

1 **Increased mTOR activity and metabolic efficiency in mouse and human cells**
2 **containing the African-centric tumor-predisposing p53 variant Pro47Ser**

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18 keywords: mTOR, p53, Pro47Ser, Rheb, GAPDH

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27 **Abstract**

28

29 The Pro47Ser variant of p53 exists in African-descent populations, and is associated with increased
30 cancer risk in humans and mice. This variant, hereafter S47, shows altered regulation of the cystine
31 importer *Slc7a11*, and S47 cells possess increased cysteine and glutathione (GSH) accumulation
32 compared to cells with wild type p53. In this study we show that mice containing the S47 variant
33 have increased mTOR activity, increased oxidative metabolism, larger size, and improved
34 metabolic efficiency. Mechanistically, we show that there is increased association between mTOR
35 and its positive regulator Rheb in S47 cells, due to altered redox state of GAPDH, which normally
36 binds and sequesters Rheb. Compounds that decrease glutathione in S47 cells normalize GAPDH-
37 Rheb complex formation and mTOR activity. The enhanced metabolic efficiency may have been
38 selected for in early Africa, making the S47 variant one of a growing number of cancer-
39 predisposing genetic variants that possesses other positive, potentially selectable attributes.

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42 Word count: 150

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44 **Introduction**

45 The p53 tumor suppressor protein serves as a master regulator of the cellular response to
46 intrinsic and extrinsic stress. Mutations in the *TP53* gene occur in more than 50% of human
47 cancers, and this gene is well-known as the most frequently mutated gene in cancer (Hollstein et
48 al., 1991). p53 works to suppress uncontrolled cellular growth and proliferation through various
49 pathways including apoptosis, senescence, cell cycle arrest and ferroptosis (Stockwell et al., 2017;
50 Vousden and Prives, 2009). More recently a role for p53 in the control of metabolism has emerged.
51 The metabolic functions of p53 include the regulation of mitochondrial function, autophagy,
52 cellular redox state, and the control of lipid and carbohydrate metabolism (Berkers et al., 2013;
53 Gnanapradeepan et al., 2018).

54

55 As an integral part of its control of metabolism, p53 negatively regulates the activity of
56 mTOR (mammalian target of rapamycin), which is a master regulator of metabolism in the cell.
57 mTOR is a serine-threonine protein kinase that is stimulated by mitogenic signals, and
58 phosphorylates downstream targets that in turn regulate protein synthesis and cell growth (Ben-
59 Sahra and Manning, 2017). mTOR exists in two distinct signaling complexes: mTORC1 is
60 primarily responsible for cell growth and protein synthesis, while mTORC2 plays roles in growth
61 factor signaling, cytoskeletal control and cell spreading (Liu and Sabatini, 2020). Not surprisingly,
62 mTOR activity is frequently upregulated in a diverse range of cancers. Studies have shown that
63 p53 negatively regulates the mTOR pathway through transactivation of several target genes
64 including *PTEN*, *TSC2*, *PRKAB1* and *SESNI/SESN2* (Budanov and Karin, 2008; Feng et al., 2005).
65 The regulation of mTOR by p53 is believed to couple the control of genome integrity with the
66 decision to proliferate (Hasty et al., 2013).

67

68 *TP53* harbors several functionally-impactful genetic variants or single nucleotide
69 polymorphisms (SNPs) (Basu et al., 2018; Jennis et al., 2016; Kung et al., 2016). A naturally
70 occurring variant in *TP53* exists at codon 47, encoding serine instead of a proline (Pro47Ser,
71 rs1800371, G/A). This variant exists predominantly in African-descent populations, and occurs in
72 roughly 1% of African Americans and 6% of Africans from sub-Saharan Africa (Murphy et al.,
73 2017). The S47 variant is associated with increased risk for pre-menopausal breast cancer in
74 African American women (Murphy et al., 2017). This variant is defective in the regulation of the
75 small subset of p53 target genes that play roles in ferroptosis sensitivity, including the cystine
76 importer *SLC7A11*. This is accompanied by increased cysteine levels and glutathione (GSH)
77 accumulation in cells from S47 humans and mice (Jennis et al., 2016; Leu et al., 2019). More
78 recently, we showed that the ferroptotic defect in S47 mice leads to iron accumulation in their
79 livers, spleens and macrophages; moreover, the S47 variant is positively associated with iron
80 overload in African Americans (Singh et al., 2020). Of note, the S47 mouse develops significantly
81 increased incidence of spontaneous cancer, particularly liver cancer (Jennis et al., 2016).

82

83 An interesting paradigm that is emerging in the literature is that tumor-predisposing genetic
84 variants may paradoxically provide selection benefit to individuals, thus potentially explaining the
85 frequency of these damaging alleles in the population. As an example, women carrying tumor-
86 predisposing mutations in the *BRCA1* gene tend to be physically larger and show increased fertility
87 (Smith et al., 2012). Here-in we show that mice carrying a knock-in S47 allele in a pure C57Bl/6
88 background show increased size, lean content (muscle), and metabolic efficiency, relative to
89 littermate mice with WT p53. We propose that these attributes may have contributed to a positive

90 selection for this variant in sub-Saharan Africa. Our studies shed further light on the intricate
91 regulation that exists between p53, mTOR activity and metabolic output, in this case mediated by
92 GSH and the control of cellular redox state.

93

94 **Results**

95 **Higher basal mTOR activity in cells containing the S47 variant**

96 We previously showed that human lymphoblastoid cells (LCLs) that are homozygous for
97 the S47 variant of p53 are impaired for the transactivation of less than a dozen p53 target genes,
98 compared to LCLs from family members with WT p53 (Jennis et al., 2016). Several of these genes
99 encode proteins that play roles in the negative regulation of mTOR (Budanov and Karin, 2008;
100 Feng et al., 2007). We confirmed via Q-RT-PCR that S47 LCLs show decreased expression of
101 the p53 target genes *SESNI* and *PTEN*, and decreased transactivation of *PRKABI*, relative to WT
102 cells following cisplatin treatment (Figure 1 - figure supplement 1A and B). These findings
103 prompted us to assess basal mTOR activity in WT and S47 LCLs, and in MEFs from WT and S47
104 mice. We also analyzed tissues from humanized p53 knock-in (Hupki) mice carrying WT and S47
105 alleles on a pure C57Bl/6 background, which we previously generated and characterized (Jennis
106 et al., 2016). Western blot analysis of WT and S47 LCLs, and from multiple clones of WT and
107 S47 MEFs, revealed increased p-S6K1 (Thr389) in S47 cells; following normalization to total
108 S6K1, this increase was between 2-3 fold (Figure 1A-B). Because the activity of mTOR is
109 influenced by age and gender, with increased mTOR activity in female and older mice (Baar et al.,
110 2016), we next compared age- and sex-matched pairs of lung and muscle tissue from WT and S47
111 mice. We found increased levels of p-S6K1 and p-mTOR (Ser2448) in S47 lung and skeletal
112 muscle, relative to WT tissues (Figure 1 C-D). As expected, female mice appeared to have overall

113 higher mTOR activity (Baar et al., 2016); however the trend remains in which S47 mice have
114 increased mTOR activity compared to WT mice (Figure 1C, lane 3-4). Immunohistochemical
115 analysis of these tissues from mice supported these conclusions (Figure 1E). Increased mTOR
116 activity was not seen in all tissues of the S47 mouse, however, and lung and skeletal muscle were
117 the most consistently different between WT and S47 (Figure 1 - figure supplement 1C). We also
118 found that p-S6K1, p-mTOR and p-S6 were the most consistently different read-outs of mTOR
119 activity between WT and S47 cells and tissues; in contrast, we saw limited differences in the level
120 of p-4EBP1 between WT and S47 cells (K. Gnanapradeepan, unpublished data). We did not detect
121 significant differences in p-AKT (Ser473) in WT and S47 cells, suggesting that mTORC1 and not
122 mTORC2 activity is predominantly responsible for the observed differences in mTOR activity
123 (Figure 1 - figure supplement 1D).

124

125 We next sought to challenge mTOR function in WT and S47 cells by subjecting early
126 passage WT and S47 MEFs to a starvation/re-feed experiment, in which we monitored the kinetics
127 of mTOR activation after re-feed using antisera to p-S6K1 and p-mTOR. To do this, three
128 independent cultures each of WT and S47 MEFs were serum starved for 16 hours and refeed with
129 10% serum, after which total and phospho -S6K1 and -mTOR were monitored in a time course.
130 This experiment revealed that S47 cells consistently showed increased induction of markers of
131 mTOR activation after serum re-feed, compared to WT cells (Figure 1F). These data supported
132 the conclusion that the regulation of mTOR activity is distinct in WT and S47 cells.

133

134 Given that mTOR plays a role in autophagy inhibition (Jung et al., 2010; White et al.,
135 2011), we hypothesized that basal autophagy, or autophagic flux, might be decreased in S47 cells.

136 However, we were unable to see any differences in the steady state levels of LC3B or the
137 autophagy adaptor protein p62^{SQSTM1} in WT and S47 MEFs or tissues, either at steady state (Figure
138 1 - figure supplement 1E and F) or following HBSS treatment to induce autophagy (Figure 1 -
139 figure supplement 1F). Likewise, we failed to see differences in viability after HBSS treatment
140 (Figure 1 - figure supplement 1G), nor did we note differences in autophagic flux (conversion of
141 LC3-I to LC3-II when the lysosome is inhibited) in WT and S47 cells (Figure 1 - figure supplement
142 1H). These data indicate that while markers of mTOR activity are increased in S47 cells and
143 tissues, this does not appear to be accompanied by an inhibition of autophagy.

144

145 **Enhanced mitochondrial function and glycolysis in S47 cells**

146 To determine the functional consequences of the increased markers of mTOR activity in
147 S47 cells, we used a Seahorse BioAnalyzer to assess the oxygen consumption rate (OCR), as well
148 as basal and stressed glycolytic rate. Seahorse analyses revealed that S47 LCLs consistently show
149 increased OCR under stressed conditions (Figure 2A). We also found that both human and mouse
150 S47 cells show increased basal and compensatory glycolysis, compared to WT cells (Figure 2B
151 and C). We next sought to more carefully analyze the rates of metabolism in WT and S47 cells
152 by assessing glucose and glutamine consumption using a Yellow Springs Instrument (YSI)
153 Analyzer. We also performed metabolic flux analyses in WT and S47 cells using ¹³C-labeled
154 glucose. Analysis of glucose and glutamine consumption in WT and S47 LCLs and MEFs using
155 the YSI Analyzer revealed that S47 cells show increased consumption of glucose and glutamine,
156 along with increased production of lactate and glutamate, compared to WT cells (Figure 2D-E).
157 We found no evidence that S47 cells proliferate more quickly than WT cells, and if anything S47
158 LCLs proliferate somewhat less rapidly than WT counterparts (Jennis et al., 2016), suggesting that

159 this increased consumption is being used for biomass instead of proliferation. Interestingly, we
160 also analyzed LCLs from individuals heterozygous for the S47 variant (S47/WT), as well as MEFs
161 from mice heterozygous for this variant, and we noted that these values were typically intermediate
162 between homozygous WT and S47 cells (Figure 2D-E). Analysis of $^{13}\text{C}_6$ -glucose tracing in WT
163 and S47 MEFs provided evidence for a higher flux of glucose carbon into the TCA cycle in S47
164 cells compared to WT cells, as evidenced by increased labeling of citrate and malate (Figure 2F-
165 G) and aspartate and glutamate (Figure 2 - figure supplement 1A-B). One possibility was that
166 these metabolic changes might be due to increased mitochondrial content, which is regulated by
167 mTOR (Morita et al., 2013). However, MitoTracker analyses and western blotting for
168 mitochondrial proteins revealed no obvious increase in mitochondrial content in S47 cells (Figure
169 2 - figure supplement 1C-D). The combined data indicate that there is a consistent increase in
170 steady state respiration and glycolysis, as well as increased metabolic flux into the TCA cycle, in
171 S47 cells compared to WT cells.

