Omics-based label-free metabolic flux inference reveals dysregulation of glucose

metabolism in liver associated with obesity

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SUMMARY

Glucose homeostasis is maintained by modulating metabolic flux through various metabolic pathways in metabolic organs such as liver, and a change in metabolic flux is regulated by enzymes and metabolites. Obesity represents dysregulation of the glucose homeostasis, but changes in metabolic fluxes and their regulations associated with obesity have not been fully understood. Here we introduce Omics-based Metabolic flux Estimation without Labeling for Extended Trans-omic analysis (OMELET), an approach that uses metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic data to identify changes in metabolic flux, and to quantify contributions of metabolites, enzymes and transcripts to the changes in metabolic flux. We identified obesity-associated increases in metabolic fluxes through gluconeogenesis and pyruvate cycle in fasting *ob*/*ob* mice. The increased metabolic flux through gluconeogenesis was contributed by increased transcripts, while that through pyruvate cycle by increased transcripts and substrates. OMELET provided quantitative insights into alteration and dysregulation of metabolic flux in liver associated with obesity.

Highlights

- We created OMELET to infer metabolic flux and its regulation from multi-omic data.

- Gluconeogenic and pyruvate cycle flux increased in fasting *ob*/*ob* mice.

- Increased gluconeogenic fluxes in *ob*/*ob* mice were caused by increased transcripts.

- Increased pyruvate cycle fluxes were led by increased transcripts and substrates.

Keywords

Trans-omics, multi-omics, metabolic flux, gluconeogenesis, pyruvate cycle, mathematical modeling, Bayesian modeling, liver, obesity

INTRODUCTION

Glucose homeostasis is tightly regulated to meet the energy requirements of vital organs and maintain health. Dysregulation of glucose homeostasis leads to metabolic diseases such as obesity and type 2 diabetes (Kahn et al., 2006). The liver plays a central role in glucose homeostasis by regulating various pathways of glucose metabolism, including gluconeogenesis and glycolysis (Han et al., 2016). The importance of the liver in the pathophysiology of obesity has been widely recognized (Roden and Shulman, 2019). Fasting hyperglycemia in obesity is attributed to altered glucose metabolism in liver due to insulin resistance. Because of the complex nature of the pathophysiology of glucose metabolism in liver associated with obesity, the dysregulation of the whole system cannot be understood just by integrating the results of individual experiments from different conditions. Therefore, it is necessary to investigate alterations and dysregulation of glucose metabolism in liver associated with obesity using the data obtained under the same conditions.

Metabolic flux, a rate of turnover of molecules through a metabolic pathway, is a direct measure of the activity of the metabolic pathway rather than the amounts of metabolites *per se* (Jang et al., 2018). The standard method for measuring metabolic flux is an isotopic labeling experiment, in which isotopic tracers are introduced into cells or living animals (Hasenour et al., 2015, 2020). One of the problems with the application of isotope labeling experiments to living animals is that the addition of isotopic tracers can perturb metabolic flux of interest, resulting in the different metabolic states (Previs and Kelley, 2015). For example, when ^{13}C-propionate or ^{13}C-lactate is used as isotopic tracer for measurement of gluconeogenic flux, the measured metabolic fluxes were different because the administration of ^{13}C-propionate induced an artificial increase in the metabolic flux through pyruvate cycle (Perry et al., 2016). Therefore, the addition of isotopic tracers inevitably induces artificial changes in metabolic flux. To avoid the effects of the addition of isotopic tracers, a method to infer metabolic flux without using

isotopic tracers is needed to be developed.

Metabolic flux is controlled by multiple regulators: enzymes, substrates,

products and cofactors. Enzymes are regulated by allosteric effectors and other factors

such as post-translational modifications of enzymes. The amounts of enzymes are

determined by the amounts of transcripts encoding the corresponding enzymes and other

factors such as translation and protein degradation. To investigate metabolic flux and its

complex regulation, the amounts of regulators of metabolic flux should be simultaneously

measured. The amounts of enzymes can be measured by proteomics, transcripts of

enzymes by transcriptomics, and the amounts of substrates, products, cofactors and

allosteric effectors by metabolomics. The simultaneously obtained multi-omic data can

be used to analyze the regulation of metabolic flux. We have proposed a trans-omic

analysis for the construction of a global biochemical network using the simultaneously

obtained multi-omic data based on direct molecular interaction (Egami et al., 2021;

Kawata et al., 2018; Kokaji et al., 2020; Yugi et al., 2014, 2016), but metabolic fluxes

have not been inferred. To analyze the regulation of metabolic flux, we developed a

kinetic trans-omic analysis using isotopic labeling experiments, and inferred metabolic

flux together with contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux across multiple

omic layers (Ohno et al., 2020). However, a method to analyze trans-omic regulation of

metabolic flux using multi-omic data without using isotopic tracers has not been

developed.

Here we present a method that we termed as Omics-based Metabolic flux

Estimation without Labeling for Extended Trans-omic analysis (OMELET). OMELET

infers metabolic fluxes in each condition from metabolomic, proteomic and

transcriptomic data, which are simultaneously obtained from the same individual mice,

identifies changes in metabolic flux between the conditions, and quantifies contributions

of regulators to the changes in metabolic flux. We obtained metabolomic, proteomic and

transcriptomic data from livers of wild-type (WT) and leptin-deficient obese (*ob*/*ob*) mice

at fasting state and four hours after oral glucose administration. By applying OMELET

to the experimental data, we inferred metabolic fluxes in each condition. At fasting state,

metabolic fluxes through reactions in gluconeogenesis and pyruvate cycle increased in

ob/*ob* mice compared to WT mice. We quantified contributions of regulators to changes

in metabolic flux between the conditions. The increased metabolic fluxes through

reactions in gluconeogenesis were caused by increased transcripts. In contrast, the

increased metabolic fluxes through pyruvate kinase (PK) and phosphoenolpyruvate

carboxykinase (PEPCK) in pyruvate cycle were caused by increased transcripts and

substrates, respectively. We also quantified the contributions of regulators to changes in

metabolic flux by oral glucose administration. By oral glucose administration, metabolic

flux through PK decreased in both WT and *ob*/*ob* mice, however, decreased PK flux was

caused by increased ATP as an allosteric inhibitor in WT mice, whereas that was caused

by its decreased transcript in *ob*/*ob* mice. Thus, OMELET provided quantitative insights

into alteration and dysregulation of metabolic flux associated with obesity without using

isotopic tracers.

RESULTS

Overview of OMELET

In this study, we developed a method that we termed as Omics-based Metabolic flux

Estimation without Labeling for Extended Trans-omic analysis (OMELET) to infer

metabolic flux using multi-omic data without using isotopic tracers, identify changes in

metabolic flux between conditions, and quantify contributions of regulators to the

changes in metabolic flux (Figure 1).

We orally administered glucose to 16 hours fasting WT and *ob/ob* mice, and

collected livers at zero and four hours after oral glucose administration (Figure 1:

Experimental data). We had four conditions: WT at fasting state, WT after oral glucose

administration, *ob/ob* at fasting state and *ob/ob* after oral glucose administration. In each

condition, we measured the amounts of metabolites, proteins and transcripts of liver

samples from the same individual mice.

By applying OMELET to the experimental data, we inferred metabolic fluxes in

the glucose metabolism in each condition, and identified changes in metabolic flux

between the conditions (Figure 1: Step 1). A metabolic flux refers to the rate of turnover

of a metabolite, and is a direct measure of the activity of the metabolic pathway. We

focused on reactions in the glucose metabolism, and inferred metabolic fluxes through

the reactions in glycogenolysis, gluconeogenesis, lactate and alanine metabolism,

pyruvate cycle and TCA cycle (Figure 1; Table S1).

We considered regulators of metabolic flux including transcripts, unaccounted

enzyme regulators, substrate, product, cofactor, allosteric effector and unaccounted flux

regulators. The changes in metabolic fluxes between conditions are caused by the changes

of regulators. To investigate which regulators caused changes in metabolic flux between

the conditions, we quantified contributions of the regulators to changes in metabolic flux

between the conditions (Figure 1: Step 2). Contributions of enzyme referred to those of

the amounts of proteins, which were the sum of those of transcript and unaccounted

enzyme regulators, representing the contributions of gene expression of the enzyme and

unaccounted regulation for protein expression of the enzyme, respectively.

By integrating changes in the experimental data, changes in metabolic flux

(Figure 1: Step 1), and contributions of the regulators to the changes in metabolic flux

between the conditions (Figure 1: Step 2), we constructed a quantitative trans-omic

network for changes in metabolic flux in the glucose metabolism in liver (Figure 1: Step

3).

Metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic data in the glucose metabolism in liver

of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and after oral glucose administration

We obtained metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic data from livers of WT and

ob/*ob* mice at fasting state and four hours after oral glucose administration (Figure 2),

where the blood glucose and insulin remained constant (Figures S1A and S1B). The

transcriptomic data were reported in our previous studies (Egami et al., 2021; Kokaji et

al., 2020), and the metabolomic and proteomic data were newly obtained in this study

(Materials and Methods). We selected 28 metabolites, 15 proteins and 17 transcripts in

the glucose metabolism from the metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic data (Table

S2). Principal component analysis of the metabolites, proteins and transcripts showed that

the first principal components captured differences between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice, and the

second principal components captured changes by oral glucose administration (Figure

S1C). For the metabolites, proteins and transcripts, the explained variance ratio of the

first principal components (58%, 81% and 50%) exceeded 50%, and the second principal

components (11%, 8% and 15%) were less than 15%. This result suggests that the

differences in the metabolites, proteins and transcripts in the glucose metabolism between

WT and *ob*/*ob* mice were larger than changes by oral glucose administration.

We defined increased and decreased molecules between the conditions.

Molecules that showed an FDR-adjusted p value (q value) less than 0.05 are defined as

significantly changed molecules. Among them, molecules that showed a fold change

larger than 1.5 and smaller than 0.67 were defined as increased and decreased molecules

between the conditions.

At fasting state, increased metabolites in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice

included those in glycogenolysis (glycogen and glucose 1-phosphate; G1P),

gluconeogenesis (glucose 6-phosphate; G6P, fructose 6-phosphate; F6P, fructose 1,6-

bisphosphate; F1,6P and phosphoenolpyruvate; PEP) and TCA cycle (citrate and

succinate). Decreased metabolites in *ob*/*ob* mice included lactate and acetyl-CoA. After

oral glucose administration, increased metabolites in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice

were similar to those at fasting state except for a few metabolites (glycogen, glycerol 3-

phosphate; G3P, PEP, malate, alanine and acetyl-CoA), which did not significantly

change between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice. Metabolites that significantly increased by glucose

administration in WT mice included those in glycogenolysis (glycogen and G1P) and

gluconeogenesis (G6P, F6P and PEP). In contrast, in *ob*/*ob* mice no metabolites in the

glucose metabolism were significantly changed by glucose administration.

We identified increased and decreased proteins between the conditions. At

fasting state, increased proteins in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice included those in

gluconeogenesis (glucose-6-phosphate isomerase 1; Gpi1, fructose bisphosphatase 1;

Fbp1, glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase 1; Gpd1, phosphoglycerate mutase 1; Pgam1

and enolase 1; Eno1), lactate dehydrogenase A (Ldha) and pyruvate kinase (Pklr).

Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase 1 (Pck1) was the only protein in the glucose

metabolism that decreased in *ob*/*ob* mice. After oral glucose administration, increased

proteins in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice included those in gluconeogenesis (Gpi1,

Fbp1 and Gpd1) and Pklr. No proteins increased or decreased by oral glucose

administration in WT or *ob*/*ob* mice.

We identified increased and decreased transcripts between the conditions. At

fasting state, increased transcripts in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice included *Gpd1*

and *Pklr*. After oral glucose administration, increased transcripts in *ob*/*ob* mice included

Gpi1, *Pklr* and *Cs*. No transcripts increased or decreased by glucose administration in WT

or *ob*/*ob* mice.

