

1 **An insulin, AMPK, and steroid hormone-mediated metabolic switch regulates**  
2 **the transition between growth and diapause in *C. elegans***

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24 **Abstract**

25

26

27 The balance between growth and quiescence depends on the global metabolic state. The

28 dauer larva of *C. elegans*, a developmentally arrested stage for survival under adverse

29 environment, undergoes a major metabolic transition. Here, we show that this switch

30 involves the concerted activity of several regulatory pathways. Whereas the steroid

31 hormone receptor DAF-12 controls dauer morphogenesis, the insulin pathway

32 maintains low energy expenditure through DAF-16/FoxO, which also requires AAK-

33 2/AMPK $\alpha$ . DAF-12 and AAK-2 separately promote a shift in the molar ratios between

34 competing enzymes at two key branch points within the central carbon metabolic

35 pathway. This way, carbon atoms are diverted from the TCA cycle and directed to

36 gluconeogenesis. When both AAK-2 and DAF-12 are suppressed, the TCA cycle is

37 active and the developmental arrest is bypassed. Hence, the metabolic status of each

38 developmental stage is defined by stoichiometric ratios within the constellation of

39 metabolic enzymes and controls the transition between growth and quiescence.

40

## 41 **Introduction**

42 Throughout their life cycle, organisms alternate between states of high and low  
43 metabolic activity. In some cases, not only the intensity but the whole mode of  
44 metabolism changes, for instance during the transition from growth to quiescence.  
45 Usually, growing organisms have highly active mitochondria and intensive oxidative  
46 phosphorylation (OXPHOS), whereas during metabolic quiescence they shift to  
47 glycolysis and associated gluconeogenesis [1,2]. Most early embryos use glycolytic  
48 metabolism and only shift to OXPHOS during later phases of development [3]. This  
49 metabolic shift is also observed during the differentiation of neurons and stem cells  
50 [4,5]. The opposite change, from OXPHOS to aerobic glycolysis, is seen in cancer cells  
51 exhibiting “Warburg” metabolism [6]. Despite their importance, however, we still have  
52 a limited understanding of mechanisms controlling these global metabolic transitions.

53 Entry of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* into diapause is an excellent  
54 model in which to study these metabolic transitions. In response to harsh environmental  
55 conditions, *C. elegans* interrupts its reproductive life cycle, stops growing, and forms a  
56 specialized, developmentally arrested third larval stage called a dauer (enduring) larva  
57 [7]. The body of dauer larvae is morphologically adapted to harsh conditions. Its  
58 diameter is reduced, its body coated with a tight cuticle, and its pharynx sealed [7].  
59 Most importantly, the metabolism of dauers differs substantially from that of the  
60 reproductive L3 larvae. Since they do not feed, they rely on stored energy reserves [7].  
61 To restrict the depletion of these reserves, dauer larvae enter a hypometabolic mode via  
62 a dramatic rearrangement of anabolic and catabolic pathways [2,8-13]. In this “stand-  
63 by” mode, energy consumption, heat production, aerobic respiration and TCA cycle  
64 activity are significantly reduced. The production of cofactors required for anabolic  
65 reactions such as NADPH is also minimized [14]. In addition, the glyoxylate shunt and

66 gluconeogenesis are used to generate carbohydrates from reserve lipids [2,8-13]. In this  
67 state, dauers can survive for months without nutrition.

68 The process of dauer formation is controlled by Daf genes (from dauer  
69 formation). Whereas Daf-c mutants constitutively undergo dauer arrest, Daf-d mutants  
70 are defective in forming dauer larvae. Genetic analysis of Daf mutants has revealed that  
71 dauer formation is governed by guanylyl cyclase, TGF- $\beta$ -like, insulin-like and steroid  
72 hormone signaling pathways [7,15] (**Fig. 1A**). In response to changes in population  
73 density (sensed through dauer-inducing pheromones) and altered energetic metabolism  
74 (signaled by insulin-like peptides), the guanylyl cyclase, TGF- $\beta$  and insulin-like  
75 pathways converge on two transcription factors: the FoxO member DAF-16 and the  
76 nuclear hormone receptor DAF-12, both encoded by Daf-d genes that are essential for  
77 dauer formation. DAF-16 is negatively regulated by the insulin receptor homolog DAF-  
78 2 in response to stimulation by insulin-like peptides [16-18]. DAF-12, on the other  
79 hand, is regulated by steroid hormones, called dafachronic acids (DAs), synthesized by  
80 the cytochrome P450 enzyme DAF-9 when the population density is low [19-22]. DAs  
81 bind to DAF-12 and suppress its dauer-promoting activity [19,23,24]. DAF-16 and  
82 DAF-12 stimulate each other but also have their own downstream programs (**Fig. 1A**)  
83 [25,26]. The interplay between these factors determines whether worms enter diapause:  
84 when both are activated, dauer formation is induced. In addition, a germline-mediated  
85 crosstalk between DAF-16 and DAF-12 is essential for adult longevity [27]. Although  
86 many transcriptional, as well as metabolic targets, of DAF-16 and DAF-12 have been  
87 elucidated in the context of diapause and longevity [14,28-37], fundamental questions  
88 remain about how these transcription factors interact to control the metabolism and  
89 what is the impact of the metabolic switch on the growth and development.

90           Here, we show that during dauer formation, the metabolic mode, consisting of  
91 two separately regulated modules, dictates the state of development. The insulin  
92 pathway has a dual effect that requires AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) activity.  
93 On one hand, it maintains low catabolism (first module). On the other, it acts together  
94 with the steroid hormone pathway to inhibit the TCA cycle and promote  
95 gluconeogenesis (second module). Simultaneous inactivation of the AMPK and steroid  
96 hormone pathways leads to a switch from gluconeogenesis to an active TCA cycle via  
97 tight control of the molar ratios of competing enzymes. This metabolic transition is a  
98 prerequisite for the the organism to enter into reproductive growth and is conserved in  
99 long lived adults with reduced insulin signaling. Moreover, the state of metabolism that  
100 is dictated by the stoichiometric proportions between enzymes of the central carbon  
101 metabolism can be used to predict the transition from growth to quiescence.

## 102 **Results**

103

### 104 **DAF-16 induces a switch to low metabolic rate whereas DAF-12 controls dauer** 105 **morphogenesis**

106 To distinguish which signaling pathways control metabolism in the dauer state, we  
107 investigated the metabolic activities of wild-type dauers, as well as of mutants of key  
108 dauer regulatory factors. Owing to an overall lower metabolic rate, dauer larvae have  
109 substantially diminished heat production compared to other larval stages [10]. For that  
110 reason, we first compared the heat flow produced by wild-type worms undergoing  
111 reproductive development or dauer formation from the L1 larval stage onwards using  
112 time-resolved isothermal microcalorimetry. To induce a synchronous dauer formation,  
113 we grew worms on 4-methylated sterol (4-MS) which blocks the production of DAs  
114 [26]. After an initial increase of heat flow by both groups, the two trends diverged after  
115 about 24 hours, increasing further in worms in the reproductive mode, while decreasing  
116 in animals that underwent dauer formation (**Fig. 1B**). A similar trend was observed in  
117 the TGF- $\beta$  Daf-c mutant *daf-7*, which forms dauer larvae but reproduces when DA is  
118 added [19,38] (**Supplementary Fig. S1A**).

119 Next, we set out to determine how the insulin and steroid hormone pathways  
120 contribute to the switch. To disentangle the pathways, we chose conditions under which  
121 DAF-16 is active but DAF-12 not. We made use of a group of Daf-c alleles of *daf-2*,  
122 designated class II, that are not fully suppressed by Daf-d mutations of *daf-12* or by  
123 addition of DAs. One such allele is *daf-2(e1370)*. Worms bearing this mutation  
124 reproduce at the permissive temperature of 15°C, whereas at the restrictive temperature  
125 of 25°C, they form dauers. We compared this strain to a double mutant *daf-*  
126 *2(e1370);daf-12(rh61rh411)* or DA-treated *daf-2(e1370)* that arrest the development at

127 an L3-like larval stage at 25°C due to DAF-16 activity (**Fig. 1C**) [7,19,25]. The  
128 metabolism and morphology of these larvae have not been characterized in detail.  
129 Unlike *daf-7* on DA, at 25°C *daf-2;daf-12* and *daf-2* on DA shifted the metabolic mode  
130 to low heat production after 24 hours (**Fig. 1D** and **Supplementary Fig. S1A**). In  
131 contrast, a double mutant *daf-2(e1370);daf-16(mu86)* that undergoes reproductive  
132 development at 25°C [25] displayed high heat production (**Fig. 1D**). Thus, activation of  
133 DAF-16, but not of DAF-12, mediates the switch to low metabolic activity during dauer  
134 formation.

135 We further asked whether DAF-16 or DAF-12 determines the morphology of  
136 dauer larvae and whether metabolic state and morphology are interconnected. Our  
137 previous studies indicated that DAF-12 can induce morphological features of dauer  
138 larvae in the absence of DAF-16 [26]. However, it was not clear whether activation of  
139 DAF-16 alone could promote dauer morphology. To test this, we performed electron  
140 microscopy on *daf-2;daf-12* and DA-treated *daf-2* larvae grown at 25°C. Interestingly,  
141 similar to L3 larvae, they had a large body diameter, an elongated gut lumen with long,  
142 densely packed microvilli, and lacked characteristic dauer features such as alae and a  
143 striated layer (**Fig. 1E, F, G** and **Supplementary Fig. S1B**) [39]. However, similar to  
144 dauers, *daf-2;daf-12* and DA-fed *daf-2* animals deposited numerous lipid droplets  
145 (LDs) (**Fig. 1G** and **Supplementary Fig. S1B**). Thus, DAF-12 controls dauer  
146 morphogenesis, whereas DAF-16 has no direct influence on this process but appears to  
147 affect the dauer-associated metabolic changes that culminate in low metabolic rate and  
148 high LD accumulation.

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150

151

152 **DAF-16 controls catabolism and, together with DAF-12, promotes a shift from**  
153 **TCA cycle-driven metabolism to gluconeogenesis**

154 Cells produce heat almost exclusively through catabolic reactions [40]. Thus, low heat  
155 production in dauers indicated that they have decreased catabolism. To determine  
156 which pathways regulate this process, we compared the amounts of heat that *daf-2*  
157 dauers and *daf-2;daf-12* L3-like larvae produce after entering this arrested state. Food  
158 was omitted to exclude heat generation by bacteria. As seen in **Figure 2A**, *daf-2* dauers  
159 and *daf-2;daf-12* larvae generated similar amounts of heat, suggesting that DAF-16  
160 does not require DAF-12 activity to regulate the energy expenditure. We next asked  
161 how loss of DAF-16 activity would influence the metabolic rate. For inactivation of  
162 DAF-16, we used *daf-16(mu86)* mutants grown on 4-MS. Under these conditions,  
163 DAF-12 promotes the dauer program, but DAF-16 is absent and worms arrest as dauer-  
164 like animals [26] (**Fig. 2B**). Compared to wild-type dauers, 4-MS treated *daf-16* animals  
165 displayed higher heat production in their arrested state (**Fig. 2C**), suggesting that DAF-  
166 16 suppresses metabolic rate and the catabolism of energy stores of dauers.

167 We therefore monitored the breakdown of lipids, sugars and amino acids in *daf-*  
168 *2;daf-12* and *daf-16* on 4-MS. Because food was omitted, only the catabolism of  
169 internal energy reserves would account for any observed change. Storage triglycerides  
170 (TGs) were visualized by Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Scattering (CARS) microscopy  
171 of LDs and by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2;daf-12*  
172 arrested larvae, as well as wild-type dauers on 4-MS, efficiently conserved their TGs  
173 over time (**Fig. 2D and Supplementary Fig. S2A**). In contrast, *daf-16* larvae on 4-MS  
174 were depleted of TGs only after two days (**Fig. 2D and Supplementary Fig. S2A**).  
175 Phospholipids were preserved in all animals, suggesting that no major degradation of  
176 membranes occurred (**Supplementary Fig. S2A**). Furthermore, sugars and amino acids



177 were maintained at high levels in wild-type dauers on 4-MS, *daf-2*, and *daf-2;daf-12*  
178 larvae, but were rapidly degraded in *daf-16* on 4-MS (**Supplementary Fig. S2A** and  
179 **S2B**). These results show that, in the absence of DAF-16, catabolism becomes  
180 misregulated and the energy depot is dramatically depleted.

181 The above findings suggest that faster depletion of energy reserves might reduce  
182 survival in *daf-16* larvae. Indeed, the viability of these animals declined rapidly and  
183 they perished after 12 days, while almost 100% of dauers and *daf-2;daf-12* arrested  
184 larvae remained viable (**Fig. 2E**). Thus, DAF-16 regulates the survival of dauer larvae  
185 by controlling energy expenditure.

186 The switch to a lower catabolic rate in dauers is accompanied by a shift from  
187 TCA cycle-driven metabolism to gluconeogenesis, leading to accumulation of the  
188 disaccharide trehalose [9]. To determine whether DAF-16 or DAF-12 is responsible for  
189 this transition, we used 2D-TLC to trace the metabolism of <sup>14</sup>C-radiolabeled acetate.  
190 Carbon atoms of acetate are only incorporated into trehalose if the glyoxylate shunt and  
191 the gluconeogenesis are active [9]. This labeling strategy mimics the usage of  
192 endogenous lipids as a carbon source for gluconeogenesis because both the lipid  
193 catabolism and the external acetate provide acetyl-CoA that enters the TCA or the  
194 glyoxylate cycle. As shown before [9], *daf-2* dauers at 25°C displayed stronger  
195 accumulation of labelled trehalose than L3 larvae at 15°C (**Fig. 2F**). High incorporation  
196 of acetate into trehalose was also observed in *daf-2;daf-12* arrested L3 larvae (**Fig. 2F**).  
197 Thus, activation of DAF-16 is sufficient to trigger gluconeogenesis. Surprisingly, we  
198 also detected higher levels of labelled trehalose in *daf-16* mutants cultured on 4-MS,  
199 suggesting that DAF-12 can promote a gluconeogenic mode in the absence of DAF-16  
200 (**Fig. 2G**). Together, our results demonstrate that DAF-16 alone maintains low  
201 catabolism, whereas DAF-16 and DAF-12 separately promote a shift from TCA cycle-

202 driven metabolism to gluconeogenesis. In addition, the low catabolism and the  
203 gluconeogenic mode are independent metabolic modules that can be uncoupled under  
204 conditions of low DAF-16 but high DAF-12 activity.

205

206 **AAK-2 is required for the DAF-16-mediated metabolic switch, developmental**  
207 **arrest, and adult longevity**

208 We postulated that under conditions of high DAF-16 but low DAF-12 activity (**Fig.**  
209 **1C**), the disruption of a hypothetical factor required for the DAF-16-mediated  
210 metabolic switch could promote higher catabolism and prevent the gluconeogenic  
211 mode. Moreover, if the metabolic and developmental transition are coupled, one  
212 prediction would be that such an intervention may rescue the developmental arrest  
213 caused by DAF-16. Thus, it was of high importance to identify such a factor. The  
214 uncontrolled catabolism and mortality in *daf-16* on 4-MS were very similar to that  
215 observed in dauers with loss of activity of the AMPK  $\alpha$ -subunit AAK-2 [41]. Thus,  
216 DAF-16 and AAK-2 may jointly control the metabolic state of dauers, making AMPK  
217 a potential candidate for this factor. We first asked whether *aak-2* mutant dauers lose  
218 TGs, sugars and amino acids similar to *daf-16* on 4-MS. We generated a *daf-*  
219 *2(e1370);aak-2(gt33)* strain harboring a large deletion in *aak-2*. At 25°C, almost all  
220 animals formed dauer larvae with typical dauer morphology (**Fig. 3A**). Curiously,  
221 although a previous study that used a strain *daf-2(e1370);aak-2(ok524)*, bearing a  
222 different deletion in *aak-2*, showed that at 25°C the animals spontaneously exited from  
223 dauer state and produced adults within five days [42], dauers of *daf-2(e1370);aak-*  
224 *2(gt33)* grown on a solid medium with ample food for five days at 25°C did not undergo  
225 spontaneous exit from dauer state. Almost all worms survived treatment with the  
226 detergent SDS, which is a hallmark of dauer larvae [43] (**Supplementary Fig. S3A** and

227 **S3B**). The dauer-specific alae and striated layer of the cuticle were also preserved over  
228 time (**Fig. 3A**). Hence, using *daf-2(e1370);aak-2(gt33)* is a very suitable model to study  
229 the metabolic control in dauer state.

