1	Rapid selection response to ethanol in S. eubayanus emulates the domestication
2	process under brewing conditions
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19	S. eubayanus
20	

## 21 ABSTRACT

22 Although the typical genomic and phenotypic changes that characterize the evolution of 23 organisms under the human domestication syndrome represent textbook examples of rapid 24 evolution, the molecular processes that underpin such changes are still poorly understood. 25 Domesticated yeasts for brewing, where short generation times and large phenotypic and genomic plasticity were attained in a few generations under selection, are prime examples. 26 27 To experimentally emulate the lager yeast domestication process, we created a genetically 28 complex (panmictic) artificial population of multiple Saccharomyces eubayanus genotypes, one of the parents of lager yeast. Then we imposed a constant selection regime under a 29 high ethanol concentration in 10 replicated populations during 260 generations (six months) 30 31 and compared them with evolved controls exposed solely to glucose. Evolved populations 32 exhibited a selection differential of 60% in growth rate in ethanol, mostly explained by the proliferation of a single lineage (CL248.1) that competitively displaced all other clones. 33 Interestingly, the outcome does not require the entire time course of adaptation, as four 34 35 lineages monopolized the culture at generation 120. Sequencing demonstrated that de novo 36 genetic variants were produced in all evolved lines, including SNPs, aneuploidies, INDELs, 37 and translocations. In addition, the evolved populations showed correlated responses resembling the domestication syndrome: genomic rearrangements, faster fermentation 38 rates, lower production of phenolic-off flavors and lower volatile compound complexity. 39 40 Expression profiling in beer wort revealed altered expression levels of genes related to methionine metabolism, flocculation, stress tolerance and diauxic shift, likely contributing to 41 42 higher ethanol and fermentation stress tolerance in the evolved populations. Our study 43 shows that experimental evolution can rebuild the brewing domestication process in "fast 44 motion" in wild yeast, and also provides a powerful tool for studying the genetics of the adaptation process in complex populations. 45

## 46 **INTRODUCTION**

Living organisms are continually adapting to changing environments by natural selection, 47 latently harboring the raw genetic variation required for such responses. When new 48 49 conditions arise, adaptation to almost every environmental scenario is possible (e.g., 50 temperature, oxygen and nutrients) [1, 2]. In this context, the genomic analysis of human-51 made populations (i.e., population genomics of domesticated species) is a relatively new 52 matter, and constitutes a promising research approach for the experimental study of 53 evolutionary processes [3]. Nevertheless, studies that search for the causal factors shaping 54 the genetic structure of yeast and fungal populations, such as small nucleotide 55 polymorphisms (SNP), insertions or deletions (INDELS), copy number variation (CNV) and structural variants (SV), are still insufficient to fully characterize the integrated adaptation 56 process to new environments [4]. 57

58 Adaptive evolution in microorganisms is a process that occurs ubiquitously, including in 59 artificial settings where micro-environments are created, and allows the adaptation of populations to defined conditions, driving the evolution process (domestication) [5]. 60 61 Domestication is a stereotyped adaptive process (a "domestication syndrome", see [6, 7]) within a human-created environment, where several characteristics can be tracked and 62 63 defined as 'domestication signatures'. These signatures are present in different fungal 64 species, including Aspergillus oryzae in soy sauce [8], Penicillium molds associated with 65 cheese [9] and S. cerevisiae [10, 11] together with S. pastorianus [12], responsible for beer 66 fermentation. In this context, spore production and viability, metabolic remodeling, changes 67 in volatile compound production, transcriptional re-wiring and faster growth rates are 68 considered key traits and goals of microbe domestication. In the case of brewing, the yeast 69 re-utilization process led to new spontaneous mutations generated during cell division, 70 which, together with selective environmental pressures, such as high ethanol 71 concentrations, selected fitter individuals [13]. Genomic analysis in beer yeast domesticated strains demonstrated the presence of common genetic patterns, such as large genomic
rearrangements, aneuploidies, high heterozygosity levels and infertility, all of which are
hallmarks of the adaptation process [11, 14-16].

75 Two main types of veasts suffered domestication under different brewing settings: S. 76 cerevisiae that ferments ale beers at temperatures near 20 °C, and S. pastorianus that 77 produce lager beers fermented at lower temperatures (8-15 °C) [17]. S. pastorianus is an interspecific hybrid from the cross between S. cerevisiae and the cryotolerant wild yeast S. 78 79 eubayanus [18]. The hybrid nature of S. pastorianus confers a series of competitive advantages in the fermentation environment. likely due to the combination of performance 80 at relatively cold temperatures, efficient sugar uptake and metabolic switching between 81 82 sugar sources [19]. During an intense domestication process over approximately 500 years, 83 lager beers have evolved reduced organoleptic complexity, mainly characterized by the presence of ester compounds and the absence of phenolic off-flavors [20]. This is reflected 84 in the absence of PAD1 and FDC1 in S. pastorianus, genes which are responsible for the 85 synthesis of such off-flavors [21, 22] and present in S. eubayanus. Lager yeast 86 87 domestication is characterized by a reduced lag phase in the switch from glucose to maltose, 88 and regulatory cross-talk between S. cerevisiae and S. eubayanus sub-genomes, which complement each other in terms of the genes required for maltose/maltotriose metabolism 89 90 [23, 24].

Given the recent discovery of *S. eubayanus*, its puzzling origin and apparently coevolutionary association with *Nothofagus* trees, several authors have analyzed the worldwide distribution of *S. eubayanus*, together with its genetic, phenotypic, and fermentative diversity [24-27]. Patagonian isolates of *S. eubayanus* exhibit the most extensive genetic diversity, and the presence of the most significant number of lineages compared to Northern hemisphere populations, including five different lineages and a large 97 group of admixed isolates [26, 27]. To date, there is no evidence of *S. eubayanus* isolates 98 in Europe, where the original *S. pastorianus* hybrid likely originated. Interestingly, 99 fermentation capacity varies significantly between *S. eubayanus* isolates, possibly due to 100 differences in maltose consumption and diauxic shift capacity, resulting in two opposite 101 outcomes: successful or stuck fermentations [27]. These isolates produce fruit and floral 102 flavors in beer [28], but high levels of 4-vinyl guaiacol, considered a phenolic off-flavor that 103 provides a clove-like aroma, which is not preferred among consumers [21, 28, 29] [30].

104 Although different reports have provided insights into the genomic and phenotypic changes responsible for the brewing capacity of S. pastorianus, particularly the S. cerevisiae genome 105 106 portion, we know little about the process of S. eubayanus domestication before or after 107 hybridization. Thus, further evidence is needed to understand the molecular mechanisms 108 underpinning the S. eubayanus fermentative phenotype, which in turn will provide important insights into the inherent evolutionary process represented by directional selection for 109 110 domestication, and correlated responses. In this study, a genetically complex artificial 111 mixture of 30 different genotypes of *S. eubayanus* was continually exposed to high ethanol 112 levels, mimicking the domestication process in breweries. We measured their correlated 113 responses including their genomic, transcriptomic and phenotypic changes, and identified 114 candidate genes that confer ethanol tolerance. Our results demonstrate that a single genetic 115 background consistently overcomes the remaining strains, showing greater fermentation 116 performance, but also significantly higher fitness in oxidative and osmotic stress environments. To an extent, we thus recreate the domestication process in the laboratory, 117 showing how this cryotolerant yeast adapted to the competitive beer environment of a 118 119 human industry and proved that experimental evolution can rebuild the brewing 120 domestication process in S. eubayanus in "fast motion". This provides a powerful tool for

- 121 disentangling the molecular, physiological and biochemical processes that underlie the
- domestication of domesticated microorganisms.

123

## 124 MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### 125 Microorganisms and culture media

126 Thirty S. eubayanus strains isolated from bark samples obtained from Nothofagus pumilio 127 trees in south Chile were utilized for the experimental evolution assay, as listed in **Table S1**. 128 These strains were previously reported and belong to the Patagonia B cluster [27]. S. cerevisiae L299 [31] and MTF2444 (EC1118 hsp12::GFP) [32] strains were used as growth 129 control and in the competition assays, respectively. Additionally, we used the S. pastorianus 130 131 Saflager W-34/70 (Fermentis, France) strain as a lager fermentation control. All isolates were maintained in YPD agar media (yeast extract 1%, peptone 2%, glucose 2% and agar 132 133 2%) and stored at -80°C in 20% glycerol stocks.