The amounts of metabolites, proteins and transcripts do not directly reflect

metabolic flux and its regulation; however, these data contain sufficient information to

infer metabolic flux and its regulation. Therefore, we developed a method to infer

metabolic flux and its regulation using the metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic

data.

Inference of metabolic fluxes by OMELET

We developed a method that we term OMELET to infer metabolic fluxes in the glucose

metabolism in each condition, and to identify changes in metabolic flux between the

conditions (Figures 3 and S2). Briefly, OMELET evaluated the likelihoods of the

enzymes and transcripts using kinetic equations combined with prior and hyperprior for

metabolic flux under steady-state assumption. Because the blood glucose and insulin

remained constant both in WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and four hours after oral

glucose administration (Figures S1A and S1B), we assumed steady-state conditions for

the glucose metabolism in livers of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice.

The inputs of OMELET are the experimental data of the amounts of metabolites

x, proteins e and transcripts t from the same individual mice in each condition as well

as model definitions including stoichiometric matrix and information on cofactors and

allosteric effectors. The outputs are metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism v' in

each condition, elasticity coefficients ϵ and protein turnover coefficients β. OMELET

was based on a Bayesian method calculating posterior probability of the output

parameters $p(v', \epsilon, \beta | x, e, t)$ by updating prior probability of parameters ($p(v'|u)$,

$p(\epsilon)$ and $p(\beta)$) and hyperprior of independent flux $p(u|\mu^u)$ through evaluating

likelihoods of the proteomic and transcriptomic data under a given parameter set

$p(e, t | x, v', \beta, \epsilon)$ (Materials and Methods). We used the elasticity coefficients ϵ and

protein turnover coefficients β simultaneously inferred with metabolic fluxes v' to

calculate contributions of regulators to the changes in metabolic flux between the

conditions. OMELET allowed us to identify changes in metabolic flux between the

conditions as well as the extent to which regulators such as changes in the amounts of

enzymes and metabolites contributed the changes in metabolic flux between the

conditions.

We validated the performance of OMELET by applying it to the simulated

datasets of the amounts of metabolites, enzymes and metabolic fluxes in five conditions

from a kinetic model expressing yeast glycolysis (Messiha et al., 2014; Smallbone et al.,

2013) (Figure S3; Table S3). The metabolic fluxes inferred by OMELET showed high

correlation with those generated by steady-state simulation of the kinetic model (Figure

S3), indicating that OMELET accurately identify the difference of metabolic fluxes across

reactions in the glycolysis in each condition and changes in metabolic flux among

conditions.

Inference of metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism in liver of WT and *ob*/*ob*

mice at fasting state and after oral glucose administration

By applying OMELET to the experimental data, we inferred metabolic fluxes in the

glucose metabolism in four conditions of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and after

oral glucose administration (Figure 4A; Table S4). The posterior distributions of the

metabolic fluxes were obtained by fitting the model to the experimental data of the

amounts of enzymes and transcripts in each condition (Figure S4). We assumed that

glucose production was dominant in all the conditions analyzed according to the previous

studies (Jin et al., 2013; Turner et al., 2005), and fixed the direction of the metabolic flux

from G6P to glucose, which we called glucose-6-phosphatase (G6PC) in this study, as

glucose production. A metabolic flux through each reaction was simultaneously inferred

in all the conditions relative to that through G6PC in WT mice at fasting state (Materials

and Methods).

The metabolic flux through G6PC as glucose production is the sum of that

through phosphoglucomutase (PGM) in glycogenolysis and fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase

(FBPase) in gluconeogenesis. In WT mice at fasting state, the median of metabolic flux

through FBPase (0.92) was larger than that through PGM (0.17), suggesting that glucose

production was dependent on gluconeogenesis (Figure 4A: WT at fasting state). The small

metabolic flux through PGM is consistent with the depletion of glycogen in WT mice at

fasting state (Figure 2). The metabolic flux through FBPase was further divided into that

through glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GPD) and alpha-enolase (ENO), which

represented the metabolic flux through gluconeogenesis from glycerol and PEP,

respectively. The median of metabolic flux through ENO (1.1) was larger than that

through GPD (0.75), indicating that PEP is preferentially used for glucose production

compared to glycerol. In pyruvate cycle, the median of metabolic flux through PEPCK

(2.1) and pyruvate carboxylase (PC, 1.8) was larger than that through ENO (1.1), while

that through PK (0.98) was smaller. This result suggests that PEP was preferentially used

for glucose production rather than returning to pyruvate. The median of metabolic flux

through PK (0.98) was larger than those through alanine aminotransferase (GPT, 0.41)

and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH, 0.35), suggesting that the return of PEP to pyruvate

through PK was the major source for pyruvate. In TCA cycle, 95% credible intervals of

the metabolic fluxes were large, indicating that the metabolic fluxes through reactions in

TCA cycle were not reliably determined. The metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism

in liver of fasting WT mice inferred by OMELET were consistent with those in the

previous metabolic flux analyses in fasting WT mice (Burgess et al., 2015; Hasenour et

al., 2015, 2020; Satapati et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2020) (Figures S5A and S5B), indicating

that OMELET was sufficiently accurate to infer the metabolic fluxes in the glucose

metabolism in liver of WT mice at fasting state.

For *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state, we calculated fold changes of the metabolic flux

of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice for each reaction (Figure 4B (i)). The medians of fold

changes of metabolic fluxes through FBPase (2.01), GPD (2.47), ENO (1.74) in

gluconeogenesis, LDH (2.50), GPT (2.24) in lactate and alanine metabolism, PK (1.59),

PC (2.04) and PEPCK (2.24) in pyruvate cycle were larger than those through reactions

in glycogenolysis and TCA cycle. The metabolic flux through G6PC, glucose production,

is a sum of the metabolic flux through PGM, GPD, LDH, GPT and glutamate

dehydrogenase (GLUD). We quantified the fraction of sources of the glucose production

by calculating the proportion of the metabolic flux through PGM, GPD, LDH, GPT and

GLUD to that through G6PC, which represent glycogen, glycerol, lactate, alanine and

glutamate as sources, respectively (Figure 4C). The fraction of glycerol increased from

34% in fasting WT mice to 45% in fasting *ob*/*ob* mice, suggesting that fat accumulation

in liver of *ob*/*ob* mice caused an increased supply of glycerol as a precursor for glucose.

The fraction of alanine increased from 19% in fasting WT mice to 24% in fasting *ob*/*ob*

mice while that of lactate decreased from 16% to 13%, implying the increased glucose-

alanine cycle and decreased glucose-lactate cycle in *ob*/*ob* mice. To evaluate the

efficiency to utilize carbons of PEP for glucose production through gluconeogenesis

rather than for returning to pyruvate through pyruvate cycle, we compared the

composition of the metabolic flux through PEPCK between fasting WT and *ob*/*ob* mice

(Figure 4D). Compared to WT mice, the composition of the metabolic flux through PK

in *ob*/*ob* mice increased and was comparable with the composition of that through ENO,

indicating the less efficient use of PEP as a source of glucose in *ob*/*ob* than in WT mice.

The fold changes of the metabolic fluxes through most reactions in the glucose

metabolism of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice inferred by OMELET were consistent

with those in the previous metabolic flux analyses in fasting *ob*/*ob* mice (Turner et al.,

2005) and high-fat diet-induced obese mice (Patterson et al., 2016; Satapati et al., 2012)

except for that through glycogenolysis (Figures S5C and S5D). Collectively, we identified

increases in metabolic fluxes through gluconeogenesis and pyruvate cycle in *ob*/*ob* mice

compared to WT mice at fasting state.

For metabolic fluxes after oral glucose administration, we calculated fold

changes of the metabolic flux after oral glucose administration over that at fasting state

in WT and *ob*/*ob* mice (Figures 4B (iii) and (iv)). The metabolic fluxes through most

reactions slightly increased in WT mice and decreased in *ob*/*ob* mice by oral glucose

administration. As an exception, the metabolic flux through PK slightly decreased by oral

glucose administration both in WT and *ob*/*ob* mice. Changes in the sources of glucose

production and the composition of the metabolic flux through PEPCK by oral glucose

administration were smaller than those between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice (Figures 4C and 4D).

These results suggest the change in metabolic flux between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting

state was maintained after oral glucose administration while metabolic fluxes slightly

increased in WT mice and decreased in *ob*/*ob* mice by oral glucose administration.

Contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between fasting WT and

***ob*/*ob* mice**

A metabolic flux is controlled by multiple regulators including enzymes, substrates,

products, cofactors and allosteric effectors. To investigate which regulator caused

changed metabolic flux between the conditions, we quantified contributions of the

regulators to changes in metabolic flux between the conditions (Figures 5 and S6 (i);

Table S5). For each regulator, we calculated the product of the squared sensitivity of the

regulator to metabolic flux, which is calculated using the elasticity coefficients (Figure

S7) and turnover coefficients, and the squared change in the amounts of the regulator

between the conditions. The contribution of the regulator is defined as the proportion of

the product of the regulator to the sum of the products of all the regulators following the

method previously described (Hackett et al., 2016) (Materials and Methods).

We defined contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux (Figure 5A).

The regulators of metabolic flux were transcripts, unaccounted enzyme regulators,

substrates, products, cofactors, allosteric effectors and unaccounted flux regulators. The

unaccounted 'enzyme' regulators can include other regulatory mechanisms of the protein

amount of enzyme such as protein degradation and stability. The unaccounted 'flux'

regulators can include other regulatory mechanisms of the metabolic flux such as

phosphorylation of enzymes and unknown allosteric effectors which were not included in

OMELET. The contribution of regulator h to a change in metabolic flux through each

reaction ψ_h was calculated as

$$\psi_h = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y_h}\right)^2 (\Delta y_h)^2}{\sum_h \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y_h}\right)^2 (\Delta y_h)^2}$$

with a sensitivity of the regulator to the metabolic flux v $(\partial v/\partial y_h)$ and a change in the

amount of the regulator between conditions Δy_h. The contribution is calculated for

changes in metabolic flux through each reaction between each pair of condition. The sum

of the contributions of all regulators to a change in metabolic flux equals one, and a larger

contribution indicates a stronger regulatory effect on metabolic flux. We discussed

regulators whose contributions were larger than 0.25 below.

The contribution is represented as a distribution (Figure S6 (i)), and the mean of

the distribution is shown in the same order of regulators (Figure 5B). The contribution is

a normalized value for each metabolic flux and independent of the magnitude of the

changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. We examined the relationships between

the contributions of enzyme or metabolite and the fold changes of the metabolic flux of

ob/ob mice over that of WT mice at fasting state (Figures 5C and 5D). The contribution

of enzyme is the sum of that of transcript and unaccounted enzyme regulators, and the

contribution of metabolites is the sum of that of substrate, product, cofactor and allosteric

effector.

For the contribution of enzyme, the larger contributions of enzyme showed the

larger fold changes of the metabolic flux (Figure 5C). By contrast, for the contribution of metabolite, the smaller contributions of metabolite showed the smaller fold changes of the metabolic flux (Figure 5D). Exceptionally, for PEPCK, the contribution of enzyme was smaller, and that of metabolite was larger.

The contribution of a regulator is functionally effective only when the fold change of metabolic flux is large. We assumed that fold change of metabolic flux more than 1.5 is important, and further investigated the contributions of regulators for such metabolic flux (Figure 5B, red). Such metabolic fluxes included those through reactions in gluconeogenesis, lactate and alanine metabolism, and pyruvate cycle, but not in glycogenolysis or TCA cycle. In most reactions, the contribution of transcript was largest among regulators, indicating that the increased metabolic fluxes were mainly caused by increased transcripts. Exceptionally, for PEPCK, that of substrate (0.74) was larger, indicating that increased metabolic flux through PEPCK in pyruvate cycle was caused by increased substrates.