230 Electron micrographs suggested that after five days *daf-2;aak-2* dauers enter a  
231 state of starvation characterized by an extreme decrease of the cellular volume of the  
232 hypodermis, expansion of the body cavities and deterioration of mitochondria (**Fig.**  
233 **3A**). In line with these observations, TGs and trehalose (**Fig. 3B** and **C**), as well as  
234 amino acids (**Supplementary Fig. S3C** and **S3D**) were rapidly depleted. Phospholipids  
235 were less affected (**Fig. 3B** and **C**). To test the cellular response to starvation in AMPK  
236 mutants, we monitored FIB-1, a small nucleolar ribonucleoprotein (snoRNP) whose  
237 localization to the nucleolus is reduced during starvation or loss of TOR activity [44].  
238 Wild-type dauers isolated from overcrowded plates had nucleolar FIB-1 consistent with  
239 a non-starved state (**Supplementary Fig. S3E**). *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* dauers, as well  
240 as *daf-2* DA-fed larvae, also displayed nucleolar FIB-1 shortly after the arrest  
241 (**Supplementary Fig. S3F, S3G** and **S3H**). This localization remained unchanged over  
242 time in *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2* DA-fed arrested L3 larvae (**Supplementary Fig. S3F**  
243 **and S3G**). In *daf-2;aak-2* dauers, however, FIB-1 formed granular structures in the  
244 nucleoplasm after four days and was almost completely dispersed in the nucleoplasm  
245 of cells after seven days (**Supplementary Fig. S3H**). Thus, *daf-16* and *aak-2* mutants  
246 have highly related phenotypes in terms of catabolism in dauer state and may act in the  
247 same pathway. Moreover, DAF-16 could prevent a TOR-dependent starvation response  
248 in the absence of DAF-12, but not of AAK-2, suggesting that AMPK is required for the  
249 DAF-16-mediated maintenance of the energy reserves.

250 Since the disruption of *aak-2* enhanced catabolism in *daf-2* dauers, we asked if  
251 it could also abolish the gluconeogenic mode. <sup>14</sup>C-acetate labelling in *daf-2;aak-2* at

252 25°C showed a pronounced gluconeogenic mode (**Fig. 3D**). Because DAF-12 could  
253 activate gluconeogenesis in the absence of DAF-16, we asked whether it could perform  
254 this activity also in the absence of AAK-2. Remarkably, when we inhibited DAF-12 in  
255 *daf-2;aak-2* by adding DA, the gluconeogenesis was abolished (**Fig. 3D**). Hence, AAK-  
256 2 fulfils the criteria for a factor required for the switch to low energy expenditure and  
257 to gluconeogenesis induced by DAF-16 when DAF-12 is inhibited. To determine  
258 whether AAK-2 is also necessary for the DAF-16 induced growth arrest, we monitored  
259 the development of *daf-2;aak-2* worms at 25°C with DA. Astoundingly, these worms  
260 completely bypassed dauer arrest and developed into adults (**Fig. 3E and F**). Thus, in  
261 *daf-2* mutants, AAK-2 is essential for the DAF-16 mediated growth and metabolic  
262 transition in the absence of DAF-12 activity.

263 An interaction between *daf-2* and *aak-2* has also been observed in the context  
264 of adult longevity: the lifespan extension characteristic for *daf-2* animals is fully  
265 suppressed by *aak-2* mutations [45]. Thus, the metabolic mode associated with  
266 increased longevity in adult *daf-2* mutants [46] could depend on AAK-2. To assess the  
267 gluconeogenesis, we labeled *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* with <sup>14</sup>C-acetate and grew them at  
268 15°C until L4 stage to bypass dauer formation. From this point on, we either kept them  
269 at 15°C to maintain the DAF-2 activity high or shifted them to 25°C to suppress DAF-  
270 2. This temperature shift doubles the lifespan of *daf-2* adults compared to the wild-type  
271 worms [47]. 24 hours later, we extracted the metabolites and observed much higher  
272 accumulation of labelled trehalose in *daf-2* worms at 25°C as compared to 15°C  
273 (**Supplementary Fig. S3I**). *daf-2;aak-2* displayed lower incorporation of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate  
274 into trehalose at both 15°C and 25°C in comparison to *daf-2*. This observation shows  
275 that AAK-2 is required for the full extent of the metabolic switch in *daf-2* adults. A  
276 small elevation of labelled trehalose in *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C compared to 15°C

277 **(Supplementary Fig. S3I)** suggests that in adults, DAF-16 could also promote  
278 gluconeogenesis to a very limited degree in an AAK-2-independent manner. Thus, the  
279 metabolic switch does not only determine dauer diapause, but also the lifespan of adults  
280 with reduced insulin signaling.

281

282 **Gluconeogenesis is turned on by a shift in the molar ratios of key metabolic**  
283 **enzymes**

284 To gain insight into the molecular mechanism underlying the switch to gluconeogenesis  
285 and how AAK-2 and DAF-12 control it, we employed the LC-MS/MS method of MS  
286 Western [48] to quantify the absolute (molar) amount of 43 individual enzymes or  
287 subunits of enzymatic complexes involved in TCA cycle, glyoxylate shunt, glycolysis,  
288 gluconeogenesis and mitochondrial pyruvate metabolism. Molar abundance of each  
289 protein was determined by comparing individual abundances of several (typically, 2 to  
290 5) quantotypic peptides with  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -isotopically labeled peptide standards  
291 **(Supplementary Fig. S4A-F)**. Standard peptides were concatenated into a protein  
292 chimera **(Supplementary Fig. S4G)** that was in-gel co-digested with target proteins  
293 separated by one-dimensional SDS PAGE from a whole animal lysate. The molar  
294 amount of chimera protein was referenced to the standard of BSA and quantified in the  
295 same LC-MS/MS experiment. MS Western quantification was highly concordant.  
296 Median coefficient of variation of molar abundances of proteins determined using  
297 alternative standard peptides was less than 10% **(Supplementary Fig. S4H)** with better  
298 than 0.99 Pearson coefficient of correlation between technical replicas  
299 **(Supplementary Fig. S4I)**. The molar abundances of individual proteins were  
300 normalized to the total protein content in each animal lysate and could be directly

301 compared between all biological conditions without metabolic or chemical labeling of  
302 target proteins.

303 We first analysed the enzyme levels in dauers (*daf-2* at 25°C) and L3 larvae  
304 (*daf-2* at 15°C). The 43 enzymes were detected in a wide range of 1 to nearly 160 fmol  
305 per µg of the total protein (**Fig. 4A, Supplementary Fig. S5 and S6A**). Although a  
306 global metabolic perturbation would be expected, we found that the balance of molar  
307 abundances of members of different pathways between the two groups was not  
308 perturbed. However, in dauers the enzymes of glycolysis/gluconeogenesis were slightly  
309 more prevalent in respect to other pathways indicating enhanced gluconeogenesis  
310 (**Supplementary Fig. S6B**). Interestingly, in total, dauers were 1.7-fold more enriched  
311 in metabolic enzymes compared to L3 larvae, despite that dauer is a metabolically  
312 reduced stage (**Supplementary Fig. S6C**). Glycolysis/gluconeogenesis enzymes were  
313 enriched at the higher rate. (**Supplementary Fig. S6D**). Hence, the overall architecture  
314 of metabolic network was preserved in both developmental conditions, while the  
315 metabolic switch was executed by fine-tuning its directionality.

316 To understand metabolic switch mechanism, we reconstructed the pathway that  
317 converts lipid-derived acetyl-CoA to carbohydrates via glyoxylate shunt and  
318 gluconeogenesis (**Fig. 4B, Supplementary Fig. S5 and S6A**). We focused on several  
319 reactions serving as branching points or “metabolic turnouts”. The first set of reactions  
320 determines whether acetyl-CoA, via isocitrate, will enter the TCA or the glyoxylate  
321 cycle (**Fig. 4B and Supplementary Fig. S5**). We observed 3.5-fold upregulation of the  
322 glyoxylate cycle enzyme ICL-1 in dauers compared to L3 larvae (**Fig. 4B and**  
323 **Supplementary Fig. S5**). This was consistent with previous studies [29,46] and  
324 suggested that dauers have higher glyoxylate pathway activity. Thus, they convert  
325 isocitrate to malate and succinate without losing carbon atoms in the TCA cycle via

326 decarboxylation (**Fig. 4B** and **Supplementary Fig. S5**). Whether these carbon atoms  
327 are used for gluconeogenesis depends on the reactions at the second branching point.  
328 They determine whether the oxaloacetate produced downstream of the glyoxylate  
329 pathway is recycled by the citrate synthase or converted to phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP)  
330 by phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (PEPCK) (**Fig. 4B** and **Supplementary Fig.**  
331 **S6A**). The production of PEP by PEPCK is the first and pathway-specific step of  
332 gluconeogenesis. Similar to ICL-1, the two isoforms of PEPCK, PCK-1 and PCK-2,  
333 were 2-fold elevated in *daf-2* dauers compared to L3 larvae (**Fig. 4B** and  
334 **Supplementary Fig. S6A**). Thus, dauers have higher ability to use acetyl-CoA for  
335 gluconeogenesis. This ability is further supported by ~2-fold increase of oxaloacetate  
336 producing malate dehydrogenase (MDH-1) and enzymes shared between  
337 gluconeogenesis and glycolysis such as enolase (ENOL-1) and aldolase (ALDO-1)  
338 (**Fig. 4A, Supplementary Fig. S5** and **S6A**).

339 As shown above, a simultaneous inactivation of DAF-12 and AAK-2 in *daf-2*  
340 at 25°C prevents the gluconeogenic mode and the developmental arrest. Thus, we asked  
341 whether DAF-12 or AAK-2, or both, are responsible for the altered expression of the  
342 enzymes. To test this, we quantified all 43 enzymes in *daf-2* on DA and *daf-2;aak-2*  
343 with or without DA at 25°C. We first analyzed the TCA/glyoxylate cycle branching  
344 point. As expected, larvae with high gluconeogenic mode (*daf-2* on DA and *daf-2;aak-*  
345 *2* without DA) showed similar upregulation of ICL-1 as in *daf-2* dauers (**Fig. 4B** and  
346 **Supplementary Fig. S5**). Interestingly, *daf-2;aak-2* on DA also had higher amounts of  
347 this enzyme despite the low gluconeogenic mode (**Fig. 4B** and **Supplementary Fig.**  
348 **S5**). We reasoned that not only the absolute levels of ICL-1, but its molar ratio in respect  
349 to competing TCA cycle enzymes (isocitrate dehydrogenases) controls the isocitrate  
350 flow into the glyoxylate shunt (**Fig. 5A**). Indeed, as seen in **Fig. 5B** and **5C**, ICL-1

351 displayed the lowest molar ratio to all isocitrate dehydrogenase subunits and isoforms  
352 in *daf-2* L3 larvae at 15°C. This was consistent with a more intensive TCA cycle. The  
353 ratios were overall higher in *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C with or without DA (**Fig.**  
354 **5B** and **5C**). However, in stages with pronounced gluconeogenic mode (*daf-2* without  
355 or with DA at 25°C, *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C) this elevation was much more pronounced  
356 (3.5-, 3.8-, and 4.2-fold, respectively) compared to *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C with DA (2-  
357 fold, **Fig. 5B**). In DA-treated *daf-2;aak-2* ICL-1 was much less dominant in respect to  
358 the IDHG-1 subunit of the NAD<sup>+</sup>-dependent isocitrate dehydrogenase and, importantly,  
359 to the NADP<sup>+</sup>-dependent IDH-1 (**Fig. 5C**, **Supplementary Fig. S6E** and **S6F**). Thus,  
360 simultaneous inactivation of DAF-12 and AAK-2 lowers the capacity of the glyoxylate  
361 shunt.

362 We next asked whether DAF-12 or AAK-2 control the production of PEP by  
363 PEPCCK at the second branching point. DA-treated *daf-2* at 25°C had similarly elevated  
364 PCK-1 and -2 as *daf-2* dauers (**Fig. 4B** and **Supplementary Fig. S6A**). The AAK-2  
365 deficient strain, however, showed low PCK-1 and -2 levels regardless of the presence  
366 or absence of DA (**Fig. 4B** and **Supplementary Fig. S6A**). This indicated that AAK-  
367 2 might promote conversion of oxaloacetate to PEP (**Fig. 5D**). Accordingly, *daf-2* at  
368 25°C with or without DA showed lower molar ratios of citrate synthase to PEPCCK,  
369 whereas in *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C with or without DA they were much higher (**Fig. 5E**  
370 and **5F**). Together, our results suggest that both DAF-12 and AAK-2 could induce the  
371 switch from TCA to glyoxylate cycle, while AAK-2 promotes the entry of carbon from  
372 these cycles into gluconeogenesis.

373

374



375 **The transition from growth to quiescence requires unique constellation of**  
376 **metabolic enzymes**

377 Metabolic switch alters molar ratios of metabolic enzymes in specific way and is not  
378 accompanied by a global perturbation of metabolic network. We reasoned that enzymes  
379 stoichiometry should be under tighter control than the molar abundances of individual  
380 enzymes and, therefore provide a unequivocal phenotype- and context-independent  
381 readout of the metabolic state. Indeed, the median coefficient of variation between  
382 biological replicates was almost 3.5 fold lower when we calculated it based on the molar  
383 ratios between individual enzymes and hexokinase (HXK-3, the first enzyme of glucose  
384 utilization) compared to the value obtained by normalization of enzyme abundances to  
385 the total protein content (**Fig. 6A**). HXK-3 was chosen because of its low variability  
386 (**Fig. Supplementary Fig. S6A**). Hence, the stoichiometry within the enzyme network  
387 as a whole (with an emphasis on branching points) may determine the state of  
388 metabolism and, thus, development. To test this hypothesis, we subjected the dataset  
389 comprised of molar ratios between every enzyme and HXK-3 in *daf-2* at 15°C and *daf-*  
390 *2* and *daf-2;aak-2* with or without DA at 25°C to principle component analysis (PCA).  
391 As seen in **Fig. 6B, C, and D**, the principal components 1 and 2 of the normalized data  
392 (each protein had a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 1) could easily classify the  
393 larval stages according to their developmental state. More specifically, stages of active  
394 growth (*daf-2* at 15°C and *daf-2;aak-2* with DA at 25°C) were well separated from  
395 arrested stages. To support the validity of the obtained information, we trained a linear  
396 discriminate analysis (LDA) classifier (link to the code of the algorithm is available in  
397 **Methods**) on the data obtained with L3 (*daf-2* at 15°C) and dauer larvae (*daf-2* at 25°C)  
398 and performed ten-fold cross-validation. Astoundingly, using the LDA classifier, we  
399 predicted the developmental outcome (growth versus quiescence) of the rest of the

400 samples with a prediction accuracy of 94% despite the low number of quantified  
401 enzymes (**Fig. 6E**). Thus, the molar stoichiometry metabolic enzymes is unequivocally  
402 associated with the transition from growth to quiescence.

## 403 Discussion

404 This study demonstrates that the transition between growth and quiescence, as well as  
405 the mode of metabolism in long-lived insulin signaling mutants, depends on a metabolic  
406 switch. The switch is regulated by the concerted action of the insulin, steroid hormone  
407 receptor, and AMPK pathways that control key biochemical reactions in the TCA cycle,  
408 glyoxylate shunt, and gluconeogenesis. We also show that metabolic mode and  
409 morphology are independently regulated in dauer state (**Fig. 6F**), since the arrested  
410 larvae of *daf-2;daf-12* and DA-treated *daf-2* mutants display dauer metabolism but  
411 reproductive morphology.

412 Our results provide insight into how major signaling pathways govern the  
413 metabolic transition, consisting of two separately controlled modules (**Fig. 6F**). In  
414 dauer formation, DAF-16 and AAK-2 inhibit catabolism (module 1) and promote  
415 energy conservation, required for the long-term survival of dauers. In parallel, DAF-  
416 16, AAK-2, and DAF-12 stimulate gluconeogenesis (module 2) of compounds  
417 produced by the glyoxylate pathway. This favors the synthesis of substrates for  
418 glycolysis and lowers the TCA cycle and the production of building blocks for  
419 anabolism. Consequently, worms cease growth and enter a long-lasting dauer state.  
420 When executed in adults, this metabolic mode may contribute to an extension of the  
421 lifespan by preventing pathologies associated with activation of growth/reproductive  
422 programs during the post-reproductive period [49].