172
173 The differences in mTOR activity between WT and S47 cells led us to hypothesize that
174 mitochondrial function is altered in these cells, and further that they might respond distinctly to
175 mTOR inhibition, since mTOR is known to regulate mitochondrial metabolism (Morita et al.,
176 2013; Schieke et al., 2006; Ye et al., 2012). Toward testing this hypothesis, we assessed the impact
177 of a non-cytotoxic dose of the mTOR inhibitor, rapamycin, on oxygen consumption rate in WT
178 and S47 cells. Seahorse analysis of WT and S47 LCLs revealed that rapamycin completely
179 abrogates mitochondrial function in WT cells (Figure 3A-C). In contrast, S47 cells are resistant
180 to this dose, particularly when analyzing maximal respiration (Figure 3A-C). These data support

181 the premise that the increased mTOR activity in S47 cells renders their mitochondrial function and
182 oxygen consumption resistant to inhibition of mTOR.

183

184 mTOR regulates body mass and muscle regeneration (Laplante and Sabatini, 2012; Yoon,
185 2017). We therefore assessed body weight and composition in age-matched male mice of WT and
186 S47 genotypes. We also tracked body weight with age of multiple male and female sibling
187 littermate mice of WT/WT, WT/S47 and S47/S47 genotypes in our colony. S47 mice showed
188 increased weight with time, compared to WT/WT and WT/S47 sibling littermates (Figure 4 - figure
189 supplement 1A). Body composition analysis using nuclear magnetic resonance revealed that S47
190 mice had significantly increased fat and lean content, compared to WT mice (Figure 4A-C; Figure
191 4 - figure supplement 1B-D). We next analyzed WT and S47 mice using a comprehensive lab
192 animal monitoring system (CLAMS) over the course of 48 hours. In this analysis, S47 mice
193 showed reduced food intake, oxygen consumption and heat production, but at the same time
194 comparable locomotor activity (Figure 4D – I). These data support the conclusion that S47 mice
195 possess enhanced metabolic efficiency (less food but equal activity). Before testing this further,
196 we sought to determine the underlying mechanism for increased mTOR activity in S47 cells and
197 mice.

198

199 **Increased mTOR activity in S47 is due to increased mTOR-Rheb interaction**

200 We were unable to find convincing evidence that the modest differences in gene expression
201 of mTOR negative regulators in S47 cells (Figure 1 – figure supplement 1A) accounted for the
202 differences in mTOR activity between WT and S47 cells. We previously found that S47 cells
203 accumulate iron due to their ferroptotic defect, but we were unable to find evidence that the iron

204 chelator deferoxamine reduced mTOR activity in S47 cells (K. Gnanapradeepan, unpublished
205 observations). Therefore we next analyzed a key regulator of mTOR activity, the small GTPase
206 Rheb, which binds to and activates mTOR (Long et al., 2005). We monitored the mTOR-Rheb
207 association in WT and S47 MEFs using the technique of proximity ligation assay (PLA), which
208 quantitatively detects protein-protein interactions. These PLA experiments indicated that there
209 were consistently increased mTOR-Rheb complexes in S47 cells, compared to WT; this was true
210 in multiple replicates, in multiple MEF clones (Figure 5A-B). One of the recently-identified
211 regulators of the mTOR-Rheb interaction is the cytosolic enzyme GAPDH, which binds to Rheb
212 and sequesters it from mTOR (Lee et al., 2009). Using PLA, we found that the GAPDH-Rheb
213 association is markedly increased in WT cells relative to S47 cells (Figure 5A), despite equivalent
214 levels of all three proteins in cells of both genotypes (Figure 5 - figure supplement 1A). These
215 data indicate that the increased mTOR activity in S47 cells is likely due to increased mTOR-Rheb
216 association, stemming from the decreased GAPDH-Rheb association.

217
218 GAPDH is a multi-functional enzyme that is well-known to be sensitive to redox status
219 (Brandes et al., 2009; Chernorizov et al., 2010). We hypothesized that the increased glutathione
220 (GSH) levels in S47 cells (Leu et al., 2019) might alter the redox state of GAPDH, and likewise
221 alter its ability to bind to Rheb. To assess and compare the redox state of GAPDH in WT and S47
222 cells, we employed cross-linking experiments using the cysteinyl cross-linking agent
223 bismaleimido-hexane (BMH), which cross-links cysteine residues within 13Å by covalently
224 conjugating free (reduced) sulfhydryl groups (Green et al., 2001). BMH was used to treat freshly
225 isolated lung and skeletal muscle lysates from WT and S47 mice, as well as lysates from
226 immortalized WT and S47 MEFs. Cysteinyl-crosslinked proteins were resolved on SDS-PAGE

227 gels, and compared to untreated extracts. We found consistent differences in GAPDH cross-
228 linking patterns in S47 samples compared to WT, as evident by altered mobility on SDS-PAGE of
229 BMH-treated samples (Figure 5C-E). These data suggest that free sulfhydryls are different in WT
230 and S47 cells and tissues, possibly due to the increased GSH in S47 cells. To test this premise
231 further we pre-treated WT and S47 MEFs with the compound diethylmaleate (DEM), which
232 decreases the level of reduced GSH in cells (Leu et al., 2019). We found that pre-treatment of
233 cells with DEM restores the mobility of GAPDH in S47 cells to that evident in cells with WT p53
234 (Figure 5E). Likewise, we found that depleting excess GSH in cells using DEM or the compound
235 buthionine sulfoximine (BSO, which decreases glutathione synthesis) completely restores
236 GAPDH-Rheb complex formation, and mTOR-Rheb complex formation, in S47 cells to levels
237 equivalent to WT cells (Figure 5F, Figure 5 - figure supplement 1B). Finally, we found that DEM
238 treatment causes decreased p-S6K1 in cells, supporting the premise that GSH levels can influence
239 mTOR activity (Figure 5 - figure supplement 1C). We analyzed the expression of other key
240 regulators of the mTOR and p53 pathway including TSC2, Deptor, AKT and Sco2, and found no
241 significant differences between WT and S47 cells (Figure 5 - figure supplement 1D). The
242 combined data support the conclusion that the increased GSH pool in S47 cells affects the status
243 of reactive cysteines in GAPDH, and the ability of this protein to bind and sequester Rheb, thereby
244 leading to increased Rheb-mTOR interaction and increased mTOR activity in S47 cells.

245

246 **Improved treadmill performance of S47 mice**

247 The CLAMs data supporting increased metabolic efficiency in S47 mice prompted us to
248 challenge WT and S47 mice to treadmill exercise with increasing intensity over time; during this
249 time course, oxygen consumption and serum metabolites were quantified. For this analysis we

250 studied eight age-matched male mice of each genotype during a 50 minute forced exercise at
251 increasing speed and slope. Consistent with our CLAMs experiment, S47 mice start with lower
252 basal VO₂ and exhibit generally lower VO₂ for the work being performed until they approach the
253 final, most strenuous point of the exercise where the VO₂ values in WT and S47 converge (Figure
254 6A-C). Analysis of serum metabolites and proteins before and after exercise revealed decreased
255 lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) levels in S47 mice, indicating less muscle damage in S47 mice
256 compared to WT (Figure 6D). There were no other differences in serum metabolites between WT
257 and S47 mice (Figure 6 - figure supplement 1A). We also monitored the pre-run soleus and
258 gastrocnemius muscle from WT and S47 mice for the steady state level of proteins involved in
259 mitochondrial metabolism, but found no differences in the steady level of any of these proteins
260 (Figure 6 - figure supplement 1B). Finally, we tested WT and S47 males on a continuous, more
261 strenuous, treadmill run and found that three out of four WT mice failed to complete the run, while
262 three out of four S47 successfully completed this run (Figure 6 - figure supplement 1C). Taken
263 together, the combined data point to increased metabolic efficiency and fitness in S47 mice.

264

265 **Discussion**

266 In this study, we show that cells and mice bearing the S47 variant of p53 have increased
267 mTOR activity, increased metabolic efficiency and increased mass. The animals also display signs
268 of superior fitness. The enhanced mTOR activity is due in part to the higher levels of GSH in S47
269 cells and tissues, which we previously reported (Leu et al., 2019). The increased GSH results in
270 impaired ability of the redox sensitive protein GAPDH to bind to Rheb. This leads to greater
271 mTOR-Rheb binding, resulting in increased mTOR activity in S47 cells and tissues. Our data
272 indicate that, along with pH (Walton et al., 2018), cellular redox status can also regulate mTOR

273 activity, in a manner controlled by p53. We show that oxidative metabolism in S47 cells is less
274 sensitive to mTOR inhibitors, thus tying these two phenotypes together; this is not surprising, as a
275 link between mTOR and a number of cellular metabolic processes is well known (Morita et al.,
276 2013; Schieke et al., 2006). One caveat of this study is that we do not directly demonstrate that
277 the increased mTOR activity in S47 mice is causing their superior performance on treadmill
278 assays; however, heightened mTOR activity is well-known to lead to enhanced muscle recovery
279 after exercise (Song et al., 2017; Yoon, 2017).

280

281 We see evidence for increased mTOR activity only in certain tissues of the S47 mouse, so
282 the impact of this genetic variant appears to be somewhat tissue restricted. At present we do not
283 know if this tissue specificity is due to differences in GSH level, or to altered mTOR-Rheb or
284 GAPDH-Rheb interactions in different tissues, or to other parameters. We also see evidence for
285 some unexpected findings regarding the increase in mTOR activity in S47 cells: given that mTOR
286 negatively regulates autophagy (Jung et al., 2010), we expected to see differences in steady state
287 autophagy or autophagic flux in WT and S47 cells, but we found no evidence for this. This finding
288 may be due to the rather complex relationship between mTOR and autophagy (Jung et al., 2010;
289 White et al., 2011), and/or that other signaling pathways regulate autophagy aside from mTOR,
290 including the PI3K pathway, GTPases, and calcium (Yang et al., 2005).

291

292 The increased muscle mass in S47 mice likely contributes to the increased fitness observed
293 in these mice. Human studies have shown that mTOR activation is crucial for human muscle
294 protein synthesis, particularly in response to amino acid availability (Dickinson and Rasmussen,
295 2011). Treatment with the well-studied mTOR inhibitor rapamycin blocks the effects of amino

296 acid ingestion on mTOR activity and leads to decreased protein synthesis in human skeletal muscle
297 (Dickinson and Rasmussen, 2011; Drummond et al., 2009). Additionally, mTOR signaling driven
298 through IGF-1 plays a key role in promoting muscle hypertrophy (Coleman et al., 1995; Musaro
299 et al., 2001; Vandeburgh et al., 1991). Our combined findings suggest that the increased mTOR
300 activity in the muscle of S47 mice leads to the indicators of improved fitness that we see in these
301 mice (see model, Figure 6E). We hypothesize that the more efficient metabolism and enhanced
302 fitness provided by the S47 variant may have once provided carriers with a bio-energetic advantage
303 in Sub-Saharan western Africa, where this variant is most common. For example, those carrying
304 the S47 SNP may have possessed superior athletic prowess and/or ability to withstand famine.
305 This metabolic advantage may explain the high frequency of this genetic variant in sub-Saharan
306 Africa, despite the fact that it predisposes individuals to cancer later in life. A selection for this
307 variant in Africa may also include an improved ability to withstand malaria infection: we recently
308 reported that the S47 variant alters the immune micro-environment in mice, and confers improved
309 response to the malaria toxin hemozoin (Singh et al., 2020). Both of these activities may have
310 conferred selection pressure for this variant in Africa.

