1 <u>TITLE:</u> Astrocytes drive divergent metabolic gene expression in humans and chimpanzees

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20 **KEYWORDS:** astrocytes, neurons, evolution, metabolism, genomics, brain

21 ABSTRACT

22	The human brain utilizes $\sim 20\%$ of all of the body's metabolic resources, while chimpanzee
23	brains use less than 10%. Although previous work shows significant differences in metabolic gene
24	expression between the brains of primates, we have yet to fully resolve the contribution of distinct brain
25	cell types. To investigate cell-type specific interspecies differences in brain gene expression, we
26	conducted RNA-Seq on neural progenitor cells (NPCs), neurons, and astrocytes generated from induced
27	pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) from humans and chimpanzees. Interspecies differential expression (DE)
28	analyses revealed that twice as many genes exhibit DE in astrocytes (12.2% of all genes expressed) than
29	neurons (5.8%). Pathway enrichment analyses determined that astrocytes, rather than neurons, diverged in
30	expression of glucose and lactate transmembrane transport, as well as pyruvate processing and oxidative
31	phosphorylation. These findings suggest that astrocytes may have contributed significantly to the
32	evolution of greater brain glucose metabolism with proximity to humans.

33 INTRODUCTION

34 Though primates exhibit widespread variation in many phenotypes, including anatomy, behavior, 35 and cognition, the extent of these phenotypic differences is not substantially larger than differences in 36 genome sequence (A. Varki & Altheide, 2005; N. M. Varki & Varki, 2015). One of those traits that 37 defines primates is a significantly larger brain relative to body size, for which humans exhibit the greatest 38 amount of difference. Within primates, selective differences in the genome can be linked to diet and 39 metabolism, suggesting selection has optimized different metabolic processes in lineage-dependent ways 40 (Babbitt et al., 2010; Babbitt, Warner, Fedrigo, Wall, & Wray, 2011; Bauernfeind et al., 2015; Fagundes 41 et al., 2007; Havgood, Babbitt, Fedrigo, & Wray, 2010; Schaffner et al., 2005; Stringer & Andrews, 42 1988). The human brain is more energetically costly than that of other primates, utilizing $\sim 20\%$ of all of 43 the body's metabolic resources, in comparison to non-human primate brains that use less than 10%44 (Hofman, 1983; Mink, Blumenschine, & Adams, 1981). Importantly, allometry alone does not explain the 45 increase in human brain appropriation of glucose metabolism at this proportion (Karbowski, 2007; 46 Martin, 1981; Yu, Karbowski, Sachdev, & Feng, 2014). There is evidence that sheer increase in neuron 47 number can explain at least part of the energetic demand of the human brain (Herculano-Houzel, 2011). 48 However, interspecies differences in the contribution of metabolism of astrocytes versus neurons to 49 metabolic capacity at the organ level remain largely un-explored.

50 Many of these changes in brain metabolism have been hypothesized to coincide with other trait 51 changes, particularly those related to shifts in diet known to be important in hominin evolution, such as an 52 increase in meat products, increased quality of food, and agriculture (Aiello & Wheeler, 1995; Babbitt et 53 al., 2011; F. Brown, Harris, Leakey, & Walker, 1985; McHenry, 1992, 1994; Peters, 2007; Shea, 2007). 54 Furthermore, the expensive-tissue hypothesis posits that a trade-off in energy allocation occurred between 55 energetically expensive or storing tissues for the development of a larger, metabolically demanding brain 56 in primates, including a reduction in energetically expensive gut tissue (Aiello & Wheeler, 1995; Pontzer 57 et al., 2014; Stearns, 1992; West, Brown, & Enquist, 2001) or a shift to investment in energy-storing 58 tissue adipose tissue rather than energy-utilizing muscle tissue (Leonard & Robertson, 1994, 1997;

59 Leonard, Robertson, Snodgrass, & Kuzawa, 2003). There is evidence that the higher metabolic costs of 60 the human brain influences the protracted development of body growth rate (Kuzawa et al., 2014). These 61 *in vivo* (whole organism) studies further suggest an important link between evolutionary differences in 62 metabolism and the uniqueness of the primate brain.

63 Similar to organism-level investigations, there is also molecular evidence supporting the 64 evolution of metabolic processes (e.g. oxidative phosphorylation) in the primate brain with phylogenetic 65 proximity to humans. Metabolism in the brain is critical for neurological function, as it provides cellular 66 energy and critical biomolecules necessary for the complex cellular network characteristic of the brain 67 (Bauernfeind & Babbitt, 2014; A. M. Brown, Wender, & Ransom, 2001; Nelson, Lehninger, & Cox, 68 2008; Raichle, 2010; Tekkök, Brown, Westenbroek, Pellerin, & Ransom, 2005; Vander Heiden, Cantley, 69 & Thompson, 2009; Vander Heiden et al., 2010). Cellular metabolism involves the breakdown of fuel 70 molecules to produce energy or other molecules through multiple interconnected pathways, including 71 glycolysis, oxidative phosphorylation, and the pentose phosphate pathway. Enrichments for metabolic 72 processes in genes and gene regulatory regions undergoing positive selection is a common thread in gene 73 expression analyses from whole primate brain tissue (Babbitt et al., 2010; Bauernfeind et al., 2015; 74 Haygood et al., 2010; Haygood, Fedrigo, Hanson, Yokoyama, & Wray, 2007; Kosiol et al., 2008; Uddin 75 et al., 2008). Interestingly, there are lineage-dependent differences in the specific pathways enriched in 76 each species (e.g. glucose and carbohydrate metabolism in humans and glycogen and acyl-CoA 77 metabolism in chimpanzees) (Haygood et al., 2007; Kosiol et al., 2008; Uddin et al., 2008). Within 78 anthropoids, genes encoding the subunits of cytochrome c oxidase, the final component of the electron 79 transport chain, show an accelerated rate of evolution in their sequences compared with any other 80 placental mammals (Grossman, Schmidt, Wildman, & Goodman, 2001; Uddin et al., 2008; Wildman, 81 Wu, Goodman, & Grossman, 2002; Wu, Goodman, Lomax, & Grossman, 1997). These molecular 82 changes suggest increased control over the mechanisms that process glucose (Goldberg et al., 2003; 83 Grossman et al., 2001; Grossman, Wildman, Schmidt, & Goodman, 2004; Hüttemann et al., 2012; Uddin 84 et al., 2008). Further understanding the relationship between genetic changes (both in coding and non-

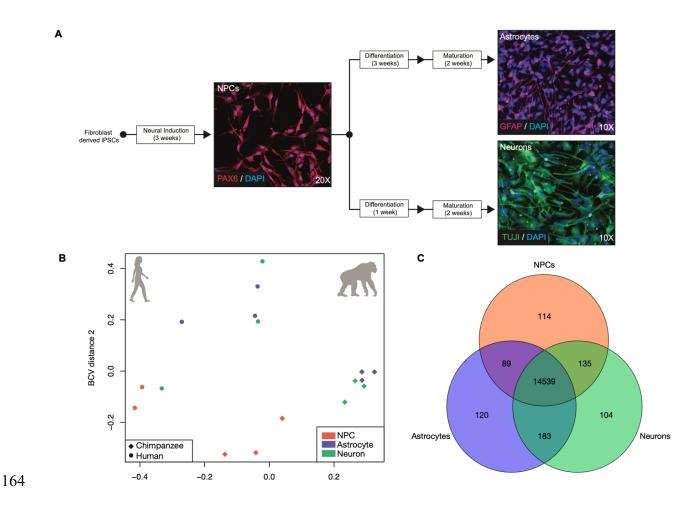
85 coding regulatory portions of the genome) and observed metabolic differences in primates will contribute 86 to a greater understanding of proximate influences on larger evolutionary trends in primates. These 87 findings also highlight a need to investigate not only glucose metabolism and energy production but also 88 that of other macromolecules (e.g. lipids, amino acids, nucleic acids) for a more comprehensive 89 understanding of differences in cellular metabolism in neural cells of primates. 90 Many previous comparative primate studies using functional genomics have determined 91 significant differences in expression between humans, chimpanzees, and other primate species (primarily, 92 rhesus macaque) (Babbitt et al., 2010; Bakken et al., 2015; Bauernfeind et al., 2015; Blekhman, Oshlack, 93 Chabot, Smyth, & Gilad, 2008; Khaitovich et al., 2004; Konopka et al., 2012; Oldham, Horvath, & 94 Geschwind, 2006). However, as many investigations of primate evolution and humans in particular often 95 are, these studies have been largely limited to utilizing post-humous tissue samples, oftentimes 96 opportunistically obtained. Recent advances in induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technology have 97 allowed for the generation of iPSC-derived mature brain cells and organoids as *in vitro* models of primate 98 brain development. There have been a number of studies using iPSCs to generate brain organoids as an in 99 vitro model for brain development (Amiri et al., 2018; Camp et al., 2015; Luo et al., 2016; Velasco et al., 100 2019), including one comparative study between humans, chimpanzees, and rhesus macaques (Kanton et 101 al., 2019). The use of iPSC-derived samples has shown great promise in understanding brain development 102 and function in greater detail. While monolayer culturing of iPSC-derived cells does not recapitulate the 103 complexity of the primate brain as well as brain organoids, they are far more feasible in both cost and 104 time, and have been used extensively to investigate brain cell-type specific mechanisms of disease (Cho, 105 Yang, Forest, Qian, & Chan, 2019; di Domenico et al., 2019; Penney, Ralvenius, & Tsai, 2019; Zhao et 106 al., 2017).

107 The findings of interspecies divergence in brain metabolism are intriguing, however, a cell-type 108 specific comparison would more fully inform our understanding of distinct cellular contributions to 109 interspecific differences in neurological function (I. G. Romero et al., 2015). Two of the major cell types 110 in the brain are neurons and astrocytes. Neurons function in neurological processes like cognition and

111 perception largely by transmitting chemical and electrical signals throughout complex cellular networks. 112 However, metabolic programs have been shown to shift as neural progenitor cells (NPCs) differentiate 113 into more mature cell types (Zheng et al., 2016). Non-dividing, mature neurons are known to have very 114 little capacity for specific metabolic processes (e.g. glycolysis) and rely on metabolite shuttling from 115 another cell type, astrocytes (Almeida, Moncada, & Bolaños, 2004; Herrero-Mendez et al., 2009; Sonntag 116 et al., 2017). Astrocytes, despite being the most abundant cell-type in the central nervous system 117 (Nedergaard, Ransom, & Goldman, 2003), have traditionally been considered support cells for neurons 118 without significant relevance to neural function. However, recent work has determined critical roles of 119 astrocytes in neural function including provisioning of metabolites to neurons for energy (Mächler et al., 120 2016; Pellerin & Magistretti, 1994; Volkenhoff et al., 2015) and enhancing synaptic processes (Diniz et 121 al., 2012; Meyer-Franke, Kaplan, Pfieger, & Barres, 1995). These findings point to a need to characterize 122 the important differences among a variety of cell types, not only in neurons, but in other metabolically-123 relevant brain cell types such as astrocytes between species to understand how the primate brain has 124 evolved.

