

# A novel yeast hybrid modeling framework integrating Boolean and enzyme-constrained networks enables exploration of the interplay between signaling and metabolism

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14 protein allocation, multiscale model, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

15 **Abstract**

16 The interplay between nutrient-induced signaling and metabolism plays an important role in  
17 maintaining homeostasis and its malfunction has been implicated in many different human diseases  
18 such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, cancer and neurological disorders. Therefore, unravelling the role of  
19 nutrients as signaling molecules and metabolites as well as their interconnectivity may provide a  
20 deeper understanding of how these conditions occur. Both signalling and metabolism have been  
21 extensively studied using various systems biology approaches. However, they are mainly studied  
22 individually and in addition current models lack both the complexity of the dynamics and the effects  
23 of the crosstalk in the signaling system. To gain a better understanding of the interconnectivity  
24 between nutrient signaling and metabolism, we developed a hybrid model, combining Boolean  
25 model, describing the signalling layer and the enzyme constraint model accounting for metabolism  
26 using a regulatory network as a link. The model was capable of reproducing the regulatory effects  
27 that are associated with the Crabtree effect and glucose repression. We show that using this  
28 methodology one can investigate intrinsically different systems, such as signaling and metabolism, in  
29 the same model and gain insight into how the interplay between them can have non-trivial effects by  
30 showing a connection between Snf1 signaling and chronological lifespan by the regulation of NDE  
31 and NDI usage in respiring conditions. In addition, the model showed that during fermentation,

32 enzyme utilization is the more important factor governing the protein allocation, while in low glucose  
33 conditions robustness and control is prioritized.

34

### 35 **Author summary**

36 Elucidating the complex relationship between nutrient-induced signaling and metabolism represents a  
37 key in understanding the onset of many different human diseases like obesity, type 3 diabetes, cancer  
38 and many neurological disorders. In this work we proposed a hybrid modeling approach, combining  
39 Boolean representation of signaling pathways, like Snf11, TORC1 and PKA with the enzyme  
40 constrained model of metabolism linking them via the regulatory network. This allowed us to  
41 improve individual model predictions and elucidate how single components in the dynamic signaling  
42 layer affect the steady-state metabolism. The model has been tested under respiration and  
43 fermentation, revealing novel connections and further reproducing the regulatory effects that are  
44 associated with the Crabtree effect and glucose repression. Finally, we show a connection between  
45 Snf1 signaling and chronological lifespan by the regulation of NDE and NDI usage in  
46 respiring conditions.

47

### 48 **Introduction**

49 Biological systems are of complex nature comprising numerous dynamical processes and  
50 networks on different functional, spatial and temporal levels, while being highly  
51 interconnected (Walpole et al., 2013). The field of systems biology faces the great challenge  
52 of elucidating how these interconnected systems work both separately and together to  
53 prime organisms for survival. One of such phenomena is the cells ability to sense and respond to  
54 environmental conditions such as nutrient availability. In order to coordinate cellular metabolism and  
55 strategize, the cell needs an exact perception of the dynamics of intra- and extra- cellular  
56 metabolites (Y. P. Wang & Lei, 2018). Simultaneously, nutrient-induced signaling plays a pivotal  
57 role in numerous human diseases like obesity, type 2 diabetes, cancer and ageing (Coughlan et al.,  
58 2014; Weidong Li et al., 2015; Salminen & Kaarniranta, 2012; Steinberg & Kemp, 2009). Therefore,  
59 unravelling the role of nutrients as signaling molecules and metabolites as well as their  
60 interconnectivity may provide a deeper understanding of how these conditions occur.

61

62 Yeast has long been used as a model organism for studying nutrient-induced signaling (Conrad et al.,  
63 2014a). Two major classes of nutrients include carbon and nitrogen. Carbon-induced signaling acts  
64 mainly through the PKA and SNF1 pathway while nitrogen-induced signaling acts through the  
65 mTOR pathway. The PKA pathway plays a major role in regulating growth by inducing ribosome  
66 biogenesis genes and inhibiting stress response genes (Broach, 2012). The SNF1 pathway is mainly  
67 active in low glucose conditions where it promotes respiratory metabolism, glycogen accumulation,  
68 gluconeogenesis and utilization of alternative carbon sources but it also controls cellular  
69 developmental processes such as meiosis and ageing (Ashrafi et al., 2000; Conrad et al., 2014a;  
70 Hedbacker & Carlson, 2008). The strongly conserved TORC1 pathway plays a crucial role in  
71 promoting anabolic processes and cell growth in response to nitrogen availability (Broach, 2012).  
72 Active TORC1 induces ribosomal protein and ribosome biogenesis gene expression (Lempiäinen et  
73 al., 2009; Marion et al., 2004) and represses transcription of genes containing STR and PDS elements  
74 in their promoter region (Lempiäinen et al., 2009). Despite the fact that Snf1, TORC1 and PKA  
75 pathways belong to the most well-studied pathways (Y. P. Wang & Lei, 2018), still, there is a lack of  
76 understanding both in the dynamics and the interactions leading to change in gene expression. It has  
77 been shown that glucose signaling is related to metabolism however the nature of this relationship  
78 remains unknown (Welkenhuysen et al., 2017). Numerous crosstalk mechanisms between these  
79 pathways have been described (Shashkova et al., 2015) and depending on their activity, they may  
80 influence the overall effect of the signaling process and thus the interaction with the

81 metabolism (Welkenhuysen et al., 2019). In order to better understand the impact of cell signaling on  
82 metabolism, a systems biology approach is often implemented (Nielsen, 2017).

83

84 Typically, Boolean models have been developed to study the crosstalk between the Snf1 pathway  
85 and the Snf3/Rgt2 pathway (Christensen et al., 2009) as well as the Snf1, cAMP-PKA, and  
86 Rgt2/Snf3 pathways (Welkenhuysen et al., 2019). In mammalian cells, Boolean models have been  
87 used to evaluate the conflicting hypothesis of the regulation of the mTOR pathway (Sulaimanov et  
88 al., 2017) and to study crosstalk between mTOR and MAPK signaling pathways (Siegle et al., 2018).  
89 Since, signaling systems are not always strictly Boolean in its nature, where location, combinations  
90 of post-translational modifications as well as other interaction plays a role, different Boolean  
91 frameworks for handling these complex interactions have been developed (Romers et al., 2020;  
92 Welkenhuysen et al., 2019). In contrast, metabolism, also in itself a complex  
93 process, is often studied using Flux Balance Analysis (FBA), that enables prediction of biochemical  
94 reaction fluxes, cellular growth on different environments and gene essentiality even for genome-  
95 scale metabolic models (GEMs) (Lu et al., 2019; Monk et al., 2017; Yilmaz & Walhout, 2017). A  
96 major limitation of the use of GEMs together with FBA is the high variability of flux distributions for  
97 a given cellular objective (Mahadevan & Schilling, 2003), as FBA solves largely underdetermined  
98 linear systems through optimization methods. To overcome this problem, experimentally measured  
99 exchange fluxes (uptake of nutrients and secretion of byproducts) are incorporated as numerical  
100 constraints, however, such measurements are not always available for a wide variety of organisms  
101 and growth conditions.

102 The concept of enzyme capacity constraints has been incorporated into FBA in order to reduce the  
103 phenotypic solution space (i.e. exclusion of flux distributions that are not biologically  
104 meaningful) and diminish its dependency on condition-dependent exchange fluxes datasets (Adadi et  
105 al., 2012; Beg et al., 2007; Bekiaris & Klamt, 2020; Massaiu et al., 2019; Nilsson & Nielsen, 2016;  
106 Sánchez et al., 2017).