311

312 Our findings provide further support for the growing premise that some tumor suppressor
313 genetic variants may provide evolutionary selection benefit (Vicens and Posada, 2018). For
314 example, women who carry the BRCA1/2 mutation exhibit increased size and enhanced fertility
315 when compared to controls (Smith et al., 2012). Similarly, people with Li Fraumeni syndrome
316 who inherit germline mutations in *TP53*, as well as mice with tumor-derived germline mutations
317 in *Tp53*, demonstrate increased fitness endurance (Wang et al., 2013), but this is due to increased
318 mitochondrial content, which we do not see in S47 cells. A common genetic variant in *TP53* at

319 codon 72, encoding proline at amino acid 72, confers increased longevity while conversely causing
320 increased cancer risk (Zhao et al., 2018). In contrast, the arginine 72 variant of p53 induces
321 increased expression of LIF, which influences fecundity (Kang et al., 2009). The take home
322 message from all of these studies is that the diverse roles of tumor suppressor proteins like p53 in
323 metabolism, fertility and fitness may allow for positive selection for certain variants, even at the
324 expense of increased cancer risk. In mice, this increased cancer risk occurs quite late in life, well
325 past reproductive selection (12-18 months). More needs to be done to analyze cancer risk in S47
326 humans. A more comprehensive understanding of the function of tumor suppressor genetic
327 variants, including the S47 SNP, will enable improved understanding of cancer risk, along with
328 superior personalized medicine approaches, with the ultimate goal of improving clinical outcomes
329 and survival of people who carry this variant.

330

331

332 **Materials and Methods**

333 **Mammalian cell culture**

334 WT and S47 MEFs were generated and maintained as previously described (Jennis et al., 2016).
335 Human WT LCLs (Catalog ID GM18870) and S47 LCLs (Catalog ID GM18871) were obtained
336 from the Coriell Institute (Camden, New Jersey) and maintained as previously described (Jennis
337 et al., 2016). MEF cultured cells were grown in DMEM (Corning Cellgro) supplemented with
338 10% fetal bovine serum (HyClone, GE Healthcare Life Sciences) and 1% penicillin/streptomycin
339 (Corning Cellgro). Human LCLs were grown in RPMI (Corning Cellgro) supplemented with 15%
340 heat inactivated fetal bovine serum (HyClone, GE Healthcare Life Sciences) and 1%
341 penicillin/streptomycin (Corning Cellgro). Cells were grown in a 5% CO₂ humidified incubator

342 at 37°C. For serum starvation experiments, cells were starved in DMEM containing 0.1% FBS
343 for 16 hours. Following starvation, DMEM containing 10% FBS was re-introduced and cells were
344 harvested at 0 minutes, 10 minutes, 30 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours and 8 hours after this point. For
345 HBSS experiments, cells were washed once with PBS (Corning 21-031-CV) and then incubated
346 with HBSS (Thermo Fisher Scientific 14025092) for 0, 2 or 6 hours. Viability was assessed using
347 Trypan Blue (Thermo Fisher Scientific 15250061).

348

349 **Western blot**

350 For Western blot analyses, 50-100 µg of protein was resolved over SDS-PAGE gels using 10%
351 NuPAGE Bis-Tris precast gels (Life Technologies) and were then transferred onto polyvinylidene
352 difluoride membranes (IPVH00010, pore size: 0.45 µm; Millipore Sigma). Membranes were
353 blocked for 1 hour in 5% bovine albumin serum (Sigma Aldrich, A9647). The following
354 antibodies were used for Western blot analyses: phospho-mTOR 1:1000 (Cell Signaling, 2971),
355 mTOR 1:1000 (7C10, Cell Signaling, 2983), phospho-p70S6K1 1:1000 (Cell Signaling, 9205),
356 p70S6K1 1:1000 (Cell Signaling, 9202), GAPDH 1:10,000 (14C10, Cell Signaling, 2118), TFAM
357 1:2000 (Abcam, ab131607), MTCO1 1:2000 (Abcam, ab14705), SDHA 1:1000 (Cell Signaling,
358 5839), Tom20 1:100 (F-10, Santa Cruz, sc17764), phospho-Akt (D9E, Cell Signaling, 4060), p62
359 1:1000 (Cell Signaling, 5114), LC3B 1:1000 (D11, Cell Signaling, 3868), HSP90 1:1000 (Cell
360 Signaling, 4877S), Rheb 1:1000 (E1G1R, Cell Signaling, 13879), TSC2 1:1000 (D93F12, Cell
361 Signaling, 4308), Akt 1:1000 (Cell Signaling, 9272), Deptor 1:1000 (Novus Bio, NBP1-49674SS).
362 Rabbit or mouse secondary antibodies conjugated to horseradish peroxidase were used at a
363 1:10,000 dilution (Jackson Immunochemicals), followed by a 5-minute treatment with ECL

364 (Amersham, RPN2232). Protein levels were detected using autoradiography and densitometry
365 analysis of protein content was conducted using ImageJ software (NIH, Rockville, MD).

366

367 **Immunohistochemistry**

368 Tissues were harvested and fixed in formalin overnight at 4°C, followed by a wash with 1X PBS
369 and were then placed in 70% ethanol prior to paraffin embedding. The Wistar Institute
370 Histotechnology Facility performed the tissue embedding and sectioning. For the
371 immunohistochemistry (IHC) studies, paraffin embedded tissue sections were de-paraffinized in
372 xylene (Fisher, X5-SK4) and re-hydrated in ethanol (100%-95%-85%-75%) followed by distilled
373 water. Samples underwent antigen retrieval by steaming slides in 10 mM Citrate Buffer (pH 6).
374 Endogenous peroxidase activity was quenched with 3% hydrogen peroxide and slides were
375 incubated in blocking buffer (Vector Laboratories, S-2012) for 1 hr. The slides were incubated
376 with phospho-p70S6K1 (1:100, ThermoFisher Scientific, PA5-37733) or phospho-mTOR (1:100,
377 Cell Signaling, 2971) primary antibody overnight at 4°C. The following day, slides were washed
378 with PBS and incubated with HRP-conjugated secondary antibody for 30 mins. Antibody
379 complexes were detected using DAB chromogen (D5637). Light counterstaining was done with
380 hematoxylin. Slides were imaged using the Nikon 80i upright microscope and at least four fields
381 were taken per section.

382

383 **Mitochondrial metabolism assays**

384 The oxygen consumption rate (OCR) and glycolytic rate were determined using the Seahorse XF
385 MitoStress Assay and the Seahorse XF Glycolytic Rate Assay, respectively, according to the
386 manufacturer's protocol. Cells were plated one day prior to the assay, LCLs at 100,000 cells/well

387 and MEFs at 60,000 cells/well. LCLs were treated with 200 nM rapamycin for 24 hours prior to
388 running MitoStress Assay. To determine mitochondrial content, WT and S47 MEFs were
389 incubated with 500 nM of MitoTracker Green (ThermoFisher Scientific, M7514) for one hour at
390 37°C. Cells were then spun down, washed once with PBS, spun down and resuspended in PBS.
391 The FACSCelesta (BD Biosciences) was used to detect fluorescence and at least 10,000 events
392 were measured per sample.

393

394 **Metabolite measurements**

395 Media was collected after 24 hours after plating LCLs or MEFs, and the YSI-71000 Bioanalyzer
396 was used to determine glucose, glutamine, lactate and glutamate levels as previously described
397 (Londono Gentile et al., 2013). For the metabolic flux studies, cells were incubated in uniformly
398 labeled ¹³C-glucose (25 mM) as indicated in the figure legends. For intracellular extracts, after
399 incubation, the culture medium was aspirated and cells were washed once in ice-cold PBS.
400 Metabolites were extracted by adding a solution of methanol/acetonitrile/water (5:3:2) to the well.
401 Plates were incubated at 4°C for 5 minutes on a rocker and then the extraction solution was
402 collected. The metabolite extract was cleared by centrifuging at 15,000 x g for 10 minutes at 4°C.
403 Supernatants were transferred to LC-MS silanized glass vials with PTFE caps and either run
404 immediately on the LC-MS or stored at -80°C. LC-MS analysis was performed on a Q Exactive
405 Hybrid Quadrupole-Orbitrap HF-X MS (ThermoFisher Scientific) equipped with a HESI II probe
406 and coupled to a Vanquish Horizon UHPLC system (ThermoFisher Scientific). 0.002 ml of
407 sample is injected and separated by HILIC chromatography on a ZIC-pHILIC 2.1-mm. Samples
408 were separated by ammonium carbonate, 0.1% ammonium hydroxide, pH 9.2, and mobile phase
409 B is acetonitrile. The LC was run at a flow rate of 0.2 ml/min and the gradient used was as follows:

410 0 min, 85% B; 2 min, 85% B; 17 min, 20% B; 17.1 min, 85% B; and 26 min, 85% B. The column
411 was maintained at 45°C and the mobile phase was also pre-heated at 45°C before flowing into the
412 column. The relevant MS parameters were as listed: sheath gas, 40; auxiliary gas, 10; sweep gas,
413 1; auxiliary gas heater temperature, 350°C; spray voltage, 3.5 kV for the positive mode and 3.2 kV
414 for the negative mode. Capillary temperature was set at 325°C, and funnel RF level at 40. Samples
415 were analyzed in full MS scan with polarity switching at scan range 65 to 975 m/z; 120,000
416 resolution; automated gain control (AGC) target of 1E6; and maximum injection time (max IT) of
417 100 milliseconds. Identification and quantitation of metabolites was performed using an annotated
418 compound library and TraceFinder 4.1 software. The “M+X” nomenclature refers to the
419 isotopolog for that given metabolite. Isotopologs are chemically identical metabolites that differ
420 only in their number of carbon-13 atoms. For instance, “M+2 citrate” means that two of the six
421 carbons in citrate are carbon-13 while the other four are carbon-12. “M+4 citrate” means that four
422 of the six carbons in citrate are carbon-13 while the other two are carbon-12.

423

424 **BMH crosslinking**

425 Immortalized WT and S47 MEFs were generated and maintained as previously described (Jennis
426 et al., 2016; Leu et al., 2019). For BMH crosslinking studies, the WT and S47 cells were cultured
427 in 1% FBS DMEM medium and treated with PBS or 50 µM diethyl maleate (DEM, ThermoFisher
428 Scientific AC114440010) for 5 h. Proteins were extracted from cultured cells or mouse tissue
429 (skeletal muscle, lungs) using 1X DPBS (Thermo Fisher Scientific 14190144) supplemented with
430 0.5% IGEPAL CA-630, 1 mM PMSF, 6 µg/ml aprotinin, and 6 µg/ml leupeptin at 4°C. The tissues
431 were homogenized using the Wheaton Overhead Stirrer. Total cellular homogenates were pulse
432 sonicated using the Branson digital sonifier set at 39% amplitude. Total protein extracts (100 µg

433 per reaction) were incubated with or without 1 mM BMH (Thermo Fisher Scientific 22330) for 30
434 min at 30°C. The samples were quenched with an equal volume of 2x Laemmli Sample Buffer
435 (BioRad 1610737) supplemented with 5% β -Mercaptoethanol (BioRad 1610710) and heated for
436 10 min at 100°C. The protein samples were size fractionated on Novex 4-20% Tris-Glycine Mini
437 Gels (Thermo Fisher Scientific XP04200BOX) at room temperature and subsequently transferred
438 overnight onto Immuno-Blot PVDF membranes (BioRad 1620177) at 4°C. The membranes were
439 blocked with 3% nonfat dry milk (BioRad 1706404) in 1X PBST for 30 min at room temperature
440 and incubated with the GAPDH antibody (Cell Signaling Technology 2118) overnight with
441 rotation/nutation at 4°C. After washing the blots in 1X PBST, the membranes were incubated with
442 Donkey anti-Rabbit (Jackson ImmunoResearch 711-036-152) for 2 h at room temperature.
443 Membrane-immobilized protein detection used ECL Western Blotting Detection Reagents (GE
444 Healthcare RPN2106; Millipore Sigma GERPN2106).