125 We hypothesize that there are important cell-type specific metabolic changes between human and 126 chimpanzee brains and that astrocytes contribute, at least in part, to these differences. To investigate these 127 changes, we used established protocols for the differentiation of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) 128 into mature, functional neurons and astrocytes from humans and chimpanzees from multipotent neural 129 progenitor cells (NPCs). This comparative cell culture approach allowed us to assess each cell type in the 130 absence of other cell types in a defined, controlled environment. In order to determine adaptive 131 interspecies differences in gene expression and metabolism in cell-type specific manner, we conducted 132 RNA-Seq on human and chimpanzee NPCs, neurons, and astrocytes. We determined significant 133 interspecies differential expression in all three cell types with the greatest degree of difference in 134 astrocytes. Pathway enrichments revealed significant differences in cellular respiration between species 135 across all cell types as well as cell-type specific changes in glucose and lactate transmembrane transport 136 and pyruvate utilization suggestive of a higher capacity for energetic, rather than biosynthetic, metabolic

137	phenotypes in human astrocytes. This work demonstrates a putative cell-type specific mechanism by
138	which astrocytes may contributed substantially to the adaptive metabolic capacity of the human brain. It
139	also contributes to a growing number of studies demonstrating the importance of considering astrocytes in
140	presumably human-specific phenotypes, including neurodegenerative diseases.
141	
142	RESULTS
143 144	RNA-Seq of human and chimpanzee iPSC-derived neural cells.
145	We took a comparative genomics approach to investigating interspecies differences in neural cell-
146	type specific gene expression between humans and chimpanzees. Three cell lines per species,
147	representing three individuals, were used. These cell lines were originally obtained as fibroblasts from
148	minimally invasive skin biopsies, reprogrammed into iPSCs, and have been validated for their
149	pluripotency and differentiation abilities (Blake et al., 2018; Burrows et al., 2016; Eres, Luo, Hsiao,
150	Blake, & Gilad, 2019; Pavlovic, Blake, Roux, Chavarria, & Gilad, 2018; I. G. Romero et al., 2015; Ward
151	& Gilad, 2019; Ward et al., 2018). IPSCs from both species were initially cultured in the defined, iPSC-
152	specific media mTeSR1 (STEMCELL, Vancouver, Canada). In order to investigate interspecies
153	differences in cell-type specific gene expression between humans and chimpanzees, we generated RNA-
154	Seq data from human and chimpanzee neural progenitor cells (NPCs), neurons, and astrocytes from
155	induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) (Figure 1A).
156	To confirm that expression profiles of our iPSC-derived neural samples resembled that of neural
157	tissue and primary neural cells, we used previously published data from human and chimpanzee tissues,
158	including brain (Brawand et al., 2011), as well as human primary neurons and astrocytes (Materials &
159	Methods) (Zhang et al., 2016). We visualized these data in an MDS plot and observed that our iPSC-
160	derived neural samples clustered together within the same dimensional space as the other neural tissue
161	and cell samples and not the non-neuronal tissue samples (SI Figure 5). These clustering analyses, in
162	addition to in vitro validation of cell type by cell-type marker IHC prior to sequencing, demonstrate that
163	we successfully created and obtained total transcriptome data of iPSC-derived NPCs, neurons, and





166 <u>chimpanzees</u>. A) The differentiation schematic and representative immunofluorescent photos of iPSC-

derived neural progenitor cells (NPCs; line H28815) stained with PAX6, astrocytes (line C3649K) stained

168 with GFAP, and neurons (line C4955) stained with TUJ1. B) A PCoA of the iPSC-derived NPCs,

169 neurons, and astrocytes transcriptomes. C) A Venn diagram of the overlap in expression across cell types.

170 Further details for samples are included in SI Table 1.

172 astrocytes from humans and chimpanzees relevant for comparative assessments of cell-type specific173 interspecies gene expression differences.

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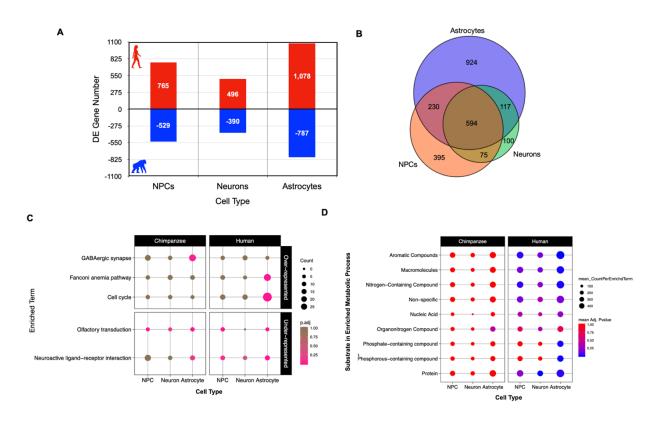
175 Astrocytes exhibit the greatest degree of differential expression between human and chimpanzee

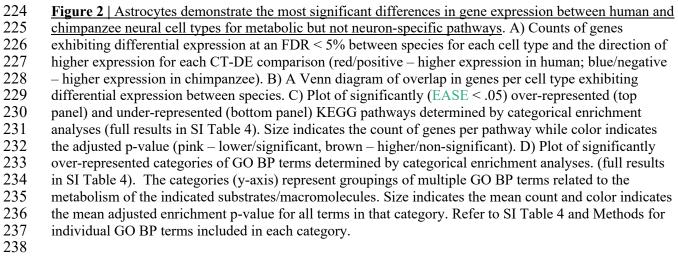
176 neural cell types

177 We next performed differential expression (DE) analyses in order to determine significantly 178 differentially expressed genes between species. However, given the lack of clear distinction among our 179 different cell types (Figure 1B), we first wanted to determine the degree of shared expression across all 180 cell types. To do so, we determined overlap among cell types for genes with at least one count in one or 181 more cell lines per cell type (Figure 1C). Of the total genes expressed in NPC (n=14,877), neuron 182 (n=14,961), and astrocyte (n=14,931) samples, 95.13% (n=14,536) were shared among all three cell types 183 (Figure 1C). This is consistent with previous findings that relatively few genes are cell-type specific in the 184 brain, in terms of absolute expression (Magistretti & Allaman, 2015; McKenzie et al., 2018). 185 For DE analyses, we first conducted an analysis of variance (ANOVA)-like test for differentially 186 expressed genes in a species (SP) by cell-type (CT) manner using edgeR (Robinson, McCarthy, & Smyth, 187 2010). We reasoned that this would be the most evolutionarily relevant set of genes for investigating 188 neural cell-type specific "trade-offs" in expression between species. Using edgeR's generalized linear 189 model (GLM) functionality and a quasi-likelihood F-test for significant differential expression, we found 190 4,007 significantly differentially expressed genes in a species by cell type manner (26.22% of all 191 expressed genes). However, at present, there are no post-hoc tests for an ANOVA-like test for differential 192 expression, and so this analysis is limited in that it cannot delineate which samples (cell types) these 193 genes are significantly DE in (Robinson et al., 2010). The ANOVA-like test for differences also requires 194 an initial filtering of lowly expressed genes across all samples, which eliminates the 104-120 genes (0.68-

- 195 0.79%, Figure 1C) expressed only in one cell type (CT-specific genes). For these reasons we also
- 196 conducted interspecies pairwise DE comparisons for each CT (hereafter referred to as CT-DE analyses).

197	While these CT-specific genes are relatively few in number, they likely have an important role in cellular
198	function, and thus we did not want to exclude them from our interspecies CT-DE comparisons.
199	For CT-DE comparisons, the only genes included were those counts above zero in all samples per
200	CT and were further filtered to those with counts per million (CPM) > 1 in at least 1 sample, resulting in
201	11,772 genes in NPCs, 12,451 genes in neurons, and 12,302 genes in astrocytes. We used the same GLM
202	quasi-likelihood F-test to determine that 8.57% (n=1,294) of genes are differentially expressed between
203	species' NPCs, 5.8% (n=886) between neurons, and 12.2% (n=1,865) between astrocytes (Figure 2A, SI
204	Figure 6). Many of these significantly differentially expressed genes in CT-DE comparisons overlapped
205	with the SPxCT ANOVA-like differentially expressed genes (SI Table 3). When we determined overlap
206	in differentially expressed genes between species across all three cell types, we found that, similar to
207	global expression, a large number of genes were determined as differentially expressed between species
208	in all three cell types (n=594, Figure 2B). However, there are far more genes that uniquely differentiate
209	astrocyte gene expression between species (n=924) than NPCs (n=395) and neurons (n=100) (Figure 2B).
210	This suggests that neuronal gene expression is more conserved across species in NPCs and neurons, and
211	that astrocytes do indeed contribute to important interspecies differences in neural gene expression.
212	
213	Interspecies differences in gene expression are largely due to differential metabolic signaling
214	skewed toward higher expression in humans regardless of cell type
215	We then used categorical enrichment analyses to determine what biological processes are over-
216	represented (enriched) or under-represented ("conserved") in interspecies differentially expressed genes
217	by cell type (CT) (SI Table 4). There were consistently a larger number of interspecies differentially
218	expressed genes per CT-DE comparison with higher expression in human cells (765 in NPCs, 496 in
219	neurons, and 1,078 in astrocytes) than chimpanzee cells (529 in NPCs, 390 in neurons, and 787 in
220	astrocytes) (Figure 2A). We used these six higher-in-one-species split DE gene lists in a mutliquery
221	categorical enrichment analyses for under- and over-represented processes using gProfiler's categorical





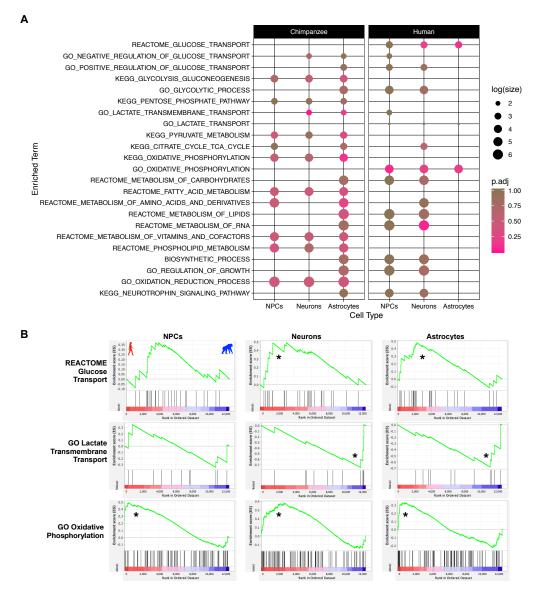
higher expression in human for all CT's, there was consistently far more processes enriched in humanCTs than chimpanzee CTs (SI Table 4).

241 Human and chimpanzee neural cells exhibited significant under-representation of the KEGG 242 pathways 'olfactory transduction' and 'neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction' (Figure 2C). 243 Consistently, both species' also showed significant under-representation of GO biological processes (BP) 244 terms related to development, immune function, and intracellular signaling (SI Figure 8). Human cells 245 were under-represented for some extracellular and membrane associated cellular components (CC) (SI 246 Figure 9) as well as molecular functions related to cytokine and receptor activity (primarily in astrocytes; 247 SI Figure 10). Both species cells were underrepresented for nucleic acid binding and G-protein coupled 248 receptor and transducer activity (SI Figure 10). This demonstrates that signaling, including some 249 neuronal-specific signaling such as neuroactive ligand receptor interaction, and downstream perception 250 processes (e.g. olfaction) are conserved across species for all cell-types.

