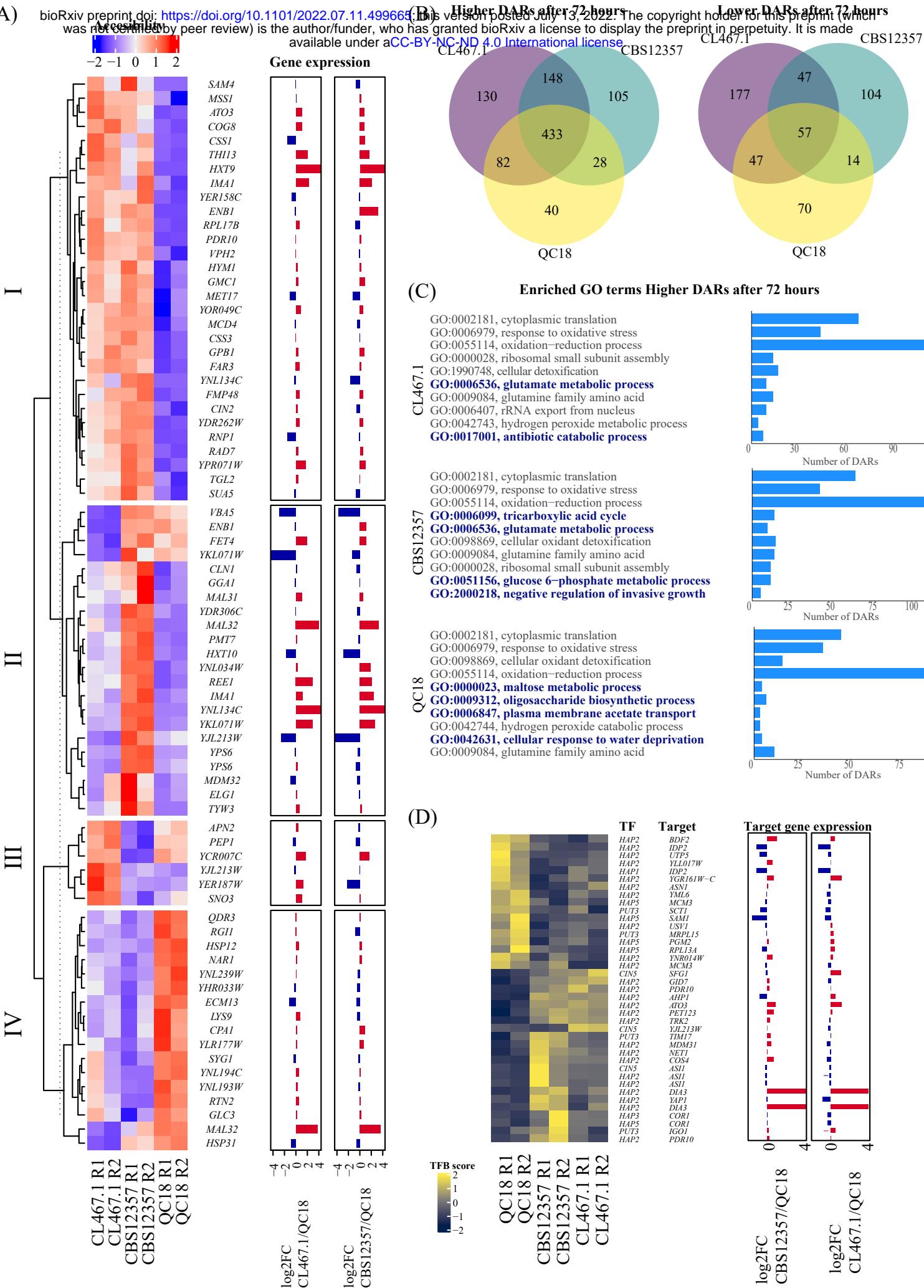
(B)