## 134 **Experimental evolution**

135 Initially, one colony from each S. eubayanus strain was cultured in 0.67% yeast nitrogen 136 base (YNB) media (Difco, France) with 2% glucose at 20°C (hereinafter referred to as GLU) and 150 rpm orbital shaking. Later, each pre-inoculum was utilized to prepare a co-culture 137 138 in a single 250 mL flask to obtain a final concentration of 1x10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL of each strain. Ten 139 replicates were set up (parallel populations) in 5 mL GLU and ten supplemented with 0.67% YNB media, 2% glucose and 9% ethanol (hereinafter referred to as EtOH). The inoculum 140 141 was resuspended and transferred to the 20 replicates to obtain a final concentration of 1x10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL (Figure 1A). The adaptative evolution assays were performed at 20°C at 150 rpm 142 143 for 72 h. Subsequently, the cultures were used to inoculate fresh 5 mL cultures at an inoculum density of 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> cell/mL, and this procedure was sequentially repeated. The 144

number of generations was estimated using the "generations = log (final cells - log initial
cells)/log2" formula, summing up the number of cells/mL doublings between every culture
transfer during the adaptive evolution process.

## 148 **Phenotyping assay**

149 The phenotyping assay was performed as previously described [27]. Briefly, isolates were pre-cultivated in 200 µL 0.67% YNB medium supplemented with glucose 2% for 48 h at 150 151 25°C. Next, strains were inoculated to an optical density (OD) of 0.03-0.1 (wavelength 630 nm) in 200 µL growth media, where the following carbon sources were considered: Glucose 152 153 2%, Fructose 2%, Maltose 2%, Galactose 2%, Pilsner Beer Wort 12 °Plato (°P) and incubated without agitation at 20°C for 24 h using a Tecan Sunrise absorbance microplate 154 reader. Additionally, several environmental stressors were assessed, including ethanol 9%, 155 156 Sorbitol 20%, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 3 mM, SDS 0.001% and high temperature (28 and 34°C) during 48 h. For ethanol 9%, experiments were carried out for 96 h. The OD was measured every 30 157 158 minutes using a 630 nm filter. Each experiment was performed in triplicate. Maximum growth rate, lag time and OD max parameters were obtained for each strain using the GrowthRates 159 160 software with default parameters [33].

161 Growth curves incorporating carbon source switching from glucose to maltose and galactose 162 were determined under micro-cultivation conditions in YP (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone) 163 media including either 5% glucose, 5% maltose or 5% galactose at 25°C for 48 h. Pre-164 cultures were grown in YP with 5% glucose medium at 25°C for 24 h. Cultures were then 165 diluted to an initial OD600nm of 0.1 in fresh YP 5% glucose medium for an extra overnight growth. The next day, cultures were used to inoculate a 96-well plate with a final volume of 166 200 µL YP with the disaccharide source at an initial OD600nm of 0.1. The growth curves 167 168 were monitored by measuring the OD600nm every 30 min as previously mentioned. All

169 experiments were performed in triplicate. Lag phase and maximum specific growth rate
 170 (µmax) were estimated as previously described [34] using the R software version 3.6.3.

#### 171 Fermentations in beer wort

Fermentations were carried out as previously described [28, 29]. Briefly, fermentations were 172 performed in at least three biological replicates, depending on the experiment, in 12 °P using 173 174 a BrewFerm Pilsner commercial beer kit (Beringen, Belgium). For this, a colony was transferred to 5 mL 6 °P pilsner beer wort supplemented with 0.3 ppm ZnCl<sub>2</sub> and incubated 175 176 at 20°C with orbital shaking at 150 rpm for 24 h. Then, the complete pre-inoculum was 177 transferred to 50 mL 12 °P pilsner beer wort and incubated in similar conditions for 24 h. Cells were utilized to inoculate 50 mL fresh 12 °P pilsner beer wort to a final concentration 178 179 of 1.8 x 10<sup>7</sup> cell/mL. Cultures were maintained at 12°C for 14 days without agitation and weighed every day to calculate the CO<sub>2</sub> released. 180

Larger volume fermentations for RNA extraction and metabolite production analysis were carried out in 1.5 L 12 °P beer wort for 14 days at 12°C. At the end of the fermentation, metabolites such as glucose, fructose, maltose, maltotriose, ethanol and glycerol were estimated using HPLC [27]. Volatile compounds were detected using HS-SPME-GC-MS as previously described [28].

## 186 **Competition Assays**

A total of 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL of the evolved and *S. cerevisiae* MTF2444 (EC1118 *hsp12::GFP*) strains were separately pre-incubated in 5 mL YNB media supplemented with 2% glucose for 24 h. Evolved individuals were mixed in equal proportions with the *S. cerevisiae* MTF2444 GFP expressing-mutant strain at a final concentration of 2 x 10<sup>6</sup> cell/mL in YNB media supplemented with 2% glucose and 6% ethanol. Cultures were incubated in an orbital shaker at 20°C and 150 rpm during 72 h, and 100  $\mu$ L samples from each culture were

extracted every 24 h. Aliquots were washed twice in PBS and stored in the same buffer.
Cultures were then analyzed in a BD FACScanto II Cytometer (Biosciences, USA). Finally,
the proportion of non-fluorescent/GFP-fluorescent cells was estimated. Experiments were
performed in triplicate.

#### 197 Sequencing of the evolved lines and identification of mutations

198 DNA extraction was performed as previously described [27, 29]. Sequencing of three parallel 199 populations at final and intermediate stages of the evolution process was performed using 200 the Illumina HiSeq X ten platform (BGI sequencing, China). Overall, approximately 45 million 201 reads (paired-end) were obtained for each evolved line. The raw reads were processed to remove adaptor sequences using the Fastp tool and filtered considering a 20 phred score 202 cut-off [35]. Reads were aligned against the *S. eubayanus* CBS12357<sup>T</sup> reference genome 203 [36] using the Burrows-Wheeler Aligner [37]. Overall, 99% of the reads were aligned, 204 obtaining a mean coverage of 980X. Genome sequences of 27 parental strains were 205 206 previously sequenced [27], from which a list of SNPs that were unique for each of those 207 sequenced strains was obtained, using a custom R script. To estimate the proportion of the 208 parental genetic backgrounds in every evolved line, the alternative genotype coverage at 209 each unique SNP coordinate was obtained using bcftools mpileup [38] [39]. De novo SNP 210 calling in the evolved lines was performed using freebayes 1.3.0 ٧ 211 (https://github.com/ekg/freebayes). The total number of SNPs was calculated using Freebayes [40] and the effect of each SNP was predicted with SnpEff [41] and the S. 212 213 eubayanus CBS12357<sup>T</sup> reference genome [36]. Reads are available in the Biosample Database Project PRJNA666059. 214

215 Genome reconstruction of the CLEt5.1 mutant

216 The genome of the CLEt5.1 mutant was reconstructed using Nanopore sequencing coupled 217 with Illumina sequencing. Nanopore sequencing was performed using a minION system (Oxford Nanopore, Oxford, UK). For this, DNA extraction and sequencing proceeded as 218 219 previously described [29]. Overall, 26.1 million reads for Illumina and 96,000 reads for 220 Nanopore were obtained (Table S2). The raw fast5 files were transformed to fastq files and 221 debarcoded using Guppy 2.3.5 [42]. Barcode and adapter sequences were trimmed using 222 (https://github.com/rrwick/Porechop) Porechop and filtered with Filtlong 223 (https://github.com/rrwick/Filtlong) using a Phred score of 30. Genome assembly was 224 performed with Canu (https://github.com/marbl/canu) using default settings. Additionally, 225 rounds of (https://github.com/jts/nanopolish) two nanopolish and pilon 226 (https://github.com/broadinstitute/pilon) were carried out. Moreover, the raw assembly was 227 polished using the Illumina reads filtered with a Phred score of 20 (Burrows-Wheeler 228 Aligner). The genome assembly was annotated with the pipeline LRSDAY [43] using the S. 229 eubayanus CBS12357<sup>T</sup> reference genome as model for training AUGUSTUS [44], 230 supported by the transcriptome assembly produced by TRINITY [45]. The completeness of 231 the genome assembly was evaluated using BUSCO [46]. The assembly was compared with CBS12357<sup>T</sup> using nucmer (Marcais et al, 2018) to evaluate the synteny, whilst specific 232 233 structural variants (SVs) were identified using MUM&Co [47]. All the parameters of the 234 pipeline were set up as default. The enrichment analysis of Gene Ontology (GO) terms and KEGG pathways was performed using METASCAPE [48]. The identification of transcription 235 factor binding sites in the regulatory region 500 bp upstream of the upregulated genes of the 236 237 evolved strain was performed using CiiDER [49]. Reads are available in the Biosample 238 Database Project PRJNA666059.

