

1 Split-QF system for fine-tuned transgene expression in *Drosophila*

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8

9 Abstract

10 The Q-system is a binary expression system that works well across species. Here we report the
11 development of a split-QF system that drives strong expression, is repressible by QS and inducible by
12 quinic acid. The split-QF system is fully compatible with existing split-GAL4 and split-LexA lines for
13 advanced intersectional experiments, thus greatly expanding the range of possible anatomical,
14 physiological and behavioural assays in *Drosophila*.

15

16 Main text

17 Binary expression systems GAL4/UAS¹, LexA/LexAop² and the Q-system³⁻⁵ allow labelling and
18 functional manipulation of genetically defined subsets of cells in *Drosophila*. The split-GAL4 system⁶⁻
19 ⁸ allows expression of effectors to be limited to only a few cells by expressing a GAL4 DNA-binding
20 domain (DBD) independently of a GAL4 activation domain (AD). A fully functional GAL4 is
21 reconstituted only where the expression patterns of both subsets overlap. In practice, GAL4AD is
22 often too weak and is replaced by p65AD or VP16AD to boost strength of expression^{7,8}.

23 We reasoned that, since the QF2/QF2^w (a weaker version of QF2, with a mutated C-terminal⁴)
24 transactivators of the Q-system are generally stronger than GAL4⁴, the split-QF system may function
25 well in *Drosophila* by coupling QFDBD and QFAD⁹. This would allow the system to remain both
26 repressible by QS and inducible by quinic acid (QA), in the same manner as the original Q-system.
27 We have also previously developed chimeric GAL4QF and LexAQF transactivators⁴, which indicated
28 that QFAD and QF2^wAD are likely to function with GAL4DBD and LexADBD domains when brought
29 together by leucine zippers.

30 To make the split-QF system compatible with existing split-GAL4 lines, we used the same leucine
31 zippers¹⁰. We attached Zip- to QFDBD and Zip+ to QFAD and QF2^wAD, defining the domains as
32 previously reported⁴, and expressed these transgenes under control of the neuronal synaptobrevin
33 promoter *nsyb* (**Fig 1a**). As expected, animals carrying *nsyb-QFDBD(attp40)*, *nsyb-QFAD(attp2)* and
34 *QUAS-mCD8-GFP* had strong GFP expression throughout their nervous system (**Fig 1B**). This
35 expression was repressible by *tub-QS* and inducible by QA (**Supplementary Fig 1**). Similar, but
36 weaker expression was observed with *nsyb-QFDBD* and *nsyb-QF2^wAD* (**Fig 1B**). Both split
37 transactivators appeared to have lower activity than the QF2 and QF2^w (**Fig 1B**).

38 To compare QFAD and QF2^WAD to existing p65AD and GAL4AD, we generated *nsyb-p65AD* (attp2)
39 and *nsyb-GAL4AD* (attp2) flies, and expressed firefly luciferase pan-neuronally in larvae and adults
40 (**Fig 1C,D, Supplementary Tables 1,2**). While relative expression levels varied between larvae (non-
41 sexed) and male vs. female adults, QFAD was ~2 times ($p < 0.01$) stronger than QF2^WAD, and ~2 times
42 ($p < 0.0001$) weaker than p65AD. The GAL4AD was consistently weak. *tub-QS* provided strong
43 repression of all original and split QF variants. We quantified the effect of QA de-repression in larvae
44 only, because QA is effective only in sensory receptor neurons and the PI neurons in the adult brain⁴,
45 presumably due to the glial blood-brain barrier¹¹. QA feeding to *tub-QS*, *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*
46 (*QF2^WAD*) larvae, that otherwise had very low expression, resulted in restoration of expression to the
47 levels not significantly different from *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* (*QF2^WAD*) larvae ($p = 0.87$ and $p = 0.62$,
48 respectively). These experiments demonstrate that the split-QF is fully functional, repressible and
49 inducible, due to the strong activity of the QFAD and QF2^WAD activation domains.

50 Next we asked whether QFAD and QF2^WAD may be effectively used together with existing GAL4DBD
51 lines, to provide an alternative to the currently used p65AD. Expression in larvae, driven by *elav-*
52 *GAL4DBD* and *nsyb-QF2/QF2^WAD*, is strong, QS-repressible and QA-inducible (**Fig 2A, top**). In adults
53 the expression was strong and repressible in neurons consistent with the predicted expression
54 pattern for each line, and QA-inducible in the olfactory and gustatory receptor neurons (**Fig 2A,**
55 **bottom, Supplementary Fig 2**). To quantify the strength of expression, we used *elav-GAL4DBD* and
56 the AD variants to drive luciferase in larval CNS. Note: the *elav-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-p65AD* combination
57 was lethal (**Fig 2B, Supplementary Table 3**). QFAD-induced expression was not significantly different
58 from QF2^WAD ($p = 0.16$). In contrary to the experiments with split-QF (**Fig. 1C**), here QA resulted in
59 restoration of expression to ~20-35% of that of the un-repressed split transactivators ($p < 0.0001$). To
60 quantify expression levels in the adult CNS, we used *ChAT-GAL4DBD* to target cholinergic neurons
61 and to avoid larval lethality, previously observed with *elav-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-p65AD* (**Fig 2C,**
62 **Supplementary Table 4**). QFAD-driven expression was comparable with QF2^WAD ($p > 0.99$) and ~4
63 times weaker than p65AD ($p < 0.0001$). *tub-QS* provided strong repression, not different from DBD-
64 only or AD-only controls ($p > 0.99$). These experiments demonstrate that QFAD and QF2^WAD
65 activation domains may be used together with GAL4DBD lines to provide a repressible and inducible,
66 albeit weaker, alternative to p65AD.

67 The QFAD and QF2^WAD activation domains also work with split-LexA reagents in larval and adult CNS
68 (**Fig 2D, Supplementary Figure 3**). Moreover, expression is both repressible and QA-inducible.
69 Although we did not quantify strength of expression by luciferase (due to the unavailability of a
70 LexAop-Luc reporter), it appears that QF2^WAD domain works as well, or better, than QFAD in these
71 experiments.

72 Next we asked how the QS repression compares with Killer-Zipper¹² that silences split-GAL4
73 expression by driving GAL4DBD-Zip+ construct with the LexA/LexAop system (**Fig 3A, B,**
74 **Supplementary Table 5**). We observed that QS-induced repression was stronger ($p = 0.0071$ for *nsyb-*
75 *QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *KZip* vs *tub-QS*, *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* females) or the same (all other
76 genotypes, $p > 0.83$) as a Killer-Zipper-induced equivalent. The use of QS for repression is thus more
77 advantageous than Killer-Zipper because it requires fewer transgenes and does not recruit the
78 LexA/LexAop system.

79 The split-QF system may be effectively used for simultaneous expression of UAS and LexAop
80 transgenes: *QF2^WAD*, when combined with *GAL4DBD* and *ZpLexADBBD*, drives simultaneous
81 expression of both *UAS-RFP* and *LexAop-GFP* (**Fig 3C**). To test the usability of split-QF for advanced

82 intersectional experiments, we regulated expression of QS via the FLP-FRT system that, in turn,
83 controlled the split-transactivators. As expected, intersection of *Chat-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* and
84 *GH146-FLP* resulted in strong labelling of cholinergic olfactory projection neurons (**Fig 3D, left**). No
85 labelling was observed when *Chat-GAL4DBD* was replaced by glutamatergic driver *VGlut-GAL4DBD*
86 (not shown). Similarly, we observed expression throughout the brain and in the optic lobes in the
87 cholinergic, but not glutamatergic (not shown), neurons that are targeted by *20C11-FLP¹³* (**Fig 3D,**
88 **middle**). Interestingly, intersection of *VT009847-ZpLexADBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* and *20C11-FLP* resulted in
89 labelling only one SEZ neuron (**Fig 3D, right**). These experiments demonstrate that split-QF can
90 effectively achieve simultaneous and intersectional expression, narrowing down expression patterns
91 of split-GAL4, split-LexA and FLP lines.