251 As for significantly over-represented processes in differentially expressed genes between species, 252 cell division, cytoskeletal and developmental signaling, and response to external stimuli terms were 253 significantly over-represented in human astrocytes, transcription was enriched in human NPCs, and 254 protein modification was enriched most significantly in human neurons (SI Figure 8). Because the human 255 brain is so energetically demanding, we were specifically interested how pathways involved in cellular 256 respiration and metabolism differed between species. Metabolic processes targeting a variety of substrates 257 or macromolecules were enriched primarily in human cells (summarized in Figure 2D, full results in SI 258 Table 4). Human astrocytes were significantly enriched for several more metabolic biological processes 259 than human NPCs and neurons that included metabolism of phosphate-containing compounds as well as 260 more generally for metabolism of macromolecules (Figure 2D). We also investigated enrichment of GO 261 cellular component (CC) terms to determine if there were differences in expression of specific neuronal 262 parts. Over-represented CC terms in human astrocytes were similar to the GO BP over-represented 263 processes (cytoplasm, cytoskeleton, cell division and growth; SI Figure 9). Human neurons were enriched 264 for terms related to intracellular macromolecule modification and trafficking (SI Figure 9B). Interestingly,

265	human astrocytes were enriched for molecular functions (MFs) related generally to substrate binding,
266	specifically, to ATP, carbohydrates and their derivatives, enzymes, and nucleic acids (SI Figure 10A).
267	Human neurons were enriched for ubiquitin-related molecular activity, and human astrocytes for
268	molecular activity related generally to ATPases, catalysis, exonucleases, helicases, kinases, and
269	phosphotransferases (SI Figure 10B). These results indicate that metabolic processes differ between
270	species in a CT-specific manner, and that all human neural cell types exhibit increased expression for a
271	variety of macromolecular metabolic processes more than chimpanzee neural cells. Further, we see that
272	there are significant differences in molecular functions important in cellular metabolic signaling.
273	
274	Human and chimpanzee neural cells differ in glucose and lactate transport as well as oxidative
275	phosphorylation
276	Our results showed that when using unbiased categorical enrichment analyses without a priori
277	expectations of enriched terms, metabolic processes targeting a variety of substrates or macromolecules
278	were enriched in human neural cell types. However, very few of these processes were for pathways
279	involved in cellular respiration resulting in production of energy in the form of ATP. There are known
280	differences in metabolic capacity between neurons and astrocytes, including that astrocytes are
281	characterized metabolically by high aerobic glycolytic activity (increased glycolysis with limited potential
282	for oxidative ATP production) while neurons typically favor energy production and oxidative
283	phosphorylation (reviewed in Magistretti & Allaman, 2015), we were interested in determining any
284	interspecies, cell-type specific differences in these brain metabolic processes. To investigate if there were
285	interspecies differences in expression of genes involved in aerobic glycolysis, we used a Gene Set
286	Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) (Subramanian et al., 2005) with 23 a priori gene sets on the raw counts of
287	the 12,407 genes used for interspecies pairwise CT-DE analyses. Gene sets were obtained from the
288	Molecular Signatures Database (MSigDB) (Liberzon et al., 2011) and chosen in order to probe a variety
289	of energetic metabolic pathways and substrate transporters of varying gene number size from multiple
290	ontology categories (GO, KEGG, and REACTOME) (all probed gene sets listed in Figure 3A)

291	(Antonazzo et al., 2017; Ashburner et al., 2000; Fabregat et al., 2018; Ogata et al., 1999). The goal was to
292	determine if pathways involved in aerobic glycolysis (e.g. oxidative phosphorylation, glucose transport,
293	TCA cycle) differ in a species by cell type manner, and so pathways not directly involved in aerobic
294	glycolysis (e.g. fatty acid metabolism) are included as a comparison. We also included "control"
295	pathways not directly related to metabolism (regulation of growth, and neurotrophin signaling).
296	Our GSEA results indicate that the gene sets for lactate transmembrane transport, glucose
297	transport, oxidative phosphorylation, and metabolism of RNA are significantly different between human
298	and chimpanzee neural cells (FDR \leq 25% and nominal p-value \leq .05; Figure 3A, B, SI Table 5). Glucose
299	transport was enriched in human neurons and astrocytes while lactate transmembrane transport was
300	enriched in chimpanzee neurons and astrocytes (Figure 3A, B). The GO gene set for oxidative
301	phosphorylation is significantly enriched in all human cell types while the KEGG oxidative
302	phosphorylation is upregulated in chimpanzee astrocytes (Figure 3A, B). These results indicate cell-type
303	by species differences in glucose uptake by cells, lactate shuttling, and diverging energetic cellular
304	respiration.
304 305	respiration.
	respiration. There are species by cell-type differences in expression of oxidative phosphorylation protein
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305 306	There are species by cell-type differences in expression of oxidative phosphorylation protein
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 305 306 307 308 309 	There are species by cell-type differences in expression of oxidative phosphorylation protein complexes Leading edge analyses of significant GSEA gene sets are used to determine which genes of the gene set contribute most strongly to the enrichment of that pathway in the phenotype (Subramanian et al.,
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 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 	There are species by cell-type differences in expression of oxidative phosphorylation protein complexes Leading edge analyses of significant GSEA gene sets are used to determine which genes of the gene set contribute most strongly to the enrichment of that pathway in the phenotype (Subramanian et al., 2005). We examined the results from the leading edge GSEA analysis with the CT-DE expression analyses to get a better idea of how these three pathways diverge in a cell type by species manner (Figures 4 and 5; full results in SI Table 6). We calculated a rank for DE genes for each CT-DE comparison (NPC, neuron, and astrocyte): (sign of logFC) x log10(FDR Q-value) (Reimand et al., 2019) and used that in
 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 	There are species by cell-type differences in expression of oxidative phosphorylation protein complexes Leading edge analyses of significant GSEA gene sets are used to determine which genes of the gene set contribute most strongly to the enrichment of that pathway in the phenotype (Subramanian et al., 2005). We examined the results from the leading edge GSEA analysis with the CT-DE expression analyses to get a better idea of how these three pathways diverge in a cell type by species manner (Figures 4 and 5; full results in SI Table 6). We calculated a rank for DE genes for each CT-DE comparison (NPC, neuron, and astrocyte): (sign of logFC) x log10(FDR Q-value) (Reimand et al., 2019) and used that in addition to the GSEA leading edge analysis to determine significant differences. For the oxidative



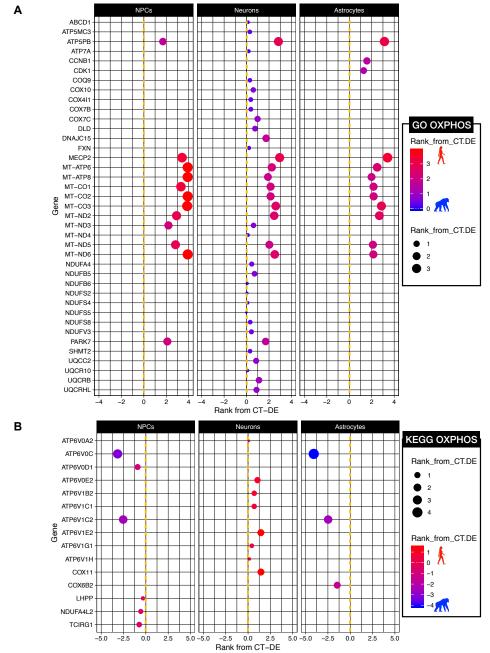
317 318 Figure 3 | Humans and chimpanzees differ in metabolite transport and oxidative phosphorylation in a 319 neural cell-type manner. A) Plot of all tested gene sets in the Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) (full results in SI Table 5). Separate panels indicate which species 'phenotype' the gene set was enriched in. 320 321 Color indicates the FDR Q-value (FDR < 25% indicates significance in this analysis). Size indicates the 322 log(count) of genes included in the enriched gene set. B) Enrichment plots of significant pathways from 323 GSEA for a subset of panel A. The green line indicates the running enrichment score for each gene in the 324 gene set as the analysis moves down the ranked list of genes. The enrichment score for the gene set is the peak of this curve and an (*) indicates significantly enriched. The bottom panel is the ranked order of the 325 326 genes and shows their location within that ranked set of genes. Left side of plot (and red/left portion of 327 ranked order plot below) indicates human enrichment, while the opposite (right/blue) indicates 328 chimpanzee enrichment. Full results in SI Table 5.

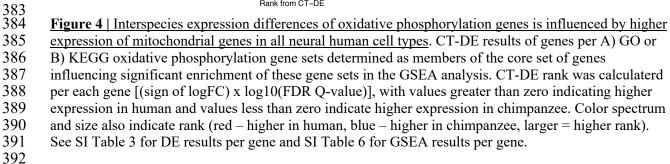
potential functional differences in oxidative phosphorylation between species. We mapped the CT-DE
 rank of the core enriched genes for GO (Figure 4A) and KEGG (Figure 4B) oxidative phosphorylation
 genes.

333 The core set of genes in GO and KEGG oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) gene sets included 334 genes for subunits of cytochrome c oxidase (the nuclear-encoded COX411, COX6B2, COX7B, and 335 COX7C and the mitochondrially-encoded MT-CO1, MT-CO2, and MT-CO3) as well as those that aid in 336 cytochrome c oxidase assembly (COX10 and COX11) (Figure 4A, B; SI Table 6). Cytochrome C oxidase 337 is the terminal complex in the electron transport chain and is crucial to maintaining a proton gradient 338 across the inner mitochondrial membrane for ATPase to synthesize ATP. These genes are of particular 339 interest, because within anthropoids, genes encoding the subunits of cytochrome c oxidase show an 340 accelerated rate of evolution in their sequences compared with any other placental mammals (Preuss, 341 2012). Here, we see a cell type by species divergence in cytochrome c oxidase gene expression, where 342 most of these genes exhibit higher expression in human neurons (Figure 4A). There is also a clear trend of 343 mitochondrially-encoded genes that function in OXPHOS having significantly higher expression in 344 human cells, including those for cytochrome c oxidase subunits (MT-CO1, MT-CO2, MT-CO3), but also 345 mitochondrially-encoded ATP synthase (MT-ATP6) and mitochondrially-encoded subunits of the 346 NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase core of electron transport chain complex I (MT-ND2, MT-ND3, MT-347 ND5, and MT-ND6) (Figure 4A).