#### 239 RNA-sequencing and differential expression analysis

240 RNA was extracted using the E.Z.N.A.® Total RNA Kit I (Omega Bio-tek, USA). RNA was DNase I treated (ThermoFisher, USA) and purified using the RNeasy MinElute Cleanup Kit 241 242 (Qiagen, Germany). The Illumina libraries and sequencing were performed as previously 243 described [29] in the BGI facilities (Hong Kong, China). Briefly, RNA integrity was confirmed using a Fragment Analyzer (Agilent, USA). The RNA-seg libraries were constructed using 244 245 the TruSeg RNA Sample Prep Kit v2 (Illumina, USA). The sequencing was conducted using paired-end 100-bp reads on an Illumina HiSeq X Ten in a single lane for the six samples. 246 Reads are available in the Biosample Database Project PRJNA666059. Reads were 247 248 mapped to the S. eubayanus CBS12357<sup>T</sup> reference genome using RNAstar ver. 2.7.3 [50] and analyzed using featurecounts in R [51]. Differential expression was analyzed statistically 249 250 using DESeq2 package in R [52]. Genes showing an adjusted P-value of 0.05 or less were 251 considered as differentially expressed genes (DEGs). Analysis of GO term enrichment was 252 performed with the R enrichGO package (https://www.rdocumentation.org/packages/clusterProfiler/versions/3.0.4/topics/enrichGO). 253 Cytoscape was used to visualize transcription factor regulatory networks [53]. 254

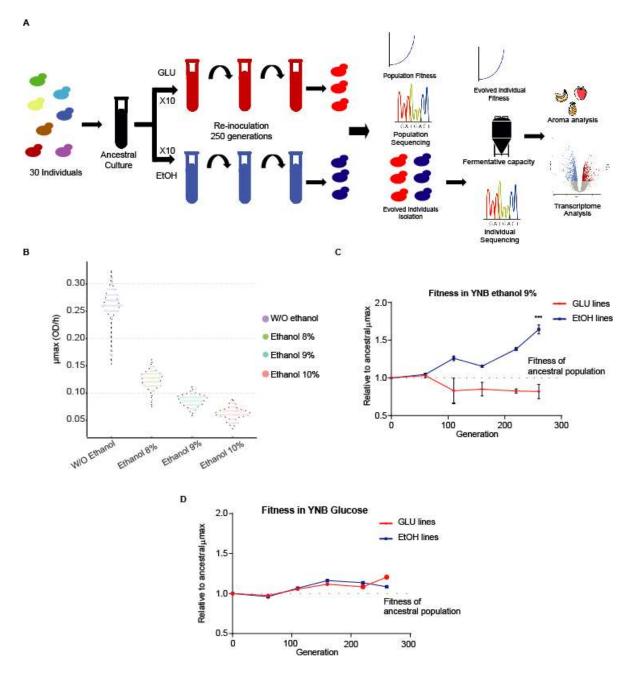
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## 256 **RESULTS**

# 257 S. eubayanus fitness sensitivity under high ethanol conditions

We performed a parallel population assay to obtain high ethanol-tolerant *S. eubayanus* individuals (**Figure 1A**). For this, thirty *S. eubayanus* strains belonging to the PB-2 and PB-3 lineages, previously isolated in southern Chile (Villarrica, Coyhaique and Puyehue; [27]), were selected and characterized for microbial growth under different ethanol conditions. Initially, we used micro-cultures to evaluate biomass generation in 8%, 9% and 10% ethanol. Growth under these conditions showed long lag phases and low growth rates for all strains

in concentrations above 9% ethanol (Figure 1B, Table S3). This growth was significantly 264 lower compared to that of the L299 wine S. cerevisiae control strain (p-value < 0.05, 265 266 ANOVA), demonstrating a greater susceptibility of S. eubayanus to high ethanol 267 concentrations (Table S3). Furthermore, for all tested parameters, micro-culture assays demonstrated significant phenotypic differences between strains (Figure 1B), representing 268 a genetically and phenotypically heterogeneous group of strains, ideal for the parallel 269 270 population assay. Based on the above, we chose 9% ethanol as our selective environment 271 for the experimental evolution procedure (from now on referred to as EtOH).



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Figure 1. Fitness of the individual and evolved lines under ethanol. (A) Experimental evolution strategy in 10 replicated lines under YNB + glucose (GLU, red tubes) and YNB + GLU + ethanol 9% (EtOH, blue tubes). From every line, individuals were isolated and subjected to phenotyping, fermentation and sequencing analysis. (B) The growth rate (µmax) of the different parental strains used in this study was estimated under ethanol 8%, 9% and 10%. The fitness of the evolved lines under (C) ethanol and (D) glucose.

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283 Our population assay began by mixing the thirty strains in equal proportions and subdividing them into ten mock replicates (YNB-glucose media, from now on referred to as GLU) and 284 285 ten EtOH lines (Figure 1A). The ethanol fitness of each evolved line was evaluated at 286 different time points during the progression of the assay (Figure 1C). After 260 generations 287 (approximately six months), all GLU lines showed a significant decrease in ethanol fitness 288 compared to the ancestral culture (*p*-value < 0.05, ANOVA, Figure 1C). In contrast, the 289 EtOH-evolved lines showed higher maximum growth rates ( $\mu$ max) in ethanol compared to 290 the original mixed-culture, attaining a 60% greater  $\mu$ max (*p*-value < 0.05, ANOVA). These differences were not observed in glucose micro-cultures (Figure 1D). Thus, demonstrating 291 292 that the evolved lines performed better in their selective environment compared to the 293 control condition. Interestingly, we did not detect major adverse phenotypic effects in beer 294 wort, suggesting a low accumulation of detrimental mutations (Table S3b).

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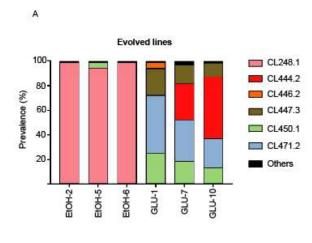
## 298 Genome sequencing reveals consistent strain selection in parallel populations

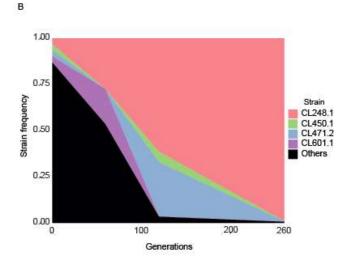
299 Three GLU (GLU-1, 7 and 10) and three EtOH lines (EtOH-2, 5 and 6) were sequenced at 300 the end of the experiment to identify the genomic changes and the pervasiveness of the 301 different genetic backgrounds across the assay. Interestingly, all the EtOH sequenced lines 302 showed a sustained prevalence of strain CL248.1 (belonging to PB-2 and isolated in 303 northern Patagonia), reaching over 95% of the population's allele frequency by the end of 304 the experimental evolution assay (Figure 2A). That being said, CL248.1 did not show the 305 highest growth rare (µmax) under ethanol 9% of the S. eubayanus strains considered in this 306 study, suggesting that selection did not occur solely due to ethanol tolerance (Table S3). In contrast, we did not observe a consistent selection in the GLU lines, where different genetic 307 308 backgrounds were found depending on the evolved line (Figure 2A). These results likely 309 suggest a milder and different selection pressure in yeast when glucose is used as a 310 selection regime, and a particular competitive fitness advantage of CL248.1 solely under 311 EtOH selection, demonstrating a convergent phenomenon when ethanol and biotic stress 312 are applied together.