107 Notably, a method to account for enzyme constraints, genome-scale models using kinetics and omics  
108 (GECKO) (Sánchez et al., 2017) has been developed. GECKO incorporates constraints on metabolic  
109 fluxes given by the maximum activity of enzymes, which are also constrained by a limited pool of  
110 protein in the cell. This method has refined predictions for growth on diverse environments, cellular  
111 response to genetic perturbations, and even predicted the Crabtree effect in *S. cerevisiae*'s  
112 metabolism, but also proven to be a helpful tool for probing protein allocation and enabled the  
113 integration of condition-dependent absolute proteomics data into metabolic networks (Massaiu et al.,  
114 2019; Sánchez et al., 2017).

115 Following the holistic view of systems biology, hybrid models allow us to take the next step and  
116 combine many different formalisms to study the interconnectivity and crosstalk spanning different  
117 scales and/or systems. For example, to quantify the contribution of the regulatory constraints of  
118 an *E.coli* genome-scale model, a steady-state regulatory flux balance analysis (SR-FBA) has been  
119 developed (Shlomi et al., 2007), further the diauxic shift in *S. cerevisiae* has been studied by  
120 CoRegFlux workflow integrating metabolic models and gene regulatory networks (Banos et al.,  
121 2017). To bypass the need for kinetic parameters, a FlexFlux tool has been developed where  
122 metabolic flux analyses using FBA have been constrained with steady-state values resulting from the  
123 regulatory network (Marmiesse et al., 2015). This strategy has also been used in a hybrid model of  
124 the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* where the gene regulatory network was used to constrain the  
125 metabolic model to study the adaptation to the intra-host hypoxic environment (Bose et al., 2018).  
126 However, to further study the impact of signaling on the metabolism, the complexity of the signaling

127 systems itself and the crosstalk between interacting pathways need to be represented in a coherent  
128 manner.

129  
130 To better understand the complex relationship between metabolism and signaling pathways,  
131 we created a hybrid model consisting of a Boolean module integrating the PKA, TORC1 and the  
132 Snf1 pathways as well as the known crosstalk between them and an enzyme-constrained module of *S.*  
133 *cerevisiae*'s central carbon and energy metabolism (Figure 1). The backbone of the presented model  
134 is a framework for utilizing the complex Boolean representation of large-scale signaling systems to  
135 further constrain an enzyme-constrained model (ecModel), where the activity of the transcription  
136 factors resulting from the Boolean module was used to constrain an ecModel of the central carbon  
137 metabolism. The proposed hybrid model is capable of reproducing the regulatory effects that are  
138 associated with the Crabtree effect and glucose repression and have further showed a connection  
139 between glucose signaling and chronological lifespan by the regulation of NDE and NDI usage in  
140 respiring conditions. In addition, the model showed that during fermentation, enzyme utilization is  
141 the more important factor governing the protein allocation, while in low glucose conditions  
142 robustness and control is prioritized.

143  
144 **Figure 1.** Schematic representation of the hybrid model. The hybrid model consists of a vector based  
145 Boolean module of nutrient signaling and a enzyme constrained module of the central carbon  
146 metabolism. The Boolean module is a dynamic module including Snf1, PKA and TORC1 pathway as  
147 well as crosstalk between them. The dynamic module reaches steady state and the activity of the  
148 transcription factors acts as input in a regulatory network constraining the enzyme constraint model  
149 of the central carbon metabolism. The solution is used to determine the activity of the Boolean input.

## 150 Results

### 151 **Implemented Boolean signaling network is able to reproduce the general dynamics caused by** 152 **glucose and nitrogen addition to starved cells**

153 To verify the constructed Boolean model of nutrient-induced signaling pathways (Figure 2), cells  
154 were simulated from nitrogen and glucose starved conditions to nutrient rich conditions. The PKA  
155 pathway was activated upon glucose abundance via the small G proteins Ras and Gpa2. These  
156 proteins, in turn, activated the adenylate cyclase (AC) that induced processes leading to the activation  
157 of the catalytic subunit of PKA. Active PKA phosphorylated and therefore inactivated Rim15, thus  
158 the transcription factors Gis1, Msn2 and Msn4 became inactive.

159 The SNF1 pathway is active when glucose is limited, while the addition of glucose causes Snf1  
160 inactivation resulting in the activation of the transcriptional repressor Mig1 and the deactivation of  
161 Adr1, Cat8 and Sip4. However, the inactivation of Adr1 happened prior to Snf1 inactivation. This is  
162 due to the implemented crosstalk with the PKA pathway, where activated PKA inhibits Adr1 activity  
163 (Cherry et al., 1989).

164 Nutrient availability activates the TOR complex 1 which in turn phosphorylates Sch9 and Sfp1  
165 resulting in the repression of Rim15 phosphorylation and the expression of ribosomal genes  
166 respectively. No change was observed in the activity of PP2A-regulated transcription factors Rtg1,  
167 Rtg3, Gat2 and Gln2. However, during the 8<sup>th</sup> iteration, PP2A was active. In addition, Sch9 was not  
168 the main regulator of Rim15 activity in our simulations since PKA was activated prior to Sch9 and  
169 acted independently to regulate Rim15, either due to a gap in the model or a lack of complexity in  
170 our understanding of the signalling system (Supplementary Information S1).

171 **Figure 2.** The Boolean module is a dynamic module including Snf1, PKA and TOR pathway as well  
172 as crosstalk between them. Crosstalk events between the pathways are depicted in grey. Unknown  
173 mechanisms are represented by dashed lines.

174

## 175 **The Boolean model reveals interconnectivity and knowledge gaps in nutrient signaling** 176 **pathways**

177 To further investigate the impact of crosstalk in the Boolean model, knockouts of main components  
178 of each pathway (Snf1, Reg1, Tpk1-3 and Tor1,2) were simulated and compared to the wildtype in  
179  $glc|nitr = 1|1$  and  $glc|nitr = 0|0$ , see Figure S2. In nutrient-depleted conditions, only the Snf1 knockout  
180 had a significant impact. In the Snf1 pathway, Snf1 knockout affected all downstream targets leading  
181 to a transcription factor activity pattern that is usually observed in wildtype strains when glucose is  
182 available (Conrad et al., 2014b). It has been previously described that the phenotype of Snf1 mutants  
183 resembles the phenotype observed when the cAMP/PKA pathway is over-activated (Thompson-  
184 Jaeger et al., 1991). Although activation of the adenylate cyclase (AC) could be observed in the  
185 simulated knockout, PKA and the downstream targets were inactive due to the activity of the Krh  
186 proteins that inhibit PKA if no glucose is present in the Boolean model (T. Peeters et al., 2006). The  
187 Snf1 mutant showed defects in the TOR pathway upon glucose depletion leading to the activation of  
188 the PP2A phosphatase. The resulting activation of NCR and RTG genes and deactivation of  
189 ribosomal genes correspond to the phenotype one would expect if glucose but not nitrogen is  
190 available (Hughes Hallett et al., 2014) thus stressing the role of Snf1 in imparting the glucose state to  
191 the other nutrient-signaling pathways.

192 Under high nutrient availability, the Reg1 knockout showed almost the same effect on the SNF1 and  
193 TORC1 pathway as nutrient depletion. Only Adr1 activity was not affected which opposes the  
194 observations by Dombek and colleagues that described constitutive ADH2 expression in Reg1  
195 mutant cells (Dombek et al., 1999).

196 An almost similar effect on the SNF1 and TORC1 pathways could be observed when Tpk1-3  
197 knockout was simulated. This redundant effect was expected since impaired PKA activity was  
198 described to be associated with increased SNF1 activity (Barrett et al., 2012). Nevertheless, PKA  
199 knockout additionally induced Adr1 activation when SNF1-mediated activation could no longer be  
200 inhibited by PKA. The PKA knockout simulation showed strong effects on all three simulated  
201 pathways and may explain why strains lacking all three Tpk isoenzymes are inviable (Robertson &  
202 Fink, 1998).