348 A major difference between the GO and KEGG OXPHOS gene sets is that the KEGG OXPHOS 349 set includes vacuolar-ATPase (V-ATPase) genes, whose major role is in acidification of intracellular 350 organelles, and have an important function in synaptic vesicle proton gradient formation and maintenance 351 (Maxson & Grinstein, 2014; Pamarthy, Kulshrestha, Katara, & Beaman, 2018). There is an intriguing 352 pattern of enrichment for higher expression of subunits of V-ATPases in a cell type by species manner 353 (Figure 4). Three genes for subunits of vacuolar ATPases (ATP6V0C, ATP6V0D1, and ATP6V1C2) are 354 core enriched genes in the KEGG OXPHOS gene set and are significantly enriched in CT-DE with higher 355 expression in chimpanzee NPCs and astrocytes, but not neurons (Figure 4B). Furthermore, only one of

356	these vacuolar-ATPase genes is DE in a SPxCT manner (ATP6V1C2) (Figure 4B). However, several
357	other V-ATPase subunit genes are core enriched only in human neurons (Figure 4B), most notably
358	ATPV1E2 and ATPV0E2, both of which are core enriched and significantly differentially expressed in
359	human neurons. This shows that V-ATPases exhibit significant DE between humans and chimpanzees,
360	and that human neurons are distinct in V-ATPase gene expression from chimpanzee NPCs and astrocytes.
361	Given the important function of V-ATPases in synaptic vesicle formation for neurotransmitter signaling,
362	this may imply an important functional change in humans specifically in neurons.
363	
364	Interspecies differential expression of important metabolite transporter genes in neurons and
365	astrocytes
366	It is widely accepted that neurons exhibit limited glycolytic capacity and that astrocytes respond to signals
367	associated with increased synaptic signaling by increasing glucose uptake and subsequent aerobic
368	glycolysis of glucose to produce lactate to be used as energy source by neurons (reviewed in Magistretti
369	& Allaman, 2015; Pellerin & Magistretti, 1994). For this reason, we were interested in investigating if
370	there were interspecies gene expression differences in lactate transport, particularly in neurons and
371	astrocytes. We performed GSEA using glucose and lactate transport pathways. The GO gene set 'lactate
372	transmembrane transport' was enriched in chimpanzee neurons and astrocytes, showing that genes
373	involved in lactate transport are more highly expressed in these mature cell types than NPCs (SI Figure
374	11A). Several genes in this gene set are for proton-linked monocarboxylate transporters that transport
375	pyruvate and lactate (SLC16A11, SLC16A12, SLC16A13, and SLC16A6) that are all core enriched in
376	neurons and astrocytes (SI Figure 11A). SLC6A11 and SLC16A13 are also differentially expressed in
377	SPxCT ANOVA-like DE as well as an CT-DE manner, though SLC16A13 is not in astrocytes (SI Figure
378	11A). The enrichment for the lactate transmembrane transport gene set in chimpanzee neurons and
379	astrocytes and the corresponding DE of specific pyruvate and transporter genes between species' may
380	suggest that chimpanzee neurons and astrocytes have the capacity to shuttle pyruvate and lactate at a
381	higher rate than human neurons and astrocytes.
202	





393	In addition to lactate transmembrane transport enrichments, the glucose transport gene set was
394	significantly enriched in human neurons and astrocytes (Figure 3). There were two hexokinase genes
395	(<i>HK1</i> and <i>HK2</i>) core enriched in this gene set that demonstrate lower expression in chimpanzee NPCs but
396	higher expression in human astrocytes (SI Figure 11B), though only HK2 is significantly upregulated in
397	human astrocytes by CT-DE analysis (SI Figure 11B). G6PC3 may not be significantly differentially
398	expressed in any particular cell type, but it is in the SPxCT DE comparison and does show insignificant
399	but consistently higher expression in all chimpanzee cell types (SI Figure 11B). SLC2A3 is a facilitative
400	glucose transporter across the cell membrane, and here, it exhibits core enrichment in all three human cell
401	types by the GSEA leading edge analysis, as well as moderately (though non-significant) higher
402	expression in human (SI Figure 11B). The enrichments of glucose transport in human neurons and
403	astrocytes appears to be influenced by increased expression of plasma membrane associated glucose
404	transporters (e.g. SLC2A3) and enzymes that function in the earlier steps of glycolysis (HK1, HK2,
405	<i>G6PC3</i>).
406	
407	A subset of genes exhibiting significantly higher expression in human astrocytes also have signs of
408	positive selection in their promoter regions
409	In order to begin to probe whether expression differences between species are influenced by
410	selective pressures, we obtained synonymous (dS) and nonsynonymous (dN) nucleotide mutation rates
411	from Ensembl (Kersey et al., 2017; Schneider et al., 2017) and compared the rate of change (dN/dS) for

412 different groups of iPSC-derived neural cell expressed genes. A dN/dS > 1 indicates putative evidence of

413 positive selection in coding regions (Herrero et al., 2016). As predicted, the vast majority of all the genes

414 identified as expressed in these cells did not exhibit a dN/dS > 1 (SI Figure 12). Only few genes DE

415 between species in iPSC-derived astrocytes (n=6), neurons (n=6), and NPCs (n=11) exhibit signs of

416 coding selection (dN/dS > 1) (SI Table 7, SI Figure 12). The gene *HRC* (histidine rich calcium binding

- 417 protein) exhibits positive selection and is significantly DE between species in NPCs, but not astrocytes,
- 418 and is not expressed at all in neurons (SI Table 7). Three genes (DCTN6, HHLA3, DBNDD2) have a

419 dN/dS > 1 and showed significantly DE in all three cell types (SI Table 7). However, there is no 420 commonality in these genes to suggest any meaningful impact on gene expression differences or in 421 specific cell types. This is likely due, in part, to the limitations of the methods used for probing coding 422 sequences, rather than those in non-coding, *cis*-regulatory changes, which previous studies have 423 demonstrated are critical for significant differences in expression in primate brains (Babbitt et al., 2010; 424 Bauernfeind et al., 2015; Haygood et al., 2007). 425 To further probe for signs of selective pressure in non-coding regions, we tested the promoter 426 regions of aerobic glycolysis genes that were expressed in our samples. Thirteen of 156 aerobic glycolysis 427 genes exhibited signs of positive selection (SI Table 8). These included two V-ATPase component 428 proteins (ATP6V1G1 and ATP6V1H), four nucleoporins (NUP85, NUP54, NUP214, and NUP107), a 429 subunit of the NADH dehydrogenase complex of the ETC (*NDUFA4*), cyclin B1 (*CCNB1*), an RNA 430 binding protein (*RAE1*), and two glycolysis genes, glucokinase regulator (*GCKR*) and hexokinase (*HK1*). 431 Interestingly, though all of these genes were expressed to some degree in all three cell types and in both 432 species (with the exception of GCKR), they were only ever significantly differentially expressed between 433 species in astrocytes (n=4 DE in astrocytes; SI Table 8). Of these four genes that were significantly DE 434 between species and under positive selection include CCNB1, NDUFA4, and NUP85 were more highly 435 expressed in human astrocytes, while *SLC16A11* was more highly expression in chimpanzee astrocytes. 436 Of note, GCKR is only expressed in astrocytes, with significantly higher expression in chimpanzee (SI 437 Table 8). Significant results from this test suggest regulatory elements that control expression of these 438 genes may be under selection in humans. Significant results from this analysis support selection in genes 439 involved in metabolic processes in humans.

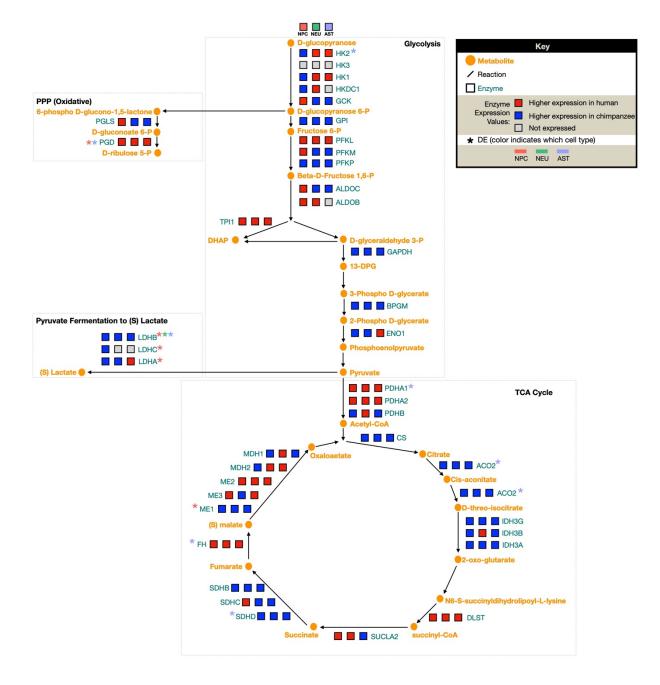
440

441 Differences in the aerobic glycolysis genes are primarily in NPCs and astrocytes but not neurons

442 In order to obtain a more comprehensive, pathway-level understanding of altered expression of 443 aerobic glycolysis in iPSC-derived neural cells between humans and chimpanzees, we reconstructed a 444 signaling network diagram of enzymes involved in four sub-pathways involved in aerobic glycolysis

445 (glycolysis, pentose phosphate pathway, pyruvate conversion to lactate, and the citric acid (TCA) cycle) 446 from the HumanCyC database (P. Romero et al., 2005) (Figure 5). We then mapped discrete expression 447 values (higher in human, higher in chimpanzee, not expressed) for each of these enzymes in all three cell 448 types onto the pathway diagram to illustrate which species the enzymes were more highly expressed in 449 and if they were significantly differentially expressed between species. From this, we see dynamic 450 changes in expression across aerobic glycolysis sub-pathways, with no significant shift towards higher 451 expression of enzymes in one species or cell type at any of these sub-pathways (Figure 5). Aerobic 452 glycolysis enzymes exhibiting interspecies DE in NPCs were PGD, LDHA, LDHB, LDHC, and ME1, 453 enzymes demonstrating DE in astrocytes were PGD, HK2, PDHA1, FH, ACO2, and SDHD, and only a 454 single enzyme exhibited interspecies DE in neurons (LDHB) (Figure 5). This shows that NPCs and 455 astrocytes, but not neurons, exhibit the vast majority of significant differences in expression of enzymes 456 in these pathways (Figure 5). The majority of these genes were expressed in all cell types, particularly 457 those that exhibited significant DE in NPCs or astrocytes, so this lack of DE in neurons is not simply due 458 to cell-type specific expression differences (SI Figure 13). Human and chimpanzee astrocytes appear to 459 diverge at the stage of pyruvate utilization, where human astrocytes exhibit significantly higher 460 expression of *PDHA1*, which converts pyruvate into acetyl-coA whereas chimpanzee astrocytes show 461 significantly higher expression of LDHB, which converts pyruvate into lactate rather than acetyl-coA 462 (Figure 5). Interestingly, *LDHB* is also the only enzyme in these pathways exhibiting differential 463 expression between species in neurons. Other LDH isoforms (LDHC and LDHA) also exhibit significant 464 interspecies DE, with higher expression in chimpanzee NPCs. All chimpanzee neural cell types differ 465 from human chimpanzees for LDH expression, but chimpanzee NPCs differ from human NPCs in 466 expression levels of multiple LDH isoforms. This pathway level consideration of expression differences 467 between species suggests significant changes in aerobic glycolysis enzyme activity primarily in NPCs and 468 astrocytes and an interspecies divergence in pyruvate utilization. 469

470



- 471 472 Figure 5 | Divergence in pyruvate utilization between species' astrocytes. We constructed a focal set of 473 aerobic glycolysis signaling pathways in order to contextualize our DE results in the framework of a 474 network signaling. A diagram of the major pathways involved in aerobic glycolysis (glycolysis, pentose 475 phosphate pathway (PPP), lactate conversion from pyruvate, and TCA cycle). For each enzyme in the 476 pathway, three blocks indicate expression of this enzyme in each cell type – left to right: NPCs, neurons,
- 477 astrocytes. Color indicates level of expression (higher in human (red), higher in chimpanzee (blue), not
- 478 expressed in this cell type (grey)).
- 479