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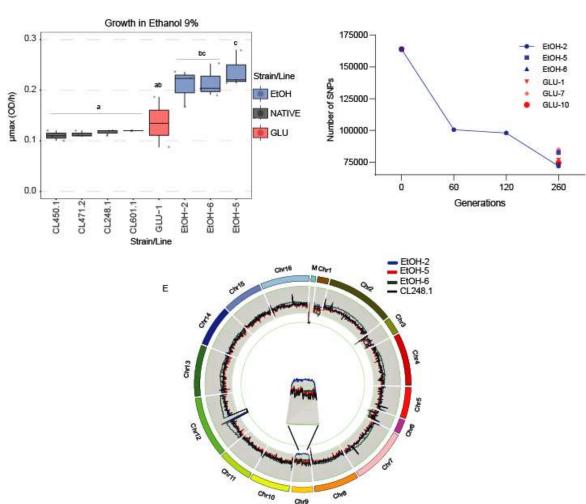
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Figure 2. Genomic and phenotypic changes in the evolved lines.

316 (A) The presence of the prevalent genetic backgrounds in three glucose (GLU) and ethanol 317 (EtOH) evolved lines. (B) Prevalence (frequency) of the most prominent genetic backgrounds during the evolution of line EtOH-2. (C) Ethanol 9% growth rates for the most 318 representative parental strains and evolved lines. (D) Total number of SNPs relative to the 319 320 CBS12357 reference genome at the beginning and end of the evolution assay for EtOH-5. 6 and GLU-1, 7 and 10 lines. In addition, the number of SNPs during the evolution assay is 321 322 shown for EtOH-2. (E) Chromosome number estimation across EtOH lines. Only the EtOH-323 2 line showed an aneuploidy by the end of the evolution assay (chromosome 9).

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325 Line EtOH-2 was sequenced at different time points (0, 60, 120 and 260 generations) to 326 identify the genotypic course of the assay and additional genotypes under selection (Figure 327 2B). We observed a predominance of CL248.1 and CL601.1 genotypes after 60 generations, demonstrating a competitive displacement of CL248.1 in the culture, together 328 329 with higher fitness over the other genetic backgrounds (Figure 2B). Interestingly, after 120 330 generations, four genotypes monopolized the culture, representing 96.6% of the EtOH-2 line. Nevertheless, none of these parental genotypes showed high ethanol growth rates 331 332 compared to the evolved lines (Figure 2C). A second genotype, CL471.1 reached significant 333 frequencies (maxima 29.3%) during intermediate periods of the evolution assay. However, it was almost absent by the end of the experiment, being detected at a frequency of just 334 335 0.15% in the final population. Moreover, over time, we calculated the total number of SNPs in evolved lines against the reference strain CBS12357<sup>T</sup>. We found a decrease in the 336 number of SNPs over time across all lines relative to the ancestral culture, particularly in 337 338 EtOH-2, which exhibited the greatest decay compared to other lines (**Figure 2D**).

To identify de novo genetic variants with a potential effect on ethanol tolerance, we used the EtOH-2 line and compared polymorphisms (SNPs and short INDELs identified using freebayes) before and after selection. We chose this line because it showed the highest homology to a single genetic background (CL248.1), allowing the identification of novel genetic variants over the raw population's genetic variation. In this way, we arbitrarily selected for polymorphisms with a putative moderate/high impact on the gene function and

345	found 34 impacted genes under these criteria (Table S4). Among others, we found
346	mutations in genes such as YPS6 and IMA1, encoding for a putative GPI-anchored aspartic
347	protease [54] and a isomaltase [55], respectively. We also found a single aneuploidy in the
348	EtOH-2 line in chromosome IX, where an extra copy was found (Figure 2E). Altogether, our
349	results demonstrate how ethanol promotes a significant decrease in genetic variability due
350	to genotype selection coupled with the emergence of new adaptive mutations vital for
351	ethanol survival in biological processes such as stress damage and sugar metabolism.
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# 354 Ethanol-evolved individuals have greater fermentation capacity and maltotriose 355 consumption

356 We determined the fitness cost of ethanol adaptation in 24 different environmental 357 conditions for those EtOH adapted individuals isolated after 260 generations of selection. 358 For this, we randomly isolated two clones from each EtOH line and estimated growth rates 359 in micro-cultures considering diverse phenotypic growth conditions, including high 360 temperature, different carbon sources, and oxidative and osmotic stress (Table S5). To 361 control for adaptive mutations in YNB laboratory media, we also isolated two colonies from three GLU lines. In general, individuals from EtOH-evolved lines showed higher umax in 362 363 ethanol (Figure 3A), and also for a greater number of conditions, compared to GLU-evolved individuals and the ancestral culture (p-value < 0.05, ANOVA, **Table S5**). These conditions 364 365 included greater growth rates in sources such as glucose, maltose and fructose, together 366 with resistance to oxidative ( $H_2O_2$ ) and osmotic stresses (sorbitol 20%) (Figure 3B), 367 suggesting that selection improved general stress tolerance in these evolved strains. 368 Interestingly, we found that one EtOH evolved individual (CLEt5.1, isolate n°1 from the 369 EtOH-5 line) exhibited greater ethanol tolerance, but a lower growth rate under high 370 temperature (34°C) and an ionic detergent (SDS 0.001%, Figure 3B), indicating the 371 existence of a trade-off.

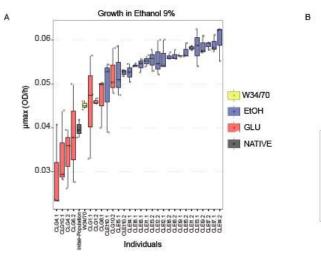
To determine the relative fitness of EtOH and GLU evolved individuals, we carried out a competition assay in YNB-glucose supplemented with 6% ethanol, against a recombinant *S. cerevisiae* that constitutively expresses GFP (**Figure S1**). We observed that all tested strains were unable to outcompete *S. cerevisiae*; however, significant differences were found in the final proportion of the tested strains at the end of the experiment (*p*-value < 0.05, ANOVA). For example, strain CLEt9.1 was almost absent at the end of the competition assay (relative frequency < 0.1), while CLEt2.2 was found to represent 31% of the cells

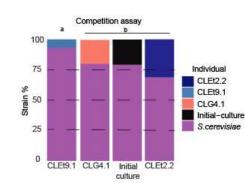
quantified in the final culture (Figure 3C). These results demonstrate fitness differences

# 380 between EtOH and GLU isolated individuals.

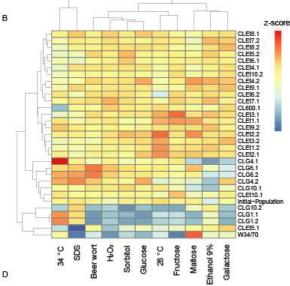
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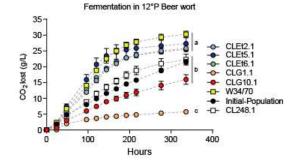
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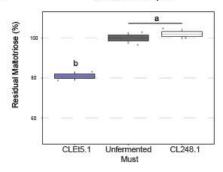


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Maltotriose consumption



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384 Figure 3. Phenotypic profiling of evolved individuals. (A) Growth rates under YNB-385 alucose-ethanol 9% of different evolved individuals. (B) Phenotypic heatmap based on micro-culture growth rates of EtOH and GLU-evolved individuals. evaluated in 11 different 386 conditions. (C) The evolved strains were challenged using a GFP-mutant S. cerevisiae in 387 388 YNB media supplemented with ethanol at 9%. The strain frequency of the evolved 389 individuals was evaluated using flow cytometry. (D) Fermentation in 12 °P beer wort of different evolved individuals. The fermentative capacity was estimated from the CO<sub>2</sub> lost at 390 different time-points. The statistical differences were calculated after 216 h of fermentation 391 392 using ANOVA. (E) Maltotriose consumption in YNB maltotriose 2% micro-cultures.