92

93 We applied the split-QF system to study physiology and behaviour in *Drosophila*. We performed
94 whole-cell patch-clamp recordings from aCC and RP2 motoneurons of third-instar larvae. Neuronal
95 depolarisation was evoked through activation of UAS-ChR2¹⁴ expressed in all motoneurons by
96 *VGlut-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* or, in controls, *VGlut-GAL4* (**Fig 3E, Supplementary Table 6**). The
97 number of action potentials produced from *VGlut-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* larvae (42 ± 6 per 500ms)
98 was not different from that in the GAL4 controls (51 ± 6 , $p=0.62$). QS completely eliminated ChR2-
99 induced depolarization in *tub-QS*, *VGlut-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* larvae (**Fig 3E**), while feeding larvae
100 of the same genotype with QA partially restored depolarization and action potential count (10 ± 5),
101 but significantly below the unrepressed levels of *VGlut-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* larvae ($p=0.0016$).
102 These readouts of cellular activity are paralleled by behavioural phenotypes. We counted how many
103 times (in 2 mins) larvae of these 4 genotypes escaped a blue light area (**Fig 3D, Supplementary Table**
104 **6**). As expected, larvae containing the QS transgene escaped most readily (11 ± 1.8 escapes), while
105 feeding larvae with QA significantly reduced the number of escapes to 9.3 ± 1.3 ($p=0.038$), due to
106 the seizure-like neuronal activity, elicited by ChR2 activation. *VGlut-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* were
107 also able to escape (5.9 ± 0.6), but significantly less than the QS larvae ($p<0.0001$). *VGlut-GAL4*
108 control larvae were unable to escape (0.2 ± 0.1).

109 We used the same assay to measure larval escape following activation of ChR2 driven pan-
110 neuronally by split-QF (**Fig 3G, Supplementary Table 7**). Abolished mobility was observed in larvae
111 that expressed ChR2 (0 ± 0 escapes in *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* and *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}*
112 larvae), and in larvae that expressed QS and fed with QA (0.3 ± 0.2 and 0.1 ± 0.1 escapes for QFAD
113 and QF2^{wAD}, respectively). By contrast, QS-expressing larvae not fed with QA readily escaped the
114 blue light area (7.4 ± 0.7 and 8.0 ± 0.8 escapes, respectively).

115 Finally, we assayed adult flies with pan-neuronal expression of *shibire^{TS}* (**Fig 3H, Supplementary**
116 **Table 8**). When placed in 33°C, *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* flies became gradually paralysed as
117 expected. The same effect was observed in *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QF2^{wAD}* flies, but took longer to
118 develop, presumably due to the lower expression levels of *shibire^{TS}*. When the expression of *shibire^{TS}*
119 was suppressed by *tub-QS*, no paralysis was observed.

120 These experiments demonstrate that split-QF may be used with or without split-GAL4 to direct
121 expression of effectors in electrophysiological and behavioural assays.

122 In summary, we present a split-QF system that is applicable for advanced anatomical, behavioural
123 and physiological manipulations in *Drosophila*. This system is fully compatible and complementary
124 with the existing split-GAL4 and split-LexA lines and can greatly expand their use by making them

125 QS-repressible and QA-inducible. In addition, combinations of split-QF with split-GAL4 and split-LexA
126 systems can make extensive use of the available UAS and LexAop reporters.

127

128 **Acknowledgements**

129 This work was supported by a Marie Curie Individual Fellowship (#701109) from the European
130 Commission (OR). RAB was supported by funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences
131 Research Council (BB/L027690/1). Work on this project benefited from the Manchester Fly Facility,
132 established through funds from the University and the Wellcome Trust (087742/Z/08/Z). Stocks
133 obtained from the Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center (NIH P40OD018537) were used in this
134 study.

135

136 **Author contributions**

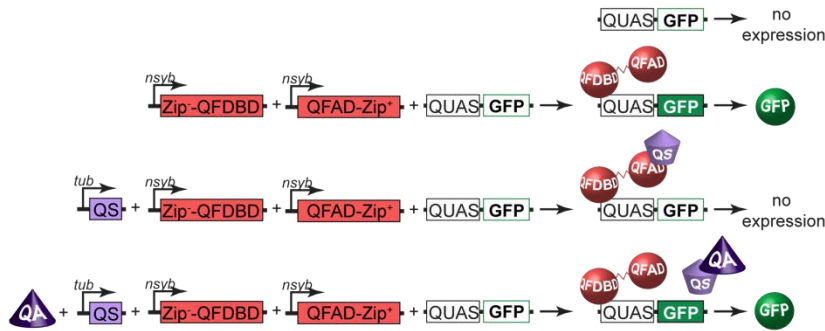
137 OR conceived of the project and designed most of the experiments. SWV and RB designed the
138 electrophysiology experiments. OR and SWV performed the experiments. BJD provided unpublished
139 reagents and suggestions. RB provided access to equipment and reagents. All authors contributed to
140 drafting and revisions of the manuscript.

141 **References**

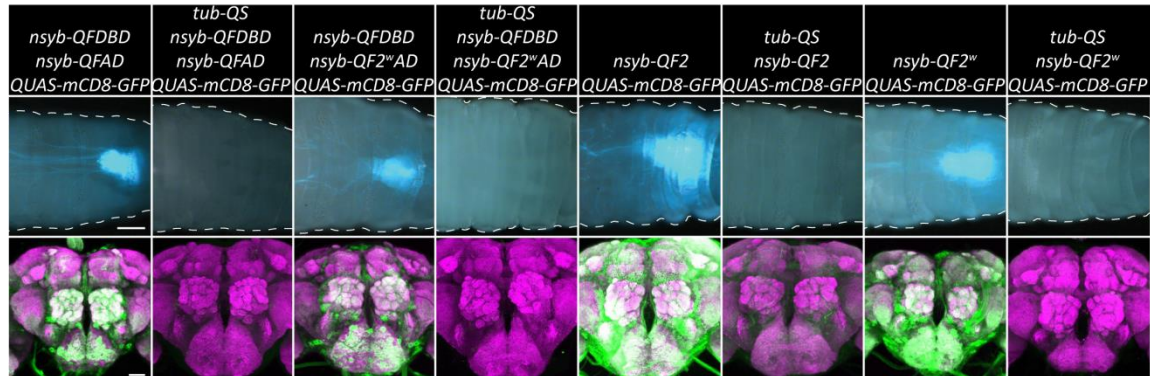
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Figure 1