Quantitative trans-omic networks for changes in metabolic flux between WT and *ob/ob* mice at fasting state

To reveal a global landscape of alteration and dysregulation of metabolic flux in fasting *ob/ob* mice, we constructed a quantitative trans-omic network by integrating the experimental data (Figure 2), the changes in metabolic flux (Figure 4), and the contributions of the regulators (Figure 5) (Figure 6). The quantitative trans-omic network consisted of four layers (Transcript, Enzyme, Metabolic Flux and Metabolite) (Figures 6A-D). Nodes in Transcript, Enzyme and Metabolite layer (circles) represented the transcripts, proteins and metabolites. Nodes in Metabolic Flux layer (lines within layer) represented the reactions. Edges from Transcript layer to Enzyme layer represented regulation of enzyme by transcript, and those by unaccounted enzyme regulators were not displayed. Edges from Enzyme layer to Metabolic Flux layer represented contributions

of enzyme to changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. Edges from Metabolite

layer to Metabolic Flux layer represent regulation of changes in metabolic flux by

metabolites as substrate, product, cofactor and allosteric effector. Unaccounted flux

regulators were not displayed. The size of nodes represents fold changes of corresponding

molecules of *ob/ob* mice over those of WT mice, and the size of edges represents

contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux.

We extracted the subnetwork of gluconeogenesis and lactate and alanine

metabolism (Figure 6C), and pyruvate cycle (Figure 6D), where the fold-change of

metabolic flux is larger than 1.5 (Figure 5B, red). In the subnetwork of gluconeogenesis

and lactate and alanine metabolism (Figure 6C), enzymes including Gpi1, Fbp1, Gpd1,

Pgam1, Eno1, Ldha in Enzyme layer as well as substrates and products including G6P,

F6P, F1,6P, PEP and alanine in Metabolite layer increased in *ob/ob* mice. The edges from

the enzymes in Enzyme layer to reactions including glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (GPI),

FBPase, GPD, phosphoglycerate mutase (PGAM), ENO, LDH and GPT in Metabolic

Flux layer (0.89-0.98) were larger than those from the metabolites in Metabolite layer to

the reactions in Metabolic Flux layer (less than 0.10), indicating that the contributions of

enzyme were larger than those of metabolites. The edges from transcripts including *Gpd1*,

Pgam1, *Eno1*, *Ldha* and *Gpt* in Transcript layer to the enzymes in Enzyme layer were

almost equal to those from the enzymes in Enzyme layer to the reactions in Metabolic

Flux layer except for Gpi1 (0.50 and 0.90) and Fbp1 (0.15 and 0.96), indicating that

contributions of enzyme to changes in metabolic flux were explained by those of

transcript in most of the reactions. These results indicate that the increased gene

expression of enzymes mainly contributed to the increased metabolic fluxes, which

caused increased metabolites in gluconeogenesis and lactate and alanine metabolism in

ob/ob mice (Figure 6E).

In the subnetwork of pyruvate cycle (Figure 6D), substrates including PEP,

pyruvate and oxaloacetate in Metabolite layer connected to PK, PC and PEPCK in

Metabolic Flux layer increased in *ob/ob* mice. In contrast, Pklr in Enzyme layer connected

to PK in Metabolic Flux layer increased, pyruvate carboxylase (Pcx) connected to PC was

not significantly changed, and Pck1 connected to PEPCK decreased in *ob/ob* mice. The

edge from Pklr in Enzyme layer to PK in Metabolic Flux layer (0.86) was larger than

edges from its substrate PEP in Metabolite layer to PK in Metabolic Flux layer (0.12),

indicating that enzyme, rather than metabolite, contributed to changes in metabolic flux

through PK. The edge from Pcx in Enzyme layer to PC in Metabolic Flux layer (0.61)

and that from its substrate pyruvate in Metabolite layer to PC in Metabolic Flux layer

(0.31) were large, indicating that both enzyme and substrate contributed to changes in

metabolic flux through PC. The edge from Pck1 in Enzyme layer to PEPCK in Metabolic

Flux layer (0.18) was smaller than that from its substrate oxaloacetate in Metabolite layer

to PEPCK in Metabolic Flux layer (0.74), indicating that substrate, rather than enzyme,

contributed to changes in metabolic flux through PEPCK. In all metabolic fluxes through

PK, PC and PEPCK in pyruvate cycle, edges from *Pklr*, *Pcx* and *Pck1* in Transcript layer

to Pklr, Pcx and Pck1 in Enzyme layer (0.86, 0.59 and 0.18) were almost equal to those

from Pklr, Pcx and Pck1 in Enzyme layer to PK, PC and PEPCK in Metabolic Flux layer

(0.86, 0.61 and 0.18), indicating that the contributions of enzyme to changes in the

metabolic flux were explained by those of transcript. Collectively, the main regulator of

changes in metabolic flux between WT and *ob/ob* mice was an increased transcript for

the metabolic flux through PK, an increased transcript and substrate for that through PC,

and an increased substrate for that through PEPCK (Figure 6E). These results suggest that

the increased *Pklr* expression triggered the increased metabolic flux through pyruvate

cycle, which caused the accumulations of substrates including pyruvate and oxaloacetate,

and large contributions of substrates to increases in metabolic fluxes through downstream

reactions of PC and PEPCK.

We also constructed a quantitative trans-omic network after oral glucose

administration (Figure S8), which showed similar features with those at fasting state. This

result indicates that oral glucose administration had little effect on changes in the

metabolic flux between WT and *ob/ob* mice, and the contributions of the regulators to the

changes in the metabolic flux.

Contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux by oral glucose

administration

We quantified contributions of the regulators to changes in metabolic flux by oral glucose

administration in WT and *ob/ob* mice (Figures 7, S6 (iii) and (iv);Table S5). We examined

the relationships between contributions of enzyme or metabolite to changes in metabolic

flux and fold changes of metabolic fluxes after oral glucose administration over those at

fasting state (Figure 7A). None of the reactions showed a fold change of metabolic flux

more than 1.5 nor less than 0.67, and no apparent relationship was found between the

contributions of enzyme or metabolite and fold changes of the metabolic flux by oral

glucose administration.

Among all the reactions, the biggest difference in the contribution of the

regulators by oral glucose administration between WT and *ob/ob* mice was found in PK

(Figure 7B, right). The contribution of allosteric effectors to the change in metabolic flux

through PK was the largest in WT mice (0.55, Figures 7B (iii) and S6 (iii)), whereas the

contribution of transcript was the largest in *ob/ob* mice (0.93). These results suggest that

the change in metabolic flux through PK by oral glucose administration was caused by

different mechanisms between WT and *ob/ob* mice: changed allosteric effectors in WT

mice and changed transcripts in *ob/ob* mice.

To explore the differences of the contributions of the regulators to the decreased

metabolic flux through PK between WT and *ob/ob* mice, we constructed a quantitative

trans-omic network for the change metabolic flux through PK by oral glucose

administration in WT mice (Figure 7C (iii)) and *ob/ob* mice (Figure 7C (iv)). In WT mice,

the substrate PEP and allosteric inhibitor ATP in Metabolite layer increased by oral

glucose administration (Figure 7C (iii)). The edge from ATP in Metabolite layer to PK in

Metabolic Flux layer (0.50) was the largest among the edges from the metabolites in

Metabolite layer to PK in Metabolic Flux layer, indicating that the contribution of ATP

was the largest among the metabolites. In *ob/ob* mice, no metabolites in Metabolite layer

increased nor decreased by oral glucose administration (Figure 7C (iv)). The edge from

Pklr in Enzyme layer to PK in Metabolic Flux layer (0.95) was larger than edges from the

metabolites including PEP, ADP, F1,6P, ATP, alanine and phenylalanine in Metabolite

layer to PK in Metabolic Flux layer (less than 0.10), indicating that the contribution of

enzyme was larger than that of the metabolites. The edge from *Pklr* in Transcript layer to

Pklr in Enzyme layer (0.93) was almost equal to that from Pklr in Enzyme layer to PK in

Metabolic Flux layer (0.95), indicating that the contribution of enzyme was explained by

those of transcript. These results suggest that the change in metabolic flux through PK

was caused by increased ATP as an allosteric inhibitor in WT mice and by slightly

decreased *Pklr* transcript in *ob/ob* mice. Given that the changes of metabolic flux through

PK was not large by oral glucose administration (Fig. 4B), WT and *ob/ob* mice used

different regulatory mechanisms, allosteric regulation and transcripts, respectively, to

maintain the metabolic flux through PK rather than to change metabolic flux.

DISCUSSION

In this study, we developed a method OMELET to investigate alterations and dysregulation of metabolic flux in liver associated with obesity. Using OMELET, we inferred metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism in livers of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and after oral glucose administration to identify changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. The metabolic flux through reactions in gluconeogenesis and pyruvate cycle increased in *ob*/*ob* mice compared to WT mice at fasting state. The increased metabolic fluxes through reactions in gluconeogenesis were mainly caused by increased transcripts. In contrast, the increased metabolic fluxes through PK and PEPCK in pyruvate cycle were caused by increased transcript and substrate, respectively. By oral glucose administration, changes in metabolic fluxes were small compared to those between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice. In WT mice, slightly decreased metabolic flux through PK by oral glucose administration was caused by increased ATP as an allosteric inhibitor, whereas in *ob*/*ob* mice the slightly decreased PK flux was caused by the slightly decreased transcript. Given that the changes in metabolic flux through PK was not large by oral glucose administration (Figure 4B), WT and *ob*/*ob* mice used different regulatory mechanisms, allosteric regulation and transcripts, respectively, to maintain the metabolic flux through PK rather than to change metabolic flux.

Although an isotopic labeling experiment is a powerful technique to measure metabolic flux, the addition of isotopic tracers introduced into living animals may perturb the activity of the metabolic pathway of interest. OMELET does not require isotopic labeling data to infer metabolic flux, and can avoid possible perturbations caused by the addition of isotopic tracers. However, the accuracy of inference of metabolic flux without isotopic labeling data is needed to be validated. We validated the performance of OMELET by applying it to the simulated datasets from a kinetic model expressing the yeast glycolysis (Messiha et al., 2014; Smallbone et al., 2013) (Figure S3). We also applied OMELET to the data in fasting mouse liver and found that the inferred metabolic

fluxes in WT mice were consistent with those in the previous studies (Figures S5A and

S5B). The fold changes of the metabolic fluxes through most reactions in the glucose

metabolism of *ob/ob* mice over that of WT mice inferred by OMELET were consistent

with those in the previous studies, except for that through glycogenolysis (Figures S5C

and S5D). These results suggest that the experimental data of the amounts of enzymes

and metabolites contain information on metabolic fluxes as latent parameters, which can

be inferred by a generative model in OMELET.

We used the simultaneously obtained experimental dataset of the amounts of

metabolites, proteins and transcripts of the same samples for OMELET. Such datasets

enabled us to apply a Bayesian method rather than analyzing the population mean. A

Bayesian method can incorporate uncertainties inherent in the experimental data, such as

measurement noise and population heterogeneity. Based on a Bayesian method, we

assume the experimental data to have arisen from a generative model describing the

underlying processes given latent parameters and evaluate the probability that the model

yields the data by likelihood. In OMELET, the enzymes were derived from a generative

model based on metabolic flux, and the transcripts from a generative model based on

protein turnover (Figures 3 and S2). Using these two generative models in OMELET, we

evaluated the likelihood of the enzymes and transcripts from each mouse to infer

unknown parameters including metabolic fluxes, elasticity coefficients and protein

turnover coefficients. Using simultaneously obtained multi-omic data, although it is not

easy to obtain such data because of experimental and technical costs, a Bayesian method

has the potential to analyze metabolic flux (Heinonen et al., 2019) and its regulation

(Hackett et al., 2016; John et al., 2019; Saa and Nielsen, 2016).