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394 Additionally, we evaluated the fermentative capacity in small-scale lager wort fermentations 395 at low temperature (12 °C) of three EtOH and two GLU evolved individuals. The selected 396 strains were monitored for 15 days, and their fermentative capacity was estimated by measuring CO<sub>2</sub> loss and sugar consumption throughout the fermentative process (Figure 397 398 **3D**). Surprisingly, all the EtOH-evolved individuals showed a similar fermentative profile 399 compared to the commercial strain, where no significant differences were found in terms of 400 total  $CO_2$  loss (*p*-value < 0.05, ANOVA). Furthermore, the best-evolved isolate (CLEt5.1) 401 showed a 22.6% increase in loss of CO<sub>2</sub> compared with the ancestral culture after 14 days 402 of fermentation (Figure 3D and Figure S2A, p-value > 0.05, ANOVA), and also exceeded 403 the fermentative performance, in terms of fermentation rate, of its parental genetic background CL248.1 (Figure 3D, S2B, and S2C). Moreover, sugar consumption differed 404 405 between the W34/70 commercial strain and the evolved individuals. Although the isolates 406 were able to consume all the glucose, maltose, and fructose found in the wort (Figure S2D). no maltotriose consumption was observed (p-value < 0.05, ANOVA, Table S6) in the 407 evolved strains. We only detected maltotriose consumption under fermentation conditions 408 409 in the lager commercial strain, in agreement with the inability of S. eubayanus to use this 410 carbon source (Figure S2D, [23]). To further analyze maltotriose consumption, we quantified the remaining maltotriose concentration after a 5-day incubation period of the 411 evolved individuals in YNB synthetic media supplemented with 2% maltotriose as the sole 412 413 carbon source (**Figure 3E**). Interestingly, we detected 19.1% maltotriose consumption in the

evolved strain CLEt5.1, while no consumption was found in CL248.1 (Figure 3E). These
results suggest genomic and molecular changes leading to maltotriose metabolization in this
genetic background that only arise when maltotriose is used as the sole carbon source.

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## 419 Identification of *de novo* genetic variants in the EtOH evolved strain CLEt5.1

420 The genome of the EtOH-evolved individual CLEt5.1 was sequenced by coupling Nanopore 421 and Illumina technologies to elucidate the genetic origin of the phenotypic changes acquired 422 through the evolution process. We obtained a high-quality assembly and identified 5,946 423 genes in the final genome annotation, organized in 37 scaffolds (Figure 4, Table S2 and **Table S7a**). The completeness analysis using BUSCO showed that the *de novo* assembly 424 425 contained almost all the expected set of genes for a member of the Saccharomyces genus 426 (97.5%). By comparing the scaffolds of the assembly against the CBS12357<sup>⊤</sup> reference 427 genome, high synteny between genomes was observed, except for an evident translocation between chromosomes IV-R and XVI-L (Figure 4). Therefore, we proceeded to identify 428 429 structural variants between CLEt5.1 and its parental background (CL248.1) using MUM&Co [47]. In this way, we identified 100 structural variants (Deletions: 47, Insertions: 41, 430 431 Duplications: 10, Inversions: 0 and Translocations: 2, Table S7b), primordially INDELs and confirming the translocation between chromosomes IV-R and XVI-L of 980 kb. Additionally, 432 433 we found a 47 kb deletion in chromosome XII, and two 24 kb and 39 kb duplications in 434 chromosomes VII and IV, respectively. Among the genes present in the chromosome VII 435 duplication, we found VID30, which is involved in the regulation of carbohydrate metabolism 436 and the balance of nitrogen metabolism towards glutamate production, and HAP2, a 437 transcription factor which is predicted to regulate many of the proteins induced during the 438 diauxic shift [56](Table S7c). SNP calling using freebayes detected 1,006 high quality SNPs. 439 To better understand the molecular basis of ethanol adaptation, we searched for polymorphisms across the CLEt5.1 genome that could generate moderate or high impact 440 441 mutations on the gene function (based on snpeff predictions). We found 11 genes with 442 significant polymorphisms between CLEt5.1 and the native CL248.1 strain (Table S7d). For example, we found a missense variant in PUT4, which encodes for a proline permease 443 444 essential in proline assimilation during fermentation [57]. Similarly, we found a frameshift in IRA2, which encodes for a GTPase-activating protein, and previously related to high-445 temperature fermentation [58] and low glucose-growth defect rescue [59]. These results 446 demonstrate that this relatively short period of ethanol adaptation promoted punctual, small 447 and large rearrangements, which, taken together may be responsible for the phenotypic 448 449 differences between the CLEt5.1 and CL248.1 strains.

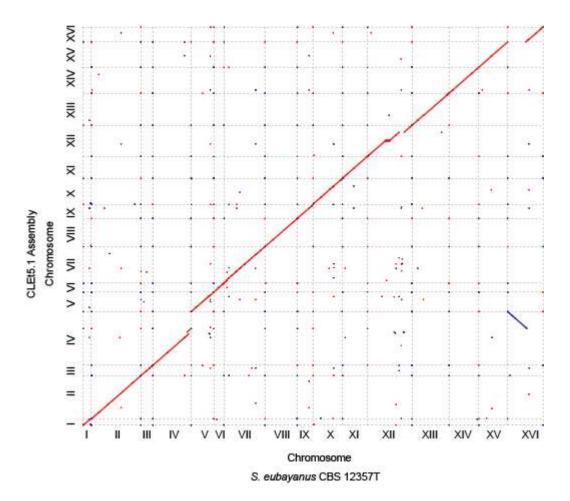


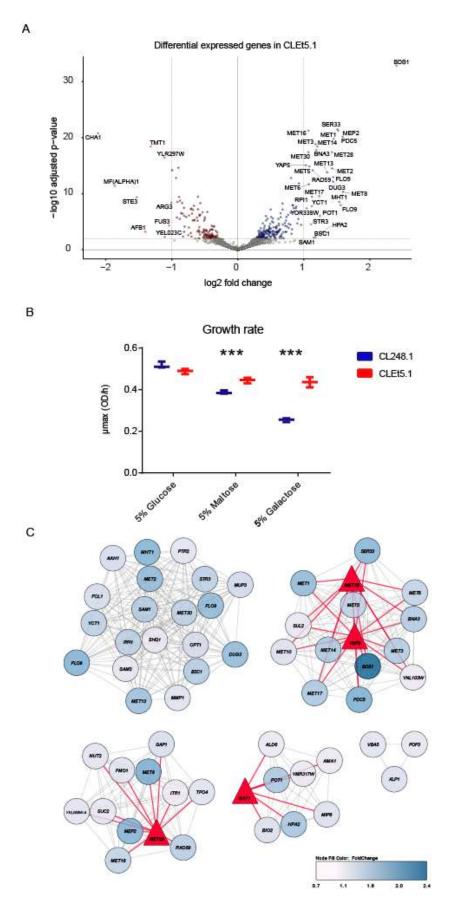
Figure 4. Genome synteny analysis of the EtOH evolved CLEt5.1 strain. Dot plot
 representation of DNA sequence identity between the *S. eubayanus* CBS12357<sup>T</sup> strain and
 the EtOH evolved CLEt5.1 strain. A single translocation was found between chromosome
 IV and XVI.

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# 456 Transcriptome and organoleptic analysis of the CLEt5.1 evolved strain under beer

## 457 **fermentation**

458 To determine the impact of genetic changes in metabolic processes during wort fermentation 459 in EtOH adapted individuals, we used a transcriptome approach. This allowed us to identify differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between the CLEt5.1 and the CL248.1 parental strain 460 461 after 24 h of fermentation in a 1.5 L fermenter. Overall, we observed 92 DEGs (Fold change 462 > 0.7 and FDR < 0.05, Figure 5A and Table S8), of which 59 and 33 were up- and down-463 regulated in the CLEt5.1 strain, respectively. Enrichment analysis of GO terms in upregulated genes revealed that diverse biological and molecular pathways, including sulfur 464 465 compounds, methionine metabolism, and several cellular amino acid metabolic processes were enriched in the evolved strain (Table S8). In contrast, down-regulated genes were 466 467 significantly enriched in alpha-amino acid metabolism and pheromone response 468 metabolism, together with cofactor and vitamin binding molecular functions (Table S8). 469 Similarly, KEGG enrichment analysis highlighted that genes within several pathways were 470 differentially expressed between genotypes. For example, assimilatory sulfate reduction, 471 cysteine and methionine metabolism, seleno-compound metabolism and biosynthesis of 472 antibiotics pathways were enriched in the up-regulated genes set (Table S8). In contrast, 473 we found a significant enrichment of the amino acid biosynthesis pathway among down-474 regulated genes (p-value < 0.01, hypergeometric test). Interestingly, these two analyses 475 highlight that several DEGs were related to nitrogen and amino acid uptake, stress tolerance, and faster diauxic shift, suggesting that nitrogen uptake and a rapid stress 476 477 response play essential roles during fermentation in this evolved strain.