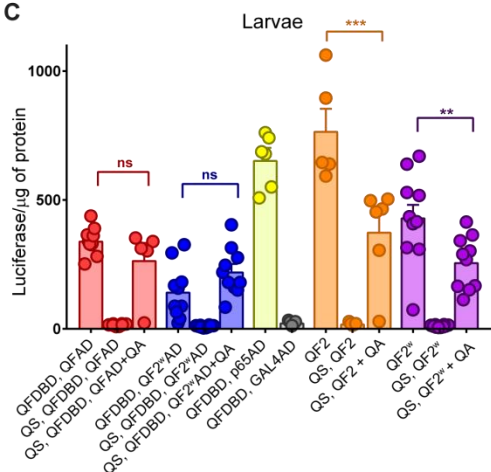
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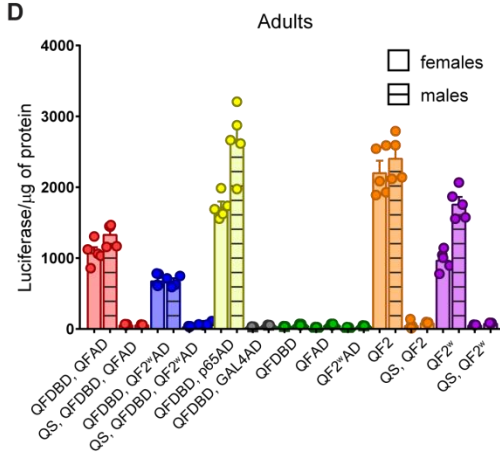
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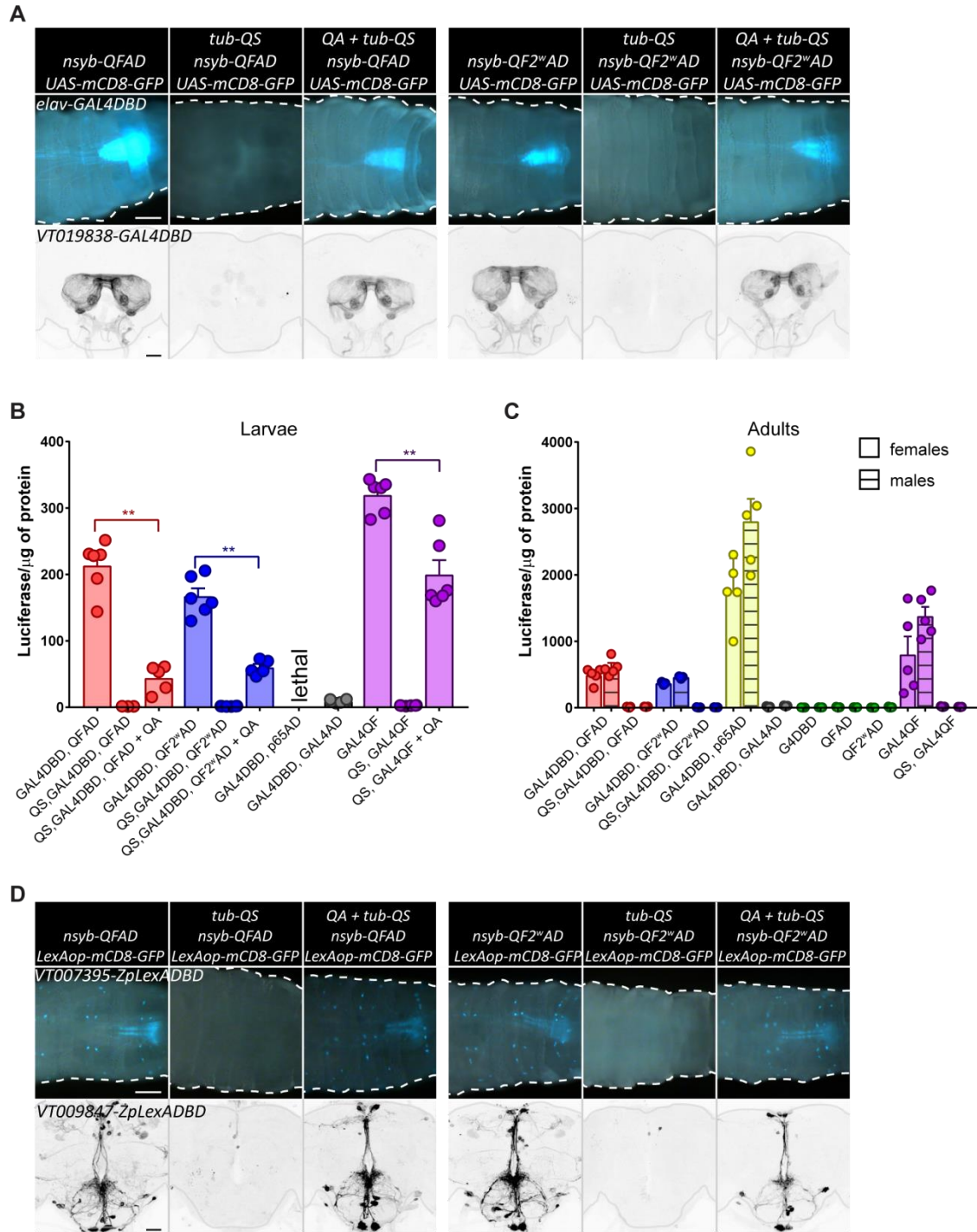
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175

176 **Figure 1. Quantification and validation of split-QF reagents.** A. Schematics of the split-QF system. B.
 177 Pan-neuronal expression of GFP in larval (top; scale bar, 200µm) and adult (bottom; scale bar, 50µm)
 178 CNS by split-QF (first four columns) and Q-system (last four columns). C, D. Quantification of split-Q
 179 transactivators in larval (C) and adult (D) CNS by a luciferase assay. All split and full-length
 180 transactivators were driven by *nsyb*, while QS was driven by *tubulin*. Green data points show
 181 quantification for *nsyb*-QFDBD, QUAS-luc; *nsyb*-QFAD, QUAS-luc and *nsyb*-QF2^wAD, QUAS-luc
 182 controls.

Figure 2

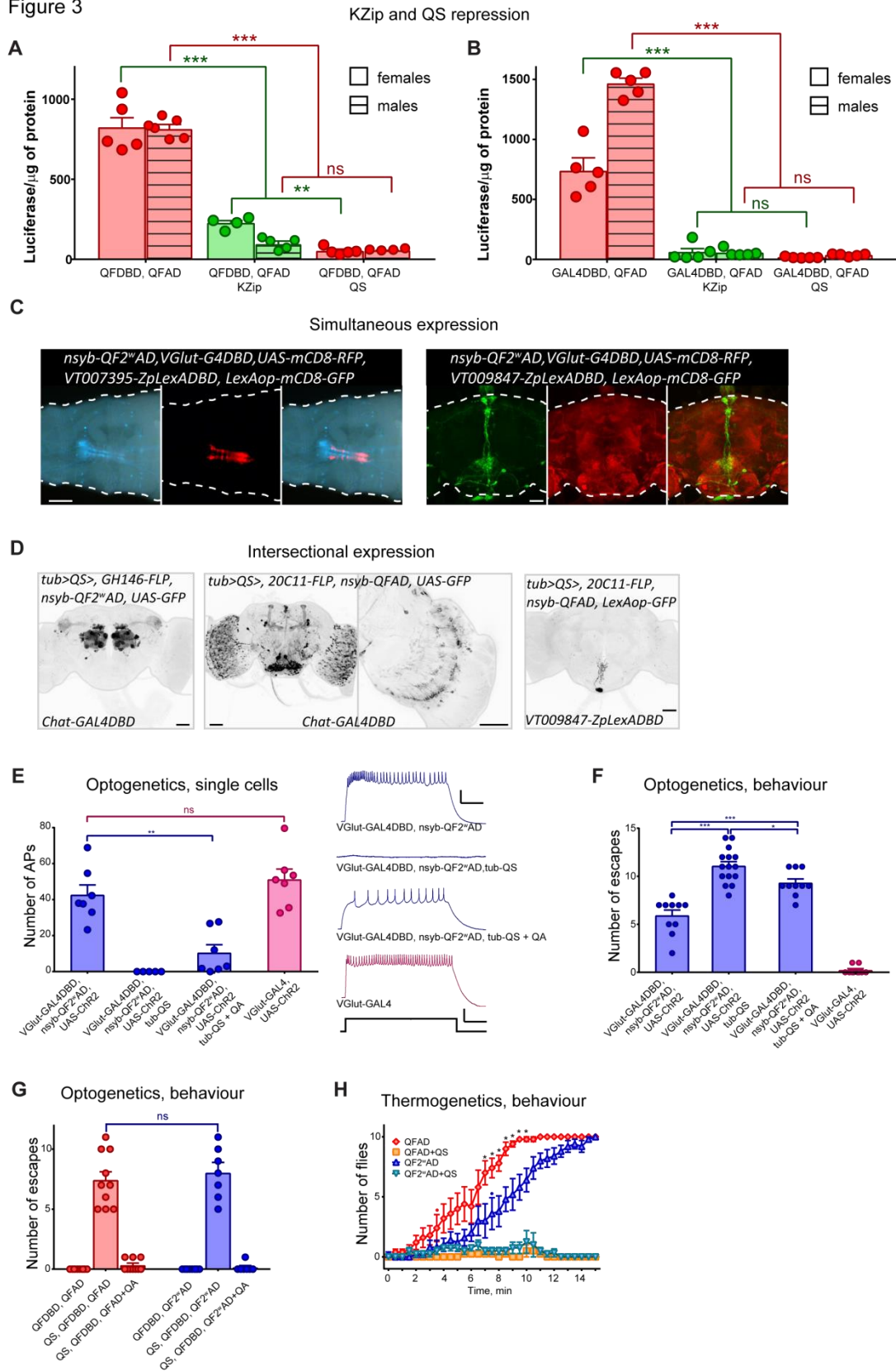


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184 **Figure 2. split-QF, split-GAL4 and split-LexA. A, top.** Expression of GFP in larval CNS, driven by *elav-*
 185 *GAL4DBD* and *nsyb-QFAD* (3 left columns) or *nsyb-QF2^wAD* (three right columns). Second and fifth
 186 columns show *tub-QS*-induced repression. Third and sixth columns show recovery of expression in
 187 larvae, grown on food with quinic acid. Scale bar, 200μm. **A, bottom.** Same as top, but driven by
 188 *VT019838-GAL4DBD* in adult CNS. Adults were fed with quinic acid for 5 days. Scale bar, 50μm. **B.**
 189 Quantification of relative strength of chimeric split transactivator in larval CNS. Genotypes were
 190 *elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD* (red) or *elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD* (blue) without (right) or with
 191 (middle) *tub-QS* and QA treatment (right). *elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-GAL4AD* larvae (grey) had very low
 192 luciferase levels, while *elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-p65AD* larvae did not survive. Purple bars show data
 193 from *nsyb-GAL4QF* larvae for comparison. **C.** Same as **B**, but in adult CNS. Males and females are