There are several limitations in this study. The 95% credible intervals of the

metabolic fluxes in TCA cycle were large, indicating that the metabolic fluxes in TCA

cycle were not reliably determined (Figure 4A). The inaccuracy of the inferred metabolic

fluxes in TCA cycle may be due to little changes in the amounts of enzymes and

metabolites in TCA cycle between the conditions. We do not consider the

compartmentation of reactions into cytoplasm and mitochondria, and inferred metabolic

fluxes averaged in a whole cell, which may result in the inaccuracy of inference of

metabolic fluxes. In addition, OMELET is based on a steady-state assumption and cannot

infer dynamic changes in metabolic flux under non-steady-state conditions.

Using OMELET, we found alteration and dysregulation of metabolic flux

associated with obesity. We found that the large increase in metabolic flux through

reactions in gluconeogenesis and lactate and alanine metabolism in *ob/ob* mice compared

to WT mice at fasting state was mainly caused by increased gene expression of the

enzymes (Figure 4). There are several transcription factors involved in the control of gene

expressions in gluconeogenesis and lactate and alanine metabolism. For example, CREB

(cAMP response element-binding protein) activates transcription of *G6pc* and *Fbp1*

(Hanson and Reshef, 1997; Herzig et al., 2001), as well as *Gpi1*, *Pgam1*, *Ldha* and *Gpt*

(Everett et al., 2013). Liver-specific knockdown of CREB reduced fasting plasma glucose

concentrations in *ob/ob* mice through downregulation of *G6pc* and *Fbp1* (Erion et al.,

2009). In addition to these key transcription factors identified by individual experiments,

the recent high-throughput measurements and multi-omic analysis have revealed many

more transcription factors responsible for metabolic alteration associated with obesity

(Egami et al., 2021; Kokaji et al., 2020; Soltis et al., 2017). These studies suggest that

transcription factors contribute changes in metabolic flux in glucose metabolism

associated with obesity, but metabolic flux is also regulated by metabolites including

substrates, products, cofactors and allosteric effectors. In this study, we found that

transcripts, rather than metabolites, mainly contributed to the changes in metabolic flux

(Figure 4). Our results suggest that transcription factors would trigger increased

gluconeogenic flux associated with obesity by modulating gene expression of the

enzymes.

In pyruvate cycle, increased oxaloacetate as substrate, rather than Pck1 amount,

contributed increased metabolic flux through PEPCK in fasting *ob*/*ob* mice (Figure 5B).

Several metabolic flux analyses showed that the metabolic flux through PEPCK increased

associated with obesity (Patterson et al., 2016; Satapati et al., 2012; Sunny et al., 2011),

which was consistent with our result (Figure 4B). Given that PEPCK is an irreversible

reaction and there are no known allosteric effectors, possible regulators of the metabolic

flux through PEPCK include Pck1 amounts, oxaloacetate as substrate, and GTP as

cofactor. However, it has been unclear which regulator mainly contributed the increased

metabolic flux through PEPCK associated with obesity. Among the possible regulators,

Pck1 amounts decreased associated with obesity at fasting state (Samuel et al., 2009;

Satapati et al., 2012; Sunny et al., 2011), which was observed in our proteomic data

(Figure 2). These studies suggest that the increased metabolic flux through PEPCK

associated with obesity at fasting state is not consistent with the decreased Pck1 amount.

Here we found that increased oxaloacetate, rather than Pck1 and GTP, contributed the

increased metabolic flux through PEPCK (Figure 5B). Therefore, the increased metabolic

flux through PEPCK associated with obesity can be explained by increased oxaloacetate.

The difference in contributions of regulators by oral glucose administration

between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice was found only in the changes in metabolic flux through PK.

In WT mice, the contribution of allosteric effectors, especially of ATP, was the largest

among regulators of metabolic flux through PK, while in *ob*/*ob* mice that of transcript

was the largest. The reason why allosteric regulation was not the main regulator in *ob*/*ob*

mice may be because amounts of allosteric effectors such as ATP are high even at fasting

state and do not increase by oral glucose administration (Figure 2).

In calculating contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between

the conditions, we considered unaccounted flux regulators as one of the regulators of

metabolic flux and unaccounted enzyme regulators as one of the regulators of enzymes.

The contributions of unaccounted flux regulators to changes in metabolic flux between

fasting WT and *ob*/*ob* mice were smaller than those of other regulators in all the reactions

in gluconeogenesis and pyruvate cycle, indicating that changes in metabolic fluxes

through these reactions can be explained by known regulators (Figures 5C and S6 (i)). In

contrast, the contributions of unaccounted enzyme regulators to changes in enzyme in

reactions through GPI and FBPase were relatively larger than those through other

reactions, indicating that the increase in enzyme in *ob/ob* mice cannot be explained by

the transcripts. Although we used a simple linear relationship between the amount of a

protein and a transcript in OMELET, the increase in protein not accompanied by the

changes in transcripts should be explained by other regulatory mechanisms such as

protein degradation and stability. Furthermore, the contributions of unaccounted flux

regulators to changes in metabolic flux between fasting and after oral glucose

administration were larger in many reactions than those between fasting WT and *ob/ob*

mice (Figures. 6B, S6 (iii) and (iv)). To explain the contributions of unaccounted flux

regulators, we need to consider posttranslational modifications of enzymes such as

phosphorylation by including phosphoproteomic data.

In conclusion, we developed OMELET using the simultaneously obtained multi-

omic data to infer metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism in each condition, and to

identify changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. Furthermore, we quantified

contributions of the regulators to the changes in metabolic flux between the conditions.

OMELET is designed to infer metabolic flux without using isotopic labeling data, and to

simultaneously infer changes in metabolic flux and contributions of regulators. The

quantitative trans-omic network sheds light on the insights into the obesity-associated

changes in the glucose metabolism in liver, and provides comprehensive molecular

mechanisms for understanding the pathology of alteration and dysregulation of metabolic

flux associated with obesity.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

S.U., S.O., and S.K. conceived the project; A. Hatano, T.K., Y.I., H.K., M.M., and K.I.N. designed and performed the animal experiments; A. Hirayama and T.S. performed metabolomic analysis using CE-MS; Y.S. performed transcriptomic analysis using RNA-seq; M.M. and K.I.N. performed proteomic analysis using LC-MS/MS; S.U., S.O., K.T., A. Hatano, T.K., Y.I., and K.H. analyzed the data; S.U., S.O., and K.T. performed mathematical modeling analyses. S.U., S.O., and S.K. wrote the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Lead Contact

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Shinya Kuroda (skuroda@bs.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp).

Materials Availability

This study did not generate new unique reagents.

Data and Code Availability

The datasets generated during this study are in the published article. The MATLAB and R code for OMELET are available at GitHub (https://github.com/usa0ri/OMELET). An image for Docker container that include RStan and R software to perform OMELET is available at DockerHub Registry (https://hub.docker.com/repository/docker/saori/rstan).

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Animals

We used the mouse liver samples obtained simultaneously with those previously published (Egami et al., 2021; Kokaji et al., 2020). Briefly, 10-week-old male C57BL/6J wild-type and *ob*/*ob* mice (Japan SLC, Inc., Shizuoka, Japan) were overnight (16 hours) fasted or administrated 2 g/kg body weight of glucose orally after overnight fasting. The mice before or four-hour after glucose loading were sacrificed by cervical dislocation and the whole or left lobe of the liver was dissected and immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen. The frozen liver was pulverized with dry ice to a fine powder with a blender and separated into tubes for transcriptomic, proteomic, and metabolomic measurements. Note that all the omics data was simultaneously measured from the same individual mice. All the mouse experiments were performed according to protocols approved by the animal ethics

committee of The University of Tokyo.

We had mice under four conditions: WT mice at fasting state (n=11), *ob*/*ob* mice

at fasting state (n=12), WT mice after oral glucose administration (n=12), and *ob*/*ob* mice

after oral glucose administration (n=12). The metabolomic data of five samples in each

condition were reported in our previous studies (Egami et al., 2021; Kokaji et al., 2020).

We newly obtained the metabolomic data from all the samples in this study. The

transcriptomic data from all the samples at fasting state and five after oral glucose

administration were reported in our previous studies. We newly obtained the

transcriptomic data from seven samples after oral glucose administration in this study.

METHOD DETAILS

Metabolic network for glucose metabolism in mice

A metabolic network for glucose metabolism in mice was constructed to infer metabolic

fluxes and quantify the contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between

conditions. The network consists of 27 metabolites and 22 reactions (Table S1) in

gluconeogenesis, glycogenolysis, lactate and alanine metabolism, and TCA cycle (Figure

1).

The liver produces glucose through the gluconeogenesis and consumes glucose

through glycolysis. The gluconeogenesis in liver includes reactions catalyzed by glucose-

6-phosphate (G6PC) and fructose-bisphosphatase 1 (FBPase), while the glycolysis

includes reactions by glucokinase (GK) and phosphofructokinase (liver type) (PFKL).

Assuming that the metabolic flux through GK and PFKL were negligible in livers of WT

and *ob*/*ob* mice in all the conditions, we included G6PC and FBPase in the metabolic

network but not included GK and PFKL. This is supported by several studies showing

that the glucose production was more dominant than the glucose consumption in livers of

overnight fasting WT mice (Burgess et al., 2005; Hasenour et al., 2015, 2020; Satapati et

al., 2012; Wang et al., 2020) and *ob*/*ob* mice (Turner et al., 2005). In addition, the glucose

 production from glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis occurred 150 min after oral glucose

administration in rat (Jin et al., 2003). Although we did not find any studies to support the

glucose production in *ob/ob* mice four hours after oral glucose administration, *ob/ob* mice

after oral glucose administration in this study showed similar temporal changes in blood

glucose and insulin (Figures S1A and B) to WT mice. Therefore, we included G6PC and

FBPase in the metabolic network but not included GK and PFKL reactions. This also

reduces the complexity of the metabolic model and computational cost for the metabolic

flux estimation.

Pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH), converting pyruvate to acetyl-CoA, was not

included in the metabolic network because several studies showed that the metabolic flux

through PDH was small (~5%) relative to those through TCA cycle in WT mice at fasting

state (Perry et al., 2016). Malic enzyme (ME), converting malate to pyruvate, was not

considered because ME inhibitor did not affect the metabolic flux producing pyruvate in

fasting rodent models (Hasenour et al., 2020; Perry et al., 2016; Petersen et al., 1995),

suggesting the small contribution of ME to the metabolic flux.

Cytoplasmic and mitochondrial compartments were not considered for

simplification and averaged metabolic fluxes as a single compartment were inferred in

this study. Malate dehydrogenase (Mdh) has cytoplasmic (Mdh1) and mitochondrial

(Mdh2) isoforms, but we only consider Mdh2 as a part of reactions in TCA cycle for

simplification.

Algorithm of omics-based metabolic flux estimation without labeling for extended
725

trans-omic analysis (OMELET)
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727 We first review a framework of Bayesian inference. Statistical model consists of a

728 likelihood, representing a probability of the observed data z at a given parameter values

729 θ, and a prior distribution for θ, denoting a probability distribution of each parameter

730 reflecting the feasible assumptions and prior knowledges. Bayes' theorem calculates the

731   renormalized product of the likelihood $p(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ and the prior distribution $p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$,

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{z}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

to produce the posterior parameter distribution $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{z})$, a probability of the parameters

taking the values given the observed data. The posterior distribution is obtained by

updating the parameter values following the prior distributions toward better fittings to

the observed data evaluated in likelihood. The definition of the prior distribution is critical

especially when the sample size is small whereas sufficient samples make its effects on

posterior parameter distribution decreases to get closer to maximal likelihood estimation.

One may assume additional parameters for prior distributions, which can be achieved by

defining hyperparameters $\boldsymbol{\eta}$,

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\eta}|\boldsymbol{z}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\eta})p(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

to introduce a hierarchical structure in prior distributions.