#### 479

480 Figure 5. Differential gene expression analysis between the EtOH evolved CLEt5.1 strain and its native parental strain under beer wort fermentation conditions. The 481 transcriptome of the CLEt5.1 EtOH evolved strain was evaluated and compared against the 482 CL248.1 native strain under beer wort fermentation conditions. (A) The volcano plot depicts 483 484 differentially expressed genes between CLEt5.1 and CL248.1 (B) Relative growth rates of CLEt5.1 and CL248.1 strains shifted from two 24 hours 5% glucose pre-cultures to 5% 485 maltose and 5% galactose media. (C) Network analysis in upregulated genes in CLEt5.1 486 487 depicting the most relevant hubs differently regulating genes between CLEt5.1 and CL248.1. Transcription factors are shown in red triangles, while TF-gene connections are shown in 488 489 red lines.

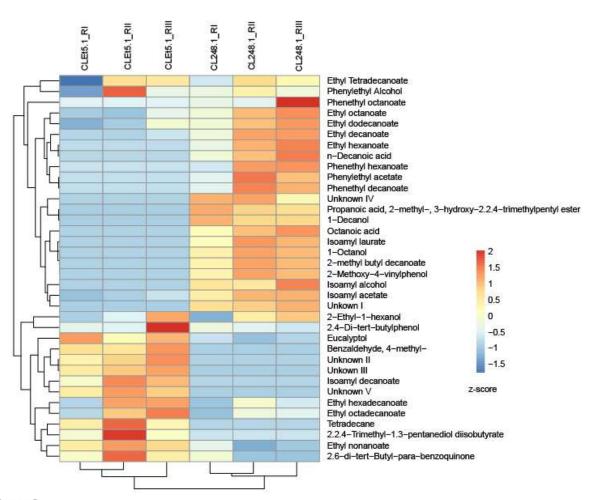
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To evaluate the fast diauxic shift and the capacity of these two strains to switch from glucose to other disaccharides, we estimated their growth capacity under maltose and galactose after two 24 h pre-cultures in 5% glucose. In agreement with our transcriptome results, the evolved strain showed a significantly greater growth rate compared to CL248.1 under 6% maltose and 6% galactose concentrations after long glucose incubation periods (**Figure 5B**).

496 Additionally, to identify possible common regulatory elements of the up-regulated genes, we 497 analyzed their promoter sequences (500 bp upstream of the transcription start site), and found a significant enrichment of transcription factor binding sites (p-value < 0.05, Fisher's 498 499 exact test) for transcription co-activators of the Cbf1-Met4-Met28p complex (methionine metabolism), Dal80p and Uga3p (activators of nitrogen metabolism), Tye7p (glycolytic 500 genes activator) and Sfl1p (repression of flocculation-related genes, and activation of stress 501 502 responsive genes, **Table S9**). Additionally, we used Cytoscape to visualize the resulting 503 network predicting regulatory interactions from the set of upregulating genes (Figure 5C). 504 According to our network model, we found four transcription factors: Met28p, Met32p, Gatp and Yap5p modulating the expression of these up-regulated genes in CLEt5.1. Interestingly, 505 506 Yap5p is known to be involved in the diauxic shift [60]. These results highlight a transcriptional rewiring in CLEt5.1 for genes related with nutrient acquisition, stress 507

tolerance and methionine metabolism during the evolution of tolerance to fermentationstress.

510 During the fermentation process, we subjectively perceived that the organoleptic properties 511 of the beers produced by the evolved strain differed from those of the parental native strain. 512 Therefore, to determine how the transcriptional rewiring and genomic changes impacted the 513 production of volatile compounds and the beer profile in the CLEt5.1 evolved strain, we 514 quantified volatile compound production using HS-SPME-GC/MS at the end of fermentation 515 (day 15). As expected, we found significant differences in the composition of volatile compounds produced in beer between the evolved and parental strains (p-value < 0.05.) 516 517 paired t-test, Figure 6A, Table S10). In general, the evolved clone showed lower levels of 518 ester compounds, such as isoamyl acetate and ethyl octanoate (p-value < 0.05, ANOVA). 519 Additionally, we detected high levels of benzaldehyde 4-methyl (aromatic aldehyde) and 520 ethyl hexadecanoate in the evolved strain compared to the native genetic background, which 521 could confer a fruity aroma to the beer similar to those found in lager beers. The most 522 interesting differences were found in terms of off-flavors. We detected a significantly lower 523 production of 2-Methoxy-4-vinylphenol (4-vinyl guaiacol) in the evolved strain, likely reducing its clove-like flavor, which is typically found in fermented beverages by wild strains 524 525 (p-value < 0.05, ANOVA, Figure 6A). Interestingly, we did not find mutations in the FDC1 and PAD1 coding regions, or a significant difference in gene expression for FDC1 (log2FC 526 527 = -0.038, *p*-value adjusted = 0.838) and *PAD1* (log2FC = -0.0095, *p*-value adjusted = 0.965) between both strains. However, a series of mutations in the regulatory regions of both genes 528 were found in CLEt5.1, which could alter expression levels in later fermentation stages. 529 530 These results suggest that the evolution process significantly impacted the volatile 531 compound profile of beers produced by CLEt5.1, emulating the domestication process that modified several commercial yeasts. 532



533 Figure 6

534

Figure 6. Volatile compound production on beer wort. The final beer from EtOH evolved
 CLEt5.1 and its parental strain CL248.1 was analyzed using HS-SPME-GC/MS. The relative
 abundance of each compound detected was evaluated and a heatmap was constructed.
 The compounds were grouped in accordance to their relative abundance.

539

# 540 **DISCUSSION**

Human-driven selection associated with yeast domestication in fermentative environments has been extensively reported in *S. cerevisiae* and related hybrids [14, 15]. However, the genetic basis and molecular changes in other *Saccharomyces* genomes associated with alcoholic beverages is still unclear. In our study, we have reconstructed the putative 545 domestication history of the yeast S. eubayanus under biotic and abiotic stresses, using a 546 panmictic founding population that simulated the natural process of adaptive evolution, and 547 using an ethanol environment as the selective agent. We used dozens of wild genotypes in 548 a single culture, in order to replicate the natural genetic variability of these organisms. We observed that a single genetic background, CL248.1, systematically outcompetes the 549 550 others, acquiring *de novo* mutations and improving basal ethanol tolerance. Interestingly, the time-course of this competitive displacement was complex, involving genotype selection 551 and innovations throughout the assay (key adaptive mutations) that were constantly 552 553 replaced by others during the "fast-motion" evolution time-course. Thus, the evolved lineages derived from our founding genetic background exhibited higher ethanol growth 554 555 rates compared to their ancestors, demonstrating a rapid response to selection, and so 556 adapted successfully to their new environment. However, CL248.1 was not the best ethanoltolerant strain, suggesting that pre-existing variants, together with *de novo* mutations, 557 558 combined to positively-affect fitness in this strain. In this sense, it has been demonstrated 559 that pre-existing and *de novo* genetic variants can both drive long term adaptation to environmental changes in yeast [61]. This indicates that not only a fitness advantage related 560 561 to a given environmental selection pressure is essential for directional selection to occur in 562 populations [62], but also that a combination of standing genetic variation with some 563 genomic plasticity for beneficial mutations are essential [63]. In this way, the success of an individual is established in such a competitive environment [64]. Our results show that both 564 pre-existing genetic variation and *de novo* mutations of a range of effects were important in 565 566 explaining rapid evolution in this ecological context [65, 66]. Importantly, the Saccharomyces 567 "make-accumulate-consume (ethanol)" life strategy is fundamental for withstanding the 568 antimicrobial effects of ethanol in a complex population [67, 68]. Thanks to this, multiple Saccharomyces genotypes were selected, domesticated, and used over centuries in the 569 570 beer industries, including the S. pastorianus hybrid [14, 15].