423 Knowing the molar amounts of enzymes involved in the metabolic switch (in  
424 contrast to fold changes between two or more biological conditions) was instrumental  
425 in differentiating the contributions of signaling pathways in the metabolic control. By  
426 building the first quantitative map of key metabolic enzymes in *C. elegans*, we  
427 discovered that, despite the low metabolic rate, dauer larvae maintain an intact

428 metabolic network. Moreover, the enzyme abundance in respect to total protein mass  
429 in dauers is even higher than in reproductive larvae. Since catabolic activity and the  
430 switch to gluconeogenesis are co-regulated, these findings showcase that the overall  
431 metabolic reduction is not achieved through a decrease in the capacity of the metabolic  
432 network, but at least partly through suppression of catabolism. Metabolic switch is  
433 achieved through adjustments of the enzyme ratios rather than by some on-off  
434 mechanism, in which (at least some) enzymes are entirely absent or overproduced.  
435 Once put into a favorable environment, dauers could immediately use the available  
436 constellation of metabolic enzymes to support reproductive development with no need  
437 to re-synthesize them at the cost of massive expenditure of energy.

438         The exact molar ratios between enzymes acting as metabolic turnouts  
439 demonstrated that AAK-2 and DAF-12 equally promoted switching from TCA to  
440 glyoxylate cycle, whereas AAK-2 was the primary factor controlling the exit of  
441 substrates from the glyoxylate pathway towards gluconeogenesis. Importantly, the  
442 combined regulation of the reactions that constitute the two branching points makes the  
443 metabolic switch more robust. This is demonstrated by the fact that *daf-2;aak-2* without  
444 DA are in gluconeogenic mode despite the high citrate synthase to PEPCCK molar ratio.  
445 Conceivably, the higher capacity of the glyoxylate shunt in these animals promoted by  
446 DAF-12 prevents the carbon from escaping through decarboxylation in the TCA  
447 pathway. This leads to higher recycling of oxaloacetate that, although with a lower rate,  
448 could enter into gluconeogenesis. However, when DAF-12 is inhibited in *daf-2;aak-2*  
449 by addition of DA, the oxaloacetate is not recycled to the same extent and ultimately  
450 becomes a substrate of the TCA cycle. Thus, in animals with simultaneously disrupted  
451 AAK-2 and DAF-12 signaling, the gluconeogenic mode is not occurring. In addition,  
452 the fact that the AMPK and steroid hormone pathways independently govern the switch

453 and have different effects on it shows that the metabolic control is fine-tuned through  
454 integration of signaling pathways that work in parallel.

455         The discovery that the stoichiometry of the enzyme network in the central  
456 carbon metabolism predicts the transition from growth to quiescence raises an  
457 important question how this information is deciphered. Most probably, signalling  
458 cascades are sensitive to steady state concentrations of key metabolites or to fluxes  
459 through given pathways. In line with this, we have previously shown that the dauer  
460 developmental decision is fine-tuned through regulation of the levels of NADPH  
461 required for DA synthesis [14]. This NADPH is generated in reactions directly related  
462 to the gluconeogenic mode: the oxidative steps of the pentose phosphate pathway (PPP)  
463 and the oxidative decarboxylation of isocitrate by the above-mentioned NADP<sup>+</sup>-  
464 dependent isocitrate dehydrogenase IDH-1 [14]. The establishment of the  
465 gluconeogenic leads to a reduction of the substrates for NADPH production: the  
466 synthesis of trehalose consumes glucose 6-phosphate required for PPP [14], while the  
467 glyoxylate pathway competes for isocitrate needed for the IDH-1 reaction.  
468 Consequently, when worms switch to gluconeogenic mode, the NADPH levels and  
469 thus, the production of DA, are diminished. In the context of the present study, this  
470 suggests that the state of gluconeogenesis induces a feedback regulation on the dauer  
471 signaling via the steroid hormone pathway. Thus, the second metabolic module directly  
472 influences the developmental arrest (**Fig. 6F**). We can predict that future studies will  
473 discover further metabolites that influence the development. It must, however, not be  
474 excluded that the enzyme concentrations could be also directly sensed, although, to our  
475 best knowledge, such system has not been identified yet.

476         Another challenge will be to understand how the metabolic switch is  
477 coordinated with the developmental timing. During growth arrest, cells must

478 simultaneously undergo metabolic depression and acquire dauer-specific fates.  
479 Therefore, the master regulators of dauer formation, DAF-12 and DAF-16, should also  
480 regulate cell fate decisions. Indeed, DAF-12 has been shown to suppress the  
481 progression through larval stages and to determine the cell fates via microRNAs of the  
482 *let-7* family serving as developmental timers [15] (**Fig. 6F**), suggesting that it functions  
483 as both a metabolic and a developmental “turnout”. However, the fact that the timing  
484 of the arrest in the third larval stage is maintained also in the absence of DAF-12 activity  
485 suggests that the insulin signaling has similar input via unknown mechanism. In line  
486 with this notion, it has been demonstrated that the insulin (via the PTEN homolog DAF-  
487 18) and AMPK signaling cascades are crucial for the arrest of the germline cell  
488 proliferation during dauer formation [50]. Hence, the investigation of how the  
489 synchronization of the metabolic and the developmental programs is achieved will be  
490 an important subject for future studies.

491         Our finding that AMPK modulates the effect of insulin pathway signaling in the  
492 control of metabolic mode and growth resolves a long-standing problem in the field.  
493 Since class II *daf-2* alleles cannot be rescued by *daf-12* Daf-d mutations or addition of  
494 DA [19,25], it was postulated that an unknown factor mediates larval arrest in worms  
495 with active DAF-16 but inactive DAF-12 [25]. Our data indicate that this factor is  
496 AAK-2, showing that AMPK signaling has much broader impact on dauer development  
497 and metabolism than previously reported. In addition to the known effects of the AMPK  
498 on the regulation of energy reserves [41,51,52], we provide evidence that in dauers it  
499 also determines the activities of the core metabolic pathways: TCA cycle,  
500 gluconeogenesis, glycolysis, and amino acid catabolism. Thus, in a broader context,  
501 AMPK in *C. elegans* is not only a modulator of the energy metabolism and  
502 mitochondrial function in the responses to metabolic stress [53-58], but also couples

503 the insulin-dependent developmental decisions with the cellular energetic status and  
504 nuclear hormone receptor signaling. This notion is consistent with the work of other  
505 groups, showing that in the regulation of adult lifespan, AMPK acts at least partially  
506 downstream of DAF-16 [59] and *aak-2* loss-of-function alleles suppress the greater  
507 longevity of *daf-2* mutants [45]. Indeed, our observation that AAK-2 is required for the  
508 full extent of the metabolic switch in long-living adults provides an explanation how  
509 the insulin-AMPK interaction promotes longevity at least partly through control of  
510 metabolism. Moreover, the FoxO-AMPK-nuclear hormone receptor axis of metabolic  
511 regulation might be conserved in higher organisms [60,61]. Altogether, not only the  
512 diapause, but also the lifespan extension are ultimately connected to the combined  
513 regulation of metabolic rates and growth, thus highlighting the intricate relationship  
514 between growth, development, aging and metabolic state.

515 **Author contributions**

516 S.P., C.E., J.-M.V., E.K. K.F. and T.V.K. designed the experiments; S.P. conducted  
517 phenotypical, fluorescent microscopy and biochemical experiments; B.K.R. and A.S.  
518 designed the MS Western analysis which was performed by B.K.R.; S.P., C.E. and J.O.  
519 performed microcalorimetry experiments; R.G. optimized and performed CARS  
520 microscopy; E.J.M.A. performed bioinformatics analysis; D.V. obtained electron  
521 microscopy images; S.P., B.K.R., C.E., J.O., R.G., D.V., A.S., and T.V.K. analyzed the  
522 data. All authors discussed the results and S.P. and T.V.K. wrote the manuscript.

523

524

525 **Availability of data and materials**

526 The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the  
527 corresponding author on reasonable request.

528

529

530 **Competing interests**

531 The authors declare no competing interests.

532



533 **Acknowledgments**

534 We thank all members of Kurzchalia lab for helpful discussions, Prof. Richard Roy for  
535 the scientific feedback, and Dr. Iain Patten for the writing support. We are grateful to  
536 the Caenorhabditis Genetics Center and to Prof. Adam Antebi for providing worm  
537 strains. We thank Prof. Hans-Joachim Knölker for the synthesis of lophanol and  
538 dafachronic acid. S.P. is supported by funds from TU Dresden's Institutional Strategy,  
539 financed by the Excellence Initiative of the Federal and State Governments of Saxony  
540 and Germany, respectively.

541

## 542 **Methods**

### 543 **Material and *C. elegans* strains**

544 Lophenol was purchased from Research Plus (Manasquan, NJ USA), [1-<sup>14</sup>C]-acetate  
545 (sodium salt) from Hartmann Analytic (Braunschweig, Germany), and Dulbecco's  
546 medium (DMEM) from Invitrogen (Karlsruhe, Germany). (25*S*)- $\Delta^7$ -DA [62-64] and  
547 lophanol were produced in the Laboratory of Prof. H.-J. Knölker. All other chemicals  
548 were from Sigma-Aldrich (Taufkirchen, Germany).

549 The Caenorhabditis Genetics Centre (CGC) provided the following *C. elegans*  
550 strains: N2 (Bristol strain), *daf-7(e1372)*, *daf-2(e1370)*, *daf-16(mu86)*, *aak-2(gt33)*,  
551 *unc-119(ed3);knuSi221*. The strain *unc-119(ed3);knuSi221* contains a single-copy  
552 transgenic segment *fib-1p::fib-1(genomic)::eGFP::fib-1 3' UTR + unc-119(+)*. The *E.*  
553 *coli* strain NA22 was also provided by the CGC.

554 The compound mutant and transgenic strains *daf-2(e1370);daf-12(rh61rh411)*,  
555 *daf-16(mu86);daf-2(e1370)*, *daf-2(e1370);aak-2(gt33)*, *daf-2(e1370);knuSi221*  
556 (abbreviated *daf-2;fib-1::eGFP*), *daf-2(e1370);aak-2(gt33);knuSi221* (abbreviated  
557 *daf-2;aak-2;fib-1::eGFP*) were generated during this or past studies as published or  
558 described below [26,65].

559

### 560 **Generation of *daf-2;aak-2***

561 Heterozygous *daf-2(e1370)* males were crossed to *aak-2(gt33)* hermaphrodites. The  
562 resulting males were crossed back to the parental *aak-2(gt33)* worms. This gave rise to  
563 hermaphrodites that laid eggs at 25°C. A fraction of these eggs developed into dauers.  
564 These dauers were shifted to 15°C to re-enter reproductive growth, singled and

565 genotyped by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for the presence of the *aak-2(gt33)*  
566 deletion.

567

#### 568 **Generation of *daf-2;fib-1::eGFP* and *daf-2;aak-2;fib-1::eGFP***

569 Males of *unc-119(ed3);knuSi221* were crossed to hermaphrodites of *daf-2(e1370);aak-*  
570 *2(gt33)*. Hermaphrodites from the progeny laid eggs at 25°C that developed into dauers.  
571 The dauers were left to recover at 15°C and eGFP-positive worms were selected and  
572 singled. The progeny of these worms was selected based on fluorescent signal. The  
573 presence of *aak-2(gt33)* was tested by PCR and two types of strains were selected as  
574 final products of the cross: animals homozygous for the wild-type *aak-2* allele (*daf-*  
575 *2;fib-1::eGFP*) and animals homozygous for *aak-2(gt33)* (*daf-2;aak-2;fib-1::eGFP*).

576

#### 577 **Growth and radiolabeling of *C. elegans* strains**

578 The worm strains were routinely propagated on NGM-agar plates complemented with  
579 *E. coli* NA22 [66]. When indicated, (25S)- $\Delta^7$ -DA was added to the bacteria to a 250  
580 nM final concentration, calculated according to the volume of the NGM-agar. The  
581 temperature-sensitive dauer constitutive strains bearing *daf-7(e1372)* or *daf-2(e1370)*  
582 alleles were propagated at 15°C, a temperature at which they undergo reproductive  
583 growth. To obtain dauers or arrested L3 larvae of these strains, embryos were obtained  
584 from gravid adults by hypochlorite treatment [66], incubated overnight at room  
585 temperature, and the resulting synchronized L1 larvae were grown at 25°C for 72 hours.

586 The growth on 4-MS-containing medium was performed according to a  
587 described method [26]. Briefly, sterol-depleted medium was obtained by substituting  
588 agar with chloroform-extracted agarose. NA22 bacteria were grown on a sterol-free  
589 DMEM medium, pelleted, rinsed and resuspended in M9 buffer. Two different 4-MS

590 were used depending on the availability: lophenol or lophanol. It must be noted that  
591 these two compounds have identical effects to those of dietary sterols [26]. The 4-MS  
592 (or cholesterol, when indicated) were added to the bacteria to a 13  $\mu$ M final  
593 concentration according to the volume of the agarose. The worms were propagated on  
594 these plates for two consecutive generations. Again, synchronized L1 larvae were  
595 grown at 25°C for 72 hours in the second generation until the developmental arrest  
596 occurred.

597 For the microscopy of FIB-1::eGFP in a wild-type background, mixed  
598 populations were produced on NGM-agar plates as described above. Reproductive  
599 larvae were collected from plates with abundant food and low population density. Dauer  
600 larvae were prepared from overcrowded plates, and isolated from other stages by  
601 treatment with 1% SDS for 30 minutes followed by separation of the survived dauers  
602 from the dead debris of other stages on empty agarose plates on which the dauer larvae  
603 quickly dispersed.

604 To obtain radiolabeled *C. elegans*, the worms were grown on NGM-agar or  
605 agarose solid medium (see above), complemented with [1-<sup>14</sup>C]-acetate (sodium salt).  
606 The <sup>14</sup>C-acetate was added to the bacteria and calculated as 0.5  $\mu$ Ci/ml according to the  
607 volume of the NGM-agar/agarose.

608

### 609 **Survival, SDS assay and worm sampling for microscopy and biochemical analysis**

610 Dauer(-like) and arrested L3 larvae were prepared by growing the worms on solid  
611 medium as described above, collected and washed three times with M9 buffer. The  
612 worms were incubated in 15 ml polypropylene centrifuge tubes (Corning, NY, USA)  
613 containing 10 ml of autoclaved M9 buffer supplemented with the antibiotics  
614 streptomycin (50  $\mu$ g/ml) and nystatin (10  $\mu$ g/ml) at 25°C under constant agitation. The

615 density of the population was kept at 500 worms/ml. To monitor the survival, 100  $\mu$ l  
616 aliquots were taken every 2 days and the percentage of live animals was calculated.

617 For scoring the survival of *daf-2* or *daf-2;aak-2* after SDS treatment, worms  
618 were collected from the feeding NGM-agar plates, washed three times with ddH<sub>2</sub>O and  
619 resuspended in 10 ml of 1% SDS (w/v) in ddH<sub>2</sub>O in 15 ml polypropylene centrifuge  
620 tubes (Corning, NY, USA). After 30 minutes of incubation within the SDS solution at  
621 25°C with shaking, the worms were washed another three times with ddH<sub>2</sub>O and placed  
622 on NGM agar plates where the survival was scored. 100  $\mu$ l aliquots were also used for  
623 the preparation of microscopy samples as described below. For biochemical analysis,  
624 the worms were washed three times with ddH<sub>2</sub>O, pelleted, snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen  
625 and stored at -80°C until further analysis (see below).

626

### 627 **Isothermal microcalorimetry**

628 To measure the heat production during worm development starting from L1 larva  
629 onwards, we first purified eggs and plated them on agarose plates without food. After  
630 keeping them at 25 °C overnight, synchronized L1 larvae were washed with M9 buffer  
631 and diluted to 14.3 worms/ $\mu$ l. 140  $\mu$ l (~2000 worms) of each suspension was pipetted  
632 into a 4 ml glass ampoule (TA Instruments, New Castle, DE, USA), in which there was  
633 already 60  $\mu$ l of concentrated *E. coli* NA22 in M9 (OD<sub>600</sub> = 20), so that the starting  
634 amount of bacteria was 6 OD<sub>600</sub>. These ampoules were then sealed with aluminium caps  
635 equipped with sealing discs (TA Instruments, New Castle, DE, USA).

636 For the measurements of the heat production of dauer(-like) and arrested L3  
637 larvae, worms were grown on solid medium as described above and washed three times  
638 with M9 buffer. 2000 larvae were collected in 200  $\mu$ l of autoclaved M9 buffer  
639 supplemented with the antibiotics streptomycin (50  $\mu$ g/ml) and nystatin (10  $\mu$ g/ml) and

640 transferred into 4 ml glass ampoules that were closed with aluminum caps equipped  
641 with sealing discs (TA Instruments, New Castle, DE, USA).

642 Isothermal calorimetric measurements were performed with a TAMIII (Thermal  
643 Activity Monitor) instrument (Waters GmbH, Eschborn, Germany) equipped with 12  
644 microcalorimeters in twin configuration (one side for the sample the other for a steel  
645 reference) to continuously monitor the metabolic heat produced by *C. elegans* at 25°C  
646 for up to 5 days. The samples were held in the TAM III in a waiting position for 15 min  
647 before complete insertion followed by 45 min equilibration. In each experiment,  
648 thermograms were recorded at least in triplicates. The thermograms represent  
649 continuous measurements and no curve fitting was performed.