445

446 **Proximity Ligation Assay**

447 Cells were grown on Lab-Tek II 8-well chamber slides, were either untreated, treated with 50 μ M
448 diethyl maleate (DEM, ThermoFisher Scientific AC114440010) for 5 hours or treated with 10 μ M
449 of buthionine sulfoximine for 24 hours (BSO, Cayman Chemicals, 83730-53-4) and fixed with 4%
450 paraformaldehyde (Electron Microscopy Sciences, 15710). Protein-protein interactions were
451 assessed using the PLA Duolink in situ starter kit (Sigma Aldrich, DUO92101) following the
452 manufacturer's protocol. The following primary antibodies were used: Rheb 1:50 (B-12, Santa
453 Cruz, sc271509), mTOR 1:500 (7C10, Cell Signaling, 2983), GAPDH 1:1000 (14C10, Cell
454 Signaling, 2118). ImageJ software (NIH, Rockville, MD) was used to quantify PLA signals.

455

456 **Body composition and metabolic cage studies**

457 WT and S47 mice in a pure C57Bl/6 background are previously described (Jennis et al., 2016).
458 All mouse studies were performed in accordance with the guidelines in the Guide for the Care and
459 Use of Laboratory Animals of the NIH and all protocols were approved by the Wistar Institute
460 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Mice were fed an *ad libitum* diet and
461 were housed in plastic cages with a 12-hour/12-hour light cycle at 22°C unless otherwise stated.
462 Fat and lean content were measured in live male mice at 6 weeks of age using nuclear magnetic
463 resonance (NMR) with the Minispec LF90 (Bruker Biospin, Billerica, MA). Indirect calorimetry
464 was conducted to assess metabolic capabilities in mice (Oxyman/Comprehensive Laboratory
465 Animal Monitoring System (CLAMS); Columbus Instruments). Six-week old mice were single
466 caged, provided with water and food *ad libitum* and allowed to acclimate to the cages for 2 days.
467 Oxygen consumption (VO_2) and carbon dioxide production (VCO_2) were recorded for 48 hours
468 using an air flow of 600 ml/min and temperature of 22°C. Respiratory exchange ratio (RER) is
469 calculated as VCO_2/VO_2 and heat (kcal/h) is calculated by $3.815 + 1.232*(RER)$. Photodetectors
470 were used to measure physical activity (Optovarimex System; Columbus Instruments).

471

472 **Treadmill and serum metabolite studies**

473 Mice were allowed to acclimate to the metabolic treadmill (Columbus Instruments) for 5 minutes
474 before beginning their runs. The treadmill was then set to 5m/min and speed increased by 5m/min
475 every 2 minutes until 20m/min was reached. Upon reaching 20 m/min, the incline was increased
476 by 5 degrees every 2 minutes until reaching a maximum of 25 degrees. Mice were allowed to run
477 at this maximum speed and incline until exhaustion, defined by the mice spending 10 continuous
478 seconds on the shock grid. Lactate (Nova Biomedical) and glucose (One Touch) measurements

479 were taken using test strips just prior to treadmill entry and immediately after exhaustion using
480 handheld meters. Tail blood was also taken prior to treadmill entry and immediately after
481 exhaustion and metabolites measured using the Vetest serum analyzer (Idexx Laboratories).

482

483 **Statistical Analysis**

484 Unless otherwise stated, all experiments were performed in triplicate. The two-tailed unpaired
485 Student t-test was performed. All *in vitro* data are reported as the mean \pm SD unless stated
486 otherwise, and *in vivo* are reported as the mean \pm SE. Statistical analyses were performed using
487 GraphPad Prism, p-values are as follows: (*) p-value < 0.05 , (**) p-value < 0.01 , (***) p-value $<$
488 0.001 , (****) p-value < 0.0001 . For the CLAMs and mouse exercise data, the Wilcoxon rank-sum
489 test was used to compare the differences between S47 and WT mice.

490

491 **Acknowledgments**

492 This work was supported by R01 CA102184 (M.E.M), R01 CA139319 (D.L.G. and M.E.M), P01
493 CA114046 (D.L.G. and M.E.M), F32 CA220972 (T.B.), R01 CA174761 (K.E.W.), R01
494 AG043483 (J.A.B.) and the Penn Diabetes Research Center (P30-DK19525). RSA is partly
495 supported by a Bloomberg Distinguished Professorship. The authors would like to acknowledge
496 the Histotechnology, Laboratory Animal and Imaging facilities at the Wistar Institute. The authors
497 are grateful to Allie Lipshutz and Lindsey Schweitzer for technical help, and Matthew Jennis for
498 the mouse weight data.

499

500 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

501

502 **Figure 1. Increased markers of mTOR activity in S47 cells and tissues.**

503 (A) Western blot analyses reveal higher phospho-S6K1 expression in S47 LCLs and S47 MEFs,
504 obtained from two separate embryos per genotype.

505 (B) Densitometry quantification of phospho-S6K1 protein expression in WT and S47 MEFs from
506 4 independent experiments; all values normalized to total S6K1. Error bars represent standard
507 error, (*) p value < 0.05.

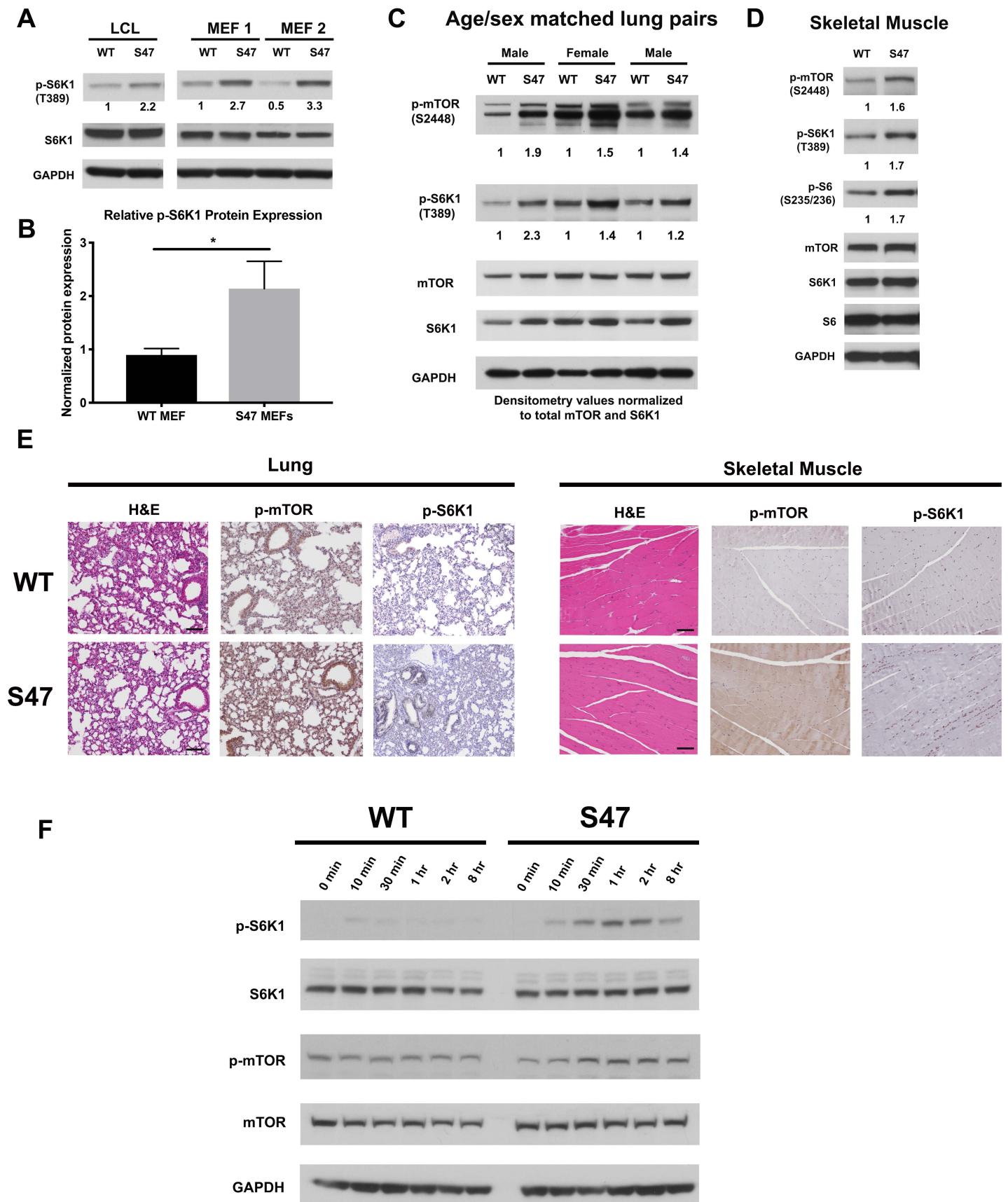
508 (C) Whole cell lysates were extracted from 3 WT and 3 S47 mouse lungs and analyzed by Western
509 blot for the proteins indicated. Pair 1 and 3 are lungs isolated from male mice, pair 2 are lungs
510 isolated from female mice. Densitometry quantification of phospho-S6K1 and phospho-mTOR
511 was performed and normalized to total S6K1 and total mTOR protein expression, respectively.

512 (D) Whole cell lysates were extracted from WT and S47 mouse skeletal muscle and analyzed as
513 described above. Densitometry quantification of phospho-S6, phospho-S6K1, phospho-mTOR
514 was performed and normalized to total S6, total S6K1 and total mTOR protein expression,
515 respectively.

516 (E) Immunohistochemical analysis of H&E, phospho-mTOR and phospho-S6K1 in WT and S47
517 mouse lung and skeletal tissue. Data are representative of n = 4 fields per genotype. Scale bar
518 represents 100 μ M.

519 (F) WT and S47 MEFs were starved in media containing 0.1% FBS for 16 hours, then media
520 containing 10% serum was re-introduced and samples were collected at indicated time points. Cell
521 lysates were extracted from samples and subjected to Western Blot analysis for the proteins
522 indicated.

Figure 1



523 **Figure 2. Increased metabolism in S47 cells compared to WT cells.**

524 (A) Oxygen consumption rates (OCR) in WT and S47 LCLs were assessed using the Seahorse XF
525 Mito Stress Test. OCR was measured first in basal conditions, then after oligomycin treatment,
526 followed by FCCP treatment and finally rotenone/antimycin. Bar graph depicts maximal OCR
527 after FCCP injection at ~ 40 minute timepoint; data are representative of 3 independent
528 experiments performed with at least six technical replicates, presented as mean \pm SD.