571 Domestication signatures in yeast, as a result of the human-domestication syndrome, included genomic changes in the S. cerevisiae and S. eubayanus genomic portions leading 572 573 to faster fermentation rates under low temperatures, a more moderate organoleptic 574 complexity, and the absence of off-flavors in beers [14, 20]. Under the premise that evolutionary experiments can lead to unexpected and somewhat counterintuitive results 575 576 [69], we evaluated the beer fermentation performance of *S. eubayanus* evolved individuals. 577 Interestingly, evolved individuals exhibited a similar fermentation performance compared to 578 lager yeast, suggesting in turn that ethanol, together with competitive displacement, could 579 be the leading drivers of yeast domestication in brewing environments. This persistent 580 directional selection involved correlated selection of other traits, such as osmotic stress 581 tolerance and efficient nitrogen uptake [70]. In general, domesticated fungi used in 582 fermented foods exhibit genomic rearrangements, fewer spores and produce desirable volatile compounds [9]. These domestication signatures have been reported in other 583 584 systems, such as Aspergillus and Penicillium, where a transition to environments rich in 585 carbon and nitrogen sources led to extensive metabolism remodeling when used to produce cheese [8, 9]. 586

587 Ethanol-evolved individuals presented a series of genomic changes related to yeast 588 domestication, such as an uploidy and chromosomal rearrangements [16]. Furthermore, 589 signatures of trait domestication are evident in evolved individuals showing improved stress 590 resistance, fast fermentation rates, lower organoleptic complexity and a lower production of 591 phenolic off-flavors [14]. S. cerevisiae beer strains are characterized by strong 592 domestication signatures in their genomes, including polyploidies, the decay of sexual 593 reproduction, and maltotriose consumption [16]. Interestingly, one of our strains was able to 594 consume maltotriose, which is another key domestication hallmark. In terms of the molecular 595 mechanisms that explain their increased fermentative capacity, we observed that some 596 stress response genes were either mutated or up-regulated in the ethanol-evolved line 597 compared to its parental genetic background. In this way, the mutations and genomic 598 rearrangements found in the CLEt5.1 evolved individual could explain the transcriptional 599 rewiring and improved fermentative profile. Indeed, ethanol exposure leads to the recruitment of error-prone DNA polymerases, causing DNA replication stress and increased 600 601 mutation rates [71]. Accordingly, we found that RAD59 (involved in DNA double-strand break repair) was overexpressed in the evolved strain CLEt5.1, likely indicative of a mechanism 602 603 that counteracts the mutagenic effect of ethanol [72]. Other overexpressed genes could also 604 be directly related to an increased fermentative capacity, such as SUC2, YAP5 and MET, 605 which could promote glucose uptake, a dynamic diauxic shift, and the accumulation of S-606 Adenosylmethionine, respectively [73, 74 2013]. In this context, genomic rearrangements, 607 such as the duplication found in chromosome VII containing HAP2, which is involved in promoting the diauxic shift, are in agreement with these findings. Furthermore, previous 608 609 reports in lager yeast demonstrated that the accumulation and exogenous supplementation 610 of S-Adenosylmethionine promotes an increase in the fermentative capacity of yeast under 611 high-gravity wort [75].

## 612 Concluding remarks

In summary, the results found in our study could be applied to determine the domestication dynamics of the *S. eubayanus* genomic portion in the lager strain, given the occurrence of similar desirable traits for beer. Based on multiple analyses, we provide evidence of the intermediate evolutionary changes in *S. eubayanus*, which have direct implications in the generation of novel yeasts for the industry. In this way, genomic changes promote a transcriptional rewiring that induces a favorable response in a fermentative environment. For the first time, these findings provide novel insights into the genomic and phenomic changes

- 620 in wild S. eubayanus leading to faster wort fermentation rates and desirable organoleptic
- 621 complexity, demonstrating its broad feasible use in the beer industry.
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## 633 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

#### 634 SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

Figure S1. Competition assay of evolved individual in ethanol 9%.

Figure S2. Fermentative capacity of the evolved individuals. (A) The fermentative capacity is indicated as a percentage of the capacity of the *S. pastorianus* control strain (W34/70) at 7 days. The fermentative capacity was estimated from the loss of  $CO_2$  over time. All assays were performed in triplicate. (B) The fermentative capacity was also determined at 14 days. (C) The velocity of the fermentation was estimated and (D) the residual sugars and metabolites in the wort were evaluated using HPLC.

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## 643 SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE LEGENDS

#### 644 Table S1. Native S. eubayanus strains used in the experimental evolution assay. The

- strain ID and the location of isolation site are indicated.
- 646 **Table S2. Bioinformatics Summary statistics**
- Table S3. Growth kinetic parameters in glucose and ethanol of the native parental

648 strains used for the ancestral culture. Growth parameters μmax (OD/hr), OD max (OD)

- 649 and lag phase (1/hr).
- **Table S4. SNPeffect analysis of the novel polymorphisms in EtOH-2.** Snpeffect analysis
- of the novel/fixed polymorphisms in EtOH-2 after 260 generations

Table S5. Phenotype data of evolved individuals. The data shows the average  $\mu$ max across three replicates and the standard deviation (SD) for diverse growth conditions, including high temperature (28°C and 34°C), different carbon sources (glucose, fructose, maltose, galactose, xylose), and oxidative (ethanol 9%, 3 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and osmotic stress (beer wort, SDS 0.001%, Sorbitol 20%).

Table S6. Sugar consumption and metabolite production of the evolved individuals
from fermentations in beer wort. Sugar consumption (g/L) and metabolite production (g/L)

659 are informed.

Table S7. Structural variants identified in CLEt5.1 using MUM&Co. A. CLEt5.1 genome assembly and annotation statistics. The genome assembly of CLEt5.1 using Nanopore and Illumina sequencing technology was used to calculate several assembly statistics. B. All structural variants. C. Duplicated genes present in the chromosome IV – chromosome XVI duplication in CLEt5.1. D. High/moderate SNPeff prediction of SNPs and short INDELs in CLEt5.1

# Table S8. Differential gene expression between CL248.1 and CLEt5.1 under beer wort.

- A. Gene expression results. B. Upregulated and C. Downregulated genes in CLEt5.1. R1,
- 668 R2 and R3 represent the three biological replicates for each genotype.