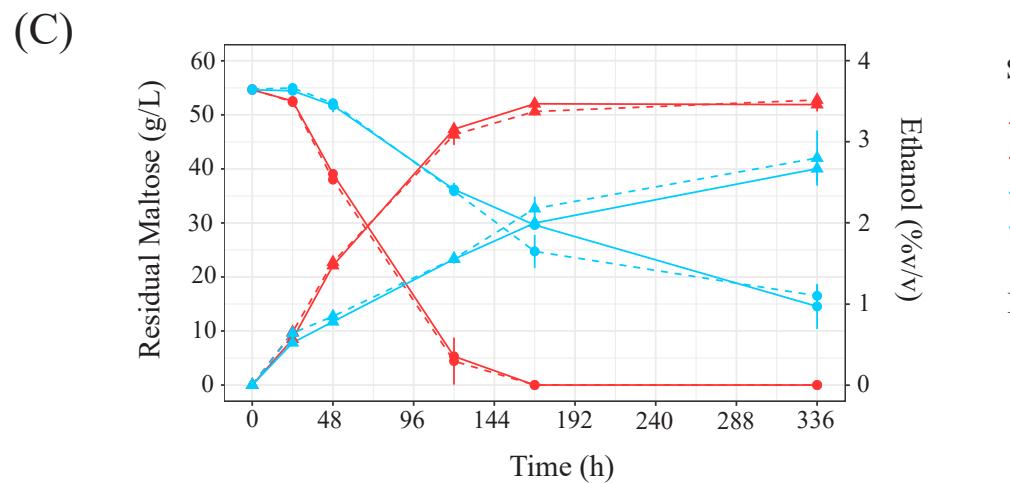
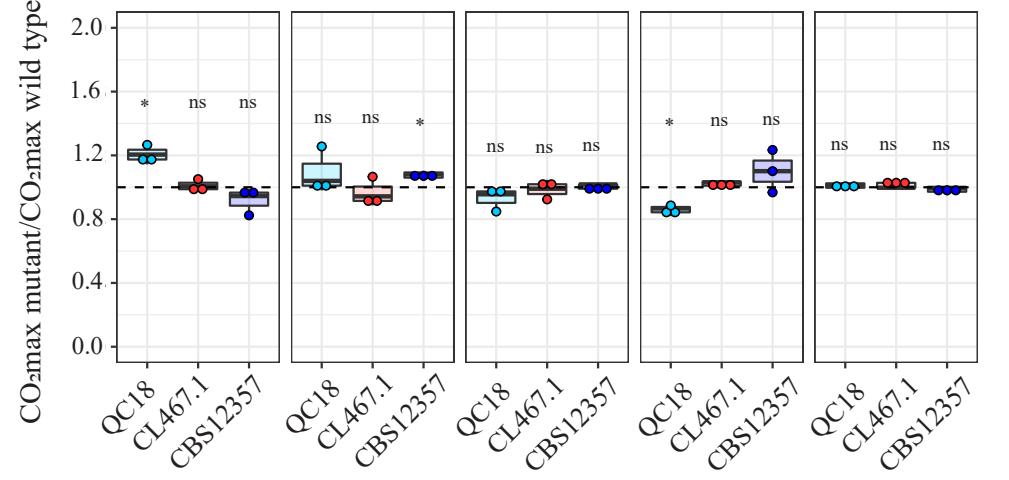
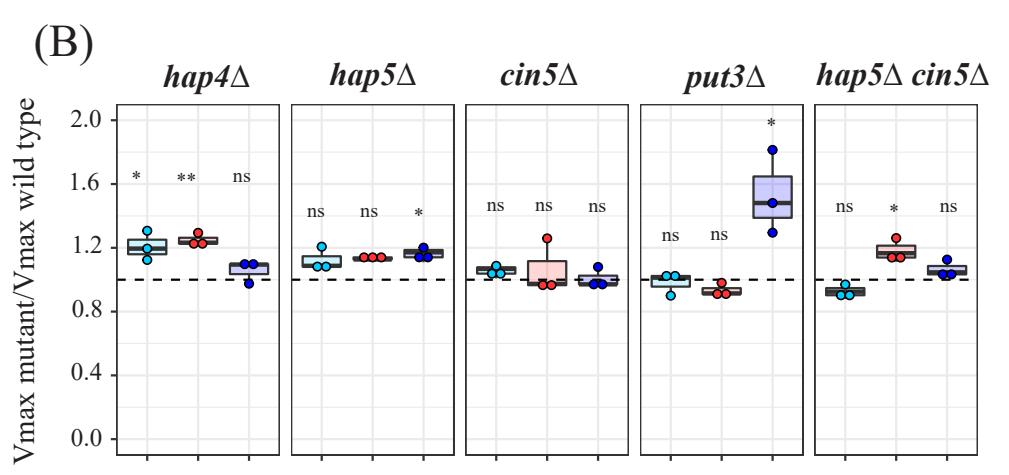
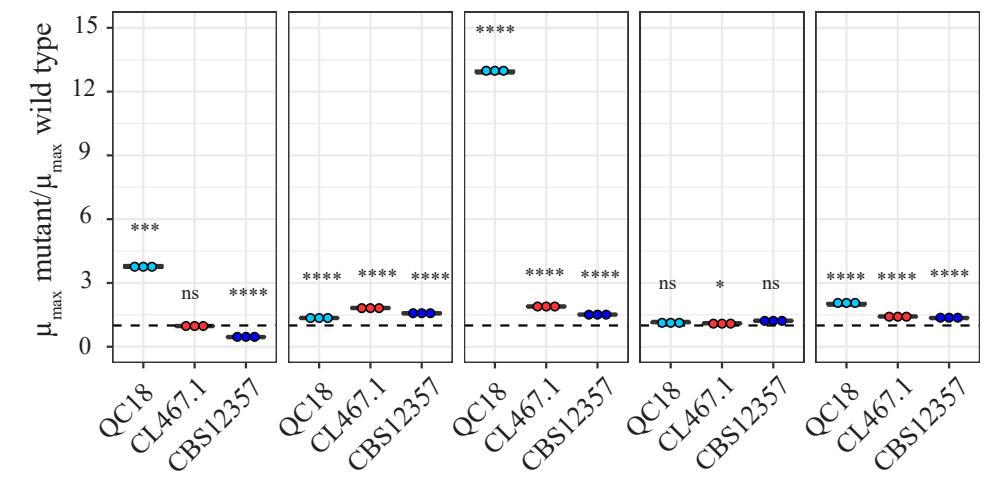