529 (B-C) Basal and compensatory glycolysis in WT and S47 LCLs (B) and MEFs (C) were assessed
530 using the Seahorse Glycolytic Rate Assay. Basal glycolysis is first measured, followed by
531 rotenone/antimycin treatment and finally 2 de-oxy-D-glucose (2-DG) treatment; glycoPER:
532 Glycolytic proton efflux rate. Bar graph depicts basal glycolysis at ~1 minute timepoint and
533 compensatory glycolysis after antimycin/rotenone injection at ~ 22 minute timepoint; data are
534 representative of 3 independent experiments performed with at least ten technical replicates. Bar
535 graphs are presented as mean \pm SD for all Seahorse analyses.

536 (D-E) Consumption of glucose and glutamine from media and production of lactate and glutamate
537 were analyzed from homozygous WT, heterozygous WT/S47 and homozygous S47 human LCLs
538 (D) and primary MEFs (E) using a YSI-7100 Bioanalyzer. Means and SEM are shown (n= 5).

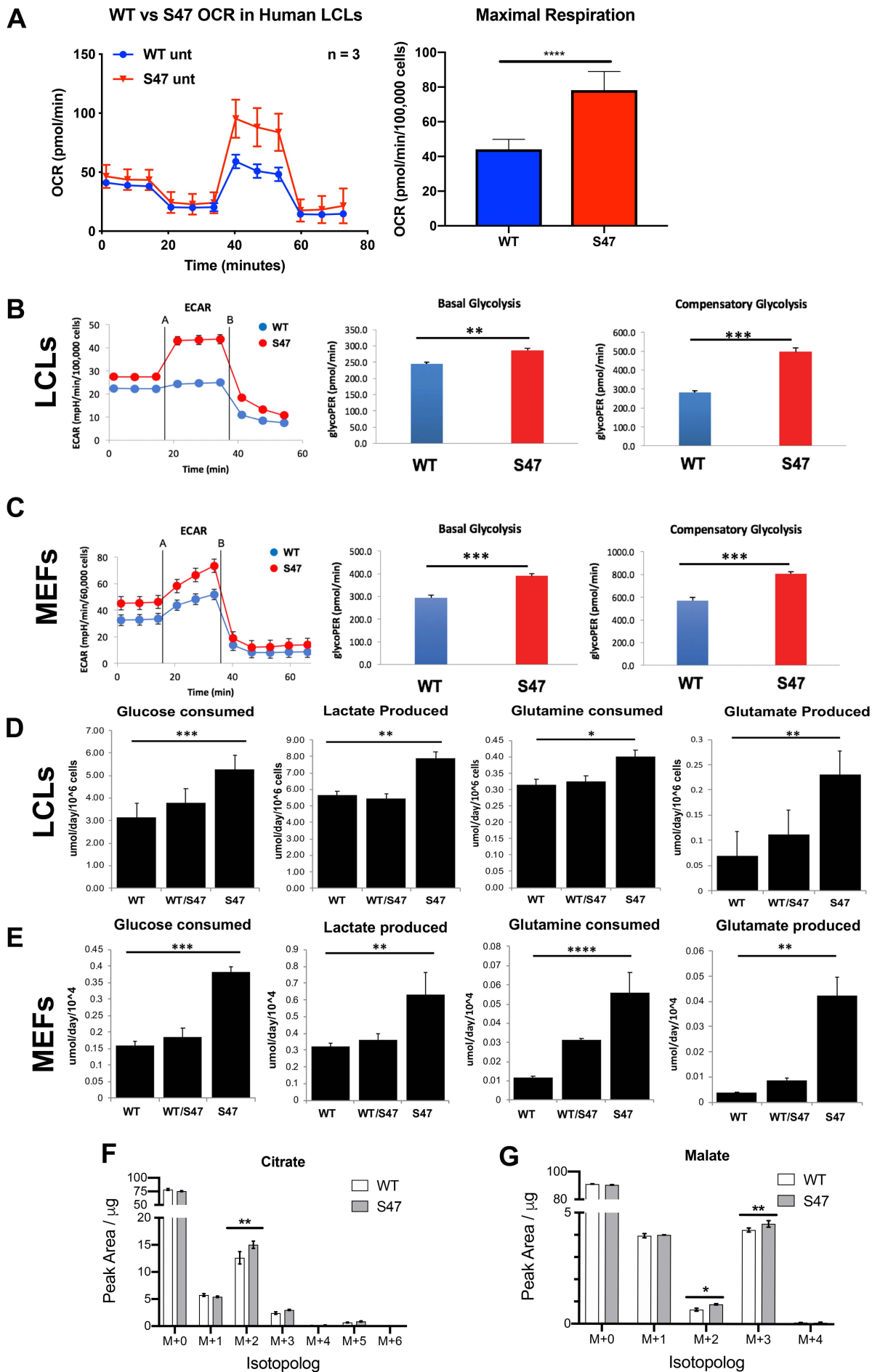
539 (F-G) WT and S47 MEFs were incubated with 25 mM ^{13}C -glucose for 15 minutes and the
540 abundance of citrate (F) and malate (G) isotopologs was quantified by LC-MS/MS. Data are
541 presented as mean \pm SD, n =3; 2-way ANOVA. (*) p-value < 0.05, (**) p-value < 0.01, (***) p-
542 value < 0.001, (****) p-value < 0.0001.

543

544

545

Figure 2



546 **Figure 3. S47 mitochondria show decreased sensitivity to mTOR inhibition.**

547 (A) OCR as measured by the Seahorse XFe96 Analyzer in WT and S47 LCLs treated with 200
548 nM of rapamycin for 24 hours.

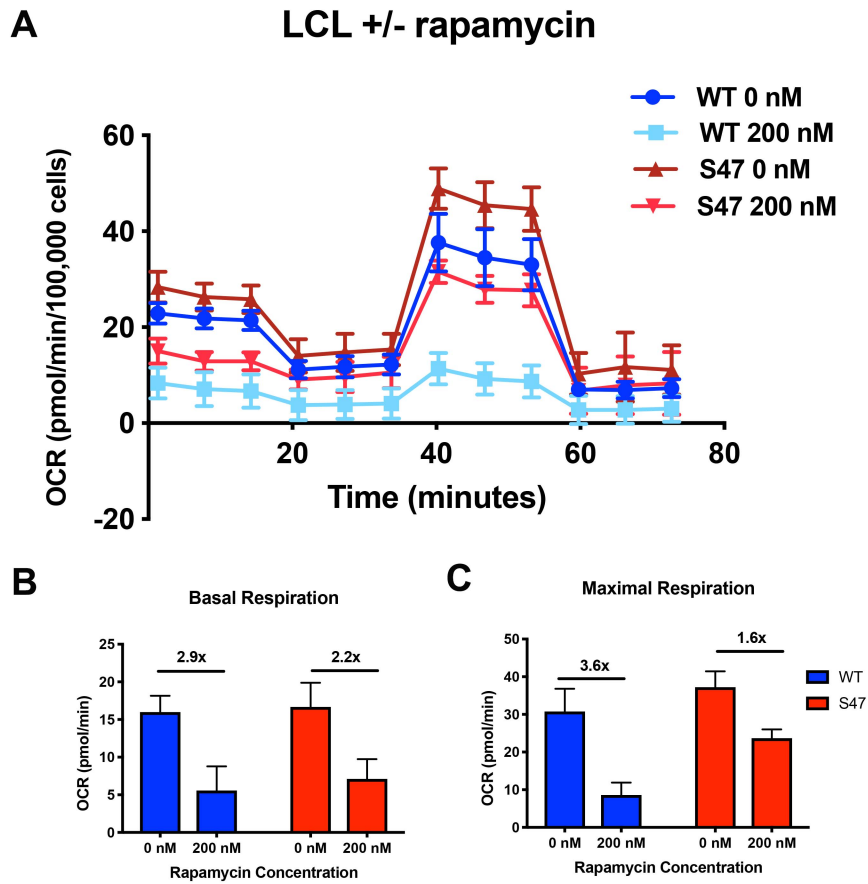
549 (B-C) Bar graph depicts basal OCR at ~1 minute timepoint (B) and maximal OCR after FCCP
550 injection at ~ 40 minute timepoint (C); fold changes between treated and untreated samples are
551 shown. Data are representative of 2 independent experiments performed with at least ten technical
552 replicates.

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Figure 3



556 **Figure 4. Increased size and improved metabolic efficiency in S47 mice.**

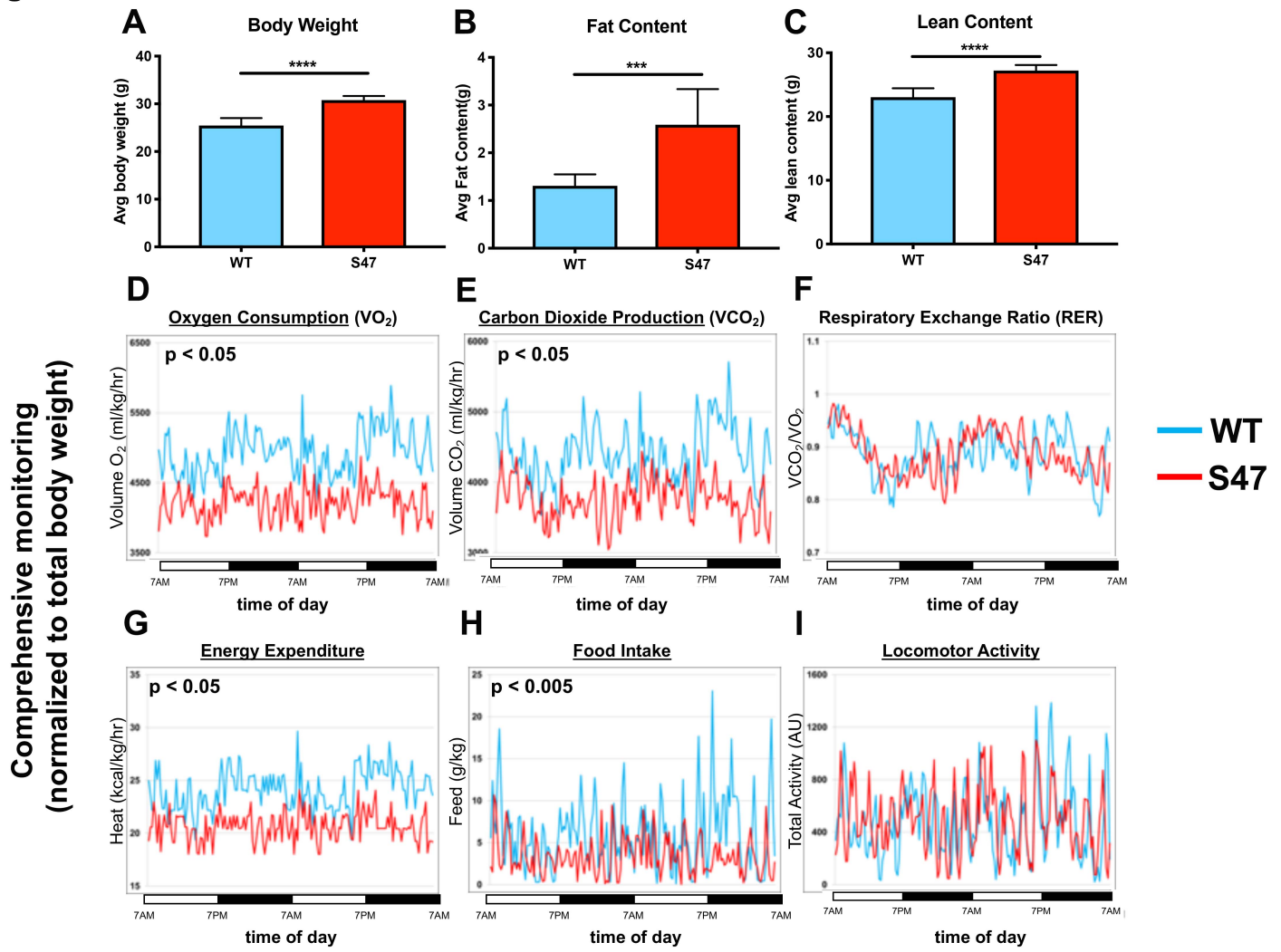
557 (A) Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) studies revealed S47 mice have increased body weight,
558 (B) increased fat content and (C) increased lean content, n=7 WT mice, n=8 S47 mice. (***) p-
559 value < 0.001, (****) p-value < 0.0001. Bar graphs are presented as mean \pm SD. (D-I) Changes
560 in metabolic parameters for WT mice (blue) and S47 mice (red) were determined by using the
561 Comprehensive Lab Animal Monitoring System for 48 hours. Parameters assessed includes (D)
562 oxygen consumption, (E) carbon dioxide production, (F) respiratory exchange rate, (G) energy
563 expenditure, (H) total food intake and (I) locomotor activity. The data are representative of 5 six-
564 week old male mice per genotype and are normalized to total body weight.