# **Table S9. Enrichment analysis of Transcription Factor binding sites in regulatory**

- 670 regions of upregulated genes using CiiDER.
- Table S10. Volatile compound production in CL248.1 and CLEt5.1 in beer wort.
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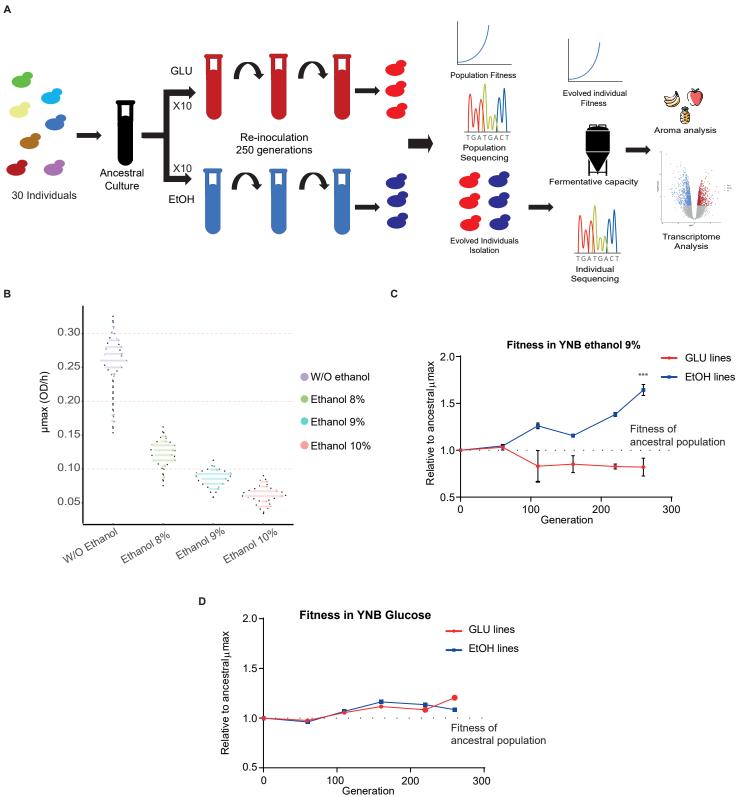
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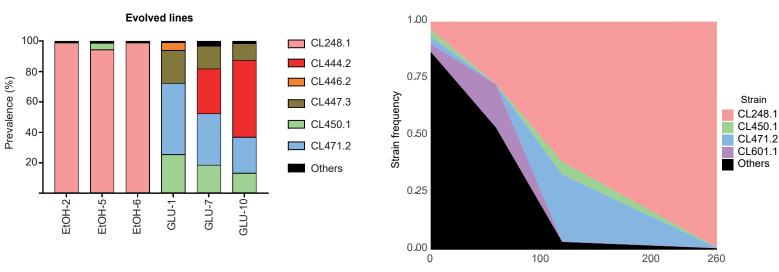
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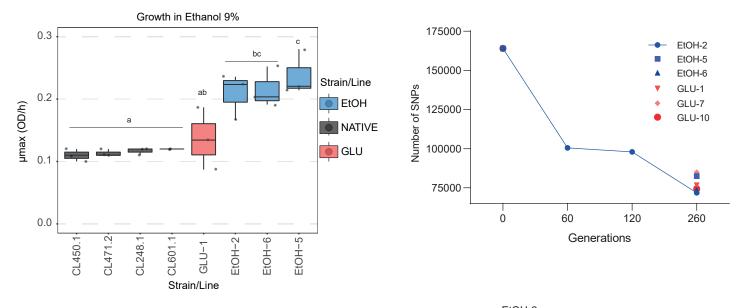
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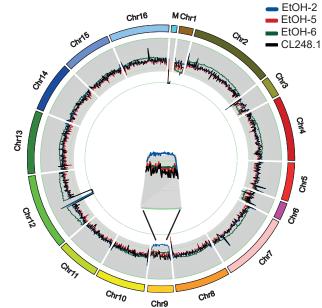


Generations



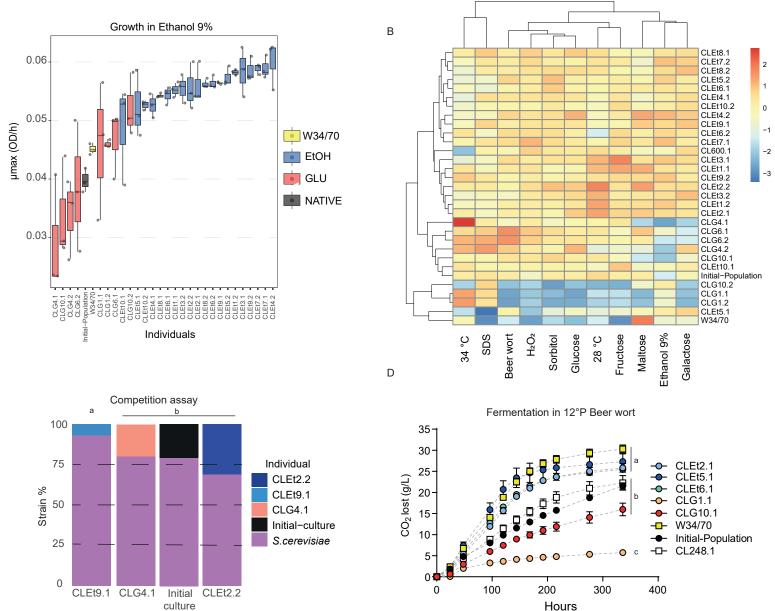
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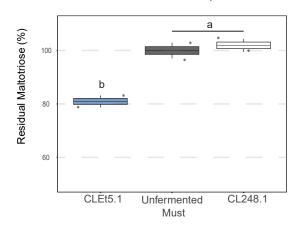
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Maltotriose consumption

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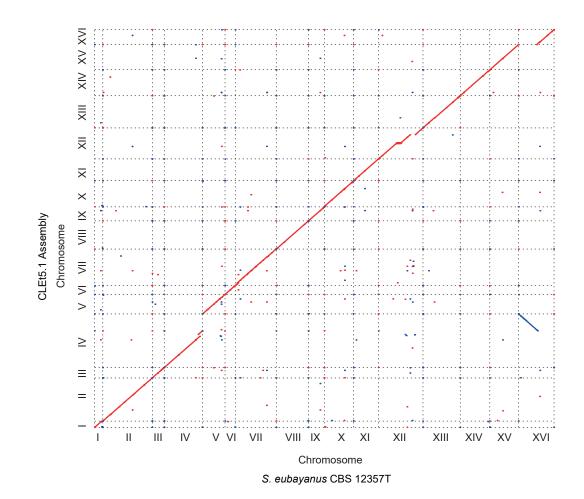
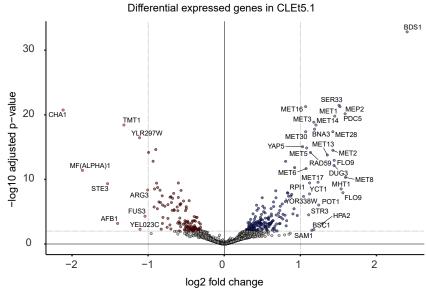
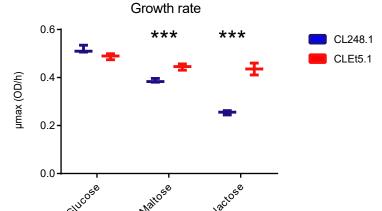


Figure 4.

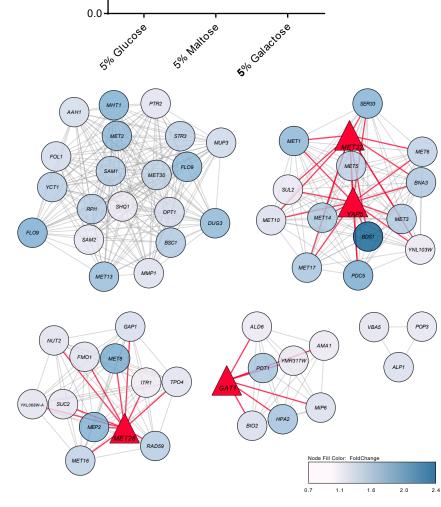
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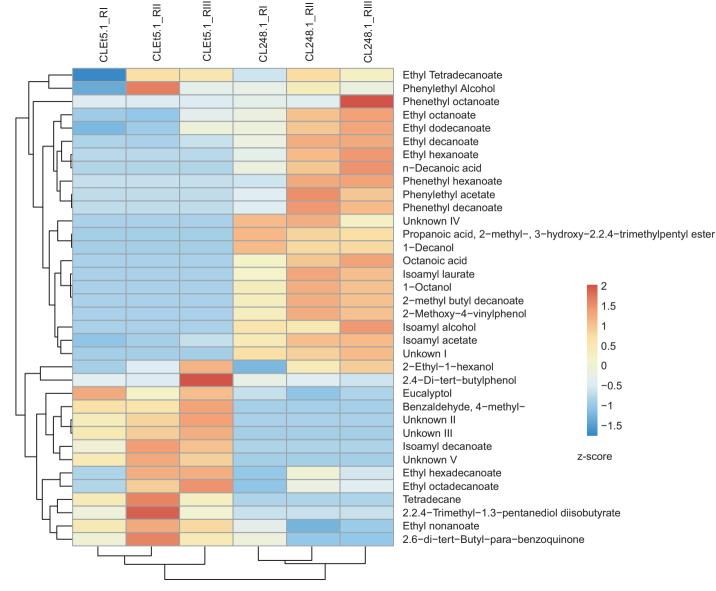


Figure 6