650

#### 651 **Fluorescence and CARS microscopy**

652 For the visualization of FIB-1::eGFP by confocal microscopy and for CARS imaging  
653 of lipid deposits, worms were mounted on 2% agarose pads on glass slides (Thermo  
654 scientific, Superfrost Plus) and anesthetized with 20 mM sodium azide in M9 buffer.  
655 The liquid was aspirated and the pads were covered with cover slips (with 0.17 +/-  
656 0.005 mm cover slips (Menzel-Glaeser). The FIB-1::eGFP was visualized with a Zeiss  
657 LSM 880 scanning confocal microscope equipped with a Zeiss i LCI Plan-Neofluar  
658 63x 1.3 Imm Korr DIC objective. eGFP was excited at 488 nm, and fluorescence was  
659 detected at the emission band of 490-540 nm. On average, 12 optical sections of  
660 0.09x0.09x1  $\mu\text{m}$  voxel size were collected. To represent the status of the nucleoli in all  
661 tissues within the frame, all micrographs are represented as a maximum intensity  
662 projection of the Z-stack generated in Fiji.

663 The imaging of lipid droplets was performed by coherent anti-Stokes Raman  
664 scattering (CARS) microscopy [67]. Autogenous two-photon excited fluorescence

665 (TPEF) and second harmonic generation (SHG) optical signals were simultaneously  
666 acquired. TPEF was used to differentiate between lipid droplets and autofluorescent  
667 lysosome-related organelles [68]. SHG displays collagen type I and was used as  
668 reference for anatomical details, e.g. the position of the pharynx [69]. CARS, TPEF and  
669 SHG were detected using a multiphoton scanning microscope coupled with two near-  
670 infrared picosecond fiber lasers. The optical microscope was an upright Axio Examiner  
671 Z.1 equipped with a laser scanning module LSM 7 (all from Carl Zeiss Microscopy  
672 GmbH, Jena, Germany) and multiple detectors in non-descanned configuration. The  
673 excitation for TPEF and SHG was provided by an Erbium fiber laser (Femto Fiber pro  
674 NIR from Toptica Photonics AG, Gräfelfing, Germany) emitting at 781 nm with pulse  
675 length of 1.2 ps and maximum emitted power at the source of 100 mW. The TPEF  
676 signal in the spectral range 500-550 nm was acquired in reflection. The SHG signal was  
677 acquired in transmission mode with band pass (BP) filter ( $390 \pm 9$ ) nm. A second laser  
678 source was used to excite the CARS signal. This source (Femto Fiber pro TNIR from  
679 Toptica Photonics AG) is tunable in the range 850 - 1100 nm and has a pulse length of  
680 0.8 ps. In all CARS experiments the wavelength was set to 1005 nm (emitted power at  
681 the source: 1.5 mW), to resonantly excite the symmetric stretching vibration of  
682 methylene groups at  $2850 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The CARS signal was collected in transmission mode  
683 and selected using a BP filter ( $640 \pm 7$ ) nm. A water immersion objective W Plan-  
684 Apochromat 20×/1.0 (Carl Zeiss Microscopy GmbH) was used. Due to the transmission  
685 of optical elements, the laser power in the sample was 52 mW. CARS, TPEF and SHG  
686 were combined as RGB images (red: CARS; green: TPEF; blue: SHG). An automatic  
687 tiling procedure enabled by the microscope software ZEN was used for acquisition of  
688 images larger than the field of view of the microscope objective.

689

## 690 **High-pressure freezing and electron microscopy**

691 Worms were directly frozen without any additives with a high-pressure freezing unit  
692 (EMPACT2, Leica), followed by automated freeze substitution (AFS2, Leica) in  
693 acetone cocktail (containing 1% osmium tetroxide, 0.1% uranyl acetate and 0.5%  
694 glutaraldehyde), with a slope of 3.0°C/hour, from -90°C up to 0°C (including a rest for  
695 15 hours at -30°C). At room temperature, samples were rinsed with acetone and  
696 stepwise infiltrated with mixtures of acetone and LX112-resin (Ladd Research) from  
697 1/3 over 1/2 to 2/3 the amount of resin (1.5 hours each step). Samples were left in pure  
698 resin overnight, then for another four hours in fresh resin before mounting them  
699 between slides and polymerizing at 60°C. Transverse sections (70 nm) were taken with  
700 an ultramicrotome (Ultracut UCT, Leica), and post-contrasted in 1% uranyl acetate in  
701 70% methanol followed by lead citrate. The sections were examined under electron  
702 microscope (Philips Tecnai12, FEI) at 120 kV, and photographs were taken with a  
703 TVIPS-camera (Tietz).

704

## 705 **Organic extraction and thin layer chromatography**

706 Frozen worm pellets were homogenized by three rounds of thawing in an  
707 ultrasonication bath and freezing, and extracted using a standard method [70]. In all  
708 experiments, the samples consisted of similar numbers of worms (~20 000 larvae).  
709 After phase separation, lipids and hydrophilic metabolites were recovered from the  
710 organic and aqueous phases, respectively. Non-radioactive samples were normalized  
711 for the number of worms. Radioactive <sup>14</sup>C-acetate-labeled samples were normalized for  
712 the number of worms to visualize the rate of catabolism of TGs, phospholipids,  
713 trehalose and amino acids in *daf-2;aak-2* or according to the total radioactivity to  
714 determine the state of the gluconeogenesis in different worms strains. In the latter case,



715 the normalization method was chosen to obtain information on the relative abundance  
716 of the various metabolites.

717 TLC was performed on 10 cm HPTLC plates (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany).  
718 The running system for sugar detection was chloroform-methanol-water (4:4:1, v/v/v)  
719 and chloroform-methanol-water (45:18:3, v/v/v) for phospholipid detection. 2D-TLC  
720 for the visualization of hydrophilic metabolites was done using 1-propanol–methanol–  
721 ammonia (32%)–water (28:8:7:7, v/v/v/v) as 1<sup>st</sup> system and 1-butanol–acetone–glacial  
722 acetic acid–water (35:35:7:23, v/v/v/v) as the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The TLC plates were sprayed with  
723 Molisch reagent for sugar detection, with ninhydrin for visualization of amino acid, and  
724 with 3% copper (II) acetate in 10% orthophosphoric acid for imaging of TGs and  
725 phospholipids. TLC plates containing radioactive samples were sprayed with  
726 EN<sup>3</sup>HANCE spray surface autoradiography enhancer (Perkin Elmer, Waltham, MA,  
727 USA) and exposed to X-ray film (Kodak Biomax MR, Sigma-Aldrich, Taufkirchen,  
728 Germany). The X-ray films were scanned and the band intensities of TGs,  
729 phosphatidylethanolamines and trehalose were calculated in Fiji by determining the  
730 corresponding optical density peak areas.

731

### 732 **MS Western absolute quantification of metabolic enzymes**

733 Absolute protein quantification was performed using MS Western [48]. All worm  
734 strains were washed twice with M9 buffer, counted, collected and snap frozen in liquid  
735 nitrogen for later analysis. The frozen worms were thawed on ice and crushed using a  
736 micro hand mixer (Carl Roth, Germany). The crude extract was then centrifuged for  
737 15 min at 13000 rpm, 4°C to remove any tissue debris. The clear supernatant was then  
738 transferred to a fresh Protein Lo-Bind tube (Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany). Total  
739 protein content of the samples were estimates using BCA assay (Thermo scientific,

740 Germany) and 60  $\mu$ g (~3500 worms) of total protein content was loaded on to a precast  
741 4 to 20% gradient 1-mm thick polyacrylamide mini-gels were from Anamed  
742 Elektrophorese (Rodau, Germany) for 1D SDS PAGE. Separate gels were run for 1  
743 pmol of BSA and isotopically labelled lysine (K) and arginine (R) incorporated  
744 chimeric standard containing 3-5 unique top N quantitytic peptides from 53 metabolic  
745 enzymes spanning glycolysis, gluconeogenesis, TCA cycle and glyoxylate shunt and 5  
746 peptides from BSA for quantifying the standard [48]. Undetectable proteins or proteins  
747 without detectable unique sequences like GPD-1, GPD-3, HXK-1, ALH-4, ALH-5,  
748 ALH-11, ALH-2, SODH-2, SUCL-1, and SDHD-1 were not included in this analysis.  
749 Peptides containing methionine and cysteine were excluded as the former can be  
750 variably oxidised and the later can form disulphide bridges. The sample was cut into 6  
751 gel fractions and each fraction was co digested with BSA and the chimeric standard  
752 using Trypsin Gold, mass spectrometry grade, (Promega, Madison). Mass spectra was  
753 acquired in data-dependent acquisition mode in a Q-Exactive HF (Thermo Scientific,  
754 Bremen, Germany) coupled with a Dionex Ultimate 3000- HPLC system (Thermo  
755 Scientific, Bremen, Germany). Peptide matching was carried out using Mascot v.2.2.04  
756 software (Matrix Science, London, UK) against *Caenorhabditis elegans* (November  
757 2016) proteome downloaded from Uniprot. A precursor mass tolerance of 5ppm and  
758 fragment mass tolerance of 0.03 Da was applied, fixed modification: carbamidomethyl  
759 (C); variable modifications: acetyl (protein N terminus), oxidation (M); labels:  $^{13}\text{C}(6)$   
760 (K) and  $^{13}\text{C}(6)^{15}\text{N}(4)$  (R); cleavage specificity: trypsin, with up to 2 missed cleavages  
761 allowed. Peptides having the ions score above 15 were accepted (significance threshold  
762  $p < 0.05$ ). The chromatographic alignment and feature detection were carried using  
763 Progenesis LC-MS v.4.1 (Nonlinear Dynamics, UK). The absolute quantification was  
764 performed by calculating the abundances for the labelled and the unlabelled peptide

765 using an in-house software.

766

### 767 **Principal component analysis and linear discriminant analysis**

768 Molar ratio of all 43 enzymes to HXK-3 from all 5 conditions were used as the data  
769 space for further analysis. The initial data exploration was carried out with PCA. Most  
770 of the data variance was explained with first 3 components. Plotting the data, it was  
771 linearly dividable in the lower dimension 2D projection.

772 We then chose to make a classifier using Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA) owing  
773 to the small size of the data set. The data was scaled to each feature and it fitted a normal  
774 distribution. To validate the performance of the classifier, we used 10-fold cross  
775 validation. The data was split into 10 parts and one part was used to test the data trained  
776 on rest 9 parts. An accuracy of 94% was achieved. To visualize the classified data, we  
777 used a logistic regression to define areas on a projected 2D-surface and the points on  
778 the surface represent the samples used in the classification.

779 The code used for classification and visualization of the data can be found in the link  
780 (< placeholder <https://cloud.mpi-cbg.de/index.php/s/15V5MqAZlptnX8I> >) The  
781 Jupyter notebook loads the data as a pandas data frame and performs principal  
782 component analysis as well as Linear Discriminant Analysis, for data exploration and  
783 classification. For visualization a logistic regression was used to project the higher  
784 dimensionality data into a lower 2D-plane.

785

786 **References**

787

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991

992

993 **Figure legends**

994

995 **Figure 1 - DAF-16 mediates the switch to low metabolic rate in dauer formation**  
996 **but does not directly induce dauer morphogenesis.**

997 **(A)** Signaling pathways in dauer formation. In the absence of insulin-like peptides,  
998 DAF-2 is suppressed, leading to activation of DAF-16. Dauer-inducing pheromones  
999 inhibit the TGF- $\beta$  and guanylyl cyclase pathways, and this lowers the production of DA  
1000 by DAF-9, resulting in activated DAF-12. DAF-16 stimulates DAF-12 by inhibiting  
1001 DAF-9. DAF-12 is also capable of activating DAF-16. DAF-16 and DAF-12 control  
1002 different subsets of genes designated X'Y'Z' and X''Y''Z'', respectively.

1003 **(B)** Continuous measurement of the heat dissipated in unit time (heat flow) by wild-  
1004 type (N2) worms undergoing reproductive growth on cholesterol or dauer formation on  
1005 4-MS.

1006 **(C)** Formation of L3 arrested larvae of *daf-2;daf-12* or DA-fed *daf-2* at restrictive  
1007 temperature. The reduction of DAF-2 activity leads to activation of DAF-16. DAF-16  
1008 inhibits DAF-9 activity but this effect is neutralized by the *daf-12* mutation or the  
1009 addition of exogenous DA. Thus, DAF-16 is active but DAF-12 is not.

1010 **(D)** Heat flow of *daf-2*, *daf-2;daf-12* and *daf-2;daf-16* grown at 25°C.

1011 **(E)** Transmission electron micrograph of a cross-section of a growing L3 larva of *daf-*  
1012 *2* grown at 15°C. Upper panel: an overview of the body organization. The gut lumen is  
1013 elongated and lined by multiple microvilli (central panel, large rectangle in the upper  
1014 panel). The structure of the cuticle is displayed on the lower panel, corresponding to  
1015 the small rectangle in the upper panel. Note the absence of a striated circular layer.

1016 **(F)** Electron micrograph of a *daf-2* dauer larva grown at 25°C. The upper panel shows  
1017 radial constriction of the body, extensive accumulation of lipid droplets (arrowheads)

1018 and dauer-specific alae (arrows). The gut lumen is rounded, microvilli are almost absent  
1019 (central panel, large rectangle in upper panel). The cuticle possesses a striated layer  
1020 (lower panel and indicated by a bracket, small rectangle in the upper panel).

1021 (G) Electron micrograph of a *daf-2;daf-12* arrested larva grown at 25°C. The body is  
1022 not radially constricted but displays extensive accumulation of lipid droplets (upper  
1023 panel, arrowheads). Alae are absent (upper panel). The gut lumen (central panel, large  
1024 rectangle in upper panel) and the cuticle (lower panel, small rectangle in upper panel)  
1025 resemble the ones displayed by L3 larvae in (Fig. 1E).

1026 4-MS – 4-methylated sterol; DA – dafachronic acid. Panels B and D show  
1027 representative diagrams from 4 experiments with 1-4 technical replicates. Scale bars in  
1028 E, F and G correspond to 5  $\mu\text{m}$  (upper panels), 1  $\mu\text{m}$  (central panels) and 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (lower  
1029 panels); representative images of at least five animals per condition.

1030

1031 **Figure 2 - DAF-16 alone determines the energy expenditure and lifespan of dauer**  
1032 **larvae and, together with DAF-12, the switch to gluconeogenesis**

1033 (A) Continuous measurement of the cumulative heat dissipation by *daf-2* dauers and  
1034 *daf-2;daf-12* arrested L3 larvae grown at 25°C in the period after the developmental  
1035 arrest is completed.

1036 (B) Formation of dauer-like larvae of *daf-16* on 4-MS. DAF-12 is activated due to a  
1037 lack of substrates for DA synthesis; however, DAF-16 activity is absent due to the  
1038 mutation in the *daf-16* locus.

1039 (C) Cumulative heat dissipation by wild-type (N2) dauers and *daf-16* dauer-like larvae  
1040 grown on 4-MS in the period after the developmental arrest is completed.

1041 (D) CARS microscopy of lipid droplets (red) in *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2;daf-12* arrested  
1042 L3 larvae grown at 25°C, and wild-type (N2) dauers and *daf-16* dauer-like larvae grown

1043 on 4-MS in the period after the developmental arrest is completed. Note that the  
1044 lysosome-related organelles (green autofluorescence) are not a source of CARS signal  
1045 under the conditions used.

1046 **(E)** Survival rate of *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2;daf-12* arrested L3 larvae grown at 25°C,  
1047 and wild-type (N2) dauers and *daf-16* dauer-like larvae grown on 4-MS in buffer.

1048 **(F)** 2D-TLC of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate-labelled metabolites from *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2;daf-12*  
1049 arrested larvae grown at 25°C compared to growing L3 larvae of the same strains grown  
1050 at 15°C. Note the accumulation of trehalose (1) in the arrested stages, indicating a  
1051 switch from TCA cycle to gluconeogenesis.

1052 **(G)** 2D-TLC of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate-labelled metabolites from wild-type (N2) dauers and *daf-16*  
1053 dauer-like larvae grown on 4-MS compared to growing L3 larvae of the same strains  
1054 grown on cholesterol.