203 The effects of Tor1 and 2 knockouts only affected the TORC1 signaling pathway. The simulated  
204 phenotype equalled the phenotype that is expected upon nitrogen depletion and glucose abundance  
205 and was therefore similar to the phenotype observed when simulating the Snf1 knockout in nutrient-  
206 starved cells. Besides, experimental observations revealed that impairing Tor1 and 2 function results  
207 in growth arrest in the early G1 phase of the cell cycle, as well as inhibition of translation initiation  
208 which are characteristics of nutrient, depleted cells entering stationary phase (Barbet et al., 1996).  
209 The fact that inactivation of TORC1 results in the inactivation of Sfp1 that regulates the expression  
210 of genes required for ribosomal biogenesis could be an indicator of this observation; however other  
211 TORC1-associated signaling mechanisms inducing translation initiation may likely be involved  
212 (Barbet et al., 1996).

## 213 **The hybrid model improves predictions of individual proteins and reveals a connection** 214 **between regulation and chronological ageing**

215 To verify the ecModel performance, the predictions of exchange reaction fluxes at increasing dilution  
216 rates were compared against experimental data (Van Hoek et al., 1998) (Figure S3), predictions  
217 showed a median relative error of 9.82% in the whole range of dilution rates from 0 to 0.4 h<sup>-1</sup>,  
218 spanning both respiratory and fermentative metabolic regimes. The hybrid model, including  
219 regulation, was further compared with the ecModel in their ability to predict protein abundances by  
220 comparing the predicted abundances to proteomics data from the literature in both respiratory and  
221 fermentative conditions (Doughty et al., 2020; Paulo et al., 2016). By adding the regulation layer, the  
222 prediction accuracy of individual protein abundances was drastically improved, reducing the mean  
223 absolute log<sub>10</sub>-transformed ratio between predicted and measured values (*r*) from 2.62 to 1.55 for  
224 respiration and from 3.56 to 2.32 for fermentation (Figure 3), which represents an average  
225 improvement in protein predictions by more than one order of magnitude for both conditions.  
226 Moreover, two sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov tests did not show significant statistical differences  
227 between model predictions and the available proteomics datasets. This large improvement is  
228 predominantly resulting from the utilization of more than one isoform for some reactions in the  
229 hybrid model in contrast to a pure ecModel, in which just the most efficient enzyme for a given  
230 reaction is used.

231 Pathway enrichment analysis of the proteins miss-predicted by more than one order of magnitude, by  
232 the hybrid model has been performed and showed that the superpathway of glucose fermentation was  
233 underpredicted for both respiration and fermentation (p-value of 1.398426e-7 and 7.002912e-5,  
234 respectively). Additionally, the superpathway of TCA cycle and glyoxylate cycle was underpredicted  
235 (p-value = 0.036267), whilst aerobic respiration and electron transport chain were significantly  
236 overpredicted (p-value = 2.857451e-23) in the fermentative state and the pentose phosphate pathway  
237 (p-value= 2.863892e-4) as well as glucose-6-phosphate biosynthesis (p-value= 0.019529) were  
238 underpredicted in respiration. A detailed comparison between the models as well as in-depth results  
239 from the protein predictions are available in Data file S1 and Supplementary Information S1.

240 To better understand which pathways and reactions are most affected by regulation, the metabolic  
241 flux distributions predicted by the hybrid model and the ecModel were compared. Larger flux  
242 differences arose for respiratory conditions, in which the average relative change in flux was 1.85 in  
243 contrast to 0.46 in fermentation (Data file S2), this result is heavily influenced by the amount of  
244 totally activated or deactivated fluxes by the hybrid model, 57 for respiration and 29 for fermentation  
245 (Figure 3, Data file S2). ecModels provide a network in which reversible metabolic reactions are  
246 split, creating separate reactions for the forward and backwards fluxes, thus distributions of net  
247 metabolic fluxes were also obtained and compared among models and conditions. As some enzymes  
248 are upregulated by the hybrid model even to levels that exceed the flux capacity of certain pathways  
249 (for a fixed growth rate), futile fluxes are expected to arise across the metabolic network.

250 Increased exchange fluxes for glucose, oxygen and acetate were observed in the respiration phase  
251 (Data file S2). Additionally, an increase in the overall flux through the pentose phosphate pathway as  
252 well as an induced use of NDE instead of only NDI, allowing for the utilization of cytosolic NADH  
253 to reduce oxygen demands in the oxidative phosphorylation pathway was detected and has previously  
254 been associated with chronological ageing (Wei Li et al., 2006). Increased flux on PCK, PDC, ALD2  
255 and ACS, around the pyruvate branching point, led to an overall increased flux through the TCA  
256 cycle (Figure 3 and Data file S2). To balance the increased production of AMP by ACS the ADK  
257 reaction is also upregulated. Futile fluxes are induced by regulation in galactose metabolism (GAL7  
258 and GAL10), lower glycolysis (TDH, PGK and ENO), TCA cycle (FUM and MDH), as well as

259 TKLa and PGM in the pentose phosphate pathway and ADH (Figure 3 and Data file S2) in  
260 respiration.

261 In the fermentation state, futile fluxes also occur in galactose metabolism (GAL7) as well as  
262 glycolysis (PGI, PGK, TPI and GPM), TAL1 in the pentose phosphate pathway and ACO in the TCA  
263 cycle (Figure S4 and Data file S2). Down-regulation of oxidative metabolism, increased uptake of  
264 glucose and increased flux through glycolysis were observed, which is consistent with the changes  
265 that have been attributed to glucose-induced repression during the long term Crabtree effect (de  
266 Alteriis et al., 2018) (Figure 3).

267 The control exerted by each enzyme on the global glucose uptake rate was investigated through the  
268 calculation of flux control coefficients (FCCs), allowing comparison of the distribution of metabolic  
269 control between the pure enzyme-constrained and hybrid model. In both conditions the FCCs  
270 obtained for hexokinases by the ecModel (HXK1 for respiration and HXK3 in fermentation) showed  
271 a value equal to 1, the highest value in their respective distributions, indicating that the overall  
272 glucose uptake rate is mostly governed by the activity of this enzymatic reaction step. In contrast, the  
273 constraints applied by the hybrid model distribute the control over the glucose uptake flux in a more  
274 even way across different enzymes and pathways, yielding FCCs of 0 for the different HXK isoforms  
275 in both metabolic regimes.

276 As a general trend, more FCCs with a high value ( $FCC > 0.05$ ) are obtained for fermentative  
277 conditions than for respiration, despite the use of the ecModel or hybrid model (Figure 3 and Data  
278 file S3). In the respiratory condition, the highest FCCs are concentrated in the oxidative  
279 phosphorylation pathway as well as around the branching point of pyruvate and PFK in glycolysis,  
280 whose activity is related to the connections between glycolysis and PP pathway. Moreover, the  
281 absence of glucose uptake control by lower glycolytic enzymes, and the prevalence of a non-zero  
282 FCC for PFK in both ecModel and hybrid model agrees with experimental evidence for mouse cell-  
283 lines in respiratory conditions (Tanner et al., 2018). For the fermentative condition the highest FCCs  
284 are concentrated in the TCA cycle. Similarly to the respiration case, non-zero FCCs are present in the  
285 reaction steps surrounding the connecting points of different pathways, such as PFK, FBA and TDH  
286 connecting glycolysis with the pentose phosphate pathway and reactions around pyruvate, which  
287 connect glycolysis with fermentation and the TCA cycle (Figure 3), this trend might indicate that in  
288 these branching points kinetic control is still a relevant mechanism governing fluxes.