480 **DISCUSSION**

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483 Our novel approach using iPSCs allowed us to investigate rare neural cell types from primates to 484 determine cell type specific metabolic changes necessary to support evolution of the human brain. Our 485 results demonstrate that interspecies divergence in gene expression is more conserved in neurons and 486 significantly greater between species' astrocytes. Differential expression between species' cell types is 487 enriched for metabolic processes related to cellular respiration. This finding is similar to that of previous 488 studies of differential expression between human and chimpanzee whole brain tissue (Haygood et al., 489 2007; Kosiol et al., 2008; Uddin et al., 2008), and our results suggest this is driven primarily by higher 490 expression of metabolic genes in human cells. However, there were some interesting examples of 491 potential tradeoffs in expression patterns of specific genes and pathways in a cell-type by species manner. 492 We determined that human neurons and astrocytes are enriched for higher expression of glucose transport 493 proteins while chimpanzee neurons and astrocytes exhibit higher expression of lactate transmembrane 494 transport genes and that there are dynamic interspecies changes in expression of nuclear- and 495 mitochondrially-encoded subunits of the protein complexes important for oxidative phosphorylation. Our 496 study demonstrates the utility of iPSC-derived cells for better understanding evolution of gene expression 497 in primate brains. 498 Previous work has determined several significant differences in expression of cellular respiration 499 pathways and evidence of differential selective pressure associated with metabolic genes (both noncoding 500 and coding) between human and chimpanzee brains (Goldberg et al., 2003; Grossman et al., 2001; 501 Grossman et al., 2004; Hüttemann et al., 2012; Uddin et al., 2008; Wildman et al., 2002; Wu et al., 1997). 502 However, the heterogenous nature of brain tissue has complicated drawing conclusions about the

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contribution of specific cell types to this trajectory of elevated metabolic expression in human brains.

Specifically, there is a long-standing question about the sole influence of greater neuron numbers in

human brains (Herculano-Houzel, 2011) on the observed increase in glucose utilization (Hofman, 1983;

Mink et al., 1981). Our approach allowed us to further investigate the cell-type specific contributions to

507 long-understood differences in brain metabolic capacity. Because our methods of determining significant 508 differences in gene expression do not rely on number of cells or absolute quantity of transcripts, we are 509 able to conclude that there are cell-type specific contributions to altered metabolic gene expression 510 between species' neural cell types, and that sheer number of cells alone likely does not fully explain 511 metabolic differences between human and chimpanzee brains. We found that astrocytes display the 512 greatest proportion of interspecies difference in metabolic gene expression and that neuronal gene 513 expression actually appears to be more conserved across species. Our results demonstrate that, in light of 514 the relatively recent discovery of cell-type specific metabolic differences between neurons and astrocytes, 515 investigation of differences in brain metabolism among primates and the evolutionary processes that 516 shaped them would indeed be incomplete without the consideration of all neural cell types, not just 517 neurons. This suggests that astrocyte-mediated differences in metabolic brain function may be an 518 important mechanism by which the ultimate evolutionary trajectory of human brain evolution has 519 occurred.

520 Human cells show increased capacity for glucose transport, via greater expression of glucose 521 transporters, in the mature neural cell types investigated here. This may imply that the observed 522 differences in glucose utilization of the human brain extend beyond development and may play an 523 important role in more mature neurons and astrocytes for either energy or macromolecule production. 524 Furthermore, lactose dehydrogenase (LDH) isoforms favor differential affinities for interconverting 525 pyruvate and lactate. LDHB favors the production of lactate into pyruvate (Almad et al., 2016; 526 Bauernfeind & Babbitt, 2014), and is significantly differentially expressed with higher expression in 527 chimpanzee for all cell types. This coupled with higher expression of lactate transporters in chimpanzee 528 astrocytes suggests that chimpanzee cells may be favoring production and transport of lactate at a higher 529 rate than all human neural cell types tested. This opposing enrichment for elevated glucose transport in 530 mature human neural cell types in comparison to elevated lactate transport and conversion to pyruvate in 531 mature chimpanzee cells raises some intriguing questions about metabolic trade-offs between human and 532 chimpanzee brains. If we presume that the direction of change in metabolic gene expression is on the

533 human lineage, and we do have some evidence from signs of positive selection on glucose and energetic 534 metabolism coding and non-coding genes within primates with proximity to humans (Goldberg et al., 535 2003; Grossman et al., 2001; Grossman et al., 2004; Hüttemann et al., 2012; Uddin et al., 2008), then 536 perhaps an increase in glucose uptake in human brains has allowed for a decrease in expression of genes 537 that convert and shuttle lactate (via LDH and lactate transporters) to produce pyruvate. Previous studies 538 have found lineage-dependent differences in enrichments for metabolic pathways in genes DE between 539 primate brain regions, with greater glucose and carbohydrate metabolism in humans but higher glycogen 540 and acyl-CoA metabolism in chimpanzees (Haygood et al., 2007; Kosiol et al., 2008; Uddin et al., 2008). 541 The increase in LDH and lactate transport in chimpanzee neurons and astrocytes may be an important 542 cell-type specific mechanism contributing to findings of significant metabolic differences in previous 543 studies of whole brain tissue.

544 Human neural cells were enriched at the pathway level for oxidative phosphorylation genes, and 545 within that pathway, there were some interesting examples of opposing enrichment for subunits of 546 oxidative phosphorylation protein complexes. We observed increased expression and enrichment for 547 components of cytochrome c oxidase, which previous studies have determined genes involved in this 548 complex to be under positive selection (Goldberg et al., 2003). However, we expand on the knowledge of 549 interspecies differences in cellular respiration complex expression by determining that these components 550 are more highly expressed in all human cell types investigated, and particularly in human neurons (Figure 551 4A). We also observed higher expression for subunits of other electron transport chain complexes, 552 including ATP-synthase and the NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase components of complex I. This cell-553 type by species approach also allowed for us to determine that human neurons and chimpanzee NPCs and 554 astrocytes have higher expression for genes involved in vacuolar-ATPase function. We also determined 555 that two V-ATPase genes exhibit signs of positive selection in their coding regions, though neither were 556 differentially expressed between species. Our findings that V-ATPases are significantly differentially 557 expressed between humans and chimpanzees suggests that human neurons are distinct in V-ATPase gene 558 expression from chimpanzee NPCs and astrocytes. Given the important function of V-ATPases in

559 synaptic vesicle formation for neurotransmitter signaling, this may be an mechanism by which human-560 specific changes in neuronal signaling has occurred.

561 Our investigation into the overlap of signatures of positive selection in coding regions of genes 562 exhibiting interspecies DE revealed very little new or intriguing information. This is likely due at least in 563 part to the limited scope of the current methods for searching for positive selection. The dN and dS scores 564 obtained from Ensembl for use in this analysis were averages across all sites in a given gene, thus 565 minimizing significant changes at specific sites (Yang, 2007). Our investigation of non-coding regulatory 566 regions of genes in oxidative phosphorylation and glycolysis pathways found several genes to be under 567 positive selection to varying degrees in humans, with some overlap with previous reports (Haygood et al., 568 2010) though there were some noticeable differences. For example, glucose-6-phosphate isomerase 569 (GPI), which has been determined to be under positive selection in its non-coding promoter region in 570 previous studies (Haygood et al., 2007), did not exhibit interspecies DE in any of these cell types. 571 However, we did find evidence of positive selection in promotors of several aerobic glycolysis genes in 572 the human lineage. Interestingly, we see that aerobic glycolysis genes exhibiting positive selection in 573 promoter sequences were only significantly differentially expressed between species in astrocytes, not 574 NPCs or neurons. Hexokinase and glucokinase both function in the conversion of glucose to glucose-6-575 phosphate, thus playing an early role in glycolysis. We found that there are significant expression 576 differences in these key genes between species' astrocytes. Human astrocytes significantly upregulate 577 *HK1* while chimpanzee astrocytes significantly upregulate glucokinase regulator (*GCKR*), which also 578 exhibits positive selection in its promoter. This suggests that there is an evolved difference in the initial 579 processing of glucose during glycolysis in an astrocyte-mediated manner, in addition to interspecies 580 differences in the expression of glucose transporters. We also found evidence of adaptive divergent 581 astrocyte glycolytic activity between species' for utilizing pyruvate. In addition to the difference in 582 pyruvate conversion enzymes and lactate transmembrane shuttling, we found evidence of positive 583 selection on the human lineage and a significant increase in expression in chimpanzee astrocytes of 584 SLC16A11, which functions in catalyzing transport of pyruvate across the plasma membrane. These

585 results are intriguing in that they demonstrate that evidence of positive selection in the human lineage and 586 divergent gene expression in genes involved in pyruvate processing and transport. These positive 587 selection analyses further corroborate that there are significant differences in glycolytic gene expression 588 between species' astrocytes at initial steps in glycolysis as well as pyruvate utilization. Combined, this 589 supports the evolution of metabolism in the human brain. Future investigations of the overlap between 590 genes exhibiting DE in a cell-type specific manner and signatures of positive selection should utilize 591 methods that allow for branch and site models that are more effective at determining positive selection in 592 a lineage-specific manner (e.g HyPhy for non-coding and coding regions) (Haygood et al., 2007; Horvath 593 et al., 2014; Muntané et al., 2014; Pond, Frost, & Muse, 2004).

594 Our focal analysis of aerobic glycolysis enzyme expression yielded several important findings. We 595 show that there is not a consistent single species skew in expression levels for any of the sub-pathways in 596 aerobic glycolysis (e.g. all glycolysis enzymes exhibited higher expression in one species or another, with 597 no change in genes involved in TCA or lactate shuttling). The lack of significant DE between species in 598 neurons for aerobic glycolysis enzymes demonstrates the importance of studying cell types other than 599 neurons when investigating human brain evolution, and suggests that astrocytes may indeed be critical for 600 the evolution of the metabolically demanding human brain. We also found that it is not simply the lack of 601 glycolytic capacity of neurons (Almeida et al., 2004; Herrero-Mendez et al., 2009; Sonntag et al., 2017) 602 that contributes to cell-type specific signaling disparities, at least in a comparative manner, because the 603 majority of interspecies differentially expressed genes were expressed to some degree in all cell types. 604 Perhaps the most intriguing finding is the interspecies divergence in processing pyruvate. Humans exhibit 605 significantly higher expression of *PDHA1* than chimpanzees do, indicative of a functionally relevant 606 increase in conversion of pyruvate into acetyl-CoA and further utilization of the products of glycolysis for 607 energy production, while chimpanzee astrocytes exhibit expression phenotypes suggestive of greater 608 lactate production (higher expression of *LDH*, which converts pyruvate to lactate) as well as enrichment 609 for greater lactate transmembrane transport in chimpanzee neural cell types (higher expression of lactate 610 transmembrane transporters). This suggests that chimpanzee neural cells, and most prominently

611 astrocytes, have a significantly greater capacity to convert pyruvate into lactate and then shuttle it across 612 membranes than human astrocytes do. These analyses suggest significant interspecies changes in aerobic 613 glycolysis enzyme activity primarily in NPCs and astrocytes and an interspecies divergence in pyruvate 614 utilization. Previous work has shown a shift from aerobic glycolysis in NPCs to oxidative 615 phosphorylation in more mature neurons (Zheng et al., 2016), but this study is the first of our knowledge 616 to compare across species and include astrocytes. More generally, we see that astrocytes exhibit the 617 greatest degree of expression difference between species than the other cell types while neuronal gene 618 expression is more conserved. A recent investigation of multiple brain regions from human, chimpanzee, 619 bonobo, and macaque using single-cell RNA-seq also found that astrocytes were one of the cell types 620 exhibiting the greatest expression differences in humans (Khrameeva et al., 2020). This increased 621 variation in interspecies gene expression in astrocytes suggests that previously observed differences in 622 whole brain gene expression may be due astrocyte-specific changes to a larger degree than previously 623 thought, and that this is a crucial cell type to consider when investigating human-specific brain gene 624 expression has evolved.