In Omics-based Metabolic flux Estimation without Labeling for Extended Trans-

omic analysis (OMELET), observed data $\boldsymbol{z}$ is the experimental data of the amounts of

metabolites, proteins and transcripts from the same samples obtained from multiple

conditions. The parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ include metabolic fluxes in each condition, elasticity

coefficients in linlog kinetics and protein turnover coefficients. The prior $p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is

defined for all the parameters, and the hyperprior $p(\boldsymbol{\eta})$ is defined only for metabolic

fluxes, which has hyperparameters $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ to obtain a steady-state metabolic flux distribution

based on the reactions of the metabolic network of interest. The likelihood $p(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$, which

described the relationship between the experimental data and the parameters, is the

product of the probability of the measured amounts of enzymes given the parameters and

the probability of the measured amounts of transcripts given the parameters.

We start from defining the prior and hyperprior for metabolic fluxes as

multivariable normal distribution in each condition $l = 1,2,...,g$. The metabolite

concentration $\boldsymbol{x}_l$ and metabolic fluxes $\boldsymbol{v}_l$ describes a system of mass balances around

each metabolite in the form

$$\dot{x}_l = S v_l \tag{1}$$

for r reactions and m metabolites, where S denotes the stoichiometric matrix that

links metabolites to their reactions via stoichiometry. Note that this stoichiometric matrix

is based on the open-formed metabolic network that is transformed by removing rows for

the metabolites that participated in transporting reaction across the system boundary,

resulting in $m < r$. The vector of the time derivative for metabolites $\dot{x}_l$ around steady

state is assumed to follow m-dimensional multivariate normal distribution

$$\dot{x}_l \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_l^{\dot{x}}\right) \tag{2}$$

with diagonal covariance matrix $\Sigma_l^{\dot{x}} = \mathrm{diag}\left(\left(\sigma_l^{\dot{x}}\right)^\top \sigma_l^{\dot{x}}\right)$. $\sigma_l^{\dot{x}}$ represent the extent of

relaxation from the steady state and are defined later based on the influx and efflux around

each metabolite. The number of variables that need to be specified to calculate a steady-

state fluxes in equation (1) is $f = r - \mathrm{rank}(S)$. Let us denote the vectors of independent

and dependent flux variables u_l and v_j^d of length f and $\mathrm{rank}(S)$, respectively. Since

dependent flux variables can be directly computed as linear combination of independent

flux variables, we have only to estimate independent flux as hyperparameter to obtain the

full metabolic fluxes. Here the vector of independent flux was assumed to follow the

multi-dimensional normal distribution

$$p(u_l | \mu_l^u) = \mathcal{N}(u_l | \mu_l^u, \Sigma_l^u) \tag{3}$$

772   with mean μ_l^u and diagonal covariance matrix $\Sigma_l^u = \mathrm{diag}((\sigma_l^u)^\top \sigma_l^u)$. The deviations of

773   independent fluxes were determined as $\sigma_l^u = c^u \mu_l^u$ with a fixed coefficient of variance

774   c^u. The relation between independent and dependent flux variables can be obtained via

775   decomposition of the full flux vector into the vectors of independent and dependent flux,

776   and the equation (1) can be expressed as

$$\dot{x}_l = [S^d \quad S^u] \begin{bmatrix} v_l^d \\ u_l \end{bmatrix} = S^d v_l^d + S^u u_l \tag{4}$$

777   where $m \times \mathrm{rank}(S)$ matrix S^d and $m \times f$ matrix S^u contain columns

778   corresponding to dependent and independent flux variables, respectively. When S^d is

779   regular with $m = \text{rank}(S)$ and $\det(S^d) \neq 0$, the full flux vector is directly computed

780   as

$$v_l = \begin{bmatrix} v_l^d \\ u_l \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (S^d)^{-1}(\dot{x}_l - S^u u_l) \\ u_l \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -(S^d)^{-1}S^u \\ I_{r-m} \end{bmatrix} u_l + \begin{bmatrix} (S^d)^{-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \dot{x}_l$$

$$= W^u u_l + W^{\dot{x}} \dot{x}_l \qquad (5)$$

with transformation matrices W^u and $W^{\dot{x}}$ defined based on the inverse of S^d. Here we

just considered the metabolic pathways in which the stoichiometric matrix S^d was

regular, and in other words the following situation was not considered because the full

metabolic fluxes could not be computed from independent flux variables: $r < m$ or

linearly dependent rows in S resulting in $\text{rank}(S) < m$. We avoided these conditions

by appropriate definition of the target metabolic pathway and stoichiometric matrix.

Now we obtain the prior distribution of the full metabolic fluxes from equation

(5). Since linear combination of normal random variables is also normal random variables,

the vector of full metabolic flux follows the r-dimensional normal distribution

$$p(v_l|u_l) = \mathcal{N}(v_l|\mu_l^v, \Sigma_l^v) \qquad (6)$$

with mean $\mu_l^v = W^u \mu_l^u$ and covariance matrix $\Sigma_l^v = W^u \Sigma_l^u (W^u)^\top + W^{\dot{x}} \Sigma_l^{\dot{x}} (W^{\dot{x}})^\top$.

The diagonal covariance matrix $\Sigma_l^{\dot{x}}$ represents the variances around prior metabolite

changes. In strict steady state, the prior for metabolite change becomes Dirac's delta

function at zero. By increasing the variances, we can relax the steady-state assumption on

individual metabolites and encode allowance for accumulations or depletions of them.

The squared diagonal element $\sigma_l^{\dot{x}}$ was obtained from the mean of the prior distribution

of metabolic flux as

$$\sigma_l^{\dot{x}} = \frac{c^{\dot{x}}}{2}(S^+ \mu_l^v + S^- \mu_l^v), \qquad (7)$$

797   by defining production and consumption stoichiometric matrices as,

$$S^+ = \frac{1}{2}(\text{abs}(S) + S), \qquad S^- = \frac{1}{2}(\text{abs}(S) - S), \qquad (8)$$

798   where $\mathrm{abs}(\boldsymbol{S})$ is the matrix of absolute values of the corresponding entries of $\boldsymbol{S}$. Note

799   that the entries of the matrix $\boldsymbol{S}^+$ corresponds to the number of molecules of metabolite

800   produced by the reaction. Conversely, each entry of the matrix $\boldsymbol{S}^-$ give the number of

801   molecules of metabolite consumed by the reaction.

803   Next, we define the likelihood of the measured amounts of enzymes given

parameters and prior for elasticity coefficients based on linlog kinetics. Since the

experimental data of the amounts of metabolites and proteins is usually not available for

all reactions in the metabolic network, the likelihood was calculated for a subset of the

reactions. The metabolic flux through the subset of the reactions is represented as a

$r' \times 1$ vector $\boldsymbol{v}'_l \subset \boldsymbol{v}_l$ $(r' \leq r)$. For each sample $k = 1,2,\ldots,n_j$ under condition

l $(l = 1,2,\ldots,g)$, the amounts of metabolites $\boldsymbol{x}_{kl}$ (a $m \times 1$ vector) and the amounts of

proteins $\boldsymbol{e}_{kl}$ (a $r' \times 1$ vector) are obtained after normalizing by the average amounts

across all the conditions. In the linlog kinetics framework, the metabolic flux through

reaction j $(j = 1,2,\ldots,r')$ $\left(\hat{v}'_{jkl}\right)$ is expressed as

$$\hat{v}'_{jkl} = v_j^0 e_{jkl}\left(1 + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j^\top \ln \boldsymbol{x}_{kl}\right), \tag{9}$$

where v_j^0 is the metabolic flux in the reference state, and $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j$ is the $m \times 1$ vector of

elasticity coefficients. v_j^0 is defined as the mean of the prior metabolic flux values across

conditions as $v_j^0 = 1/g \sum_{l=1}^{g} \mu_{jl}^{v'}$ where $\mu_{jl}^{v'}$ is a prior mean of the metabolic flux v_j'.

ϵ_{ji} describes the effect of changes of the amounts of metabolites x_i on the metabolic

flux v_j', and is positive if metabolite i is a substrate or an allosteric activator for reaction

j, while negative if the metabolite is a product or an allosteric inhibitor. If metabolite i

does not directly participate in reaction j, the value of ϵ_{ji} equals to zero. According to

equation (9) the amount of the enzyme is calculated using the inferred metabolic flux v_{jl}'.

Here, the amount of the enzyme in each sample e_{jkl} is assumed to follow the normal

distribution around the estimated value $\hat{e}_{jkl}$, and we obtain the likelihood of the measured

amount of the enzyme given parameters as

$$p\left(e_{jkl} \middle| \pmb{x}_{kl}, v'_{jl}, \pmb{\epsilon}_j, \sigma^{\hat{e}}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(e_{jkl} \middle| \hat{e}_{jkl}, \left(\sigma^{\hat{e}}\right)^2\right),$$

$$\hat{e}_{jkl} = \frac{v'_{jl}}{v_j^0} \frac{1}{1 + \pmb{\epsilon}_j^\top \ln \pmb{x}_{kl}}, \tag{10}$$

where v'_{jl} is the inferred metabolic flux of reaction j. For simplicity, the variance of the

error term $\sigma^{\hat{e}}$ is set to the same values in all the reactions, samples, and conditions. We

placed half-Cauchy priors with scale 0.5 on $\sigma^{\hat{e}}$, set as a weakly informative prior

distribution given that $\sigma^{\hat{e}}$ was expected to be less than one.

Elasticity coefficients are likely not to significantly deviate from the range

between -1 and 1 theoretically (Kacser et al., 1995), and are likely to be positive for

substrates and allosteric activators whereas negative for products and allosteric inhibitors.

This property generates prior distributions for elasticity coefficients as

$$p(\epsilon_{ji}) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}(\epsilon_{ji}|1) & \text{if metabolite } i \text{ is substrate} \\ & \text{or allosteric activator in reaction } j \\ -\mathcal{H}(\epsilon_{ji}|1) & \text{if metabolite } i \text{ is product} \\ & \text{or allosteric inhibitor in reaction } j \\ \delta(\epsilon_{ji}|0) & \text{others} \end{cases} \tag{11}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(x|\sigma) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma\sqrt{\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \qquad x \in [0, +\infty)$$

$$\delta(x|\mu) = \lim_{\sigma \to 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \qquad x \in (-\infty, +\infty)$$

where $\mathcal{H}(x|\sigma)$ indicates half-normal distribution with variance σ, and $\delta(x|\mu)$

indicates Dirac's delta function equal to zero everywhere except for μ.

The amounts of proteins are explained in the context of not only metabolic flux

but also of protein turnover. Here we define the likelihood of the measured amounts of

transcripts given parameters and priors for protein turnover coefficient β_{ij}. For each

sample $k = 1,2,\dots,n_j$ under condition l ($l = 1,2,\dots,g$), the estimated amounts of

proteins $\hat{\pmb{e}}_{kl}$ and the corresponding amounts of transcripts $\hat{\pmb{t}}_{kl}$ represents the protein

change rate $\dot{\pmb{e}}_{kl}$ as

$$\dot{\pmb{e}}_{kl} = (\pmb{k}_l^+)^\top \hat{\pmb{t}}_{kl} - (\pmb{k}_l^-)^\top \hat{\pmb{e}}_{kl}, \tag{12}$$

842 where k_l^+ and k_l^- are $r' \times 1$ vectors of kinetic parameters for protein synthesis and

843 degradation, respectively. Assuming the amounts of proteins as stable within the observed

844 time intervals, the amounts of proteins and transcripts have a linear relationship and we

845 obtain the likelihood of the measured amount of the transcript given parameters as,

$$p\left(t_{jkl}\big|\hat{e}_{jkl},\beta_{jl},\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(t_{jkl}\big|\hat{t}_{jkl},\left(\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right)^2\right),$$

$$\hat{t}_{jkl} = \frac{1}{\beta_{jl}}\hat{e}_{jkl},$$

(13)

using turnover coefficient $\beta_{jl} = k_{jl}^+/k_{jl}^-$ and the estimated amount of enzyme $\hat{e}_{jkl}$ in

each sample defined in equation (10). The parameter to determine the variance of the

error term $\sigma^{\hat{t}}$ is simplified as the common values in all the reactions, samples, and

conditions. We placed half-Cauchy priors with scale 0.5 on $\sigma^{\hat{t}}$. Given that there is a high

correlation between copy numbers of RNA and protein especially in the glucose

metabolism (Matsumoto et al., 2017), the turnover coefficient β_{jl} is expected to be close

to one when the amounts of proteins and transcripts are normalized to their averages.