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567

Figure 4



568 **Figure 5. Increased mTOR-Rheb binding in S47 cells, along with altered GAPDH**
569 **conformation.**

570 (A-B) An *in situ* proximity ligation assay (PLA) was performed in WT and S47 MEFs. Each red
571 dot represents an interaction between mTOR-Rheb or GAPDH-Rheb as indicated, scale bar
572 represents 50 μ M. The samples were counterstained with DAPI to detect nuclei. Cells stained
573 only with secondary antibody were used as a negative control. (B) Quantification of the mTOR-
574 Rheb interactions, measured as the average number of PLA signals per nuclei. Data were
575 quantified by counting the number of cells in five random fields per experimental condition. (***)
576 p-value < 0.001, Student's t-test.

577 (C-D) Whole cell lysates were extracted from WT and S47 mouse lung (C) and skeletal (D) tissue.
578 GAPDH proteins were cross-linked with BMH, resolved by SDS/PAGE, and detected by Western
579 blotting with a GAPDH specific antibody (Top). Untreated protein lysates were analyzed by
580 Western blot analysis for GAPDH (Bottom).

581 (E) WT and S47 iMEFs were treated with 50 μ M of DEM for 5 h and protein lysates were analyzed
582 as described in C-D.

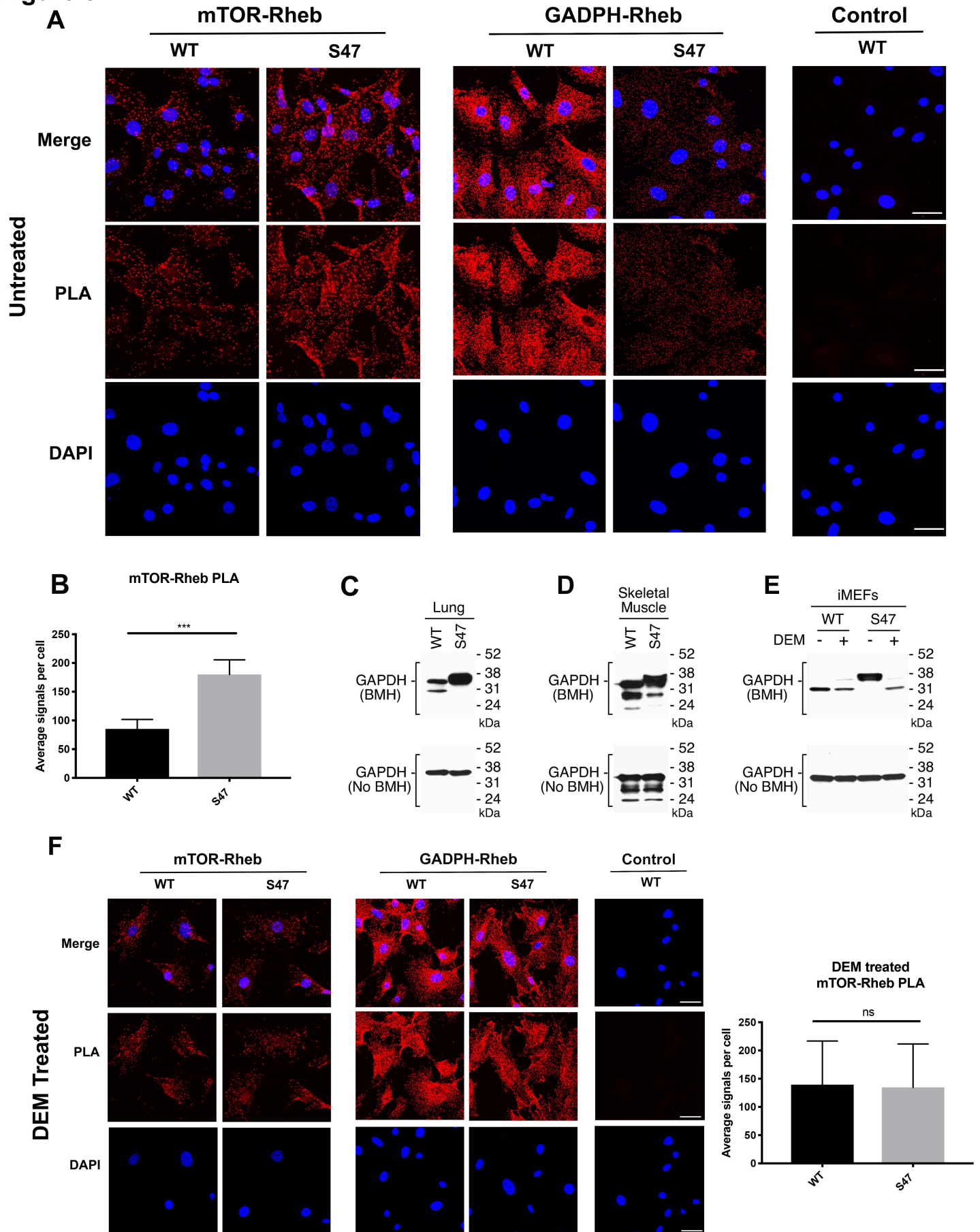
583 (F) PLA was performed in WT and S47 MEFs treated with 50 μ M of DEM for 5 h and analyzed
584 as described in A.

585

586

587

Figure 5



588 **Figure 6. Improved fitness in S47 mice.**

589 (A) WT and S47 mice (n = 6-7) were subjected to a treadmill study of increasing intensity over
590 time. Oxygen consumption (VO_2) is normalized to body mass.

591 (B) Mean basal VO_2 in WT and S47 mice.

592 (C) VO_2 range in WT and S47 mice determined by subtracting the mean basal VO_2 from the VO_2
593 max, obtained during the most strenuous point of exercise at the tail end of the treadmill study.

594 (D) Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) levels measured in the serum of WT and S47 mice obtained
595 before and after the treadmill study. (*) p-value < 0.05, Student's t-test.

596 (E) Proposed model of how S47 contributes to increased metabolism. The elevated levels of GSH
597 alter the redox state of the S47 cell, in turn affecting GAPDH conformation and impairing
598 GAPDH-Rheb binding. This results in increased mTOR-Rheb binding, leading to increased
599 mTOR activity and resulting an overall increase in metabolism in S47 mice, as seen by increased
600 fat and lean content.

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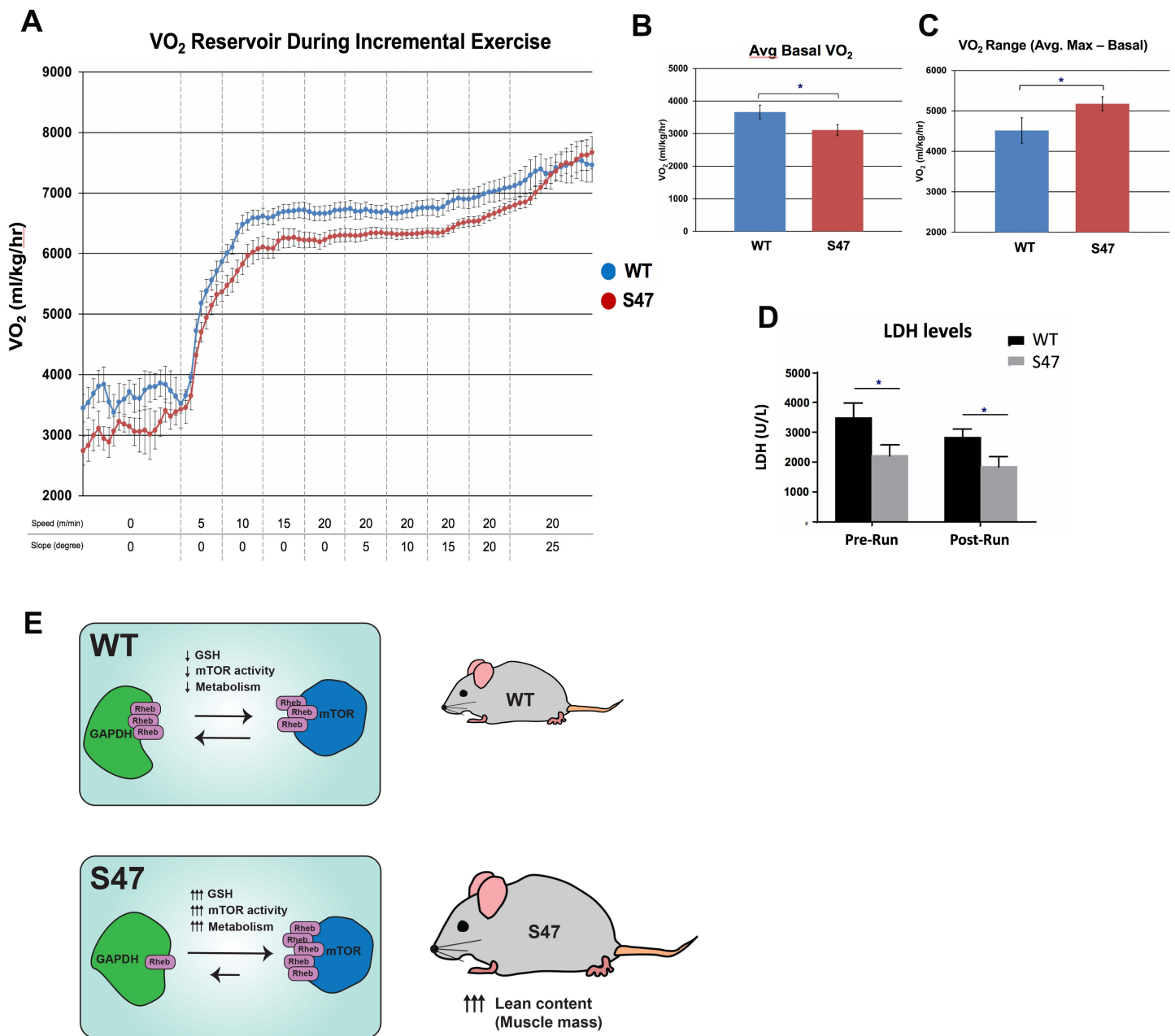
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Figure 6



611 **Figure 1 – Supplement 1. Altered metabolic markers in S47 cells and tissues.**

612 (A) Microarray analysis of WT and S47 LCLs treated with 10 μ M cisplatin for 0, 8 & 24 hours
613 reveal several metabolism genes as differentially expressed.