625 Evolved differences in metabolic investment may be the basis for a number of primate-specific 626 phenotypes, including those that are unique to humans, (e.g. slow reproduction and long lifespan 627 (Charnov & Berrigan, 1993; Pontzer et al., 2014; Snodgrass, Leonard, & Robertson, 2007)). Our results 628 provide insight into the metabolic changes that were necessary to support evolution of the human brain. 629 We have demonstrated a significant interspecies divergence in aerobic glycolytic gene expression in 630 astrocytes, suggesting that this traditionally understudied glial cell type likely contributes to the tissue-631 level shifts in gene expression and that astrocytes play an important role in the evolution of the 632 metabolically expensive human brain. A potential challenge in cell-type specific studies of interspecies 633 differences in brain gene expression is the loss of intercellular signaling between different cell types, a 634 hallmark of synaptic signaling in whole tissue. Furthermore, the astrocyte-neuron lactate shuttle links the 635 complementary metabolic needs of astrocytes and neurons (reviewed in Magistretti & Allaman, 2015; 636 Pellerin & Magistretti, 1994). Future studies of gene expression differences with controlled levels of

637 intercellular signaling by building in complexity (e.g. interspecies differences in expression of single cell

638 types compared to that of co-cultured iPSC-derived neurons and astrocytes) could further inform

639 interspecies differences in neuronal gene expression.

640

641 MATERIALS AND METHODS

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644 SAMPLES AND CELL CULTURE: Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) from three individuals (cell 645 lines) per species (human and chimpanzee) were cultured in defined, iPSC-specific media mTeSR1 646 (STEMCELL, Vancouver, Canada). These cell lines were originally obtained as fibroblasts from 647 minimally invasive skin biopsies, reprogrammed into iPSCs, and have been extensively validated for their 648 pluripotency and differentiation abilities (Blake et al., 2018; Burrows et al., 2016; Eres et al., 2019; 649 Pavlovic et al., 2018; I. G. Romero et al., 2015; Ward & Gilad, 2019; Ward et al., 2018). Three cell lines 650 per species, representing three male individuals, were used (SI Table 1). To investigate differences 651 between human and chimpanzee neural cell types, we induced iPSCs from each species first into 652 multipotent, neural-lineage committed neural progenitor cells (NPCs) using STEMdiff Neural Induction 653 Medium in monolayer for three passages (21-28 days), as per manufacturer's instructions (STEMCELL 654 Technologies, Vancouver, Canada). Successful transition of iPSCs into NPCs was determined using 655 immunofluorescence for the absence of the stem-cell marker OCT4 and presence of the NPC-marker 656 PAX6 (Figure 1A). NPCs were then expanded into three subsets: one for RNA collection, and two for 657 further differentiation and maturation into neurons and astrocytes. We then differentiated NPCs into 658 mature neurons and astrocytes using the neuron and astrocyte specific STEMdiff differentiation and 659 maturation kits as recommend by the manufacturer. Briefly, we differentiated NPCs using the STEMdiff 660 Neuron Differentiation Medium for one week and then matured them using the STEMdiff Neuron 661 Maturation Medium for two weeks. Similarly, we differentiated NPCs using the STEMdiff Astrocyte 662 Differentiation Medium for three weeks and then matured them using the STEMdiff Astrocyte Maturation 663 Medium for two weeks. All cells were validated for cell type via immunofluorescence prior to harvesting

664	as follows: NPCs for PAX6+/OCT4- (Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank, Iowa City, IA), neurons
665	for neuron-specific class III β -tubulin (TUJ1; Neuromics, Edina, MN), and astrocytes for GFAP (Sigma
666	Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), according to manufacturer's suggestions (SI Figure 1). All mature iPSC-derived
667	cells for each cell type were harvested at similar timepoints: NPCs at passage 5-6 post-induction from
668	iPSCs, mature neurons at passage 3-4 and mature astrocytes at passage 5-6 post-differentiation from
669	NPCs and subsequent maturation (SI Table 1). We used edgeR (Robinson et al., 2010) to normalize our
670	raw counts across all samples and visualized these data using a multidimensional scaling (MDS) plot of
671	all of the expressed genes (Figure 1B).
672	LIBRARY PREPARATION AND SEQUENCING: Total RNA was extracted from cells (1-2 wells, 6
673	well plate) using an RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany), including a DNase step to remove
674	residual DNA. Total RNA was analyzed for quality using the Bioanalyzer RNA 6000 Nano kit (Agilent,
675	Santa Clara, CA) with RNA Integrity Numbers (RINs) for all samples between 8.3-10 (SI Table 1).
676	Using the NEBNext Poly(A) Magnetic mRNA Isolation Kit (NEB), mRNA was isolated from intact total
677	RNA, and cDNA libraries were made from each sample using the NEBNext RNA Ultra II Library Prep
678	Kit for Illumina (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA). Barcoded samples were sequenced using the
679	Illumina NextSeq 500 (Illumina, San Diego, CA) platform at the Genomics Resource Core Facility
680	(Institute for Applied Life Sciences, UMass Amherst) to produce 75 base pair single-end reads, yielding a
681	minimum of 32 million reads per sample.
682	READ MAPPING AND QUANTIFICATION: Quality-filtered reads were aligned to respective species'
683	most recent ENSEMBL genome (Homo sapiens GRCh38 and Pan troglodytes PanTro3.0 (Kersey et al.,
684	2017; Schneider et al., 2017)) with Bowtie2 (Langmead & Salzberg, 2012) using default 'local'
685	parameters for gapped alignments, with a minimum alignment percentage of \geq 98.84% (SI Table 1). HT-
686	Seq (Anders, Pyl, & Huber, 2015) was used to quantify counts per gene for each sample, using
687	ENSEMBL gene transfer files (GTFs) corresponding to the same genome build used for alignment (Aken
688	et al., 2016). High quality, one-to-one orthologs from <i>P. troglodytes</i> were matched to the ENSEMBL

human reference set of genes using biomaRt (Kinsella et al., 2011), yielding 15,284 genes identified as

690 expressed in at least one sample. All data are available in FASTQ format in the National Center for

- 691 Biotechnology Information's (NCBI) Short Read Archive (SRA) with accession number PRJNA665853
- 692 (publicly available upon publication). A link for reviewers' pre-publication can be found here:
- 693 https://dataview.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/object/PRJNA665853?reviewer=hobvb5i4ejtpt0jp6r9r29e372.
- 694 <u>CLUSTERING ANALYSES</u>: We used clustering analyses to determine the variation among our iPSC-
- 695 derived samples as well as in comparison to previously published, publicly available data from other
- tissues and cell types. For our iPSC-derived samples, we used the R package edgeR (Robinson et al.,
- 697 2010) to filter out lowly-expressed genes (counts per million (CPM) > 1 in 12/17 samples), resulting in
- 698 10,715 orthologous genes, and produced an MDS plot of our samples (Figure 1B). The greatest influence
- on our samples is species along PC1 and PC2, followed by separation of immature NPCs cells from
- 700 mature cell types (neurons and astrocytes) along PC2 (Figure 1B). Notably, human samples were more
- variable than chimpanzee samples. One human cell line (H20961) showed significant variation across all
- cell types (SI Figures 2-4), however, the H20961 NPC sample was consistently an outlier, grouping
- 703 outside of NPCs of either species, and was removed from subsequent analyses. There are no overt
- technical differences influencing this out-grouping (e.g. individual sex or age, RNA or cDNA library
- quality, read number, alignment percentages, SI Table 1). This cell line has successfully been used in
- before in other differentiation studies with no overtly different characteristics (Blake et al., 2018; Burrows
 et al., 2016; Eres et al., 2019; Pavlovic et al., 2018; I. G. Romero et al., 2015; Ward & Gilad, 2019; Ward
- 708 et al., 2018).

To compare our samples to previously published data from cells and tissues, we downloaded raw RNA-Seq reads from the NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) (Edgar, Domrachev, & Lash, 2002) and processed them from raw read counts through HT-Seq and orthologous gene matching in the same manner as our iPSC-derived samples. To compare our samples to those from primary neural cell types, we used RNA-Seq data from primary neurons and astrocytes obtained from four hippocampal astrocytes, four cortex astrocytes, and one cortical neuron from (Zhang et al., 2016) (GEO accession number GSE73721) and three pyramidal neuron samples (GEO accession numbers GSM2071331, GSM2071332,

and GSM2071418) isolated from an unspecified brain region by the ENCODE project (Consortium,

717 2012; Davis et al., 2018). We also downloaded the tissue-level data from Brawand et al., (2011)

718 (Brawand et al., 2011) from human and chimpanzee brain regions and non-neuronal tissue (heart, kidney,

- 719 liver) (GEO accession number GSE30352) (SI Table 2 for details). Only genes with counts greater than
- 720 zero in all samples were included (n=7,660) and were further filtered to include only those with CPM > 1

in all 23 samples (n=6,124). An MDS plot of normalized counts was generated using edgeR of the top

500 most differentially expressed genes in all samples (SI Figure 5).

723 <u>DIFFERENTIAL GENE EXPRESSION ANALYSES</u>: In order to determine what genes were

significantly differentially expressed in a species by cell type manner using, we used the R package

edgeR's (Robinson et al., 2010) generalize linear model (GLM) functionality with a design matrix

accounting for an interaction between species (SP) and cell type (CT) (referred to as SPxCT DE analysis).

727 We performed an analysis of variance (ANOVA)-like test for differences across all samples. Furthermore,

in order to determine what differences existed between species for each cell type, we performed

729 interspecies pairwise DE comparisons in a similar manner between NPCs, neurons, and astrocytes

730 (referred to as CT-DE analyses). We also used the GLM for these analyses, but did not include more than

one cell type in these analyses in order to include genes that may be cell-type specific. For all analyses,

732 we used edgeR's quasi-likelihood F-test and considered gene expression significantly different at a false

discovery rate (FDR) of less than 5%. Normalization of data in edgeR for DE analyses ensured that DE is

not dependent on original number of cells. All Venn diagrams were created using the R package

735 Vennerable.

736 <u>CATEGORICAL ENRICHMENT ANALYSES</u>: Uninformed pathway enrichment analyses were

737 conducted using genes identified as differentially expressed from each DE comparison using gProfiler

738 (Raudvere et al., 2019) with their functional enrichment tool (g:GOSt). Categorical enrichment analyses

for overrepresented (enriched) and underrepresented (conserved) processes were conducted on all genes

- identified as differentially expressed (FDR < .05%) between species for individual cell types.
- 741 Enrichments with a q-value of < .05 were considered significant.