1055 4-MS – 4-methylated sterol, CARS – Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Scattering, SHG –  
1056 Second Harmonic Generation. In **(A)** and **(C)**, representative diagrams of at least 2  
1057 experiments with 3 replicates. In **(D)**, representative images of at least 6 animals, scale  
1058 bars – 10 μm. In **(E)**, data is represented as means ± 95% confidence intervals of 3  
1059 experiments with 3 replicates. \*\*\* significance of p<0.001; ns - no significant  
1060 difference determined by log-rank test. In **(F)** and **(G)**, representative images from at  
1061 least 2 experiments. 1 – trehalose, 2 – glucose, 3 – glutamate, 4 – glycine/serine, 5 –  
1062 glutamine, 6 – alanine/threonine.

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1067 **Figure 3 - AAK-2 regulates the catabolism in dauer state and, in parallel to DAF-**  
1068 **12, the gluconeogenic mode and developmental arrest**

1069 **(A)** Electron microscopy of *daf-2(e1370);aak-2(gt33)* collected on the day of dauer  
1070 formation or after five days of incubation at 25 °C on ample food source. Alae (upper  
1071 panels, arrows) and striated layer of the cuticle (lower panels, brackets) are present.  
1072 Five day-old dauers show features of starvation: shrinkage of the hypodermis (H),  
1073 expansion of the pseudocoelomic cavity (1 asterisk), formation of a cavity between the  
1074 cuticle and the hypodermis (2 asterisks) and widening of the gut lumen (3 asterisks). In  
1075 addition, the animals show much fewer mitochondria which are substantially enlarged  
1076 (arrowheads).

1077 **(B)** TLC of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate labelled TGs, phospholipids, and trehalose from *daf-2* and *daf-*  
1078 *2;aak-2* dauers measured at different time points after the arrest.

1079 **(C)** Quantification of the band intensities in some of the compounds in **(B)** represented  
1080 by peak area of the optical density. PE is used as a representative phospholipid.

1081 **(D)** 2D-TLC of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate-labelled metabolites from *daf-2;aak-2* L3 larvae grown at  
1082 15°C, dauers grown at 25°C and L3 larvae obtained at 25°C in the presence of DA.

1083 **(E)** Micrographs of *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* animals grown at 25°C in the presence or  
1084 absence of DA. Inhibition of DAF-12 promotes reproductive growth in *daf-2;aak-2* but  
1085 not in *daf-2*.

1086 **(F)** Quantification of the larval arrest in **(E)**.

1087 In **(A)**, Scale bars 5 μm (upper panels) and 0.5 μm (lower panels); representative images  
1088 of at least 4 animals. In **(B and C)**, TG – triglycerides, GlcCer – glucosylceramides,  
1089 Mar – maradolipids, PE – phosphatidylethanolamine, PS – phosphatidylserine, PI –  
1090 phosphatidylinositol, PC – phosphatidylcholine, Tre – trehalose, RU – relative units. In  
1091 **(C)** data is represented as means ± SD of 2 experiments with 3 replicates. \*\*\* p<0.001;



1092 \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*  $p < 0.1$ ; ns - no significant difference determined by Student t-test. In (D),  
1093 DA – dafachronic acid, 1 – trehalose, 2 – glucose, 3 – glutamate, 4 – glycine/serine, 5  
1094 – glutamine, 6 – alanine/threonine; representative images from at least 2 experiments.  
1095 In (E and F) data is represented as means  $\pm$  95% confidence intervals of 3 experiments  
1096 with 3 replicates. \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ; ns - no significant difference determined by one-way  
1097 analysis of variance.

1098

1099 **Figure 4 - The metabolic switch is achieved through regulation of enzymes that**  
1100 **work on branching points between competing pathways.**

1101 (A) Absolute quantification of 43 enzymes of the TCA and glyoxylate cycle,  
1102 mitochondrial pyruvate metabolism, gluconeogenesis, and glycolysis in *daf-2* dauers  
1103 grown at 25°C compared to *daf-2* L3 larvae at 15°C.

1104 (B) Schematic representation of the pathway that converts lipids to carbohydrates with  
1105 absolute quantification of the enzymes that operate at the branching points. Red arrows  
1106 and green circles represent the competing reactions at the point of divergence between  
1107 (1) TCA and glyoxylate pathway and (2) the recycling of oxaloacetate into the  
1108 TCA/glyoxylate cycle or its entry into gluconeogenesis.

1109 In all panels, data is represented as means  $\pm$  standard deviation (S.D.) of 3 biological  
1110 replicates with 2 technical replicates each.

1111

1112 **Figure 5 - DAF-12 and AAK-2 control the molar ratios of the enzymes at the**  
1113 **branching points between competing pathways.**

1114 (A) Scheme of the first branching point – the entry of isocitrate into glyoxylate or TCA  
1115 cycle.

1116 (B) Molar ratio between ICL-1 and the summed abundances of all isocitrate  
1117 dehydrogenase isoforms and subunits, IDHA-1, IDHB-1, IDHG-1, IDHG-2, IDH-1, and  
1118 IDH-2, dubbed IDH (total).

1119 (C) Molar ratios between ICL-1 and individual isocitrate dehydrogenases. The sums of  
1120 IDHG-1+IDHG-2 and IDH-1+IDH-2 are provided as a clearer representation due to the  
1121 low molar abundance of IDHG-2 and IDH-2 compared to IDHG-1 and IDH-1,  
1122 respectively. Lines between data points are provided for better visualization.

1123 (D) Scheme of the second branching point – the recycling of oxaloacetate into citrate  
1124 or its entry into gluconeogenesis.

1125 (E) Molar ratio between CTS-1 and the summed abundances of the two PEPCCK isoforms  
1126 PCK-1 and PCK-2.

1127 (F) Molar ratio between CTS-1 and the individual PEPCCK isoforms. Lines between data  
1128 points are provided for better visualization.

1129 In all panels, means  $\pm$  (S.D.) of 3 biological replicates with 2 technical replicates each;  
1130 p-values represent  $p > 0.05$  (ns),  $p \leq 0.05$  (\*),  $p \leq 0.01$  (\*\*),  $p \leq 0.001$  (\*\*\*),  $p \leq 0.0001$   
1131 (\*\*\*\*). One way ANNOVA was performed with Holm-Bonferroni statistical method.

1132

1133 **Figure 6 - Stoichiometry of 43 enzymes of the central carbon metabolism encodes**  
1134 **information for the developmental state**

1135 (A) Median coefficient of variation between biological replicates of molar abundances  
1136 of 43 enzymes normalized per total protein content of the sample or expressed as molar  
1137 ratios to hexokinase (HXK-3). Each point represents the ratio of one protein to HXK-  
1138 3. The example represents data from L3 larvae (*daf-2* at 15°C).

1139 (B-D) Principle component analysis (PCA) of molar ratios of 43 individual proteins to  
1140 hexokinase (HXK-3). Plots represent segregation based on components 1 and 2 (B), 1

1141 and 3 (C), and 2 and 3 (D). Component 1 explains 47.5%, component 2 – 16.1%, and  
1142 component 3 – 13.6% variance between samples.

1143 (E) Lower dimensionality projection of the Linear Discriminant Analysis classifier with  
1144 a constraint of two components to visualize the results in a 2D-plane. Red dots represent  
1145 groups in reproductive growth (*daf-2* at 15°C and *daf-2;aak-2* at 25°C with DA). Green  
1146 dots correspond to arrested larvae of *daf-2* at at 25°C with or without DA and *daf-2;aak-*  
1147 *2* at 25°C without DA.

1148 (F) Proposed model of metabolic control of the transition to dauer state. Represents the  
1149 genetic control of metabolic and developmental determinants of dauer formation and  
1150 their interactions in respect to the establishment of dauer state. The metabolic shift  
1151 consists of two modules – module 1 comprising the overall metabolic rate, mainly  
1152 reflecting the catabolism of energy reserves, and module 2 affecting the stoichiometry  
1153 of metabolic enzymes and, thus, the directionality of metabolic pathways. DAF-16 and  
1154 AAK-2 inhibit catabolism and promote energy conservation required for the long-term  
1155 survival of dauers. In parallel to DAF-12, they also promote a shift in the stoichiometry  
1156 of metabolic enzymes that underlies the enhanced gluconeogenesis and stimulates  
1157 developmental arrest. The latter occurs precisely at the third larval stage due to the  
1158 activity of developmental timers, controlled at least partly by DAF-12. The metabolic  
1159 and physiologic adaptations for survival are complemented by specific morphogenetic  
1160 program under the control of DAF-12.

1161 In (A-E) - 3 biological replicates with 2 technical replicates each.

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1165 **Supplementary Figure S1 - Effect of DA on the heat production of *daf-2* and *daf-***  
1166 **7 and the morphology of *daf-2***

1167 (A) Heat flow of *daf-2* and *daf-7* grown at 25°C in the presence or absence of DA.

1168 Inhibition of DAF-12 suppresses the switch to low heat production in *daf-7* but not in  
1169 *daf-2*.

1170 (B) Electron micrograph of a *daf-2* arrested L3 larva grown at 25°C in the presence of  
1171 DA. The body is not radially constricted but multiple lipid droplets are visible (left  
1172 panel, arrowheads). Alae are absent (left panel). The gut lumen is elongated with  
1173 multiple microvilli (central panel, big rectangle on left panel) and the cuticle has no  
1174 striated layer (right panel, small rectangle on left panel).

1175 In (A), n=2 for each condition. DA – dafachronic acid. In (B), representative images  
1176 of five worms. Scale bars 5 μm (left panel), 1 μm (central panel) and 0.5 μm (right  
1177 panel).

1178

1179 **Supplementary Figure S2 - DAF-16 controls the catabolism of energy reserves in**  
1180 **dauer larvae**

1181 (A) TLC of lipids and sugars in *daf-2* dauers and *daf-2;daf-12* arrested L3 larvae  
1182 grown at 25°C, and wild-type (N2) dauers and *daf-16* dauer-like larvae grown on 4-  
1183 MS in the period after the developmental arrest is completed. While the *daf-2*, *daf-*  
1184 *2;daf-12* and wild-type animals show conservation of TGs, trehalose and glucose, in  
1185 *daf-16* only traces of these compounds are visible within 2 days of arrest. This is not  
1186 the case with phospholipids, which are preserved to a good extent in all larvae.

1187 (B) 2D-TLC of amino acids from the same types of animals as in (a). *daf-2*, *daf-*  
1188 *2;daf-12* and wild-type animals are able to preserve the bulk amino acids, while in  
1189 *daf-16* larvae after 2 days of arrest the amino acid levels are very low.

1190 TG – triglycerides, GlcCer – glucosylceramides, Mar – maradolipids, PE –  
1191 phosphatidylethanolamine, PS – phosphatidylserine, PI – phosphatidylinositol, PC –  
1192 phosphatidylcholine, Glc – glucose, Tre – trehalose, 1 – arginine, 2 – lysine, 3 –  
1193 glutamate, 4 – glycine/serine, 5 – glutamine, 6 – alanine/threonine. Representative  
1194 images of at least 2 experiments.

1195

1196 **Supplementary Figure S3 - AAK-2 does not inhibit exit from dauer state but is**  
1197 **required for preservation of energy reserves in dauers and for gluconeogenic**  
1198 **mode in adults**

1199 **(A)** Scheme of the SDS treatment experiment. Dauer larvae of *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2*  
1200 were obtained by incubation at the restrictive temperature (25 °C) and subjected to  
1201 treatment with 1% SDS immediately after the completion of the dauer formation (Day  
1202 0) or after prolonged incubation at 25 °C (Day 2 and 5) in the presence of food. After  
1203 SDS treatment, the survival of the animals was scored. Separately, dauer larvae were  
1204 allowed to exit by a shift to permissive temperature (15 °C) until day 2, when a  
1205 mixture of reproductive stages (L3, L4 larvae and young adults (YA)) and not  
1206 recovered dauers was formed. This population was also treated with SDS.

1207 **(B)** Survival after SDS treatment. Both *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* larvae show almost  
1208 100% survival even after five days at the restrictive temperature (25 °C). In contrast,  
1209 the worms shifted to permissive temperature (15 °C) display substantial sensitivity to  
1210 SDS.

1211 **(C)** 2D-TLC of <sup>14</sup>C-acetate labelled sugars and amino acids from *daf-2* dauers  
1212 measured at different time points after the arrest. The depicted compounds are well  
1213 preserved over time.

1214 **(D)** 2D-TLC of  $^{14}\text{C}$ -acetate labelled sugars and amino acids from *daf-2;aak-2* dauers.  
1215 Unlike *daf-2*, *daf-2;aak-2* are depleted of sugars and amino acids very fast.  
1216 **(E)** FIB-1::eGFP localizes to nucleoli in both reproductive and dauer larvae. The  
1217 outlines of the nuclei are indicated by dashed lines.  
1218 **(F)** *daf-2;fib-1::eGFP* dauers at different time points after dauer arrest. FIB-1 is  
1219 localized to the nuclei with highest concentration in the nucleoli in all cells. Over  
1220 time, this localization is retained.  
1221 **(G)** *daf-2;fib-1::eGFP* arrested L3 larvae grown on DA at different time points after  
1222 the arrest. Over time, the animals maintain nucleolar localization of FIB-1.  
1223 **(H)** *daf-2;aak-2;fib-1::eGFP* dauers at different time points after arrest. Early after  
1224 arrest, FIB-1 is localized to the nucleoli. After 4 days, FIB-1 is still detected in the  
1225 nucleoli but also in multiple smaller granules dispersed in the nucleoplasm of some  
1226 cells (arrow). After 7 days, FIB-1 is almost completely dissolved in the nucleoplasm  
1227 of most of the cells (arrowheads).  
1228 **(I)** 2D-TLC of  $^{14}\text{C}$ -acetate-labelled metabolites from *daf-2* and *daf-2;aak-2* adults  
1229 grown at 15°C (left panels) or switched from 15°C to 25°C after L4 stage (right  
1230 panels).  
1231 In **(B)**, means + SD of 2 experiments performed in triplicates. In **(C)** and **(D)**, and **(I)**  
1232 representative images from 2 experiments. 1 – trehalose, 2 – glucose, 3 – glutamate, 4  
1233 – glycine/serine, 5 – glutamine, 6 – alanine/threonine. In **(E-H)**, maximum intensity  
1234 Z-projection of the eGFP fluorescence. DA- dafachronic acid. Scale bars – 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
1235 Representative images of 2 experiments with at least 7 animals **(E)** and 3 experiments  
1236 with at least 7 animals **(F, G, and H)**.  
1237  
1238

1239 **Supplementary Figure S4 - LC-MS/MS (MS Western) analysis of metabolic**  
1240 **enzymes.**

1241 **(A-F)** Multiple peptide based concordant quantification of an example Protein  
1242 Isocitrate lyase (ICL-1). Extracted ion chromatograms (XIC) of ICL-1 endogenous  
1243 peptides **(A)** LQSAEEAQLWADVFK and **(C)** NQLEGQINLYDAVR their  
1244 corresponding co-eluting labelled peptides **(B and D)** from artificial chimeric  
1245 standard. **(E)** and **(F)** show the isotopic distribution of the light (L) and heavy (H)  
1246 peptides. The light to heavy ratio (L/H) are similar for both peptides. The  
1247 quantification is performed by comparing the peak abundances of known amount of  
1248 the chimeric standard to the peak abundances of the endogenous peptides to calculate  
1249 the amount in fmole. The final amount is reported as an average of the calculated  
1250 values for all peptides.

1251 **(G)** Scheme of the chimeric construct used in the MS Western measurements.

1252 **(H)** Coefficient of variation (CV %) distribution of 43 proteins were each point  
1253 represents one protein. Proteome of L3 larvae (*daf-2* at 15°C is given as example) The  
1254 CV % was calculated for each protein in one sample by the following formula,  
1255 
$$\sigma(Quant_N^i) / \mu(Quant_N^i)$$
 where *i* represents the protein, N represents the number of  
1256 quantity peptide in protein (*i*) and the *Quant* is the amount in fmole.  $\sigma$  and  $\mu$   
1257 represents the standard deviation and mean respectively. The median CV was less than  
1258 10 % (9.336 %  $\pm$  5.3%).

1259 **(I)** Scatter diagram demonstrating the concordance between technical replicates within  
1260 the whole proteomics data set of L3 and dauer (*daf-2* at 15°C and 25°C).

1261  
1262  
1263

1264 **Supplementary Figure S5 - Control of the TCA and glyoxylate cycle**

1265 Absolute quantification of enzymes of the TCA cycle and the glyoxylate shunt in *daf-*  
1266 *2* and *daf-2;aak-2* grown at 25°C with or without DA compared to *daf-2* animals at  
1267 15°C. The red arrows and the green circle represent the two competing reactions at the  
1268 point of divergence between TCA and glyoxylate pathway.