289 **Figure 3.** (A) Absolute  $\log_{10}$ -transformed ratio between predicted and measured values in respiration  
290 and fermentation. The plot shows unregulated prediction from the ecModel that works on optimality  
291 principles and the regulation predictions from the hybrid model. (B) The regulated model forces the  
292 use of isoenzymes. Here we display the regulated (Hybrid model), the unregulated (ecModel) and the  
293 proteomics data for the isoenzymes catalysing the HXK reaction. In the lower panel the the core  
294 reactions in the metabolism under (C) respiration and (D) fermentation are shown. The fluxes are  
295 represented by the width of the connectors where dotted lines represent zero flux. The colour of the  
296 connectors represent the change in flux from the unregulated ecModel compared to the regulated  
297 hybrid model. The FCCs are represented in the figure where the unregulated case is depicted by  
298 circles and compared to the regulated case depicted in squares.

299 **Deletion of the Snf1 in the hybrid model shows the importance of the Snf1 pathway in low**  
300 **glucose conditions and attributes the connection between regulation and chronological ageing**  
301 **to Snf1**

302 To investigate how the individual signaling pathways contribute to changes in metabolic fluxes, the  
303 main component of each signaling pathway was deleted and flux changes were compared between  
304 the wild-type hybrid model and the knockout versions (Data file S4).

305 The Snf1 deletion was the only deletion showing any effect on the net fluxes in the respiratory  
306 condition (Figure S4) while the Reg1, PKA and TOR deletions showed effects in fermentation  
307 conditions, consistent with the deletion experiments done with the Boolean model. The different  
308 mutants in fermentation do not induce major changes in net fluxes, however, the enzyme usage  
309 profile differs across the different mutants. Notably, the largest changes in terms of futile fluxes were  
310 observed in the TPI reaction, repressed in respiration by the Snf1 pathway and activated in  
311 fermentative conditions by either the PKA or Reg1 pathways. In respiration, Snf1 is also responsible  
312 for the futile fluxes through GPM, PGI and reduces the futile fluxes through FUM, MDH, PGM and  
313 GAL10. The model simulations show a less diverse use of isoenzymes in all knockouts, which is  
314 most likely due to the reduction in the complexity of the regulatory layer. Considering the inherent  
315 property of flux balance analysis, any reduction in the regulatory network will be closer to the  
316 optimal distribution in which just the most efficient isoforms are used.

317 The Snf1 deletion exhibits an overall decrease in the flux towards respiration and a large decrease in  
318 flux through PPP, showing also a relatively strong downregulation of enzymatic steps surrounding  
319 pyruvate. The most significant changes are observed in NDE and PCK that are turned off and ALD6  
320 which is turned on, implying that the Snf1 pathway is responsible for changing the acetate production  
321 via ALD6 to acetate production via ALD2, resulting in increased production of cytosolic NADH to  
322 the expense of the NADPH, which is compensated by increasing the flux through the pentose  
323 phosphate pathway as well as the additional use of NDE.

## 324 **Discussion**

325 The effects of nutrient-induced signaling on metabolism play an important role in maintaining  
326 organismal homeostasis and consequently understanding human disease and ageing. To gain a better  
327 understanding of the interconnectivity between nutrient signaling and metabolism, we have  
328 developed a hybrid model by combining the Boolean and the enzyme constraint models using a  
329 regulatory network as a link. More specifically, we have implemented a Boolean signaling network  
330 that is responsive to glucose and nitrogen and an ecModel of yeast's central carbon metabolism. The  
331 proposed framework has been validated using available experimental data resulting in an increased  
332 predictive power on individual protein abundances in comparison to individual models alone. Further  
333 we were able to characterize the cells deviation from the optimal protein allocation and flux  
334 distribution profiles. The model is capable of reproducing the regulatory effects that are associated  
335 with the Crabtree effect and glucose repression. The model showed a connection between  
336 SNF1 signaling and chronological lifespan by the regulation of NDE and NDI usage in  
337 respiring conditions. In addition, the model showed that during fermentation, enzyme utilization is  
338 the more important factor governing the protein allocation, while in low glucose conditions  
339 robustness and control is prioritized.

340 The integration of regulation constraints is resulting in a highly constrained hybrid model. The  
341 downside of this approach is connected to the lack of information regarding the regulatory effects of  
342 transcription factor activation. In this work we assume a uniform proportional action for all gene  
343 targets, together with the other constraints of the model, resulting in a rather low effect on the  
344 regulatory action. Despite this, the hybrid model shows improved protein abundance predictive  
345 power and can qualitatively reproduce regulatory effects associated with glucose repression in



346 fermentation conditions, suggesting that with this framework we can gain novel insight into the  
347 interplay between signaling pathways and metabolism, however, any quantitatively or definitive  
348 statements should be avoided. Another limitation is the inclusion of only the central carbon  
349 metabolism, a potential extension of this work would include the addition of pathways responsive to  
350 glucose signaling, like glycerol metabolism and fatty acid synthesis, enabling also the study of the  
351 regulatory effect on these pathways specifically with relatively few modifications in the hybrid  
352 model.

353 The hybrid model shows that under regulation the NADH to support the electron transport chain is  
354 partly coming from the cytosol with the help of the mitochondrial external NADH dehydrogenase,  
355 NDE2. Overexpression of NDI1, in contrast to NDE1, causes apoptosis-like cell death which can be  
356 repressed by growth on glucose-limited media (Wei Li et al., 2006). In our model regulation acts on  
357 both NDE and NDI which will lower the need for NDI1 expression and thus causing apoptosis-like  
358 cell death. The hybrid model gives the ability to determine that the Snf1 pathway alone is responsible  
359 for the shift to the additional use of NDE and NDI instead of only NDI. Snf1 is active in glucose-  
360 limited media and thus would help mitigate the phenotype of over expressed NDI1. With these result,  
361 we can connect Snf1 with the respiration-restricted apoptotic activity described by Wei Li et al and  
362 help explain how Snf1 is connected to chronological ageing (Wierman et al., 2017).

363 Futile fluxes in the cell have been examined previously within the constraints of osmotics,  
364 thermodynamics and enzyme utilization (Park et al., 2016b), where the osmotics are putting a ceiling  
365 on the allowed metabolite concentrations in the cell while thermodynamics govern the net fluxes  
366 through reactions. The induced futile fluxes can be explained by the fact that regulation included in  
367 the hybrid model will force the cell to use some enzymes even above its pathway flux requirements,  
368 adding robustness of metabolism to a constantly changing environment. The increase in flux in both  
369 forward and backward directions (i.e the increased futile flux through reactions) implies that these  
370 enzymes are working closer to their equilibrium and thus have a low flux control over the pathway  
371 flux, while enzymes with a strong forward flux have large flux control (Kacser et al., 1995). This  
372 feature is also displayed by our hybrid model, in which all enzymatic steps with induced futile fluxes  
373 exert null control over glucose uptake (FCCs = 0). More enzymes in a pathway working close to their  
374 equilibrium results in robustness against perturbations as well as allows the pathway to be controlled  
375 and regulated through a few enzymes, however, this happens at the expense of inefficient utilization  
376 of enzymes as the cell needs to spend more resources to sustain a pool of enzymes that are carrying  
377 both forward and backward fluxes (Noor et al., 2016; Park et al., 2016a). Our predictions of several  
378 glycolytic steps forced to operate closer to their equilibrium by regulation (high futile fluxes induced  
379 for TDH, PGK and ENO in respiration, and for TPI, PGK and GPM in fermentation) agree with  
380 experimental studies on *E. coli*, iBMK cells and *Clostridia cellulyticum*, which have suggested the  
381 utility of near-equilibrium glycolytic steps not just for providing robustness to environmental changes  
382 but also for enhancing metabolic energy yield (Park et al., 2019).