742 GENE SET ENRICHMENT ANALYSES: In order to investigate which metabolic pathways were 743 enriched in a species' CT, we used Gene Set Enrichment Analyses (GSEA) (Subramanian et al., 2005). 744 We tested for enrichment of 23 *a priori* gene sets from the Molecular Signatures Database (MSigDB) 745 (Liberzon et al., 2011) using the raw counts of the same set of genes used for the CT-DE pairwise 746 comparisons. Gene sets were considered significantly enriched according to suggested thresholds (FDR < 747 25% and nominal p-value < .05) (Subramanian et al., 2005). Leading edge analyses determined a set of 748 core enriched genes that most significantly influenced the enrichment of the gene set per phenotype. 749 SELECTION ANALYSES: In order to determine if genes exhibiting significant interspecies differential 750 expression also had evidence of positive selection in their coding sequences, we used nonsynonymous 751 (dN) and synonymous (dS) nucleotide changes per gene for all genes expressed in iPSC-derived neural 752 cells. These were obtained from Ensembl using biomaRt (Kinsella et al., 2011). These pre-calculated dN 753 and dS values were originally computed by Ensembl using codeml and yn00 of the PAML package to 754 compute dN and dS scores for each species in comparison to human (Herrero et al., 2016). A rate of 755 change was calculated for each gene (dN/dS), where a dN/dS > 1 is indicative of positive selection 756 (Herrero et al., 2016). In order to determine if there was evidence for noncoding selection, we analyzed 757 promoter regions of genes involved in aerobic glycolysis. These genes were selected by downloading 758 genelists from the Molecular Signatures Database (MSigDB) (Liberzon et al., 2011) for GO pathways 759 involved in aerobic glycolysis (glycolysis, pyruvate conversion to lactate or acetyl CoA, TCA cycle, 760 electron transport chain, oxidative phosphorylation) and further subset to those that were expressed in at 761 least one sample (n=156). Signs of positive selection in non-coding regions adjacent to these genes were 762 determined following the procedures outlined in Pizzollo et al., 2018 (Haygood et al., 2007; Pizzollo et 763 al., 2018). Because these analyses are suited for nuclear encoded genes, we excluded mitochondrial-764 encoded genes (n=10). Rhesus macaque (Macaca mulatta) was used as an outgroup. After removing 765 regions without sequences for all three species (human, chimpanzee, and rhesus macaque), we tested for 766 positive selection in the human lineage of a total of 126 aerobic glycolysis genes.

767	NETWORK SCHEMATIC: We constructed a focal set of signaling pathways based upon HumanCyc	(P.

- Romero et al., 2005) in order to contextualize our DE results in the framework of a network signaling,
- and this is the diagram of the major pathways involved in aerobic glycolysis (glycolysis, pentose
- phosphate pathway (PPP), lactate conversion from pyruvate, and TCA cycle) shown in Figure 5. For each
- enzyme in the pathway, three blocks indicate expression of this enzyme in each cell type (left to right):
- 772 NPCs, neurons, astrocytes. Color indicates level of expression (higher in human (red), higher in
- chimpanzee (blue), not expressed in this cell type (grey)).
- 774

775 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

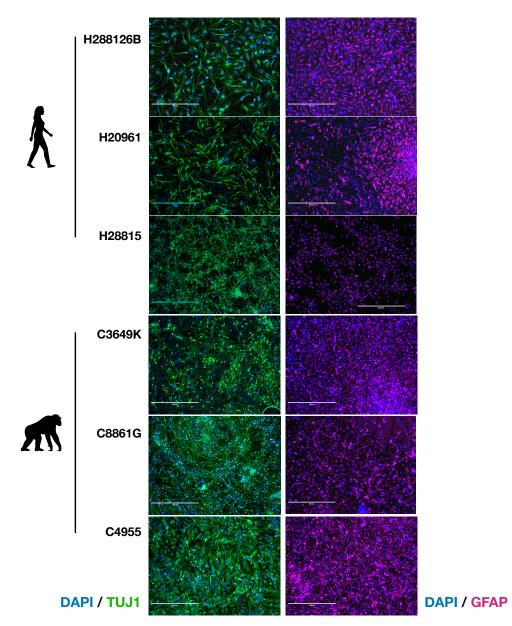
- We would like to thank all members of the Babbitt laboratory for all of their support and feedback. We
- also thank Elena Vazey, Jason Kamilar, and Patricia Wadsworth for their insights and feedback.
- 778

779 COMPETING INTERESTS

780 The authors declare no competing interests.

781 SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES & TABLES

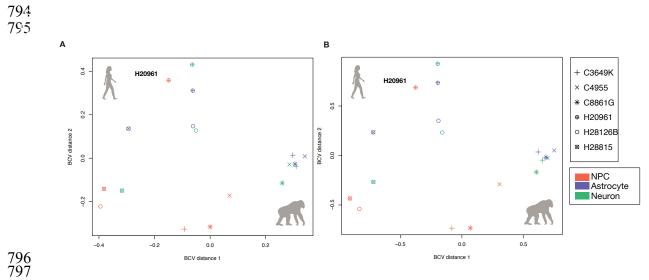
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783 784

SI Figure 1 | Differentiation and maturation of a human and chimpanzee iPSC lines into neural cell types.
 Immunofluorescent validation of matched-by-cell-line iPSC-derived neurons and astrocytes. Left column
 is images of cells immunofluorescently labeled for neuron-specific class III β-tubulin (TUJ1;

- 788 Neuromics), and the right column is images of iPSC-derived astrocytes immunofluorescently labeled for
- 789 GFAP (Sigma Aldrich), according to manufacturer's suggestions. All cells for each cell type were
- harvested at similar timepoints: neurons at passage 3-4 and mature astrocytes at passage 5-6 post-
- 791 differentiation from NPCs (SI Table 1).
- 792
- 793

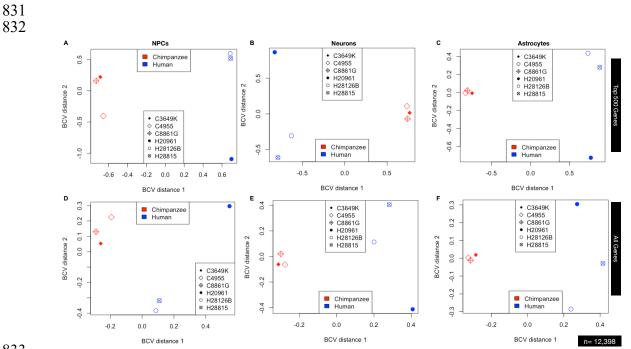




SI Figure 2 | MDS plots of all iPSC-derived samples with shape indicating cell line. The same MDS plots

for A) all genes expressed and B) the top 500 more differentially expressed genes as in main Figure 1C

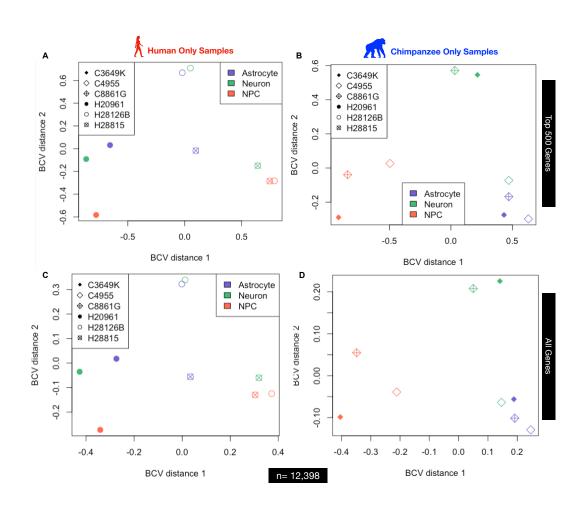
where shape indicates individual cell lines.



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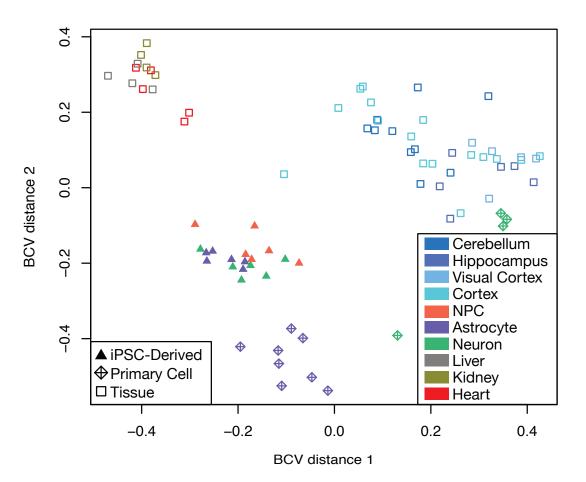
SI Figure 3 | MDS plots of individual cell types (A & D – NPCs, B & E – neurons, C & F – astrocytes). Plots A-C are for the top 500 most differentially expressed genes while plots D-F are for all genes expressed.





857
 858 SI Figure 4 | MDS plots of all A & C) human and B & D) chimpanzee samples by cell type. Plots A & B
 859 are for the top 500 most differentially expressed genes while plots C & D are for all genes expressed.

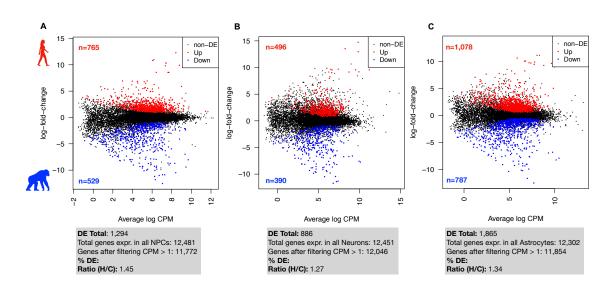




877 SI Figure 5 | Human and chimpanzee iPSC-derived neural cells resemble primary neural cell types and tissue regions more than non-neuronal tissues. A PCoA of the iPSC-derived neural cells in comparison to whole-tissue RNA-Seq from four brain regions (cerebellum, hippocampus, prefrontal cortex, and visual cortex) from human and chimpanzee (3 individuals per species) (Babbitt et al, in prep.), brain and non-neuronal tissue from human and chimpanzee from (Brawand et al., 2011), as well as that from primary neurons and astrocytes (Consortium, 2012; Davis et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2016) obtained from the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) (Edgar et al., 2002) Short Read Archive (SRA) (GEO accession numbers GSE30352, GSE73721, GSM2071331, GSM2071332, and GSM2071418). Label shape indicates the sample source tissue or cell type. Color refers to cell type or brain region.