1269 Means  $\pm$  standard deviation (S.D.) of 3 biological replicates with 2 technical replicates  
1270 each.

1271

1272 **Supplementary Figure S6 - Control of the gluconeogenesis and the molar ratios**  
1273 **between ICL-1 and individual isocitrate dehydrogenases.**

1274 **(A)** Absolute quantification of enzymes of the gluconeogenesis and glycolysis in *daf-2*  
1275 and *daf-2;aak-2* grown at 25°C with or without DA compared to *daf-2* animals at 15°C.  
1276 The red arrows and the green circle represent the two competing reactions at the point  
1277 of divergence between oxaloacetate recycling and entry into gluconeogenesis.

1278 **(B)** Median molar abundance  $\pm$  S.D. of metabolic pathways.

1279 **(C)** Median fold change  $\pm$  S.D. of molar abundances of all proteins in dauers compared  
1280 to L3 larvae.

1281 **(D)** Median fold change  $\pm$  S.D. of molar abundances of proteins according to the  
1282 metabolic pathways in dauers compared to L3 larvae.

1283 **(E)** Molar ratio between ICL-1 and IDHG-1.

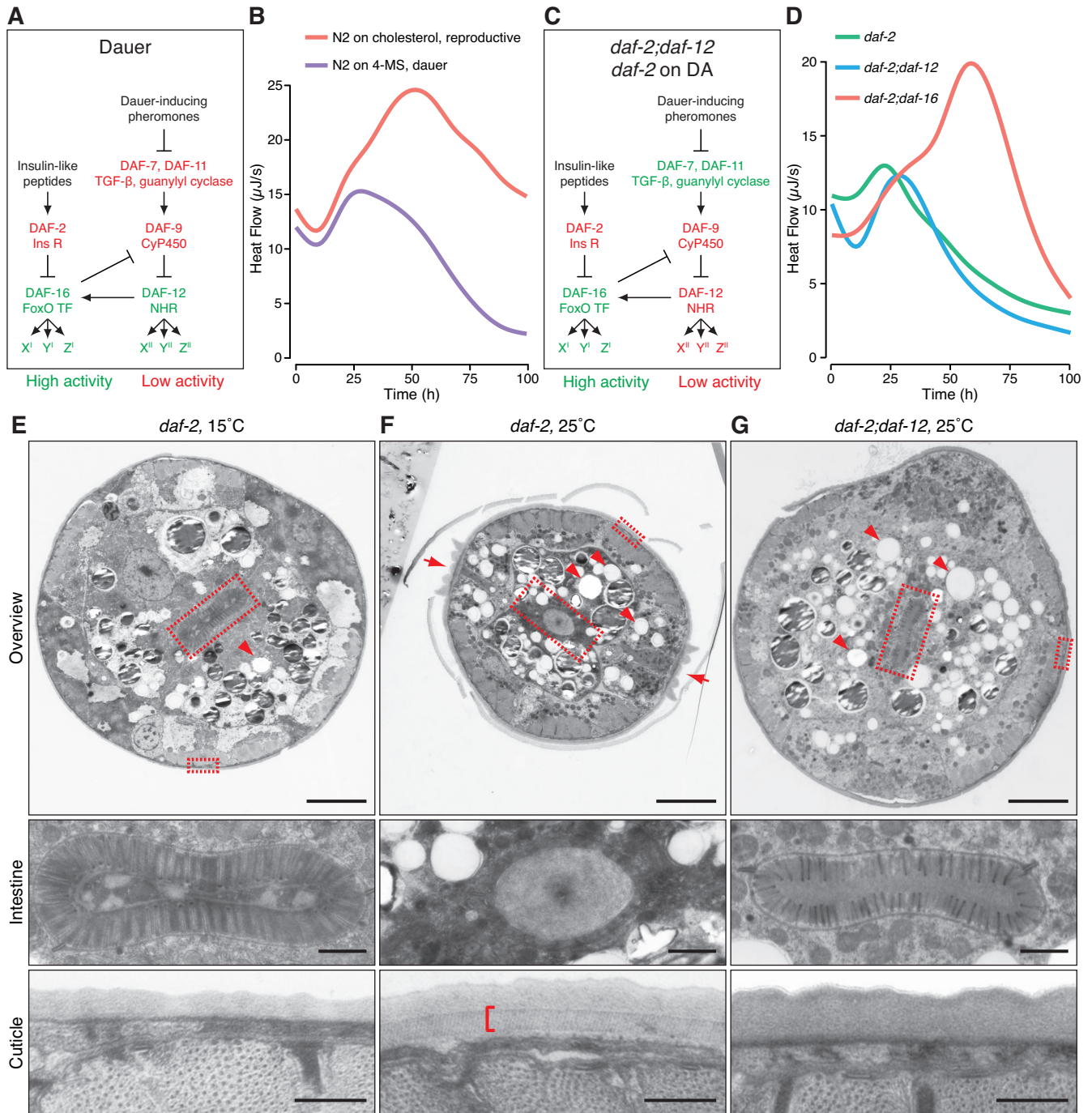
1284 **(F)** Molar ratio between ICL-1 and IDH-1.

1285 In **(A)**, data is represented as means  $\pm$  standard deviation (S.D.) of 3 biological  
1286 replicates with 2 technical replicates each. In **(B)**, **(C)**, and **(D)**, median values  $\pm$   
1287 standard deviation (S.D.) of 3 biological replicates with 2 technical replicates each. In  
1288 **(E and F)**, means  $\pm$  (S.D.) of 3 biological replicates with 2 technical replicates each; p-

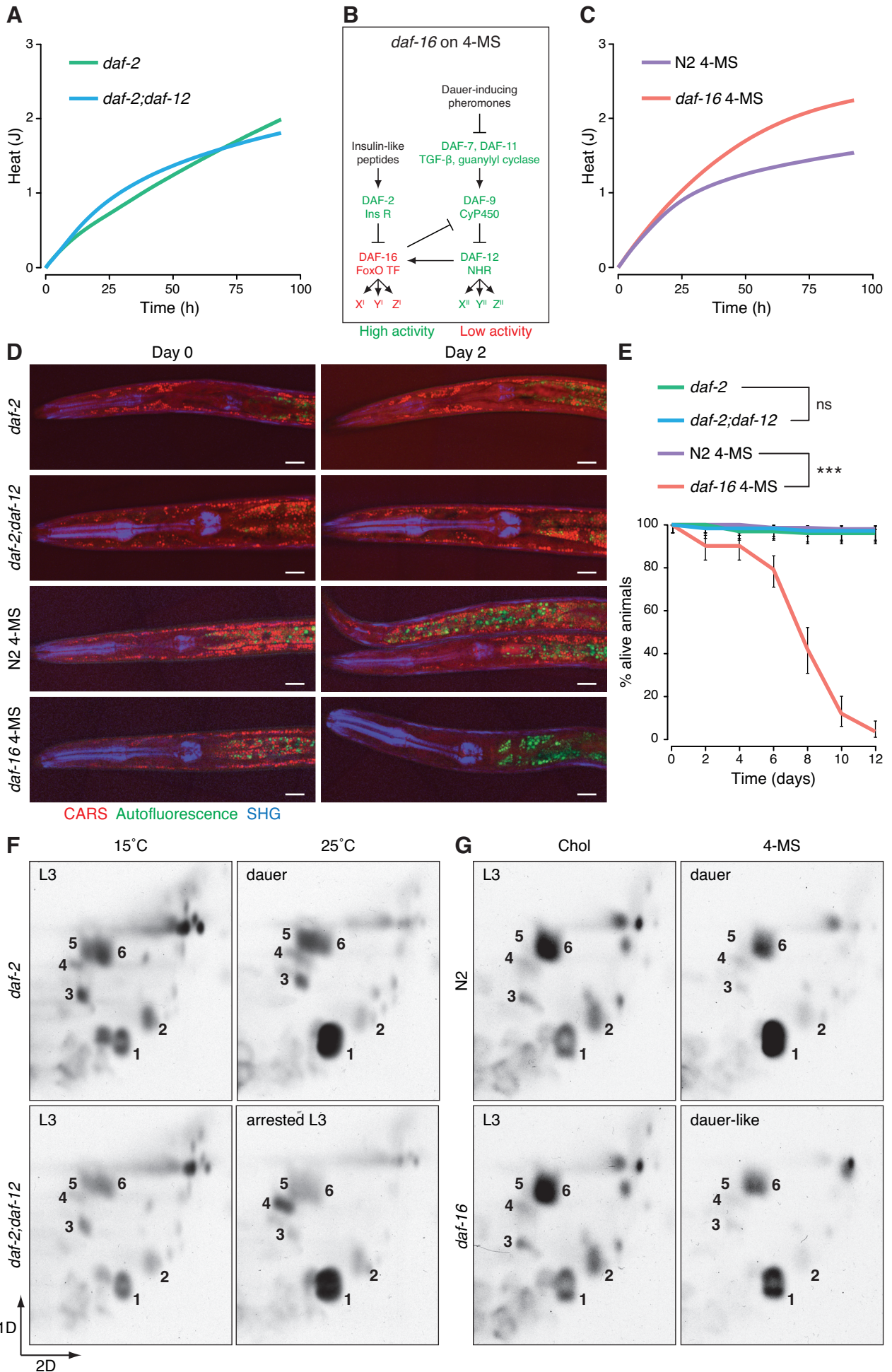


1289 values represent  $p > 0.05$  (ns),  $p \leq 0.05$  (\*),  $p \leq 0.01$  (\*\*),  $p \leq 0.001$  (\*\*\*),  $p \leq 0.0001$   
1290 (\*\*\*\*). One way ANNOVA was performed with Holm-Bonferroni statistical method.