383 Computation of FCCs showed that in respiration the glucose flux is tightly dependent on the activity  
384 of the enzymatic steps in oxidative phosphorylation, a high-energy yield pathway. In contrast, in the  
385 fermentative condition flux control is split between PFK, PYK, PDC and several steps in the TCA  
386 cycle. Interestingly, the FCCs in TCA cycle are decreased by around the half after applying the  
387 regulatory constraints in the hybrid model, providing hints of the importance of enhancing robustness  
388 in this pathway at high growth rates due to increased demand of biomass precursors. The prevalence  
389 of the highest FCCs in fermentation for PFK, PYK and PDC (for both ecModel and hybrid model)  
390 indicate their important role as modulators of flux balance between glycolysis, PPP and fermentative

391 pathways at highly demanding conditions, suggesting that when entering fermentation, the cell  
392 sacrifices robustness to favor enzyme utilization.

393 Comparison of enzyme usage and flux distributions between models and across conditions reveals  
394 that the effects of regulation are generally stronger for the respiratory condition, causing the arisen of  
395 more and higher futile fluxes; turning on reaction steps that are not required by optimal metabolic  
396 allocation (purely ecModel); and inducing higher fold-changes into fluxes. These findings suggest  
397 that metabolic phenotypes are majorly shaped by regulatory constraints in low glucose conditions,  
398 whilst enzymatic constraints play a major role when glucose is not the limiting resource.

399 It was also found that the regulatory layer diminishes the strong flux control that hexokinase isoforms  
400 have over glucose consumption in both low and high glucose conditions to 0. The hexokinases in  
401 yeast, specially HXK2, have a central role in glucose signaling. It works both as an effector in the  
402 Snf1 pathway and also actively participates in the repression complex together with Mig1 in glucose  
403 repression during high glucose conditions (Vega et al., 2016). Intuitively, it would be practical if an  
404 enzyme having these central and diverse tasks in the cell would not have such a high FCC as can be  
405 seen with the ecModel. When small perturbations in enzyme activity or concentration have large  
406 effects on glucose consumptions, allocating this enzyme to other parts of the cell such as the nucleus  
407 while participating in the repression complex, would be energetically expensive. Given the central  
408 role of hexokinase in glucose signaling, this would be of interest for further investigation and future  
409 studies.

410 Overall, in this work, we have shown how the hybrid modeling framework integrating nutrient-  
411 sensing pathways and central carbon metabolism can not only improve individual model predictions  
412 but can also elucidate how single components in the dynamic signaling layer affect the steady-state  
413 metabolism. We tested our model against both respiring and fermenting conditions and could not  
414 only predict known phenomena but also find novel connections. This methodology can be used to  
415 connect both original and readily available models in yeast to look at the interactions between  
416 signaling and metabolism. This can be applied to genome-scale and on different subsystems of  
417 metabolism and for different signaling systems, for example, macronutrients or osmotic stress etc.  
418 The availability of genome-scale models of different organisms is constantly growing and with our  
419 increasing understanding of signaling systems and regulatory networks, the methodology developed  
420 in the course of this work can be adapted to many other organisms. Hybrid models, like the one  
421 proposed here, provides a framework for testing a different hypothesis, as we demonstrated by  
422 knocking out several components of the nutrient-induced signaling network. In summary, we  
423 developed a methodology to investigate intrinsically different systems, such as signaling and  
424 metabolism, in the same model gaining insight into how the interplay between them can have non-  
425 trivial effects.

## 426 **Materials and methods**

### 427 **1.1 Boolean model of nutrient-induced signaling pathways**

428 Based on an extensive literature review, a detailed topology of the nutrient-induced signaling  
429 pathways TORC1, SNF1 and PKA accounting also for their crosstalks was derived and formalized as  
430 a Boolean network model using a vector-based modelling approach (Welkenhuysen et al., 2019)  
431 **TORC1**: (Broach, 2012; Fernández-García et al., 2012; Hong et al., 2003; Kacherovsky et al., 2008;  
432 Leverentz & Reece, 2006; Ludin et al., 1998; MacPherson et al., 2006; Santangelo, 2006; Sanz et al.,  
433 2000; Schüller, 2003; Smith et al., 2011; Soontorngun et al., 2012; Sutherland et al., 2003; Turcotte  
434 et al., 2010; Westholm et al., 2008; Woods et al., 1994); **SNF1**: (Broek et al., 1987; Colombo et al.,

435 1998; Dihazi et al., 2003; Hu et al., 2010; Jones et al., 1991; Kataoka et al., 1985; Kraakman et al.,  
436 1999; Ma et al., 1999; Martínez-Pastor et al., 1996; Matsumoto et al., 1982; Nikawa et al., 1987;  
437 Pedruzzi et al., 2000; K. Peeters et al., 2017; T. Peeters et al., 2006; Portela et al., 2002; Rittenhouse  
438 et al., 1987; Robinson et al., 1987; Rolland et al., 2000; Sass et al., 1986; Schepers et al., 2012;  
439 Swinnen et al., 2006; K Tanaka et al., 1989, 1990; Kazuma Tanaka et al., 1990; T Toda et al., 1987;  
440 Takashi Toda et al., 1985, 1987); **PKA**: Bar-Peled et al., 2013; Beck & Hall, 1999; Binda et al.,  
441 2009; Bonfils et al., 2012; Broach, 2012; Conrad et al., 2014; Diloova, Aronova, Chen, & Powers,  
442 2004; Dubouloz, Deloche, Wanke, Cameroni, & De Virgilio, 2005; Georis, Feller, Vierendeels, &  
443 Dubois, 2009; Hughes Hallett, Luo, & Capaldi, 2014; Kuruvilla, Shamji, & Schreiber, 2001;  
444 Lempiäinen et al., 2009; Liu & Butow, 1999; Marion et al., 2004; Reinke et al., 2004; Urban et al.,  
445 2007; Wanke et al., 2008; Yan, Shen, & Jiang, 2006; **crosstalks**: Barrett, Orlova, Maziarz, & Kuchin,  
446 2012; Castermans et al., 2012; Cherry, Johnson, Dollard, Shuster, & Denis, 1989; Hughes Hallett et  
447 al., 2014; Nicastro et al., 2015; Wanke et al., 2008).

448 The model consists of four different components: metabolites, target genes, regulated enzymes and  
449 proteins. For the regulated enzymes, presence and phosphorylation state were considered whereas  
450 metabolites and target genes were only described by a single binary value indicating their presence  
451 and transcriptional state respectively. The state vectors were translated into a single binary value  
452 indicating the components' activity, allowing a better graphical depiction. In total, the model  
453 comprises 5 metabolites, 10 groups of target genes, 6 enzymes whose activity is altered upon nutrient  
454 signaling and 46 proteins belonging to PKA/cAMP, the SNF1 and the TORC1 pathway, for detailed  
455 description, see Supplementary Information S1 and Table S1-S6.

456 Availability of glucose and nitrogen was used as an input to the model and is implemented as one  
457 vector of binary values for each nutrient. This input enables to simulate the induction of signaling  
458 under different nutrient conditions, for instance the addition of glucose and nitrogen to starved cells  
459 is represented by the vector 0|1 for both nutrients respectively. Here, 0 represent the starved or low  
460 nutrient condition and 1 the nutrient-rich condition. Based on this input and the formulation of the  
461 Boolean rules, a cascade of state transitions is induced. The simulation was conducted using a  
462 synchronous updating scheme meaning that at each iteration, the state vectors are updated  
463 simultaneously. The algorithm stops if a Boolean steady state is reached at which no operation causes  
464 a change in the state vectors. This process is repeated for each pair of glucose and nitrogen  
465 availabilities whereby the reached steady state for each nutrient condition serves as an initial  
466 condition for the next nutrient condition.