Therefore, the prior distribution for β_{jl} can be described by

$$p\left(\beta_{jl}\big|\sigma_l^\beta\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(\beta_{jl}\Big|1,\left(\sigma_l^\beta\right)^2\right)$$

(14)

854 with error term defined by σ_l^β in each condition. We placed half-Cauchy priors with

855 scale 0.5 on σ_l^β.

857 Combining the likelihood with the priors based on linlog kinetics (Equations 6,

858 10, 11, and Table S6) and protein turnover (Equations 13, 14, and Table S6), the joint

859 posterior distribution is given by

$$p\left(\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\boldsymbol{\beta}\big|\boldsymbol{e},\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{t},c^u,c^{\dot{x}},S\right)$$

$$\propto p\left(\boldsymbol{e},\boldsymbol{t}\big|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\sigma^{\hat{e}},\boldsymbol{\beta},\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right)p\left(\boldsymbol{v}\big|\boldsymbol{u},c^{\dot{x}},S\right)p\left(\boldsymbol{u}\big|\boldsymbol{\mu}^u,c^u\right)p(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})p(\boldsymbol{\beta})p\left(\sigma^{\hat{e}}\right)p\left(\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right),$$

(15)

$$p\left(\boldsymbol{e},\boldsymbol{t}\big|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\sigma^{\hat{e}},\boldsymbol{\beta},\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right) = p\left(\boldsymbol{e}\big|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\sigma^{\hat{e}}\right)p\left(\boldsymbol{t}\big|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\boldsymbol{\beta},\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right).$$

where $p\left(\boldsymbol{e},\boldsymbol{t}\big|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{\epsilon},\sigma^{\hat{e}},\boldsymbol{\beta},\sigma^{\hat{t}}\right)$ is the likelihood of the measured amounts of enzymes

based on linlog kinetics combined with the likelihood of the measured amounts of

transcripts based on protein turnover, $p(\boldsymbol{v}|\boldsymbol{u}, c^{\hat{x}}, S)$ is the prior distribution or metabolic

flux $\boldsymbol{v}$, $p(\boldsymbol{u}|\boldsymbol{\mu}^u, c^u)$ is the hyperprior distribution for independent flux $\boldsymbol{u}$, $p(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})$ is the

prior distribution for elasticity coefficients $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$, $p(\boldsymbol{\beta})$ is the prior distribution for protein

turnover coefficients $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, $p(\sigma^{\hat{e}})$ is the prior distribution for parameter of error term $\sigma^{\hat{e}}$,

and $p(\sigma^{\hat{t}})$ is the prior distribution for parameter of error term $\sigma^{\hat{t}}$.

We applied OMELET to the experimental data from mice in four conditions: WT

at fasting state, WT after oral glucose administration, *ob*/*ob* at fasting state, and *ob*/*ob*

after oral glucose administration. The independent fluxes were constrained so that the

flux through G6PC in WT mice at fasting state was fixed at one. A metabolic flux through

each reaction was inferred simultaneously in all the conditions and as inferred as the

relative value to that through G6PC in WT mice at fasting state. The amounts of pyruvate

and oxaloacetate were not available in our measurements because of their chemical

instability and low concentrations. For such metabolite species, the relative amounts

normalized to the mean across the conditions were inferred as parameters. The amounts

of enzymes of Gpt and Glud1 were not measured and only the likelihood of the measured

amounts of transcripts was evaluated. Several enzymes function as complex including

succinate dehydrogenase, which is also known as respiratory complex II. Two subunits

of succinate dehydrogenase, Sdha and Sdhb, were available both in the amounts of

proteins and transcripts. The amounts of Sdha and Sdhb were independently normalized

to the mean values across the conditions, and then the product was introduced as $\boldsymbol{e}$ for

the reaction through succinate dehydrogenase in equation (10). Other reactions were

catalyzed by a single enzyme or by complex with only one subunit measured and a single

enzyme data was used.

We performed posterior predictive checks to evaluate the fitting of the model to

the measured data of the amounts of enzymes and transcripts from mice. Posterior

predictive distributions of enzymes can be simulated by sampling parameters from the

posterior and using them to generate replicate data sets based on equation (10). Posterior

predictive distributions of transcripts can be simulated in the same way based on equation

(13). We compared the posterior predictive distributions with the measured data and

confirmed the good fits to the experimental data of the amounts of enzymes and

transcripts (Figure S4).

We also applied OMELET to the simulated data from a kinetic model expressing

the yeast glycolysis. The dataset contained the amounts of metabolites, enzymes in five

conditions (WT and four mutant strains) described in a later section. Since the amounts

of transcripts were not available, we obtained the joint posterior distribution

$$
p\big(\boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \boldsymbol{\beta} \big| \boldsymbol{e}, \boldsymbol{x}, c^u, c^{\dot{x}}, S\big)
$$
$$
\propto p\big(\boldsymbol{e} \big| \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \sigma^{\hat{e}}\big) p\big(\boldsymbol{v} \big| \boldsymbol{u}, c^{\dot{x}}, S\big) p\big(\boldsymbol{u} \big| \boldsymbol{\mu}^u, c^u\big) p(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) p(\boldsymbol{\beta}) p\big(\sigma^{\hat{e}}\big) \tag{16}
$$

where the likelihood of transcripts (Table S6) was removed from equation (15). The

independent fluxes were constrained so that the metabolic flux through glucose uptake

(hexose transporter; HXT) in WT strain was fixed at one. A metabolic flux through each

reaction was inferred as the relative value to that through HXT in WT.

Parameter estimation

Based on the specified prior distribution and likelihood, the posterior distributions of

parameters were numerically estimated by Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

sampling. The algorithm was a No-U-turn sampler (NUTS), a variant of Hamiltonian

Monte Carlo (HMC), constructing an iterative process that eventually converges to the

true posterior distribution (Hoffman and Gelman, 2014). For application to the data from

mice, we ran four chains of 20,000 iterations with 10,000 burnings with thinning of 2,

resulting in 20,000 samples in total. Convergence of Markov Chains was evaluated by R-

hat diagnostic, which compares the between- and within-chain estimated for model

parameters. All our runs satisfied R-hat less than 1.05, indicating that chains were mixed

well. All the parameter estimation was performed using RStan library (version 2.19.2) in

R software (3.6.1) within a Docker container (Merkel, 2014).

Simulation using kinetic model of yeast glycolysis

The model of yeast glycolysis was downloaded from the public model repository

BioModels Database (Le Novère et al., 2006) as SBML (Systems Biology Markup

Language) format (Hucka et al., 2003), with the identifier BIOMD0000000503 (Messiha

et al., 2014; Smallbone et al., 2013). The kinetic model represented the glycolytic

pathway from glucose down to ethanol as well as the pentose phosphate pathway, and

only the glycolytic part was used in our simulation. Briefly, we first perturbed the original

model (WT) to generate models of four mutant strains (mutant 01 to 04), and then 50

datasets including the amounts of metabolites, enzymes, and metabolic fluxes were

generated for each of the models. The parameters of the WT model in enzyme i (z_i^0) to

be perturbed included kcat, Vmax, or an enzyme concentration. The magnitude of

perturbation ζ_l $(l = 1, ... , 5)$, strain-specific noise, was set so that mutant strains with

perturbed parameter sets $\boldsymbol{z}^l$ were gradually deviated from the WT model (Table S7).

Based on the perturbed model, sample datasets were generated by introducing

sample-specific noises $\zeta_i^{\text{sample}} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \left(0.1z_i^l\right)^2\right)$ for each parameter value z_i^l, which

represented variety between samples in the same strain and were assumed to be common

in all the strains. Steady-state simulation using the parameter set with the strain-specific

and sample-specific noises produced a dataset containing 50 samples with the amounts

of metabolites, enzymes, and metabolic fluxes under each of the five conditions. All the

steady-state simulation were executed using the Simbiology toolbox in MATLAB (The

MathWorks, Inc., Natick, Massachusetts, United States of America).

To evaluate the performance of OMELET, only the dataset of the amounts of

enzymes and metabolites, not including metabolic fluxes, were used as input. For MCMC

sampling, we ran four chains of 20,000 iterations with 17,500 burnings with thinning 2,

resulting in 5,000 samples in total. The metabolic fluxes inferred by OMELET were then

compared with those obtained from the perturbation and steady-state simulation of the

kinetic model.

Contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux

We define a contribution ψ_{jh} of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between

conditions. The regulators include transcripts, unaccounted enzyme regulators, substrates,

products, cofactors, allosteric effectors and unaccounted flux regulators. The unaccounted

enzyme regulators can include other regulatory mechanisms of the protein amount of

enzyme such as protein degradation and stability. The unaccounted flux regulators can

include other regulators such as phosphorylation of enzymes and unknown allosteric

effectors not included in OMELET. The concept of the contribution is to partition the

cause of changes in metabolic flux between conditions into underlying changes in the

amounts of regulators including enzymes and metabolites. The contribution was

calculated based on propagation of uncertainty of regulators' amounts to metabolic flux,

and a similar approach was described in a previous study (Hackett et al., 2016). Note that

we analyzed only the local effects of regulators on changes in metabolic flux and do not

evaluate the effects on changes in metabolic flux in which the regulator was not directly

participated.

Before we calculated the contribution, we define the amounts of unaccounted

flux regulators and unaccounted enzyme regulators. Based on equation (9), the inferred

metabolic flux through reaction j in condition l can be described as

$$v_{jl} = \hat{v}_{jkl} + \phi_{jkl}^{v} = v_j^0 e_{jkl}\left(1 + \epsilon_j^\top \ln x_{kl}\right) + \phi_{jkl}^{v}. \tag{17}$$

963   ϕ_{jkl}^{v} is the amount of an unaccounted flux regulator in sample k in condition l and

964   represents the deviation of the inferred metabolic flux from that calculated using linlog

965   kinetics. Similarly, based on equation (13), the measured amount of enzyme in reaction

966 j can be described as

$$e_{jkl} = \beta_{jl}t_{jkl} + \phi^e_{jkl}.$$ (18)

967 ϕ^e_{jkl} is the amount of an unaccounted enzyme regulator and represents the deviation of

968 the measured amount of the enzyme from that calculated using the amount of transcript

969 and the protein turnover coefficient. Combining equations (17) and (18), we obtain

$$v_{jl} = v^0_j\big(\beta_{jl}t_{jkl} + \phi^e_{jkl}\big)\big(1 + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{\mathsf{T}}_j \ln \boldsymbol{x}_{kl}\big) + \phi^v_{jkl}$$ (19)

which represents metabolic flux v_{jl} as a function of the transcript t_{jkl}, the unaccounted

enzyme regulator ϕ^e_{jkl}, the metabolites $\boldsymbol{x}_{kl}$ including substrates, products, cofactors and

allosteric effectors, as well as the unaccounted flux regulator ϕ^v_{jkl}.