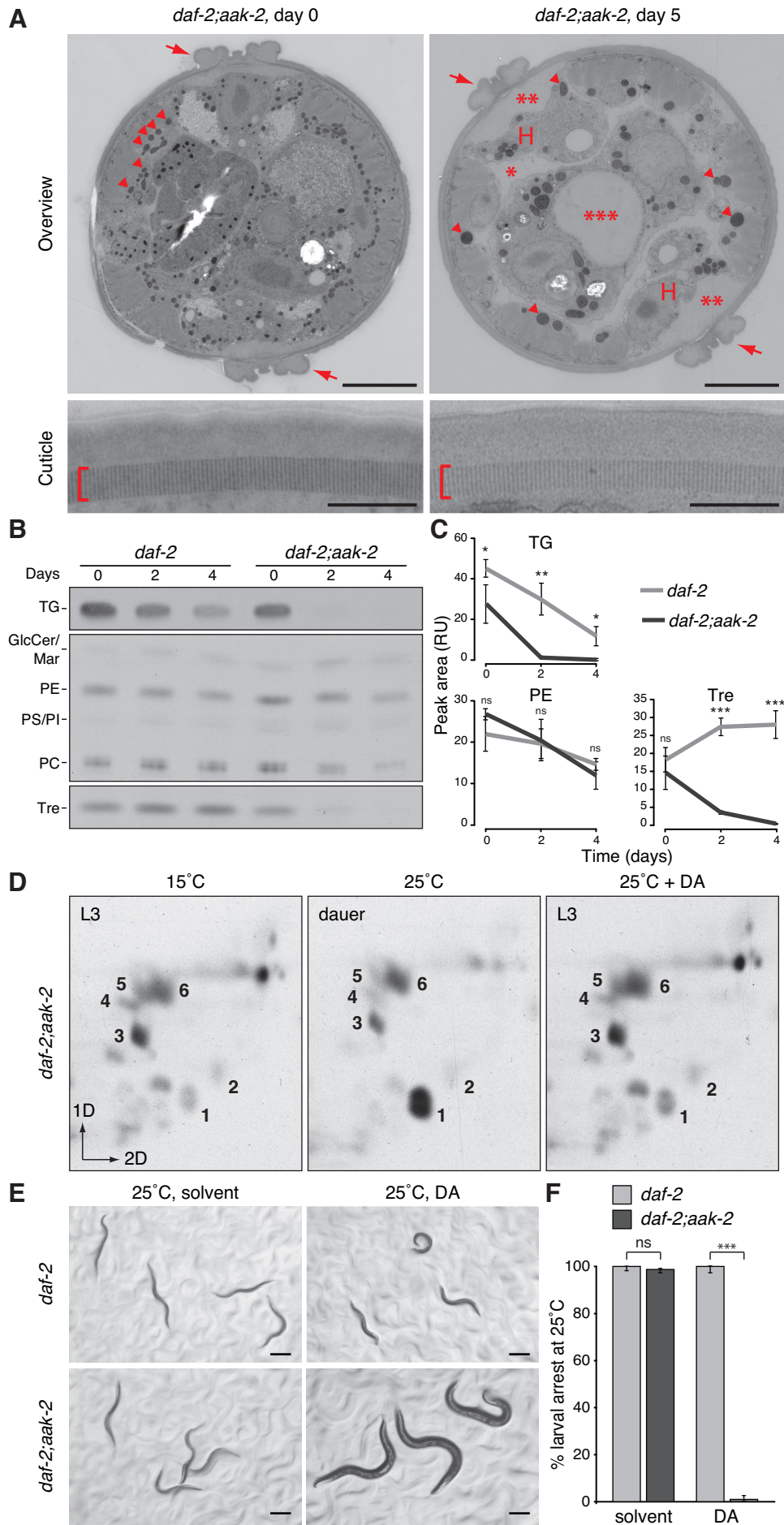
**Figure 1.**



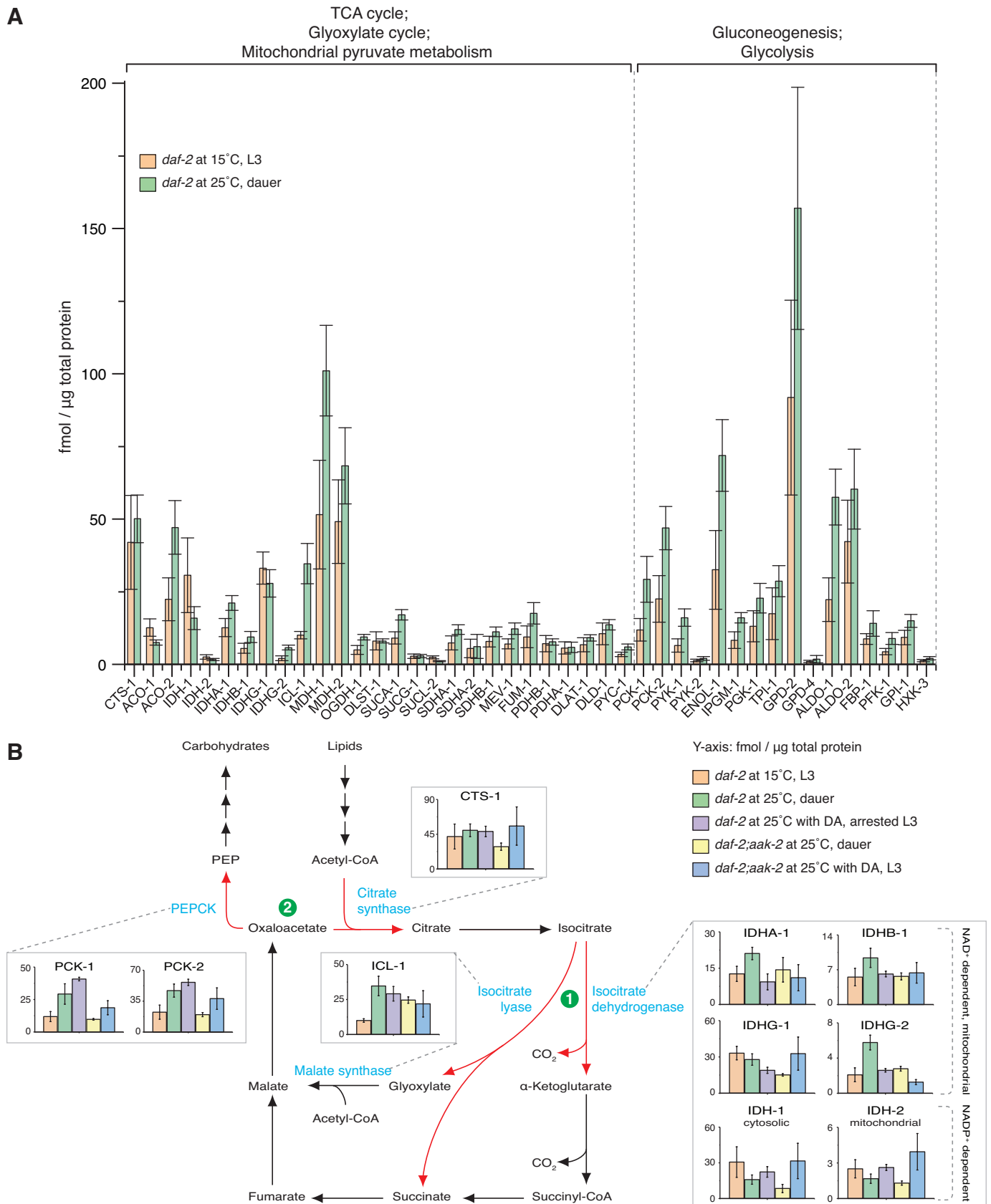
**Figure 2.**



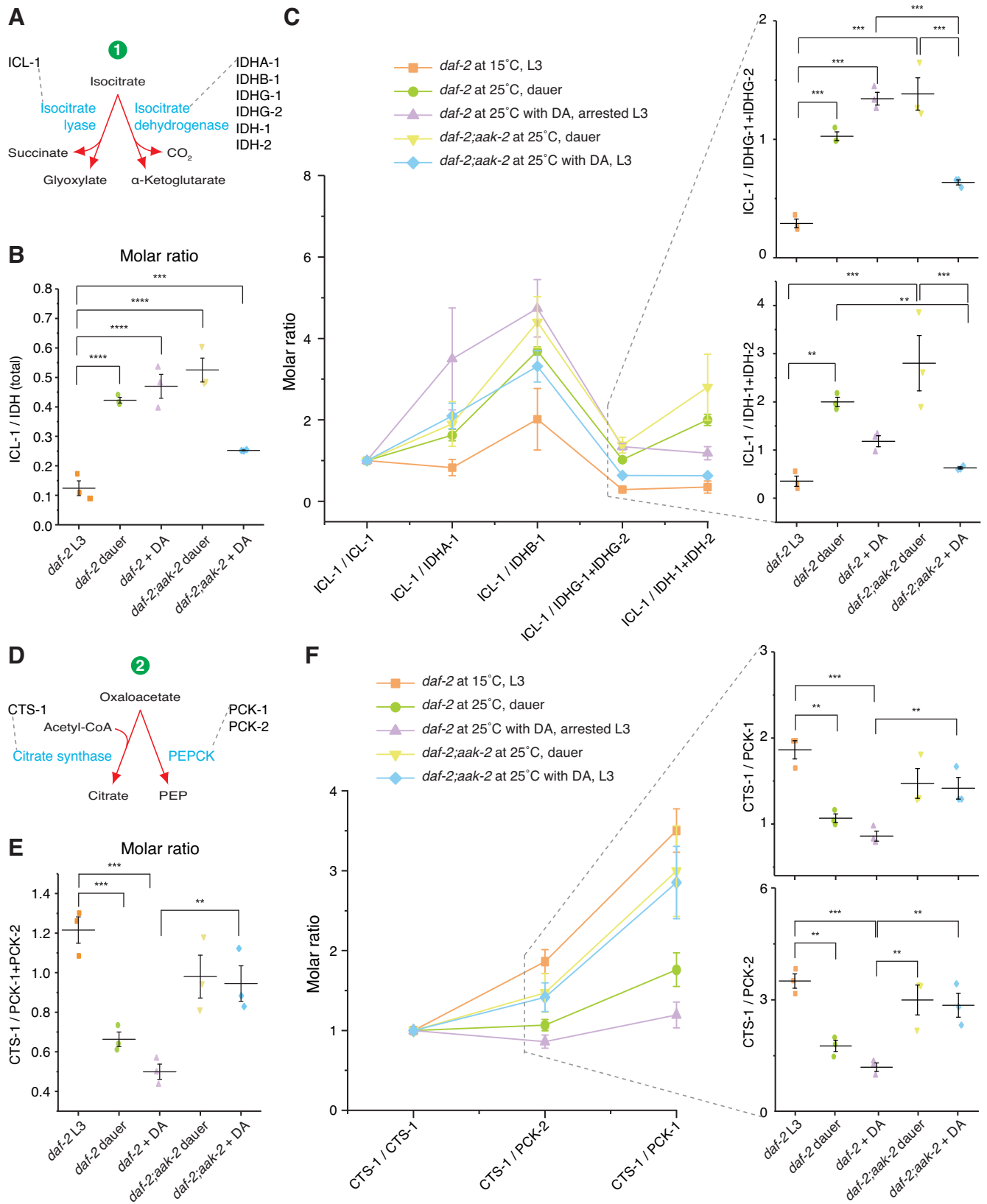
**Figure 3.**



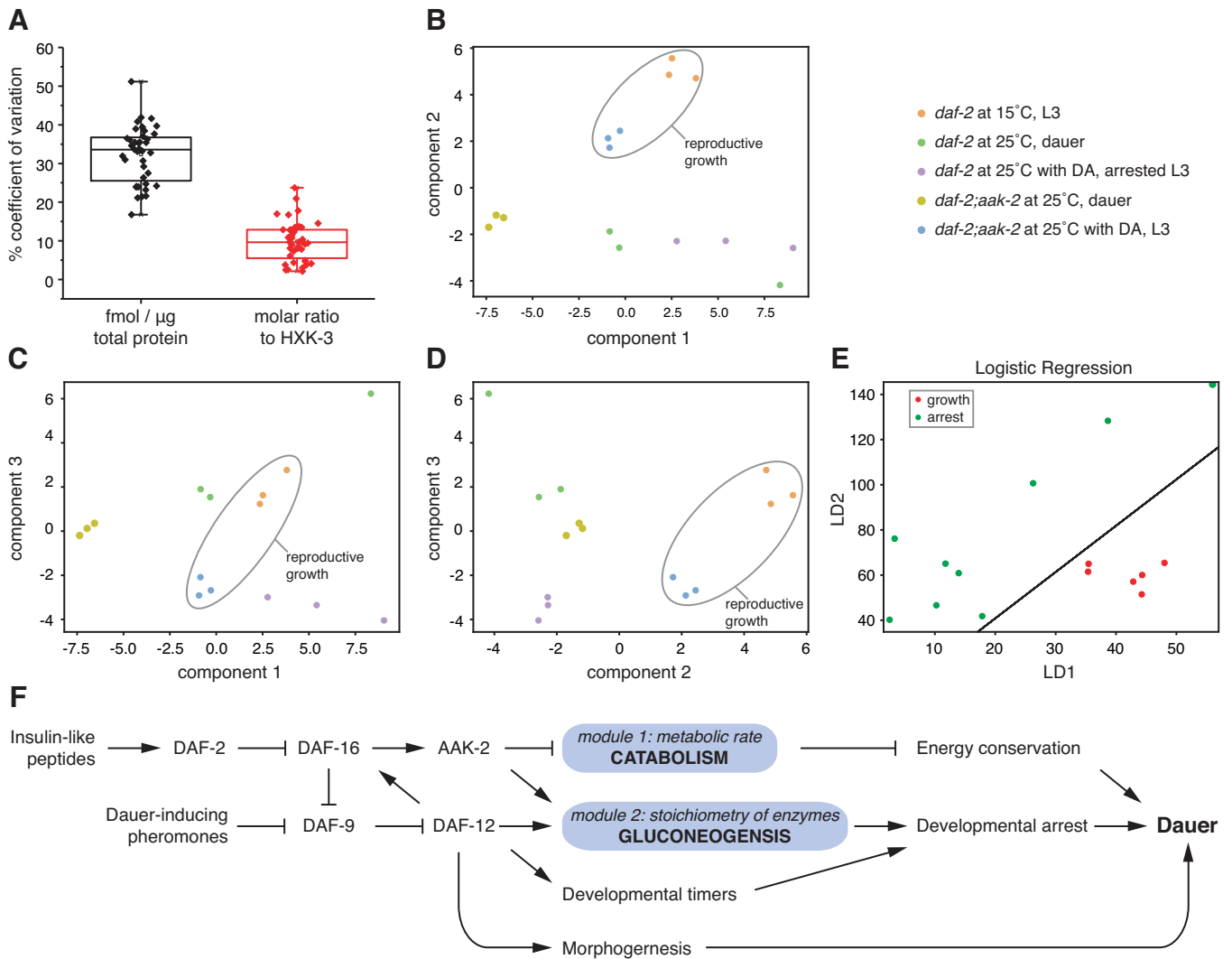
**Figure 4.**



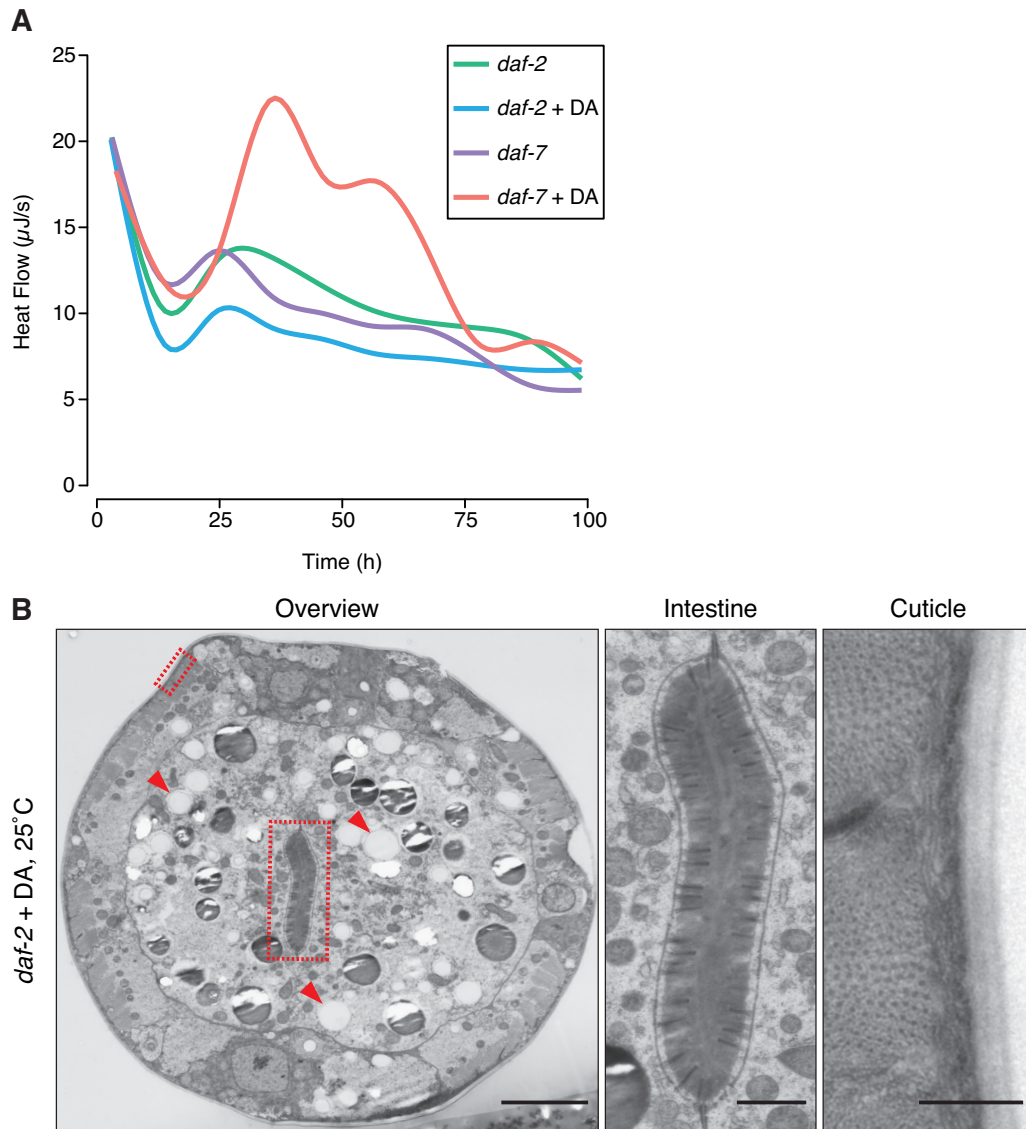
**Figure 5.**



**Figure 6.**

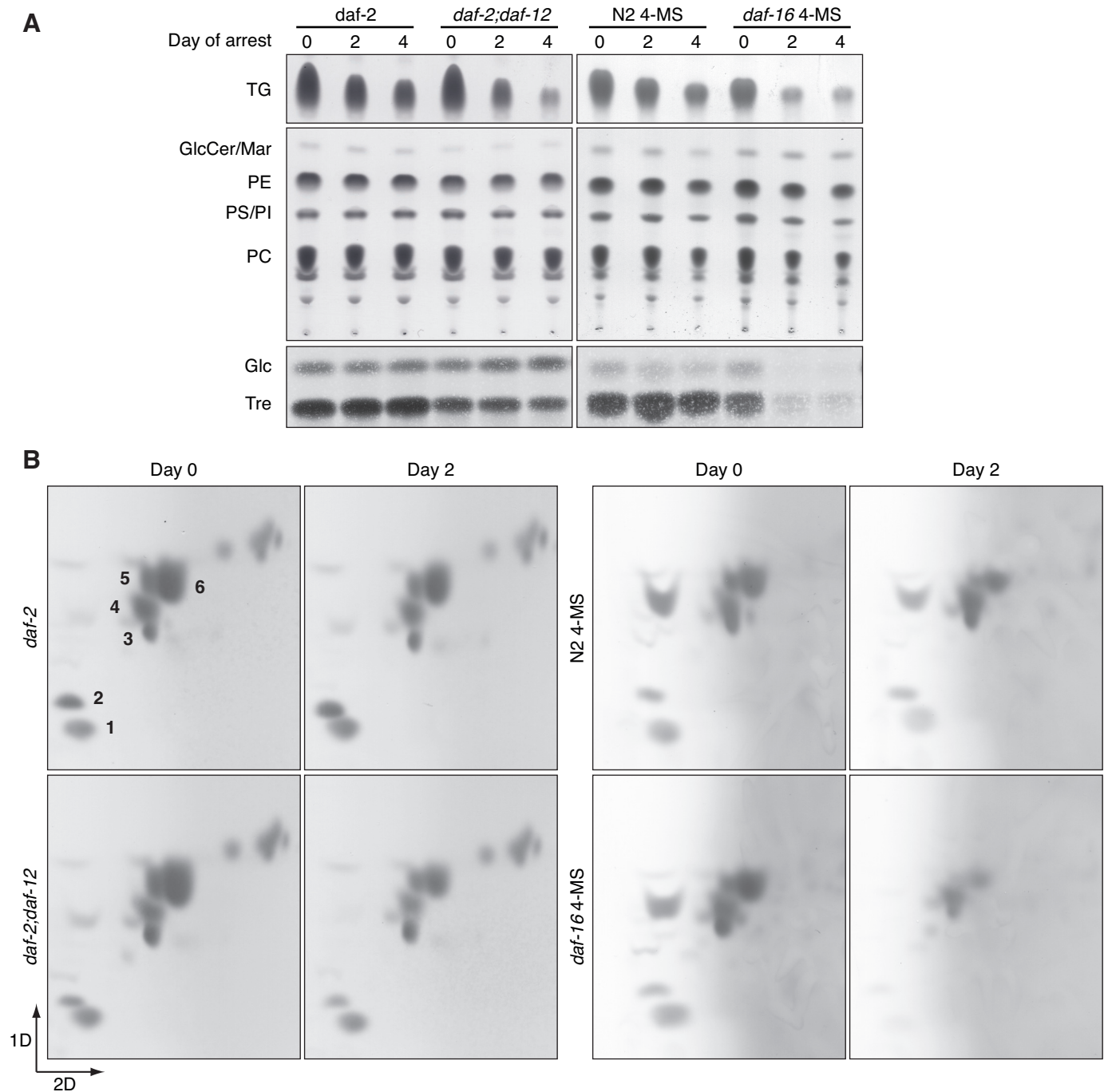


## Supplementary Figure S1.

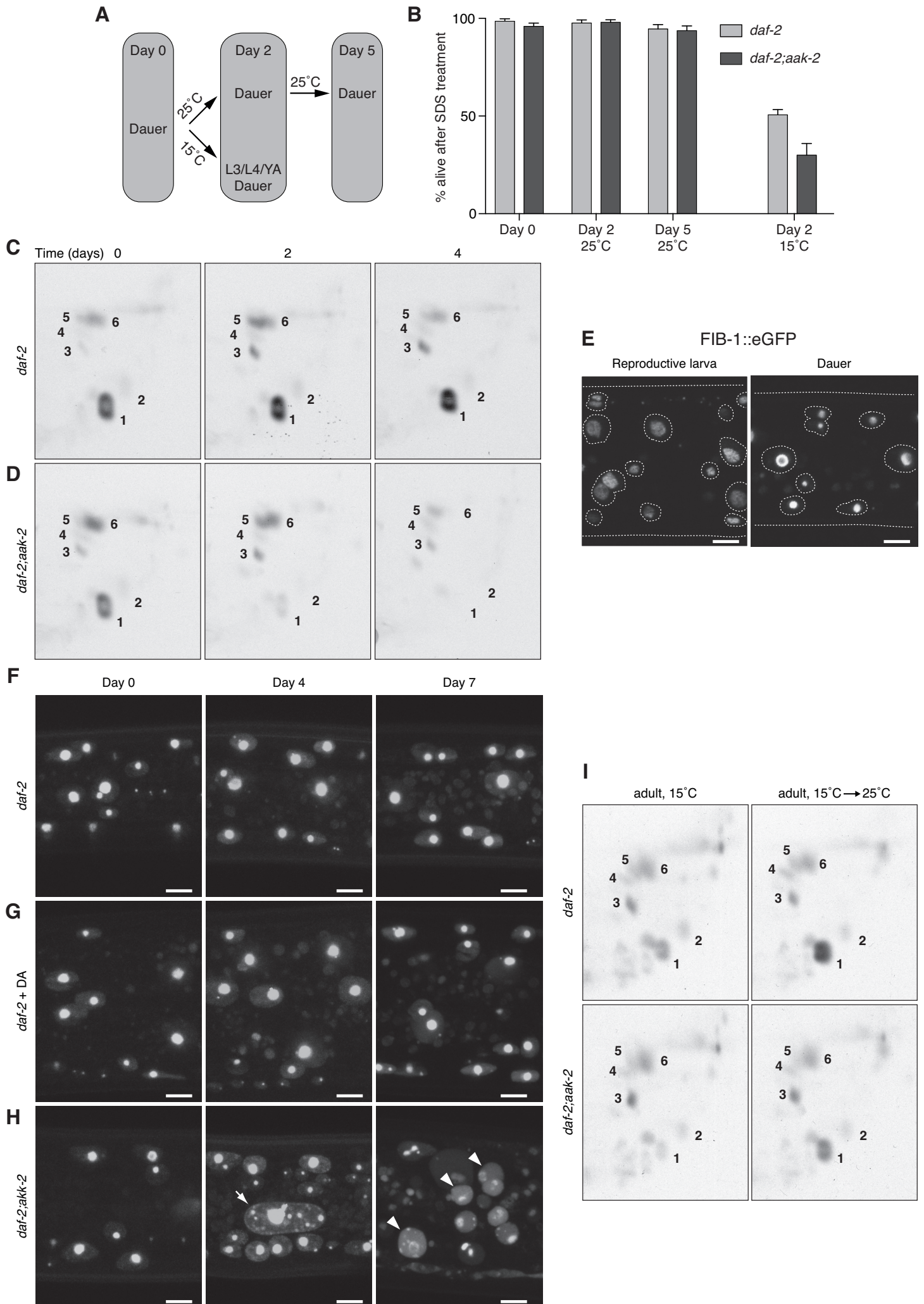




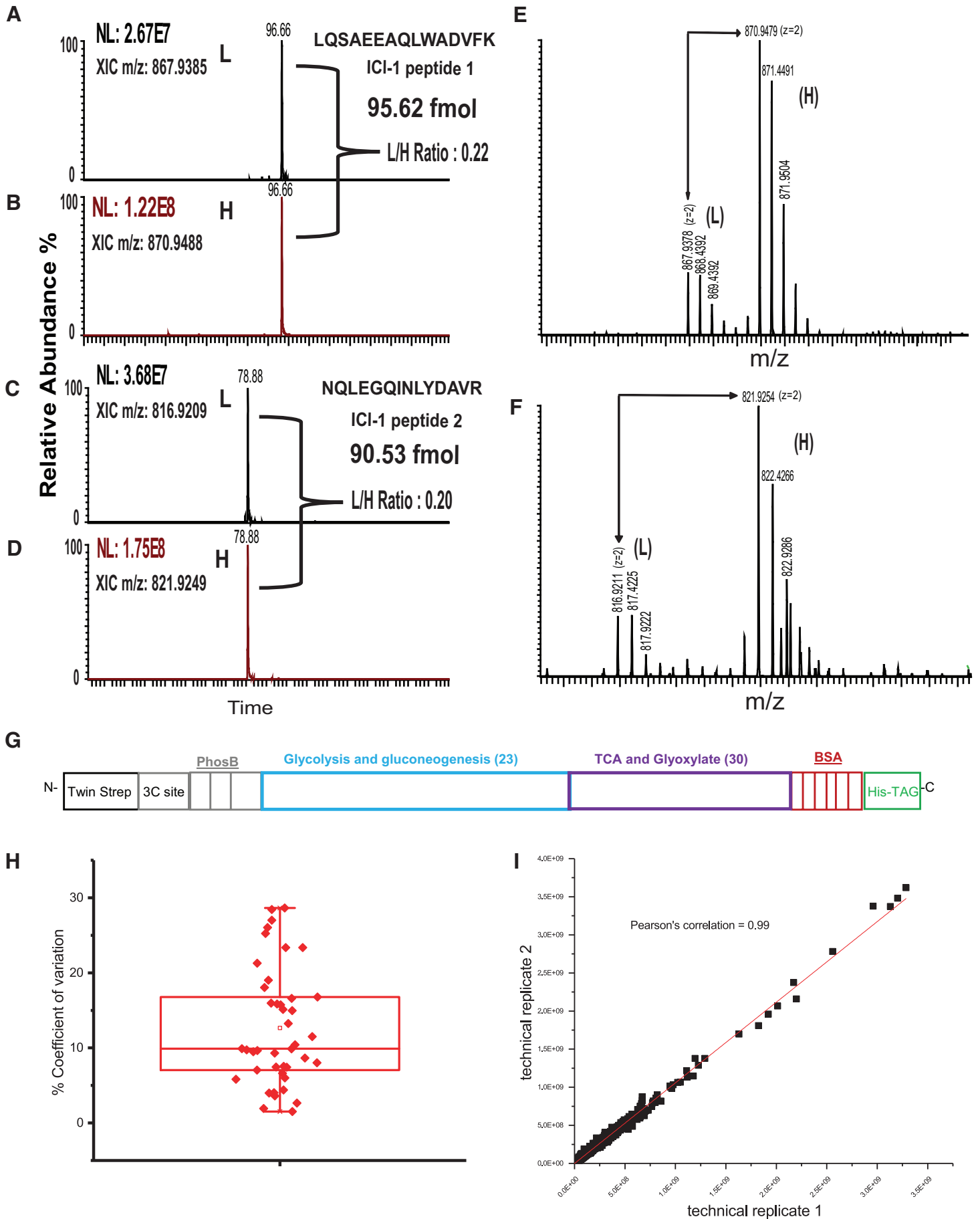
**Supplementary Figure S2.**



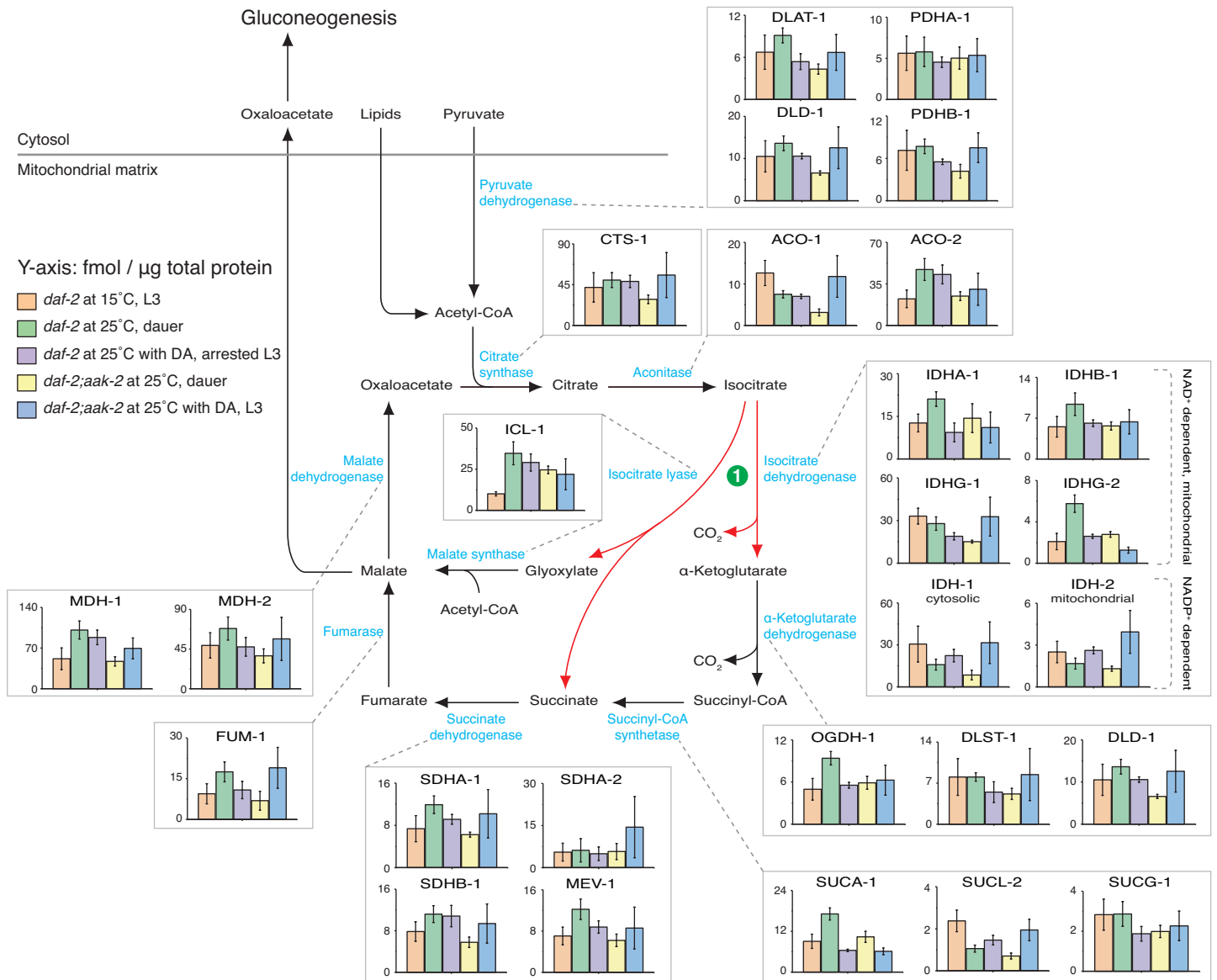