194 quantified separately due to significantly different expression levels. Green data points show
195 quantification for *elav-GAL4DBD, UAS-luc; nsyb-QFAD, UAS-luc* and *nsyb-QF2^WAD, UAS-luc* controls.
196 **D, top.** Expression of GFP in larval CNS, driven by *VT007395-LexADBBD* and *nsyb-QFAD* (3 left
197 columns) or *nsyb-QF2^WAD* (three right columns). Second and fifth columns show tub-QS induced
198 repression. Third and sixth columns show recovery of expression in the larvae, grown on food with
199 quinic acid. Scale bar, 200 μ m. **D, bottom.** Same as top, but driven by *VT009847-LexADBBD* in adult
200 CNS. Adults were fed with quinic acid for 5 days. Scale bars, 50 μ m.

Figure 3



201

202 **Figure 3. Applications of split-QF.** **A, B.** Repression of expression by *Killer-Zipper*¹² or *tub-QS*.
 203 Expression levels were quantified in adult flies using a luciferase assay. Genotypes of flies without
 204 repression were *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *QUAS-Luc* (**A, right**) or *elav-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *UAS-*
 205 *Luc* (**B, right**). Killer-Zipper flies were *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *nsyb-LexAQF*, *lexAop-KZip+*, *QUAS-Luc*
 206 (**A, middle, green**) or *elav-GAL4DBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *nsyb-LexAQF*, *lexAop-KZip+*, *UAS-Luc* (**B, middle,**
 207 **green**). QS flies were *tub-QS*, *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *QUAS-Luc* (**A, left**) or *tub-QS*, *elav-GAL4DBD*,

208 *nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc* (**B, left**). **C.** Simultaneous expression of RFP and GFP in independent neuronal
209 subpopulations in larvae (left; scale bar, 200 μ m.) and adult (right; scale bar, 50 μ m) by *QF2^wAD*
210 forming functional transactivators with *GAL4DBD* and *LexADBBD*. **D.** Intersectional expression,
211 enabled by QS-repressible *GAL4DBD+QF/QF2^wAD* and *LexADBBD+QFAD* transactivators. GFP is
212 expressed only in cells that 1) are expressing FLP or are progeny of cells that were expressing FLP; 2)
213 are expressing *G4DBD* or *LexADBBD*; 3) are expressing *QFAD* or *QF2^wAD*. Third panel from the left
214 shows a zoomed-in image of the z-stack of the brain, shown on the second panel. Scale bars, 50 μ m.
215 **E.** Whole-cell patch-clamp recordings from aCC/PR2 motoneurons in third instar larvae of indicated
216 genotypes, raised on food, supplemented with all-trans retinal. Depolarisation was elicited by blue
217 light. Example traces are shown on the right. Scale Bars (Traces: 10mV/100ms, Stimulus: 2V/100ms).
218 **F.** Escape assay of larvae with the same genotypes as in **E.** Each larva was given 2 mins to escape
219 from a 113 mm² area, lit by blue light (λ 470 nm). Once the larva has completely left the lit area, it
220 was returned into the area. **G.** Escape assay of *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD* larvae (red) and *nsyb-*
221 *QFDBD*, *nsyb-QF2^wAD* larvae (blue) with or without *tub-QS* and QA. **H.** Adult *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-*
222 *QFAD*, *QUAS-shi^{TS}* (red diamonds) and *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QF2^wAD*, *QUAS-shi^{TS}* (dark blue upward
223 triangles) flies were paralysed when placed in 33°C incubator at t=0 min. Flies that also had a *tub-QS*
224 transgene (yellow squares and light-blue downward triangles) were not paralysed. The data shows
225 the average number of flies (out of 10, \pm SEM) at the bottom of the vial over time. Each graph is an
226 average of n=5 repeats, apart from “*QF2^wAD+QS*”, with n=4. Red dot and blue dot indicate the time
227 point when the corresponding genotypes with and without QS became significantly different for the
228 first time (t-test with Holm-Sidak correction for multiple comparisons). Stars indicate data points
229 where *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QFAD*, *QUAS-shi^{TS}* and *nsyb-QFDBD*, *nsyb-QF2^wAD*, *QUAS-shi^{TS}* flies
230 performed significantly differently (t-test with Holm-Sidak correction for multiple comparisons).

231 **Online methods**

232 **Molecular biology**

233 Plasmids were constructed by standard procedures including enzyme digestions, PCR and
234 subcloning, using the In-Fusion HD Cloning System CE, Takara Bio Europe # 639636. Plasmid inserts
235 were verified by DNA sequencing.

236 *nsyb-nls::QFAD::Zip+ construct*

- 237 1) pattB-QF2-hsp70 plasmid (Addgene #46115) was digested with Zral and EcoRI to remove
238 Kozak-QF2 sequence.
- 239 2) Kozak-nls sequence was PCR-amplified from pBPp65ADZpUw (Addgene #26234) with
240 primers *ATC GAC AGC CGA ATT CAA CAT GGA TAA AGC GGA ATT A* (forward) and *ACG GTA*
241 *TCG ATA GAC GTC CAA TTC GAC CTT TCT CTT C* (reverse).
- 242 3) The PCR product was cloned into the digested vector by InFusion cloning.
- 243 4) The cloning product was digested with Zral
- 244 5) QFAD sequence was PCR-amplified from pattB-QF2-hsp70 plasmid (Addgene #46115) with
245 primers *AAG GTC GAA TTG GAC GTC CGT CAG TTG GAG CTA A* (forward) and *ACG GTA TCG*
246 *ATA GAC AGA TCT CTG TTC GTA TGT ATT AAT GTC GGA GAA G* (reverse)
- 247 6) The PCR product (5) was subcloned into (4) by InFusion cloning.
- 248 7) (6) was digested with BgIII
- 249 8) The GGGGG-Zip+ sequence was PCR-amplified from pBPp65ADZpUw (Addgene #26234) with
250 primers *ATA CGA ACA GAG ATC TGG AGG AGG TGG TGG AGG* (forward) and *ATC GAT AGA*
251 *CAG ATC GGC CGG CCT TAC TTG CCG CCG CC* (reverse).
- 252 9) The PCR product (8) was subcloned into the digested vector (7) by InFusion cloning.
- 253 10) Product of (9) was digested with FseI and NotI to remove hsp70 terminator and to replace it
254 with SV40 terminator
- 255 11) SV40 terminator was PCR-amplified from UAS-LUC-UAS-eYFP plasmid¹⁵ with primers *GGC*
256 *AAG TAA GGC CGG CCG ATC TTT GTG AAG GAA CCT TAC* (forward) and *CCT CGA GCC GCG*
257 *GCC GCG ATC CAG ACA TGA TAA GAT AC* (reverse).
- 258 12) The PCR product (11) was subcloned into the vector (10) by InFusion cloning.