614 (B) qRT-PCR analysis of *PRKABI*, *SESNI* and *PTEN* in human LCLs treated with 10 μ M cisplatin
615 for 24 h. All values were normalized to a control gene (18S); n=4, error bars indicate standard
616 deviation. (*) p-value < 0.05, (**) p-value < 0.01, (***) p-value < 0.001, (****) p-value < 0.0001,
617 Student's t-test.

618 (C) Whole cell lysates were extracted from WT and S47 liver, lung, heart and kidney followed by
619 Western Blot analysis for the proteins indicated.

620 (D) Whole cell lysates were extracted from 3 WT and 3 S47 mouse lungs and analyzed by Western
621 blot for the phospho-Akt and GAPDH (loading control). Light and dark exposures are shown.

622 (E) Whole cell lysates were extracted from WT and S47 mouse lung and skeletal tissue and were
623 subjected to Western blot analysis, probing for p62, LC3B and HSP90 (loading control).

624 (F) WT and S47 MEFs were treated with HBSS for 0, 2 and 6 hours and were subjected to Western
625 blot analysis for the indicated proteins.

626 (G) WT and S47 MEFs were treated with HBSS for indicated time points and were subjected to
627 viability analysis using Trypan Blue; n = 3, error bars indicate standard deviation.

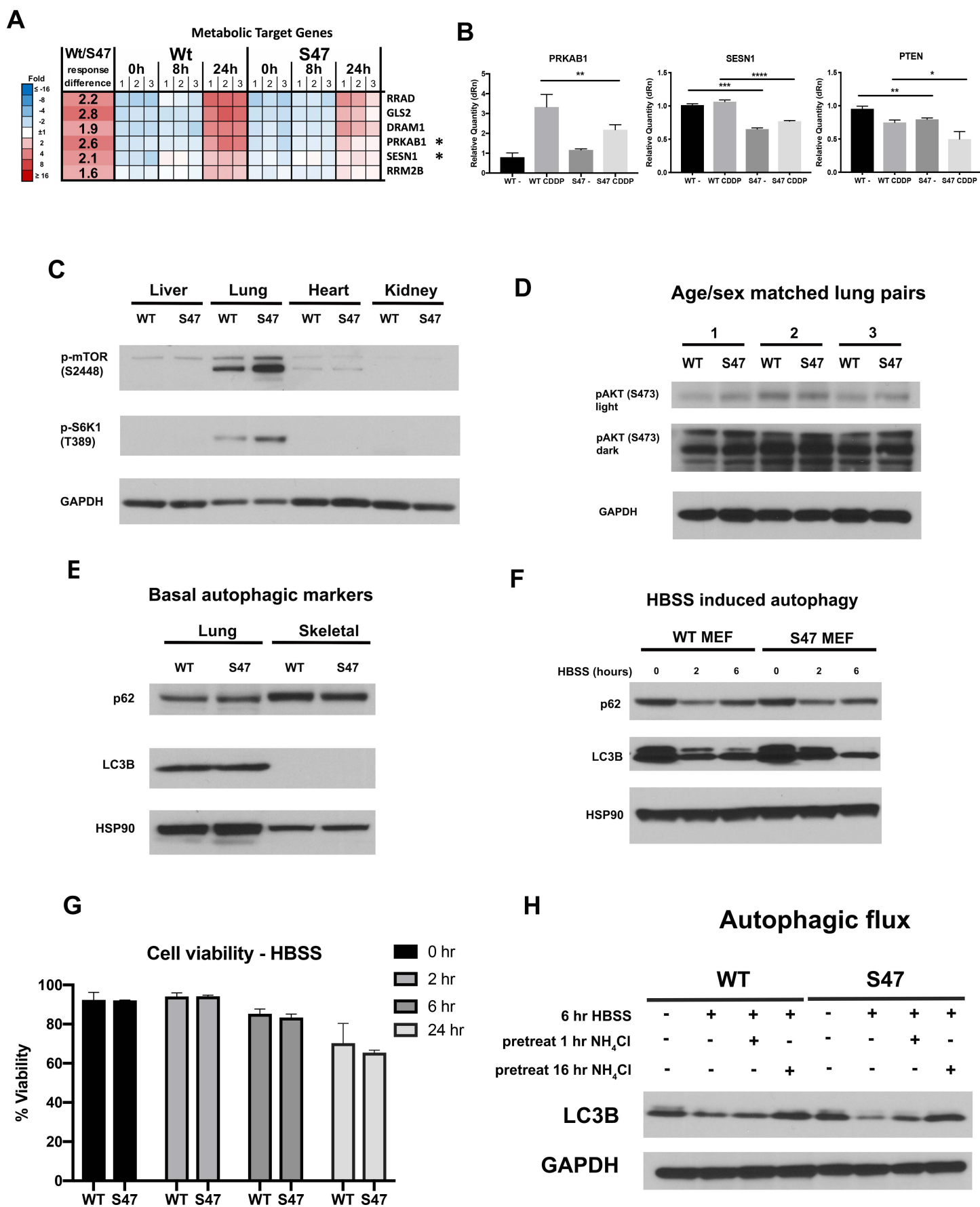
628 (H) Autophagic flux was measured in WT and S47 MEFs pretreated with NH_4Cl for
629 indicate time points, followed by HBSS treatment for 6 hours. Cell lysates were subjected to
630 Western blot analysis and immunoblotted for LC3B and GAPDH (loading control).

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Figure 1 -- Figure supplement 1



634 **Figure 2 – Supplement 1. No obvious change in mitochondrial content in S47 cells.**

635 (A-B) WT and S47 MEFs were incubated with 25 mM ¹³C-glucose for 15 minutes and the
636 abundance of aspartate (A) and glutamate (B) isotopologs was quantified by LC-MS/MS. Data
637 are presented as mean ± SD, n =3.

638 (C) Mitochondrial mass in WT and S47 MEFs measured by Mitotracker Green fluorescence. Data
639 depicted are representative of three independent experiments performed in triplicate.

640 (D) Cell lysates extracted from WT and S47 LCLs and MEFs were subjected to Western blot
641 analysis and immunoblotted for TFAM, MTCO1, SDHA, TOMM20 and GAPDH (loading
642 control).

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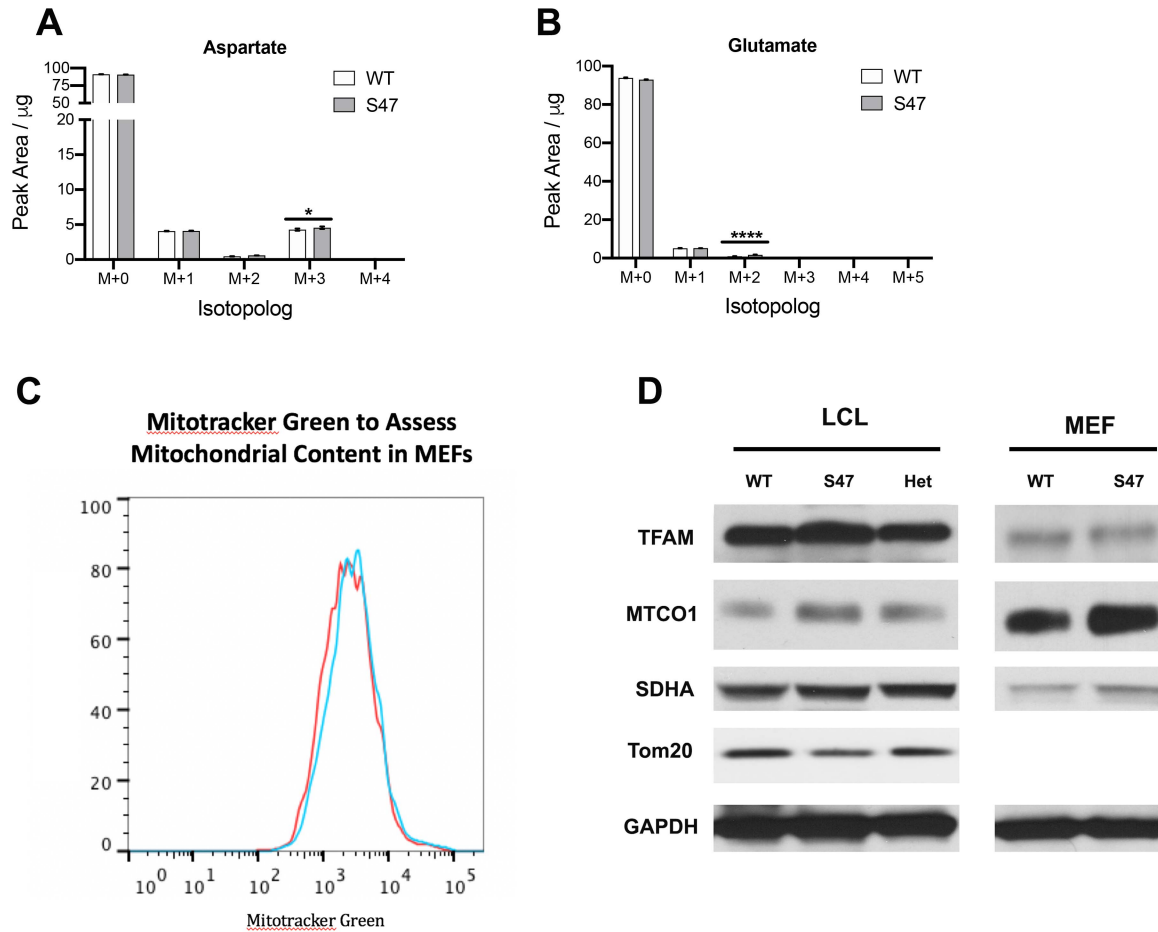
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Figure 2 -- Figure supplement 1



657 **Figure 4 – Supplement 1. Increased size in S47 mice compared to WT littermates.**