**Supplementary Figure S3.**



**Supplementary Figure S4.**

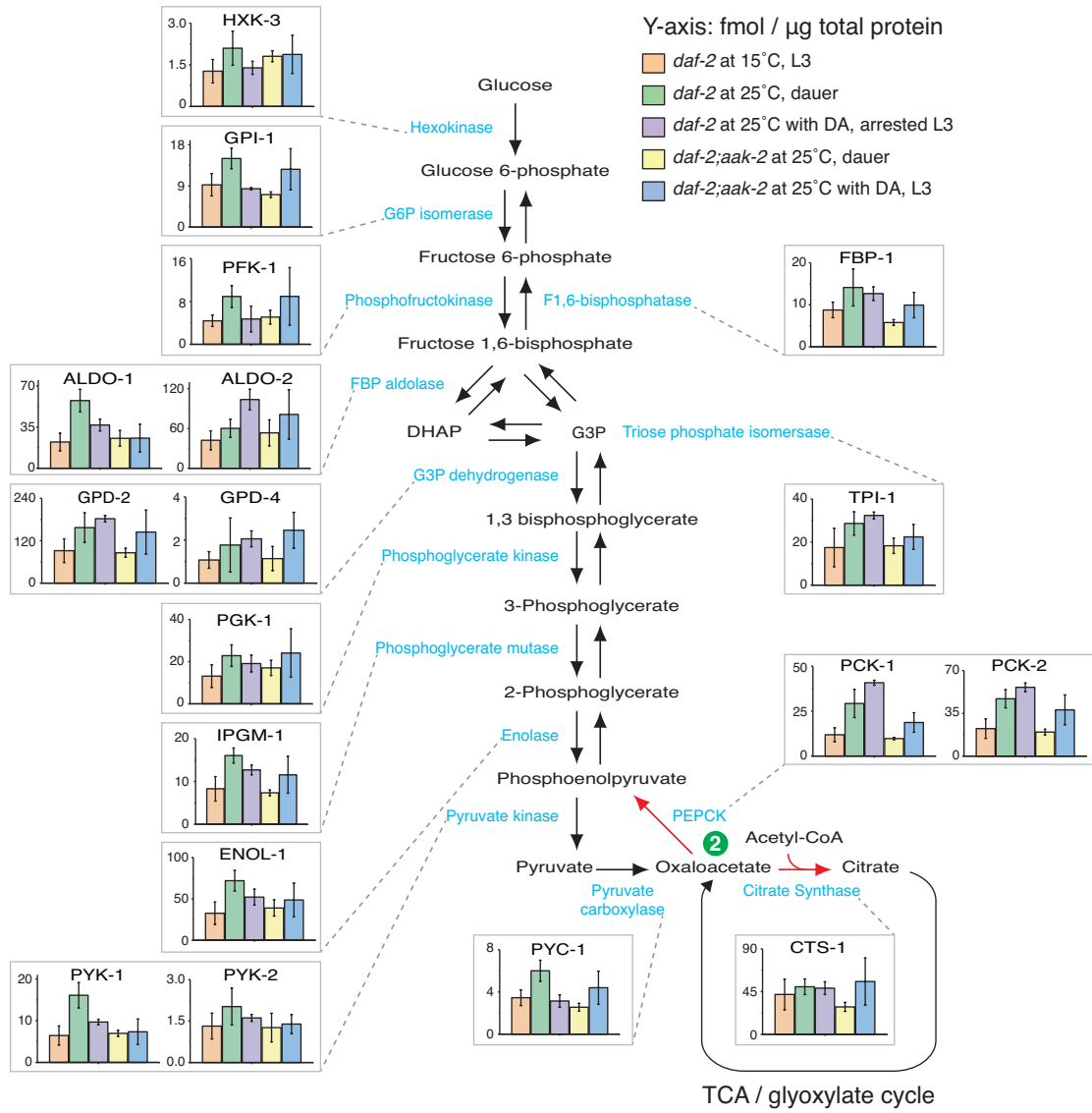


**Supplementary Figure S5.**

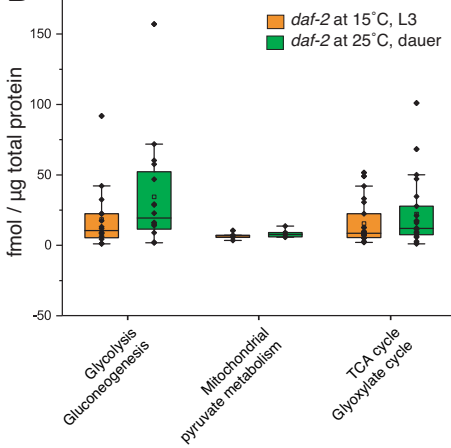


**Supplementary Figure S6.**

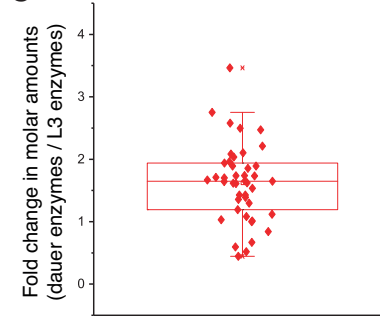
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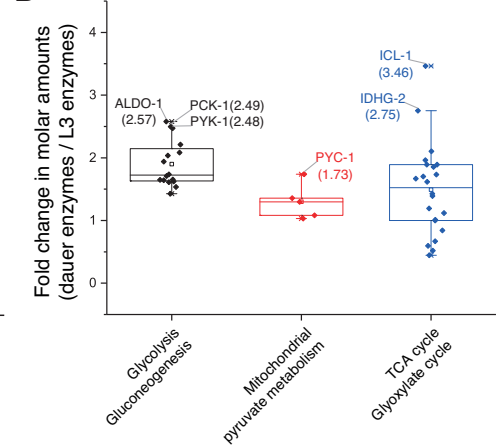
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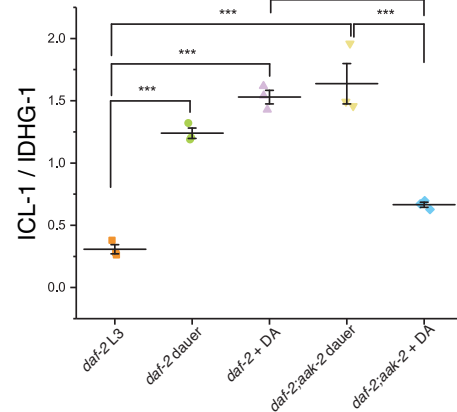
**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**