467 Since for many of the included processes, no information on the mechanisms causing reversibility  
468 was available, especially a lack in the knowledge on phosphatases reverting phosphorylation was  
469 observed (Welkenhuysen *et al* 2019), gap-filling was conducted by including else-statements. This  
470 ensures that a component's state vector changes again e.g. if the conditions causing its  
471 phosphorylation are not fulfilled anymore. This gap-filling process guarantees the functionality of the  
472 Boolean model in both directions, meaning the simulation of state transitions occurring when  
473 nutrients (glucose and nitrogen) are added to nutrient-depleted cells as well as when cells are starved  
474 for the respective nutrients. Crosstalk mechanisms between the pathways were formulated as if-  
475 statements and can be switched off (0) or on (1). Furthermore, a simulation of knockouts of the  
476 pathways' components is possible by setting the value indicating their presence to 0.

477 **Enzyme-constrained metabolic model**

478 A reduced stoichiometric model of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*'s central carbon and energy  
479 metabolism, including metabolites, reactions, genes and their interactions accounting for glycolysis,  
480 TCA cycle, oxidative phosphorylation, pentose phosphate, Leloir and anaerobic excretion pathways,  
481 together with a representation of biomass formation, was taken as a network scaffold (Nilsson &  
482 Nielsen, 2016). The metabolic model was further enhanced with enzyme constraints using the  
483 GECKO toolbox v1.3.5 (Sánchez et al., 2017), which considers enzymes as part of metabolic  
484 reactions, as they are occupied by metabolites for a given amount of time that is inversely  
485 proportional to the enzyme's turnover number ( $k_{cat}$ ). Therefore, enzymes are incorporated as new  
486 "pseudo metabolites" and usage pseudo reactions are also introduced in order to represent their  
487 connection to a limited pool of protein mass available for metabolic enzymes. Moreover, all  
488 reversible reactions are split into two reactions with opposite directionalities in the ecModel, in order  
489 to account for the enzyme demands of backwards fluxes. Several size metrics for the Boolean model,  
490 the metabolic network and its enzyme-constrained version (ecModel) are shown in Table 1.

491 As the obtained ecModel has the same structure as any metabolic stoichiometric model, in which  
492 metabolites and reactions are connected by a stoichiometric matrix, the technique of flux balance  
493 analysis (FBA) can be used for quantitative prediction of intracellular reaction fluxes (Orth et al.,  
494 2010). FBA assumes that the metabolic network operates on steady-state, i.e. no net accumulation of  
495 internal metabolites, due to the high turnover rate of metabolites when compared to cellular growth  
496 or environmental dynamics (Varma & Palsson, 1994), therefore, by setting mass balances around  
497 each intracellular metabolite a homogenous system of linear equations is obtained. The second major  
498 assumption of FBA is that metabolic phenotypes are defined by underlying organizational principles,  
499 therefore an objective function is set as a linear combination of reaction fluxes which allows to obtain  
500 a flux distribution by solving the following linear programming problem

$$\max: Z = C^T v$$

501 Subject to

$$S \cdot v = 0$$

$$lb \leq v \leq ub$$

502 Where  $C^T$ , is a transposed vector of integer coefficients for each flux in the objective function ( $Z$ );  $v$ ,  
503 is the vector of reaction fluxes;  $S$ , is a stoichiometric matrix, representing metabolites as rows and  
504 reactions as columns;  $lb$  and  $ub$  are vectors of lower and upper bounds, respectively, for the reaction  
505 fluxes in the system. Additionally, the incorporation of enzyme constraints enables the connection  
506 between reaction fluxes and enzyme demands, which are constrained by the aforementioned pool of  
507 metabolic enzymes

$$v_i = \sum_j k_{cat_{ij}} \cdot e_j$$

$$\sum_j^p Mw_j \cdot e_j \leq f \cdot \sigma \cdot P_{tot}$$

508 Where  $k_{cat_{ij}}$  is the turnover number of the enzyme  $j$  for the  $i$ -th reaction, as in some cases several  
509 enzymes can catalyze the same reaction (isoenzymes);  $e_j$ , is the usage rate for the enzyme  $j$  in  
510 mmol/gDw h<sup>-1</sup>;  $Mw_j$ , represents the molecular weight of the enzyme  $j$ , in mmol/g;  $P_{tot}$ , is the total

511 protein content in a yeast cell, corresponding to a value of 0.46 g<sub>prot</sub>/gDw (Famili et al., 2003);  $f$ , is  
512 the fraction of the total cell proteome that is accounted for in our ecModel, 0.1732 when using the  
513 integrated dataset for *S. cerevisiae* in paxDB as a reference (M. Wang et al., 2015b); and  $\sigma$  being an  
514 average saturation factor for all enzymes in the model.

515

516

517

518

519 **Table 1** Size metrics for the Boolean, original metabolic model and its enzyme-constrained version.

<b>Boolean model</b>	
Metabolites	5
Target gene groups	10
Enzyme PTMs	6
Proteins	46
<b>Metabolic model</b>	
Reactions	90
Metabolites	81
Genes	130
Cellular compartments	4
<b>ecModel</b>	
Reactions	324
Metabolites	111
Enzymes	127
Promiscuous enzymes	41
Reactions with isoenzymes	30
Enzyme complexes	11
Reactions w/Kcat	115

520

521 This simple modelling formalism enables the incorporation of complex enzyme-reaction relations  
522 into the ecModel due to its matrix formulation, such as isoenzymes, which are different enzymes able  
523 to catalyse the same reaction; promiscuous enzymes, enzymes that can catalyze more than one  
524 reaction; and enzyme complexes, several enzyme subunits all needed to catalyse a given reaction.

#### 525 **ecModel curation**

526 As the ecModel was generated by the automated pipeline of the GECKO toolbox, several of its  
527 components were curated in order to achieve predictions that are in agreement with experimental data  
528 at different dilution rates. Data on exchange reaction fluxes at increasing dilution rates, spanning both  
529 respiration and fermentative metabolic regimes (Van Hoek et al., 1998) was used as a comparison

530 basis. Additionally, all unused genes in the original metabolic network were removed and gene rules  
531 for lactose and galactose metabolism were corrected according to manually curated entries for *S.*  
532 *cerevisiae* available at the Swiss-Prot database (Bateman, 2019). Gene rules and metabolites  
533 stoichiometries (P/O ratio) in the oxidative phosphorylation pathway were also corrected according  
534 to the consensus genome-scale network reconstruction, Yeast8 (Lu et al., 2019).

535 The average saturation factor for the enzymes in the model was fitted to a value of 0.48, which  
536 allows the prediction of the experimental critical dilution rate (i.e. the onset of fermentative  
537 metabolism) at  $0.285 \text{ h}^{-1}$ . ATP requirements for biomass production were fitted by minimization of  
538 the median relative error in the prediction of exchange fluxes for glucose, oxygen,  $\text{CO}_2$  and ethanol  
539 across dilution rates ( $0 - 0.4 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ), resulting in a linear relation depending on biomass formation from  
540 18 to 25 mmol per gDw for respiratory conditions and from 25 to 30 mmol per gDw for the  
541 fermentative regime.

## 542 **Hybrid model**

543 A hybrid model consists of the Boolean model connected with the ecModel through a transcriptional  
544 layer that regulates its constraints on protein allocation (Figure 1). The active transcription factors act  
545 on the upper or lower bounds of the enzyme usage pseudo reaction depending on down- or up  
546 regulation, respectively. The magnitude of the induced perturbations is calculated according to  
547 previously calculated enzyme usage variability ranges, subject to a given growth rate and optimal  
548 glucose rate, expressed as

549 Upregulation:

$$lb_{e_i}^{reg} = e_i^{opt} + RF * (e_i^{max} - e_i^{min})$$

550 Downregulation:

$$ub_{e_i}^{reg} = e_i^{opt} - RF * (e_i^{max} - e_i^{min})$$

551 Where  $lb_{e_i}^{reg}$  and  $ub_{e_i}^{reg}$  represent the lower and upper bounds for the usage pseudoreaction of  
552 enzyme  $i$  in the regulated model;  $e_i^{opt}$ , is a parsimonious usage for enzyme  $i$  for a given growth and  
553 glucose uptake rates;  $RF$ , corresponds to a regulation factor between 0 and 1;  $e_i^{max}$  and  $e_i^{min}$  are the  
554 maximum and minimum allowable usages for enzyme  $i$  under the specified conditions.