259 *nsyb-nls::QF2^wAD::Zip+ construct*

- 260 1) The *nsyb-nls::QFAD::Zip+* construct was digested with BgIII and Zral to remove QFAD.
- 261 2) QF2^wAD sequence was PCR amplified from from pattb-QF2-hsp70 (Addgene #46115) with
262 primers *AAG GTC GAA TTG GAC GTC CGT CAG TTG GAG CTC C* (forward) and *CAC CTC CTC*
263 *CAG ATC TTT CTT CTT TTT GGT ATG TAT TAA TGT CGG AGA AGT TAC ATC C* (reverse)
- 264 3) The PCR product (2) was InFusino-cloned into (1).

265 *nsyb-nls::p65AD::Zip+ construct*

- 266 1) The *nsyb-nls::QFAD::Zip+* construct was digested with FseI and Zral to remove QFAD::Zip+
267 sequence.
- 268 2) The p65AD::Zip+ sequence was PCR amplified from pBPp65ADZpUw (Addgene #26234) with
269 primers *AAG GTC GAA TTG GAC GTC GGA TCC ACG CCG ATG* (forward) and *CTT CAC AAA GAT*
270 *CGG CCG GCC TTA CTT GCC GCC GCC* (reverse).
- 271 3) The PCR product (3) was InFusion-subcloned into (1).

272 *nsyb-nls::GAL4AD::Zip+ construct*

- 273 1) The *nsyb-nls::QFAD::Zip+* construct was digested with BglII and Zral to remove QFAD.
274 2) The GAL4AD sequence was PCR amplified from pBPGAL4.2Uw-2 (Addgene #26227) with
275 primers AAG GTC GAA TTG GAC GTC GCC AAC TTC AAC CAG AGT GG (forward) and CAC CTC
276 CTC CAG ATC TCT CCT TCT TTG GGT TCG GTG (reverse).
277 3) The PCR product (3) was InFusion-subcloned into (1).

278

279 *nsyb-Zip-::QFDBD construct*

- 280 1) pattB-QF2-hsp70 plasmid (Addgene #46115) was digested with Zral and EcoRI to remove
281 Kozak-QF2 sequence.
282 2) Kozak-Zip⁻-GGGGGG sequence was PCR-amplified from pBPZpGAL4DBDUw (Addgene
283 #26233) with primers ATC GAC AGC CGA ATT CAA CAT GCT GGA GAT CCG C (forward) and
284 ACG GTA TCG ATA GAC GTC ACC TCC ACC TCC ACC TCC (reverse).
285 3) The PCR product (3) was InFusion-subcloned into (1).
286 4) (3) was digested with Zral
287 5) QFDBD was PCR-amplified from pattB-QF2-hsp70 plasmid (Addgene #46115) with primers
288 GGA GGT GGA GGT GAC GTC ATG CCA CCC AAG CG (forward) and ACG GTA TCG ATA GAC
289 GGC CGG CCT TAG AGG AGG CGG GTA ATG C (reverse).
290 6) The PCR product (5) was InFusion-subcloned into (4).
291 7) (6) was digested with FseI and NotI to remove hsp70 terminator and to replace it with SV40
292 terminator
293 8) SV40 terminator was PCR-amplified from UAS-LUC-UAS-eYFP plasmid¹⁵ with primers CTC CTC
294 TAA GGC CGG CCG ATC TTT GTG AAG GAA CCT TAC (forward) and CCT CGA GCC GCG GCC
295 GCG ATC CAG ACA TGA TAA GAT AC (reverse).
296 9) The PCR product (8) was InFusion-subcloned into (7).

297

298 ***Transgenic flies (new and existing)***

299 New transgenic lines were generated by inserting *nsyb-QFDBD* construct in attp40 (II) and all *nsyb-*
300 *AD* constructs into attp2 (III).

301 Other *Drosophila* stocks, used in this paper, were acquired from the Bloomington Stock Centre
302 (indicated by # below) or were in personal stocks of the authors.

303 Figure 1: QUAS-mCD8-GFP (#30003), tub-QS (#52112), *nsyb-QF2* (attp2, personal stocks, OR), *nsyb-*
304 *QF2^w* (#51960), QUAS-Ppyr/Luc (#64773);

305 Figure 2: UAS-mCD8-GFP (personal stocks, OR), elav-GAL4DBD (derived from #23868), VT019838-
306 GAL4DBD (#75177), ChAT-GAL4DBD (#60318), UAS-Luc (#64774), 13xLexAop2-mCD8-GFP (#32204),
307 VT007395-ZpLexADBD (personal stocks, B.J.D.), VT009847-ZpLexADBD (personal stocks, B.J.D.);

308 Figure 3: *nsyb-LexAQF* (#51953), 13xLexAop2-KZip+ (#76253), VGlut-GAL4DBD (#60313), tub>QS>
309 (#77125), GH146-FLP (gift of Christopher Potter, JHU), 20C11-FLP (#55766), UAS-ChR2 (gift of Stefan
310 Pulver, St Andrews), VGlut-GAL4 (#60312), 10xQUAS-ChR2 (#52260), QUAS-shibire^{TS} (#30012).

311 Supplementary figures: R19F06-GAL4DBD (#69098), R53D01-GAL4DBD (#69075), VT059695-
312 GAL4DBD (#73750), VT037031-ZpLexADBD (personal stocks, B.J.D.), VT043690-ZpLexADBD (personal
313 stocks, B.J.D.).

314

315 **Immunohistochemistry and confocal imaging**

316 Dissection and immunostaining of adult brains was done as described previously⁴. Briefly, on day 1
317 brains of 5-7 d.o. adult flies were dissected in ice-cold PBS, fixed at RT for 20 mins in 4% PFA in
318 PBS+0.3% Triton (PBT), then washed in PBT at RT for 1.5-6h, blocked in 5% normal goat serum (NGS)
319 in PBT for 30 mins and placed in primary antibody mix at 4°C for 3 nights on a shaker. On day 4,
320 brains were washed in PBT at RT for 5-6h and placed in secondary antibody mix for 2 nights at 4°C
321 on a shaker. On day 6, brains were washed in PBT for 5-6h and left overnight in approx. 50µl of
322 Vectashield mounting solution without shaking. On day 7, brains were mounted in Vectashield on a
323 microscope slide. The primary antibody mix contained rabbit anti-GFP (Invitrogen #A11122, 1:100),
324 mouse nc82 (DSHB, 1:25) and 5% NGS in PBT. The secondary antibody mix contained Alexa Fluor 488
325 goat anti-rabbit (Invitrogen #A11034), Cy3 anti-mouse (Jackson ImmunoResearch #115-165-062) and
326 5% NGS in PBT.

327 Images were acquired as z-stacks using a Leica SP8 upright confocal microscope equipped with HCX
328 IRAPO L25x/0.95W water-immersion objective (Leica, Germany, 506323), at 512 x 512 pixel
329 resolution with 1µm z steps. LAS X v3.5.2 software was used for image acquisition. Imaging settings
330 (laser intensity, gain, etc.) were kept identical for groups of images that were compared to one
331 another. Images were processed by taking maximum intensity projection, rotating and re-colouring
332 in FIJI. Images shown are representative of 3-5 stainings for every genotype.

333

334 **Whole-animal imaging**

335 Third-instar larvae were placed on a microscope slide and briefly put into a freezer to immobilize
336 them. Images were taken on a Leica MZ10F zoom fluorescent scope equipped with a Leica DFC 420C
337 camera, QImaging LED light source and LAS v.4 software. The white balance was adjusted
338 automatically by taking an image of a white sheet of paper before experimental images. Identical
339 settings were used to take images that are compared to each other. Images shown are
340 representative of 3-5 for every genotype.

341

342 **Quinic acid feeding**

343 For larval experiments, gravid females were allowed to lay eggs in vials containing standard fly
344 medium, supplemented with QA, and larvae remained in the vials until they reached wall-climbing
345 3rd instar stage. For adult experiments, flies were raised on standard fly medium and were
346 transferred into vials with QA at 2-3 d.o., for 5 days, at which point they were dissected. To make QA
347 stock, 8 g of QA (Sigma #138622) was dissolved in 40 ml ddH₂O and adjusted to pH7 with 5M NaOH,
348 bringing the total stock volume to 50 ml. 1.6ml/vial of this solution was thoroughly mixed into
349 standard fly medium for larval or adult experiments.