We defined the contribution to changes in metabolic flux from transcripts,

unaccounted enzyme regulators, and metabolites of substrates, products, cofactors and

allosteric effectors, as well as unaccounted flux regulators. Based on propagation of

uncertainty, assuming that interactions between regulators is ignored, the variance

$\mathrm{Var}(v_j)$ of inferred metabolic flux v_j in reaction j can be approximated as

$$\mathrm{Var}\big(v_j\big) \approx \sum_h \left(\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial y_{jh}}\right)^2 \mathrm{Var}(y_{jh})$$ (20)

with the amount of regulator h (y_{jh}), the sensitivity of the regulator to the metabolic flux

$\partial v_j/\partial y_{jh}$, and the variance of the amount of the regulator $\mathrm{Var}(y_{jh})$. Regulator h is the

transcript, the unaccounted enzyme regulator, substrate, product, cofactor, allosteric

effector, or unaccounted flux regulator. The variance of the amount of the regulator

between two conditions $\mathrm{Var}(y_{jh})$ is expressed as the change in the amount of the

regulator between the two conditions Δy_{jh} as

$$\mathrm{Var}\big(y_{jh}\big) = \left(\frac{\Delta y_{jh}}{2}\right)^2.$$ (21)

985 The sensitivity for each regulator to the metabolic flux $\partial v_j/\partial y_{jh}$ is defined based on Eq.

986 (17) as

$$\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial y_{jh}}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \bar{\beta}_j v_j^0 \left(1 + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j^\top \ln \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\right) & \text{if regulator } h \text{ is the transcript} \\ v_j^0 \left(1 + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j^\top \ln \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\right) & \text{if regulator } h \text{ is the unaccounted enzyme regulator} \\ \dfrac{v_j^0 \bar{\beta}_j \bar{t}_j \epsilon_{ji}}{\overline{y_{jh}}} & \text{if regulator } h \text{ is a metabolite} \\ 1 & \text{if regulator } h \text{ is the unaccounted flux regulator} \end{cases} , \quad (22)$$

987 where $\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}$, $\bar{e}_j$ and $\bar{t}_j$ indicate the means of the metabolites, enzyme, and transcript in

988 reaction j across two conditions, respectively. Using the variance and the sensitivity of

989 the amount of each regulator, we defined a contribution of the change in regulator h to

990 the change in metabolic flux through reaction j as

$$\psi_{jh} = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial y_{jh}}\right)^2 (\Delta y_{jh})^2}{\sum_h \left(\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial y_{jh}}\right)^2 (\Delta y_{jh})^2}. \quad (23)$$

The contribution was a compositional data whose sum of the contributions of all the

regulators to a change in metabolic flux equals one. The contribution ranged from zero to

one, and the larger value meant the stronger effect of the regulator to the change in

metabolic flux.

The contribution was calculated for changes in metabolic flux through each

reaction between each pair of condition (Figure S6); (i) WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting

state, (ii) WT and *ob*/*ob* mice after oral glucose administration, (iii) fasting and after oral

glucose administration in WT mice and (iv) fasting and after oral glucose administration

in *ob*/*ob* mice. Therefore, the calculated contributions represent the extent to which a

change in each regulator contributed to the change in metabolic flux between the

conditions.

1002

1003 **Metabolomic analysis**

1004 Metabolomic measurements were performed as previously described (Egami et al., 2021;

1005 Kokaji et al., 2020). Total metabolites and proteins were extracted from the liver with

methanol:chloroform:water (2.5:2.5:1) extraction. Approximately 40 mg of the liver was suspended with 500 μL of ice-cold methanol containing internal standards [20 μM L-methionine sulfone (Wako), 2-morpholinoethanesulfonic acid (Dojindo), and D-Camphor-10-sulfonic acid (Wako)] for quantification of metabolites, then with 500 μL of chloroform, and finally with 200 μL of water. After centrifugation at 4,600 × g for 15 min at 4°C, the separated aqueous layer was filtered through a 5 kDa cutoff filter (Human Metabolome Technologies) to remove protein contamination. The filtrate (320 μL) was lyophilized and, prior to MS analysis, dissolved in 50 μL water containing reference compounds [200 μM each of trimesic acid (Wako) and 3-aminopyrrolidine (Sigma-Aldrich)]. Proteins were precipitated by addition of 800 μL of ice-cold methanol to the interphase and organic layers and centrifuged at 12,000 × g for 15 min at 4°C. The pellet was washed with 1 mL of ice-cold 80% (v/v) methanol and resuspended in 1 mL of sample buffer containing 1% SDS and 50 mM Tris-Cl pH8.8, followed by sonication. The total protein concentration was determined by bicinchoninic acid (BCA) assay and was used for normalization of metabolite concentration among samples.

All CE-MS experiments were performed using an Agilent 1600 Capillary Electrophoresis system (Agilent technologies), an Agilent 6230 TOF LC/MS system, an Agilent 1200 series isocratic pump, a G1603A Agilent CE-MS adapter kit, and a G1607A Agilent CE electrospray ionization (ESI)-MS sprayer kit. Briefly, to analyze cationic compounds, a fused silica capillary [50 μm internal diameter (i.d.) × 100 cm] was used with 1 M formic acid as the electrolyte (Soga and Heiger, 2000). Methanol/water (50% v/v) containing 0.01 μM hexakis(2,2-difluoroethoxy)phosphazene was delivered as the sheath liquid at 10 μL/min. ESI-TOFMS was performed in positive ion mode, and the capillary voltage was set to 4 kV. Automatic recalibration of each acquired spectrum was achieved using the masses of the reference standards ([^{13}C isotopic ion of a protonated methanol dimer (2CH$_3$OH+H)]$^+$, *m/z* 66.0631) and ([hexakis(2,2-difluoroethoxy)phosphazene +H]$^+$, *m/z* 622.0290). The metabolites were identified by

comparing their m/z values and relative migration times to the metabolite standards.

Quantification was performed by comparing peak areas to calibration curves generated

using internal standardization techniques with methionine sulfone. The other conditions

were identical to those described previously (Soga et al., 2006). To analyze anionic

metabolites, a commercially available COSMO(+) (chemically coated with cationic

polymer) capillary (50 μm i.d. × 105 cm) (Nacalai Tesque, Kyoto, Japan) was used with

a 50 mM ammonium acetate solution (pH 8.5) as the electrolyte. Methanol/5 mM

ammonium acetate (50% v/v) containing 0.01 μM hexakis(2,2-

difluoroethoxy)phosphazene was delivered as the sheath liquid at 10 μL/min. ESI-

TOFMS was performed in negative ion mode, and the capillary voltage was set to 3.5 kV.

Automatic recalibration of each acquired spectrum was achieved using the masses of the

reference standards ([^{13}C isotopic ion of a deprotonated acetate dimer (2CH$_3$COOH-H)]$^-$,

m/z 120.0384) and ([hexakis(2,2-difluoroethoxy)phosphazene +deprotonated acetate

(CH$_3$COOH-H)]$^-$, *m/z* 680.0355). For anion analysis, D-camphor-10-sulfonic acid were

used as the internal standards. The other conditions were identical to those described

previously (Soga et al., 2009). The acquired raw data were analyzed using our proprietary

software (Sugimoto et al., 2010).

1050

1051

Proteomic analysis

Sample preparation of proteomic analysis

Sample preparation of proteome analysis were performed as described, previously

(Matsumoto et al., 2017). Frozen powder of liver and muscle were lysed with a solution

containing 2% SDS, 7 M urea, and 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.8, and then subjected to

ultrasonic treatment (five times for 30 s with intervals of 30 s) with a Bioruptor

(Diagenode). The samples were diluted with an equal volume of water. The protein

concentrations of the samples were determined with BCA assays (Bio-Rad), after which

portions (200 μg of protein) were subjected to methanol–chloroform precipitation. The

resulting pellet was dissolved in digestion buffer (0.5 M triethylammonium bicarbo

nate containing 7 M guanidine hydroxide) and heated at 56 °C for 30 min. Each sample

was diluted with an equal volume of water, after which portions were subjected to BCA

assays. The remaining solution (50 μl) was diluted with 50 μl of water and subjected to

digestion with lysyl-endopeptidase (2 μg, Wako) for 4 h at 37 °C. After the addition of

100 μl of water, the samples were further digested with trypsin (2 μg, Thermo Fisher) for

14 h at 37 °C. To block cysteine/cystine residues, we treated the digest with 0.625 mM

Tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (Thermo Fisher) for 30 min at 37 °C, then

performed alkylation with 3.125 mM 2-iodoacetoamide (Sigma) for 30 min at room tem

perature and quenching with 2.5 mM N-acetyl-l-cysteine (Sigma). The resulting digests

were freeze-dried and then labeled with the mTRAQΔ0 reagent (SCIEX). For a deep

proteomics, tryptic digests were separated into 6 fractions with off-Line high-pH reverse

phase chromatography (Matsumoto et al., 2017).

1074

DDA of peptides for multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) method development

Target proteins were selected from the proteins listed in three Kyoto Encyclopedia of

Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathways; Glycolysis / Gluconeogenesis (mmu00010),

Citrate cycle (mmu 00020), and Starch and sucrose metabolism (mmu 00500), and

proteins related to insulin signaling. A key step for the establishment of a successful

targeted proteomic analysis is the accurate selection of proteotypic peptides (PTPs) for

the targets of interest. Therefore, we first performed a discovery phase aimed at the

selection of PTPs, which was based on a deep proteomic characterization of total protein

extract of the murine liver and muscle. mTRAQ-labeled peptides as mentioned above

were fractionated by reversed-phase chromatography on a 16-cm column (inner diameter,

100 μm) packed in house with 2-μm L-column C18 material (CERI). Peptides were eluted

with a linear gradient (typically 5–45% B for 40 min, 45–95% B for 1 min, and 95% B

for 10 min, where A was 0.1% formic acid and 2% acetonitrile, and B was 0.1% formic

acid and 90% acetonitrile), at a flow rate of 200 nl/min. The high-performance LC system

(Eksigent nano-LC) was coupled to a TripleTOF5600 hybrid mass spectrometer (SCIEX).

Data acquisition was performed in IDA mode with the iTRAQ option. Survey MS spectra

were acquired for 100 ms, and the 10 most intense ions were isolated and then fragmented

with an automatically optimized collision energy for an MS/MS acquisition time of 100

ms. Peak lists (mgf) generated by the AB SCIEX MS Data Converter were used to search

a database containing IPI mouse version 3.44 (55 078 protein entries; IPI, European

Bioinformatics Institute) protein sequences concatenated with decoy sequences, with the

use of the MASCOT algorithm (Matrix Science). The search was conducted with the

following parameter settings: trypsin was selected as the enzyme used, the allowed

number of missed cleavages was set to two, and the mTRAQΔ0 label on the NH2-

terminal or lysine residues and carbamidomethylation of cysteine were selected as fixed

modifications. Oxidized methionine and the mTRAQΔ0 label on tyrosine were searched

as variable modifications. The precursor mass tolerance was 50 p.p.m., and the tolerance

of MS/MS ions was 0.02 mass/charge (m/z) units. We imported all significant peptide-

spectrum matches (PSMs) (MASCOT score >20) into a relational database written in

MySQL. From this dataset, we preferentially selected PTP candidates which met the

following criteria: 1. more than six amino acids; 2. absence of tryptic missed-cleavage

sites; 3. The C-terminus of PTPs is Lys or Arg; 4. absence of methionine residues. To

verify whether these PTP candidates were actually identified and quantified in our MRM

systems, trypsin digests used in "DDA of peptides for MRM method development" were

labeled with either mTRAQΔ0 or mTRAQΔ4 and subjected to MRM assays. All MRM

traces were analyzed by iMPAQT-quant (Matsumoto et al., 2017). Peak groups were

scored on the basis of cosine similarity with MS/MS spectra obtained in DDA, peak

coelution of at least three fragment ions for each peptide, the presence or absence of

interfering ions, and intensity. Finally, we selected 2-3 PTPs per target protein and

purchased from Funakoshi Co. All PTPs were resuspended with 20%-50% ethanol,

pooled and labeled with mTRAQΔ4 using standard procedures.

1116

MRM analysis

MRM analysis was performed with a QTRAP5500 instrument (SCIEX) equipped with

nano-Advance UHPLC (MICHROM) and HTS-PAL/xt autosampler (CTC Analytics AG).

Peptides were eluted with a linear gradient of 5%–30% B for 45 min, 30%–95% B for 46

min (where A is 0.1% formic acid and B is acetonitrile) at a flow rate of 200 nL/min.