555 A distribution of parsimonious enzyme usages is obtained by applying the rationale of the  
556 parsimonious FBA technique (Lewis et al., 2010), which explicitly minimizes the total protein  
557 burden that sustains a given metabolic state (i.e. fixed growth and nutrient uptake rates).

558 To connect the transcription factor activity with gene regulation we extracted regulation information  
559 from YEASTRACT and set a regulation level of 5% of the enzyme usage variability range for the  
560 simulations. When several transcription factors affect the same gene, the effects are summed up and  
561 the resulting sum is used as a basis for constraint. For example, if a gene is downregulated by two  
562 transcription factors (-2) and upregulated by one transcription factor (+1), the net sum would be (-1),  
563 thus the gene will be downregulated. In our model, an absolute sum higher than 1 will not cause a  
564 stronger regulation, as this additive process is just implemented to define the directionality of a  
565 regulatory effect.

## 566 2.5 Enzyme usage variability analysis

567 As metabolic networks are highly redundant and interconnected, the use of purely stoichiometric  
568 constraints usually leads to an underdetermined system with infinite solutions (Kauffman et al.,  
569 2003), in a typical FBA problem it is common that even for an optimal value of the objective  
570 function, several reactions in the network can take any value within a “feasible” range, such ranges  
571 can be explored by flux variability analysis (Mahadevan & Schilling, 2003).

572 In this study, enzyme usage variability ranges for all of the individual enzymes are calculated by  
573 fixing a minimal glucose uptake flux, for a given fixed dilution rate, and then running sequential  
574 maximization and minimization for each enzyme usage pseudo reaction.

$$\text{enzyme usage variability range} = e_i^{\max} - e_i^{\min}$$

575 Subject to:

$$v_{Glc_{IN}} = lb_{Glc_{IN}} = ub_{Glc_{IN}} = v_{Glc_{IN}}$$

576 
$$v_{bio} = lb_{bio} = ub_{bio} = D_{rate}$$

577 This approach allows the identification of enzymes that are either tightly constrained, highly variable  
578 or even not usable at optimal levels of biomass yield.

### 579 Simulations

580 Cellular growth on chemostat conditions, at varying dilution rates from 0 to 0.4 h<sup>-1</sup>, was simulated  
581 with the multiscale model by the following sequence of steps:

582 1. Initially, the desired dilution rate is set as both lower and upper bounds for the growth pseudo  
583 reaction and the glucose uptake rate is minimized, assuming that cells maximize biomass production  
584 yield when glucose is limited (Oliveira et al., 2005; Schuetz et al., 2007)

$$\text{min: } v_{Glc_{IN}}$$

585 Subject to

$$D_{rate} \leq v_{bio} \leq D_{rate}$$

586 2. The obtained optimal uptake rate ( $v_{Glc_{IN}}^{\min}$ ) is then used as a basis to estimate a  
587 range of uptake flux to further constrain the ecModel.

$$v_{Glc_{IN}}^{\min} \leq v_{Glc_{IN}} \leq (1 + SF) * v_{Glc_{IN}}^{\min}$$

588 As  $v_{Glc_{IN}}^{\min}$  represents the minimum uptake rate allowed by the stoichiometric and enzymatic  
589 constraints of the metabolic network, possible deviations from optimal behaviour may be induced by  
590 regulatory circuits. In order to allow the Boolean model to reallocate enzyme levels a suboptimality  
591 factor ( $SF$ ) of 15% was used to set an upper bound for  $v_{Glc_{IN}}$ .

592 3. The ecModel is connected to the glucose-sensing Boolean model through the glucose uptake rate.  
593 At the critical dilution rate, the glucose uptake rate obtained by the ecModel is 3.2914 mmol/gDw h,  
594 this value is used as a threshold to define a “low” or “high” glucose level input in the Boolean model,

595 represented as 0 and 1, respectively. For each dilution rate, the initial value of  $v_{Glcn}^{min}$  is calculated and  
596 fed to the regulatory network, which runs a series of synchronous update steps until a steady-state is  
597 reached.

598 4. At steady state, the regulatory network indicates the enzyme usages that should be up and  
599 downregulated, for which new usage bounds are set as described above.

600 5. A final FBA simulation is run by minimizing the glucose uptake rate, subject to a fixed dilution  
601 rate and the newly regulated enzyme usage bounds.

602 Gene deletions can also be set in the Boolean module and will result in activation or inactivation of  
603 transcription factors which then affect the constraints on the FBA model. We ran four simulations of  
604 deletion strains as follows: TOR1 and TOR2 (TOR deletion), Snf1 (SNF1 deletion), Tpk1, Tpk2 and  
605 Tpk3 (PKA deletion) and Reg1 (Reg1 deletion).

## 606 **Proteomics analysis**

607 Protein abundance data on respiratory and fermentative conditions were compared to protein usage  
608 predictions by the hybrid model in order to assess its performance. For the respiration phase, absolute  
609 protein abundances were taken from a study of yeast growing under glucose-limited chemostat  
610 conditions at 30°C on minimal mineral medium with a dilution rate of 0.1 h<sup>-1</sup> (Doughty et al., 2020).

611 For the fermentation phase, a proteomics dataset was taken from a batch culture using minimal media  
612 with 2% glucose and harvested at an optical density (OD) of 0.6 (Paulo et al., 2016). The dataset  
613 given as relative abundances was then rescaled to relative protein abundances in the whole-cell  
614 according to integrated data available for *S. cerevisiae* in PaxDB (M. Wang, Herrmann, Simonovic,  
615 Szklarczyk, & von Mering, 2015), and finally converted to absolute units of mmol/gDw using the  
616 “total protein approach” (Wiśniewski & Rakus, 2014).

617 We used three metrics for comparing the simulations with the proteomics data, the Pearson  
618 correlation coefficient (PCC), two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test and the mean of the  
619 absolute log<sub>10</sub>-transformed ratios between predicted and measured values ( $r$ ). The PCC and the  
620 significance of the PCC were determined by a permutation test of  $n=2000$ . Pathway enrichments  
621 were done using YeastMine (Balakrishnan et al., 2012) with the Holm-Bonferroni test correction and  
622 a max p-value of 0.05.

## 623 **Flux control coefficients**

624 In order to investigate the relationship between enzyme activities and a given metabolic flux, control  
625 coefficients can be calculated for each enzyme in the model according to the definition given by  
626 metabolic control analysis (MCA) (Kacser et al., 1995):

$$FCC_{ij} = \frac{a_i}{v_j} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial a_i}$$

627 In which  $a_i = k_{cat_i} e_i$  represents the activity of the  $i$ -th enzyme and  $v_j$  is the flux carried by the  $j$ -th  
628 reaction. These coefficients represent the sensitivity of a given metabolic flux to perturbations on  
629 enzyme activities, providing a quantitative measure on the control that each enzyme exerts on  
630 specific fluxes.