350

351 **Luciferase assay**

352 Each experiment assayed 9-30 larvae or 9-15 adult flies per genotype, in groups of three. 3rd instar
353 larvae or 1-2d.o. adult flies were placed in a 1.5 ml Eppendorf tube and stored in -80°C until all
354 samples for a given experiment were collected. A Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay system (Promega,
355 E1910) was used for the experiments. Samples were homogenised in 200µl of Passive lysis buffer
356 (Promega, E194A) per tube, and kept on ice for at least 10 mins. Then the tubes were centrifuged for
357 5 mins at 13.4k rpm, and supernatant transferred to new tubes. 30µl of supernatant from each tube
358 were mixed with 30µl of Luciferase assay substrate (Promega, E151A), reconstituted in Luciferase
359 assay buffer (Promega, E195A), per well of a 96-well plate and luminescence was measured
360 immediately on a TECAN GENios plate reader, running XFluor 4 macros for Excel. We used 300ms
361 exposure for adult samples and 600ms exposure for larval samples. We collected 3-10
362 measurements per experiment per genotype. The luciferase luminescence values were normalised
363 by the amount of protein contained in the samples, to account for possible differences in the size of
364 larvae and adults. For protein assay, 1.5ul of supernatant was mixed with 100ul of Protein assay
365 reagent (BioRAD, #500-0006) and light absorbance measured after 20 mins on a FLUOstar Omega
366 platereader (BMG LABTECH), running Omega software v. 1.3. Two independent samples were
367 measured per each supernatant tube. The absorbance values were converted into mg/ml of protein
368 by measuring a calibration curve with BSA dilutions (NEB, #B90015). Each relative luminescence (RL)
369 data point, presented on the graphs (**Fig 1C-D, 2B-C, 3A-B**) was calculated as follows:

370
$$RL = \frac{LuciferaseMeasurement}{DerivedProtein}, \text{ where}$$

371
$$DerivedProtein = 30(a(\frac{ProteinMeasurement_1 + ProteinMeasurement_2}{2} - BlankMeasurement) + b),$$

372 *a* and *b* parameters were obtained from the best linear fit to the calibration curve, plotted as
373 (average of 3 calibration measurement for a given dilution of BSA)-blank measurement vs dilution of
374 BSA in mg/ml. 4-6 independent RL values were collected per genotype in each experiment. The
375 genotypes are presented in Figures as mean±SEM and were compared with 1-way ANOVA (larvae) or
376 2-way ANOVA (adults) with Sidak's multiple comparisons test.

377 We have observed significant differences between measurement of adult males and females for
378 some genotypes, arising from a consistently higher amount of protein per adult female. These
379 differences were never observed for male and female larvae (data not shown). Thus, we present
380 adult data separately for males and females.

381

382 **Larval whole-cell patch-clamp recordings**

383 Larvae were grown in the dark on standard fly medium, supplemented with 100µl/vial of 0.1M all
384 trans-retinal (Sigma, #R2500) in 100% EtOH. Recordings were performed at room temperature (20-
385 22°C). Third-instar larvae were dissected in external saline (in mM: 135 NaCl, 5 KCl, 4 MgCl₂·6H₂O, 2
386 CaCl₂·2H₂O, 5 N-Tris[hydroxymethyl]methyl-2-aminoethanesulfonic acid, and 36 sucrose, pH 7.15).
387 The CNS was removed and secured to a Sylgard (Dow-Corning, Midland, Michigan, USA)-coated
388 cover slip using tissue glue (GLUture; WPI, Hitchin, UK). The glia surrounding the CNS was partially
389 removed using protease (1% type XIV; Sigma, Dorset, UK) contained in a wide-bore (15 µm) patch
390 pipette. Whole cell recordings were carried out using borosilicate glass electrodes (GC100TF-10;
391 Harvard Apparatus, Edenbridge, UK), fire-polished to resistances of between 10-14 MΩ. The
392 aCC/RP2 motoneurons were identified by soma position within the ventral nerve cord. When

393 needed, cell identity was confirmed after recording by filling with 0.1% Alexa Fluor 488 hydrazide
394 sodium salt (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, California, USA), included in the internal patch saline (in mM: 140
395 potassium gluconate, 2 MgCl₂·6H₂O, 2 EGTA, 5 KCl, and 20 HEPES, pH 7.4). Mecamylamine (1 mM,
396 M9020, Sigma, Dorset, UK) was included in the external saline to block endogenous excitatory
397 cholinergic mediated currents to aCC/RP2 motoneurons and neuronal depolarisation was elicited
398 through UAS-ChR2¹⁴ (λ470 nm, 500ms, light intensity 9.65 mW/cm² before reaching the LUMPlanFI
399 60x/0.9W Olympus objective) expressed in all motoneurons by VGlut promoter. Recordings were
400 made using a MultiClamp 700B amplifier. Cells were held at -55 mV and recordings were sampled at
401 20 kHz and lowpass filtered at 10 kHz, using pClamp 10.6 (Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA). Only
402 neurons with an input resistance of ≥ 500 MΩ were accepted for analysis. 8 recordings were taken
403 per cell, average action potential number per 500ms light pulse calculated. Data in **Fig 3E** are
404 presented as mean±SEM, and were compared with a 1-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple
405 comparisons test.

406

407 **Larval escape assays**

408 Individual 3rd instar larvae were assayed at RT (20-22C) in a 9cm petri dish that contained a thin layer
409 of 1% agarose to prevent desiccation. The petri dish was placed under the Leica MZ16F zoom
410 fluorescent microscope with Plan 1.0x lens, fluorescent light source and a GFP filter cube (λ470 nm).
411 Light intensity measured 9.87 mW/cm² when completely zoomed out. Zoom 5 was used for
412 experiments. Larvae were filmed using a uEye UI-233xSE-C camera with uEye Cockpit software, and
413 data was stored in *.avi format. Each larvae was allowed to crawl in the Petri dish for 2 mins, before
414 it was placed for 2 mins into a 113mm² area, illuminated by blue light. Wild-type larvae naturally
415 avoid bright blue light and crawl away, however, larvae with Chr2 expressed in motoneurons (**Fig**
416 **3F**) or pan-neuronally (**Fig 3G**) are impaired in their ability to escape. A larva was returned into the
417 blue light area immediately after the larva had completely left the illuminated area. We counted the
418 number of escapes during a 2 min period. 7-15 larvae were assayed per genotype. The data is shown
419 as mean±SEM. The genotypes were compared with 1-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison
420 test.

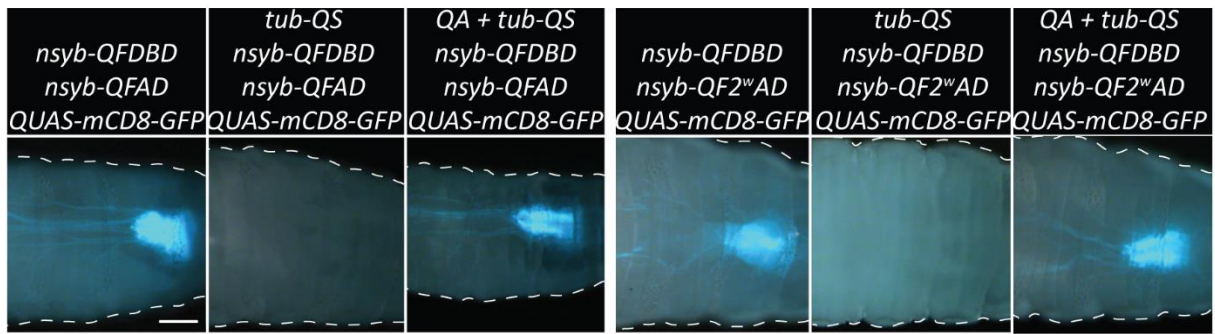
421

422 **Adult behavioural assay**

423 Adult male and female 5-7d.o. flies were assayed in groups of 10 (N=4-5 groups per genotype) in
424 clean empty standard fly vials. Flies were placed in a cooled incubator, set to 33°C, and video-
425 recorded at 5 fps using a uEye camera UI-233xSE-C, controlled by uEye Cockpit software. The data
426 was stored in *.avi format. The number of flies on the bottom of each vial was manually counted at
427 30s intervals. The data is shown as mean±SEM, and was analysed with multiple t-tests with Holm-
428 Sidak correction.