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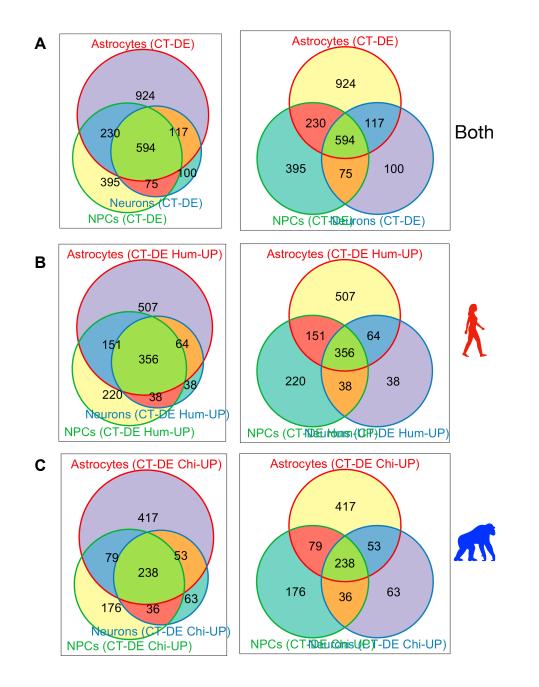






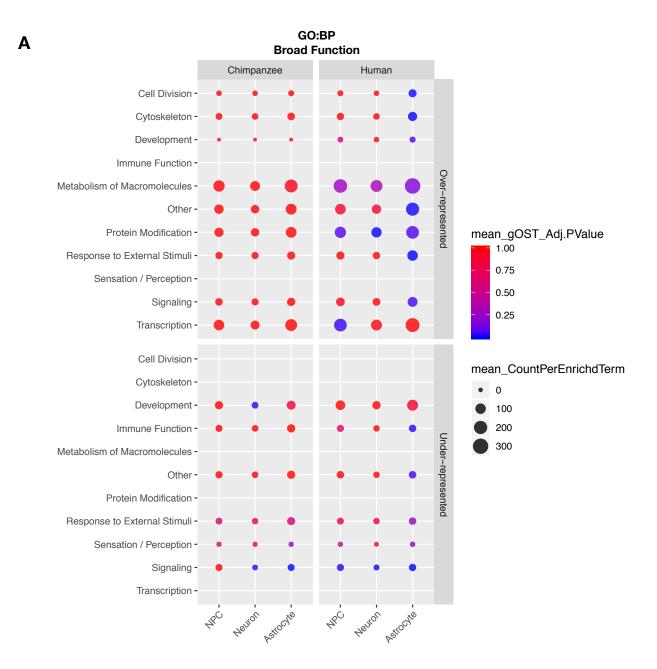
900 SI Figure 6 | Distribution of differentially expressed genes between species for each cell type. MA plots

of expression of all genes (average log CPM, x-axis) by their relative log fold-change (y-axis) from
TopTags tables of pairwise, interspecies CT-DE comparisons made in edgeR for A) NPCs, B) neurons,
and C) astrocytes. Color indicates differential expression status: black – non-DE, red – DE with higher
expression in human, blue – DE with higher expression in chimpanzee). Number of genes identified as
differentially expressed with higher expression in human and indicated in red text; for chimpanzee, in
blue text.



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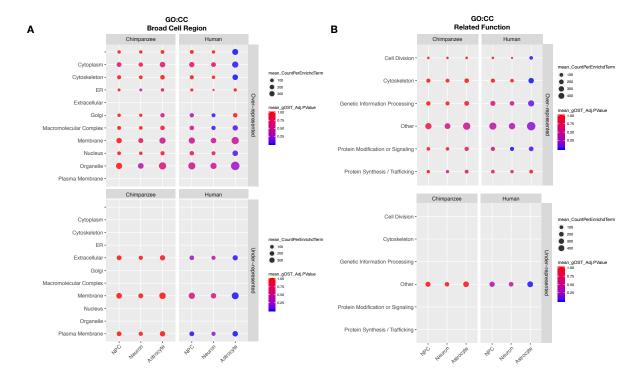
SI Figure 7 | Overlap in interspecies CT-DE genes. Weighted (left column) and unweighted (right column) Venn diagrams made using R package Vennerable of overlap in genes per cell type exhibiting differential expression between species. Venn diagrams are for all CT-DE genes across all CT's (A) and DE genes across all CT-DE comparisons with higher expression in human (B) or chimpanzee (C).



947 SI Figure 8 | GO Biological Process (BP) enrichments. Plots of significantly over-represented (top
948 panels) and under-represented (bottom panels) categories of GO BP terms determined by categorical
949 enrichment analyses in genes with higher expression in chimpanzee (left panel) and human (right panel)
950 for each cell type (x-axis). The categories (y-axis) represent groupings of multiple GO BP terms grouped
951 by their general function. Size indicates the mean count and color indicates the mean adjusted enrichment
952 p-value for all terms in that category.

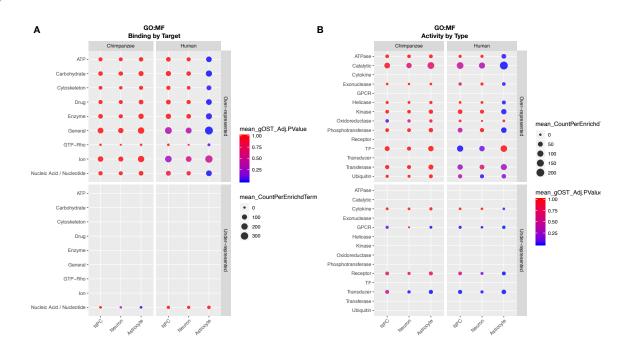
SI Figure 9 | GO Cellular Component (CC) enrichments.





963 SI Figure 9 | GO Cellular Component (CC) enrichments. Plots of significantly over-represented (top panels) and under-represented (bottom panels) categories of GO CC terms determined by categorical enrichment analyses in genes with higher expression in chimpanzee (left panel) and human (right panel) for each cell type (x-axis). The categories (y-axis) represent groupings of multiple GO CC terms grouped by their A) by their broad cell region and B) functions related to the cellular components enriched. Size indicates the mean count and color indicates the mean adjusted enrichment p-value for all terms in that category.

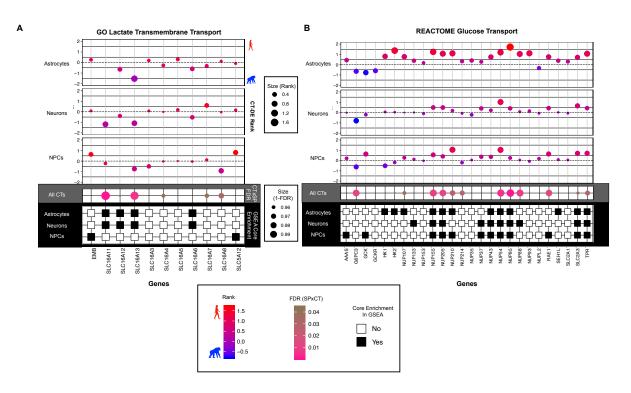
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SI Figure 10 | GO Molecular Function (MF) enrichments. Plots of significantly over-represented (top panels) and under-represented (bottom panels) categories of GO MF terms determined by categorical enrichment analyses in genes with higher expression in chimpanzee (left panel) and human (right panel) for each cell type (x-axis). The categories (y-axis) represent groupings of multiple GO MF terms grouped by their A) binding activity for particular substrates and B) specificity types of molecular activity. Size indicates the mean count and color indicates the mean adjusted enrichment p-value for all terms in that category.

1002



$\begin{array}{c} 1003\\ 1004 \end{array}$

1005 SI Figure 11 | Neurons and astrocytes exhibit contrasting interspecies differences in lactate and glucose

1006 transport. Comparison of genes involved in the A) GO lactate transmembrane transport and B)

1007 REACTOME glucose transport gene sets determined as significantly enriched in one species by GSEA

1008 analyses. Each panel (white, grey, and black) indicates significance per gene for one of the functional

1009 enrichment analyses used (top/white - interspecies DE by cell type (CT-DE); middle/grey - SPxCT 1010 ANOVA-like DE, bottom/black - membership in core enrichment genes of leading edge GSEA analysis).

1011 (Top panel) Plot of CT-DE rank [(sign of logFC) x log10(FDR Q-value)] per each gene (x-axis), with

1012 values greater than zero indicating higher expression in human and values less than zero indicate higher

1013 expression in chimpanzee. Color spectrum and size also indicate rank (red – higher in human, blue –

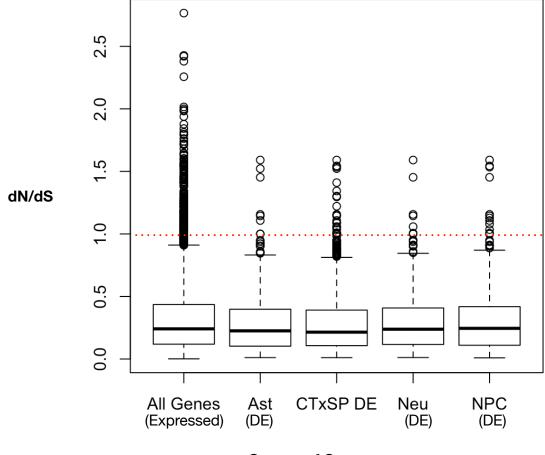
1014 higher in chimpanzee, larger = higher rank). (Dark grev panel) Plot of FDR for each gene in the ANOVA-

1015 like SPxCT DE comparison, where color indicates significance (pink – lower/significant, brown –

1016 higher/non-significant) and size also indicates significance (1-FDR, larger = more significant). (Black

1017 panel) Plot of whether each gene was part of the core set of genes in GSEA leading edge analysis (black -

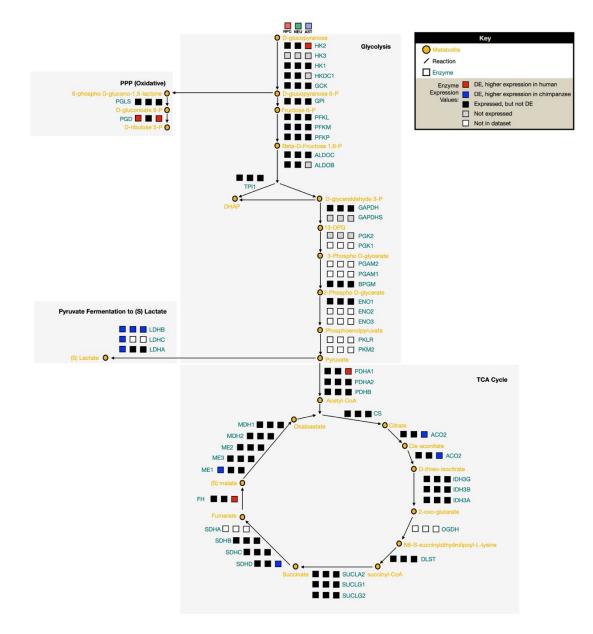
1018 yes, white – no). See SI Table 3 for DE results per gene and SI Table 6 for GSEA results per gene.



Groups of Genes

1022SI Figure 12 | Positive selection in the coding regions of genes expressed in iPSC-derived neural cells. In1023order to determine if genes exhibiting significant interspecies differential expression also had evidence of1024positive selection in their coding sequences, we used nonsynonymous (dN) and synonymous (dS)

1025 nucleotide changes per gene for all genes expressed in iPSC-derived neural cells. A rate of change was calculated for each gene (dN/dS), where a dN/dS > 1 is indicative of positive selection.



 $\begin{array}{c} 1037\\ 1038 \end{array}$

SI Figure 13 | Full expression network of sub-pathways in aerobic glycolysis. We constructed a focal set of aerobic glycolysis signaling pathways in order to contextualize our DE results in the framework of a network signaling. A diagram of the major pathways involved in aerobic glycolysis (glycolysis, pentose phosphate pathway (PPP), lactate conversion from pyruvate, and TCA cycle). For each enzyme in the pathway, three blocks indicate expression of this enzyme in each cell type – left to right: NPCs, neurons, astrocytes. Color indicates level of expression (DE and higher in human (red), DE and higher in chimpanzee (blue), not expressed in this cell type (grey), expressed but not DE (black)).

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