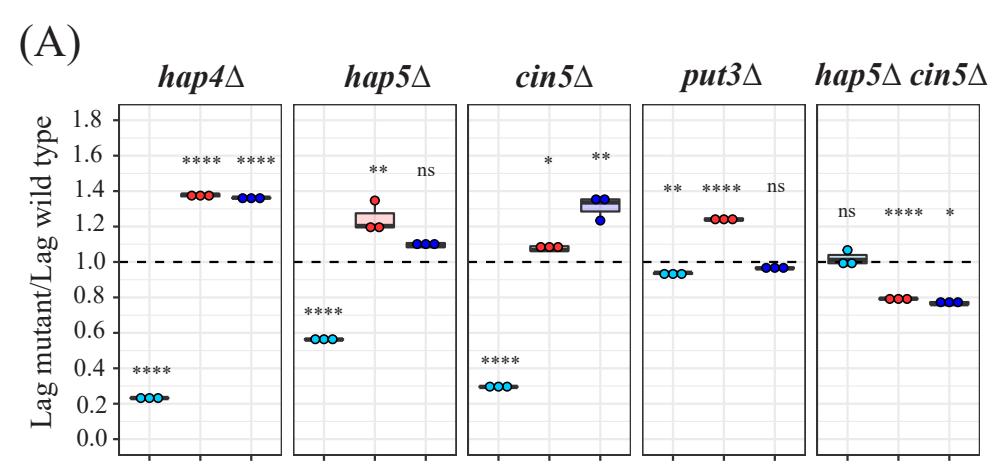


(C)



(A)

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Strains

- CL467.1
- CL467.1 *cin5Δ*
- QC18
- QC18 *cin5Δ*

Metabolite

- Maltose
- ▲ Ethanol