Parameters were set as follows: spray voltage, 2,000 V; curtain gas setting, 10; collision

gas setting, high; ion-source gas-1 setting, 30 and interface-heater temperature, 150 °C.

Collision energy (CE) was calculated with the following formulae: $CE = (0.044 \times m/z1)$

$+ 5.5$ and $CE = (0.051 \times m/z1) + 0.5$ (where $m/z1$ is the m/z of the precursor ion) for

doubly and triply charged precursor ions, respectively. Collision-cell exit potential (CXP)

was calculated according to the formula: $CXP = (0.0391 \times m/z2) - 2.2334$ (where $m/z2$

is the m/z of the fragment ion). The declustering potential (DP) was set to 50, and the

entrance potential (EP) was set to 10. Resolution for Q1 and Q3 was set to 'unit' (half-

maximal peak width of 0.7 m/z). The scheduled MRM option was used for all data

acquisition, with a target scan time of 2.0 s and MRM detection windows of 300s. More

than three technical repeats were performed per sample. Raw data were analyzed by

iMPAQT-Quant (Matsumoto et al., 2017) with the corresponding spectra library. Peak

groups were scored on the basis of cosine similarity with the MS/MS spectra obtained in

DDA, a peak co-elution of at least three fragment ions for each peptide, the presence or

absence of interfering ions, and the intensity. Finally, all traces were manually checked to

eliminate inadequate transitions. All quantified transitions were normalized across

samples and converted into protein abundance by SRMstats software on R (Surinova et

al., 2013).

1140

Transcriptomic analysis

Transcriptomic measurements were performed as previously described (Egami et al., 2021; Kokaji et al., 2020). Briefly, total RNA was extracted from the liver using RNeasy Mini Kit (QIAGEN) and QIAshredder (QIAGEN) and assessed for quantity using Nanodrop (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and for quality using the 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent Technologies). cDNA libraries were prepared using SureSelect strand-specific RNA library preparation kit (Agilent Technologies). The resulting cDNAs were subjected to 100-bp paired-end sequencing on an Illumina HiSeq2500 Platform (Illumina) (Matsumoto et al., 2007). Sequences were aligned to the mouse reference genome obtained from Ensembl database (Cunningham et al., 2015; Flicek et al., 2014) (GRCm38/mm10, Ensembl release 70) using the software package TopHat (Trapnell et al., 2009, 2012) (v.2.0.9), software in the Tuxedo tool. Cufflinks (v.2.2.1), software in the Tuxedo tool, was used to assemble transcript models from aligned sequences and to estimate the number of transcripts as an indicator of gene expression. The number of transcripts was shown as fragments per kilobase of exon per million mapped fragments.

Blood glucose

The blood and insulin data at 0, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 45, 60, 90, 120, 180, 240 minutes after oral glucose administration were previously reported (Kokaji et al., 2020).

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

For the metabolites, proteins, and transcripts, we defined increased and decreased molecules between the conditions using the following procedure (Figure 2; Table S2). For each molecule, we calculated the fold change of the mean amount of WT mice at fasting state, *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state, and *ob*/*ob* mice after oral glucose administration over the mean amount of WT mice at fasting state. The significance of changes was tested by two-tailed Welch's t-test for each molecule. The q values were calculated by Benjamini-

1168 Hochberg procedure. Molecules that showed an q value less than 0.05 are defined as

1169 significantly changed molecules. Among them, molecules with a fold change larger than

1170 1.5 were defined as increased molecules between the conditions, whereas molecules with

1171 a fold change smaller than 0.67 were defined as decreased molecules. The Pearson

1172 correlation coefficient was calculated between the medians of metabolic fluxes inferred

1173 by OMELET and the means of metabolic fluxes simulated by the kinetic model (Figure

1174 S3C) or in the previous studies (Figures S5B and S5D) across all the reactions in all the

1175 conditions. The p-value was computed by transforming the correlation to create a t

1176 statistic having N-2 degree of freedom, where N is the number of samples.

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Glucose metabolism

Step 1: Inferring metabolic flux and identifying changes in metabolic flux between conditions (Figures 3 and 4)

Step 2: Quantifying contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux (Figures 5, 7A, and 7B)

Step 3: Constructing a quantitaive trans-omic network for changes in metabolic flux (Figures 6 and 7C)

Figure 1. Overview of OMELET.

The procedures consist of three steps by inferring metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism in each condition, identifying changes in metabolic flux between the conditions, and quantifying contributions of the regulators to changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. Abbreviations of the metabolites on the map of glucose metabolism are described in Table S1.

Figure 2. Metabolomic, proteomic and transcriptomic data in the glucose metabolism in liver of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and after oral glucose administration.

Measured molecules (metabolites, proteins and transcripts) mapped on the glucose metabolism in liver. On the map the irreversible reactions are described as one-headed arrows, whereas the reversible reactions are described as double-headed arrows. Allosteric activation and inhibition are described as dotted one-headed and dotted bar-headed arrows, respectively. Each box contains four bar plots corresponding to four different conditions: WT at fasting state (blue), WT after oral glucose administration (light blue), *ob*/*ob* at fasting state (red) and *ob*/*ob* after oral glucose administration (pink). The bars and error bars in each molecule represent the mean ± SD normalized to the mean of the data from WT at fasting state. Abbreviations of metabolites, proteins and transcripts are described in Table S2. See also Figure S1.

Figure 3. Workflow for the inference of metabolic flux by OMELET

Overview of the workflow for the inference of metabolic flux. Shaded rectangles represent the inputs (light blue), OMELET (light green) and the outputs (orange). The output parameters are colored in red. See also Figures S2, S3 and Materials and Methods.

Figure 4. Inference of metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism in liver of WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state and after oral glucose administration.

(A) Posterior distributions of the metabolic fluxes in the glucose metabolism. Each box contains four density plots corresponding to four different conditions: WT at fasting state (blue), WT after oral glucose administration (light blue), *ob*/*ob* at fasting state (red) and *ob*/*ob* after oral glucose administration (pink). A metabolic flux through each reaction is inferred relative to the mean of the prior for the metabolic flux through G6PC in WT mice at fasting state. Only the representative reactions (shaded gray circles in the map) in each pathway were presented. See also Table S4.

(B) Fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state (i) and after oral glucose administration (ii) in each reaction, and fold changes of the metabolic flux after oral glucose administration over that at fasting state in WT mice (iii) and *ob*/*ob* mice (iv) in each reaction. The median of the posterior predictive distribution in the OMELET model is represented by a black line within the box for each reaction, the box extends from the lower to the 25th and 75th percentiles, and the whiskers extend to 2.5^{th} and 97.5^{th} percentiles to cover 95% of the data. The samples outside the range of adjacent values are not displayed. The vertical orange line indicates the boundary where a fold change equals one.

(C) Sources of glucose production. The stacked bars and error bars represent the mean ± SD of the proportions of glycogen, glycerol, lactate, alanine and glutamate to the glucose production. The proportions of the sources are calculated from the proportion of metabolic fluxes through PGM, GPD, LDH, GPT and GLUD, respectively (black circle) to that through G6PC (yellow circle).

(D) Composition of the metabolic flux through PEPCK. The stacked bars and error bars represent the mean ± SD of the proportions of the metabolic fluxes through ENO and PK to that through PEPCK.

Figure 5. Contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between fasting WT and *ob*/*ob* mice.

(A) Schematic representation of contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between conditions. The contribution was defined based on the sensitivity of regulators to metabolic flux, which is calculated using the elasticity coefficients and turnover coefficients, and changes in the amounts of regulators between the conditions following the method previously described (Hackett et al., 2016). The regulators of metabolic flux were enzyme (blue) including transcript (light blue) and unaccounted enzyme regulator (azure), metabolite (pink) including substrate (orange), product (yellow), cofactor (red) and allosteric effectors (purple), and unaccounted flux regulators (gray). See also Materials and Methods.

(B) Contribution of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state (i). The reactions with the fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state larger than 1.5 are highlighted in red. The stacked bars indicate the mean of the contributions independently calculated in all the Markov chain Monte Carlo samples in Figure S6 (i). See also Table S5.

(C, D) Scatter plots illustrating the relationships between the contributions of enzyme (C) or metabolite (D) to changes in metabolic flux and the fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state. For each reaction, the mean ± SD of the distribution of the contributions of enzyme or metabolite to changes in metabolic flux (x-axis) is plotted against the mean ± SD of the distribution of the fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state (y-axis). The vertical gray dotted line indicates the boundary where a fold change equals 1.5. The reactions with the fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state larger than 1.5 are highlighted in red. See also Tables S4 and S5.

Figure 6

Figure 6. Quantitative trans-omic networks for changes in metabolic flux between WT and *ob*/*ob* mice at fasting state.

The quantitative trans-omic network consisted of four layers (Transcript, Enzyme, Metabolic Flux and Metabolite). Nodes in Transcript, Enzyme and Metabolite layer (circles) represented the transcripts, proteins and metabolites. Nodes in Metabolic Flux layer (lines within layer) represented the reactions. Edges from Transcript layer to Enzyme layer represented regulation of enzyme by transcript, and those by unaccounted enzyme regulators were not displayed. Edges from Enzyme layer to Metabolic Flux layer represented contributions of enzyme to changes in metabolic flux between the conditions. Edges from Metabolite layer to Metabolic Flux layer represent regulation of changes in metabolic flux by metabolites as substrate, product, cofactor, and allosteric effector. Unaccounted flux regulators were not displayed. The size of nodes represents fold changes of corresponding molecules of *ob*/*ob* mice over those of WT mice. The colors of the nodes are determined by fold changes as red (fold change > 1.5), light green (fold change < 0.67), and gray. See also Tables S2 and S4. The sizes of the edges represent contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux. The colors of the edges represent regulators including transcript (light blue), enzyme (blue), substrate (orange), product (yellow), cofactor (red), allosteric effector (purple). See also Table S5. The subnetworks are extracted from the full network (B): the subnetwork of gluconeogenesis and lactate and alanine metabolism (C), and that of pyruvate cycle (D). The simplified metabolic pathway with metabolic fluxes and the contributions of main regulators is displayed (E). The color of the arrow in each reaction indicates the main regulators which we defined as those with contribution is larger than 0.25. The size of the arrow in each reaction indicates fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob*/*ob* mice over those of WT mice.

Figure 7. Contributions of regulators to changes in metabolic flux through PK by oral glucose administration.

(A) Scatter plots illustrating the relationships between the contributions of enzyme (blue) and metabolite (pink) to changes in metabolic flux and the fold changes of the metabolic flux after oral glucose administration over that at fasting state in WT mice (iii) and *ob/ob* mice (iv). For each reaction, the mean ± SD of the distribution of the contributions of enzyme or metabolite to changes in metabolic flux (x-axis) is plotted against the mean ± SD of the distribution of the fold changes of the metabolic flux of *ob/ob* mice over that of WT mice at fasting state (y-axis). The vertical gray dotted line indicates the boundary where a fold change equals one. PK is highlighted in red.

(B) Contribution of regulators to changes in metabolic flux between fasting and after oral glucose administration in WT mice (iii) and *ob/ob* mice (iv). The stacked bars indicate the mean of the contributions independently calculated in all the Markov chain Monte Carlo samples in Figures S6 (iii) and (iv). The violin plot in each reaction represents the distribution of the distance quantified as L2 norm between the contribution in WT mice (iii) and *ob/ob* mice (iv) independently calculated in all the Markov chain Monte Carlo samples. The vertical red line in each violin plot means the median of the distribution. See also Table S5.

(C) Quantitative trans-omic networks for changes in metabolic flux through PK by oral glucose administration in WT mice (iii) and *ob/ob* mice (iv). The networks had the same structures as those in Figure 6. Schematic representation of the main regulators to changes in metabolic flux between fasting and after oral glucose administration was displayed on the right side of the quantitative trans-omic network. We considered F1,6P as an allosteric activator, and ATP, alanine and phenylalanine as allosteric inhibitors for PK in Metabolite layer.