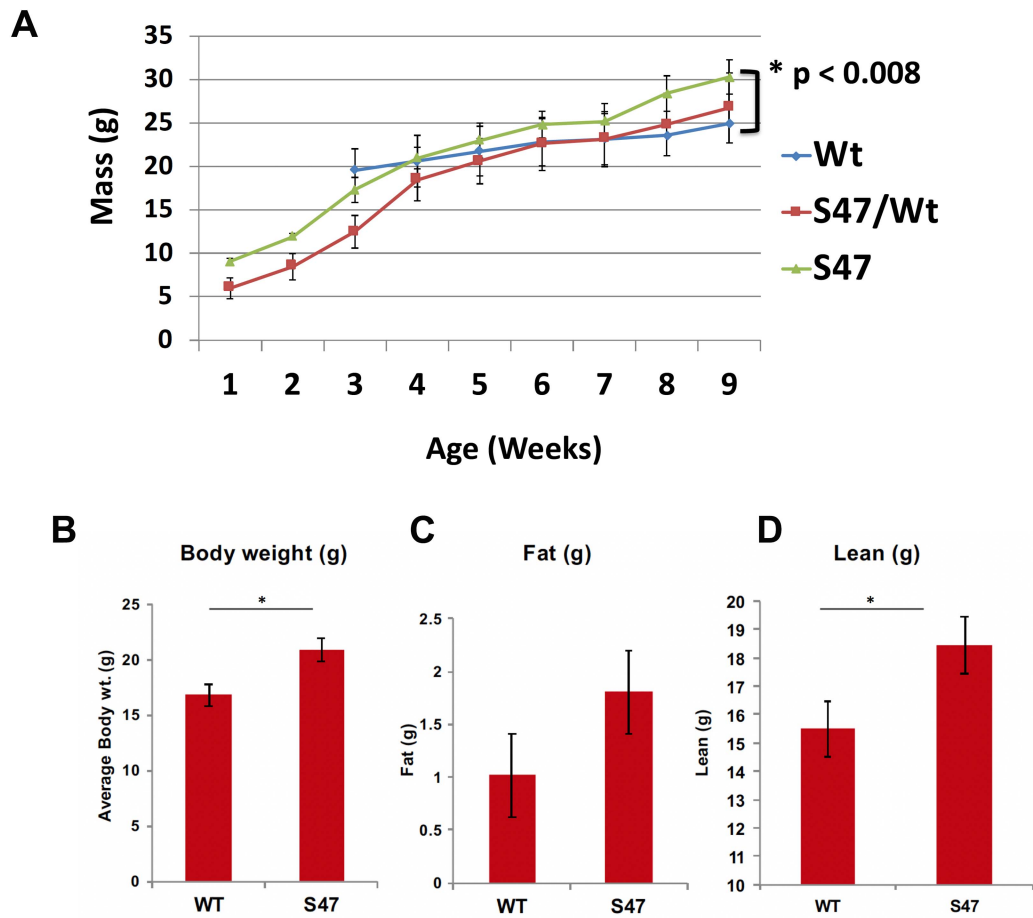
658 (A) Progression of mouse weight in WT, S47 and heterozygous WT/S47 mice over the course of
659 18 weeks; a minimum of 10 mice of each genotype were tracked, and error bars mark standard
660 error.

661 (B-D) Body weight, fat content and lean content as measured by proton magnetic resonance
662 spectroscopy (H-MRS); n=5 mice per genotype, error bars mark standard error, (*) p-value < 0.05.

663

664

Figure 4 -- Figure supplement 1



665 **Figure 5 – Supplement 1. Impact of glutathione depletion in S47 cells.**

666 (A) WT and S47 MEFs were untreated or treated with 50 μ M of DEM for 5 h. Cell lysates were
667 subjected to Western blot analysis and immunoblotted for total mTOR, Rheb and GAPDH.

668 (B) An *in situ* proximity ligation assay was performed in WT and S47 MEFs that are treated with
669 10 μ M of BSO for 24 h. Shown on the right is the quantification of the mTOR-Rheb interactions,
670 measured as the average number of PLA signals per nuclei.

671 (C) Cell lysates were extracted from WT MEFs treated with 50 μ M of DEM for 5 h. Cell lysates
672 were subjected to Western blot analysis and immunoblotted for the proteins indicated.

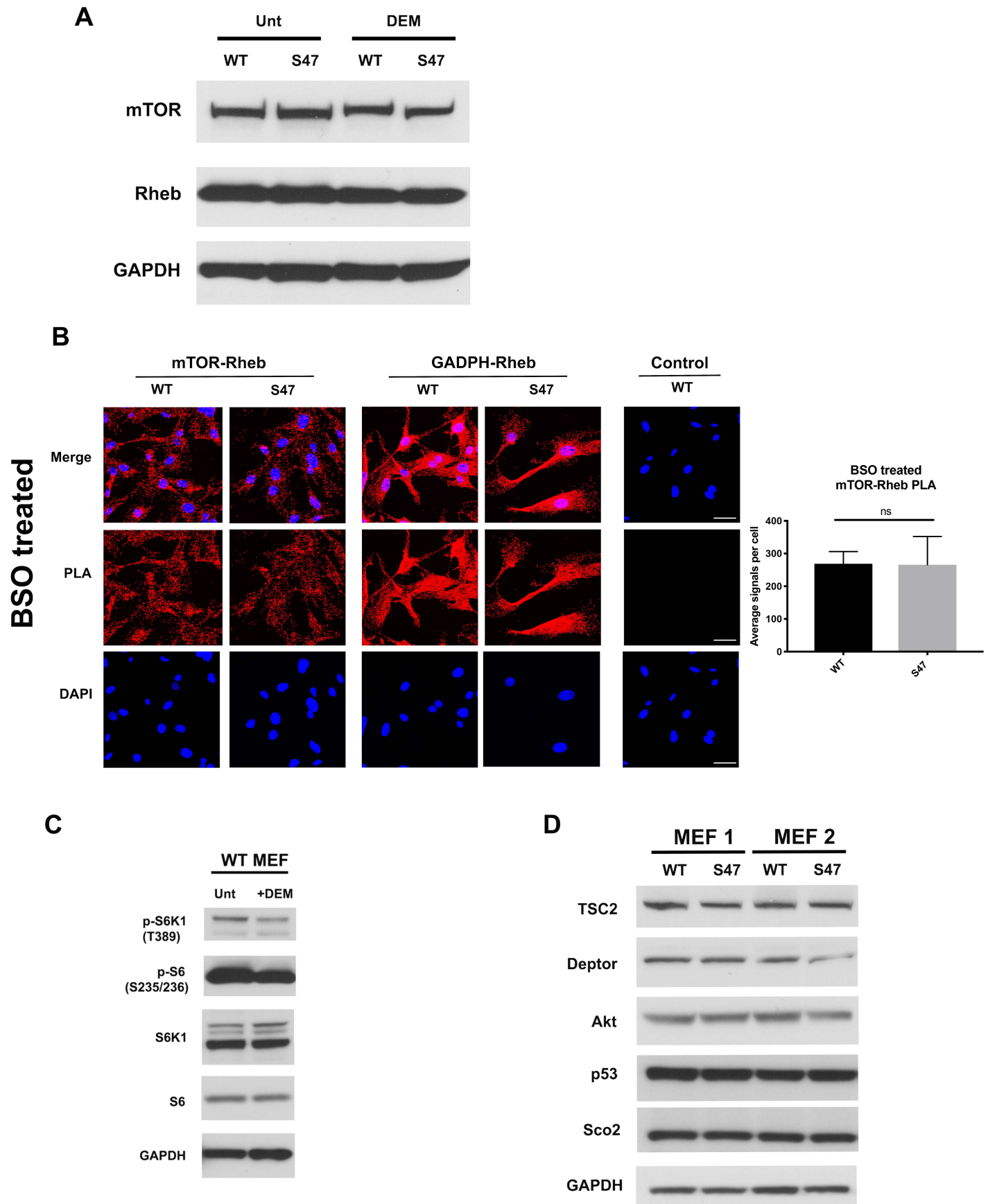
673 (D) Cell lysates were extracted from two sets of WT and S47 MEFs and were analyzed by Western
674 blot for TSC2, DEPTOR, AKT, p53, Sco2 and GAPDH.

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Figure 5 -- Figure supplement 1



678 **Figure 6 – Supplement 1. Serum metabolites and protein markers pre- and post- exercise.**

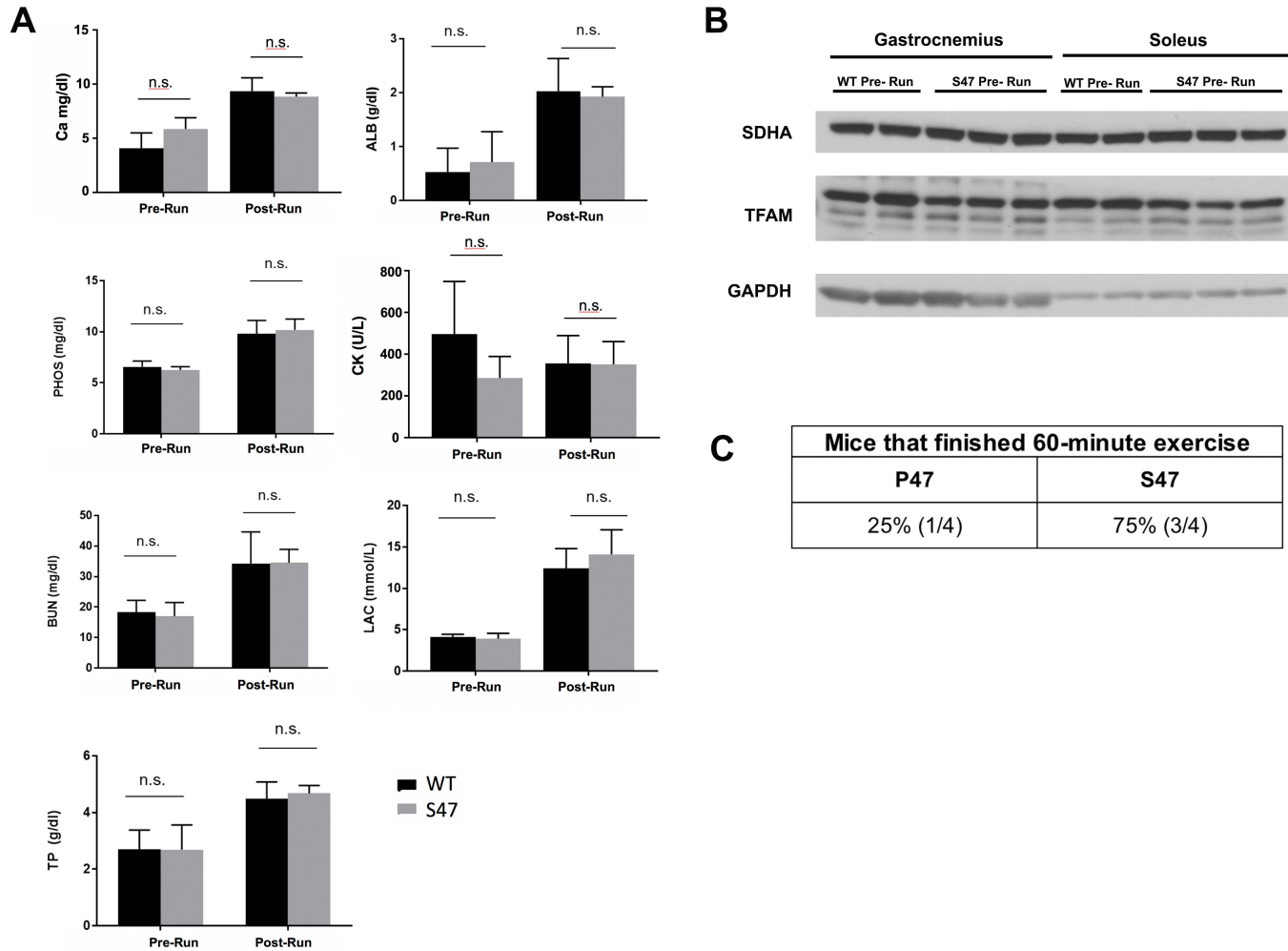
679 (A) The following blood serum metabolite levels measured in WT and S47 mice before and after
680 treadmill run: Ca (calcium), ALB (albumin), PHOS (phosphate), CK (creatine kinase), BUN
681 (blood urea nitrogen), LAC (lupus anticoagulant), TP (total protein). n.s. not significant, Student's
682 t-test.

683 (B) Whole cell lysates were extracted from gastrocnemius or soleus muscle from untreated WT
684 and S47 mice and subjected to Western Blot analysis for the proteins indicated.

685 (C) WT and S47 mice were subjected to a 60 minute treadmill run. Table indicates proportion of
686 mice that completed run; n = 4.

687

Figure 6 -- Figure supplement 1



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