429

Supplementary Figure 1



430

431

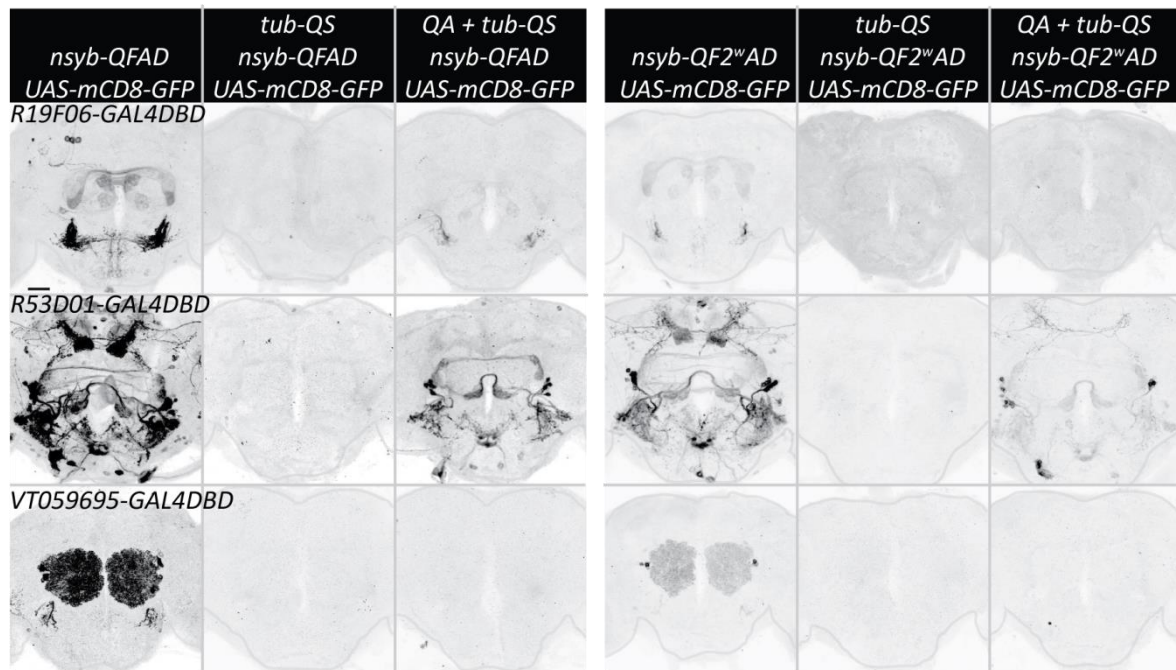
432

433

434

Supplementary Figure 1. Quantification and validation of split-QF reagents. Pan-neuronal expression of GFP in the larval CNS by split-QF. Panels 1,2, 4 and 5 are the same as in Fig 1. Panels 3 and 6 show QA-induced de-repression. Scale bars, 200µm.

Supplementary Figure 2



435

436

437

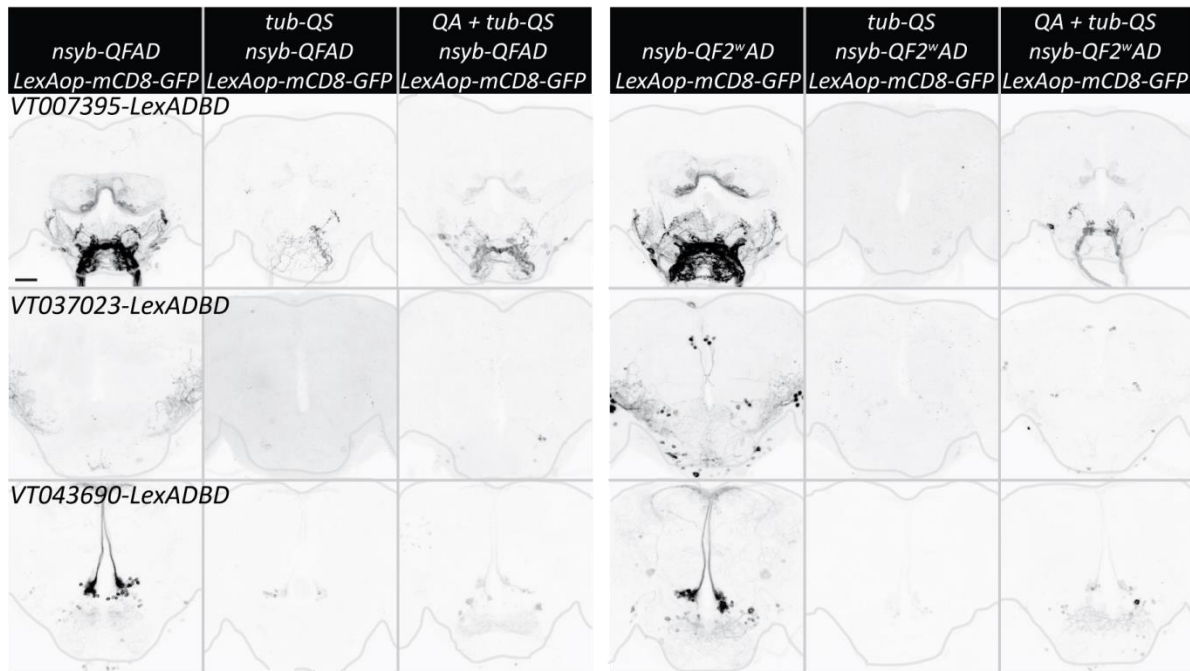
438

439

440

Supplementary Figure 2. split-QF and split-GAL4. Expression of GFP in adult CNS, driven by *R19F06-GAL4DBD* (top), *R53D01-GAL4DBD* (middle), *VT059695-GAL4DBD* (bottom) and *nsyb-QFAD* (3 left columns) or *nsyb-QF2^wAD* (three right columns). Second and fifth columns show *tub-QS*-induced repression. Third and sixth columns show recovery of expression in adults that were fed quinic acid for 5 days. Scale bar, 50µm.

Supplementary Figure 3



441

442 **Supplementary Figure 3. split-QF and split-LexA.** Expression of GFP in adult CNS, driven by
443 *VT007395-LexADBD* (top), *VT037023-LexADBD* (middle), *VT043690-LexADBD* (bottom) and *nsyb-*
444 *QFAD* (3 left columns) or *nsyb-QF2^wAD* (three right columns). Second and fifth columns show *tub-QS-*
445 induced repression. Third and sixth columns show recovery of expression in adults that were fed
446 quinic acid for 5 days. Scale bar, 50 μ m.

447

448 **Supplementary Table 1. Quantification of expression strength of split-QF reagents in larvae**

Larval genotype	Relative luciferase activity, mean \pm SEM	N
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	341 \pm 17	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	15 \pm 1	8
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc + QA</i>	266 \pm 61	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	143 \pm 33	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	10 \pm 1	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc + QA</i>	221 \pm 29	10
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-p65AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	654 \pm 42	6
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	24 \pm 4	5
<i>nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	767 \pm 91	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	20 \pm 2	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc + QA</i>	376 \pm 75	6
<i>nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	431 \pm 55	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	11 \pm 1	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc + QA</i>	258 \pm 33	10

449

450 **Supplementary Table 2. Quantification of expression strength of split-QF reagents in adults**

Adult genotype	Relative luciferase activity, mean \pm SEM	N
<u>Females</u>		
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	1076 \pm 72	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	60 \pm 3	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	681 \pm 40	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	35 \pm 2	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-p65AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	1719 \pm 74	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	30 \pm 1	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, QUAS-Luc</i>	36 \pm 1	5
<i>nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	25 \pm 1	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	23 \pm 1	5
<i>nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	2207 \pm 150	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	51 \pm 23	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	973 \pm 63	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	58 \pm 2	5
<u>Males</u>		
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	1337 \pm 71	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	61 \pm 1	3
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	670 \pm 37	4
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	73 \pm 13	4
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-p65AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	2667 \pm 202	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, QUAS-Luc</i>	54 \pm 1	5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, QUAS-Luc</i>	64 \pm 4	5
<i>nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	67 \pm 4	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	45 \pm 2	5
<i>nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	2410 \pm 167	4
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2, QUAS-Luc</i>	90 \pm 3	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	1764 \pm 95	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QF2^w, QUAS-Luc</i>	83 \pm 2	5