631 As ecModels include enzyme activities explicitly in their structure, flux control coefficients can be  
632 approximated by inducing small perturbations on individual enzyme usages:

$$FCC_{ij} \approx \frac{k_{cat_{ij}} e_i}{v_j} \frac{\Delta v_j}{\Delta(k_{cat_{ij}} e_i)}$$

633 In our hybrid model, perturbations on individual enzyme usages ( $e_i$ ) are induced in relation to a  
634 parsimonious usage ( $e_i^*$ ) which is compatible with a given set of constraints

$$FCC_{ij} = \frac{e_i^*}{v_j^*} \frac{\Delta v_j}{\Delta(e_i - e_i^*)}$$

635 Perturbations equivalent to 0.1% of the parsimonious usage are used for each enzyme. For those  
636 cases in which the previously applied constraints do not allow such modification in a given enzyme  
637 usage, their activity is then perturbed by operating on the corresponding turnover number for the  
638 enzyme-reaction pair ( $k_{cat_{ij}}^* = 0.001 * k_{cat_{ij}}$ ) in order to simulate a perturbation in their overall  
639 activity.

640 The model, code and datasets used for this study can be found in the GitHub repository  
641 YeastHybridModelingFramework <https://github.com/cvijoviclab/YeastHybridModelingFramework>.

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## 652 **Supporting Information**

653 SI. Supporting information. Includes detailed description of mechanisms reflected in the Boolean  
654 model of nutrient signalling.

655

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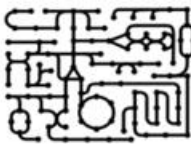
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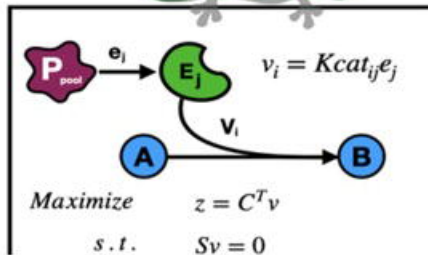
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## Metabolic layer

Metabolic network

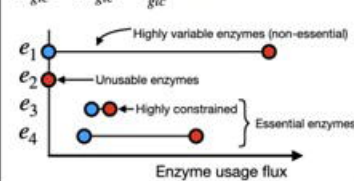


Gecko



### Enzyme Usage Variability Analysis

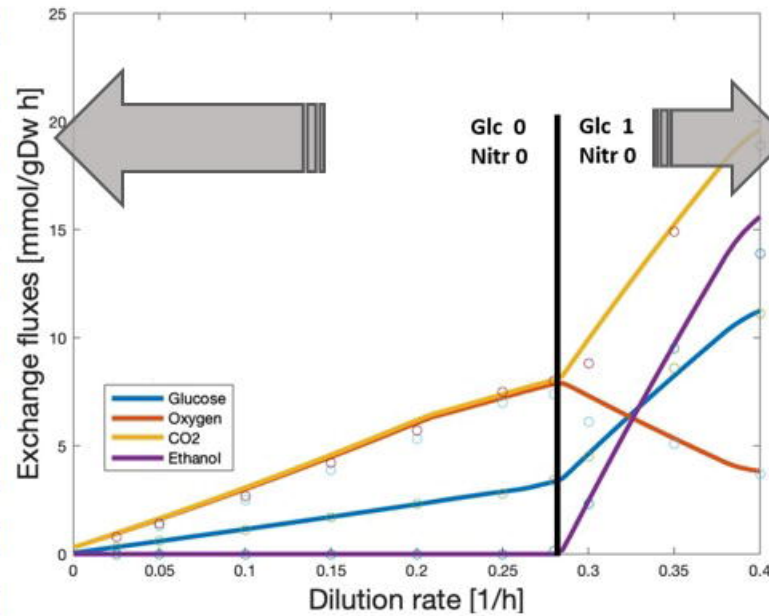
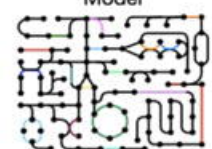
$lb_{bio} = ub_{bio} = v_{bio}^*$  Maximum enzyme usage  
 $lb_{glc} = ub_{glc} = v_{glc}^*$  Minimum enzyme usage



$$lb_i \leq v_i \leq ub_i$$

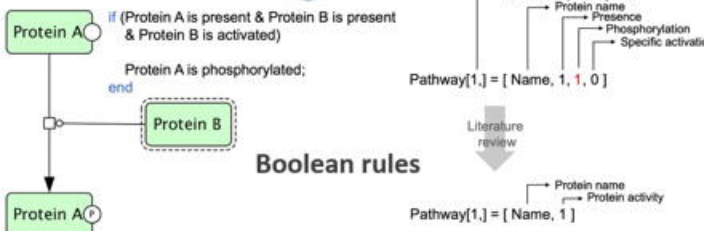
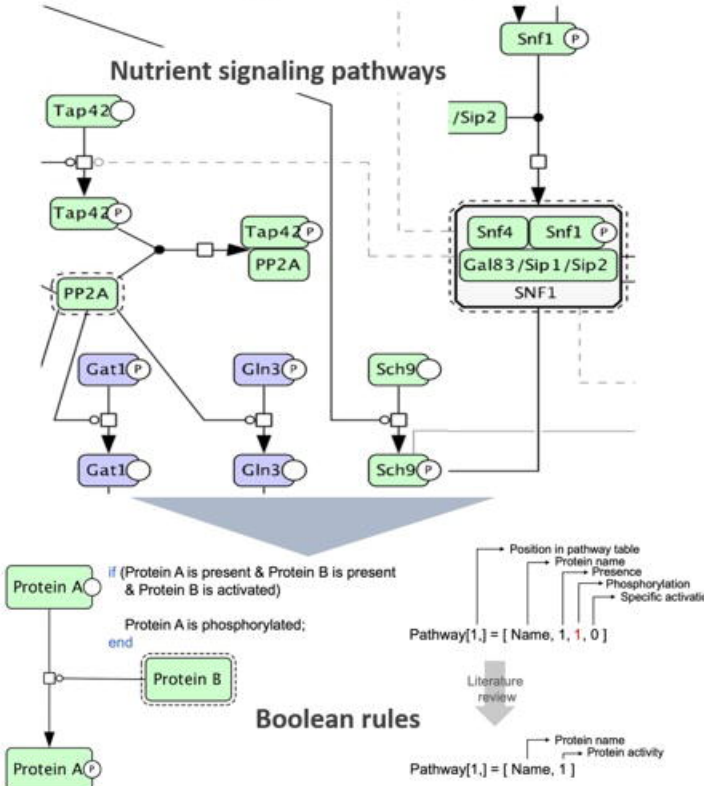
$$\sum M w_i e_j \leq P_{pool}$$

Enzyme-constrained Model



## Signaling layer

Nutrient signaling pathways



## Transcriptional layer

TF	positive	negative
	ADH1,TDH1,COX5B,PGK1,CIT1,ENO1,PDC1,FBP1,ERR1,ERR2,PCK1,ZWF1,PDX1,PDC5,PDC6,ICL1,MLS1,TKL2,GPP1,ERR3,CIT3,YJL045W,ALD2,GND2,TIM11,NDE2	QCR7,COX6,ATP2,COX8,HXK2,CYT1,COX9,COR1,RIP1,QCR8,ATP5,COX7,MDH1,KG D1,ATP15,SDH2,ATP7,NDI1,COX13,QCR10,ATP3,NDE1,GPD2,SOL4,ATP19,GPD1,SDH1,COX12,ATP17,ATP16,ATP20,ATP14
Gis1p	TDH1,COX5B,CIT1,GAL10,HXK1,ATP4,PDC1,GAL7,ERR1,ERR2,COX7,PDX1,MDH1,GLK1,COX11,ATP15,SDH2,QCR9,ATP7,NDI1,TKL2,SDH3,PGM2,COX23,GPP2,ERR3,CIT3,ALD4,ALD2,PYK2,LSC2,GPD1,HFD1,COX20,ATP20	TDH2,CDC19,PGK1,ENO1,GPM1,COX4,HXK2,COX9,COR1,PGI1,FBA1,PFK1,PFK2,PGM1,GND1,NDE1,ACS2,SOL4,FAP7
Msn2	COX5B,HXK1,PDC1,COX7,PDX1,MDH1,GLK1,C	