452 **Supplementary Table 3. Quantification of expression strength of split-QF + split-GAL4 reagents in**
 453 **larvae**

Larval genotype	Relative luciferase activity, mean±SEM	N
<i>elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	213 ± 16	6
<i>tub-QS, elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	1.4 ± 0.1	3
<i>tub-QS, elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc + QA</i>	44 ± 9	5
<i>elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	167 ± 12	6
<i>tub-QS, elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	1.6 ± 0.1	6
<i>tub-QS, elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc + QA</i>	60 ± 5	5
<i>elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-p65AD, UAS-Luc</i>	lethal	0
<i>elav-GAL4DBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, UAS-Luc</i>	9 ± 1	6
<i>nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	319 ± 10	6
<i>tub-QS,nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	2.5 ± 0.2	6
<i>tub-QS,nsyb- GAL4QF, UAS-Luc + QA</i>	199 ± 21	6

454

455 **Supplementary Table 4. Quantification of expression strength of split-QF + split-GAL4 reagents in**
 456 **adults**

Adult genotype	Relative luciferase activity, mean \pm SEM	N
<u>Females</u>		
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	488 \pm 50	5
<i>tub-QS, ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	10 \pm 3	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	366 \pm 8	5
<i>tub-QS, ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	6 \pm 1	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-p65AD, UAS-Luc</i>	1763 \pm 217	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, UAS-Luc</i>	12 \pm 4	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, UAS-Luc</i>	4.2 \pm 0.6	5
<i>nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	8 \pm 2	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	2.8 \pm 0.4	5
<i>nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	798 \pm 274	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	16 \pm 2	5
<u>Males</u>		
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	606 \pm 56	5
<i>tub-QS, ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	15 \pm 1	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	459 \pm 6	5
<i>tub-QS, ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	6.3 \pm 0.3	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-p65AD, UAS-Luc</i>	2803 \pm 330	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, nsyb-GAL4AD, UAS-Luc</i>	27 \pm 2	5
<i>ChAT-GAL4DBD, UAS-Luc</i>	5.8 \pm 0.7	5
<i>nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	6.3 \pm 0.7	5
<i>nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-Luc</i>	8 \pm 3	5
<i>nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	1377 \pm 139	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-GAL4QF, UAS-Luc</i>	12 \pm 1	5

457

458 **Supplementary Table 5. Quantification of repression by QS and KZip⁺**

Adult genotype	Relative luciferase activity, mean \pm SEM	Repression, fold	N
<u>Females</u>			
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	823 \pm 70		5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, nsyb-LexAQF, lexAop-KZip+, QUAS-Luc</i>	226 \pm 18	3.6	4
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	52 \pm 10	15.8	5
<i>elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	737 \pm 93		5
<i>elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, nsyb-LexAQF, lexAop-KZip+, UAS-Luc</i>	61 \pm 32	12	5
<i>tub-QS, elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	17 \pm 2	43	5
<u>Males</u>			
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	818 \pm 30		5
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, nsyb-LexAQF, lexAop-KZip+, QUAS-Luc</i>	99 \pm 16	8.3	5
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-Luc</i>	61 \pm 3	13.4	4
<i>elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	1464 \pm 46		5
<i>elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, nsyb-LexAQF, lexAop-KZip+, UAS-Luc</i>	56 \pm 13	26	5
<i>tub-QS, elav-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, UAS-Luc</i>	36 \pm 4	41	5

459

460 **Supplementary Table 6. Optogenetic experiments in GAL4DBD + QF2^wAD larvae**

Genotype	Number of spikes	N	Number of escapes	N
<i>VGlut-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-ChR2</i>	43 ± 6	7	5.9 ± 0.6	10
<i>tub-QS, VGlut-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-ChR2</i>	0 ± 0	5	11.1 ± 0.5	15
<i>tub-QS, VGlut-GAL4DBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, UAS-ChR2 + QA</i>	10 ± 5	7	9.3 ± 0.4	10
<i>VGlut-GAL4, UAS-ChR2</i>	51 ± 6	7	0.2 ± 0.1	10

461

462 **Supplementary Table 7. Optogenetic experiments in split-QF larvae**

Genotype	Number of escapes	N
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-ChR2</i>	0 ± 0	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-ChR2</i>	7.4 ± 0.7	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-ChR2 + QA</i>	0.3 ± 0.2	10
<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-ChR2</i>	0 ± 0	10
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-ChR2</i>	8 ± 0.8	7
<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-ChR2 + QA</i>	0.1 ± 0.1	9

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464 **Supplementary Table 8. Thermogenetic experiments in split-QF adults**

Time, min	Number of flies on the bottom of the vial			
	<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-shibire^{TS}</i> (N=5)	<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QFAD, QUAS-shibire^{TS}</i> (N=4)	<i>nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-shibire^{TS}</i> (N=5)	<i>tub-QS, nsyb-QFDBD, nsyb-QF2^wAD, QUAS-shibire^{TS}</i> (N=4)
0	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	0.2 ± 0.2	0 ± 0
0.5	0.4 ± 0.2	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	0 ± 0
1	0.4 ± 0.2	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	0 ± 0
1.5	0.6 ± 0.4	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	0.5 ± 0.3
2	1.2 ± 0.6	0 ± 0	0.2 ± 0.2	0.25 ± 0.25
2.5	1.6 ± 0.8	0 ± 0	0.2 ± 0.2	0.25 ± 0.25
3	1.8 ± 0.8	0 ± 0	0.8 ± 0.6	0.25 ± 0.25
3.5	2.4 ± 1.1	0 ± 0	0.8 ± 0.6	0.5 ± 0.3
4	3.2 ± 1.2	0 ± 0	1 ± 0.5	0.75 ± 0.25
4.5	3.6 ± 1.3	0 ± 0	1.4 ± 0.7	0.75 ± 0.25
5	4 ± 1.3	0 ± 0	1.2 ± 0.7	0.75 ± 0.25
5.5	4.4 ± 1.4	0.25 ± 0.25	1.6 ± 0.7	0.5 ± 0.3
6	4.2 ± 1.4	0.25 ± 0.25	2 ± 0.7	0.75 ± 0.25
6.5	5.8 ± 1.4	0.25 ± 0.25	3 ± 1.2	1 ± 0.4
7	7 ± 1	0.25 ± 0.25	3 ± 1.4	0.5 ± 0.3
7.5	7.4 ± 0.8	0.25 ± 0.25	3.6 ± 1.3	0.5 ± 0.3
8	7.8 ± 0.7	0 ± 0	3.8 ± 1.3	0.5 ± 0.3
8.5	9 ± 0.5	0.25 ± 0.25	4.8 ± 1	0.5 ± 0.3
9	9.4 ± 0.2	0 ± 0	5.2 ± 1.3	0.75 ± 0.5
9.5	9.8 ± 0.2	0 ± 0	5.8 ± 1	0.75 ± 0.5
10	9.8 ± 0.2	0.5 ± 0.5	6.4 ± 1	1.3 ± 0.9
10.5	9.8 ± 0.2	0.5 ± 0.5	7.4 ± 1	1 ± 1
11	10 ± 0	0.25 ± 0.25	8 ± 0.6	0.5 ± 0.3
11.5	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	8.2 ± 0.7	0.25 ± 0.25
12	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	8.4 ± 0.7	0.3 ± 0.3
12.5	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	8.8 ± 0.5	0 ± 0
13	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	9.2 ± 0.5	0 ± 0
13.5	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	9.4 ± .4	0 ± 0
14	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	9.2 ± 0.5	0 ± 0
14.5	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	9.8 ± 0.2	0 ± 0
15	10 ± 0	0 ± 0	10 ± 0	0 ± 0